

Towards a model-independent comparison of dark matter direct detection data

Eugenio Del Nobile

University of California at Los Angeles

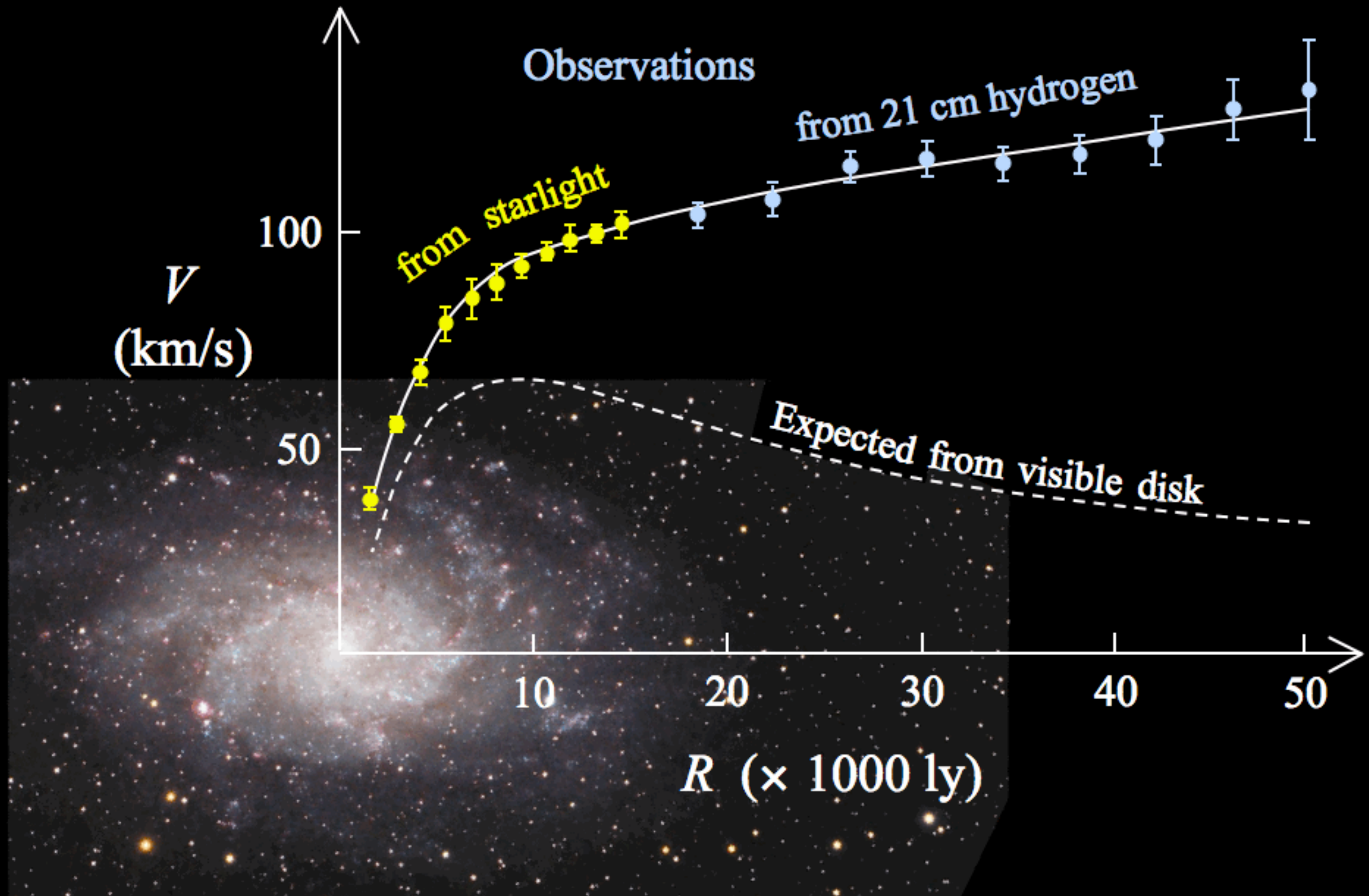
UCLA

Why do we believe in DM

Because we exist

(might sound anthropic, but it's not)

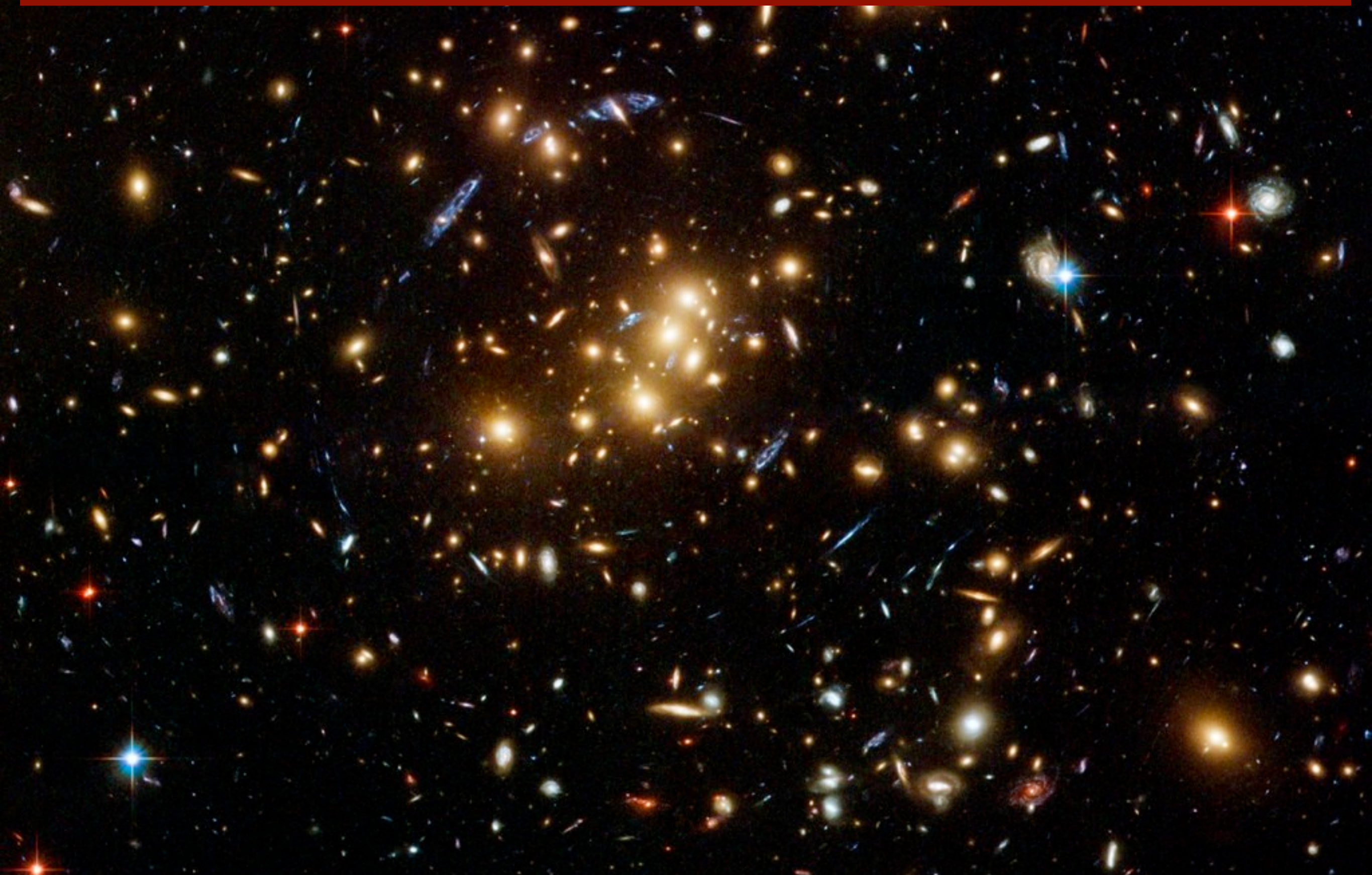
Rotation curves



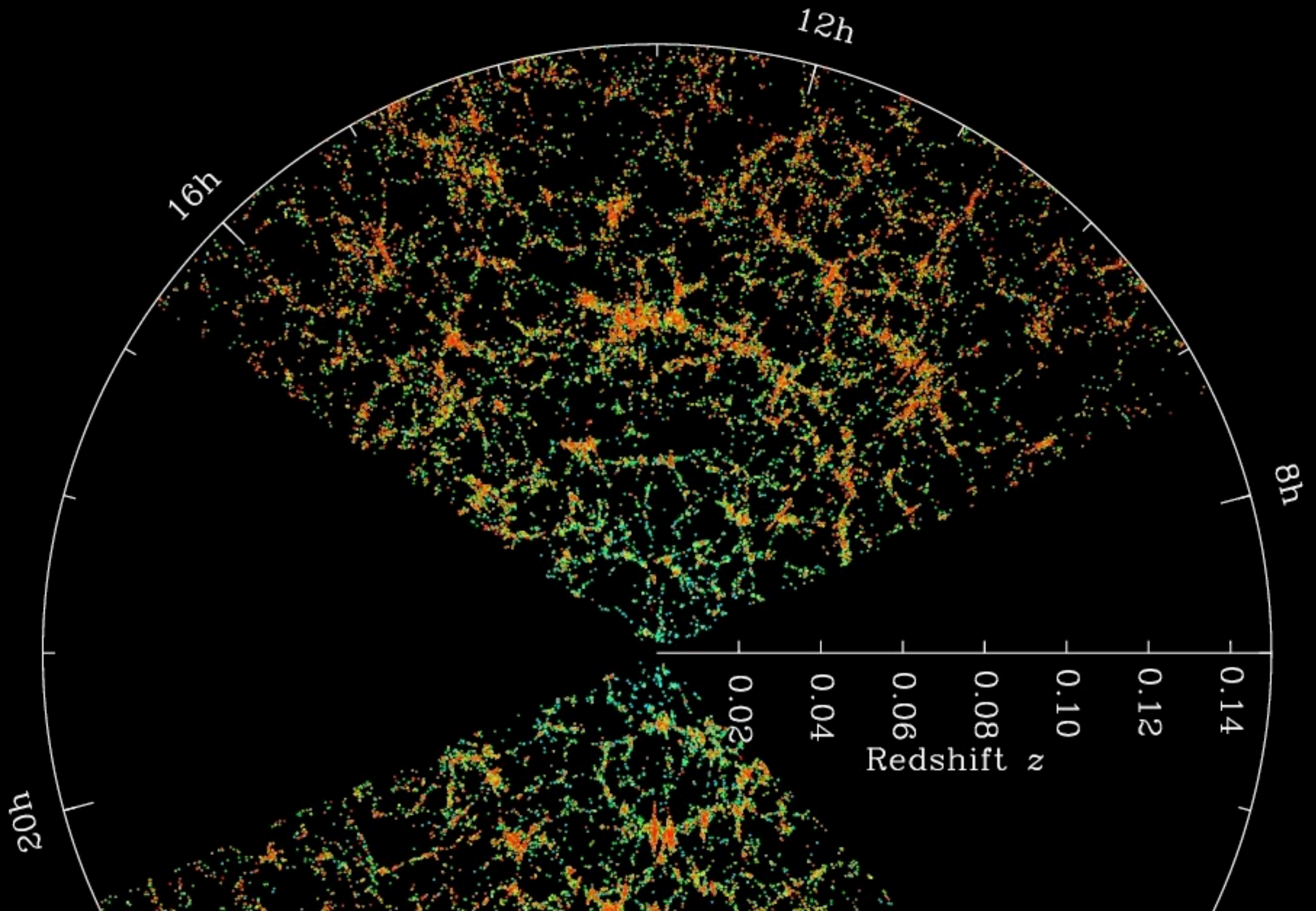
Bullet Cluster



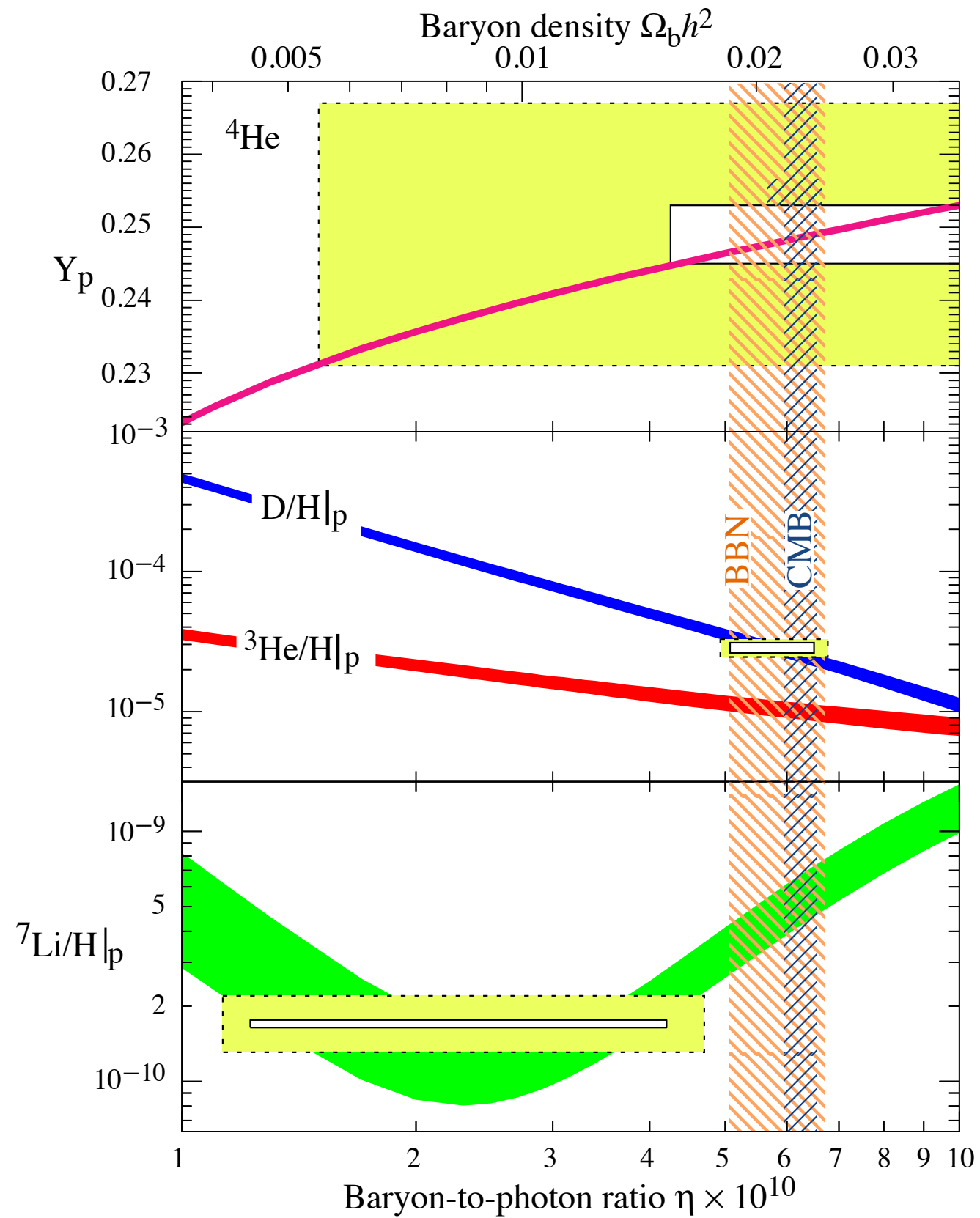
Lensing



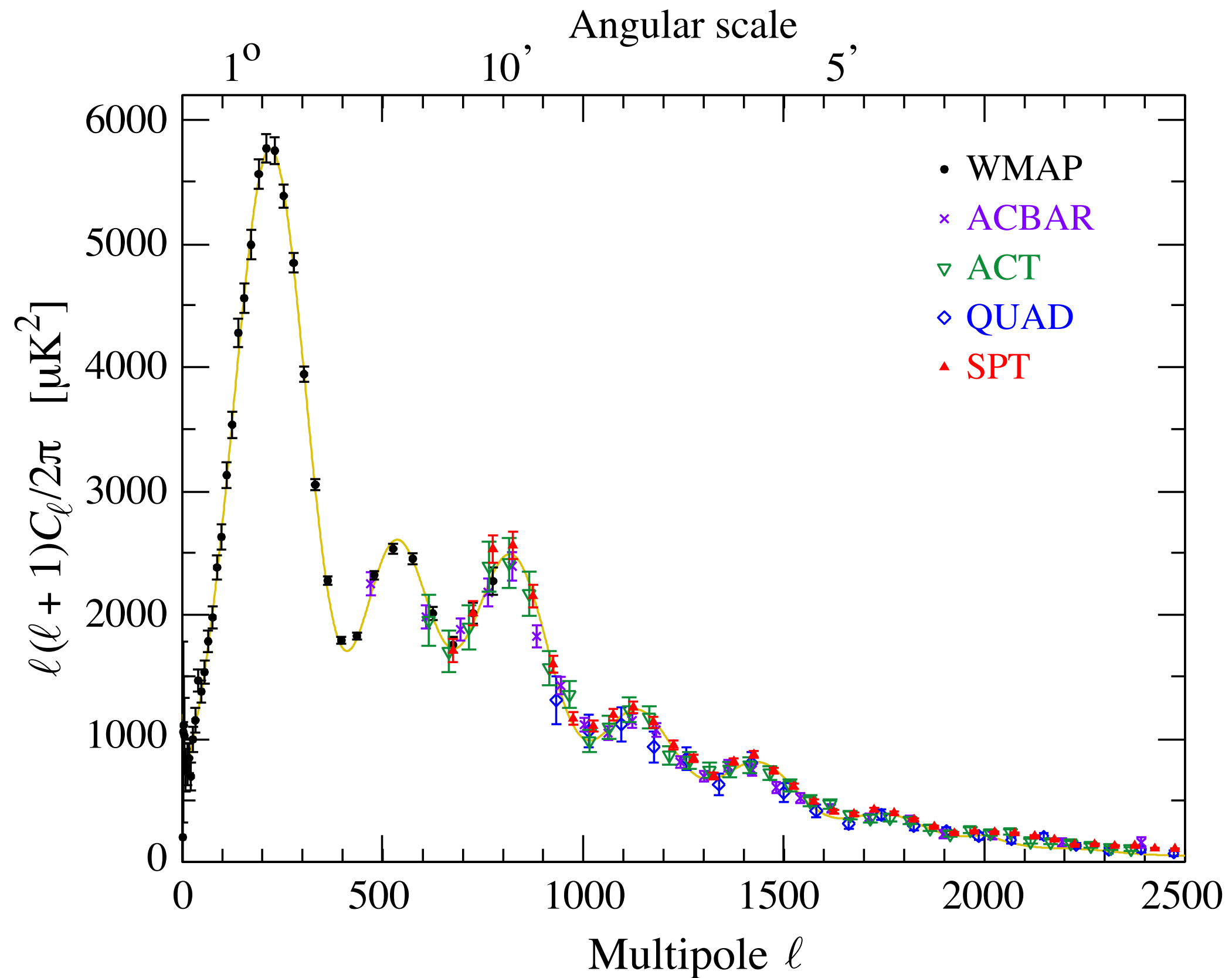
Large scale structures



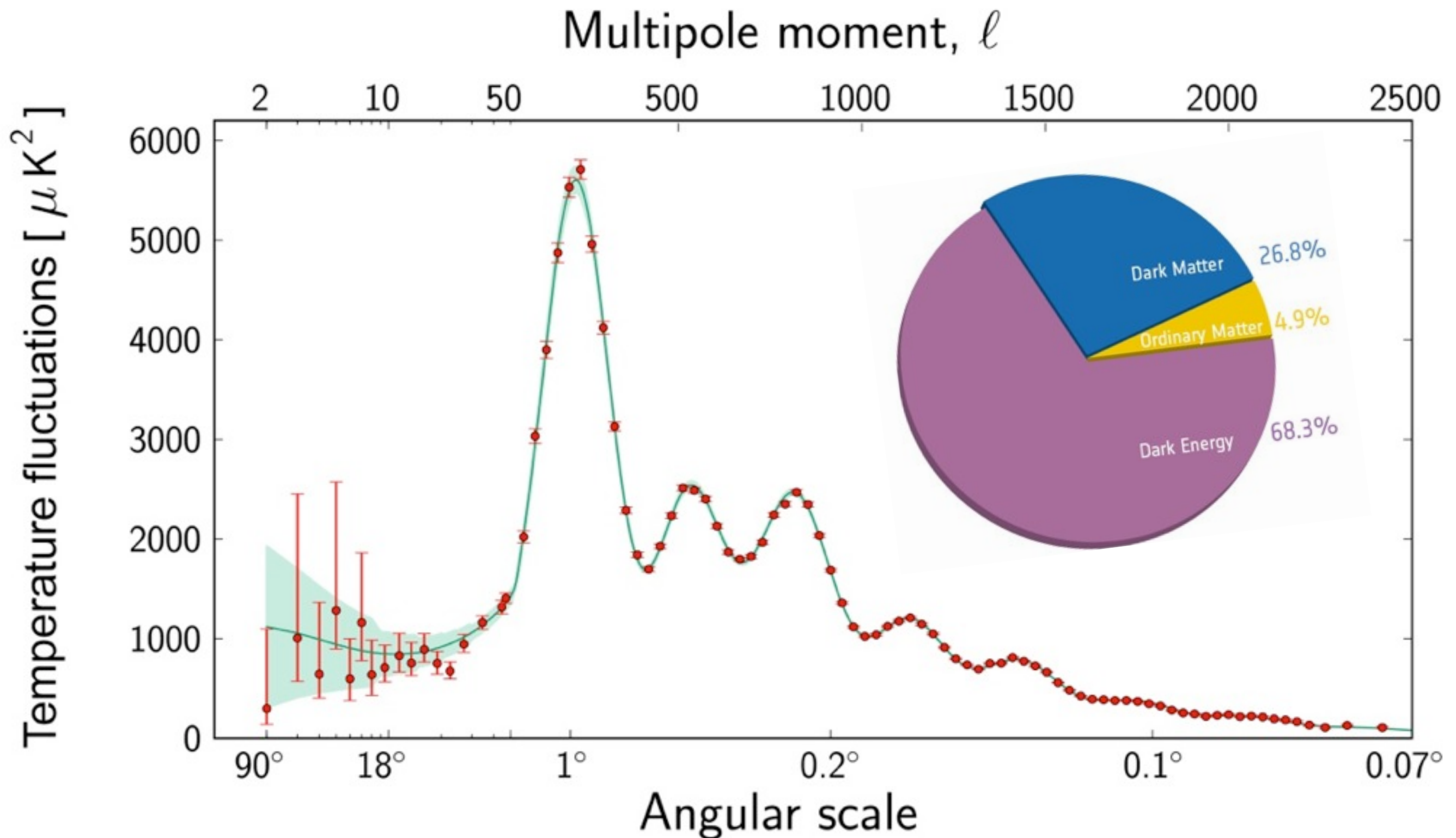
BBN



CMB



CMB as seen by Planck (2013)

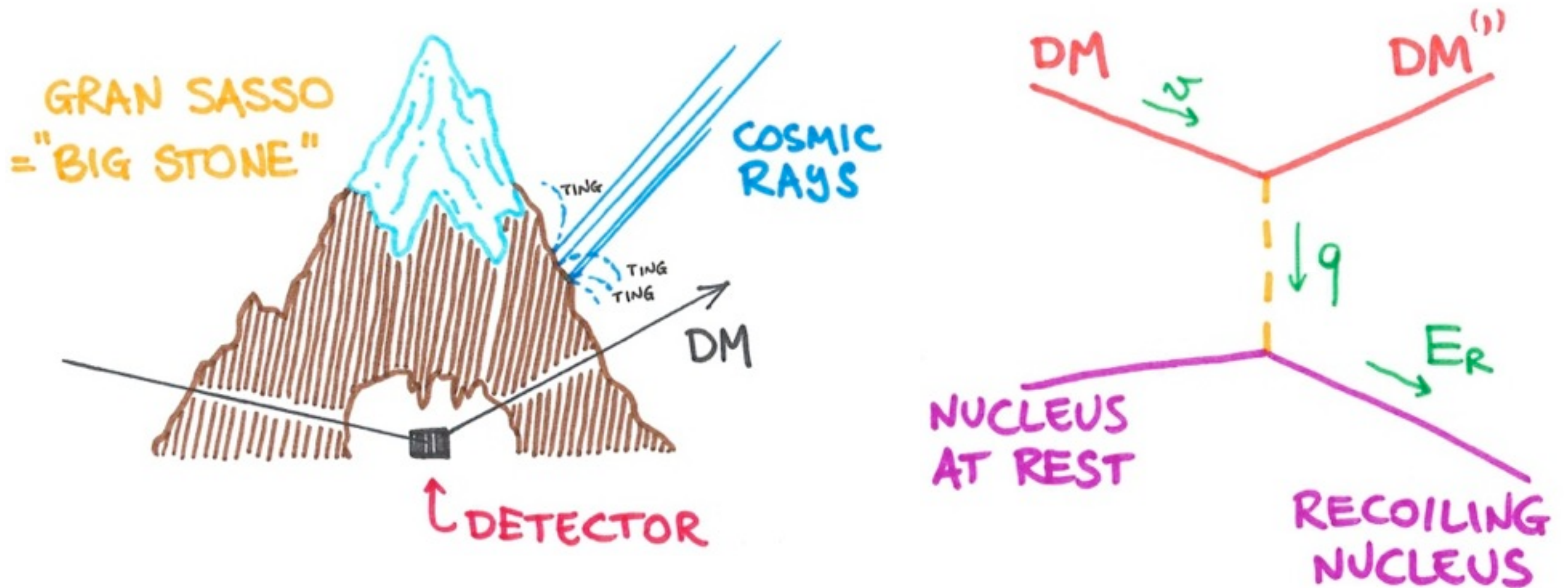


\$Assumptions

- Dark Matter (DM) is made of particles
- Actually, only one kind of particle
(with mass 1 GeV - 10 TeV)
- DM is cold (i.e. non-relativistic)

DM direct detection

Basically explained by



$$\frac{dR_T}{dE_R} = n_T \Phi_{\text{DM}}(t) \frac{d\sigma_T}{dE_R}$$

DM direct detection

The basic ingredient is the recoil rate

$$\frac{dR_T}{dE_R} = n_T \Phi_{\text{DM}}(t) \frac{d\sigma_T}{dE_R}$$

Target density

DM-nucleus
cross section

$$\Phi_{\text{DM}} = \frac{\rho}{m_{\text{DM}}} v f(\vec{v}, t) d^3v$$

DM flux (has an annual modulation due to Earth's rotation around the sun)

Direct detection rate

$$\frac{dR_T}{dE_R} = \frac{\xi_T}{m_T} \frac{\rho}{m_{\text{DM}}} \int_{v_{\min}(E_R)}^{v_{\text{esc}}} d^3v f(\vec{v}, t) v \frac{d\sigma_T}{dE_R}(E_R, \vec{v})$$

ρ DM local density

$f(\vec{v}, t)$ DM velocity distribution

ξ_T target mass fraction

v_{esc} galactic escape velocity

$$R_{[E'_1, E'_2]}(t) = \sum_T \int_{E'_1}^{E'_2} dE' \epsilon_1(E') \int_0^\infty dE_R \epsilon_2(E_R) G_T(E', qE_R) \frac{dR_T}{dE_R}$$

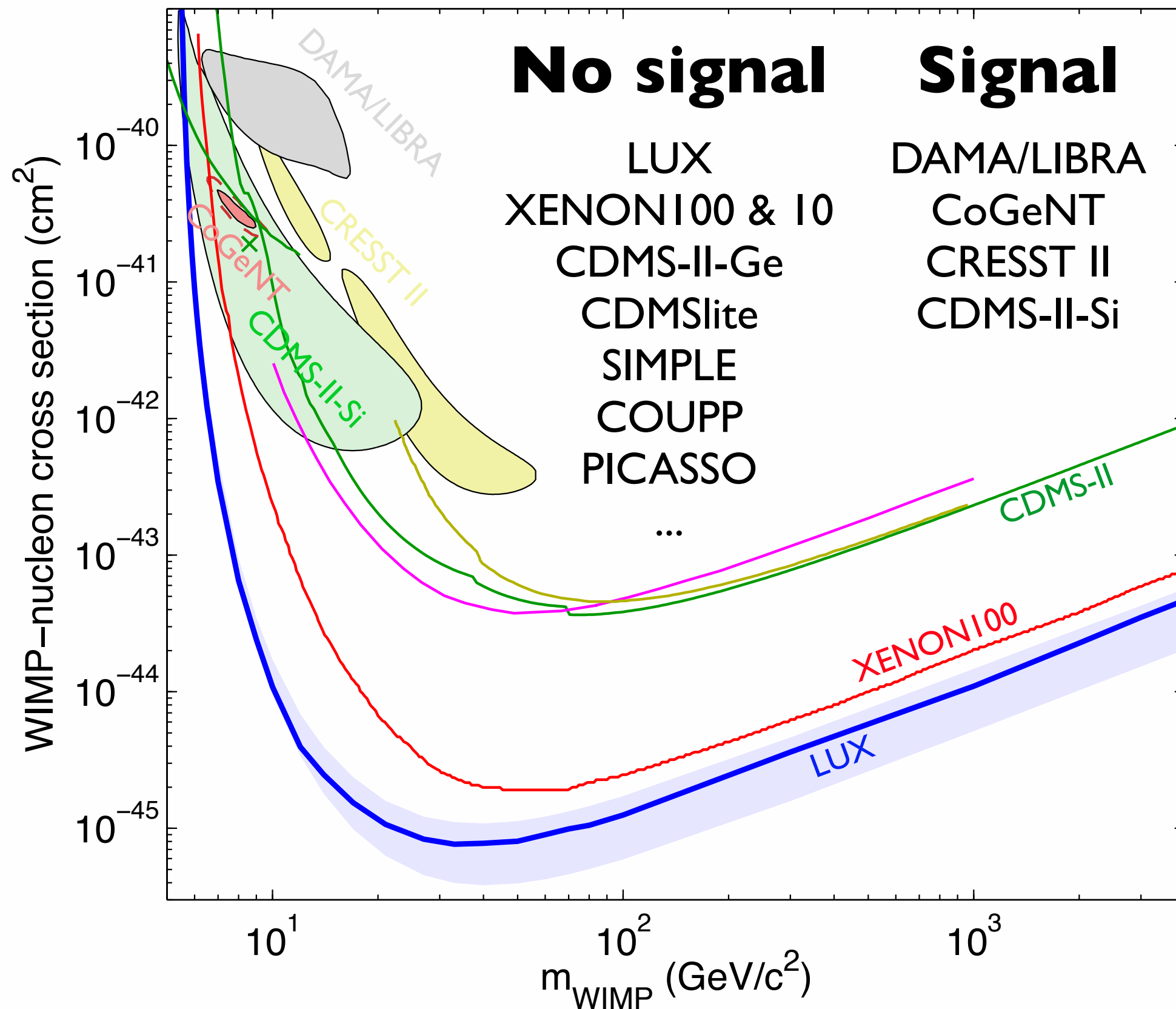
E' detected energy

$G_T(E', qE_R)$ detector resolution

ϵ_1, ϵ_2 efficiencies

q quenching factor

Limits and fits



Assumptions

- Spin-independent interaction:
in QFT language,

$$\mathcal{L} \propto \phi^\dagger \phi \bar{N} N \quad \text{or} \quad \bar{\chi} \chi \bar{N} N \quad \text{or} \quad \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \chi \bar{N} \gamma_\mu N$$

(in the NR limit all these interactions look the same)

- Truncated Maxwell-Boltzmann velocity
distribution (Standard Halo Model, or SHM):

$$f(\vec{v}, t) = f_G(\vec{u} = \vec{v} + \vec{v}_E(t)) \quad \text{with} \quad f_G(\vec{u}) = \frac{\exp(-u^2/v_0^2)}{(v_0\sqrt{\pi})^3 N_{\text{esc}}} \theta(v_{\text{esc}} - u)$$

Other interactions

One can imagine countless other interaction types

Effective operators

$$\bar{\chi} i\gamma^5 \chi \bar{N} N$$

$$\bar{\chi} i\gamma^5 \chi \bar{N} i\gamma^5 N$$

$$\bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \chi \bar{N} \gamma_\mu \gamma^5 N$$

$$\bar{\chi} \sigma^{\mu\nu} \chi \bar{N} \sigma_{\mu\nu} N$$

$$\bar{\chi} \chi \bar{N} i\gamma^5 N$$

$$\bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 \chi \bar{N} \gamma_\mu N$$

$$\bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 \chi \bar{N} \gamma_\mu \gamma^5 N$$

$$\bar{\chi} i \sigma^{\mu\nu} \gamma^5 \chi \bar{N} \sigma_{\mu\nu} N$$

$$\phi^* \phi \bar{N} i\gamma^5 N$$

$$i (\phi^* \overleftrightarrow{\partial}_\mu \phi) \bar{N} \gamma^\mu N$$

$$i (\phi^* \overleftrightarrow{\partial}_\mu \phi) \bar{N} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 N$$

Electromagnetic DM

$$Q_\chi e \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \chi A_\mu$$

(millicharged DM)

$$\frac{\mu_\chi}{2} \bar{\chi} \sigma^{\mu\nu} \chi F_{\mu\nu}$$

(anomalous DM magnetic moment)

$$\frac{d_\chi}{2} i \bar{\chi} \sigma^{\mu\nu} \gamma^5 \chi F_{\mu\nu}$$

(DM electric dipole moment)

etc.

A unified framework

- Fan, Reece, Wang - *Non-relativistic effective theory of dark matter direct detection* [1008.1591]
- Fitzpatrick, Haxton, Katz, Lubbers, Xu - *The Effective Field Theory of Dark Matter Direct Detection* [1203.3542]+ [1211.2818], [1308.6288]

Set the stage for an interaction-independent analysis of DM signals at direct detection experiments

Note: the DM-nucleus scattering is non-relativistic (NR) because $v \sim q/m \sim 10^{-3}$

Recipe

⊙ Expand $u^s(p) = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{p^\mu \sigma_\mu} \xi^s \\ \sqrt{p^\mu \bar{\sigma}_\mu} \xi^s \end{pmatrix}$ in powers of $\vec{p}$ (NR limit)

⊙ Express $\mathcal{M}_{\text{nucleon}} = \sum_{i=1}^{12} (\mathbf{c}_i^p + \mathbf{c}_i^n) \mathcal{O}_i^{\text{NR}}$

$$\mathcal{O}_1^{\text{NR}} = \mathbf{1}$$

$$\mathcal{O}_3^{\text{NR}} = i \vec{s}_N \cdot (\vec{q} \times \vec{v})$$

$$\mathcal{O}_5^{\text{NR}} = i \vec{s}_\chi \cdot (\vec{q} \times \vec{v})$$

$$\mathcal{O}_7^{\text{NR}} = \vec{s}_N \cdot \vec{v}^\perp$$

$$\mathcal{O}_9^{\text{NR}} = i \vec{s}_\chi \cdot (\vec{s}_N \times \vec{q})$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{11}^{\text{NR}} = i \vec{s}_\chi \cdot \vec{q}$$

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

$$\mathcal{O}_4^{\text{NR}} = \vec{s}_\chi \cdot \vec{s}_N$$

$$\mathcal{O}_6^{\text{NR}} = (\vec{s}_\chi \cdot \vec{q})(\vec{s}_N \cdot \vec{q})$$

$$\mathcal{O}_8^{\text{NR}} = \vec{s}_\chi \cdot \vec{v}^\perp$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{10}^{\text{NR}} = i \vec{s}_N \cdot \vec{q}$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{12}^{\text{NR}} = \vec{v}^\perp \cdot (\vec{s}_\chi \times \vec{s}_N)$$

$$\overline{|\mathcal{M}_{\text{nucleus}}|^2} = \frac{m_T^2}{m_N^2} \sum_{i,j=1}^{12} \sum_{N,N'=p,n} \mathbf{c}_i^N \mathbf{c}_j^{N'} F_{i,j}^{(N,N')}$$

More than form factors

$$\overline{|\mathcal{M}_{\text{nucleus}}|^2} = \frac{m_T^2}{m_N^2} \sum_{i,j=1}^{12} \sum_{N,N'=p,n} c_i^N c_j^{N'} F_{i,j}^{(N,N')}$$

The “form factors” $F_{i,j}^{(N,N')}$ are tabulated in
[1203.3542], [1308.6288]

They contain the nuclear physics associated to each
of the NR operators

They form a basis for writing ~any interaction

They provide a parametrization of the differential
cross section in terms of the coefficients c_i^N

Factorizing fun

$$\frac{d\sigma_T}{dE_R} = \frac{1}{32\pi} \frac{1}{m_\chi^2 m_T} \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{m_T^2}{m_N^2} \sum_{i,j=1}^{12} \sum_{N,N'=p,n} \mathbf{c}_i^N \mathbf{c}_j^{N'} F_{i,j}^{(N,N')}$$

$$\tilde{\mathcal{F}}_{i,j}^{(N,N')} \equiv C \sum_T \xi_T \int_{E'_{\min}}^{E'_{\max}} dE' \epsilon_1(E') \int_0^\infty dE_R \epsilon_2(E_R) G_T(E_R, E') \int_{v_{\min}(E_R)} d^3v \frac{1}{v} f_E(\vec{v}) F_{i,j}^{(N,N')}$$

$$R_{\text{tot}} = \sum_{i,j=1}^{12} \sum_{N,N'=p,n} \mathbf{c}_i^N(\lambda, m_{\text{DM}}) \mathbf{c}_j^{N'}(\lambda, m_{\text{DM}}) \tilde{\mathcal{F}}_{i,j}^{(N,N')}(m_{\text{DM}})$$

Contain
particle
physics

Contain astro+nuclear
+experimental physics

Benchmark bound & rescaling

Let us consider the benchmark model

$$\mathcal{M}_{p,B} = \lambda_B = \lambda_B \mathcal{O}_1^{\text{NR}} \quad \Longrightarrow \quad c_1^p = \lambda_B, \text{ all other } c_i^N = 0$$

e.g. from the QFT Lagrangian $\mathcal{L}_B = \frac{\lambda_B}{4m_{\text{DM}}m_p} \bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\chi \bar{p}\gamma_\mu p$

So $R_{\text{tot},B} = \lambda_B^2 \tilde{\mathcal{F}}_{1,1}^{(p,p)}(m_{\text{DM}})$. Now define $\lambda_B^{\text{lim}}(m_{\text{DM}})^2 \equiv \frac{R_{\text{lim}}}{\tilde{\mathcal{F}}_{1,1}^{(p,p)}(m_{\text{DM}})}$

A bound on another model is given by

$$\sum_{i,j=1}^{12} \sum_{N,N'=p,n} c_i^N(\lambda, m_{\text{DM}}) c_j^{N'}(\lambda, m_{\text{DM}}) \tilde{\mathcal{F}}_{i,j}^{(N,N')}(m_{\text{DM}}) \leq R_{\text{lim}}$$

Benchmark bound & rescaling

Let us consider the benchmark model

$$\mathcal{M}_{p,B} = \lambda_B = \lambda_B \mathcal{O}_1^{\text{NR}} \quad \implies \quad c_1^p = \lambda_B, \text{ all other } c_i^N = 0$$

e.g. from the QFT Lagrangian $\mathcal{L}_B = \frac{\lambda_B}{4m_{\text{DM}}m_p} \bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\chi \bar{p}\gamma_\mu p$

So $R_{\text{tot},B} = \lambda_B^2 \tilde{\mathcal{F}}_{1,1}^{(p,p)}(m_{\text{DM}})$. Now define $\lambda_B^{\text{lim}}(m_{\text{DM}})^2 \equiv \frac{R_{\text{lim}}}{\tilde{\mathcal{F}}_{1,1}^{(p,p)}(m_{\text{DM}})}$

A bound on another model is given by

$$\sum_{i,j=1}^{12} \sum_{N,N'=p,n} c_i^N(\lambda, m_{\text{DM}}) c_j^{N'}(\lambda, m_{\text{DM}}) \frac{\tilde{\mathcal{F}}_{i,j}^{(N,N')}(m_{\text{DM}})}{\tilde{\mathcal{F}}_{1,1}^{(p,p)}(m_{\text{DM}})} \leq \frac{R_{\text{lim}}}{\tilde{\mathcal{F}}_{1,1}^{(p,p)}(m_{\text{DM}})}$$

Benchmark bound & rescaling

Let us consider the benchmark model

$$\mathcal{M}_{p,B} = \lambda_B = \lambda_B \mathcal{O}_1^{\text{NR}} \quad \Longrightarrow \quad c_1^p = \lambda_B, \text{ all other } c_i^N = 0$$

e.g. from the QFT Lagrangian $\mathcal{L}_B = \frac{\lambda_B}{4m_{\text{DM}}m_p} \bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\chi \bar{p}\gamma_\mu p$

So $R_{\text{tot},B} = \lambda_B^2 \tilde{\mathcal{F}}_{1,1}^{(p,p)}(m_{\text{DM}})$. Now define $\lambda_B^{\text{lim}}(m_{\text{DM}})^2 \equiv \frac{R_{\text{lim}}}{\tilde{\mathcal{F}}_{1,1}^{(p,p)}(m_{\text{DM}})}$

A bound on another model is given by

$$\sum_{i,j=1}^{12} \sum_{N,N'=p,n} c_i^N(\lambda, m_{\text{DM}}) c_j^{N'}(\lambda, m_{\text{DM}}) y_{i,j}^{(N,N')}(m_{\text{DM}}) \leq \lambda_B^{\text{lim}}(m_{\text{DM}})^2$$

where $y_{i,j}^{(N,N')}(m_{\text{DM}}) \equiv \frac{\tilde{\mathcal{F}}_{i,j}^{(N,N')}(m_{\text{DM}})}{\tilde{\mathcal{F}}_{1,1}^{(p,p)}(m_{\text{DM}})}$

Benchmark bound & rescaling

Let us consider the benchmark model

$$\mathcal{M}_{p,B} = \lambda_B = \lambda_B \mathcal{O}_1^{\text{NR}} \quad \Longrightarrow \quad c_1^p = \lambda_B, \text{ all other } c_i^N = 0$$

e.g. from the QFT Lagrangian $\mathcal{L}_B = \frac{\lambda_B}{4m_{\text{DM}}m_p} \bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\chi \bar{p}\gamma_\mu p$

So $R_{\text{tot},B} = \lambda_B^2 \tilde{\mathcal{F}}_{1,1}^{(p,p)}(m_{\text{DM}})$. Now define $\lambda_B^{\text{lim}}(m_{\text{DM}})^2 \equiv \frac{R_{\text{lim}}}{\tilde{\mathcal{F}}_{1,1}^{(p,p)}(m_{\text{DM}})}$

A bound on another model is given by

$$\sum_{i,j=1}^{12} \sum_{N,N'=p,n} c_i^N(\lambda, m_{\text{DM}}) c_j^{N'}(\lambda, m_{\text{DM}}) y_{i,j}^{(N,N')}(m_{\text{DM}}) \leq \lambda_B^{\text{lim}}(m_{\text{DM}})^2$$

The $y_{i,j}^{(N,N')}(m_{\text{DM}})$ functions and the $\lambda_B^{\text{lim}}(m_{\text{DM}})$ for different CL's are available on

<http://www.marcocirelli.net/NROpsDD.html>

Tools for model-independent bounds in direct dark matter searches

Data and Results from [1307.5955](#) [hep-ph], JCAP 10 (2013) 019.

If you use the data provided on this site, please cite:

M.Cirelli, E.Del Nobile, P.Panci,

"Tools for model-independent bounds in direct dark matter searches",

arXiv 1307.5955, JCAP 10 (2013) 019.

This is **Release 2.0** (November 2013). Log of changes at the bottom of this page.

Test Statistic functions:

The [TS.m](#) file provides the tables of TS for the benchmark case (see the paper for the definition), for the five experiments that we consider ([XENON100](#), [CDMS-Ge](#), [COUPP](#), [PICASSO](#), [LUX](#)).

Rescaling functions:

The [Y.m](#) file provides the rescaling functions $Y_{ij}^{(N,N')}$ and $Y_{ij}^{lr(N,N')}$ (see the paper for the definition).

Sample file:

The [Sample.nb](#) notebook shows how to load and use the above numerical products, and gives some examples.

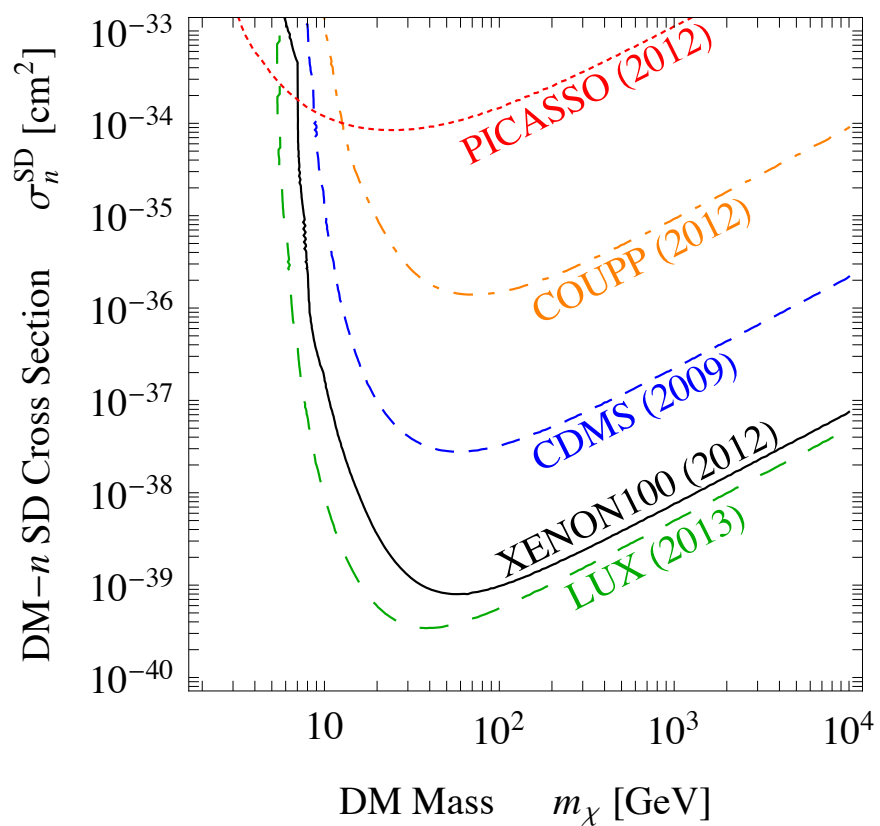
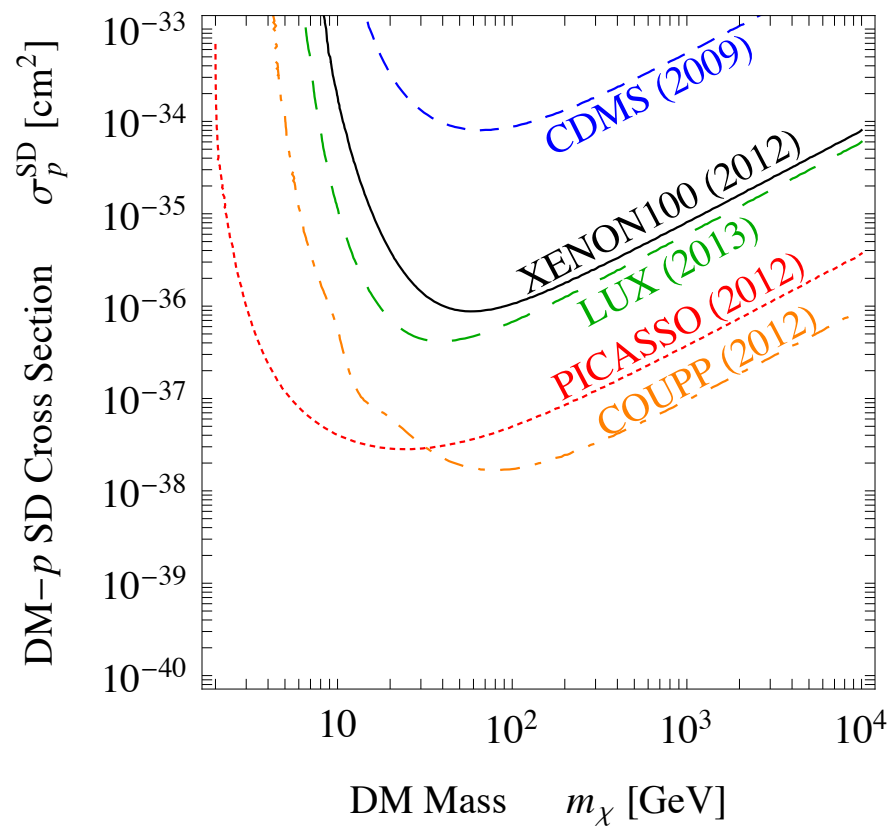
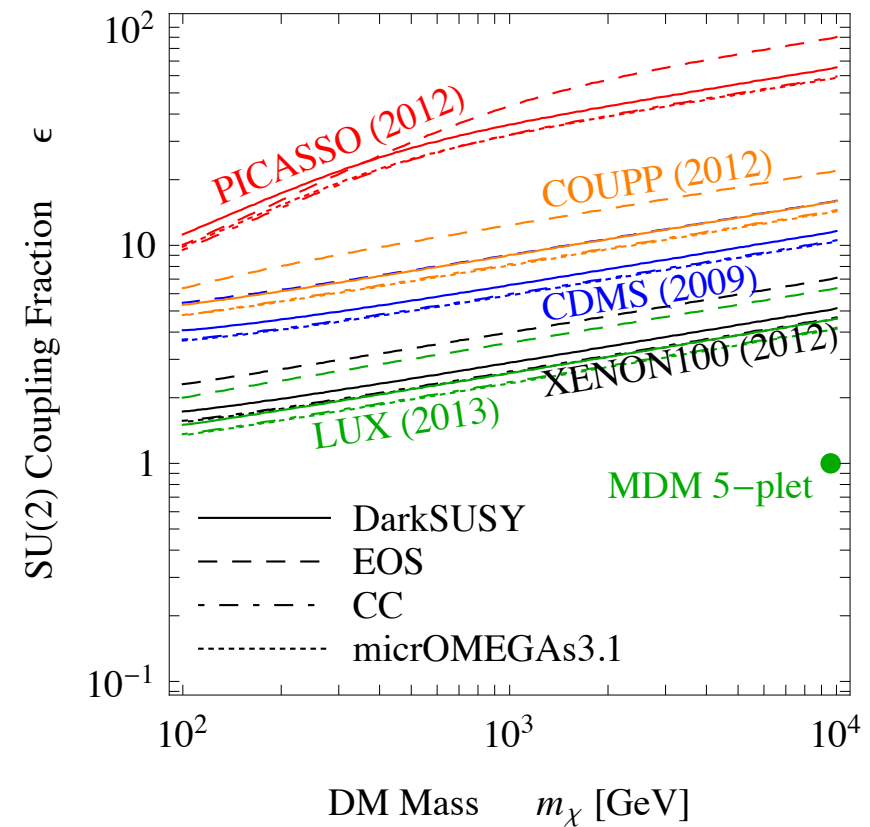
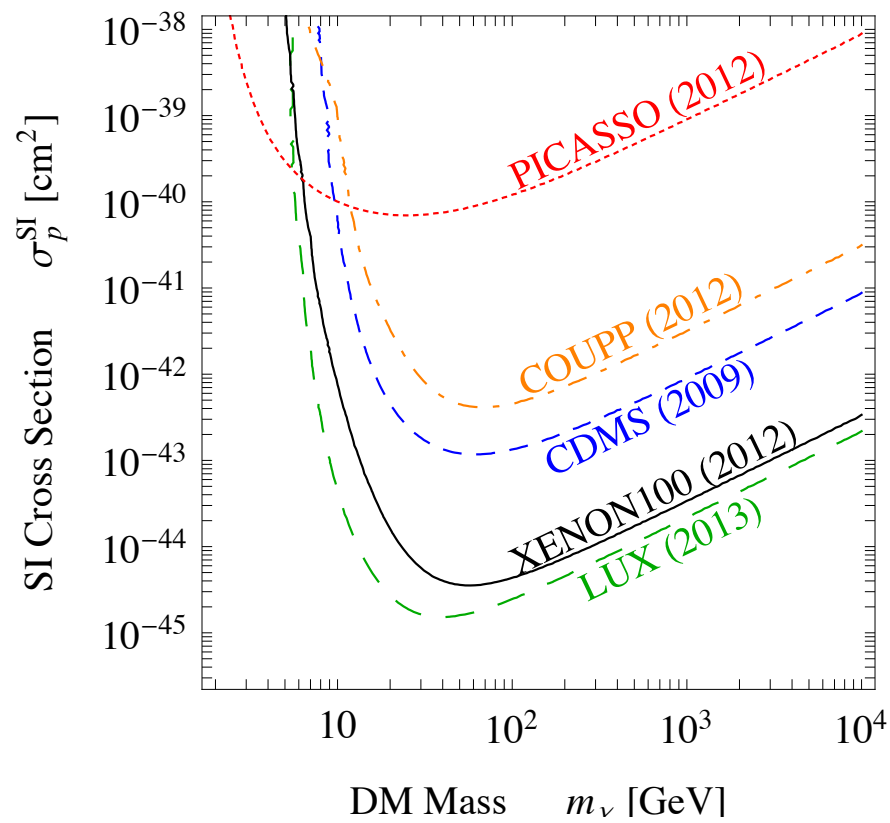
Log of changes and releases:

[23 jul 2013] First Release.

[08 oct 2013] Minor changes in the notations in Sample.nb, to match JCAP version. No new release.

[25 nov 2013] **New Release: 2.0**. Addition of LUX results. This release corresponds to **version 3** of [1307.5955](#) (with Addendum).

Some results



Conclusions for this part

- ◎ The full scattering rate at direct DM search experiments can be factored in two pieces:
 - the coefficients c_i^N contain the information on the underlying particle physics model
 - the $y_{i,j}^{(N,N')}$ functions contain all the rest, and in principle can be delivered by the experimental collaborations themselves
- ◎ With these ingredients, a bound that would otherwise need a PhD student and weeks of coding to perform multiple numerical integrals is computed within minutes
- ◎ All the material + a Mathematica sample file is downloadable for instant fun at <http://www.marcocirelli.net/NROpsDD.html>

Halo-independent stuff

Direct detection rate

$$\frac{dR_T}{dE_R} = \frac{\xi_T}{m_T} \frac{\rho}{m_{\text{DM}}} \int_{v_{\min}(E_R)}^{v_{\text{esc}}} d^3v f(\vec{v}, t) v \frac{d\sigma_T}{dE_R}(E_R, \vec{v})$$

ρ DM local density

$f(\vec{v}, t)$ DM velocity distribution

ξ_T target mass fraction

v_{esc} galactic escape velocity

$$R_{[E'_1, E'_2]}(t) = \sum_T \int_{E'_1}^{E'_2} dE' \epsilon_1(E') \int_0^\infty dE_R \epsilon_2(E_R) G_T(E', qE_R) \frac{dR_T}{dE_R}$$

E' detected energy

$G_T(E', qE_R)$ detector resolution

ϵ_1, ϵ_2 efficiencies

q quenching factor

Direct detection rate

$$\frac{dR_T}{dE_R} = \frac{\xi_T}{m_T} \frac{\rho}{m_{\text{DM}}} \int_{v_{\min}(E_R)}^{v_{\text{esc}}} d^3v f(\vec{v}, t) v \frac{d\sigma_T}{dE_R}(E_R, \vec{v})$$

ρ DM local density

$f(\vec{v}, t)$ DM velocity distribution

ξ_T target mass fraction

v_{esc} galactic escape velocity

$$R_{[E'_1, E'_2]}(t) = \sum_T \int_{E'_1}^{E'_2} dE' \epsilon_1(E') \int_0^\infty dE_R \epsilon_2(E_R) G_T(E', qE_R) \frac{dR_T}{dE_R}$$

E' detected energy

$G_T(E', qE_R)$ detector resolution

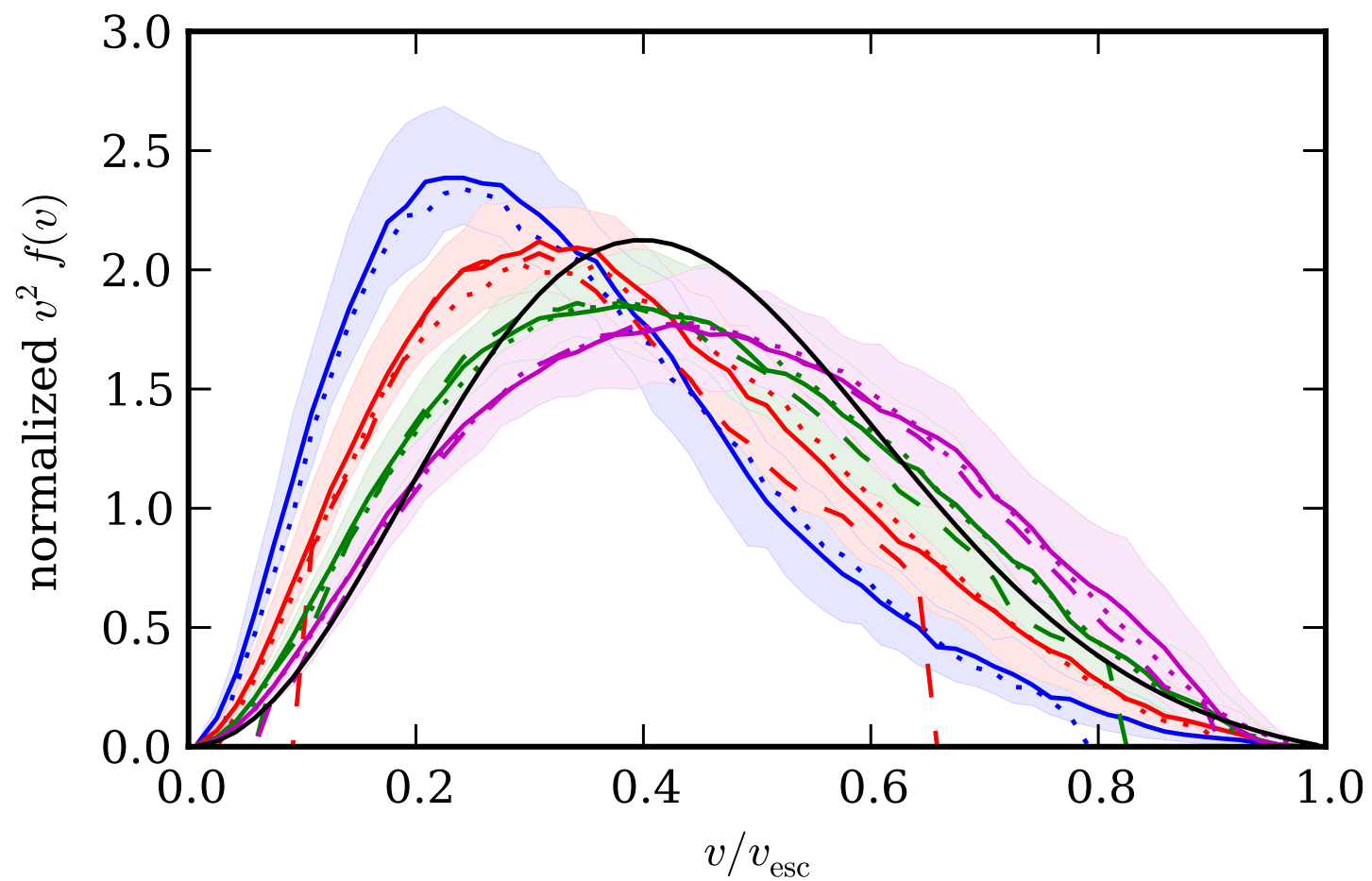
ϵ_1, ϵ_2 efficiencies

q quenching factor

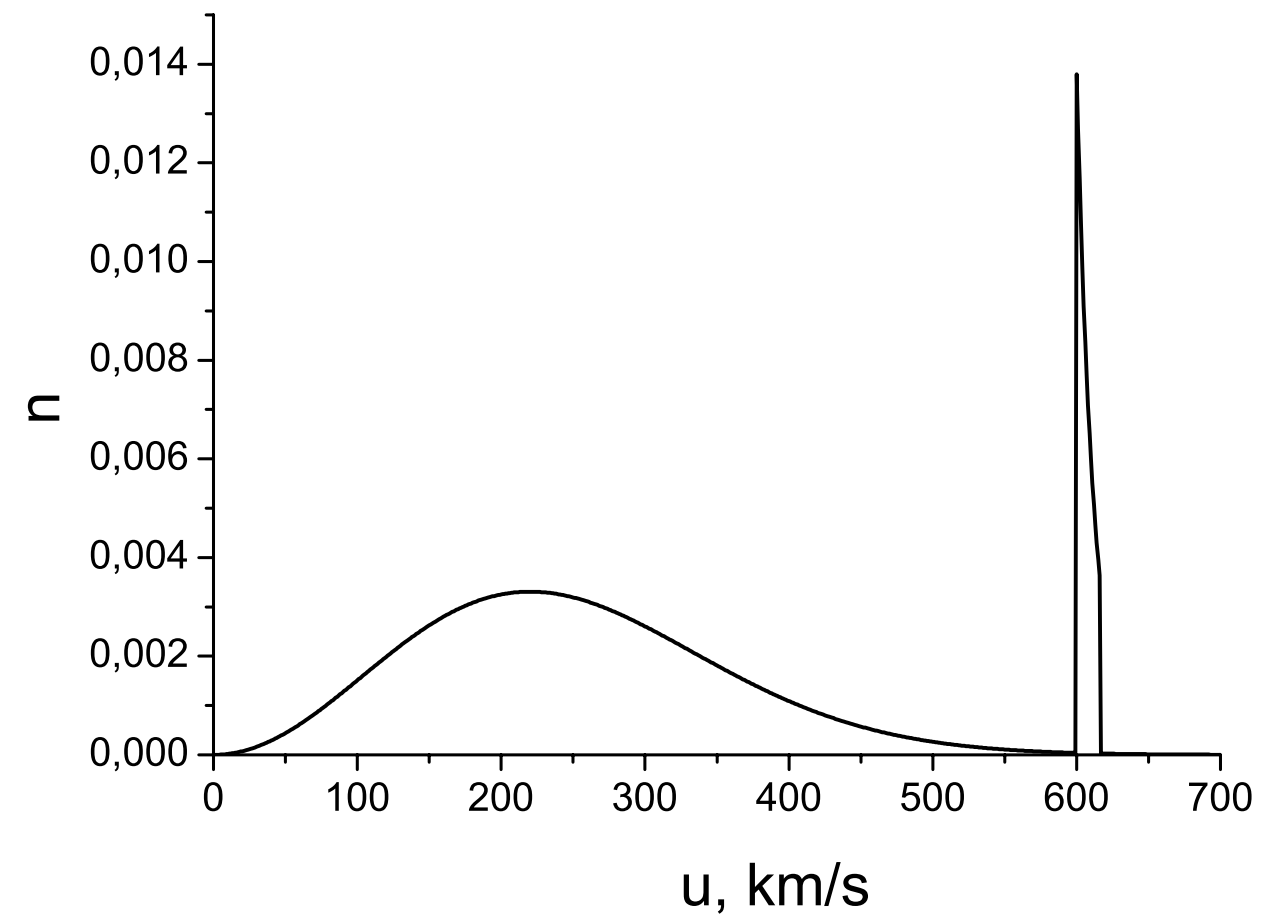
Astrophysical uncertainties

e.g.

Mao, Strigari, Wechsler, Wu, Hahn [1210.2721]



Baushev [1208.0392]



Two approaches

- Try to find alternative halo models, either driven by physical arguments or by fitting simulations or observations

see e.g. Freese, Lisanti, Savage [1209.3339] and references therein

- Try to factor astrophysics out of your problem as much as you can

Fox, Liu, Weiner [1011.1915], Frandsen, Kahlhoefer, McCabe, Sarkar, Schmidt-Hoberg [1111.0292][1304.6066], Gondolo, Gelmini [1202.6359] + Del Nobile, Huh [1304.6183][1306.5273][1311.4247], Herrero-Garcia, Schwetz, Zupan [1112.1627][1205.0134] + Bozorgnia [1305.3575]

Direct detection rate

$$\begin{aligned} R_{[E'_1, E'_2]}(t) &= \frac{\rho}{m_{\text{DM}}} \sum_T \frac{\xi_T}{m_T} \int_{E'_1}^{E'_2} dE' \epsilon_1(E') \\ &\times \int_0^\infty dE_{\text{R}} \epsilon_2(E_{\text{R}}) G_T(E', qE_{\text{R}}) \\ &\times \int_{v_{\min}(E_{\text{R}})}^{v_{\text{esc}}} d^3v f(\vec{v}, t) v \frac{d\sigma_T}{dE_{\text{R}}}(E_{\text{R}}, \vec{v}) \end{aligned}$$

Direct detection rate

integration
by parts



$$R_{[E'_1, E'_2]}(t) = \frac{\rho}{m_{\text{DM}}} \sum_T \frac{\xi_T}{m_T} \int_{E'_1}^{E'_2} dE' \epsilon_1(E') \\ \times \int_0^\infty dE_{\text{R}} \epsilon_2(E_{\text{R}}) G_T(E', qE_{\text{R}}) \\ \times \int_{v_{\min}(E_{\text{R}})}^{v_{\text{esc}}} d^3v f(\vec{v}, t) v \frac{d\sigma_T}{dE_{\text{R}}}(E_{\text{R}}, \vec{v})$$

$$R_{[E'_1, E'_2]}(t) = \frac{\rho}{m_{\text{DM}}} \sum_T \frac{\xi_T}{m_T} \int_{E'_1}^{E'_2} dE' \epsilon_1(E') \\ \times \int_0^\infty d^3v f(\vec{v}, t) v \\ \times \int_{E_{\text{R}}^-(v)}^{E_{\text{R}}^+(v)} dE_{\text{R}} \epsilon_2(E_{\text{R}}) G_T(E', qE_{\text{R}}) \frac{d\sigma_T}{dE_{\text{R}}}(E_{\text{R}}, \vec{v})$$

Algebraic maquillage I

$$R_{[E'_1, E'_2]}(t) = \int_0^\infty d^3v \frac{\tilde{f}(\vec{v}, t)}{v} \mathcal{H}_{[E'_1, E'_2]}(\vec{v})$$

$$\tilde{f}(\vec{v}, t) \equiv \frac{\rho \sigma_{\text{ref}}}{m_{\text{DM}}} f(\vec{v}, t)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{H}_{[E'_1, E'_2]}(\vec{v}) \equiv & \sum_T \frac{\xi_T}{m_T} \int_{E_{\text{R}}^-(v)}^{E_{\text{R}}^+(v)} dE_{\text{R}} \frac{v^2}{\sigma_{\text{ref}}} \frac{d\sigma_T}{dE_{\text{R}}} (E_{\text{R}}, \vec{v}) \\ & \times \epsilon_2(E_{\text{R}}) \int_{E'_1}^{E'_2} dE' \epsilon_1(E') G_T(E', qE_{\text{R}}) \end{aligned}$$

Algebraic maquillage II

$$R_{[E'_1, E'_2]}(t) = \int_0^\infty dv_{\min} \tilde{\eta}(v_{\min}, t) \mathcal{R}_{[E'_1, E'_2]}(v_{\min})$$

$$\tilde{\eta}(v_{\min}, t) \equiv \int_{v_{\min}}^\infty d^3v \frac{\tilde{f}(\vec{v}, t)}{v}$$

$$\mathcal{R}_{[E'_1, E'_2]}(v_{\min}) \equiv \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}_{[E'_1, E'_2]}(v_{\min})}{\partial v_{\min}}$$

Bounds and fits

$$R_{[E'_1, E'_2]}(t) = \int_0^\infty dv_{\min} \tilde{\eta}(v_{\min}, t) \mathcal{R}_{[E'_1, E'_2]}(v_{\min})$$

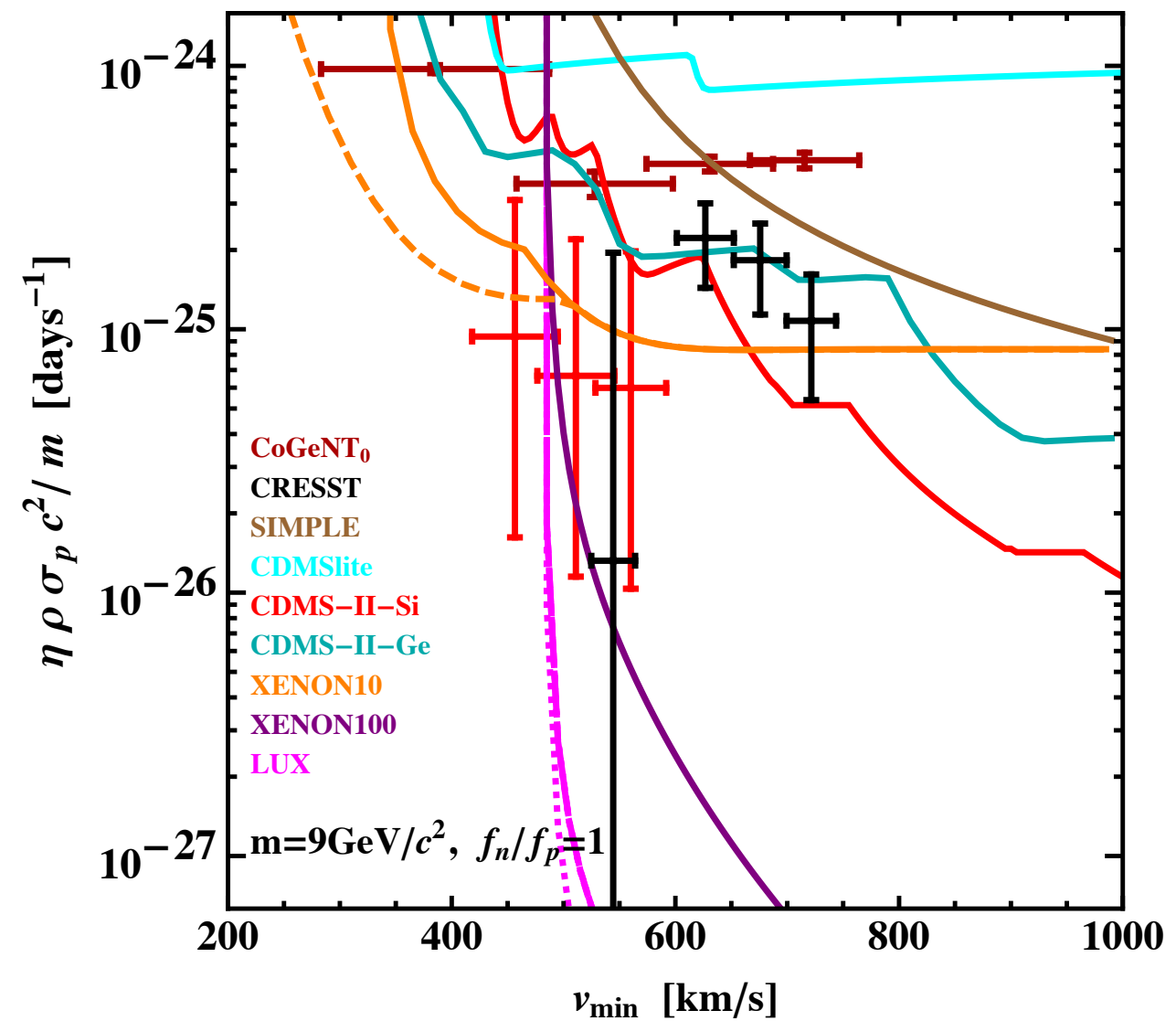
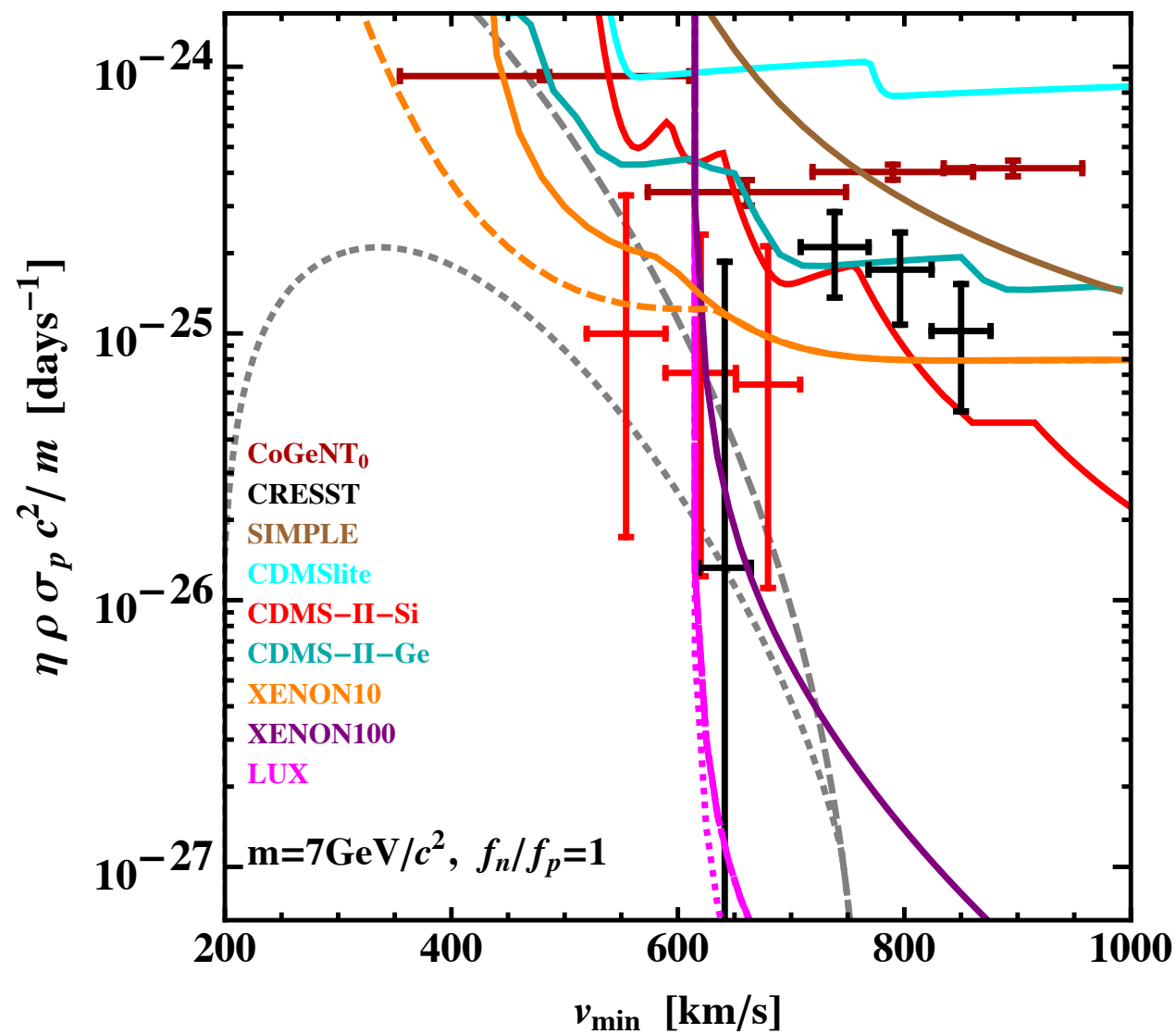
For (conservative) bounds on the unmodulated rate, use

$$\tilde{\eta}_{\text{unmod}}(v_0) \geq \tilde{\eta}_0 \theta(v_0 - v)$$

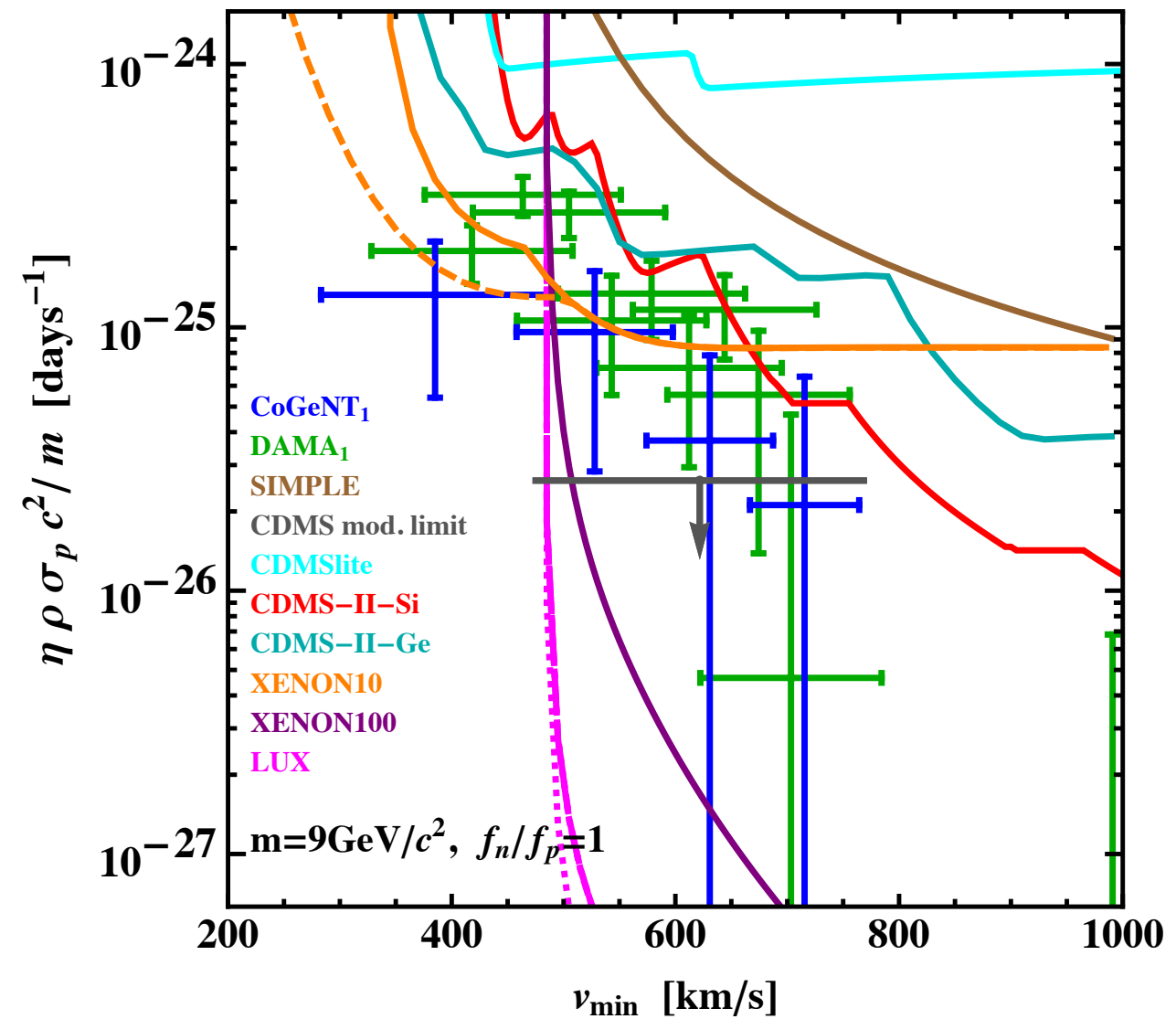
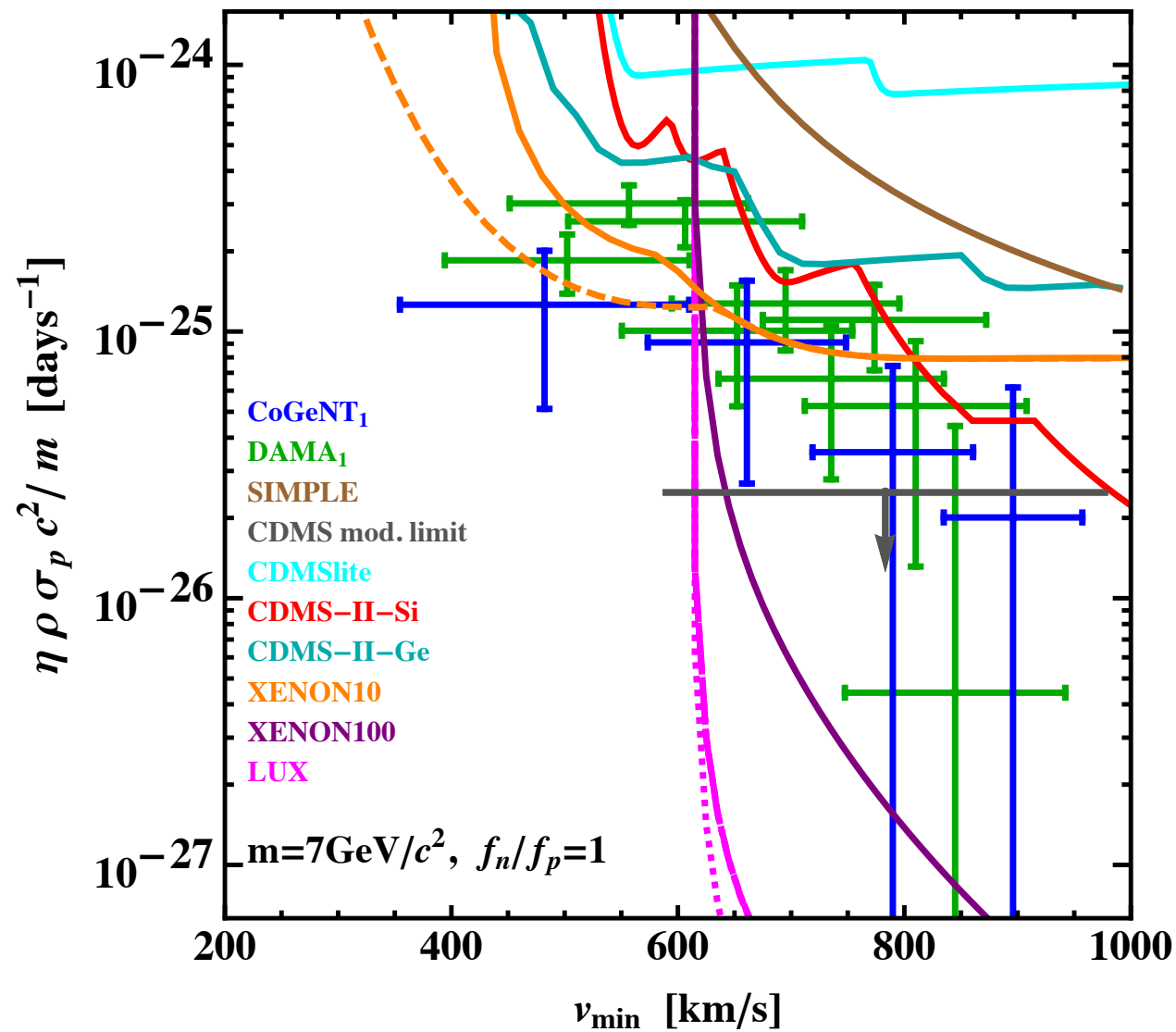
For “fits”, use

$$\overline{\tilde{\eta}_{[E'_1, E'_2]}(v_{\min})} \equiv \frac{R_{[E'_1, E'_2]}}{\int_0^\infty dv_{\min} \mathcal{R}_{[E'_1, E'_2]}(v_{\min})}$$

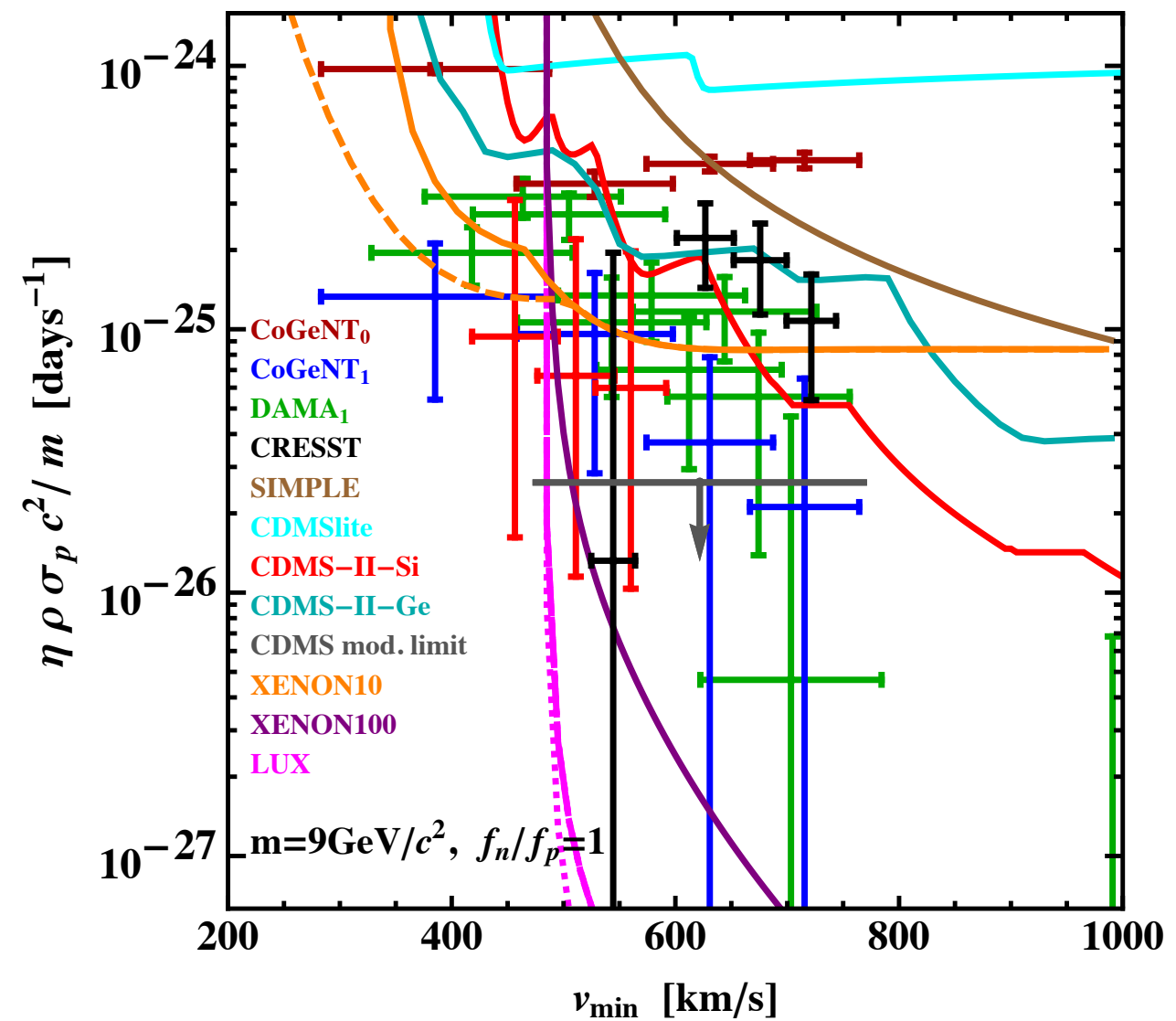
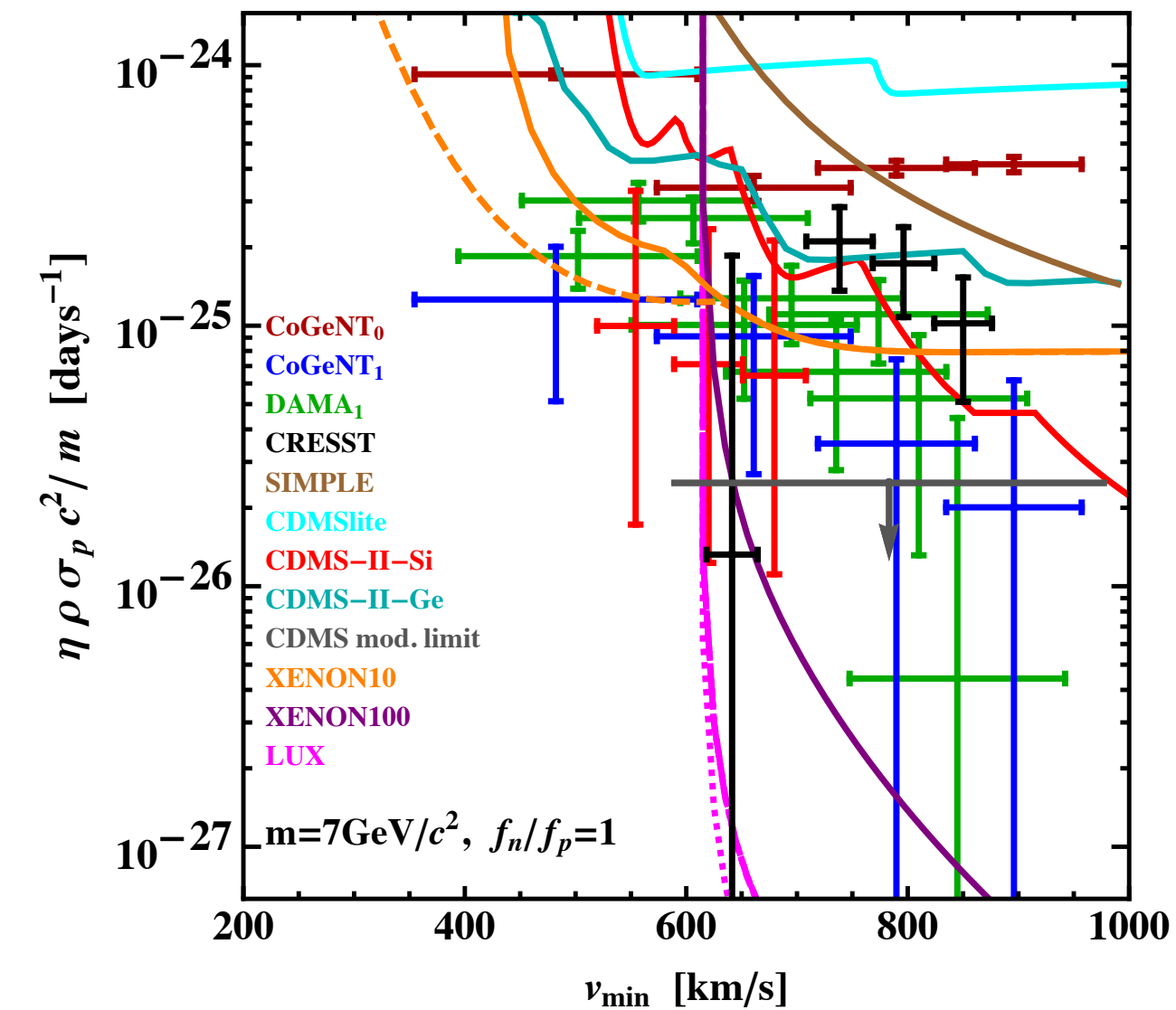
Spin-independent interaction



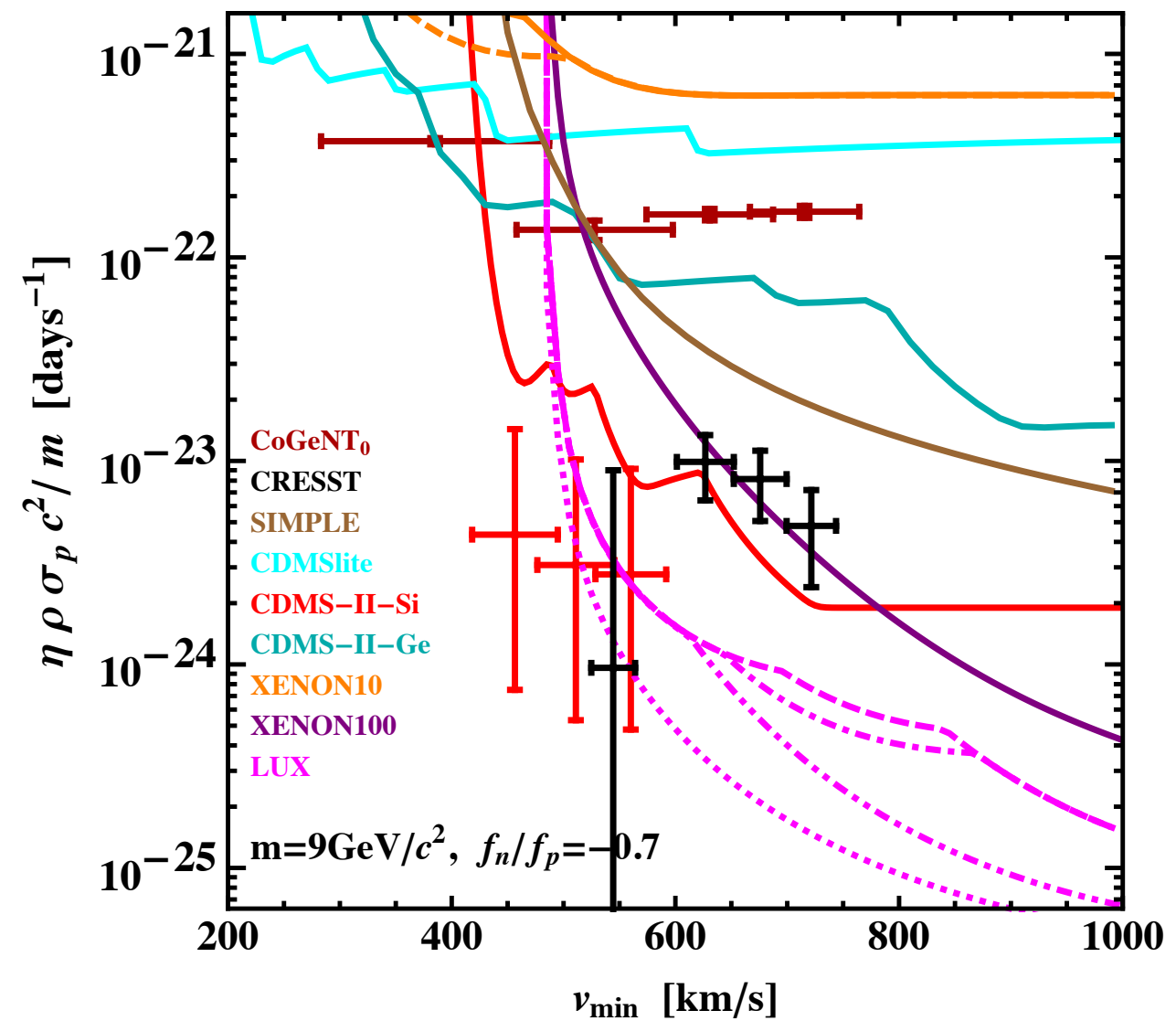
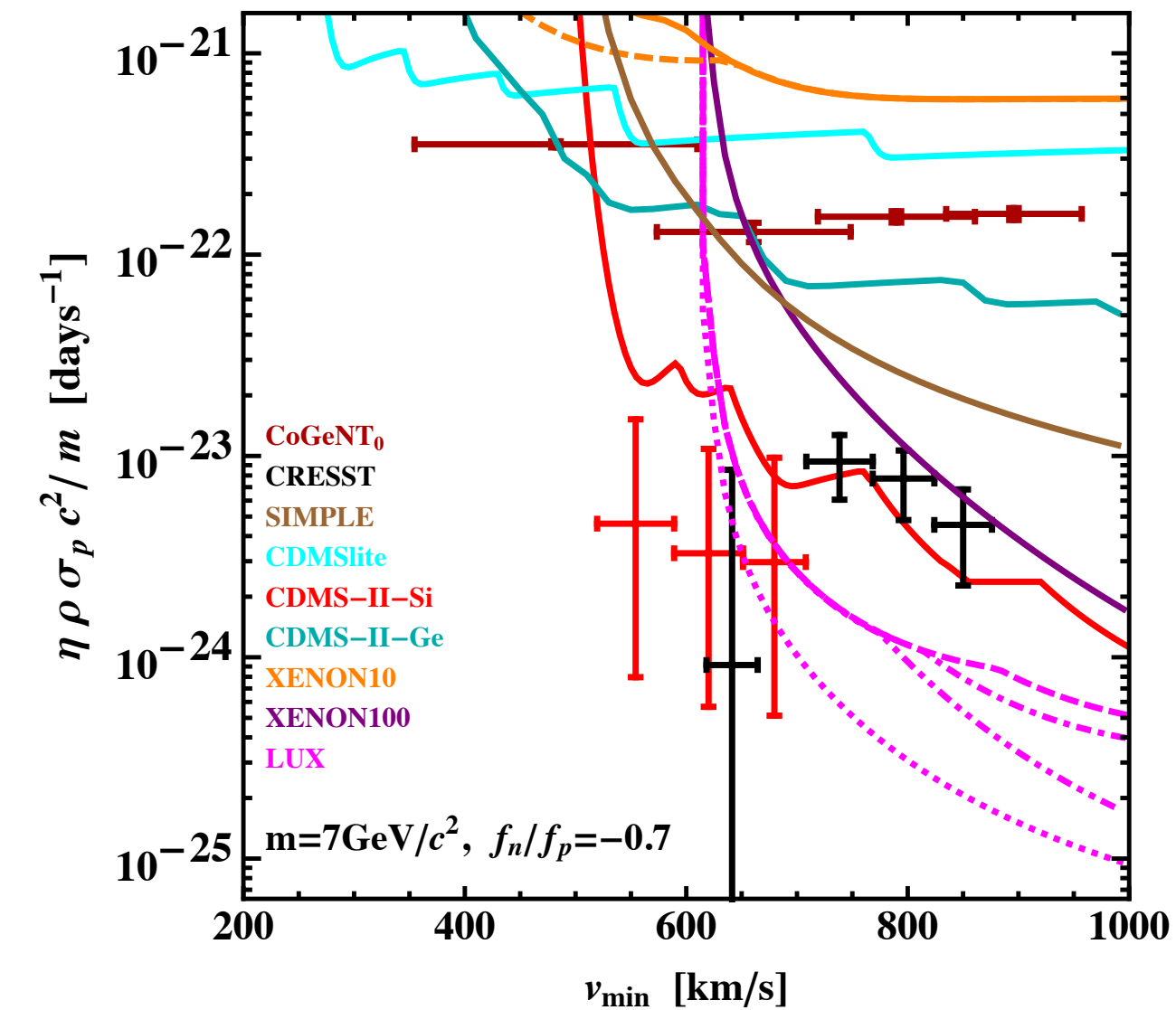
Spin-independent interaction



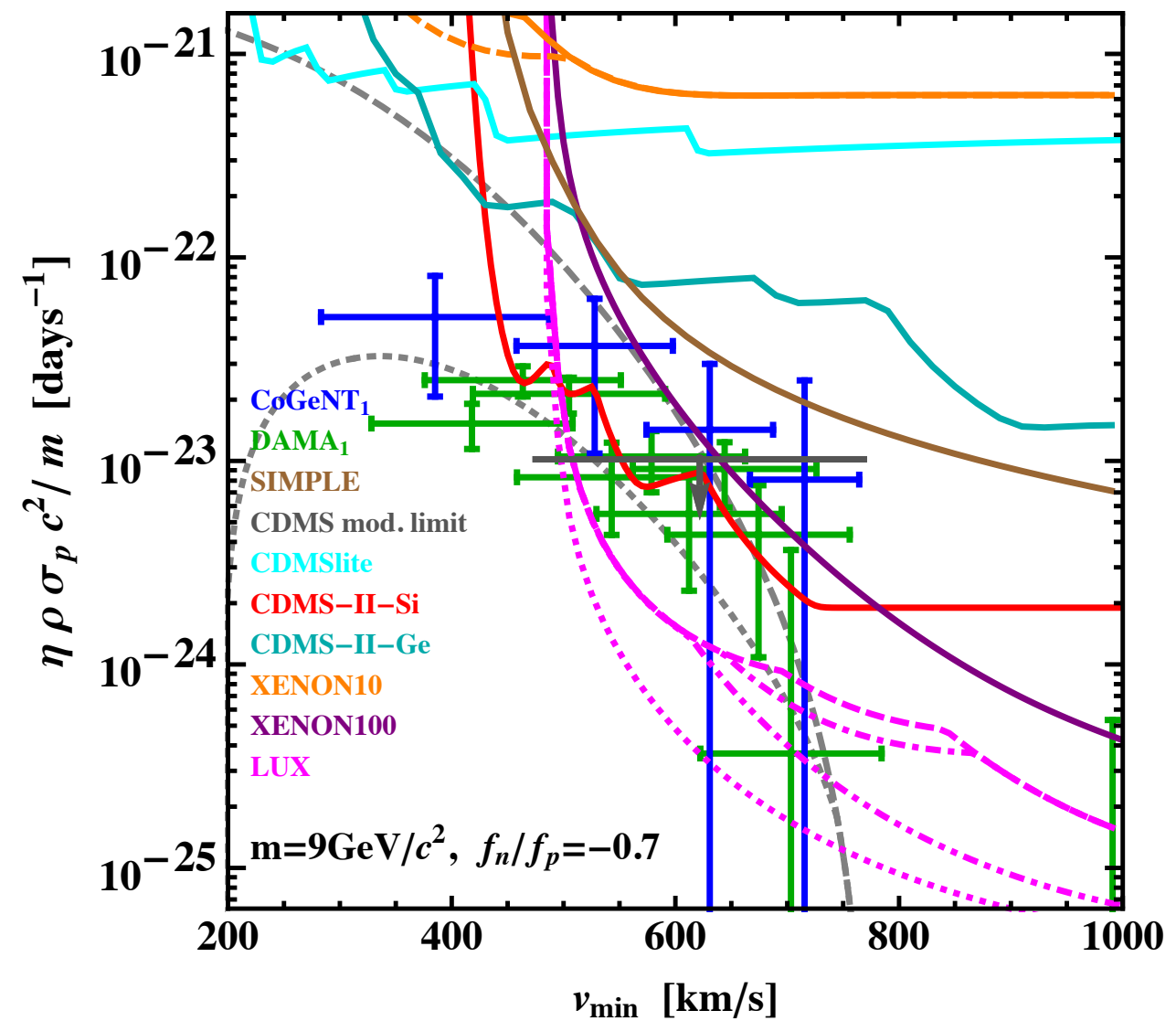
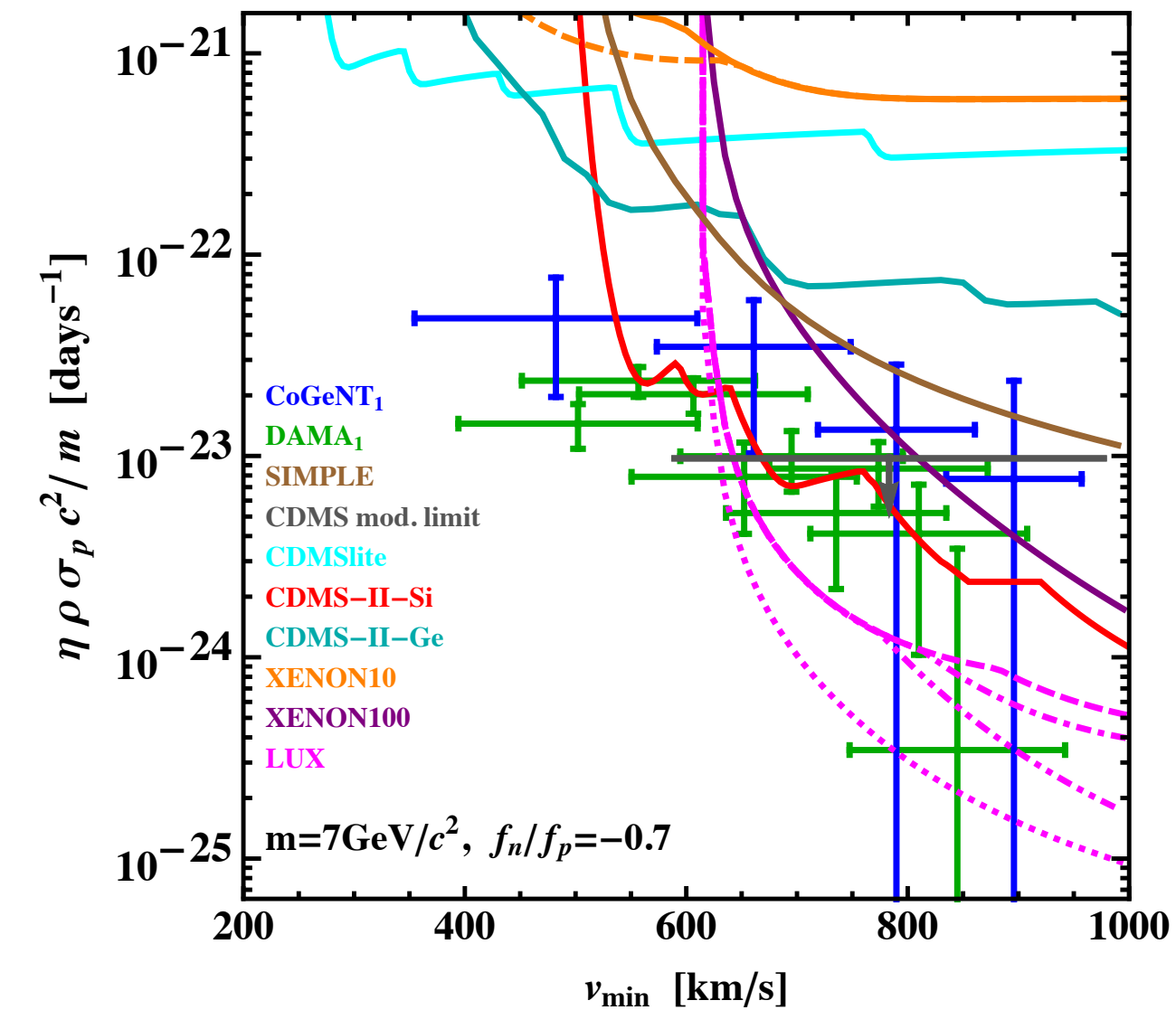
Spin-independent interaction



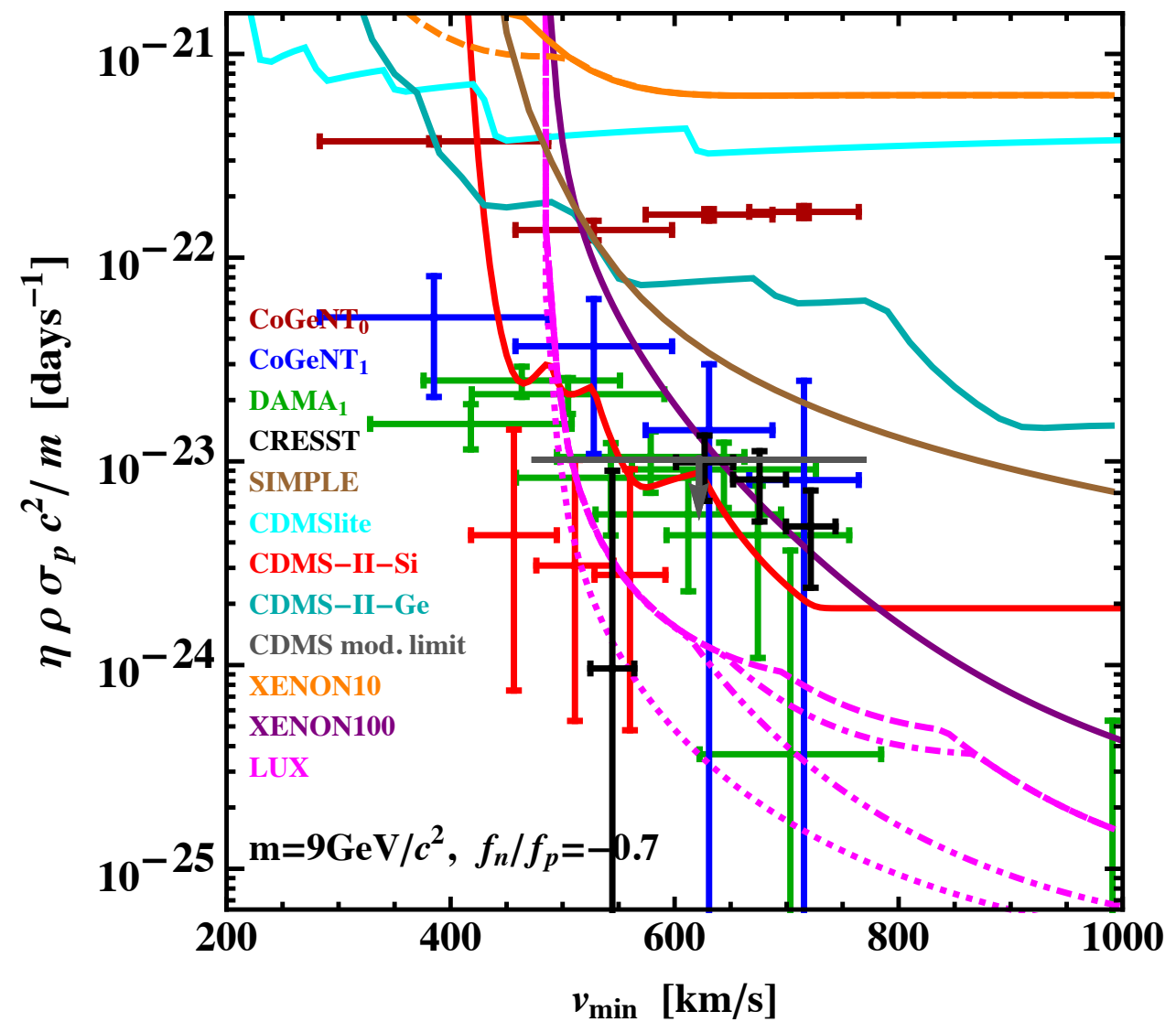
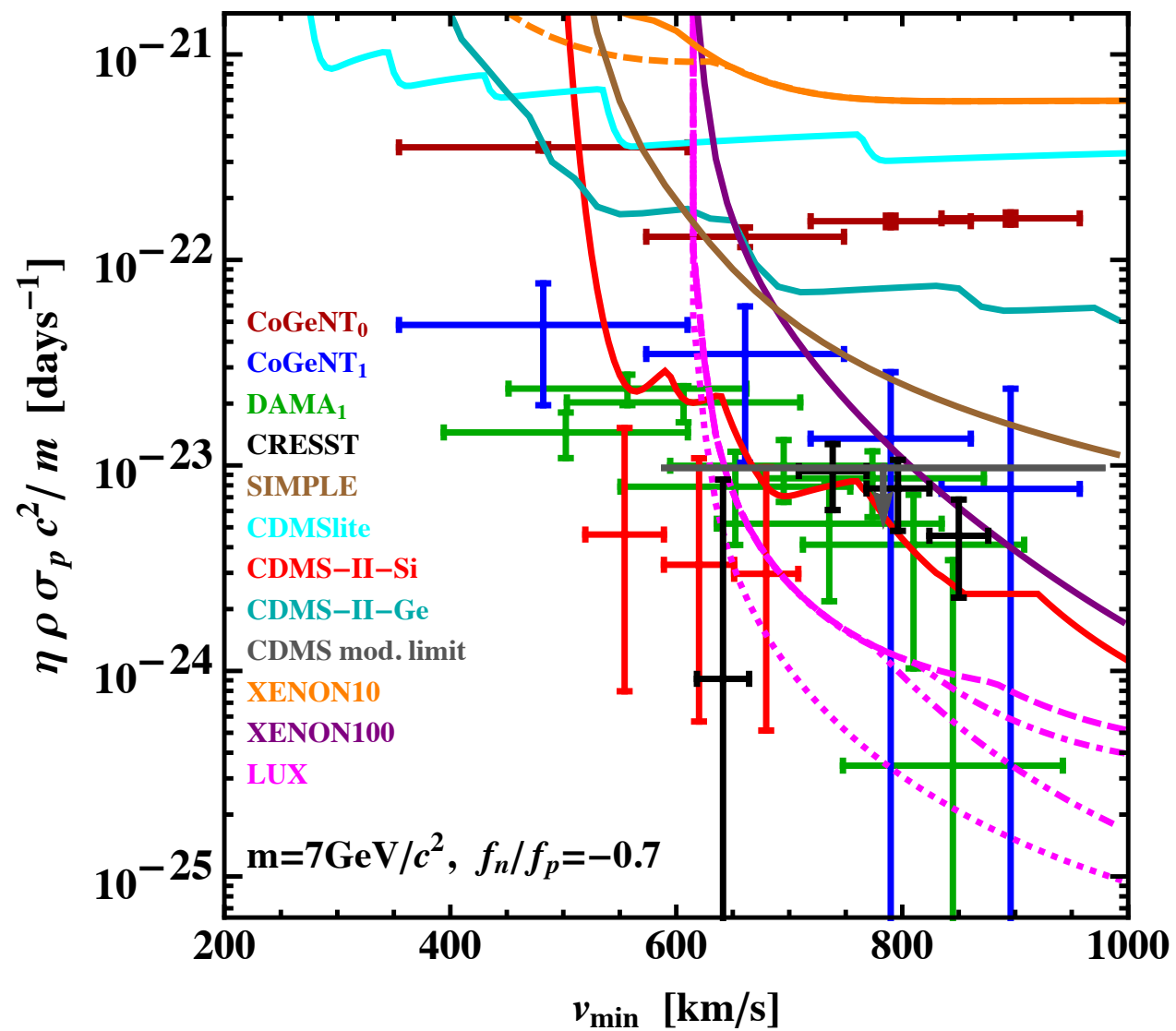
SI isospin violating interaction



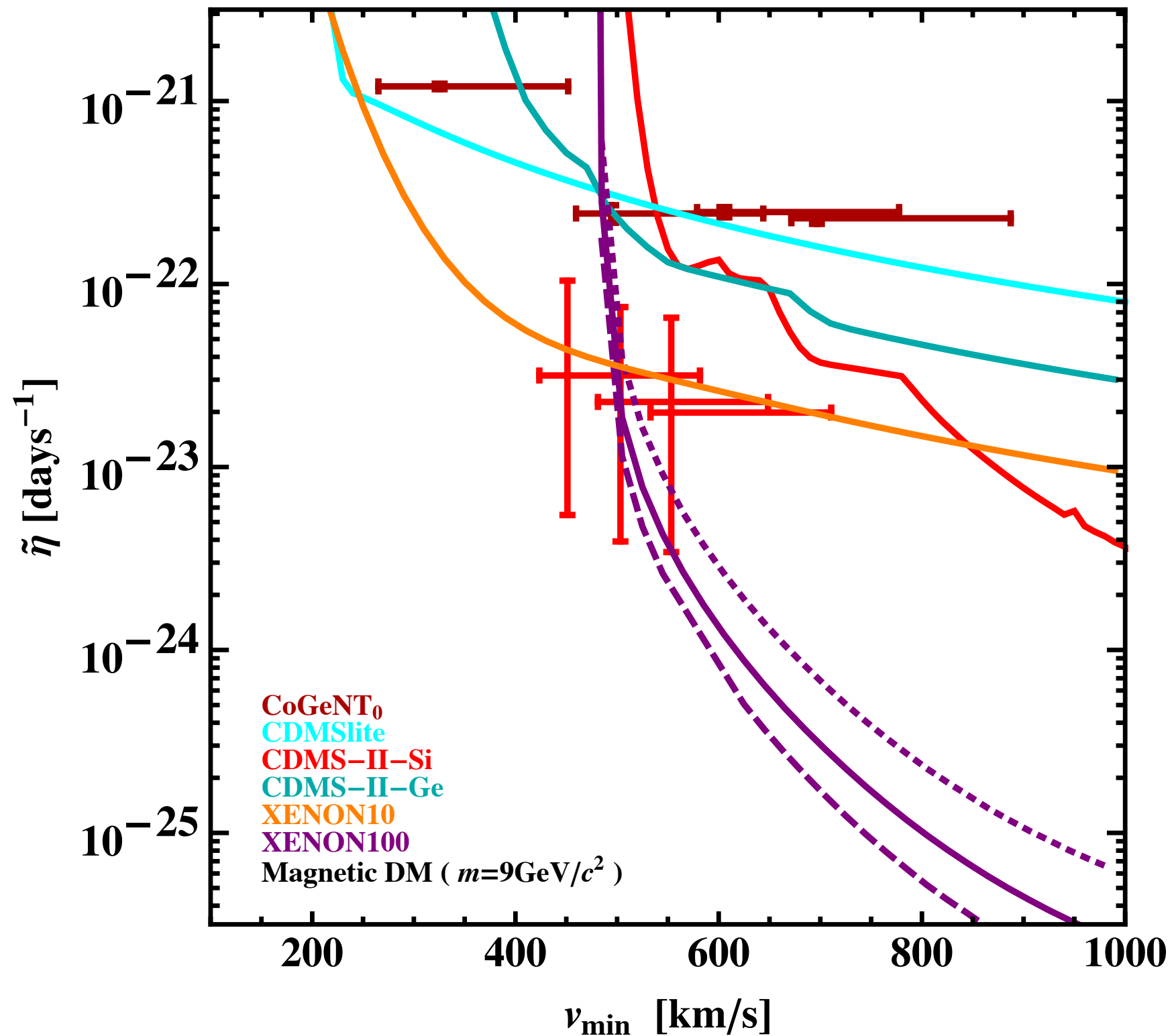
SI isospin violating interaction



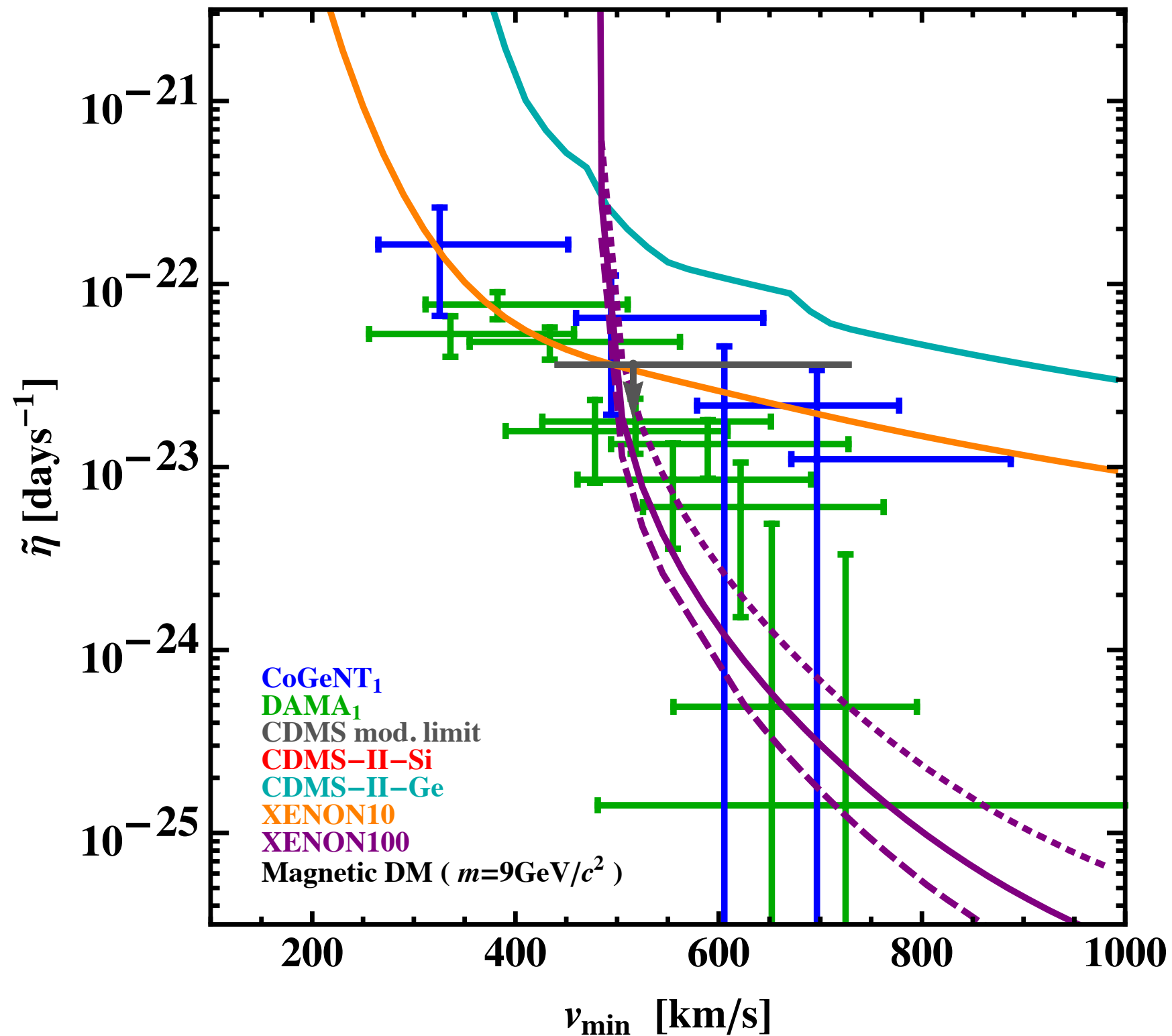
SI isospin violating interaction



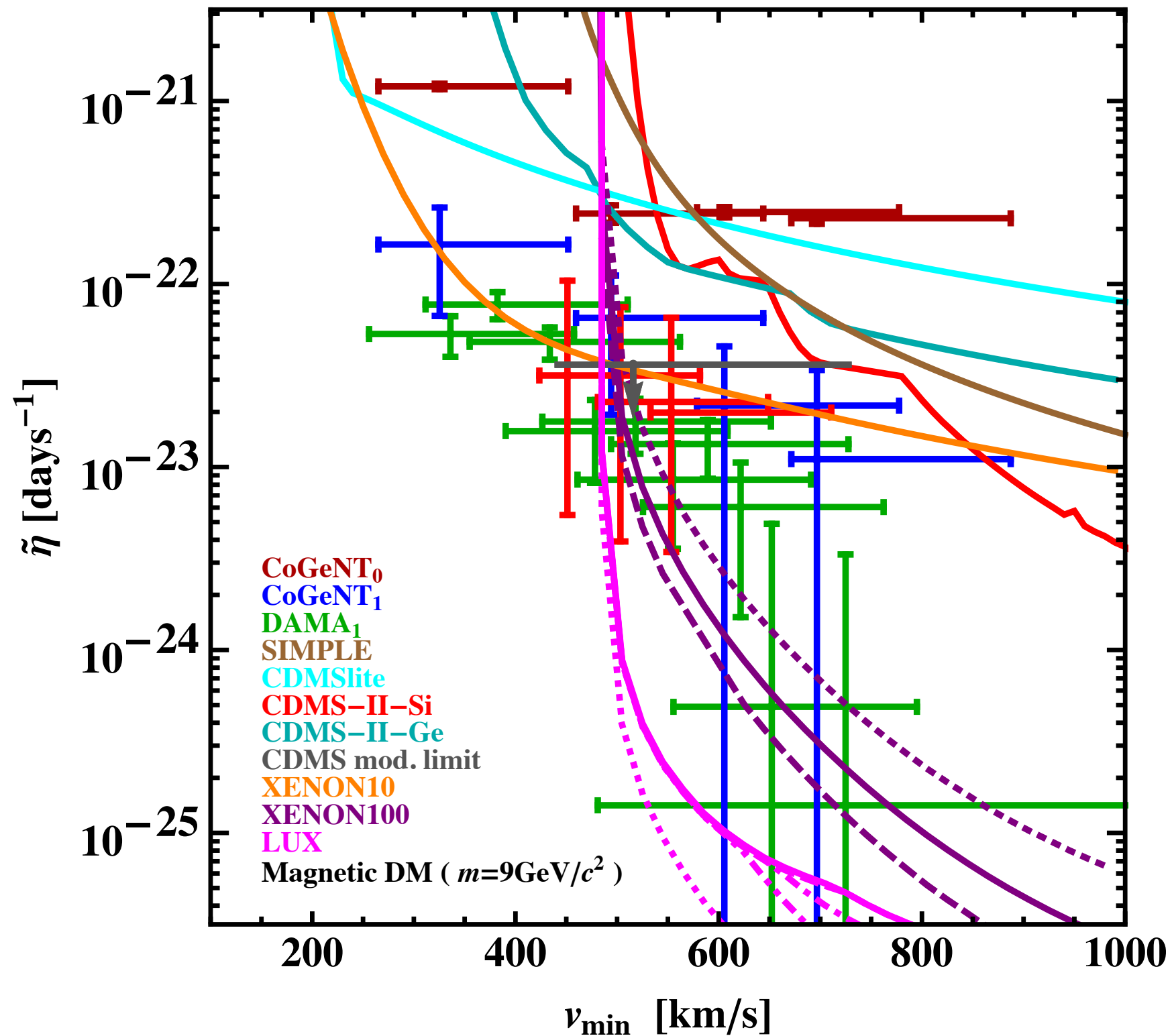
Magnetic moment DM



Magnetic moment DM



Magnetic moment DM



Conclusions

- Promising framework to compare different direct detection experiments in a halo-independent way
- Allows to “compare spectra” of different experiments
- Allows to $\sim$ fit the DM velocity distribution
- Quite solid in making (conservative) bounds
- So far it looks like astrophysical uncertainties alone cannot accommodate the discrepancies between different experiments

Drawbacks

(= hopefully future improvements)

- Non straightforward interpretation of the “crosses”
- Crosses lack a precise statistical meaning
- Difficult mapping of the rate onto $v_{\min}$ -space for experiments with different nuclei, as DAMA (Na-I) and CRESST (Ca-W-O)
- No information on how compatible unmodulated and modulated signals are