

FerMINI - Fermilab Search for Millicharged Particles & Strongly Interacting Dark Matter

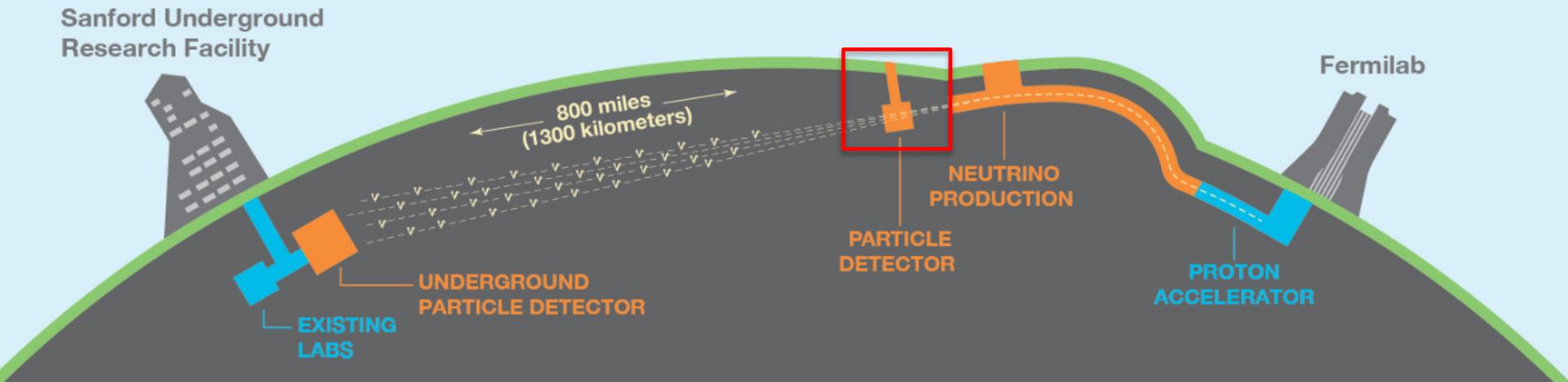
Yu-Dai Tsai, Fermilab/U.Chicago (WH674)

with Magill, Plestid, Maxim Pospelov ([1806.03310](#), *PRL* '19),

with Kevin Kelly ([1812.03998](#), *PRD* '19)

New paper out: [1908.07525](#) (to submit to PRL)

Email: ytsai@fnal.gov; arXiv: https://arxiv.org/a/tsai_y_1.html



Long-Lived Particles in the High-Energy Frontier of the Intensity Frontier

- Light Scalar & Dark Photon at Borexino & LSND, [1706.00424](#) (proton-charge radius anomaly)
- Dipole Portal Heavy Neutral Lepton, [1803.03262](#) (LSND/MiniBooNE anomalies)
- Dark Neutrino at Scattering Exp: CHARM-II & MINERvA! [1812.08768](#) (MiniBooNE Anomaly)
- Closing dark photon, inelastic dark matter, and muon $g-2$ windows; & **the LongQuest Proposal!** Coming out now: [1908.07525](#)

FerMINI Proposal May '19



Chris Hill
OSU



Andy Haas
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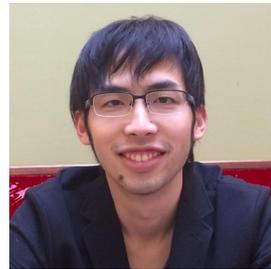
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Outline

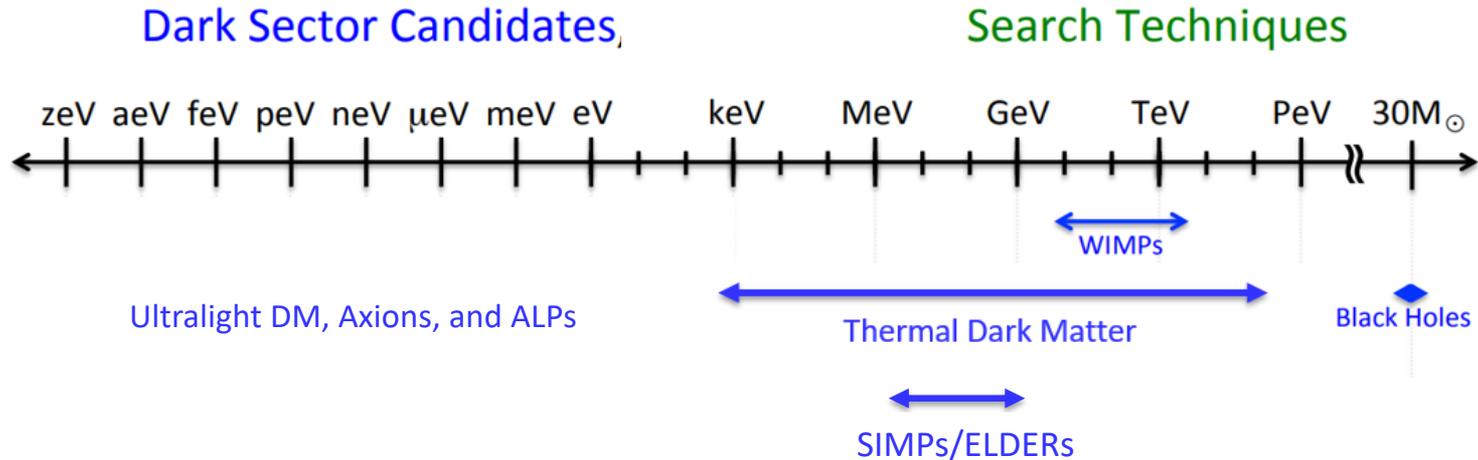
- Motivations
- Dark Sectors @ Fixed-Target & Neutrino Experiments
- Millicharged Particle (mCP)
- Bounds & Projections @ Neutrino Detectors
- **The FerMINI Experiment**
- Connect to Strongly Interacting Dark Matter

Neutrino & Proton Fixed-Target (FT) Experiments:

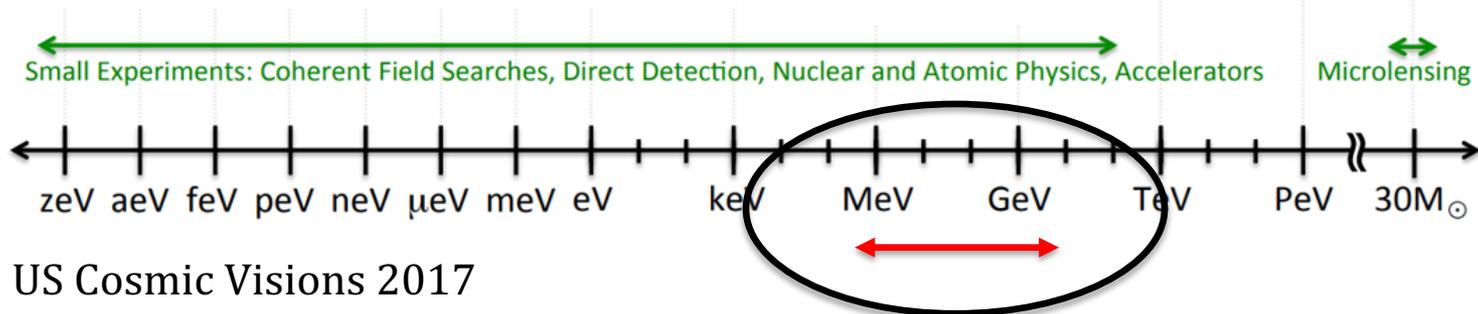
Some natural habitats for signals of
weakly interacting / long-lived / hidden particles

Yu-Dai Tsai, Fermilab, 2019

Exploration of Dark Matter & Dark Sector



ELDER: Eric Kuflik, Maxim Perelstein, Rey-Le Lorier, and Yu-Dai Tsai (YT)
PRL '16, JHEP '17



US Cosmic Visions 2017

- **Astrophysical/cosmological observations** are important to reveal the actual story of dark matter (DM).
- Why **Neutrino/FT experiments?** And why **MeV – GeV+?**

Neutrino & Proton FT Experiments

- Neutrinos are **weakly interacting particles**.
- **High statistics**, e.g. LSND has 10^{23} **Protons on Target (POT)**
- **Shielded/underground: lower background**
- **Many of them existing and many to come:**
strength in numbers
- Relatively high energy proton beams on targets exist
O(100 – 400) GeV (I will compare Fermilab/CERN facilities)
- **Produce hidden particles / involve less assumptions**

Not all bounds are created with equal assumptions

Accelerator-based: Collider, Fixed-Target Experiments
Some other ground based experiments

technical
↓

Astrophysical productions (not from ambient DM): energy loss/cooling, etc:
Rely on modeling/observations of (extreme/complicated/rare) systems (SN1987A)

Dark matter direct/indirect detection: abundance,
velocity distribution, etc

} different

Cosmology: assume cosmological history, species, etc



Assumptions

Or, how likely is it that theorists would be able to argue our ways around them

Why study MeV – GeV+ dark sectors?

Yu-Dai Tsai, Fermilab, 2019

Signals of discoveries grow from anomalies
Maybe nature is telling us something so we don't have to
search in the dark? (~~most likely systematics?~~)

Some anomalies involving MeV-GeV+ Explanations

⋮

- **Muon $g-2$**
- **Proton charge radius anomaly**
- **LSND & MiniBooNE anomaly**
- **EDGES result**

⋮

Below \sim MeV there are also **strong astrophysical/cosmological bounds**

v Hopes for New Physics: Personal Trilogy

⋮

- **Light Scalar & Dark Photon** at [Borexino](#) & LSND

Pospelov & YT, PLB '18, [1706.00424](#) (proton charge radius anomaly)

- **Dipole Portal Heavy Neutral Lepton**

Magill, Plestid, Pospelov & YT, PRD '18, [1803.03262](#)

see also [Coloma, Machado, Martinez-Soler, Shoemaker, 1707.08573](#)

(LSND/MiniBooNE anomalies)

- **Millicharged Particles** in Neutrino Experiments

Magill, Plestid, Pospelov & YT, PRL '19, [1806.03310](#)

(**EDGES 21-cm measurement anomaly**)

deNiverville, Pospelov, Ritz, '11,

Batell, deNiverville, McKeen, Pospelov, Ritz, '14

Kahn, Krnjaic, Thaler, Toups, '14 ...

⋮

New Physics in Proton FT Experiments

- **Millicharged Particles** in **FerMINI Experiments**

Kelly & YT, [1812.03998](#)

(EDGES Anomaly)

- **Dark Neutrino** at Scattering Experiments: CHARM-II & **MINERvA!**

Argüelles, Hostert, YT, [1812.08768](#), submitted to *PRL*

(MiniBooNE Anomaly)

- **Probing Dark Photon, Inelastic Dark Matter, and Muon $g-2$**

Windows with LongQuest Proposal! (Comin out Monday night!)

Millicharged Particles

Is electric charge quantized?

Other Implications

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Finding Minicharge

- **Is electric charge quantized and why? A long-standing question!**
- U(1) allows arbitrarily small (any real number) charges. Why don't we see them in e charges? Motivates **Dirac quantization, Grand Unified Theory (GUT)**, etc, to explain such quantization (anomaly cancellations fix some SM $U(1)_Y$ charge assignments)
- **Testing if $e/3$ is the minimal charge**
- MCP could have natural link to **dark sector** (dark photon, etc)
- **Could account for dark matter (DM) (WIMP or Freeze-in scenarios)**
- Used for the cooling of gas temperature to explain the EDGES result [**EDGES collab., Nature, (2018), Barkana, Nature, (2018)**].
A small fraction of the DM as MCP to explain the EDGES anomaly (severely constrained, see **more reference later**)

Millicharged Particle: Models

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mCP Model

- Small charged particles under U(1) hypercharge

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{MCP}} = i\bar{\chi}(\not{\partial} - i\epsilon'e\mathcal{B} + M_{\text{MCP}})\chi$$

- Can just consider these Lagrangian terms by themselves (no extra mediator, i.e., dark photon), one can call this a “pure” MCP
- Or this could be from **Kinetic Mixing**
 - give a nice origin to this term
 - an example that gives rise to **dark sectors**
 - easily compatible with **Grand Unification Theory**
 - I will not spend too much time on the model

Kinetic Mixing and MCP Phase

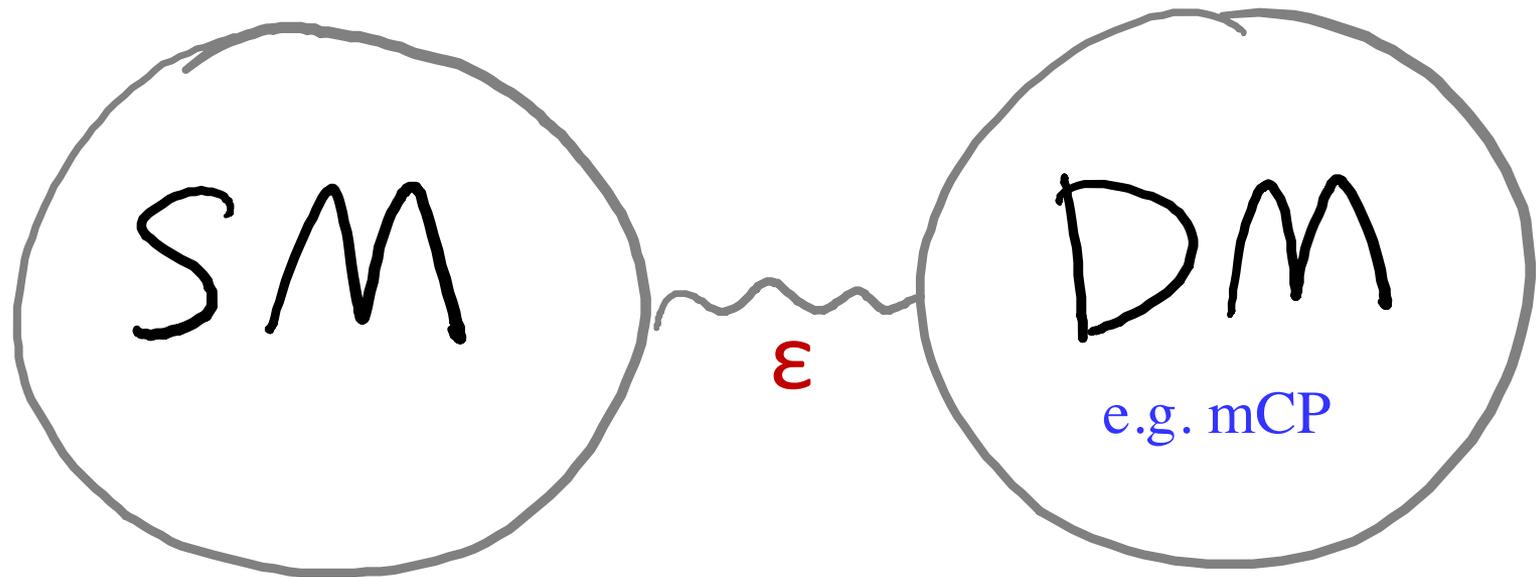
- Coupled to new dark fermion χ  (SM: Standard Model)

See, Holdom, 1985

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} - \frac{1}{4} B'_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu} - \frac{\kappa}{2} B'_{\mu\nu} B'^{\mu\nu} + i\bar{\chi}(\not{\partial} - i\epsilon' e \not{B} + M_{\text{MCP}})\chi$$

- New Fermion χ charged under $U(1)'$
- Field redefinition into a more convenient basis for massless B' , $B' \rightarrow B' + \kappa B$
- new fermion acquires an small EM charge Q (the charge of mCP χ): $Q = \kappa e' \cos \theta_W \quad \epsilon \equiv \kappa e' \cos \theta_W / e.$

The Rise of Dark Sector



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Important Notes!

- Our search is simply a search for particles (**fermion χ**) with **{mass, electric charge} = $\{m_\chi, \epsilon e\}$**
- **Minimal theoretical inputs/parameters**
(hard to probe in MeV – GeV+ mass regime)
 - **mCPs do not have to be DM in our searches**
 - The bounds we derive **still put constraints on DM as well as dark sector scenarios.**
- Not considering bounds on dark photon
(**not necessary** for mCP particles)
- Similar bound/sensitivity applies to scalar mCPs

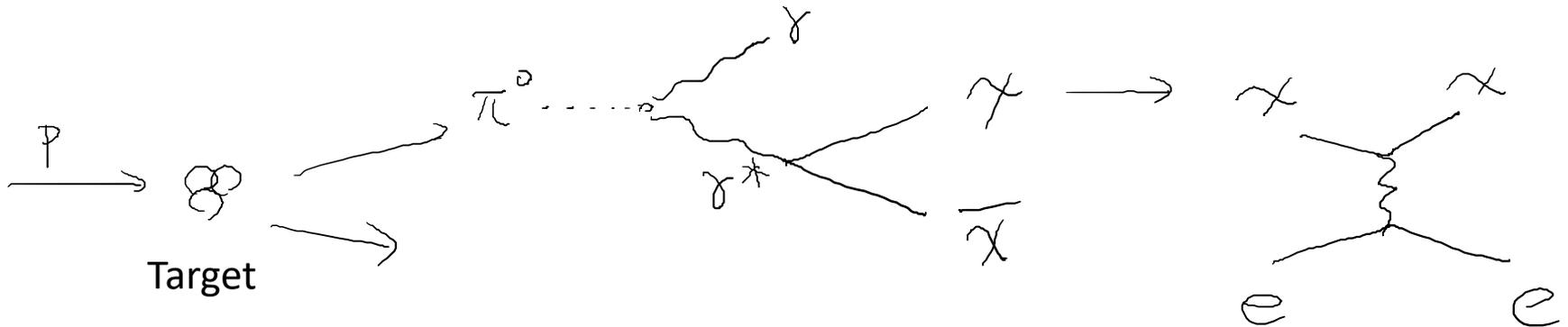
Additional Motivations

- Won't get into details, but it's interesting to find
“pure” MCP, that is **WITHOUT** a massless or light dark photon
(finding MCP in the regime massless or light A' is strongly
constrained by cosmology!)
- More **violent violation of the charge quantization**
(if not generating millicharge through kinetic mixing)
- Test of some **GUT models**, and **String Compactifications**
see [Shiu, Soler, Ye, arXiv:1302.5471](#), PRL '13 for more detail.

Millicharged Particle: Signature

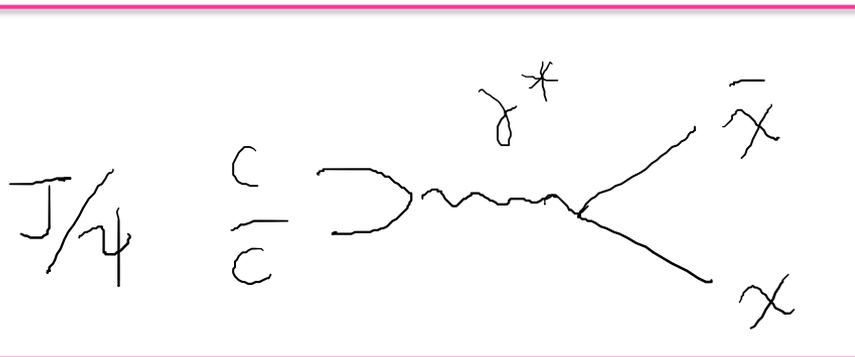
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MCP (or light DM with light mediator): production & detection



production:
meson decays

detection:
scattering electron



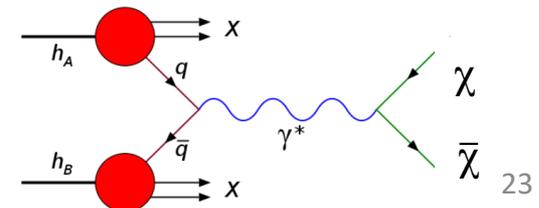
$$\text{BR}(\pi^0 \rightarrow 2\gamma) = 0.99$$

$$\text{BR}(\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma e^- e^+) = 0.01$$

$$\text{BR}(\pi^0 \rightarrow e^- e^+) = 6 * 10^{-6}$$

$$\text{BR}(J/\psi \rightarrow e^- e^+) = 0.06$$

- Heavy mesons are important for higher mass mCP's in high enough beam energy
- Important and often neglected!

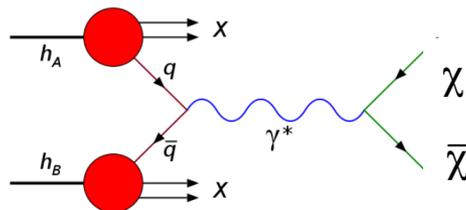


MCP productions

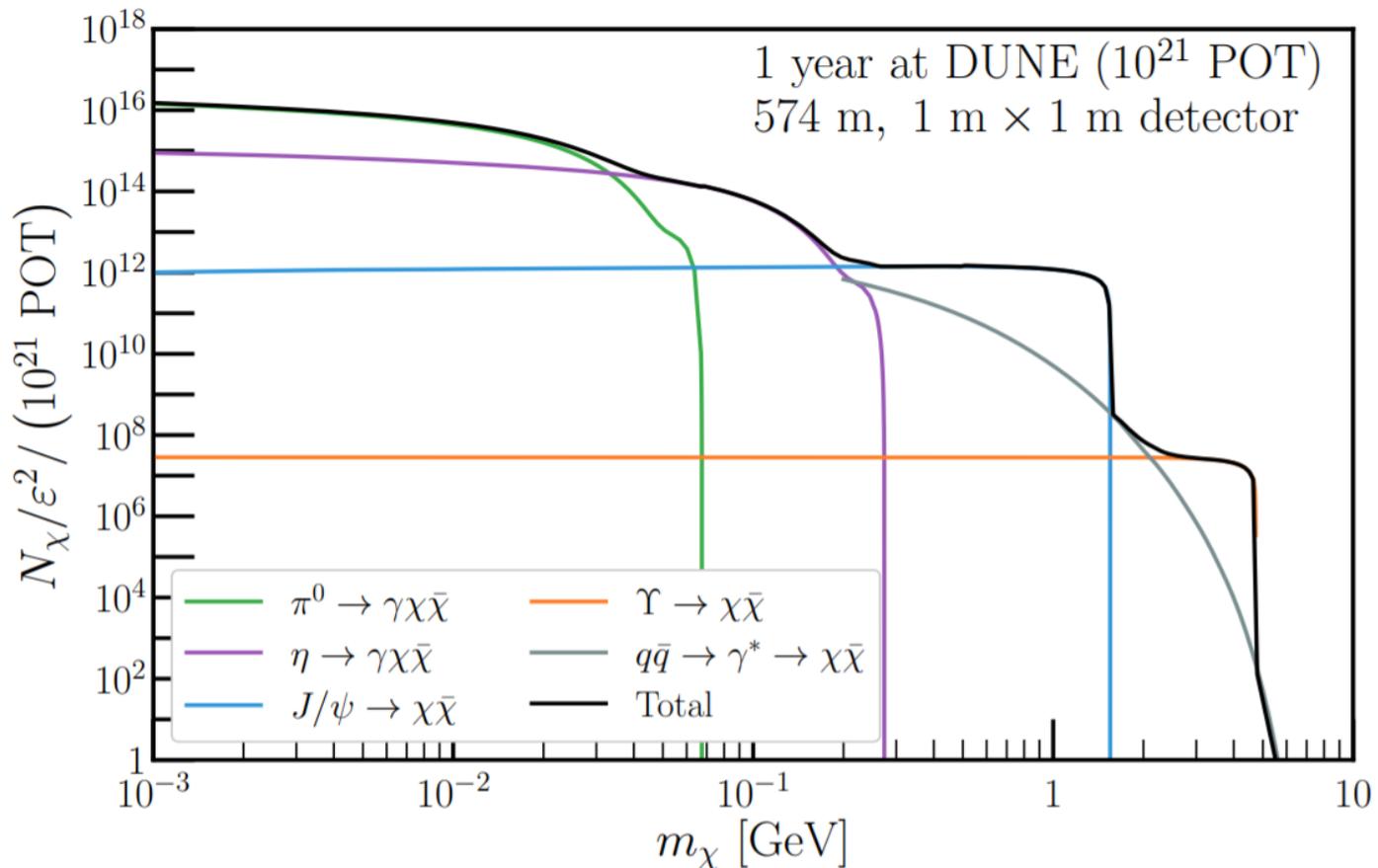
- For η & π^0 , Dalitz decays: $\pi^0/\eta \rightarrow \gamma \chi \bar{\chi}$ dominate
- For J/ψ & Y , direct decays: $J/\psi, Y \rightarrow \chi \bar{\chi}$ dominate.
Important for high-mass mCP productions!
- The branching ratio for a meson, M , to mCPs is given roughly by

$$\text{BR}(\mathcal{M} \rightarrow \chi\bar{\chi}) \approx \epsilon^2 \times \text{BR}(\mathcal{M} \rightarrow Xe^+e^-) \times f\left(\frac{m_\chi}{M}\right),$$

- M : the mass of the parent meson, X : any additional particles, $f(m_\chi/M)$: phase space factor as a function of m_χ/M .
- Also consider **Drell-Yan production of mCP from $q \bar{q}$ -bar annihilation.**



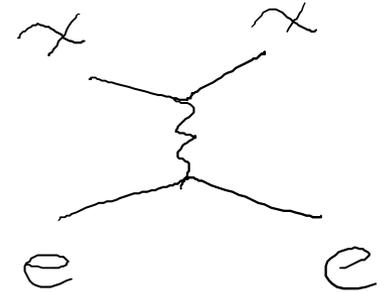
MCP Production/Flux



- We use PYTHIA to generate neutral meson Dalitz or direct decays from the pp collisions and rescale by considering, $\text{BR}(\mathcal{M} \rightarrow \chi \bar{\chi}) \approx \epsilon^2 \times \text{BR}(\mathcal{M} \rightarrow X e^+ e^-) \times f\left(\frac{m_\chi}{M}\right)$,
- M: mass of the parent meson, X: additional particles, $f(m_\chi/M)$: phase space factor
- We also include Drell-Yan production for the high mass MCPs (see [arXiv:1812.03998](https://arxiv.org/abs/1812.03998))

Detection: MCP Elastic Scattering with Electrons

$$\frac{d\sigma_{e\chi}}{dQ^2} = 2\pi\alpha^2\epsilon^2 \times \frac{2(s - m_\chi^2)^2 - 2sQ^2 + Q^4}{(s - m_\chi^2)^2 Q^4}.$$



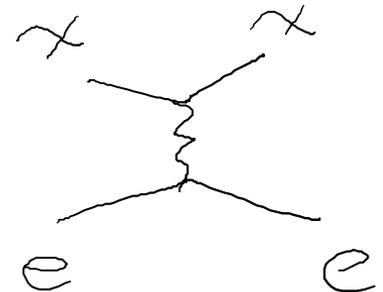
- Q^2 is the squared 4-momentum transfer.
- Integrate over Q^2 , total cross section dominated by the small Q^2 contribution, we have $\sigma_{e\chi} = 4\pi \alpha^2 \epsilon^2 / Q_{min}^2$.
- **Light mediator:** the total cross section is dominated by the small Q^2 contribution

MCP Detection: electron scattering

- lab frame: $Q^2 = 2m_e (E_e - m_e)$, $E_e - m_e$ is the electron recoil energy.
- Expressed in **recoil energy threshold**, $E_e^{(min)}$, we have

$$\sigma_{e\chi} = 2.6 \times 10^{-25} \text{cm}^2 \times \epsilon^2 \times \frac{1 \text{ MeV}}{E_e^{(min)} - m_e}.$$

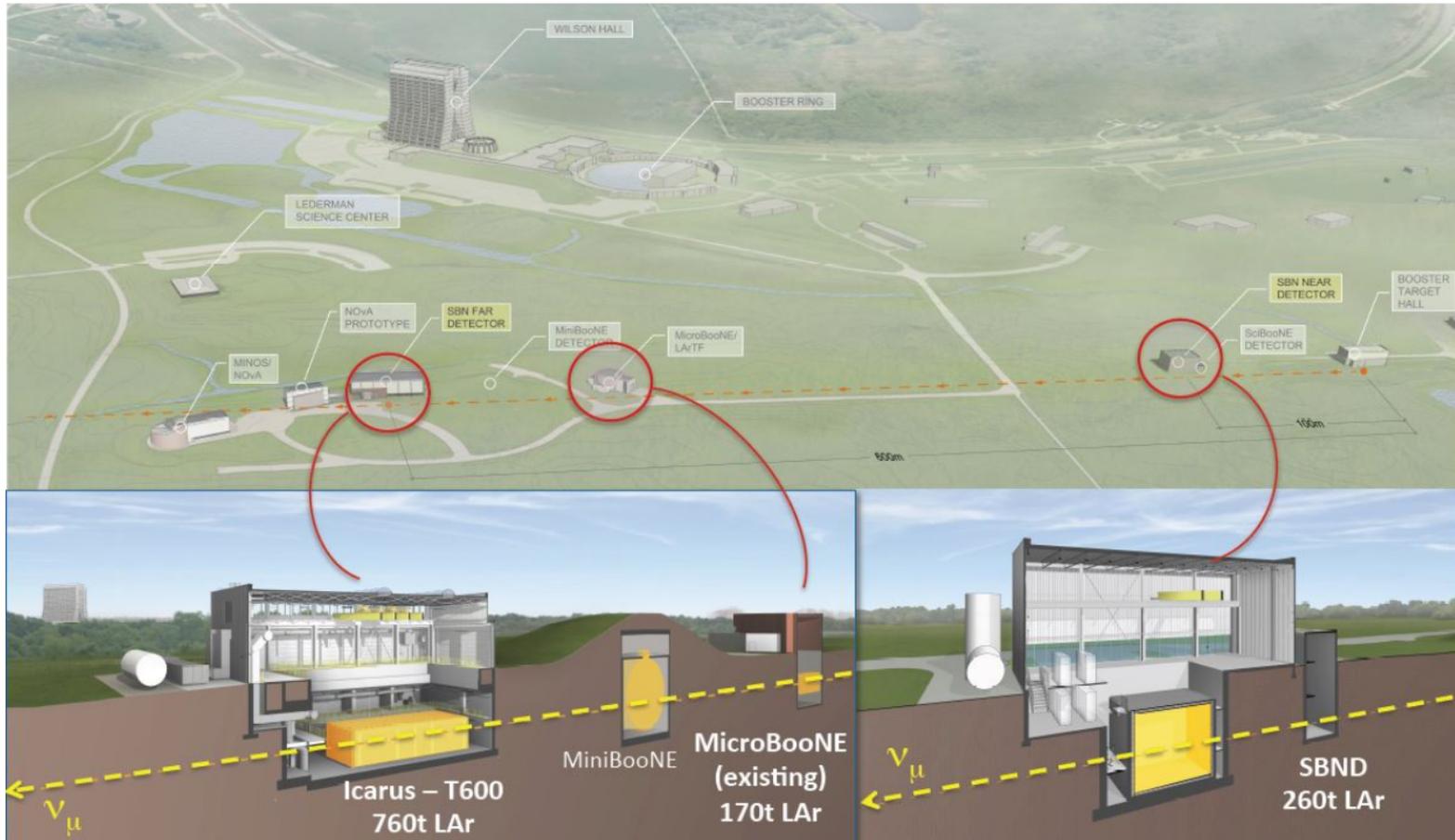
- Sensitivity greatly enhanced by accurately **measuring low energy electron recoils for mCP's & light dark matter - electron scattering**,
- See e.g., Magill, Plestid, Pospelov, [YT, 1806.03310](#) & deNiverville, Frugiuele, [1807.06501](#) (for sub-GeV DM)



MCP @ Neutrino Detectors

Yu-Dai Tsai, Fermilab, 2019

Neutrino Experiments



https://web.fnal.gov/collaboration/sbn_sharepoint/SitePages/Civil_Construction.aspx

SBND: Short Baseline Near Detector of Booster Beam

MiniBooNE: Mini-Booster Neutrino Experiment

ICARUS (Imaging Cosmic And Rare Underground Signals):

Now a Far Detector of Booster Beam

MCP Signals

- **signal events** S_{event}

$$S_{event} \simeq \sum_{\text{Energies}} N_{\chi}(E_i) \times \frac{N_e}{\text{Area}} \times \sigma_{e\chi}(E_i; m_{\chi}) \times \mathcal{E}.$$

detection efficiency

- $N_{\chi}(E_i)$: number of mCPs with energy E_i arriving **at the detector**.
- N_e : **total number of electrons** inside the active volume of the detector
- Area: active volume divided by the average length traversed by particles inside the detector.
- $\sigma_{e\chi}(E_i)$: **detection cross section consistent** with the angular and recoil cuts in the experiment
- Here, $S_{event} \propto \varepsilon^4$. ε^2 from N_{χ} and ε^2 from σ_{ex}
- Throughout this paper, we choose a credibility interval of $1 - \alpha = 95\%$ (~ 2 sigma)
- Roughly, $\varepsilon_{sensitivity} \propto E_{e,R,min}^{1/4} Bg^{1/8}$

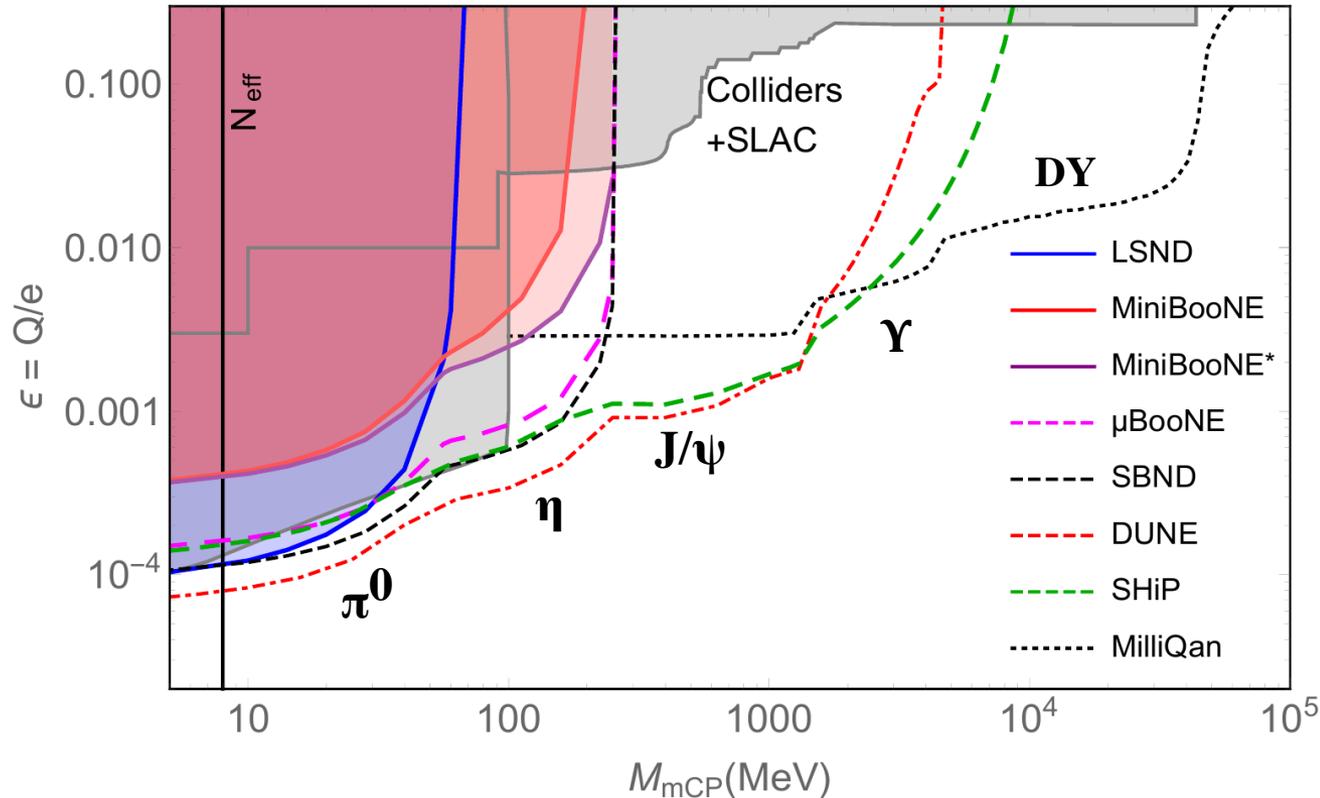
MCP Bound/Sensitivity

- **signal events** s_{event}

$$s_{event} \simeq \sum_{\text{Energies}} N_{\chi}(E_i) \times \frac{N_e}{\text{Area}} \times \sigma_{e\chi}(E_i; m_{\chi}) \times \mathcal{E}.$$

- Our sensitivity curves are obtained by performing a standard sensitivity analysis [PDG, PLB 2010]:
- Given a number of background events b and data n , the number of signal events s_{event} . The $(1 - \alpha)$ credibility level is found by solving the equation $\alpha = \Gamma(1 + n, b + s_{event})/\Gamma(1 + n, b)$, where $\Gamma(x, y)$ is the upper incomplete gamma function.
- Throughout this paper, we choose a credibility interval of $1 - \alpha = 95\%$ (~ 2 sigma)

Sensitivity and Contributions



- MilliQan: Haas, Hill, Izaguirre, Yavin, (2015), + (LOT arXiv:1607.04669)
- N_{eff} : Böhm, Dolan, and McCabe (2013)
- Colliders/Accelerator: Davidson, Hannestad, Raffelt (2000)
- SLAC mQ: Prinz et al, PRL (1998);

Summary Table

Exp. (Beam Energy, POT)	$N [\times 10^{20}]$		$A_{\text{geo}}(m_\chi)[\times 10^{-3}]$		Cuts [MeV]		
	π^0	η	1 MeV	100 MeV	E_e^{min}	E_e^{max}	Bkg
Existing							
LSND (0.8 GeV, 1.7×10^{23})	130	—	20	—	18	52	300
mBooNE (8.9 GeV, 2.4×10^{21})	17	0.56	1.2	0.68	130	530	2k
mBooNE* (8.9 GeV, 1.9×10^{20})	1.3	0.04	1.2	0.68	75	850	0.4
Future							
μ BooNE (8.9 GeV, 1.3×10^{21})	9.2	0.31	0.09	0.05	2	40	16
SBND (8.9 GeV, 6.6×10^{20})	4.6	0.15	4.6	2.6	2	40	230
DUNE (80 GeV, 3.0×10^{22})	830	16	3.3	5.1	2	40	19k
SHiP (400 GeV, 2.0×10^{20})	4.7	0.11	130	220	100	300	140

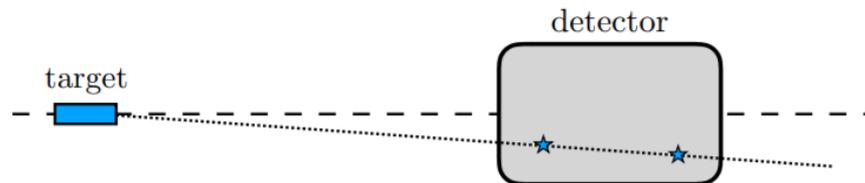
- $\varepsilon \propto E_{e,R,\text{min}}^{1/4} Bg^{1/8}$
- $\cos \theta > 0$ is imposed (*except for at MiniBooNE's DM run where a cut of $\cos \theta > 0.99$ effectively reduces backgrounds to zero [Dharmapalan, MiniBooNE, (2012)]).
- Efficiency of 0.2 for Cherenkov detectors, 0.5 for nuclear emulsion detectors, and 0.8 for liquid argon time projection chambers.

Recasting Existing Analysis: LSND, MiniBooNE, and MiniBooNE* (DM Run)

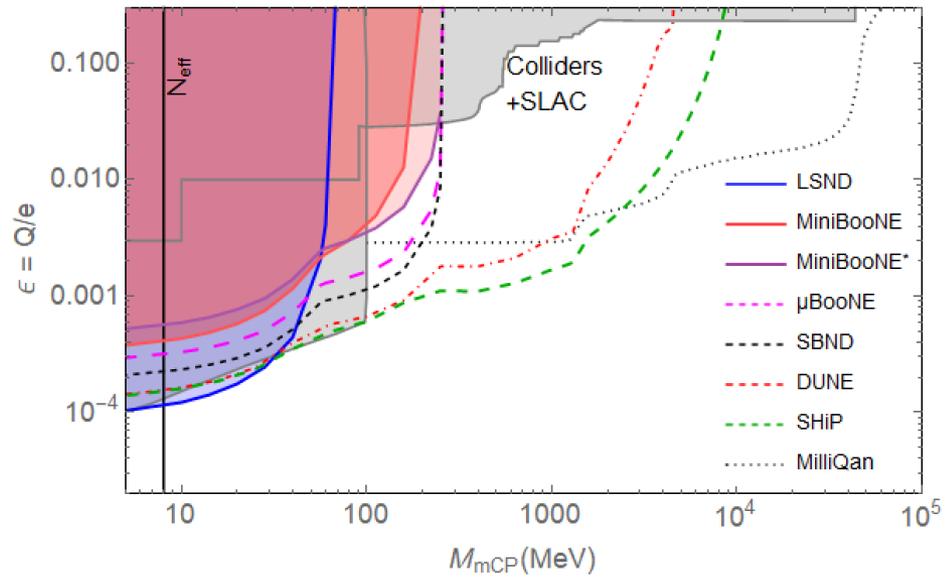
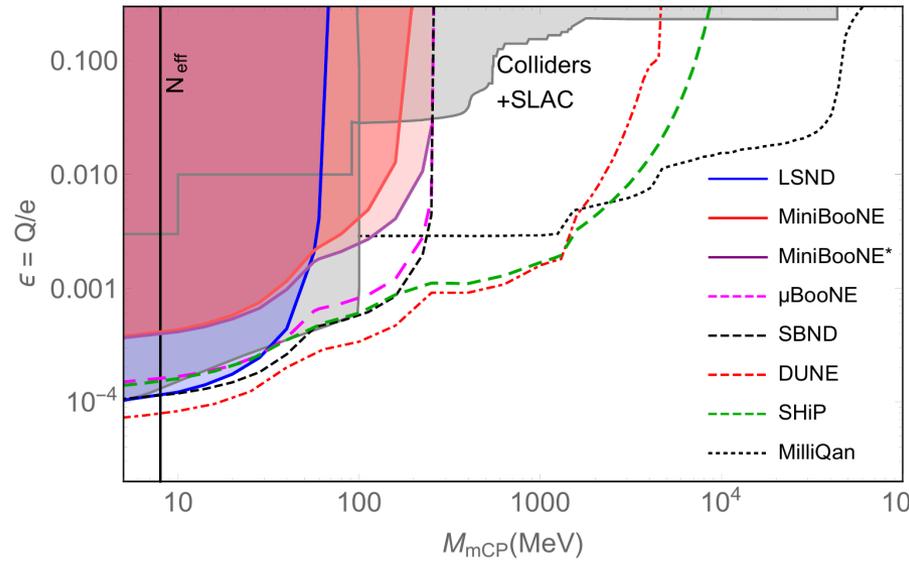
- **LSND**: [hep-ex/0101039](#). Measurement of **electron-neutrino electron elastic scattering**
- **MiniBooNE**: [arXiv:1805.12028](#).
Electron-Like Events in the MiniBooNE Short-Baseline Neutrino Experiment, combines data from both **neutrino and anti-neutrino runs** and consider a sample of 2.4×10^{21} POT for which we take the **single electron background to be 2.0×10^3 events** and the **measured rate to be 2.4×10^3**
- **MiniBooNE* (DM run)**: [arXiv:1807.06137](#) (came out after our v1).
Electron recoil analysis.
Thick target + no horn focusing +
A cut of $\cos \theta > 0.99$ effectively reduces backgrounds to basically zero [Dharmapalan, MiniBooNE, (2012)].

Background for Future Measurements

- Single-electron background for ongoing/future experiments for **MicroBooNE, SBND, DUNE, and SHiP?**
- Background discussions:
 - 1) From neutrino fluxes (calculable),
[i.e. $\nu e \rightarrow \nu e$ and $\nu n \rightarrow \nu p$], **greatly reduced by maximum electron recoil energy cuts $E_e(\text{max})$**
 - 2) other: times a factor (10-20) to account for these
 - 3) **Harnik, Liu, Ornella**: multi-scattering, point back to target to reduce the background (**ArgoNeuT**), [arXiv:1902.03246!](https://arxiv.org/abs/1902.03246)



More Conservative Cuts on Threshold



$$\epsilon \propto E_{e,R,min}^{1/4}$$

Exp. (Beam Energy, POT)
μ BooNE (8.9 GeV, 1.3×10^{21})
SBND (8.9 GeV, 6.6×10^{20})
DUNE (80 GeV, 3.0×10^{22})

Cuts [MeV]	
E_e^{min}	E_e^{max}
2	40
2	40
2	40

Cuts [MeV]	
E_e^{min}	E_e^{max}
30	70
30	70
30	70

Summary

- Technique can be easily applied to more generic **light dark matter** and other **hidden particles with light mediators**
 - Production from **heavy neutral mesons** are important
(often neglected in literature)
 - Signature favor **low electron-recoil energy threshold**
- For more realistic analysis: include realistic **background**, $E_{e,R,min}$ **cut**, etc

Low-cost Fixed-target Probes of Long-Lived Particles

FerMINI as an example:
more to come!

Yu-Dai Tsai, Fermilab, 2019

FerMINI:

Putting dedicated **Minicharge Particle Detector** (~\$2M)
@ Fermilab Beamlines: NuMI or LBNF or @ CERN: SPS
Kelly, **YT**, arXiv:1812.03998 (PRD'19)

(can also probe other new physics scenarios like
small-electric-dipole dark fermions, or **quirks**, etc)

Yu-Dai Tsai, Fermilab, 2019

MilliQan at CERN

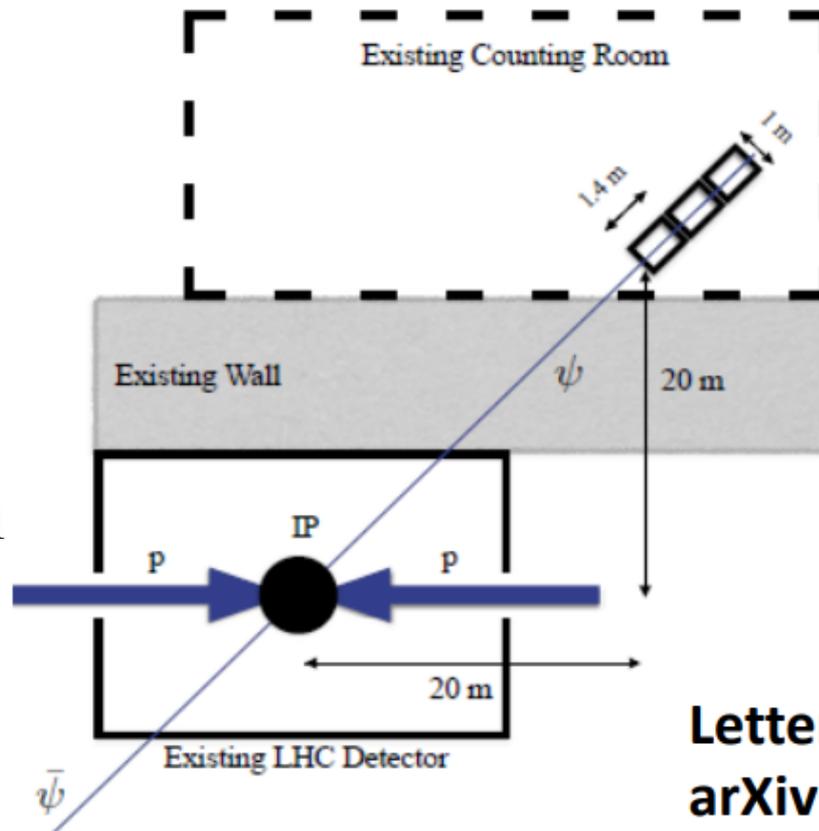
Austin Ball, Jim Brooke, Claudio Campagnari, Albert De Roeck, Brian Francis, Martin Gastal, Frank Golf, Joel Goldstein, **Andy Haas, Christopher S. Hill, Eder Izaguirre**, Benjamin Kaplan, Gabriel Magill, Bennett Marsh, David Miller, Theo Prins, Harry Shakeshaft, David Stuart, Max Swiatlowski, **Itay Yavin**

arXiv:1410.6816, PRD '15

arXiv:1607.04669, Letter of Intent (LOT)

MilliQan: General Idea

- Require **triple coincidence in small time window (15 nanoseconds)**
- Q down to 10^{-3} e, each MCP produce averagely ~ 1 photoelectron (PE) observed per ~ 1 meter long scintillator



**Letter of intent:
arXiv:1607.04669**

Andrew Haas, Fermilab (2017)

MilliQan: Design

- Total: **1 m × 1 m** (transverse plane) × **3 m** (longitudinal) **plastic scintillator array**.
- Long axis points at the **CMS Interaction Point (P5)**.
- **3 sections** each containing **400 5 cm × 5 cm × 80 cm scintillator bars** optically coupled to **high-gain photomultiplier (PMT)**.
- A **triple-incidence within a 15 ns time window** along longitudinally contiguous bars in each of the 3 sections required to reduce the **dark-current noise (the dominant background)**.

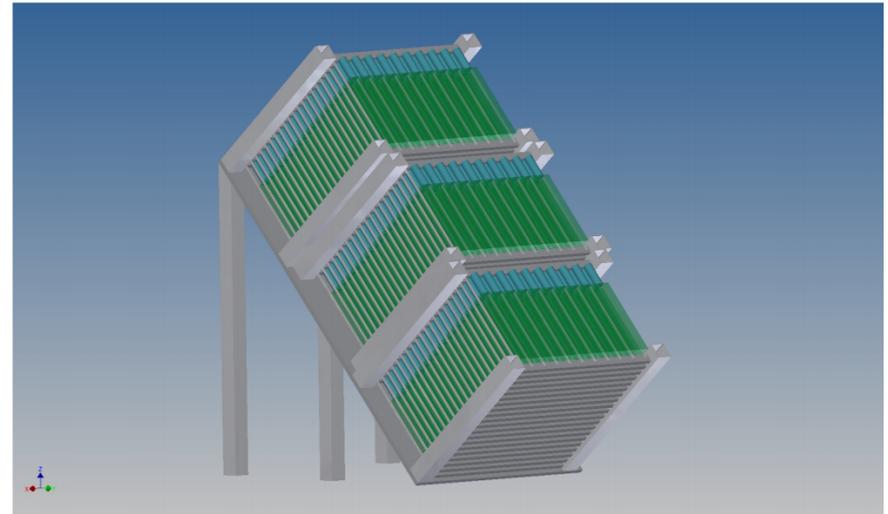


Figure from 1607.04669 (milliQan LOT)

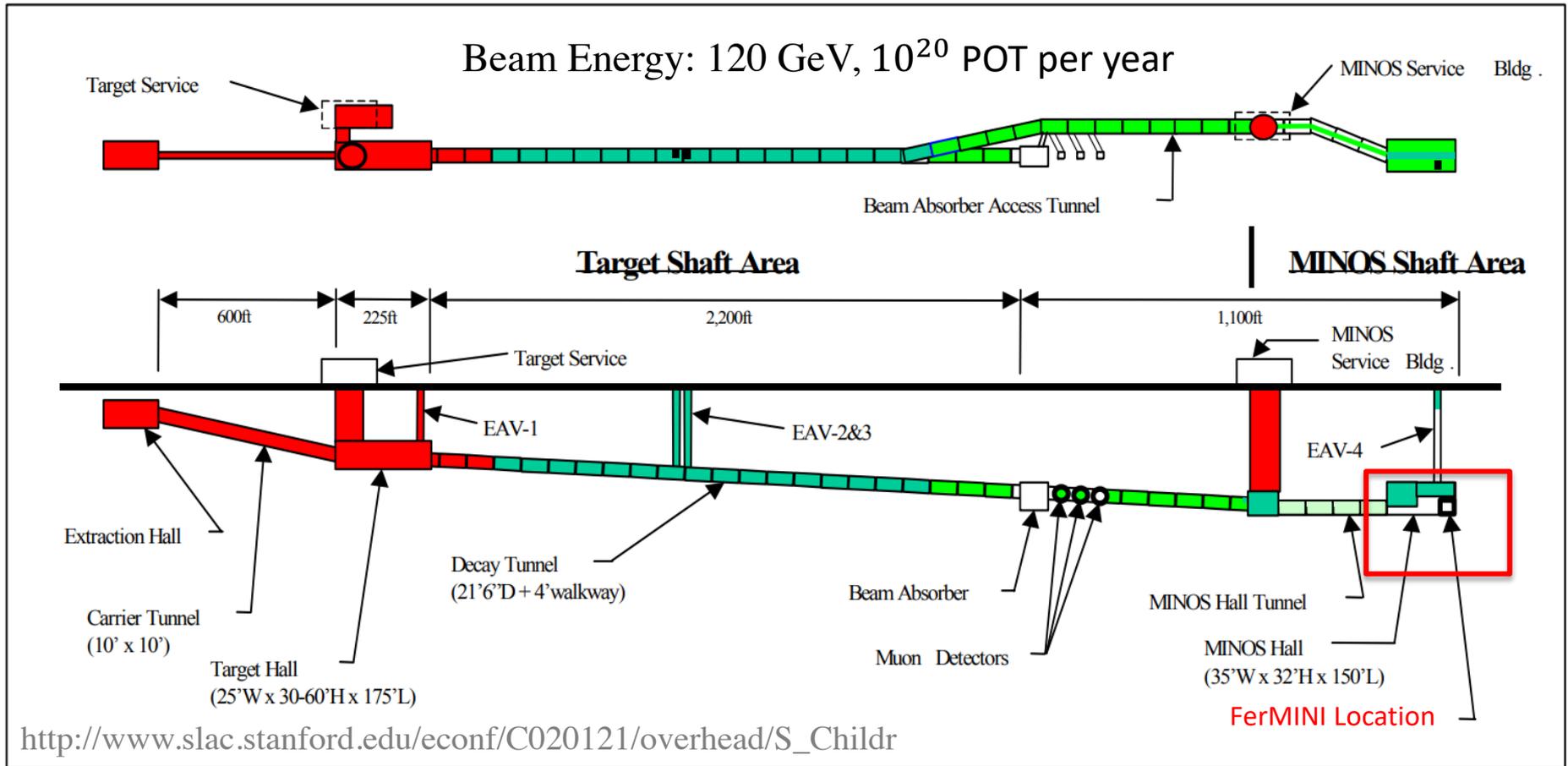
FerMINI:

A **Fer**milab Search for **MINI**-charged Particle
Kelly, YT, arXiv:1812.03998 (PRD`19)

visually “an experiment made of stacks of light sabers”

Yu-Dai Tsai, Fermilab, 2019

Site 1: NuMI Beam & MINOS ND Hall



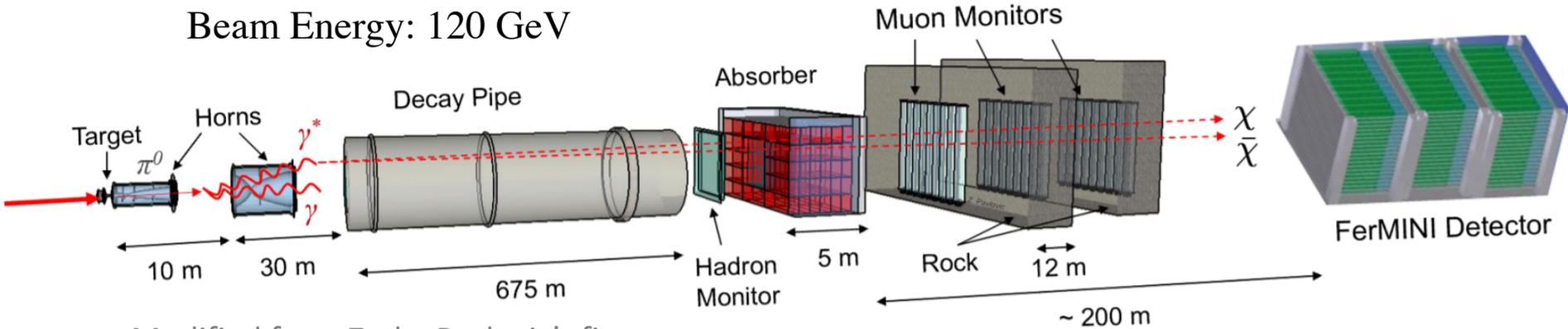
NuMI: Neutrinos at the Main Injector

MINOS: Main Injector Neutrino Oscillation Search, ND: Near Detector

(**MINERvA:** Main Injector Experiment for ν -A is also here)

FerMINI @ NuMI-MINOS Hall

Beam Energy: 120 GeV



Modified from Zarko Pavlovic's figure

An illustration of the FerMINI experiments utilizing the NuMI facility.

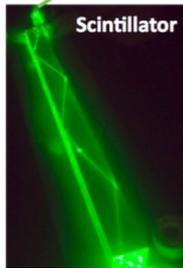
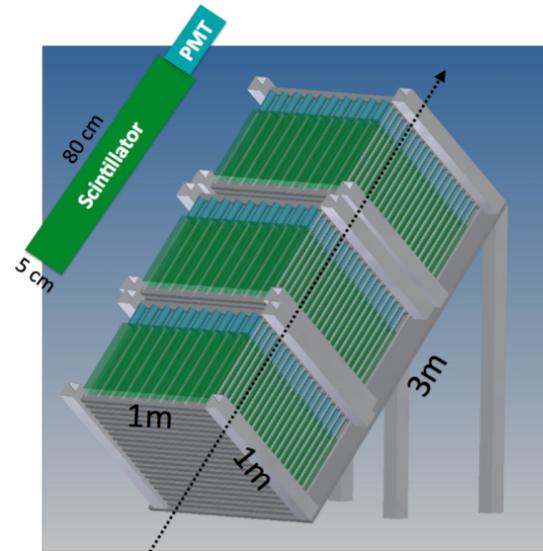
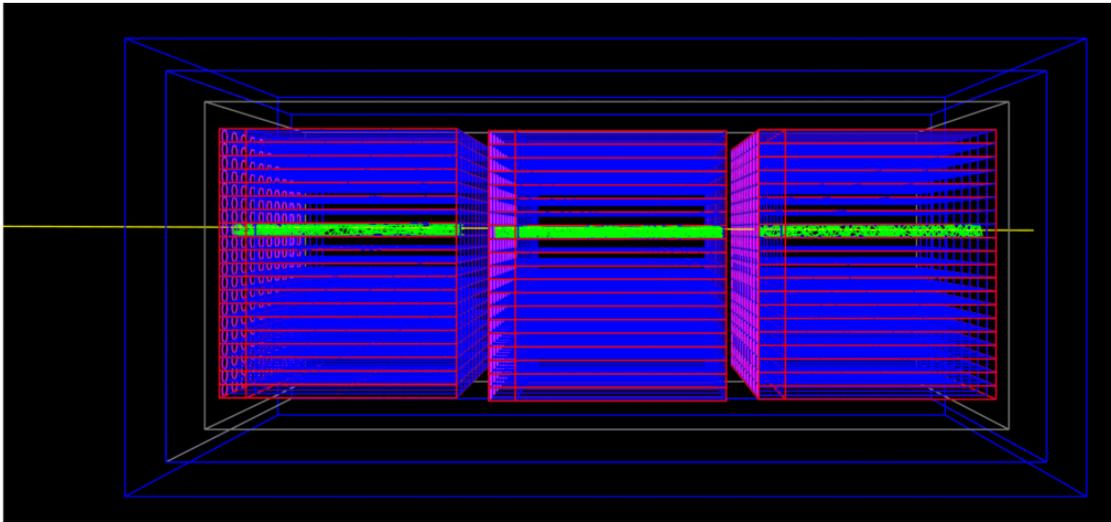


Yu-Dai Tsai
Fermilab

MINOS hall downstream of NuMI beam

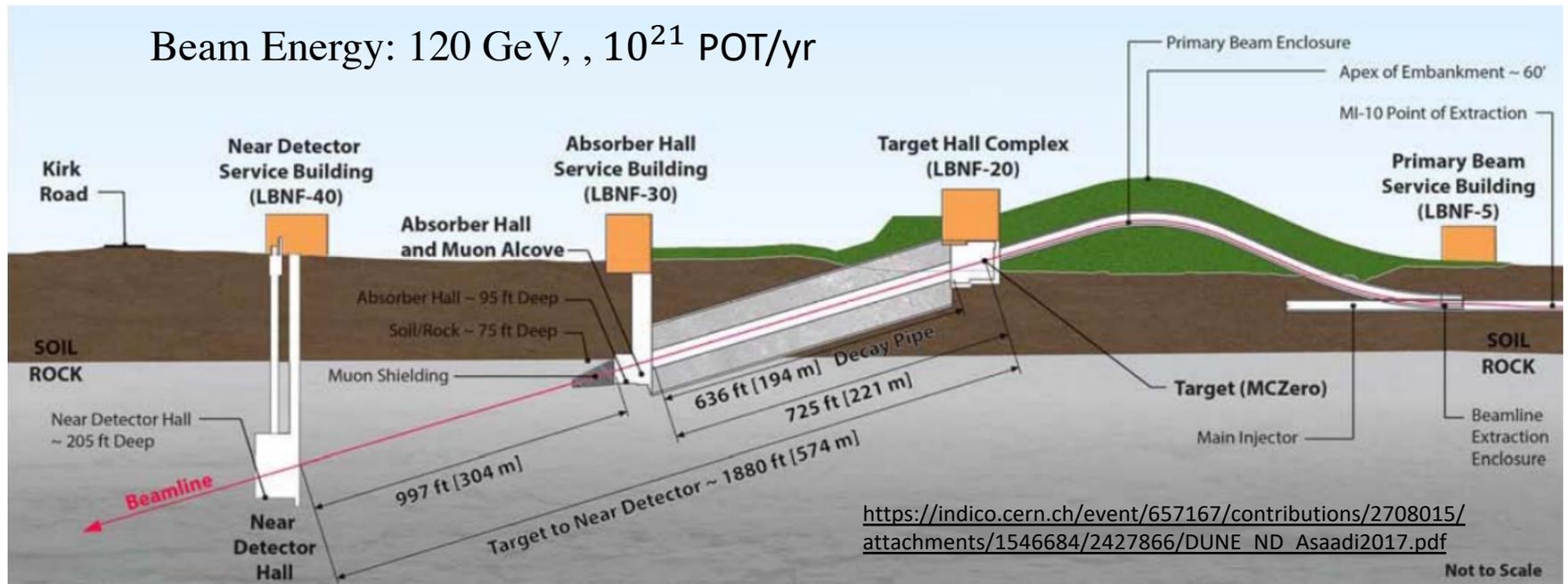
MilliQan Concept

$$(\Delta t)_{\text{offline}} = 15$$



See arXiv:1607.04669; arXiv:1810.06733

Site 2: LBNF Beam & DUNE ND Hall



Jonathan Asaadi – University of Texas Arlington

LBNF: Long-Baseline Neutrino Facility

There are many other new physics opportunities
in the **near detector hall!**

Photoelectrons (PE) from Scintillation

- The averaged number of photoelectron (PE) seen by the detector from single MCP is:

$$N_{PE} \propto \left\langle -\frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle \times l_{scint}, \quad \left\langle -\frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle \propto \epsilon^2.$$

$\langle dE/dx \rangle$ is the "mass stopping power" (PDG 2018)

One can use Bethe-Bloch Formula to get a good approximation

- $N_{PE} \sim \epsilon^2 \times 10^6$, $\epsilon \sim 10^{-3}$ roughly gives one PE in one meter scintillation bar



Signature: Triple Coincidence

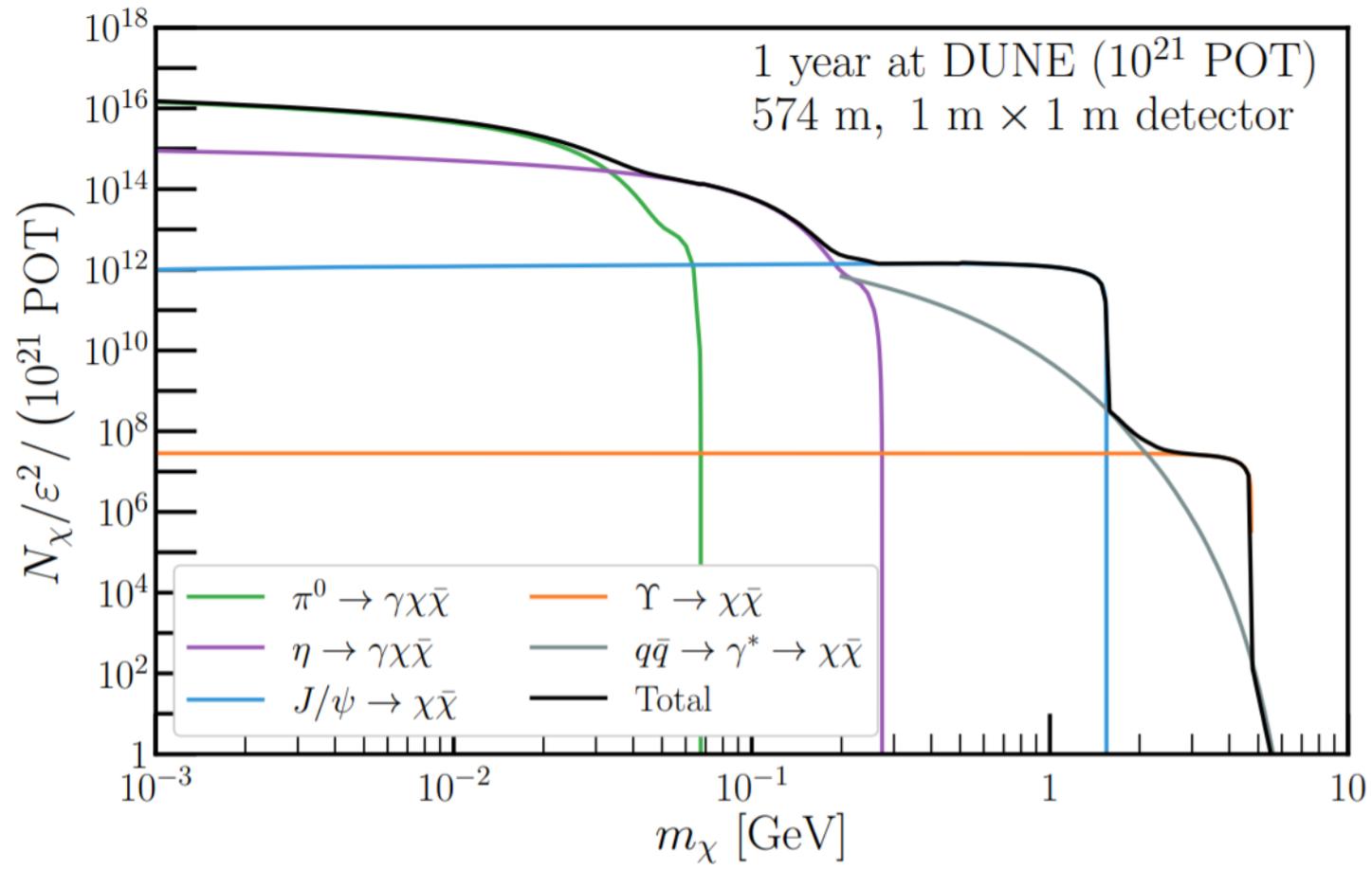
- Based on Poisson distribution, zero event in each bar correspond to

$P_0 = e^{-N_{PE}}$, so the probability of seeing triple incident of one or more photoelectron is:

- $N_{x,detector} = N_x \times P$.

$$P = \left(1 - e^{-N_{PE}}\right)^3$$

MCP Production/Flux



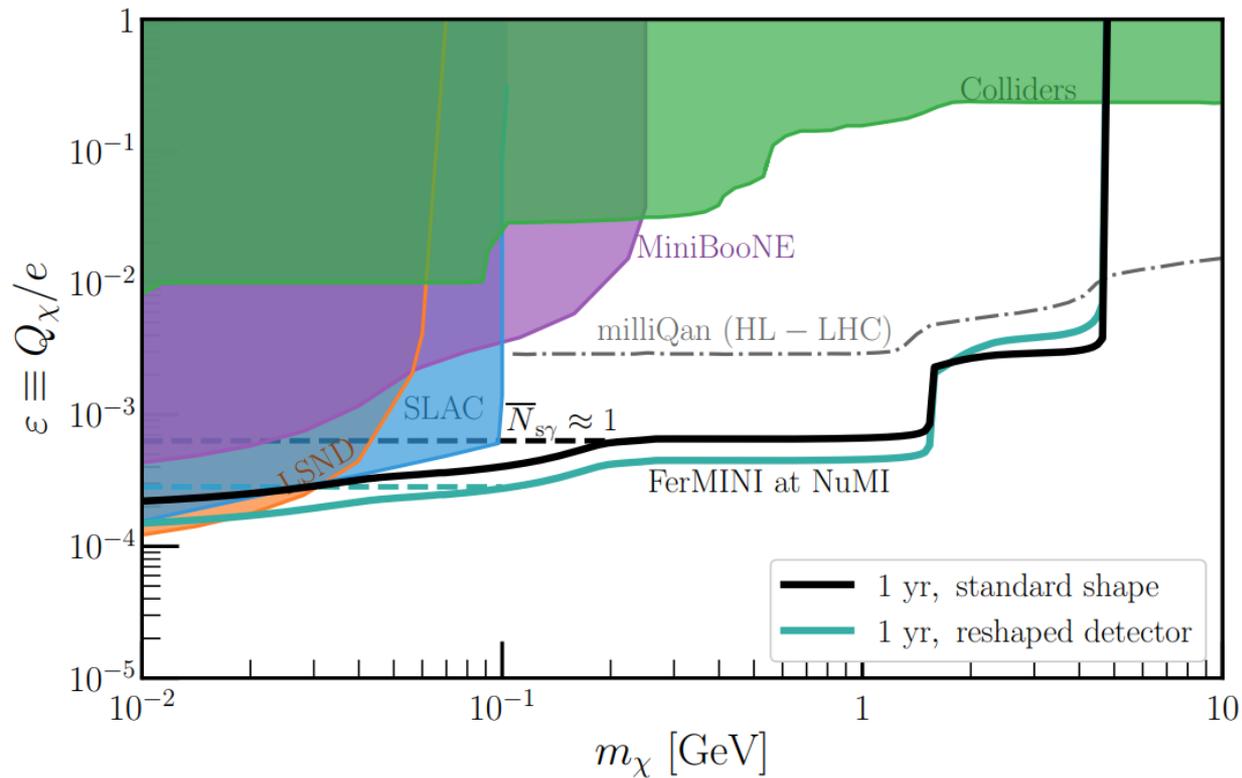
Detector Background

- We will discuss two major **detector backgrounds** and the **reduction technique**
- **SM charged particles from background radiation (e.g., cosmic muons):**
 - **Offline veto of events with > 10 PEs**
 - **Offset middle detector**
- **Dark current: triple coincidence**

Dark Current Background @ PMT

- **Major Background (BG) Source!**
- dark-current frequency to be $\nu_B = 500$ Hz for estimation (1607.04669)
- For each tri-PMT set, the background rate for triple incidence is
 $\nu_B^3 \Delta t^2 = 2.8 \times 10^{-8}$ Hz, for $\Delta t = 15$ ns.
- There are 400 such set in the nominal design.
- The total background rate is $400 \times 2.8 \times 10^{-8} \sim 10^{-5}$ Hz
- **~ 300 events** in one year of trigger-live time
- **Quadruple coincidence can reduce this BG to essentially zero!**

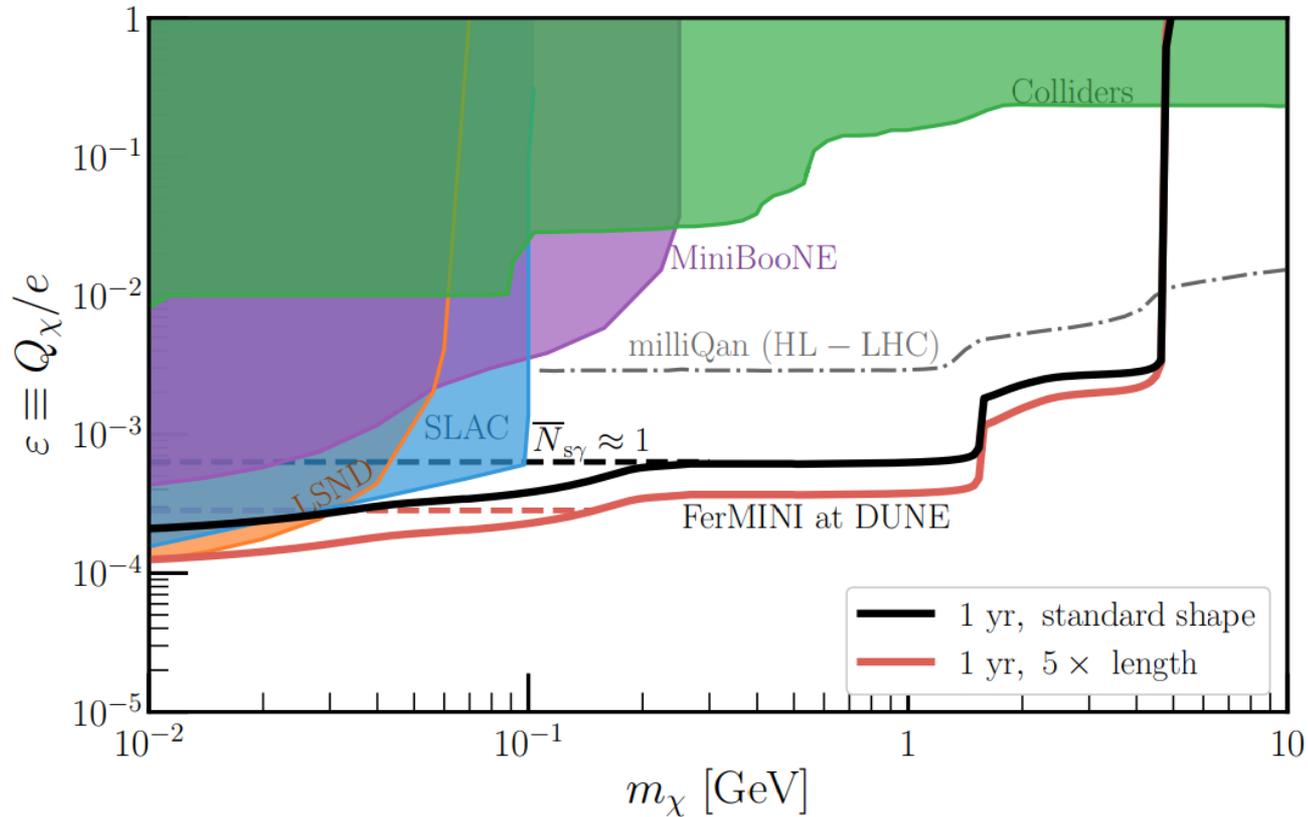
FerMINI @ MINOS



Yu-Dai Tsai,
Fermilab

- Got support from **milliQan members**

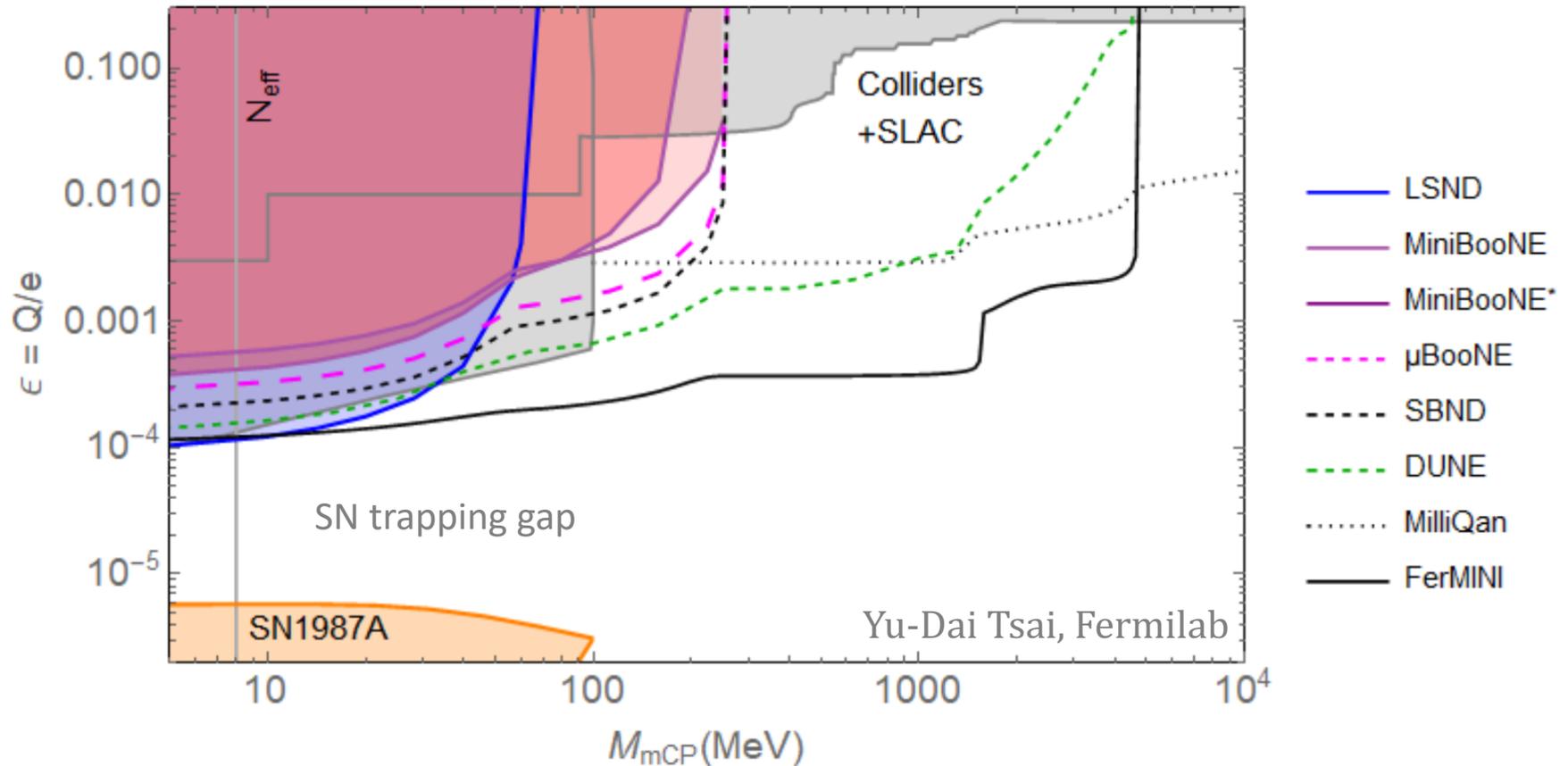
FerMINI @ DUNE



Yu-Dai Tsai,
Fermilab

- **Hope to incorporate it into the near detector proposal.**

Compilation of MCP Probes



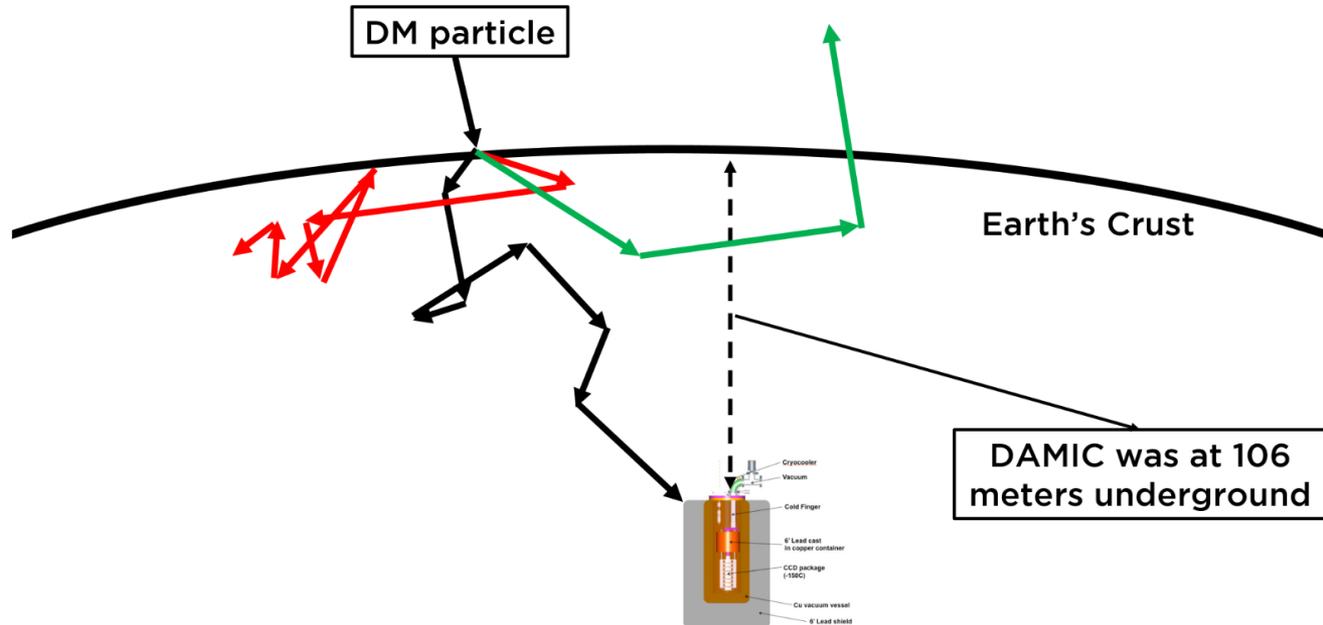
- One can **combine the MCP detector with neutrino detector** to improve sensitivity or reduce background
- Filling up the MCP “cavity”

Strongly Interacting Dark Matter

Yu-Dai Tsai, Fermilab, 2019

Strongly Interacting Dark Matter

DM-SM Interaction too strong that attenuation stop the particles from reach the direct detection detector



DMATIS (Dark Matter ATtenuation Importance Sampling), Mahdawi & Farrar '17

Strongly Interacting Dark Matter

See, e.g., arXiv:1905.06348 (Emken, Essig, Kouvaris, Sholapurkar '19)

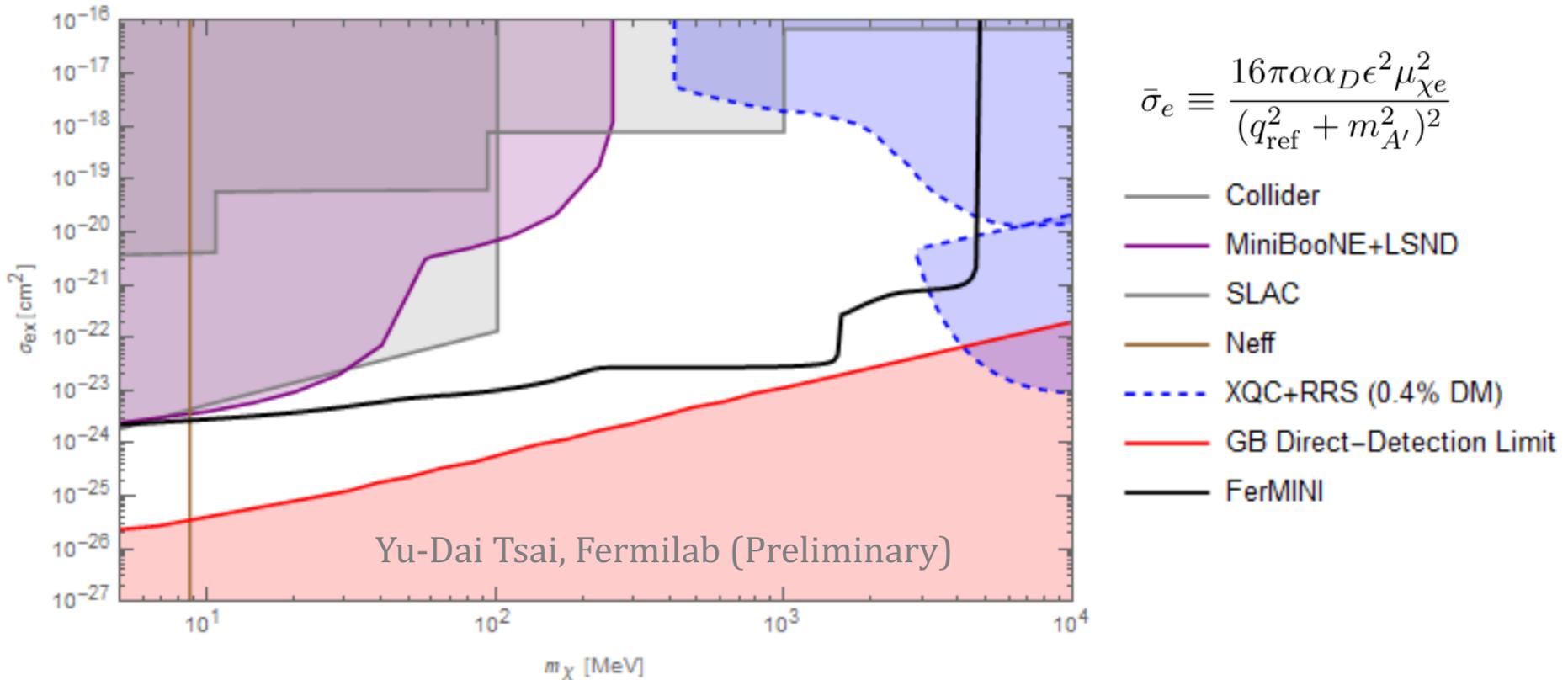
Scatterings both on electrons and nuclei in the **Earth's crust**, **atmosphere**, and **shielding material** attenuate the **expected local dark matter flux** at a terrestrial detector, so that such experiments lose sensitivity to dark matter above some **critical cross section**.

Limits of the underground Direct Detection (DD) Experiments, including **SENSEI, CDMS-HVeV, XENON10, XENON100, and DarkSide-50**

One can call the DM that could escape the DD bound this way as **Strongly Interacting Dark Matter (SIDM)**

Not to confuse with Self Interacting Dark Matter (also SIDM)

FerMINI Probe of Millicharged SIDM



- Here we plot the **electron-scattering Millicharged SIDM**
- **FerMINI can help close the Millicharged SIDM window!**

Advantages of FerMINI: Timeliness, Low-cost, Movable, Tested, Easy to Implement, ...

1. **LHC** entering **long shutdown**
2. **NuMI operating**, shutting down in 5 years
(**DO IT NOW! Fermilab! USA!**)
3. Broadening the physics case for fixed-target facilities
4. **DUNE near detector design** still underway
5. Can develop at NuMI/MINOS and then move to DUNE
6. **Sensitivity better than milliQan for MCP up to 5 GeV** and don't have to wait for HL-LHC
7. Synergy between **dark matter, neutrino, and collider** community.
Join us on the proposal! (ytsai@fnal.gov)

FerMINI: Alternative Designs & New Ideas

Alternatives (Straightforward)

1. **Quadruple incidence:** further background reduction, sacrifice event rate but potentially gain better control of background, reduce the background naively by 10^{-5}
Basically zero dark-current background experiment?
2. Different lengths for each detectors
3. Different materials:

Material	Photons/keV	Density (g/cm ³)	* Length needed (cm)	Speed (ns)	Cost for 5x5 cm (\$)	Notes
Plastic BC408	10	1.03	145	~2	~200	Current choice
NaI	38	3.67	11	~230	~800	Slow, fragile
LaBr3(Ce)	63	5.08	5	~16	~3000	Radioactive
Liquid Xe	62	2.95	8	~2 / ~34	~1000?	Cryogenic, ultraviolet

- Andy Haas, Fermilab, [2017](#)

* Length needed to get 3 photons for charge 1/1000 e

New Ideas ...

- **Combine with neutrino detector:** behind, in front, or sandwich them
- Combine with **DUNE PRISM**: moving up and down
- **FerMINI + DUNE 3-D scintillation detector (3DST)**
- Combine with **SPS/SHiP facilities**
- Can potentially probe (electric) **dipole portal dark fermion, quirks**, etc.
- **Detail Proposal:** Kelly, Plestid, Pospelov, **YT** + milliQan people (ytsai@fnal.gov)

Other New Physics Probes

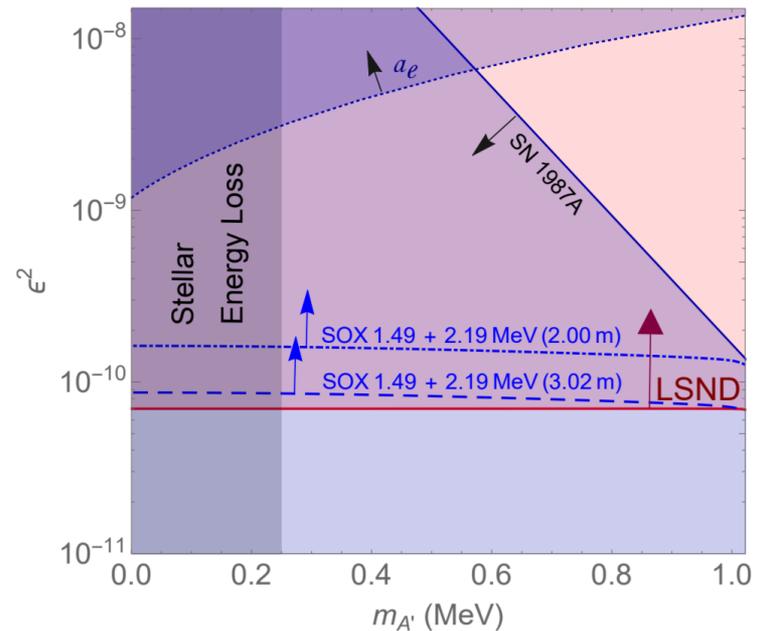
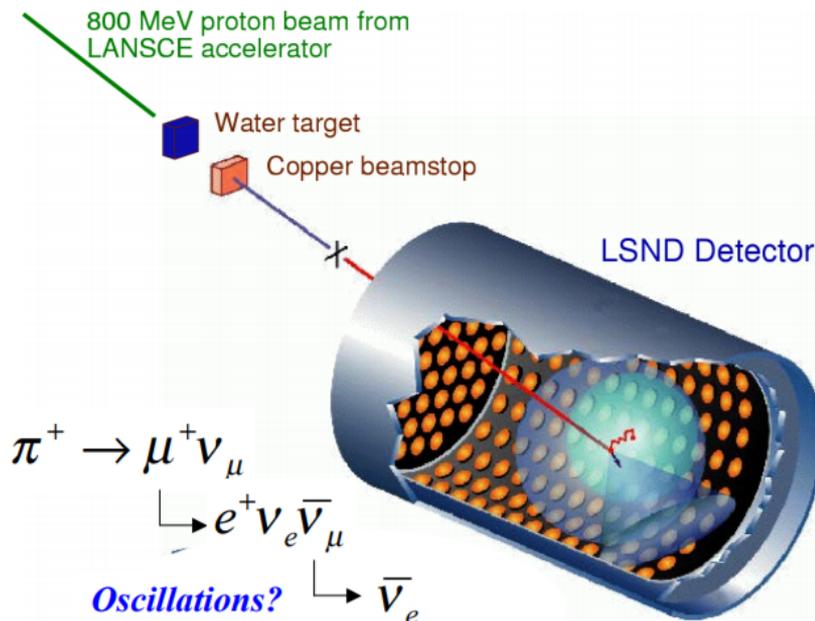
NuMI (MINOS) / LBNF (DUNE)

Now and the future bests in POTs

- **LSND:** total of 10^{23} POT (beam: 800 MeV)
- **Fermilab (FT):**
 - NuMI beam: $1 - 4 \times 10^{20}$ POT/yr (120 GeV)
 - LBNF beam: $1 - 2 \times 10^{21}$ POT/yr (120 GeV)
- **CERN SPS (FT):**
 - NA62: up to 3×10^{18} POT/yr (400 GeV)
 - SHiP: up to 10^{19} POT/yr (400 GeV)
- **FASER (collider, forward):** 10^{16} - 10^{17} POT/yr
much higher energy

Dark Photon @ LSND

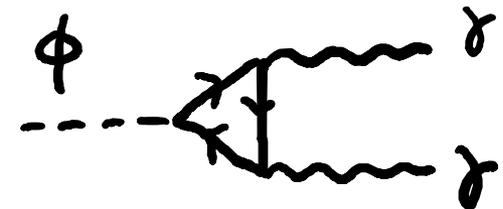
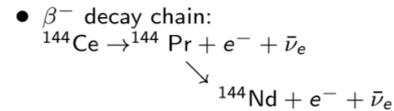
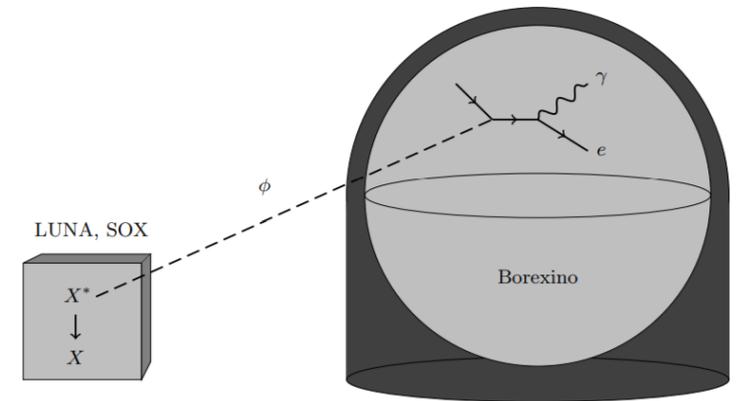
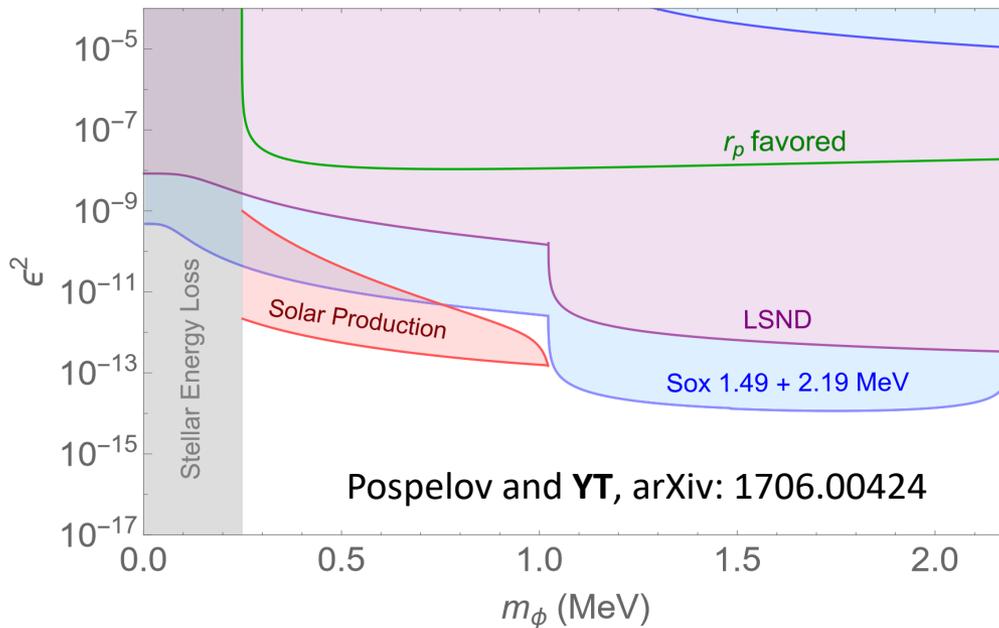
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{d.ph.}} = -\frac{1}{4}F'_{\mu\nu}F'^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2}m_{A'}^2(A'_\mu)^2 + \epsilon A'^\mu J_\mu^{EM}.$$



- Major energy depositions: $e + A' \rightarrow e + \gamma$.

Light Scalar @ LSND & Borexino

$$\mathcal{L}_\phi = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu\phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2}m_\phi^2\phi^2 + (g_p\bar{p}p + g_n\bar{n}n + g_e\bar{e}e + g_\mu\bar{\mu}\mu + g_\tau\bar{\tau}\tau)\phi.$$



diphoton decay

$$e\phi \rightarrow e\gamma$$

$$\phi \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$$

$$\phi \rightarrow e^+e^-$$

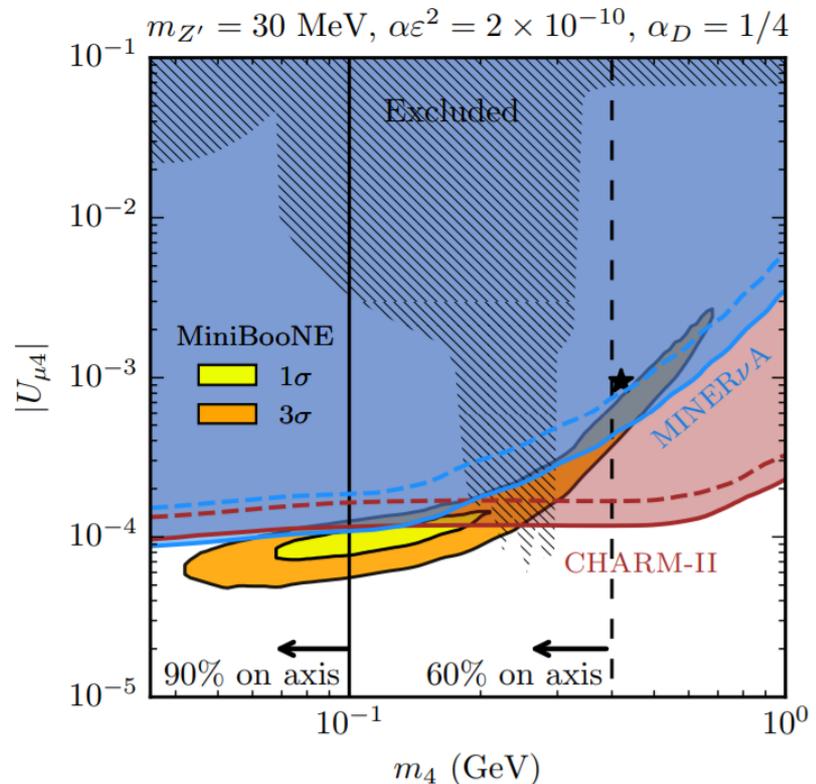
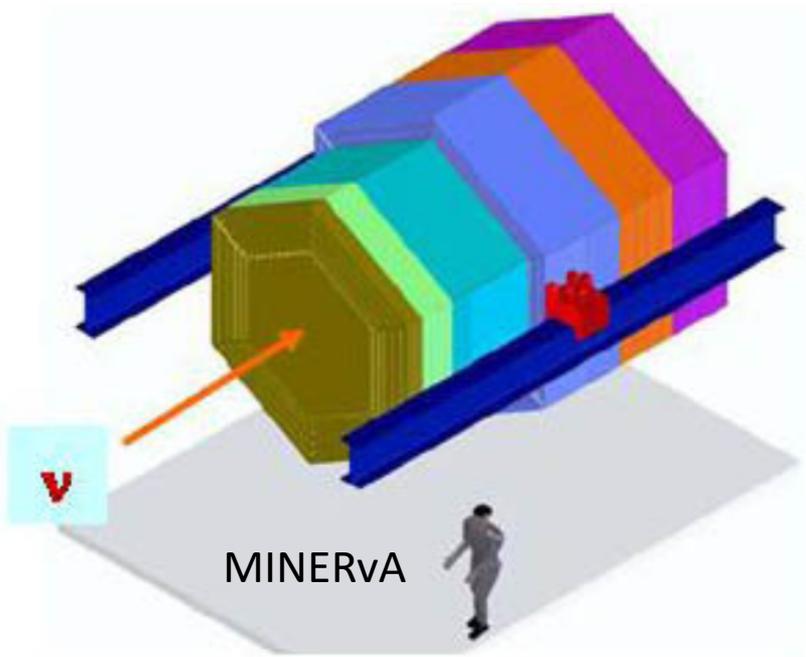
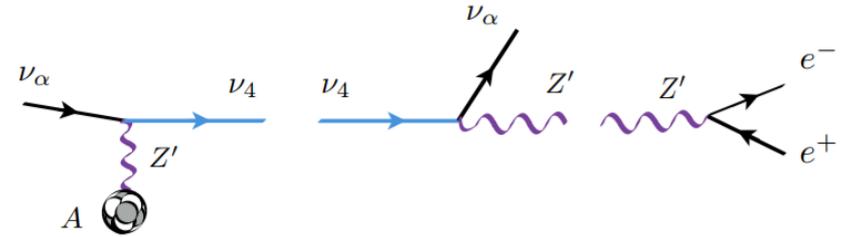
$$\epsilon^2 \equiv g_e g_p / e^2$$

$$g_e = (m_e/m_\mu)g_\mu, \quad g_\tau = (m_\tau/m_\mu)g_\mu, \quad g_p = (m_p/m_\mu)g_\mu,$$

Dark Neutrino at CHARM & MINERvA

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} \supset g_D \bar{\nu}_D \gamma_\mu \nu_D Z'^\mu + e \varepsilon Z'^\mu J_\mu^{\text{EM}},$$

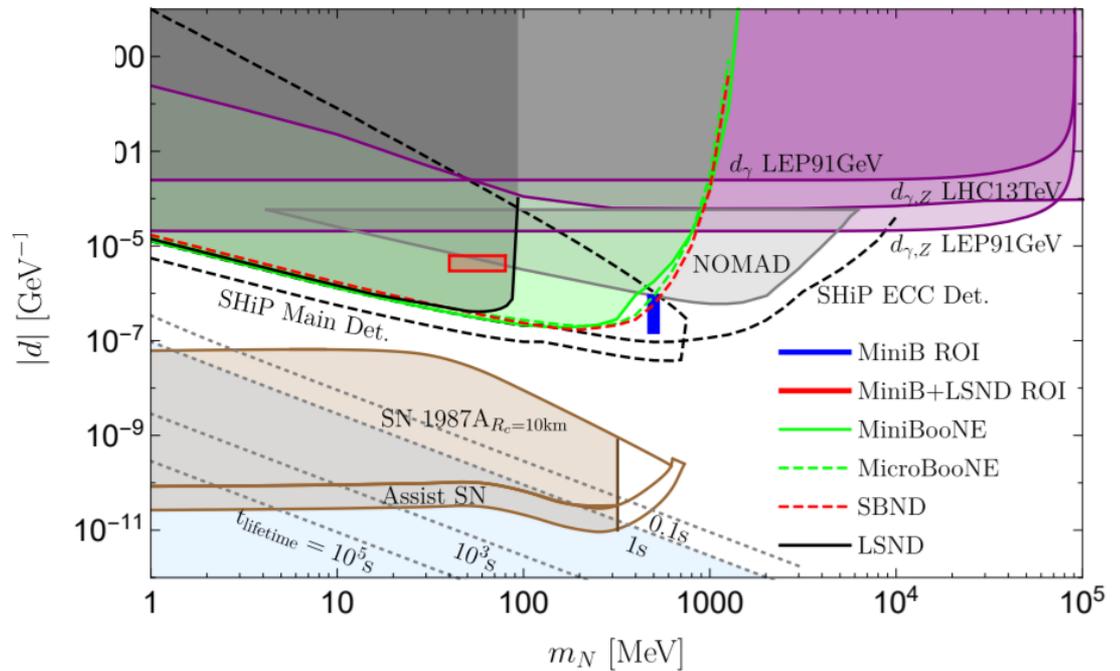
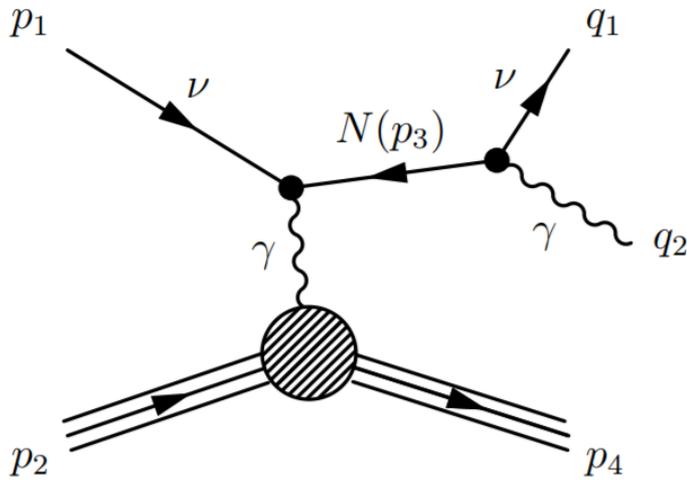
$$\nu_\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^4 U_{\alpha i} \nu_i, \quad (\alpha = e, \mu, \tau, D).$$



Dipole-Portal Heavy Neutral Lepton

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \bar{L} (d_W \mathcal{W}_{\mu\nu}^a \tau^a + d_B B_{\mu\nu}) \tilde{H} \sigma_{\mu\nu} N_D + h.c.$$

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \bar{N} (i\not{\partial} - m_N) N + (d\bar{\nu}_L \sigma_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} N + h.c.).$$



Looking Ahead

- Exploring **Energy Frontier of the Intensity Frontier** (complementary to and **before HL-LHC upgrade**)
- **Cosmology-driven models/ more motivated models.**
- Near-future (and almost free) opportunity
(**NuMI Facility, SBN program, DUNE Near Detector**, etc.)
- Other new **low-cost alternatives/proposals (~ \$1M)** to probe hidden particles and new forces (**FerMINI is just a beginning!**)
- **Dark sectors in neutrino telescopes**

Thank You!
Thanks for the invitation!

Yu-Dai Tsai, Fermilab, 2019

(detail) Meson Production Details

- At LSND, the π^0 (135 MeV) spectrum is modeled using a Burman-Smith distribution
- Fermilab's Booster Neutrino Beam (BNB): π^0 and η (548 MeV) mesons. π^0 's angular and energy spectra are modeled by the **Sanford-Wang distribution**. η mesons by the Feynman Scaling hypothesis.
- SHiP/DUNE: pseudoscalar meson production using the **BMPT distribution**, as before, but use a beam energy of 80 GeV
- J/ψ (3.1 GeV), we assume that their energy production spectra are described by the distribution from **Gale, Jeon, Kapusta, PLB '99**, nucl-th/9812056.
- Upsilon, Y (9.4 GeV): Same dist. , normalized by data from HERA-B, I. Abt et al., PLB (2006), hep-ex/0603015.
- Calibrated with existing data [e.g. NA50, EPJ '06, nucl-ex/0612012, Herb et al., PRL '77]. and simulations from other groups [e.g. deNiverville, Chen, Pospelov, and Ritz, Phys. Rev. D95, 035006 (2017), arXiv:1609.01770 [hepph].]

(Detail) dE/dx formula

- For moderately small epsilon and heavy enough MCP (>> electron mass), one can use Bethe equation to estimate average energy loss.

$$\left\langle -\frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle = K z^2 \frac{Z}{A} \frac{1}{\beta^2} \left[\frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{2m_e c^2 \beta^2 \gamma^2 W_{\max}}{I^2} - \beta^2 - \frac{\delta(\beta\gamma)}{2} \right] .$$

z charge number of incident particle

Z atomic number of absorber

A atomic mass of absorber g mol^{-1}

K $4\pi N_A r_e^2 m_e c^2$ $0.307\,075 \text{ MeV mol}^{-1} \text{ cm}^2$

(Coefficient for dE/dx)

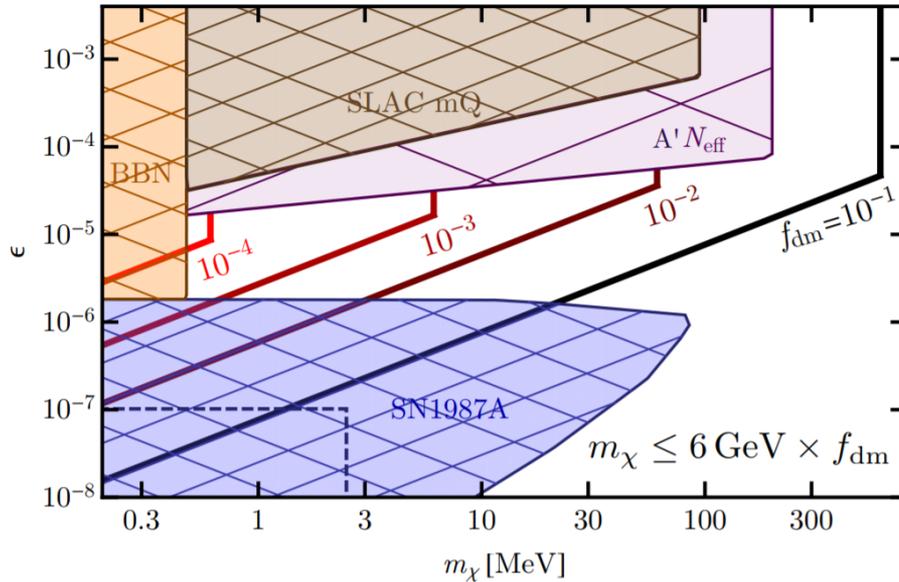
I mean excitation energy eV (*Nota bene!*)

$$W_{\max} = \frac{2m_e c^2 \beta^2 \gamma^2}{1 + 2\gamma m_e/M + (m_e/M)^2} .$$

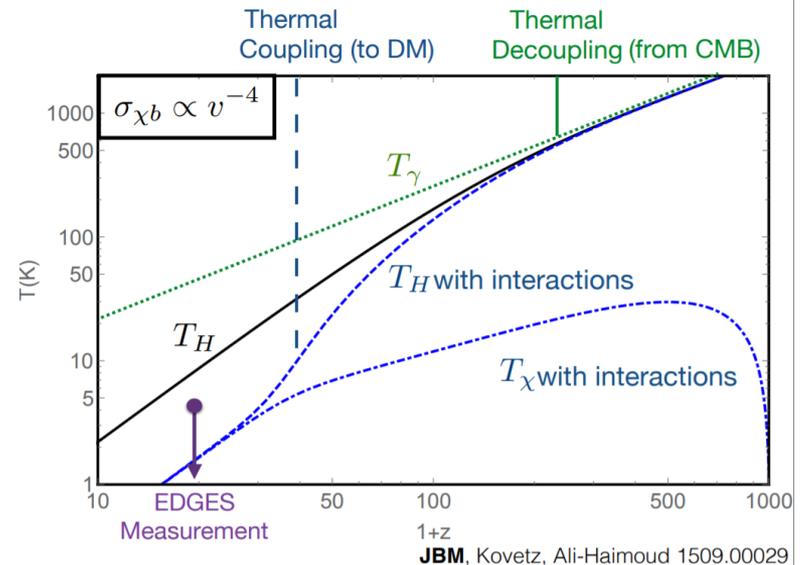
$\delta(\beta\gamma)$ density effect correction to ionization energy loss

- M : charged particle mass
- For **very small epsilon** (related to the finite length effect), one have to consider **most probable energy deposition & consider landau distribution** for the energy transfer, see [arXiv:1812.03998](https://arxiv.org/abs/1812.03998)

EDGES ANOMALY and MCP Solution



JBM and Loeb 1802.10094



JBM, Kovetz, Ali-Haimoud 1509.00029