

# THE GAMMA FROM NUCLEAR DECAYS HIDING FROM INVESTIGATORS (GANDHI) EXPERIMENT

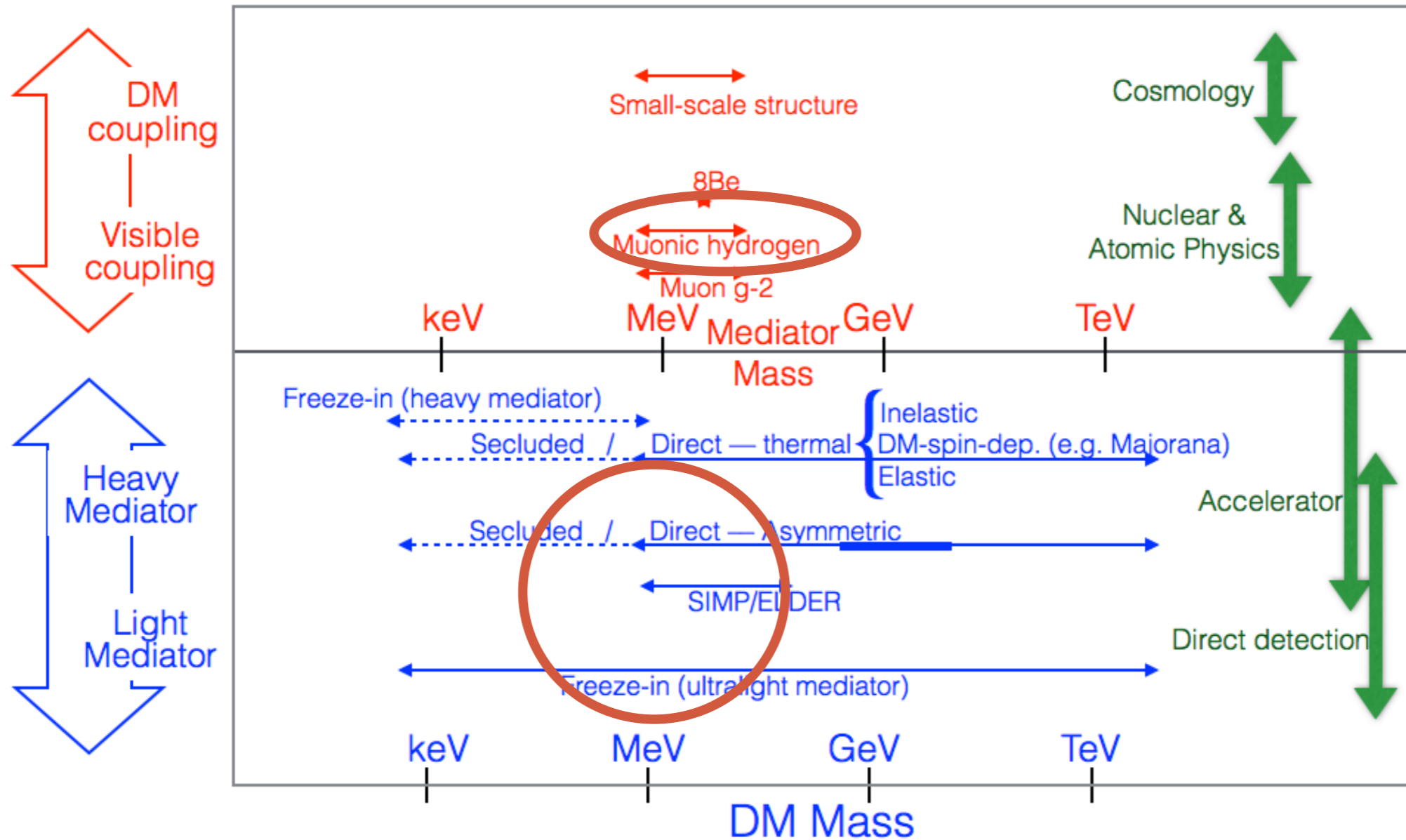
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BCTP, Berkeley*

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*GANDHI- arxiv:1810.06467  
with Giovanni Benato, Alexey Drobizhev, Surjeet  
Rajendran*

# DARK FORCES LANDSCAPE

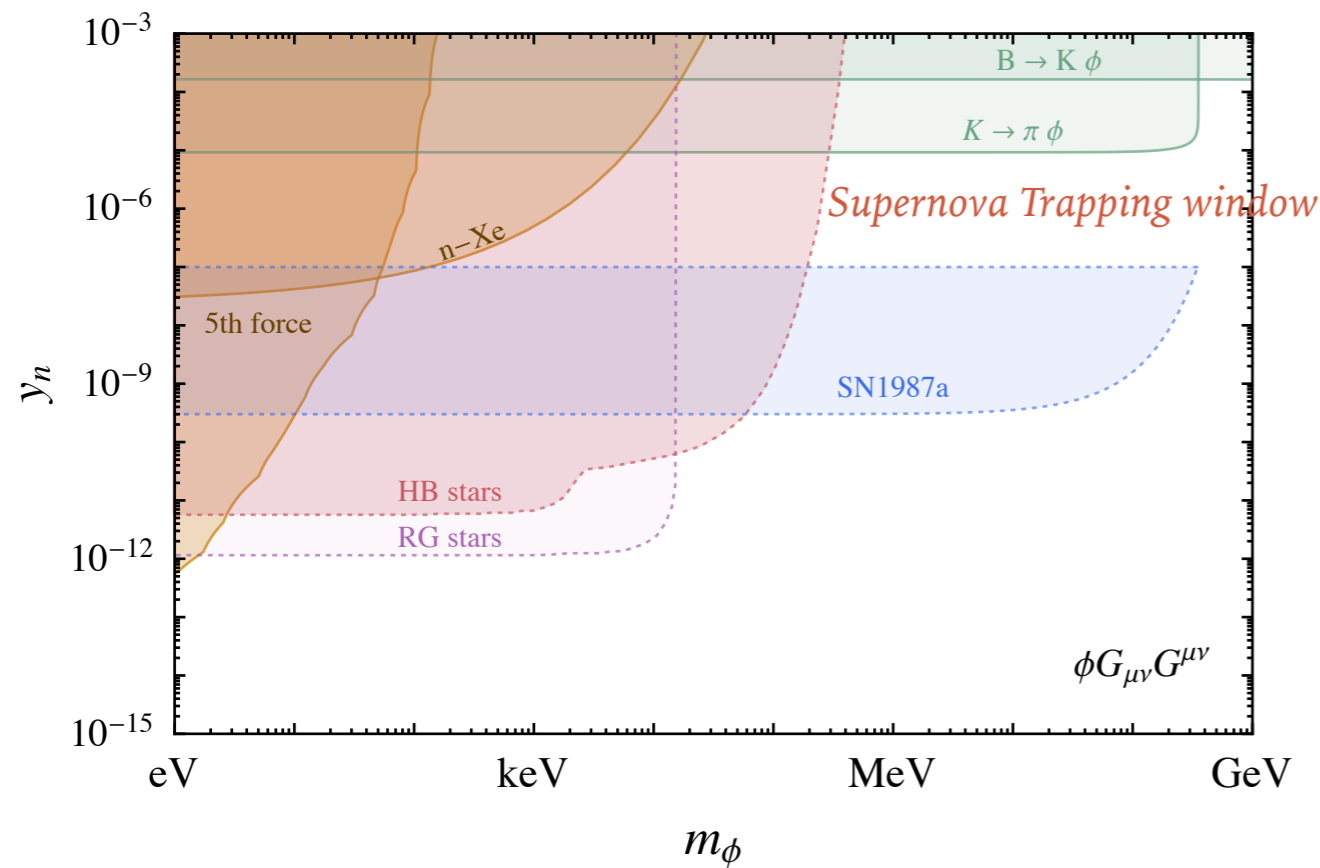
## Hidden-sector Dark Matter: **Anomalies**, **Production Mechanisms**, and **Detection Strategies**



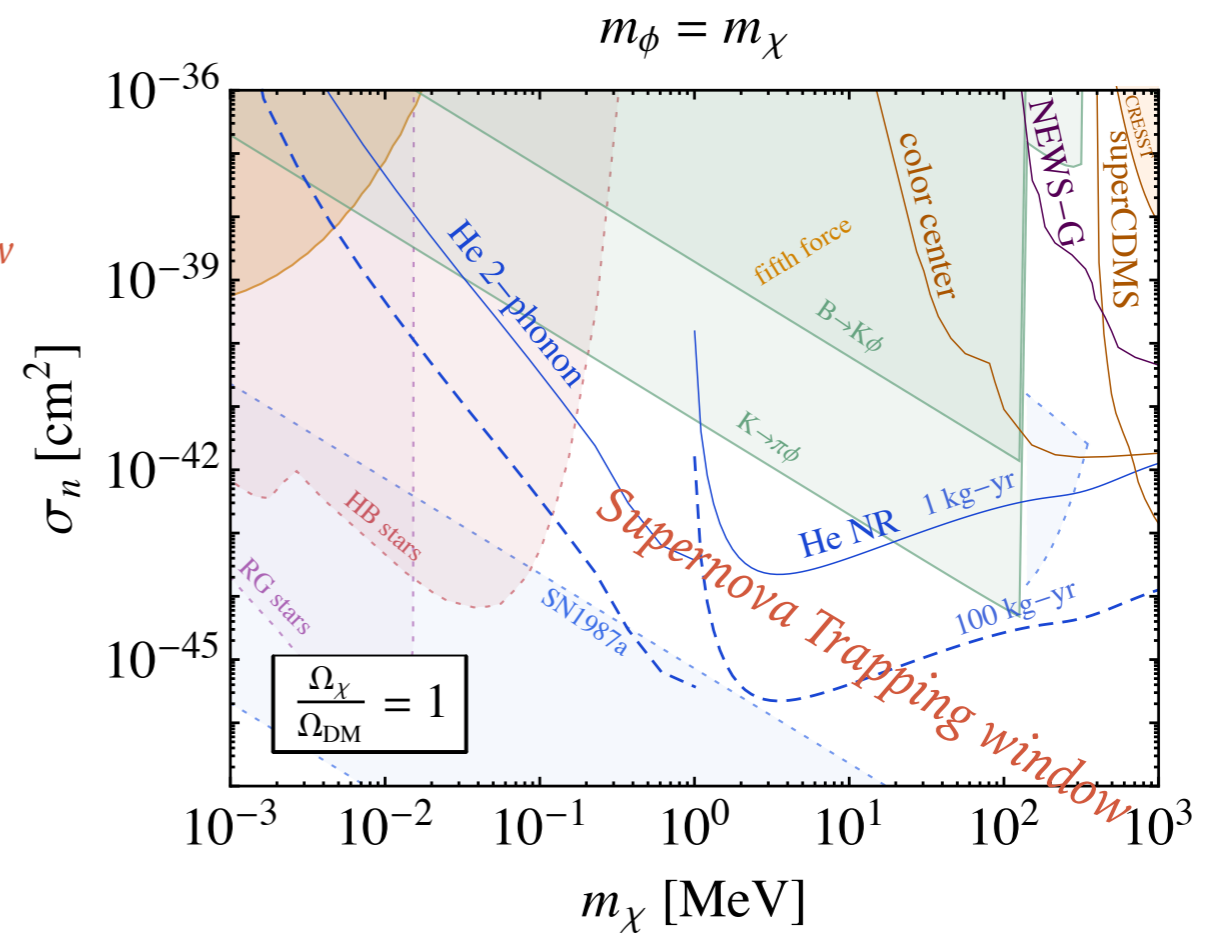
# LIMITS ON MODELS FROM MEDIATORS

source:1709.07882, Knapen, Lin, Zurek

Limits on Mediator



Limits on Dark Matter



HOW ABOUT CONSTRAINING THE MEDIATOR ITSELF?

# MET

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- missing energy experiments stay agnostic to decay modes
- furthermore, pay small factor only once
- how do we do this for a baryonic force though? doing MET search for baryons is a messy enterprise.
- (Missing) Gamma Decays

# THE GAMMAS FROM NUCLEAR DECAYS HIDING FROM INVESTIGATORS

## (GANDHI) EXPERIMENT NUCLEAR PHYSICS FOR PEACE

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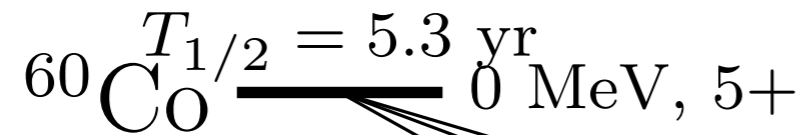


*Detect  
Missing*

*Quotes wrongly attributed to Mahatma Gandhi:*

*“A gamma for a gamma makes...”*

# CASCADE GAMMA DECAYS IN COBALT DECAYS



*Trigger on 1/3 miss on 2/4*

$E_{\gamma_1} = 1.17 \text{ MeV}$

$E_{\gamma_2} = 1.33 \text{ MeV}$

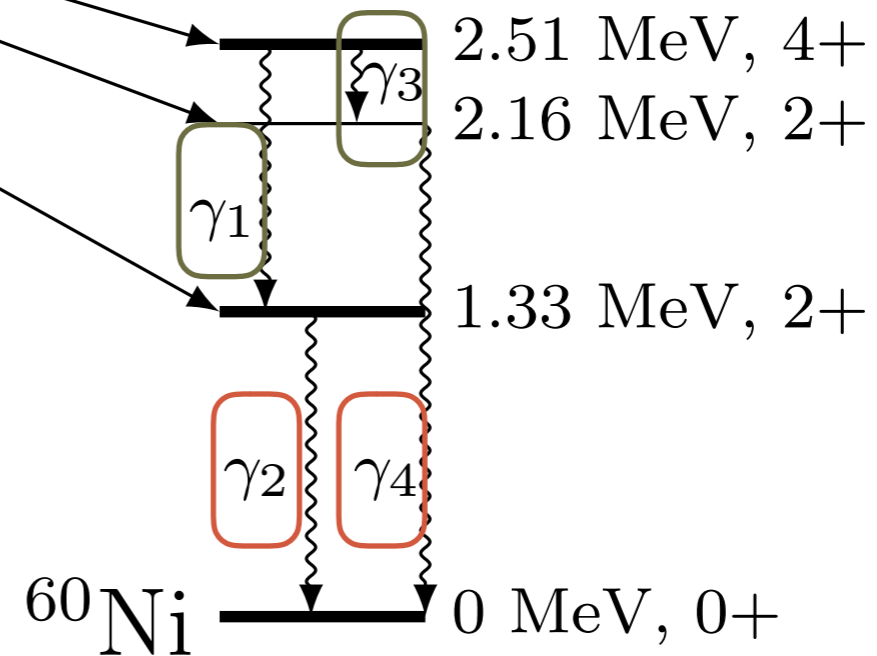
$E_{\gamma_3} = 0.35 \text{ MeV}$

$E_{\gamma_4} = 2.16 \text{ MeV}$

$\beta_1, 99.88\%, 0.32 \text{ MeV}$

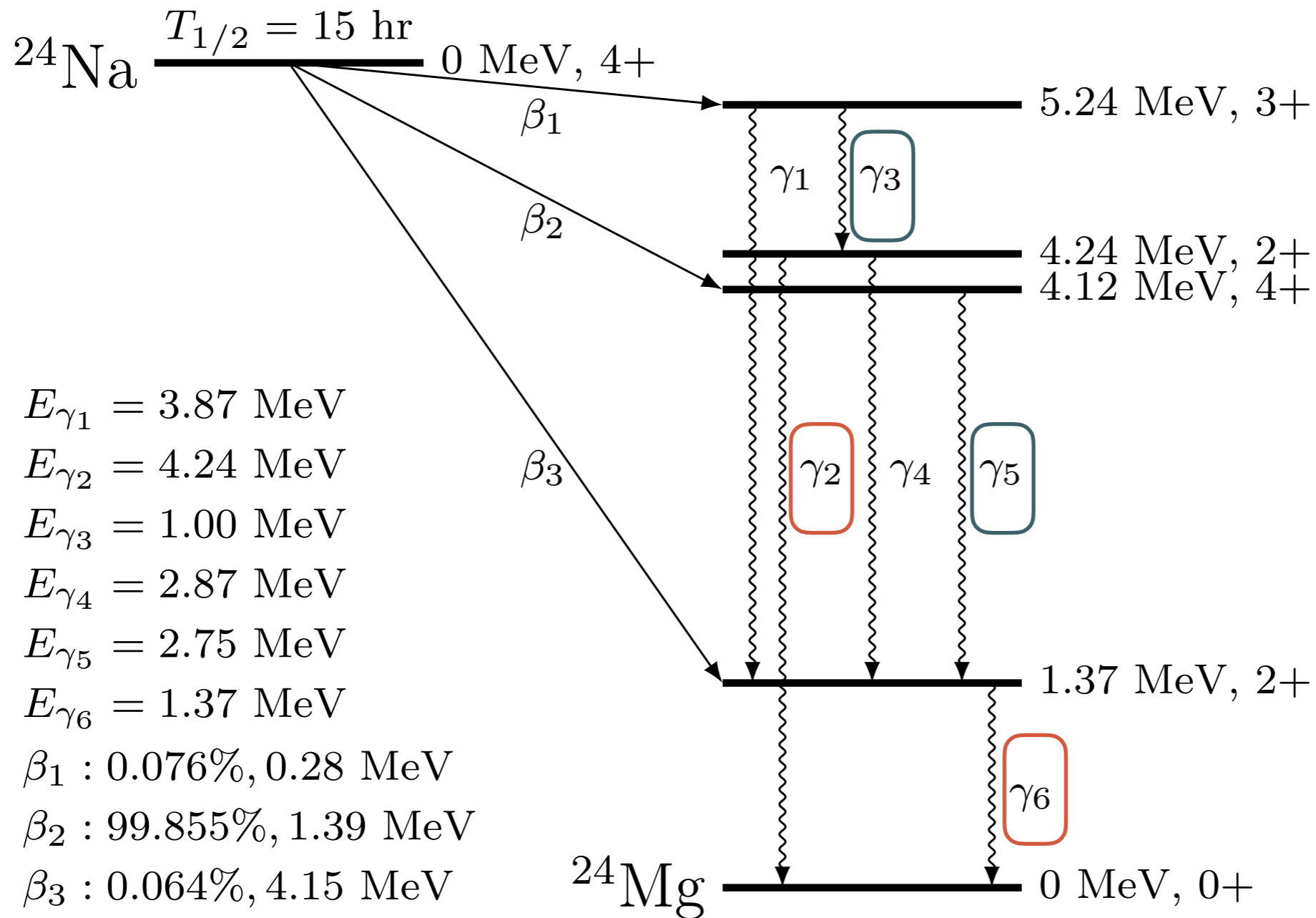
$\beta_2, 0.001\%, 0.67 \text{ MeV}$

$\beta_3, 0.12\%, 1.49 \text{ MeV}$



*Cascades happen because it is easier to shed two units of spin at a time rather than shedding 4 all at once.*

# $^{24}\text{Na}$



# SIGNAL

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- Cobalt foil inside a hermetically sealed detector
- Trigger on first gamma
- Signal event is a (beta) + (first gamma) + (missing subsequent second gamma)



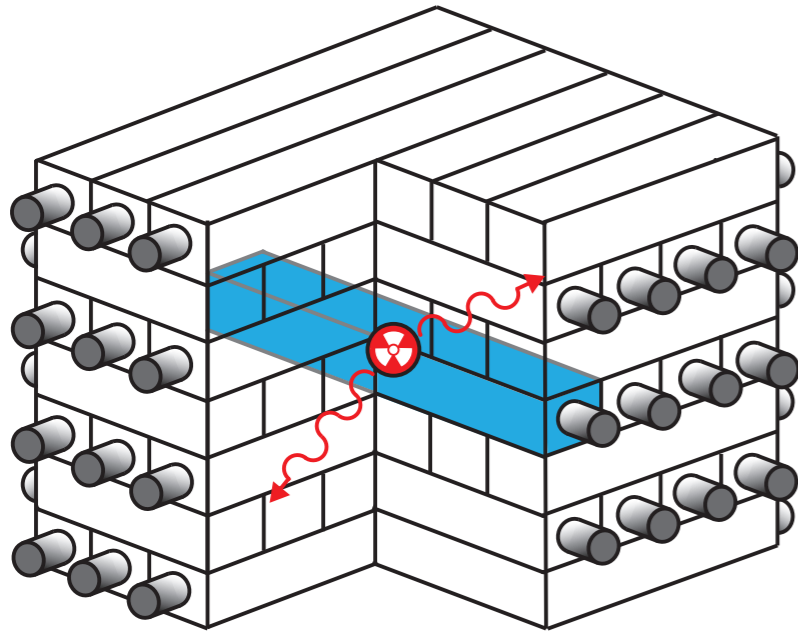
# PHOTON DETECTION

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- Photon detection with minimum dead-time
- Energy resolution, very important.
- Minimal dead regions/cracks, hermeticity sealed.
- Intrinsic Radioactivity needs to be kept low
- Large detector volumes might be required to make sure second gamma was not missed, difficult to grow crystals.
- Plastic Scintillators are ideal choice - BC-404
- A Hybrid plastic Scintillator core + liquid scintillator body might work also.

# DETECTOR SCHEME

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- Hermetic Detector divided into 3 modules
- Central modules to completely stop betas  $\sim$  cm
- Inner module to detect majority of the gammas  $\sim$  10cm. Require detection of first gamma here
- Outer module depending on the efficiency required.

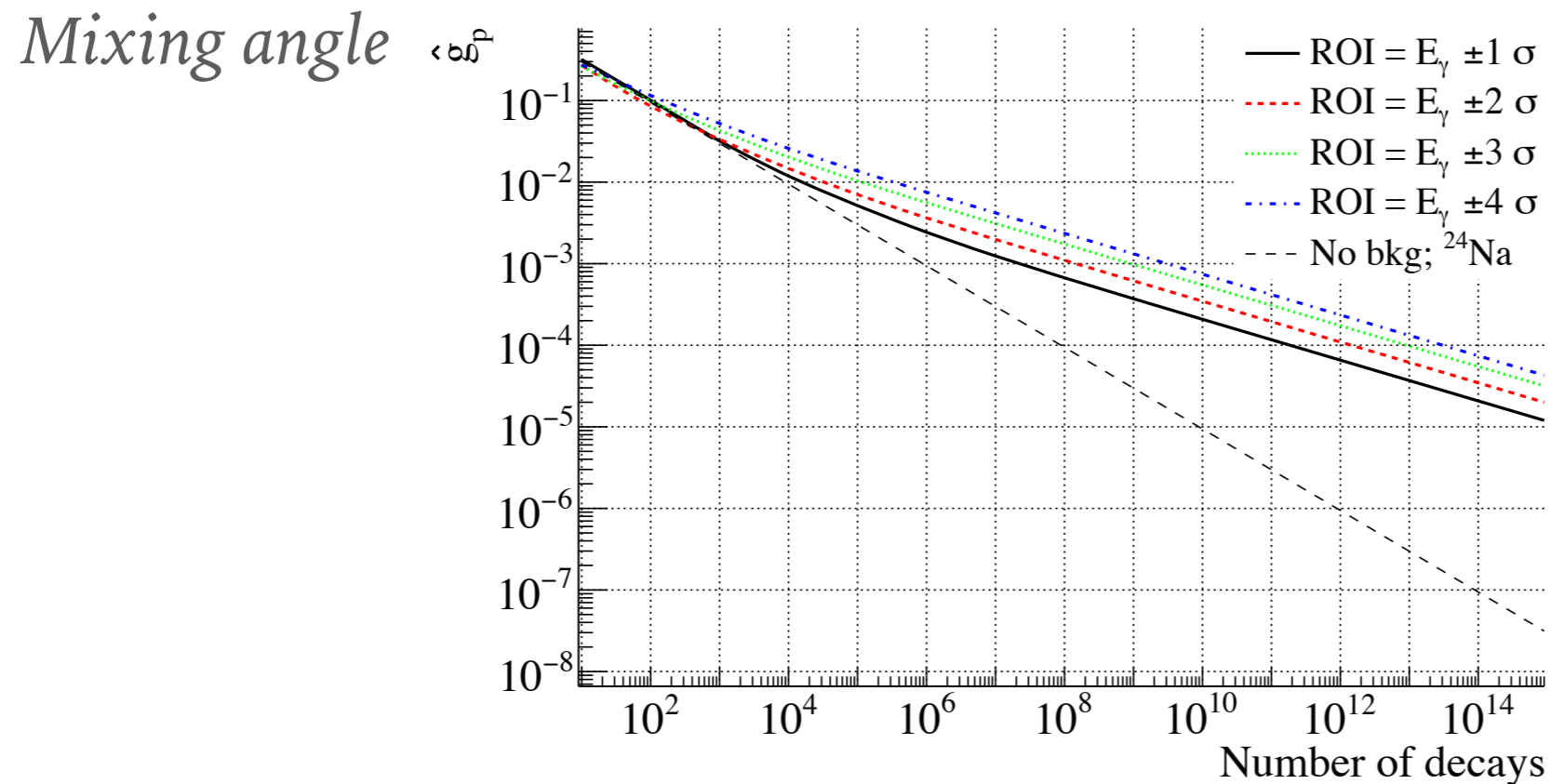
# INVISIBLE BRANCHING FRACTION

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$$\mathcal{L} = g_p \phi \bar{p} p$$

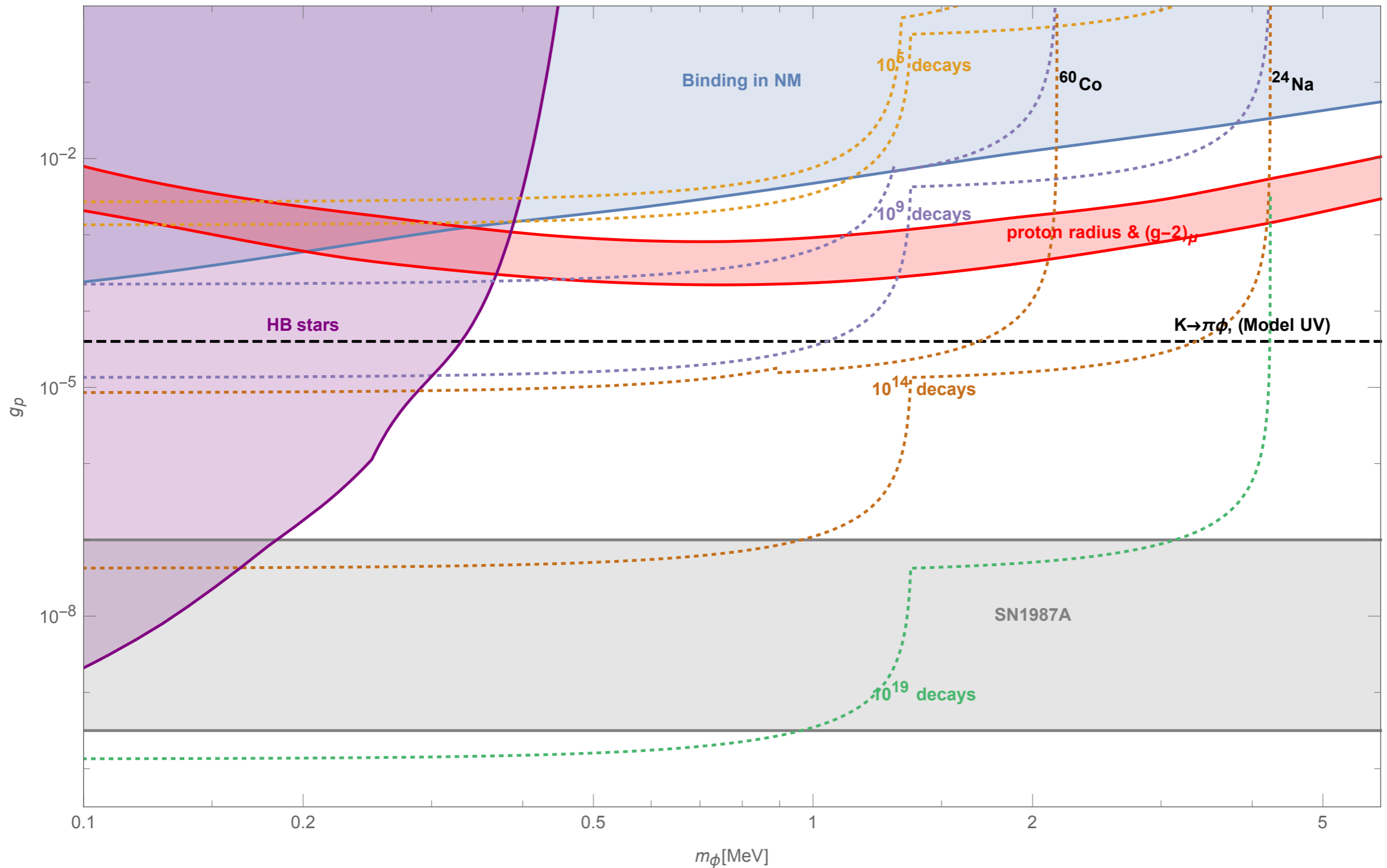
$$\frac{\Gamma(\phi)}{\Gamma_{\gamma, E_2}} \sim \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{g_p}{e} \right)^2 \left( 1 - \frac{m_\phi^2}{\omega^2} \right)^{\frac{5}{2}}$$

# 1.33 MEV GAMMA MIMICKING 1.17 MEV GAMMA



- As statistics increase, need tighter cuts in order to keep the tails of the singular second gamma from causing fakes. Happens mainly because  $E_2 > E_1$
- $^{24}\text{Na}$  does not suffer from this....

# REACH



Source for existing limits: Knapen et al. and Y.-S. Liu, D. McKeen, and G. A. Miller ,1605.04612