

# Feebly Interacting Massive Particles and their signatures

Geneviève Bélanger

LAPTH Annecy-le-Vieux

See : GB, Boudjema, Goudelis, Pukhov, Zaldivar, 1801.03509

GB, Desai, Goudelis, Harz, Lessa, No, Pukhov, Sekmen, Sengupta, Zaldivar, Zurita, 1811.05478

Nikhef, Amsterdam, 23/11/2018

# Outline

Motivation

Relic density

Fimps in direct detection

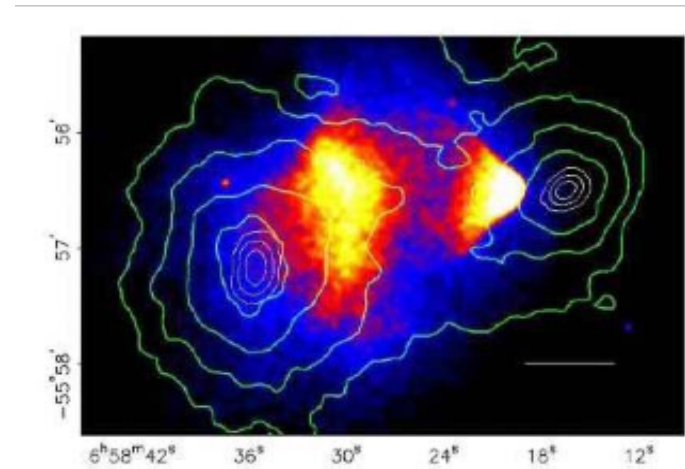
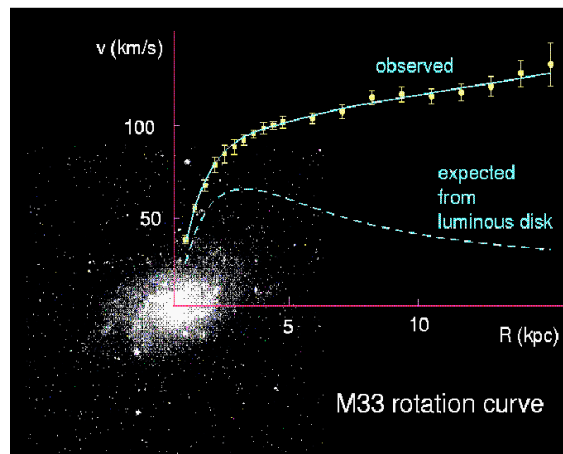
Fimps at colliders

# Intro

What do we know about dark matter?

It has gravitational interactions (galaxies – rotation curves-  
galaxy clusters, - Xray, gravitational lensing)

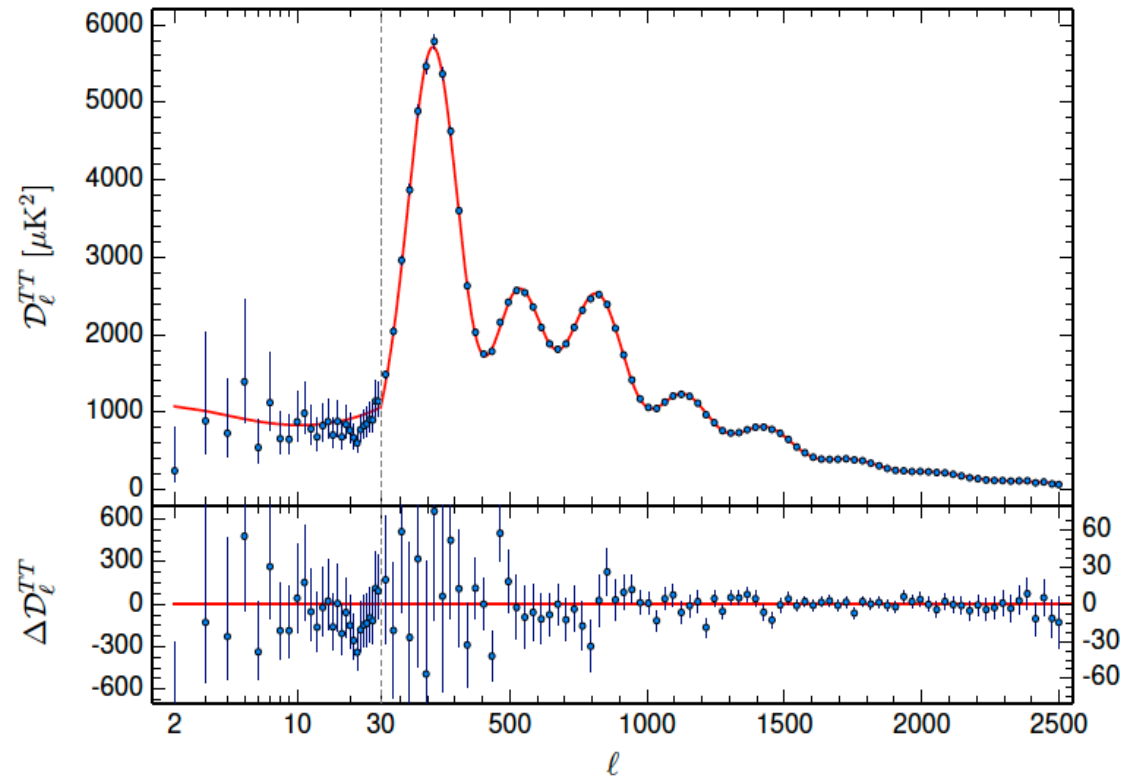
No electromagnetic interactions



It is cold (or maybe warm) and collisionless (or not)

Within  $\Lambda$ CDM model – precisely know its relic density

$$\Omega_{\text{cdm}} h^2 = 0.1193 \pm 0.0014 \quad (\text{PLANCK} - 1502.01589)$$

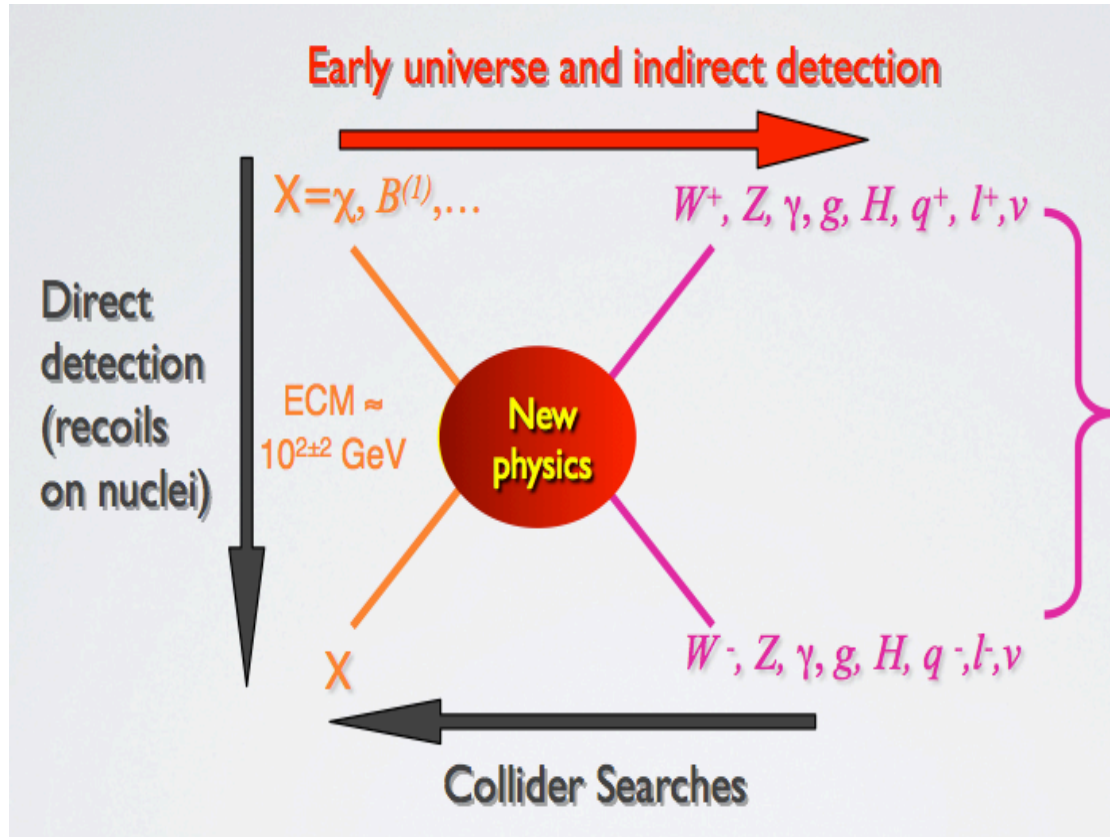


# Leaves us with a lot of possibilities for dark matter

In particular from the particle physics point of view - Cannot be baryons, neutrinos (too hot)

- A new particle? Two DM? Mass scale? Interaction strength? large self-interactions? linked to baryon-antibaryon asymmetry?
- WIMPs – long time favourite : good theoretical motivation, typical annihilation cross-section leads to correct relic density
- WIMPs : elaborate search strategies from astroparticle/cosmo/colliders

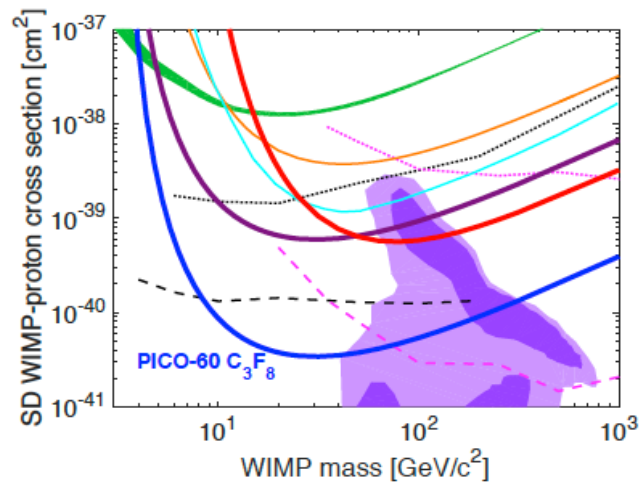
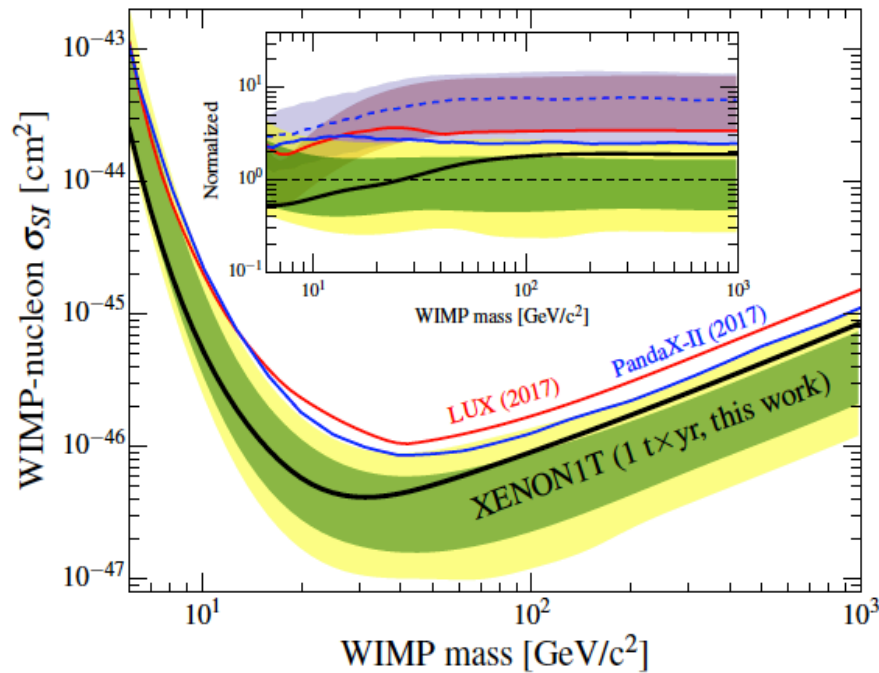
# Probing the nature of WIMPs



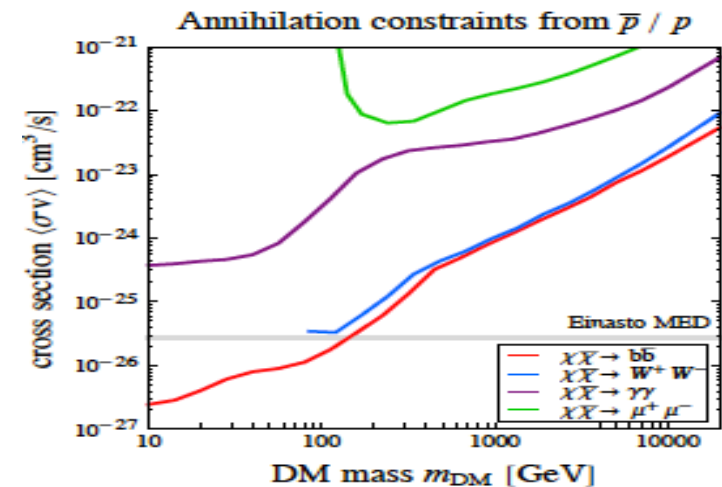
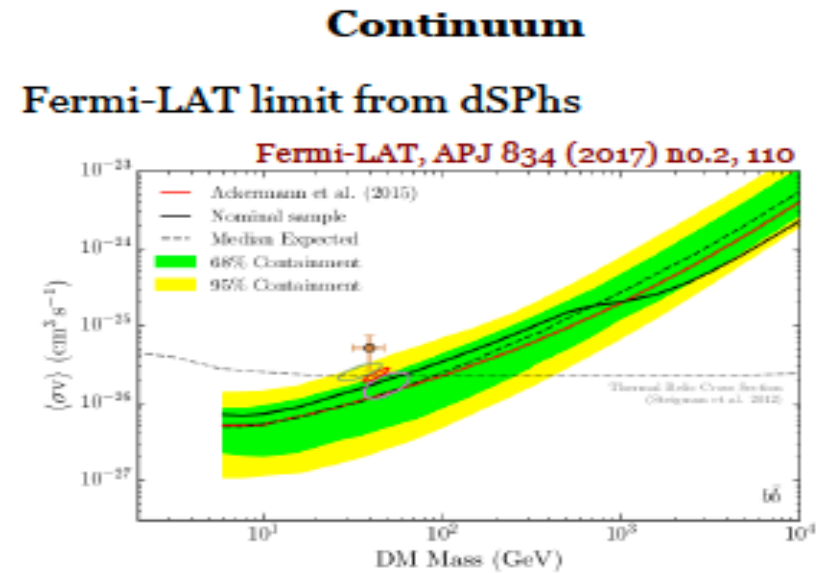
- All determined by interactions of WIMPS with Standard Model
- Specified within given particle physics model

# But no signatures of WIMPs

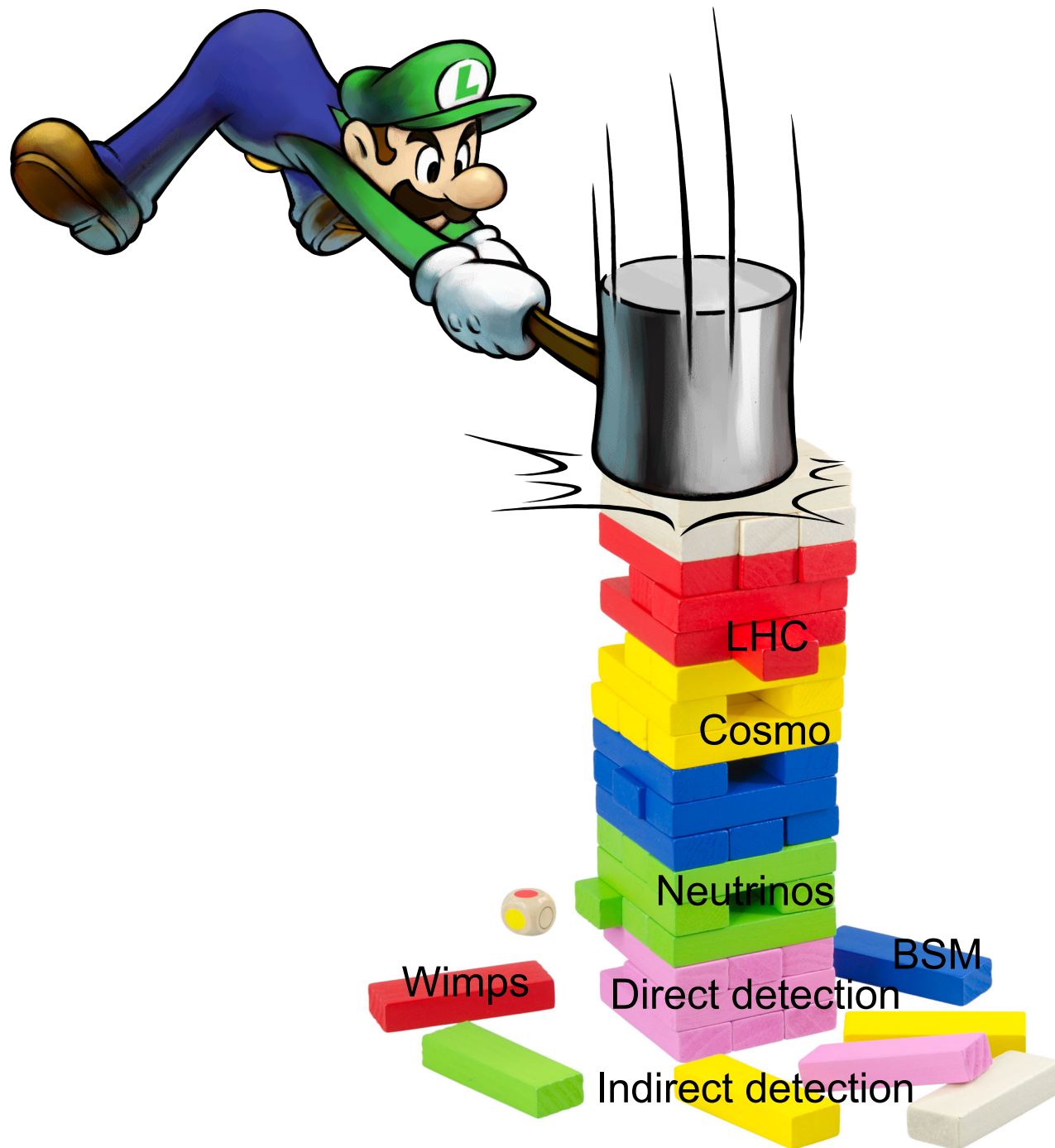
Aprile, 1805.12562



Amole et al,  
1702.07666



Giesen et al, 1504.04276



LHC

Cosmo

Neutrinos

Wimps

Direct detection

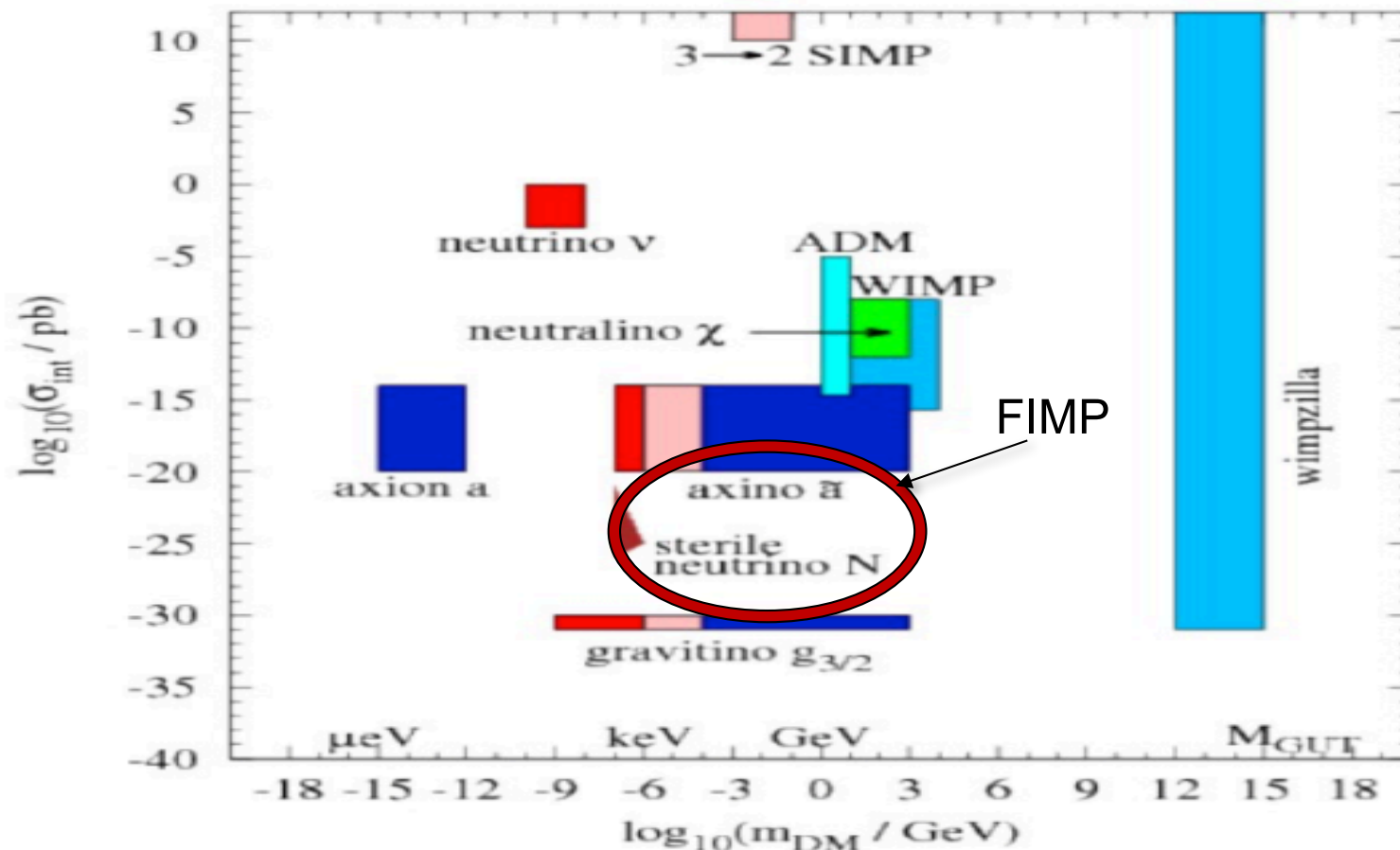
Indirect detection

BSM



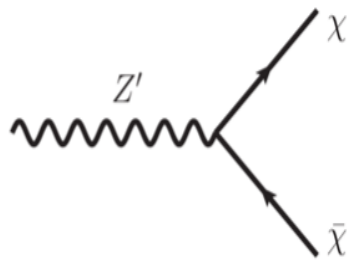
# Beyond WIMPs

- Forget about WIMP miracle
- Consider much weaker interaction strength and maybe mass scale

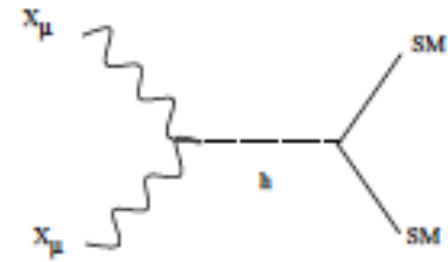
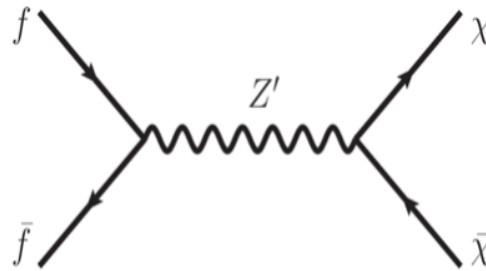


# FIMPS (Feebly interacting MP)

- Freeze-in (McDonald, PRL88, 091304 (2002); Hall et al, 0911.1120): in early Universe, DM so feebly interacting that never reach thermal equilibrium
- Assume that after inflation abundance DM very small, interactions are very weak but lead to production of DM



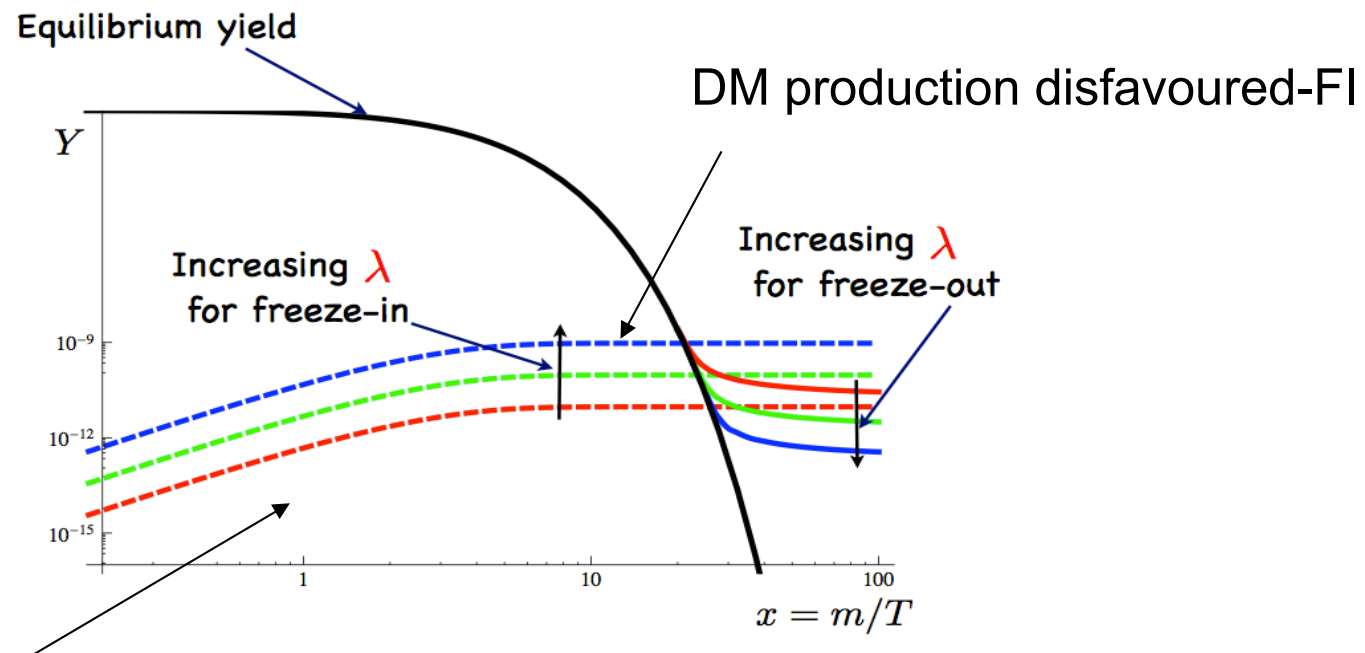
Freeze-in



Freeze-out

# FIMPS (Feebly interacting MP)

- Freeze-in (McDonald, PRL88, 091304 (2002); Hall et al, 0911.1120): in early Universe, DM so feebly interacting that never reach thermal equilibrium
- Assume that after inflation abundance DM very small, interactions are very weak but lead to production of DM
- $T \sim M$ , DM ‘freezes-in’ - yield increase with interaction strength



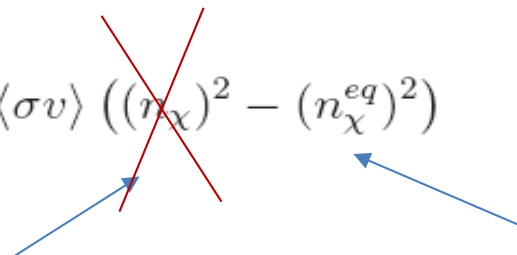
DM produced from decays/annihilation

# In or Out

- Relic density depends on the initial conditions in FI, independent in FO since thermal equilibrium
- In FI: decay of heavier particles can dominate DM production, in FO only DM matters (except for coannihilation ...)
  - Need to track evolution of heavier states (in equilibrium?) - dedicated Boltzmann equation
- Relevant temperature can be larger than for freeze-out,
  - FO :  $m_{\text{DM}}/20$
  - FI :  $m_{\text{DM}}/3$  or  $m_{\text{Med}}/3$  or  $T_R$  -> cannot always make approximation Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution
- Only one public code for freeze-in : micrOMEGAs5.0: freeze-in GB, Boudjema, Goudelis, Pukhov, Zaldivar, arXiv:1801.03509

# Freeze-in

- DM particles are NOT in thermal equilibrium with SM
- Recall

$$\frac{dn_\chi}{dt} + 3Hn_\chi = -\langle\sigma v\rangle ((n_\chi)^2 - (n_\chi^{eq})^2)$$


Depletion of  $\chi$  due to annihilation

Creation of  $\chi$  from inverse process

- Initial number of DM particles is very small

$$\dot{n}_\chi + 3Hn_\chi = \langle\sigma v\rangle_{X\bar{X}\rightarrow\chi\bar{\chi}}(T)n_{eq}^2(T) + n_{eq}(T)\Gamma_{Y\rightarrow\chi\chi}(T)$$

annihilation

Decay  
(X,Y in Th.eq. with SM)

$$n = \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} f(p)$$

# Solving for relic density (annihilation)

- Boltzmann eq, 2->2:

$$\frac{dn}{dt} + 3Hn = \int \frac{d^3p_1}{(2\pi)^3 2E_1} \frac{d^3p_2}{(2\pi)^3 2E_2} \frac{d^3p_a}{(2\pi)^3 2E_a} \frac{d^3p_b}{(2\pi)^3 2E_b} \times (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(p_1 + p_2 - p_a - p_b) |\mathcal{M}|^2 f_1 f_2 (1 \mp f_a)(1 \mp f_b)$$

$$f_i = \frac{1}{\left(e^{\frac{(E_i - \mu_i)}{T}} \pm 1\right)} = \frac{\eta_i}{e^{\frac{E_i}{T}} + \eta_i} \quad \eta_i = \pm e^{\mu_i/T}$$

- T larger than for freeze-out, cannot always make approximation Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution

$$\frac{dn}{dt} + 3Hn = \frac{g_1 g_2}{8\pi^4} T |\eta_1 \eta_2| C_{12} \int ds p_{\text{CM}}^2 \sqrt{s} \sigma(s) \tilde{K}_1(\sqrt{s}/T, x_1, x_2, 0, \eta_1, \eta_2)$$

$$\tilde{K}_1(x_1, x_a, x_b, \eta_1, \eta_a, \eta_b) = \frac{1}{4p_{\text{CM}} T |\eta_1|} \int dE_+ dE_- f_1(1 \mp f_a)(1 \mp f_b)$$

- Effect of statistical treatment : up to a factor 2 (for bosons) smaller for fermions
- Solve for  $Y=n/s \rightarrow$

$$\Omega h^2 = \frac{m_\chi Y_\chi^0 s_0 h^2}{\rho_c}$$

# Simple example : vector portal

- $Z'$  portal with vector couplings to fermion DM and SM

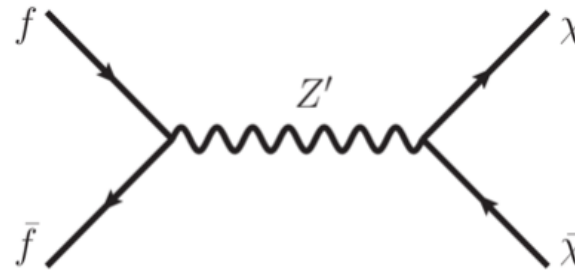
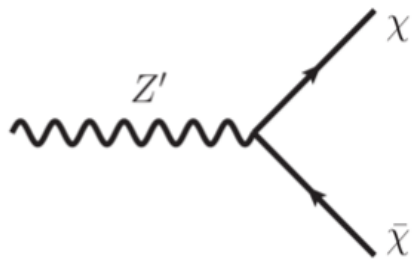
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = -g_\chi Z'_\mu \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \chi - \sum g_q Z'_\mu \bar{q} \gamma^\mu q$$

- 3 regimes

$$m_{Z'} < 2m_\chi < T_R$$

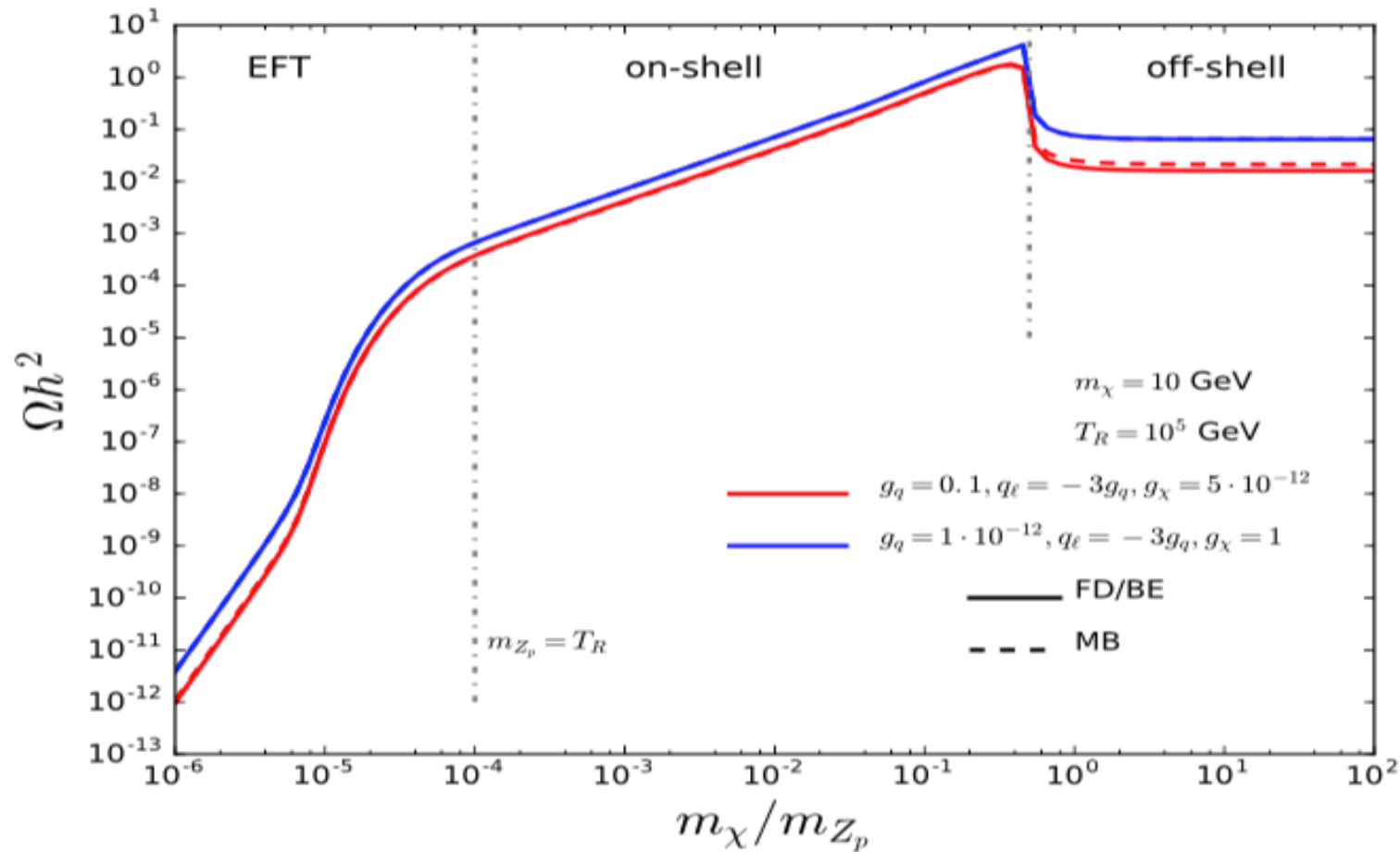
$$2m_\chi < T_R < m_{Z'}$$

regime	$\sigma(s)$	$Y_\chi$
off-shell	$\frac{g_u^2 g_\chi^2}{s}$	$g_u^2 g_\chi^2 M_{\text{Pl}}/m_\chi$
on-shell	$\frac{g_u^2 g_\chi^2 m_{Z'}}{\Gamma} \delta(s - m_{Z'}^2)$	$g_u^2 g_\chi^2 / \Gamma$
EFT	$g_u^2 g_\chi^2 s / m_{Z'}^4$	$g_u^2 g_\chi^2 T_R^3 / m_{Z'}^4$



$$g_q g_\chi \sim 10^{-10} - 10^{-12}$$

# Simple example : vector portal



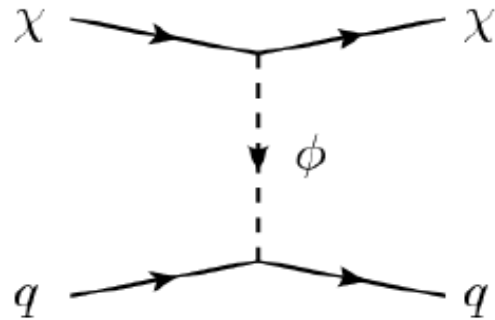
Typically get expected relic density both in off-shell ( $m_\chi \sim m_{\text{Med}}$ ) and on-shell regime ( $m_\chi \ll m_{\text{Med}}$ ) - DM can be very light



# Signatures from the sky

- Typical couplings  $g_q g_\chi \sim 10^{-10} - 10^{-12}$
- Which such weak coupling can we expect any signal in direct or indirect detection?
- **Indirect detection** – a few possibilities with decaying DM
  - Freeze-In production of PeV scalar that decays into neutrinos (Icecube) Roland et al 1506.08195
  - Light Frozen-in DM can lead to Xray/ $\gamma$ -ray signatures
    - E.g. Baek, Po,Park 1405.3730, Essig et al, 1309.4091
- **Direct detection** : introduce a light mediator to boost the rate

# Direct detection



$$\sigma_{SI} \propto \frac{g_\chi^2 g_q^2}{(q^2 - M_\phi^2)^2} \rightarrow \frac{1}{M_\phi^4} \quad \text{for heavy mediator}$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{1}{(2m_N E_R - M_\phi^2)^2}$$

For light mediator

- Typical  $q^2 \sim 100 \text{ MeV}^2$  ( $M_{\text{DM}} = 100 \text{ GeV}$ )
- For very light mediator  $\sigma \sim 1/E_R^2$  ( $M_\phi < 40 \text{ MeV}$ ), recall typical threshold on recoil energy  $\sim 5 \text{ keV}$
- Spectrum peaks at low recoil energies

$$\frac{dR}{dE_R} = \frac{\rho_0 \sigma_{SI} N_A}{\sqrt{\pi} v_0 m_\chi \mu_{\chi T}^2} F(q^2) \eta(q^2) \times \frac{m_\phi^4}{(q^2 + m_\phi^2)^2},$$

Velocity distribution

- Re-interpretation of DD limits from Xenon ...

# Example : a minimal model

- Simplified model with Dirac fermion (DM) with scalar mediator

$$- \mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = y_\chi \phi \bar{\chi} \chi + y_q \phi \bar{q} q + y_l \phi \bar{l} l ,$$

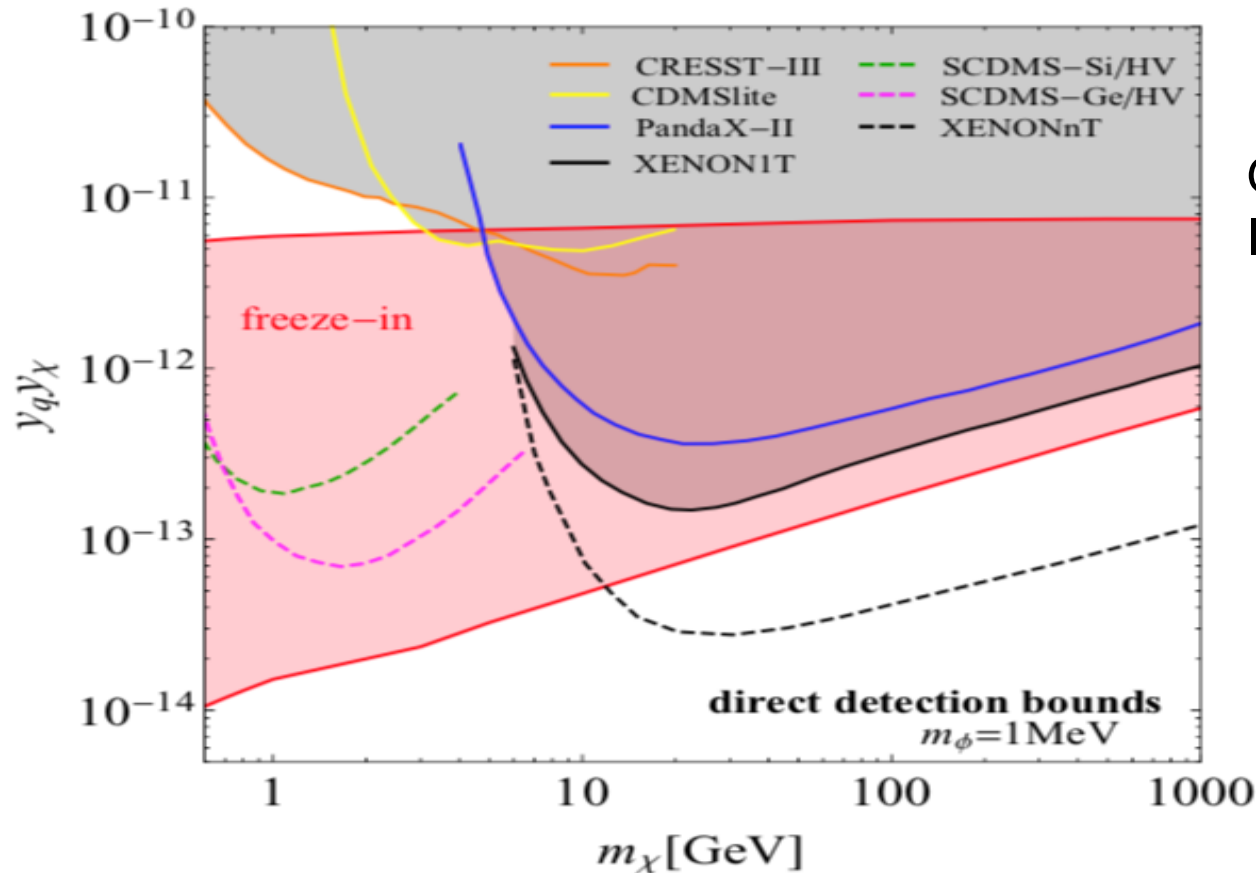
- Two DM production processes (relative contribution depends on couplings and on whether  $\phi$  is in equilibrium with SM)

$$q\bar{q} \rightarrow \chi\bar{\chi} \quad \text{and} \quad \phi\phi \rightarrow \chi\bar{\chi}$$

- Solve for FI :  $m_\chi, m_\phi, y_q, y_\chi$
- Can DD probe the region of parameter space that reproduces the relic density?

# Direct detection

PRELIMINARY

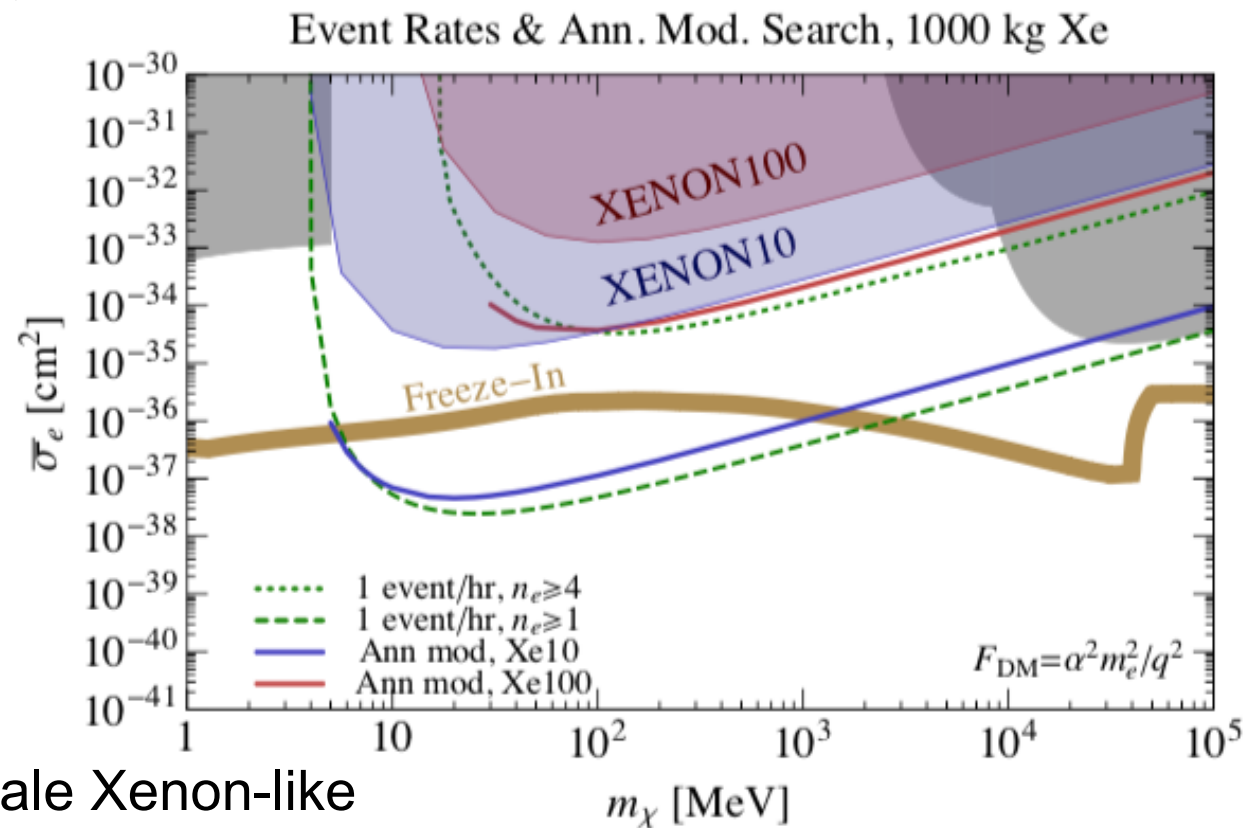


GB, Delaunay, Zaldivar,  
In preparation

- A large part of FI region is probed/will be probed by DD even for DM at GeV scale
- See also other models, e.g. Hambye et al, 1807.05022

# Direct detection with light mediator

- DM-electron scattering provides an alternative probe  
– results from Xenon, and from SENSEI : a dedicated detector, 1804.00088



Projection ton-scale Xenon-like

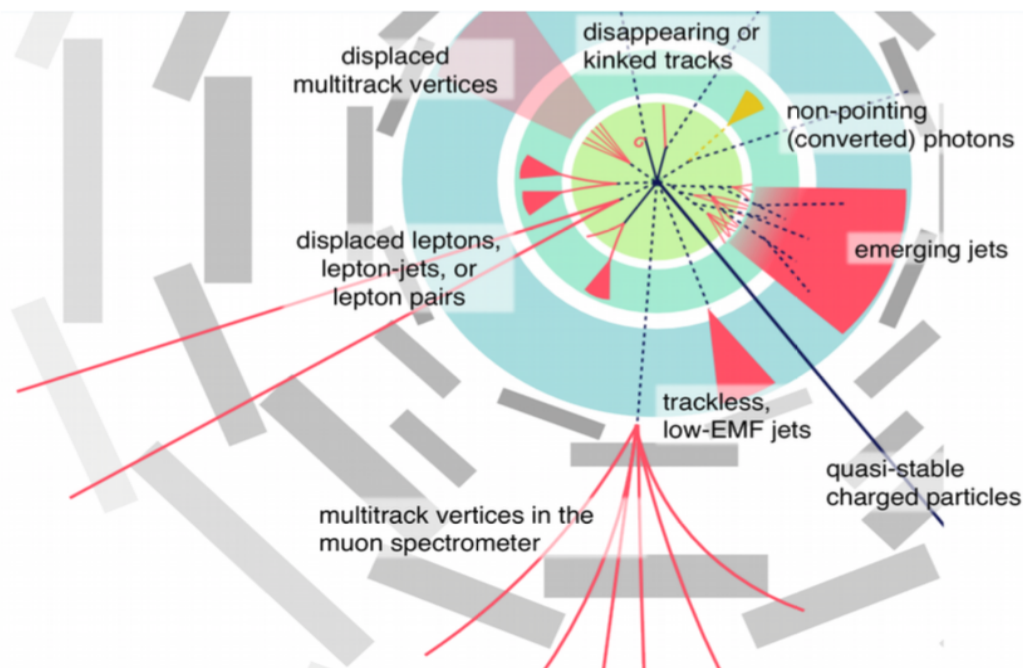
Essig et al 1703.00910

What about the LHC?

# FIMPs at colliders

- Despite small couplings could lead to some interesting LHC phenomenology
- Most relevant for colliders : DM is produced from the decay of a heavier particle (Y) in thermal equilibrium with thermal bath (eg Y is a WIMP but DM is FIMP)
- Y copiously produced, but small coupling  $\rightarrow$  long-lived
- Long-lived particles (either collider stable or displaced vertices)

## *The “LLP zoo”*



Few examples of displaced vertices in FI:  
Co, d'Eramo, Hall, Pappadopulo, 1506.07532  
Evans, Shelton 1601.01326  
Hessler, Ibarra, Molinaro, Vogl, 1611.09540

# Minimal freeze-in model

- Only one FIMP : DM, discrete  $Z_2$  symmetry  $\rightarrow$  stable DM
- DM is a SM gauge singlet – no thermalization in the early universe
- Minimality: smallest number of exotic fields (Y) but require some collider signature
  - Higgs portal  $y H^2 \chi^2$ , DM production depends on  $y$  - no observable signature
- $Y : Z_2$  odd otherwise mostly coupled to SM suppressed decay to DM pairs
- Consider F vector-like fermion SU(2) singlet, DM : scalar singlet

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \partial_\mu s \partial^\mu s - \frac{\mu_s^2}{2} s^2 + \frac{\lambda_s}{4} s^4 + \lambda_{sh} s^2 (H^\dagger H) \\ + \bar{F} (i \not{D}) F - m_F \bar{F} F - \sum_f y_s^f \left( s \bar{F} \left( \frac{1 + \gamma^5}{2} \right) f + \text{h.c.} \right)$$

- Free parameters :  $m_s, m_F, y_s^f$  (assume  $\lambda_s, \lambda_{sh} \ll 1$ )
- Model also considered for FO, Giacchino et al 1511.04452, Colucci et al, 1804.05068, 1805.10173



# Relic density

- DM mainly produced from decay of F (F → f s)
- F can be either lepton or quark
- DM yield (assuming Maxwell-Boltzmann statistics)

$$Y_s \approx \frac{45 \xi M_{\text{Pl}}}{8\pi^4 \cdot 1.66} \frac{g_F}{m_F^2} \Gamma \int_{m_F/T_R}^{m_F/T_0} dx x^3 \frac{K_1(x)}{g_*^s(m_F/x) \sqrt{g_*(m_F/x)}},$$

- $\Gamma$  : partial width to DM , depends on  $y_s^f$
- DM abundance

$$\Omega_s h^2 \approx \frac{m_s Y_s}{3.6 \times 10^{-9} \text{ GeV}}$$

- F lifetime

$$c\tau[\text{m}] \approx 4.5 \xi g_F \left( \frac{0.12}{\Omega_s h^2} \right) \left( \frac{m_s}{100 \text{ keV}} \right) \left( \frac{200 \text{ GeV}}{m_F} \right)^2$$

- FI naturally leads to Long-lived particles

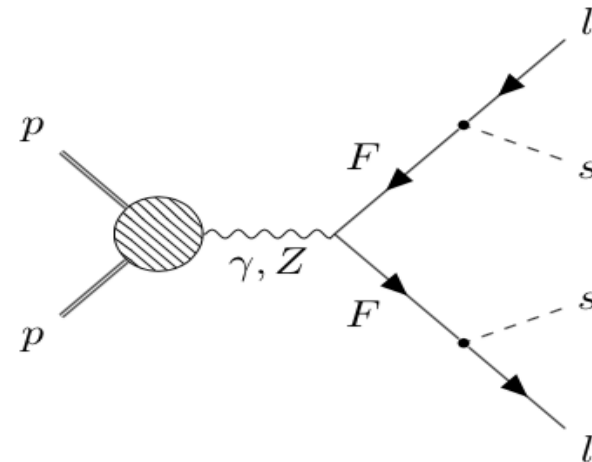
# Relic density

- Lower bound on  $m_S$  (  $m_S > 12 \text{ keV}$  )
  - Wash-out of small and intermediate scale structures if DM has non-negligible velocity dispersion – bound from Lyman- $\alpha$  forest observation
- Lowering reheating temperature - > shorter lifetime

$$Y_s \approx \frac{45 \xi M_{\text{Pl}}}{8\pi^4 \cdot 1.66} \frac{g_F}{m_F^2} \Gamma \int_{m_F/T_R}^{m_F/T_0} dx x^3 \frac{K_1(x)}{g_*^s(m_F/x) \sqrt{g_*(m_F/x)}},$$

- For very low reheating temperatures – possibility to falsify baryogenesis
- *Lifetime from cm to many meters*

Production at LHC



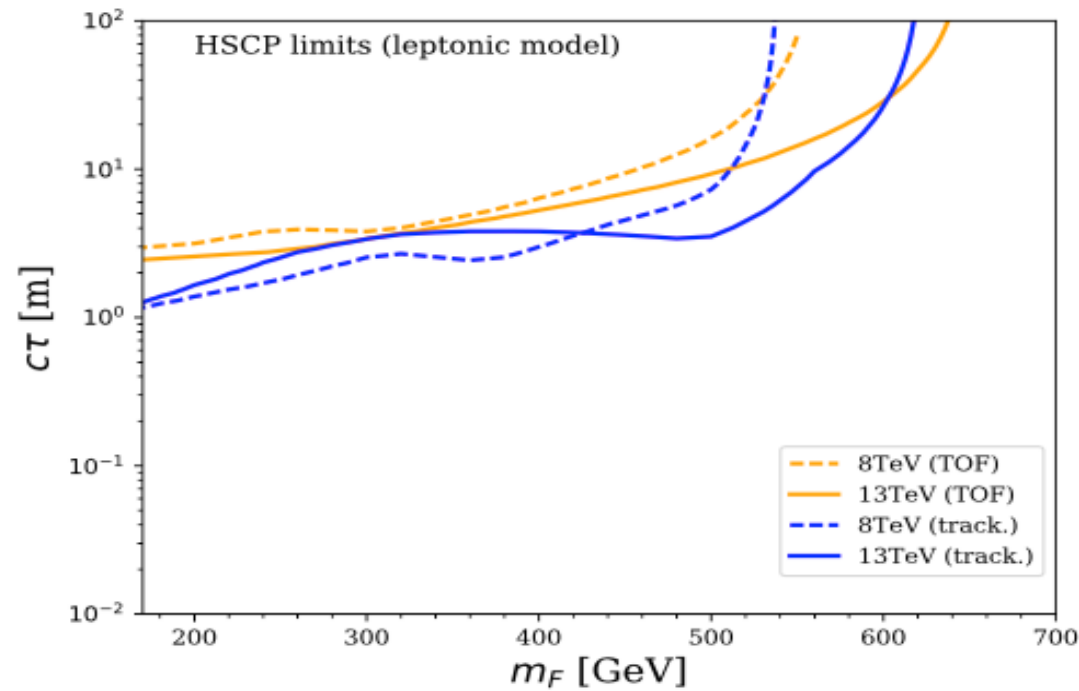
# LLP signatures at colliders

- Heavy stable charged particles (HSCP)
- Disappearing tracks
- Displaced leptons
- Displaced vertices

# HSCP

- Heavy stable charged particles
  - F colour neutral : anomalous ionizing track in inner tracker
  - F colour triplet : hadronisation in neutral or charged hadrons (R-hadrons)
  - HSCP velocity  $\beta < 1$  (can distinguish HSCP from SM)
    - charged particle produces ionizing track with higher ionization energy loss than SM
    - Time of flight measured with hits in muon chamber is larger than for relativistic muons
- Note if F has low  $c\tau$ , a fraction can decay within the tracker, rescale the production cross section

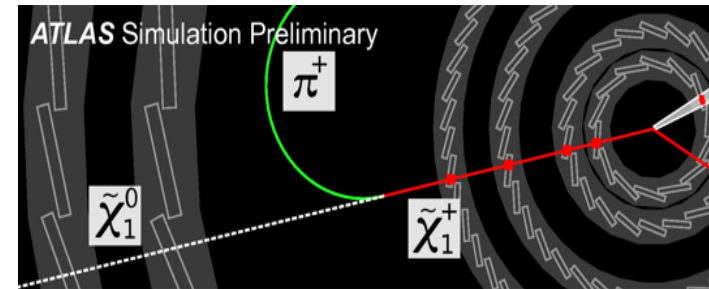
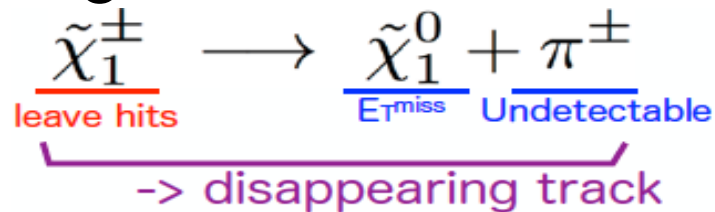
# HSCP limits



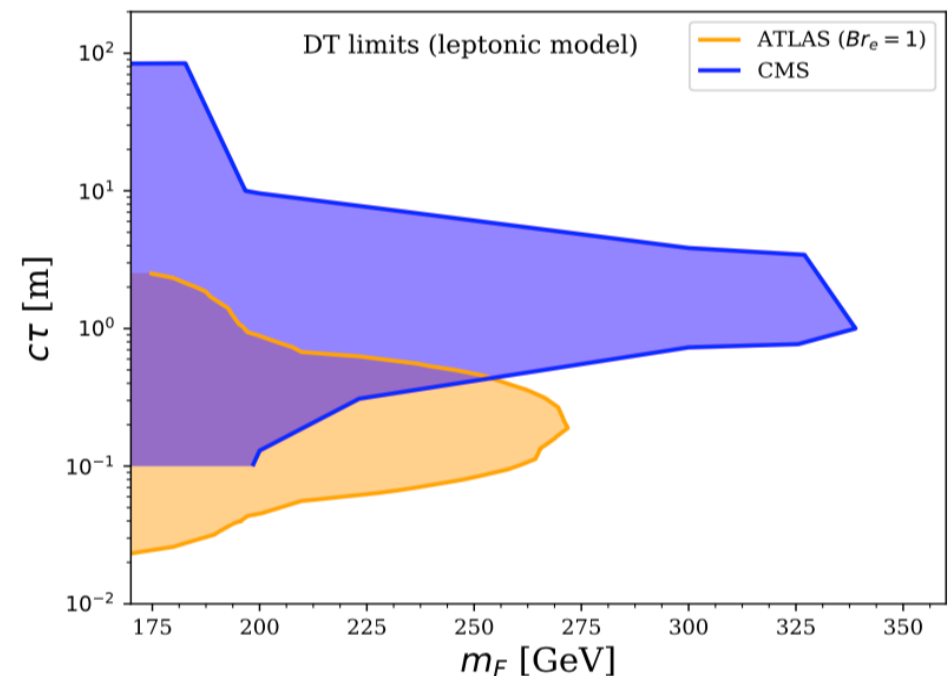
- Recast of CMS 8 TeV (18.8fb<sup>-1</sup>) and 13 TeV (12.9fb<sup>-1</sup>) searches:
  - Tracker only (decay outside tracker)
  - TOF: Tracker + time-of-flight (decay outside muon chamber)
- GB et al, 1811.05478

# Disappearing tracks

- First designed for wino-LSP (chargino lifetime .15-.25 ns)

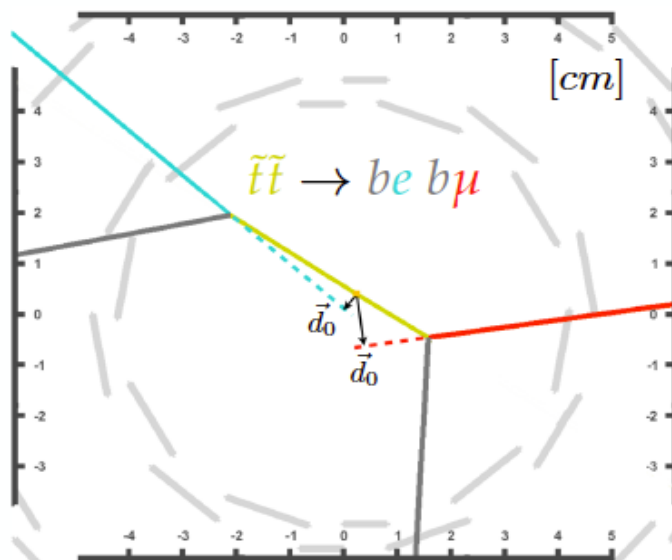


- Trigger: one disappearing track + one ISR jet ( $p_T > 100 \text{ GeV}$ )
- ATLAS can reconstruct tracks down to 12 cm (25 cm for CMS)
- Not as sensitive as HSCP but covers shorter lifetimes

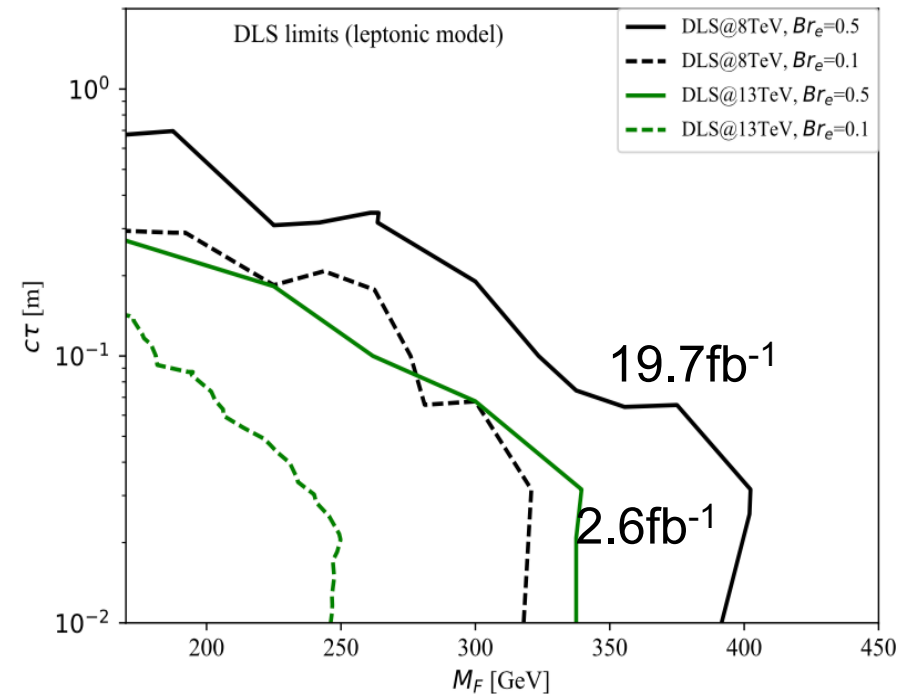


# Displaced leptons

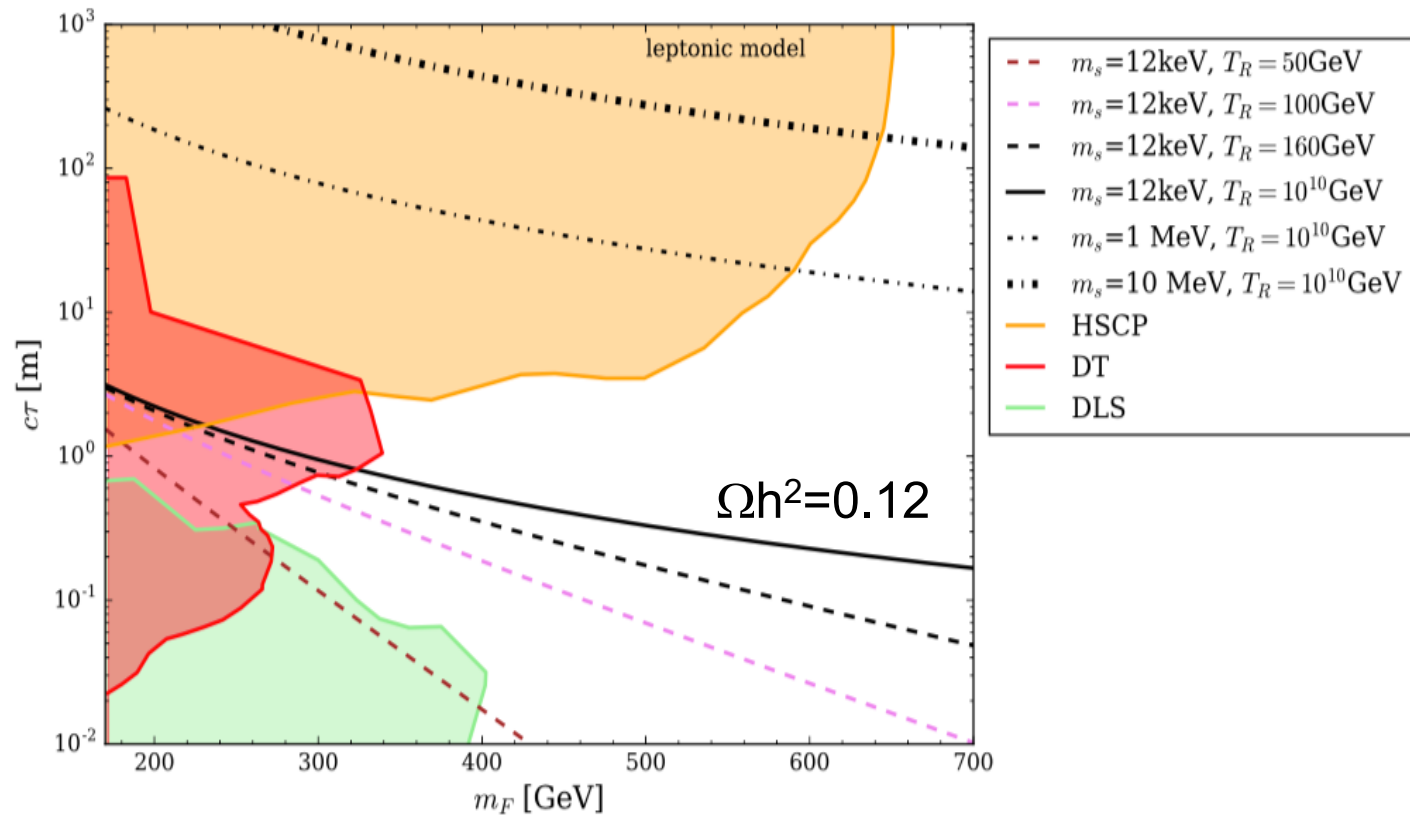
- Search for displaced  $e\mu$  – only applies if  $F$  decays to both electrons and muons
- Lepton transverse impact parameter - closest distance between beam axis and lepton track in transverse plane



[cds.cern.ch/record/2205146?ln=en](https://cds.cern.ch/record/2205146?ln=en)



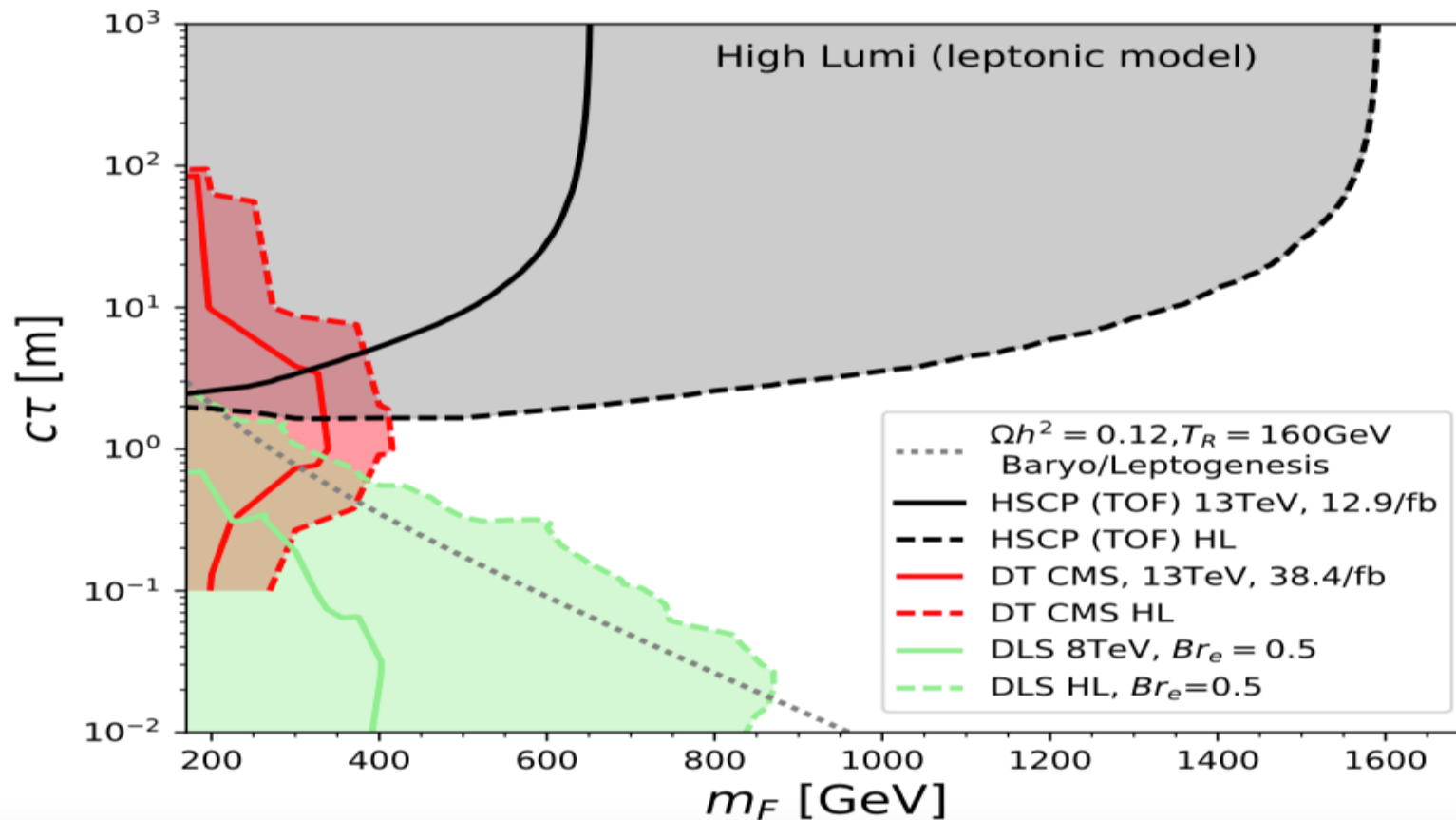
# LHC constraints (lepton)



- As DM becomes heavier – only HSCP searches relevant
- Lower  $T_R$  : expect signatures for smaller  $c\tau$

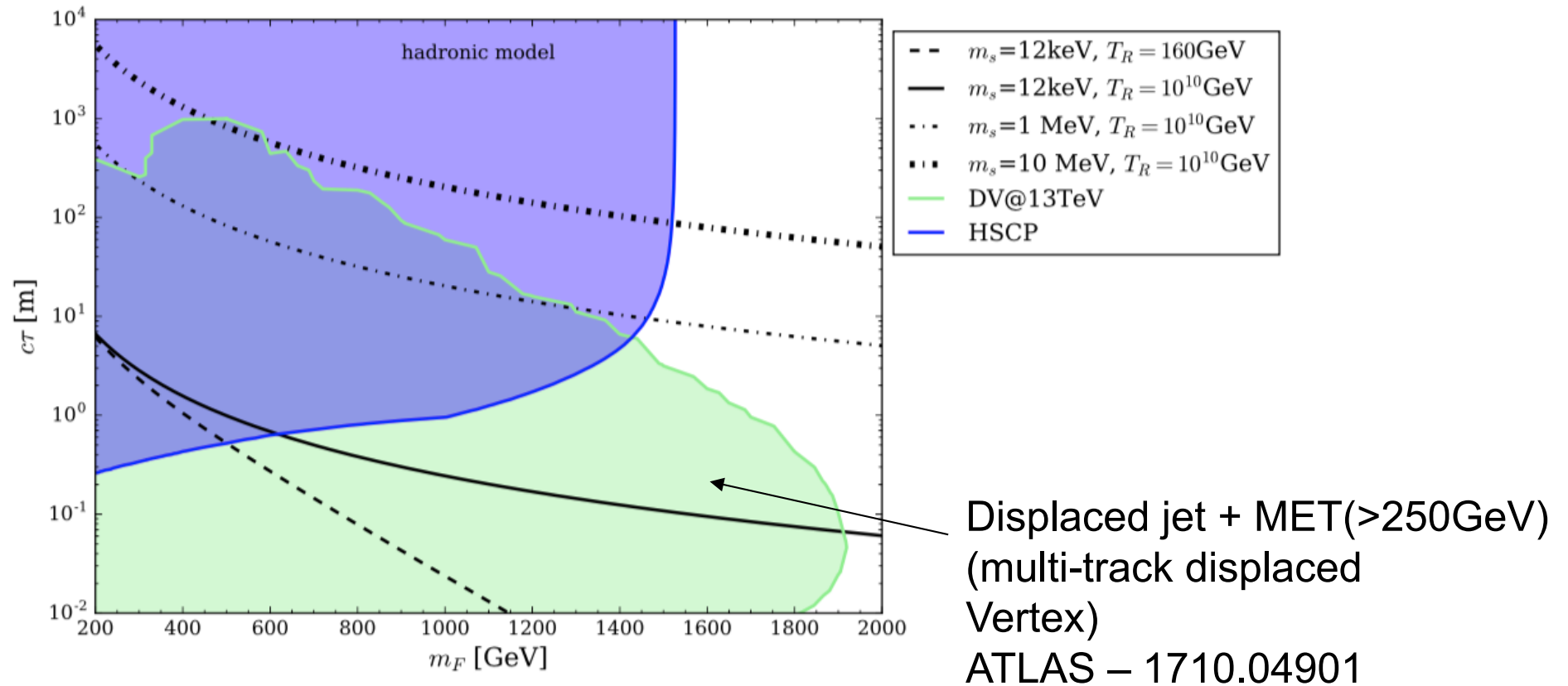


# Extrapolating to higher luminosity



Naive extrapolation to  $3000\text{fb}^{-1}$  (extrapolate current expected number of background events)

# LHC constraints (quark)



- Region  $m_F < 1.5 \text{ TeV}$  fully covered
- Lower  $T_R$  : expect signatures for smaller  $c\tau$

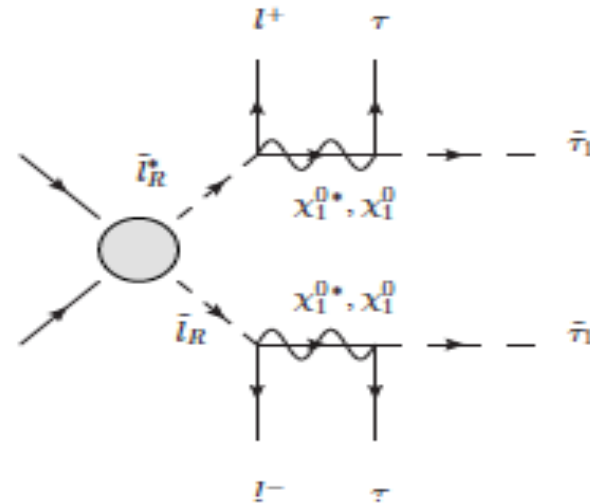
# FI beyond simplified models

- FI can also occur in some of the common BSM models, e.g. in supersymmetry with RH sneutrino, gravitino, axino etc..
  - Cheung et al, 1103.4394; Hall et al, 1010.0245; Co et al 1611.05028...
- An example MSSM+RH sneutrino
  - Asaka et al, hep-ph/0612211, Banerjee et al, 1603.08834
- Neutrino have masses – RH neutrino + Susy partner well-motivated – if LSP then can be DM
- Example MSSM+3 RH neutrinos with pure Dirac neutrino mass
- Superpotential
$$W = y_\nu \hat{H}_u \cdot \hat{L} \hat{\nu}_R^c - y_e \hat{H}_d \cdot \hat{L} \hat{\ell}_R^c + \mu_H \hat{H}_d \cdot \hat{H}_u$$
- Small Yukawa couplings  $O(10^{-13})$  (from neutrino oscillation and Planck+lensing +BAO)

- Sneutrino not thermalized in early universe - produced from decay of MSSM-LSP before or after freeze-out

$$\Omega_{\tilde{\nu}_R}^{\text{FO}} = \frac{m_{\tilde{\nu}_R}}{m_{\text{MSSM-LSP}}} \Omega_{\text{MSSM-LSP}} \qquad \Omega_{\tilde{\nu}_R}^{\text{FI}} h^2 \simeq \frac{1.09 \times 10^{27}}{g^{*3/2}} m_{\tilde{\nu}_R} \sum_i \frac{g_i \Gamma_i}{m_i^2}$$

- Consider stau as the NLSP - live from sec to min : decay outside detector
- LHC signature : stable charged particle NOT MET
- Constraints from BBN : lifetime of stau can be long enough for decay around or after BBN  $\rightarrow$  impact on abundance of light elements
- Decay of particle with lifetime  $> 0.1\text{s}$  can cause non-thermal nuclear reaction during or after BBN – spoiling predictions – in particular if new particle has hadronic decay modes -Kawasaki, Kohri, Moroi, PRD71, 083502 (2005)



- LHC Searches
  - Cascades : coloured sparticles decay into jets + SUSY  $\rightarrow$  N jets + stau
  - Pair production of two stable staus (model independent but lower cross section)
  - Passive search for stable particles
- Stable stau behaves like « slow » muons  $\beta=p/E<1$ 
  - Use ionisation properties and time of flight measurement to distinguish from muon
  - kinematic distribution

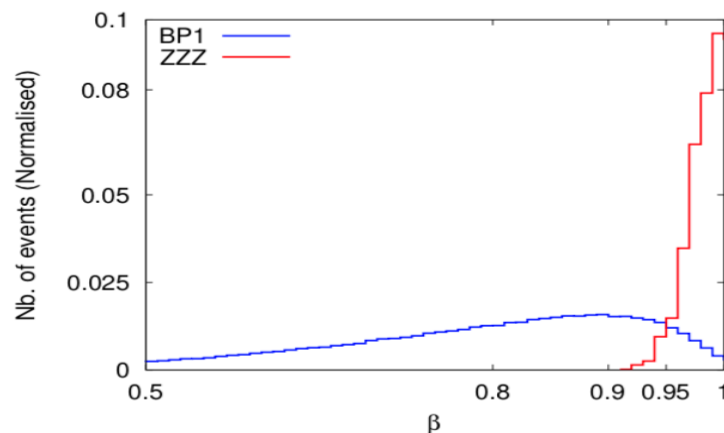
# MoEDAL detector

- Passive detector
- Array of nuclear track detector stacks
- Surrounds intersection region point 8
- Sensitive to highly ionising particles
- Does not require trigger, one detected event is enough
- Major condition : ionizing particle has velocity  $\beta < 0.5$
- Enough to detect signal



B. Acharya et al,  
1405.7662

Stau velocity distribution



$$\mathcal{L} = 3000 \text{ fb}^{-1}$$

Benchmark	$m_{\tilde{\tau}_1}$ (GeV)	$N_s$
BP1	398	26
BP2	554	7
BP3	655	3
BP6	831	1

Banerjee et al, 1806.04488

# Final remarks

- Made enormous progress in searching for DM with direct/indirect and collider searches with WIMPs
- With searches for long-lived and ‘collider-stable’ particles – powerful probes of another class of DM candidates : FIMPs
- Some FIMPs can be tested in (in)direct detection
- Many cosmological constraints on light particles (not in this talk)