

Dark Cosmic Rays

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SoCal BSM-2017 @ UC Riverside

Based on: Hu, Kusenko, VT. *Phys. Lett. B* (2017)
[arXiv:1611.04599]

Introduction

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- Many DM candidates employ non-gravitational interactions for early universe production ... plausible for DM to carry electric charge

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- Many DM candidates employ non-gravitational interactions for early universe production ... plausible for DM to carry electric charge
- charged DM accelerated by supernovae remnants ... or in other astrophysical accelerators

[Chuzhoy, Kolb, 08;
Dimopoulos+, 90]



Dark Cosmic Rays

Charged DM

Popular concrete realization: millicharged DM (mDM) *[long list]*

- extra gauge $U(1)_X$ with charged fermions (DM) [Holdom,86]
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Opportunity!

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 - [Cyr-Racine,Sigurdson,13; others] [Foot,14]
- **ionization possibilities**: primordial DM ions, starlight, past SN explosions, high redshift re-ionization sources (e.g. Pop. III stars, quasars) ...

Overview

Goal: study dark cosmic rays (DCR) in general, don't commit to a model

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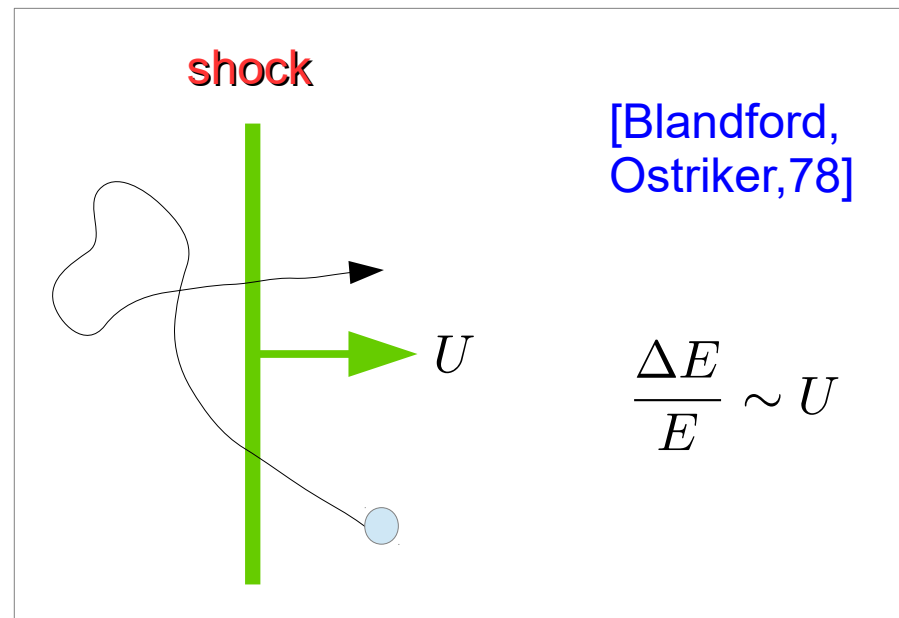
- Fermi acceleration
- Framework for analyzing dark cosmic rays
 - a) robust spectrum prediction*
 - b) propagation in medium/energy loss*
- Detection and signatures
 - novel search proposals for Super-Kamiokande !

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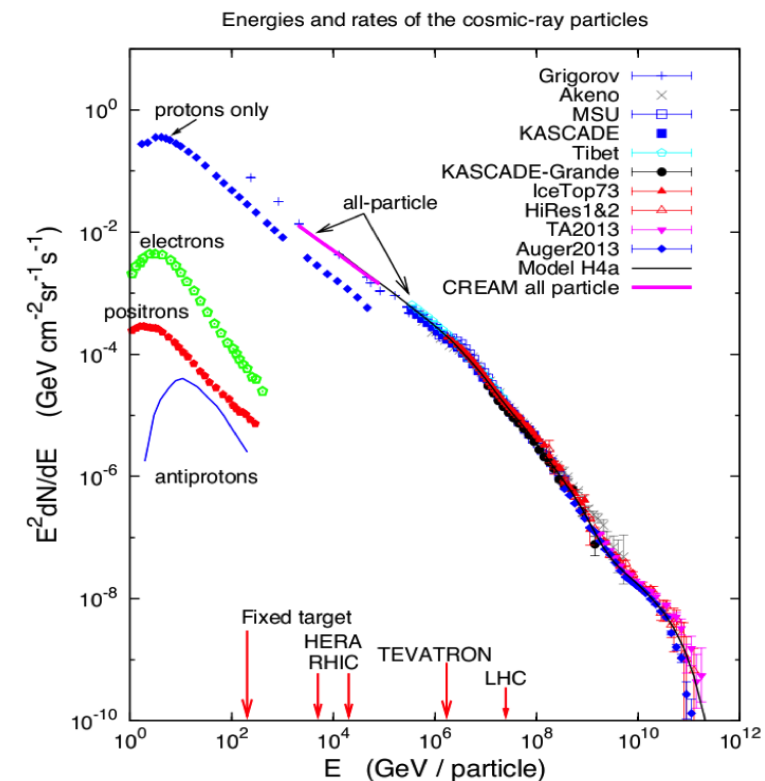
* complete details of mechanism very complicated (non-linear shock theory, etc.)

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from IceCube



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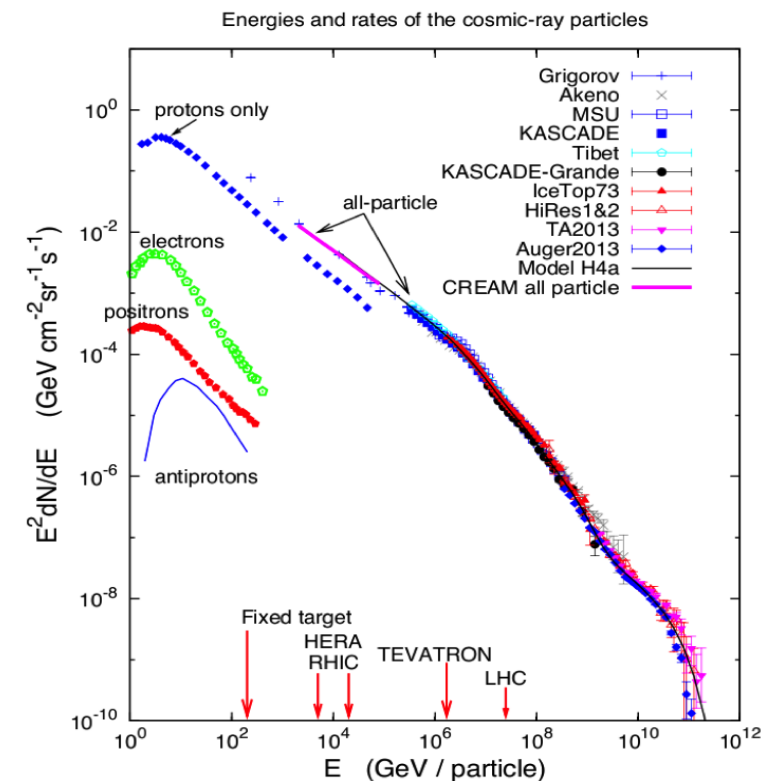
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observed CR (protons): $\alpha \approx 2.7$

→ 2 (Fermi) + 0.7 (diffusion)

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[Hillas,84]

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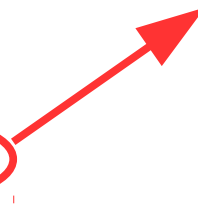
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for SN: $B \sim 0.5$ mG
 $U \sim 0.1$
 $L \sim 0.3$ pc

→ $E_{max} \sim 10^6$ GeV

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[Hillas,84]



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→ use results from CR flux ion/charged dust contamination

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$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dN_X}{dE} &\simeq \frac{(\rho_X/m_X)}{(\rho_p/m_p)} \frac{e_{\text{inj}}^X}{e_{\text{inj}}^p} \varepsilon^{(\alpha-1)} \frac{dN_p}{dE} \\ &= 30 \varepsilon^{(\alpha-1)} \left(\frac{\text{GeV}}{m_X} \right) \left(\frac{E}{\text{GeV}} \right)^{-\alpha} / (\text{GeV cm}^2 \text{ s sr})\end{aligned}$$

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experiment: ~2.7

analytic model: ~4

... for DM take NFW profile @ 1 kpc from GC, which has highest SN rate

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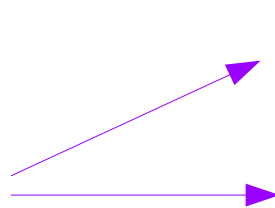
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- DCR spectrum: $\frac{dN_X}{dE} \simeq 30 \varepsilon^{1.7} \left(\frac{\text{GeV}}{m_X} \right) \left(\frac{E}{\text{GeV}} \right)^{-2.7} / (\text{GeV cm}^2 \text{ s sr})$

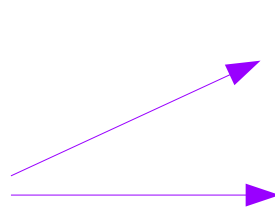
- Maximum energy: $E_{\text{max}} \sim \varepsilon e B U L$

- Anisotropy: when gyroradius ≥ 0.3 kpc Galactic disk height
→ pointing to GC, expect at $E \sim \varepsilon \cdot 10^{18} \text{ eV}$

Detection

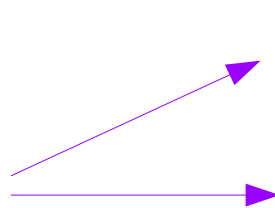
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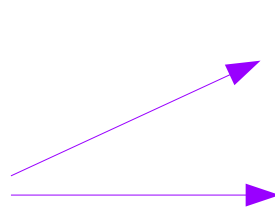
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- Interactions:

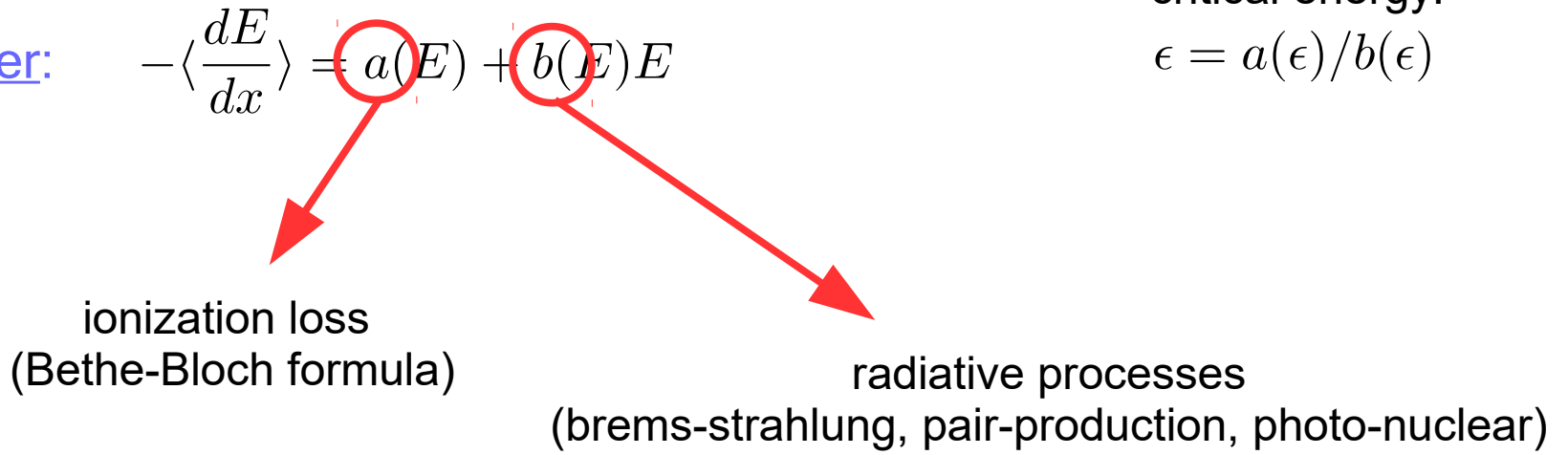


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ionization loss
(Bethe-Bloch formula)

radiative processes
(brems-strahlung, pair-production, photo-nuclear)

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- Relate DCR parameters to muons (*leading diagrams*):

[Groom, Mokhov,
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$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a_X}{a_\mu} &\propto \epsilon^2; & \frac{b_{X,\text{brems}}}{b_{\mu,\text{brems}}} &\propto \left(\frac{m_\mu}{m_X}\right)^2 \epsilon^4; \\ \frac{b_{X,\text{pair}}}{b_{\mu,\text{pair}}} &\propto \left(\frac{m_\mu}{m_X}\right) \epsilon^2; & \frac{b_{X,\text{nucl}}}{b_{\mu,\text{nucl}}} &\propto \epsilon^2. \end{aligned}$$

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- Approximately:

$$\frac{b_{X,\text{total}}}{b_{\mu,\text{total}}} \simeq \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{m_\mu}{m_X}\right) \epsilon^2 \quad ; \quad \frac{\epsilon_X}{\epsilon_\mu} \simeq 2 \left(\frac{m_X}{m_\mu}\right).$$

Spectrum/Flux in Medium

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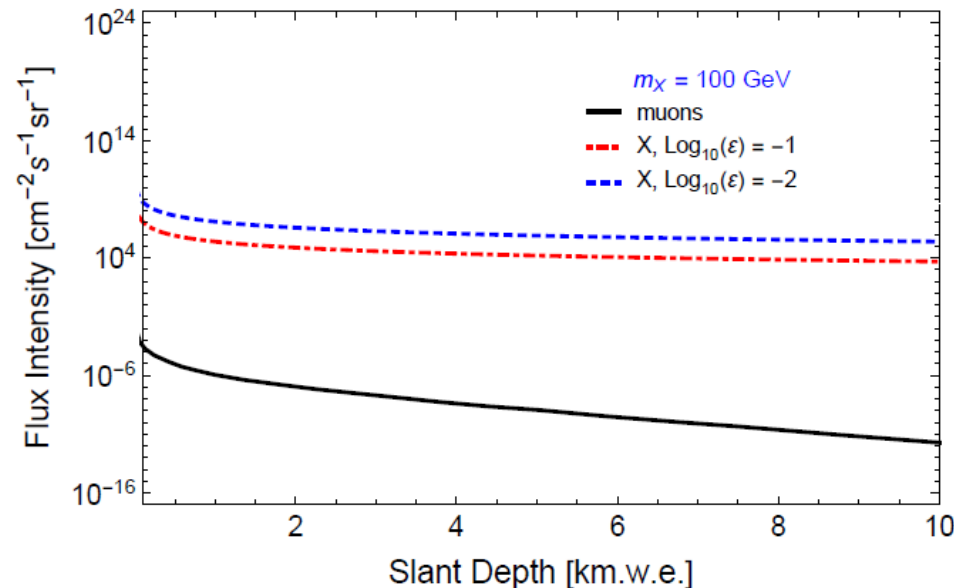
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- Atmosphere thin, propagate through rock only to underground lab
→ *compare with standard underground CR muon flux “Crouch curve”*



muons from
[Reichenbacher,
Je Dong,07]

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Cherenkov angle

light wavelength

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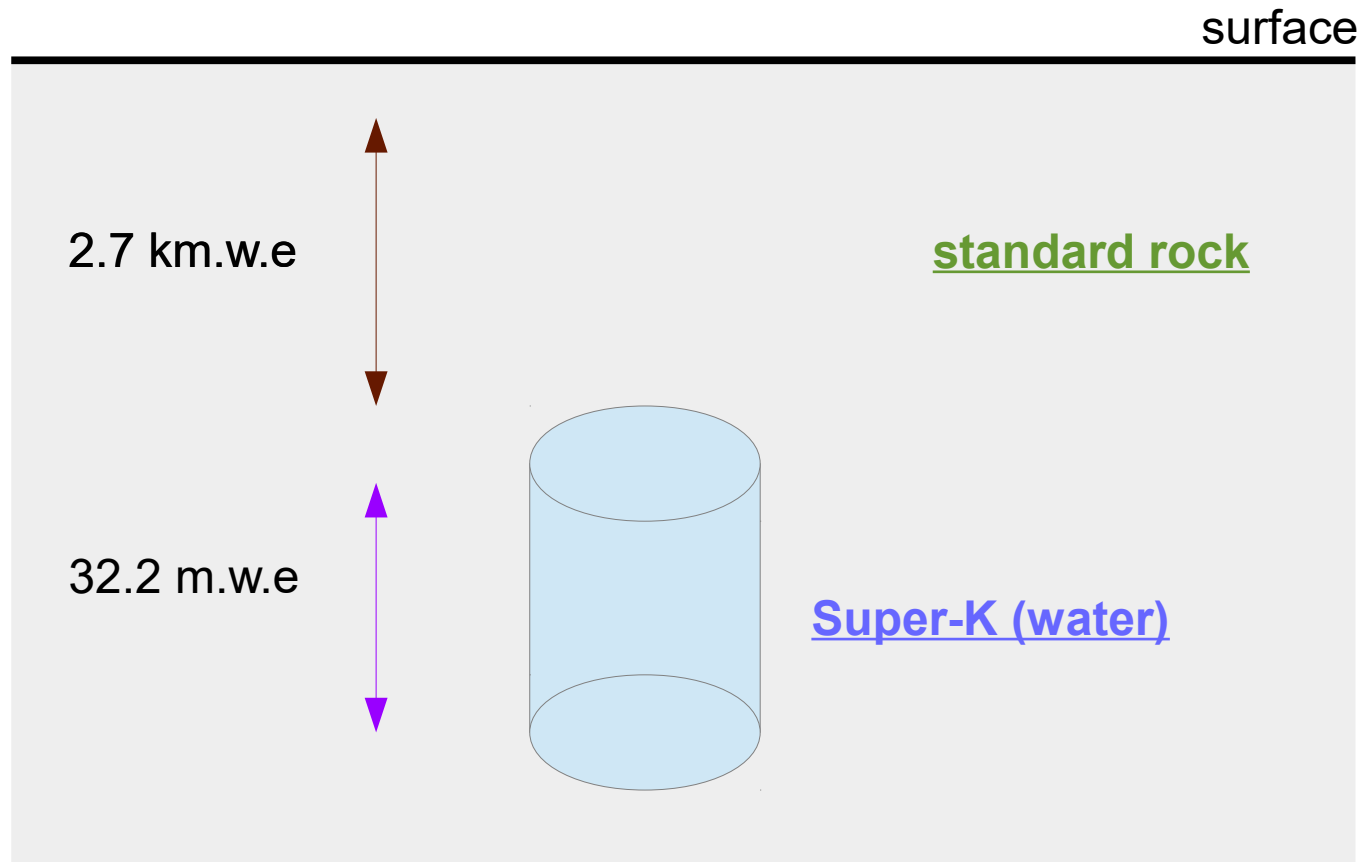
- Cherenkov threshold (water):
 $E_{\text{th.}} > 1.52 m_X$
 $p_{\text{th}} > 1.14 m_X$

New Super-K analysis I (μ -like): Energy Deposit

- CR muons deposit energy in Super-K \rightarrow fraction. charged particles (e.g. DCR) also

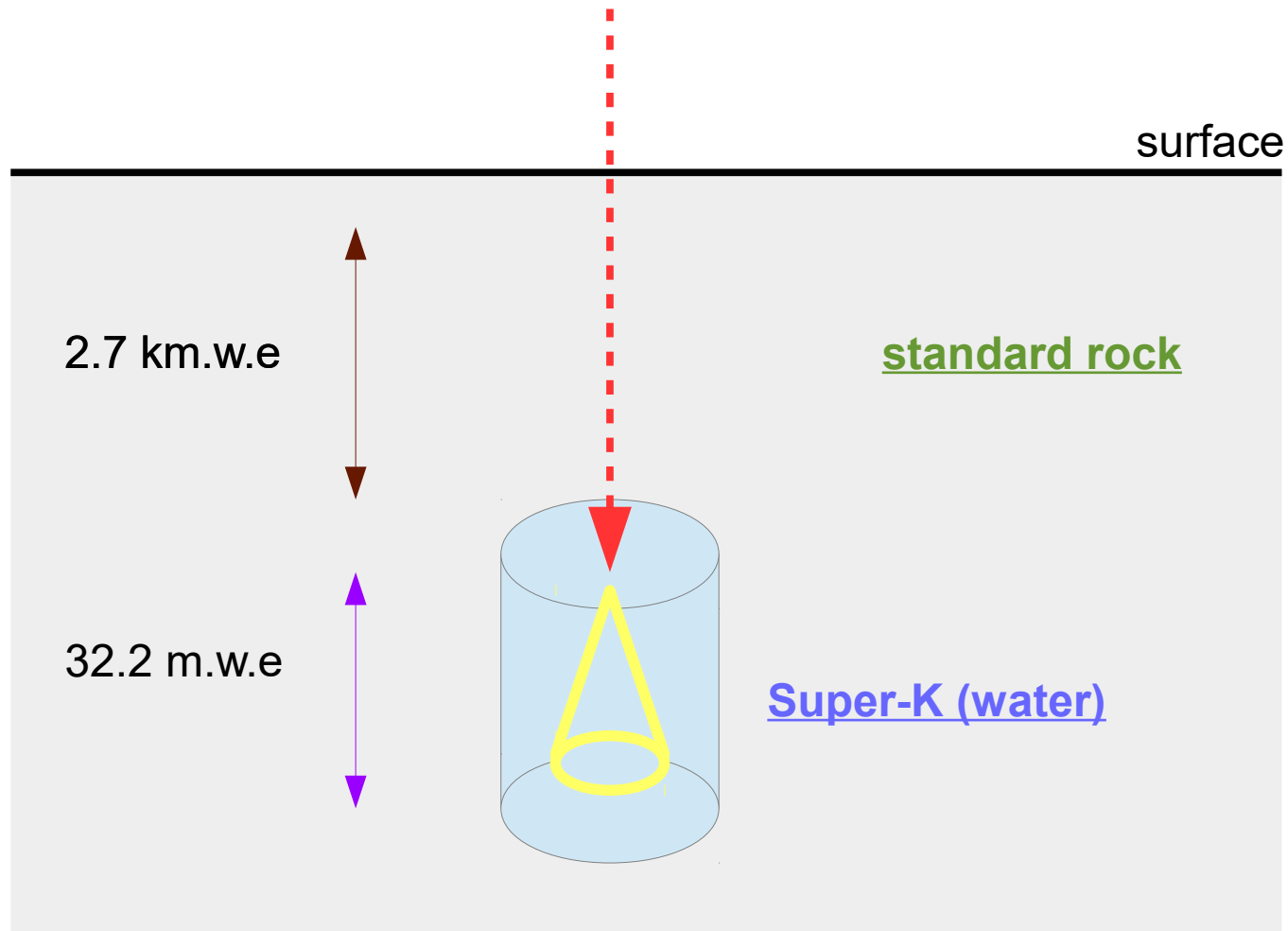
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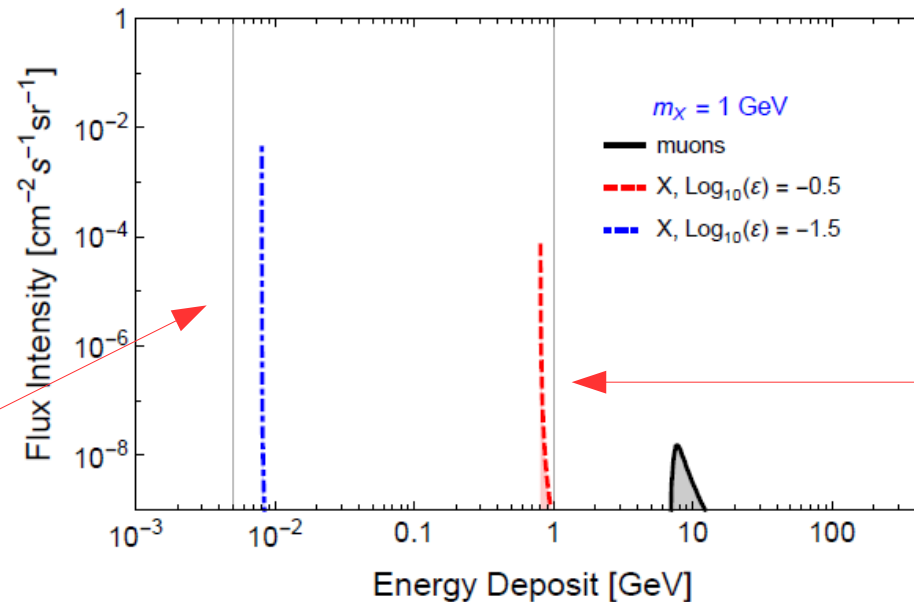
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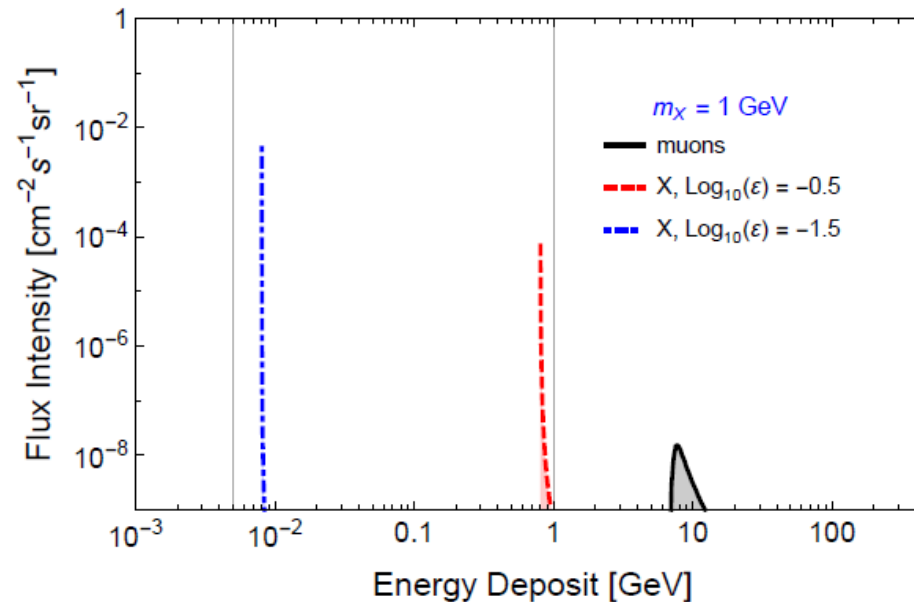
muons from
[Li, Beacom, 14]

SK now

upcoming SK
Gadolinium upgrade

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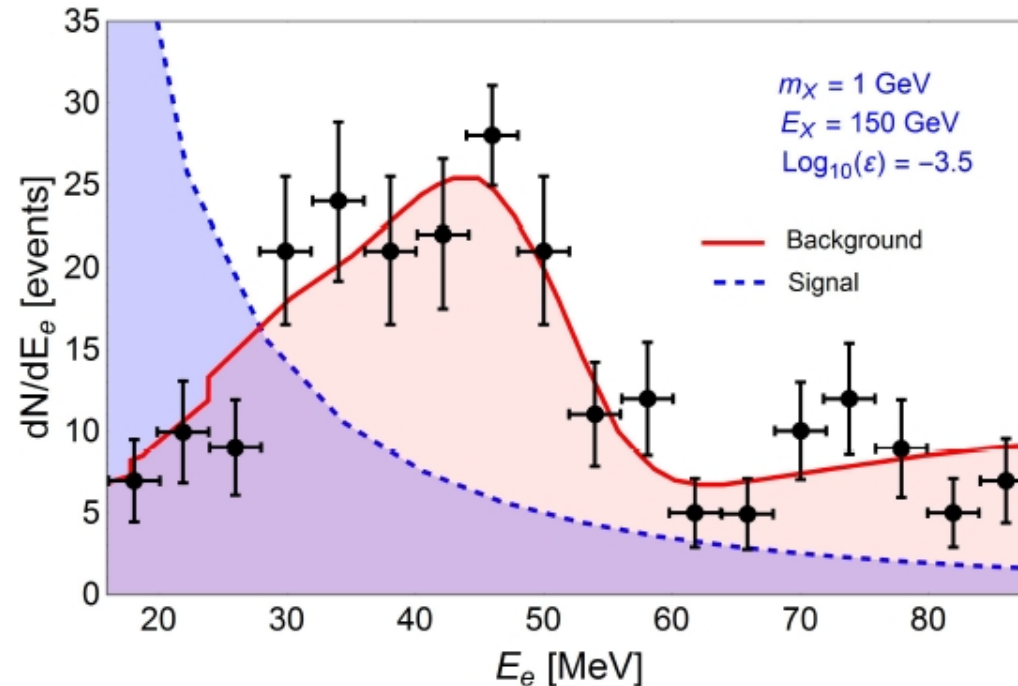
- Clean signal, upcoming SK Gadolinium upgrade probes $\epsilon \gtrsim 10^{-2}$
 - \rightarrow novel general search for fractional particles (DCR only determines flux)
 - \rightarrow could be competitive with dedicated experiments like MACRO

New Super-K analysis II (v-like): Recoil Electron Spectrum

- Earth transparent for v-like DCR
- Know: cross-section, flux, exposure, threshold → calculate recoil electron spectrum

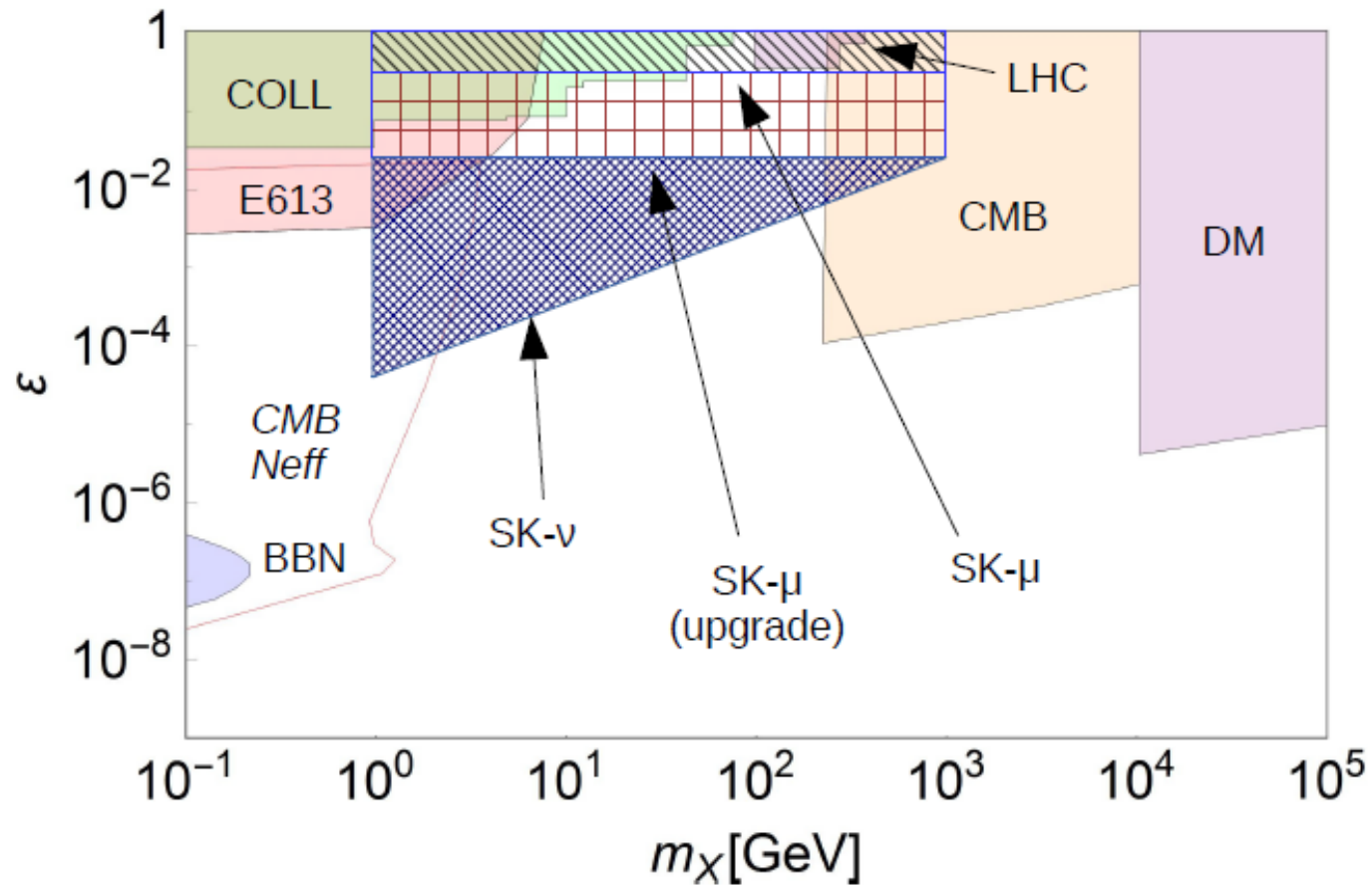
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- SK supernova relic neutrino sample sensitive to DCR with $\varepsilon \sim 10^{-5}$



data/MC from
[\[Bays+\(SK\),12\]](#)

New Limits/Constraints for mDM



constraint summary
[Vinyoles, Vogel, 16]

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- Novel searches for Cherenkov experiment → new limits/constraints
- Further development (*in preparation*) :
 - acceleration beyond Fermi mechanism
 - explanation of IceCube excess
 - atmospheric showers
 - ... etc.