


# RF6 Kickoff Meeting

 Aug 12, 2020, 12:00 PM → Aug 13, 2020, 5:00 PM US/Eastern

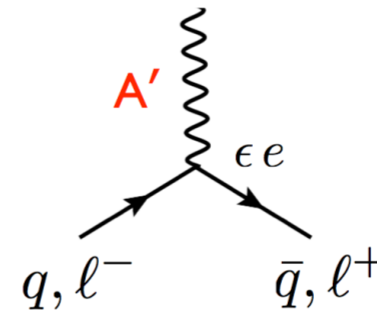
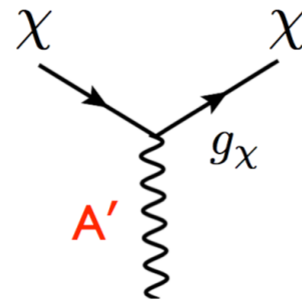
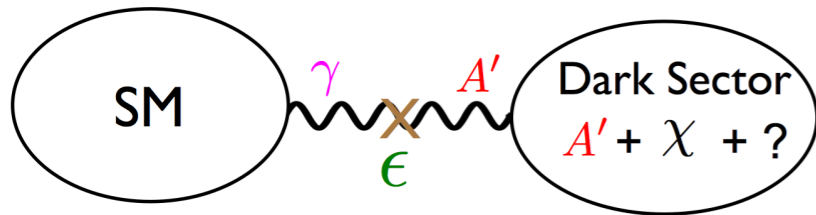
# Dark Sectors with Electron Beam Dumps and Positron Beams (on fixed targets)

*M.Battaglieri*  
*JLab/INFN*

## Outline

- Beam dump experiments
- BDX and other proposals
- Positron beams
- PADME & other proposals

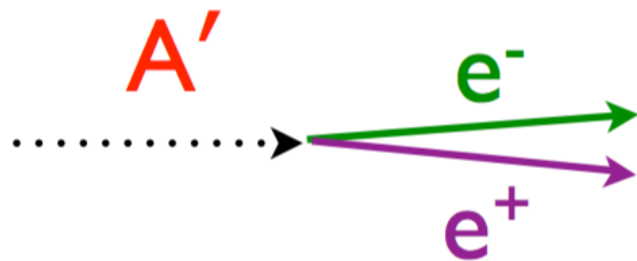
# Dark forces and dark matter (Light WIMPs - light mediators)



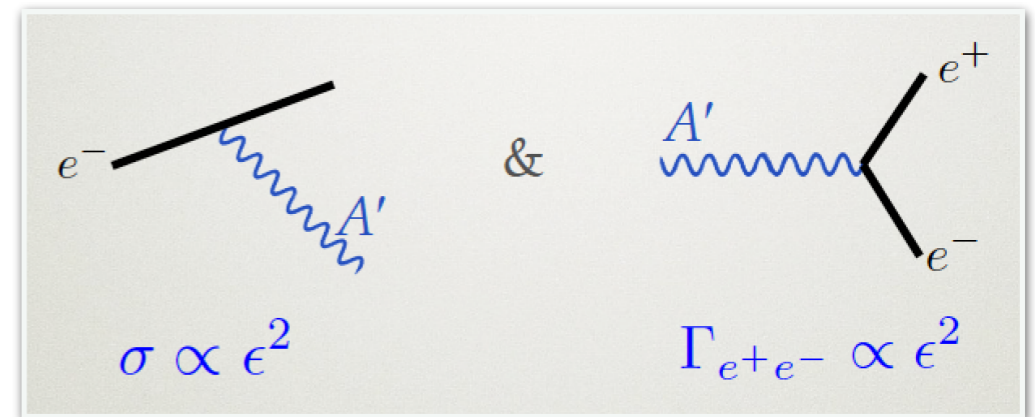
4 parameters:  $m_\chi, m_{A'}, \epsilon, g_\chi$

$$m_\chi \sim m_{A'} \sim \text{MeV} - 5 \text{ GeV}$$

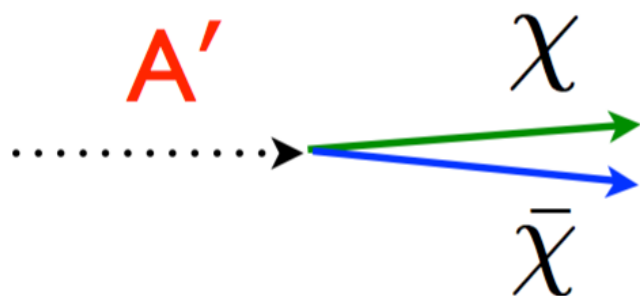
## Visible



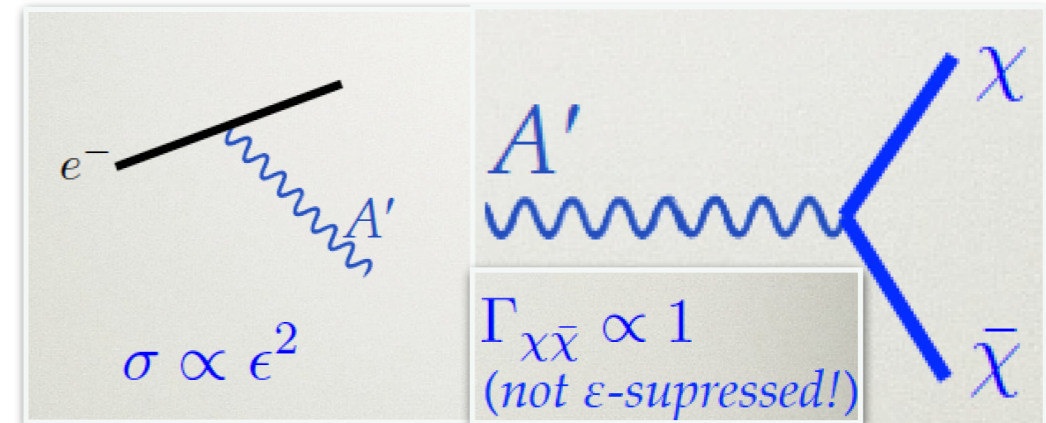
- Minimal decay
- Decay regulated by  $\epsilon^2$
- Independent of  $m_\chi$
- Requires  $m_{A'} < 2m_\chi$



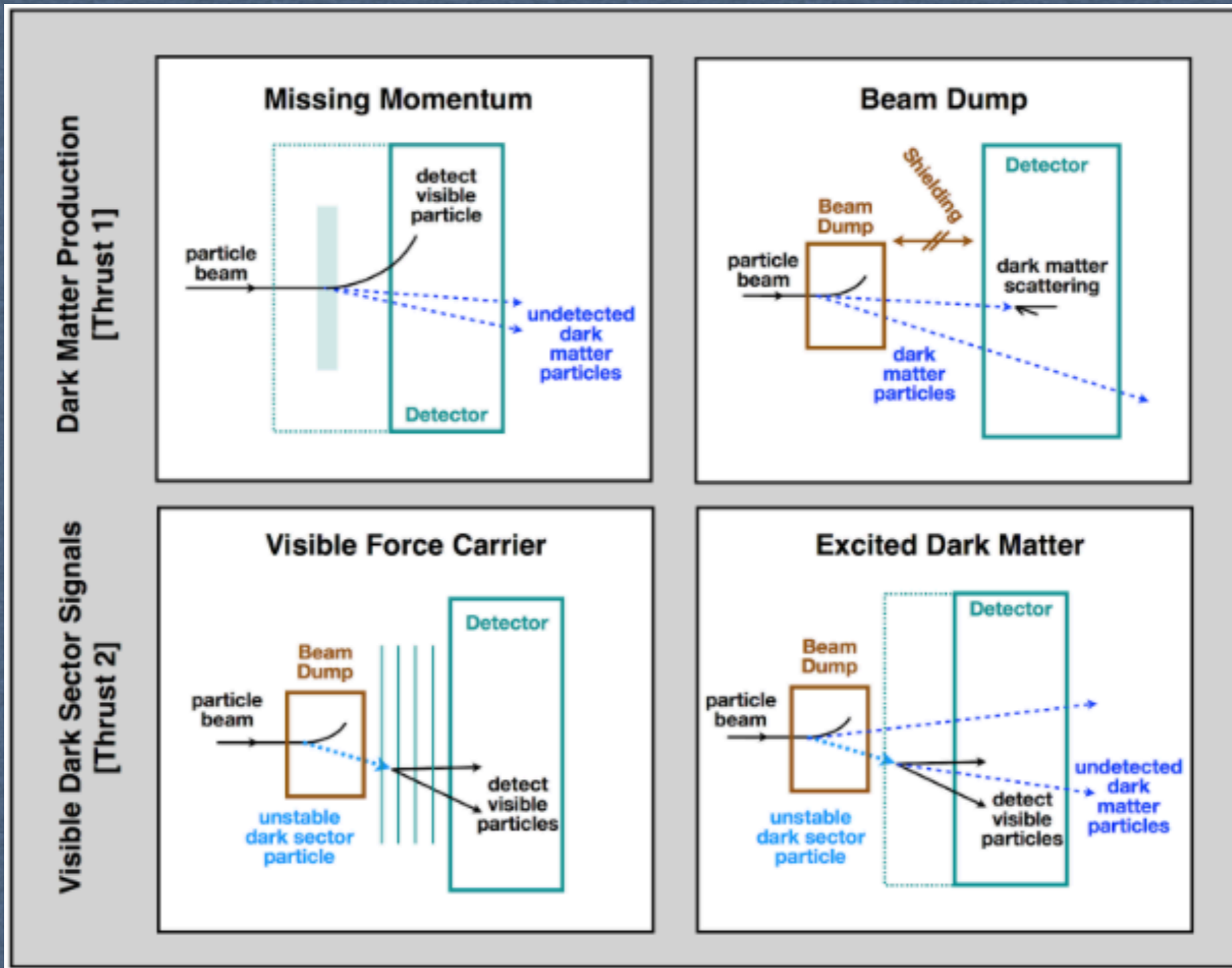
## Invisible



- Depends on 4 parameters
- $m_{A'} > 2m_\chi$  (on-shell)
- $\alpha_D = g_\chi^2/4\pi \gg \epsilon^2 \alpha_{EM}$

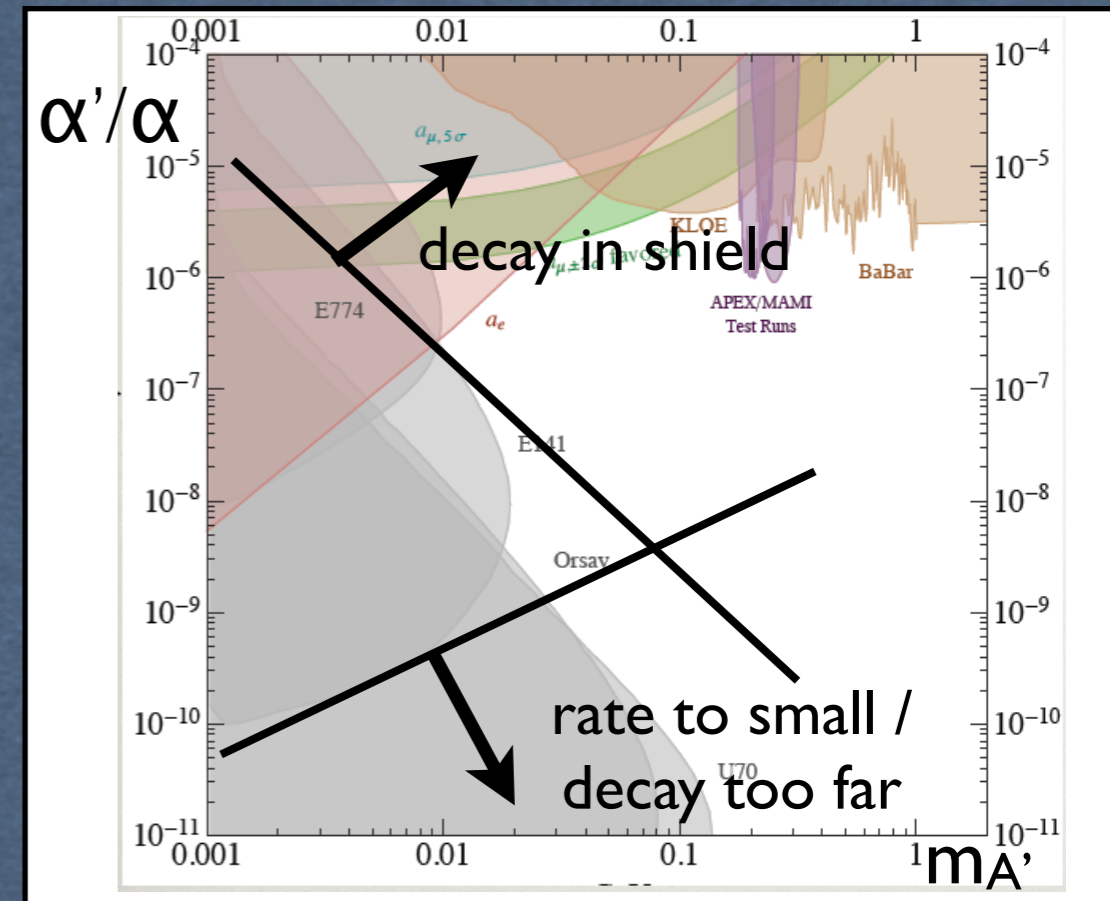
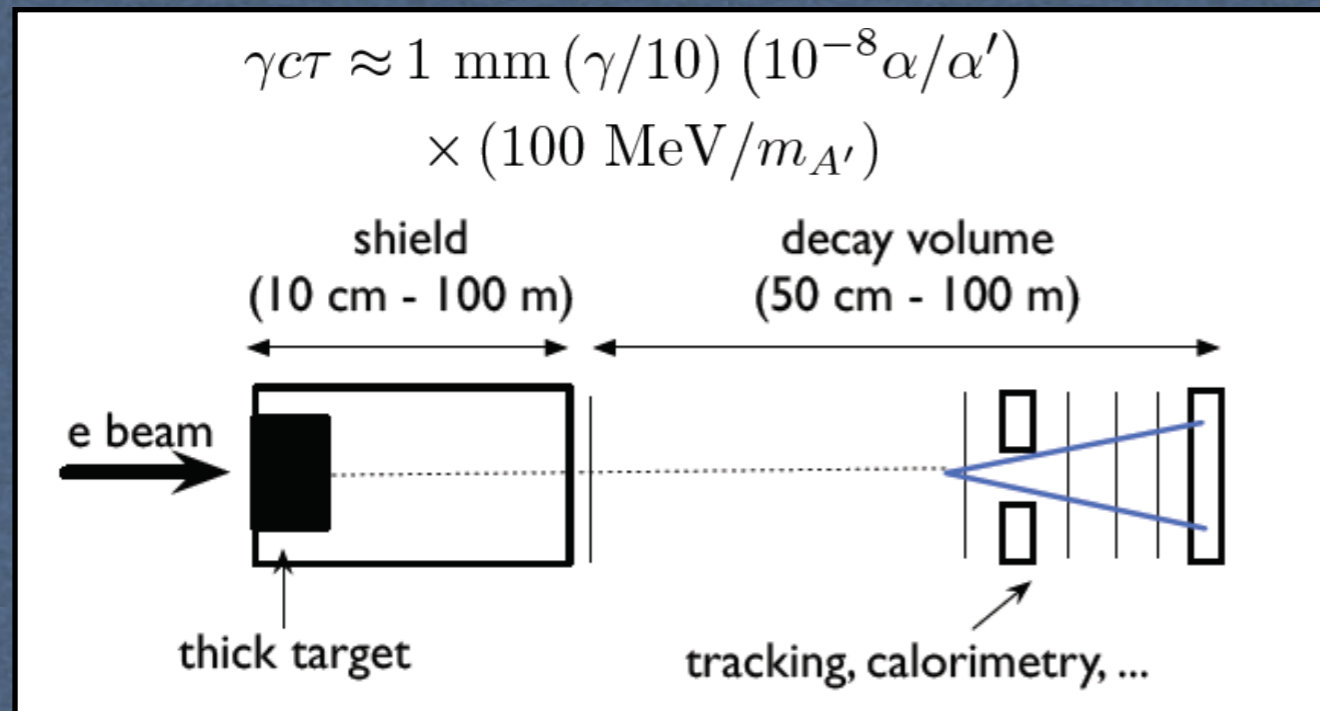
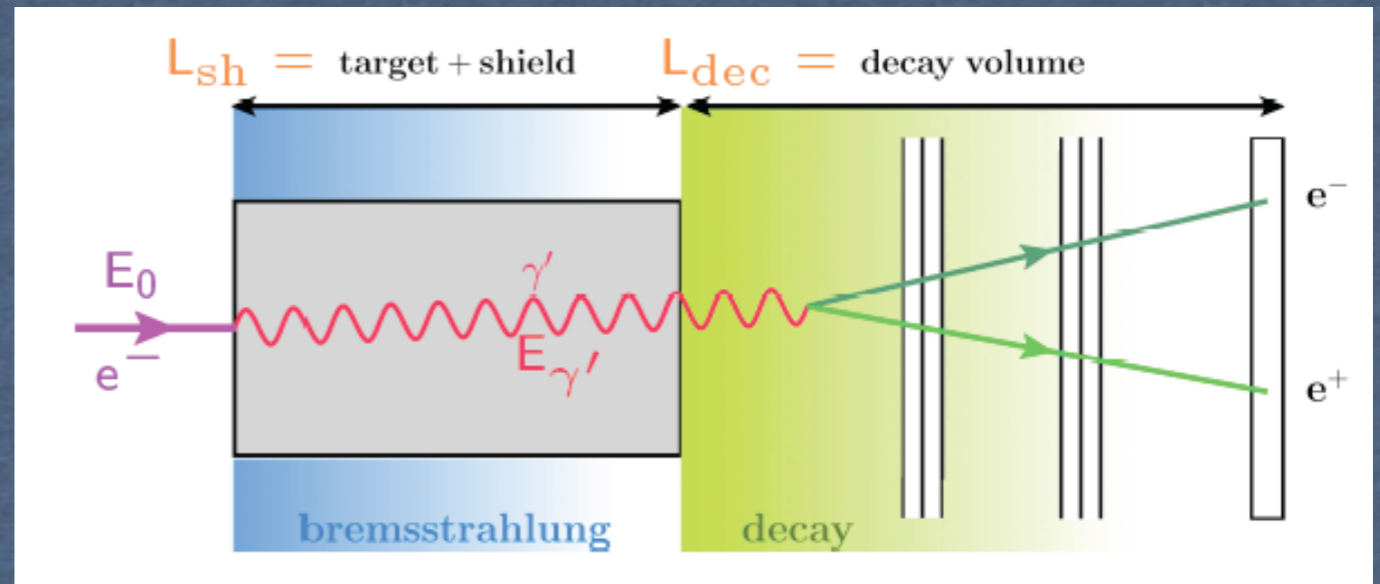


# Experimental techniques

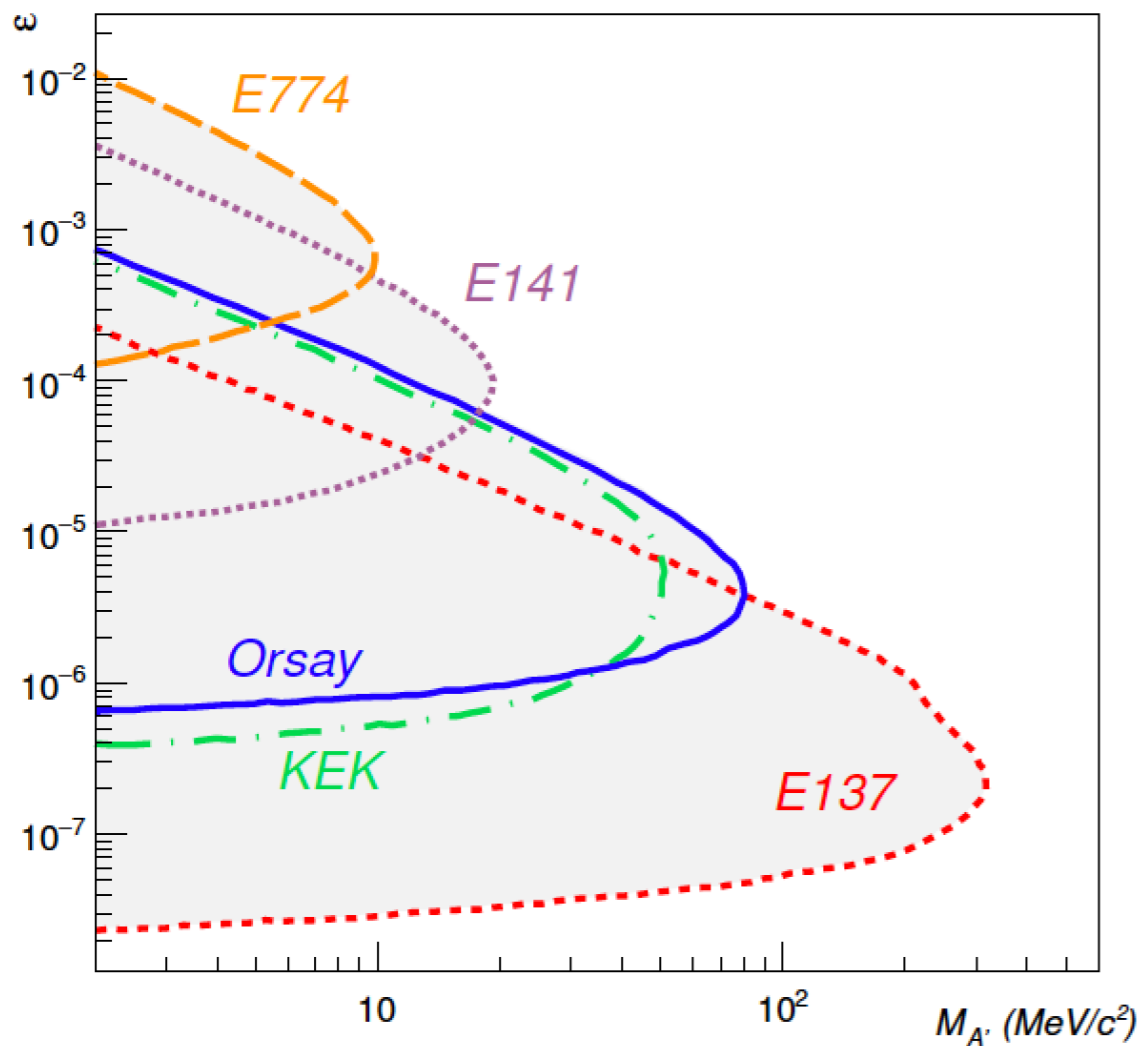
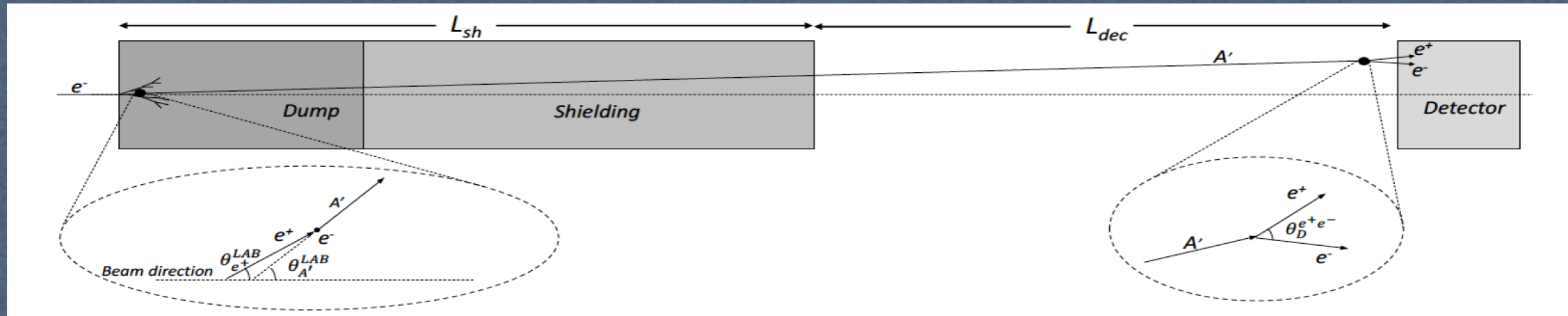


# Beam-dump experiments - visible -

- \* e- beam incident on thick target
- \* A' is produced in a process similar to ordinary Bremsstrahlung
- \* A' carries most of the beam energy
- \* A' emitted forward at small angle
- \* A' decays before the detector

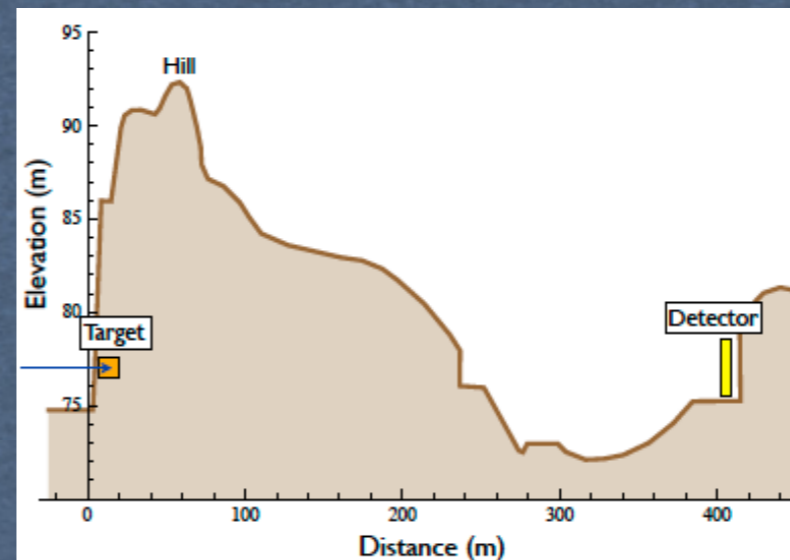


# Exclusion limits (BD - visible)



## Best exclusion limit from E137

- SLAC electron beam: 20 GeV,  $2 \times 10^{20}$  EOT
- Detector: 8 r.l. em calorimeter (hodo + cvrt + MWPC)
- Size: 1.5m x 1.0 m at  $\sim 380$ m from the BD
- Cosmic bg suppressed by directionality and time coincidence



- Detection Thr (X-e scattering only): 1-2 GeV
- 0 EVENTS DETECTED

# The BDX experiment

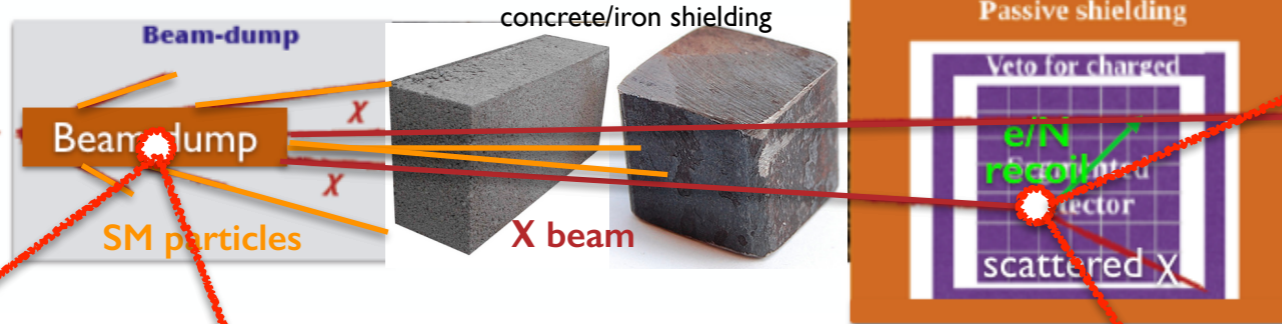
Two step process

I) An electron radiates an  $A'$  and the  $A'$  promptly decays to a  $\chi$  (DM) pair

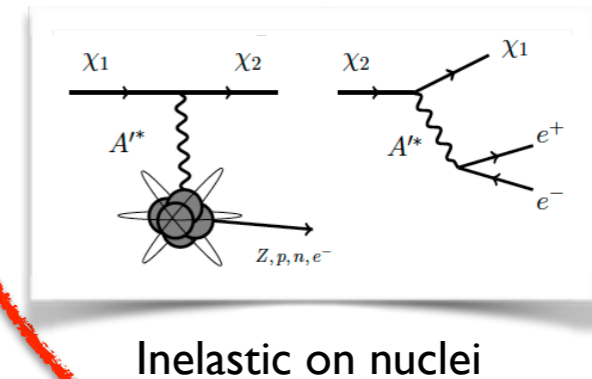
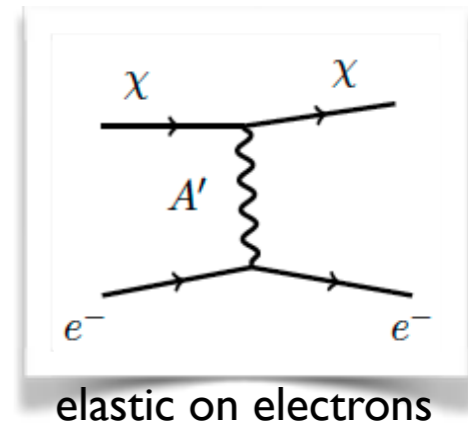
II) The  $\chi$  (in-)elastically scatters on a  $e^-$ /nucleon in the detector producing a visible recoil (GeV)

PhysRevD.88.114015 E.Izaguirre, G.Krnjaic, P.Schuster, N.Toro

High intensity  $e^-$  beam

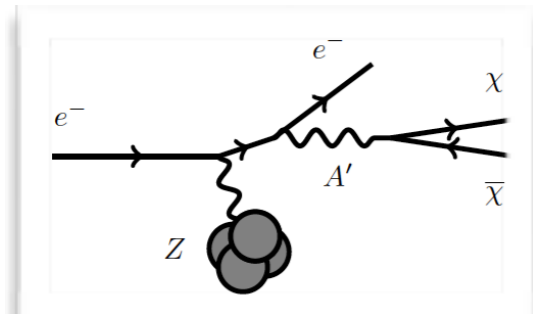


**X detection**



**BDX @ JLAB**

**X production**



$A'$  yield:

$$N_{A'} \propto \frac{\epsilon^2}{m_{A'}^2}$$

$\chi$  cross-section:

$$\sigma_{\chi e} \propto \frac{\alpha_D \epsilon^2}{m_{A'}^2}$$

Number of events:

$$N_\chi \propto \frac{\alpha_D \epsilon^4}{m_{A'}^4}$$

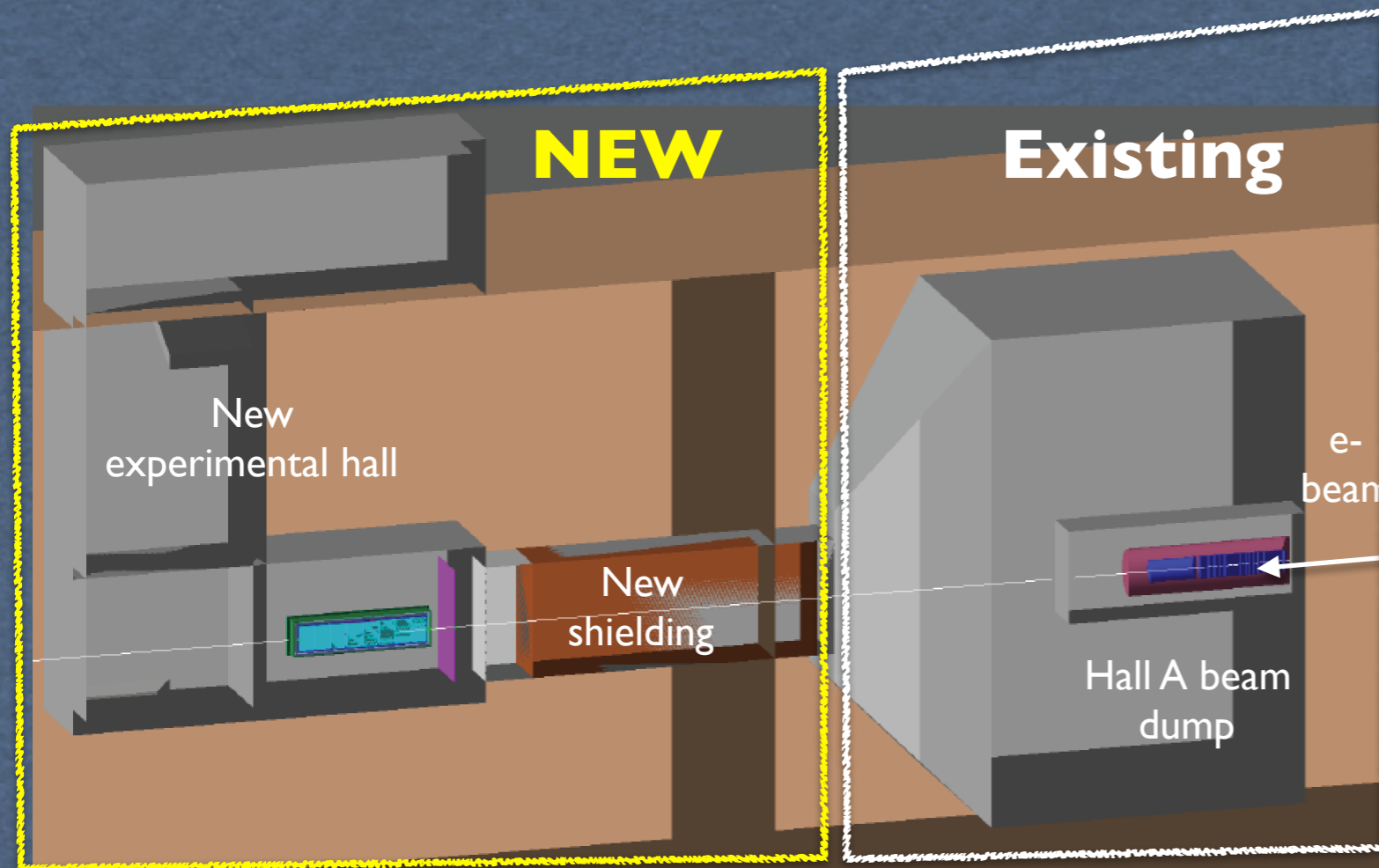
- Intense electron beam
- ~ few GeV range energy

Experimental signature in the detector:

**X-electron  $\rightarrow$  EM shower ~GeV energy**

# BDX at JLab

- ★ High energy beam available: 11 GeV
- ★ The highest available electron beam current:  $\sim 65 \mu\text{A}$
- ★ The highest integrated charge:  $10^{22}$  EOT (41 weeks)
- ★ BDX detector located downstream of Hall-A beam dump
- ★ New underground experimental hall



# The BDX detector

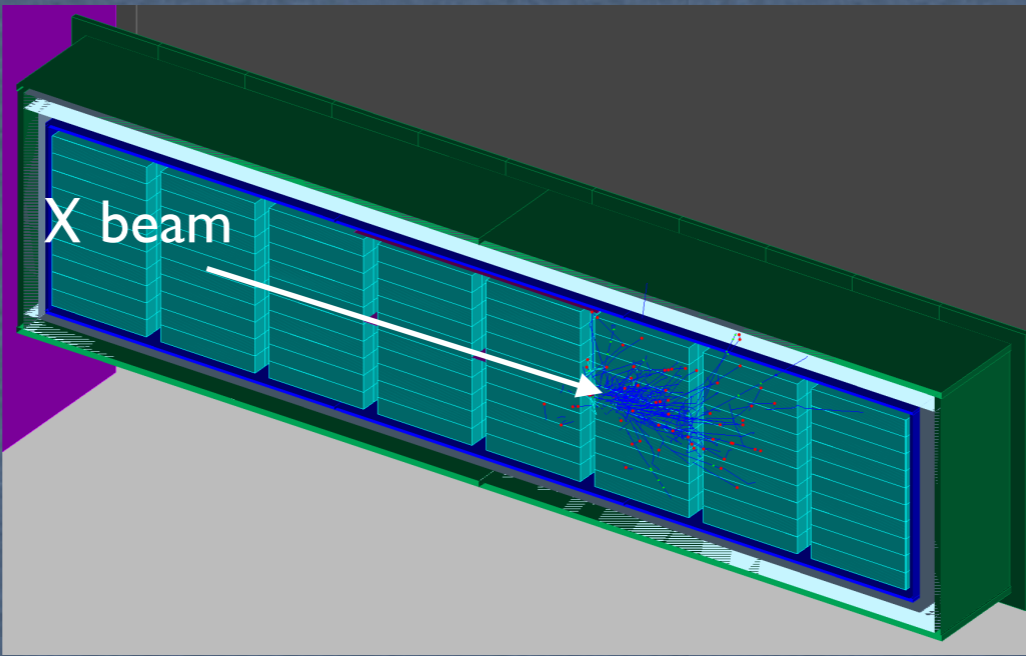
## Detecting the X

### E.M. Calorimeter

A **homogeneous crystal-based** detector combines all necessary requirements

Modular EM calorimeter

- 8 modules 10x10 crystals each
- 800 CsI(Tl) crystals (from BaBar EMCal)
- 6x6 mm<sup>2</sup> Hamamatsu SiPM readout
- 50 x 55 x 295 cm<sup>3</sup>



## Rejecting the bg

- Cosmic
- Beam-on

### Two active veto layers

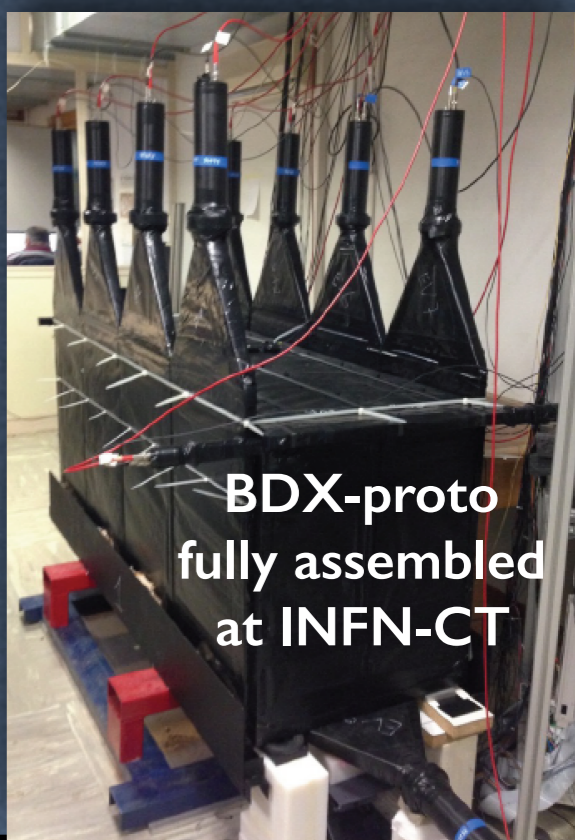
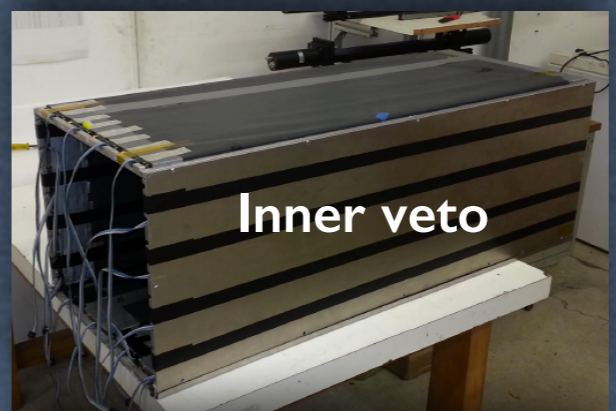
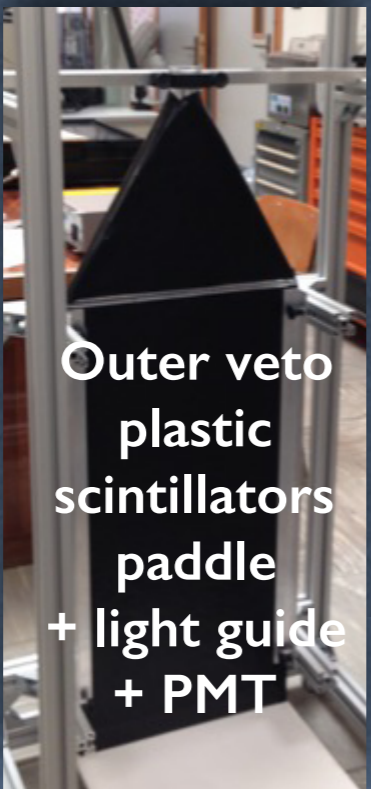
Plastic scintillator +WLS with SiPM and PMT readout

- Outer Veto: 2cm thick
- Inner Veto: 1 cm thick
- Lead Vault: 5cm thick

BDX detector technology validated with:

### BDX-Proto

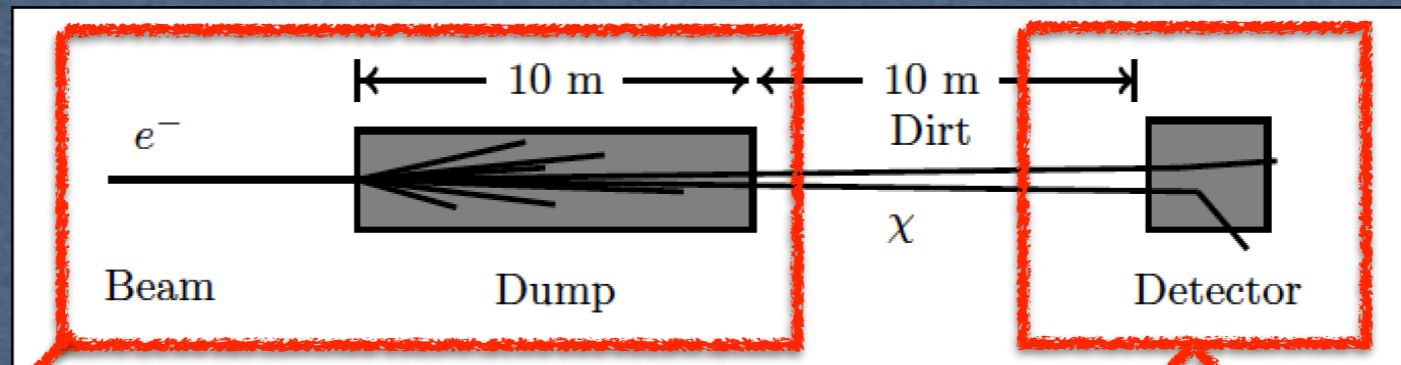
- EM Cal
  - 4x4 CsI(Tl) crystals
  - 6x6 mm<sup>2</sup> SiPM
- Outer Veto
- Lead vault
- Inner Veto



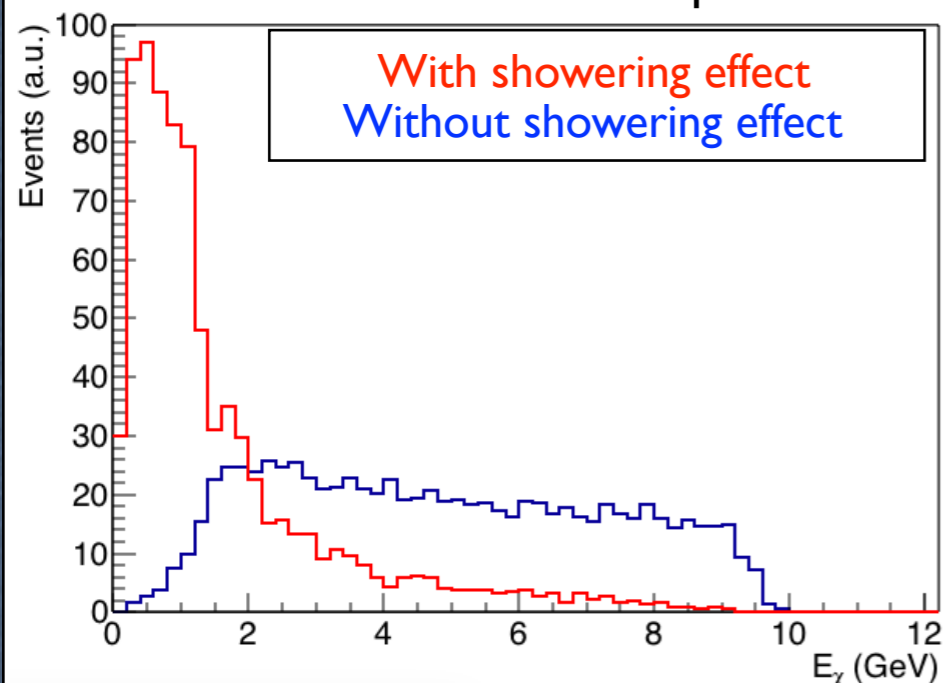


# X production and detection

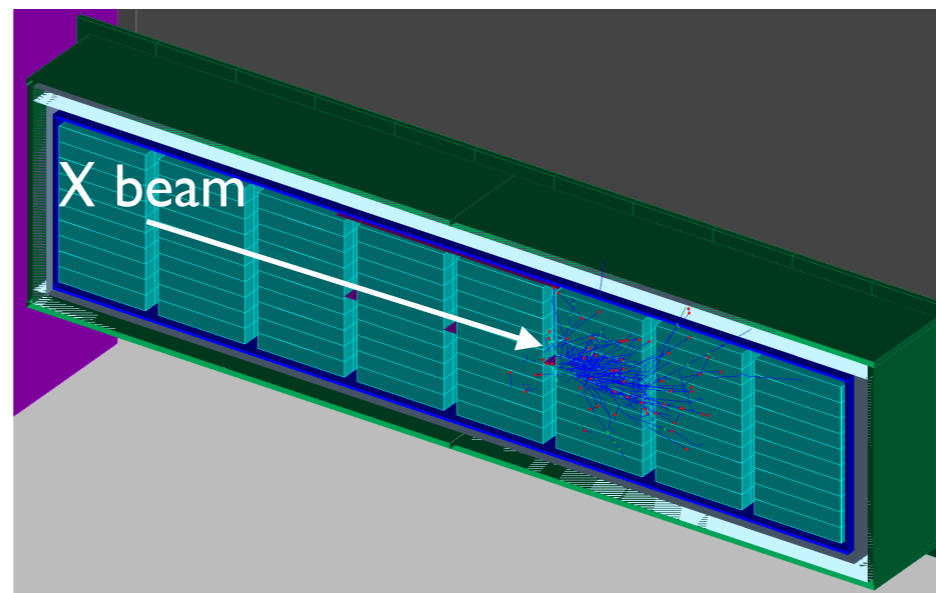
- Detailed simulations using ad-hoc MC code to describe the  $A'$  production, decay ( $A' \rightarrow \chi \chi$ ) and interaction in the BDX detector ( $\chi$ -e)
- Detailed description of Hall-A beam dump (production) and BDX detector (detection) using GEANT4



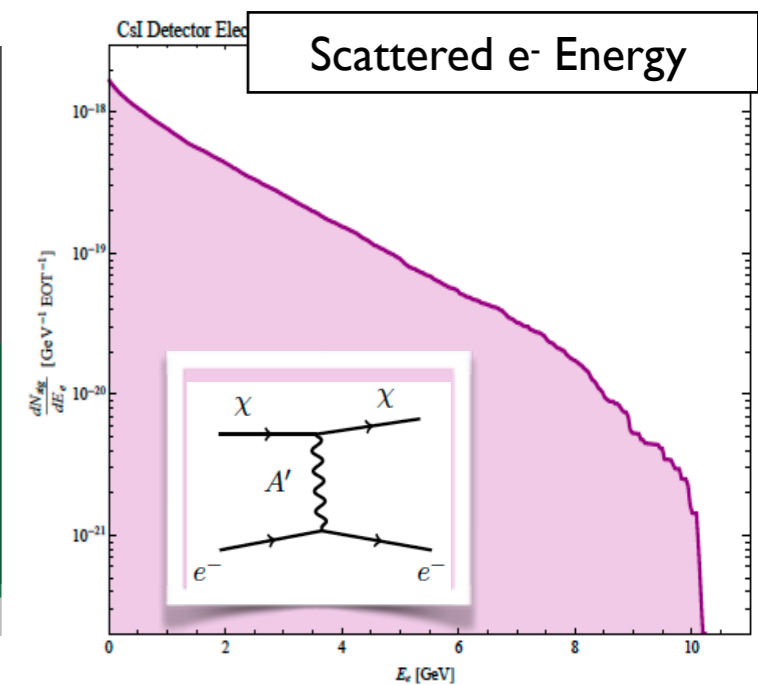
X energy spectrum generated by 11 GeV e-beam in the dump



$\chi$ -e interaction producing an em shower in the detector



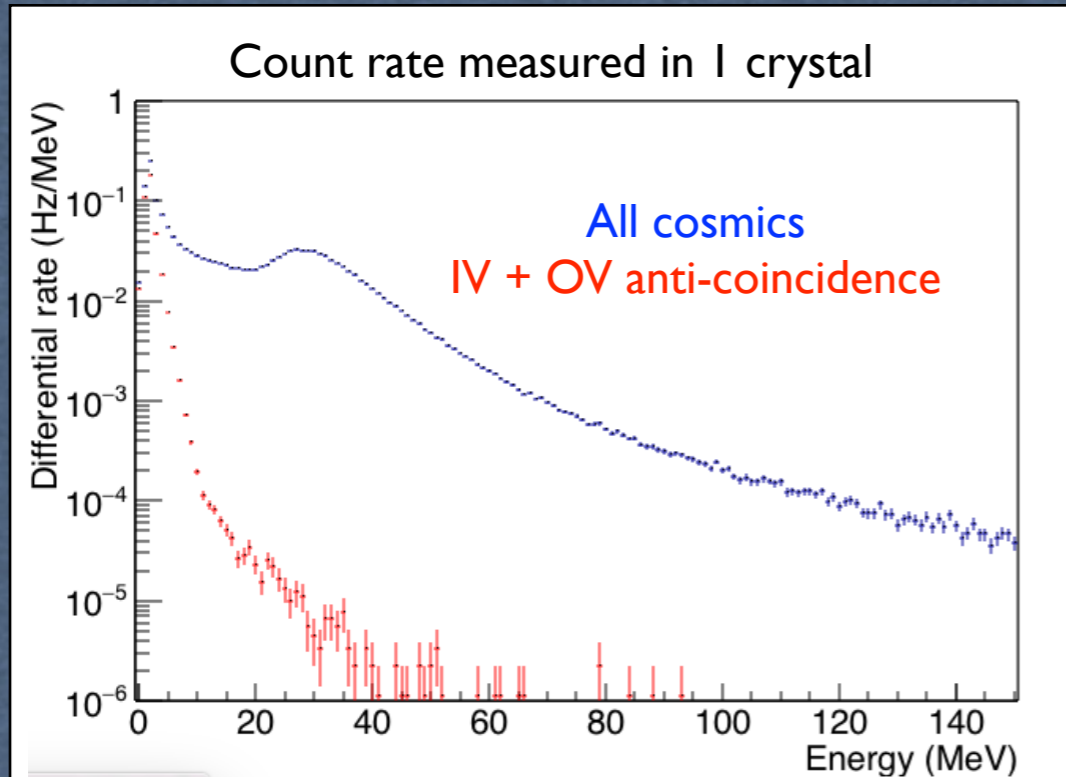
Elastic on electrons



# Background

## Cosmic

- ★ Cosmic background measured with the BDX detector prototype in CT



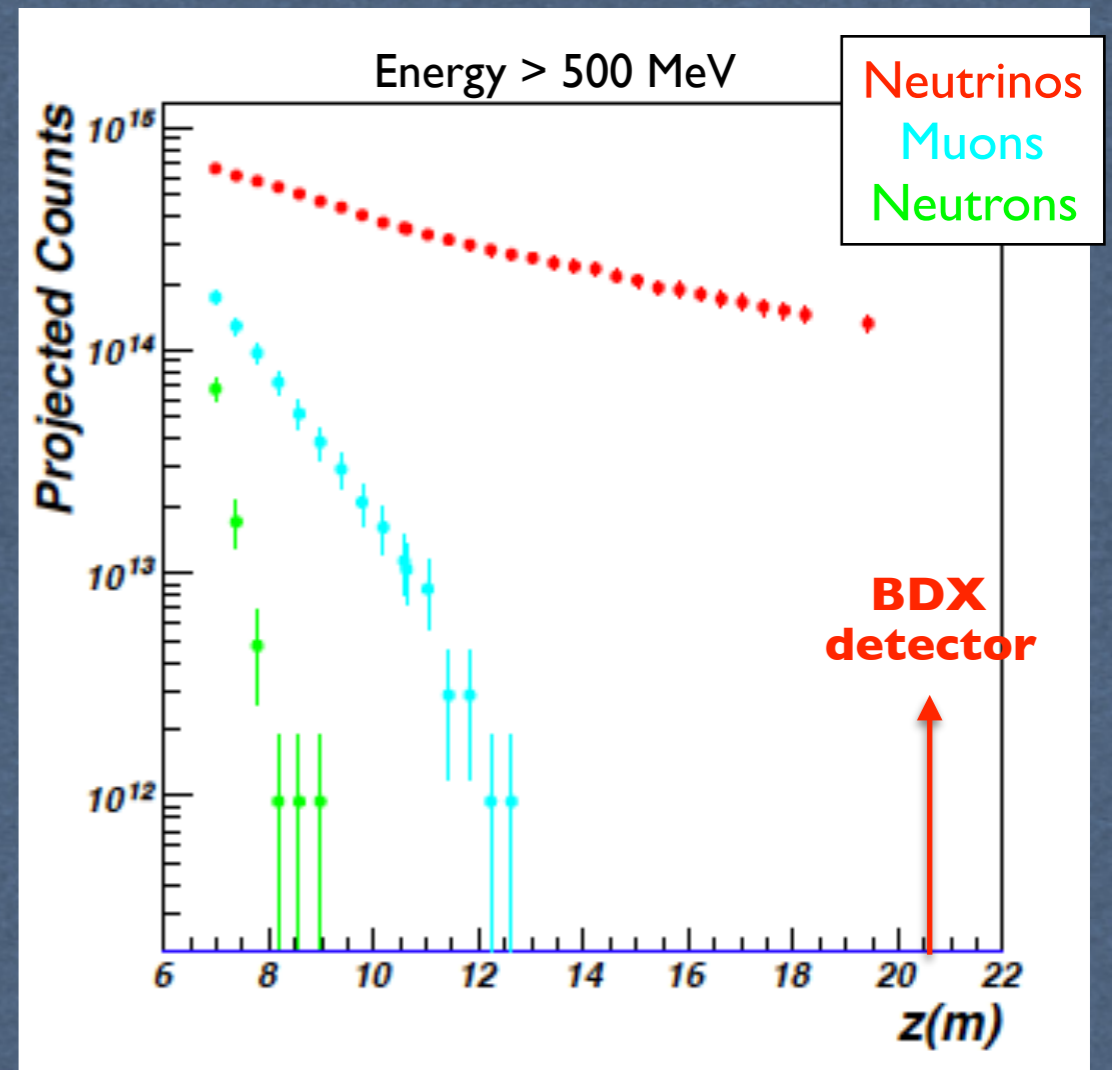
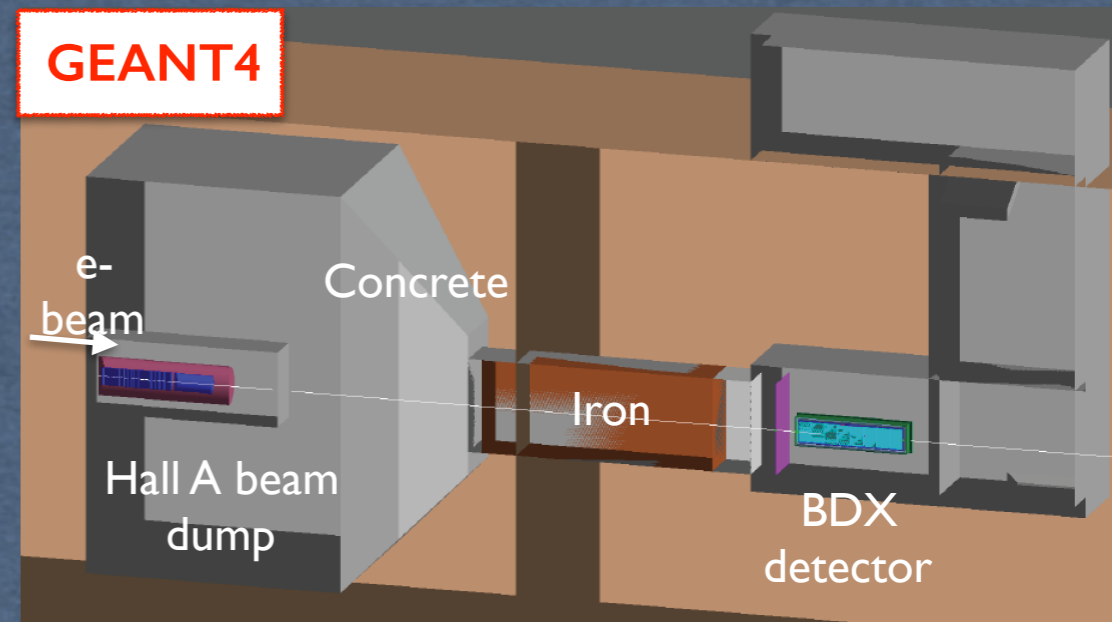
Expected cosmic bg counts in BDX lifetime < 2 counts

## Beam-related

Bg estimated using GEANT4, tracking particles with  $E > E_{Thr}$

- ★ Muons are ranged out by the iron shielding
- ★ Non-negligible contribution of high energy neutrino interacting in the detector by CC:  $\nu + N \rightarrow X + e^-$

Expected beam-related counts in BDX lifetime ~ 10 counts

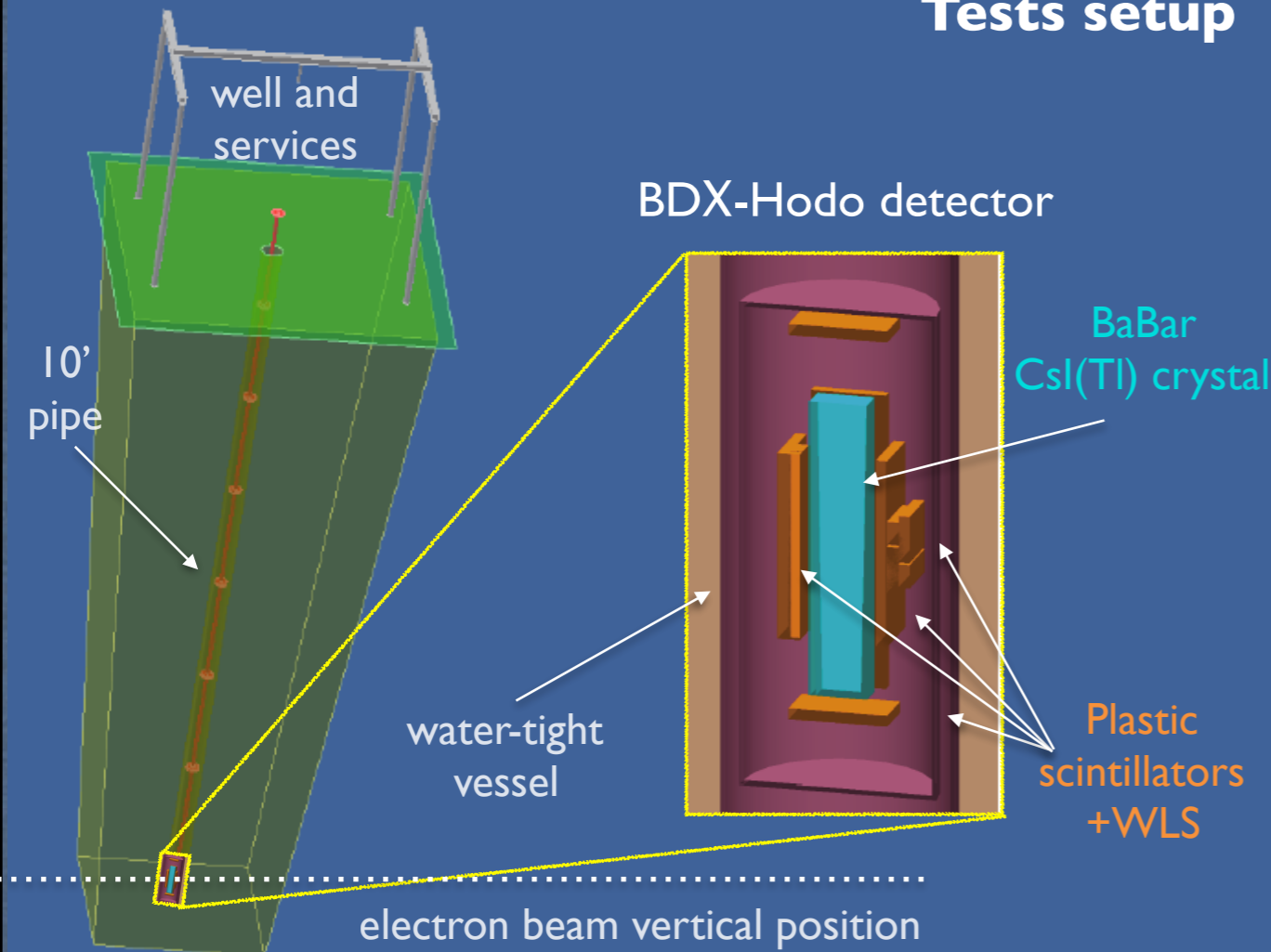


# Test to measure the beam-on background

Measurement campaign to characterize the flux of high-energy  $\mu$  produced in the Hall-A beam dump

- Pipe downstream of Hall-A beam-dump at BDX location
- Insert a CsI(Tl) crystal surrounded by plastic scintillators
- Same detector technology proposed for BDX detector
- Measure  $\mu$  flux when 11-GeV beam is on

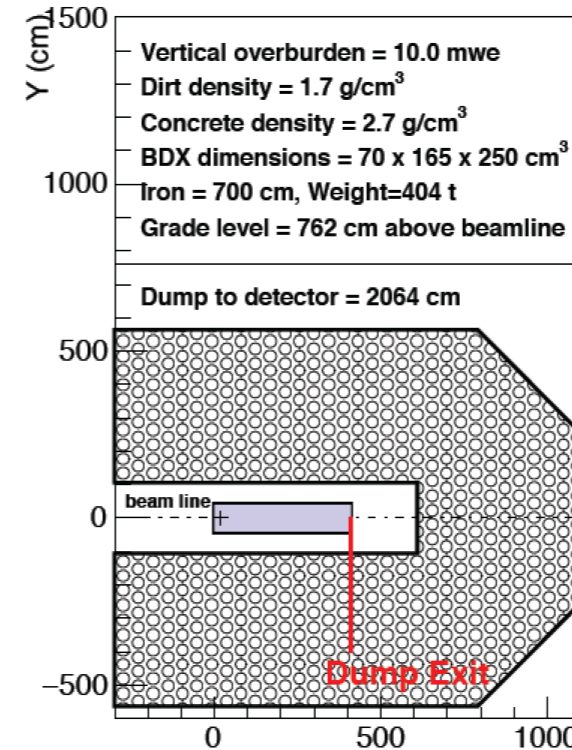
## Tests setup



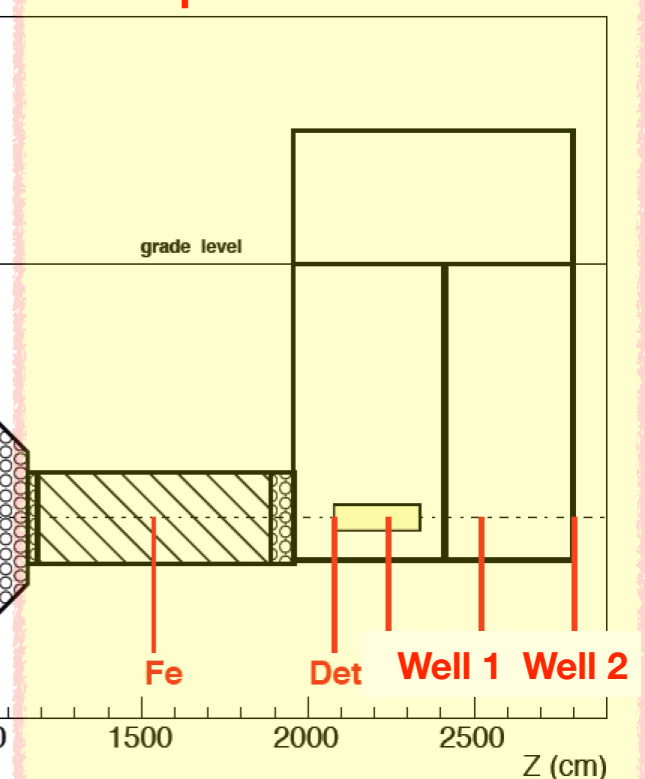
## Downstream of the Hall-A beam dump - TODAY -



## Hall-A beam-dump vault



## Proposed BDX new experimental Hall



# BDX-Hodo tests at JLab

Two wells

Well 1  
(~25m)

Well 2  
(~28m)

The tent

The BDX-Hodo

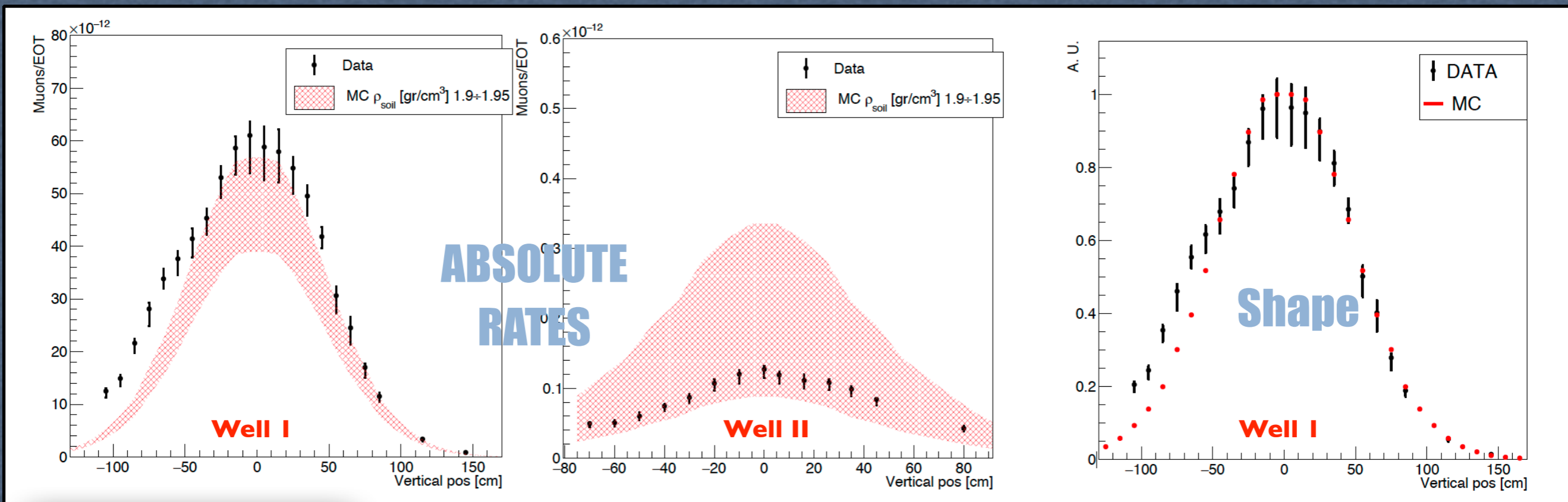
BDX-Hodo in the tent

The BDX-Hodo lowered in well 1

The first muon signal on the scope

- Run: from Feb 22nd to May 2nd 2018
- Hall-A beam parameters
  - $I_{\text{Beam}} \sim 22\mu\text{A}$
  - $E_{\text{Beam}} = 10.6 \text{ GeV}$
  - Diffuser: ON
- + 1 week taken in Well II with  $E_{\text{beam}} = 4.3 \text{ GeV}$

# Data/Sim comparison



★ **Absolute rates** for data and simulations in agreement within the density-related uncertainty band

★ The **shape** of rates sampled at different heights is well reproduced by simulations (gaussian with the same  $\sigma$ )

**Good agreement between data and simulations prove:**

- ✳ the **BDX simulation framework** is reliable
- ✳ **no significant contribution** from n bg (high energy n and/or pile-up effects)

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Measurements of the muon flux produced by 10.6 GeV electrons in a beam dump

M. Battaglieri<sup>a,\*</sup>, M. Bondi<sup>a,c</sup>, A. Celentano<sup>b</sup>, M. De Napoli<sup>a</sup>, R. De Vita<sup>b</sup>, S. Regan<sup>a</sup>, L. Maresciano<sup>a,c</sup>, G. Ottone<sup>b</sup>, F. Parodi<sup>a</sup>, N. Randazzo<sup>a</sup>, E.S. Smith<sup>d</sup>, T. Whitlatch<sup>e</sup>

<sup>a</sup>INFN - Sezione di Genova, Via Dodecaneso 33, I-16126 Genova, Italy

<sup>b</sup>INFN - Sezione di Padova, Via Marzotto 1, I-35131 Padova, Italy

<sup>c</sup>INFN - Sezione di Trieste, Via Strada 6, I-34127 Trieste, Italy

<sup>d</sup>University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195, USA

<sup>e</sup>George Washington University, Washington, DC 20052, USA

**ARTICLE INFO**

**ABSTRACT**

**Keywords:** Light Dark Matter; Dark Matter; Beam-Dump experiments; Monte Carlo; Monte Carlo simulation

This paper presents the results of an experiment to search for dark matter (DM) produced by the interaction of a 10.6 GeV electron beam with the Hall A beam dump at Jefferson Lab (JLab). The goal was to benchmark Monte Carlo simulations that are an essential tool for estimating beam-induced backgrounds in beam dump experiments aimed at searching for new events, such as the Neutrino Dump Experiment (NDE) planned at JLab. Beam-induced muons were measured with a CsI(Tl) crystal sandwiched between a set of segmented plastic scintillators placed at two different distances from the dump: 25.7 m and 28.8 m. At each location, the muons that were sampled at different vertical positions with respect to the beam height. Data have been compared with detailed Monte Carlo simulations using FLUKA for the muon production in the dump and propagation in the detector, and GEANT4 to simulate the detector response. The good agreement between data and simulations, with the uncertainties of the soil composition and density, demonstrates the validity of our simulation tools to predict the beam-induced muon background in electron beam-dump experiments at  $\sim 10$  GeV.

**1. Introduction**

Background is usually the limiting factor to experiments searching for new events. This is the case for Dark Matter (DM) searches in beam-dump experiments where a high intensity (GeV) electron/positron beam is directed into a dump producing an overwhelming shower of Standard Model particles in addition to the rare DM particles of interest. While most of the radiation (gamma, electron/positron and neutron) is contained in the dump or degraded down to harmless energy levels, deep penetrating radiation, such as muons, propagates for long distances before depositing their energy far from the point of origin. Monte Carlo simulations are used to find the best combination of shielding and analysis cuts to minimize such background. However, they need to be validated with actual measurements. In this work we present the results of a measurement performed downstream of the JLab Hall A beam-dump to assess the muon background produced in the interaction of the CEBAF 10.6 GeV electron beam with the dump. Experimental results have been compared to simulations performed with FLUKA [1,2] and GEANT4 [3] that include a realistic model of the dump, the surrounding materials and the detector response. This study is relevant for the Beam Dump Experiment (BDX) planned at Jefferson Lab. BDX is an electron-beam thick-target experiment aimed to produce and detect light Dark Matter particles (MeV-GeV mass range), in the framework of the theoretical paradigm where DM is charged under a new U(1) symmetry whose interaction is mediated by a new light vector boson (a dark photon or  $A'$ , also called dark photon) [4]. The  $A'$  is expected to be produced in the interaction of the high power (>1 CW) electron beam with the Hall A beam dump via  $A'$  -  $\nu\bar{\nu}$  processes [5] and  $e^+e^-$  annihilation [6]. The  $A'$  could then decay into forward-scattered DM particles [4] that may interact with the BDX detector located  $\sim 25$  m downstream of the dump. An electromagnetic calorimeter with  $\sim 800$  CsI(Tl) crystals will measure the DM shower produced by high-energy  $e^+$  produced by the scattering of  $e^-$  with atomic electrons. Two large-area plastic-scintillator veto systems and a massive passive shielding shield downstream of the dump will be used to reject high energy backgrounds that can mimic a DM signal, except for neutrons. In order to benchmark Monte Carlo simulations, an on-site experimental campaign was performed to measure the muon flux in the present

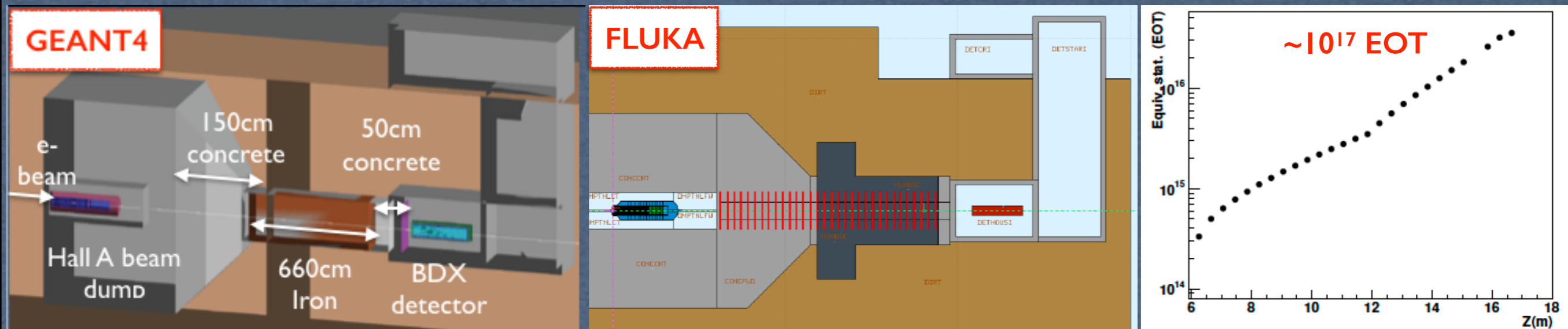
\* Corresponding author.  
E-mail address: [mattaglieri@slac.stanford.edu](mailto:mattaglieri@slac.stanford.edu) (M. Battaglieri).

Neutrons are copiously produced in the dump but due to the low interaction cross section, they deserve a separate discussion.

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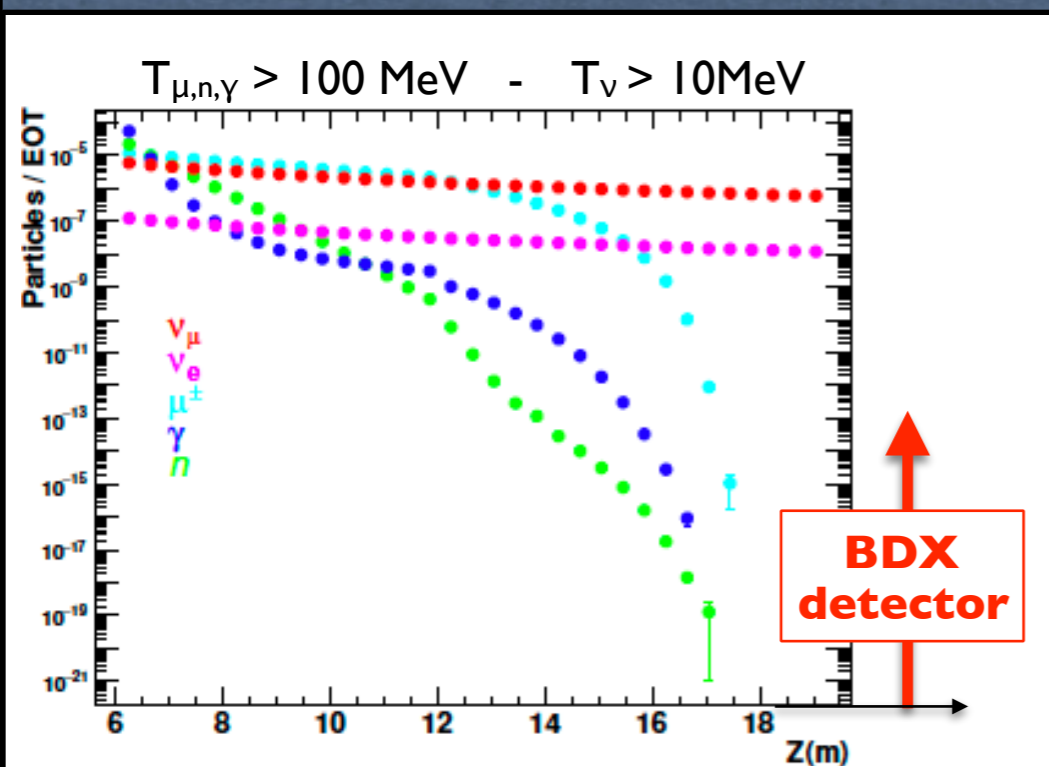
# High statistics MC sim the BDX set-up



★ Particles produced in the BD by the 11 GeV beam are tracked to BDX detector location

- 6.6m iron shield (+2m concrete) to stop high energy muons
- different shielding configuration tested

★ High statistics simulations: 300 cores x 3 months simulating  $\sim 10^{17}$  EOT equivalent at BDX detector location



★ No n and  $\gamma$  with  $E > 100 \text{ MeV}$  are found at the detector location

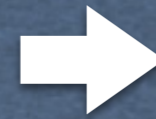
★ Muons

- All forward-going muons are ranged out
- Large angle  $\mu$ s may enter in BDX volume ( $R \sim 0.02 \text{ Hz}$ )
- They are rejected by combination of veto and threshold
- Shielding configuration leading to 0 bg events found
- An optimized shielding will be defined at the time of the new experimental Hall design

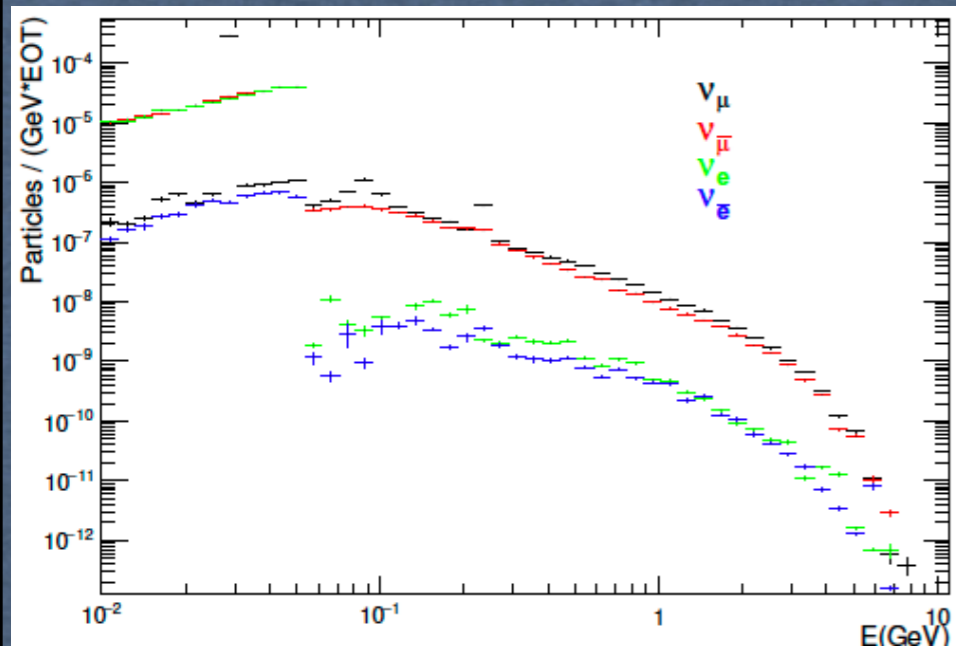
# MC Simulations: neutrino background

## ★ Neutrino

- $\pi \rightarrow \mu \nu_\mu$   $\mu \rightarrow e \nu_\mu \nu_e$
- Mainly low energy (<60 MeV) from decay at rest
- Some  $\nu$  produced in HadShower and boosted to BDX detector



Non-negligible contribution of high energy  $\nu$  interacting in the BDX detector



- FLUKA to generate and propagate  $\nu$  (1.5x  $\nu$  flux obtained by G4)
- FLUKA NUNDIS/NUNRES to simulate  $\nu$  interaction with CsI(Tl) BDX crystals
- G4 to simulate the detector response to  $\nu$ -CsI(Tl) interaction products

- NC**
- $\nu_\mu + N \rightarrow \nu_\mu X$  : all rejected by the det. threshold (limited energy transfer to N)
  - $\nu_e + N \rightarrow \nu_e X$  : all rejected by the det. threshold (limited energy transfer to N)
- CC**
- $\nu_\mu + N \rightarrow X + \mu$  : all rejected by identifying the scattered muon
  - $\nu_{e^-} + N \rightarrow X + e^-$  : the largest contribution to over-tresh. hits in BDX

Different scattered  $e^-$  angle for signal and bg:

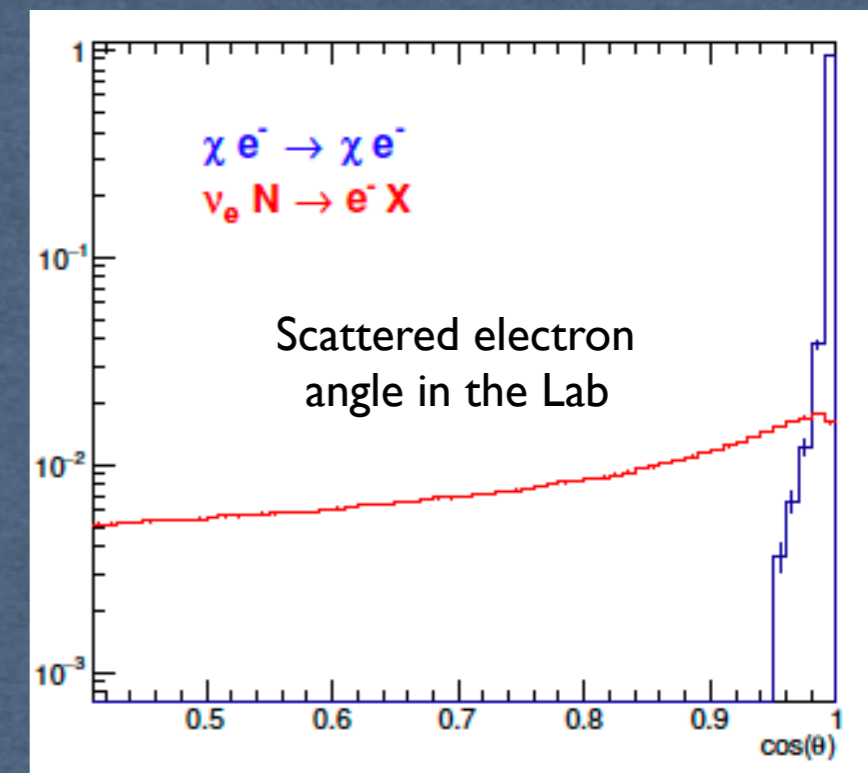
- $X_{DM} + e^- \rightarrow X_{DM} + e^-$  : forward peaked for
- $\nu_{e^-} + N \rightarrow X + e^-$  : spread over all angles



neutrino BG can be identified and suppressed!

High-stats FLUKA simulations demonstrate:

- \* BDX only limited by the  $\nu$  irreducible bg
- \* Expected beam-related bg counts  $\sim 5$  events



# BDX expected reach

## Beam time request

- $10^{22}$  EOT (65 uA for 285 days)
- BDX can run parasitically to any Hall-A  $E_{\text{beam}} > 10$  GeV experiments (e.g. Moeller)

### Beam-related background

Energy threshold |  $N_v$  (285 days)

300 MeV

~10 counts

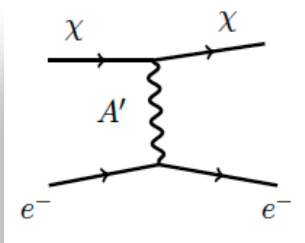
### Cosmic background

Energy threshold |  $\sqrt{Bg}$  (285 days)

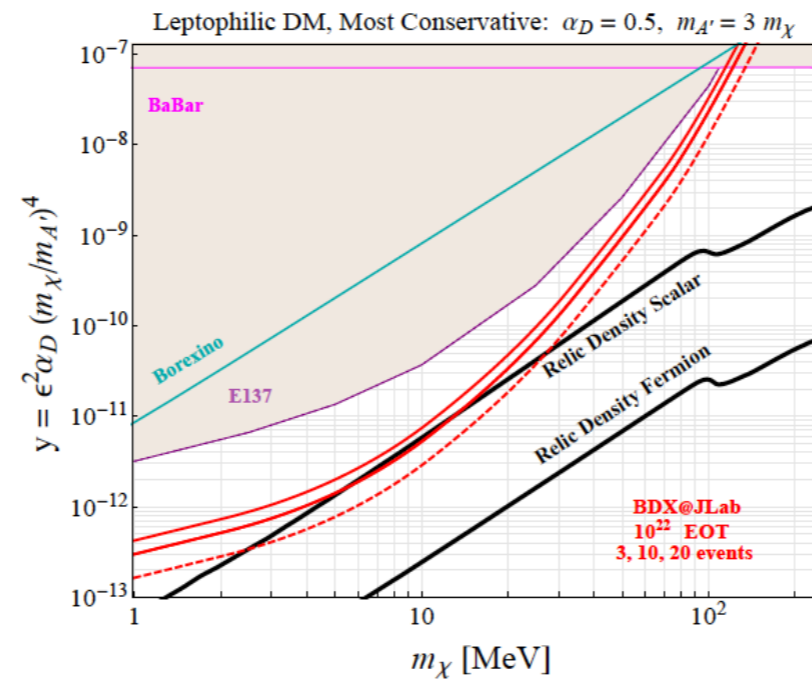
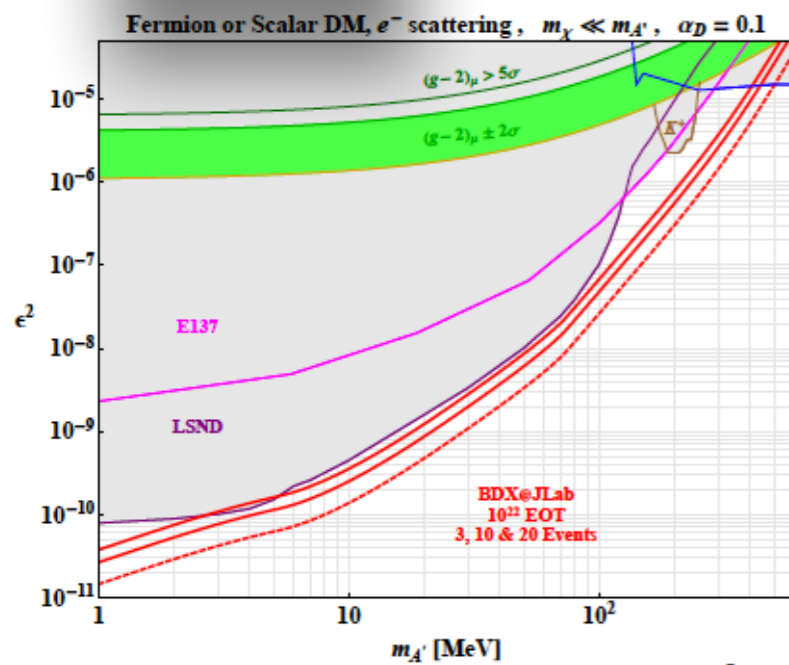
300 MeV

<2 counts

**BDX sensitivity is 10-100 times better than existing limits on LDM**

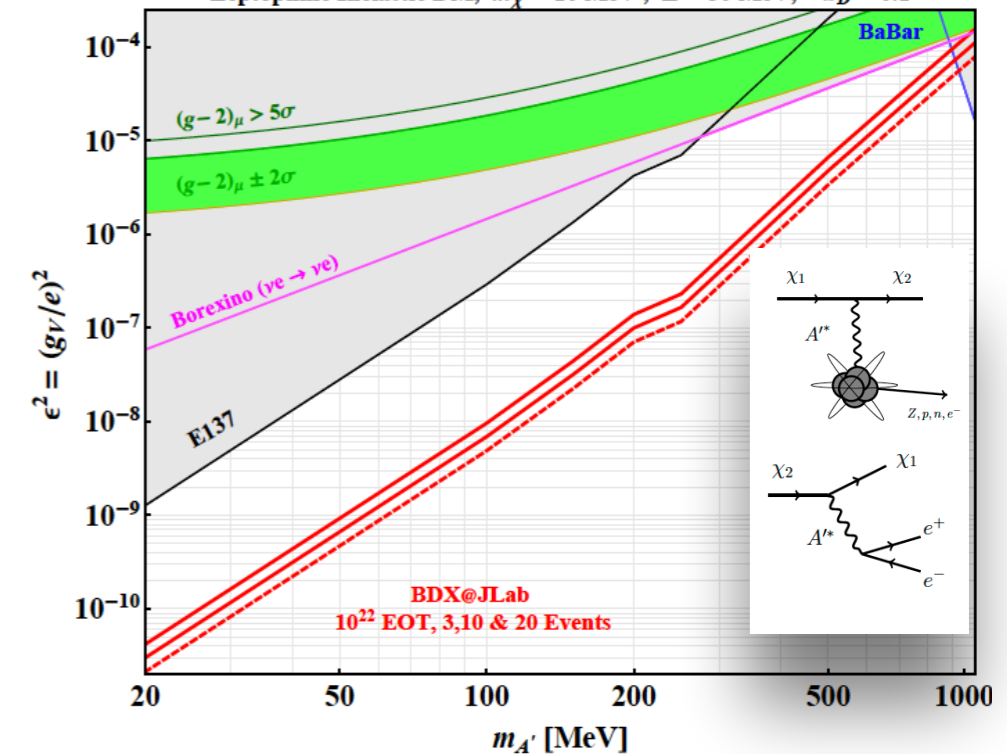


## Elastic X-e scattering - BDX reach



## Inelastic X-N scattering

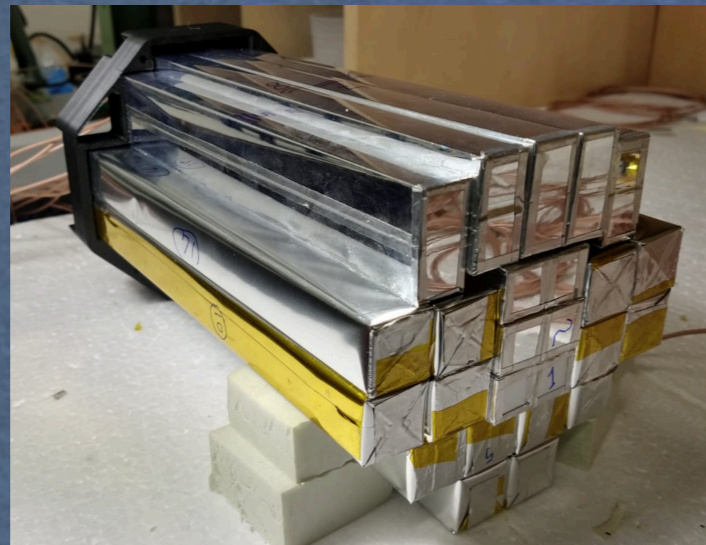
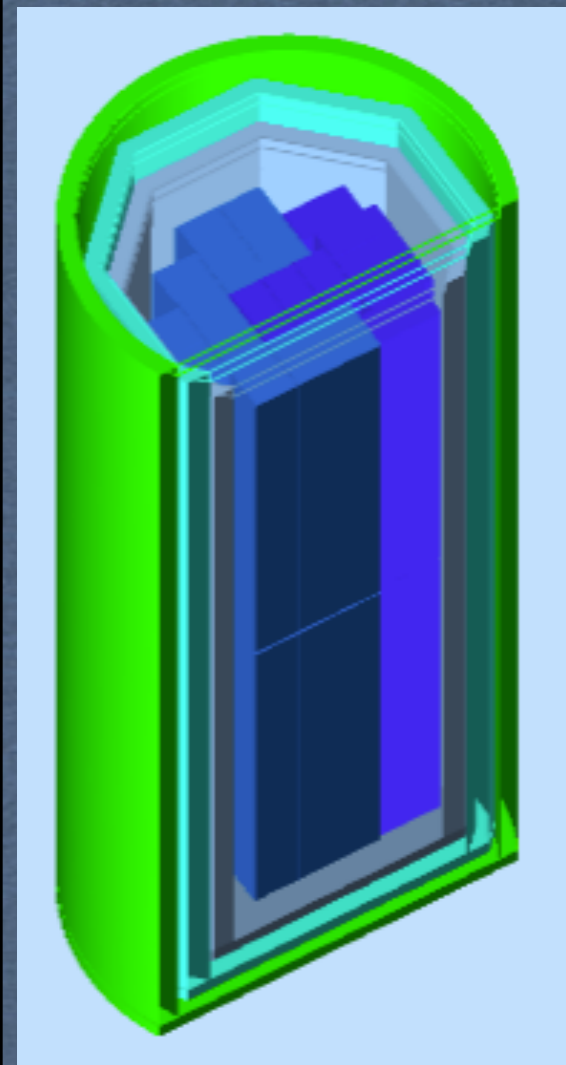
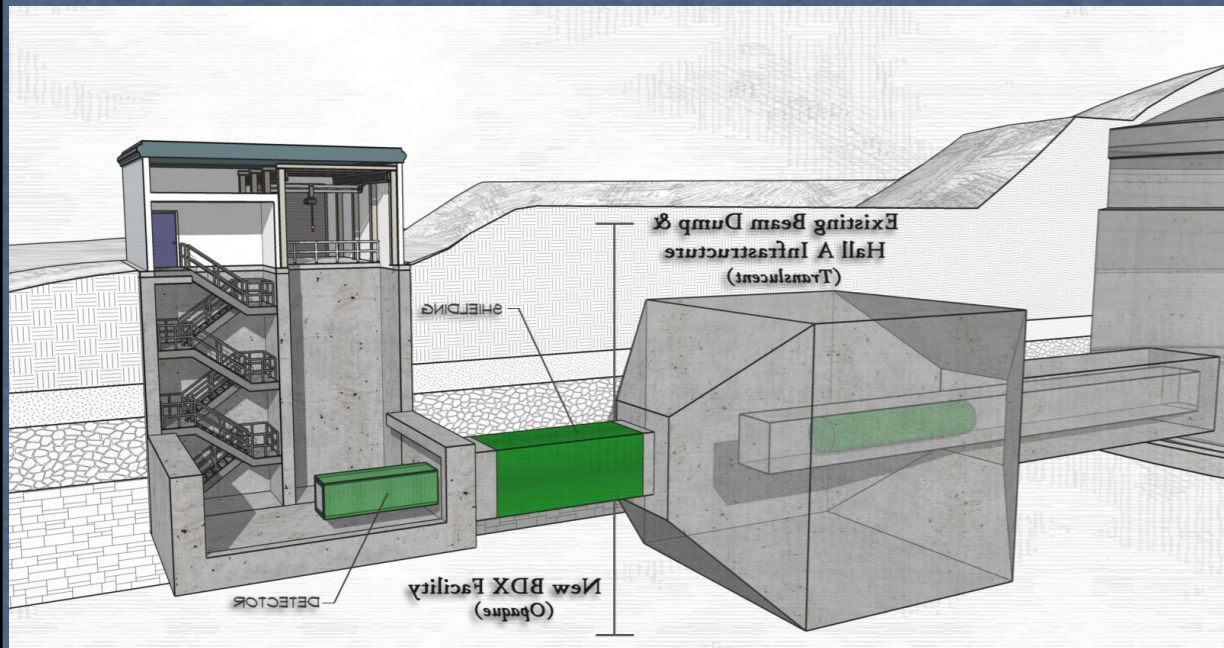
Leptophilic Inelastic DM,  $m_\chi = 10$  MeV,  $\Delta = 50$  MeV,  $\alpha_D = 0.1$



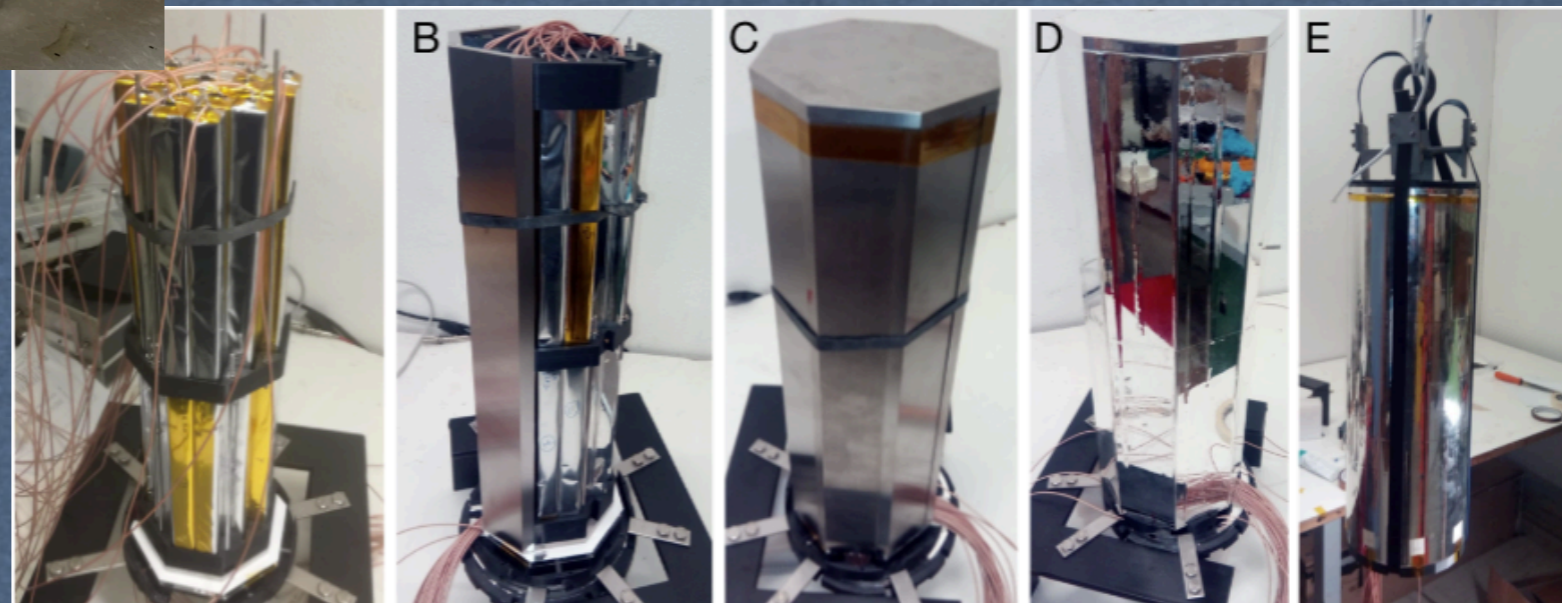


# BDX-MINI

- While waiting for the new BDX experimental hall ...
- Take advantage of two wells dug for muon tests
- $E_{\text{beam}}=2.2$  GeV,  $5 \times 10^{21}$  EOT expected for 2019/20, no muons at well locations
- Opportunistic measurement to test BDX experiment in real conditions (cosmic/acc bg, data analysis)
- limited reach but first BDX@JLAB result!

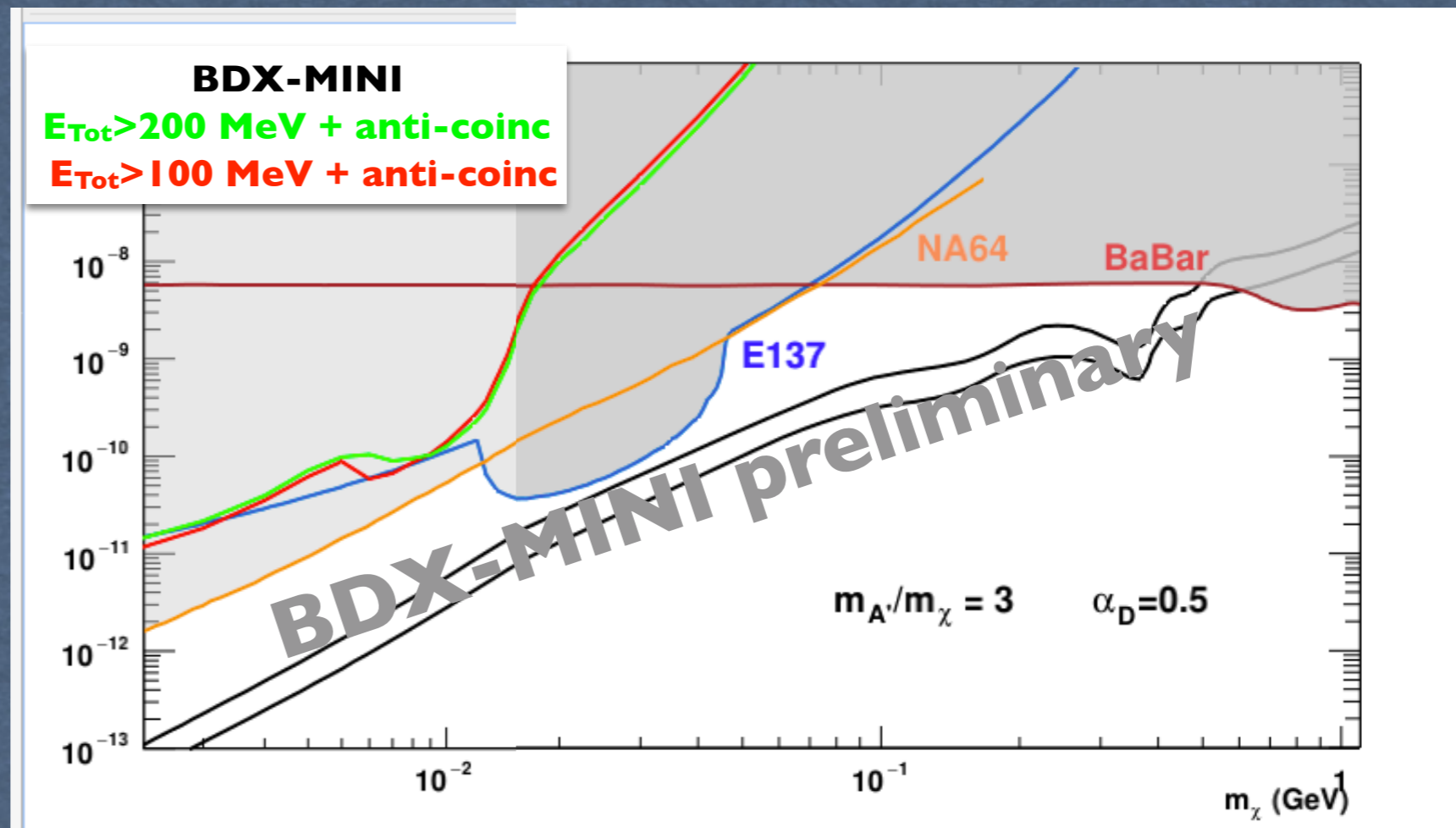
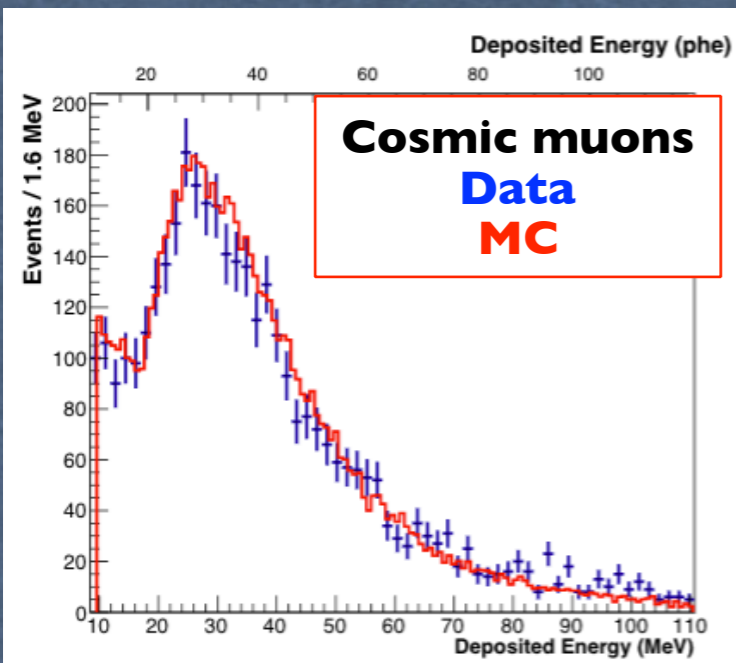
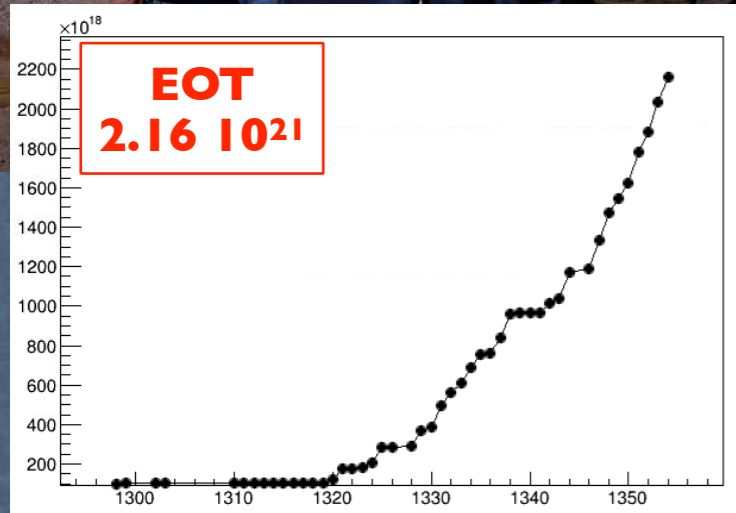


- Same technology proposed for BDX
- BDX-MINI fits in BDX-HODO vessel
- 44 PbWO4 PANDA/FT-Cal crystals (~1% BDX active volume)
- 6x6 mm<sup>2</sup> SiPM readout
- 2 active plastic scintillator vetos: cylindrical and octagonal (8 sipm each) + 2x lids
- Passive W shielding

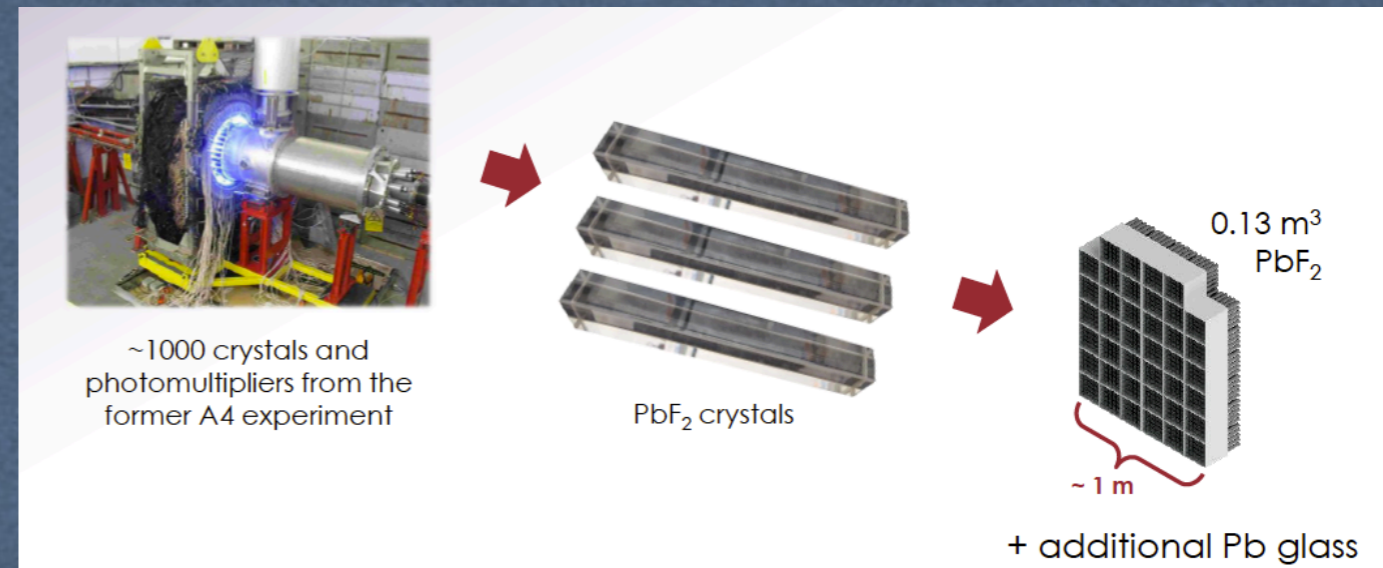
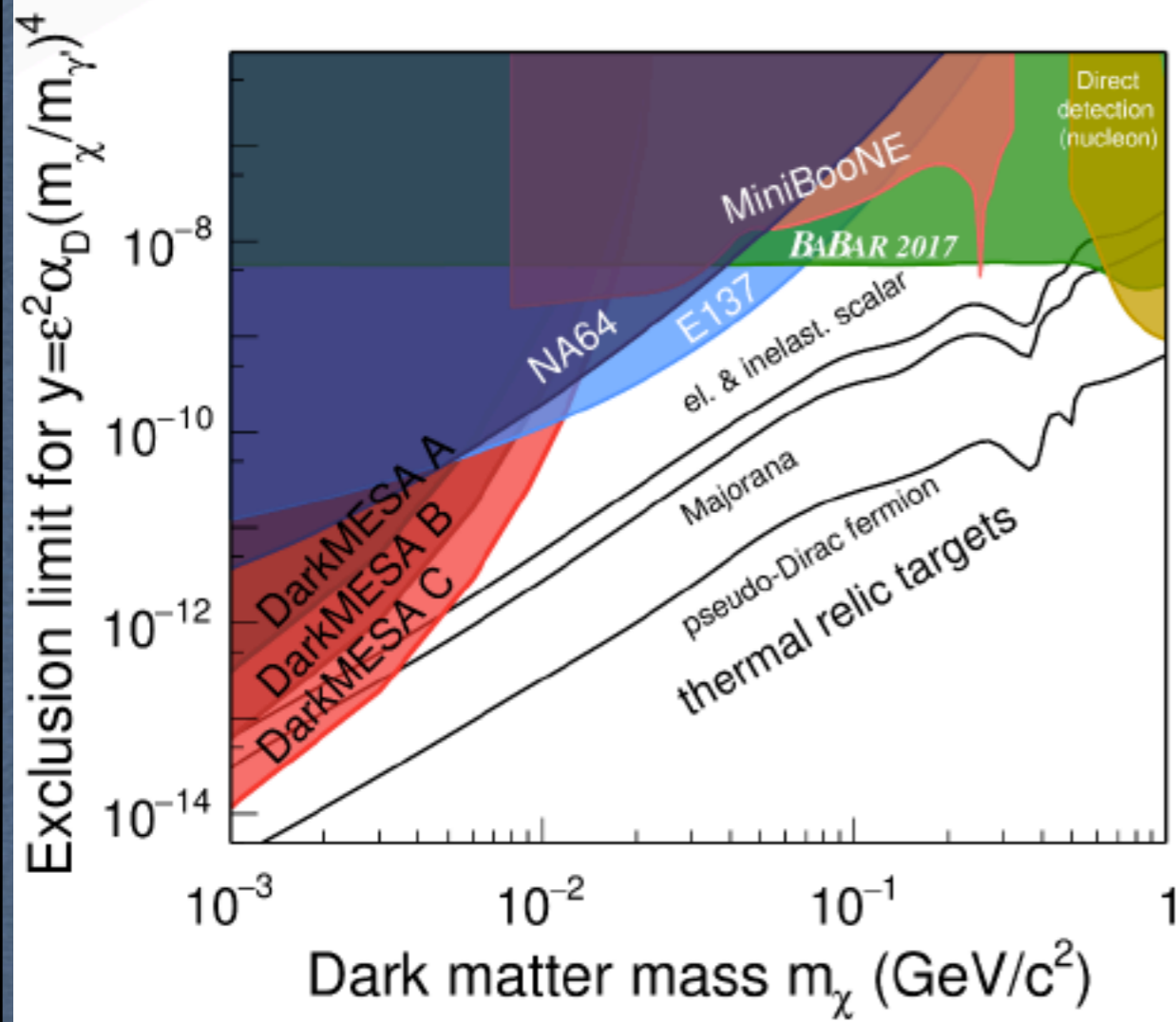
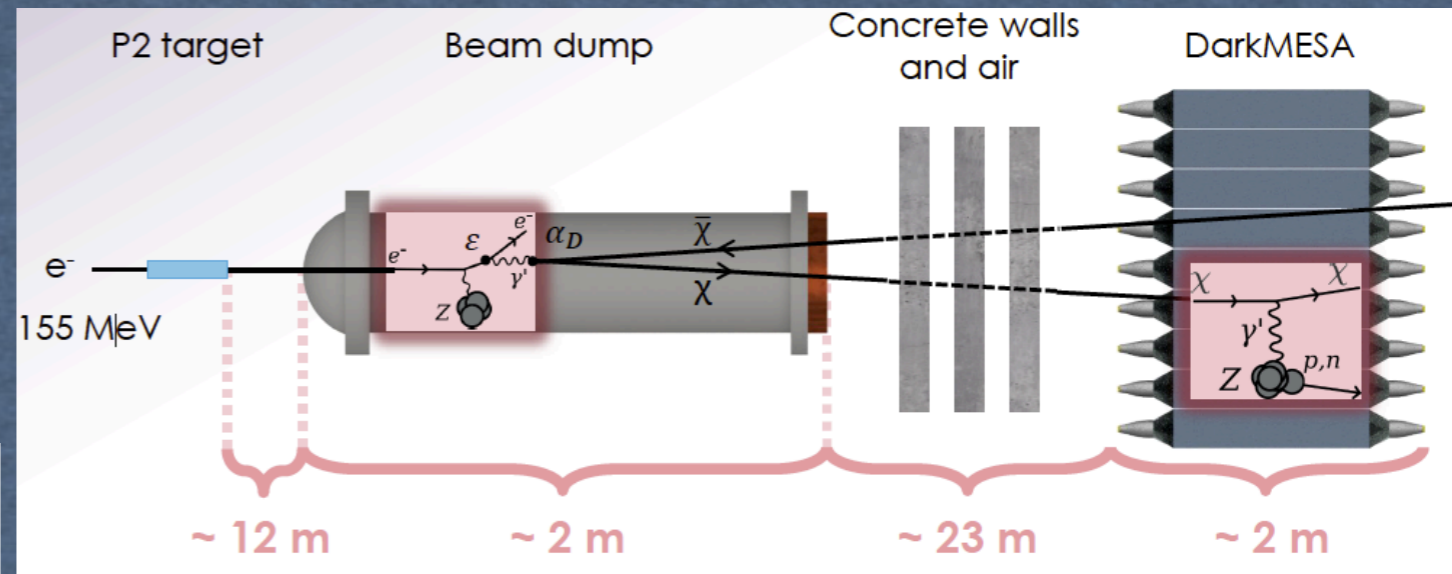
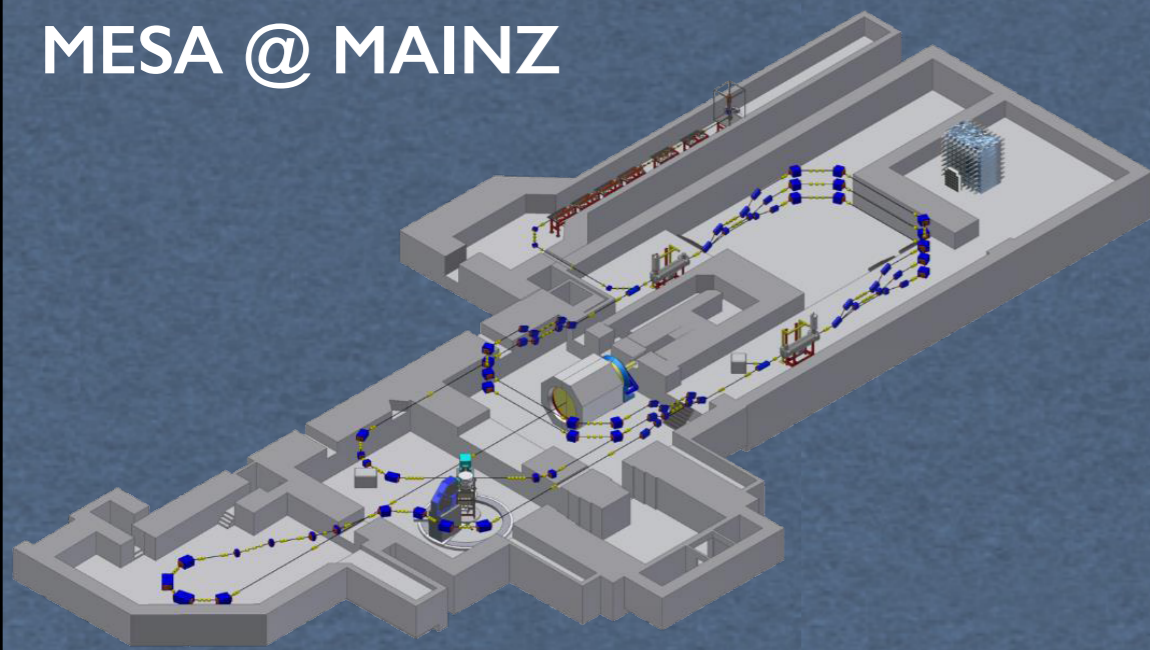


# BDX-MINI

- Installed in March 2019
- Run started in Dec 2019
- Collected 2e21 EOT (20% BDX!) in ~4 months
- Collected an equivalent time of cosmic
- Good detector performance with high duty factor
- Data analysis in progress
- First physics results!
- Same sensitivity of E137!!

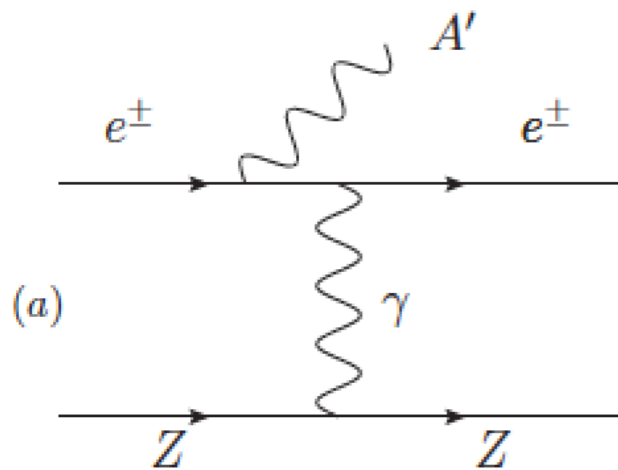


# BeamDump@MAINZ DARKMESA



- $\alpha D = 0.5$  and  $m_{\gamma'} = 3 \cdot m_{\chi}$
- $3 \cdot 10^{22}$  EOT
- Energy detection threshold 14 MeV
- Detector efficiency 90%
- No backgrounds

# A' Production mechanisms - e±



## The Weizsacker-Williams approximation (A'-strahlung)

- The incoming electron 'see' a fast-moving cloud of effective photons to scatter from
- Photons are almost on-shell (low Q<sup>2</sup>) → transverse photons ~ e<sup>-</sup> γ<sub>Real</sub> scattering
- Same treatment as the regular *bremstrahlung*
- Regularisations occurs in the case of interest M<sub>A'</sub> >> M<sub>e</sub>.
- Effective photon flux χ is critical, accounting for nuclear effect using FF

$$\sigma \approx \frac{8}{3} \frac{\alpha^3 \epsilon^2 \beta_{A'}}{m_{A'}^2} \chi \log\left(\frac{1}{(1-x)_c}\right),$$

$$(1-x)_c = \max\left(\frac{m_e^2}{m_{A'}^2}, \frac{m_{A'}^2}{E_0^2}\right).$$

- **t min/max energy**

- **G el/in FF**

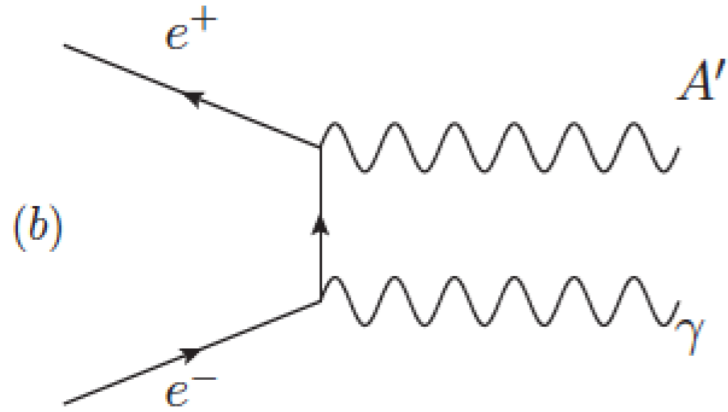
$$\chi \equiv \int_{t_{\min}}^{t_{\max}} dt \frac{t - t_{\min}}{t^2} G_2(t).$$

$$G_{2,el}(t) = \left(\frac{a^2 t}{1 + a^2 t}\right)^2 \left(\frac{1}{1 + t/d}\right)^2 Z^2$$

$$G_{2,in}(t) = \left(\frac{a'^2 t}{1 + a'^2 t}\right)^2 \left(\frac{1 + \frac{t}{4m_p^2}(\mu_p^2 - 1)}{(1 + \frac{t}{0.71 \text{ GeV}^2})^4}\right)^2 Z$$

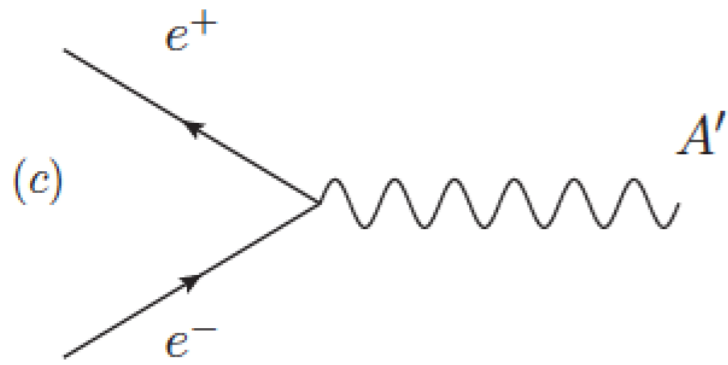
- A more rigorous treatment has been proposed in Phys.Rev. D95 036010 (Yu-Sheng Liu, David McKeen, and Gerald A. Miller) to overcome the WW approximation, the simplification in PS calculation and other approximations

# A' Production - positrons



- **NON-RESONANT annihilation**  $\sim \epsilon^2 \alpha^2$

$$\sigma_{nr} = \frac{8\pi\alpha^2\epsilon^2}{s} \left[ \left( \frac{s - m_{A'}^2}{2s} + \frac{m_{A'}^2}{s - m_{A'}^2} \right) \log \frac{s}{m_e^2} - \frac{s - m_{A'}^2}{2s} \right]$$

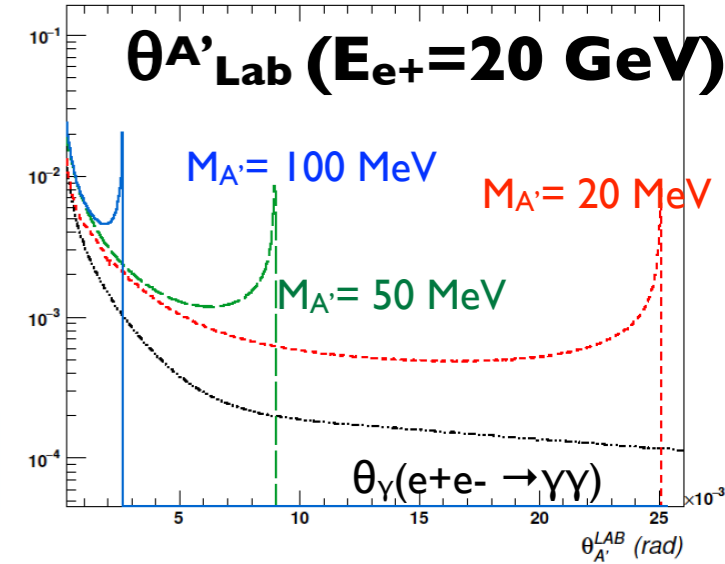


- **RESONANT annihilation**  $\sim \epsilon^2 \alpha$

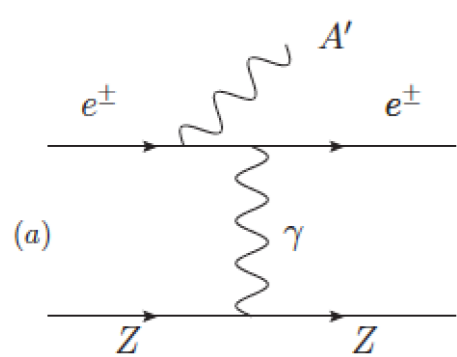
$$\sigma_r = \sigma_{\text{peak}} \frac{\Gamma_{A'}^2/4}{(\sqrt{s} - m_{A'})^2 + \Gamma_{A'}^2/4},$$

$$\Gamma_{A'} = \frac{1}{3} m_{A'} \epsilon^2 \alpha \quad \sigma_{\text{peak}} = \frac{12\pi}{m_{A'}^2}$$

- **A' along (e+e-) direction**



- **Two-body process**
- **A' forward-peaked along e+ direction**
- **E\_{A'} = E\_R = m\_{A'}^2/2m\_e**

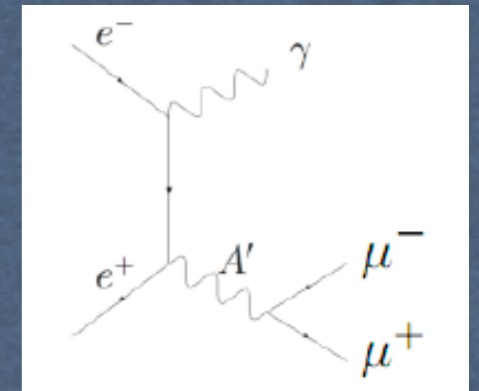


$$\sim \epsilon^2 \alpha^3$$

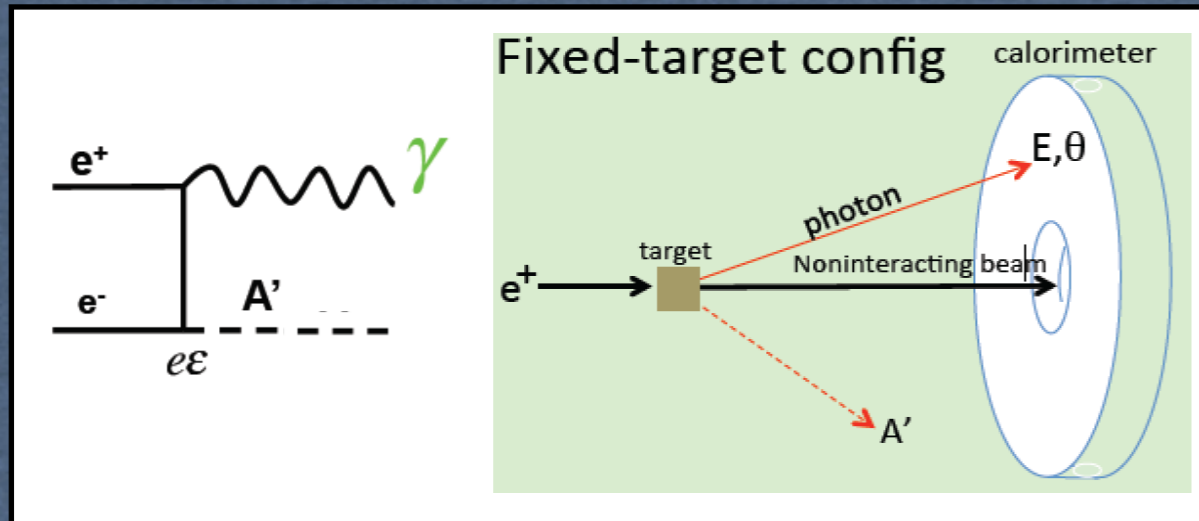
- Known and used
- Collider (missing mass experiments)
- Thin target experiments (visible decay)

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma' \gamma \rightarrow \mu\mu \gamma$$

→ **BABAR, BELLE, KLOE, CLEO**



# $e^+$ annihilation on fixed (thin) target - invisible -

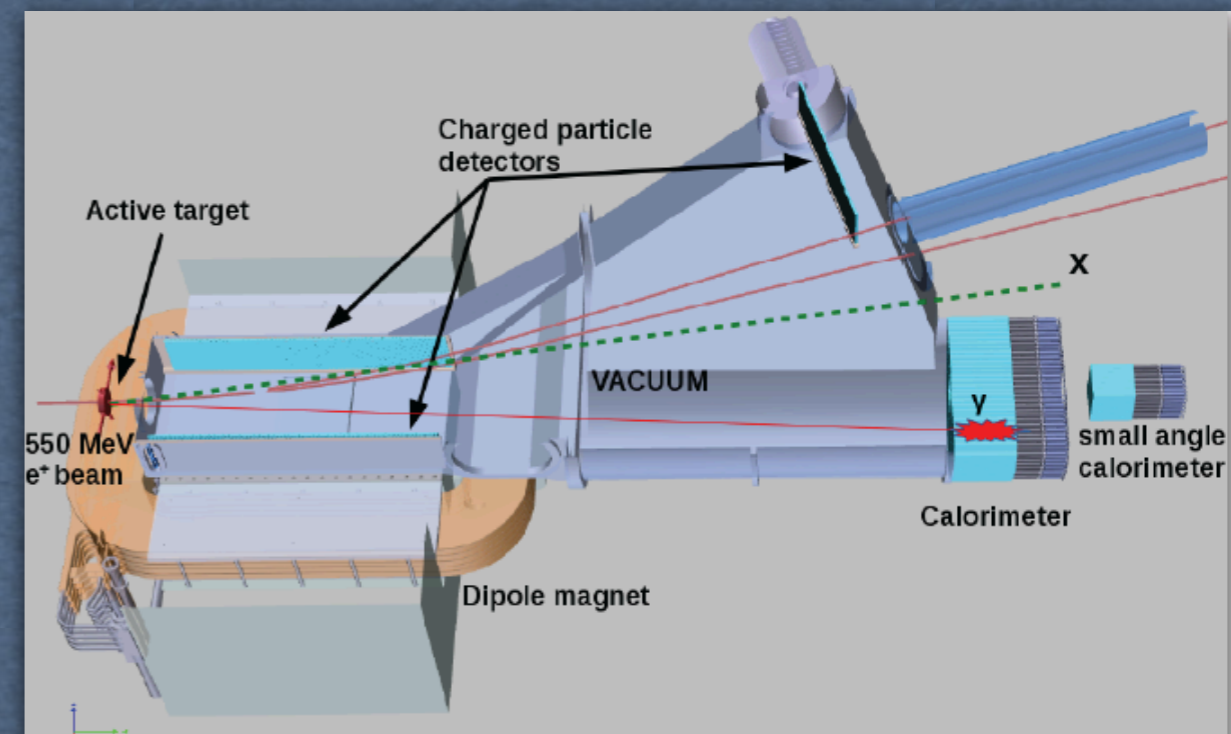


Missing mass search:

- Independent of  $A'$  decay mechanism
- Bump hunt (monophoton@collider)
- Need a positron beam
- Limited  $M_{A'}$  accessible
  - 1 GeV beam:  $M_{A'} < 31$  MeV
  - 5 GeV beam:  $M_{A'} < 71$  MeV

## PADME@LNF

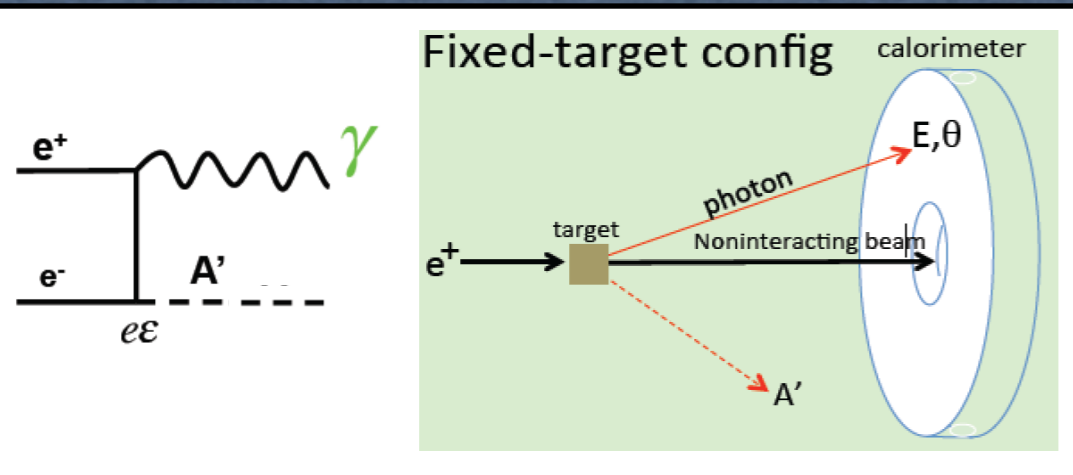
- **Beam:**  $e^+$  from LNF LINAC, 550MeV, multiplicity  $\sim 20k$   $e^+$ / bunch, bunch duration 250 ns, frequency 49 Hz.
- Diamond active **target** 100  $\mu\text{m}$  thickness: position, size and intensity of incoming beam
- Dipole **magnet** of 0.45 T to deflect charged particles out calorimeter
- Plastic scintillators **veto** system + high energy positron veto in order to detect charged particles bent by magnet
- Electromagnetic calorimeter (**ECAL**) composed of 616 BGO crystals
- Small angle calorimeter (**SAC**) composed of 25  $\text{PbF}_2$  crystals
- Already collected  $5 \cdot 10^{12}$  POT (expected  $10^{13}$  POT)



# Positrons in light DM searches

Experiment	Lab	Production	Detection	Vertex	Mass(MeV)	Mass Res. (MeV)	Beam	Ebeam (GeV)	Ibeam or Lumi	Machine	1st Run	Next Run
APEX	JLab	e-brem	$\ell^+\ell^-$	no	65 – 600	0.5%	$e^-$	1.1–4.5	150 $\mu$ A	CEBAF(A)	2010	2018
A1	Mainz	e-brem	$e^+e^-$	no	40 – 300	?	$e^-$	0.2–0.9	140 $\mu$ A	MAMI	2011	–
HPS	JLab	e-brem	$e^+e^-$	yes	20 – 200	1–2	$e^-$	1–6	50–500 nA	CEBAF(B)	2015	2018
DarkLight	JLab	e-brem	$e^+e^-$	no	< 80	?	$e^-$	0.1	10 mA	LERF	2016	2018
MAGIX	Mainz	e-brem	$e^+e^-$	no	10 – 60	?	$e^-$	0.155	1 mA	MESA	2020	–
NA64	CERN	e-brem	$e^+e^-$	no	1 – 50	?	$e^-$	100	$2 \times 10^{11}$ EOT/yr	SPS	2017	2022
Super-HPS	SLAC	e-brem	vis	yes	< 500	?	$e^-$	4 – 8	1 $\mu$ A	DASEL	?	?
(TBD)	Cornell	e-brem	$e^+e^-$	?	< 100	?	$e^-$	0.1–0.3	100 mA	CBETA	?	?
VEPP3	Budker	annih	invis	no	5 – 22	1	$e^+$	0.500	$10^{33} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$	VEPP3	2019	?
PADME	Frascati	annih	invis	no	1 – 24	2 – 5	$e^+$	0.550	$\leq 10^{14} e^+\text{OT}/\text{y}$	Linac	2018	?
MMAAPS	Cornell	annih	invis	no	20 – 78	1 – 6	$e^+$	6.0	$10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$	Synchr	?	?
KLOE 2	Frascati	several	vis/invis	no	< 1.1 GeV	1.5	$e^+e^-$	0.51	$2 \times 10^{32} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$	DA $\phi$ NE	2014	–
Belle II	KEK	several	vis/invis	no	$\lesssim 10$ GeV	1 – 5	$e^+e^-$	4 $\times$ 7	$1 \sim 10 \text{ ab}^{-1}/\text{y}$	Super-KEKB	2018	–
SeaQuest	FNAL	several	$\mu^+\mu^-$	yes	$\lesssim 10$ GeV	3 – 6%	p	120	$10^{18}$ POT/y	MI	2017	2020
SHIP	CERN	several	vis	yes	$\lesssim 10$ GeV	1 – 2	p	400	$2 \times 10^{20}$ POT/5y	SPS	2026	–
LHCb	CERN	several	$\ell^+\ell^-$	yes	$\lesssim 40$ GeV	$\sim 4$	pp	6500	$\sim 10 \text{ fb}^{-1}/\text{y}$	LHC	2010	2015

# $e^+$ annihilation on fixed (thin) target - invisible -



**VEPP3**

- $E_{e^+} = 500 \text{ MeV}$
- $EOT \sim 10^{15} - 10^{16} \text{ year}^{-1}$

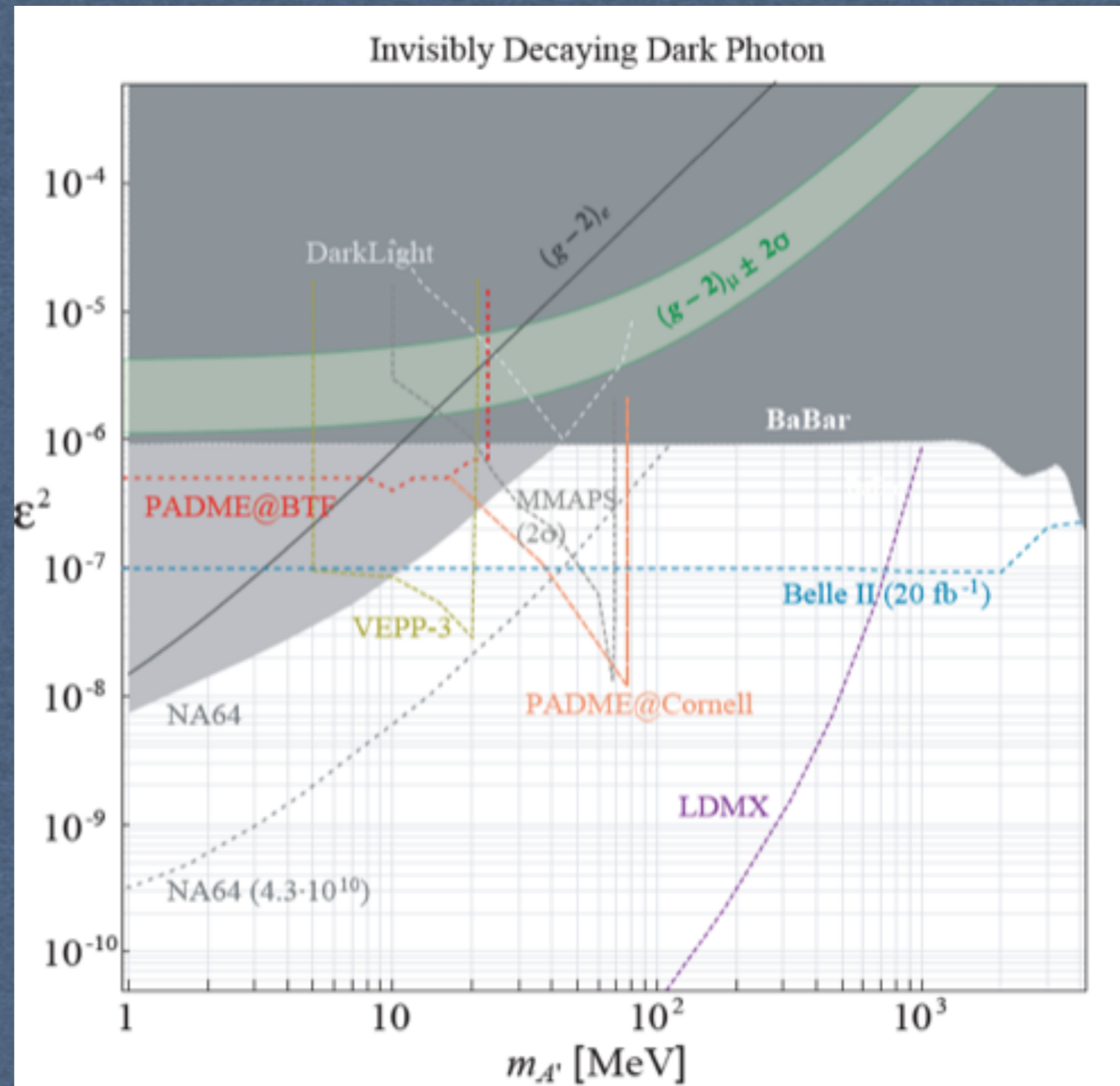
**LNF**

- $E_{e^+} = 550 \text{ MeV}$
- $EOT \sim 10^{13} - 10^{14} \text{ year}^{-1}$

**Cornell**

- $E_{e^-} = 5.3 \text{ GeV}$
- $EOT \sim 10^{17} - 10^{18} \text{ year}^{-1}$

**JLab (future)**







# PADME@JLAB

## Reusable PADME components:

- Target - PADME carbon target can be installed at CEBAF
- Calorimeter - PADME Ecal meets all requirements of the experiment (energy resolution, angular resolution, size)
- Veto System - technology and front-end electronics from PADME veto can be reused

## New equipment:

- DAQ system - suitable for a CW beam

- Main limitation: limited energy in the CM  $\sim \sqrt{E_{\text{beam}}}$
- High energy positron beams are not (yet) available
- The highest energy at JLab ( $\sim 11$  GeV) Max  $M_{A'}$   $\sim 106$  MeV

## Main Background Processes

Main processes that result in a single gamma hitting the ECAL:

**Bremsstrahlung**



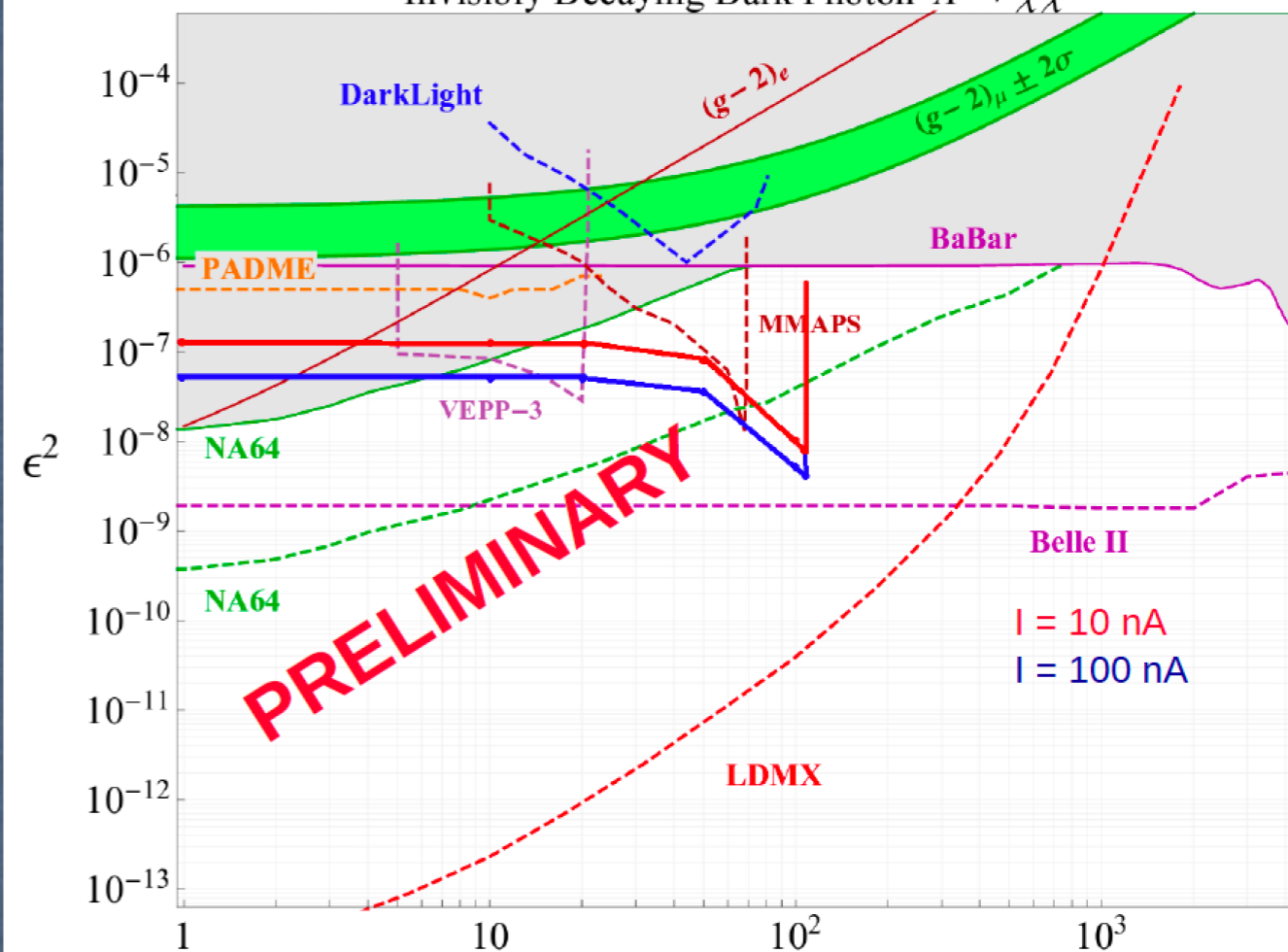
**2-γ Annihilation**



**3-γ Annihilation**



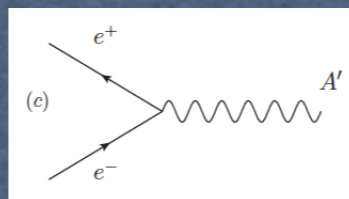
Invisibly Decaying Dark Photon  $A' \rightarrow \bar{\chi}\chi$



# Positrons@beam-dumps

- An electromagnetic shower is a powerful source of positrons!

$$N_{A'} = \frac{N_A}{A} Z \rho \int_{E_{min}^R}^{E_0} dE_e T_+(E_e) \sigma(E_e),$$



for RESONANT annihilation and  $\Gamma$  smaller than  $T_+$  variation

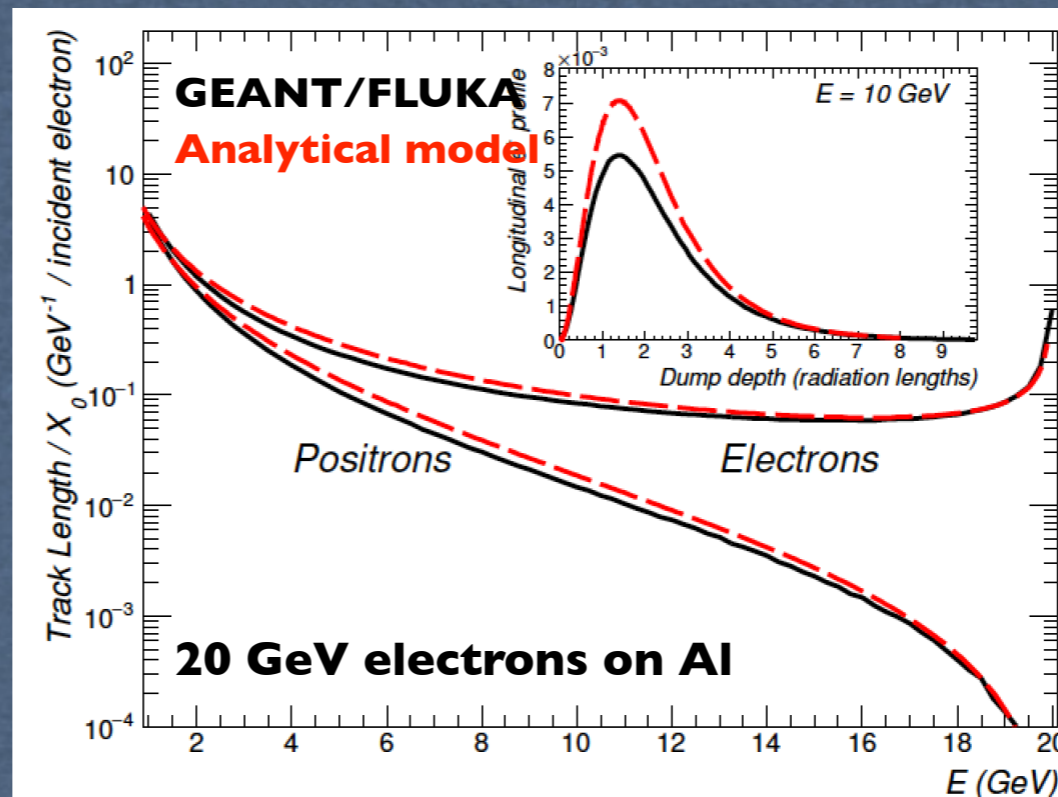
$$N_{A'} \simeq \frac{\pi}{2} \frac{N_A}{A} Z \rho \sigma_{\text{peak}} \Gamma_{A'} \frac{m_{A'}}{m_e} T_+(E_R)$$

Track-length  $T_+(E)$  : integral of positron fluence over the beam-dump volume

- density of particles in the volume
- path length of a positron in the BD with energy between  $E$  and  $E+dE$
- $I_e^+$  = differential (time and energy) energy distribution (positron current)

$$T_+(E) = \int_0^{L_{\text{Dump}}} I_e^+(E_e, t) dt$$

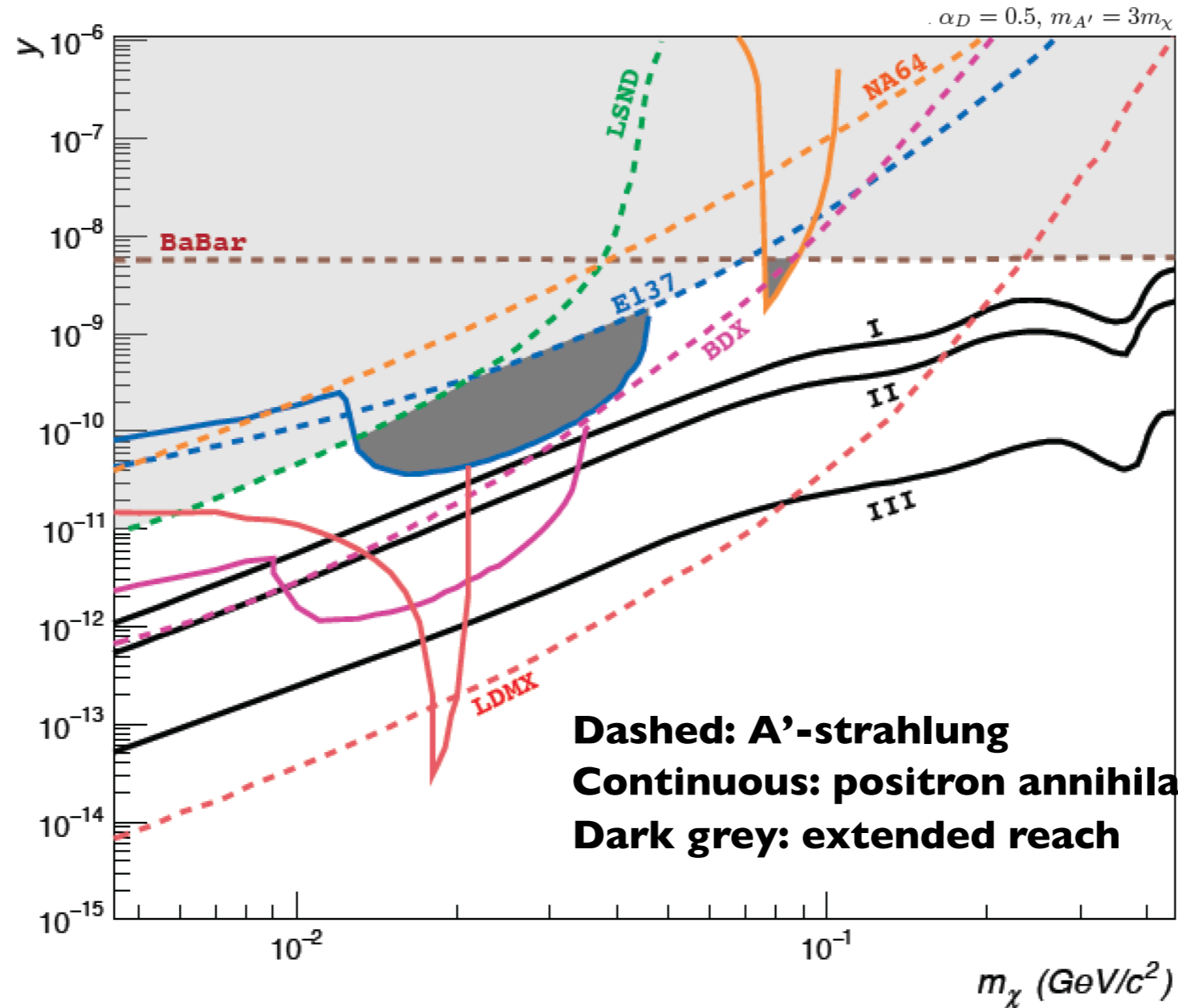
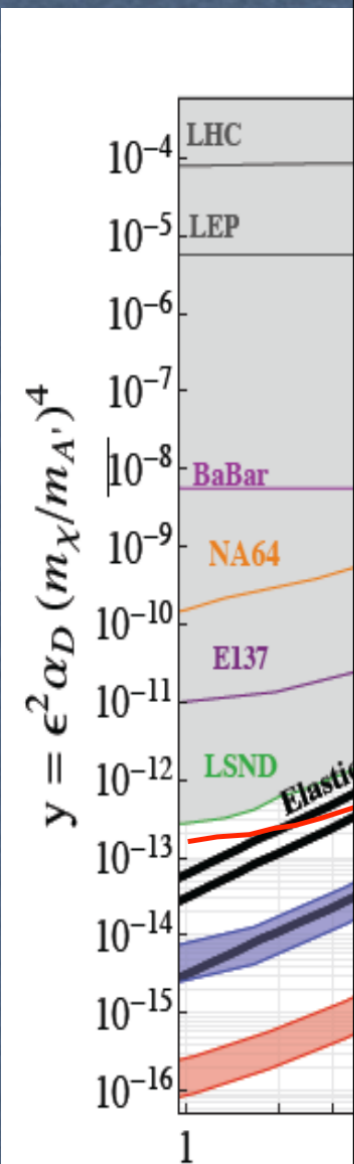
$T_+(E)$  can be evaluated analytically or by simulations (GEANT4/FLUKA) sampling the shower profile at different depth in the BD



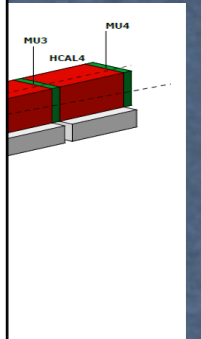
Good agreement (high energy) with analytical calculation by Y. S. Tsai and V. Whitis, Phys. Rev. 149, 1248 (1966)

# Effects on current exclusion limits (BD - invisible)

**Inclusion of  $e^+$  annihilation lowers the exclusion limits by x10  
in  $20 \text{ MeV} < M_{A'} < 40 \text{ MeV}$**



decay search



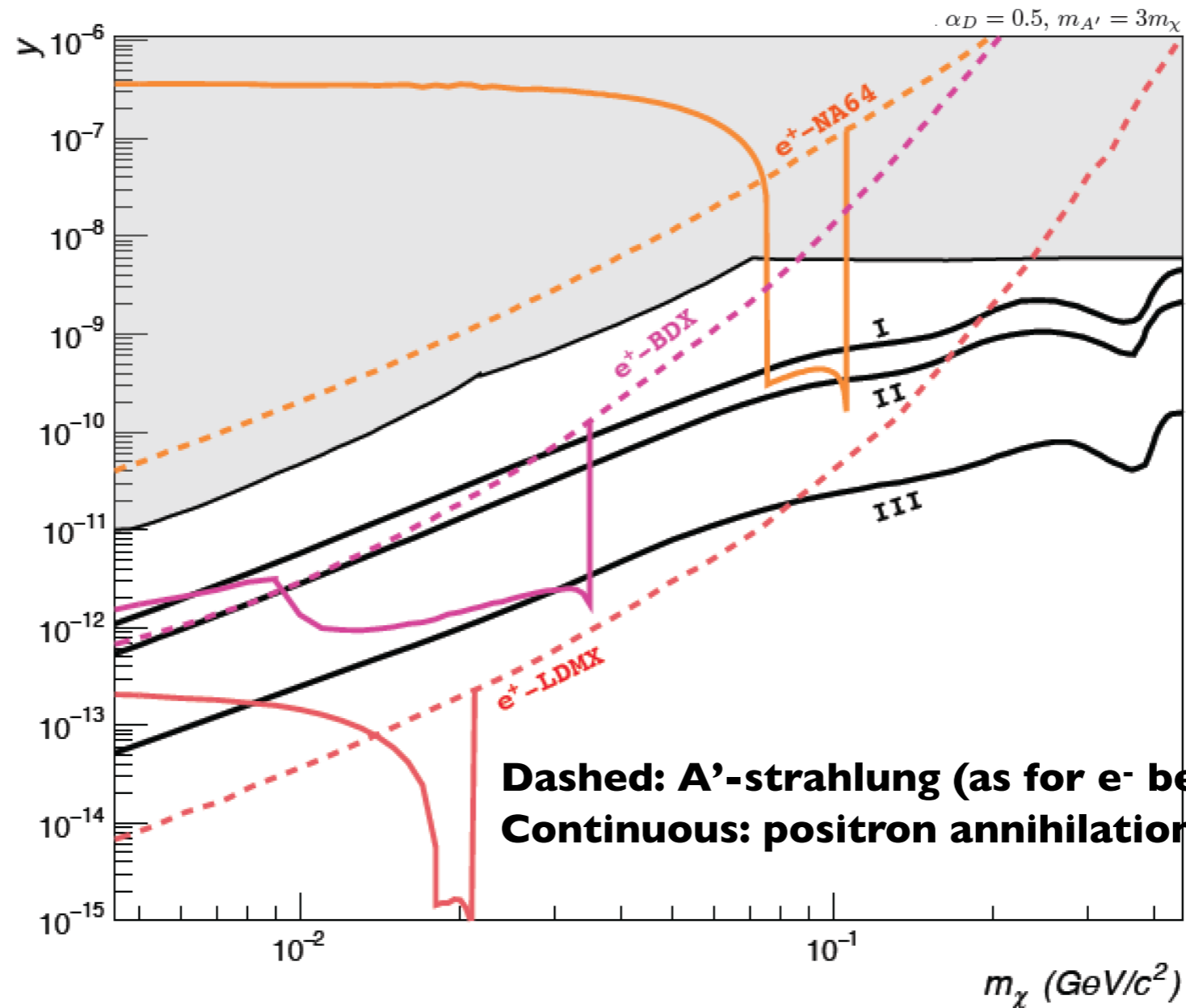
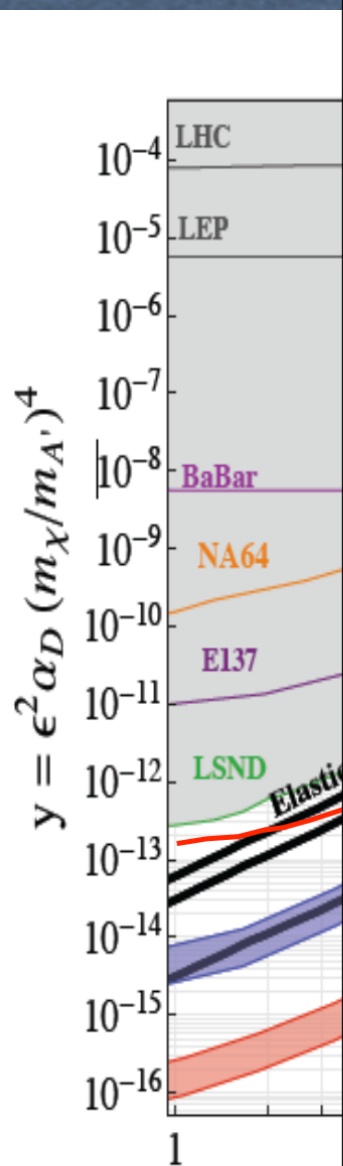
periments

S-II 4 GeV e-

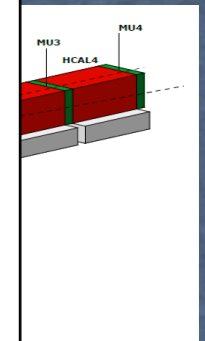
beam with  $10^{22}$

# Exclusion limits (BD - invisible)

Exclusion limits in case of running the experiments with a positron beam (assuming the same experimental set-up)



decay search



periments

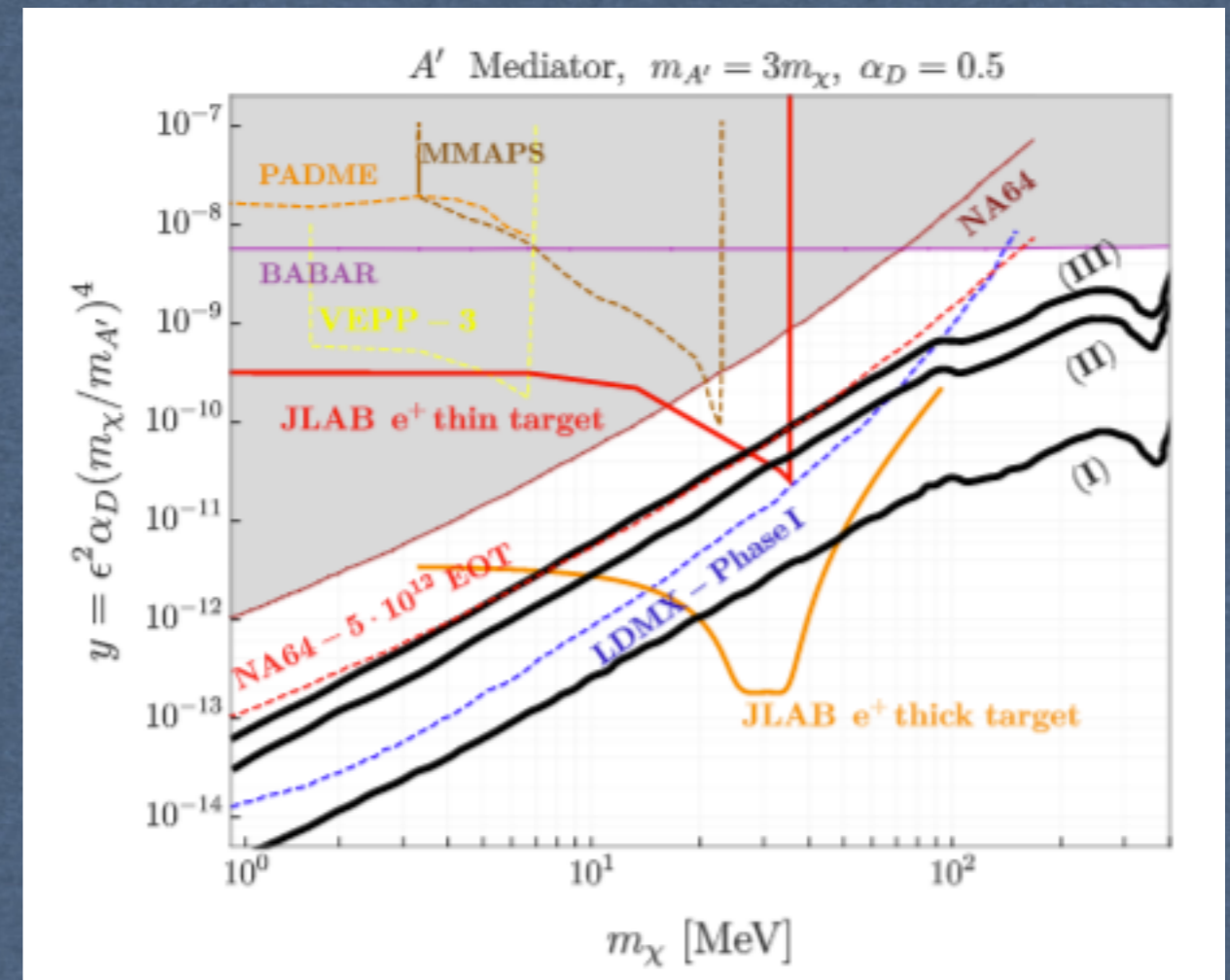
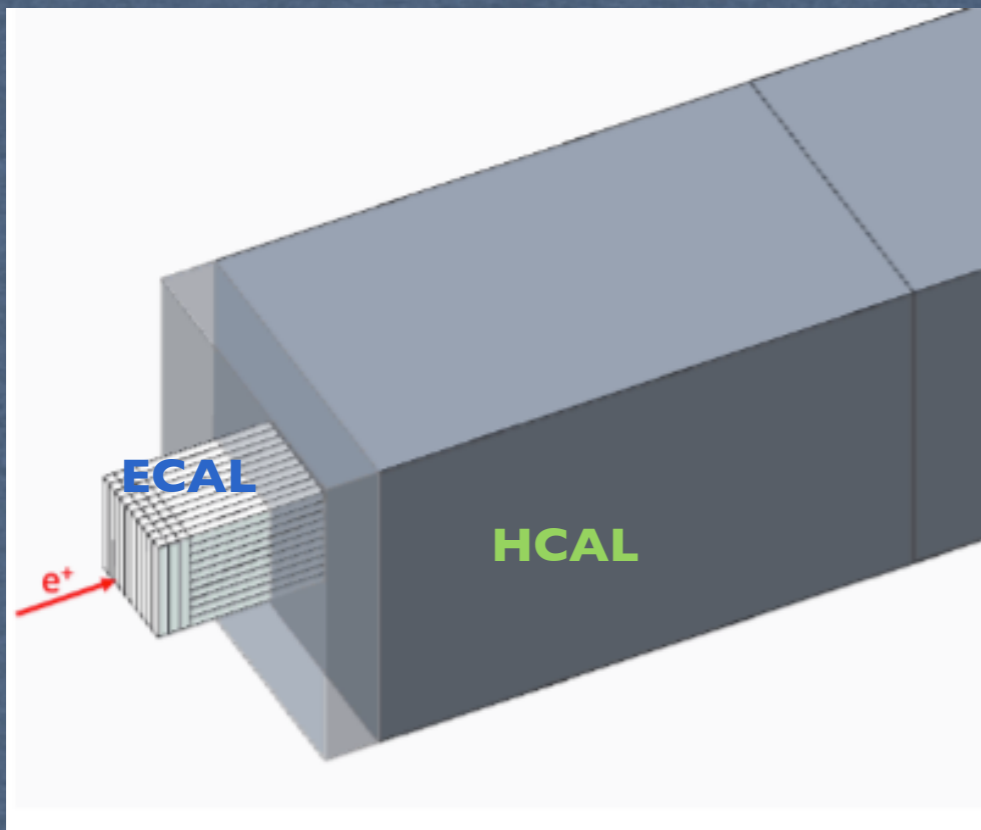
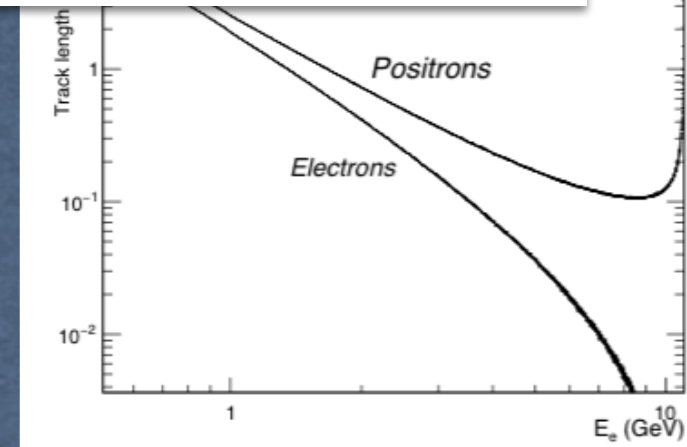
S-II 4 GeV e-

beam with  $10^{22}$

# $e^+$ annihilation on fixed (thick) target - invisible -

- Active beam-dump experiment (à la NA64 but with positron!)
- Clear signal (peak!) due to the annihilation:  $M_{A'} = \text{Sqrt}(2 m_e E_{\text{miss}})$
- Missing energy exp ( $e^+ Z \rightarrow e^+ Z' A'$  with  $A' \rightarrow$  invisible)
- 11 e+ beam, low current, 60 Hz
- Active target (calorimeter)
- Exclusion plots based on  $10^{13}$  POT
- Detector: ECAL to measure  $e^+$ ; HCAL to veto

$$N_s = n_{\text{POT}} \frac{N_A}{A} Z \rho \int_{E_{\text{miss}}^{\text{CUT}}}^{E_0} dE_e T_+(E_e) \sigma(E_e)$$



# Conclusions

- \* Extensive experimental plans at high intensity e-facility: JLab, LNF, Cornell, Mainz, SLAC (and proton beam at FNAL and CERN)
- \* Beam-dump experiments provided stringent limits for visible and invisible searches
- \* BDX: CsI EM calorimeter + 2x active Vetos running parasitically downstream of JLab Hall-A beam dump in 1y would set 10-100 times better limits
- \* BDX-MINI validated BDX technique providing the first physics results hitting E137 limits
- \* Electron-positron annihilation has been extended from colliders to (thin) fixed target exps
- \* PADME is validating the technique and extensions are proposed in other labs
- \* Despite the  $A'$  narrowness of the straggling makes the resonant annihilation competitive wrt to the  $A'$ -strahlung in the  $A'$  production
- \* When included, the positron annihilation lower the existing exclusion limits in selected kinematics x2 (x10) in visible invisible-decay experiments
- \* A dedicated physics program with a positron beam at JLab on thin and thick targets is under study