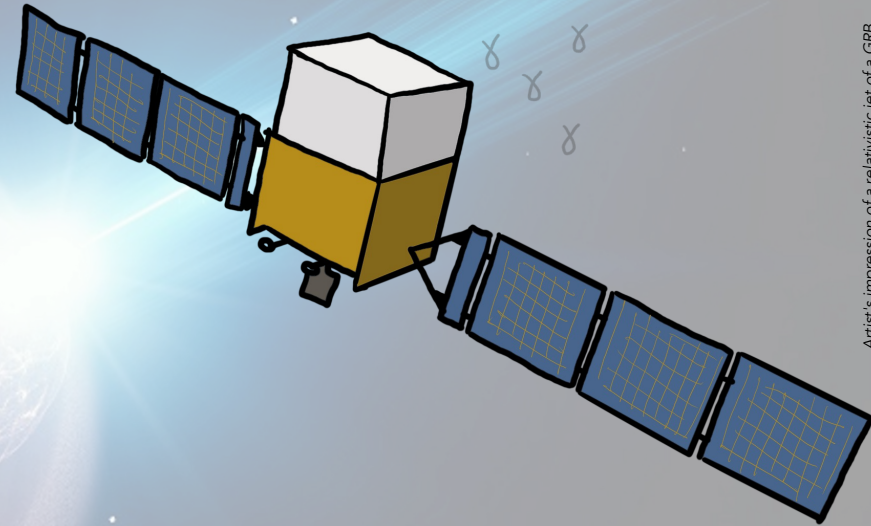
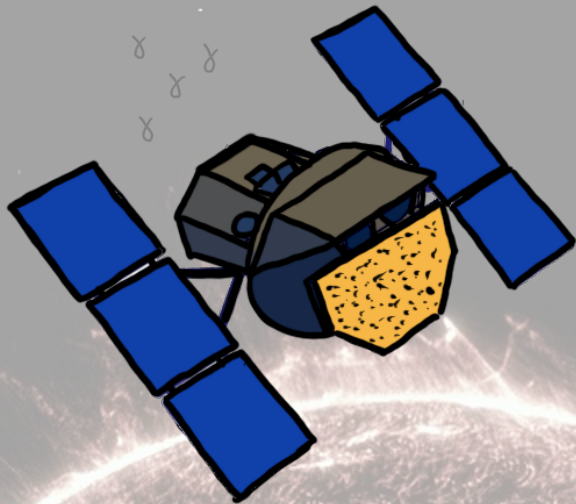




New Messengers & New Physics

A Survey of the High-energy Universe

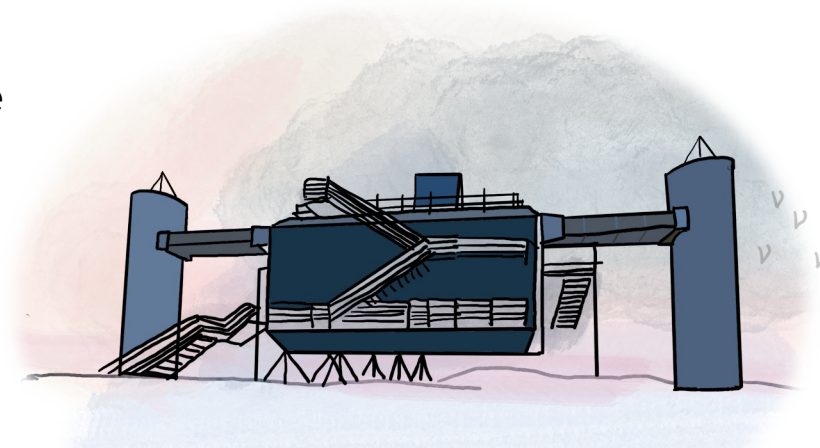
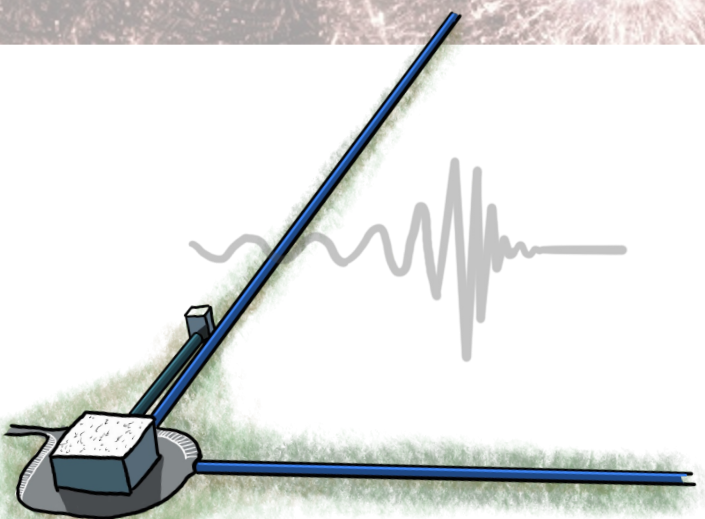
Dissertation Presentation at HEAD 21

Milena Crnogorčević (she/her)

Postdoctoral Fellow at the Oskar Klein Centre

milena.crnogorcevic@fysik.su.se

PhD Advisor: Dr. Regina Caputo



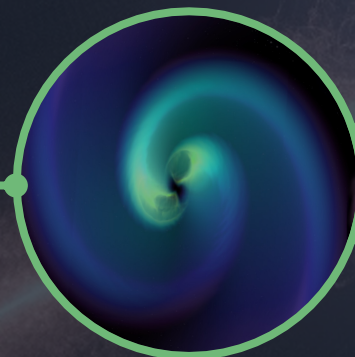
Work done with the support of:

DEPARTMENT OF
ASTRONOMY





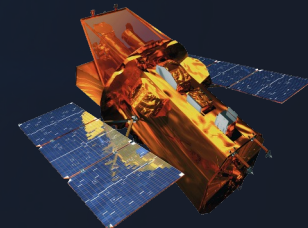
New Physics: ALPs x γ



New Messengers I: GWs x γ



New Messengers II: ν x γ



Dedication

To all the curious kids
with a fire in their belly
and a tremble in their voice

OBSERVATORIES

Fermi



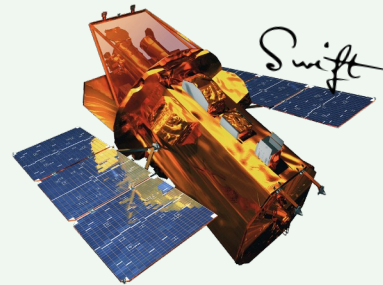
GBM: Gamma-ray Burst Monitor

- FoV: entire unocculted sky
- 8 keV to 40 MeV
- 2300+ bursts (~1 every day or two)

LAT: Large Area Telescope

- Pair-production telescope
- FoV: 2.4 sr (~20% of sky)
- 20 MeV to >300 GeV

Swift



BAT: Burst Alert Telescope

- One of three instruments onboard
- FoV: ~ 2 sr
- Localization ~few arcmin
- 15 keV to 150 keV

LIGO/Virgo/KAGRA



- **LIGO**: detectors in Hanford, WA, and Livingston, LA
- **Virgo**: Cascina, Italy
- **KAGRA**: Gifu Prefecture, Japan
- Michelson interferometer gravitational wave detectors

IceCube



- Neutrino detector located at the South Pole
- 5,000+ optical modules
- ~10 GeV to >1 EeV
- All-sky (Northern vs. Southern hemisphere)

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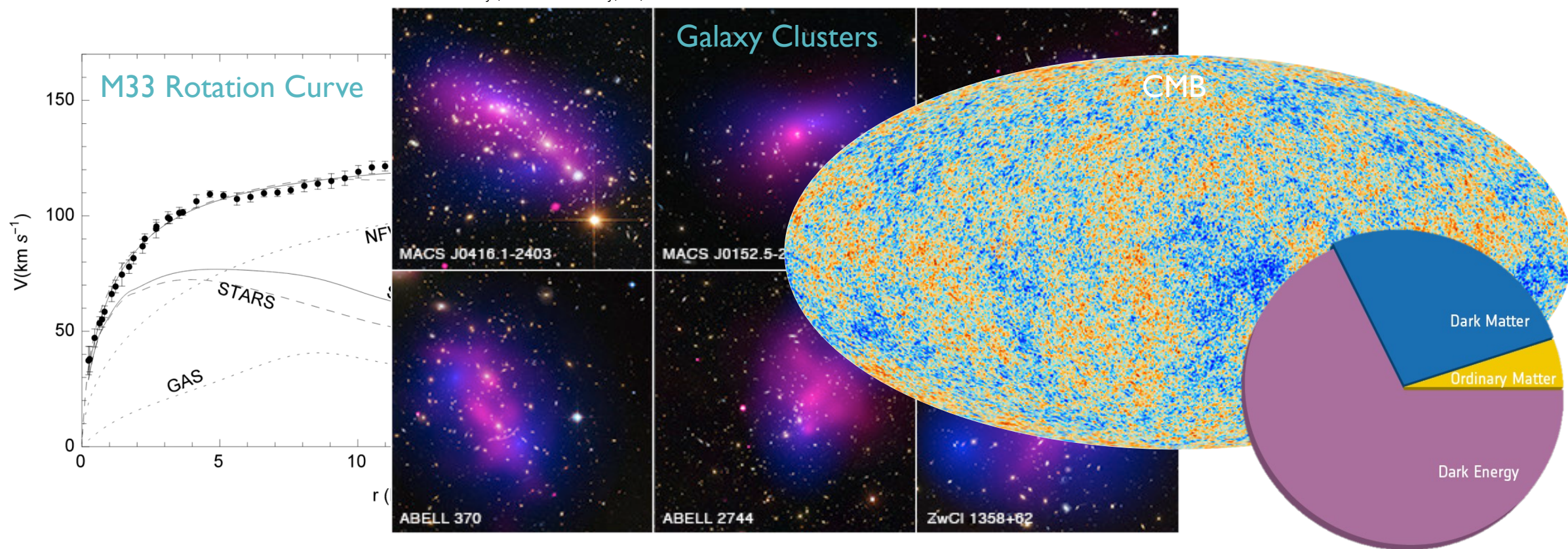
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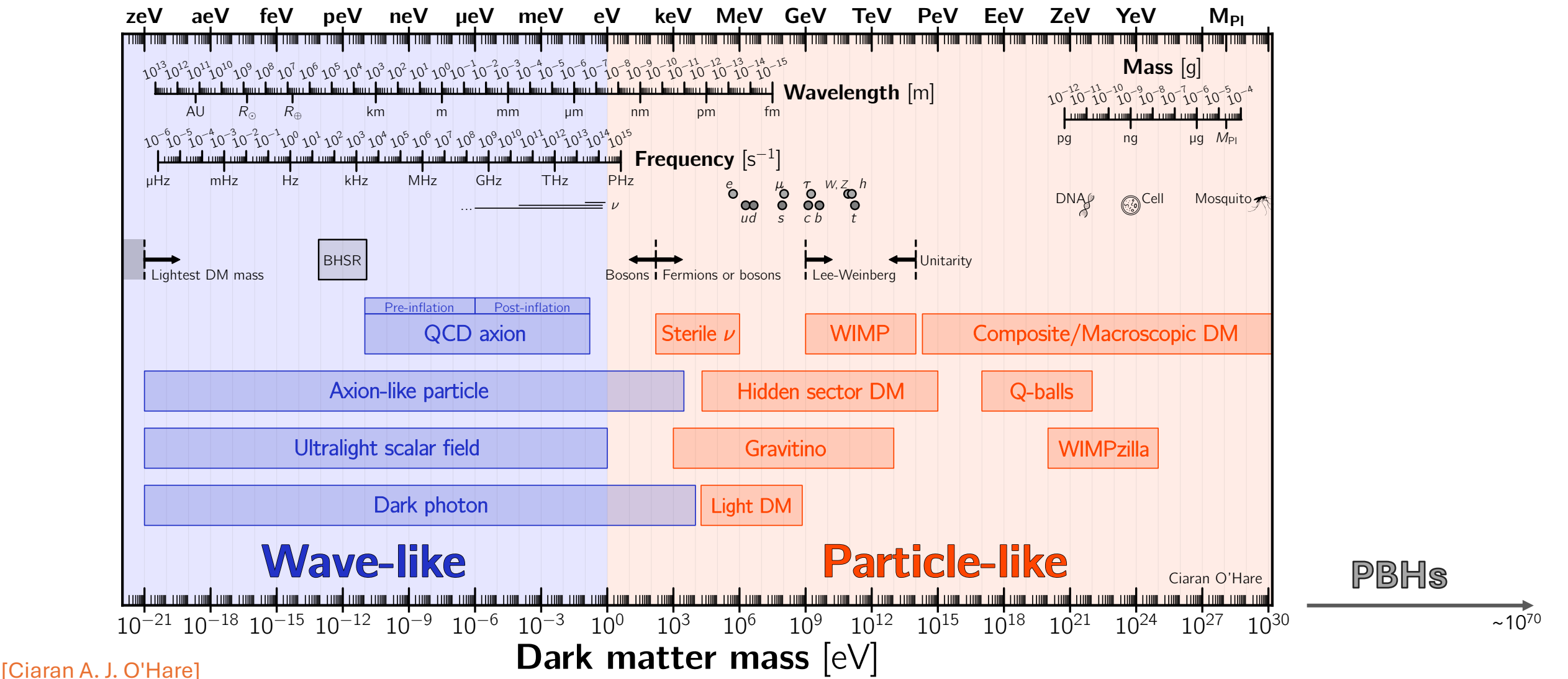
Dark Matter Landscape: An Observer's View

Overwhelming evidence for the existence of dark matter

X-ray: NASA/CXC/Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne, Switzerland/D.Harvey & NASA/CXC/Durham Univ/R.Massey; Optical & Lensing Map: NASA, ESA, D. Harvey (Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne, Switzerland) and R. Massey (Durham University, UK)



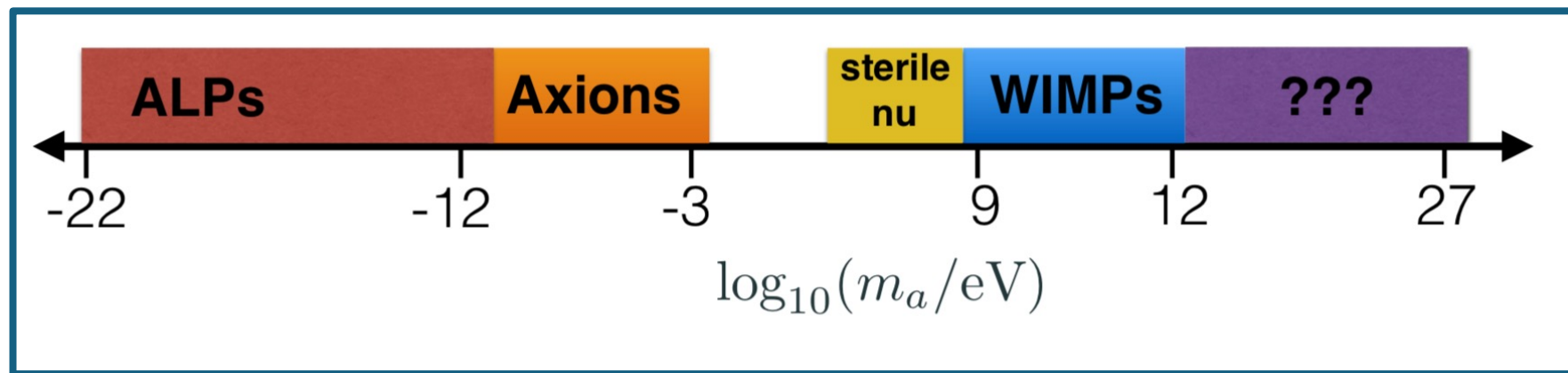
Dark Matter Landscape: A Theorist's View



[Ciaran A. J. O'Hare]

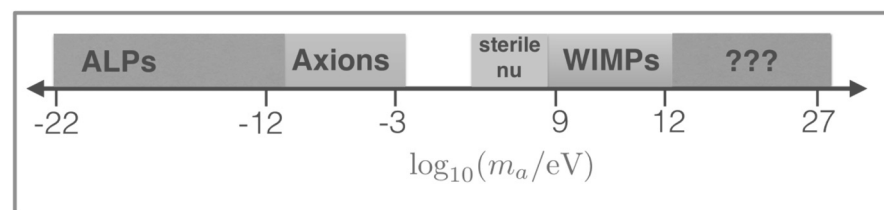
What are Axion-Like Particles (ALPs)?

- Extension of the axion, a proposed solution of the strong charge-parity problem in QCD
- WISPs: weakly-interacting sub-eV particles (mass $\lesssim 10^{-10}$ eV)



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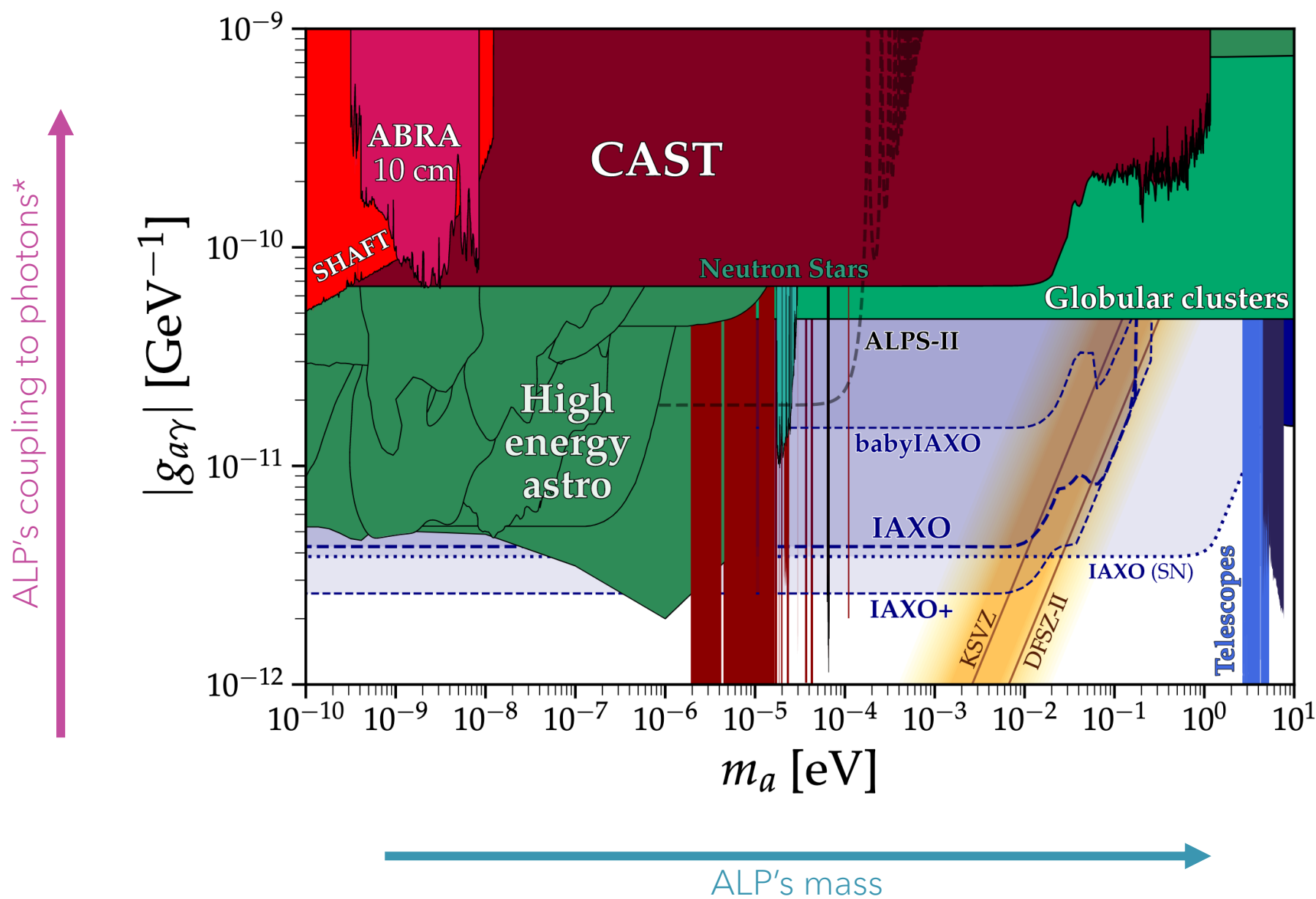


❖ Cold matter requirements:

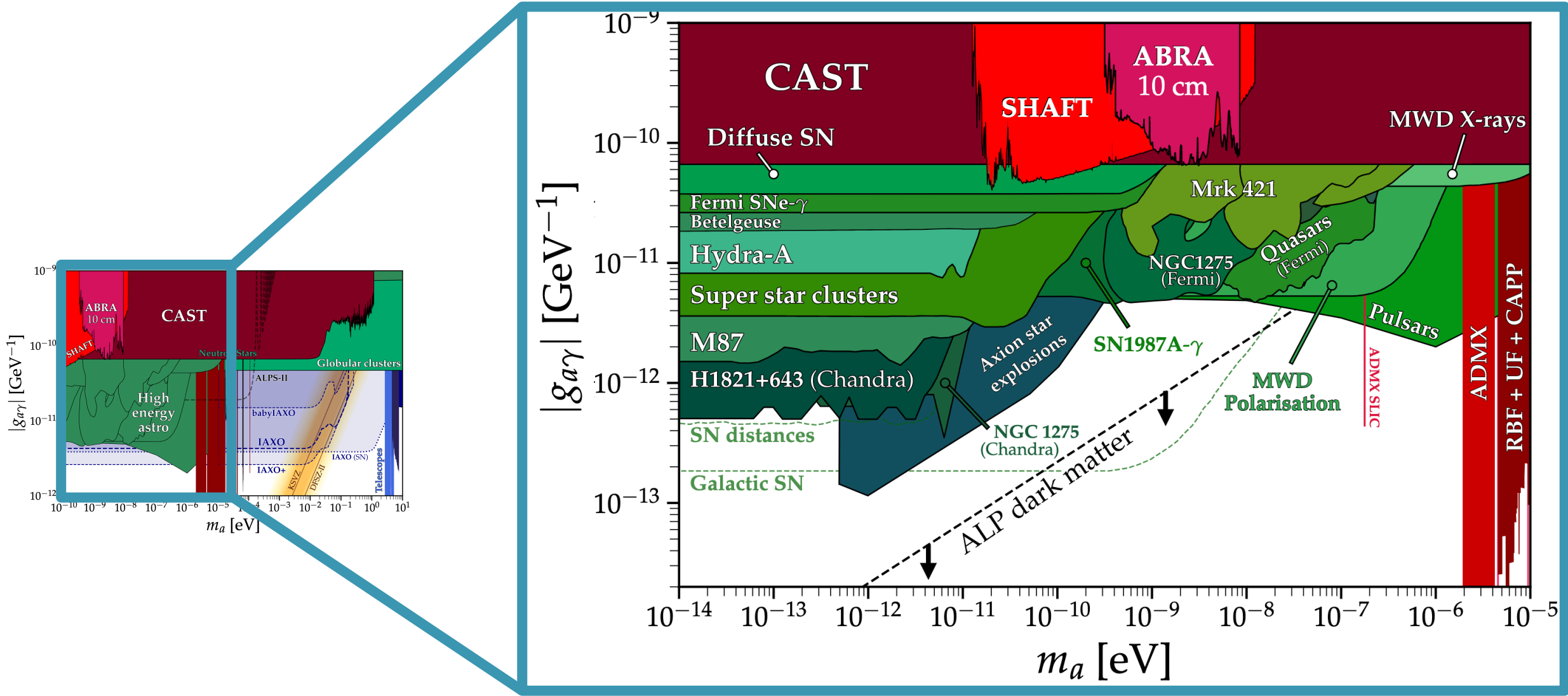
- ✓ feeble interactions with standard model particles
- ✓ cosmological stability
- ✓ Non-thermal production → cold

$$\rho_{a,0} \lesssim 1 \frac{\text{keV}}{\text{cm}^3} \frac{m_a(t_0)}{\text{eV}} \left(\frac{\theta(t_1)}{53 \text{ TeV}} \right)^2 \rightarrow \text{Dark Matter!}$$

- ❖ Direct and indirect searches → limits on coupling/mass parameter space



*analogous to a WIMP cross-section



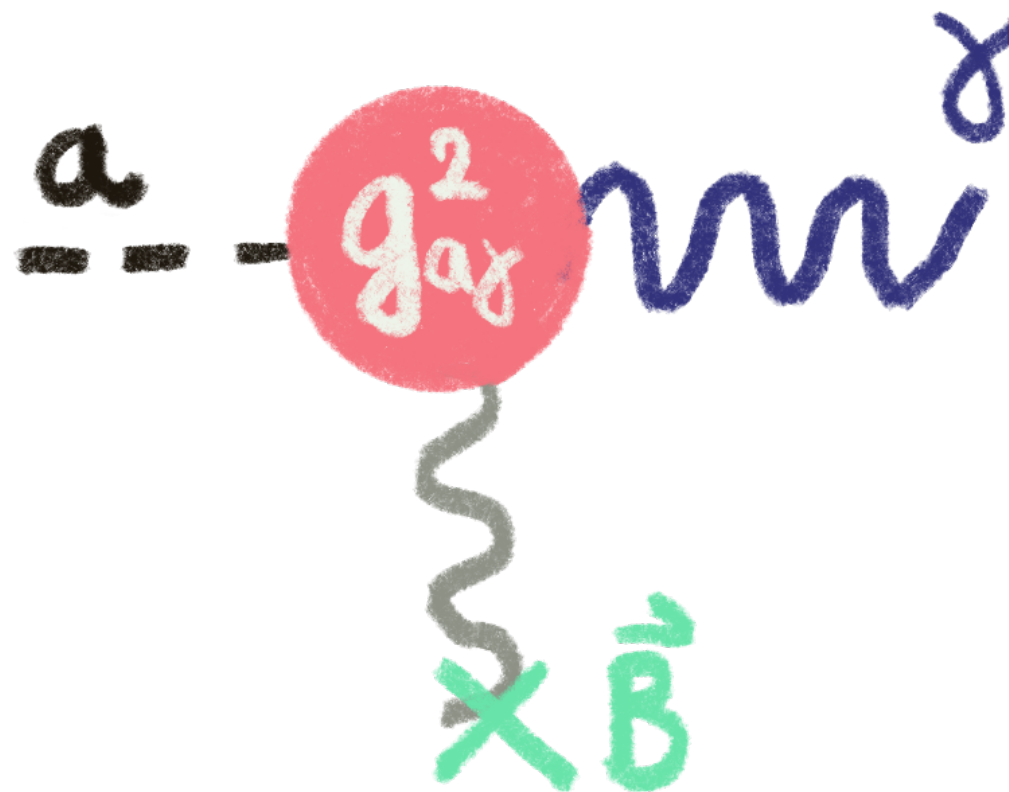
Plot produced using: <https://cajohare.github.io/AxionLimits/>

Observing ALPs with Gamma Rays

In the presence of an external magnetic field, $\mathbf{B}$, ALPs undergo a conversion into photons:

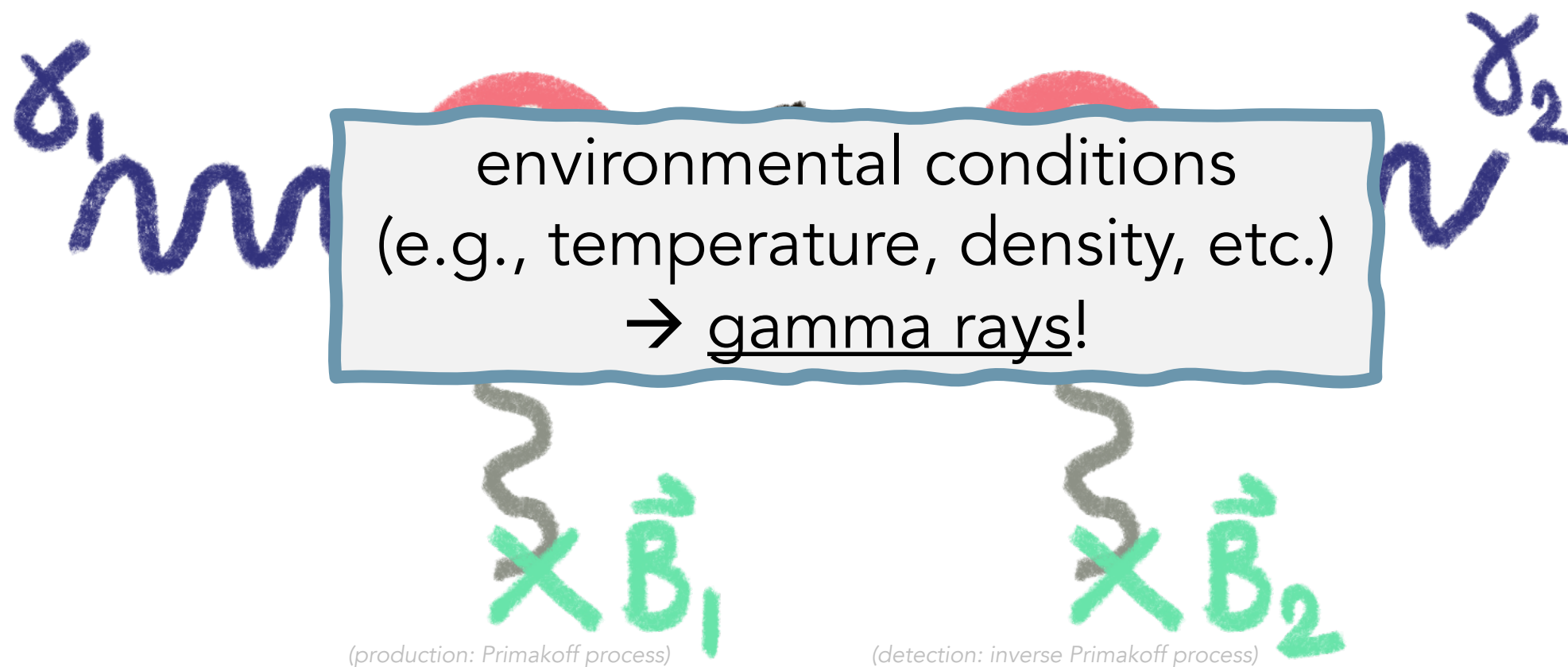
$$\mathcal{L}_{a\gamma} \supset g_{a\gamma} \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B} a$$

where $g_{a\gamma}$ is ALP-photon coupling rate, and a is the ALP field strength.



Observing ALPs with Gamma Rays

Primakoff process: converting ALPs into photons

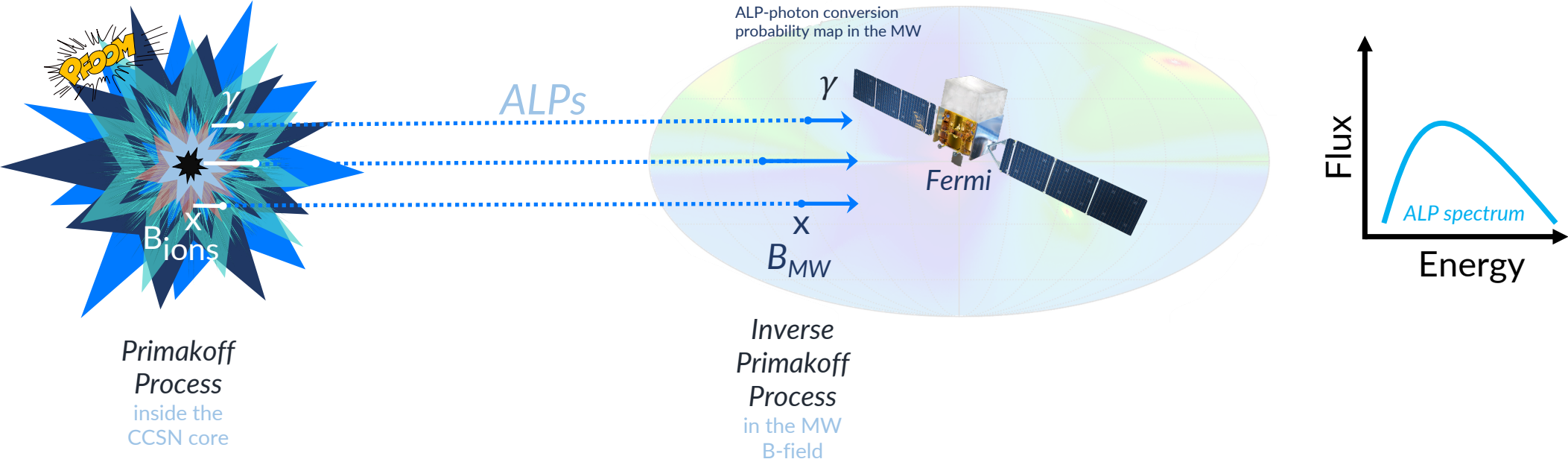


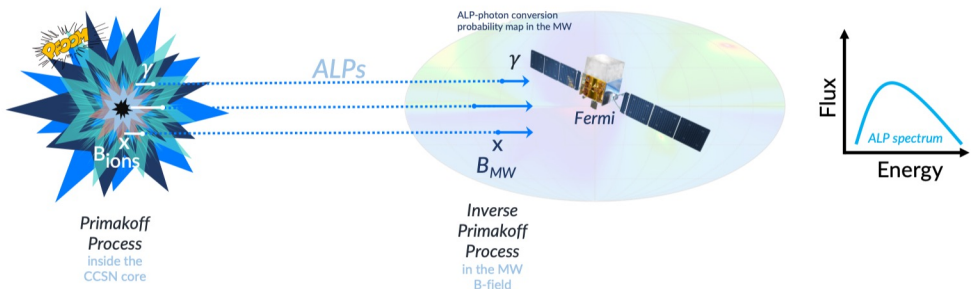
ALP...

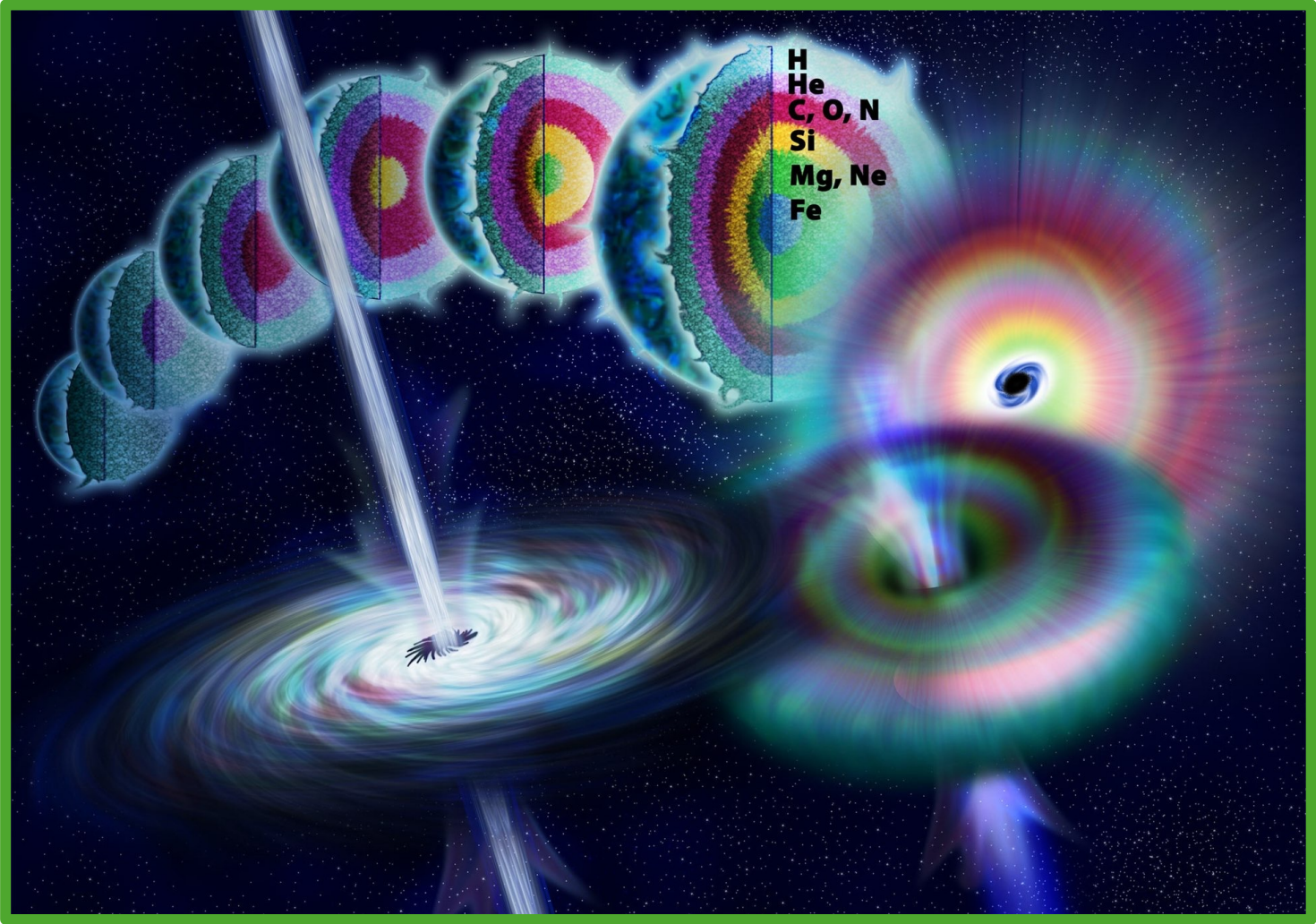
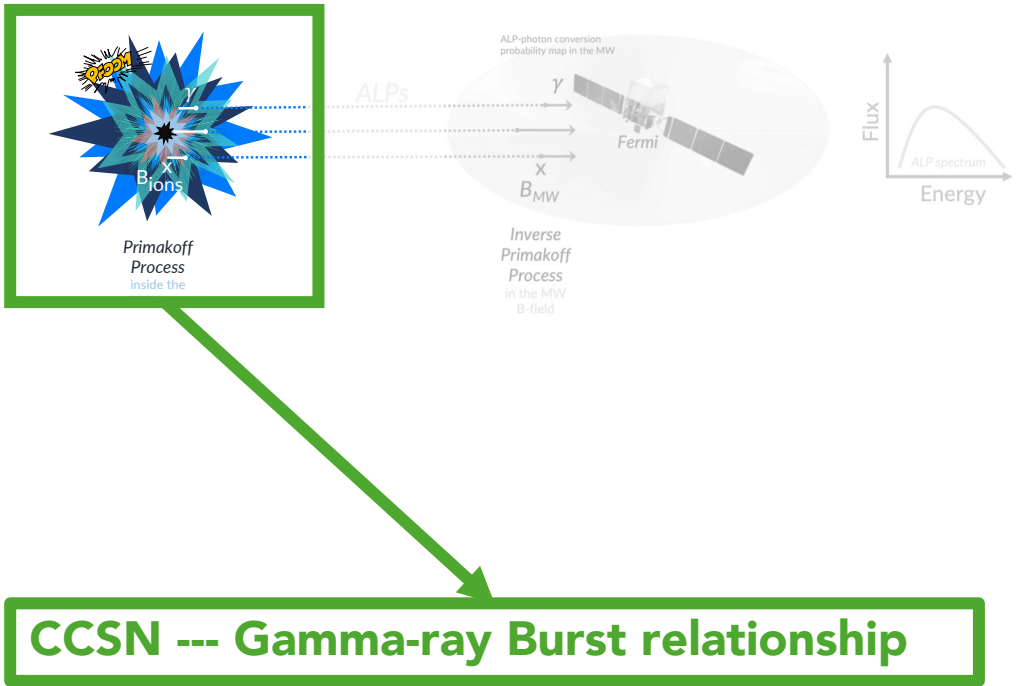
is a viable *cold* dark-matter candidate

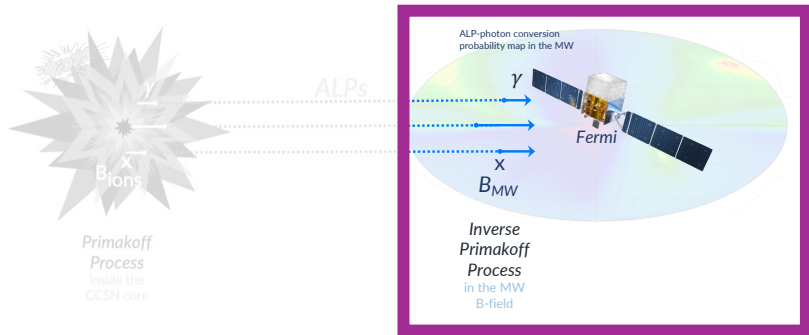
converts into photons in the presence of a magnetic field

parameter space can be probed with gamma-ray
observations

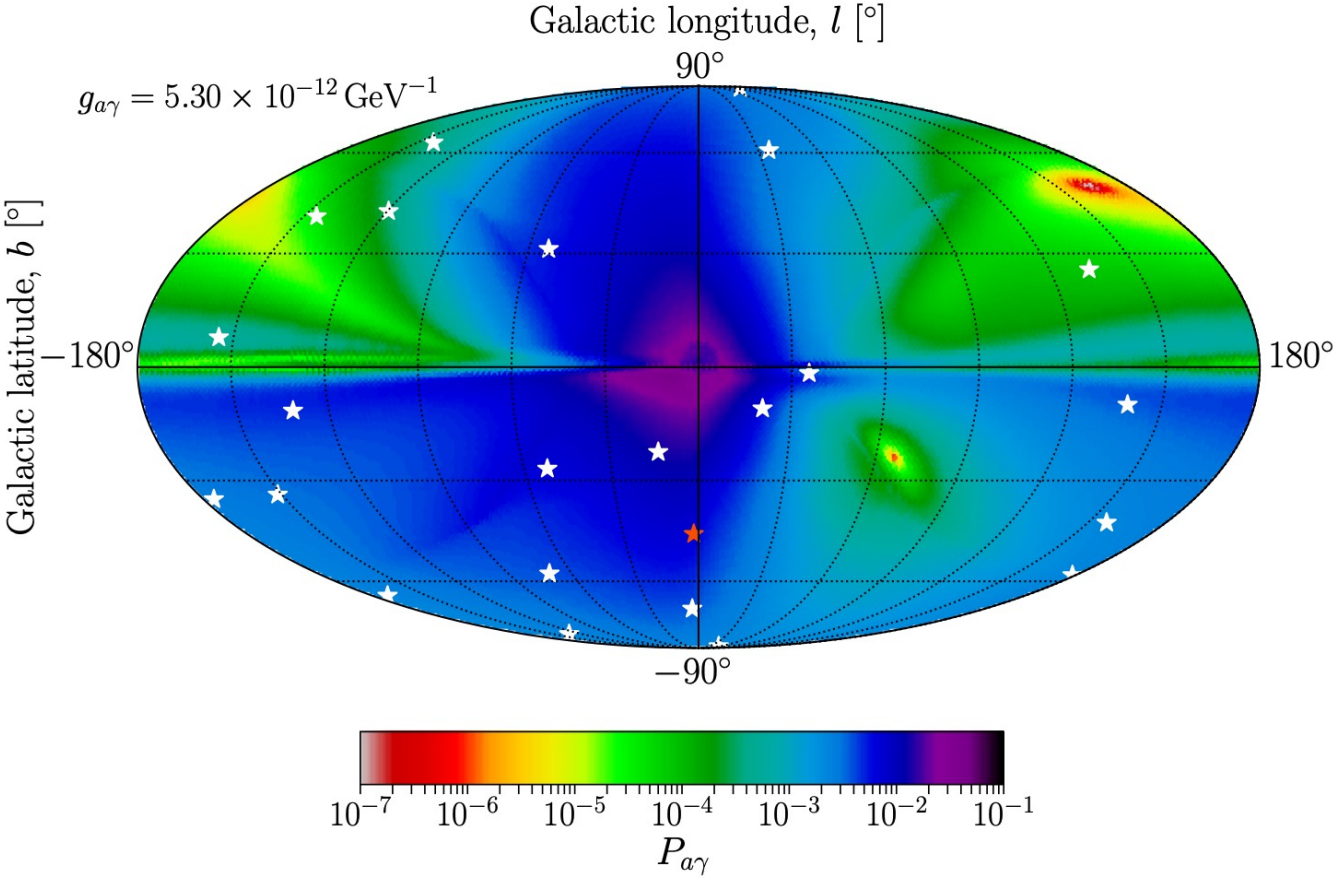




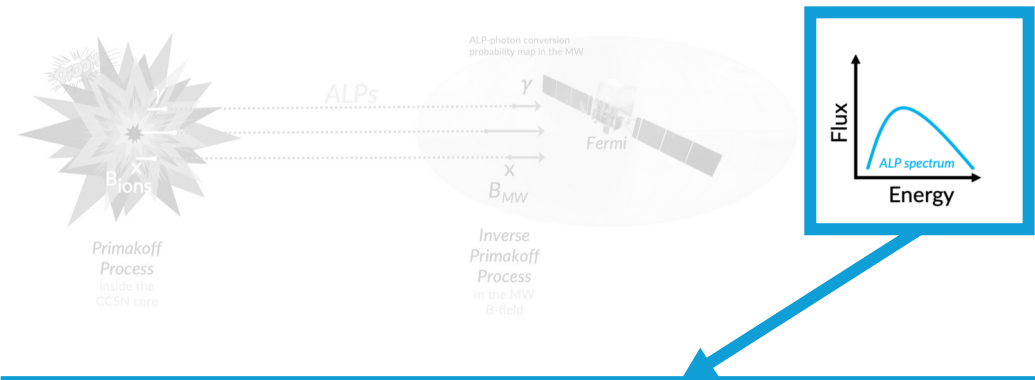




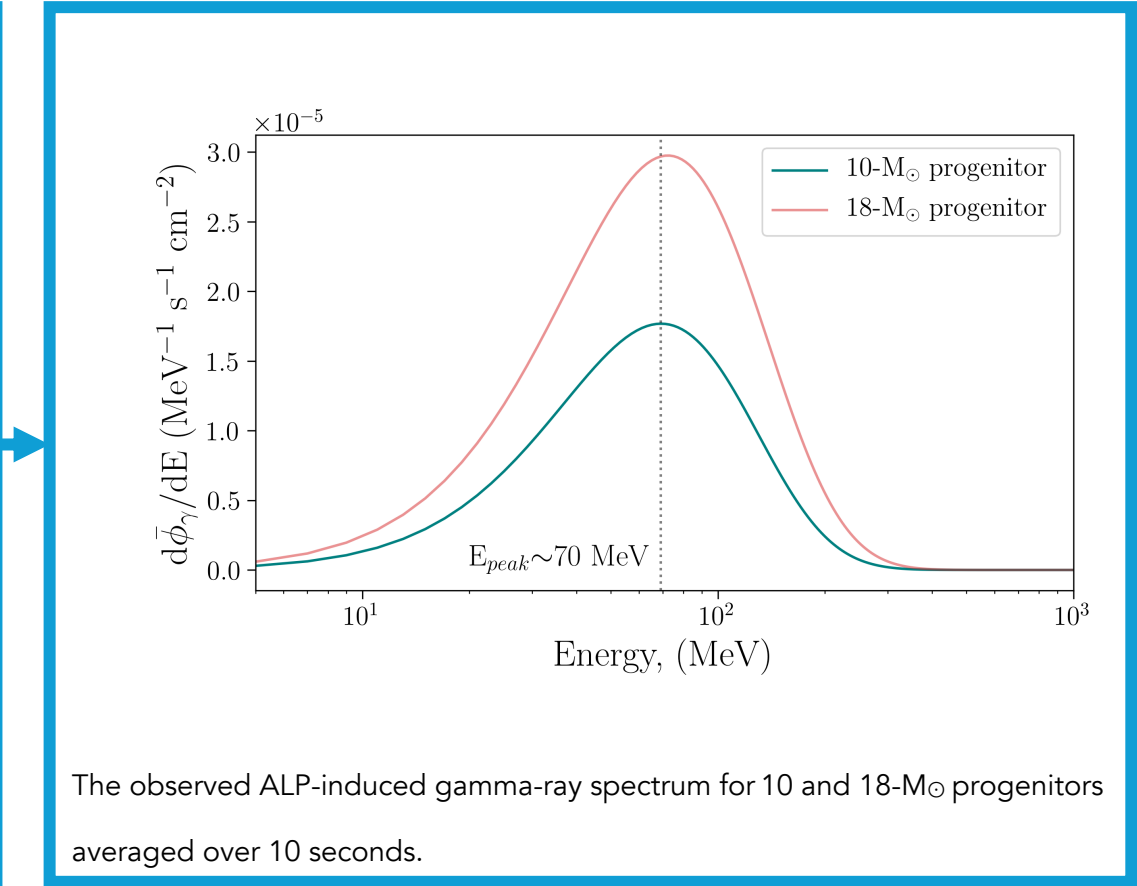
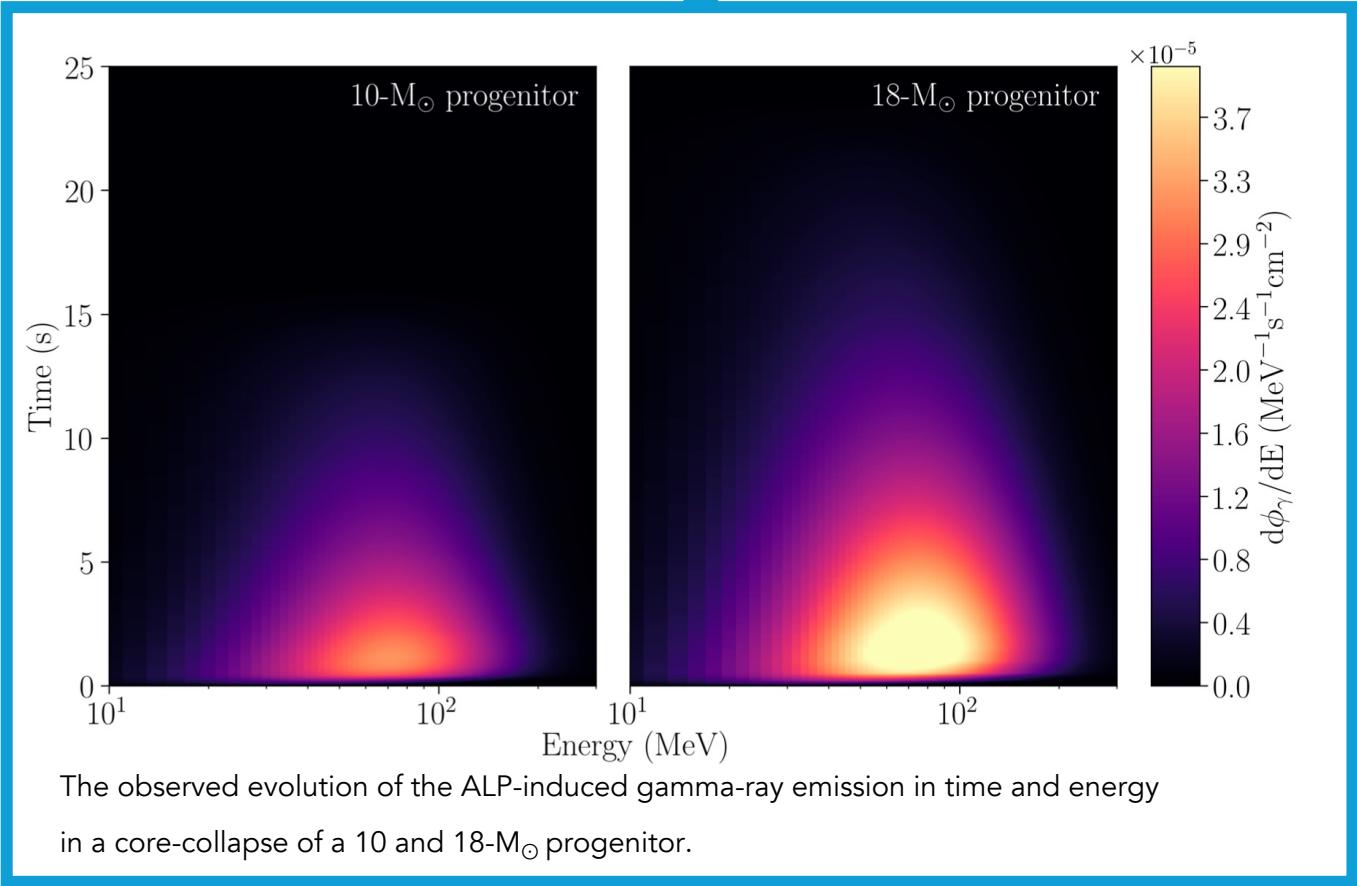
Assumptions: magnetic fields: only considering the MW magnetic field, neglecting IGMF



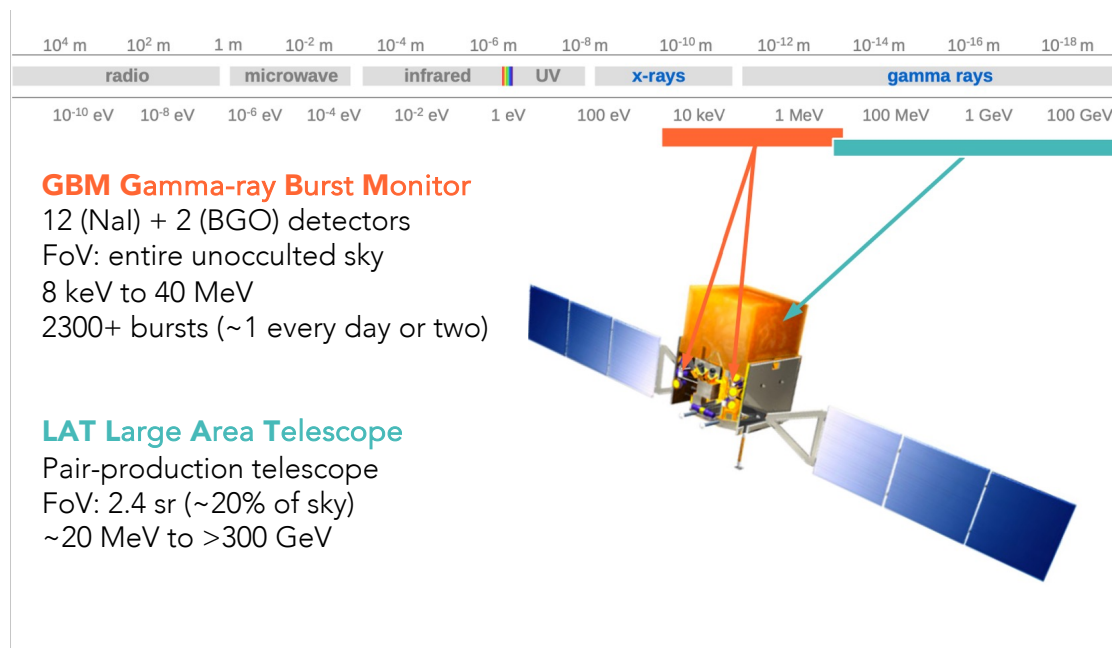
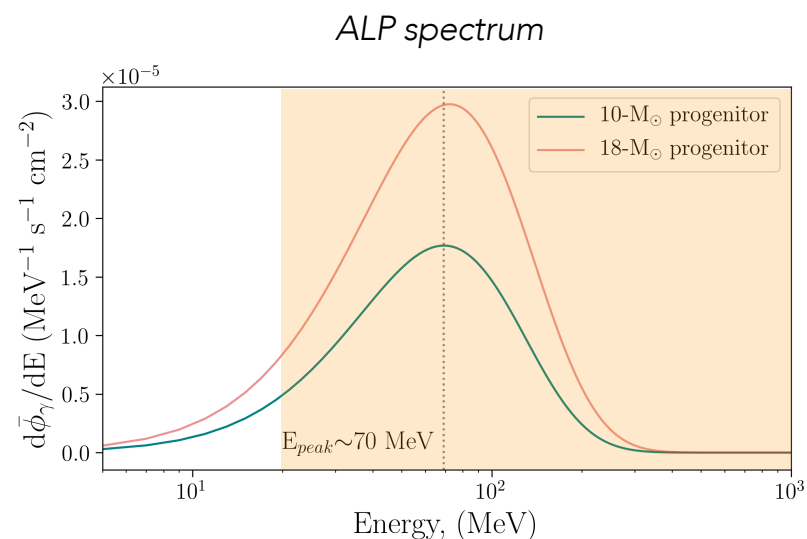
ALP-photon conversion probability map in the Milky Way's magnetic field.



Motivation: ALPs are theorized to have a unique spectral signature in the prompt gamma-ray emission of CCSN. No other known physical processes are predicted to produce such a signature.



LAT Low Energy Technique (LLE)

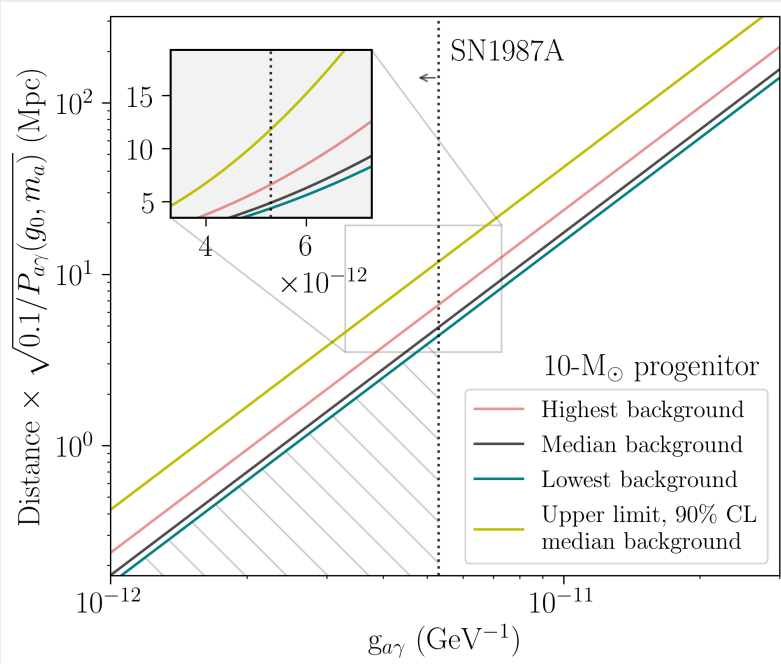


- Standard LAT analysis: $>100 \text{ MeV}$ vs. LLE
- LLE: maximizing the effective area of the LAT instrument in the low-energy regime
- More signal, but also more background

QUESTION 1: *HOW SENSITIVE IS LLE TO
DETECTING AN ALP BURST?*

Reported in: Crnogorčević et al. 2021 (PRD, [arXiv:2109.05790](#))

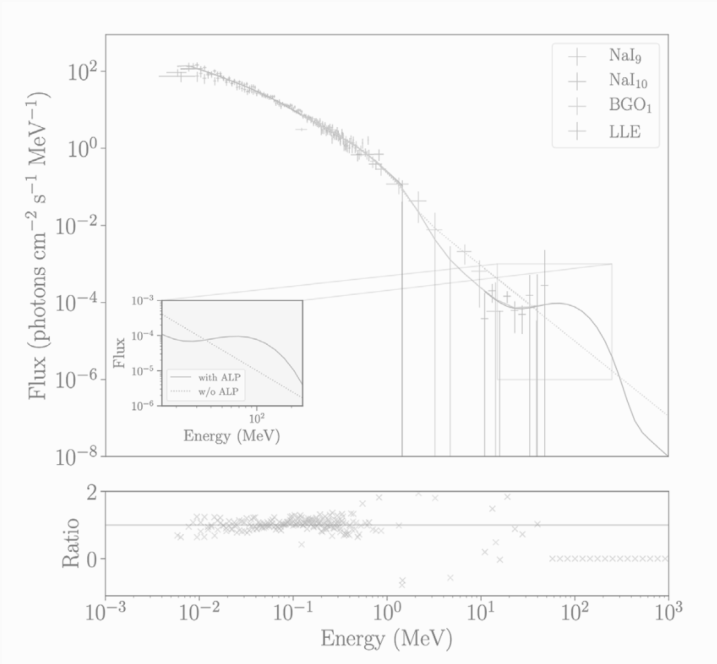
Fermi-LLE Sensitivity



- LLE can reach up to ~ 10 Mpc (comparable to the standard LAT analysis)
- Results strongly driven by the dominating background & decreased A_{eff} at high incidences
- *Method: signal injection simulations*

Crnogorčević et al. 2021 (PRD, [arXiv:2109.05790](#))

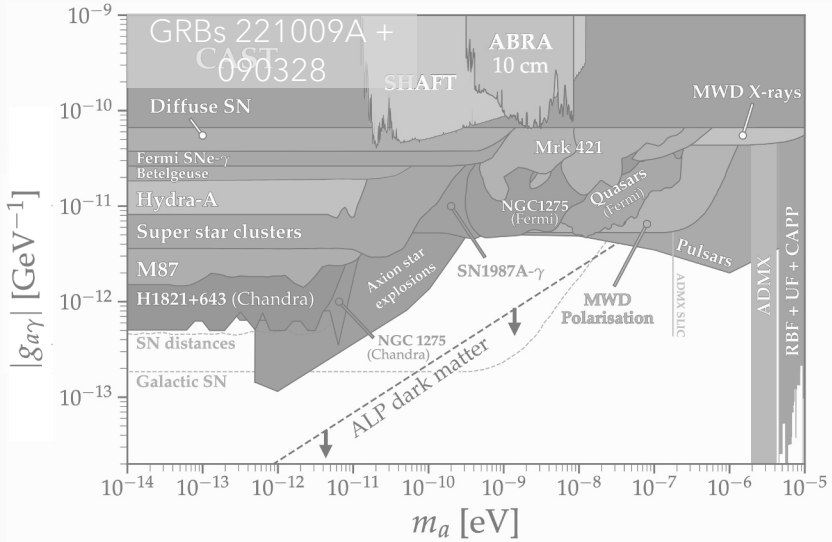
GRB searches



- No excess signal found.
- 24 long GRBs that pass the selection criteria.
- GRB 101123A at $\sim 2.4 \sigma$. Trials factor $\rightarrow p \sim 0.3$.
- *Method: model comparison*

Crnogorčević et al. 2021 (PRD, [arXiv:2109.05790](#))

GRB Precursors



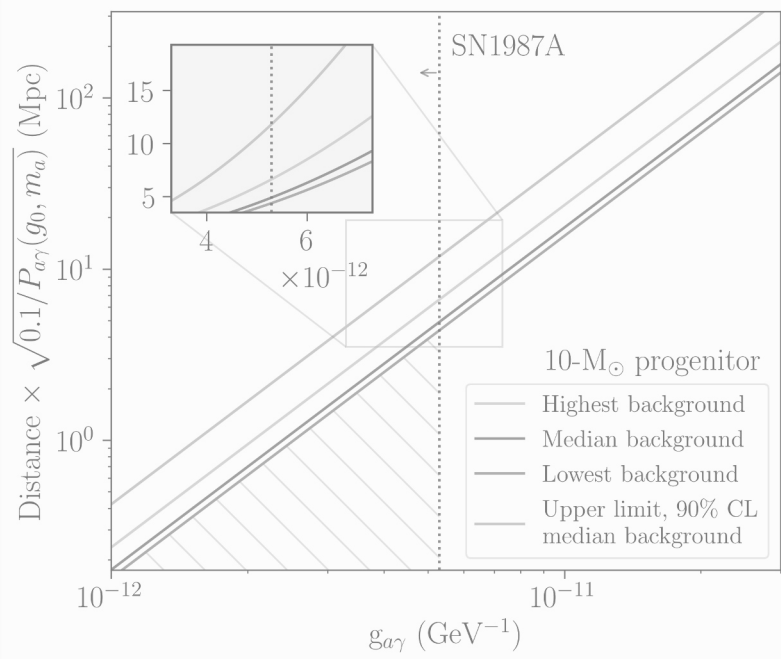
- No significant detections.
- From the ALP amplitude we calculate upper limits.
- *Method: model comparison*

Crnogorčević et al. 2024 (in prep.)

QUESTION 2: *HAVE WE ALREADY SEEN ANY
ALP EMISSION IN LLE GRBS?*

Reported in: Crnogorčević et al. 2021 (PRD, [arXiv:2109.05790](#))

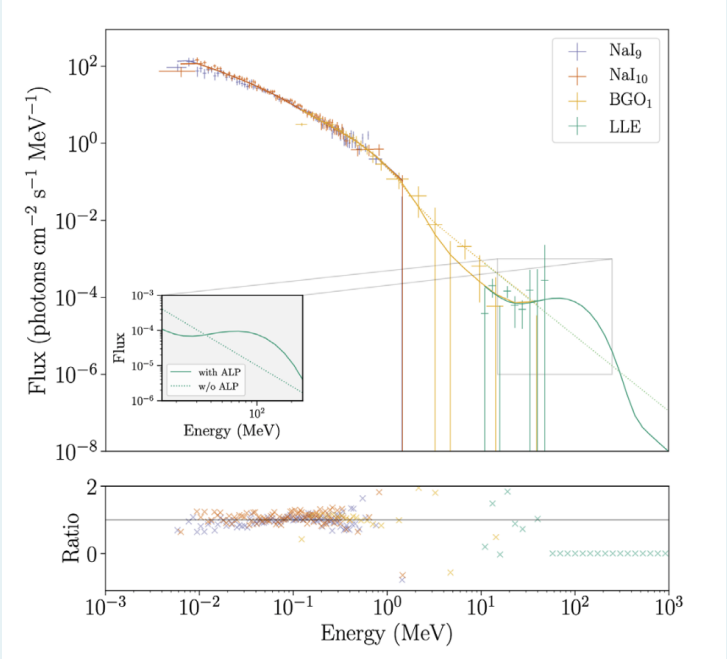
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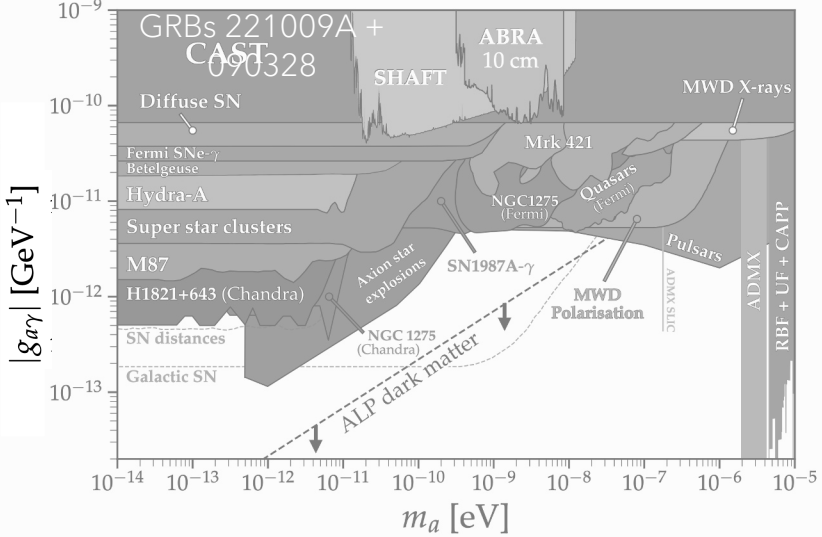
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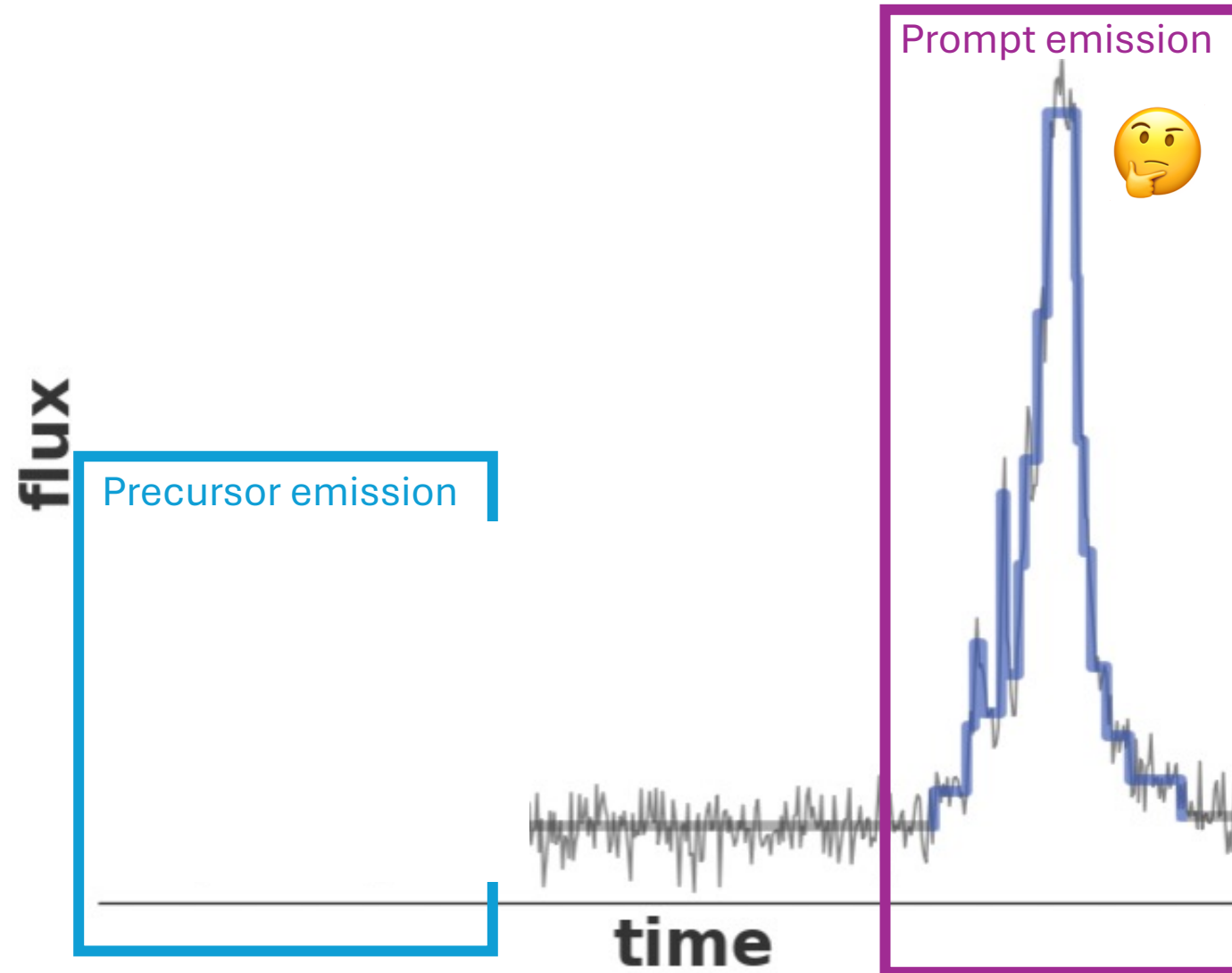
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Crnogorčević et al. 2024 (in prep.)

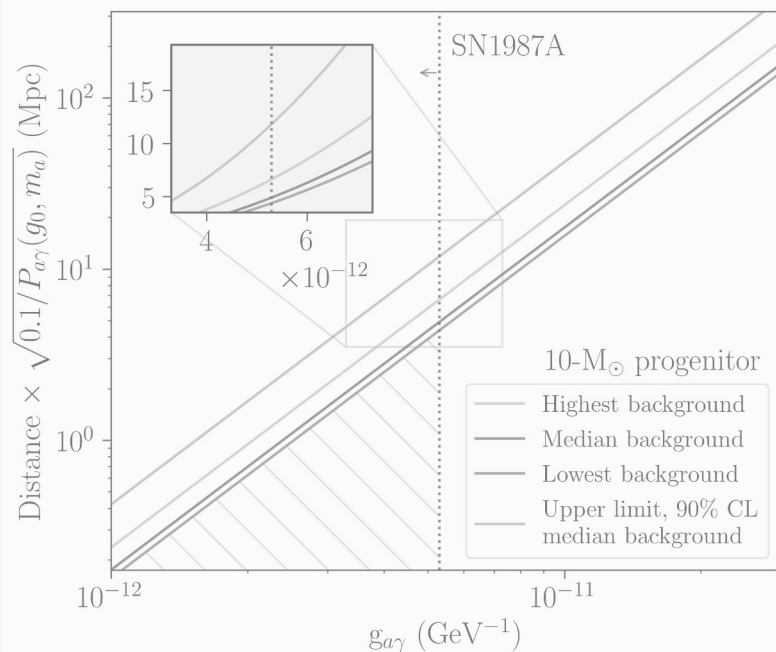
QUESTION 3: *WHEN SHOULD WE SEARCH FOR ALPS FROM GRBS?*

Fermi GI Program, Cycle 15; PI: Crnogorčević
Reported in: Crnogorčević et al. 2024 (in prep.)

GRB lightcurve



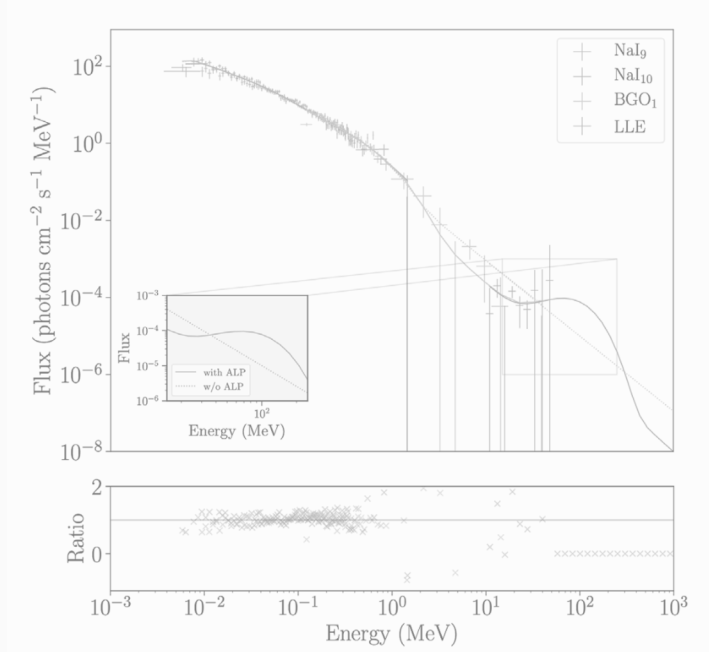
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Crnogorčević et al. 2021 (PRD, [arXiv:2109.05790](#))

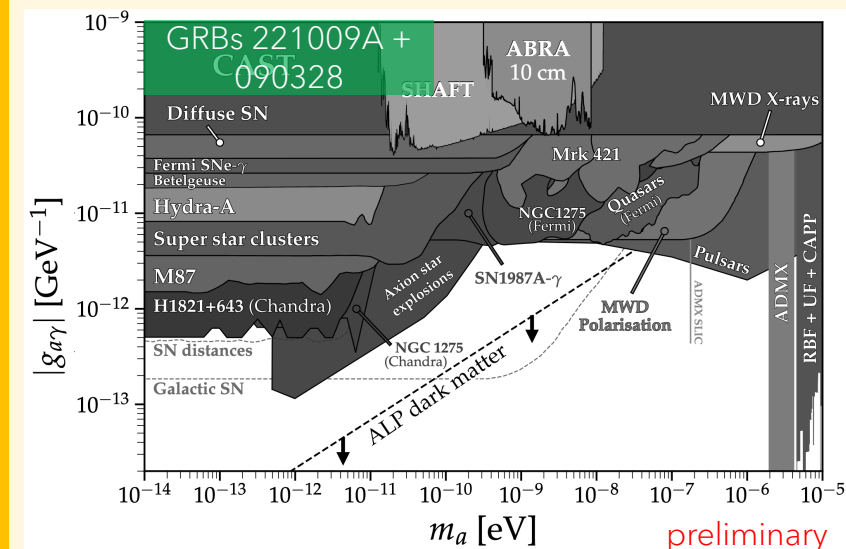
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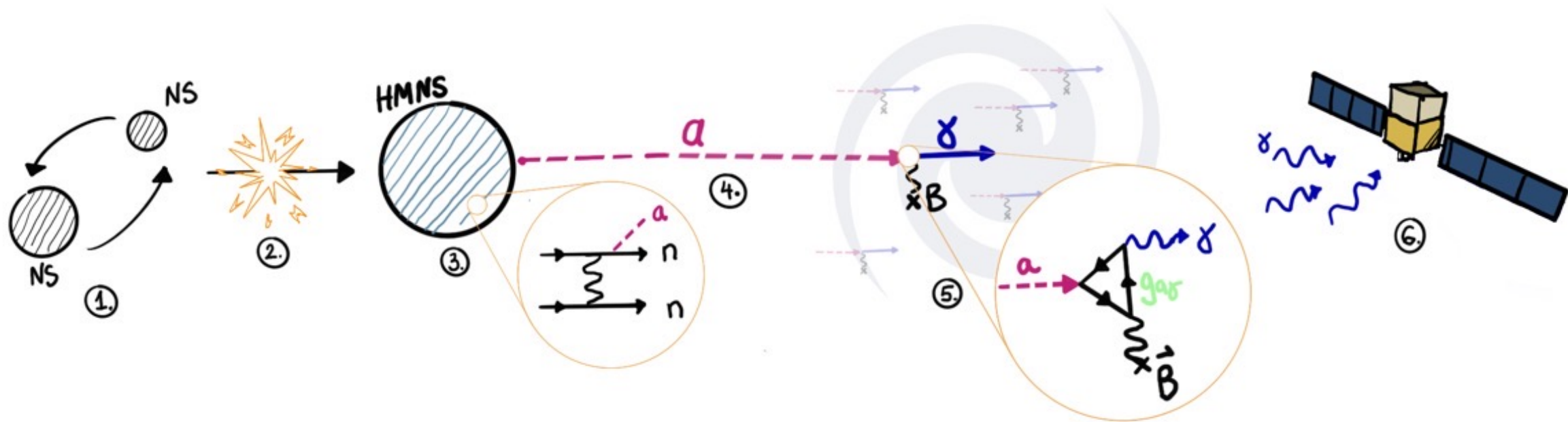


Figure description: (1) Two neutron stars (NS) orbit each other until the (2) merger, followed by (3) the formation of a hypermassive neutron star (HMNS). There, ALPs are produced via the neutron-neutron bremsstrahlung process. Once produced, ALPs travel undisturbed (4), until they reach the magnetic field of the Milky Way (5). In the Milky Way's magnetic field, ALPs convert into gamma-rays, which then can be detected by *Fermi* (6).

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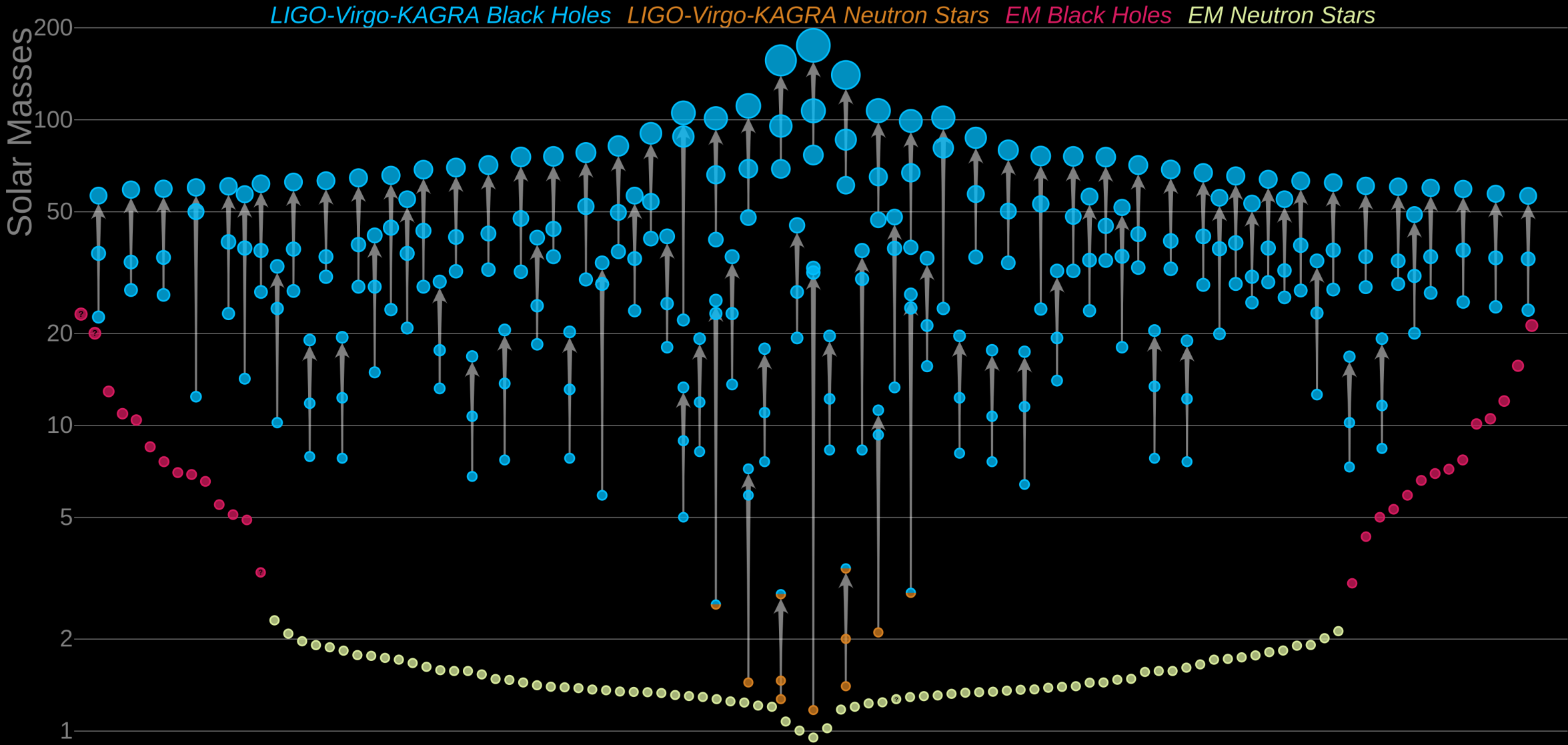
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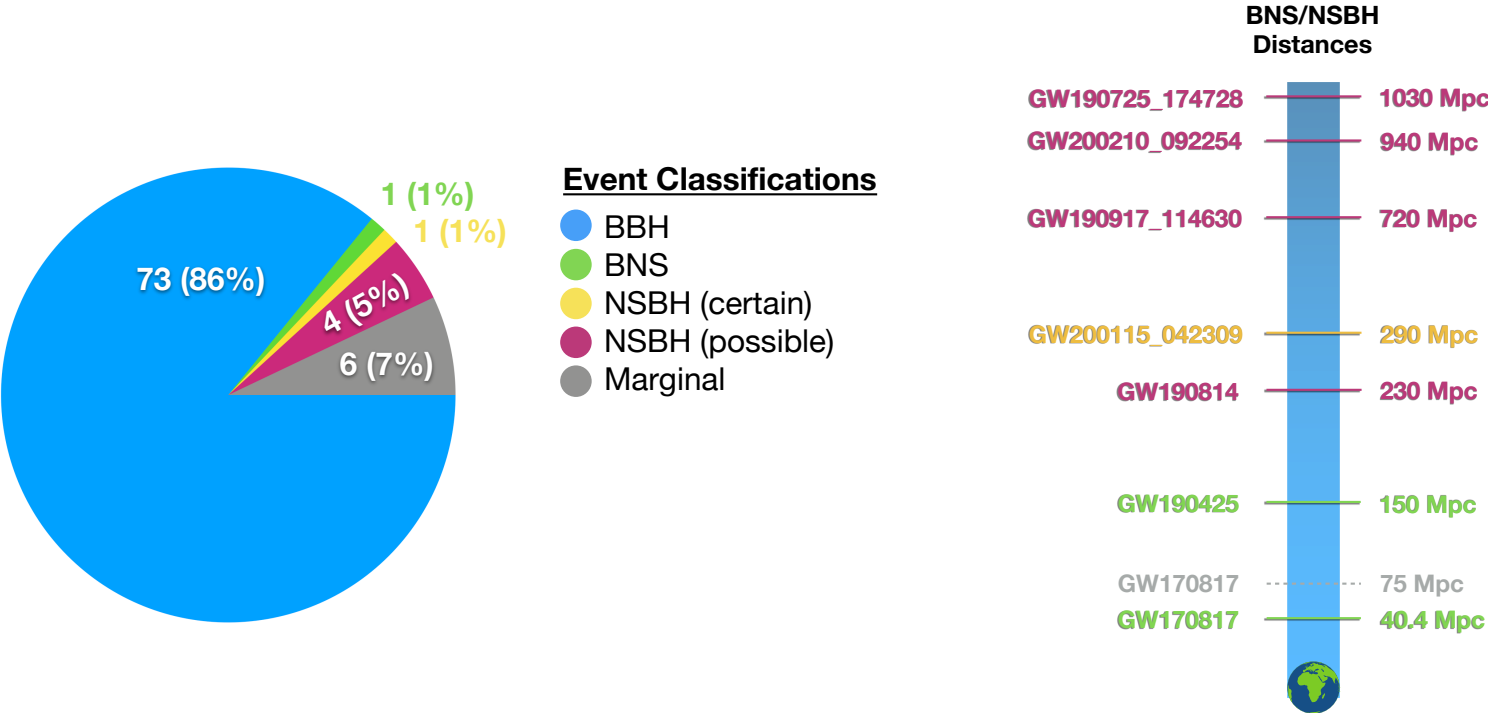
CROSS-CORRELATING ICECUBE NEUTRINOS AND THE
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Masses in the Stellar Graveyard



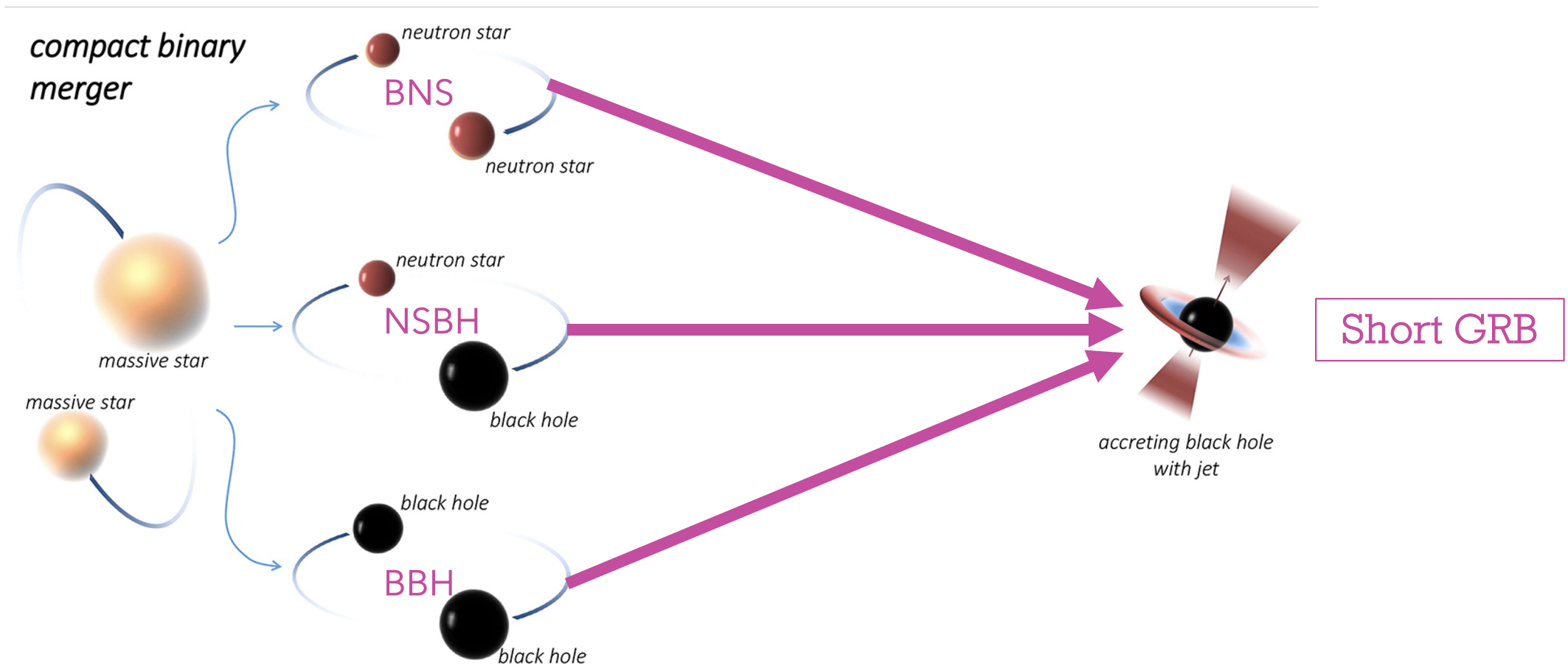
03: The Third Observing Run

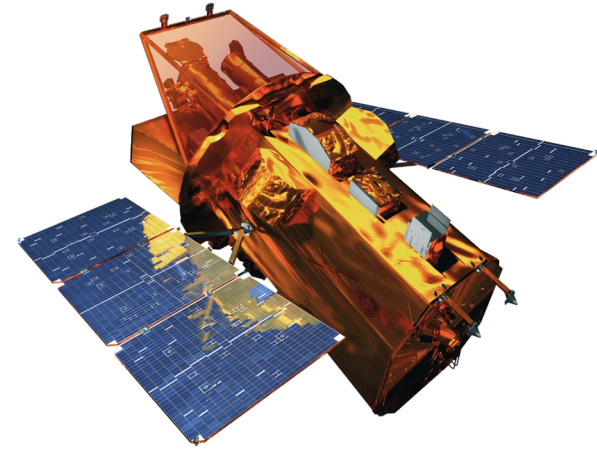
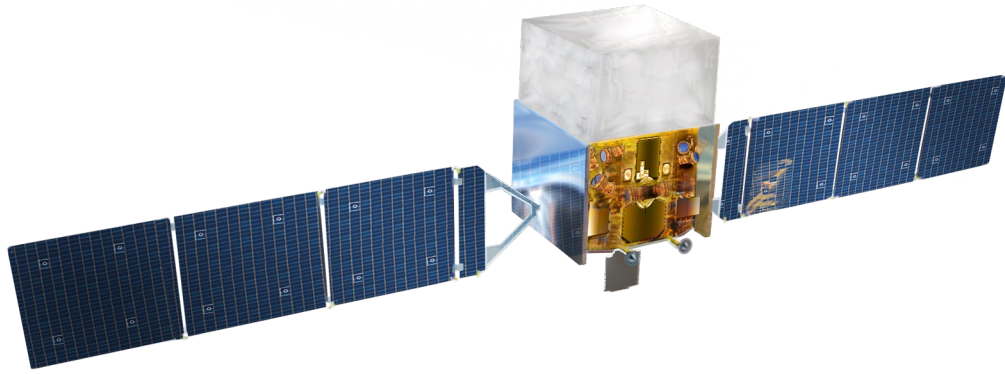
Third LIGO/Virgo observing run (O3): April 2019 -- March 2020 (commissioning break in October 2019)



75 Mpc = the maximum distance where Fermi-GBM could detect GW170817

Where to search for GWs: Compact Binary mergers





Why *Fermi* GBM?

- + ~full-sky field of view
- + energy coverage spanning the peak of GRB emission

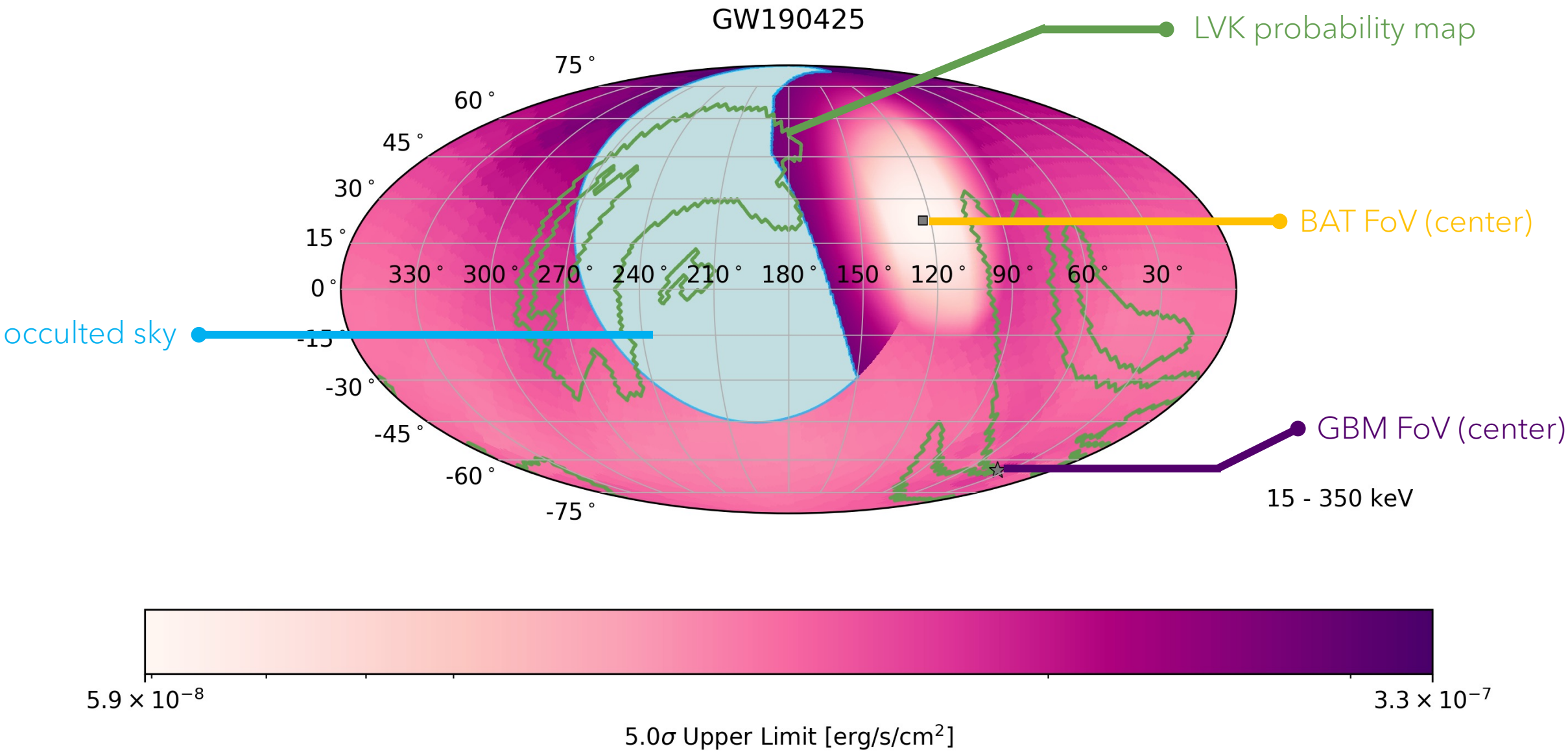
Why *Swift* BAT?

- + excellent localization sensitivity (~arcminute for detected GRBs)
- + energy coverage overlaps with the low-energy end of *Fermi* GBM

QUESTION: *DID WE SEE ANY GAMMA-RAY
EMISSION IN SPATIAL AND TEMPORAL
CORRESPONDENCE TO THE LVK O3 EVENTS?*

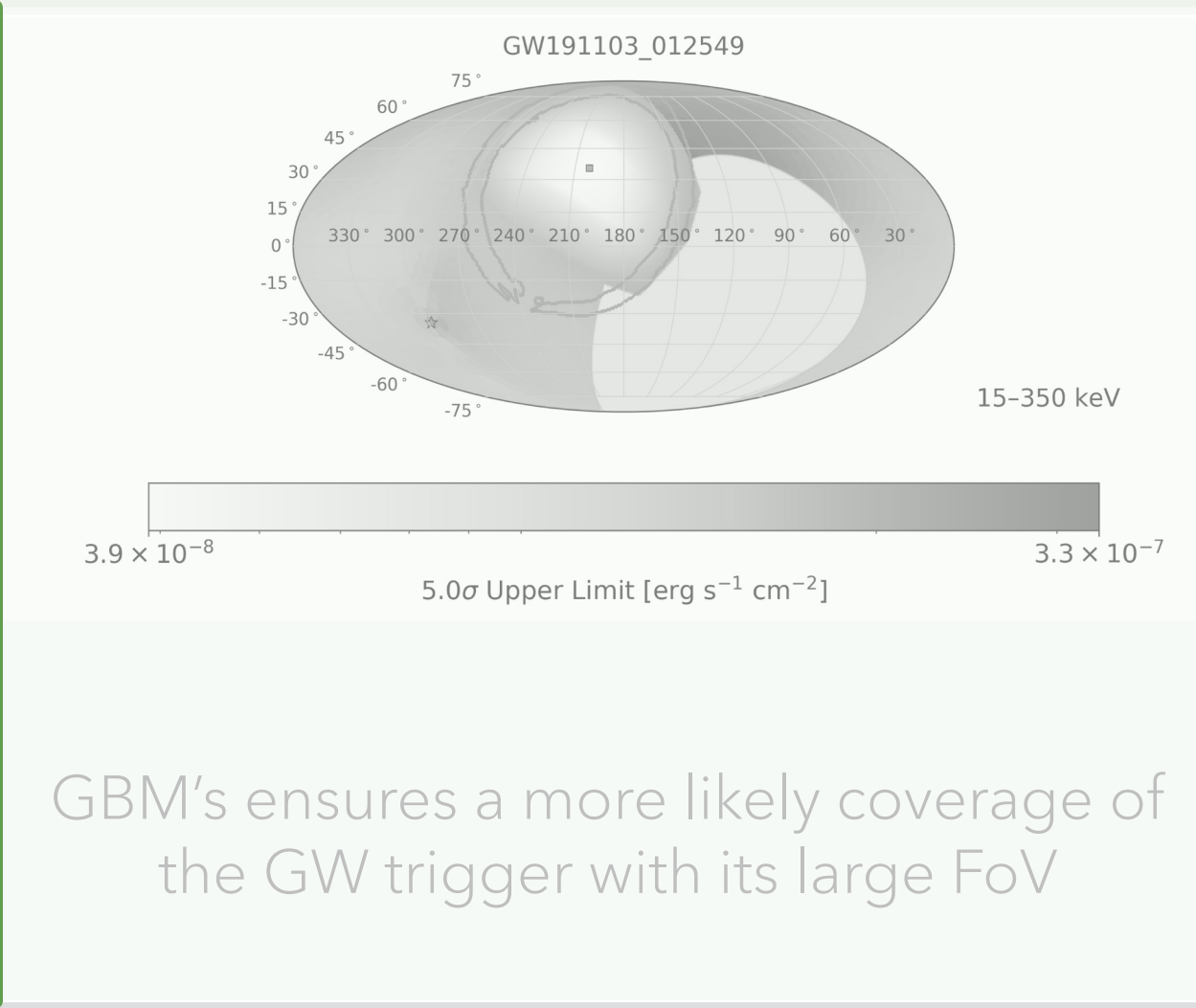
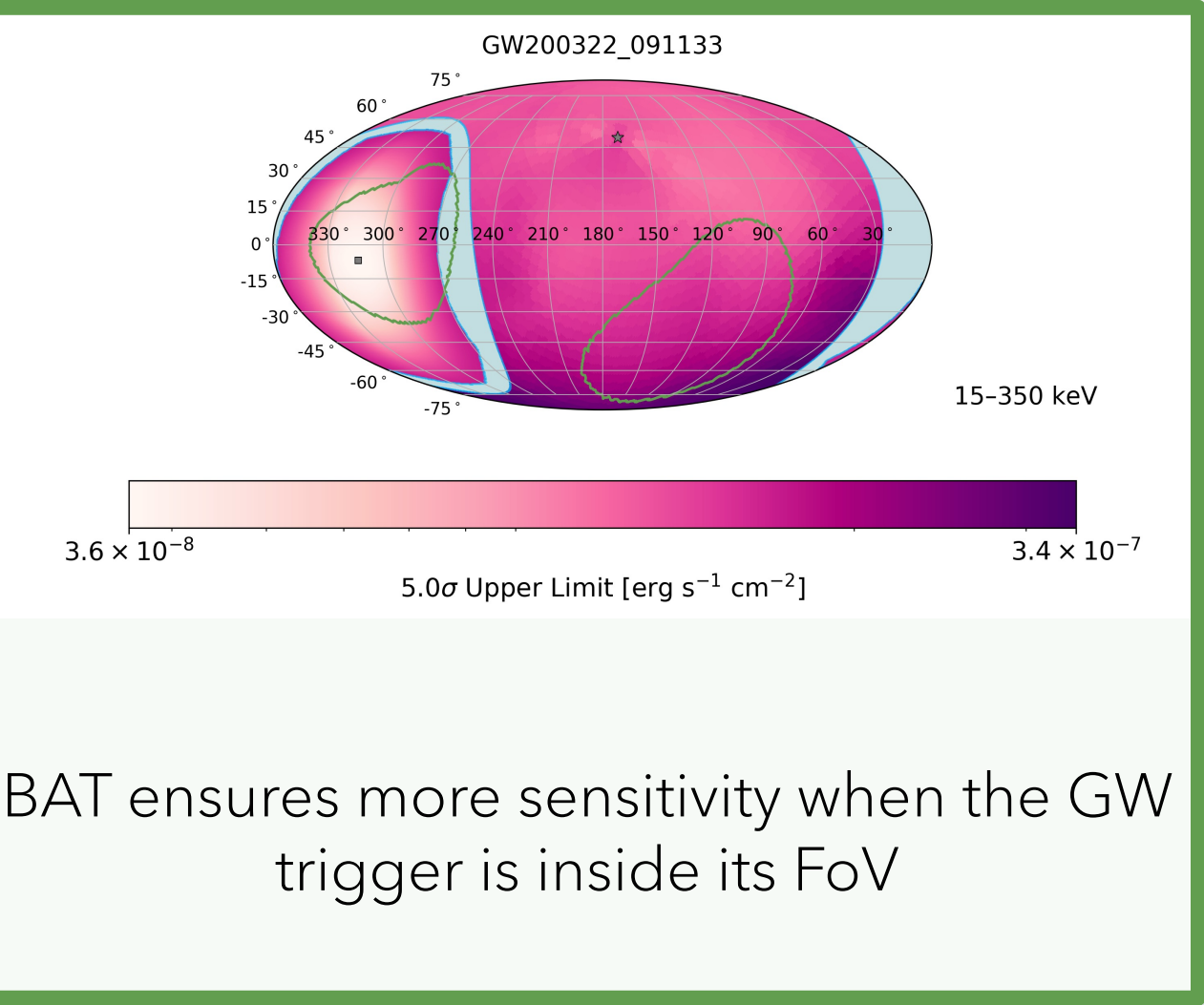
Fletcher et al. on behalf of GBM, Crnogorčević et al. on behalf of BAT, and LVK, 2023 (arXiv: 2308.13666)
ApJ. 964 (2024) 2, 149

We report *no* significant coincidence discoveries in O3; neither with *Fermi*-GBM, nor *Swift*-BAT



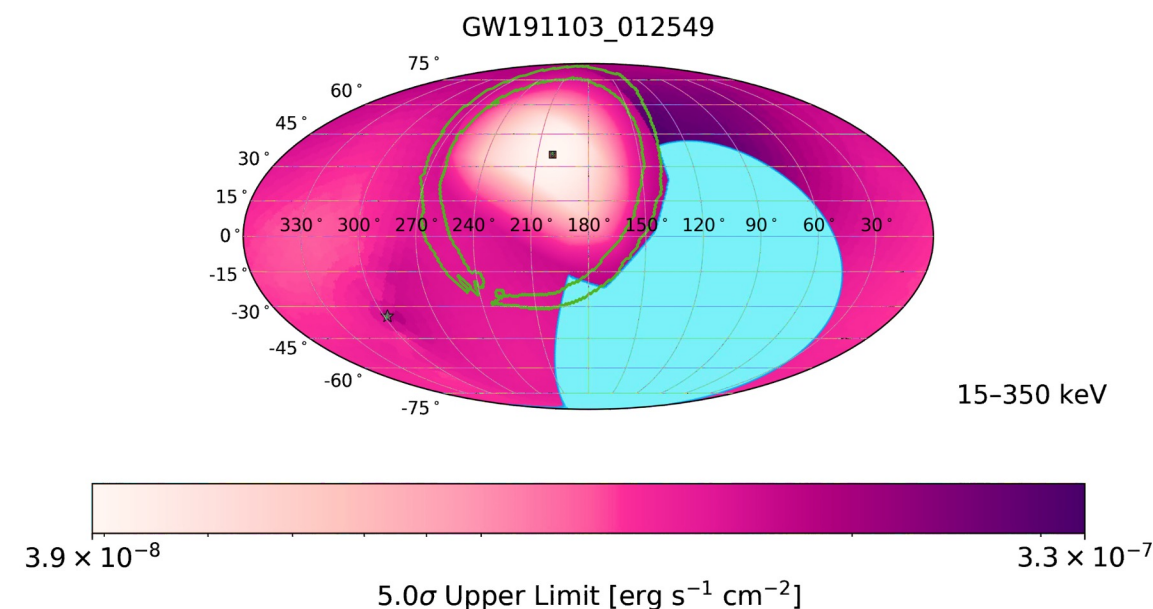
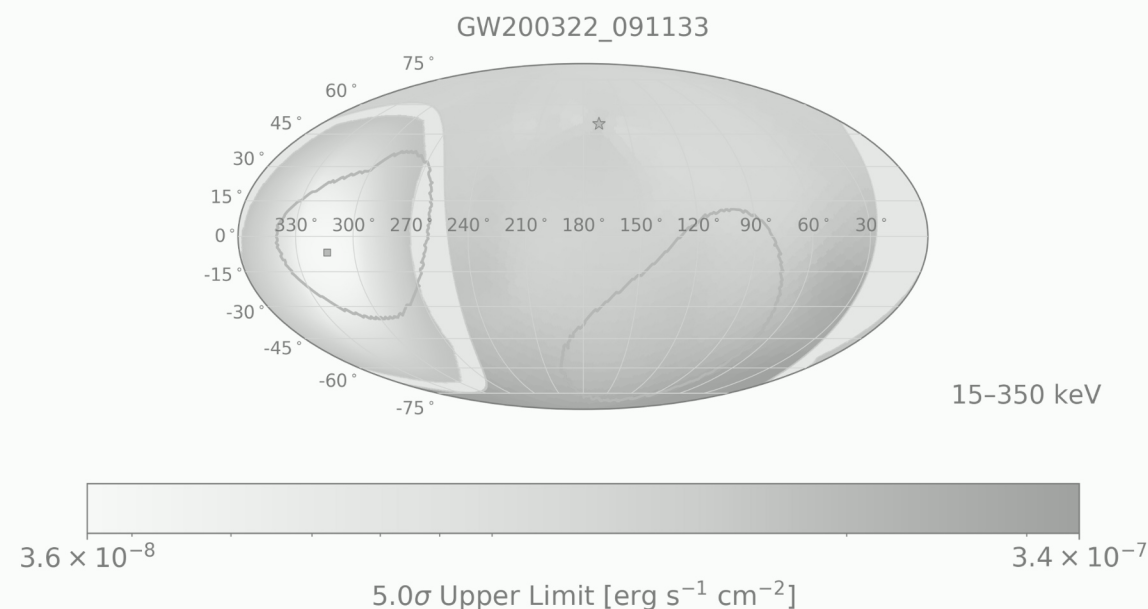
Combining the upper limits

Choosing the most constraining limit for each point in the sky (independent measures from GBM & BAT)



Combining the upper limits

Choosing the most constraining limit for each point in the sky (independent measures from GBM & BAT)

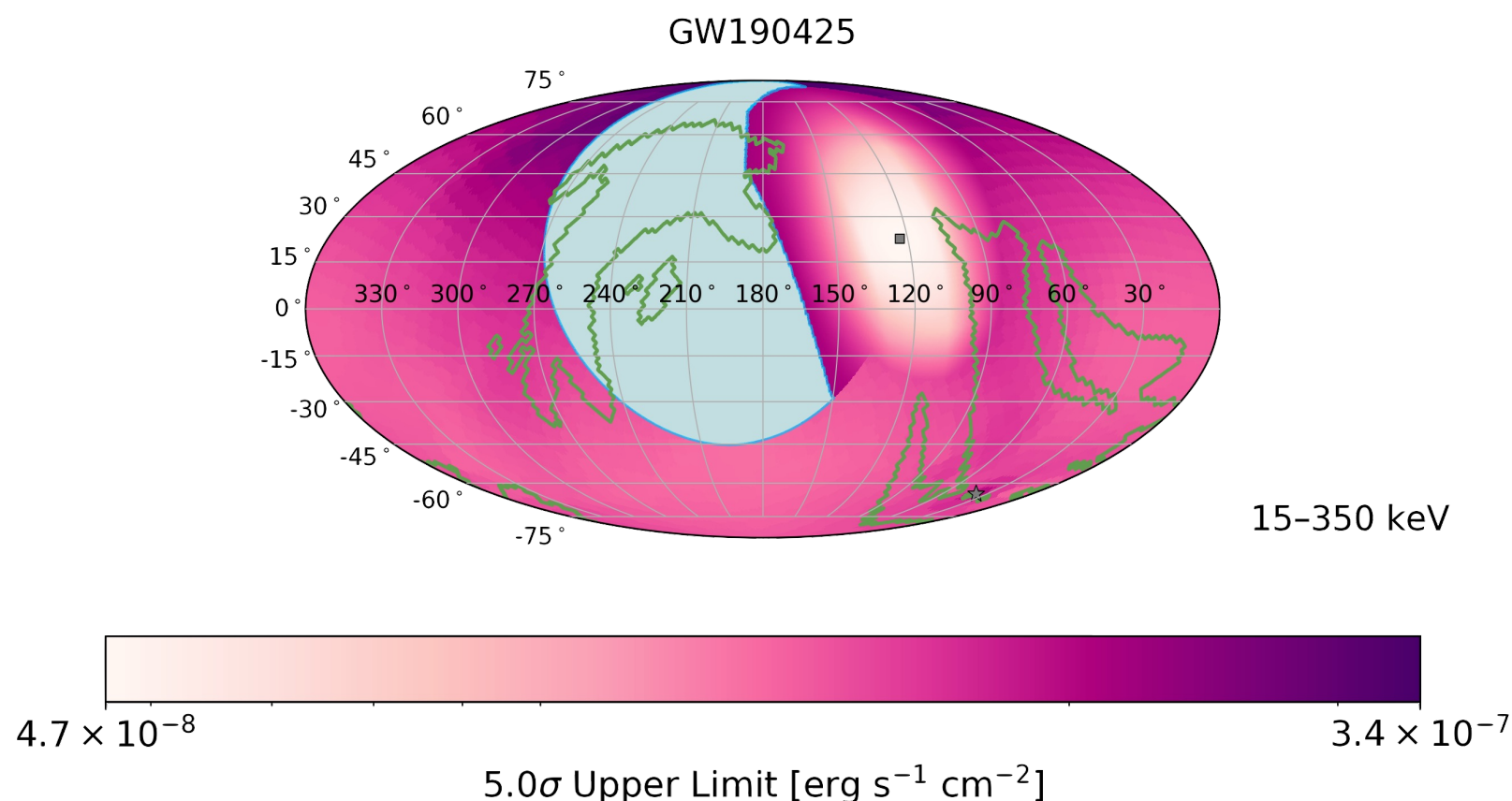


BAT ensures more sensitivity when the GW trigger is inside its FoV

GBM's ensures a more likely coverage of the GW trigger with its large FoV

Honorable mention: BNS GW190425

Choosing the most constraining limit for each point in the sky (independent measures from GBM & BAT)



- BNS 190425 is 4 times further away than BNS 170817
- GBM/BAT only see ~60% of the GW localization region
- Inclination angle poorly constrained

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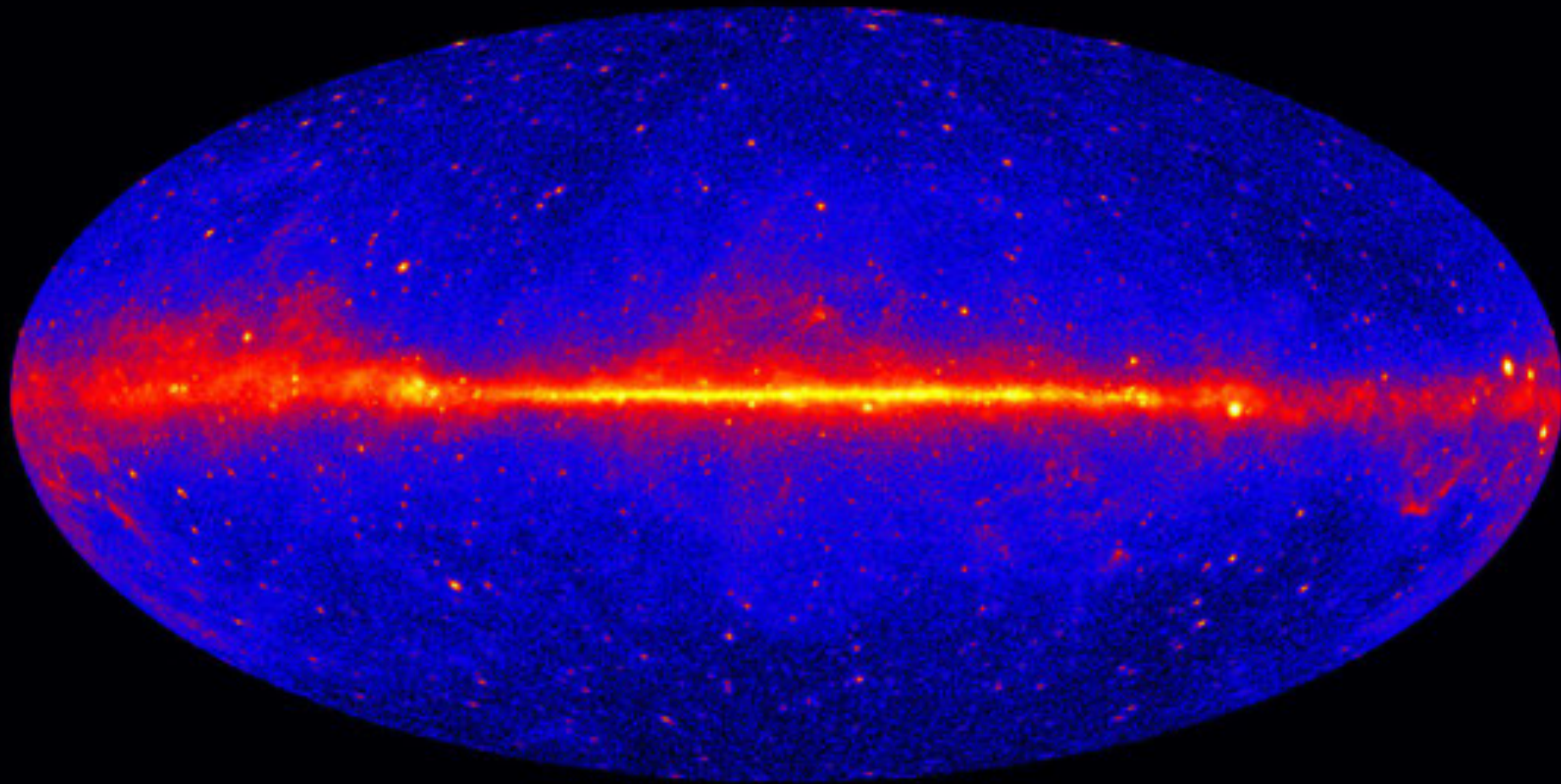
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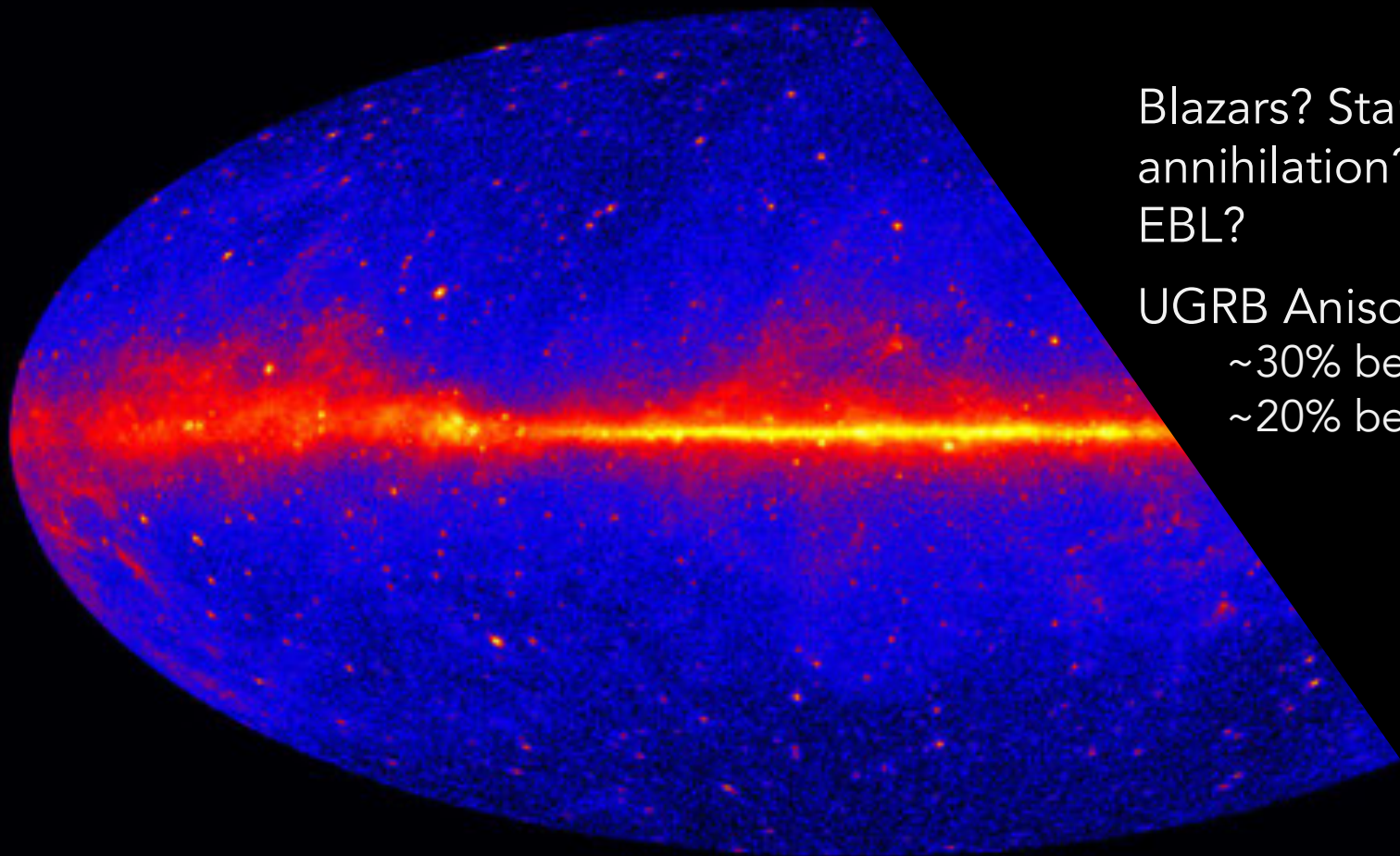
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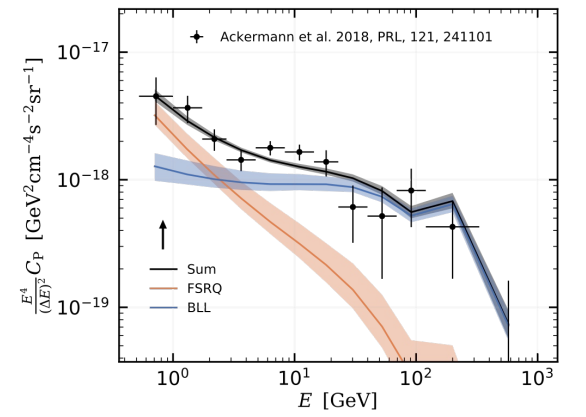


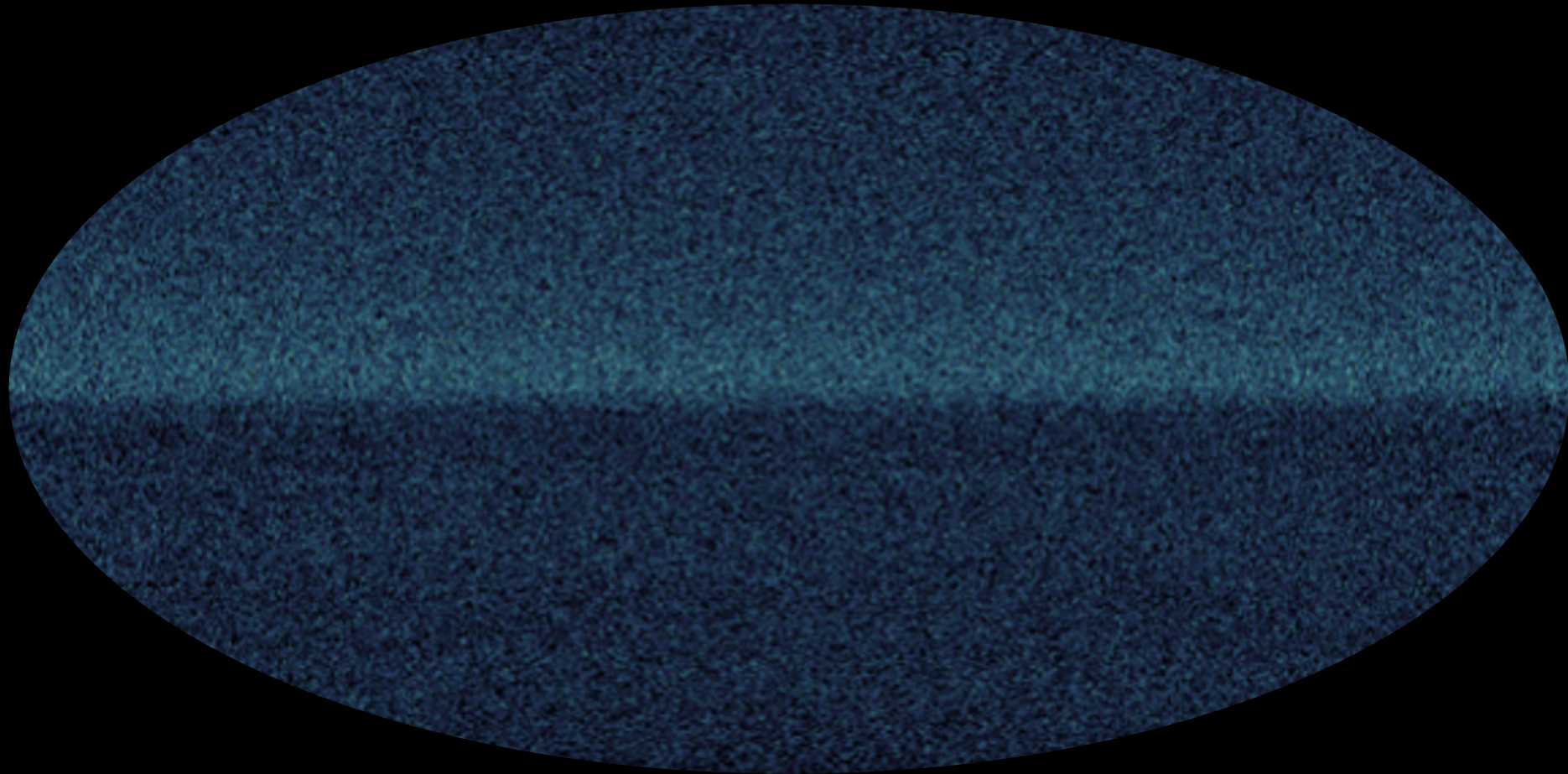
The Unresolved Gamma-ray Background (UGRB) ~20%

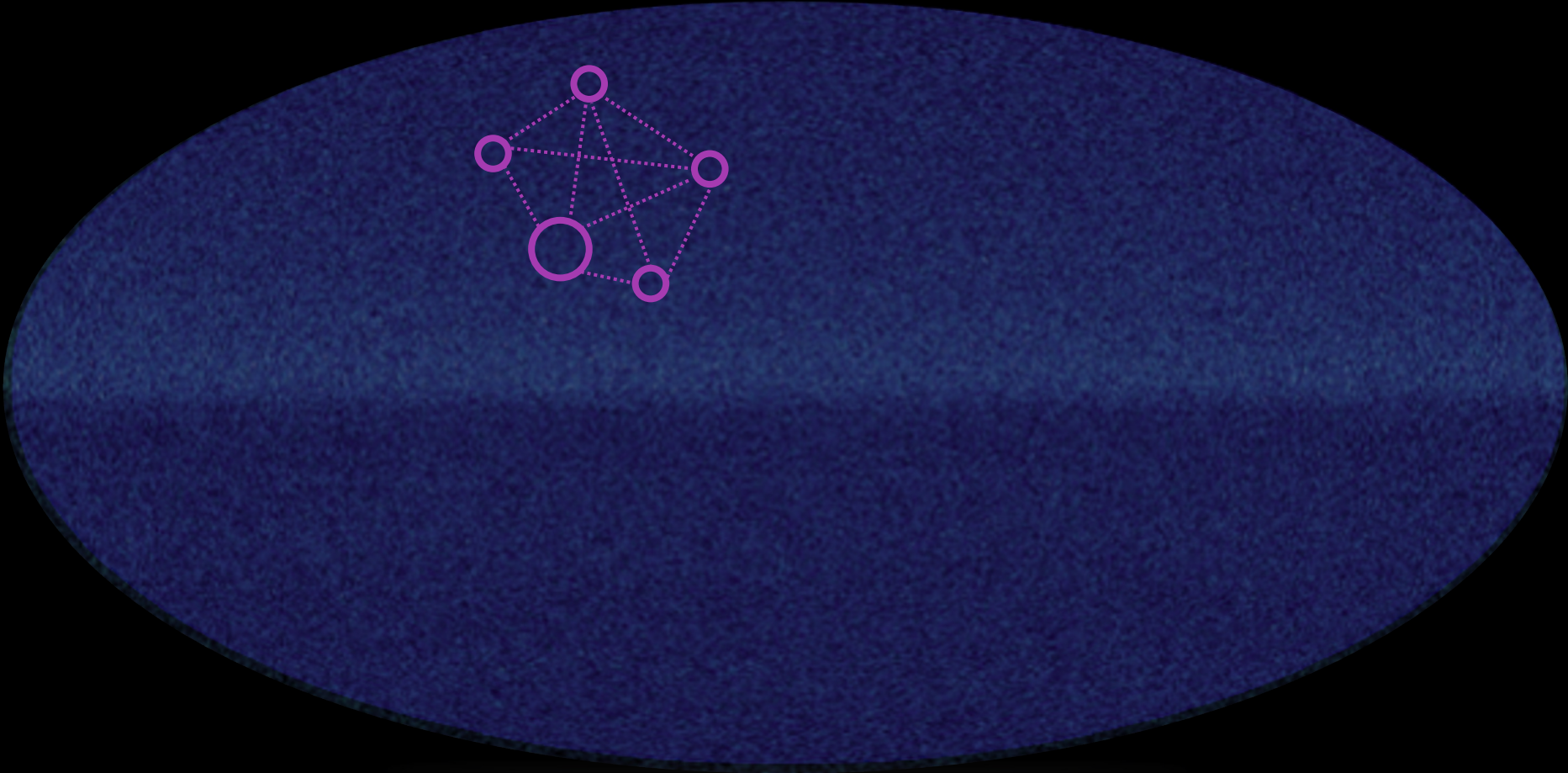


Blazars? Star-forming galaxies? DM annihilation? Photon interactions with EBL?

UGRB Anisotropy: 100% FSRQ + BLL
~30% between 10 and 100 GeV
~20% below 1 GeV





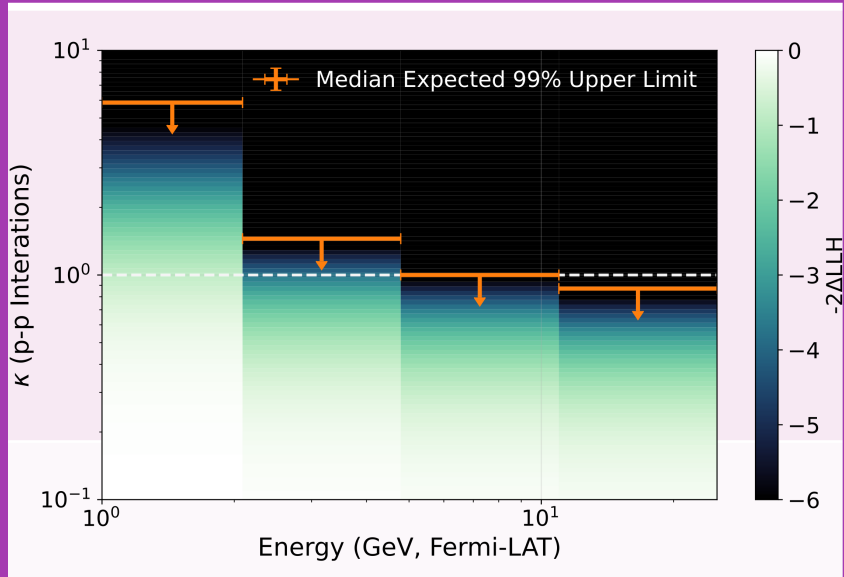


No cross-correlation signal identified

QUESTION 1: *WHAT FRACTION OF THE TOTAL
NEUTRINO FLUX IS PRODUCED IN BLAZARS?*

Negro, Crnogorčević, et al. 2023 ([arXiv:2304.10934](https://arxiv.org/abs/2304.10934))
ApJ. 951 (2023) 1, 83

Simulations



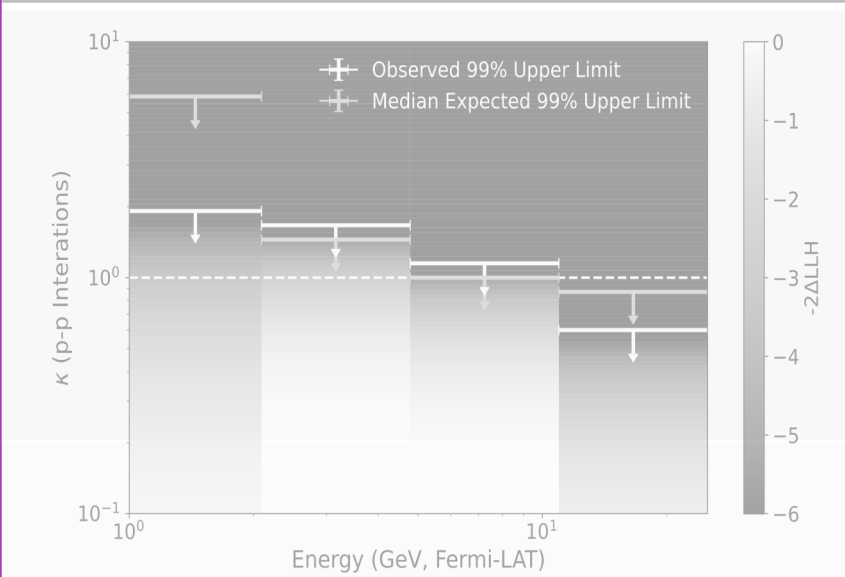
- Gamma rays produced in p–p interactions ([Feng & Murase 2021](#)):

$$E_\nu^2 \frac{dN_\nu}{dE_{nu}} \approx \frac{1}{2} \left(E_\gamma^2 \frac{dN_\gamma}{dE_\gamma} \right), \text{ at } E_\nu \approx \frac{E_\gamma}{2}$$

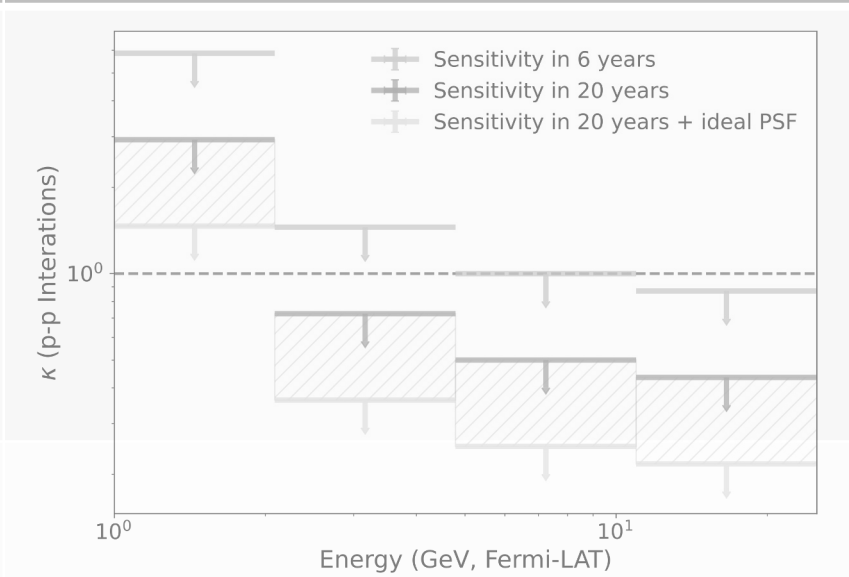
- Injecting the neutrino signal:

$$E_\nu^2 \frac{dN_\nu}{dE_{nu}} \approx \frac{\kappa}{2} \left(E_\gamma^2 \frac{dN_\gamma}{dE_\gamma} \right), \text{ at } E_\nu \approx \frac{E_\gamma}{2}$$

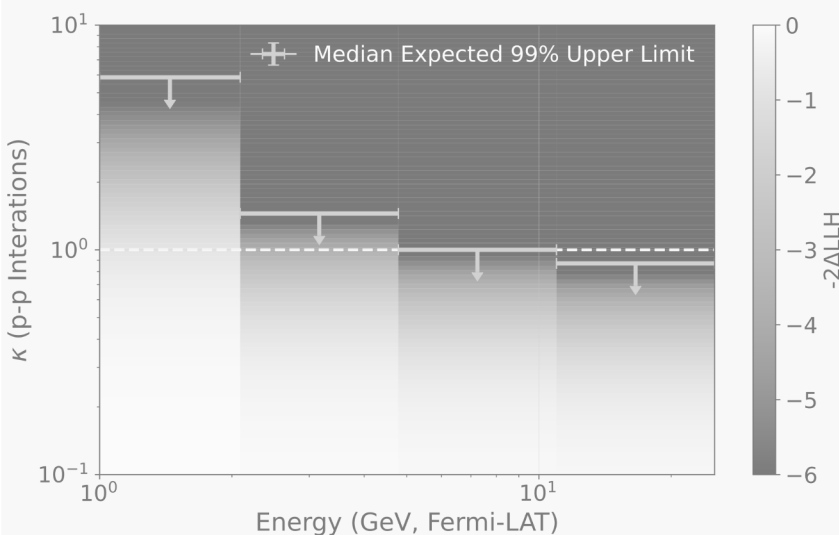
Observations



Predictions



Simulations



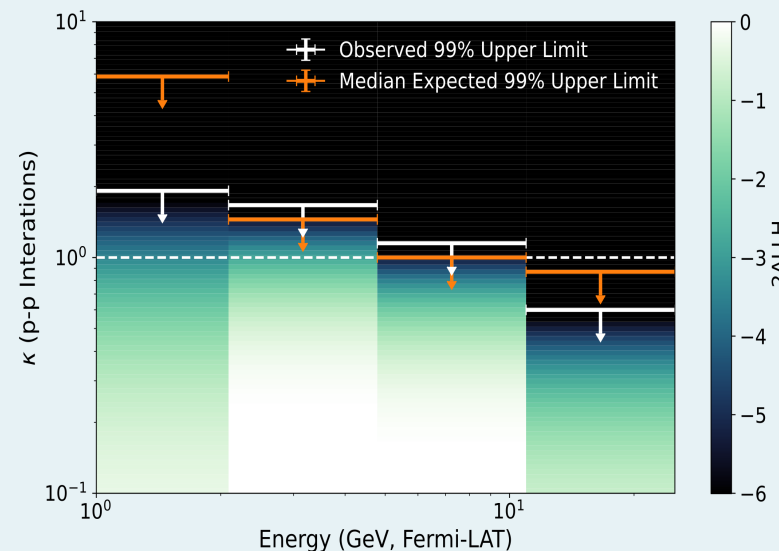
- Gamma rays produced in p-p interactions (Feng & Murase 2021):

$$E_\nu^2 \frac{dN_\nu}{dE_{\nu u}} \approx \frac{1}{2} \left(E_\gamma^2 \frac{dN_\gamma}{dE_\gamma} \right), \text{ at } E_\nu \approx \frac{E_\gamma}{2}$$

- Injecting the neutrino signal:

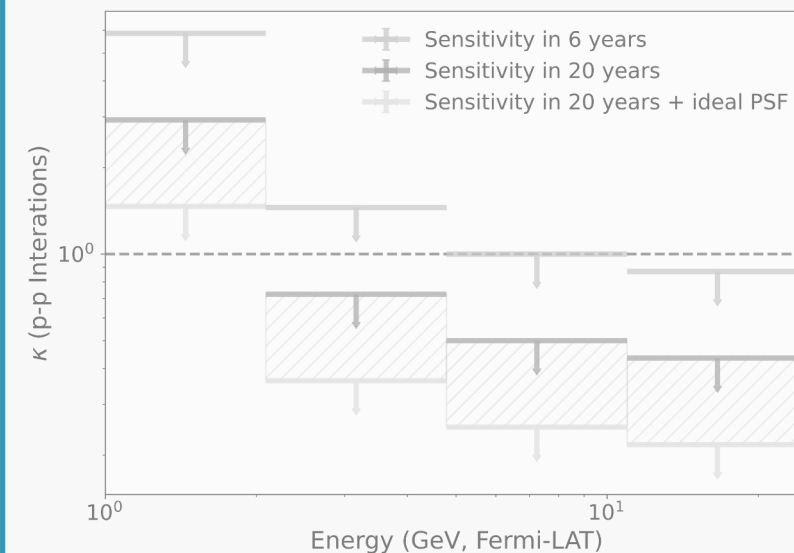
$$E_\nu^2 \frac{dN_\nu}{dE_{\nu u}} \approx \frac{\kappa}{2} \left(E_\gamma^2 \frac{dN_\gamma}{dE_\gamma} \right), \text{ at } E_\nu \approx \frac{E_\gamma}{2}$$

Observations

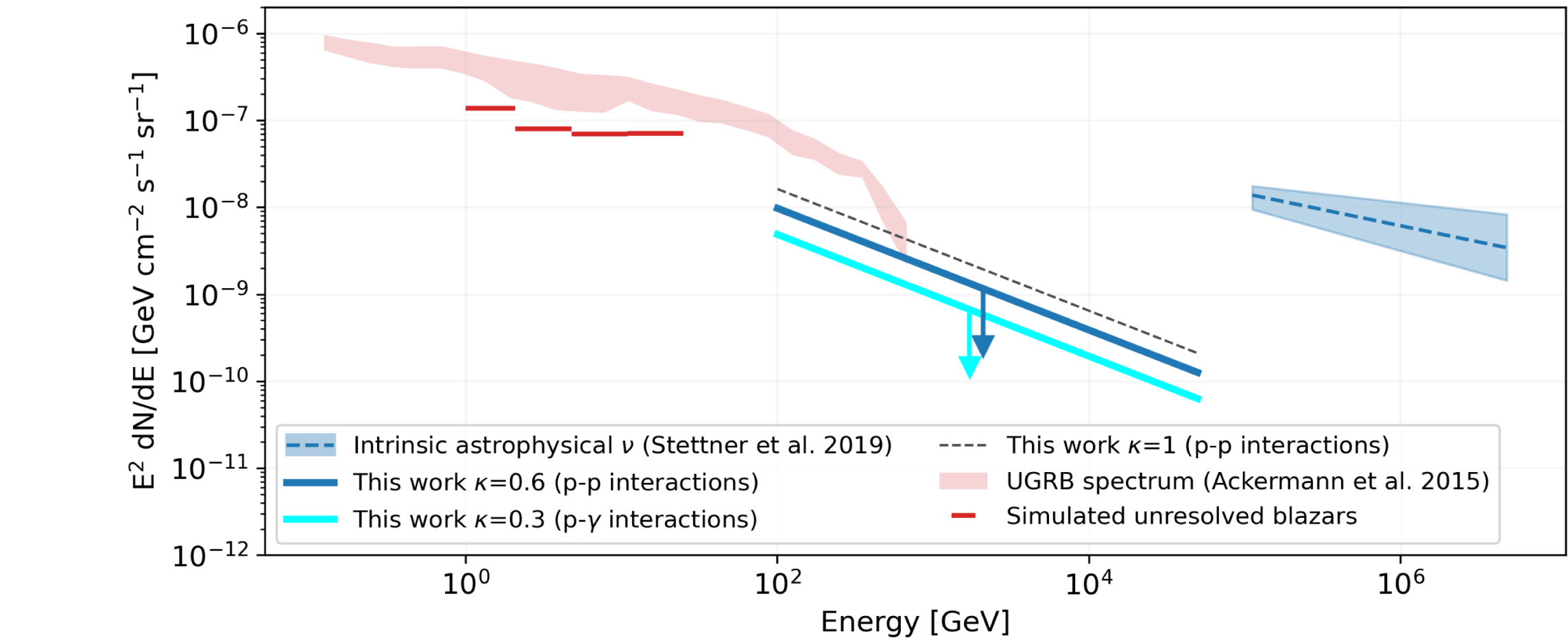


- IceCube 6-year map and *Fermi*-LAT 12 years of data
- Constraining limits in the last energy bin: $\kappa < 0.6$

Predictions



Upper Limits on the ν_{astro} flux

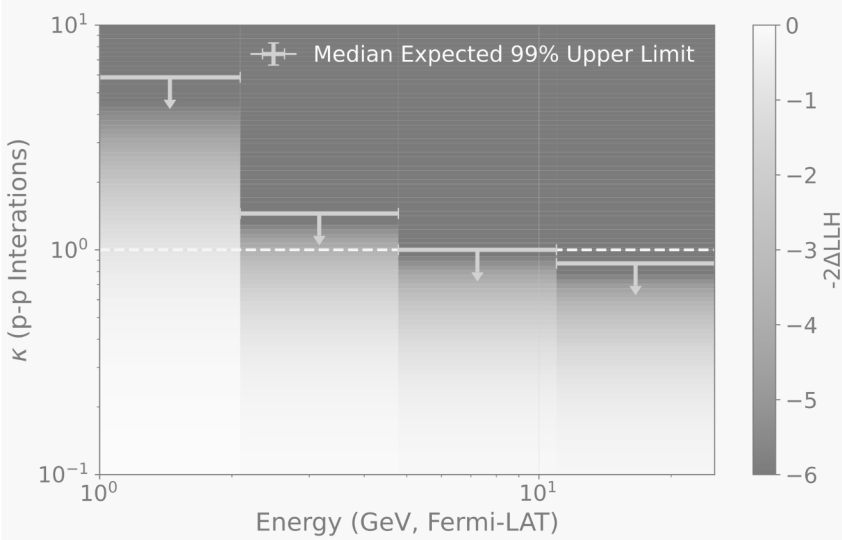


→ Unresolved blazars contribute ~1% at 100 TeV and ~10% at 1 TeV

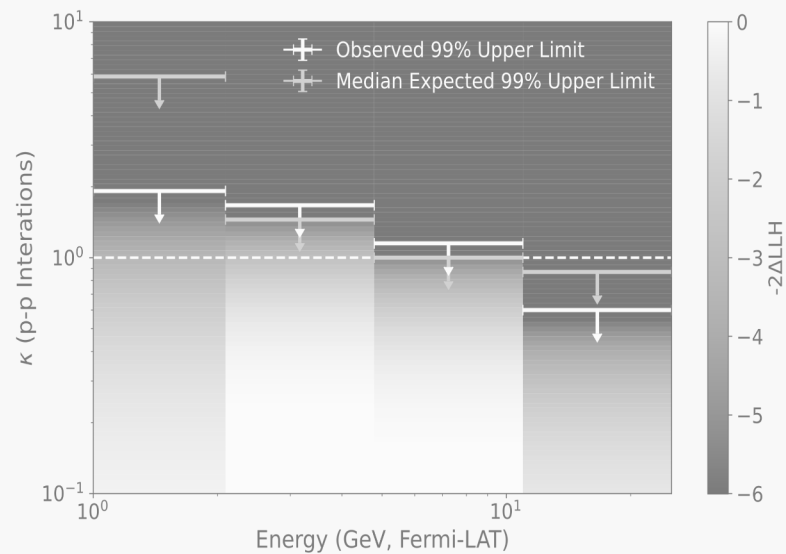
QUESTION 3: *WHAT DO WE PREDICT?*

Negro, Crnogorčević, et al. 2023 ([arXiv:2304.10934](https://arxiv.org/abs/2304.10934))
ApJ. 951 (2023) 1, 83

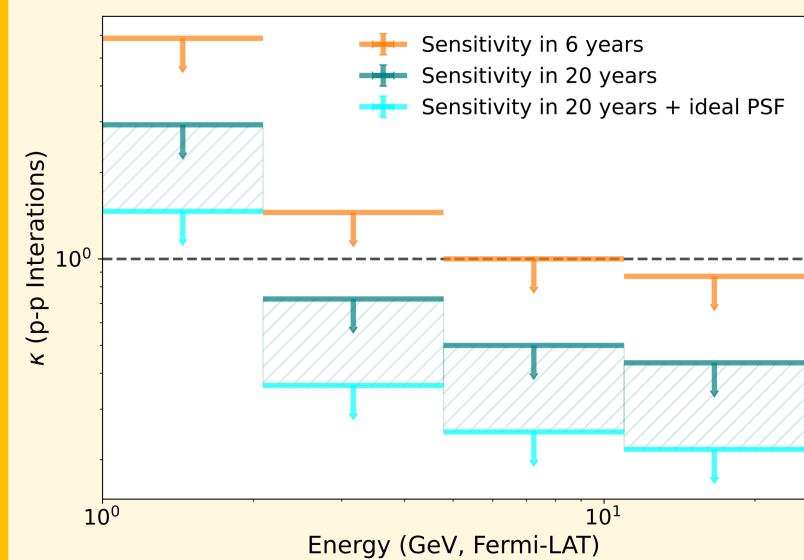
Simulations



Observations



Predictions



- Keeping the *Fermi*-LAT UGRB emission the same
- Changing the IceCube statistics (alone, and with PSF)

CHAPTERS III-IV

SEARCHING FOR AXION-LIKE PARTICLES WITH *FERMI*

Crnogorčević et al. 2021 (PRD), Crnogorčević et al. 2024 (in prep.)

CHAPTER V

A JOINT *FERMI* & *SWIFT* ANALYSIS OF THE THIRD GRAVITATIONAL-WAVE OBSERVING RUN

Fletcher et al. on behalf of GBM, Crnogorčević et al. on behalf of BAT, and LVK, 2023 (ApJ)

CHAPTER VI

CROSS-CORRELATING ICECUBE NEUTRINOS AND THE *FERMI* UNRESOLVED GAMMA-RAY SKY

Negro, Crnogorčević, et al. 2023 (ApJ)

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