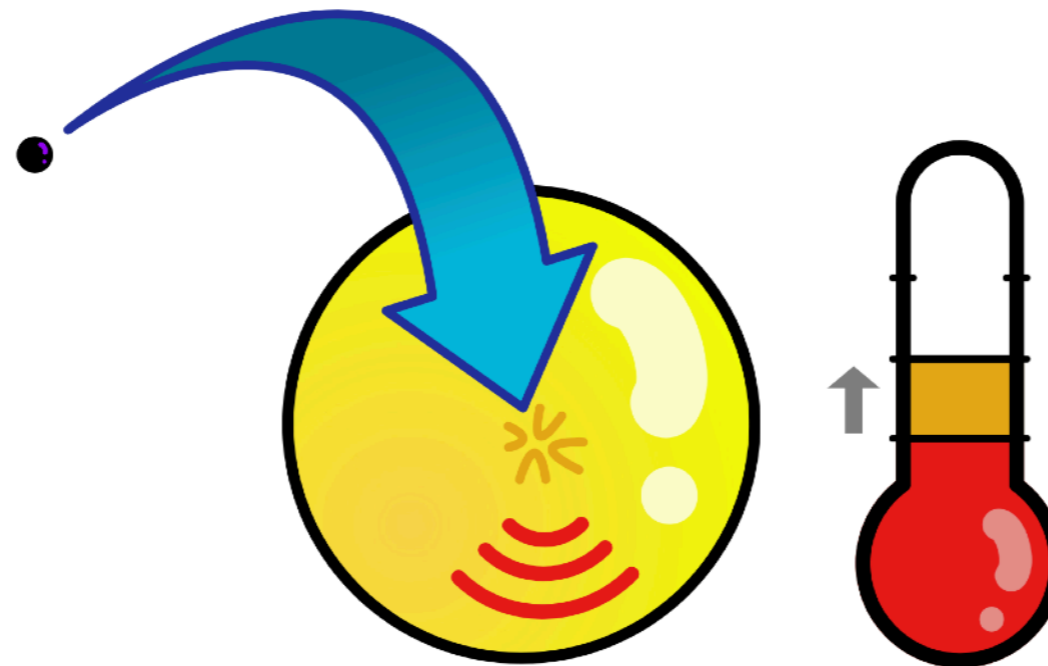


Nucleons, Electrons, and Pasta: Discovering Dark Matter by Reheating the Neutron Star Soup

Nirmal Raj

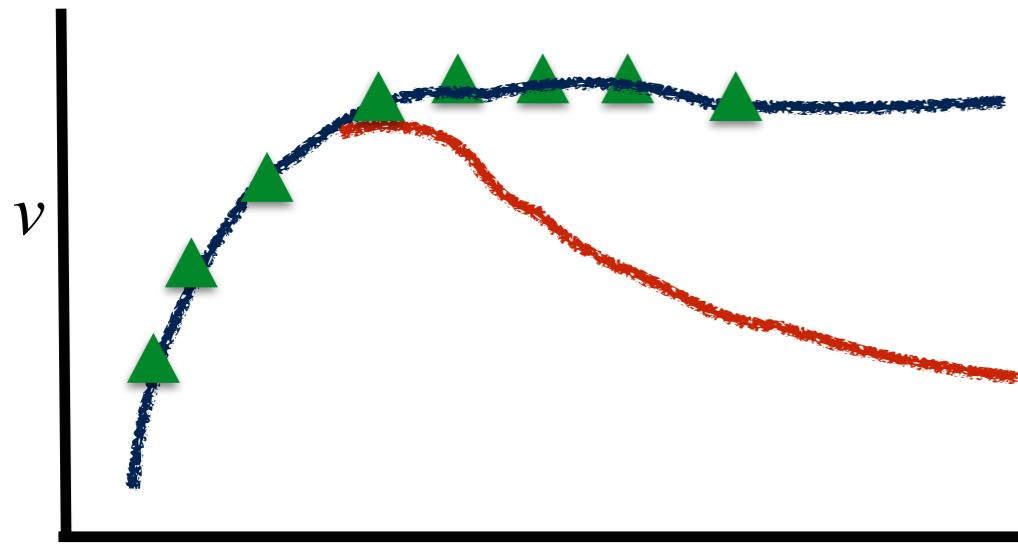


with

**Javier Acevedo | Masha Baryakhtar | Joe Bramante | Aniket Joglekar
Rebecca Leane | Shirley Li | Tim Linden | Flip Tanedo | Hai-Bo Yu**

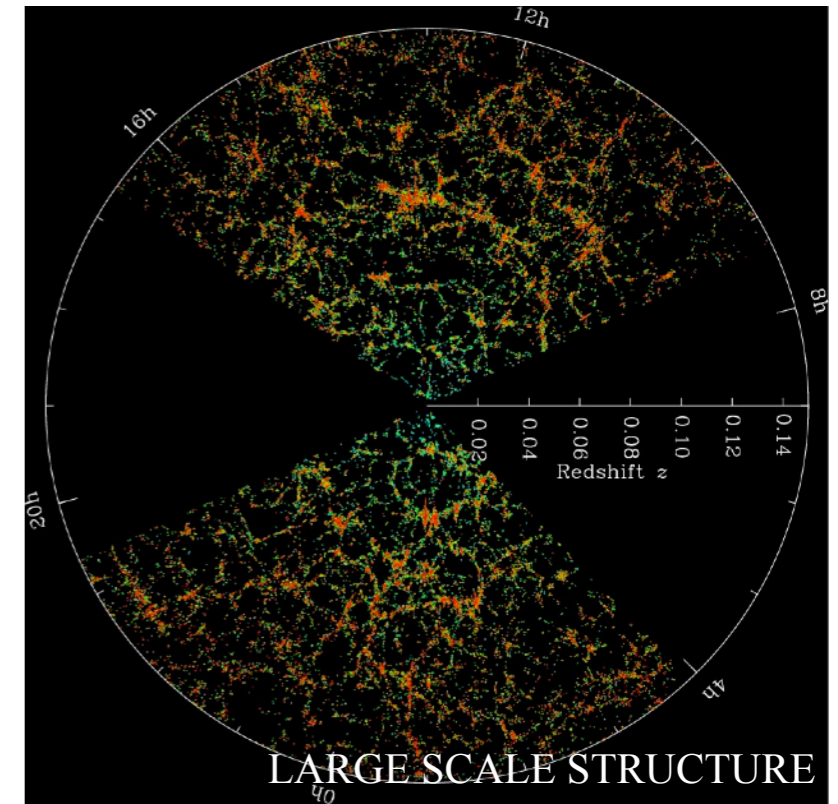
28 Jan 2020, U Toronto

Dark reality

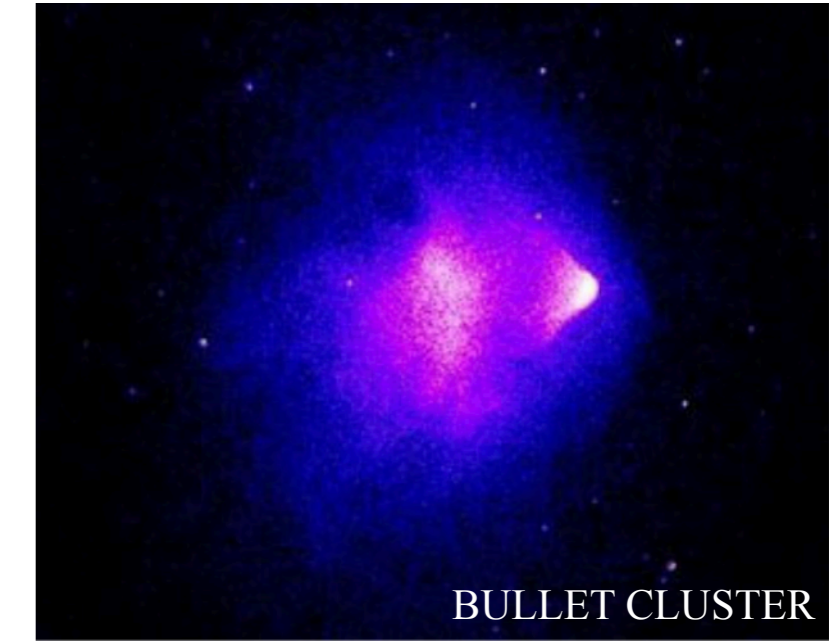
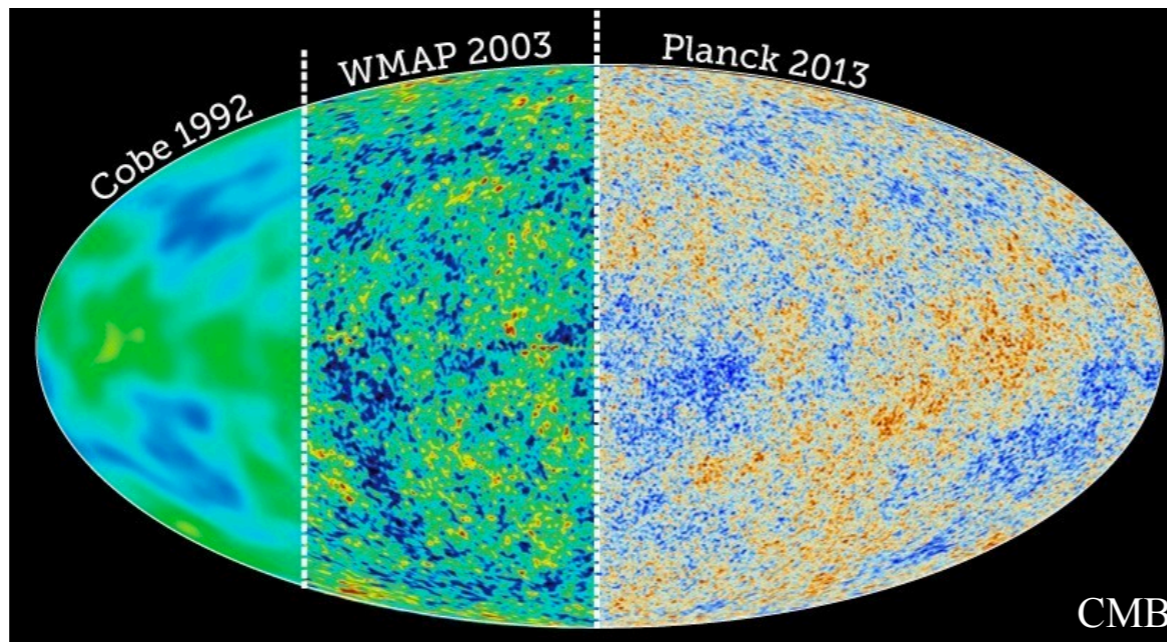


GALACTIC ROTATION

r



LARGE SCALE STRUCTURE

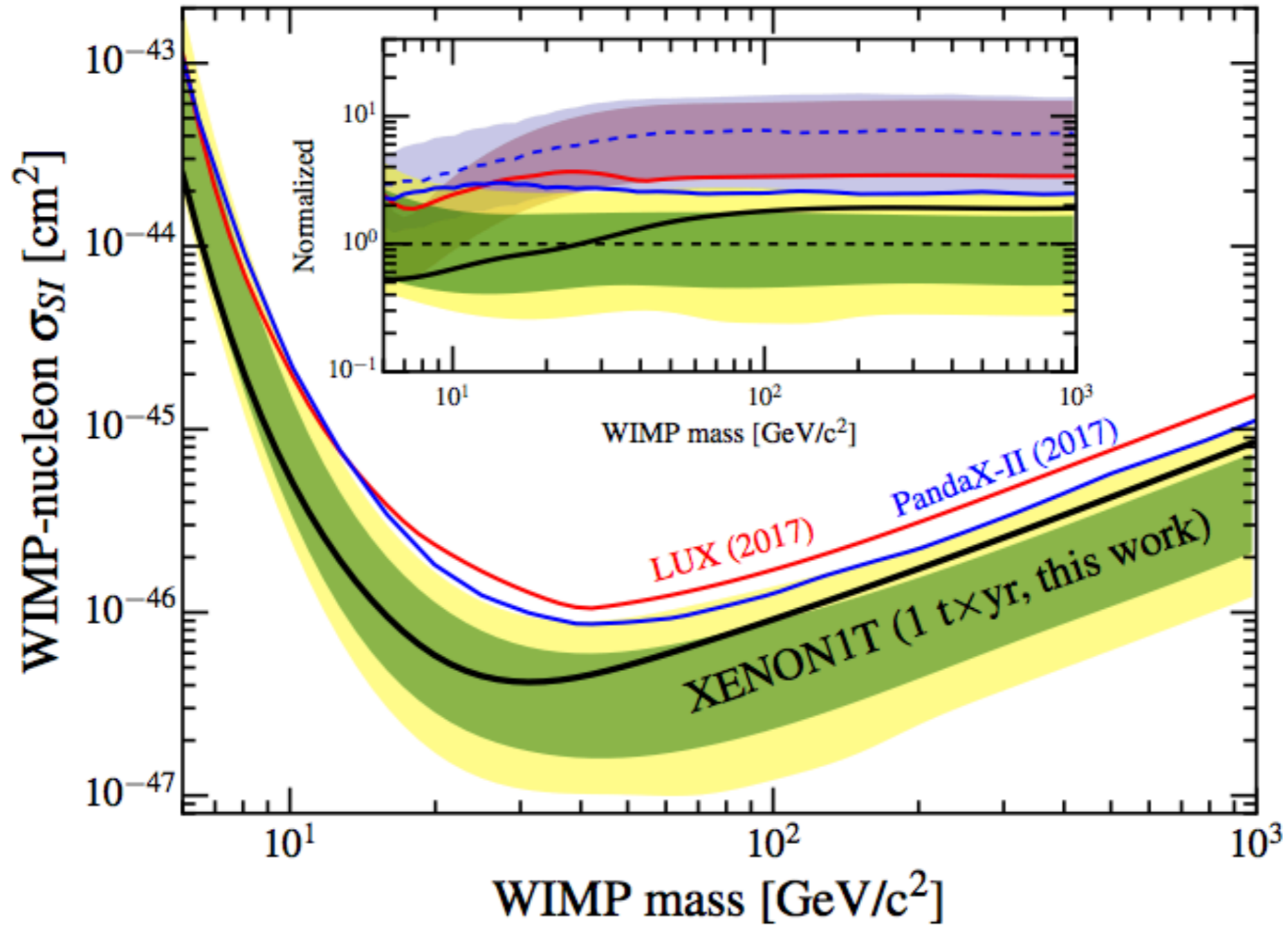


BULLET CLUSTER

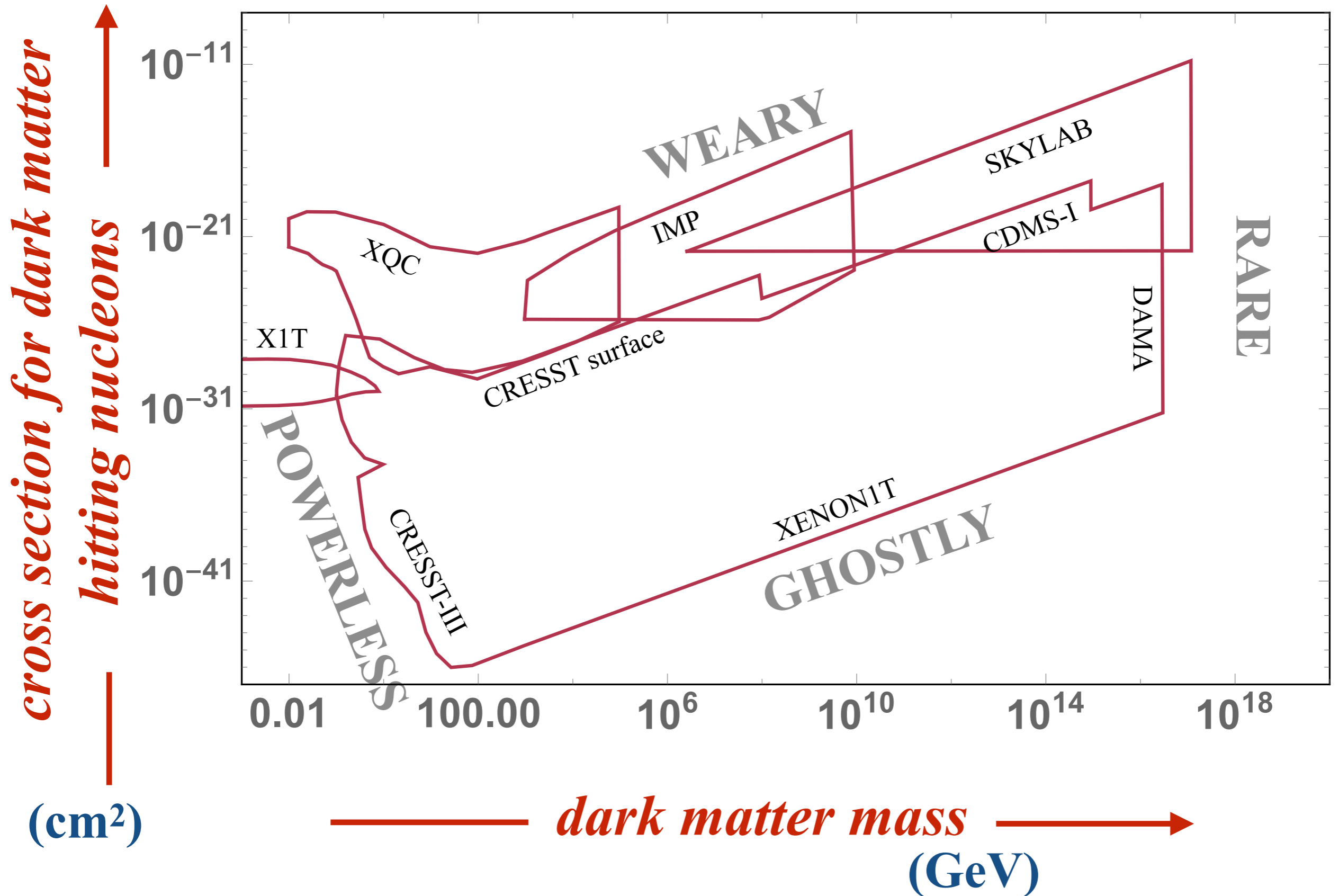
Direct searches: status

After 1000 kg-year exposure:

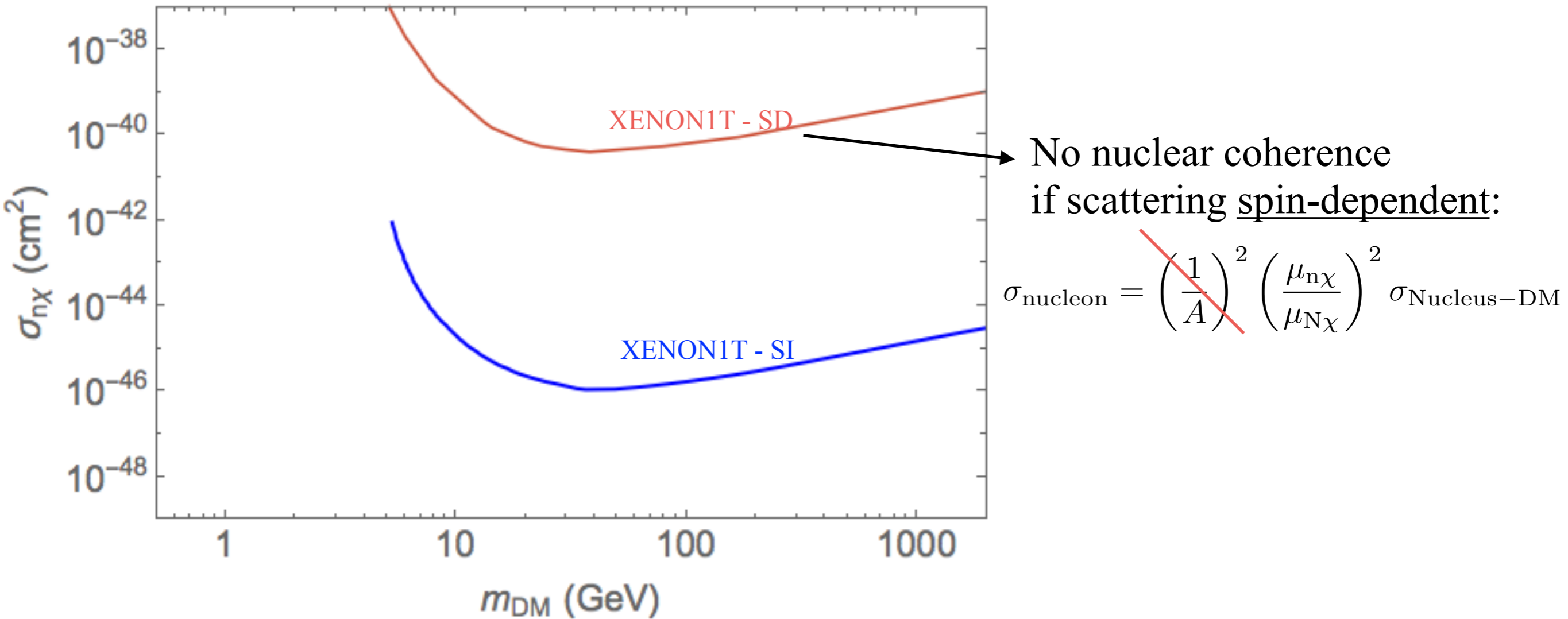
1805.12562



Challenges of direct searches

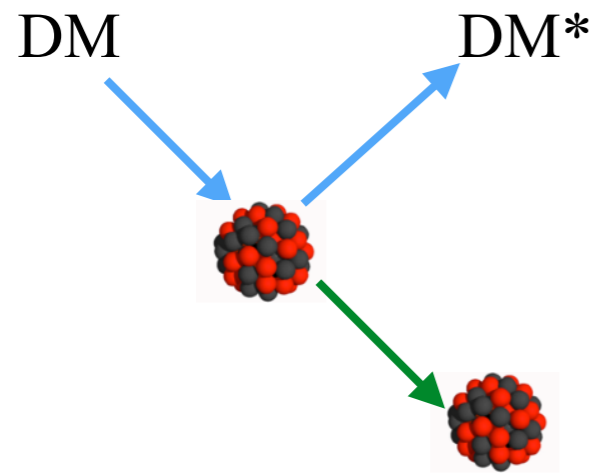


More challenges: spin dependence



E.g. (Majorana) DM coupling to axial quark current $\bar{q}\gamma_\mu\gamma_5q$

More challenges: inelasticity



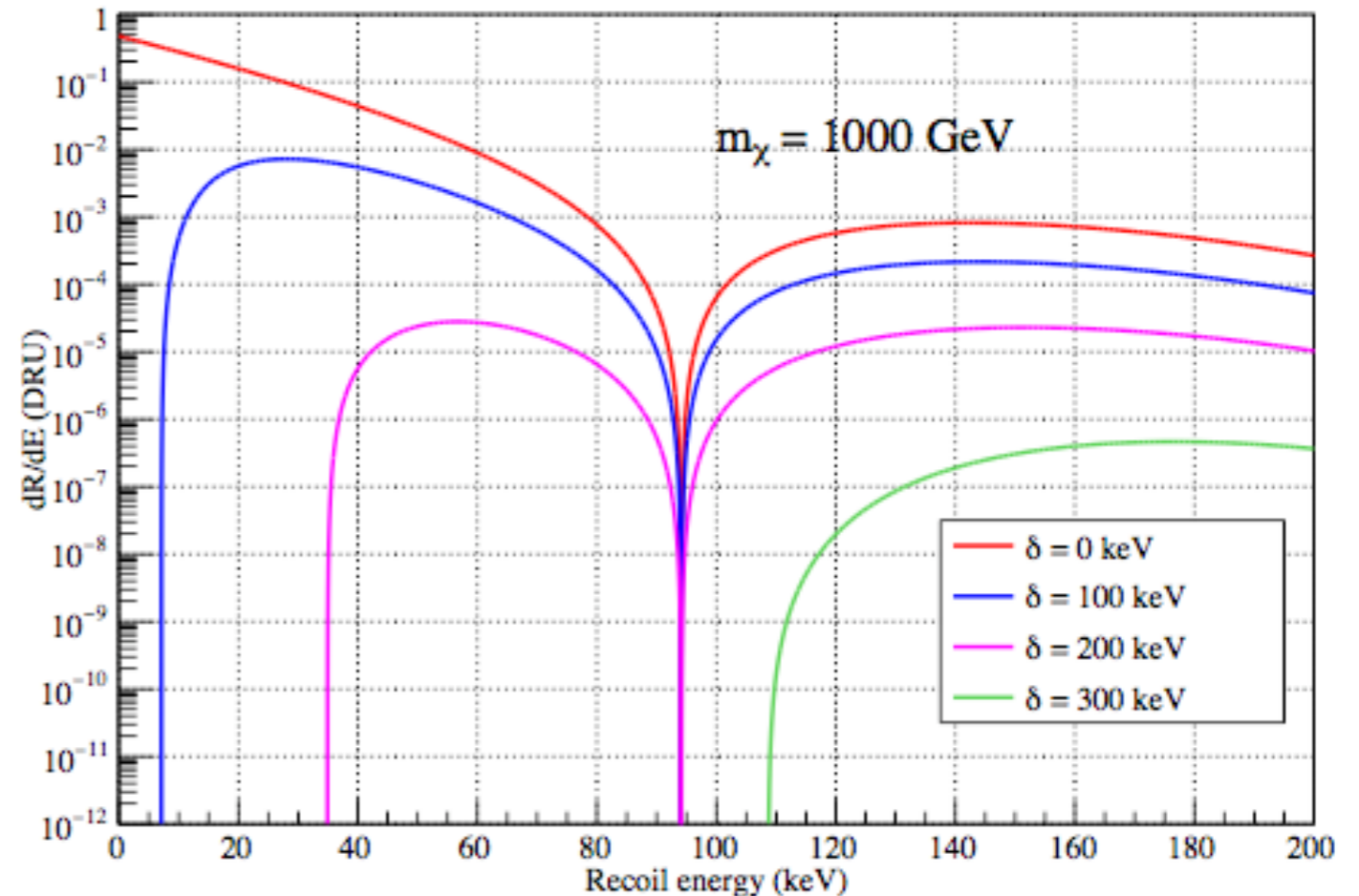
$$\delta \equiv m_{\text{DM}^*} - m_{\text{DM}}$$

(Image: G. Kribs)

If scattering inelastic,
no recoil when

$$\delta > 2\mu_{N\chi} v_{\text{DM}}^2 = \mathcal{O}(100\text{keV})$$

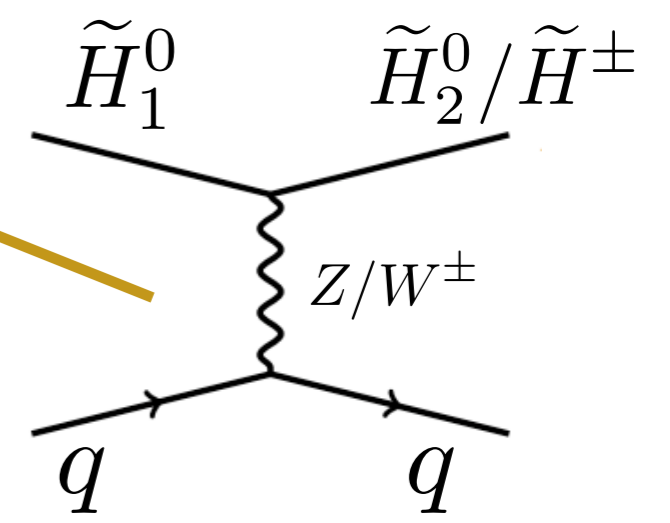
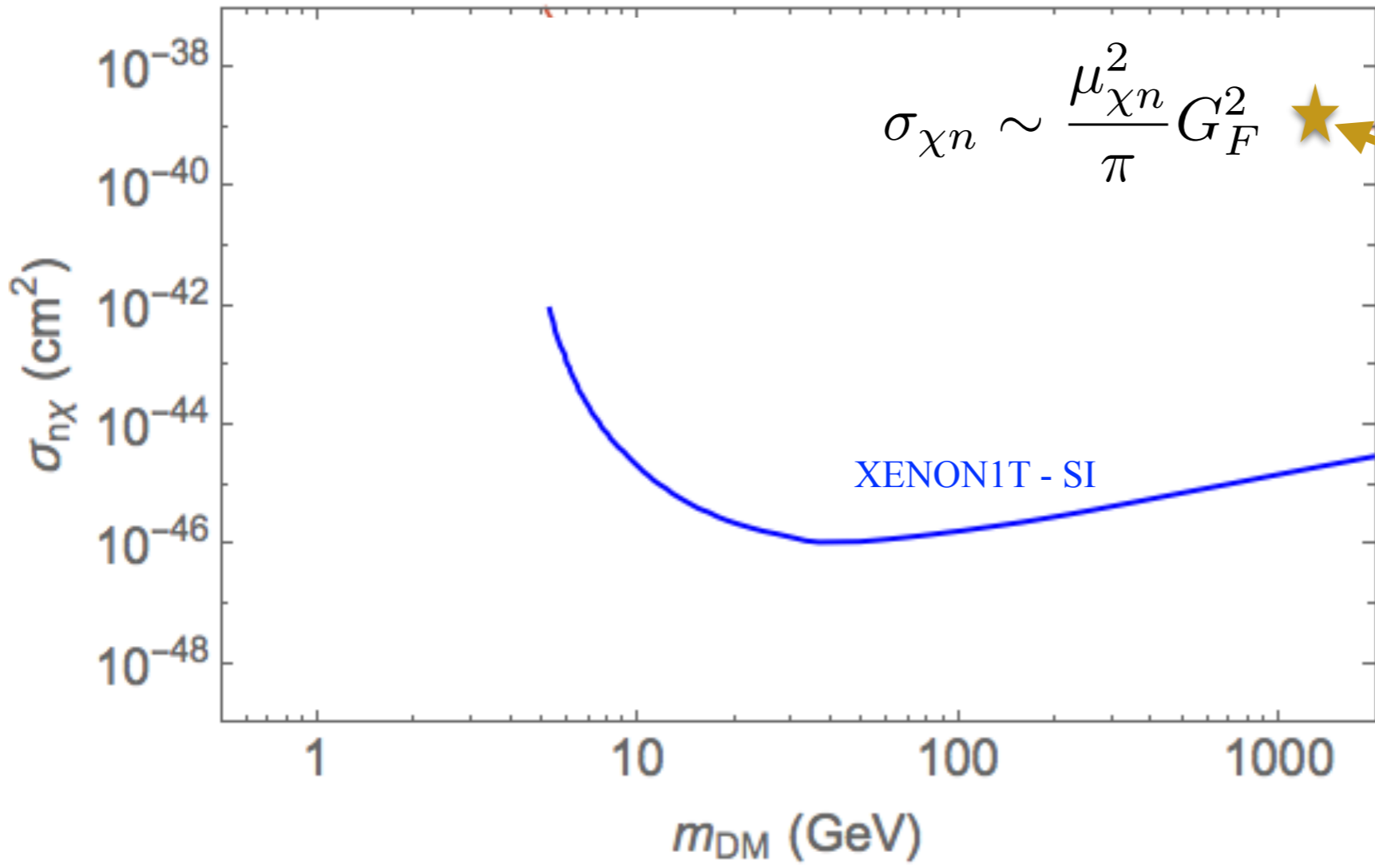
Tucker-Smith, Weiner 0101138, 0402065,
Barello, Chang, Newby 1409.0536



PandaX-II, 1708.05825

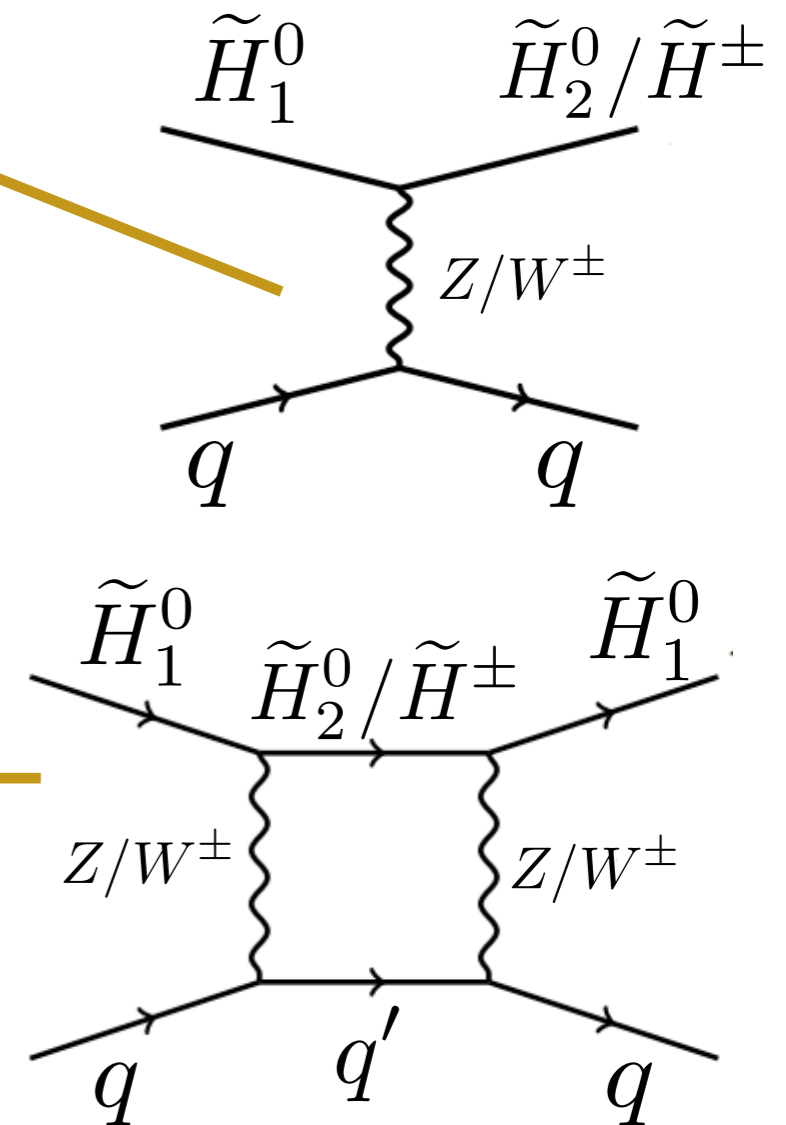
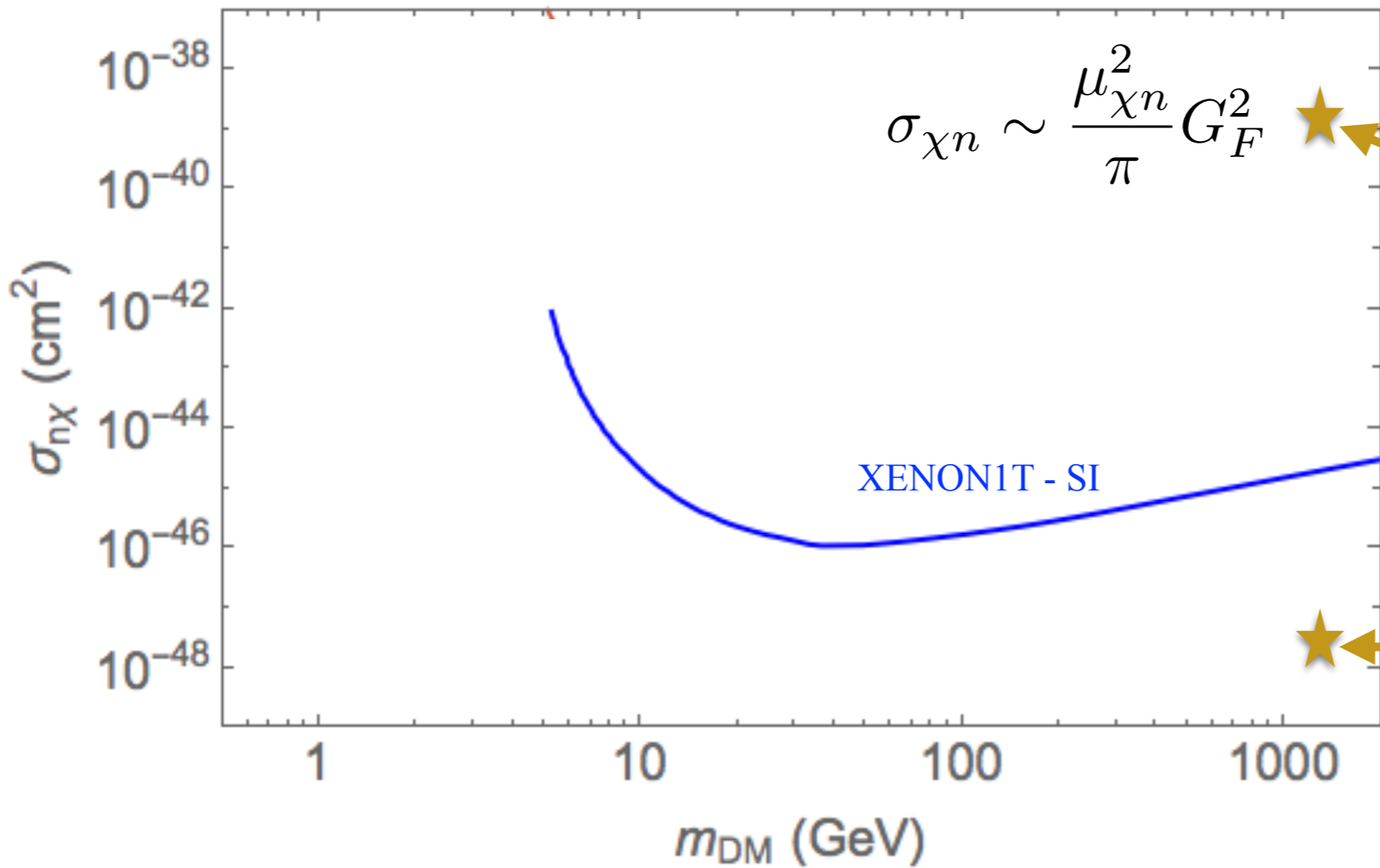
More challenges: inelasticity

Last Electroweak WIMP Standing
Pseudo-Dirac Higgsino Status and Compact Stars as Future Probes
Rebecca Krall and Matthew Reece
Department of Physics, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, 02138
May 16, 2017



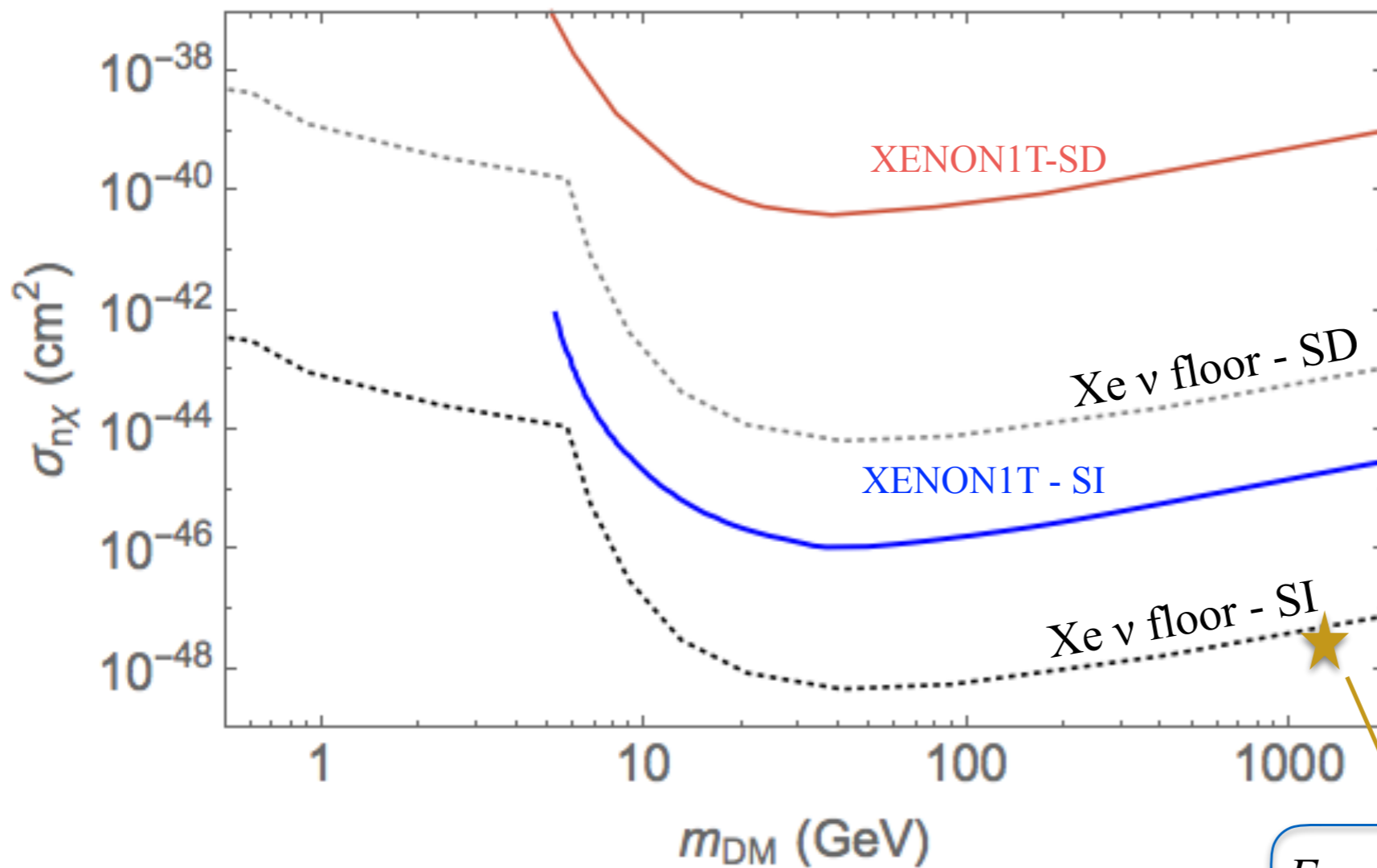
More challenges: inelasticity

Last Electroweak WIMP Standing
 Pseudo-Dirac Higgsino Status and Compact Stars as Future Probes
 Rebecca Krall and Matthew Reece
 Department of Physics, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, 02138
 May 16, 2017



Thermal Higgsino — elusive!







More challenges: irreducible backgrounds



Atmospheric +
diffuse supernovae +
solar
neutrino background

E.g. Higgsino elastic scattering (loops)

Challenges: summary

- (1) Low mass 
- (2) High mass 
- (3) Strongly interacting 
- (4) Spin-dependent 
- (5) Inelastic 
- (6) Neutrino floors 

Crucial frontiers — beyond which dark matter could be.

(Dark) Kinetic Heating

heating rate = cooling rate



heating rate = cooling rate

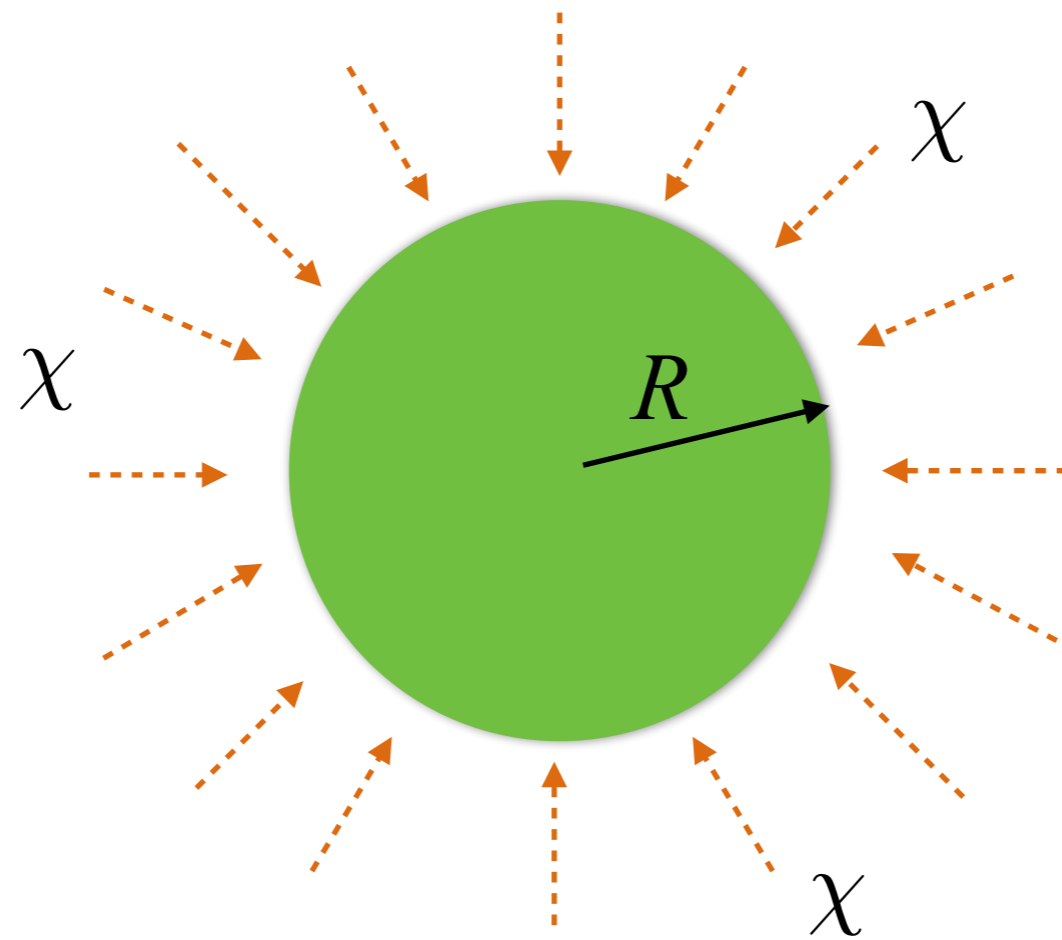
$$\propto KE$$

$$\propto T^4$$

$$\propto \frac{dN}{dt}$$

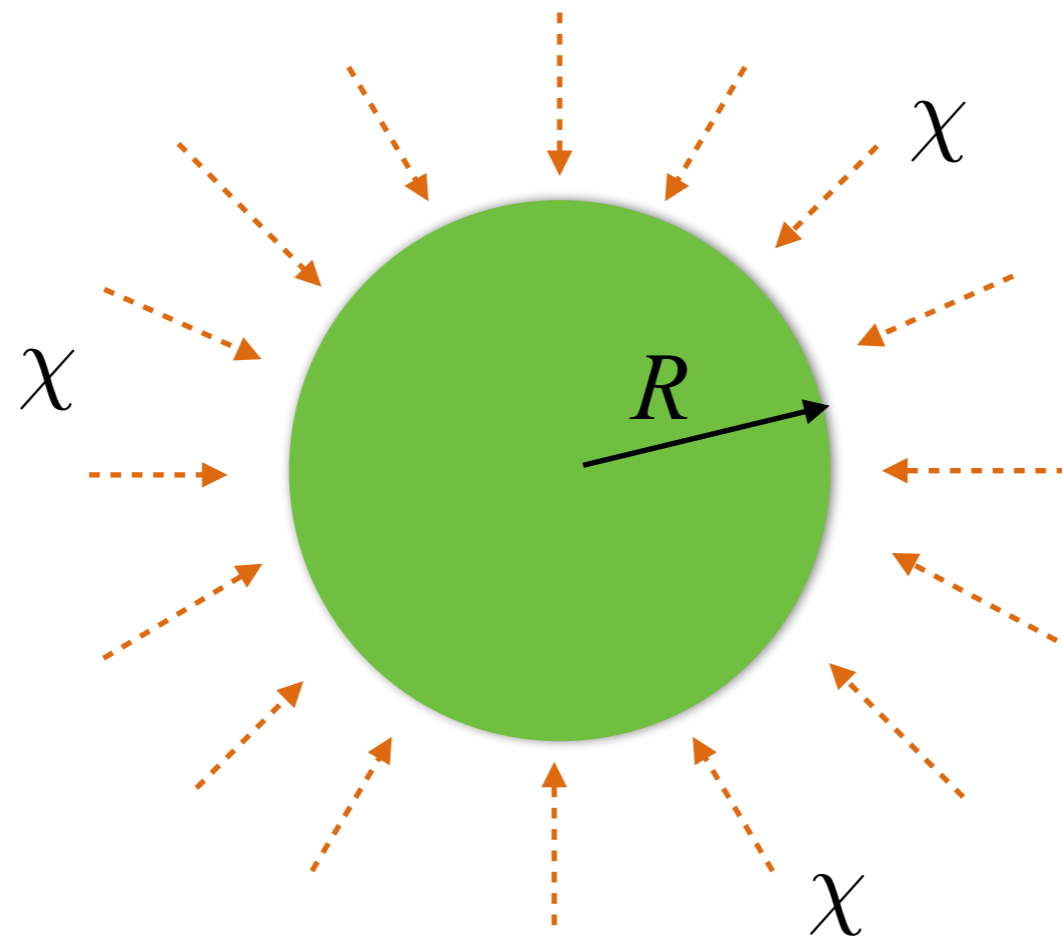


Dark fire

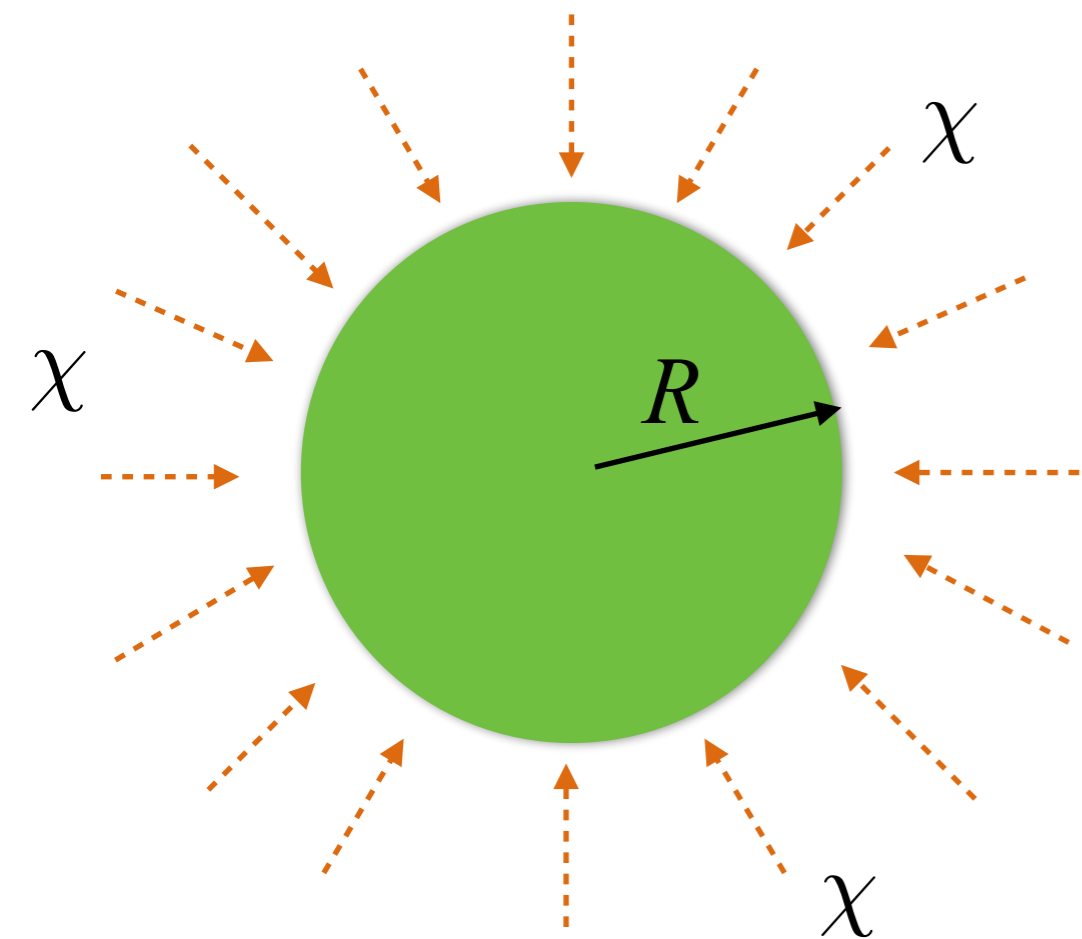


Dark fire

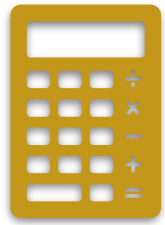
$$\text{heating rate} = \text{KE}_{\text{DM}} \times \frac{dN_{\text{DM}}}{dt}$$



$$\text{heating rate} = KE_{\text{DM}} \times \frac{dN_{\text{DM}}}{dt}$$



*How hot can
dark matter
keep my soup?*



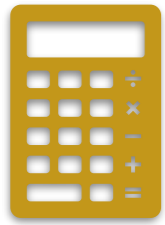
$$\text{heating rate} = KE_{\text{DM}} \times \frac{dN_{\text{DM}}}{dt}$$

one hit per transit:

$$\frac{R}{\text{mean free path}} = \sigma n R = 1$$

$$\sigma_{\text{threshold}} = 10^{-29} \text{ cm}^2$$

Dark fire: soup temperature

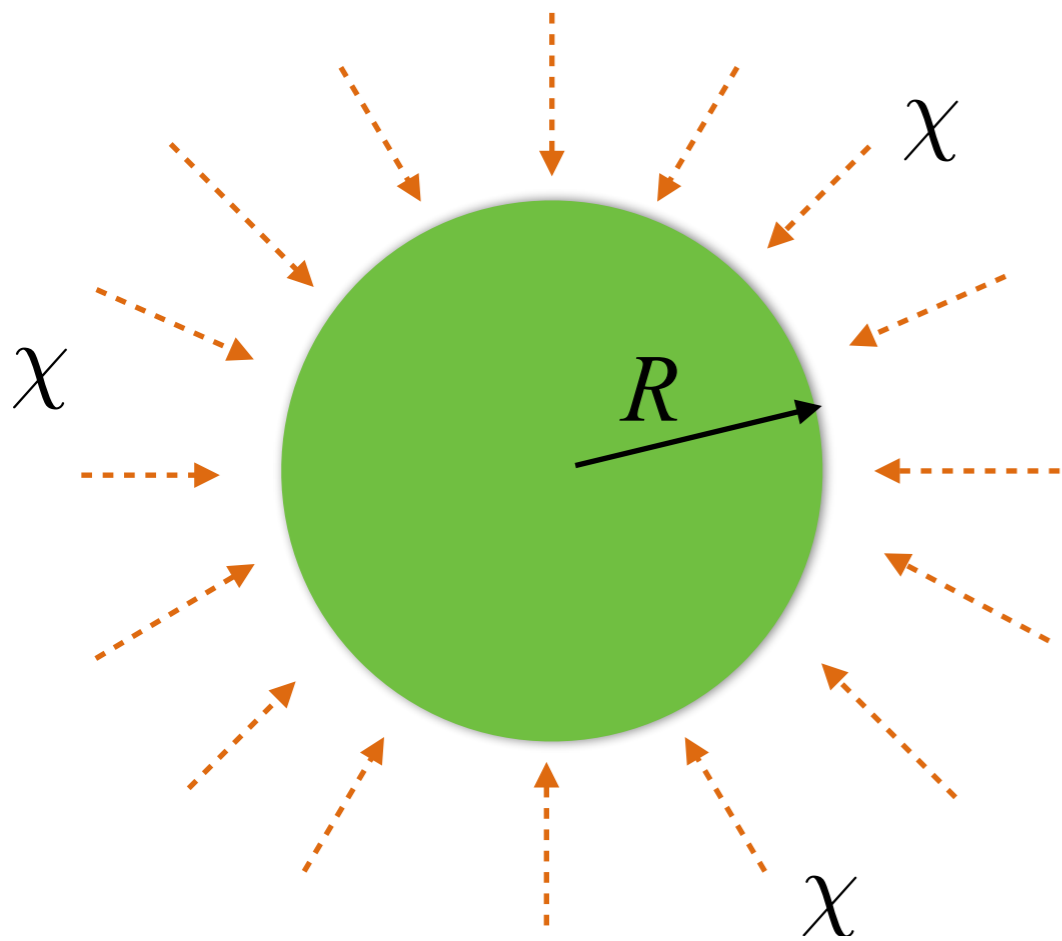


$$\text{heating rate} = KE_{\text{DM}} \times \frac{dN_{\text{DM}}}{dt}$$

mass drops out!

$$\frac{1}{2} m_{\text{DM}} (300 \text{ km/s})^2$$

$$\frac{0.3 \text{ GeV/cm}^3}{m_{\text{DM}}} A_{\text{soup}} (300 \text{ km/s})$$



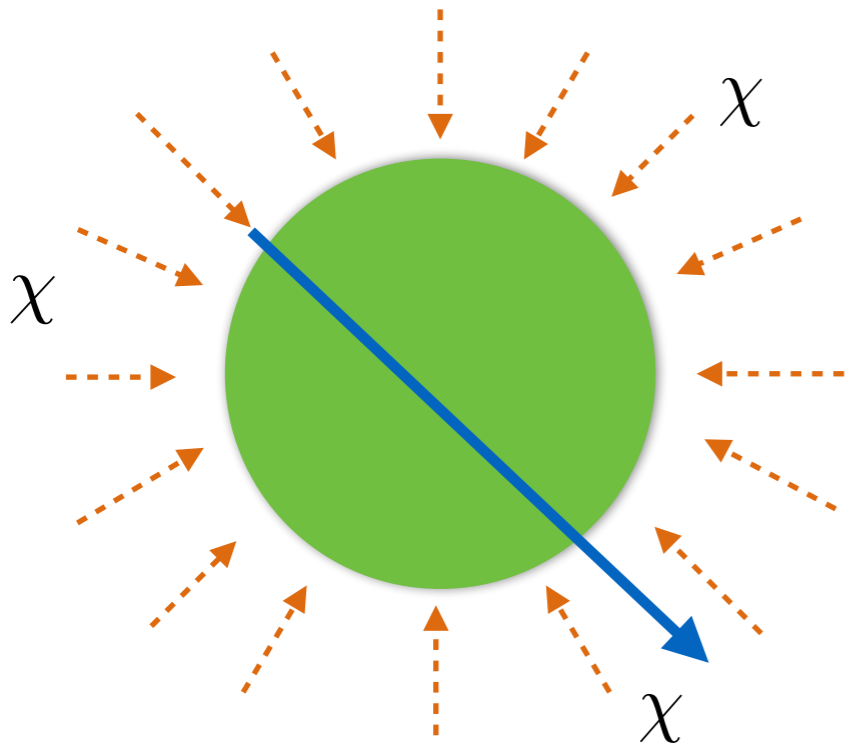
*How hot can
dark matter
keep my soup?*

$T = 0.003$ Kelvin

Need a **better** detector

better

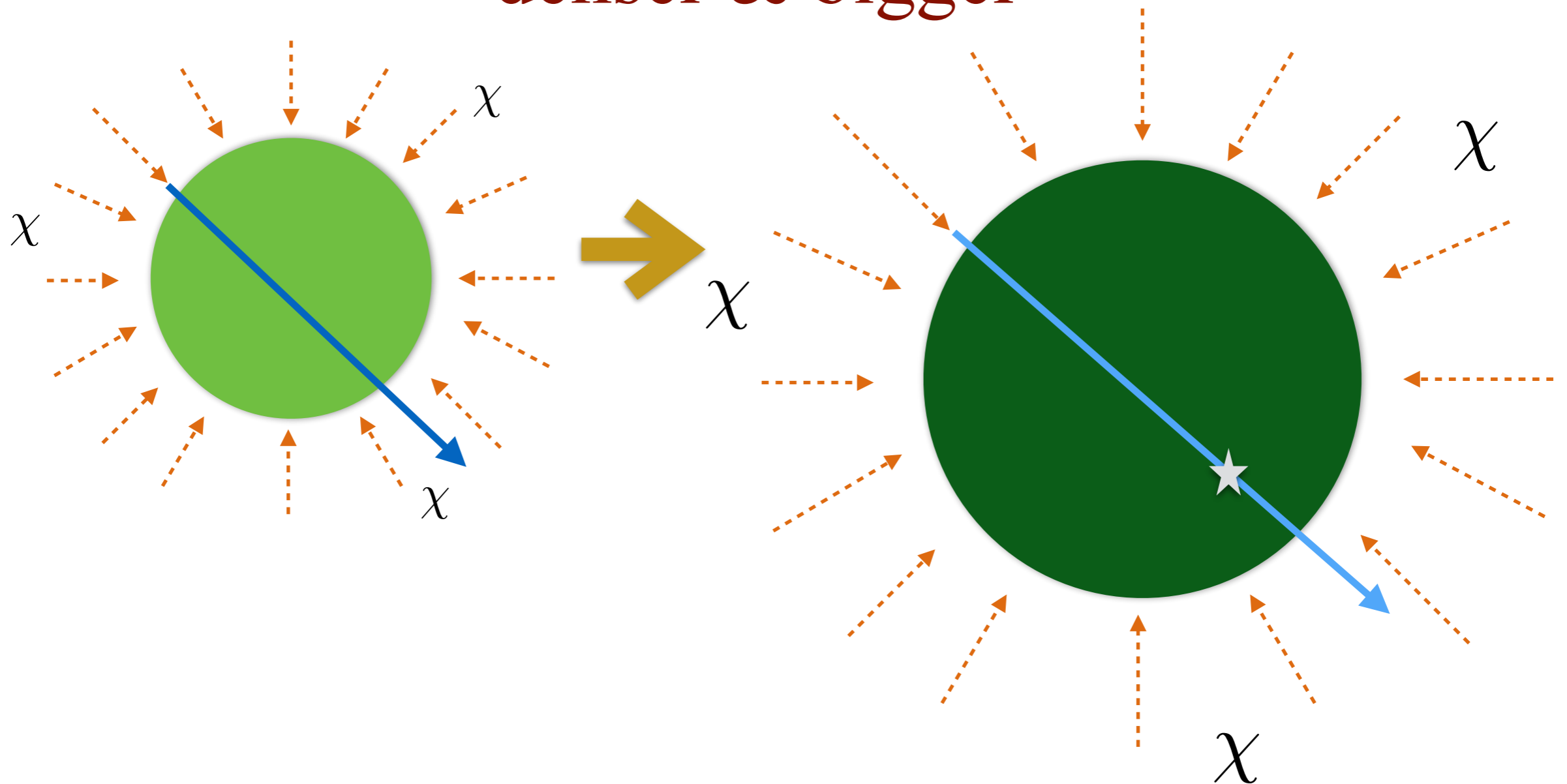
$$\sigma_{\text{threshold}} = \frac{m_{\text{molec}}}{\rho_{\text{soup}} R_{\text{soup}}} = 10^{-29} \text{ cm}^2$$



better

$$\sigma_{\text{threshold}} = \frac{m_{\text{molec}}}{\rho_{\text{soup}} R_{\text{soup}}} \quad \ll 10^{-29} \text{ cm}^2$$

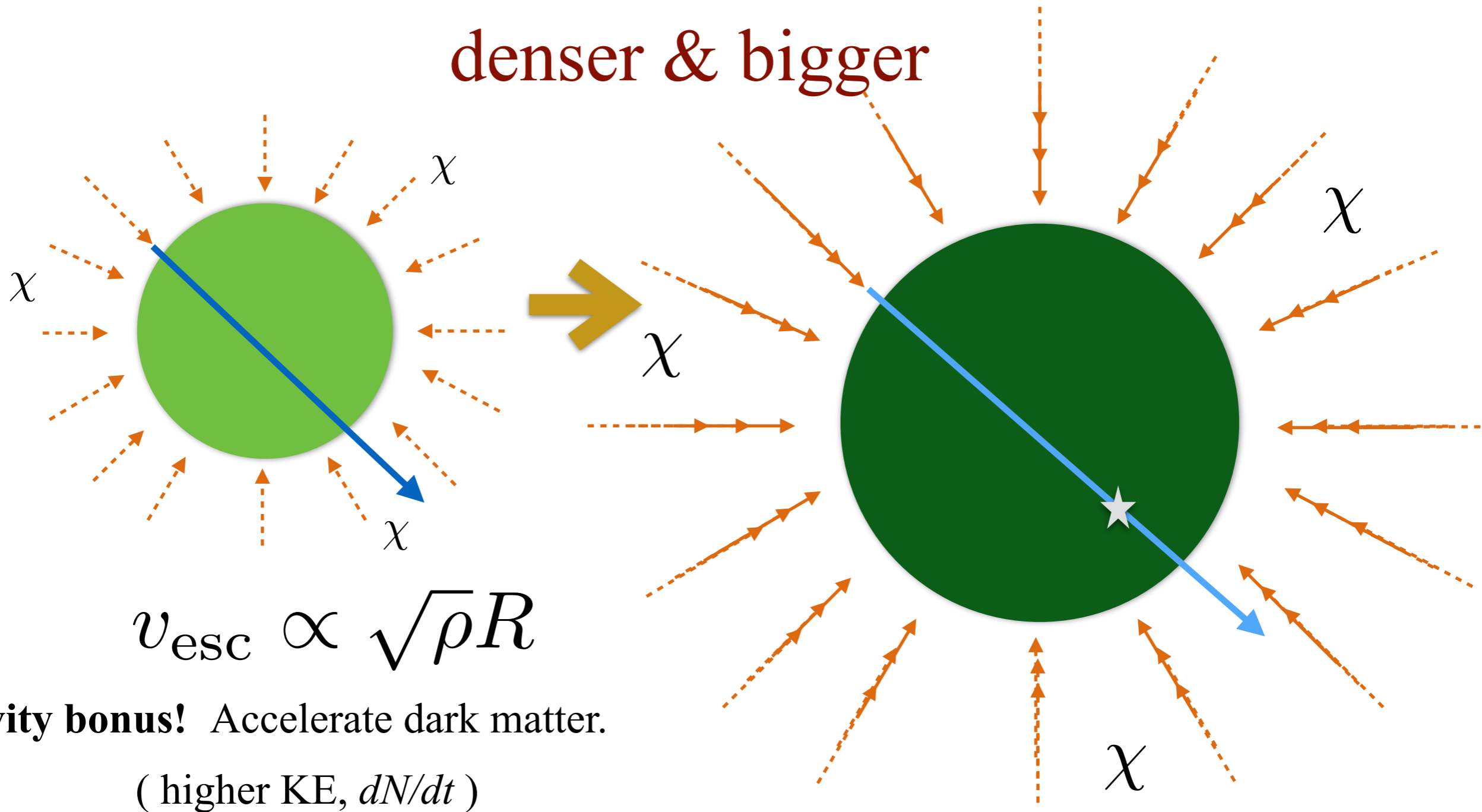
denser & bigger



better

$$\sigma_{\text{threshold}} = \frac{m_{\text{molec}}}{\rho_{\text{soup}} R_{\text{soup}}} \ll 10^{-29} \text{ cm}^2$$

denser & bigger



better

left to itself

$$T = 278 \text{ Kelvin}$$

dark fire-heated

$$T = 0.003 \text{ Kelvin}$$

better

left to itself

$$T = 278 \text{ Kelvin}$$

dark fire-heated

$$T = 0.003 \text{ Kelvin}$$

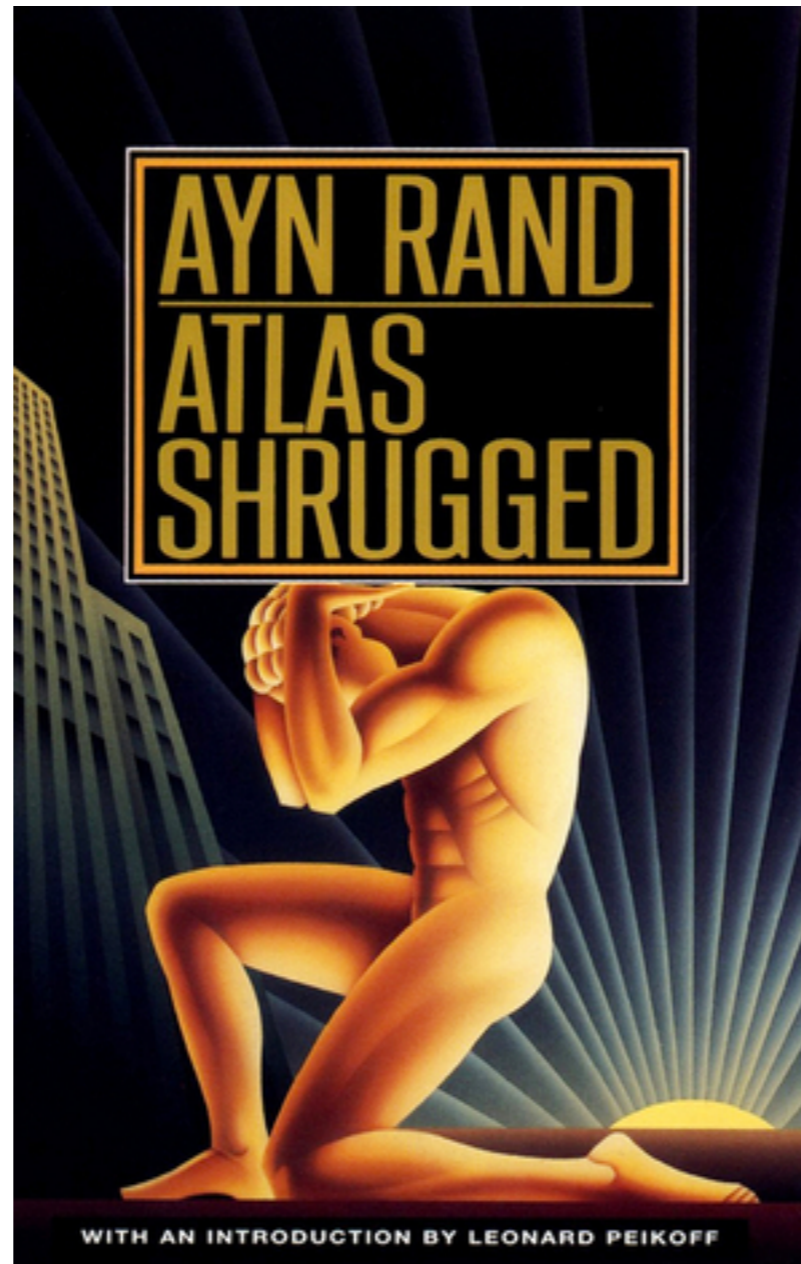


be colder in natural state



What's dense, big, and cold?

What's dense, big, and cold?

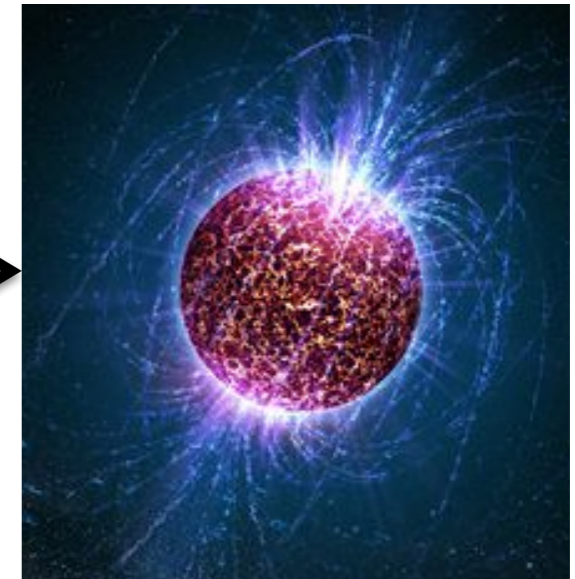
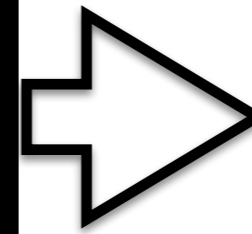
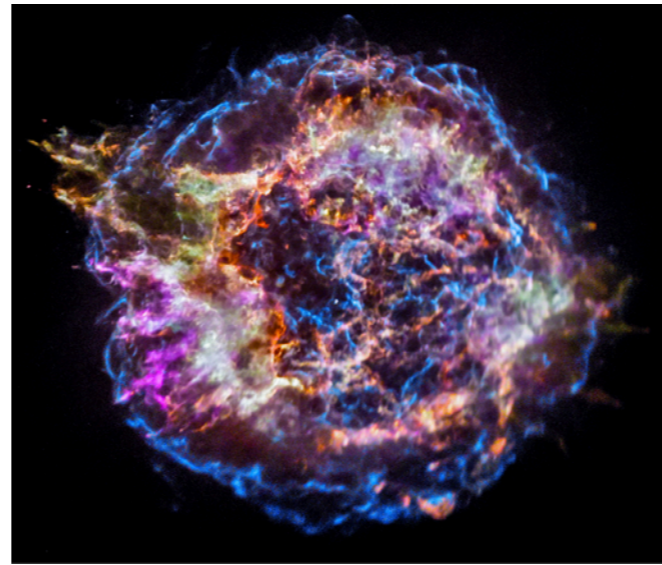


What's dense, big, and cold?

a neutron star!



1934



core-collapse
supernova

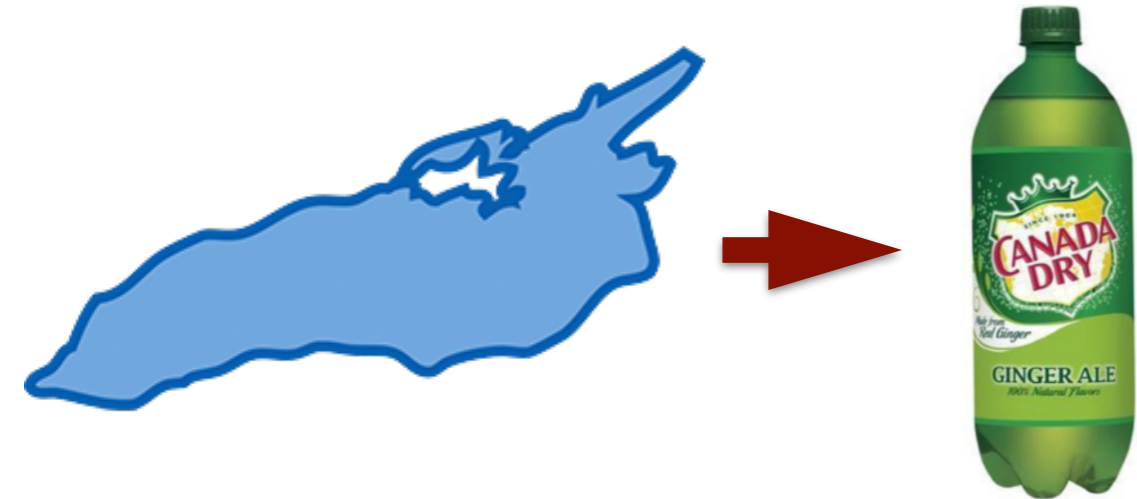
neutron star



Zwicky
again

dense

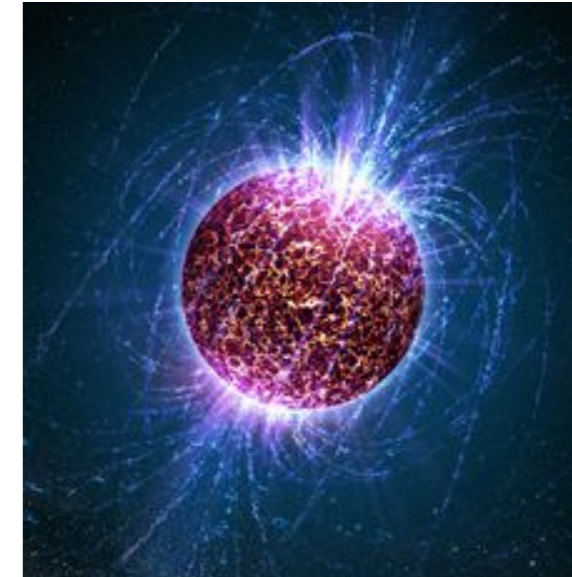
density: $7 \times 10^{14} \text{ g/cm}^3$



dense, big

density: $7 \times 10^{14} \text{ g/cm}^3$

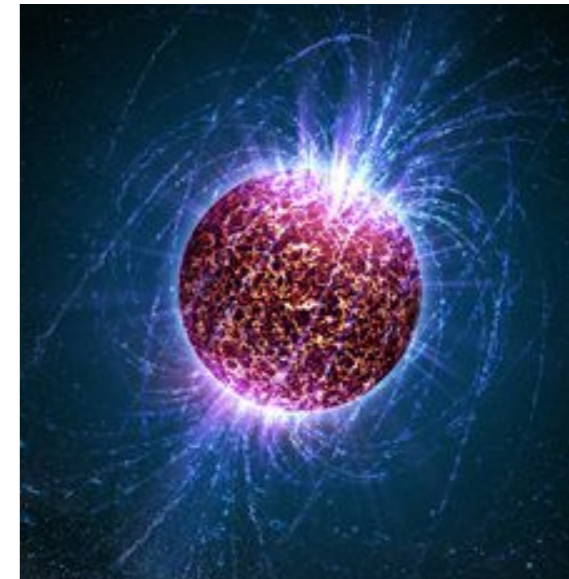
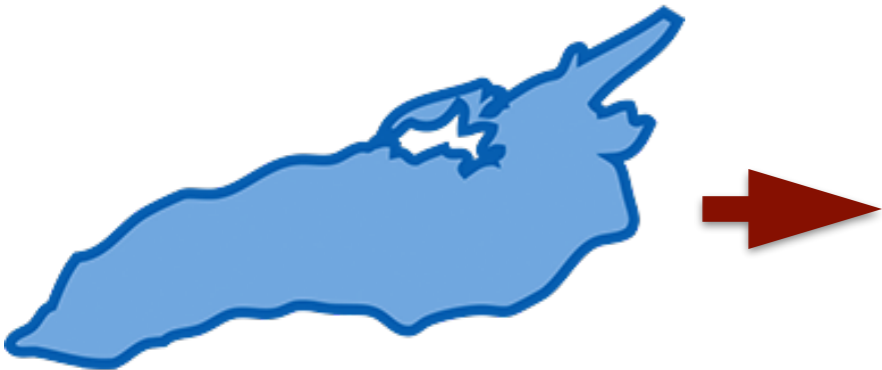
radius: 10 km



dense, big

density: $7 \times 10^{14} \text{ g/cm}^3$

radius: 10 km

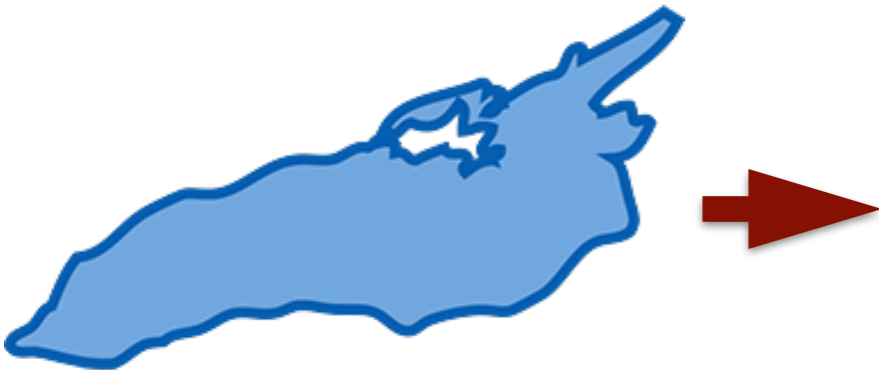


$$v_{\text{esc}} \propto \sqrt{\rho R}$$
$$\simeq 0.7c$$

dense, big, and cold

density: $7 \times 10^{14} \text{ g/cm}^3$

radius: 10 km



$$v_{\text{esc}} \propto \sqrt{\rho R} \\ \simeq 0.7c$$



20×10^6 years

1×10^9 years



$T_{\text{effective}} \approx 1000 \text{ K}$

$T_{\text{effective}} \sim 100 \text{ K}$

(compare with snowball)



Page, Lattimer, Prakash, Steiner (2004)
Yakovlev, Pethick (2004)

Detector properties

density: $7 \times 10^{14} \text{ g/cm}^3$

radius: 10 km

$T_{\text{effective}} \sim 100 \text{ K}$

Dark fires in the sky

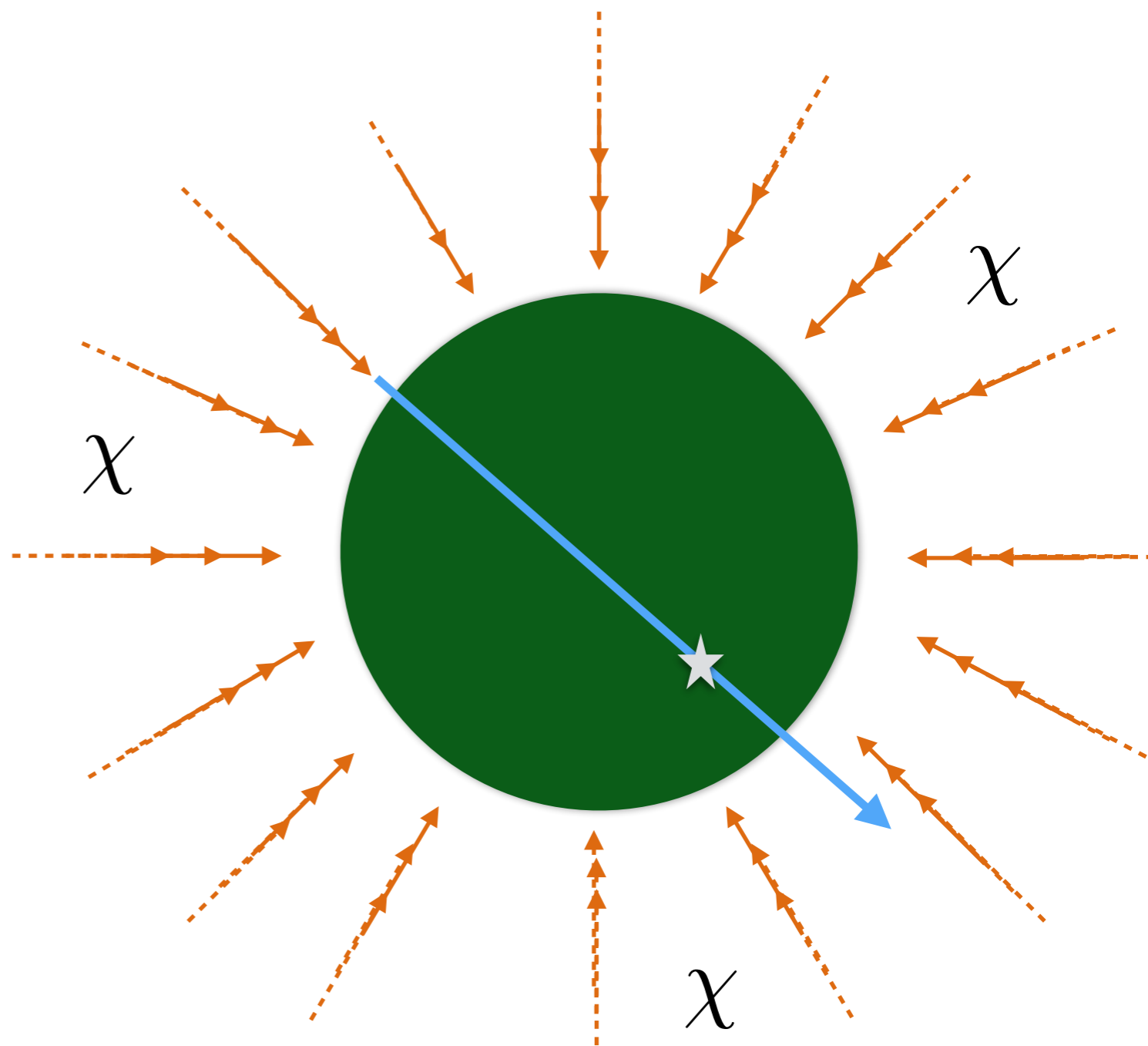


$$\text{KE}_{\text{DM}} \times \frac{dN_{\text{DM}}}{dt}$$

density: $7 \times 10^{14} \text{ g/cm}^3$

radius: 10 km

$T_{\text{effective}} \sim 100 \text{ K}$



How hot can dark matter keep my neutron star?

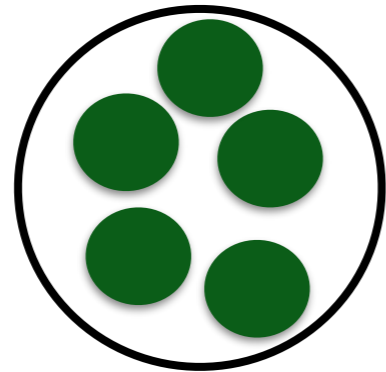
M Baryakhtar, J Bramante, S Li, T Linden, N. Raj
Phys.Rev.Lett. 119, 131801 (2017)
N. Raj, P Tanedo, H-B Yu
Phys.Rev.D. 97, 043006 (2017)

Zwicky misses the party

FROM LOCAL MEASUREMENTS



300 km/s



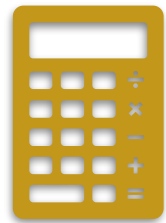
0.3 GeV/cm³

unknown to
Zwicky



dark matter

1933



$$KE_{DM} \times \frac{dN_{DM}}{dt}$$

neutron star



1934

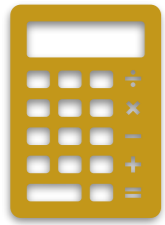
density: 7×10^{14} g/cm³

radius: 10 km

$T_{\text{effective}} \sim 100$ K

estimable by
Zwicky

*How hot can dark matter
keep my neutron star?*

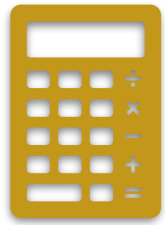


$$\text{heating rate} = KE_{\text{DM}} \times \frac{dN_{\text{DM}}}{dt}$$

$$\sigma_{\text{threshold}} = \frac{m_{\text{neutron}}}{\rho_{\text{NS}} R_{\text{NS}}}$$

$$10^{-45} \text{ cm}^2 \ll 10^{-29} \text{ cm}^2$$

Dark fire: neutron star temperature



$$\text{heating rate} = KE_{\text{DM}} \times \frac{dN_{\text{DM}}}{dt}$$

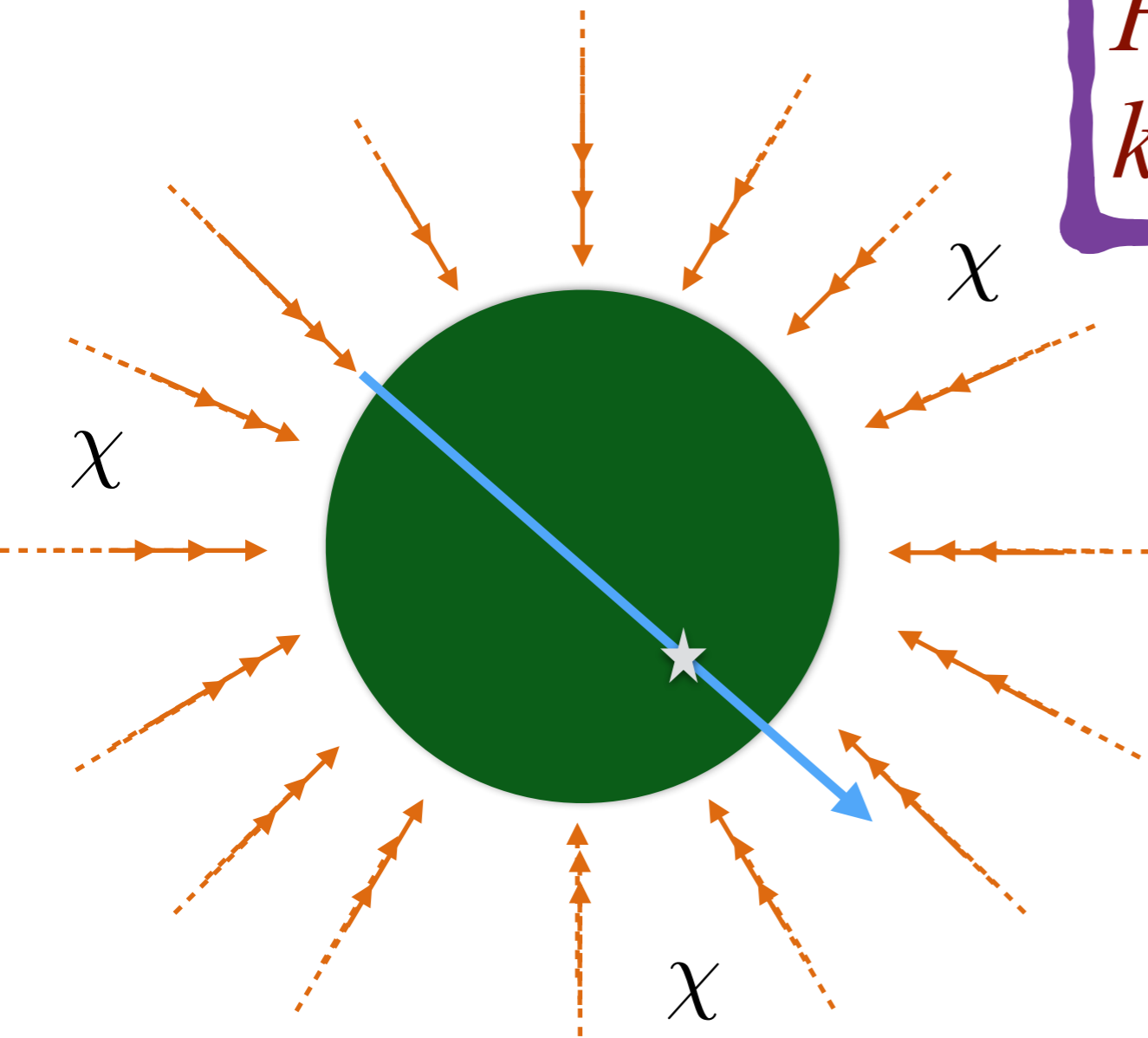
mass drops out!

$$0.35 m_{\text{DM}}$$

$$\frac{0.3 \text{ GeV/cm}^3}{m_{\text{DM}}} \pi R_{\text{NS}}^2 \left(\frac{v_{\text{esc}}}{300 \text{ km/s}} \right)^2 (300 \text{ km/s})$$

Dark fire: neutron star temperature

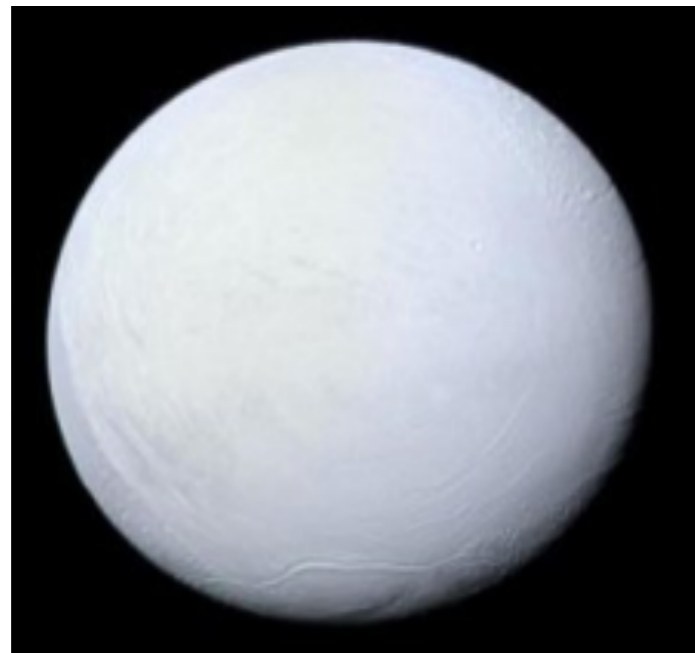
*How hot can dark matter
keep my neutron star?*



$T = 1750$ Kelvin

(infrared)

$$T = 1750 \text{ Kelvin}$$



snowball star

dark matter



lava star

Coldest neutron star
temperatures we were
able to measure:

$$T = 10^5 \text{ Kelvin}$$

How to find dark fire-heated, lava-cold neutron stars?

Observation prospects

Radio telescopes (design: pulsar discovery)



CHIME



FAST

100 old, cold neutron stars
in the local 50 pc.

O. Blaes, P. Madau (1993)

Observation prospects

Radio telescopes (design: pulsar discovery)



CHIME



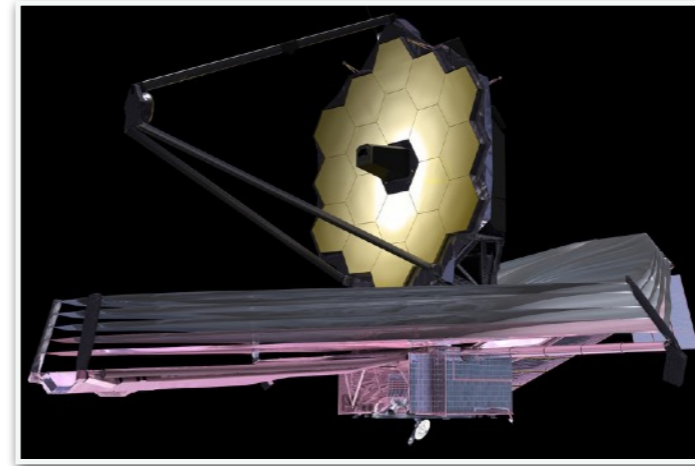
FAST

100 old, cold neutron stars
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O. Blaes, P. Madau (1993)



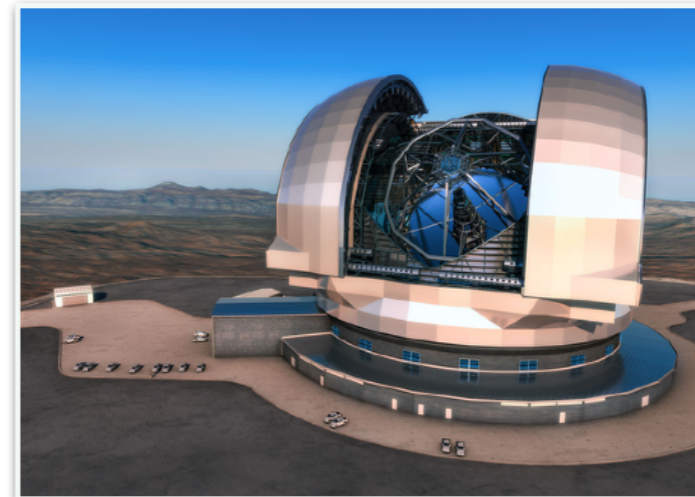
Infrared telescopes (design: exoplanet atmosphere study)



James Webb



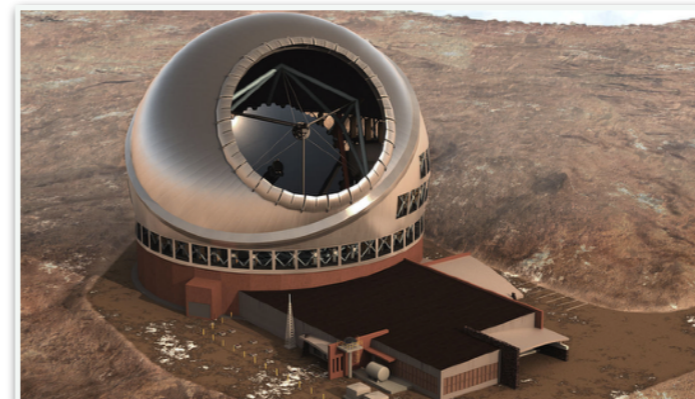
2021



European Extremely Large



2025



Thirty Meter



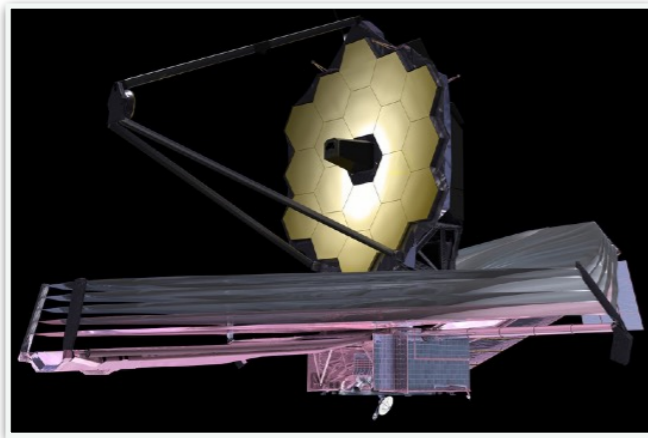
2027

Observation times

kinetic heating

(1.5 solar mass, 10 km star)

1750 K



James Webb

$$10^5 \text{ sec} \left(\frac{d}{10\text{pc}} \right)^4$$



Thirty Meter

$$7 \times 10^4 \text{ sec} \left(\frac{d}{10\text{pc}} \right)^4$$

for 2σ sensitivity

$$L \propto (\gamma - 1)m_{\text{DM}}$$

kinetic heating

Minimum signature



$$L \propto (\gamma - 1)m_{\text{DM}} + m_{\text{DM}}$$

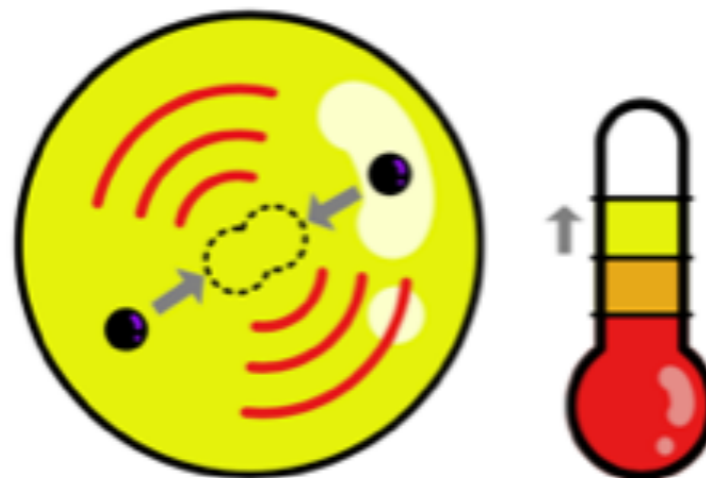
kinetic heating

+ annihilation

Minimum signature



Possible bonus

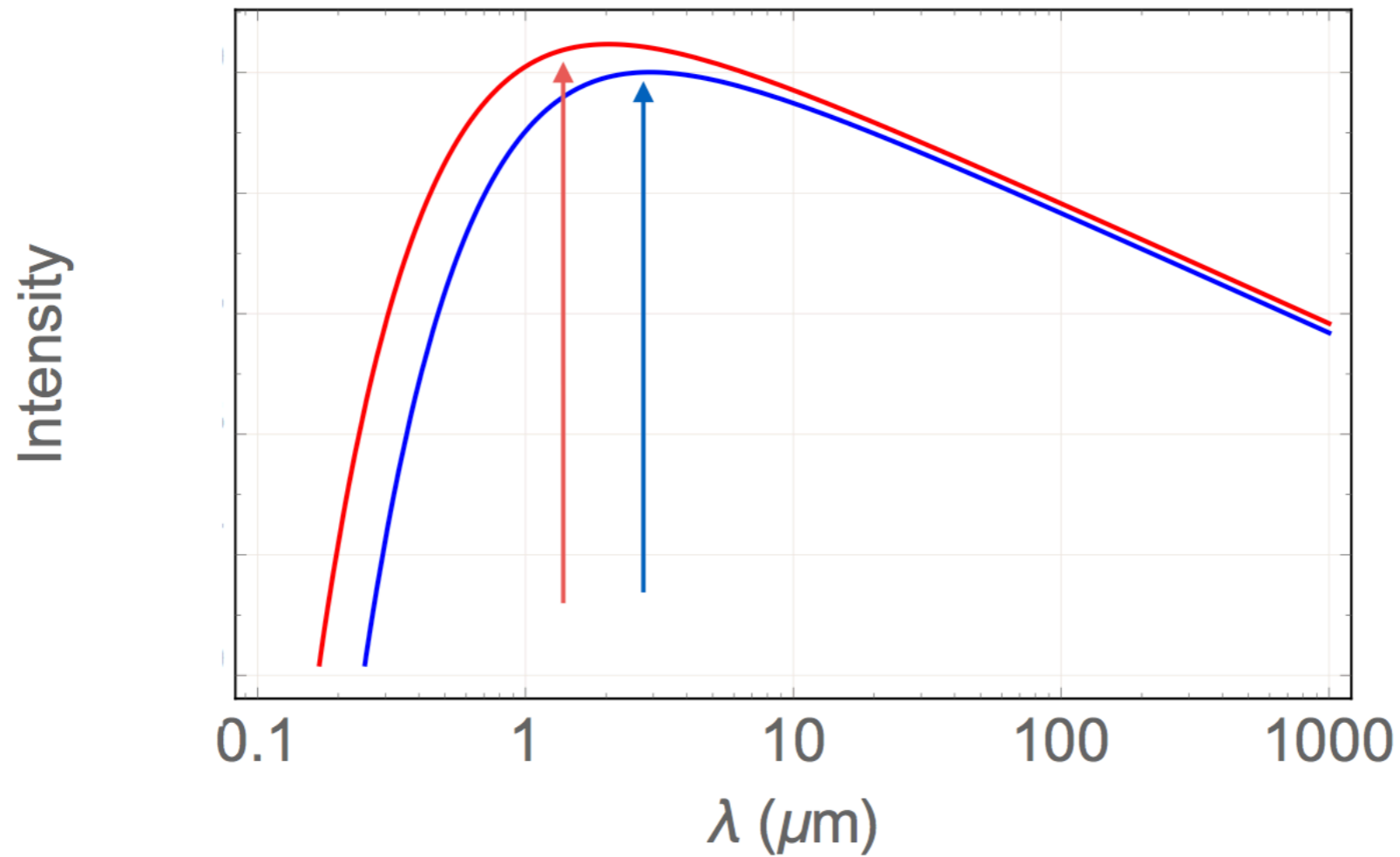


Brightness diagnosis

$$L \propto (\gamma - 1)m_{\text{DM}} + m_{\text{DM}}$$

kinetic heating

+ annihilation



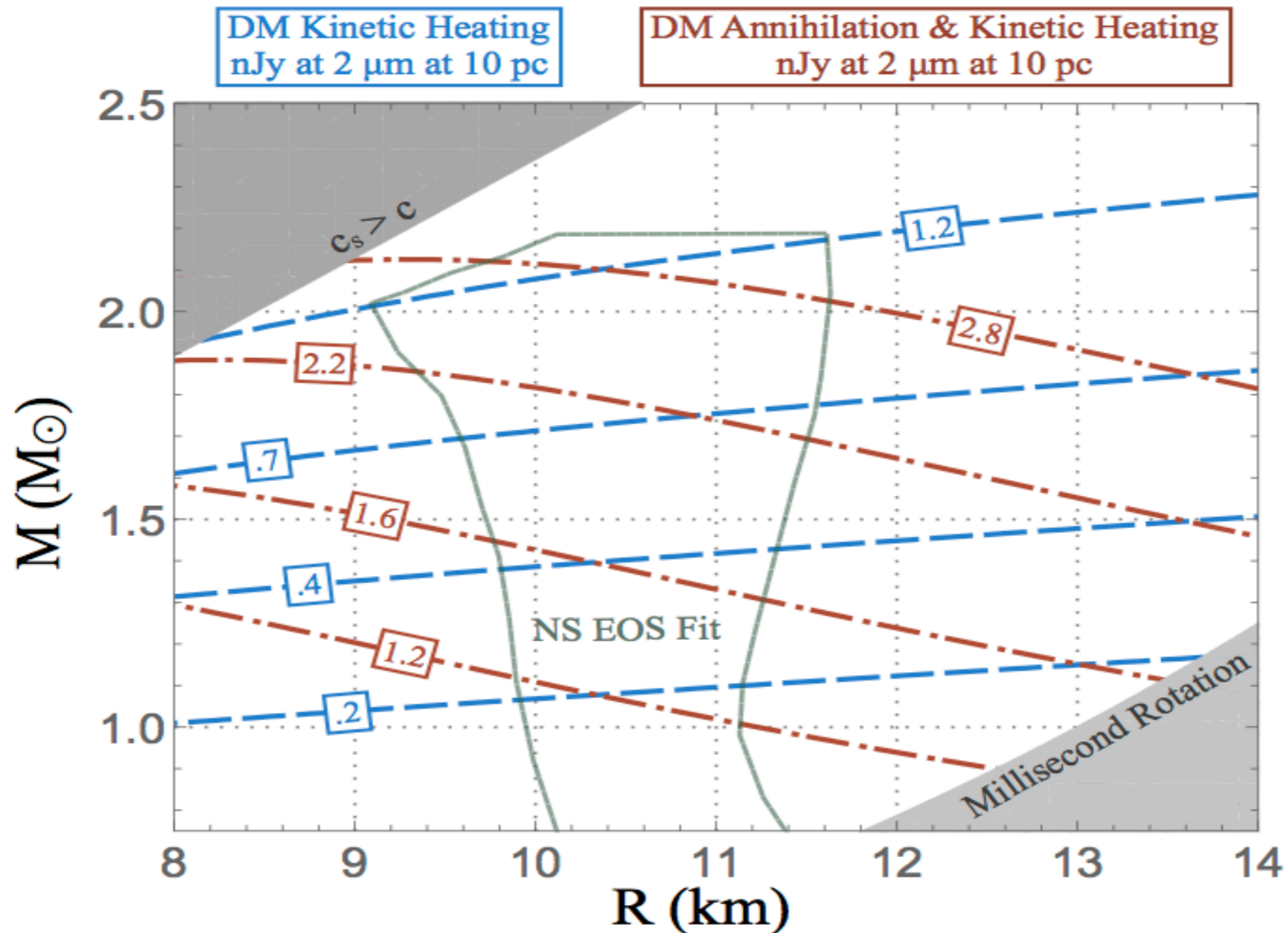
Affects choice of filter, observation time.

Brightness diagnosis

$$\left(\gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - 2GM/R}} \right)$$

$$L \propto (\gamma - 1)m_{\text{DM}} + m_{\text{DM}}$$

kinetic heating
+ annihilation



Observation times

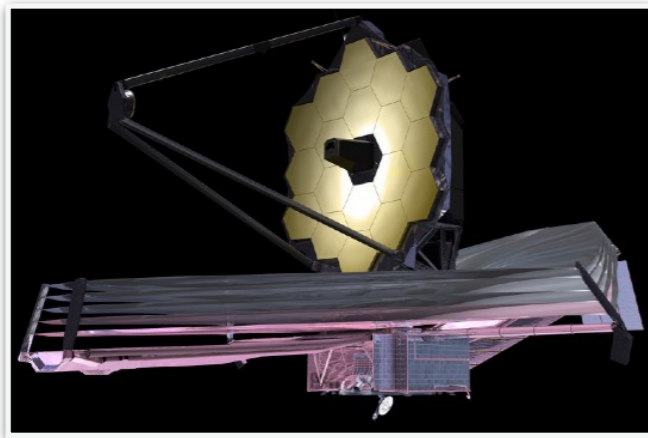
(1.5 solar mass, 10 km star)

kinetic heating

1750 K

+ annihilation

2480 K



James Webb

$$10^5 \text{ sec} \left(\frac{d}{10\text{pc}} \right)^4$$

$$9 \times 10^3 \text{ sec} \left(\frac{d}{10\text{pc}} \right)^4$$



Thirty Meter

$$7 \times 10^4 \text{ sec} \left(\frac{d}{10\text{pc}} \right)^4$$

$$2 \times 10^3 \text{ sec} \left(\frac{d}{10\text{pc}} \right)^4$$

for 2σ sensitivity

Annihilation saves observation time (= \$\$)
by a factor of $>10!$

Difficulties

- Old, nearby neutron stars must turn up
- Internal backgrounds not fully understood
- Age determination not fully reliable



Claim of dark matter discovery
will be premature/exaggerated!
(As opposed to exclusion = clean.)

So what do you buy?

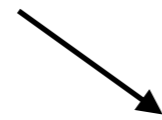
Rewards?

- Old, nearby neutron stars must turn up
- Internal backgrounds not fully understood
- Age determination not fully reliable



Claim of dark matter discovery
will be premature/exaggerated!
(As opposed to exclusion = clean.)

So what do you buy?



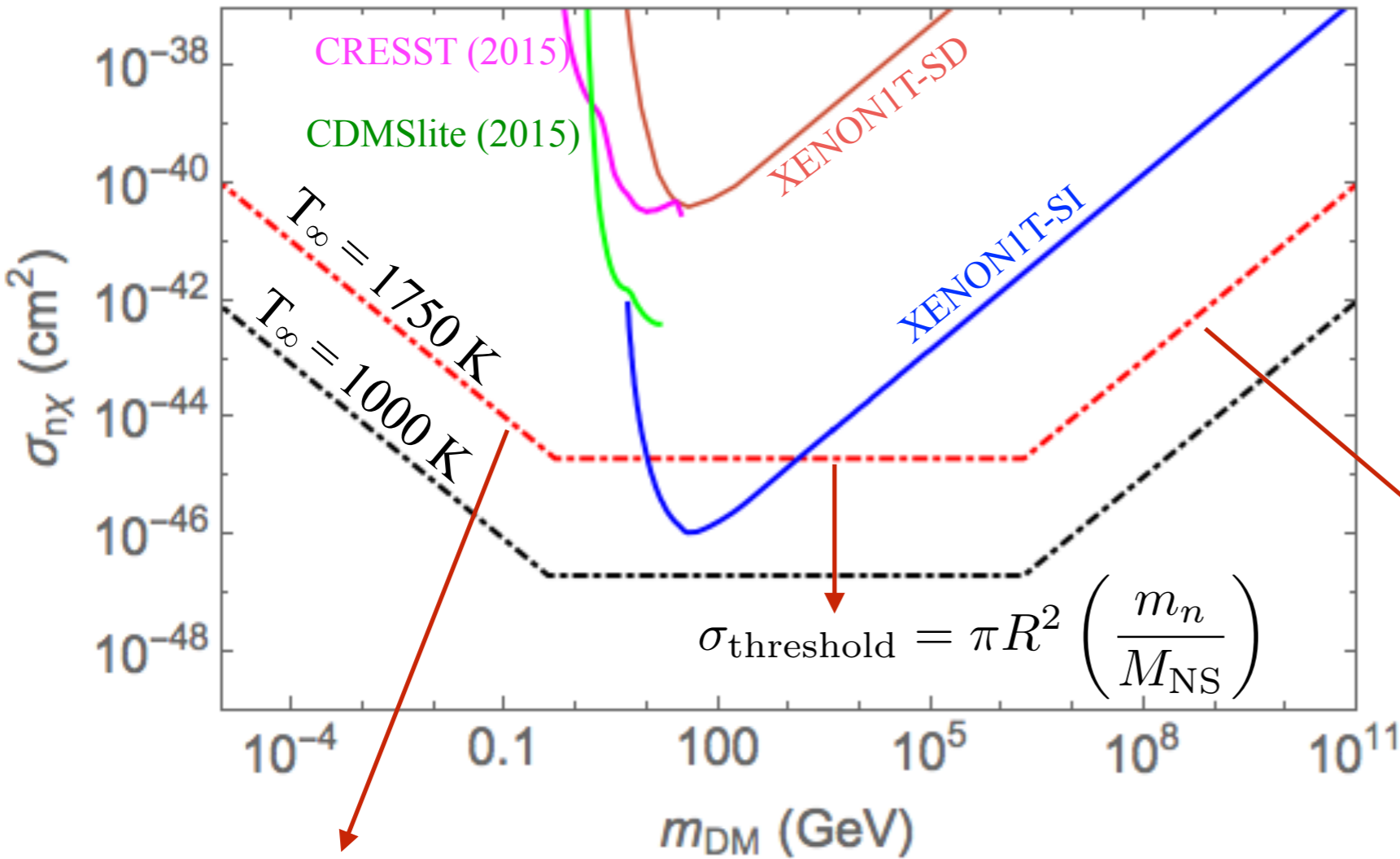
Does dark kinetic heating
expand our direct detection
frontiers?



- (1) Low mass
- (2) High mass
- (3) Strongly interacting
- (4) Spin-dependent
- (5) ν -suppressed
- (6) Inelastic
- (7) Neutrino floors

Complementing terrestrial searches

M Baryakhtar, J Bramante, S Li, T Linden, **N R**;1704.01577



(1) Low mass

(2) High mass

“Pauli blocking”

$$\sigma_{\text{threshold}}^{-1} \propto \text{fraction of nucleons excitable to } > \text{Fermi momentum } \frac{\gamma m_{\text{DM}} v_{\text{esc}}}{p_{\text{Fermi}}}$$

$$\sigma_{\text{threshold}} \propto \text{number of scatters} = E_{\text{DM}} / E_{\text{recoil}}$$

$$E_{\text{recoil}} \sim 2m_n v_{\text{esc}}^2$$

versus

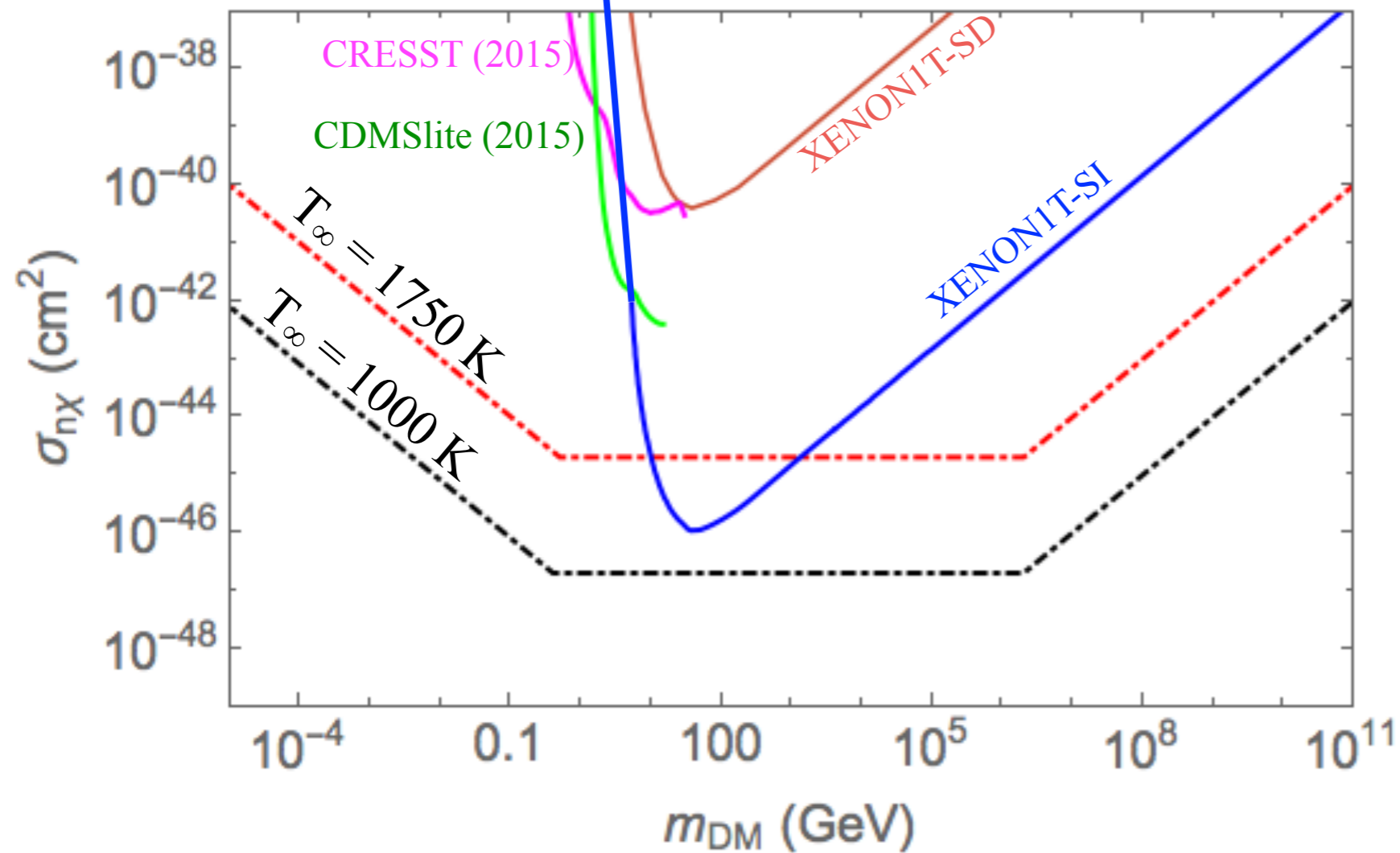
$$E_{\text{DM}} \sim \frac{1}{2} m_{\text{DM}} v_{\text{DM}}^2$$

Complementing terrestrial searches

Direct detection ceiling does not apply

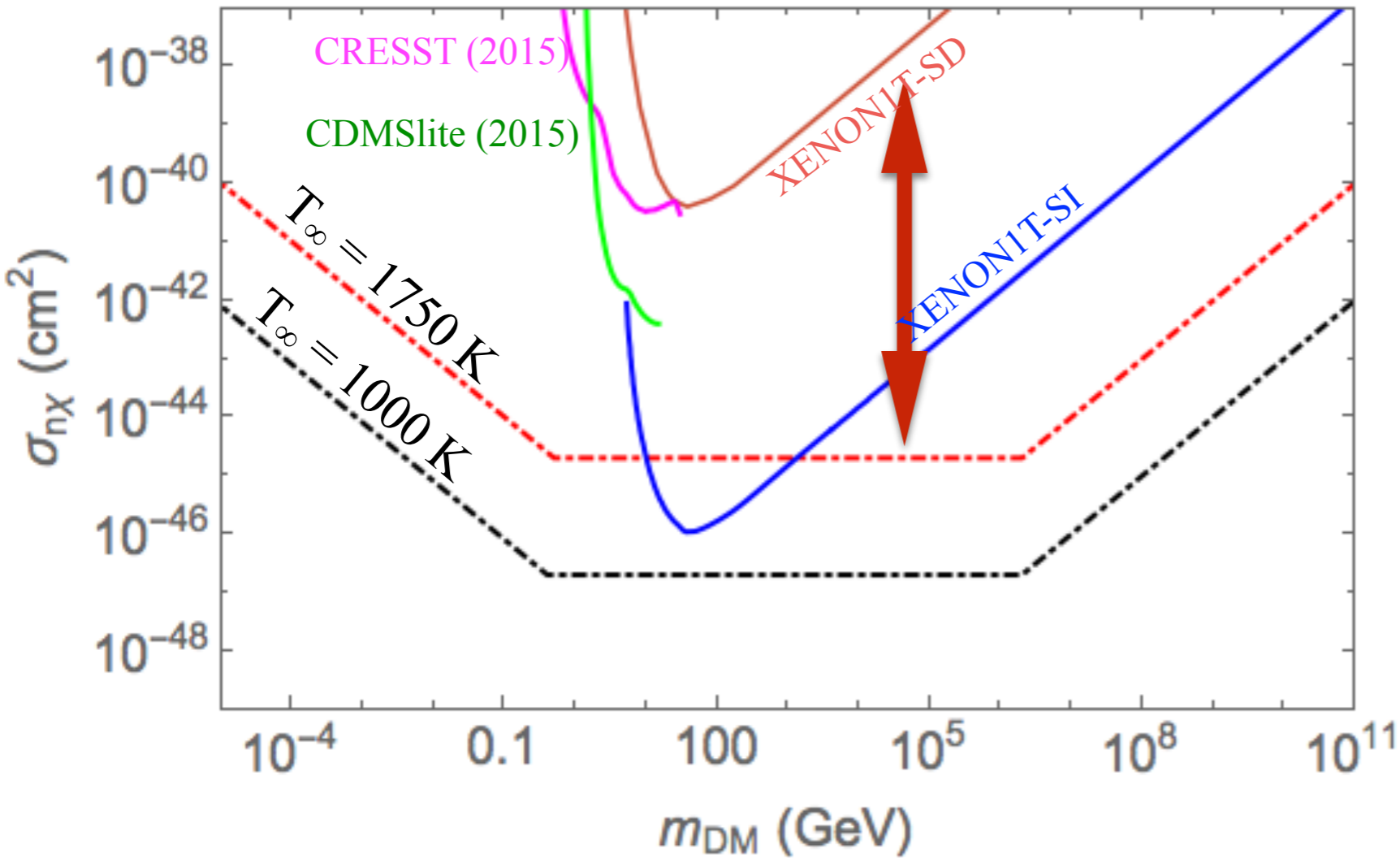


- (1) Low mass
- (2) High mass
- (3) Strong



Complementing terrestrial searches

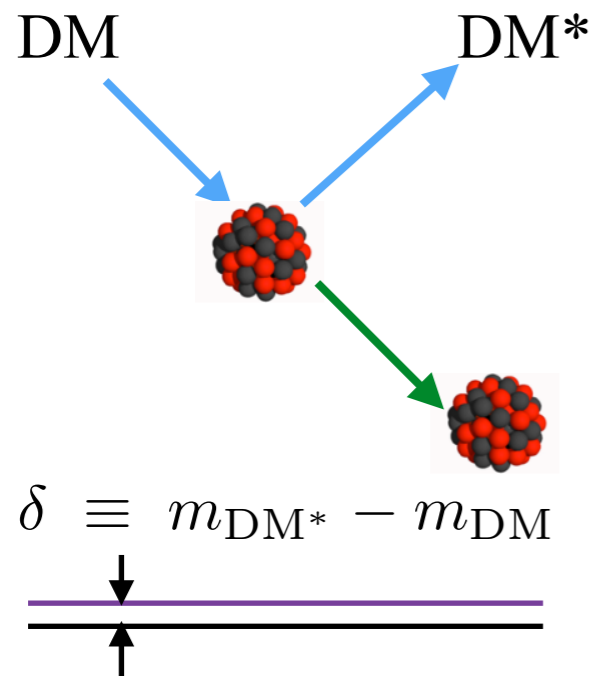
M Baryakhtar, J Bramante, S Li, T Linden, **N R**;1704.01577



- (1) Low mass
- (2) High mass
- (3) Strong
- (4) Spin-dependent

Scattering with neutrons:
apathy to nuclear coherence

Complementing terrestrial searches



- (1) Low mass ✓
- (2) High mass ✓
- (3) Strong ✓
- (4) Spin-dependent ✓
- (5) Inelastic ✓

Scattering proceeds so long as mass splitting is below

$$\delta_{\text{max}} = \frac{\mu_{n\chi} v^2}{2} = 200 \text{ MeV}$$

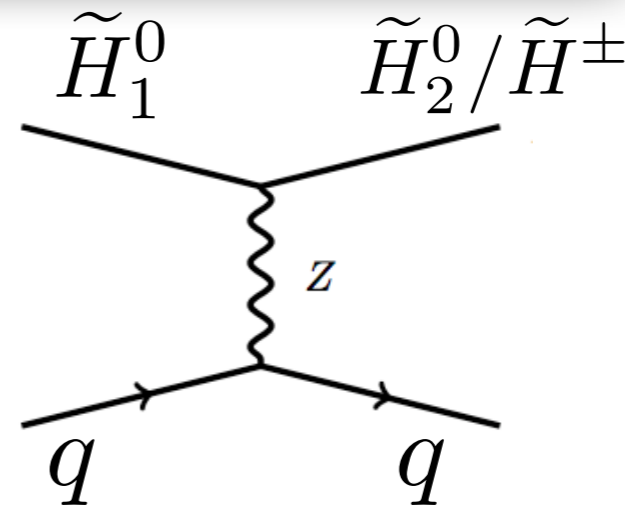
(Direct detection δ_{max} : $O(100 \text{ keV})$)

Heating up neutron stars with inelastic dark matter

Nicole F. Bell, Giorgio Busoni and Sandra Robles

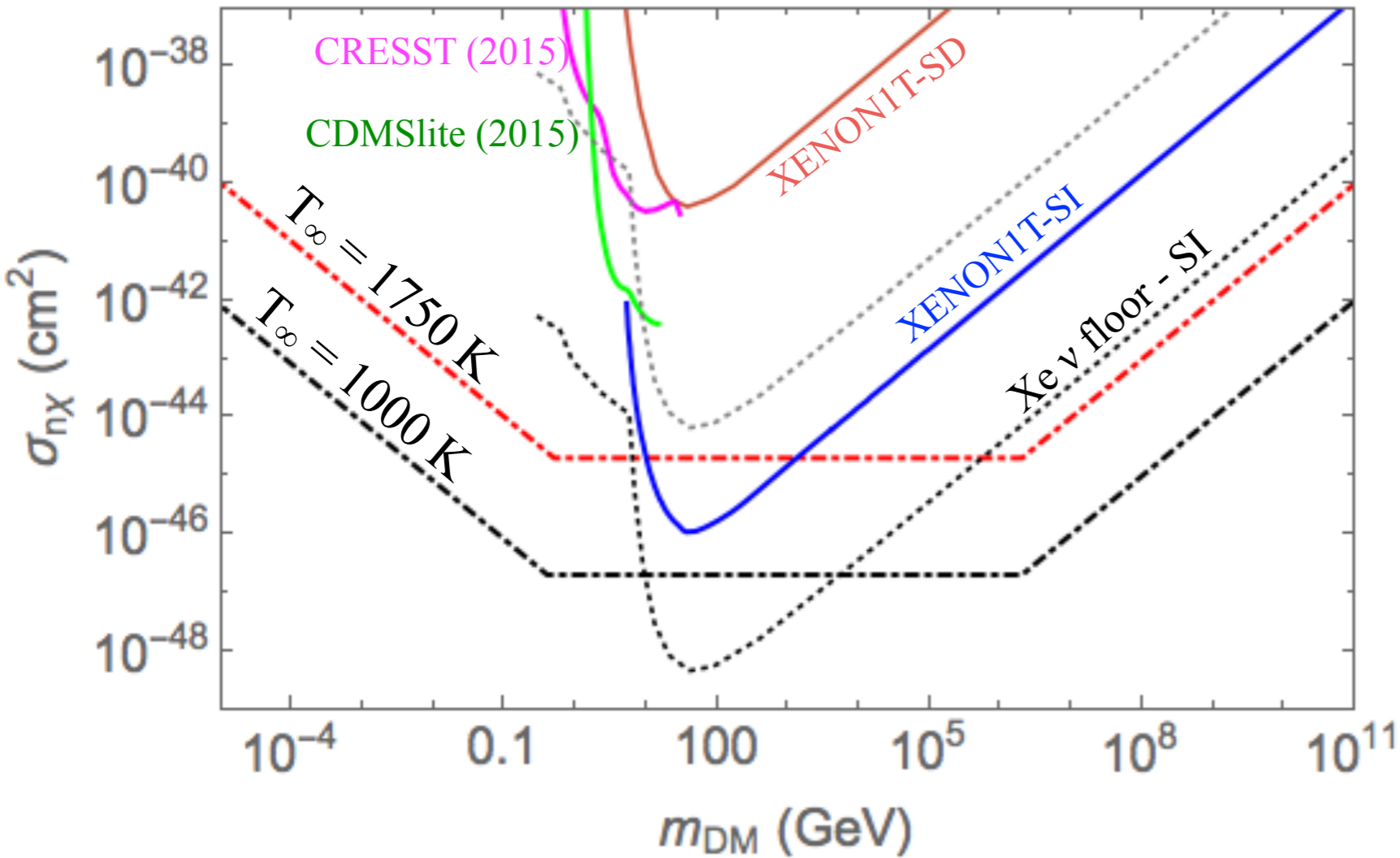
ARC Centre of Excellence for Particle Physics at the Terascale
 School of Physics, The University of Melbourne,
 Victoria 3010, Australia 1807.02840

Great news for Higgsino lovers!



Complementing terrestrial searches

M Baryakhtar, J Bramante, S Li, T Linden, **N R**;1704.01577



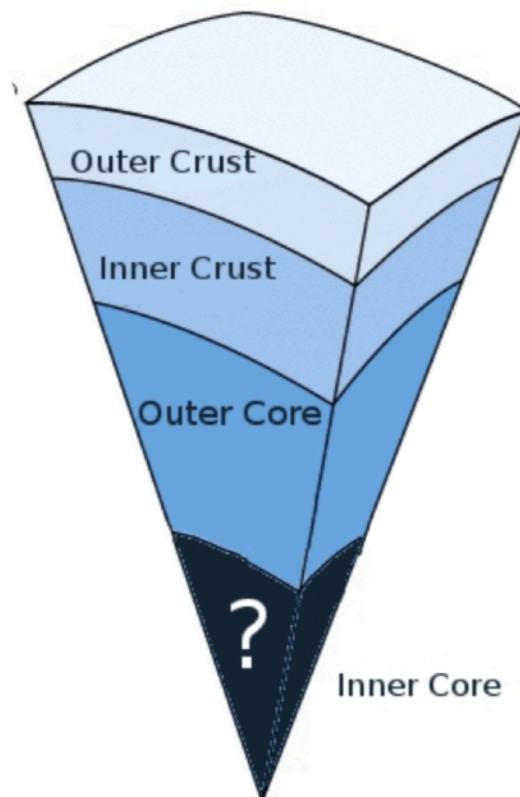
- (1) Low mass
- (2) High mass
- (3) Strong
- (4) Spin-dependent
- (5) Inelastic
- (6) Neutrino floors

Important variations on a theme

Are we barking down
the wrong target particle?



A Joglekar, **N R**, P Tanedo, H-B. Yu; 1911.13293



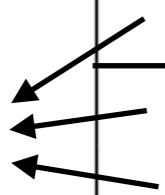
Are we barking down
the wrong stellar region?

J Acevedo, J Bramante, R Leane, **N R**; 1911.06334

Zippy electrons in the core

species	$\langle Y_T \rangle$	mass (MeV)	$\langle p_F \rangle$ (MeV)
e	0.06	0.51	146
μ	0.02	105.7	50
p	0.07	938.3	160
n	0.93	939.6	373

products of
 β equilibrium



— speed $\sim c$, random directions



frozen in the star

Trouble with zippy electrons

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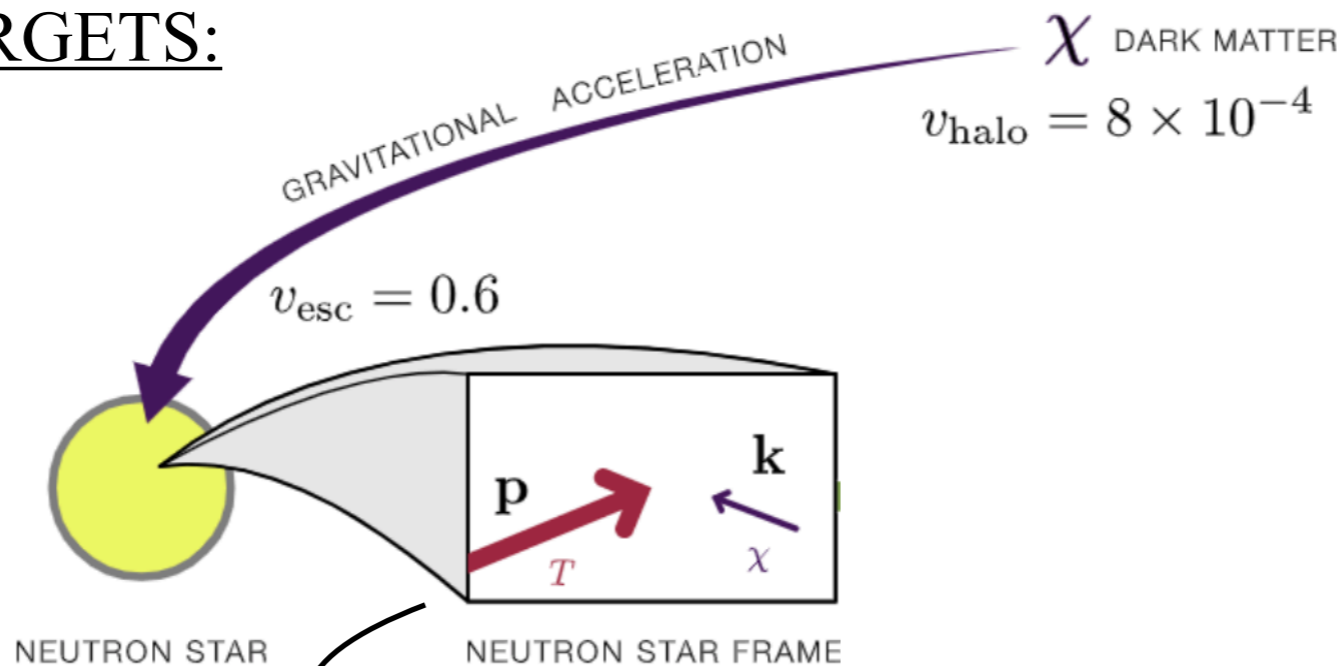
products of β equilibrium

— speed $\sim c$, random directions
] frozen in the star

NON-RELATIVISTIC TARGETS:

capture probability $f = \frac{\text{scattering cross section}}{\text{geometric cross section}} = \sigma n_T R_\star$

ELECTRON TARGETS:



notion of “geometric cross section” breaks down!

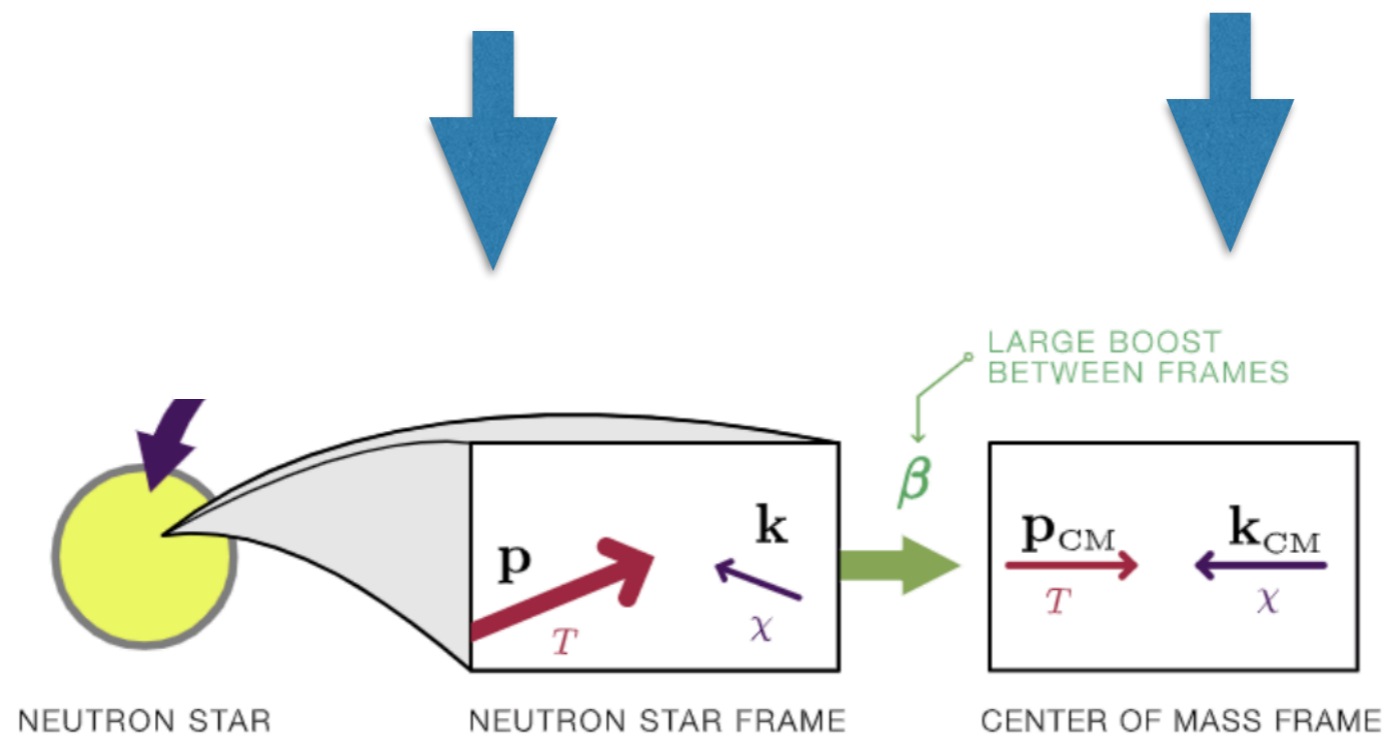
More trouble with zippy electrons

capture probability f must be Lorentz-invariant

But scattering ingredients aren't

Fermi-Dirac distribution
best known (to me) here

cross sections most
conveniently expressed here



Putting frames together Lorentz-invariantly

$$f = \sum_{N_{\text{hit}} \in \mathbb{Z}} \frac{\langle n_{\text{T}} \rangle \Delta t}{N_{\text{hit}}} \int d\Omega_{\text{NS}} \int_0^{p_{\text{F}}} d|\bar{p}| \frac{|\bar{p}|^2}{V_{\text{F}}} v_{\text{Møll}} \int d\Omega_{\text{CM}} \left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \right)_{\text{CM}} \underbrace{\Theta(\Delta E + E_p - E_{\text{F}})}_{\text{Pauli blocking}} \underbrace{\Theta\left(\frac{E_{\text{halo}}}{N_{\text{hit}} - 1} - \Delta E\right) \Theta\left(\Delta E - \frac{E_{\text{halo}}}{N_{\text{hit}}}\right)}_{\text{possible multiscatter capture}}$$

DM's stellar transit time
 Møller velocity
 energy transfer to electron
 electron Fermi momentum
 electron orientation with respect to star
 Fermi sphere volume
 Pauli blocking
 possible multiscatter capture

In limit of non-relativistic target (& $N_{\text{hit}} \rightarrow 1$):

$$f = \langle n_{\text{T}} \rangle \Delta t \times 1 \times v_{\text{DM}} \times \sigma = \sigma n_{\text{T}} R_{\star} = \frac{\text{scattering cross section}}{\text{geometric cross section}}$$

Putting frames together Lorentz-invariantly

$$f = \sum_{N_{\text{hit}} \in \mathbb{Z}} \frac{\langle n_{\text{T}} \rangle \Delta t}{N_{\text{hit}}} \int d\Omega_{\text{NS}} \int_0^{p_{\text{F}}} d|\bar{p}| \frac{|\bar{p}|^2}{V_{\text{F}}} v_{\text{Mø}} \int d\Omega_{\text{CM}} \left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \right)_{\text{CM}} \Theta(\Delta E + E_p - E_{\text{F}}) \Theta\left(\frac{E_{\text{halo}}}{N_{\text{hit}} - 1} - \Delta E\right) \Theta\left(\Delta E - \frac{E_{\text{halo}}}{N_{\text{hit}}}\right)$$

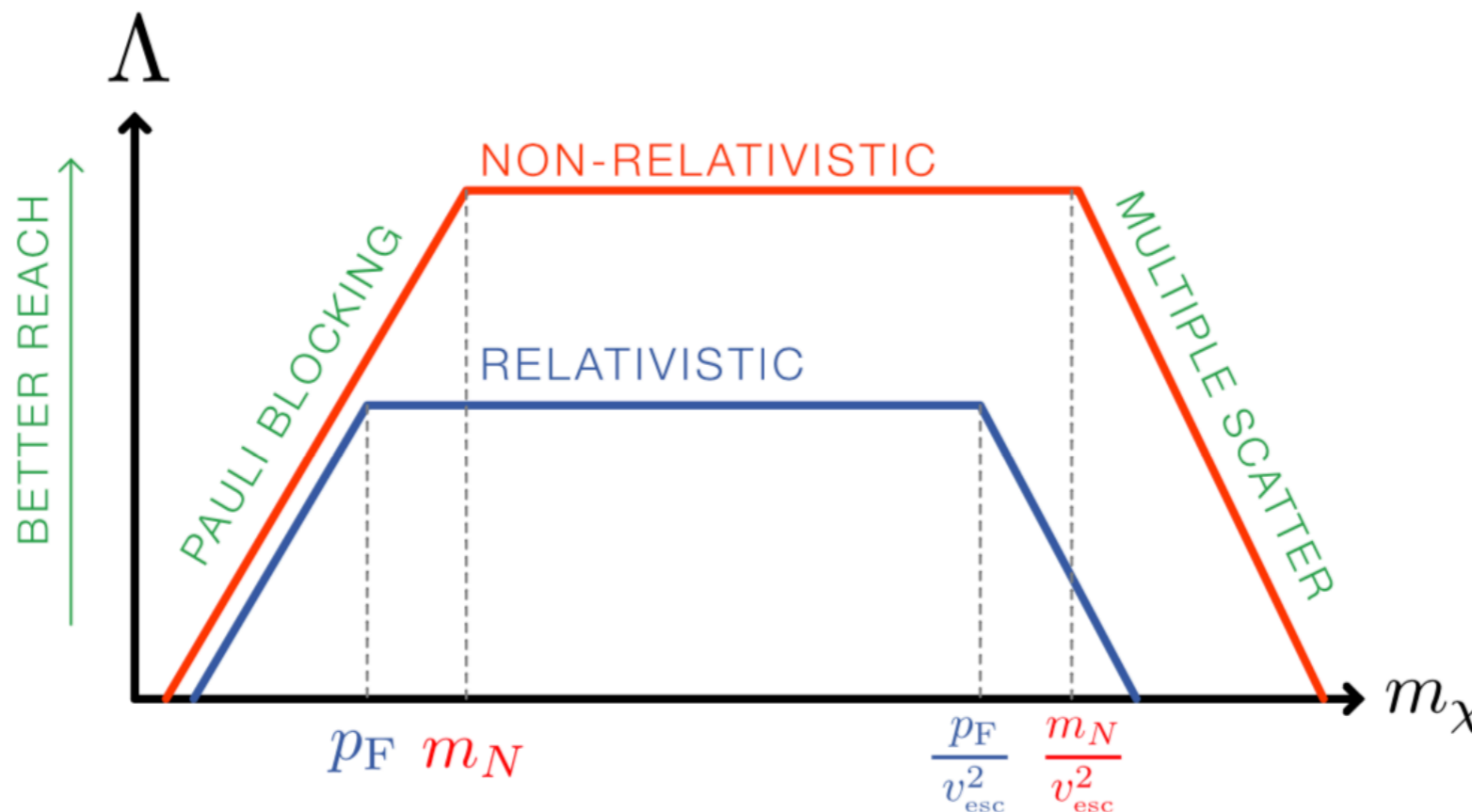
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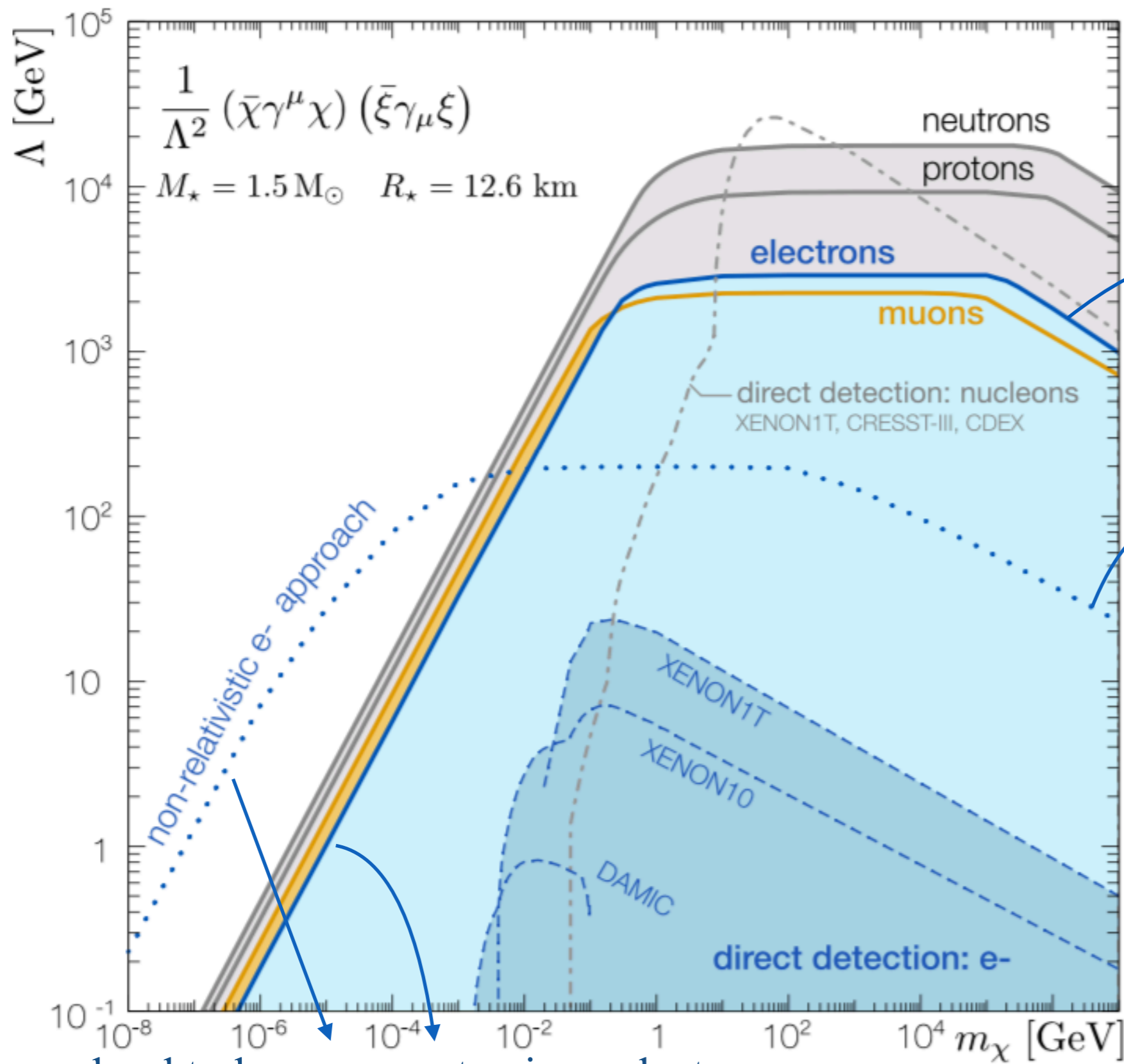
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For short-distance interactions:

$$\frac{(\bar{\chi} \Gamma_{\chi} \chi)(\bar{f} \Gamma_f f)}{\Lambda^2}$$



“Electron star” dark matter detection

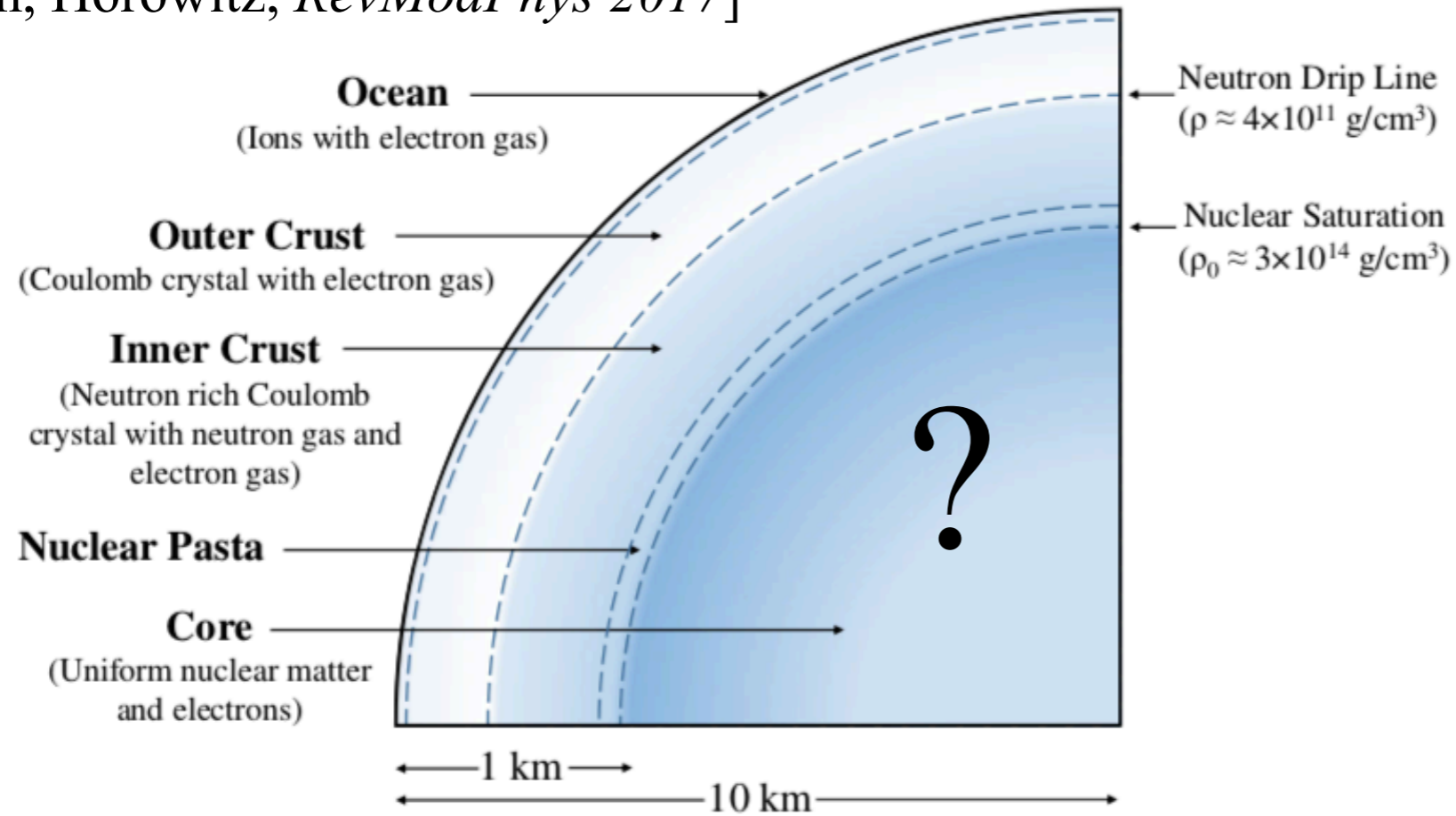


cross section \propto Fermi energy²
 [(150 MeV)²]

cross section \propto electron mass²
 [(0.5 MeV)²]

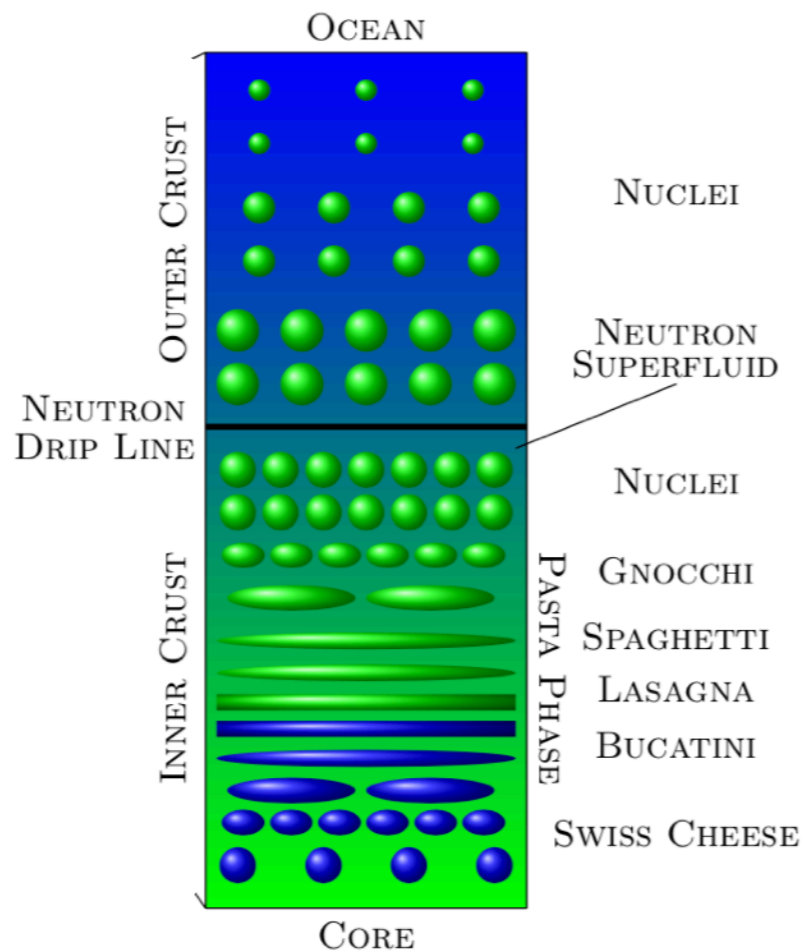
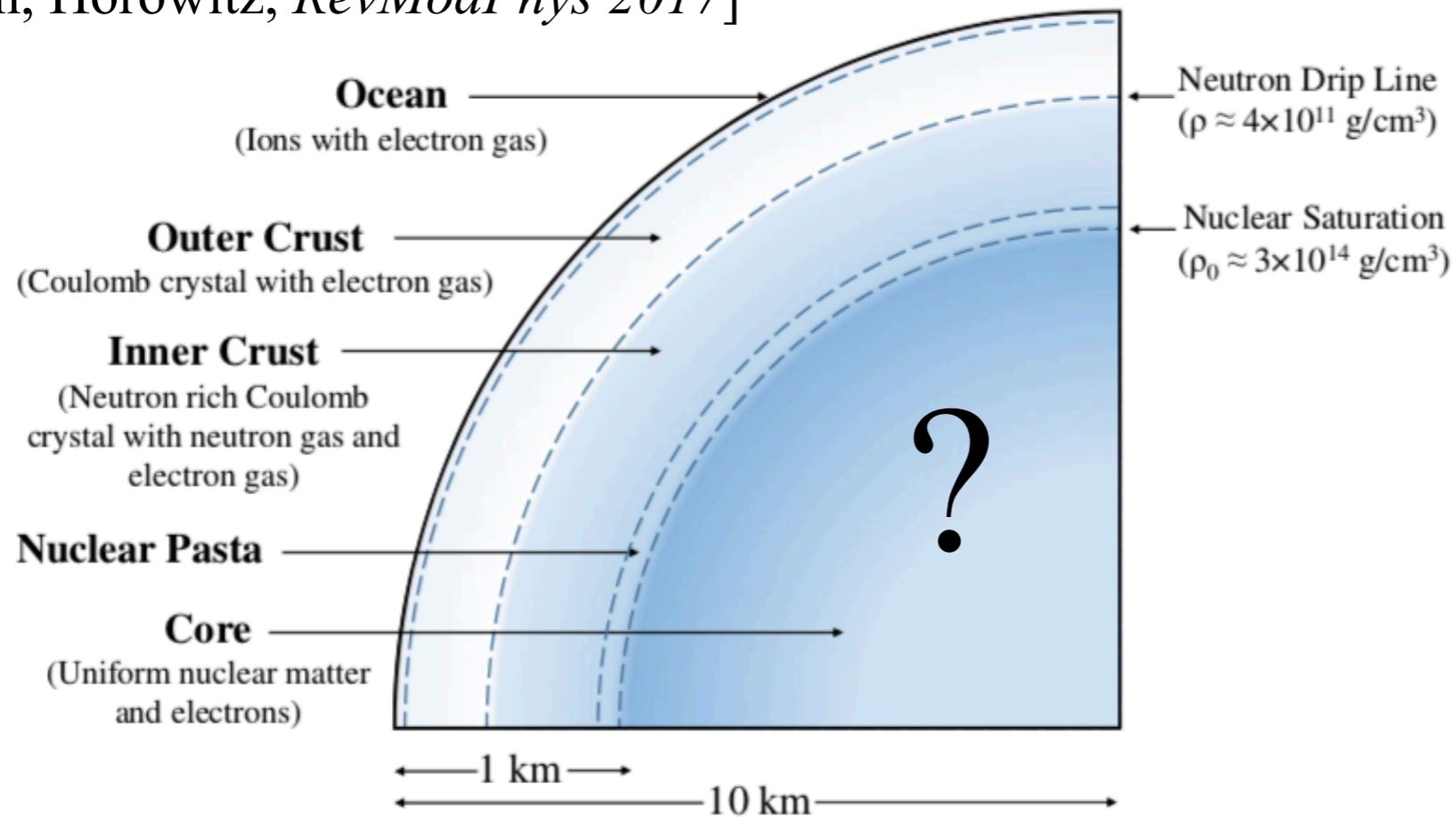
hard to lose energy to zippy electrons

[Caplan, Horowitz, *RevModPhys* 2017]



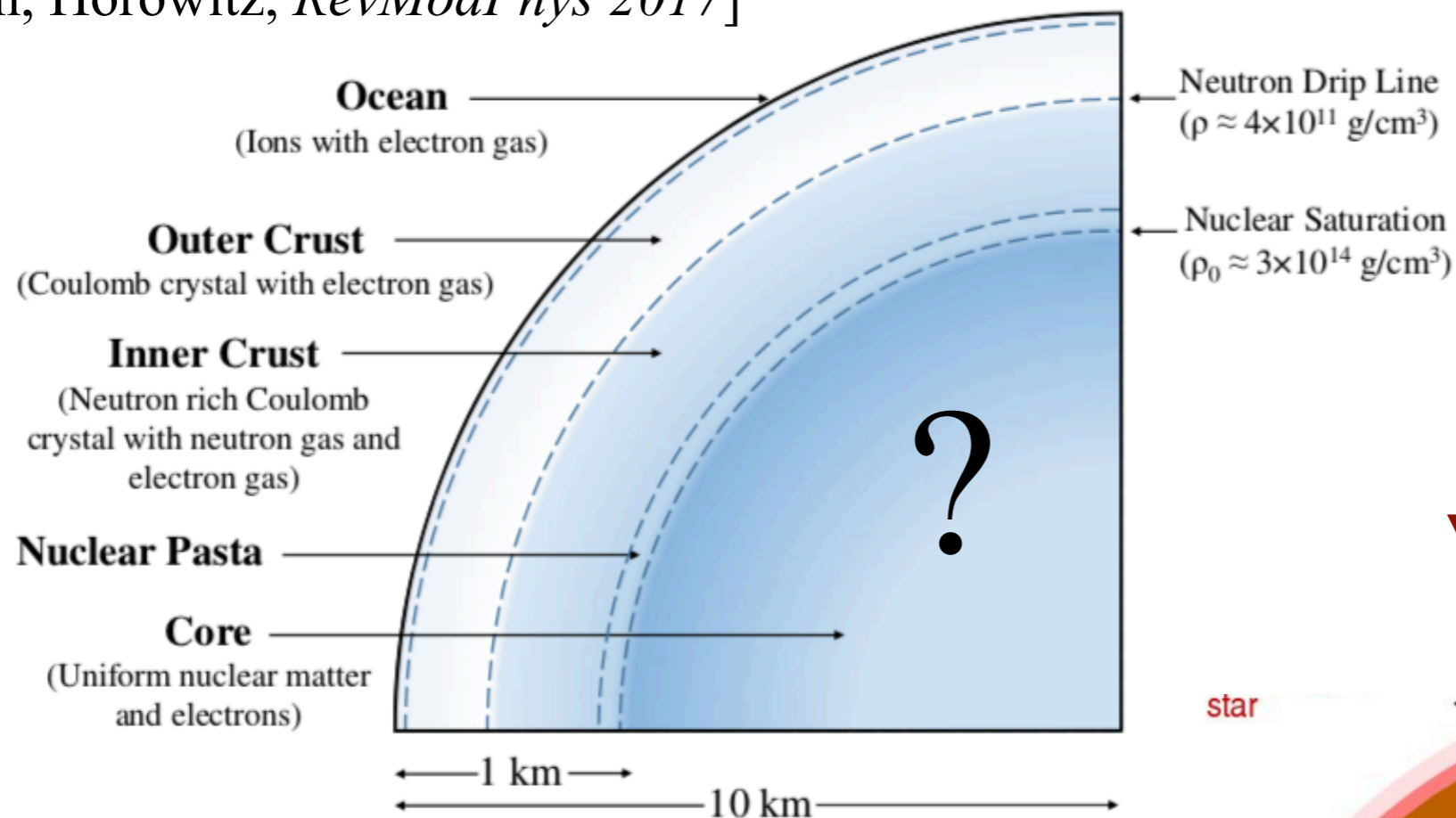
Are we barking down
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[Caplan, Horowitz, *RevModPhys* 2017]

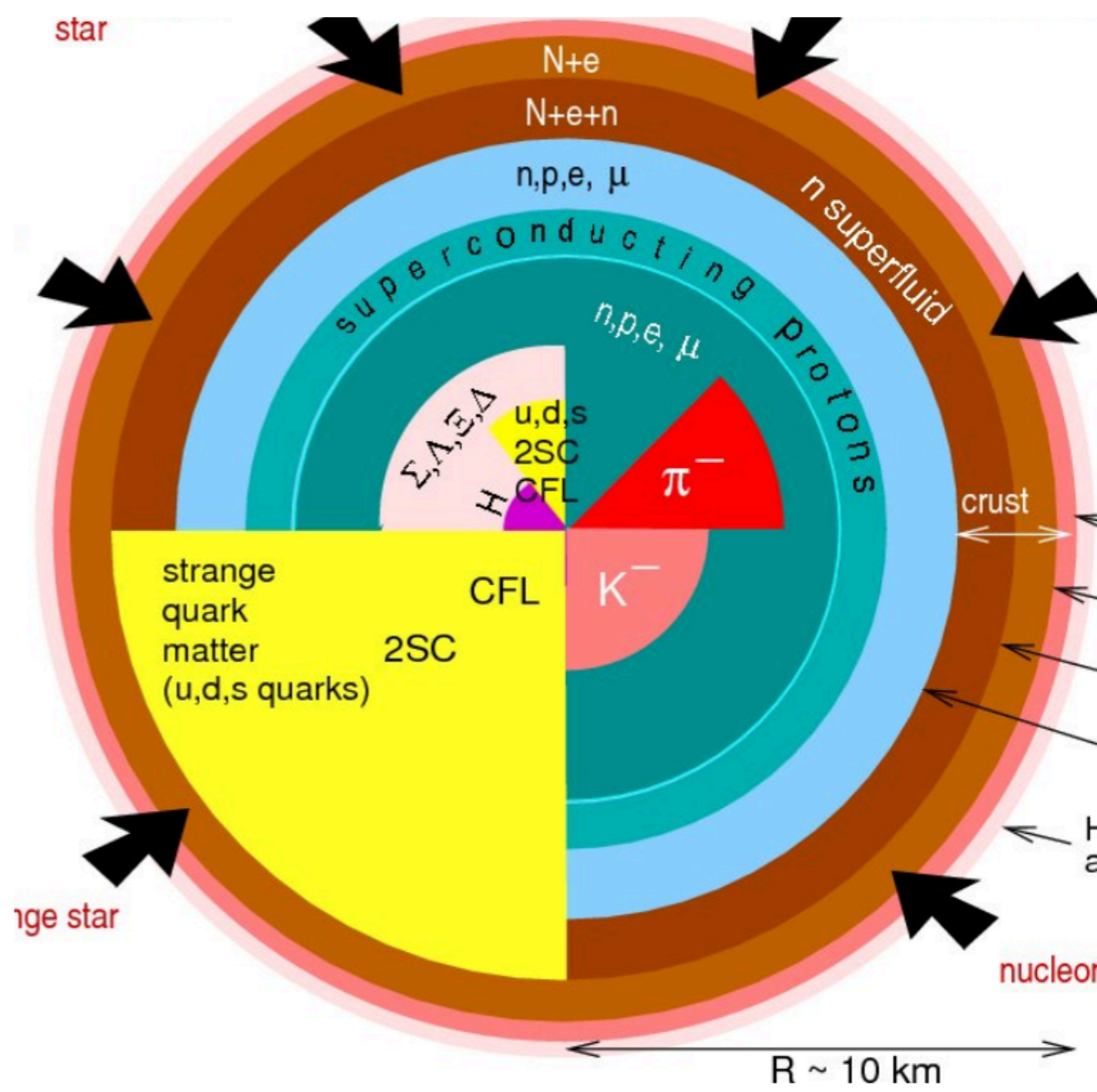
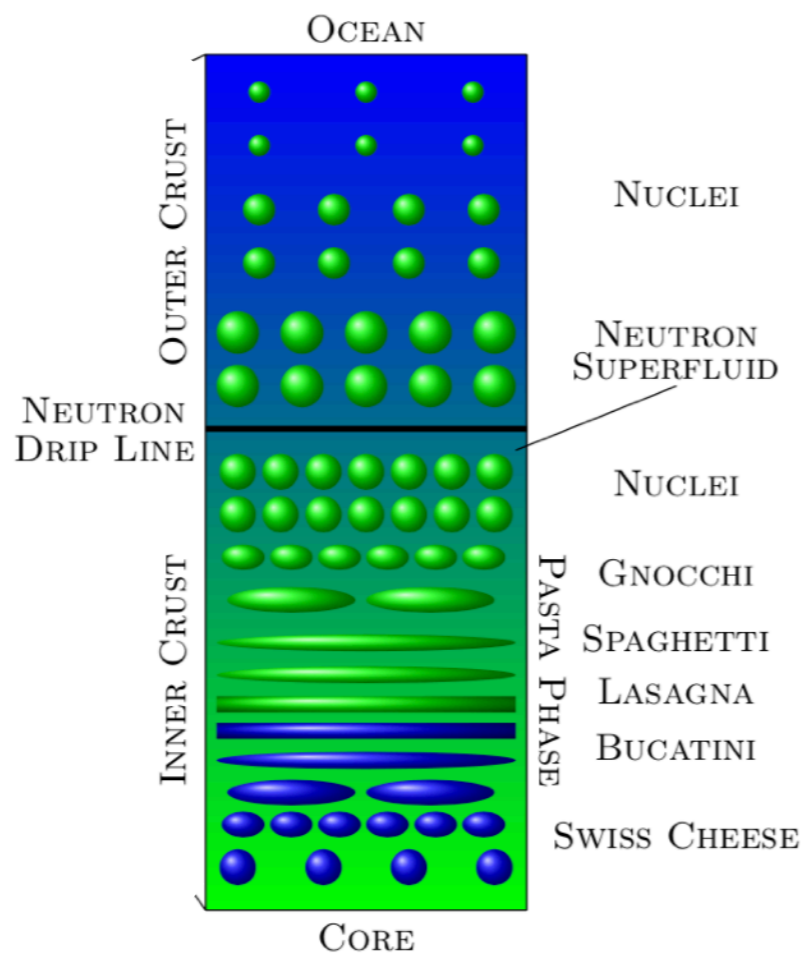


structure of the crust,
better understood than core

[Caplan, Horowitz, *RevModPhys* 2017]

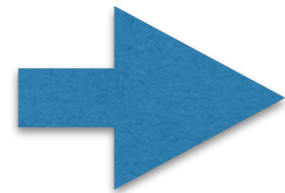


deeper =>
knowledge of structure
more uncertain

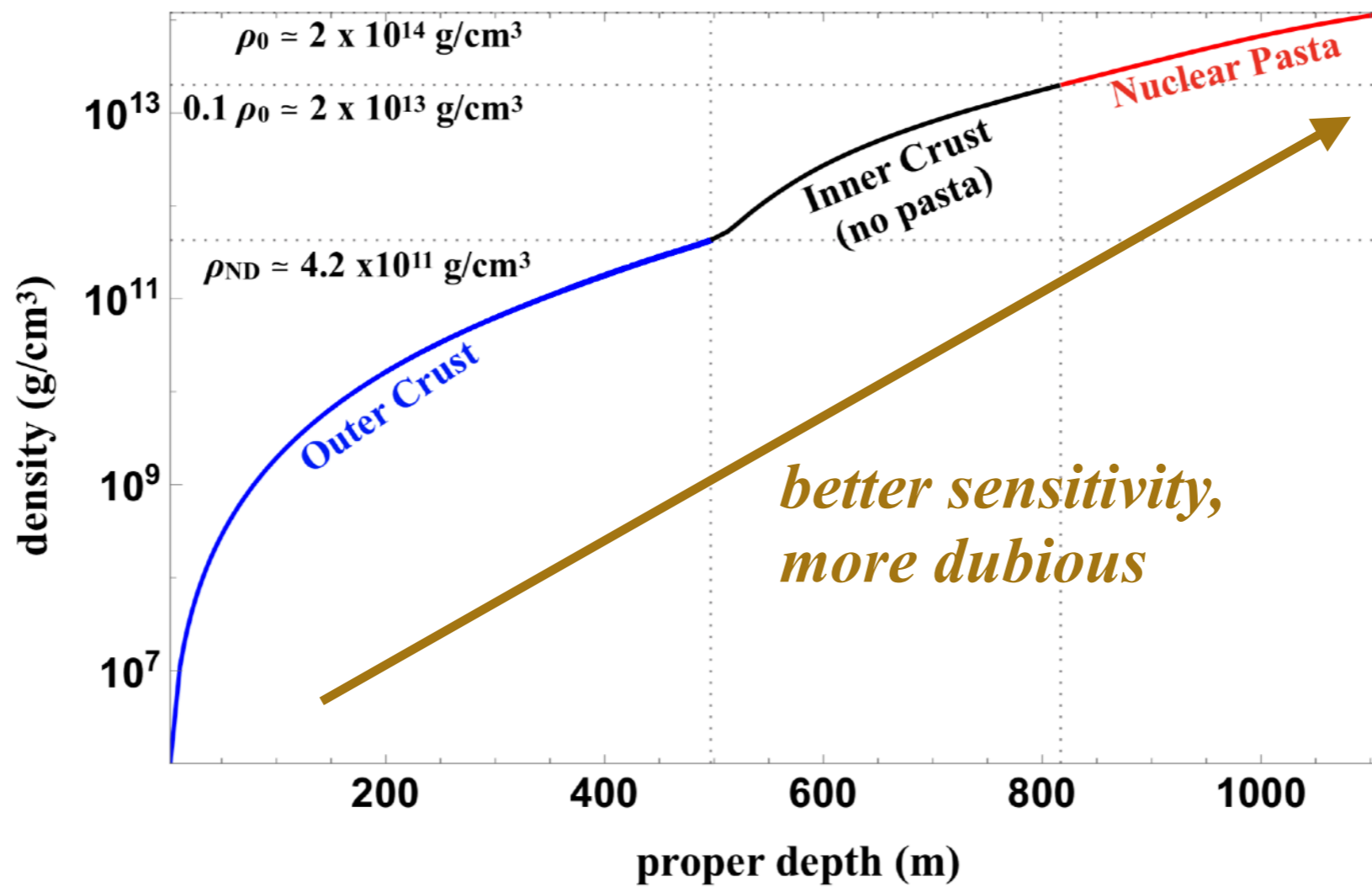


Climbing down the layers

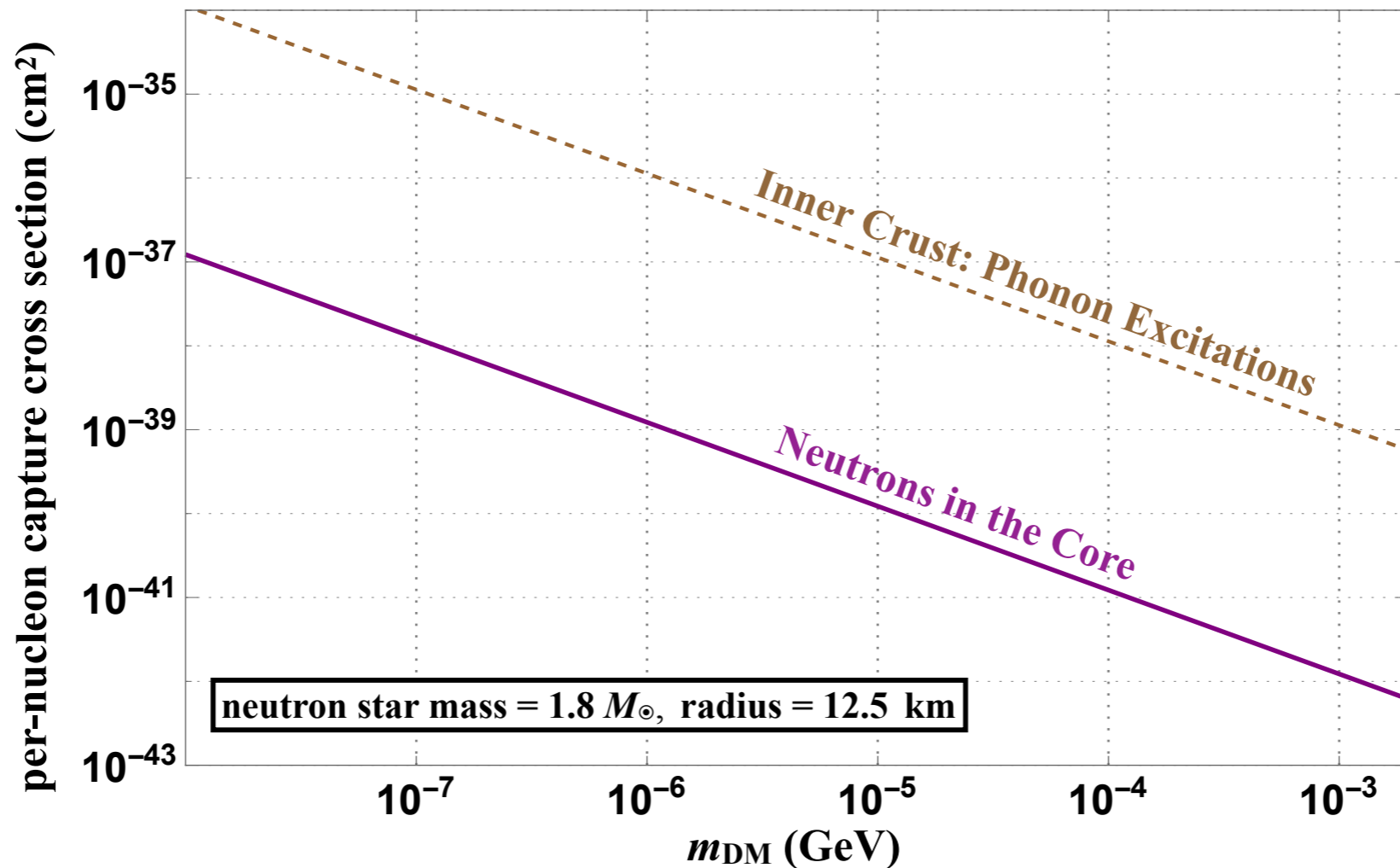
deeper =>
knowledge of structure
more uncertain



worthwhile to investigate capability of
every layer to capture dark matter



Crust vs low mass dark matter



capture by exciting single
superfluid phonon:

energy deposited > halo KE

$[q \times \text{phonon speed}] [m_{\text{DM}} (10^{-3} c)^2]$

$\sim m_{\text{DM}} v_{\text{esc}} \times 0.04 c$

$$\sigma_{\text{phonon}}(q) = S_{\text{phonon}}(q) \sigma_{n\chi}$$

$$\downarrow$$

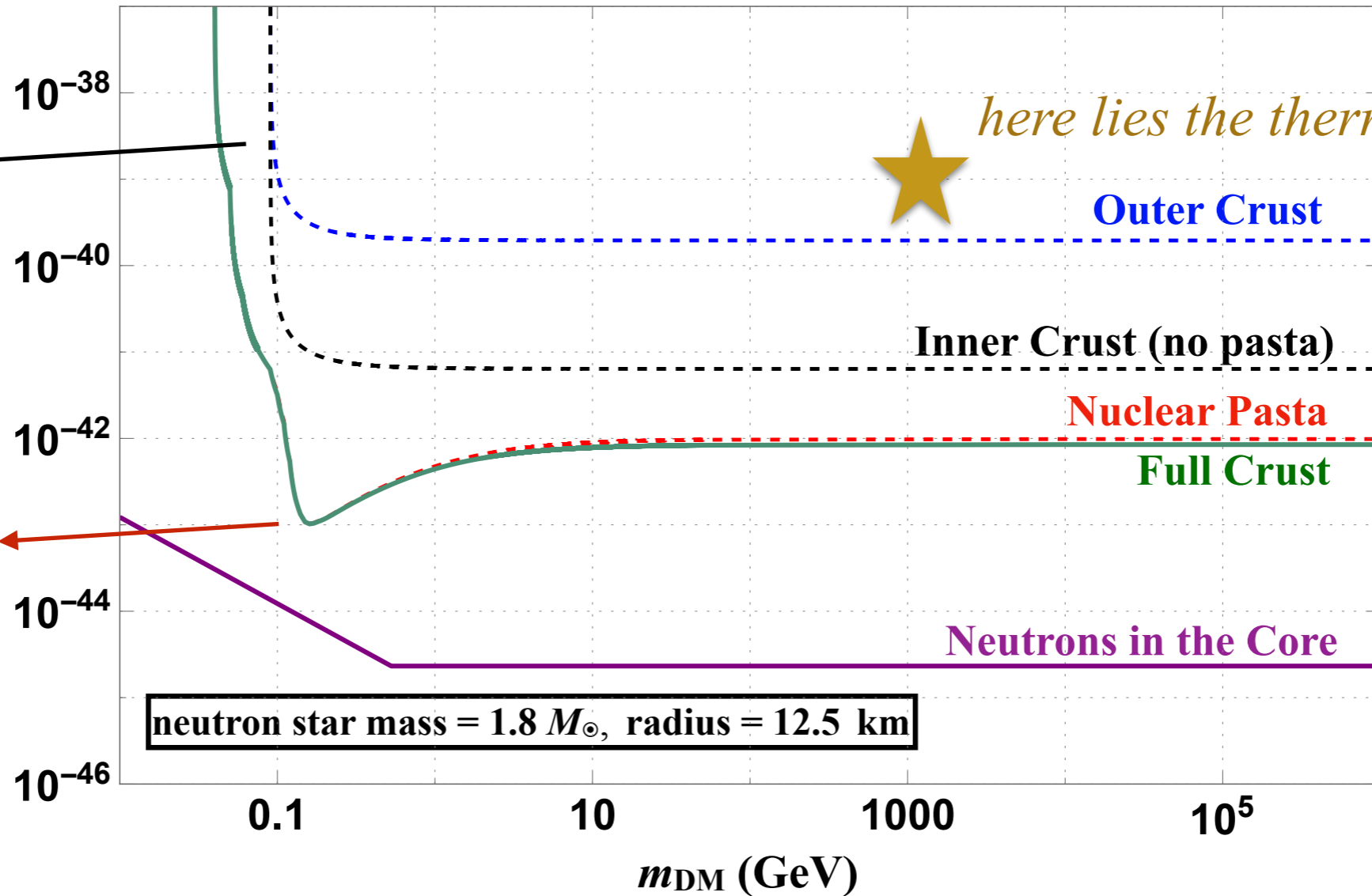
$$q / (2m_n \times \text{phonon speed})$$

Crust vs WIMPs & heavier dark matter

capture by (quasi-)elastic scattering on *nucleons*

energy transfer < nucleon binding energy
 $\sim 10 \text{ MeV}$

response peak

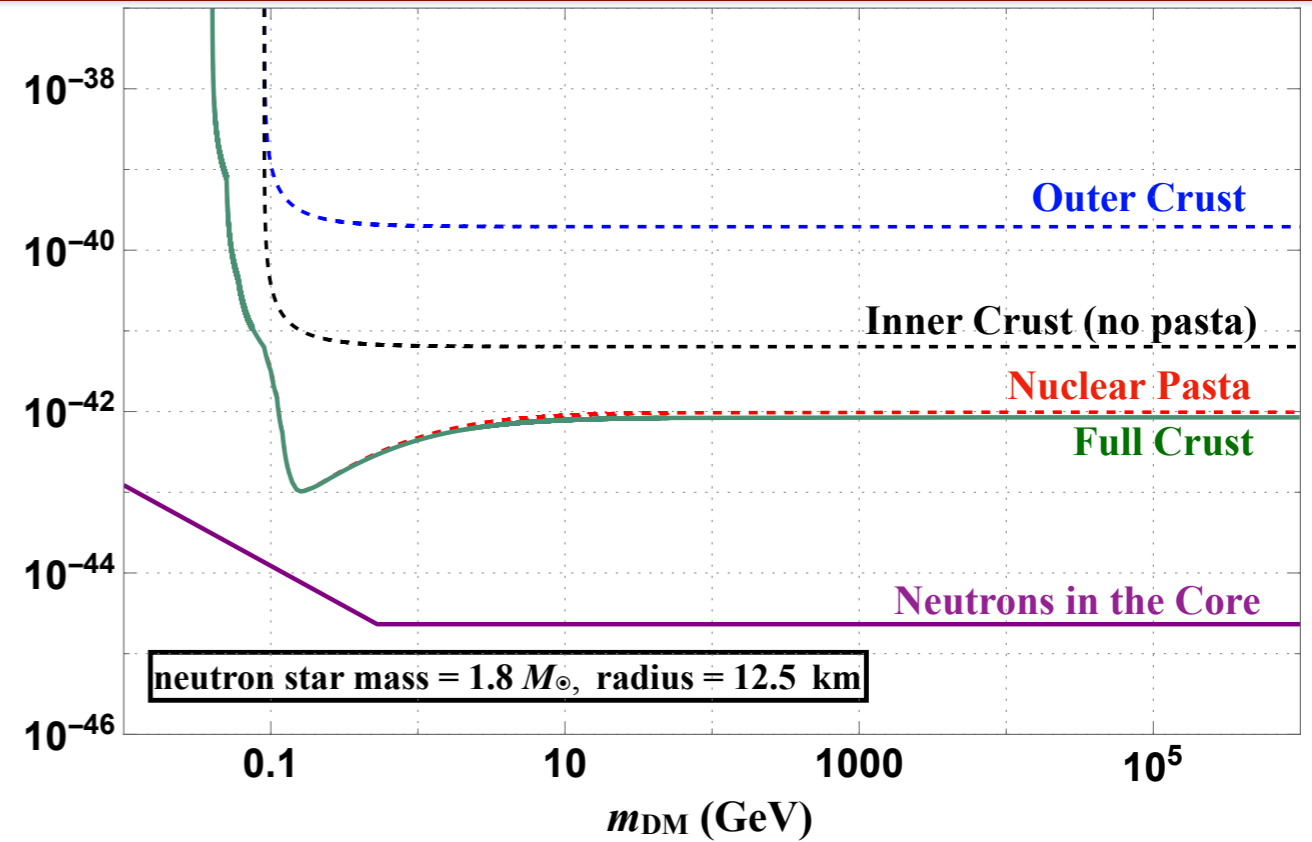
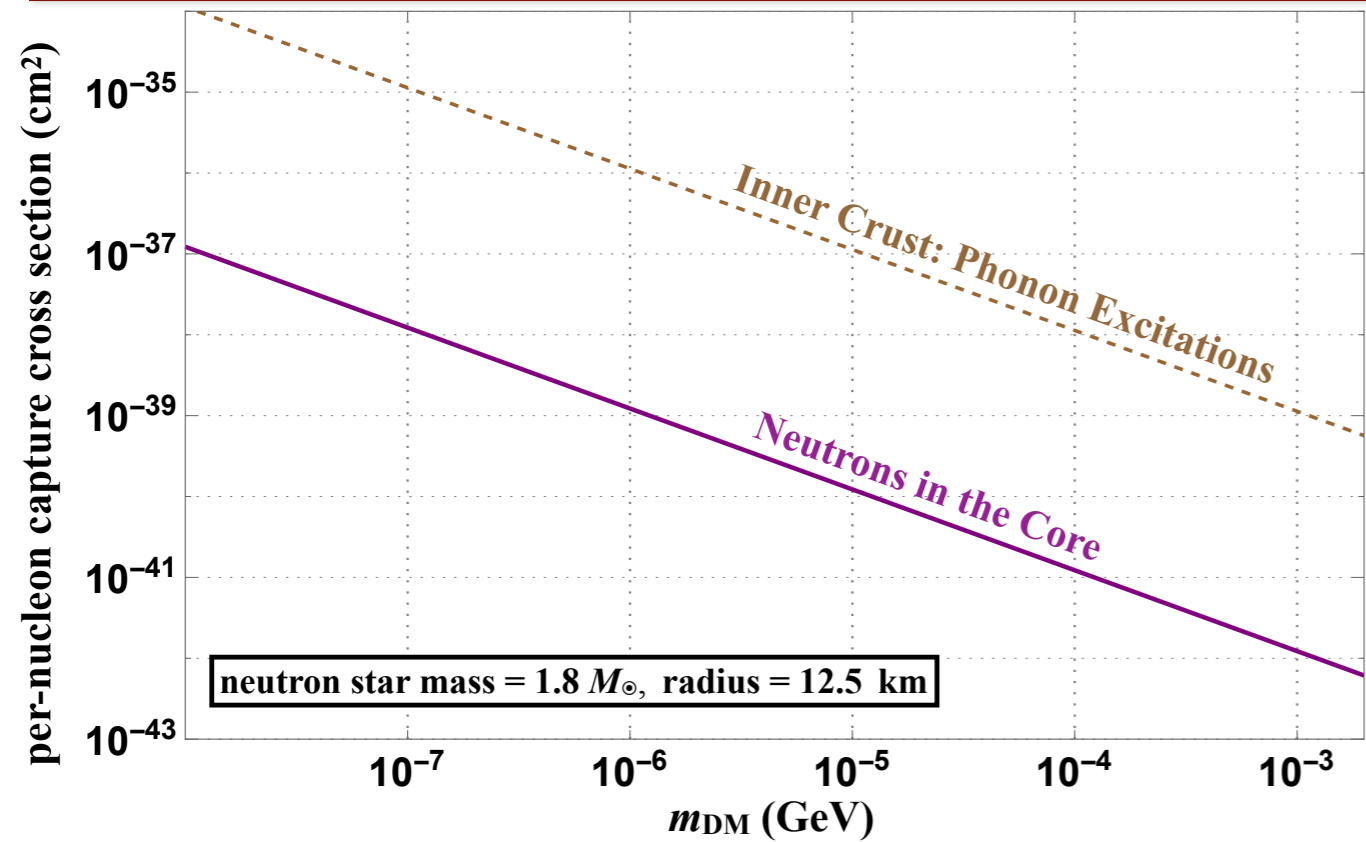


capture by pasta:

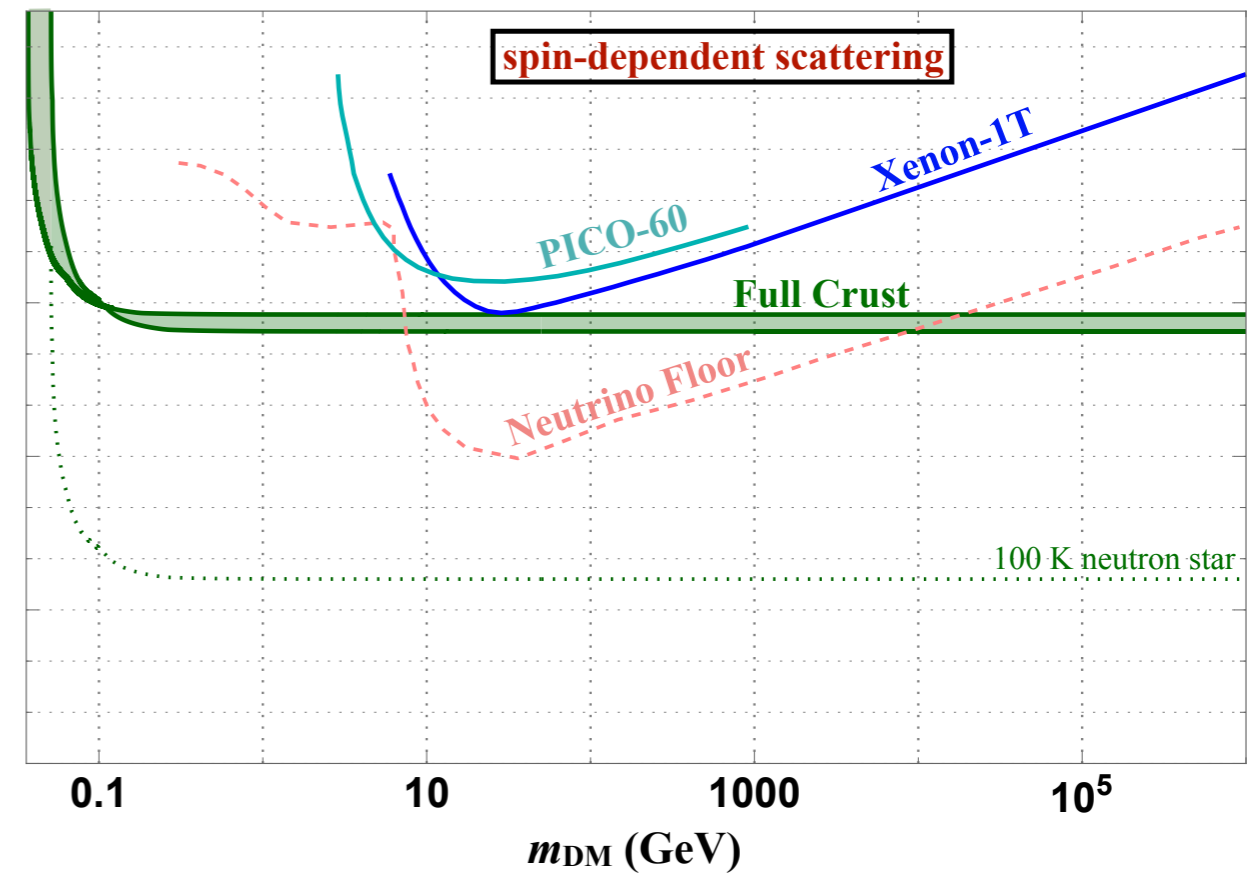
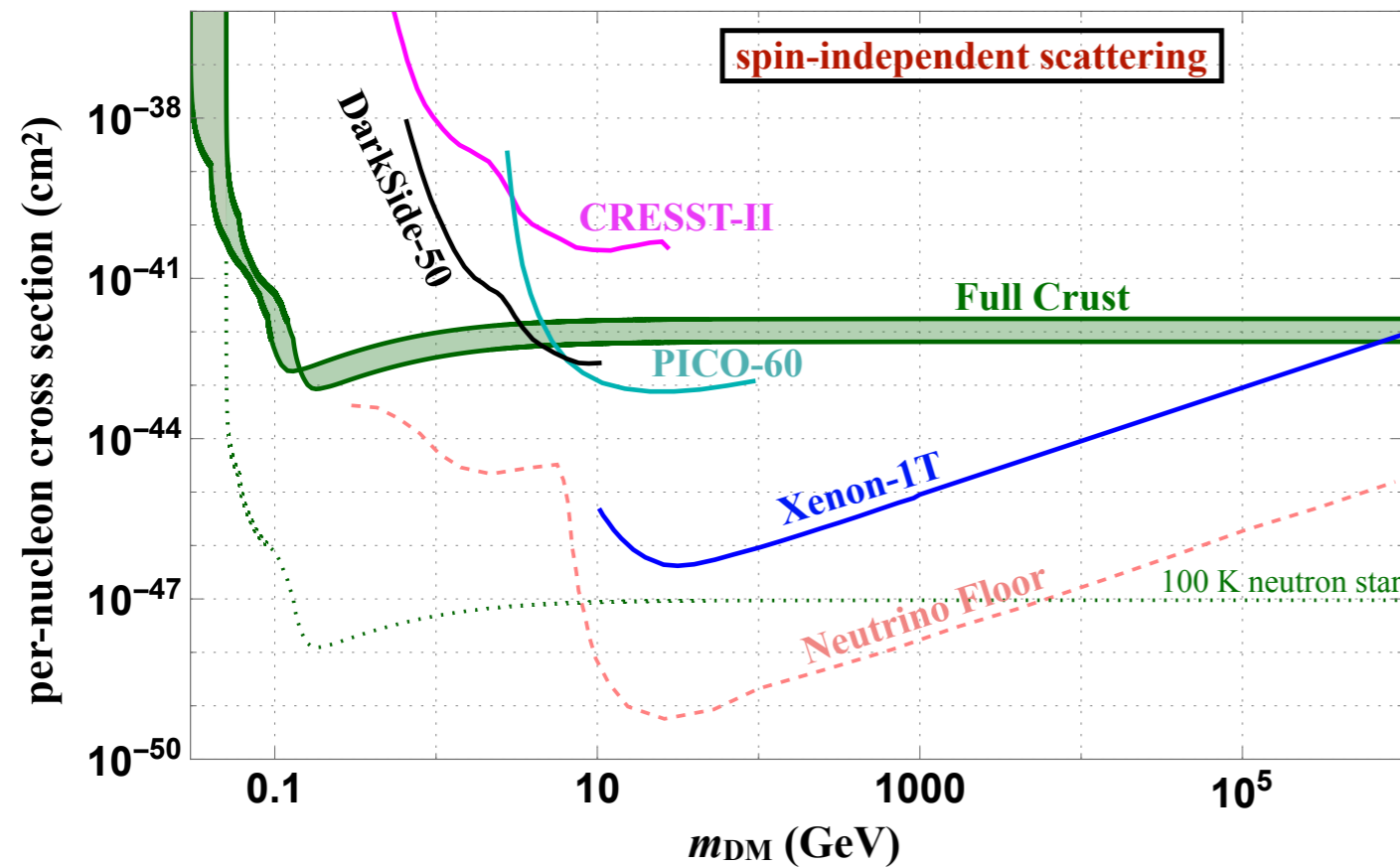
$$\sigma_{\text{pasta}}(q) = S_{\text{pasta}}(q) \sigma_{n\chi}$$

response function describing correlations among *nucleons* in pasta

Neutron star crust vs Earth crust



versus direct detection:



Takeaways

- Dark kinetic heating of neutron stars via scattering on *non-relativistic nucleonic* or *ultra-relativistic electronic* targets, in the *less-understood core* or *fail-safe crust*, seriously advances the direct detection frontiers of

low mass (sub-GeV) ,
high mass (> 100 GeV) ,
spin-dependence ($\sigma_{SD} > 10^{-45} \text{ cm}^2$) ,
velocity-dependence ,
inelasticity (< GeV splittings) , and
sub-neutrino floors .

- Exoplanet observers like James Webb and Thirty Meter Telescope can unmask it with a day's worth of exposure.

Backup

The importance of being

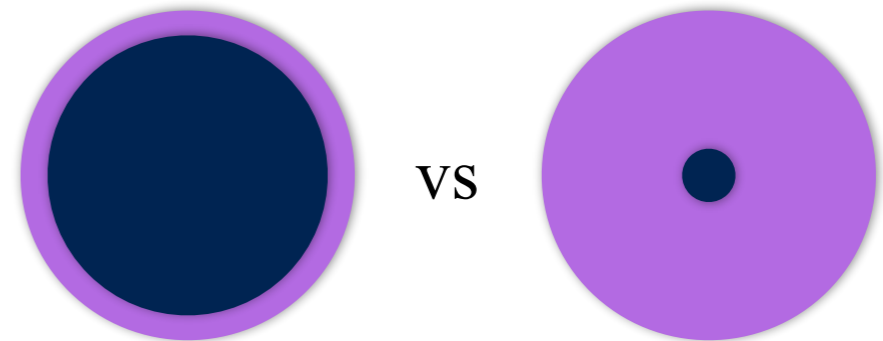
Annihilation saves observation time (= \$\$)
by a factor of $>10!$

But how much annihilation is guaranteed?

Asymmetric (with Z_2 -given stability) — none
p-wave — very suppressed

Does DM even thermalize with the star?

Affects DM spatial distribution,
hence annihilation rate:



PHYSICAL REVIEW D **88**, 123505 (2013)

Dark matter thermalization in neutron stars

Bridget Bertoni,^{1,2,*} Ann E. Nelson,^{1,†} and Sanjay Reddy^{2,‡}

Spin-0 DM, vector interaction with quarks

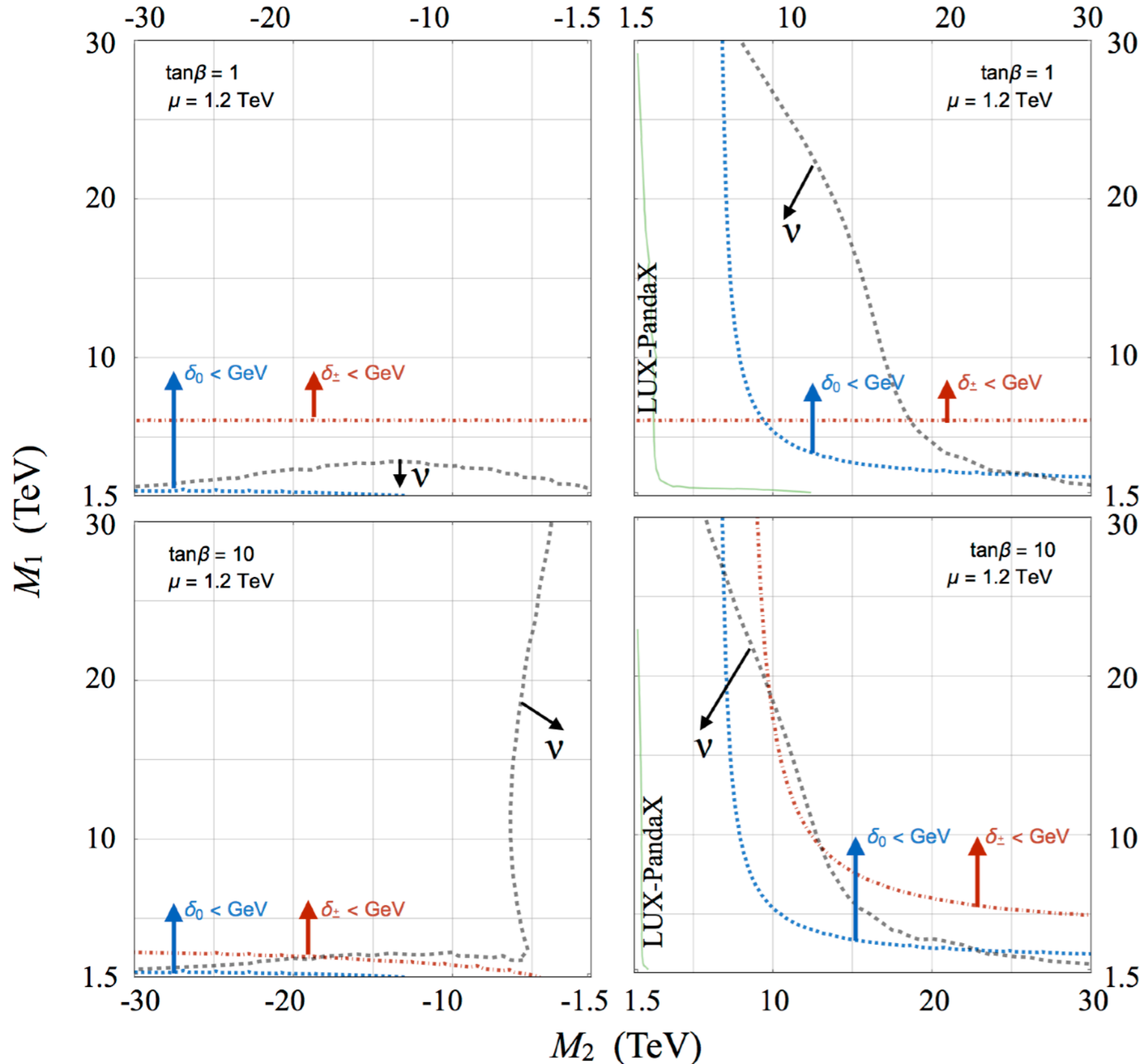
What happens for other spins & interactions?

What if scattering is velocity-suppressed?
inelastic?

Investigation ongoing...

Complementing terrestrial searches

M Baryakhtar, J Bramante, S Li, T Linden, **N R**;1704.01577

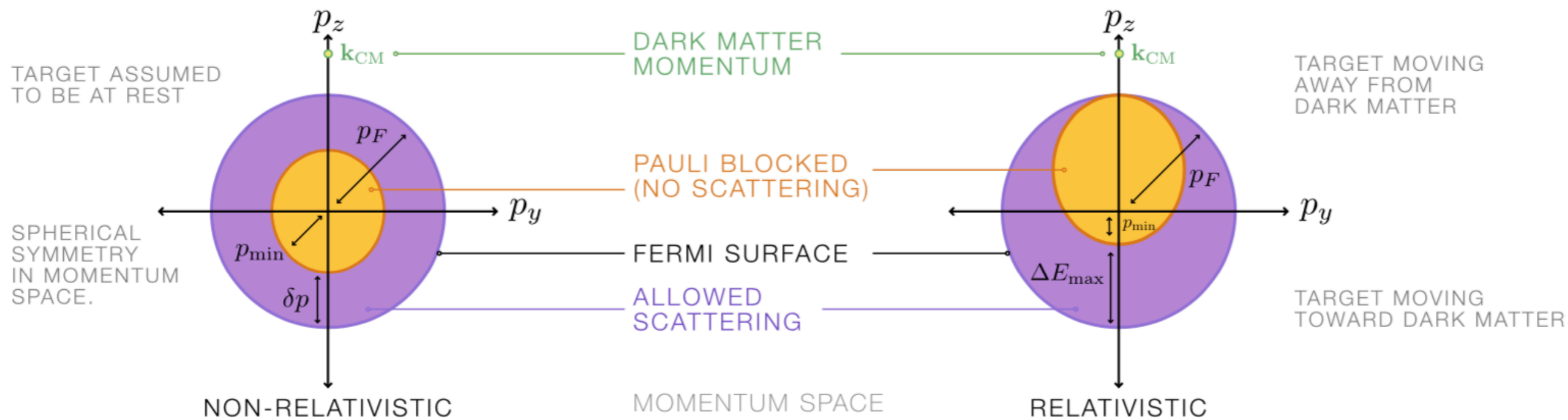


- (1) Low mass ✓
- (2) High mass ✓
- (3) Strong ✓
- (4) Spin-dependent ✓
- (5) Inelastic ✓

$$\delta_0 \simeq \frac{v^2}{4} \left(\frac{g_1^2}{M_1} + \frac{g_2^2}{M_2} \right),$$

$$\delta_{\pm}^{\text{tree}} \simeq \frac{v^2}{4} \left(\frac{g_1^2}{M_1} (1 + \sin 2\beta) + \frac{g_2^2}{M_2} (1 - \sin 2\beta) \right),$$

$$\delta_{\pm}^{\text{loop}} \simeq \left(\frac{g_2}{4\pi} \right)^2 \mu \sin^2 \theta_W f \left(\frac{m_Z}{\mu} \right),$$

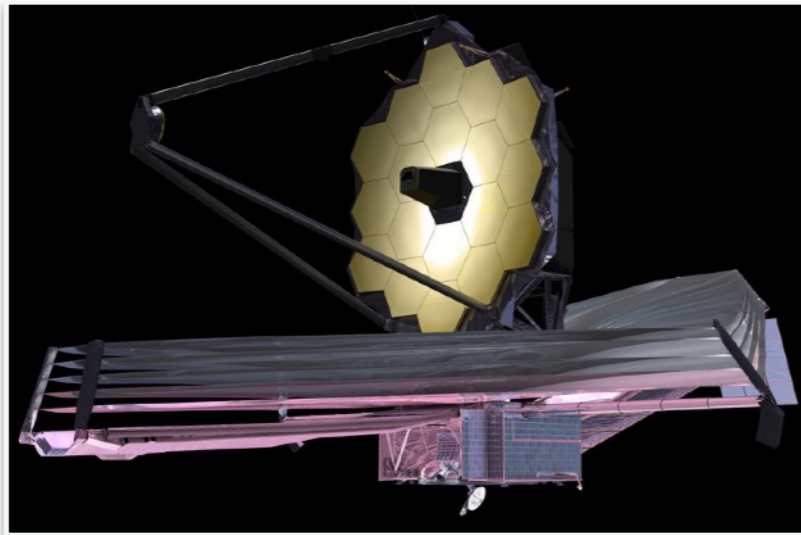


Detection: infrared telescopes

$T = 1750$ Kelvin (infrared emission)

backup

Peak wavelength: $1.65 \mu\text{m}$



James Webb



Thirty Meter

Imager

NIRCam

IRIS

Filter

F200W

K-band

$1.75 - 2.2 \mu\text{m}$

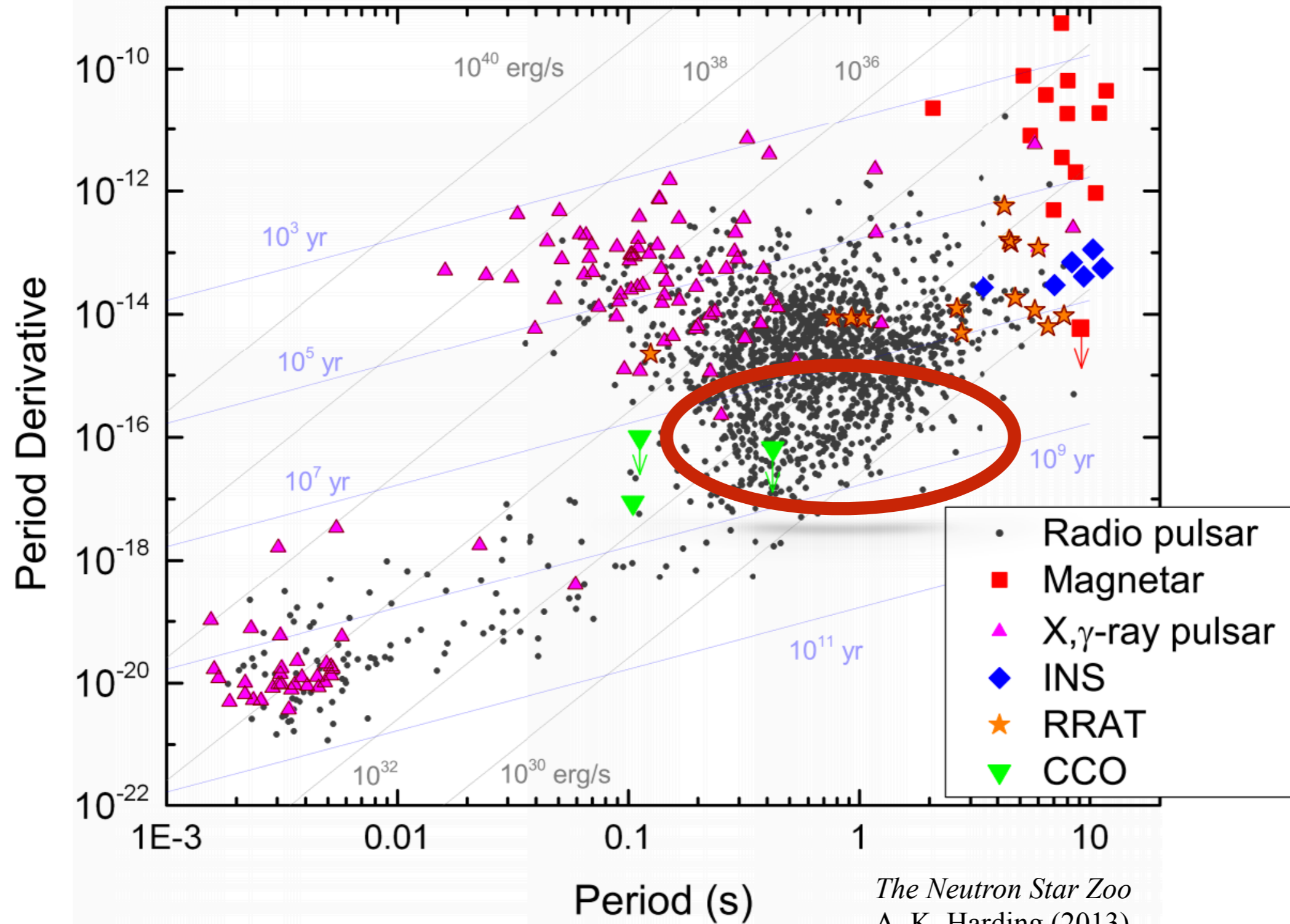
$2.0 - 2.4 \mu\text{m}$

Observ. time
for 2σ sensitivity

$$10^5 \text{ sec} \left(\frac{d}{10\text{pc}} \right)^4$$

$$7 \times 10^4 \text{ sec} \left(\frac{d}{10\text{pc}} \right)^4$$

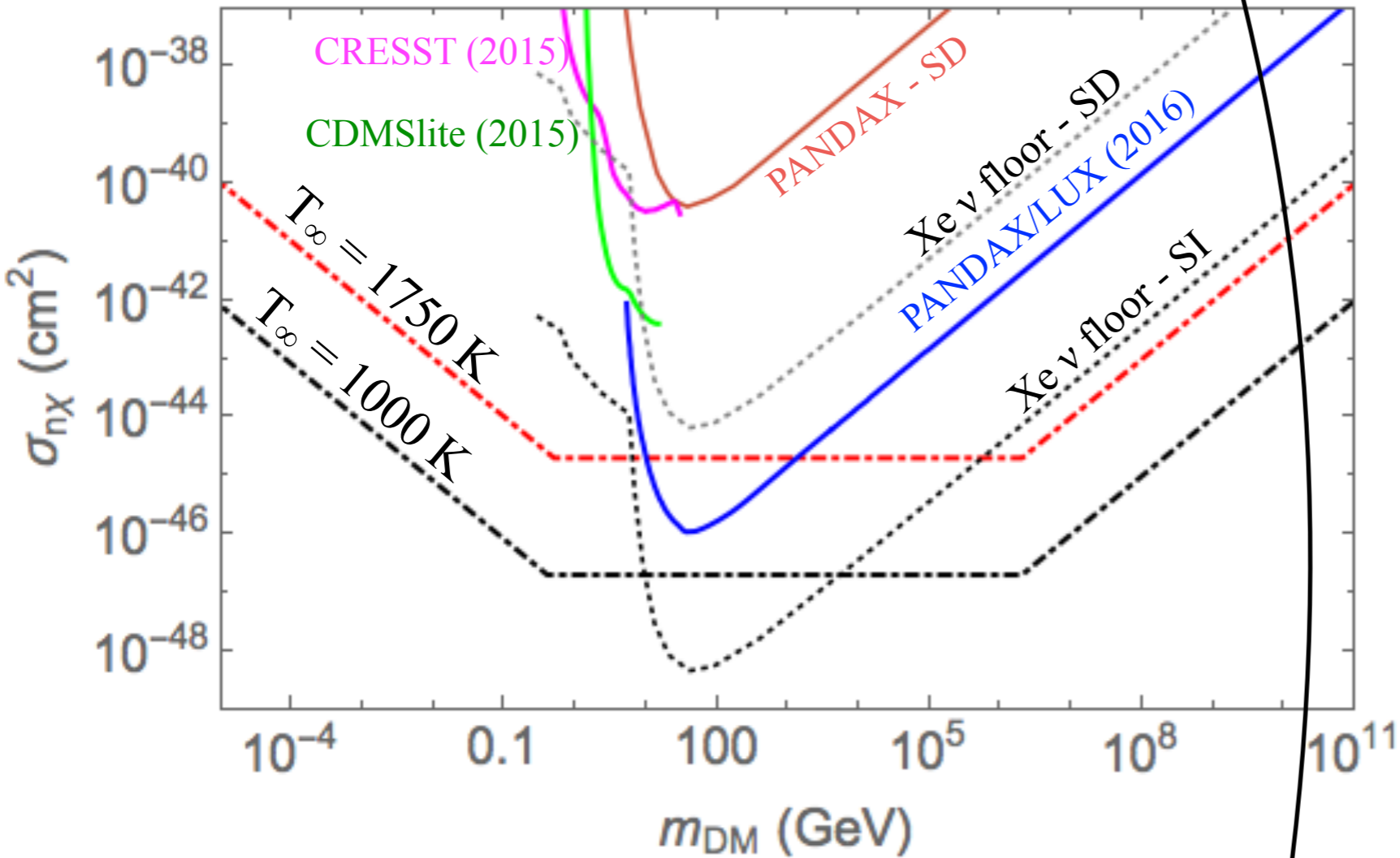
Detection: radio pulsing



The Neutron Star Zoo
A. K. Harding (2013)

Complementing

M Baryakhtar, J Bramante, S Li, T Linden, **N R**;1704.01577



- (1) Low mass
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Underground searches would terrifically complement us.