

# The Light Dark Matter eXperiment



Next Frontiers in the Search for Dark Matter  
Workshop at GGI, September 2019

Ruth Pöttgen

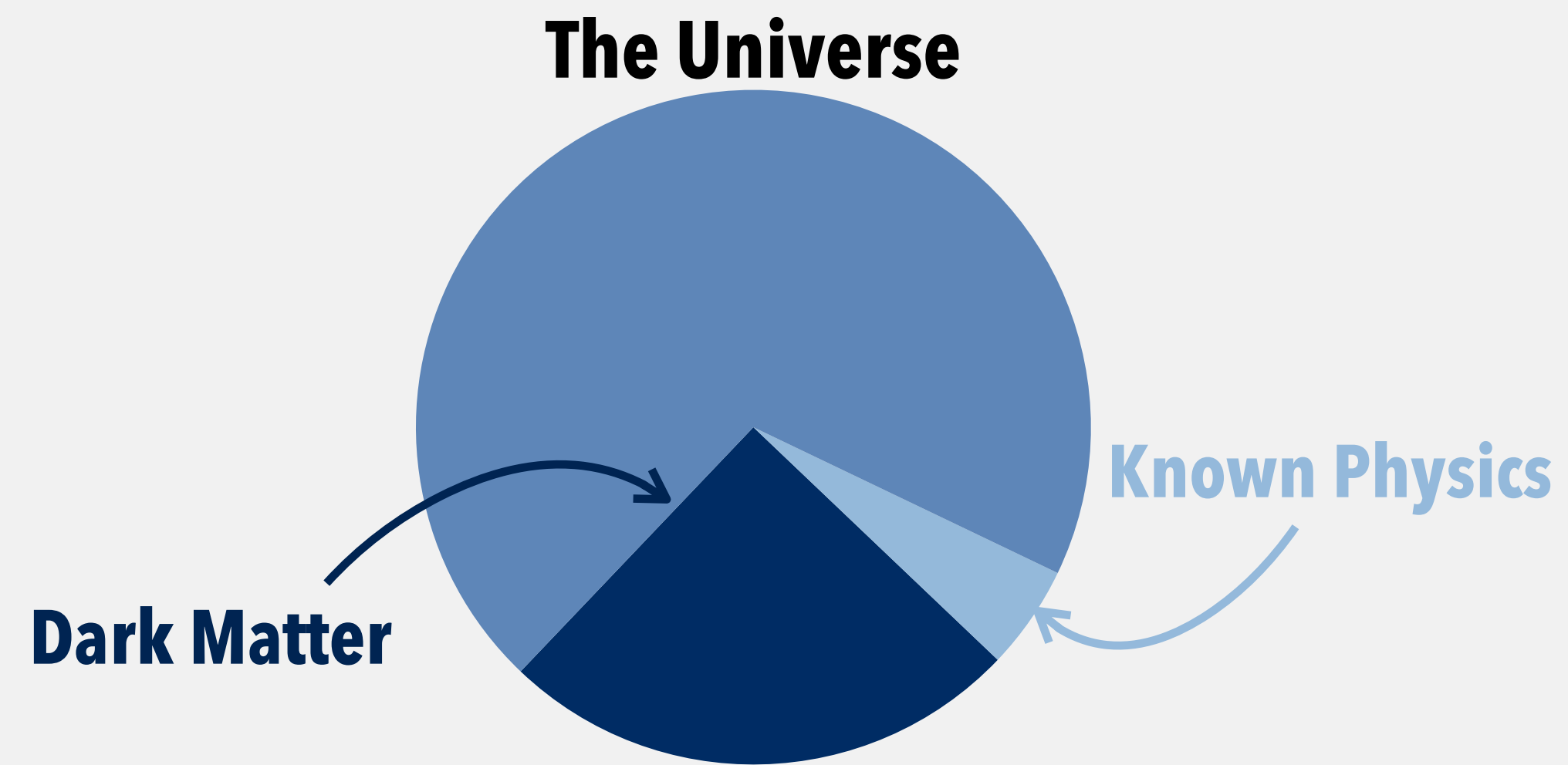


**LUNDS**  
UNIVERSITET

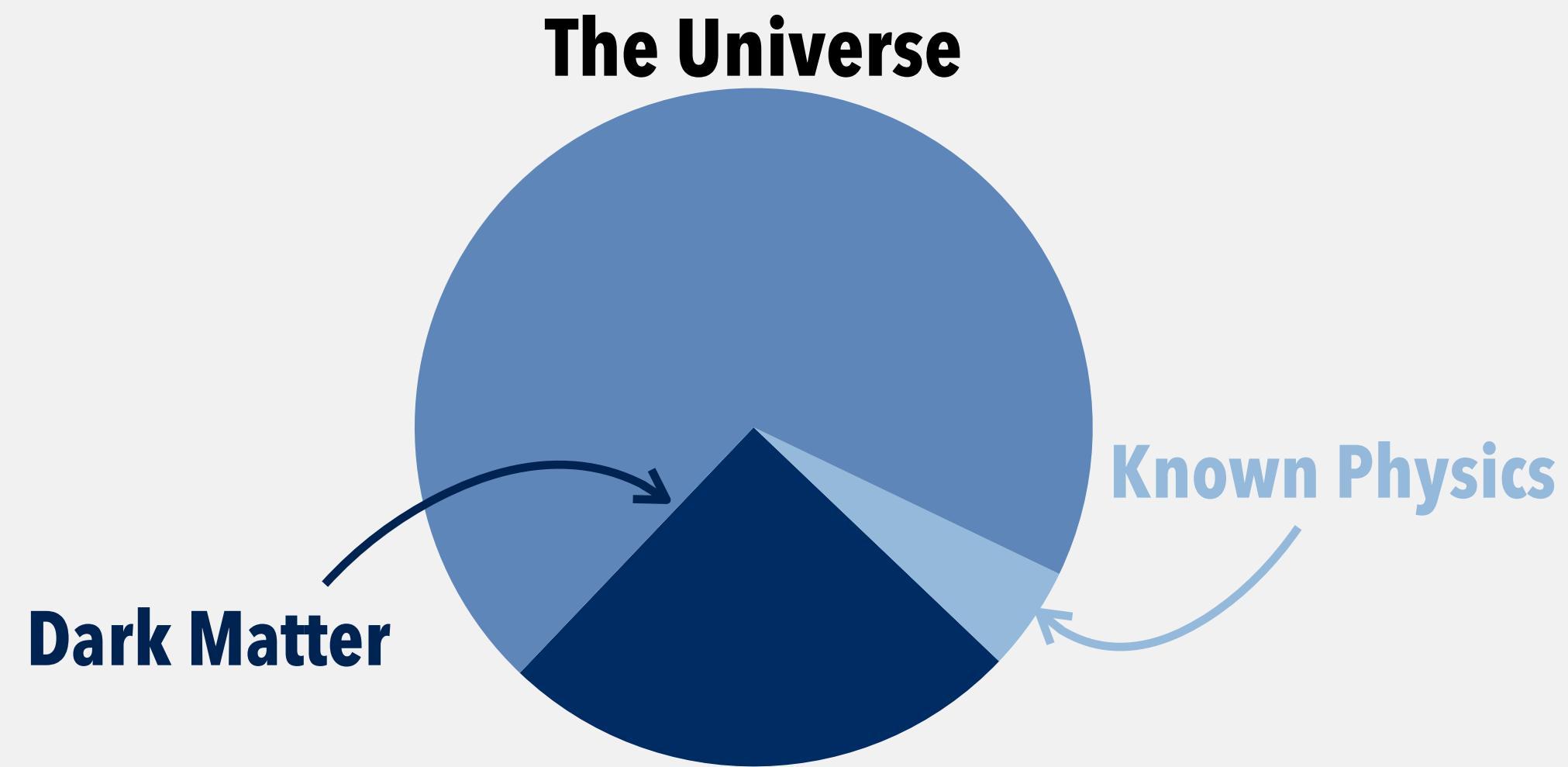
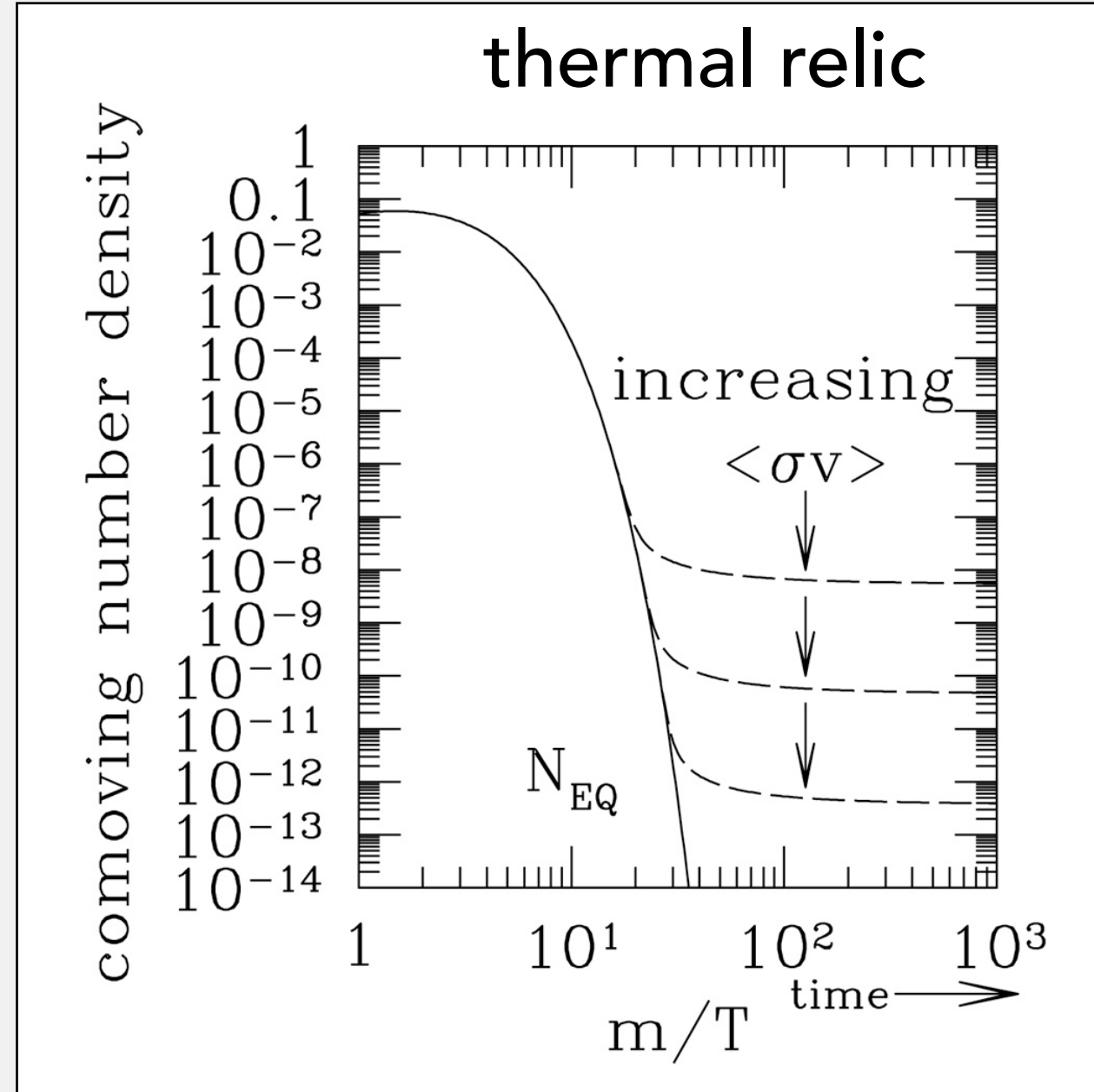


# What is light? (in this talk)

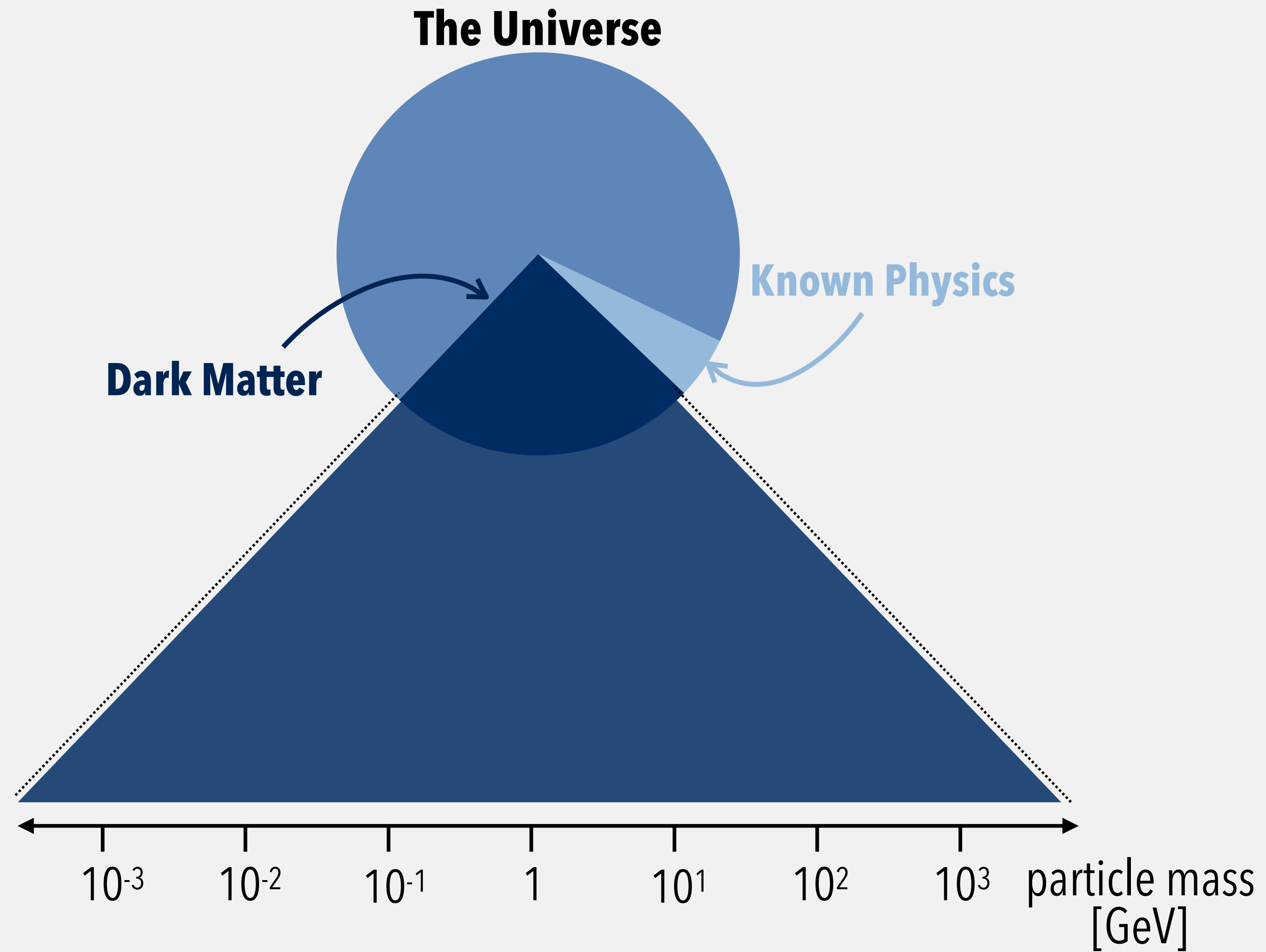
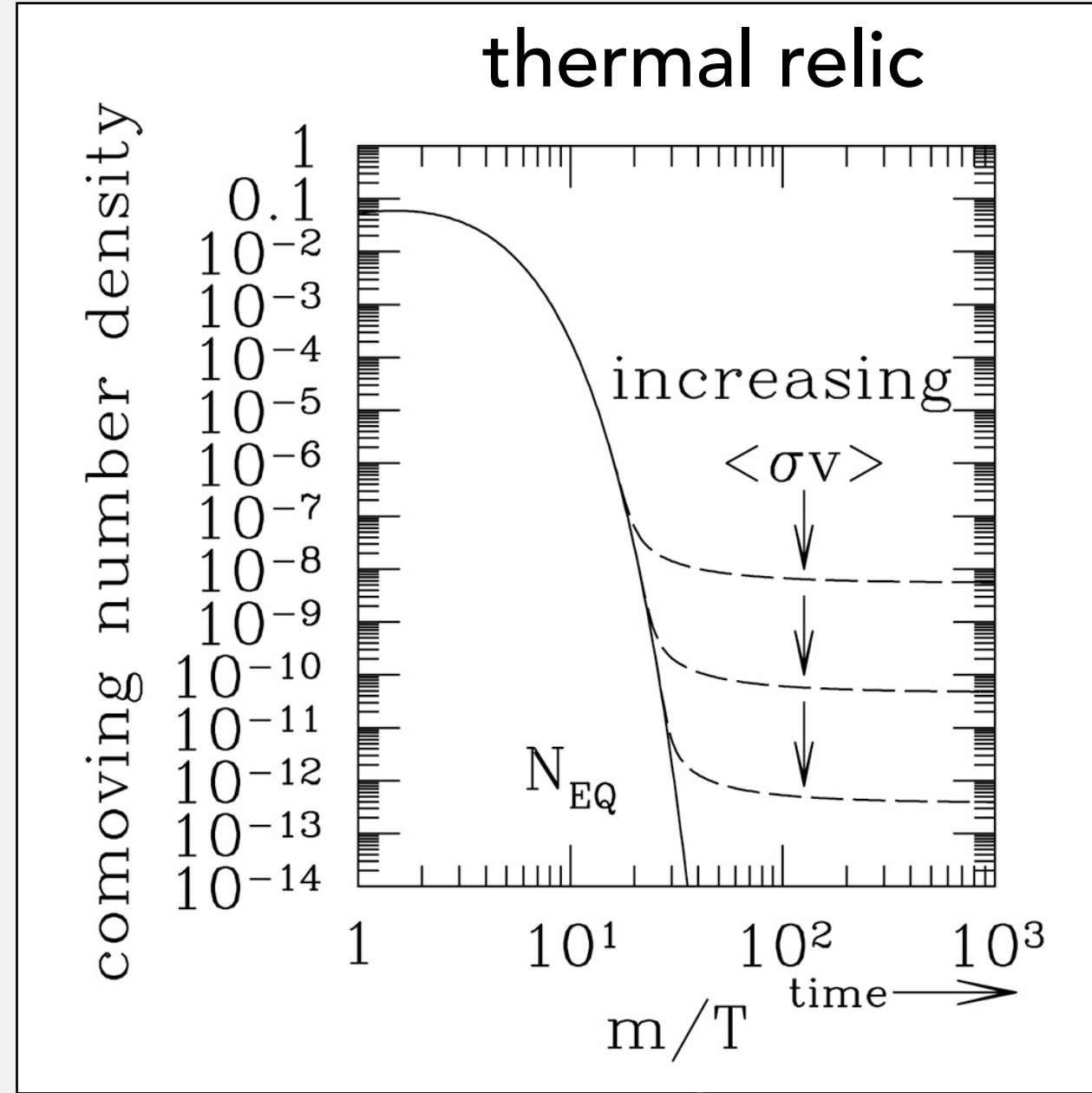
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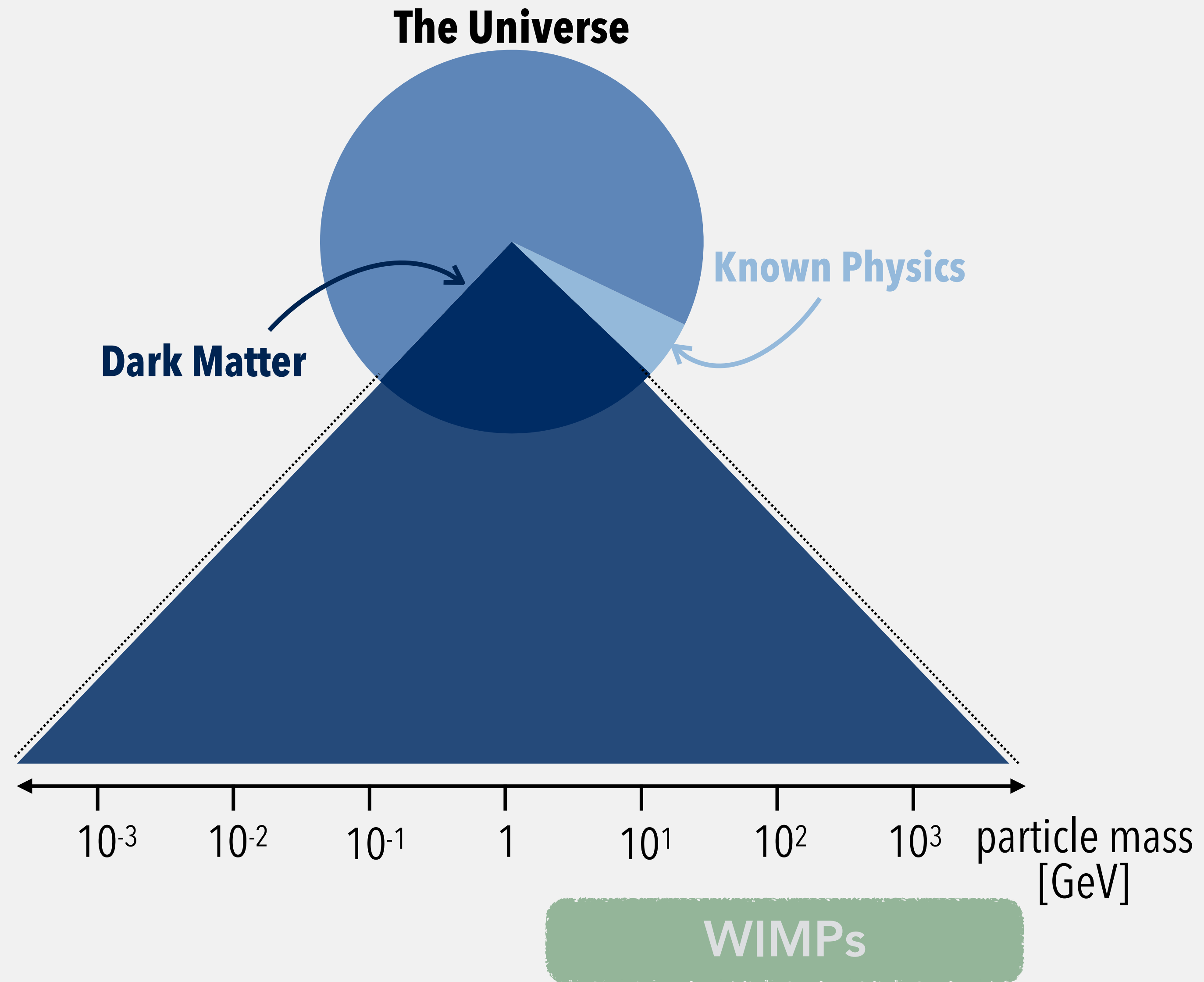
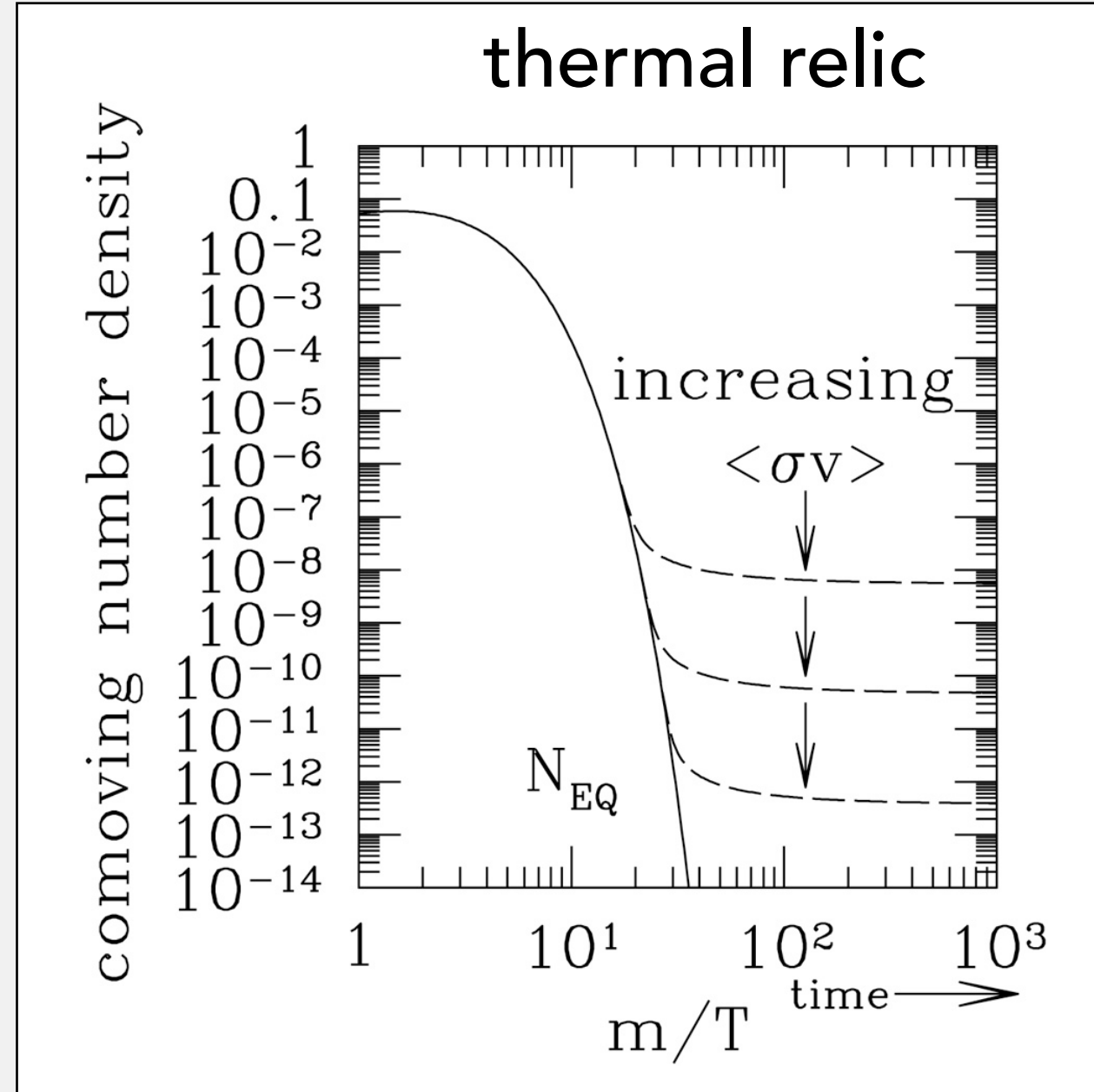
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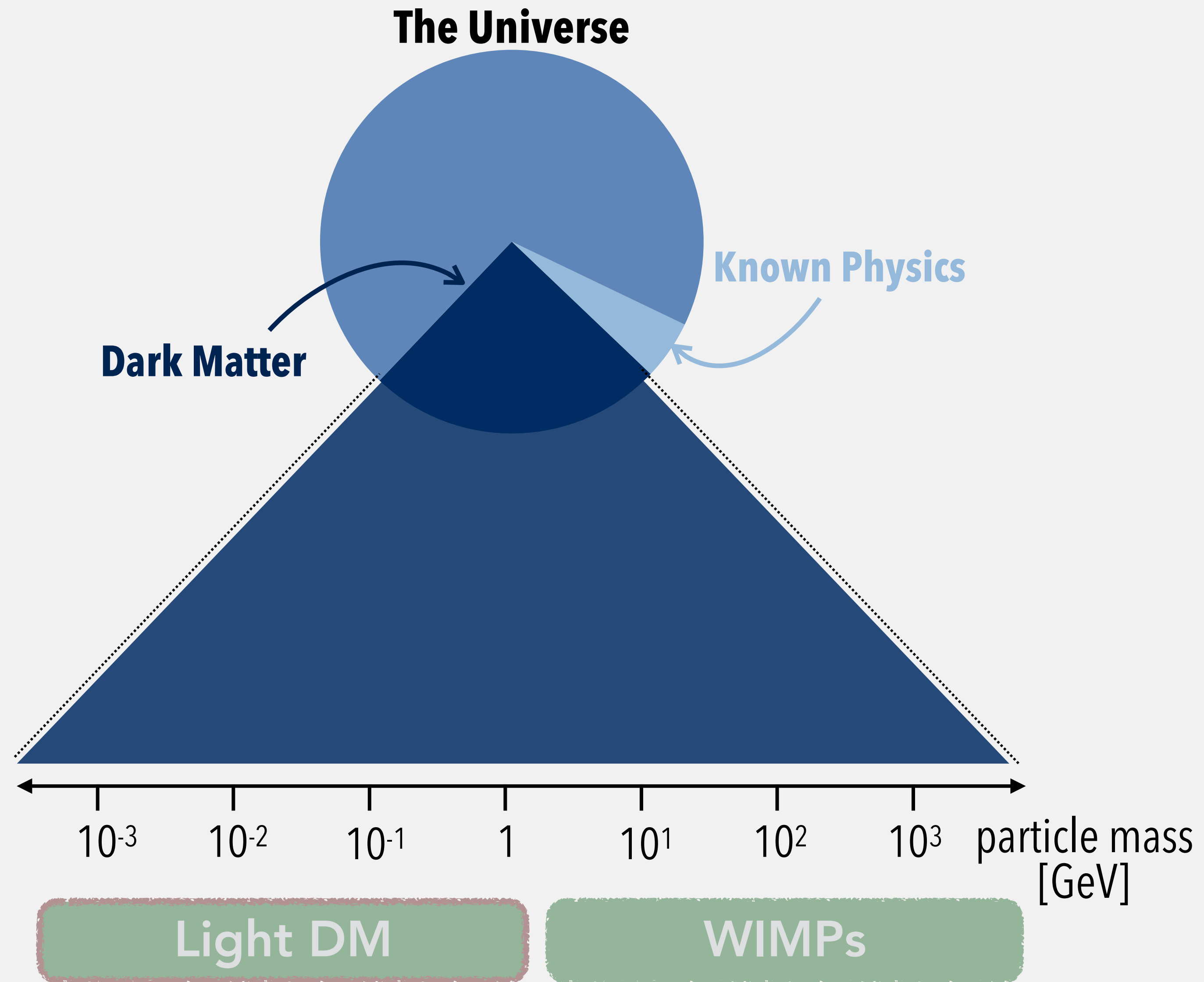
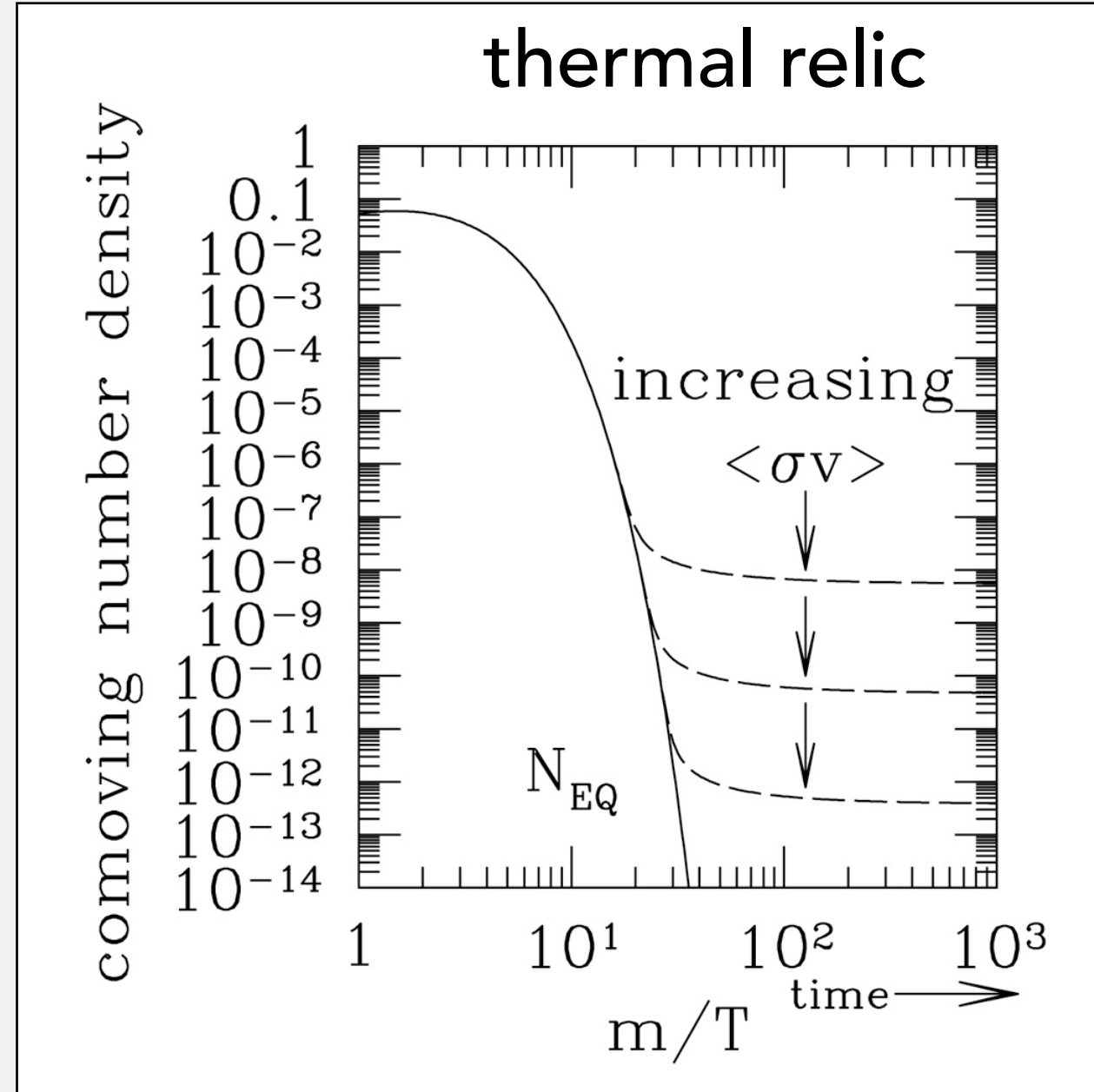
# What is light? (in this talk)



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# What is light? (in this talk)



# How to realise LDM

starting point: thermal relic assumption

- restricts viable mass range
- **minimum** annihilation cross section
  - otherwise overproduction of DM

if WIMPs 'too light' ( $m_\chi < \text{few GeV}$ )

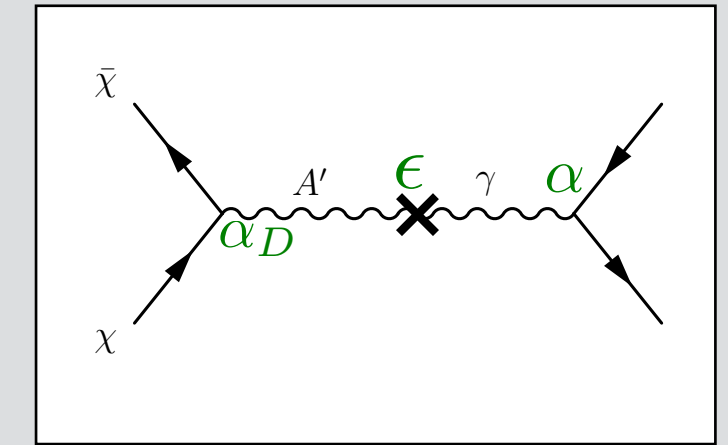
- annihilation into SM inefficient
  - overproduction of DM
- *Lee-Weinberg-bound*

introduce new, light mediator

- additional annihilation channel
  - correct relic abundance

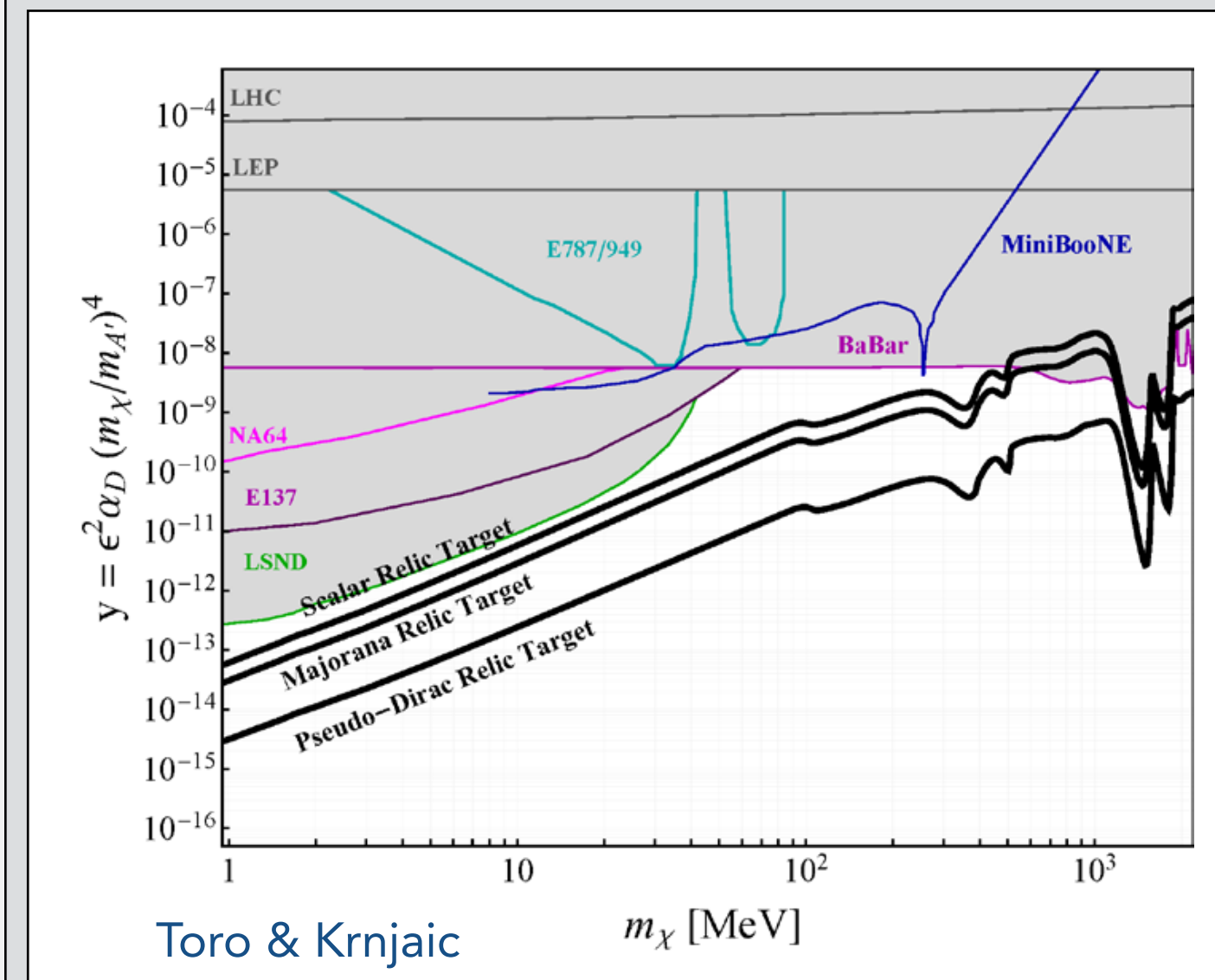
representative benchmark model: Dark Photon ( $A'$ )

- vector mediator
- kinetically mixes with photon ( $\epsilon$ )
- annihilation cross section



$$\sigma v \sim \alpha_D \epsilon^2 \frac{m_\chi^2}{m_{A'}^4} \sim \alpha_D \epsilon^2 \frac{m_\chi^4}{m_{A'}^4} \frac{1}{m_\chi^2} \sim y \frac{1}{m_\chi^2}$$

$$y = \alpha_D \epsilon^2 \frac{m_\chi^4}{m_{A'}^4}$$



**clear experimental  
thermal targets**

conservative:

$$\alpha_D = 0.5 \quad \frac{m_\chi}{m_{A'}} = \frac{1}{3}$$

# Active Field

[arxiv:1608.08632](https://arxiv.org/abs/1608.08632)

## Dark Sectors 2016 Workshop: Community Report

[arxiv:1707.04591](https://arxiv.org/abs/1707.04591)

## US Cosmic Visions: New Ideas in Dark Matter 2017 : Community Report

Experiment	Machine	Type	$E_{\text{beam}}$ (GeV)	Detection	Mass range (GeV)	Sensitivity	First beam
<b>Future US initiatives</b>							
BDX	CEBAF @ JLab	electron BD	2.1-11	DM scatter	$0.001 < m_\chi < 0.1$	$y \gtrsim 10^{-13}$	2019+
COHERENT	SNS @ ORNL	proton BD	1	DM scatter	$m_\chi < 0.06$	$y \gtrsim 10^{-13}$	
DarkLight	LERF @ JLab	electron FT	0.17	MMass (& vis.)	$0.01 < m_{A'} < 0.08$	$\epsilon^2 \gtrsim 10^{-6}$	
LDMX	DASEL @ SLAC	electron FT	4 (8)*	MMomentum	$m_\chi < 0.4$	$\epsilon^2 \gtrsim 10^{-14}$	
MMAPS	Synchr @ Cornell	positron FT	6	MMass	$0.02 < m_{A'} < 0.075$	$\epsilon^2 \gtrsim 10^{-8}$	
SBN	BNB @ FNAL	proton BD	8	DM scatter	$m_\chi < 0.4$	$y \sim 10^{-12}$	
SeaQuest	MI @ FNAL	proton FT	120	vis. prompt vis. disp.	$0.22 < m_{A'} < 9$ $m_{A'} < 2$	$\epsilon^2 \gtrsim 10^{-8}$ $\epsilon^2 \sim 10^{-14} - 10^{-8}$	
<b>Future international initiatives</b>							
Belle II	SuperKEKB @ KEK	$e^+e^-$ collider	$\sim 5.3$	MMass (& vis.)	$0 < m_\chi < 10$	$\epsilon^2 \gtrsim 10^{-9}$	2018
MAGIX	MESA @ Mami	electron FT	0.105	vis.	$0.01 < m_{A'} < 0.060$	$\epsilon^2 \gtrsim 10^{-9}$	2021-2022
PADME	DAΦNE @ Frascati	positron FT	0.550	MMass	$m_{A'} < 0.024$	$\epsilon^2 \gtrsim 10^{-7}$	2018
SHIP	SPS @ CERN	proton BD	400	DM scatter	$m_\chi < 0.4$	$y \gtrsim 10^{-12}$	2026+
VEPP3	VEPP3 @ BINP	positron FT	0.500	MMass	$0.005 < m_{A'} < 0.022$	$\epsilon^2 \gtrsim 10^{-8}$	2019-2020
<b>Current and completed initiatives</b>							
APEX	CEBAF @ JLab	electron FT	1.1-4.5	vis.	$0.06 < m_{A'} < 0.55$	$\epsilon^2 \gtrsim 10^{-7}$	2018-2019
BABAR	PEP-II @ SLAC	$e^+e^-$ collider	$\sim 5.3$	vis.	$0.02 < m_{A'} < 10$	$\epsilon^2 \gtrsim 10^{-7}$	done
Belle	KEKB @ KEK	$e^+e^-$ collider	$\sim 5.3$	vis.	$0.1 < m_{A'} < 10.5$	$\epsilon^2 \gtrsim 10^{-7}$	done
HPS	CEBAF @ JLab	electron FT	1.1-4.5	vis.	$0.015 < m_{A'} < 0.5$	$\epsilon^2 \sim 10^{-7**}$	2018-2020
NA/64	SPS @ CERN	electron FT	100	MEnergy	$m_{A'} < 1$	$\epsilon^2 \gtrsim 10^{-10}$	started
MiniBooNE	BNB @ FNAL	proton BD	8	DM scatter	$m_\chi < 0.4$	$y \gtrsim 10^{-9}$	done
TREK	$K^+$ beam @ J-PARC	$K$ decays	0.240	vis.	N/A	N/A	done

<https://home.cern/scientists/updates/2016/05/cern-launches-physics-beyond-colliders-study-group>

## CERN launches Physics Beyond Colliders study group

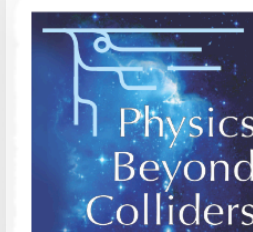
We are pleased to announce the kick-off workshop of the "Physics Beyond Colliders" Study Group which has recently been set up by CERN Management. The workshop will be held at CERN, Geneva, on September 6-7, 2016.

The aim of the workshop is to explore the opportunities offered by the CERN accelerator

The aim of the workshop is to explore the opportunities offered by the CERN accelerator complex and infrastructure to get new insights into some of today's outstanding questions in particle physics through projects complementary to high-energy colliders and other initiatives in the world. The focus is on fundamental physics questions that are

[arxiv:1901.09966](https://arxiv.org/abs/1901.09966)

## Physics Beyond Colliders at CERN Beyond the Standard Model Working Group Report



[arxiv:1902.00260](https://arxiv.org/abs/1902.00260)

CERN-PBC-REPORT-2018-003

Summary Report of Physics Beyond Colliders at CERN



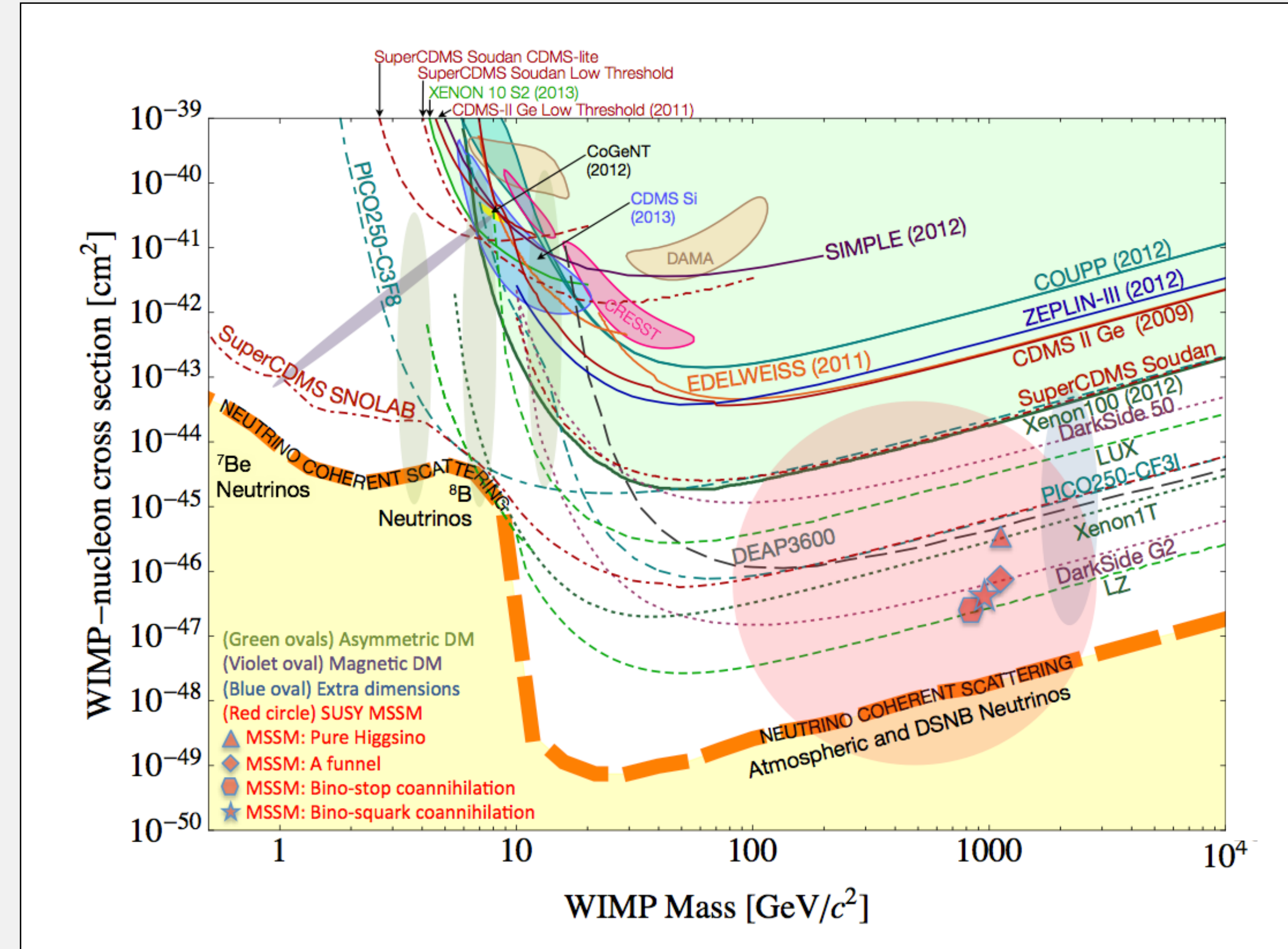
# Direct Detection

Direct detection: **nuclear** recoil due to WIMP scattering

- sensitivity drops quickly below few GeV

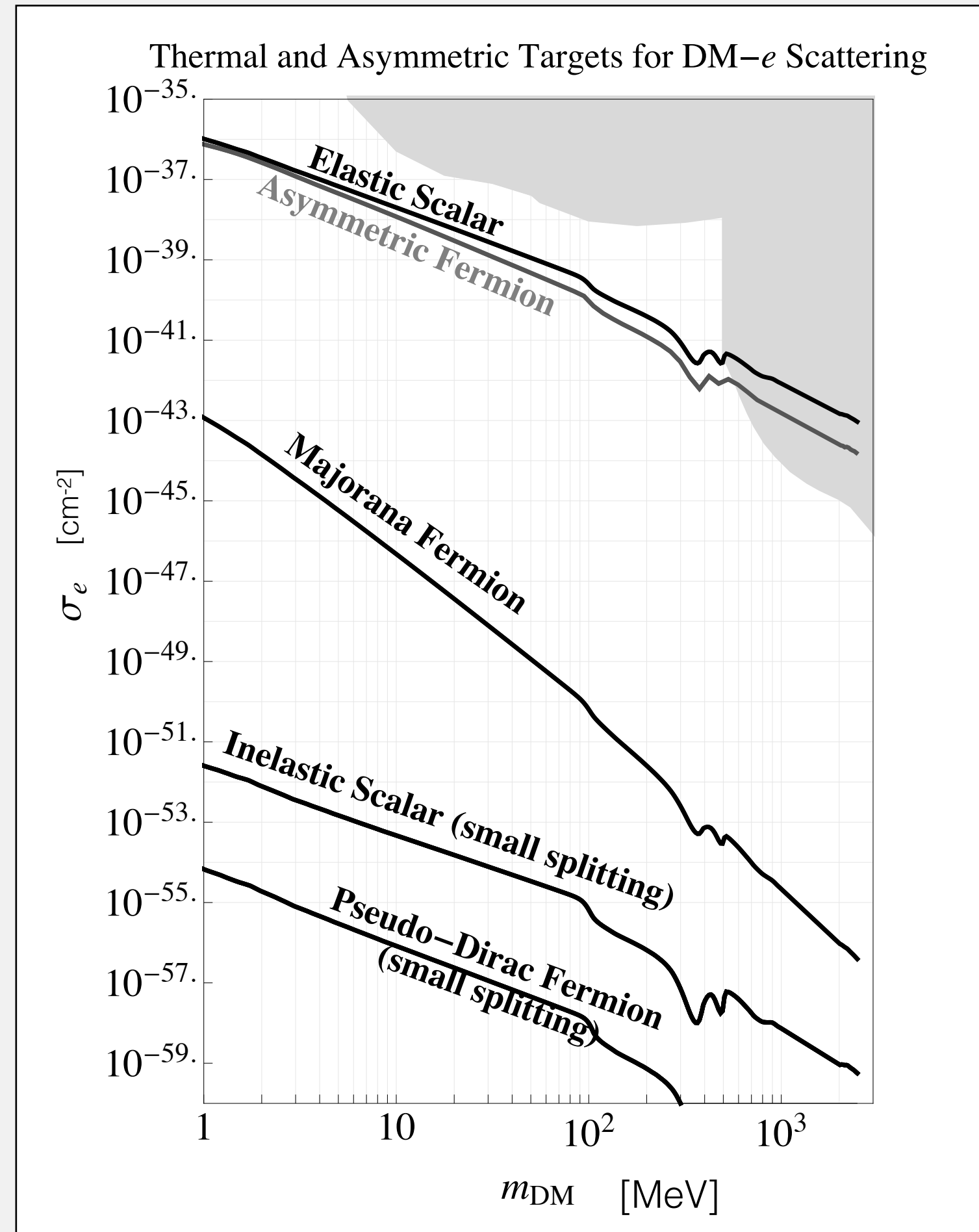
Many new ideas in recent years to get to lower masses

- needs lower energy threshold
- examples:
  - electron-DM scattering
  - semiconductors



# Why not only direct detection?

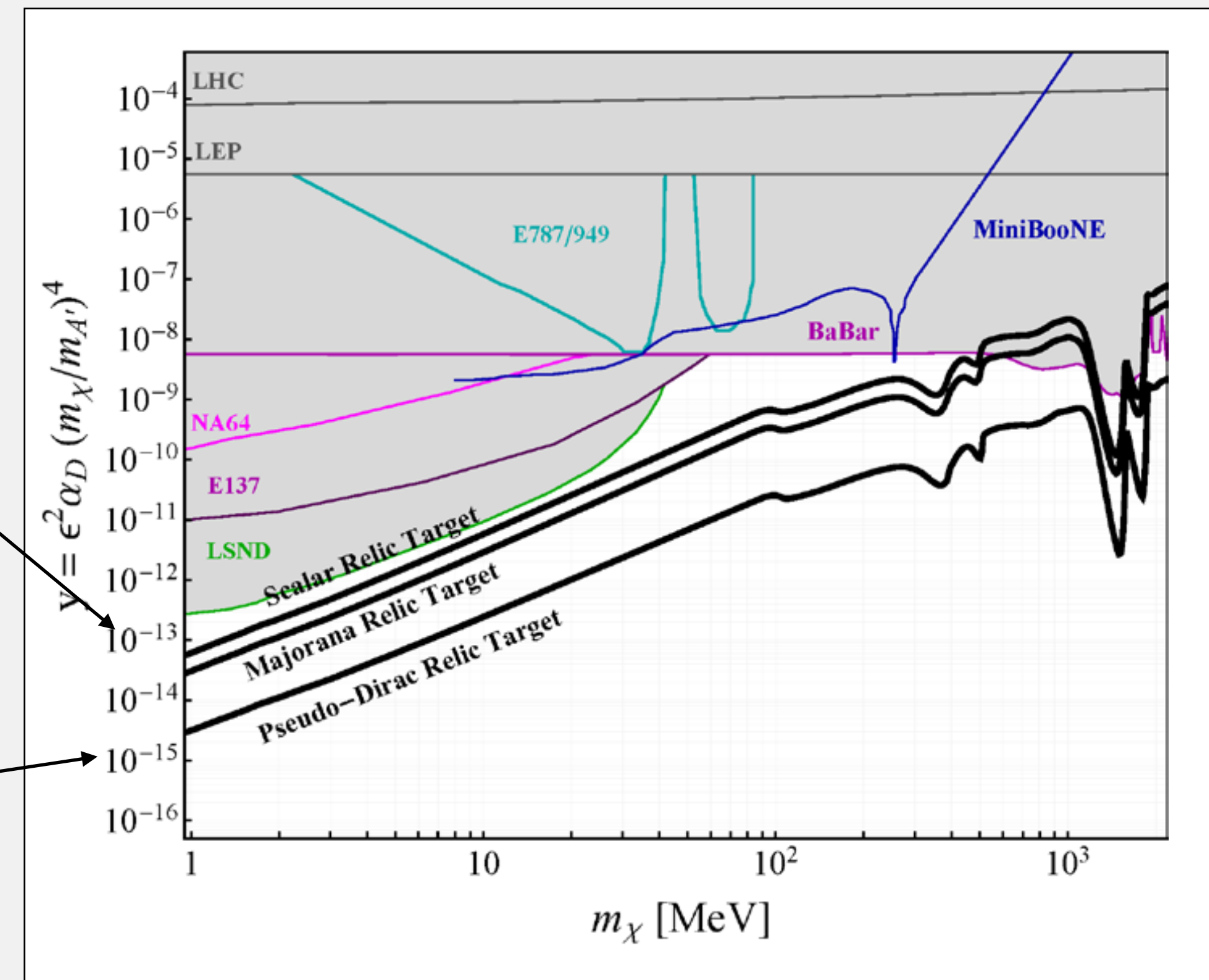
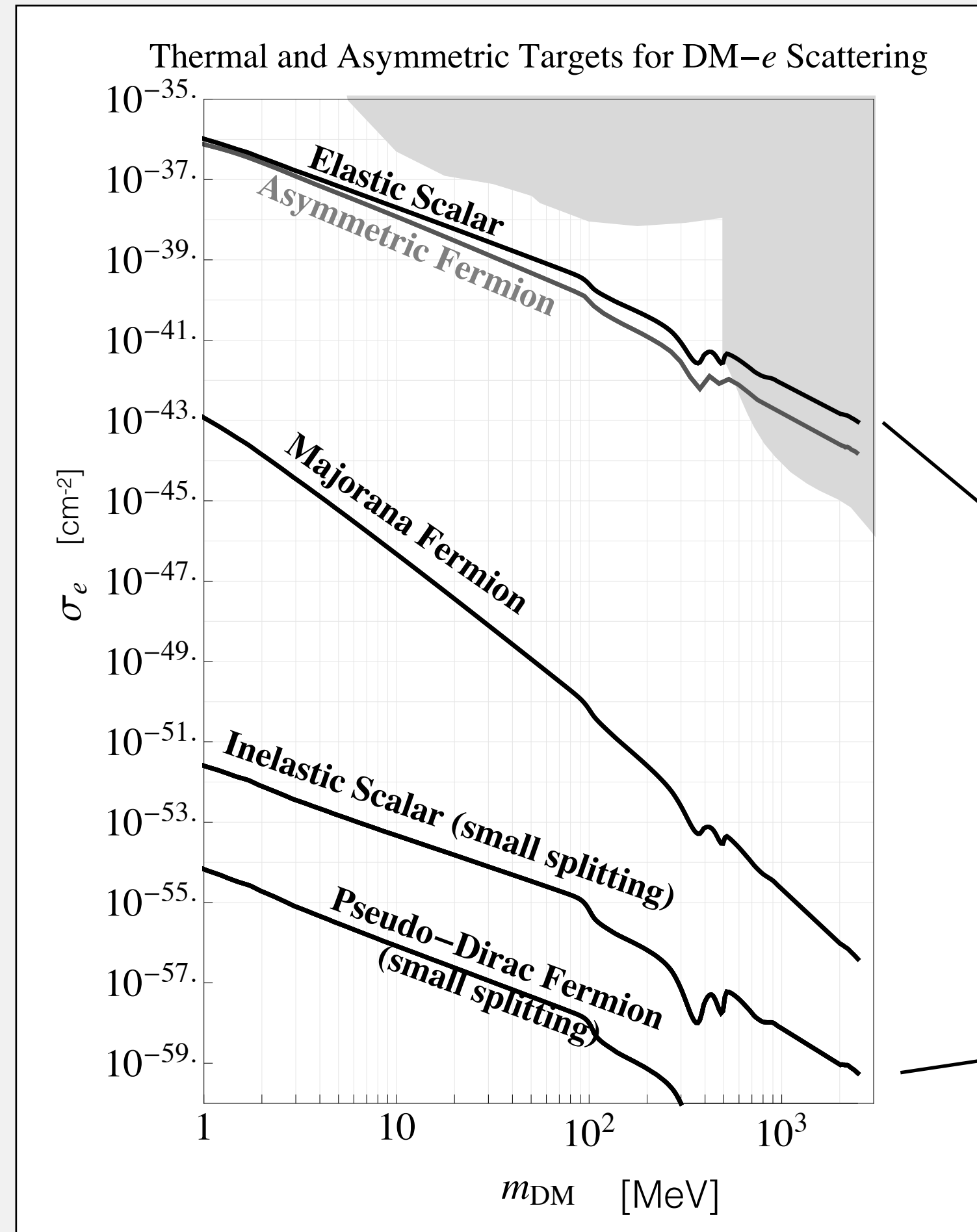
direct detection:  
strong spin/velocity dependency



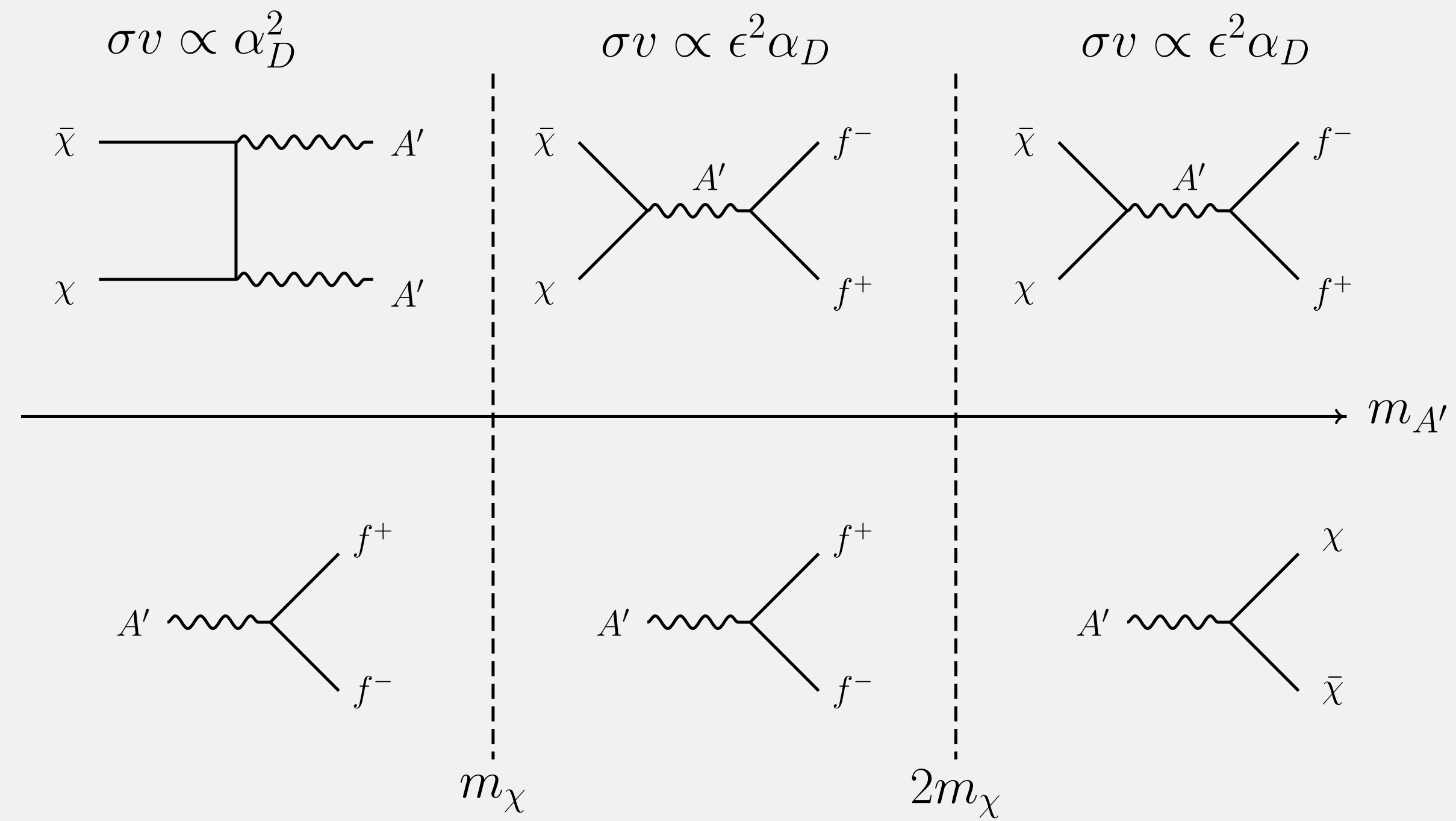
# Why not only direct detection?

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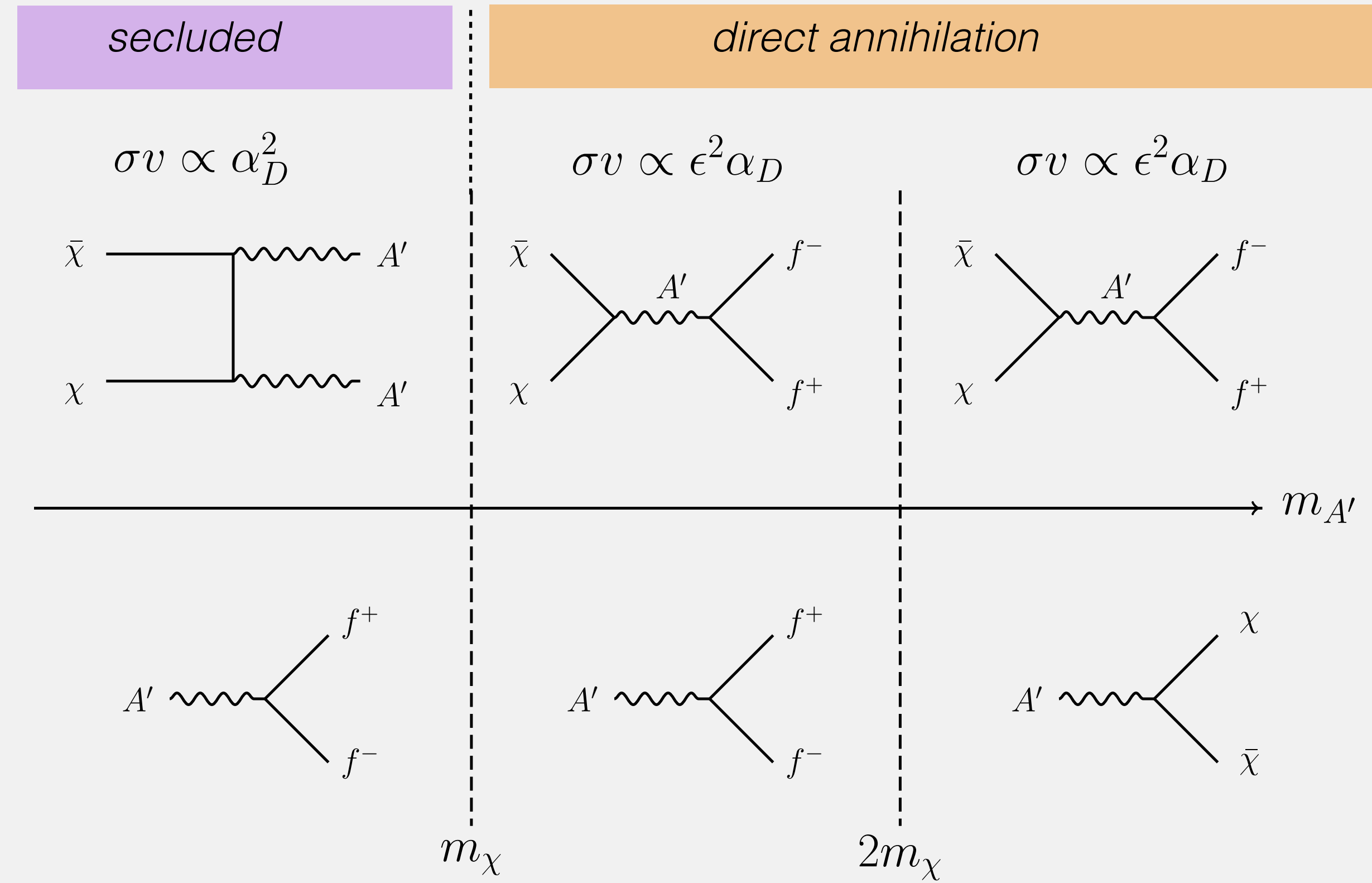
at accelerators: relativistic production  
—> spin/velocity dependency reduced  
all thermal targets in reach!



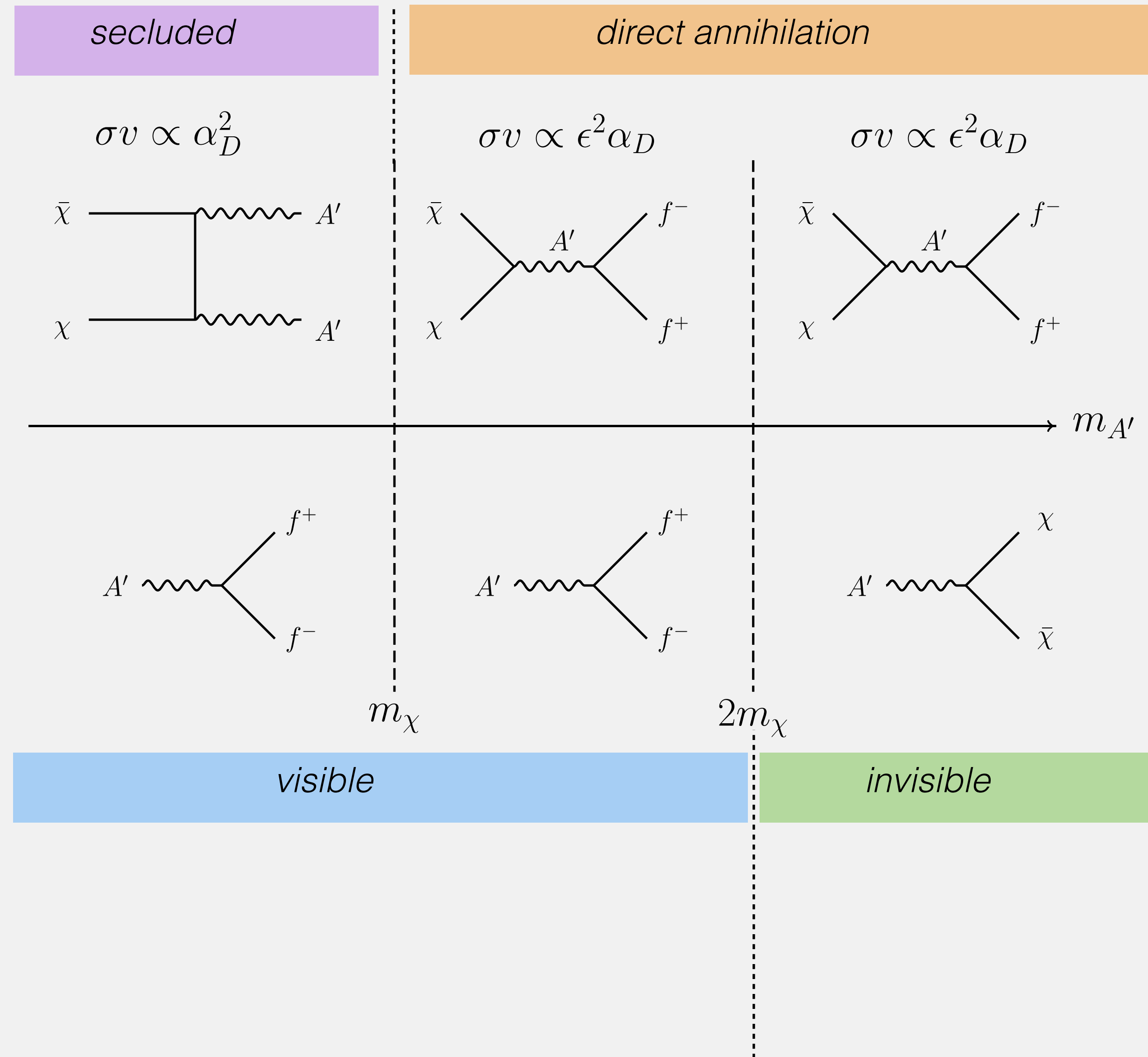
# Signatures



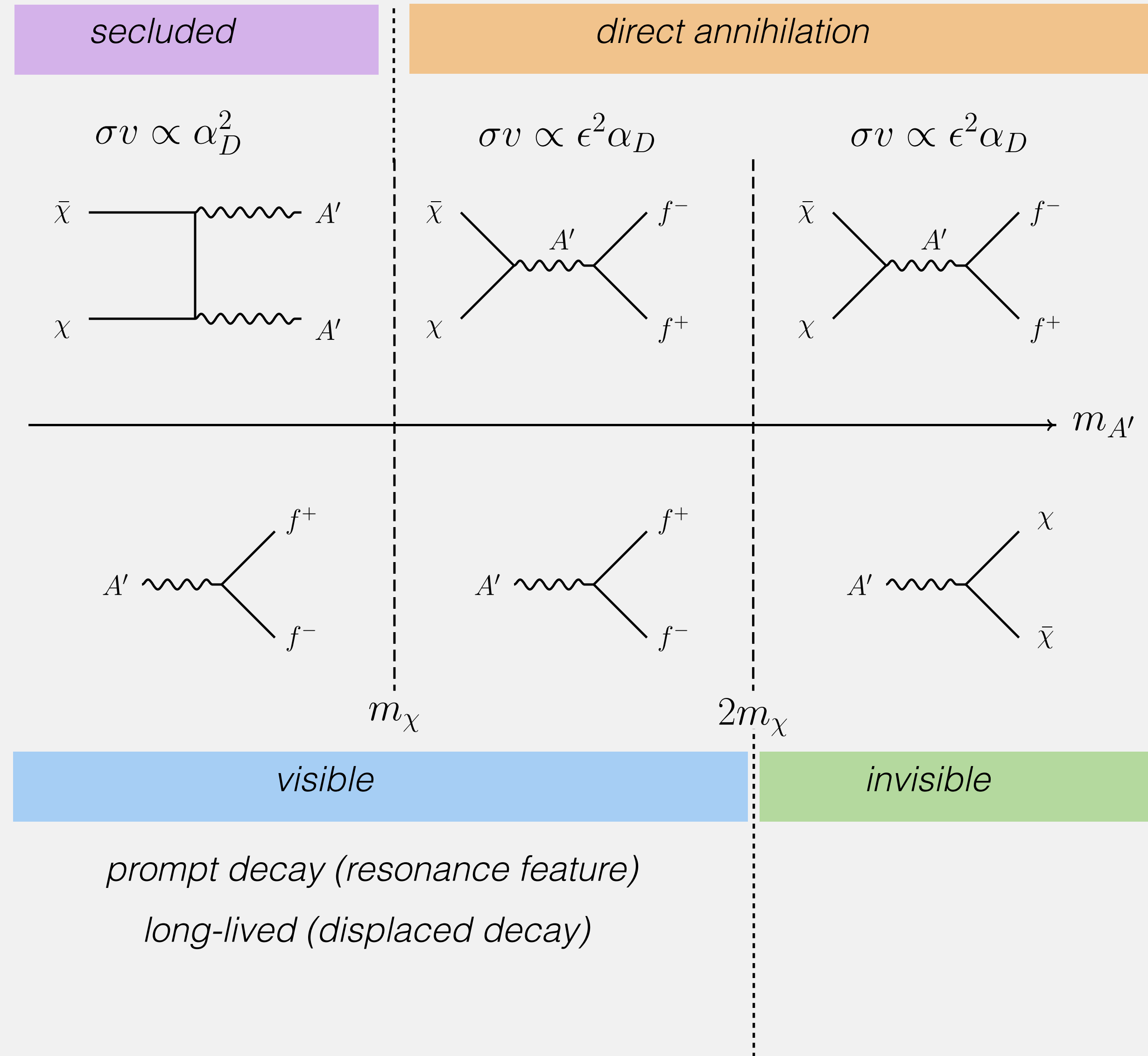
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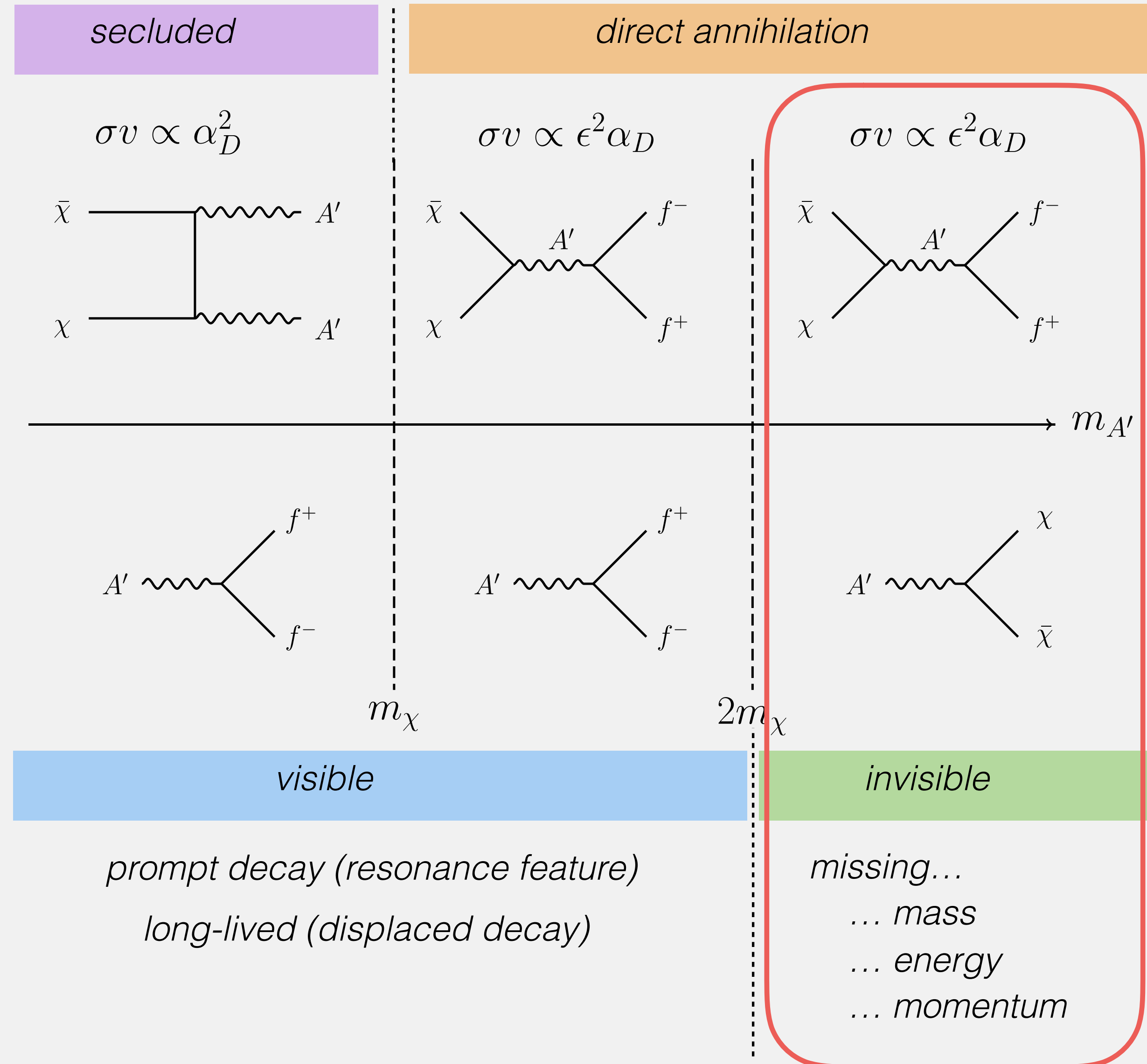
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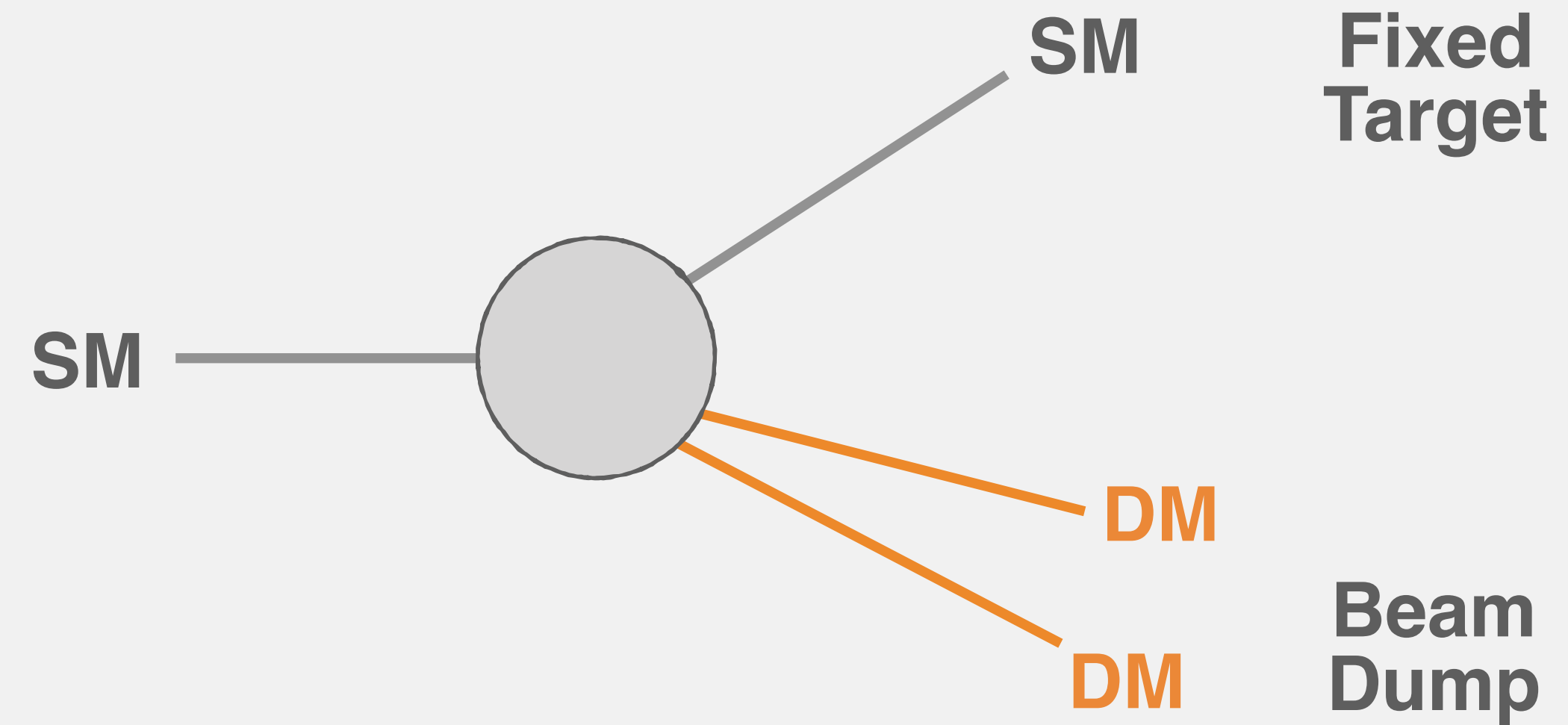
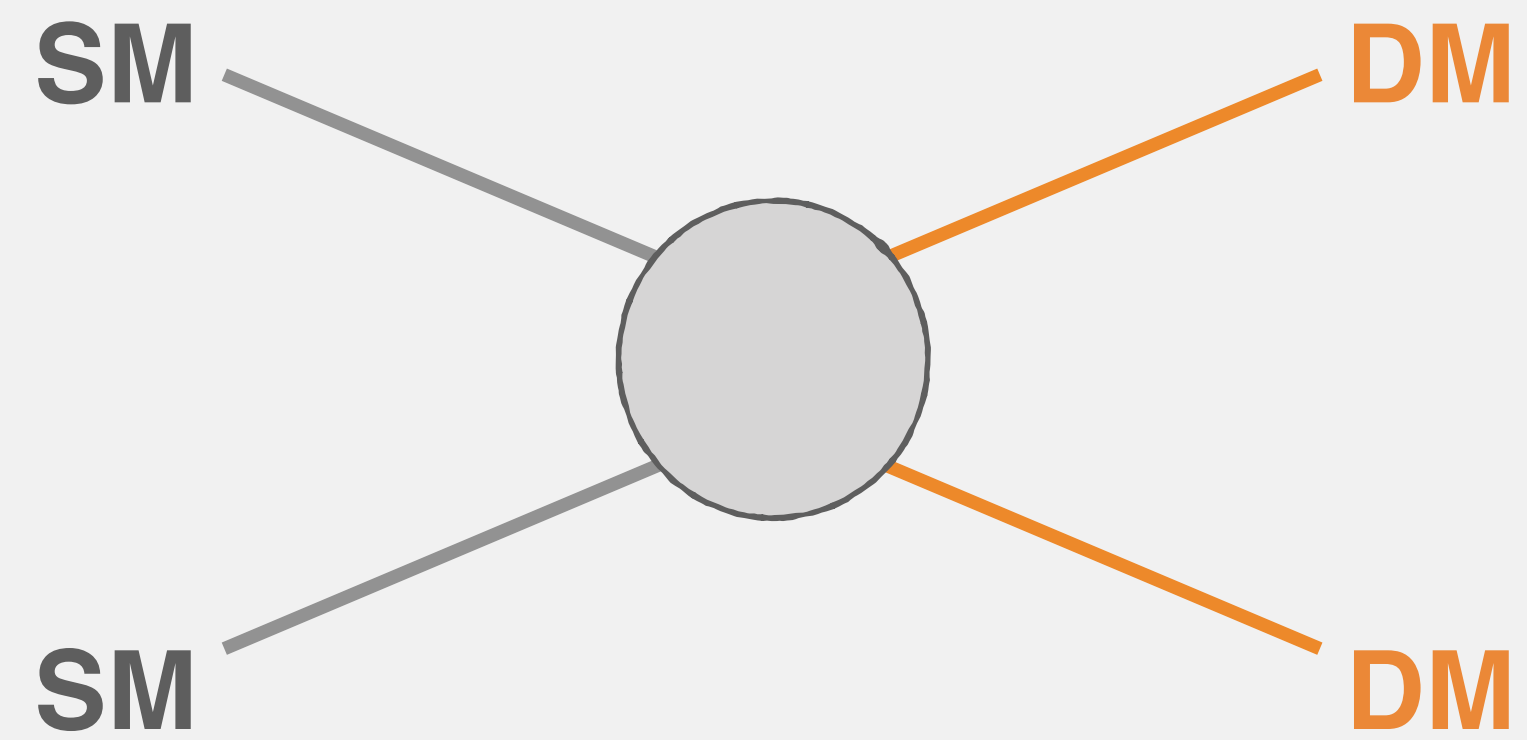
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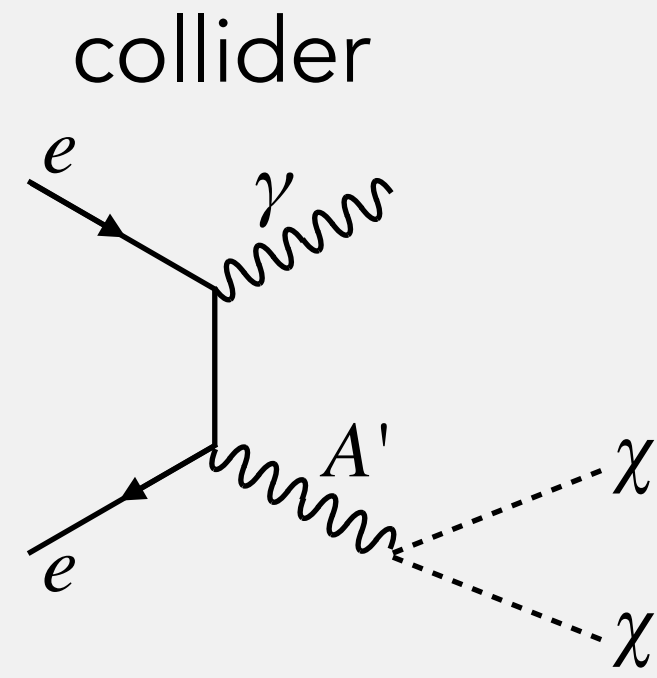


# Accelerator Searches

thermal origin of Dark Matter  $\rightarrow$  production mechanism at accelerators/colliders

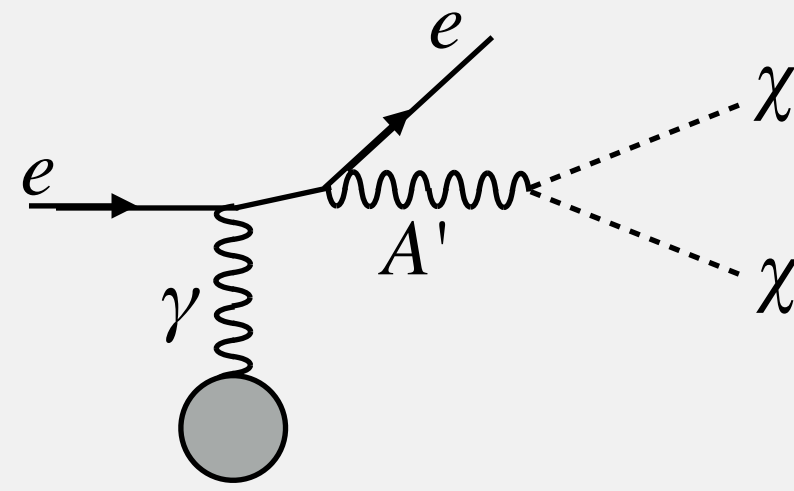


# Complimentary Approaches



$$\sigma_{\text{coll}} \propto \frac{\epsilon^2}{E_{\text{cm}}^2}$$

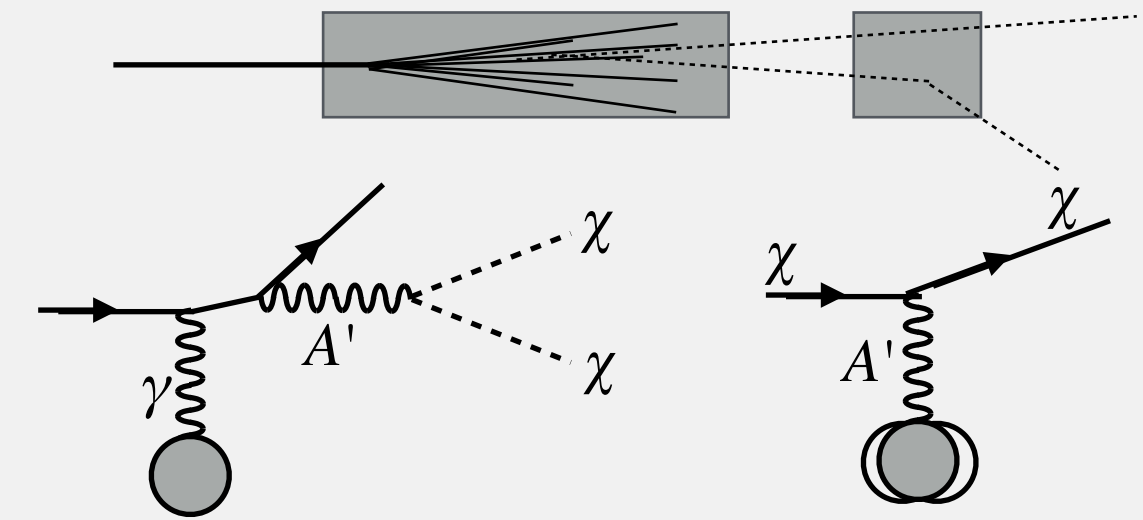
fixed target



$$\sigma_{\text{FT}} \propto \frac{Z^2 \epsilon^2}{m_{A'}^2}$$

$$N \propto \epsilon^2 (1 - \epsilon^2) \approx \epsilon^2$$

beam dump



$$N \propto \epsilon^4$$

but "direct DM detection"

examples  
(existing or  
planned)

BaBar  
Belle II  
LHC

PADME  
NA64  
**LDMX**  
MMAPS  
VEPP3  
DarkLight (II)

E137  
LSND  
BDX  
SBNe/pi  
MiniBooNE  
SHiP

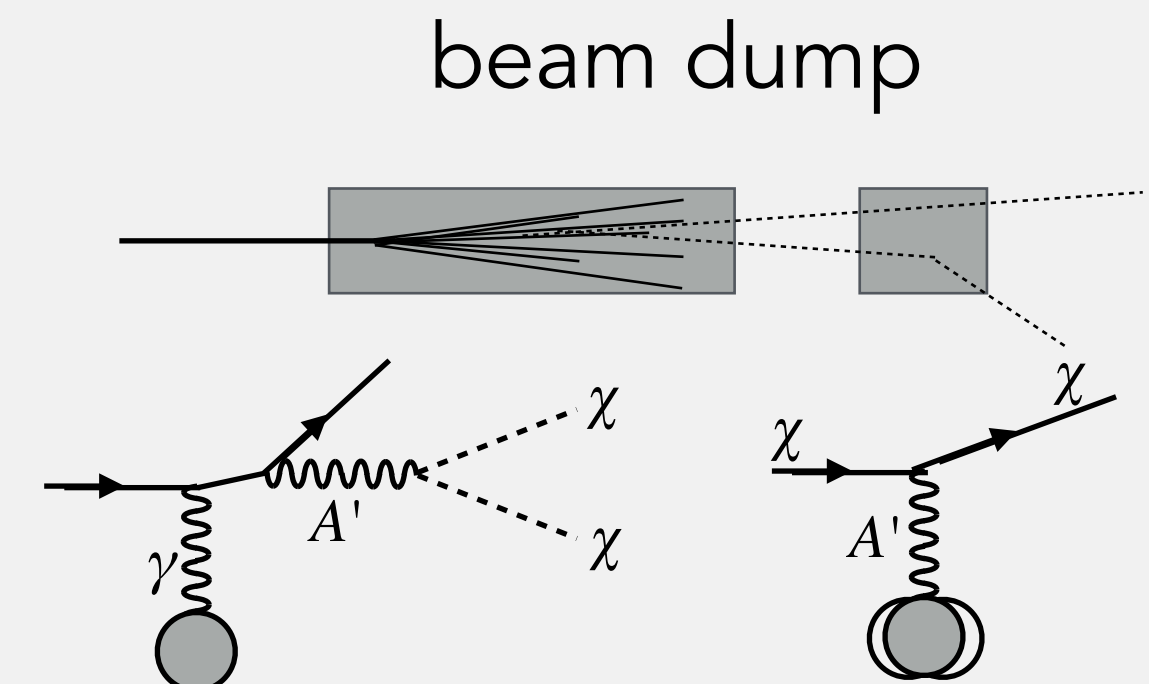
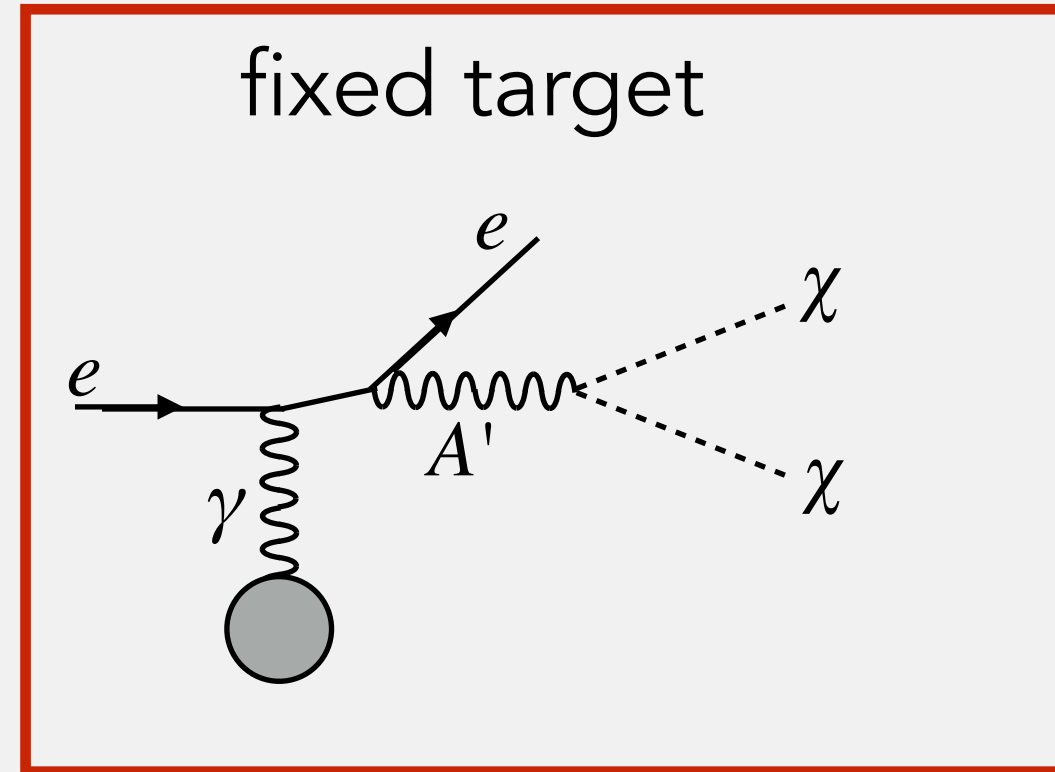
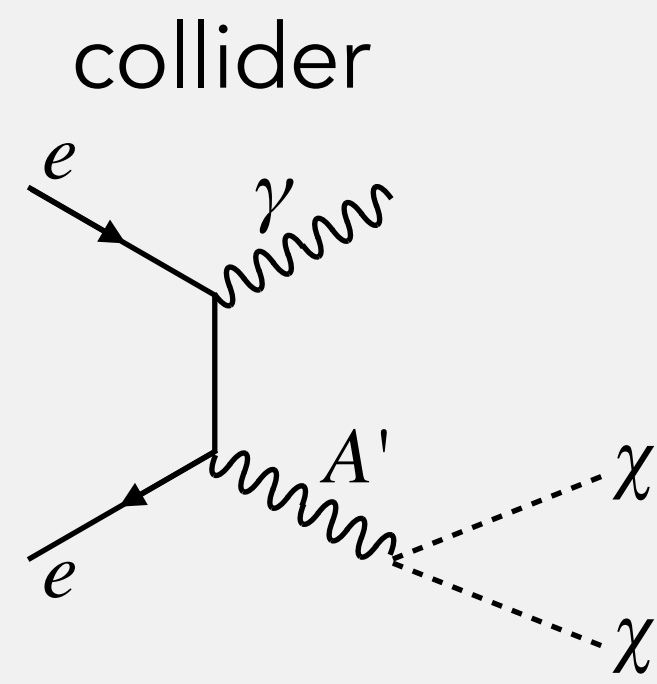
mass range

0.1 - 10 GeV

MeV - GeV



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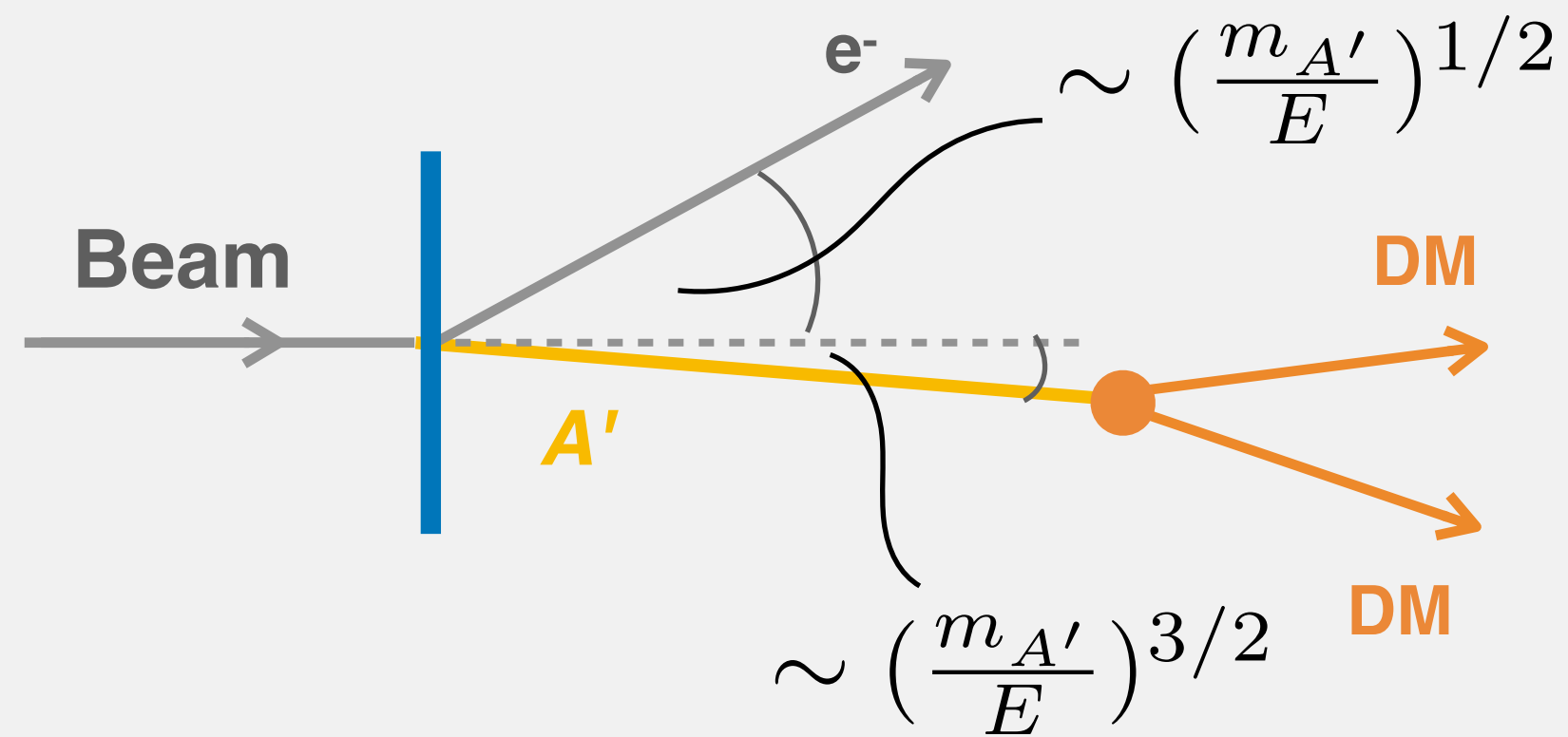
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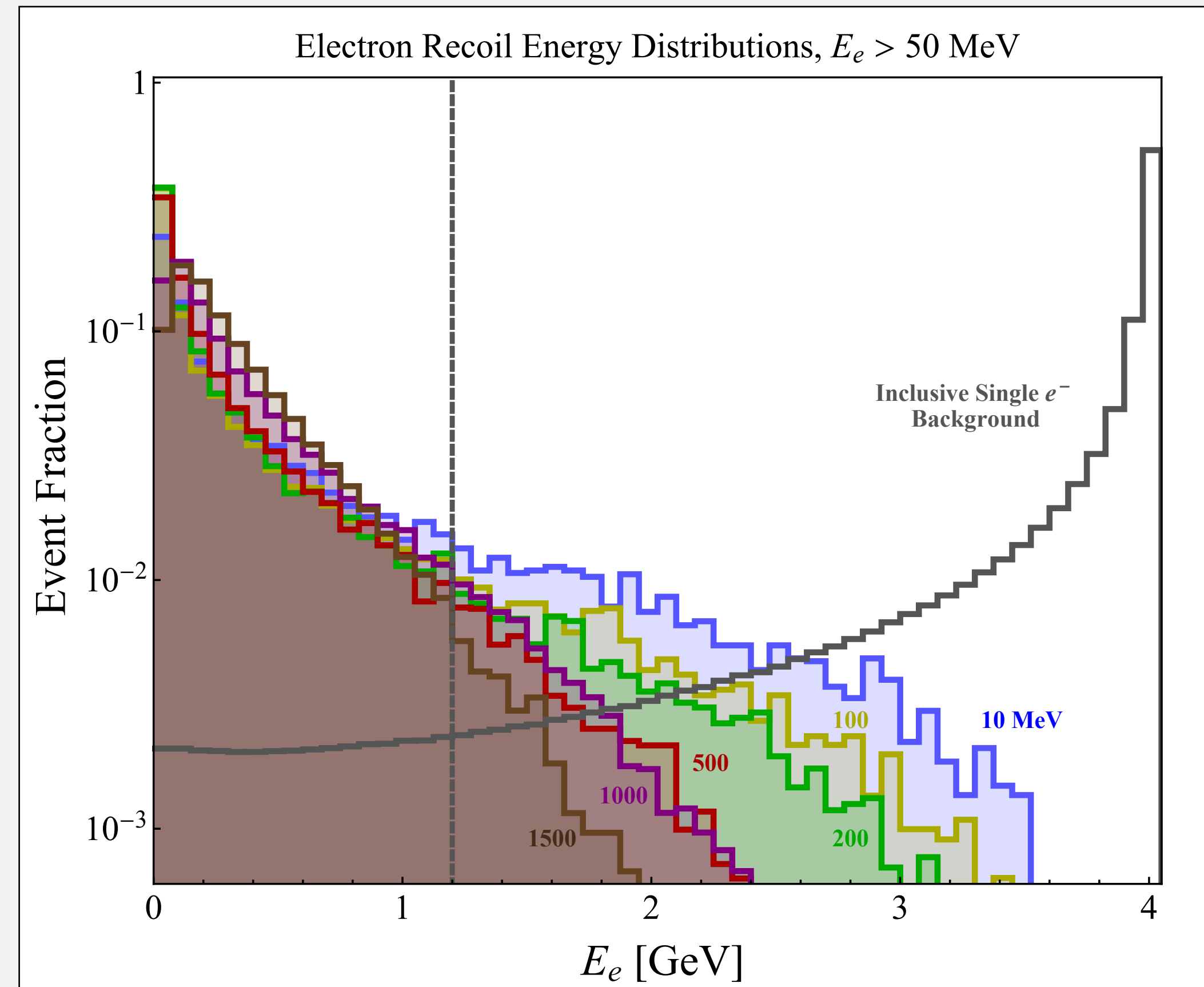


# Kinematics

very different from SM bremsstrahlung  
(main background)

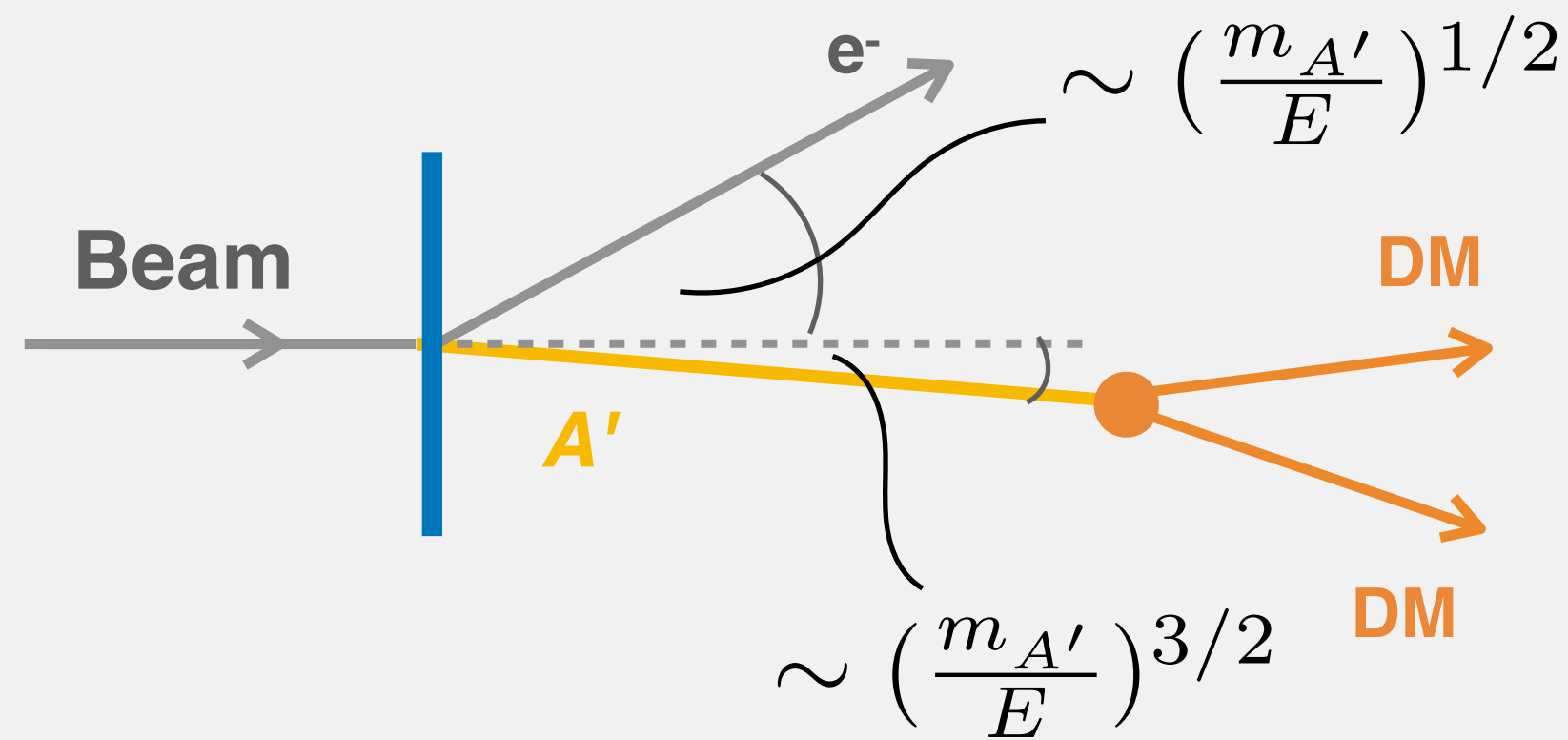


Mediator carries most of the energy  
—> soft recoil electron, large missing energy



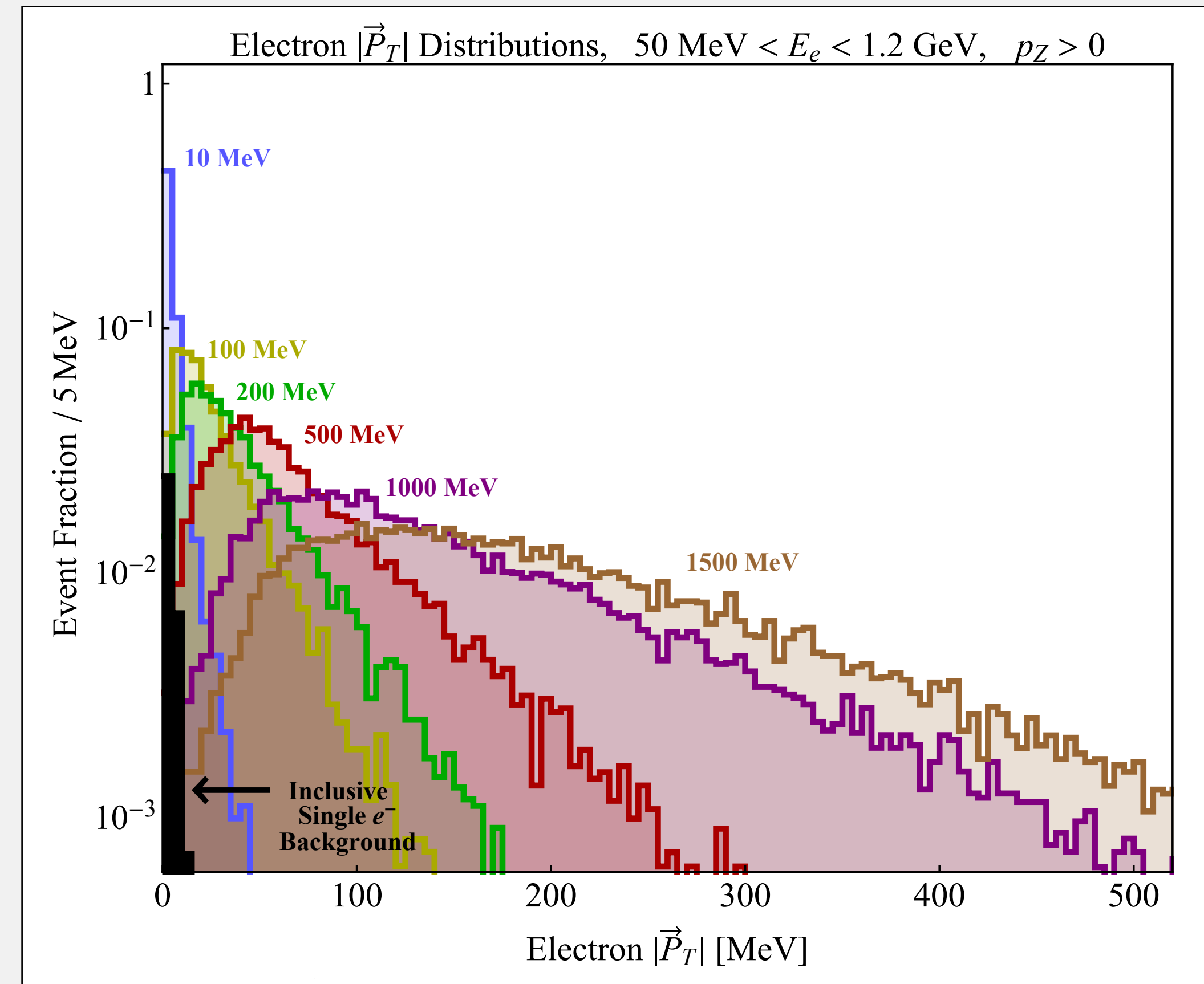
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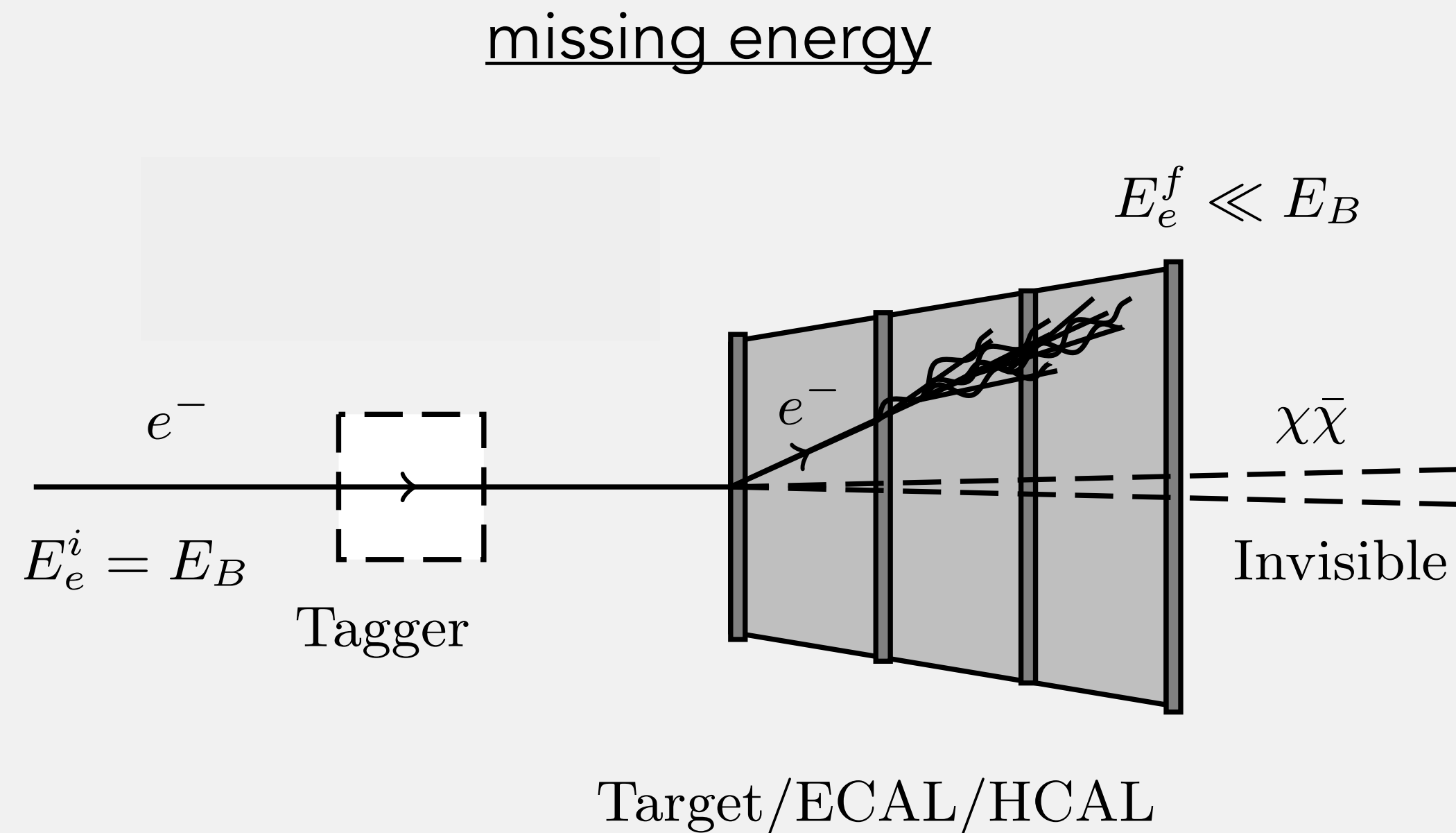
Mediator carries most of the energy  
—> soft recoil electron, large missing energy

Recoil electron gets transverse 'kick'  
—> large missing transverse momentum



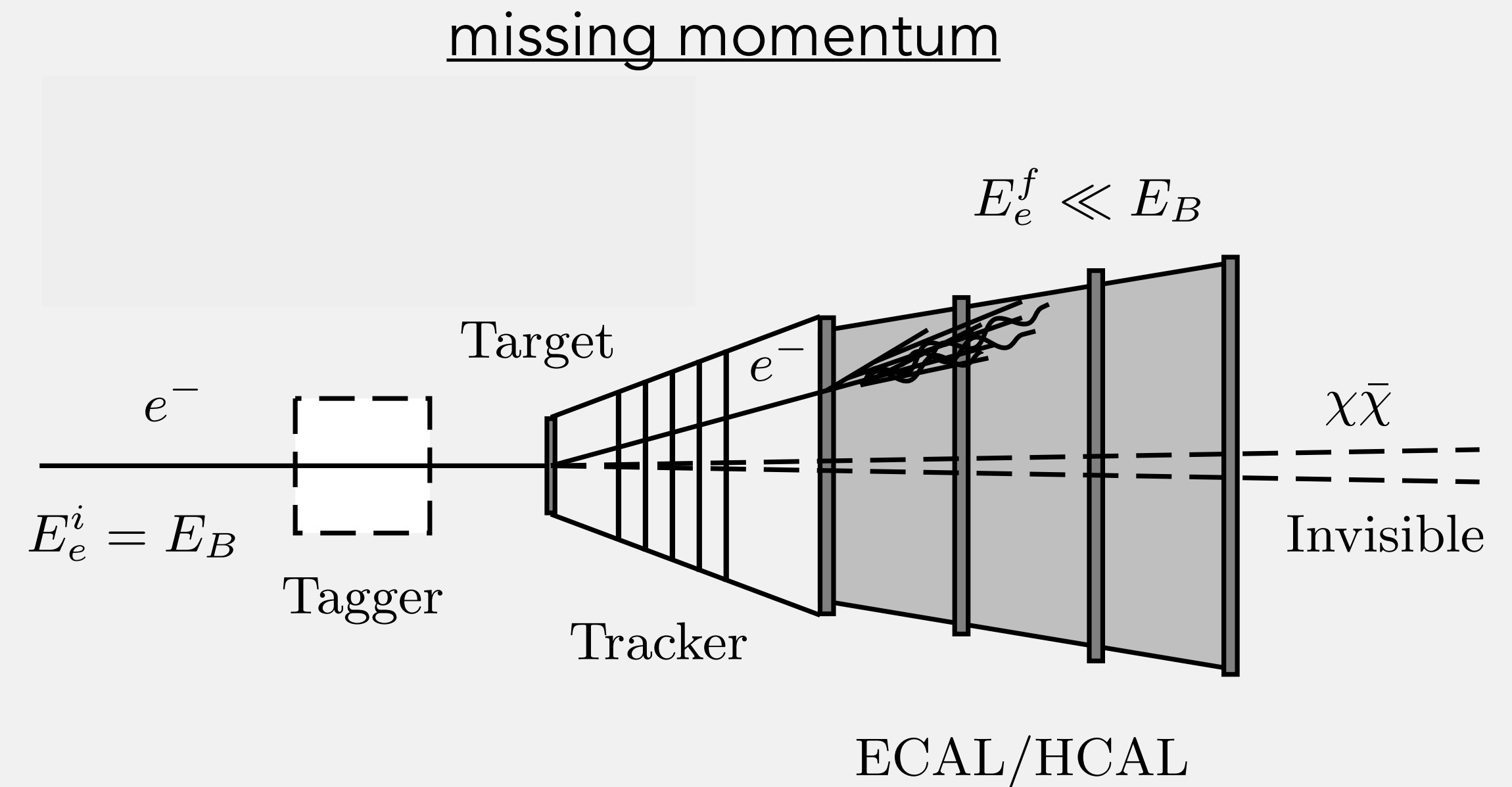
measurement of  $p_T$ : strong discriminator  
AND information about (missing) mass!

# Two Approaches



higher signal yield/EoT (thicker target)  
greater signal acceptance

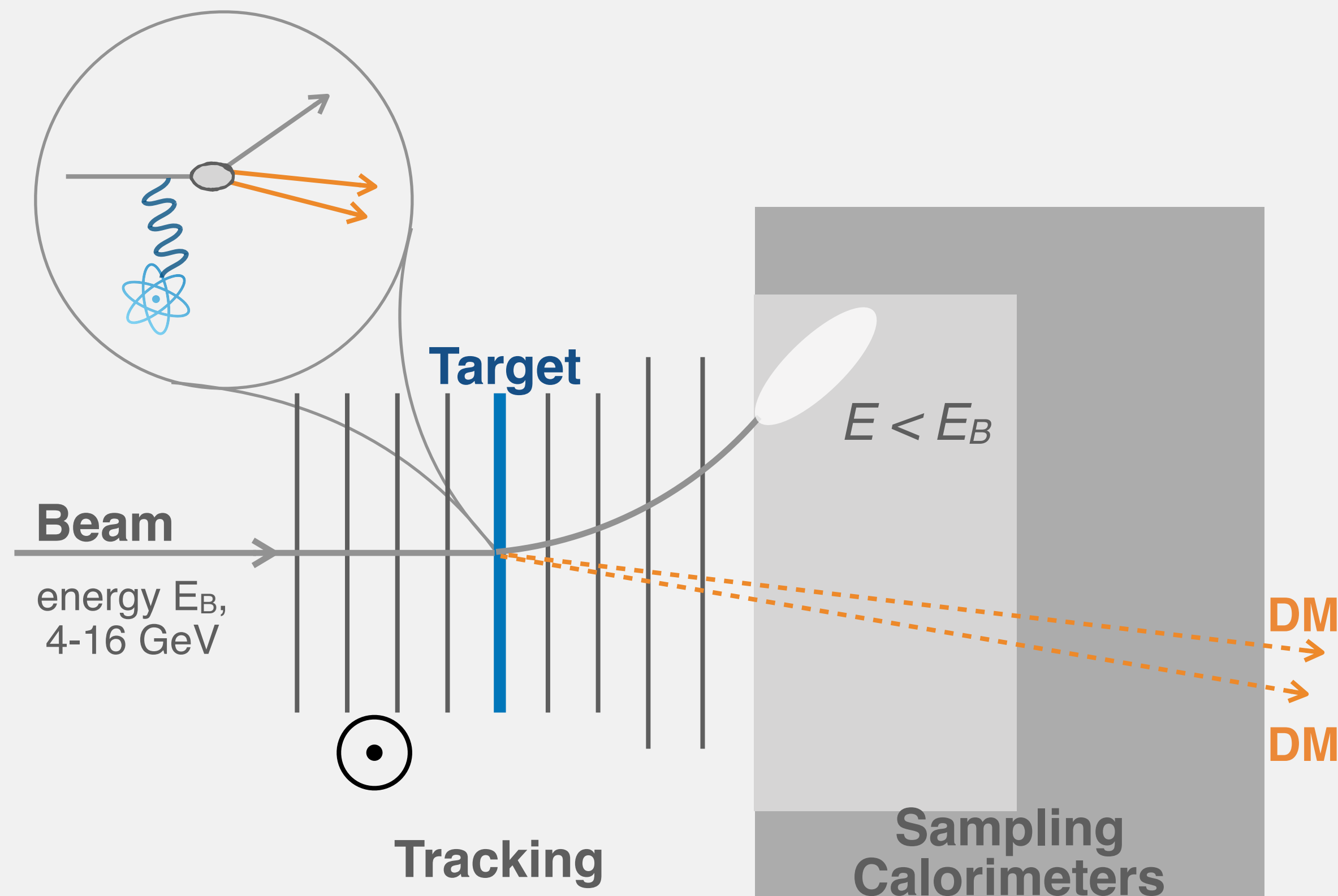
no e- $\gamma$  particle ID



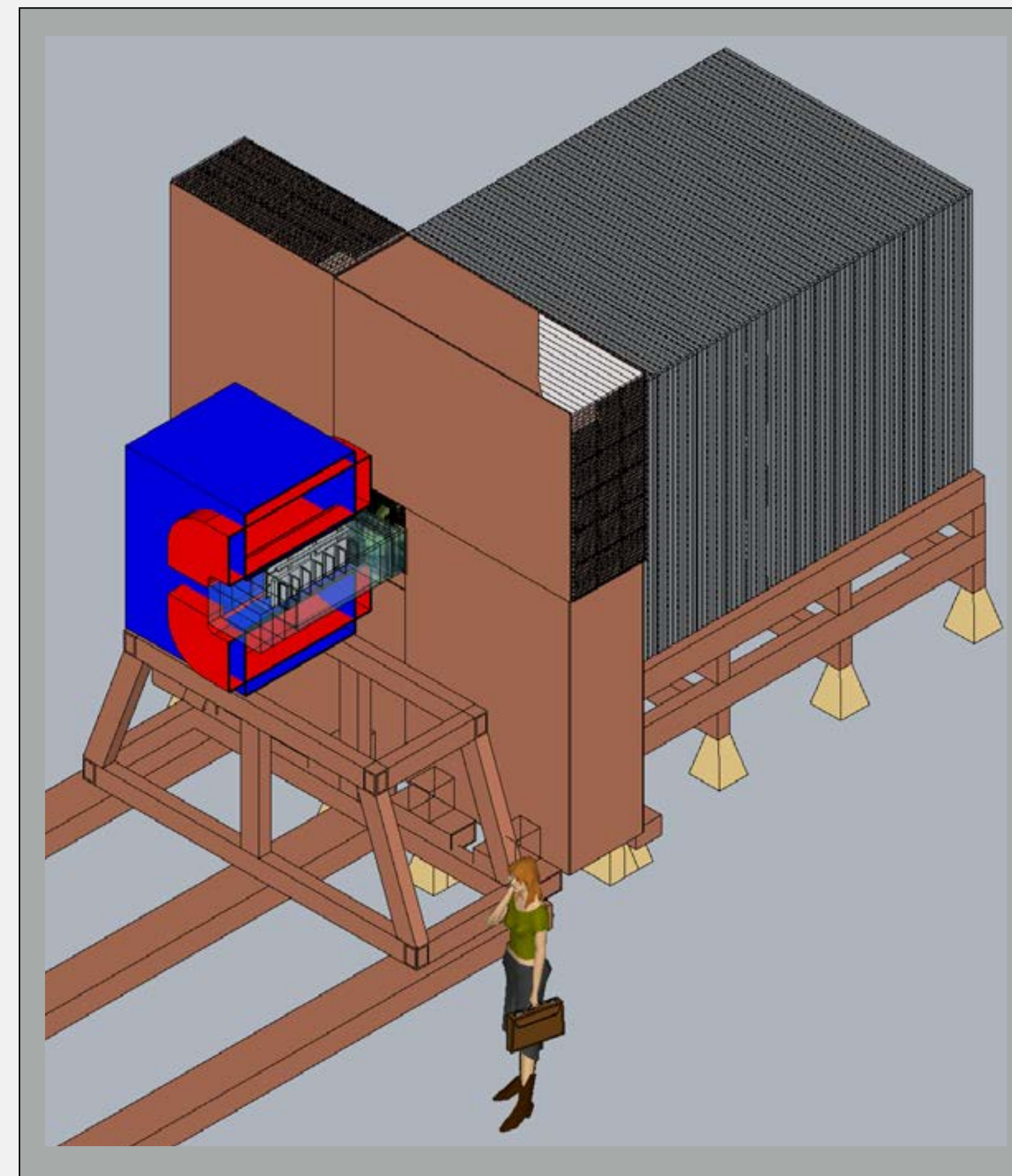
includes missing energy  
 $p_T$  as discriminator & *signal identifier*

e- $\gamma$  particle ID

## Light Dark Matter eXperiment

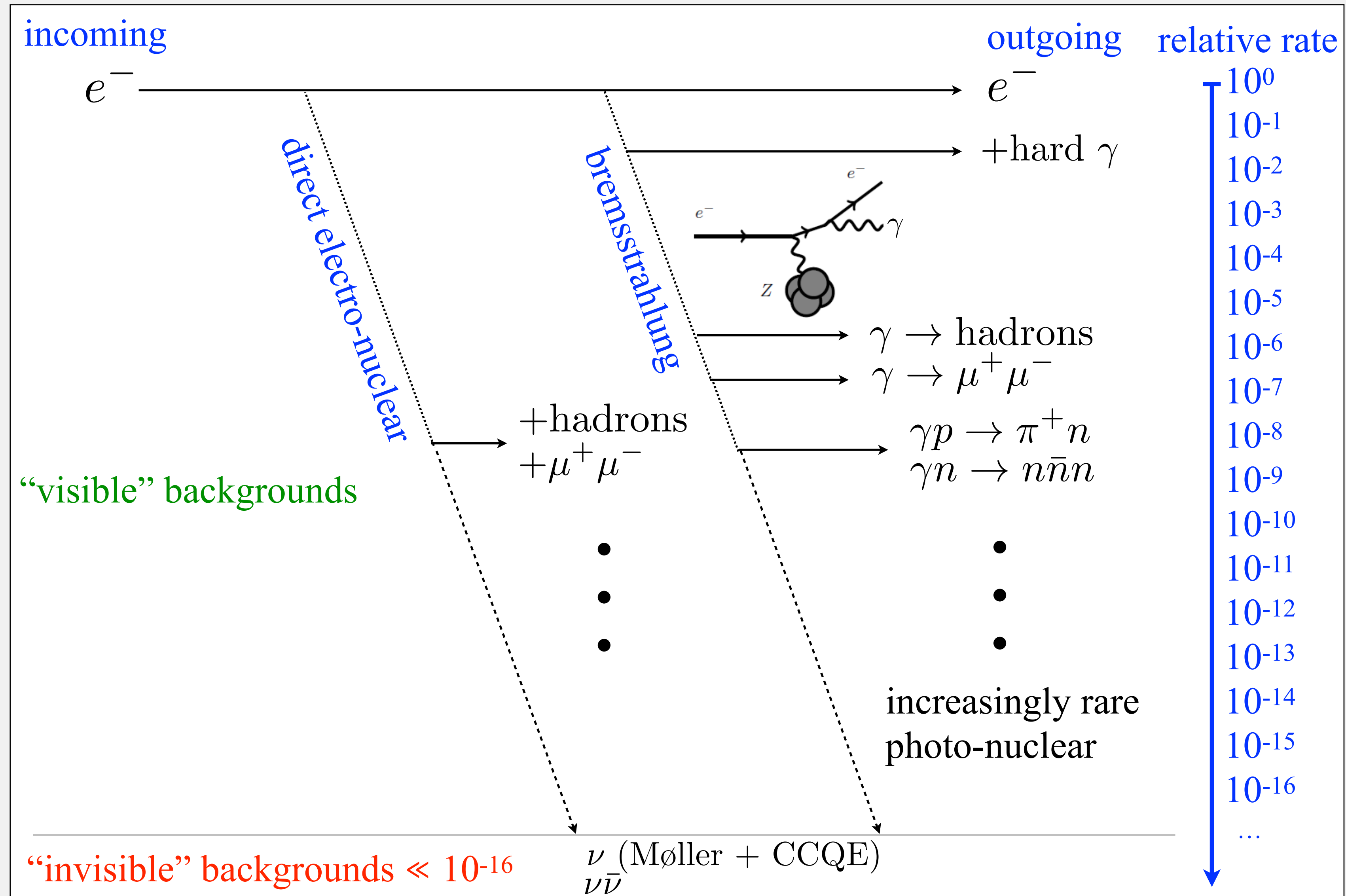


individually measure up to  $10^{16}$  electrons on target (EoT),  
missing energy & *missing (transverse) momentum*



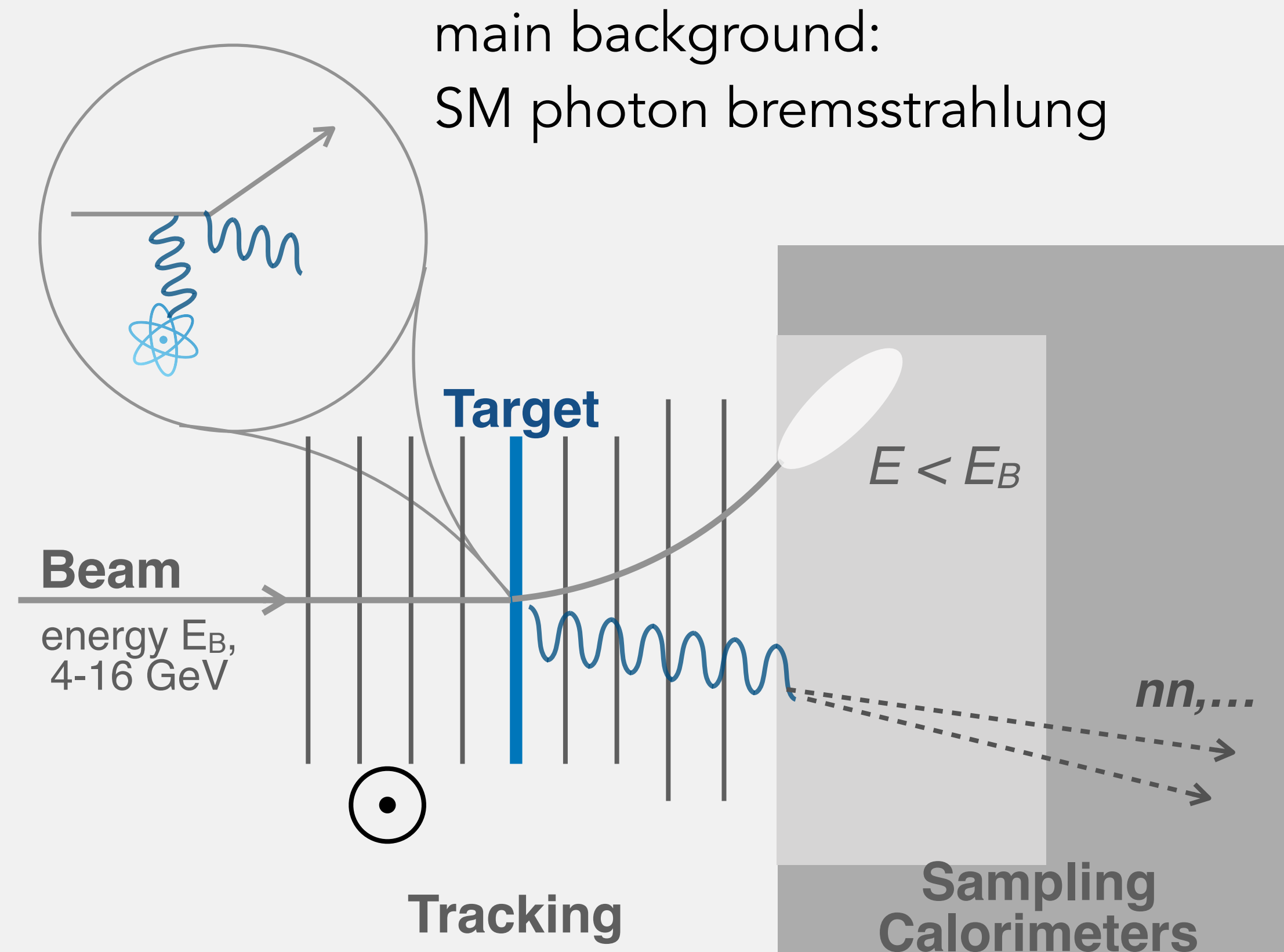
small-scale experiment

# Backgrounds





# Background Challenges



particularly challenging:

photo-nuclear reactions producing  
*neutral final states* (relative rate:  $\sim 10^{-9}$ )

—> most design work recently on  
HCal to optimise rejection power,  
obtained first funding for R&D/  
prototype (testbeam 2020)

# Tracking

simplified copy of Silicon Vertex Tracker (SVT) of HPS experiment@JLab (visible Dark Photon search)

- fast (2ns hit time resolution)
- radiation hard
- technology well understood

tagging tracker

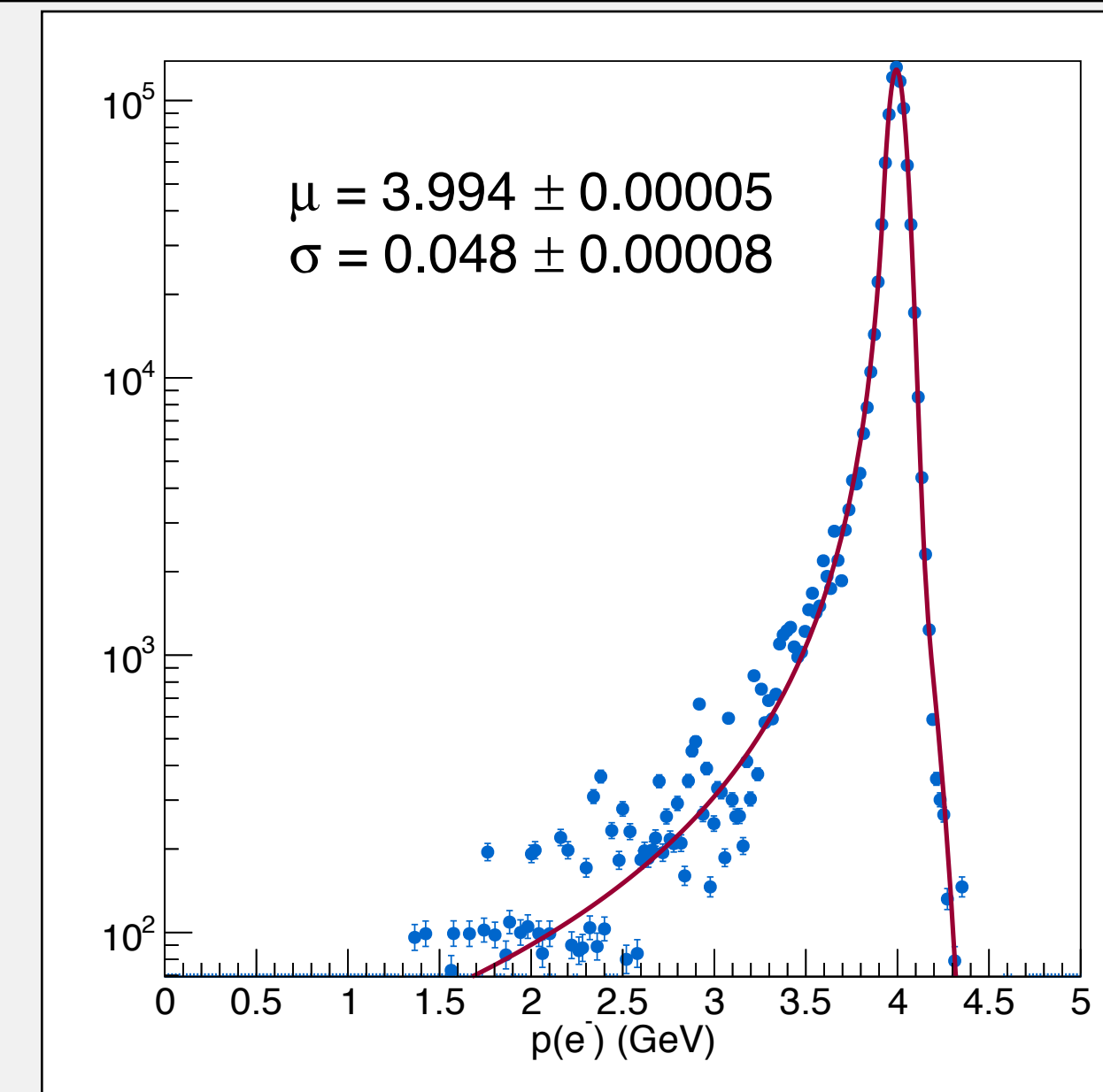
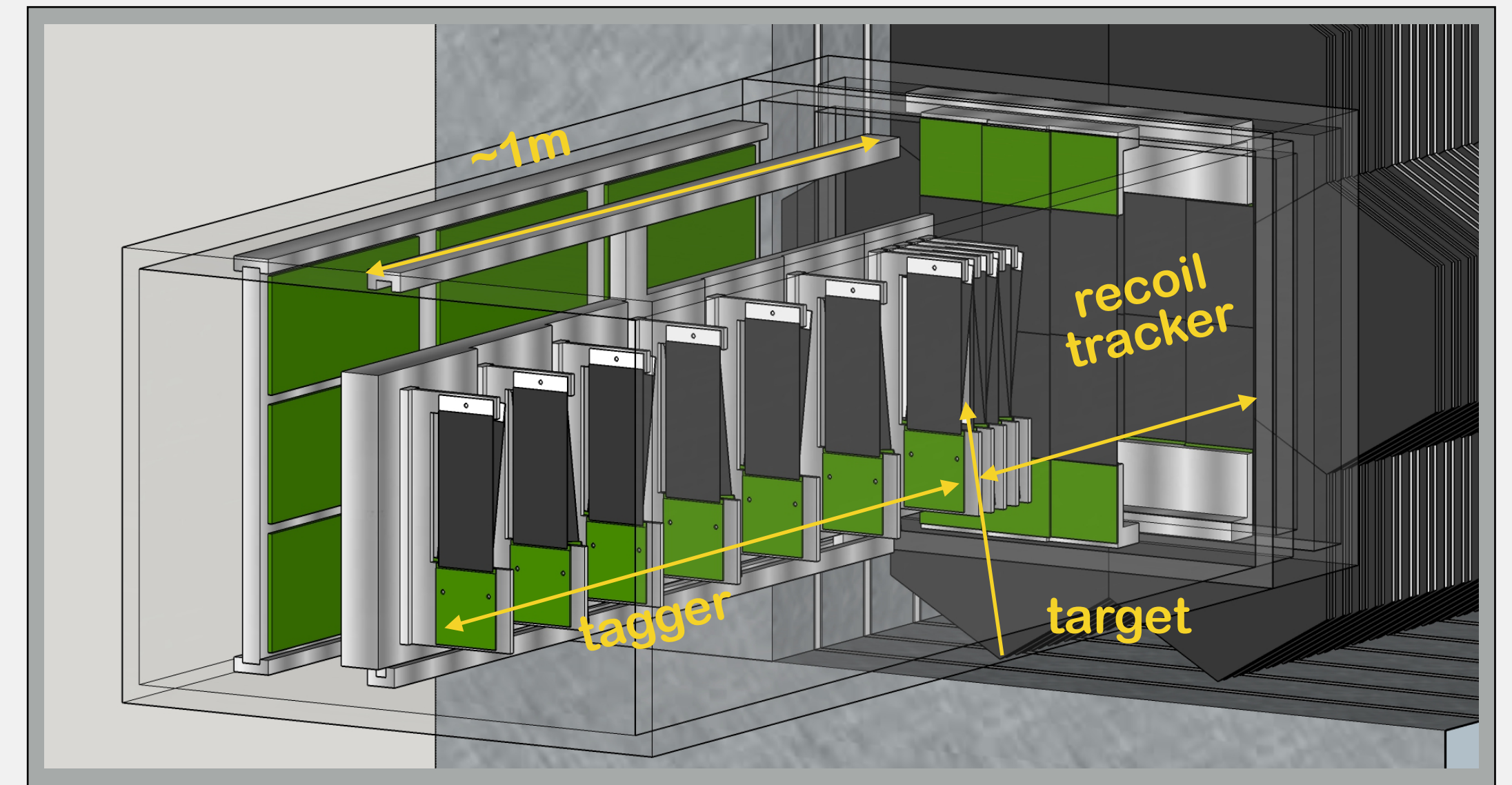
- in 1.5T dipole field
- measure incoming electron
  - momentum filter
  - impact point on target

recoil tracker

- in fringe field
- measure recoil electron

target

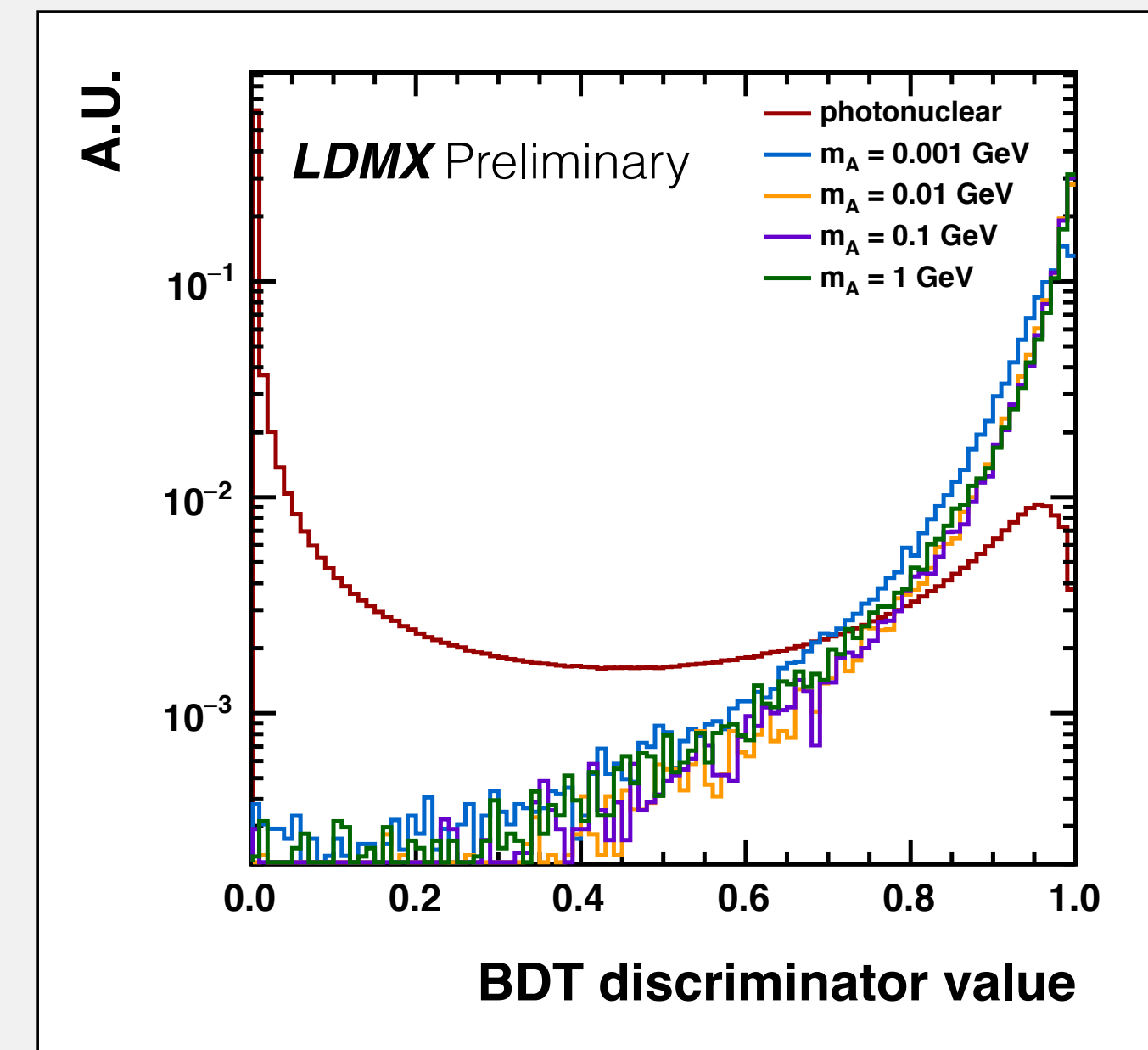
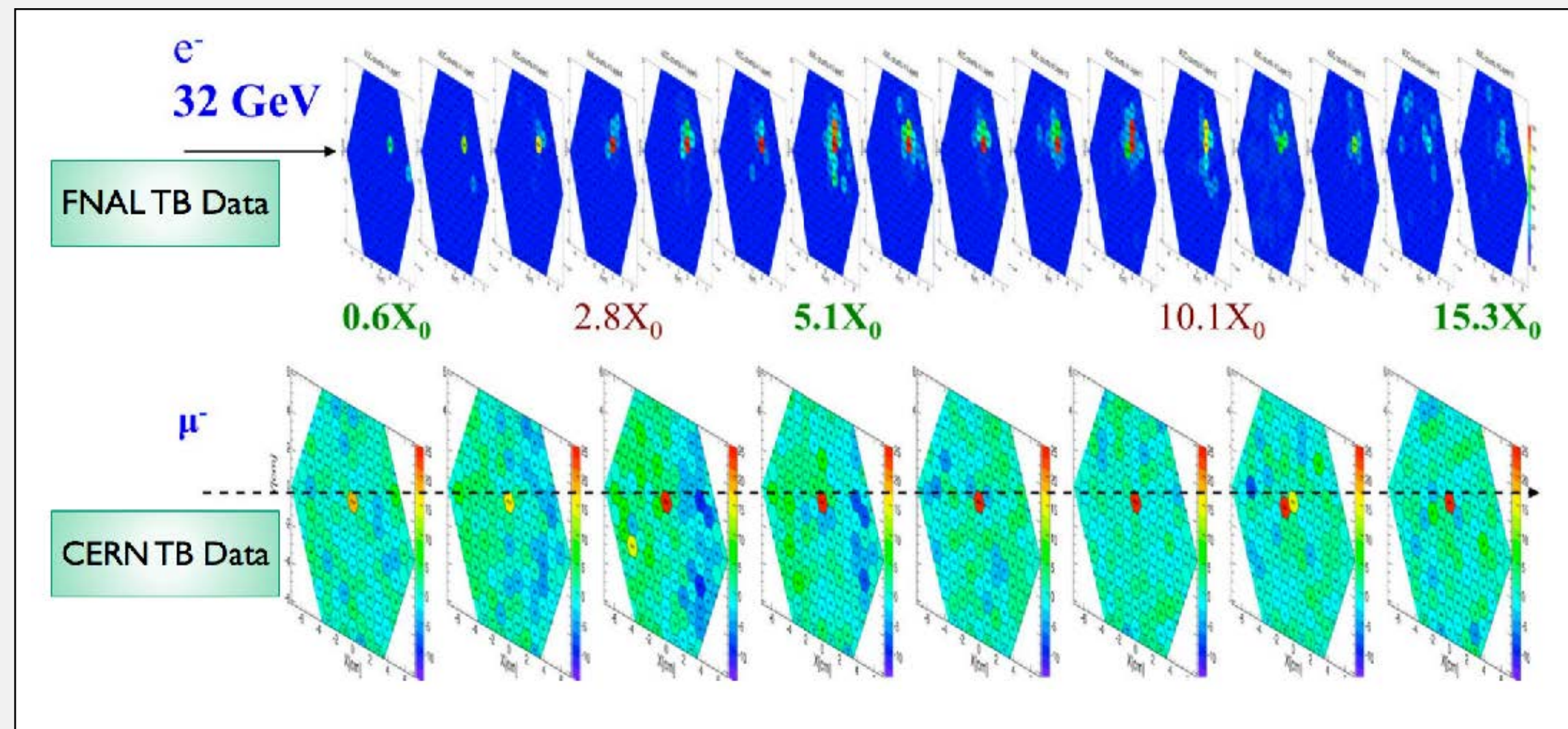
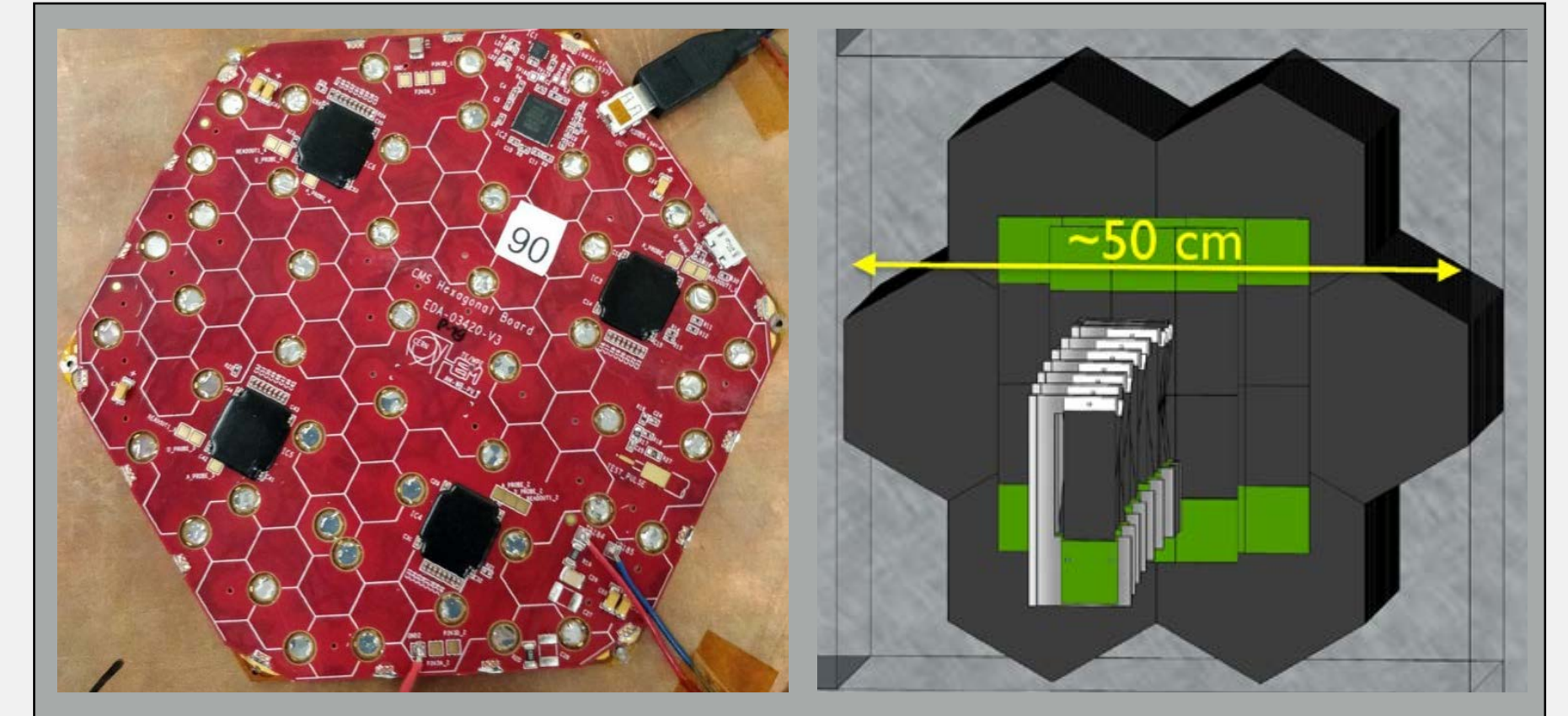
- $\sim 0.1 - 0.3 X_0$  tungsten
- balance signal rate & momentum smearing



# Electromagnetic Calorimeter

## ECal

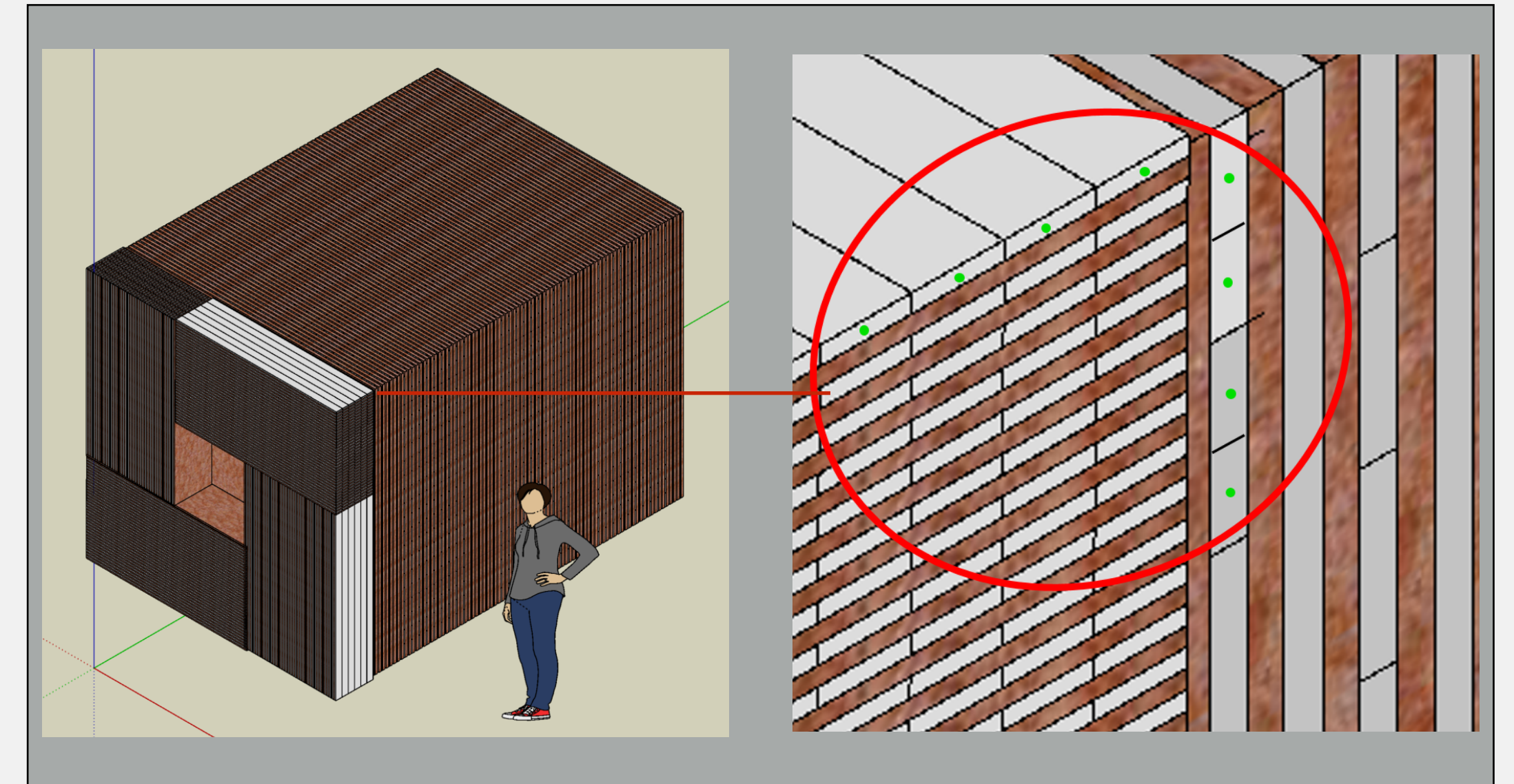
- draw on design of CMS forward SiW calorimeter upgrade
  - 32 layers with 7 modules each,  $40 X_0$
  - fast, radiation hard, dense
  - high granularity (MIP 'tracking')
    - potentially increase granularity in central module



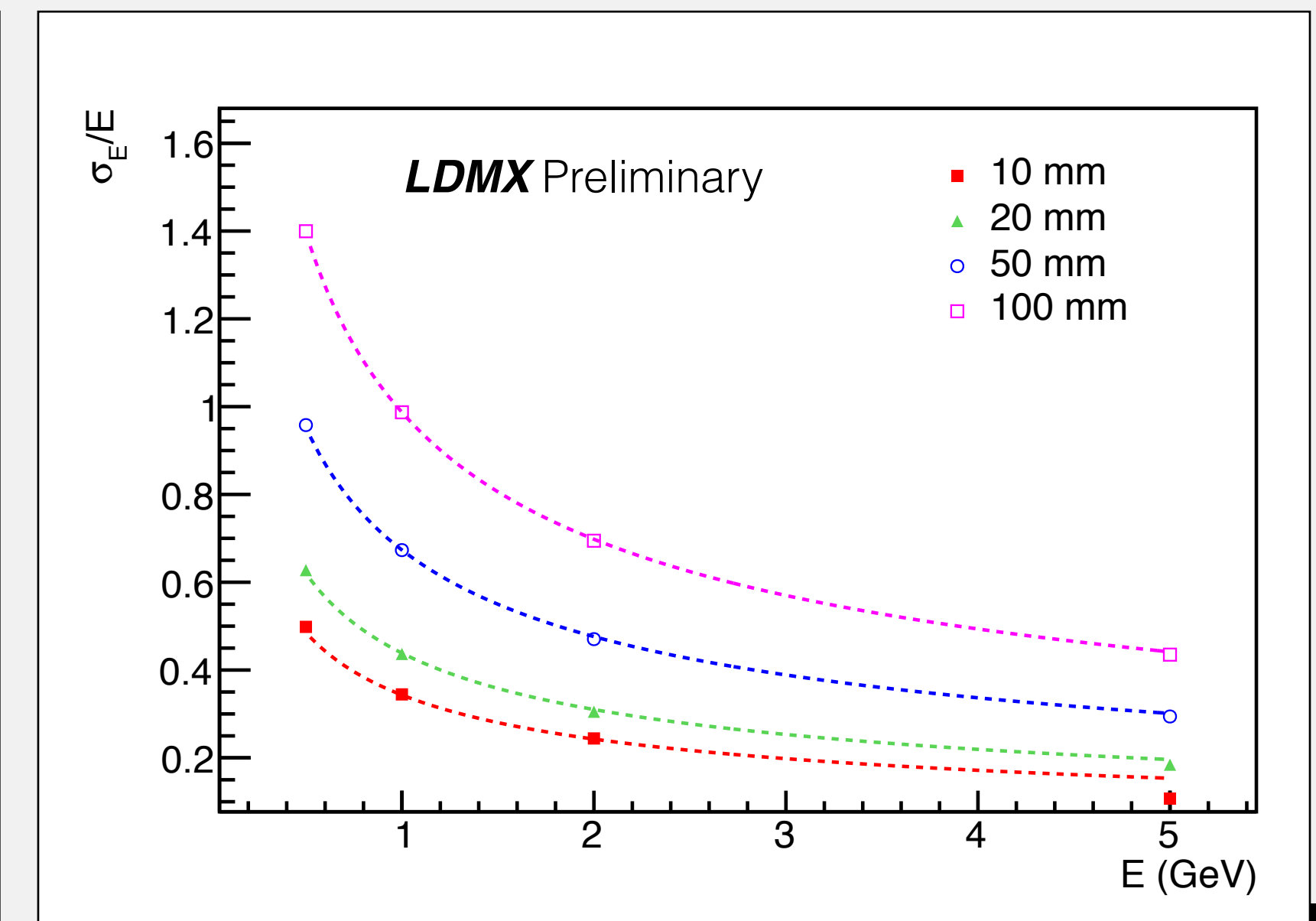
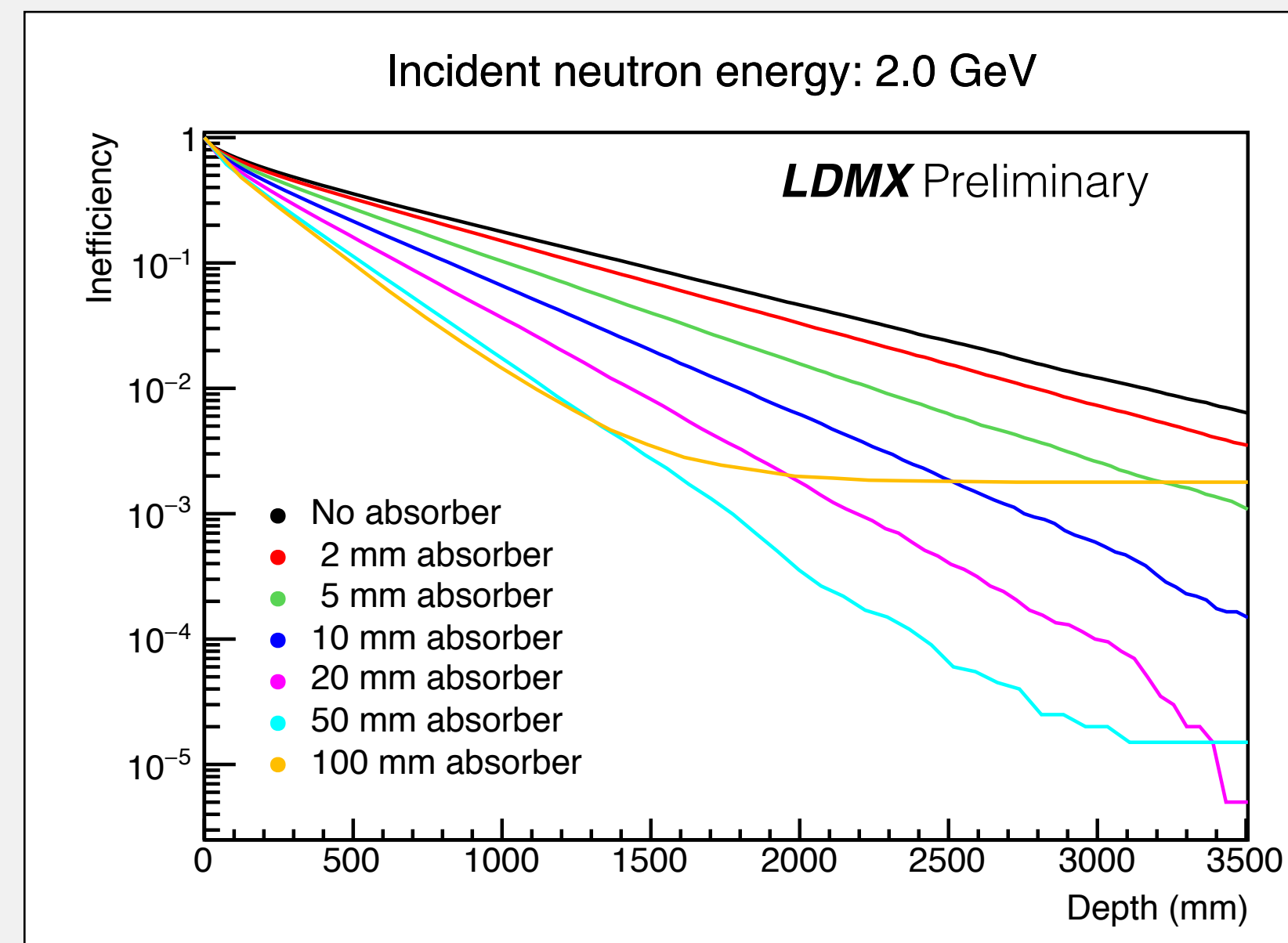
# Hadronic Calorimeter

## HCal

- need highly efficient **veto** for low- and high-energy neutrons
- plastic scintillator with steel absorber
- surround ECal as much as possible (back and side)



preliminary simulation studies show potential to get close to 0 background in phase 1, while retaining decent energy resolution



# A special beam...

beam **energy** ideally  $4 \text{ GeV} < E_B < 20 \text{ GeV}$

looking for extremely rare signal

—> need very large statistics

**goal:**  $10^{14} - 10^{16}$  EoT in few years

—> beam with **high duty-cycle**

resolve individual particles

—> **low number** of electrons per bunch ( $\leq 10$ )

—> **large beam spot**

options:

default: transfer line from LCLS-II @ SLAC

- 4/8 GeV

- 46 MHz (186MHz?)

alternative (?): CEBAF @ JLab ( $\leq 12 \text{ GeV}$ )

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alternative (?): CEBAF @ JLab ( $\leq 12 \text{ GeV}$ )

triggered idea of having a **new Linac into SPS@CERN**,  
quickly became active field of study [arxiv:1805.12379](https://arxiv.org/abs/1805.12379)



# eSPS at CERN

get e- back in CERN accelerators, next step for X-band linac developed for CLIC, accelerator R&D

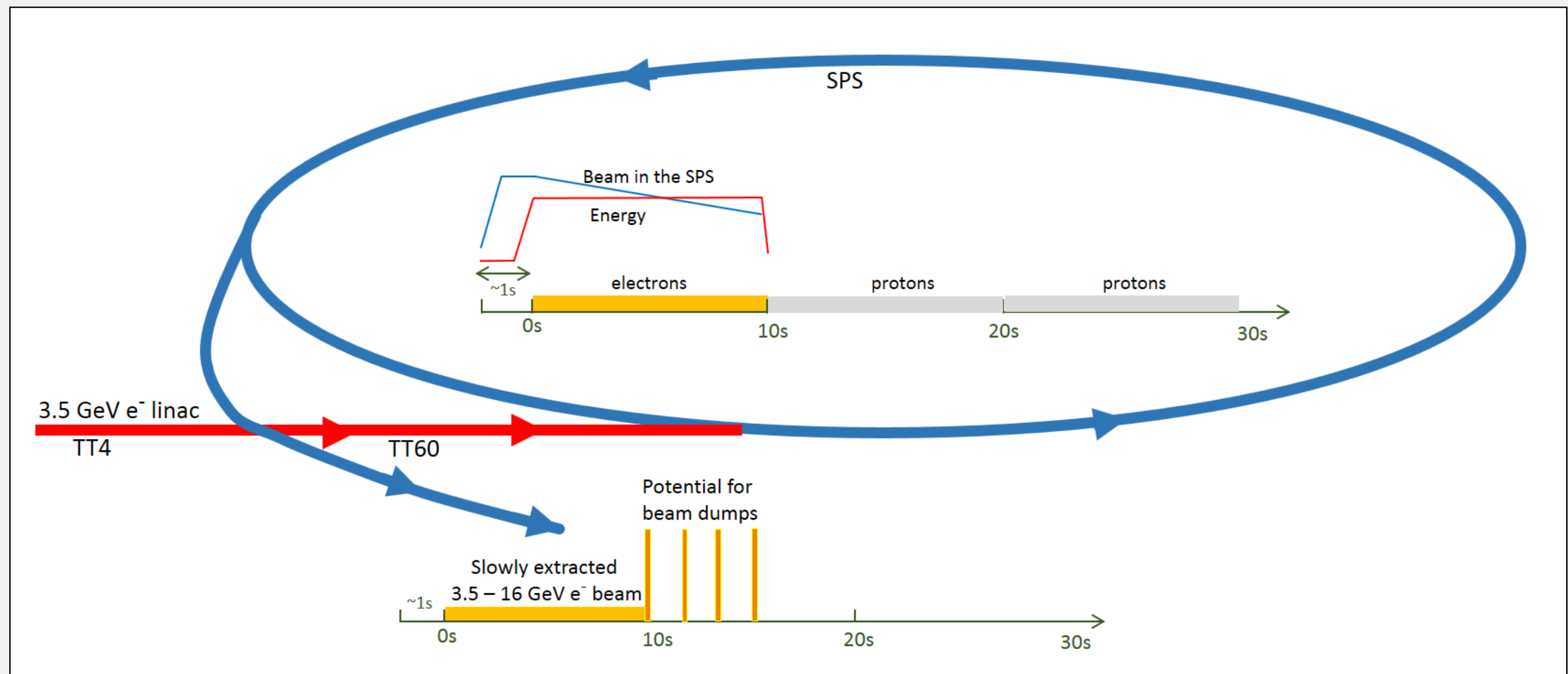
Expression of interest to SPSC in October 2018 <https://cds.cern.ch/record/2640784>

Input to Strategy Update (#36)

- 3.5 GeV Linac as injector to SPS
- large number of electrons can be filled within 2s
- slow extraction over 10s
- can run in parallel with other SPS programme

flexible parameters:

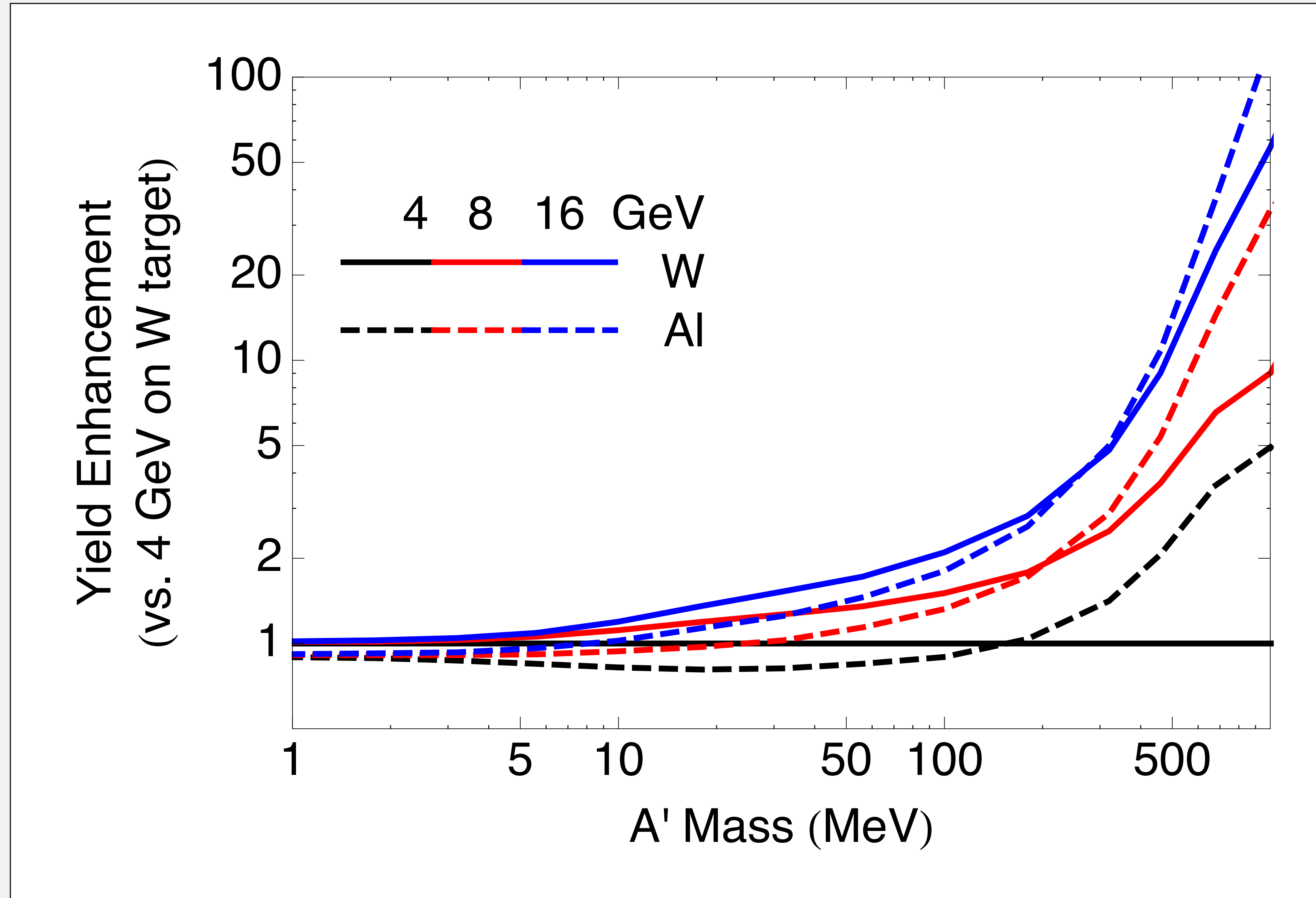
- energy: 3.5 - 16 GeV
- electrons per bunch: 1 - 40
- bunch spacing: multiples of 5 ns
- adjustable beam size



optimal catering for LDMX-like experiment

# Why higher energy?

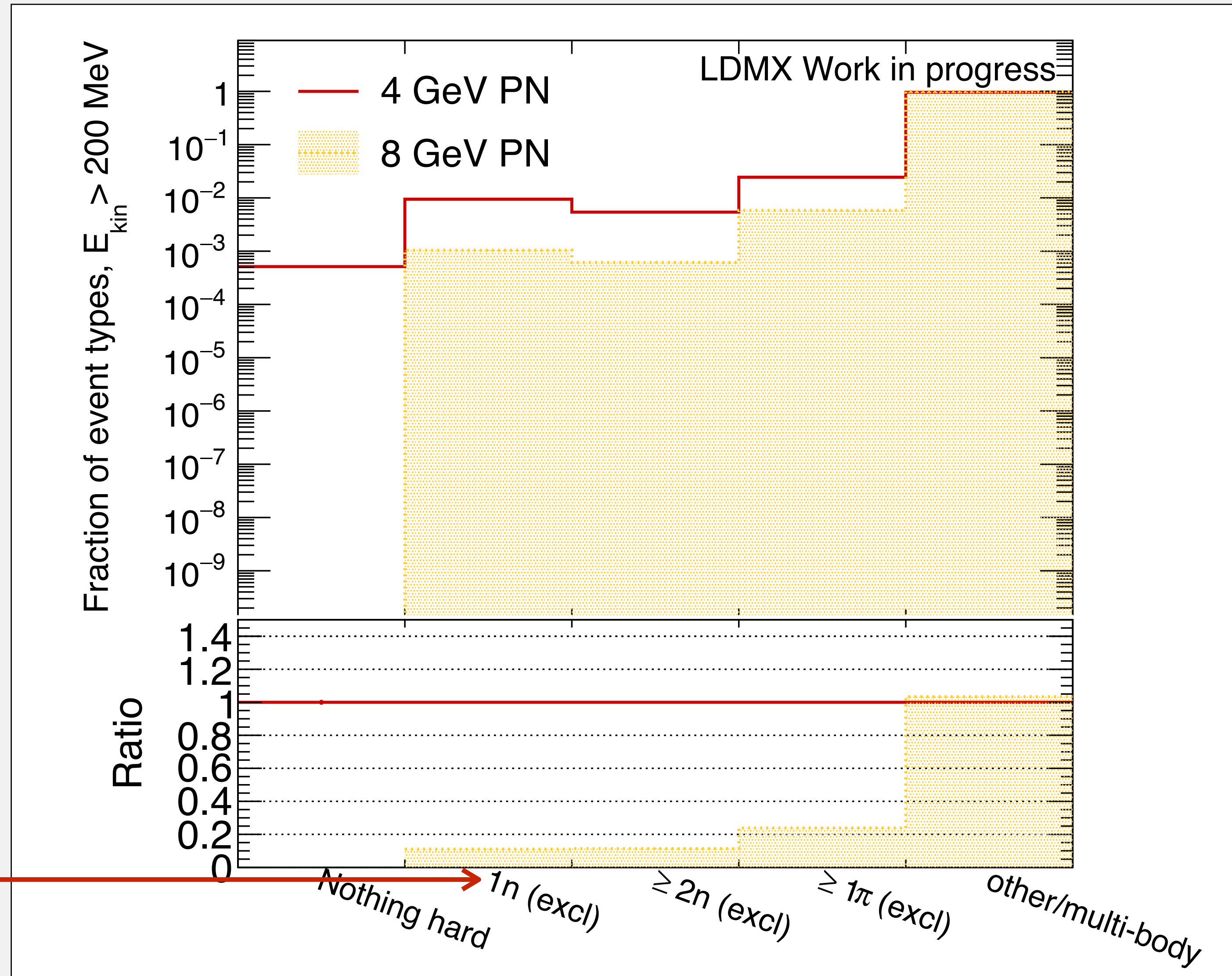
increased  
signal yield





# Why higher energy?

improved background rejection possibilities



particularly critical

# Analysis Strategy

- trigger on missing energy
- + combine ECal features into a BDT
- + veto on activity in HCal
- + additional vetoes on activity in trackers/ECal front layer

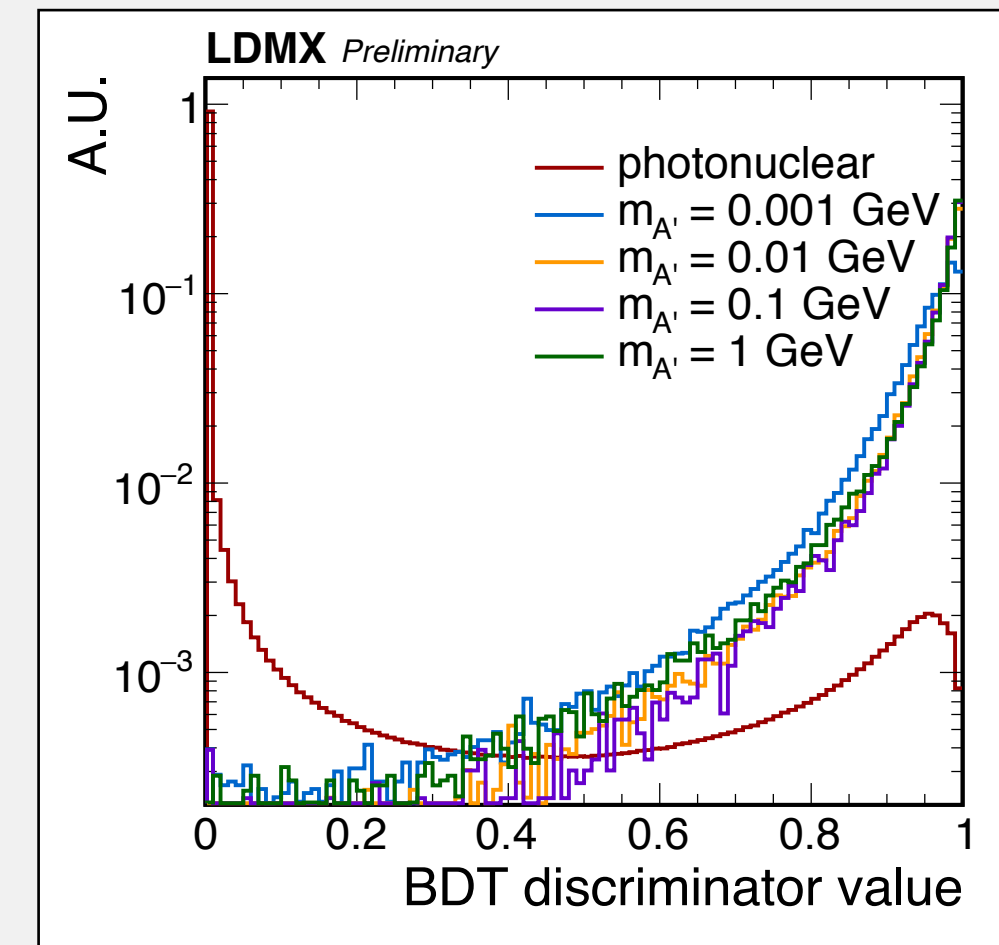
at 4 GeV: **close to 0-background** for  $4e14$  EoT  
based on simulation studies

## important:

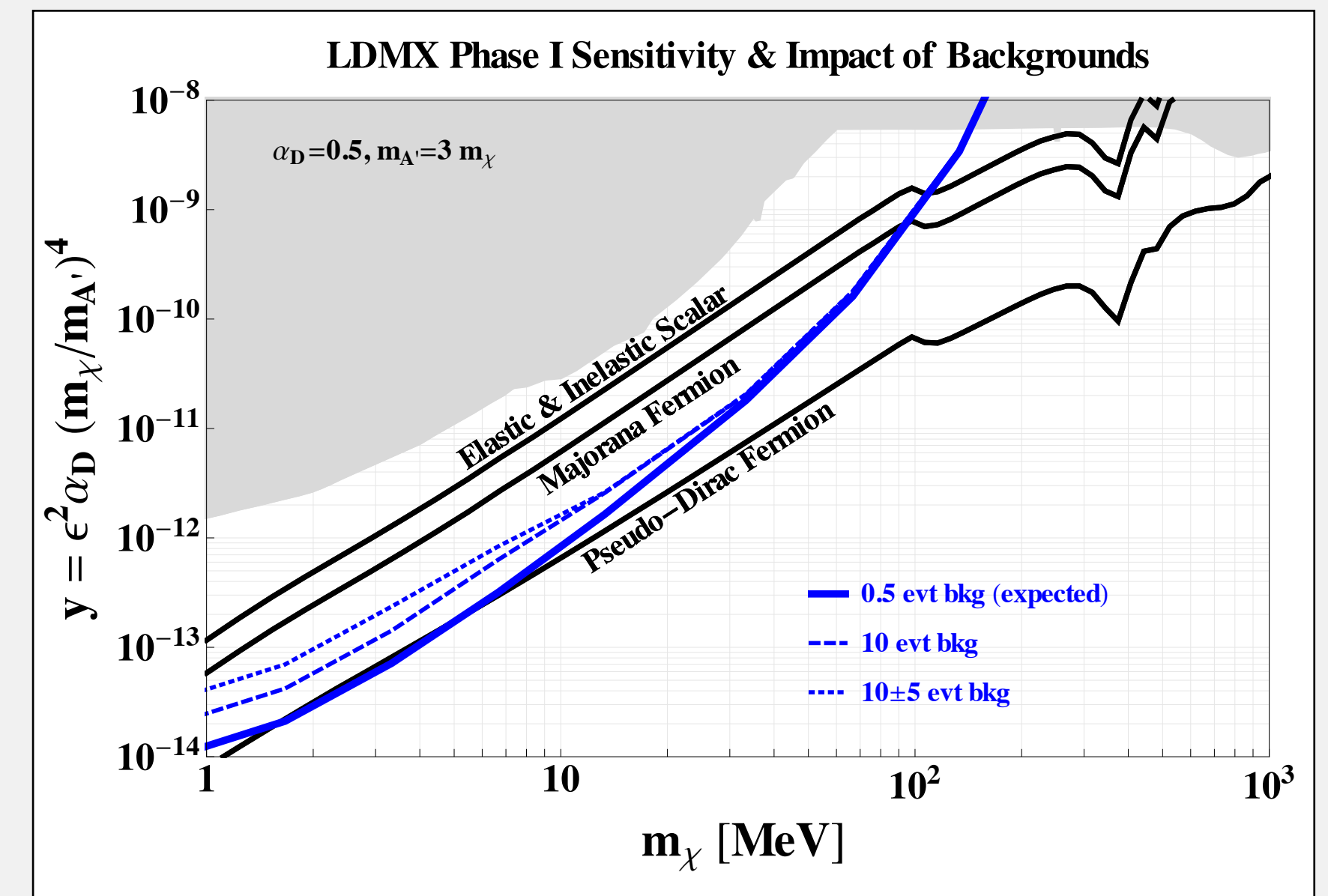
- several handles not exploited yet, in particular  $p_T$
- HCal optimisation ongoing
- things get easier at higher energy!

with data:

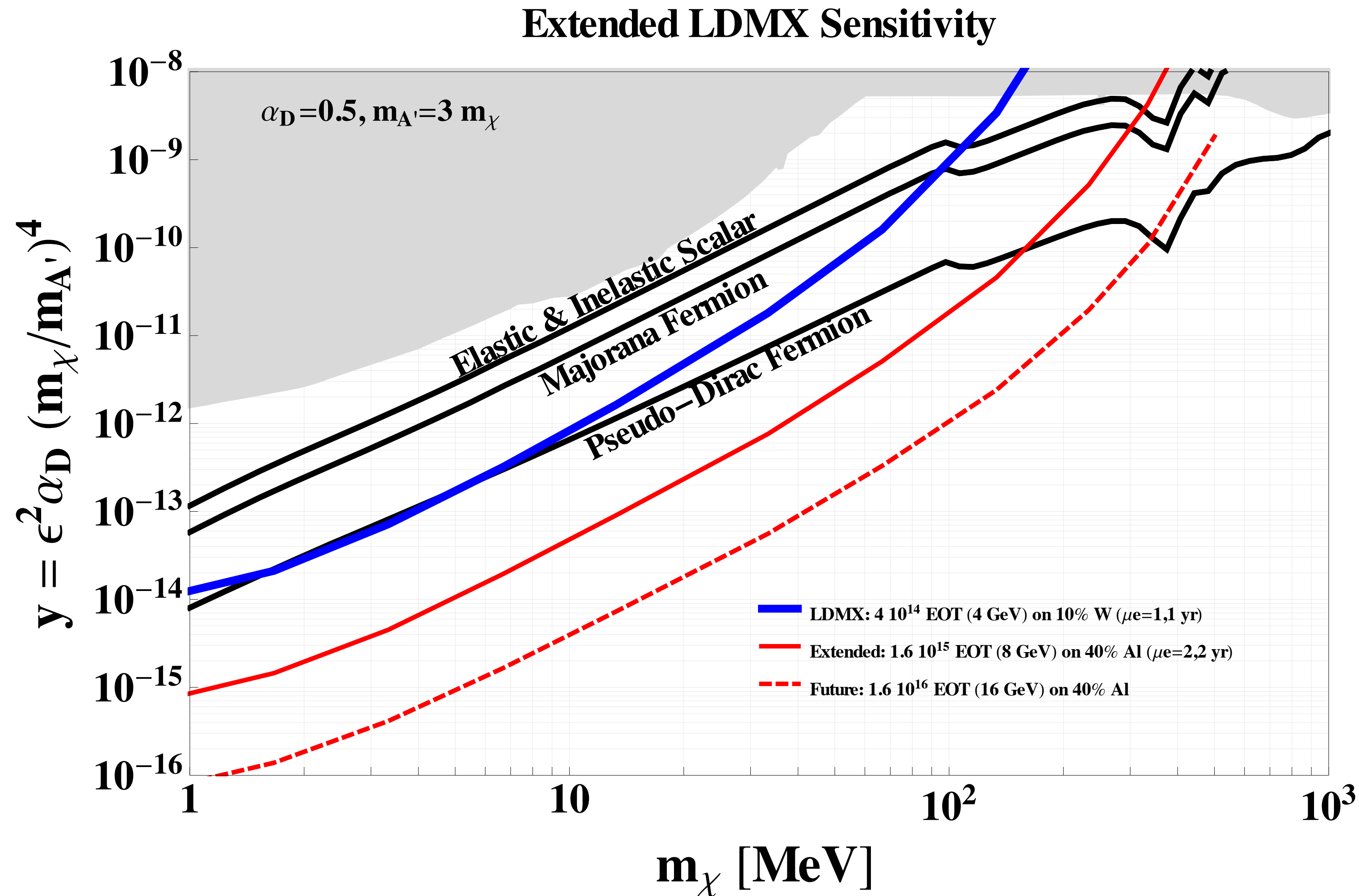
- redundancy in vetoes  $\rightarrow$  data control samples, verify rejection
- comprehensive kinematic information  $\rightarrow$  establish signal-likeness



[arxiv:1808.05219](https://arxiv.org/abs/1808.05219)



# Projected Sensitivity



LDMX can explore a lot of new parameter space

sensitive to various thermal targets already with "pilot run"

ultimately potential to probe all thermal targets up to O(100) GeV

timescale: few years

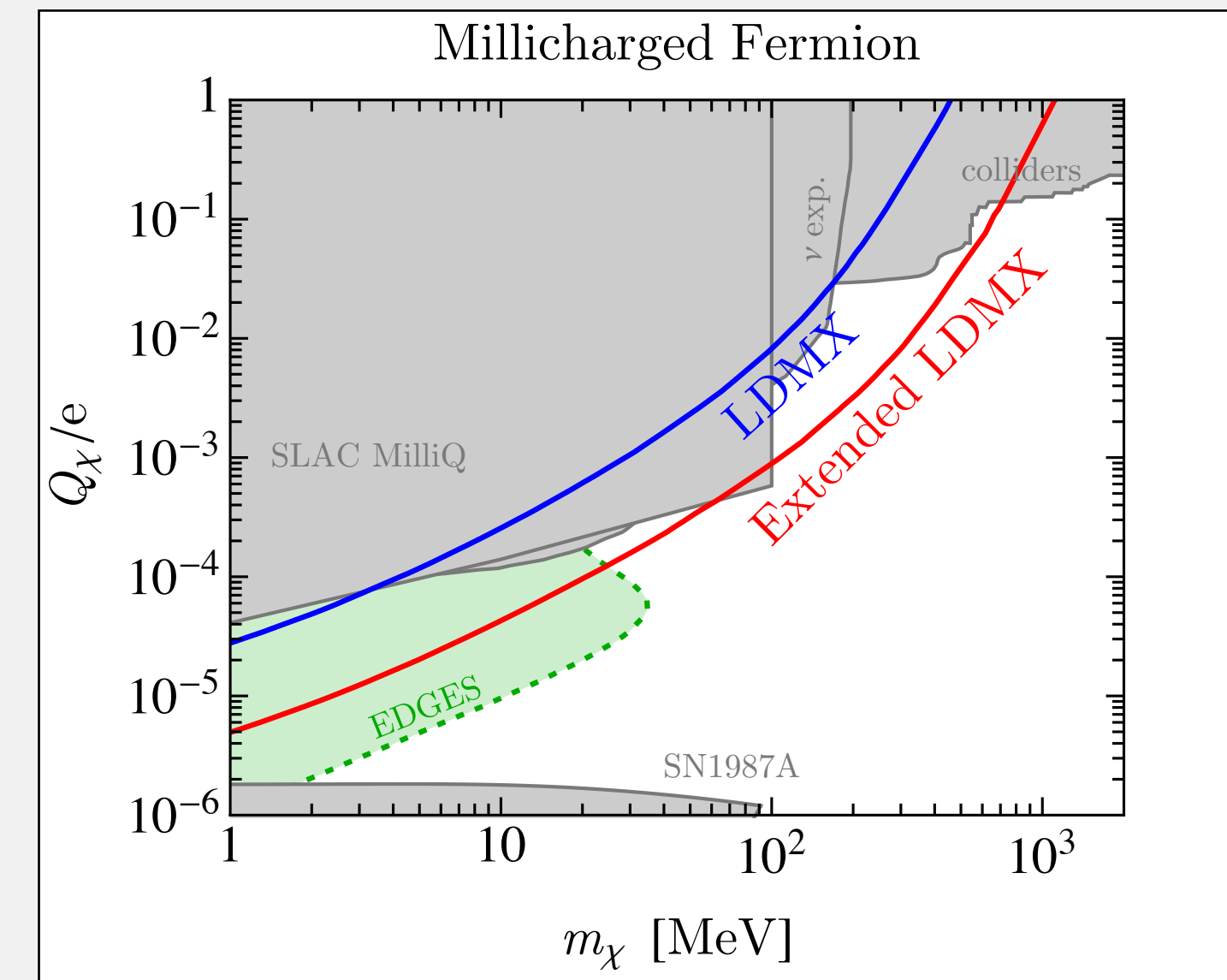
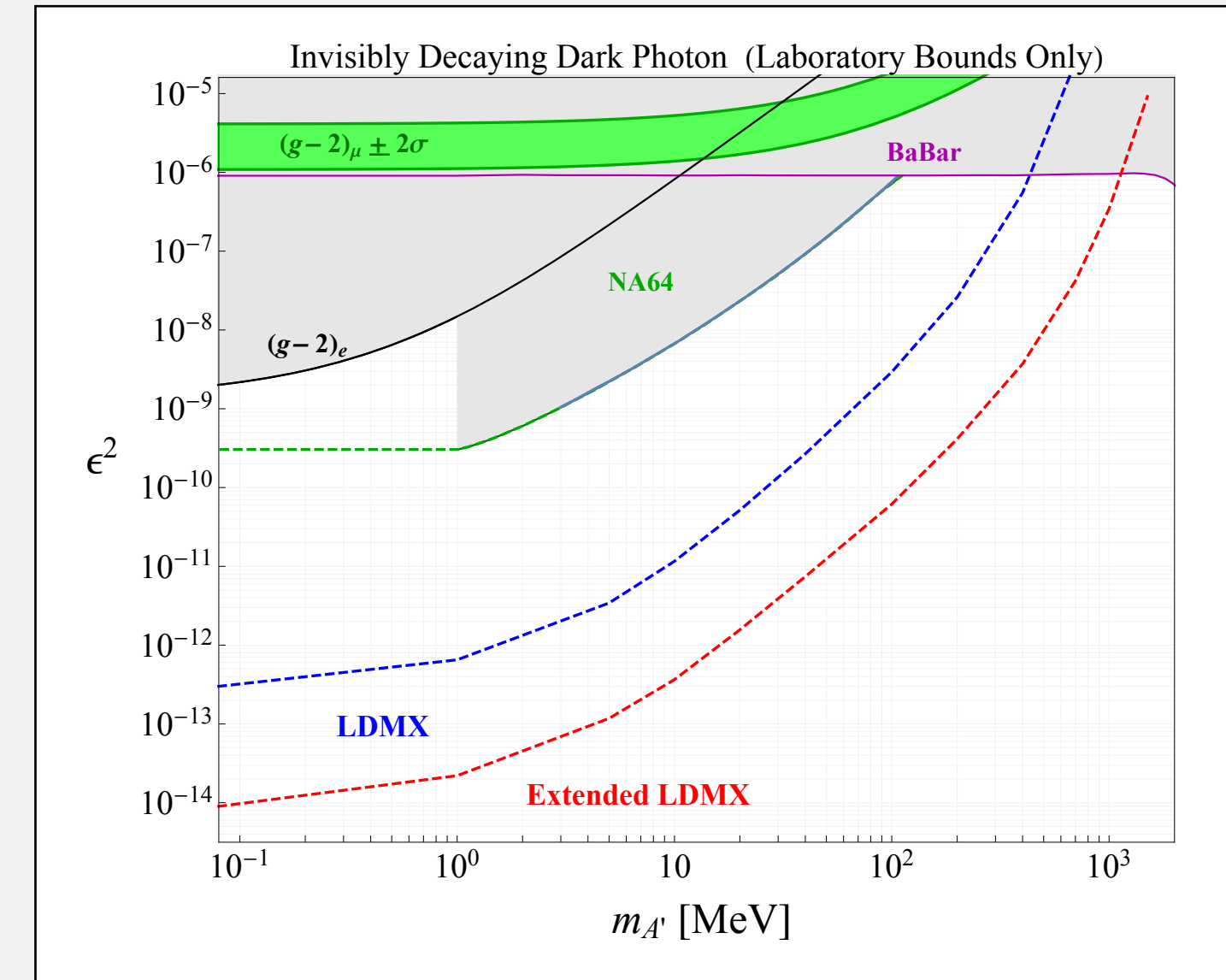
# Further Potential

also sensitive to

- DM with quasi-thermal origin (asymmetric, SIMP/ELDER scenarios)
- new invisibly decaying mediators in general ( $A'$  one example)
- displaced vertex signatures (e.g. co-annihilation, SIMP)
- milli-charged particles

(more in Berlin, Blinov, Krnjaic, Schuster, Toro [arxiv:1807.01730](https://arxiv.org/abs/1807.01730) )

in addition: *measurement* of photo- and electro-nuclear processes (for neutrino experiments)



# Summary

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broad interest in Dark Sector physics, many new initiatives

- light, thermal relic Dark Matter well motivated
- fixed-target, missing-momentum approach provides outstanding sensitivity
- LDMX the only such experiment on the horizon
  - start of data-taking in early 2020s
- potential to probe thermal targets in MeV - GeV range
  - complements direct detection
- more generally, sensitive to broad range if sub-GeV physics

Thank you!

# Additional Material

# Various Future Projections

