



Precision and intensity probes of new physics

Yotam Soreq

Planck 2025, Padova, May 30, 2025

standard model





- naturally predicted in many extensions of the standard model



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- associated with solutions to fundamental problems:
strong CP, dark matter, hierarchy problems

Peccei, Quinn 77; Weinberg 78; Wilczek 78
Preskill, Wise 83; Abbott, Sikivie 83; Dine, Fleischer 83
Graham, Kaplan, Rajendran 15
+ many many more

Feebly interacting new spin-0

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Feebly interacting new spin-0

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Feebly interacting new spin-0

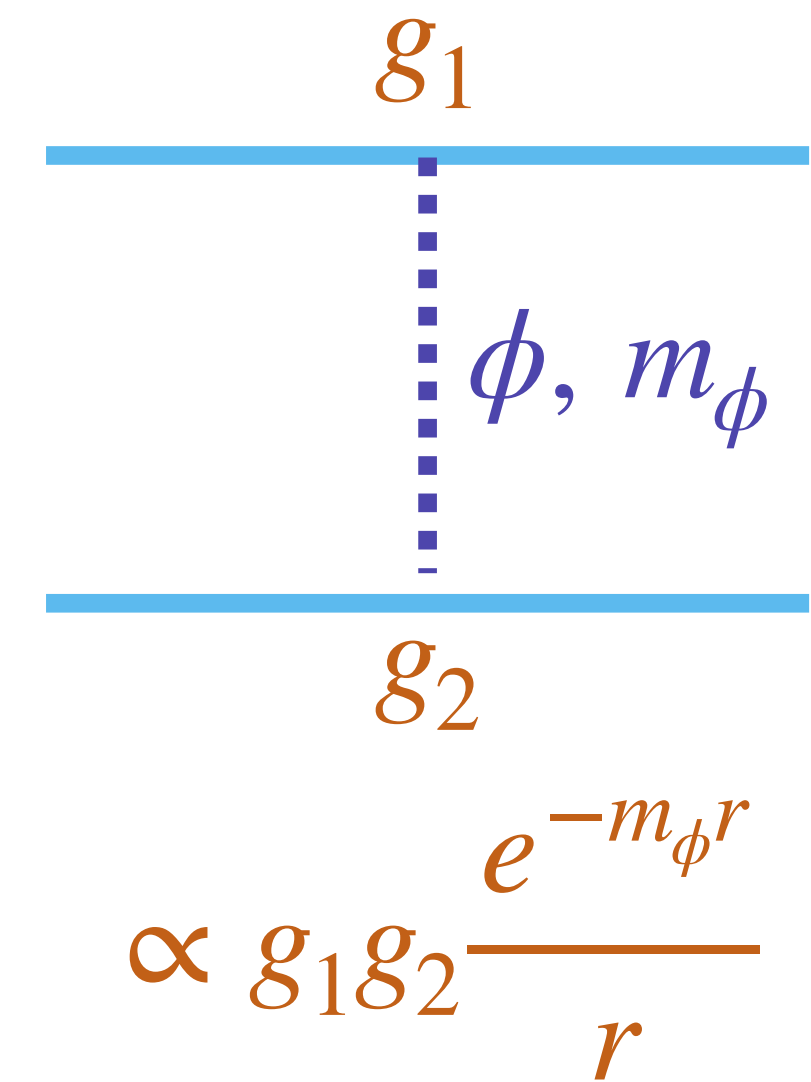
- limiting cases of the theory (flavor diagonal):
 - Higgs mixing (CP even) Patt, Wilczek hep-ph/0605188
 - pNGB: axion or axion-like particles (CP odd) or dilation (CP even)
 - general flavor aligned (CP even) Delaunay, Kitahara, YS, Zupan, 2501.16477

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this talk:
spectroscopy vs Kaon decay
future probes

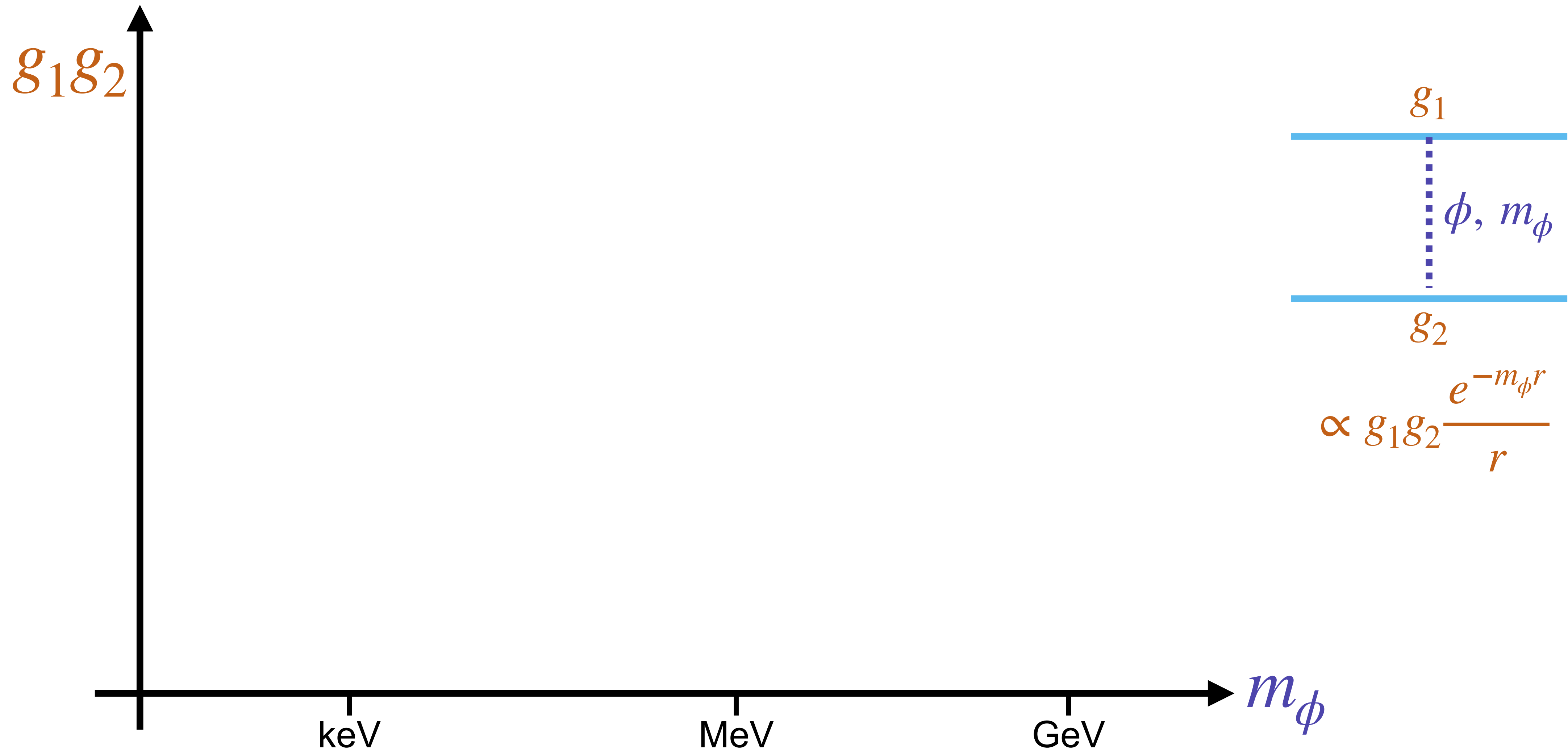
CP even: spectroscopy



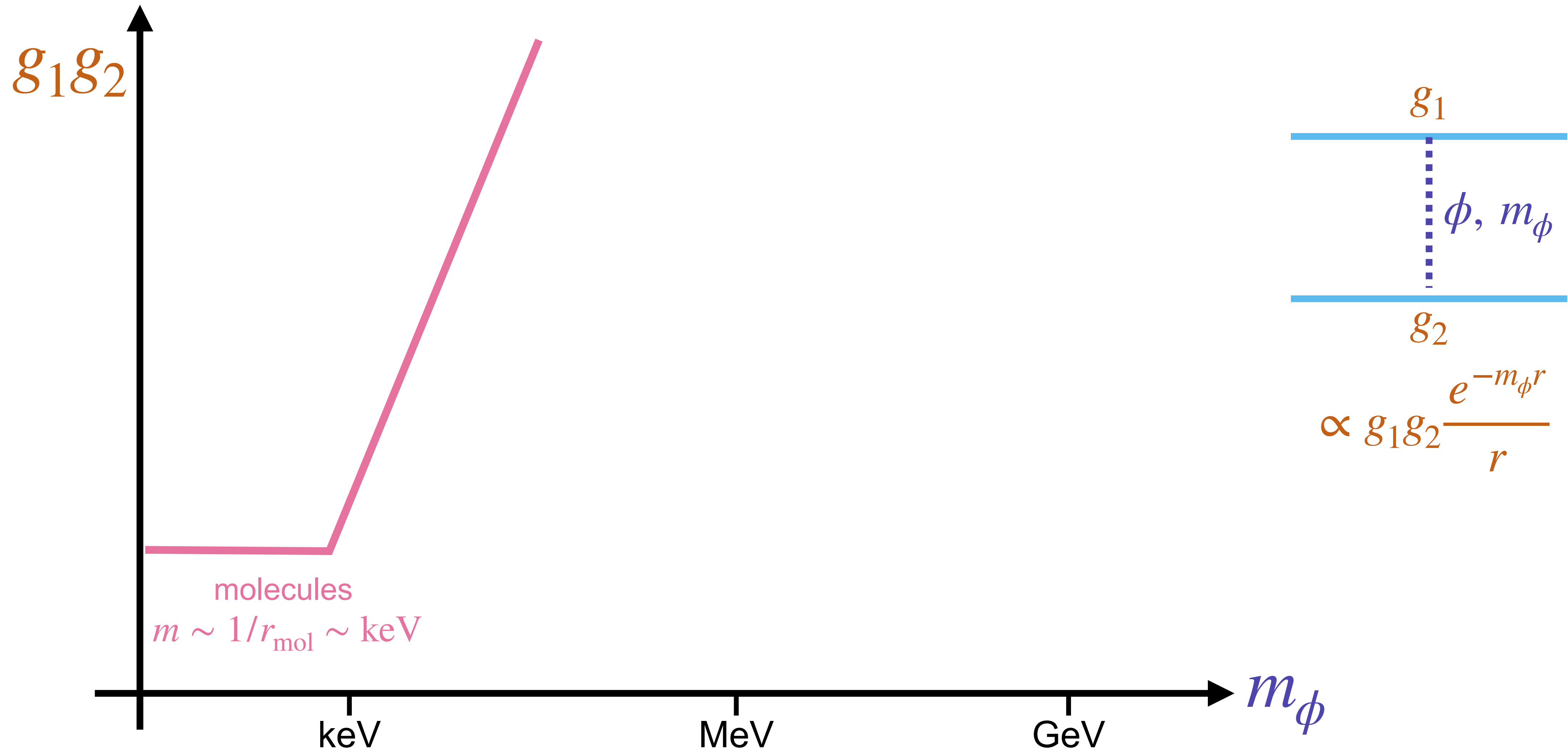
The diagram illustrates a two-level system with energy levels g_1 and g_2 . A vertical dashed line connects the two levels, labeled ϕ, m_ϕ . Below the levels, the wavefunction is given by:

$$\propto g_1 g_2 \frac{e^{-m_\phi r}}{r}$$

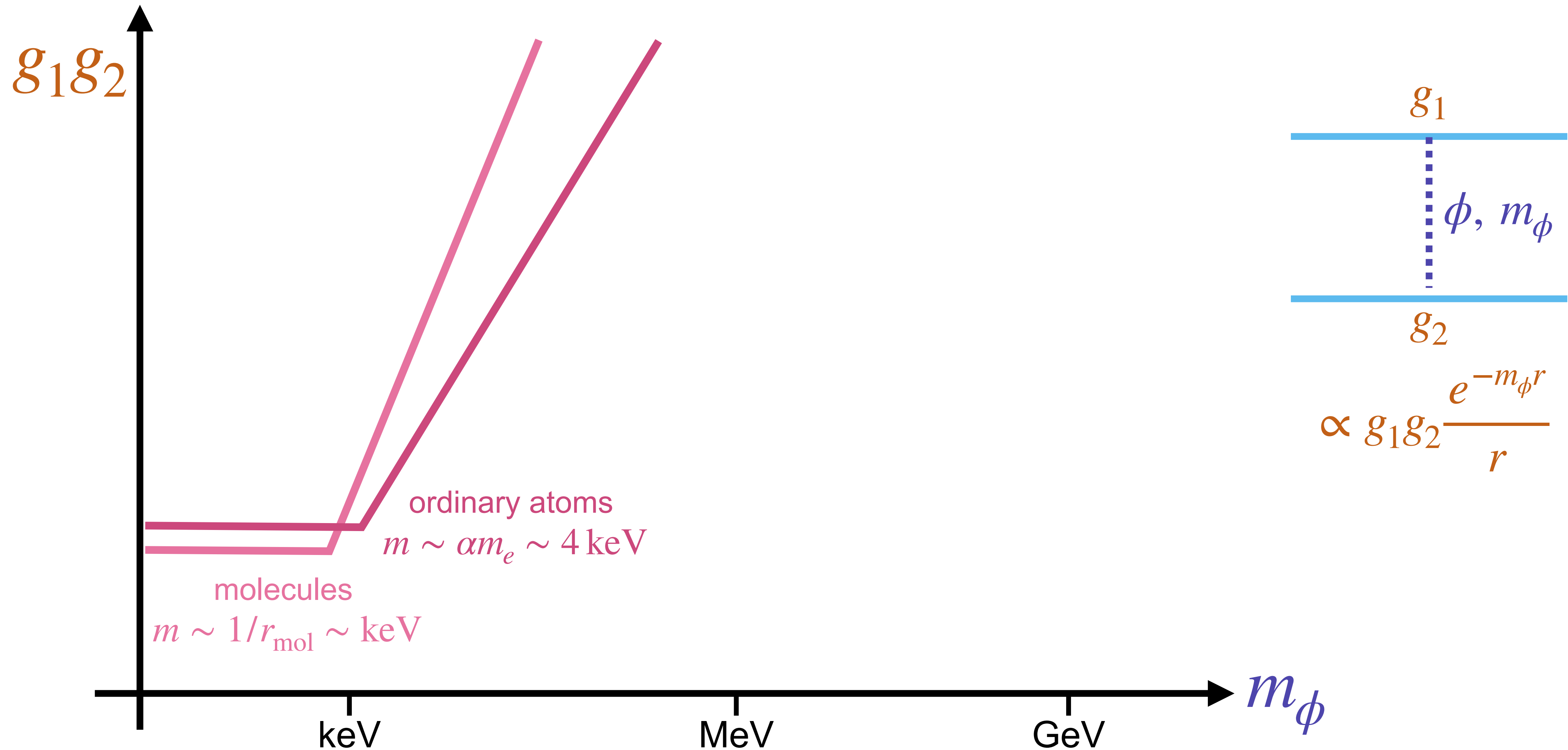
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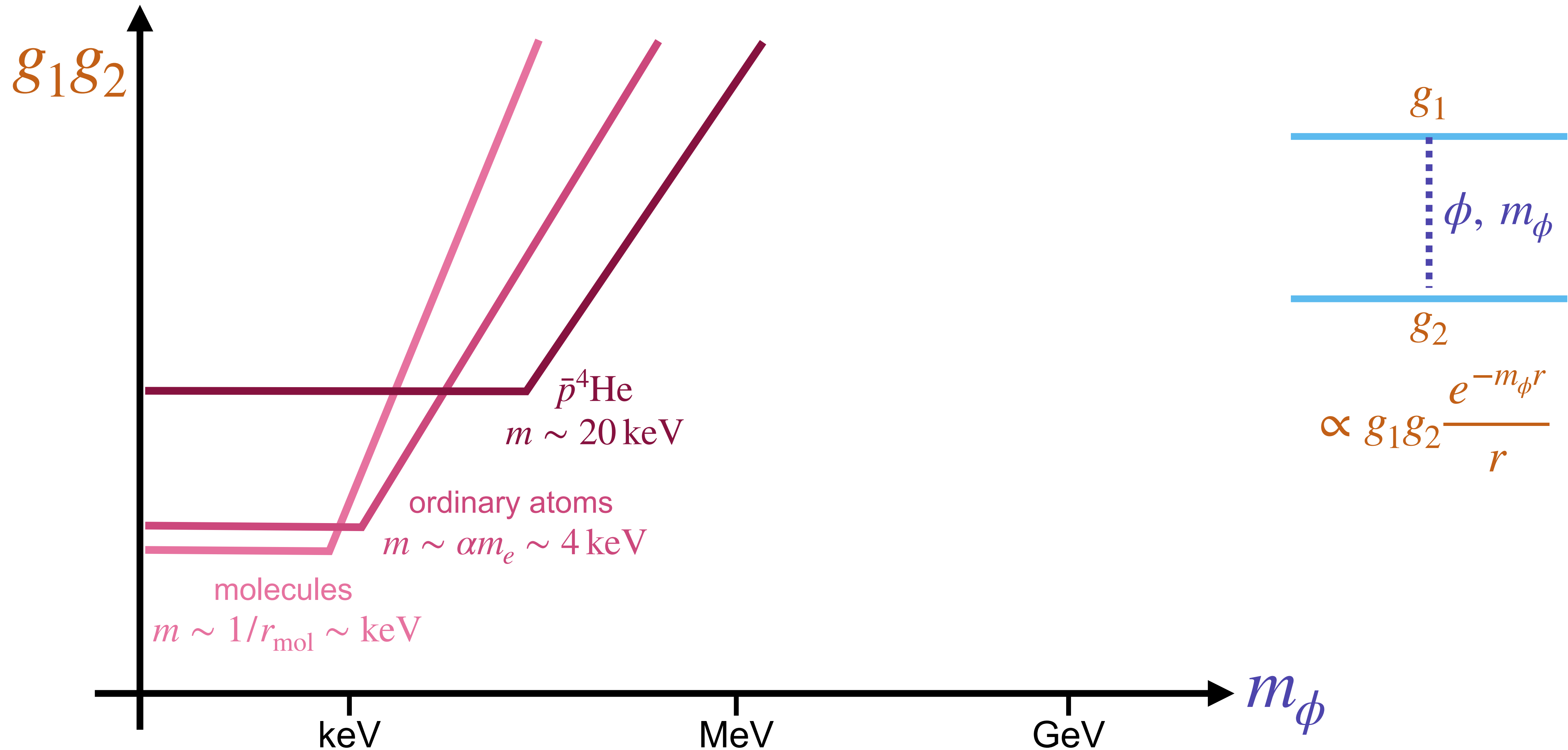
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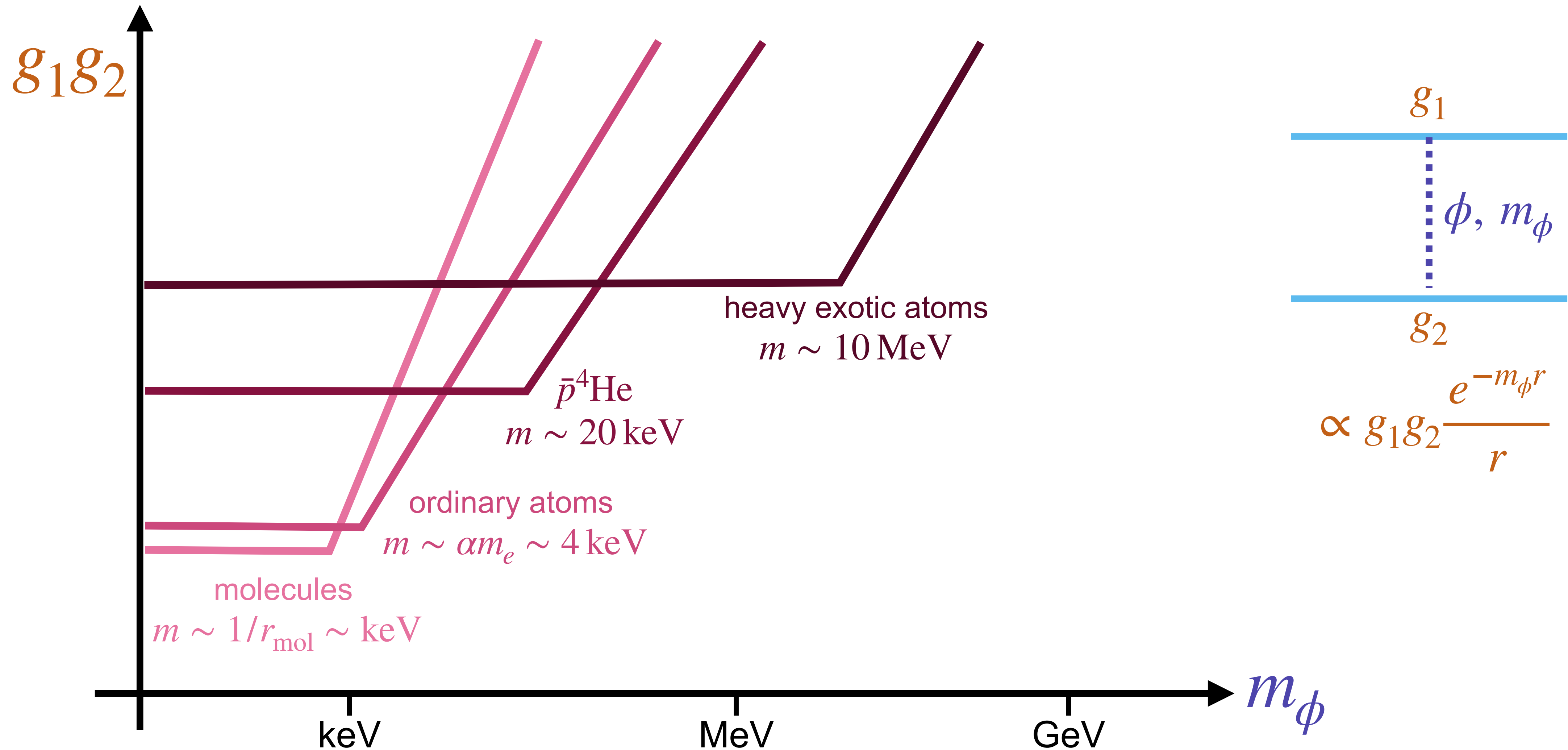
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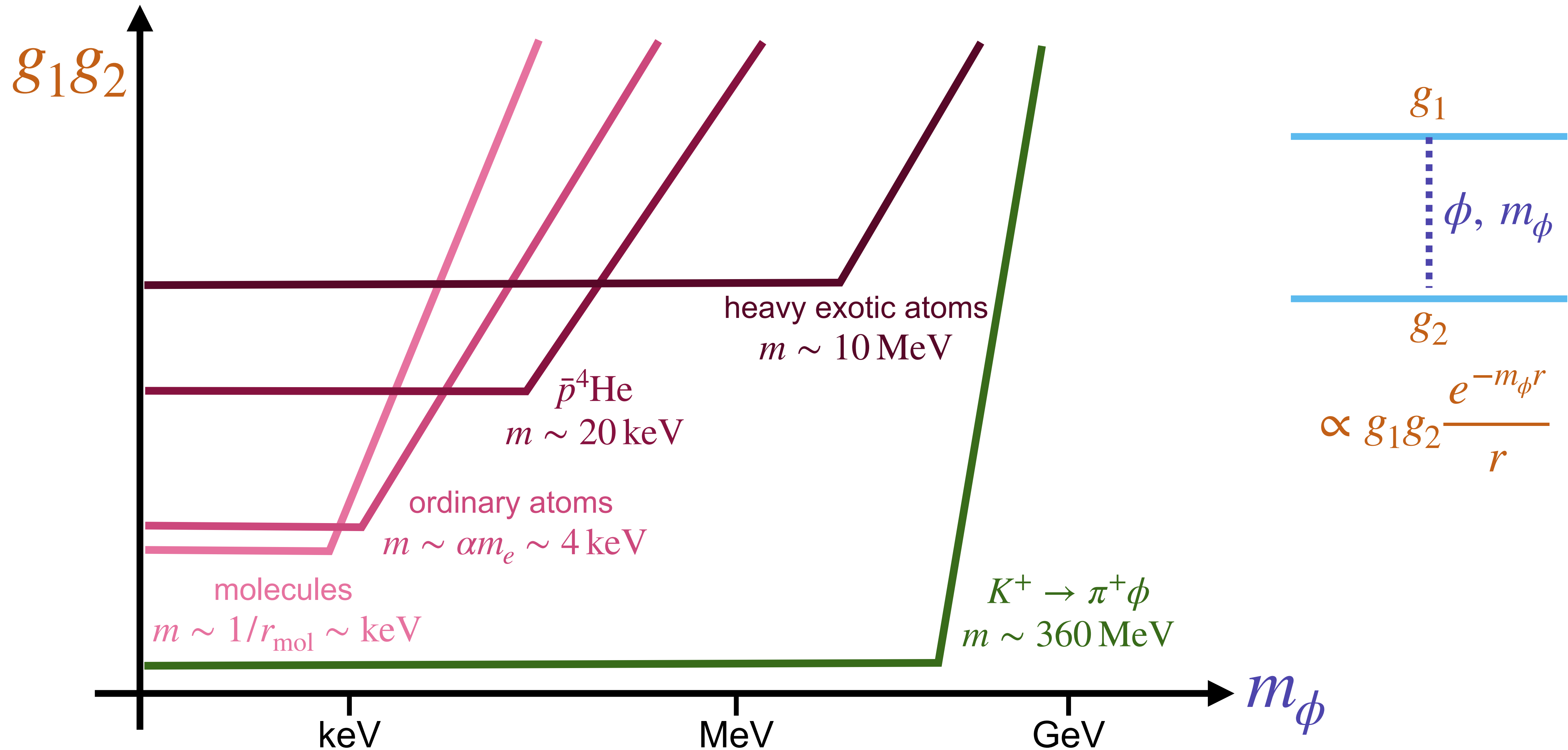
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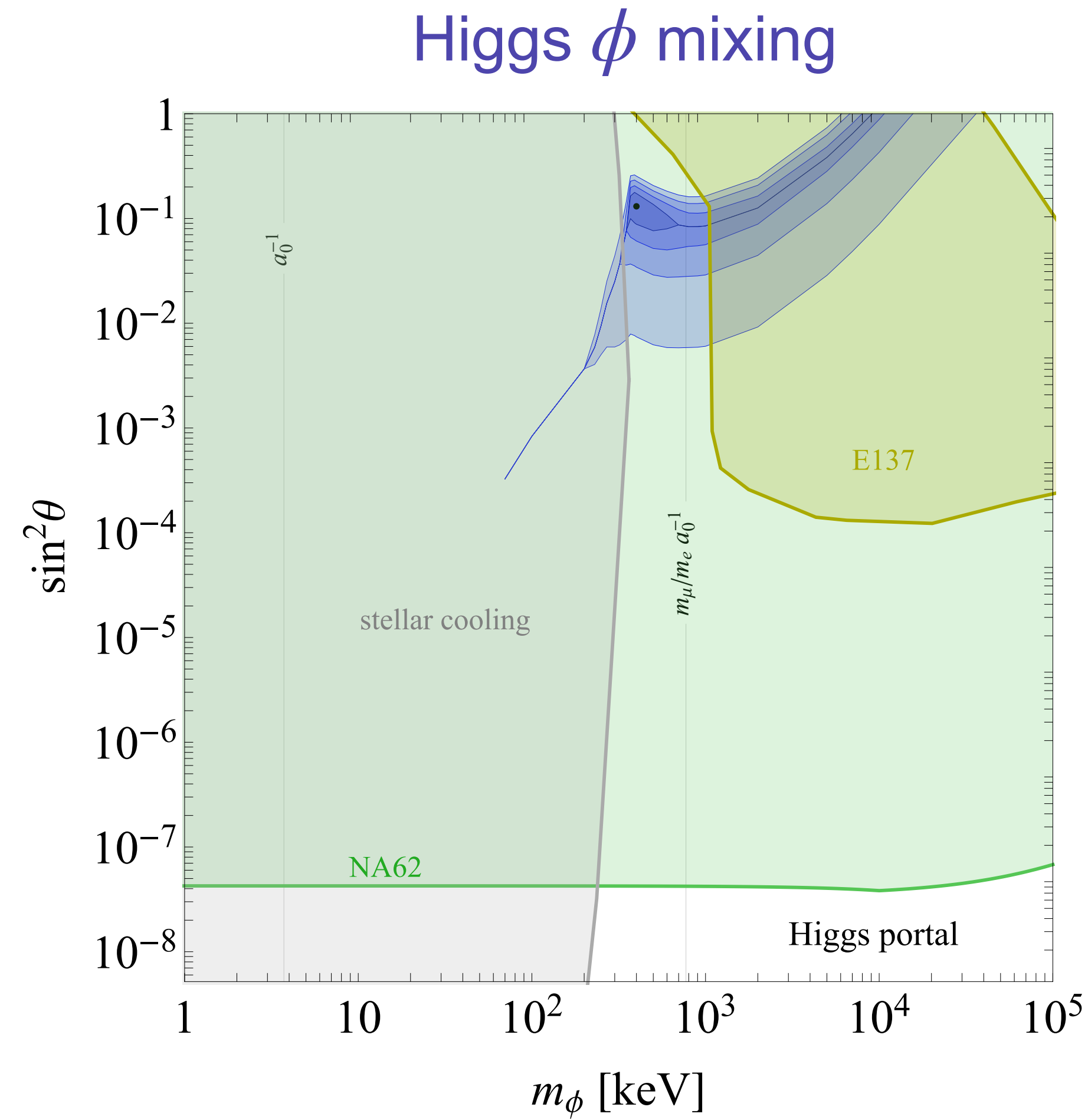
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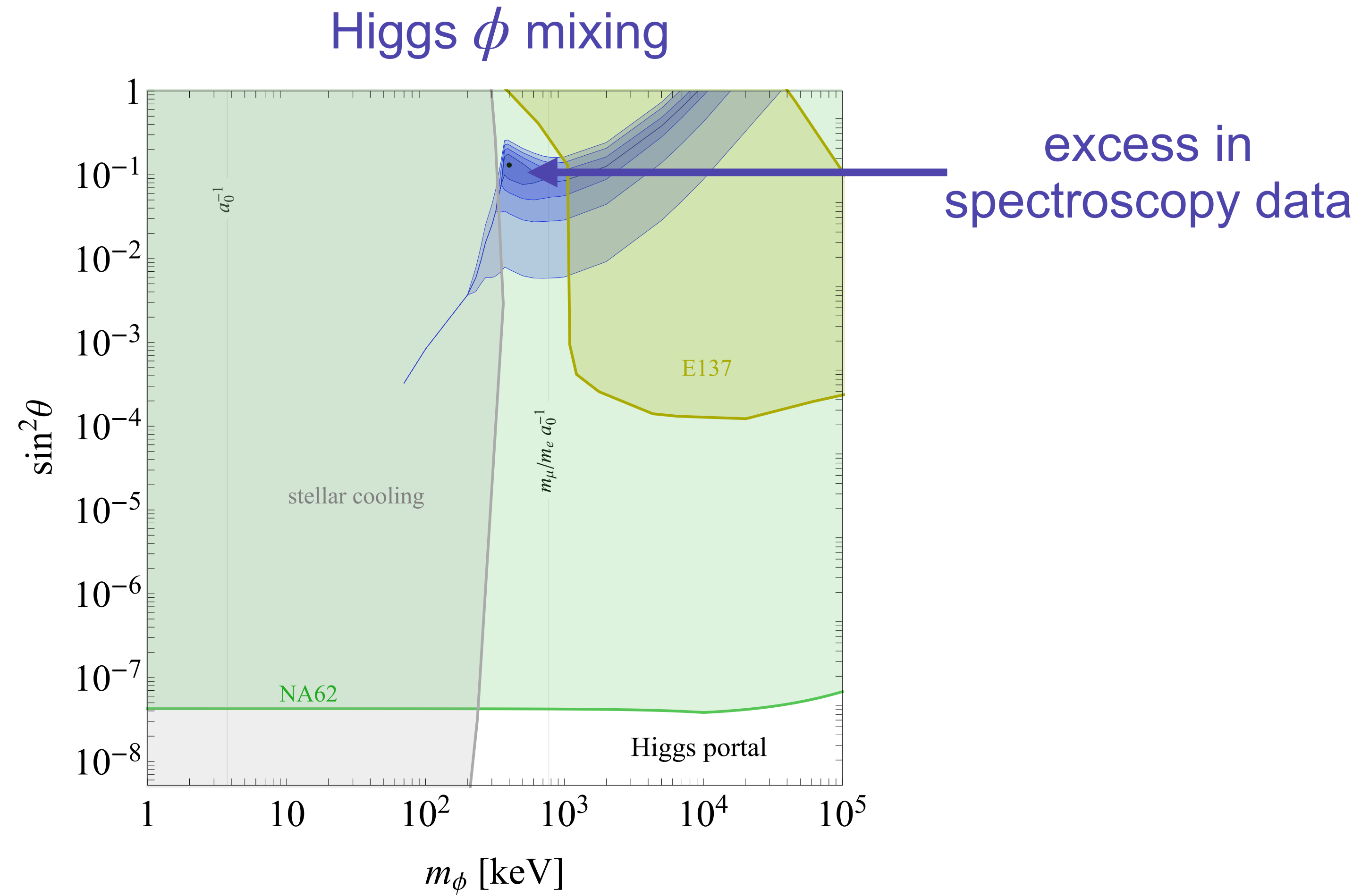
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2022 Spectroscopy data

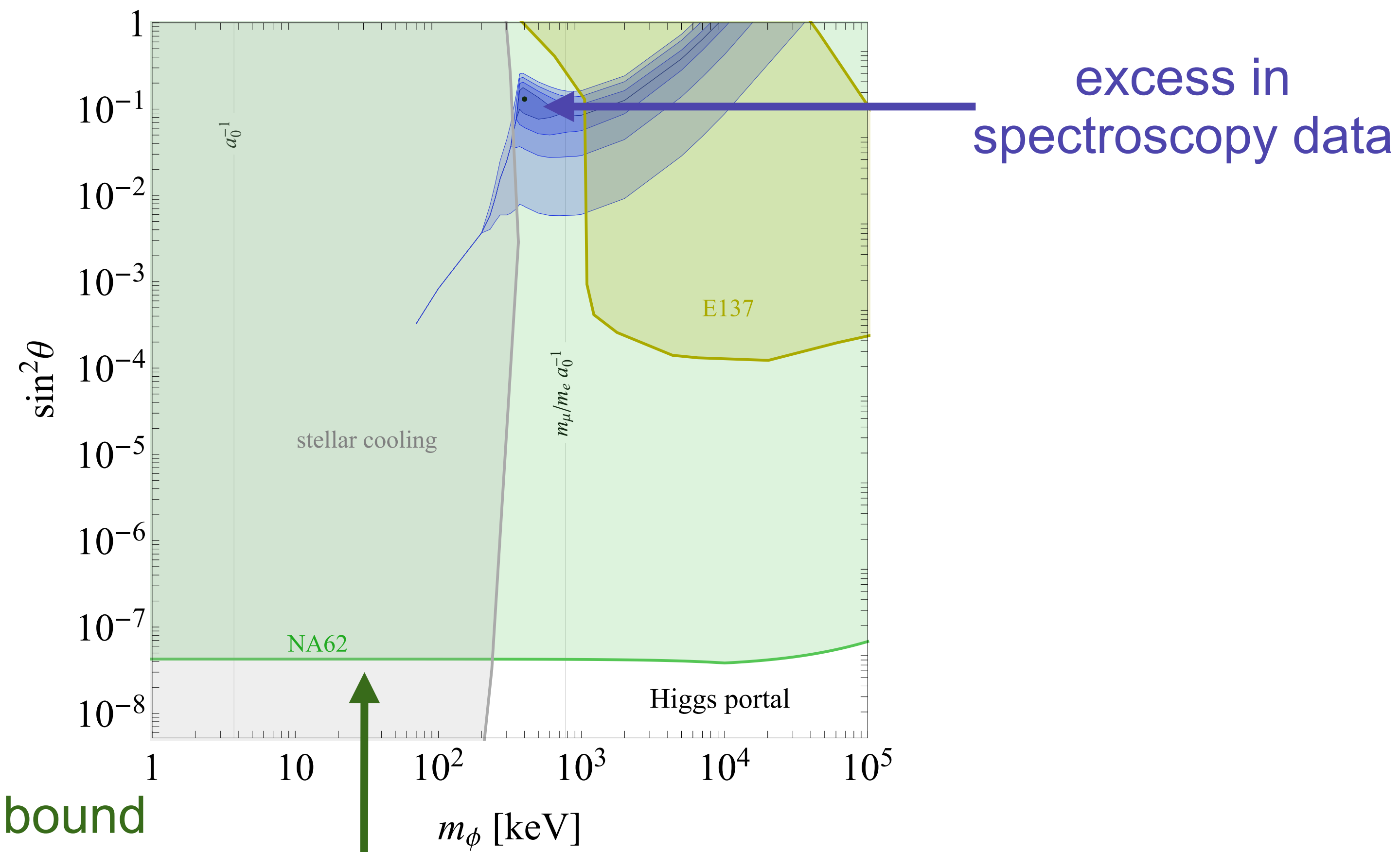


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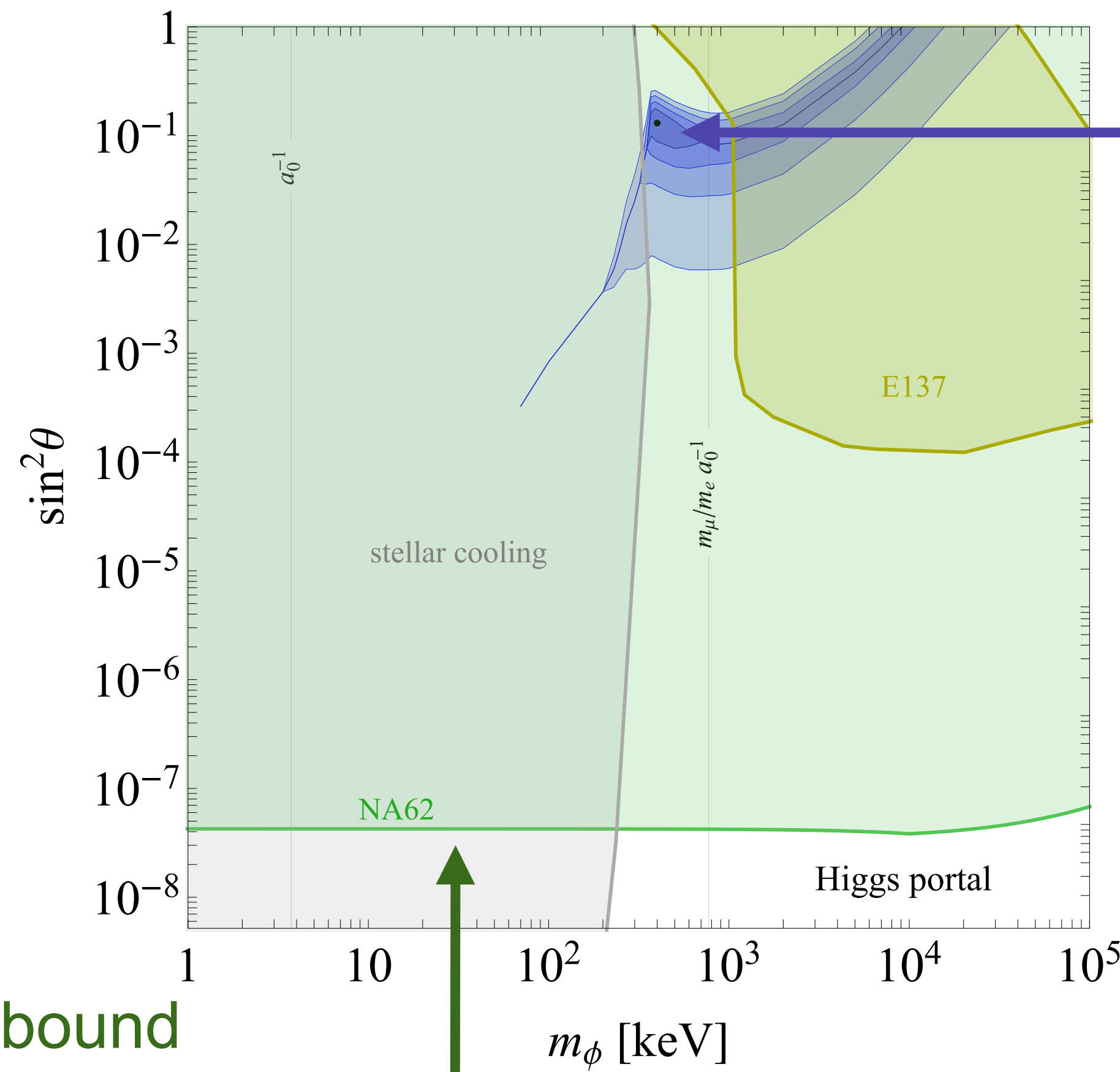
Higgs ϕ mixing



very strong bound
from $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \phi$

2022 Spectroscopy data

Higgs ϕ mixing



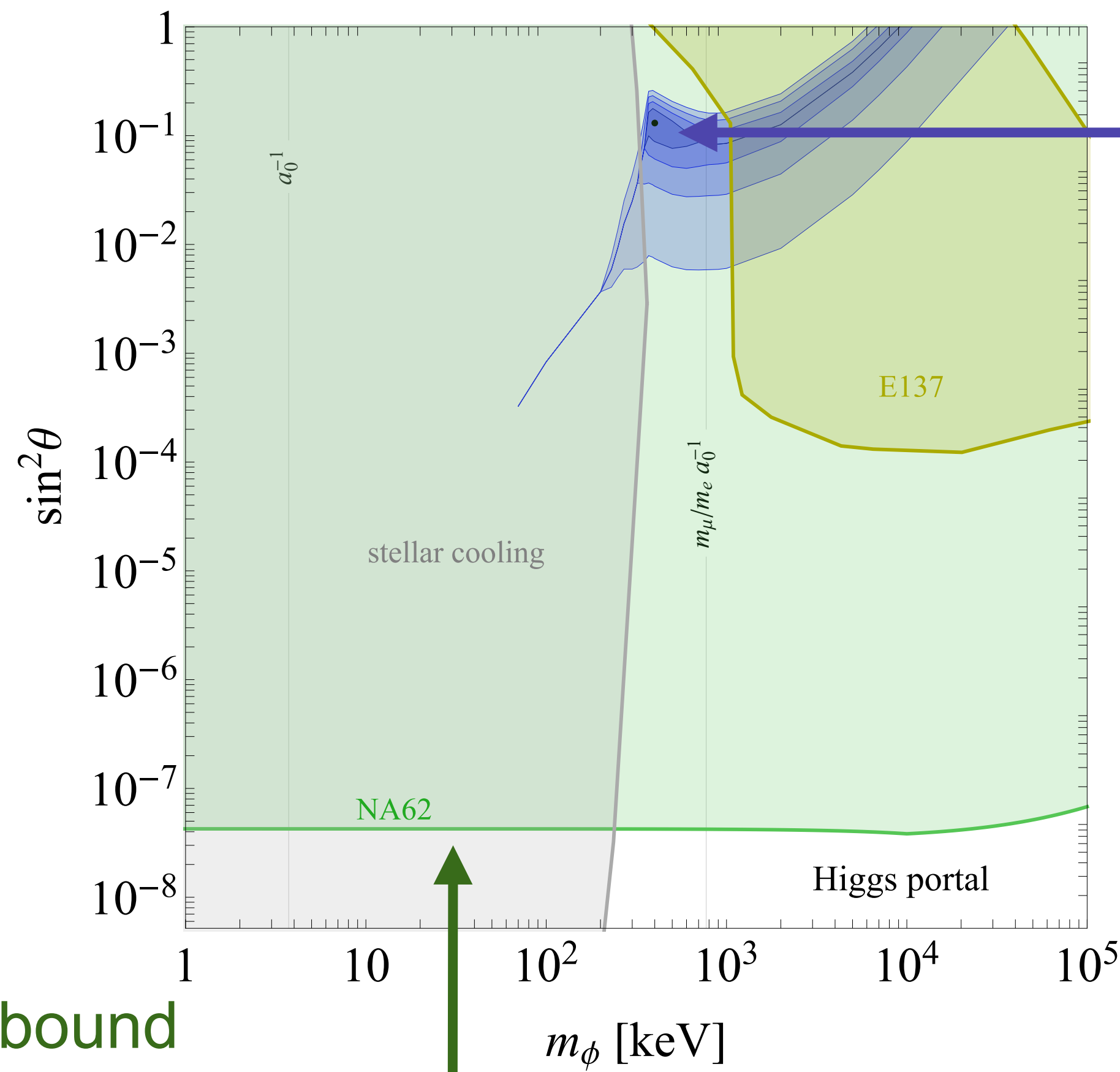
excess in
spectroscopy data

1. How robust is the Kaon bound?
i.e. how to avoid it?

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2022 Spectroscopy data

Higgs ϕ mixing



excess in
spectroscopy data

1. How robust is the Kaon bound?
i.e. how to avoid it?
2. How can we go beyond it ?

very strong bound
from $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \phi$

Can we avoid Kaon decay bounds?

	$K \rightarrow \pi \phi$	spectroscopy (nucleon coupling)
Higgs mixing		
uds: $\kappa_{u,d,s} = 1$		

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}}^\phi \supset \frac{\phi}{f} \left(\frac{9\alpha_s}{8\pi} K_\Theta G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{a\mu\nu} - 2\kappa_W \mathcal{L}_{4q}^{\Delta S=1} + \kappa_{sd} m_s \bar{d}_L s_R + \kappa_{ds} m_d \bar{d}_R s_L - \sum_\psi \kappa_\psi m_\psi \bar{\psi} \psi \right)$$

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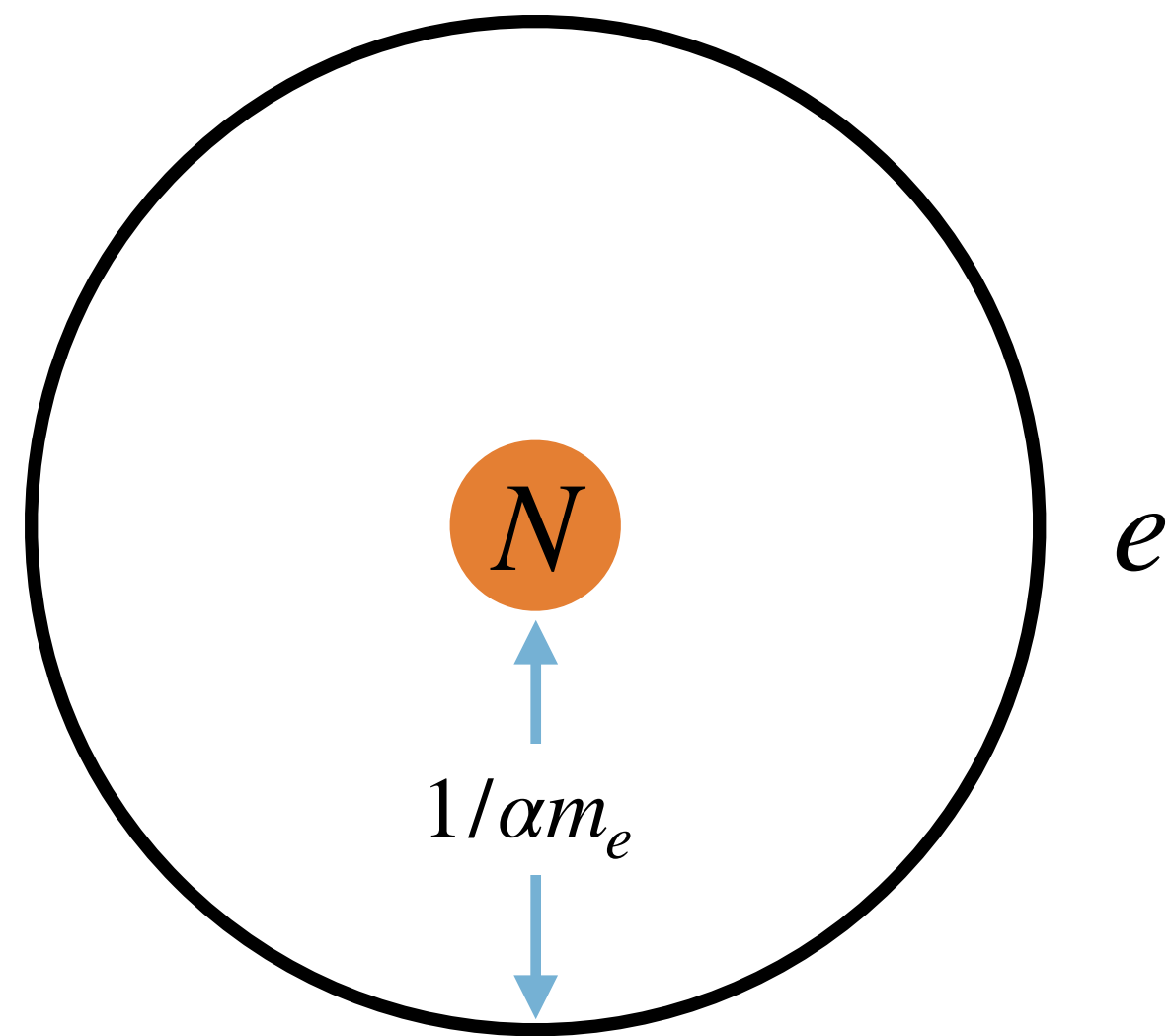
Can we avoid Kaon decay bounds?

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	Γ	
	$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{only } u, d, s \text{ couplings } \propto m_{u,d,s} \\ \Rightarrow \text{avoid strong Kaon bounds} \\ \Rightarrow \text{have spectroscopy signature} \end{array} \right\} K_\Theta$	
Higgs mixing		
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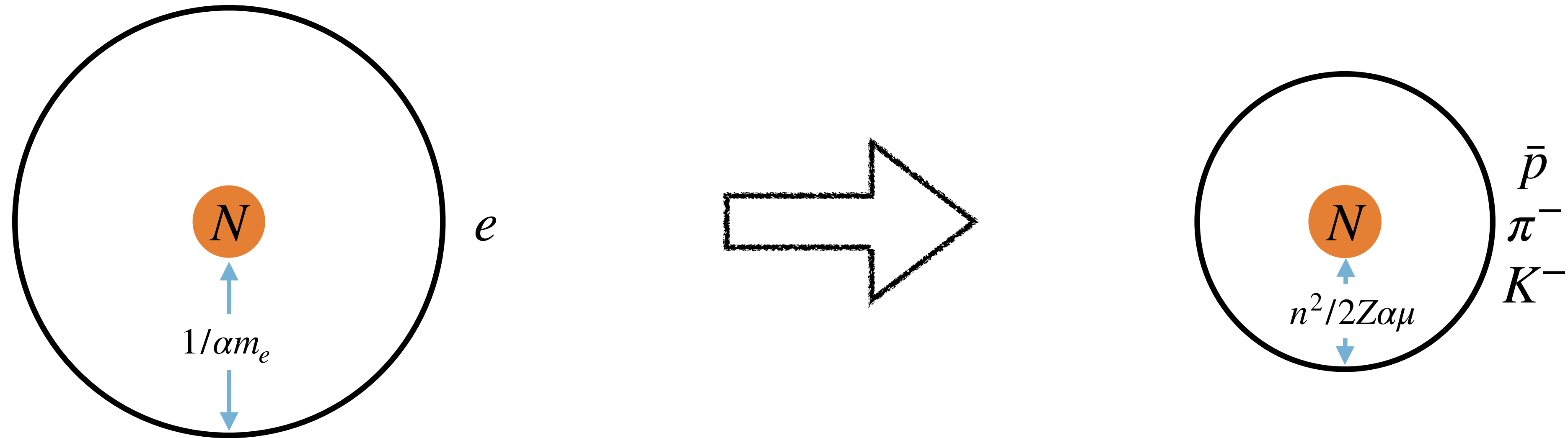
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Probing new hadronic forces with heavy exotic atoms

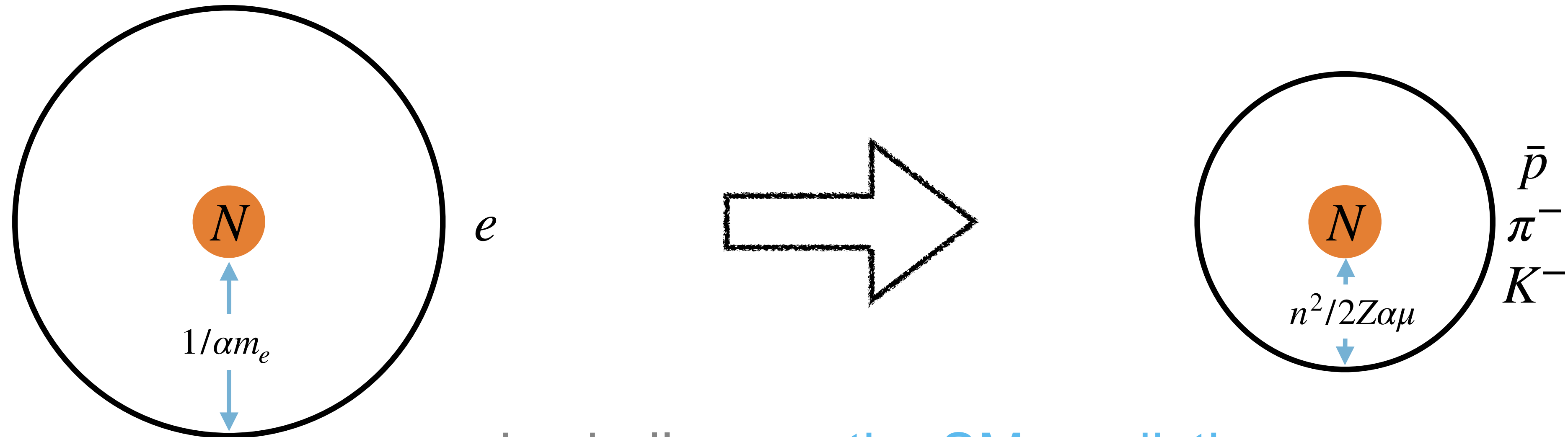
Exotic atoms for BSM



Exotic atoms for BSM

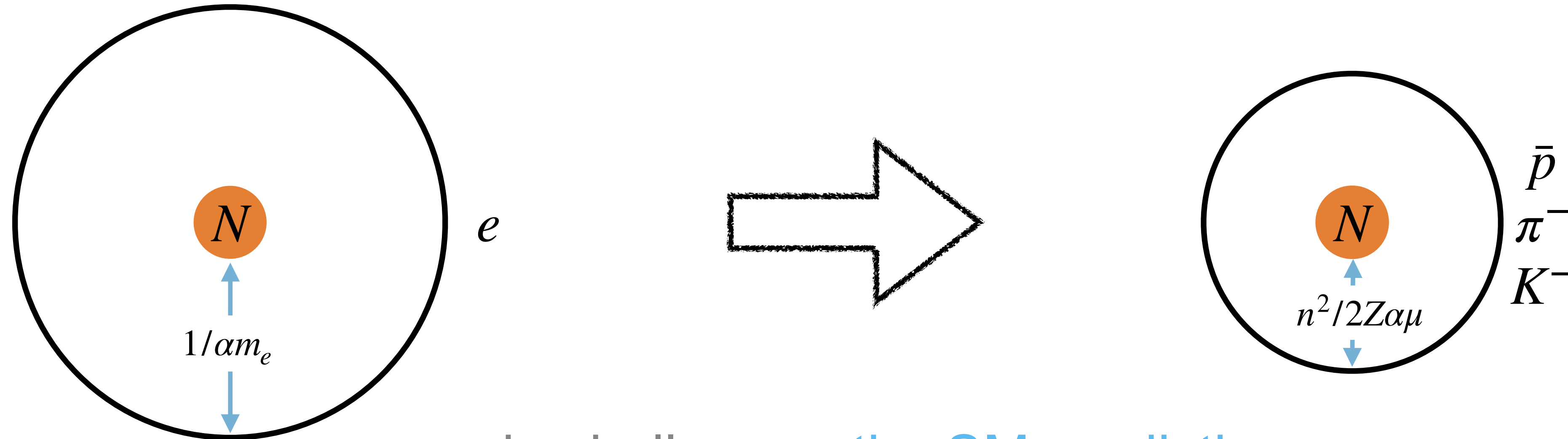


Exotic atoms for BSM



main challenge - the SM prediction
(hadronic interactions)

Exotic atoms for BSM

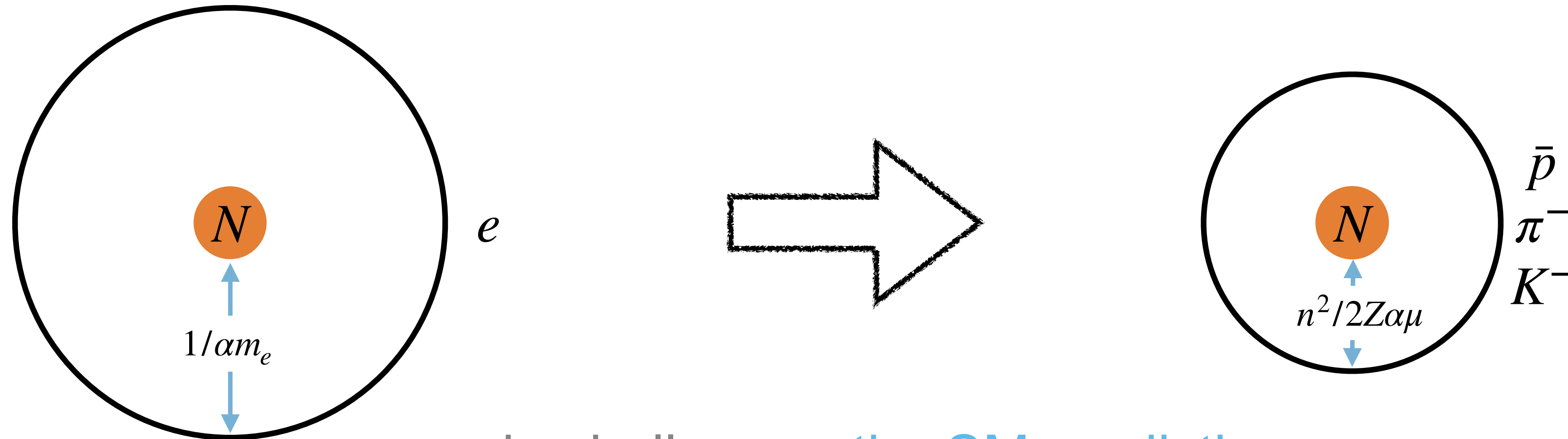


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circular states ($n \gg 1$, $l = n - 1$) insensitive to local hadronic interactions
 $\Rightarrow$ can be predicted (up to nuclear polarizability)

Paul et al PRL 21
Zatorski, Patkos, Pachucki PRA 22

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new physics sensitivity

$$g_N \times g_e, m_\phi \lesssim 4 \text{ keV}$$

$$g_N \times g_H, m_\phi \lesssim 10 \text{ MeV}$$

Exotic atoms for BSM

$$E_n^{\text{th}} = \overbrace{E_n^{\text{SM-NPol}} + E_n^{\text{NPol}}}^{E_n^{\text{SM}}} + E_n^X$$

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$\mathcal{O}(< 10^{-6})$

$\mathcal{O}(10^{-5})$

$$\propto \alpha_E^{\text{tot}} \langle r^{-4} \rangle$$

can be extracted from data
by using 2 transitions (2T)

Exotic atoms for BSM

$$E_n^{\text{th}} = \overbrace{E_n^{\text{SM-NPol}} + E_n^{\text{NPol}}}^{E_n^{\text{SM}}} + E_n^X \leftarrow \text{new physics } \frac{g_N^X g_H^X}{4\pi} \frac{e^{-m_X r}}{r}$$

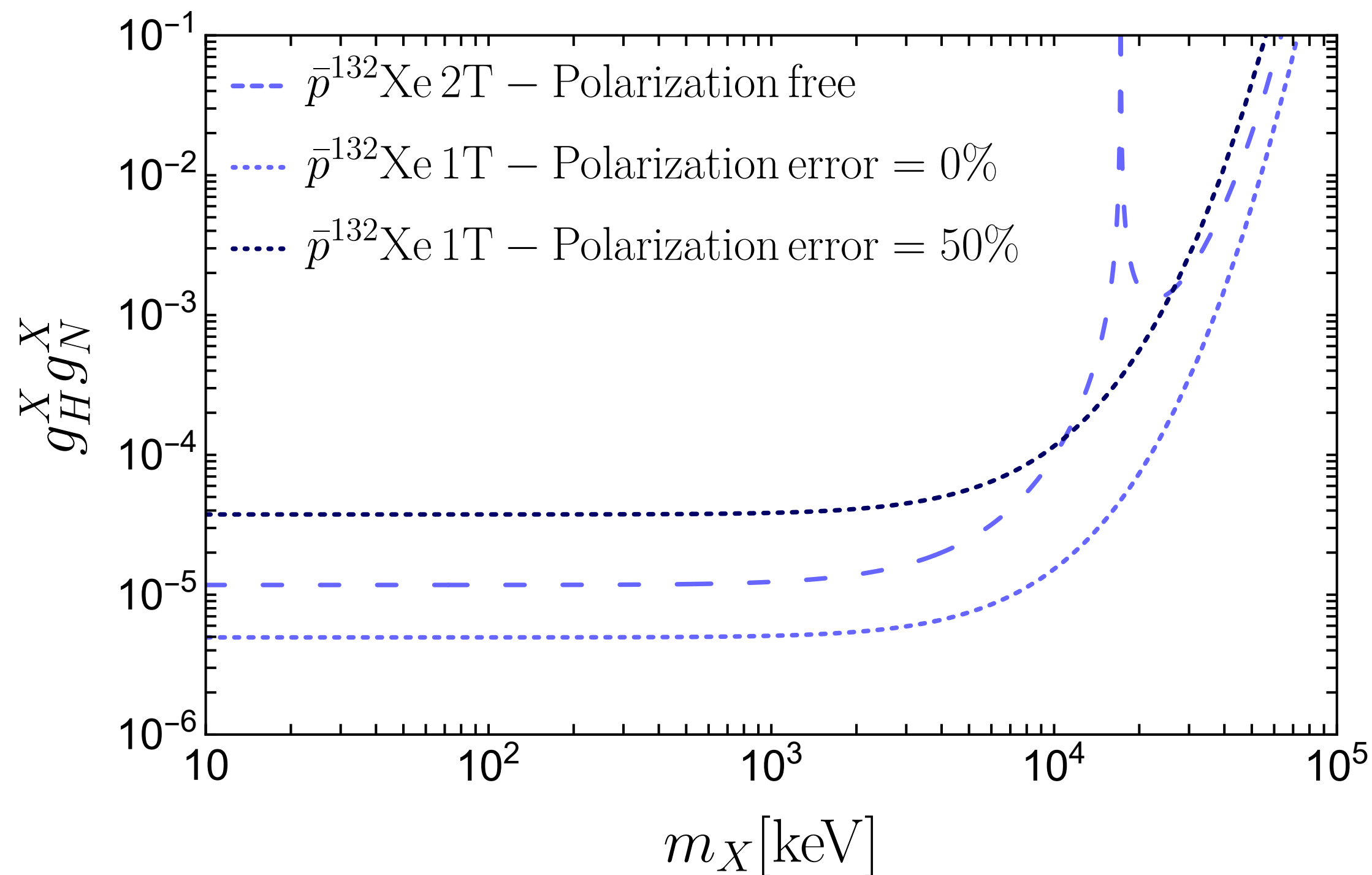
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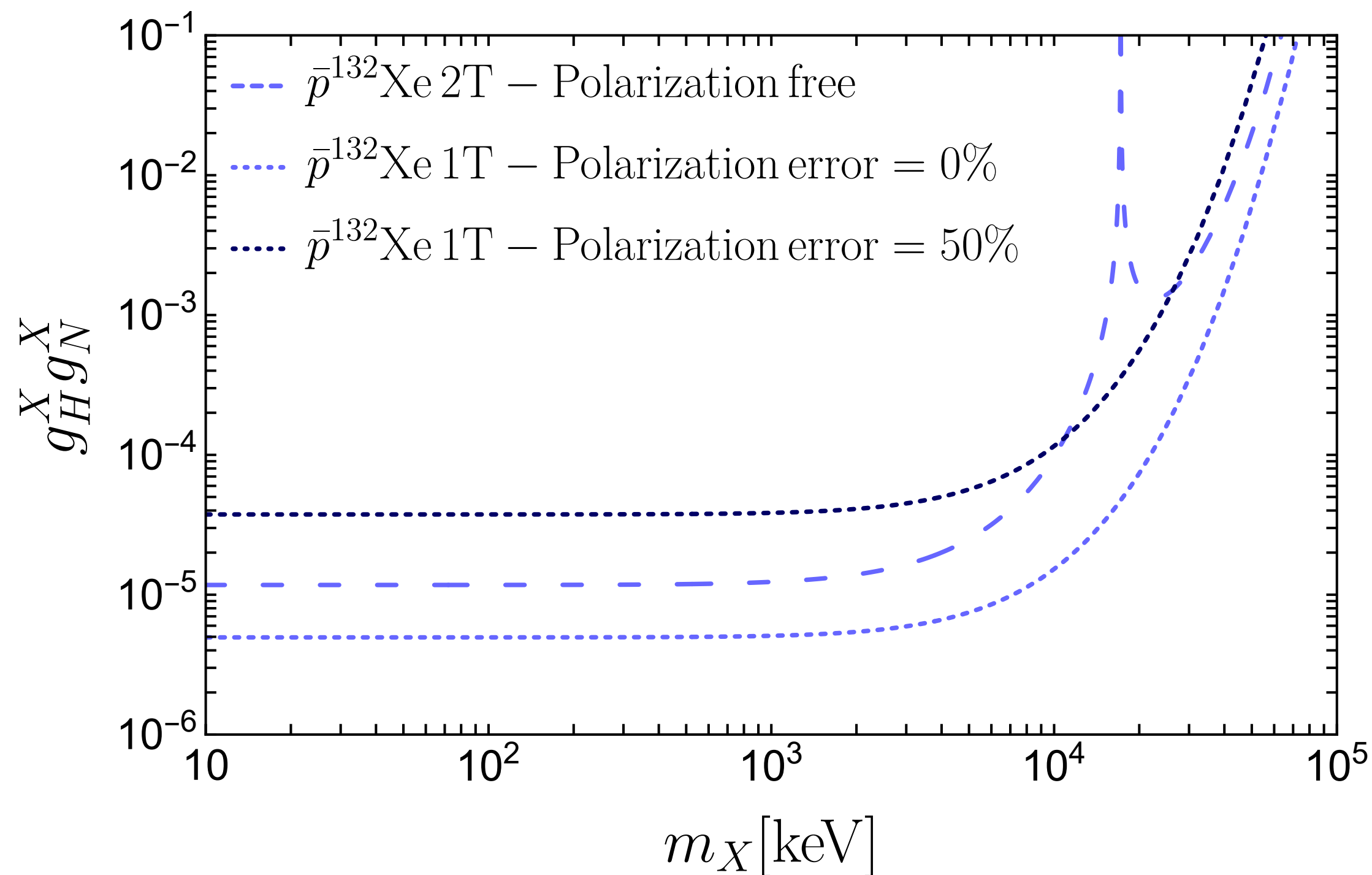
the nuclear polarizability effect



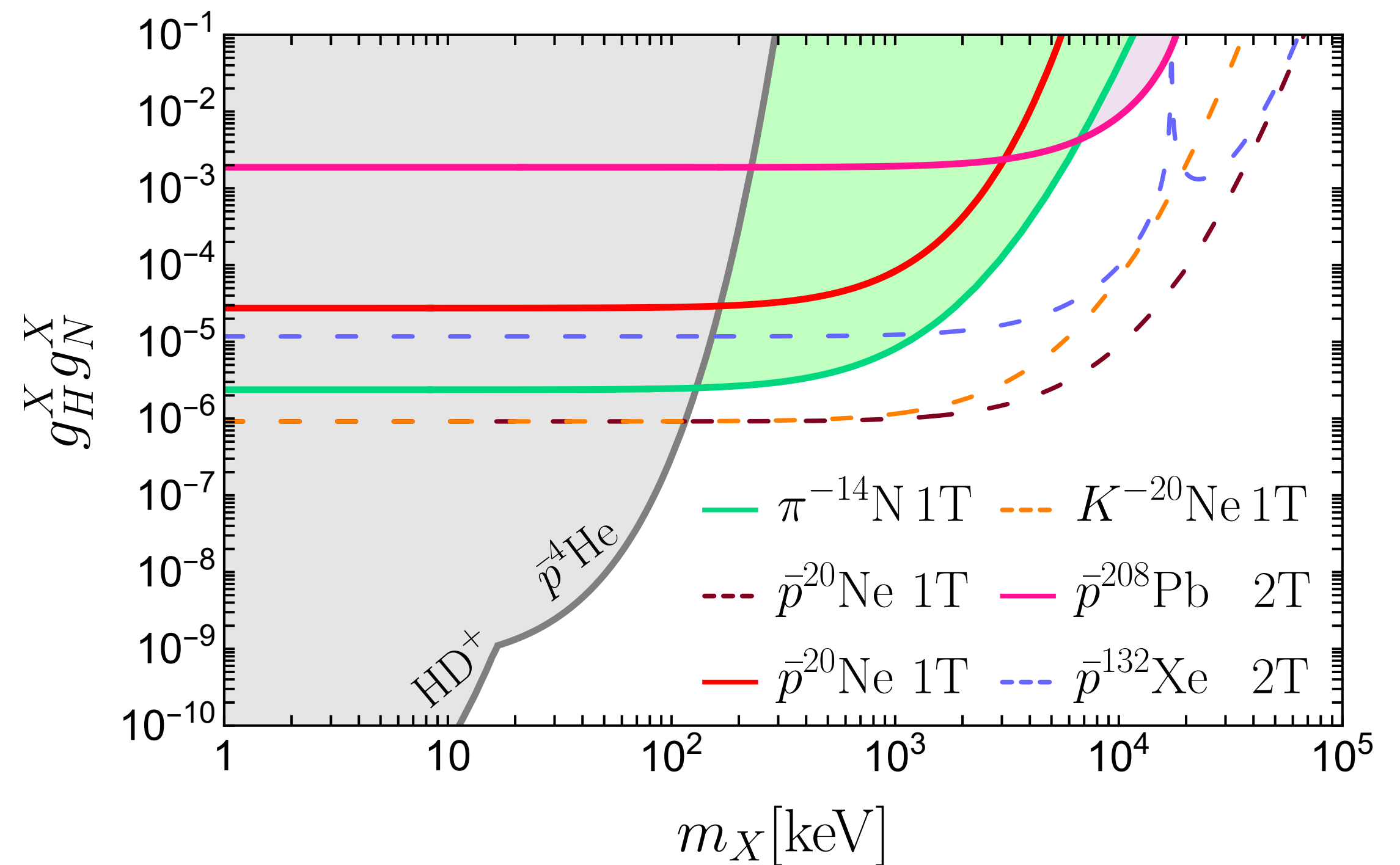
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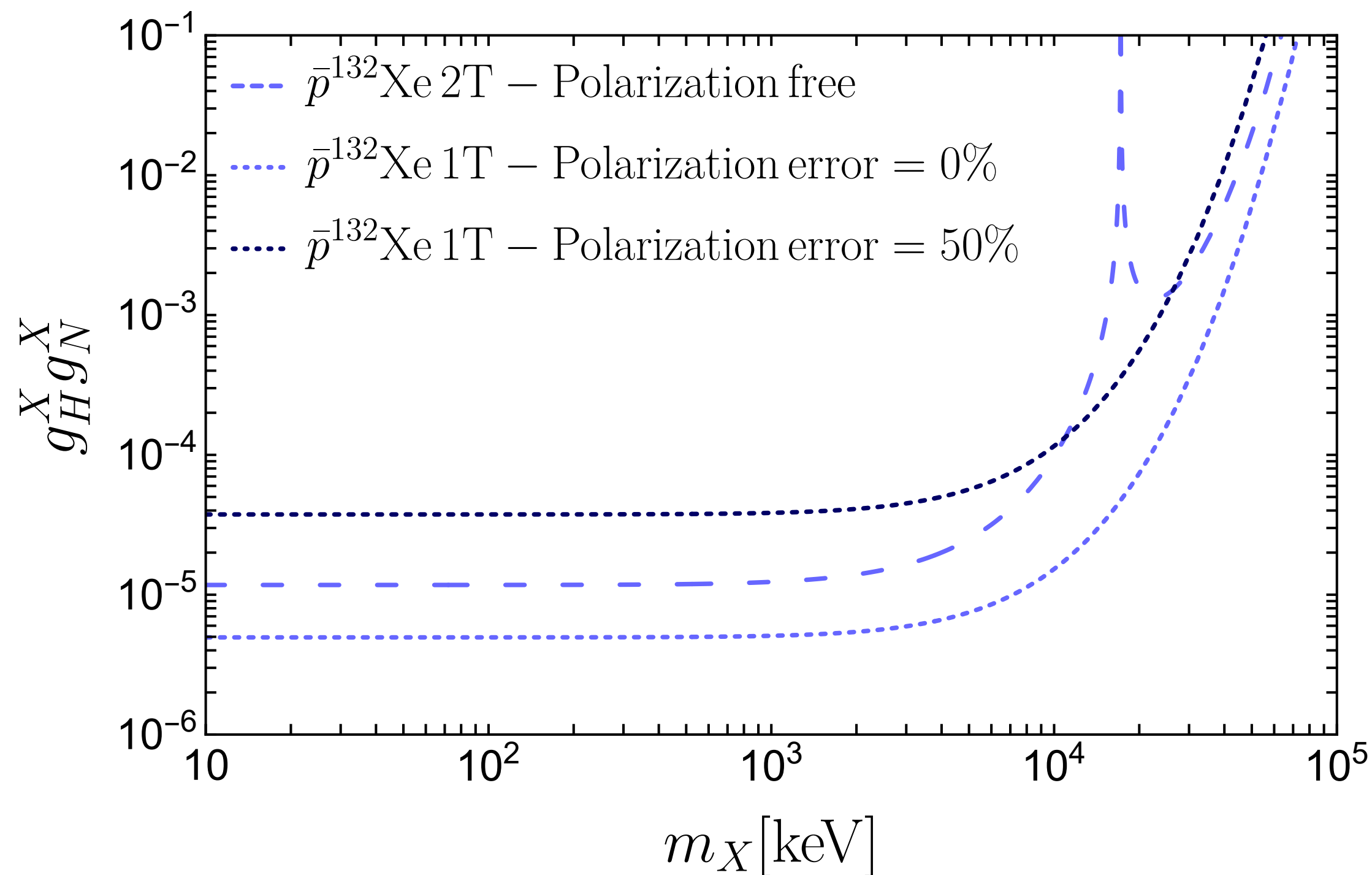
current and future bounds



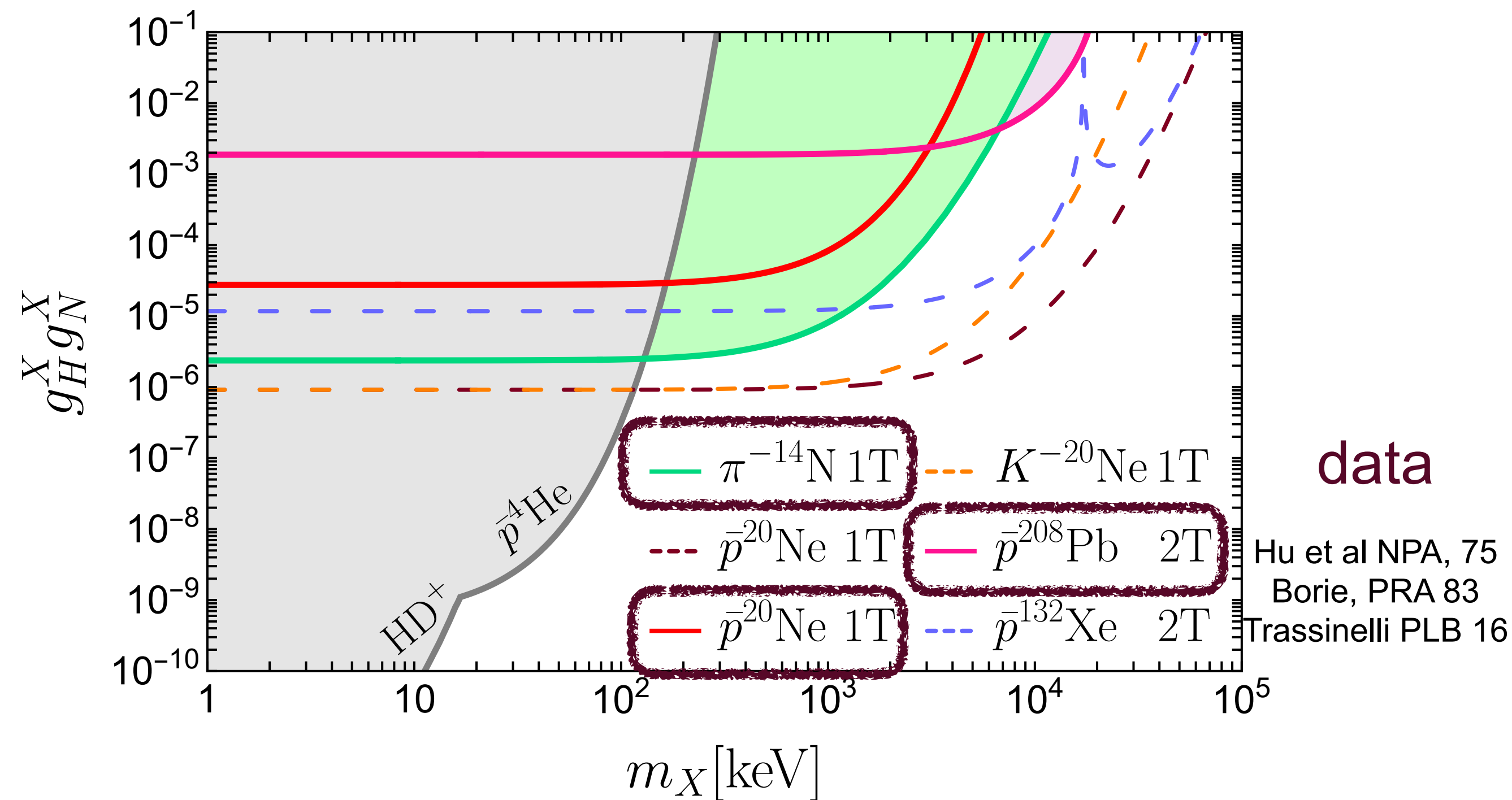
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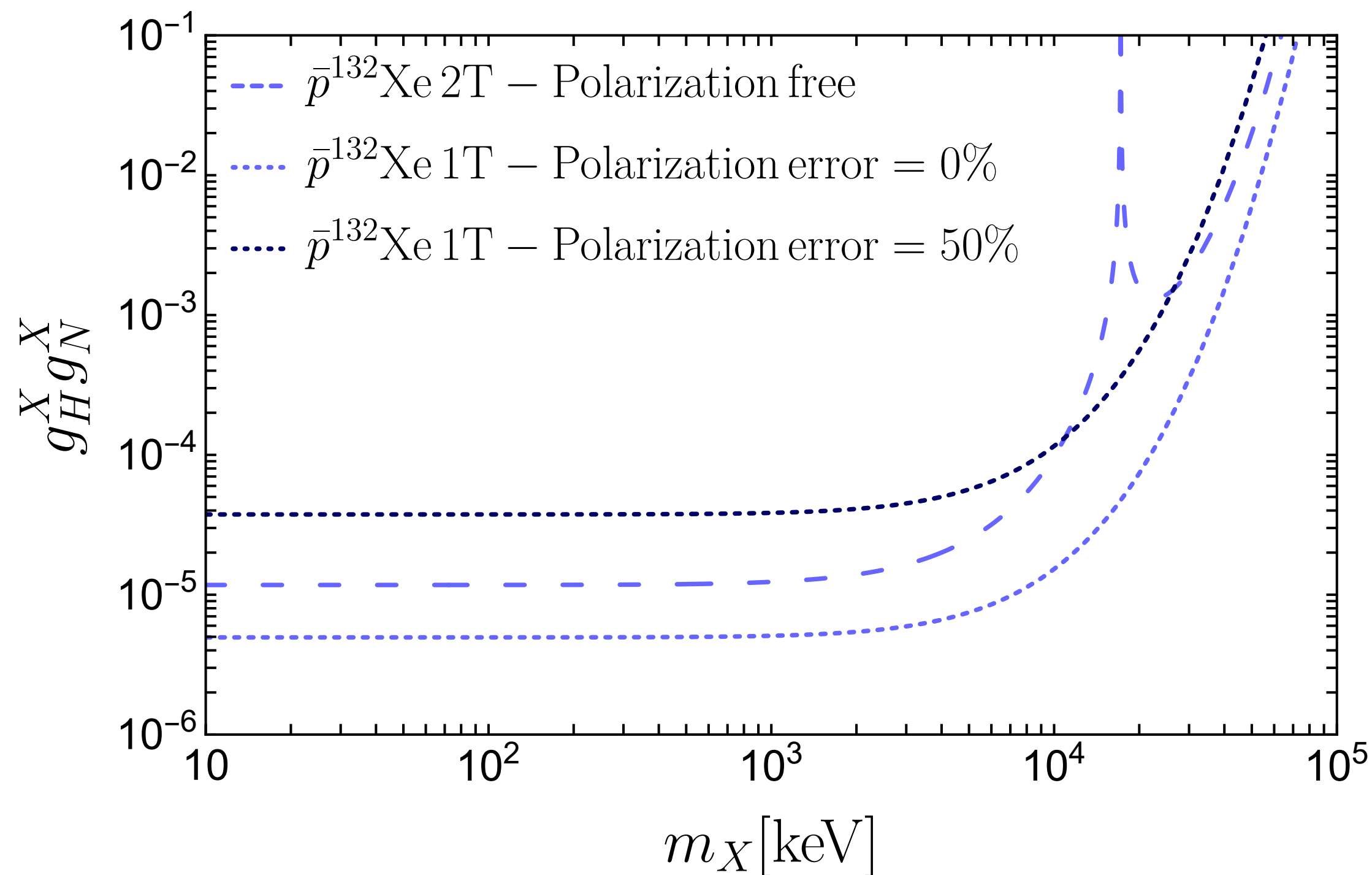
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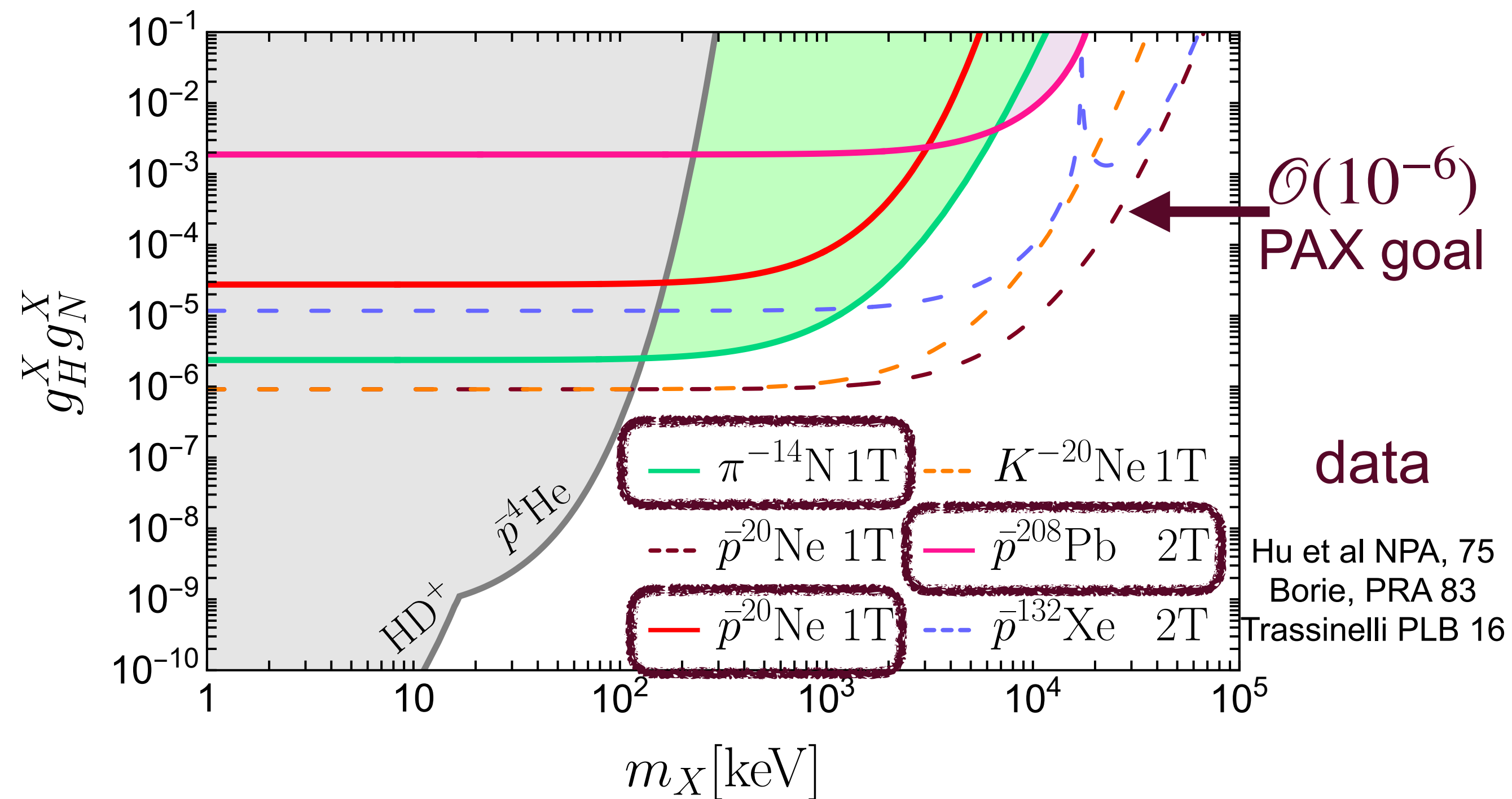
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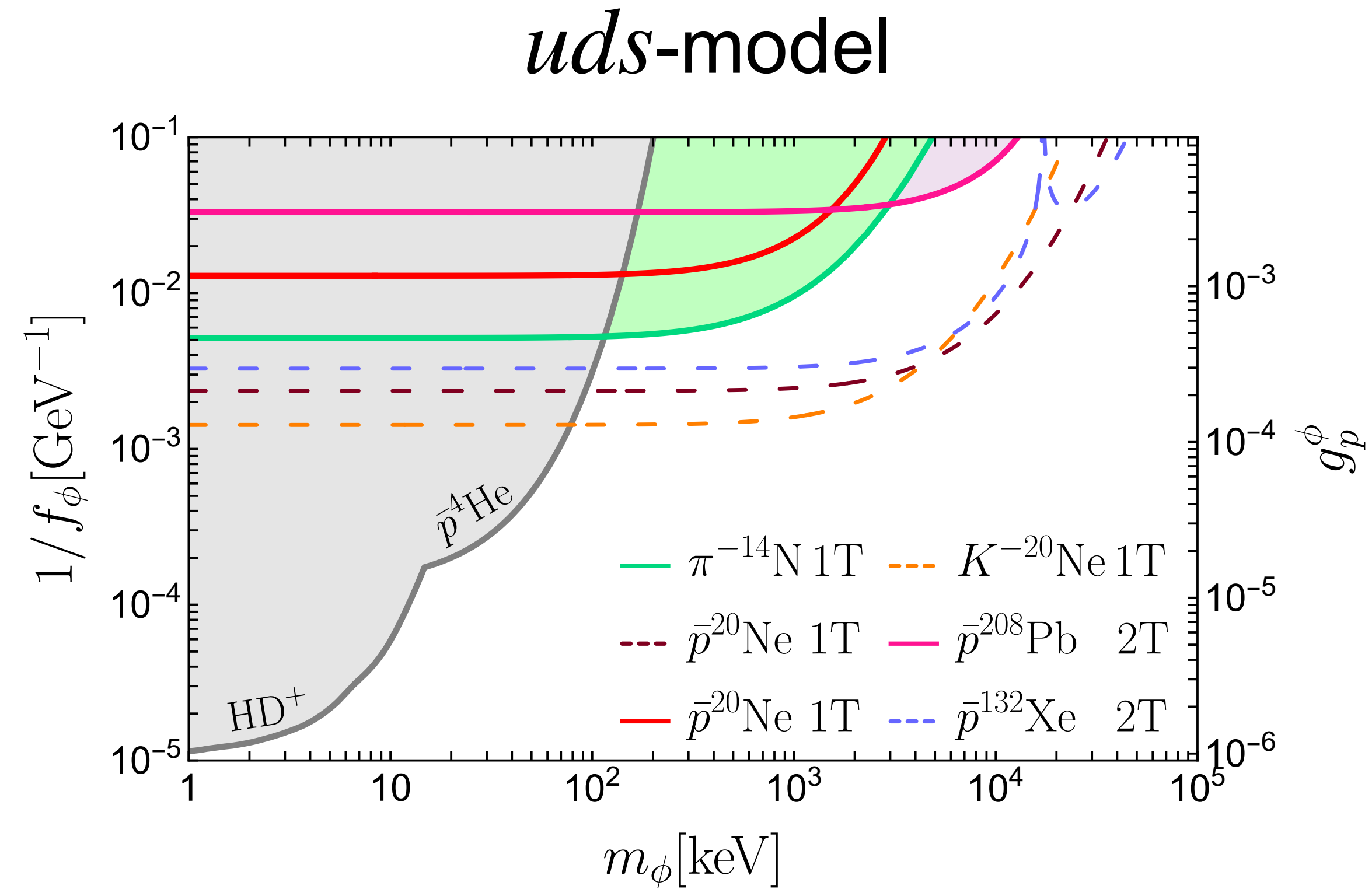


current and future bounds



Exotic atoms for BSM

$$\frac{\phi}{f_\phi} \sum_{q=u,d,s} m_q \bar{q}q$$

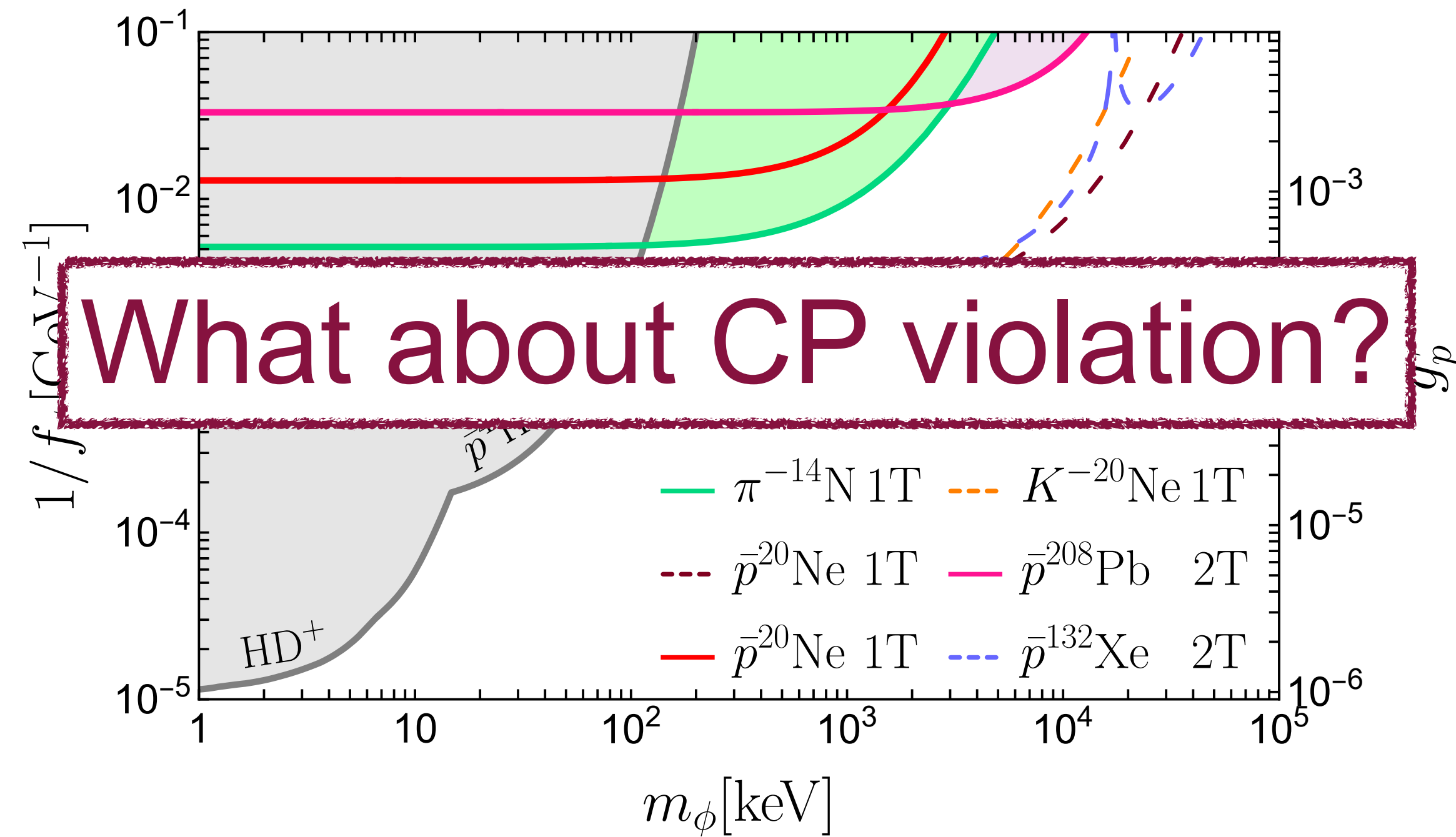


no kaon bounds, but spectroscopy signature

Exotic atoms for BSM

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uds-model



no kaon bounds, but spectroscopy signature

CP violation

$$\phi(g_S^\psi \bar{\psi}\psi + ig_P^\psi \bar{\psi}\gamma_5\psi)$$

CP violation

$$\phi(g_S^\psi \bar{\psi}\psi + ig_P^\psi \bar{\psi}\gamma_5\psi) \quad \rightarrow \quad V_{\text{SP}} \propto g_S^{\psi_1} g_P^{\psi_2} \frac{\vec{\sigma}^{\psi_1} \cdot \hat{r}}{2m_N} \left(\frac{1}{r} + m_\phi \right) \frac{e^{-m_\phi r}}{r}$$

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electric dipole moment (EDM) $\Rightarrow$ CP violation in low energy systems

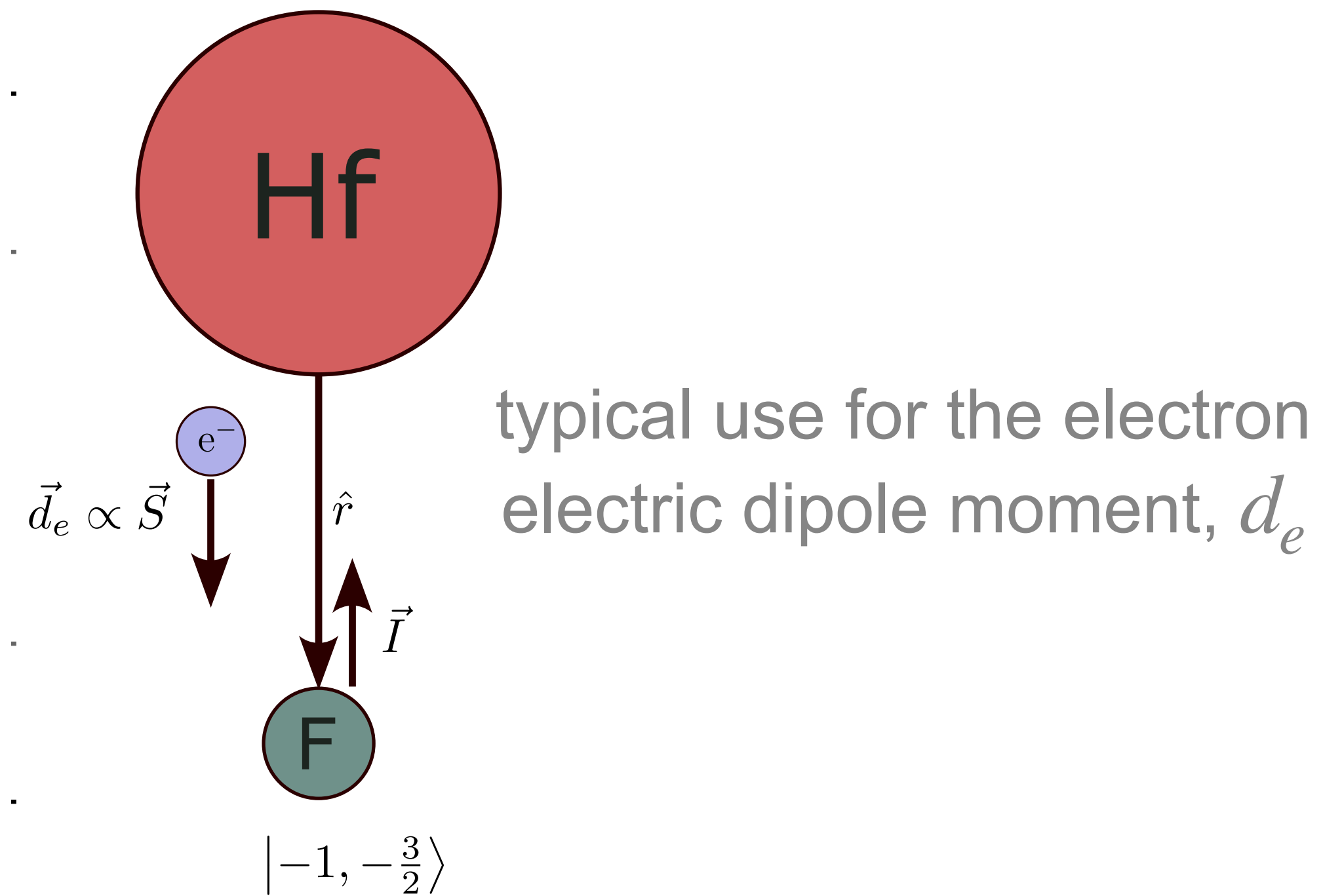
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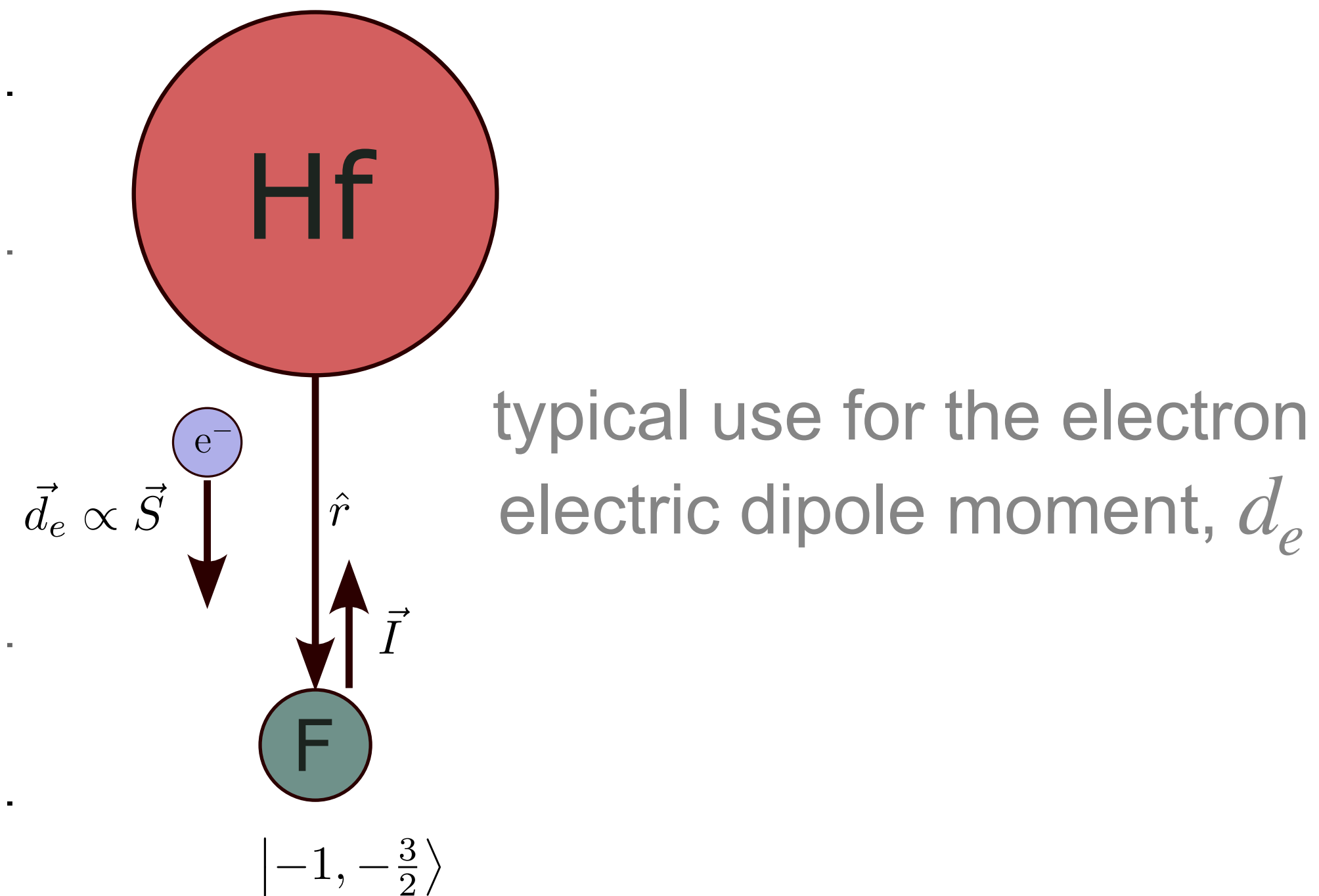
What we can learn from the electron EDM about CPV
long range hadronic interactions?

CP violation in diatomic molecules



CP violation in diatomic molecules

$$E_{\Omega, m_F} = E_0 + E_S + E_Z + E_{\text{CPV}}$$

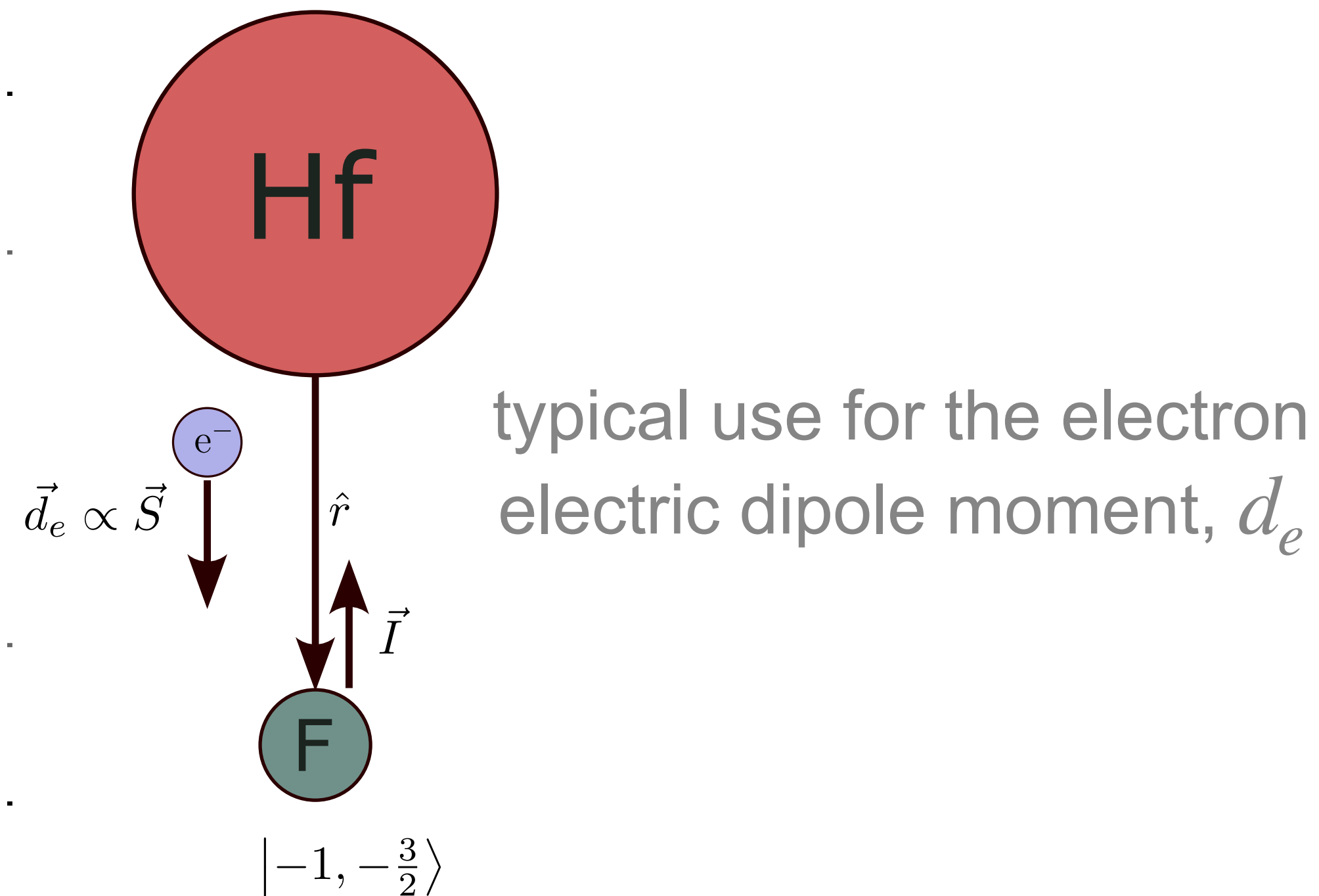


$|\Omega, m_F\rangle$ - the quantum states

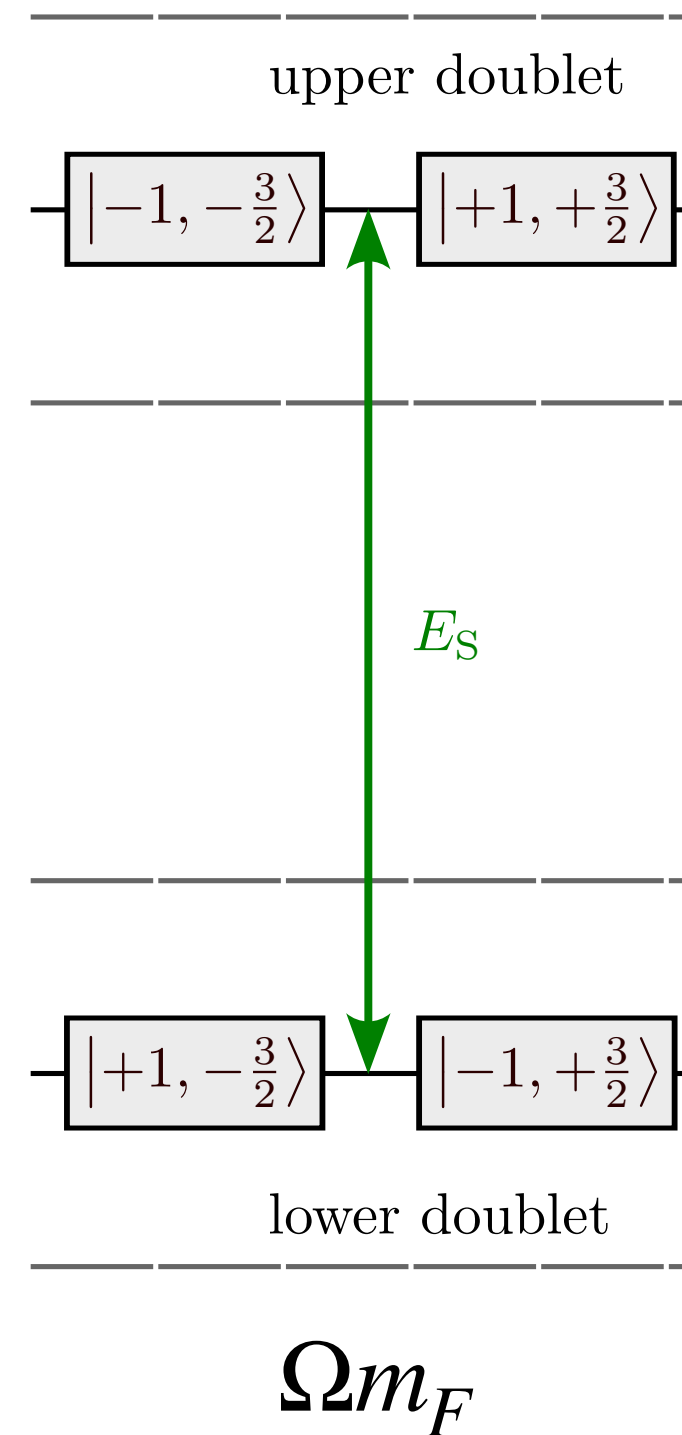
Ω - projection of electronic angular momentum on $\hat{r}$

m_F - projection of total angular momentum on $\hat{r}$

CP violation in diatomic molecules



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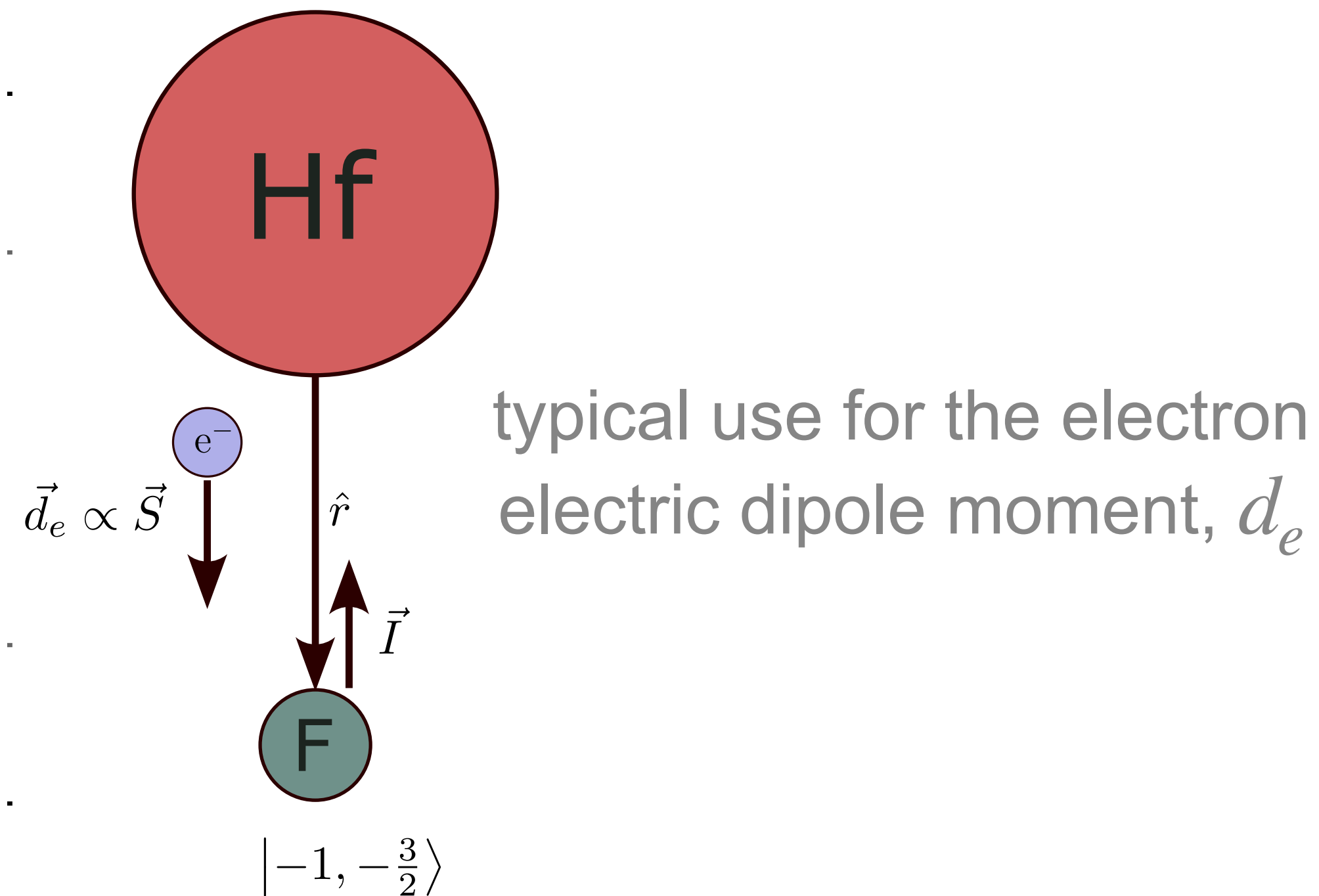


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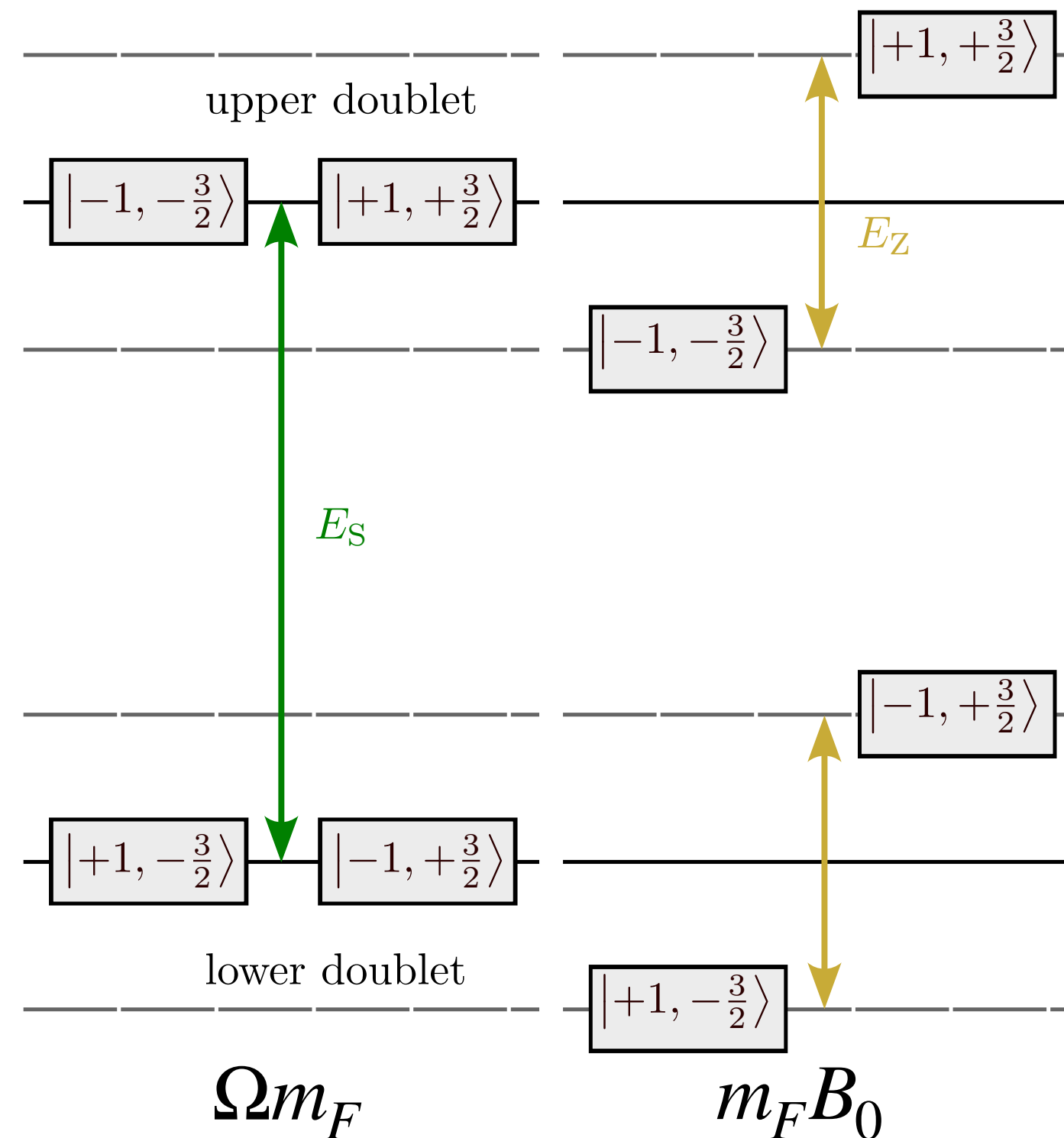
typical use for the electron electric dipole moment, d_e

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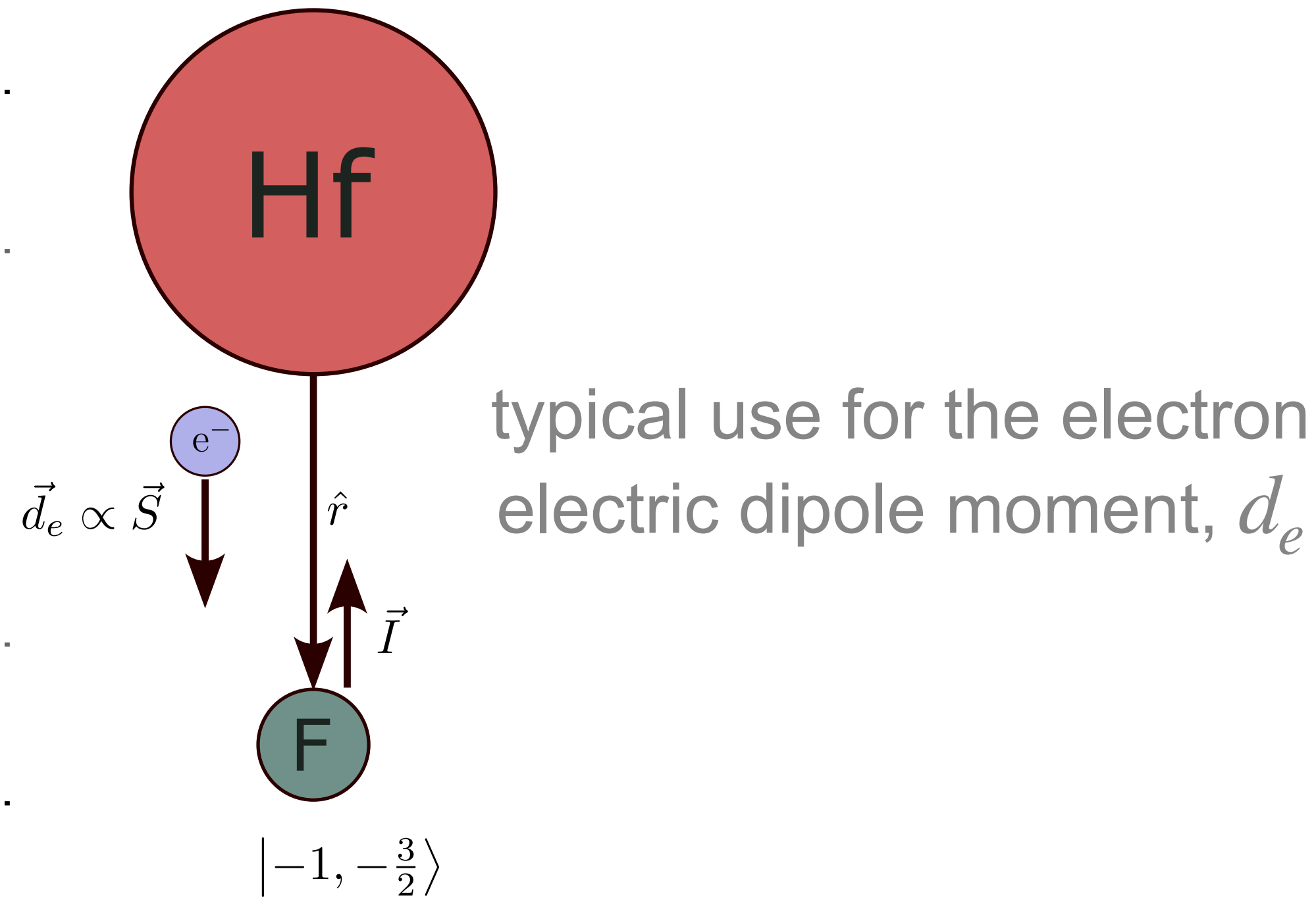
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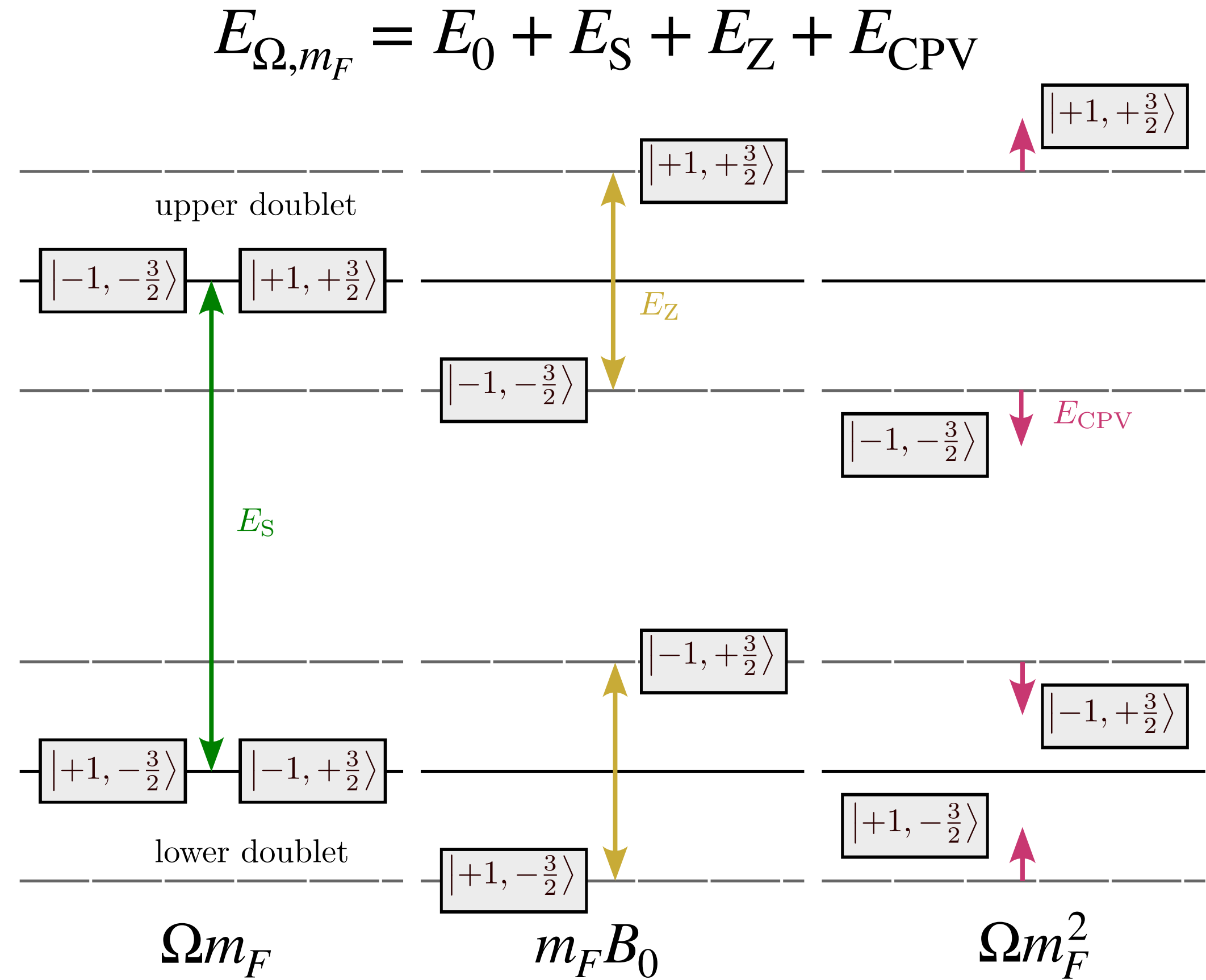


CP violation in diatomic molecules

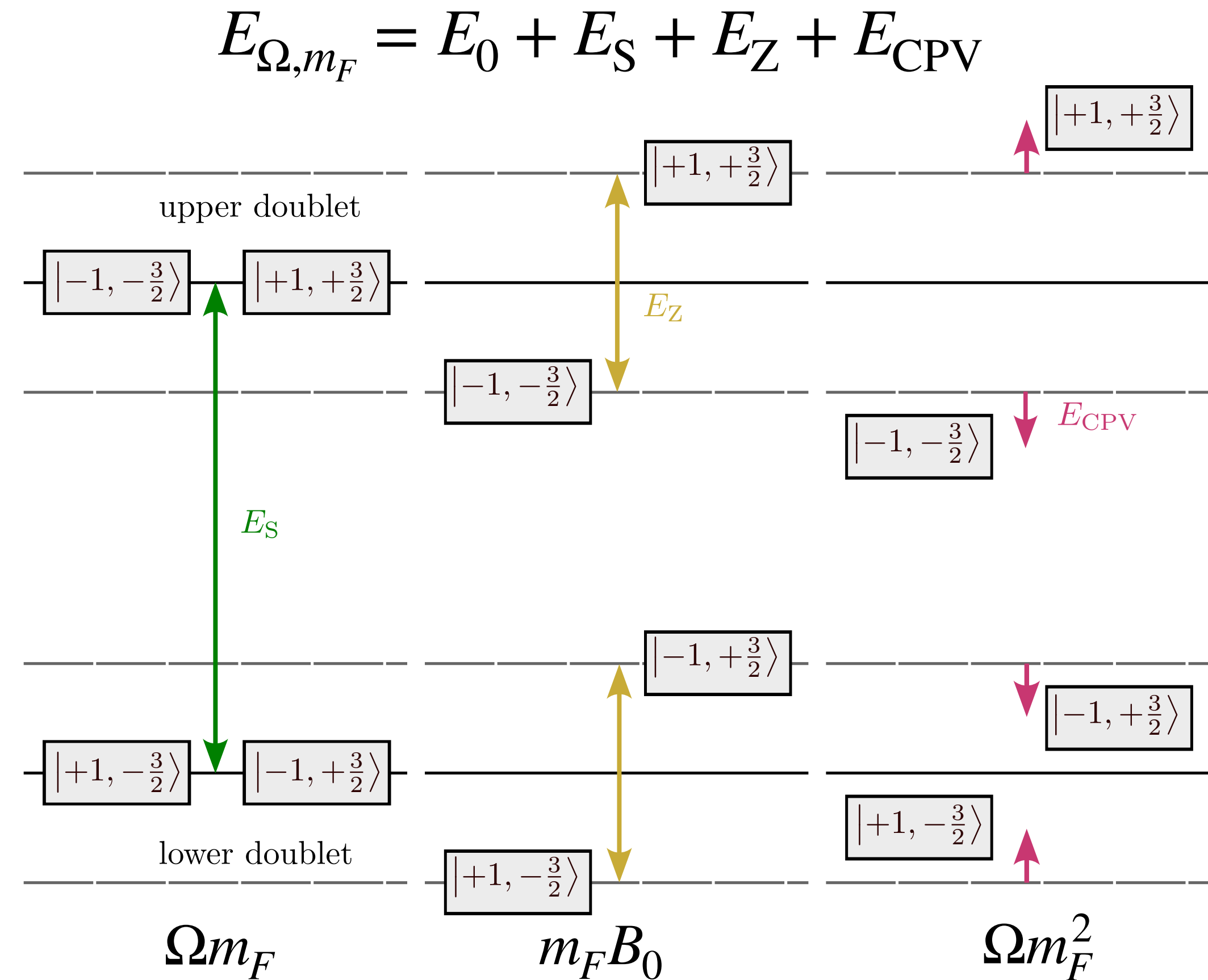
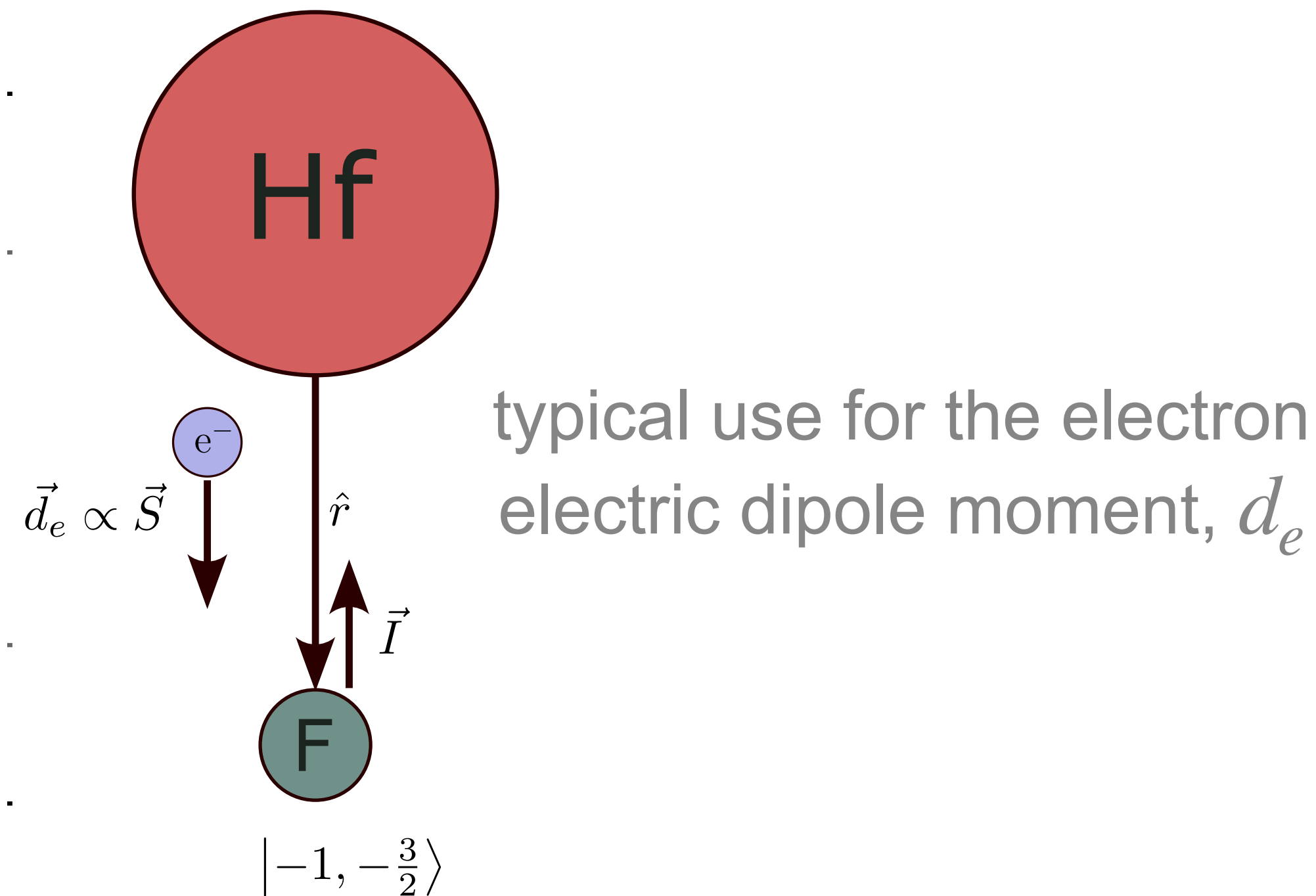
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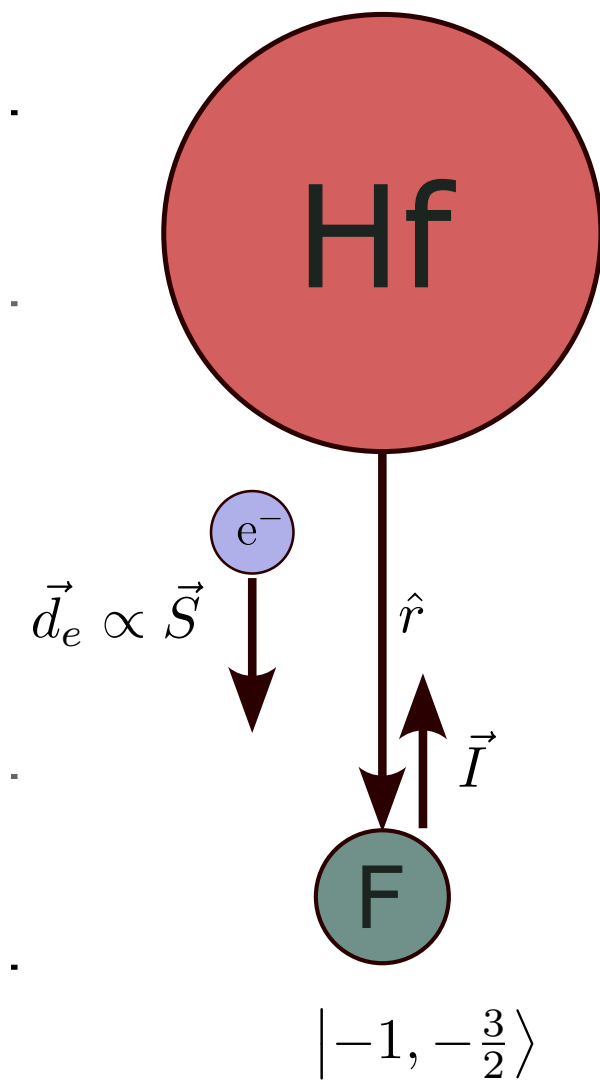
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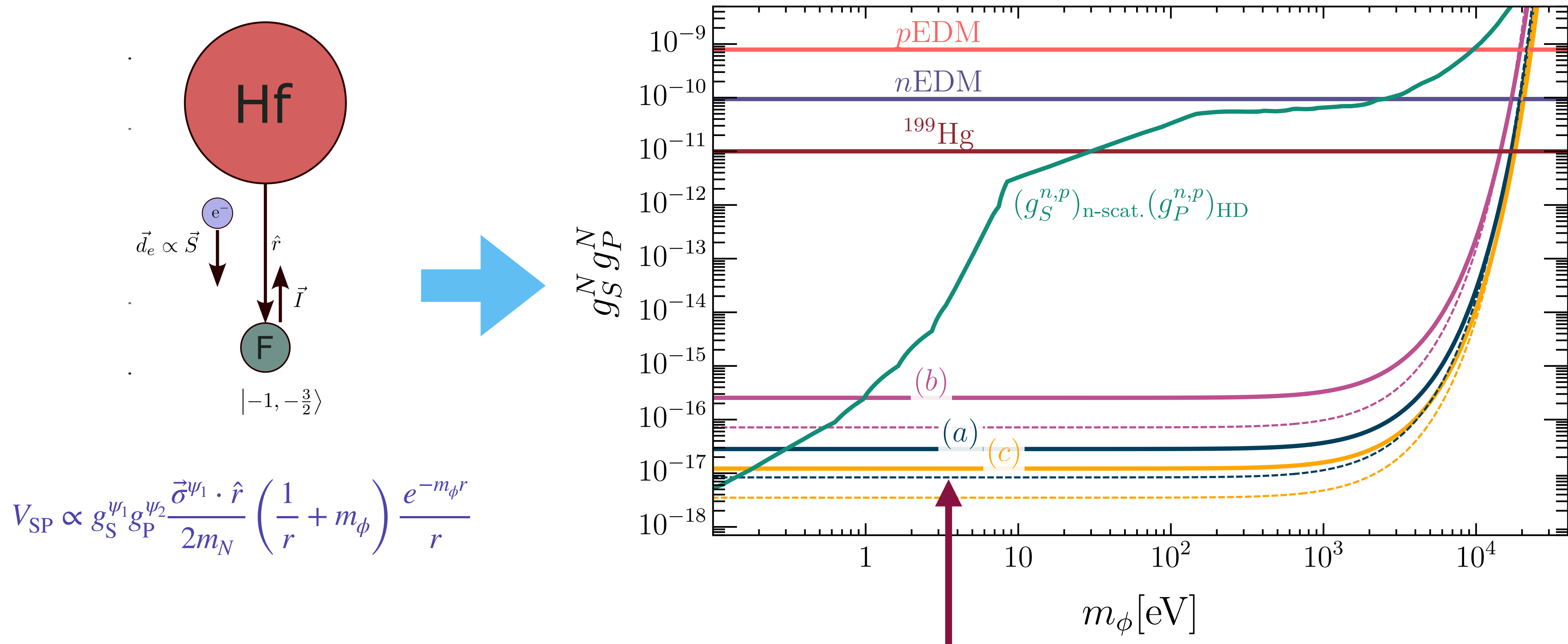
$$E_{\text{CPV}} = \frac{(E_{+1, +\frac{2}{3}} - E_{-1, -\frac{2}{3}}) - (E_{-1, +\frac{2}{3}} - E_{+1, -\frac{2}{3}})}{4} = \mathcal{E}_{\text{eff}} d_e + V_{\text{SP}} + \dots$$

CP violation in diatomic molecules



$$V_{\text{SP}} \propto g_{\text{S}}^{\psi_1} g_{\text{P}}^{\psi_2} \frac{\vec{\sigma}^{\psi_1} \cdot \hat{r}}{2m_{\text{N}}} \left(\frac{1}{r} + m_{\phi} \right) \frac{e^{-m_{\phi} r}}{r}$$

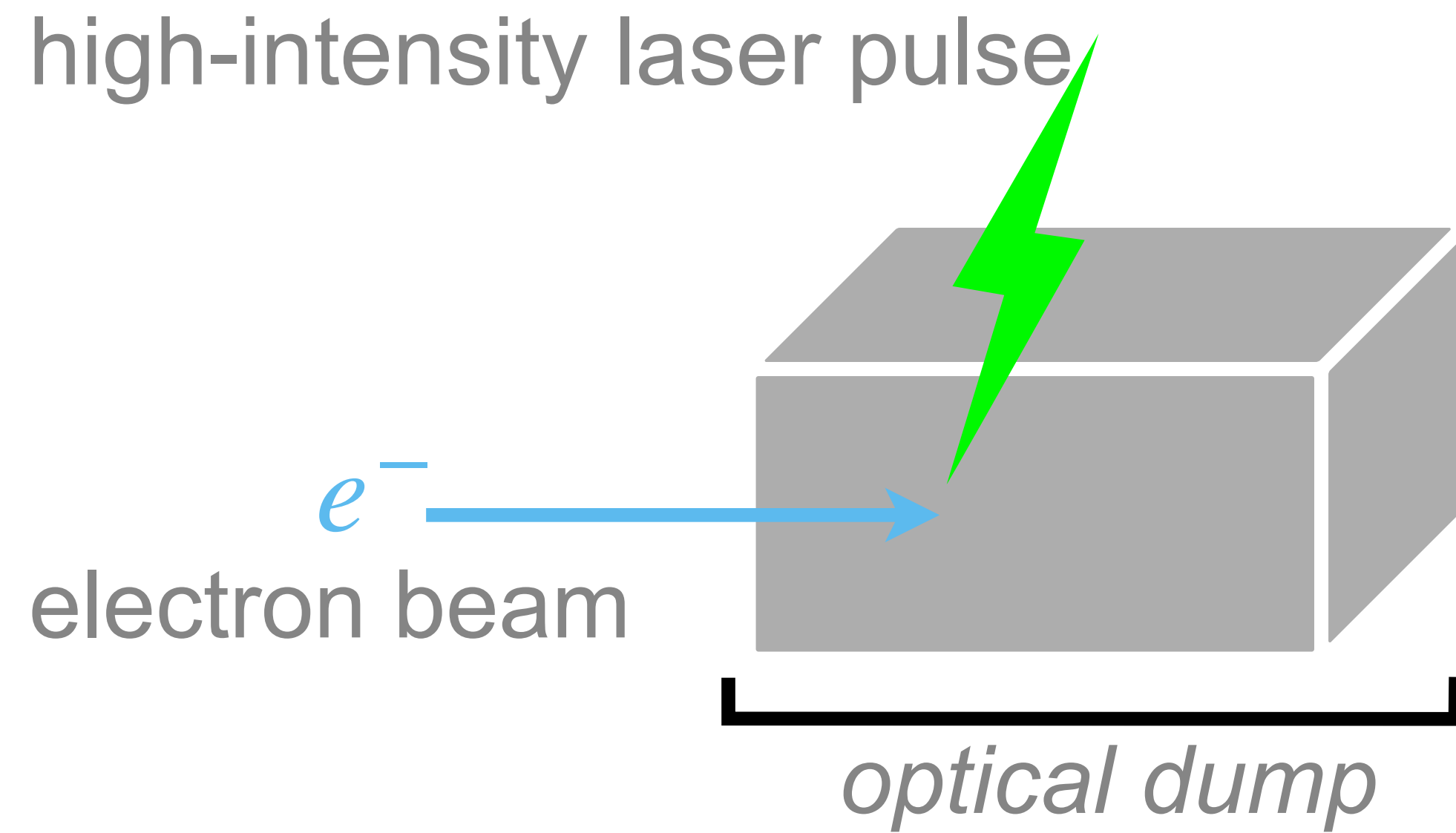
CP violation in diatomic molecules



Molecules are the best terrestrial probe of long range hadronic CPV force

Future probes of scalars and axions at the intensity frontier Optical Dump and EIC

An optical dump

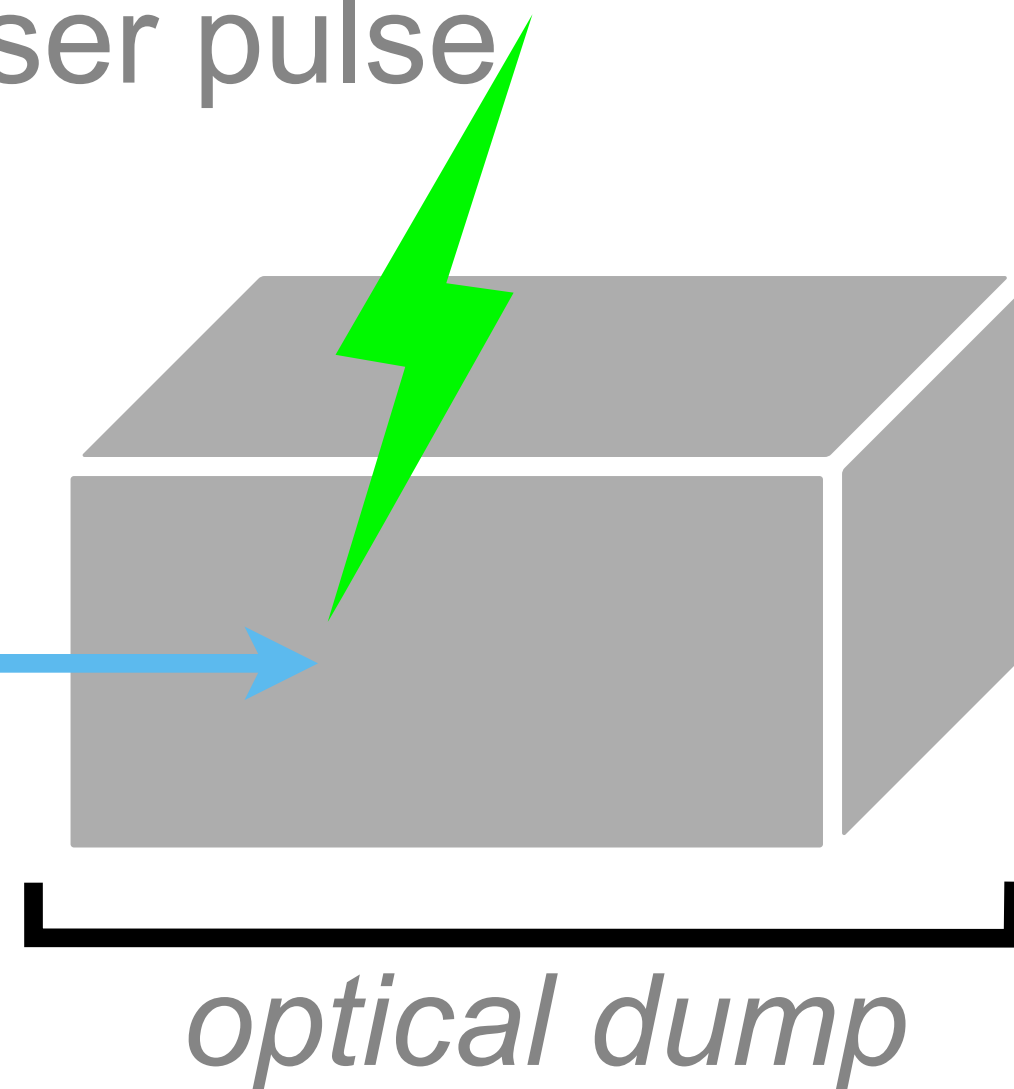


LUXE

An optical dump

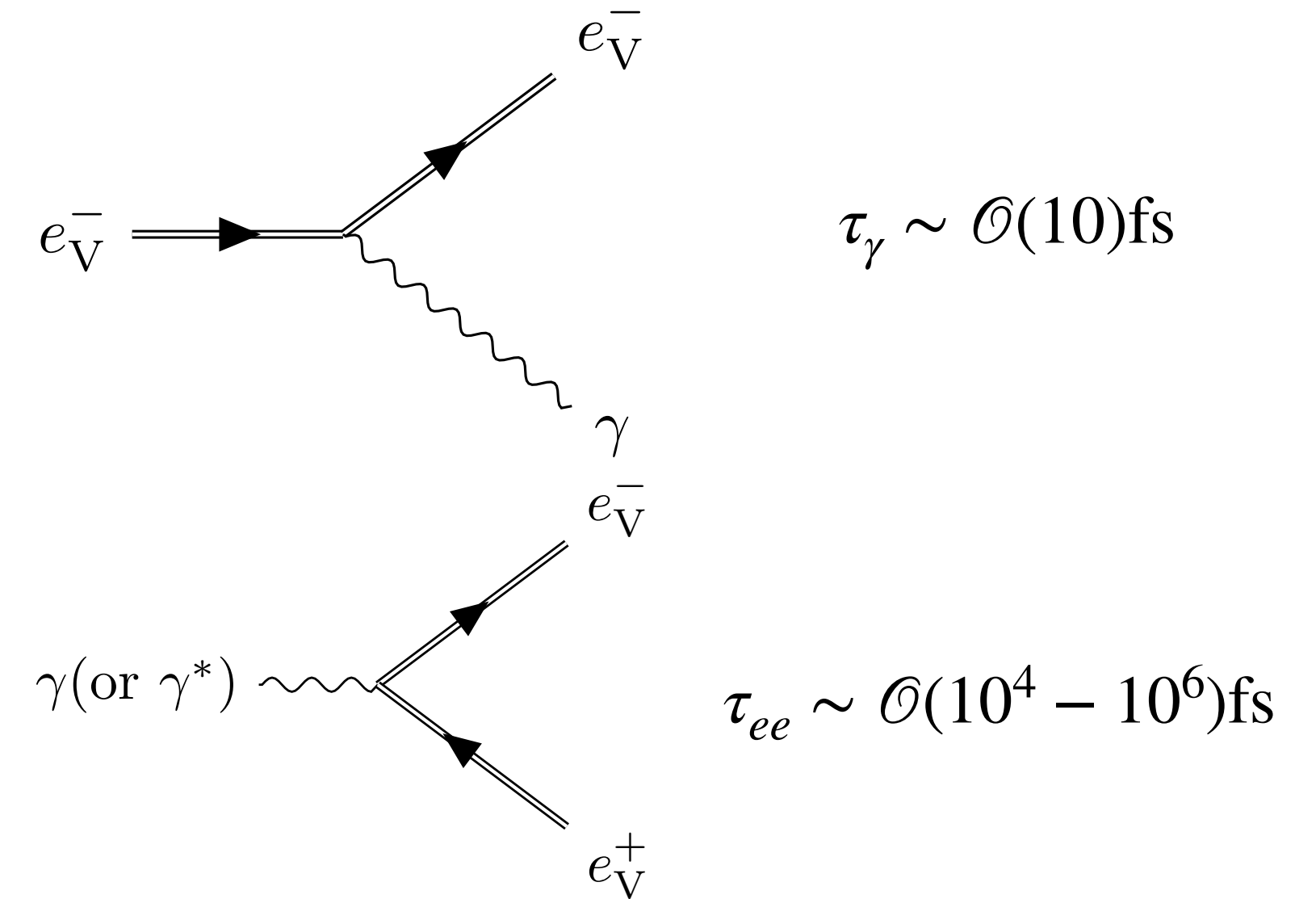
high-intensity laser pulse

e^-
electron beam



$$E_e \approx 16.5 \text{ GeV}, \omega_L \approx 1.5 \text{ eV} \sim 1/(0.4 \text{ fs}), t_L \sim \mathcal{O}(10 - 100) \text{ fs}$$

LUXE

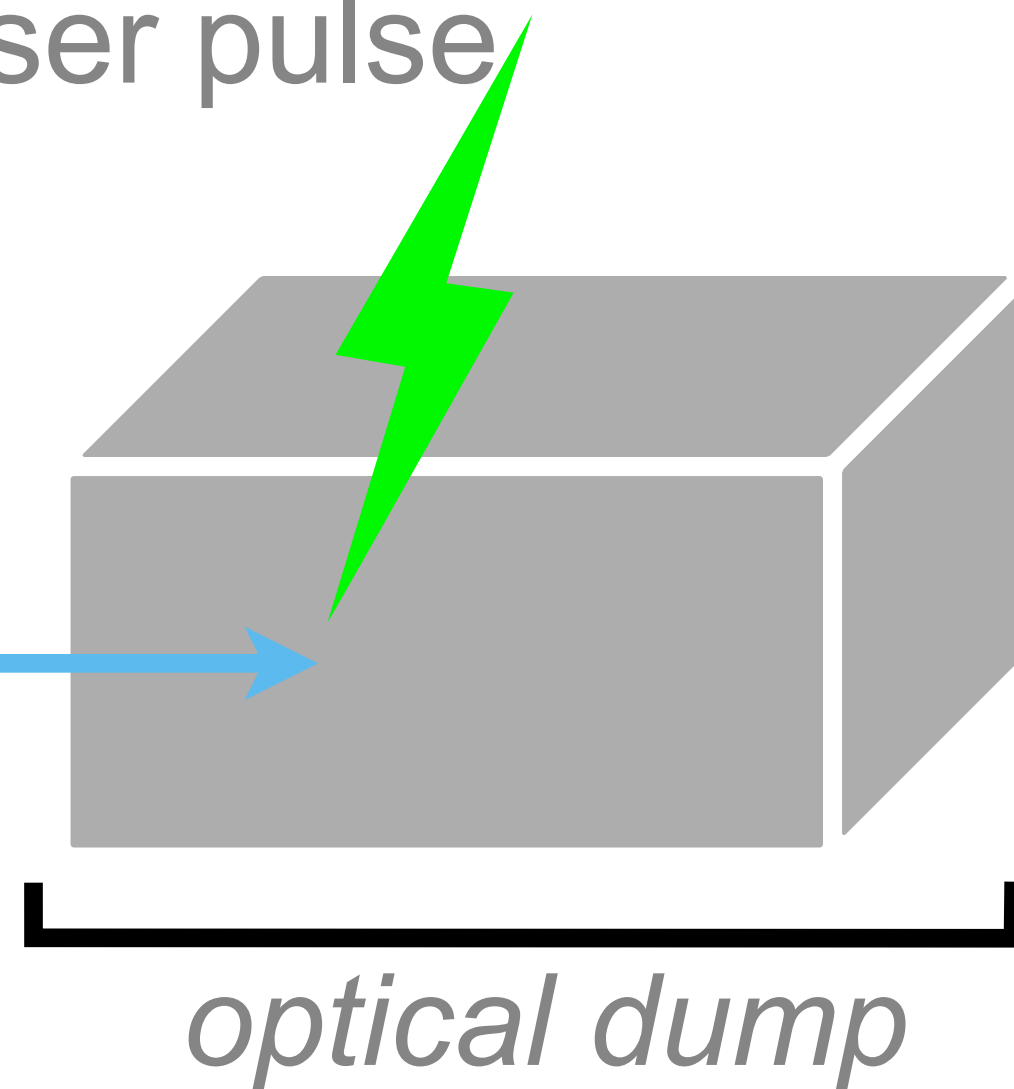


Schwinger like pair production
the main physics goal

An optical dump

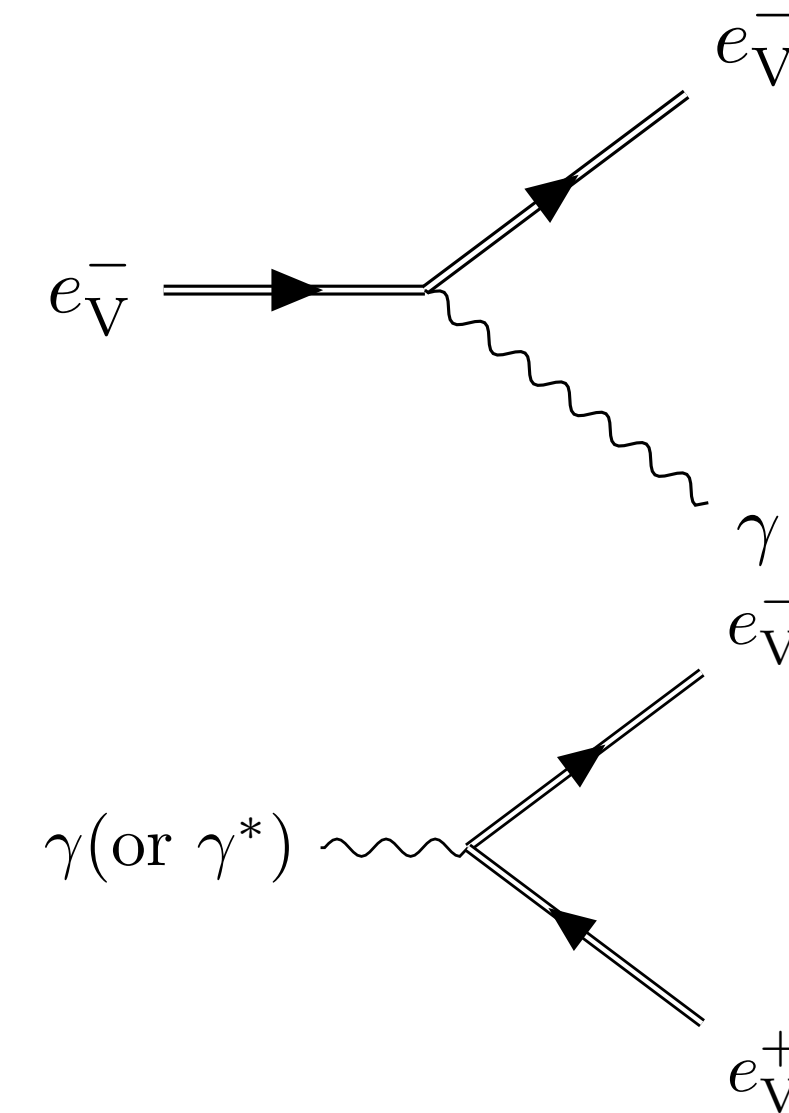
high-intensity laser pulse

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LUXE



$$\tau_\gamma \sim \mathcal{O}(10) \text{ fs}$$

$$1/\omega_L \ll \tau_\gamma \lesssim t_L \ll \tau_{ee}$$

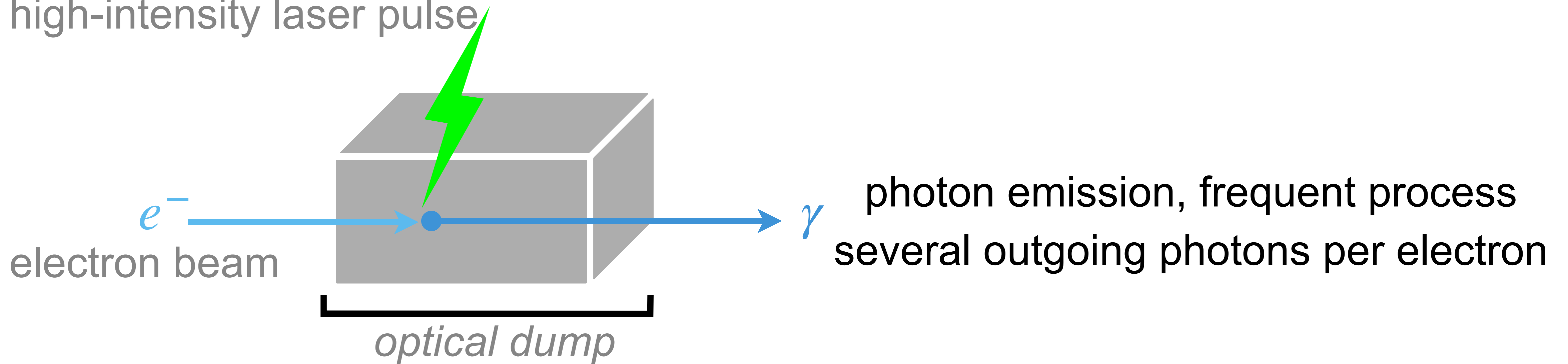
$$\tau_{ee} \sim \mathcal{O}(10^4 - 10^6) \text{ fs}$$

Schwinger like pair production
the main physics goal

in ordinary material $\tau_\gamma \sim \tau_{ee}$

An optical dump

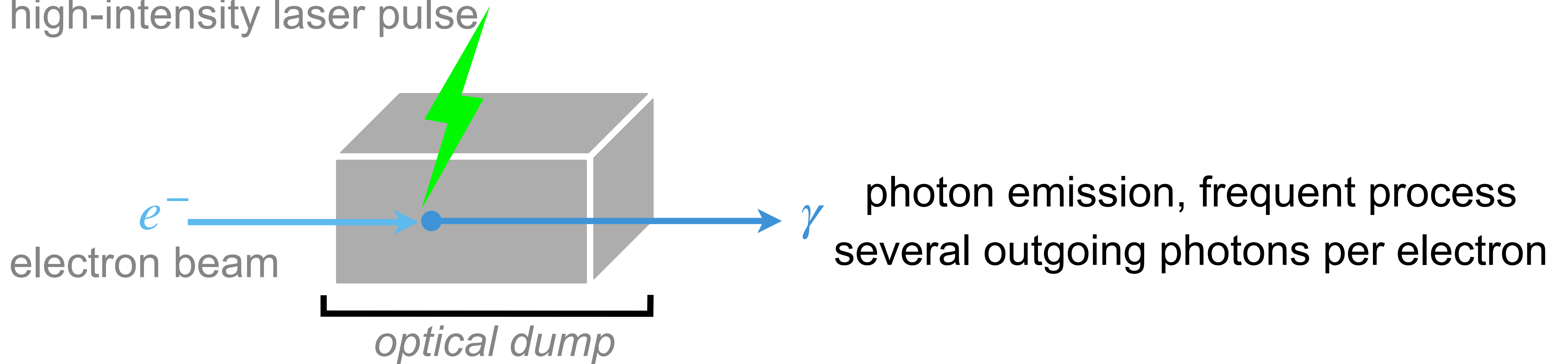
high-intensity laser pulse



LUXE

An optical dump

high-intensity laser pulse



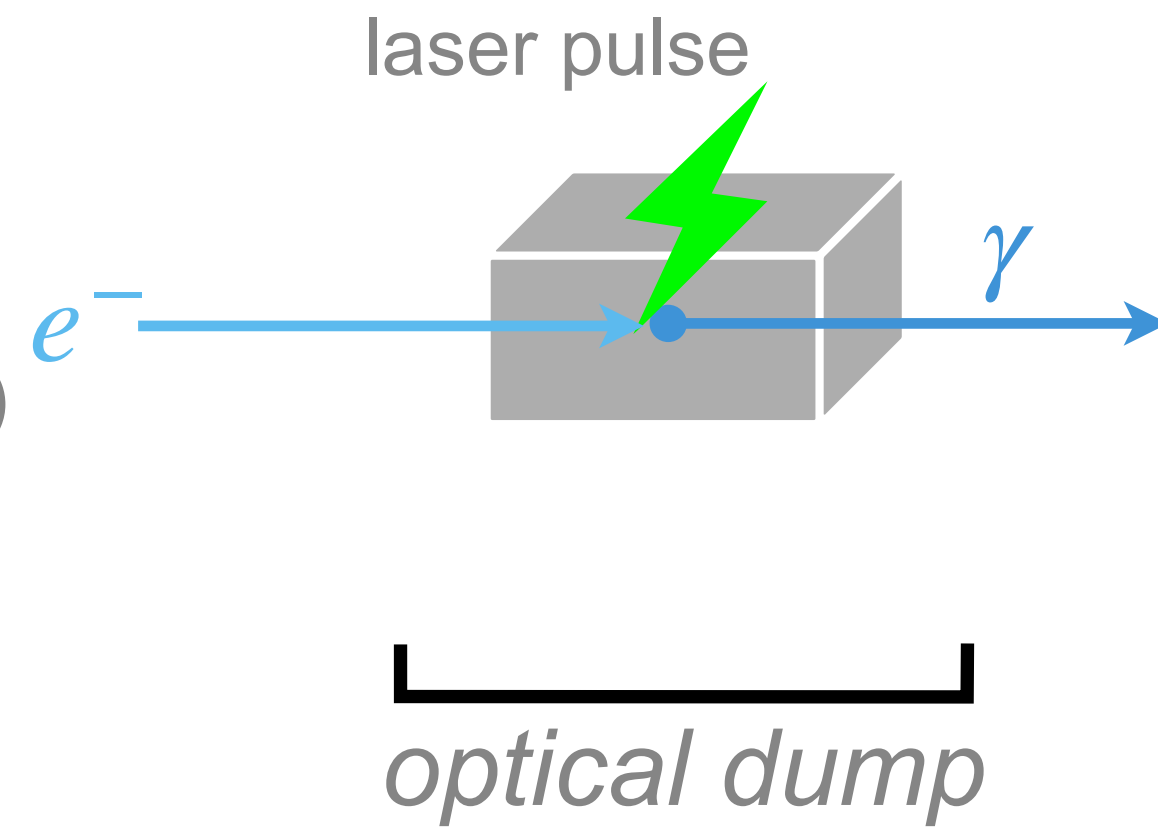
LUXE =

high intensity and high energy
collimated photon source
 $10^{10} \gamma/\text{sec}$, $E_\gamma \sim \mathcal{O}(m_p)$

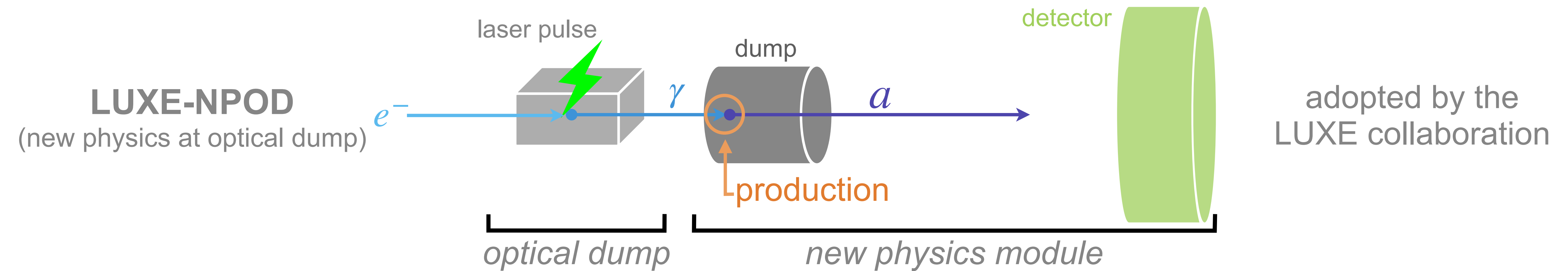
Axions at an optical dump

LUXE-NPOD

(new physics at optical dump)

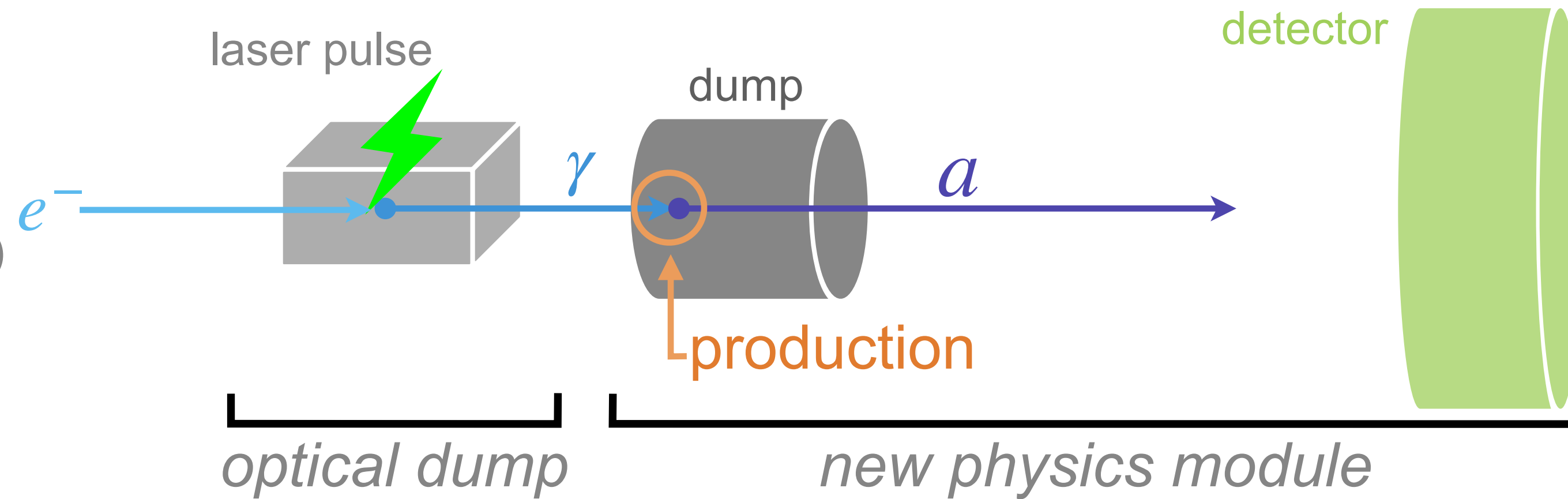


Axions at an optical dump



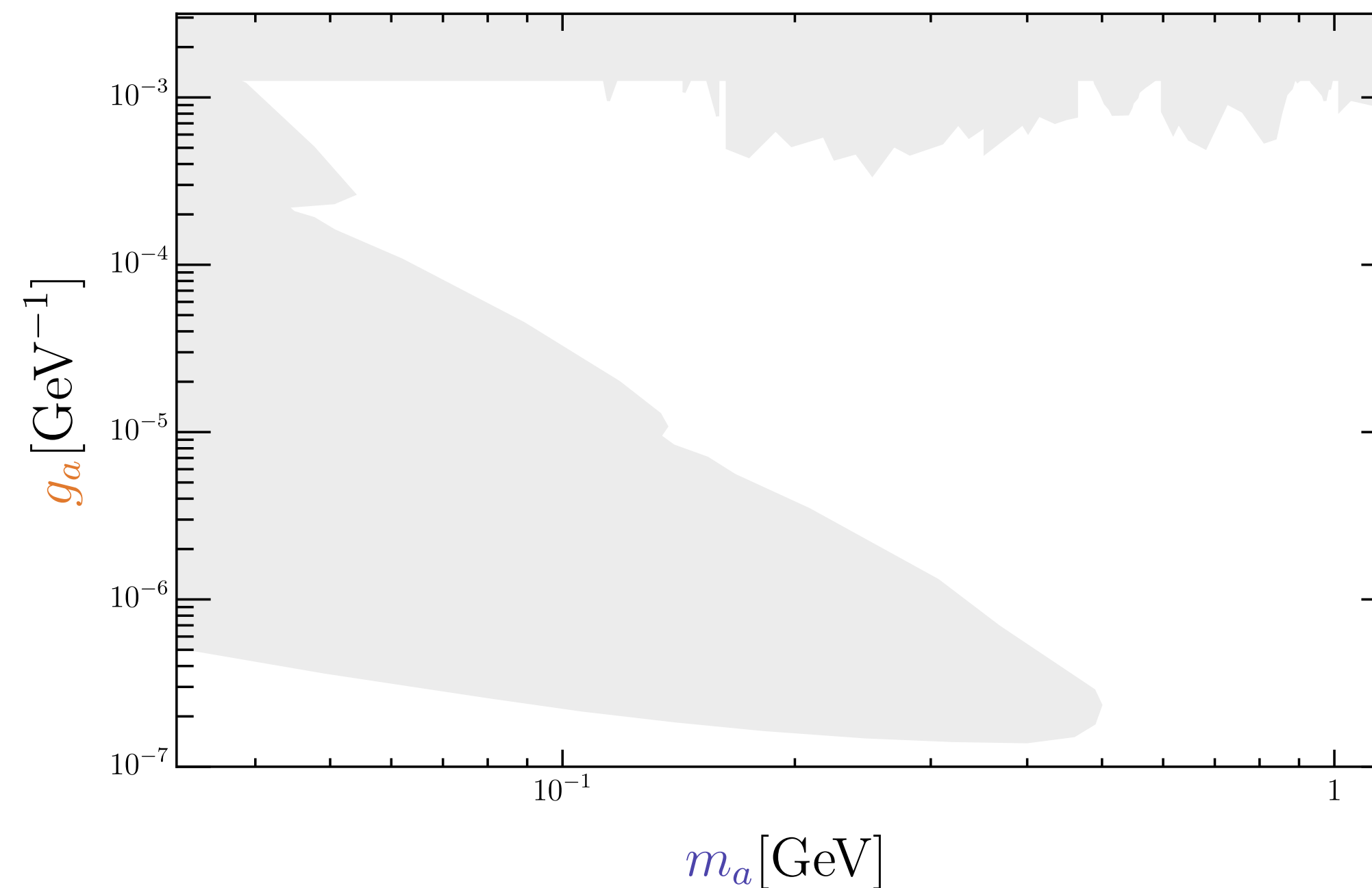
Axions at an optical dump

LUXE-NPOD
(new physics at optical dump)



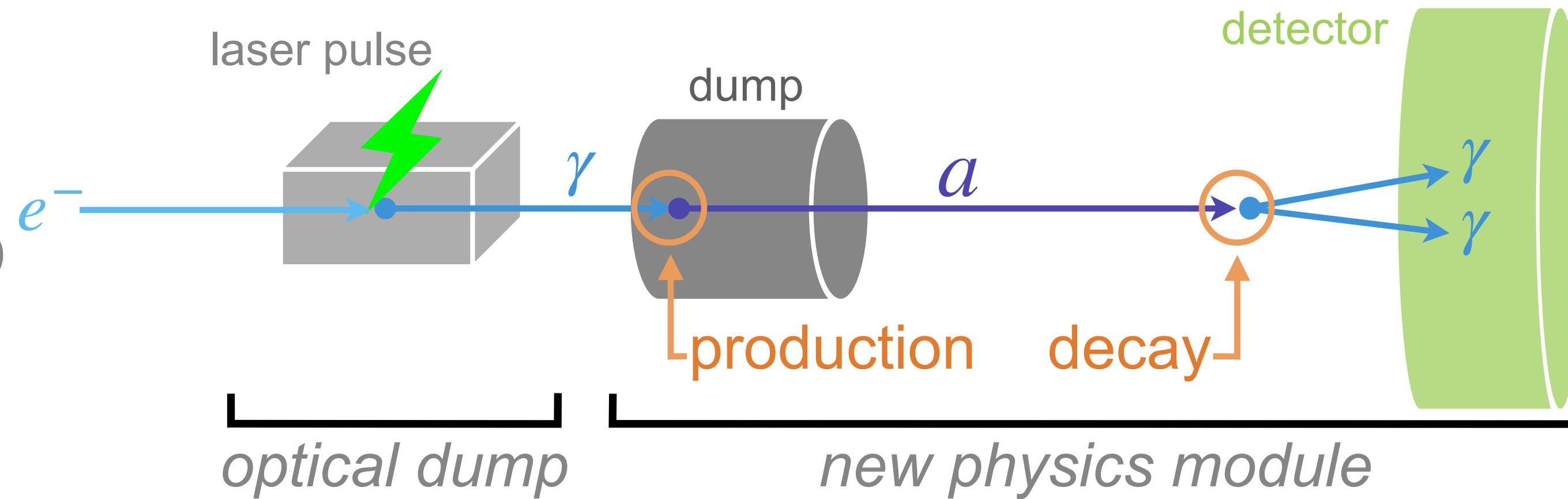
adopted by the
LUXE collaboration

$$\frac{g_a}{4} a F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$$



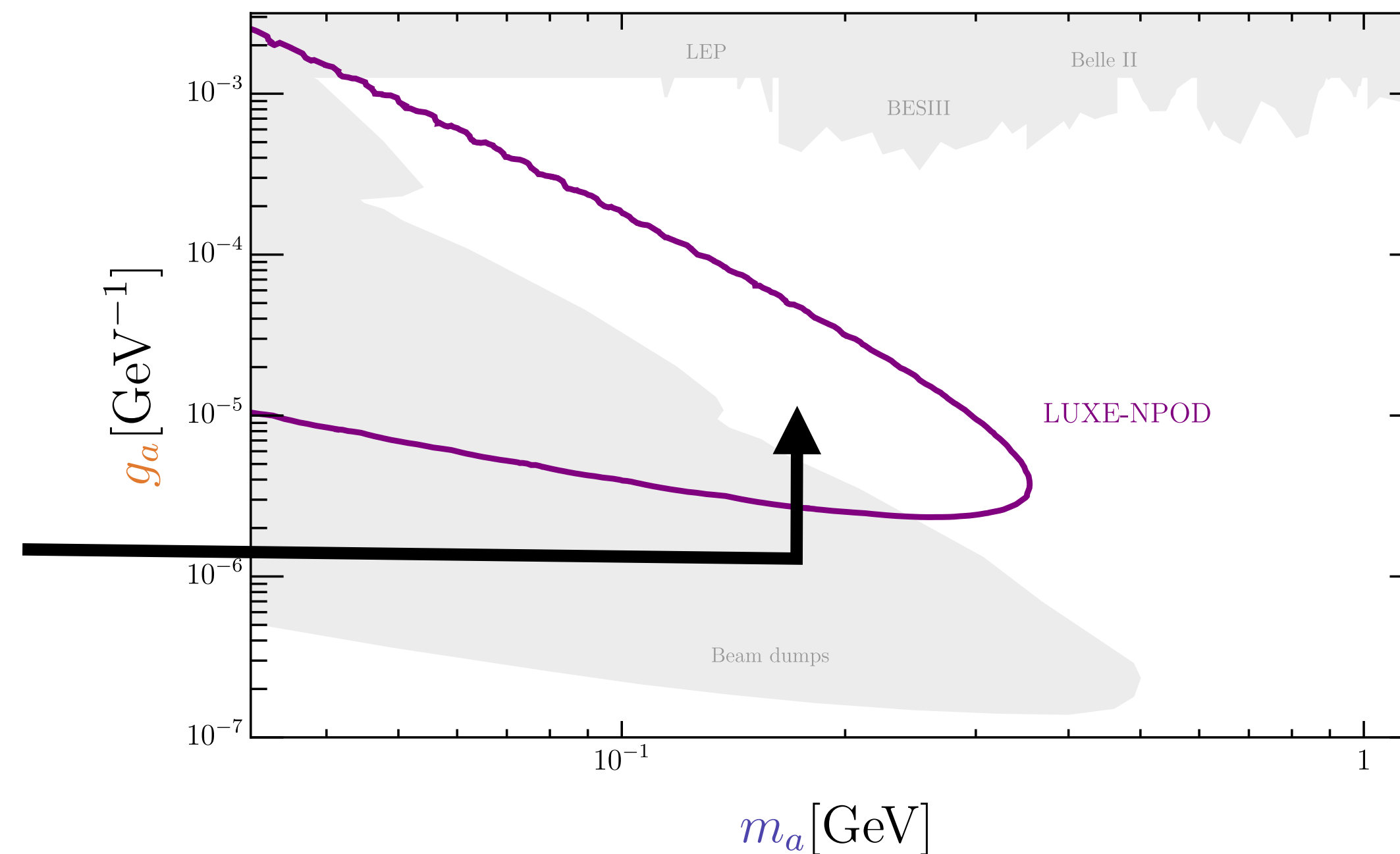
Axions at an optical dump

LUXE-NPOD
(new physics at optical dump)



adopted by the
LUXE collaboration

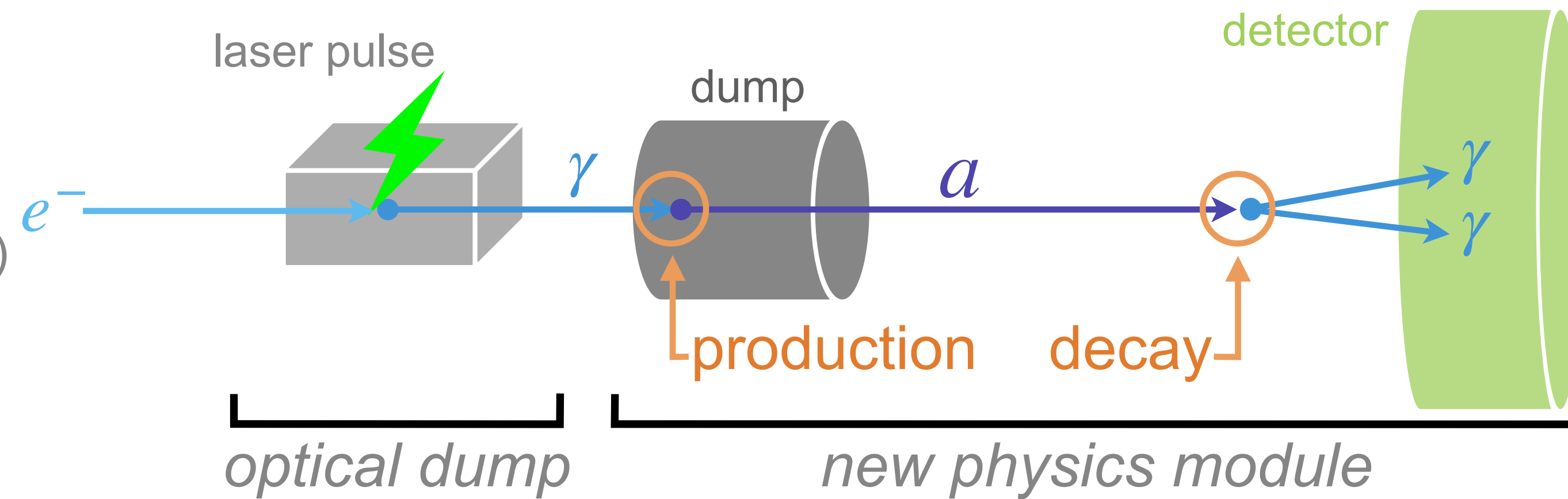
$\frac{g_a}{4} a F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$
probe uncharted
territory



very low
background rate

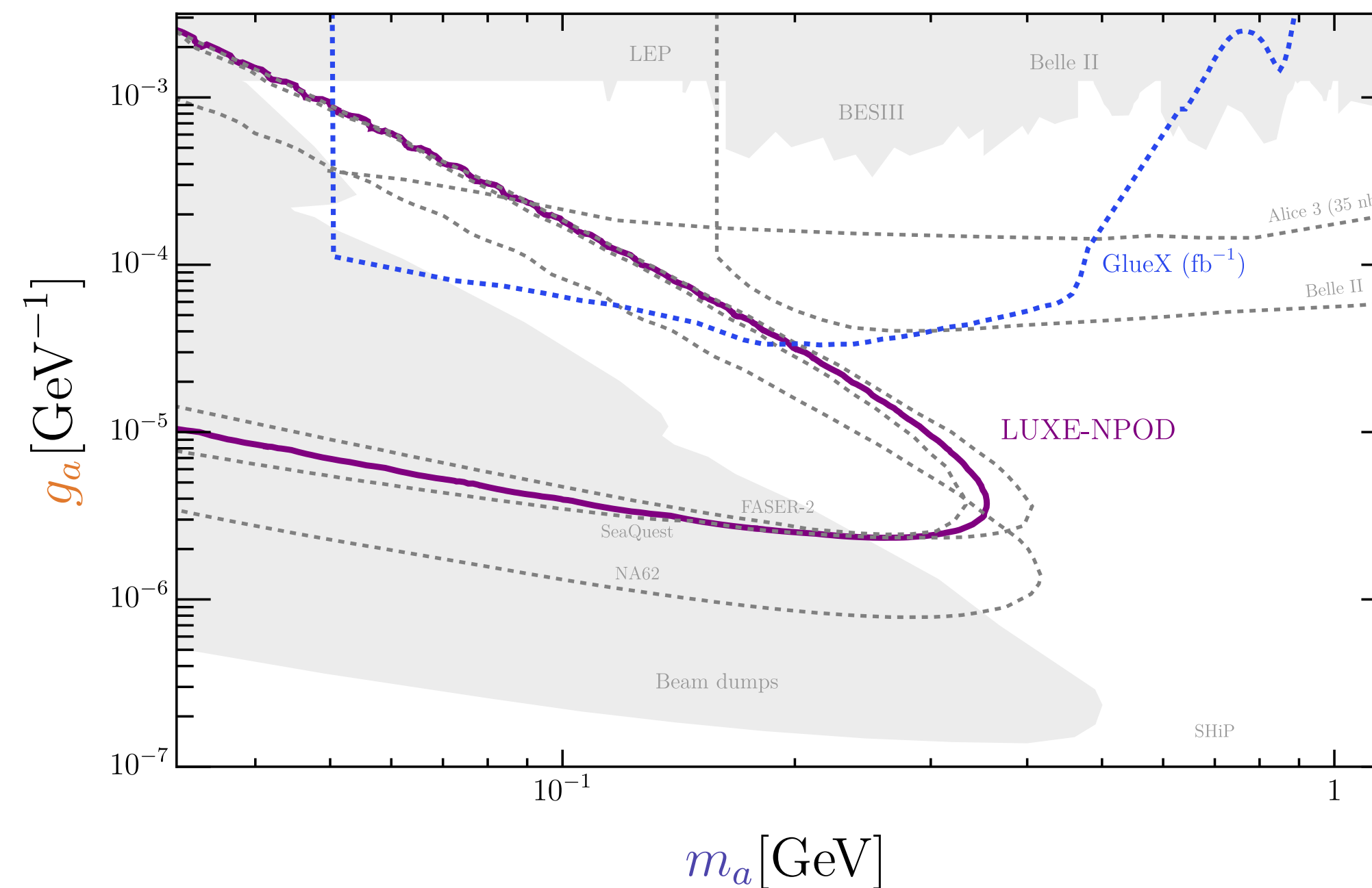
Axions at an optical dump

LUXE-NPOD
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adopted by the
LUXE collaboration

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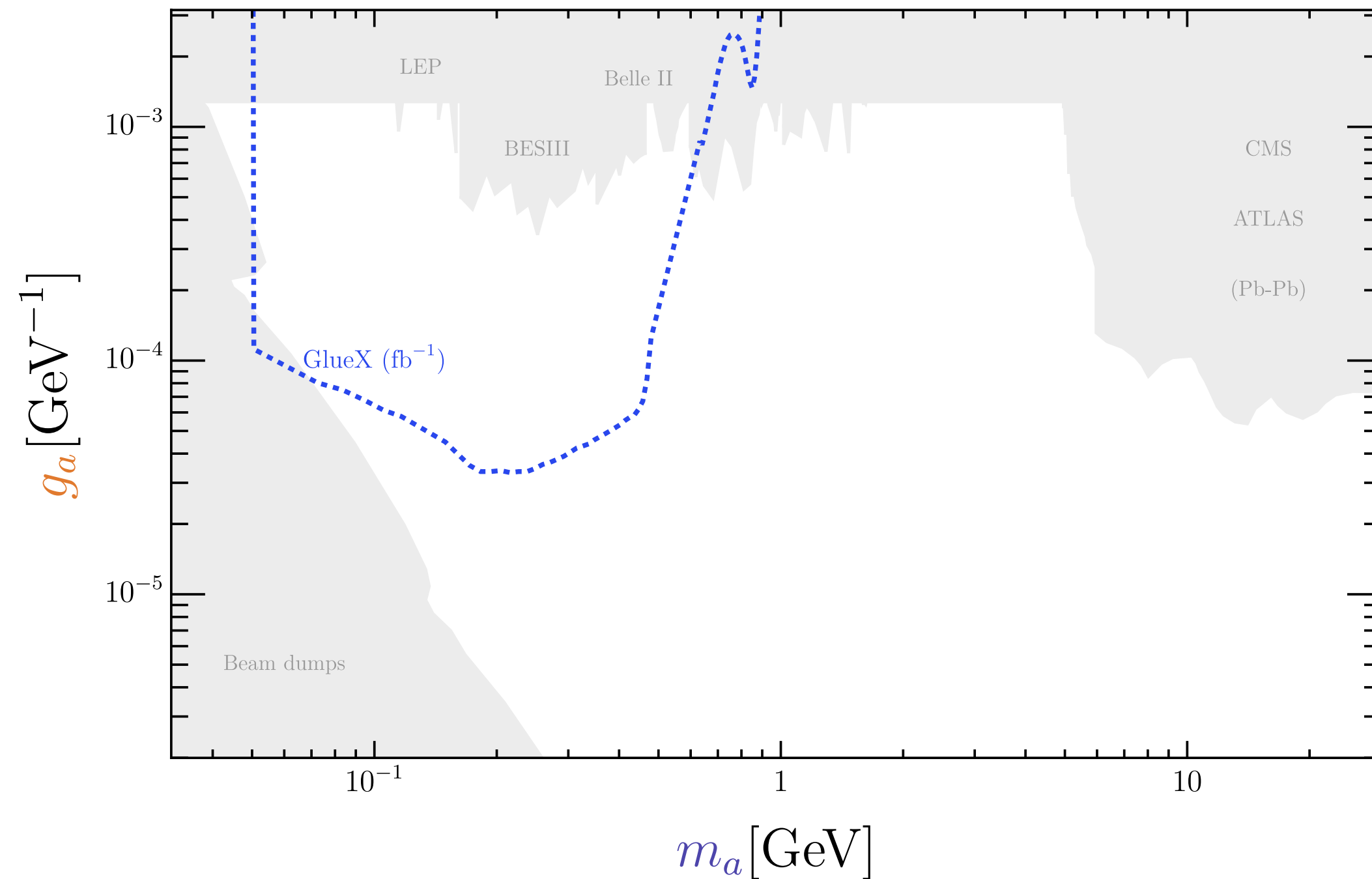


very low
background rate

applicable to:
SLAC, LBNL, ILC....

Axions at electron-ion collider (EIC)

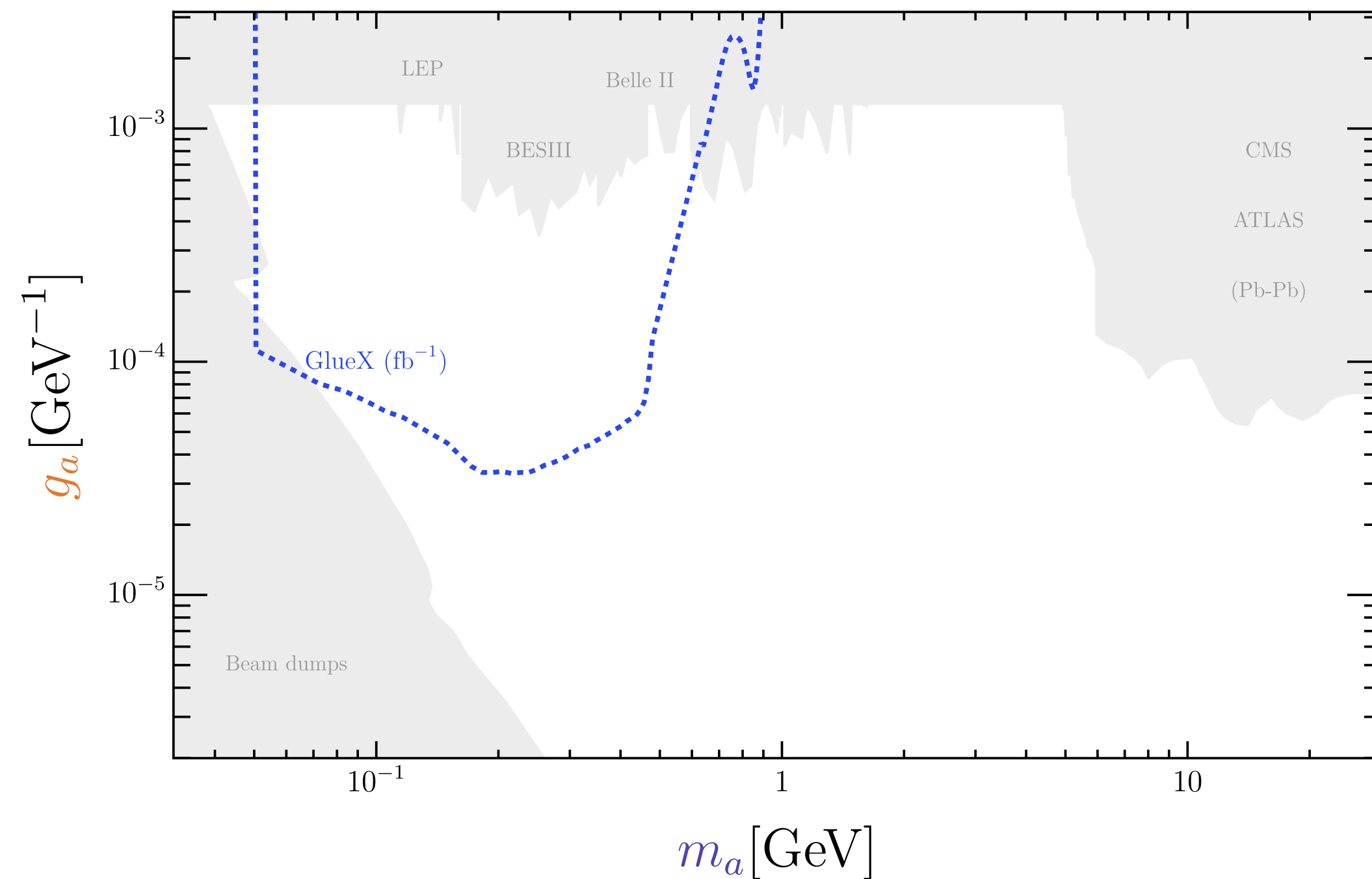
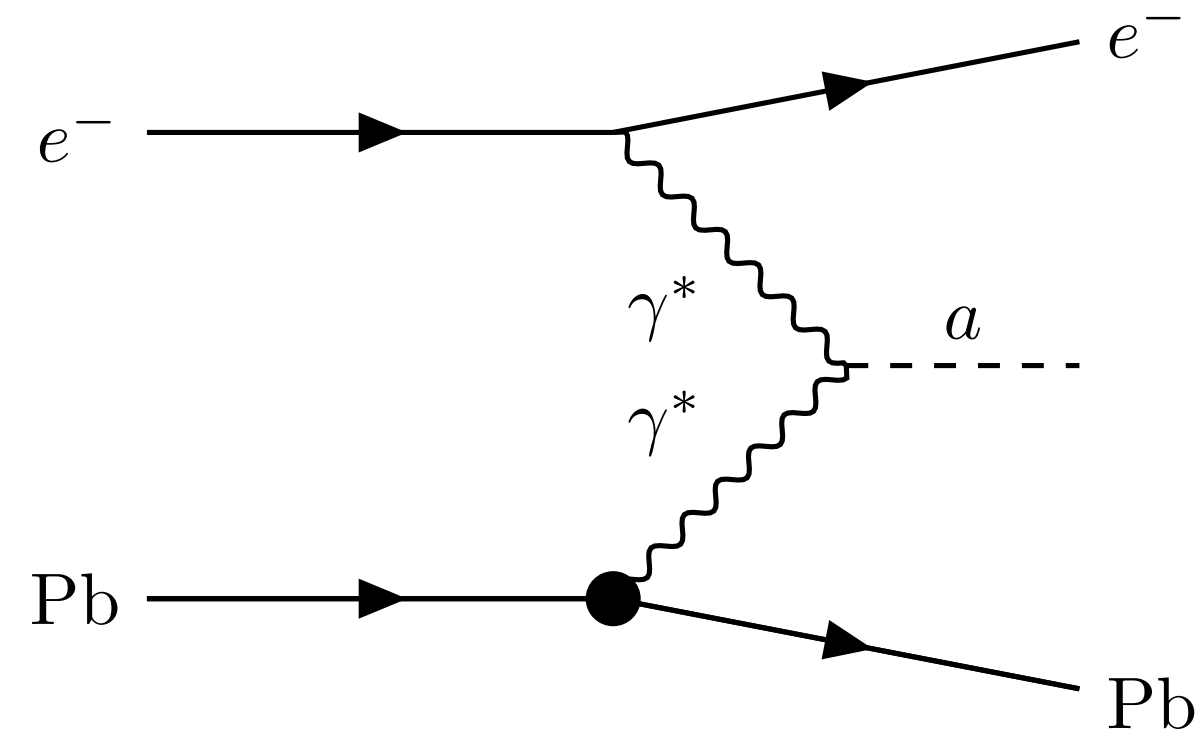
How can we go further?



Axions at electron-ion collider (EIC)

$$E_e = 18 \text{ GeV}$$

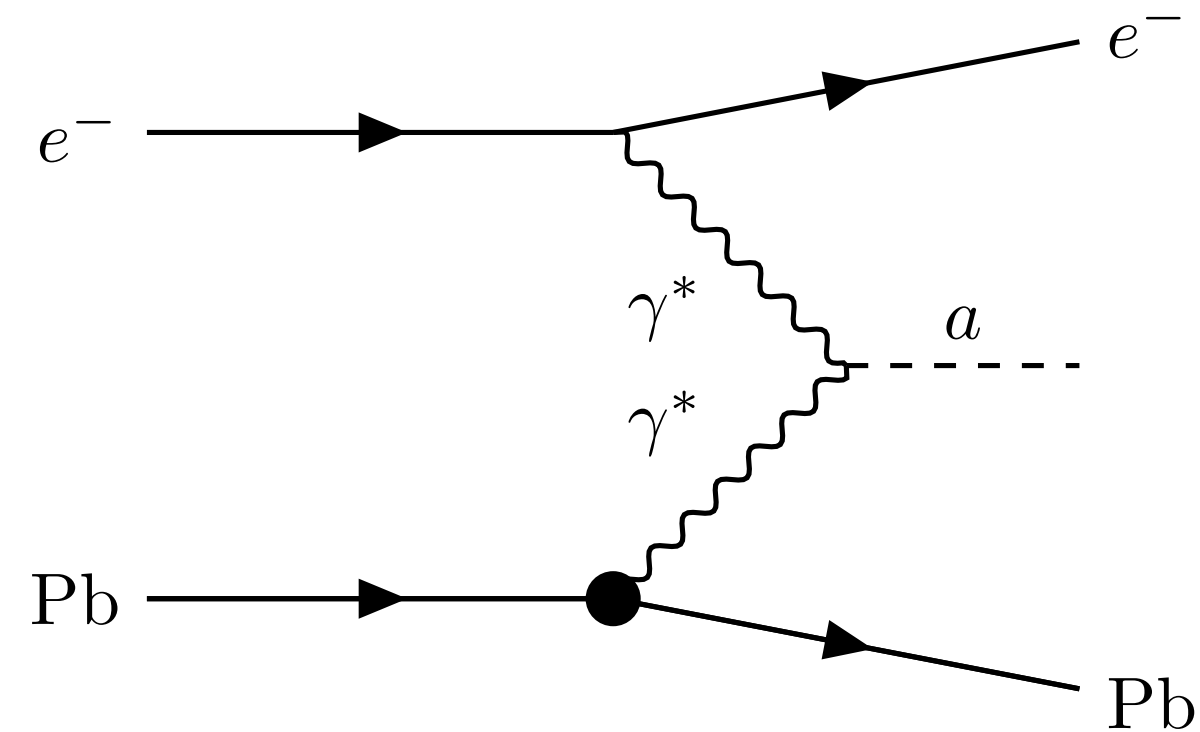
$$E_{\text{Pb}} = 20 \text{ TeV}$$



Axions at electron-ion collider (EIC)

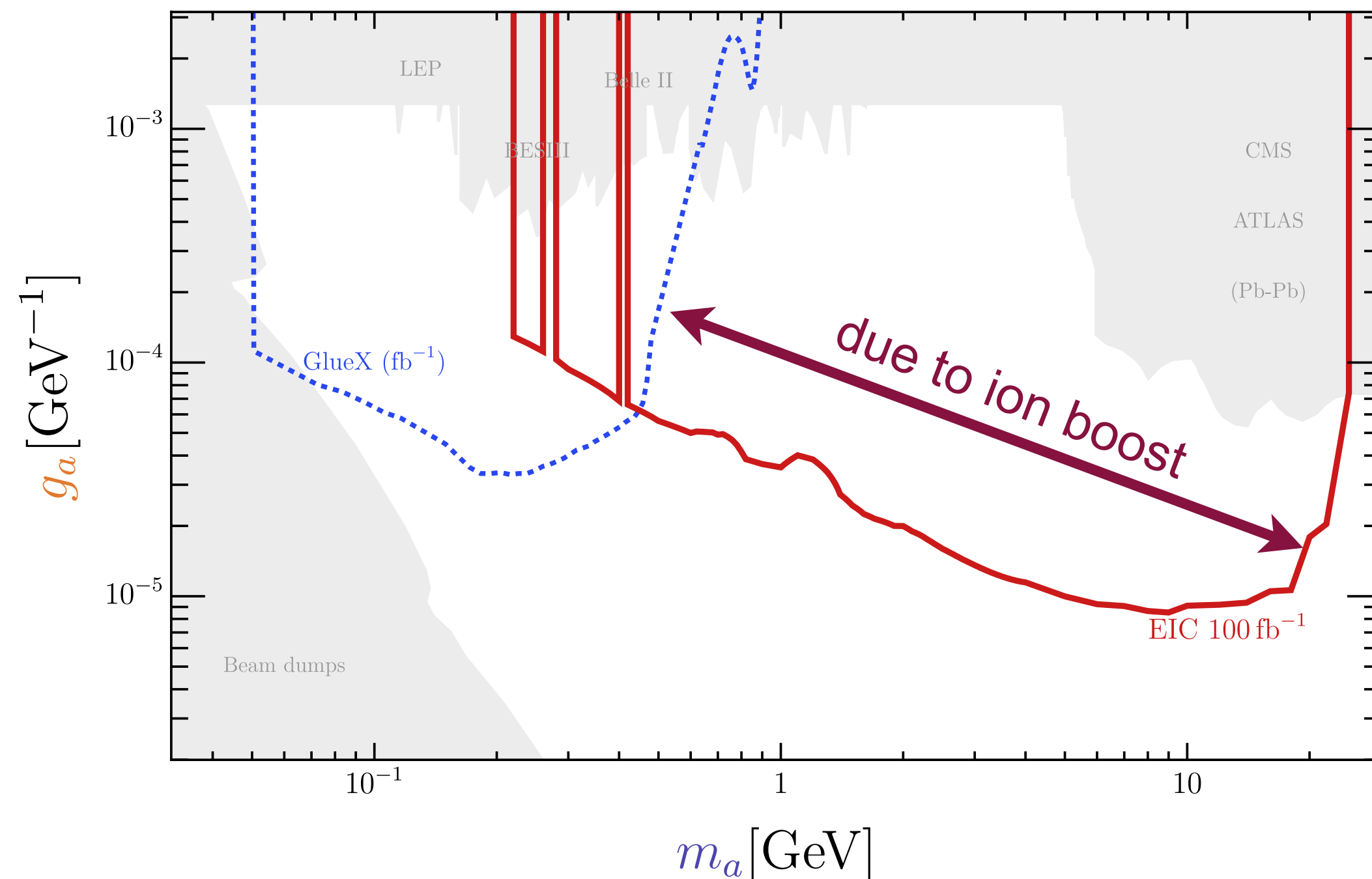
$$E_e = 18 \text{ GeV}$$

$$E_{\text{Pb}} = 20 \text{ TeV}$$



coherent production of new particles up to $m_a \sim 20 \text{ GeV}$

prompt

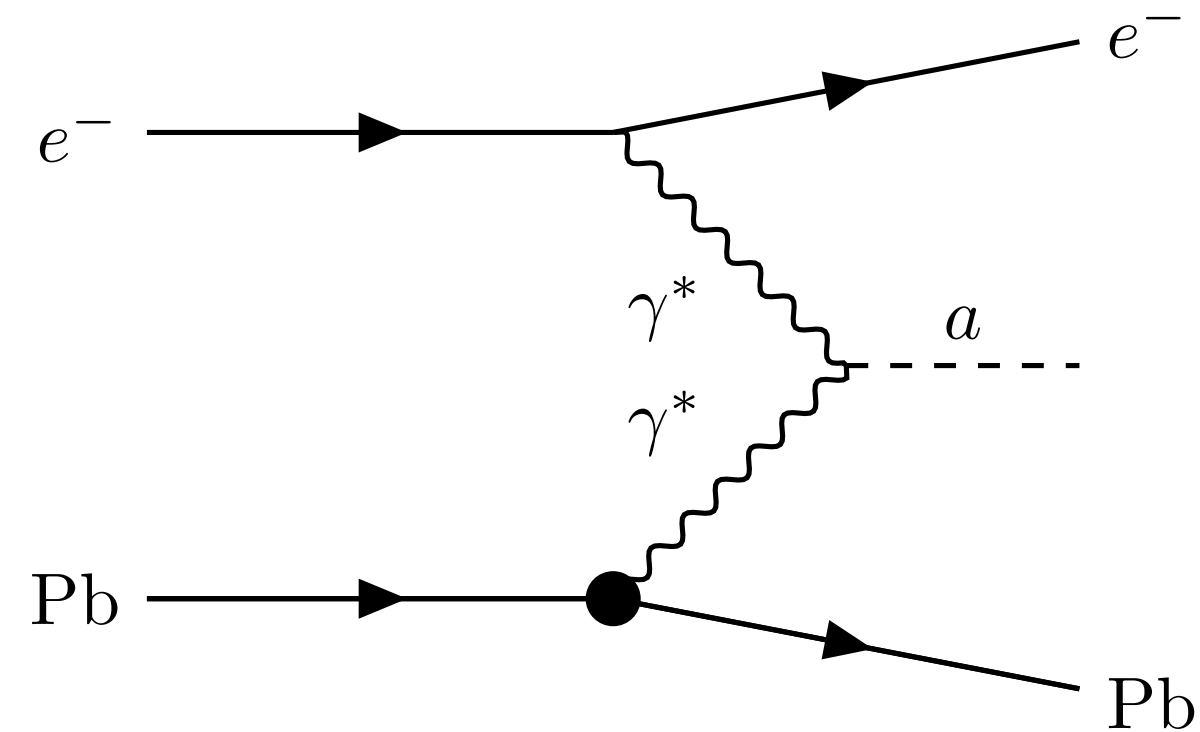


axion is produced and promptly decays to photons

Axions at electron-ion collider (EIC)

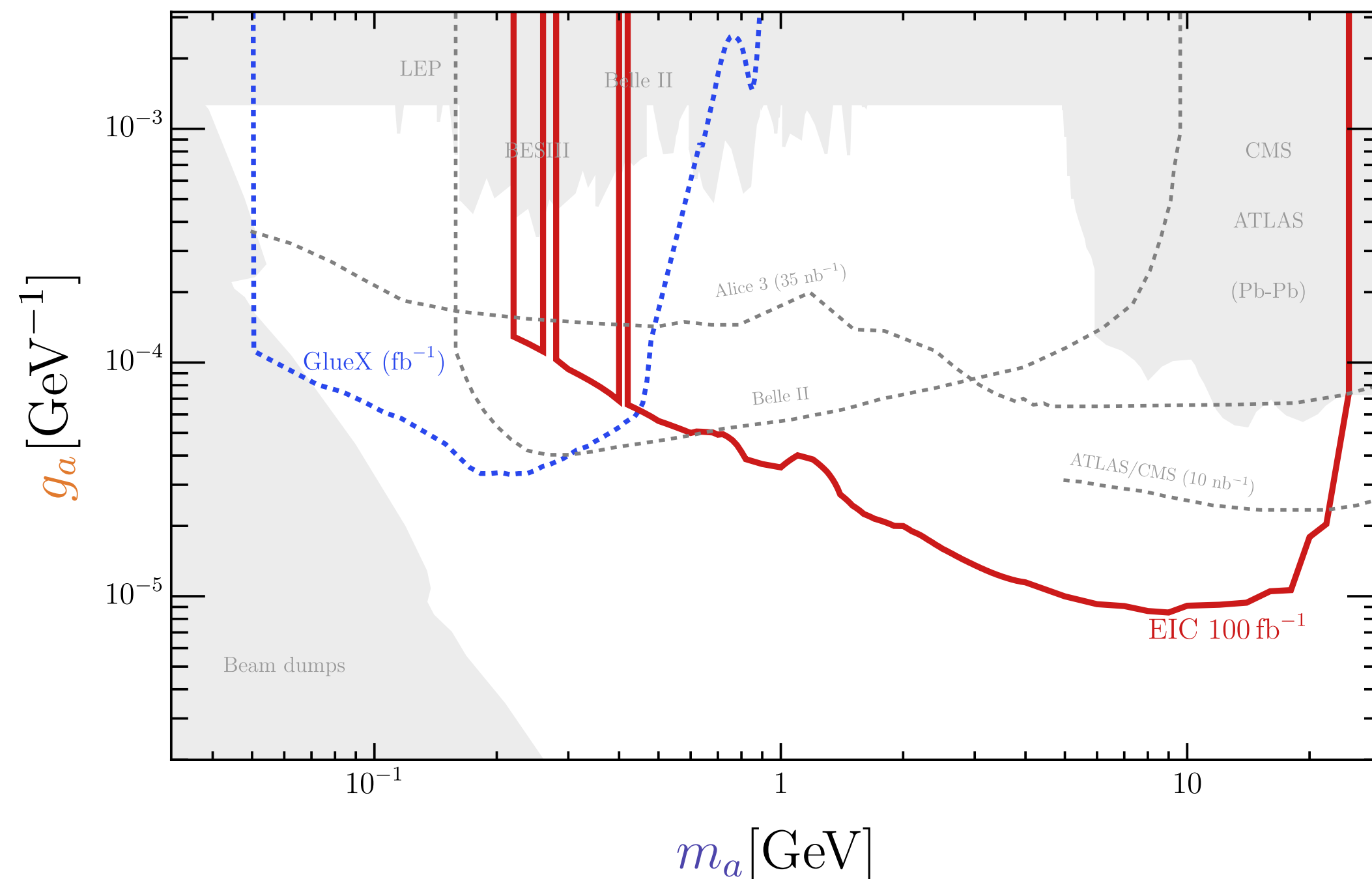
$$E_e = 18 \text{ GeV}$$

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coherent production of new particles up to $m_a \sim 20 \text{ GeV}$

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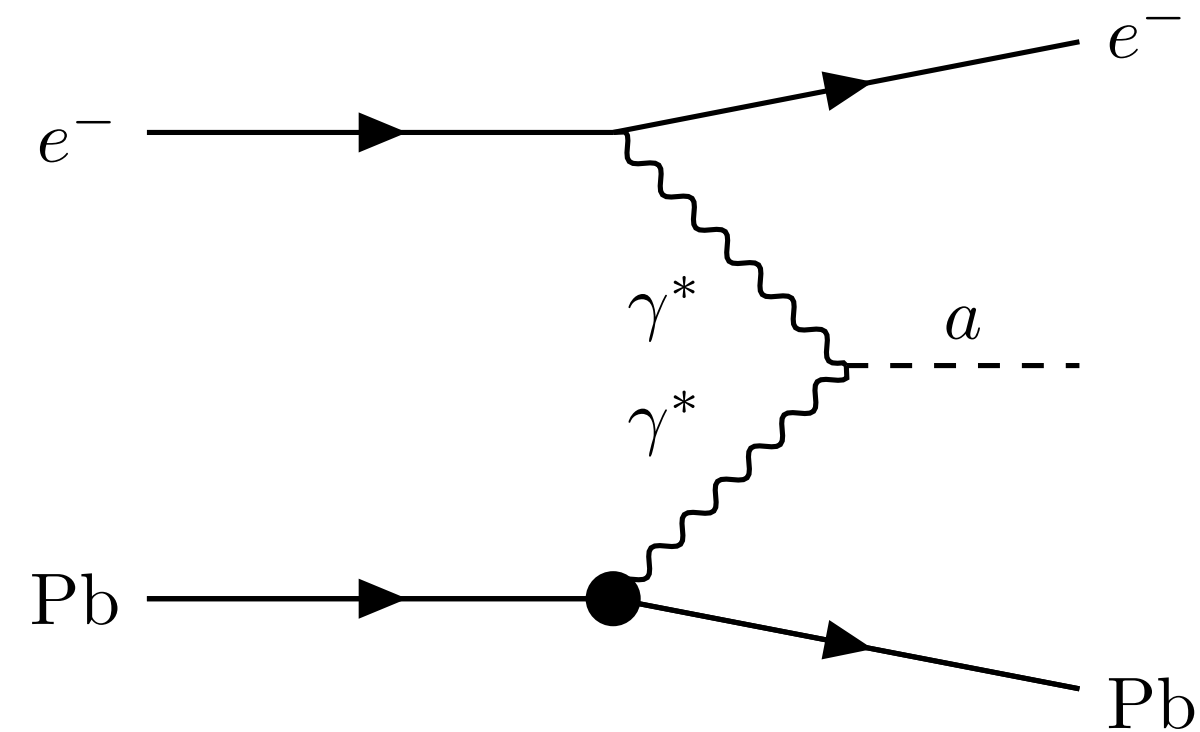


axion is produced and promptly decays to photons

Axions at electron-ion collider (EIC)

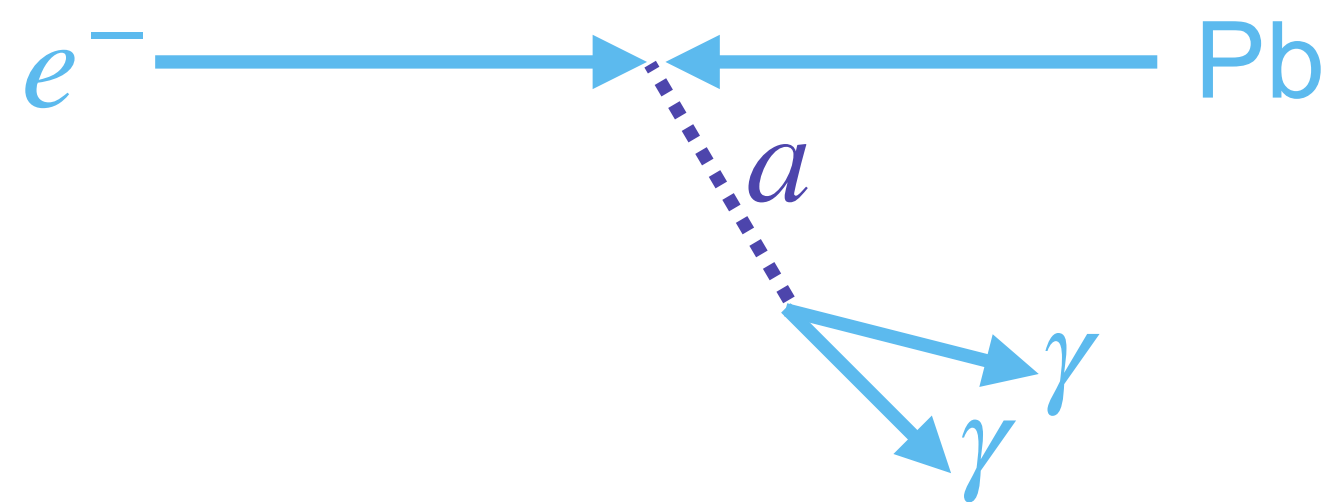
$$E_e = 18 \text{ GeV}$$

$$E_{\text{Pb}} = 20 \text{ TeV}$$

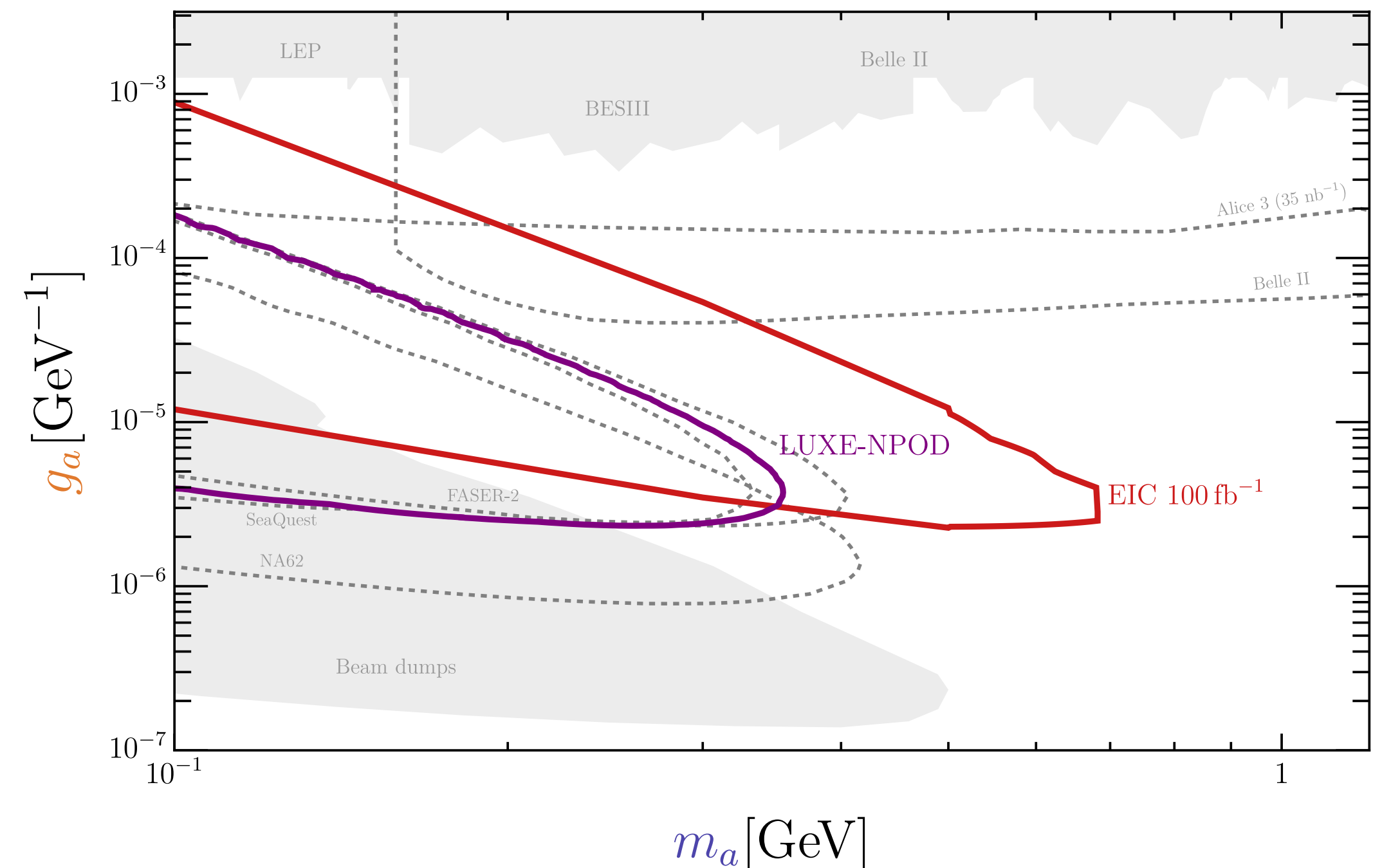


coherent production of new particles up to $m_a \sim 20 \text{ GeV}$

axion is produced, travels a finite distance and decays to photons



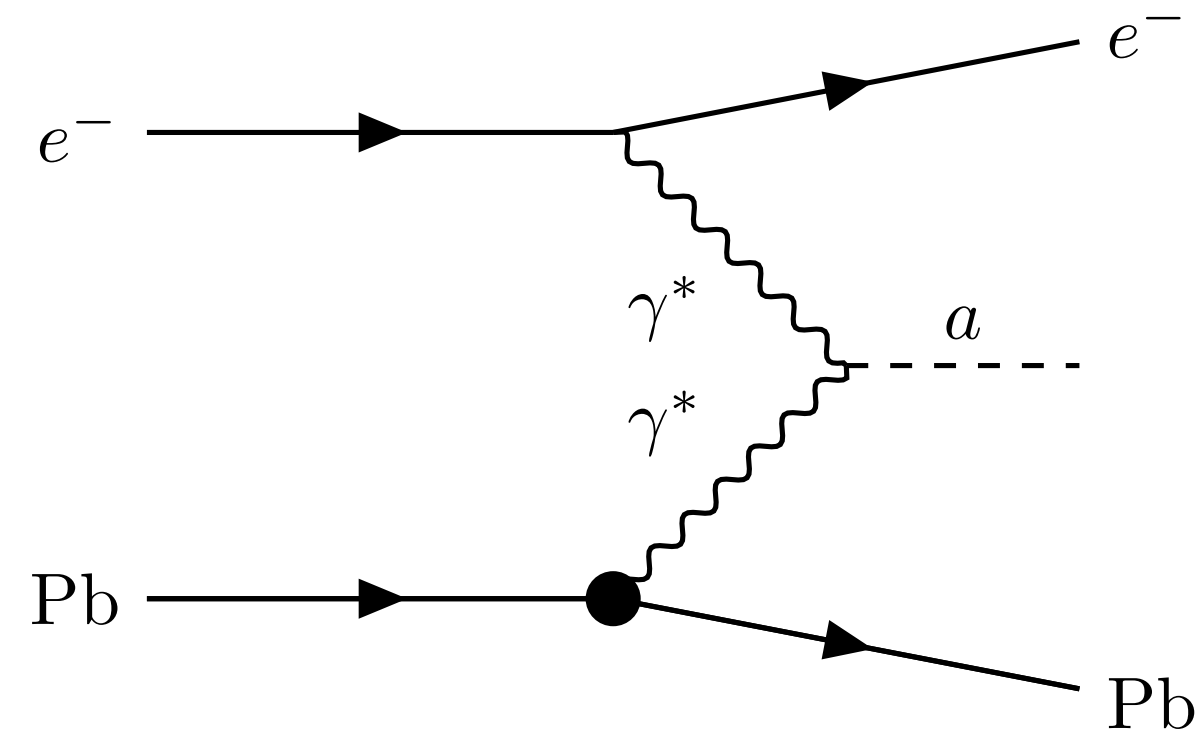
displaced



Axions at electron-ion collider (EIC)

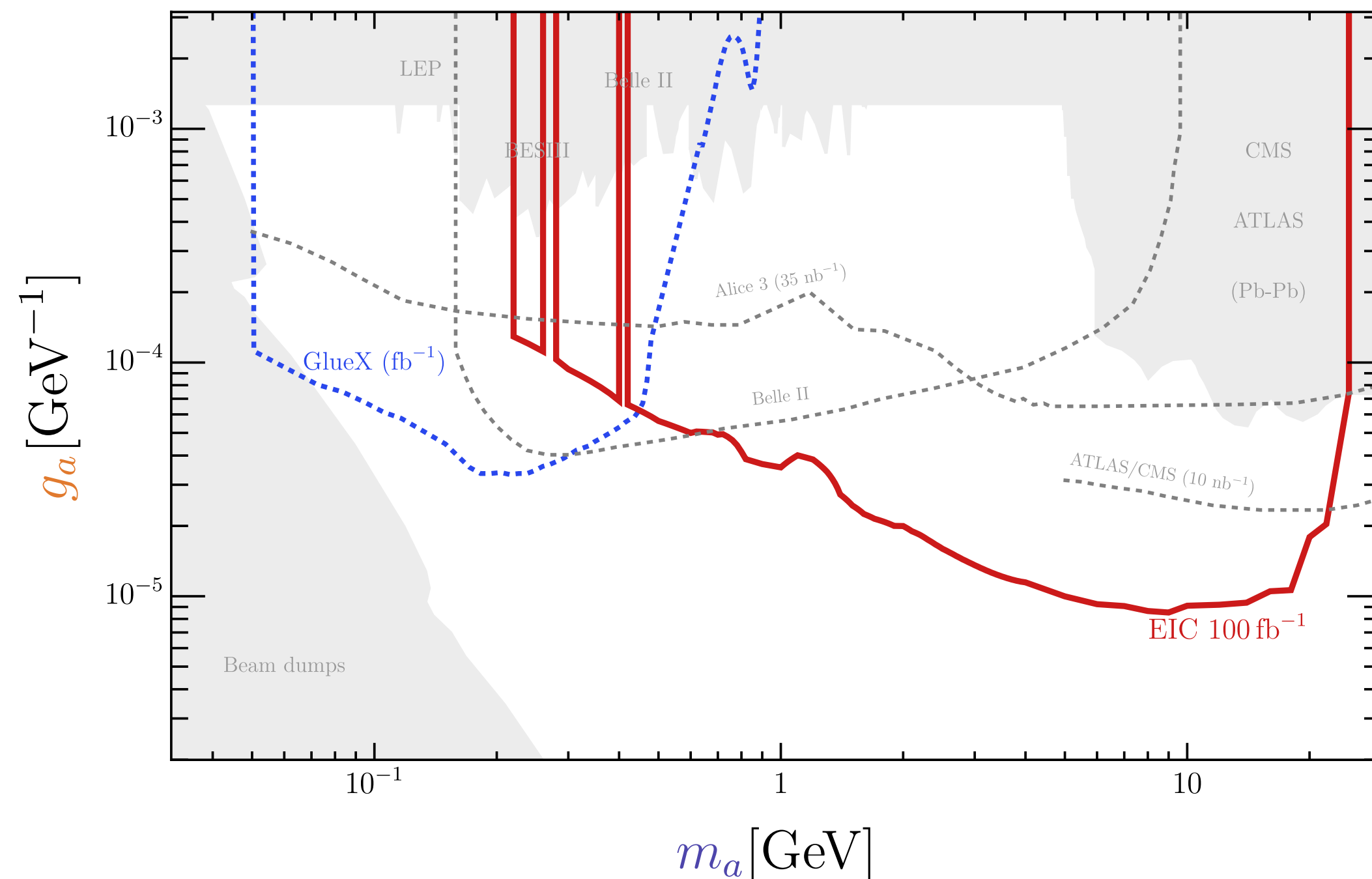
$$E_e = 18 \text{ GeV}$$

$$E_{\text{Pb}} = 20 \text{ TeV}$$

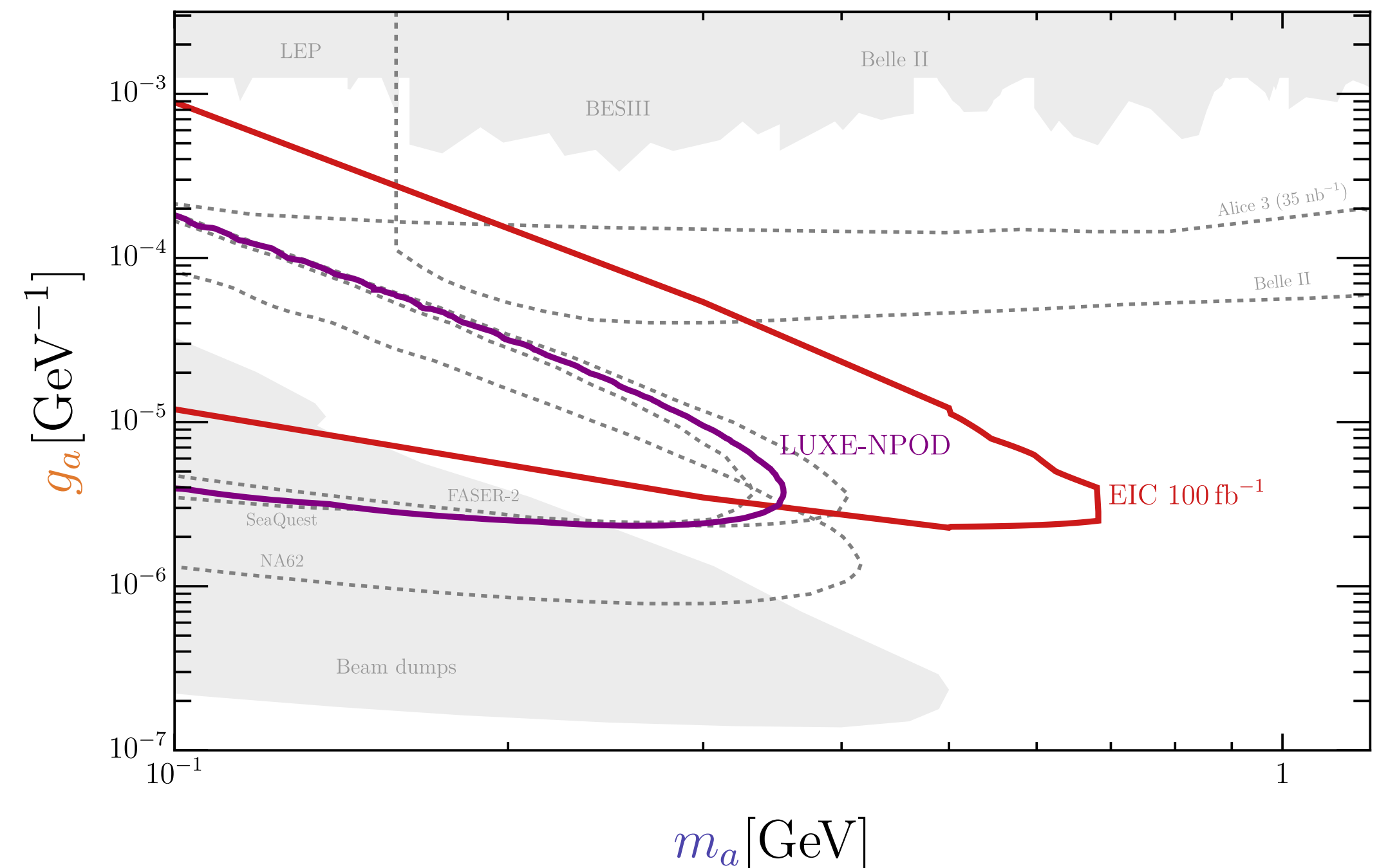


coherent production of new particles up to $m_a \sim 20 \text{ GeV}$

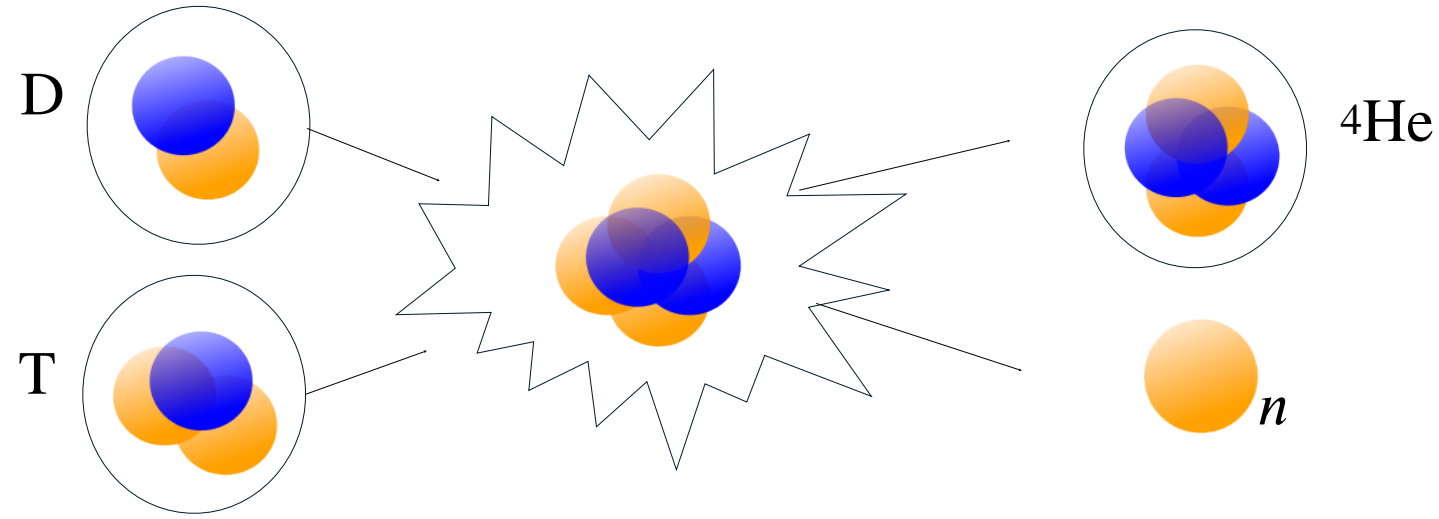
prompt



displaced



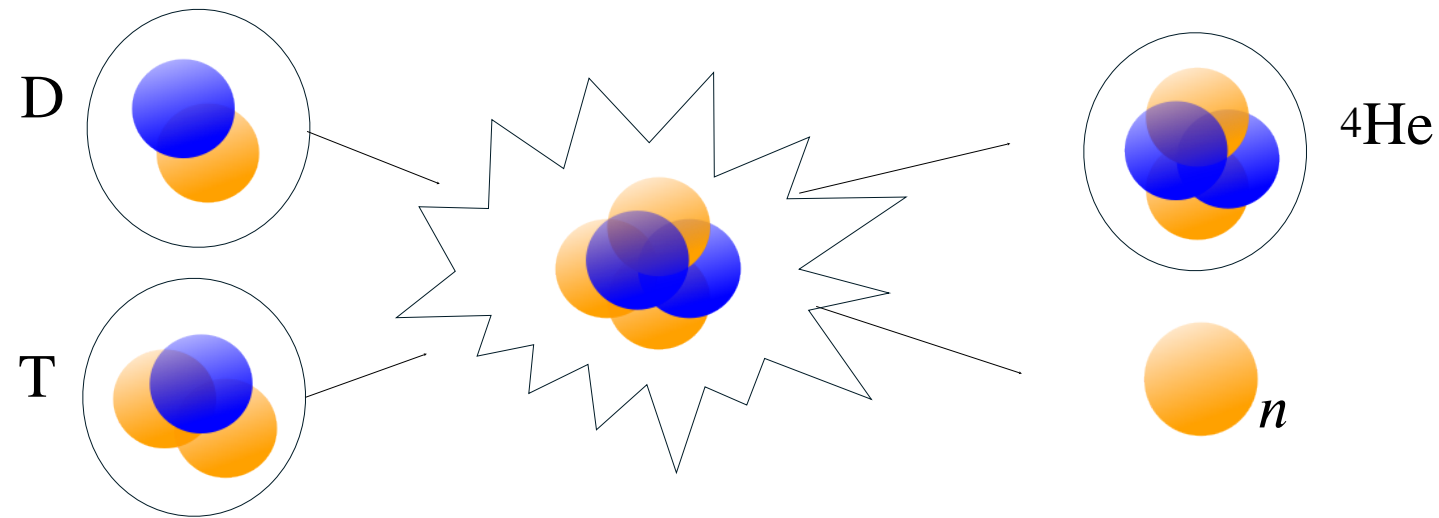
BSM at Fusion reactors



utilize the huge neutron flux

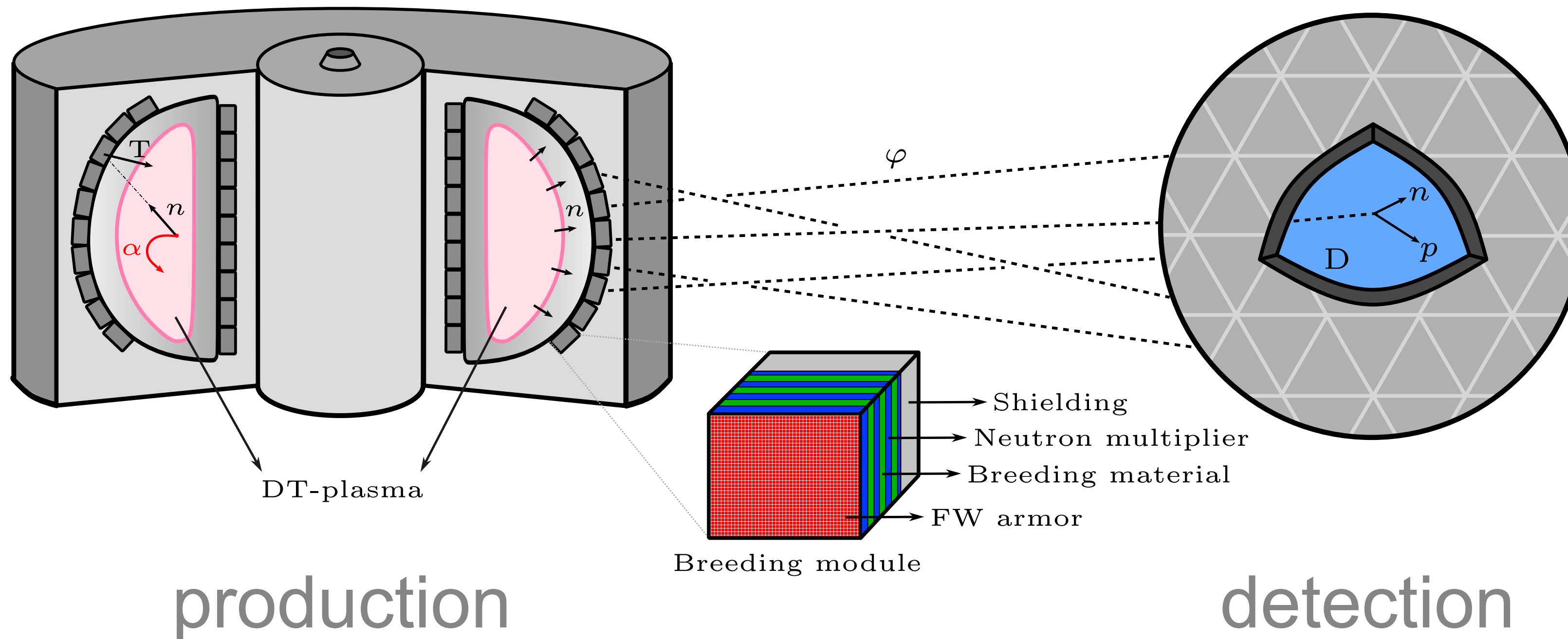
$$\Phi_n^{\text{total}} \sim 10^{15} \text{cm}^{-2}\text{sec}^{-1}$$

BSM at Fusion reactors



utilize the huge neutron flux

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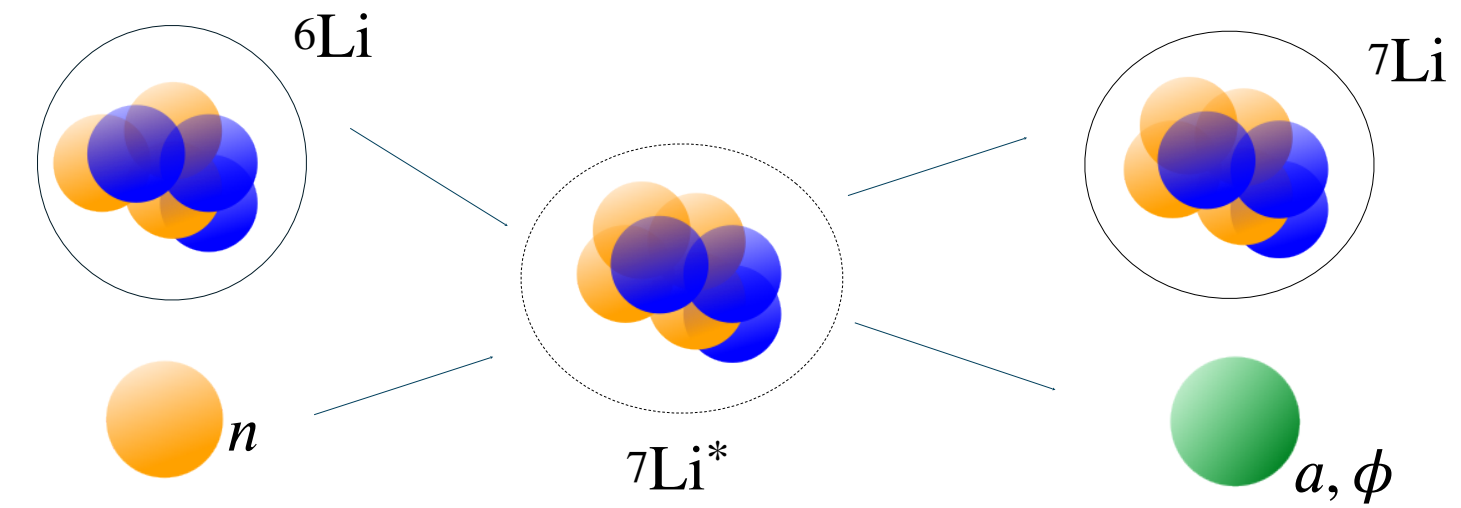


New physics production

utilize the huge neutron flux
+ blanket as a target

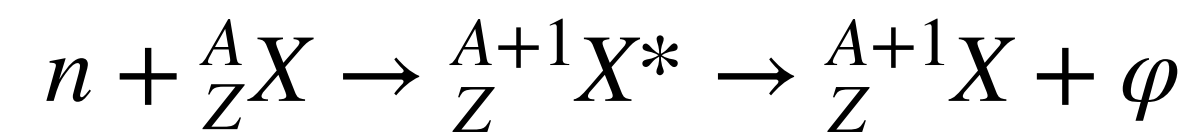
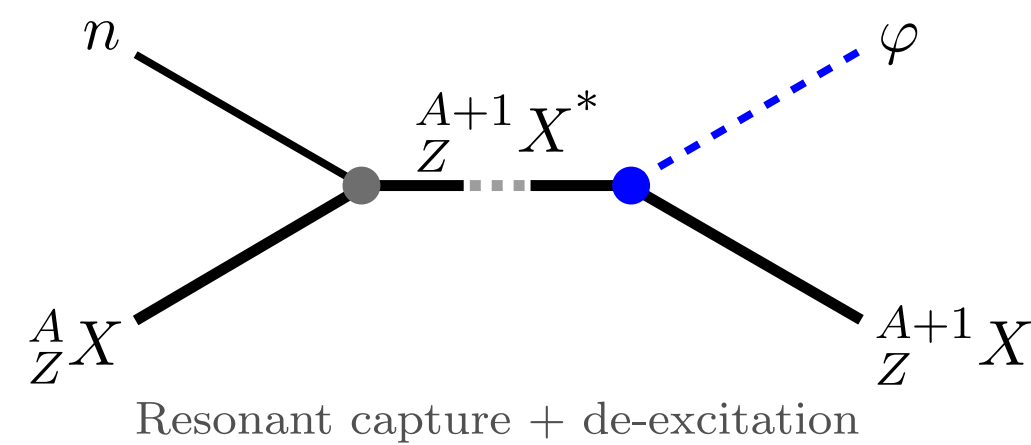
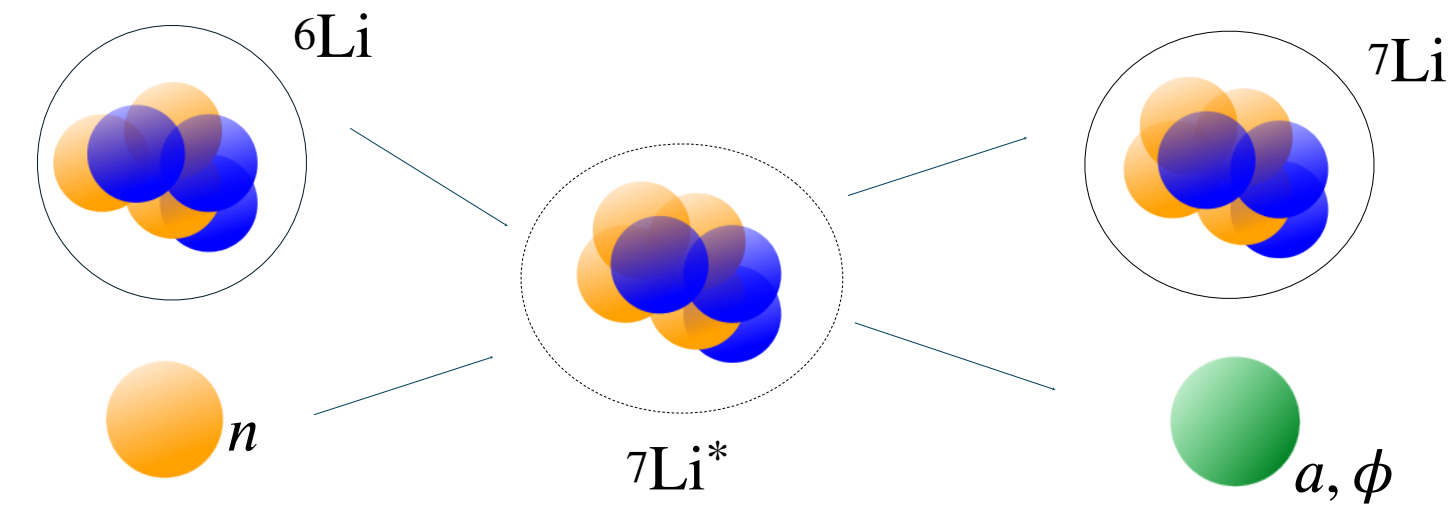
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New physics production

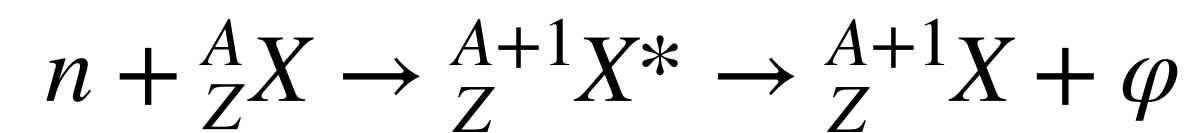
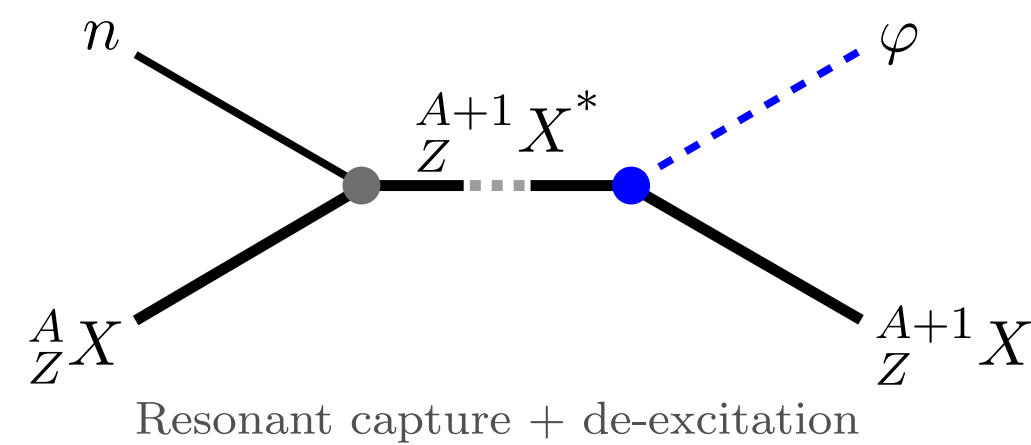
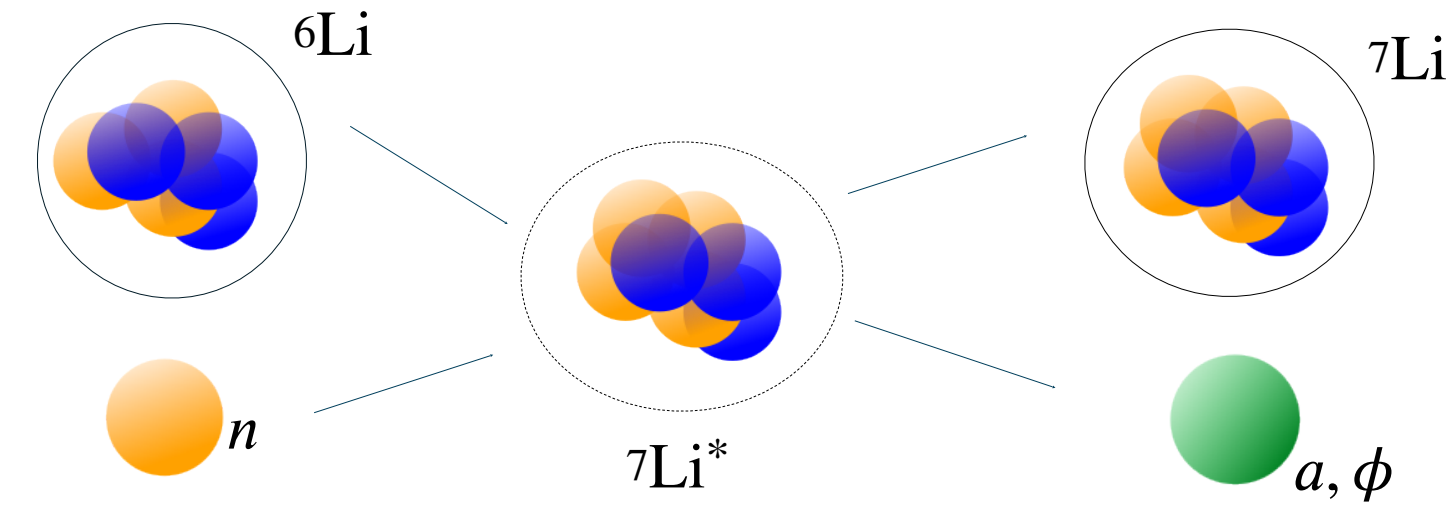
utilize the huge neutron flux
+ blanket as a target



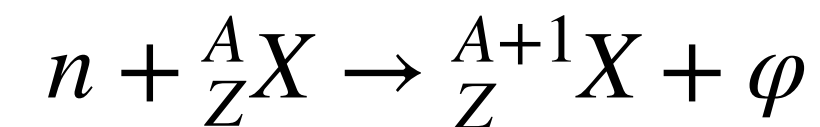
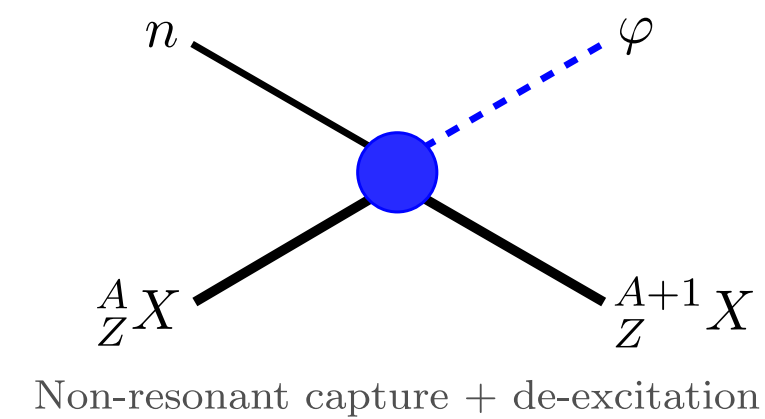
$$\frac{\sigma_{a;\text{M1}}}{\sigma_{\gamma;\text{M1}}} \propto \left(\frac{p_a}{E_\gamma} \right)^3 \frac{g_{ap}^2}{2\pi\alpha}, \quad \frac{\sigma_{\phi;\text{M1}}}{\sigma_{\gamma;\text{M1}}} \propto \frac{p_\phi}{E_\gamma} \frac{g_{\phi p}^2}{2\pi\alpha}$$

New physics production

utilize the huge neutron flux
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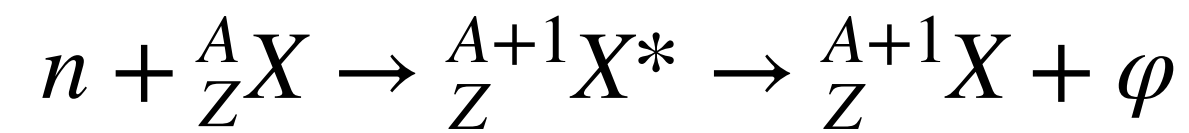
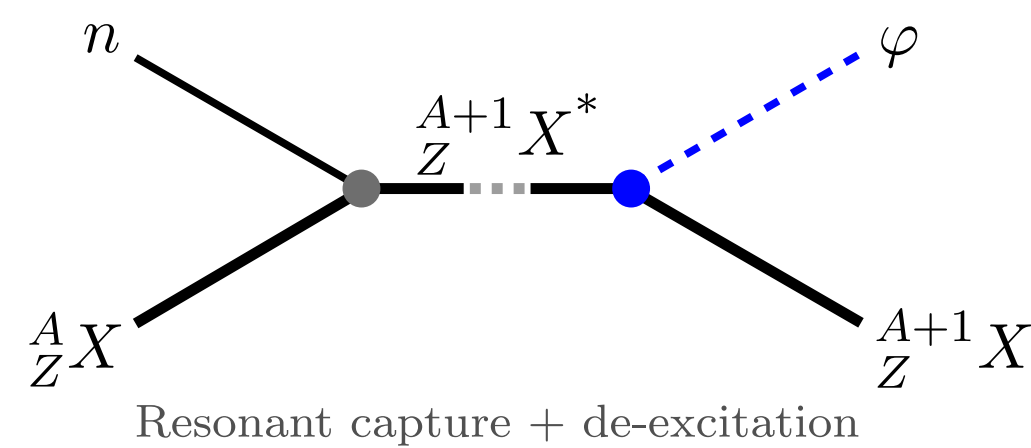
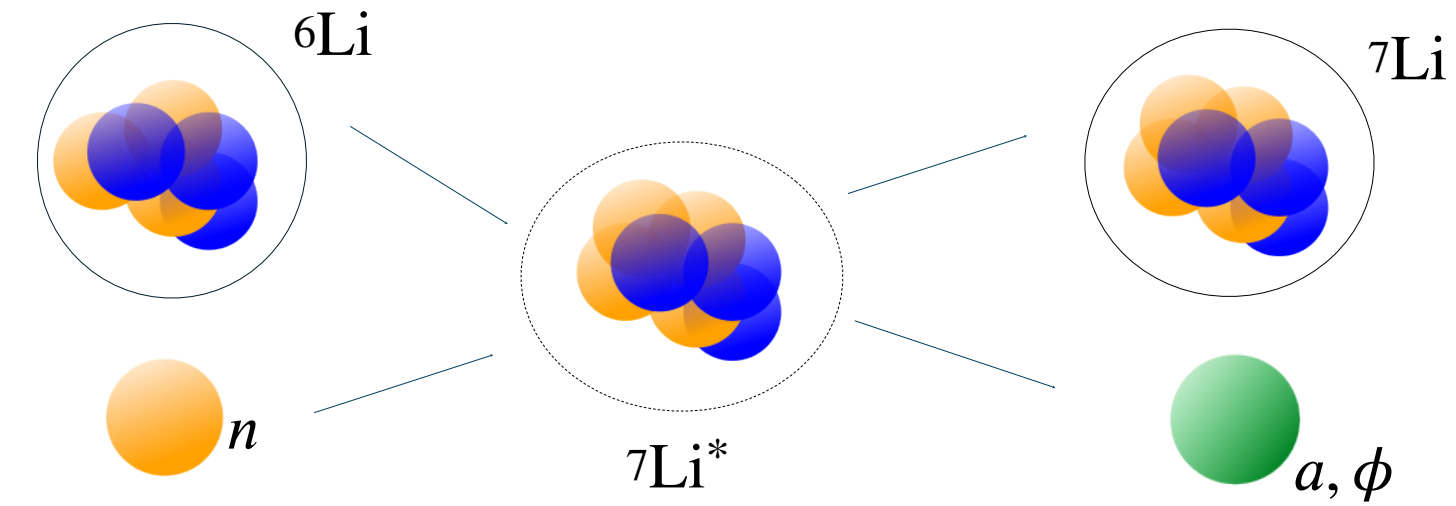
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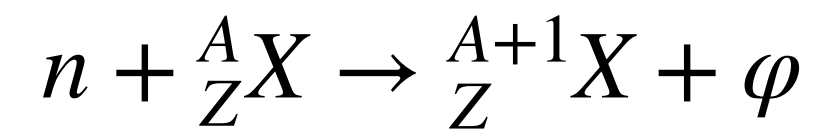
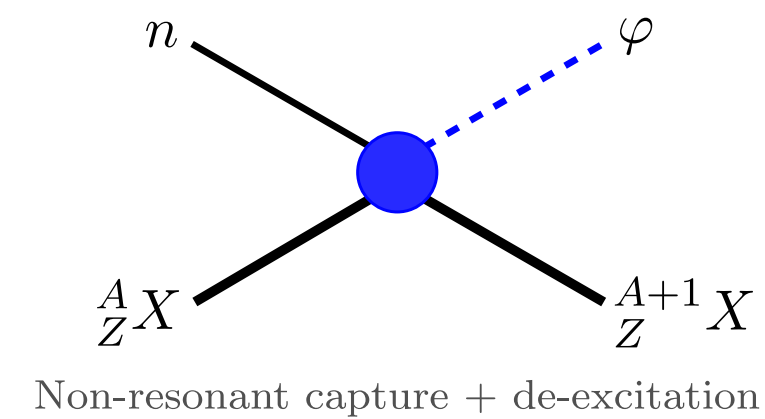
$$\frac{\sigma_{\phi}^{\text{non-res}}}{\sigma_{\gamma;\text{E1}}^{\text{non-res}}} \sim \frac{g_{\phi p}^2}{e^2} \frac{Q^2}{E_\gamma^2} \frac{p_\phi}{E_\gamma}$$

New physics production

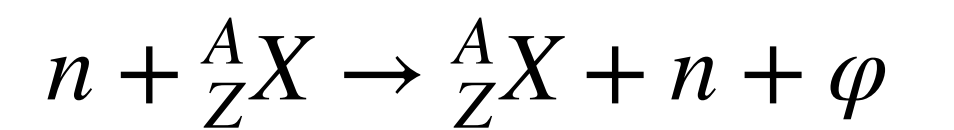
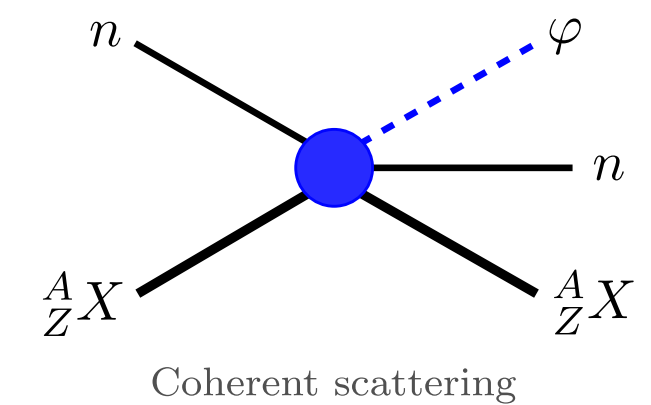
utilize the huge neutron flux
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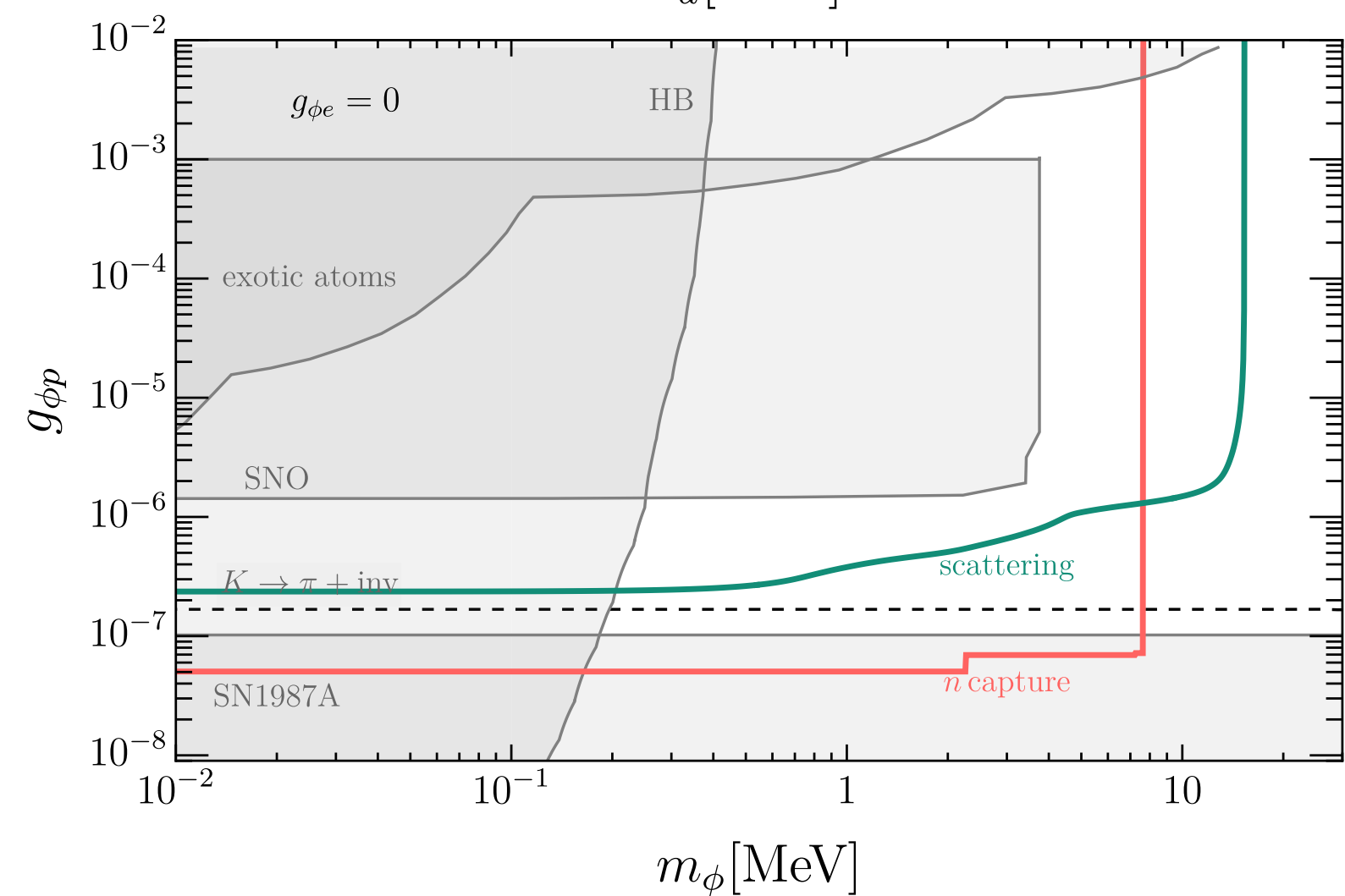
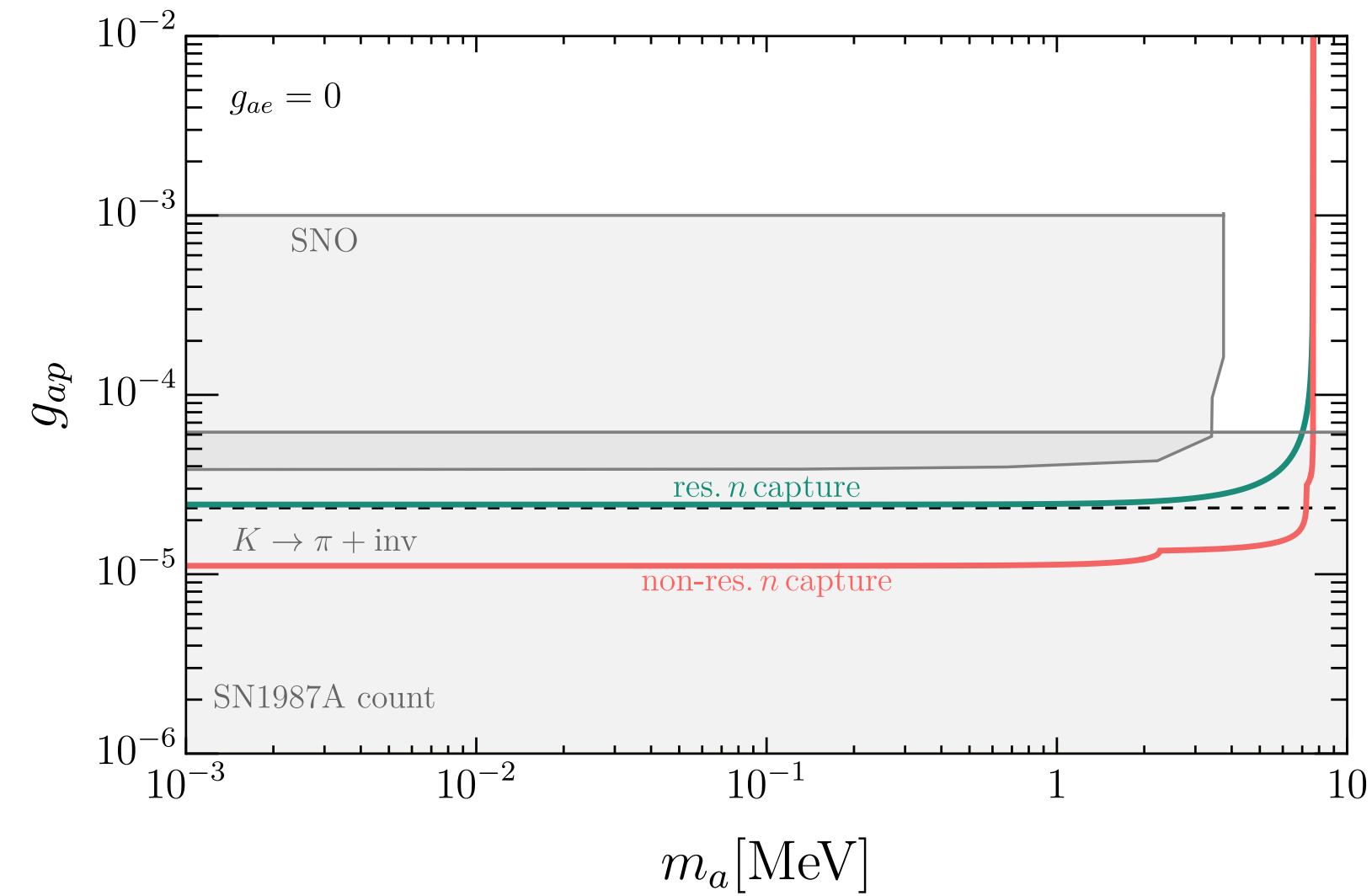
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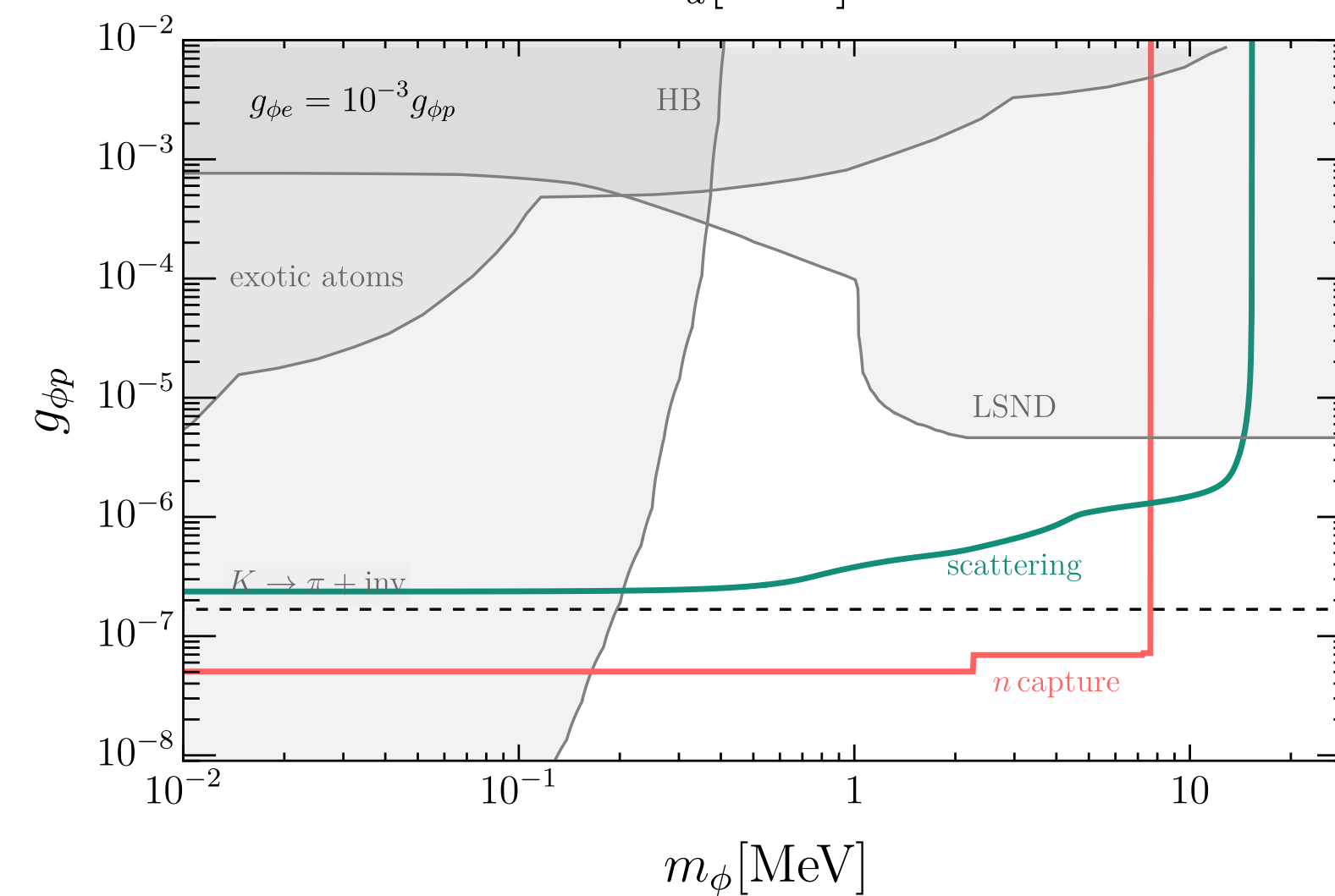
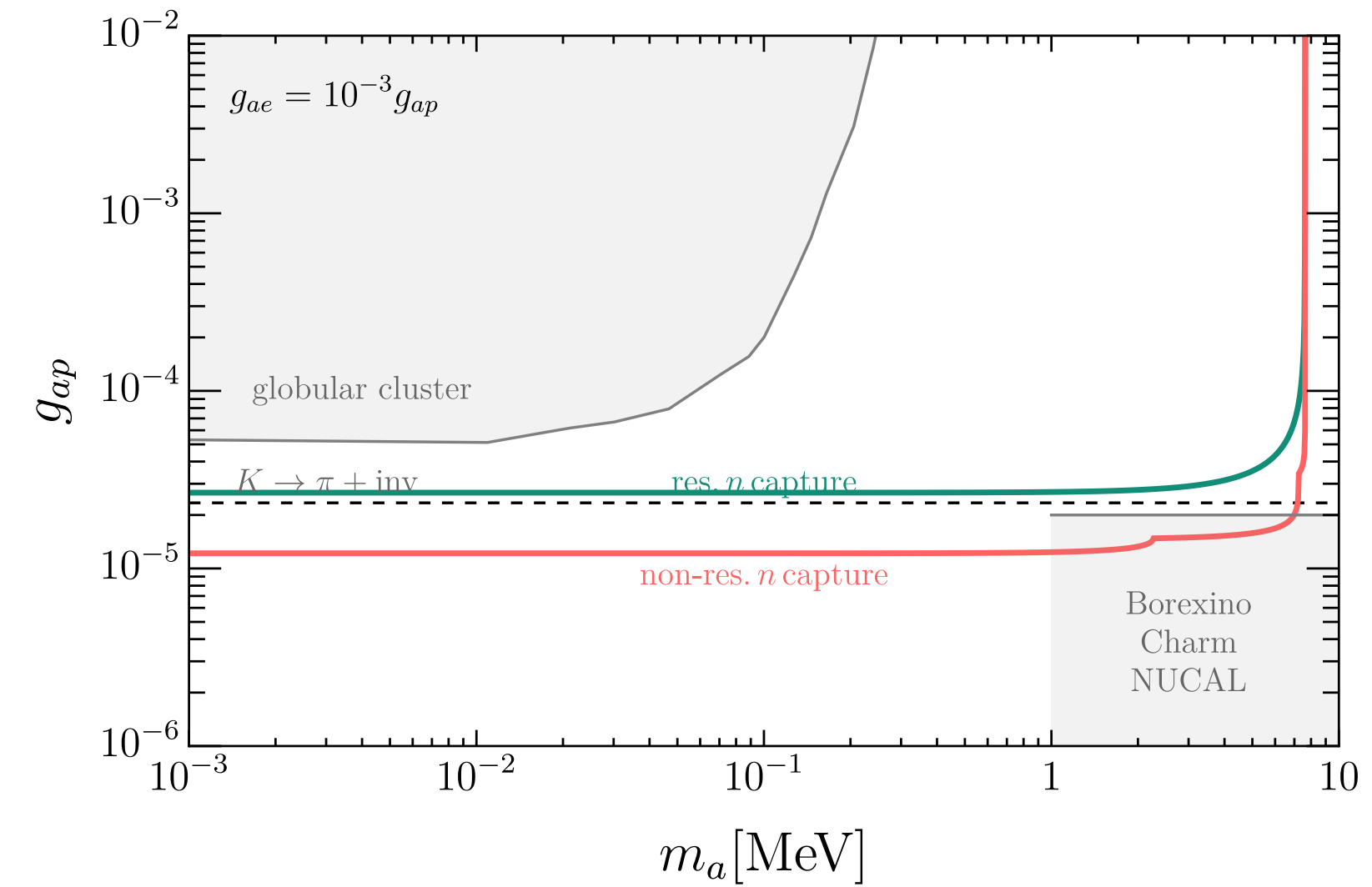
$$\frac{\sigma_\phi}{\sigma_{\text{SM}}} \sim \frac{Z^2 g_{\phi p}^2}{16\pi^2 E_\phi^3} \left(E_\phi^2 - m_\phi^2 \right)^{3/2}$$

BSM at Fusion reactors

only proton coupling



proton + small electron couplings



Summary

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- * Kaon decay can be disentangled from spectroscopy.

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- * Precision spectroscopy is a powerful probe of new hadronic interactions.

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- * Kaon decay can be disentangled from spectroscopy.
- * Precision spectroscopy is a powerful probe of new hadronic interactions.
- * In the next coming years new options will be open for ALPs physics (LUXE, EIC).

backups

Kaon decays: $K \rightarrow \pi\phi$

$$\mathcal{M}(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+\phi) = \frac{1}{f} \left\{ \frac{1}{2}(\kappa_W - K_\Theta) \left[\gamma_1(m_K^2 - m_\phi^2 + m_\pi^2) - 2\gamma_2(m_K^2 + m_\pi^2\delta_I) \right] + \frac{1}{4}\kappa_{sd}^{\phi*} [2m_K^2 - m_\pi^2(1 - \delta_I)] + \frac{m_\pi^2}{4}\kappa_{ds}^{\phi*}(1 + \delta_I) \right. \\ \left. - \frac{m_\pi^2}{4} \left(\kappa_u^\phi - \frac{\kappa_{s+d}^\phi}{2} \right) \gamma_1(1 - \delta_I) + \frac{m_\pi^2\kappa_{s-d}^\phi}{8(m_K^2 - m_\pi^2)} \left(m_K^2[(3 + \delta_I)\gamma_1 - 4(1 + \delta_I)\gamma_2] - m_\pi^2[(1 - \delta_I)\gamma_1 - 2\gamma_2] \right) \right\}$$

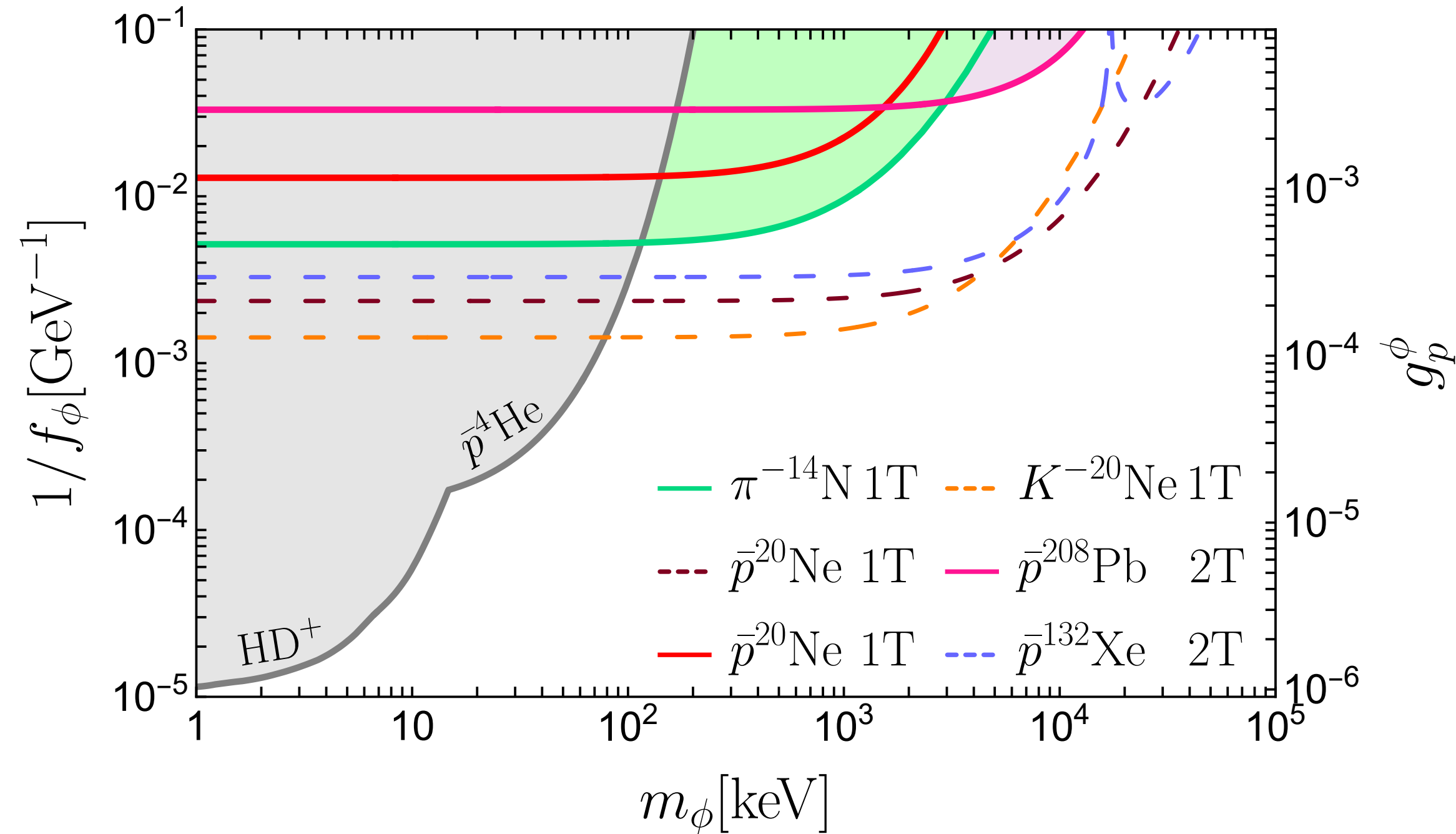
$$\mathcal{M}(K_L \rightarrow \pi^0\phi) = -\frac{1}{f} \left\{ \frac{1}{2}(\kappa_W - K_\Theta) \left[\gamma_1(m_K^2 - m_\phi^2 + m_\pi^2) - 2\gamma_2m_K^2 \right] + \frac{1}{4}\text{Re } \kappa_{sd}^\phi [2m_K^2 - m_\pi^2(1 + \delta_I)] \right. \\ \left. + \frac{m_\pi^2}{4}\text{Re } \kappa_{ds}^\phi(1 + \delta_I) + \frac{\kappa_{s-d}^\phi m_\pi^2}{4(m_K^2 - m_\pi^2)}(\gamma_1 - \gamma_2)[2m_K^2(1 + \tilde{\delta}_I) - m_\pi^2] \right\}$$

$$\mathcal{M}(K_S \rightarrow \pi_{\text{int}}^0\phi) = \frac{1}{4f} \left\{ \text{Im } \kappa_{sd}^\phi [2m_K^2 - m_\pi^2(1 + \delta_I)] + \text{Im } \kappa_{ds}^\phi m_\pi^2(1 + \delta_I) \right\}$$

$$\mathcal{M}(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+\phi) + \mathcal{M}(K_L \rightarrow \pi^0\phi) + i\mathcal{M}(K_S \rightarrow \pi^0\phi) = 0$$

Exotic atoms for BSM

uds-model

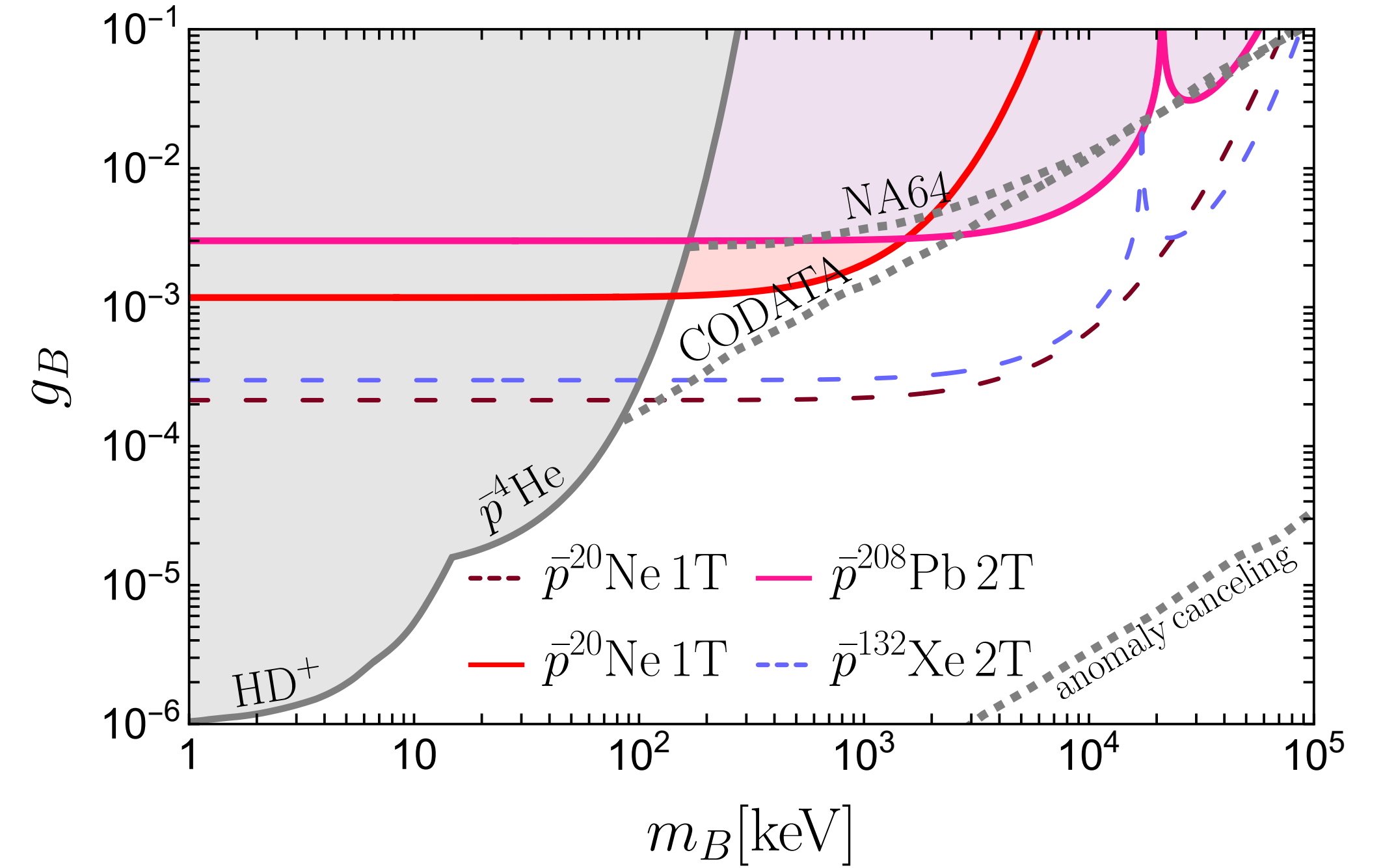


$$\frac{\phi}{f_\phi} \sum_{q=u,d,s} m_q \bar{q}q$$

avoid bounds from $K \rightarrow \pi + \text{inv}$

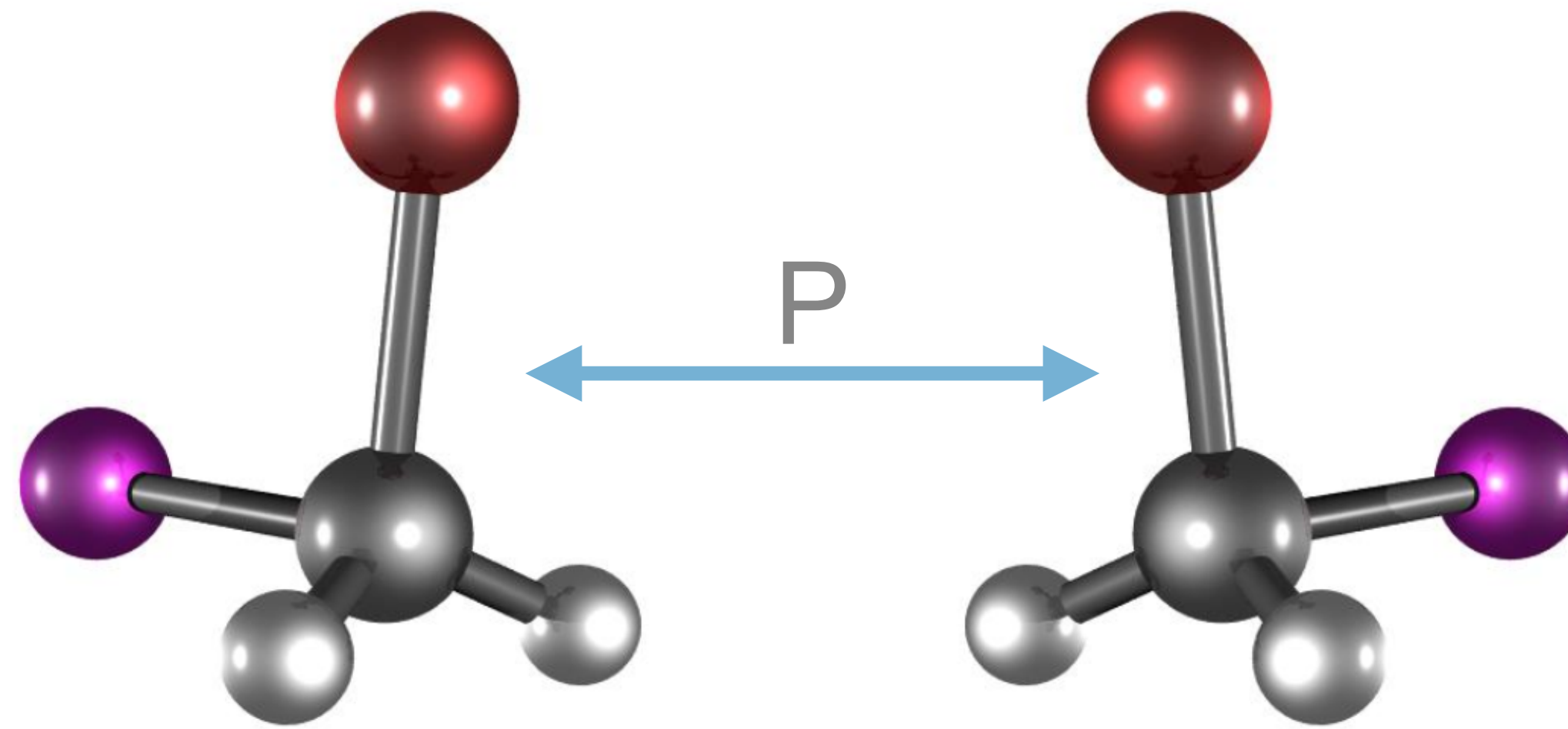
Delaunay, Kitahara, YS, Zupan, 2501.16477

B-number + invisible



$$\frac{g_B}{3} B^\mu \sum_q \bar{q} \gamma_\mu q - \frac{g_B e^2}{48 \pi^2} B^\mu \sum_\ell \bar{\ell} \gamma_\mu \ell$$

P violation in chiral molecules

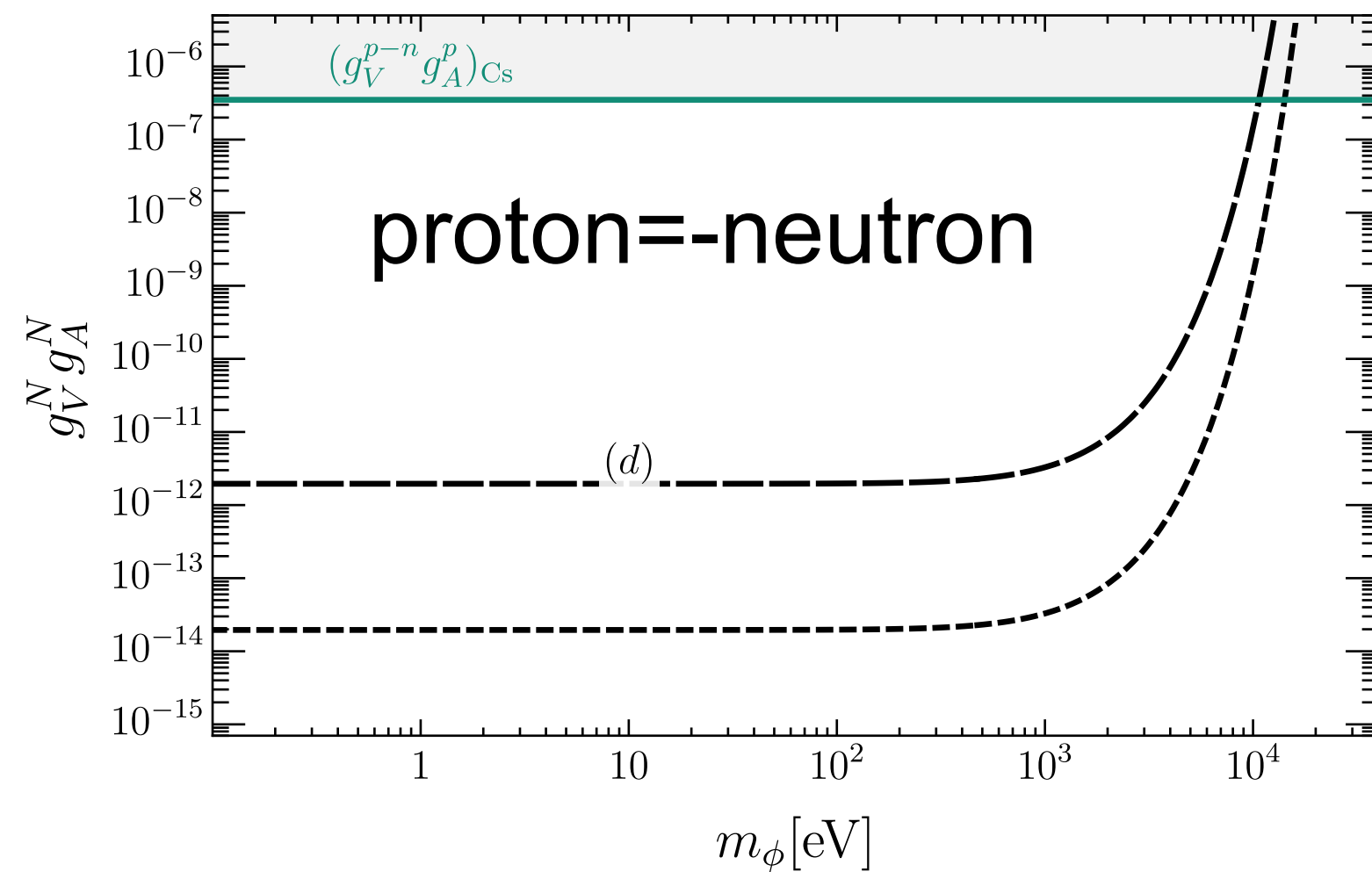
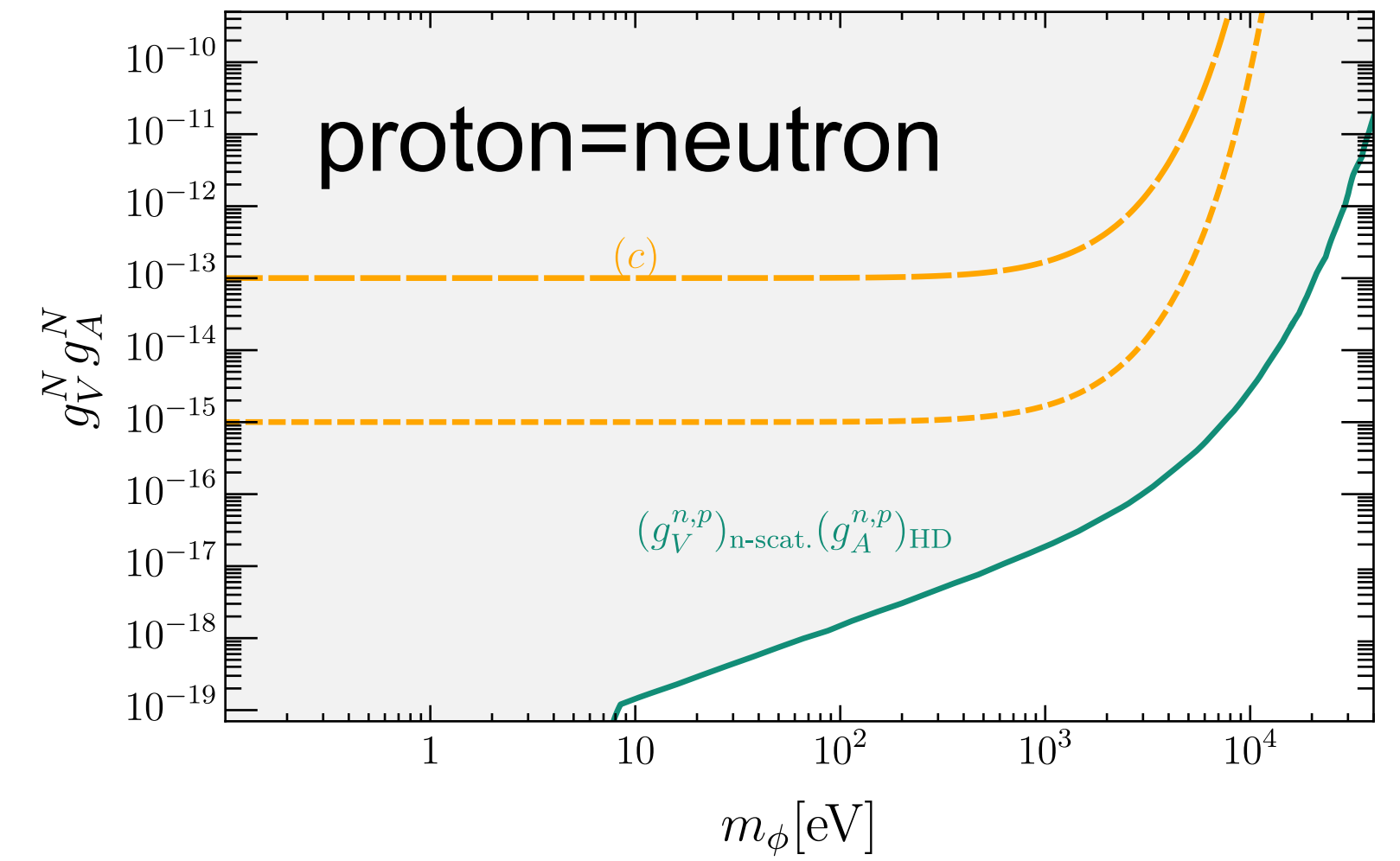
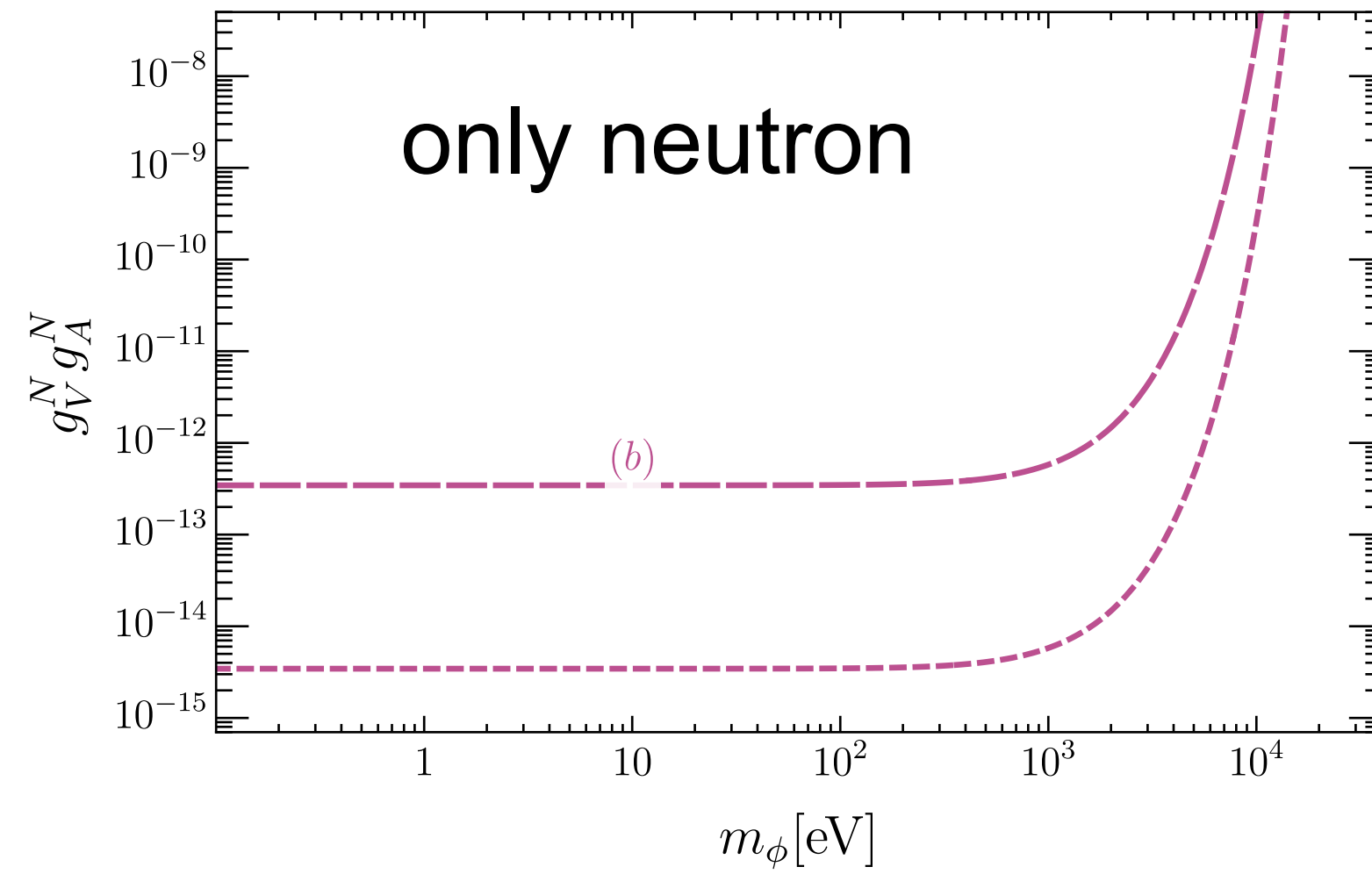
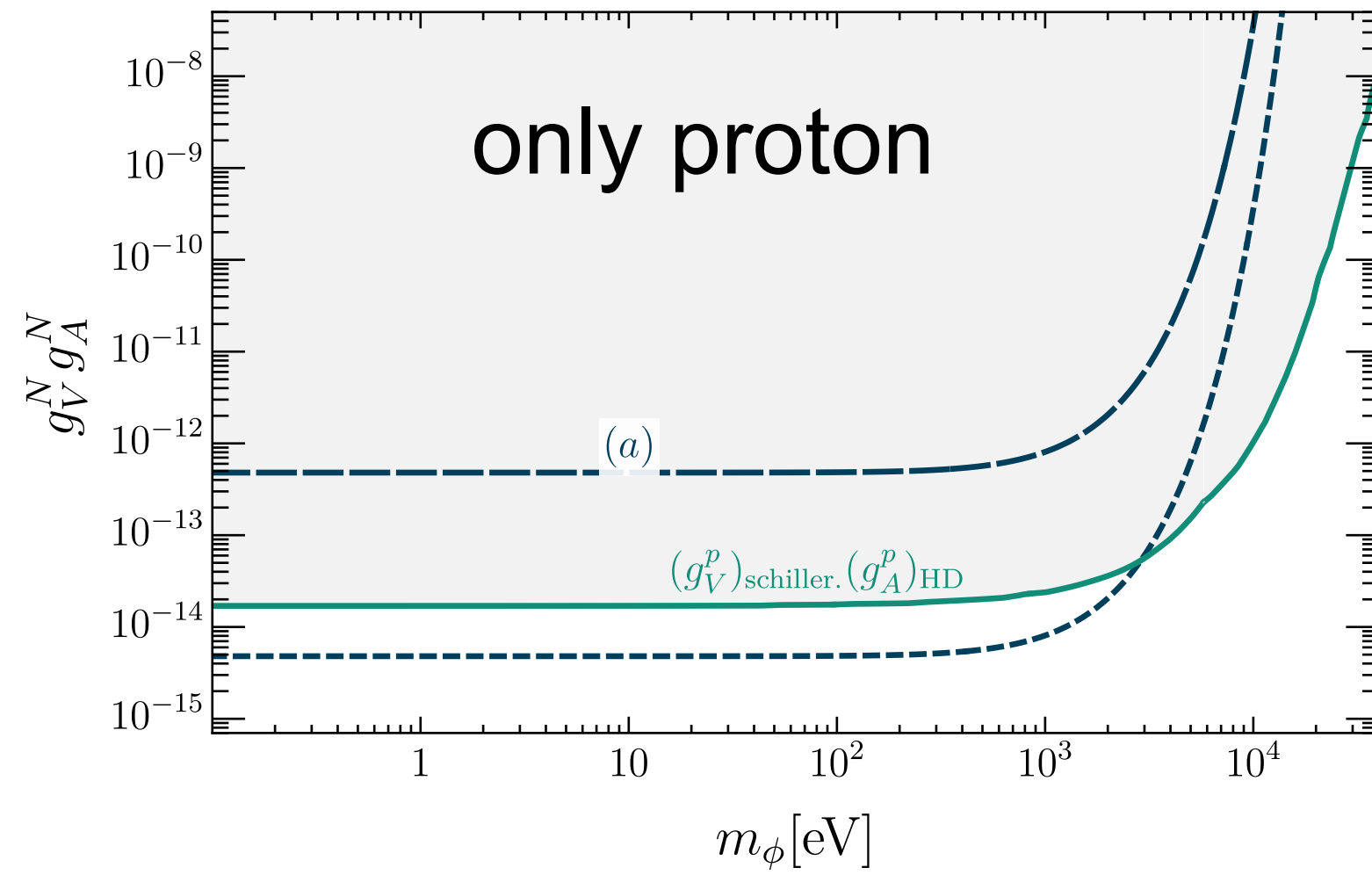


$$E_L \neq E_R \Rightarrow \text{parity violation}$$

within the SM tiny effect (weak interaction)

P violation in chiral molecules

comparing the hyperfine structure of L and R



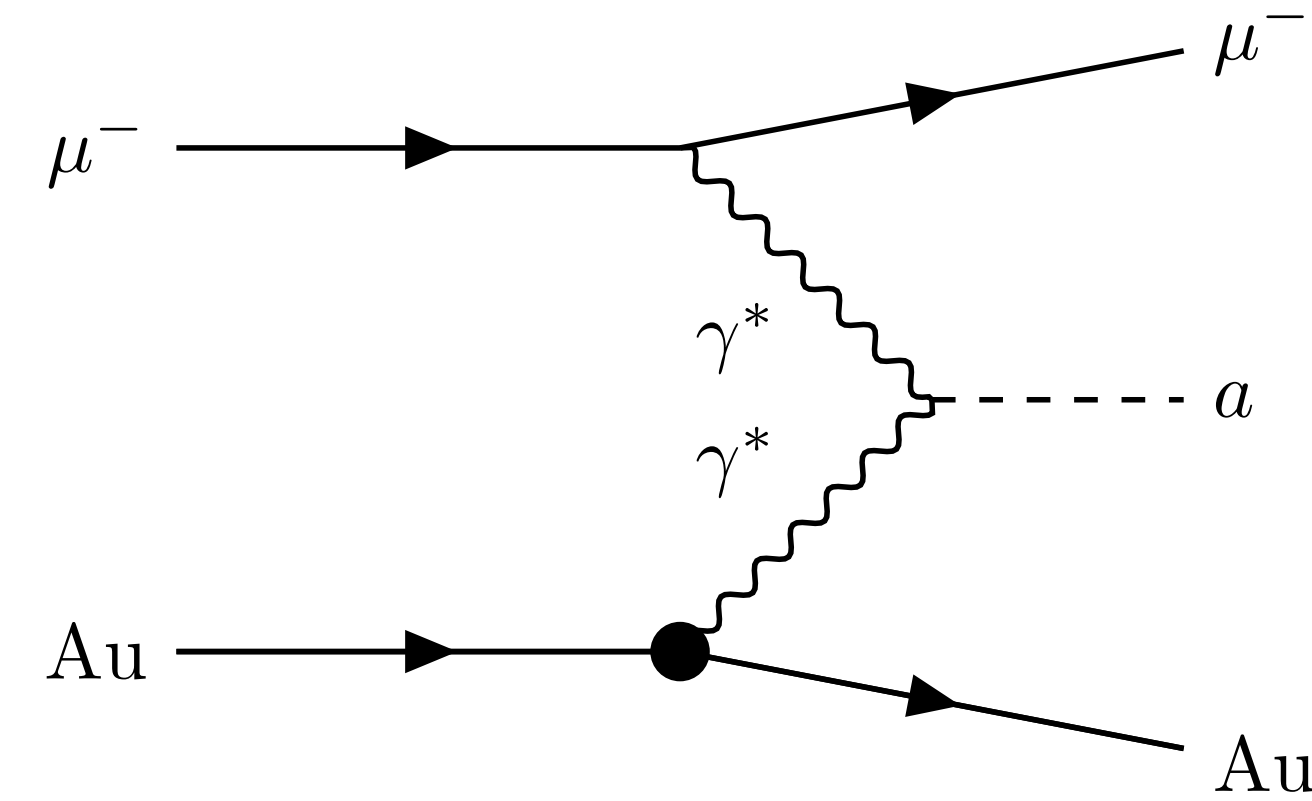
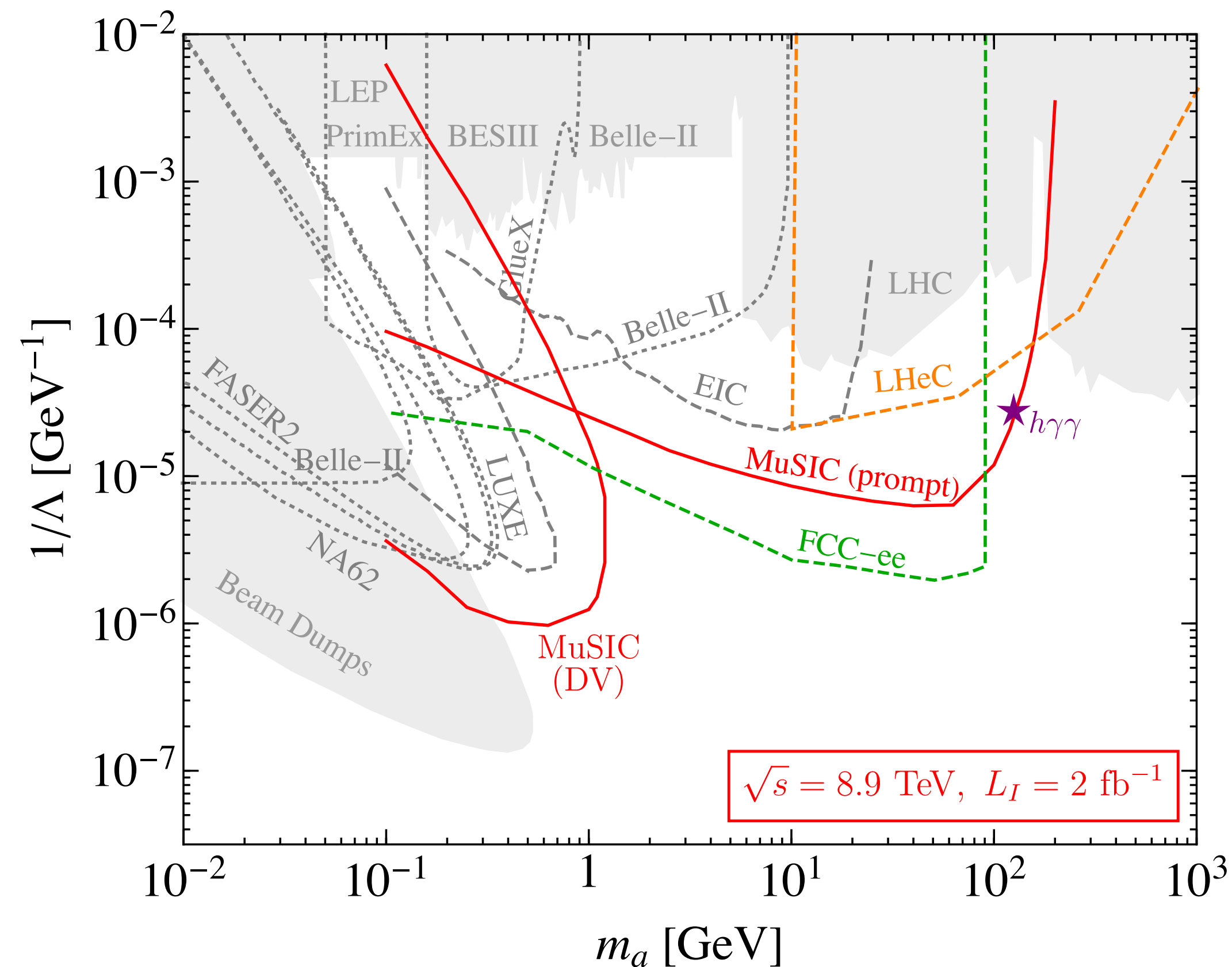
CHDBrI⁺ (Shagam lab)

	(i, j)	$E_{1 \rightarrow 2}$ [GHz]	state 1		state 2	
			$\langle N, K_a, K_c, J, F_1, F_2, F_3, F $	$\langle \sigma_i \times \sigma_j \rangle \cdot \hat{r}_{\text{eq}}^{ij}$	$ N, K_a, K_c, J, F_1, F_2, F_3, F \rangle$	$\langle \sigma_i \times \sigma_j \rangle \cdot \hat{r}_{\text{eq}}^{ij}$
(a), (b), (c)	(D, I)	3.34	$\langle 1, 1, 0, \frac{3}{2}, 1, 1, \frac{5}{2}, 0 $	0.49	$ 1, 0, 1, \frac{1}{2}, 1, 2, \frac{7}{2}, 1 \rangle$	0.12
(d)	(H, I)	3.99	$\langle 2, 2, 0, \frac{5}{2}, 3, 3, \frac{5}{2}, 0 $	0.23	$ 1, 0, 1, \frac{3}{2}, 1, 2, \frac{3}{2}, 1 \rangle$	0

Axions at muon-ion collider (MuSIC)

How can we go more further (next decades)?
muon-ion collider

Axions at muon-ion collider (MuSIC)



coherent production of new particles up to $m_a \sim 200$ GeV

$$E_\mu \approx 1 \text{ TeV}, E_{\text{Au}} \approx 20 \text{ TeV}$$

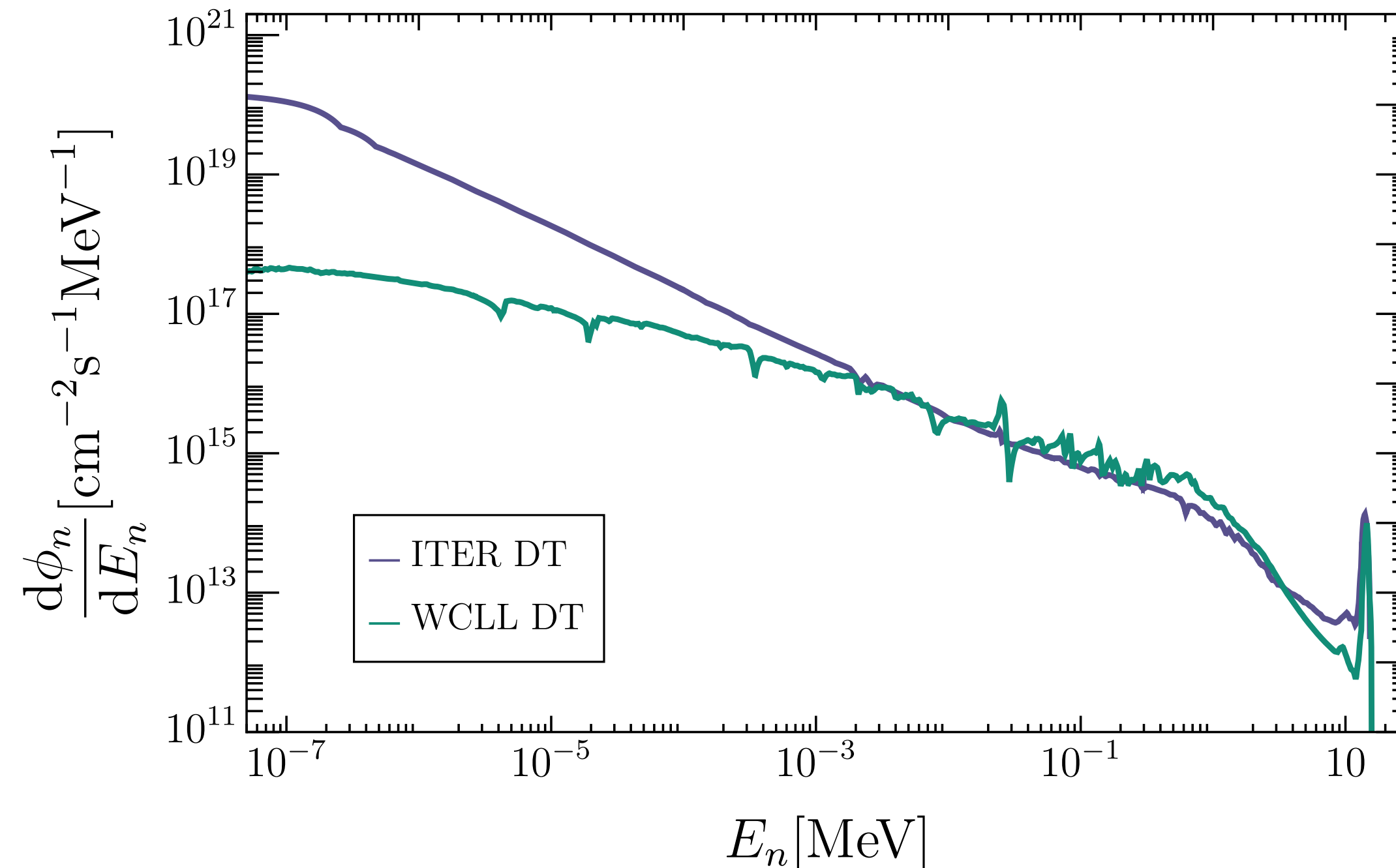
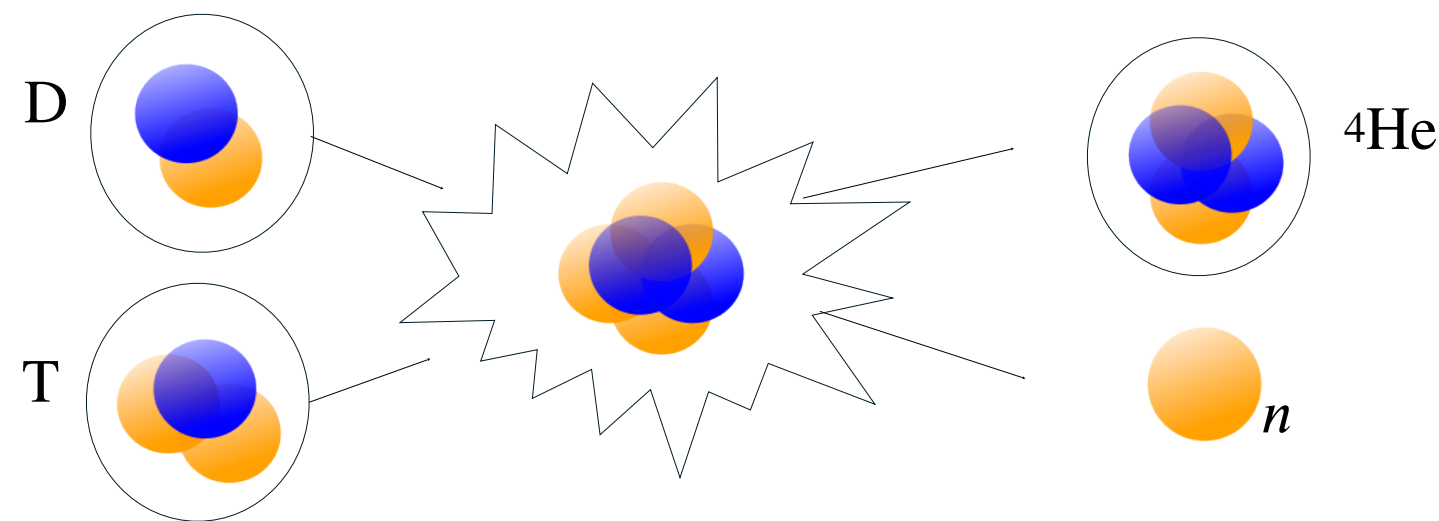
BSM at Fusion reactors



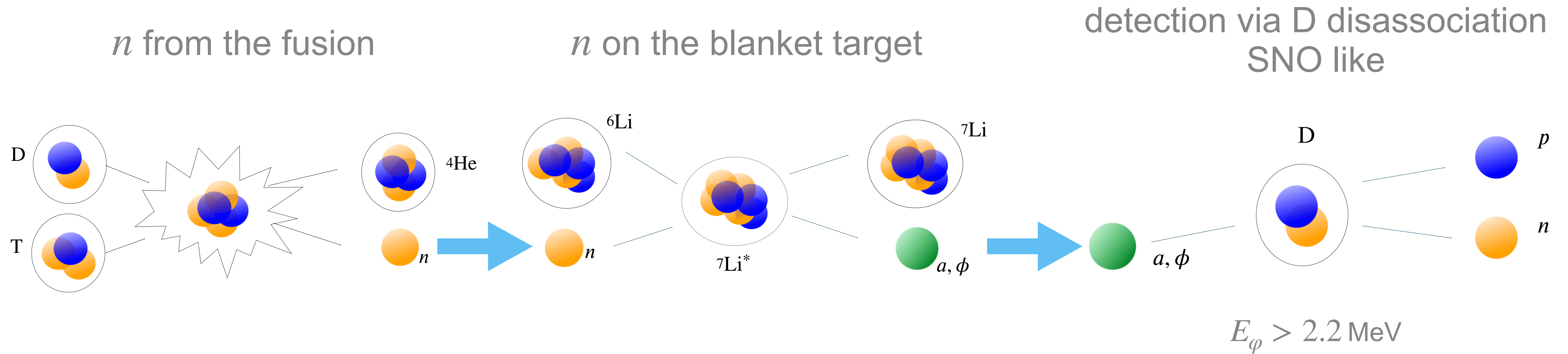
utilize the huge neutron flux

$$\Phi_n^{\text{total}} \sim 10^{15} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ sec}^{-1}$$

energy excess to new particle



New physics chain



number of detected events:
$$N_\phi = TN_D \int dE_n dE_\phi \frac{d\Phi_\phi}{dE_n} \sigma_{\phi D \rightarrow np} \propto g_{\phi p}^4$$

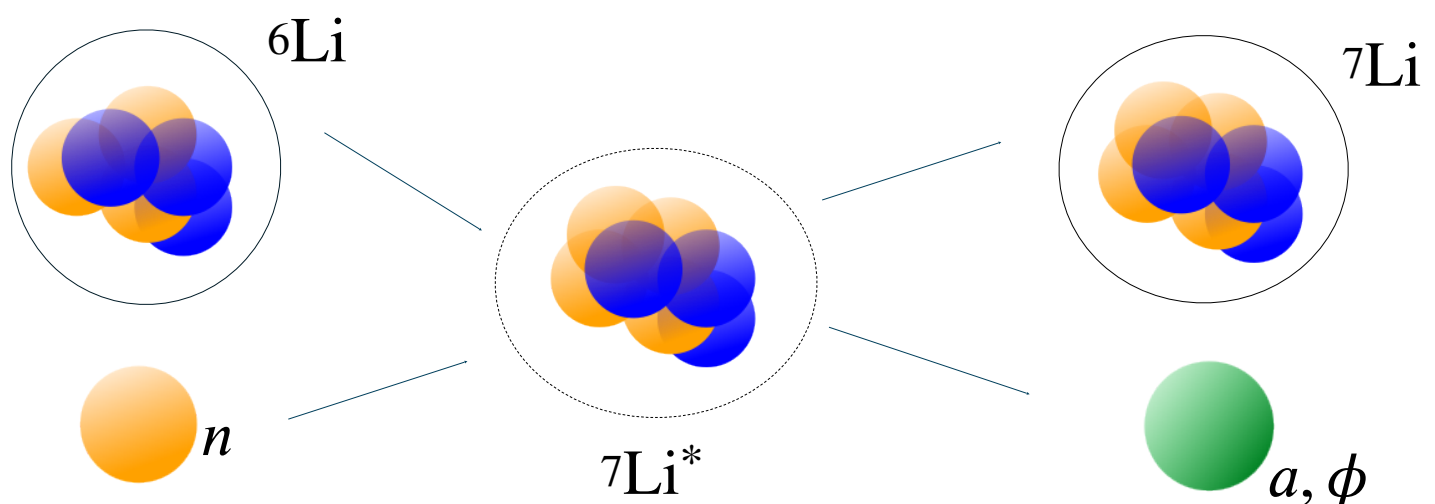
operation time

of deuterium targets

detection cross section

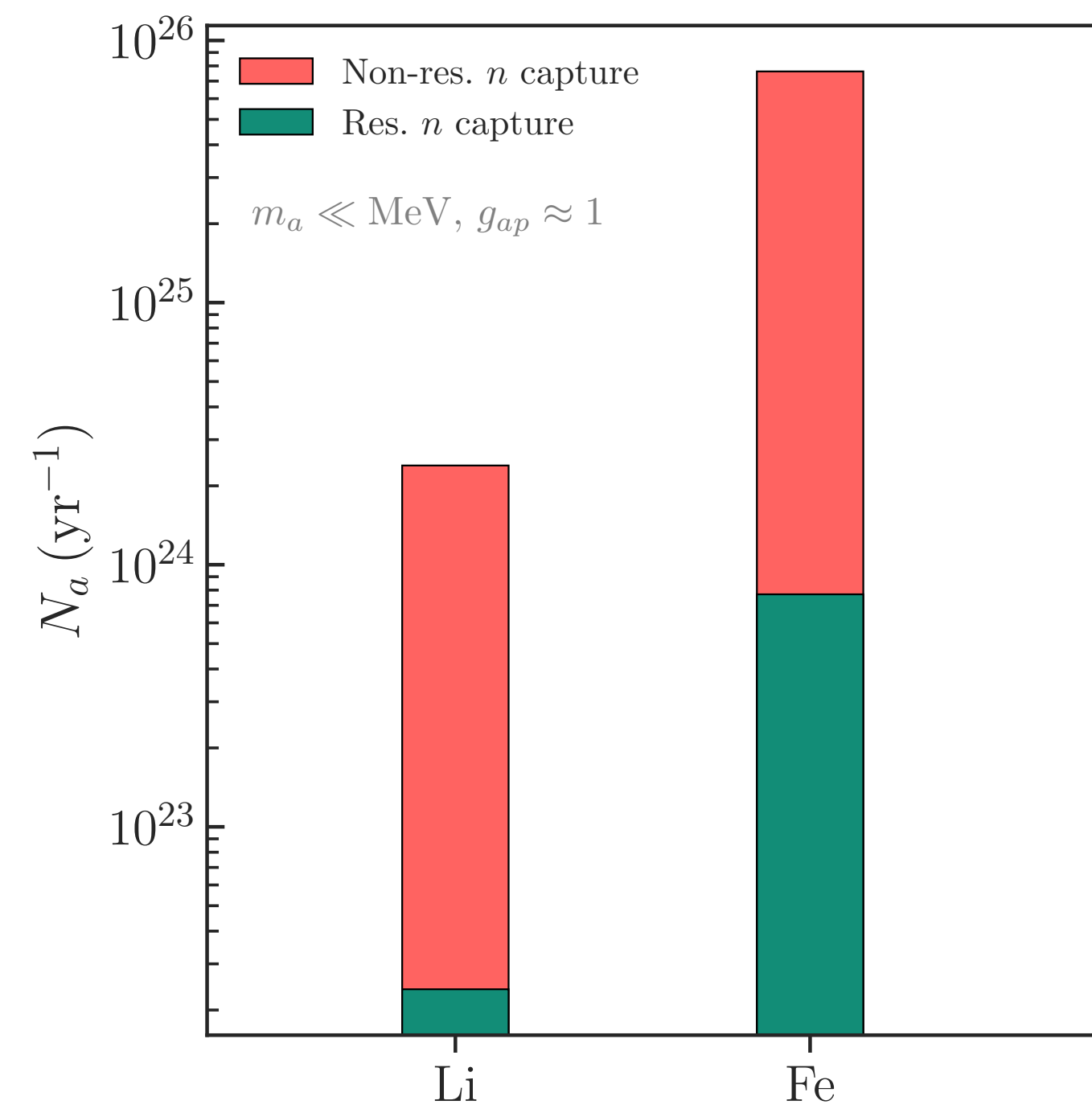
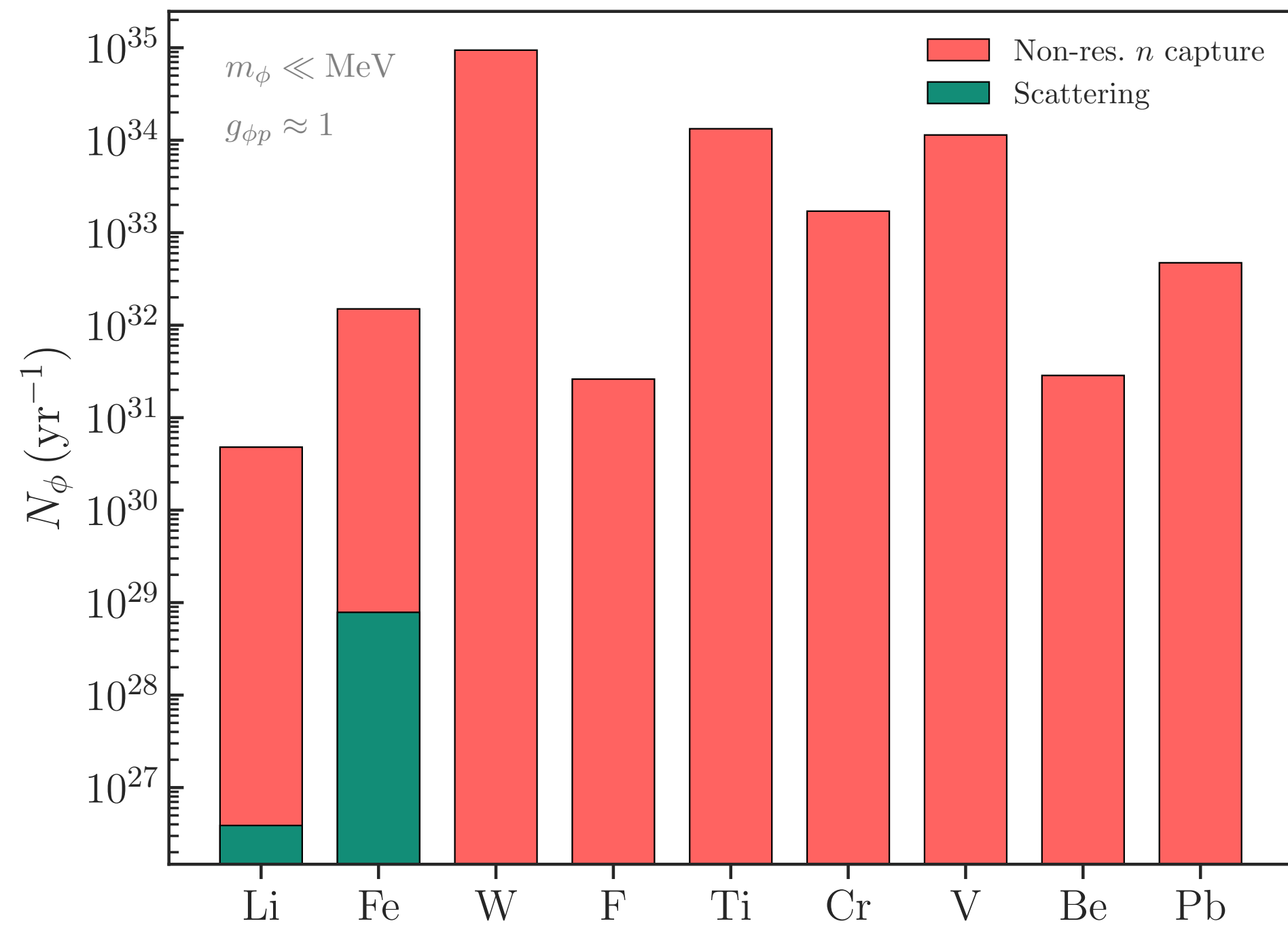
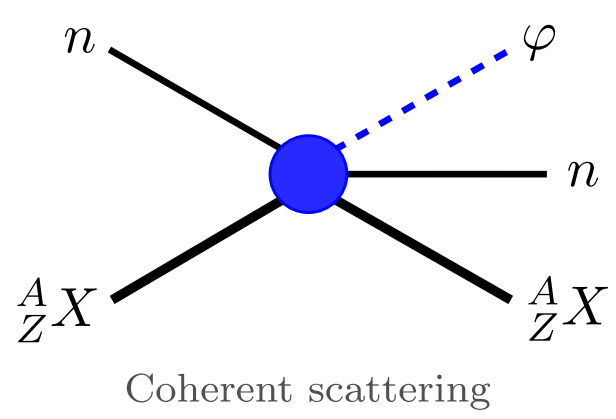
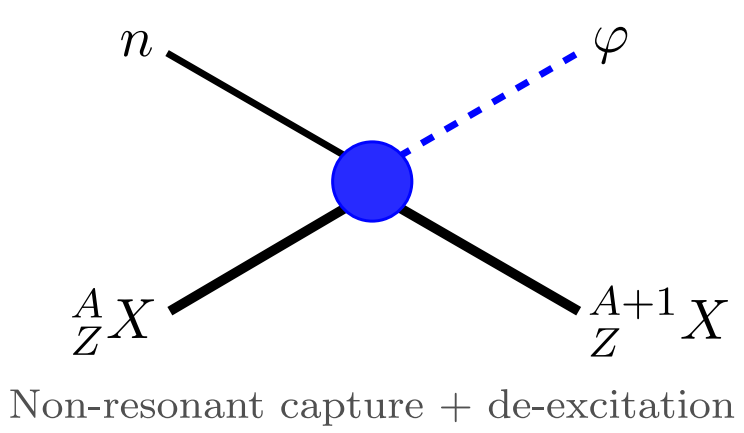
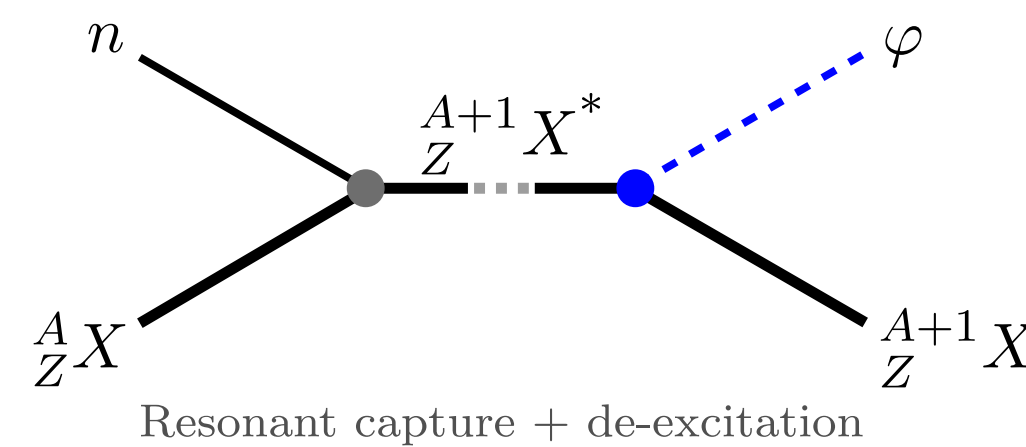
New physics production

utilize the huge neutron flux
+ blanket as a target



new physics flux

$$\frac{d\Phi_\phi}{dE_n} = \frac{1}{4\pi L^2} \sum_{i,X} N_X \frac{d\Phi_n}{dE_n} \sigma_\phi^{i,X}$$



$N_X = 10^{29}$ target nuclei, ITER with 2000W