



清华大学 工程物理系

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CDEX Search for Light Dark Matter Absorption Signal in PCGe



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(CDEX Collaboration)

2024/05/10



中国暗物质实验
China Dark matter EXperiment



- I. Towards Light Dark Matter Direct Detection**
- II. CDEX Experiment using PCGe Detectors**
- III. CDEX Searches for Light Dark Matter Absorption Signal**
(Dark Photon, Axion & Axion-Like Particle, Fermionic Dark Matter)
- IV. Summary**

I. Towards Light Dark Matter Direct Detection

□ Motivation for Dark Matter Detection:

Dark Matter (DM) is well motivated by cosmological and astronomical observations

Planck CMB observation suggests DM composes about 27% of the universe

However, DM has not been confirmed (detected) in particle physics Yet

Rotation curve of spiral galaxy NGC 3198

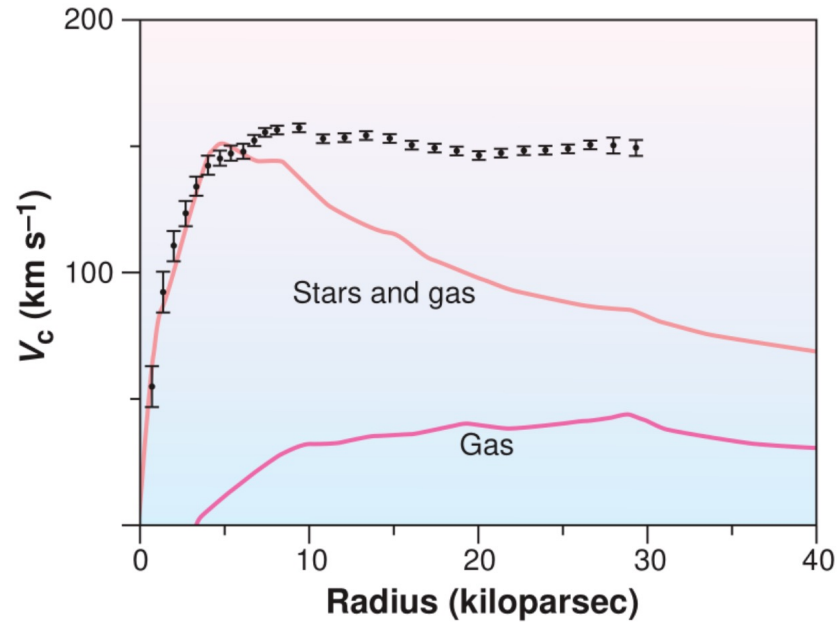


Fig from Freeman K C. *The hunt for dark matter in Galaxies. Science, 2003.*

Gravity map of cluster CL0024+17



Fig from Young B. *A survey of dark matter and related topics in cosmology. Front. Phys., 2017*

Collisions of the Bullet cluster

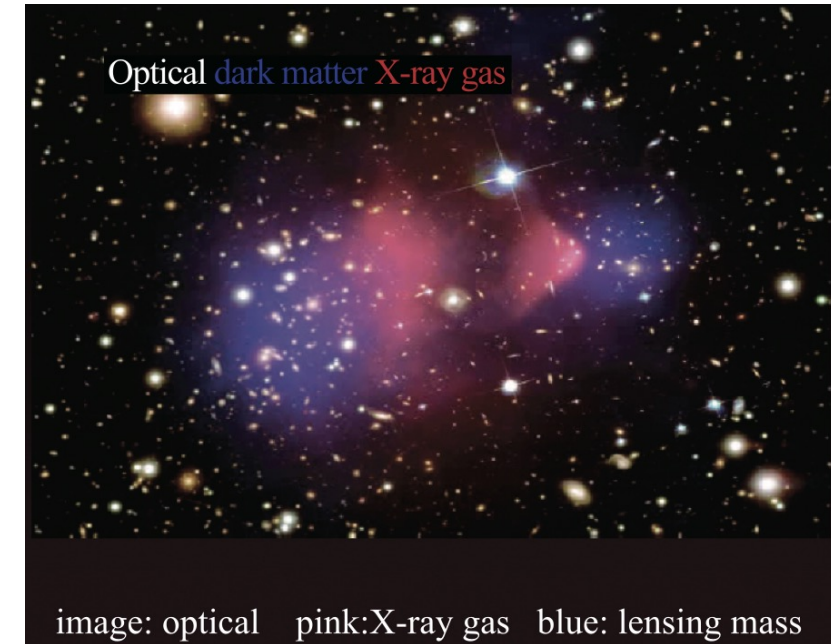
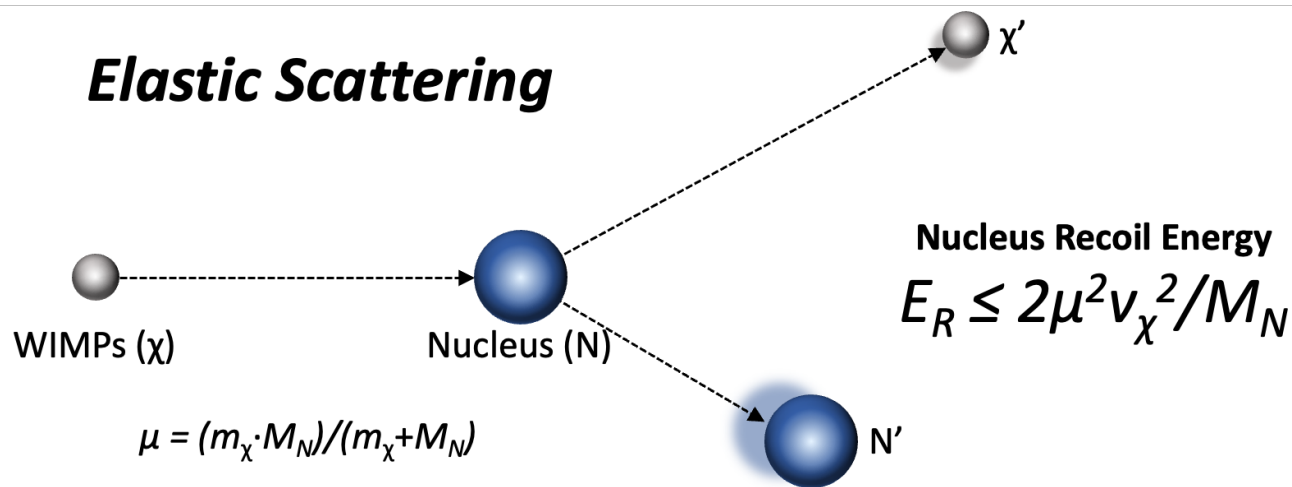


Fig from Young B. *A survey of dark matter and related topics in cosmology. Front. Phys., 2017*

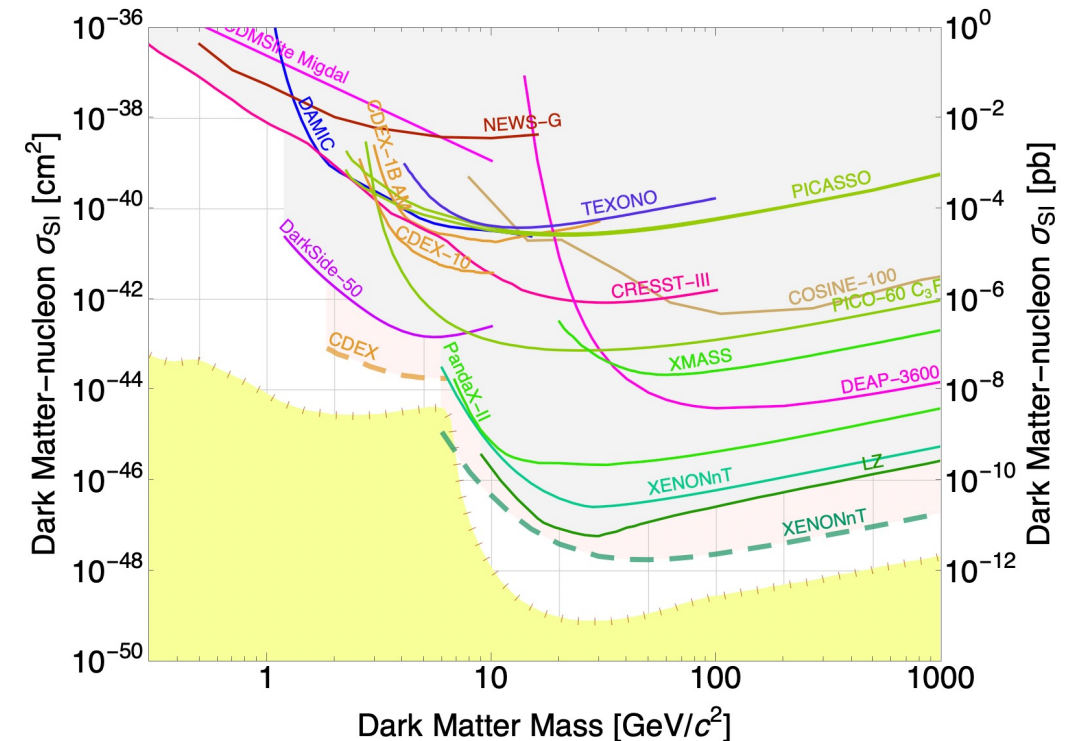
□ GeV~TeV WIMPs and Its Detection:

Weakly interacting massive particles (WIMPs) with GeV~TeV mass is a well-motivated DM candidate
 Direct Detection of WIMPs mainly relies on signals from **elastic scattering** of DM and target nucleus

Exclusion limits for GeV~TeV WIMPs are approaching Neutrino Floor



Searches for GeV ~ TeV scale WIMPs have been conducted by (Xe/Ar/Ge...) Detectors over decades



Draw by <https://supercdms.slac.stanford.edu/dark-matter-limit-plotter>

□ Light Dark Matter Candidates:

Null results from WIMPs searches have motivated studies of Other DM candidates:

➤ Dark Photon, Axion, Axion-like particles, Fermionic DM ...

Detection of Light DM requires observable signals in the Detector:

➤ **Lower energy threshold (Detector) & Signal from DM absorption (Interaction)**

➤ *Boosted DM, Migdal effect, and electron scattering...*

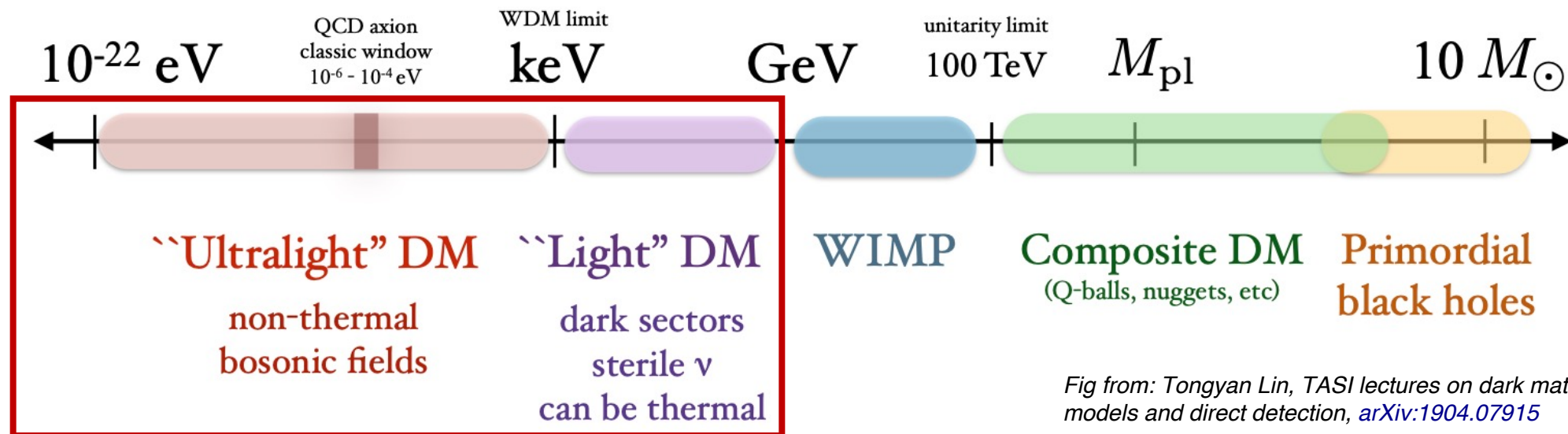


Fig from: Tongyan Lin, TASI lectures on dark matter models and direct detection, [arXiv:1904.07915](https://arxiv.org/abs/1904.07915)

II. CDEX Experiment

Using PCGe for DM Direct Detection

CDEX Collaboration

- Founded in 2009, 11 institutions, more than 100 people now
- Dark Matter direct detection via Point Contact Germanium (PCGe) Detector



China Jinping Underground Laboratory (CJPL):

CJPL is the Deepest underground Lab worldwide with a vertical muon flux of $2 \times 10^{-10} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$

First two phases of CDEX experiments: CDEX-1 & CDEX-10 have been conducted at CJPL-I

➤ **Muon & muon-induced background are negligible for CDEX**

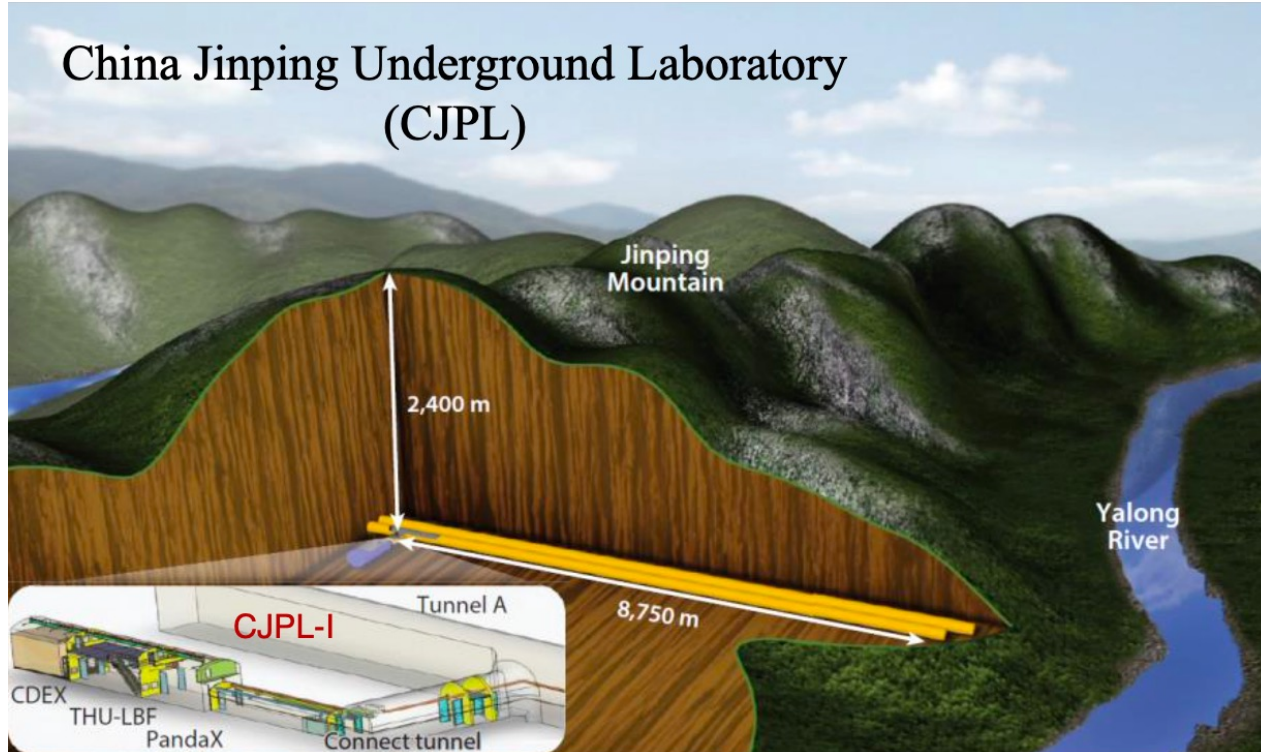


Fig from J.P. Cheng et al. *Annu. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci.* 67:231–51, (2017)

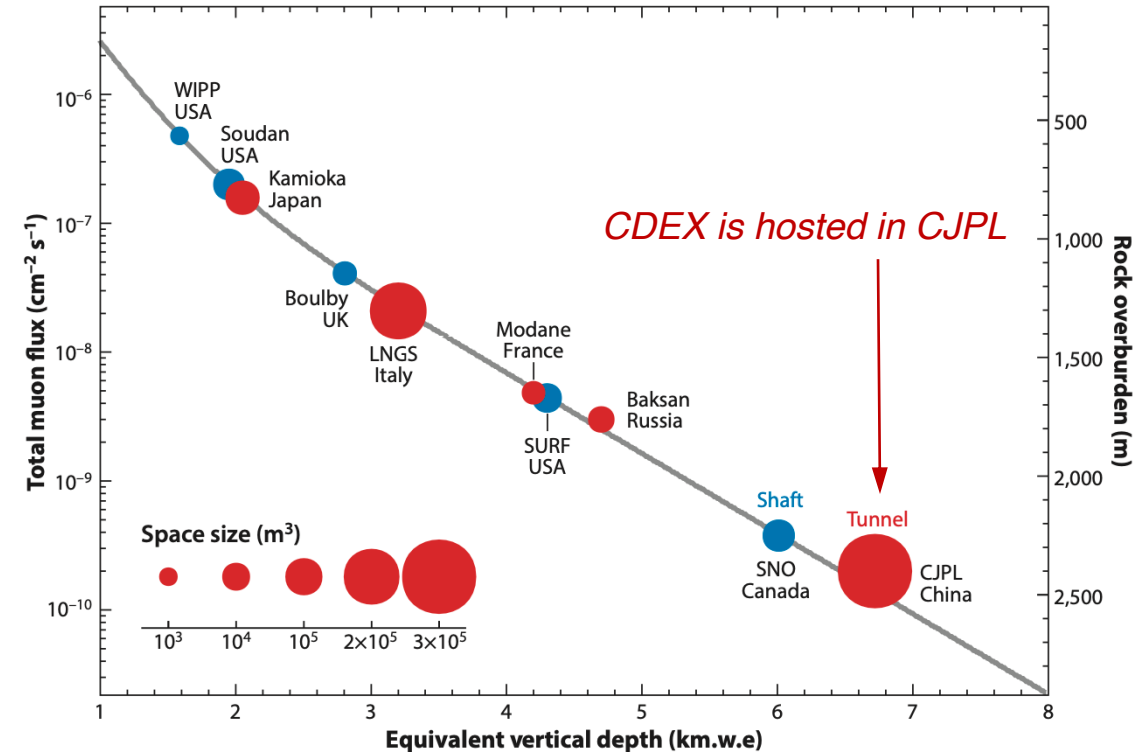


Fig from J.P. Cheng et al. *Annu. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci.* 67:231–51, (2017)

CDEX Experiment

Point Contact Germanium (PCGe) Detector:

- ① **CDEX-1**: Two PCGe (C1A & C1B), cold finger cooling, Cu / Pb / BPE / PE Shielding
- ② **CDEX-10**: PCGe array directly cooled by liquid nitrogen, Cu / LN / PE Shielding

Data collected by **4 PCGe (C1A, C1B, C10B1, C10C1)** are used in DM absorption signal analysis

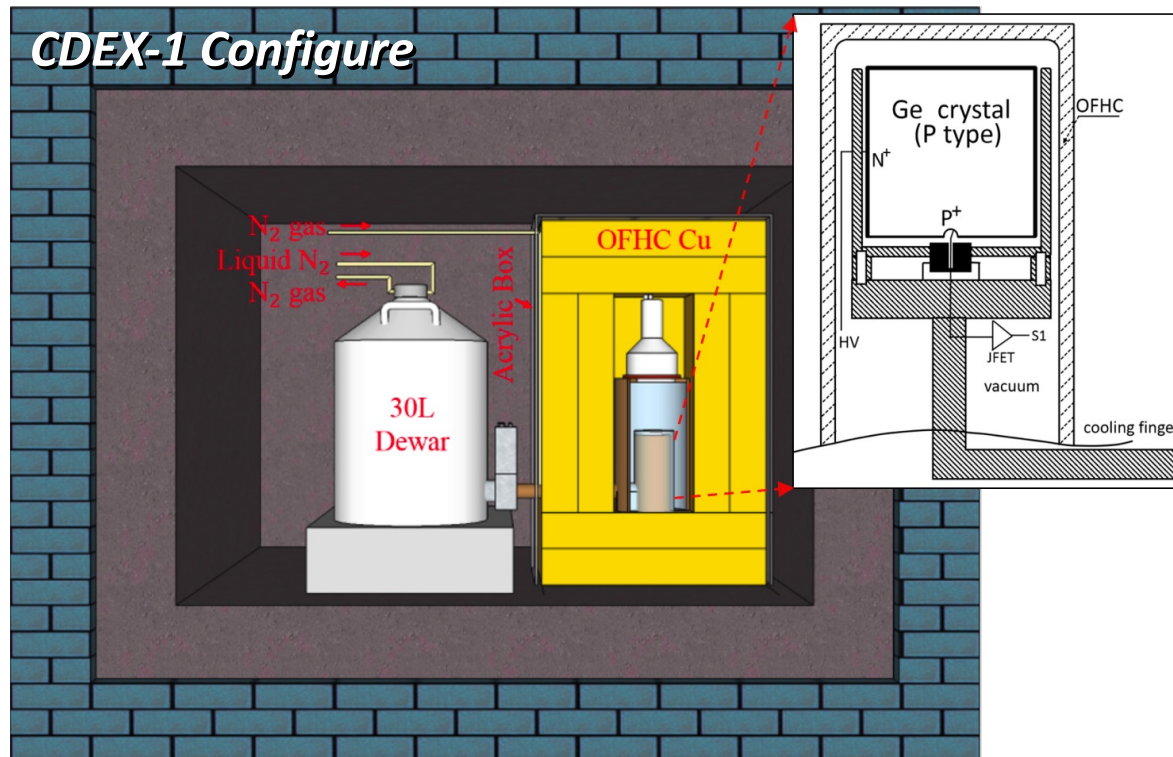


Fig from Phys. Rev. Lett. 123, 221301, 2019

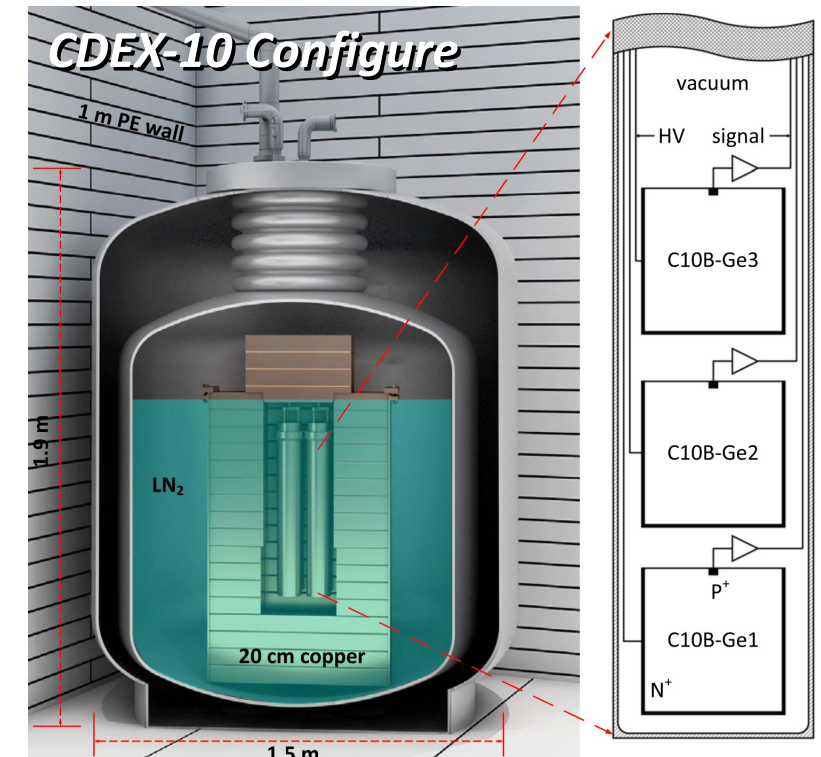
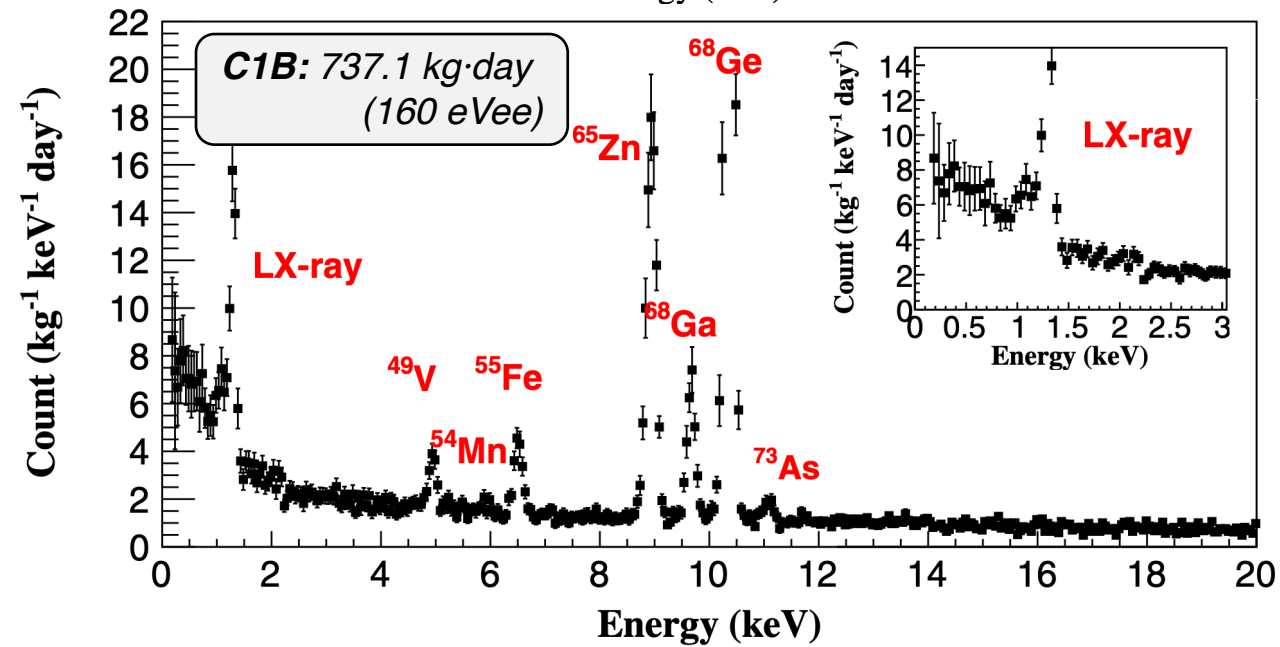
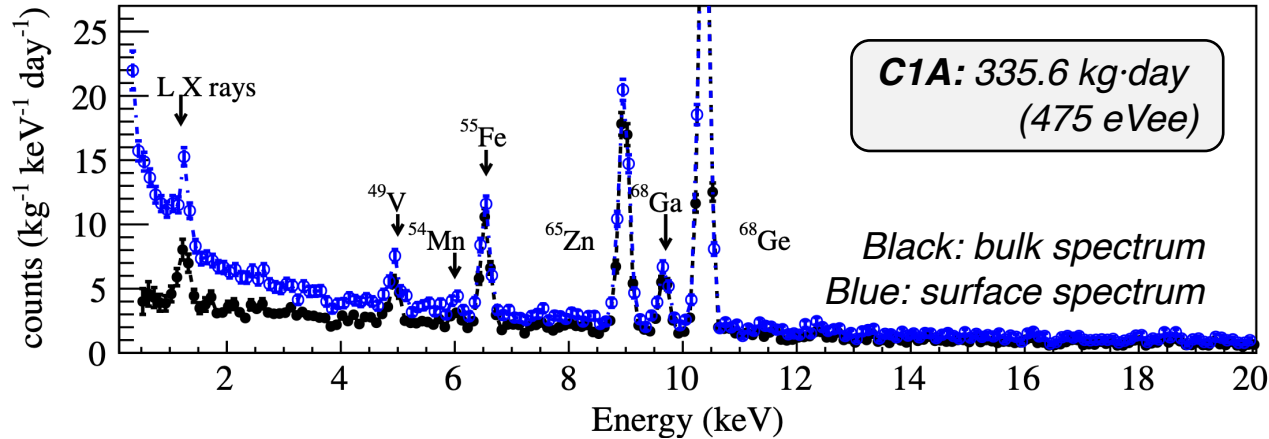


Fig from Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 241301, 2018

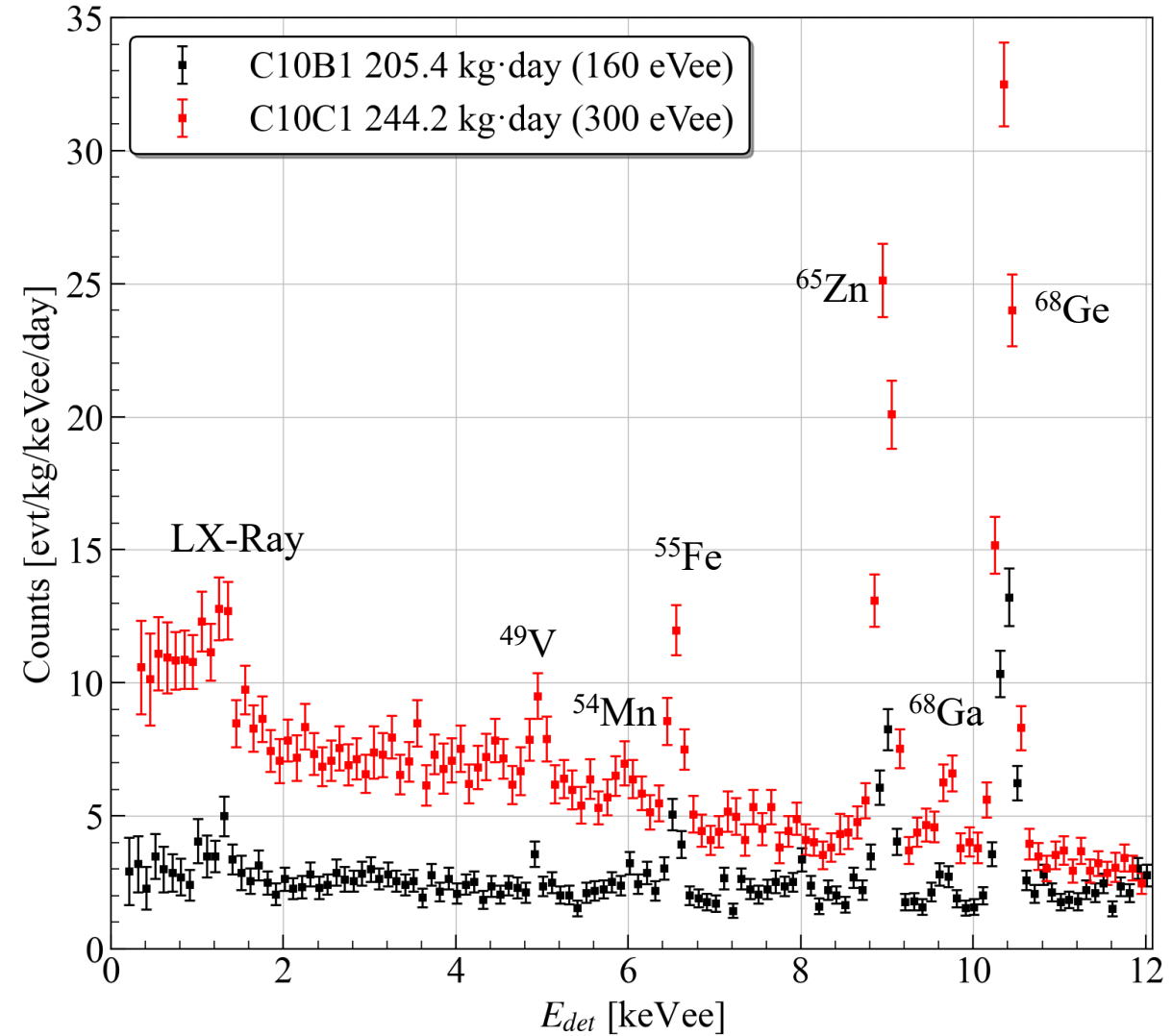
CDEX Experiment Spectra



CDEX-1 (C1A & C1B)



CDEX-10 (C10B1 & C10C1)



III. CDEX Searches for Light Dark Matter via Absorption

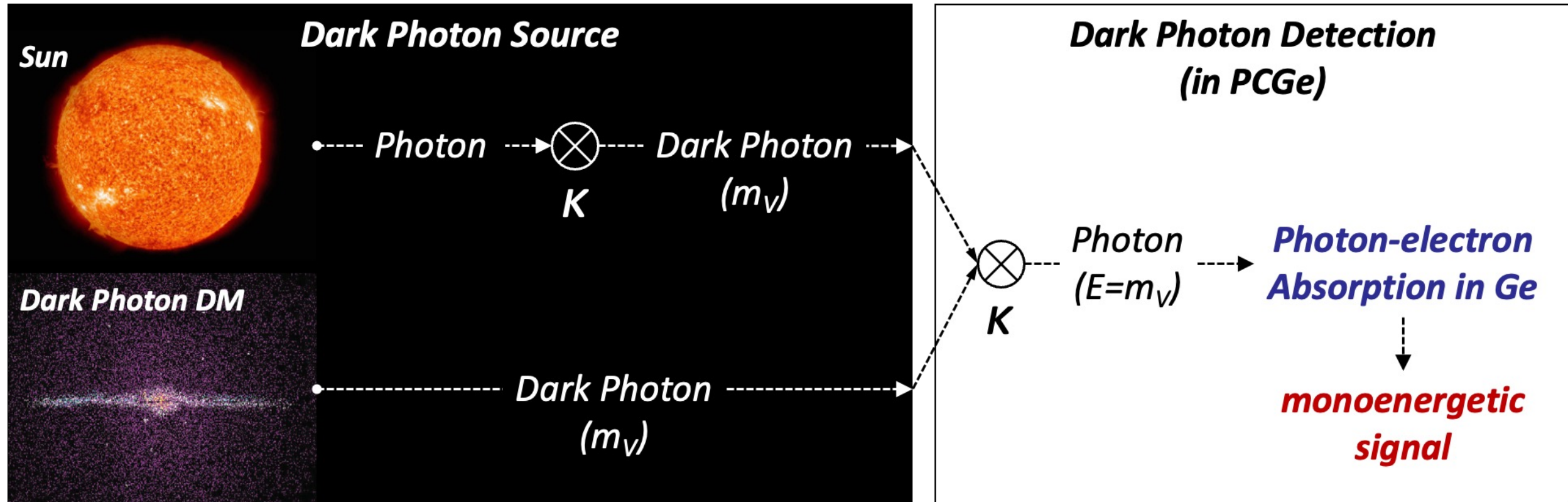
(Dark Photon, Axion & Axion-Like particles, Fermionic DM)

Dark Photon Detection via PCGe:

Dark photon with mass (m_ν) in keV scale is a possible DM candidate

Dark photon may convert to **photon** and be detected by PCGe as a **monoenergetic signal**

- κ being the effective kinetic mixing parameter between dark photon and photon



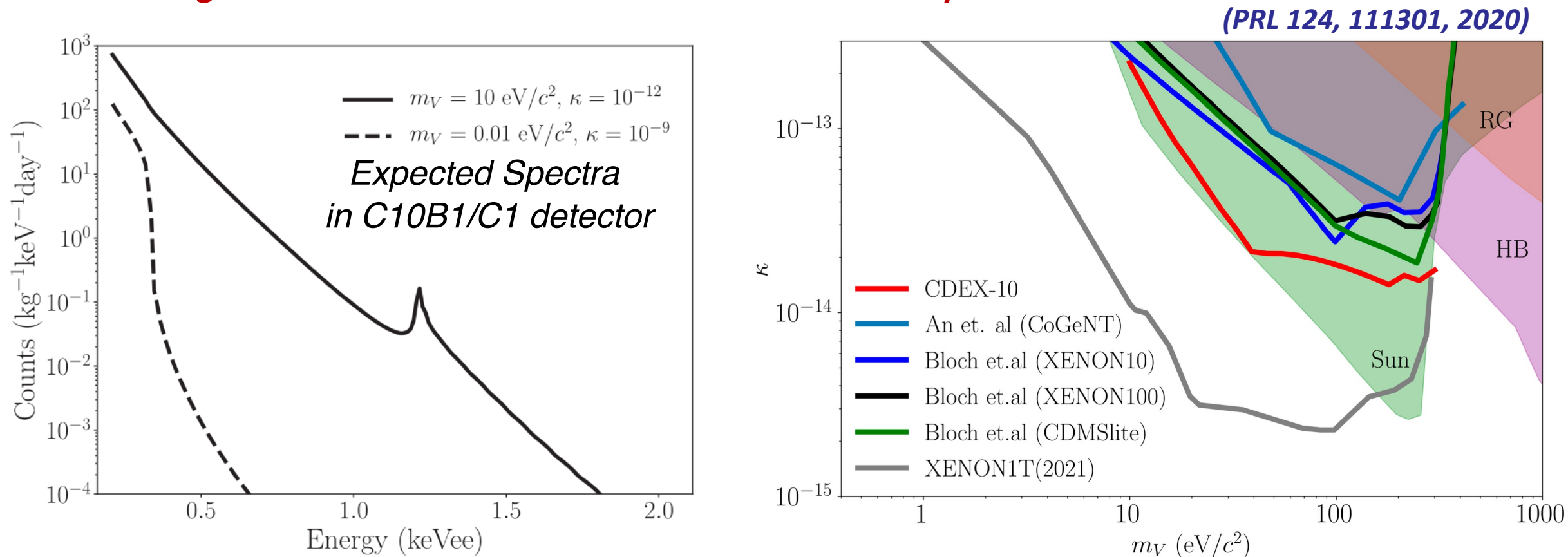
[1] *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, 111, 041302 (2013)
 [2] *Phys. Lett. B*, 725(4): 190-195. (2013)

□ Solar Dark Photon (CDEX-10):

Adopting BP05(OP) solar model and DP from Stueckelberg case with nondynamic mass^[1,2]

Set limits on mixing parameter (κ) for dark photon mass (m_V) in 10 ~ 300 eV

Most stringent direct detection limits on κ at the time of publication



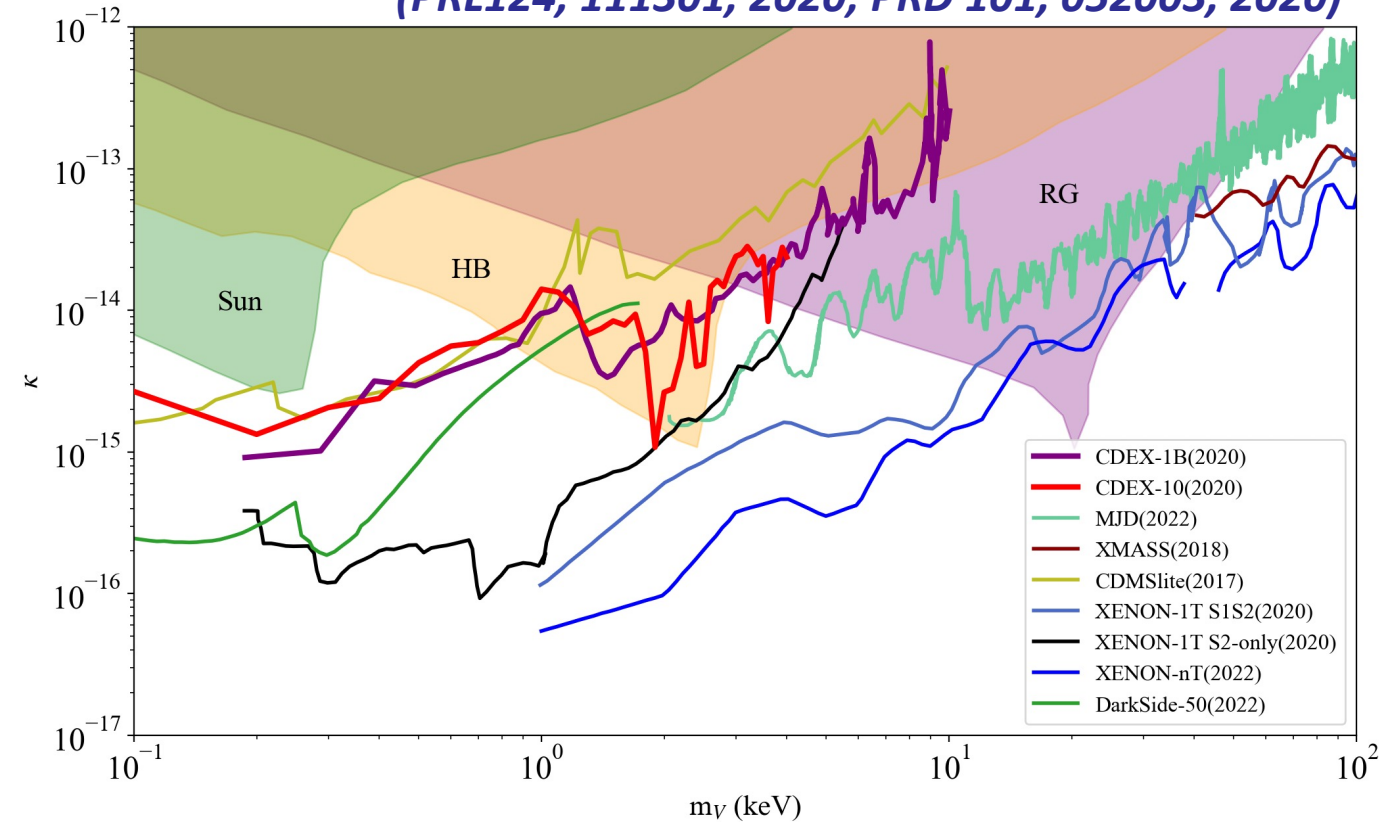
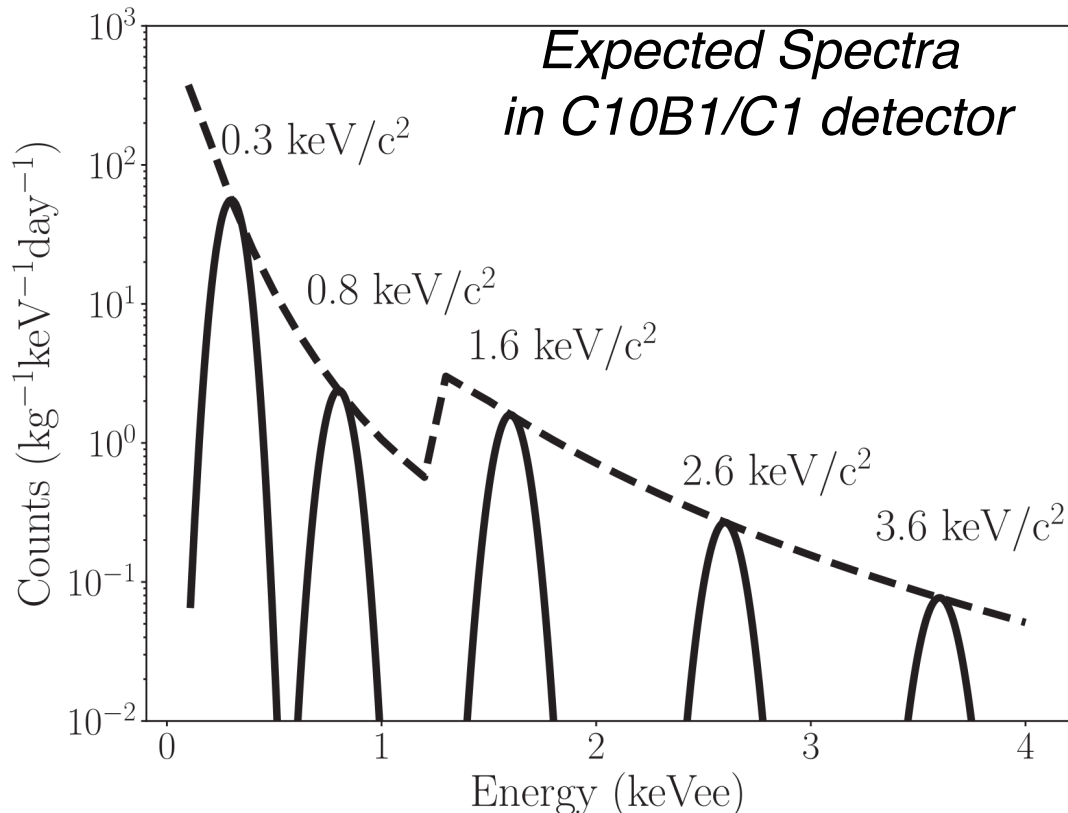
Dark Photon Dark Matter (CDEX-1 & CDEX-10):

Assuming DPDM follows the *Standard Halo Model* with a local density of 0.3 GeV/cm^3

Set limits on mixing parameter (κ) for dark photon mass (m_ν) in $0.1 \sim 10 \text{ keV}$

Exclude New parameter space at $0.1 \sim 0.2 \text{ keV}$ at the time of publication

(PRL124, 111301, 2020; PRD 101, 052003, 2020)



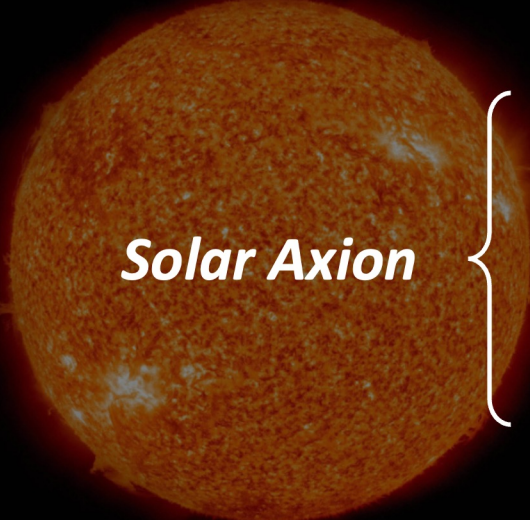
□ Axion Sources:

- ① Solar Axion: CBRD Axion & Fe-57 Axion
- ② Axion-Like-Particles as Dark Matter Candidate

Reference for Solar Axion Flux:

S. Andriamonje et al., *J. Cosmol. Astropart. Phys.* 12 (2009) 002.

J. Redondo, *J. Cosmol. Astropart. Phys.* 12 (2013) 008.



Solar Axion


CBRD Axion

- ① C: Compton-like scattering
- ② B: axion-bremsstrahlung
- ③ R: atomic-recombination
- ④ D: atomic-deexcitation

$$\frac{d\Phi}{dE_A} = g_{Ae}^2 \times 1.33 \times 10^{33} \times E_A^{2.987} \cdot e^{-0.766E_A}$$

$$+ g_{Ae}^2 \times 2.63 \times 10^{35} \times \frac{E_A \cdot e^{-0.77E_A}}{1 + 0.667E_A^{1.278}}$$

↑
Axion-electron coupling



Fe-57 Axion

$^{57}\text{Fe}^* \rightarrow ^{57}\text{Fe} + \text{Axion}$
(14.4 keV monochromatic)

$$\Phi_{14.4} = \left(\frac{\kappa_a}{\kappa_\gamma}\right)^3 \times 4.56 \times 10^{23} \cdot (g_{AN}^{eff})^2$$

↑
Effective nuclear coupling

Axion-Like-Particles
(as DM Candidate)

Local density: 0.3 GeV/cm^3
ALPs velocity: Standard Halo Model
(nonrelativistic)

$$\Phi_{ALP} = \rho_{DM} \cdot \frac{v_{ALP}}{m_{ALP}}$$

□ Axion Detection via PCGe:

PCGe detects Axion by axioelectric effect produced electron:

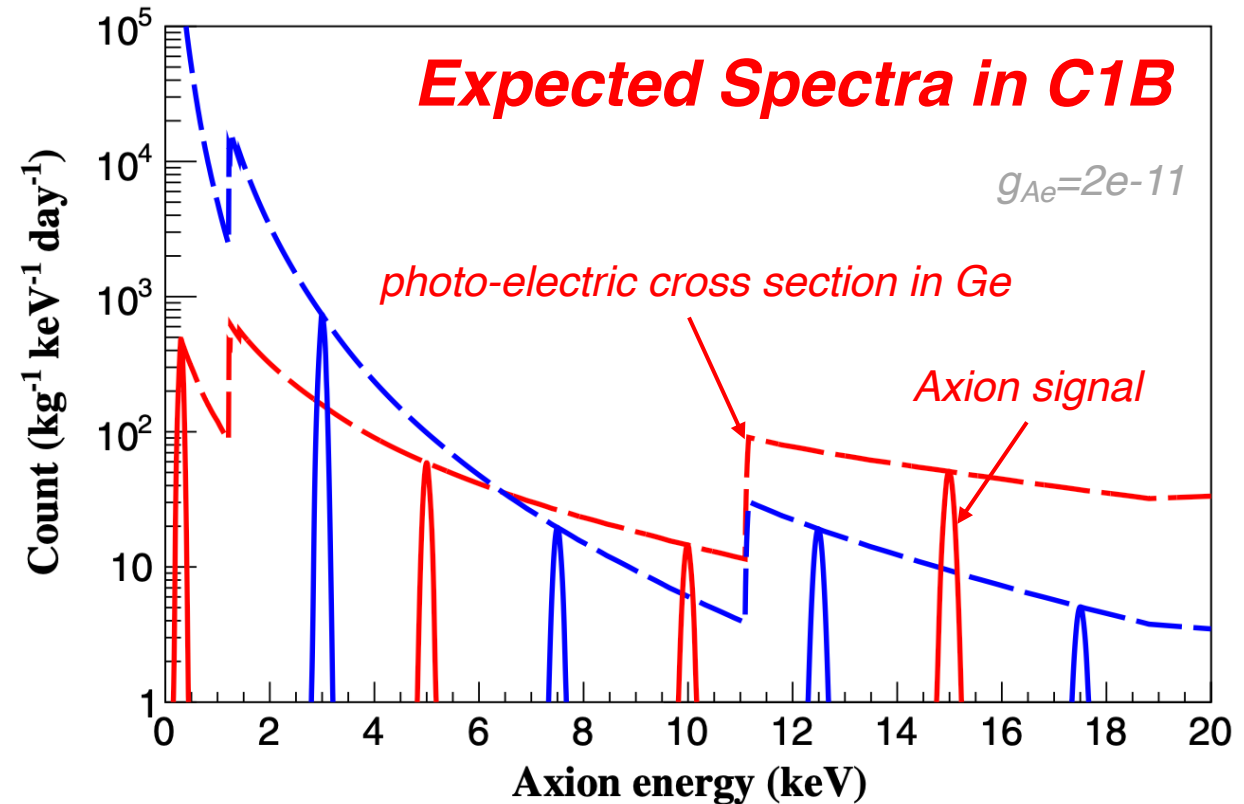
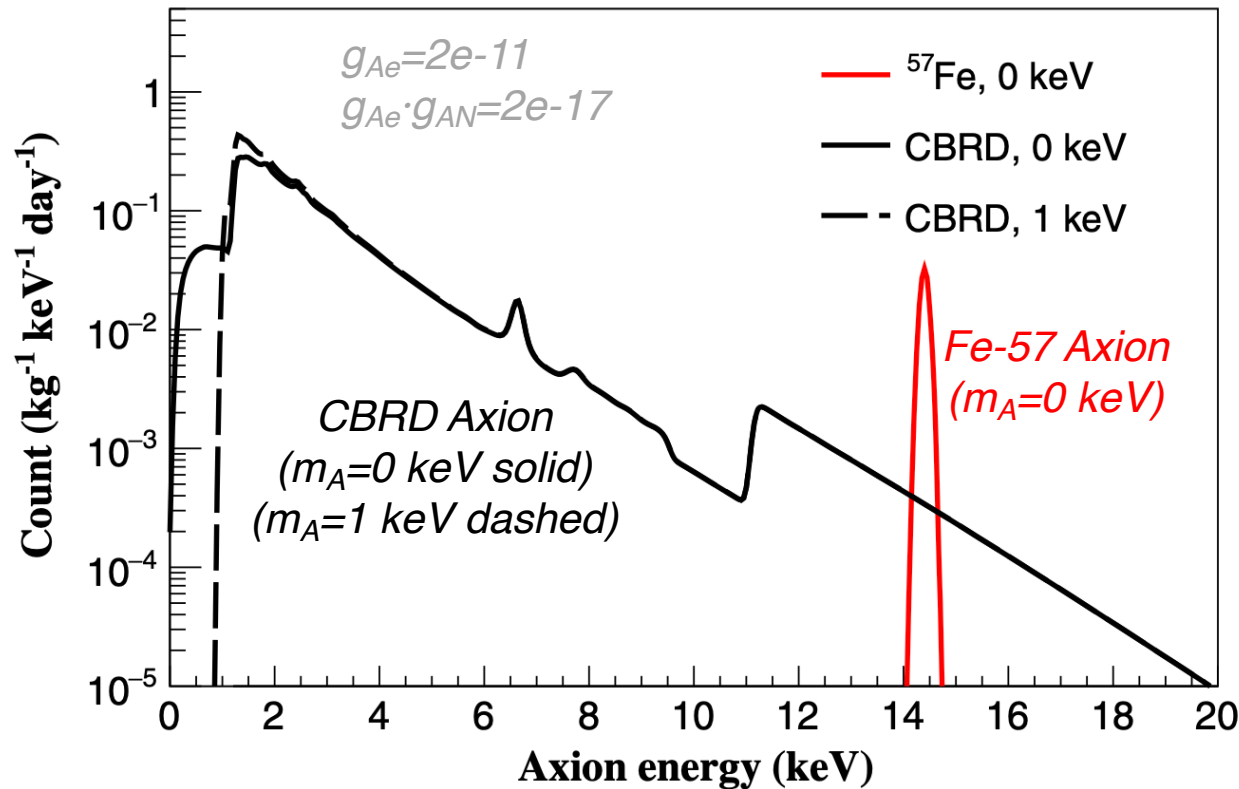
$$\sigma_{Ae}(m_A) = \sigma_{pe}(m_A) \frac{g_{Ae}^2}{\beta} \frac{3m_A^2}{16\pi\alpha m_e^2} \left(1 - \frac{\beta^2}{3}\right)$$

m_a : axion mass

σ_{ae} : axion-electric cross section

σ_{pe} : photo-electric cross section

β = Axion velocity / c



□ Solar Axion Result (C1B data):

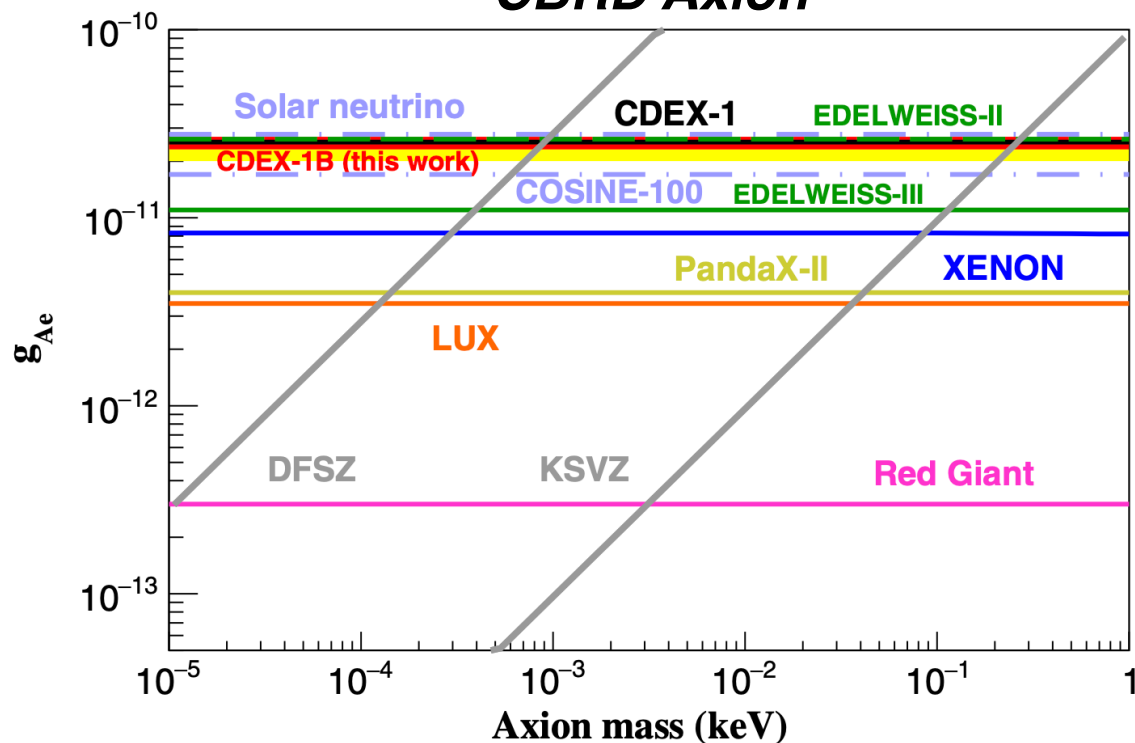
(PRD 101, 052003, 2020)

(PRD 96, 122002 2017)

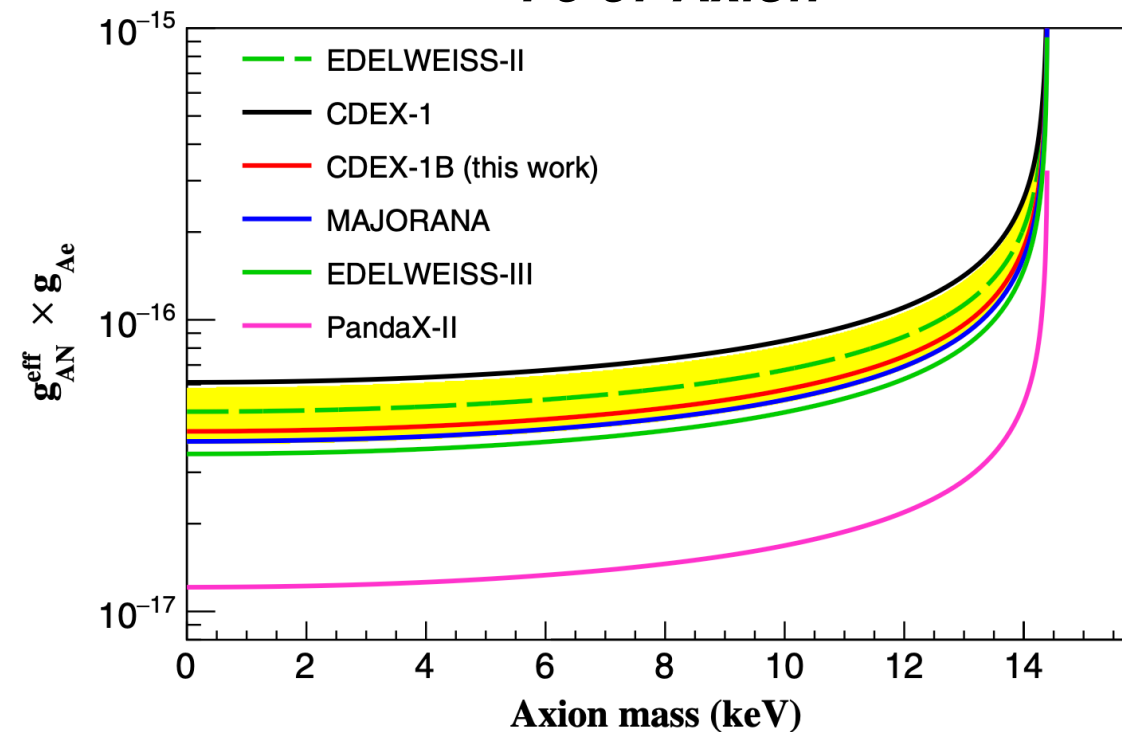
Analyze Axion signal via [Profile Likelihood](#) method

- ① CRBD: limits on axion-electron coupling: $g_{Ae} < 2.48E-11$
- ② Fe-57: limits on axion-electron coupling & axion-nuclear coupling: $g_{Ae} \times g_{AN} < 4.14E-17 (m_A=0)$

CBRD Axion



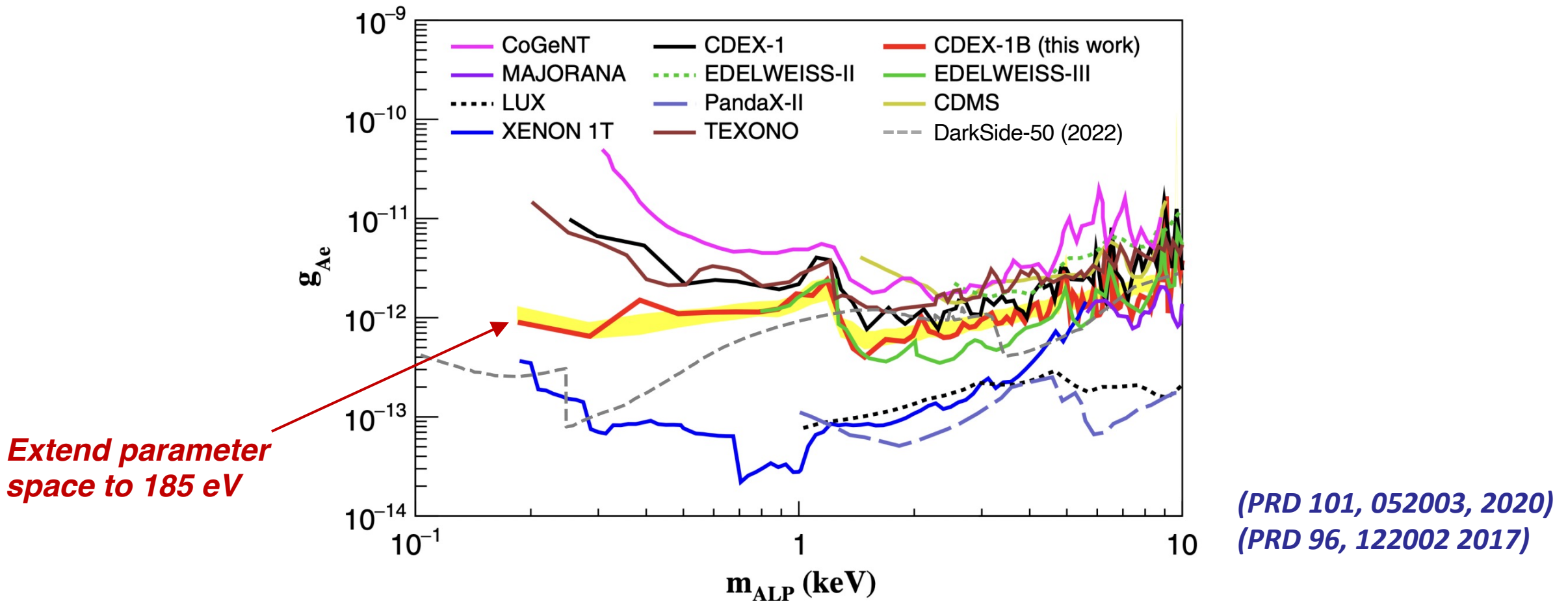
Fe-57 Axion



□ Axion-Like-Particles Result:

Analyze Axion signal via [Profile Likelihood](#) method

➤ CDEX-1B best limit on axion-electron coupling: $g_{Ae} < 4.0E-13$ ($m_A = 1.5$ keV)



□ Fermionic Dark Matter Detection:

If Dark Matter particles are **Fermion**:

they can induce **neutral current absorption** with **nucleus** or **electron**

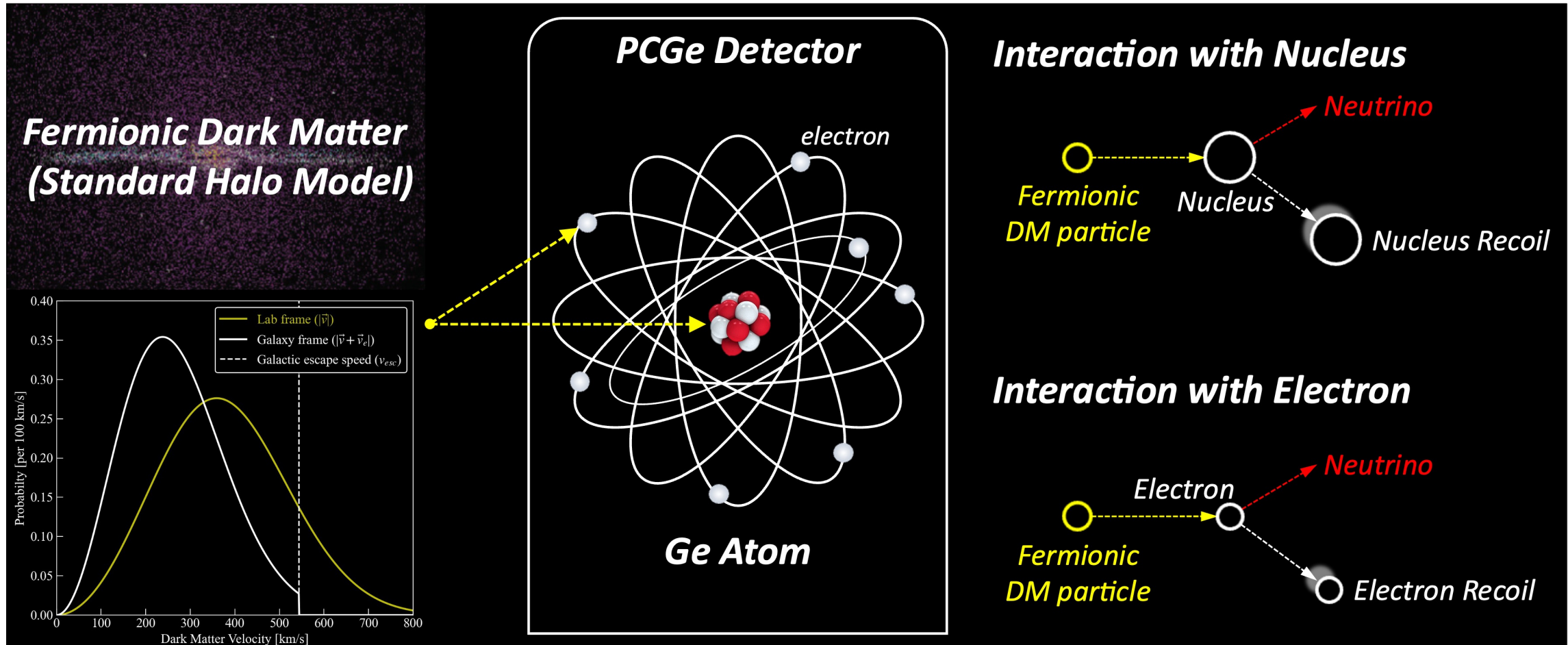
Theory:

J. A. Dror, et al, JHEP, 2: 134 (2020)

J. A. Dror, et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 124, 181301 (2020).

J. A. Dror, et al, Phys. Rev. D 103, 035001 (2021).

S.F. Ge, et al. J. HighEnergy Phys. 05, 191 (2022).



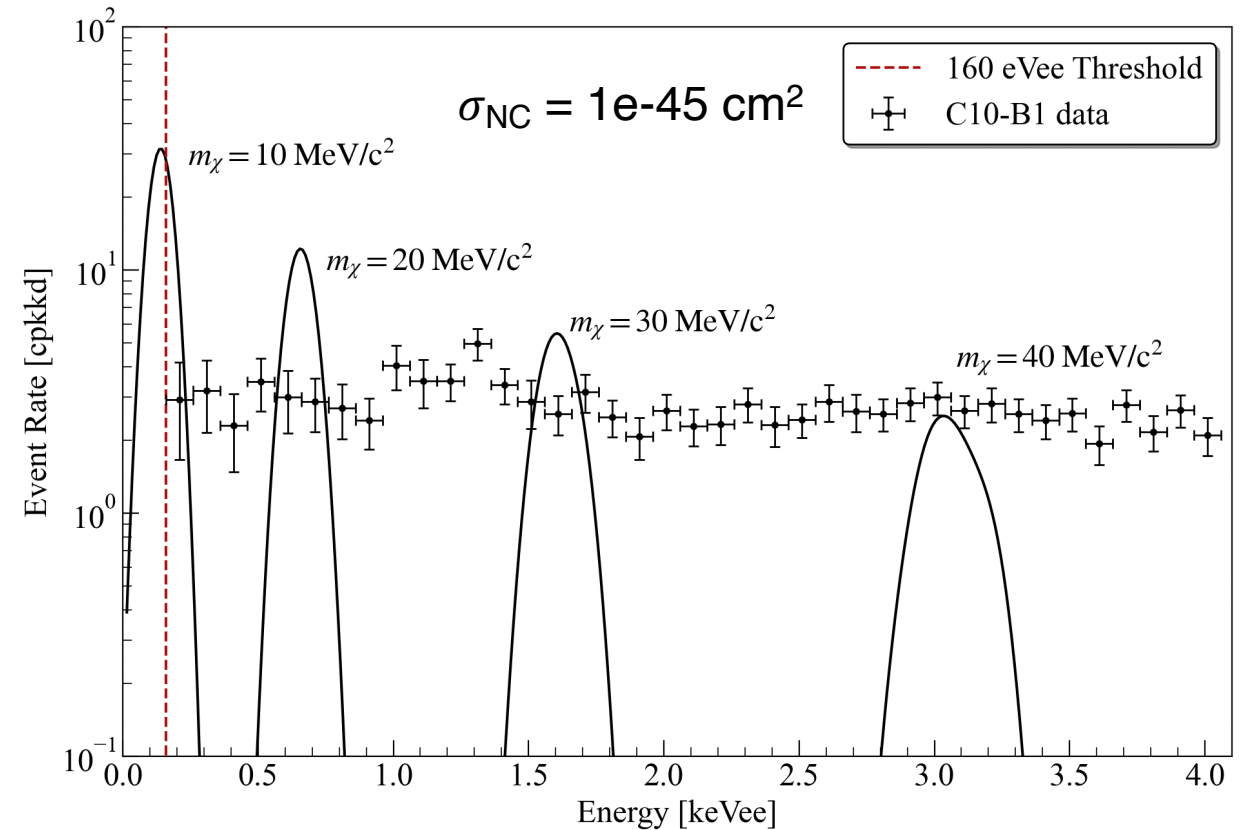
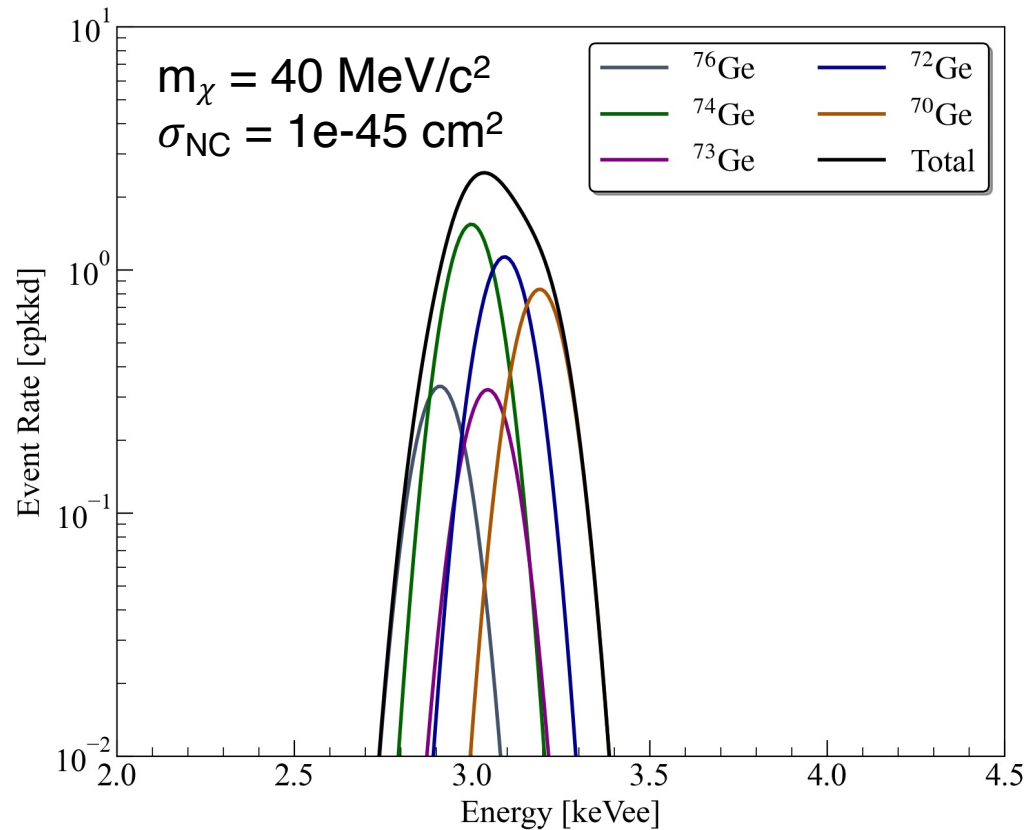


Expected Spectra from Nucleus Absorption:

Nucleus Recoil Energy: $E_R \simeq m_\chi^2 / (2M_N)$

Total Event Rate: $R = \rho_\chi / m_\chi \cdot \sigma_{NC} \cdot \frac{1}{M_T} \sum_j N_j M_j A_j^2 F_j^2$

After Quenching & Energy Resolution:
 ➤ Monoenergetic peak for each DM mass

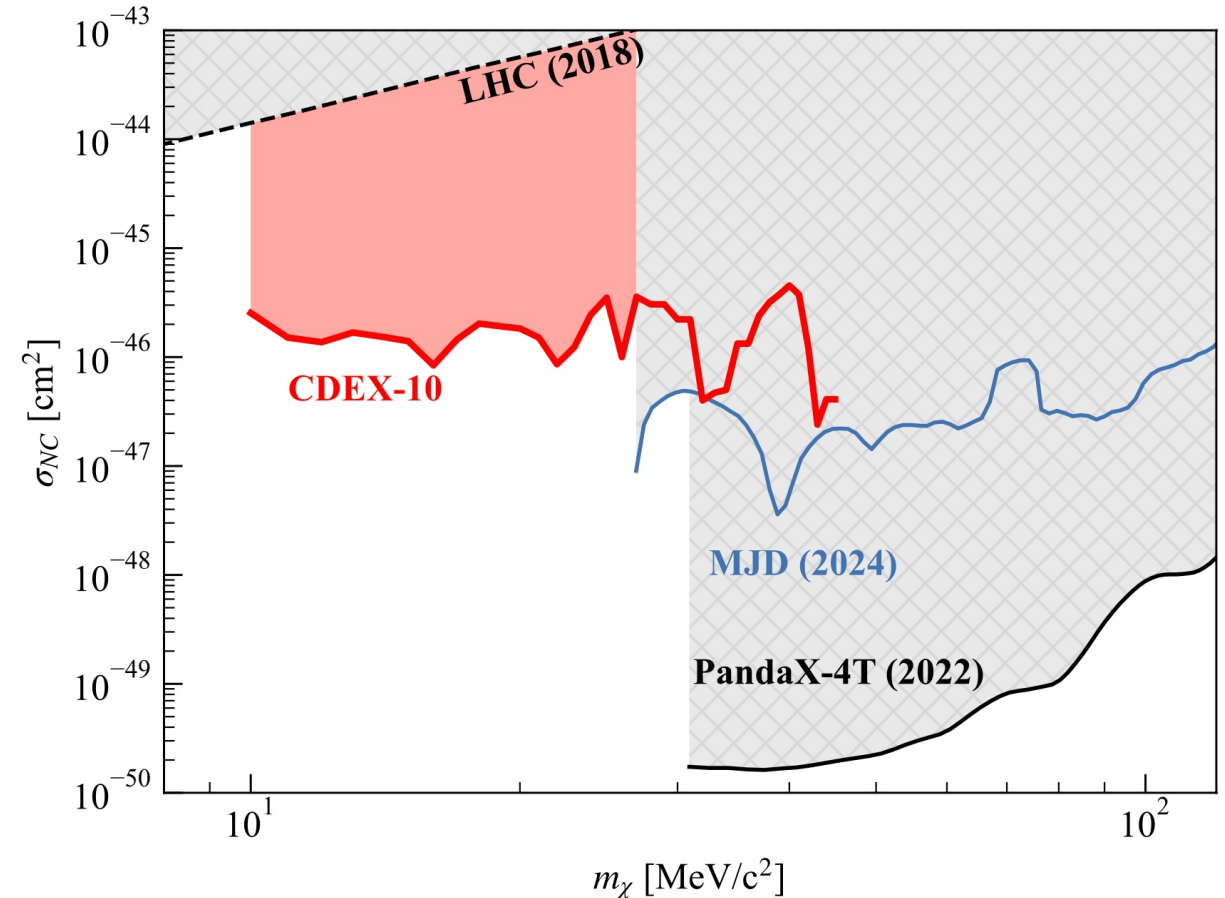
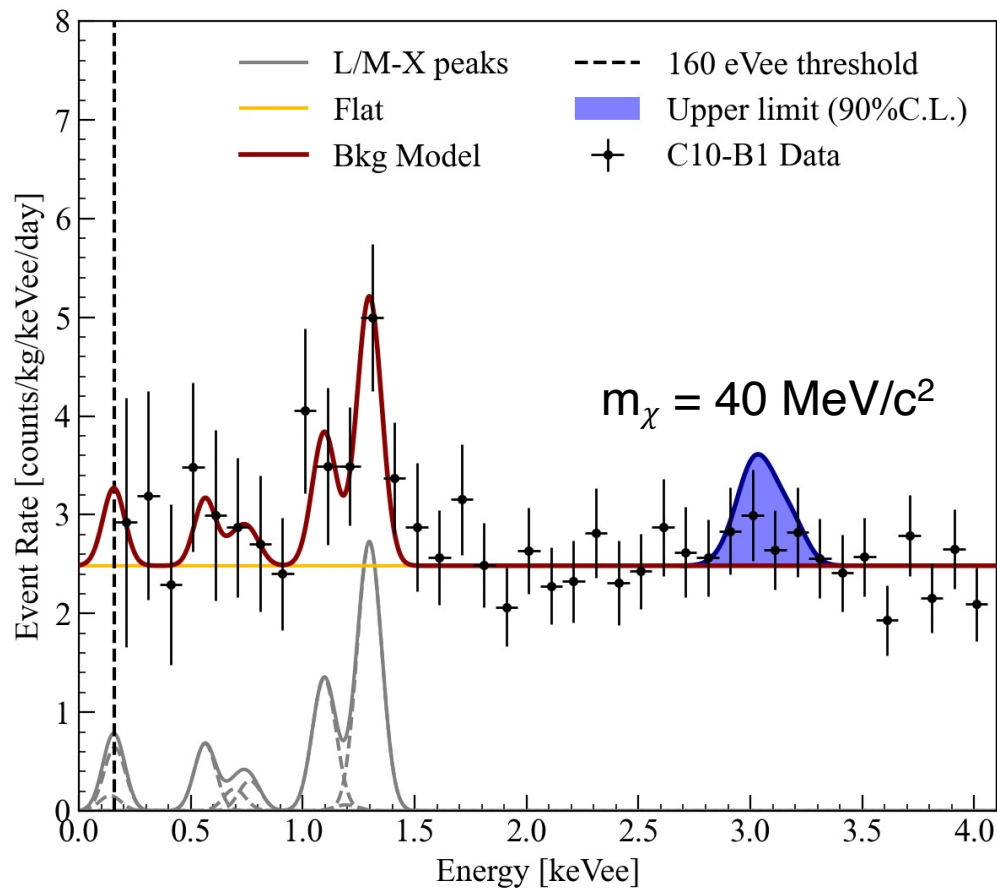


Limits on Nucleus Absorption Cross-Section (σ_{NC}):

Analysis 10~45 MeV DM using C10B1 data

PRL 129, 221802, 2022

CDEX achieves the **lowest DM mass reach (10 MeV)** among direct detection experiments to date



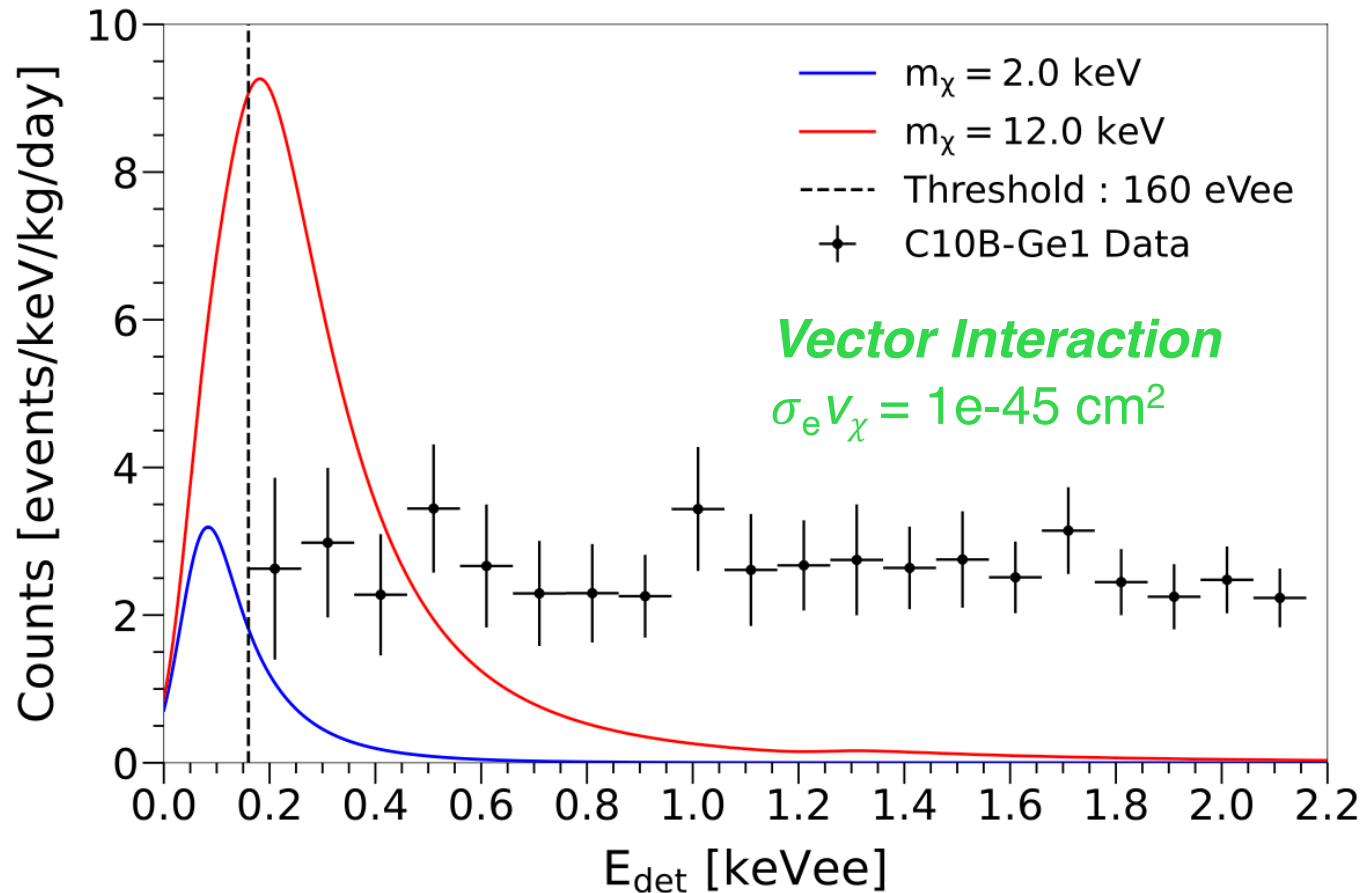
Expected Spectra from Electron Absorption:

- ① Treat Ge as an **isolated** atom (a conservative assumption)
- ② Only consider absorption by **core electrons in Ge (K-, L-, and M-shell electron)**

Theory:

J. A. Dror, et al, Phys. Rev. D 103, 035001 (2021).

S.F. Ge, et al. J. HighEnergy Phys. 05, 191 (2022).



$$\frac{dR}{dE_{det}} = N_T \frac{\rho_\chi}{m_\chi} \sum_{n,l} \frac{|\mathcal{M}(q)|^2}{64\pi m_\chi m_e^2} \frac{q}{E_{det} - |E_B^{nl}|} |f_{ion}^{nl}(k', q)|^2$$

q ← neutrino energy
 $|E_B^{nl}|$ ← Binding energy
 $|f_{ion}^{nl}(k', q)|^2$ ← ionization form factor

$$|\mathcal{M}^{V,A}(q)|^2 = (4, 12) \times \frac{4\pi m_e^2 q}{m_\chi} (\sigma_e v_\chi)$$

① **V:** **Vector** type operators in χ -e coupling

② **A:** **Axis-vector** type operators

For two types of operators:

➤ **Same spectrum shapes**

➤ **Different event rates**

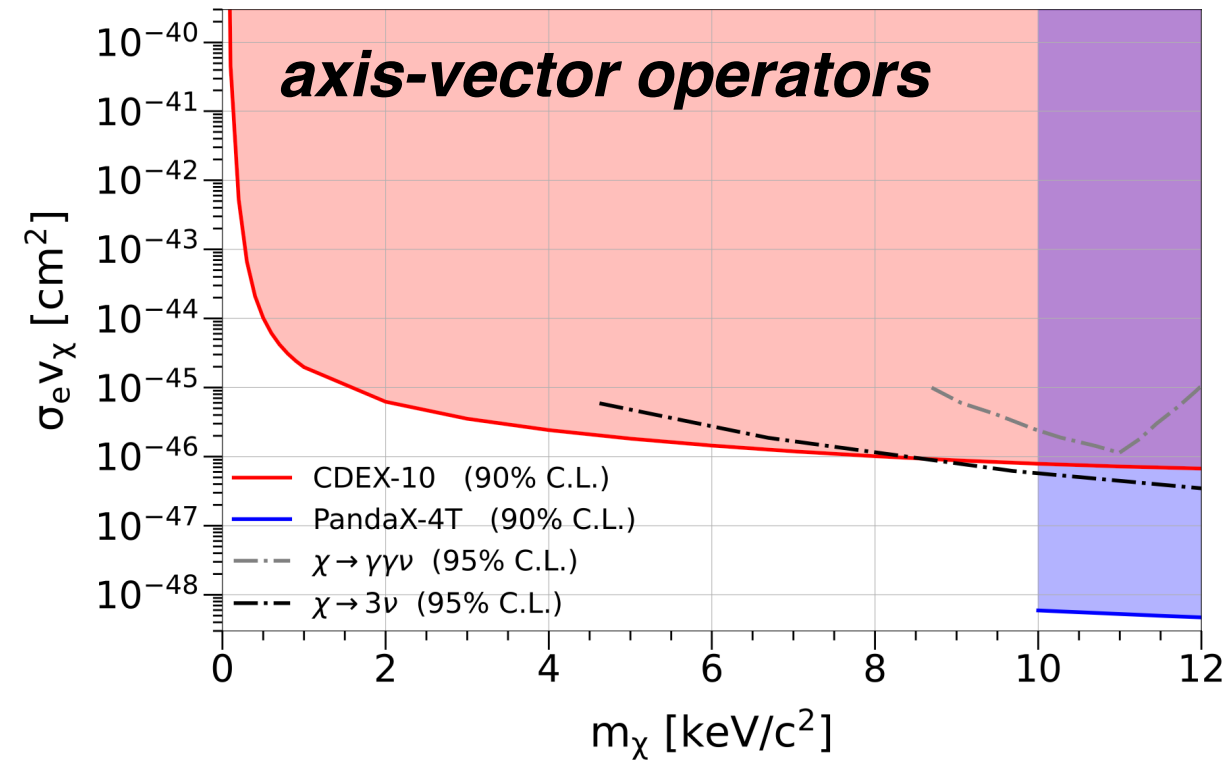
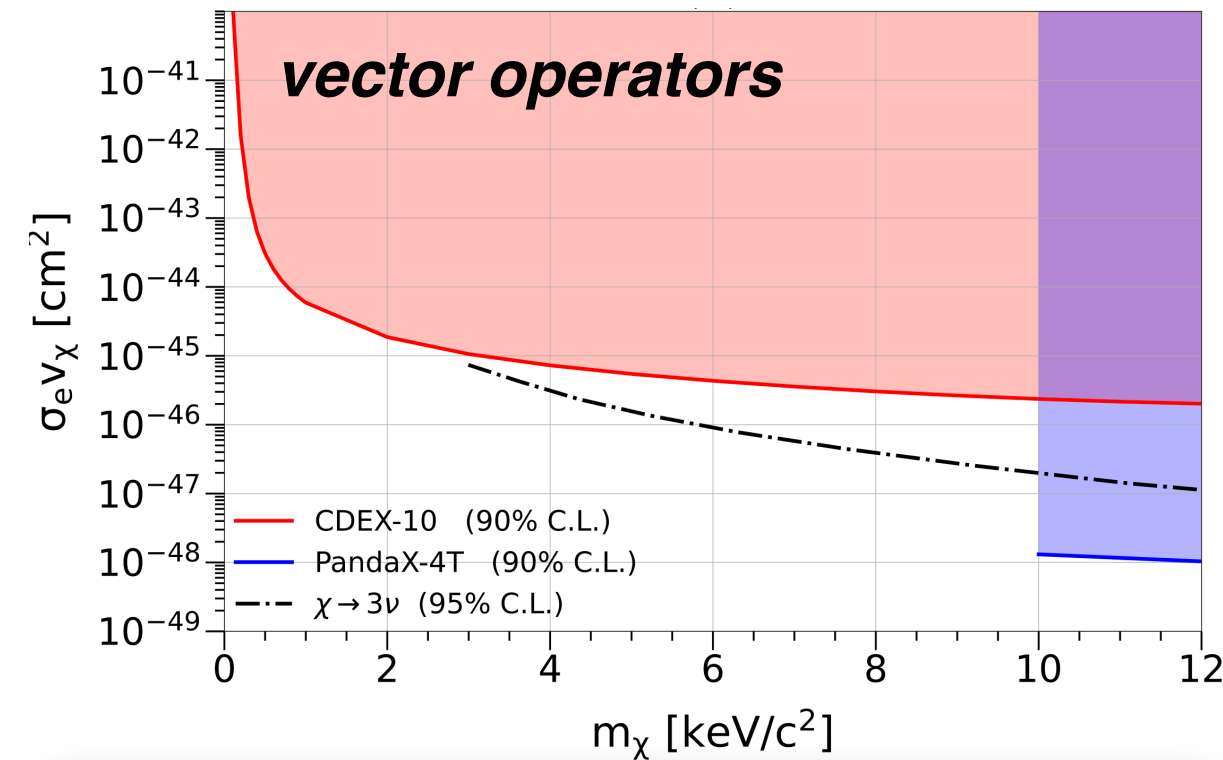
Limits on Electron Absorption Cross-Section ($\sigma_e v_\chi$):

Analysis **0.1~12 keV** DM using C10B1 data

For vector and axis-vector operators:

➤ **New Experiment results for $m_\chi = 0.1\sim 10$ keV**

arXiv:2404.09793v1



IV. Summary



(1) Dark Photon:

PRL 124, 111301, 2020

PRD 101, 052003, 2020

Solar Dark Photon (CDEX-10):

Best limit on mixing parameter (κ) at the time of publication

Dark Photon Dark Matter (CDEX-10 & CDEX-1B):

Extend New parameter space at $m_\nu=0.1\sim 0.2$ keV at the time of publication

(2) Axion and Axion-Like-Particles:

PRD 101, 052003, 2020

PRD 96, 122002 2017

Solar Axion (CDEX-1A & CDEX-1B):

Set limits on axion-electron & axion-nuclear coupling via solar CBRD & Fe-57 axion channel

Axion-Like-Particles (CDEX-1A & CDEX-1B):

Extend parameter space to $m_A=185$ eV at the time of publication

(3) Fermionic Dark Matter:

PRL 129, 221802, 2022

arXiv:2404.09793v1

Neutral current absorption with Nucleus (CDEX-10):

Extend New parameter space at $m_\chi=10\sim 27$ MeV for absorption cross-section

Neutral current absorption with Electron (CDEX-10):

New experiment results for $m_\chi=0.1\sim 10$ keV for axis-vector (vector) absorption cross-section

Thanks for your attention!



中国暗物质实验
China Dark matter EXperiment

<http://cdex.ep.tsinghua.edu.cn>

CJPL

中国锦屏地下实验室
China Jinping Underground Laboratory

清华大学·雅砻江流域水电开发有限公司

<http://cjpl.tsinghua.edu.cn>

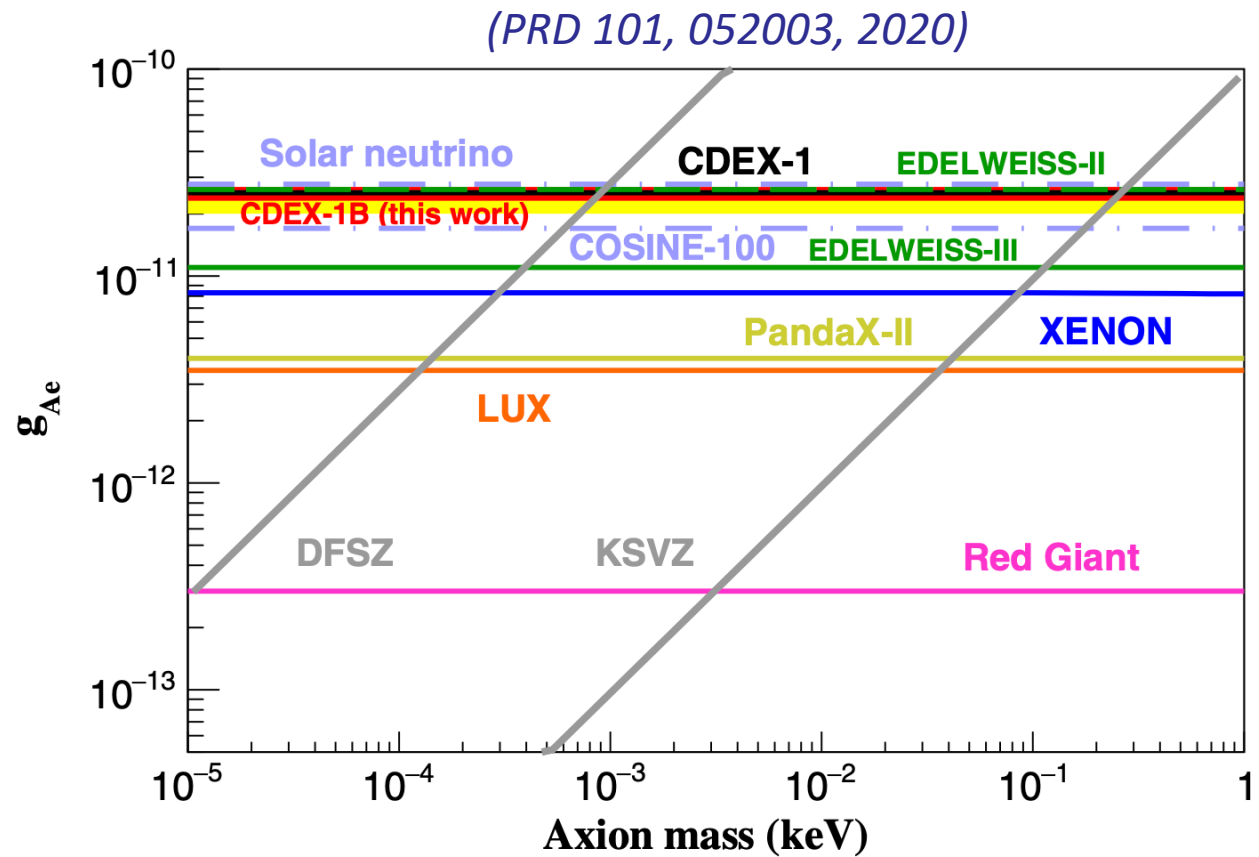
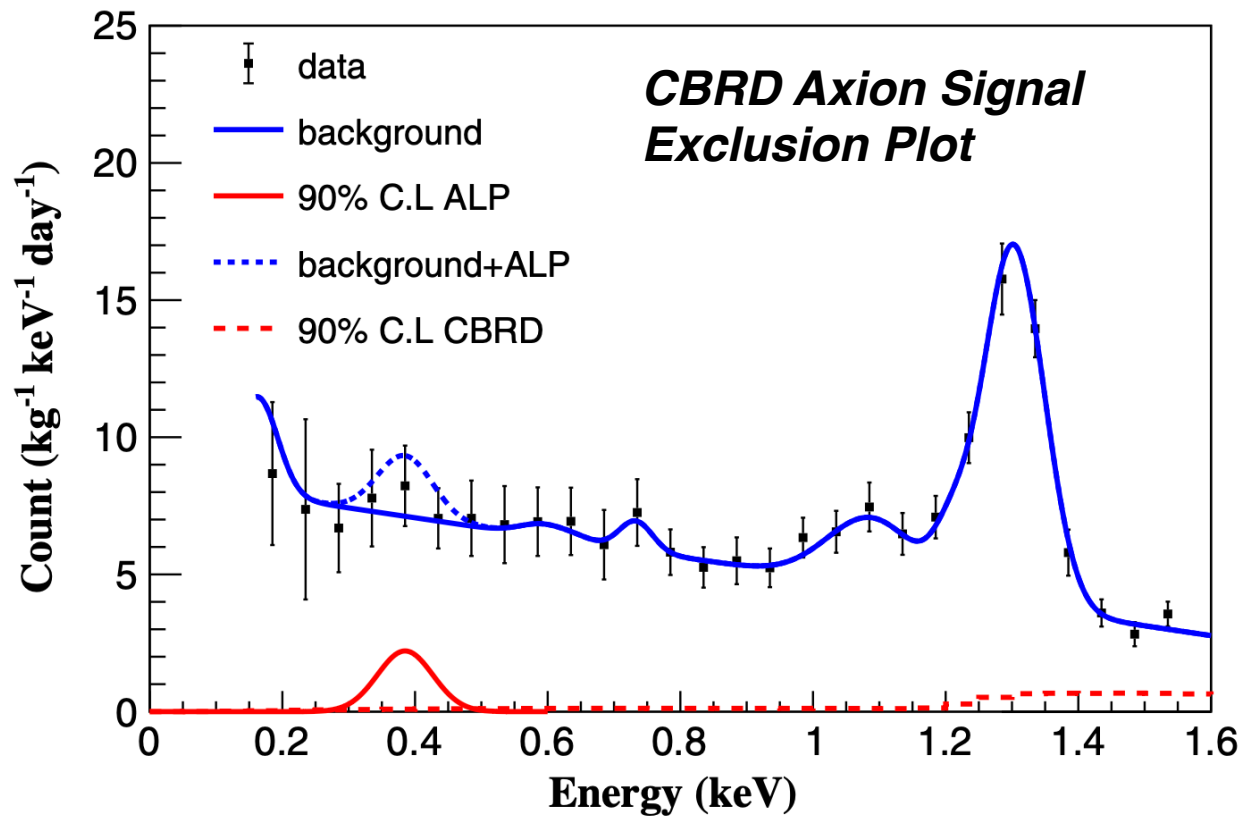


Back Up Material

□ Solar CBRD Axion Result:

Analyze Axion signal via [Profile Likelihood](#) method

Set limits on axion-electron coupling: $g_{Ae} < 2.48E-11$



□ Solar Fe-57 Axion Result:

Analyze Axion signal via [Profile Likelihood](#) method

Set limits on axion-electron coupling (g_{Ae}) & axion-nuclear coupling (g_{AN})

➤ **For $m_A=0$, $g_{Ae} \times g_{AN} < 4.14E-17$**

