

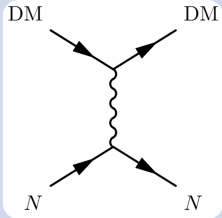
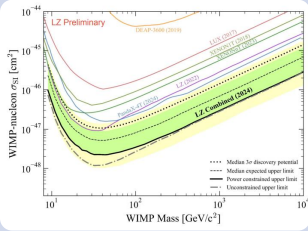
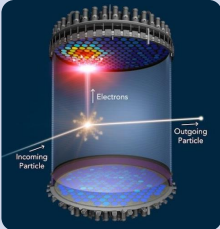
# Theory Of Direct Detection For The Next Generation

Tanner Trickle

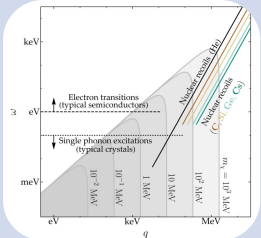
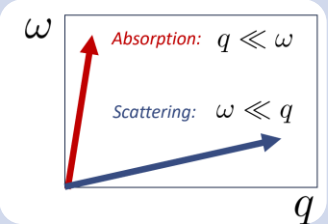
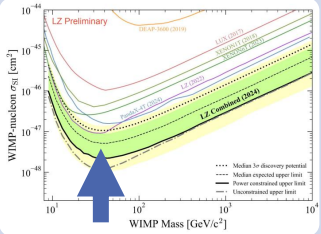
Dark Interactions Workshop – October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024

# Outline

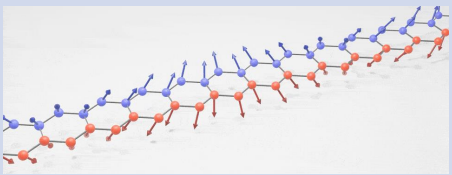
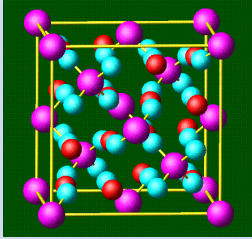
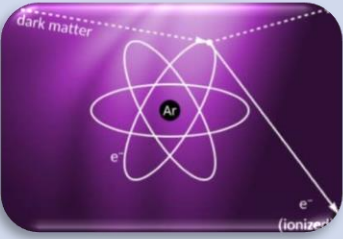
- Background



- Kinematics



- Target Excitations



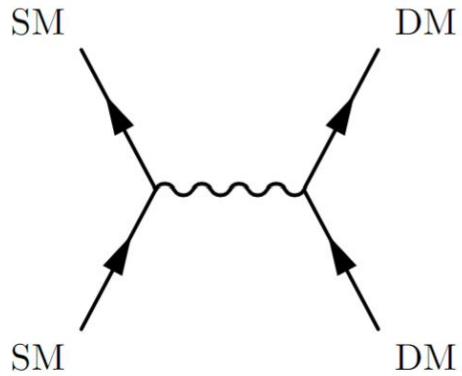
- Effective Field Theory

$$\delta \mathcal{L}_{UV} \longrightarrow \delta \mathcal{L}_{NR} \longrightarrow \text{Observables}$$

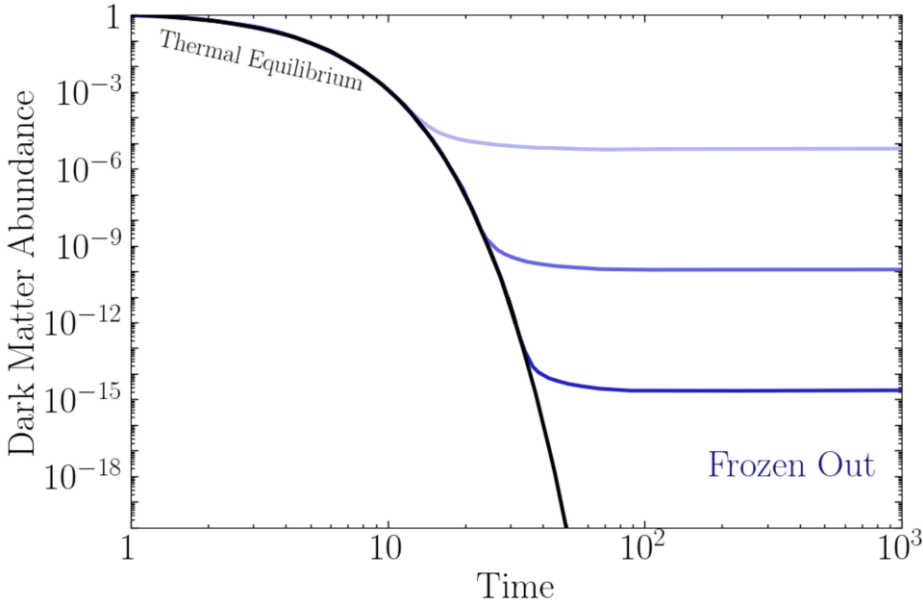
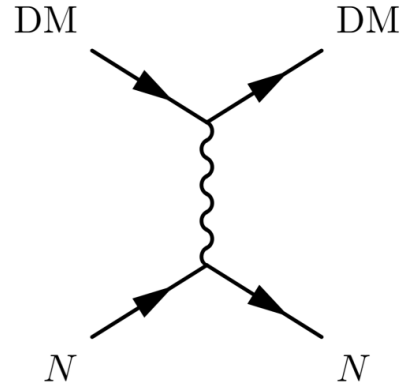
UV/High-Energy ( $E \gg m_e$ ) Theory      NR/Low-Energy ( $E \ll m_e$ ) Theory

# Classic Nuclear Recoil Direct Detection

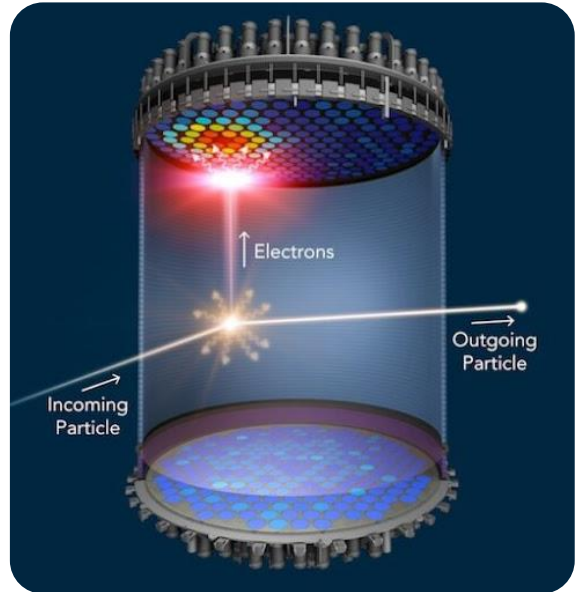
*Production*



*Detection*

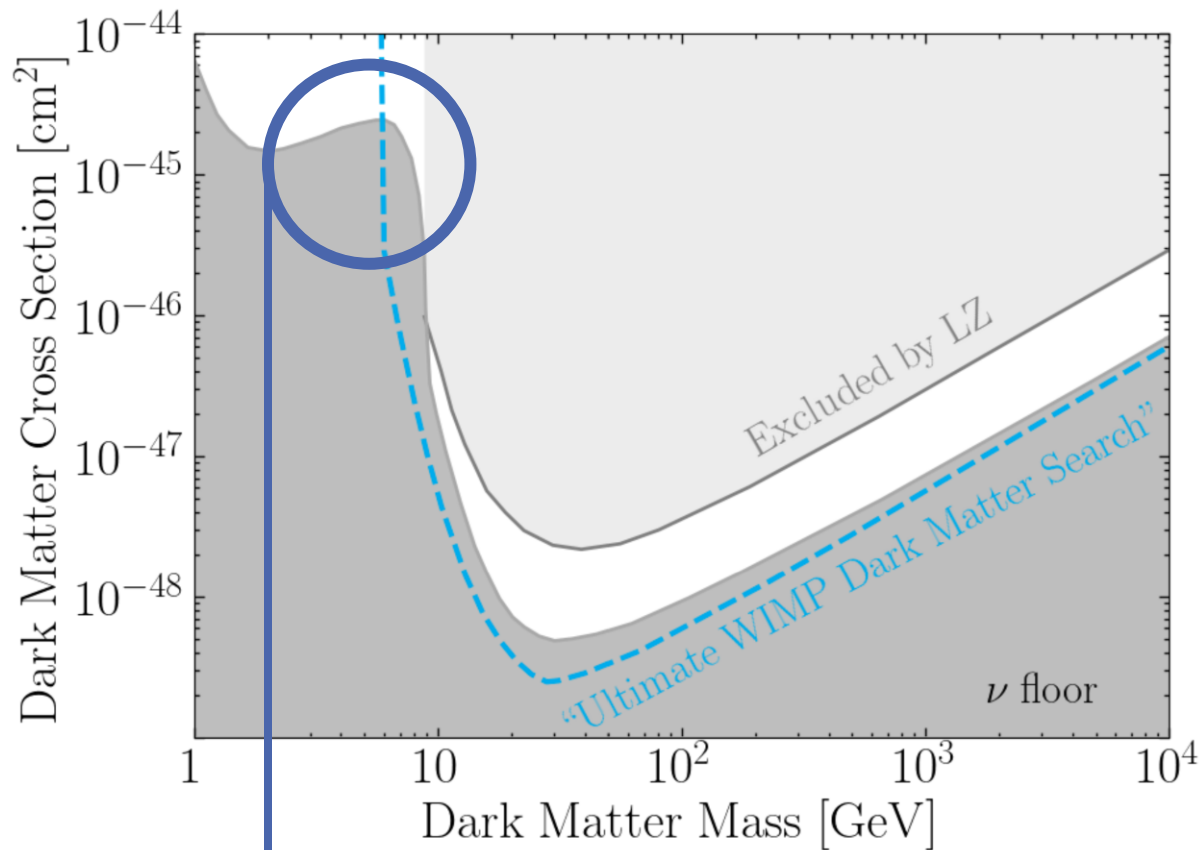


*Thermal Freeze-Out*

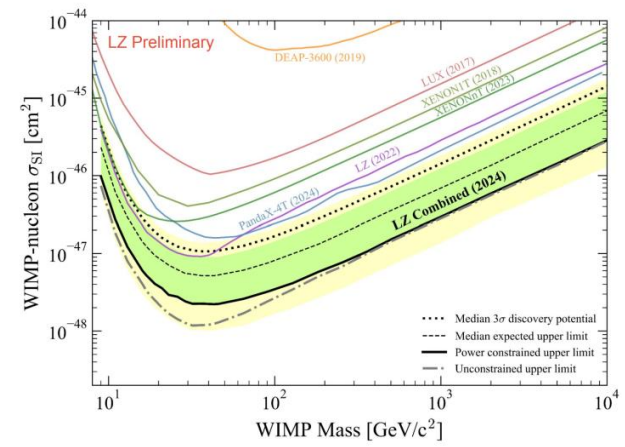


*LZ Detector*

# NR Detectors Approaching Neutrino Floor



**XENONnT**

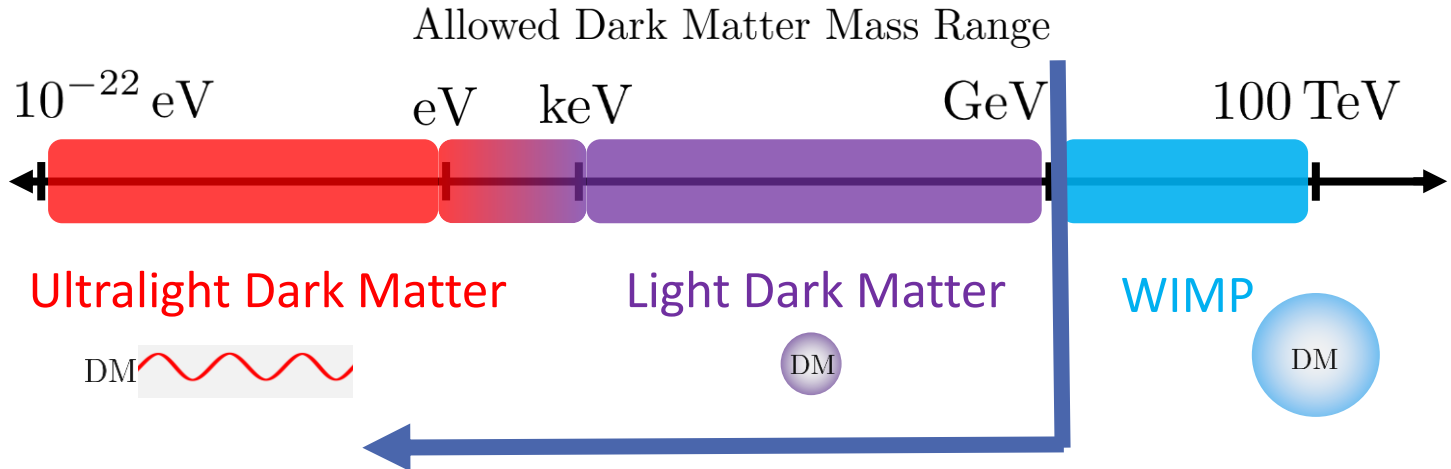


LZ Results TeVPA 2024

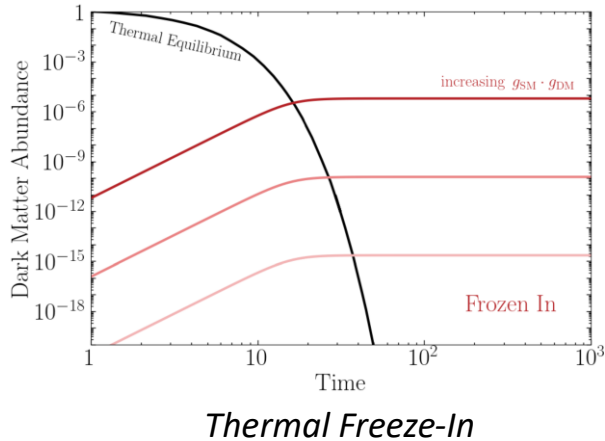
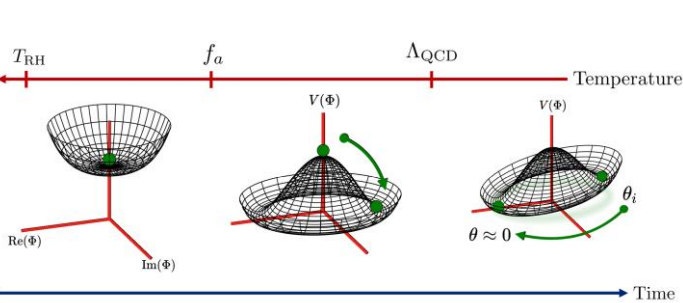
[\[2408.02877\]](#) First Measurement of Solar  $\nu$  Neutrinos via Coherent Elastic Neutrino-Nucleus Scattering with XENONnT

[\[2409.17868\]](#) First Search for Light Dark Matter in the Neutrino Fog with XENONnT

# Direct Detection Of Light Dark Matter



## Production

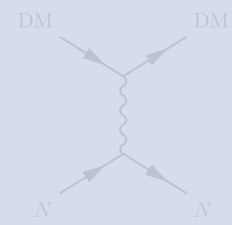
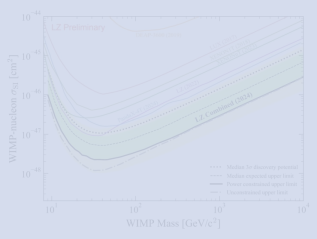
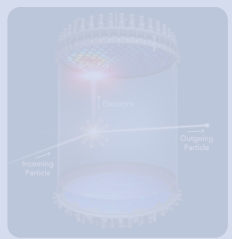


- Modified Freeze-Out
- SIMP
- ELDER
- Asymmetric DM
- Inflationary Production
- ⋮
- ⋮
- ⋮

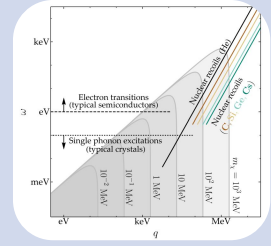
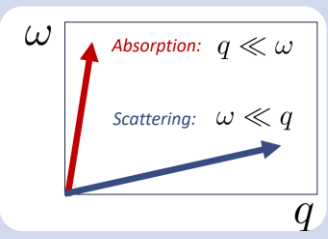
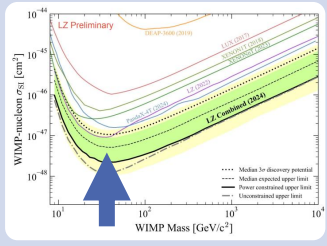
*How do we search for sub-GeV mass dark matter?*

# Outline

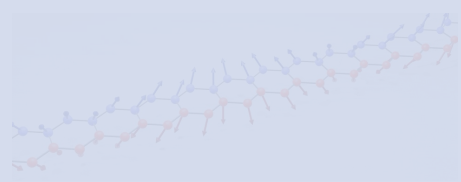
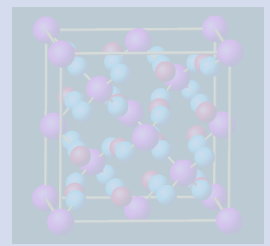
- Background



- Kinematics



- Target Excitations



- Effective Field Theory

$$\delta\mathcal{L}_{UV} \longrightarrow \delta\mathcal{L}_{NR} \longrightarrow \text{Observables}$$

UV/High-Energy ( $E \gg m_e$ ) Theory      NR/Low-Energy ( $E \ll m_e$ ) Theory

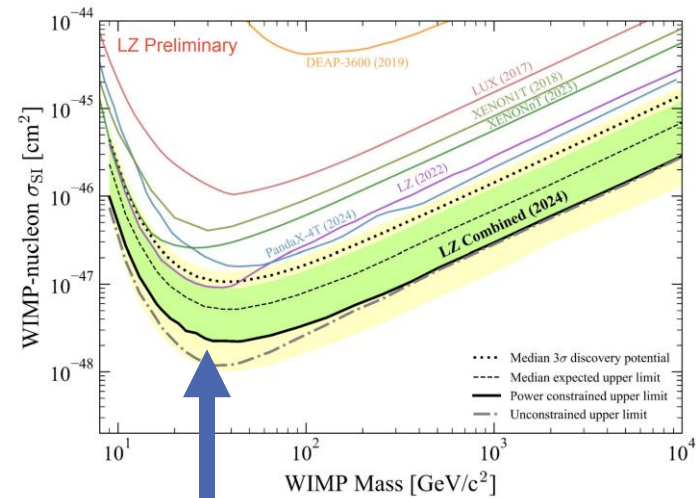
# Scattering Kinematics: Nuclear Recoil

## 1D Billiard Ball Mechanics

Energy conservation  $\frac{1}{2}m_{\text{DM}}v^2 = \frac{1}{2}m_{\text{DM}}v'^2 + \frac{1}{2}m_Nv_N^2$

Momentum conservation  $m_{\text{DM}}v = m_{\text{DM}}v' + m_Nv_N$

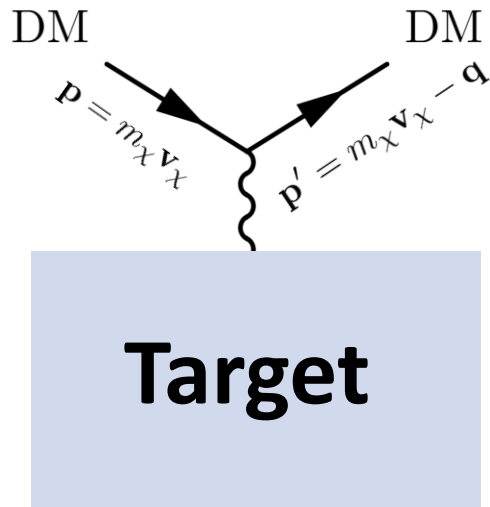
$$\text{Energy Deposited} = \begin{cases} 2m_N v^2 \sim \text{keV} & m_{\text{DM}} \gg m_N \\ \frac{2m_{\text{DM}}^2}{m_N} v^2 \sim \left(\frac{m_{\text{DM}}}{m_N}\right)^2 \times \text{keV} & m_{\text{DM}} \ll m_N \end{cases}$$



$$m_{\text{DM}} \sim m_N$$

**A solution:** Lighter nuclei, still limited to  $m_N \sim \text{GeV}$

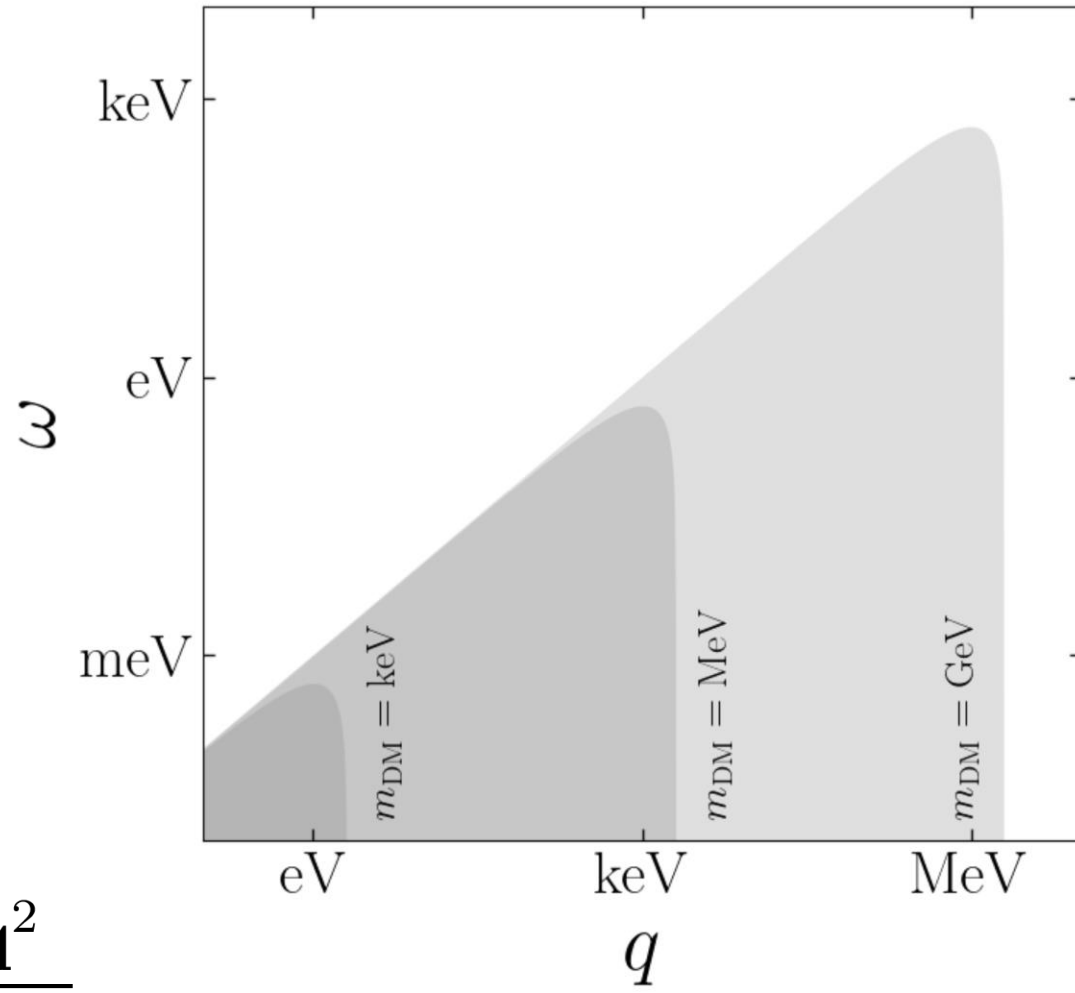
# Scattering Kinematics



$$E_i = \frac{1}{2} m_\chi \mathbf{v}_\chi^2$$

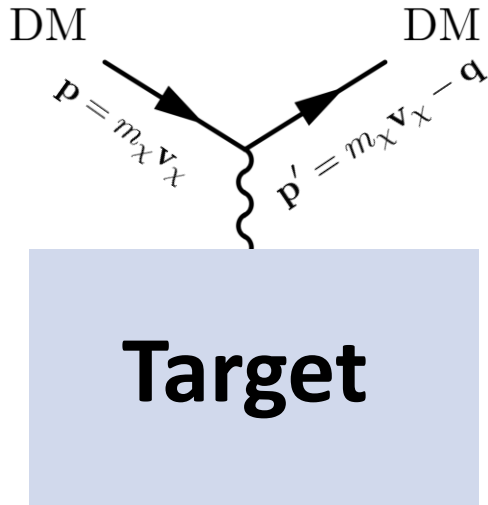
$$E_f = \frac{1}{2m_\chi} (m_\chi \mathbf{v}_\chi - \mathbf{q})^2$$

$$E_i - E_f = \omega = \mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{v}_\chi - \frac{\mathbf{q}^2}{2m_\chi}$$





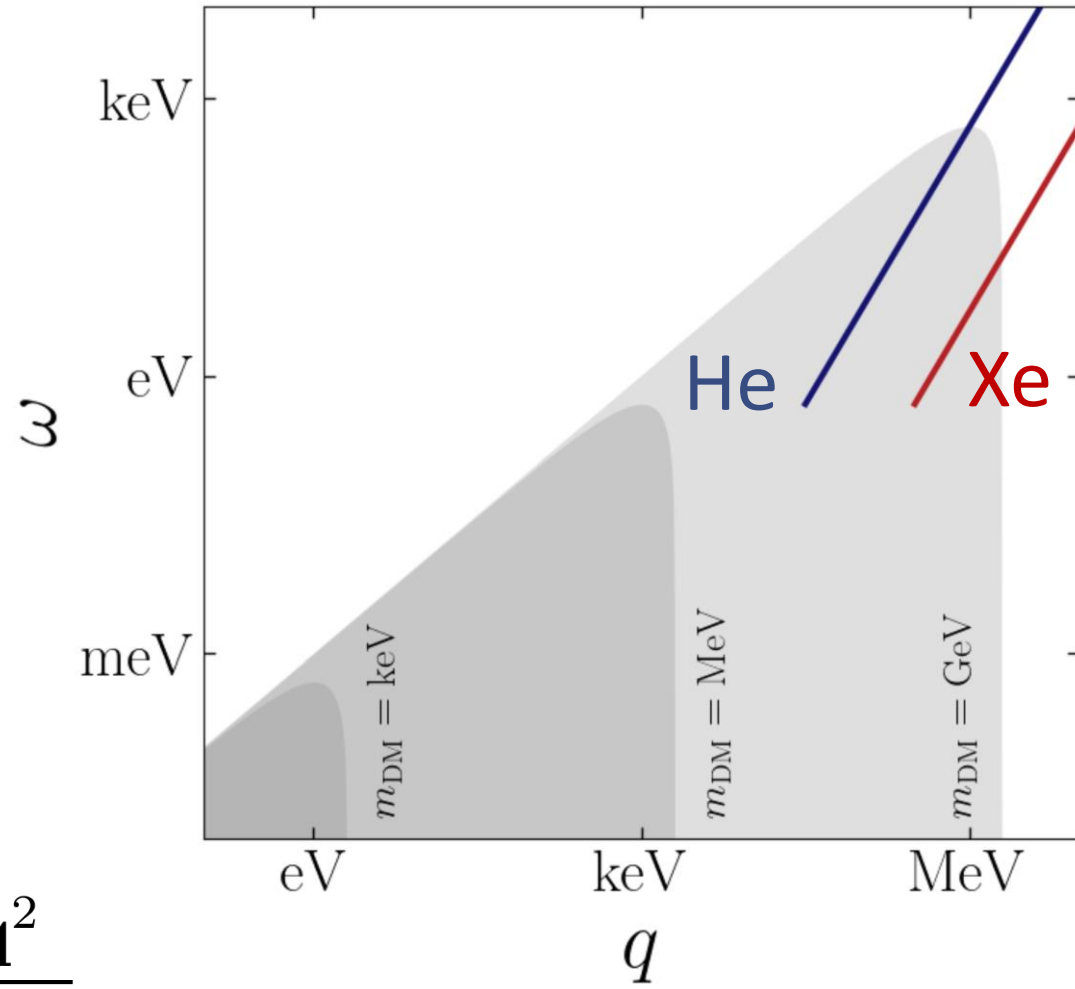
# Scattering Kinematics



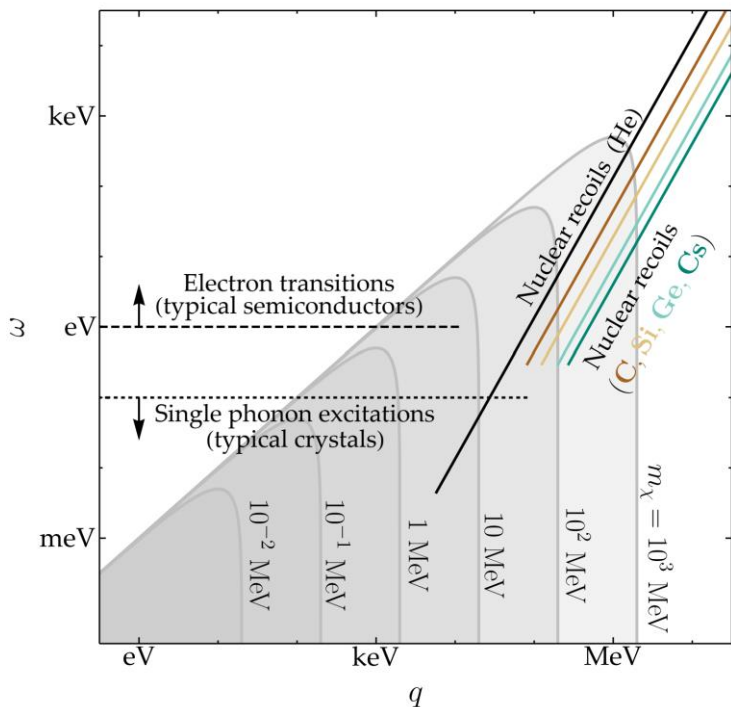
$$E_i = \frac{1}{2} m_\chi \mathbf{v}_\chi^2$$

$$E_f = \frac{1}{2m_\chi} (m_\chi \mathbf{v}_\chi - \mathbf{q})^2$$

$$E_i - E_f = \omega = \mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{v}_\chi - \frac{\mathbf{q}^2}{2m_\chi}$$



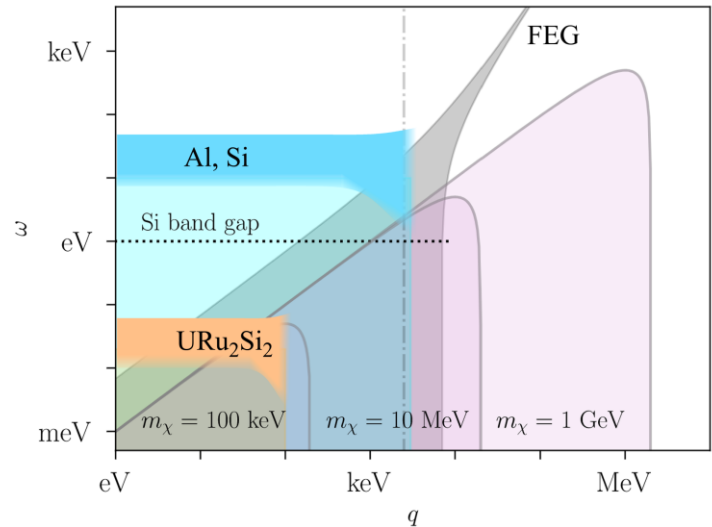
# Scattering Kinematics



[1910.08092] Multi-Channel Direct Detection of Light Dark Matter: Theoretical Framework

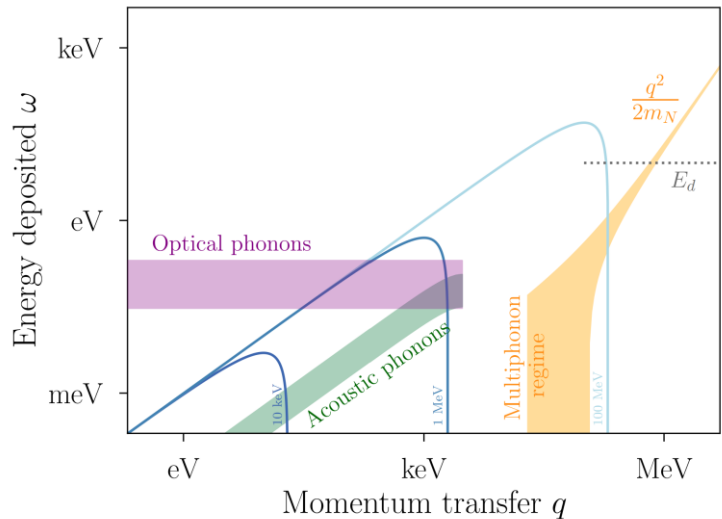
- T. Trickle, Z. Zhang, K. Zurek, K. Inzani, S. Griffin

## Electrons



[2101.08263] Determining Dark Matter-Electron Scattering Rates from the Dielectric Function

## Phonons

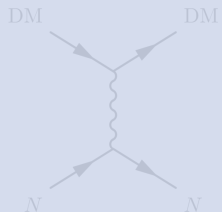
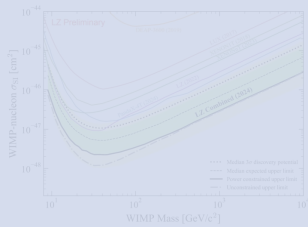
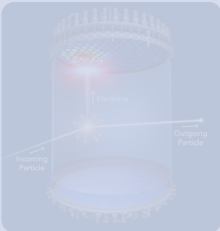


[2108.03239] Searches for light dark matter using condensed matter systems

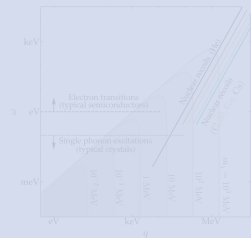
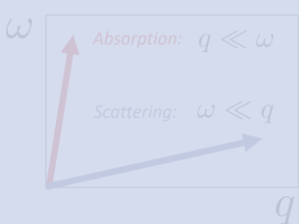
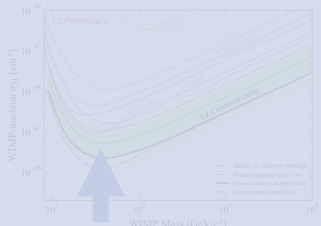


# Outline

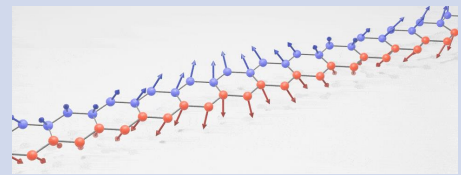
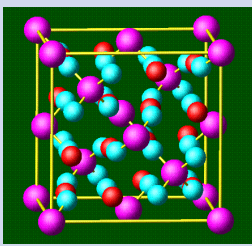
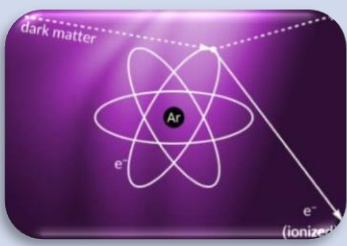
- Background



- Kinematics



- Target Excitations



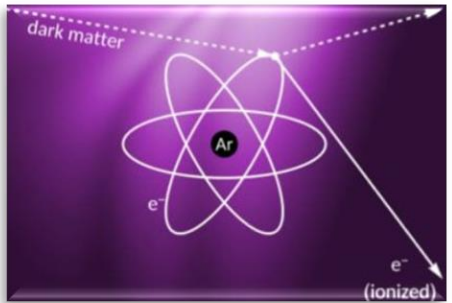
- Effective Field Theory

$$\delta\mathcal{L}_{UV} \longrightarrow \delta\mathcal{L}_{NR} \longrightarrow \text{Observables}$$

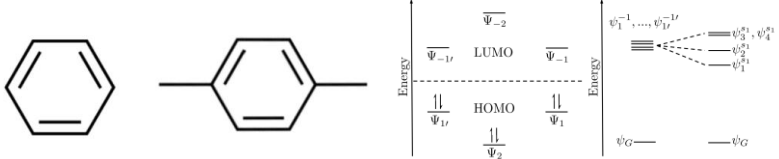
UV/High-Energy ( $E \gg m_e$ ) Theory      NR/Low-Energy ( $E \ll m_e$ ) Theory

# Electrons

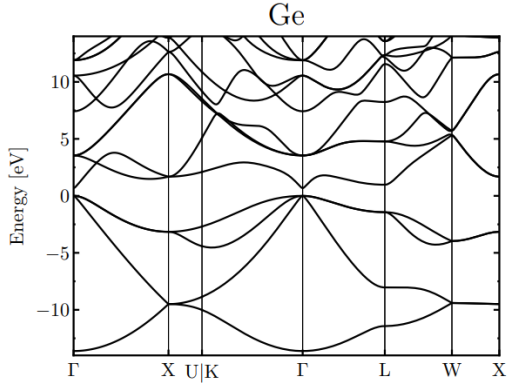
## Atomic Targets



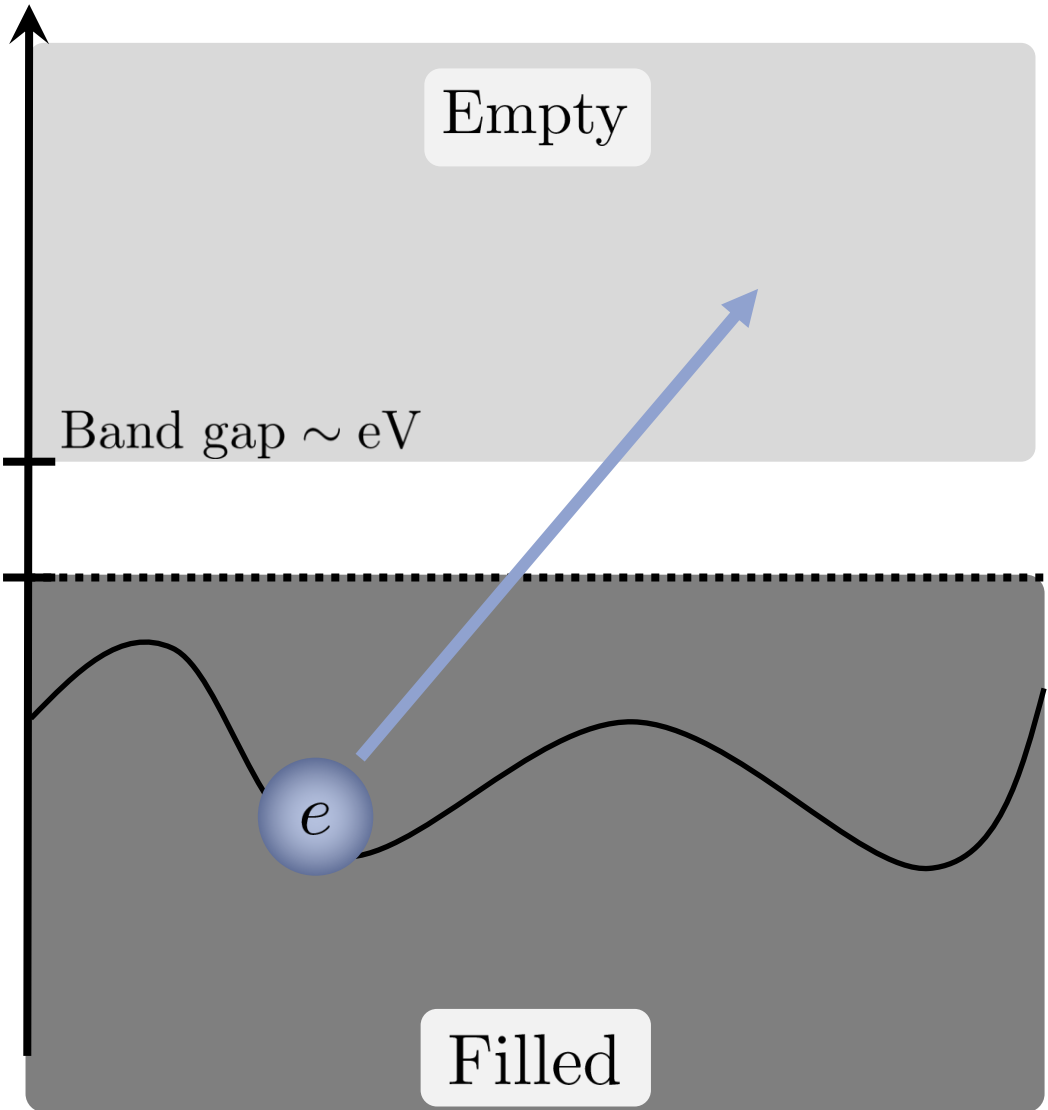
## Molecular Targets



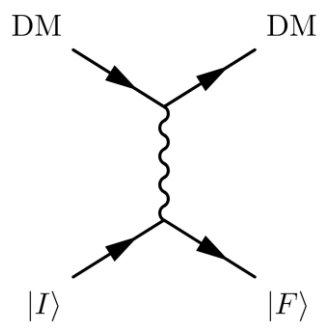
## Semiconductor/Crystals



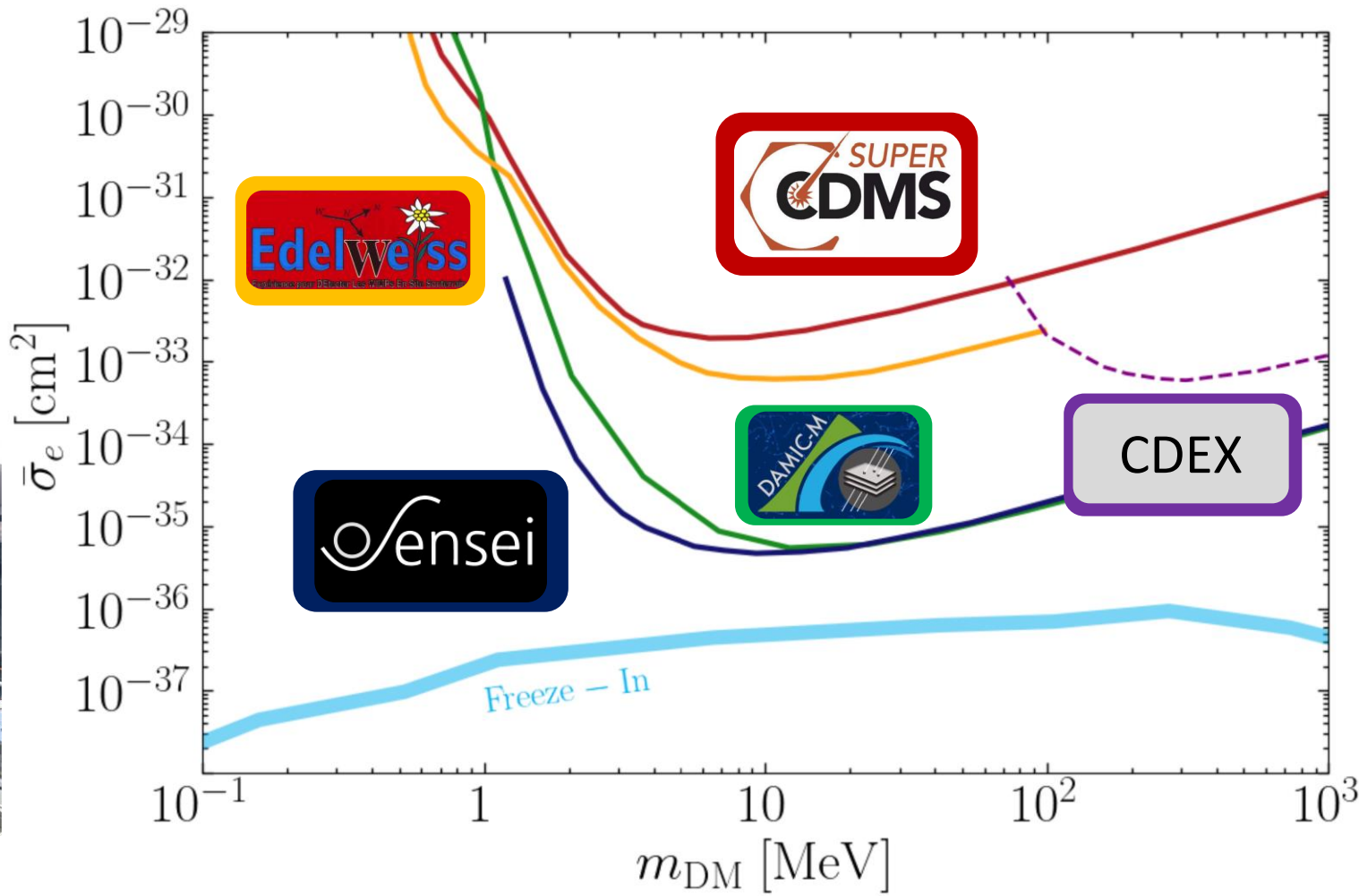
## Energy



# Current Electron Based Experiments



DAMIC



All use Silicon or Germanium as the target material

[\[2202.10518\]](#) The Oscura Experiment (SENSEI + DAMIC)

# Many Ideas For Future Detectors

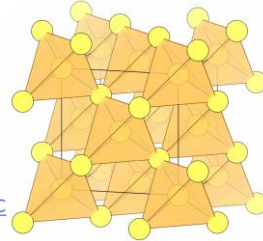
## Other Semiconductors/Dielectrics

[SNOWMASS21-CF1 CF2-IF1 IF8-120.pdf](#) (TESSARACT: GaAs, Sapphire)

[\[2101.08275\]](#) Dark matter-electron scattering in dielectrics

[\[2101.08263\]](#) Determining Dark Matter-Electron Scattering Rates from the Dielectric Function

[\[2008.08560\]](#) SiC Detectors for Sub-GeV Dark Matter



## Scintillators

[\[1607.01009\]](#) Direct Detection of sub-GeV Dark Matter with Scintillating Targets

[\[2402.01395\]](#) Dark Matter-Electron Scattering Search Using Cryogenic Light Detectors

## Doped Semiconductors

[\[2212.04504\]](#) Doped Semiconductor Devices for sub-MeV Dark Matter Detection

## Low Band Gap (~meV) Targets

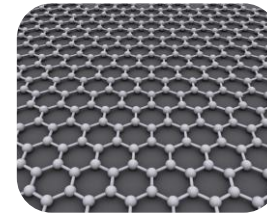
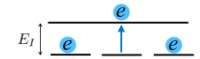
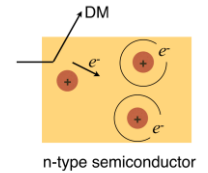
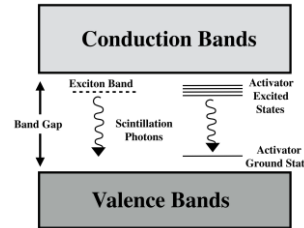
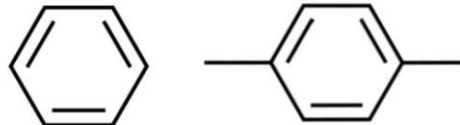
[\[1909.09170\]](#) Directional Dark Matter Detection in Anisotropic Dirac Materials

[\[2202.11716\]](#) Dark Matter Direct Detection in Materials with Spin-Orbit Coupling

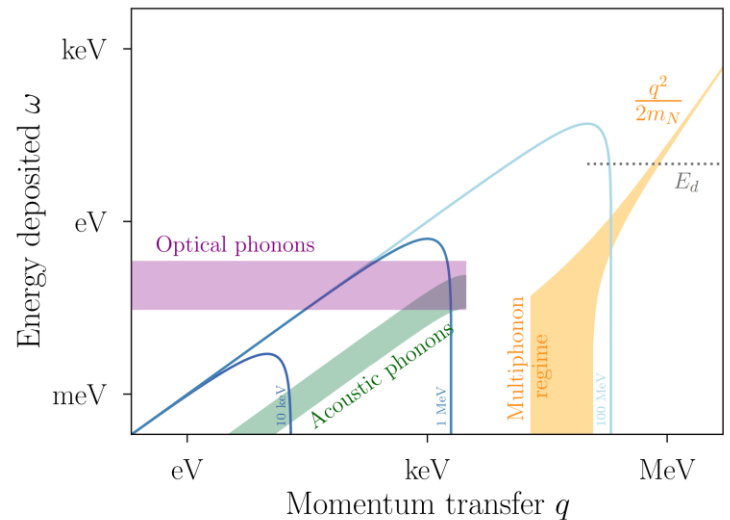
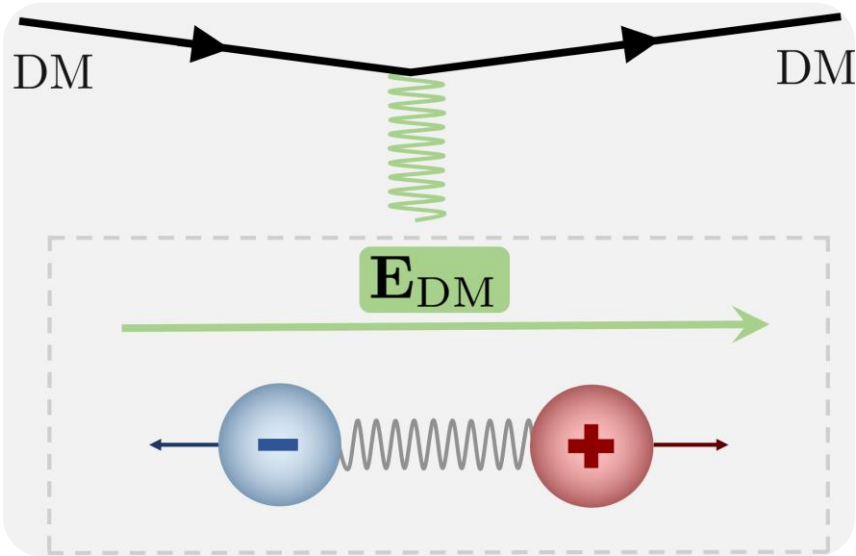
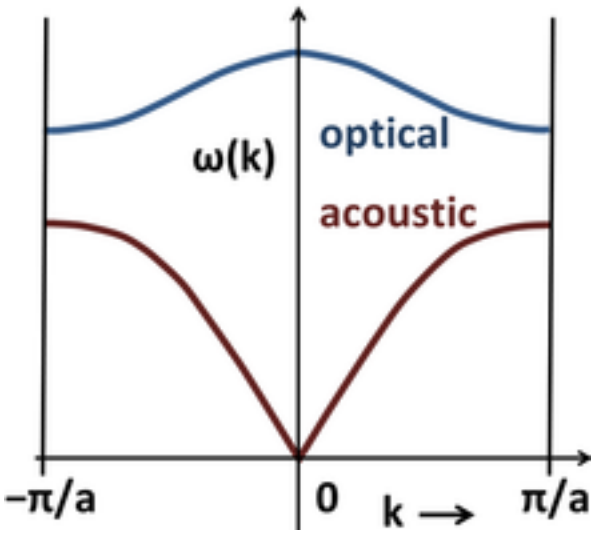
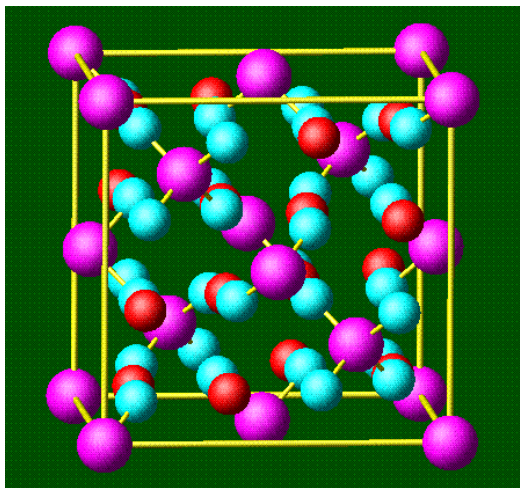
## Organic Aromatics

[\[1912.02822\]](#) Dark Matter-Electron Scattering from Aromatic Organic Targets

- 
- 
- 



# Phonons



[2108.03239] Searches for light dark matter using condensed matter systems



# Phonon Scattering Rate

*Fermi's golden rule*

$$\Gamma(\mathbf{v}) = \frac{1}{V} \int \frac{d^3q}{(2\pi)^3} \sum_f |\langle f | \tilde{\mathcal{V}}(-\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{v}) | i \rangle|^2 2\pi \delta(E_f - E_i - \omega_{\mathbf{q}})$$

*Fermi's golden rule for phonon excitations*

$$\Gamma(\mathbf{v}) = \frac{1}{V} \int \frac{d^3q}{(2\pi)^3} \sum_{\nu, \mathbf{k}} \left| \sum_{l,j} \langle \nu, \mathbf{k} | e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{x}_{lj}} \tilde{\mathcal{V}}_{lj}(-\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{v}) | 0 \rangle \right|^2 2\pi \delta(\omega_{\nu, \mathbf{k}} - \omega_{\mathbf{q}})$$

$$|\nu, \mathbf{k}\rangle = a_{\nu \mathbf{k}}^\dagger |0\rangle$$

$$\mathbf{u}_{lj} = \mathbf{x}_{lj} - \mathbf{x}_{lj}^0 = \sum_{\nu=1}^{3n} \sum_{\mathbf{k} \in 1\text{BZ}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2Nm_j\omega_{\nu, \mathbf{k}}}} \left( \hat{a}_{\nu, \mathbf{k}} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{\nu, \mathbf{k}, j} e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x}_{lj}^0} + \hat{a}_{\nu, \mathbf{k}}^\dagger \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{\nu, \mathbf{k}, j}^* e^{-i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x}_{lj}^0} \right)$$

*The general goal is to find the interaction potential in terms of excitation operators.*

[\[2009.13534\] Effective Field Theory of Dark Matter Direct Detection With Collective Excitations](#)

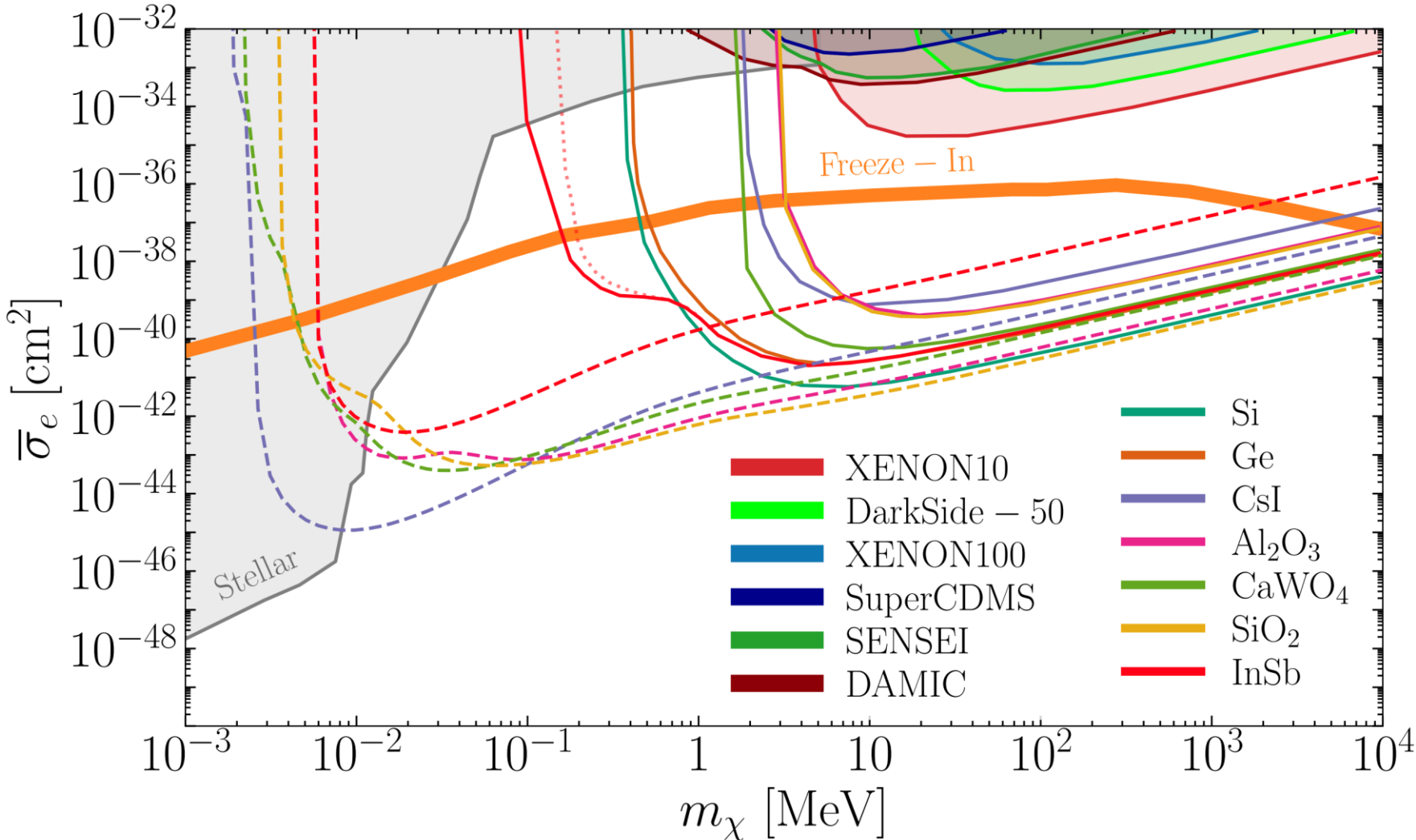
• T. Trickle, Z. Zhang, K. Zurek

ttrickle@fnal.gov

Theory of Direct Detection For The Next Generation

17

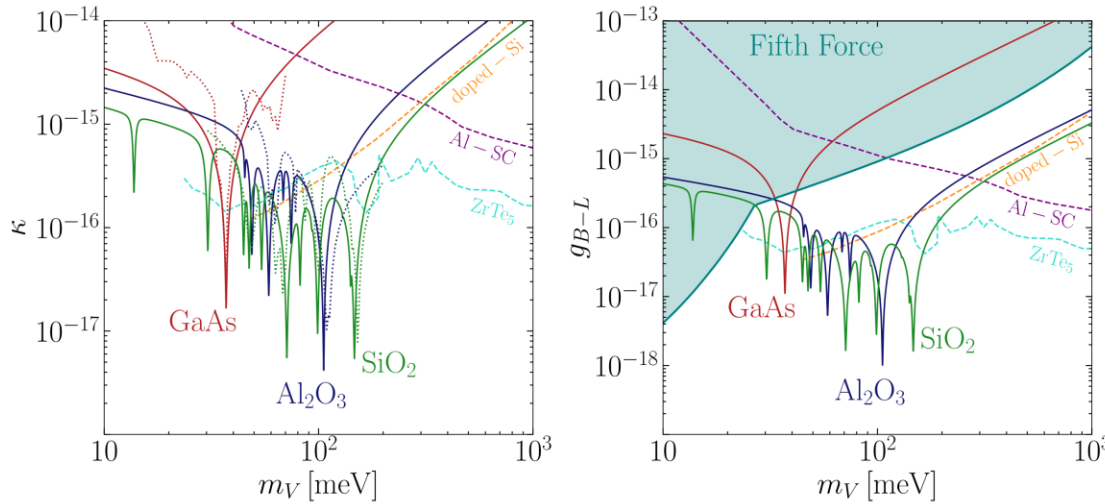
# Projected Sensitivity Of Single Phonon Detectors



[1910.10716] Multi-Channel Direct Detection of Light Dark Matter: Target Comparison

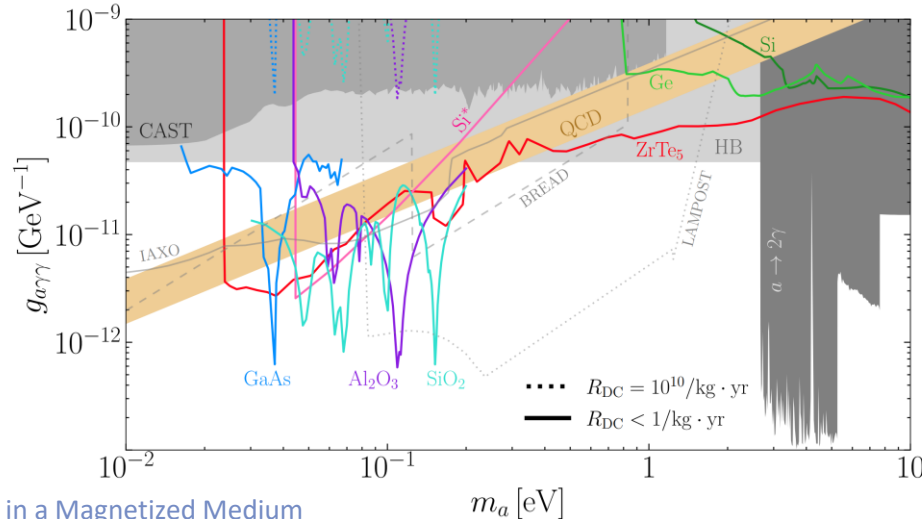
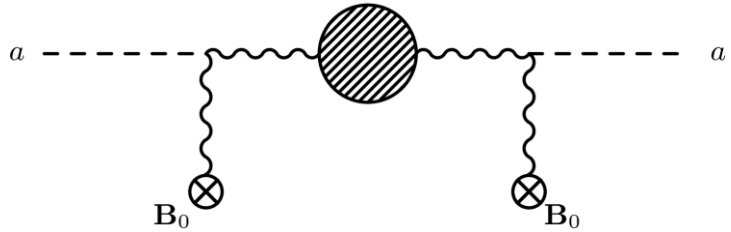
- S. Griffin, K. Inzani, **T. Trickle**, Z. Zhang, K. Zurek

# Projected Sensitivity Of Single Phonon Detectors



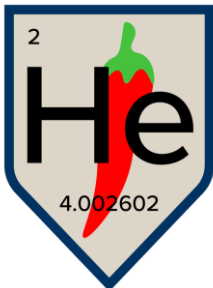
[2308.06314] Effective Field Theory for Dark Matter Absorption on Single Phonons

- A. Mitridate, K. Pardo, T. Trickle, K. Zurek



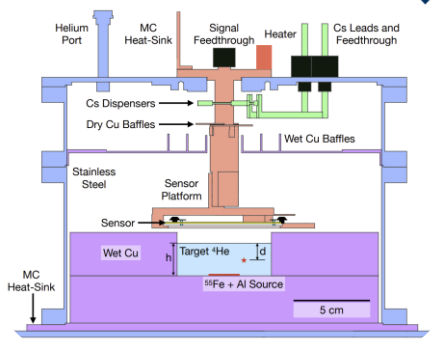
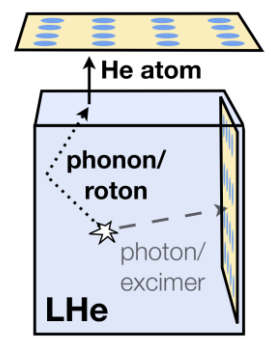
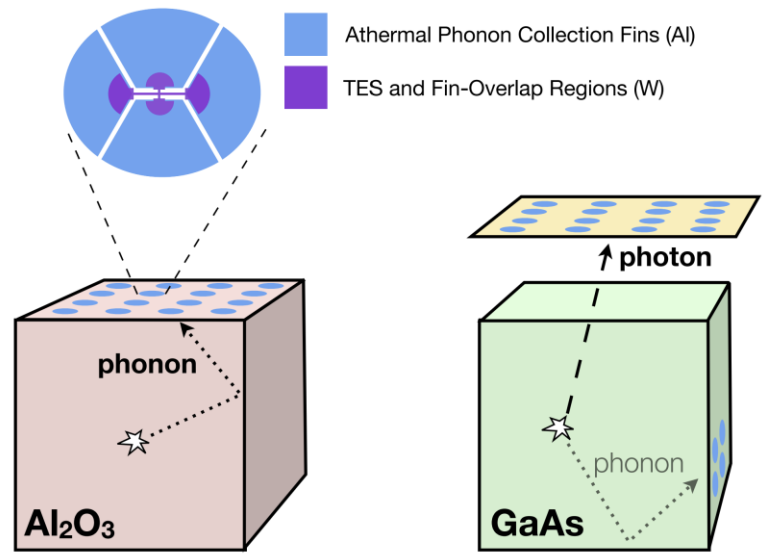
[2305.05681] Absorption of Axion Dark Matter in a Magnetized Medium

- A. Berlin, T. Trickle



# Phonon-Based Experiments

**Funded**



**HeRALD**  
4.002602

**Helium Roton Apparatus for Light Dark Matter**

Applying Superfluid Helium to Light Dark Matter Searches: Demonstration of the HeRALD Detector Concept [2307.11877]

Single Phonon Detection for Dark Matter via Quantum Evaporation and Sensing of Helium-3 [2201.00738]

**SPICE**

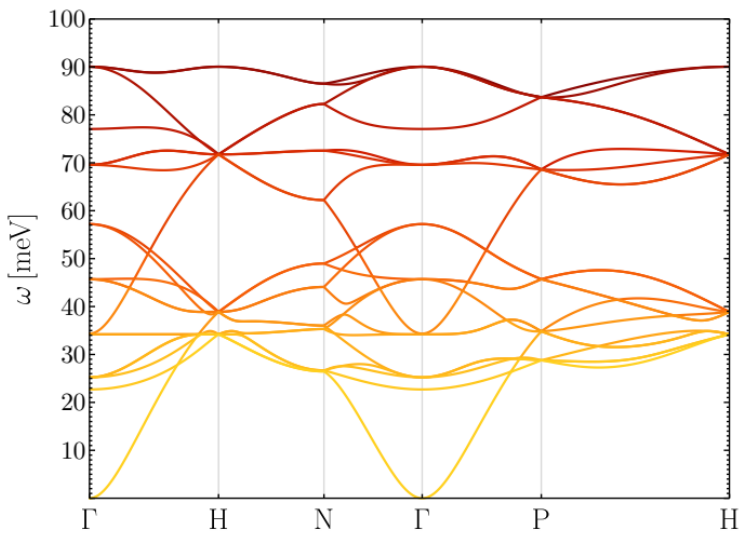
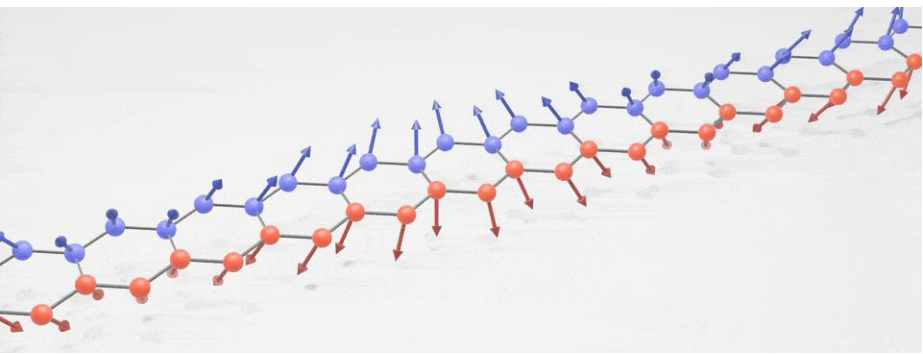
Sub-eV Polar Interactions Cryogenic Experiment

**Proposed**

[2301.04778] Broad-Range Directional Detection of Light Dark Matter in Cryogenic Ice

Phys. Rev. Research 5, 043262 (2023) - Chiral phonons as dark matter detectors

# Magnons



$$\Gamma(\mathbf{v}) = \frac{1}{V} \int \frac{d^3q}{(2\pi)^3} \sum_{\nu, \mathbf{k}} \left| \sum_{l,j} \langle \nu, \mathbf{k} | e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{x}_{lj}} \tilde{\mathcal{V}}_{lj}(-\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{v}) | 0 \rangle \right|^2 2\pi \delta(\omega_{\nu, \mathbf{k}} - \omega_{\mathbf{q}})$$

$$|\nu, \mathbf{k}\rangle = a_{\nu \mathbf{k}}^\dagger |0\rangle$$

$$\langle \nu, \mathbf{k} | \tilde{\mathcal{V}}(-\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{v}) | 0 \rangle = \sum_{l,j} e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{x}_{lj}} \mathbf{f}_j(-\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{v}) \cdot \langle \nu, \mathbf{k} | \mathbf{S}_{lj} | 0 \rangle$$

$$H = \sum_{\ell \ell' j j'} \mathbf{S}_{\ell' j'} \cdot \mathbf{J}_{\ell \ell' j j'} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{\ell j}$$

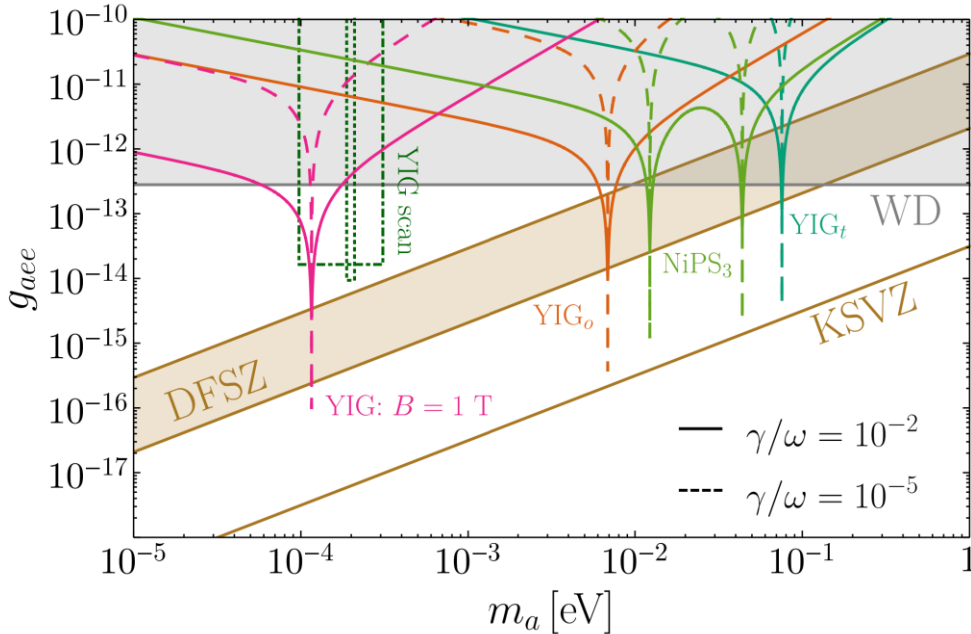
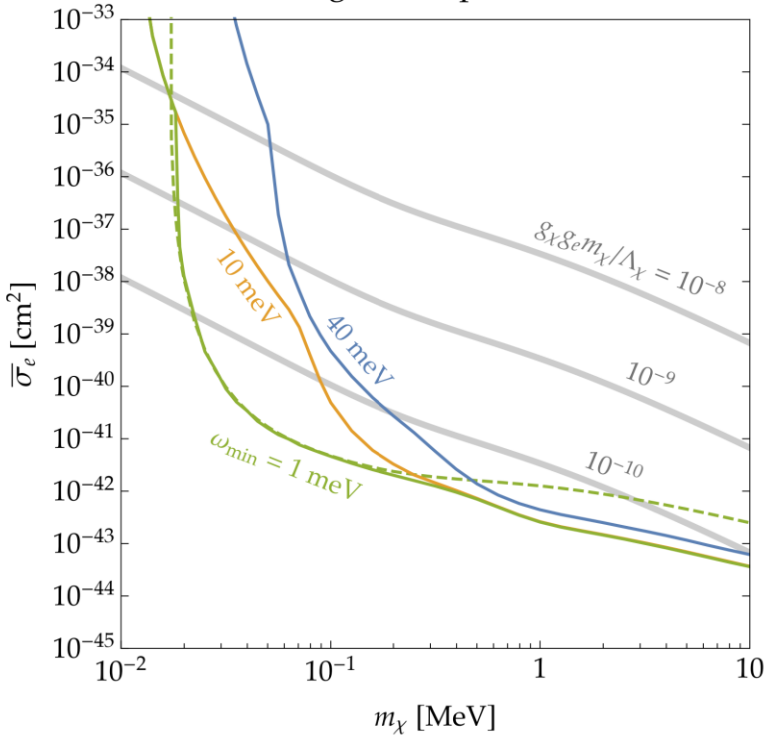
$$\mathbf{S}_{lj} = \mathbf{R}'(\mathbf{x}_{lj}) \left[ \sqrt{\frac{S_j}{2}} (\mathbf{r}_j^* \hat{a}_{lj} + \mathbf{r}_j \hat{a}_{lj}^\dagger) + \mathbf{t}_j (S_j - \hat{a}_{lj}^\dagger \hat{a}_{lj}) \right]$$

# Projected Sensitivity of Single Magnon Detectors

Scattering

Absorption

Magnetic dipole DM



$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{g_\chi}{\Lambda_\chi} \bar{\chi} \sigma^{\mu\nu} \chi V_{\mu\nu} + g_e \bar{e} \gamma^\mu e V_\mu$$

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{g_{aee}}{2m_e} (\partial_\mu a) \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 \psi$$

[1905.13744] Detecting Light Dark Matter with Magnons

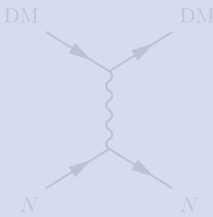
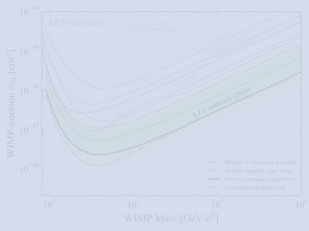
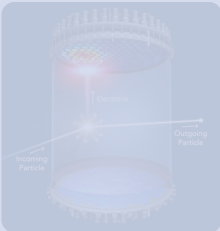
- T. Trickle, Z. Zhang, K. Zurek

[2005.10256] Detectability of Axion Dark Matter with Phonon Polaritons and Magnons

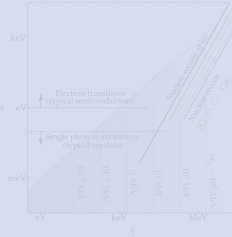
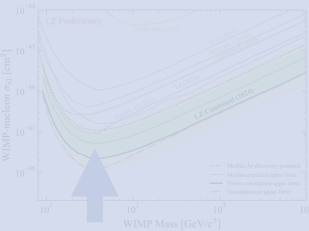
- A. Mitridate, T. Trickle, Z. Zhang, K. Zurek

# Outline

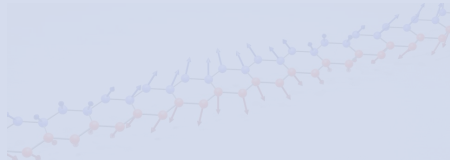
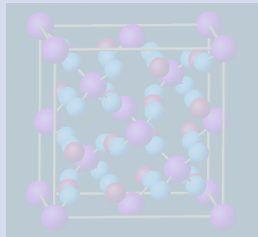
- Background



- Kinematics



- Target Excitations



- Effective Field Theory

$$\delta\mathcal{L}_{UV} \longrightarrow \delta\mathcal{L}_{NR} \longrightarrow \text{Observables}$$

UV/High-Energy ( $E \gg m_e$ ) Theory      NR/Low-Energy ( $E \ll m_e$ ) Theory

# Nuclear Recoil Effective Field Theory

[1203.3542] The Effective Field Theory of Dark Matter Direct Detection

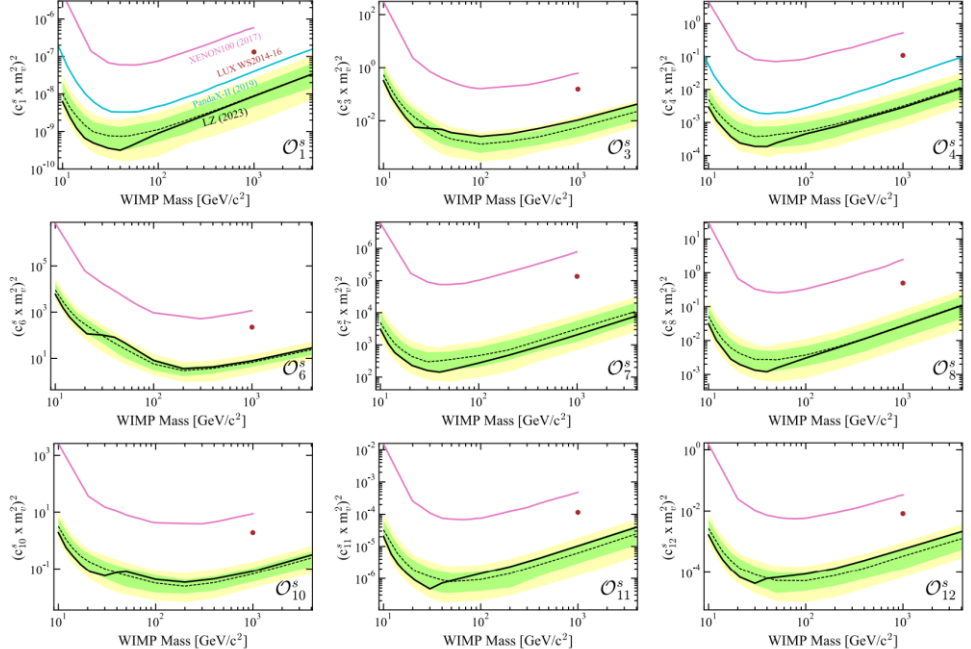
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = \sum_{N=n,p} \sum_i c_i^{(N)} \mathcal{O}_i \chi^+ \chi^- N^+ N^-$$

$$\mathcal{O}_1 = \mathbf{1}$$

$$\mathcal{O}_2 = (v^\perp)^2$$

$$\mathcal{O}_3 = i \vec{S}_N \cdot (\vec{q} \times \vec{v}^\perp)$$

⋮



[Phys. Rev. D 109, 092003 \(2024\) - First constraints on WIMP-nucleon effective field theory couplings in an extended energy region from LUX-ZEPLIN](#)

[Phys. Rev. D 109, 112017 \(2024\) - Effective field theory and inelastic dark matter results from XENON1T](#)



# Effective Field Theories

Dark Thomson Scattering

	Scattering	Absorption	Dark Thomson Scattering
<b>Nuclear Recoil</b>	<p>[1203.3542] <a href="#">The Effective Field Theory of Dark Matter Direct Detection</a></p>		
<b>Electron</b>	<p>[1912.08204] <a href="#">Atomic responses to general dark matter-electron interactions</a></p> <p>[2105.02233] <a href="#">Crystal responses to general dark matter-electron interactions</a></p> <p>[2407.14598] <a href="#">The Non-Relativistic Effective Field Theory Of Dark Matter-Electron Interactions</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>G. Krnjaic, D. Rocha, <b>T. Trickle</b></li> </ul>		
<b>Phonon</b>	<p>[2308.06314] <a href="#">Effective Field Theory for Dark Matter Absorption on Single Phonons</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Mitridate, K. Pardo, <b>T. Trickle</b>, K. Zurek</li> </ul>		
<b>Magnon</b>	<p>[2009.13534] <a href="#">Effective Field Theory of Dark Matter Direct Detection With Collective Excitations</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>T. Trickle</b>, Z. Zhang, K. Zurek</li> </ul>		

# NR EFT Of Dark Matter-Electron Interactions

UV/High-Energy ( $E \gg m_e$ ) Theory

NR/Low-Energy ( $E \ll m_e$ ) Theory



[\[2407.14598\] The Non-Relativistic Effective Field Theory Of Dark Matter-Electron Interactions](#)

- G. Krnjaic, D. Rocha, **T. Trickle**

# NR EFT Of Dark Matter-Electron Interactions

UV/High-Energy ( $E \gg m_e$ ) Theory

NR/Low-Energy ( $E \ll m_e$ ) Theory

$$\delta\mathcal{L}_{UV} = \bar{\Psi} \mathcal{O}_{UV} \Psi \longrightarrow \delta\mathcal{L}_{NR} = \psi^\dagger \mathcal{O}_{NR} \psi$$

How to map  $\bar{\Psi} \rightarrow \psi^\dagger$  ?

$$\mathcal{L}_{UV} = \bar{\Psi}(i\not{D} - m_e)\Psi \longrightarrow \mathcal{L}_{NR} = \psi^\dagger \left[ i\partial_t - \frac{\mathbf{p}^2}{2m_e} - V + \dots \right] \psi$$

*more generally, NRQED*

Applying the map,

$$\mathcal{O}_{NR} \approx \text{Tr} \left[ P_+ \left( \mathcal{O}_{UV} + \frac{i}{2m_e} \{\gamma^i D_i, \mathcal{O}_{UV}\} - \frac{1}{8m_e^2} \{\gamma^i D_i, \{\gamma^j D_j, \mathcal{O}_{UV}\}\} - \frac{ie}{4m_e^2} \{\gamma^0 \gamma^i F_{0i}, \mathcal{O}_{UV}\} \right) \right]$$

+ Order  $m_e^{-3}$

[2407.14598] [The Non-Relativistic Effective Field Theory Of Dark Matter-Electron Interactions](#)

- G. Krnjaic, D. Rocha, **T. Trickle**

# NR EFT Of Dark Matter-Electron Interactions

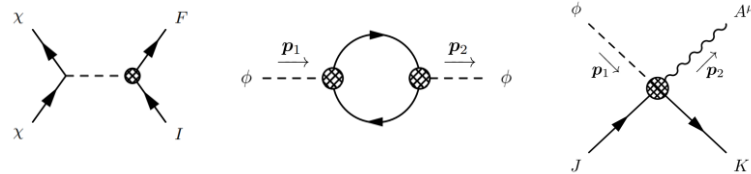
NR/Low-Energy ( $E \ll m_e$ ) Theory

$$\delta \mathcal{L}_{\text{NR}}$$

Feynman Rules

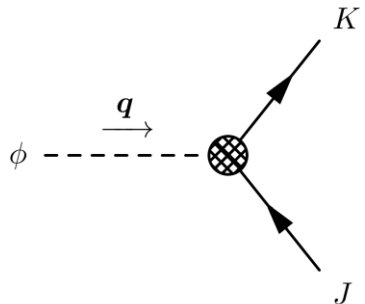


Observables



## Three Point Feynman Rule

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}}^{\text{NR}} = \sum_{\ell=1}^8 \left[ C_{\phi,\ell} \phi + C_{\nabla\phi,\ell} \frac{(\nabla\phi)}{m_e} + \dots \right] [\psi^\dagger \hat{O}_\ell \psi] \implies i\mathcal{M}_{\text{NR}} = i \sum_{\ell=1}^8 \left[ C_{\phi,\ell} + C_{\nabla\phi,\ell} \left( \frac{i\mathbf{q}}{m_e} \right) + \dots \right] \left[ \int d^3\mathbf{x} e^{i\mathbf{q}\cdot\mathbf{x}} \psi_K^\dagger(\mathbf{x}) \hat{O}_\ell \psi_J(\mathbf{x}) \right]$$



$$\implies i \sum_{\ell=1}^8 f_{\phi,\ell}(\mathbf{q}) \hat{\mathcal{M}}_{JK,\ell}(\mathbf{q})$$

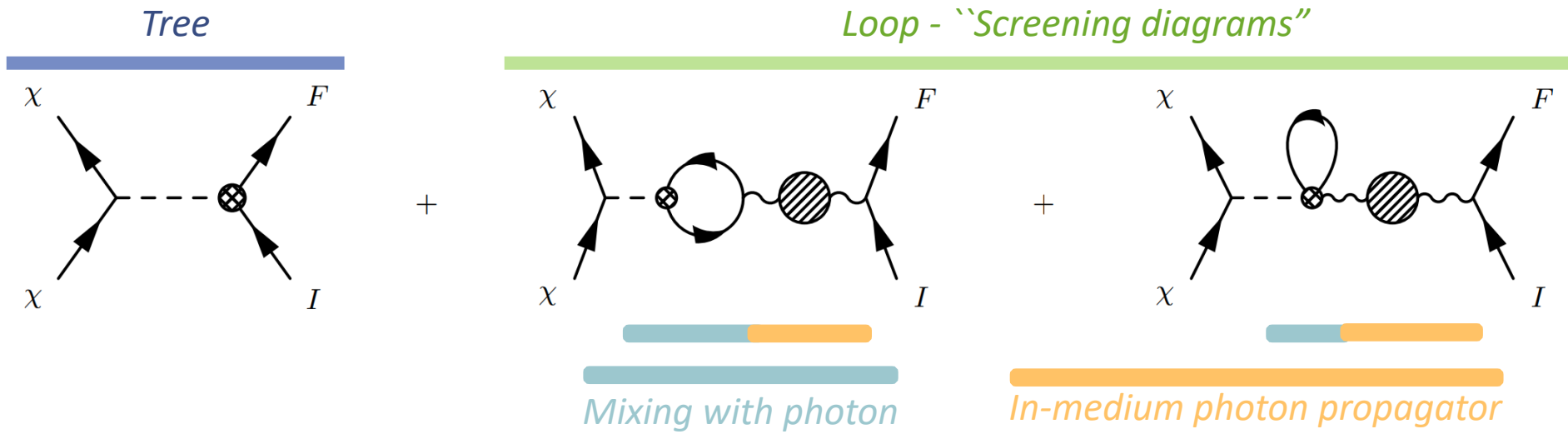
Feynman rule factorizes to **DM-model dependent** and **target dependent** pieces.

[2407.14598] The Non-Relativistic Effective Field Theory Of Dark Matter-Electron Interactions

• G. Krnjaic, D. Rocha, T. Trickle

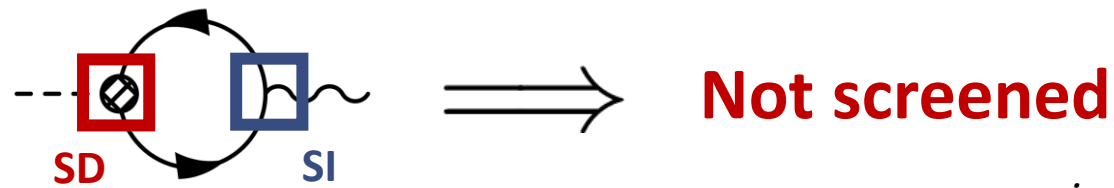
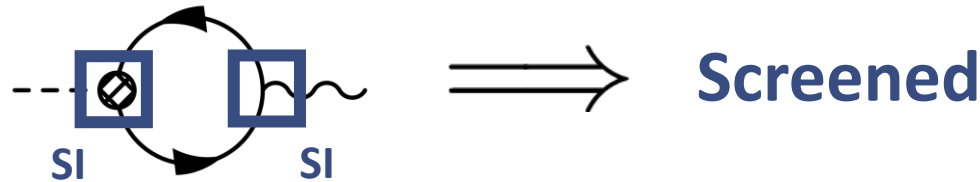
ttrickle@fnal.gov

# Screening Effects in the EFT



What models are screened?

**Those with non-zero mixing with the photon.**



*in simple targets\**

# Other Interesting Directions

## Calibrating results to data

- [2101.08275] [Dark matter-electron scattering in dielectrics](#)
- [2101.08263] [Determining Dark Matter-Electron Scattering Rates from the Dielectric Function](#)

Dark photon scattering rate

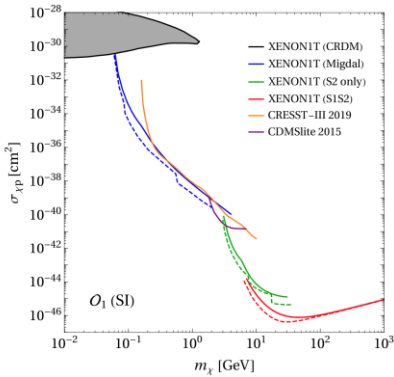
$$\Gamma(\mathbf{v}_\chi) = \int \frac{d^3\mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^3} |V(\mathbf{q})|^2 \left[ 2 \frac{q^2}{e^2} \text{Im} \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon(\mathbf{q}, \omega_{\mathbf{q}})} \right) \right]$$

*measurable*

## Other physical effects

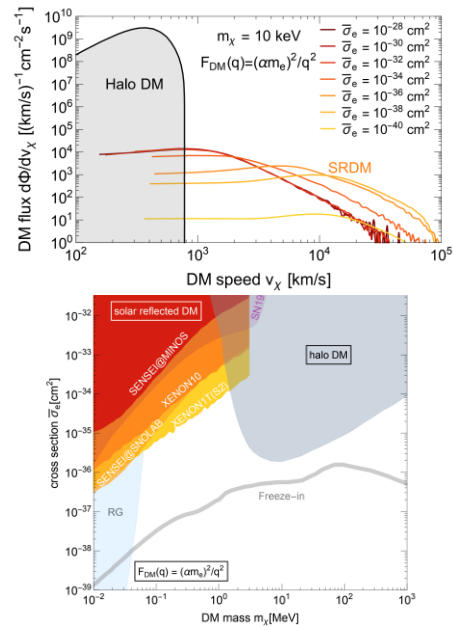
### Migdal Effect

- [1908.10881] [On the relation between Migdal effect and dark matter-electron scattering in isolated atoms and semiconductors](#)
- [2210.06490] [The Migdal Effect in Semiconductors for Dark Matter with Masses below  \$\sim 100\$  MeV](#)



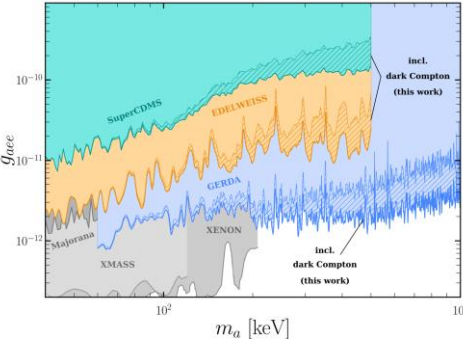
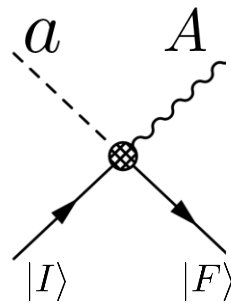
### Boosted Dark Matter

[2404.10066] [Solar reflection of dark matter with dark-photon mediators](#)



### Dark Thomson

- [2109.08168] [Impact of Dark Compton Scattering on Direct Dark Matter Absorption Searches](#)
- [2407.14598] [The Non-Relativistic Effective Field Theory Of Dark Matter-Electron Interactions](#)
- G. Krnjaic, D. Rocha, **T. Trickle**



### Daily Modulation

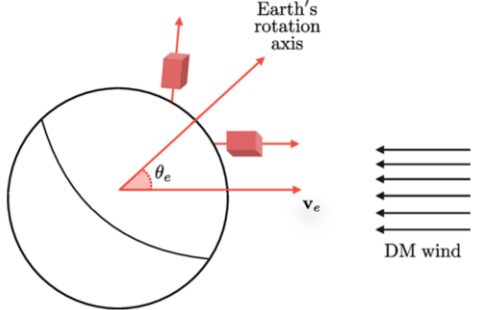
- [2102.09567] [Directional Detectability of Dark Matter With Single Phonon Excitations: Target Comparison](#)
- A. Coskuner, **T. Trickle**, Z. Zhang, K. Zurek
- [2212.04505] [Directional detection of dark matter with anisotropic response functions](#)

### High-Frequency GWs

- [2311.17147] [Searching for High Frequency Gravitational Waves with Phonons](#)
- Y. Kahn, J. Schutte-Engel, **T. Trickle**

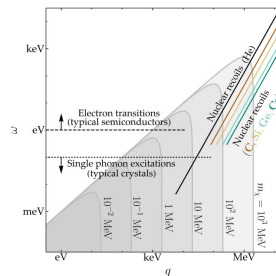
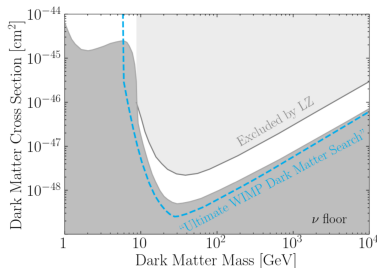
ttrickle@fnal.gov

Theory of Direct Detection For The Next Generation

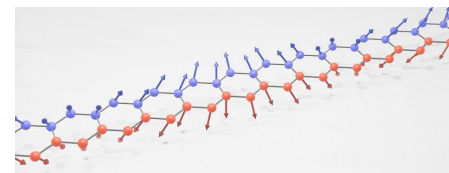
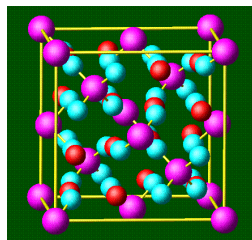
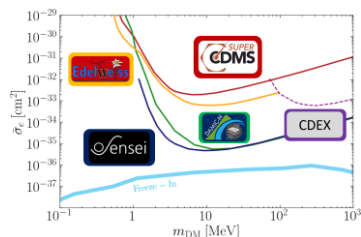


# Summary

- The next generation of direct detection experiments will rely on low-energy excitations.



- Electrons, phonons, and magnons are kinematically well-matched to light dark matter, and can probe complementary parts of parameter space.



- Effective field theory is a useful tool for parameterizing all potential signatures.

$$\delta\mathcal{L}_{UV} = \bar{\Psi} \mathcal{O}_{UV} \Psi \longrightarrow \delta\mathcal{L}_{NR} = \psi^\dagger \mathcal{O}_{NR} \psi$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{NR} \approx \text{Tr} \left[ P_+ \left( \mathcal{O}_{UV} + \frac{i}{2m_e} \{ \gamma^i D_i, \mathcal{O}_{UV} \} - \frac{1}{8m_e^2} \{ \gamma^i D_i, \{ \gamma^j D_j, \mathcal{O}_{UV} \} \} - \frac{ie}{4m_e^2} \{ \gamma^0 \gamma^i F_{0i}, \mathcal{O}_{UV} \} \right) \right]$$