

Caltech



# NEW IDEAS IN DARK MATTER DETECTION

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*Kathryn M. Zurek*

# DARK MATTER DETECTION: A FULL COURT PRESS

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(deBroglie wavelength of galaxy)

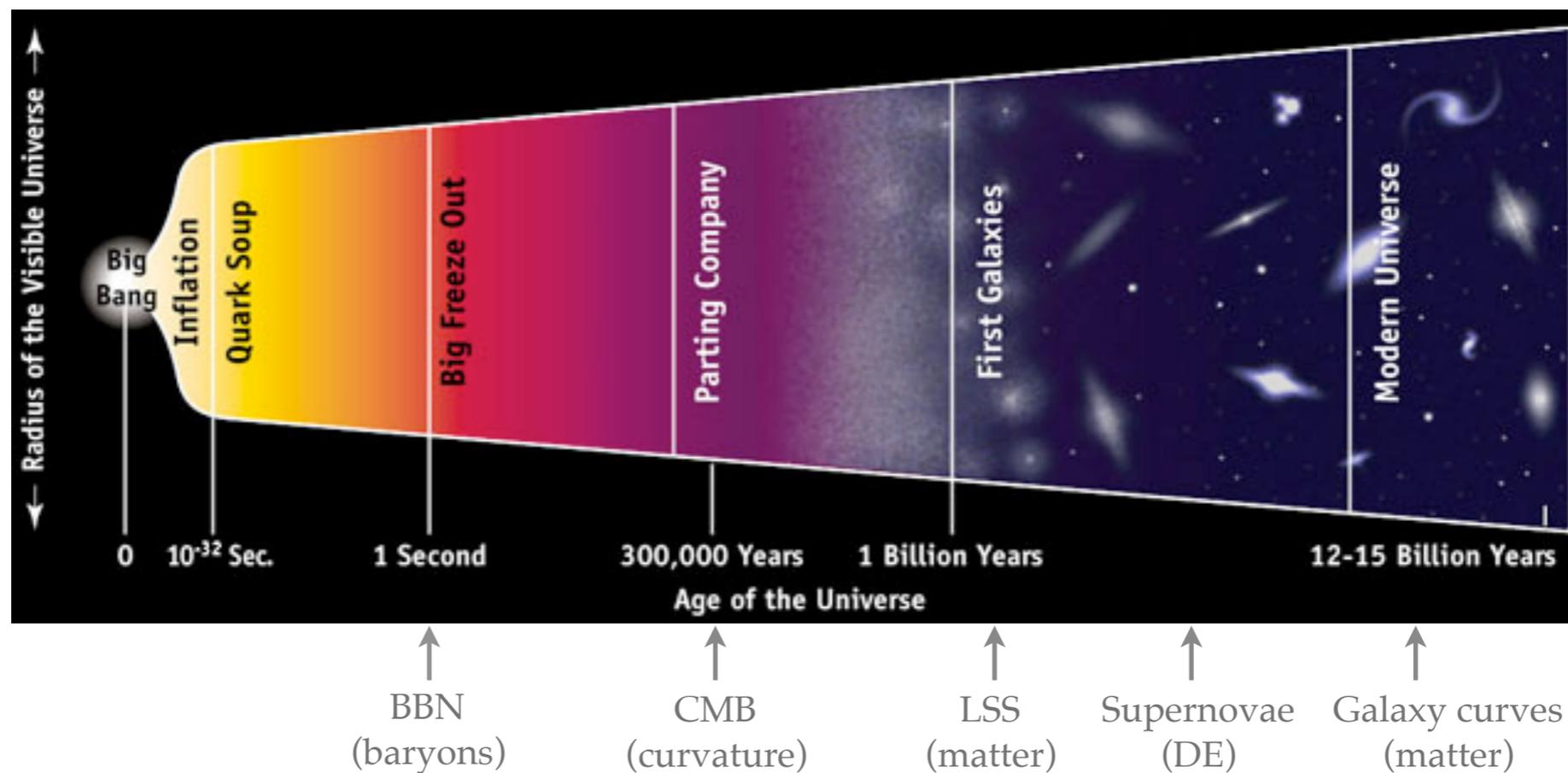
(Lyman-alpha forest)



# DARK MATTER DETECTION: COSMOLOGICAL CONSISTENCY

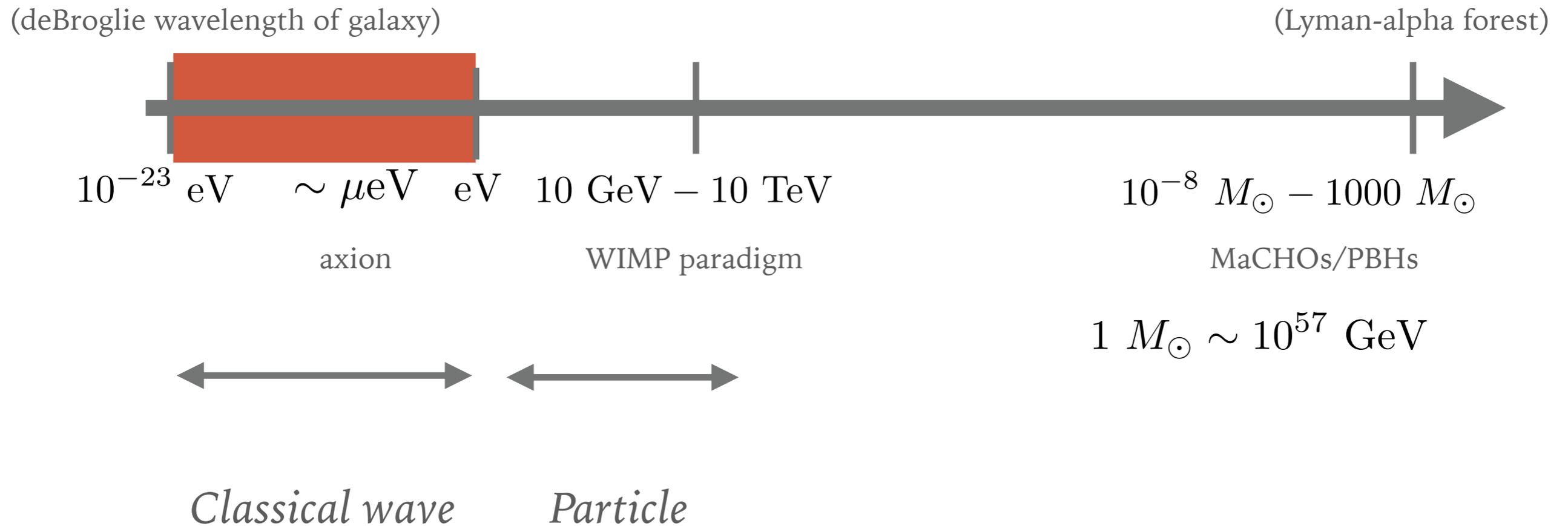
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- ▶ Any particle dark matter candidate must satisfy the entire range of observations. This alone gives us a lamplight.



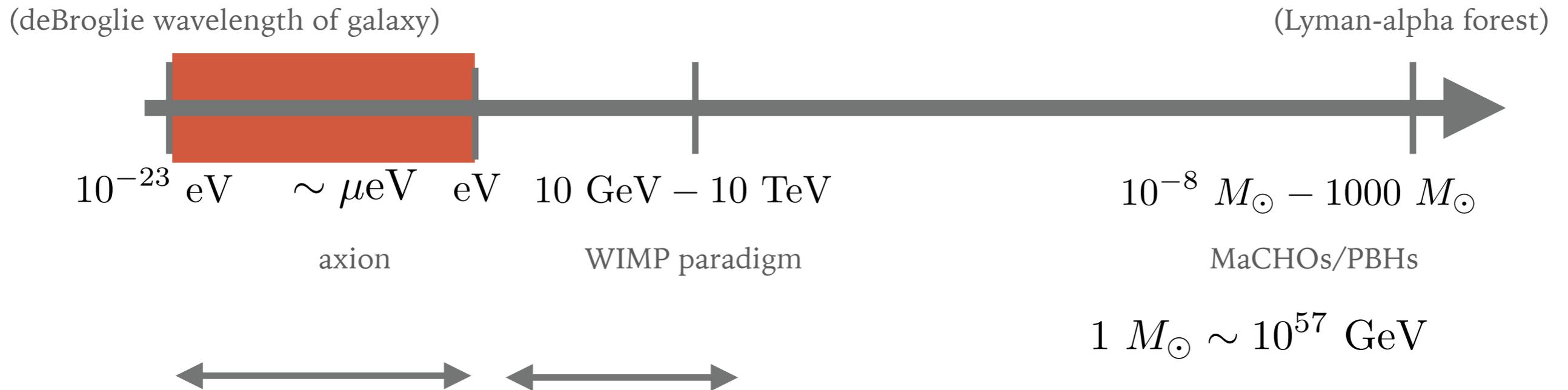
# DARK MATTER DETECTION: A FULL COURT PRESS

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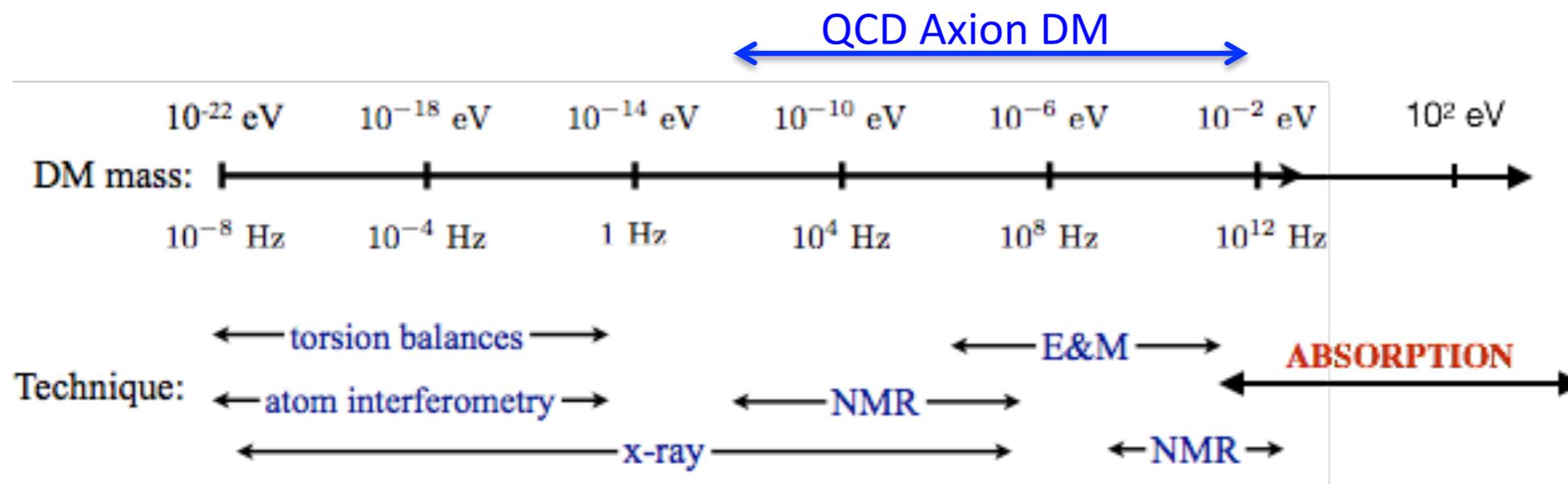


- ▶ Ultralight dark matter: dark matter behaves like a wave rather than an individual particle, e.g. axion
- ▶ Detection techniques focus on utilizing this coherence
- ▶ Cavities, AMO techniques *Talks of Baryakhtar, Irwin, Kahn, Winslow*

# DARK MATTER DETECTION: A FULL COURT PRESS



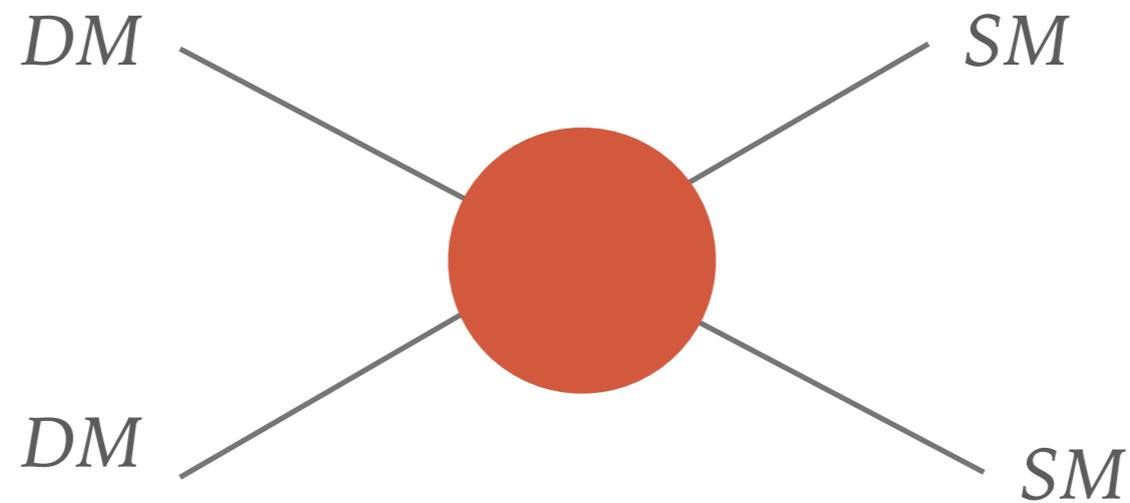
*Classical wave*      *Particle*



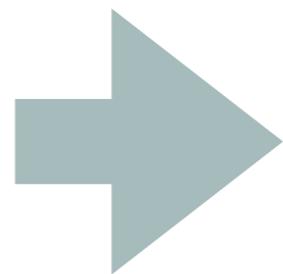
# SETTING ABUNDANCE THROUGH INTERACTIONS WITH SM

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- ▶ Freeze-out paradigm

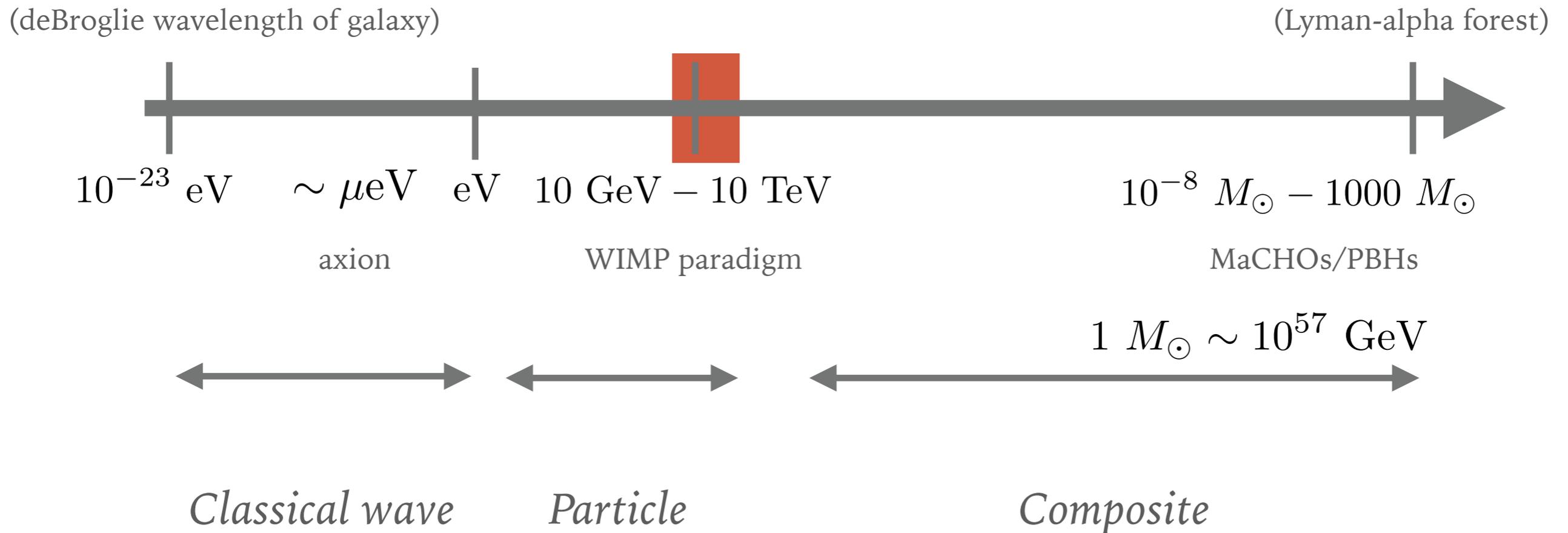


$$\rho_{DM} = \rho_{obs}$$



$$\langle \sigma v \rangle \simeq 3 \times 10^{-26} \text{ cm}^3/\text{s}$$

# DARK MATTER DETECTION: A FULL COURT PRESS

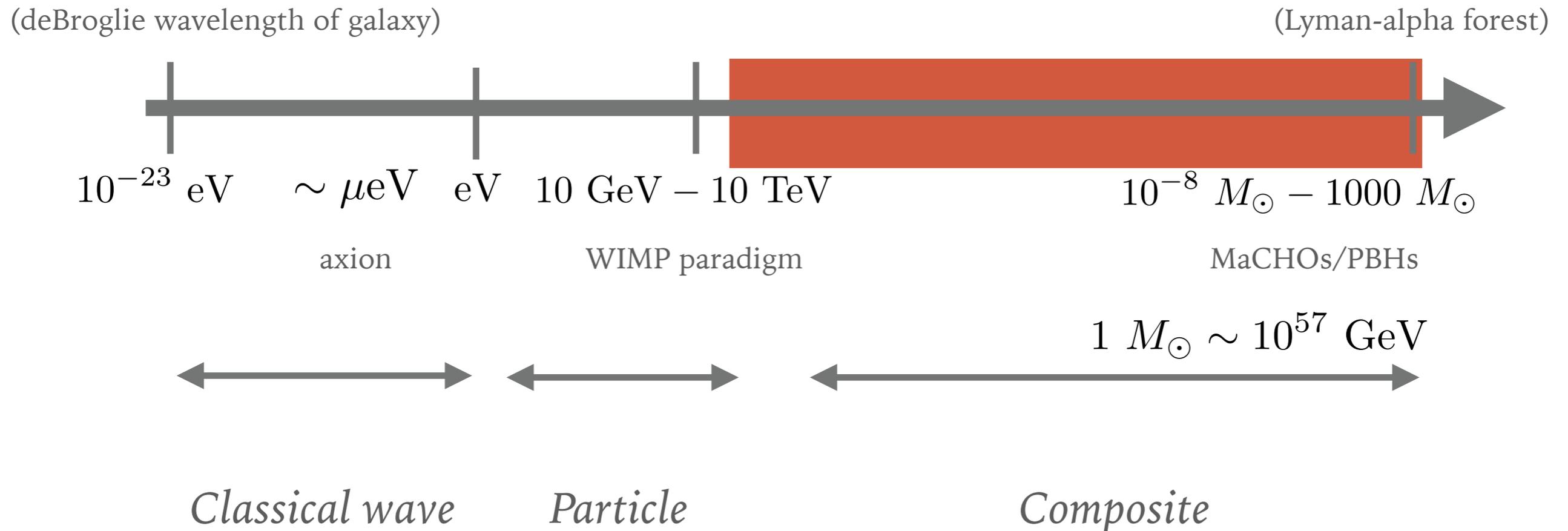


- ▶ Weak forces have the right scale for abundance and cosmology

$$\sigma_{wk} v_{fo} \simeq \frac{g_{wk}^4 \mu_{XT}^2}{4\pi m_Z^4} \frac{c}{3} \simeq 10^{-24} \frac{\text{cm}^3}{\text{s}} \left( \frac{100 \text{ GeV}}{M} \right)^2$$

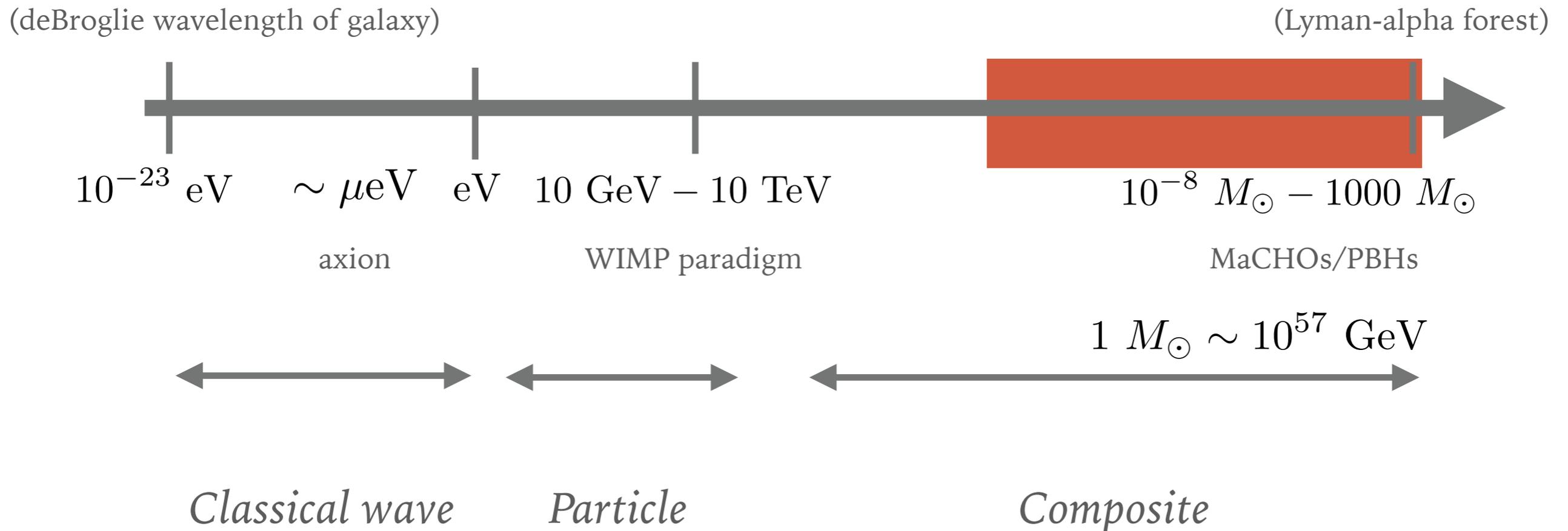
# DARK MATTER DETECTION: A FULL COURT PRESS

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- ▶ Heavier dark matter: setting relic abundance through interactions with Standard Model is challenging
- ▶ At heavier masses, detection through Standard Model interactions is (generally) not motivated by abundance

# DARK MATTER DETECTION: A FULL COURT PRESS

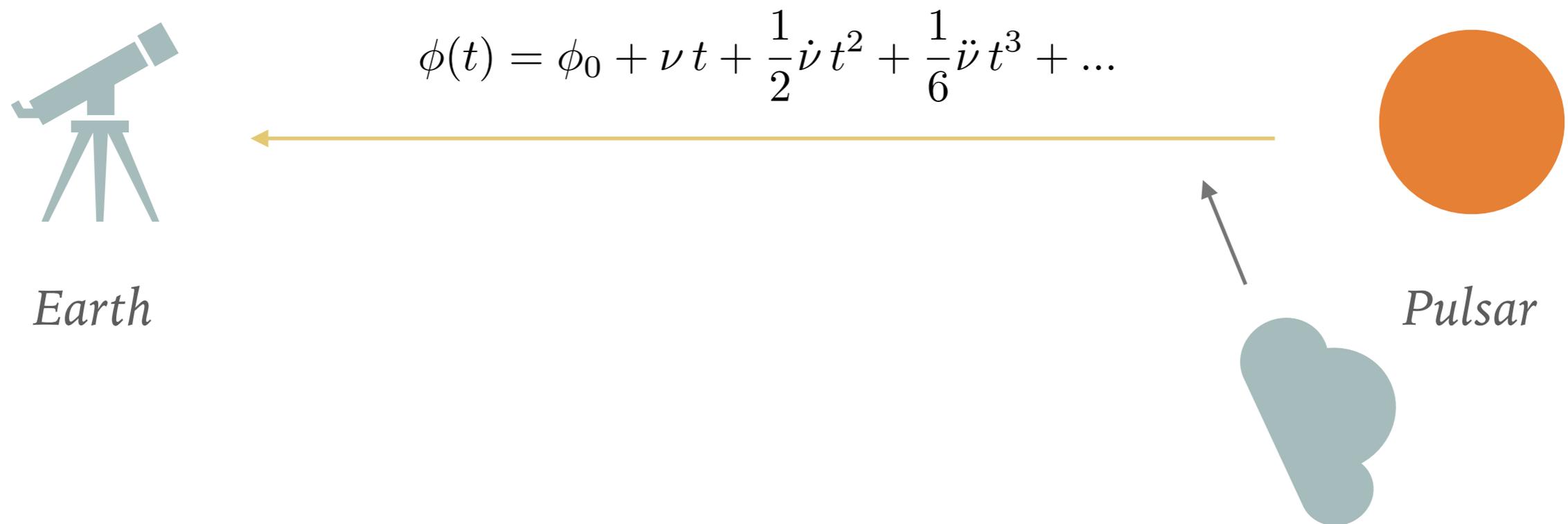


- ▶ Look for gravitational means to detect structure
- ▶ Above  $10^{-13} M_{\odot}$  Pulsar timing can be effective
- ▶ Project of the (far) future to use laboratory clocks to detect small gravitational redshift effects

# GRAVITATIONAL EFFECTS OF DARK MATTER SUBSTRUCTURE

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- ▶ Accurate clocks and transiting objects — the time-of-arrival of a pulse is very stable. Deviations can signal transiting object.



- ▶ Principle can be applied to many systems with accurate clocks *Talk of Carney*

# DARK MATTER DETECTION: A FULL COURT PRESS

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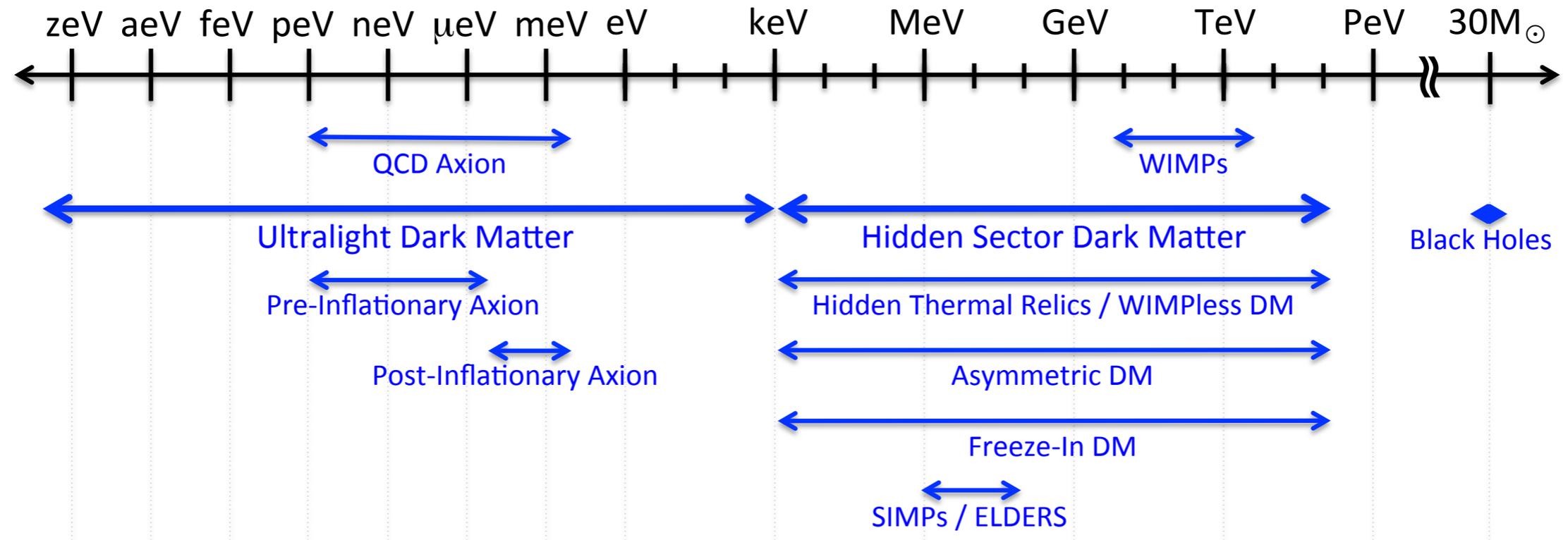
- ▶ Intermediate range where observation via particle interactions with SM is still highly motivated though not detectable with traditional WIMP experiments

*Talk of Pyle, Zhang*

- ▶ Arise generically in top-down constructions — hidden sector/valley paradigm

# DARK MATTER DETECTION: A FULL COURT PRESS

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# DARK MATTER DETECTION: A FULL COURT PRESS



- ▶ Dark sector dynamics are complex and astrophysically relevant.

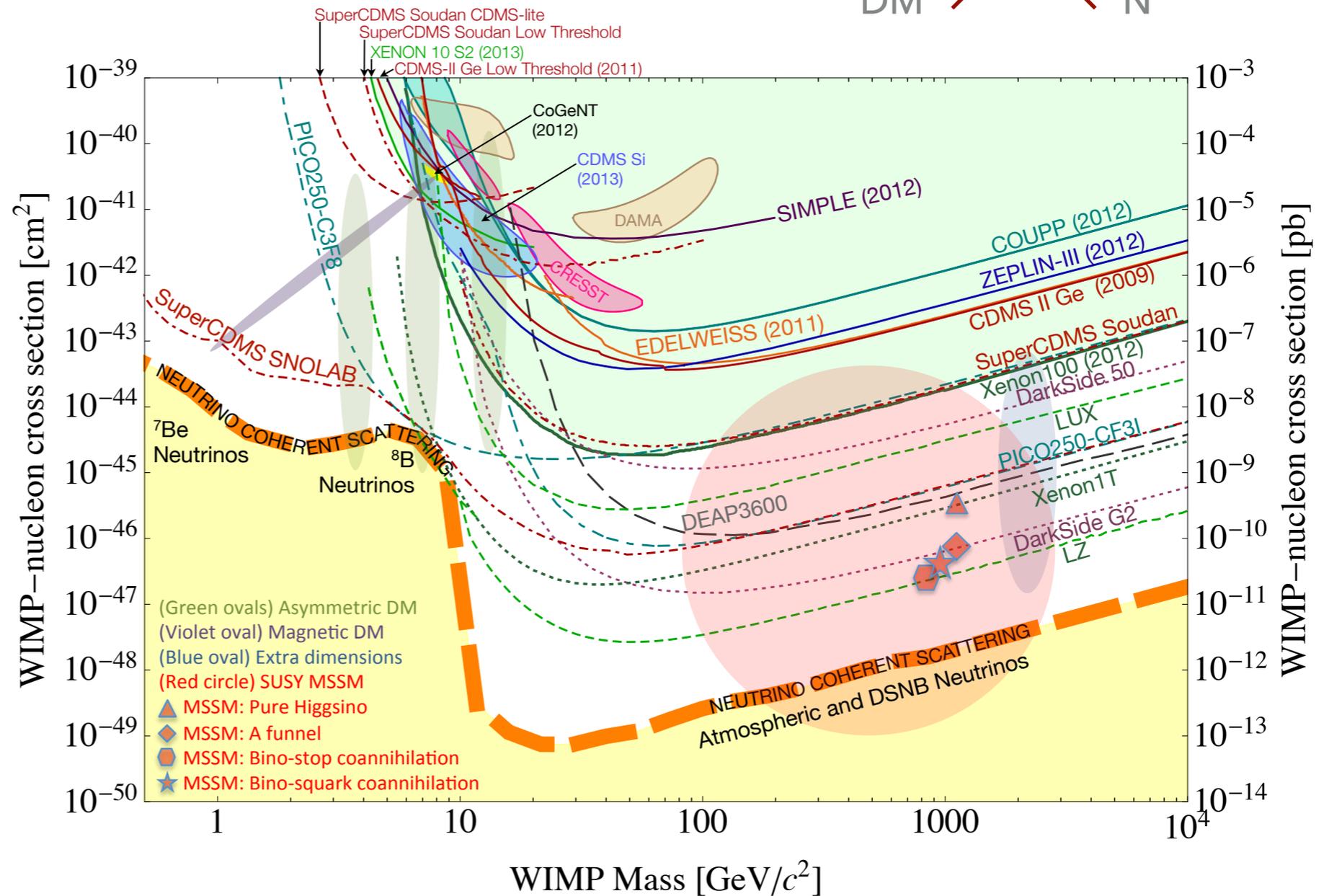
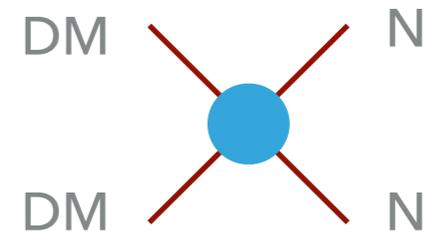
$$\sigma_{str} \simeq \frac{4\pi\alpha_s^2}{M^2} \simeq 10^{-24} \text{ cm}^2 \left( \frac{1 \text{ GeV}}{M} \right)^2$$

- ▶ Abundance may still be set by (thermal) population from SM sector

$$\sigma_{wk} v_{fo} \simeq \frac{g_{wk}^4 \mu_{XT}^2}{4\pi m_Z^4} \frac{c}{3} \simeq 10^{-24} \frac{\text{cm}^3}{\text{s}} \left( \frac{100 \text{ GeV}}{M} \right)^2$$

# TOWARDS HIDDEN SECTOR DARK MATTER

- ▶ Developments in condensed matter make this possible



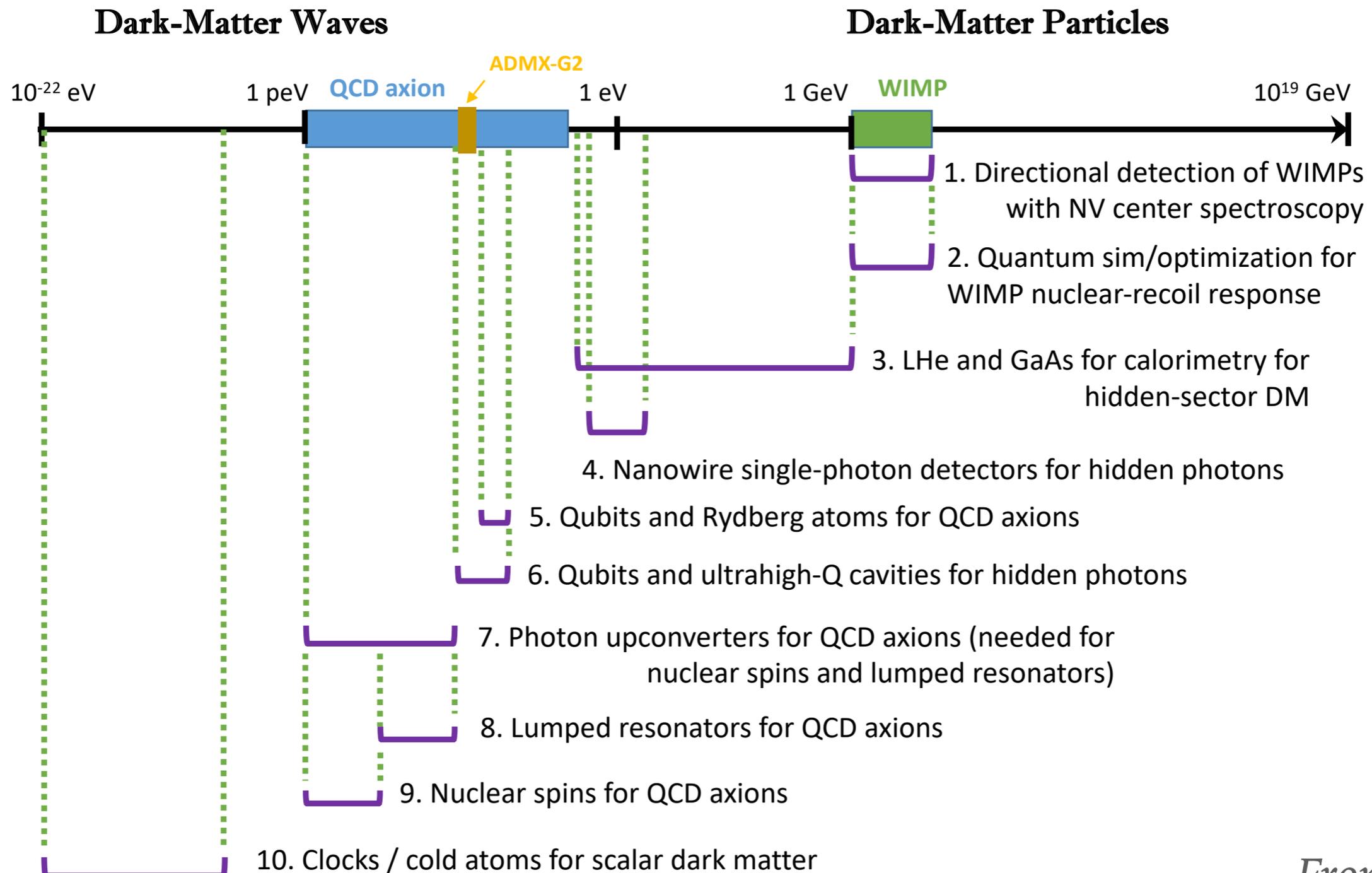
# WHY QIS?

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- ▶ Technology for detecting weak fields and single quanta is directly connected to technologies for QIS
  - ▶ Quantum sensing
    - ▶ For wave DM, that implies utilizing e.g. entanglement and squeezing
    - ▶ For particle DM, that implies sensing single photons, electrons and phonons *Talk of Noroozian, Nam*
- ▶ SQUIDs (weak magnetic fields), SNSPDs (single photons), TES and MKIDs (single electrons, phonons) — superconducting sensors

# WHY QIS?

## QuantISED in the Dark-Matter Landscape



*From K. Irwin*

# WHY QIS?

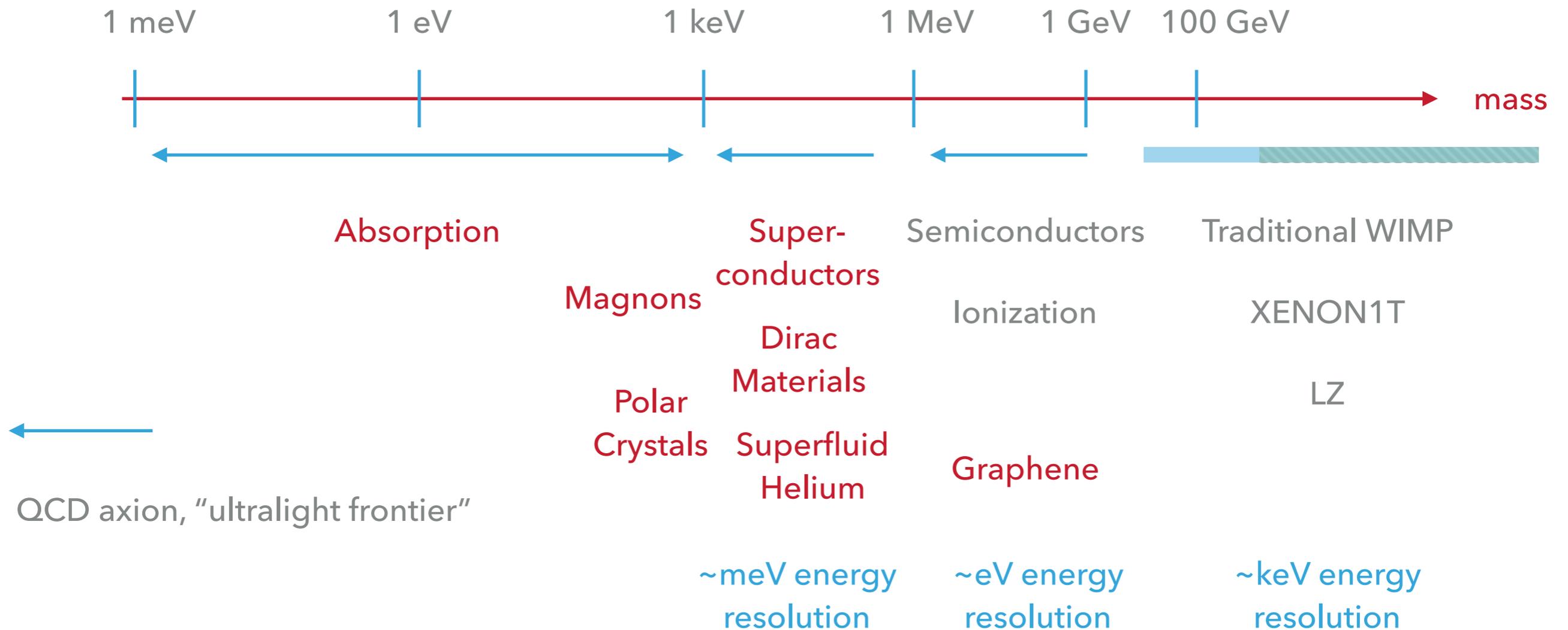
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- ▶ Highlight three:

1. single electron excitation in silicon by DM and detection with CCDs
2. single optical phonon excitation by DM in polar materials and detection with superconducting sensors (TESs)
3. quantum material design

# NEW IDEAS IN DARK MATTER DETECTION

## ▶ Experimental Panorama

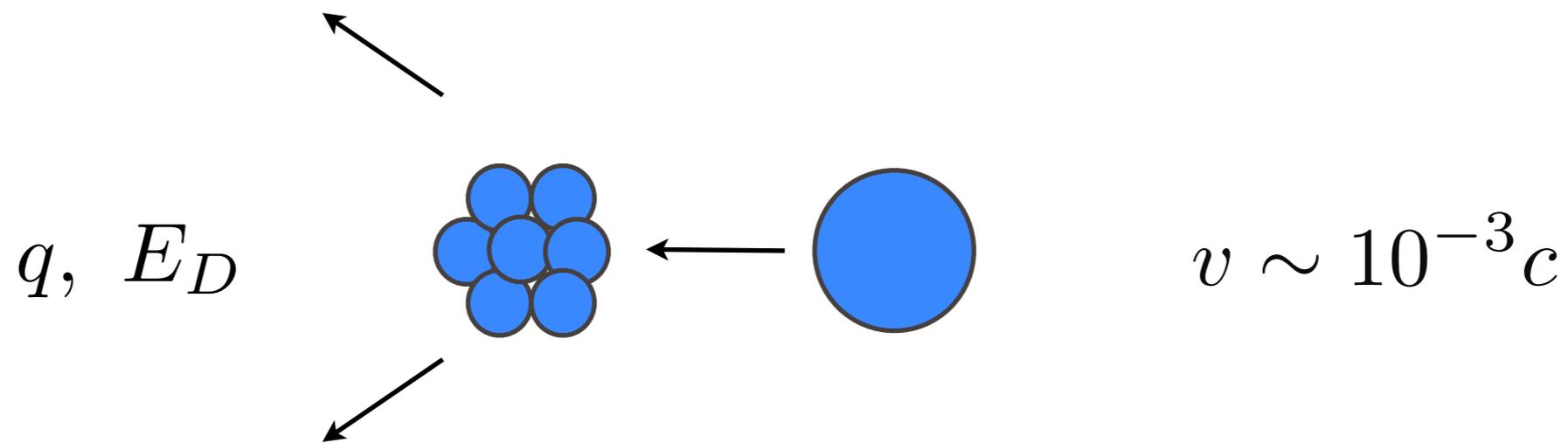




# LIGHTER TARGETS FOR LIGHTER DARK MATTER

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- ▶ Nuclear recoil experiments; basis of enormous progress in direct detection



$$v \sim 300 \text{ km/s} \sim 10^{-3}c \implies E_D \sim 100 \text{ keV}$$

$$E_D = \frac{q^2}{2m_N} \qquad q_{\text{max}} = 2m_X v$$

# LIGHTER TARGETS FOR LIGHTER DARK MATTER (1)

$$E_D = \frac{q^2}{2m_e} \quad q_{\max} = 2m_\chi v$$

- ▶ In insulators, like xenon

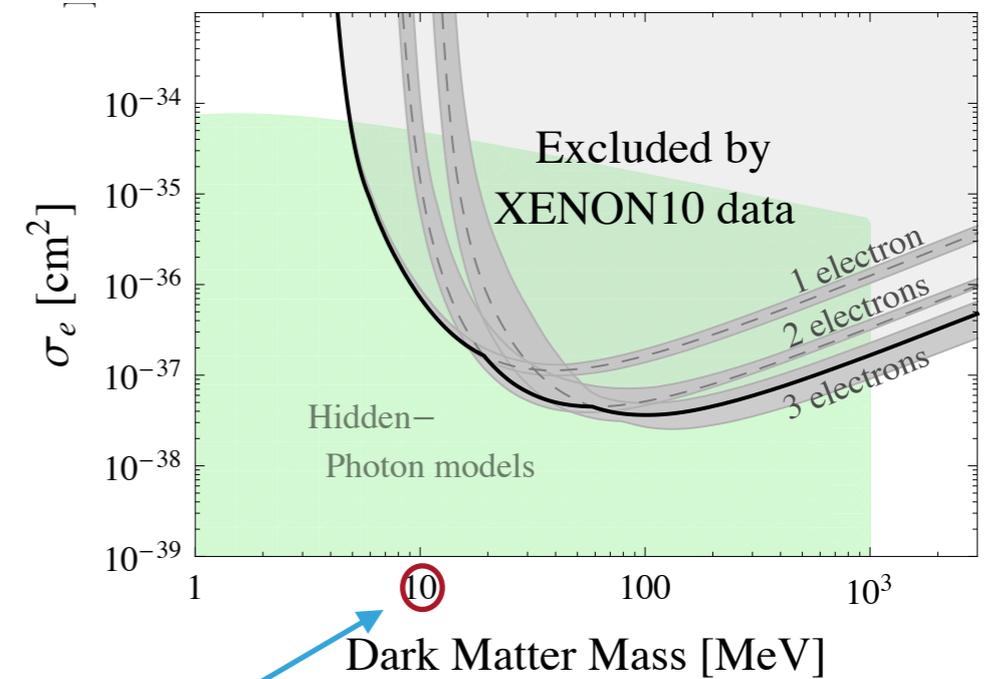
Tightly bound; ionize for signal

- ▶ In semi-conductors, like Ge, Si

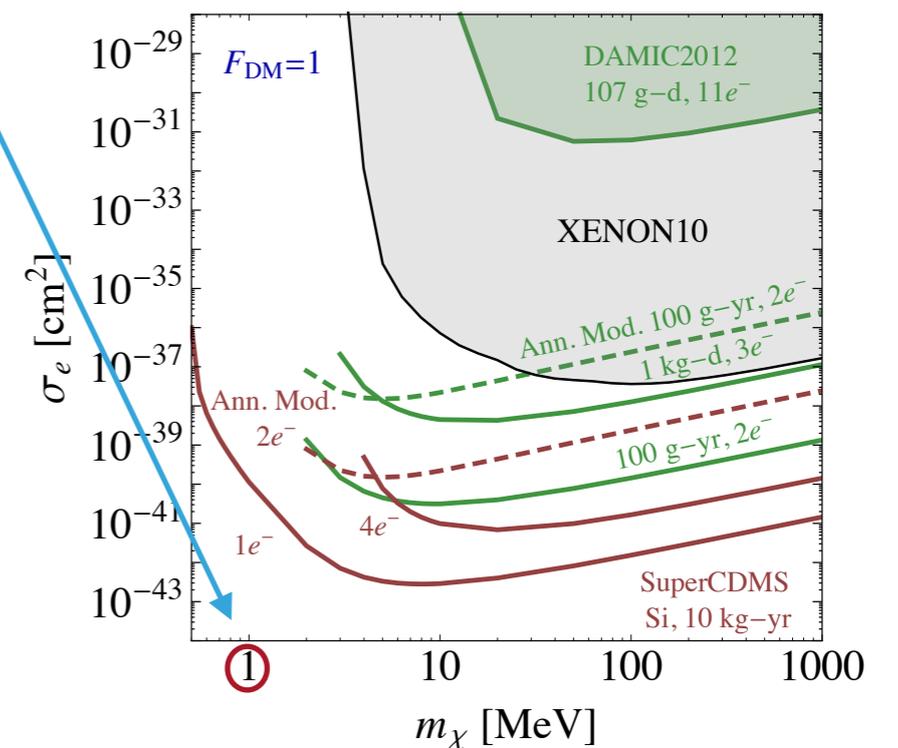
Excite electron to conduction band

Gap = DM Kinetic Energy

P. Sorensen et al 1206.2644



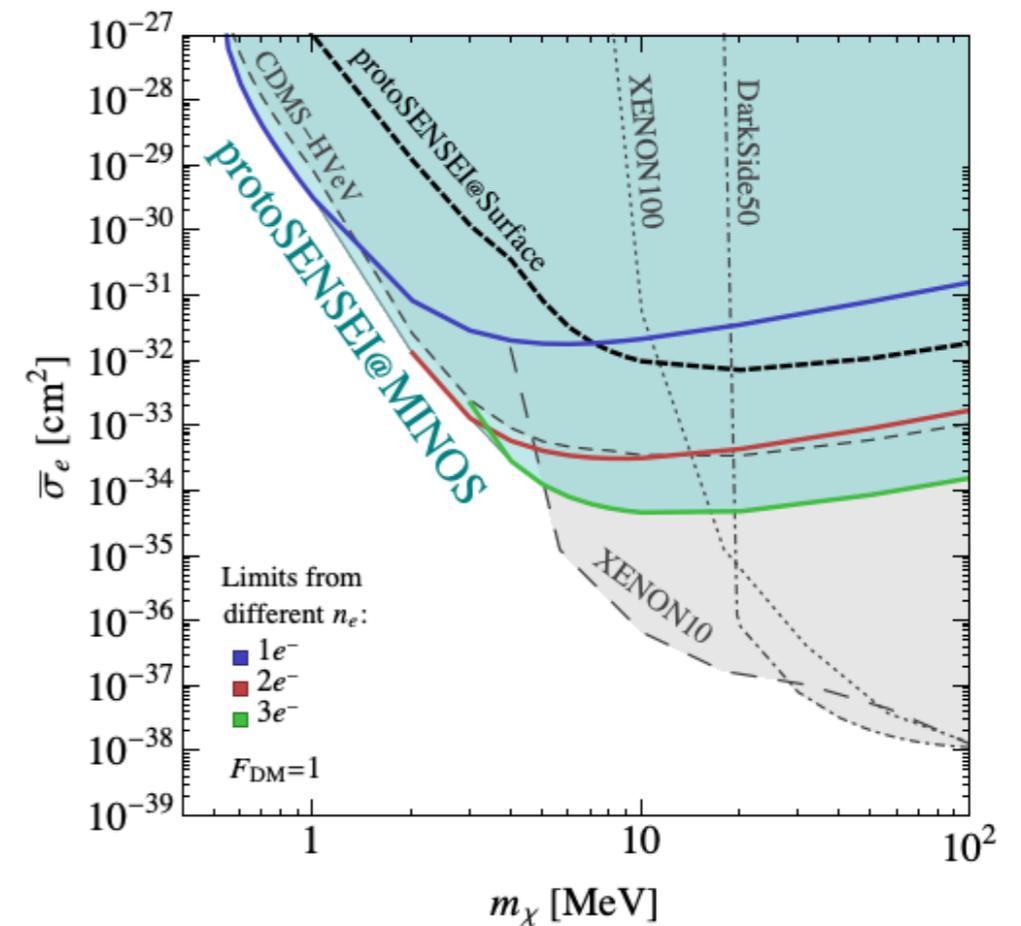
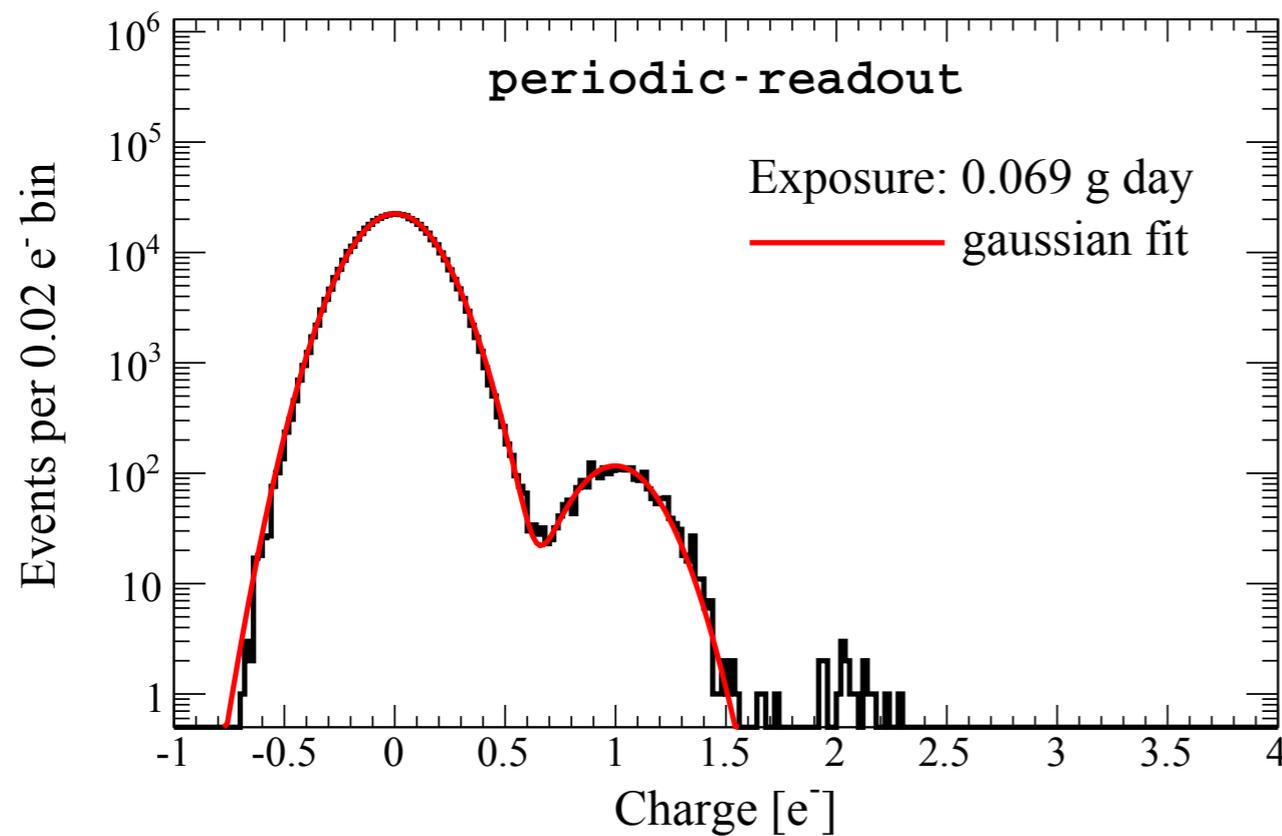
Essig et al 1509.01598





# ELECTRON EXCITATION IN SEMICONDUCTORS (1)

- ▶ Silicon semiconductors lend themselves well to light dark matter detection above an MeV



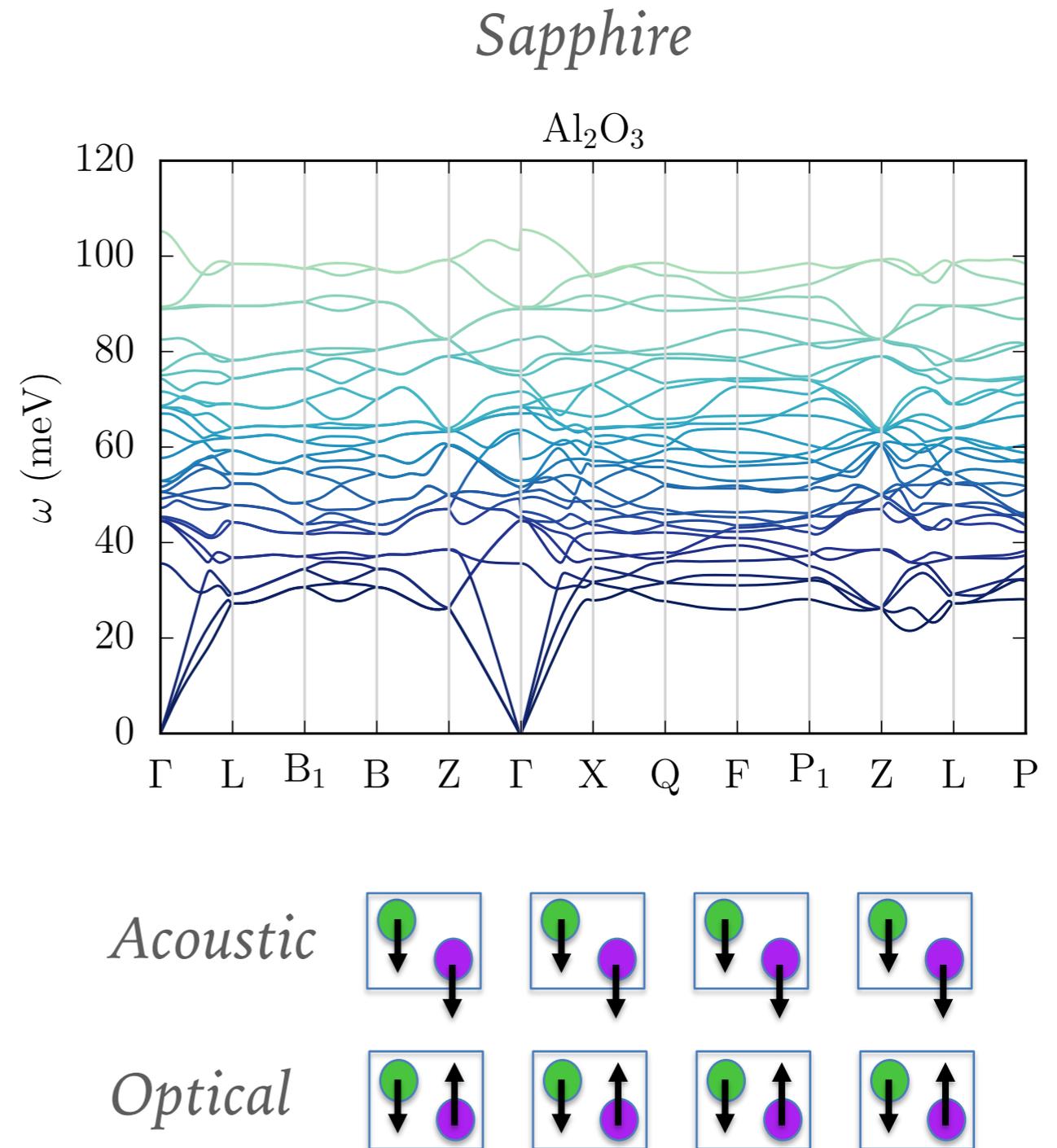
# EXCITING COLLECTIVE MODES (2)

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- ▶ Once DM drops below an MeV, its deBroglie wavelength is longer than the inter particle spacing in typical materials
- ▶ Therefore, coupling to collective excitations in materials makes sense!
- ▶ Collective excitations = phonon modes, spin waves (magnons)
- ▶ Can be applied to just about any material
- ▶ (partial) calculations exist for superfluid helium, semiconductors, superconductors, polar materials
- ▶ Details depend on
  - ▶ 1) *nature of collective modes in target material*
  - ▶ 2) *nature of DM couplings to target*

# NATURE OF COLLECTIVE MODES (2)

- ▶ Number of collective modes:  
3 x number of ions in unit cell
- ▶ 3 of those modes describe in phase oscillation — acoustic phonons — and have a translation symmetry implying gapless dispersion
- ▶ When these gapped modes result from oscillations of more than one type of ion, it sets up an oscillating dipole
- ▶ *Polar Materials*



# KINEMATICS OF COLLECTIVE MODES (2)

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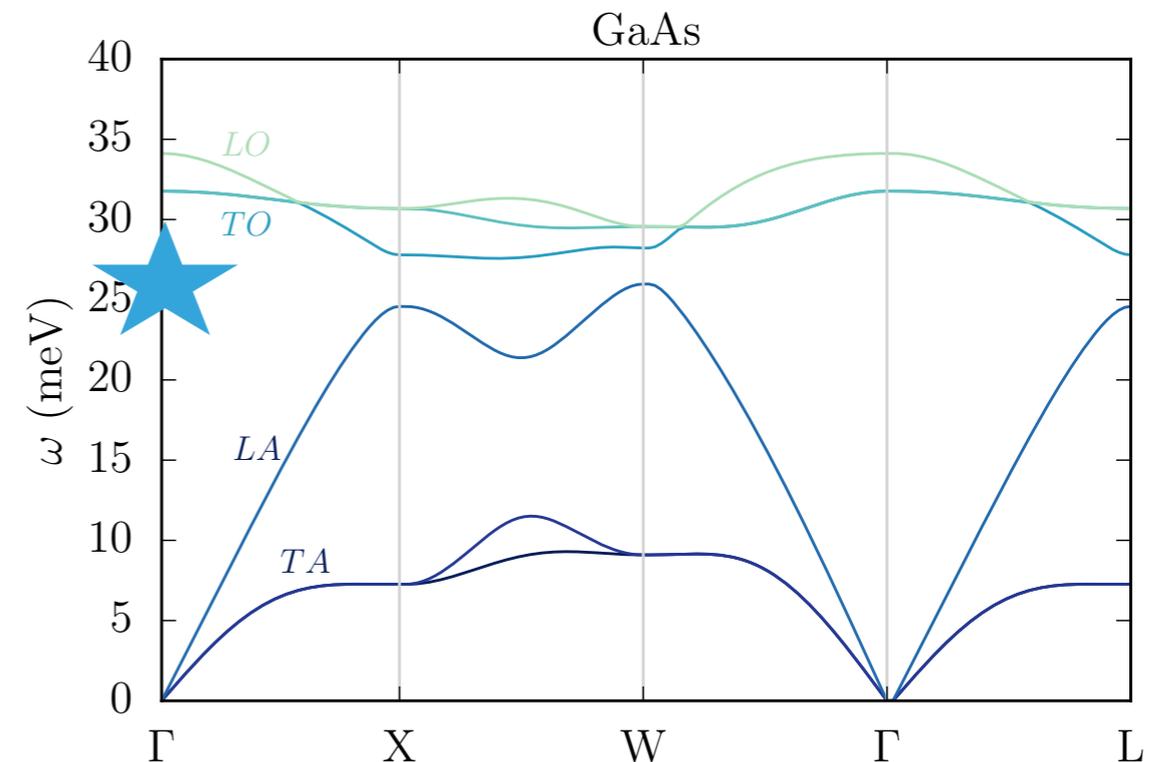
- ▶ First element to enter is the kinematics

$$E_D \sim v_X q$$

vs

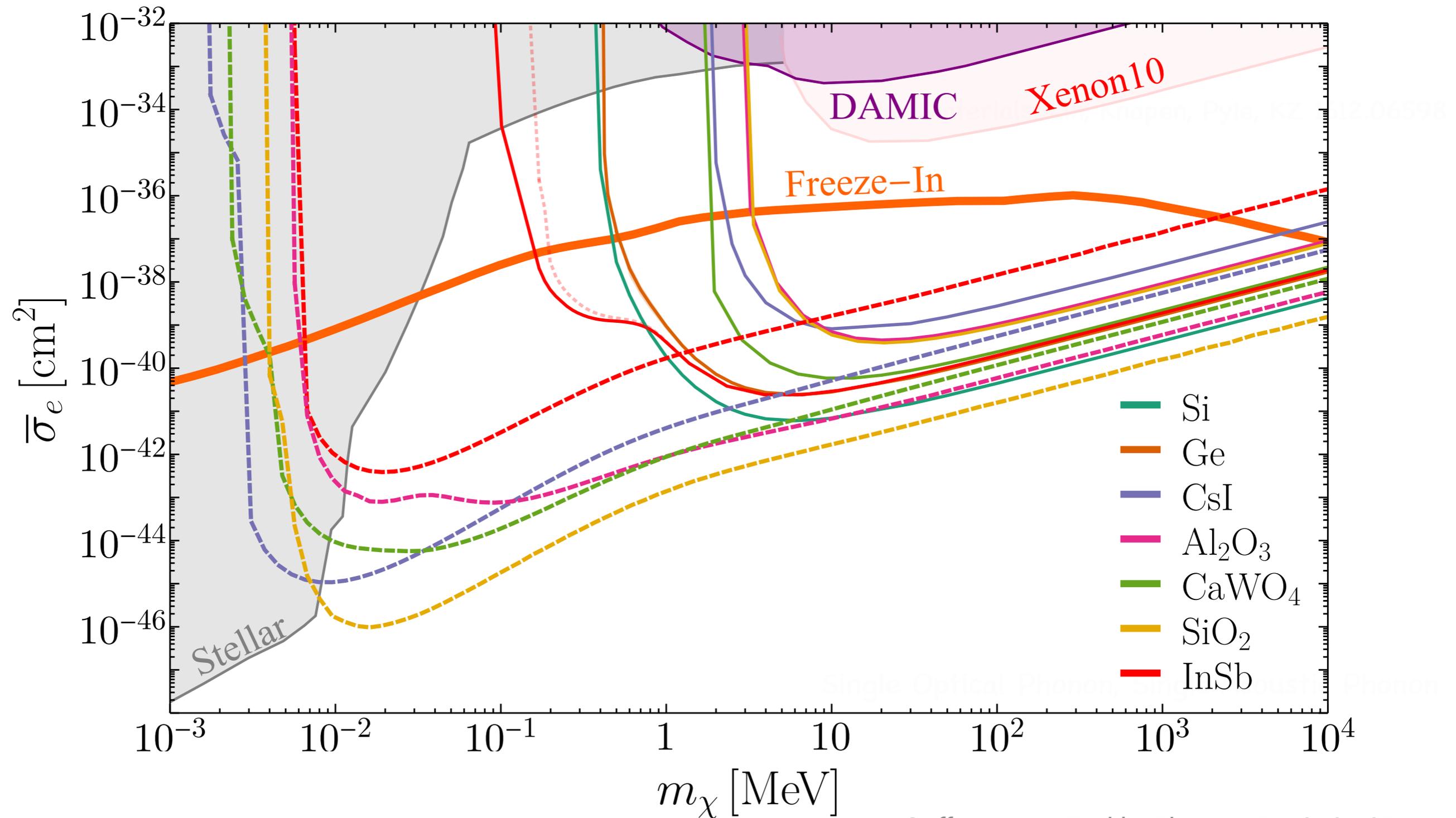
$$c_s \ll v_X$$

$$E_D \sim c_s q$$



- ▶ Better coupling to gapped modes

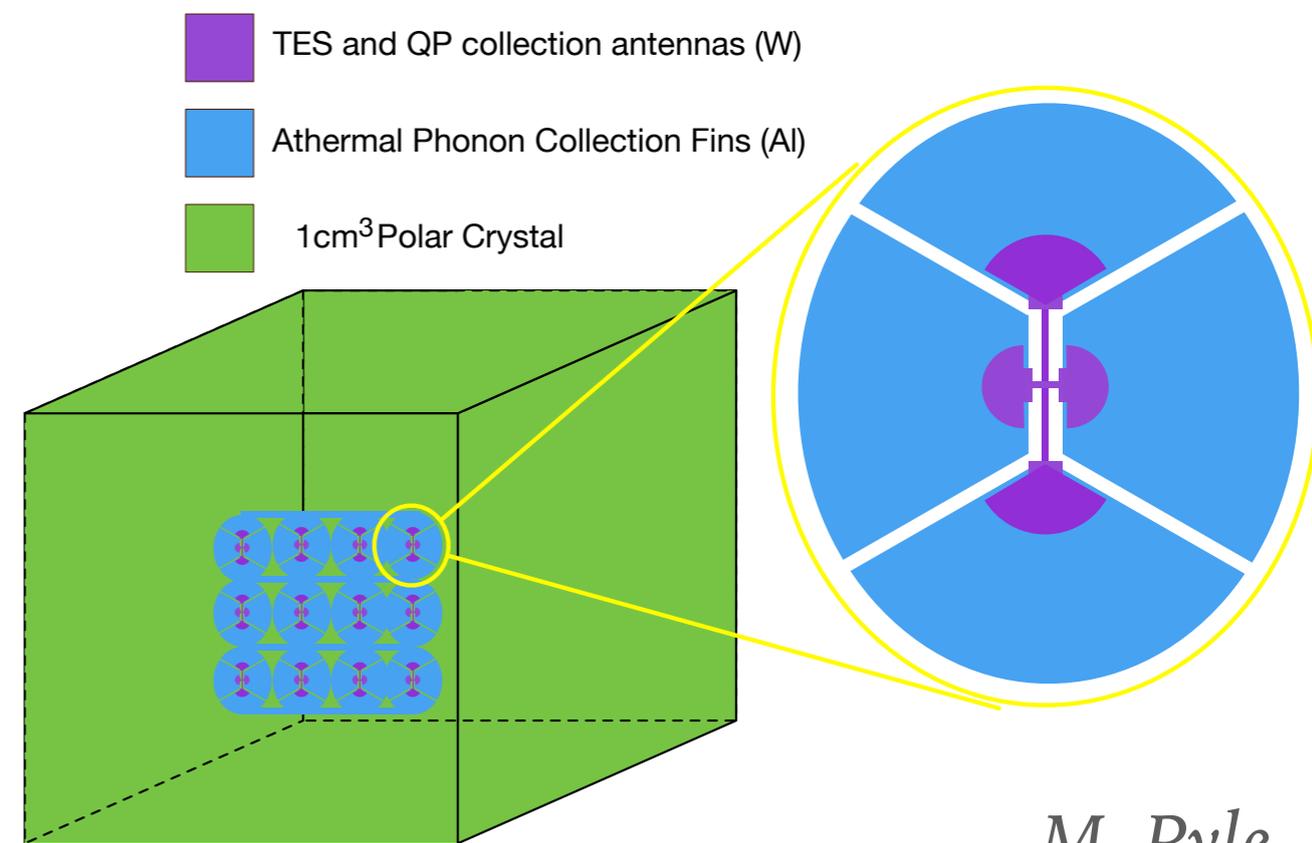
# OPTICAL PHONONS IN POLAR MATERIALS (2)



# COMMON R&D PATH

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- ▶ Sensor can be coupled to multiple targets
- ▶ Zero-field read-out of phonons
- ▶ For a polar crystal target — Sub-eV Polar Interactions Cryogenic Experiment (SPICE)

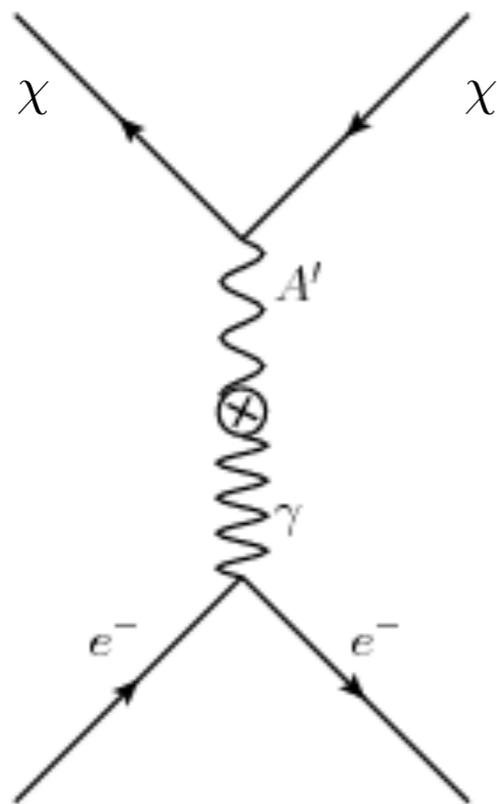


*M. Pyle*

# QUANTUM MATERIALS AND DM DETECTION (3)

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- ▶ Dark matter interaction is sensitive to material type
- ▶ Dirac semi-metals versus ordinary metals
- ▶ Consider dark photon mediated dark matter:



$$\mathcal{L} \supset \varepsilon e \frac{q^2}{q^2 - \Pi_{T,L}} \tilde{A}'_{\mu}{}^{T,L} J_{\text{EM}}^{\mu}$$

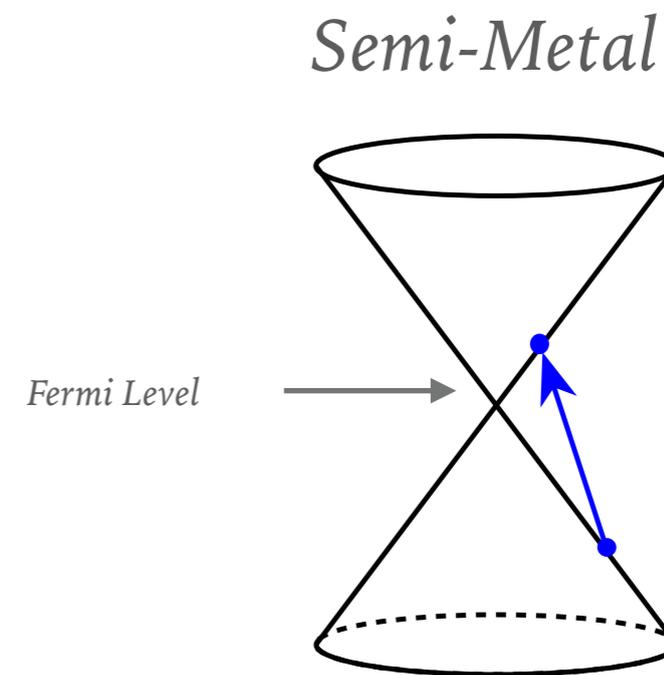
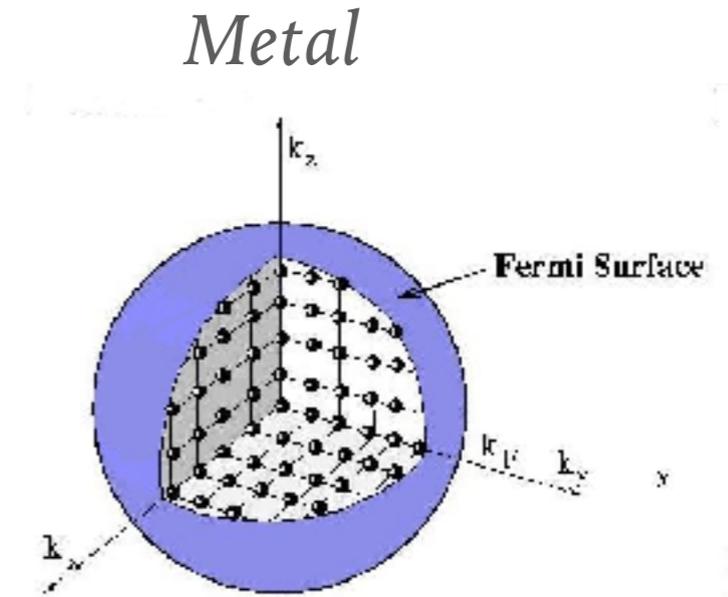
*Polarization tensor characterizes in-medium optical response*

- ▶ Metals have very strong optical response, and hence weak coupling to dark photons

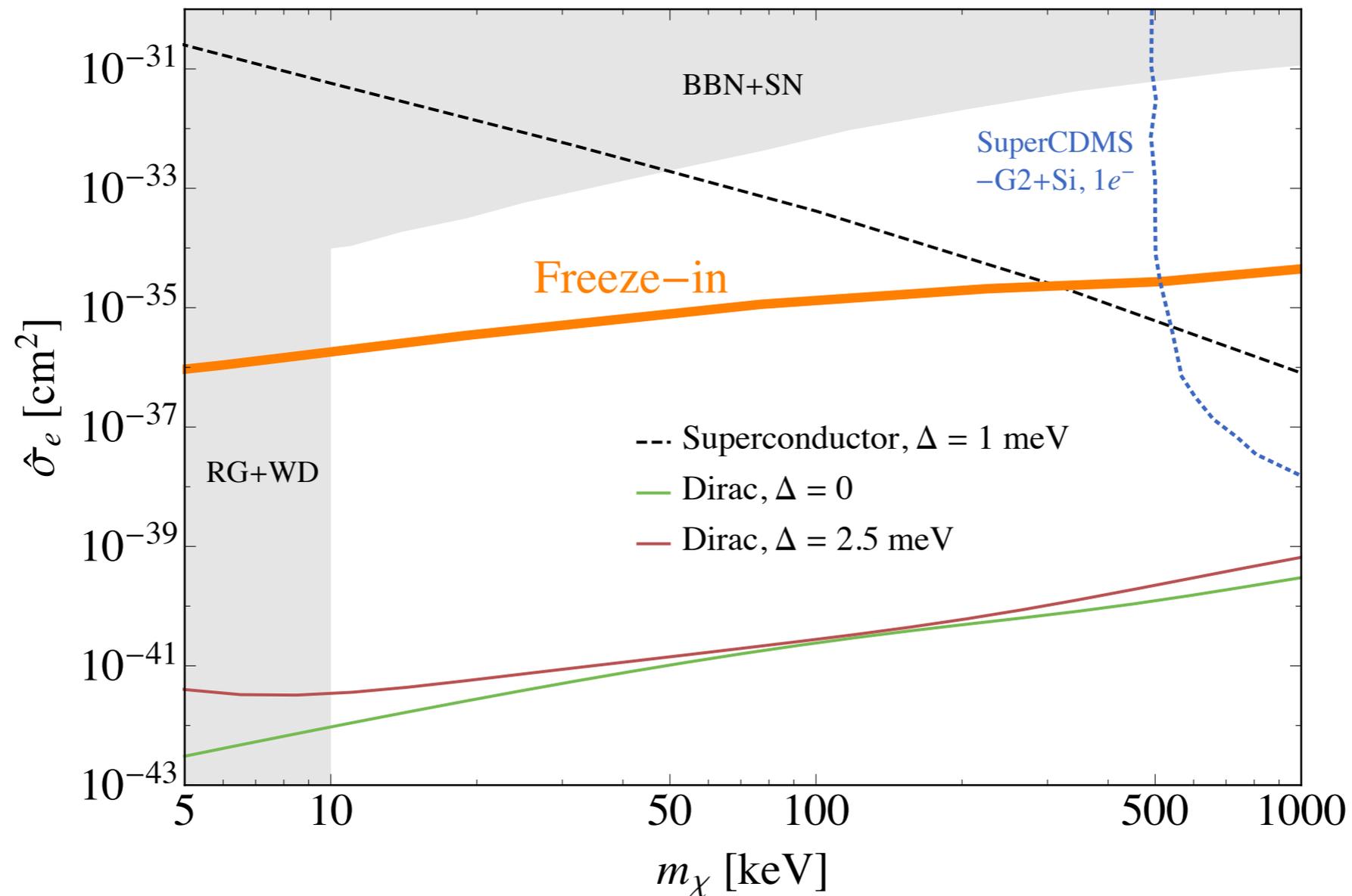
# OPTICAL RESPONSE OF “SEMI-METALS (3)

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- ▶ Band structure can be “quantum engineered”
- ▶ Instead of a spherical Fermi surface as in a metal, the electrons have a cone structure
- ▶ Linear dispersion implies a Dirac equation, like QED
- ▶ In QED, gauge invariance protects photon from obtaining a mass



# COMPARISON OF METAL AND SEMI-METAL (3)



Yonit Hochberg,<sup>1,2,\*</sup> Yonatan Kahn,<sup>3,†</sup> Mariangela Lisanti,<sup>3,‡</sup>  
 Kathryn M. Zurek,<sup>4,5,§</sup> Adolfo Grushin,<sup>6,7,¶</sup> Roni Ilan,<sup>8,\*\*</sup>  
 Zhenfei Liu,<sup>9</sup> Sinead Griffin,<sup>9</sup> Sophie Weber,<sup>9</sup> and Jeffrey Neaton<sup>9</sup>

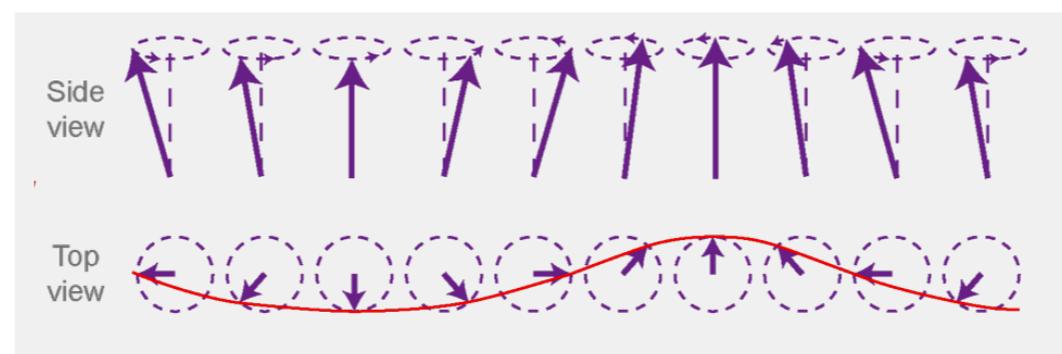
# MAGNONS AND SPIN EXCITATIONS

- ▶ Some types of particle interactions have dominant interactions with spin

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Magnetic dipole DM | $\mathcal{L} = \frac{g_X}{\Lambda_X} \bar{\chi} \sigma^{\mu\nu} \chi V_{\mu\nu} + g_e \bar{e} \gamma^\mu e V_\mu$ |
|--------------------|---|

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Anapole DM | $\mathcal{L} = \frac{g_X}{\Lambda_X^2} \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 \chi \partial^\nu V_{\mu\nu} + g_e \bar{e} \gamma^\mu e V_\mu$ |
|------------|--|

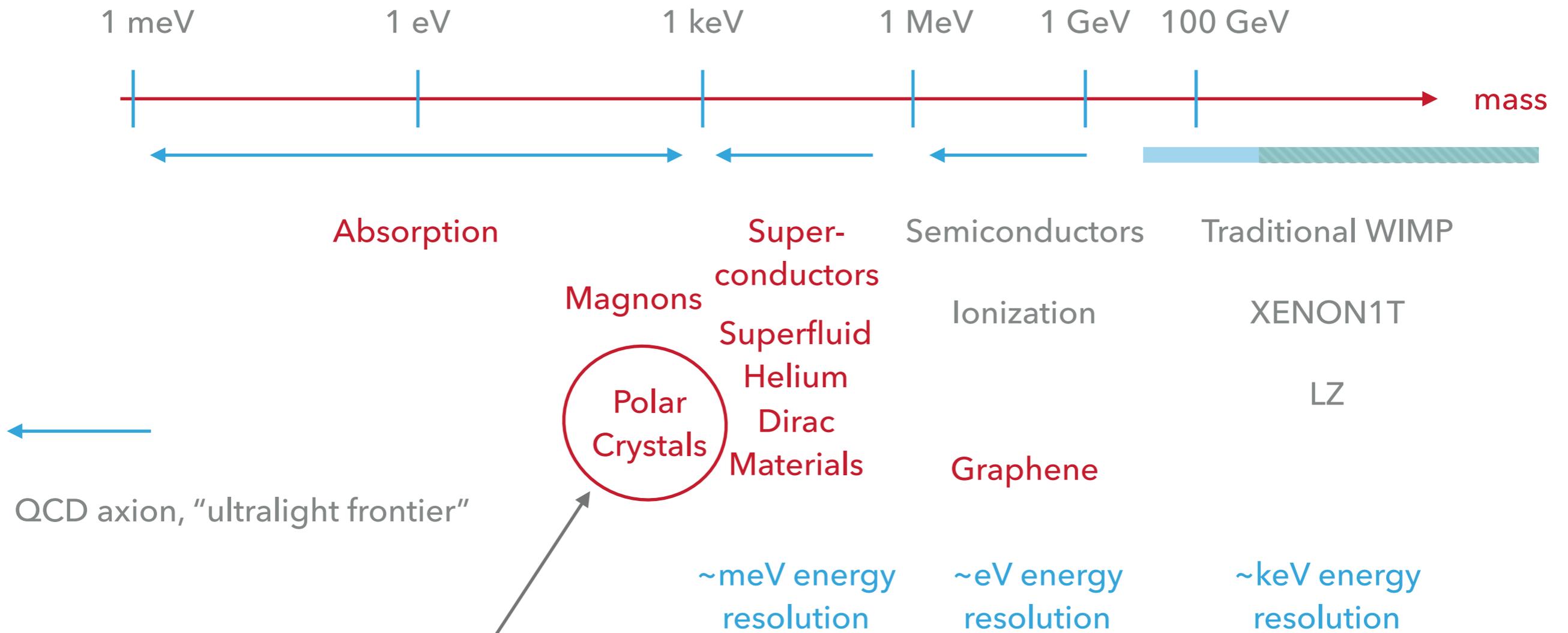
- ▶ Collective (electron) spin-waves = magnons
- ▶ Magnetically ordered materials (ferro- or ferri-magnets)



- ▶ Strong coupling to axions because gradient of axion behaves like magnetic field

# LOOKING BEYOND BILLIARD BALLS

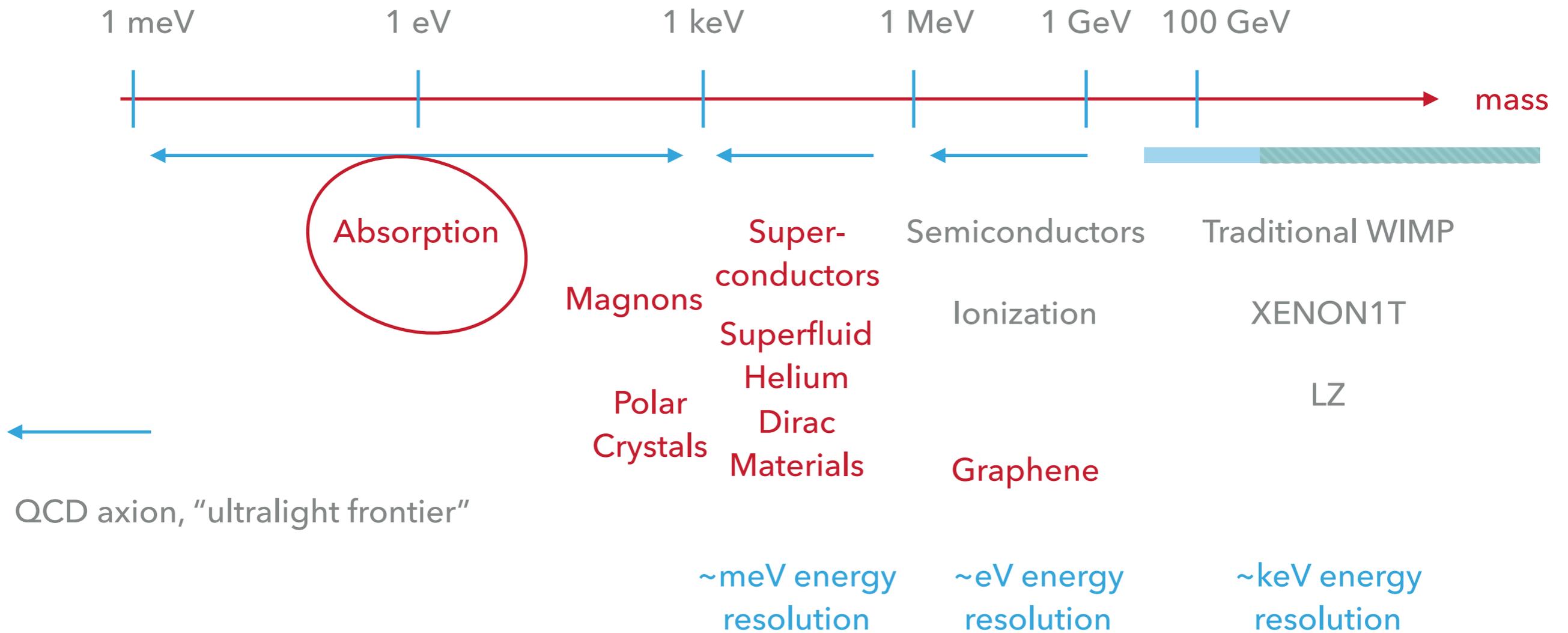
## ▶ Experimental Panorama



*Strongest sensitivity to light DM for both coupling to nucleons and charge*

# LOOKING BEYOND BILLIARD BALLS

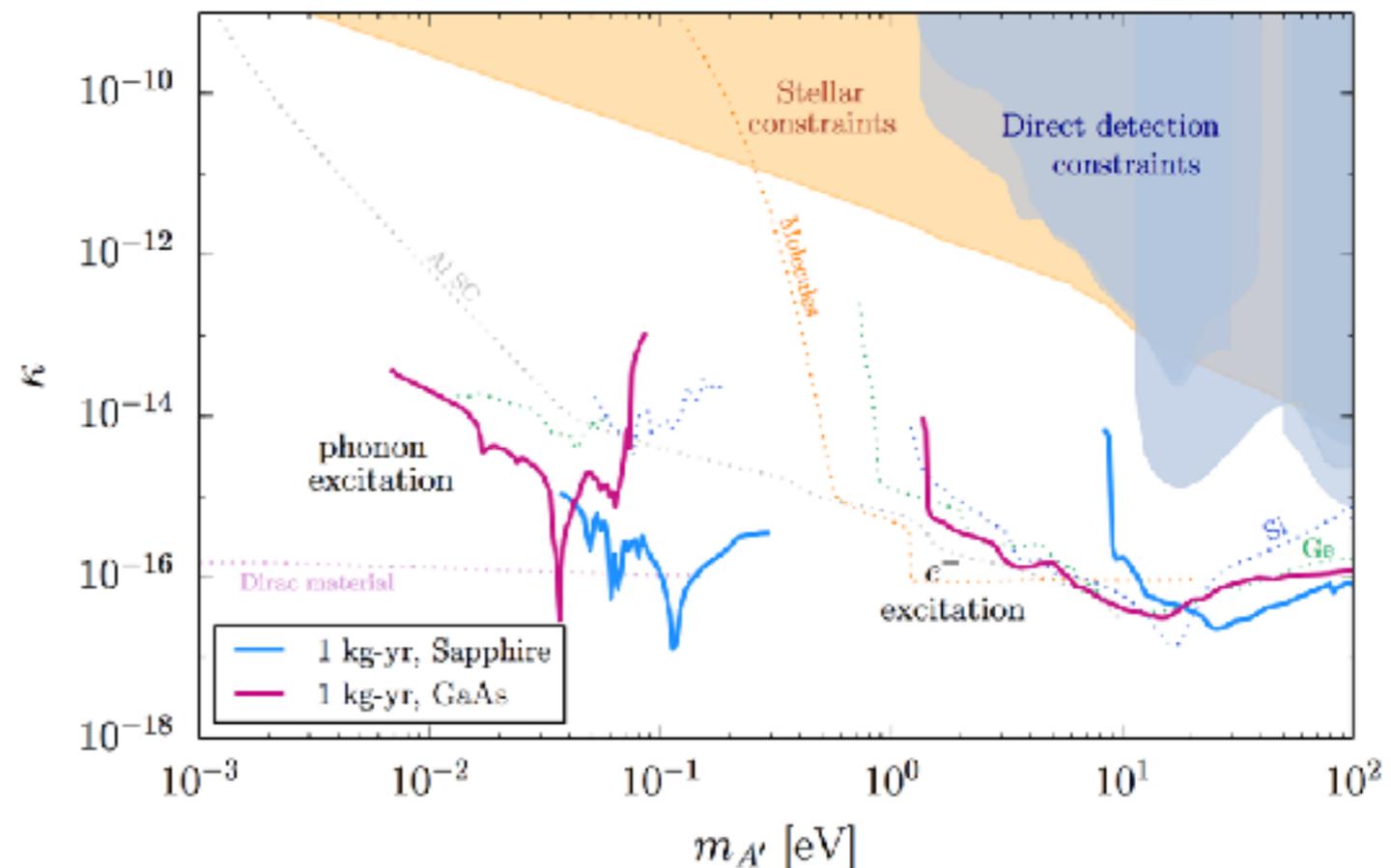
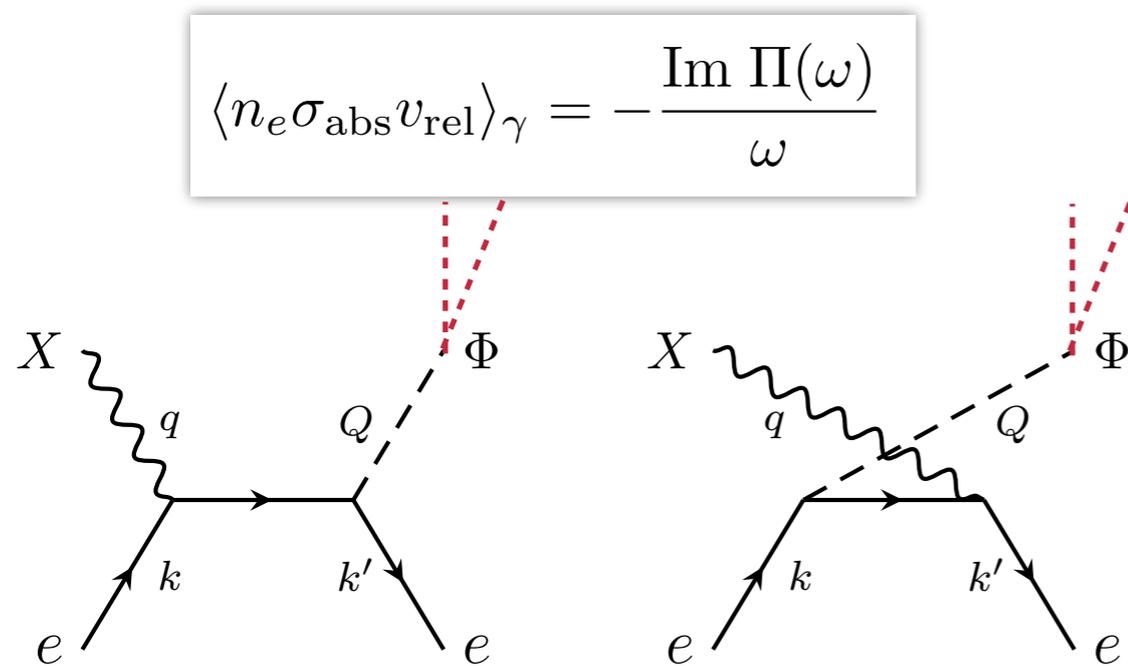
## ▶ Experimental Panorama



# SEARCHING FOR AXIONS AND OTHER ULTRALIGHT PARTICLES

- ▶ Rather than depositing kinetic energy, entire mass energy can be deposited
- ▶ Typically requires inelastic processes on the lattice to absorb momentum

Griffin, Knapen, Lin, KZ 1807.10291



# THE CHALLENGE

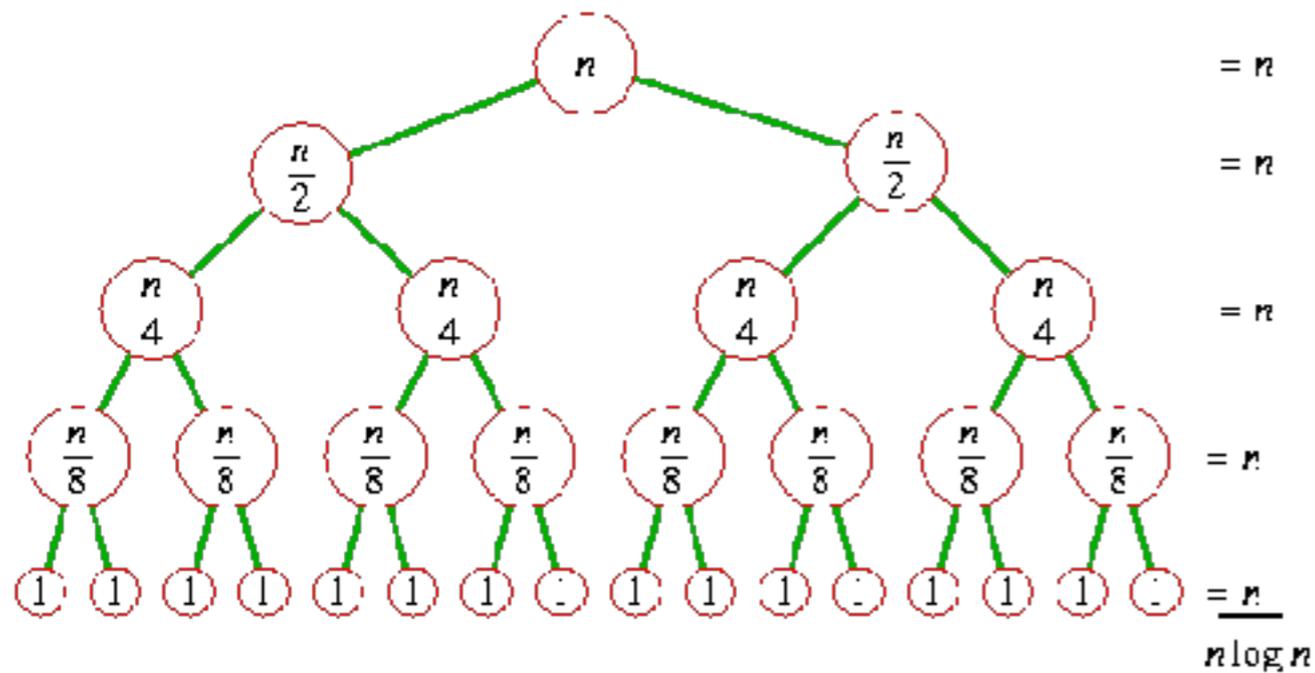
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- ▶ Now is not the time for narrowing our search for Invisibles; the playing field is still wide open
- ▶ Leverage progress in quantum sensing, materials, condensed matter, AMO
- ▶ Moving beyond nuclear recoils into phases of matter crucial to access broader areas of DM parameter space
- ▶ Realizing program 5-10+ years into the future

# THE OUTLOOK

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- ▶ We are not without tools!



*The universe is dominated by invisibles!*

*WIMP or (axion)*

*How to be ready for anything? Hidden Sectors*

*How do I search for these things?*

