

# *Dark Matter & Flavor Factories*



DMNet International Symposium “Dark Matter Studies in Accelerator Physics”

*Diego Redigolo*  
*INFN Florence*

# New search strategies to explore dark sector targets



@ kaon factories

see arXiv 2201.07805

## New Physics Searches at Kaon and Hyperon Factories

*Editors:* Evgueni Goudzovski<sup>1</sup>, Diego Redigolo<sup>2,3</sup>, Kohsaku Tobioka<sup>4,5</sup>, Jure Zupan<sup>6</sup>

*Authors:* Gonzalo Alonso-Álvarez<sup>7</sup>, Daniele S. M. Alves<sup>8</sup>, Saurabh Bansal<sup>6</sup>, Martin Bauer<sup>9</sup>, Joachim Brod<sup>6</sup>, Veronika Chobanova<sup>10</sup>, Giancarlo D'Ambrosio<sup>11</sup>, Alakabha Datta<sup>12</sup>, Avital Dery<sup>13</sup>, Francesco Dettori<sup>14</sup>, Bogdan A. Dobrescu<sup>15</sup>, Babette Döbrich<sup>16</sup>, Daniel Egana-Ugrinovic<sup>17</sup>, Gilly Elor<sup>18</sup>, Miguel Escudero<sup>19</sup>, Marco Fabbrichesi<sup>20</sup>, Bartosz Fornal<sup>21</sup>, Patrick J. Fox<sup>15</sup>, Emidio Gabrielli<sup>20,22,23</sup>, Li-Sheng Geng<sup>24</sup>, Vladimir V. Gligorov<sup>25</sup>, Martin Gorbahn<sup>26</sup>, Stefania Gori<sup>27</sup>, Benjamin Grinstein<sup>28</sup>, Yuval Grossman<sup>13</sup>, Diego Guadagnoli<sup>29</sup>, Samuel Homiller<sup>30</sup>, Matheus Hostert<sup>17,31,32</sup>, Kevin J. Kelly<sup>2,15</sup>, Teppei Kitahara<sup>33</sup>, Simon Knapen<sup>2,34,35</sup>, Gordan Krnjaic<sup>36,37,38</sup>, Andrzej Kupsc<sup>39,40</sup>, Sandra Kvedaraitė<sup>6</sup>, Gaia Lanfranchi<sup>41</sup>, Danny Marfatia<sup>42</sup>, Jorge Martin Camalich<sup>43,44</sup>, Diego Martínez Santos<sup>10</sup>, Karim Massri<sup>16</sup>, Patrick Meade<sup>45</sup>, Matthew Moulson<sup>41</sup>, Hajime Nanjo<sup>46</sup>, Matthias Neubert<sup>18</sup>, Maxim Pospelov<sup>31,32</sup>, Sophie Renner<sup>2</sup>, Stefan Schacht<sup>47</sup>, Marvin Schnubel<sup>18</sup>, Rui-Xiang Shi<sup>25,48</sup>, Brian Shuve<sup>49</sup>, Tommaso Spadaro<sup>41</sup>, Yotam Soreq<sup>50</sup>, Emmanuel Stamou<sup>51</sup>, Olcyr Sumensari<sup>52</sup>, Michele Tammaro<sup>53</sup>, Jorge Terol-Calvo<sup>43,44</sup>, Andrea Thamm<sup>54</sup>, Yu-Chen Tung<sup>55</sup>, Dayong Wang<sup>56</sup>, Kei Yamamoto<sup>57</sup>, Robert Ziegler<sup>58</sup>

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with L. Calibbi, J. Zupan, R. Ziegler



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see arXiv 2203.11222

with Y. Jho, S. Knapen



@ B meson factories

see arXiv 2307.06369 + to appear

with F. Acanfora, R. Franceschini, A. Mastroddi



# *Why is this important?*



*Triggering data that would otherwise get lost*

*Example @*

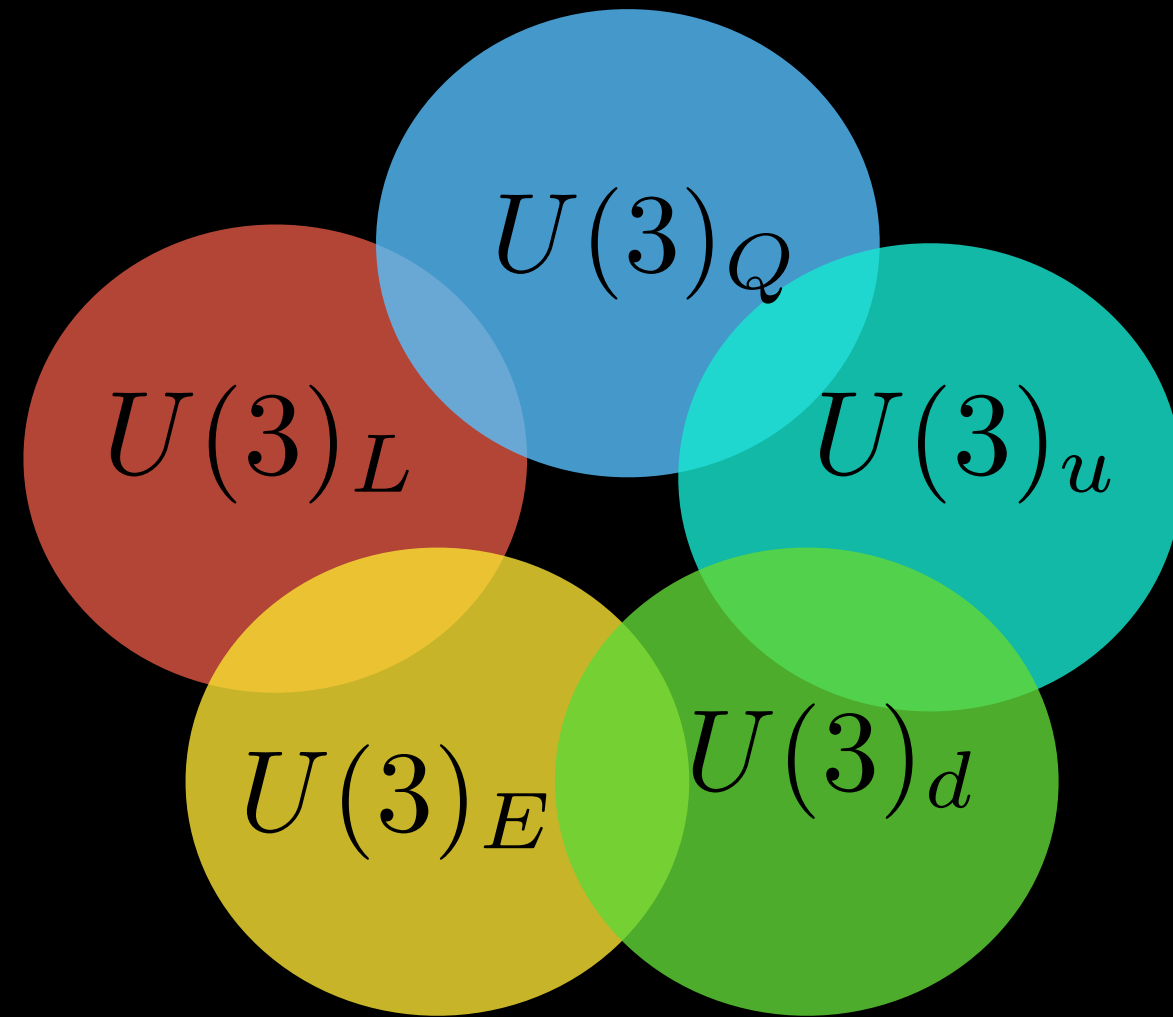


*Squeezing the data as much as we can*

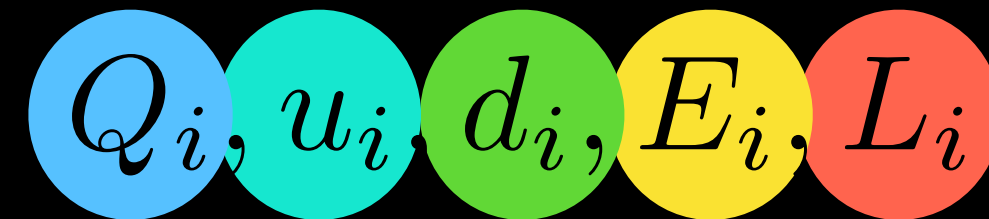
*Example @*



# Where is the theory?



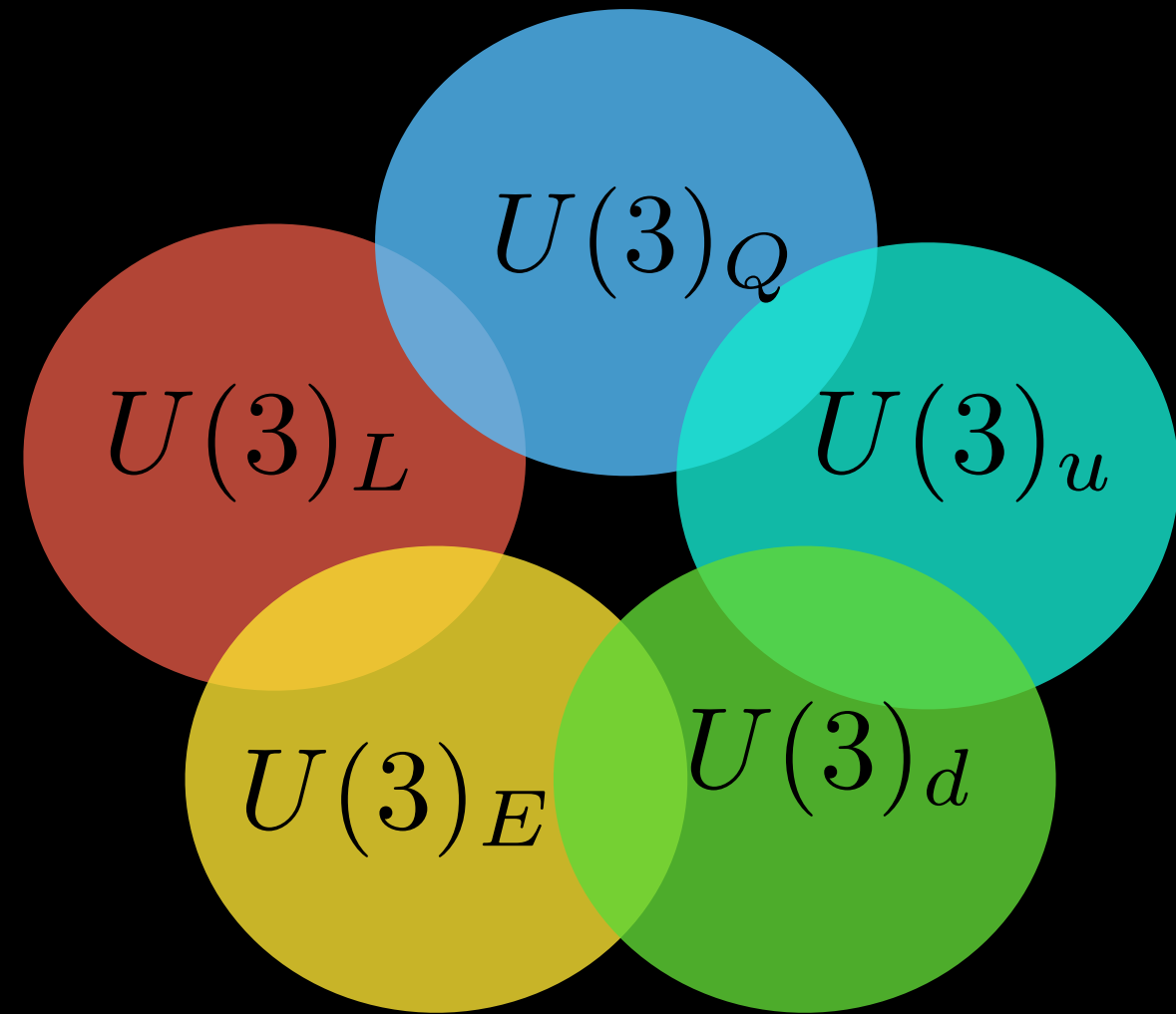
*Peccei-Quinn charges can be flavor dependent*



*Calibbi-Goertz-Redigolo-Ziegler-Zupan 2016*

*Ema-Hamaguchi-Moroi-Nakayama 2016*

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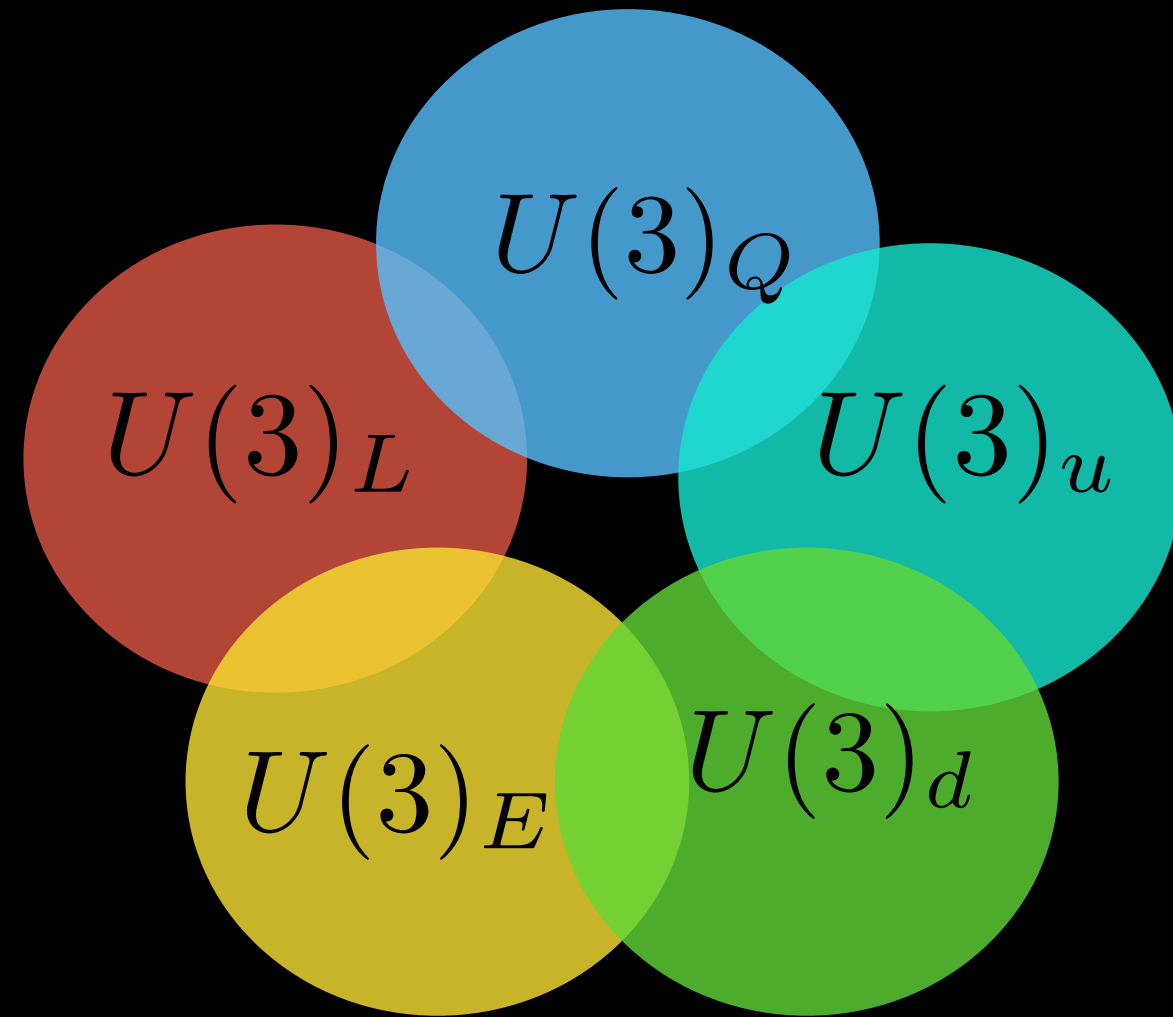


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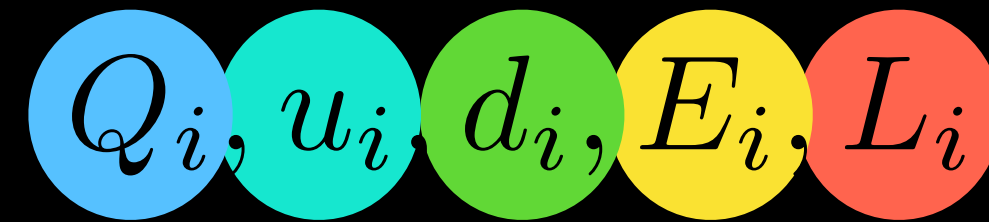
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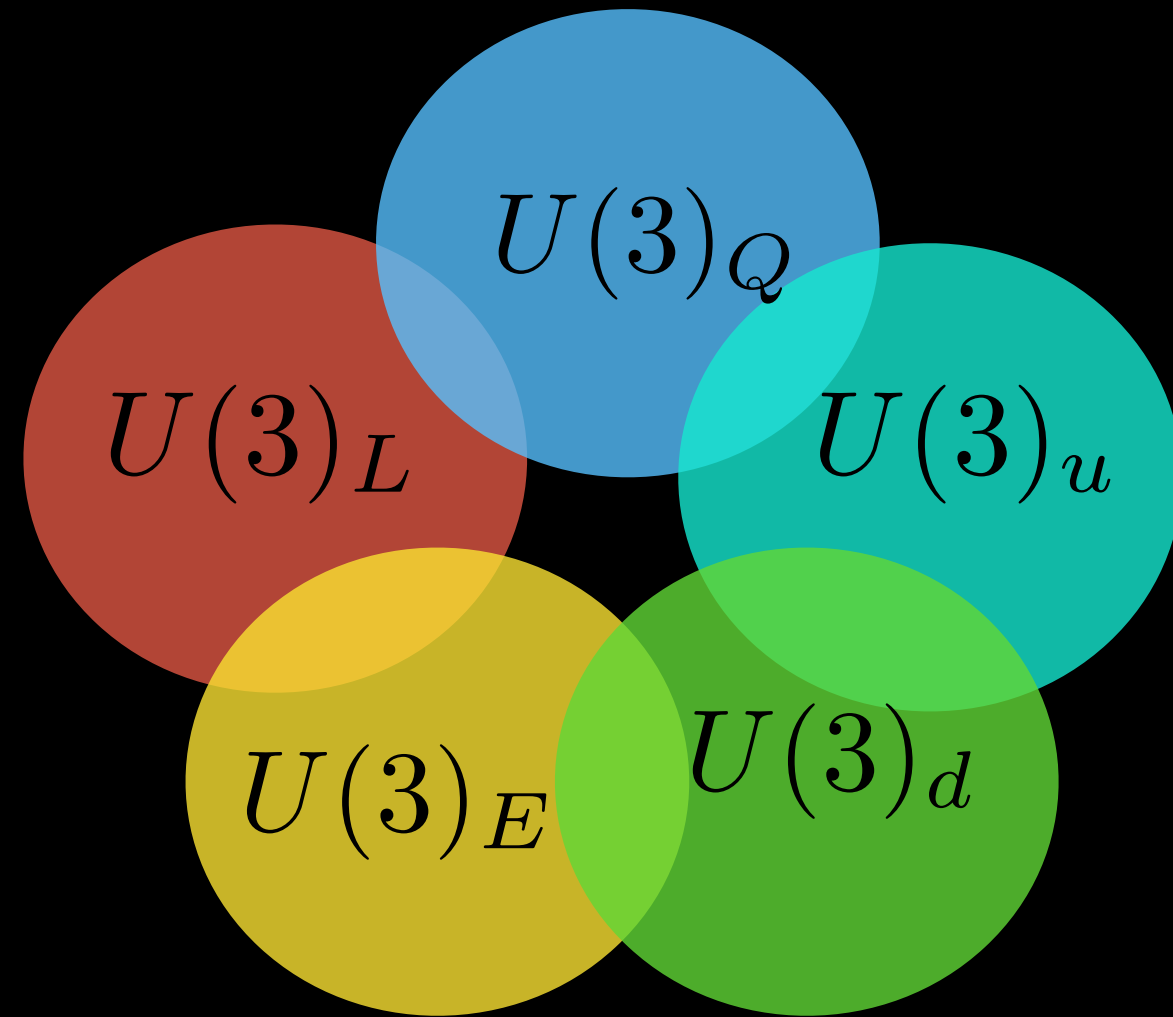
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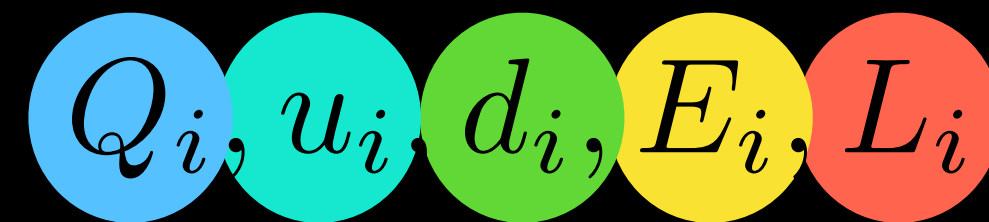
*Feng-Murayama-Moroi-Shnapka 1998*



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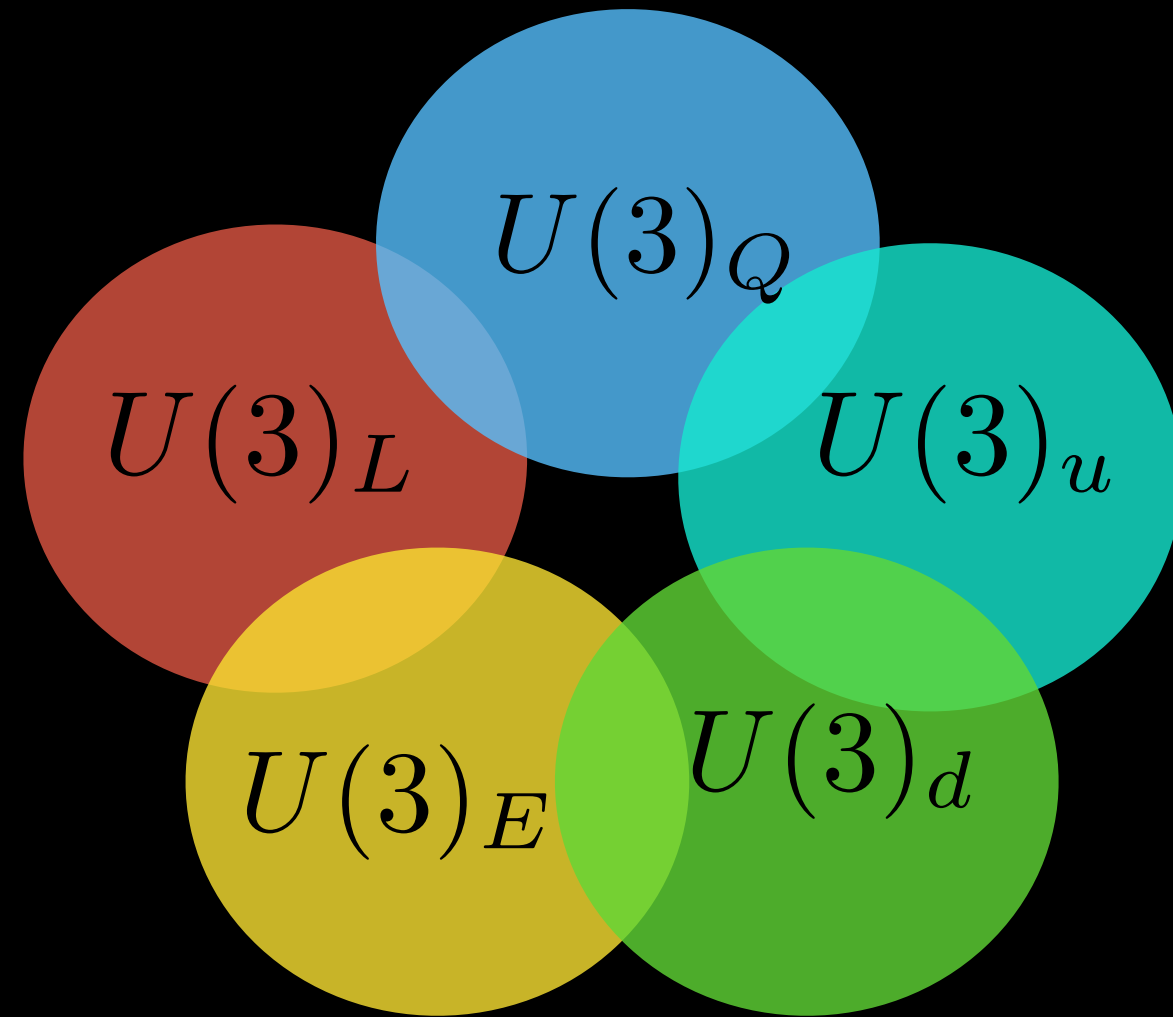
The hierarchy **FLAVOR-DIAGONAL** vs **FLAVOR-VIOLATING** depends on the UV flavor theory

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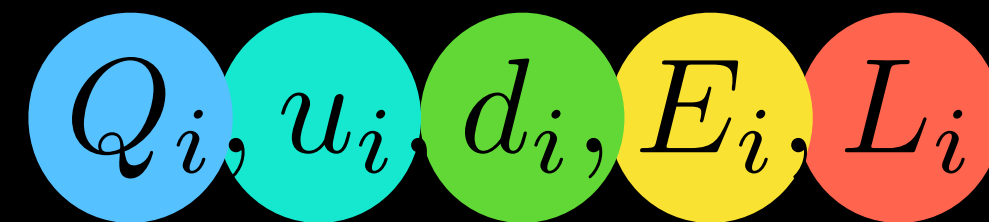
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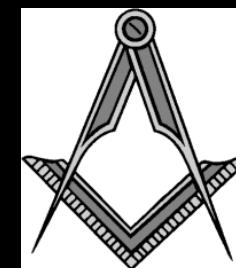
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**Flavor Anarchy:**

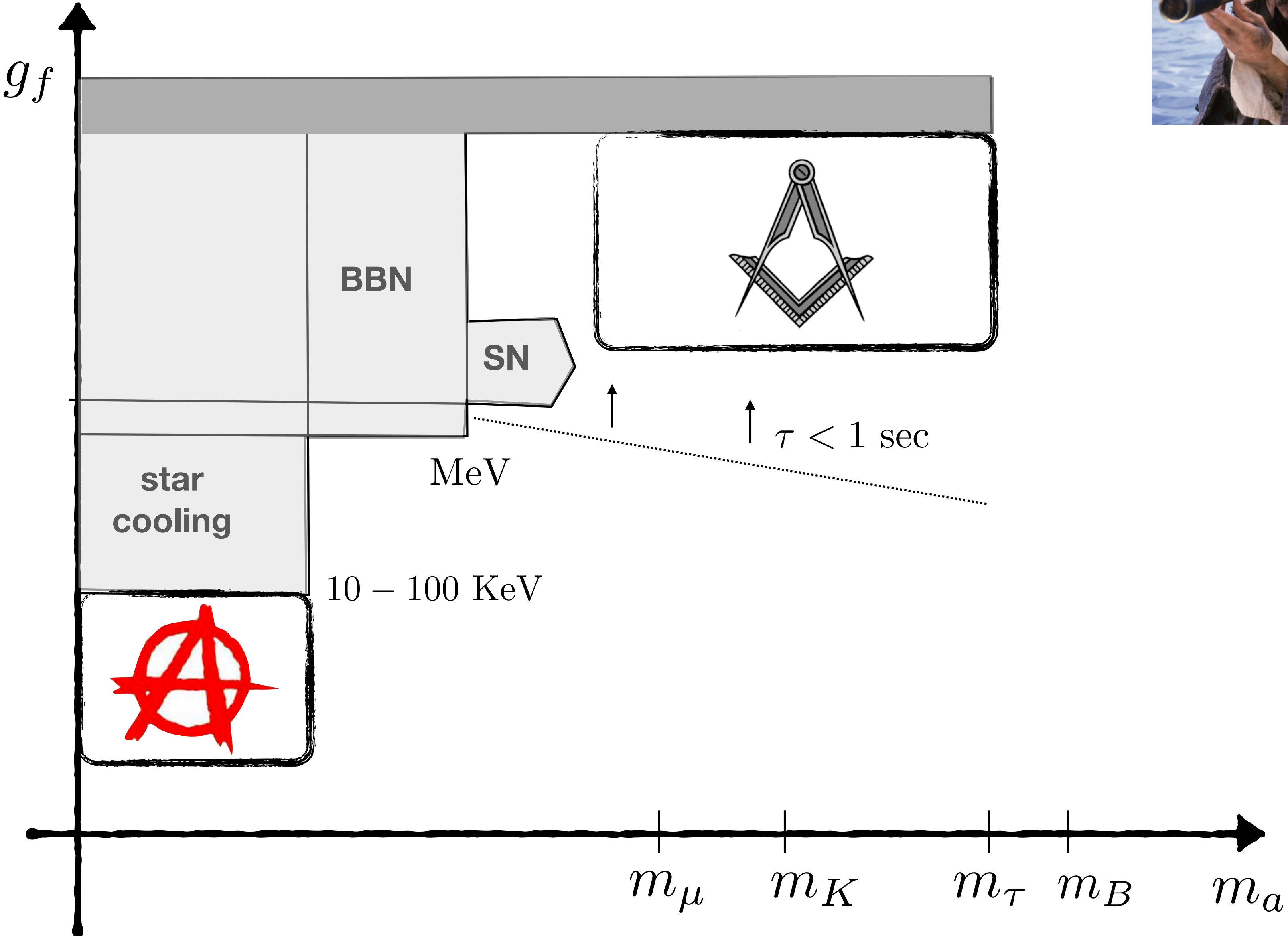
$$C_{ij}^{A,V}(\Lambda_{UV}) \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$$



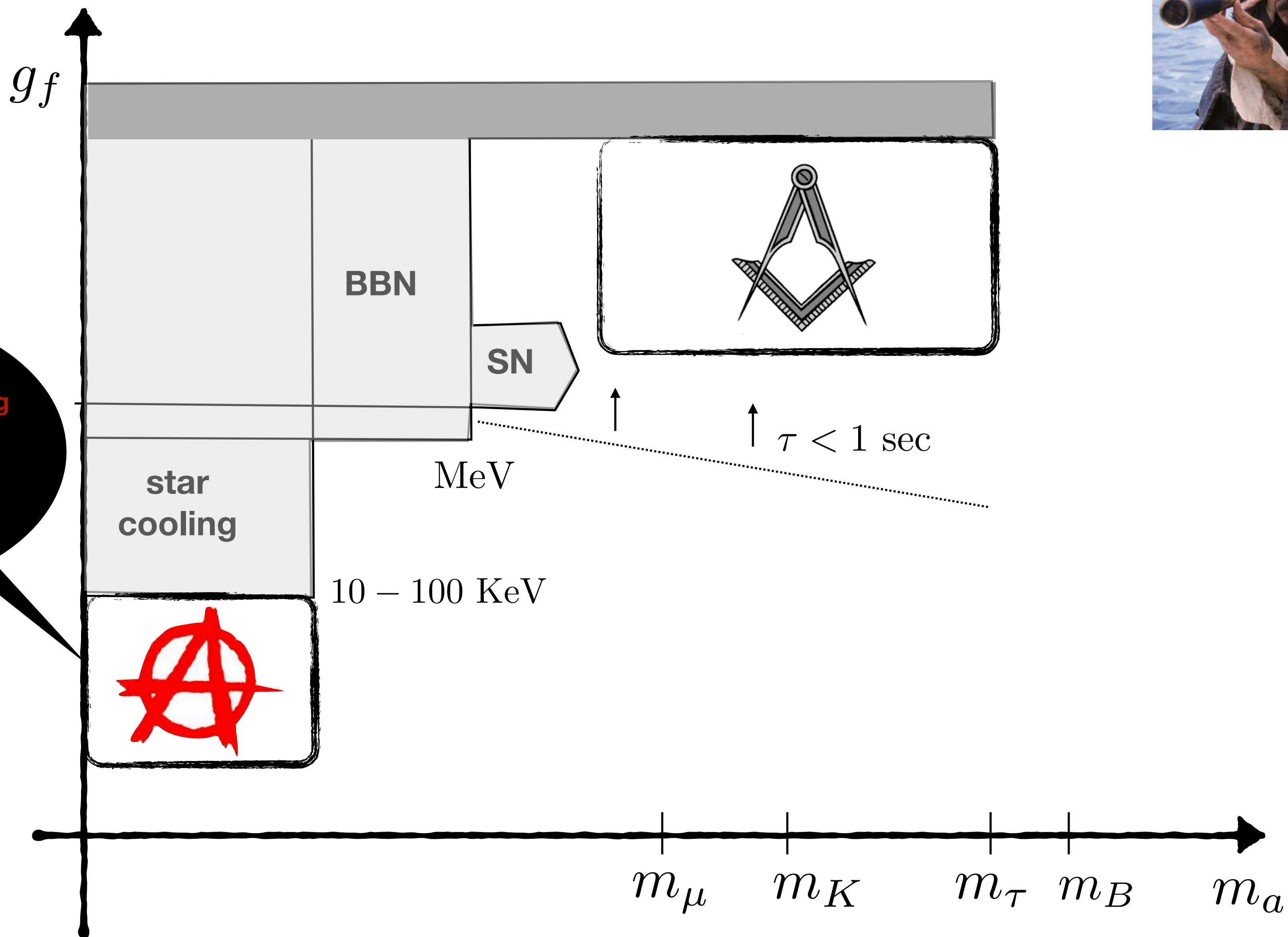
**Minimal Flavor Violation:**

$$C_{ij}^{A,V}(\Lambda_{UV}) = 0$$

# Theory landscape



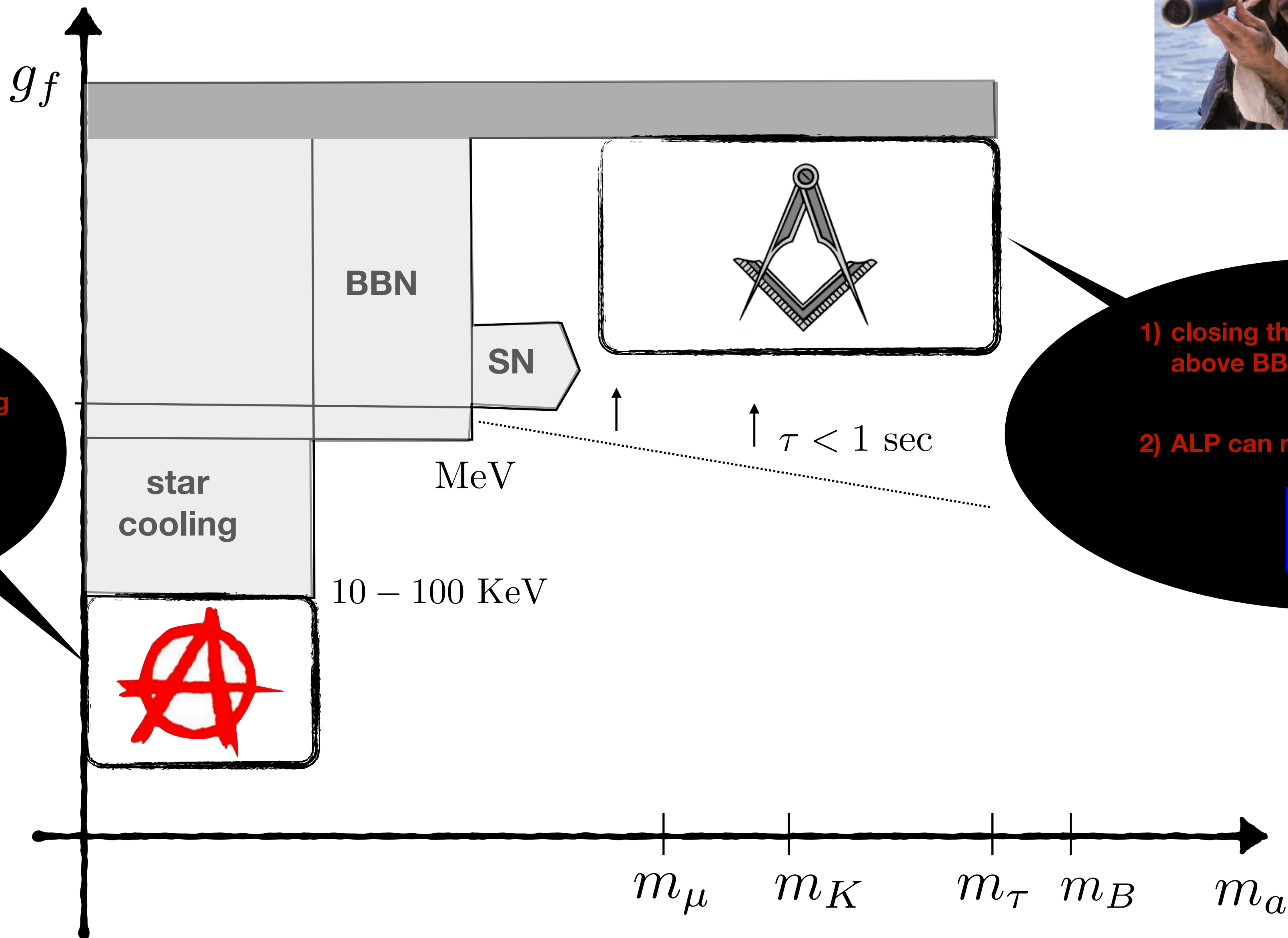
# Theory landscape



- 1) rare decays > cooling
- 2) ALPs can be DM



# Theory landscape



- 1) rare decays > cooling
- 2) ALPs can be DM



- 1) closing the “prompt” region above BBN bounds

- 2) ALP can mediate freeze-out





# *Triggers*



*Enormous luminosities poses trigger challenges*

*We need to know what to look for in advance*

*MEG II as an example*



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see arXiv 2006.04795  
with L. Calibbi, J. Zupan, R. Ziegler

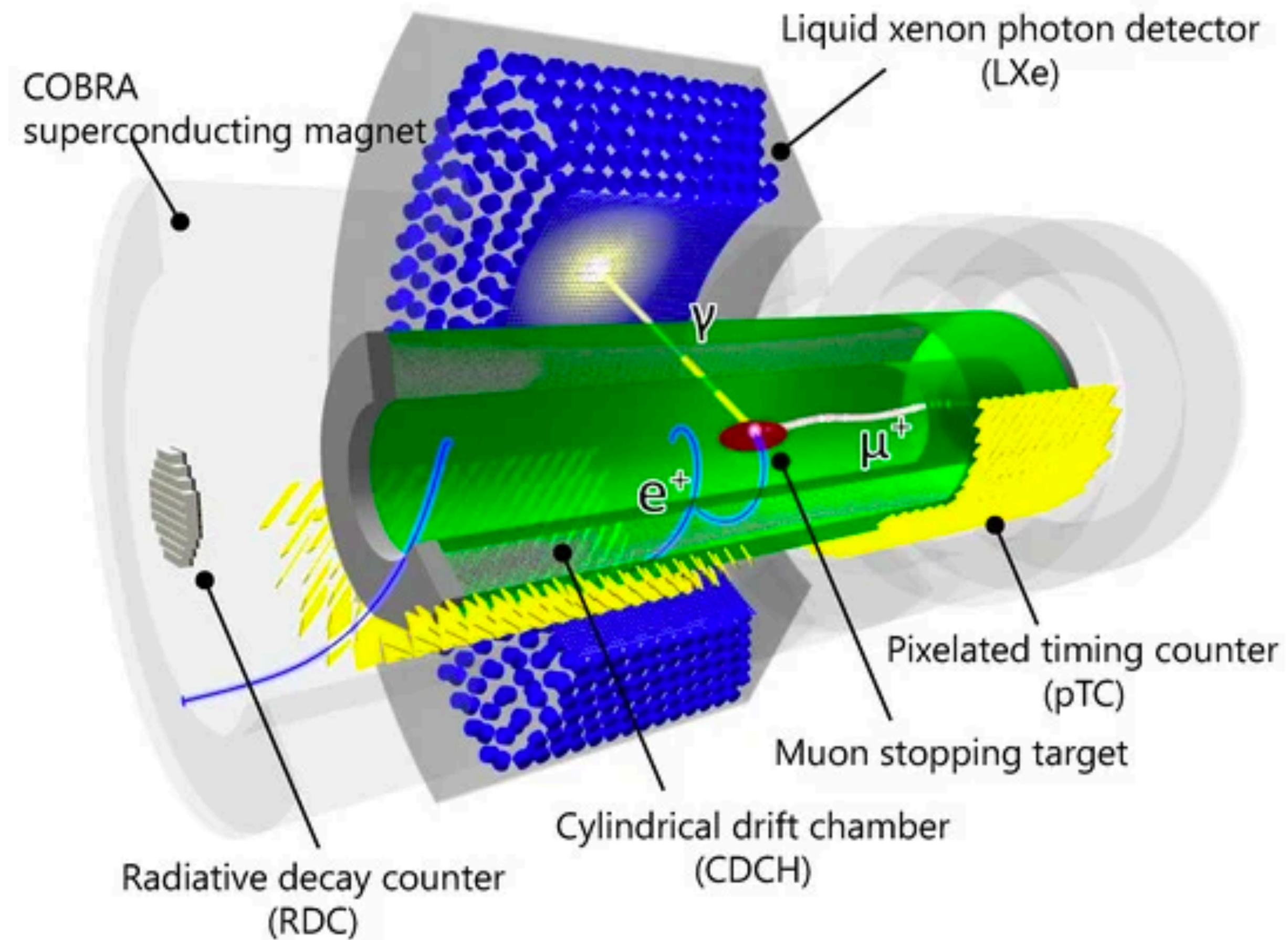


see arXiv 2203.11222  
with Y. Jho, S. Knapen



# MEG II

$$\text{BR}(\mu \rightarrow e\gamma) < 4.2 \times 10^{-13} \quad \text{MEG 2016}$$



## Trigger level info:

- 1) Photon energy by liquid Xenon scintillator
- 2) hit on the timing counter

## Offline:

- 3) full measure of the positron momentum



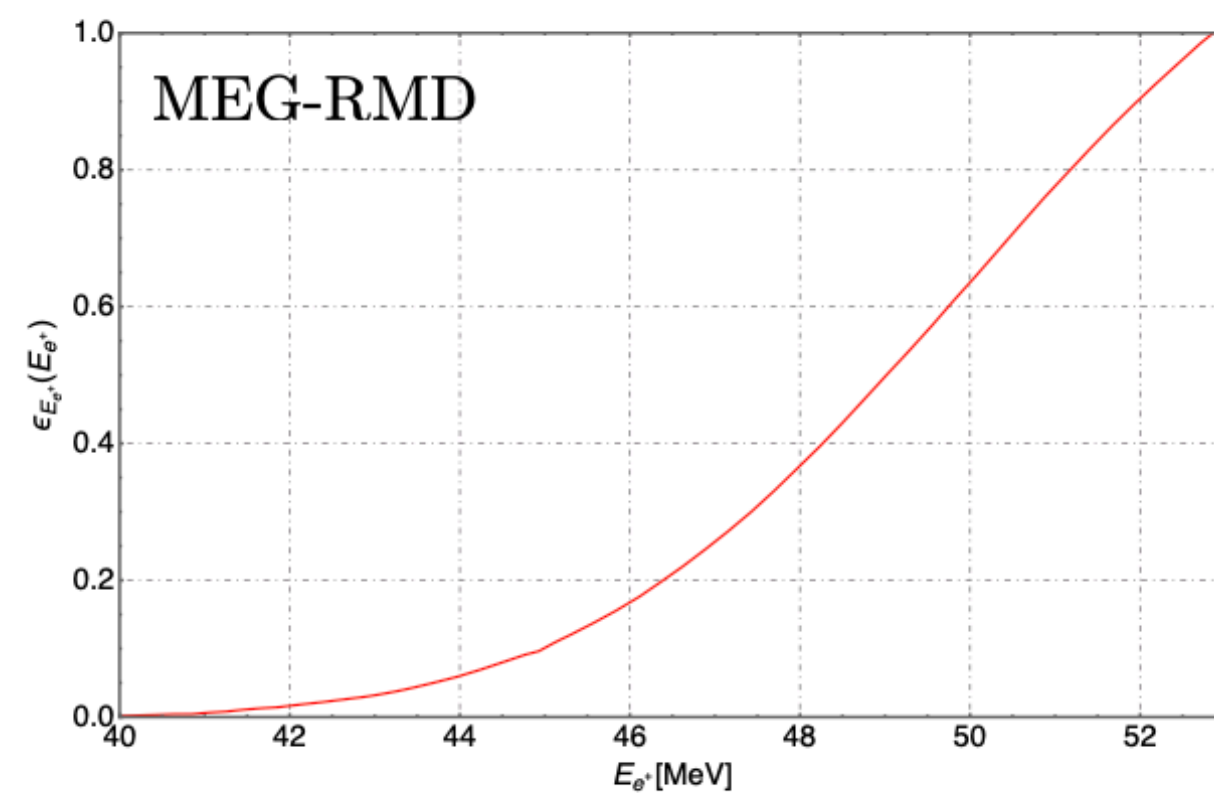
# Trigger Selection

$\text{BR}(\mu \rightarrow e\gamma) < 4.2 \times 10^{-13}$  MEG 2016  $\longleftrightarrow$  1) very high intensity  
2) very exclusive trigger targeted at  $\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$

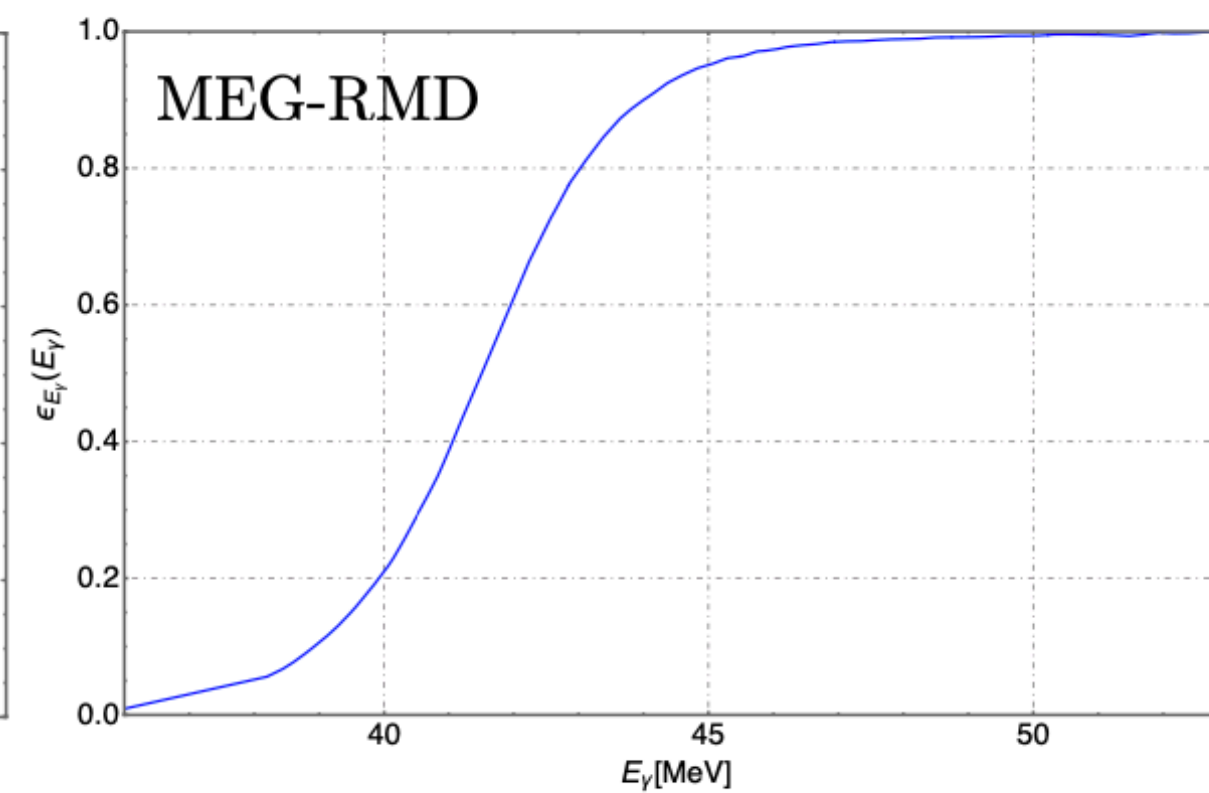
The trigger maximize the efficiency to back to back positron-photon of  $E = m_\mu/2$

See Galli et al. *JINST 9 (2014)*

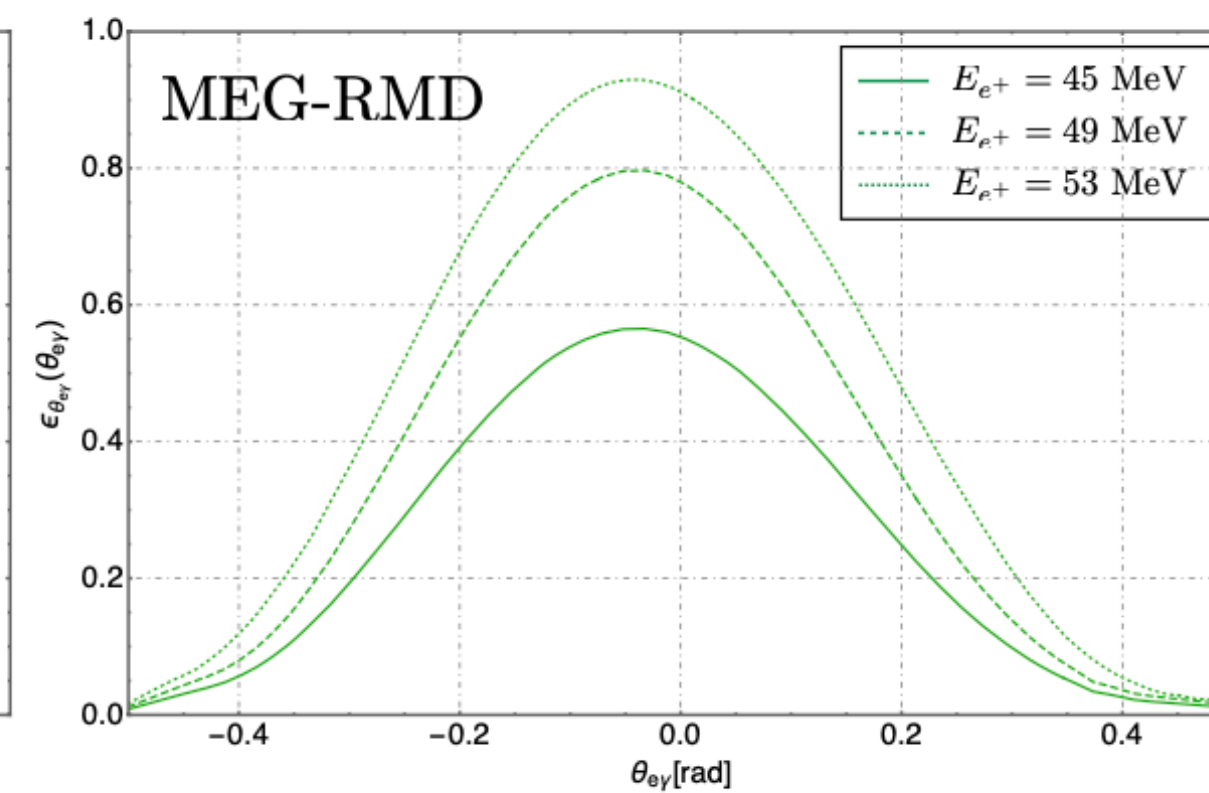
Positron energy  $>45$  MeV hardware



Photon  $>45$  MeV @ trigger level



back to back topology @ trigger level



Taken from *MEG-RMD measurement 1312.3217*

## *In numbers...*

Besides  $R_{\mu^+}^{\text{MEG}} = 3 \times 10^7 \mu^+ / \text{sec}$  intensity

Very little data can be saved on disk or analysed offline at MEG II

The maximal allowed stream is around 10 Hz

Online the trigger should select 1 “interesting” muon event out of  $10^7$

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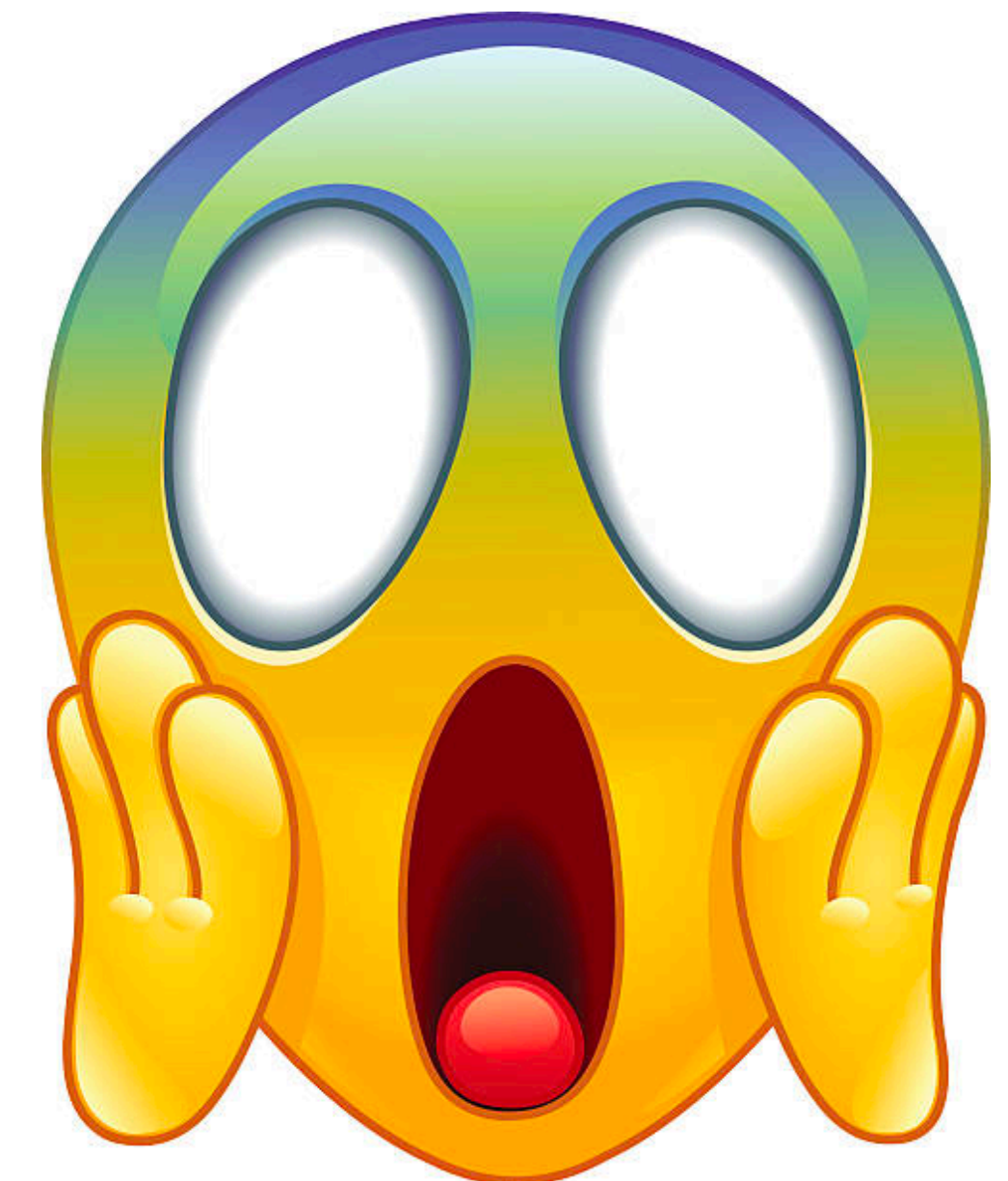
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**All the rest of the data is lost!**



# Light new physics vs Lepton Flavor

Accidental symmetries of the Standard Model might be broken by light new particles feebly coupled to the SM

These light particles naturally emerges in models where Lepton Flavor is broken spontaneously at high scale  
(familon, axion, axion-like particles, majorons)

See. *L. Calibbi, D.R., R. Ziegler, J. Zupan 2006.04795*

Light pseudo-Goldstone bosons (or ALP)  $m_a \ll m_\mu$

LFV @ dimension 5

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}}^{\text{LFV}} \supset \frac{\partial_\mu a}{2f_a} \bar{\mu} \gamma^\mu (C_{\mu e}^V + C_{\mu e}^A \gamma_5) e + \frac{\partial_\mu a}{f_a} \bar{e} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 e + \frac{m_a^2}{2} a^2 + \frac{1}{f_a^2} \dots$$

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Heavy scale  
not accessible  
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axial and vectorial LFV of the ALP

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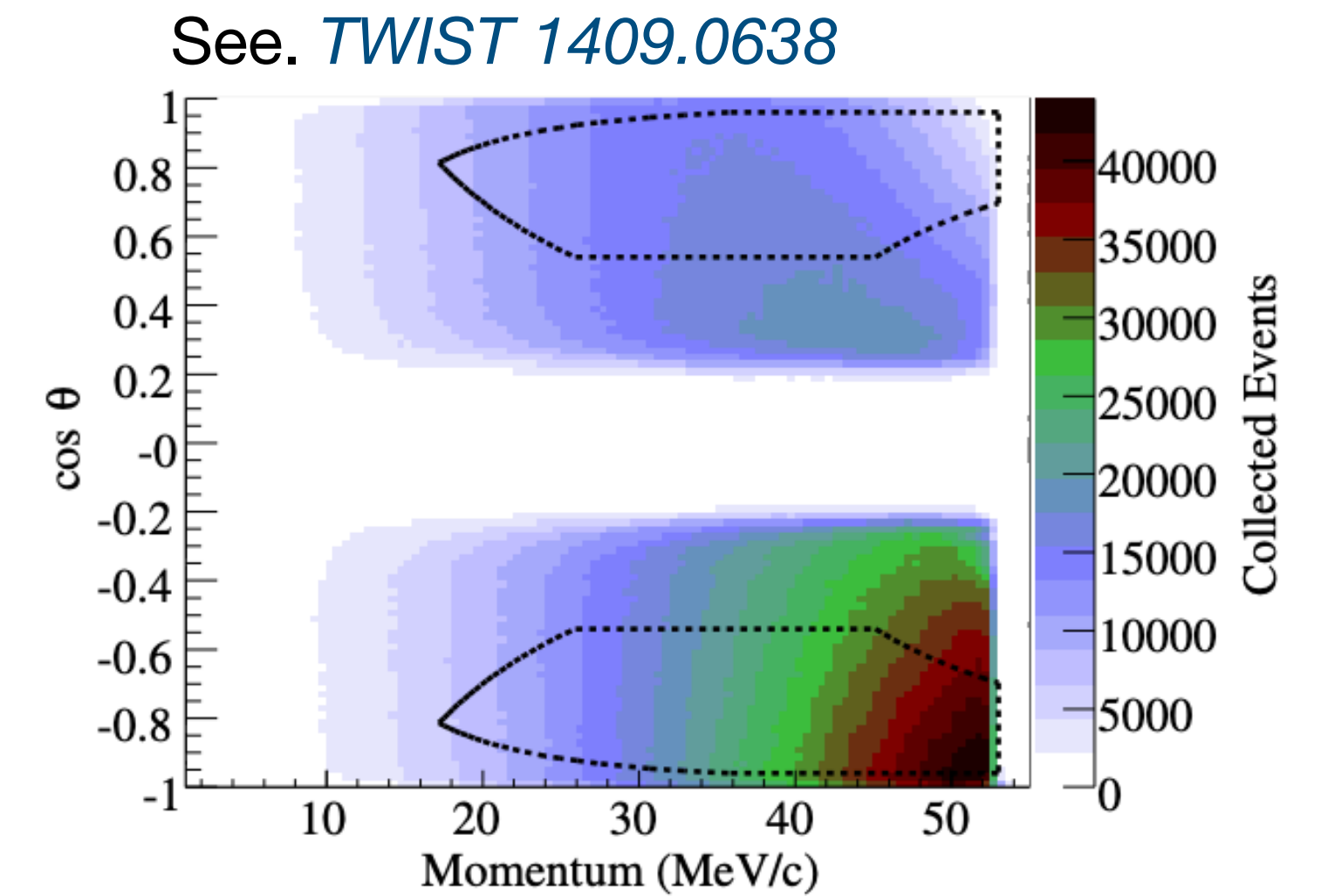
Interplay between flavor experiments and astrophysics

# Light new physics experimental paradigm

Hunt for rare muon decays with missing energy

$$\mu \rightarrow ea$$

Huge irreducible background from Michel  $\mu \rightarrow e\nu\bar{\nu}$



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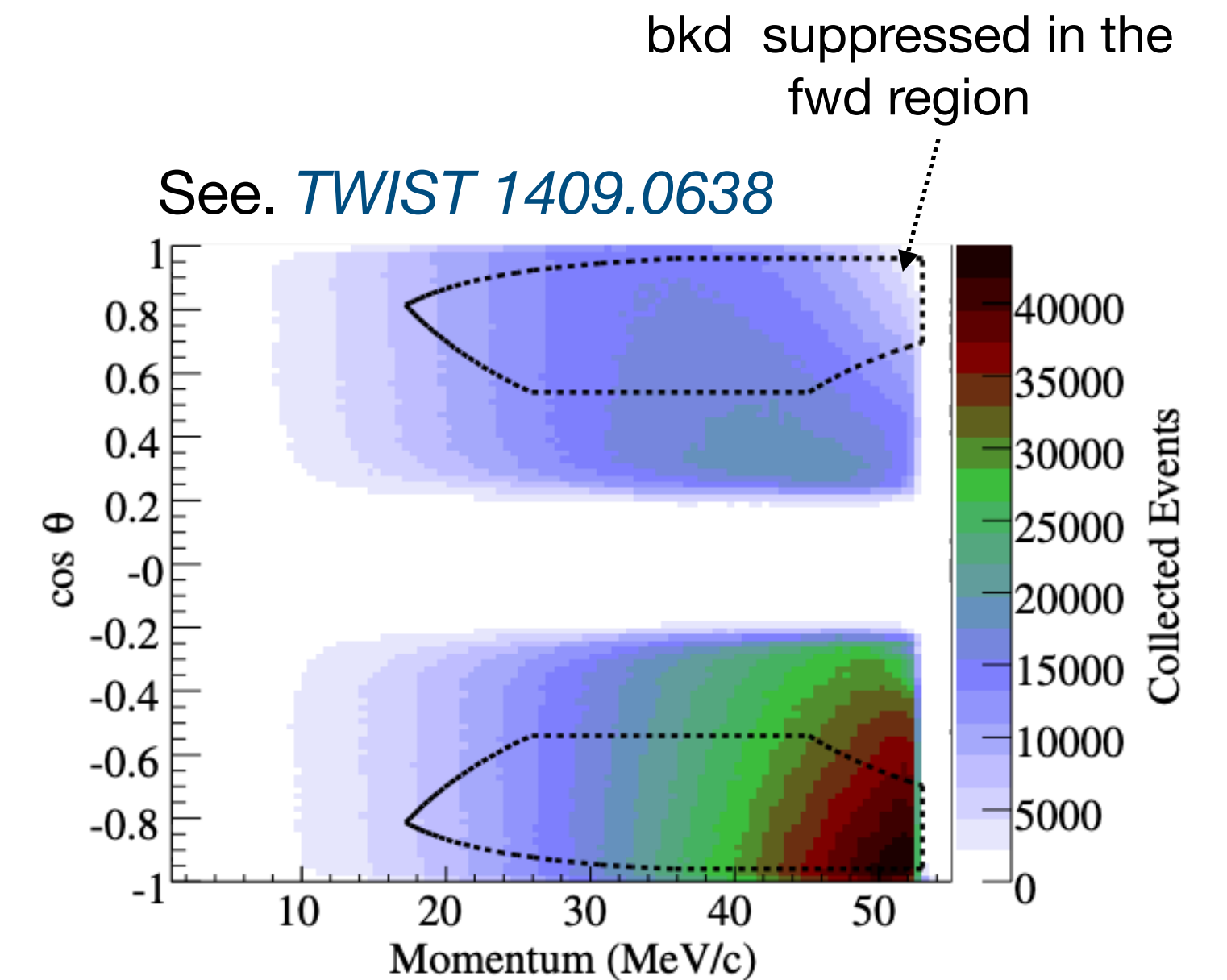
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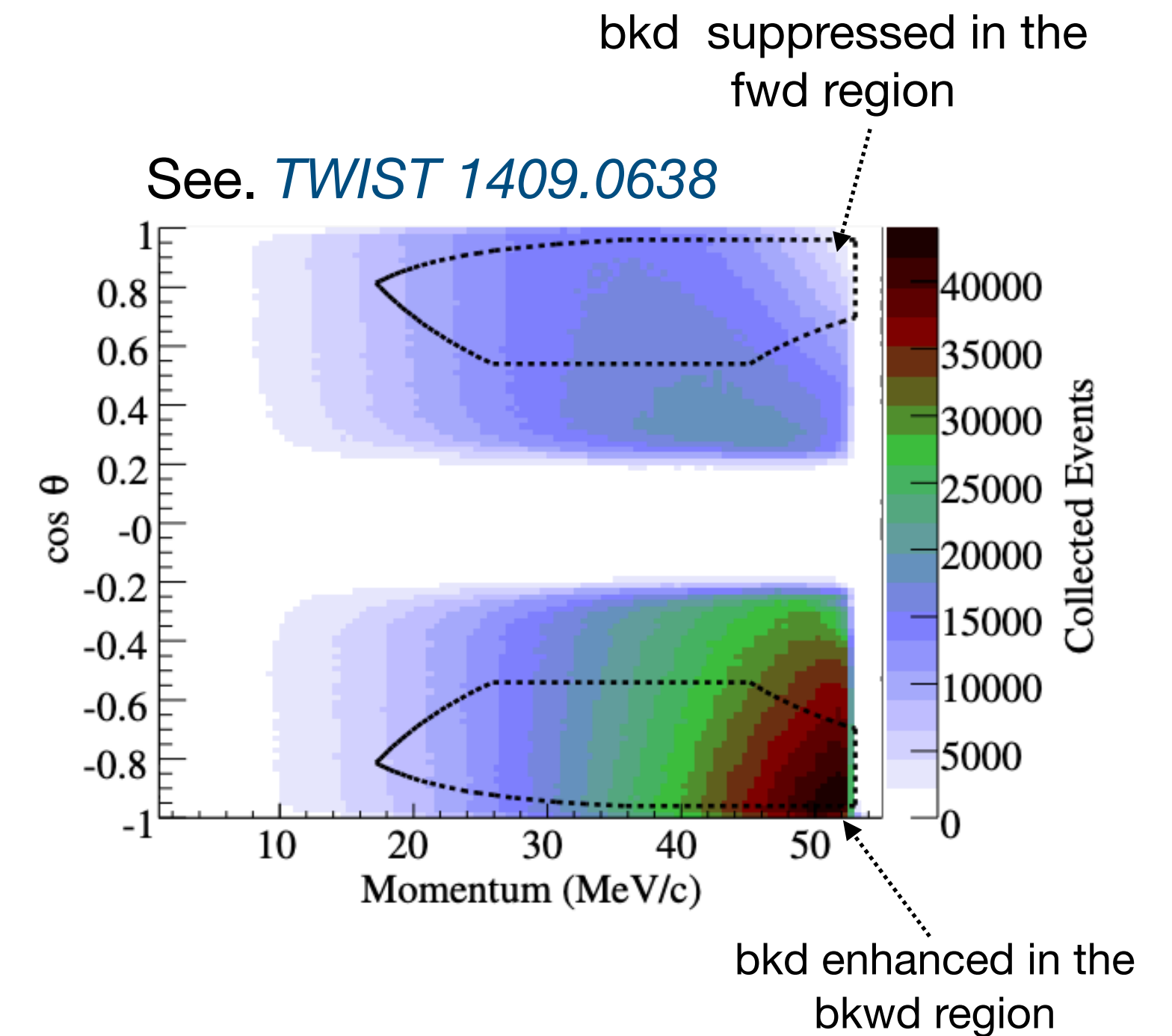
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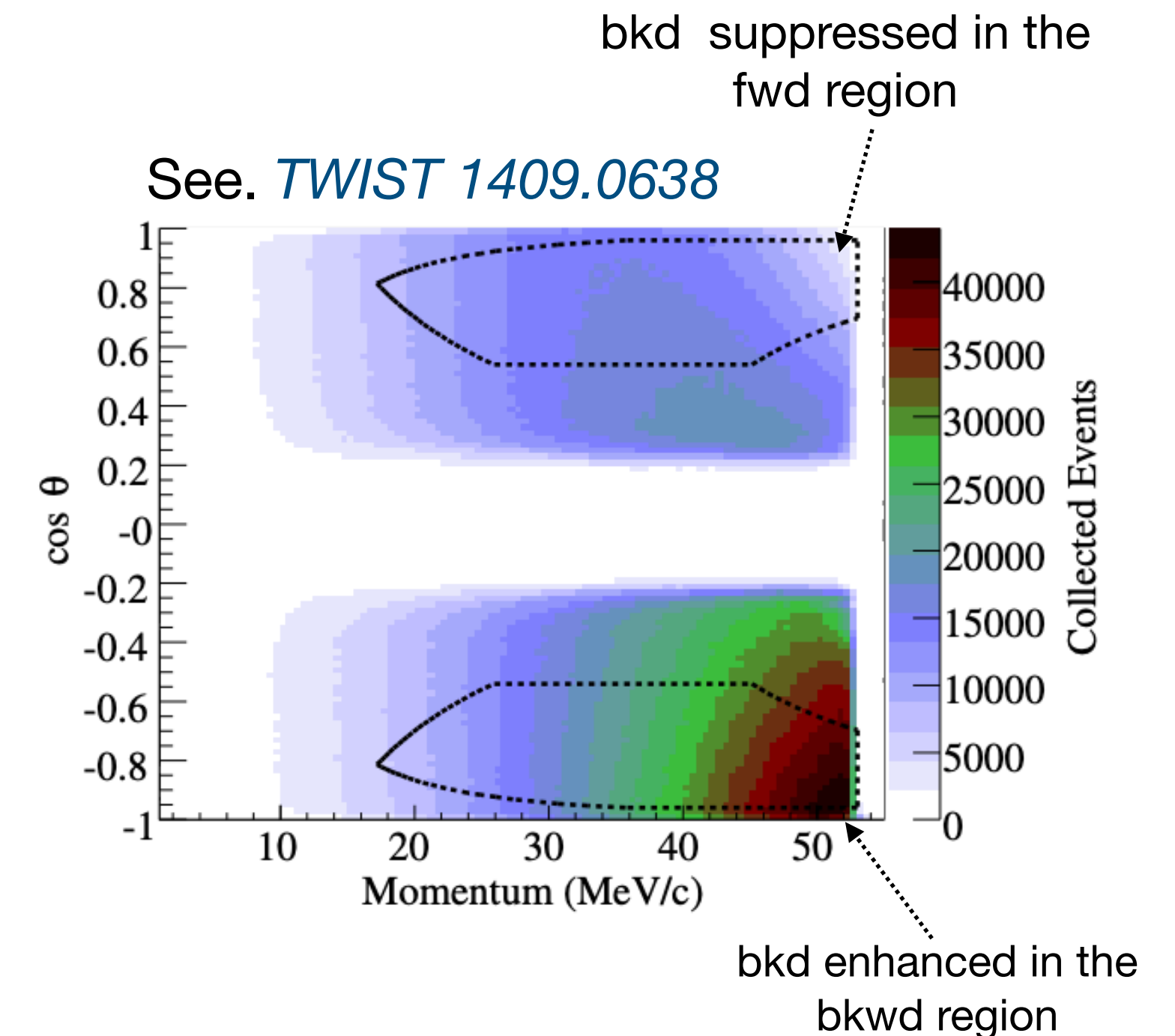
For left-handed couplings the limitation are large systematics

$$\mu \rightarrow ea\gamma$$

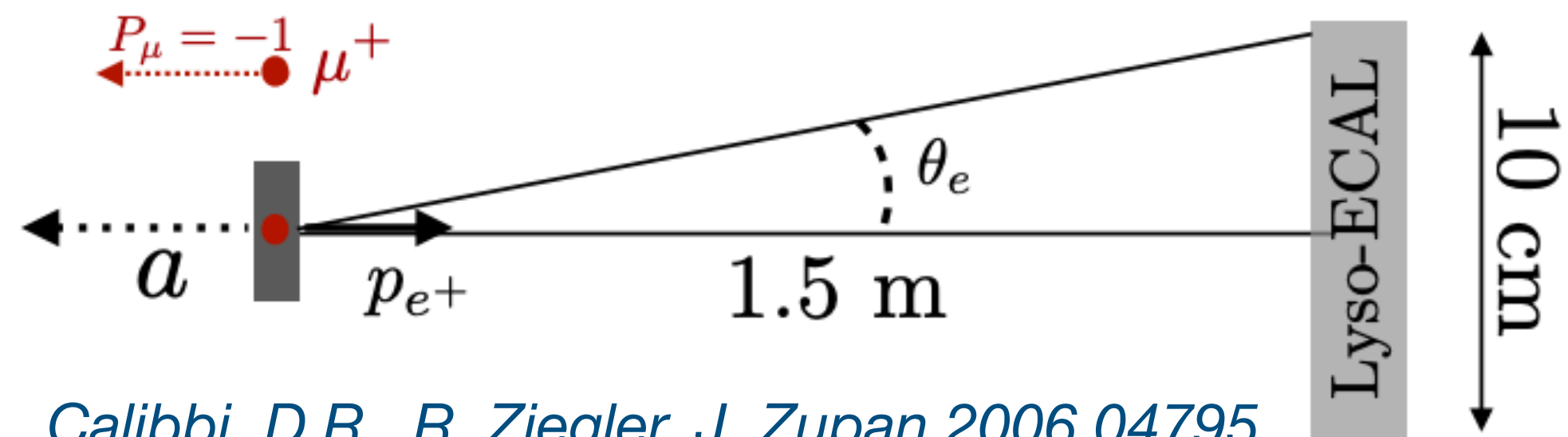
The extra photon helps constructing a missing mass distribution which is not used for calibration

The price to pay is a reduced signal by  $\sim \frac{\alpha}{2\pi} \log \frac{2E_\gamma}{m_\mu}$

See *Jho, Knapen, D.R. 2112.07720*

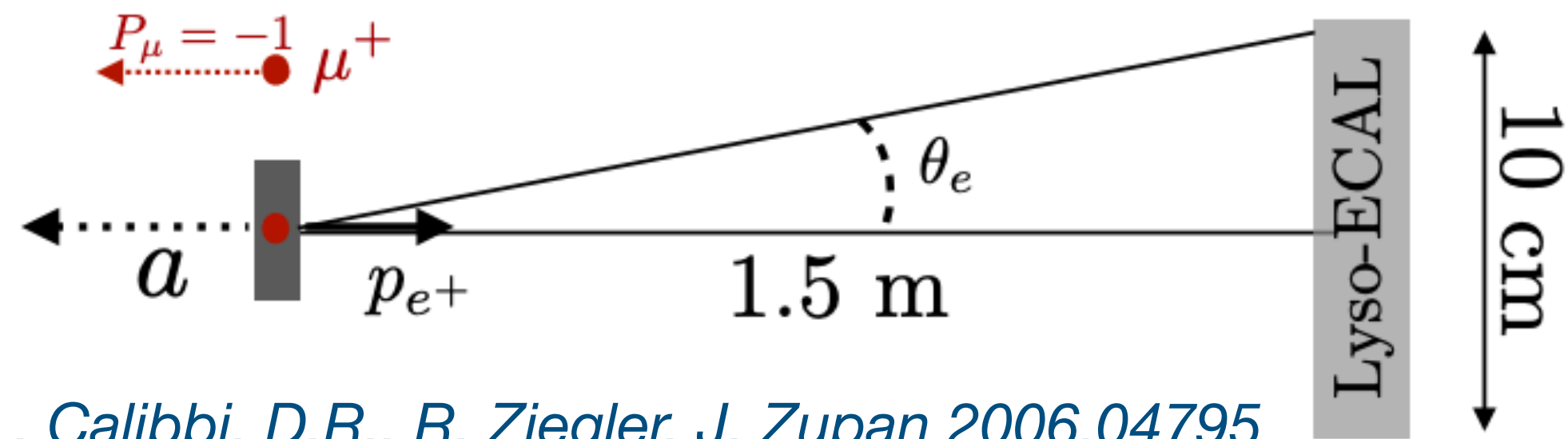


# Looking forward for right-handed ALPs



*L. Calibbi, D.R., R. Ziegler, J. Zupan 2006.04795*

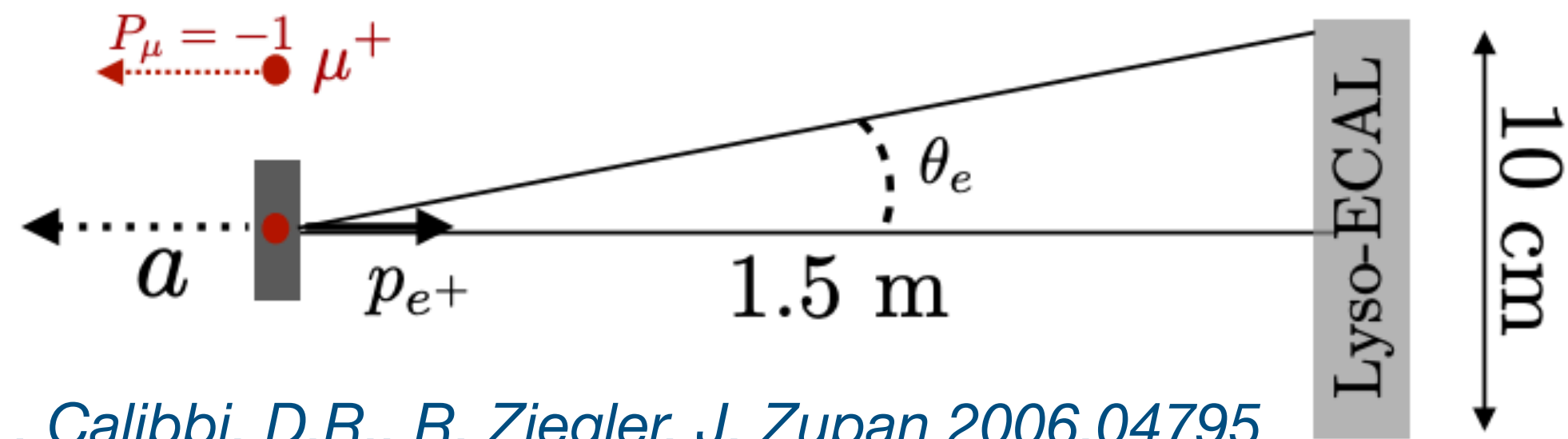
# Looking forward for right-handed ALPs



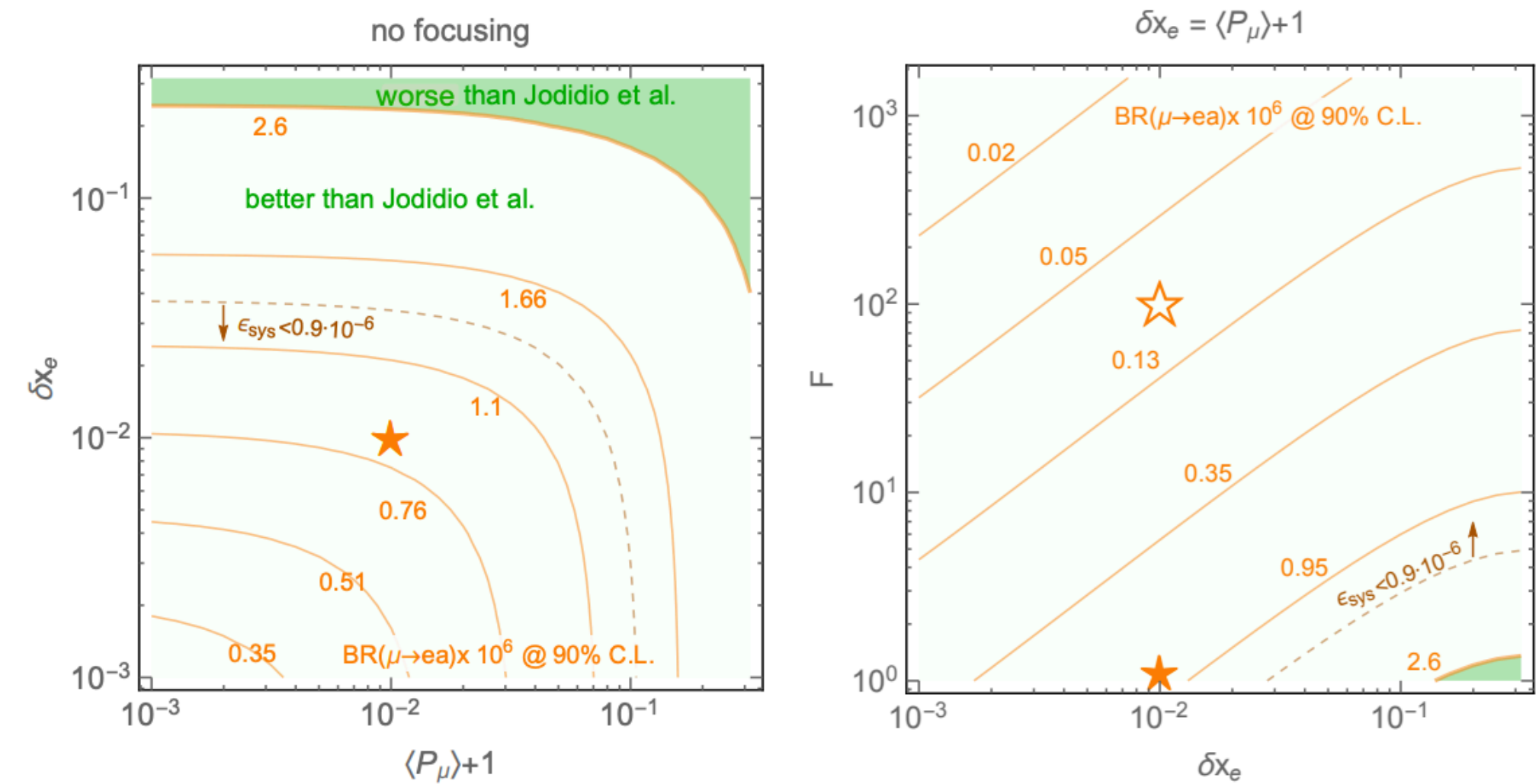
*L. Calibbi, D.R., R. Ziegler, J. Zupan 2006.04795*

Background suppression in the fwd direction requires:  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1) \text{ good momentum resolution } \quad \delta x_e \sim \% \\ 2) \text{ purely polarized muon beam } \quad \delta P_\mu \sim 10^{-2} \end{array} \right.$

# Looking forward for right-handed ALPs



L. Calibbi, D.R., R. Ziegler, J. Zupan 2006.04795

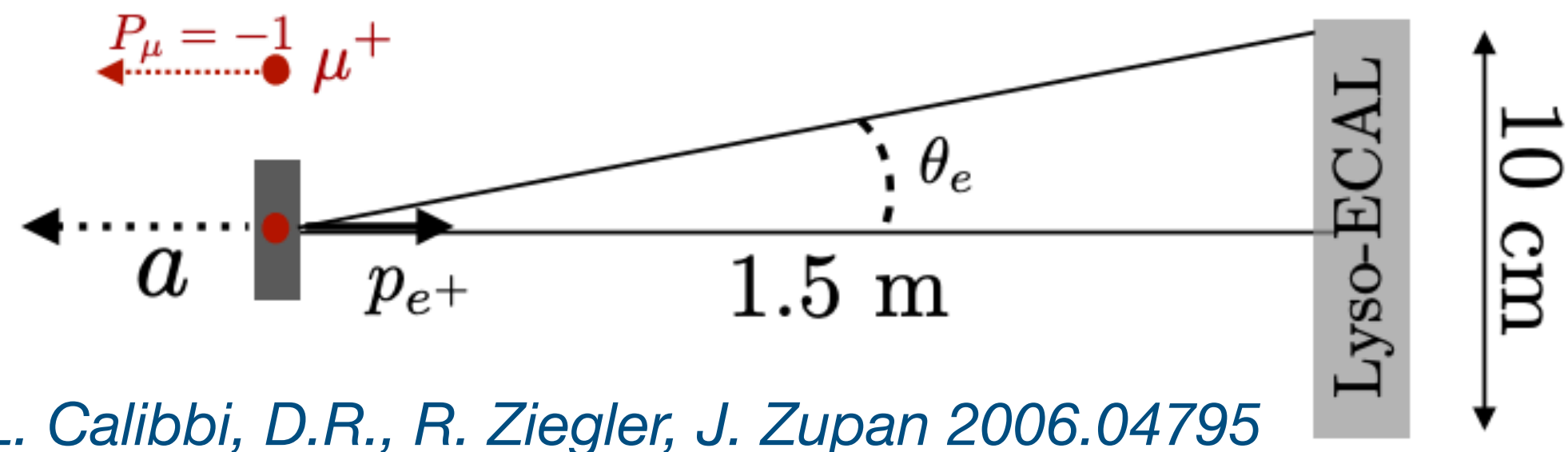


Background suppression in the fwd direction requires:

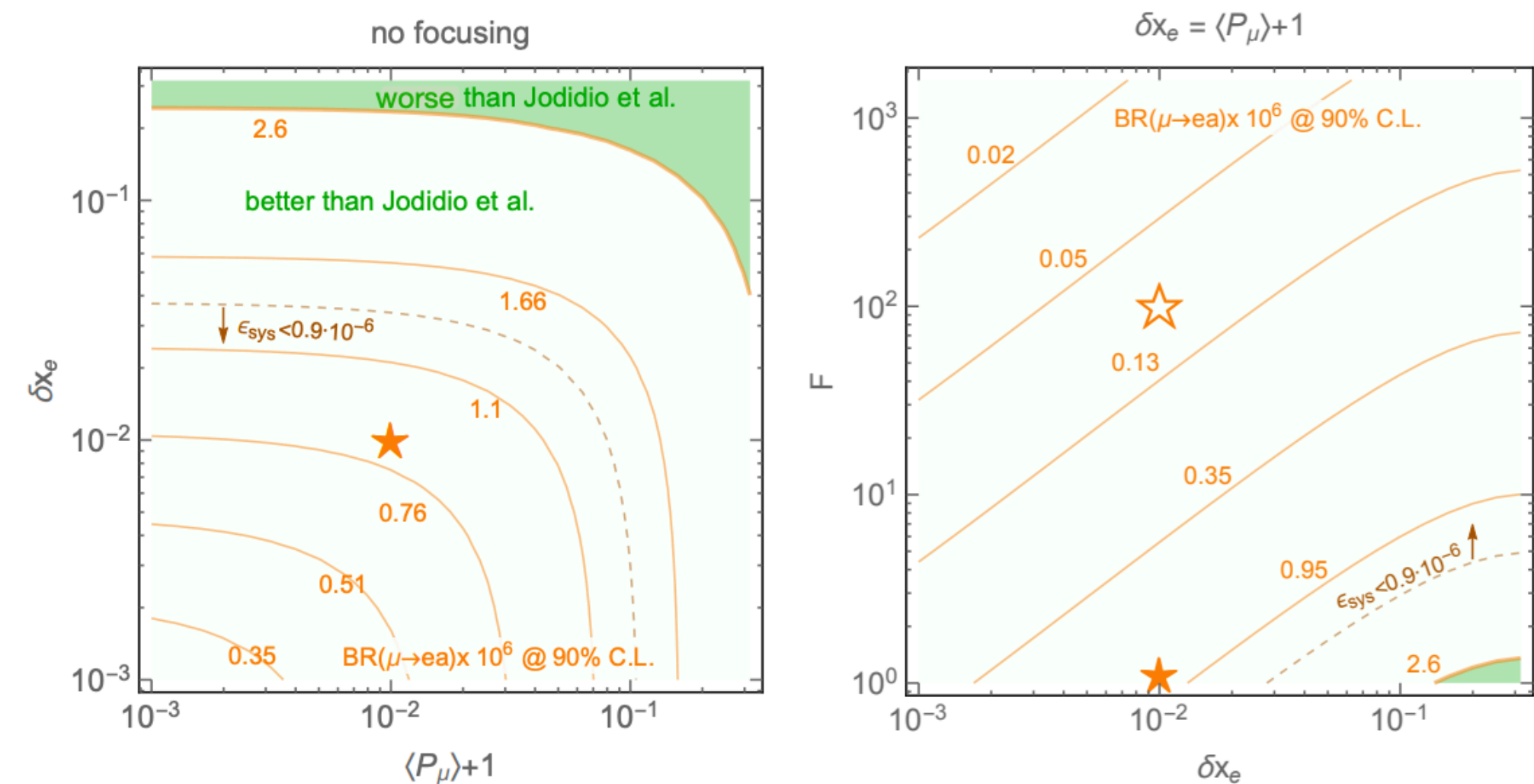
- 1) good momentum resolution  $\delta x_e \sim \%$
- 2) purely polarized muon beam  $\delta P_\mu \sim 10^{-2}$



# Looking forward for right-handed ALPs

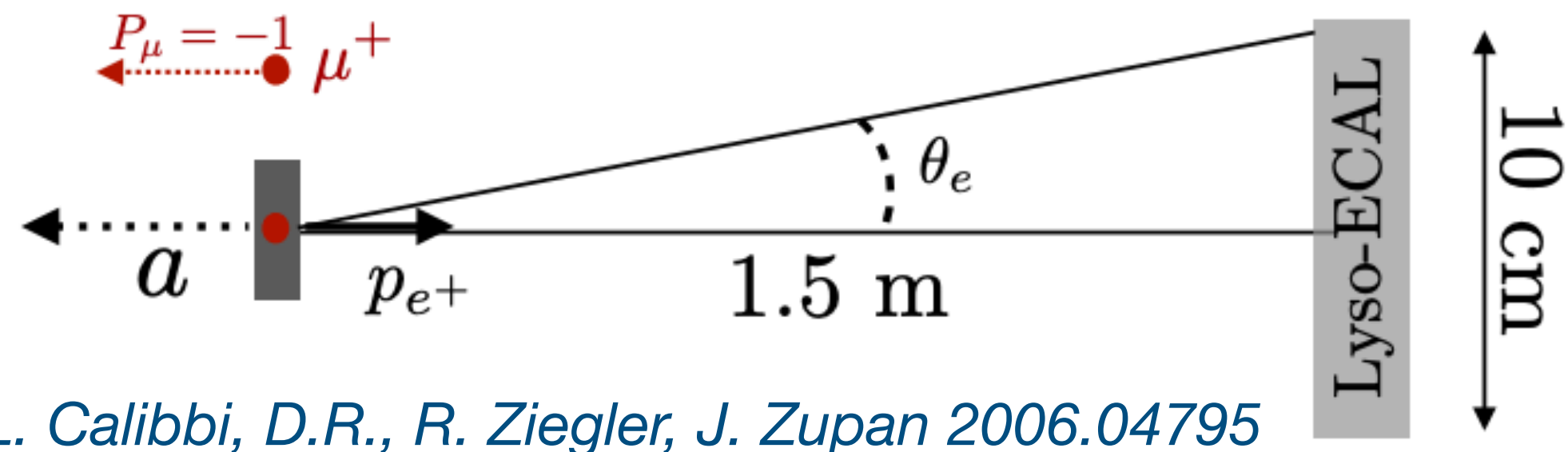


L. Calibbi, D.R., R. Ziegler, J. Zupan 2006.04795

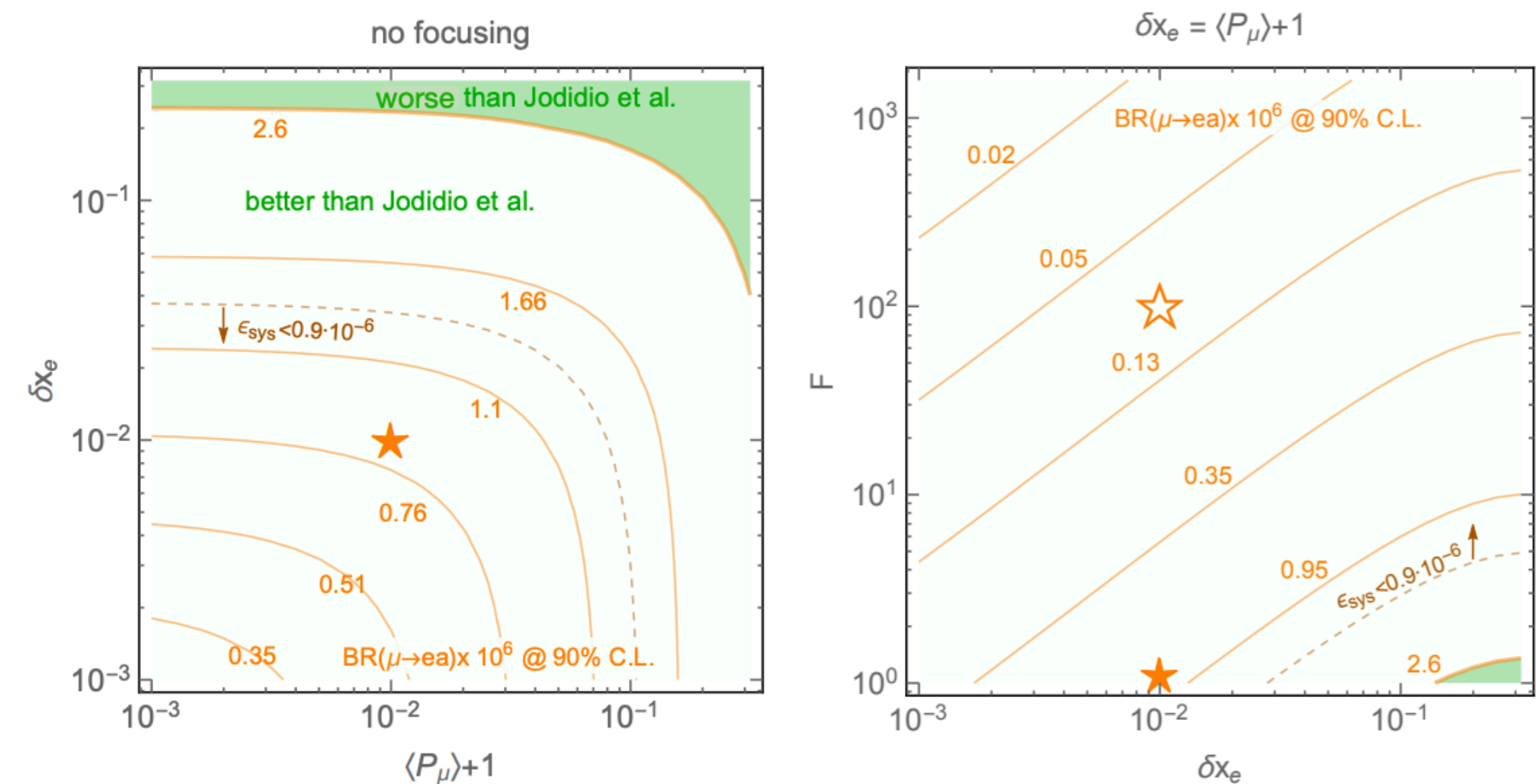


- Background suppression in the fwd direction requires:
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- A good signal reach requires further:
- 3) magnetic field focusing  $F \sim 10^2$
  - 4) large luminosity  $N_\mu \sim 10^{14} \mu^+$
  - 5) very low systematics

# Looking forward for right-handed ALPs



L. Calibbi, D.R., R. Ziegler, J. Zupan 2006.04795



- Background suppression in the fwd direction requires:
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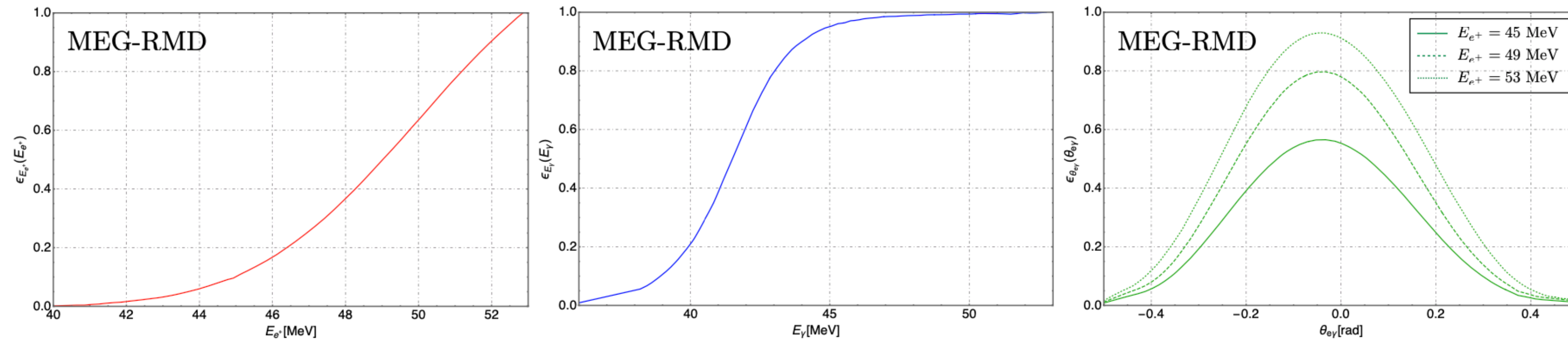
These conditions have been realized before in the Jodidio's exp.

Jodidio et al. (1986)

## Can it be done again?

# Towards a new data taking strategy

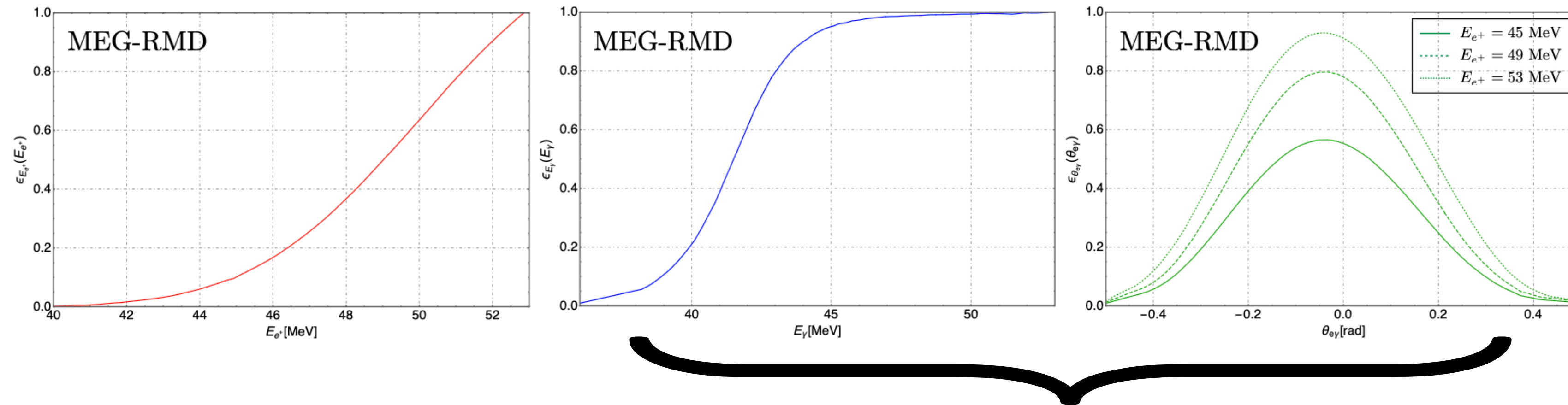
Logic: the trigger requirements are killing the ALP signal



\*

# Towards a new data taking strategy

Logic: the trigger requirements are killing the ALP signal

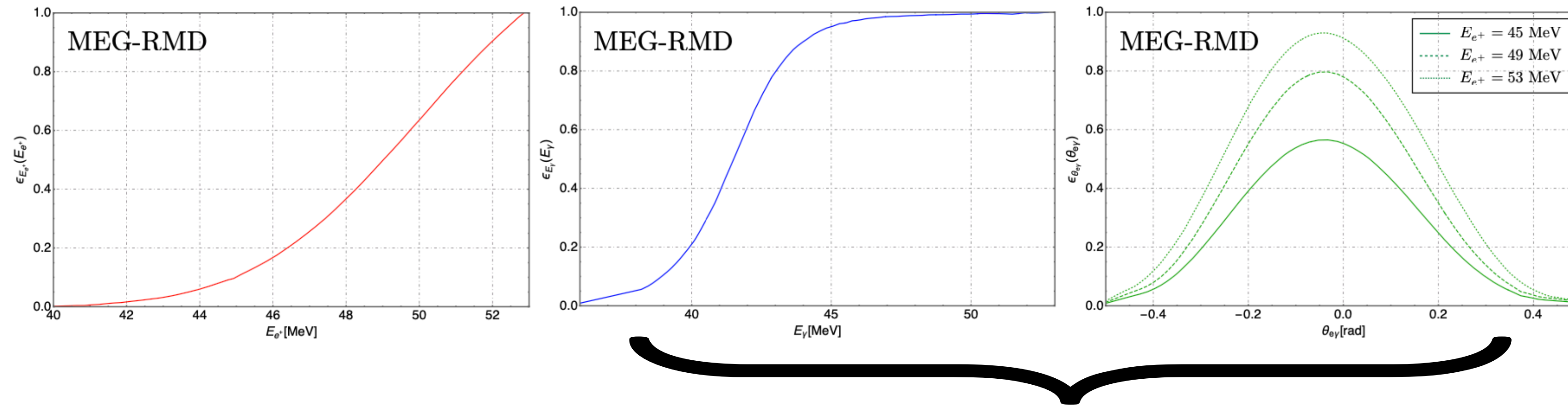


- 1) Eliminating the matching of the TC hit which assumes back to back topology
- 2) Lowering the photon trigger threshold reducing the beam intensity

\*

# Towards a new data taking strategy

Logic: the trigger requirements are killing the ALP signal



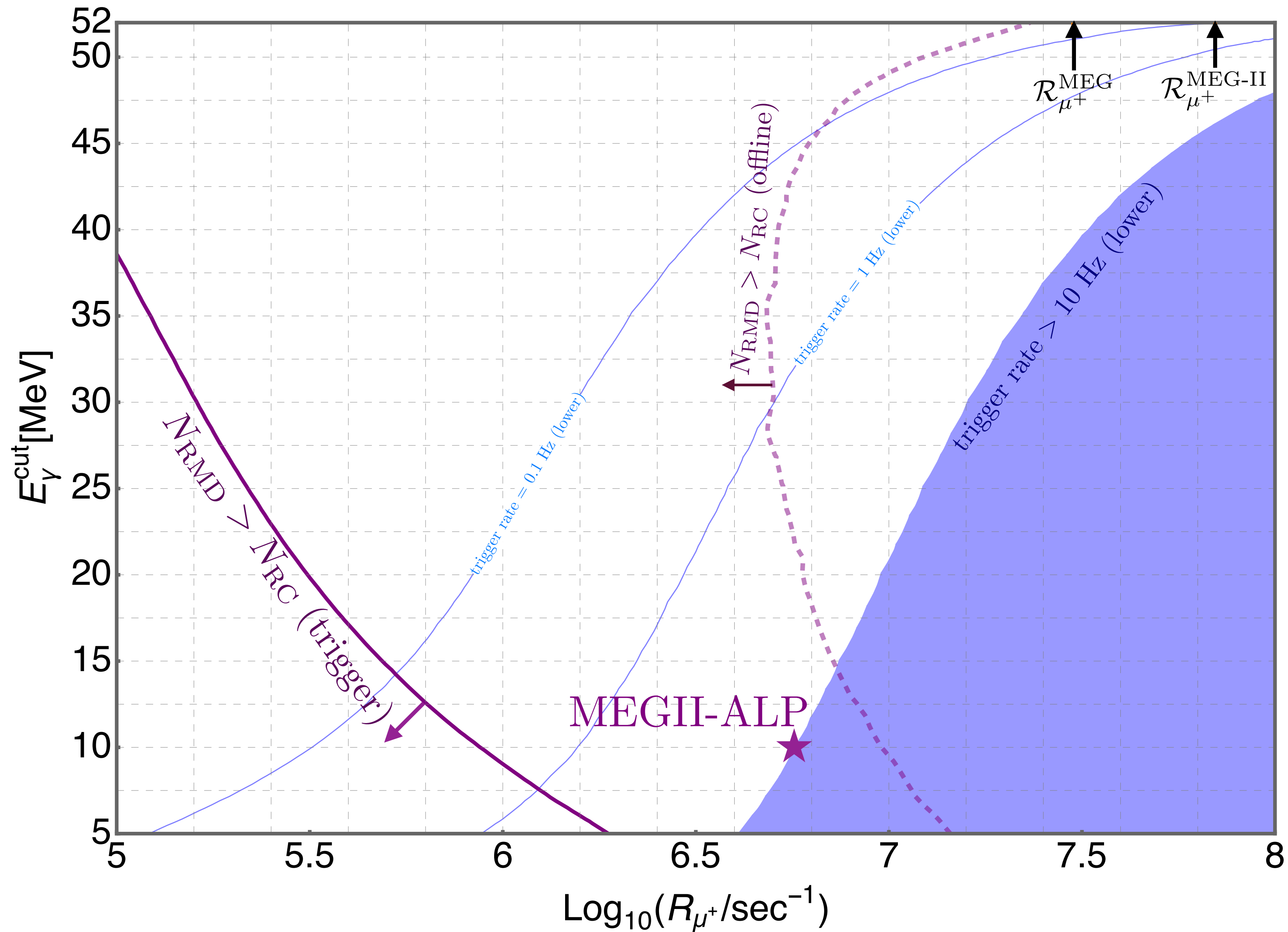
- 1) Eliminating the matching of the TC hit which assumes back to back topology
- 2) Lowering the photon trigger threshold reducing the beam intensity

The RC dominates the trigger rate but it can be suppressed by reducing the intensity<sup>\*</sup>

$$\text{RC} \sim R_\mu^2 \quad \text{RMD} \sim R_\mu$$

*\*many thanks to Luca Galli for teaching us all this!*

# Towards a new data taking strategy



Max trigger rate 10 Hz

fixes the intensity vs photon cut

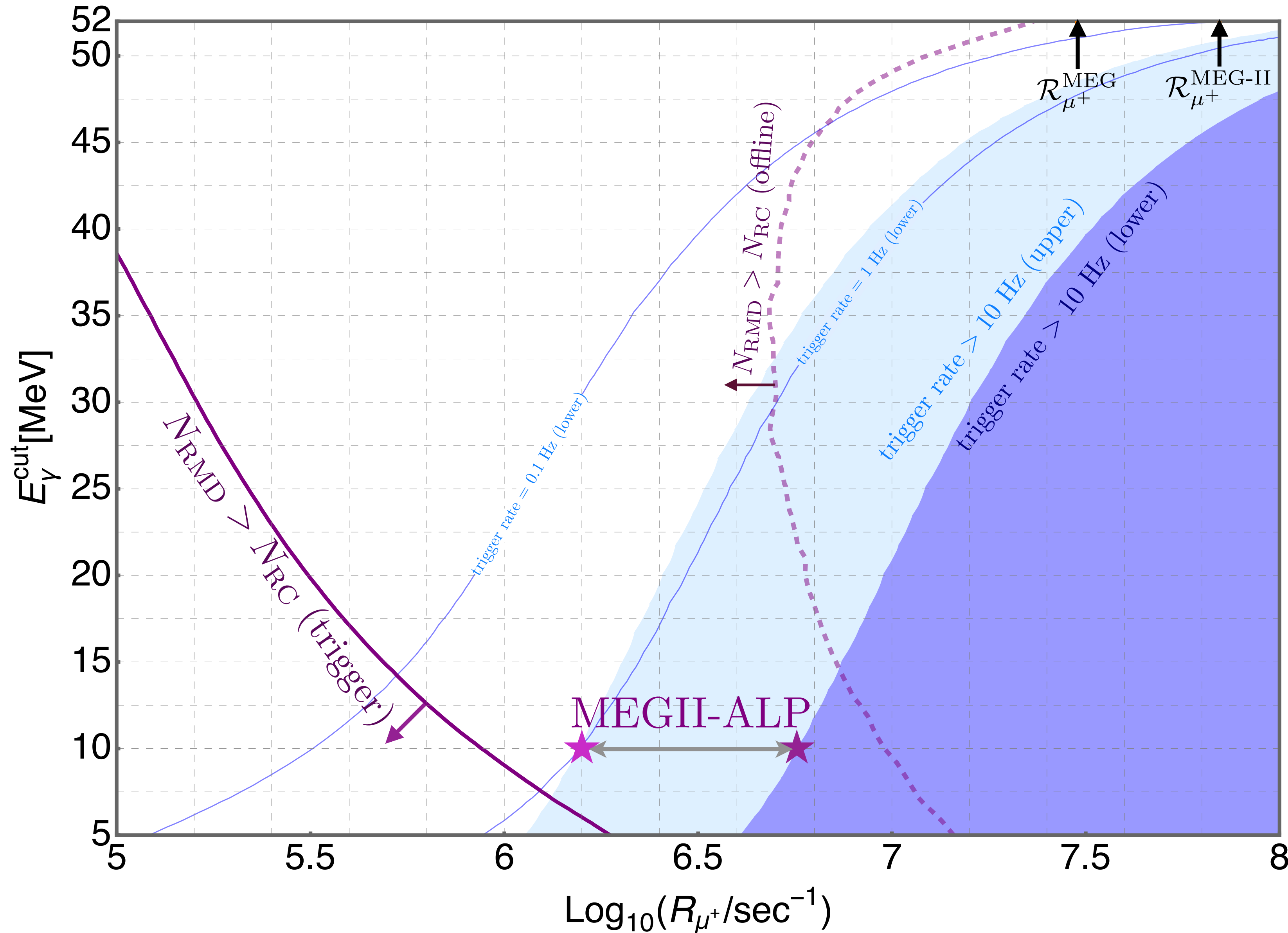
RMD becomes the dominant bed

below a certain intensity

(harder to suppress RMD online)

★  
Benchmark fixed to the highest intensity  
for photon energy of 10 MeV given our  
estimate of the trigger rate

# Towards a new data taking strategy



Max trigger rate 10 Hz

fixes the intensity vs photon cut

RMD becomes the dominant bed

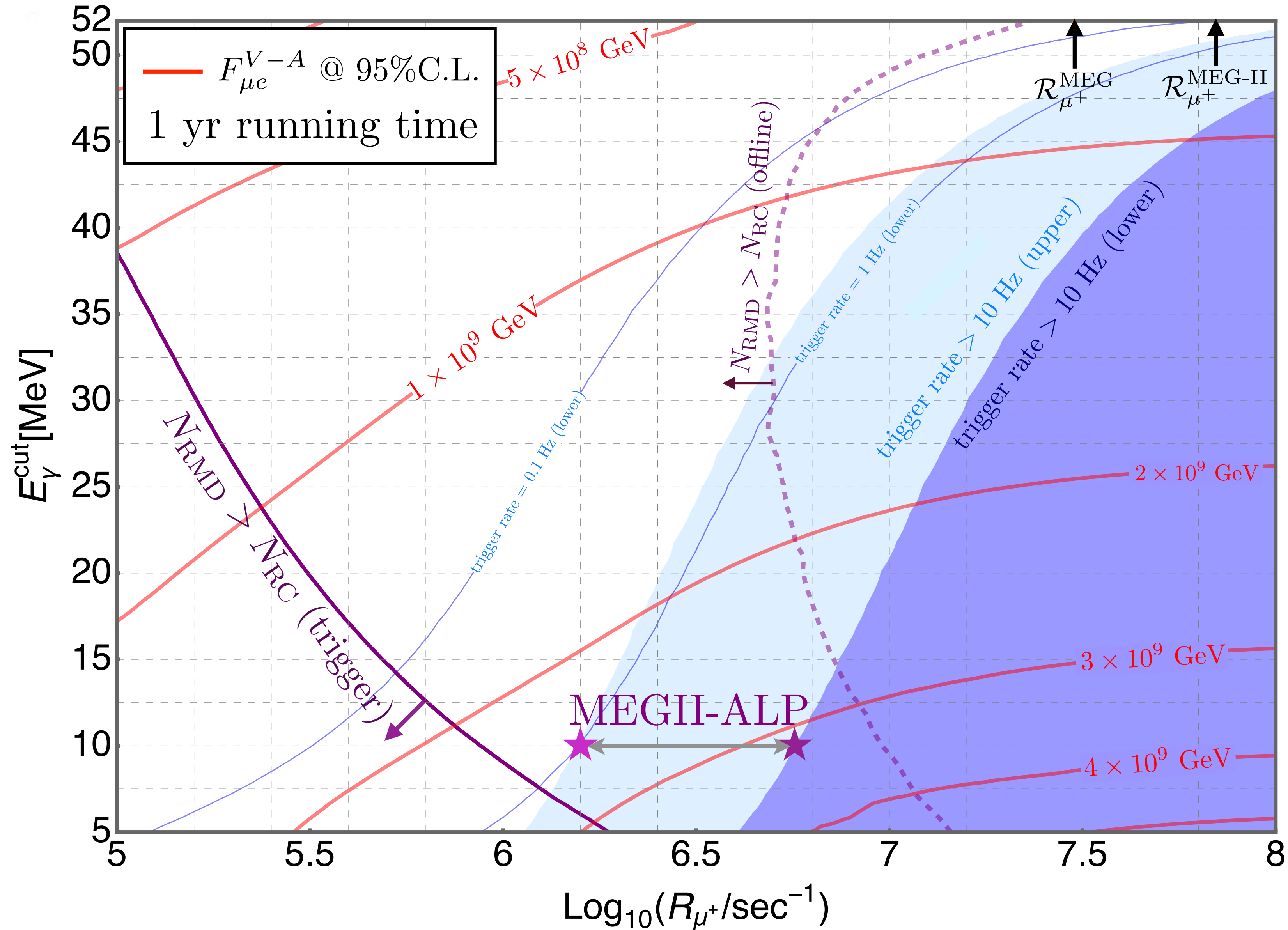
below a certain intensity

(harder to suppress RMD online)



Uncertainty in trigger rate results in two different benchmark for the same photon energy

# Towards a new data taking strategy



Max trigger rate 10 Hz

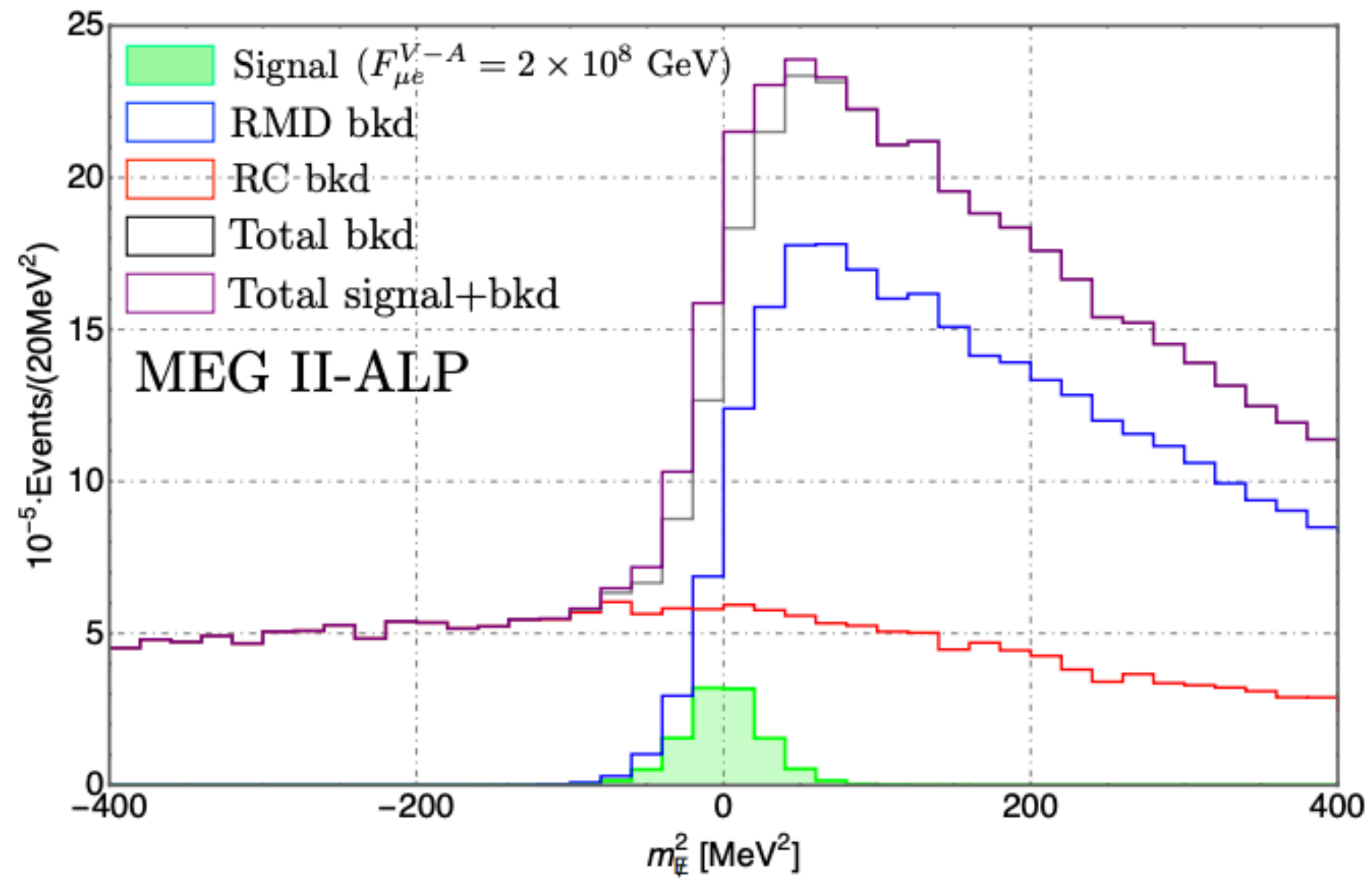
fixes the intensity vs photon cut

RMD becomes the dominant bkd  
 below a certain intensity  
 (harder to suppress RMD online)

Reach extracted at each point!

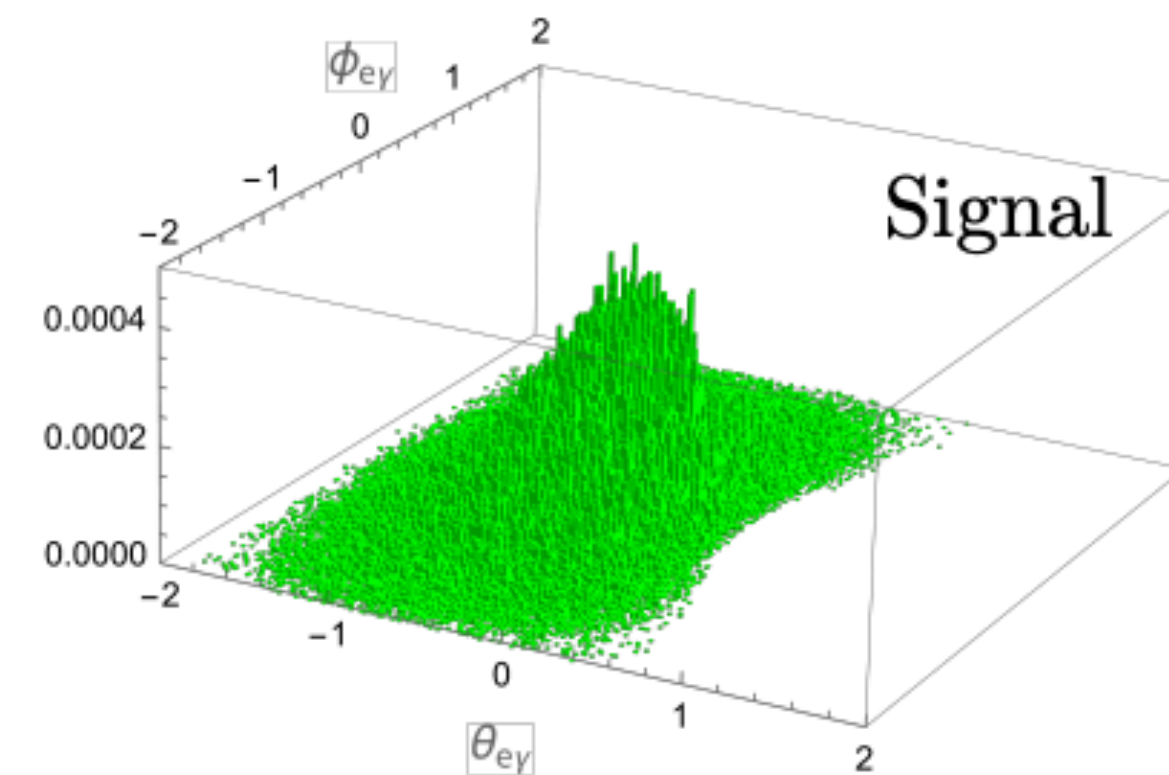
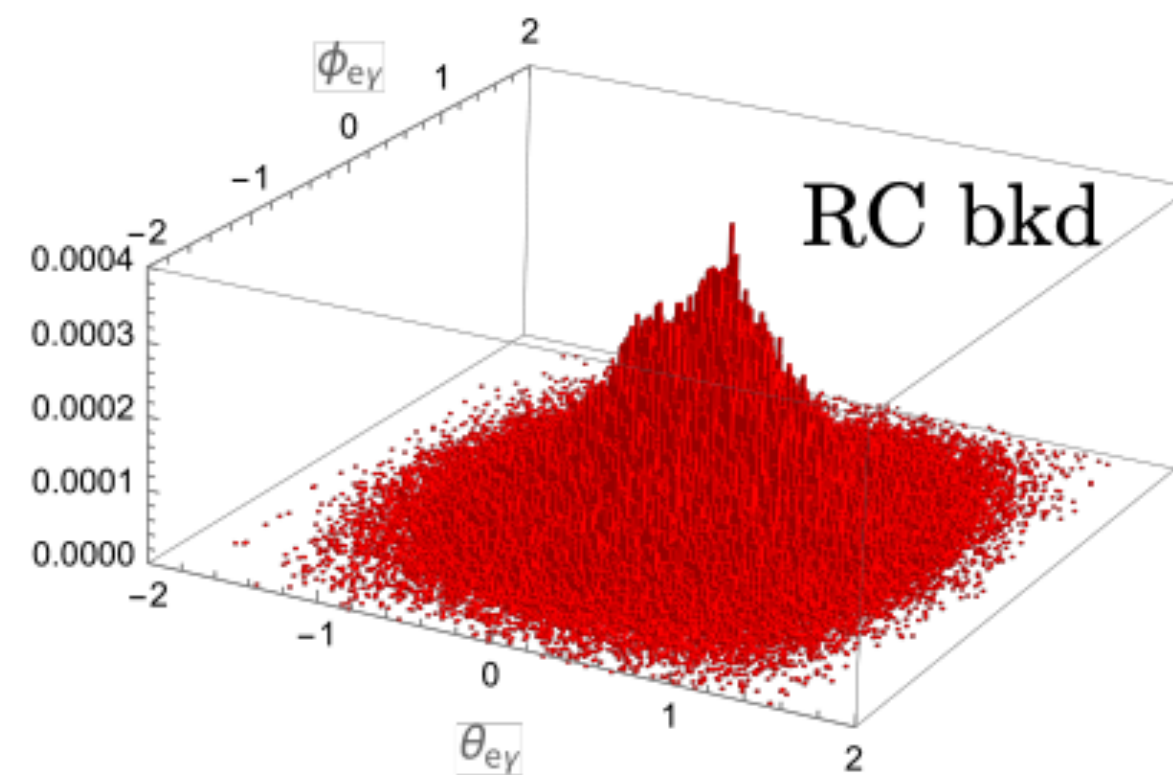
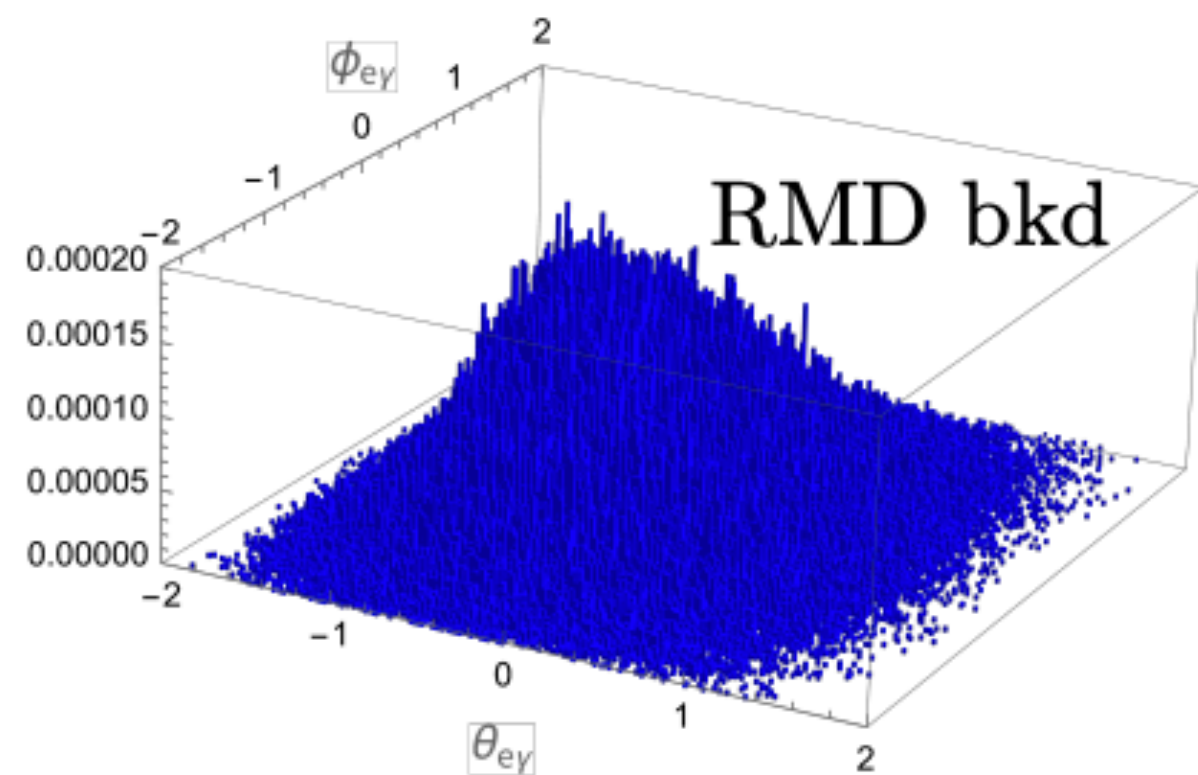


# Final reach



Bump hunt in missing mass\*

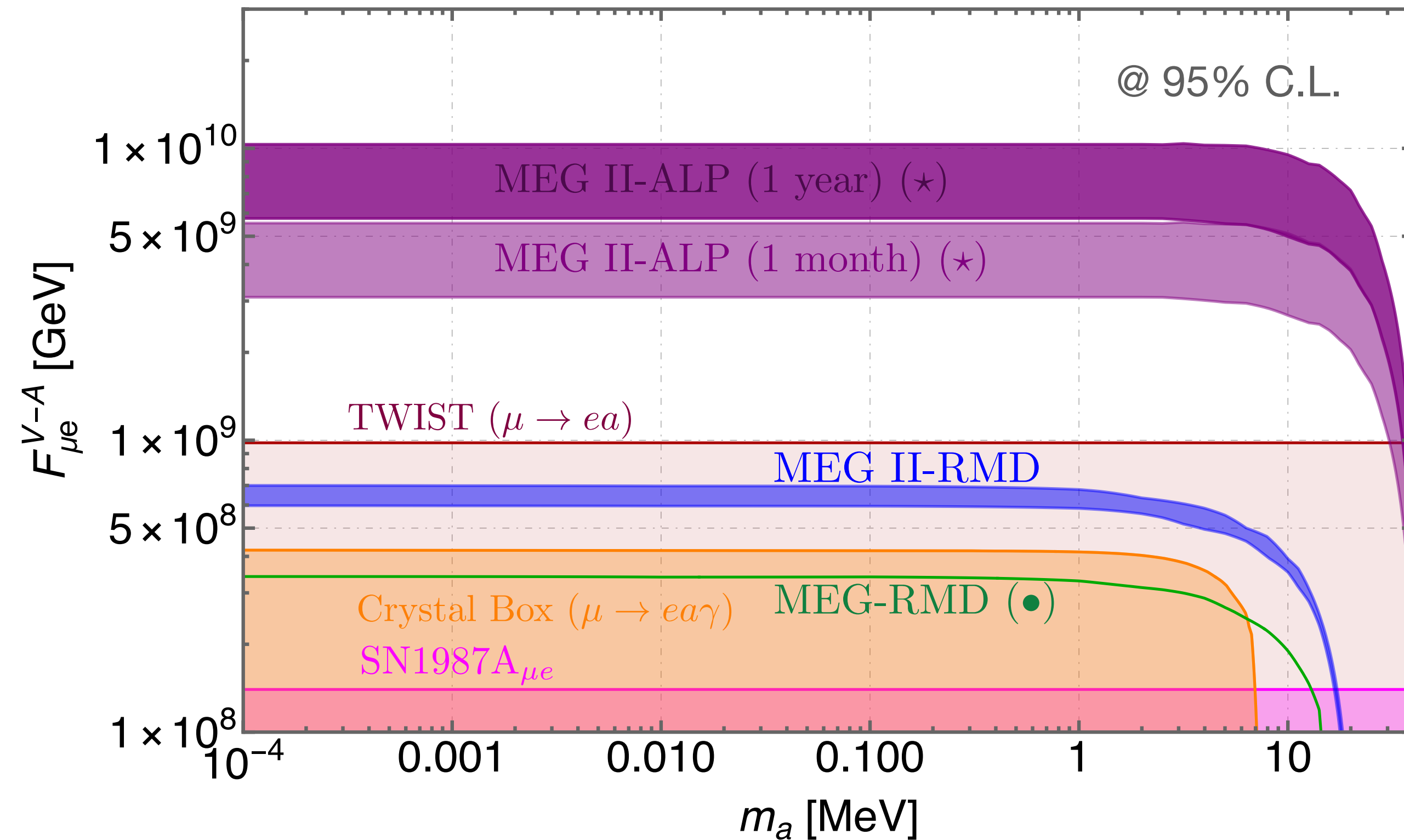
\*for a massless object we are close to a cliff of the bkd (systematics has to be taken into account)



Log-likelihood on angular variables

# What can we test?

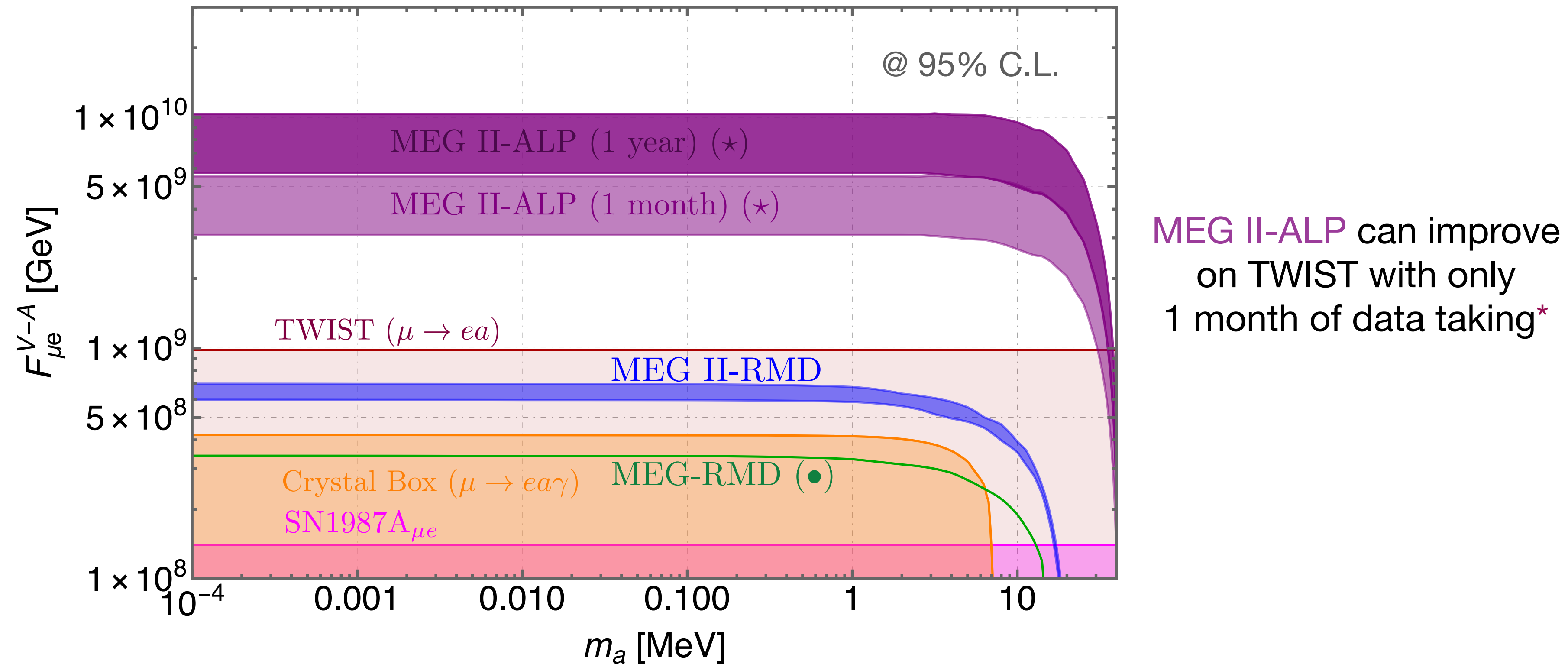
Jho, Knapen, D.R. 2112.07720



*MEG-II ALP is the best way to explore ~ a decade of unconstrained parameter space ~ NOW*

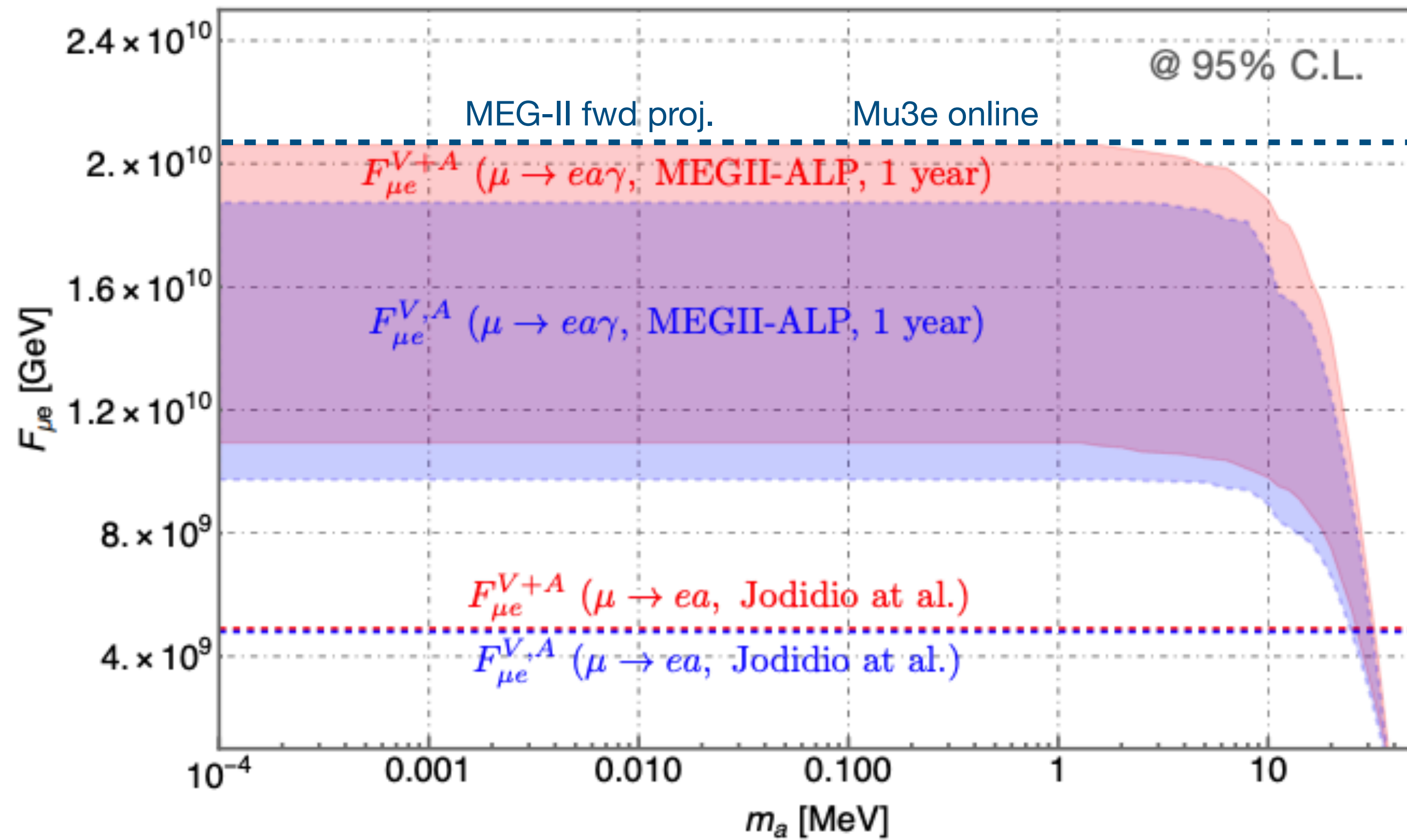
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Jho, Knapen, D.R. 2112.07720



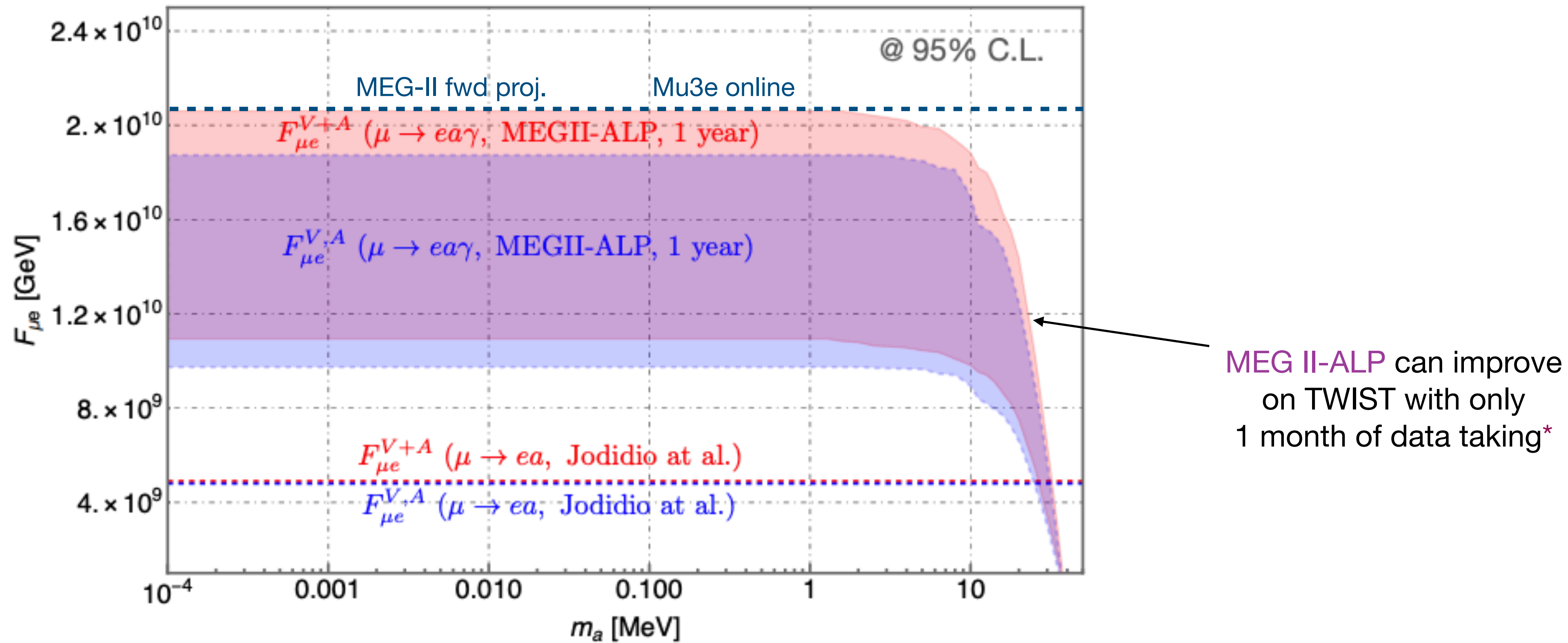
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# Different chiral structures



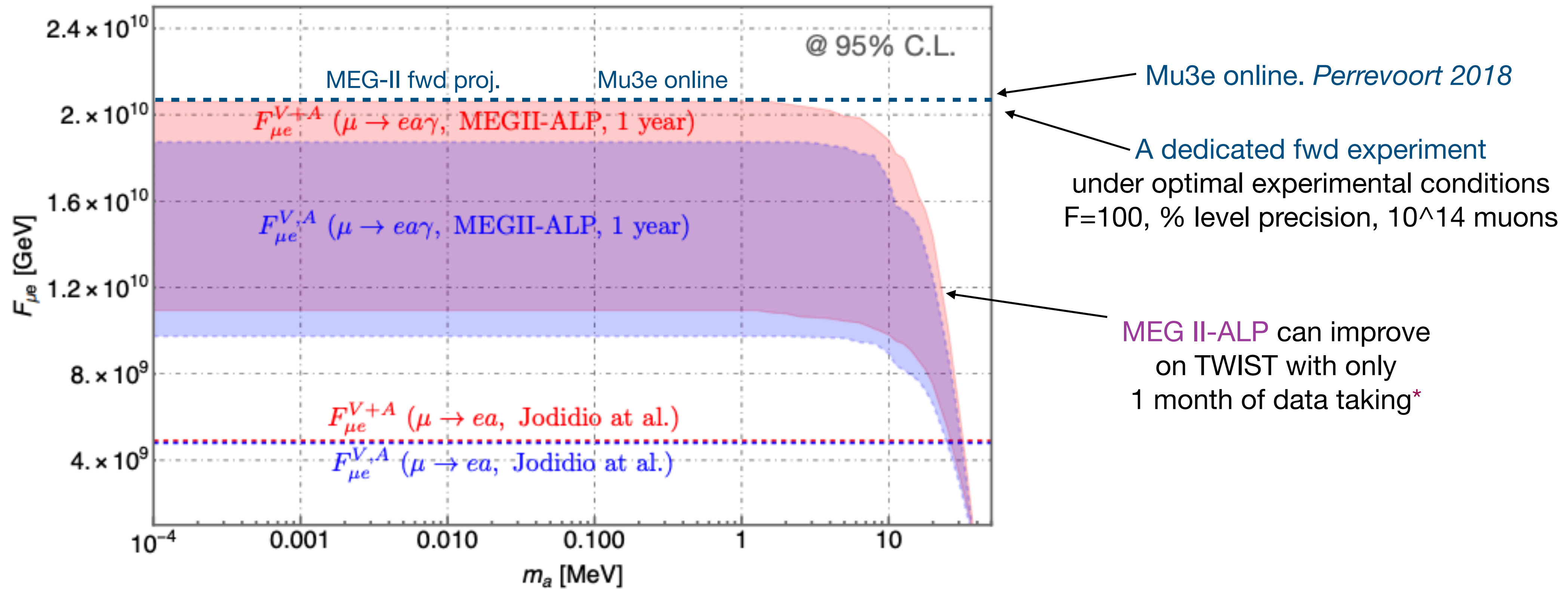
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# Different chiral structures



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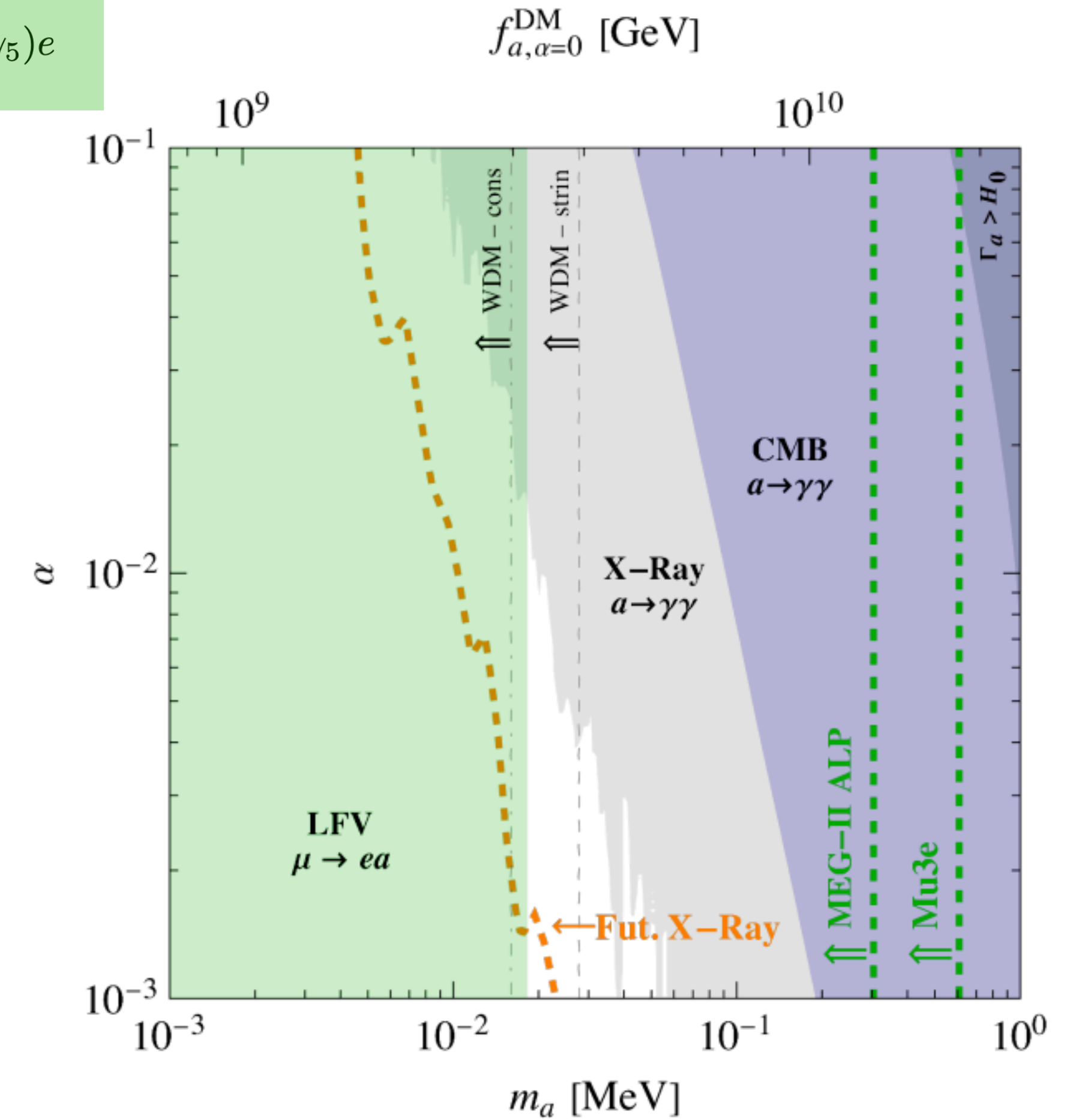
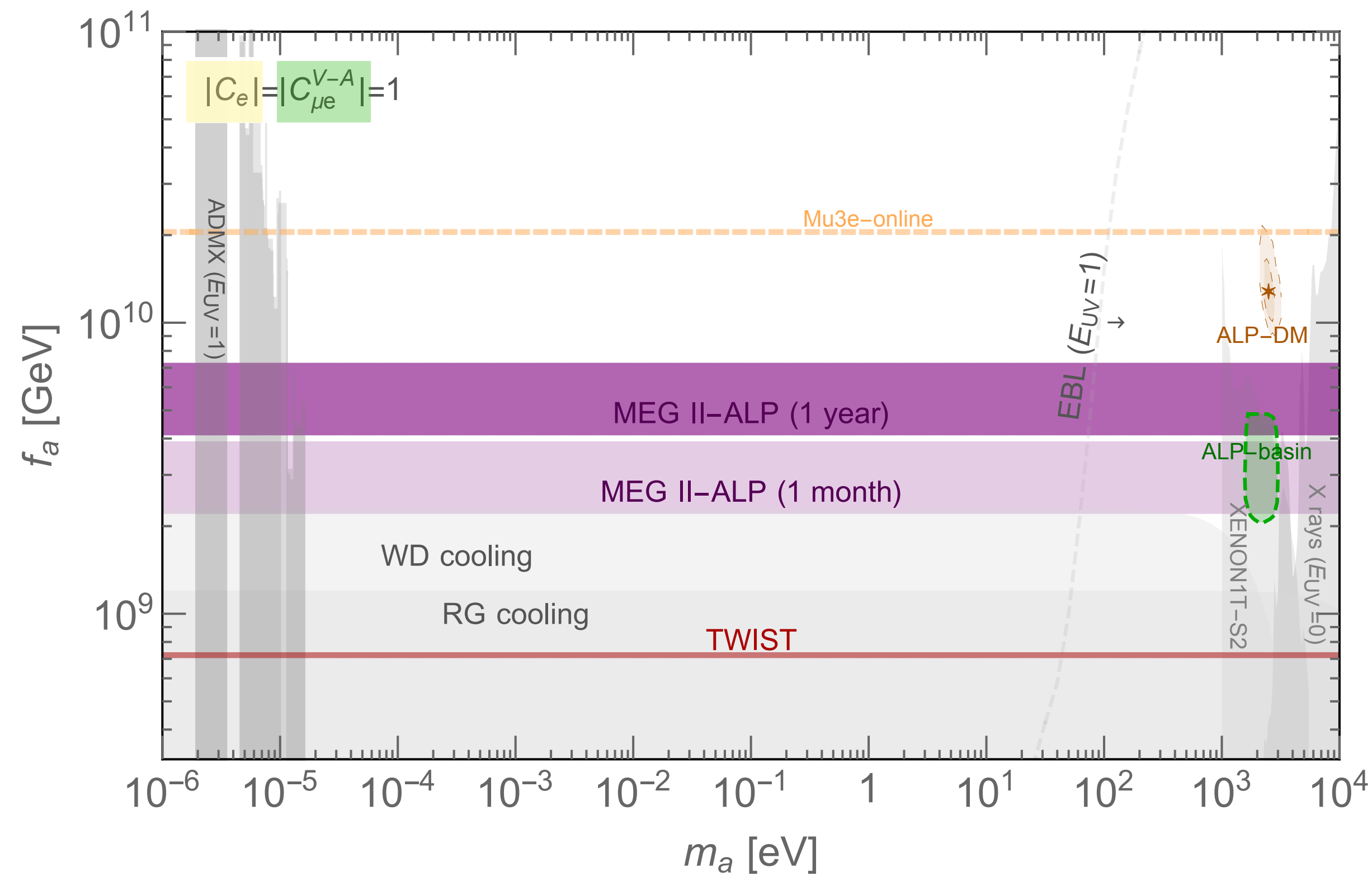
# Back to theory

axions coupled to leptons anarchically: *flavor diagonal* = *flavor off-diagonal*

$$\frac{\partial_\mu a}{f_a} \bar{e} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 e$$

$$\frac{\partial_\mu a}{2f_a} \bar{\mu} \gamma^\mu (C_{\mu e}^V + C_{\mu e}^A \gamma_5) e$$

Panci, Redigolo, Schwetz Ziegler 2209.03371



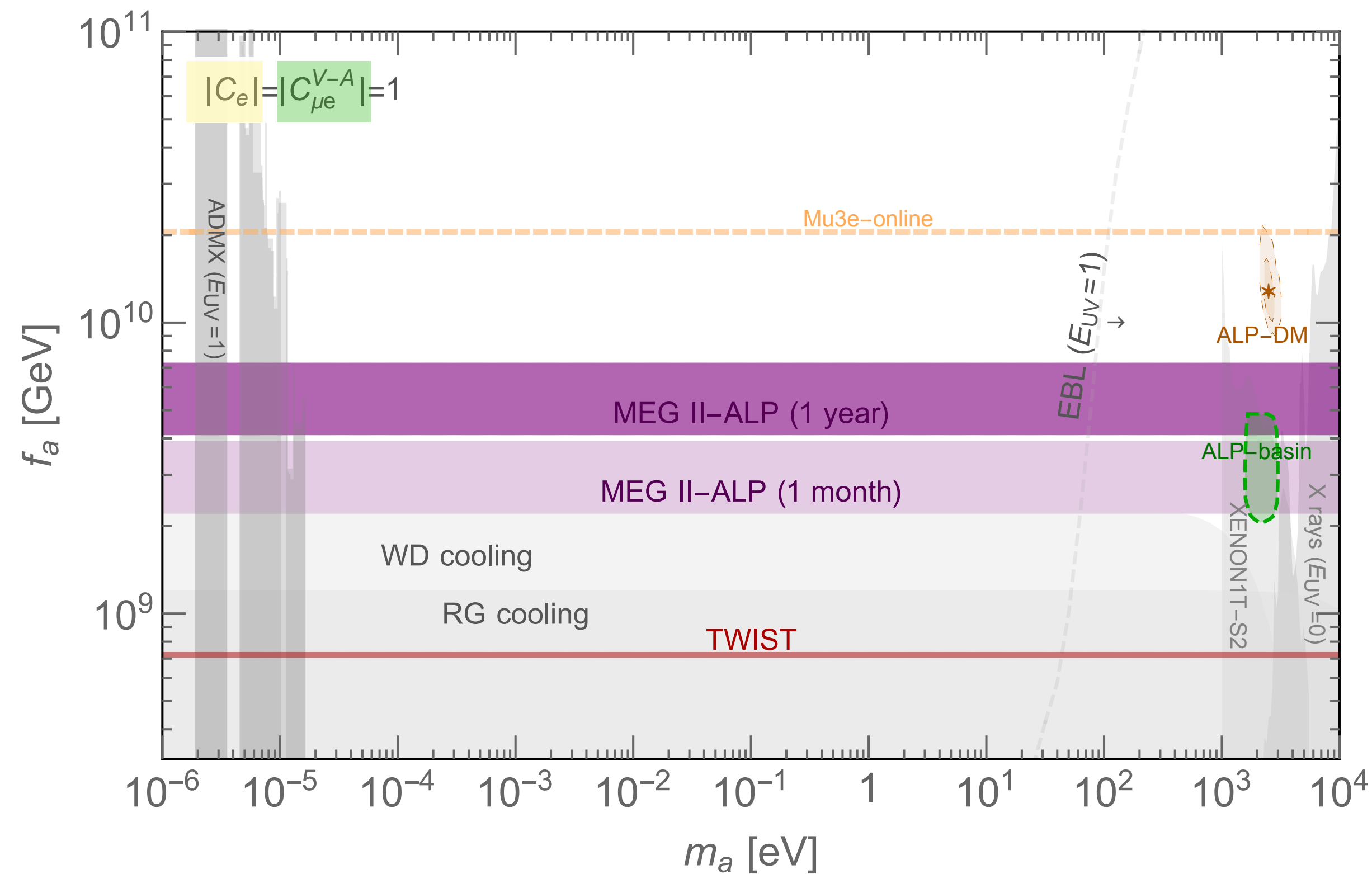
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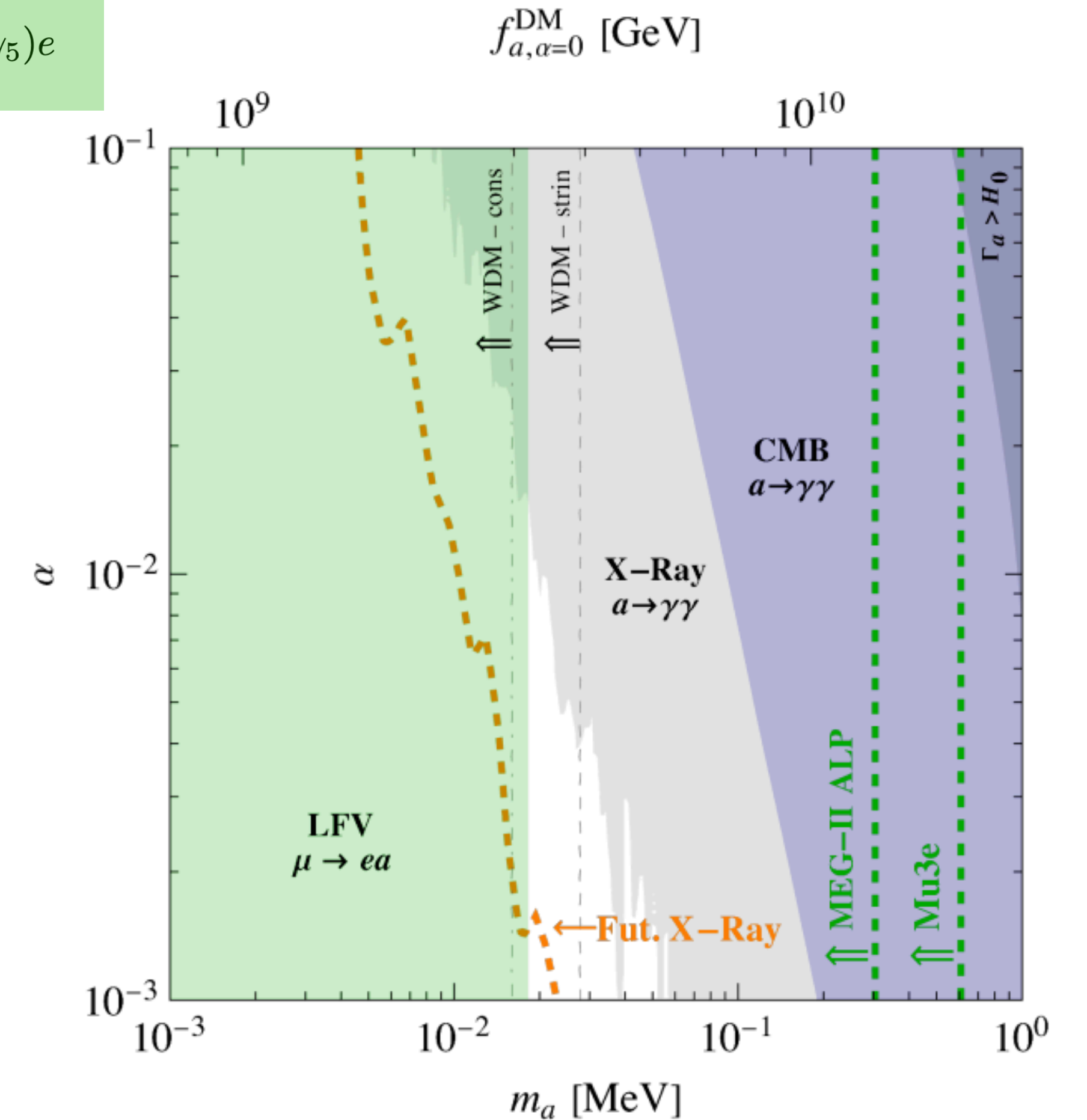
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Panci, Redigolo, Schwetz Ziegler 2209.03371



**MEG-II can surpass bounds from star cooling!**





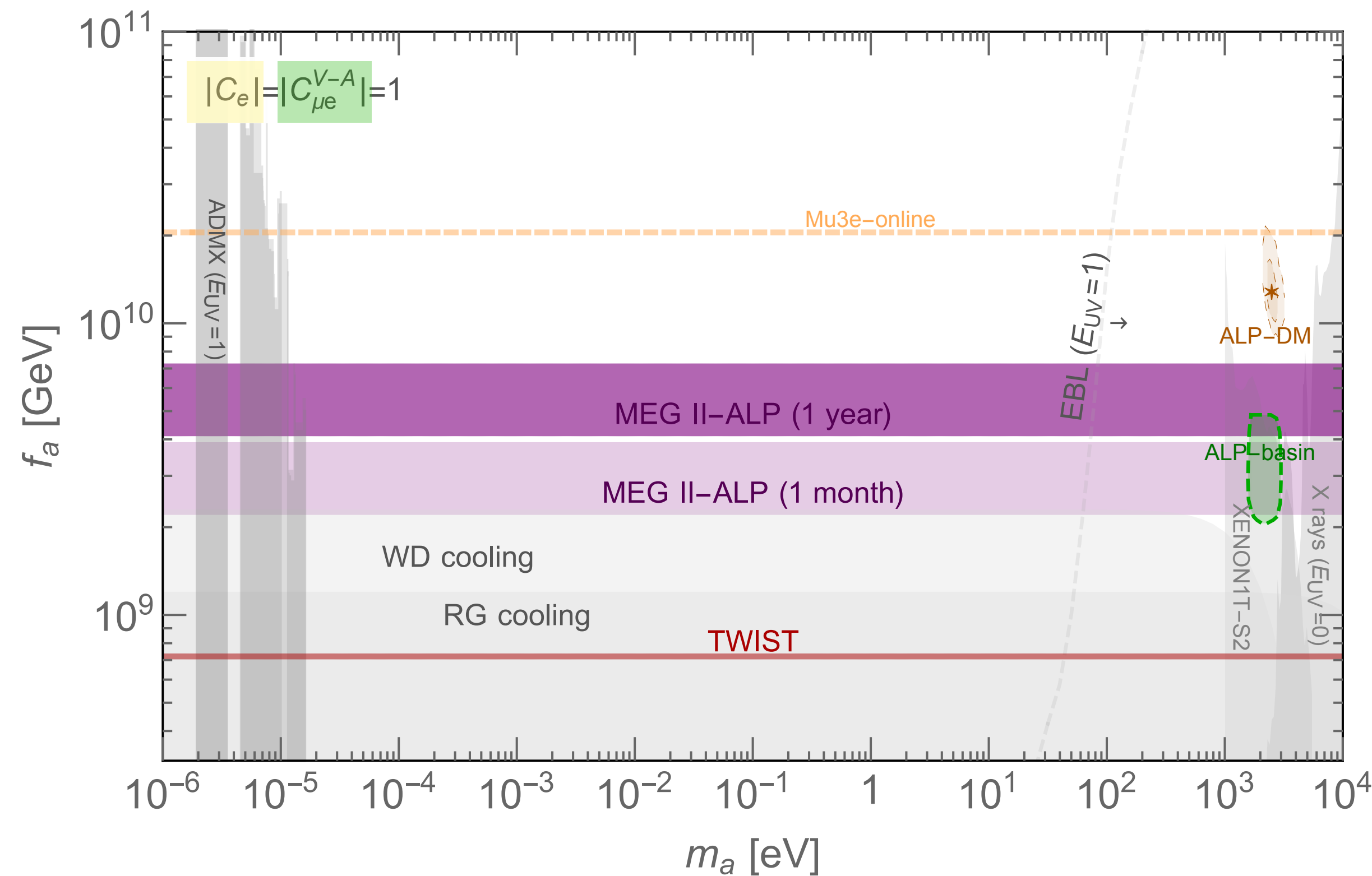
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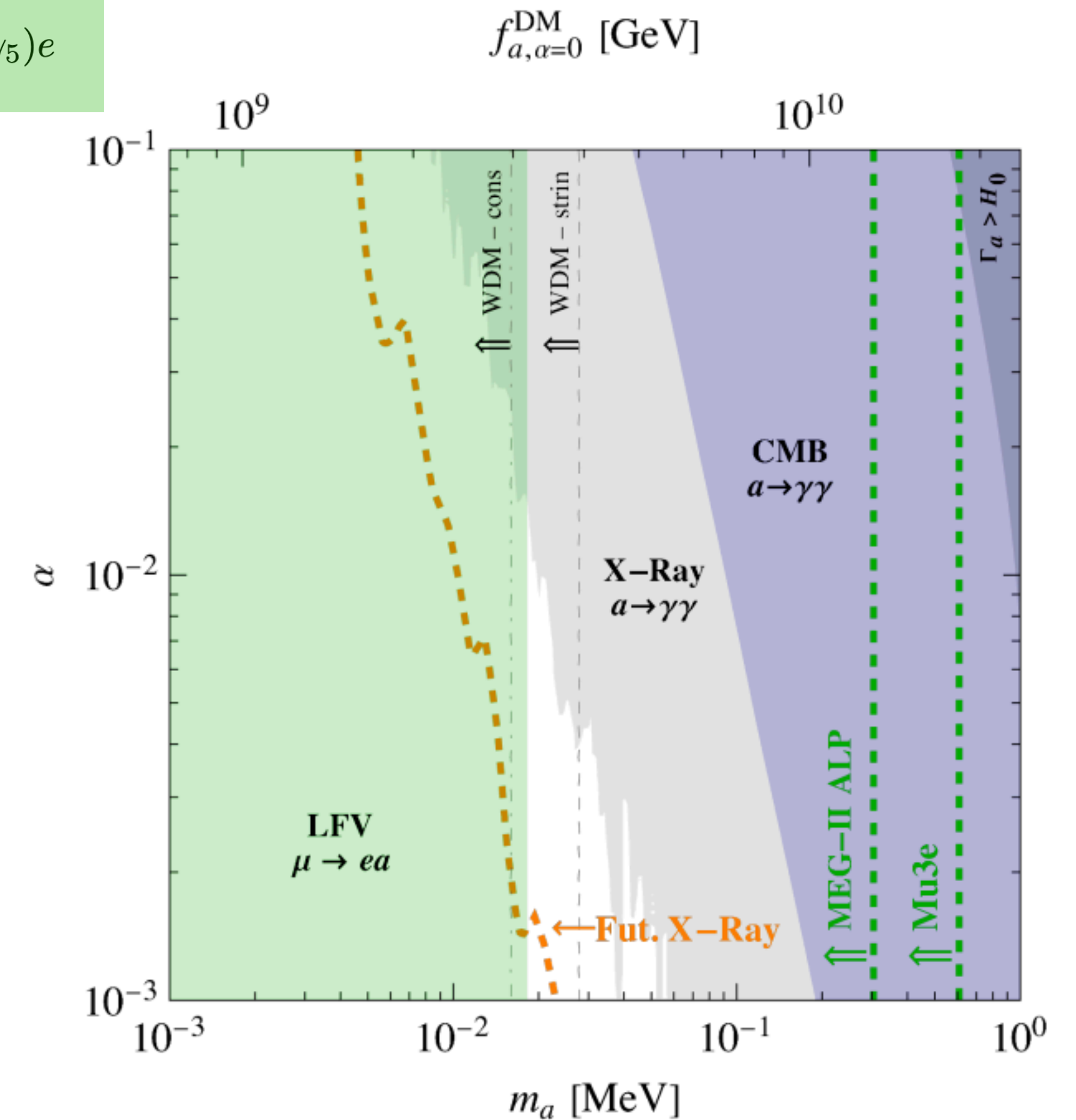
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Panci, Redigolo, Schwetz Ziegler 2209.03371



**MEG-II can surpass bounds from star cooling!**



**MEG-II can completely test Freeze-in model based on LFV decays**



## *New searches*



*Maximising the experimental reach...*

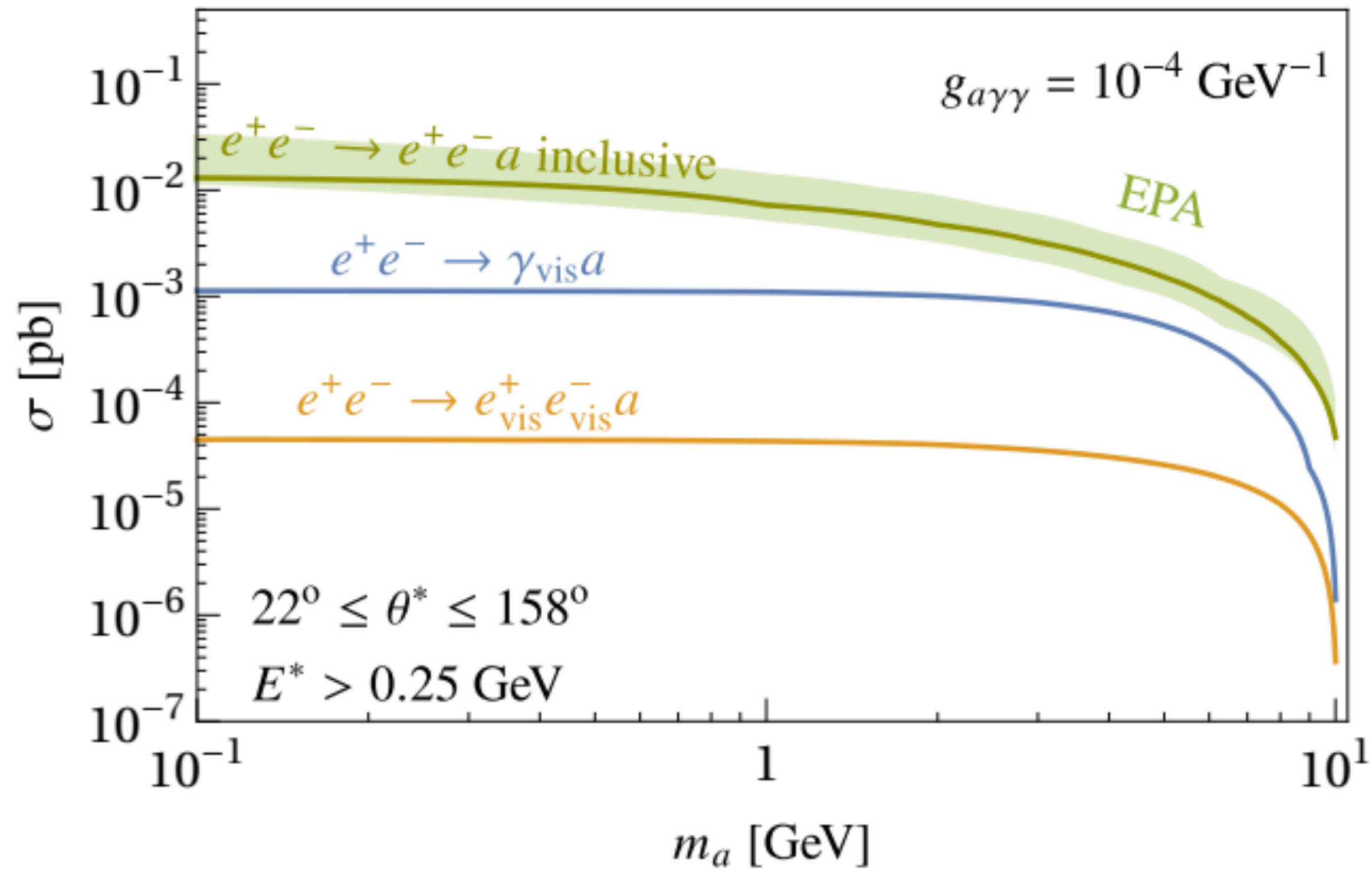
*Looking at final states where the separation between  
signal and bkd is sharper*

*Belle II as an example*



# ALPs production @ Belle II

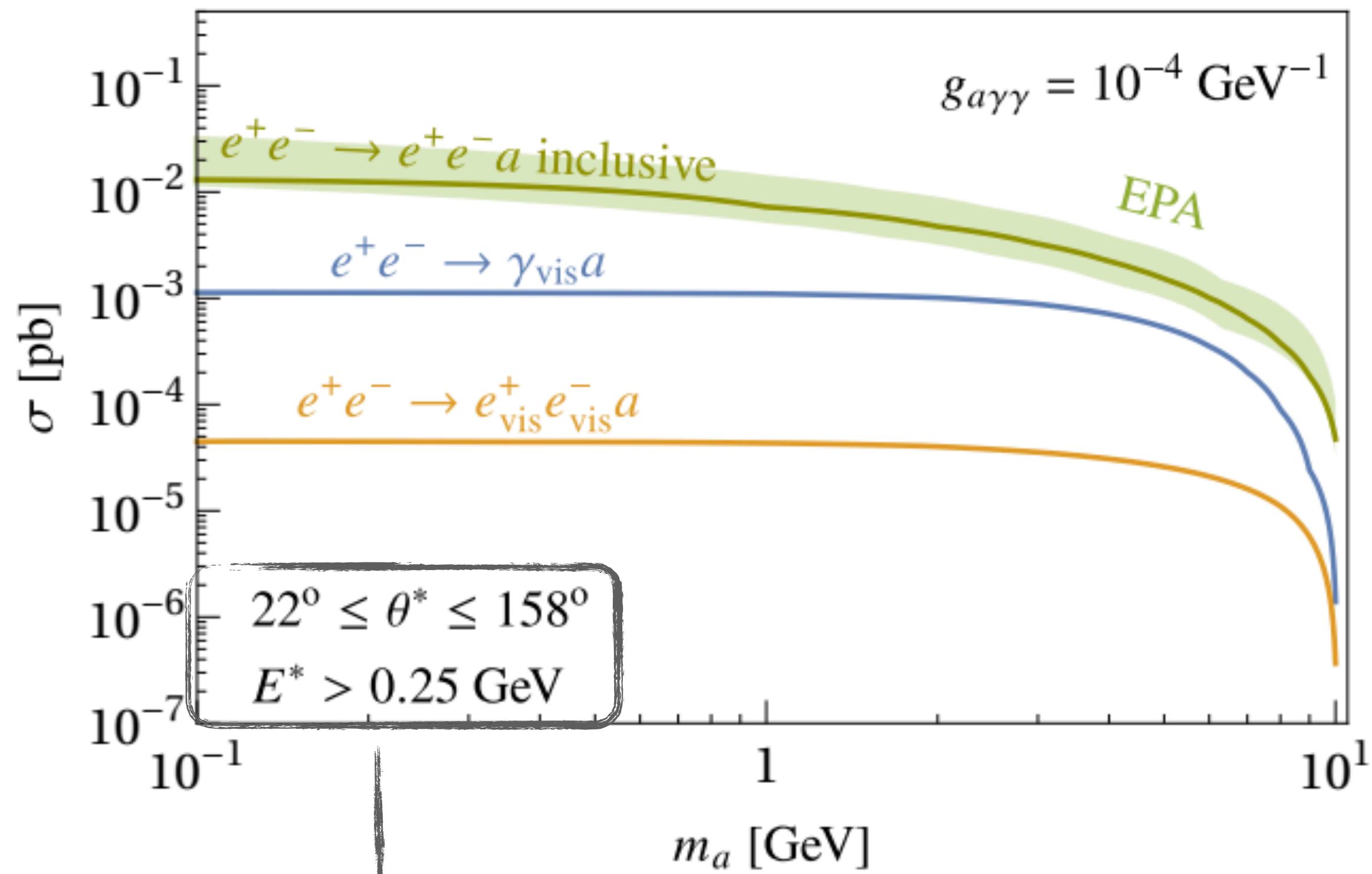
ALP cross sections at Belle II



Dolan, Ferber, Heary, Kahlhofer, Schmidt-Hoberg 1709.00009

# ALPs production @ Belle II

ALP cross sections at Belle II

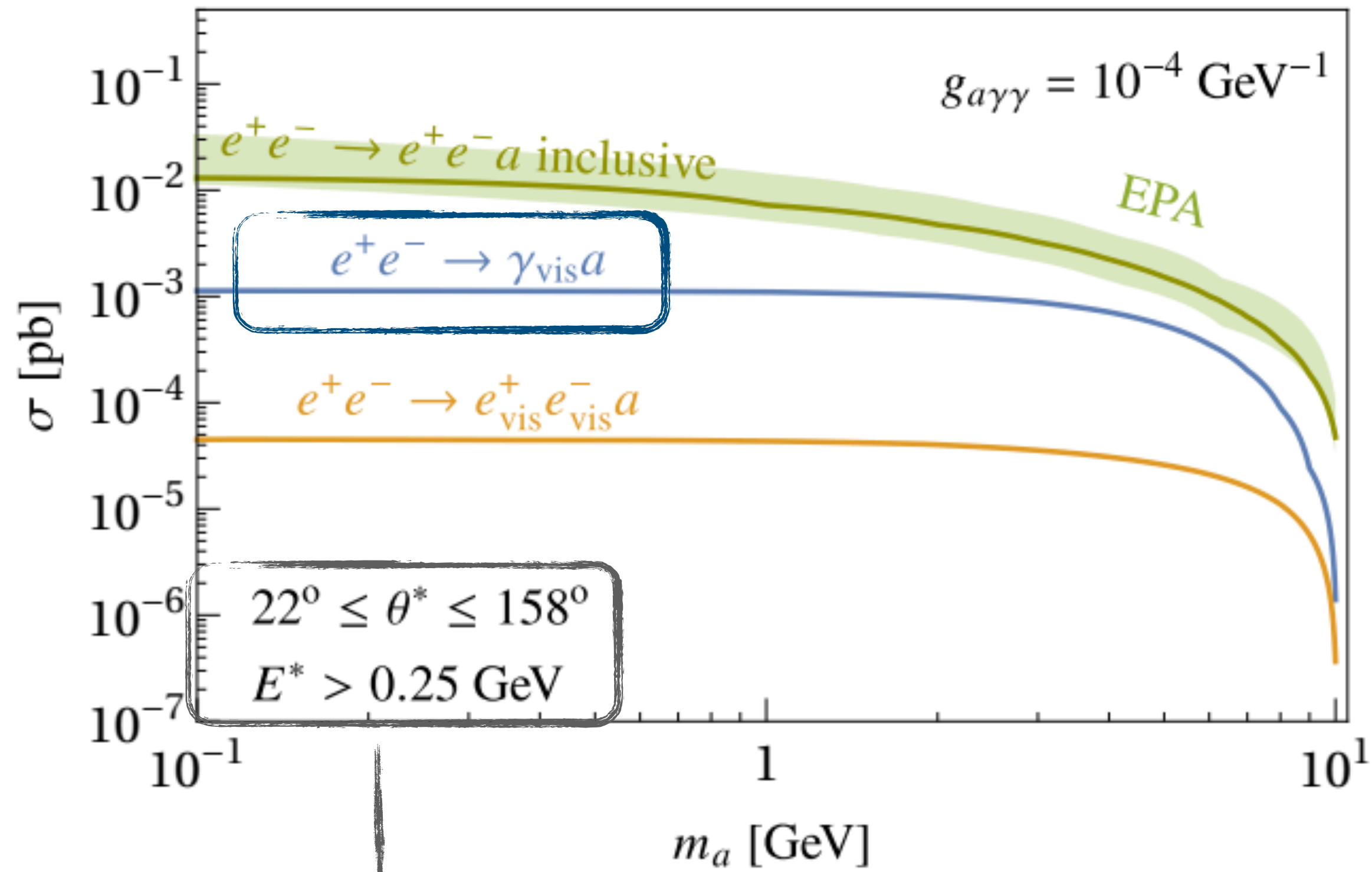


Belle II ECAL acceptance

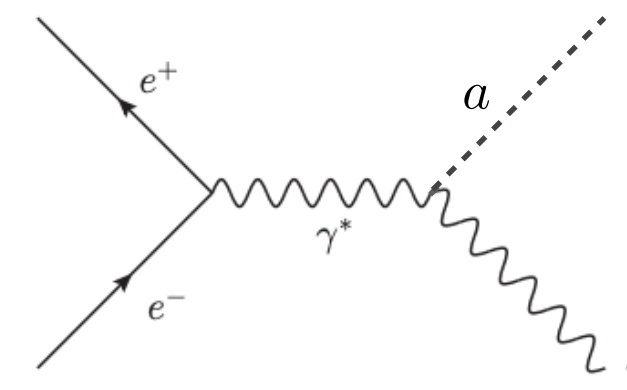
Dolan, Ferber, Heary, Kahlhofer, Schmidt-Hoberg 1709.00009

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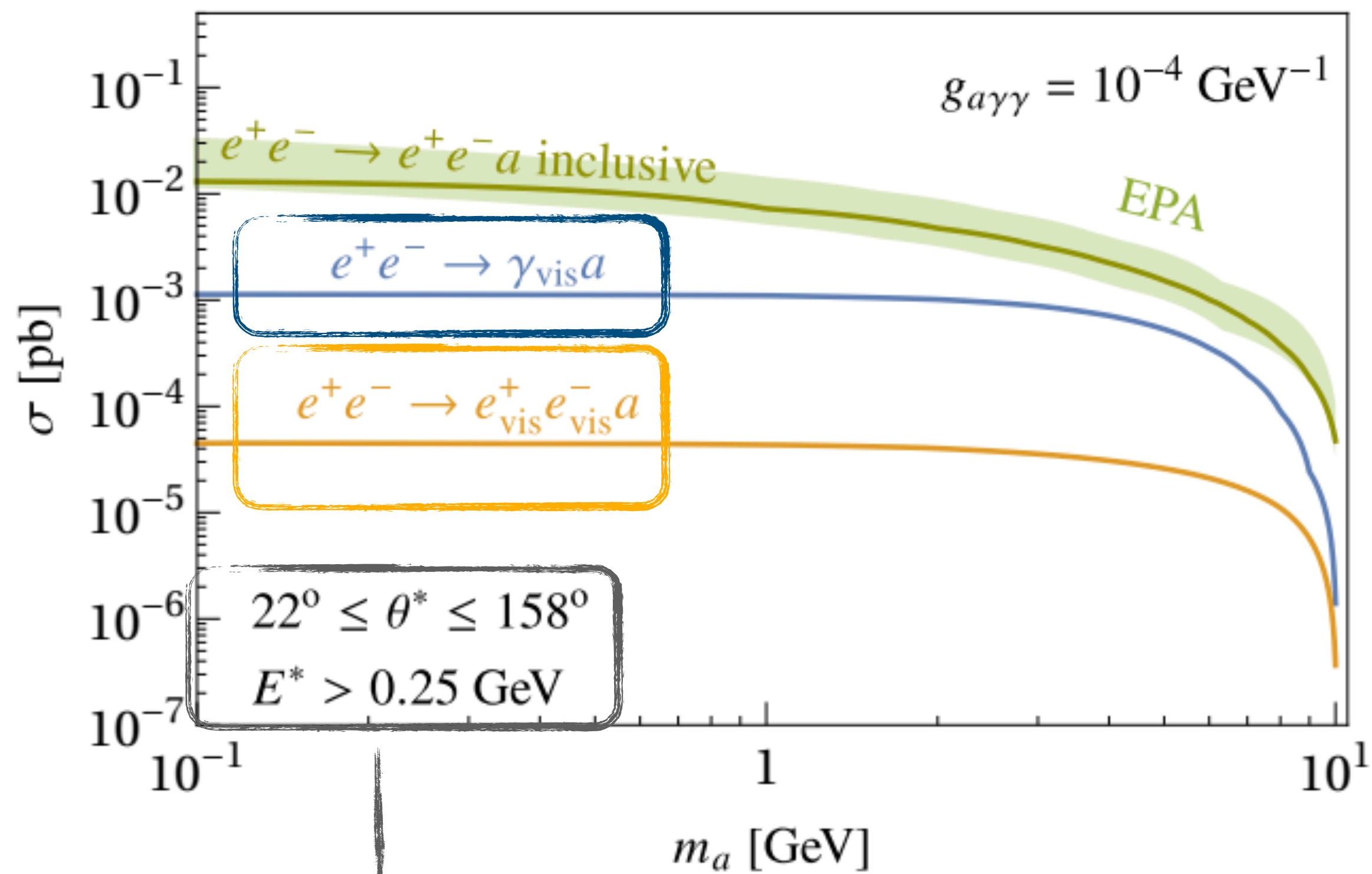
ALP-strahlung

$$\gamma + a$$

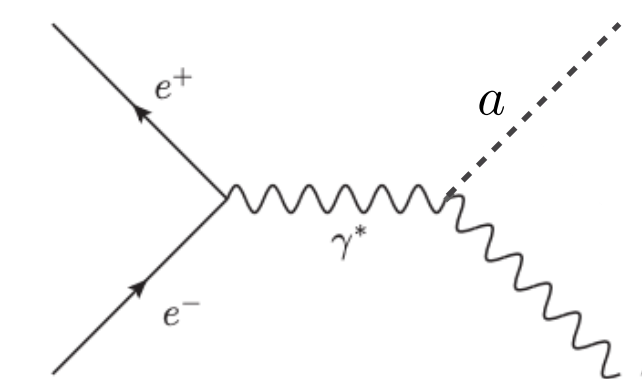
Dolan, Ferber, Heary, Kahlhofer, Schmidt-Hoberg 1709.00009

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ALP cross sections at Belle II



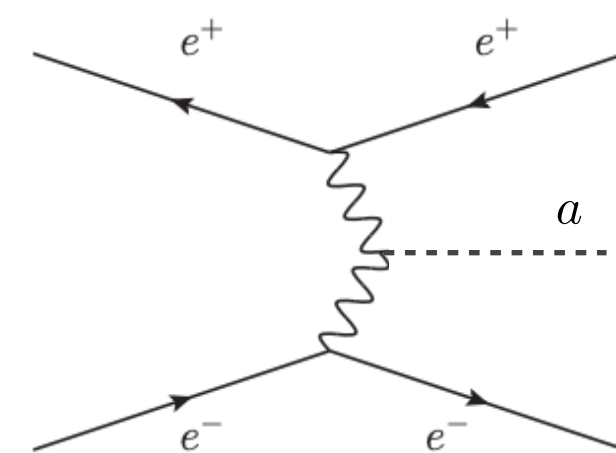
Belle II ECAL acceptance



ALP-strahlung

$$\gamma + a$$

Dolan, Ferber, Heary, Kahlhofer, Schmidt-Hoberg 1709.00009



Photon-fusion

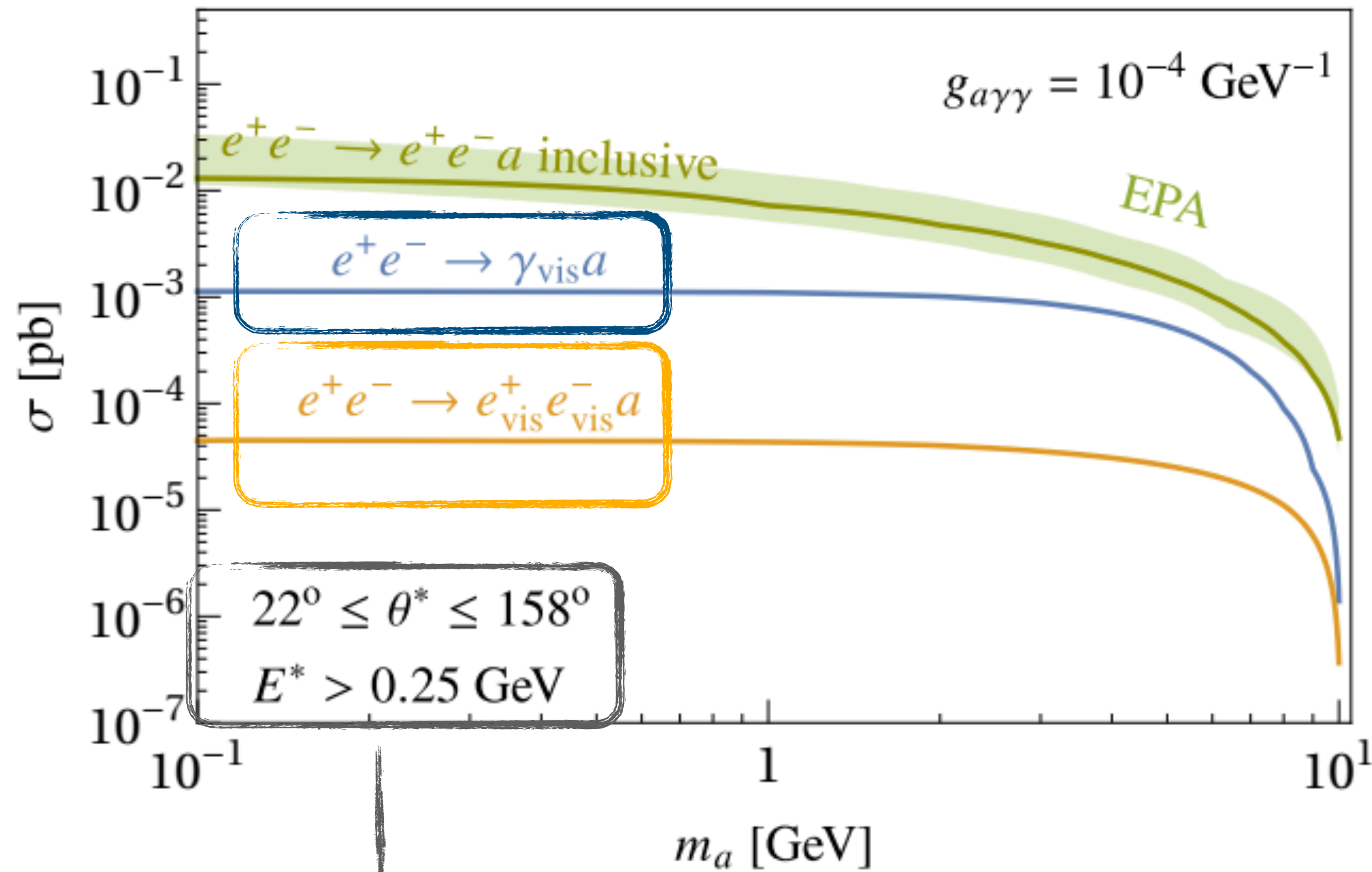
$$e^+ + e^- + a$$

$\ll$  EPA

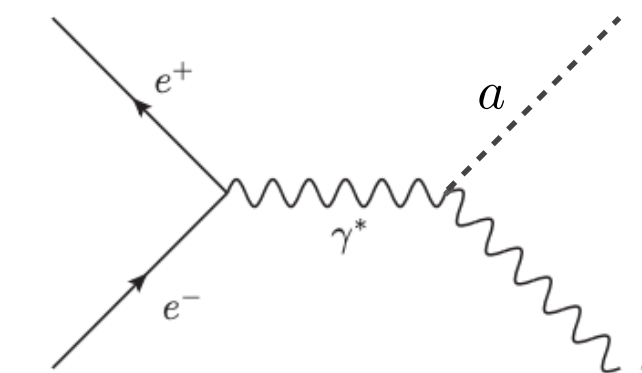
# ALPs production @ Belle II



ALP cross sections at Belle II

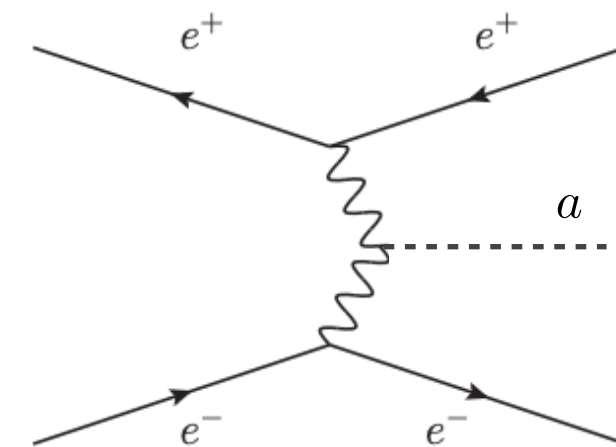


Belle II ECAL acceptance



ALP-strahlung  
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Dolan, Ferber, Heary, Kahlhofer, Schmidt-Hoberg 1709.00009

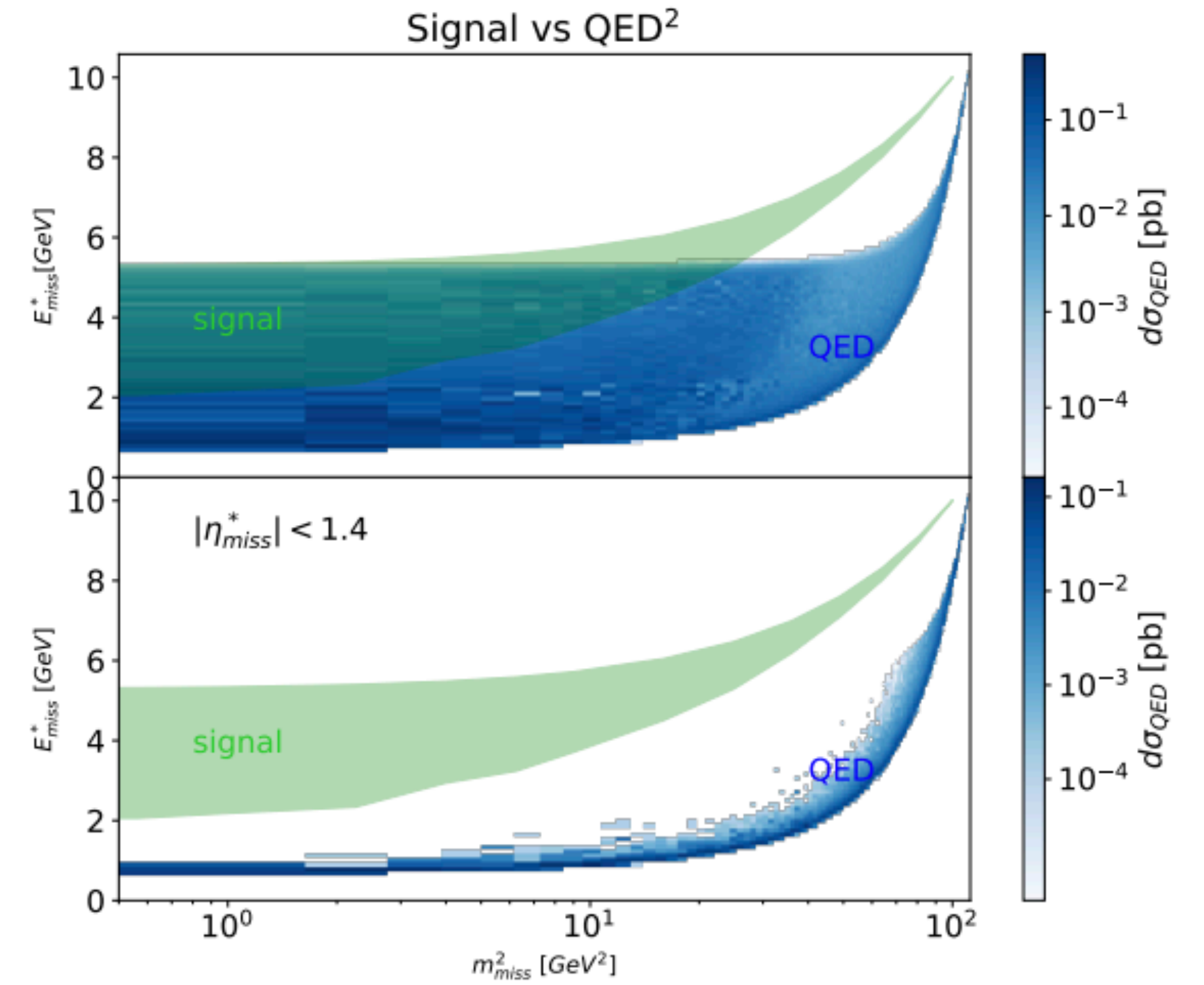
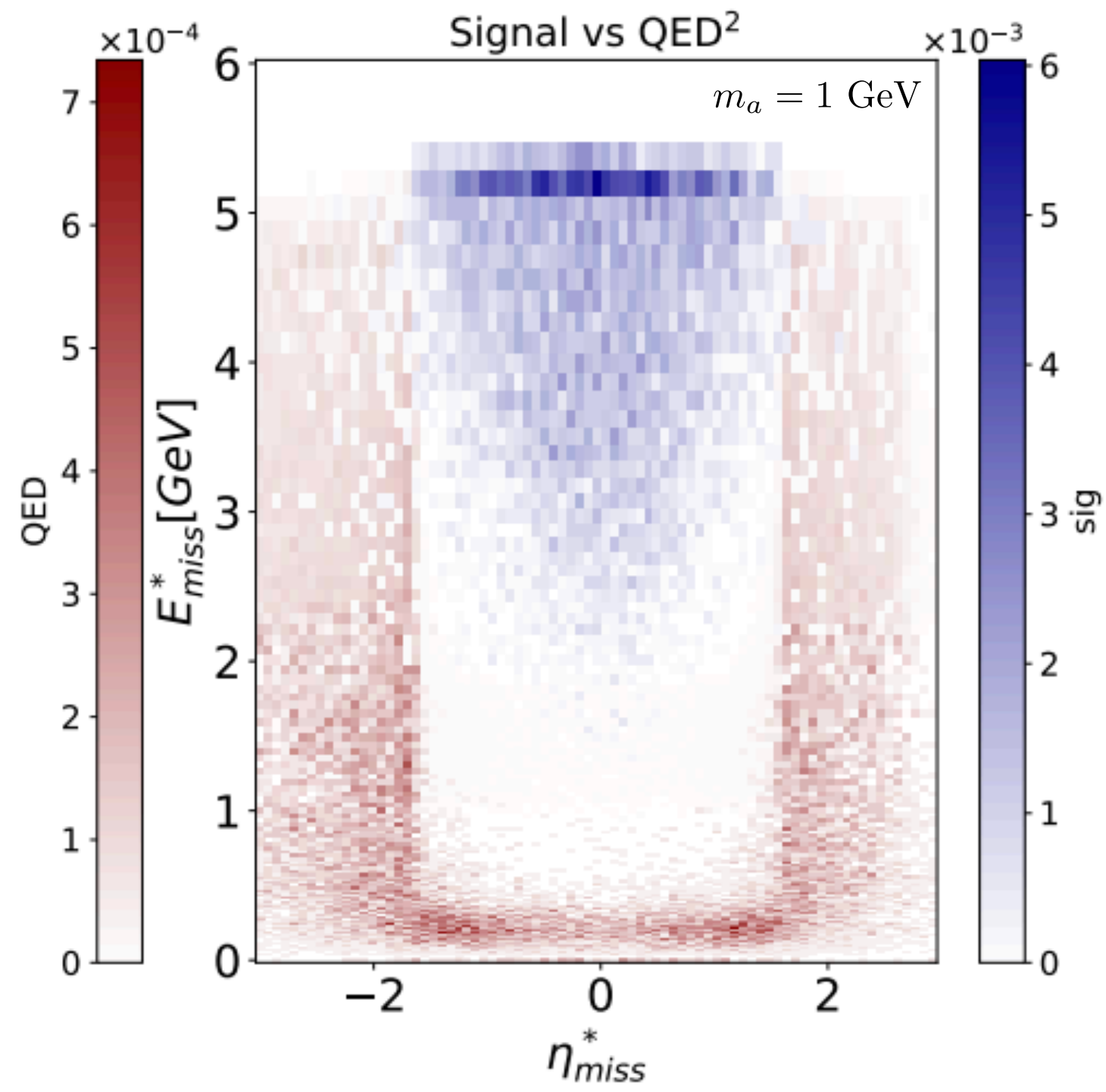
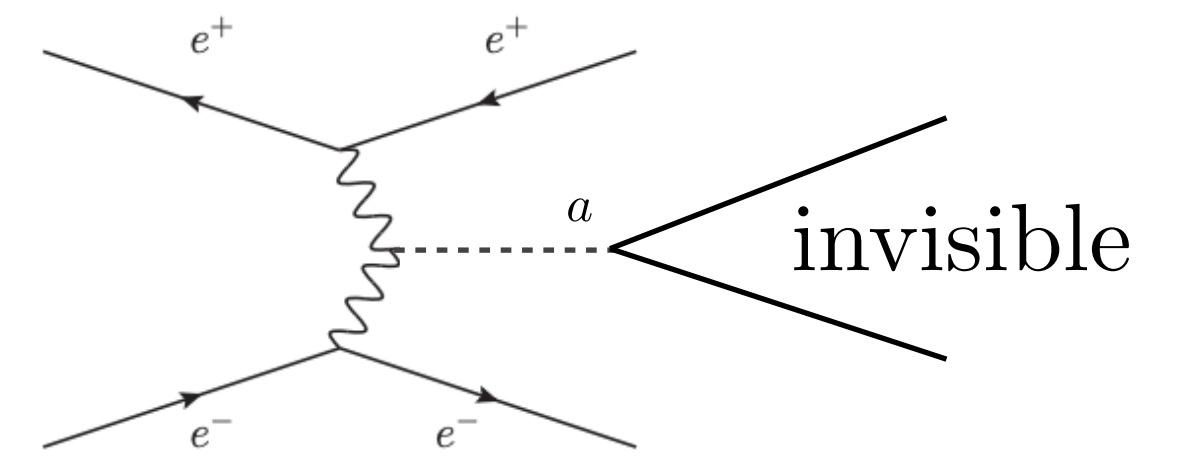


Photon-fusion  
 $e^+ + e^- + a \ll \text{EPA}$

If the ALP mediates the DM freeze-out and the DM is lighter  $\longrightarrow$  The ALP decays purely invisibly

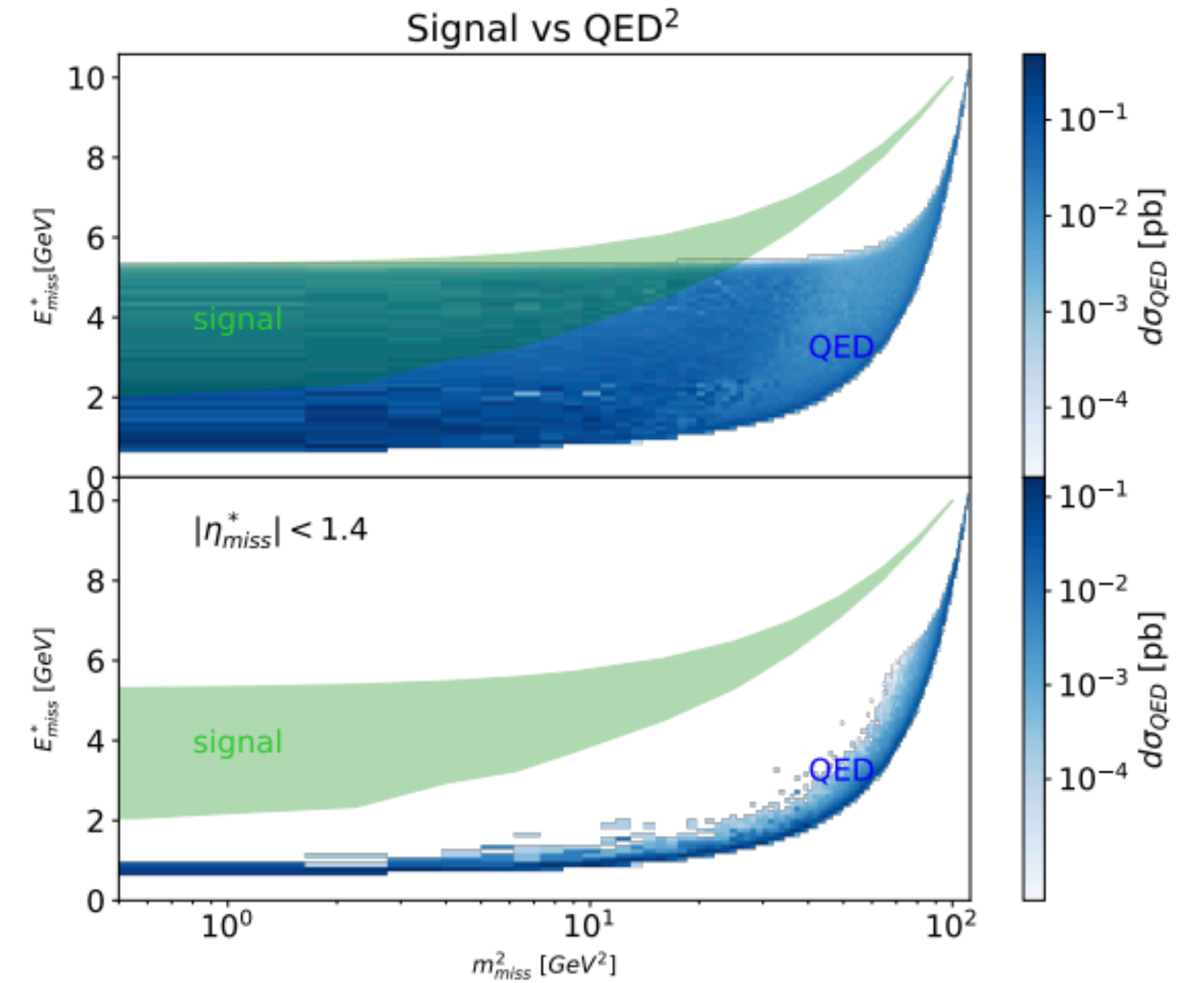
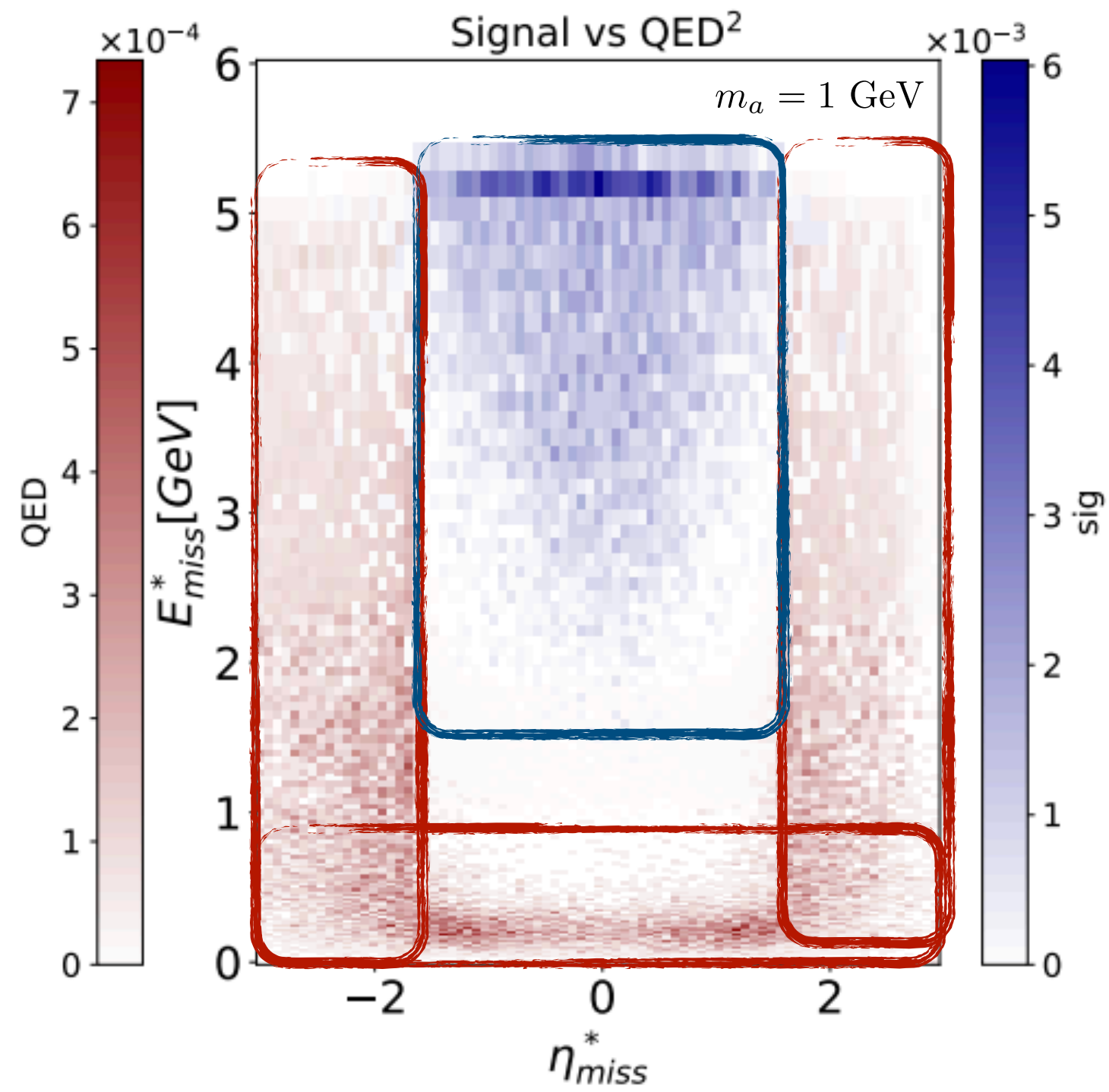
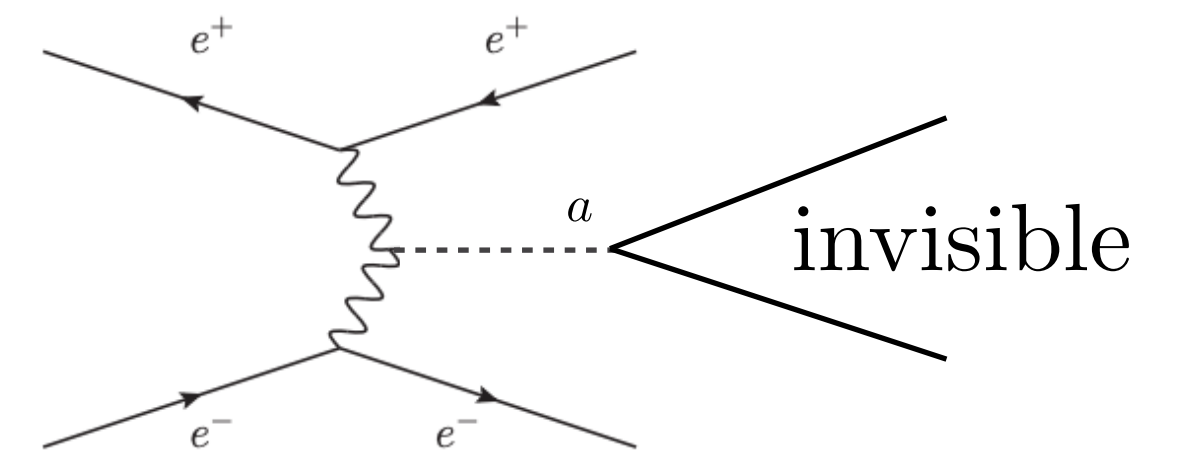
$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu a)^2 - \frac{m_a^2}{2}a^2 - \frac{g_{a\gamma\gamma}}{4}aF_{\mu\nu}\tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} + \frac{i}{2}\bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\partial_\mu\chi + \frac{M_\chi}{2}\bar{\chi}\chi + \frac{g_{a\chi\chi}}{2}M_\chi a\bar{\chi}\gamma_5\chi$$

# Fusing photons into nothing



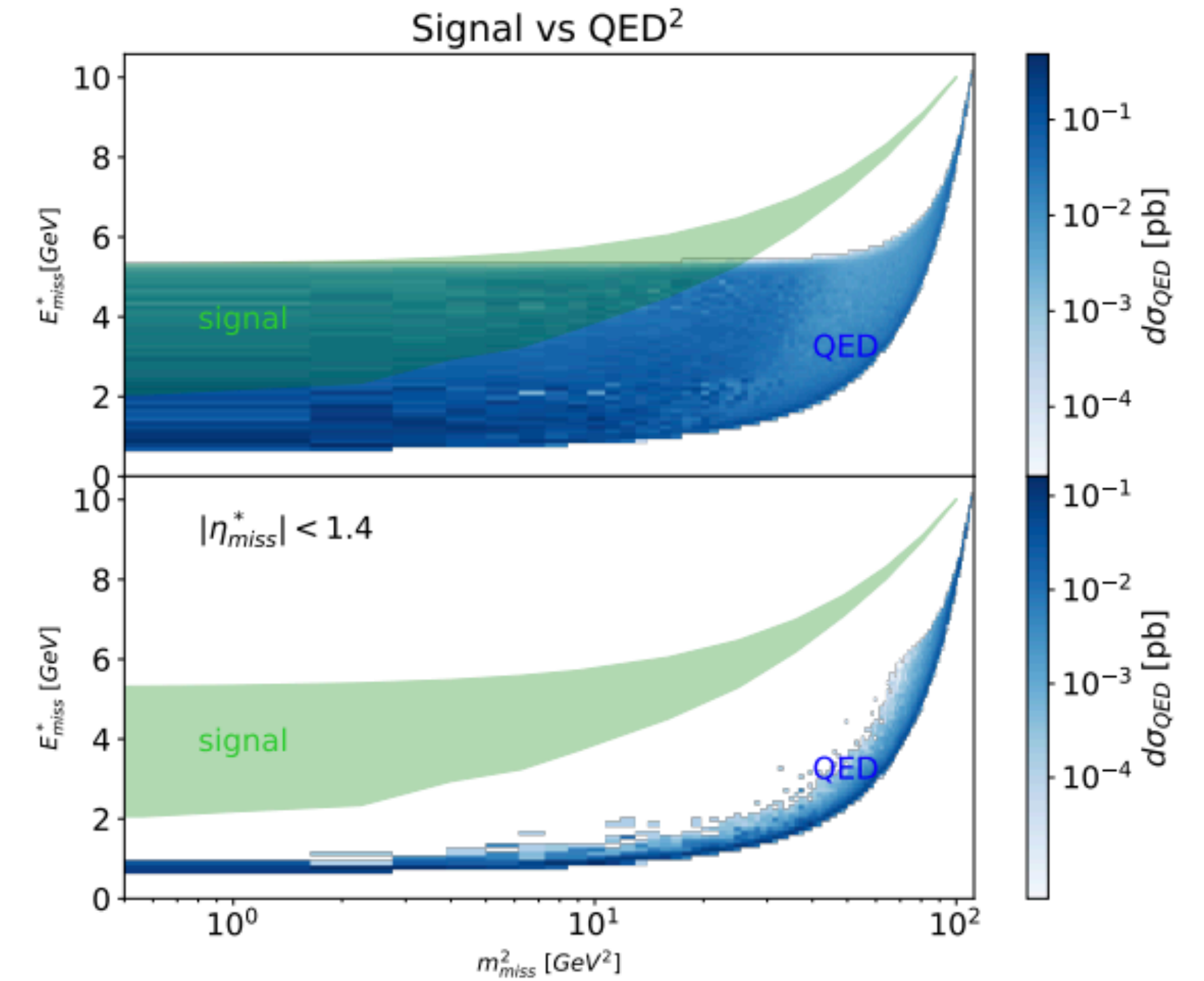
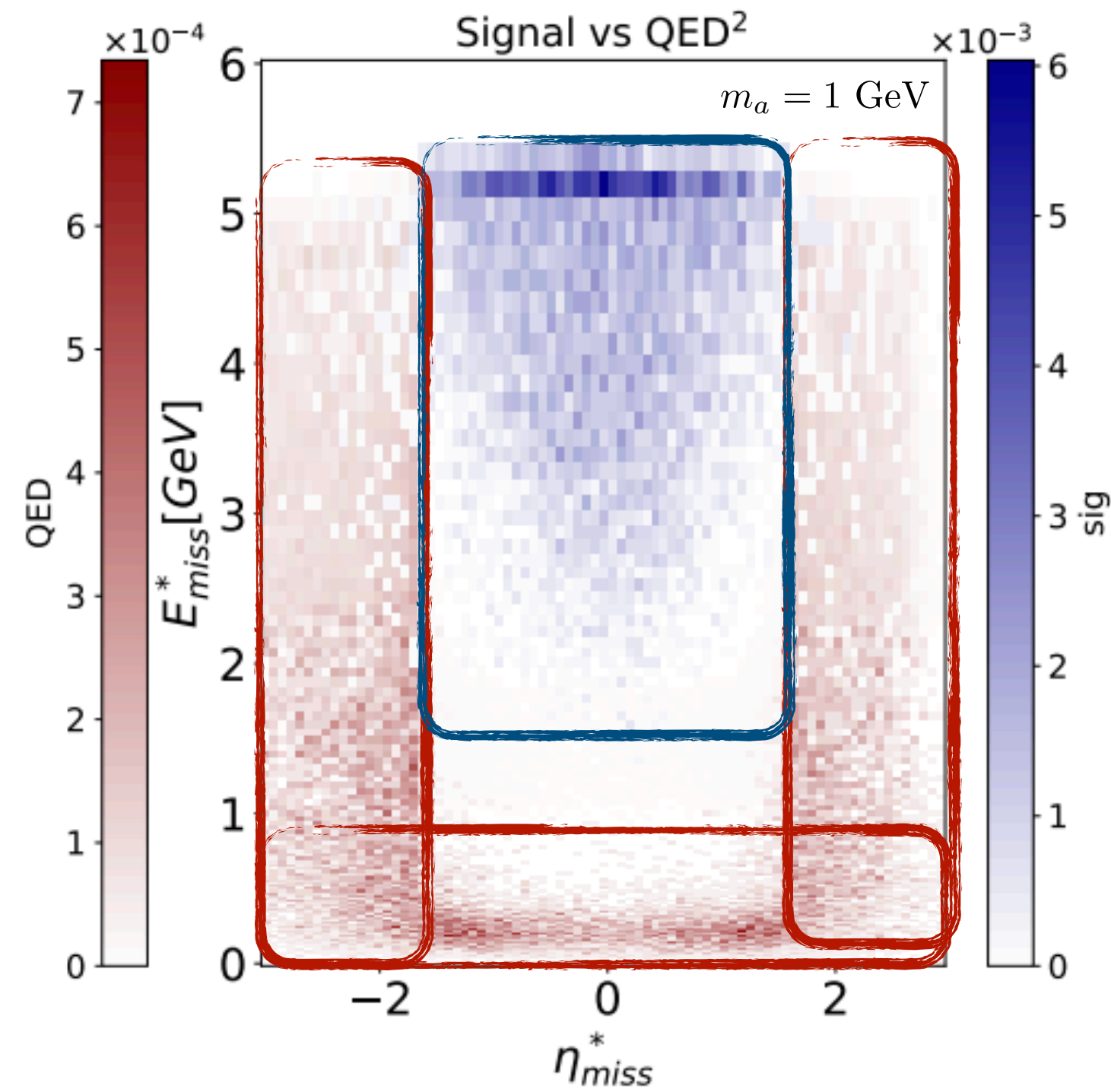
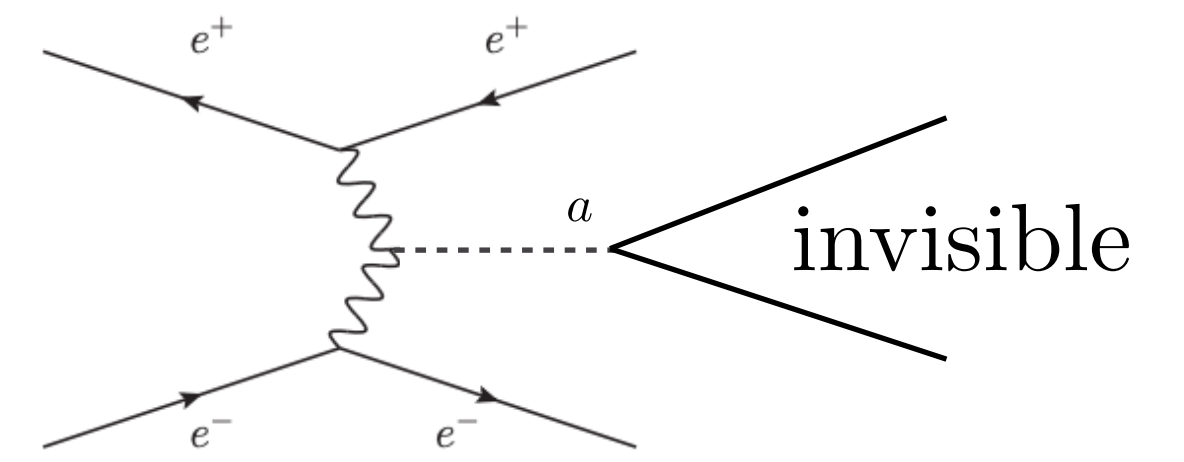


# Fusing photons into nothing



A large separation from QED background can be obtained @ small masses

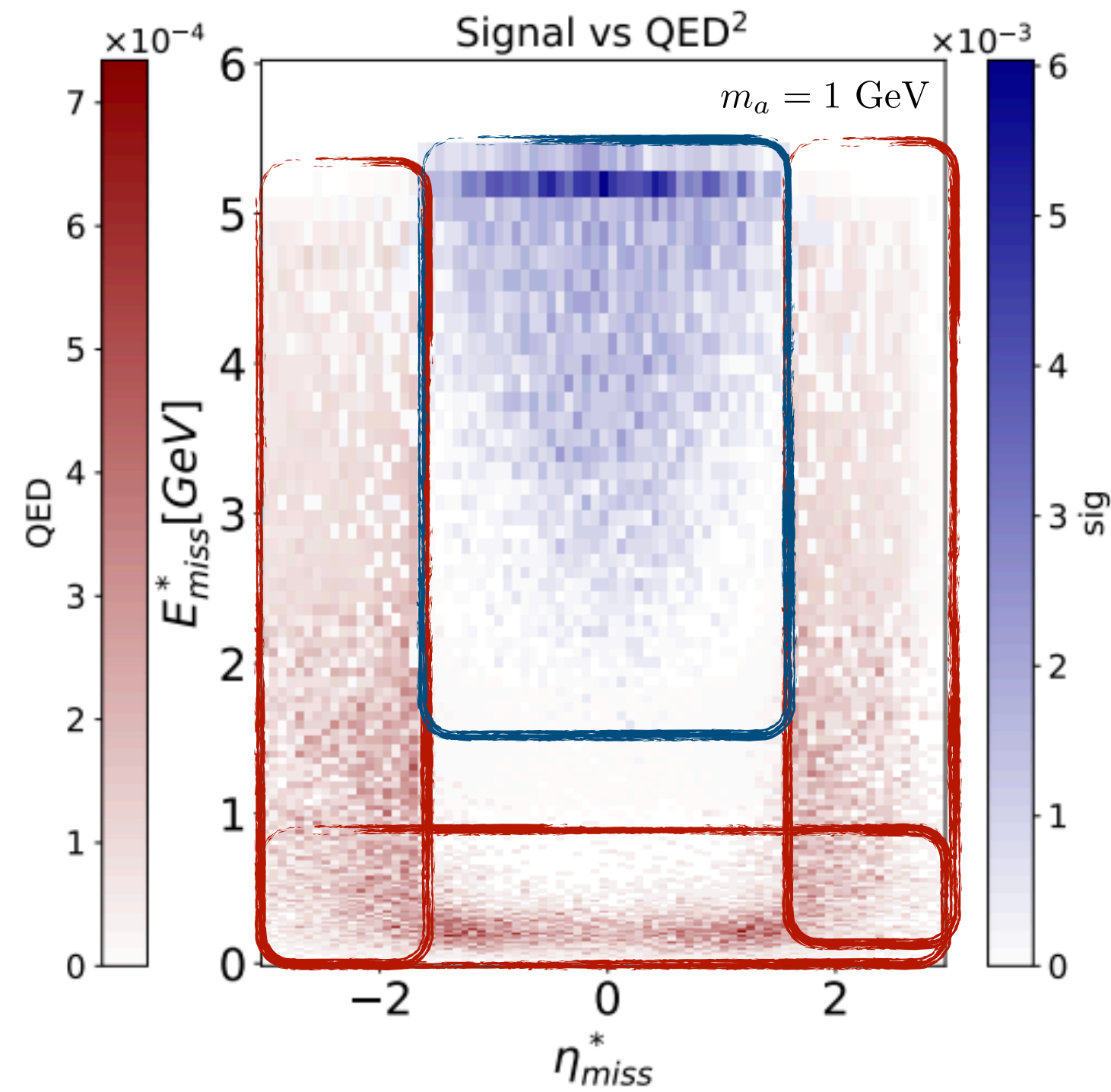
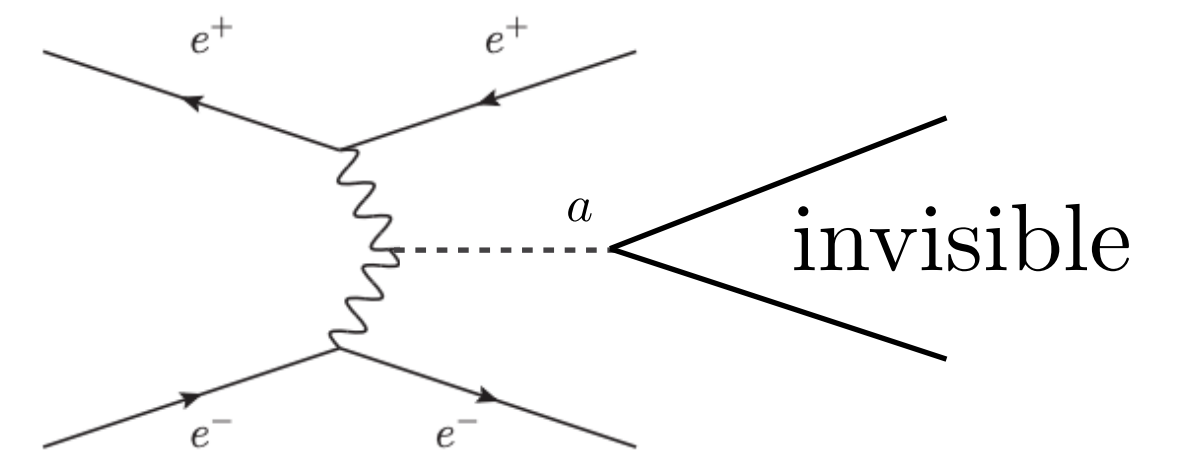
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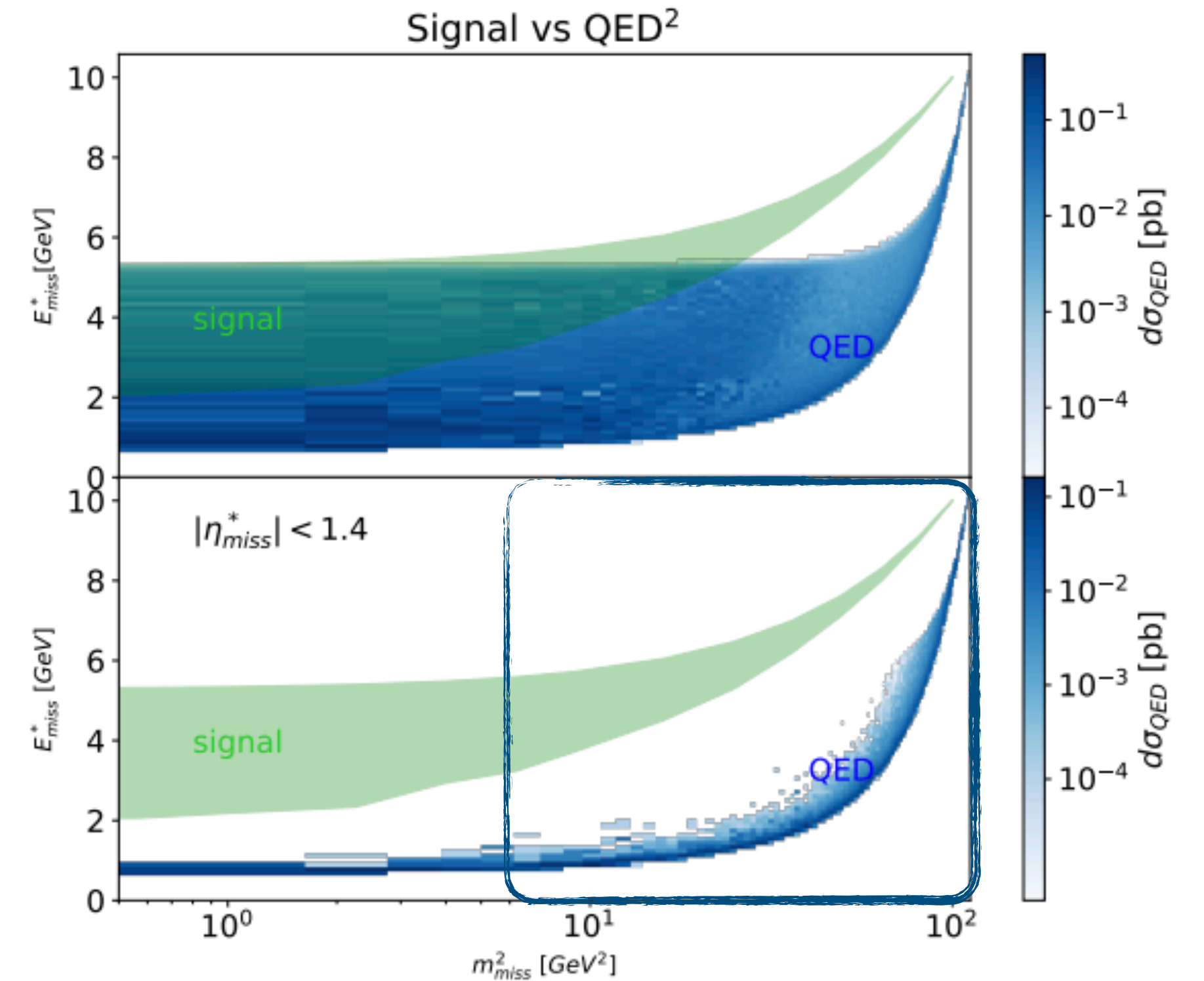
The signal has LARGE missing energy + it is CENTRAL  
+ SMALL missing mass

# Fusing photons into nothing



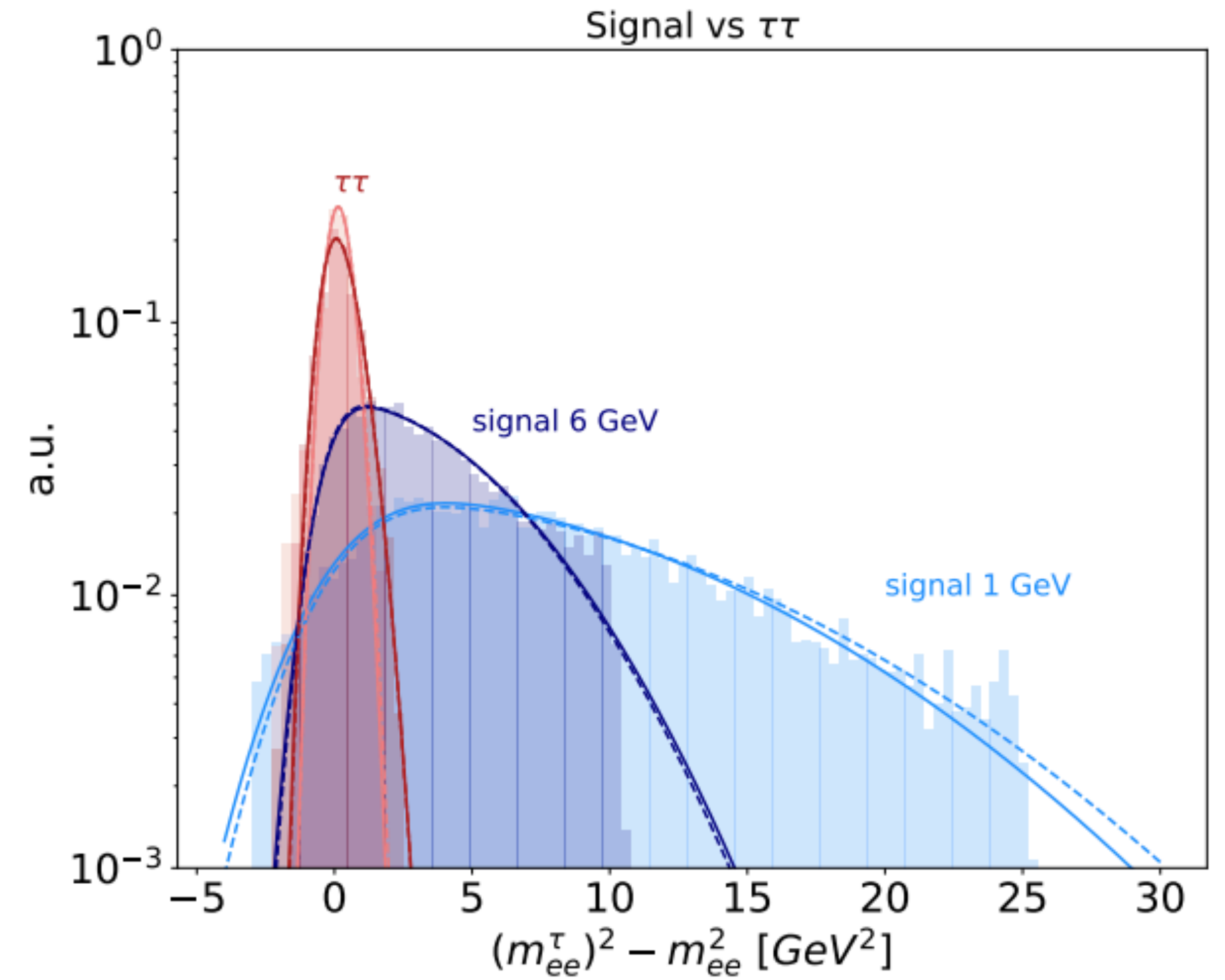
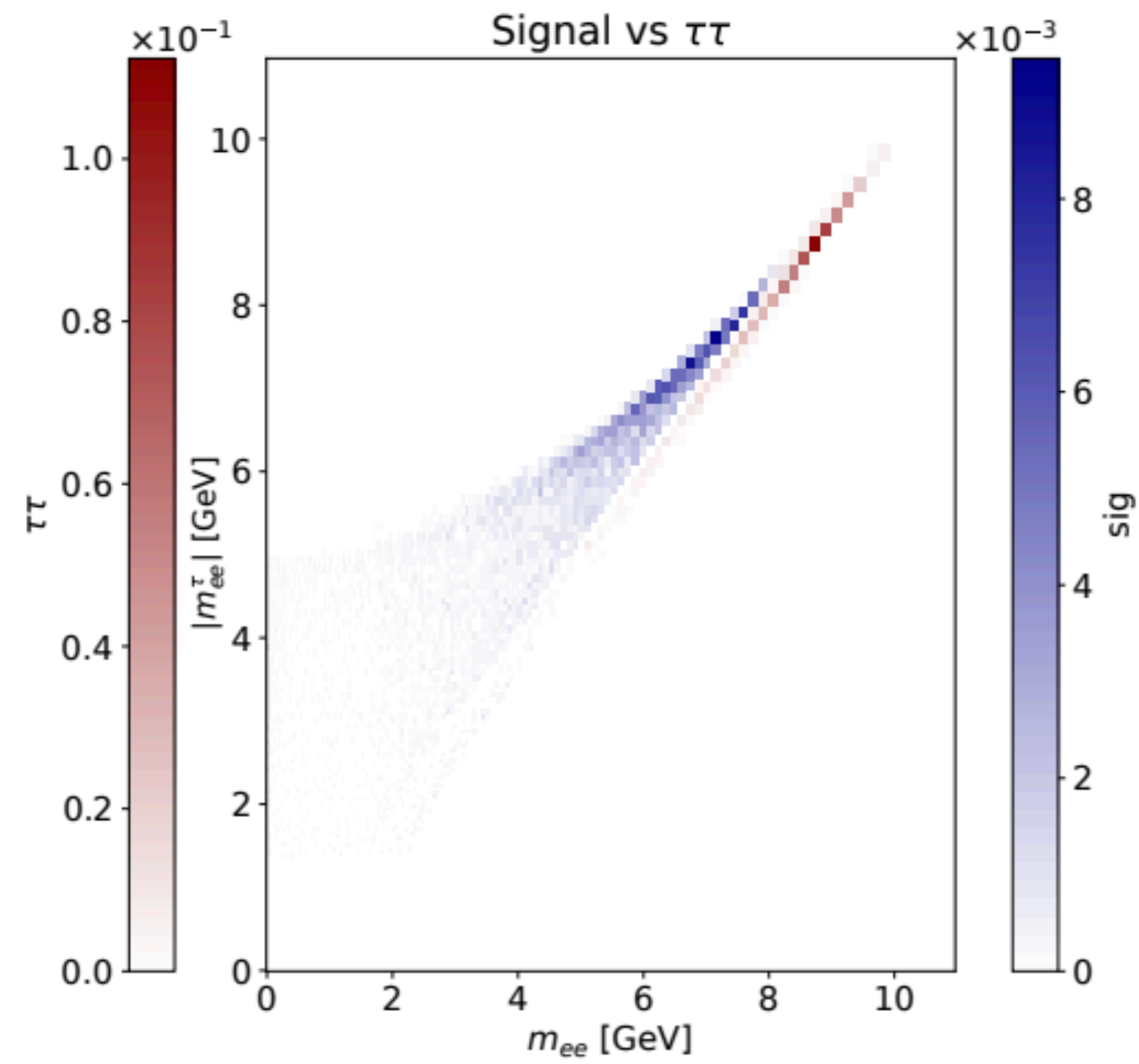
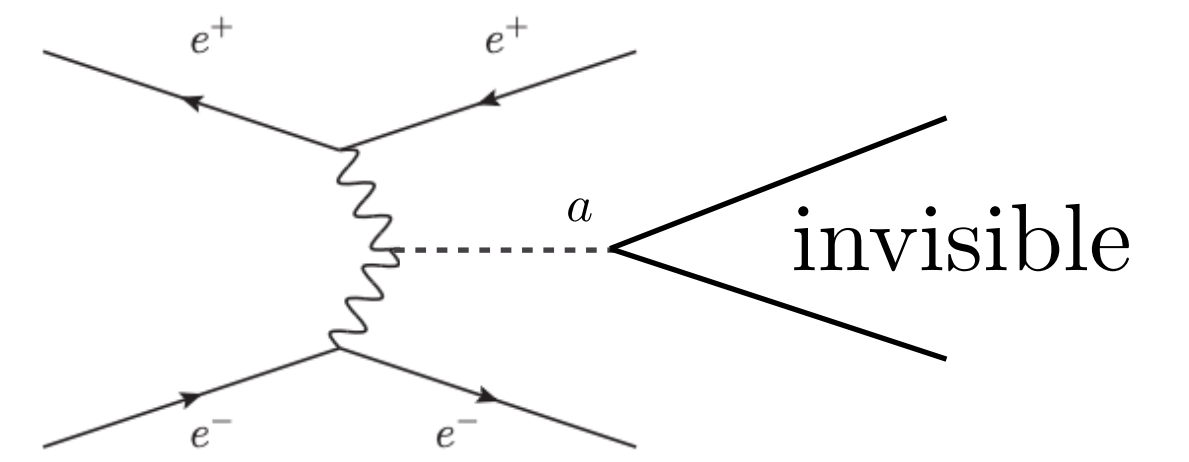
A large separation from QED background can be obtained @ small masses

The signal has LARGE missing energy + it is CENTRAL + SMALL missing mass



The separation holds at higher masses because the MET in the signal event grows

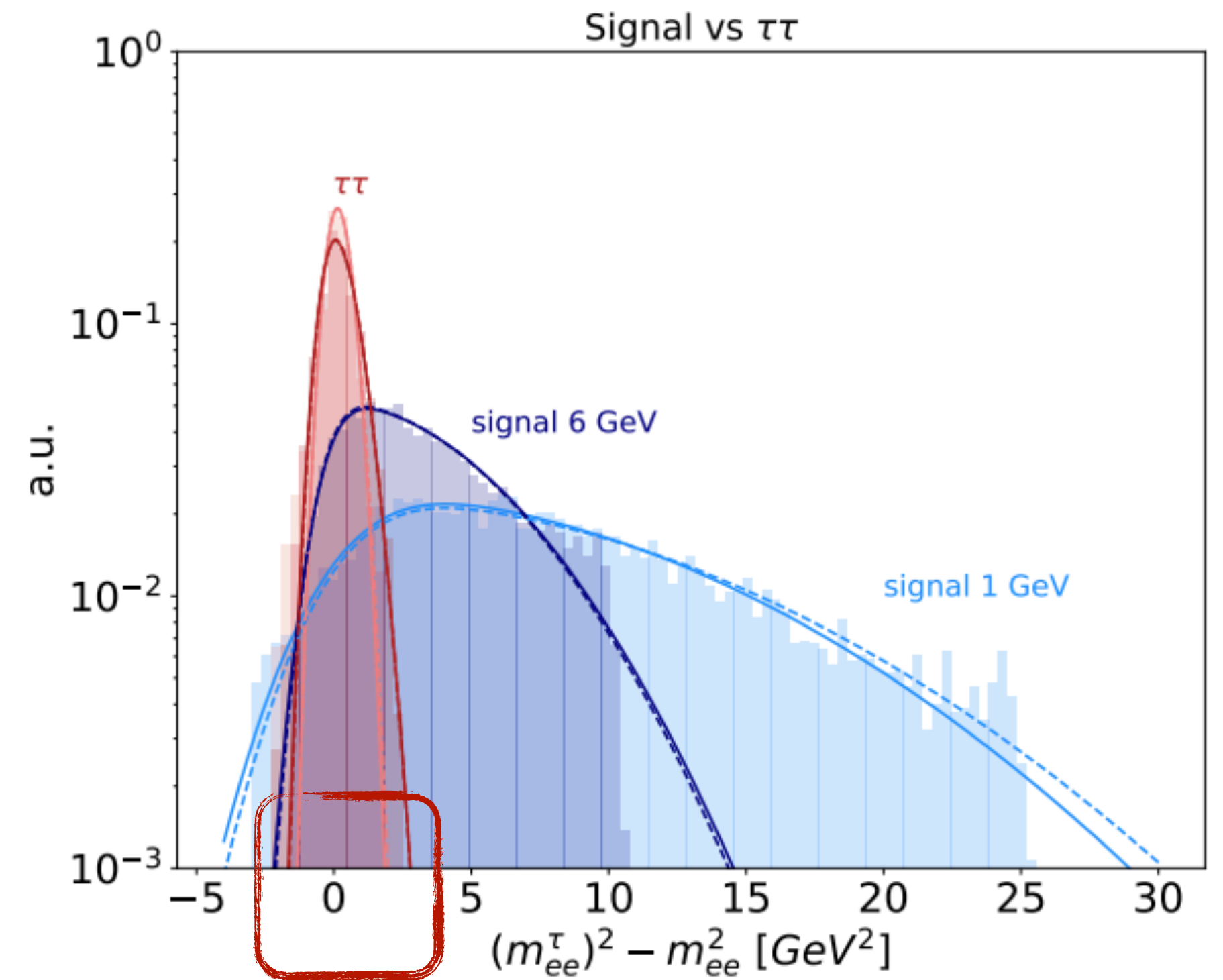
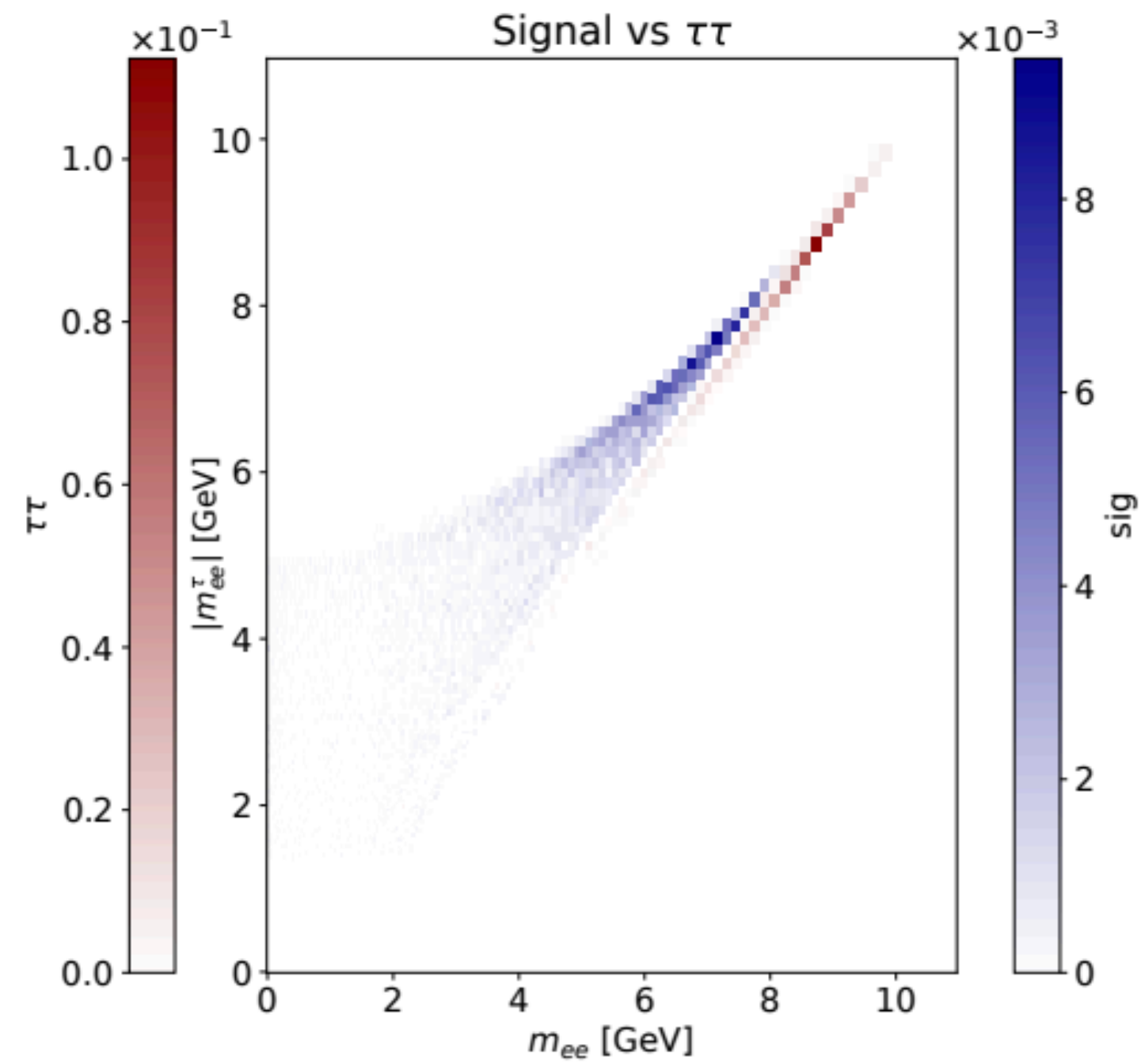
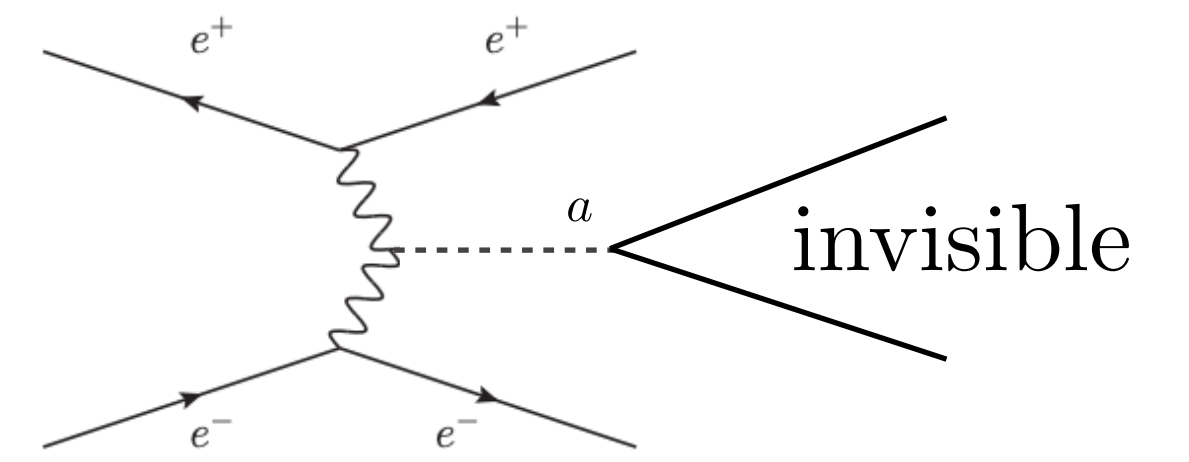
# Fusing photons into nothing



The separation from the tau-tau background is achieved using the antler topology of tau-tau

*Han, Kim, Song 0906.5009, Franceshini et al. 2206.13431*

# Fusing photons into nothing

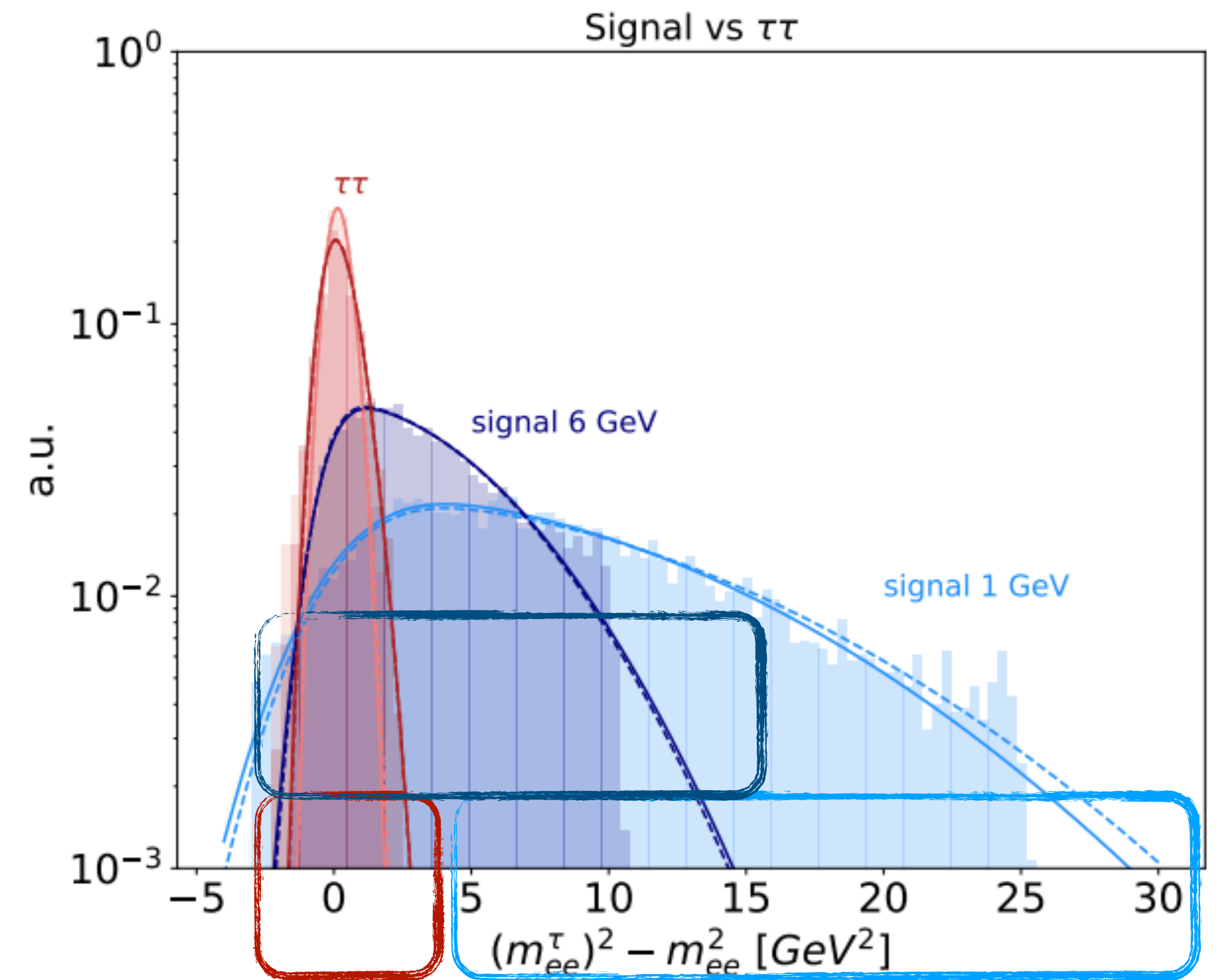
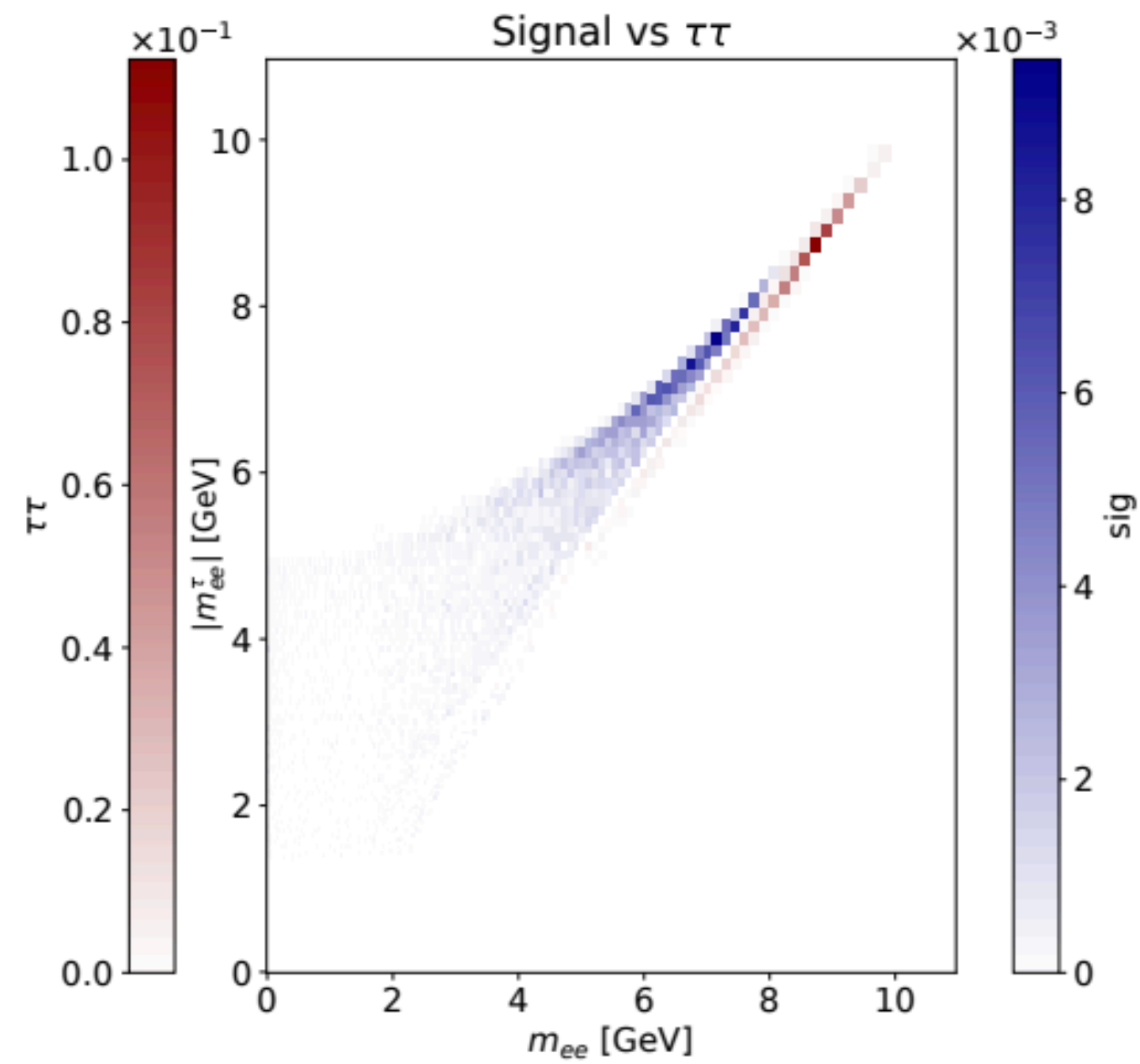
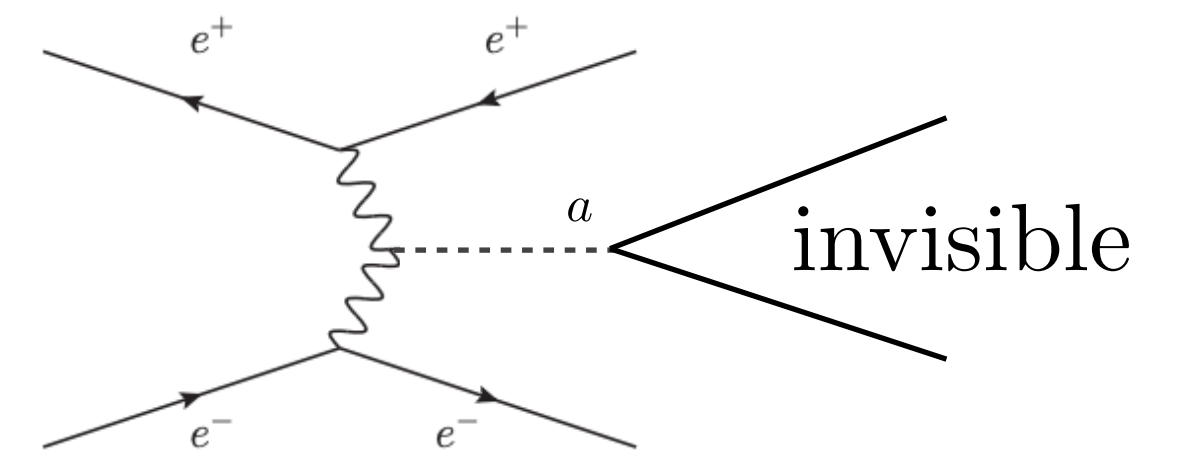


The separation from the tau-tau background is achieved using the antler topology of tau-tau

The **tau-tau background** is peaked

*Han, Kim, Song 0906.5009, Franceshini et al. 2206.13431*

# Fusing photons into nothing



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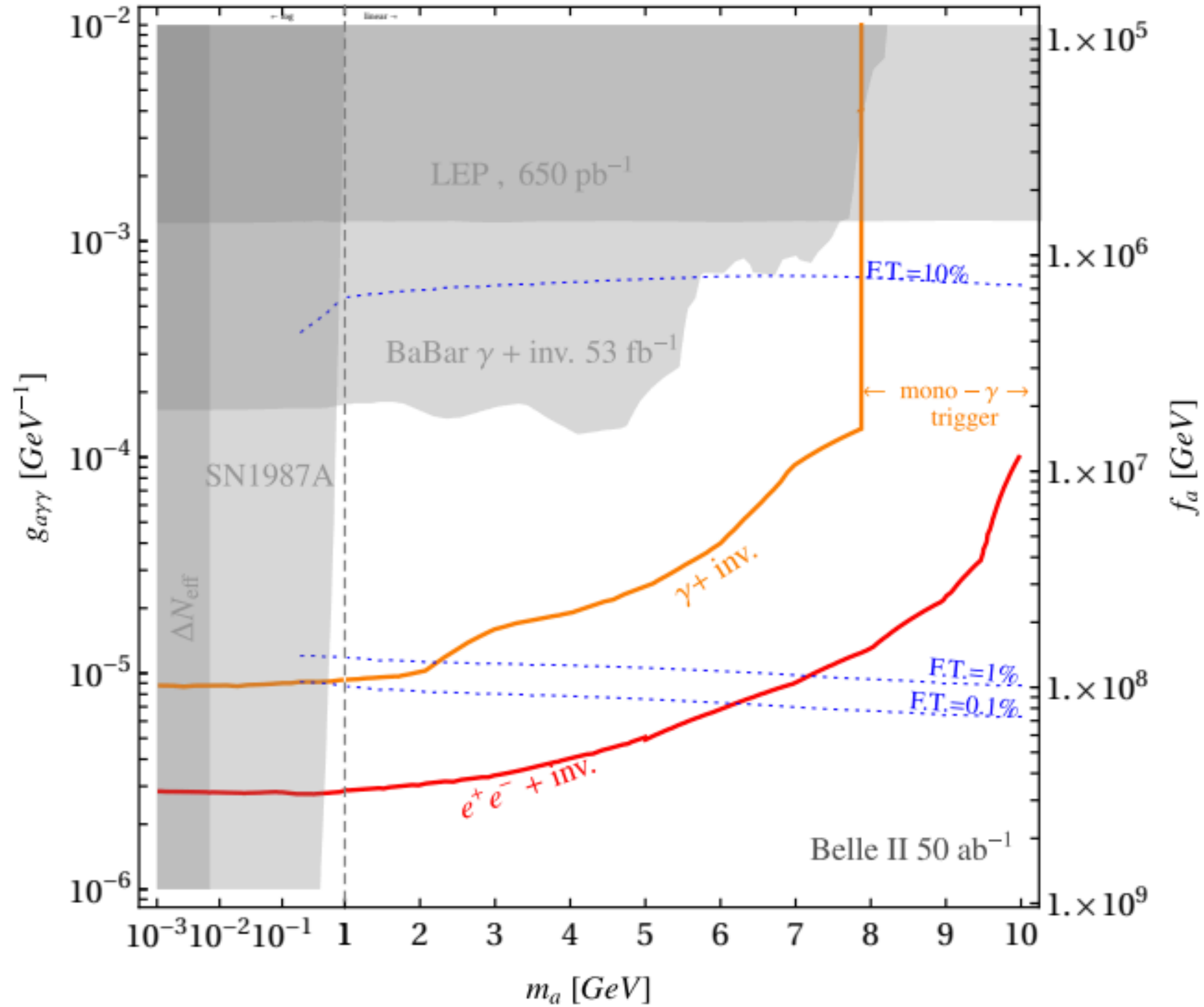
The signal is spread for **small masses** but less for **high masses**

*Han, Kim, Song 0906.5009, Franceshini et al. 2206.13431*

# What more can be squeezed?



Acanfora, Franceschini, Mastroddi, D.R. 2307.06369



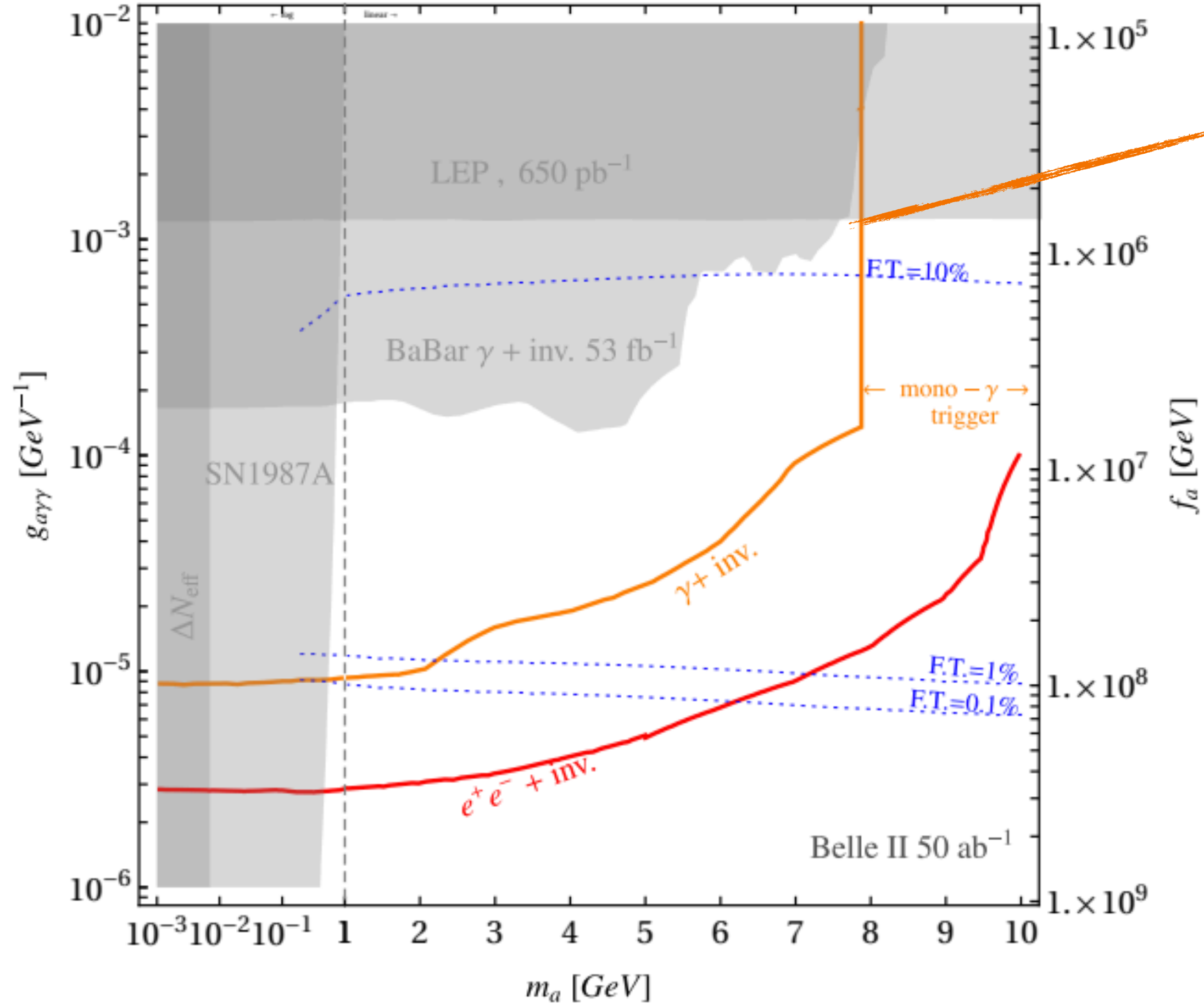
$\gamma + inv$

*Photon-fusion is a complementary probe of the invisible ALP!*

# What more can be squeezed?



Acanfora, Franceschini, Mastroddi, D.R. 2307.06369



Reach of  $\gamma + inv$

Dolan, Ferber, Heary, Kahlhofer, Schmidt-Hoberg 1709.00009

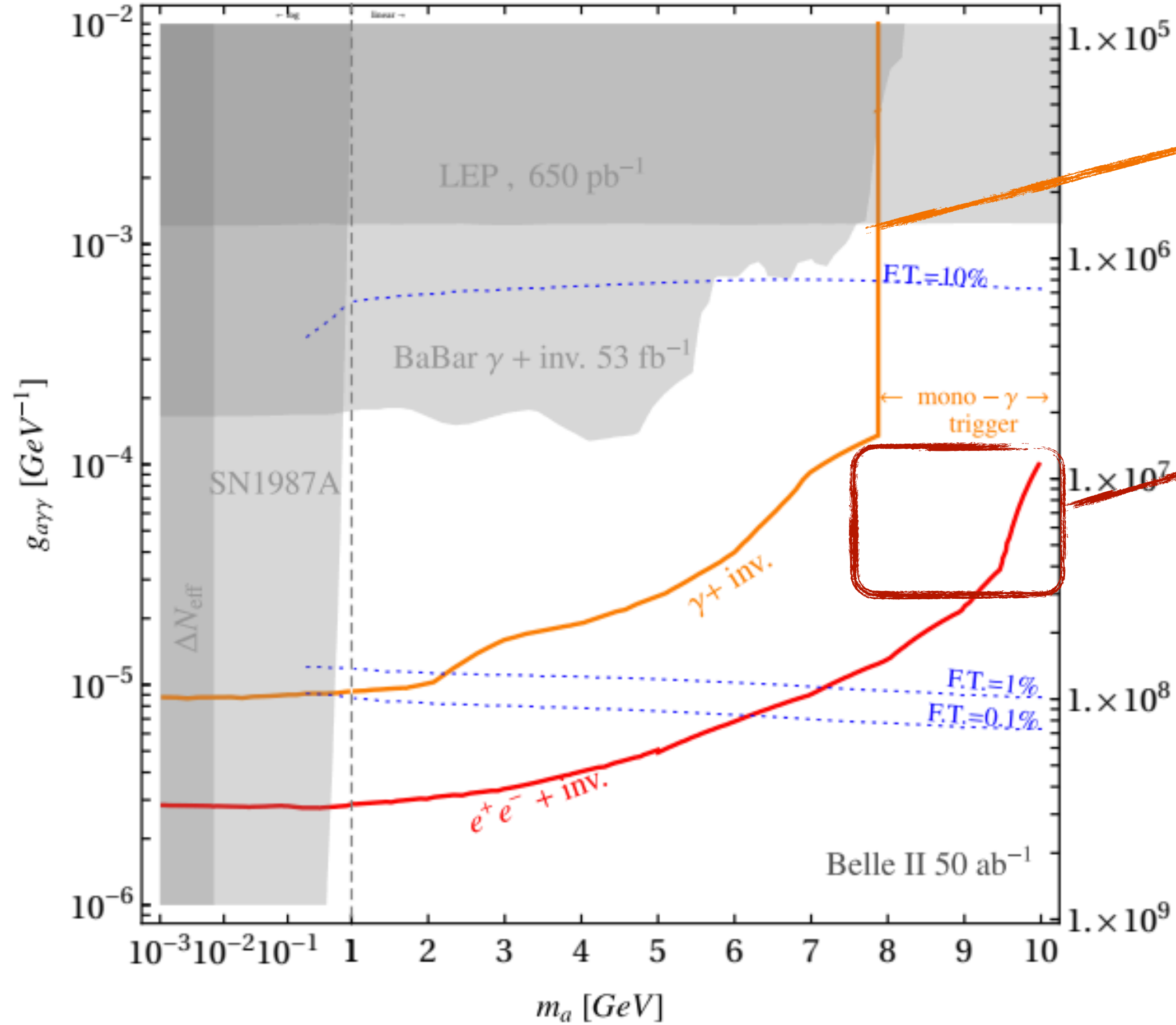
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Reach of  $\gamma + inv$

*Dolan, Ferber, Heary, Kahlhofer, Schmidt-Hoberg 1709.00009*

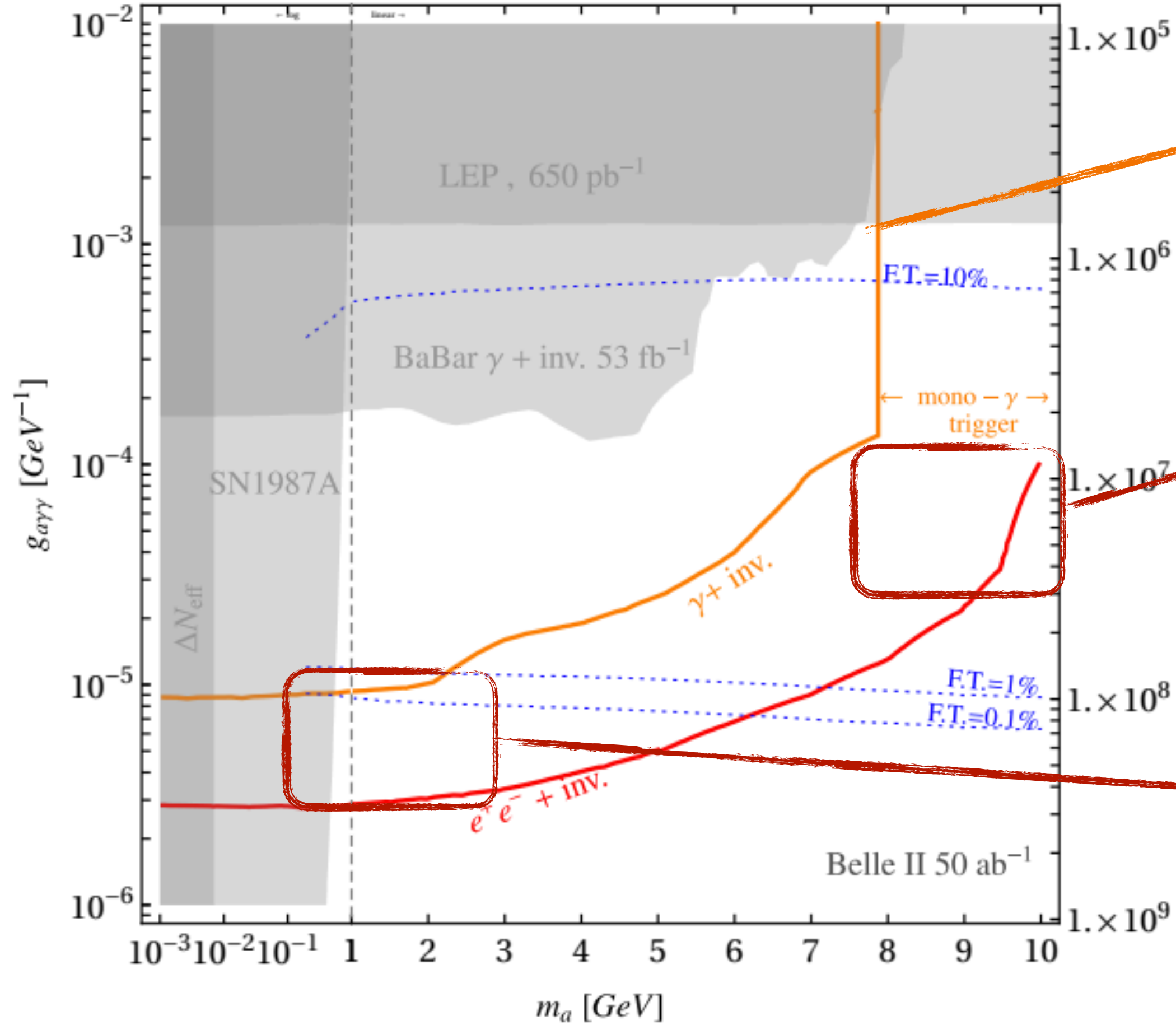
The new search does not deteriorate at high masses for trigger requirements

*Photon-fusion is a complementary probe of the invisible ALP!*

# What more can be squeezed?



Acanfora, Franceschini, Mastroddi, D.R. 2307.06369



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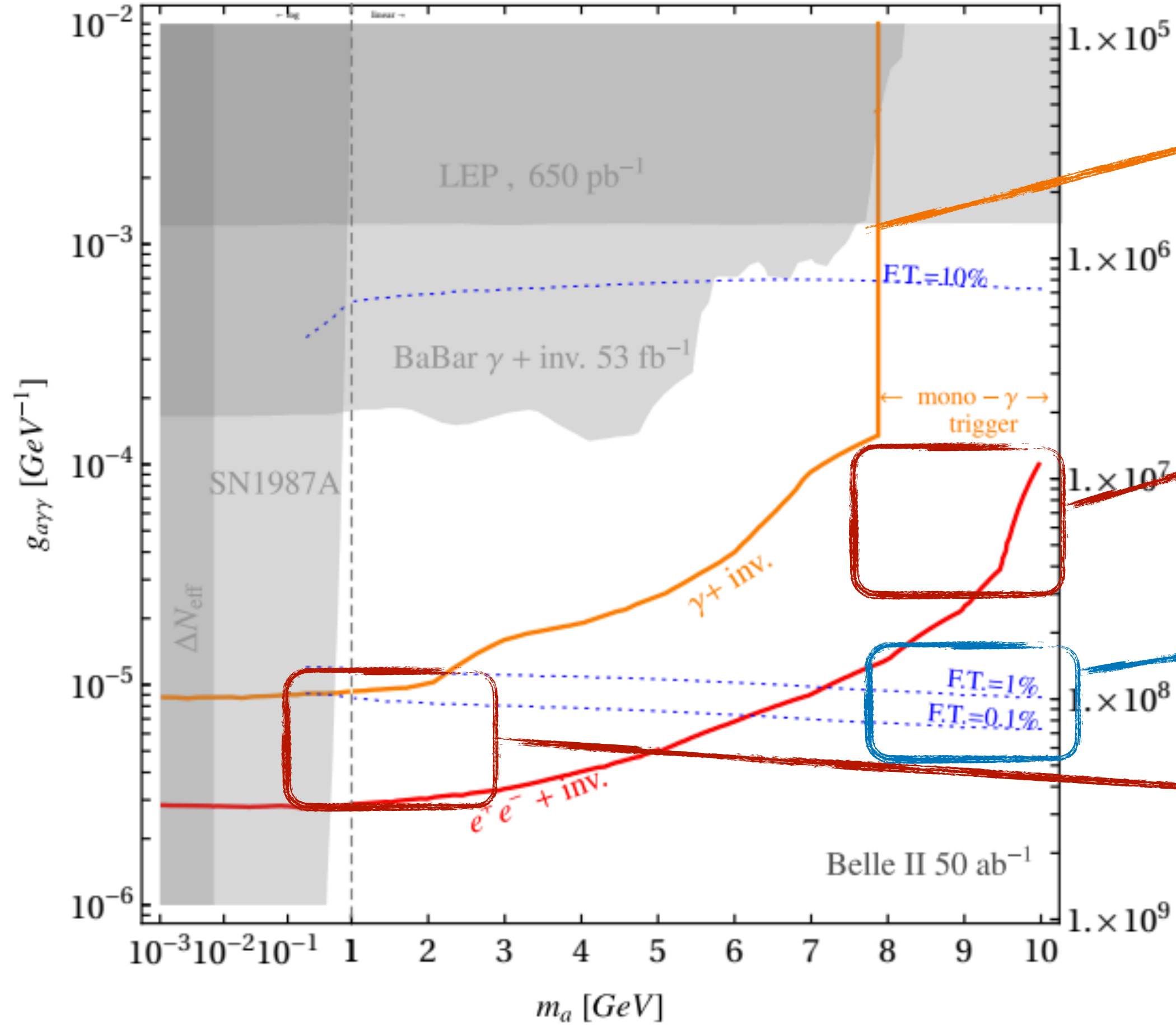
The search is essentially background-free if contamination from detector “holes” can be tamed

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Reach of  $\gamma + inv$

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The new search does not deteriorate at high masses for trigger requirements

It can probe DM resonant freeze-out completely!

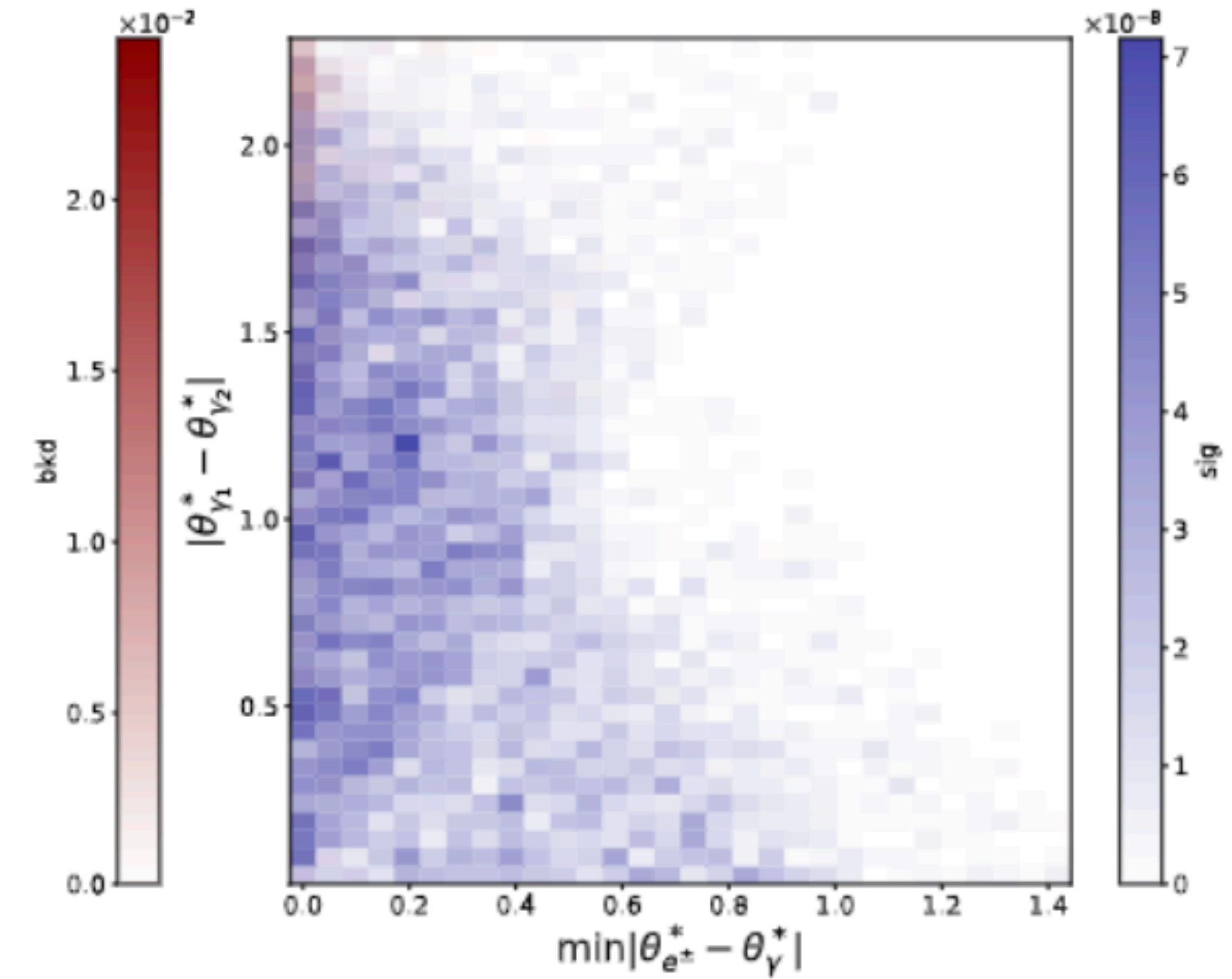
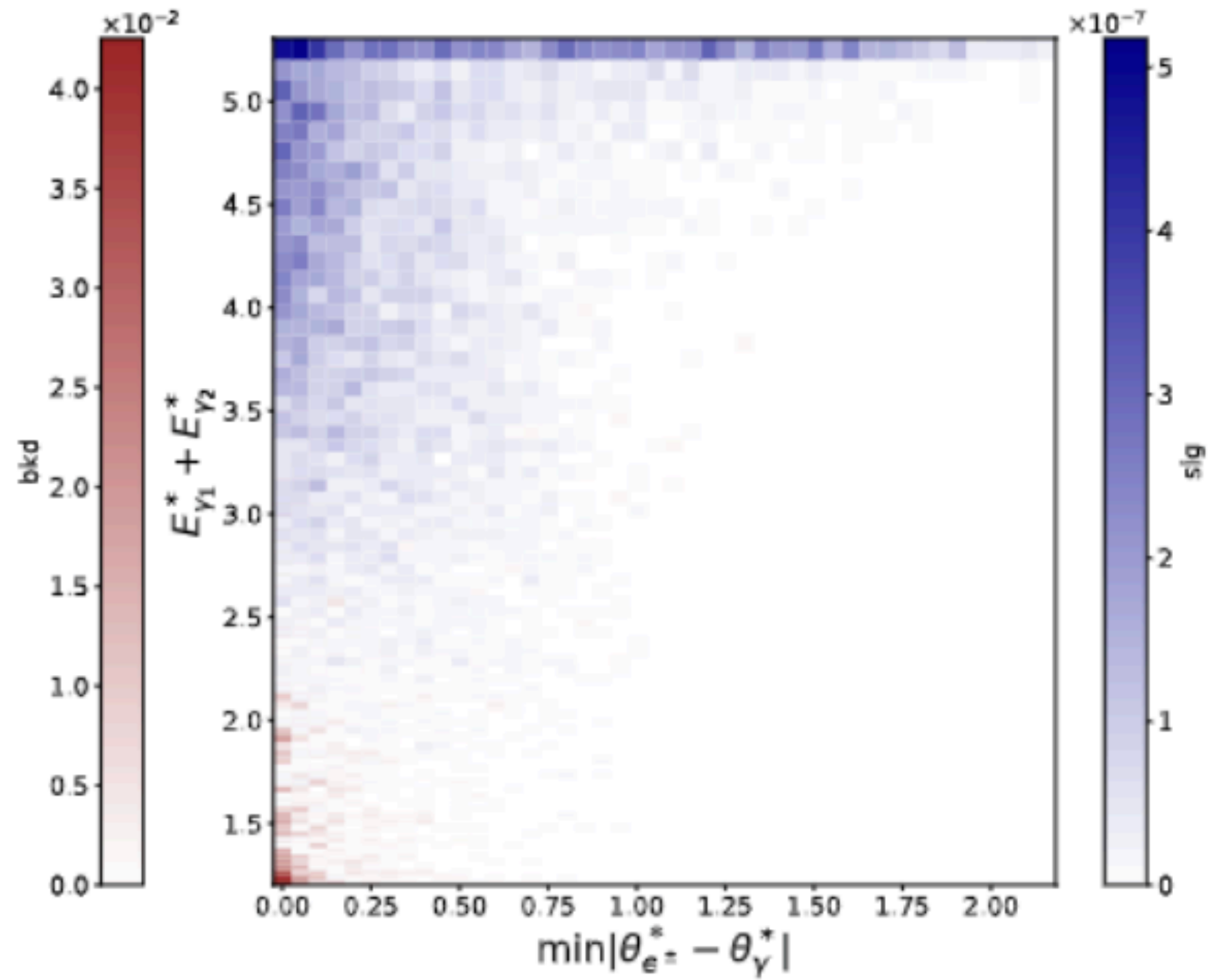
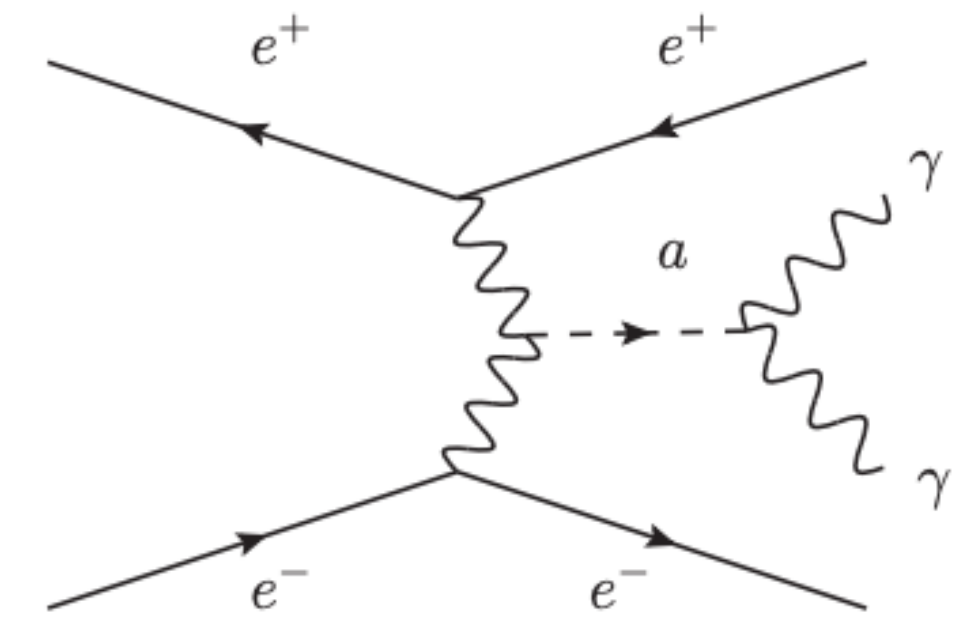
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# Fusing photons into diphoton resonance

Diphoton resonances produced in photon fusions

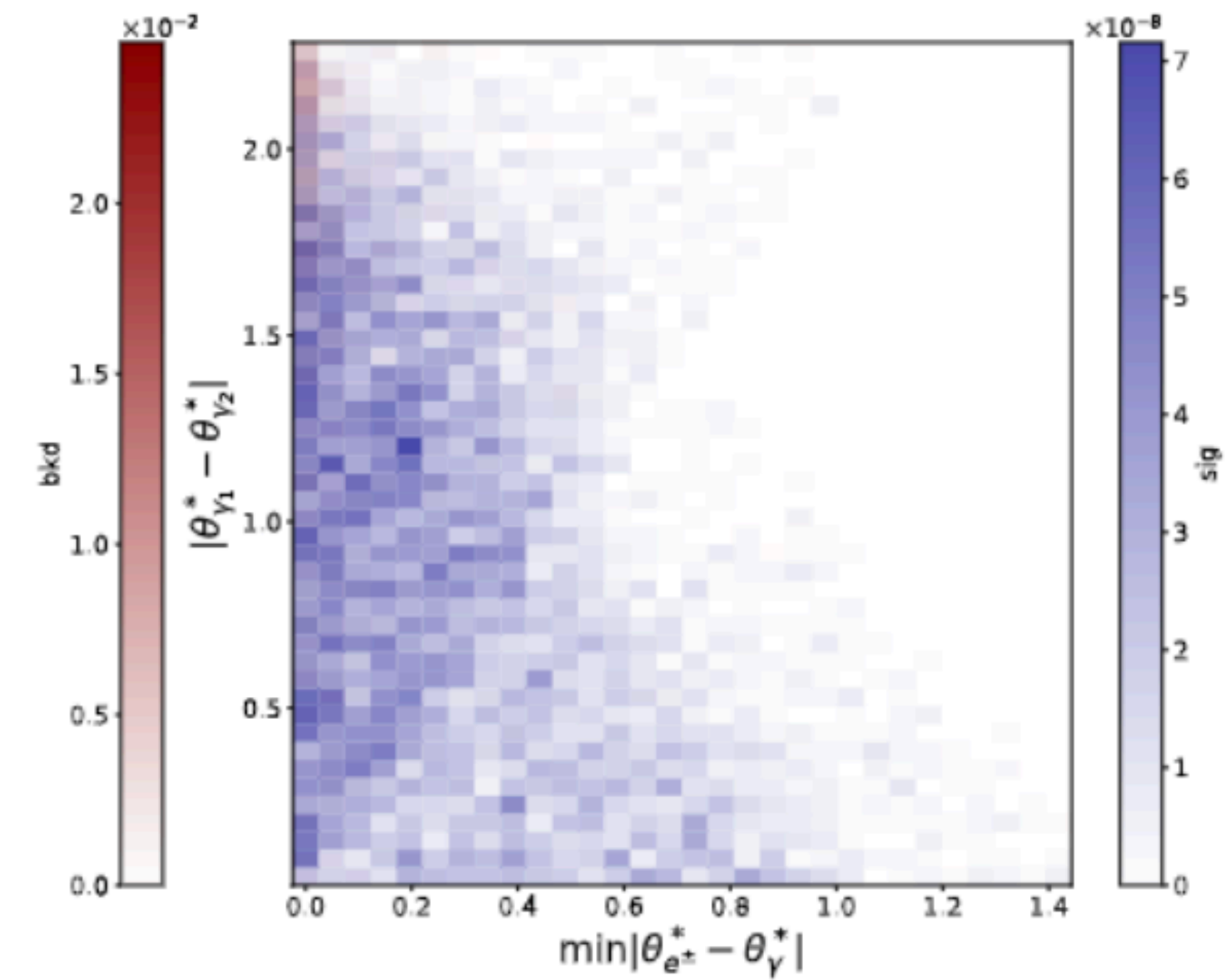
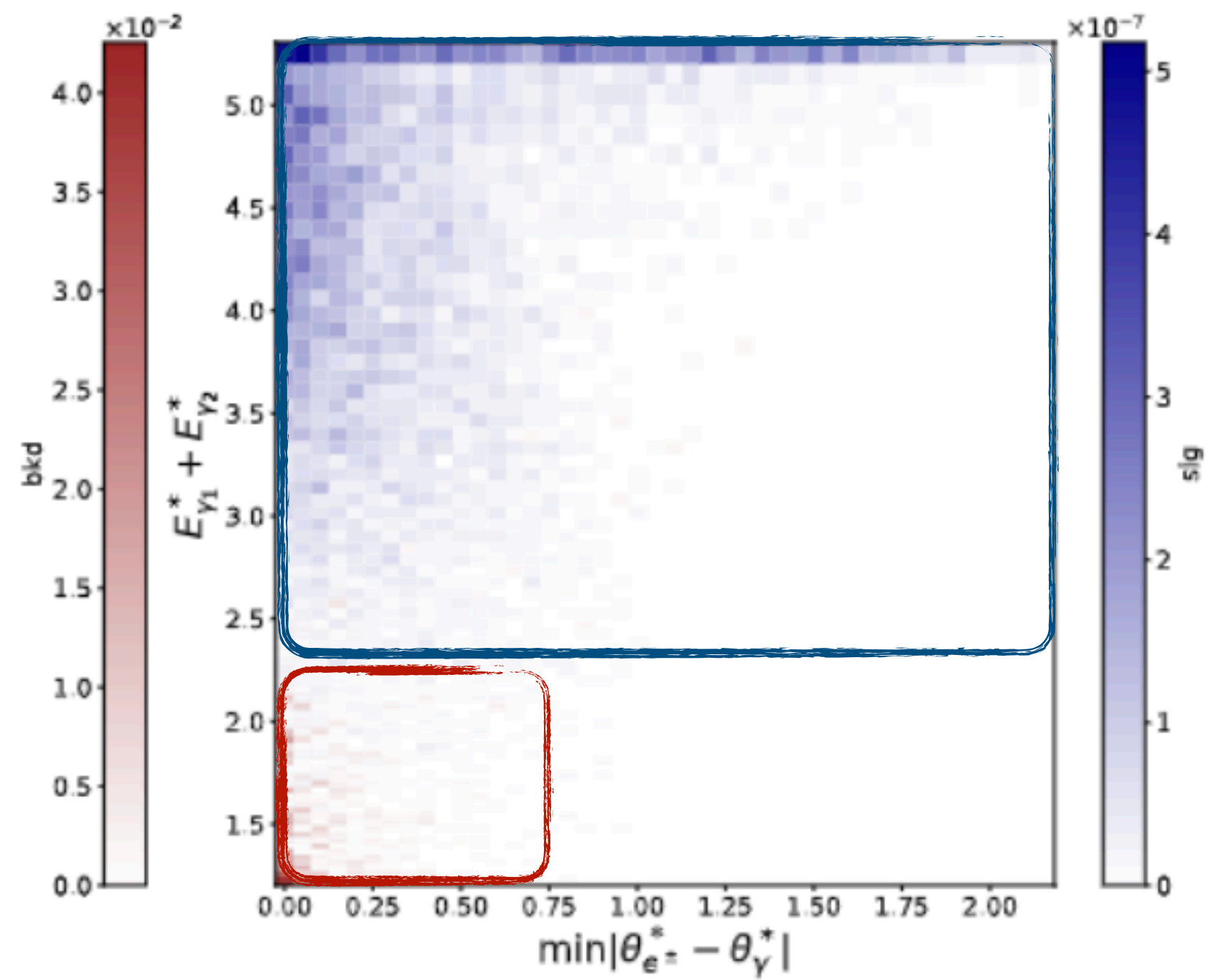
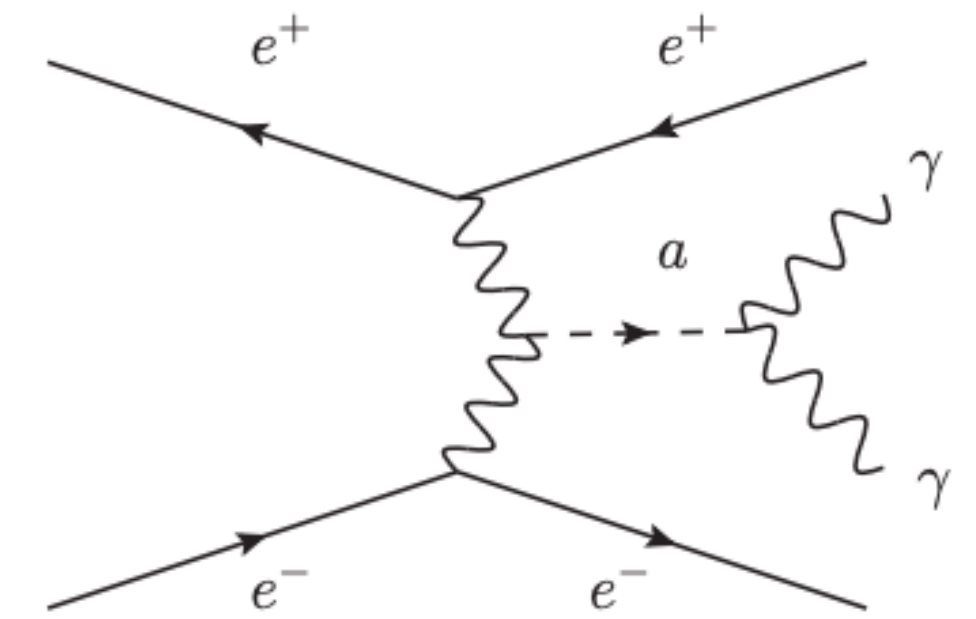
$$e^+ + e^- + a (\gamma\gamma)_{\text{res}}$$



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Diphoton resonances produced in photon fusions

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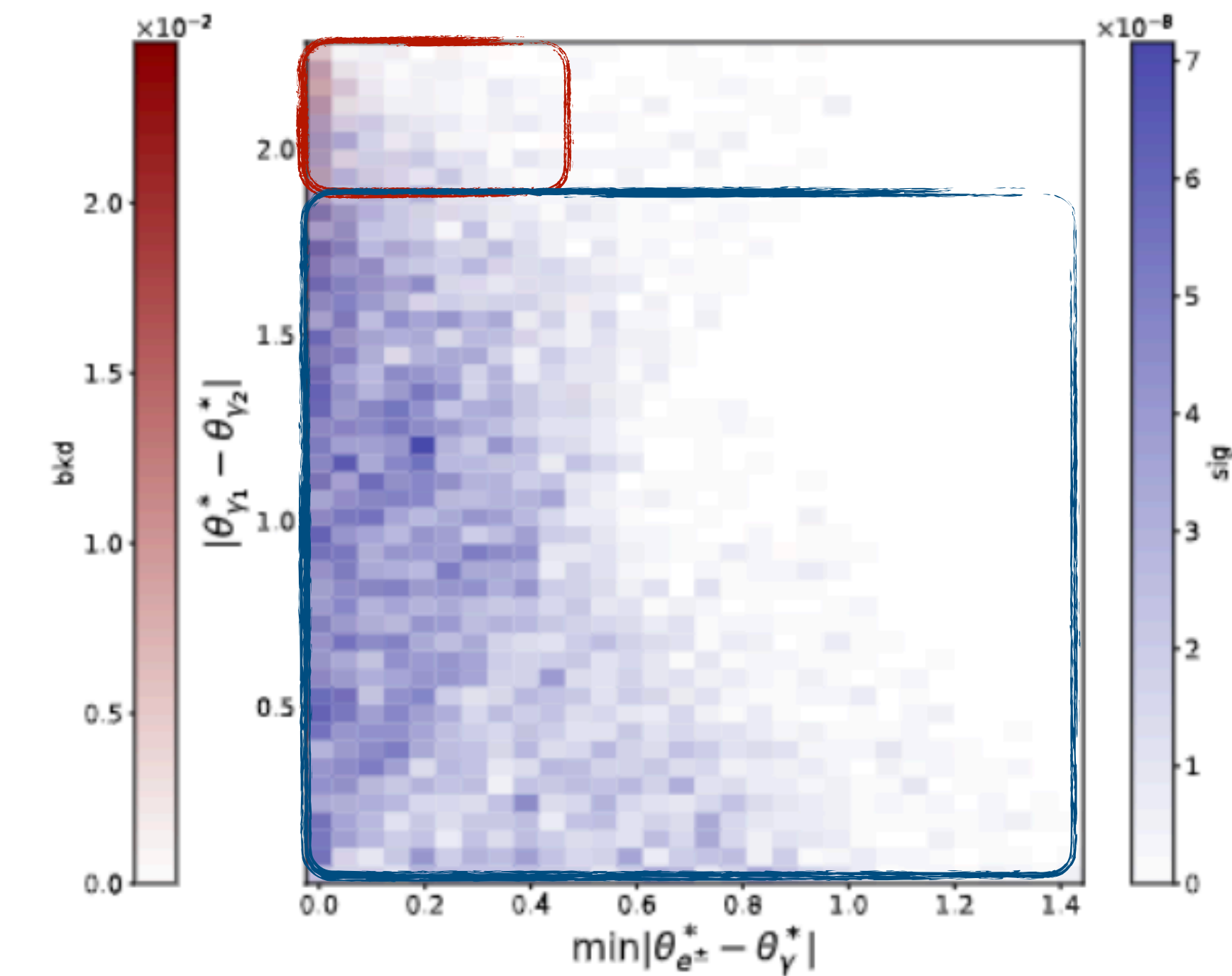
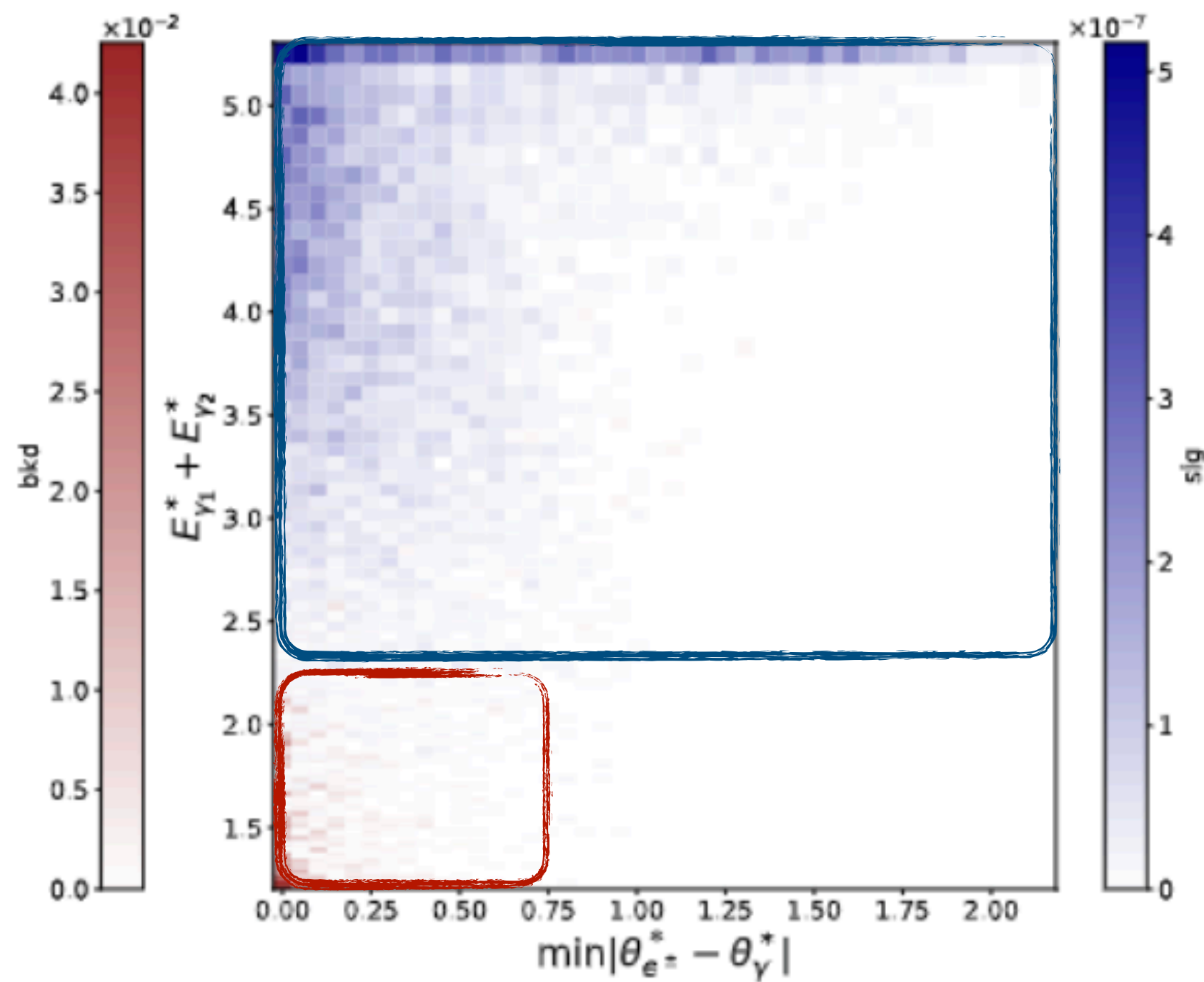
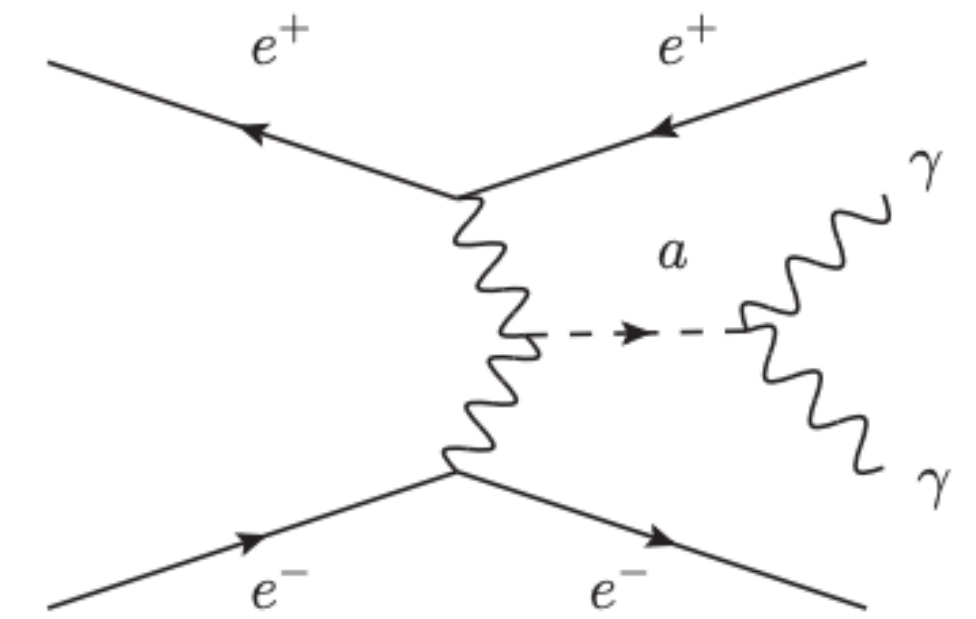


@ small diphoton mass the background photons tend to be soft and collinear with the electron/positron

# Fusing photons into diphoton resonance

Diphoton resonances produced in photon fusions

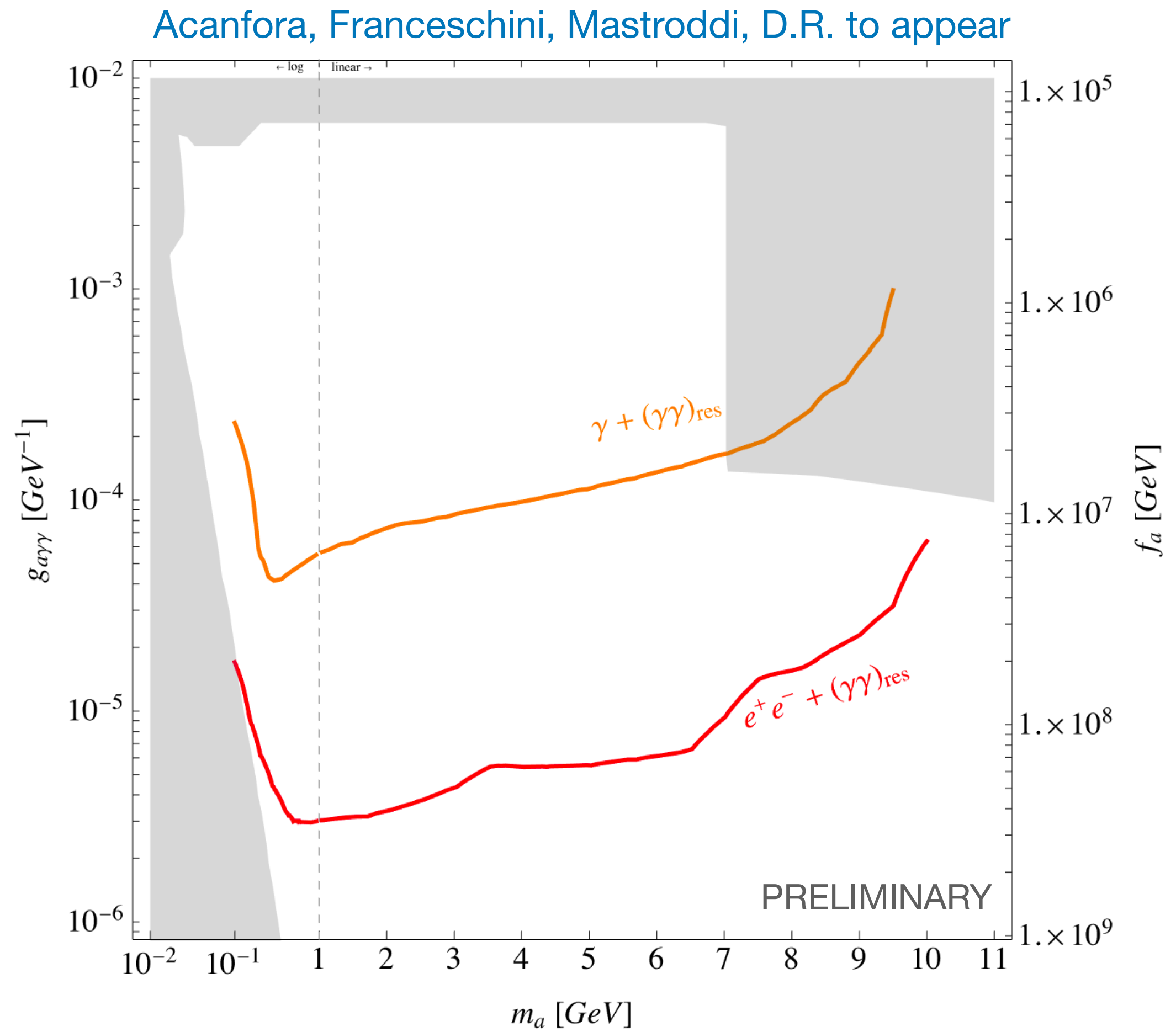
$$e^+ + e^- + a (\gamma\gamma)_{\text{res}}$$



@ small diphoton mass the background photons tend to be soft and collinear with the electron/positron

@ high diphoton mass the background photons tend to be widely separated and still collinear with the electron/positron

# What more can be squeezed?

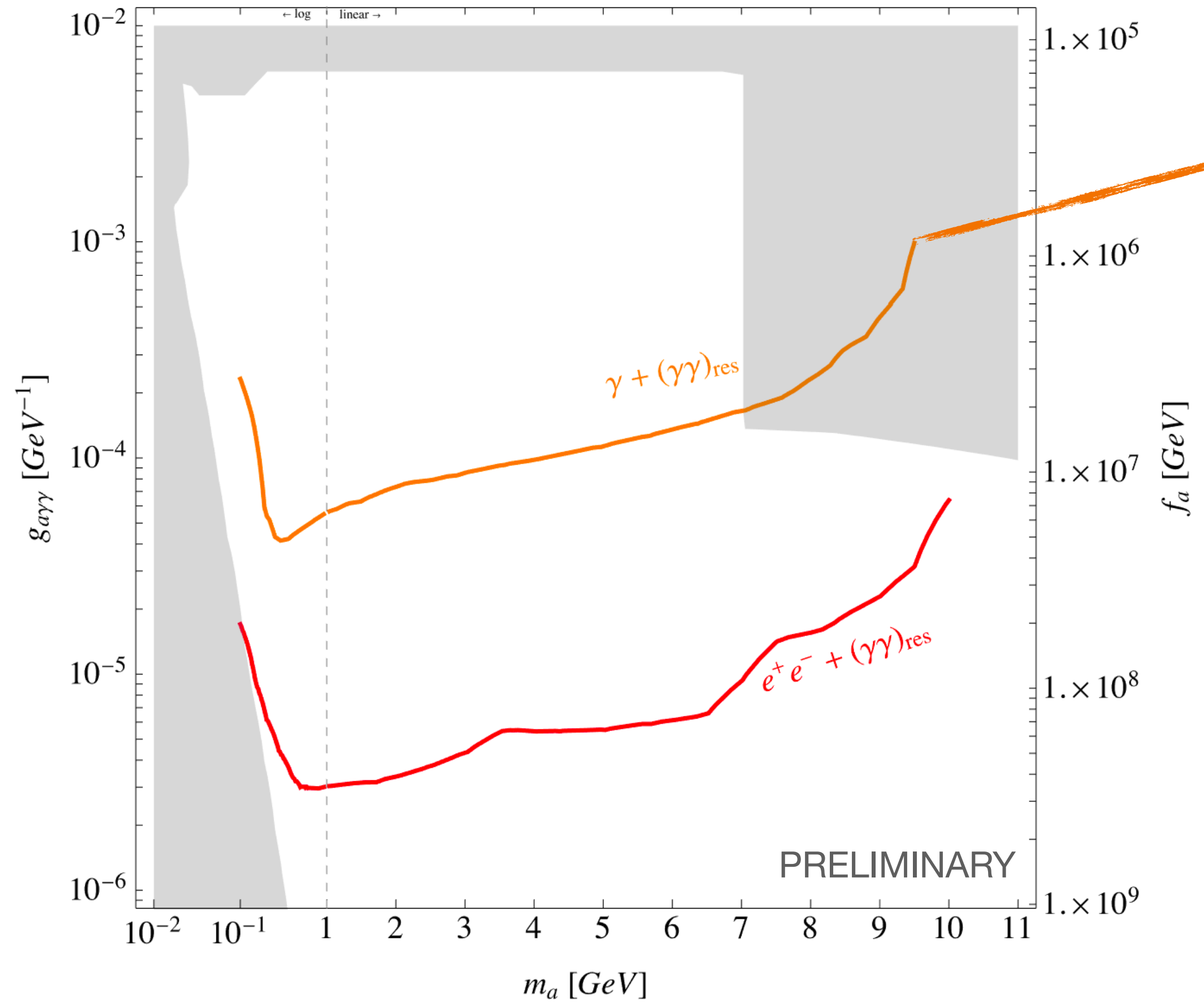


*Photon-fusion is a unique probe of the visible ALP!*

# What more can be squeezed?



Acanfora, Franceschini, Mastroddi, D.R. to appear



Reach of  $\gamma + (\gamma\gamma)_{\text{res}}$

Dolan, Ferber, Heary, Kahlhofer, Schmidt-Hoberg 1709.00009

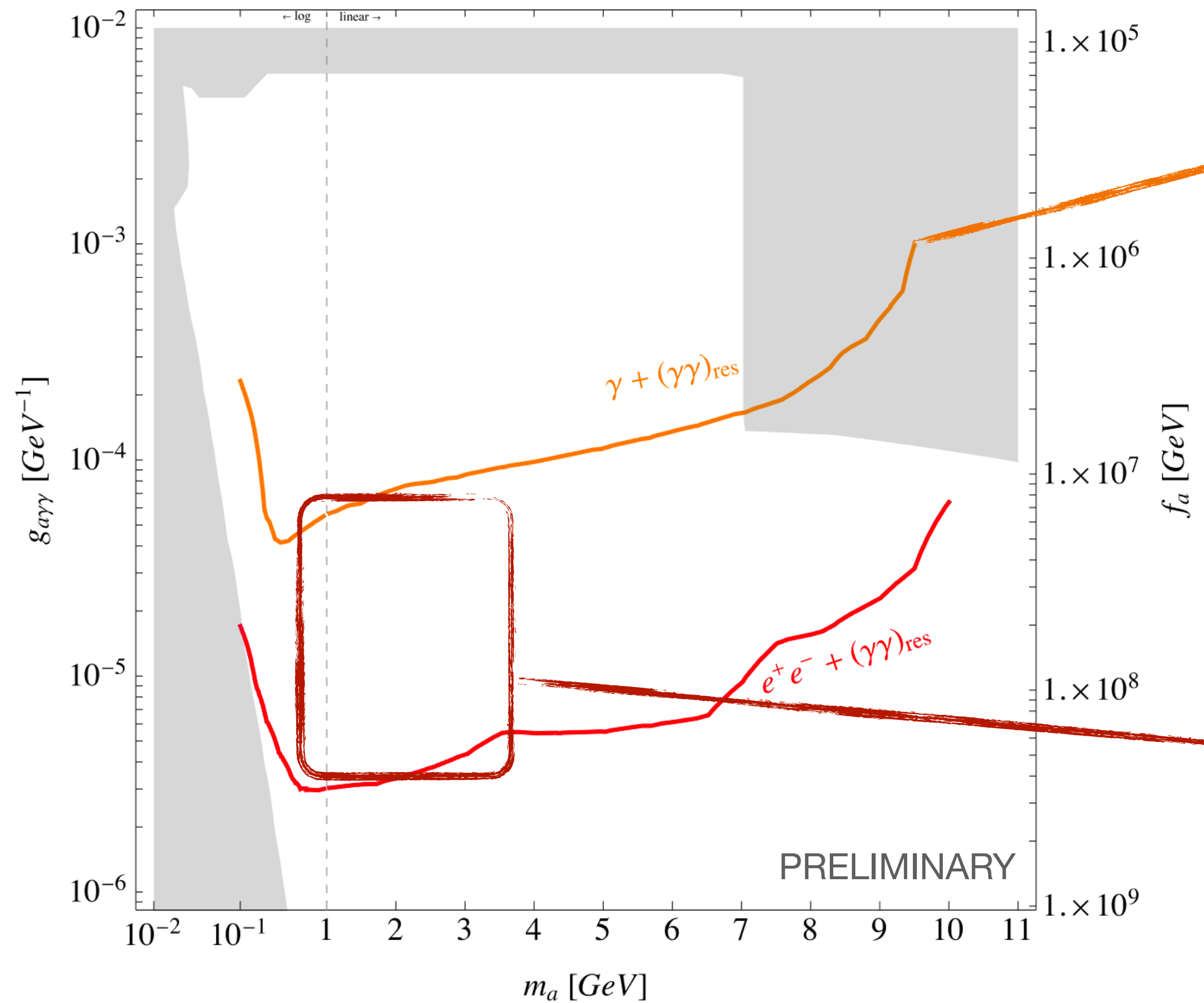
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Reach of  $\gamma + (\gamma\gamma)_{res}$

*Dolan, Ferber, Heary, Kahlhofer, Schmidt-Hoberg 1709.00009*

The search is essentially background-free @ small masses

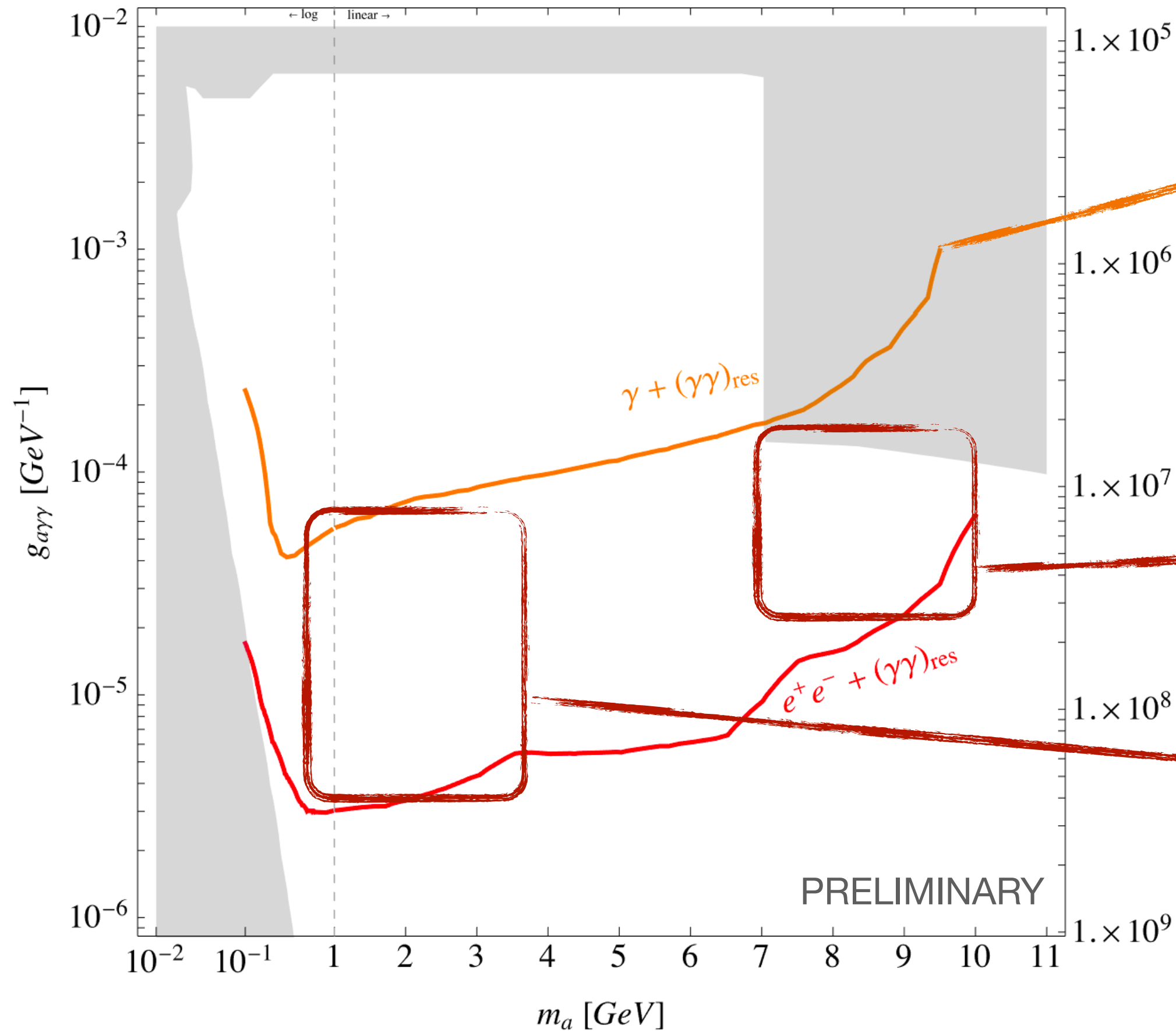
$\mathcal{O}(10)$  Improvement in the reach compared to previous studies

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Acanfora, Franceschini, Mastroddi, D.R. to appear



Reach of  $\gamma + (\gamma\gamma)_{res}$

*Dolan, Ferber, Heary, Kahlhofer, Schmidt-Hoberg 1709.00009*

The gain is still sizeable at high masses

The search is essentially background-free @ small masses

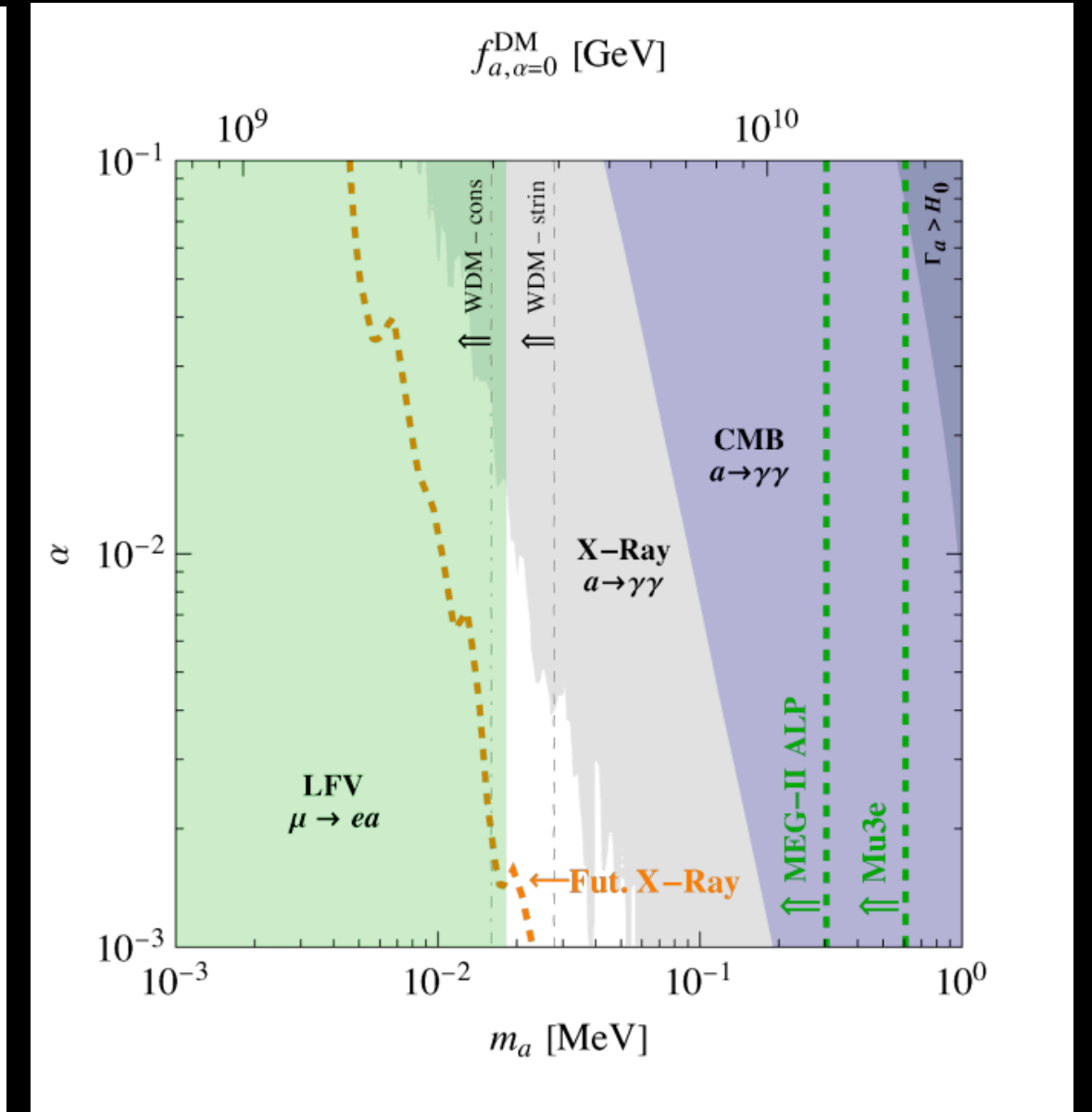
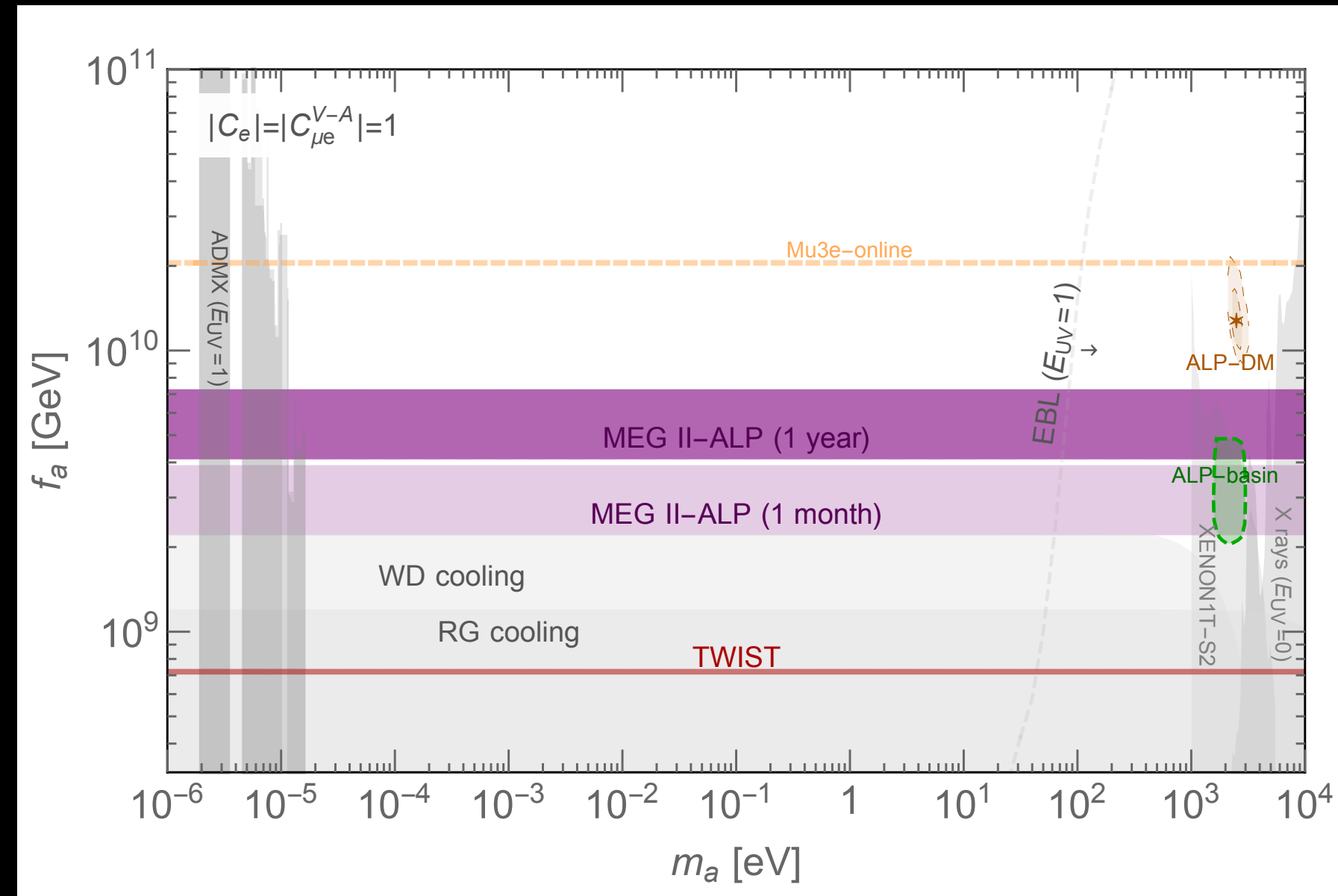
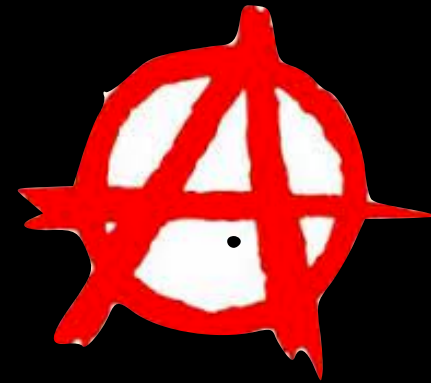
$\mathcal{O}(10)$  Improvement in the reach compared to previous studies

## Photon-fusion is a unique probe of the visible ALP!

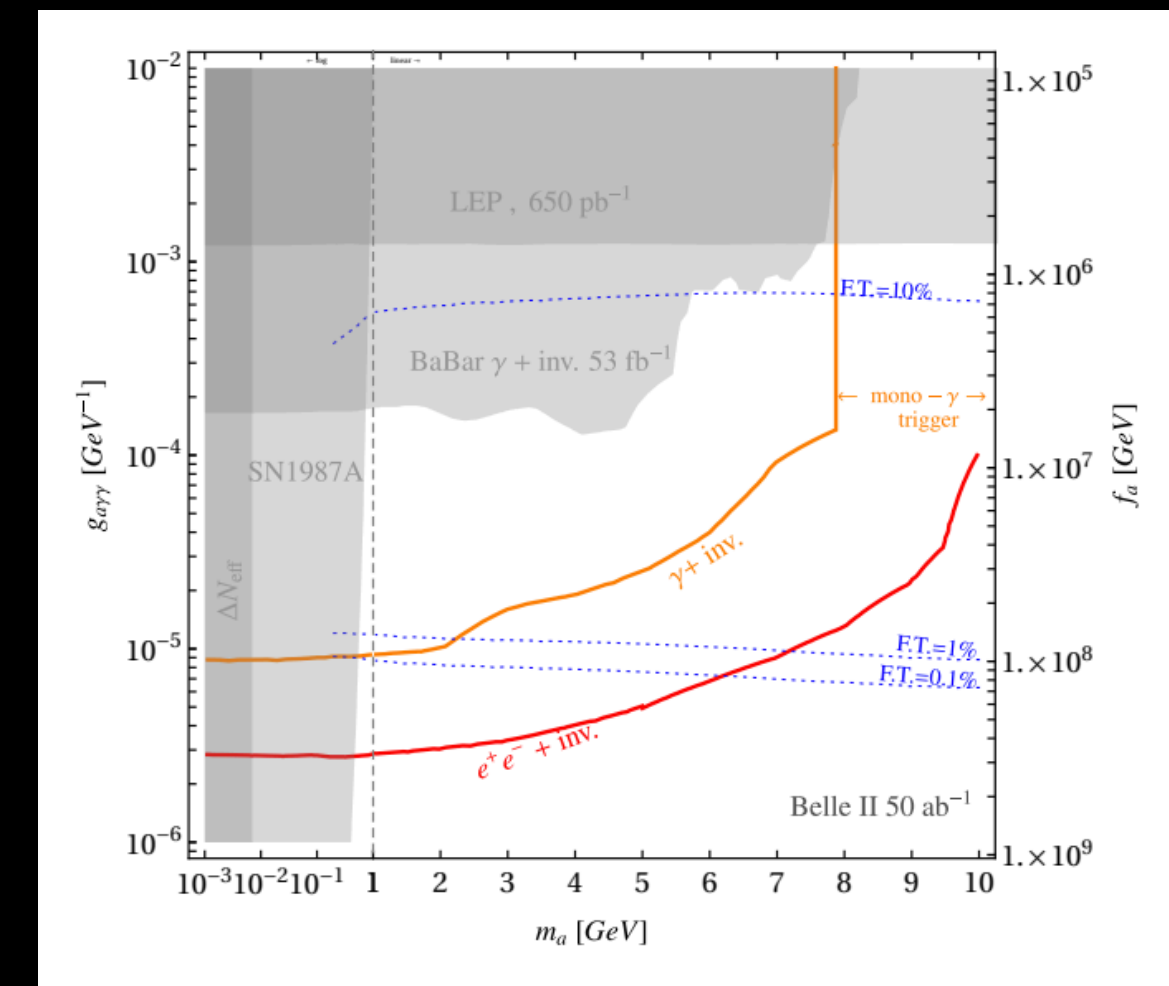
# Dark Matter & Flavor Factories



**LFV ALP  
@ MEG II**



**PHOTON FUSION  
@ Belle II**



Thanks...