

Dark Sector at the High Intensity Frontier: Theory Overview

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arXiv: https://arxiv.org/a/tsai_y_1.html

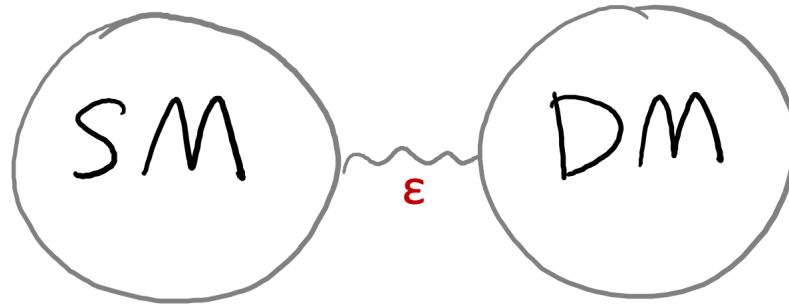
The relevant literatures are growing fast.
Let me know if I have not included your
important works. I will include them to the slides

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Outline

- Why study “dark sector”?
Why MeV to GeV+ region?
Why accelerator (intensity) probes?
- Intro to dark sector “portals” and anomaly
Motivated Models
- Search Overview & Specific Examples

The Rise of Dark Sector



- The Lee-Weinberg bound (1977'): below ~ 2 GeV, DM freeze-out through weak-Interaction (e.g. through Z-boson) would overclose the Universe.
- Could consider ways to get around this but generally light DM needs light **mediators** to freeze-out to proper relic abundance.
- Mediator is needed for a proper freeze-out: the rise of “dark sector” (DM + mediators + stuffs).
- Neutrino experiments can probe both **mediators & dark matter**

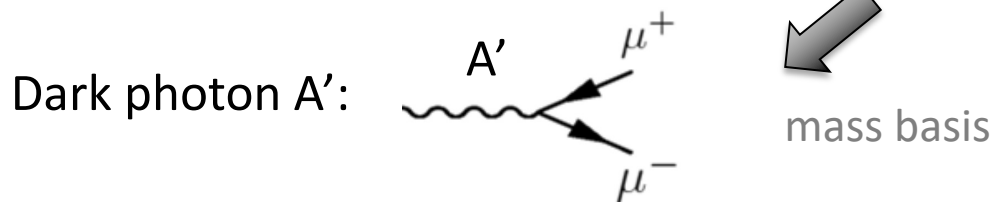
“Portal” Particles

- Renormalizable interactions.
- High-Dim. axion portal is also popular

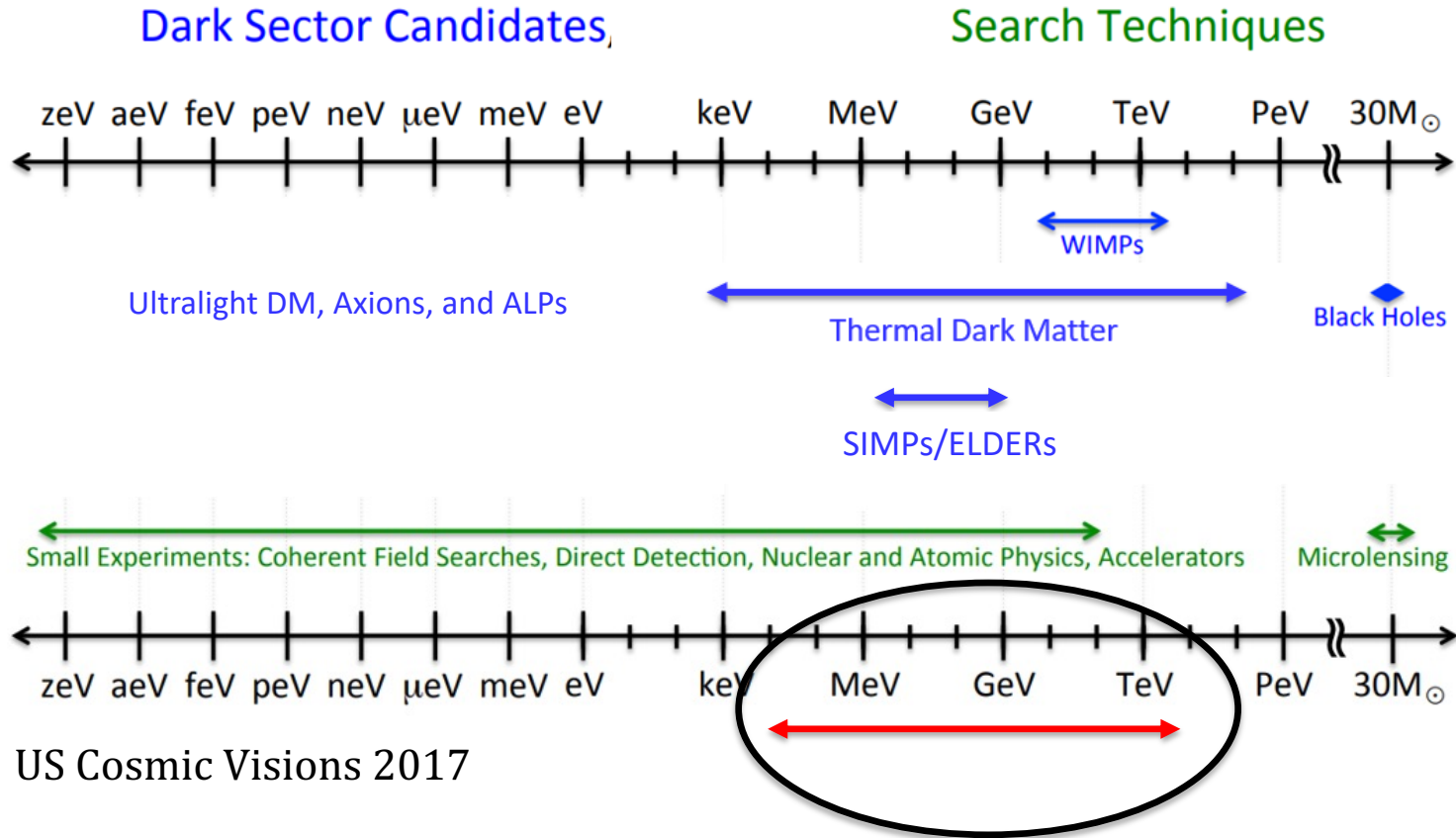
$$\mathcal{L} \supset \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} -\frac{\epsilon}{2 \cos \theta_W} B_{\mu\nu} F'^{\mu\nu}, & \text{vector portal} \\ (\mu\phi + \lambda\phi^2) H^\dagger H, & \text{Higgs portal} \\ y_n L H N, & \text{neutrino portal} \end{array} \right.$$



Mass from Dark Higgs or Stueckelberg



Exploration of Dark Matter & Dark Sector

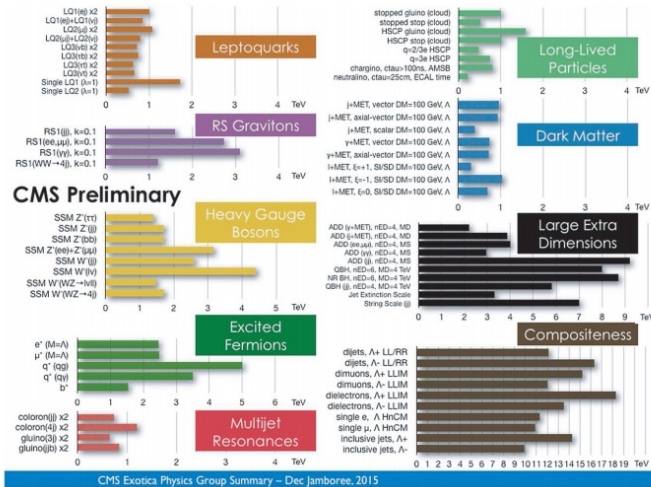
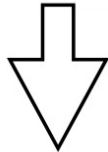
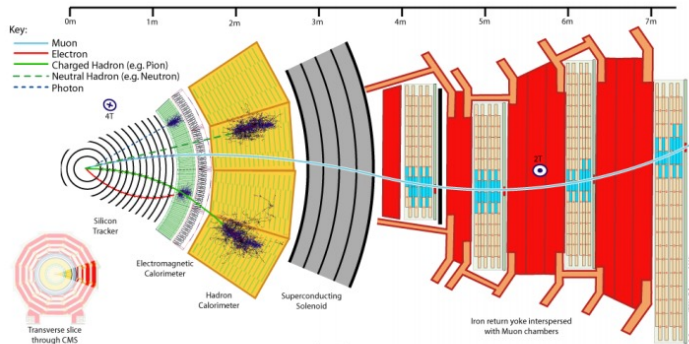


US Cosmic Visions 2017

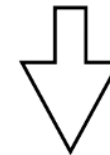
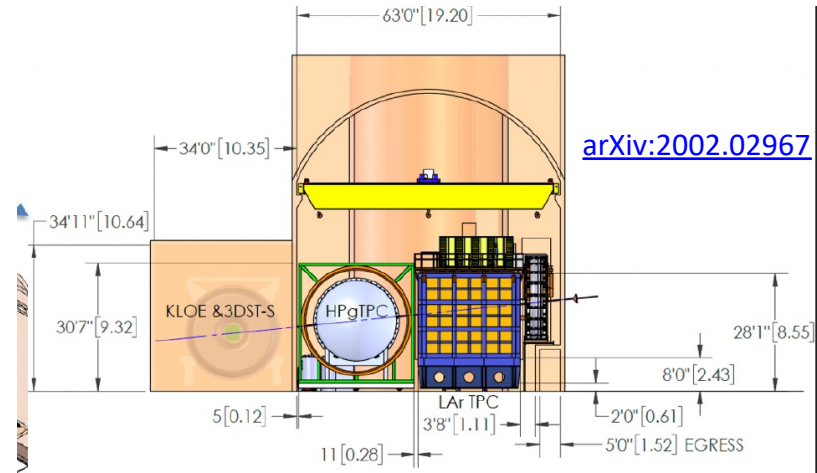
- **Astrophysical/cosmological observations** are important to reveal the actual story of dark matter (DM).
- Why **accelerator experiments?** And why **MeV - GeV+?**

Energy vs Intensity Frontier

High energy frontier



Intensity frontier



<https://indico.fnal.gov/event/18430/session/8/contribution/17>
 redesigned from Roni Harnik's slide

Not all bounds are created with equal assumptions

—————→ Assumptions

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

Accelerator-based: Collider, **Intensity Experiments**
Some other ground-based experiments

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

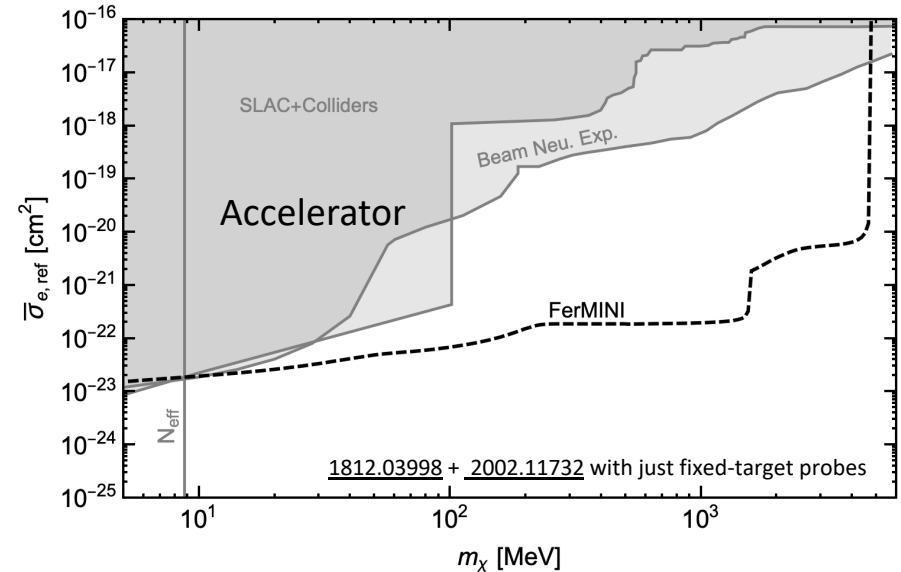
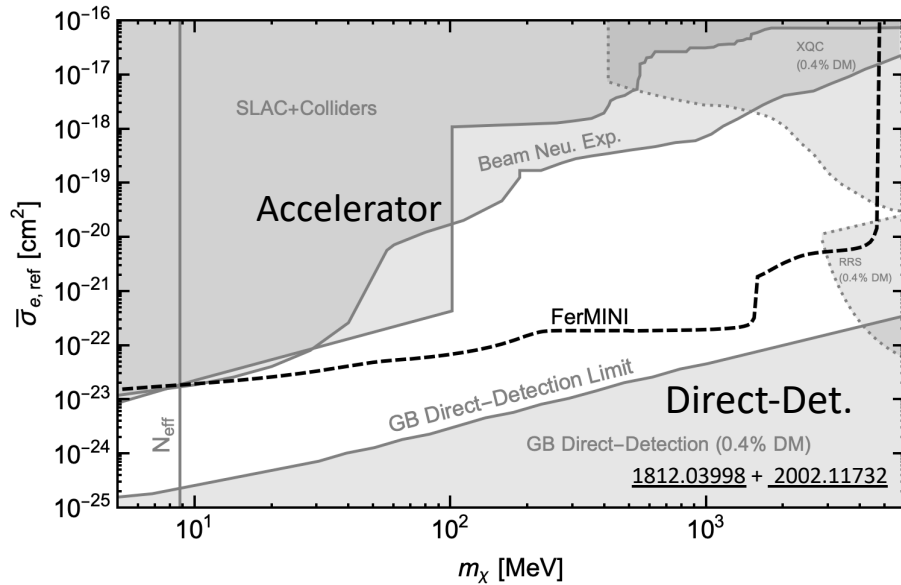
Dark matter direct/indirect detection: abundance,
velocity distribution, etc

Cosmology: assume cosmological history, species, etc

DD & Cosmology:
They reveal the **actual story of dark matter and cosmic evolution**

Not all bounds are created with equal assumptions

Example: Constraints on Millicharged Dark Matter



Also consider **ambient dark matter**

Produce dark particles in collisions

Same mass and interaction strength.

Different assumptions

Some details of these figures will be explained later

Why study MeV – GeV+ dark sectors?

Signals of discoveries grow from anomalies

Maybe nature is telling us something so we don't have to search in the dark? (~~or probably systematics?~~)

Some anomalies involving **MeV - GeV+** Explanations

⋮

- **Muon g-2 anomaly**
- **LSND & MiniBooNE anomaly**
- **EDGES result**
- KOTO anomaly
- Beryllium anomaly

⋮

Below \sim MeV there are also **strong astrophysical/cosmological bounds** that are hard to avoid even with very relaxed assumptions

Overview of benchmark models

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Benchmark Models for Dark-Sector Searches

Snowmass RF06 Classification

Benchmarks in Final State x Portal Organization

	DM Production	Mediator Decay Via Portal	Structure of Dark Sector
Vector	m_χ vs. y [$m_A/m_\chi=3, \alpha_D=.5$] $m_{A'}$ vs. y [$\alpha_D=0.5, 3 m_\chi$ values] m_χ vs. α_D [$m_A/m_\chi=3, y=y_{fo}$] m_χ vs. m_A [$\alpha_D=0.5, y=y_{fo}$] <i>Millicharge m vs. q</i>	$m_{A'}$ vs. ϵ [<u>decay-mode agnostic</u>] $m_{A'}$ vs. ϵ [decays]	iDM m_χ vs. y [$m_A/m_\chi=3, \alpha_D=.5$] (anom connection) SIMP-motivated cascades [slices TBD] $U(1)_{B-L/\mu-\tau/B-3\tau}$ (DM or SM decays)
Scalar	m_χ vs. $\sin\theta$ [$\lambda=0$, fix $m_S/m_\chi, g_D$] (thermal target excluded 1512.04119, should still include) Note seclud DM relevance of $S \rightarrow SM$ of mediator searches	m_S vs. $\sin\theta$ [$\lambda=0$] m_S vs. $\sin\theta$ [$\lambda=s.t. Br(H \rightarrow ss \sim 10^{-2})$]	Dark Higgsstrahlung (w/vector) scalar SIMP models Leptophilic/leptophobic dark Higgs
Neutrino	$e/\mu/\tau$ a la 1709.07001	m_N vs. U_c m_N vs. U_μ m_N vs. U_τ Think more about reasonable flavor structures	Sterile neutrinos with new forces
ALP	m_χ vs. fq/l [$\lambda=0$, fix $m_a/m_\chi, g_D$] (thermal target excluded) What about f_γ, f_G ?	m_a vs. f_γ m_a vs. f_G m_a vs. $f_q=f_l$ m_a vs. f_w	FV axion couplings

Bold = BRN benchmark, italic=PBC benchmark. others are new suggestions. Underline=CV benchmarks that were not used in BRN

PBC: The Physics Beyond Colliders initiative at CERN

Krnjaic, ... Tsai, [arXiv:2207.00597](https://arxiv.org/abs/2207.00597)

Examples: Portal Particles & Interesting Physics Cases

Vector Portal $\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{\epsilon}{2 \cos \theta_W} F'_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu}.$

- Massless dark photon can lead to millicharged particles

Neutrino Portal $\mathcal{L} \supset -y^\alpha L_\alpha H N + \text{h.c.},$

- Other neutrino coupling to new particles interesting for anomalies

Higgs Portal $\mathcal{L} \supset -(AS + \lambda S^2) H^\dagger H,$

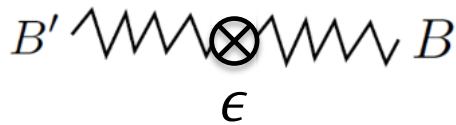
ALP Portal

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{ALP}} \supset \frac{1}{4} g_{a\gamma\gamma} a F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} + i g_{aee} a \bar{e} \gamma^5 e + i a \bar{\psi}_N \gamma^5 (g_{ann}^{(0)} + g_{ann}^{(1)}) \psi_N,$$

Vector Portal

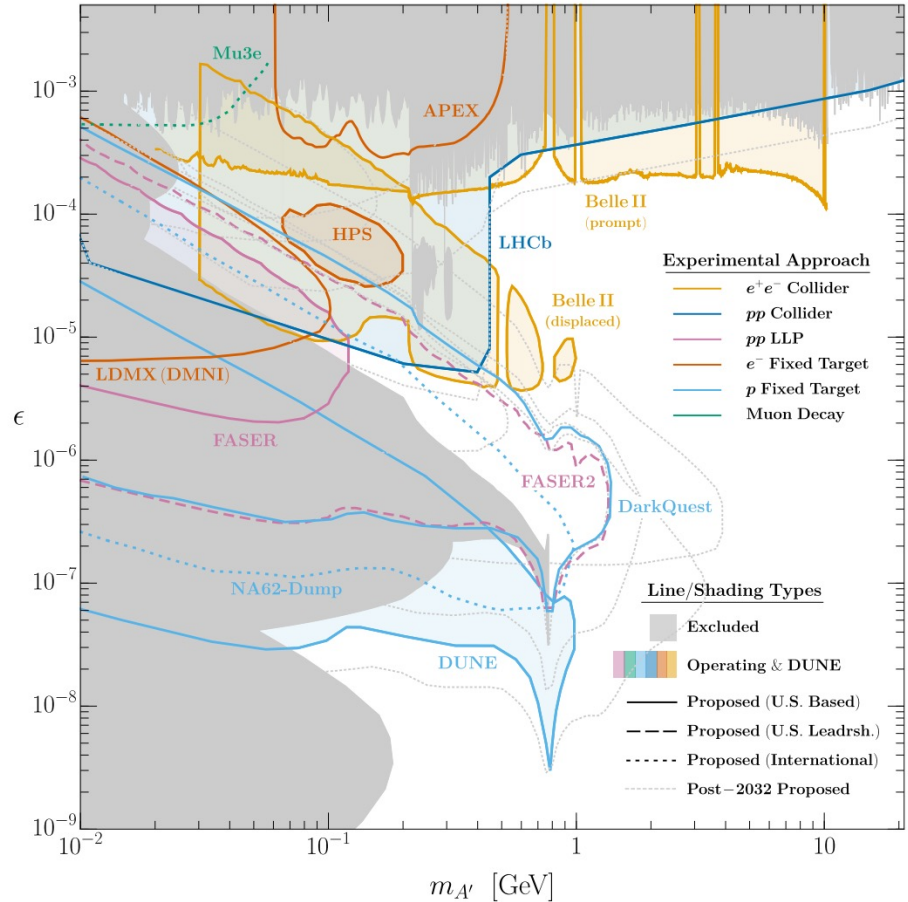
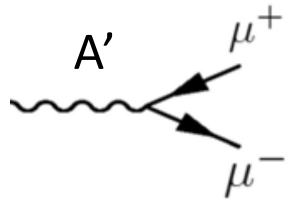
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Vector Portal: Dark Photon



Dark photon A' :

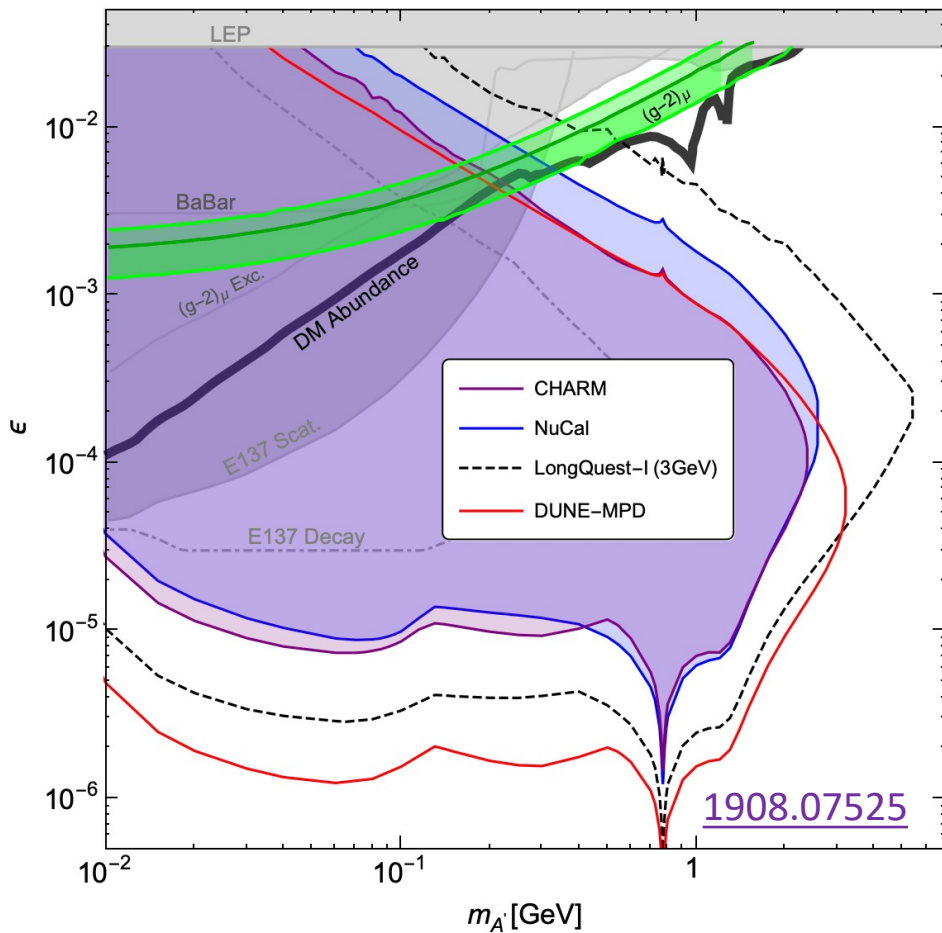
mass basis



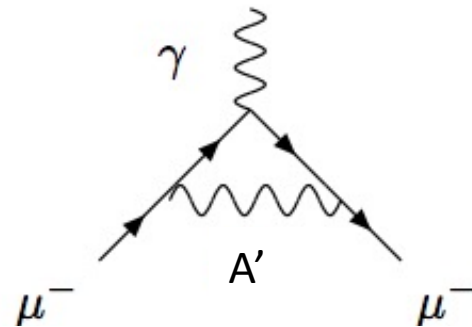
$$\mathcal{L}_{A'} = -\frac{\epsilon}{2 \cos \theta_W} A'_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} m_{A'} A'_\mu A'^\mu$$

- Batell, Blinov, Hearty, McGehee, [2207.06905](#)
- See also Tsai, deNiverville, Liu, [1908.07525](#), PRL 21, for the **LongQuest** projections & CHARM / NuCal Updates

Inelastic Dark Matter & Muon $g-2$ explainer

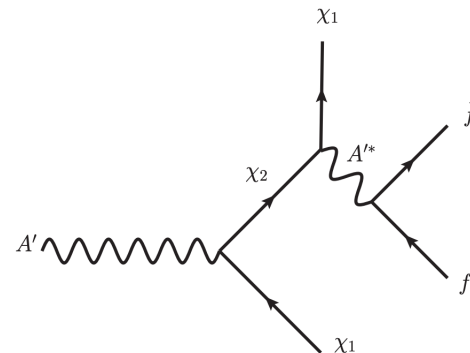


(a) iDM: $\Delta = 0.4$, $\alpha_D = 0.1$. With muon $g - 2$ and DM regimes.
 $m_{A'}/m_{\chi_1} = 3$, with preliminary DUNE results



$$\Delta a_\mu \equiv a_\mu^{exp} - a_\mu^{th} = (274 \pm 73) \times 10^{-11},$$

See, e.g., Fayet, 2007 (hep-ph/0702176)



- See also Mohlabeng PRD 20, arXiv:1902.05075

Millicharged Dark Sector

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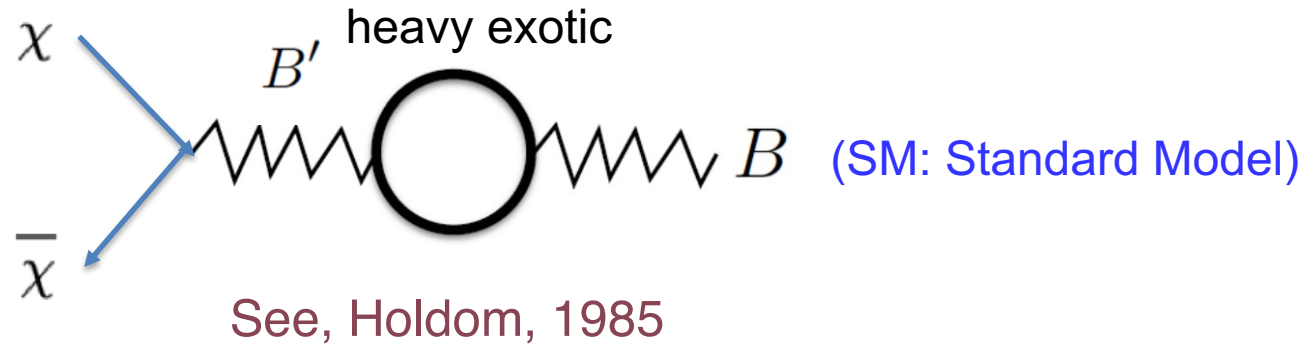
Motivations of Millicharged Particle & Dark Matter

- **Is electric charge quantized and why?** A long-standing question!
- SM $U(1)$ allows arbitrarily small (any real number) charges.
Why don't we see them? Motivates **Dirac quantization, Grand Unified Theory (GUT)**, to explain such quantization (anomaly cancellations fix some SM $U(1)_Y$ charge assignments)
- MCP (not confined) is predicted by some Superstring theories:
[Wen, Witten, Nucl. Phys. B 261 \(1985\) 651-677](#)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AmUI2qf9uyo> (watch 15:50 to 17:28)
- Link to **string compactification** and **quantum gravity** (Shiu, Soler, Ye, PRL '13)

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Kinetic Mixing and Millicharge Phase

- Coupled to new dark fermion χ

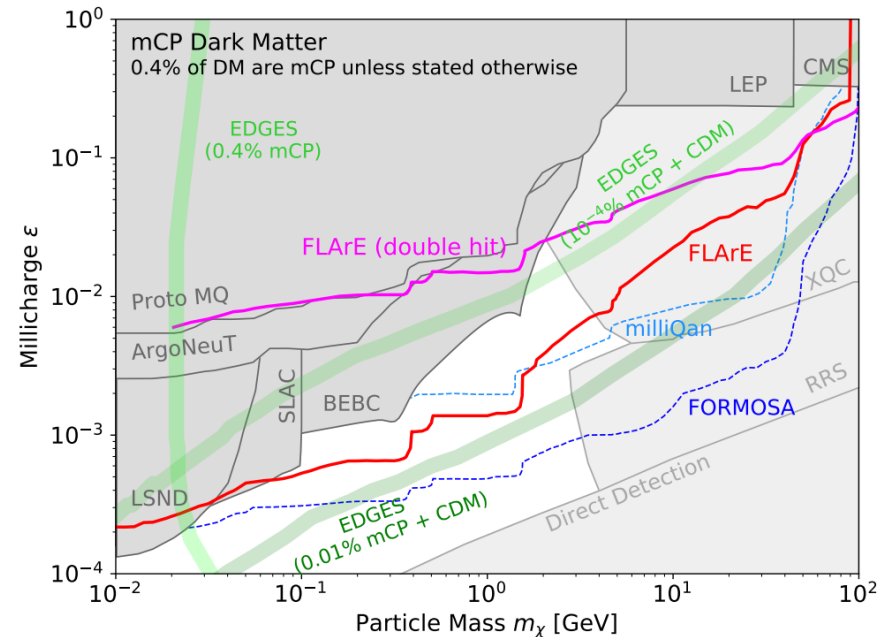
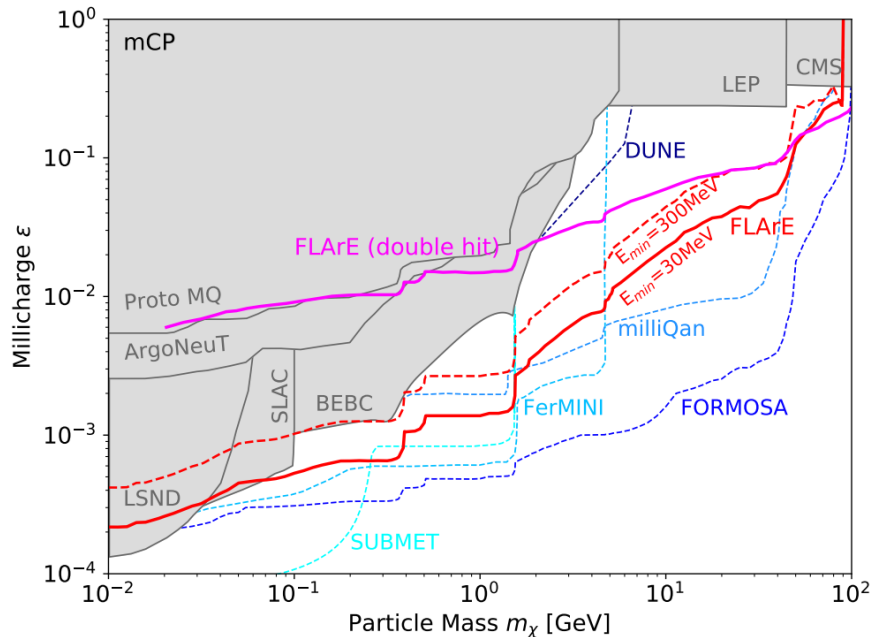


$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} - \frac{1}{4} B'_{\mu\nu} B'^{\mu\nu} - \frac{\kappa}{2} B'_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu} + i\bar{\chi}(\not{\partial} + ie' \not{B}' + iM_{\text{MCP}})\chi$$

- New fermion χ charged under new gauge boson B' .
- Millicharged particle (MCP) can be a **low-energy consequence** of **massless dark photon** (a new U(1) gauge boson) coupled to **a new fermion (become MCP in a convenient basis.)**

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Millicharge Particles & Dark Matter

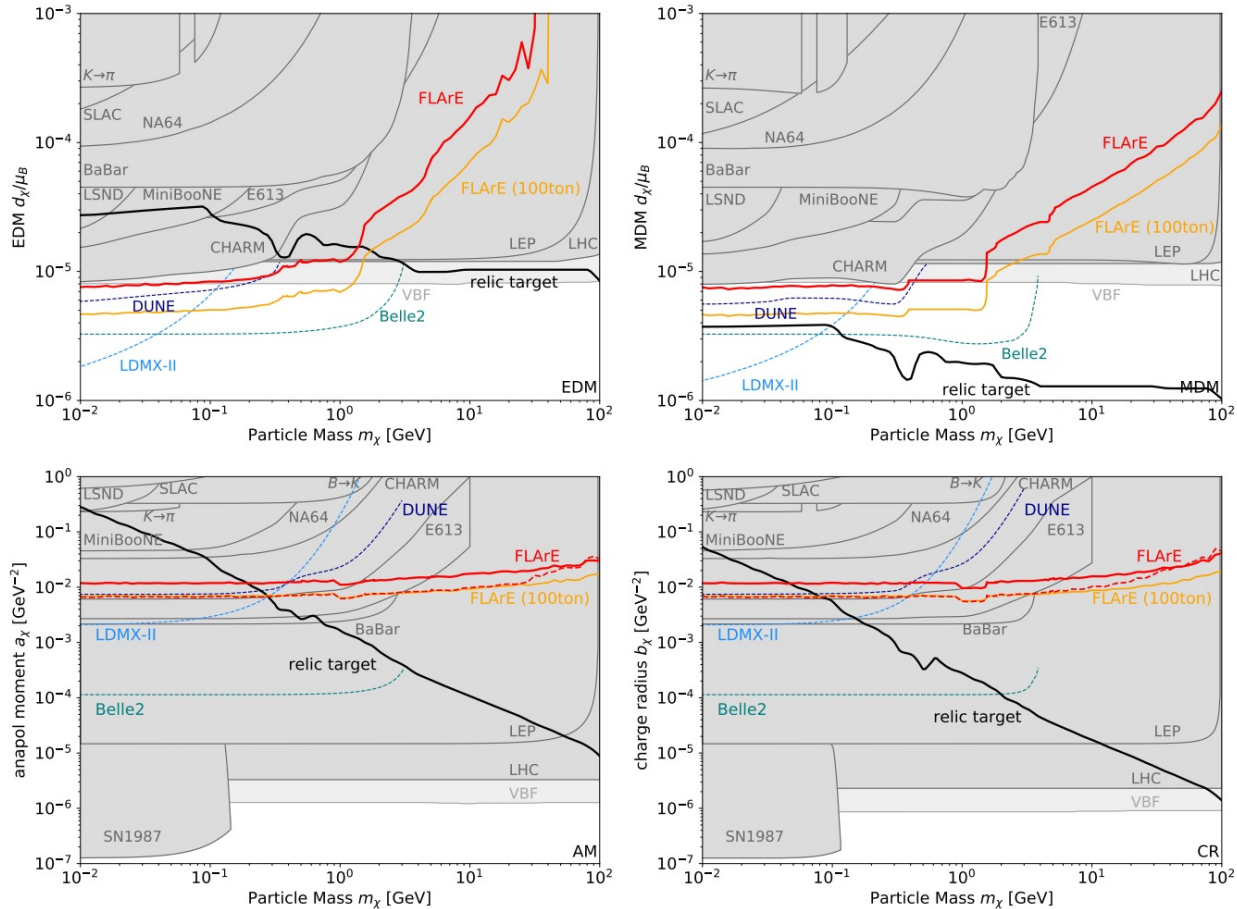


- Simply a search for particles with **{mass, electric charge}** = $\{m_\chi, \epsilon e\}$

$$\epsilon = Q_\chi / e$$

- Cooling of gas temperature to explain the **EDGES anomaly** [EDGES collab., Nature, (2018); Barkana, Nature, (2018)].
A small fraction of the DM as MCP can potentially explain EDGES observation of anomalous absorption of 21 cm spectrum

Dark Sector with other EM Form Factors



$$\mathcal{L}_\chi \supset \epsilon \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \chi A_\mu + \frac{1}{2} \mu_\chi \bar{\chi} \sigma^{\mu\nu} \chi F_{\mu\nu} + \frac{i}{2} d_\chi \bar{\chi} \sigma^{\mu\nu} \gamma^5 \chi F_{\mu\nu} - a_\chi \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 \chi \partial^\nu F_{\mu\nu} + b_\chi \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \chi \partial^\nu F_{\mu\nu},$$

Kling, Kuo, Trojanowski, and Tsai,
[arXiv:2205.09137](https://arxiv.org/abs/2205.09137)

Neutrino Portal

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Heavy Neutral Lepton

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -y^\alpha L_\alpha H N + \text{h.c.},$$

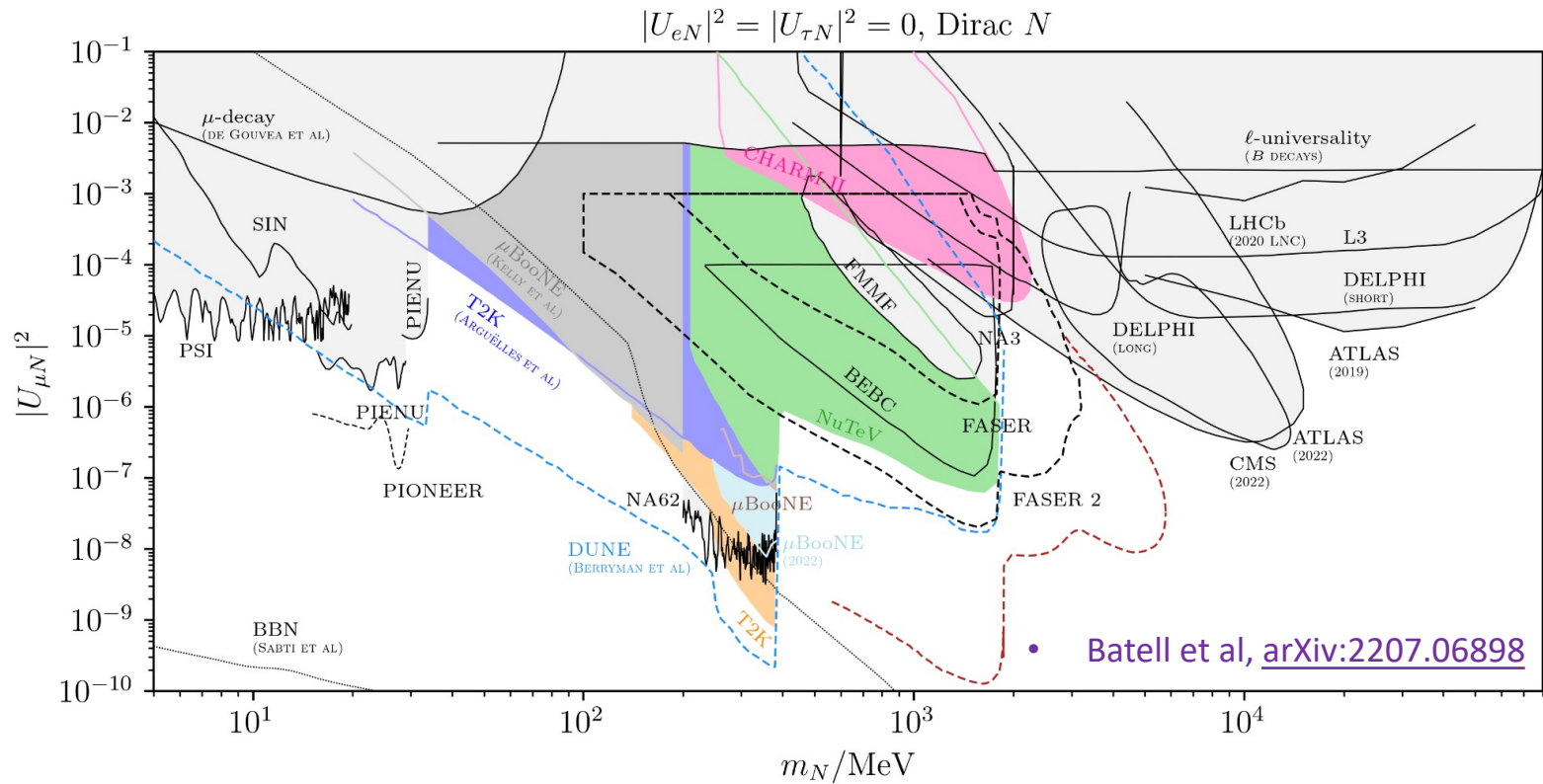
where y^α is a Yukawa coupling with $\alpha = e, \mu, \tau$.

- After EW symmetry breaking, the HNLs mix with the SM neutrinos
- Follow the convention of considering a single HNL that dominantly mixes with a specific neutrino flavor, i.e., dominant electron-, muon-, or tau- flavor mixing.
- Phenomenology characterized by the HNL mass, m_N , and mixing angle:

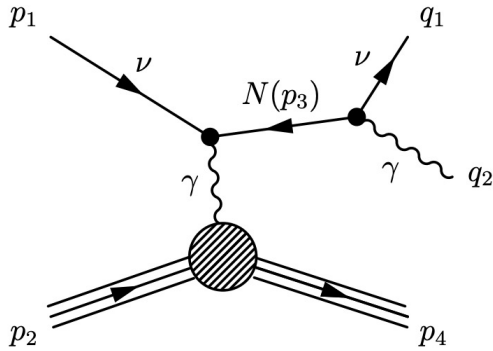
$$|U_{eN}|^2, |U_{\mu N}|^2, |U_{\tau N}|^2$$

See, e.g., [Snowmass Whitepaper, Batell et al, arXiv:2207.06905](#)

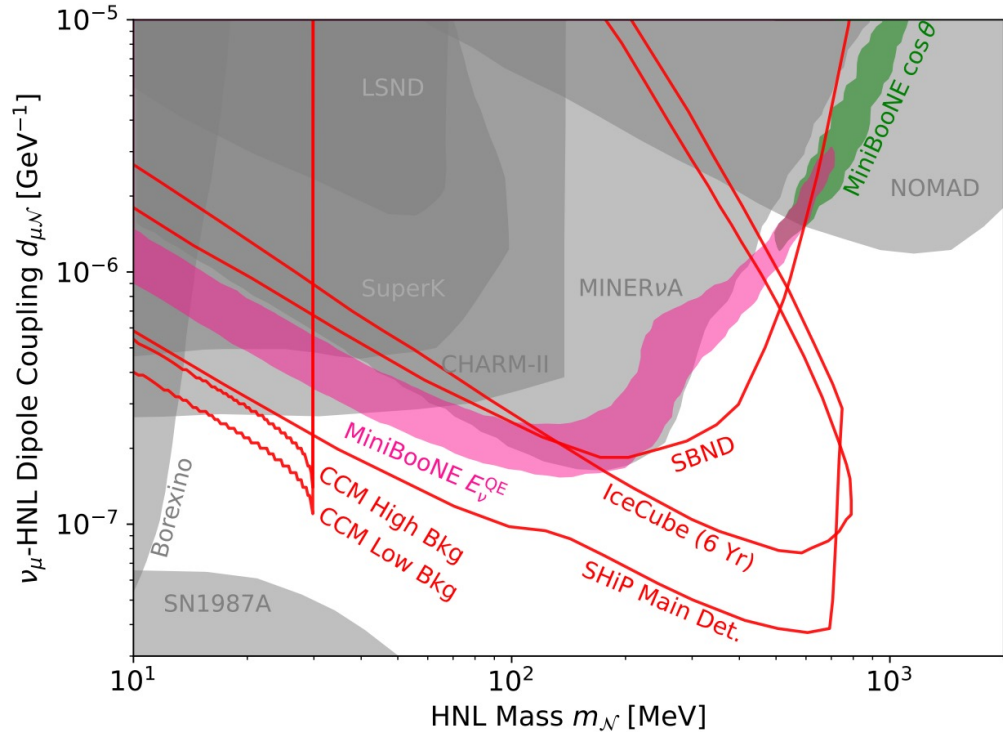
Heavy Neutral Lepton



Dipole Portal Heavy Neutral Lepton



Magill, Plestid, Pospelov, Tsai,
PRD 18, [arXiv:1803.03262](https://arxiv.org/abs/1803.03262)



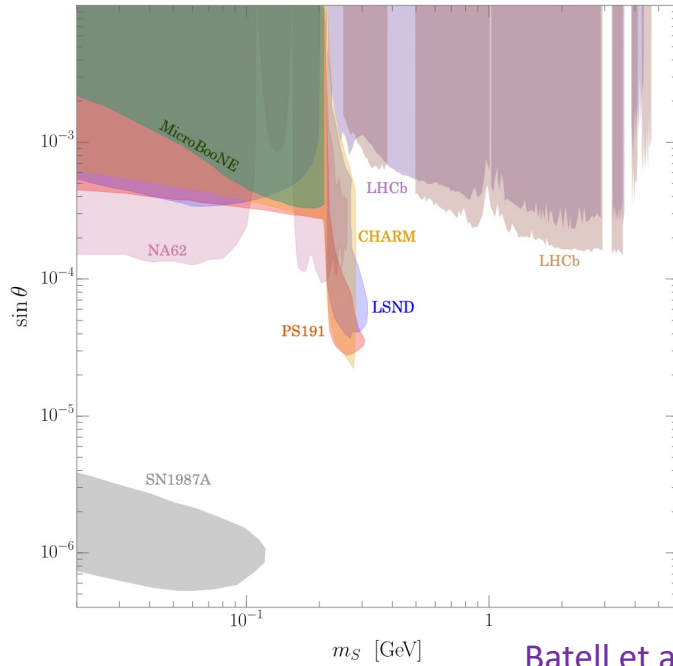
New Fig from Kamp; Ref: Batell, ..., Tsai, [arXiv:2207.06898](https://arxiv.org/abs/2207.06898);

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

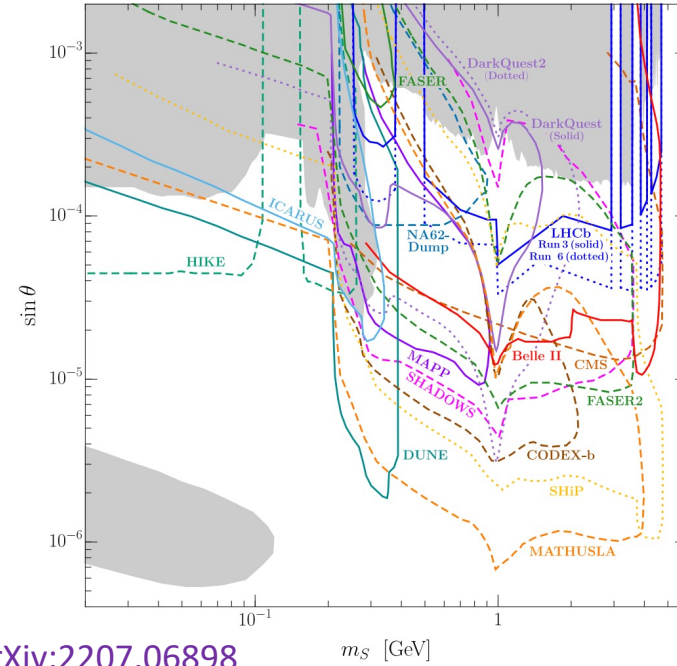
Higgs & ALP Portal

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Higgs Portal



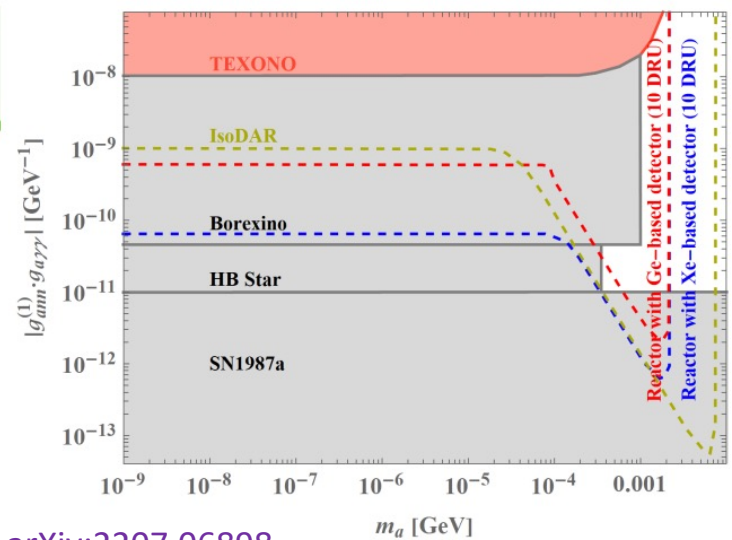
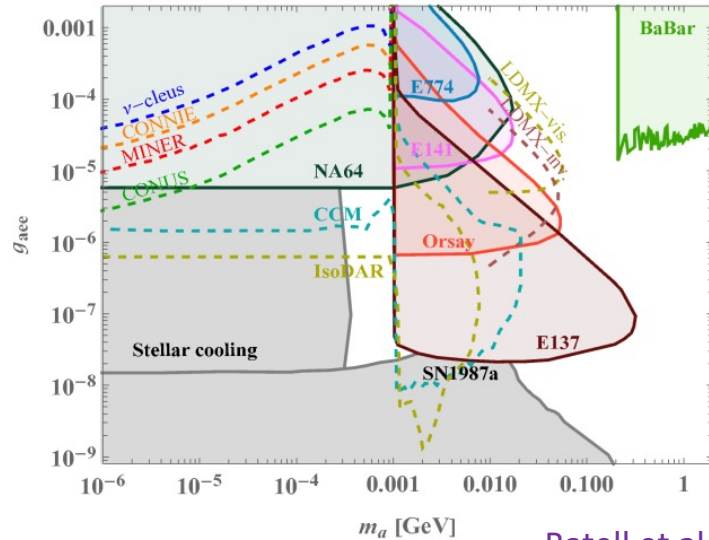
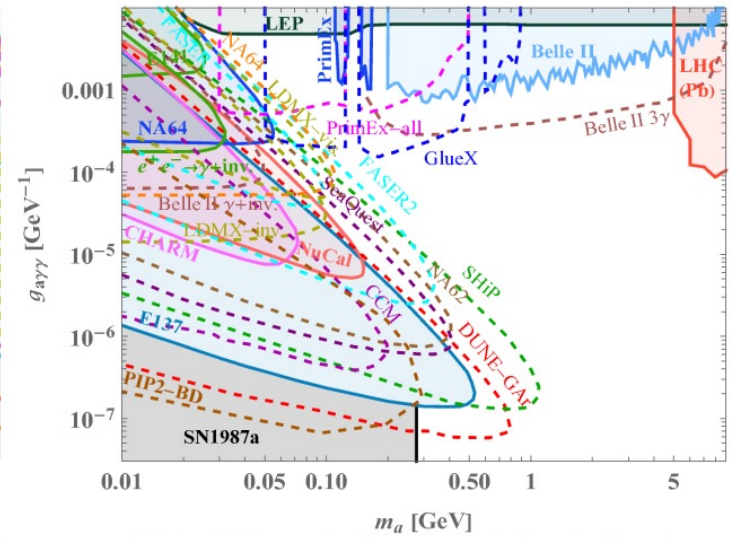
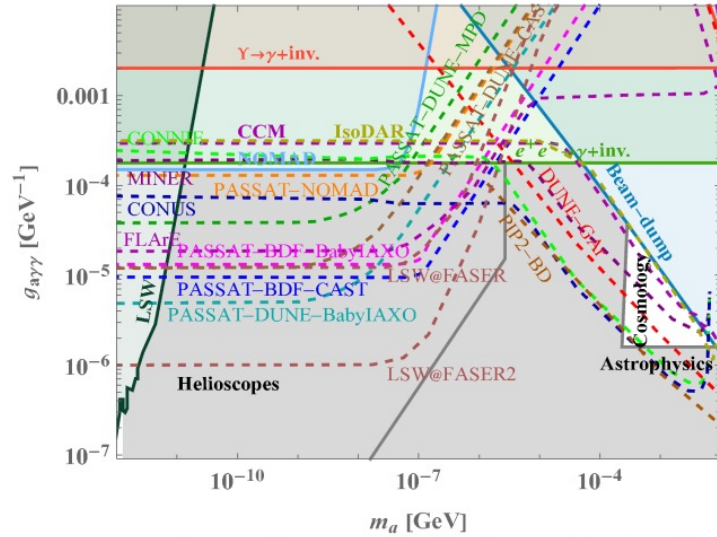
Batell et al, [arXiv:2207.06898](https://arxiv.org/abs/2207.06898)



$$\mathcal{L} \supset \sin \theta S \left(\frac{2m_W^2}{v} W_\mu^+ W^{\mu-} + \frac{m_Z^2}{v} Z_\mu Z^\mu - \sum_f \frac{m_f}{v} \bar{f} f \right),$$

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ALP Portal



Batell et al, [arXiv:2207.06898](https://arxiv.org/abs/2207.06898)

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{ALP}} \supset \frac{1}{4} g_{a\gamma\gamma} a F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} + i g_{aee} a \bar{e} \gamma^5 e + \dots$$

Summary & Outlook

- **Intensity searches** provide strong probes of rich dark sector motivated by **dark matter** and **experimental anomalies**
- One of the **main efforts for our community** in the next 5 to 10 years.
- Explore other models with other **theory motivations & beyond the simplified models**: connecting to **string theory, grand unification theory, early universe cosmology**, etc.
- Models with also signatures in **cosmological measurements, direct detection, and astrophysical observations**, are prime targets for the future

Thank you!

Special thanks to my collaborators and the
organizers of CIPANP

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