

# DARK MATTER HEATING NEUTRON STARS

THE "ELECTRONIC" FRONTIER

## Flip Tanedo

UC Riverside Particle Theory

WORK WITH  
ANIKET JOGLEKAR  
NIRMAL RAJ  
HAI-BO YU



10 FEB 2020



PHYSICS &  
ASTRONOMY

**BROOKHAVEN**  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

# This is a neutron star



$$M_{\star} = 1.5 M_{\odot}$$

$$R_{\star} = 12.6 \text{ km}$$

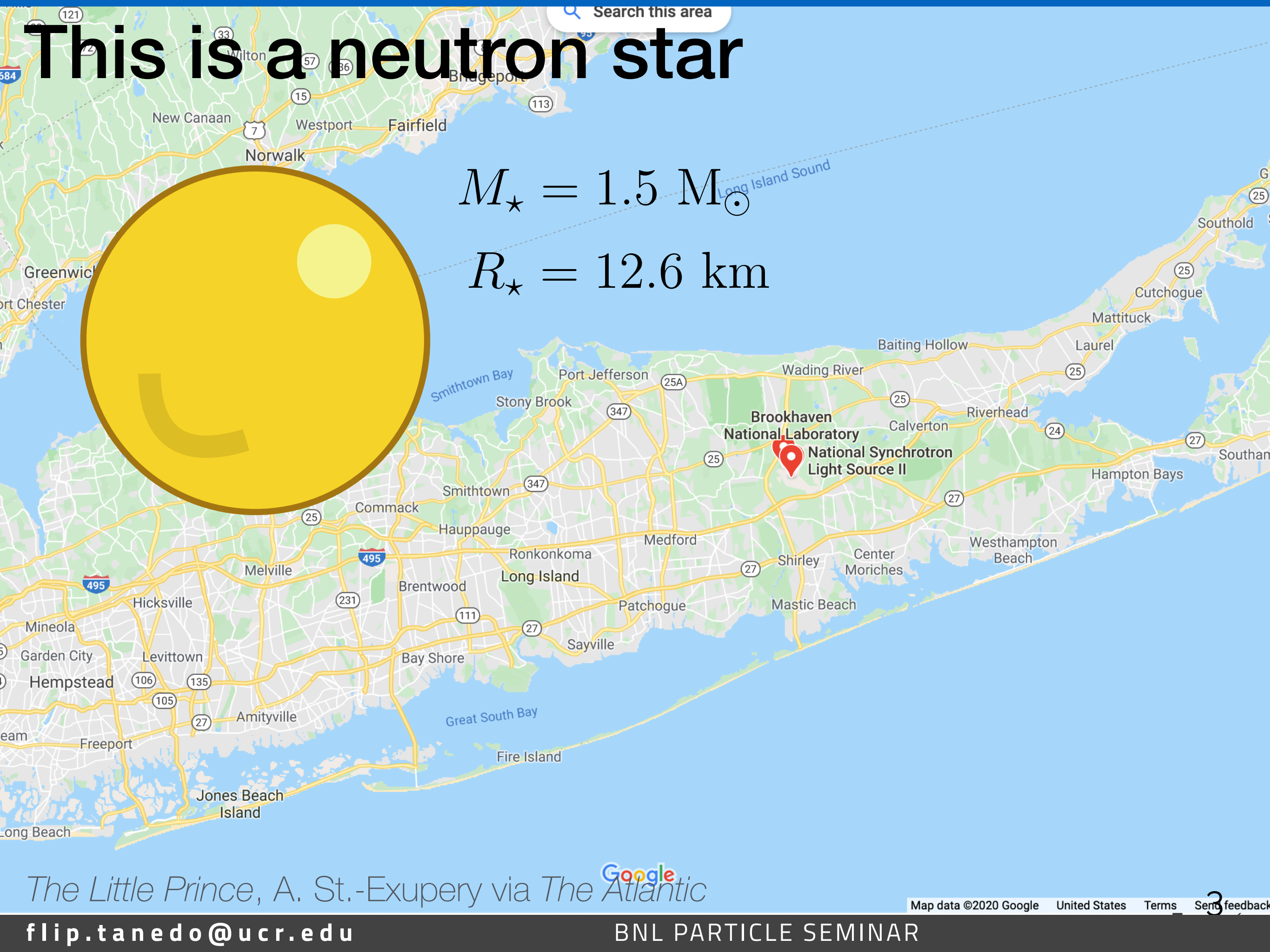
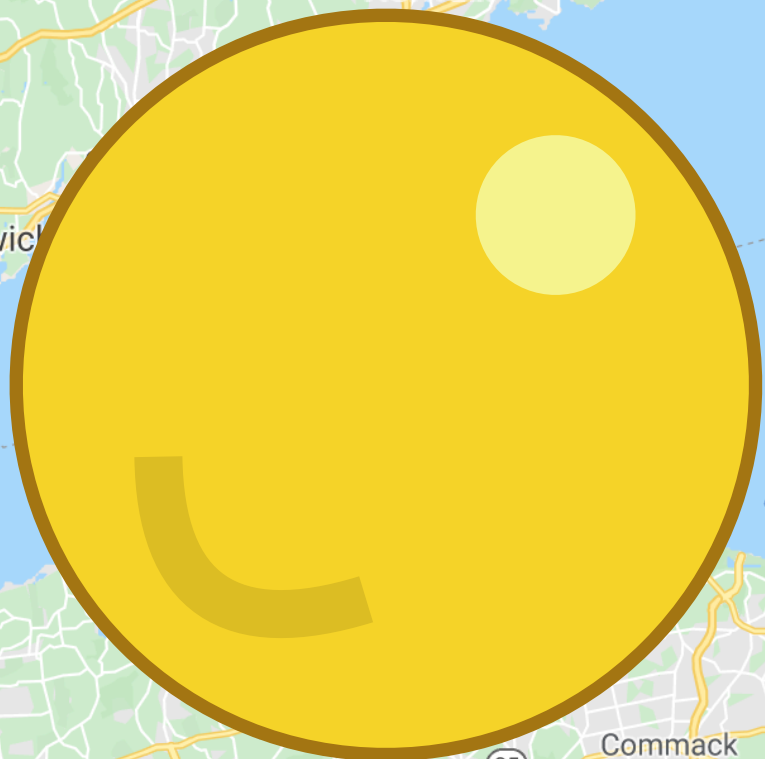


*The Little Prince*, A. St.-Exupery via *The Atlantic*

# This is a neutron star

$$M_{\star} = 1.5 M_{\odot}$$

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*The Little Prince*, A. St.-Exupery via *The Atlantic*

flip.tanedo@ucr.edu



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# This is a neutron star



Pretty big, pretty dense.  
Full of neutrons.  
Also electrons. (and  $p$ ,  $\mu$ )

$$M_{\star} = 1.5 M_{\odot}$$

$$R_{\star} = 12.6 \text{ km}$$



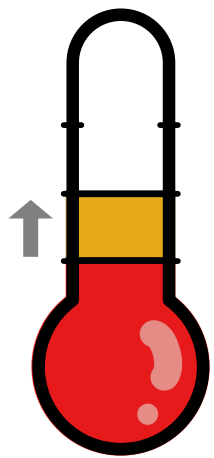
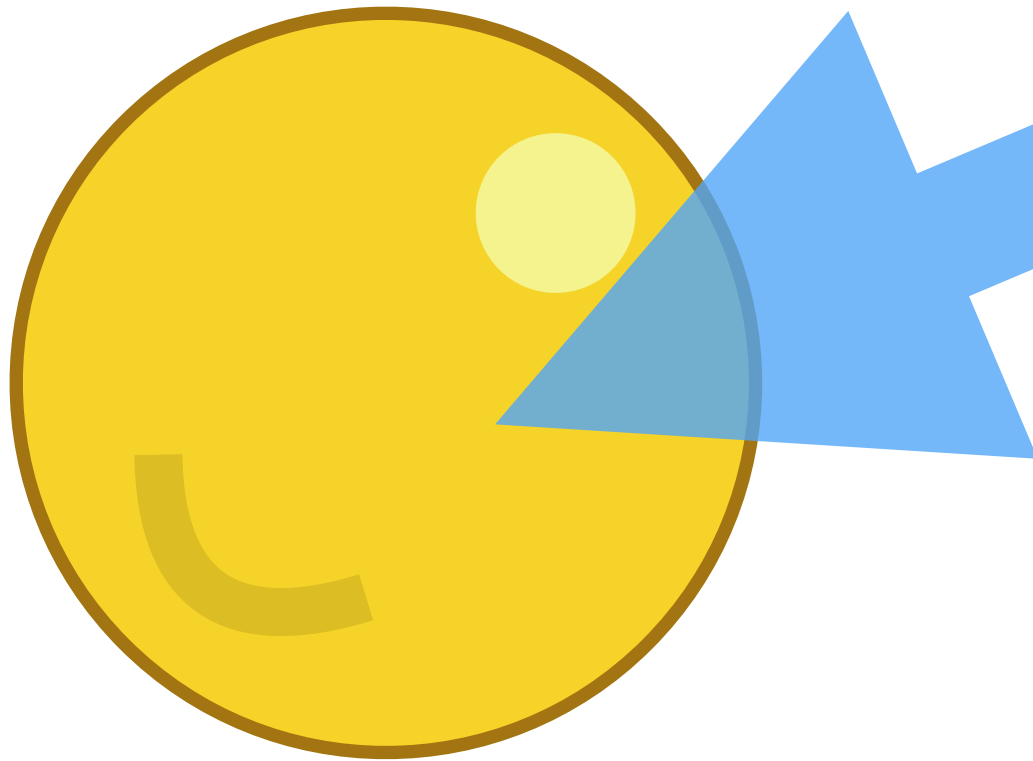
Today: neutron stars as a  
laboratory for particle physics.



# This is dark matter



# This Is a Talk...



kinetic heating: neutrons

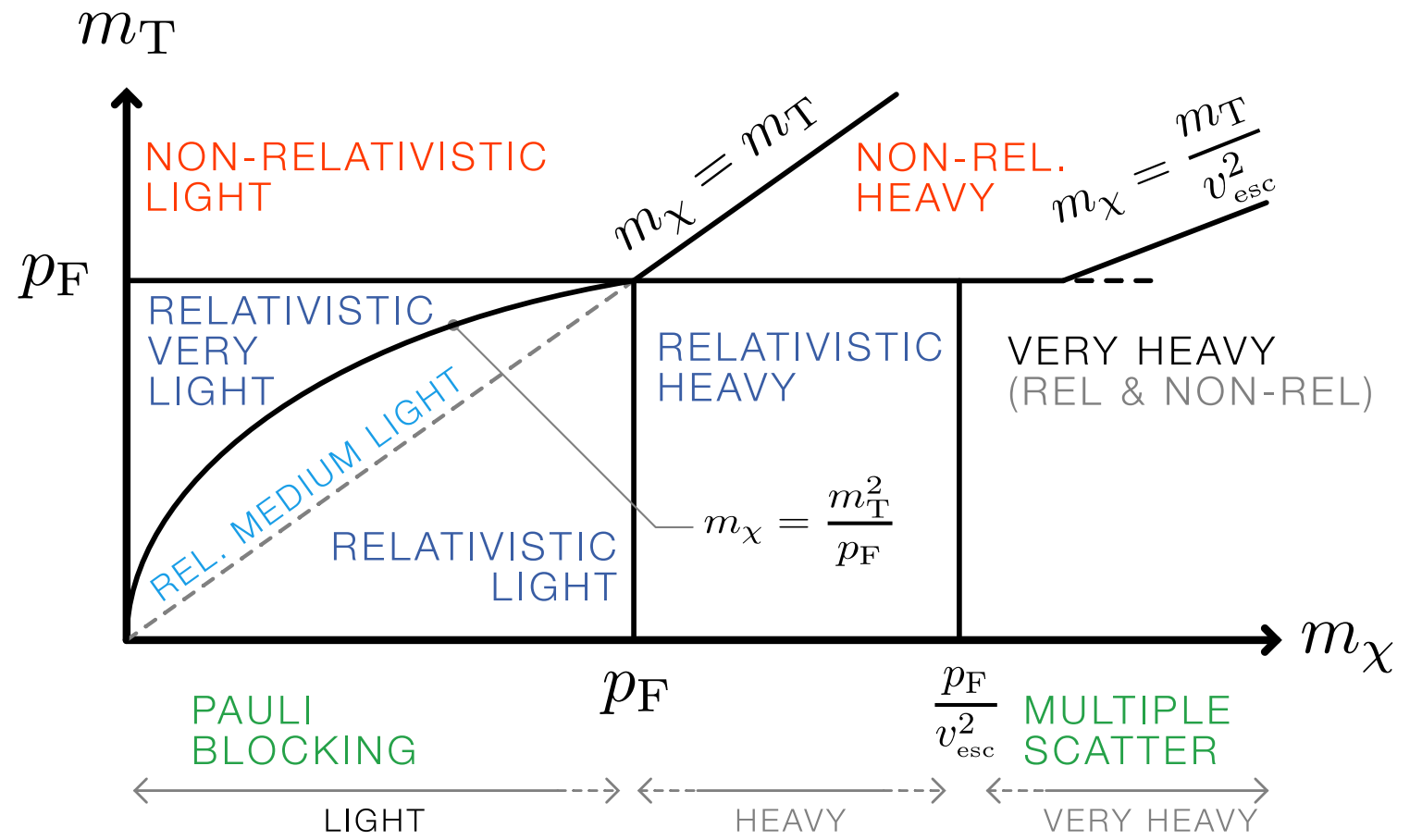
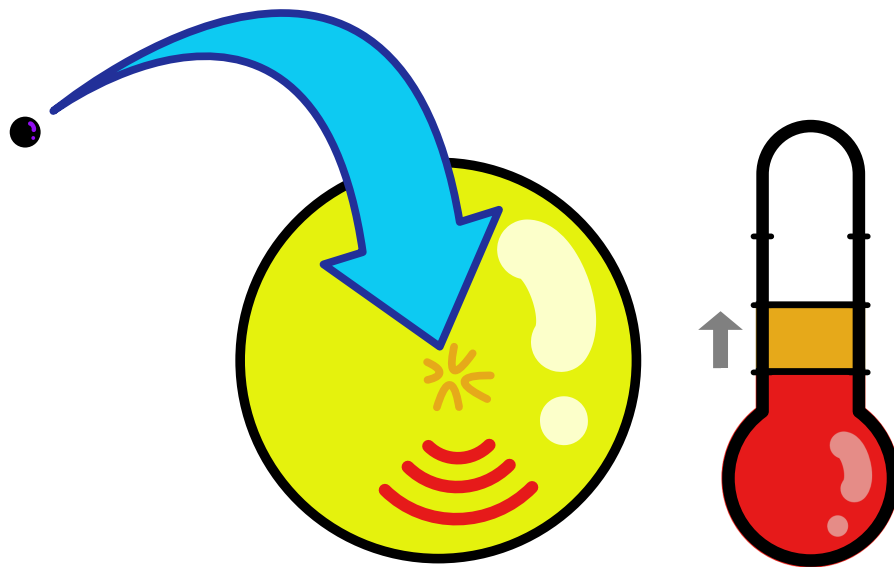
New results & formalism

pre-history: Goldman & Nussinov '89, Gould et al '90

[flip.tanedo@ucr.edu](mailto:flip.tanedo@ucr.edu)

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# Outline





# What is dark matter?

Most likely a particle.  
Definitely beyond the SM.

ASSUMPTION:

interacts with ordinary  
matter. [See tomorrow's colloquium.](#)



**We know:** local density, what it *is not*.

**We have:** robust, complementary search program.

**We want:** [more](#) robust, [more](#) complementary, [cheap](#)

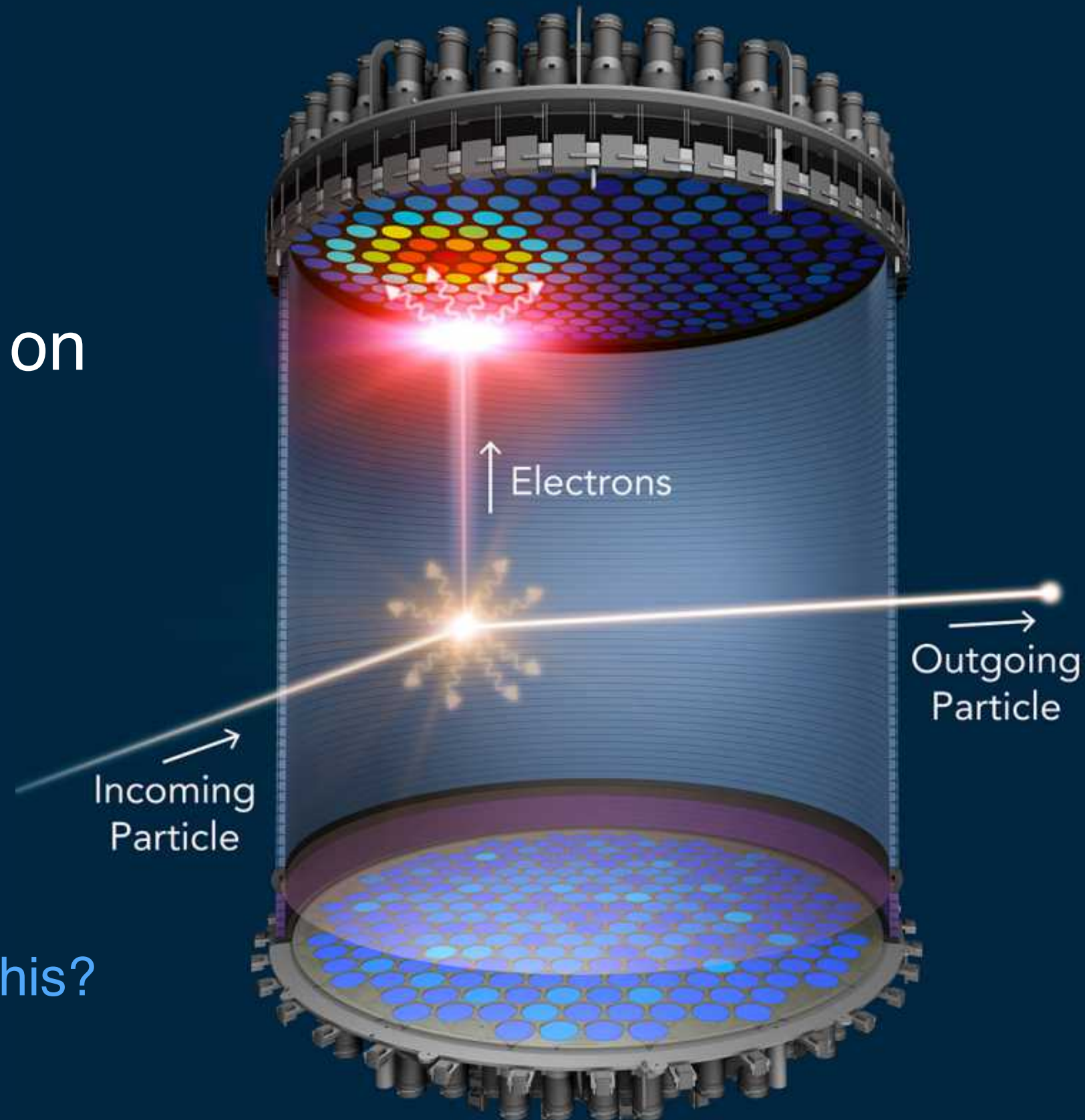
e.g. someone else is already paying for it.

# Dark Matter in the Lab

Look for the recoil  
energy of dark matter on  
ordinary matter.  
e.g. Xenon nucleus

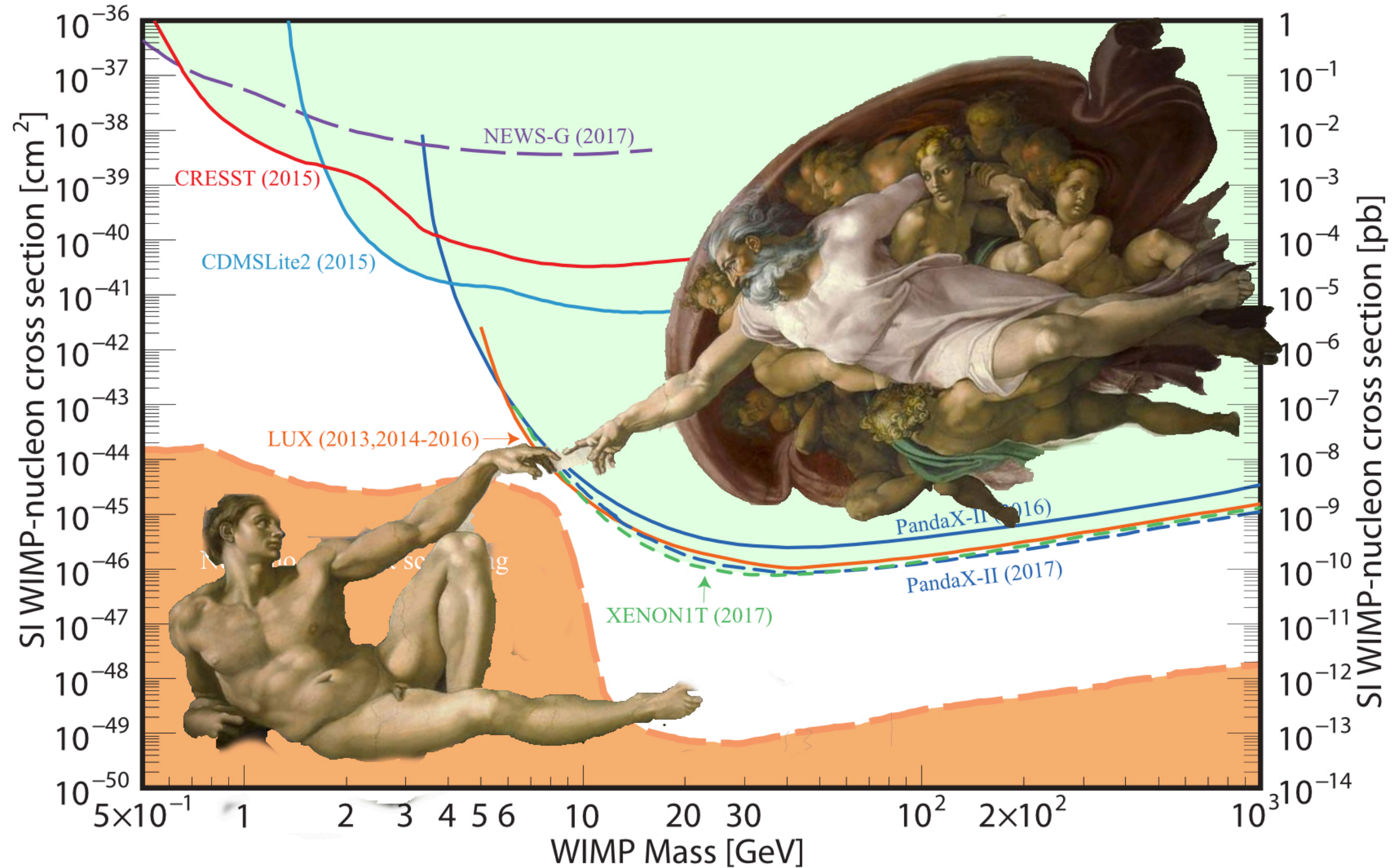
Use large volume to  
compensate for rare  
events.

*Why should dark matter do this?*  
See tomorrow's colloquium.





# Direct Detection



PDG 2018 (& apologies to Michelangelo)



# Limitations

**Volumes can only be so large.**

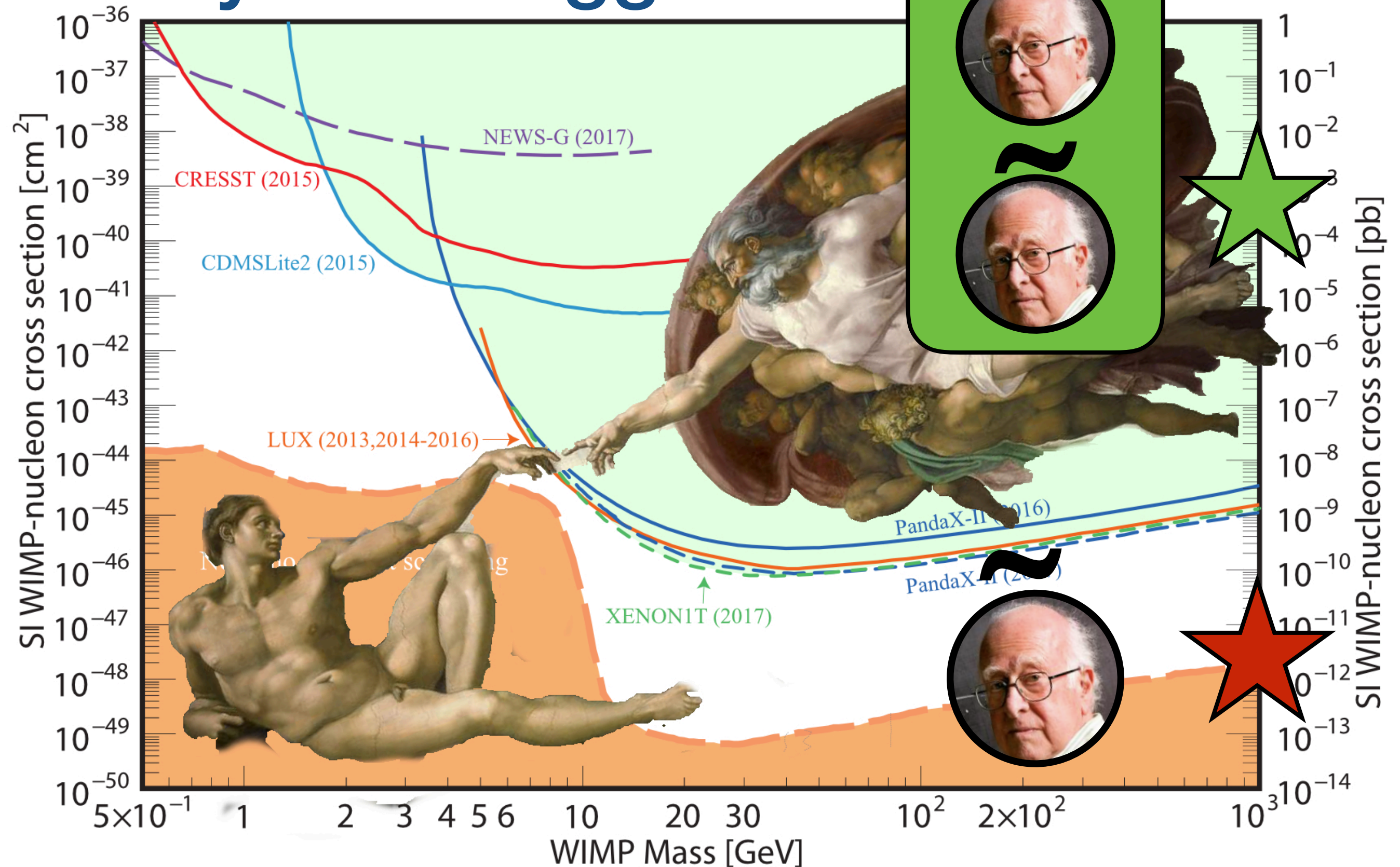
**Dark matter is slow,  $q \sim 100$  keV**

Can hide with momentum/spin-dependent interactions, inelastic scattering

**Neutrino background.**

Exotic: *too* strong interactions (ceiling), very light/heavy, leptophilic dark matter

# Pesky Pure Higgsinos



e.g. Krall and Reece 1705.04843, Hill and Solon 1309.4092; *Science News*

# Direct Detection in Space



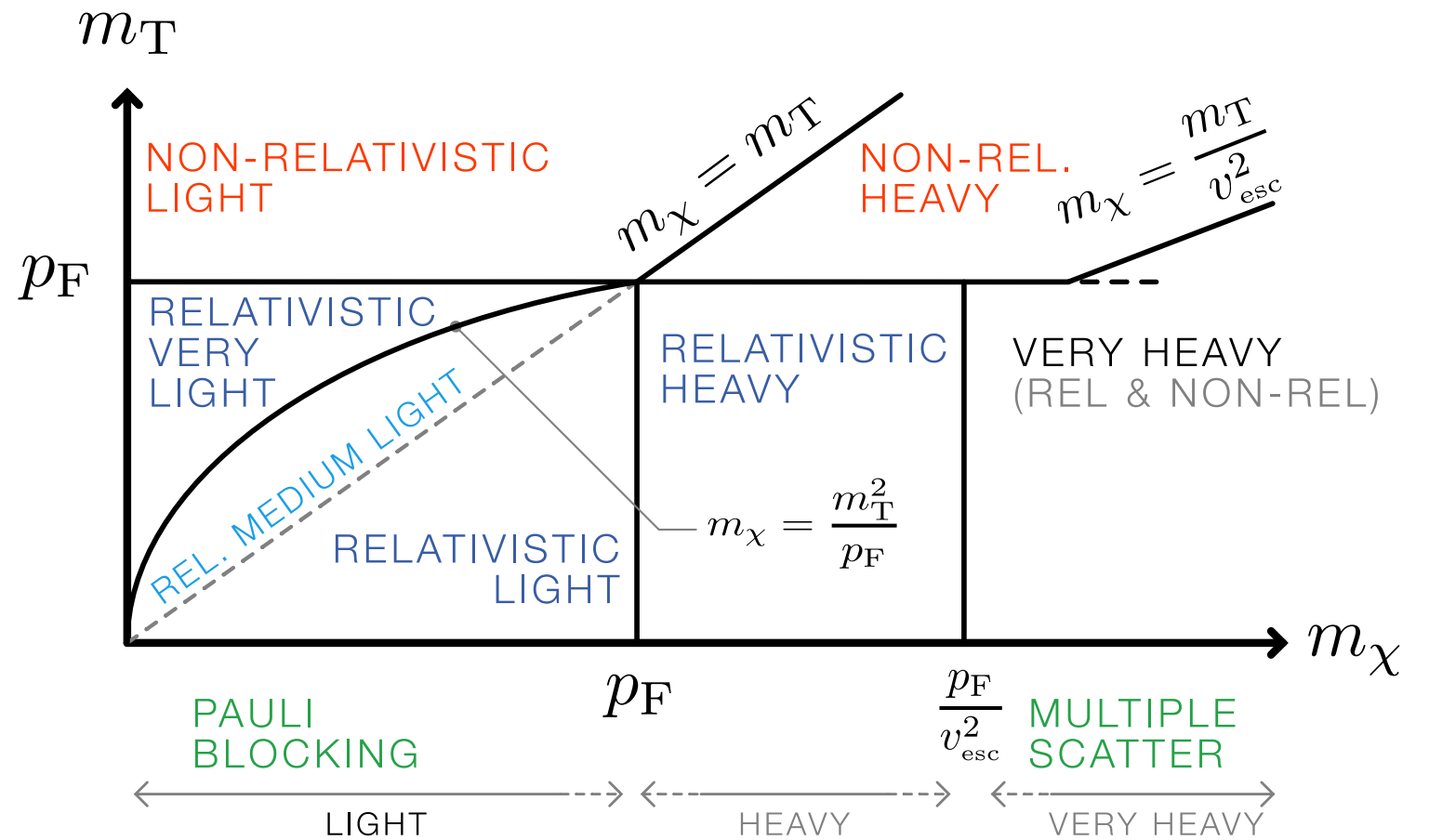
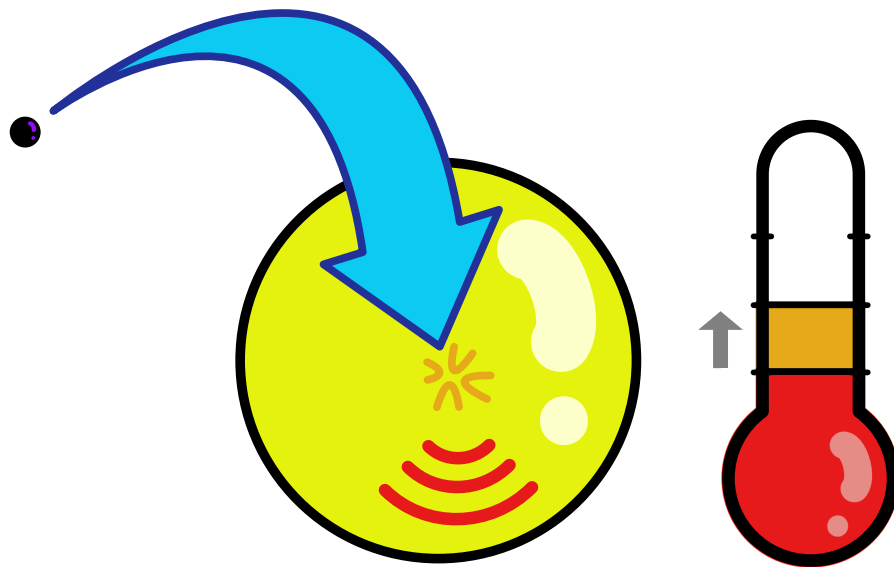
Can we have *huge* detector?  
Maybe something in space?  
Really dense; *accelerates* dark matter?

## **problems**

1. Need a standard “laboratory”
2. Need really long cables to transmit data



# Outline



# Dark Kinetic Heating of Neutron Stars and An Infrared Window On WIMPs, SIMPs, and Pure Higgsinos

Masha Baryakhtar,<sup>1</sup> Joseph Bramante,<sup>1</sup> Shirley Weishi Li,<sup>2</sup> Tim Linden,<sup>2</sup> and Nirmal Raj<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics, Waterloo, Ontario, N2L 2Y5, Canada*

<sup>2</sup>*CCAPP and Department of Physics, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, 43210, USA*

<sup>3</sup>*Department of Physics, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN, 46556, USA*

We identify a largely model-independent signature of dark matter interactions with nucleons and electrons. Dark matter in the local galactic halo, gravitationally accelerated to over half the speed of light, scatters against and deposits kinetic energy into neutron stars, heating them to infrared blackbody temperatures. The resulting radiation could potentially be detected by the James Webb Space Telescope, the Thirty Meter Telescope, or the European Extremely Large Telescope. This mechanism also produces optical emission from neutron stars in the galactic bulge, and X-ray emission near the galactic center, because dark matter is denser in these regions. For GeV - PeV mass dark matter, dark kinetic heating would initially unmask any spin-independent or spin-dependent dark matter-nucleon cross-sections exceeding  $2 \times 10^{-45} \text{ cm}^2$ , with improved sensitivity after more telescope exposure. For lighter-than-GeV dark matter, cross-section sensitivity scales inversely with dark matter mass because of Pauli blocking; for heavier-than-PeV dark matter, it scales linearly with mass as a result of needing multiple scatters for capture. Future observations of dark sector-warmed neutron stars could determine whether dark matter annihilates in or only kinetically heats neutron stars. Because inelastic inter-state transitions of up to a few GeV would occur in relativistic scattering against nucleons, elusive inelastic dark matter like pure Higgsinos can also be discovered.

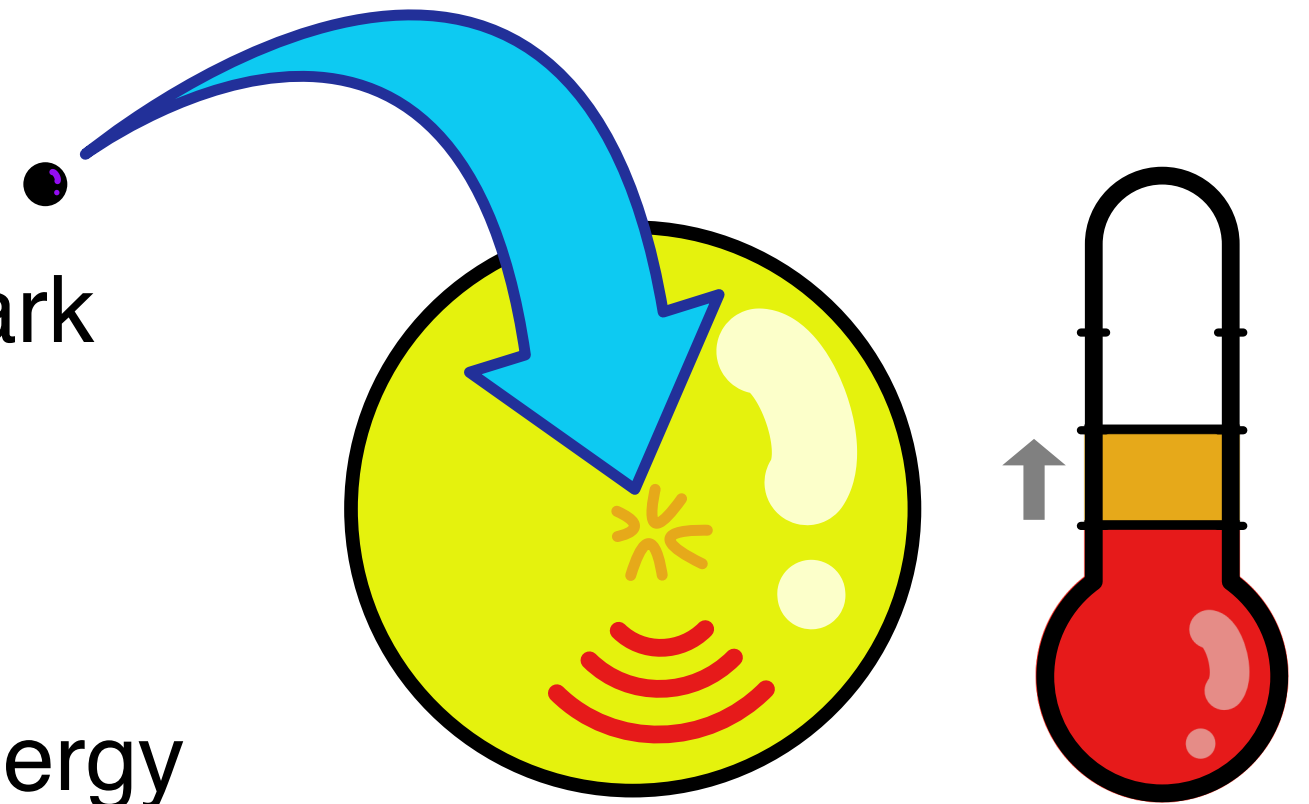
# How it works

There's a continuous flux of dark matter incident on star.

Dark matter scatters off target **neutrons**, imparting kinetic energy to *heat* the star.

Sufficient: dark matter is **captured** in the star; it loses its asymptotic kinetic energy.

Detectable?



\* protons too



# Detectability



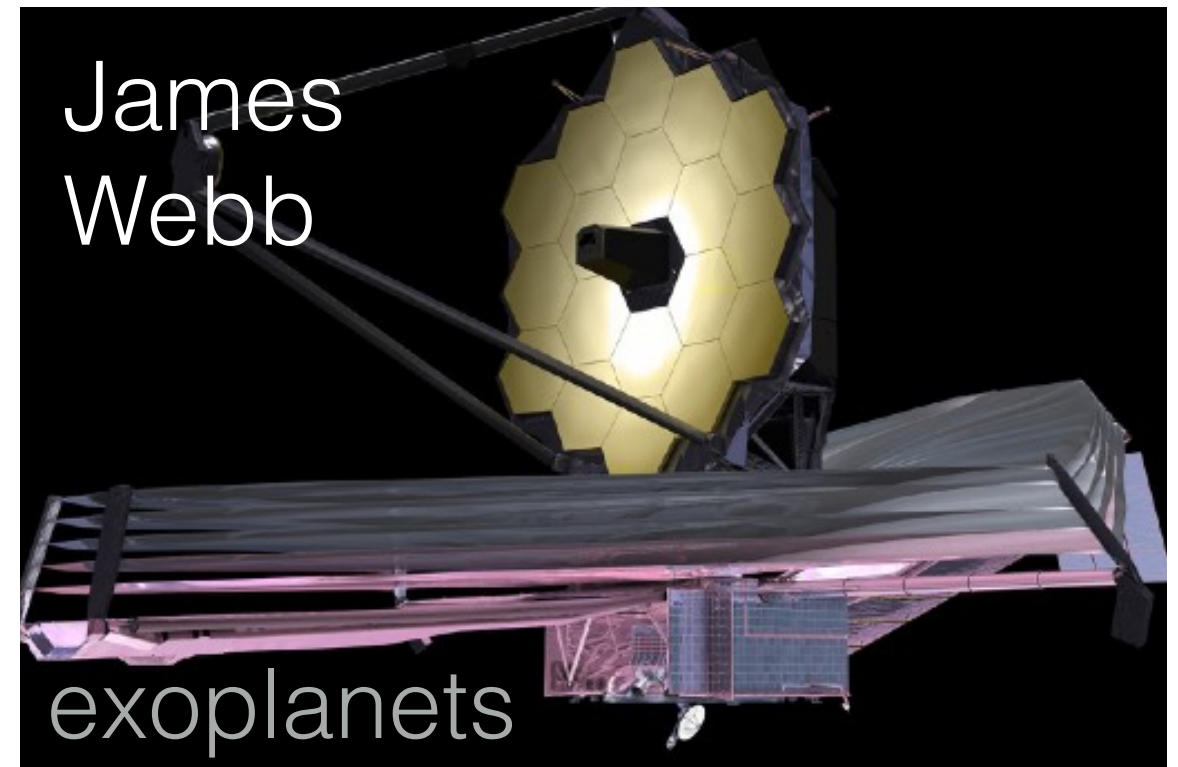
Detect radio pulses to identify nearby, *old* neutron stars.

Expect:  $\sim 100$  w/in 50 pc

... and you may only need one.

Image credits: FAST, JWST

flip.tanedo@ucr.edu

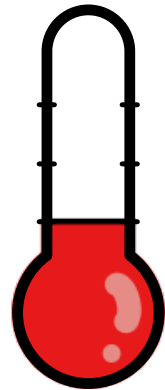
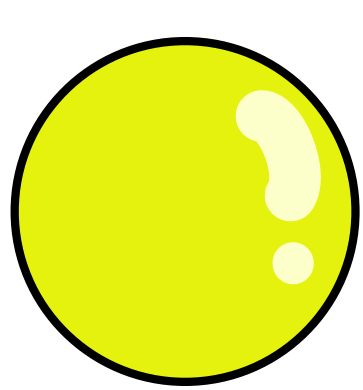


Measure temperature with infrared telescopes.

For  $2\sigma$ :

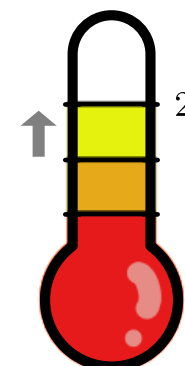
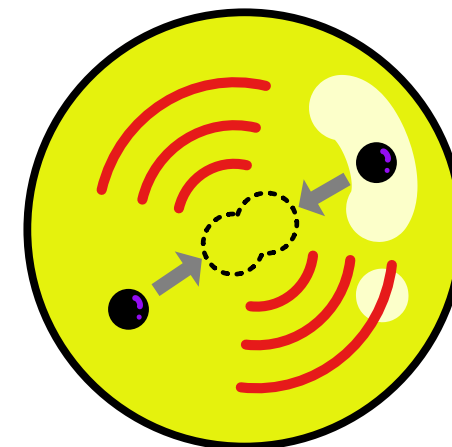
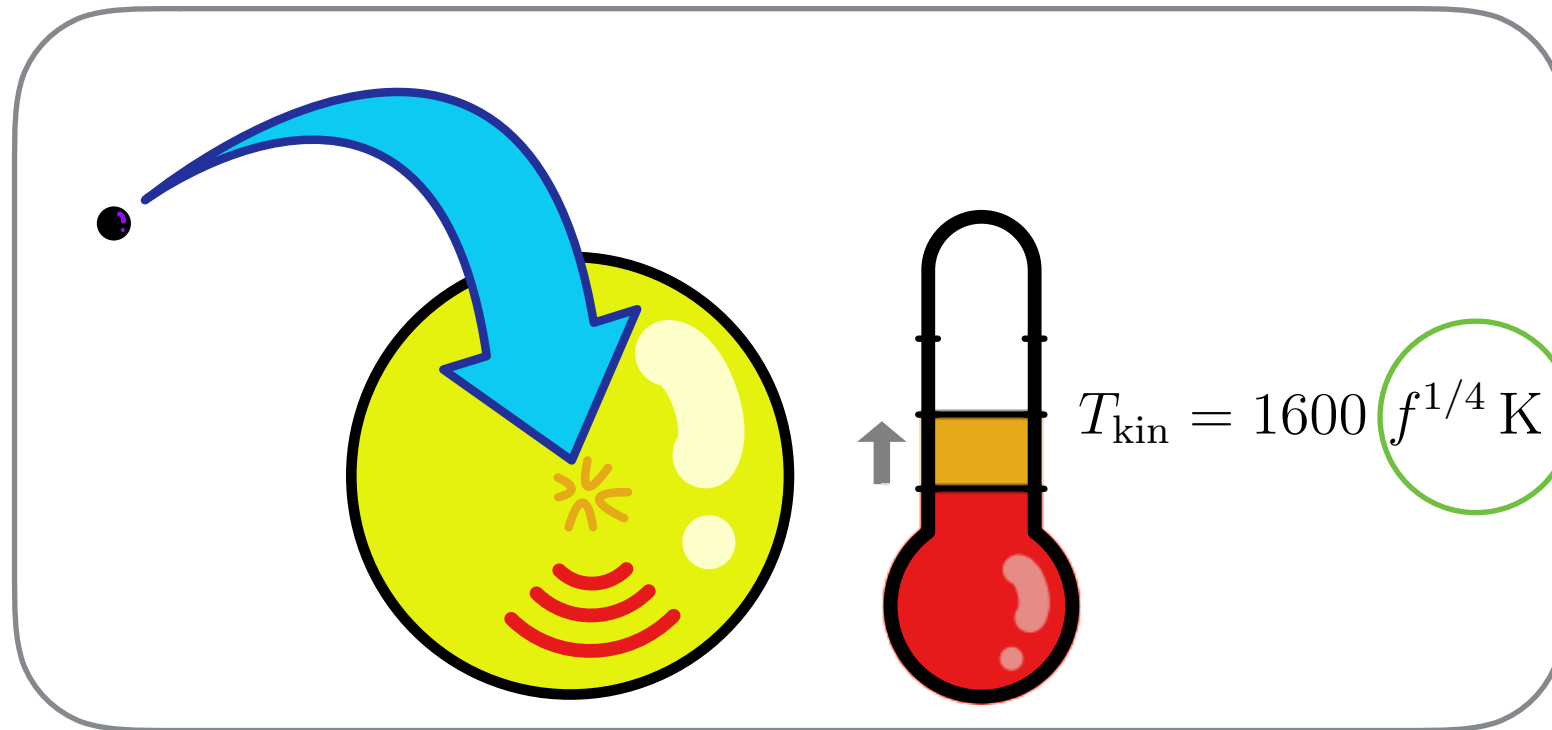
$$10^5 \text{ sec} \left( \frac{d}{10\text{pc}} \right)^4$$

# How it works



1000 K (20 Myr)  
100 K (Gyr)

(old and cold)

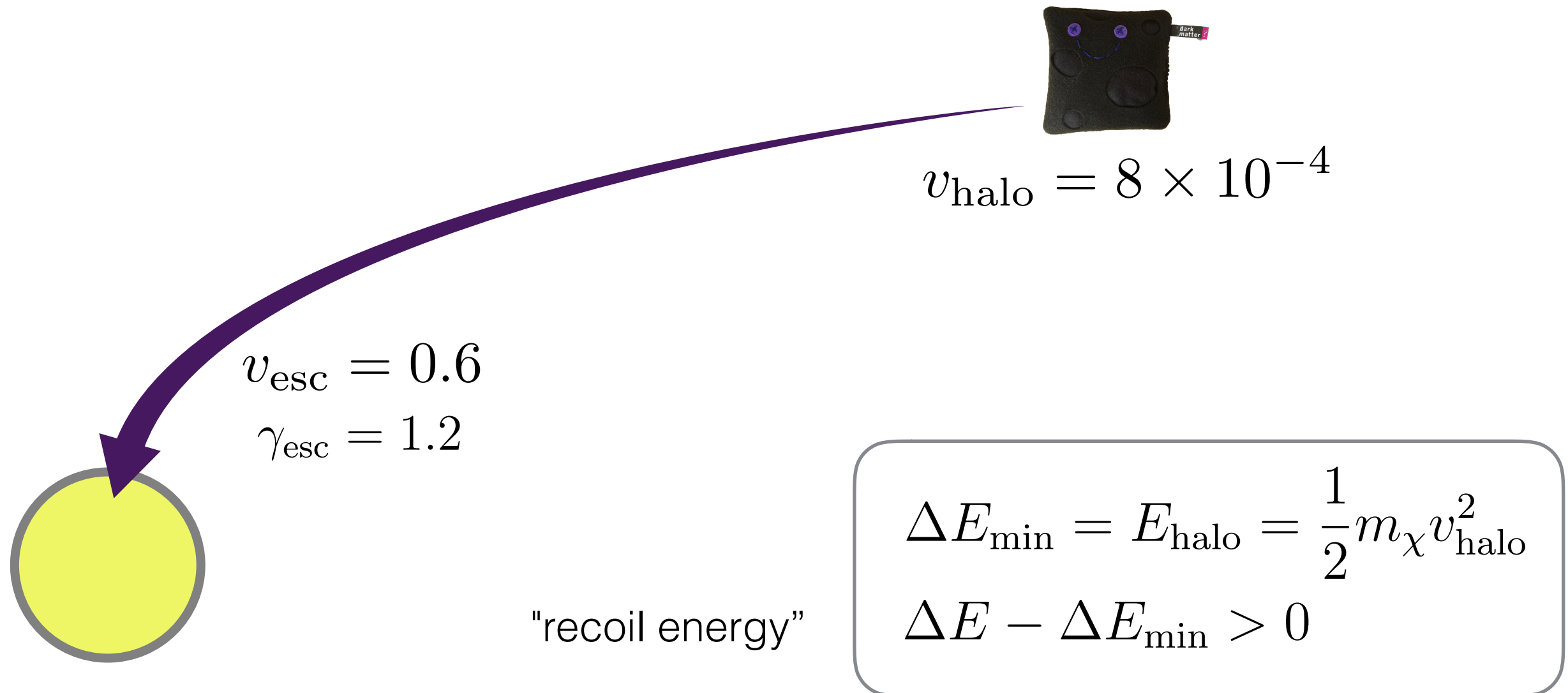


2480 K  $f^{1/4}$

extra credit  
not in this talk

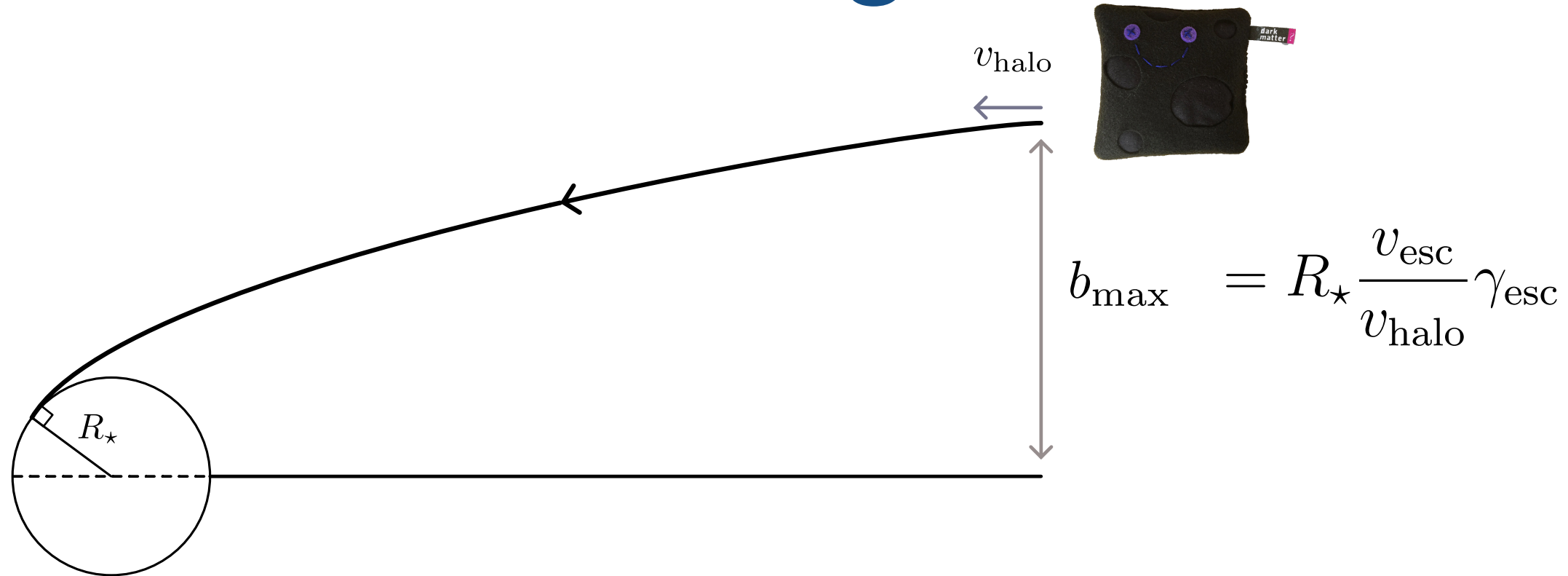
# Conditions for Capture & Heating

Dark matter must lose its asymptotic kinetic energy.  
Velocity must be less than the escape velocity.



Dark matter capture: see, e.g. Gould (1987, '88, ...)

# How much heating?



$$\dot{M}_{\chi} = \pi b_{\max}^2 v_{\text{esc}} \rho_{\chi} \approx 3.1 \times 10^{25} \frac{\text{GeV}}{\text{s}} \approx 55 \frac{\text{g}}{\text{s}} .$$

$$\dot{K} = (\gamma_{\text{esc}} - 1) \dot{M} f \approx 6.5 \times 10^{24} \text{ GeV s}^{-1} .$$

$$T_{\text{kin}} = 1600 f^{1/4} \text{ K}$$

vs.



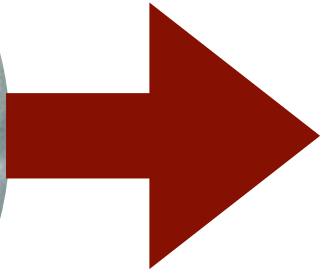
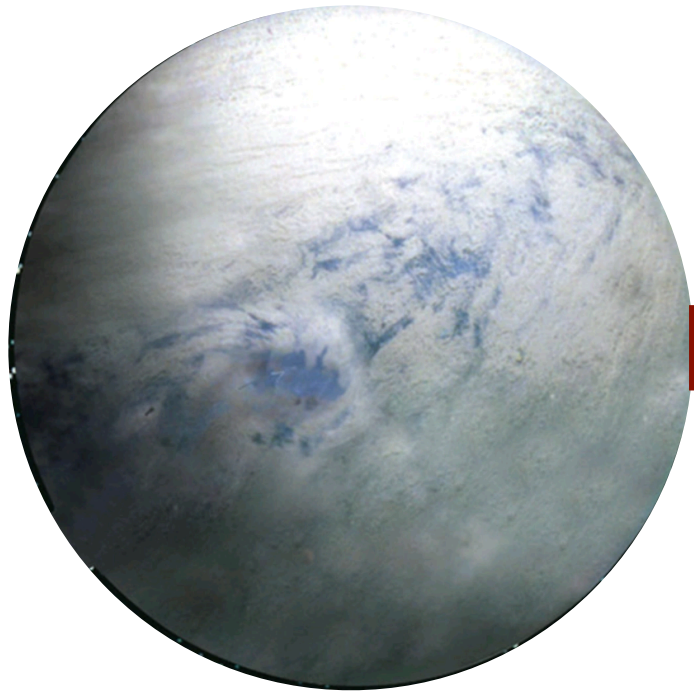
No heating:  
100 K (Gyr)

$b_{\max}$ : see your favorite GR text



no DM heating **Hoth**

DM kinetic heating **Mustafar**



$T \sim 100 \text{ K}$



$T \sim 1600 \text{ K}$



Images: Wookieepedia, *The Little Prince*

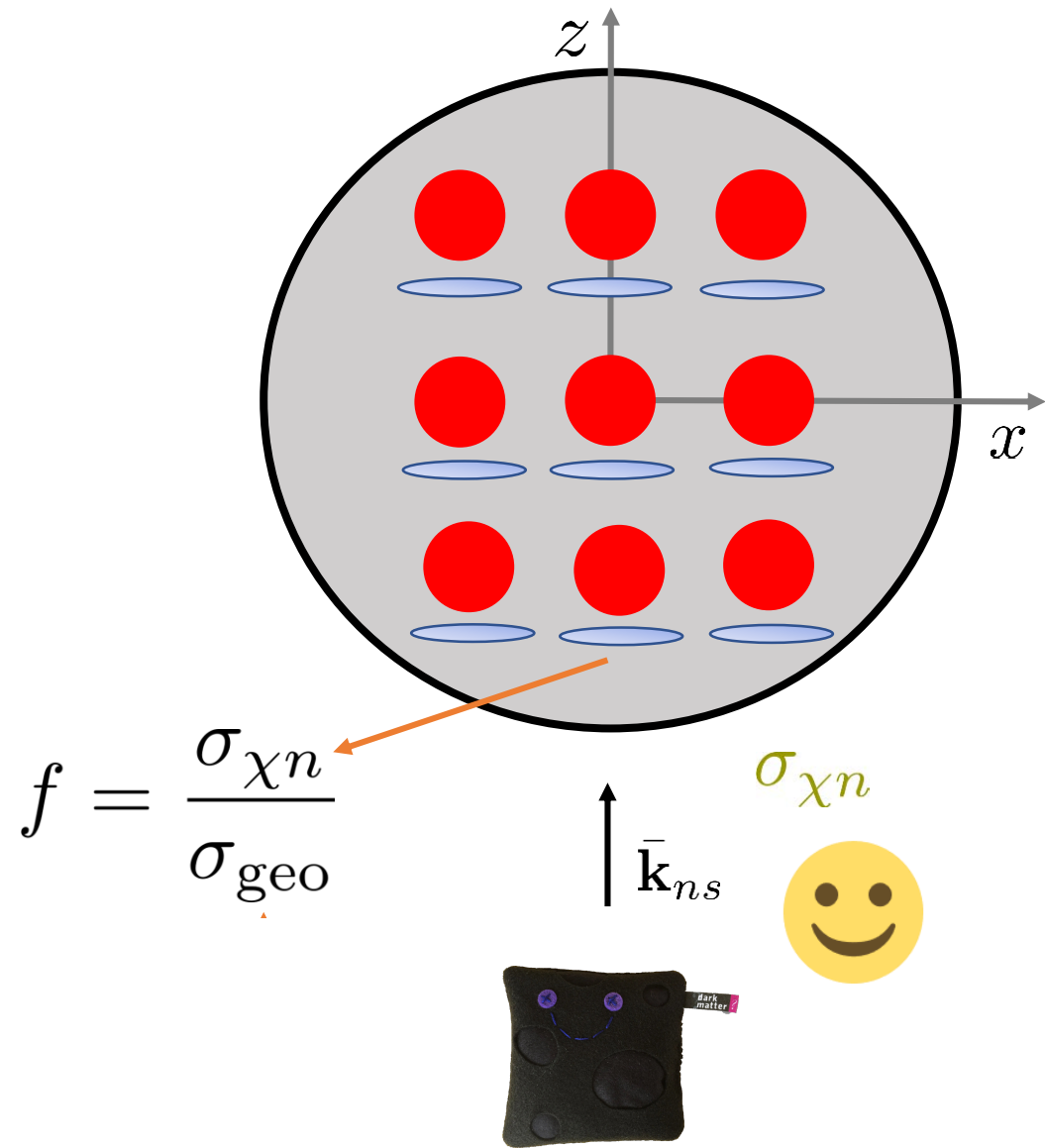
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# Geometric Cross Section



$$T_{\text{kin}} = 1600 f^{1/4} \text{ K}$$



Breaks down for extreme masses

Right: Aniket Joglekar

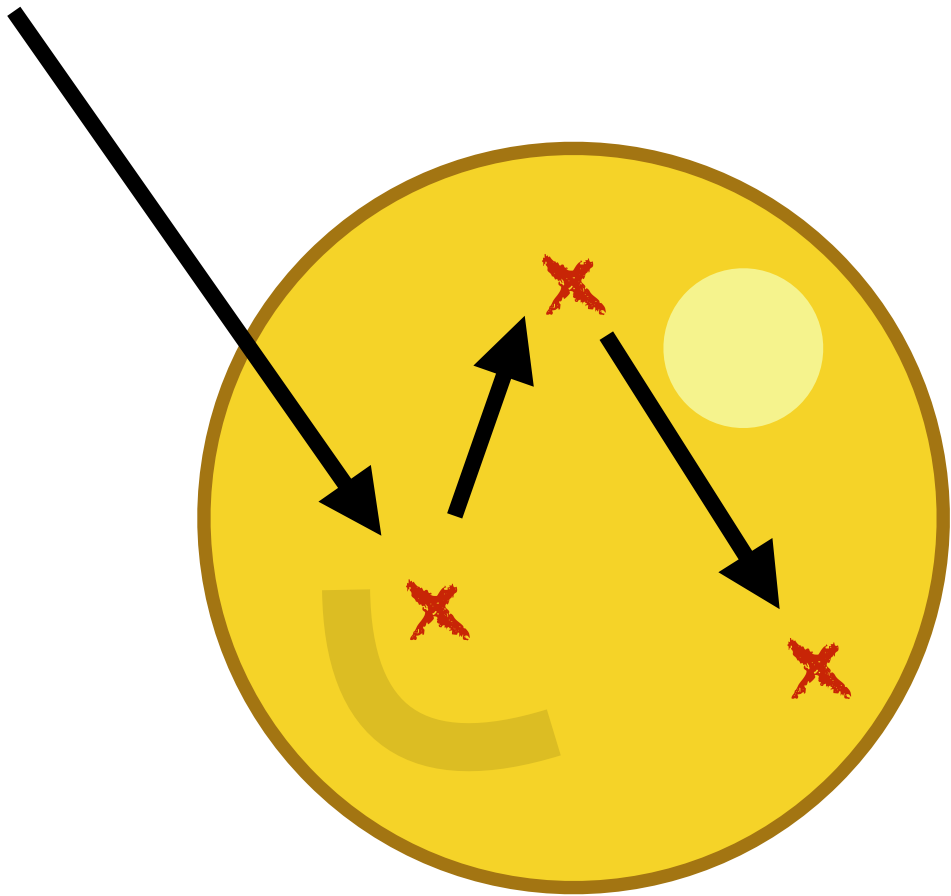
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# Breakdown 1: not enough $\Delta E$

Heavy dark matter does not transfer enough energy.  
(c.f. why we like Xenon)

Multiple scatters required to capture in the star.

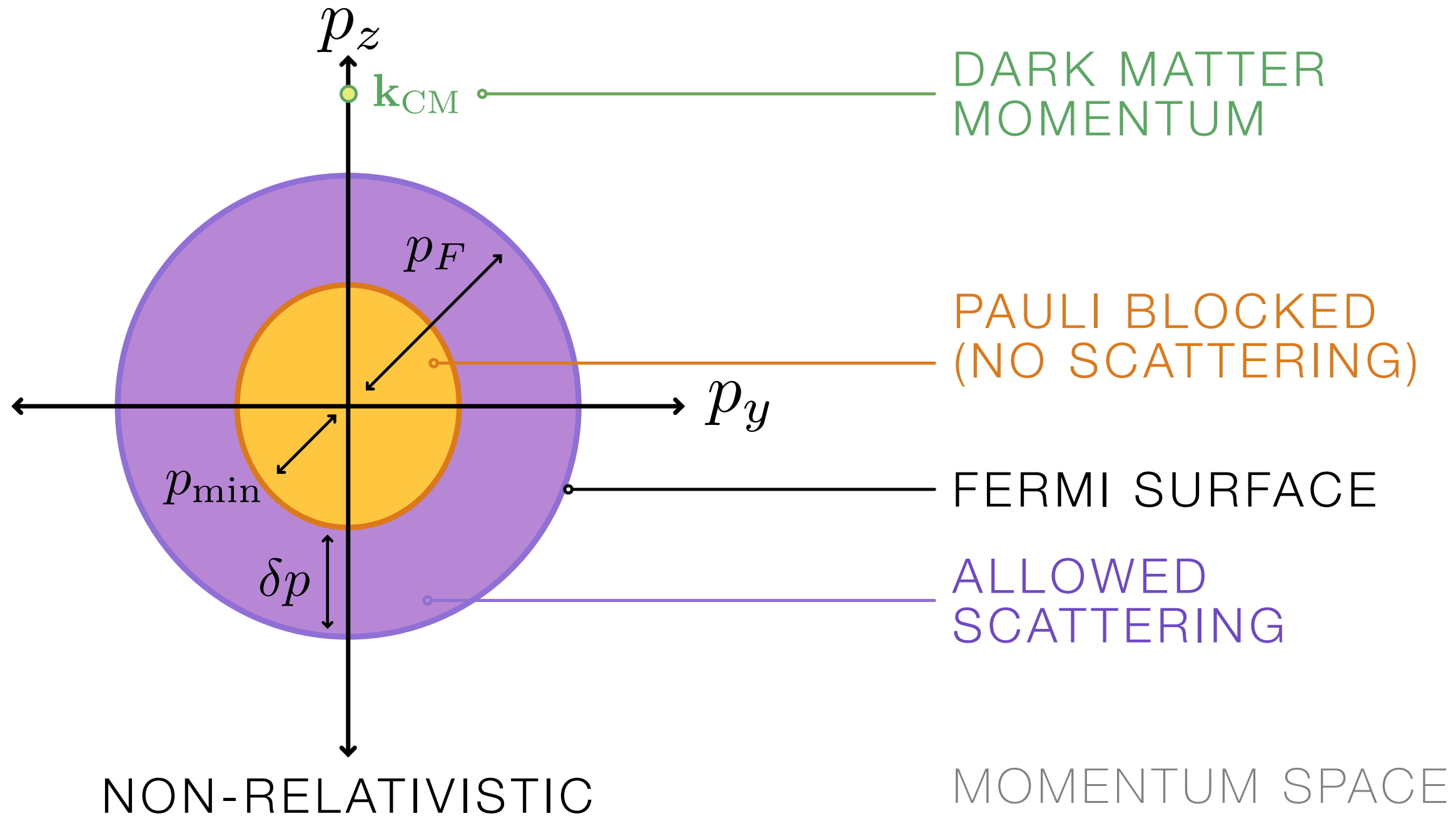


Non-relativistic limit:

$$\Delta E = \frac{m_T m_\chi^2}{m_\chi^2 + m_T^2 + 2\gamma_{\text{esc}} m_\chi m_T} \frac{v_{\text{esc}}^2}{1 - v_{\text{esc}}^2} (1 - \cos \psi)$$

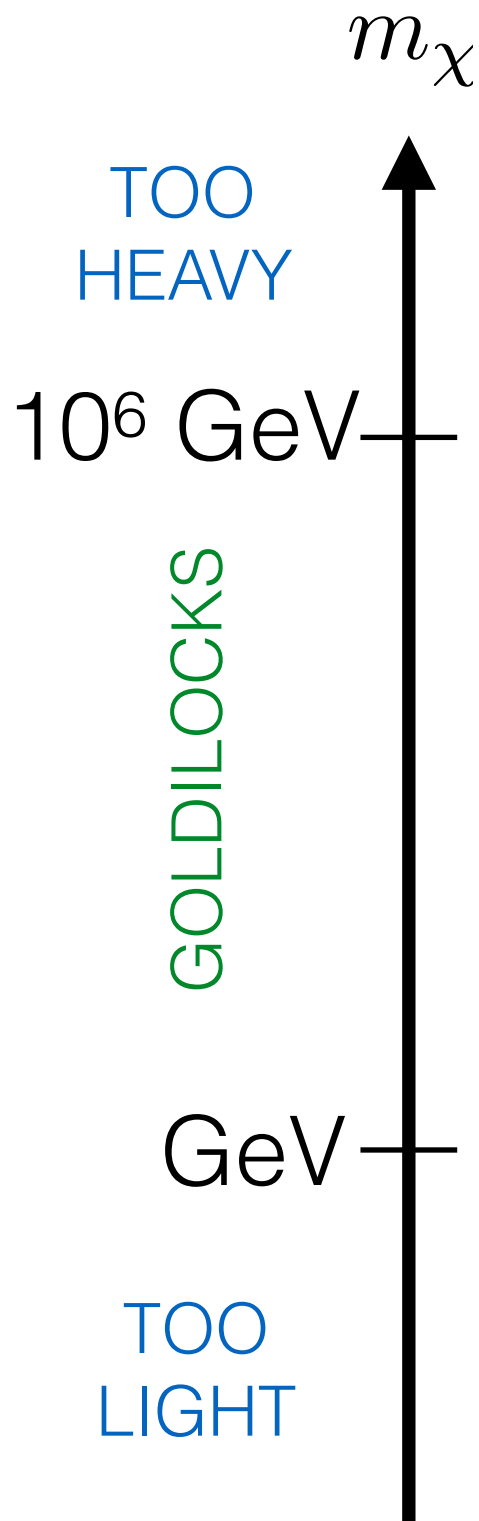


# Breakdown 2: Pauli Blocking



Light DM can't overcome Pauli blocking

# Breakdown of Geometric $\sigma$



$$\sigma_{\text{thres.}}^{\text{multi}} \approx \frac{m_\chi}{10^6 \text{ GeV}} \sigma_{\text{thres.}}$$

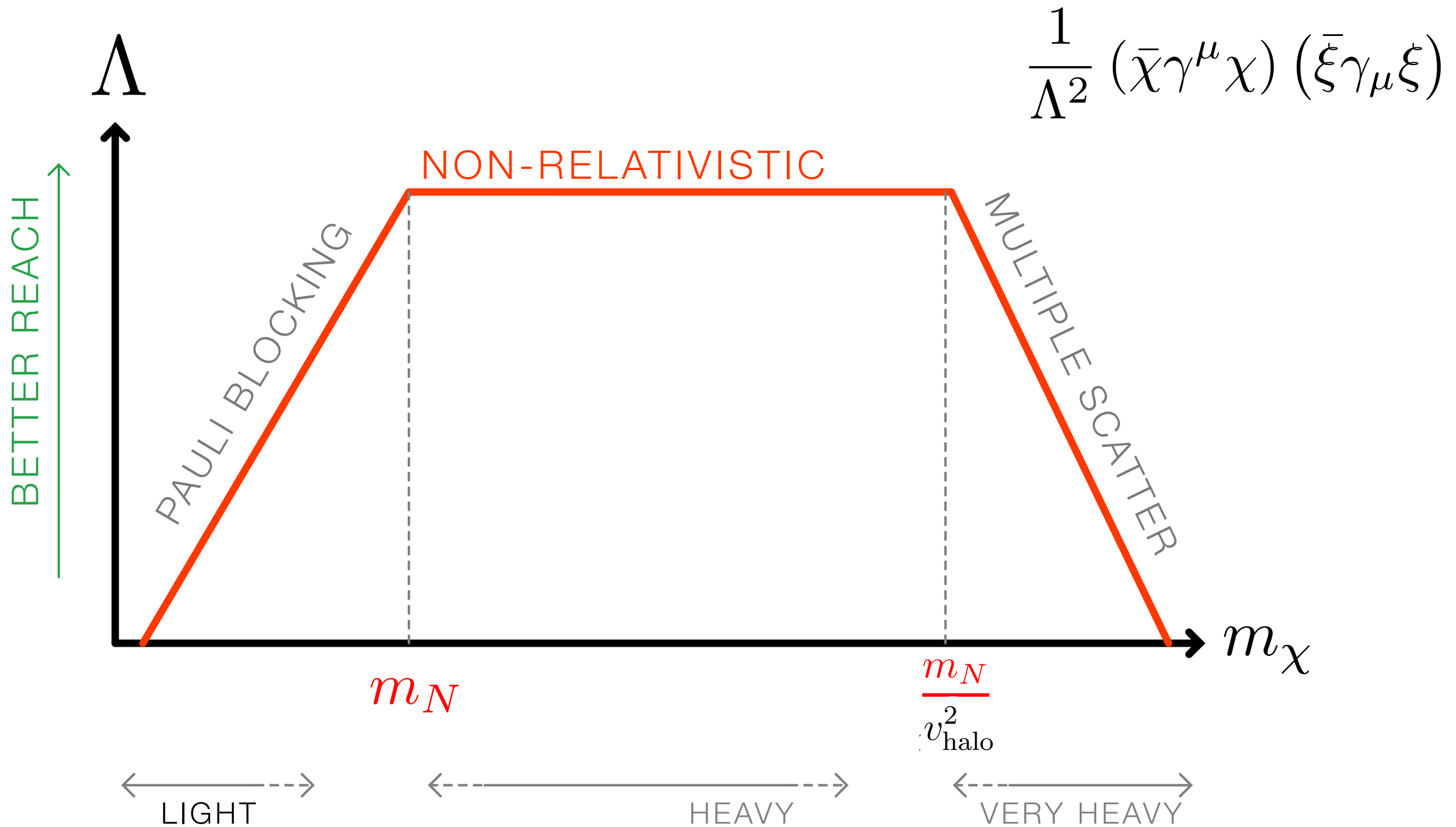
not enough  
energy transfer

$$\sigma_{\text{thres.}} = \frac{\text{geometric cross section}}{\text{number of targets}} = \pi R_\star^2 \frac{m_T}{M_\star}$$

$$\sigma_{\text{thres.}}^{\text{Pauli}} = \frac{1}{3} \frac{p_F}{\delta p} \sigma_{\text{thres.}} \approx \frac{\text{GeV}}{m_\chi} \sigma_{\text{thres.}}$$

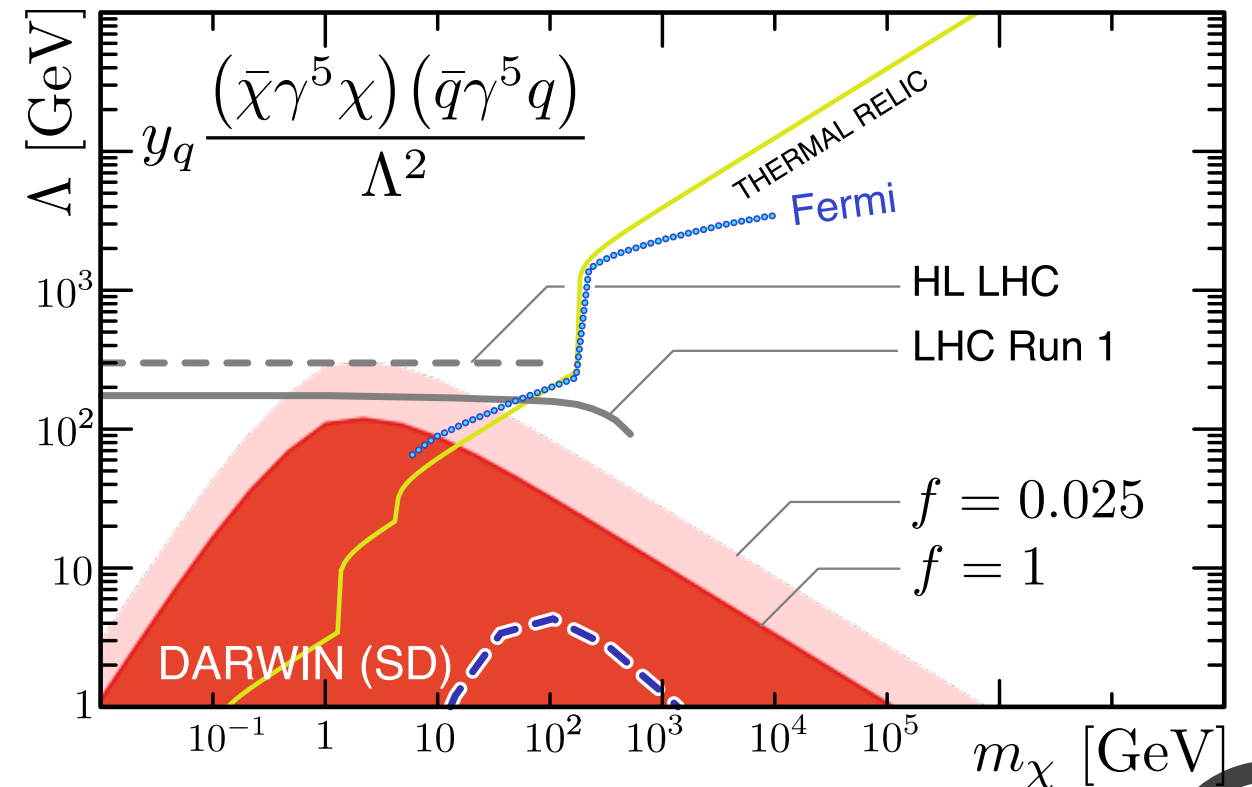
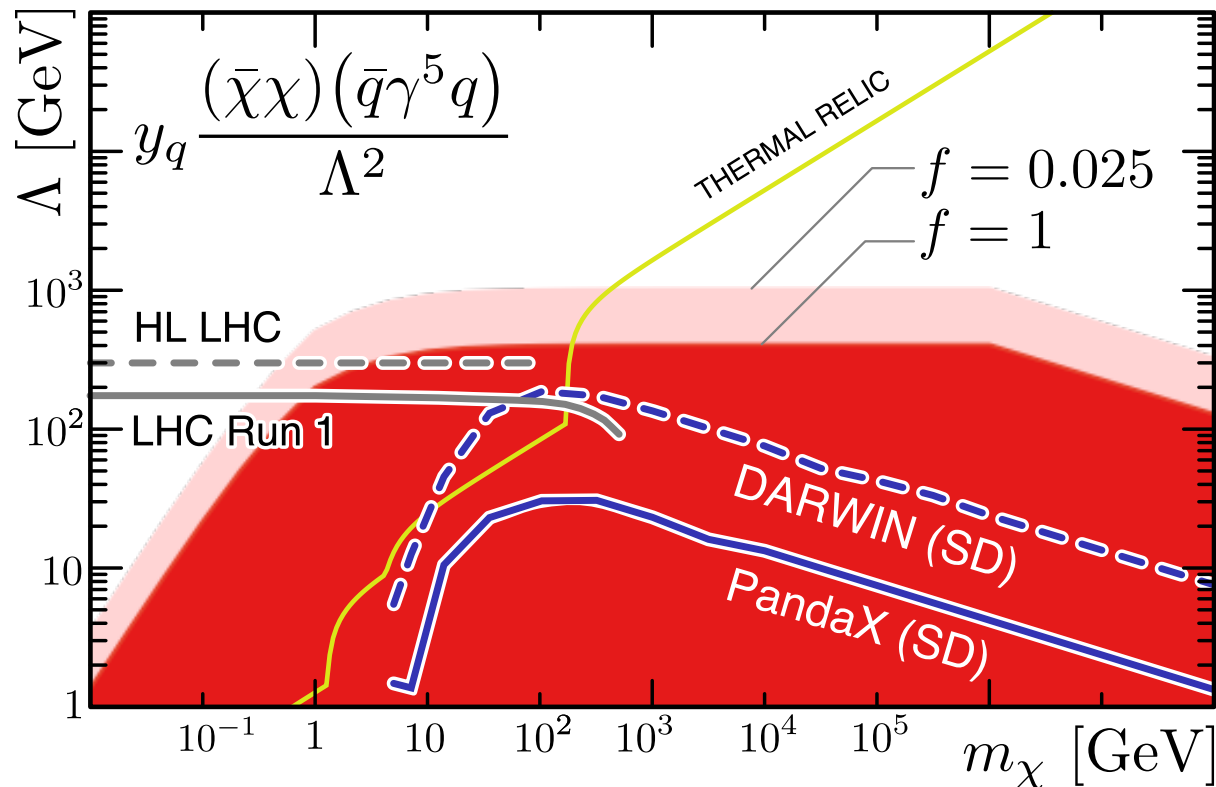
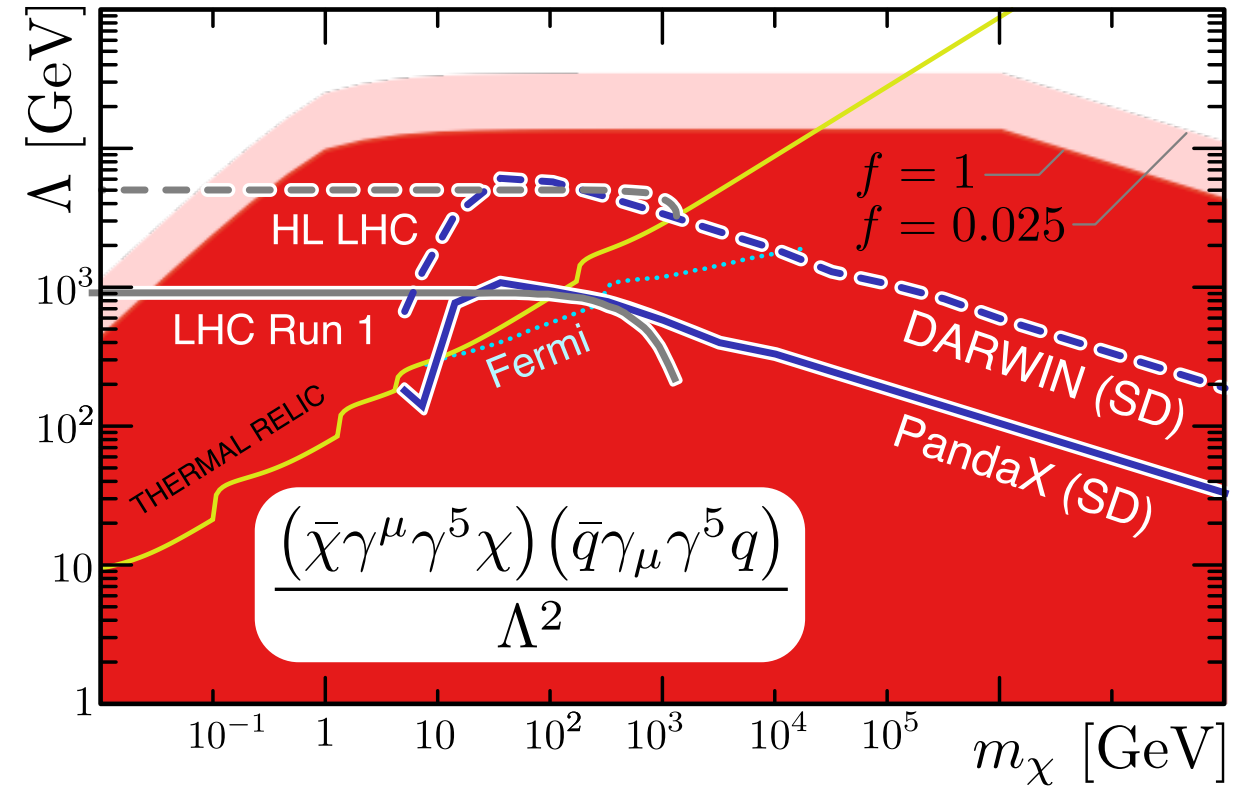
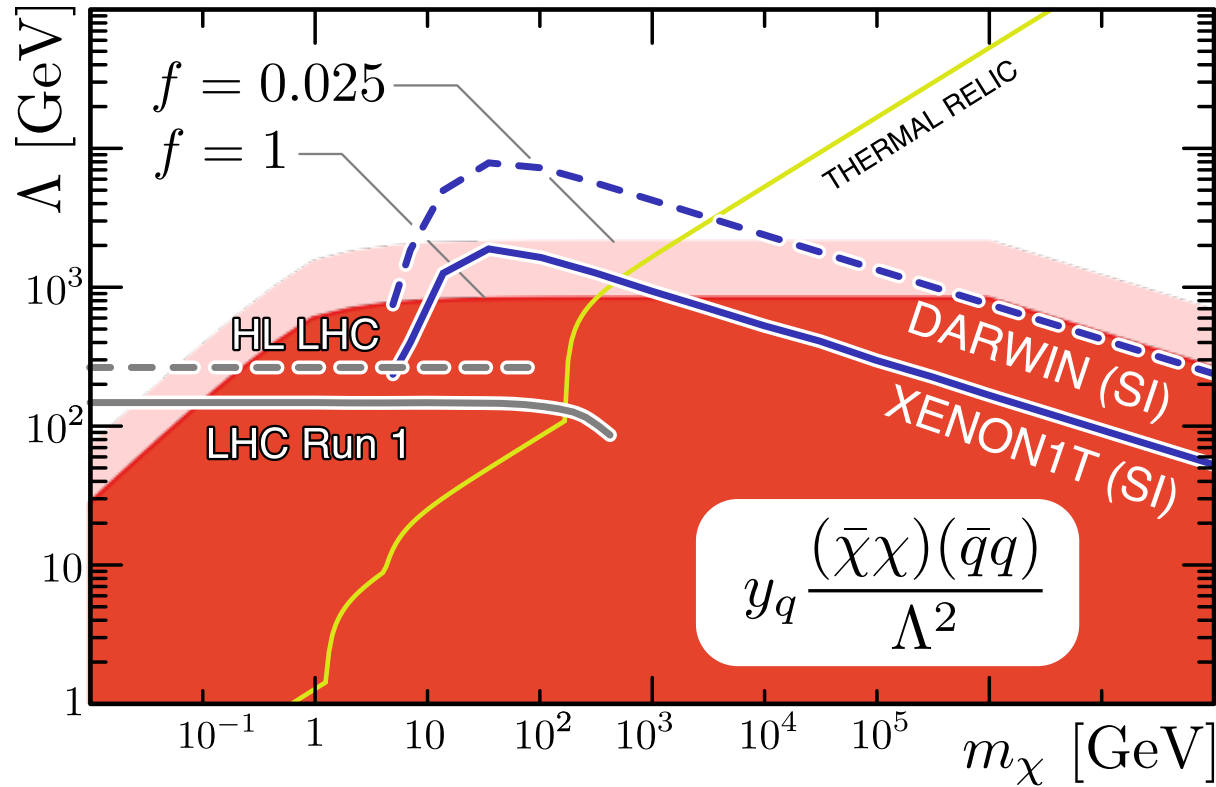
not enough  
phase space

# Result: reach of kinetic heating





# Comparing to Direct Detection

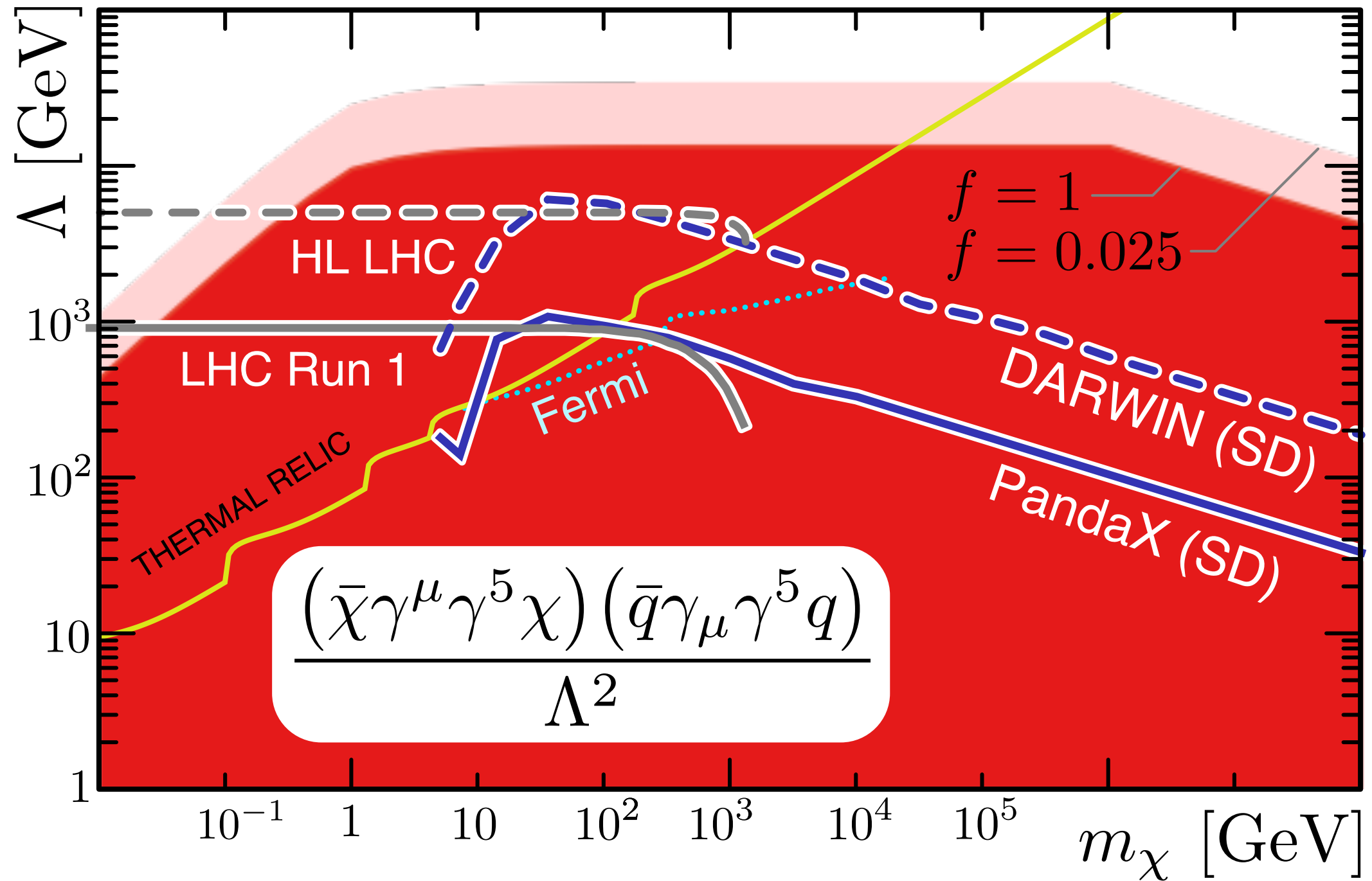


Raj, FT, Yu, 1707.09442

flip.tanedo@ucr.edu

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# Typical Comparison



# How we win (vs direct detection)

how we complement existing program

**Large volume, high density**

**Dark matter is accelerated**

Better reach for momentum-suppressed interactions, inelastic scattering (up to 200 MeV)

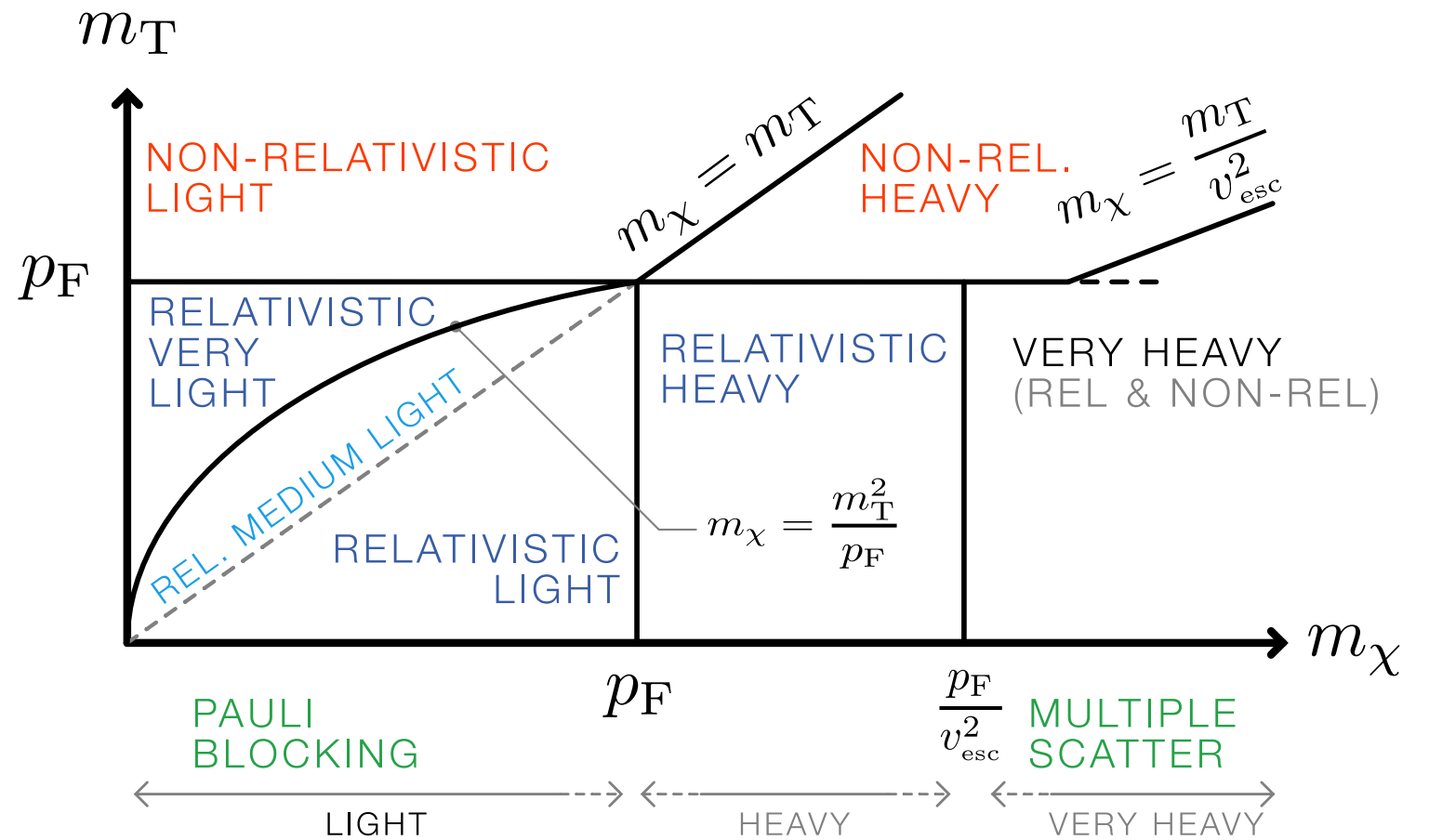
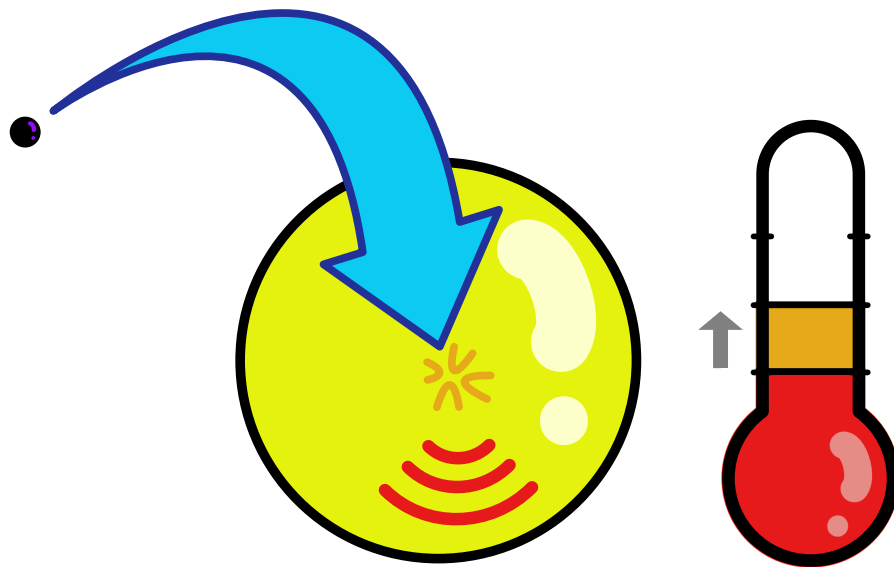
**No ceiling** (strong int) **or floors** (neutrino BG).

Larger range of accessible dark matter masses

No hierarchy between SI and SD scattering.



# Outline



# What else can we do?

Leptophilic?



Julie Peasley, [particlezoo.net](http://particlezoo.net)

[flip.tanedo@ucr.edu](mailto:flip.tanedo@ucr.edu)

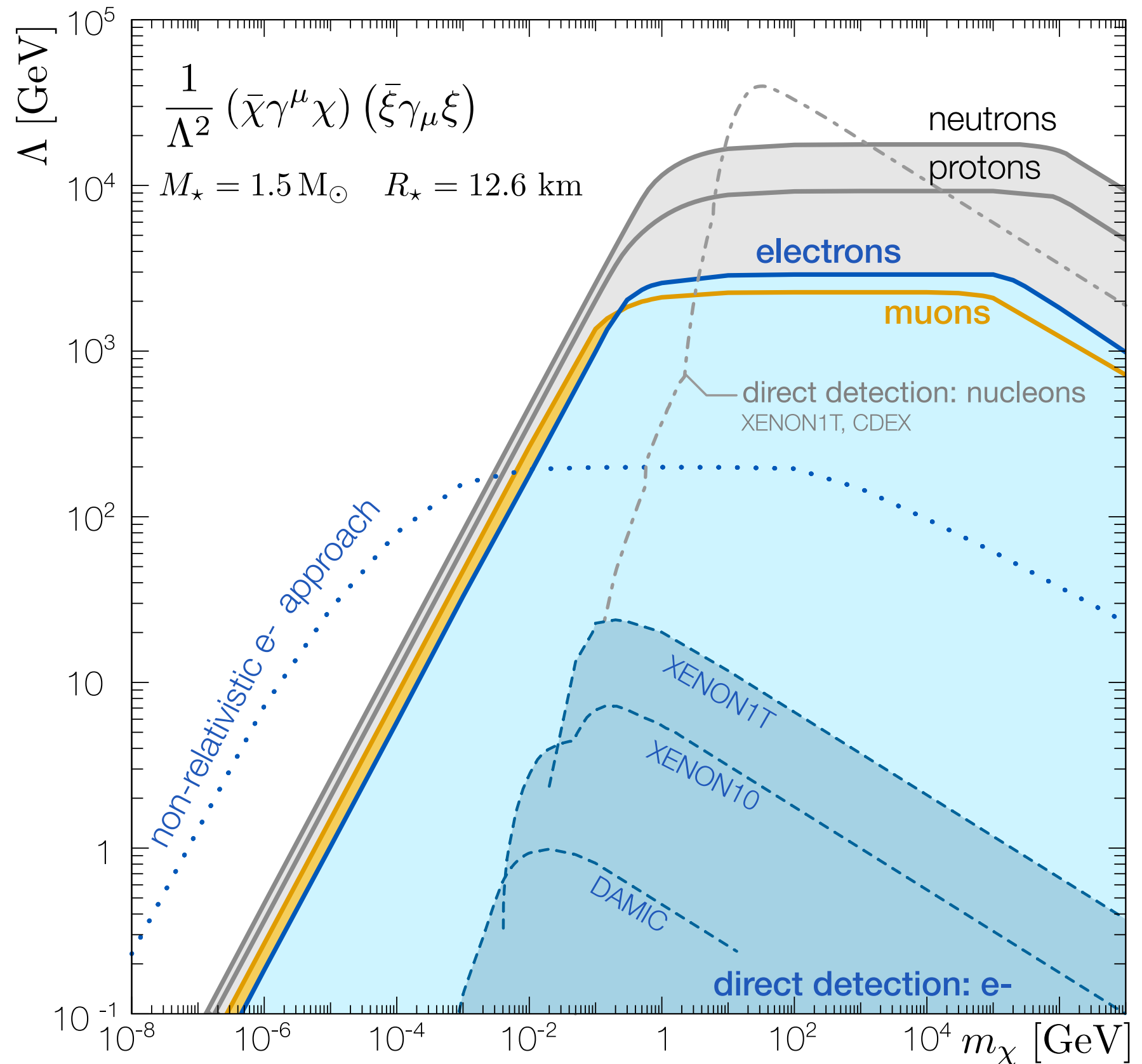
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# Result

can beat lepton  
direct detection

curiously similar  
reach to neutrons

dotted line?





# Non-relativistic estimate

## Capture of Leptophilic Dark Matter in Neutron Stars

treat electrons as little neutrons

Nicole F. Bell,<sup>a</sup> Giorgio Busoni<sup>b</sup> and Sandra Robles<sup>a</sup>

**Abstract.** Dark matter particles will be captured in neutron stars if they undergo scattering interactions with nucleons or leptons. These collisions transfer the dark matter kinetic energy to the star, resulting in appreciable heating that is potentially observable by forthcoming infrared telescopes. While previous work considered scattering only on nucleons, neutron stars contain small abundances of other particle species, including electrons and muons. We perform a detailed analysis of the neutron star kinetic heating constraints on leptophilic dark matter. We also estimate the size of loop induced couplings to quarks, arising from the exchange of photons and Z bosons. Despite having relatively small lepton abundances, we find that an observation of an old, cold, neutron star would provide very strong limits on dark matter interactions with leptons, with the greatest reach arising from scattering off muons. The projected sensitivity is orders of magnitude more powerful than current dark matter-electron scattering bounds from terrestrial direct detection experiments.

KILLER APP  
leptophilic  
dark matter



result: muons very promising, electrons are okay

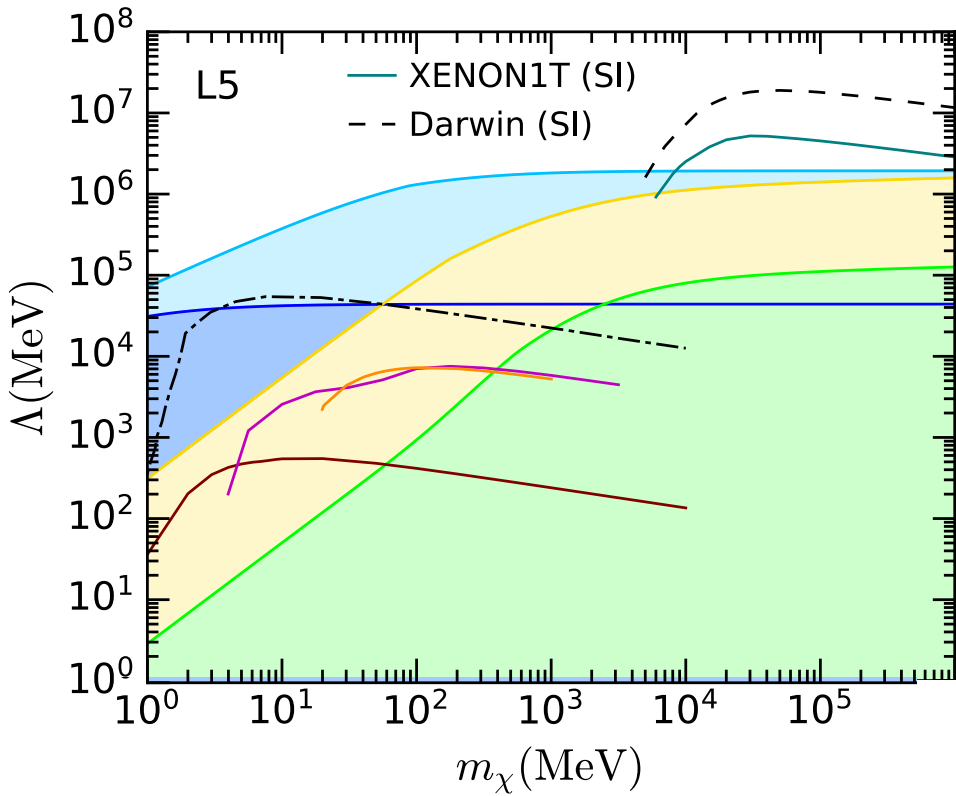
1904.09803

flip.tanedo@ucr.edu

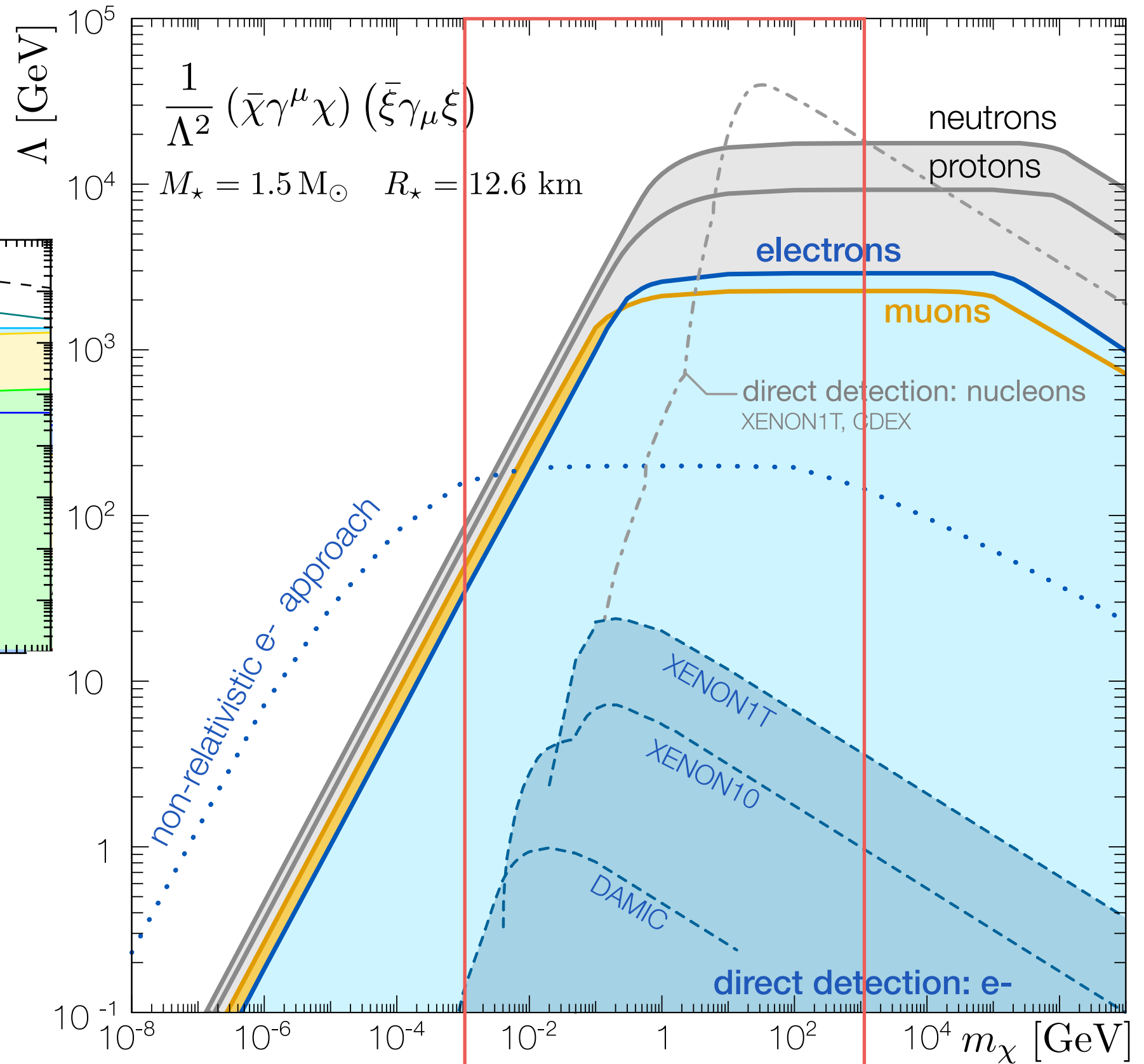
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33 / 56

# comparison



- NS (BSk24-1)
- $e^-$   $T_{kin}^{\infty, th} = 1700 K$
  - $\mu^-$   $T_{kin}^{\infty, th} = 1700 K$
  - $n$   $T_{kin}^{\infty, th} = 1700 K$
  - $p$   $T_{kin}^{\infty, th} = 1700 K$

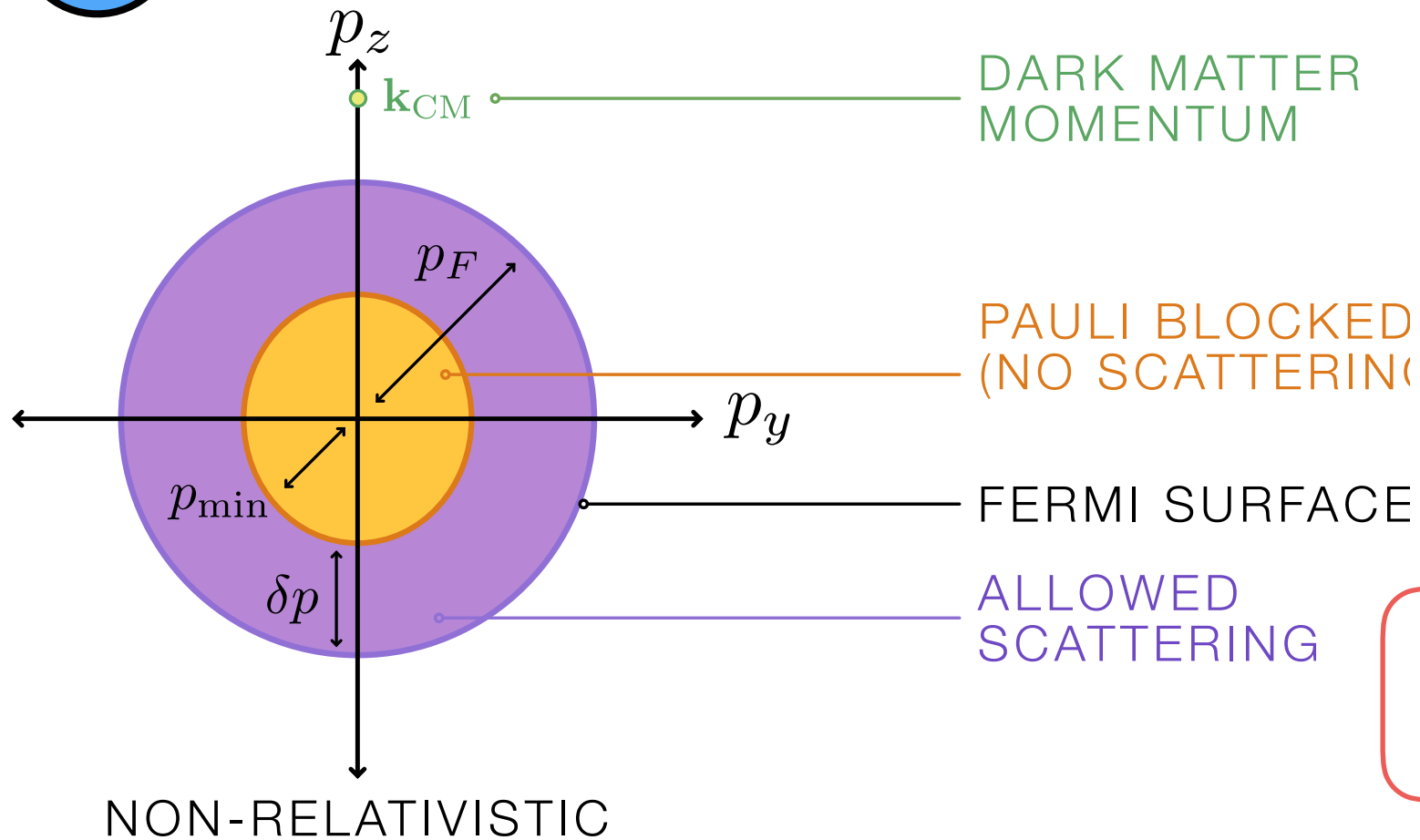


Bell et al. 1904.09803, Joglekar et al. 1911.13293 & coming soon

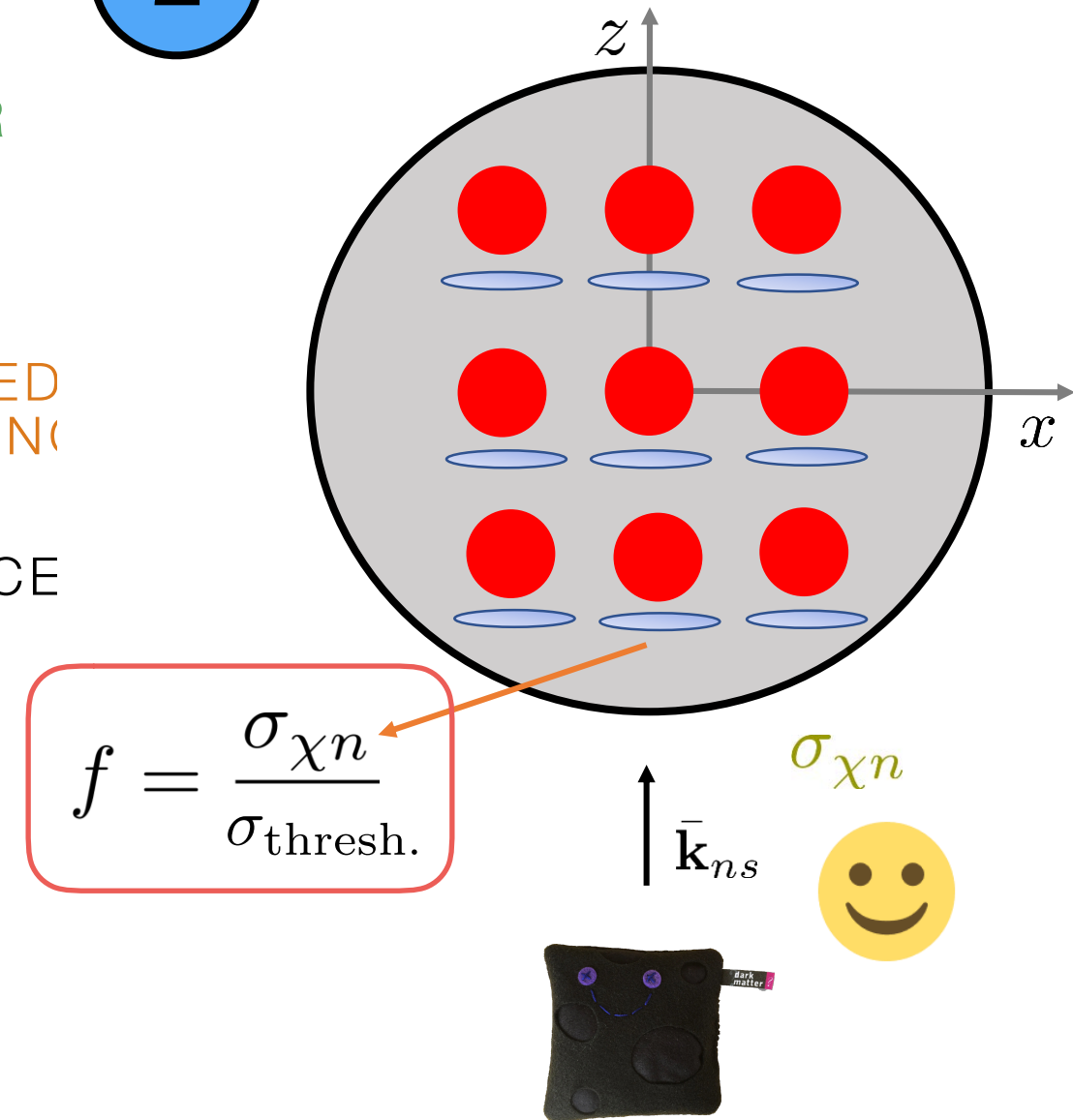
# Simplifying Assumptions

non-relativistic limit

1



2



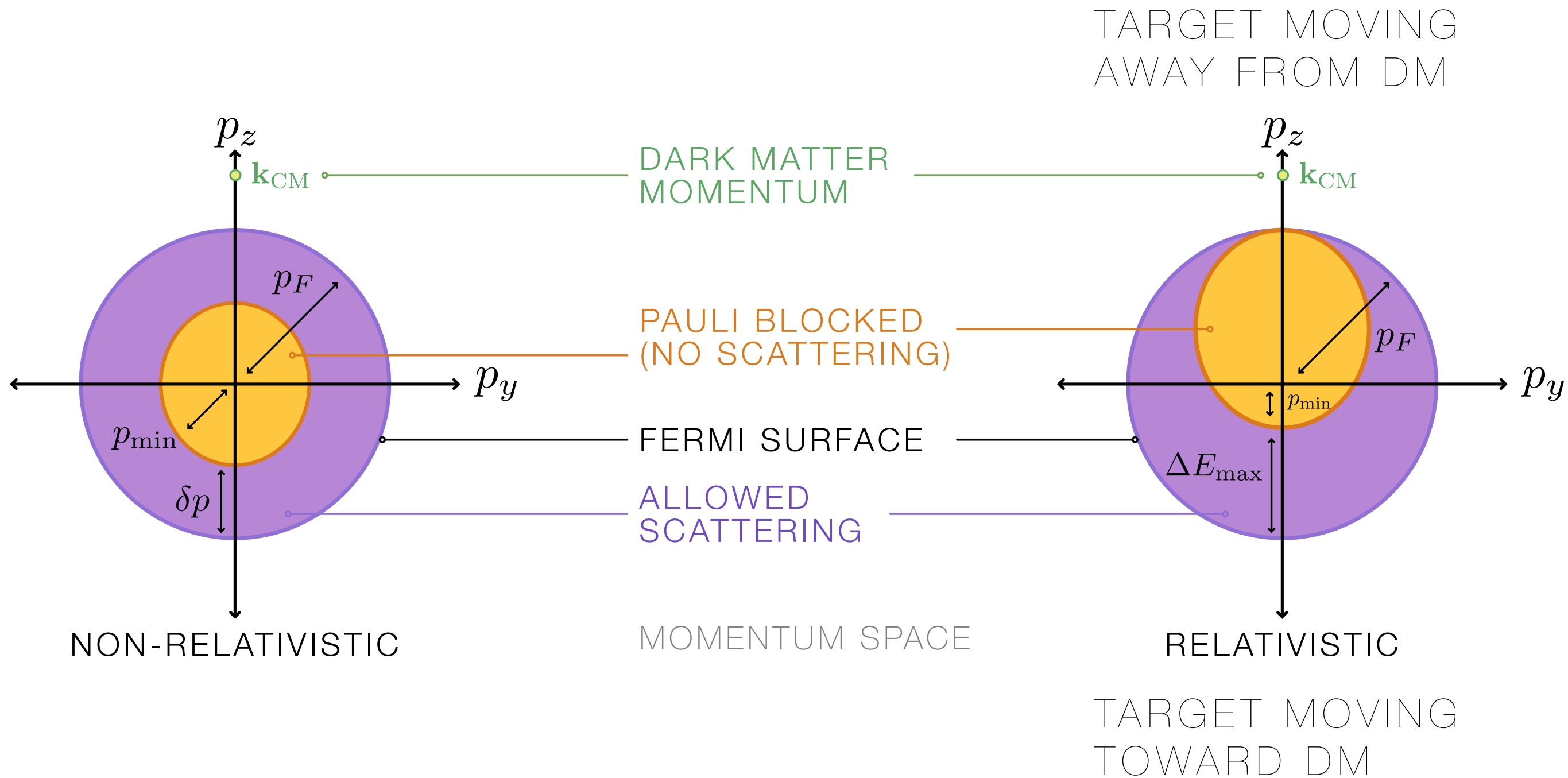
However: electrons are relativistic.

Right: Aniket Joglekar

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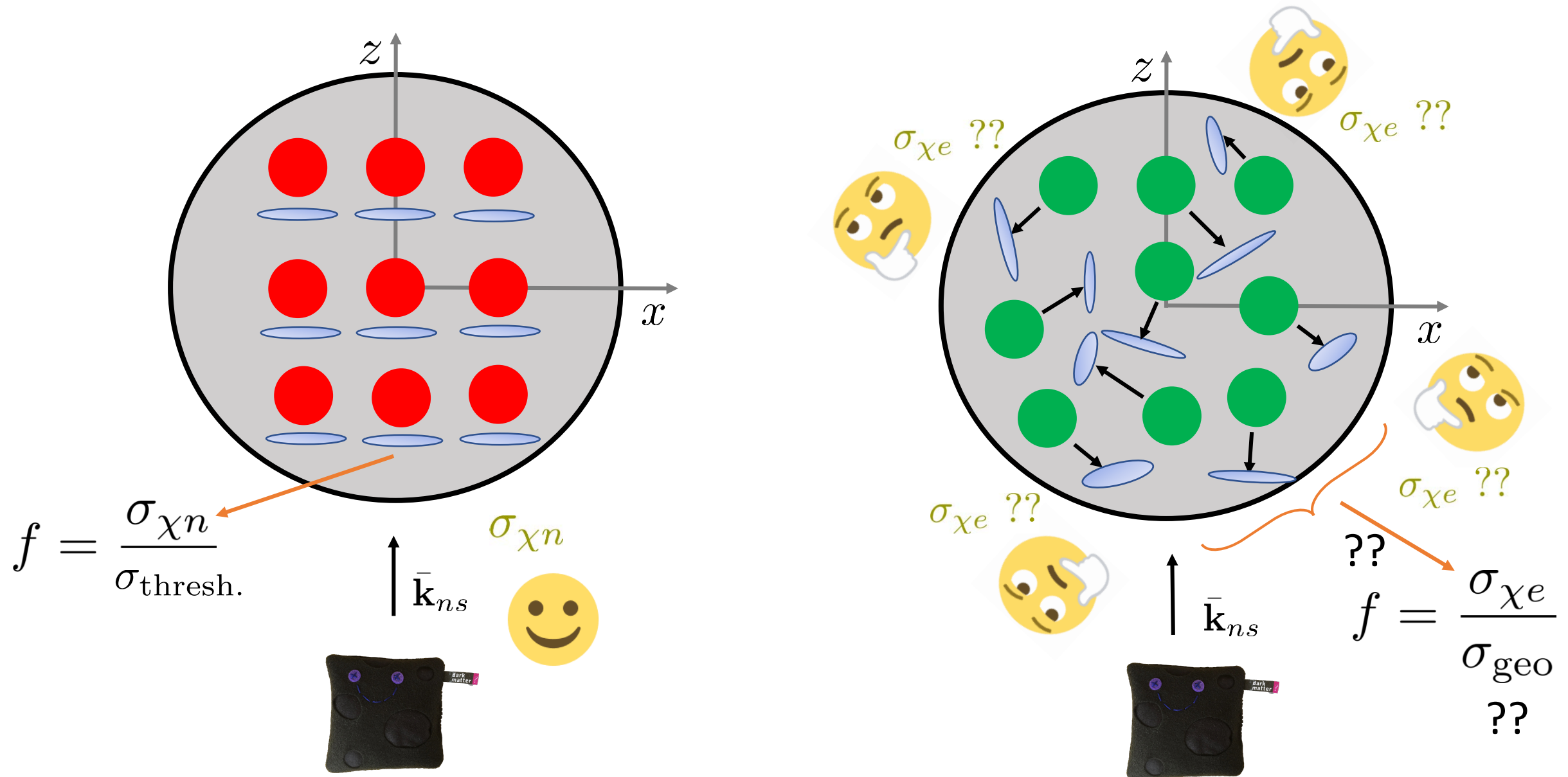
# 1. Relativistic Pauli Blocking



Some configurations favor capture.



# 2. ... which cross section?



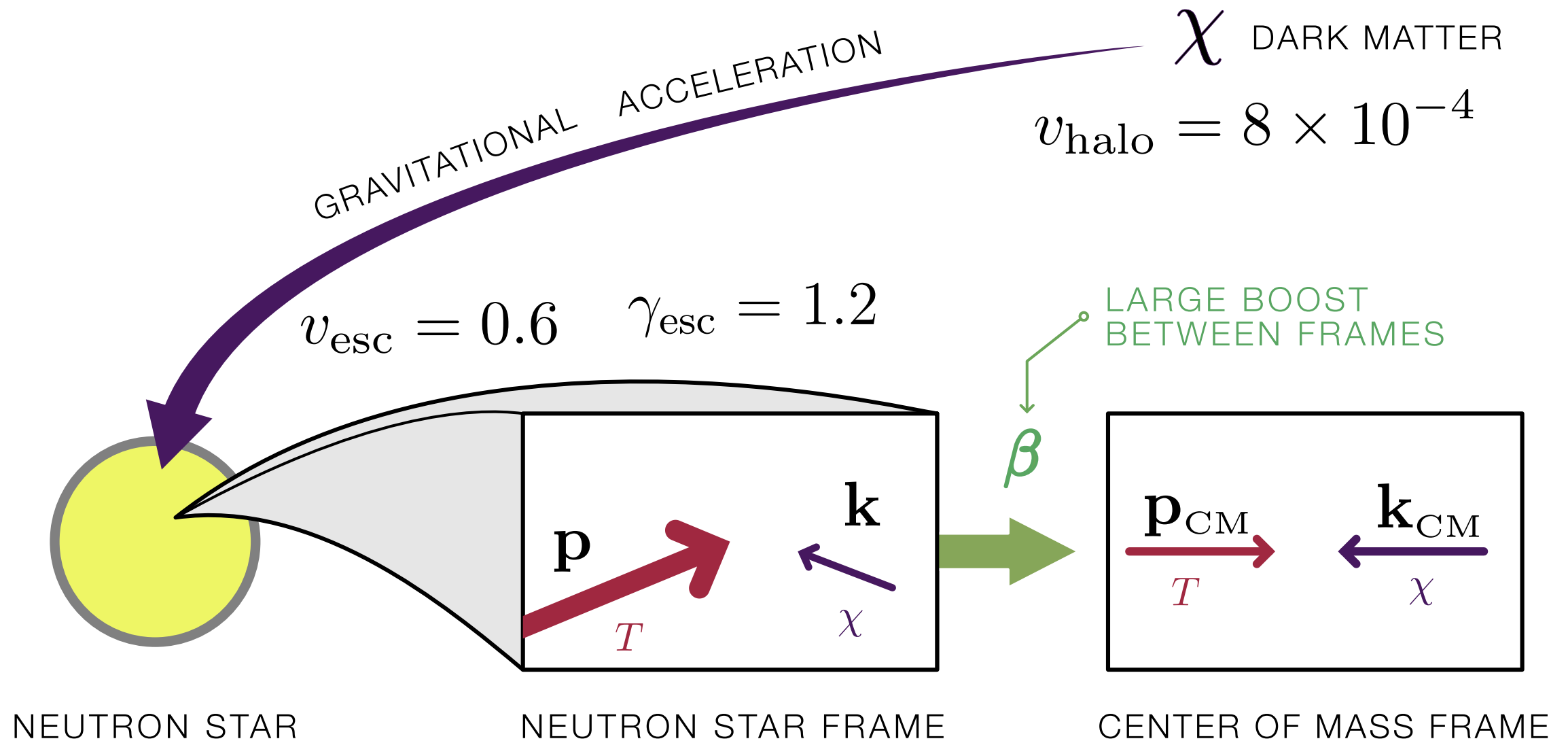
Cross section depends on kinematics

Images: Aniket Joglekar

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# A matter of frame



# Relativistic Formalism

# OF SCATTERS:

$$d\nu = d\sigma v_{\text{rel}} dn_{\text{T}} dn_{\chi} \Delta V \Delta t$$

$$\Delta t \approx 3.2 R_{\star}$$

CAPTURE  
EFFICIENCY

$$df = \left. \frac{d\nu}{dN_{\chi}} \right|_{\text{capture}}$$

CAPTURE  
CONDITIONS

# OF INCIDENT DM:

$$dN_{\chi} = dn_{\chi} \Delta V$$

Lorentz Invariant

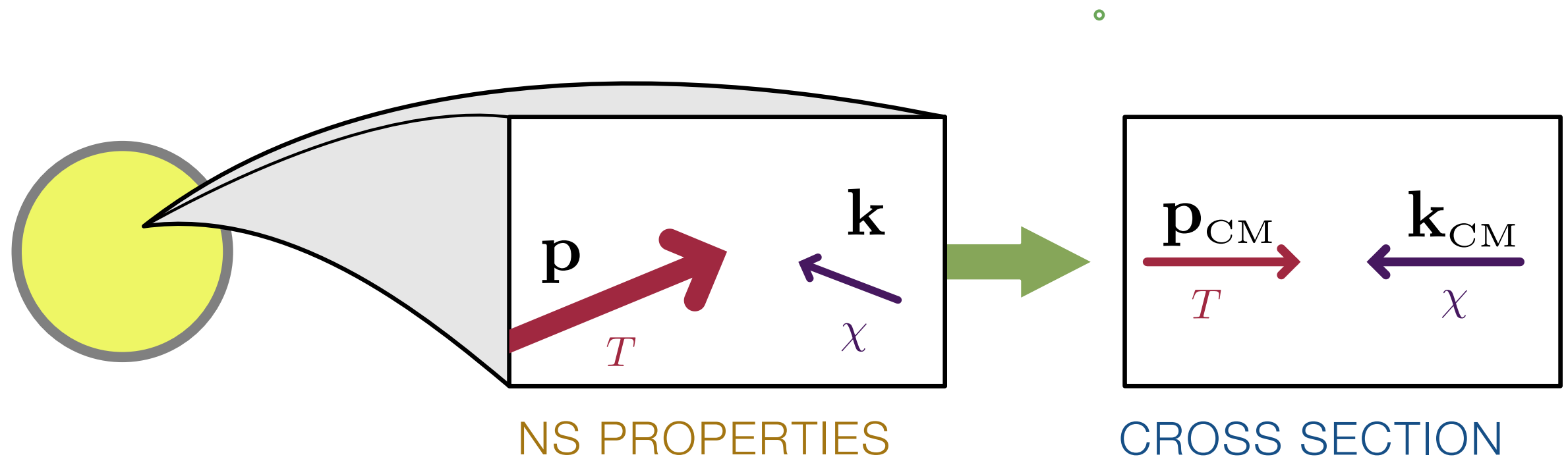
# Frames and Lorentz Invariance

LORENTZ  
INVARIANT

$$df = d\sigma v_{\text{rel}} dn_T \Delta t \Big|_{\text{capture}}$$

CENTER OF MASS  
FRAME?

NEUTRON STAR FRAME?





# Reminder: Möller Velocity

RELATIVISTIC  
RELATIVE  
VELOCITY

$$\boxed{d\sigma} \boxed{v_{\text{rel}}} = \boxed{d\sigma_{\text{CM}}} \boxed{v_{\text{M}\phi\text{l}}}$$

FRAME                      CM FRAME                      FRAME

ANY FRAME

$$v_{\text{M}\phi\text{l}} = \frac{\sqrt{(p \cdot k)^2 - m_{\text{T}}^2 m_{\chi}^2}}{E_p E_k}$$

see, e.g. Cannoni 1605.00569

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# Invariant capture efficiency

LORENTZ  
INVARIANT

$$df = d\sigma_{\text{rel}} dn_{\text{T}} \Delta t \Big|_{\text{capture}}$$

CENTER OF MASS  
FRAME

NEUTRON STAR FRAME

$$df = d\sigma_{\text{CM}} v_{\text{M}\emptyset\text{l}} dn_{\text{T}} \Delta t \Big|_{\text{capture}}$$

CENTER OF MASS  
FRAME

NEUTRON STAR FRAME

# Capture conditions

$$df = d\sigma_{\text{CM}} v_{\text{M}\emptyset\text{l}} dn_{\text{T}} \Delta t \Big|_{\text{capture}}$$

$$df = \sum_{N_{\text{hit}}} d\sigma_{\text{CM}} v_{\text{M}\emptyset\text{l}} dn_{\text{T}} \frac{\Delta t}{N_{\text{hit}}}$$

$$\times \Theta \left( \Delta E - \frac{E_{\text{halo}}}{N_{\text{hit}}} \right) \Theta \left( \frac{\Delta E_{\text{min}}}{N_{\text{hit}} + 1} - \Delta E \right)$$

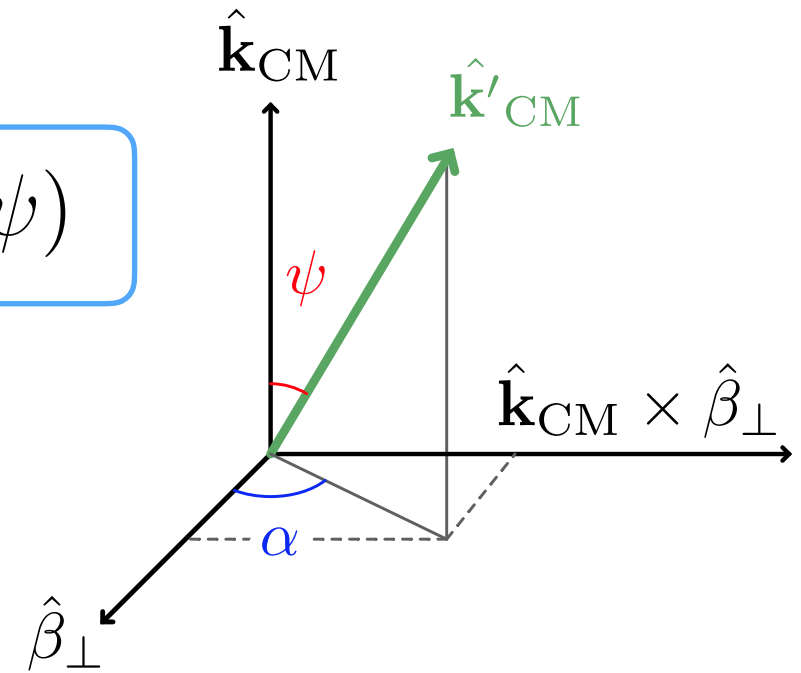
energy transfer leads to capture in N hits

$$\times \Theta (\Delta E + E_p - E_{\text{F}})$$

Pauli blocking of final state

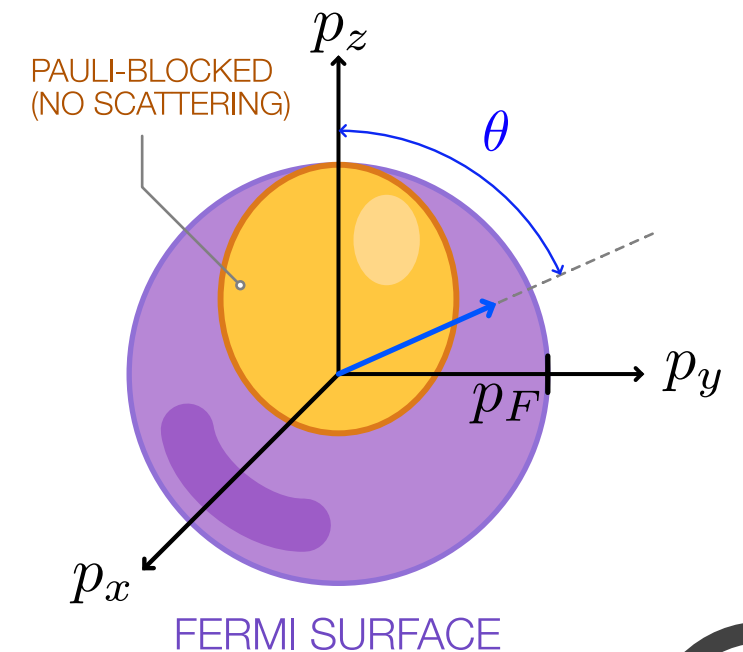
# NIntegrate

$$d\Omega_{\text{CM}} = d\alpha d(\cos \psi)$$



$$f = \sum_{N_{\text{hit}}} \frac{\langle n_{\text{T}} \rangle \Delta t}{N_{\text{hit}}} \int d\Omega_{\text{F}} \int_0^{p_{\text{F}}} \frac{p^2 dp}{V_{\text{F}}} \int d\Omega_{\text{CM}} \frac{d\sigma_{\text{CM}}}{d\Omega_{\text{CM}}} v_{\text{M}\phi 1} \Theta^3(\Delta E)$$

$$dn_{\text{T}} = \langle n_{\text{T}} \rangle \frac{p^2 dp \Omega_{\text{F}}}{V_{\text{F}}} \quad d\Omega_{\text{F}} = d\varphi d(\cos \theta) \quad V_{\text{F}} = \frac{4}{3} \pi p_{\text{F}}^3$$





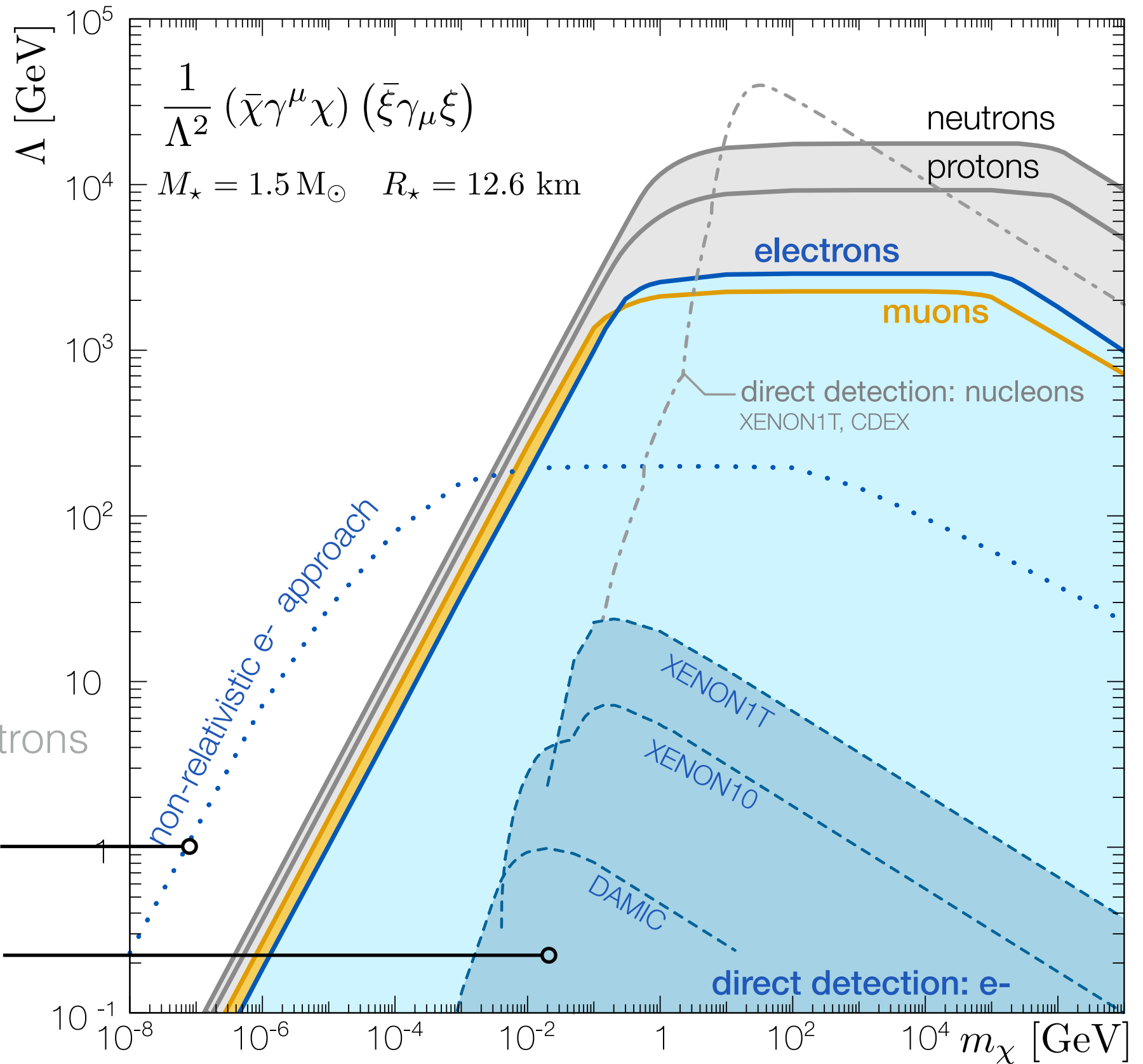
# reach

ultra relativistic electrons  
semi-relativistic muons

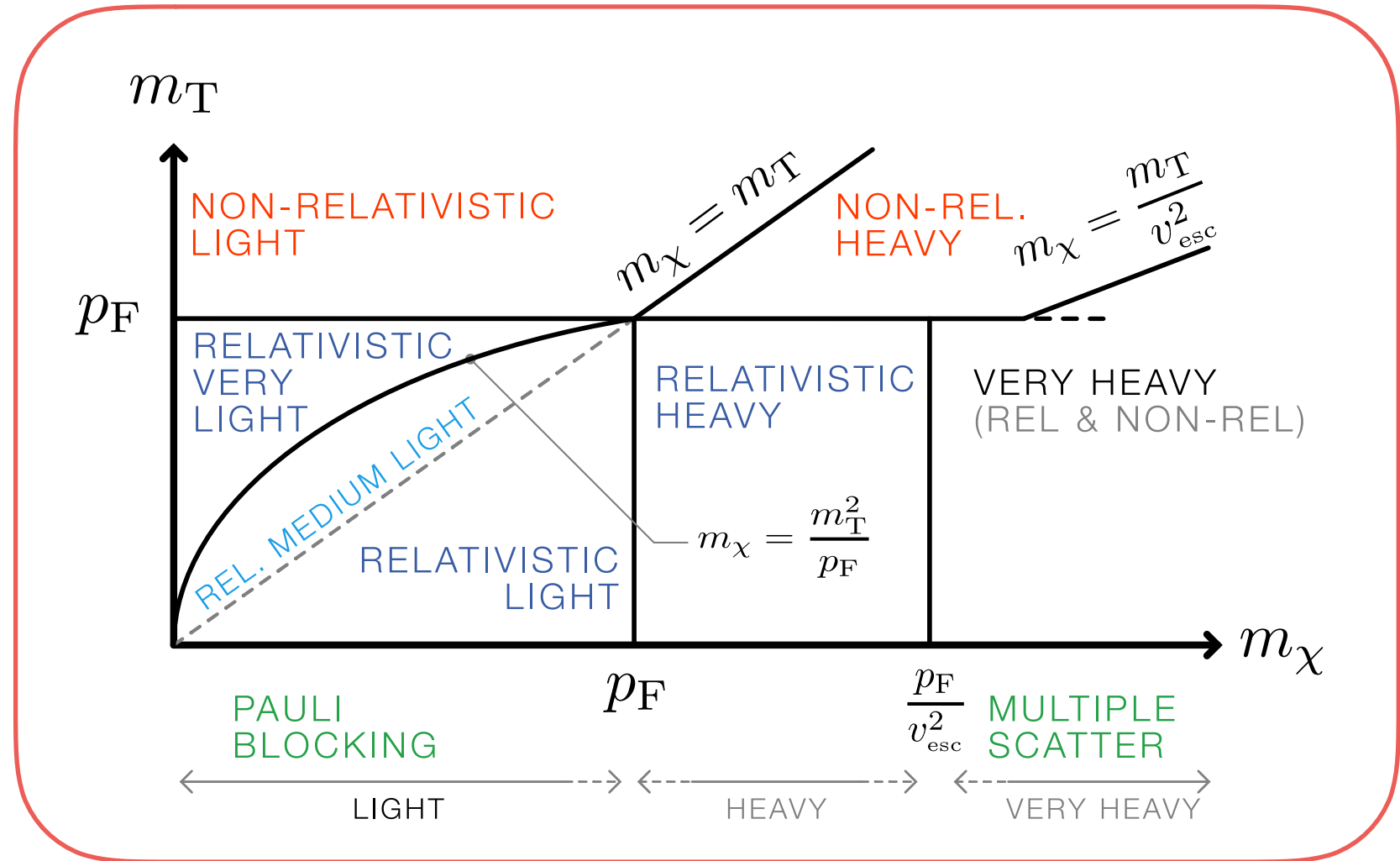
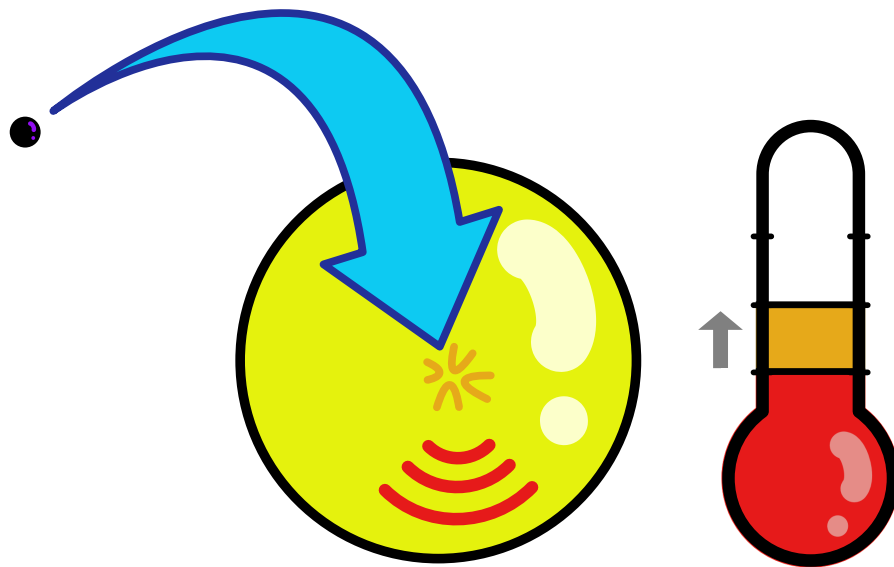
NR approx overestimates  
muons (not shown) vs electrons

non-relativistic approx

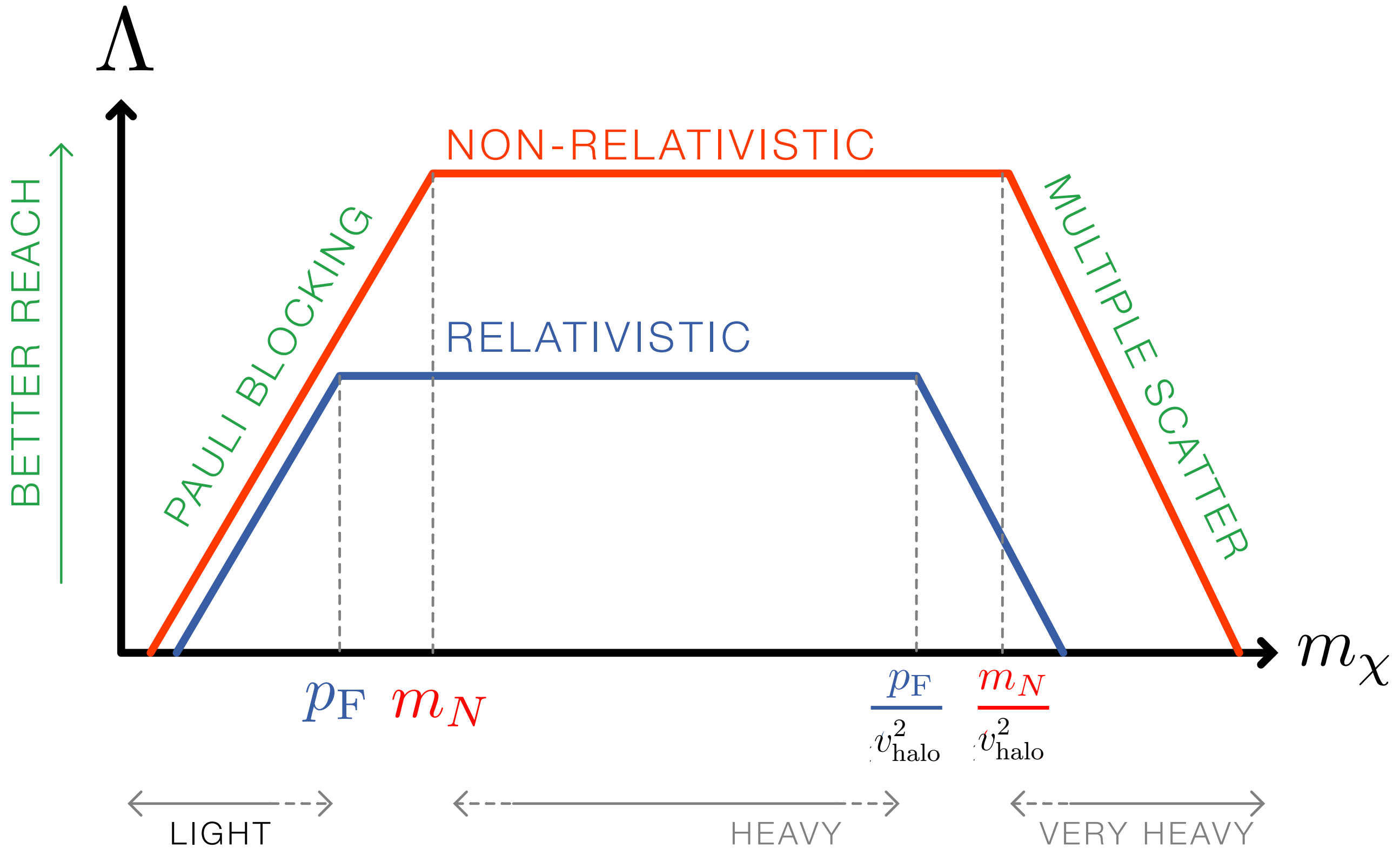
terrestrial direct detection



# Outline

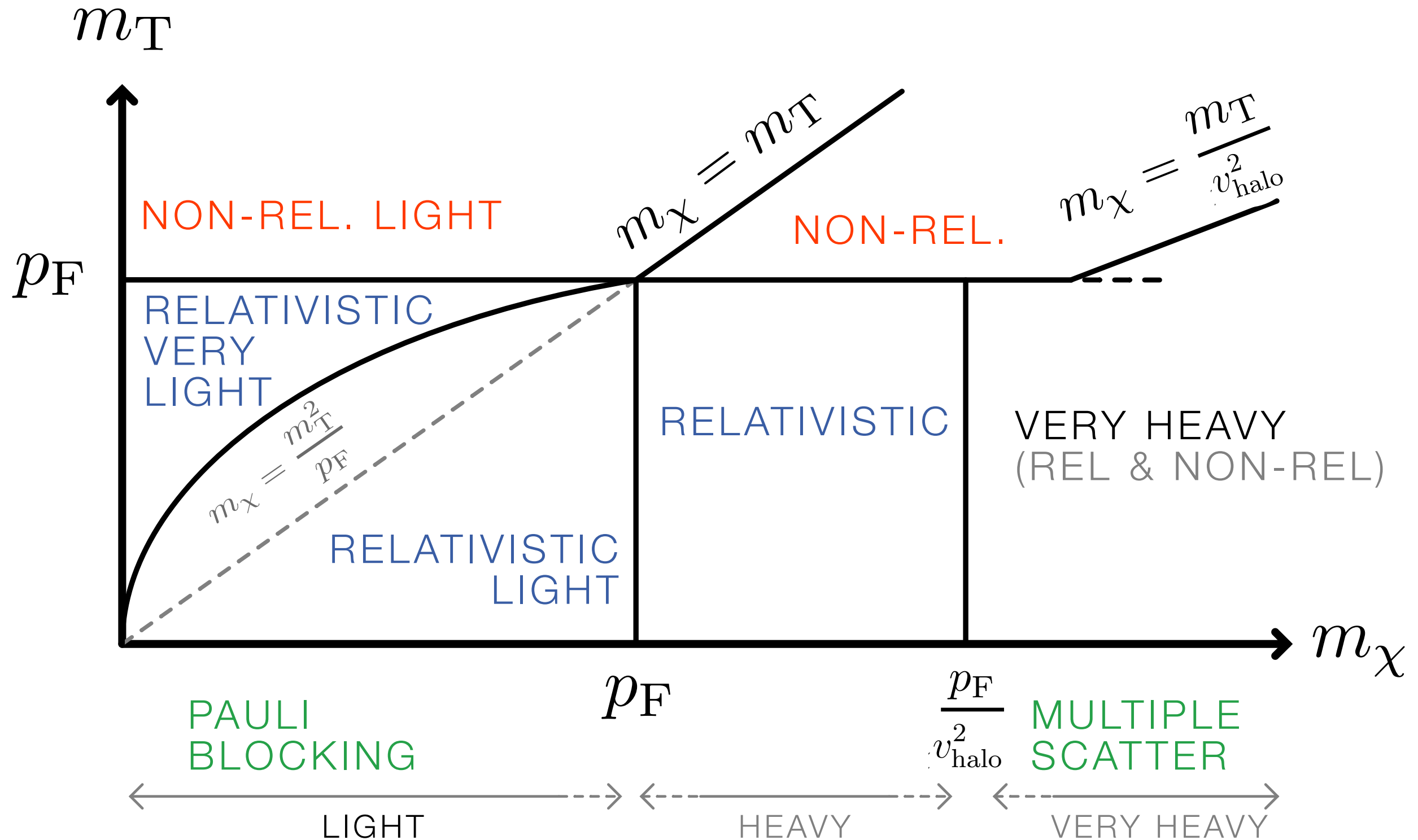


# Why did we get this result?



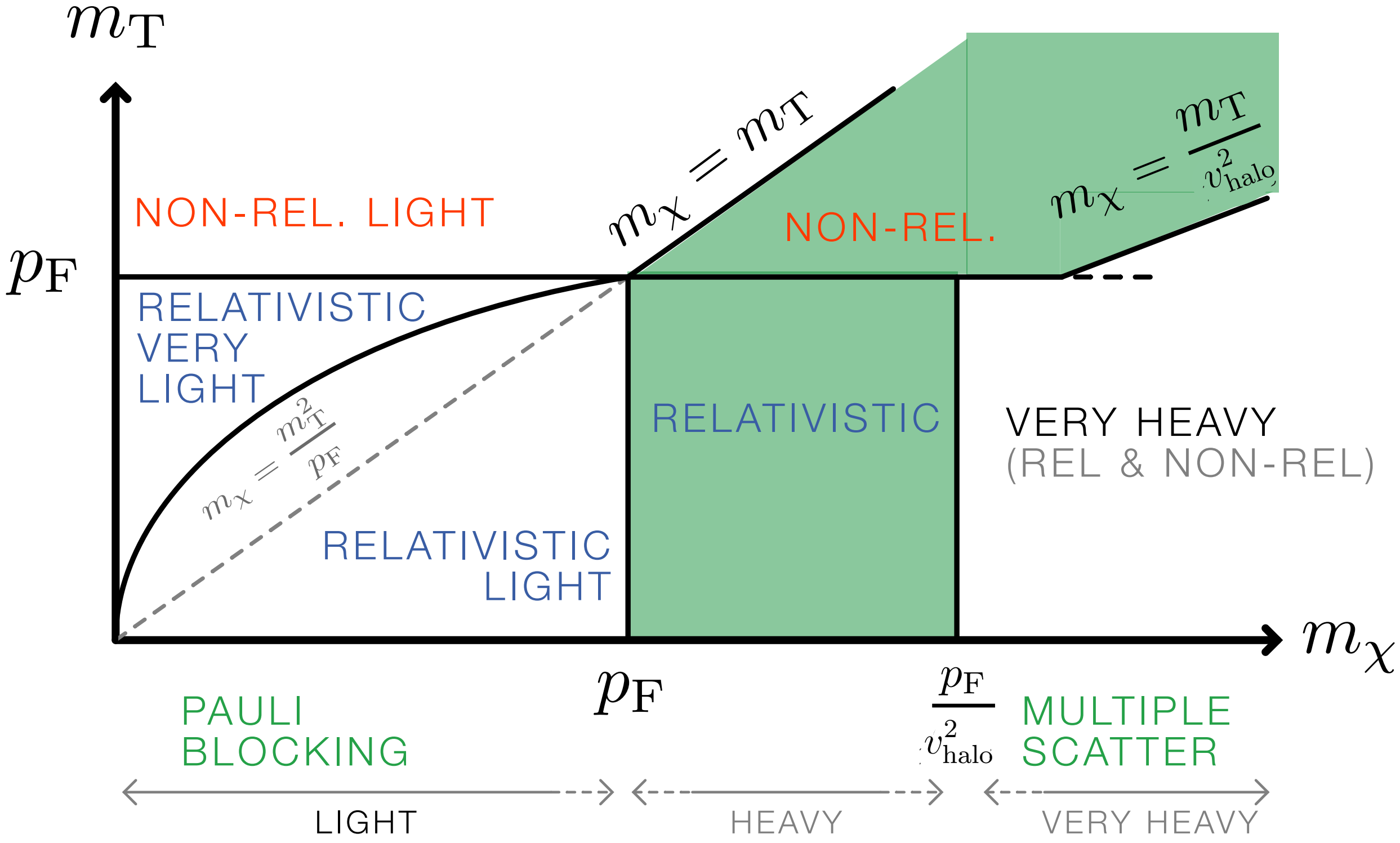
apples to oranges comparison

# phase space of scattering



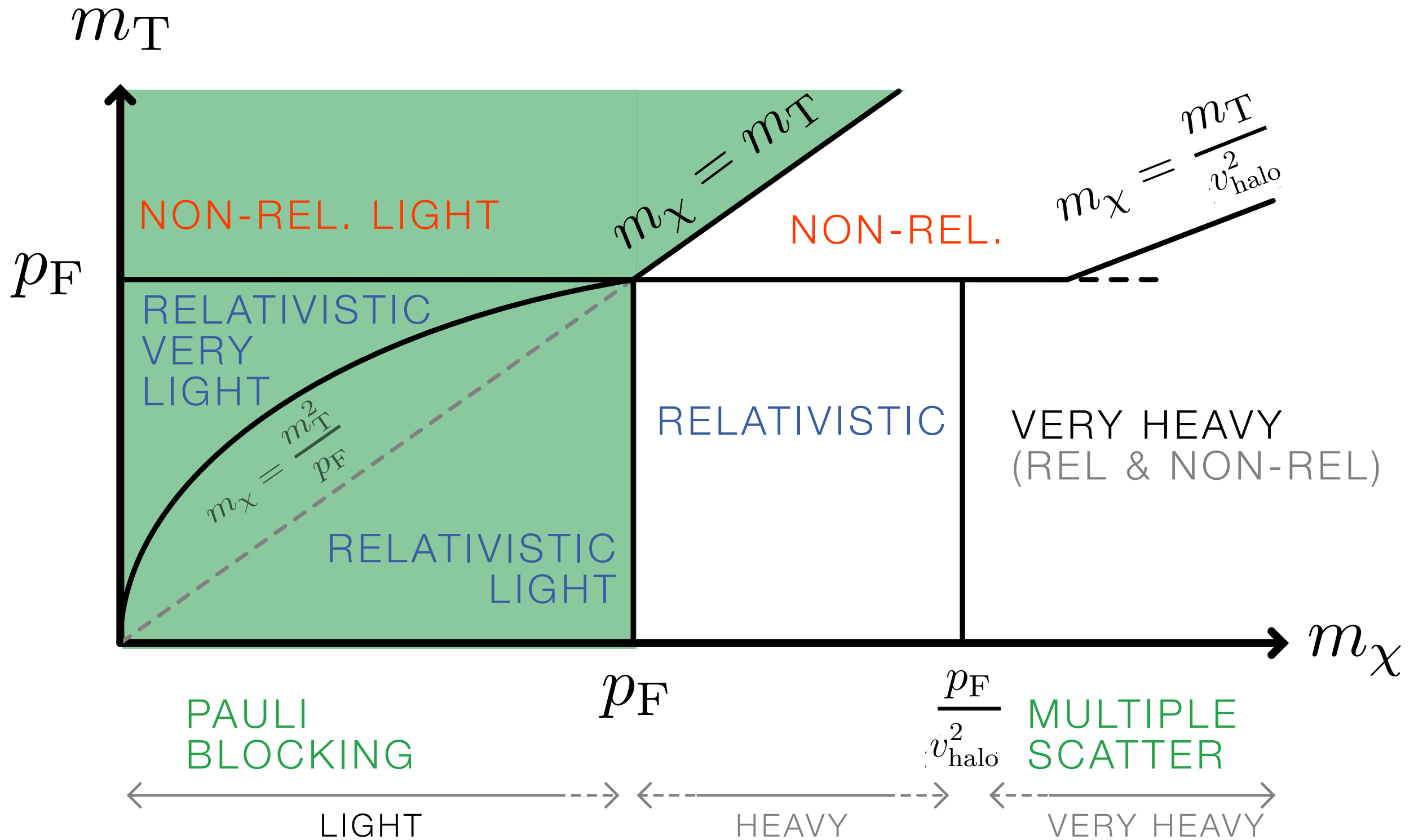


# standard regime



# light dark matter regime

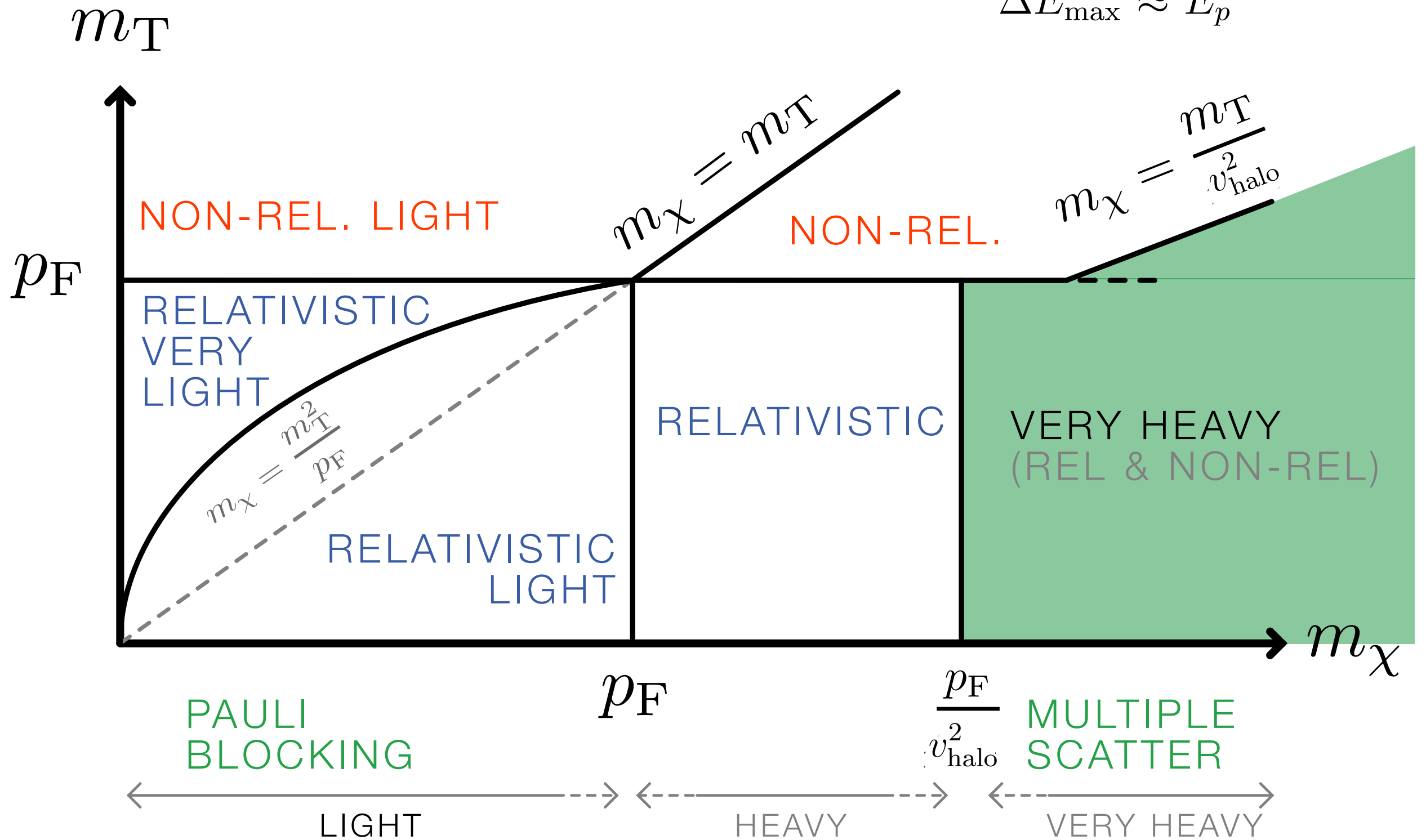
$$\Delta E_{\max} \sim m_\chi$$



# Heavy regime

$$\Delta E_{\min} = E_{\text{halo}} = \frac{1}{2} m_{\chi} v_{\text{halo}}^2$$

$$\Delta E_{\max} \approx E_p$$



# More careful analysis

1. How does the differential cross section scale with  $m_\chi$ ?
2. Is the phase space suppressed with  $m_\chi$ ?
3. Does capture require multiple scatters?

capture  
efficiency

$$f \sim \frac{1}{N_{\text{hit}}} \int_{\cos \psi_{\text{max}}}^1 d \cos \psi \int_{p_{\text{min}}}^{p_{\text{F}}} \frac{p^2 dp}{p_{\text{F}}^3} \frac{|\mathcal{M}|^2}{s}$$

For each operator in each regime, check scaling with dark matter mass.



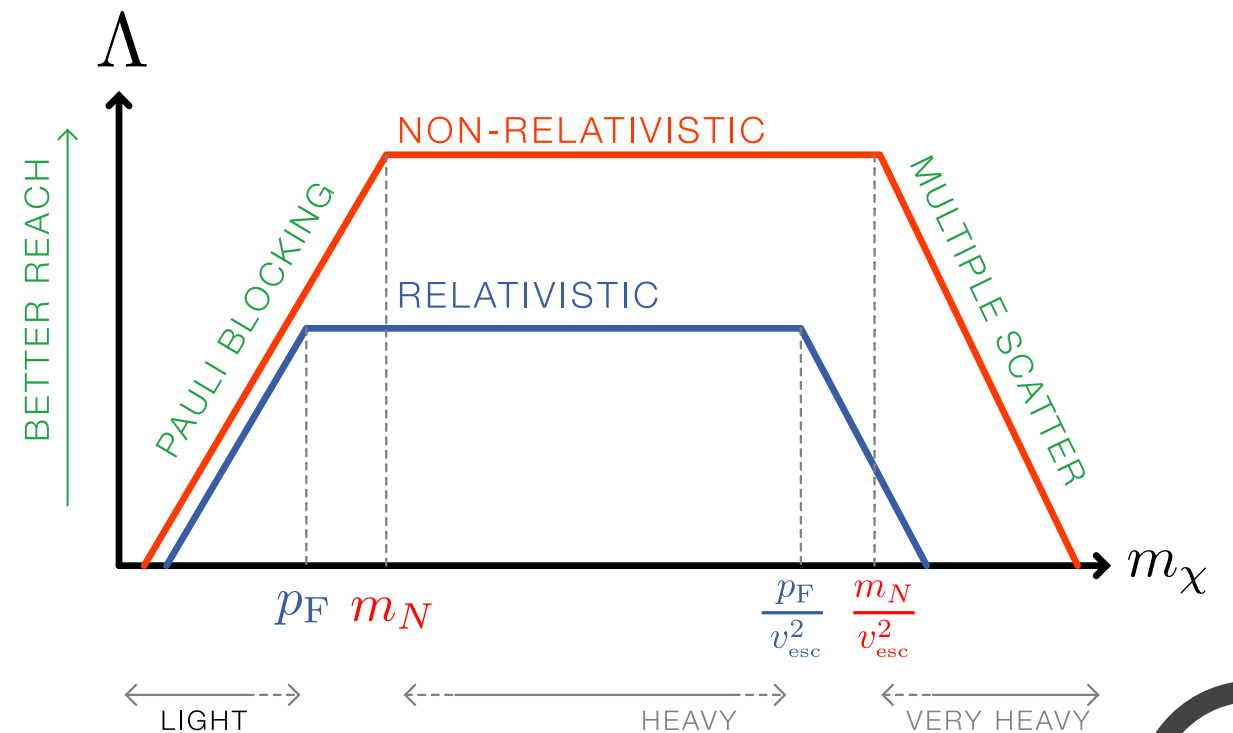
# detailed version

$$\frac{|\mathcal{M}|^2}{s} \approx \frac{m_\chi^2 E_p^2}{s \Lambda^4} \approx \frac{m_\chi^2 m_T^2}{s \Lambda^4} \left( 1 + \frac{E_F^2}{m_T^2} \right)$$

TARGET	DARK MATTER	$1 - \cos \psi$	$\Delta p/p_F$	$s^{-1}$	$ \mathcal{M} ^2$	$N_{\text{hit}}^{-1}$	$f$
	<b>VERY HEAVY</b>					$m_\chi^{-1}$	$m_\chi^{-1}$
<b>NON-REL</b>	<b>HEAVY</b>			$m_\chi^{-2}$			1
<b>REL</b>	<b>HEAVY</b>				$m_\chi^2$		1
<b>NON-REL</b>	<b>LIGHT</b>						$m_\chi^3$
<b>REL</b>	<b>VERY LIGHT</b>		$m_\chi$				$m_\chi^3$
<b>REL</b>	<b>LIGHT</b>	$m_\chi$		$m_\chi^{-1}$			$m_\chi^3$

$$f \sim \frac{1}{N_{\text{hit}}} \int_{\cos \psi_{\text{max}}}^1 d \cos \psi \int_{p_{\text{min}}}^{p_F} \frac{p^2 dp}{p_F^3} \frac{|\mathcal{M}|^2}{s}$$

$$s \approx \begin{cases} m_T^2 & m_\chi \ll m_T^2/p_F \\ m_\chi E_p & m_T^2/E_F \ll m_\chi \ll p_F \\ m_\chi^2 & p_F \ll m_\chi \end{cases}$$



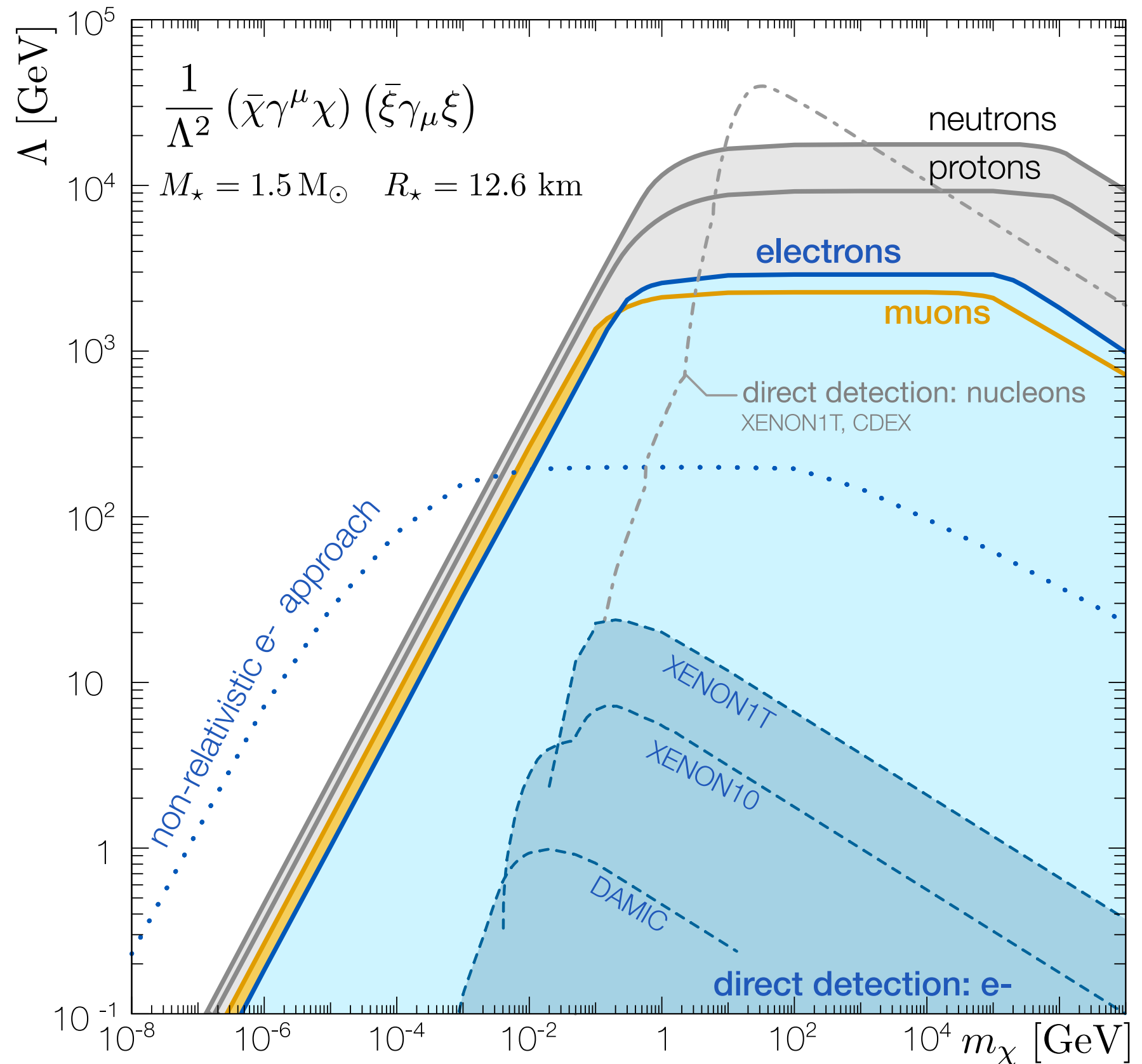


# Result

electron scattering  
is a powerful probe  
of leptophilic DM!  
esp compared to  
terrestrial experiments

relativistic scatter:  
some surprises;  
new formalism req.

Same benefits as  
neutron scatter...



# How we win (vs direct detection)

how we complement existing program

**Large volume, high density**

**Dark matter is accelerated**

Better reach for momentum-suppressed interactions, inelastic scattering (up to 200 MeV)

**No ceiling** (strong int) **or floors** (neutrino BG).

Larger range of accessible dark matter masses

No hierarchy between SI and SD scattering.

(repeated slide)

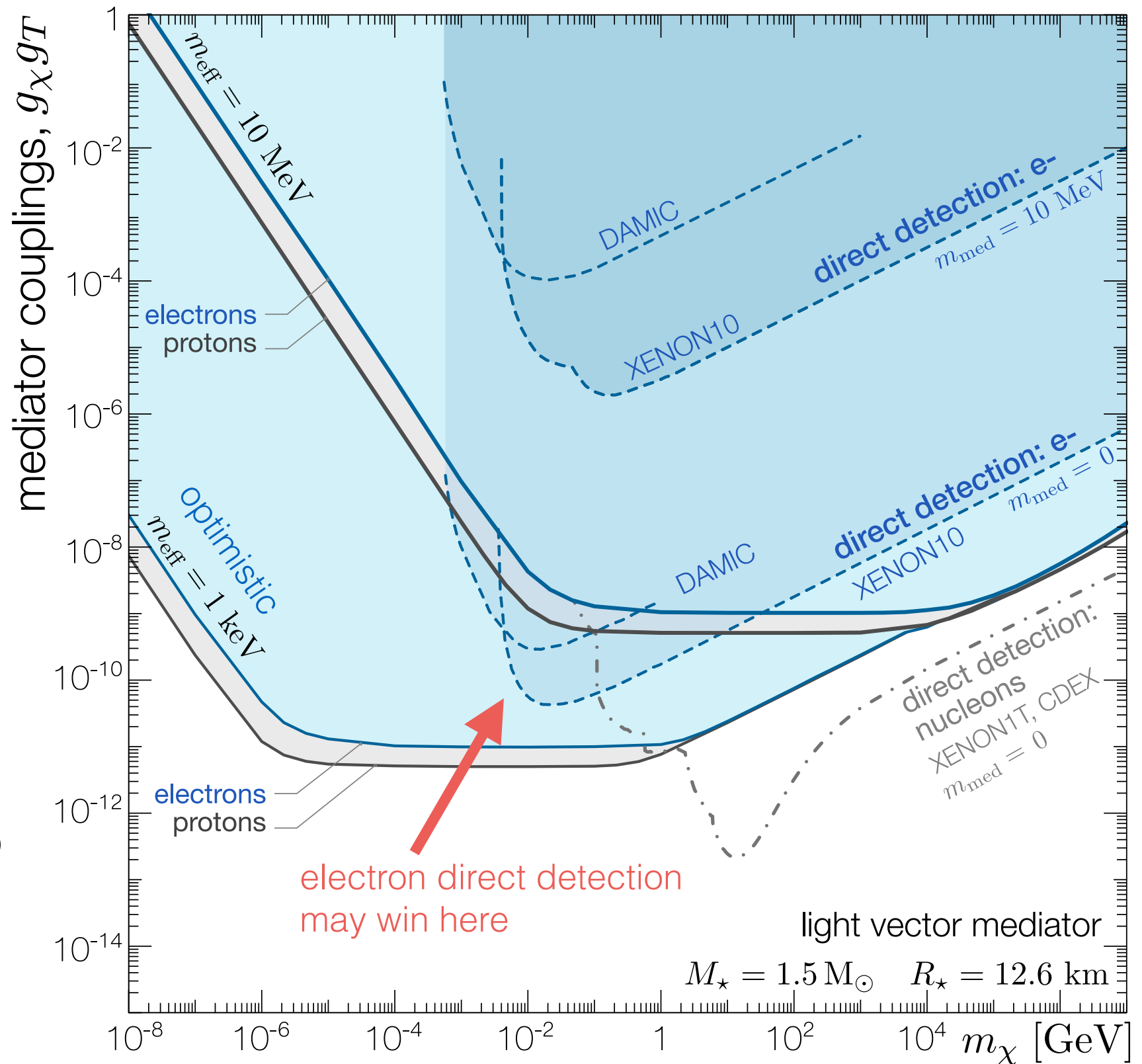
# What's next: Light mediators

simplified model

effective mass from the medium (Debye)

$$\lambda_D^{-1} \sim e \sqrt{\frac{n_e}{T_{\text{eff}}}} \sim e \sqrt{\frac{n_e}{p_F}} \approx 10 \text{ MeV}$$

massless mediator in DD has effective mass in NS





# Summary

Opportunities for *direct detection* with **neutron stars**  
**New formalism** for relativistic, degenerate targets

Killer app:  
leptophilic DM

$\chi$  DARK MATTER

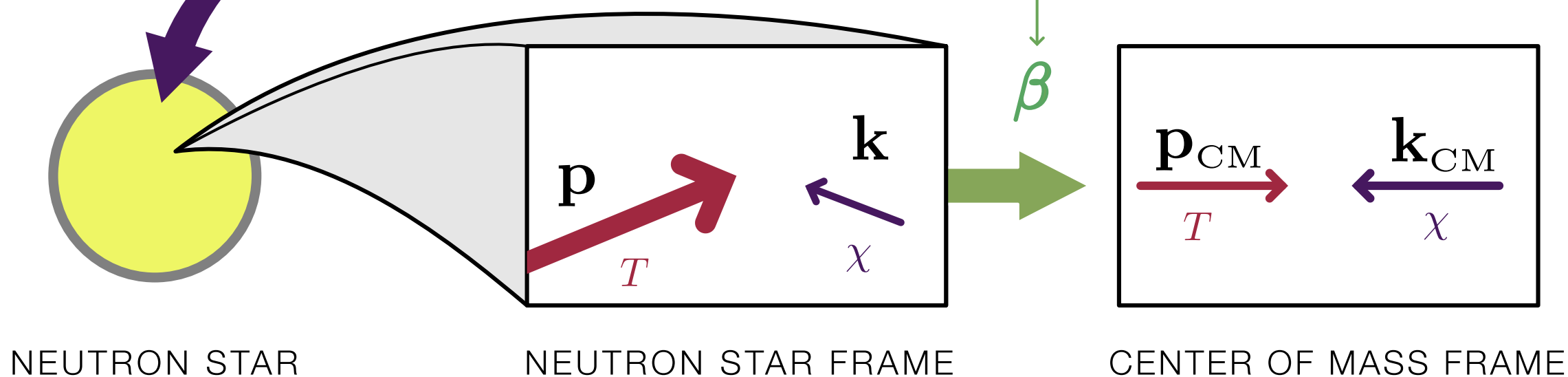
$$v_{\text{halo}} = 8 \times 10^{-4}$$

GRAVITATIONAL ACCELERATION

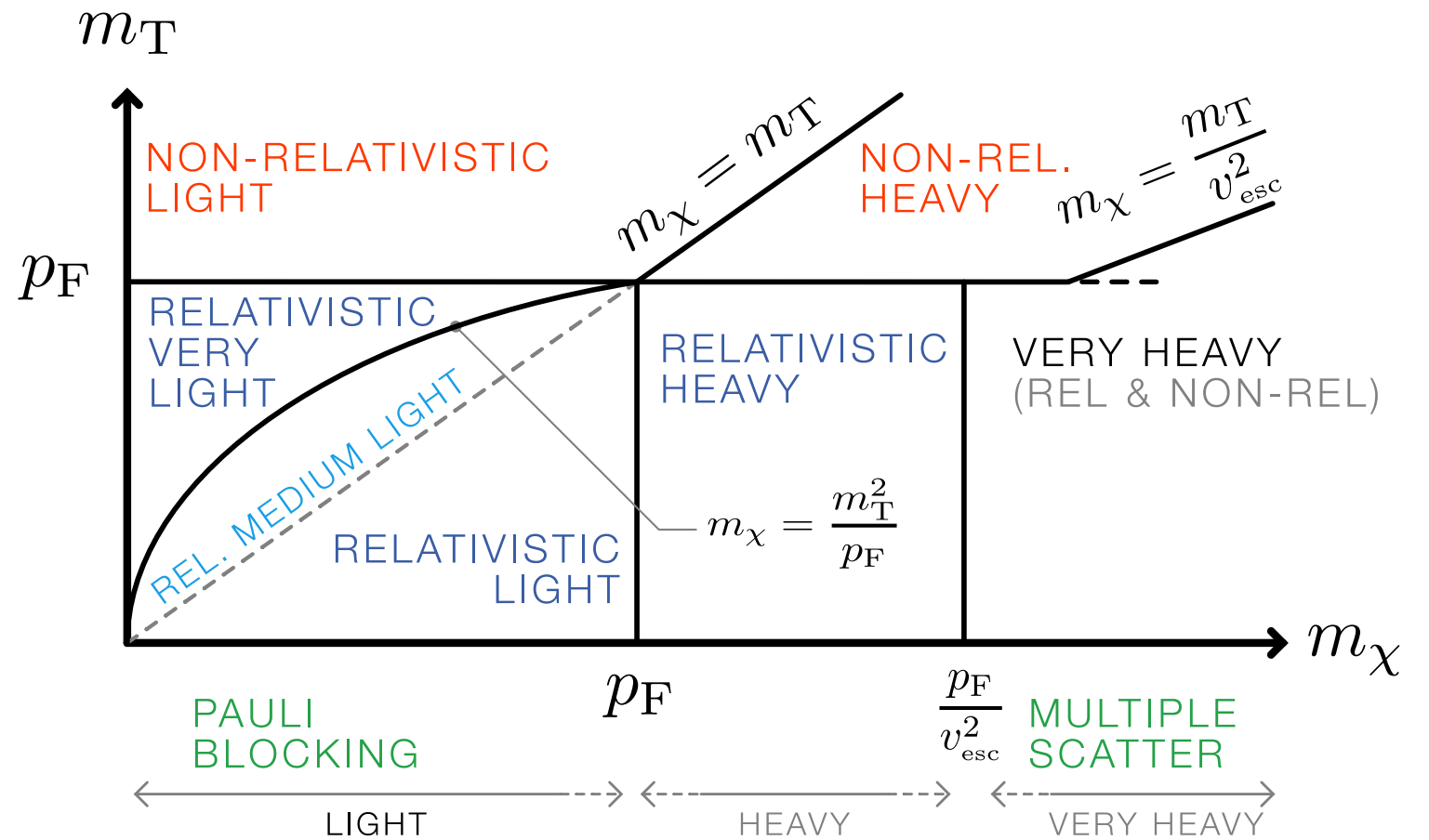
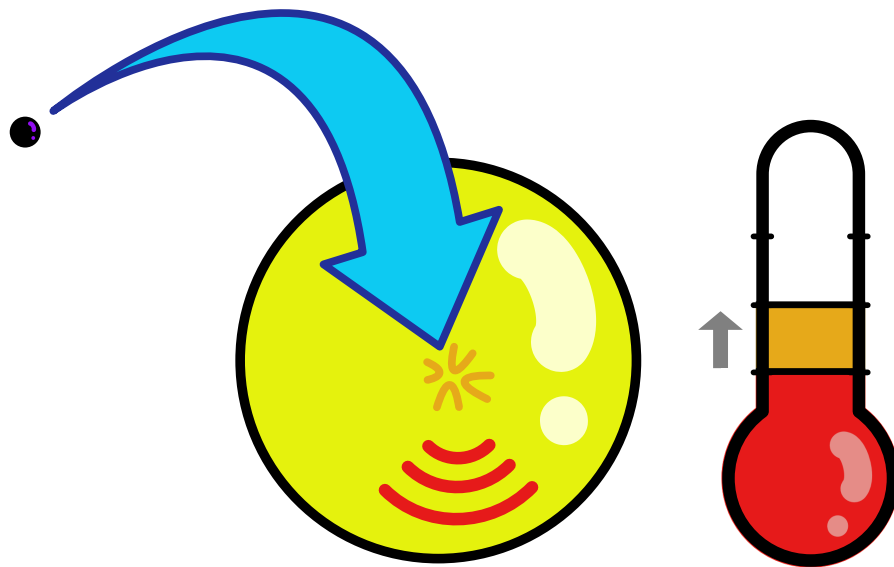
$$v_{\text{esc}} = 0.6$$

LARGE BOOST  
BETWEEN FRAMES

$\beta$



# Thank you!



# Additional Slides

Someone asked a clever question.

# Möller Velocity Review

$$v_{\text{rel}} = \frac{k}{E_k} \Big|_{\text{T}} = \frac{\sqrt{E_k^2 - m_\chi^2}}{E_k} \Big|_{\text{T}} = \frac{\sqrt{(p \cdot k)^2 - m_{\text{T}}^2 m_\chi^2}}{p \cdot k} \quad v_{\text{Mø}} = \frac{\sqrt{(p \cdot k)^2 - m_{\text{T}}^2 m_\chi^2}}{E_p E_k}$$

$$\mathcal{R} = \frac{d\nu}{\Delta V \Delta t} = (d\sigma v_{\text{rel}} dn_{\text{T}} dn_\chi)_{\text{T}} \quad \longrightarrow \quad A = \frac{p \cdot k}{E_{\text{T}} E_\chi} (d\sigma v_{\text{rel}})_{\text{T}}$$

$$\mathcal{R} = (A dn_{\text{T}} dn_\chi)_{\text{F}} = \left( A \frac{E_{\text{T}} E_\chi}{m_{\text{T}} m_\chi} \right)_{\text{F}} d\hat{n}_{\text{T}} d\hat{n}_\chi$$

$$\mathcal{R} = d\sigma_{\text{CM}} \left( \frac{p \cdot k}{E_{\text{T}} E_\chi} v_{\text{rel}} \right) dn_{\text{T}} dn_\chi = d\sigma_{\text{CM}} v_{\text{Mø}} dn_{\text{T}} dn_\chi$$

see, e.g. Cannoni 1605.00569 for a review

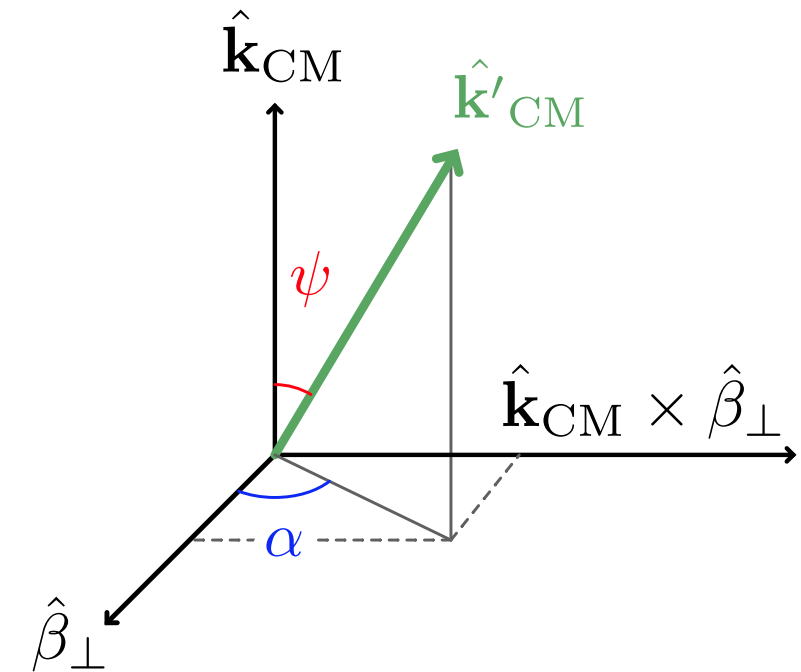
# Energy Transfer: non-relativistic

$$k_{\text{CM}}^\mu = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma & -\gamma\boldsymbol{\beta} \\ -\gamma\boldsymbol{\beta} & \gamma \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} E_k \\ \mathbf{k} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$p_{\text{CM}}^\mu = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma & -\gamma\boldsymbol{\beta} \\ -\gamma\boldsymbol{\beta} & \gamma \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} m_T \\ \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{p}_{\text{CM}} + \mathbf{k}_{\text{CM}} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\beta} = \frac{\mathbf{k}}{E_{\text{esc}} + m_T}$$



$$q_{\text{CM}}^\mu = k_{\text{CM}}^\mu - k'_{\text{CM}}{}^\mu = (0, \mathbf{q}_{\text{CM}})^T$$

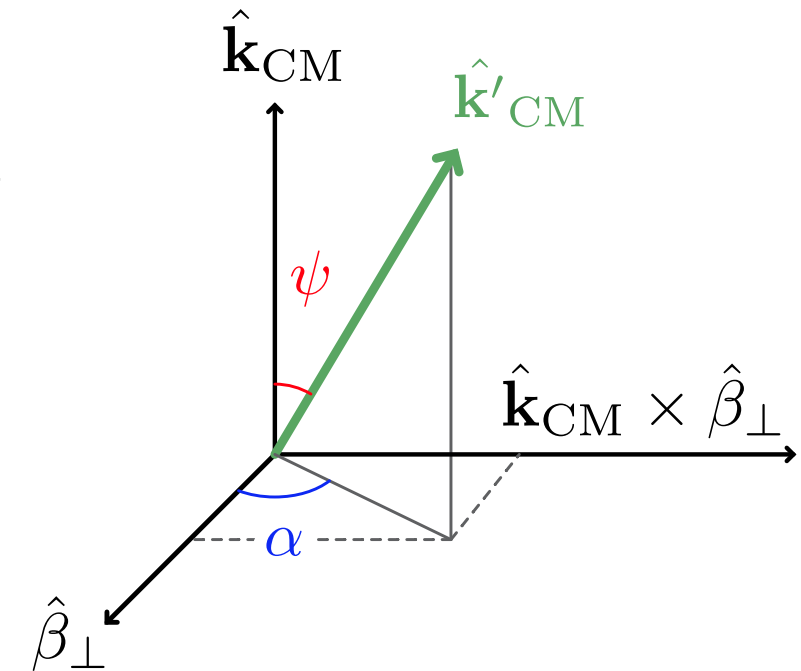
$$\Delta E = q^0 = \gamma\boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \mathbf{q}_{\text{CM}} = \frac{\gamma\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{q}_{\text{CM}}}{E_k + m_T} = \frac{\gamma^2 m_T \mathbf{k}^2 (1 - \cos \psi)}{(E_k + m_T)^2}$$

$$\Delta E = \frac{m_T m_\chi^2}{m_\chi^2 + m_T^2 + 2\gamma_{\text{esc}} m_\chi m_T} \frac{v_{\text{esc}}^2}{1 - v_{\text{esc}}^2} (1 - \cos \psi) ,$$



# Energy Transfer: Relativistic

$$\Delta E = E_k - E_{k'} = \gamma [(E_k)_{\text{CM}} + (E_k)_{\text{CM}}] + \gamma \boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot (\mathbf{k}_{\text{CM}} - \mathbf{k}'_{\text{CM}}) = \gamma \boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \mathbf{q}_{\text{CM}}$$



$$\begin{aligned} \Delta E &= \gamma \boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \left[ \mathbf{k}_{\text{CM}} (1 - \cos \psi) - k_{\text{CM}} \sin \psi \cos \alpha \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_{\perp} \right] \\ &= \gamma (\boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \mathbf{k}_{\text{CM}}) (1 - \cos \psi) - \gamma \sqrt{\boldsymbol{\beta}^2 k_{\text{CM}}^2 - (\boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \mathbf{k}_{\text{CM}})^2} \sin \psi \cos \alpha . \end{aligned}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \mathbf{k}_{\text{CM}} \equiv \beta k_{\text{CM}} \cos \delta = \frac{E_p k^2 - E_k p^2 + (E_p - E_k) \mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{k}}{E E_{\text{CM}}}$$

# Maximum Energy Transfer

$$\frac{\Delta E}{\gamma\beta k_{\text{CM}}} = \cos\delta (1 - \cos\psi) - |\sin\delta| \cos\alpha \sin\psi$$

We may succinctly write the conditions for the maximum energy transfer as

$$\cos\alpha = -1 \qquad \cos\psi = -\cos\delta \qquad \sin\psi = |\sin\delta| = \sqrt{1 - \cos^2\delta}$$

$$\frac{\Delta E_{\text{max}}}{\gamma\beta k_{\text{CM}}} = \cos\delta(1 + \cos\delta) + \sin^2\delta = \cos\delta + 1$$

$$\cos\delta = \frac{E_p k^2 - E_k p^2 + (E_p - E_k)\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{k}}{E\beta E_{\text{CM}} k_{\text{CM}}}$$

One may then evaluate this in various limits.

# Heuristics for Phase Space Scaling

**Rule of Thumb 1** (Independent Integration Assumption). *We assume that the phase space integrals are independent of one another. For simplicity, we ignore the dependence on phase space integrals in the differential cross section,  $d\sigma/d\Omega_{\text{CM}}$ . This is sufficient to understand the scaling behavior with respect to the dark matter mass.*

**Rule of Thumb 2** (Weak Condition). *First  $\Delta E > 0$ . This is a sufficient, but not necessary condition.*

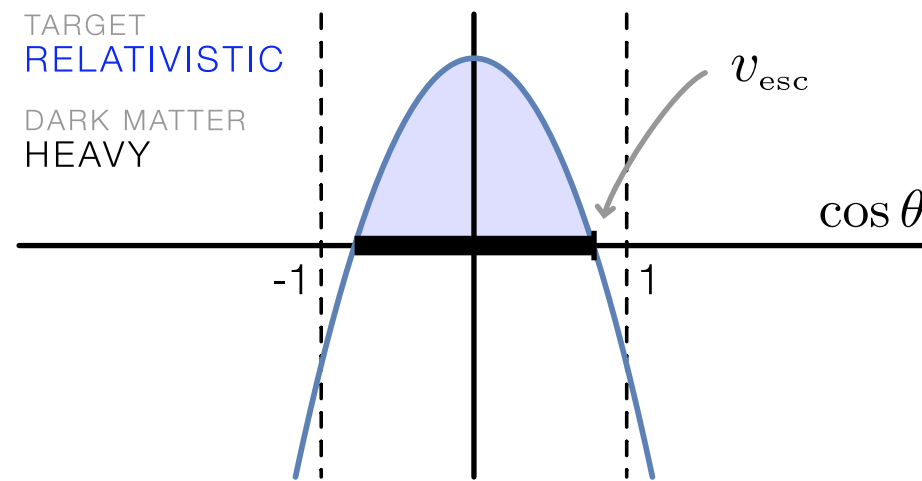
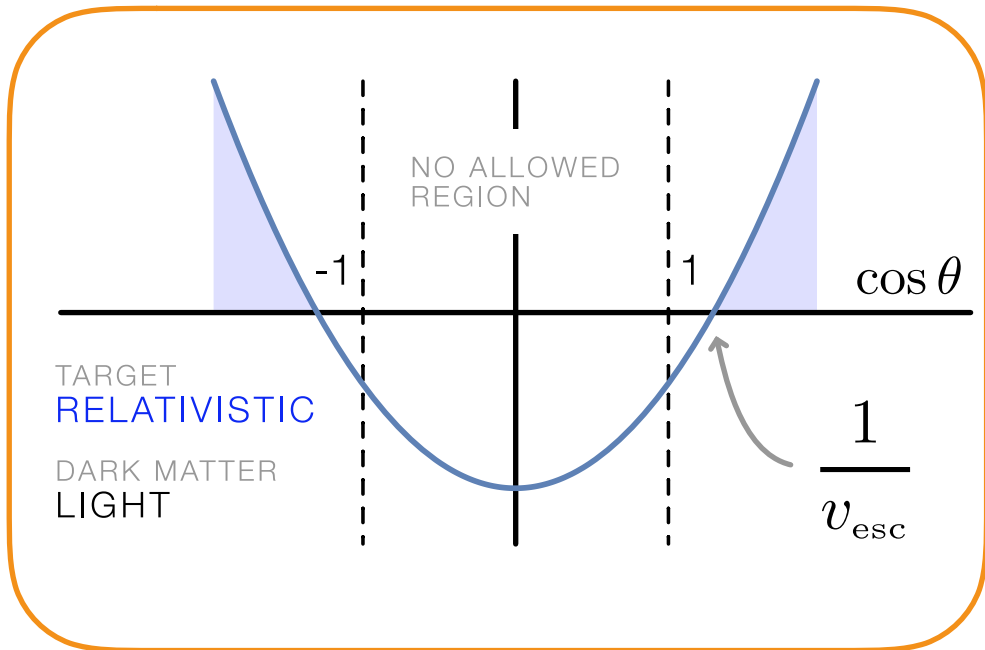
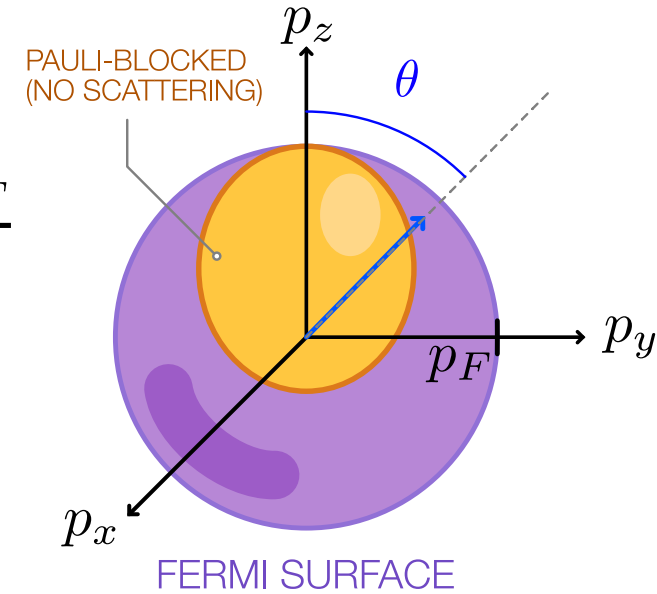
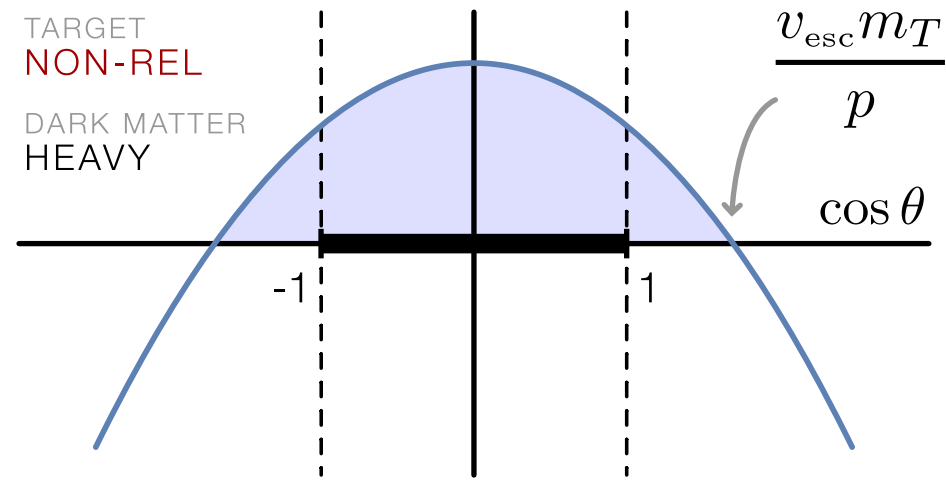
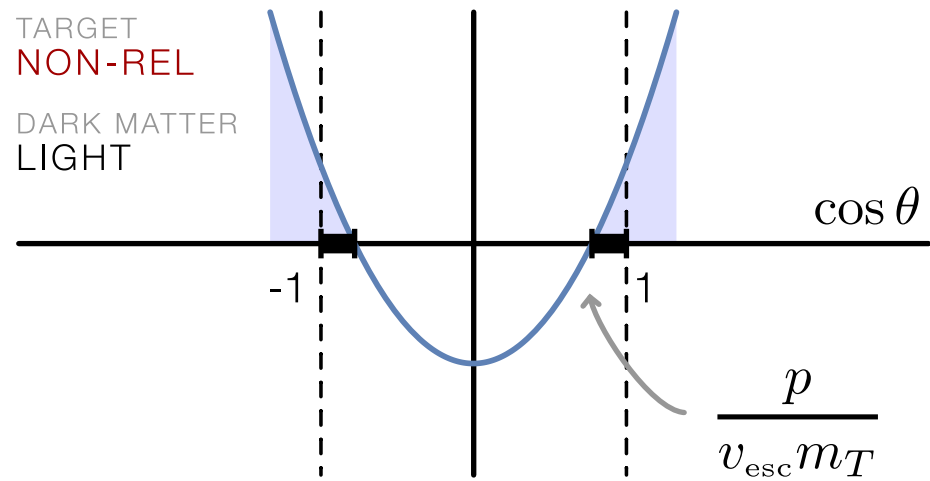
**Corollary of Thumb 1** (Weaker condition).  *$\cos \delta > 0$  is a sufficient condition that  $\Delta E > 0$  for a unsuppressed part of phase space. This is a sufficient, but not necessary condition.*

*Proof.* This comes from positivity of the right-hand side and the range  $0 \leq \psi \leq \pi$ , since  $\psi$  is a polar angle.  $\square$

**Rule of Thumb 3** (Strong Condition). *The phase space for the initial target momentum must be large enough that the outgoing target after scattering has momentum larger than the Fermi momentum. For this diagnostic, we check relative to the maximum kinematically allowed energy transfer,  $\Delta E_{\text{max}}$ :*

$$p + \Delta E_{\text{max}} > p_F . \tag{F.4}$$

# Initial State Suppression



**Corollary of Thumb 1** (Weaker condition).  $\cos \delta > 0$  is a sufficient condition that  $\Delta E > 0$  for a unsuppressed part of phase space. This is a sufficient, but not necessary condition.

$$(m_T^2 + p^2) (\gamma_{\text{esc}}^2 v_{\text{esc}}^2 m_\chi^2 + p \gamma_{\text{esc}} v_{\text{esc}} m_\chi \cos \theta)^2 > \gamma_{\text{esc}}^2 m_\chi^2 (p^2 + p \gamma_{\text{esc}} v_{\text{esc}} m_\chi \cos \theta)$$