

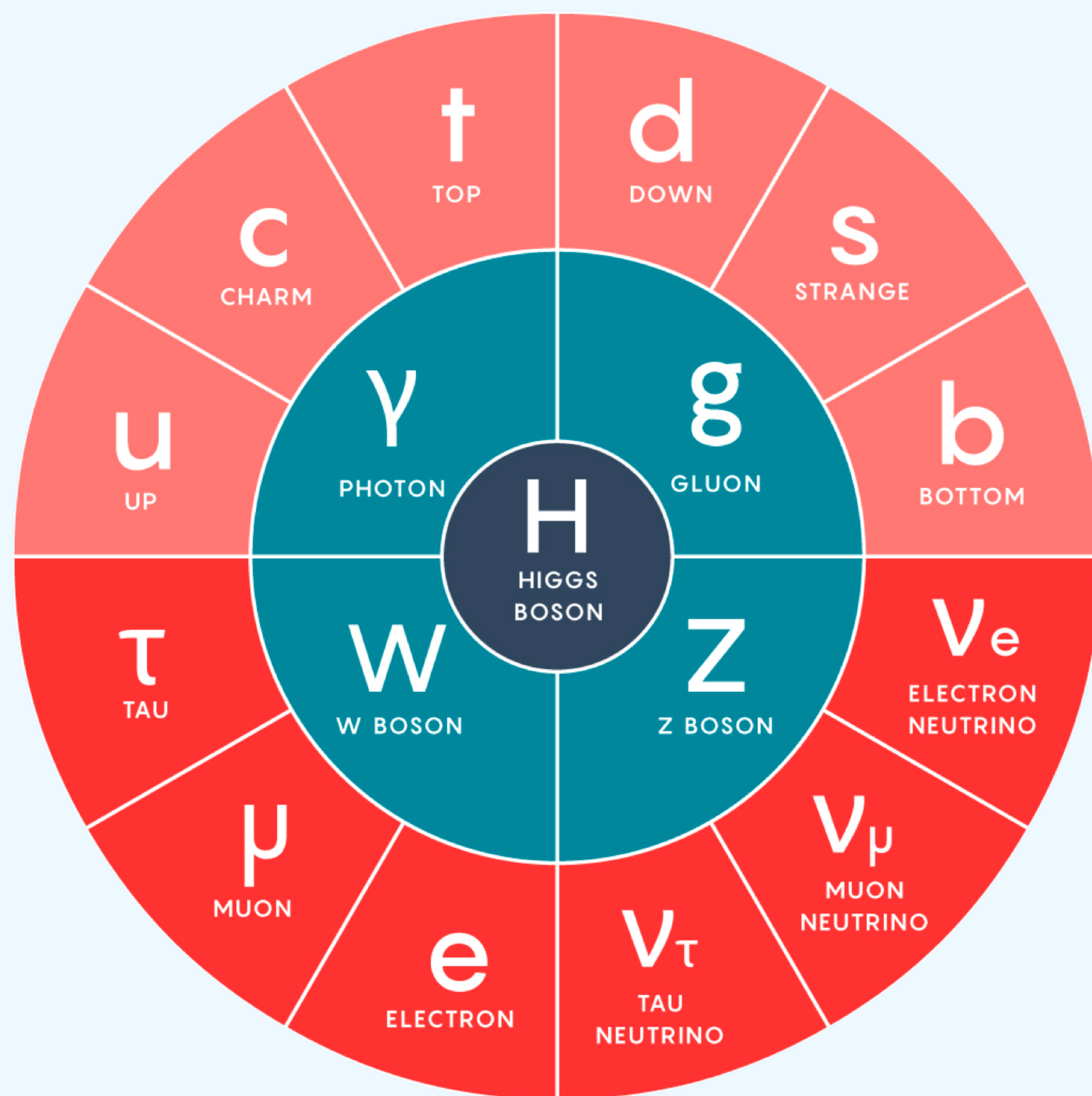
# Searching for dark matter decay to neutrinos with gamma-ray and neutrino telescopes

NBIA Neutrino Summer School - Copenhagen, DK  
July 12, 2022

Diyaselis M. Delgado López

Email: [ddelgado@g.harvard.edu](mailto:ddelgado@g.harvard.edu)

# Standard Model is great and all but ...



Need SM extension

Looking for a theory that explains observed neutrino masses and the nature of Dark Matter

Weakly-interacting massive particles (WIMPs) are a simple solution.

# Hunt for the Dark Matter Particle

There's some astrophysical and cosmological evidence that leads to the existence of a new weakly-interacting particle – dark matter (DM).

Local Stellar  
Dynamics

Galactic  
Rotation  
Curves

Cluster  
Dynamics

Gravitational  
Lensing

# Hunt for the Dark Matter Particle

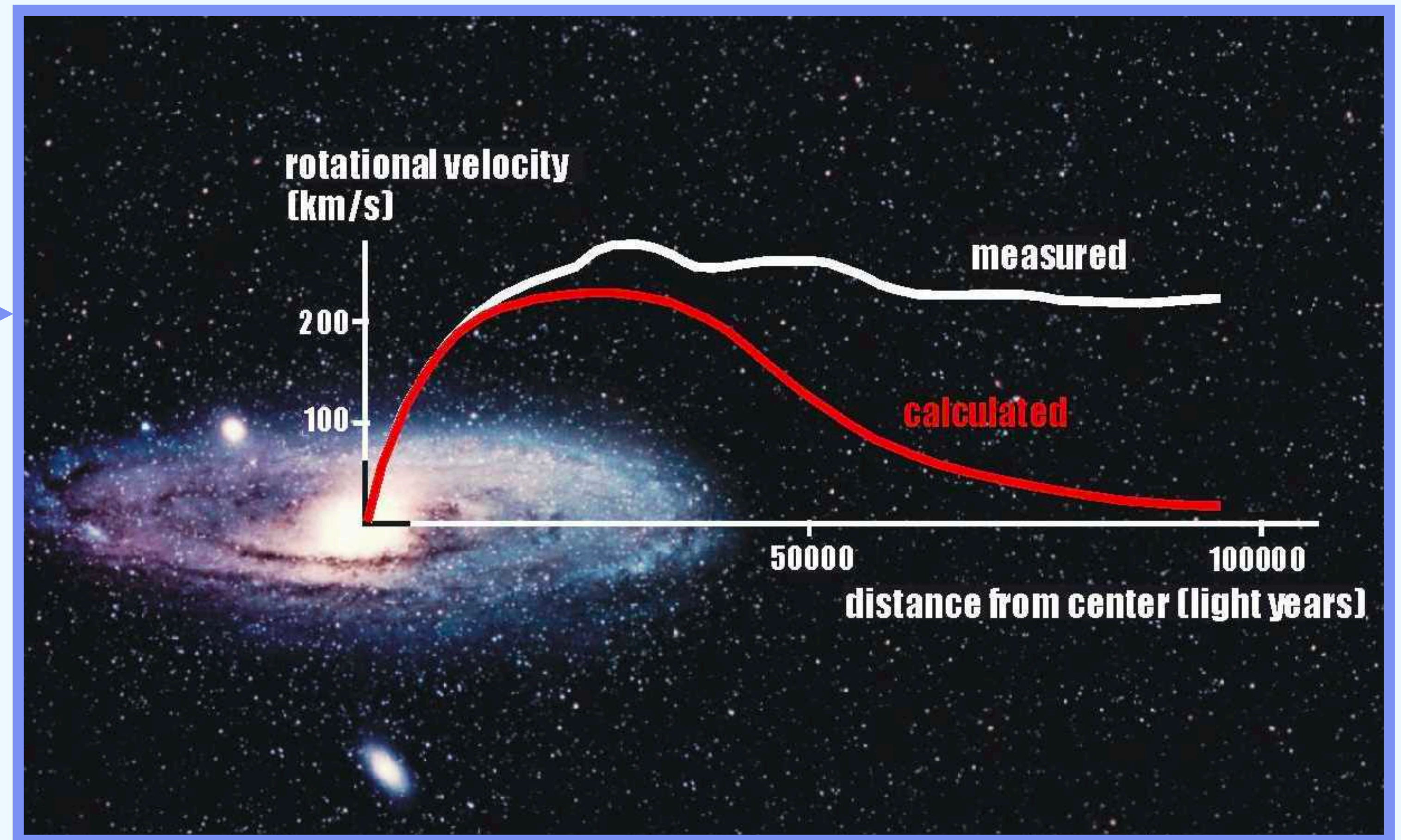
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# Hunt for the Dark Matter Particle

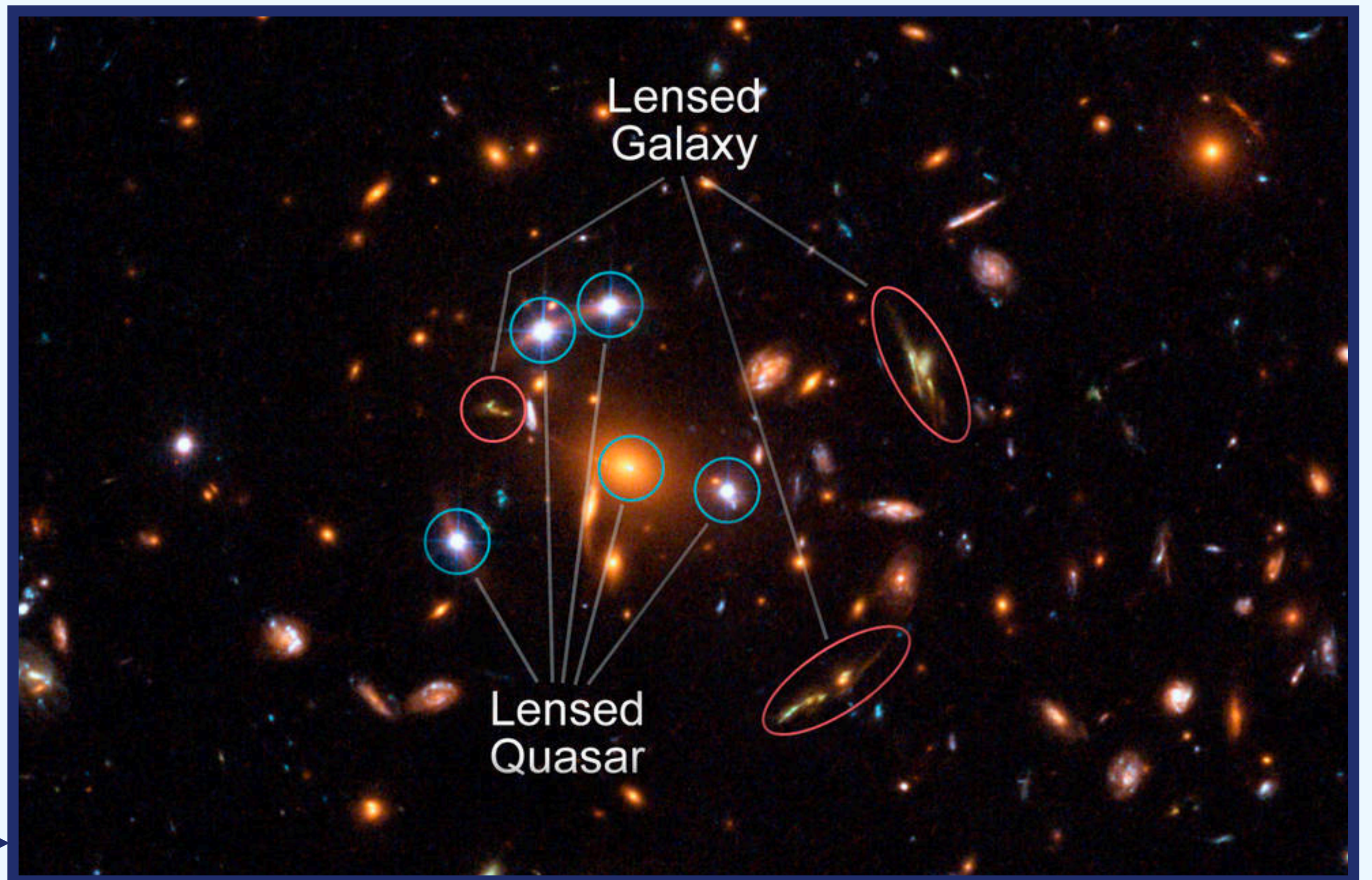
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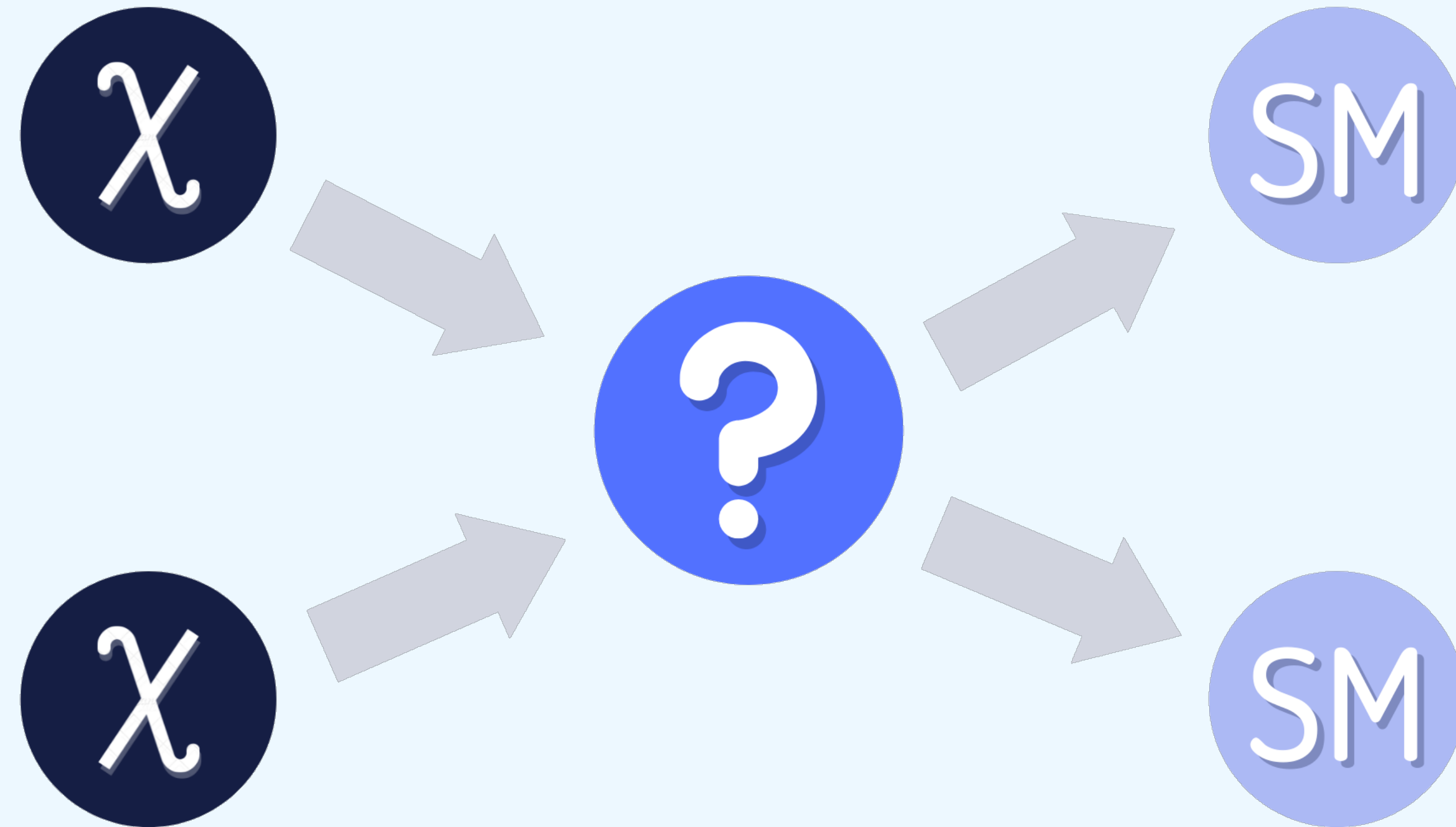
Cluster  
Dynamics

Gravitational  
Lensing



CREDIT: ESA, NASA, K. SHARON (TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY) AND E. OFEK (CALTECH)

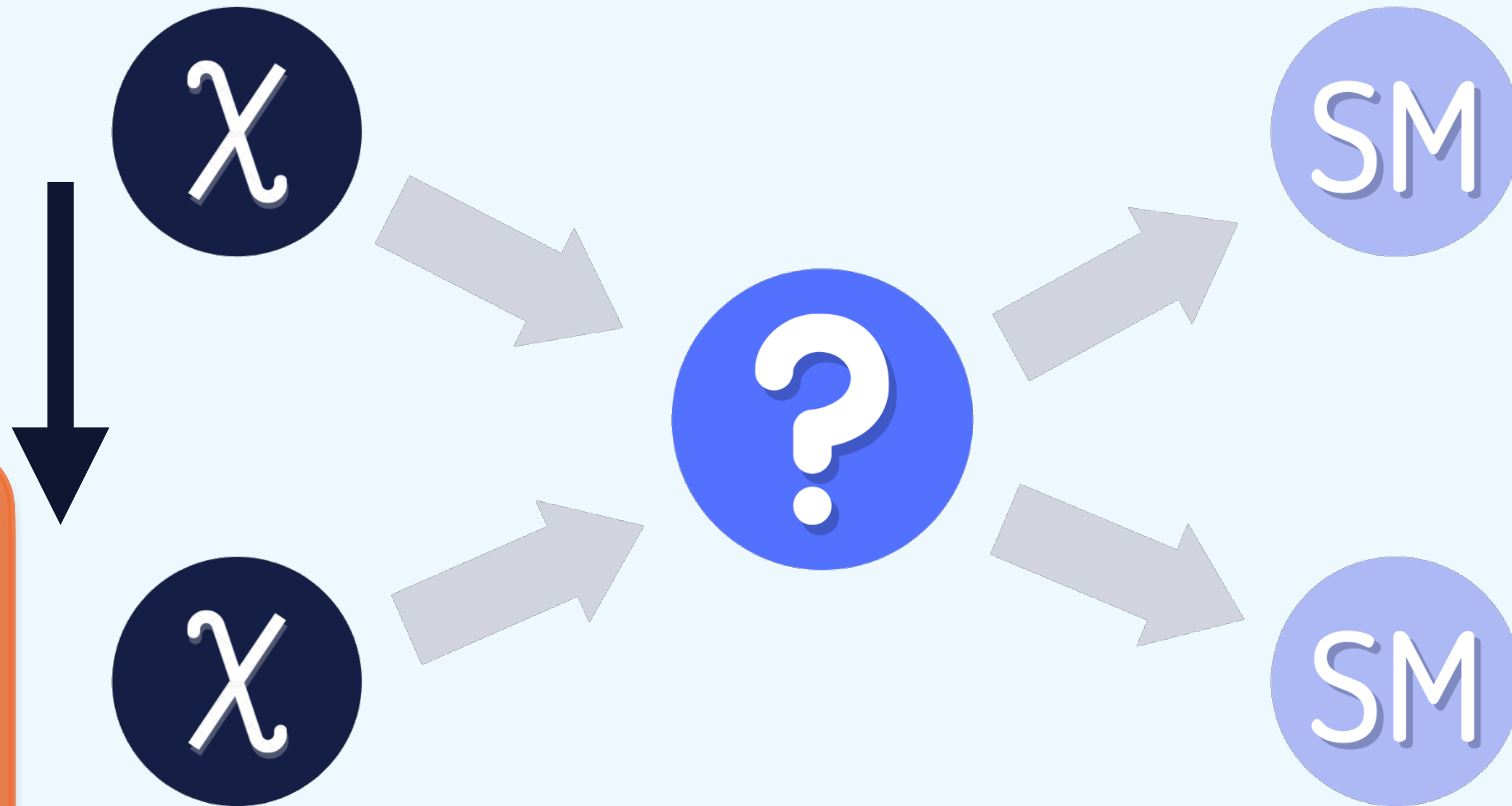
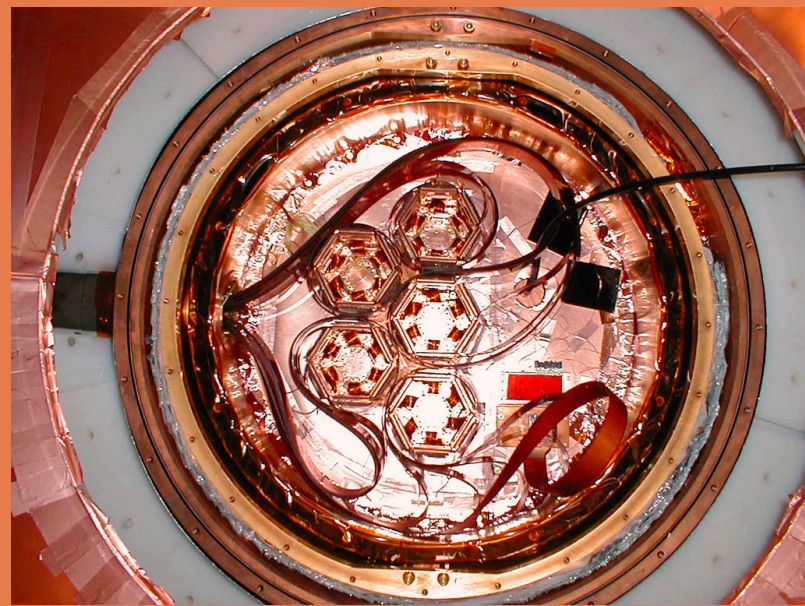
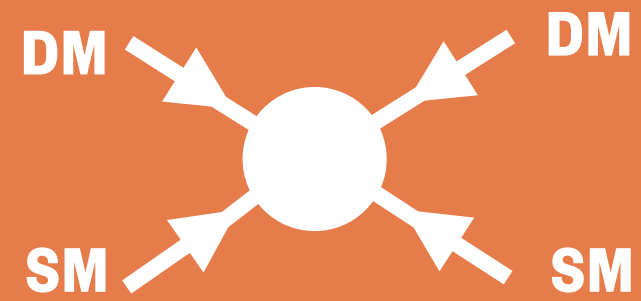
# Hunt for the Dark Matter Particle



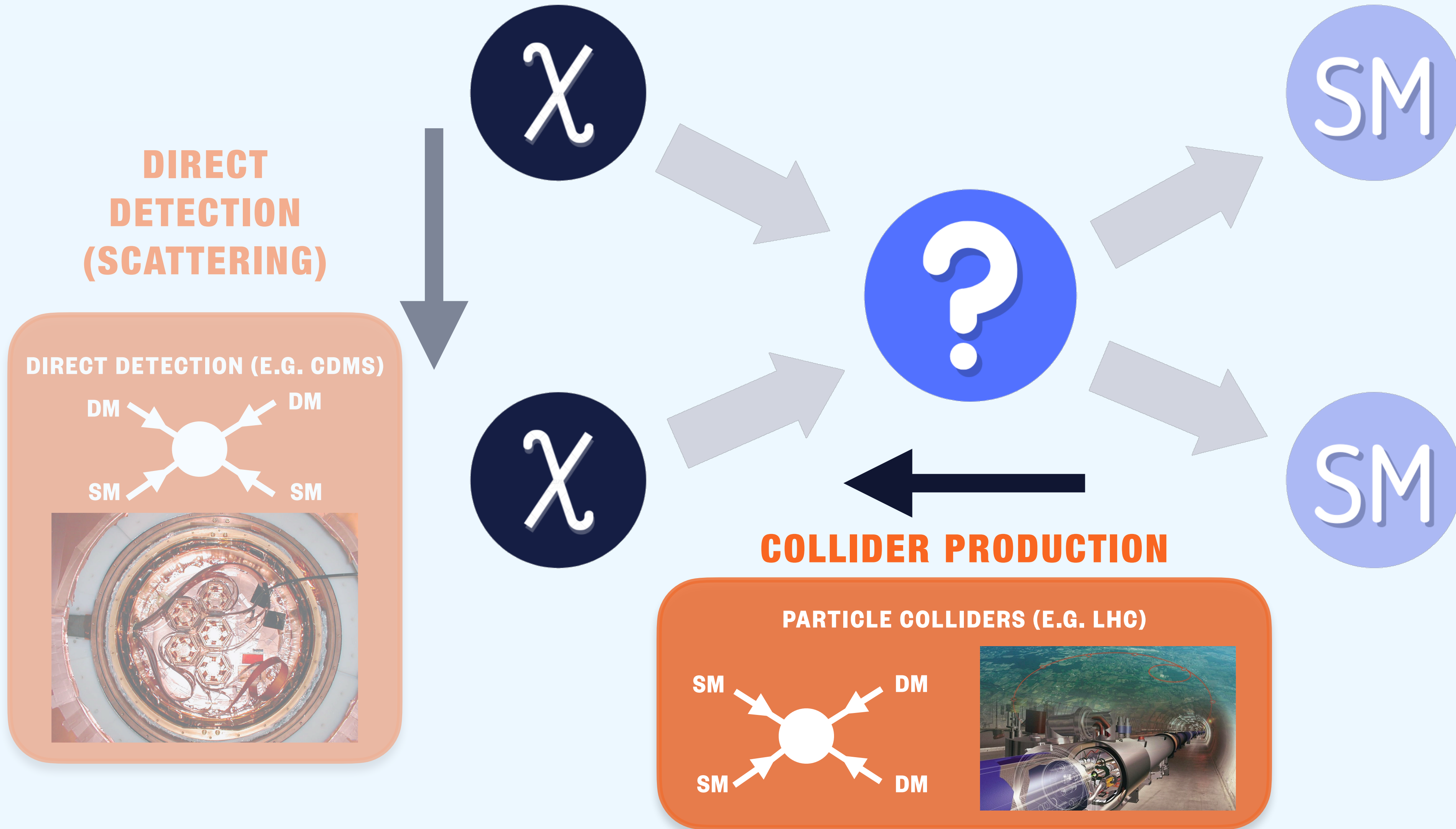
# Hunt for the Dark Matter Particle

**DIRECT  
DETECTION  
(SCATTERING)**

**DIRECT DETECTION (E.G. CDMS)**

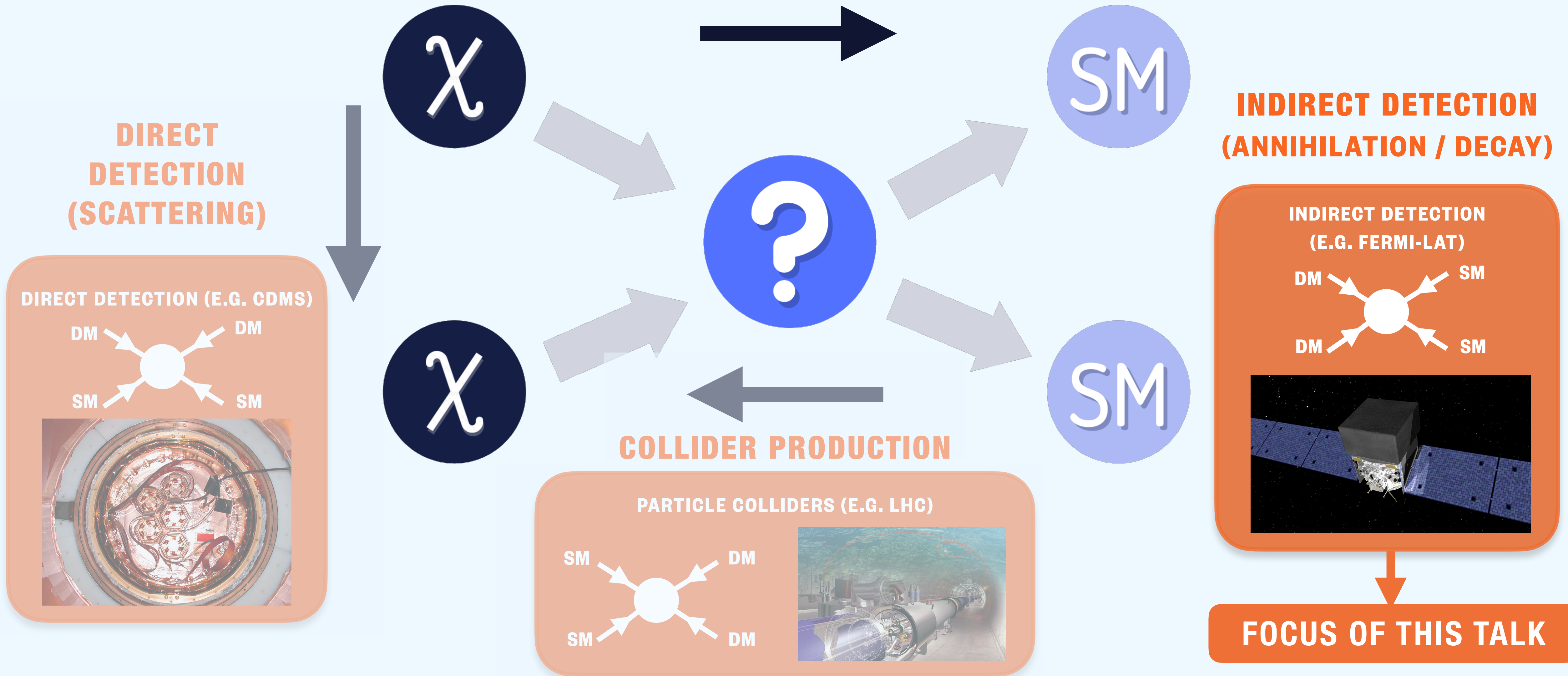


# Hunt for the Dark Matter Particle

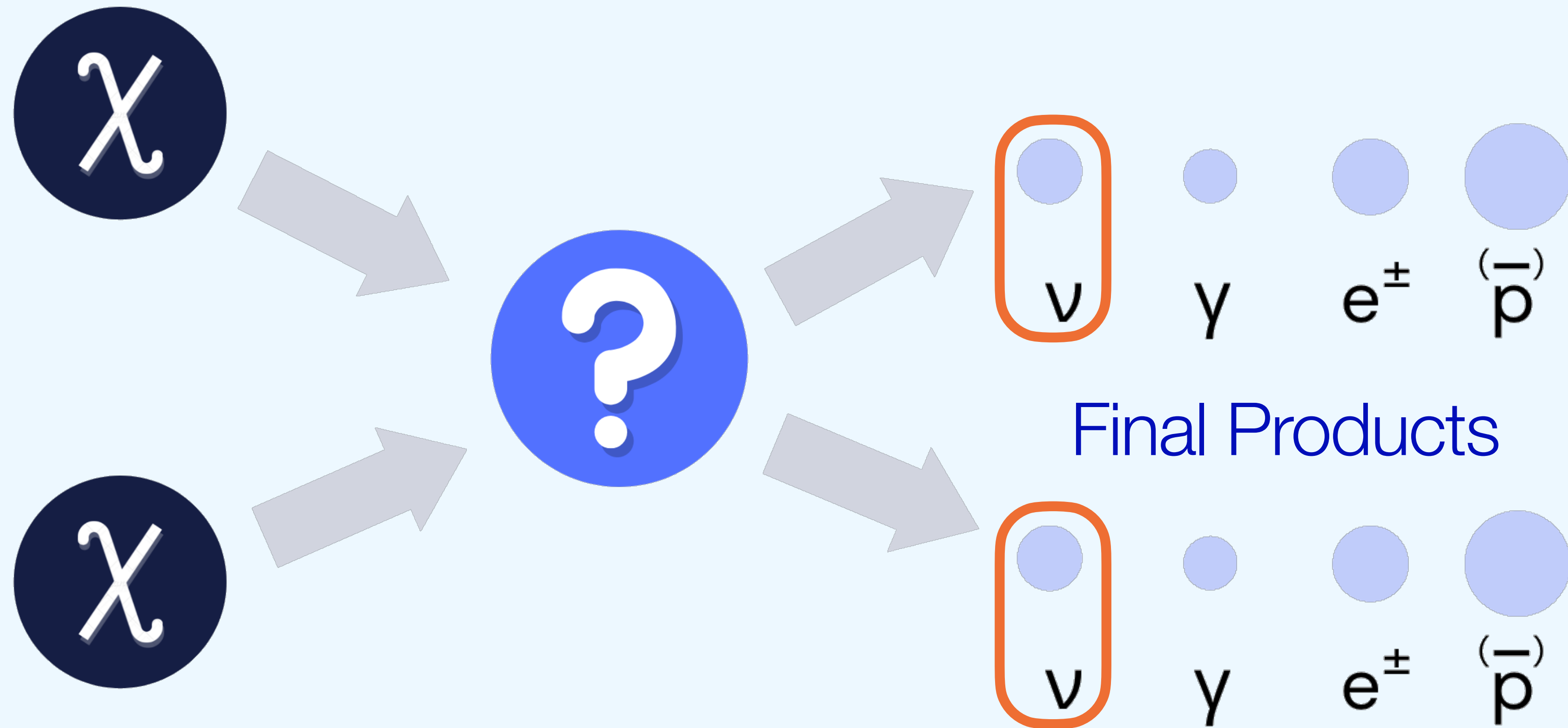




# Hunt for the Dark Matter Particle



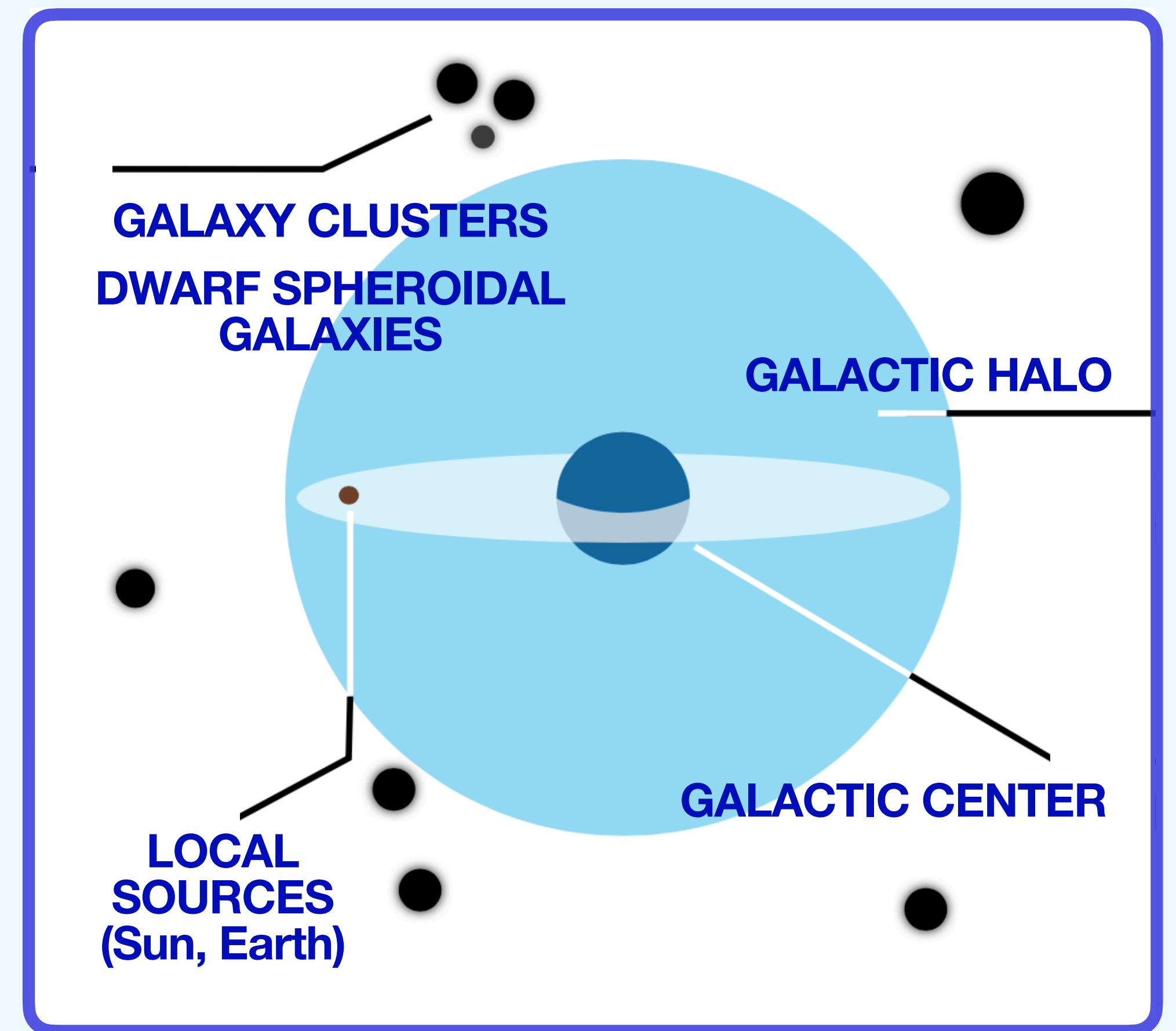
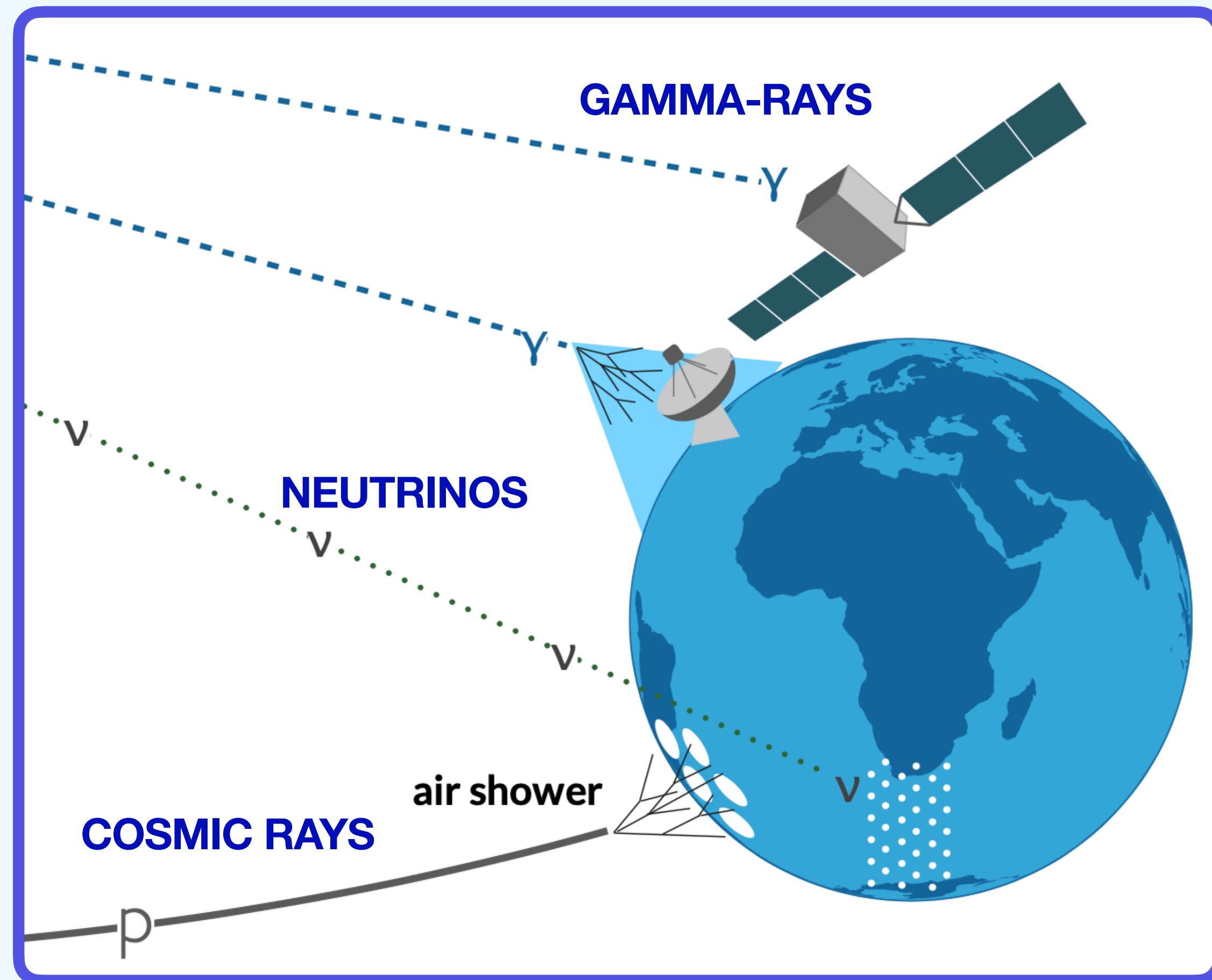
# Indirect Detection



No need of specialized detectors: **Gamma-ray telescopes, neutrino detectors, CR-experiments**  
Search for products of dark matter decay processes: **Focus on large reservoirs of dark matter**

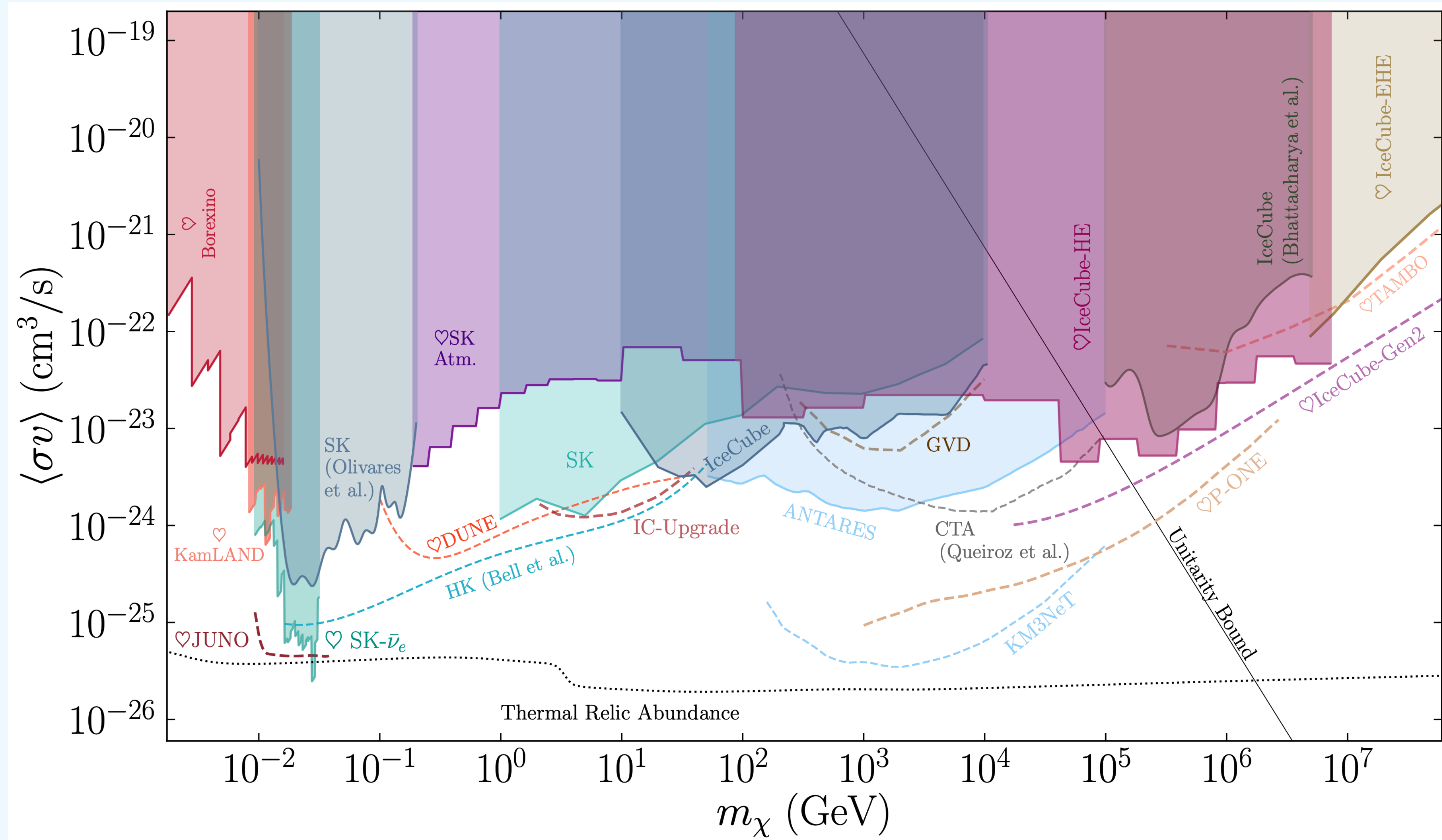
# Dark Matter Searches

## What and where to look?



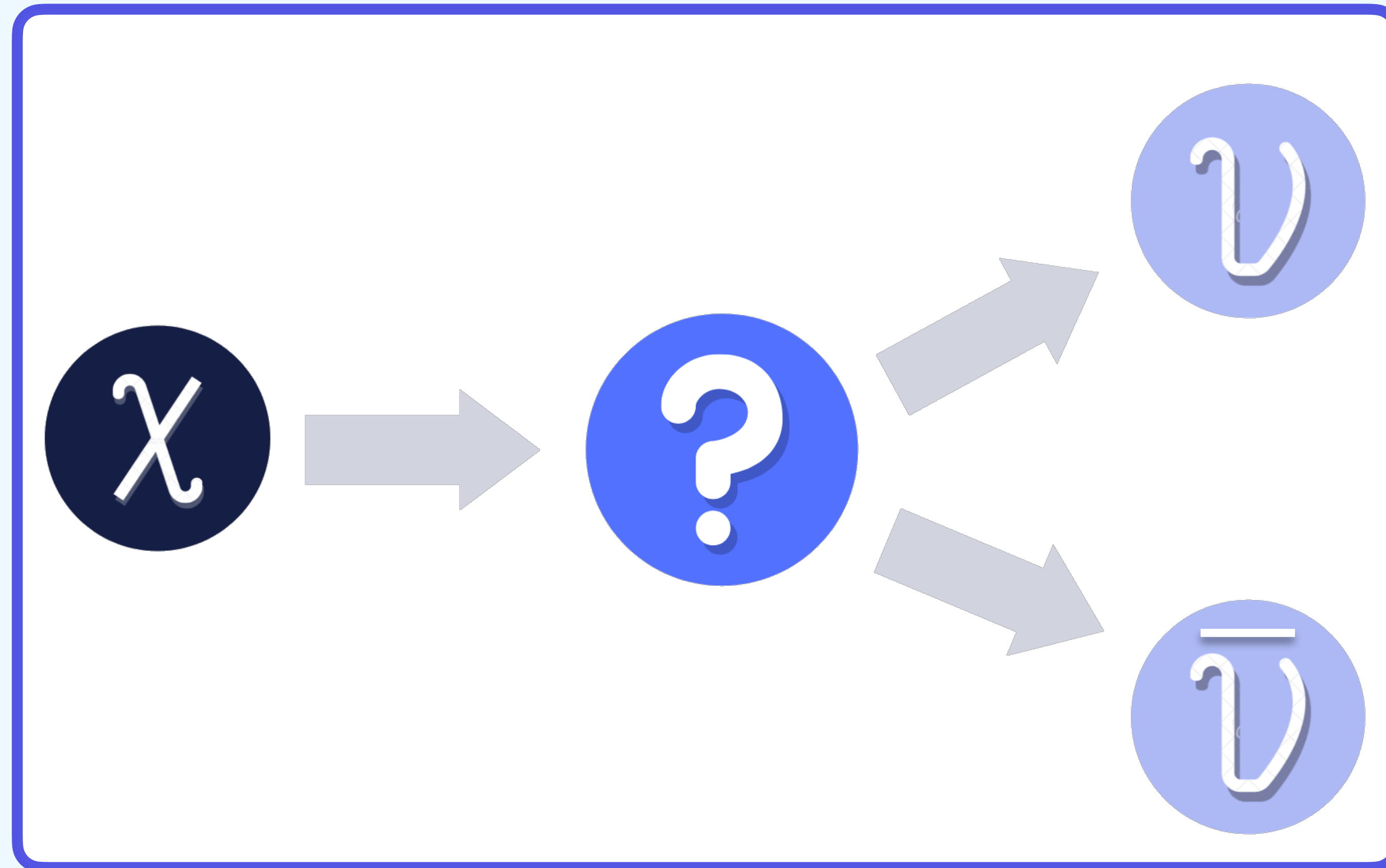
CREDIT: JUAN AGUILAR, ESDU 2018

# Previous Work: Dark Matter Annihilation to neutrinos



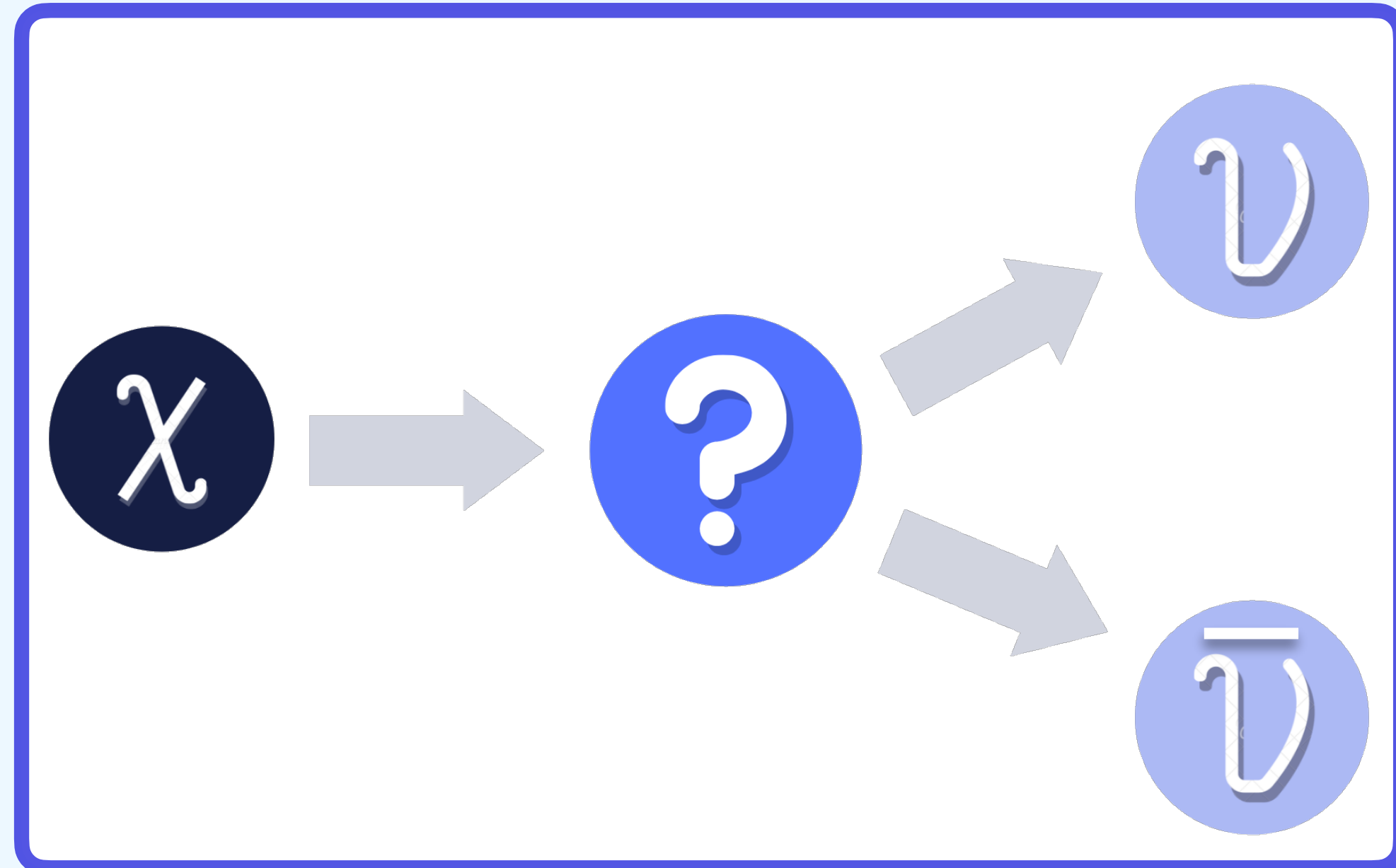
ARGÜELLES, ET AL., REV. MOD. PHYS. 93, [ARXIV:1912.09486](https://arxiv.org/abs/1912.09486)

# Focus on Dark Matter decay to neutrinos

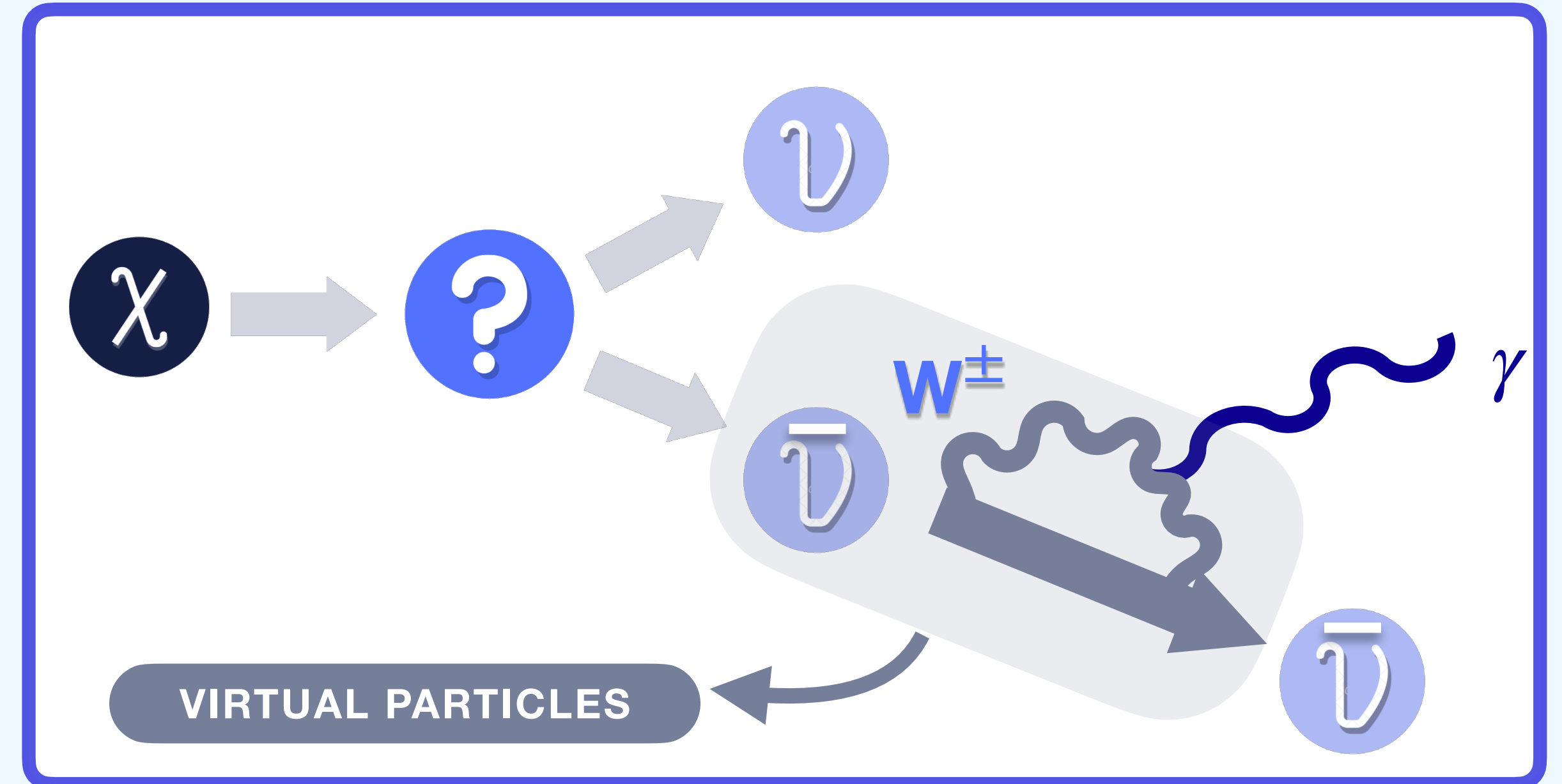


EXPECTED GAMMA-RAY SIGNAL DUE TO ELECTROWEAK CORRECTIONS

# Dark Matter Decay to neutrinos



**NEUTRINO SIGNAL**



**GAMMA-RAY SIGNAL**

# Decay

## Galactic contribution

### FLUX FROM DARK MATTER IN OUR GALAXY

$$\frac{d\Phi_\nu}{dE} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{1}{m_\chi \tau_\chi} \frac{dN_{\nu/\gamma}}{dE} D(\Omega, x)$$

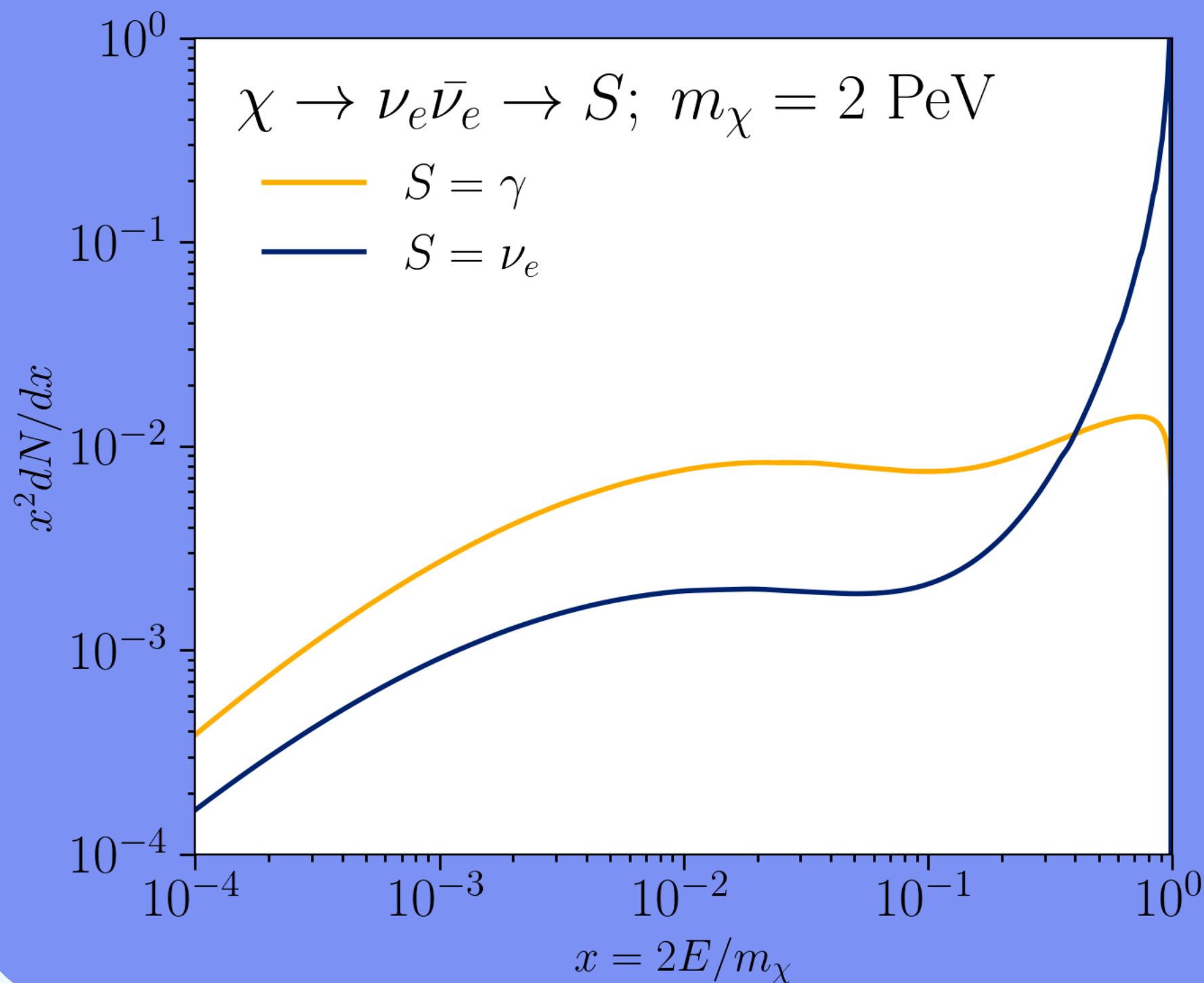
# Decay

## Galactic contribution

### FLUX FROM DARK MATTER IN OUR GALAXY

$$\frac{d\Phi_\nu}{dE} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{1}{m_\chi \tau_\chi} \frac{dN_\nu}{dE_\nu} D(\Omega, x)$$

\*\* ABOVE ELECTROWEAK SCALE



NEUTRINO PRODUCTION SPECTRUM FOR DIRECT DECAY OF DM TO NEUTRINOS

$$\frac{dN_\nu}{dE} = \delta\left(\frac{m_\chi}{2} - E_\nu\right)$$

\*\* MORE COMPLICATED WITH ELECTROWEAK CORRECTIONS



# Decay

## Galactic contribution

### FLUX FROM DARK MATTER IN OUR GALAXY

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$$\frac{dN_\nu}{dE} = \delta\left(\frac{m_\chi}{2} - E_\nu\right)$$

**\*\* MORE COMPLICATED WITH ELECTROWEAK CORRECTIONS**

### D FACTOR: 3D INTEGRAL OVER THE SKY SOLID ANGLE AND LINE OF SIGHT

$$D = \int d\Omega \int_{l.o.s.} \rho_\chi(x) dx$$

### DARK MATTER DENSITY: NFW PROFILE

$$\rho_\chi = \frac{2^{3-\gamma} \rho_s}{\left(\frac{r}{r_s}\right)^\gamma \left(1 + \frac{r}{r_s}\right)^{3-\gamma}}$$

NAVARRO, ET AL. ASTROPHYS.J. 462, [ARXIV:ASTRO-PH/9508025](https://arxiv.org/abs/astro-ph/9508025)

# Decay

## Galactic contribution

DM DECAY LIFETIME

### FLUX FROM DARK MATTER IN OUR GALAXY

$$\frac{d\Phi_\nu}{dE} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{1}{m_\chi \tau_\chi} \frac{dN_\nu}{dE_\nu} D(\Omega, x)$$

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NAVARRO, ET AL. ASTROPHYS.J. 462, ARXIV:ASTRO-PH/9508025

# Decay

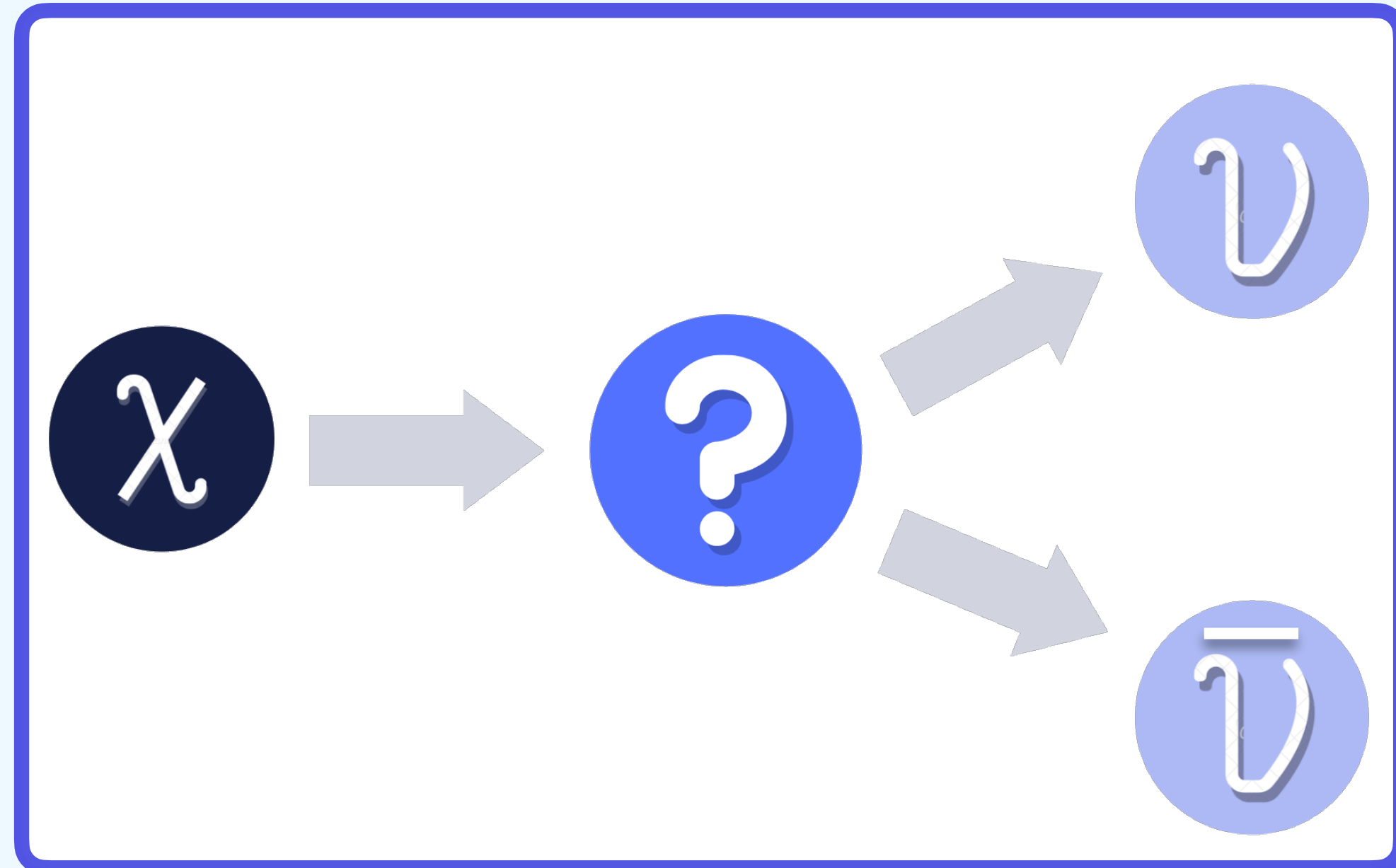
## Extragalactic contribution\*

**Extragalactic contribution also plays an important role!**

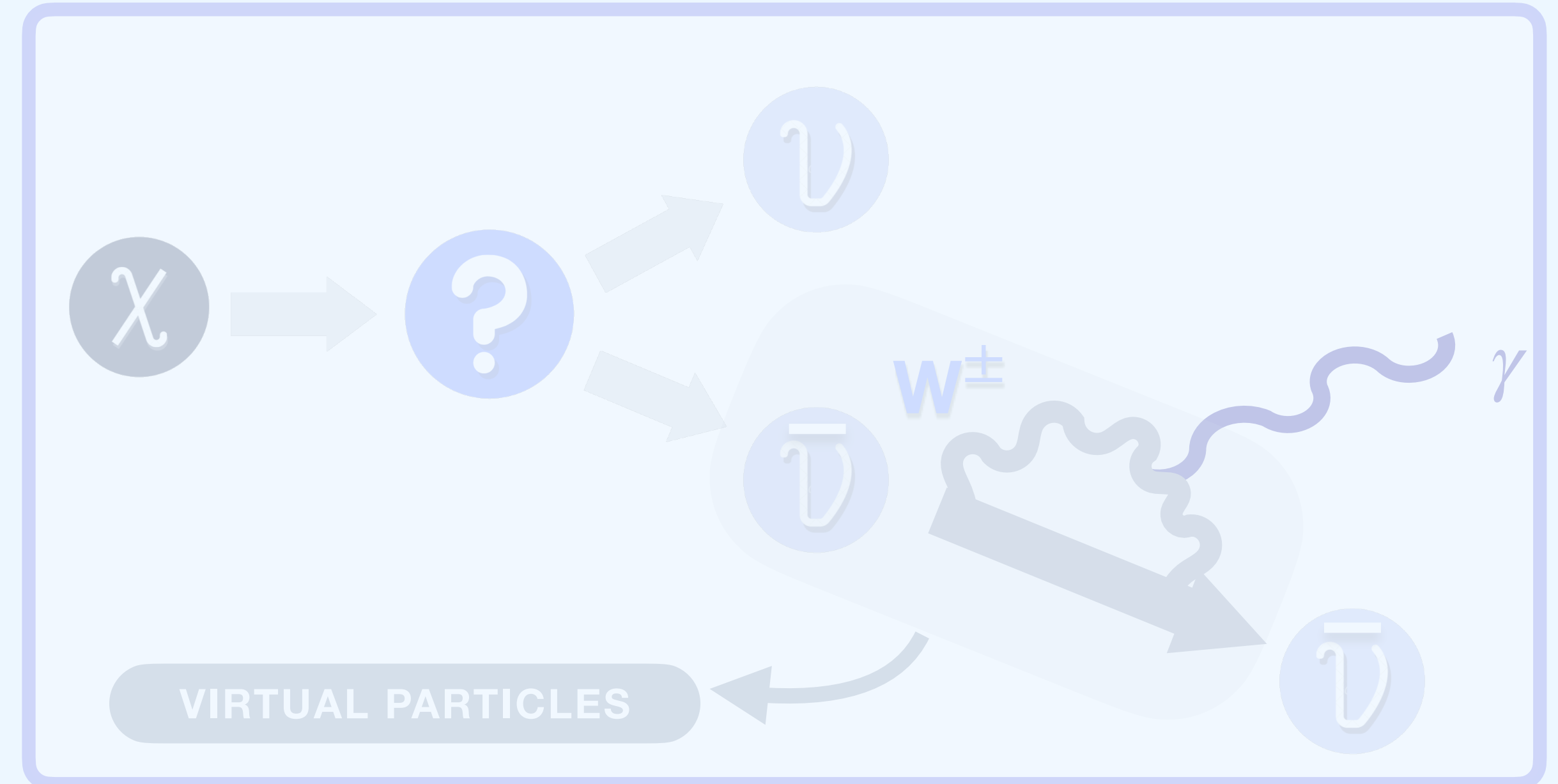
An isotropic neutrino signal is expected due to the decay of Dark Matter of all other galactic halos of the Universe.

\* SEE UPCOMING PAPER FOR A MORE DETAILED REVIEW.

# Dark Matter Decay to neutrinos



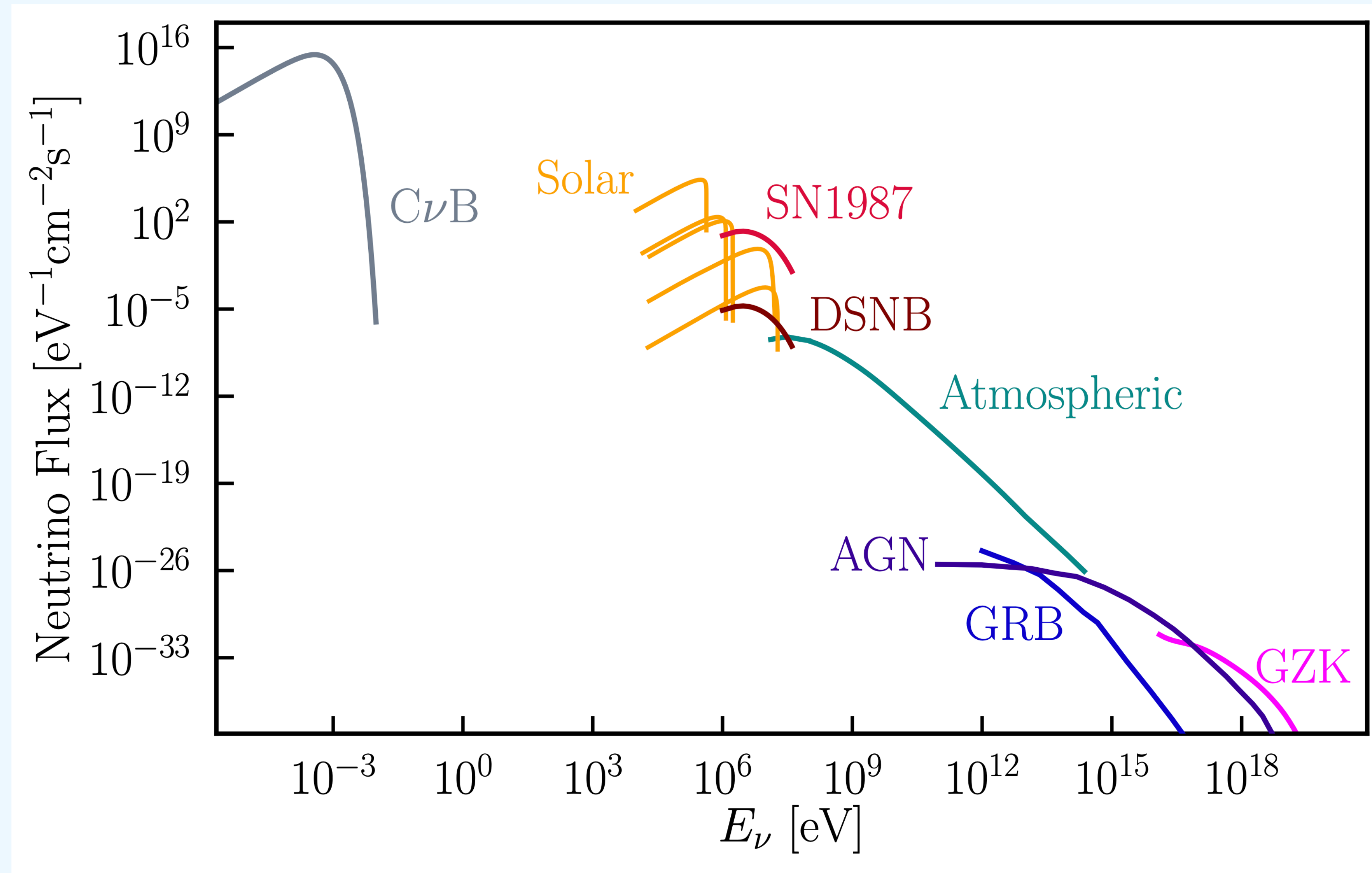
**NEUTRINO SIGNAL**



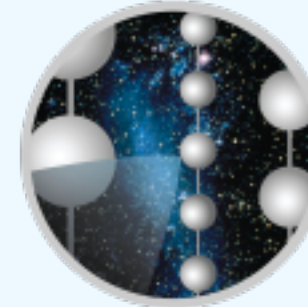
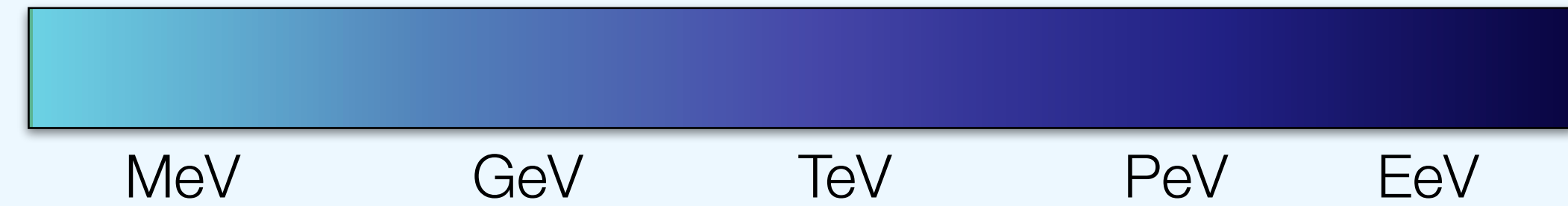
**GAMMA-RAY SIGNAL**

# First we must detect neutrinos

## Measured and expected fluxes of natural and reactor neutrinos



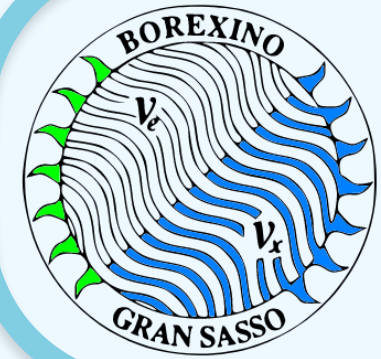
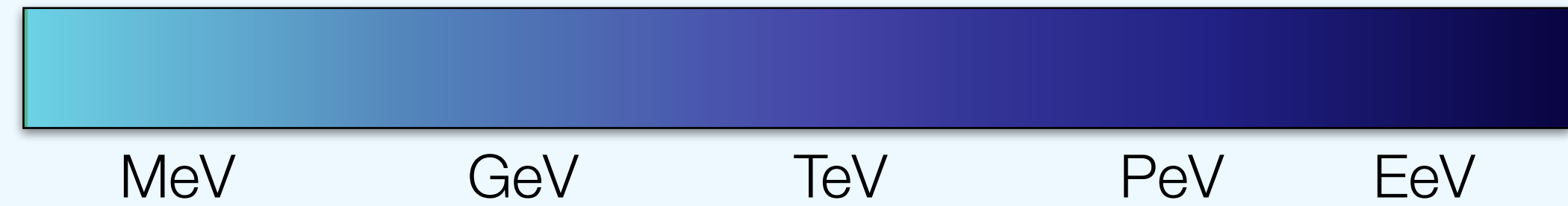
# Neutrino Experiments



**ICECUBE**  
SOUTH POLE NEUTRINO OBSERVATORY

- Cherenkov detector at the South Pole.
- 1 gigaton of ice target with 5160 PMTs
- IceCube has a measured diffuse astrophysical neutrino flux in the TeV-PeV range.

# Neutrino Experiments



Liquid scintillator.  
Solar neutrinos (MeV)



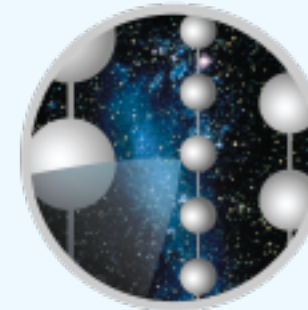
Liquid scintillator (Reactor).  
Extraterrestrial neutrino  
fluxes (MeV)



Liquid Argon TPC.  
Atmospheric neutrino  
fluxes (GeV)



Water Cherenkov.  
Atmospheric neutrinos  
(GeV-TeV)

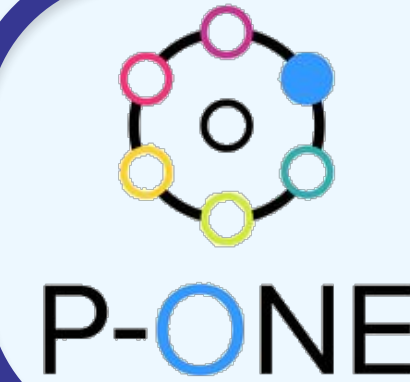


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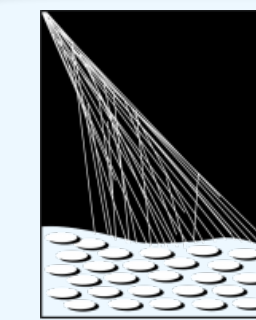
Water Cherenkov.  
Atmospheric  
neutrinos (GeV-TeV)



Sea Water Cherenkov  
Extraterrestrial  
neutrino fluxes (PeV)



Water Cherenkov.  
Astrophysical Tau  
Neutrino (PeV)



PIERRE  
AUGER  
OBSERVATORY

Water Cherenkov.  
Ultra High Energy  
Cosmic Rays (EeV)

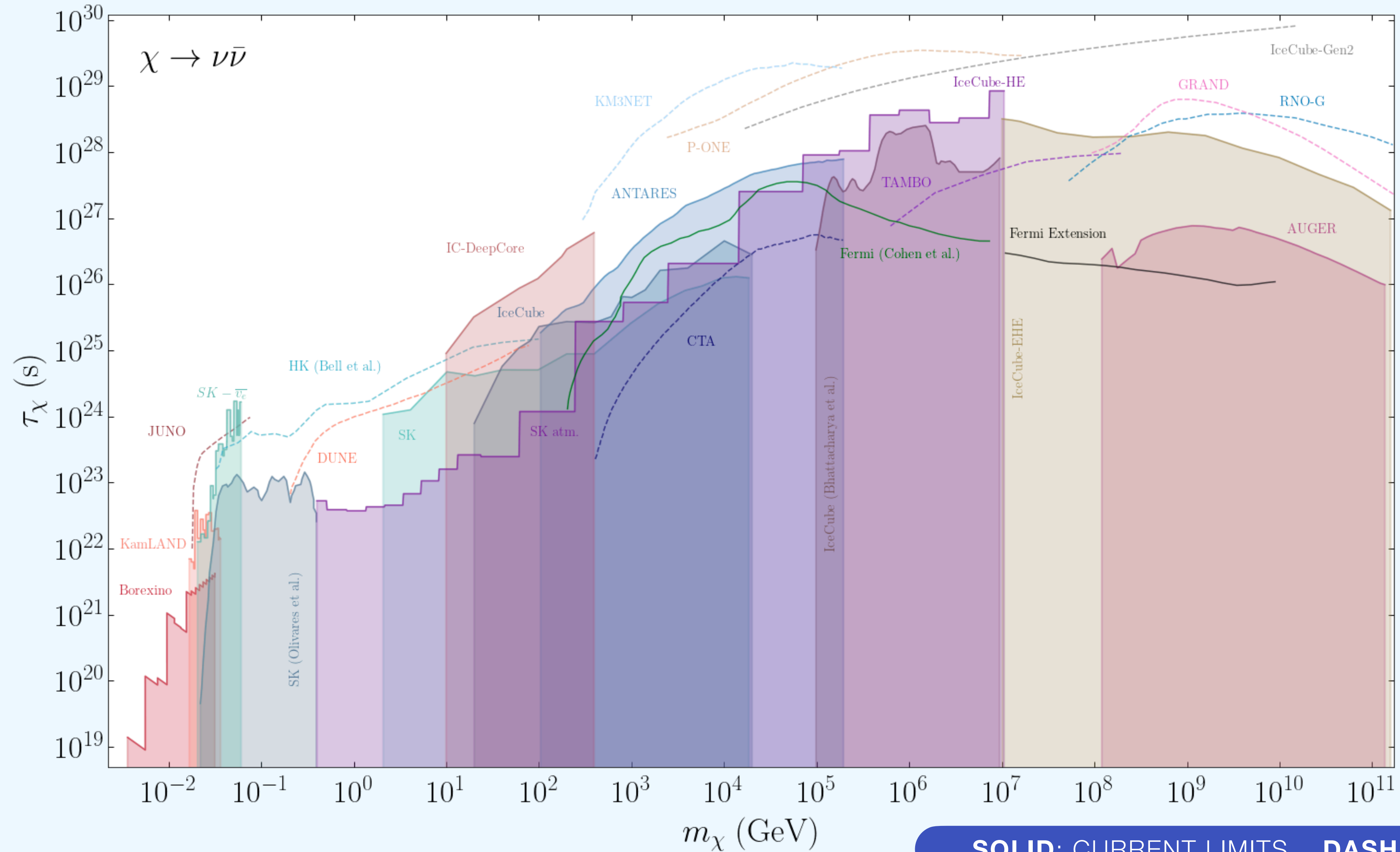


Radio Array. Tau  
Neutrinos (EeV)

# Decay results

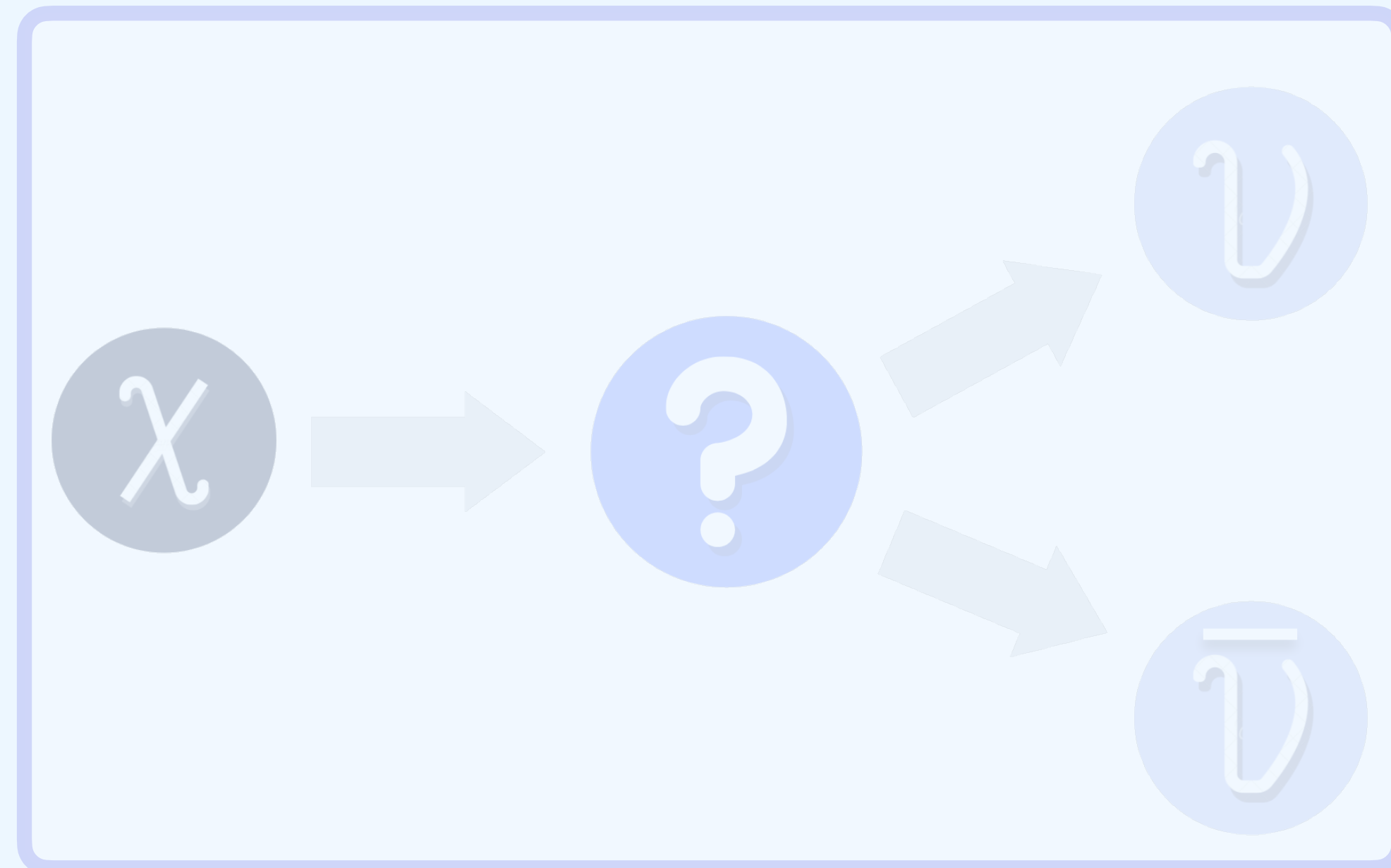
## Neutrino Experiments

C. Argüelles, **D. Delgado**, A. Vincent, A. Friedlander,  
H. White, A. Kheirandish, I. Safa

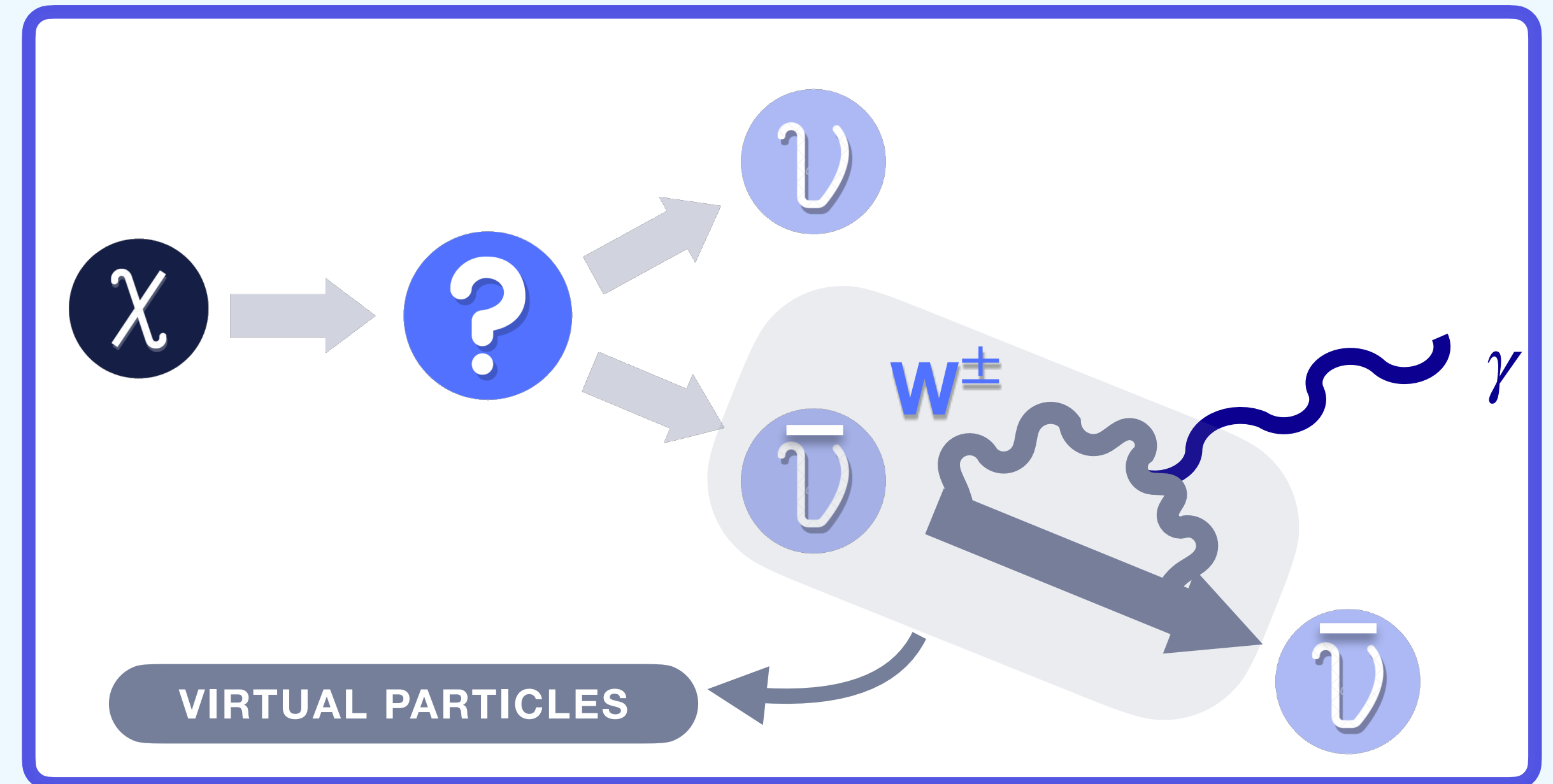




# Dark Matter Decay to neutrinos

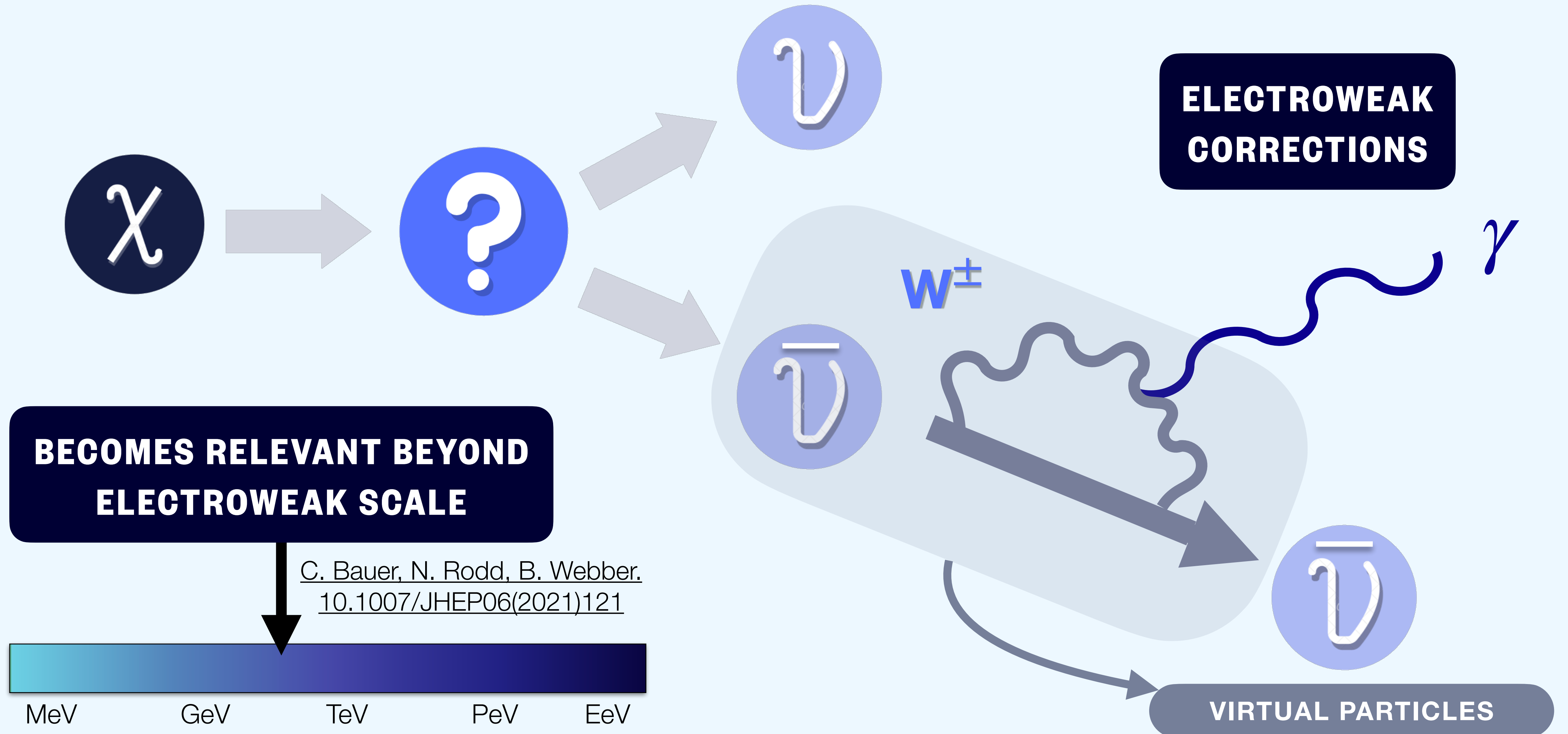


NEUTRINO SIGNAL

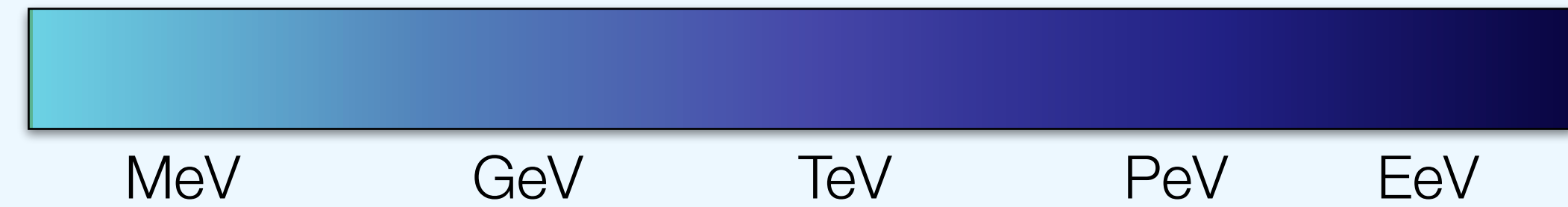


GAMMA-RAY SIGNAL

# Dark Matter Search detecting gammas



# Gamma-Ray Experiments



Water Cherenkov.  
Gamma Rays and  
Cosmic Rays  
(GeV - TeV)



Hybrid Air  
Shower. Gamma  
Rays (GeV - PeV)



Air Cherenkov. High  
Energy Gamma Rays  
(TeV)



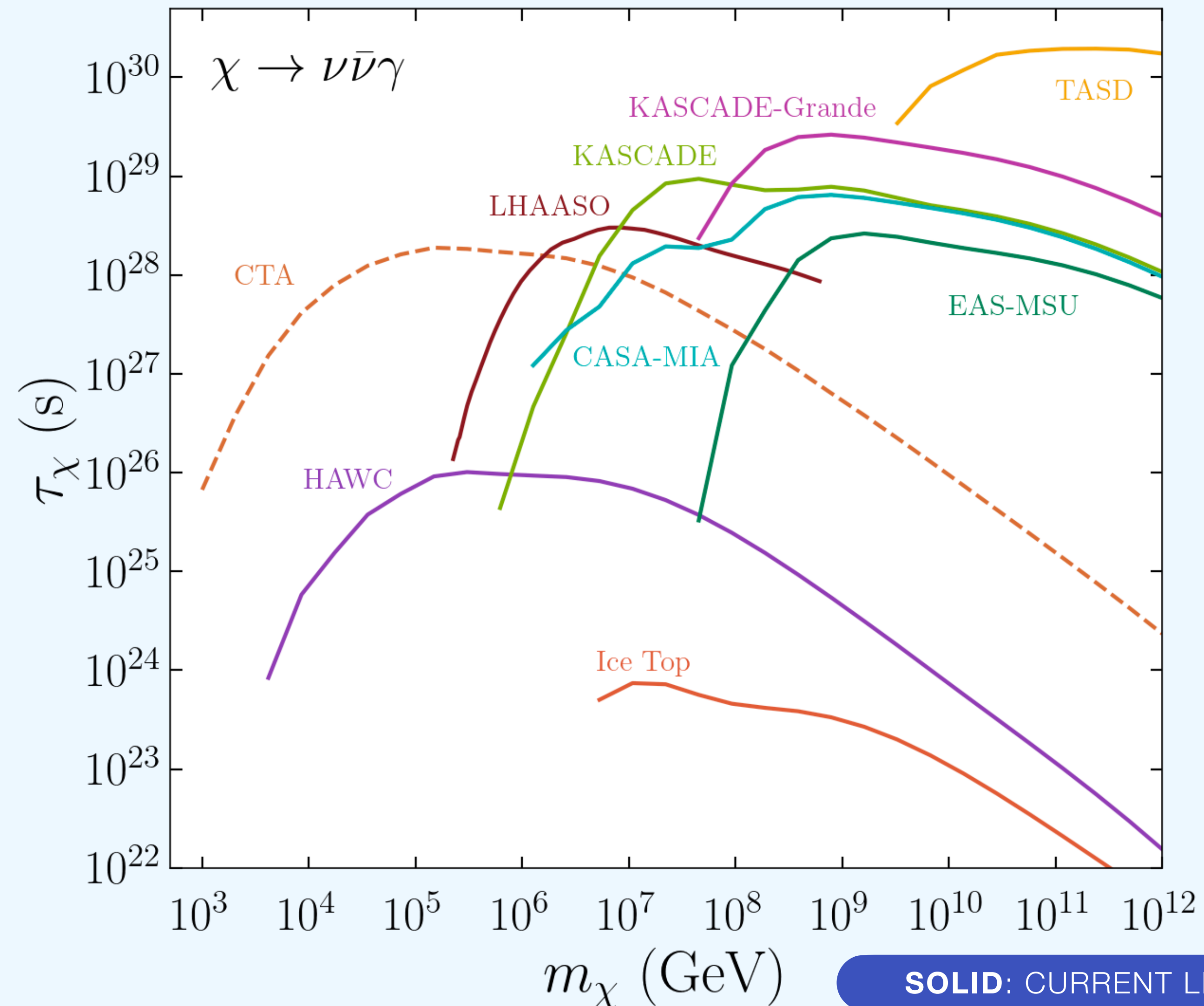
Air Showers.  
Gamma Rays and  
Cosmic Rays (PeV)

AND OTHER EXPERIMENTS

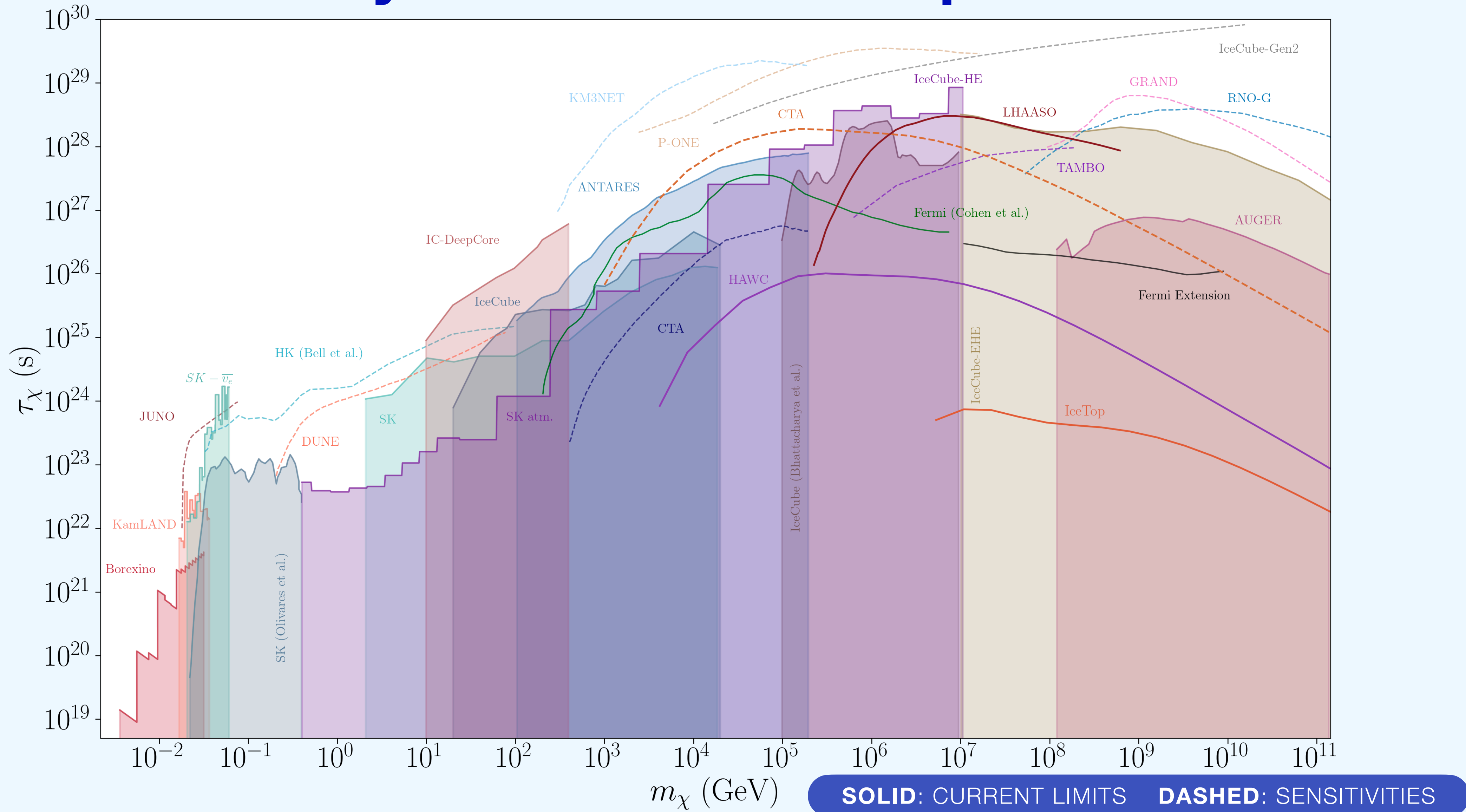
# Decay Results

## Gamma-Ray Experiments

C. Argüelles, **D. Delgado**, A. Vincent, A. Friedlander,  
H. White, A. Kheirandish, I. Safa



# Dark Matter Decay to Neutrinos: Comprehensive Results



C. ARGÜELLES, D. DELGADO, A. VINCENT, A. FRIEDLANDER, H. WHITE, A. KHEIRANDISH, I. SAFA **[IN PREPARATION (2022)]**

# Summary

- **Dark Matter (DM) neutrino connections** offer solutions to the mysteries of the nature of Dark Matter and origin of neutrino mass.
- We can look for both neutrinos and gamma-rays as final products of Dark matter decay to neutrinos → Correlated signal.
- We present new comprehensive constrains for the Dark Matter decay lifetime in the **wide mass range** of  $m_\chi = [ \text{MeV} - \text{EeV} ]$ , thanks to major experimental advances.
- New constraints for gamma rays contribution to the lifetime limits will be reported on an upcoming paper. Stay tuned!

**THANK YOU!**

**ANY QUESTIONS?**

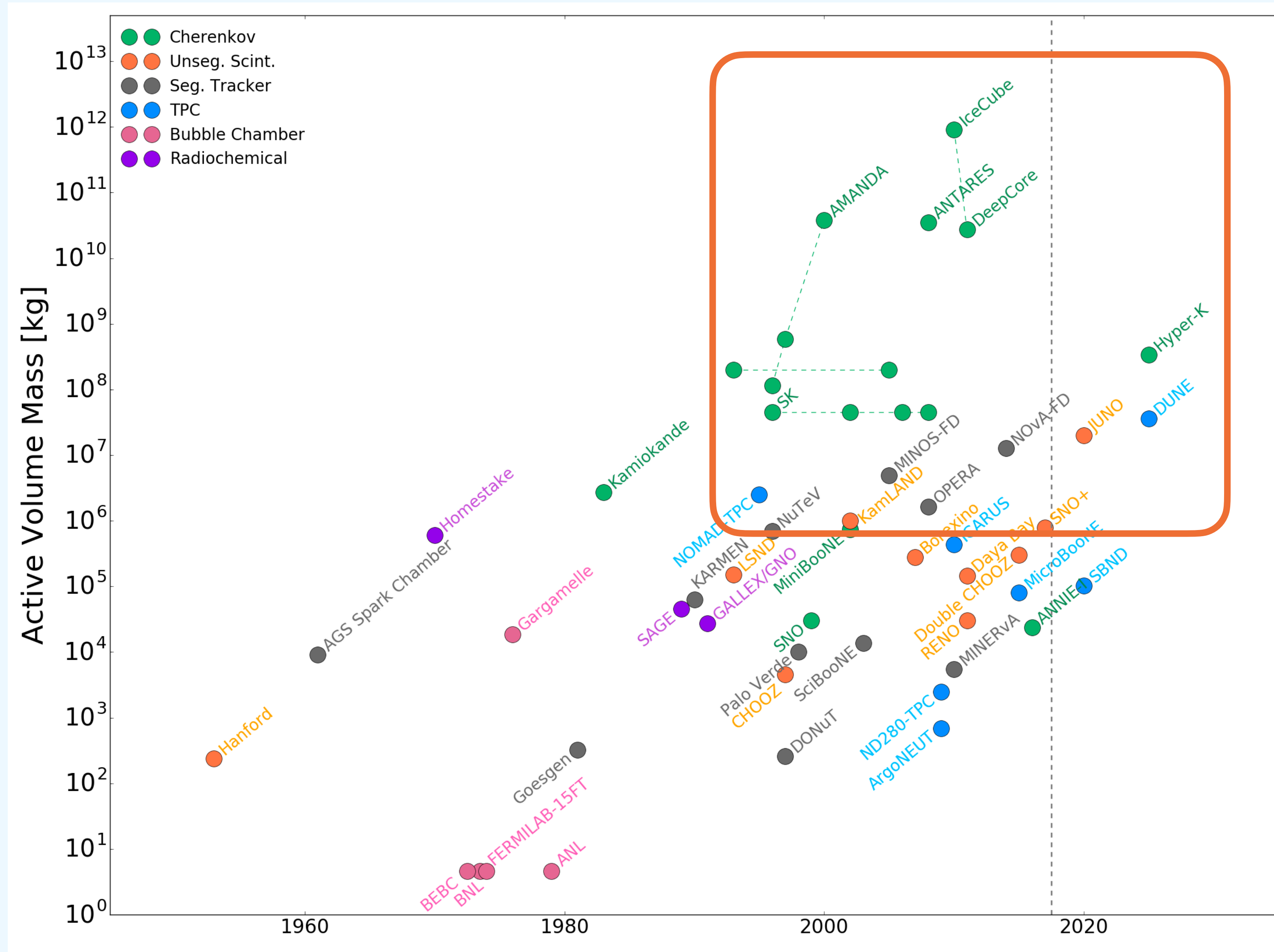


[ddelgado@g.harvard.edu](mailto:ddelgado@g.harvard.edu)

# Backup



# First we must detect neutrinos

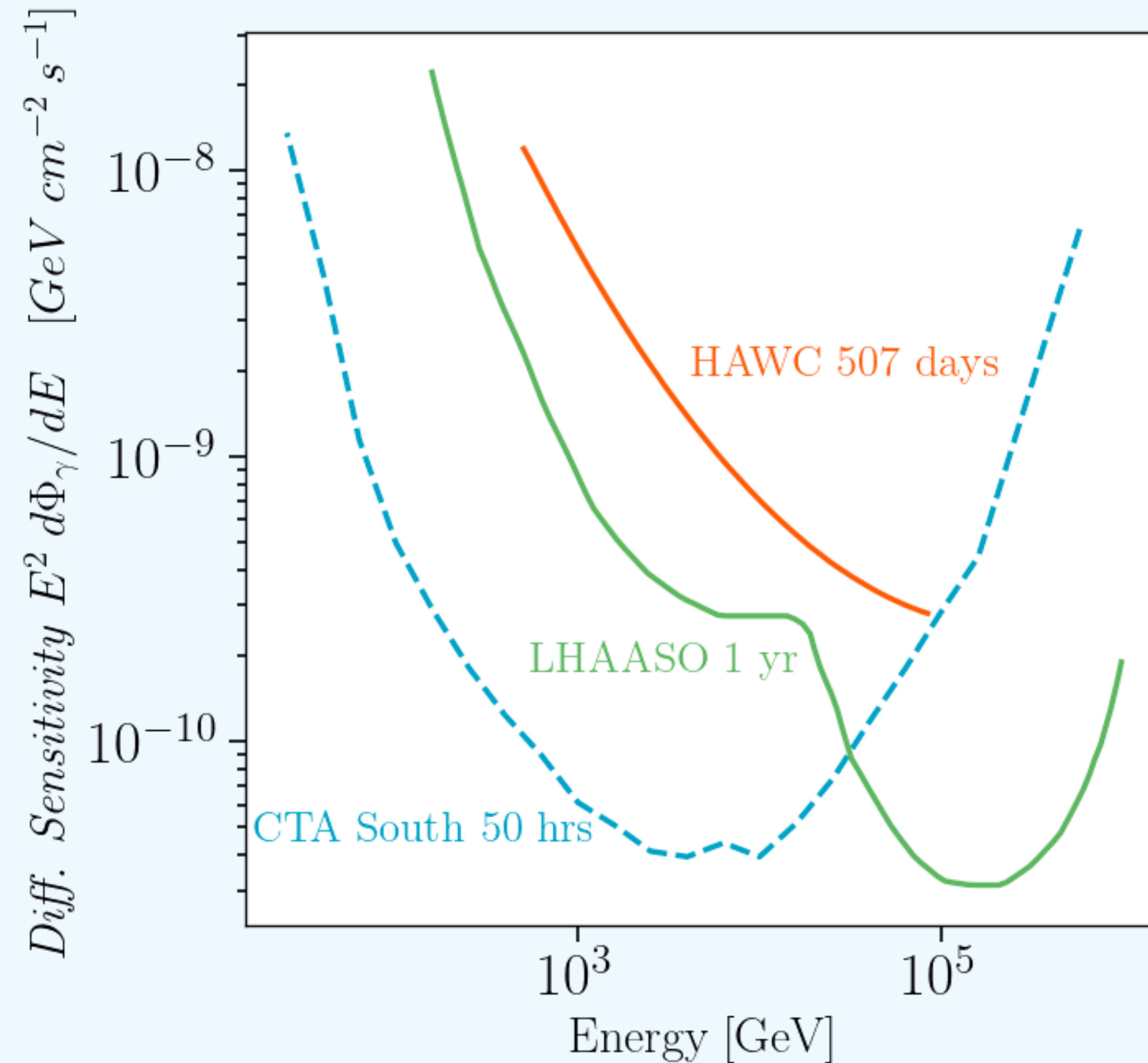


# Detecting neutrinos

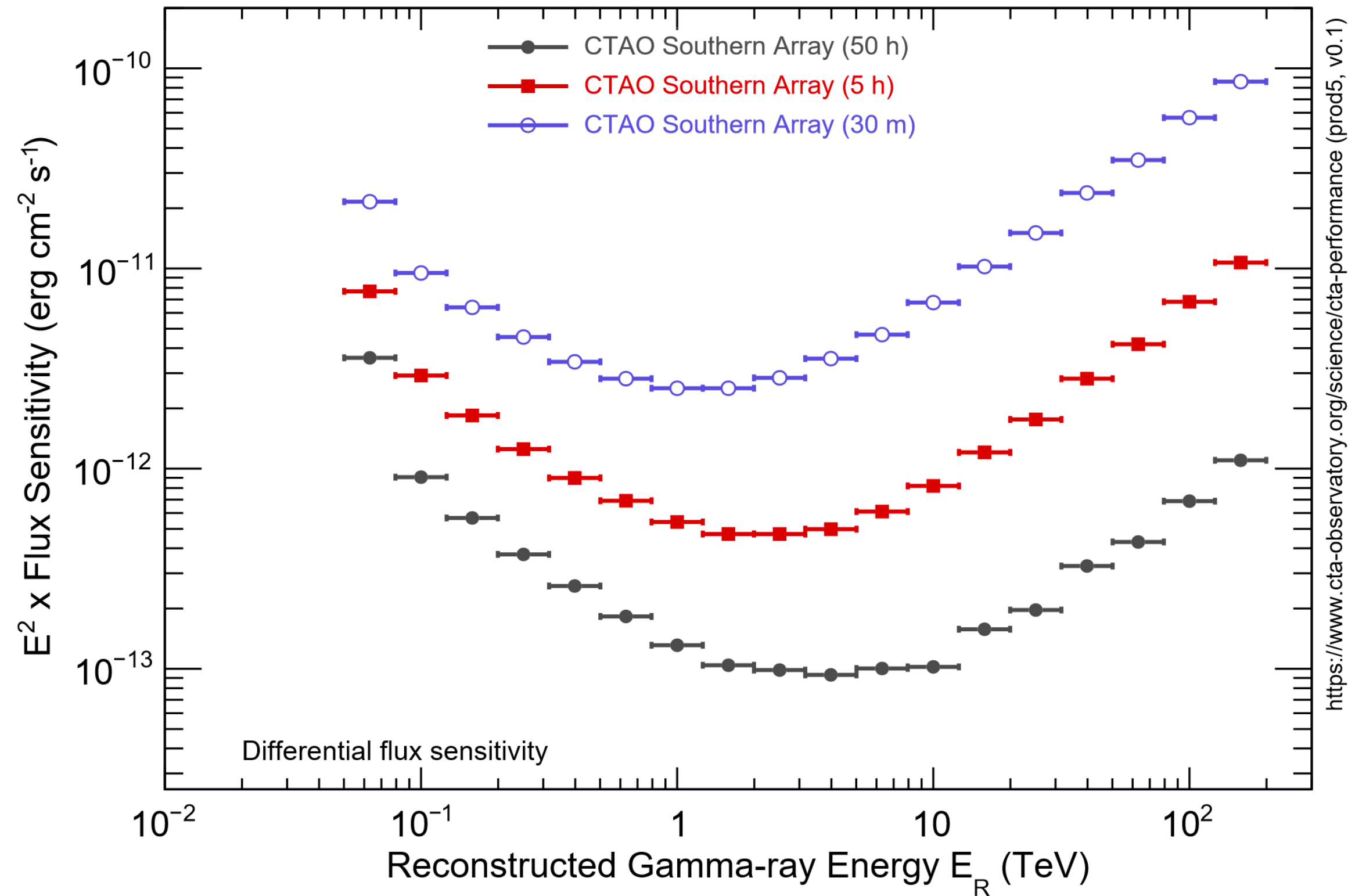
	Energy Range	Experimental Analysis	Directionality	Detected Flavor
MeV	2.5 – 15 MeV	Borexino ( <a href="#">Bellini et al., 2011</a> )	×	$\bar{\nu}_e$ (IBD)
	8.3 – 18.3 MeV	KamLAND ( <a href="#">Gando et al., 2012</a> )	✓	$\bar{\nu}_e$ (IBD)
	10 – 40 MeV	JUNO ( <a href="#">An et al., 2016</a> )	✓	$\bar{\nu}_e$ (IBD)
GeV	15 – 10 <sup>3</sup> MeV	SK ( <a href="#">Olivares-Del Campo et al., 2018a</a> )	×	$\bar{\nu}_e$ (IBD)
		DARWIN ( <a href="#">McKeen and Raj, 2018</a> )	×	All Flavors (Coherent)
TeV	0.1 – 30 GeV	DUNE ( <a href="#">Abi et al., 2020b</a> )	×	$\nu_e, \bar{\nu}_e, \nu_\tau, \bar{\nu}_\tau$ (CC)
		HK ( <a href="#">Olivares-Del Campo et al., 2018b</a> )		
	1 – 10 <sup>4</sup> GeV	SK ( <a href="#">Abe et al., 2020</a> ; <a href="#">Frankiewicz, 2015</a> )	✓	All Flavors
	20 – 10 <sup>4</sup> GeV	IceCube ( <a href="#">Aartsen et al., 2016a</a> )	✓	All Flavors
	50 – 10 <sup>5</sup> GeV	ANTARES ( <a href="#">Adrian-Martinez et al., 2015</a> )	✓	$\nu_\mu, \bar{\nu}_\mu$ (CC)
PeV	0.2 – 100 TeV	CTA ( <a href="#">Queiroz et al., 2016</a> )	✓	All Flavors (Bremsstrahlung)
	10 – 10 <sup>4</sup> GeV	IC-Upgrade ( <a href="#">Baur, 2019</a> )	✓	All Flavors
	> 10 PeV	IC Gen-2 ( <a href="#">Aartsen et al., 2014b</a> )	✓	All Flavors
	10 – 10 <sup>4</sup> TeV	KM3Net ( <a href="#">Adrian-Martinez et al., 2016</a> )	✓	All Flavors
EeV	1 – 100 PeV	TAMBO ( <a href="#">Wissel et al., 2019</a> )	✓	$\nu_\tau, \bar{\nu}_\tau$ (CC)
	> 100 PeV	GRAND ( <a href="#">Alvarez-Muniz et al., 2018</a> )	✓	$\nu_\tau, \bar{\nu}_\tau$ (CC)

ARGÜELLES, ET AL., REV. MOD. PHYS. 93, [ARXIV:1912.09486](#)

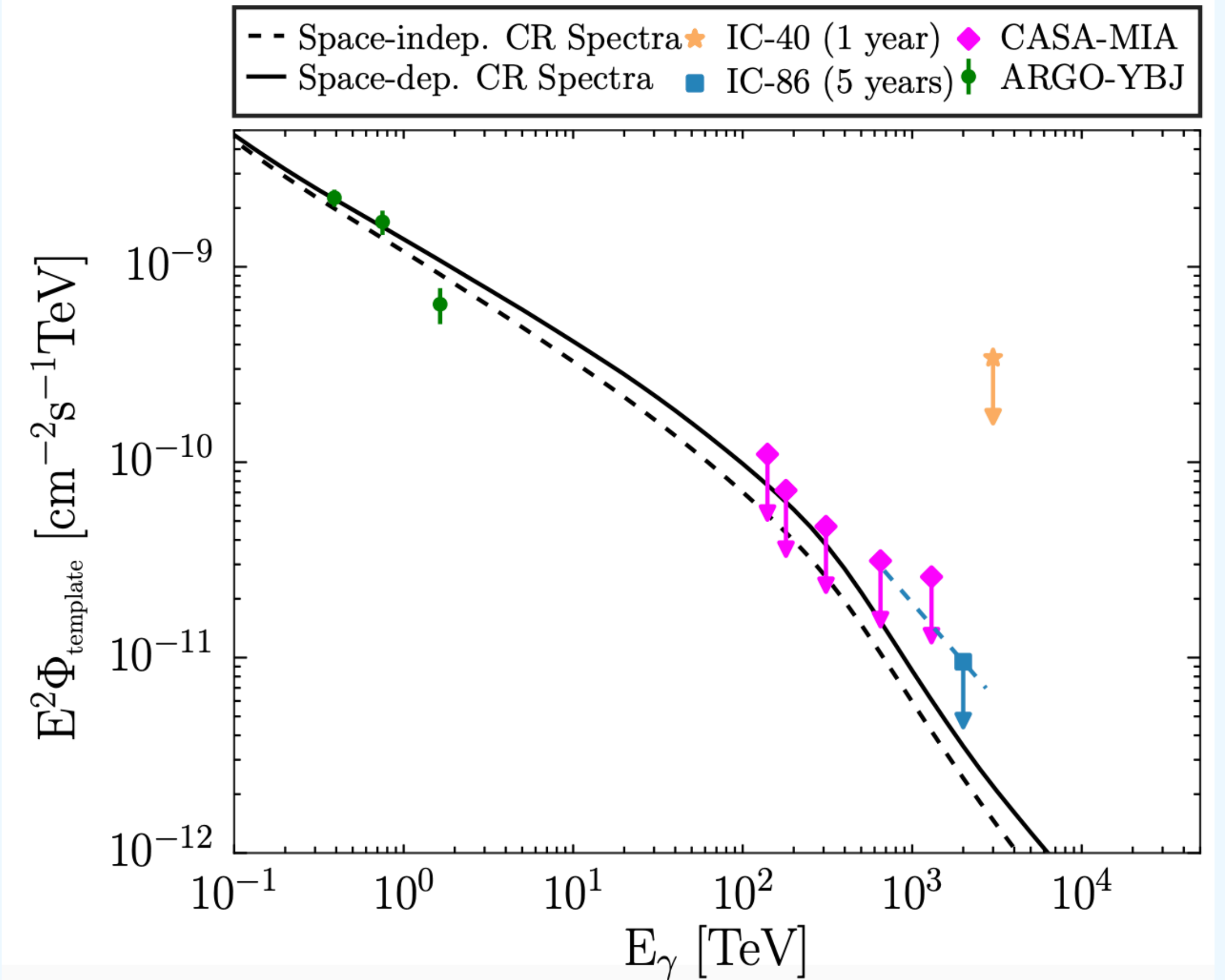
# Gamma-Ray Experimental Sensitivities



# Gamma-Ray Experimental Sensitivities

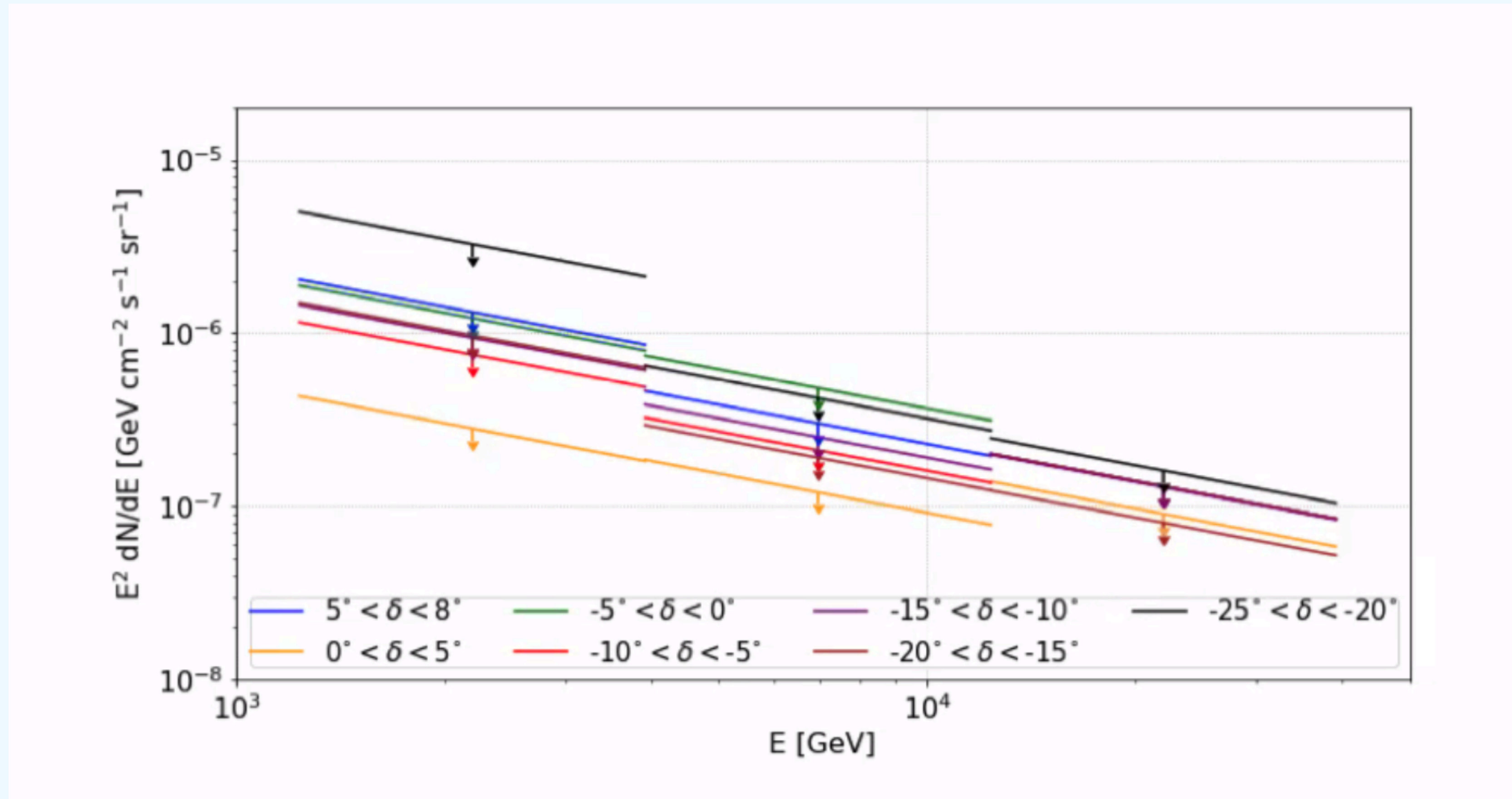


**CTA**



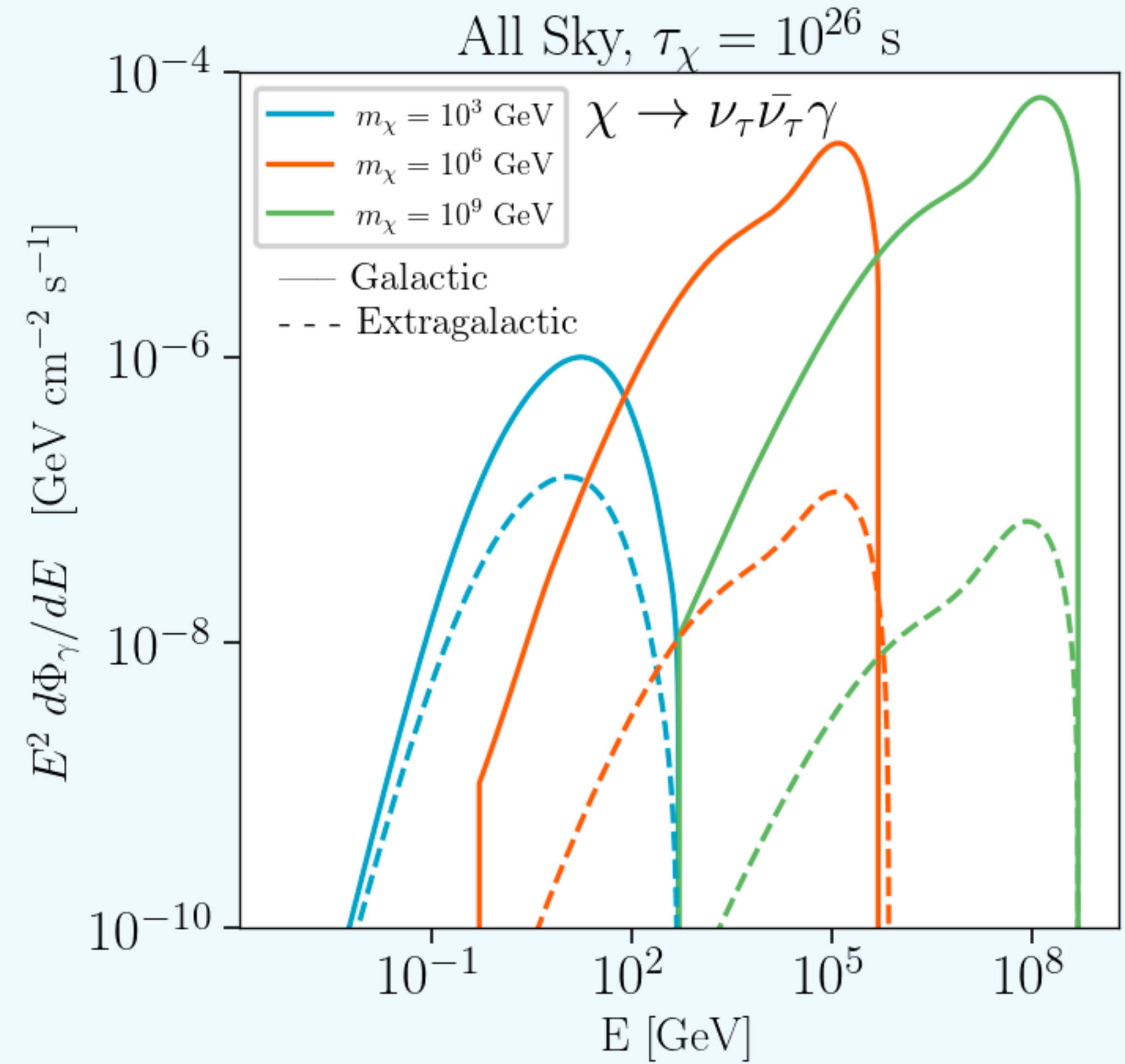
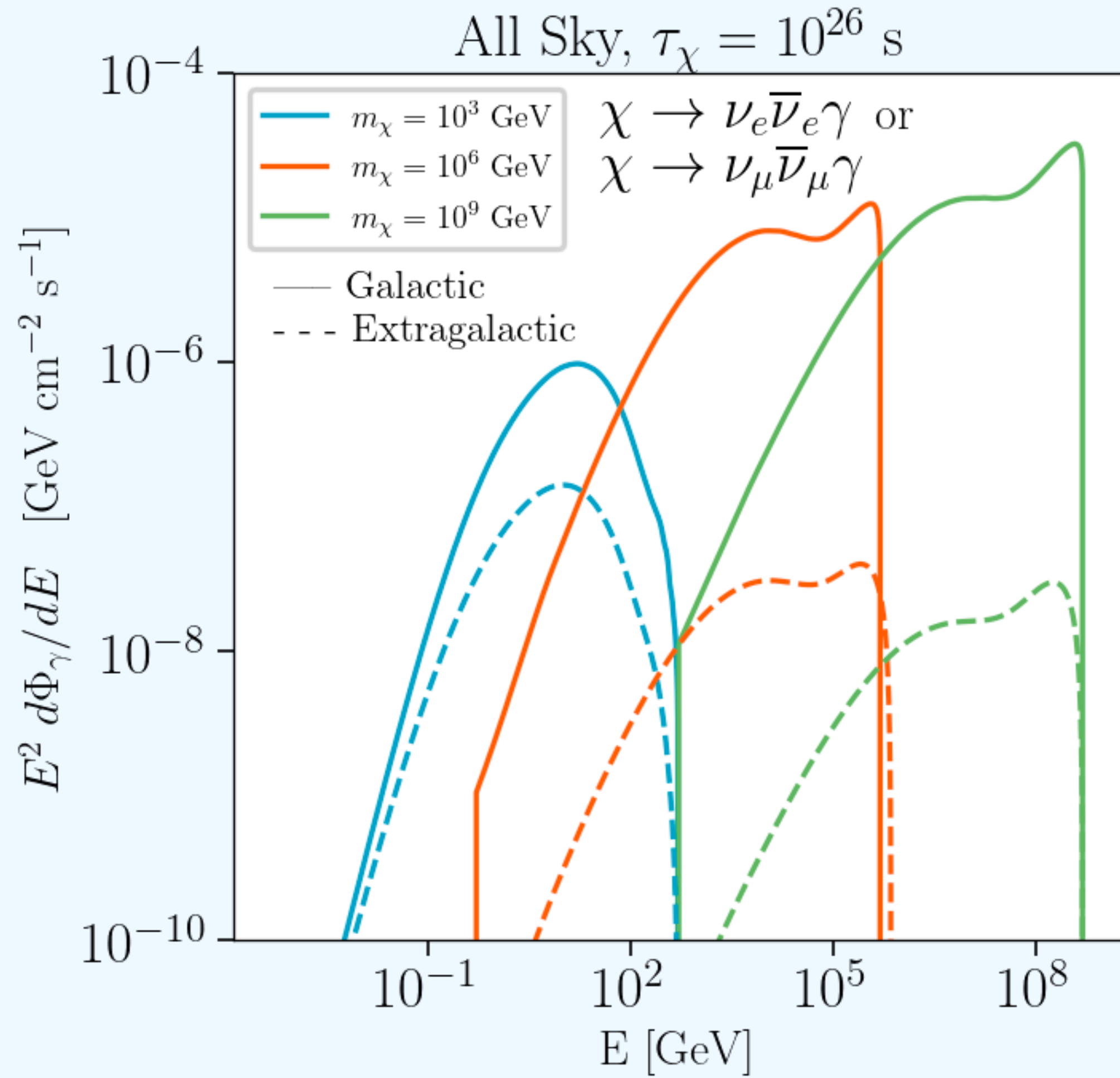
**Ice Top**

# Gamma-Ray Experimental Sensitivities



**HAWC**

# Expected Gamma-Ray DM Flux



# Gamma-Ray electroweak corrections

- The standard  $1 \rightarrow 2$  decay process is  $\chi \rightarrow \bar{\nu}\nu$ .
- Higher orders involve the bremsstrahlung of an electroweak gauge boson.
- The branching ratio  $R = \sigma(\chi \rightarrow \bar{\nu}\nu W) / \sigma(\chi \rightarrow \bar{\nu}\nu)$  only depends generally only on the details of the underlying  $1 \rightarrow 2$  process for  $Q^2 \sim m_\chi^2$ .
- We have three cases:
  1. Fermi regime  $m_\chi \lesssim m_W$
  2. Perturbative electroweak regime  $m_\chi \lesssim m_W \lesssim 10^6$  GeV
  3. Non-perturbative regime where large logarithms over-compensate the small electroweak coupling  $\alpha_2$

An isotropic neutrino signal is also expected due to annihilation of dark matter in every other galactic halo in the universe,

$$\frac{d\Phi_\nu}{dE} = \frac{c}{4\pi} \frac{\Omega_{DM}^2 \rho_{crit}^2 \langle \sigma v \rangle}{2m_\chi^2} \int_0^{z_{up}} dz \frac{(1+G(z))(1+z)^3}{H(z)} \frac{dN_\nu(E')}{dE},$$

Time-dependent Hubble parameter

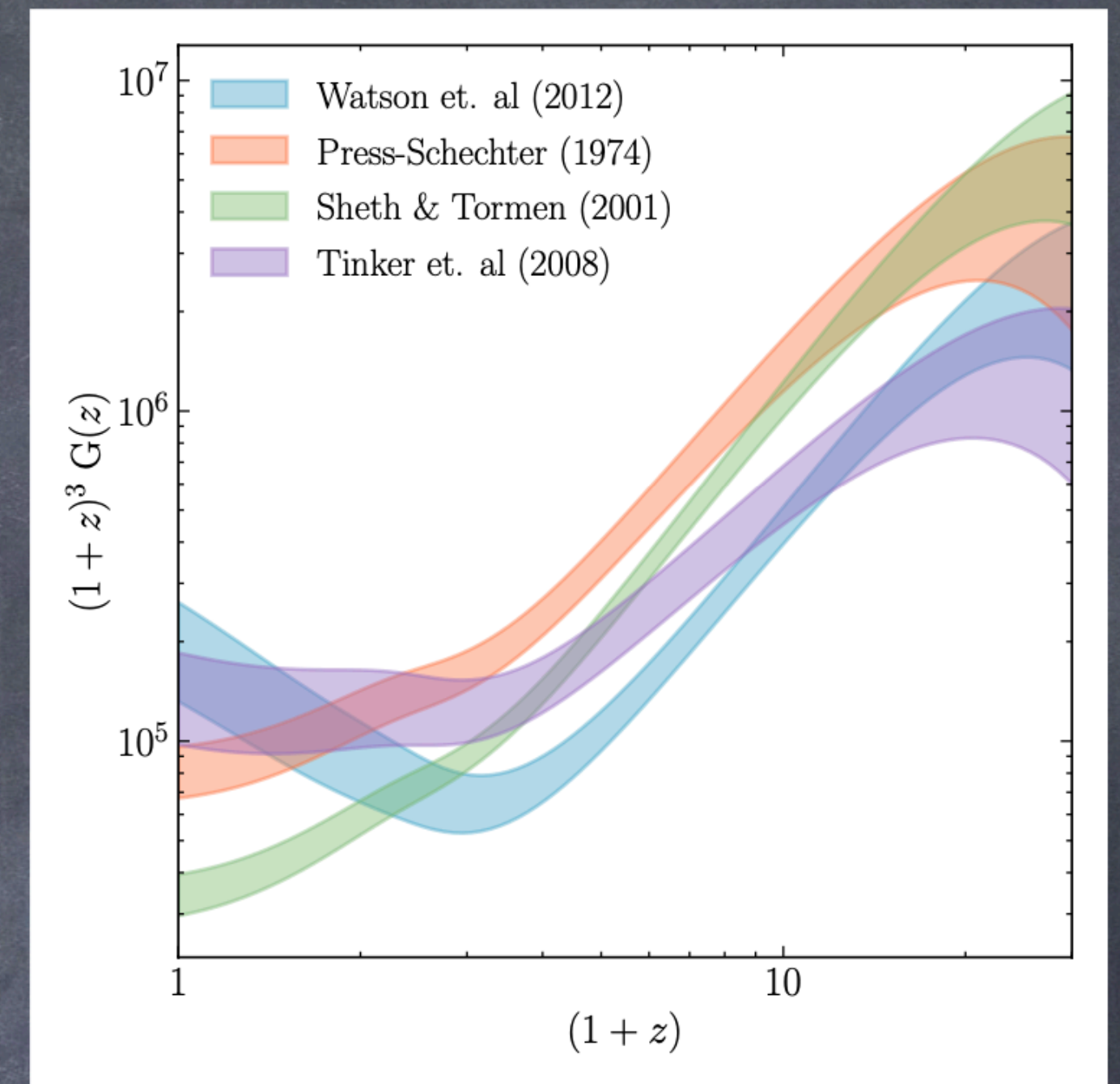
$$H(z) = H_0 \left[ (1+z)^3 \Omega_{DM} + \Omega_\Lambda \right]^{1/2}$$

Production spectrum

$$\frac{2}{3E} \delta \left[ z - \left( \frac{m_\chi}{E} - 1 \right) \right]$$

Halo boost

$$G(z) = \frac{1}{\Omega_{DM,0}^2 \rho_c^2} \frac{1}{(1+z)^6} \int dM \frac{dn(M, z)}{dM} \int dr 4\pi r^2 \rho_{halo}^2(r).$$



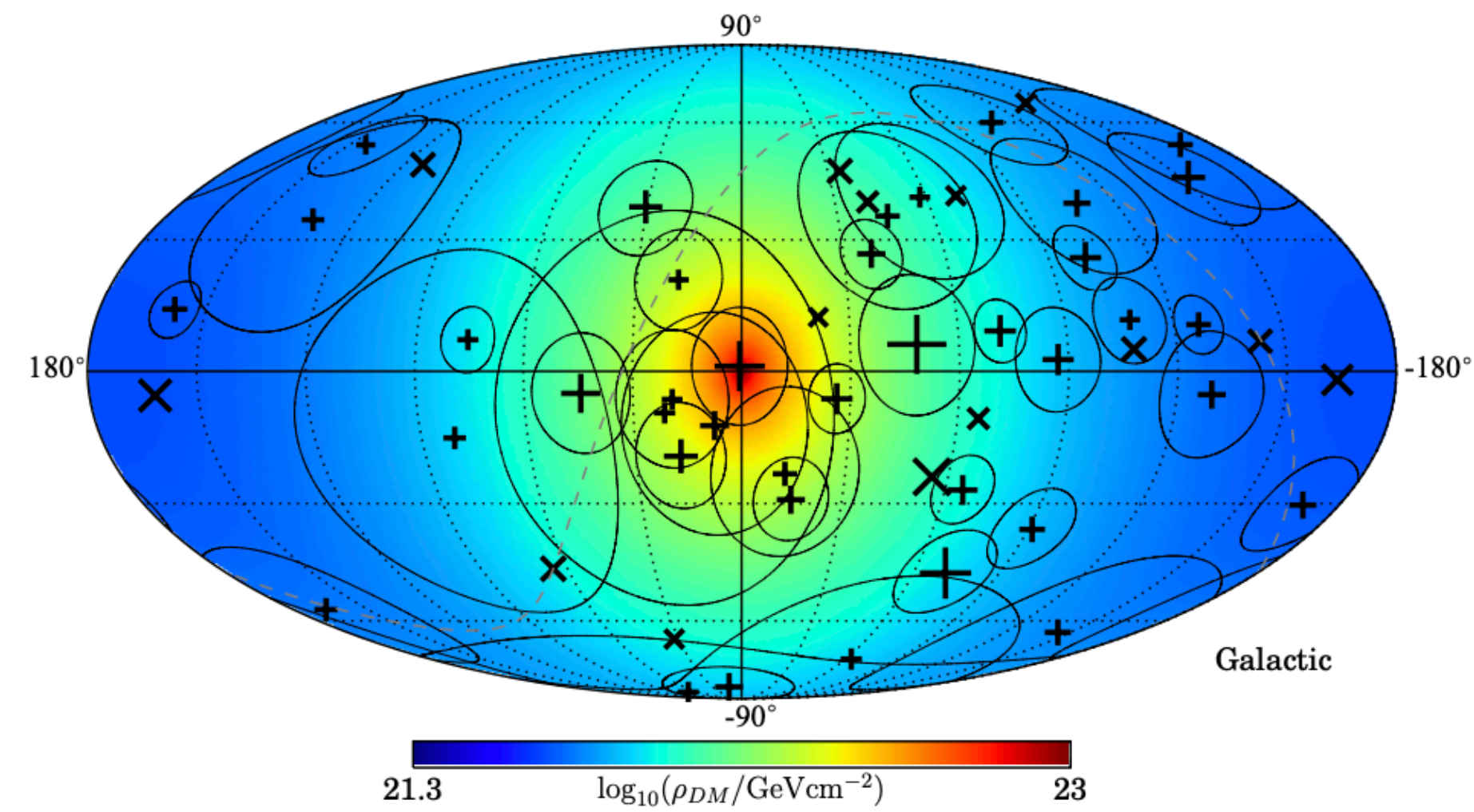
The band shows the uncertainty from the choice of minimum halo mass from  $10^{-9}$  to  $10^{-3} M_{sun}$

Limits shown in this work use Watson et. al and a conservative choice of minimum mass ( $M_{min} = 10^{-3} M_{sun}$ ).

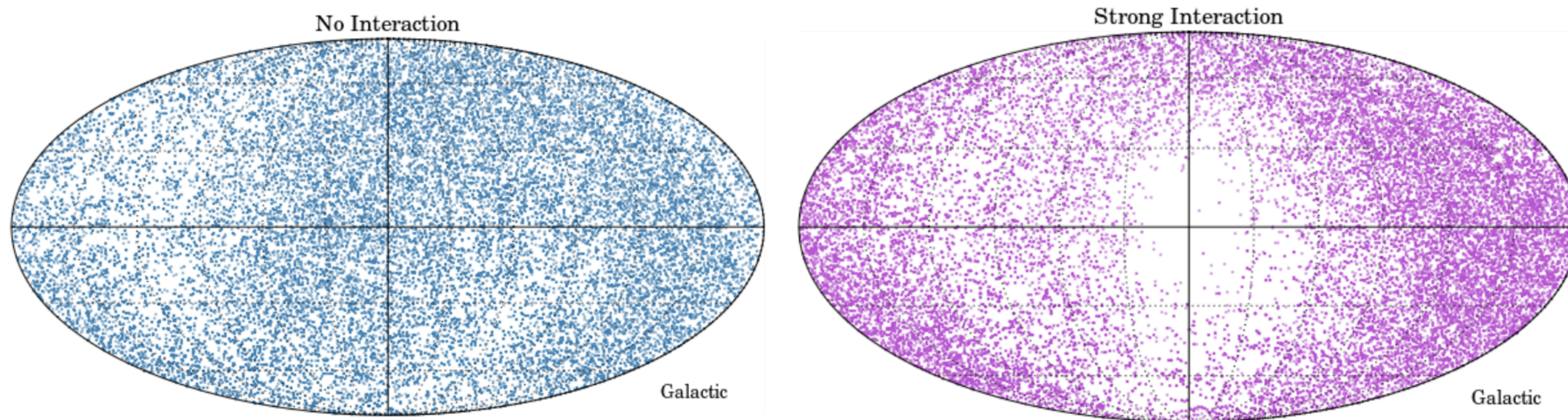
CREDIT: I. SAFA



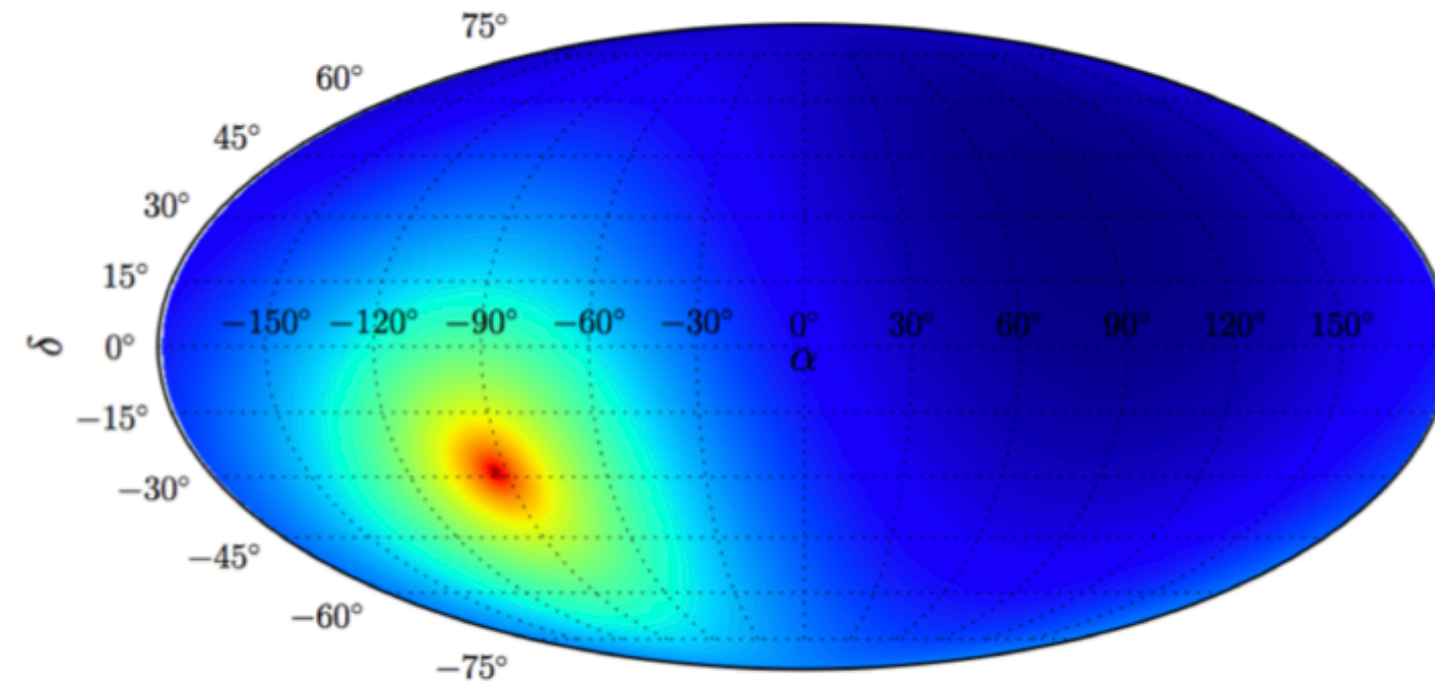
# Dark matter column density seen from Earth



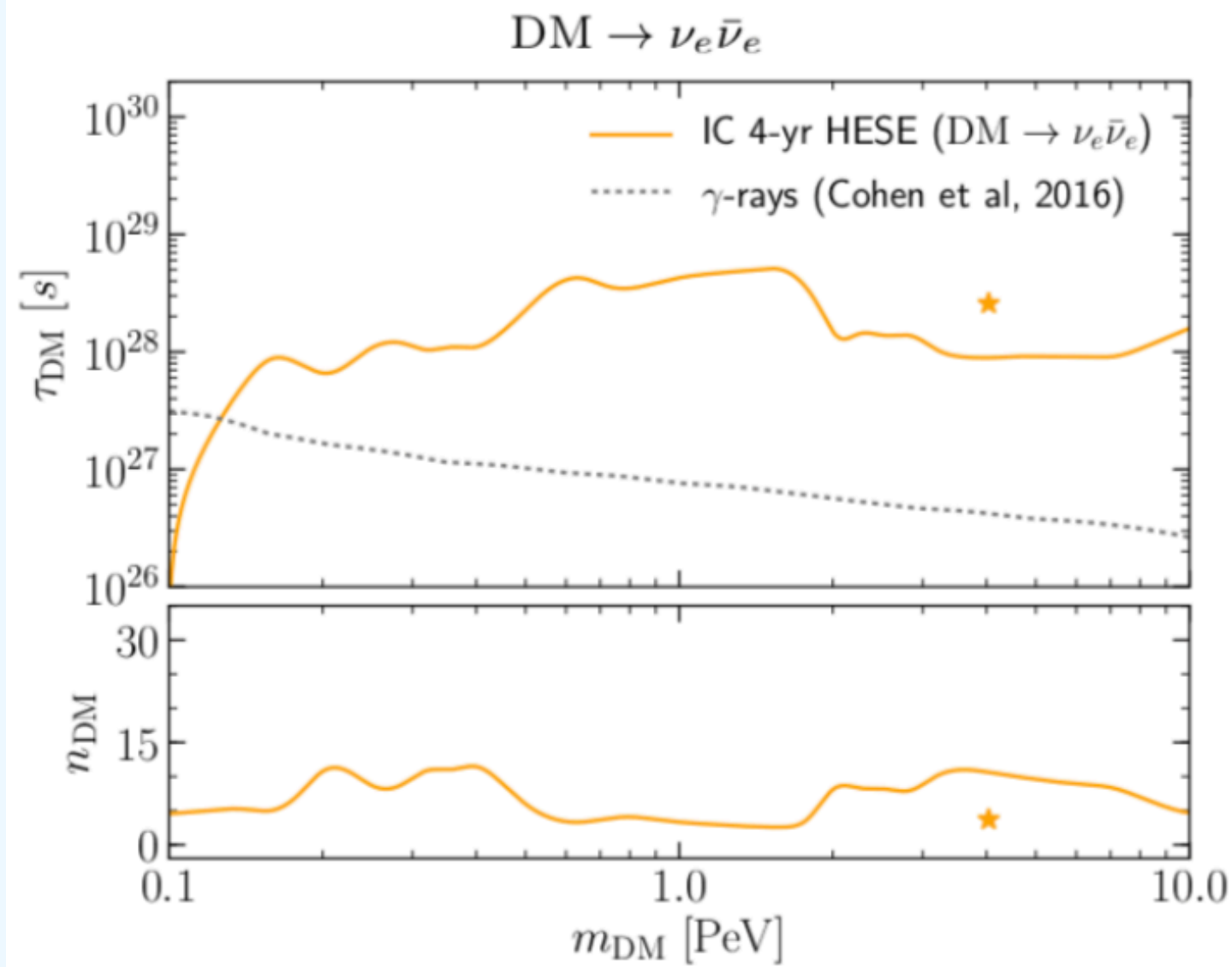
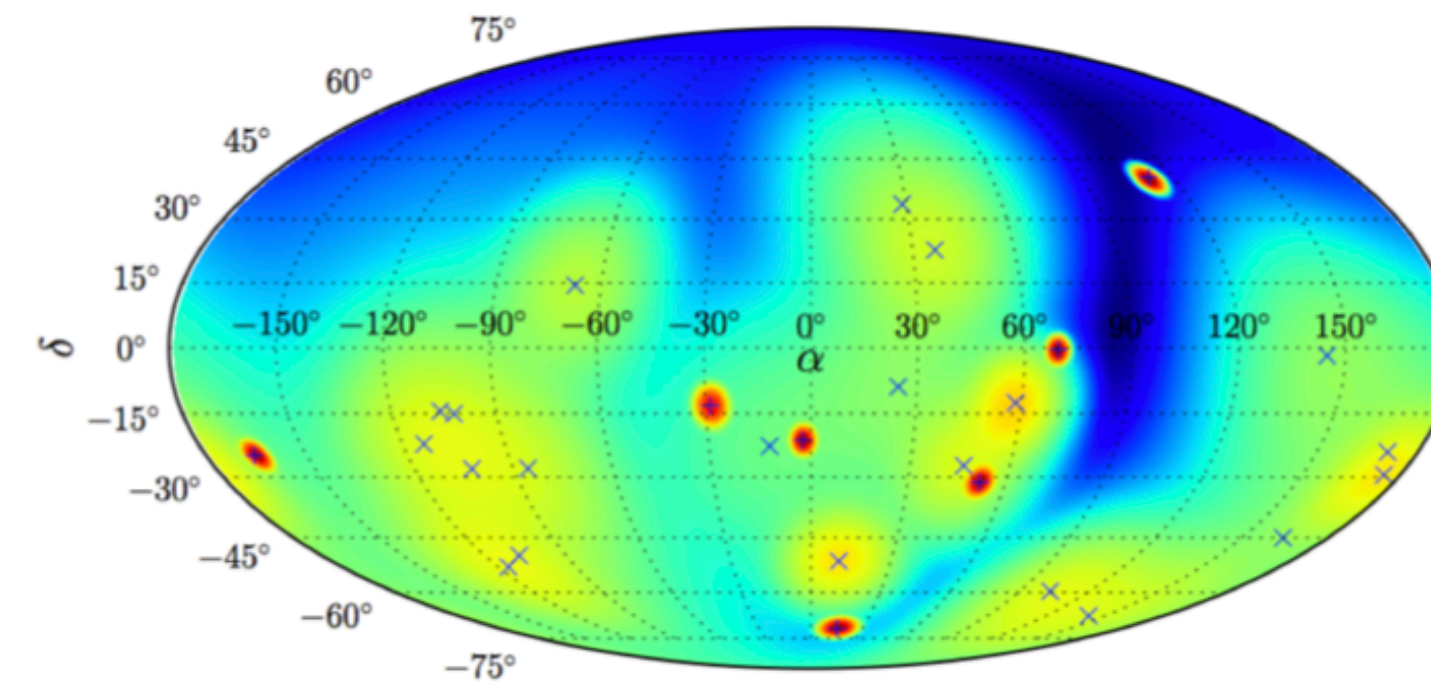
# Simulation including effects of detector, Earth



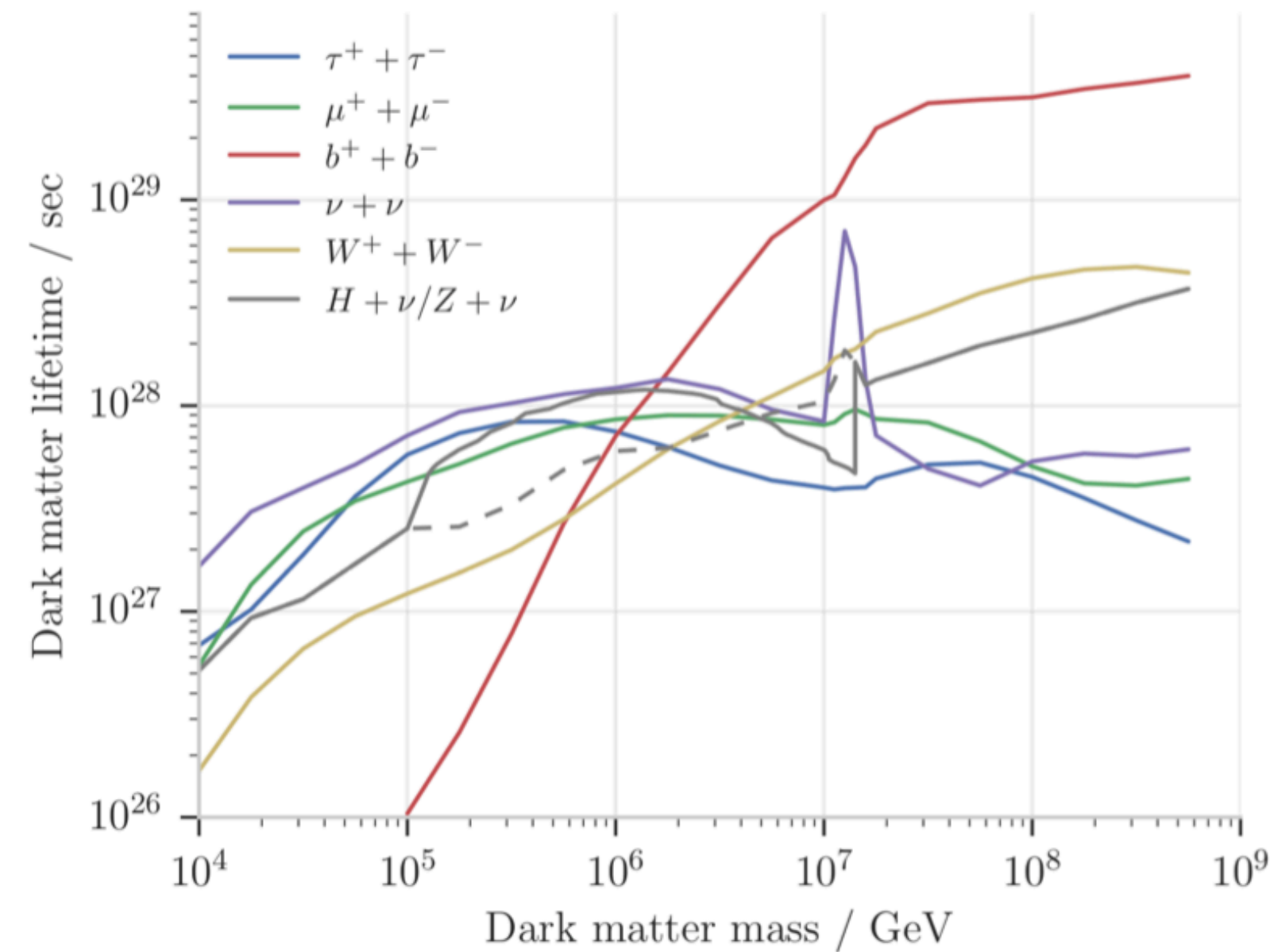
# Decay



Yang Bai et al 2016



Atri Bhattacharya et al JCAP07(2017)027



IceCube Collaboration DOI: [10.1140/epjc/s10052-018-6273-3](https://doi.org/10.1140/epjc/s10052-018-6273-3)