A dark, star-filled background image showing a dense cluster of stars of various colors, primarily white and yellow, against a black space backdrop.

# CONSTRAINING DARK MATTER ANNIHILATION WITH Fermi-LAT OBSERVATIONS OF ULTRA-FAINT COMPACT STELLAR SYSTEMS

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# INTRODUCTION

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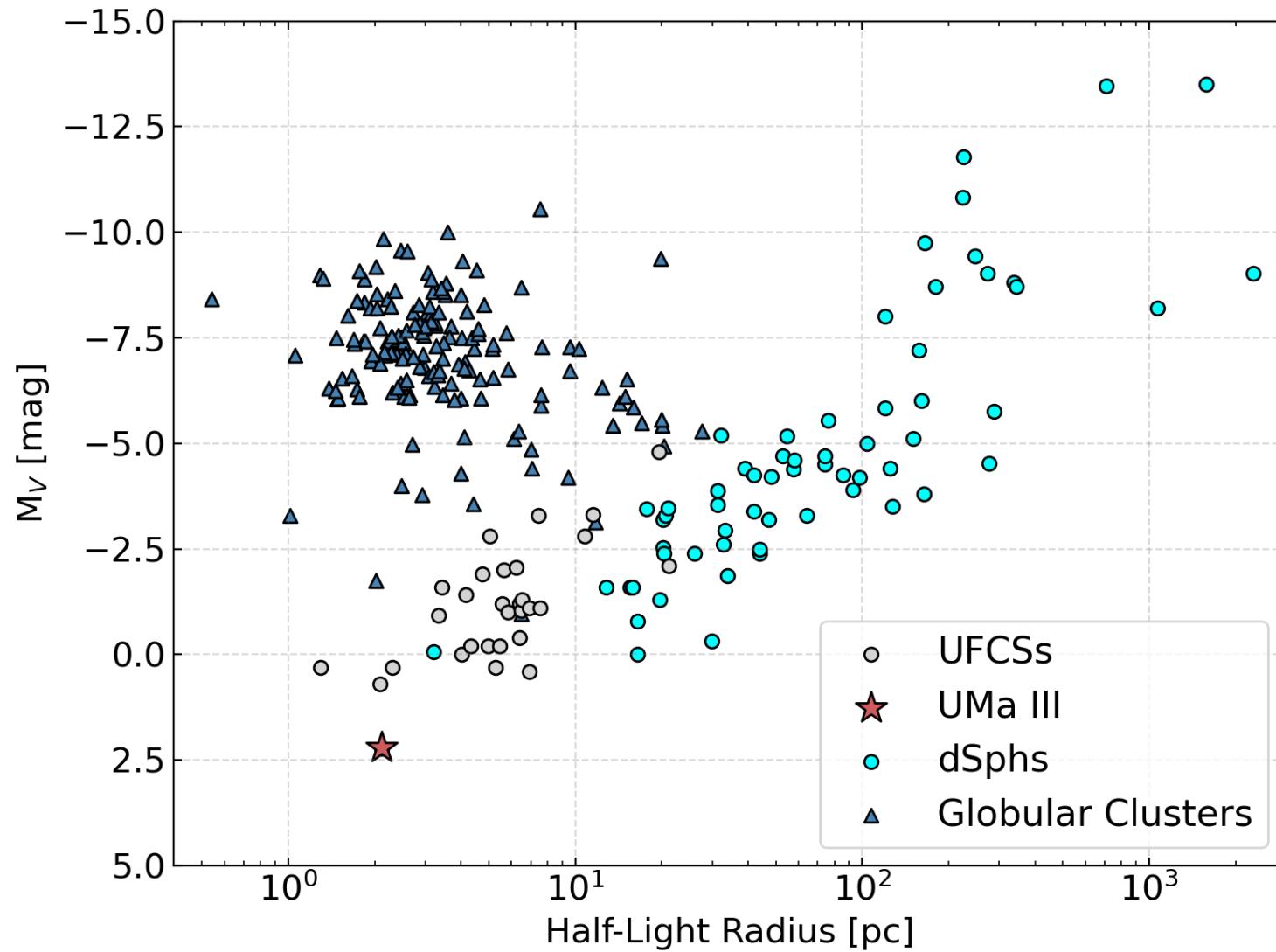
- The Fermi-LAT is able to probe annihilating/decaying DM at the GeV-TeV energies
- MW dSphs are ideal targets due to proximity and low background
- DM content of dSphs can be gauged from scaling relations
- Fermi-LAT observations of dSphs have put stringent constraint on annihilating DM

Title picture: Koposov 2 - Koposov et al. (2007)

# ULTRA-FAINT COMPACT STELLAR SYSTEMS (UFCSSs)

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- Optical surveys like DES and Delve have been discovering a large number of ultra-faint compact stellar systems (UFCSSs)
- Faint ( $M_V > -5$ ) and Compact ( $r_{1/2} < 30$  pc) targets, their nature is yet to be confirmed
- This work explores their potential as targets for DM annihilation studies



# An example: Ursa Major III/UNIONS 1

From Errani et al. (2023b):

$$D \sim 10 \text{ kpc}$$

$$M_v \sim 2.2$$

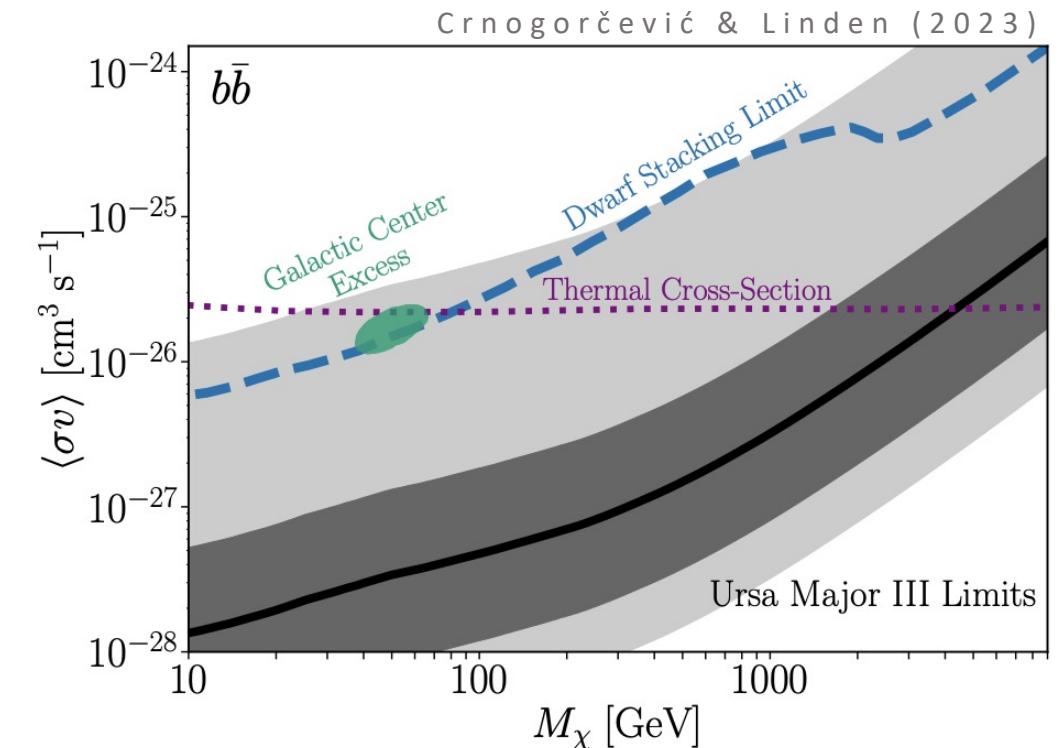
$$r_{1/2} \sim 3 \text{ pc}$$

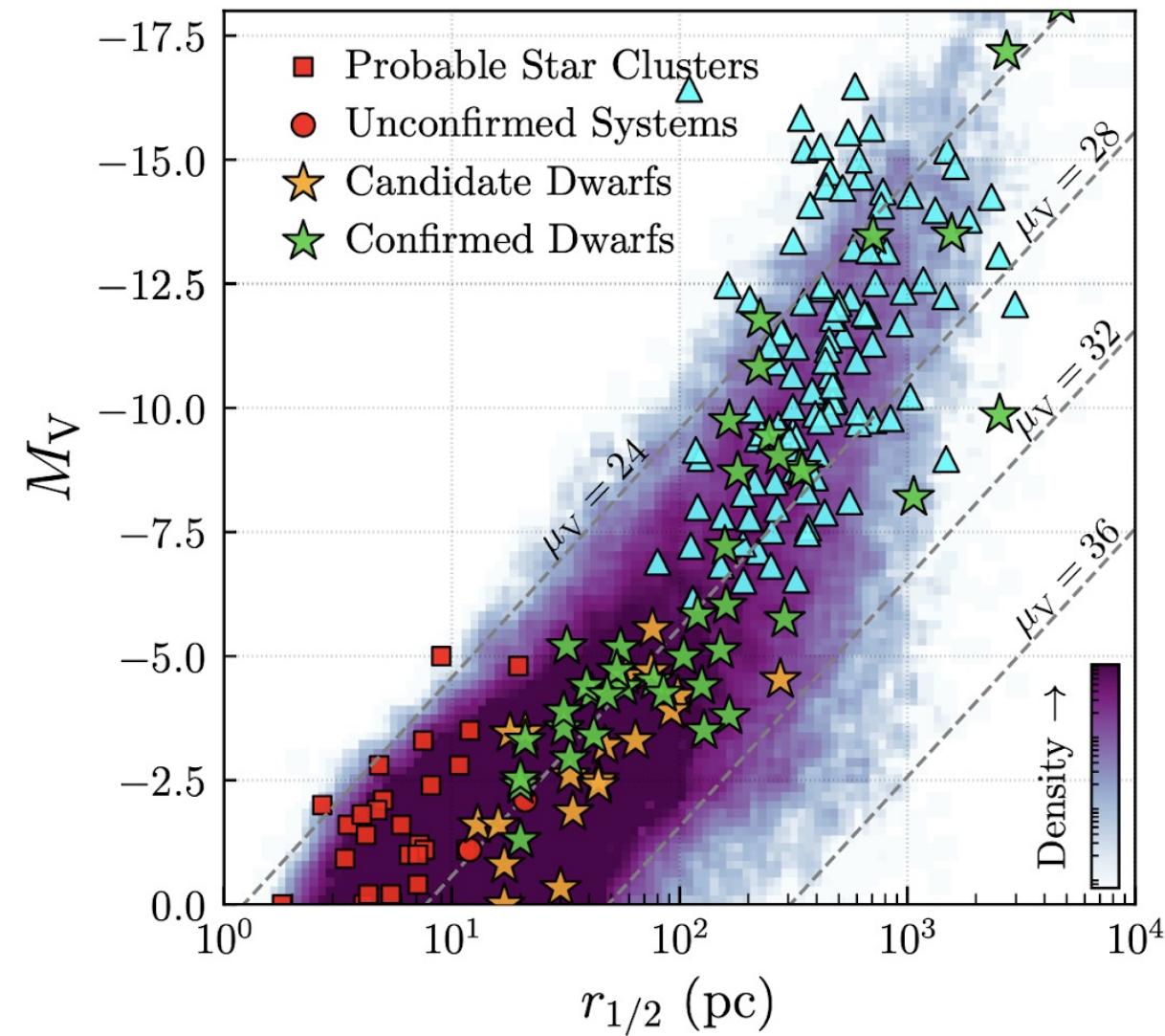
$$V_d \sim 3.7 \text{ km/s}$$

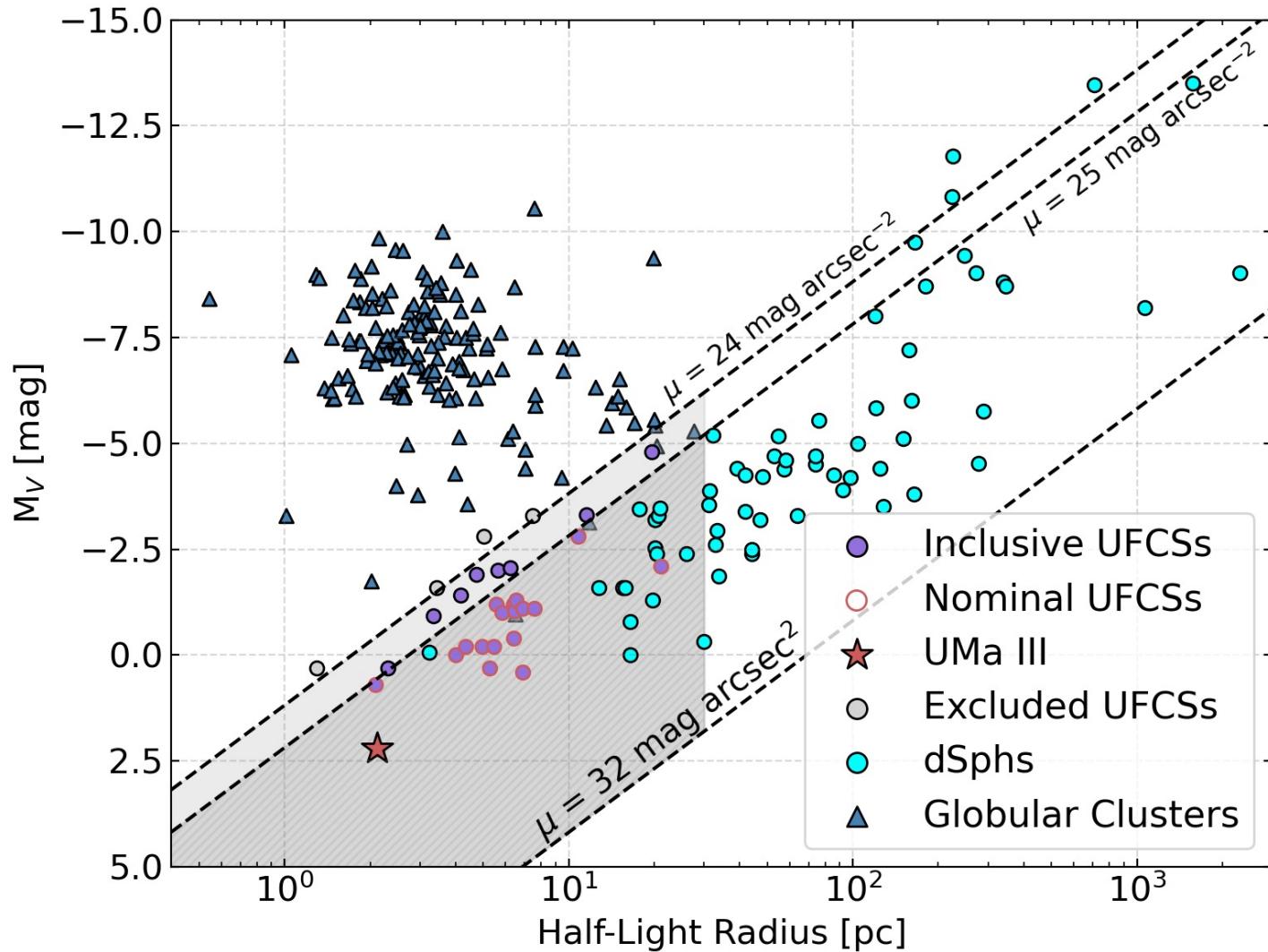
UMa III could be the NEAREST and FAINTEST galaxy observed so far.

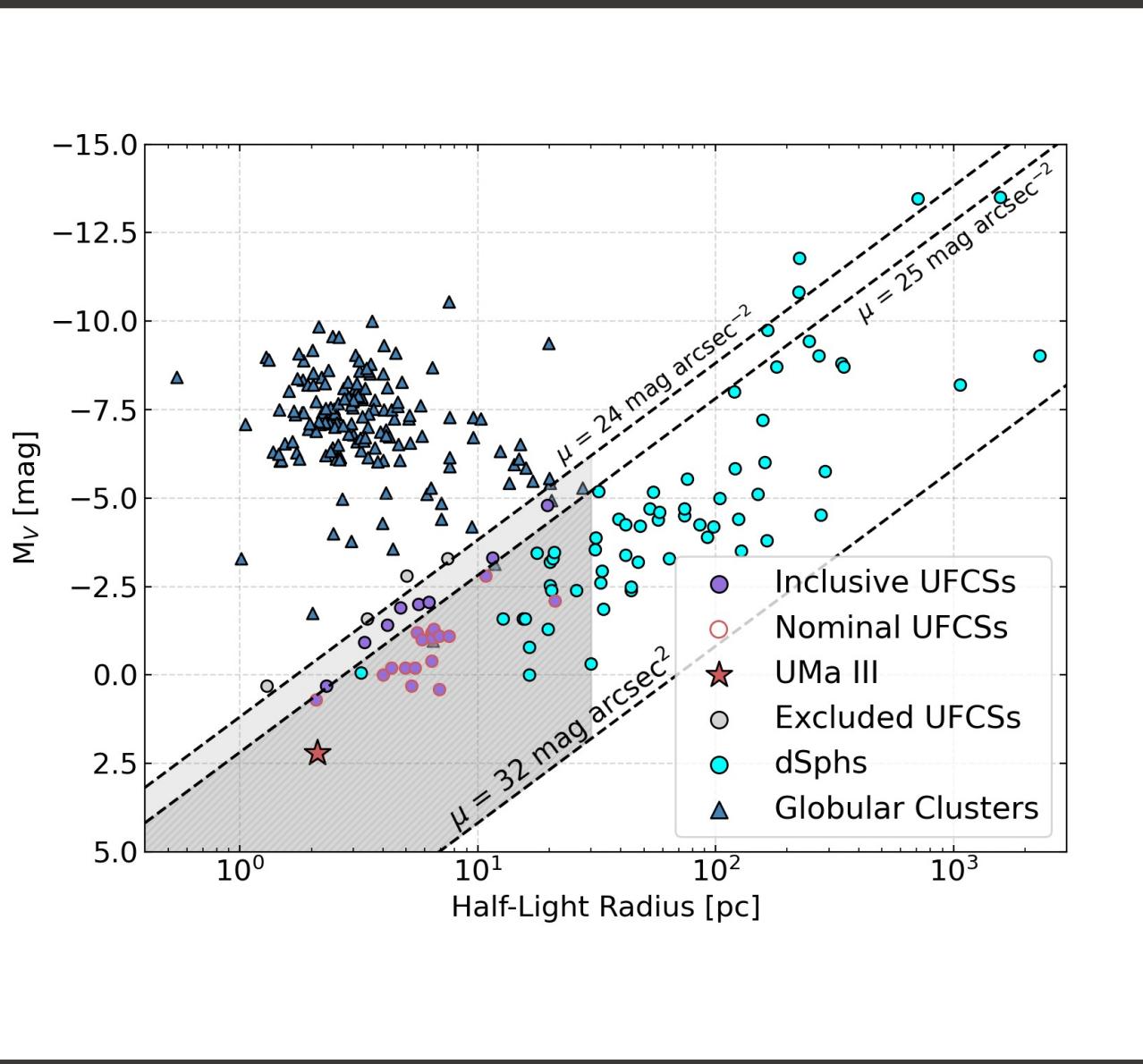
Measurements of  $V_d$  are uncertain, though simulations hint at the presence of a DM subhalo

Crnogorčević & Linden, assuming DM-domination, showed that UMa III can put strong constraints on DM annihilation

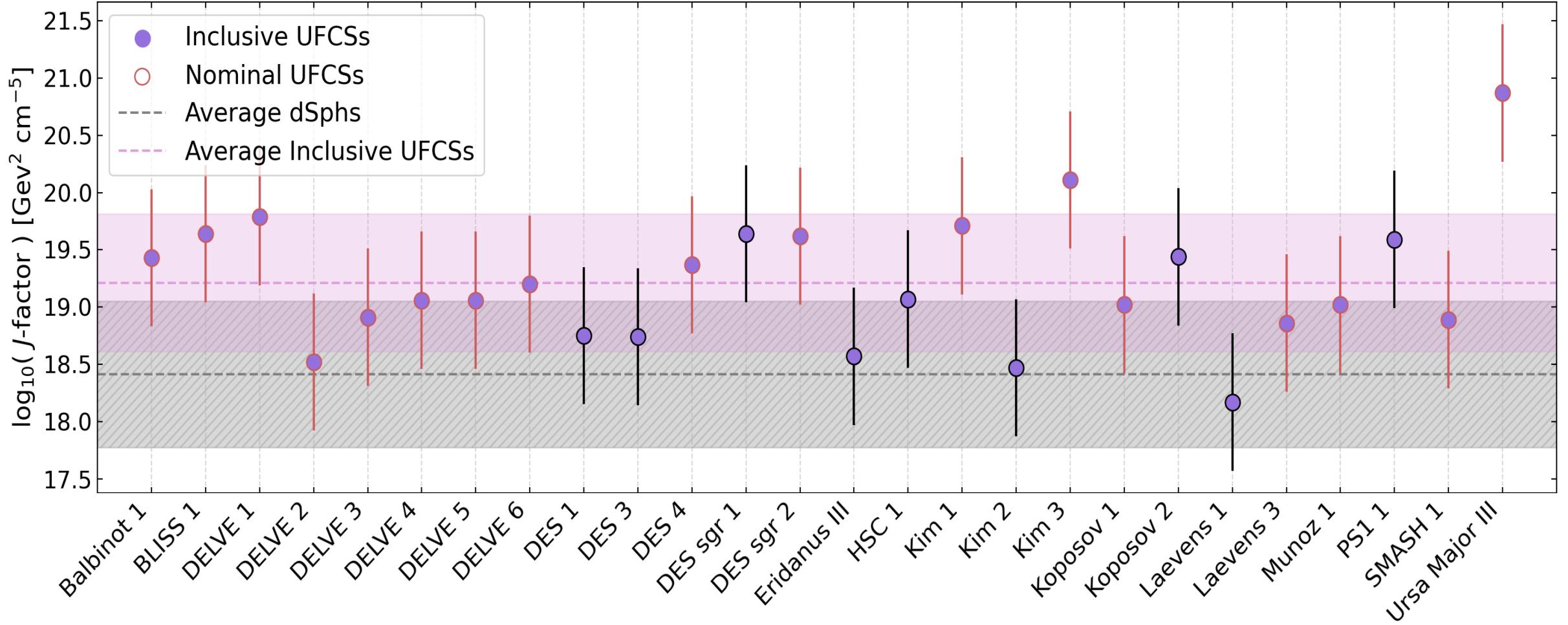








- 26 targets in Inclusive sample
- 17 targets in Nominal sample
- No spatial coincidence with 4FGL-DR3, Roma-BZCat, CRATES, WIBRaLS



# Fermi-LAT ANALYSIS

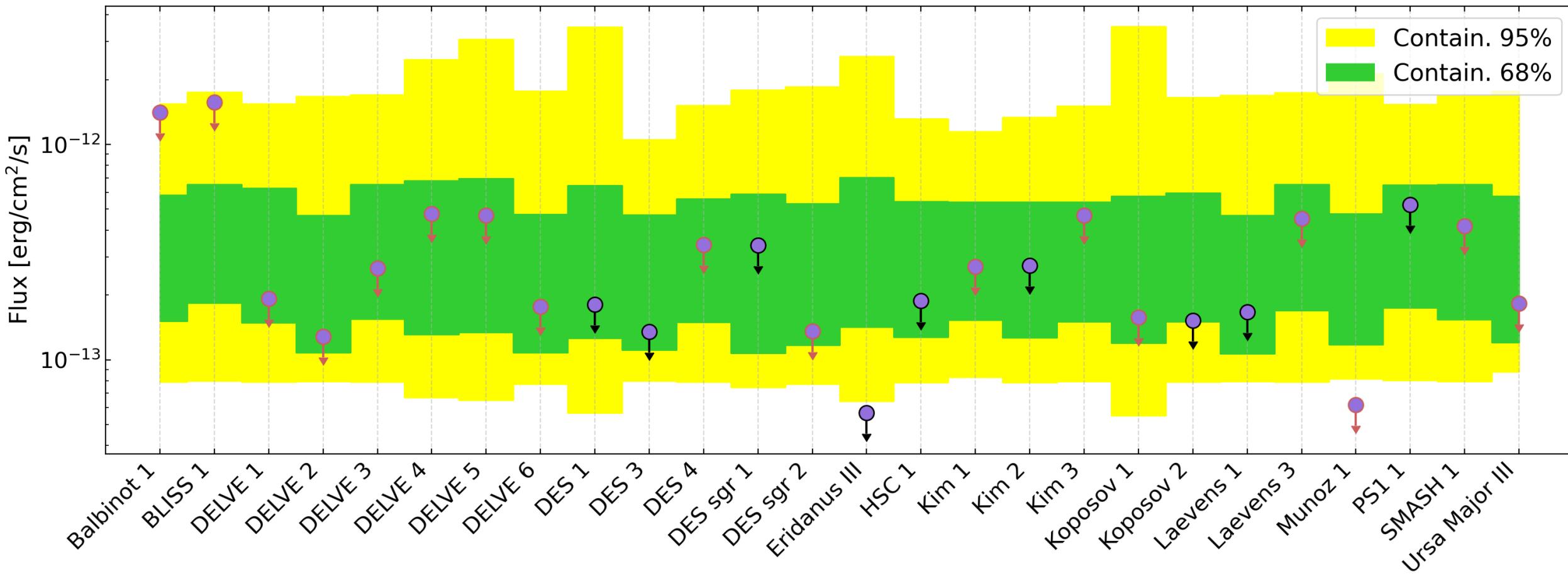
Follows directly McDaniel et al. (2023)

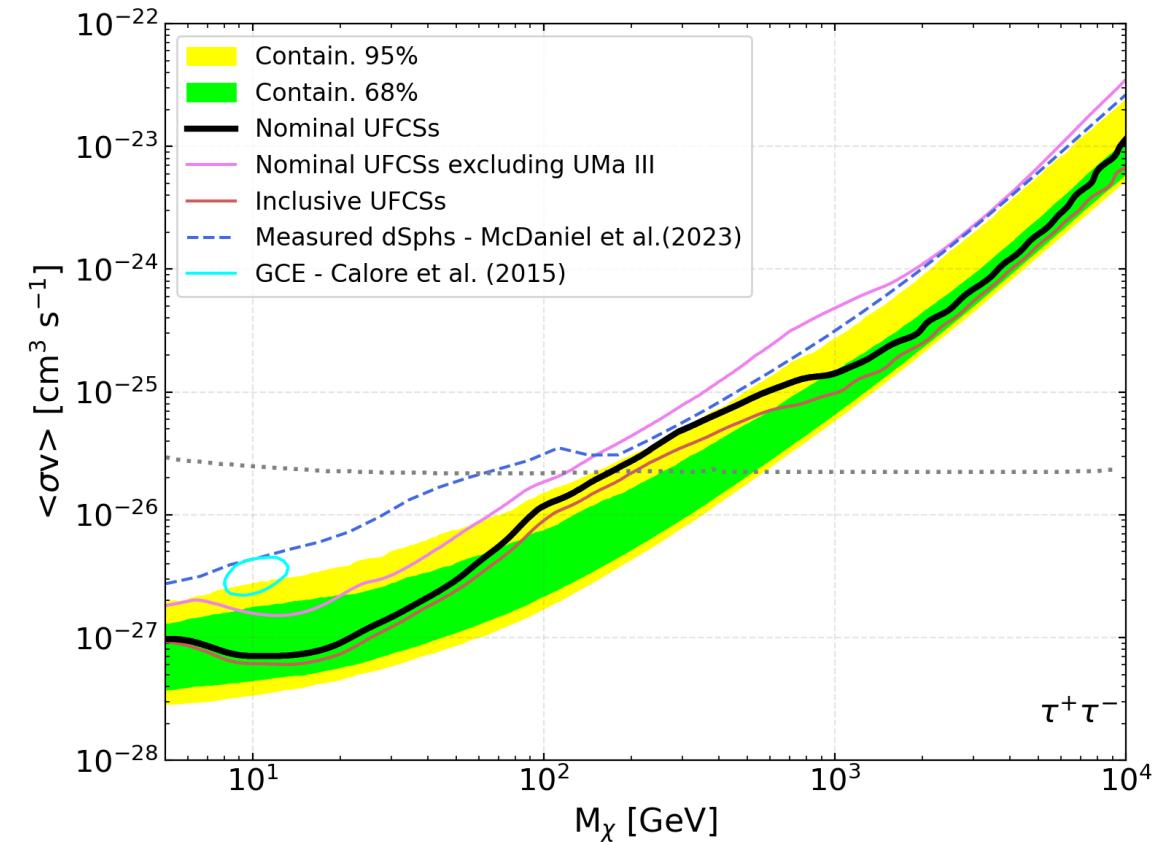
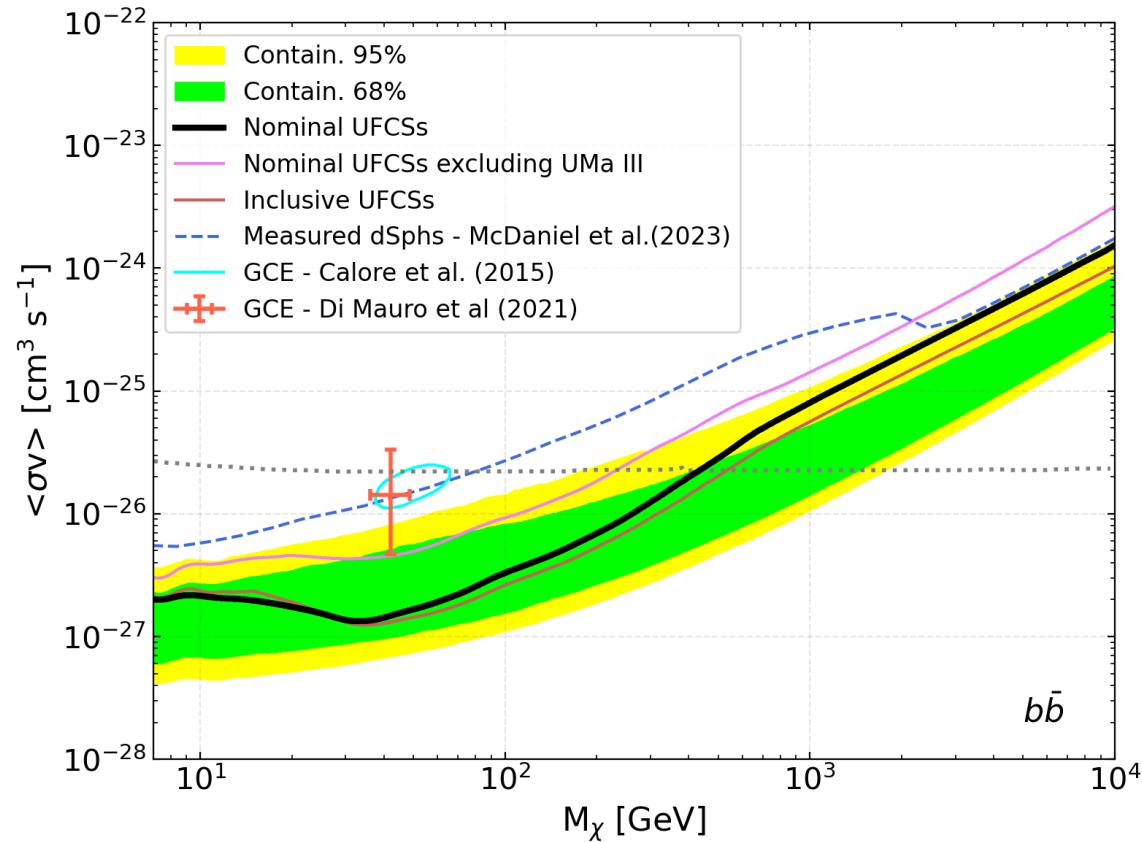
- 14.3 years of data
- Energy range: [500 MeV; 1 TeV]
- 8 energy bins per decade
- $10^\circ \times 10^\circ$  ROI
- $0.1^\circ$  pixel size
- Joint Likelihood Analysis

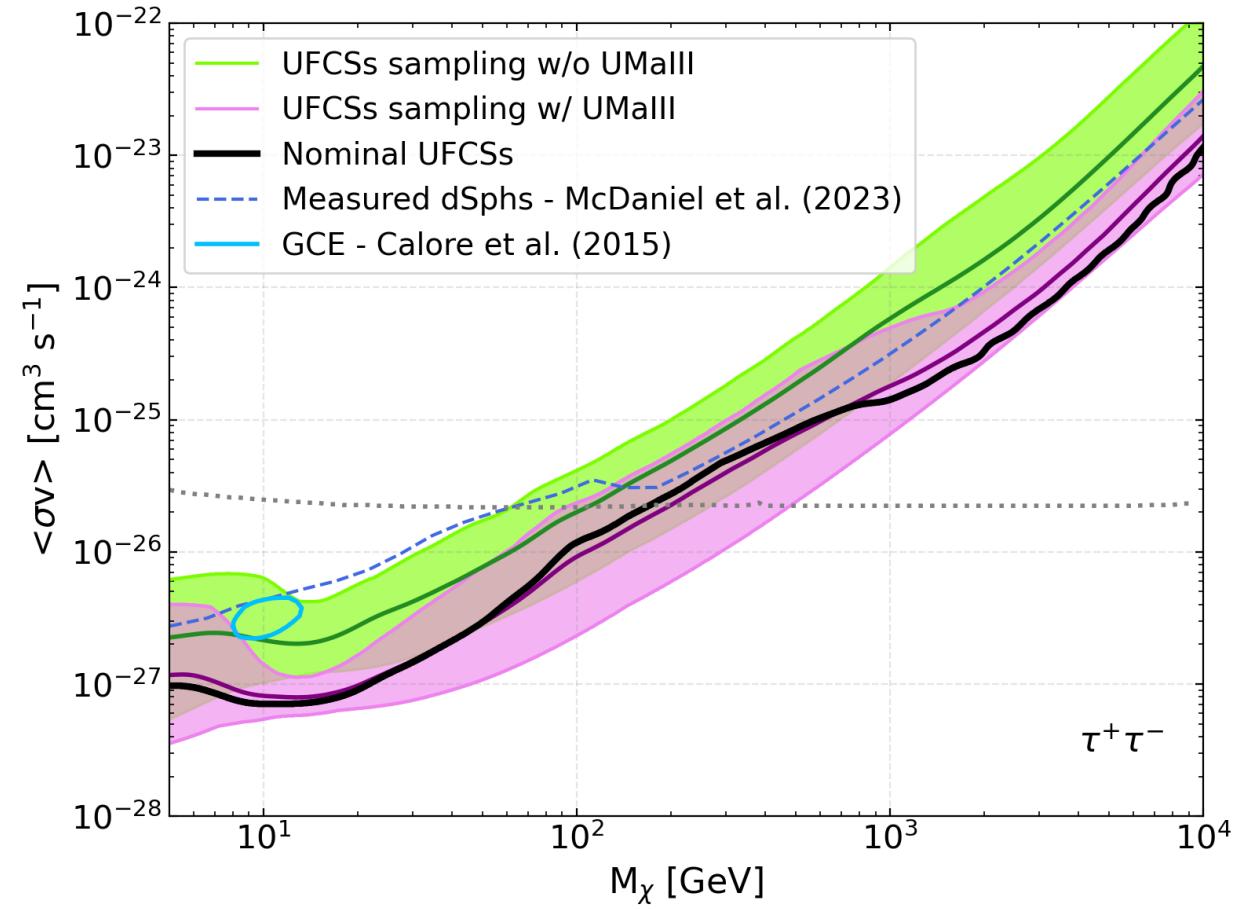
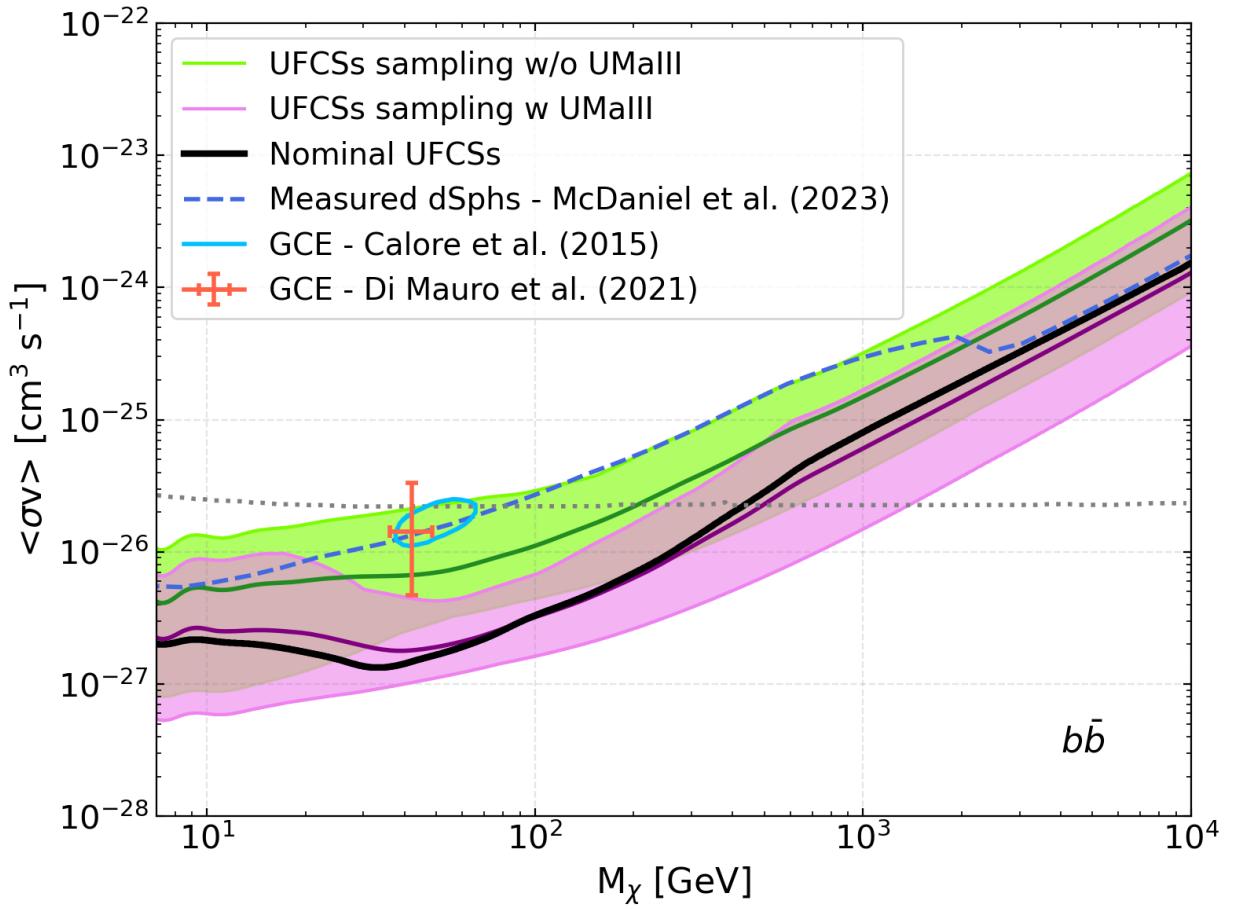


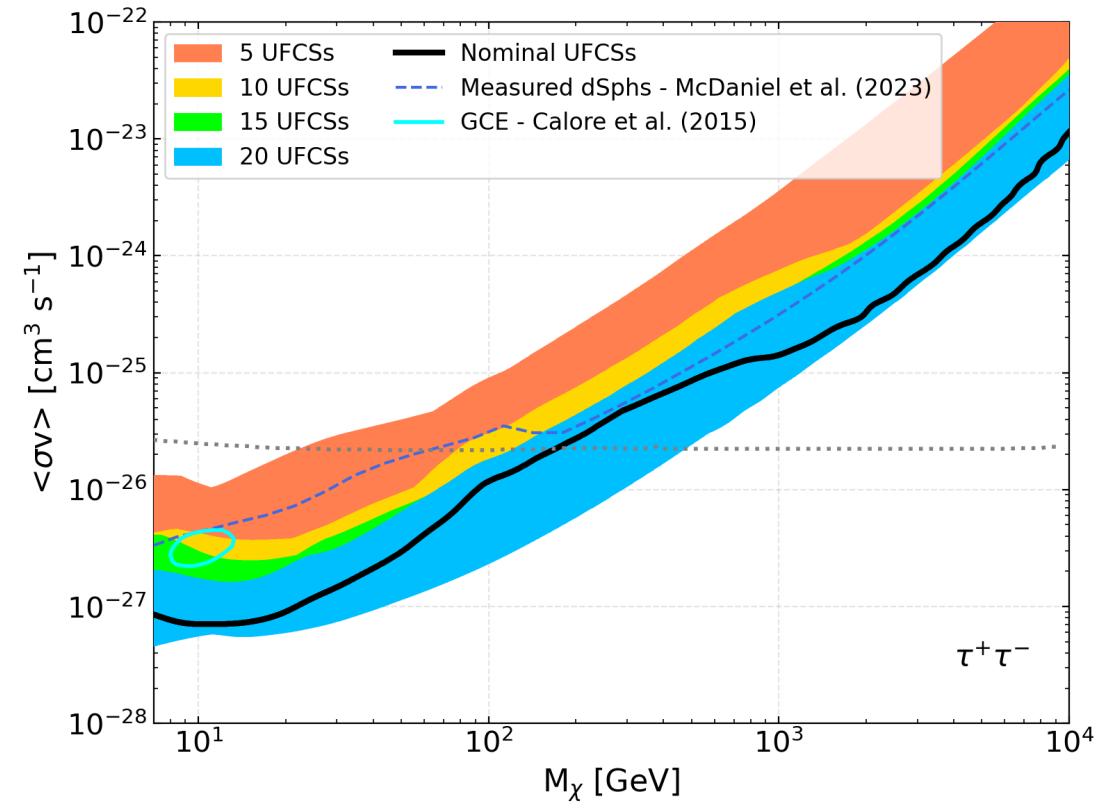
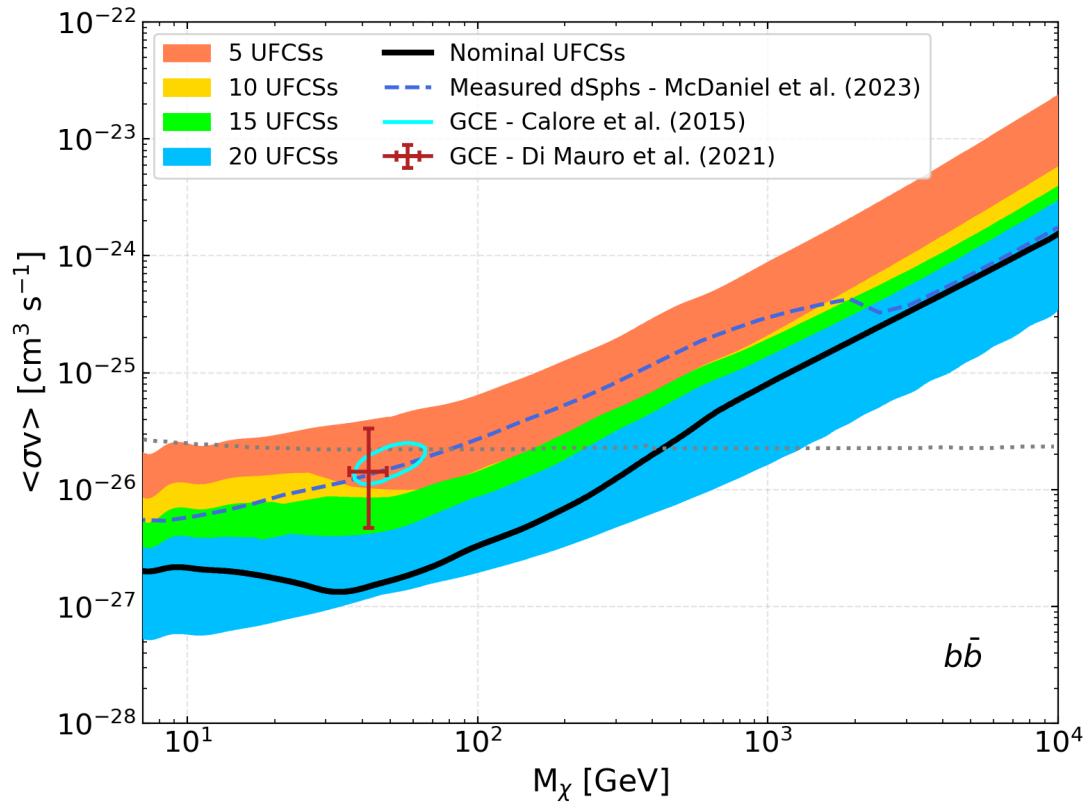
Compare to the background from ‘blank-fields’:

- Randomly selected regions ( $b > |15^\circ|$ ) of the sky with no known or potential  $\gamma$ -ray source
- Selection of empty regions from McDaniel et al. (2023) (<https://figshare.com/articles/dataset/24058650/1>)
- Used to account for background effects due to undetected sources and imperfect modeling of the diffuse emission









- UFCSs have the potential to put the most stringent constraints on DM properties so far.
- Improvement on dSphs even if only a part of the sample is confirmed to be DM dominated
- Our results emphasize the importance of precise observation on the UFCSs to determine their DM content empirically

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**THANKS**