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# BSM PHYSICS AT THE FORWARD PHYSICS FACILITY AT THE LHC

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AstroCeNT, NCAC PAS & National Centre for Nuclear Research, Poland

XXIX Cracow EIPHANY Conference

January 18, 2023

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Whitepapers:

J.L. Feng, F. Kling, M.H. Reno, J. Rojo, D. Soldin et al, 2203.05090

L.A. Anchordoqui et al, 2109.10905

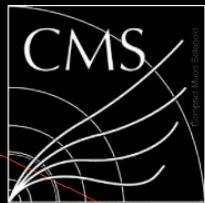
+ many other papers

# LHC: HIGH $p_T$ AND LOW $p_T$ SEARCHES

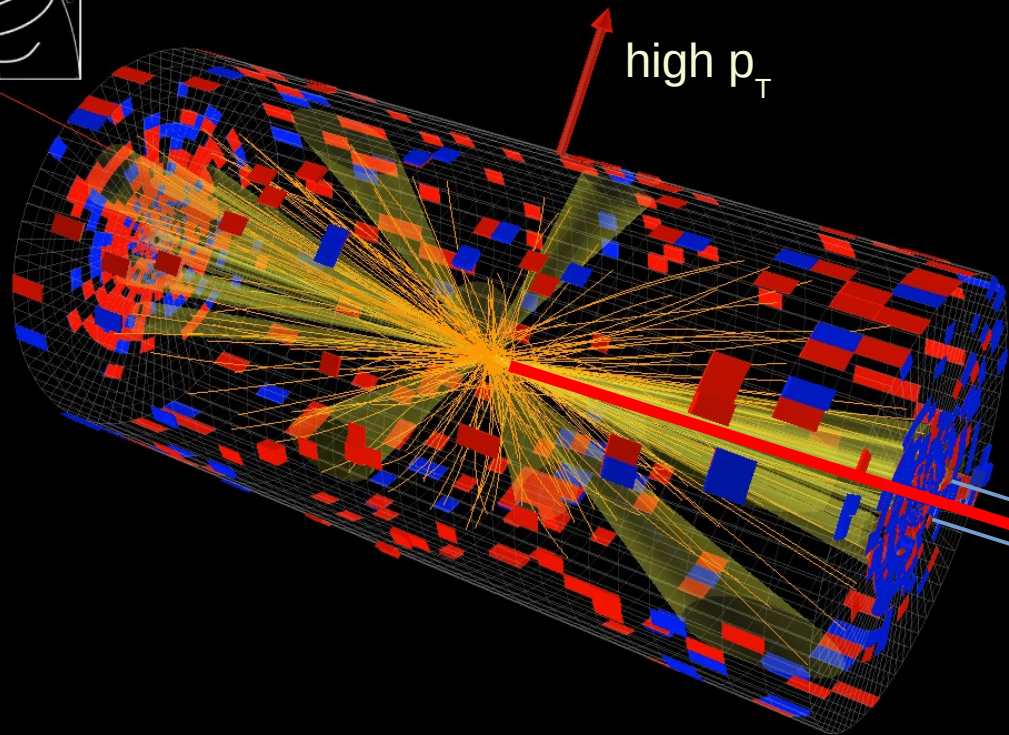
Heavy new physics preferentially searched for in the high  $p_T$  region, but...

LHC is also a factory of light particles

(e.g. light mesons, mostly dismissed as not interesting)



CMS Experiment at LHC, CERN  
Data recorded: Thu Apr 5 01:18:00 2012 CEST  
Run/Event: 190389 / 107592030  
Lumi section: 138



$\sigma_{\text{inel}} \sim 75 \text{ mb}$ ,  
e.g.,  $N_{\pi} \sim 10^{18}$  at  $3 \text{ ab}^{-1}$

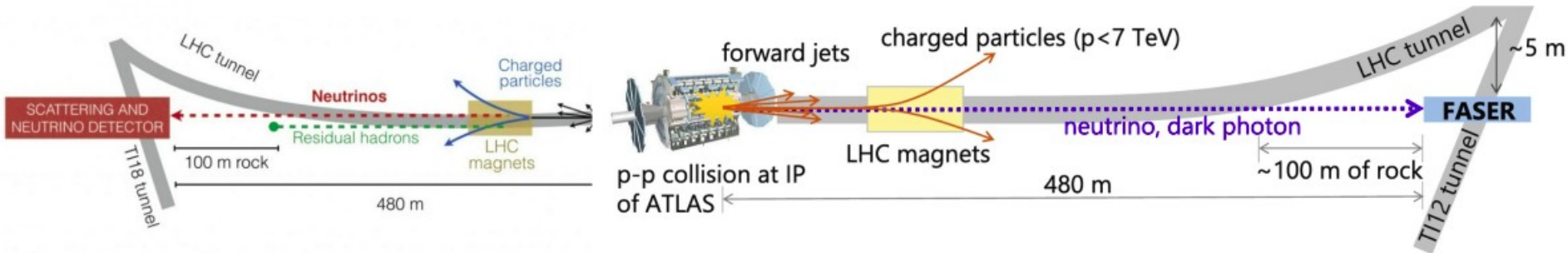
(for comparison  $\sigma \sim \text{fb} - \text{pb}$   
and  $N_H \sim 10^8$  Higgs bosons  
at  $3 \text{ ab}^{-1}$  in high- $p_T$  searches)

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# FORWARD PHYSICS FACILITY

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# FAR-FORWARD SEARCHES AT THE LHC

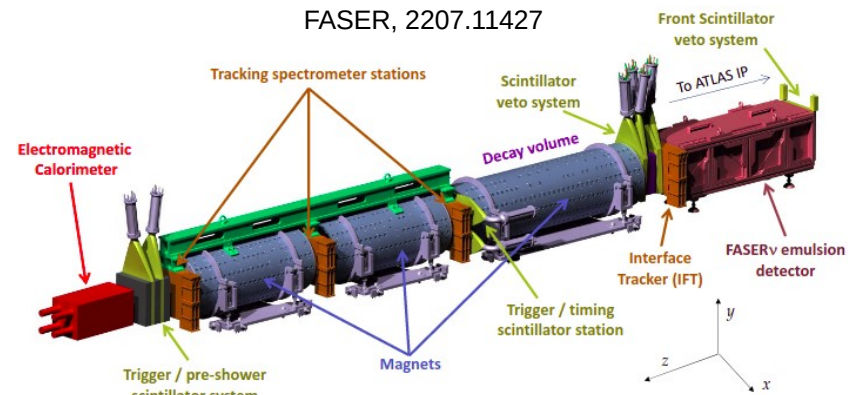


- Forward direction: lots of activity down the beam pipe

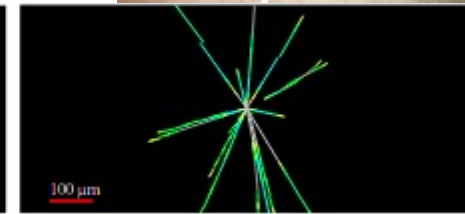
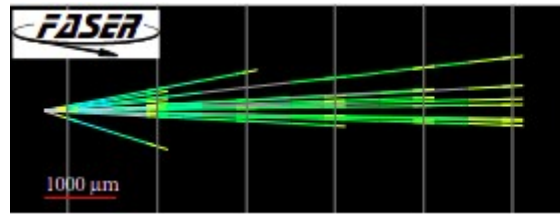
- Far-forward detectors:
  - well-screened from pp collisions
  - only neutrinos and muons survive
  - can search for rare BSM events

- **Current Run 3:** FASER, SND@LHC

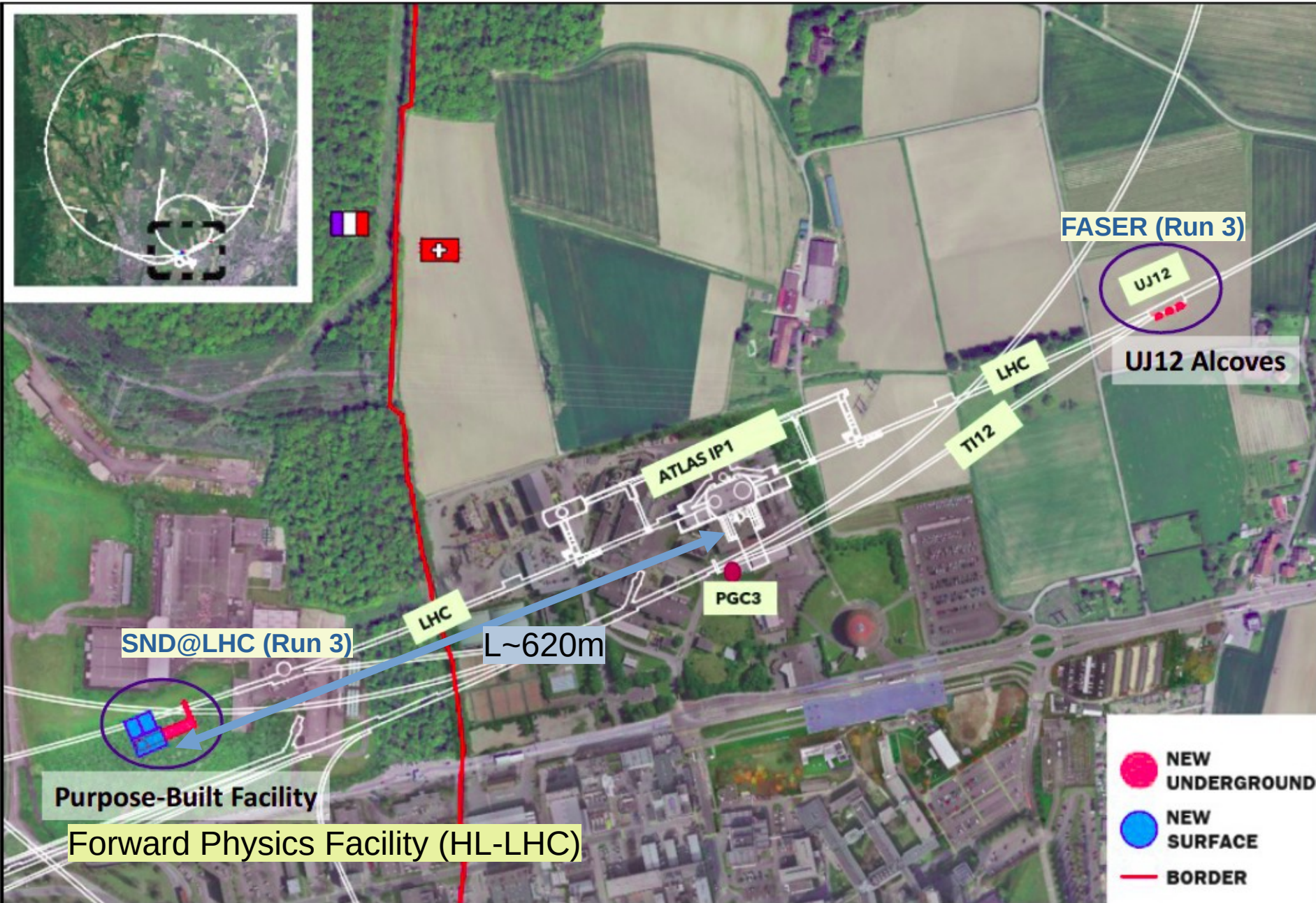
- Physics:
  - “Precision” high-energy neutrino physics
  - New physics searches



FASER, Phys.Rev.D 104 (2021) 9, L091101



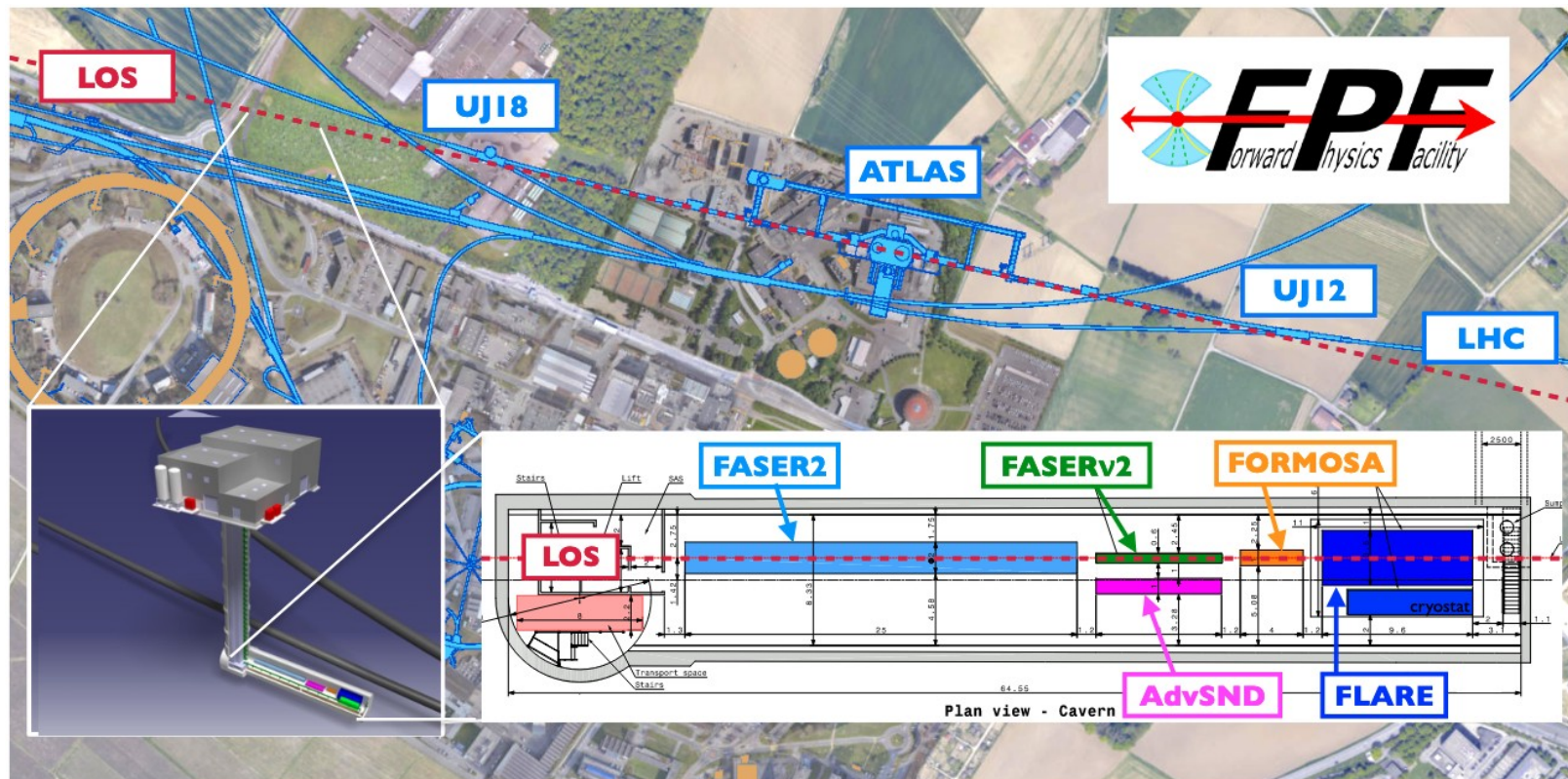
# Far-forward searches at the LHC in a bird's eye view



# PURPOSE-BUILT FACILITY

Underground facility:

- ~620 m far forward from the ATLAS IP,
- shielded by ~200 m concrete and rock.
- several experiments proposed (signatures: decay, scattering, ionization)
- up to ~1M neutrino events (of order 10k  $\nu_\tau$  CC events)

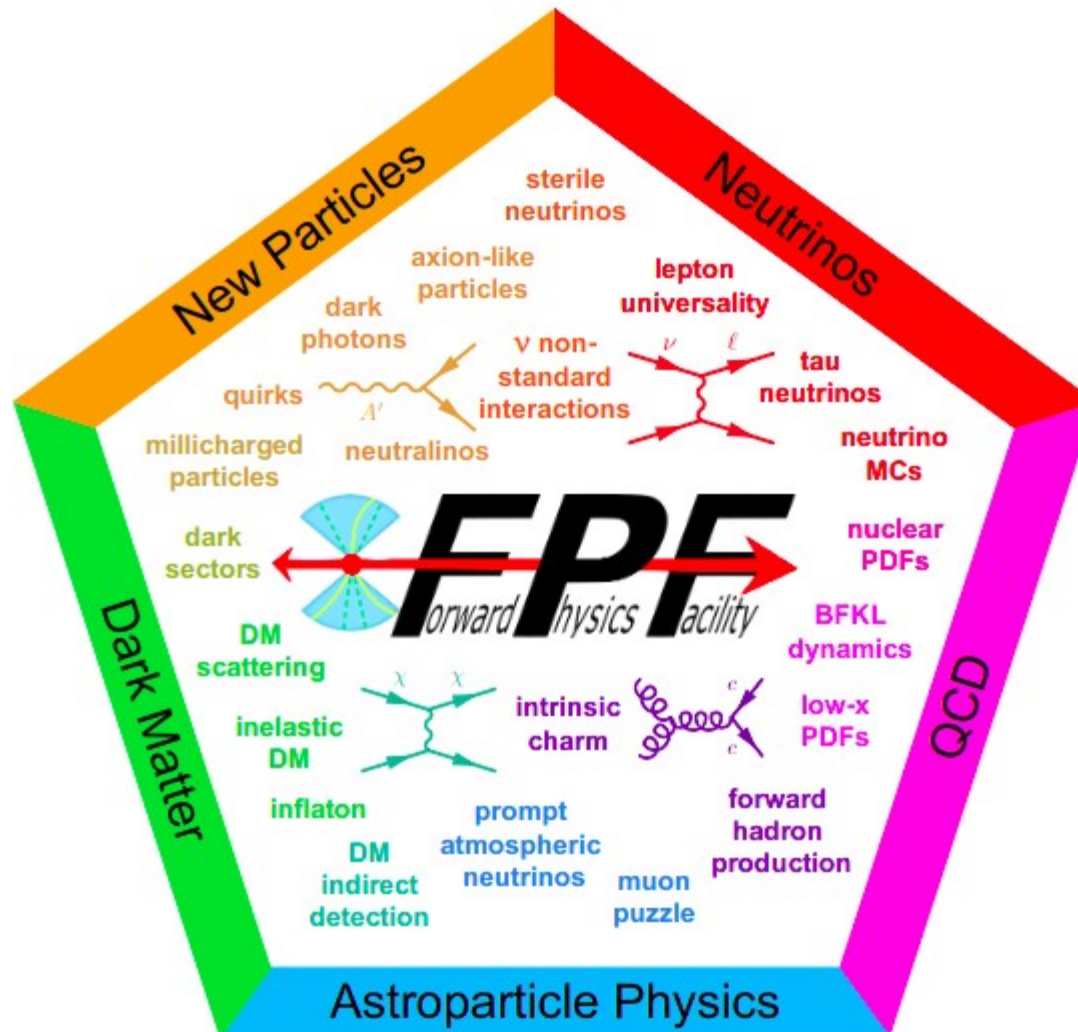


# STATUS

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- FASER/FASERv and SND@LHC experiments are taking data
- Forward Physics Facility (FPF)
  - Experiments: largely based on existing collaborations (FASER, SND@LHC, MilliQan)
  - New idea: **Forward Liquid Argon Experiment (FLArE)** – BNL (lead), UCI, ...
- The U.S. Snowmass process – strong endorsements of the FPF in the Energy Frontier, the Neutrino Frontier, the Rare Process Frontier, the Cosmic Frontier
- CERN:
  - Large progress in facility planning
  - Extensive simulations (CERN FLUKA team); BG and radiation safety, muons
  - Physics Beyond Colliders (PBC) at CERN allocated 75K CHF for site investigation
- Organization
  - Facility & experiments (Run 3 is running, HL-LHC: design)
  - Physics – working groups (neutrino, BSM)

# PHYSICS AT THE FPF

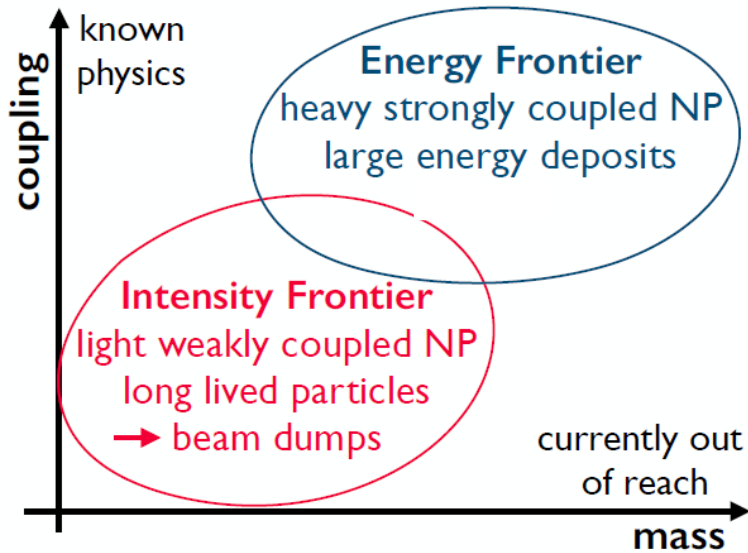




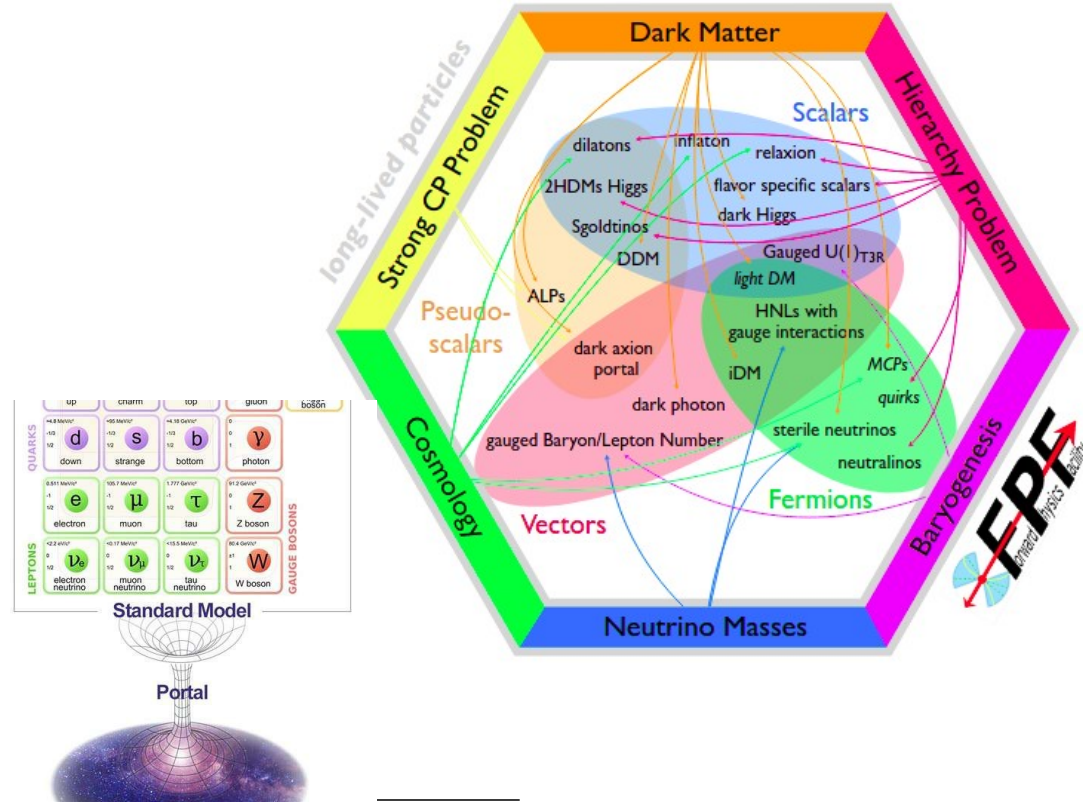
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**NEW PHYSICS PARTICLES  
LIGHT LONG-LIVED (LLP) or STABLE**

# LIGHT LONG-LIVED PARTICLES



## NEW PHYSICS & FPF



Portal Coupling

Dark Photon,  $A_\mu$   $-\frac{\epsilon}{2 \cos \theta_W} F'_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu}$

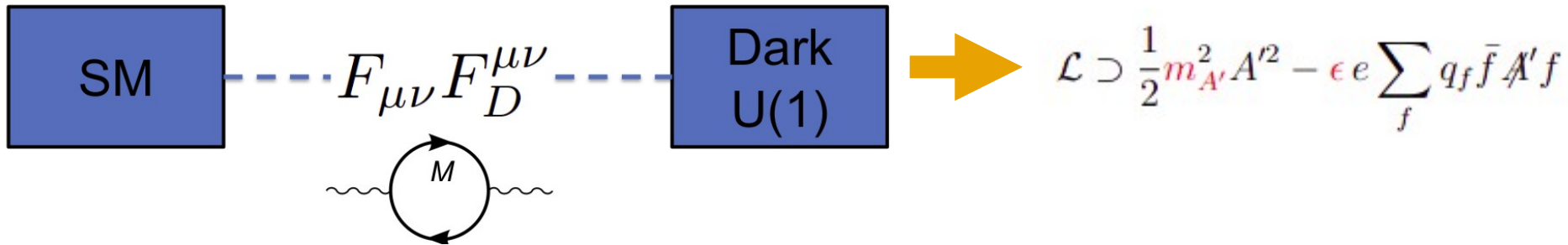
Dark Higgs,  $S$   $(\mu S + \lambda S^2) H^\dagger H$

Axion,  $a$   $\frac{a}{f_a} F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}, \frac{a}{f_a} G_{i,\mu\nu} \tilde{G}_i^{\mu\nu}, \frac{\partial_\mu a}{f_a} \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 \psi$

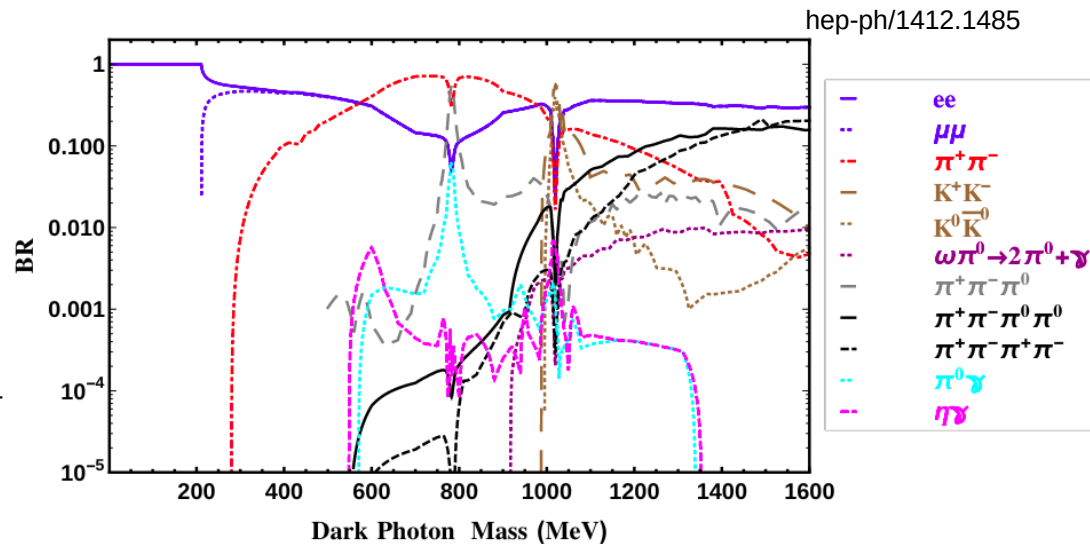
Sterile Neutrino,  $N$   $y_N L H N$

# PROTOTYPE SCENARIO - DARK PHOTON

- New light ( $\sim$ sub-GeV) vector secluded from the SM, coupled via kinetic mixing  
(can be induced by heavy new fields at the loop level charged under both  $U(1)$  and  $U(1)_D$ )
- Suppressed couplings to SM fermions



- Dark photons can decay into SM fermions
- Lifetime depends on  $\epsilon$   
Decays can be prompt  
and **DISPLACED**
- Various final states are possible  
Below 500 MeV mass di-lepton  
final states  $e^+e^-$  &  $\mu^+\mu^-$

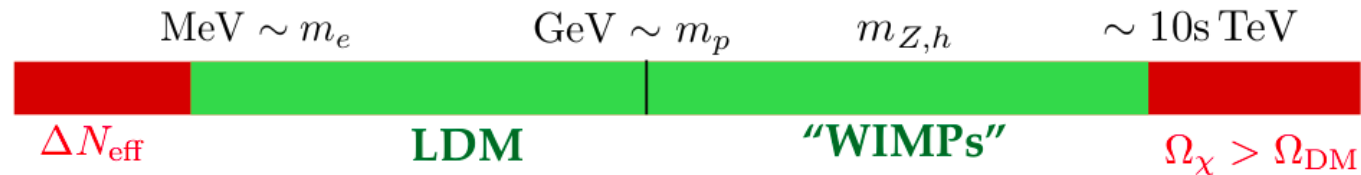


# LIGHT DARK MATTER VIA DARK PHOTON

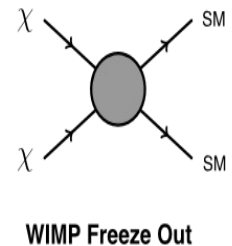
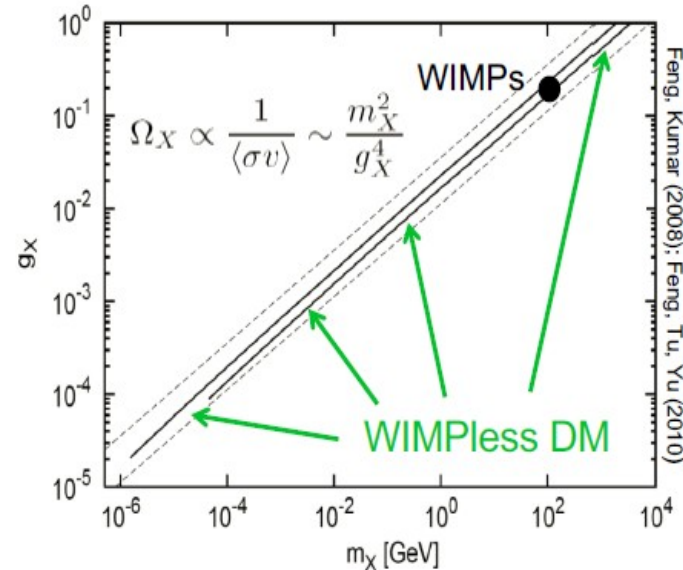
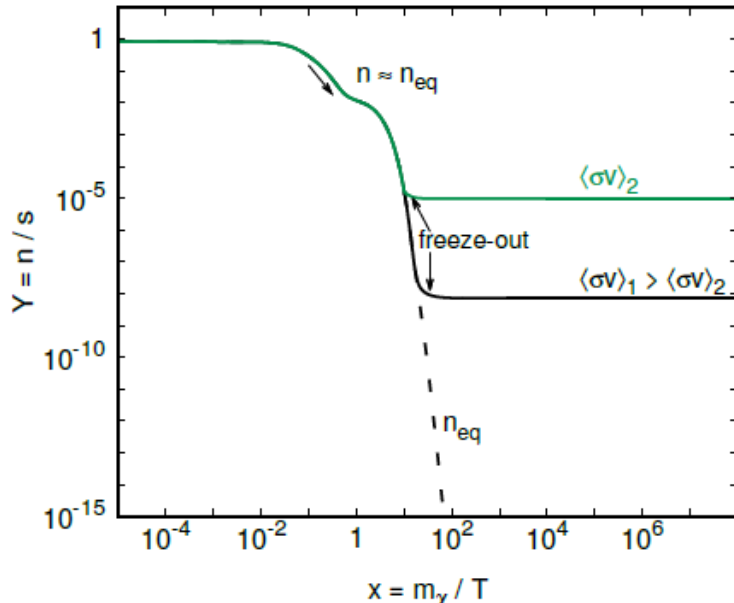
- Dark photon can also mediate interactions between the SM and a "thermal" DM relic  $\chi$

$$\mathcal{L} \supset A'_\mu (\epsilon e J_{EM}^\mu + g_D J_D^\mu) \quad \mathcal{L} \supset \begin{cases} |\partial_\mu \chi|^2 - m_\chi^2 |\chi|^2 & \text{(complex scalar DM)} \\ \frac{1}{2} \bar{\chi} i \gamma^\mu \partial_\mu \chi - \frac{1}{2} m_\chi \bar{\chi} \chi & \text{(Majorana fermion DM)} \end{cases} \quad J_D^\mu = \begin{cases} i \chi^* \overleftrightarrow{\partial}_\mu \chi & \text{(complex scalar DM)} \\ \frac{1}{2} \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 \chi & \text{(Majorana fermion DM)} \end{cases}$$

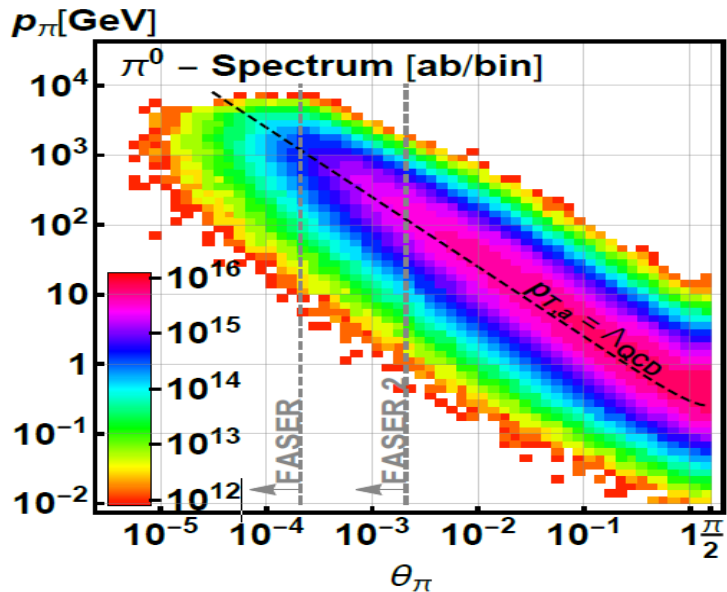
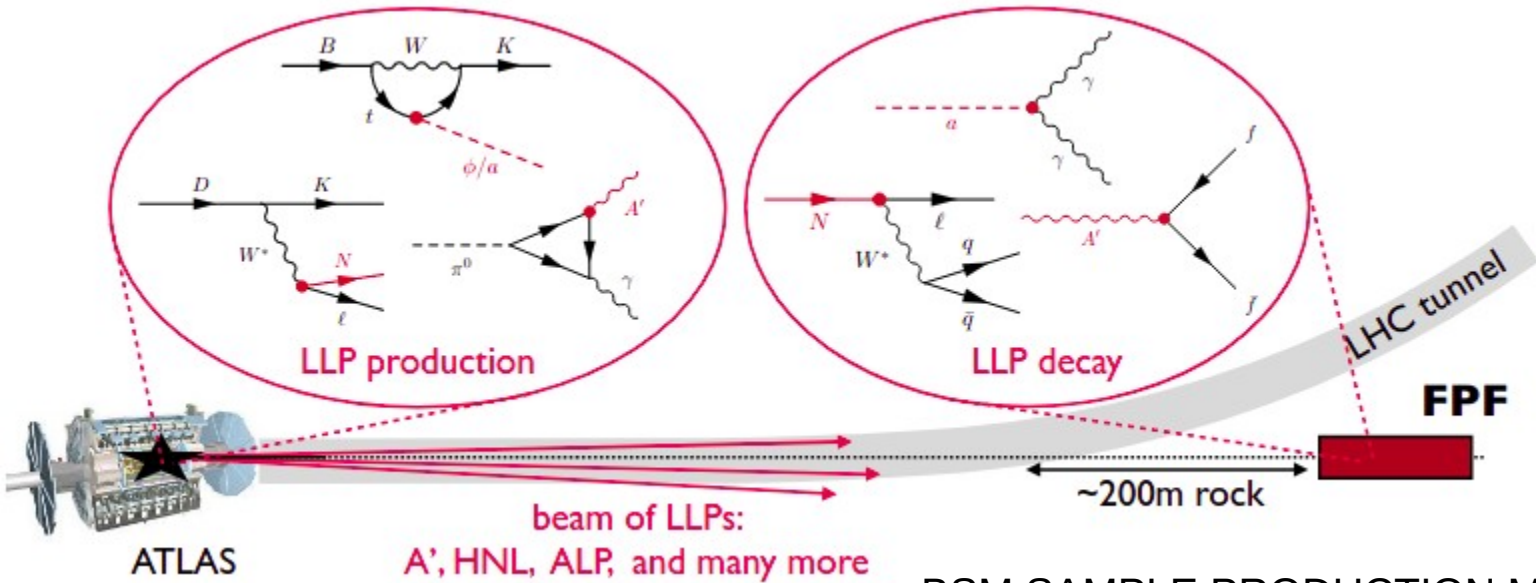
- Suppressed SM couplings of  $A'$  yield correct DM relic density for  $\sim \text{MeV-GeV}$   $\chi$  **LDM**



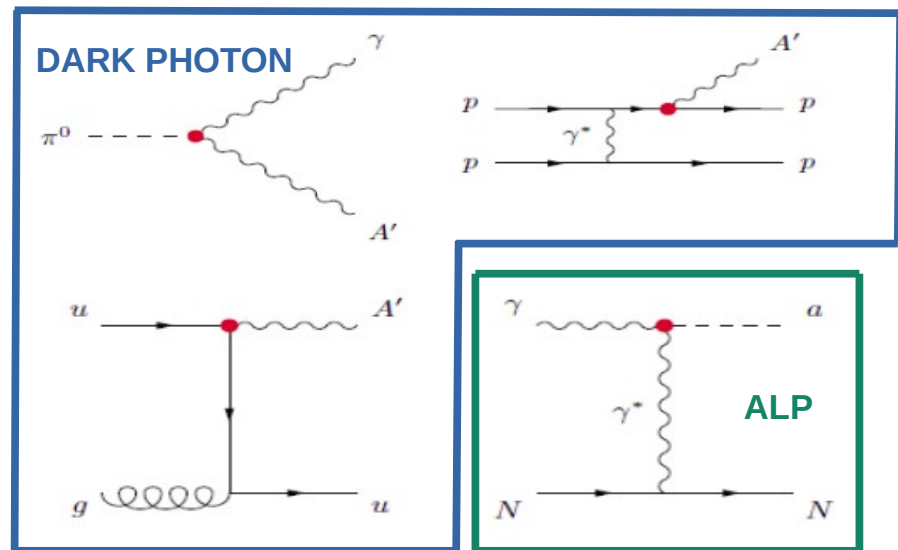
L. Roszkowski, E.M. Sessolo, ST, 1707.06277



# LLP SEARCHES AT THE FPF

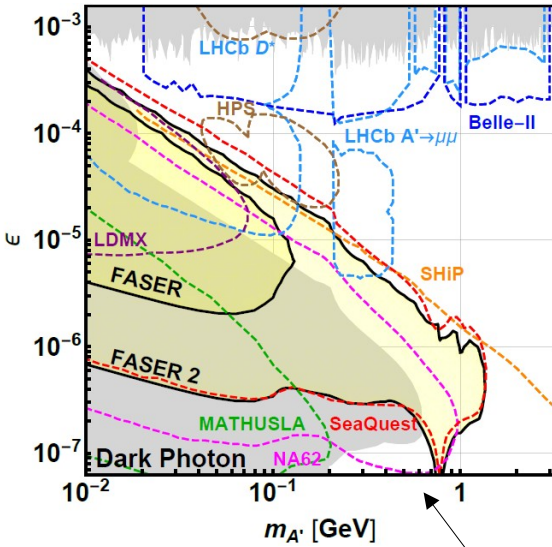


## BSM SAMPLE PRODUCTION MODES

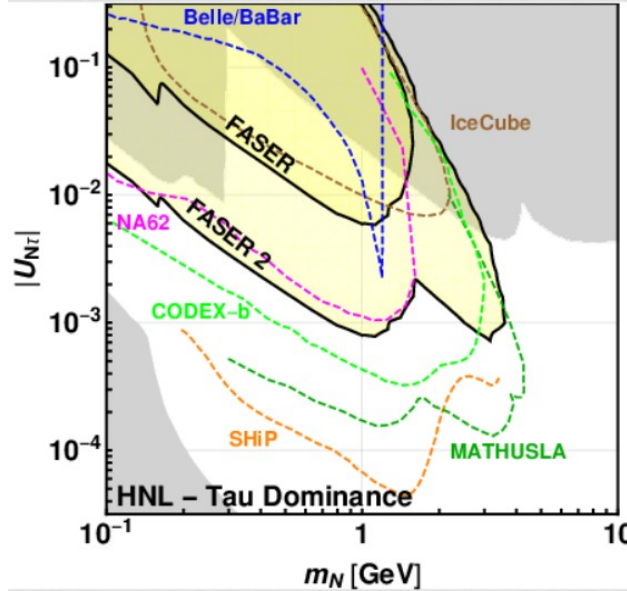


# SELECTED SENSITIVITY REACH PLOTS

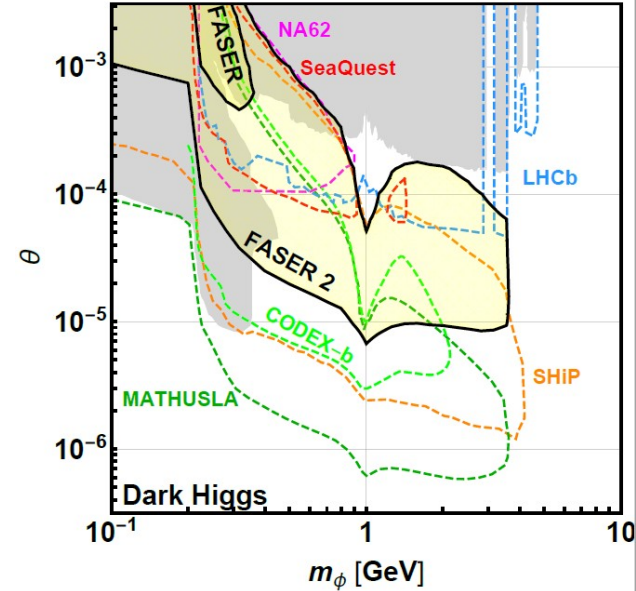
DARK PHOTON



HEAVY NEUTRAL LEPTON (TAU)

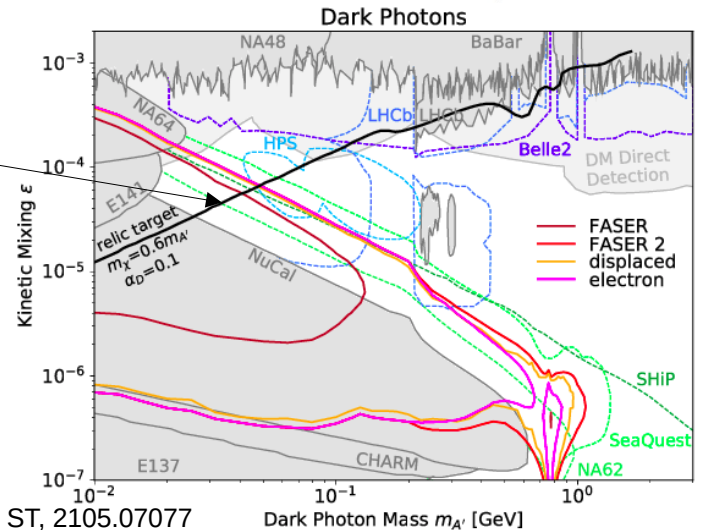


DARK HIGGS BOSON



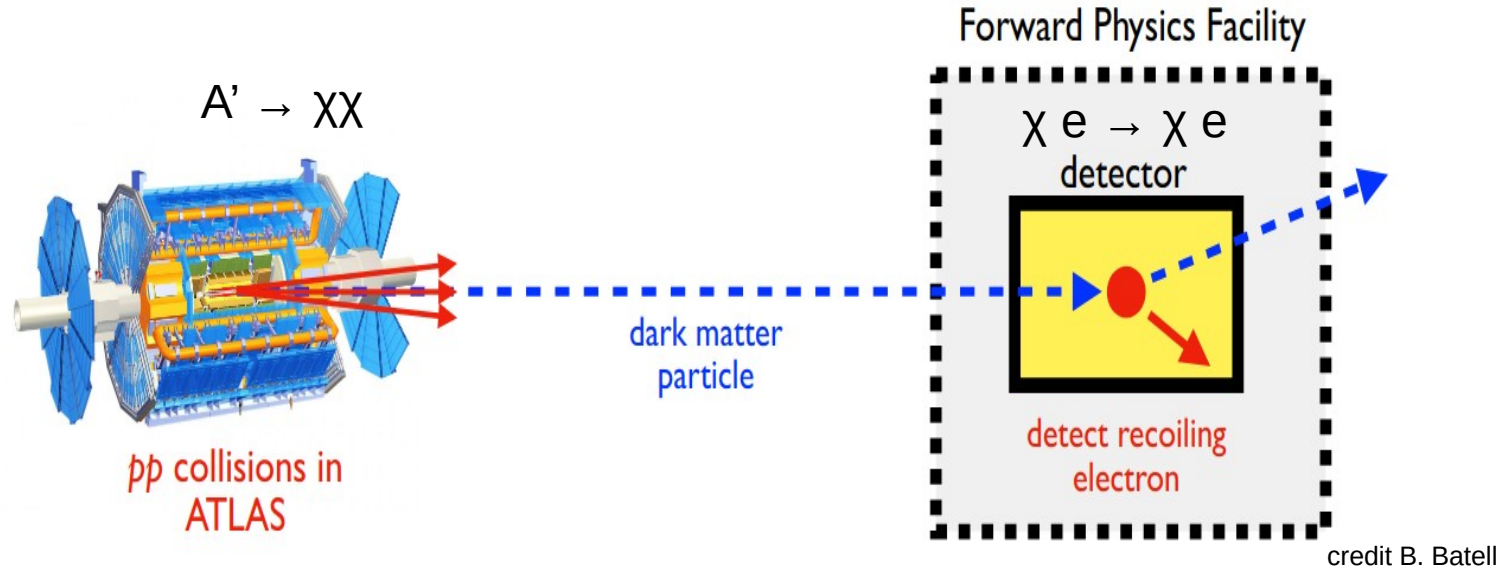
complementarity  
 DM direct detection searches  
 complex scalar DM with A' med

$$\mathcal{L}_D \supset (D^\mu \chi)^* (D_\mu \chi) - m_\chi^2 \chi^* \chi,$$



# Direct light DM detection at the LHC

- We focus on LDM particles produced in the far-forward region of the LHC  
& their scattering in a distance detector

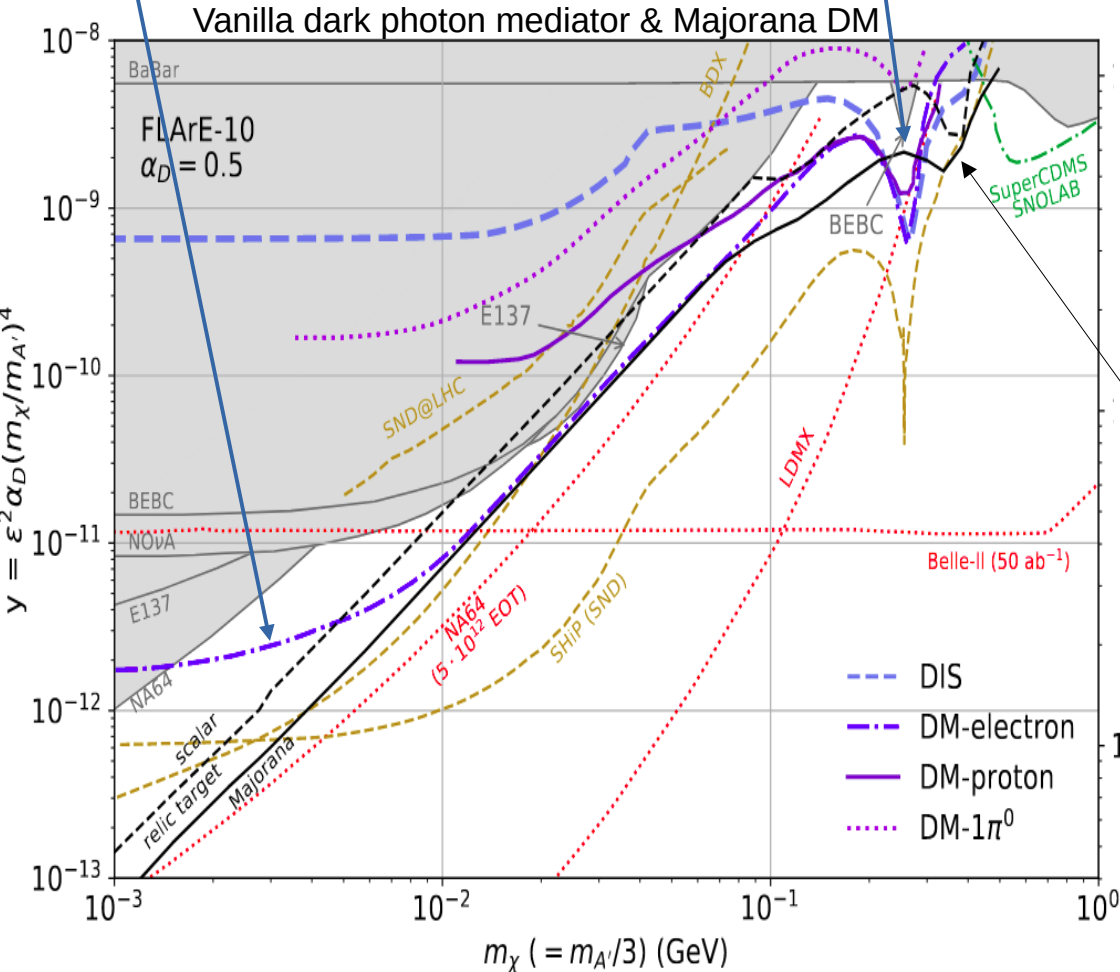


- This search is highly complementary to the traditional DM direct detection searches:
  - probe of relativistic interaction rates of LDM (DM energy  $\sim$  a few hundred GeV)  
[collider-boosted DM]
  - the search is not sensitive to the precise abundance of  $\chi$  DM component  
(possible variations in cosmological scenario)  
[collider-produced DM]

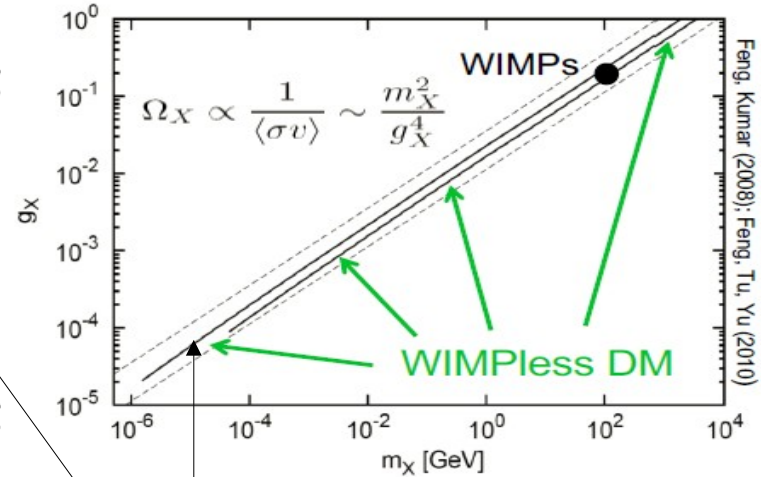
# Expected sensitivity reach

Nuclear scatterings also possible: elastic and DIS signatures

Electron scatterings



Thermal freeze-out for mDM << weak scale



DM relic target lines

- For specific targets:
- non-relativistic (DM DD) rates low
  - CMB bounds avoided
  - p-wave suppressed  $\langle\sigma v\rangle$

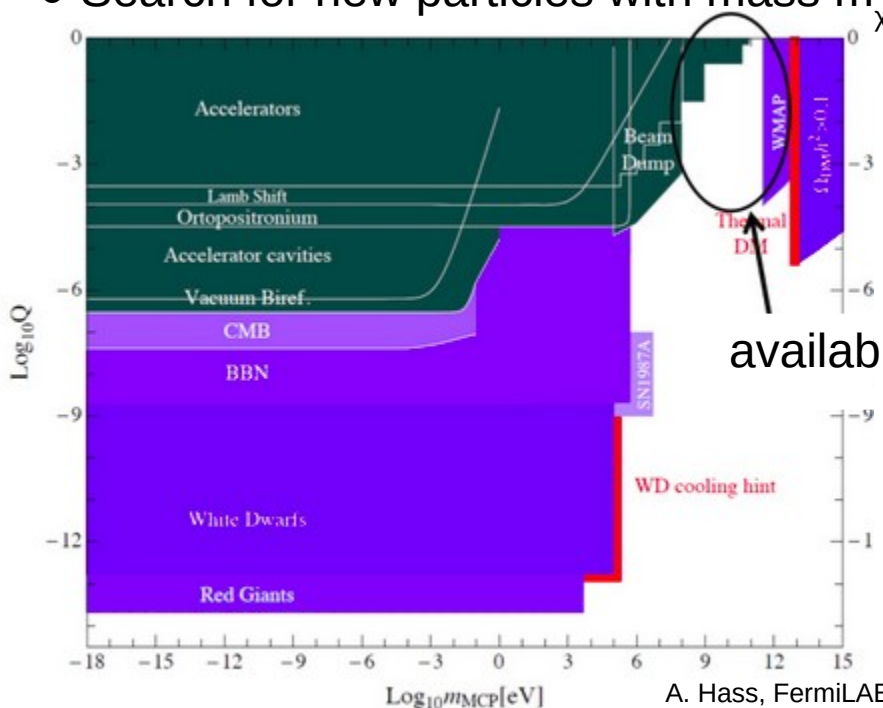


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# **HEAVY PARTICLES (UP TO TENS OR HUNDREDS GeV)**

# MILLICHARGED PARTICLES

- Search for particles with a very small electric charge – test of charge quantization
- Some string theory motivations Wen, Witten, Nucl. Phys. B 261 (1985) 651-677  
Shiu, Soler, Ye, PRL '13
- Can also arise when SM is extended with a massless gauge boson (dark photon) kinetically mixed with the SM photon
- Search for new particles with mass  $m_\chi$  & electric charge  $\epsilon'e$  where  $\epsilon' \ll 1$



available window for new millicharge particles

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

# MILLICHARGED PARTICLES AT FPF

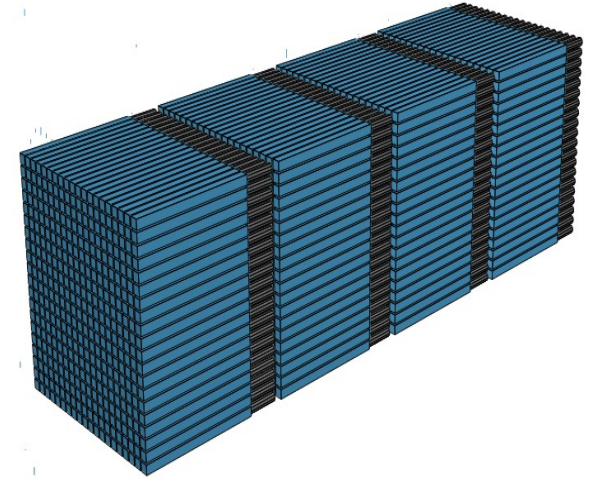
S. Foroughi-Abari, F. Kling, Y.-D. Tsai, FORMOSA 2010.07941  
 FPF whitepaper 2109.10905

- milliQan-like detector placed in the FPF

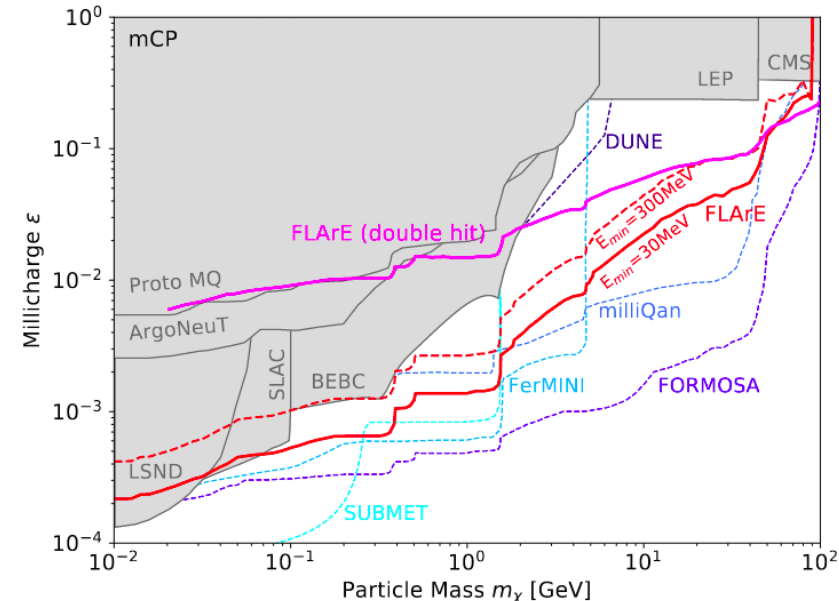
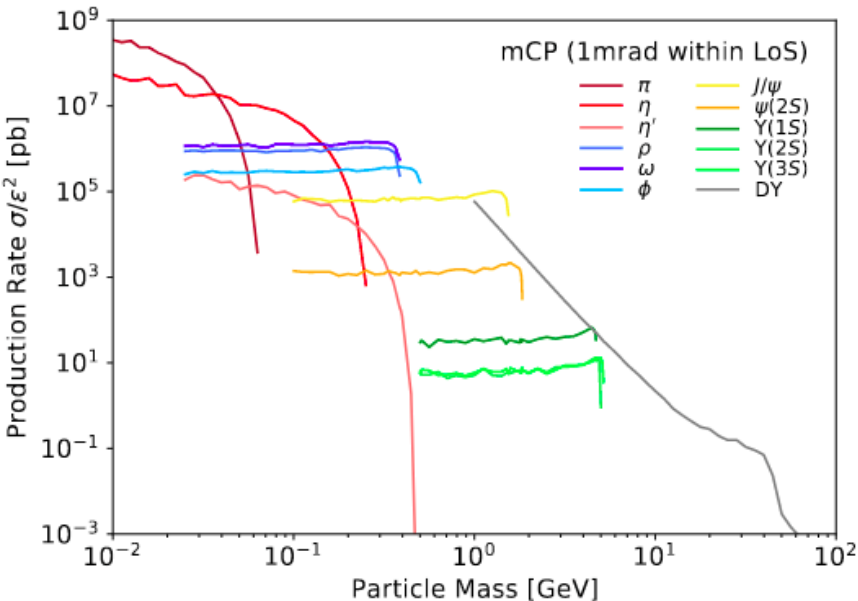
## FORMOSA - FORWARD MICROCHARGE SEARCH

Sensitive to small energy depositions  $dE/dx$  of a particle with  $Q < 0.1 e$ ; plastic scintillator for detection

- leading projected bounds for  $m \sim < 100$  GeV
- complementary signature at FLArE scattering a-la-DM

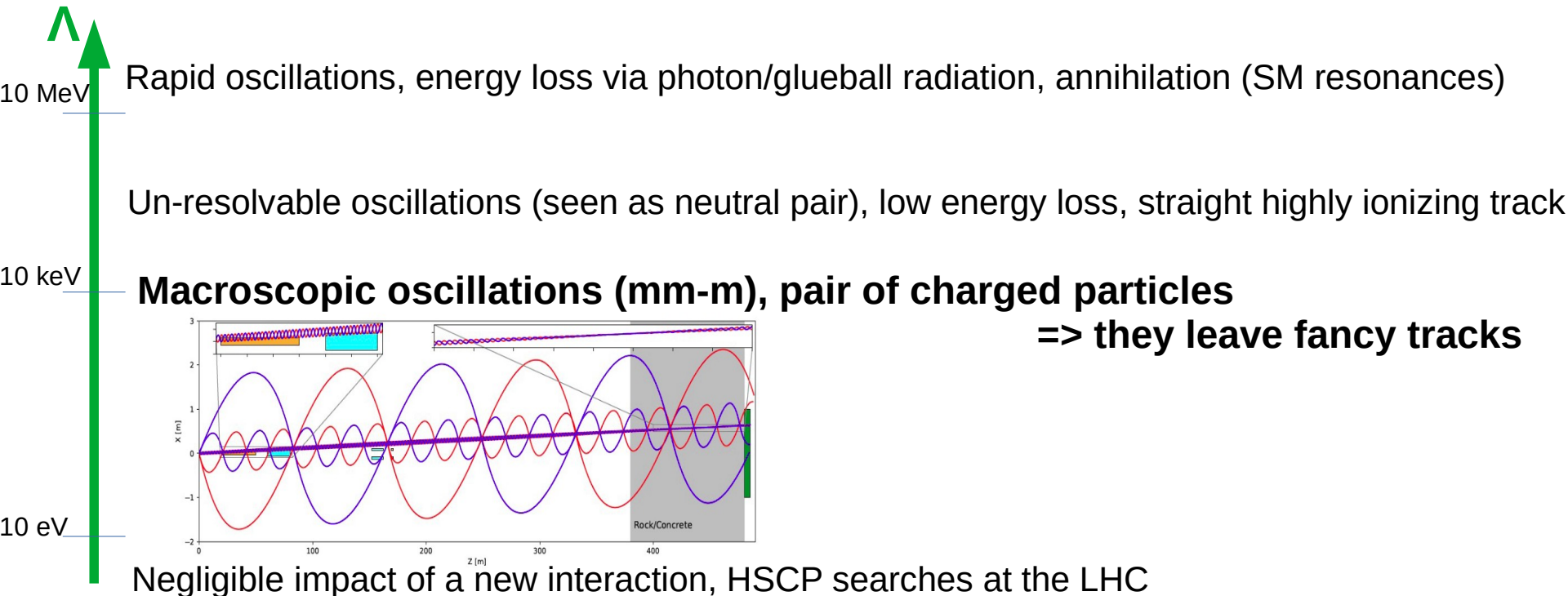


F. Kling, J.-L. Kuo, ST, Y.-D. Tsai, 2205.09137



# QUIRKS WITH A LOW CONFINEMENT SCALE

- Postulated particles charged under a hidden strong force, QCD-like SU(N)
- If they carry also SM charge and color, they are pair produced at the LHC and connected by a “hidden” color string
- If their mass exceeds the hidden scale  $m \gg \Lambda_{\text{hidden}}$ , breaking the string is not energetically favorable and quirks **do not** hadronize

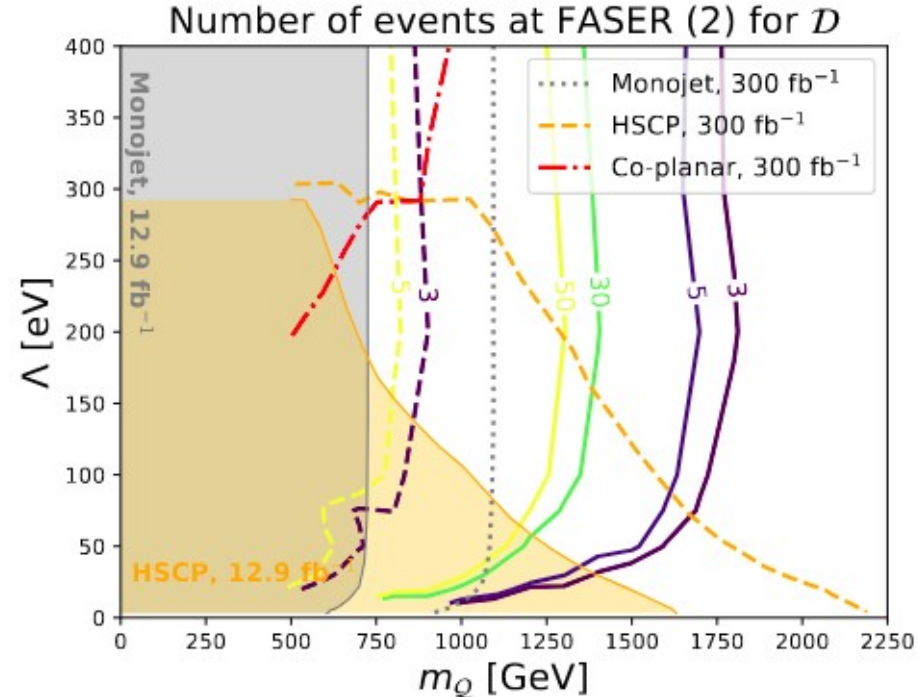
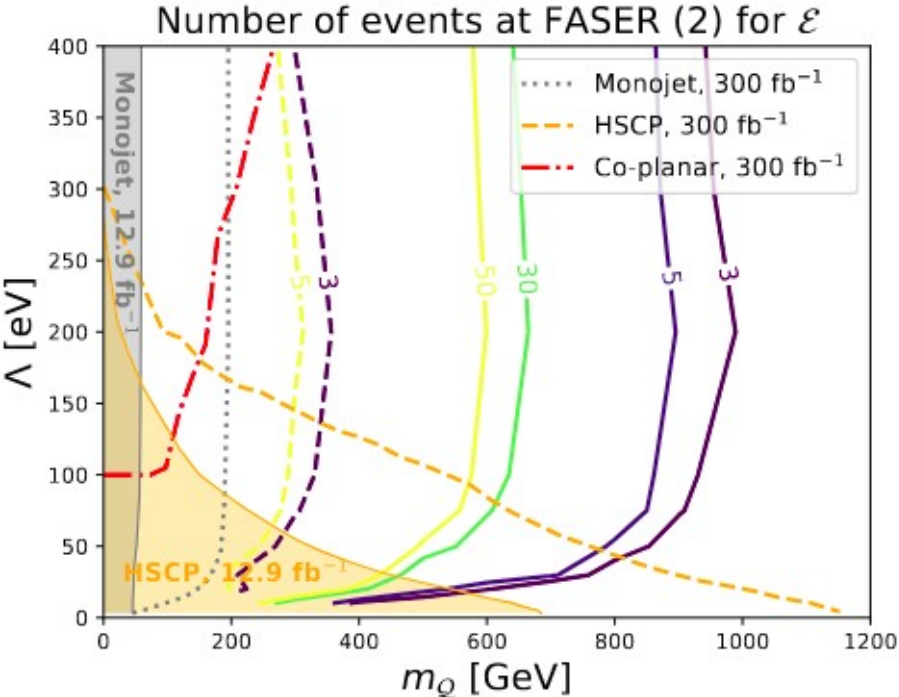


# QUIRKS AT FPF

- Quirk—anti-quirk system has low  $p_T$   $\rightarrow$  they travel forward (oscillating)
- Heavy (100 GeV - TeV) such quirks require LHC energies to be produced but often travel forward like light particles
- Sample projections for fermionic quirks

$$\mathcal{D} = (N_{IC}, 3, 1, -1/3),$$

$$\mathcal{E} = (N_{IC}, 1, 1, -1),$$



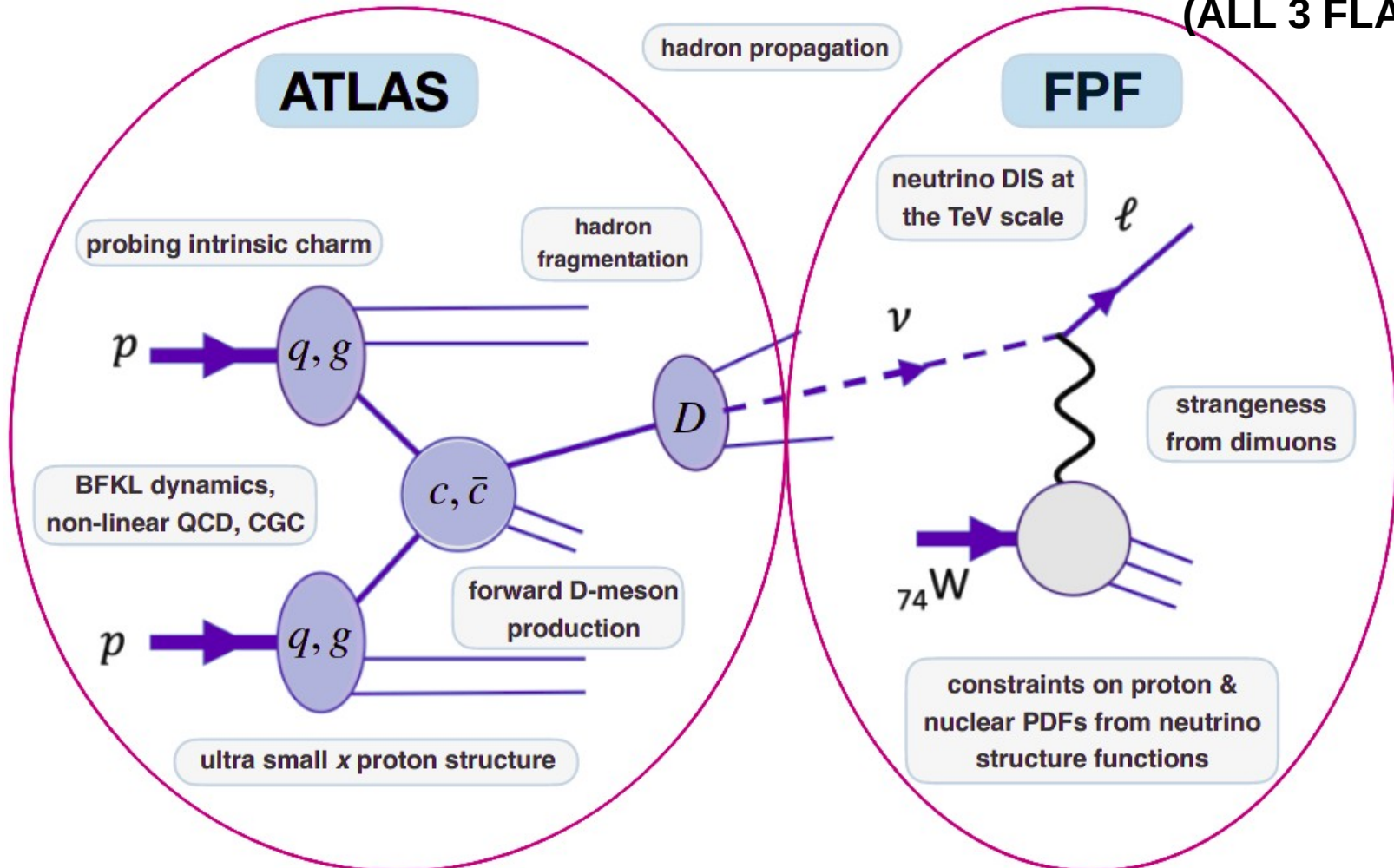
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# NEUTRINO PHYSICS PROGRAM

# NEUTRINO PRODUCTION & DETECTION

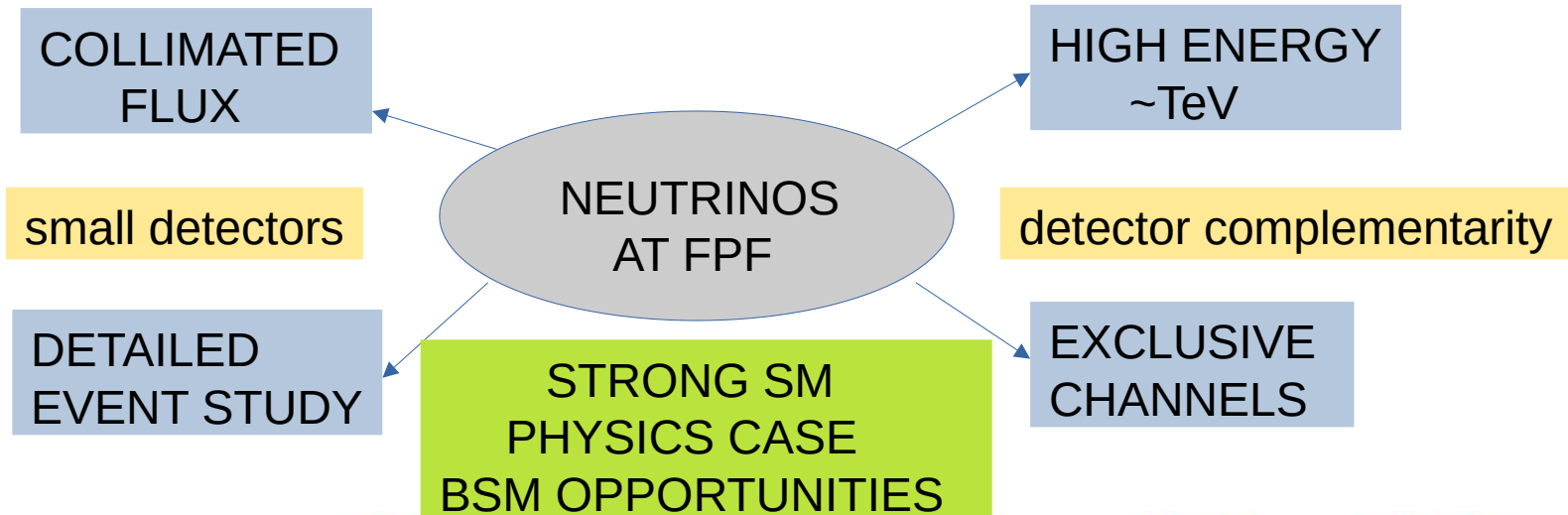
## LIGHT HADRON & CHARM MESON DECAYS

## NEUTRINO INTERACTIONS ON NUCLEAR TARGETS (ALL 3 FLAVORS)



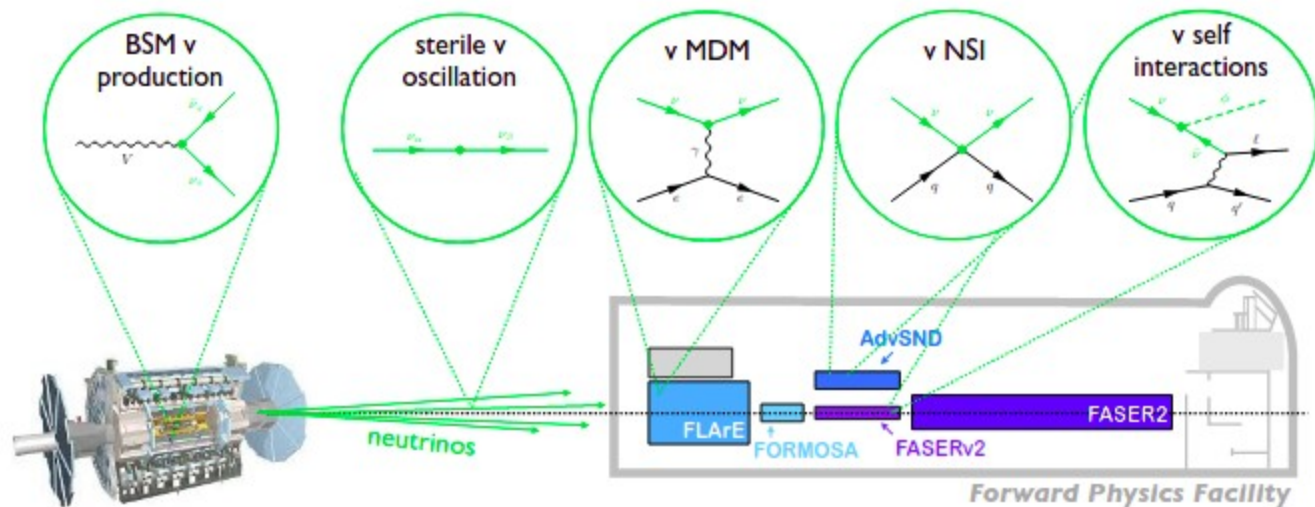
# Forward LHC Neutrinos

High-energy neutrinos at the LHC are preferentially produced in the forward direction



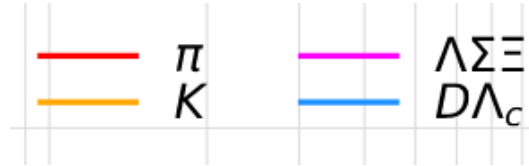
Neutrino BSM effects:

- Production rates
- Propagation (oscillations)
- Interaction rates (different channels)
- Event characteristics





# FORWARD NEUTRINOS



- Pions (for  $\nu_\mu$ ) & kaons ( $\nu_e$ ) dominate at energies up to few hundred GeV

- Charm dominates at larger energies (also all  $\nu_\tau$  from charm)

Here – larger uncertainties, further studies ongoing

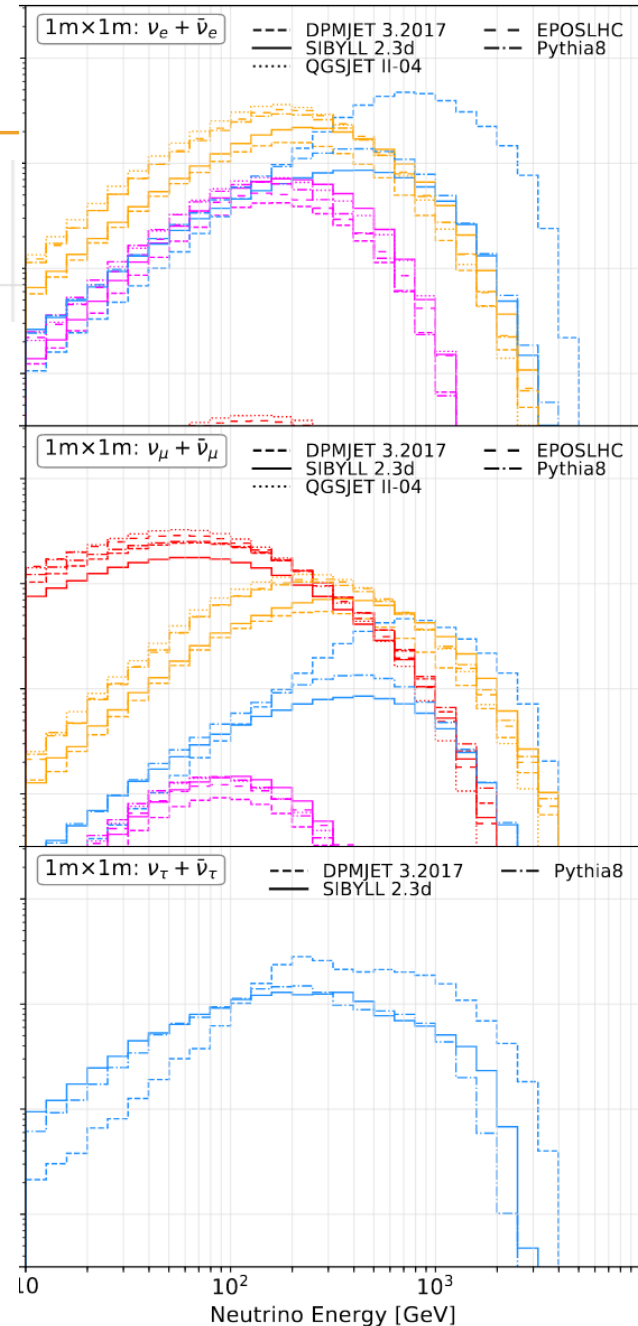
## Measuring neutrino flux & spectrum



window to study forward hadron production in pp collisions at the LHC

- Expected CC event rates (HL-LHC)

$$\sim 10^6 \nu_\mu, \text{ few } \times 10^5 \nu_e, \sim (10^3 - 10^4) \nu_\tau$$

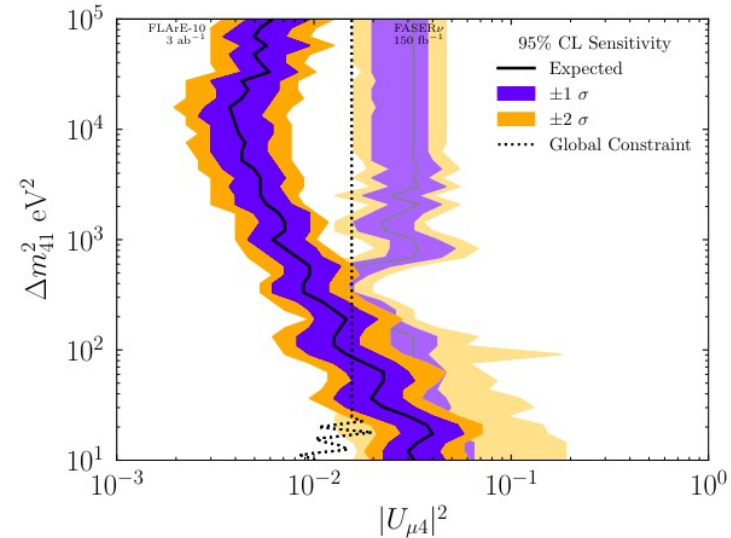


# NEUTRINO BSM HIGHLIGHTS

- Neutrino oscillations into sterile neutrinos direct probes at larger mass differences than typical neutrino experiments

$$\Delta m^2 \sim 1000 \text{ eV}^2$$

(also e.g. Gallium anomaly)



- Non-standard neutrino interactions

Example: dipole portal to heavy neutral leptons

Magill et al,  
1803.03262

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \mu_N \bar{\nu}_L \sigma_{\mu\nu} N_R F^{\mu\nu} + h.c.,$$

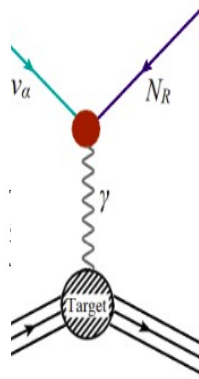
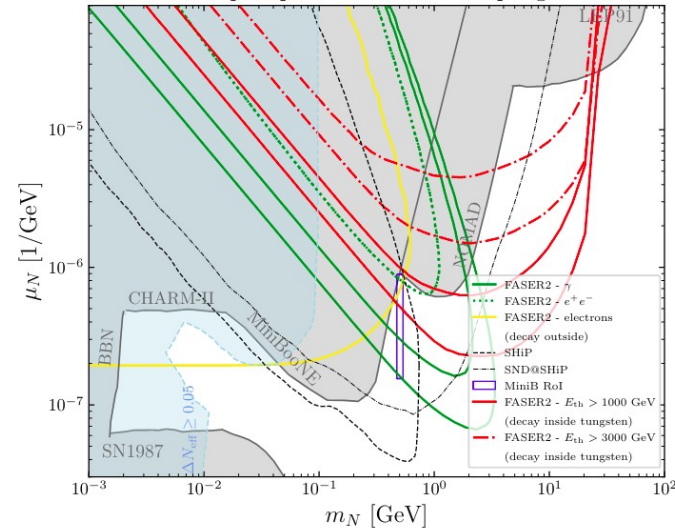
Transition magnetic moments of neutrinos before EWSB

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

K. Jodłowski, ST, 2011.04751

A. Ismail, S. Jana, S.M. Abraham, 2109.05032

Dipole portal - universal coupling



# FPF BSM WORKING GROUP

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FPF physics working groups (+ different groups for facility and experiments)

WG1 – Neutrino Interactions (Leader: Juan Rojo)

WG2 – Forward Charm Production (Hallsie Reno)

WG3 – Light Hadron Production (Luis Anchordoqui, Dennis Soldin)

**WG4 – BSM physics** (Brian Batell, ST)

WG4 (BSM) goals:

- a) **trigger further discussions about possible unique BSM physics opportunities of the FPF,**
- b) **studies for already proposed benchmarks**  
(implementation, modeling uncertainties, new prod. and det. modes)
- c) **facilitate exchange of (new) ideas** related to FPF BSM physics  
(slack channel, community, feedback from experimental representatives)

WE INVITE CONTRIBUTIONS / HAPPY TO DISCUSS IDEAS



# SUMMARY OF FAR-FORWARD LHC PHYSICS PROGRAM

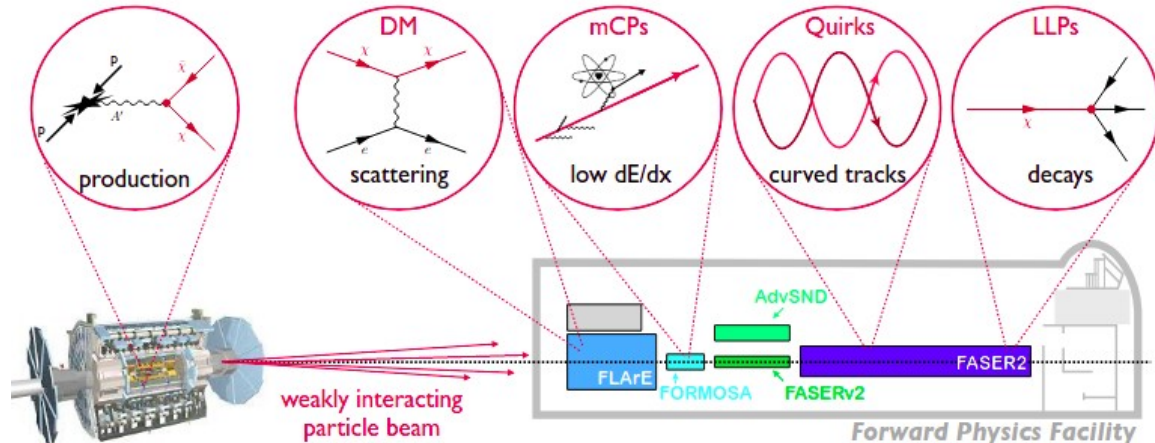
$\nu$ N collisions

pp collisions

$\mu$ N collisions

NEW  
PHYSICS

- For BSM and neutrino physics, the program started with Run 3 **FASER( $\nu$ ), SND@LHC**
- For HL-LHC: proposed extension **Forward Physics Facility**
- High-energy neutrino physics, connections to QCD & cosmic-rays, BSM
- Tool for BSM simulations: FORESEE F. Kling, ST, 2105.07077



**THANK YOU !**

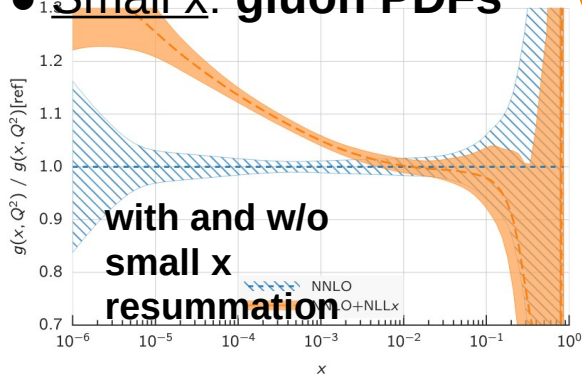
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**BACKUP**

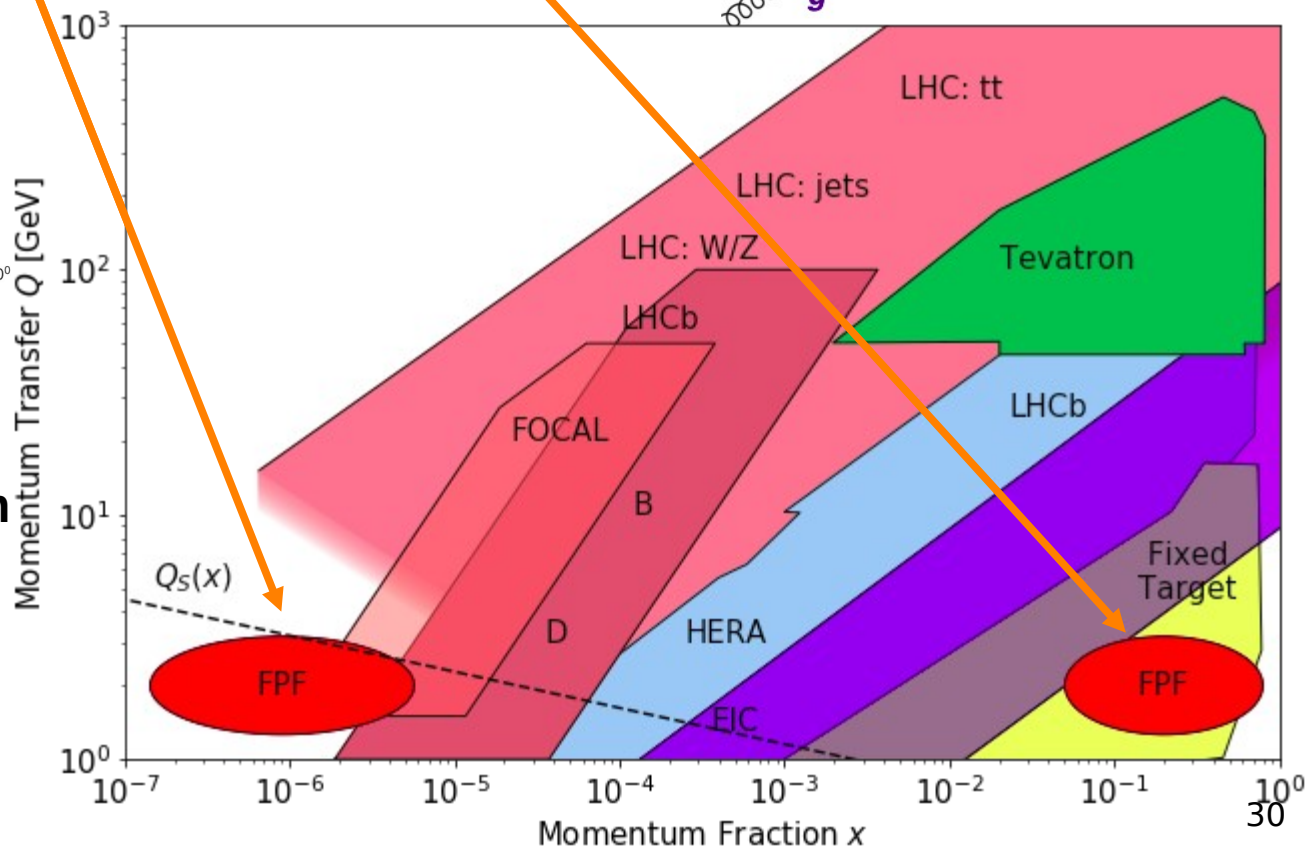
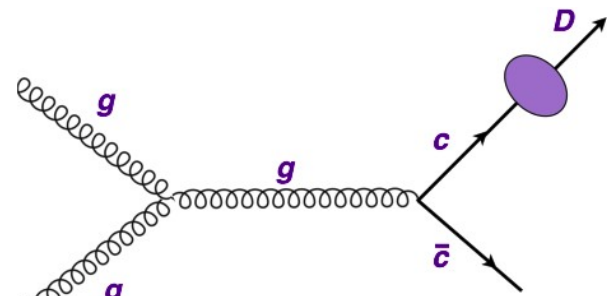
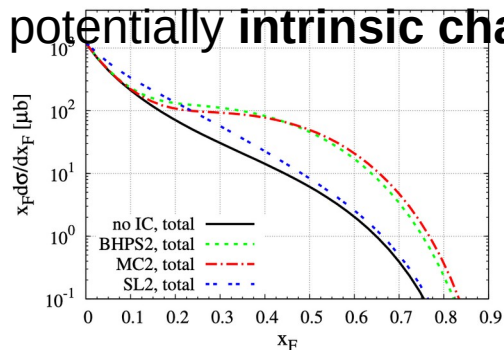
# NEUTRINOS FROM CHARM DECAYS

- probes of low- $x$  ( $\sim 10^{-7}$ ) and high- $x$  ( $\sim 0.1-1$ ) regimes at low  $Q$

- Small  $x$ : gluon PDFs**



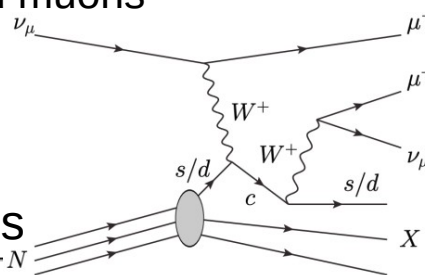
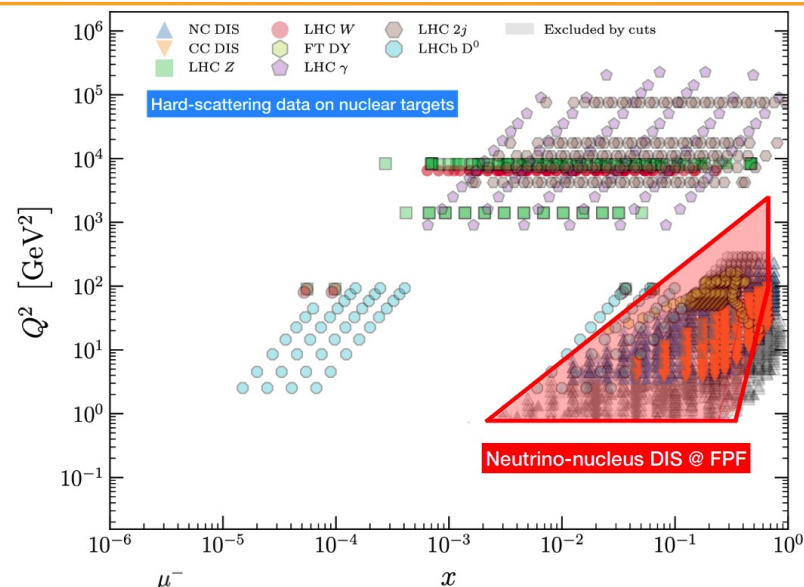
- Large  $x$ : charm sea & potentially intrinsic charm**



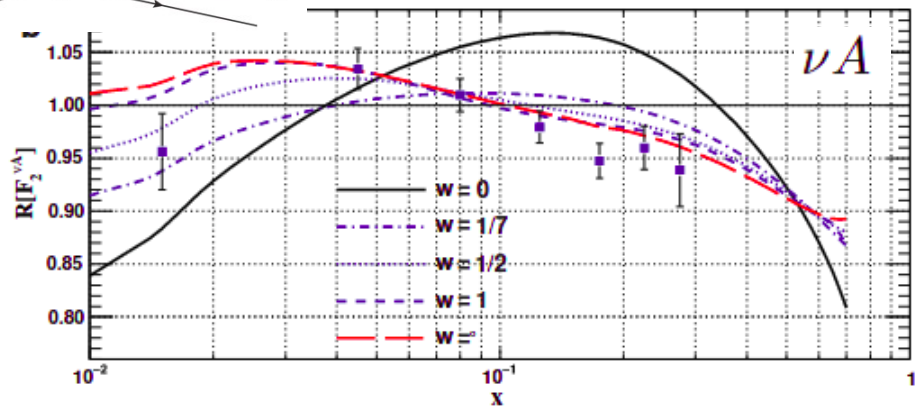
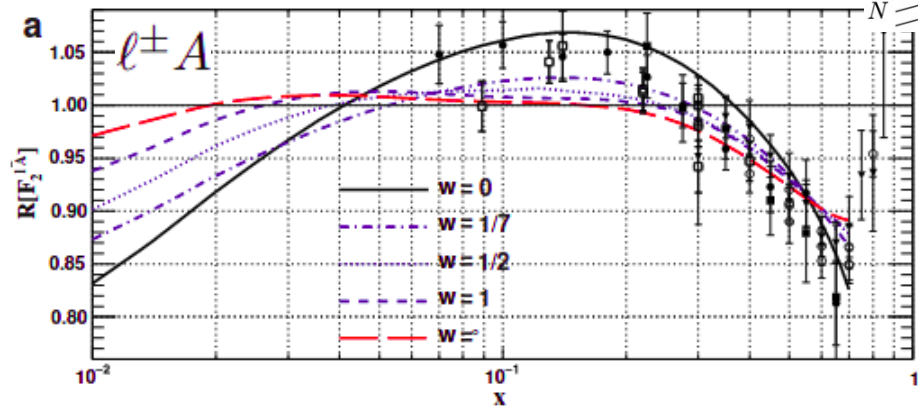
# NEUTRINO DEEP INELASTIC SCATTERING

- Nuclear PDF measurements
  - high-energy vs  $x$  → extended kinematic coverage
  - possible measurements for various nuclear targets (Ar, W)
- Strange PDFs (separate  $s$  and anti- $s$ )
  - Di-muon final state in CC DIS from intermediate charm,  $\nu_\mu s \rightarrow c \mu$ , and  $c \rightarrow D \rightarrow \mu X$

FPF: various experiments to tag charm and muons



- nuclear effects in neutrino scatterings



hep-ph/

# Example signature: DM scattering off electrons

- Signature: recoiled electron (recoil energy  $E_e$ )
- Light mediator favors low energy electron recoil
- Neutrino-induced backgrounds: larger recoils

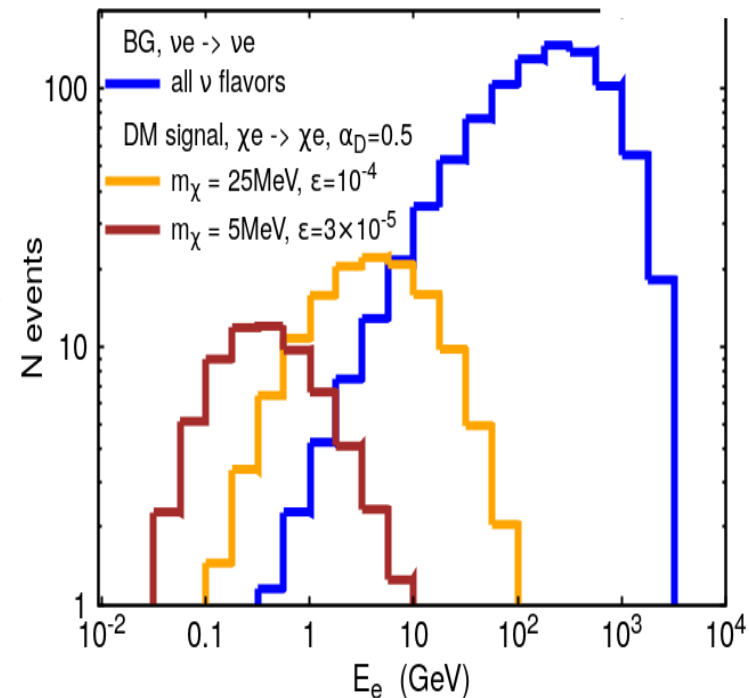
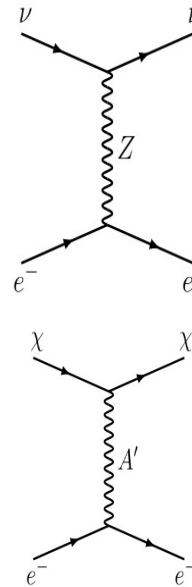
## Neutrino scattering example

$$\frac{d\sigma(\nu_e e \rightarrow \nu_e e)}{dy} = \frac{2m_e G_F^2 E_\nu}{\pi} \frac{1}{(1 + 2m_e E_\nu y / M_Z^2)^2} (g_L^2 + g_R^2 (1-y)^2), \quad y = E_e / (E_\nu, E_e)$$

## DM scattering (dark photon mediator)

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dy} \approx \frac{8\pi \epsilon^2 \alpha \alpha_D m_e E_\nu}{m_{A'}^4 (1 + 2m_e E_\nu y / m_{A'}^2)^2}$$

$$m_{A'} \ll M_Z$$

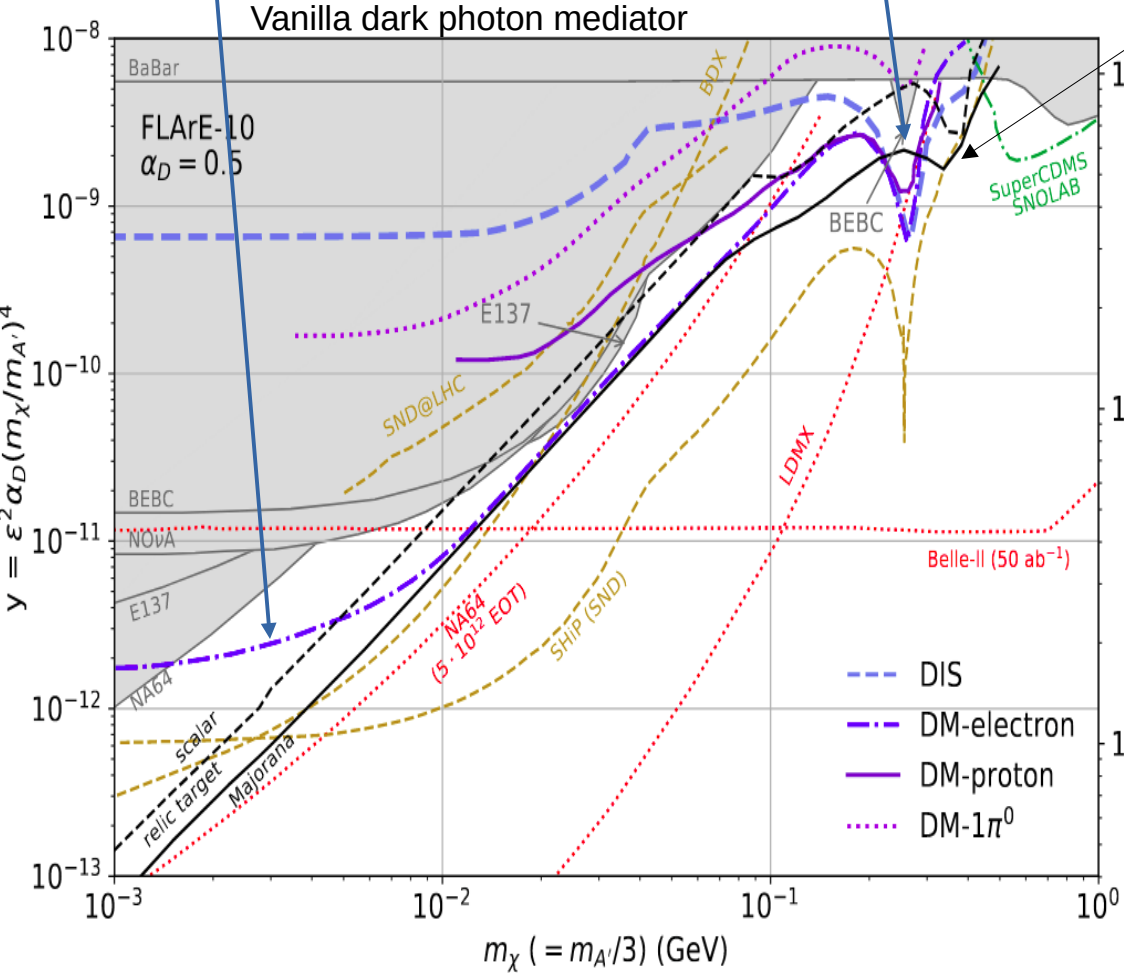




# Expected sensitivity reach

Nuclear scatterings also possible: elastic and DIS signatures

Electron scatterings



relic target lines

B-3Lτ mediator  
Multiple signatures

