

# N<sup>2</sup> Enhanced Quantum Detection and the CATCHY experiment

Joe Bramante  
CETUP, June 29, 2026



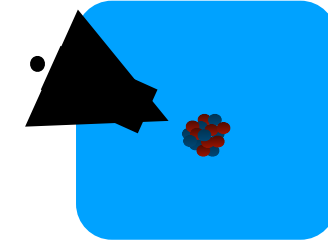
Queen's  
UNIVERSITY



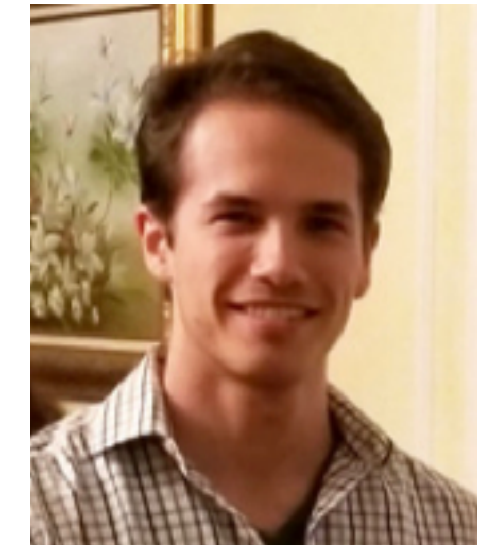
Arthur B. McDonald  
Canadian Astroparticle Physics Research Institute

# N<sup>2</sup> detection and CATCHY

Motivation and comparison with traditional detectors



CATCHY: Bhardwaj, Buchanan JB, Fraser, Godfrey, Kulkarni, Song



Light boson searches using coherent atoms

Bhooah, JB, Song 1909.07387

JB, Kulkarni, Song 260x.xxxxx

Godfrey PhD: <https://www.proquest.com/docview/3161889593>

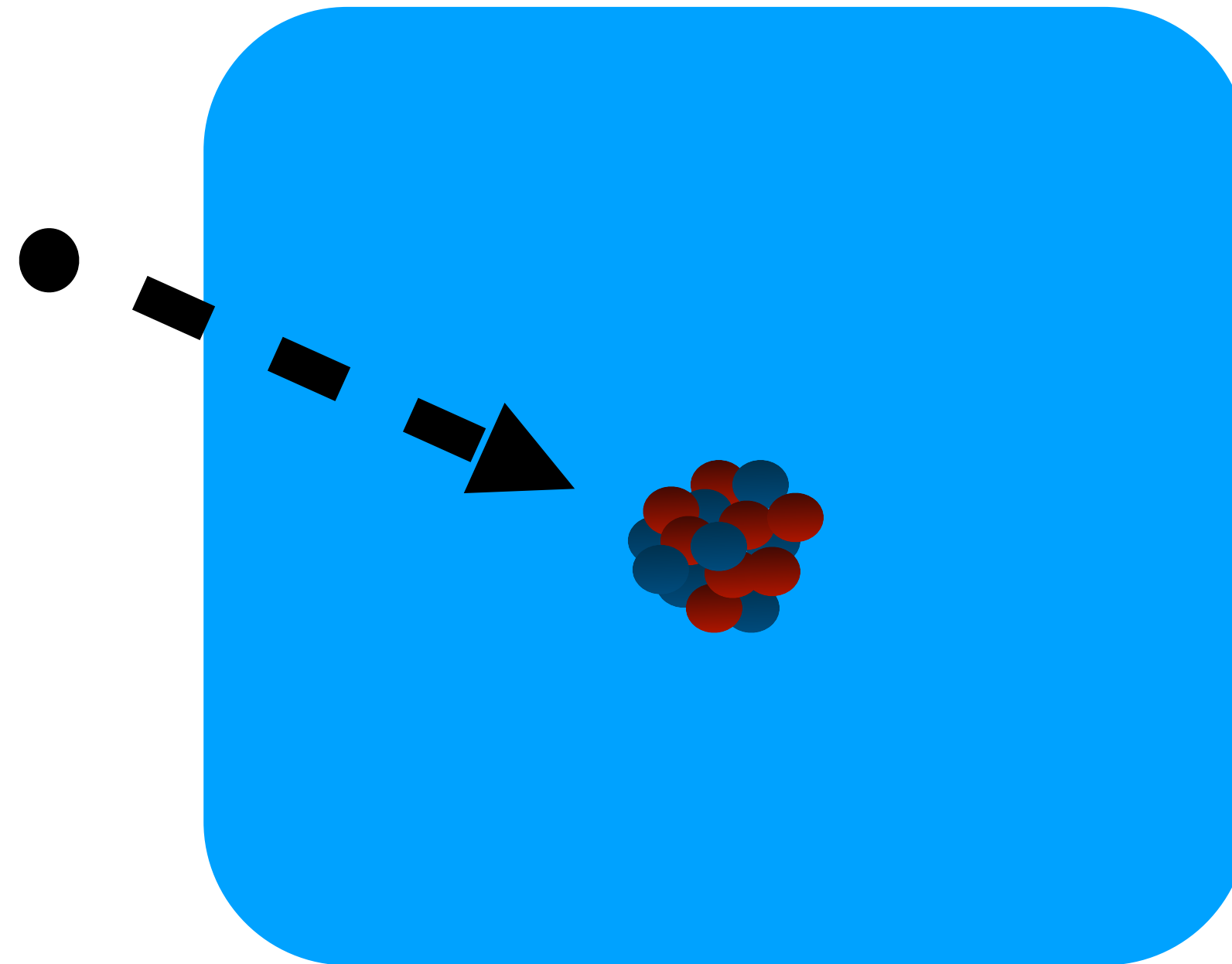
# Detection, volume frontier

$$\text{Signal} = N\Gamma t$$

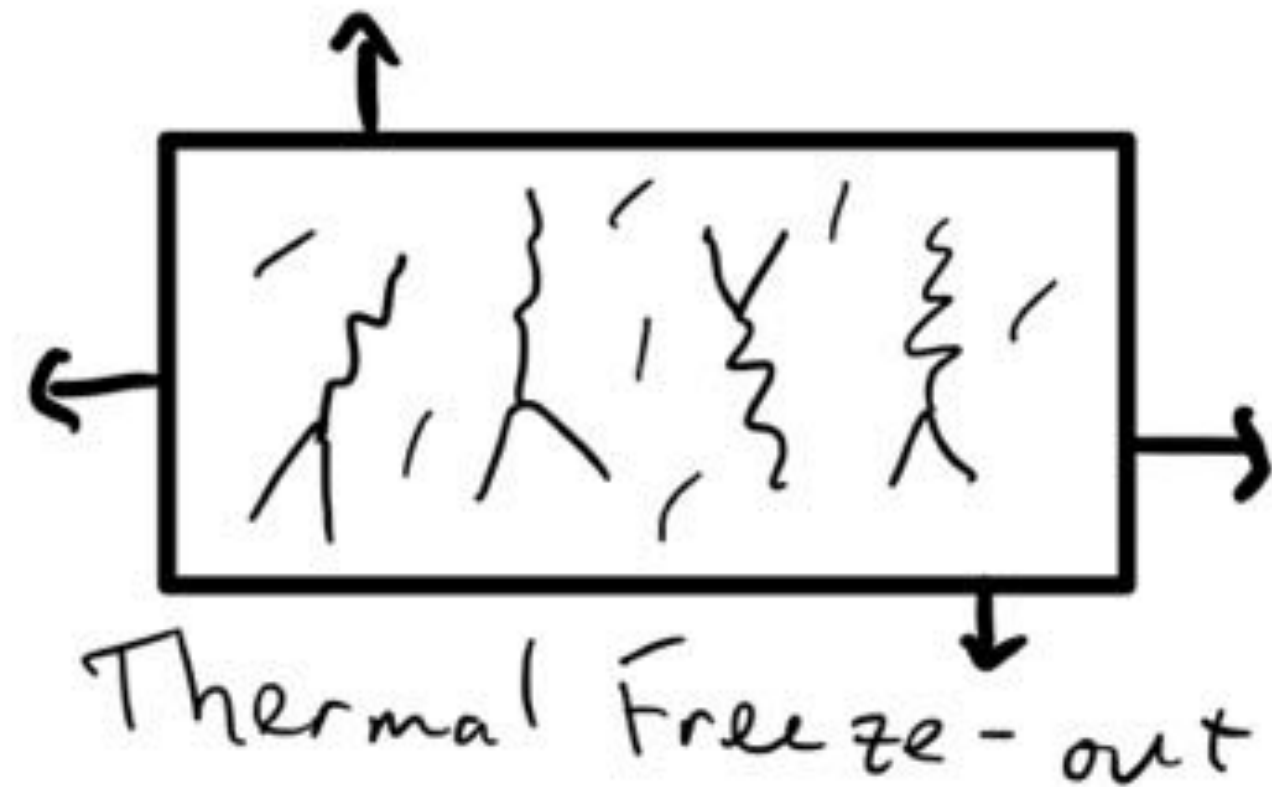
$$\Gamma \approx n_x v_x A^4 \sigma_{nx}$$

$$N = \#\text{Argon, Xenon}$$

$$A = 40,130$$



# High mass dark matter - WIMPs

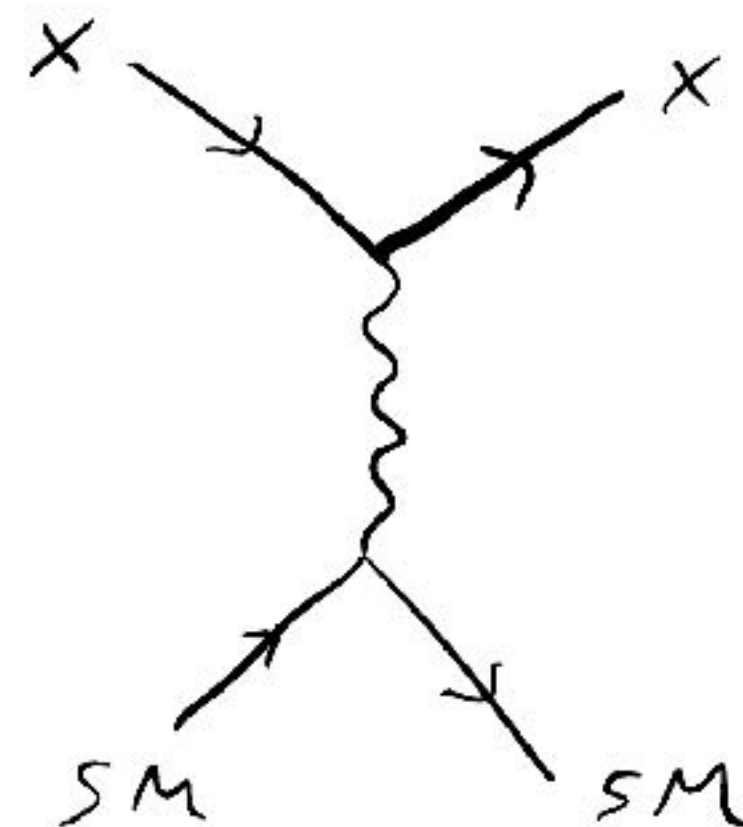
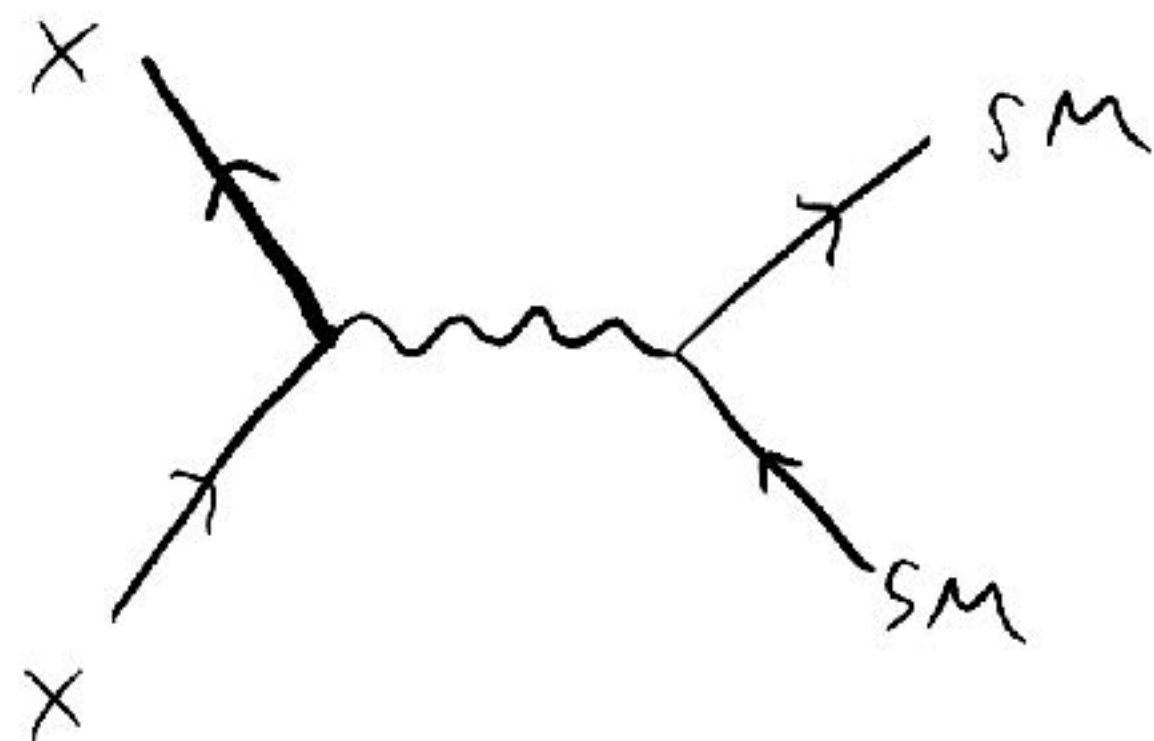


Universe cools, dark matter falls out of thermal equilibrium, large portion annihilates to SM particles

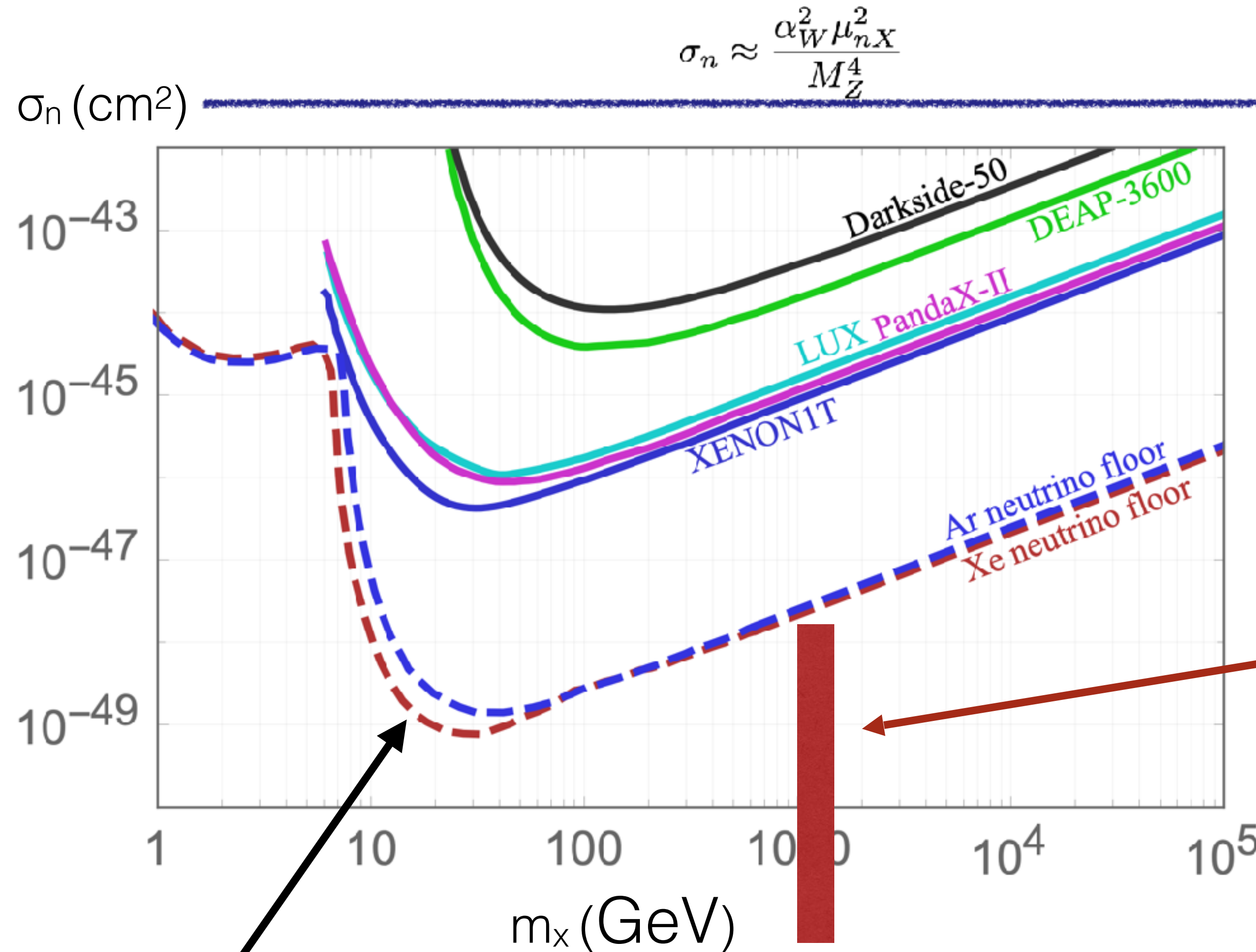
$$\frac{m_x n_x}{n_\gamma} \sim \frac{x_f}{m_{pl} \langle \sigma_a v \rangle} \quad x_f \sim \log[m_x^3 \langle \sigma_a v \rangle / H]$$

Observed DM abundance for annihilation cross-section matching weak scale mass & coupling.

$$\Omega_x h^2 \sim 0.1 \left( \frac{m_\nu}{100 \text{ GeV}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{0.03}{\alpha_w} \right)^2$$



# Underground dark matter detection, WIMP searches

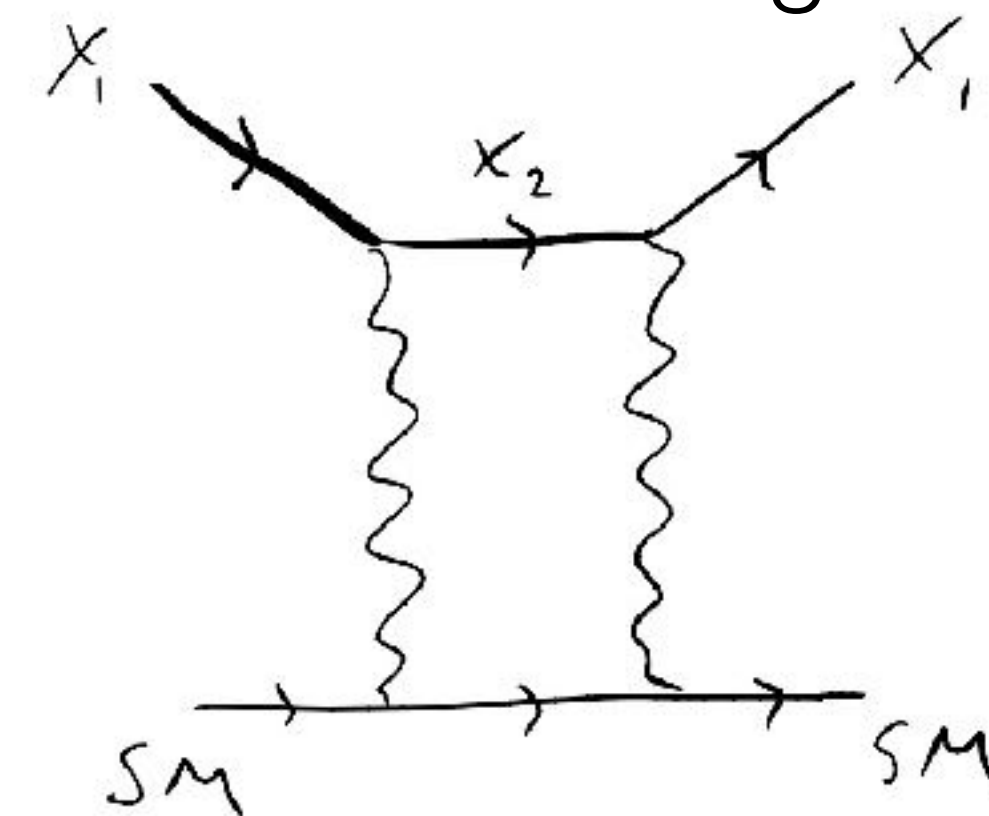


$10^{-39} \text{ cm}^2$



Interaction forbidden at  $v \sim 0.001c$  by  $X_1 \leftrightarrow X_2$  mass gap  $\rightarrow \delta \sim \text{GeV} \left( \frac{\text{TeV}}{M_1} \right)$

Loop suppressed scattering



## Higgsino Dark Matter Loops

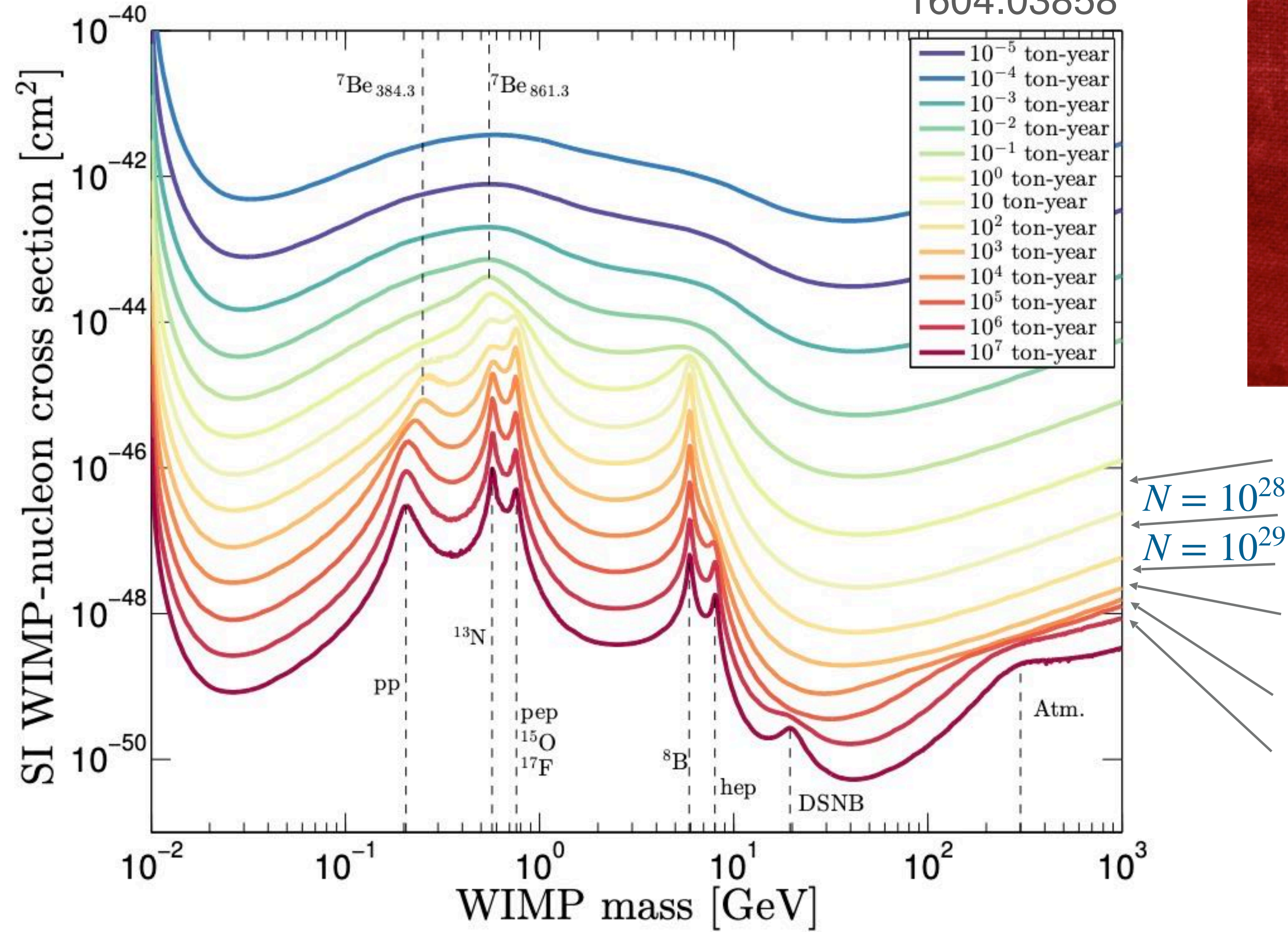
Hisano et. al. 2013  
Hill and Solon 2013  
Chen and Hill 2019

Neutrino floor/fog

1307.5458, Billard, Strigari, Figueroa-Feliciano

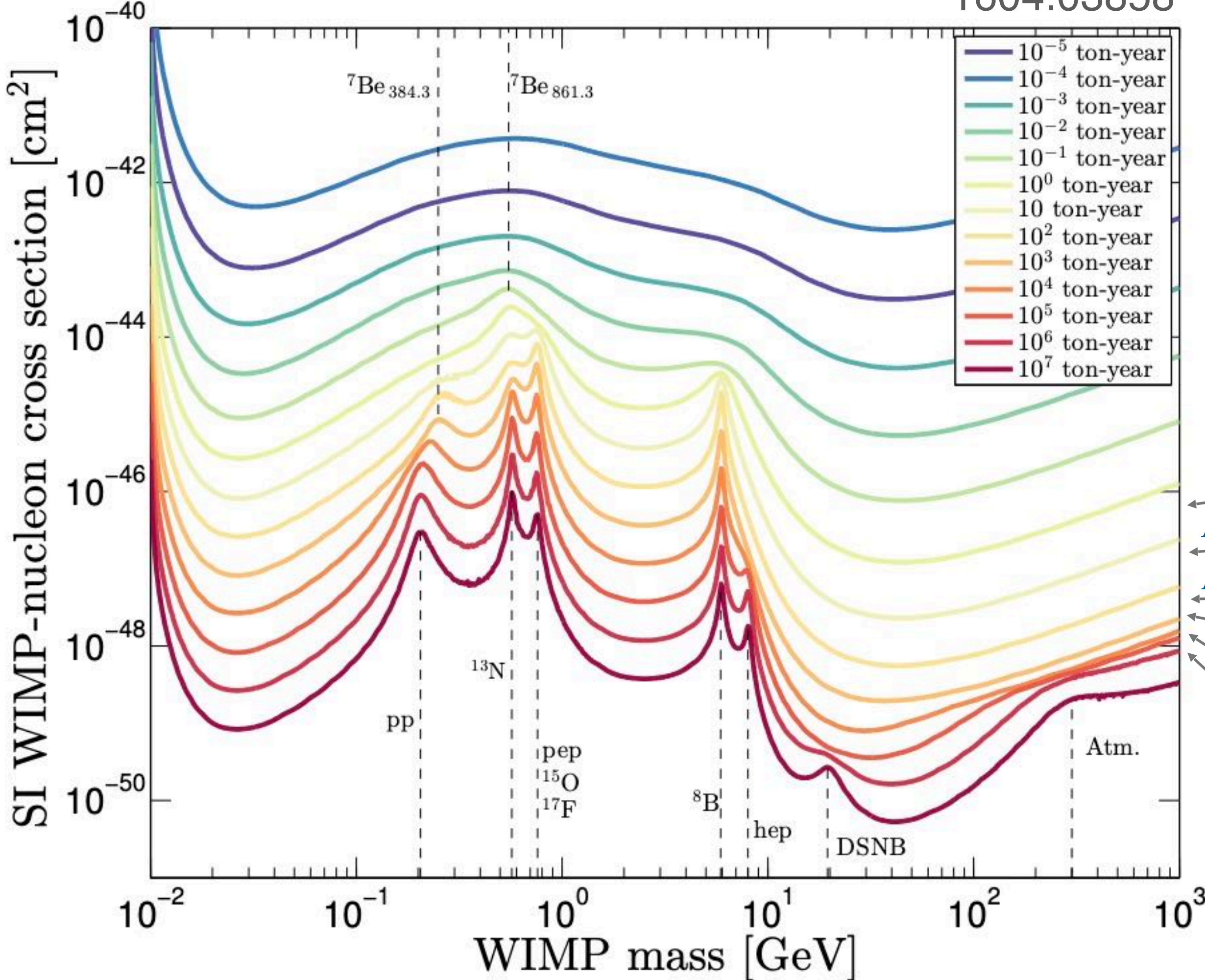
# THE ELEPHANT

Ciaran O'Hare  
1604.03858



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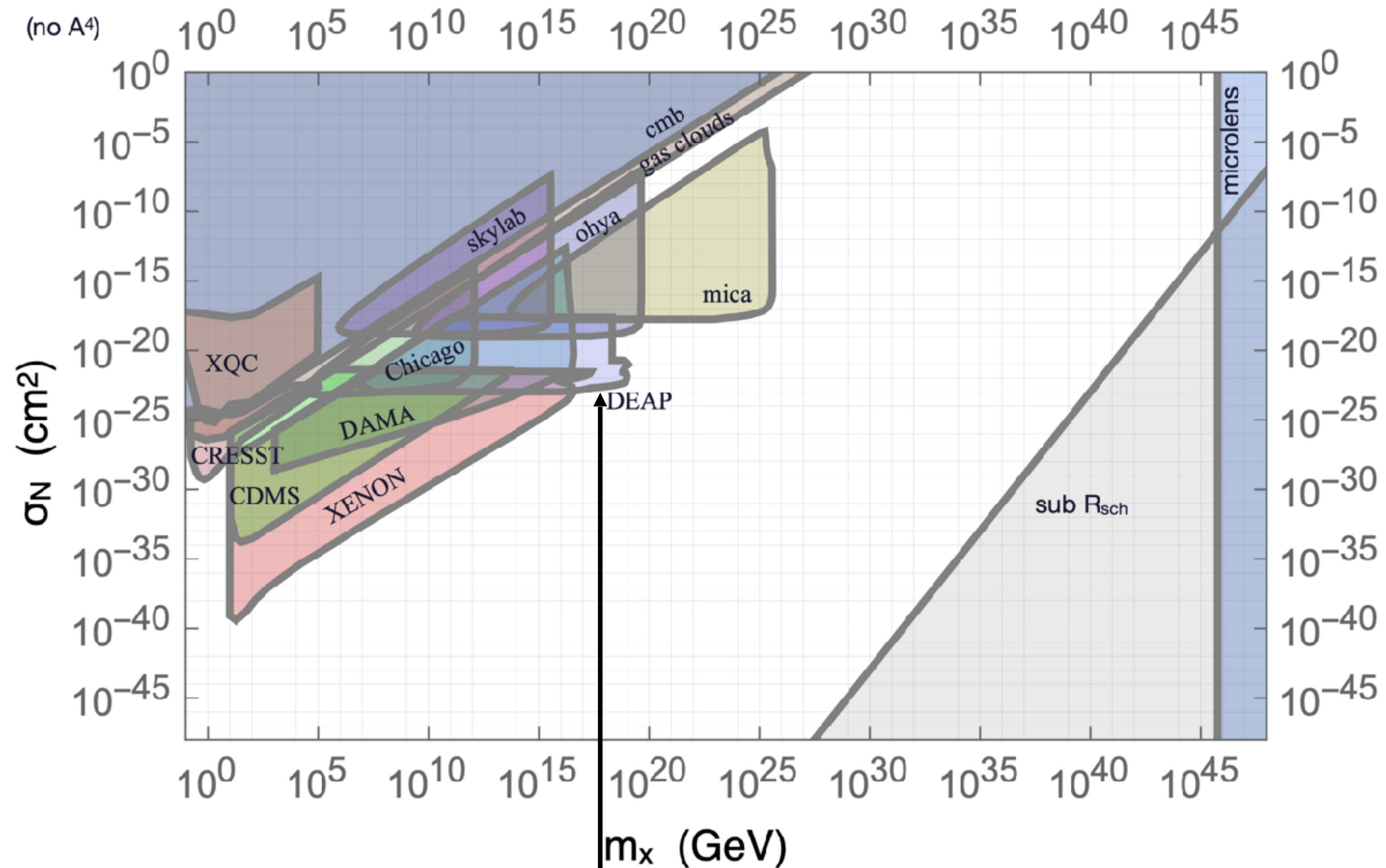


- ~\$20 mil DEAP, LUX, XENON100
- $N = 10^{28}$  ~\$100 mil LZ, X1t, PandaX-4t, Darkside
- $N = 10^{29}$  ~\$0.5 bil XLZD, PandaX-nT, ARGO
- ~\$10 bil?
- ~\$100 bil?
- ~\$1 tril?

Signal =  $N\Gamma t$

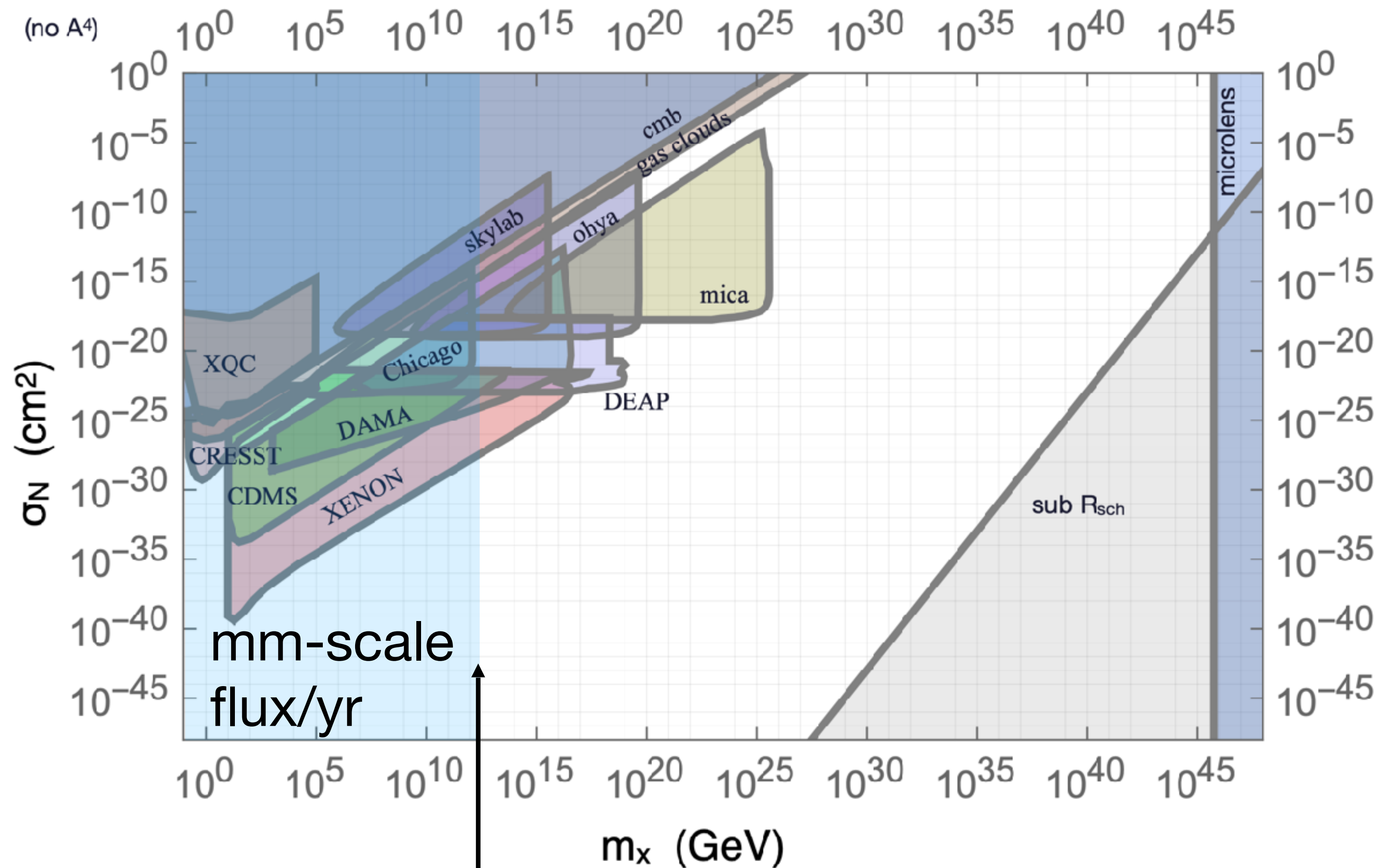
Upper bound on fundamental science projects: 0.1% of GDP  
 EU: 17 t, USA: 30 t, China: 19 t, Canada 2.2 t, Australia 1.8 t

# High mass dark matter searches



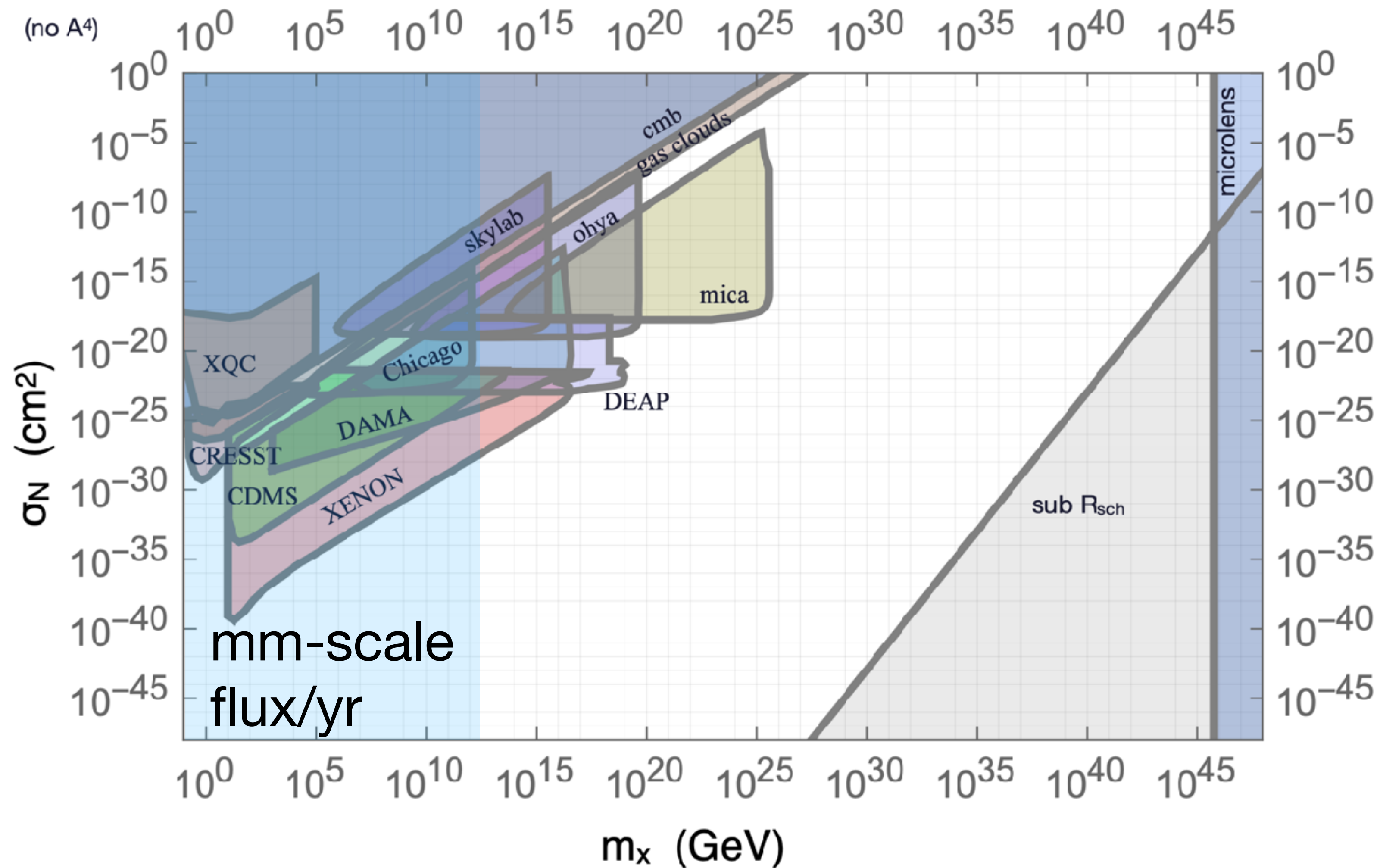
-Limit of usual detectors: Planck mass  
(coincidence - DM flux through meter squared in a year)

# Dark matter, quantum detection

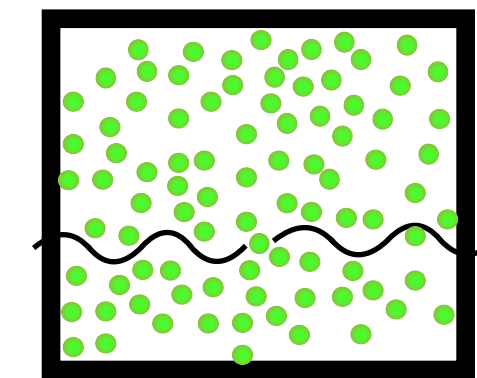


Inverting the high mass logic, flux through small detectors isn't a no-go for particle dark matter — detector response is the key

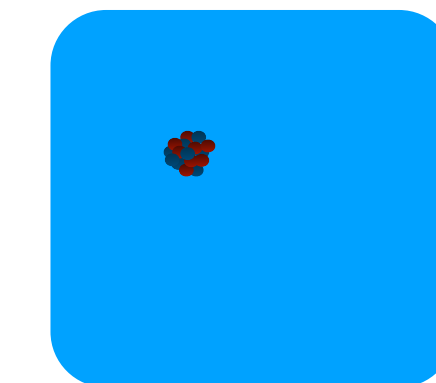
# Dark matter, quantum detection



$$Q\text{Signal} = N^2 \Gamma t$$



$$\text{Signal} = N \Gamma t$$

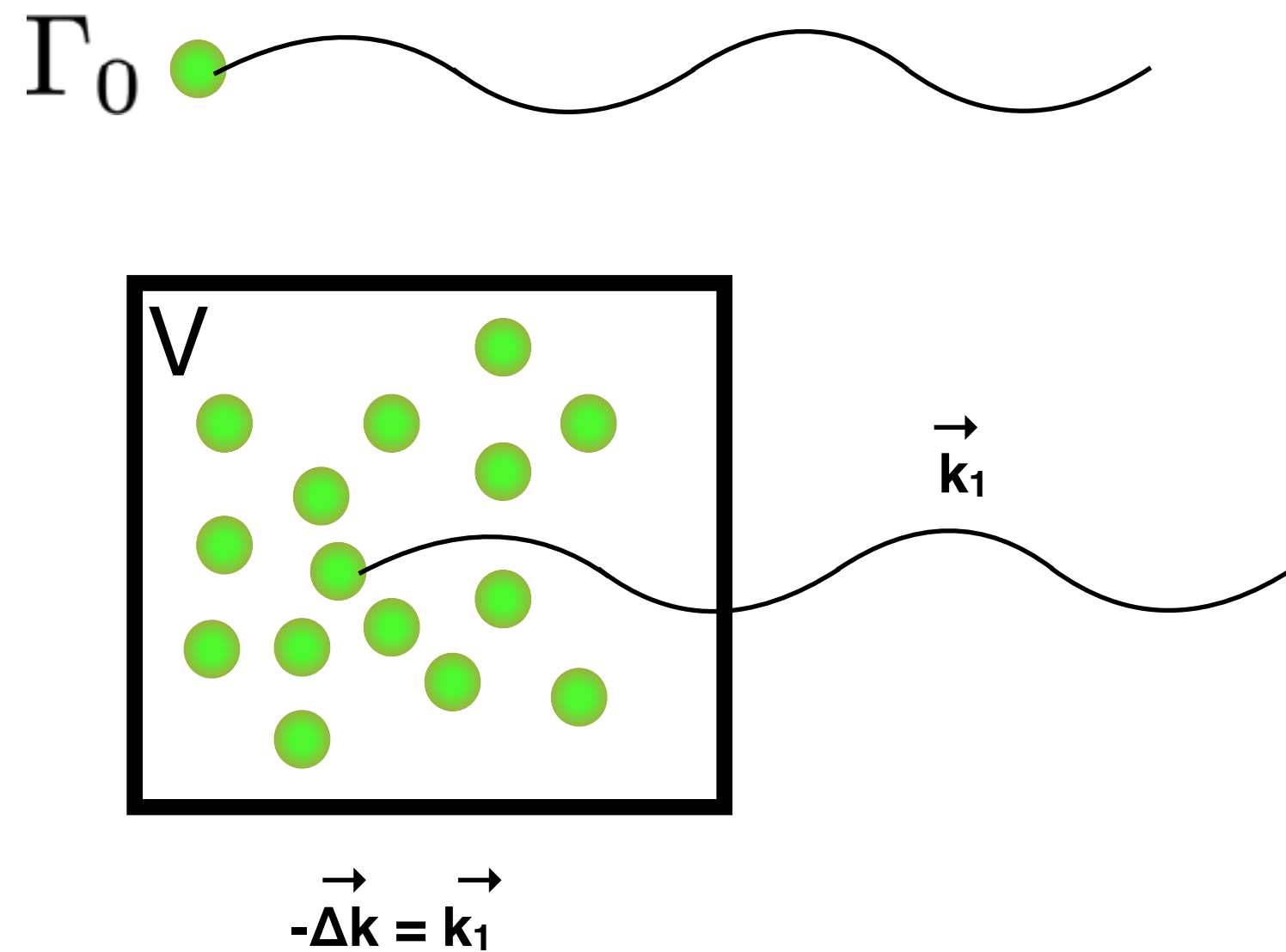


Need  $N \sim 10^{18}$  (coherently excited H<sub>2</sub>) to match classic  $NA^4$  detectors.

# Superradiance

Dicke 1954  
Gross and Haroche 1982

Superradiance describes the collective (de-)excitation of atoms that emit or absorb photons.



$$\Delta k \Delta x \sim 1$$

$$V \sim \frac{1}{k_1^3} \quad \text{coherence volume momentum limited}$$

$$\Gamma = nV\Gamma_0 \quad \text{No SR}$$

$$\Gamma_{tot} = n^2V^2\Gamma_0 \quad \text{SR}$$

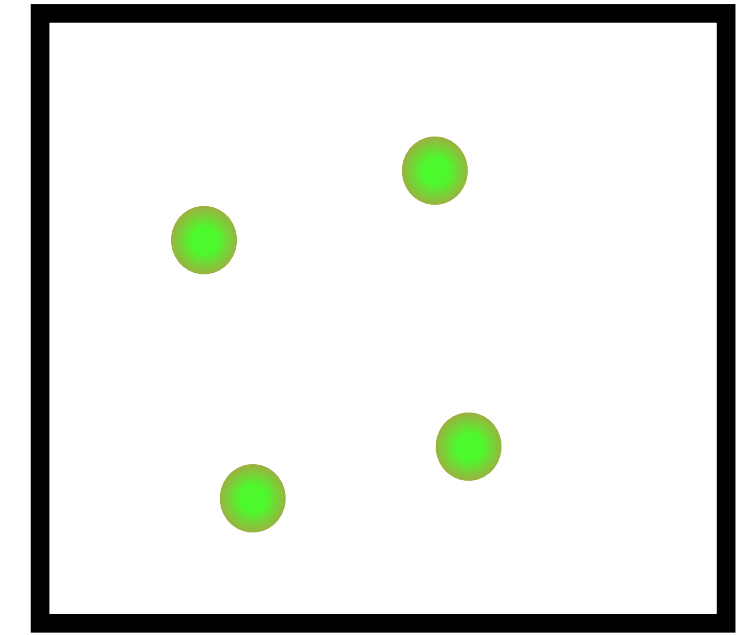
Rough Analogy to Spin-Independent Direct Detection: sum over emitters versus sum over nucleons in amplitude, squared.

$$\sigma \propto N^2 \sigma_n$$



<- different: a charge distribution limited by de Broglie wavelength

# Superradiance: more detail



The dipole operator  $\hat{\mathcal{D}}$  for a single atom

$$\hat{\mathcal{D}} = (\sigma^+ + \sigma^-)d \cdot \hat{\epsilon}$$

Generalized dipole operator over N atoms

$$J \equiv \sum_i^N \sigma_i^\pm$$

Calculations for N dipole emission follow ladder operator algebra (i.e. angular momentum algebra).

$$\Gamma_{dipole} \propto \langle J^+ J^- \rangle = (J + M)(J - M + 1)$$

This rate peaks at

$$\begin{array}{|c|} \hline M = 0 \\ \hline \Gamma_{dipole} \propto J(J + 1) \\ \hline \end{array}$$

1/2 excited dipoles

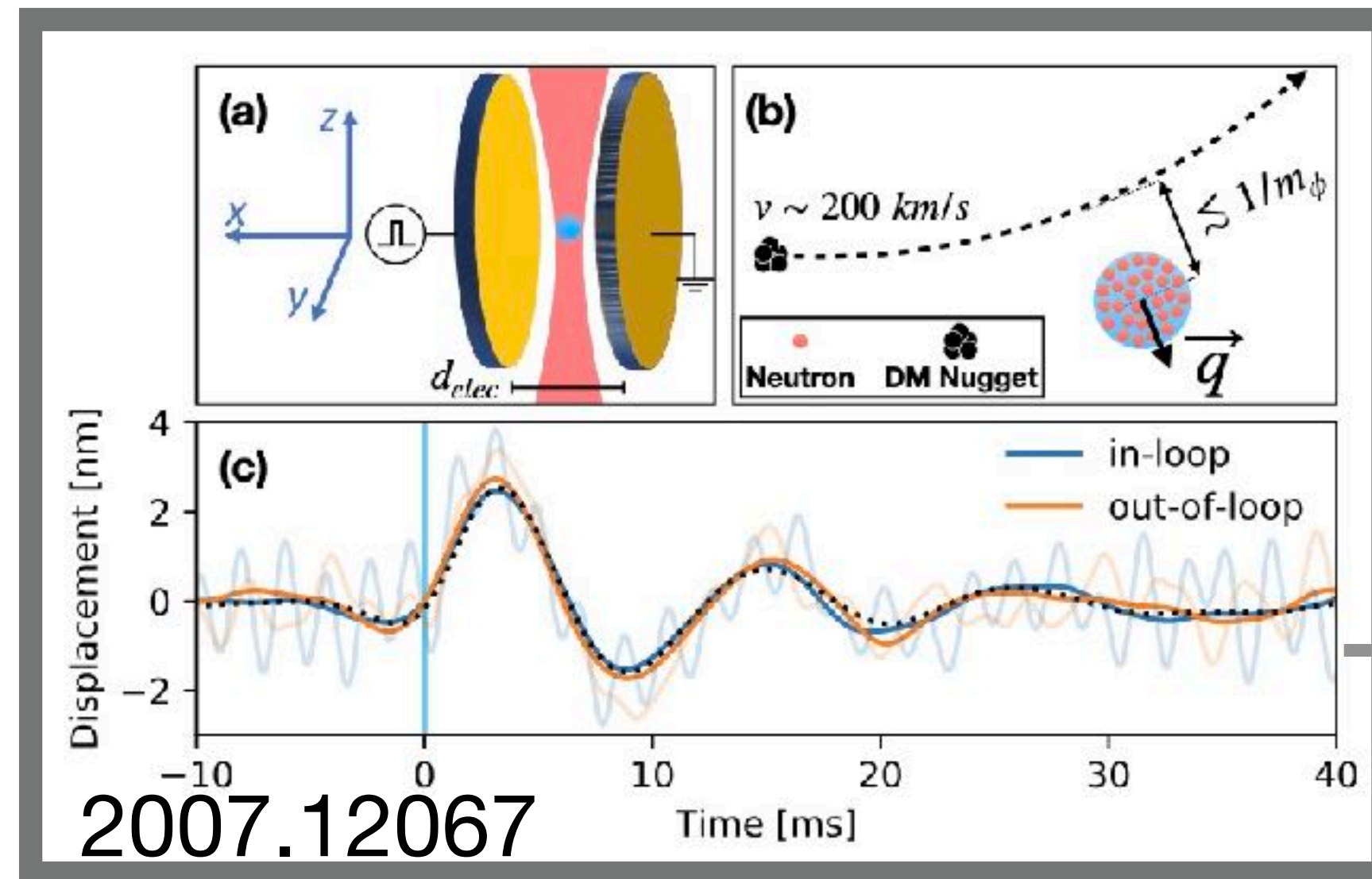
$$\begin{aligned} |J, M = J\rangle &\equiv |e, e, \dots, e\rangle \\ |J, M = J - 1\rangle &\equiv S[|g, e, \dots, e\rangle] \\ |J, M = J - 2\rangle &\equiv S[|g, g, e, \dots, e\rangle] \end{aligned}$$

$$|J, M = 0\rangle \equiv S[\underbrace{|g, g, \dots, g\rangle}_{N/2} \underbrace{|e, \dots, e, e\rangle}_{N/2}]$$

$$\begin{aligned} |J, M = -J + 1\rangle &\equiv S[|g, g, g, \dots, e\rangle] \\ |J, M = -J\rangle &\equiv |g, g, g, \dots, g\rangle \end{aligned}$$

# Quantum $N^2$ sensitive detectors

(we have to build them)

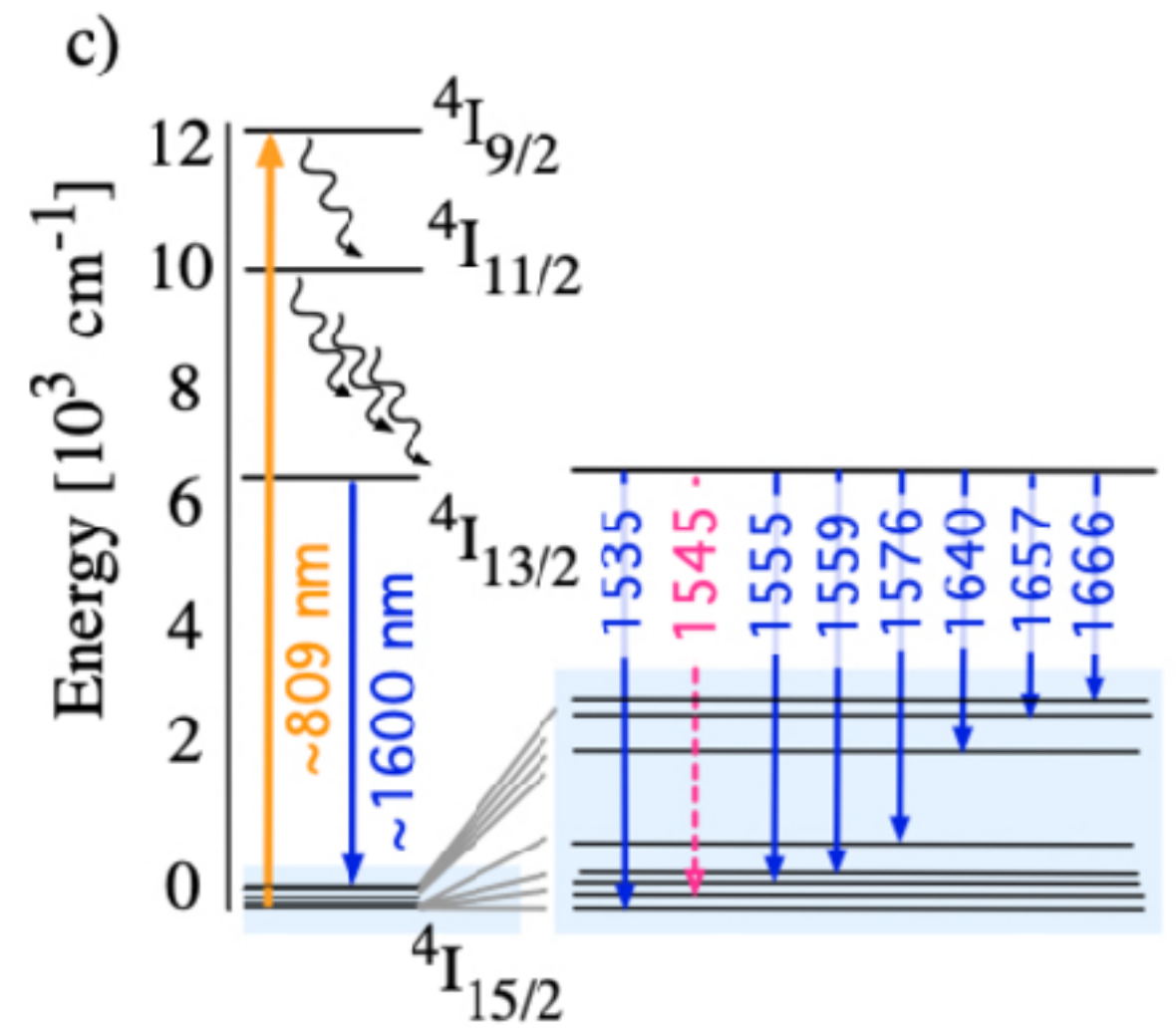
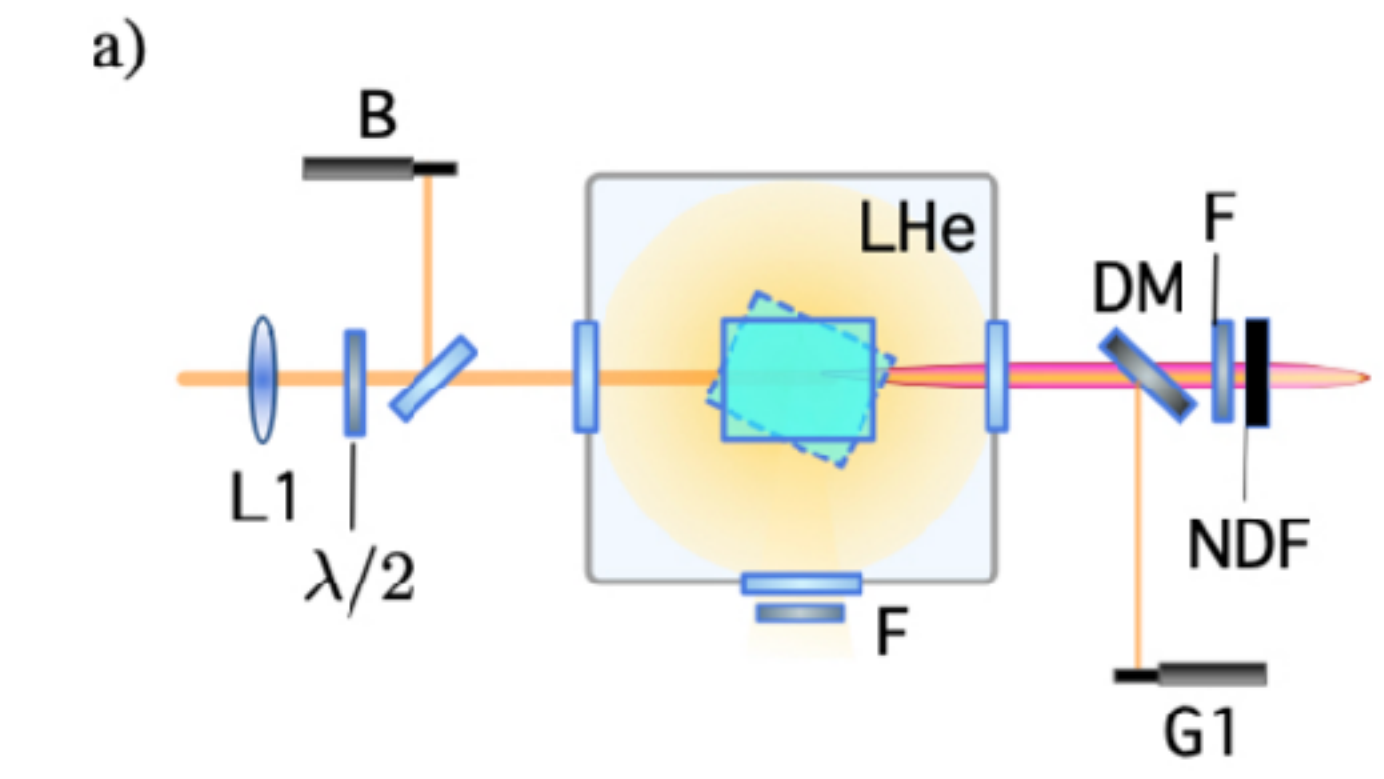


Other quantum detectors:

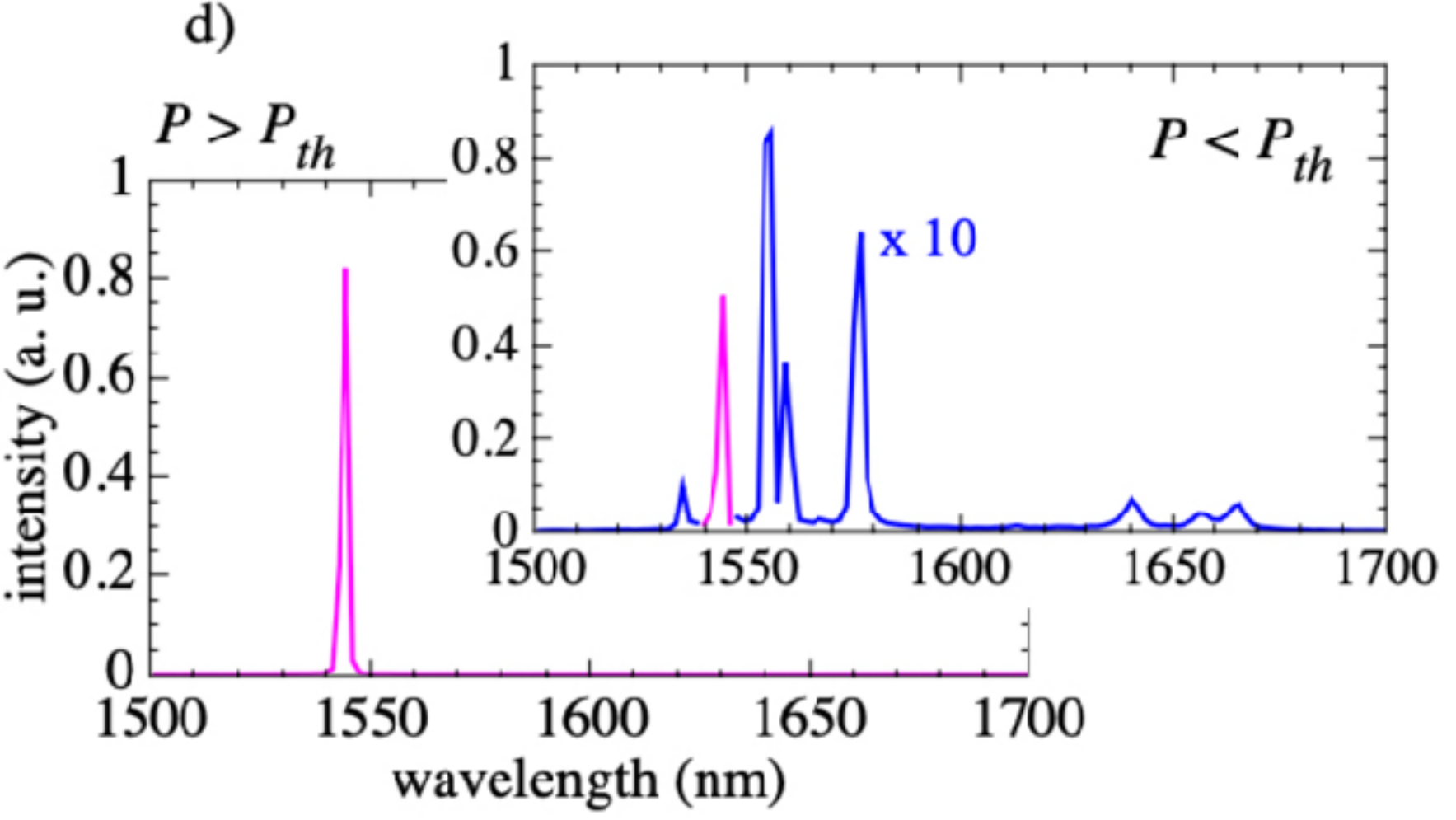
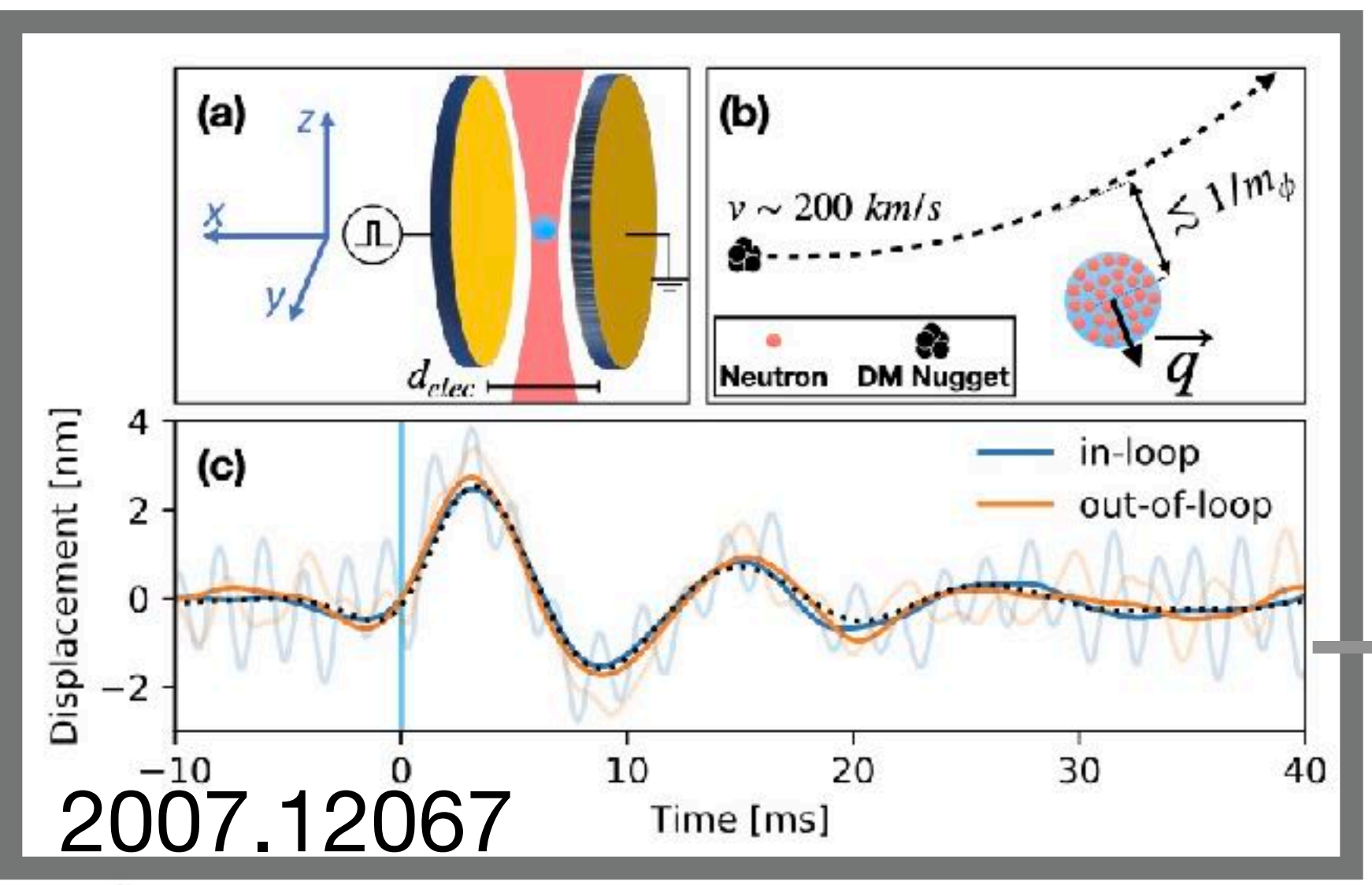
- Levitated silicon sphere  
Carney, Leach, Moore  
2207.05883
- 2007.12067 (experimental  
bound on DM-nuclear  
scattering)
- WINDCHIME project  
2203.07242

# Quantum N<sup>2</sup> sensitive detectors

## Superradiant record so far



Braggio et al. 1909.00999



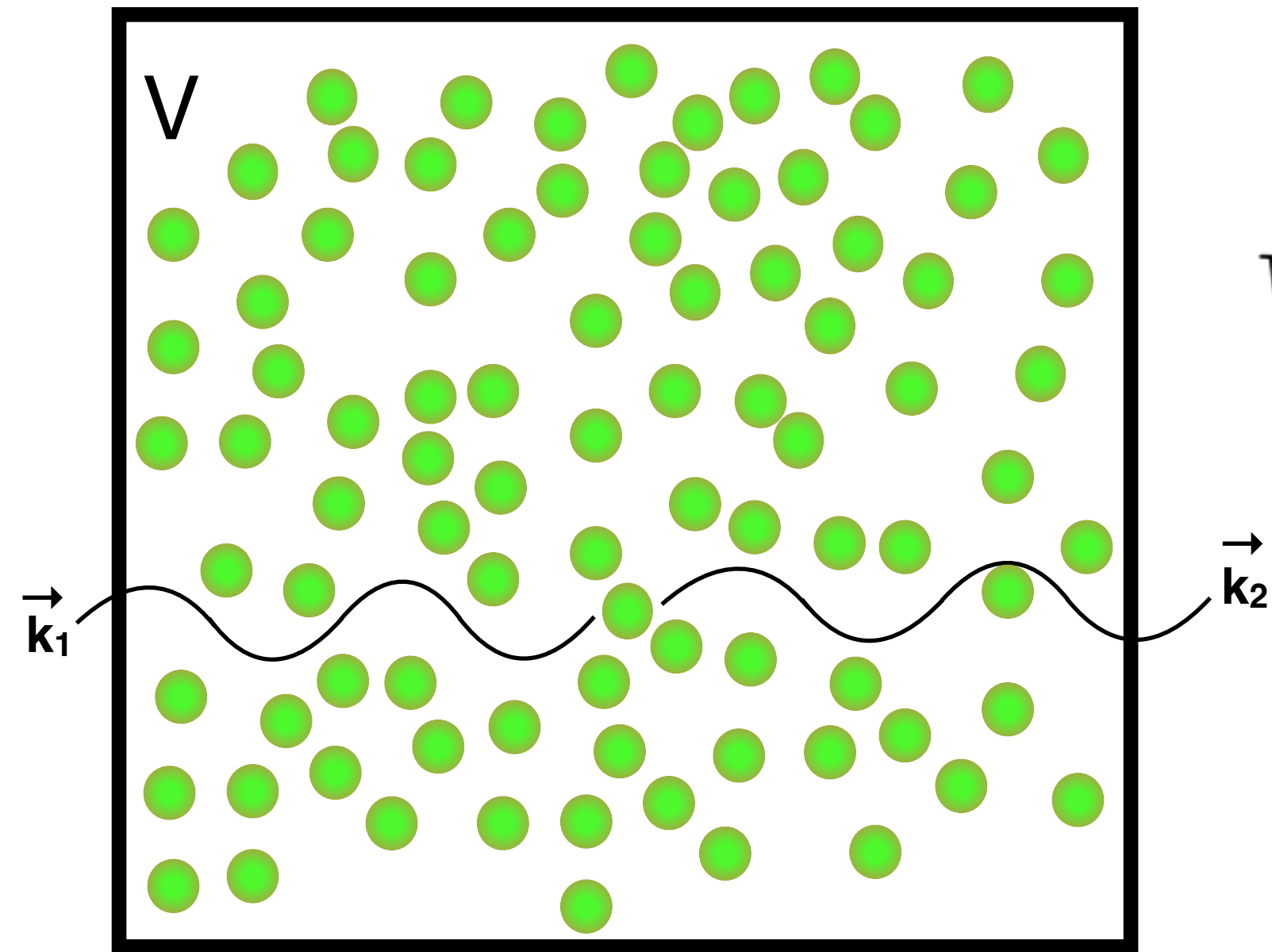
Other quantum detectors:

- Levitated silicon sphere  
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2203.07242

Current crystal-based superradiance has achieved  $N \sim 10^{12}$  erbium atoms collectively de-exciting in cryogenic erbium-doped yttrium orthosilicate

# Two-Photon Superradiance

Bhoonah, JB, Song 1909.07387  
Hiraki et al. 2019



$$V_{mac} \sim \frac{1}{|\vec{k}_1 + \vec{k}_2|^3} \quad \text{macro coherence volume}$$

$$\Gamma_{tot} = n^2 V_{mac}^2 \Gamma_0 \quad \text{macro SR}$$

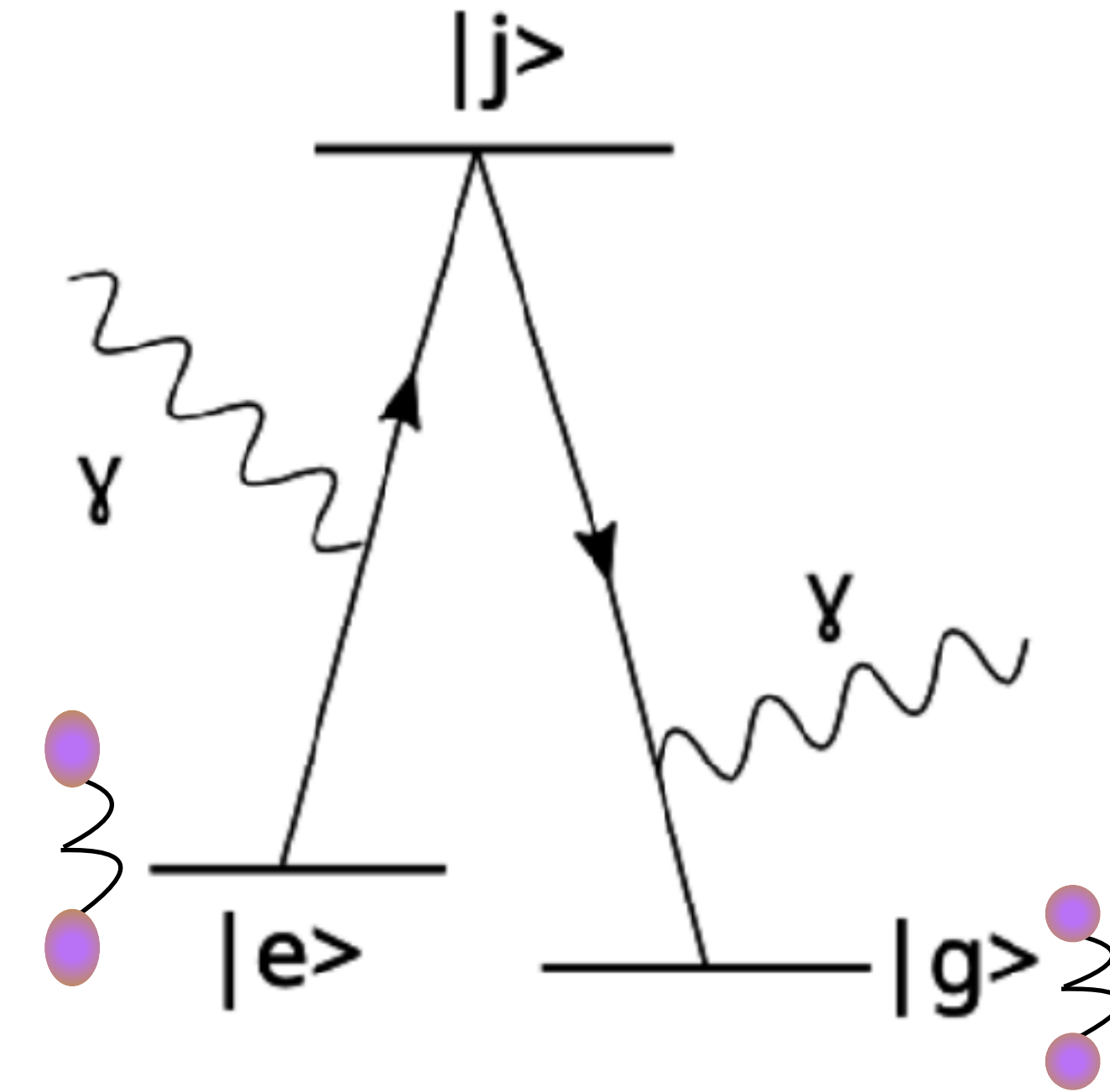
$$\Delta \vec{k} = \vec{k}_1 + \vec{k}_2 =$$

$$\Gamma_{sp} = \int \frac{d^3 k_1}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{d^3 k_2}{(2\pi)^3} \left| \int d^3 r \sum_{a=1}^N \frac{a_{eg}}{4} \sqrt{\frac{4\omega_1 \omega_2}{V^2}} e^{-i(\vec{k}_1 + \vec{k}_2 - \vec{k}_{eg}^a)(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_a)} \right|^2 2\pi \delta(\omega_{eg} - \omega_1 - \omega_2),$$

Classic superradiance is limited by the frequency of the photon emitted. Two photon superradiance minimizes the momenta of emitters with back-to-back two photon emission/absorption.

# Macro Coherence in Parahydrogen

pH<sub>2</sub>'s first vibrational excitation state  
electric dipole (E1) transition parity forbidden,  
leading transition is two photon (E1xE1).



# Macro Coherence in Parahydrogen

pH<sub>2</sub>'s first vibrational excitation state  
 electric dipole (E1) transition parity forbidden,  
 leading transition is two photon (E1x E1).

$$H = H_0 + H_I \quad H_I = -\mathbf{d} \cdot (\tilde{E}_1 + \tilde{E}_2)$$

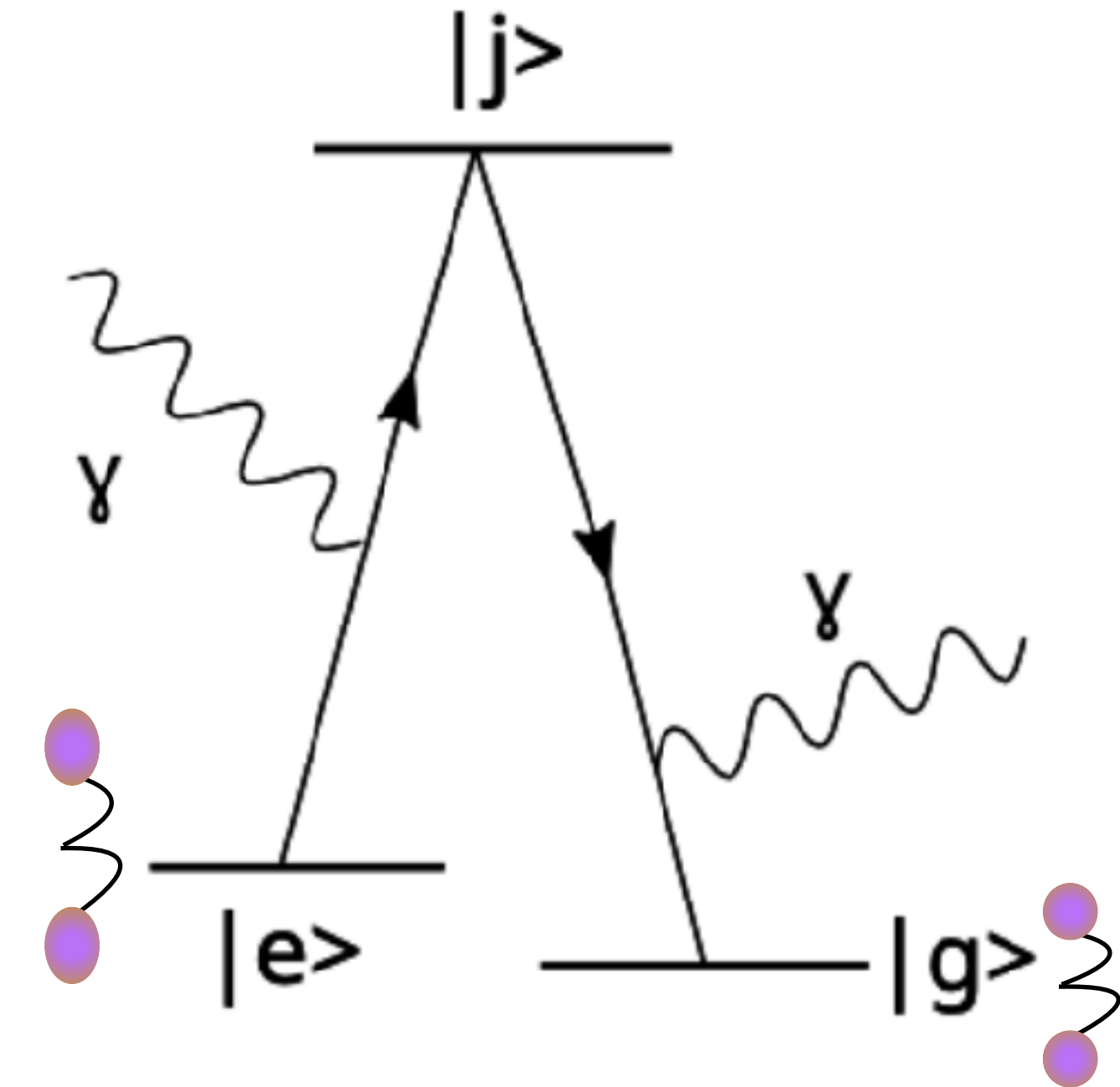
$$|\psi\rangle = c_g e^{-i\omega_g t} |g\rangle + c_e e^{-i(\omega_e + \delta)t} |e\rangle + c_{j+} e^{-i\omega_j t} |j_+\rangle + c_{j-} e^{-i\omega_j t} |j_-\rangle$$

$$i\partial_t c_{j+} = \frac{1}{2} (d_{jg} c_g e^{i\omega_{jg} t} + d_{je} c_e e^{i(\omega_{je} - \delta)t}) (\bar{E}_1 e^{-i\omega t} + \bar{E}_2^* e^{i\omega t})$$

$$i\partial_t c_{j-} = \frac{1}{2} (d_{jg} c_g e^{i\omega_{jg} t} + d_{je} c_e e^{i(\omega_{je} - \delta)t}) (\bar{E}_1^* e^{i\omega t} + \bar{E}_2 e^{-i\omega t})$$

$$i\partial_t c_g = \frac{1}{2} d_{gj} e^{-i\omega_{jg} t} [c_{j+} (\bar{E}_1^* e^{i\omega t} + \bar{E}_2 e^{-i\omega t}) + c_{j-} (\bar{E}_1 e^{-i\omega t} + \bar{E}_2^* e^{i\omega t})]$$

$$i\partial_t c_e = \frac{1}{2} d_{ej} e^{-i(\omega_{je} - \delta)t} [c_{j+} (\bar{E}_1^* e^{i\omega t} + \bar{E}_2 e^{-i\omega t}) + c_{j-} (\bar{E}_1 e^{-i\omega t} + \bar{E}_2^* e^{i\omega t})]$$



$$d_{jg} \equiv \langle j_+ | -\mathbf{d} \cdot \epsilon_r |g\rangle = \langle j_- | -\mathbf{d} \cdot \epsilon_l |g\rangle$$

$$d_{je} \equiv \langle j_+ | -\mathbf{d} \cdot \epsilon_r |e\rangle = \langle j_- | -\mathbf{d} \cdot \epsilon_l |e\rangle$$

The Schrodinger equation for left/right-going plane wave  $E_1/E_2$  fields,  
 and their dipole interactions with parahydrogen excitations...  
 (including virtual  $j$  states)

# Macro Coherence in Parahydrogen

pH<sub>2</sub>'s first vibrational excitation state  
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## Simplified state

$$|\psi\rangle = c_g e^{-i\omega_g t} |g\rangle + c_e e^{-i(\omega_e + \delta)t} |e\rangle + c_{j+} e^{-i\omega_j t} |j_+\rangle + c_{j-} e^{-i\omega_j t} |j_-\rangle$$

$$i\partial_t \begin{pmatrix} c_e \\ c_g \end{pmatrix} = H_{eff} \begin{pmatrix} c_e \\ c_g \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \Omega_{ee} & \Omega_{eg} \\ \Omega_{ge} & \Omega_{ee} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_e \\ c_g \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\bar{E}_1 = E_1 e^{-i\omega z}$$

$$\Omega_{ee} = \frac{a_{ee}}{4} (|\bar{E}_1|^2 + |\bar{E}_2|^2)$$

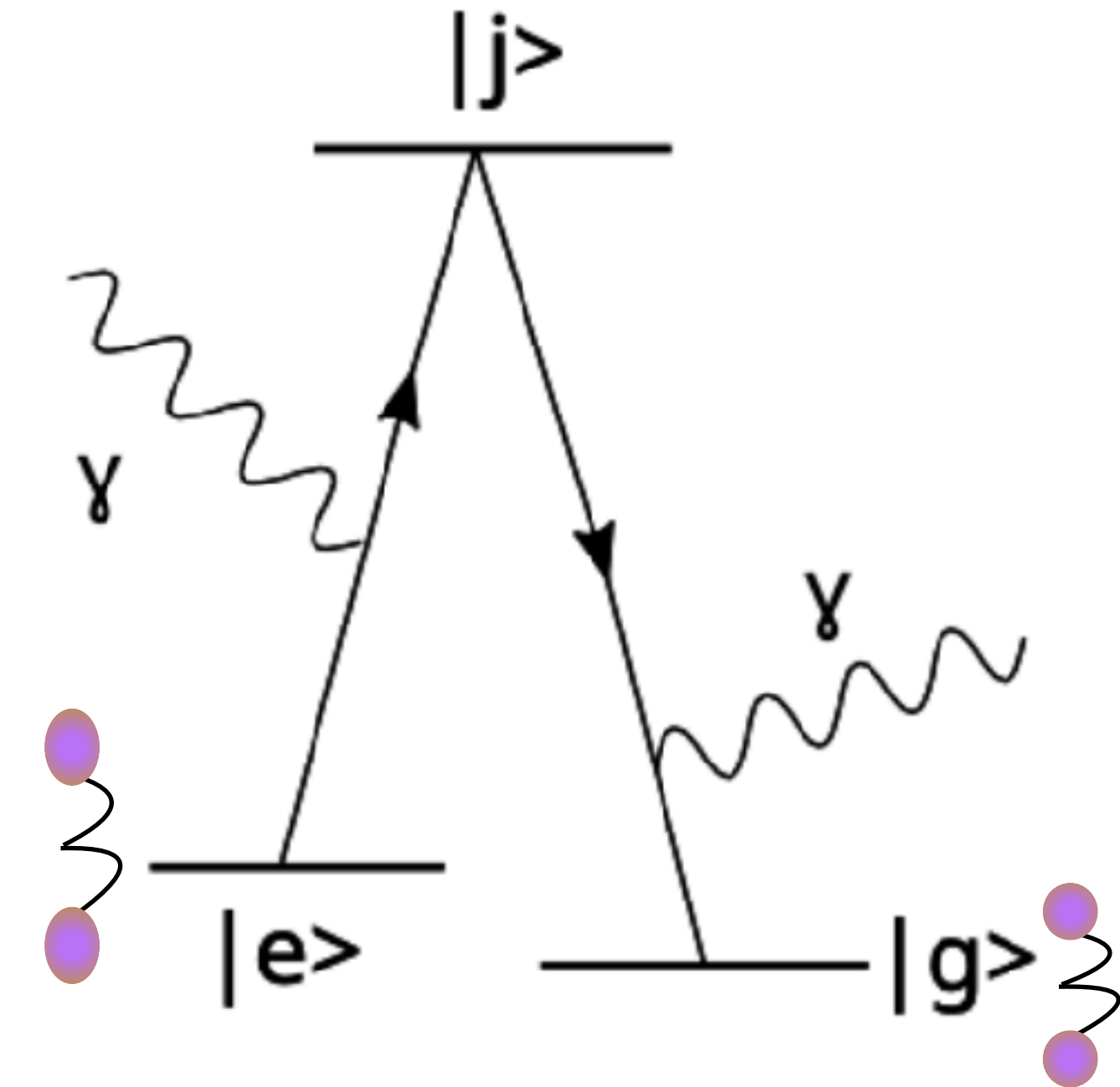
$$\Omega_{gg} = \frac{a_{gg}}{4} (|\bar{E}_1|^2 + |\bar{E}_2|^2)$$

$$\Omega_{eg} = \Omega_{ge}^* = \frac{a_{ge}}{2} \bar{E}_1 \bar{E}_2,$$

$$a_{ee} = \sum_j |d_{je}|^2 \left( \frac{1}{\omega_{je} - \delta - \omega} + \frac{1}{\omega_{je} - \delta + \omega} \right)$$

$$a_{gg} = \sum_j |d_{jg}|^2 \left( \frac{1}{\omega_{jg} - \omega} + \frac{1}{\omega_{jg} + \omega} \right),$$

$$a_{eg} = a_{ge}^* = \sum_j \frac{d_{je} d_{gj}}{\omega_{je} - \delta + \omega}.$$



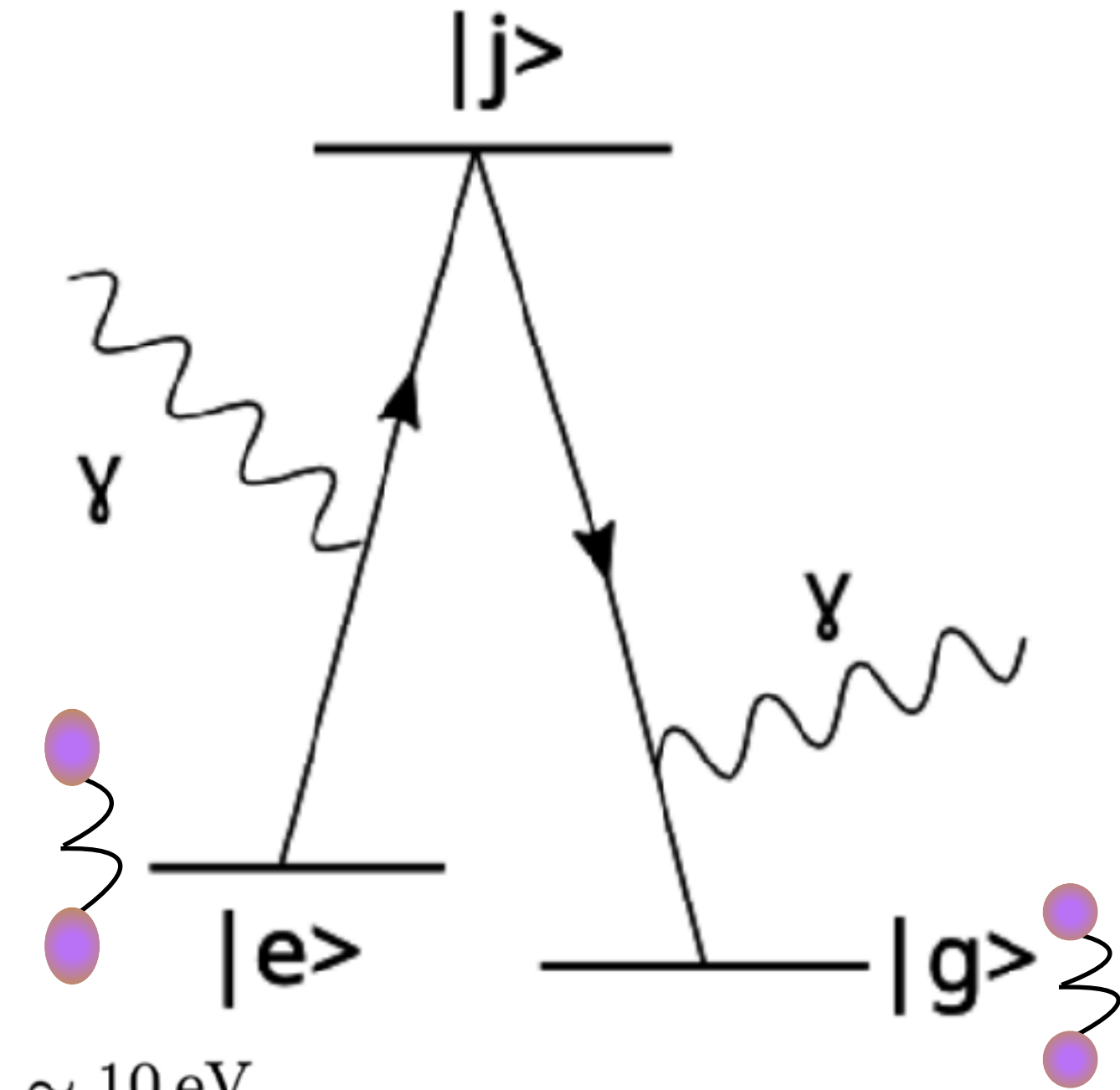
...re-organized in terms of  
 Rabi oscillation terms (2x2 matrix)...

# Macro Coherence in Parahydrogen

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## Simplified state

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markov - treat  $c_e, c_g$  constant -  $\omega_{eg} \sim 0.5 \text{ eV}$   $\omega_{je}, \omega_{jg} \sim 10 \text{ eV}$

slowly varying envelope -  $e^{i(\omega_{je} - \delta + \omega)t} \approx e^{i(\omega_{jg} + \omega)t} \approx e^{i(\omega_{je} - \delta - \omega)t} \approx e^{i(\omega_{jg} - \omega)t} \approx 0$ .

## Maxwell-Bloch ...re-organized in terms of Bloch vectors...

$$\partial_t r_1 = \left[ -\frac{a_{gg} - a_{ee}}{4} (|\bar{E}_1|^2 + |\bar{E}_2|^2) + \delta \right] r_2 + a_{eg} \text{Im}(\bar{E}_1 \bar{E}_2) r_3 - \frac{r_1}{T_2},$$

$$\partial_t r_2 = \left[ \frac{a_{gg} - a_{ee}}{4} (|\bar{E}_1|^2 + |\bar{E}_2|^2) - \delta \right] r_1 + a_{eg} \text{Re}(\bar{E}_1 \bar{E}_2) r_3 - \frac{r_2}{T_2},$$

$$\partial_t r_3 = -a_{eg} [\text{Im}(\bar{E}_1 \bar{E}_2) r_1 + \text{Re}(\bar{E}_1 \bar{E}_2) r_2] - \frac{1 + r_3}{T_1},$$

$$r_1 = \rho_{ge} + \rho_{eg}, \quad 1 = \text{phase coherence}$$

$$r_2 = i(\rho_{eg} - \rho_{ge}), \quad \text{other phase}$$

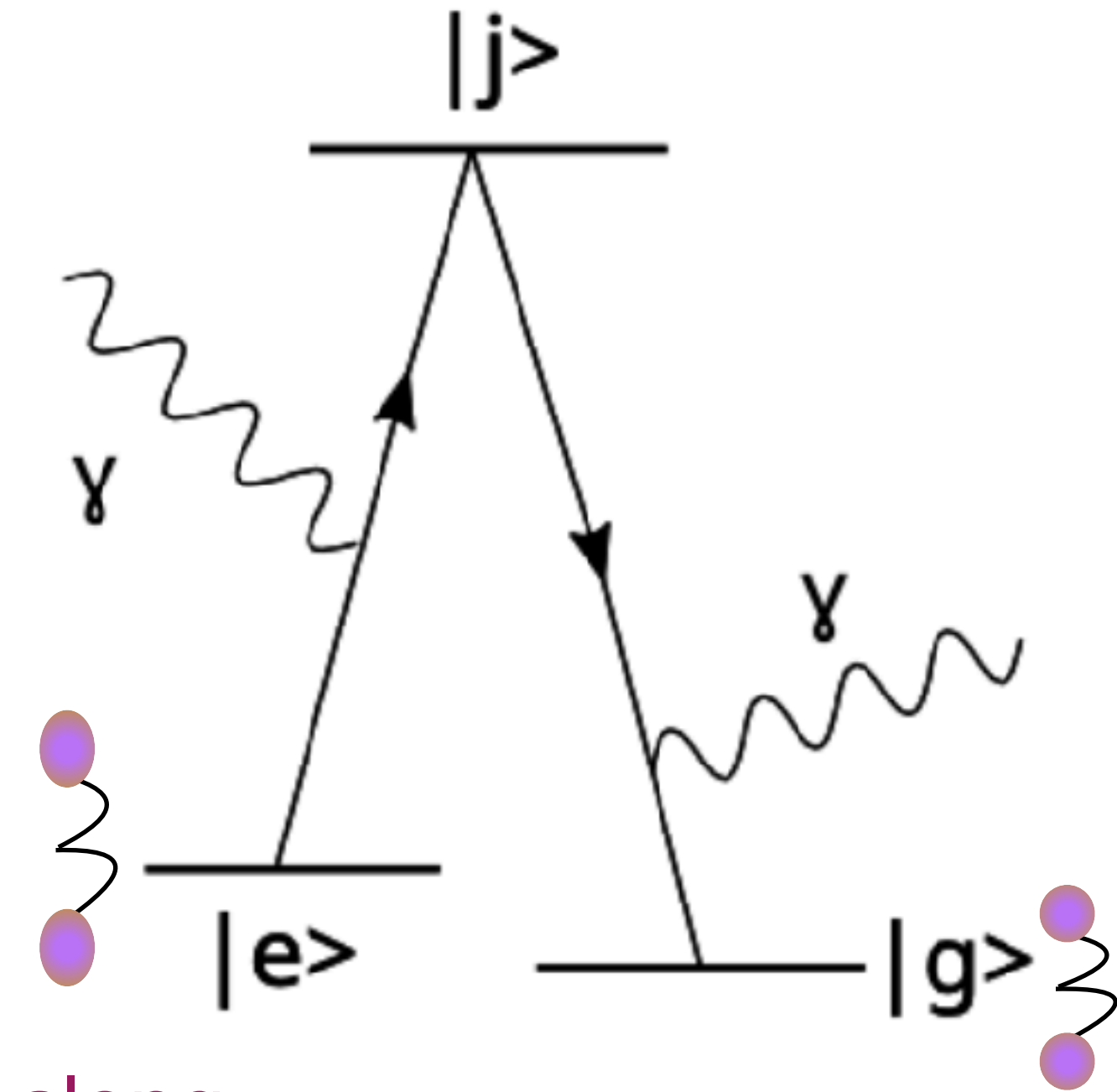
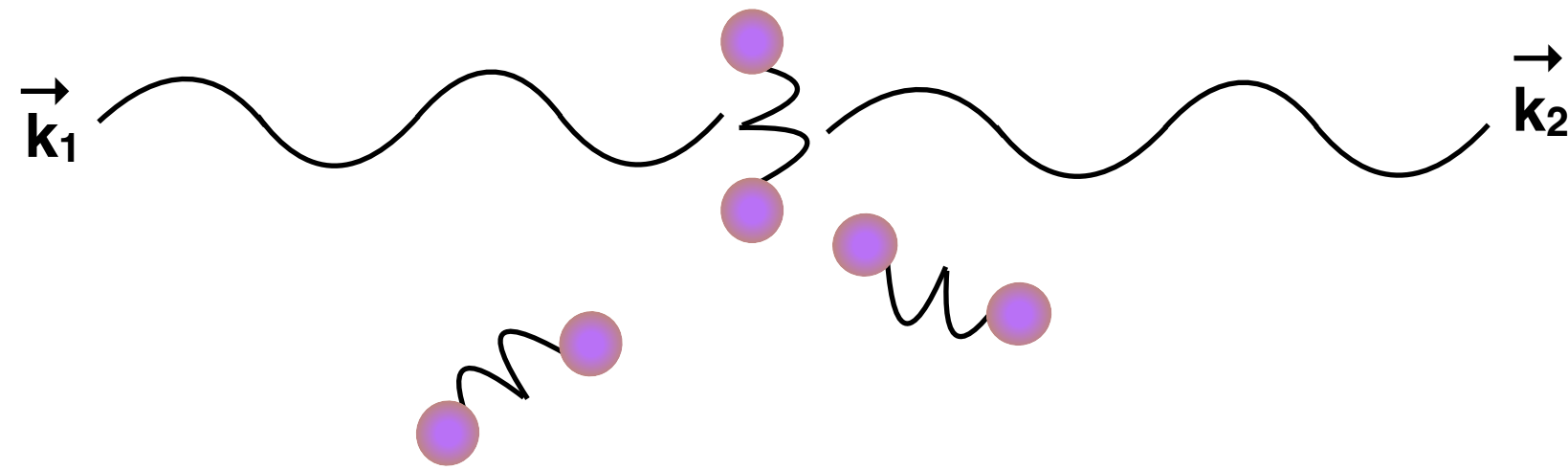
$$r_3 = \rho_{ee} - \rho_{gg}. \quad +1 = \text{all excited} \\ -1 = \text{all ground}$$

$T_1$  = spontaneous decay time

$T_2$  = decoherence time

# Macro Coherence in Parahydrogen

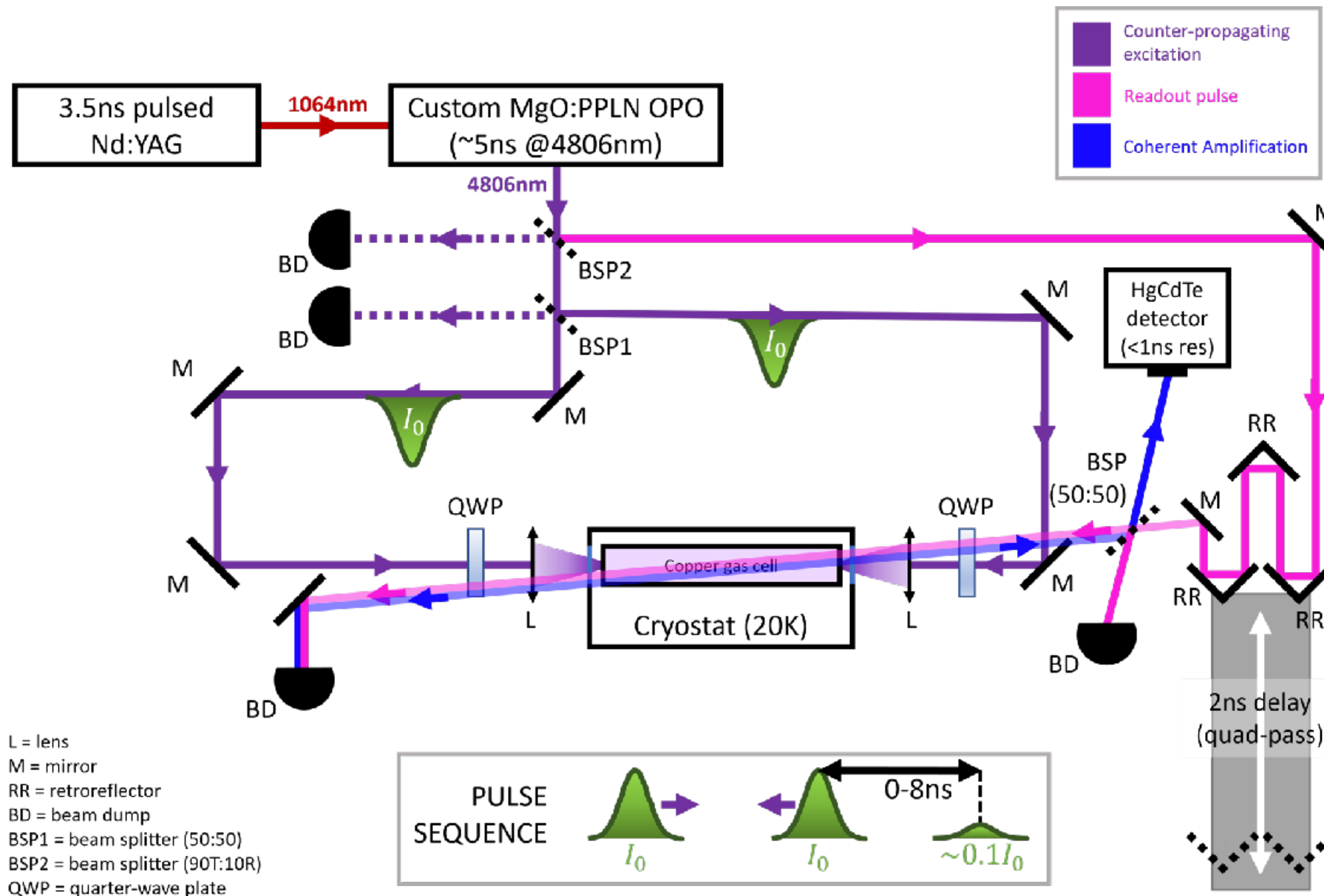
pH<sub>2</sub>'s first vibrational excitation state  
 electric dipole (E1) transition parity forbidden,  
 leading transition is two photon (E1xE1).



This ~0.5 eV vibrational mode is the lowest lying state, along with attainable 10 ns decoherence times, this makes pH<sub>2</sub> a good medium for testing macro coherence.

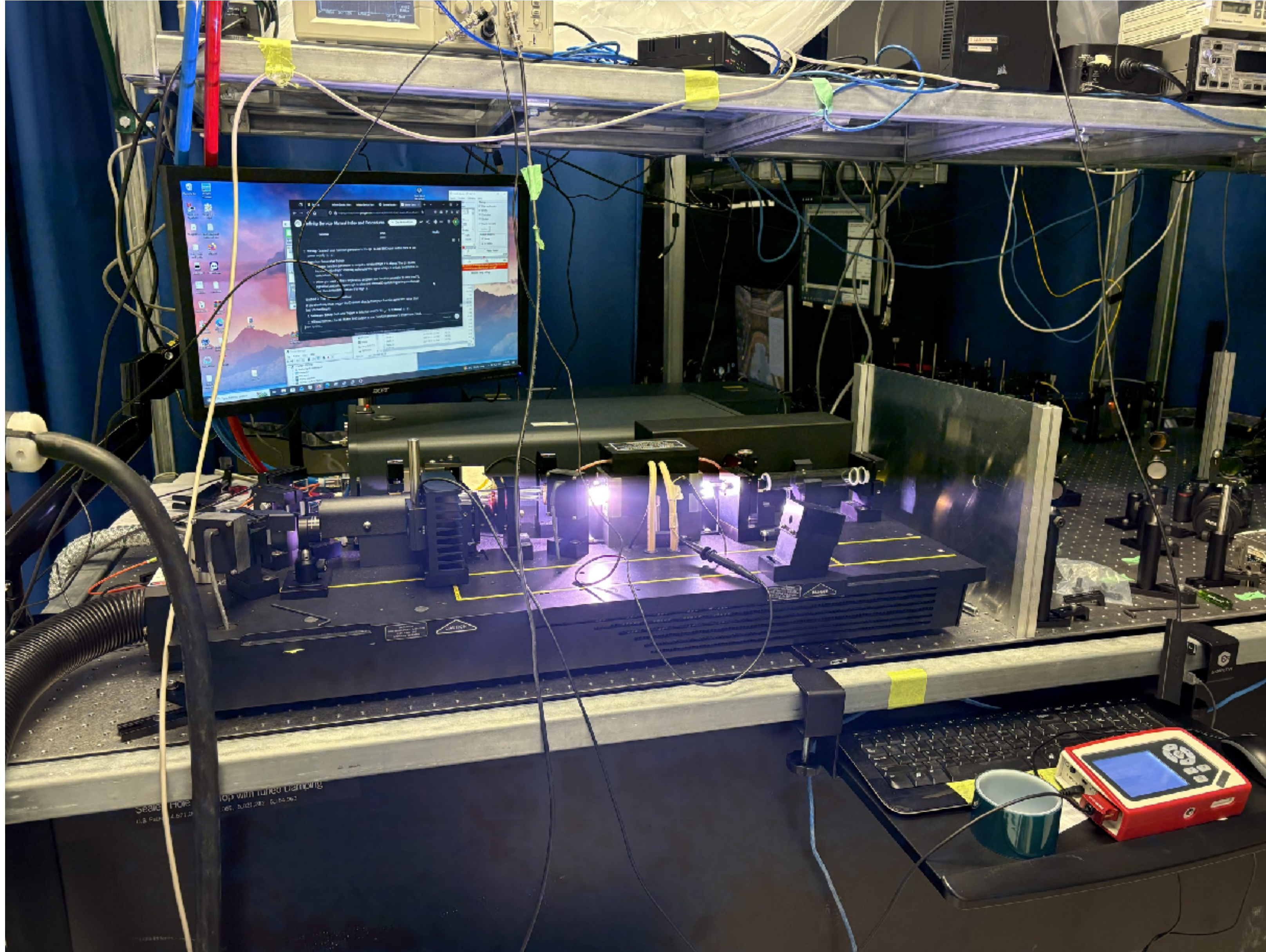
pH <sub>2</sub> Reference	Density (cm <sup>-3</sup> )	Temperature (K)	Decoherence Time (ns)
[57]	10 <sup>19</sup> – 10 <sup>20</sup>	80-500	~ 10
[42]	5.6 × 10 <sup>19</sup>	78	~ 8 (est)
[37]	10 <sup>19</sup> – 5 × 10 <sup>20</sup>	78	~ 10 (est)
[58]	2.6 × 10 <sup>22</sup>	4.2	≥ 140

# CATCHY - Coherent Atomic Transition from Counter-pulsed HYdrogen



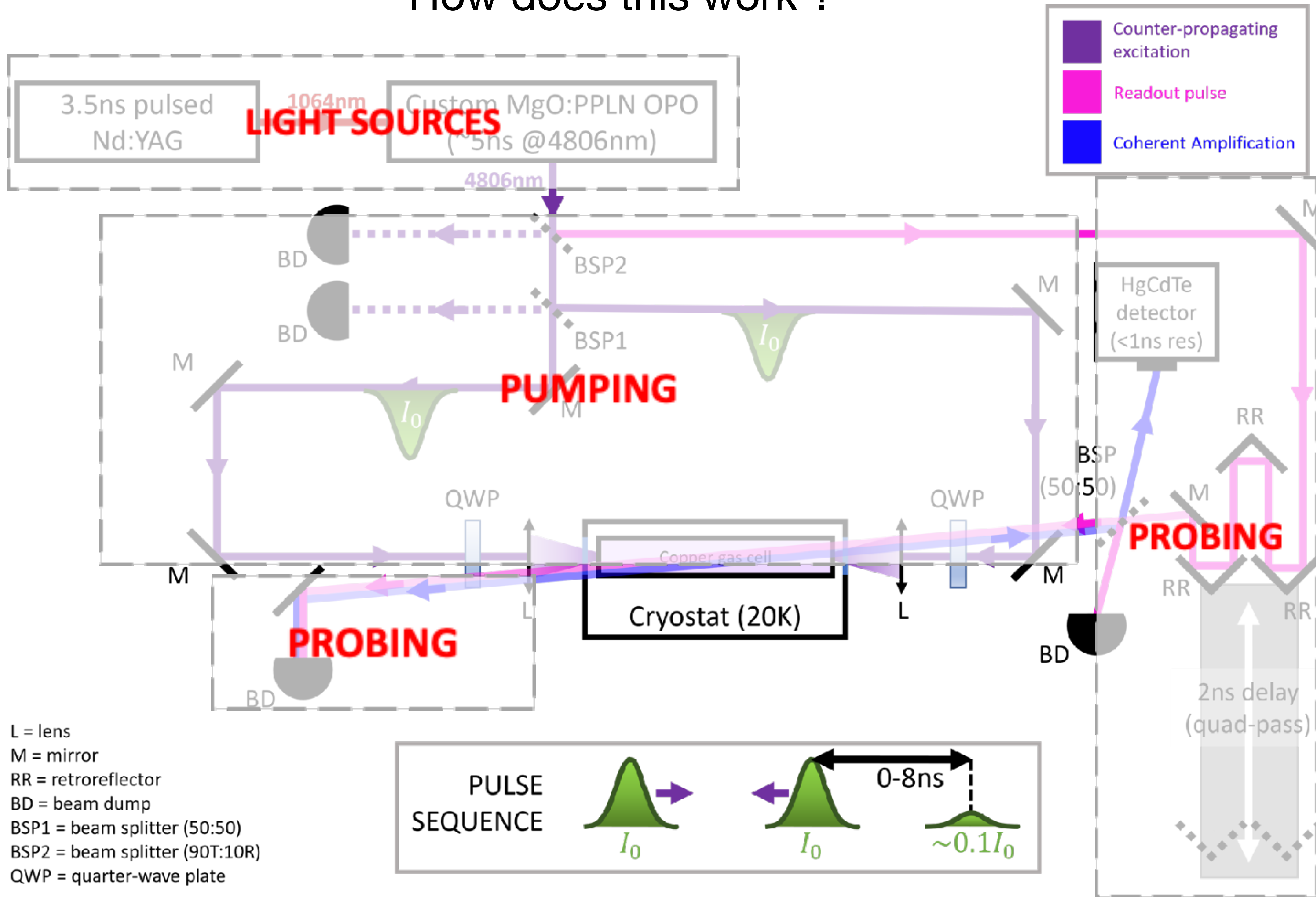
Goal is first coherence measurement for  $N^2$  excitation of first vibrational mode of parahydrogen

# CATCHY - Coherent Atomic Transition from Counter-pulsed HYdrogen

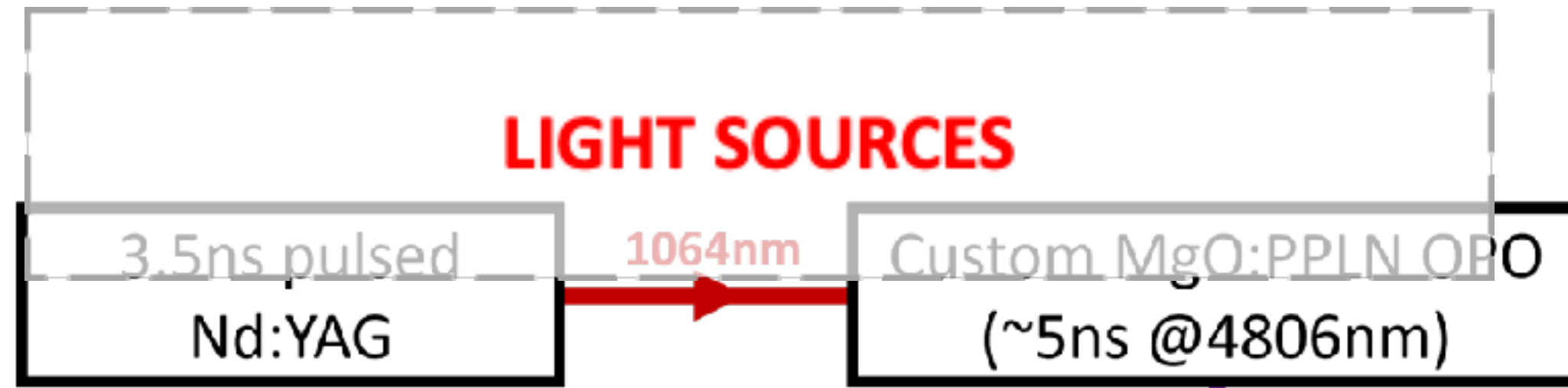


Goal is first detection of  $N^2$  excitation of first vibrational mode of parahydrogen

# How does this work ?



# Generation of 4.826 micron narrow bandwidth light



Damage threshold studies for crystal

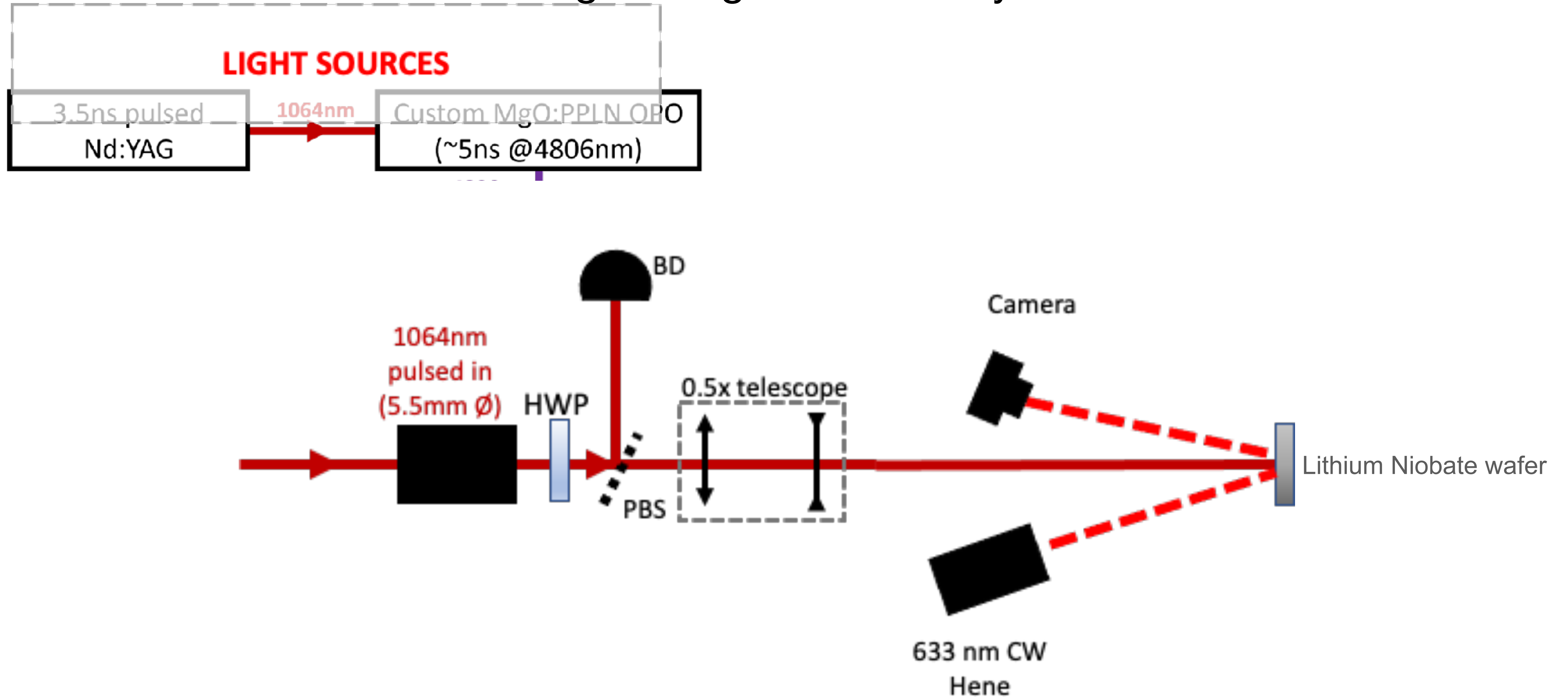
Laser specifications for 1064nm

Max Rep Rate: 100Hz  
Max pulse energy: 500mJ  
Shot to shot noise: 1%  
Bandwidth: 250 MHz

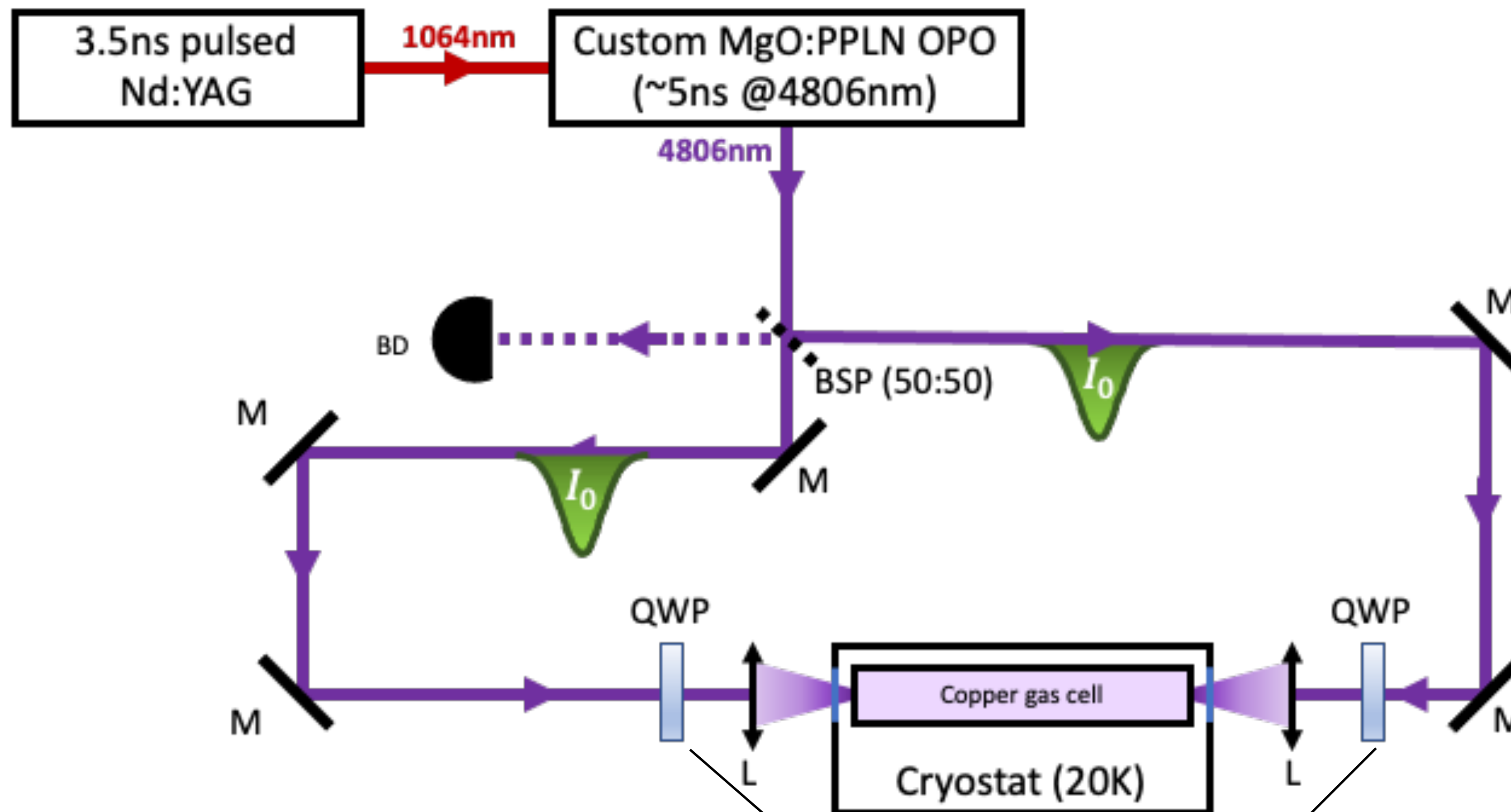
Damage threshold value from supplier

2J/cm<sup>2</sup> single shot @ 1064nm,  
21Hz nanosecond pulsed laser

# Characterizing damage of PPLN crystal



# How to get centimetres of molecules excited ?



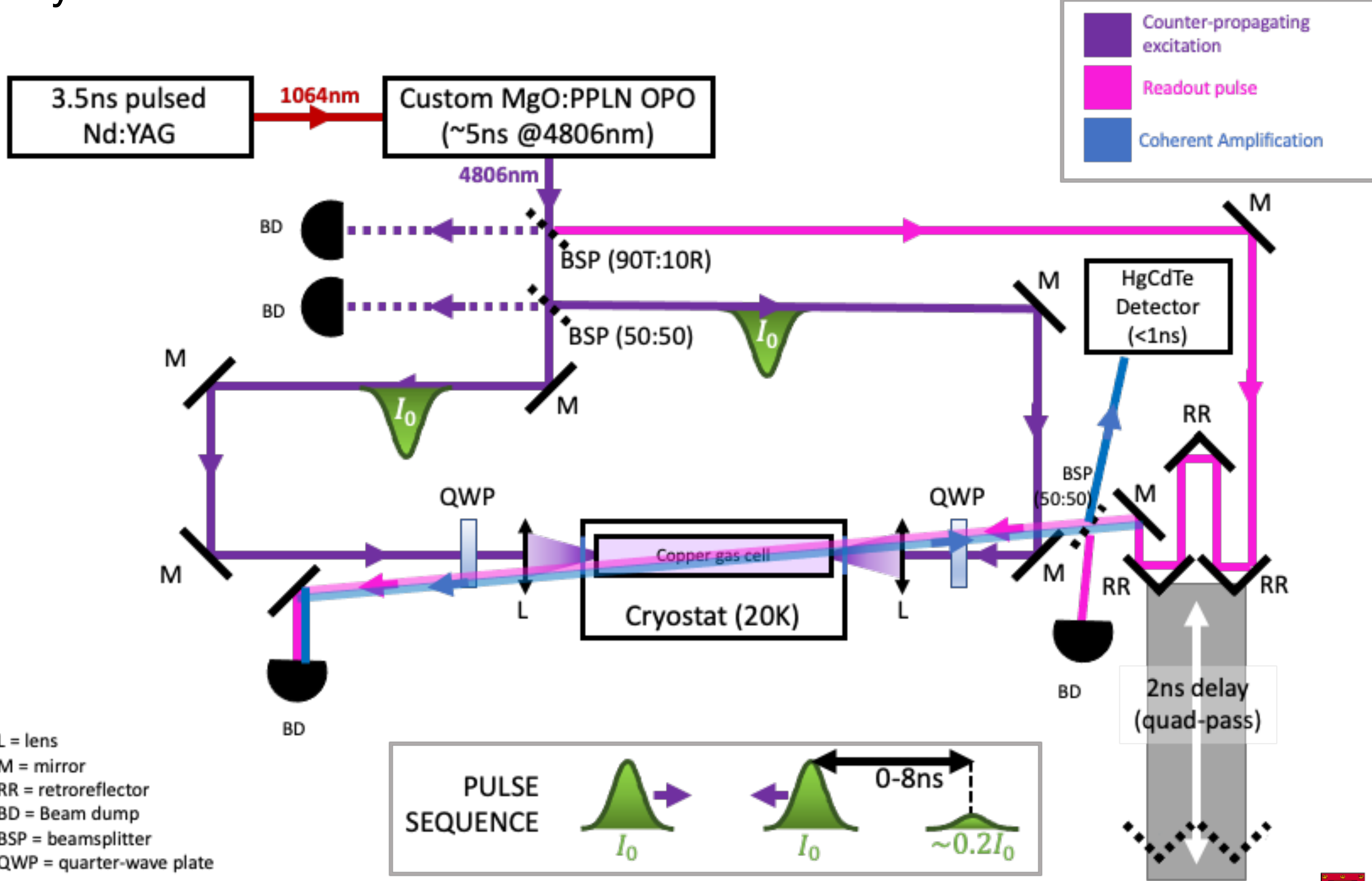
Counter-propagating excitation

L = lens  
M = mirror  
RR = retroreflector  
BD = beam dump  
BSP = beamsplitter  
QWP = quarter-wave plate

Same polarization

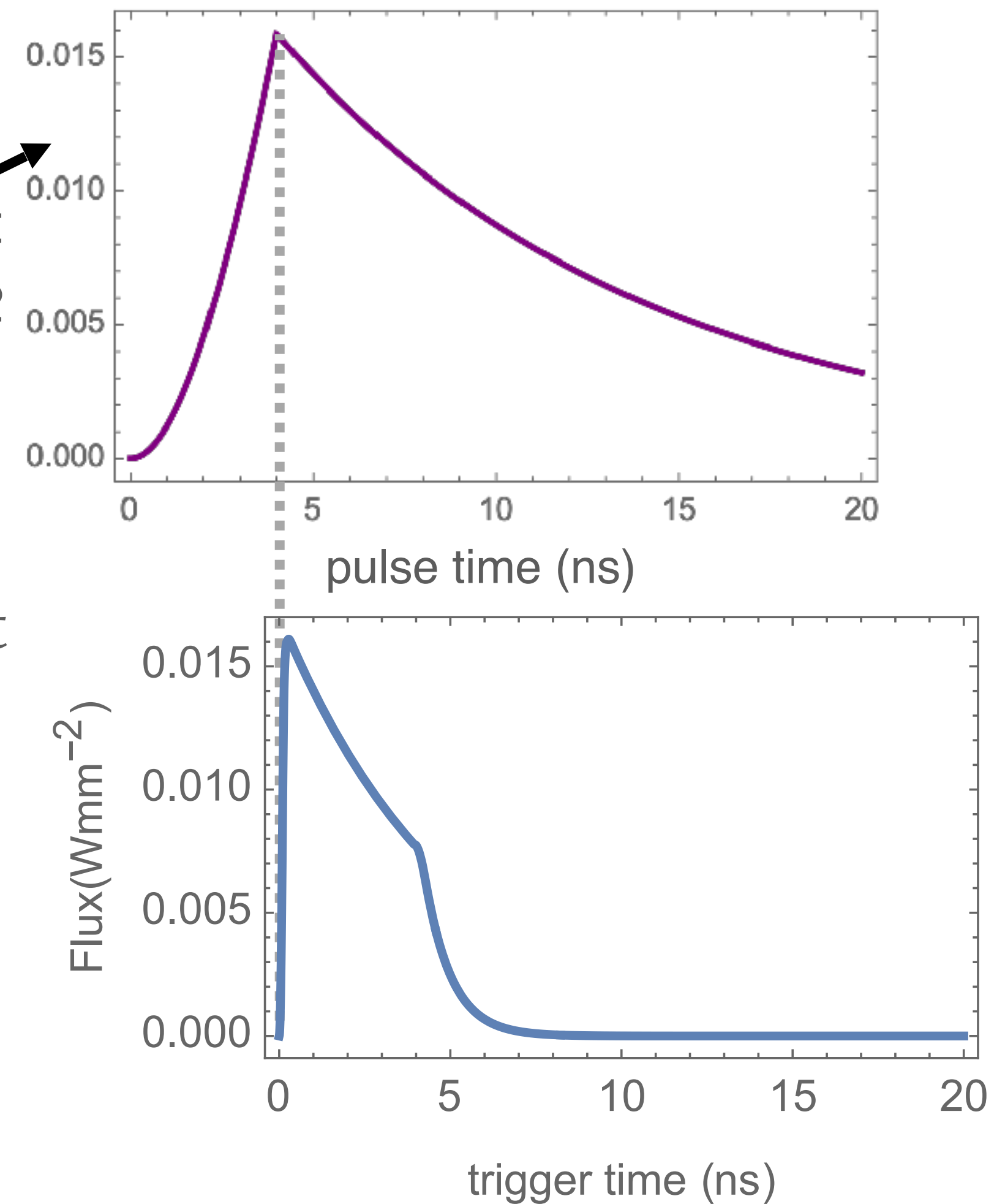
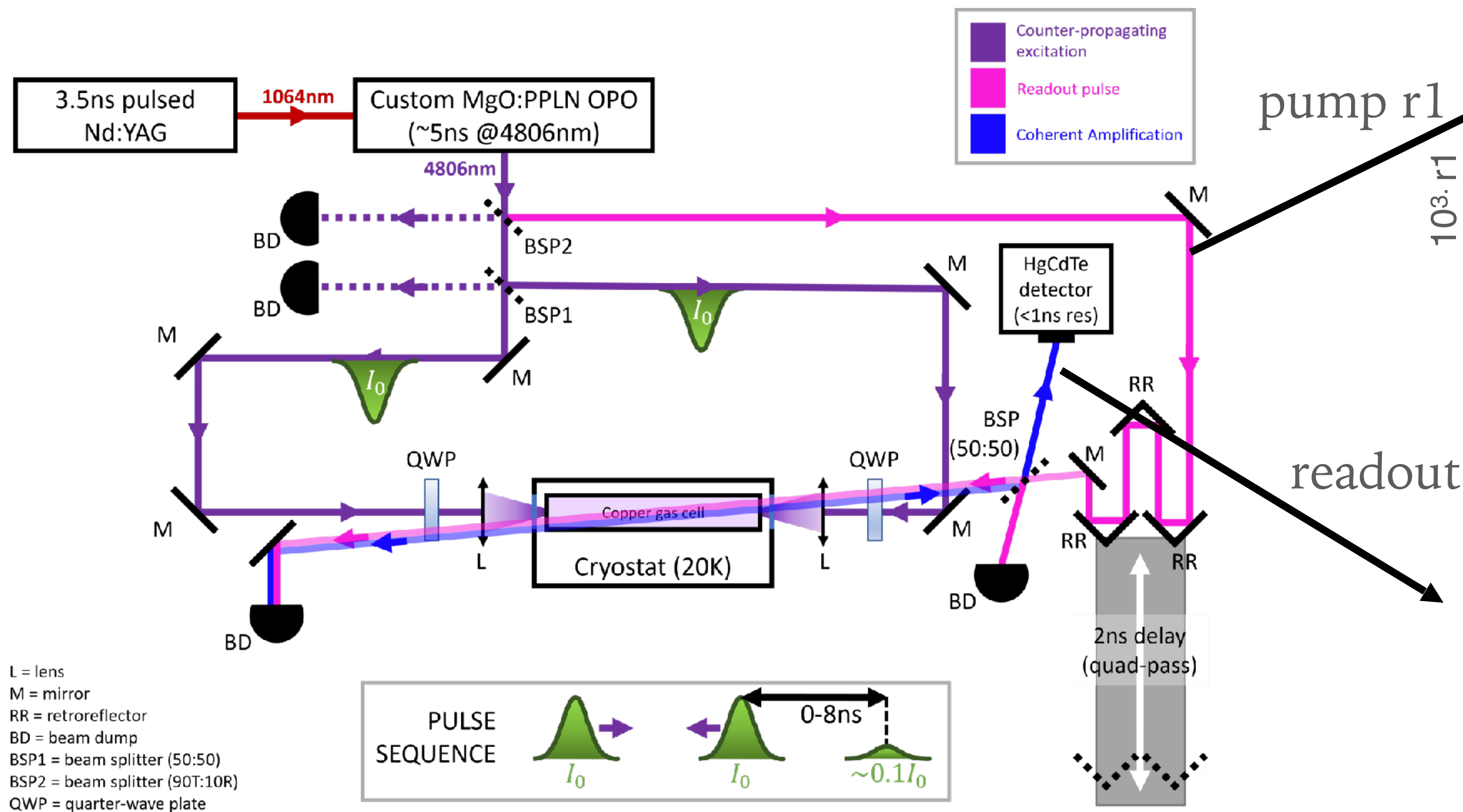


# How to verify that we have centimetres of molecules excited



# CATCHY - Coherent Atomic Transition from Counter-pulsed HYdrogen

1. pump pulse excites pH<sub>2</sub> in copper cell

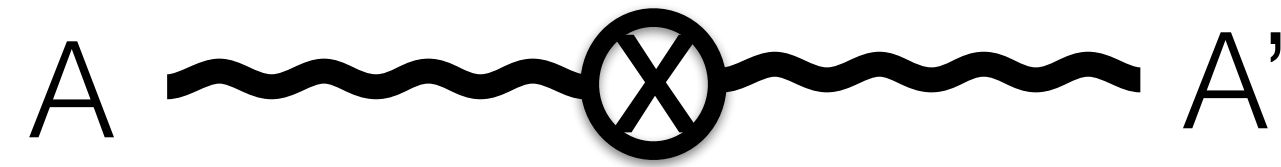


Readout along opposite direction of trigger laser

2. trigger pulse stimulates de-excitation of cell

# The Dark Photon!

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{SM} - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{4} F'_{\mu\nu} F'^{\mu\nu} + m^2 A'_\mu A'^\mu - (A_\mu + \chi A'_\mu) J_{EM}^\mu$$



Galison, Manohar 1984  
Holdom 1986

U(1) vectors mixed with the SM photon appear in many SM extensions

## SUSY breaking sectors

Dienes Kolda March-Russell 1998

Batra Delgado Kaplan Tait 2003

## String compactifications

Goodsell Jaeckel Redondo Ringwald 2008

## Dark sectors

Pospelov 2008

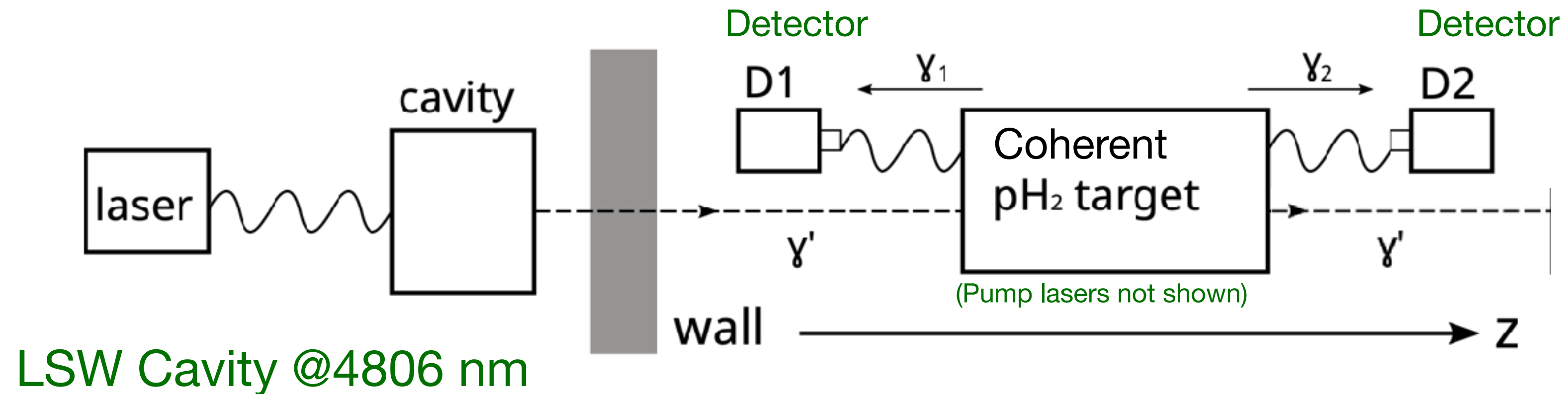
Arkani-Hamed Finkbeiner Slatyer Weiner 2008

Ackerman Buckley Carroll Kamionkowski 2008



## Light-Shining-through-Wall Search for Dark Photons

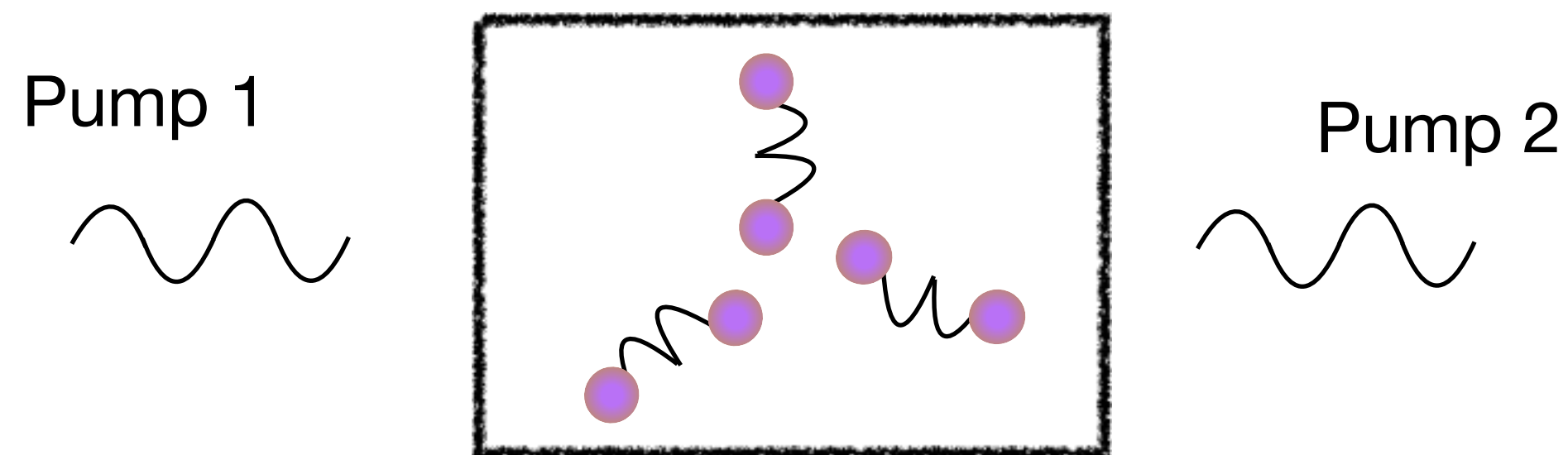
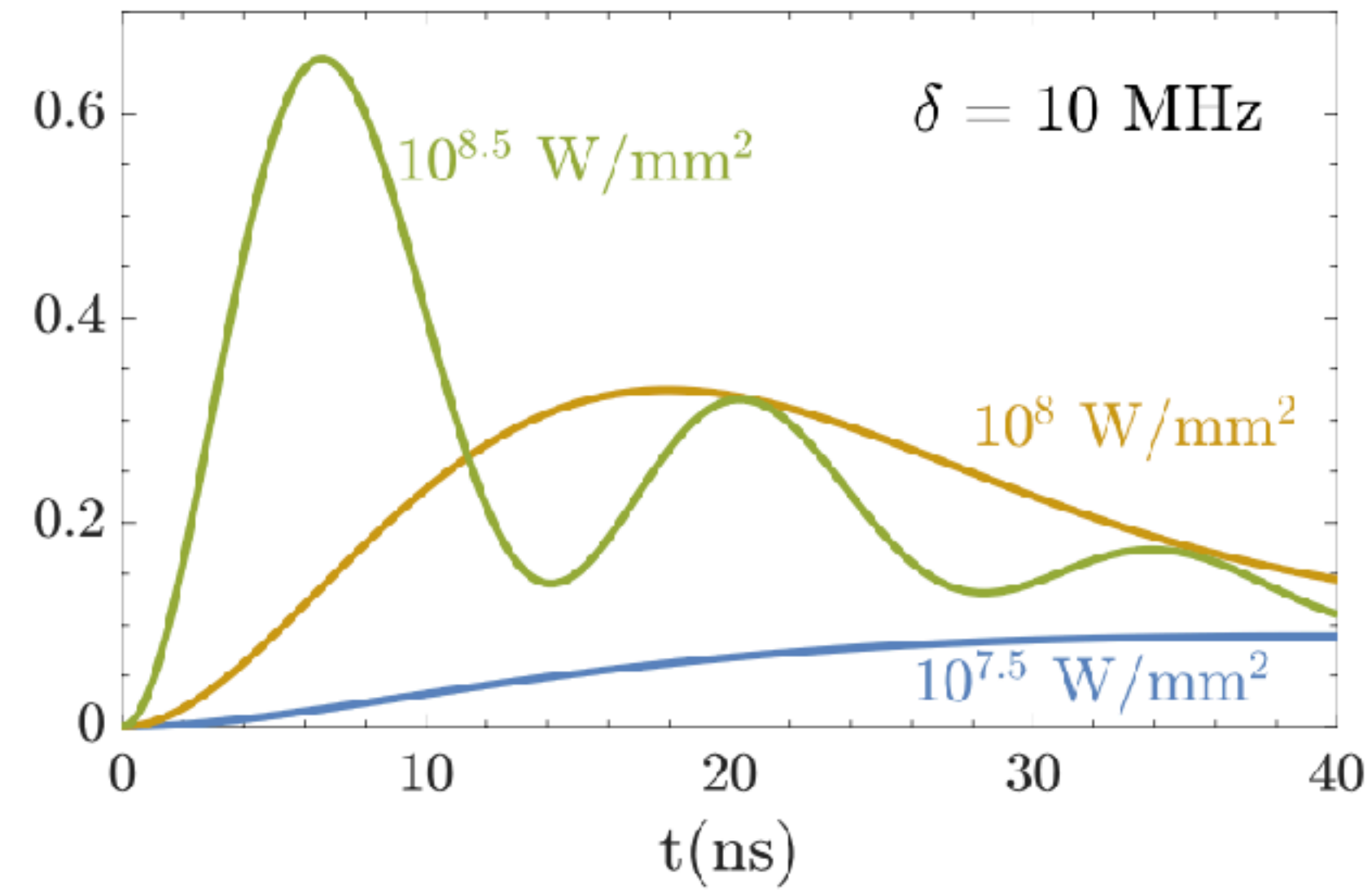
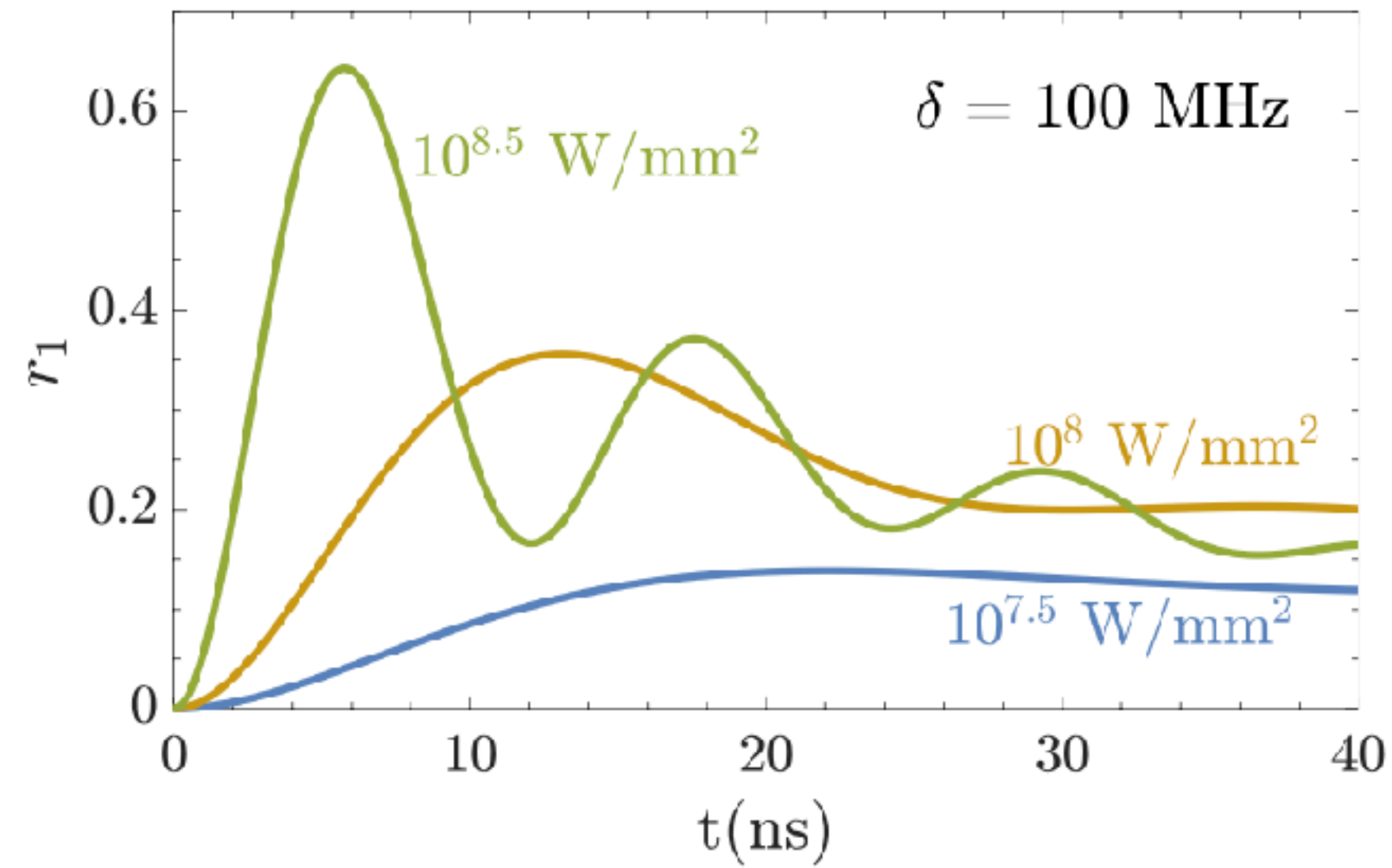
Use a macro-coherent sample of parahydrogen as a target



1. Excite hydrogen to coherent state with back-to-back lasers.
2. Run cavity-amplified light-through-wall laser at same frequency.
3. Look for deexcitation of pH<sub>2</sub> during 10 ns coherence window.
4. Calibrate coherence / response of pH<sub>2</sub> with cavity laser off.

# Macro Coherence in Parahydrogen

$r_1$  is the  $|e\rangle, |g\rangle$  Bloch vector where  $r_1 = 1$  defines fully phase coherent atoms. Our simulations assumed 10 ns decoherence times, and varied laser detuning  $\delta$ .

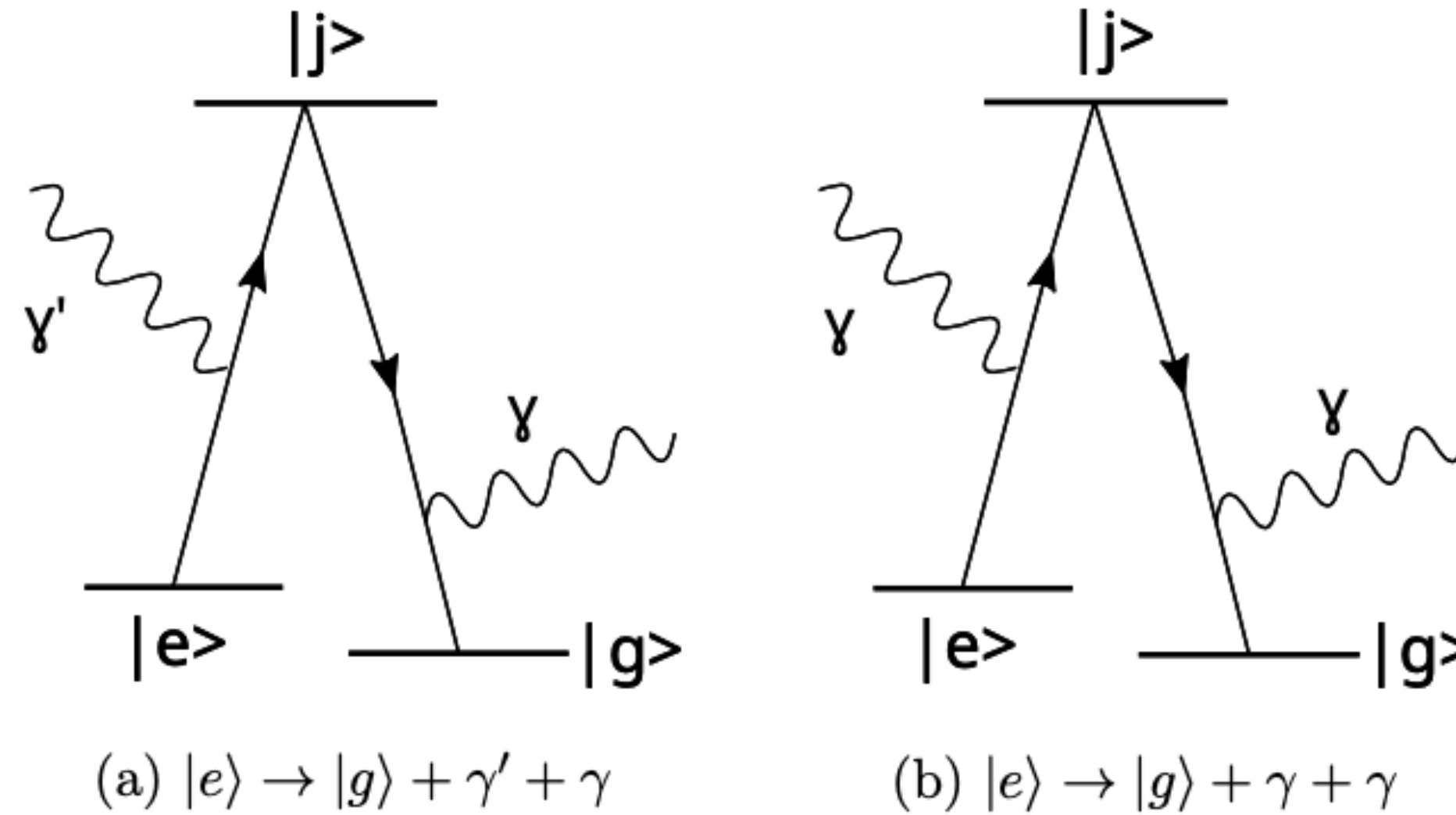


Superradiant Parahydrogen Target
Sample Length $L = 30$ cm
pH <sub>2</sub> Density $n = 10^{21}$ cm <sup>-3</sup>
Pump Laser Freq. $\omega_1 = 0.26$ eV
Pump Laser Power $\approx 10^9$ W mm <sup>-2</sup>

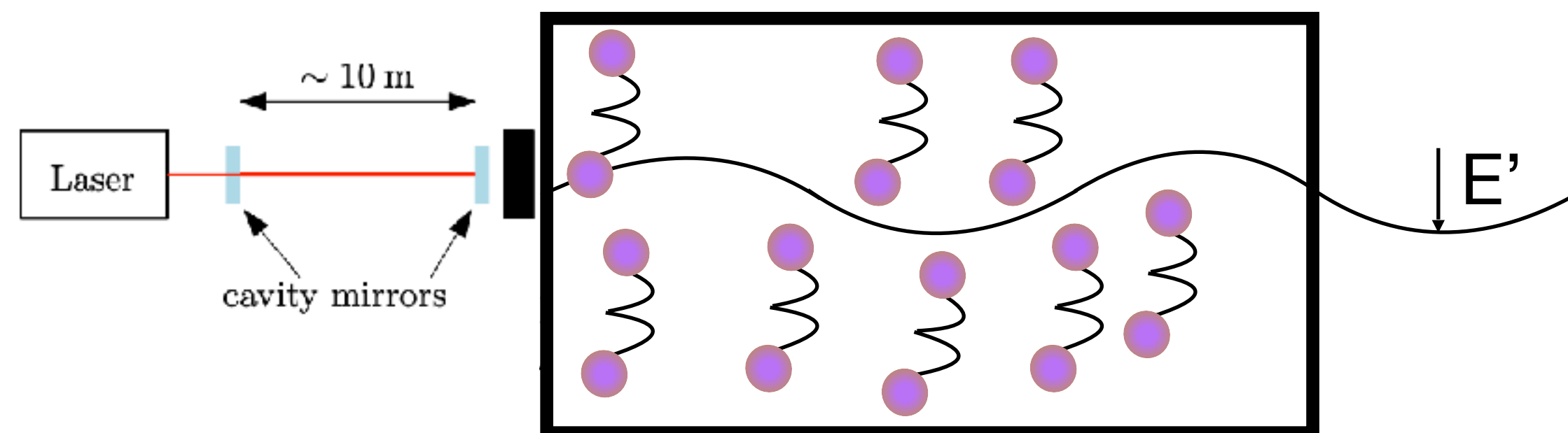
The transitions for multi-photon emission, in the Standard Model and with a dark photon.

$$H_I = -\mathbf{d} \cdot (\tilde{E}_1 + \tilde{E}_2 + \chi \tilde{E}')$$

electric dipole  
term from  $E'$

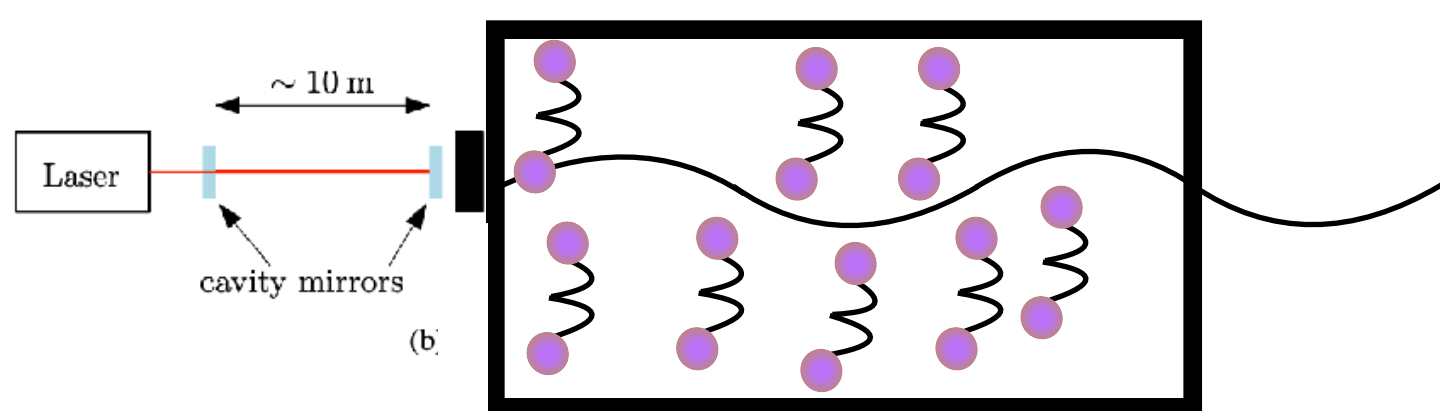


The gain over traditional light-shining-through-wall regeneration cavity is that the dark photon field acts as a trigger laser for two photon emission.

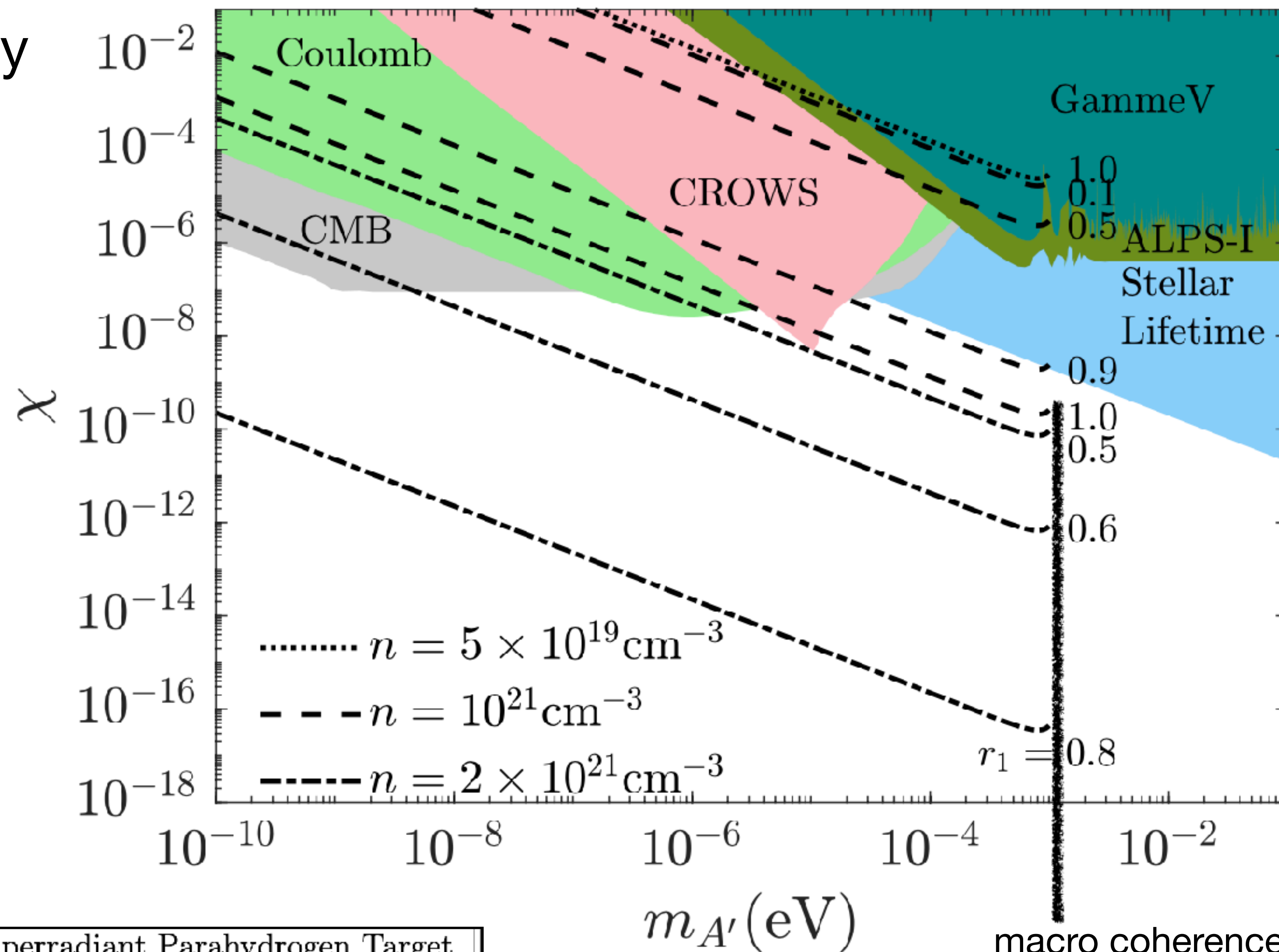


$$\Gamma = \frac{1}{8\pi} |a_{eg}|^2 |\rho_{ge}|^2 N^2 \omega_1^3 |E'|^2$$

# CATCHY+ LSW Sensitivity



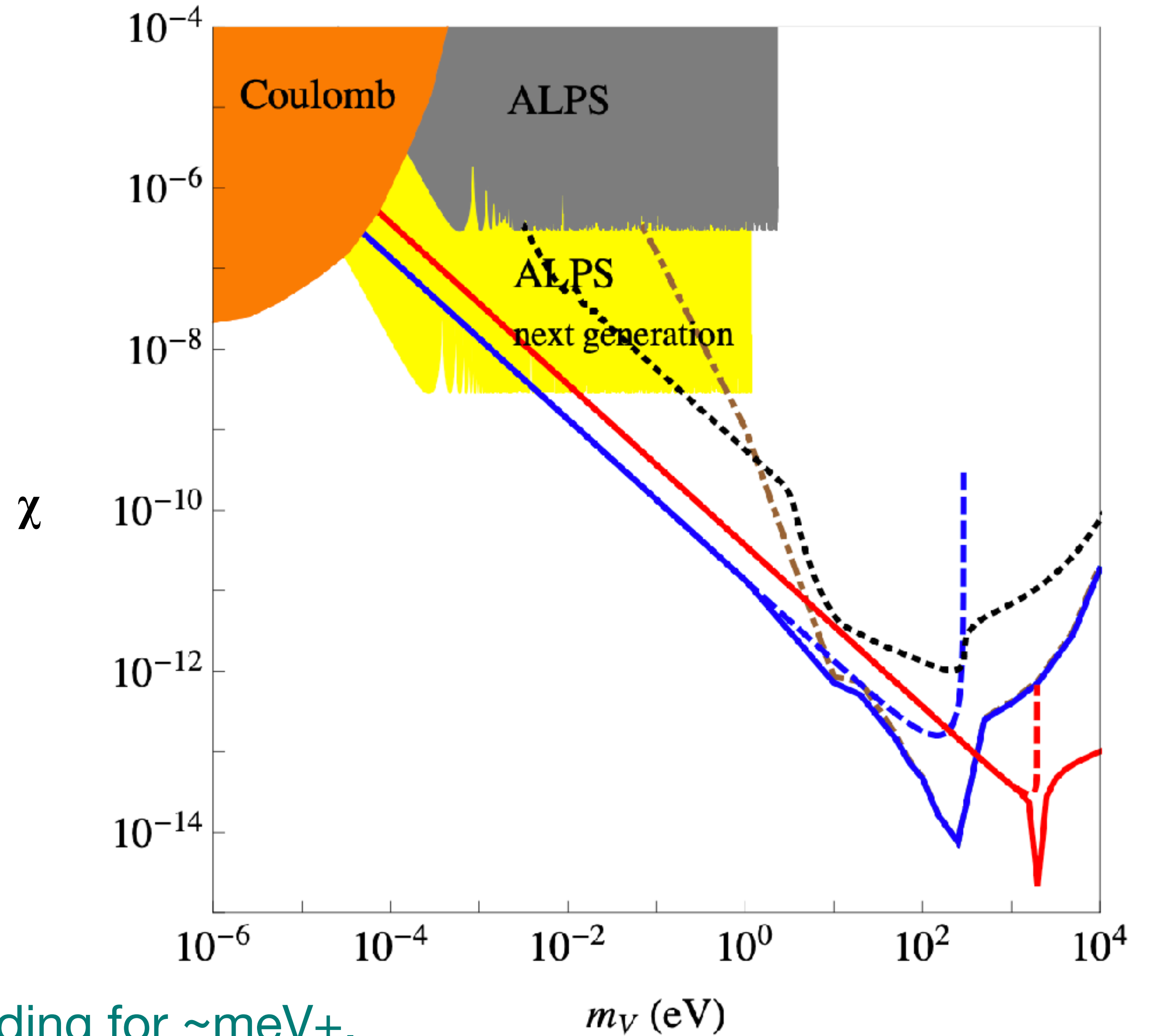
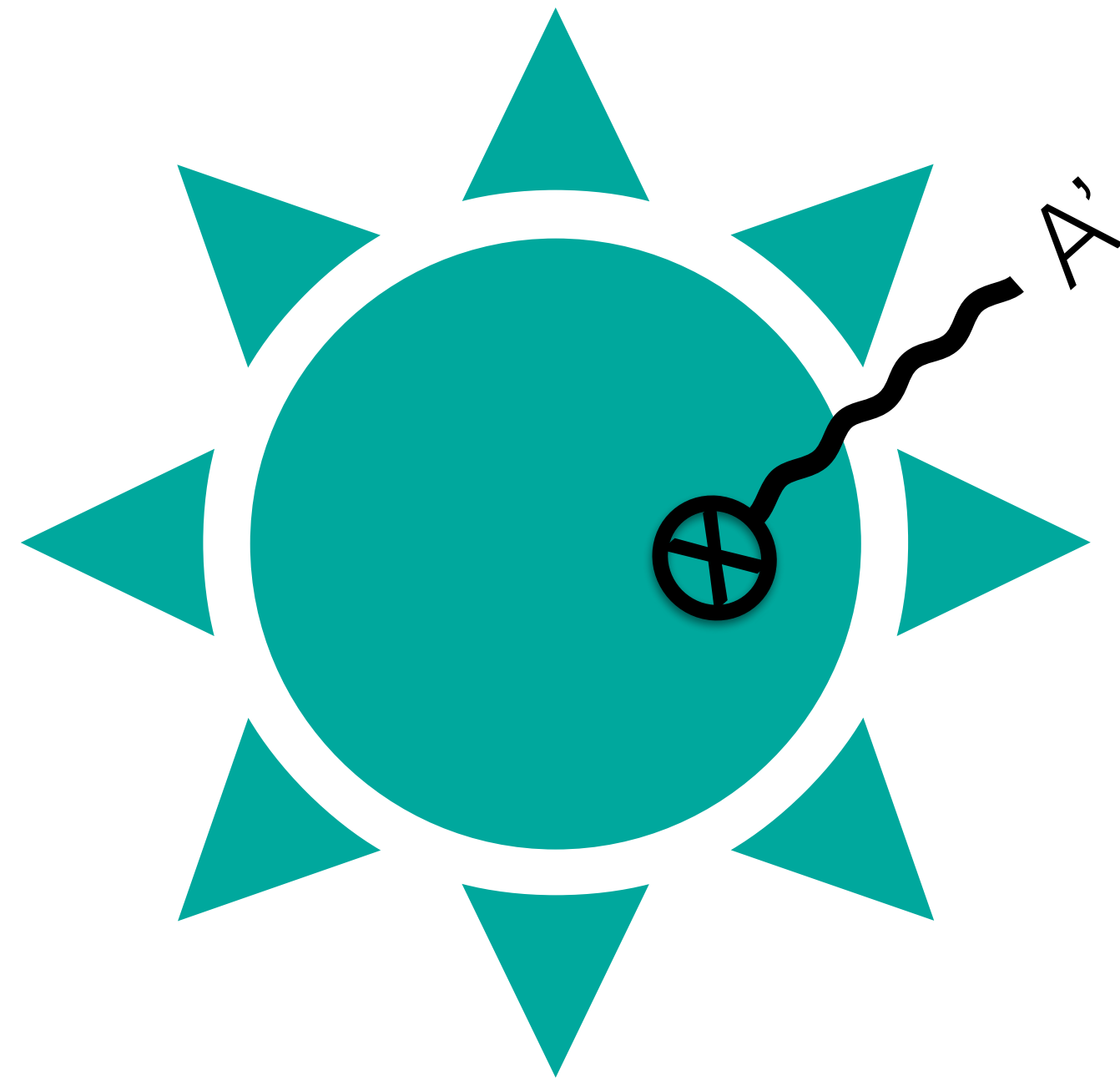
Improved reach as the number density of  $p\text{H}_2$ ,  $r_1$  increases.



macro coherence condition  
 $(\omega_{eg}/2 - k_{A'})L < 1$

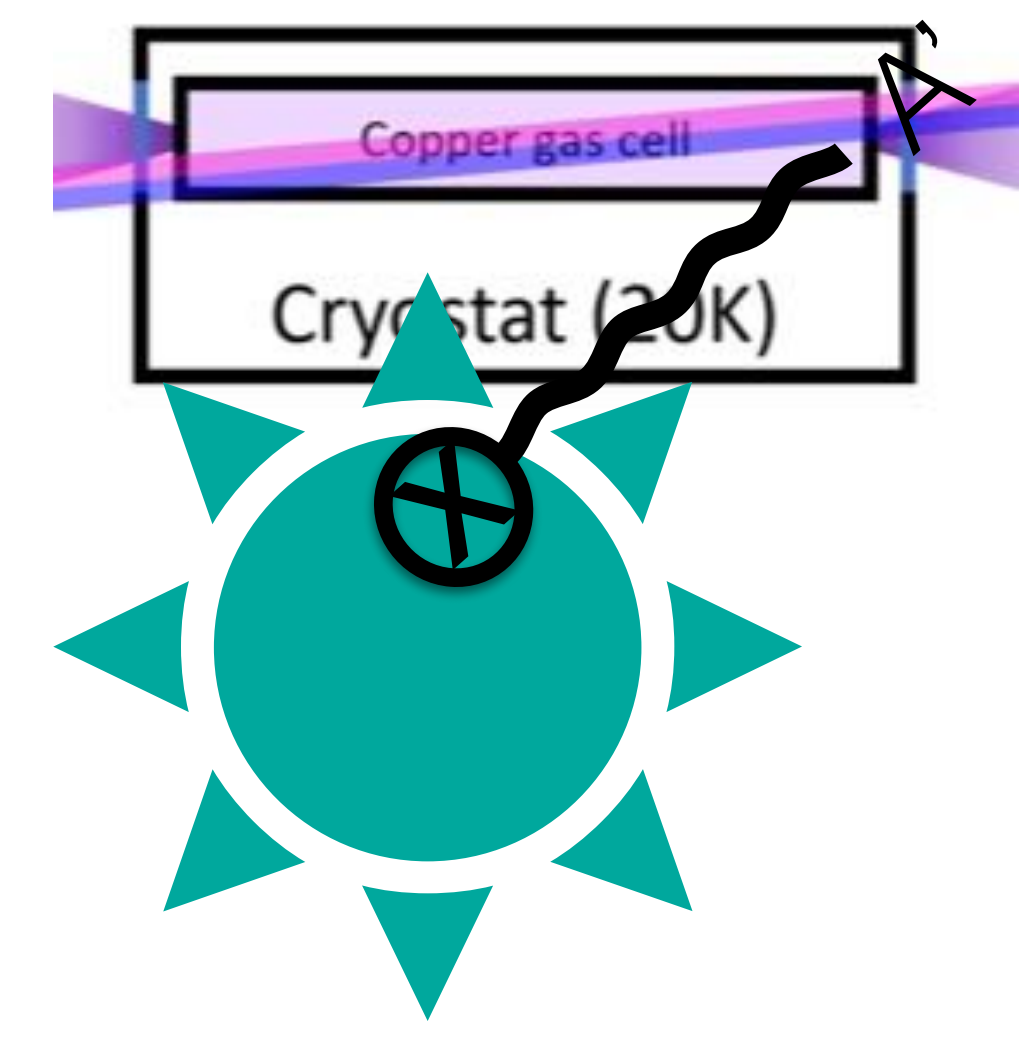
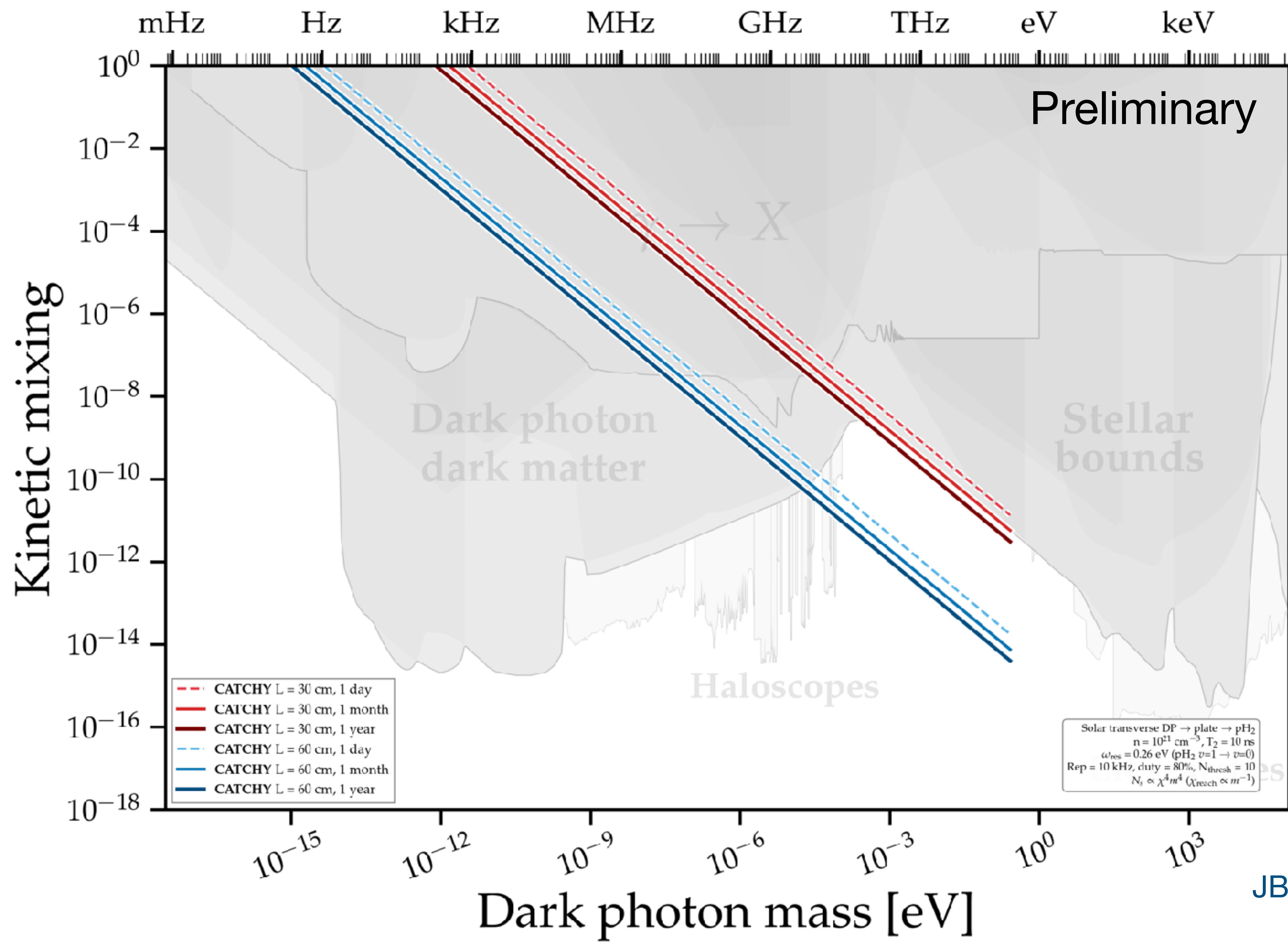
Dark Photon Generating Cavity	Superradiant Parahydrogen Target
Cavity Length $l = 50$ cm	Sample Length $L = 30$ cm
Cavity Reflections $N_{\text{pass}} = 2 \times 10^4$	$p\text{H}_2$ Density $n = 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$
Cavity Laser Freq. $\omega' = 0.26$ eV	Pump Laser Freq. $\omega_1 = 0.26$ eV
Cavity Laser Power $P_L = 1 \text{ W mm}^{-2}$	Pump Laser Power $\approx 10^9 \text{ W mm}^{-2}$
–	$p\text{H}_2$ Sample Area $A = 1 \text{ cm}^2$

# Stellar emission with longitudinal mode



Stellar emission bounds currently leading for  $\sim \text{meV}+$ .

An, Pospelov, Pradler 1302.3884  
Raffelt 1996

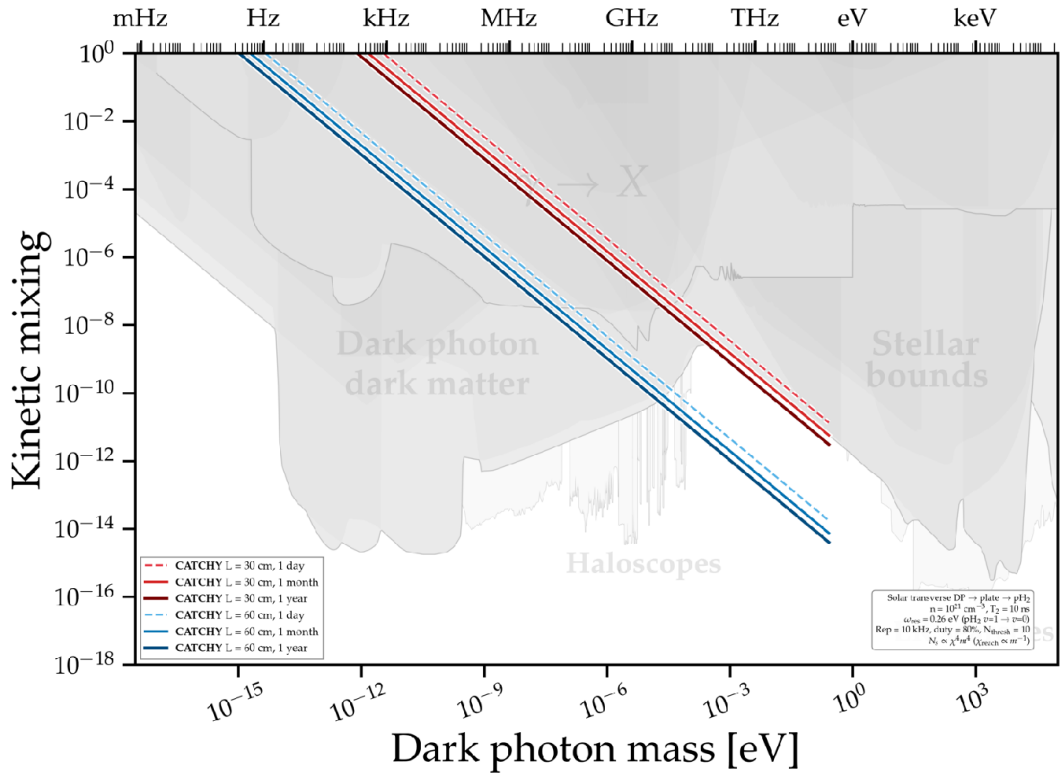


$$\left(\frac{dP}{dA}\right)_{\text{SolarDP}} = \frac{W_{\gamma'}}{4\pi d_{\odot}^2} \langle \cos^2 \alpha \rangle \chi^2$$

JB, Jaeckel, Kulkarni, Song 260x.xxxxx

CATCHY works out of the box as a helioscope - sensitivity scales dramatically with N.

The nonlinear sensitivity (to  $A'$  or  $A$ ) scales with  $n$  (also  $L, t$ ) and can be understood quantitatively



$$\begin{aligned}
 (\partial_t - \partial_z)E_1 &= \frac{i\omega n}{2} \left[ \left( \frac{a_{ee} + a_{gg}}{2} + \frac{a_{ee} - a_{gg}}{2} r_3 \right) E_1 + a_{eg}(r_1 - ir_2)(E_2^* + \chi\eta E'^*) \right], \\
 (\partial_t + \partial_z)E_2 &= \frac{i\omega n}{2} \left[ \left( \frac{a_{ee} + a_{gg}}{2} + \frac{a_{ee} - a_{gg}}{2} r_3 \right) (E_2 + \chi\eta E') + a_{eg}(r_1 - ir_2)E_1^* \right], \\
 (\partial_t + \partial_z)E' &= \frac{i\omega n}{2} \left[ \left( \frac{a_{ee} + a_{gg}}{2} + \frac{a_{ee} - a_{gg}}{2} r_3 \right) (2\chi^2\eta E' + \chi E_2) + a_{eg}(r_1 - ir_2)\chi\eta E_1^* \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

condense field equations, drop  $z, r_2$ , fix  $r_1$

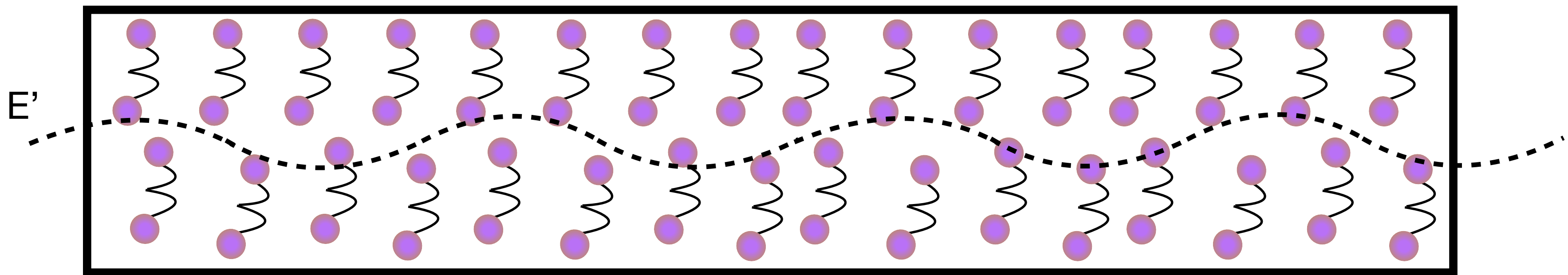
$$(\partial_t^2 - \partial_z^2)E_1 - n^2\Omega_r^2 E_1 = 0$$

$$E_1 \propto e^{n\Omega_r t}$$

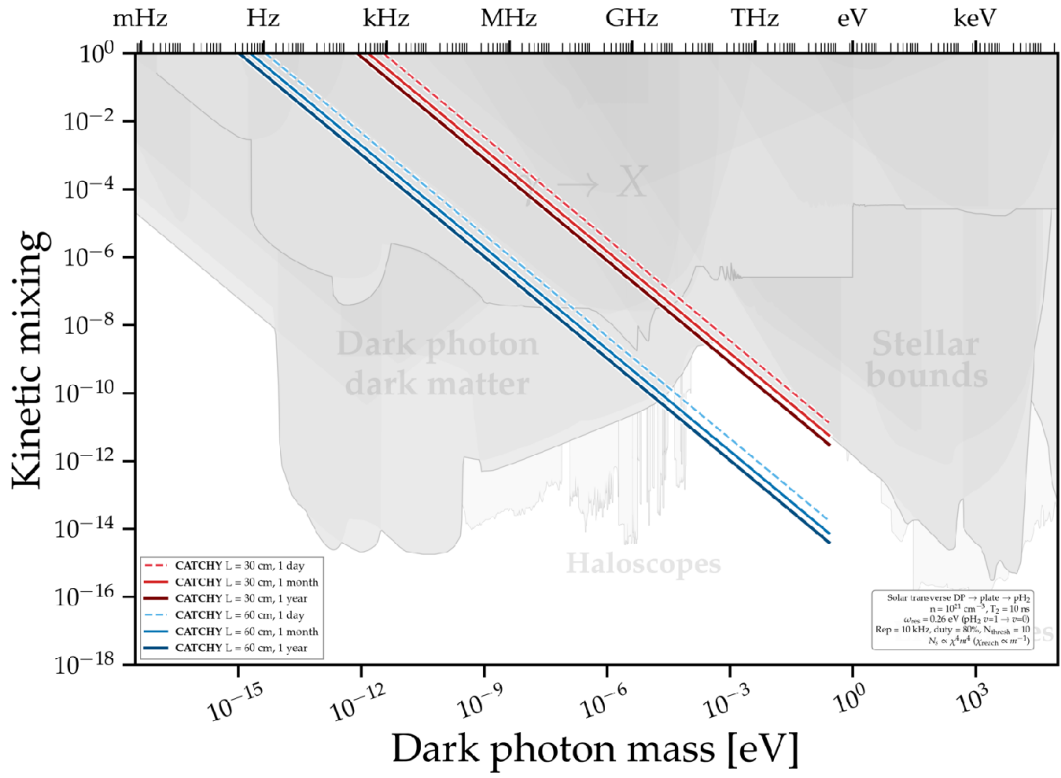
$$\Omega_r \propto \omega a_{eg} r_1$$

-> Exponential dependence on  $n, t, r_1$

and qualitatively



The nonlinear sensitivity (to  $A'$  or  $A$ ) scales with  $n$  (also  $L, t$ ) and can be understood quantitatively



$$\begin{aligned}
 (\partial_t - \partial_z)E_1 &= \frac{i\omega n}{2} \left[ \left( \frac{a_{ee} + a_{gg}}{2} + \frac{a_{ee} - a_{gg}}{2} r_3 \right) E_1 + a_{eg}(r_1 - ir_2)(E_2^* + \chi\eta E'^*) \right], \\
 (\partial_t + \partial_z)E_2 &= \frac{i\omega n}{2} \left[ \left( \frac{a_{ee} + a_{gg}}{2} + \frac{a_{ee} - a_{gg}}{2} r_3 \right) (E_2 + \chi\eta E') + a_{eg}(r_1 - ir_2)E_1^* \right], \\
 (\partial_t + \partial_z)E' &= \frac{i\omega n}{2} \left[ \left( \frac{a_{ee} + a_{gg}}{2} + \frac{a_{ee} - a_{gg}}{2} r_3 \right) (2\chi^2\eta E' + \chi E_2) + a_{eg}(r_1 - ir_2)\chi\eta E_1^* \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

condense field equations, drop  $z, r_2$ , fix  $r_1$

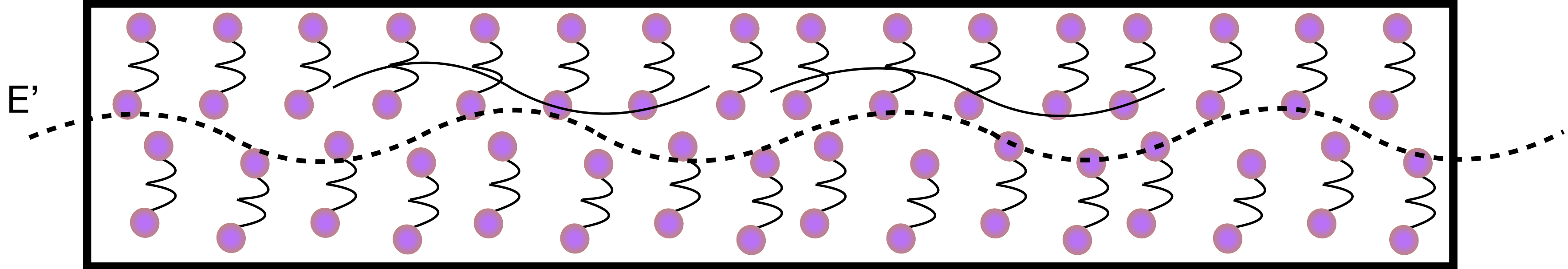
$$(\partial_t^2 - \partial_z^2)E_1 - n^2\Omega_r^2 E_1 = 0$$

$$E_1 \propto e^{n\Omega_r t}$$

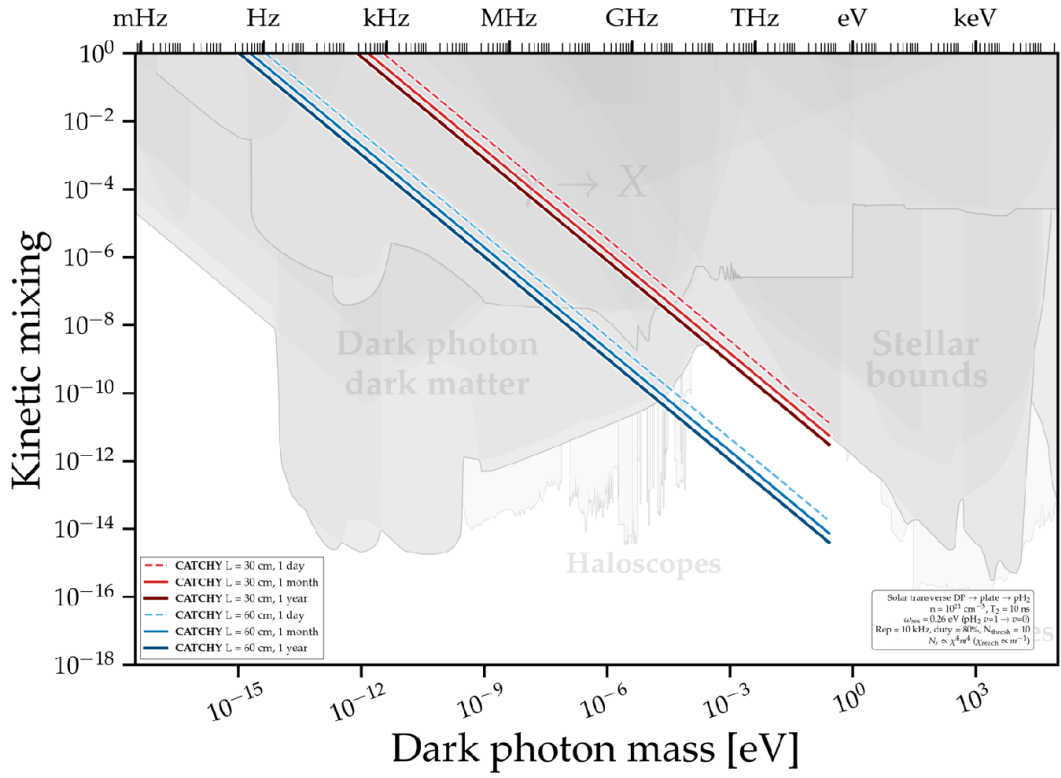
$$\Omega_r \propto \omega a_{eg} r_1$$

-> Exponential dependence on  $n, t, r_1$

and qualitatively



The nonlinear sensitivity (to  $A'$  or  $A$ ) scales with  $n$  (also  $L$ ,  $t$ ) and can be understood quantitatively



$$\begin{aligned}
 (\partial_t - \partial_z)E_1 &= \frac{i\omega n}{2} \left[ \left( \frac{a_{ee} + a_{gg}}{2} + \frac{a_{ee} - a_{gg}}{2} r_3 \right) E_1 + a_{eg}(r_1 - ir_2)(E_2^* + \chi\eta E'^*) \right], \\
 (\partial_t + \partial_z)E_2 &= \frac{i\omega n}{2} \left[ \left( \frac{a_{ee} + a_{gg}}{2} + \frac{a_{ee} - a_{gg}}{2} r_3 \right) (E_2 + \chi\eta E') + a_{eg}(r_1 - ir_2)E_1^* \right], \\
 (\partial_t + \partial_z)E' &= \frac{i\omega n}{2} \left[ \left( \frac{a_{ee} + a_{gg}}{2} + \frac{a_{ee} - a_{gg}}{2} r_3 \right) (2\chi^2\eta E' + \chi E_2) + a_{eg}(r_1 - ir_2)\chi\eta E_1^* \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

condense field equations, drop  $z$ ,  $r_2$ , fix  $r_1$

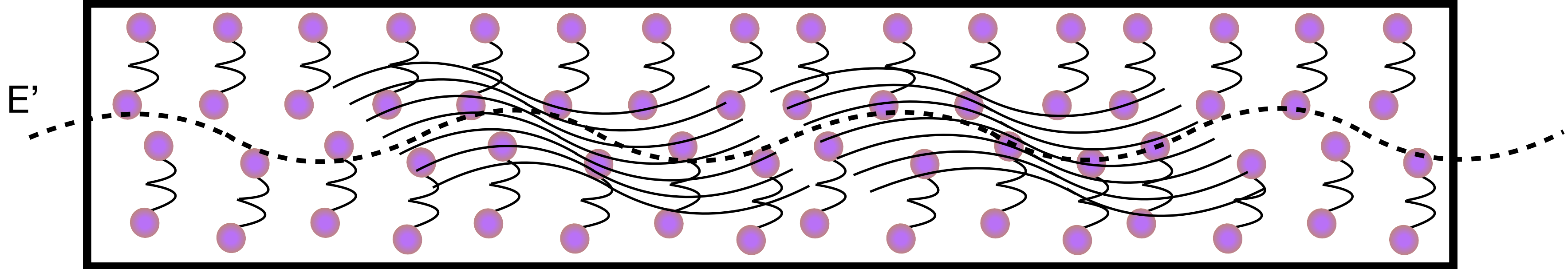
$$(\partial_t^2 - \partial_z^2)E_1 - n^2\Omega_r^2 E_1 = 0$$

$$E_1 \propto e^{n\Omega_r t}$$

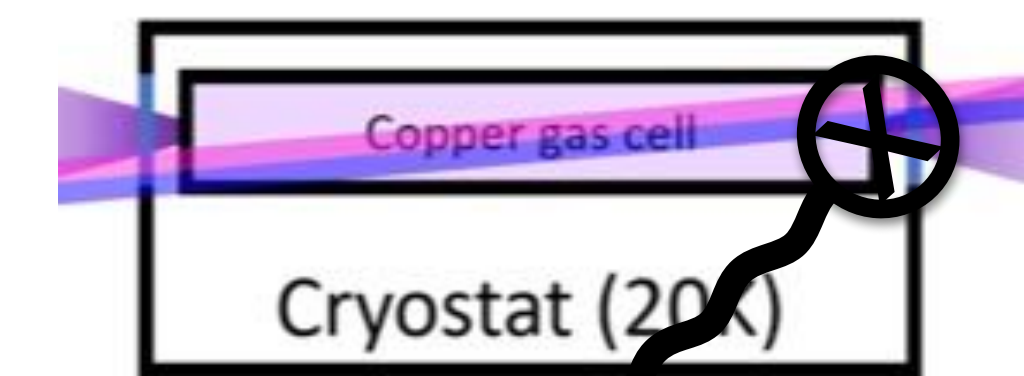
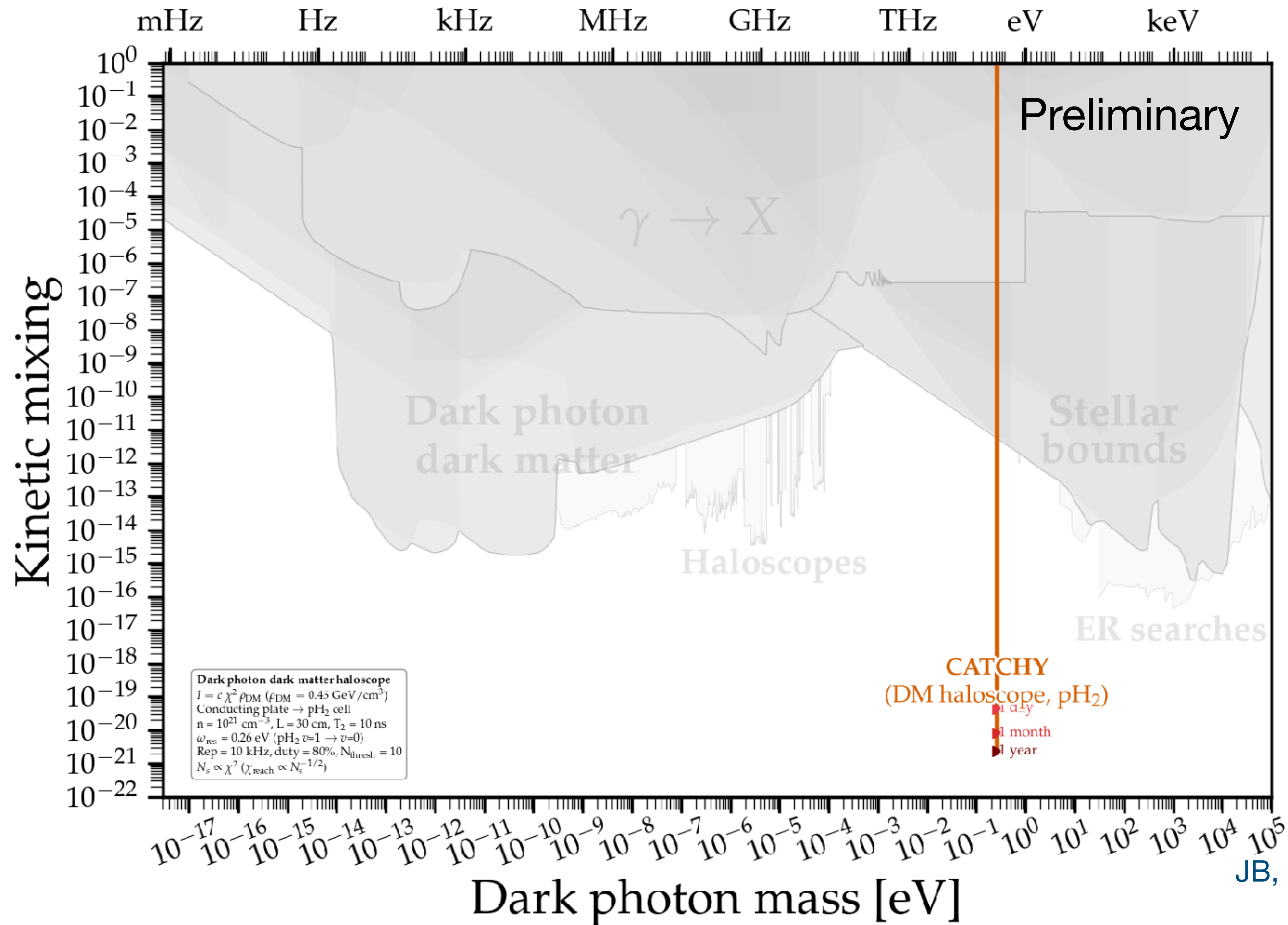
$$\Omega_r \propto \omega a_{eg} r_1$$

-> Exponential dependence on  $n$ ,  $t$ ,  $r_1$

and qualitatively



(it's a quantum avalanche detector)



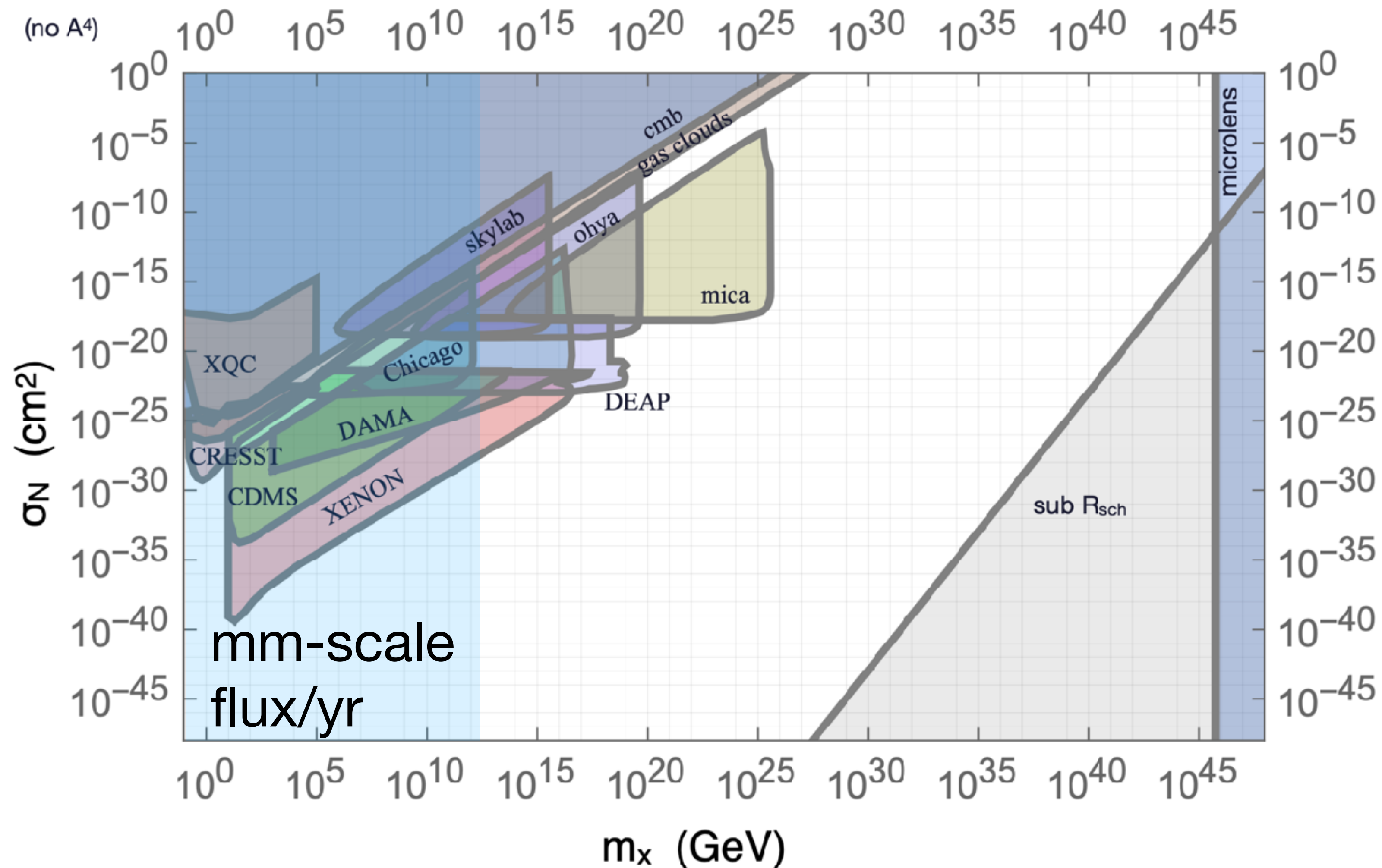
A'

$$\left(\frac{dP}{dA}\right)_{\text{DP}} = \langle \cos^2 \alpha \rangle \chi^2 \rho_{\text{CDM}}$$

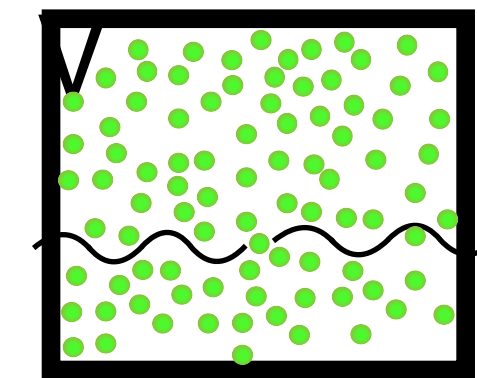
JB, Jaeckel, Kulkarni, Song 260x.xxxxx

Catchy also works as a (very) limited haloscope.

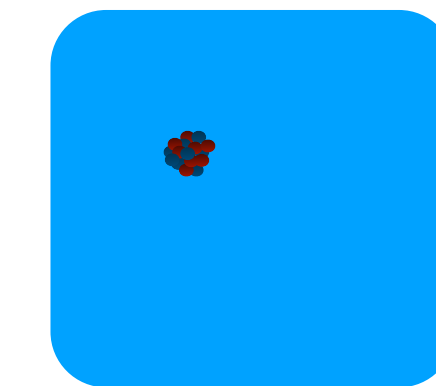
# Dark matter, quantum detection



$$Q\text{Signal} = N^2 \Gamma t$$



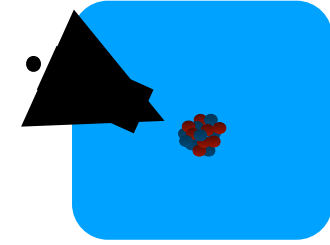
$$\text{Signal} = N \Gamma t$$



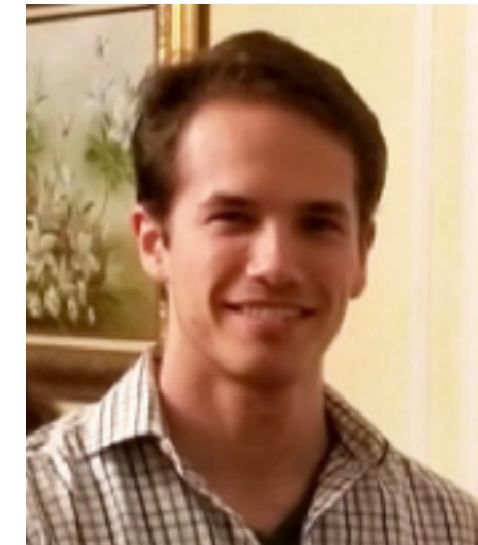
Need  $N \sim 10^{18}$  (coherently excited H<sub>2</sub>) to match classic  $NA^4$  for WIMPs.

# N<sup>2</sup> detection and CATCHY

Motivation and comparison with traditional detectors



CATCHY: Bhardwaj, Buchanan JB, Fraser, Godfrey, Kulkarni, Song



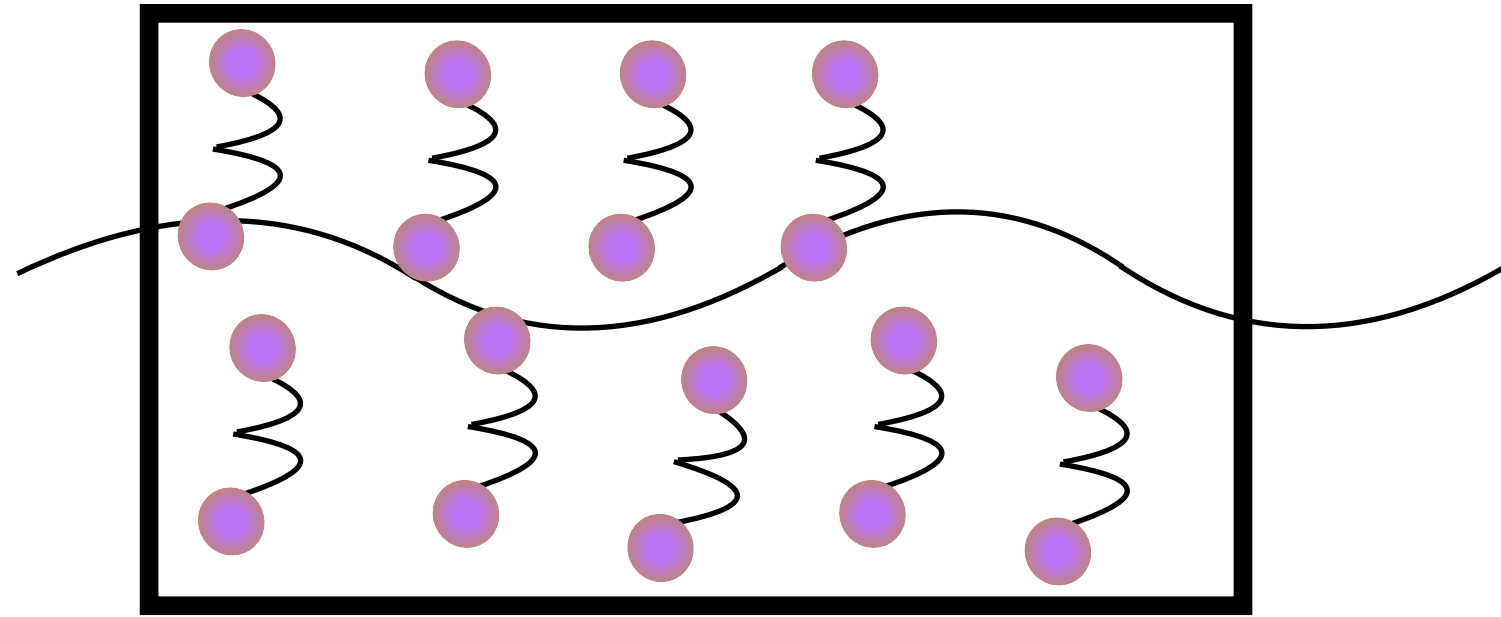
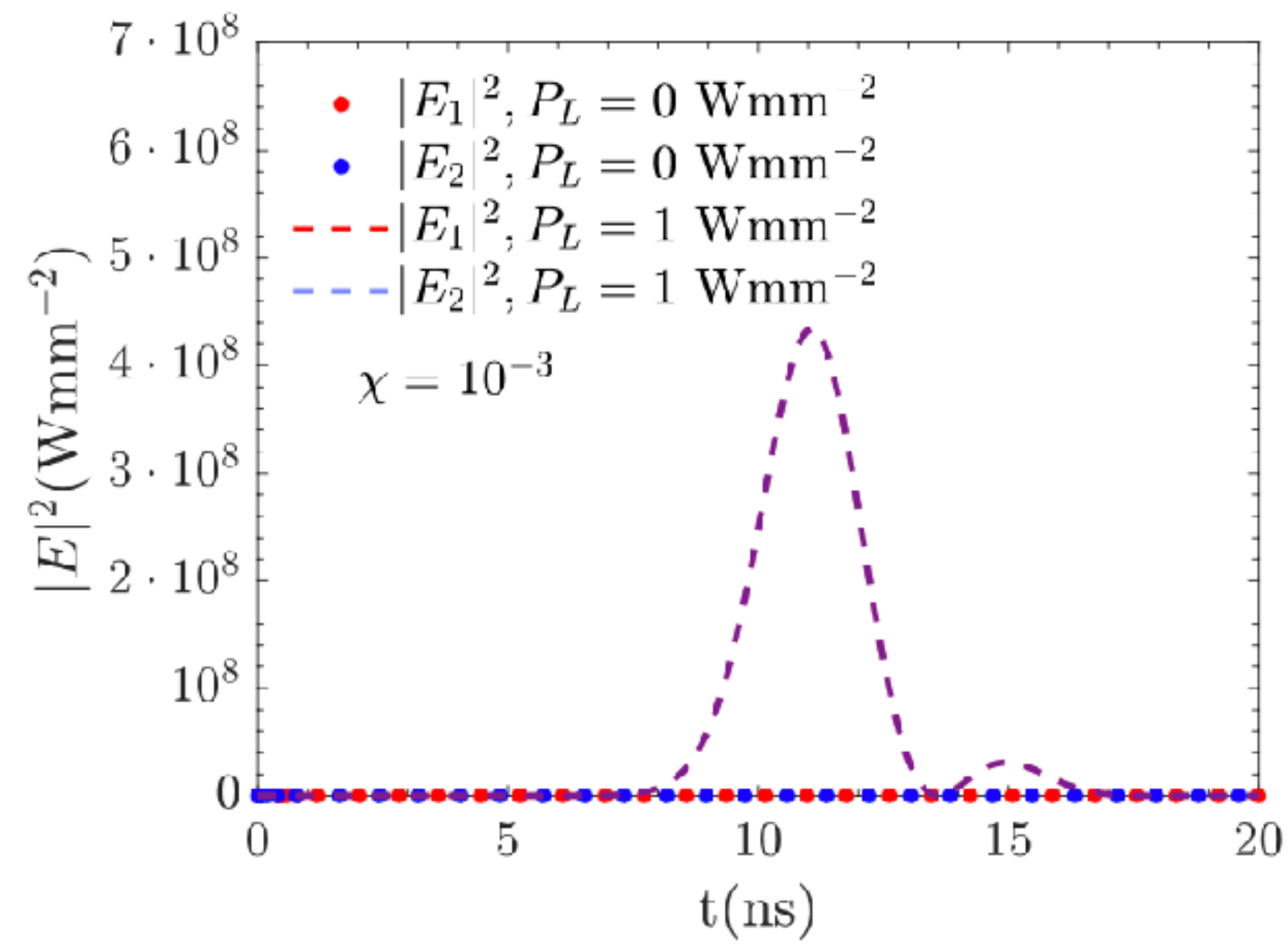
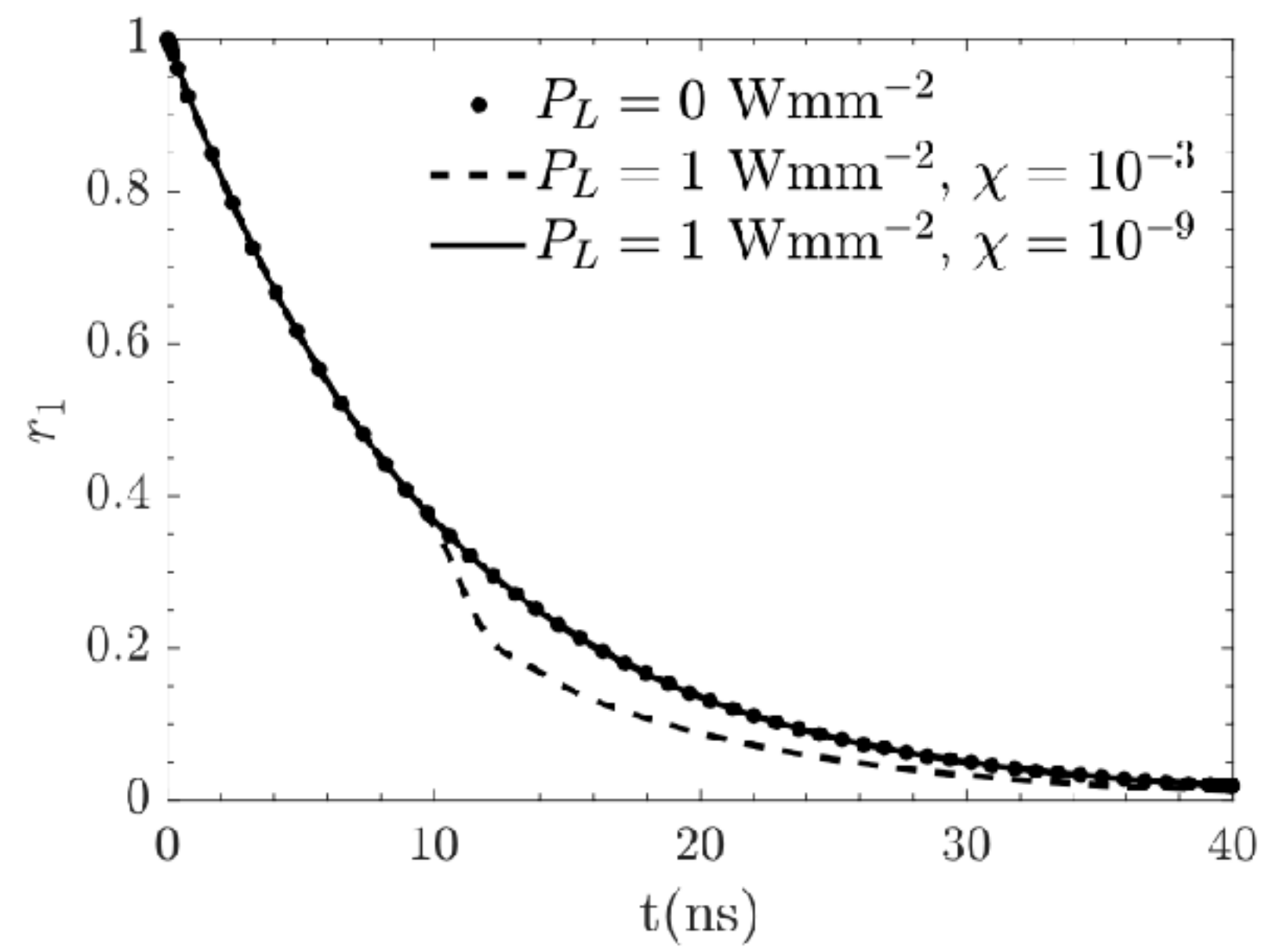
Light boson searches using coherent atoms

Bhooah, JB, Song 1909.07387

JB, Kulkarni, Song 260x.xxxxx

Godfrey PhD: <https://www.proquest.com/docview/3161889593>

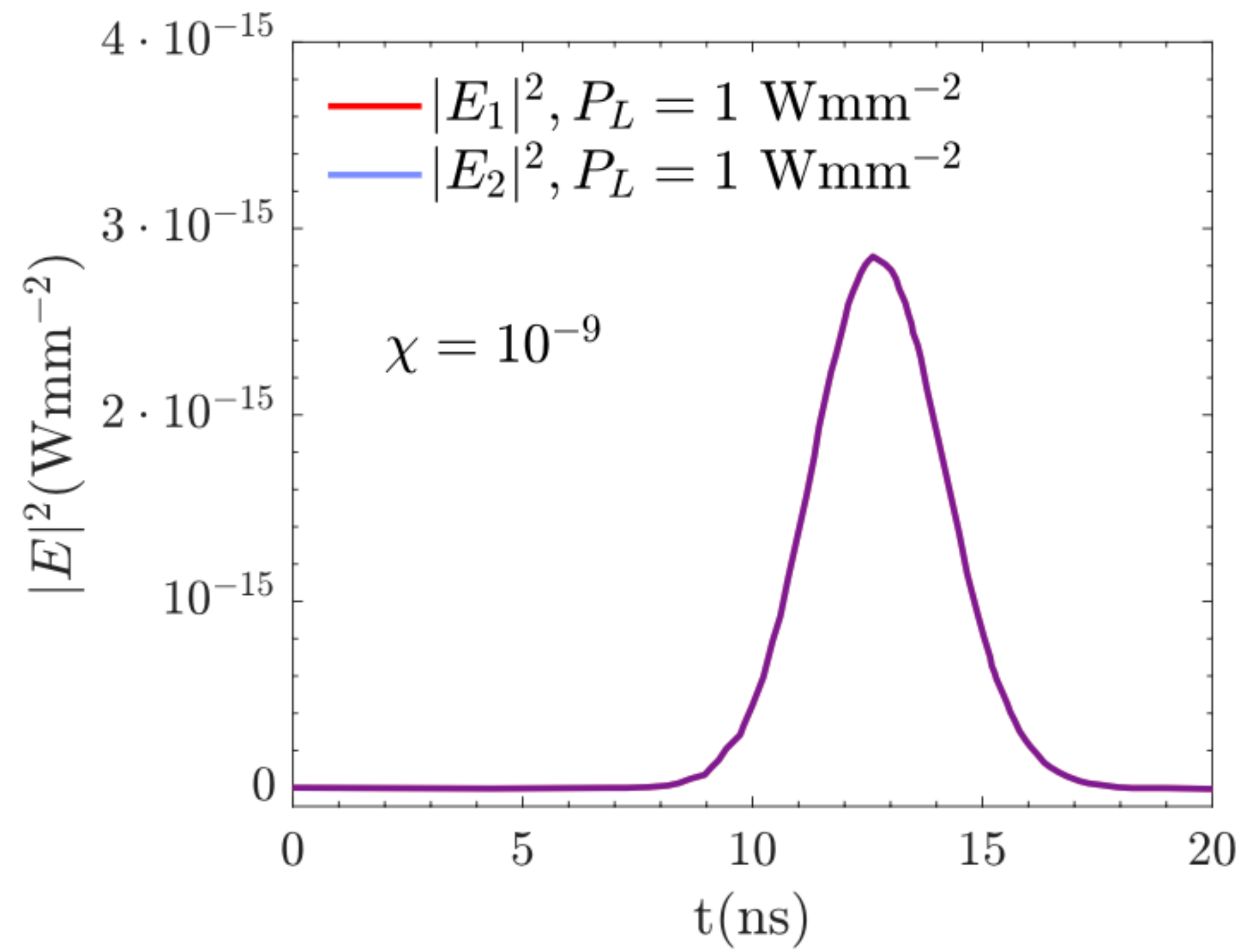
Thanks! Questions?



$E', E_1, E_2$

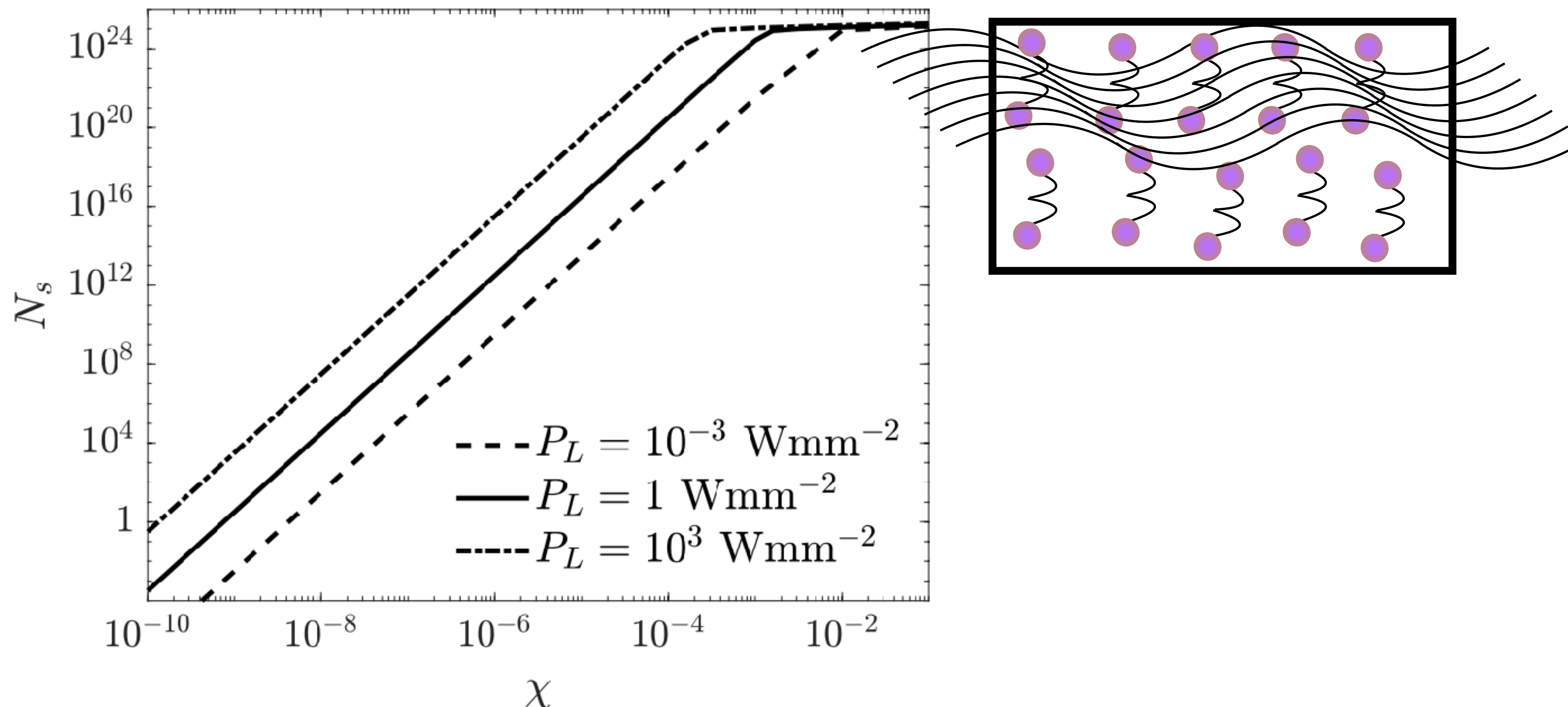
Maxwell-Bloch equations with the  $E_1 \times E_1$  transition Hamiltonian integrated over experimental volume to find power emitted in photons from the sample, start from  $r_1 = 1$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\partial_t - \partial_z)E_1 &= \frac{i\omega n}{2} \left[ \left( \frac{a_{ee} + a_{gg}}{2} + \frac{a_{ee} - a_{gg}}{2} r_3 \right) E_1 + a_{eg}(r_1 - ir_2)(E_2^* + \chi\eta E'^*) \right], \\
 (\partial_t + \partial_z)E_2 &= \frac{i\omega n}{2} \left[ \left( \frac{a_{ee} + a_{gg}}{2} + \frac{a_{ee} - a_{gg}}{2} r_3 \right) (E_2 + \chi\eta E') + a_{eg}(r_1 - ir_2)E_1^* \right], \\
 (\partial_t + \partial_z)E' &= \frac{i\omega n}{2} \left[ \left( \frac{a_{ee} + a_{gg}}{2} + \frac{a_{ee} - a_{gg}}{2} r_3 \right) (2\chi^2\eta E' + \chi E_2) + a_{eg}(r_1 - ir_2)\chi\eta E_1^* \right]
 \end{aligned}$$



Using a cavity laser comparable to ALPS I, and a p<sub>H</sub>2 macro coherence setup similar to a lower power test run [Hiraki et al. 2018], ~10 signal photons for  $N_{\text{rep}} = 1000$ ,  $m_{A'} = 0.1 \text{ meV}$ ,  $\chi = 10^{-9}$ .

Dark Photon Generating Cavity	Superradiant Parahydrogen Target
Cavity Length $l = 50 \text{ cm}$	Sample Length $L = 30 \text{ cm}$
Cavity Reflections $N_{\text{pass}} = 2 \times 10^4$	p <sub>H</sub> 2 Density $n = 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$
Cavity Laser Freq. $\omega' = 0.26 \text{ eV}$	Pump Laser Freq. $\omega_1 = 0.26 \text{ eV}$
Cavity Laser Power $P_L = 1 \text{ W mm}^{-2}$	Pump Laser Power $\approx 10^9 \text{ W mm}^{-2}$
–	p <sub>H</sub> 2 Sample Area $A = 1 \text{ cm}^2$



$$N_s \propto P_L N_{\text{rep}} \chi^4 (N_{\text{pass}} + 1) \sin^2 \left( \frac{m_{A'}^2 l}{4\omega} \right)$$

Signal photons scale with the mixing parameter (until every atom is de-excited.)

Dark Photon Generating Cavity	Superradiant Parahydrogen Target
Cavity Length $l = 50 \text{ cm}$	Sample Length $L = 30 \text{ cm}$
Cavity Reflections $N_{\text{pass}} = 2 \times 10^4$	pH <sub>2</sub> Density $n = 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$
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