

# High-intensity probes of dark sector particles

Stefania Gori  
UC Santa Cruz



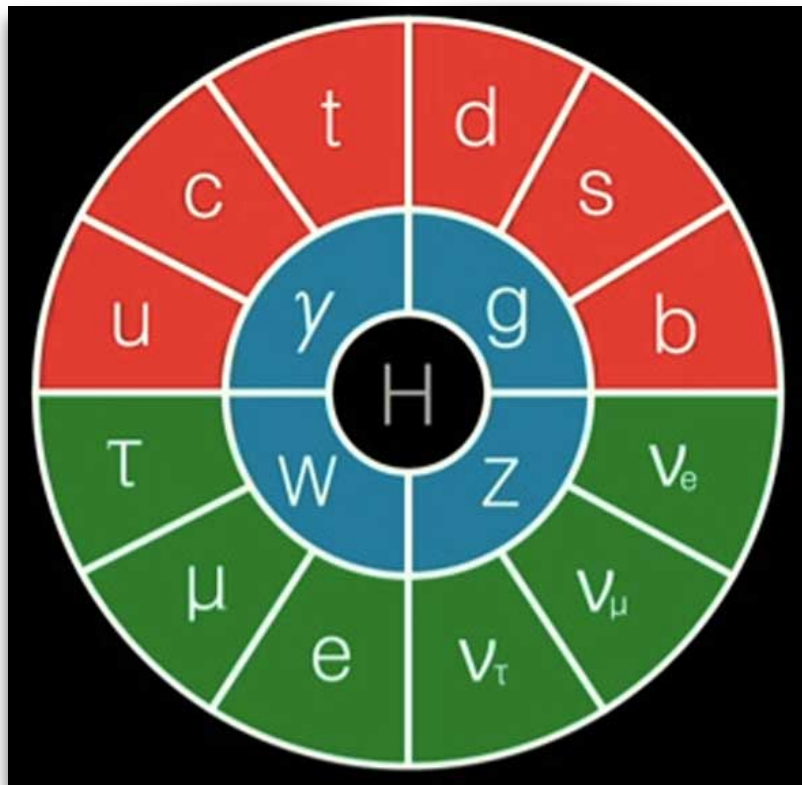
DESY Virtual Theory Forum, 2020

September 23, 2020

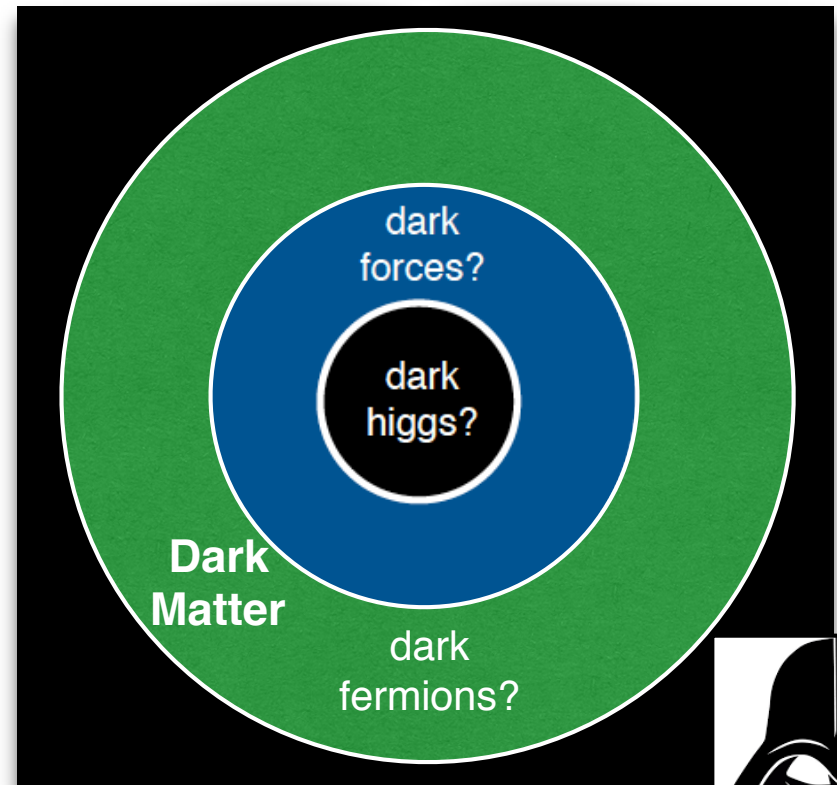
# What is a dark sector particle?

Any particle that does not interact through the Standard Model (SM) forces.

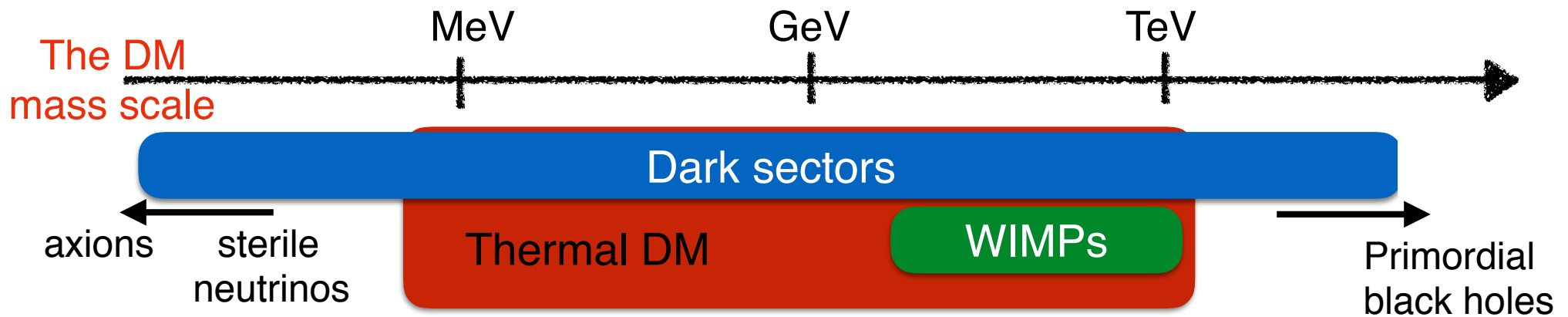
Our visible universe



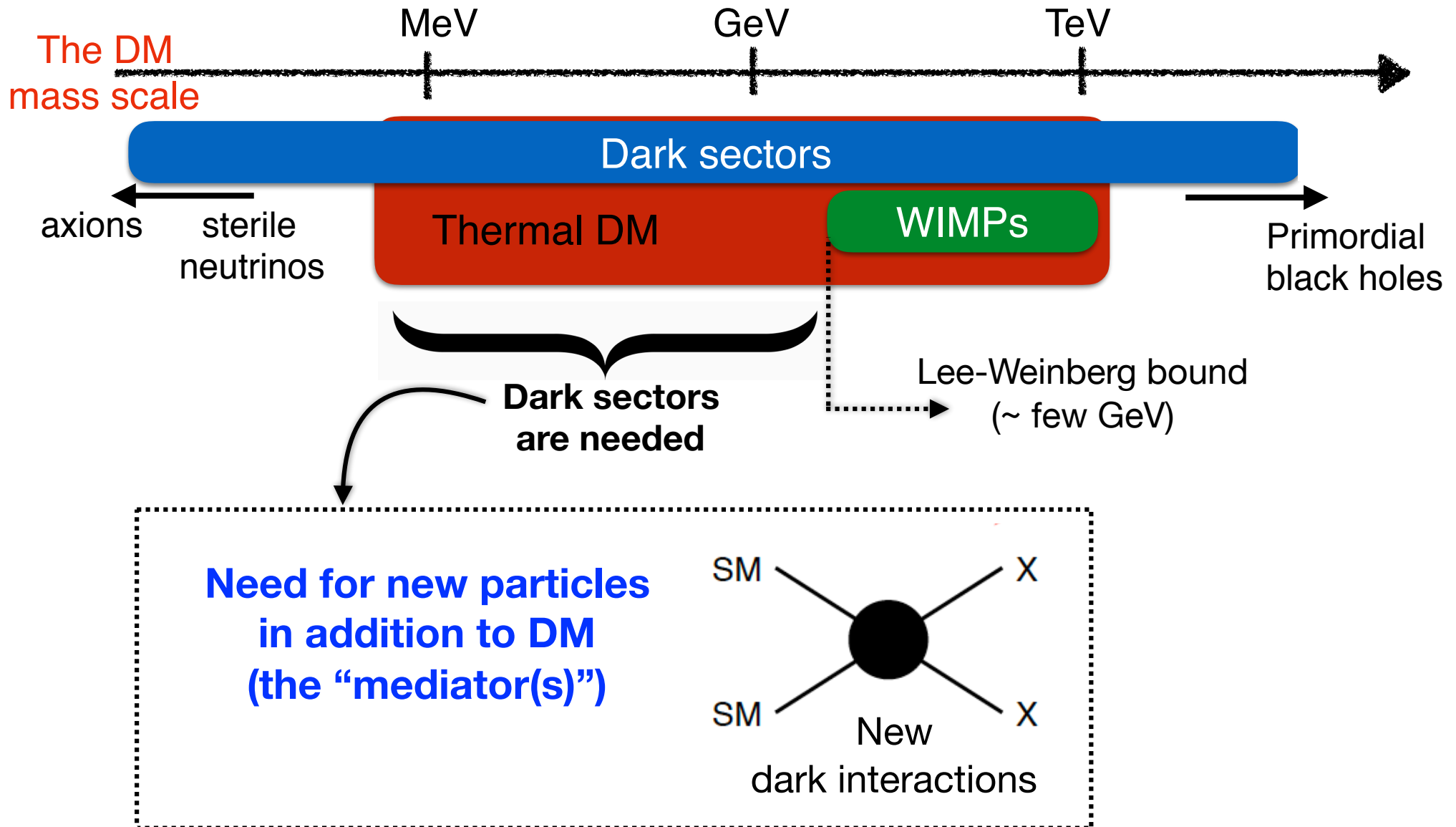
The dark universe



# Why a dark sector? (DM)



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# Why a dark sector? (beyond DM)

Beyond the DM motivation, many other open problems in particle physics let us think about dark particles.

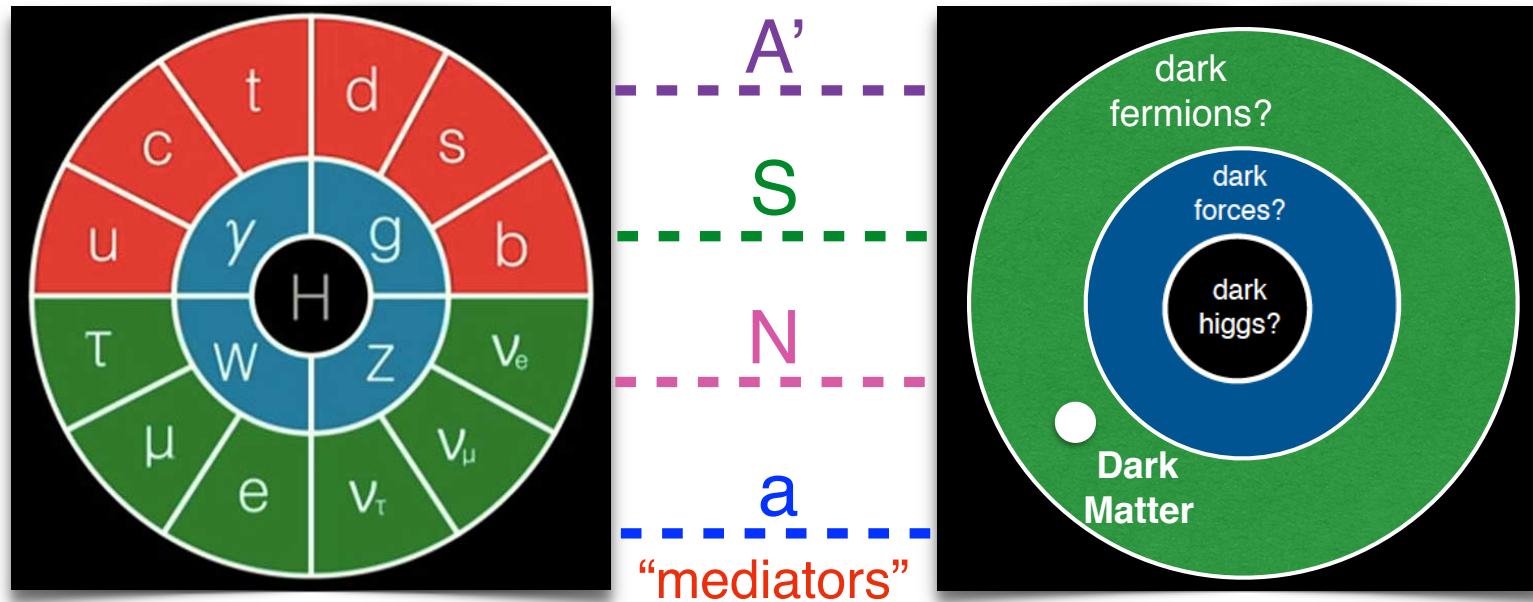
# Why a dark sector? (beyond DM)

Beyond the DM motivation, many other open problems in particle physics let us think about dark particles.

- Models to address the **strong CP problem**. Axions and axion-like particles;
- Models to address the **gauge hierarchy problem** (relaxion);
- **SUSY** extended models (Next-to-Minimal-Supersymmetric-Standard-Model);
- Models for **baryogenesis**;
- Models for **neutrino** mass generation;
- Models addressing **anomalies in data**  
(( $g-2$ ) $_{\mu}$ , galactic center excess for Dark Matter, Xenon1T anomaly, B-physics anomalies, KOTO anomaly, ...).

Some of these particles are naturally light thanks to approximate global symmetries.

# How to gain access to the dark sector?



Only a few interactions exist that are allowed by Standard Model symmetries:

“mediators”

“portal interactions”

Dark photon

$$\epsilon B^{\mu\nu} A'_{\mu\nu}$$

Higgs

$$\kappa |H|^2 |S|^2$$

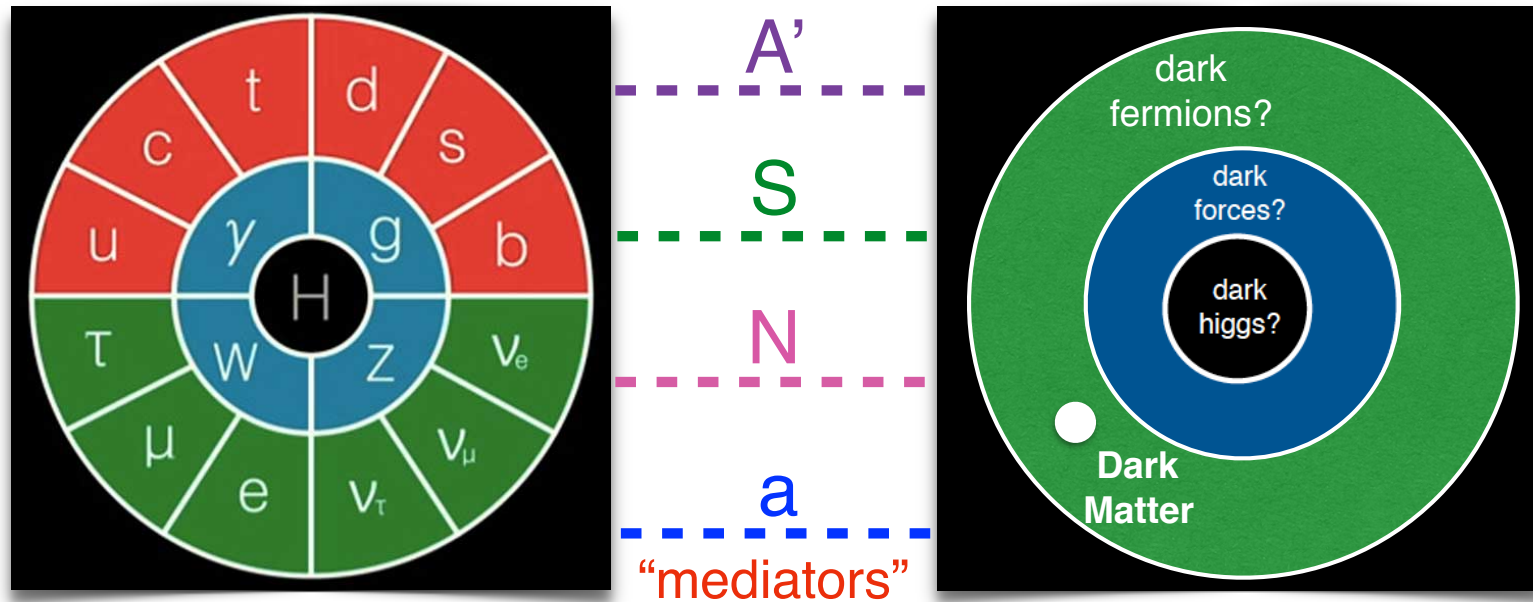
Neutrino

$$y H L N$$

Axion

$$g_{a\gamma} a \tilde{F}_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}$$

# How to gain access to the dark sector?



Only a few interactions exist that are allowed by Standard Model symmetries:

+ possible new dark gauge bosons obtained gauging e.g. B-L,  $L_\mu - L_\tau$ , ...

"mediators"

Dark photon

Higgs

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Axion

"portal interactions"

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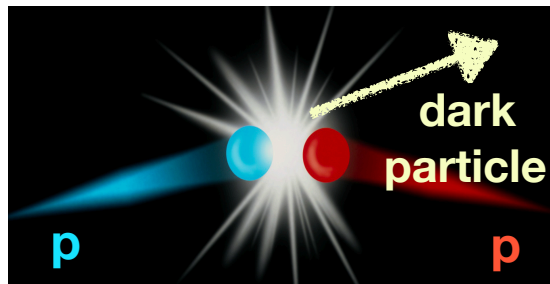
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# A broad program of searches

Vigorous effort of the community proposing new experiments & measurements

1.

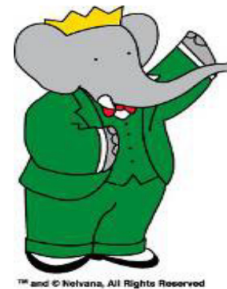
## The LHC



Novel search strategies are needed!

2.

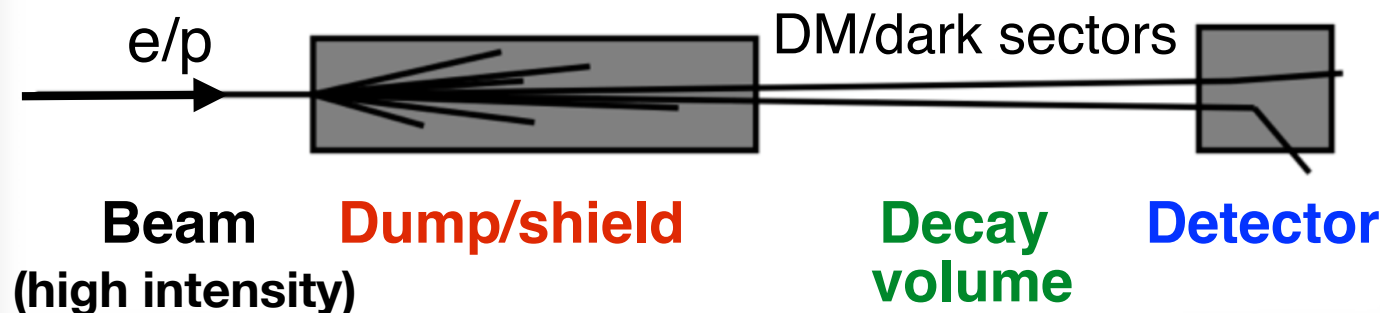
## Flavor-factories



Unique access to dark sectors!

3.

## Fixed target / neutrino experiments



Complementarity with direct and indirect DM detection experiments

# Final states to look for

## Invisible, non-SM

### Dark Matter production

Producing stable particles that could be (all or part of) Dark Matter



## Visible, SM

### Production of portal- mediators that decay to SM particles

Systematically exploring the portal coupling to SM particles



## Mixed visible-invisible

### Production of “rich” dark sectors

Testing the structure of the dark sector

# Final states to look for

## Invisible, non-SM

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Producing stable particles that could be (all or part of) Dark Matter



### Non-secluded DM models



## Visible, SM

### Production of portal- mediators that decay to SM particles

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### Secluded DM models



## Mixed visible-invisible

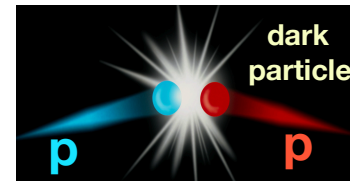
### Production of “rich” dark sectors

Testing the structure of the dark sector

### Examples of DM models:

Inelastic DM models  
Strongly interacting DM models,  
...

# 1. Production of dark particles at the LHC



## Direct production

Dark particles can be produced in the same way as SM particles since they mix

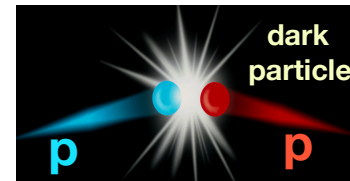
$B_{\mu\nu}F'_{\mu\nu}$  Mixing of the dark photon with the SM photon/Z boson

$|H|^2|S|^2$  Mixing of the dark Higgs with the SM Higgs

$HLN$  Mixing of the dark neutrino with the SM neutrinos

LHCb covers an important role if the dark particle is light

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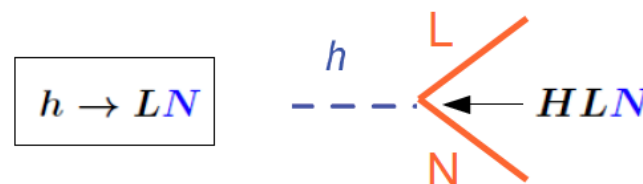
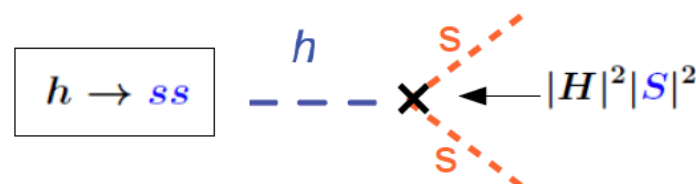
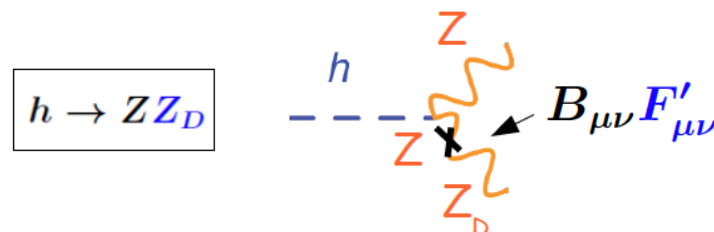
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## Higgs exotic decays (if light)



Easy to obtain sizable branching ratios  
(SM Higgs width is tiny!)

Huge statistics  
still to come:

$$\begin{aligned} N_{\text{Higgs}}^{\text{now}} &\sim 8\text{M} \\ N_{\text{Higgs}}^{\text{HL-LHC}} &\sim 170\text{M} \end{aligned}$$

# An example: Twin Higgs models

$$\boxed{\mathbf{SM}_A \times \mathbf{SM}_B \times \mathbf{Z}_2}$$

Chacko, Goh, Harnik, 0506256

Global symmetry of the scalar potential (e.g. SU(4))

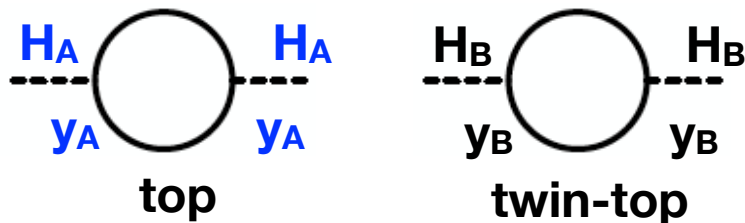
→ The SM Higgs is a (massless) Nambu-Goldstone boson

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} H_A \\ H_B \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} \sim \text{SM Higgs doublet} \\ \text{Twin Higgs doublet} \end{array}$$

$$V(H) = -m^2 H^\dagger H + \lambda (H^\dagger H)^2$$

Loop corrections to the Higgs mass:

$$\frac{3}{8\pi^2} \Lambda^2 (y_A^2 H_A^\dagger H_A + y_B^2 H_B^\dagger H_B)$$



$$\boxed{Z_2 \Rightarrow y_A = y_B}$$

Loop corrections to mass are SU(4) symmetric

→ no quadratically divergent corrections!

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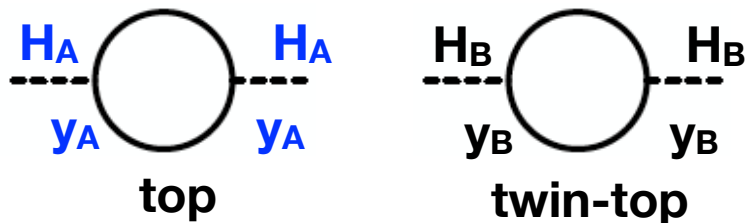
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➔ no quadratically divergent corrections!

## Higgs portal

1. SU(4) and Z<sub>2</sub> are (softly) broken:

$$v_A \neq v_B$$

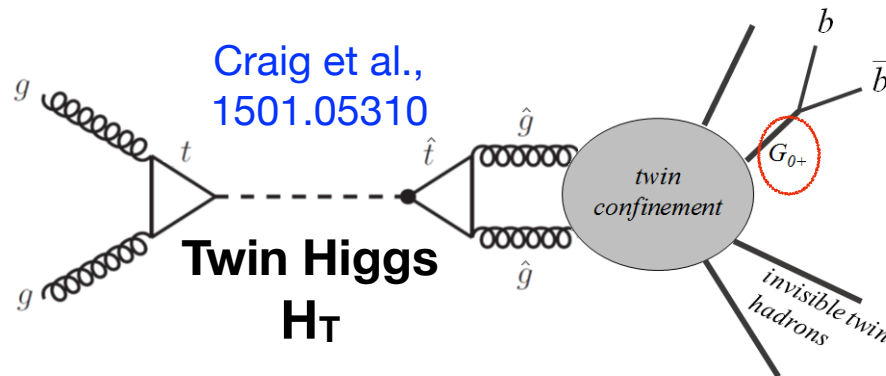
$$\boxed{|H_A|^2 |H_B|^2}$$

$$(f^2 \equiv v_A^2 + v_B^2 \gg 246 \text{ GeV})$$

$$\sin \theta \sim \frac{v}{f} \quad \text{Mixing between the SM and the twin Higgs}$$

2. **Glue-balls** can mix with the SM Higgs,  $H_A$

# Long-lived signatures from twin Higgs decays



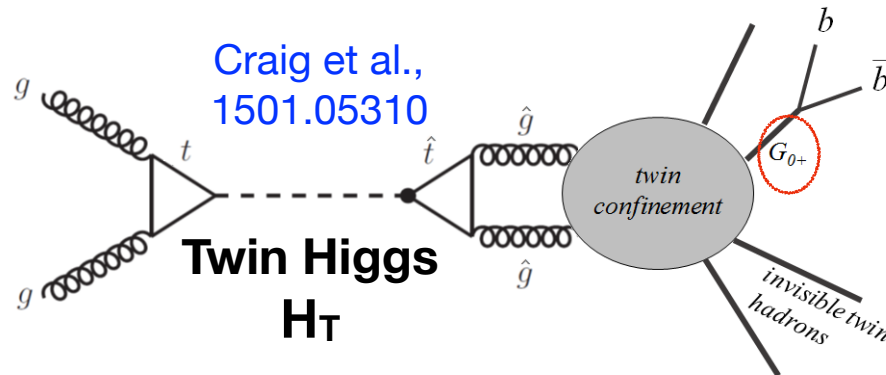
Glue-ball.

$O_{++}$  mixes with the 125 GeV Higgs and decays typically displaced.

$$\frac{\alpha_s^B}{3\pi} \left[ \frac{y^2}{M^2} \right] |H|^2 G_{\mu\nu}^{(B)} G^{(B)\mu\nu}$$

**Signature:  $H_T \rightarrow \geq 2$  displaced**

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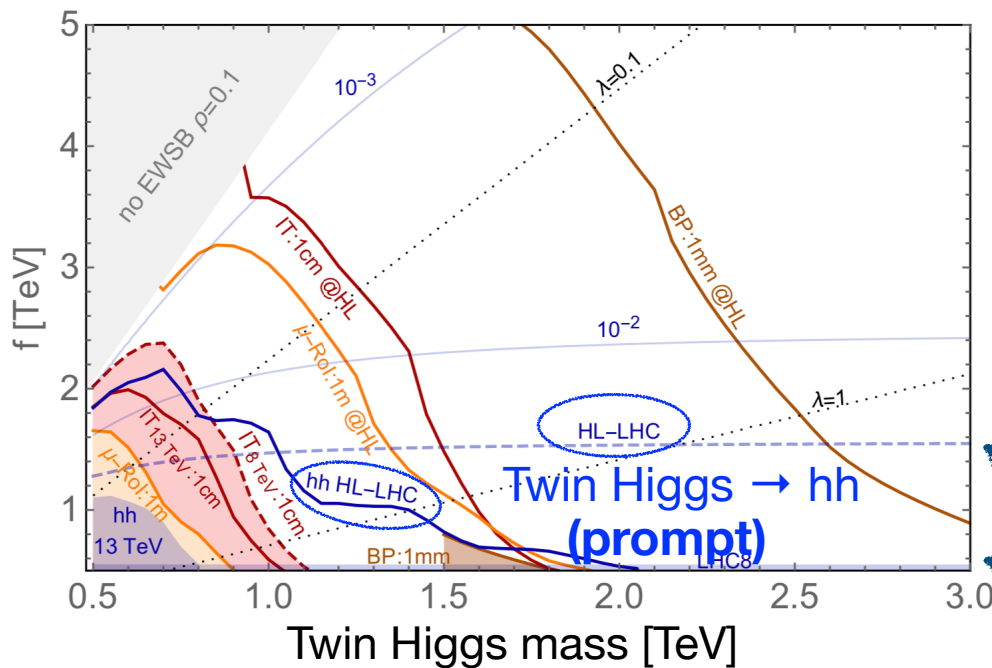


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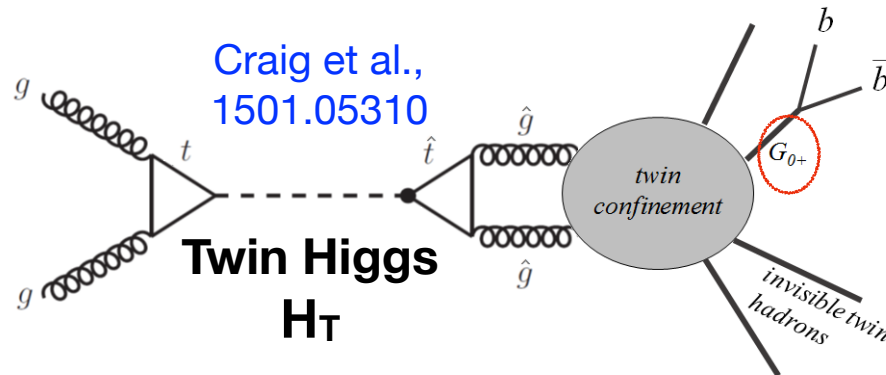
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125 GeV Higgs coupling measurements

Alipour-Fard, Craig, SG, Koren, Redigolo, 1812.09315

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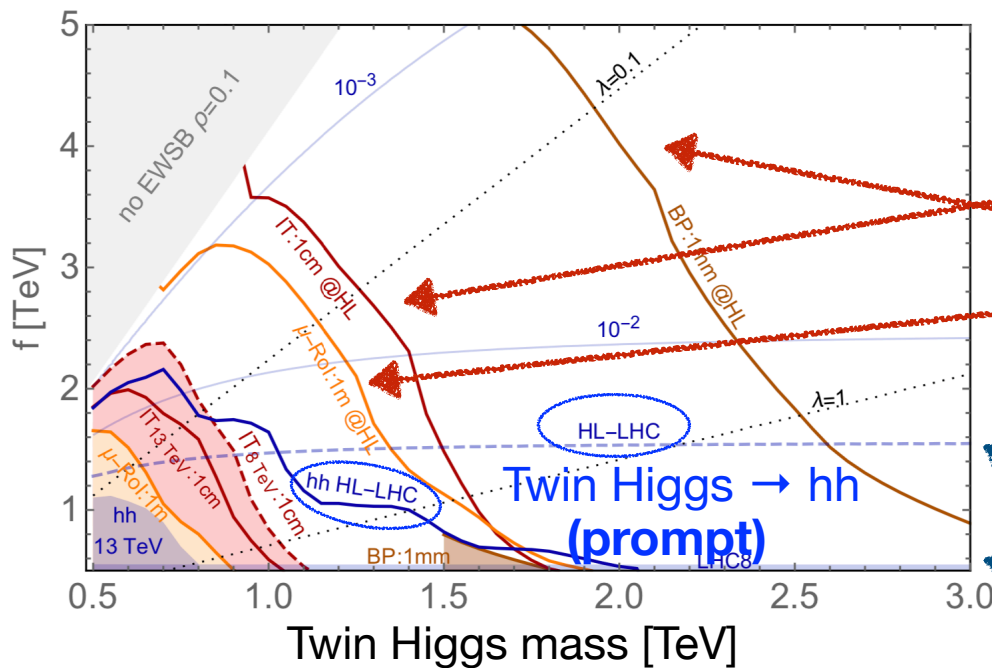


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Twin Higgs  $\rightarrow$  glue-balls:  
**(long lived)**

CMS inner tracker analysis;  
CMS beam pipe analysis;  
ATLAS muon spectrometer analysis

The relative strength depends  
on other parameters of the theory

125 GeV Higgs coupling  
measurements

**+ 125 GeV Higgs exotic  
decays to glue-balls**

Alipour-Fard, Craig, SG, Koren, Redigolo, 1812.09315

## **2.** The precision frontier @ flavor factories

A big jump in luminosity is expected in the coming years

**Past/Present**

**Future**

**B-factories**

**Kaon-  
factories**

**Pion-  
factories**

## 2. The precision frontier @ flavor factories

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### Past/Present

### Future

#### B-factories

**LHCb**: more than  $\sim 10^{12}$  b quarks produced so far;

**Belle** (running until 2010):  
 $\sim 10^9$  BB-pairs were produced.

$\sim 40$  times more b quarks will be produced by the end of the LHC;

$\sim 50$  times more BB-pairs will be produced by **Belle-II**.

.....

#### Kaon-factories

**E949** at BNL:  $\sim 10^{12}$   $K^+$   
(decay at rest experiment);

**E391** at KEK:  $\sim 10^{12}$   $K_L$

**NA62** at CERN:  $\sim 10^{13}$   $K^+$   
by the end of its run  
(decay in flight experiment);

**KOTO** at JPARC:  $\sim 10^{13}$   $K_L$   
by the end of its run

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#### Pion-factories

**PIENU experiment** at TRIUMF:  
 $\sim 10^{11}$   $\pi^+$  (still analyzing data)

?

Plenty of dark particles can be produced from meson decays

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# Kaon rare decays: $K \rightarrow \pi \nu \nu$

**SM**  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{SM}} = g_{\text{SM}}^2 \sum_{\ell=e,\mu,\tau} [V_{cs}^* V_{cd} X(x_c) + V_{ts}^* V_{td} X(x_t)] \underbrace{(\bar{s}_L \gamma_\mu d_L)(\bar{\nu}_\ell \gamma^\mu \nu_\ell)}$

Only operator in the SM

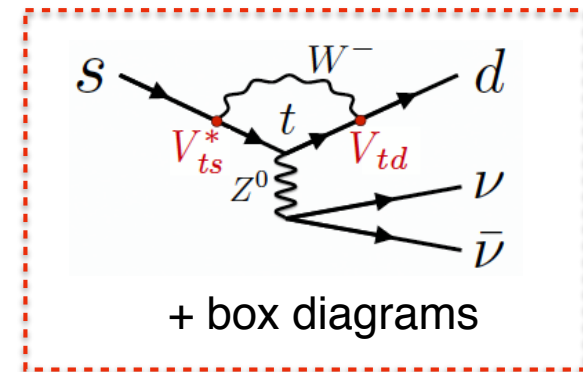
$$\text{BR}(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \bar{\nu} \nu) = (9.11 \pm 0.72) \times 10^{-11}$$

$$\text{BR}(K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \bar{\nu} \nu) = (3.4 \pm 0.6) \times 10^{-11}$$

Very rare!  
→ Access to NP

Brod, Gorbahn, Stamou 1009.0947;

Buras, Buttazzo, Girbach-Noe, Kneijens, 1503.02693



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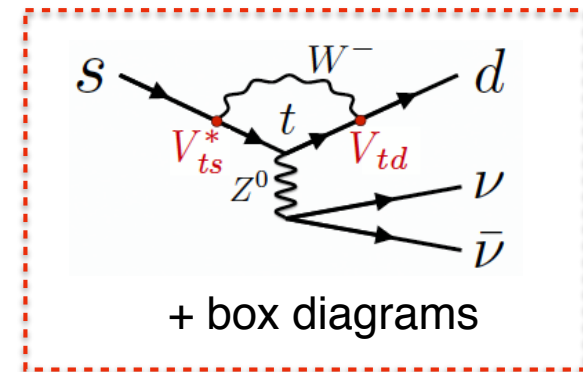
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**Exp.** \* NA62: Analysis of the 2018 data

**20 events observed in total**

Marchevski talk  
@ ICHEP

$$\text{BR}(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \bar{\nu} \nu) = (11.0_{-3.5}^{+4.0} \text{ stat.} \pm 0.3_{\text{syst.}}) \times 10^{-11}$$

**3.5σ evidence**

\* KOTO: Analysis of the 2016-2018 data

**3 events in the signal region**  $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \bar{\nu}$

Expected number of events:

$$0.05 \pm 0.02 \rightarrow 1.05 \pm 0.28$$

(pre → post-ICHEP)

talk by Shimizu  
@ ICHEP

# Testing axion-like-particles at NA62 & KOTO

$$\frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi F_a} a G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{a\mu\nu}$$

ALP mixing with SM mesons (pions, etas)

$$\mathcal{L}_{eff} = \frac{iF_\pi^2}{4} \frac{\partial_\mu a}{F_a} \text{Tr}[\tilde{\kappa}_q(\Sigma^\dagger D^\mu \Sigma - \Sigma D^\mu \Sigma^\dagger)] + \frac{F_\pi^2}{2} B_0 \text{Tr}[\Sigma \mathbf{m}^\dagger + \mathbf{m}^\dagger \Sigma^\dagger],$$

The ALP-pion and ALP-eta mixing will induce

- \* an effective K- $\pi$ -ALP coupling (K  $\rightarrow$  a $\pi$ )
- \* an ALP coupling to photons (a  $\rightarrow$   $\gamma\gamma$ )



**We can search for**

$$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ a \rightarrow \pi^+ \gamma\gamma \quad (\text{NA62})$$

$$K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 a \rightarrow \pi^0 \gamma\gamma \quad (\text{KOTO})$$

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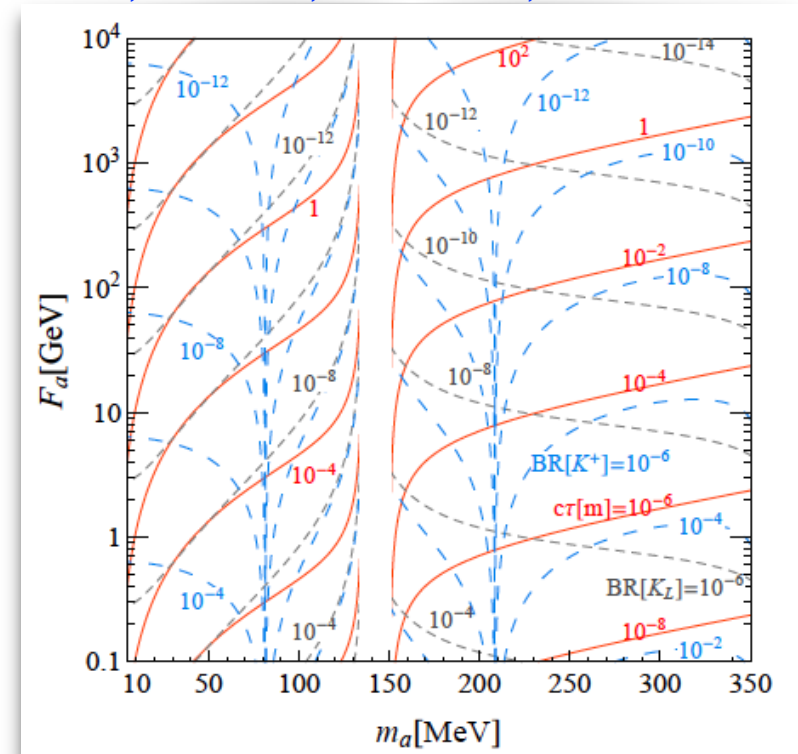


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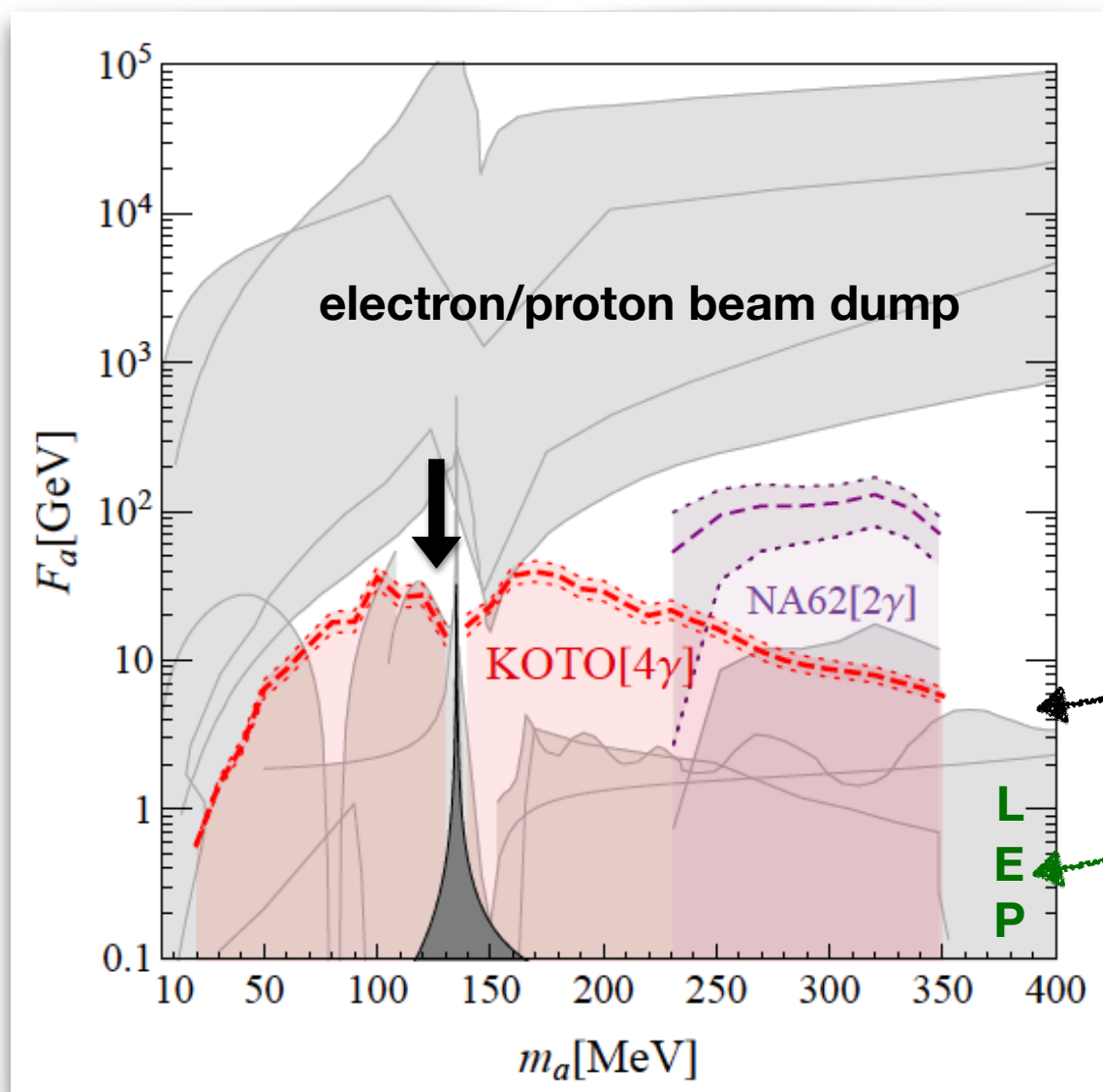
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$$K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 a \rightarrow \pi^0 \gamma\gamma \quad (\text{KOTO})$$

SG, G. Perez, K. Tobioka, 2005.05170



# The reach on the ALP parameter space



In gray,  
we show all present constraints

➔ This bound comes from  
precision pion experiments

(new interpretation of existing PIBETA  
data for  $\pi^+ \rightarrow \pi^0 (\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) e^+ \nu$ )

W. Altmannshofer, SG, D. Robinson,  
1909.00005

GlueX,  
Aloni et al., 1903.03586

$e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma a, a \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$   
(collimated)

SG, G. Perez, K. Tobioka, 2005.05170

# **3. Fixed-target experiments**

**Several running/proposed experiments to search for prompt or long lived dark sector particles.**

Let's mention a few of them.

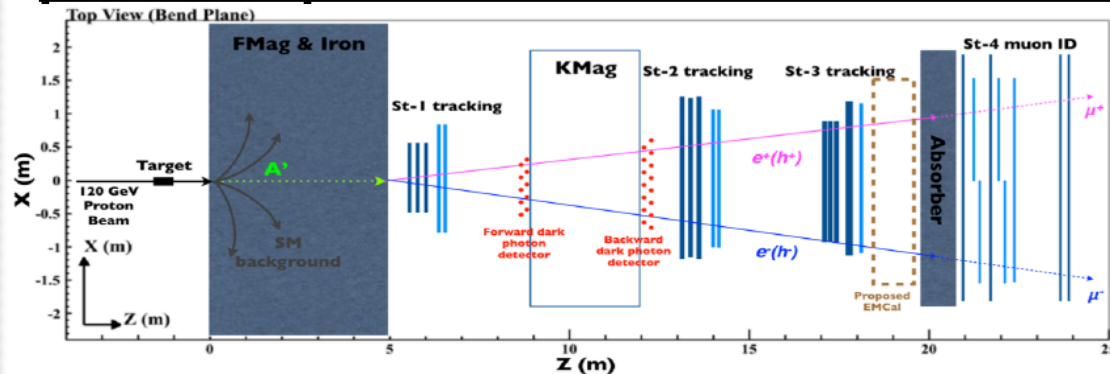
Disclaimer: this is not an exhaustive list.

# 3. Fixed-target experiments

## Visible final states

**Near forward detectors.** Examples:

**p-beam: SpinQuest/DarkQuest @ Fermilab**

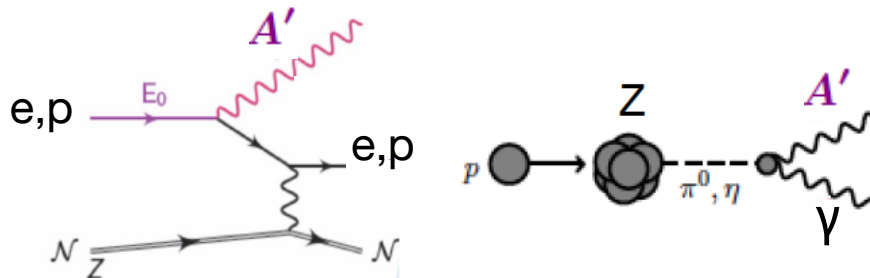


Berlin, SG, Schuster, Toro, 1804.00661

See also LongQuest proposal:

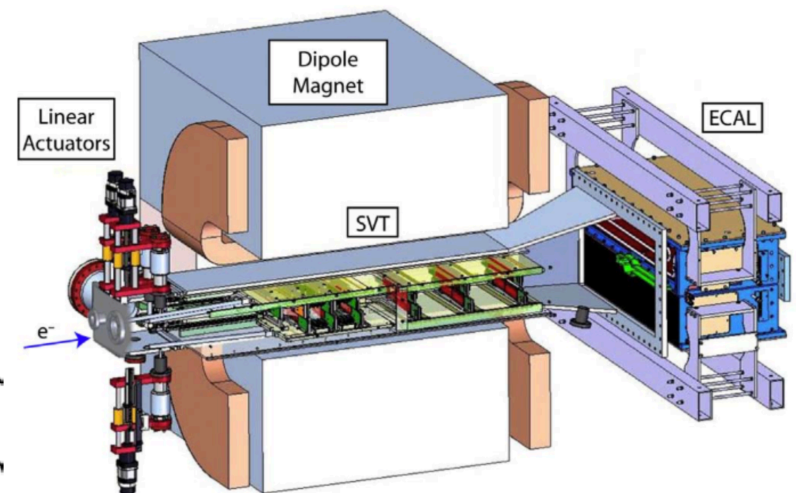
Tsai, De Niverville, Liu, 1908.07525

e.g.  
dark photon  
production:



**Excellent for  
detecting low-mass  
displaced visible  
dark particles**

**e-beam:  
HPS @ JLAB, MAGIX @ MESA**



# 3. Fixed-target experiments

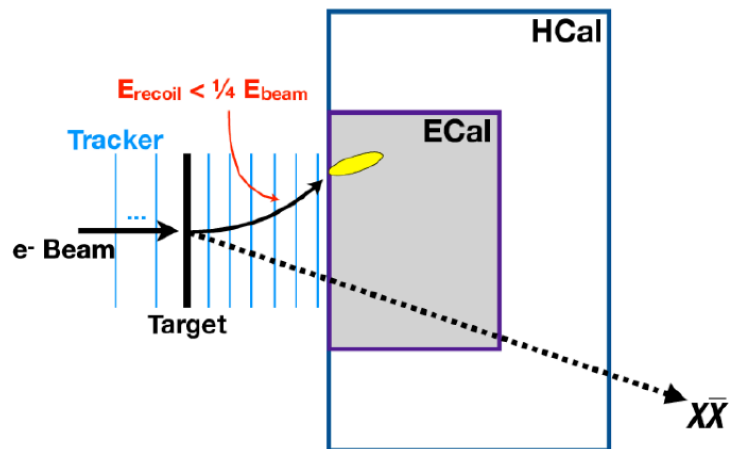
## Invisible final states

Examples:

### Missing momentum or energy

NA64, LDMX, M3

electron and muon beams



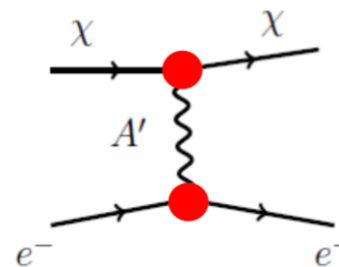
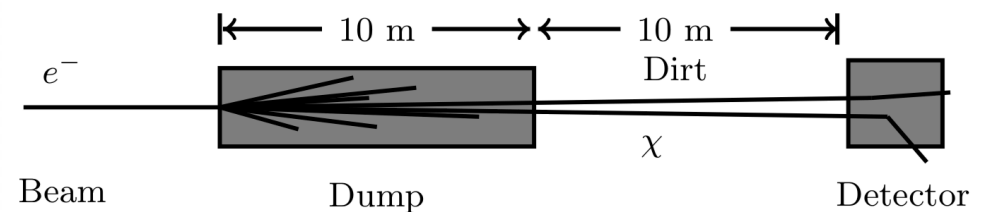
Unique capability to  
“image” individual  
beam particles

Excellent for  
detecting low-mass  
invisible dark particles

### DM beam dump

BDX, DarkMESA

Izaguirre, Krnjaic, Schuster, Toro, 1307.6554



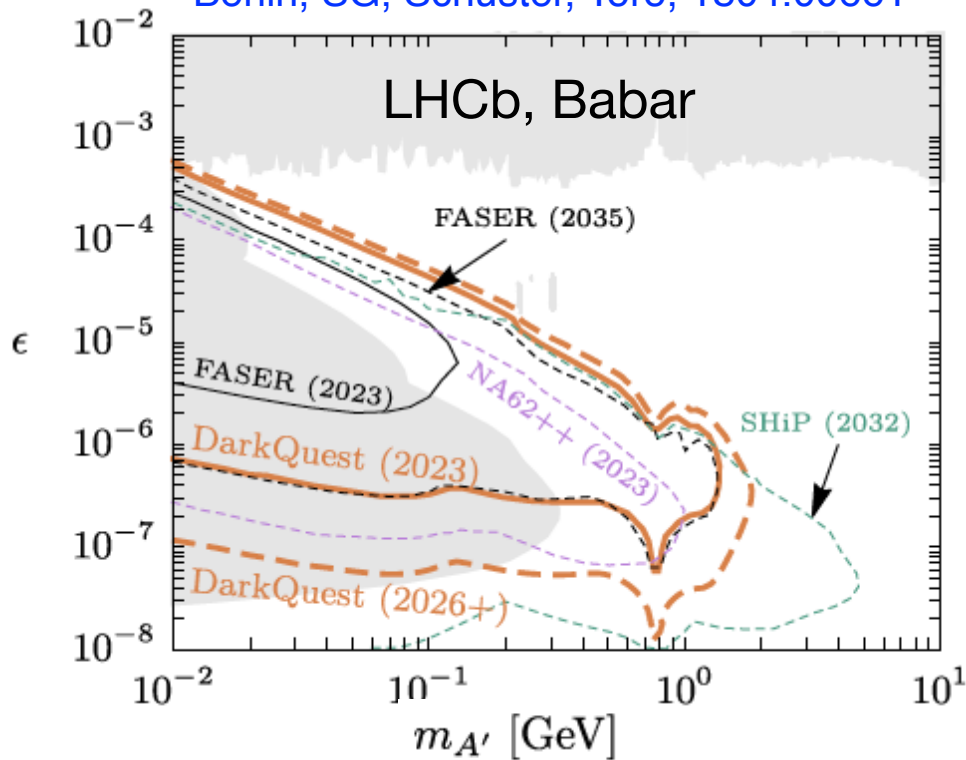
DM-detector  
scattering

# The reach on visible & invisible dark sectors

$$\epsilon B^{\mu\nu} A'_{\mu\nu}$$

## Visible

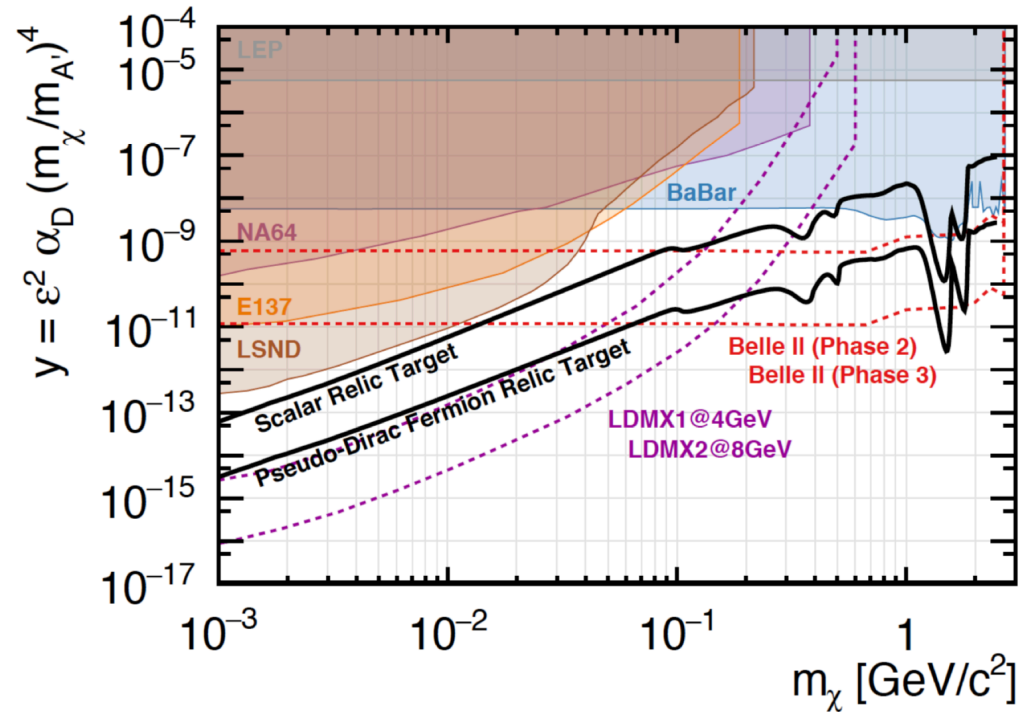
Berlin, SG, Schuster, Toro, 1804.00661



$$pp \rightarrow A' \rightarrow e^+ e^-$$

## Invisible

The Belle-II physics book, 1808.10567



$$e^+ e^- \rightarrow A' \rightarrow \chi\chi$$



# Conclusions & Outlook

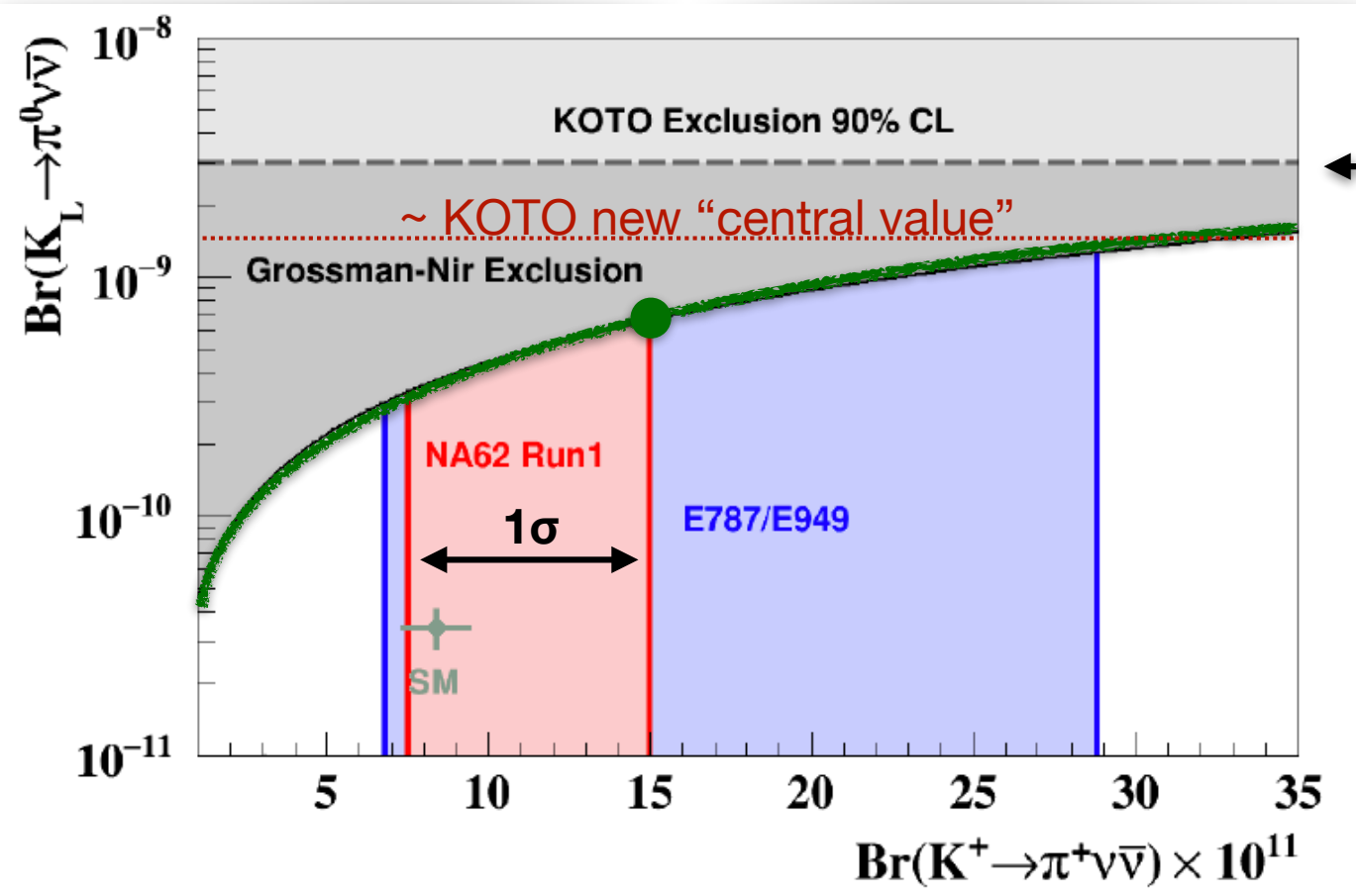
**Dark sector particles arise in a large variety of beyond the Standard Model theories.**

**Unique opportunity to probe dark sectors at high-intensity experiments:**

- \* LHC as a high-intensity machine
- \* Flavor factories
- \* Fixed target experiments

**Complementarity with direct detection & astrophysical probes**

# How do the NA62 & KOTO results compare?



Marchevski talk @ ICHEP

← 2015 run

$$\frac{\text{BR}(K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \bar{\nu})}{\text{BR}(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu})} < 4.3$$

Light ( $< m_K$ ) new physics would be required if this will turn out to be a “real” anomaly

It cannot be described by an EFT

## 2. GG-coupled ALP simplified model

$$\frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi F_a} a G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{a\mu\nu}$$

ALP interactions with SM mesons

$$\mathcal{L}_{eff} = \frac{iF_\pi^2}{4} \frac{\partial_\mu a}{F_a} \text{Tr}[\tilde{\kappa}_q(\Sigma^\dagger D^\mu \Sigma - \Sigma D^\mu \Sigma^\dagger)] + \frac{F_\pi^2}{2} B_0 \text{Tr}[\Sigma \mathbf{m}^\dagger + \mathbf{m}^\dagger \Sigma^\dagger]$$

Kinetic mixing

Mass mixing

$$\mathbf{m} = \exp\left(i\kappa_q \frac{a}{2F_a} \gamma_5\right) \cdot m_q \cdot \exp\left(i\kappa_q \frac{a}{2F_a} \gamma_5\right) \quad \tilde{\kappa}_q = \text{diag}(\kappa_q), \quad \kappa_q = \frac{1}{m_q} / \sum_{q'} \left(\frac{1}{m_{q'}}\right)$$

$$\begin{cases} \theta_{\pi a} \simeq \frac{F_\pi}{2F_a} (\kappa_u - \kappa_d) \frac{m_a^2}{m_a^2 - m_{\pi^0}^2} & \text{Kinetic mixing with the pion of the SM} \\ \theta_{\eta a} \simeq \frac{F_\pi}{F_a} \frac{\sqrt{2}m_a^2[\kappa_u + \kappa_d - 2\kappa_s] \cos \theta_{\eta\eta'} - 2(m_a^2[\kappa_u + \kappa_d + \kappa_s] - 6\Delta m_{\pi^0}^2) \sin \theta_{\eta\eta'}}{2\sqrt{6}(m_a^2 - m_\eta^2)} \end{cases}$$

Kinetic mixing and mass mixing with the eta of the SM

(mass mixing is due to the eta-eta' mixing,  $\theta_{\eta\eta'}$ )

# Theory prediction for $K \rightarrow \pi a$

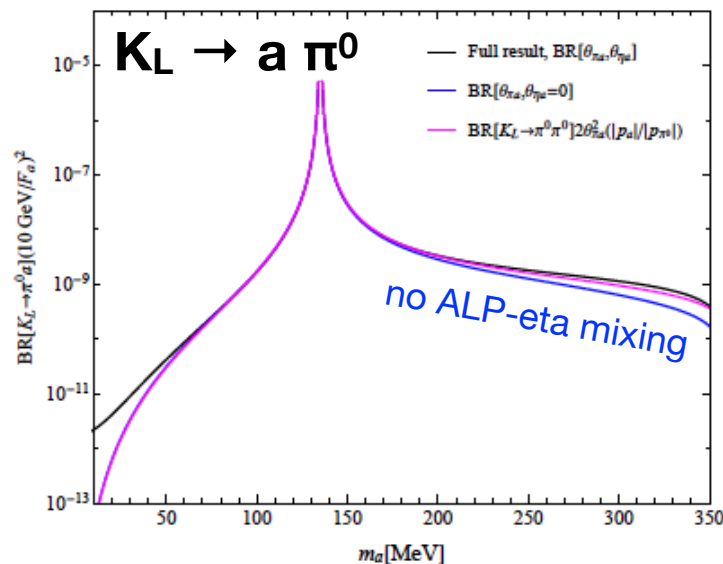
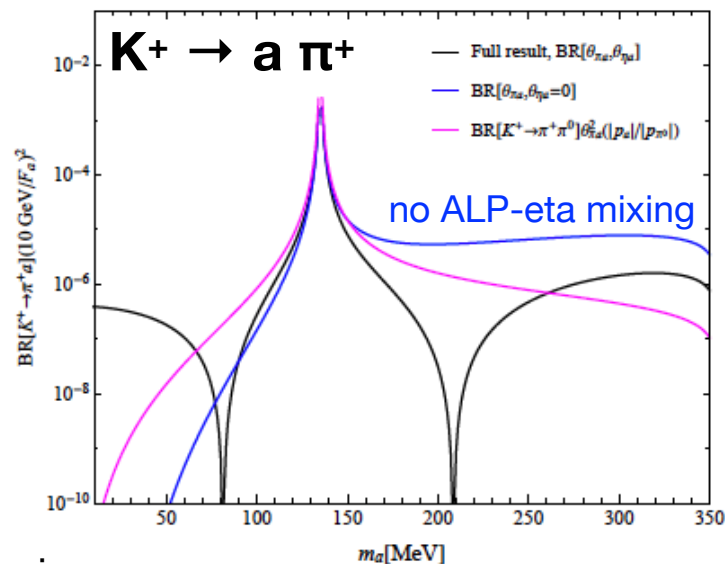
The ALP-pion and ALP-eta mixing will induce

- \* an effective K- $\pi$ -ALP coupling ( $K \rightarrow a\pi$ )
- \* an ALP coupling to photons ( $a \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ )

At low energy, the two operators responsible for  $s \rightarrow d$  transitions are

$$\mathcal{L}_{\Delta S=1} = G_8 F_\pi^4 \text{Tr}[\lambda_{sd} D^\mu \Sigma^\dagger D_\mu \Sigma] + G_{27} F_\pi^4 \left( L_{\mu 23} L_{11}^\mu + \frac{2}{3} L_{\mu 21} L_{13}^\mu \right) + h.c.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \pi^0 &\rightarrow \pi_{\text{phy}}^0 + \theta_{\pi a} a_{\text{phy}} \\ \eta &\rightarrow \eta_{\text{phy}} + \theta_{\eta a} a_{\text{phy}} \end{aligned} \quad L_\mu \equiv i \Sigma^\dagger D_\mu \Sigma, \quad \lambda_{sd} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



Note:  
possible additional  
UV contributions