

# SEARCH FOR GAUGE BOSONS OF THE DARK SECTOR WITH ACCELERATORS

Harald Merkel

Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz

“Hadrons from Quarks and Gluons”  
Hirschegg, Austria, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014

## ● Motivation

- ▶ Evidence for Physics beyond the Standard Model
- ▶ Candidates from Particle Physics
- ▶ The  $\gamma'$  Boson

## ● How can we detect a “Dark Photon”?

- ▶ Di-Lepton-Production
- ▶ Cross sections

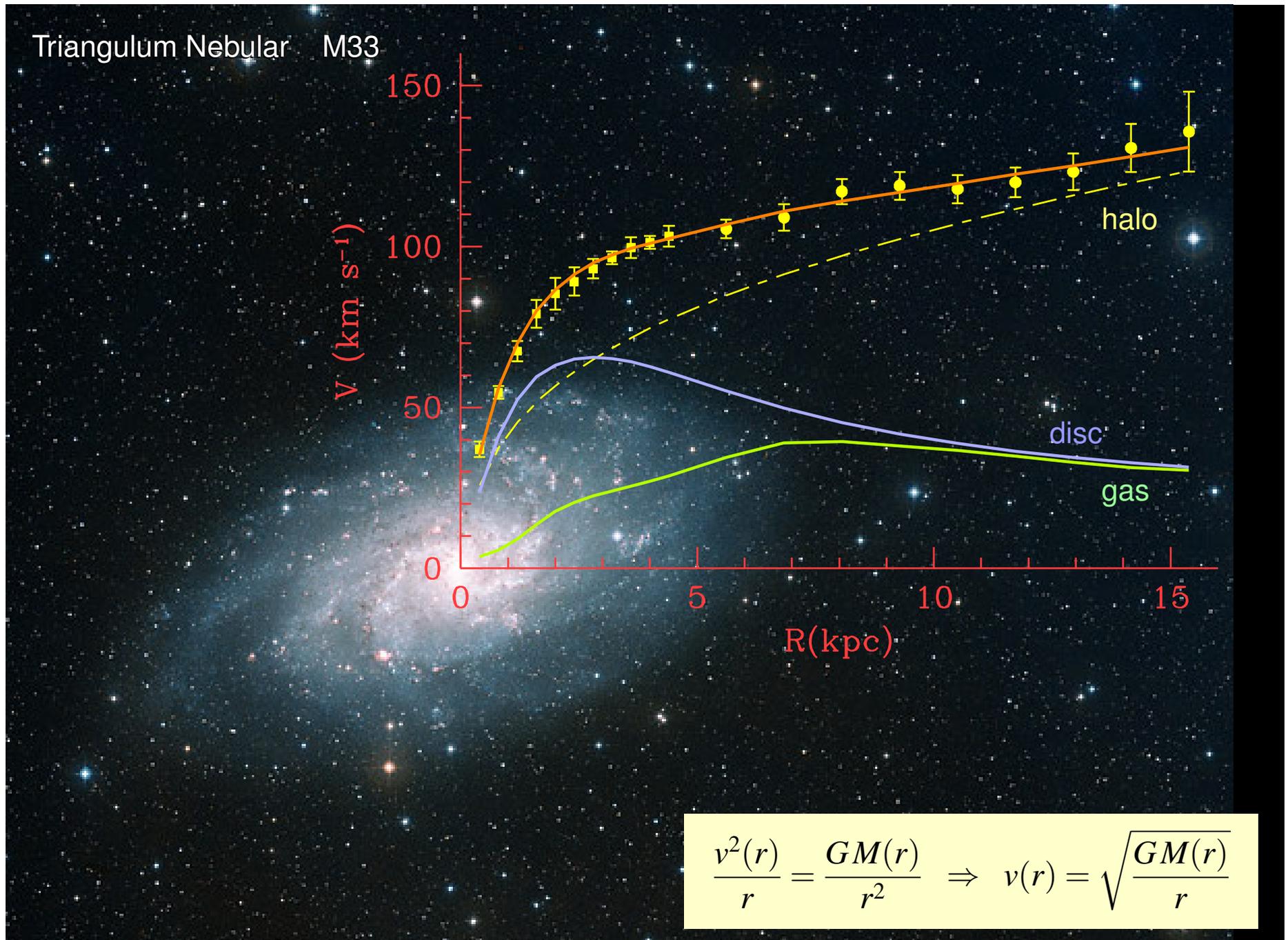
## ● Pilot Experiment at the Mainz Microtron (MAMI)

- ▶ Experiment
- ▶ Results

## ● Experimental program at MAMI and other electron facilities

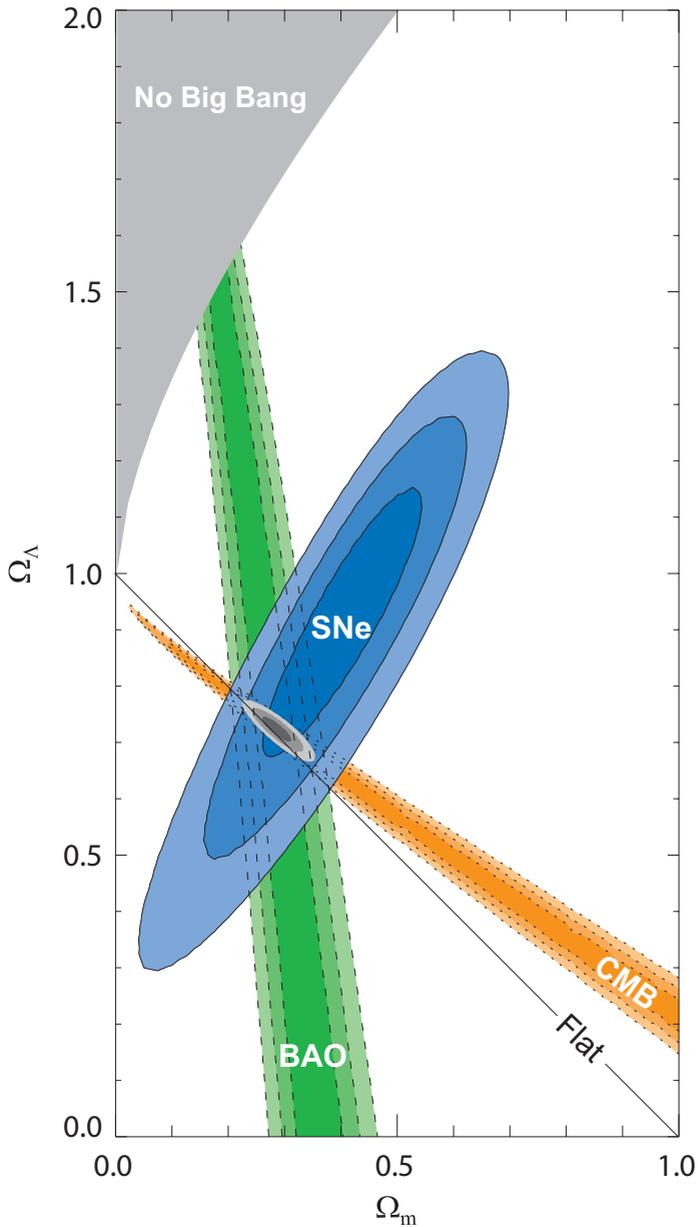
## ● Summary

# Rotation Curves of Galaxies



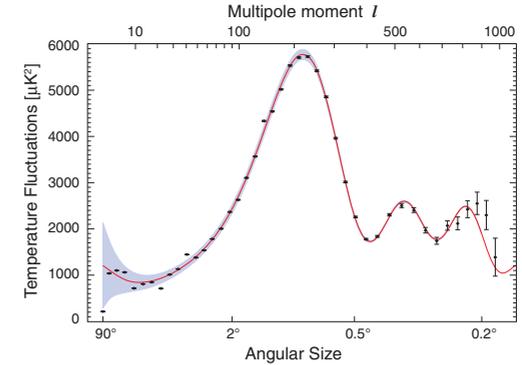
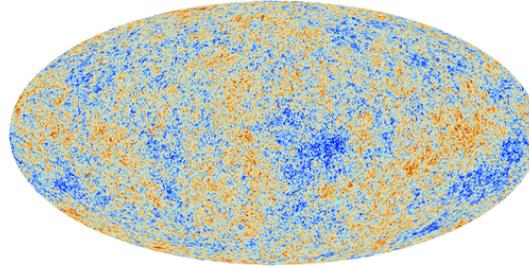
F. Zwicky, ApJ, 86 (1937) 217, E. Corbelli, P. Salucci, MNRAS 311 (2002), 441 – 447

# Dark Matter in Cosmology

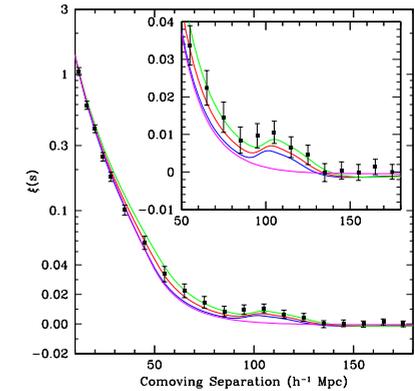
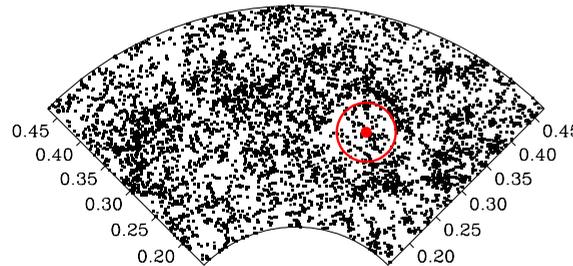


● Supernova Type Ia (SNe)

● Cosmic Microwave Background



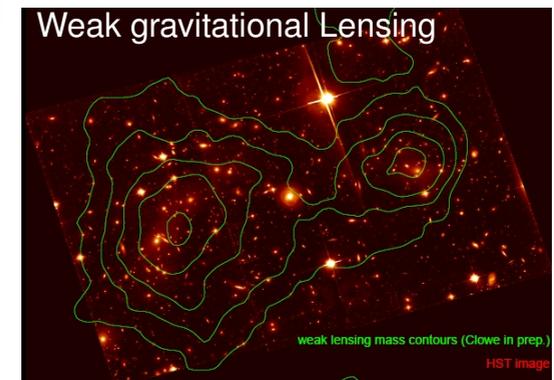
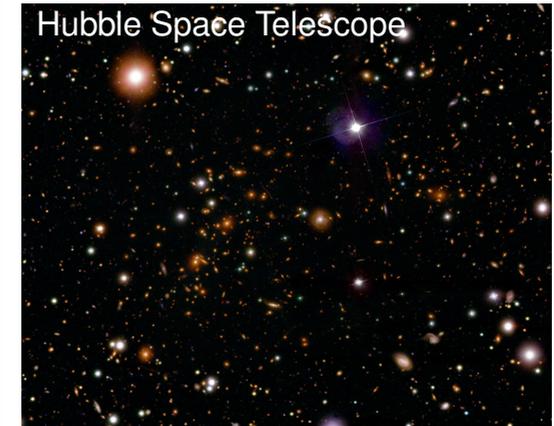
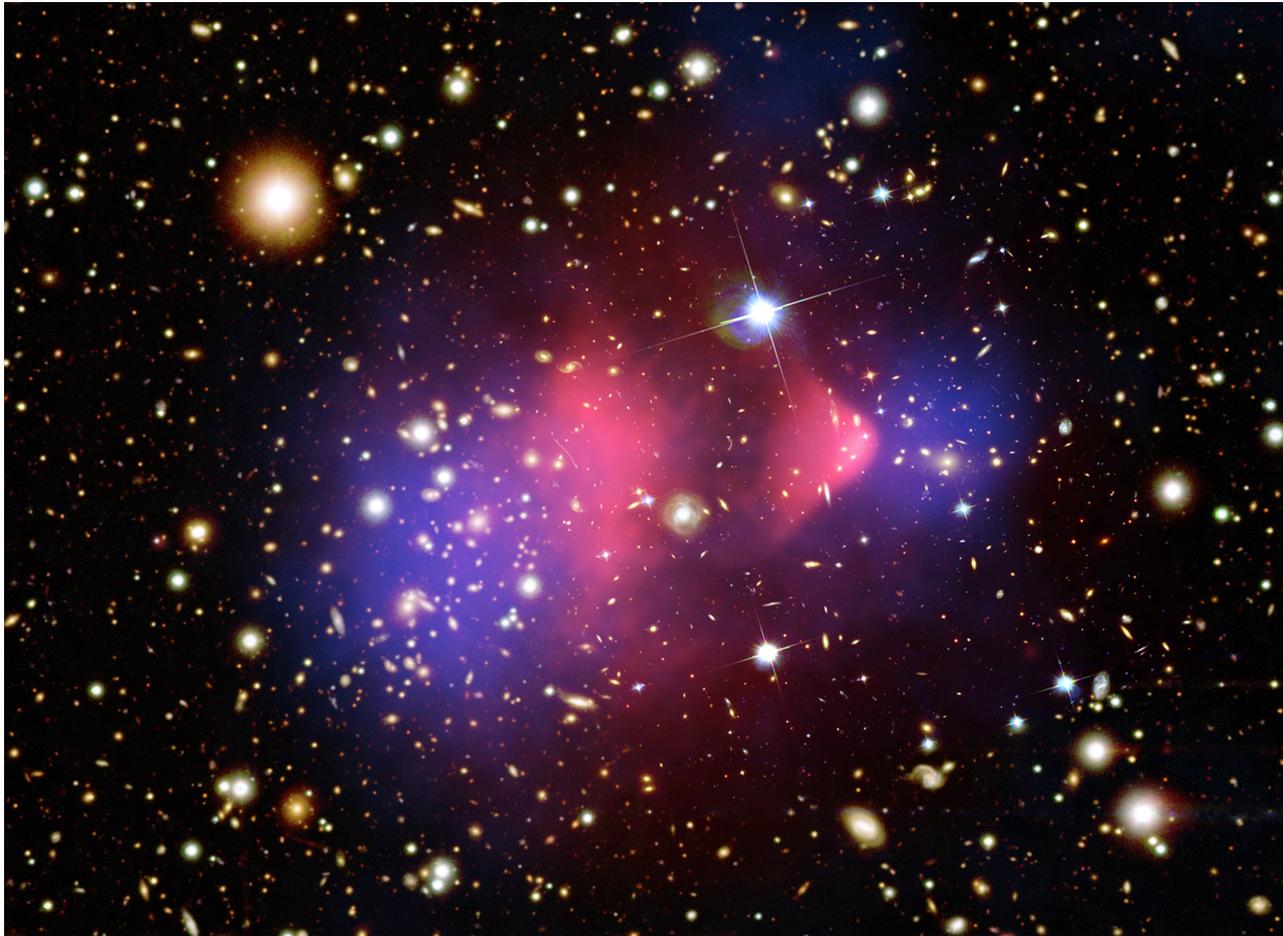
● Baryon Acoustic Oscillations



⇒  $\Omega_\Lambda = 74\%$  Dark Energy  
 $\Omega_{\text{CDM}} = 21\%$  Cold Dark Matter  
 $\Omega_b = 4\%$  Baryonic Matter

M. Kowalski *et al.* Ap.J. 686 (2008) 749  
 D. J. Eisenstein, *et al.*, ApJ 633 (2005), 560

# Galaxy Cluster 1E 0657-56 “Bullet-Cluster”



- Visible Light: Stars (no collision)
- X-Rays: Intergalactic gas (Collision, e.m. shock waves)
- Gravitational Lens: Mass distribution (no collision)

⇒ Baryonic mass lags behind total mass

# Dark matter candidates in particle physics

---

## Properties:

- Massive
- Slow (cold)
- Almost no interaction with standard model matter
- Produced during big bang

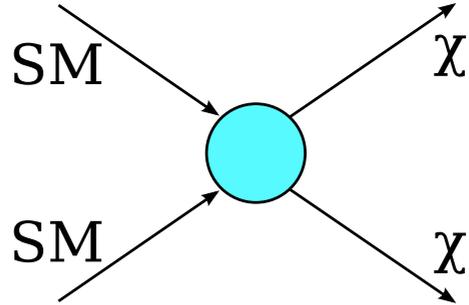
## Candidates:

- Baryonic dark matter, gas clouds, black holes, MACHOs
  - ⚡ Contradicts primordial nucleosynthesis, no observations
- Hot dark matter, e.g. neutrinos
  - ⚡ Phase space contradicts structure formation
- Cold dark matter
  - ▶ WIMPs: Weakly Interacting Massive Particles?
  - ▶ Axion?
  - ▶ Lightest Supersymmetric Particle (LSP)?
  - ▶ Neutralino, Sneutralino, Gravitino, Axino, ...?

⇒ Hypothesis: dark matter is made of unknown particles

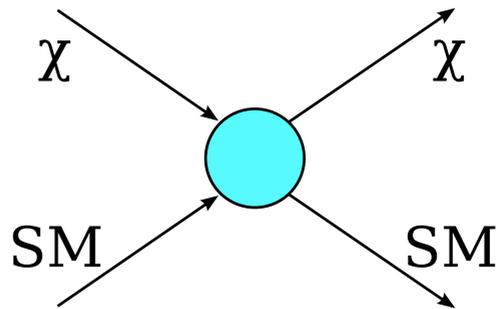
# Conventional strategies for dark matter search in particle physics

---



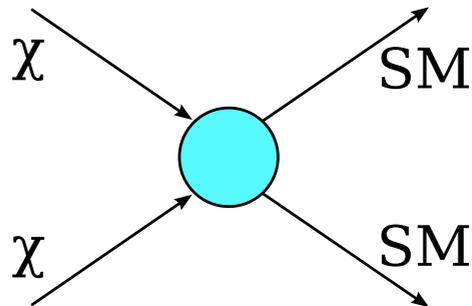
Direct Production:

LHC



Direct Search:

CDMS, DAMA/LIBRA,  
XENON, CRESST, LUX,  
COUPP, KIMS, ...



Indirect Search:

PAMELA, Fermi, HESS,  
ATIC, WMAP, ...

# A bottom up approach: Looking for the Interaction

---

## Assumptions:

- There are dark matter particles (SUSY or something else)
- More than ONE dark matter particle?  
⇒ dark sector
- Dark matter interacts with Standard Model matter (besides gravity)
- Dark matter interacts via a “dark force”

## Question:

- What is the character of this “dark force”?
- Scalar, pseudo-scalar, vector bosons?
- Massive or mass-less? Mass range?
- Size of the coupling constant?



# Or top down Motivation...

---

How to “construct” an extension of the Standard Model:

1. Demand a new symmetry group
2. Symmetry breaking to recover Standard Model at low energies!

Consequences:

- Extra  $U(1)$  gauge bosons ubiquitous in well motivated extensions
  - ▶ large gauge symmetries must be broken
  - ▶  $U(1)$ s are the lowest-rank local symmetries
- $U(1)$  gauge bosons may be hidden (no interaction with SM)
- Example:  $U(1)$  gauge factors in string compactifications:

$$E_8 \times E_8 \rightarrow E_6 \times E_8 \rightarrow \underbrace{SU(3)_c \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y}_{\text{standard model}} \times U(1)_{\text{hidden}}$$

from breaking of second  $E_8$

- No reason for  $U(1)$  boson to be heavy!

# Kinetic mixing

---

Dark matter couples to  $U(1)$  boson

Mixing between  $\gamma$  and  $\gamma'$  via kinetic term

$$\mathcal{L} = \dots + -\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}^{\text{SM}}F_{\text{SM}}^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}^{\text{hidden}}F_{\text{hidden}}^{\mu\nu} + \frac{\epsilon}{2}F_{\mu\nu}^{\text{SM}}F_{\text{hidden}}^{\mu\nu} + m_{\gamma'}^2 A_{\mu}^{\text{hidden}}A_{\text{hidden}}^{\mu}$$

• Renormalization of Charge:

⇒ Mixing Standard Model Charge – “dark” charge

• Parametrized by mixing parameter  $\epsilon$  of  $\gamma'/\gamma$  mixing

• Boson mass  $m_{\gamma'} > 0 \Rightarrow$  decay suppressed, *macroscopic* lifetime

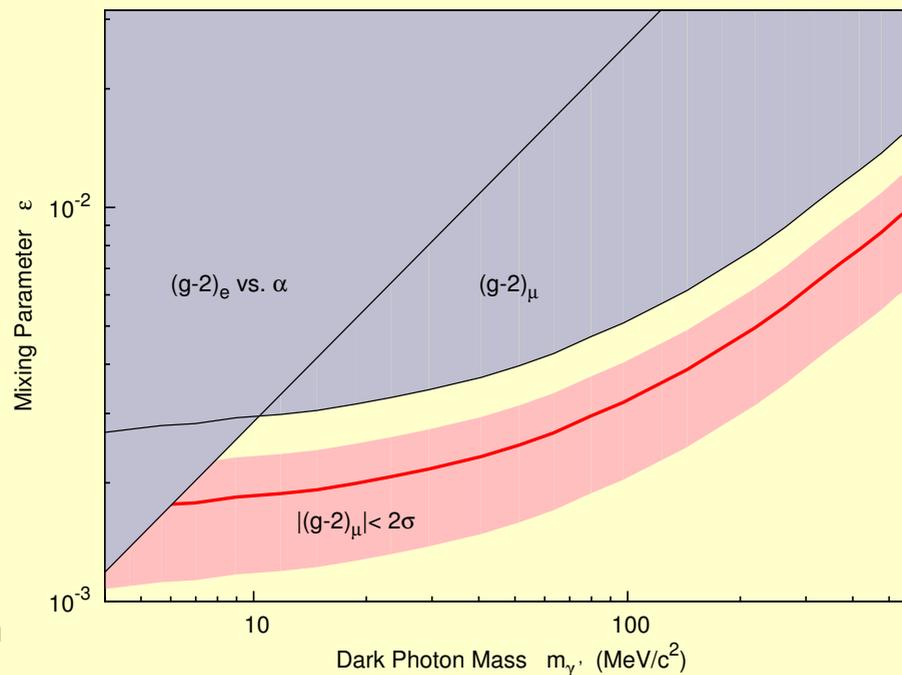
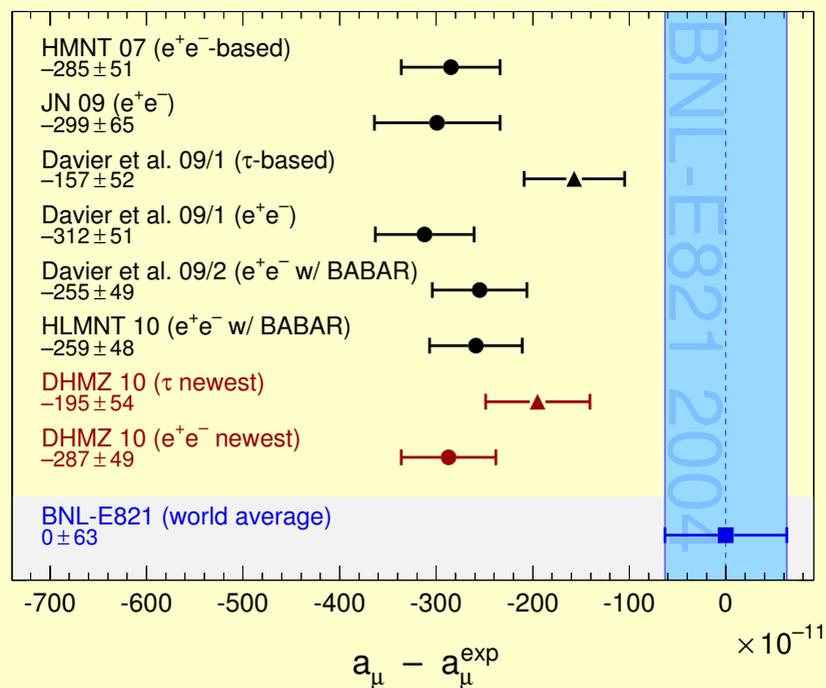
⇒ Look for  $\chi$  at high energies

OR

Look for  $\gamma'$  at low energies (but small coupling)!

Is there experimental evidence?

# Anomalous magnetic moment of the muon



- Precision measurement of  $(g - 2)$  of the muon at BNL
- Significant discrepancy with Standard Model calculations
- Possible explanation: **Additional  $U(1)$  boson  $\gamma'$**

G. W. Bennet *et al.*, Phys. Rev. D 73, 072003 (2006)

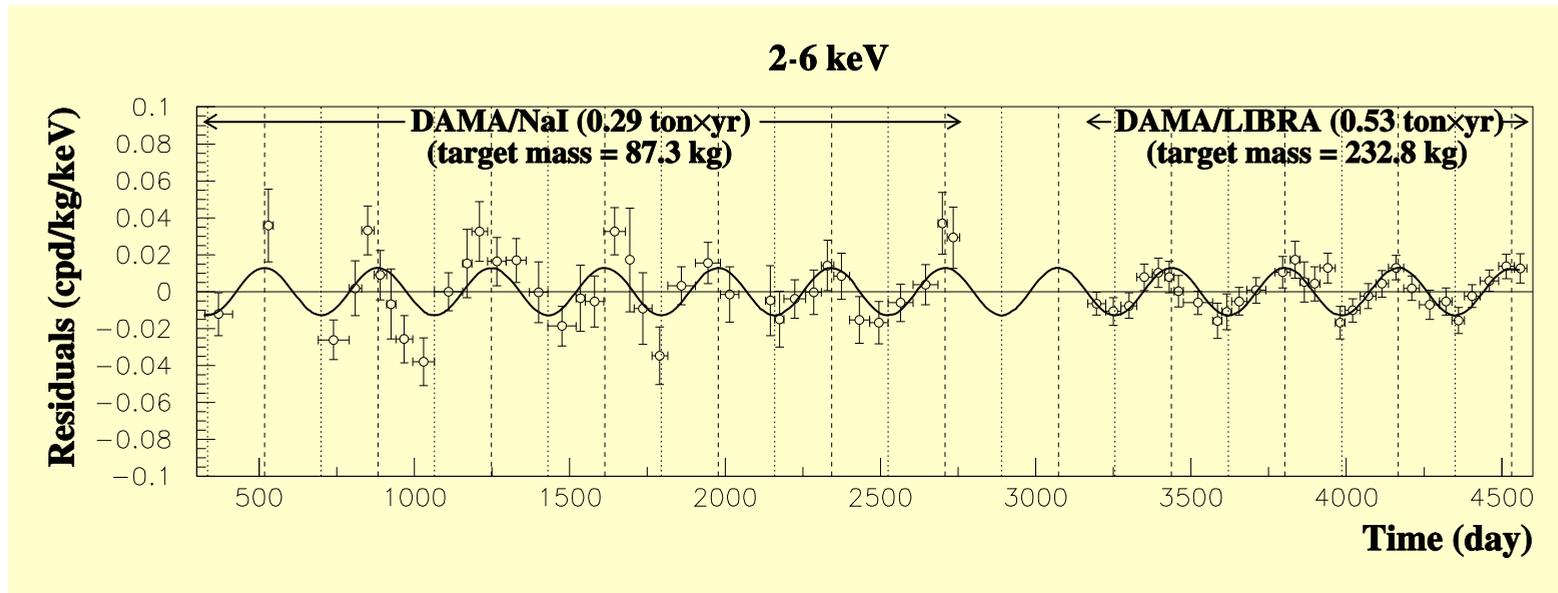
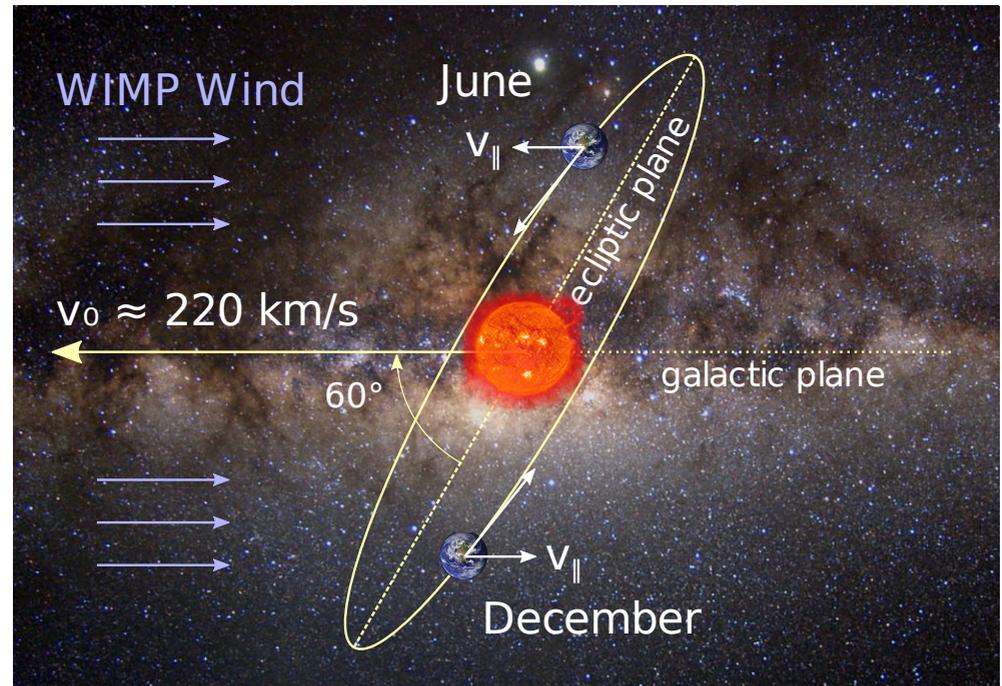
M. Pospelov, Phys. Rev. D 80, 095002 (2009)

# DAMA/NaI and DAMA/LIBRA

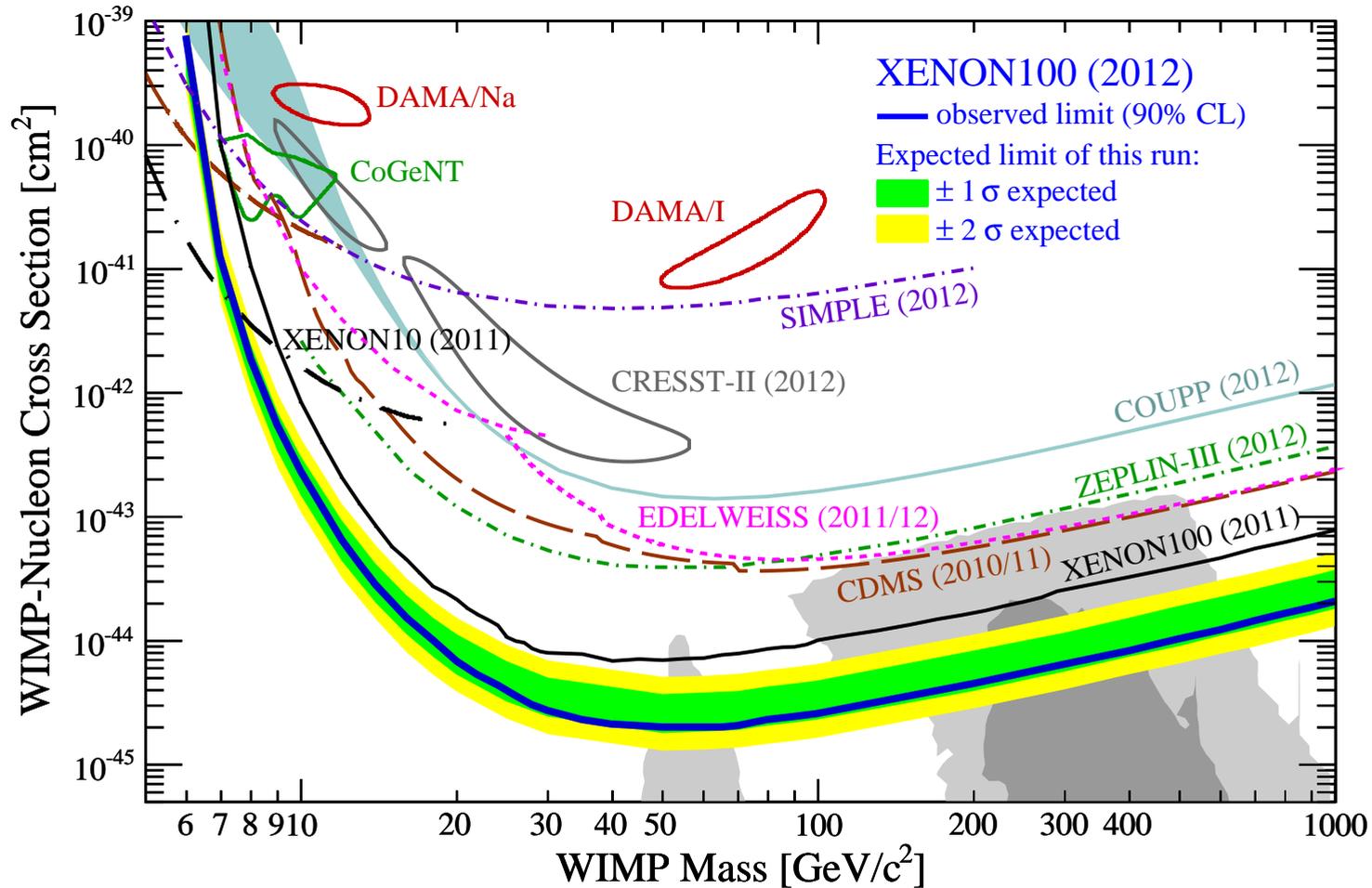
- NaI detectors in Gran Sasso
- Elastic scattering  $\chi + N \rightarrow \chi + N$
- Seasonal modulation:

$$S_0 + A \cos \omega(t - t_0)$$

- Expected Phase: June 2<sup>nd</sup> ( $t_0 = 152$ )
- 8.2 $\sigma$  signal with  $t_0 = 144 \pm 8$

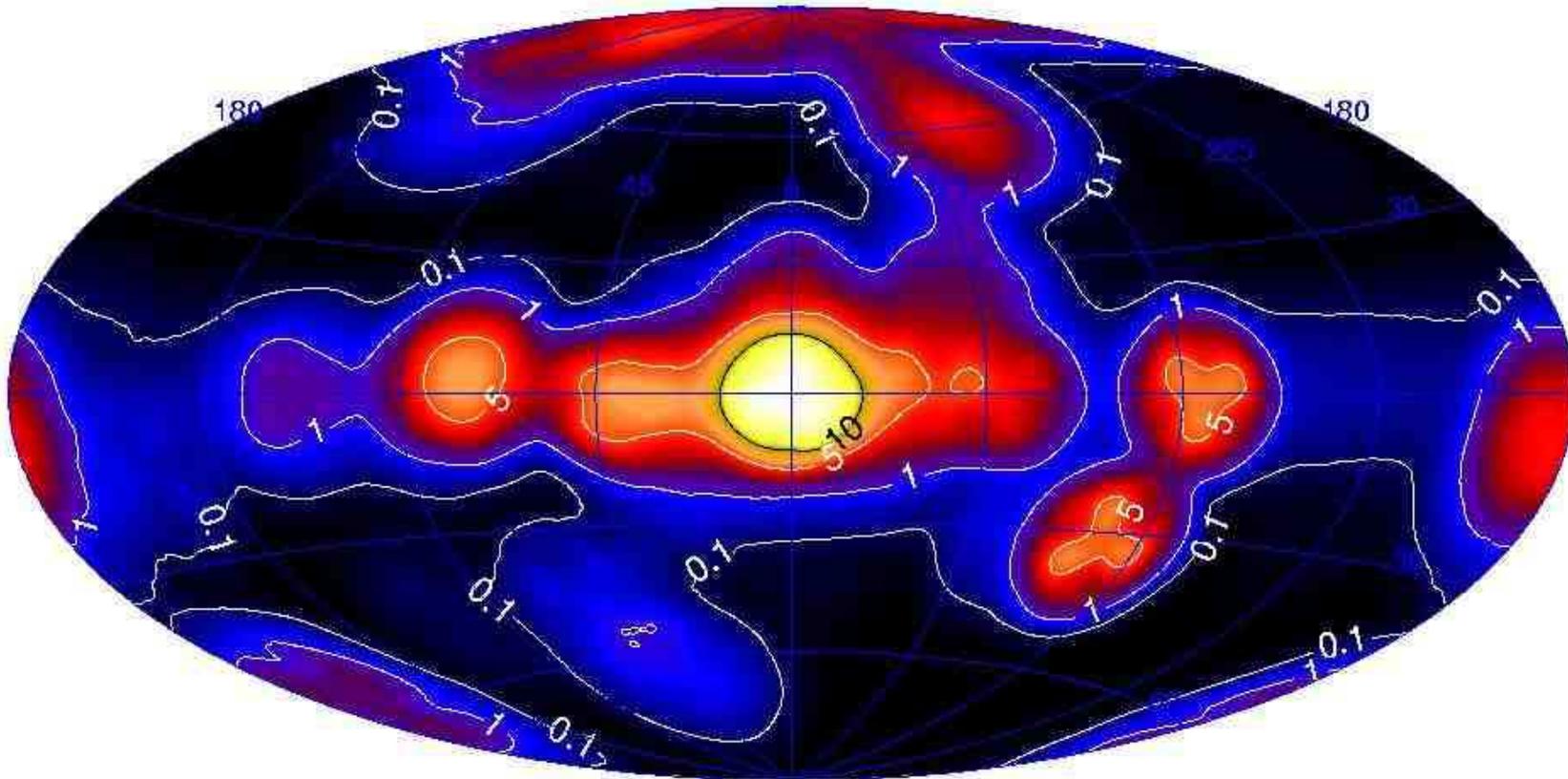
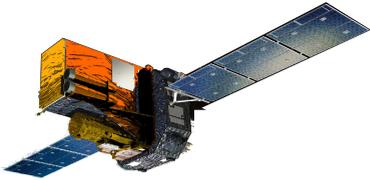


# Problem: DAMA/LIBRA and the other experiments...



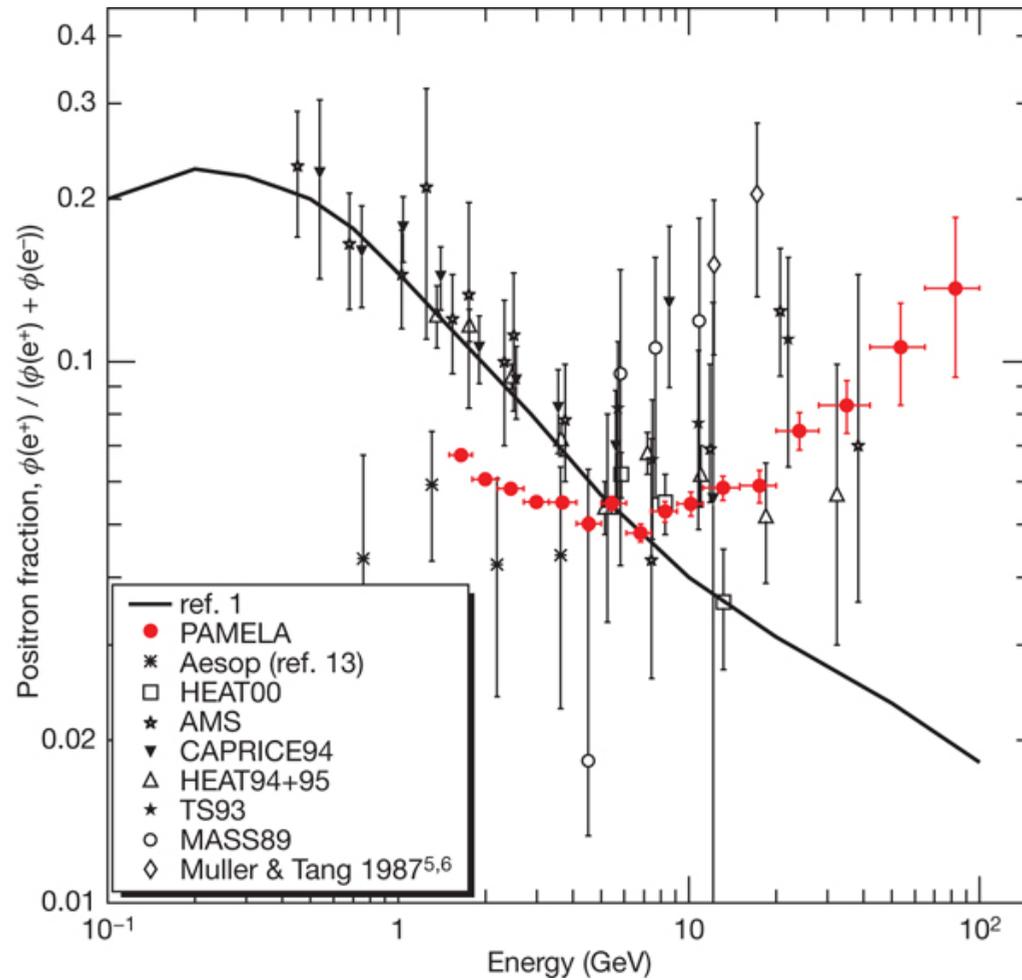
- Signals with annual modulation by DAMA and CoGeNT?
- XENON100, CDMS: coincidence experiments
- ⇒ Possible solution: reaction mechanism (electrons, excited DM)

# SPI Spectrometer/INTEGRAL: 511 keV Gamma radiation



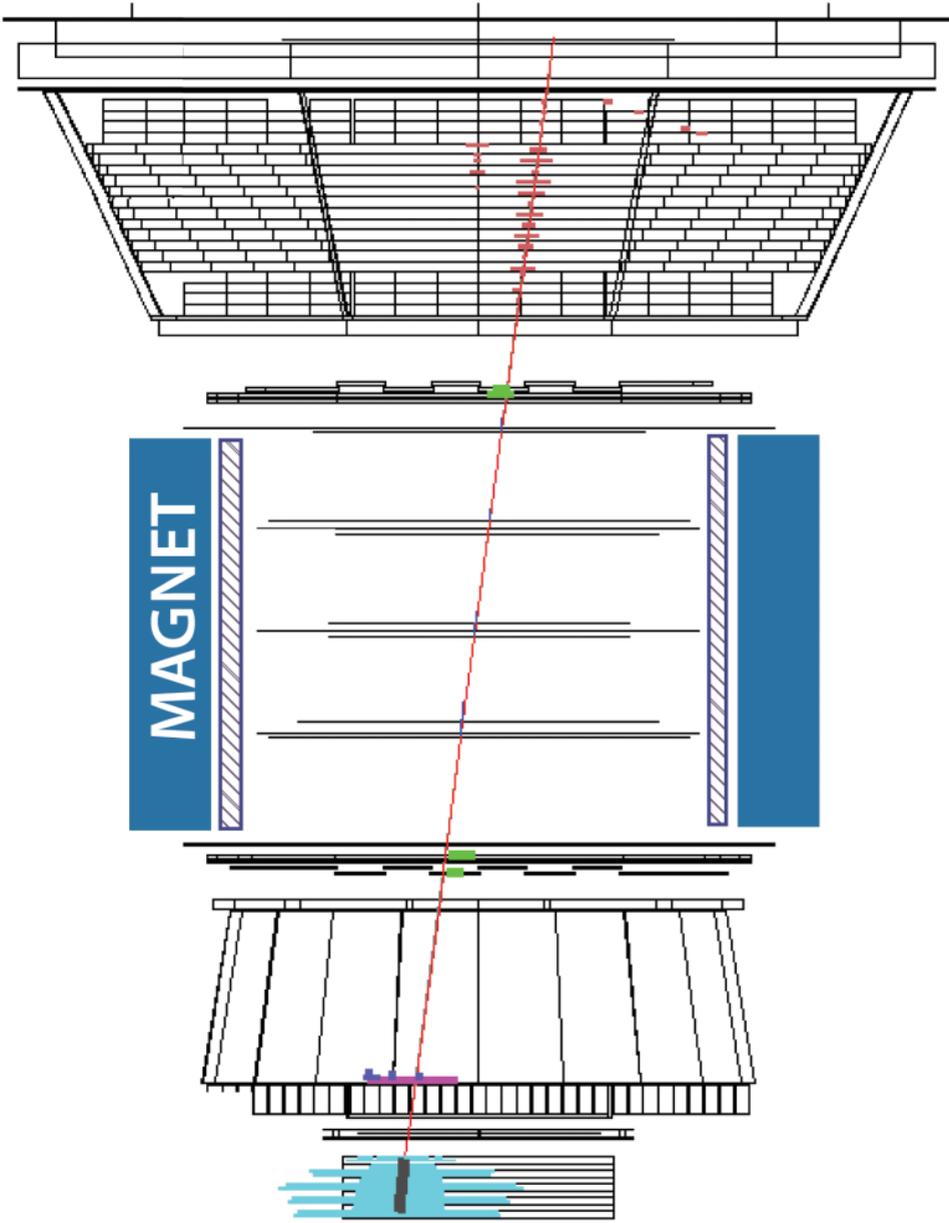
⇒ Positrons from annihilation  $e^+ + e^-$

# PAMELA: positron excess

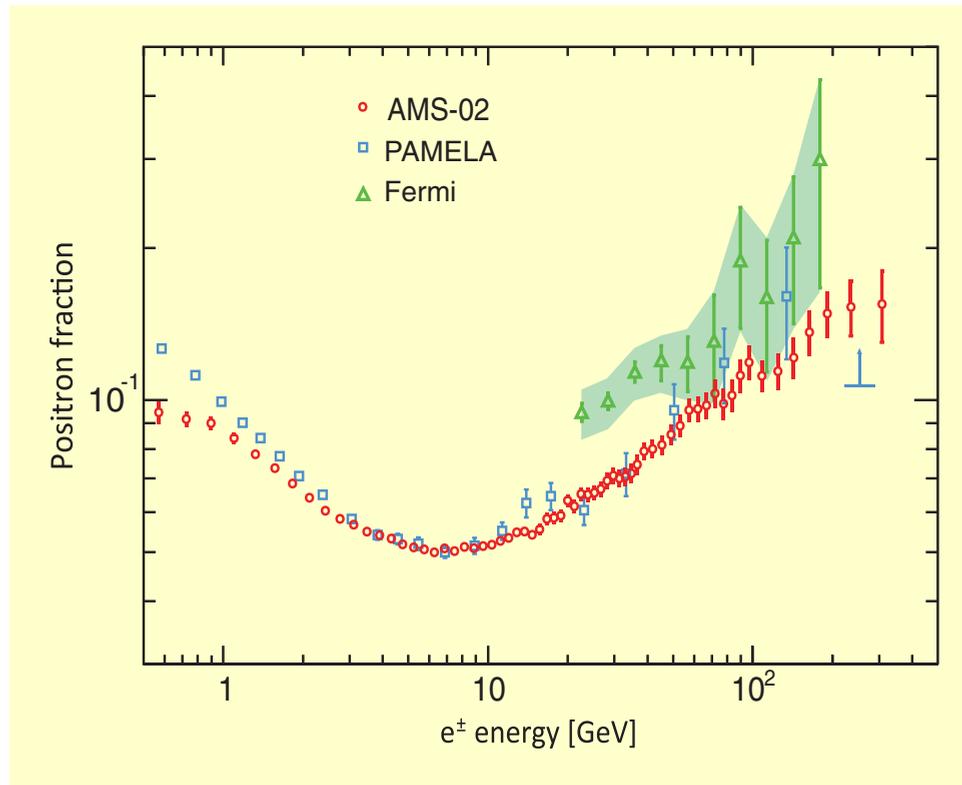


⇒ Excess of positrons for  $E > 10 \text{ GeV}$

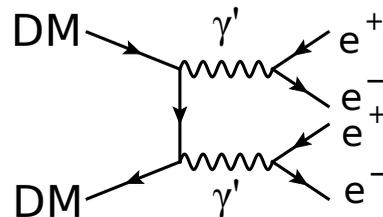
# Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer (AMS-02) at the ISS



# AMS-02: Positron Excess



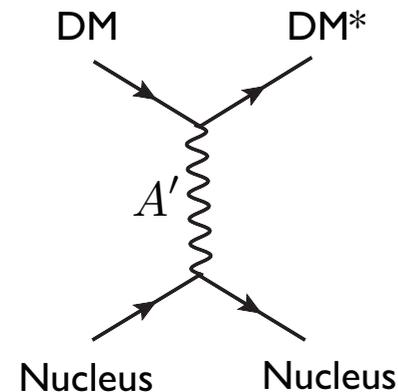
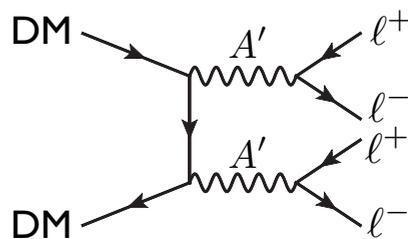
- Positron excess at large energies
- Consistent with a common source for  $e^+$  and  $e^-$
- Isotropic!!!!



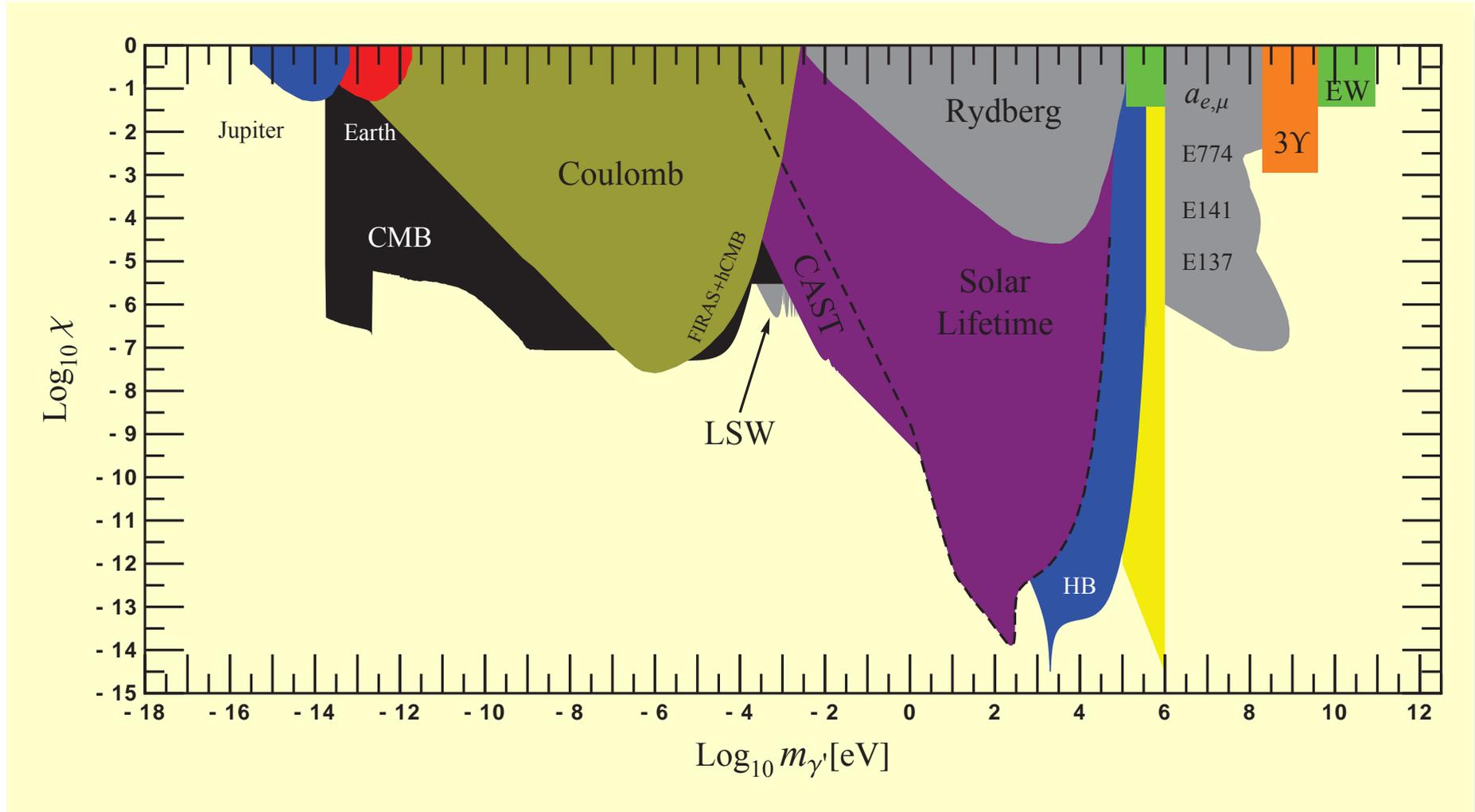
# The $\gamma'$ Boson (or $A'$ , $\phi$ , ...)

- $g - 2$  anomaly of the muon
- Direct Scattering  $\Rightarrow$  DAMA/LIBRA modulation
- Positron excess, but no anti-proton excess (PAMELA, INTEGRAL 511 keV line, etc. )  
 $\Rightarrow$  Large annihilation cross section
- BUT: Relic Abundance of DM in cosmology requires low cross section  
 $\Rightarrow$  Sommerfeld enhancement of cross section for low velocities
  - ▶ Large cross section in leptons
  - ▶ Small cross section in hadrons

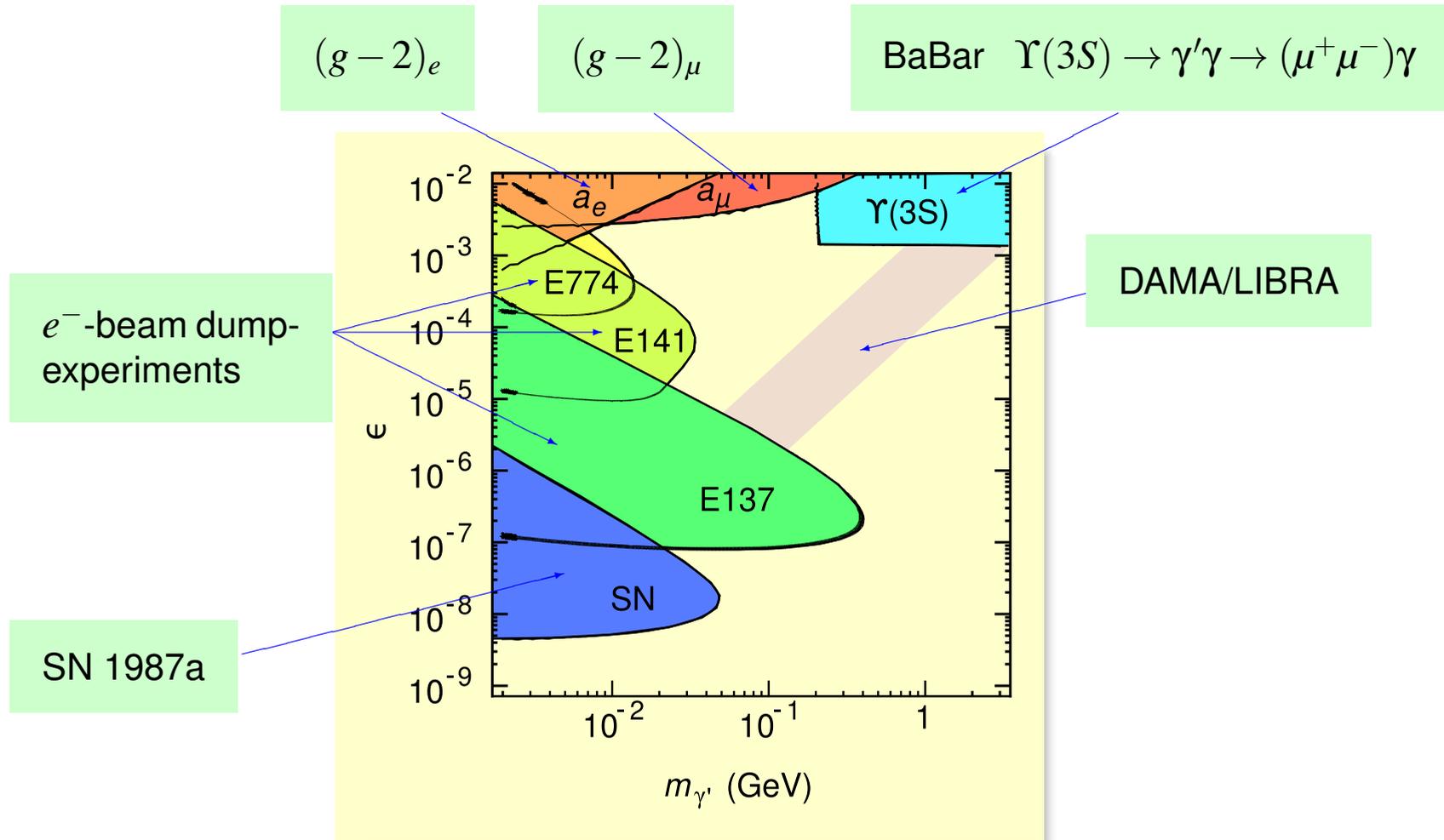
$\Rightarrow U(1)$  Vector Boson  $\gamma'$  with Mass in GeV range



# Existing bounds for dark photons



# Parameter range for mass and coupling of $\gamma'$ boson

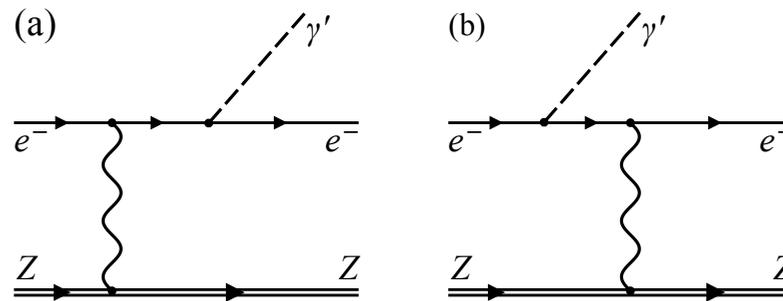


● Interesting range:  $10^{-8} < \epsilon < 10^{-2}$        $10 \text{ MeV} < m_{\gamma'} < 1000 \text{ MeV}$

● Energy range of MAMI!

# Principle of Measurement

# Quasi-photoproduction off heavy target



Weizsäcker-Williams approximation:

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dx d\cos\theta_{\gamma'}} \approx \frac{8Z^2 \alpha^3 \varepsilon^2 E_0^2 x}{U^2} \tilde{\chi} \left[ \left(1 - x + \frac{x^2}{2}\right) - \frac{x(1-x)m_{\gamma'}^2 (E_0^2 x \theta_{\gamma'}^2)}{U^2} \right]$$

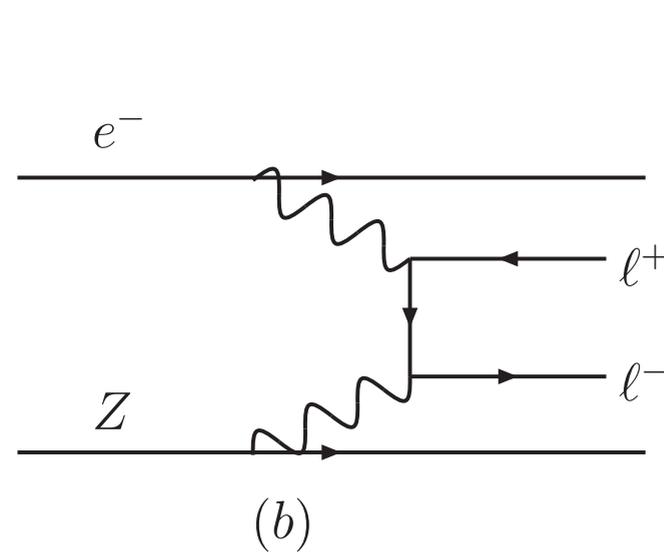
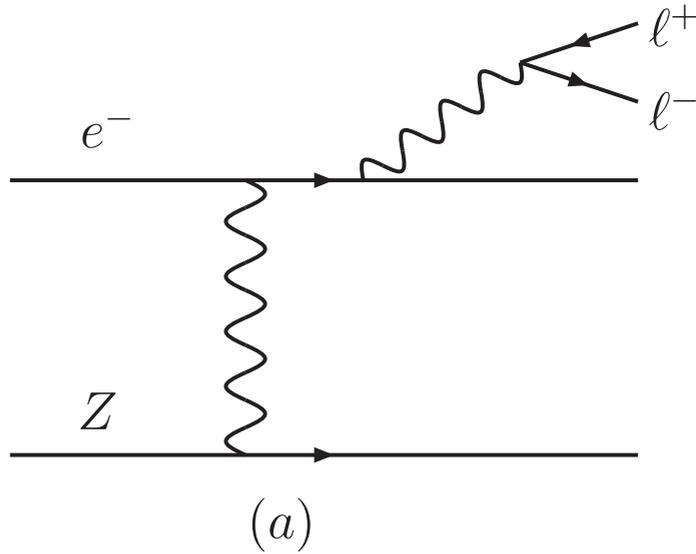
with  $x = \frac{E_{\gamma'}}{E_0}$

$$U(x, \theta_{\gamma'}) = E_0^2 x \theta_{\gamma'}^2 + m_{\gamma'}^2 \frac{1-x}{x} + m_e^2 x$$

Lifetime:

$$\gamma c \tau \sim 1 \text{ mm} \left(\frac{\gamma}{10}\right) \left(\frac{10^{-4}}{\varepsilon}\right)^2 \left(\frac{100 \text{ MeV}}{m_{\gamma'}}\right)$$

# Backgrounds

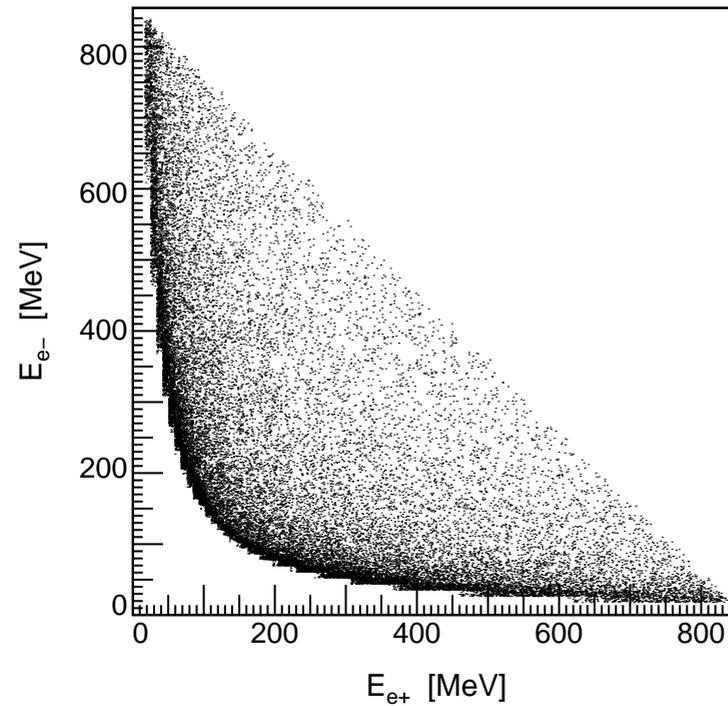
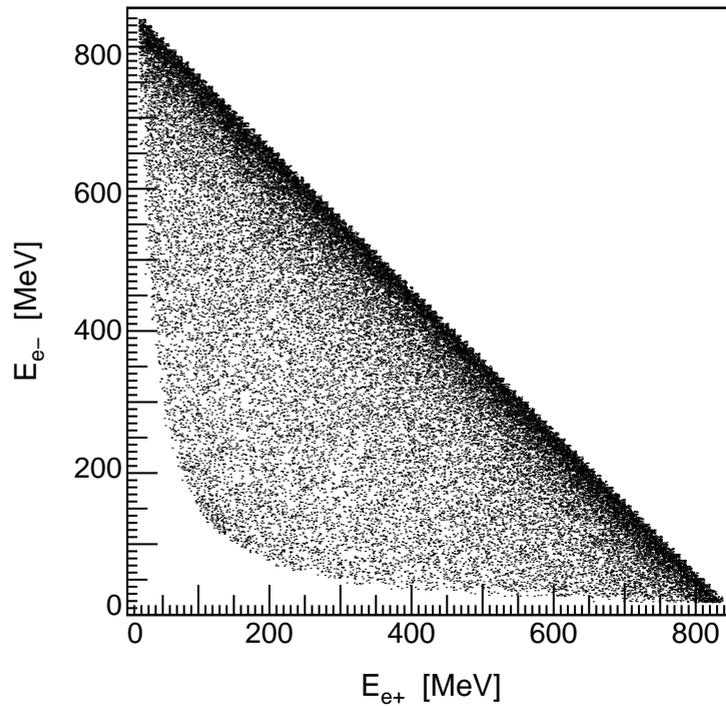
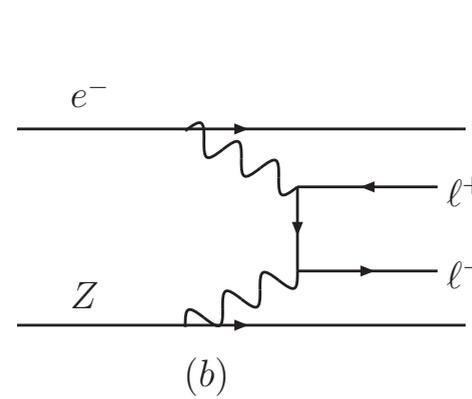
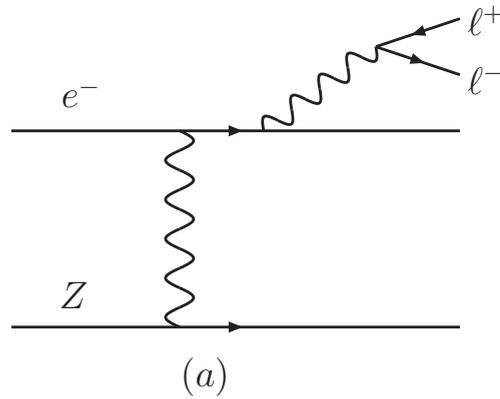


- Virtual photon instead of  $\gamma'$
- Computable in QED
- Same shape of cross section
- $\Rightarrow$  Not separable

- Computable in QED
- Peak for  $l^*$  on mass shell
- Energy transfer to  $l^-$  or  $l^+$
- $\Rightarrow$  Kinematically separable

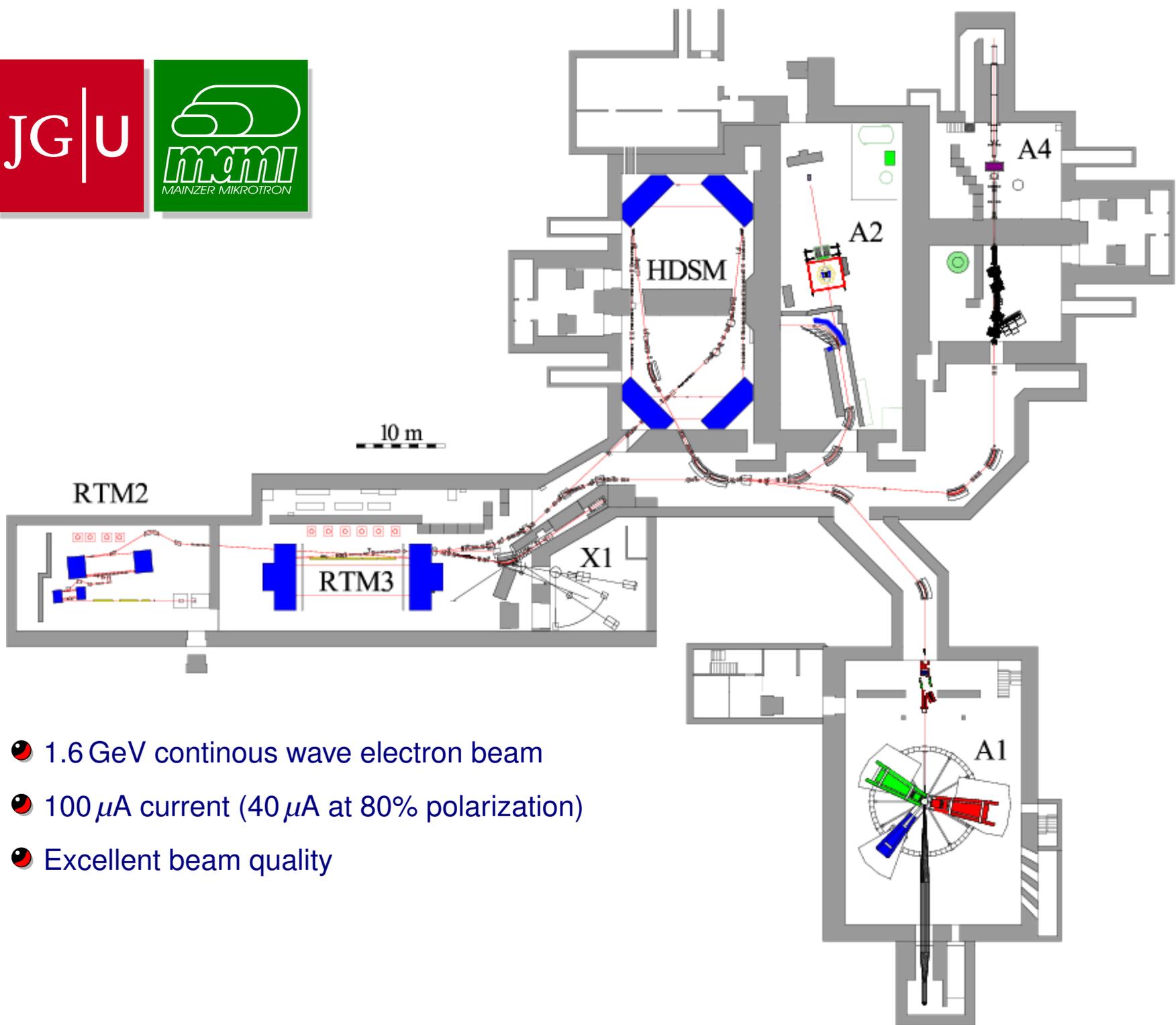
Other backgrounds: measurement!

# Bethe-Heitler Background



- Peak at  $m_{e^+e^-} = 0$
- Peak for asymmetric production
- Minimum for symmetric production at  $x = 1$

# The Experiment



- 1.6 GeV continuous wave electron beam
- 100  $\mu\text{A}$  current (40  $\mu\text{A}$  at 80% polarization)
- Excellent beam quality

# A1: Spectrometer setup at MAMI



## Spectrometer A:

$$\alpha > 20^\circ$$

$$p < 735 \frac{\text{MeV}}{c}$$

$$\Delta\Omega = 28 \text{ msr}$$

$$\Delta p/p = 20\%$$

## Spectrometer B:

$$\alpha > 8^\circ$$

$$p < 870 \frac{\text{MeV}}{c}$$

$$\Delta\Omega = 5.6 \text{ msr}$$

$$\Delta p/p = 15\%$$

## Spectrometer C:

$$\alpha > 55^\circ$$

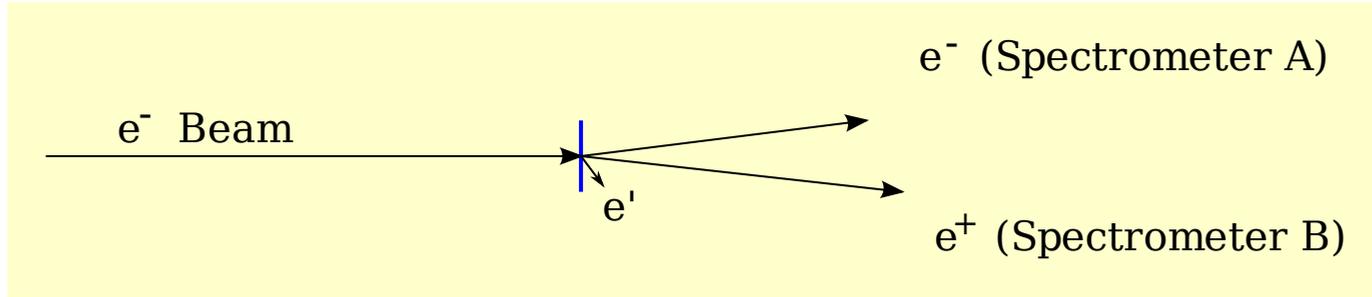
$$p < 655 \frac{\text{MeV}}{c}$$

$$\Delta\Omega = 28 \text{ msr}$$

$$\Delta p/p = 25\%$$

$$\delta p/p < 10^{-4}$$

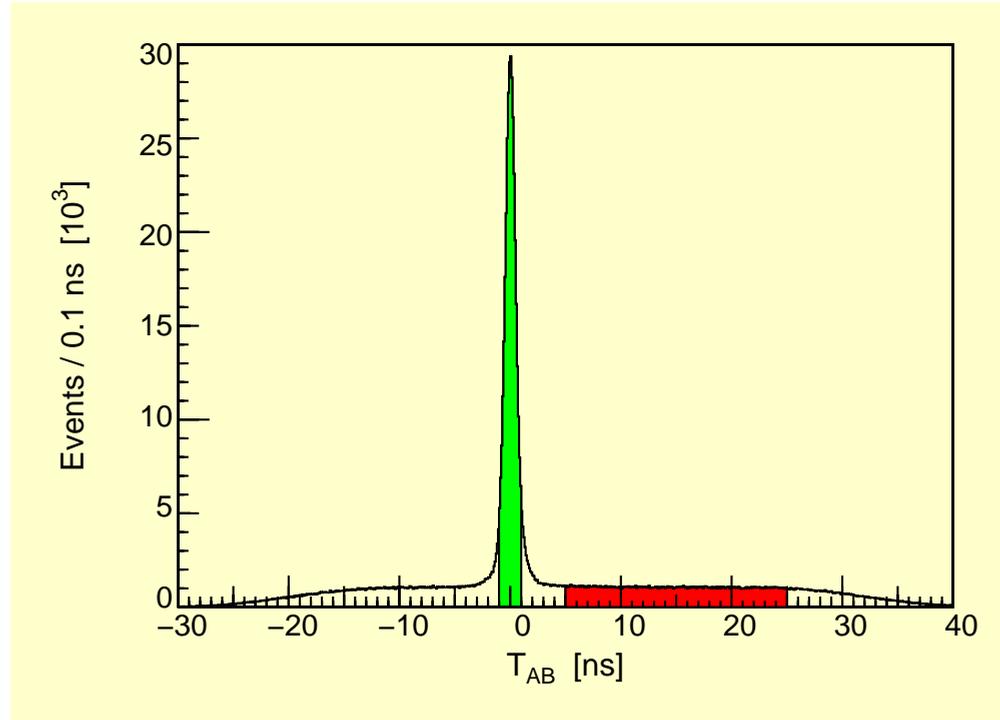
# Pilot experiment



- Target: 0.05 mm Tantalum (mono-isotopic  $^{181}\text{Ta}$ )
- Beam current:  $100\mu\text{A}$
- Luminosity:  $L = 1.7 \cdot 10^{35} \frac{1}{\text{scm}^2}$  ( $L \cdot Z^2 \approx 10^{39} \frac{1}{\text{scm}^2}$ )
- Complete energy transfer to  $\gamma'$  boson ( $x = 1$ )
- Minimal angles for spectrometers
- Spectrometer setup as symmetric as possible (background reduction)

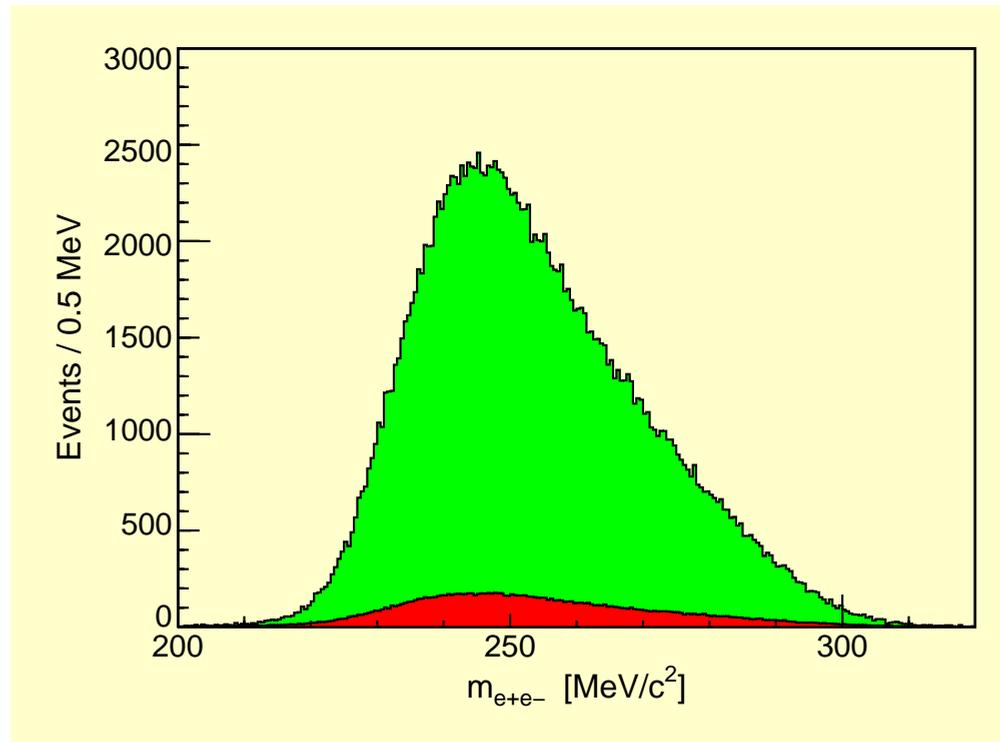
Beam energy	$E_0 = 855.0 \text{ MeV}$
Spectrometer A	$p_{e^-} = 338.0 \text{ MeV}/c$
	$\theta_{e^-} = 22.8^\circ$
Spectrometer B	$p_{e^+} = 470.0 \text{ MeV}/c$
	$\theta_{e^+} = 15.2^\circ$

# Reaction identification: coincidence time



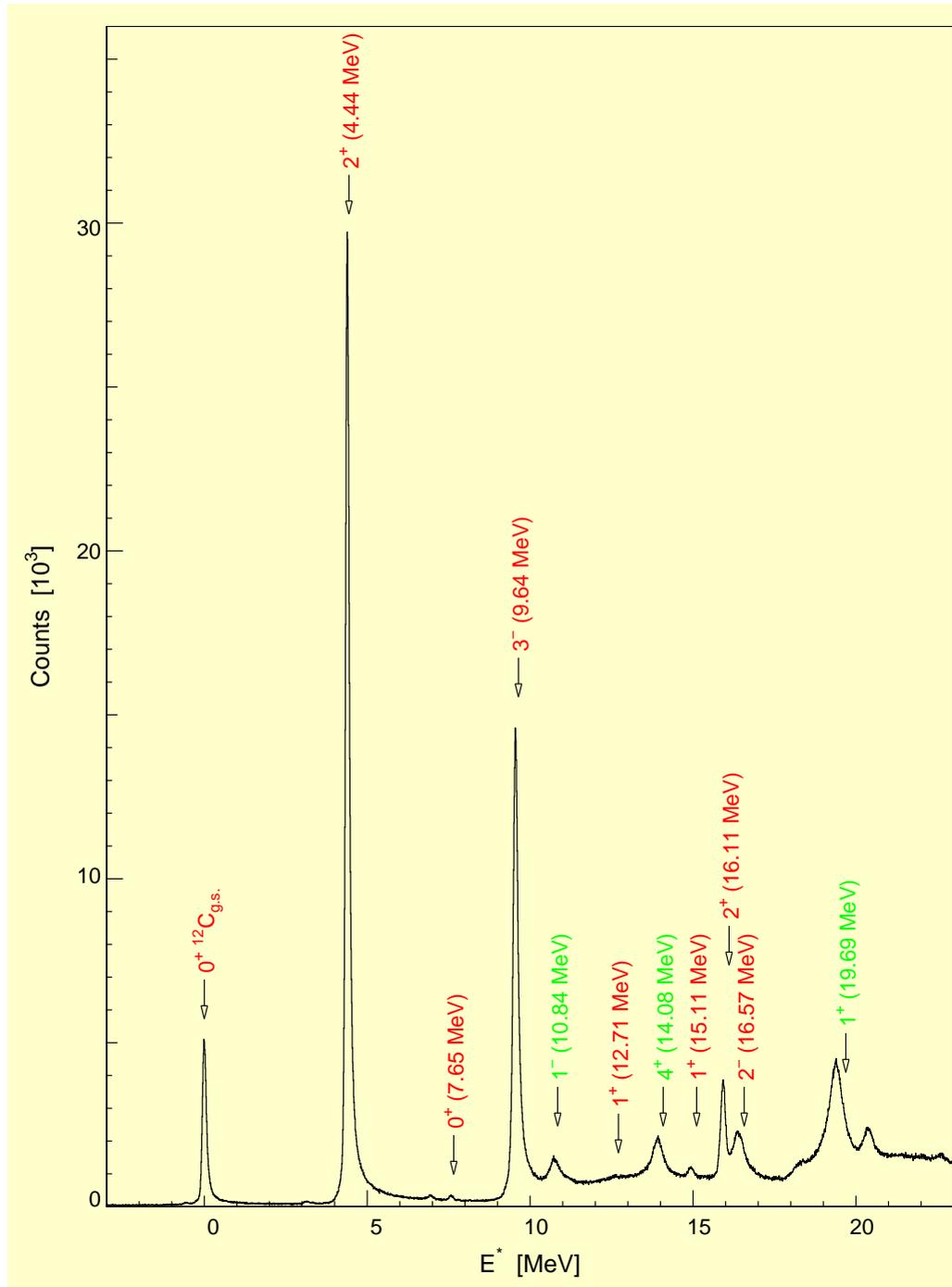
- Particle identification  $e^+$ ,  $e^-$  by Cerenkov detectors
- Correction of path length in spectrometers  $\approx 12$  m  
⇒ Time-of-Flight reaction identification
- Coincidence time resolution  $\approx 1$  ns FWHM
- Estimate of background: side band  $5$  ns  $< T_{A\wedge B} < 25$  ns
- Almost no accidental background  $\approx 5\%$
- Above background: only coincident  $e^+e^-$  pairs!

# Invariant mass of $e^+e^-$ pair



- Mass of  $e^-e^+$  pair  $m_{\gamma'}^2 = (e^- + e^+)^2$
- What is the expected peak width?

# Determination of the Mass Resolution



## ● Elastic Scattering

- ▶ Natural width  $\ll$  Resolution
- ▶ Line width gives upper bound
- ▶  $\delta p/p < 10^{-4}$  for Spectrometer

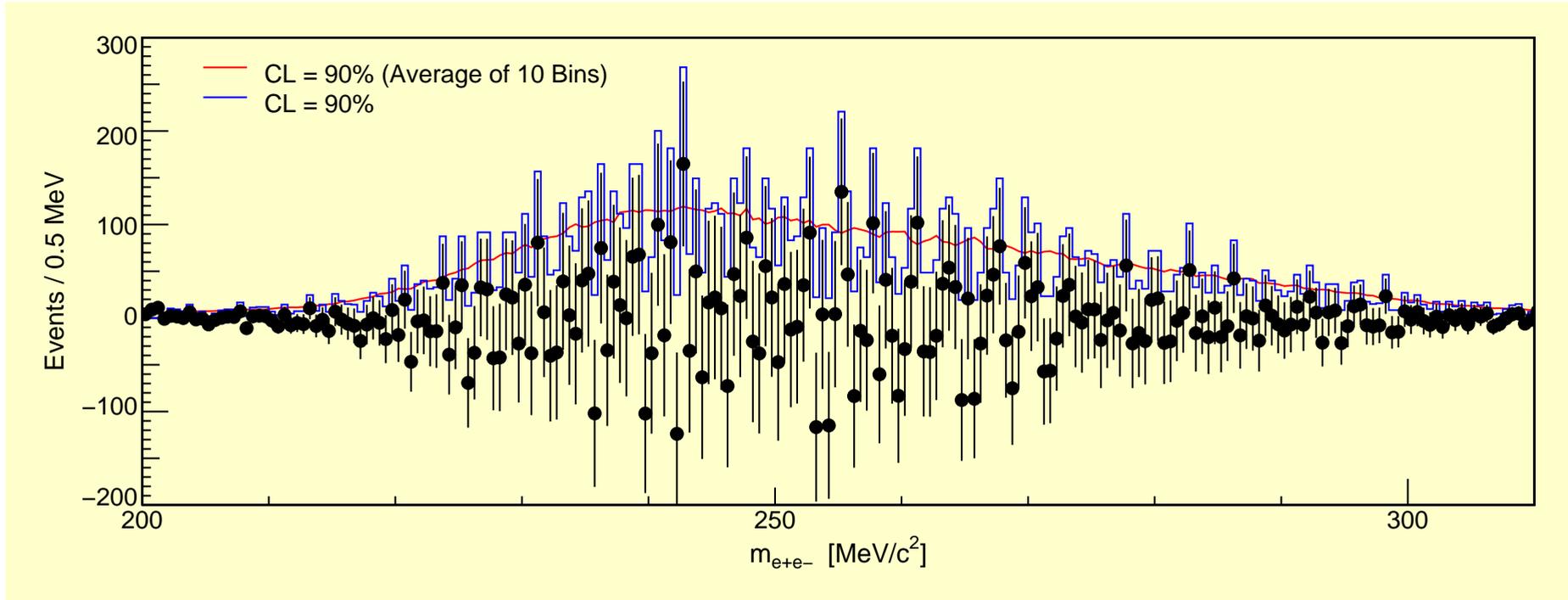
## ● Input to Full Simulation

- ▶ Multiple Scattering (-)
- ▶ Radiation correction (-)
- ▶ Decay length (+)
- ▶ Missing mass resolution (+)

$$\Rightarrow \delta m_{e^+e^-} < 0.5 \text{ MeV}/c^2 \text{ FWHM}$$

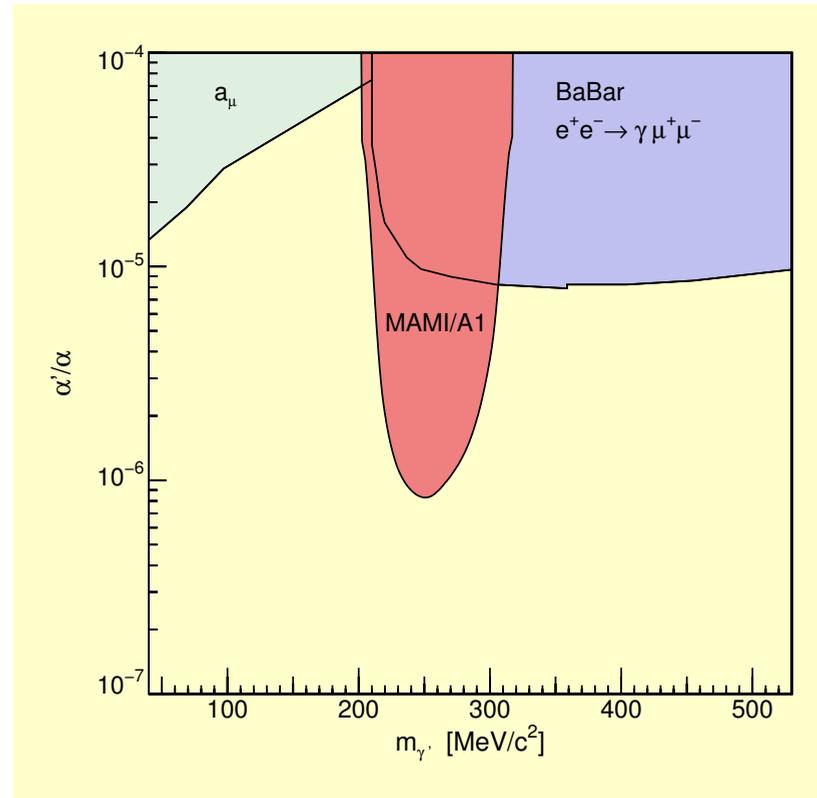
N.B.: Systematic error of  $\delta m_{e^+e^-} < 10^{-3}$ !

# Exclusion limits



- Confidence interval by Feldman-Cousins algorithm
- “Model” for Background-subtraction:  
average of 3 Bins left and right of central bin
- Resolution  $\delta m < 500 \text{ keV} = \text{bin width}$
- Averaging (mean of 10 bins) only for “subjective judgment”

# Exclusion limit for mixing parameter $\varepsilon$



- Accidental background + Q.E.D. background
- Model deviates only on nuclear vertex, both for  $\gamma'$  and  $\gamma^*$
- Conversion from ratio of cross sections:

$$\frac{d\sigma(X \rightarrow \gamma'Y \rightarrow l^+l^-Y)}{d\sigma(X \rightarrow \gamma^*Y \rightarrow l^+l^-Y)} = \left( \frac{3\pi\varepsilon^2}{2N_f\alpha} \right) \left( \frac{m_{\gamma'}}{\delta_m} \right)$$

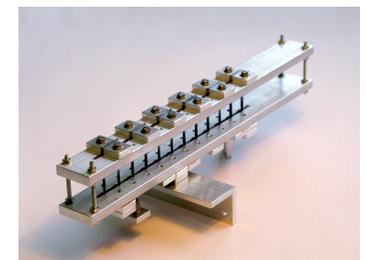
$\Rightarrow$  Exclusion limit from 4 days of beam time  $\varepsilon < 10^{-3}$

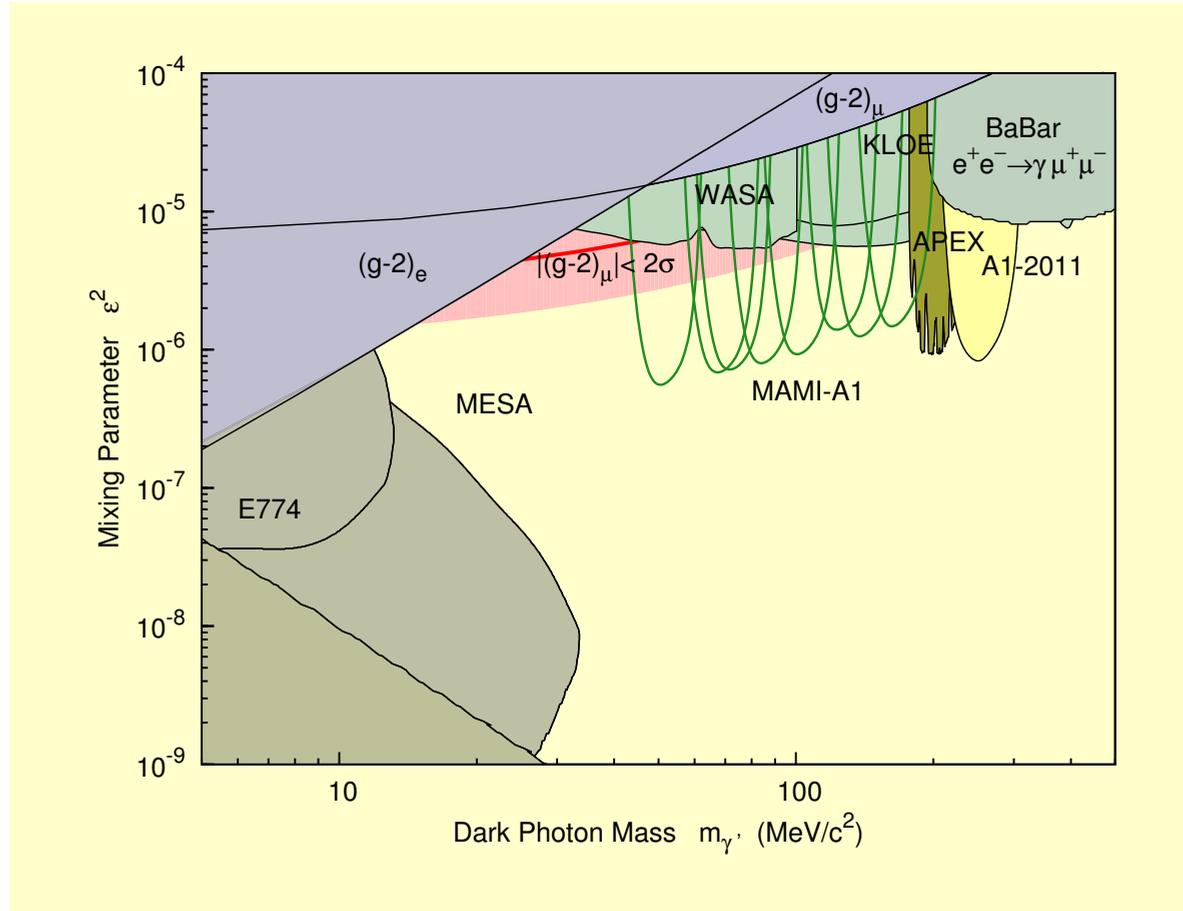
# Data 2012/2013 - Settings

Settings	$E_0$ (MeV)	$p_A$ (MeV/c)	$p_B$ (MeV/c)	$\bar{I}_0$ ( $\mu\text{A}$ )	Target (mg/cm <sup>2</sup> )	$t$ $t$
DM2012_57	180	78.7	98.0	2.2	Foil 9.4	12h 30' 56"
DM2012_72	240	103.6	132.0	5.5	Foil 9.4	46h 53' 18"
DM2012_77	255	110.1	140.4	7.0	Foil 9.4	43h 49' 11"
DM2012_91	300	129.5	164.5	11.7	Foil 9.4	37h 56' 03"
DM2012_109	360	155.4	197.6	16.6	Foil 9.4	5h 15' 29"
DM2012_138	435	190.7	247.7	43.4	Foil 9.4	44h 3' 27"
DM2012_150	495	213.7	271.6	7.0	Stack 113.1	36h 25' 16"
DM2012_177	585	250.0	317.3	16.3	Stack 113.1	29h 37' 03"
DM2012_218	720	309.2	392.7	19.4	Stack 113.1	76h 0' 20"

Spectrometer	Angle	Solid angle (msr)	$\Delta p/p$
A (electron)	20.01°	21.0	20%
B (positron)	15.63°	5.6	15%

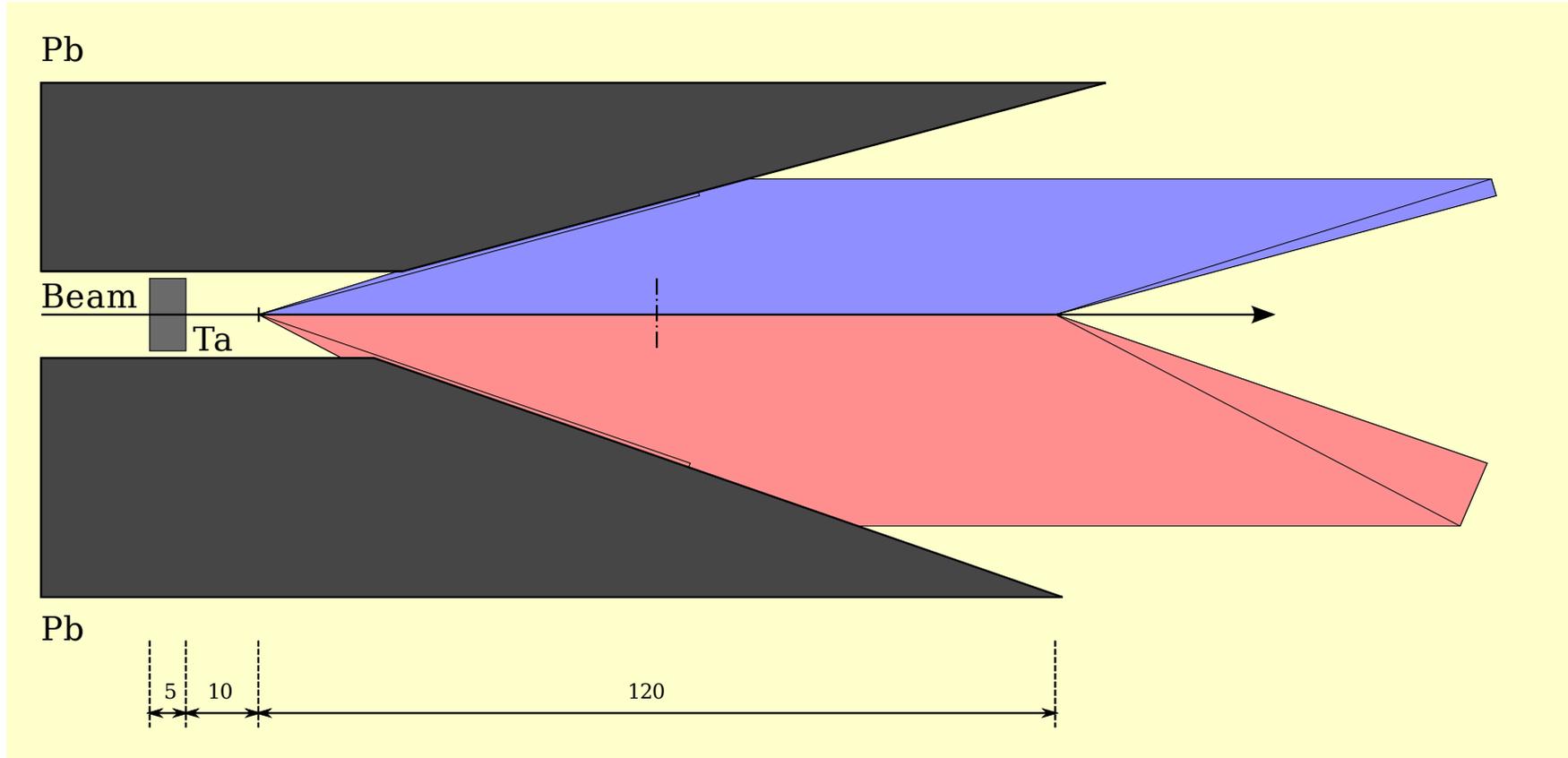
- Mass range  $50 \text{ MeV} < m_\gamma < 200 \text{ MeV}$
- 9 different beam energies





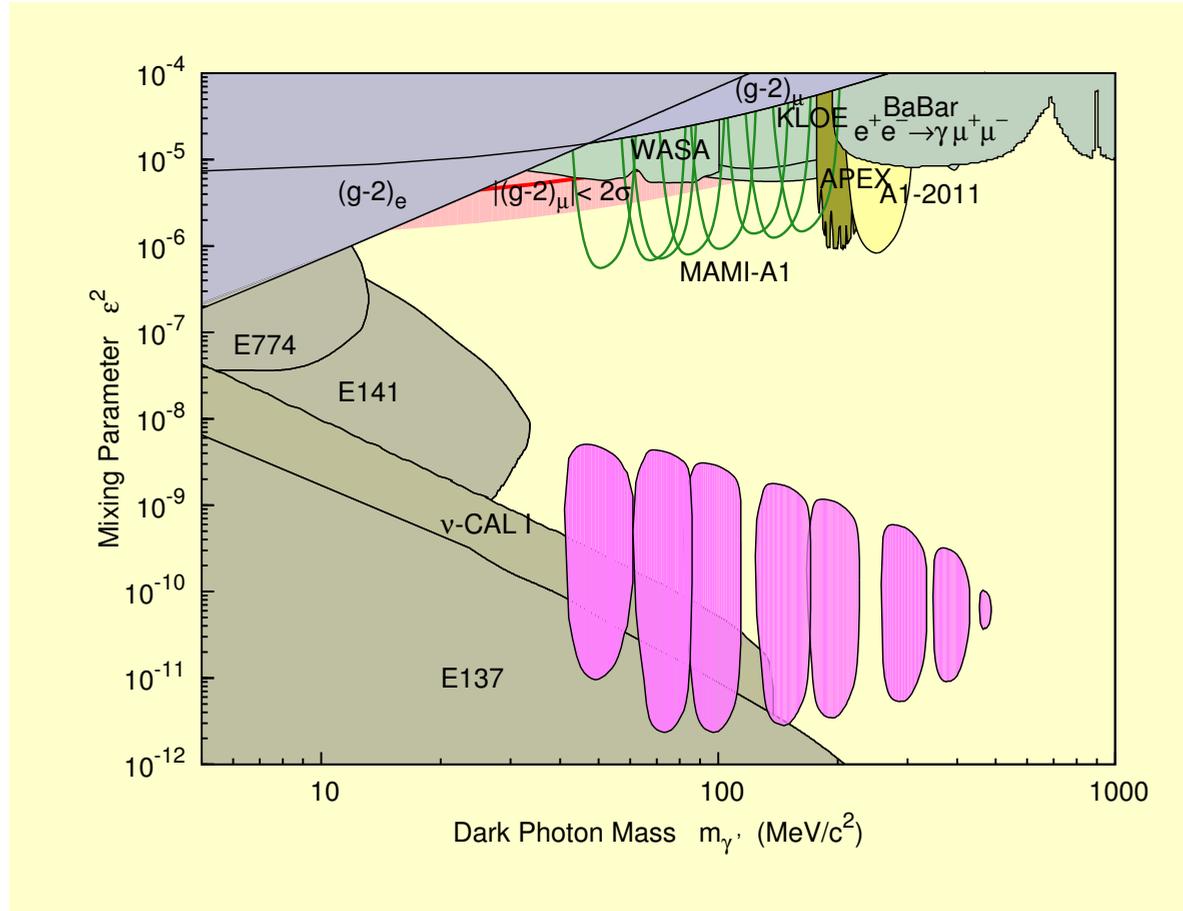
- Data taking finished
- Analysis nearly finished

## Step 2: Secondary vertex $\rightarrow$ small coupling



- Sensitive to decay length 10 mm – 130 mm
- $\Rightarrow \gamma c\tau = 4.35 \text{ mm} - 1120 \text{ mm}$  (10%-limit)
- $\Rightarrow \varepsilon = 10^{-6} - 10^{-5}$
- Target: 5 mm Ta  $\Rightarrow L = 1.72 \cdot 10^{37} \frac{1}{\text{scm}^2}$  at  $100 \mu\text{A}$  beam current
- Beam stabilization, shielding, target cooling

## Step 2: Exclusion limits with shielded production vertex



● Macroscopic decay vertex distance

$$\epsilon < 10^{-4}$$

● Luminosity

$$\epsilon > 10^{-6}$$

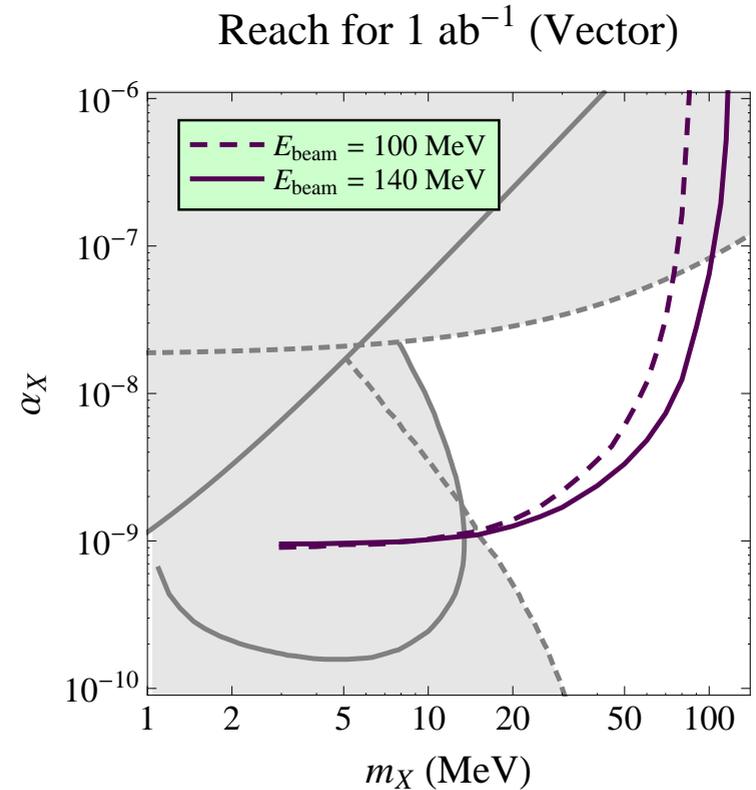
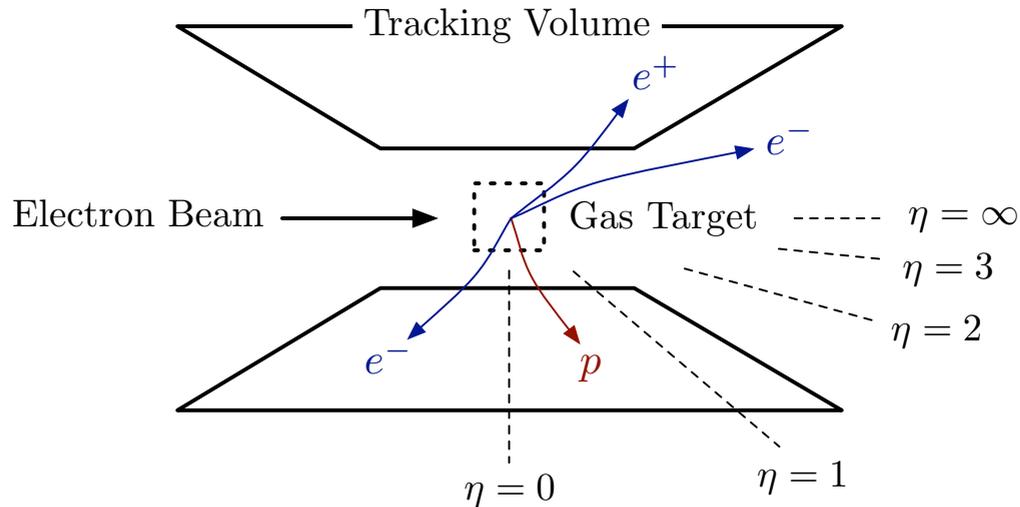
● Coupling vs lifetime

$$m_{\gamma'} < 500 \text{ MeV}/c^2$$

● Angular range

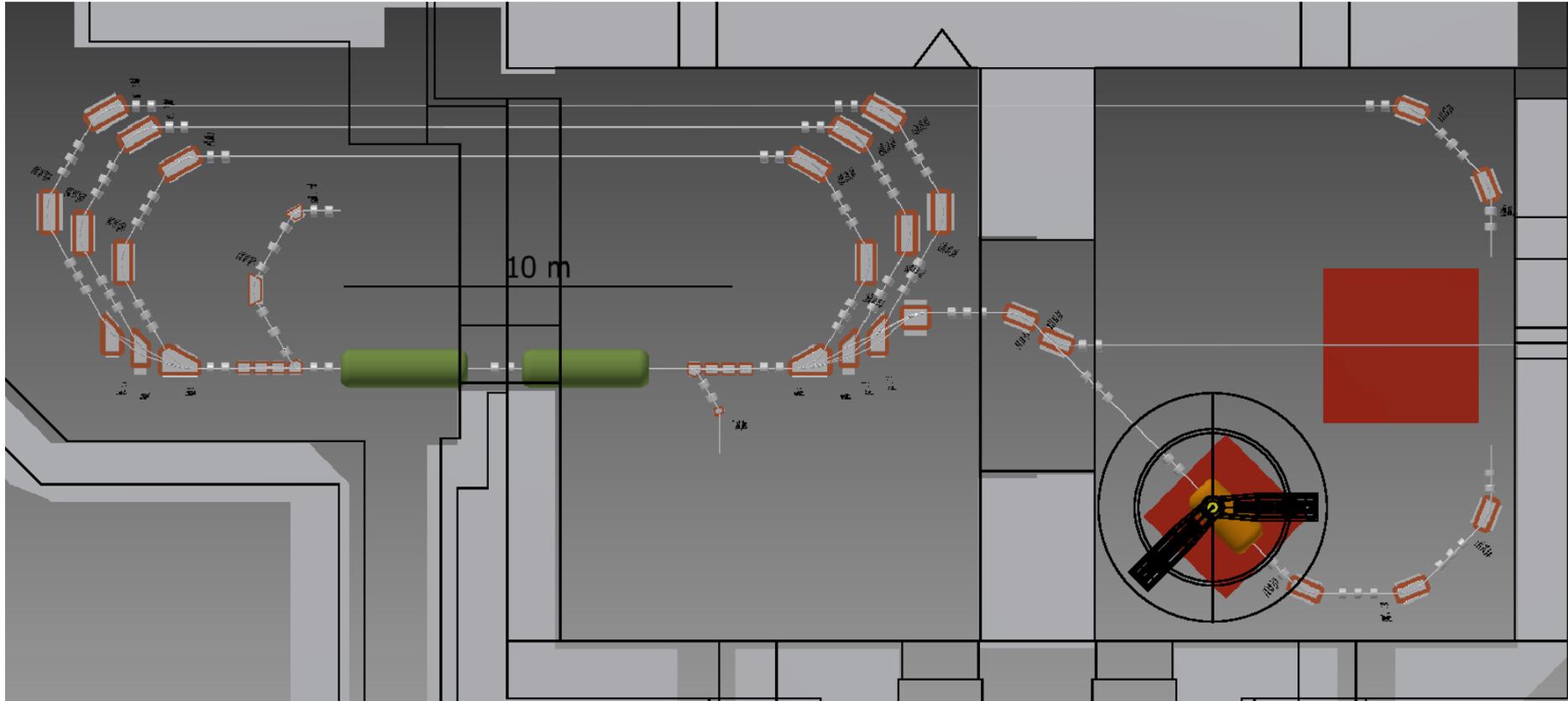
$$m_{\gamma'} > 30 \text{ MeV}/c^2$$

## Step 3: Access to low mass region



- Minimize multiple scattering by gas target
- Low energy – high current accelerator
- Needs  $4\pi$  detector at 200 MHz count rate with high resolution
- DarkLight (JLab FEL)

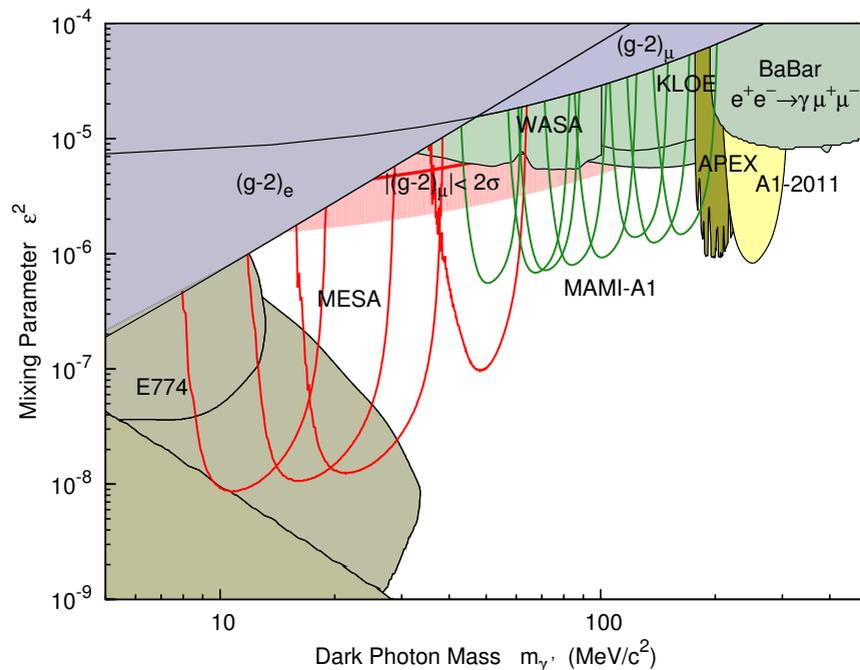
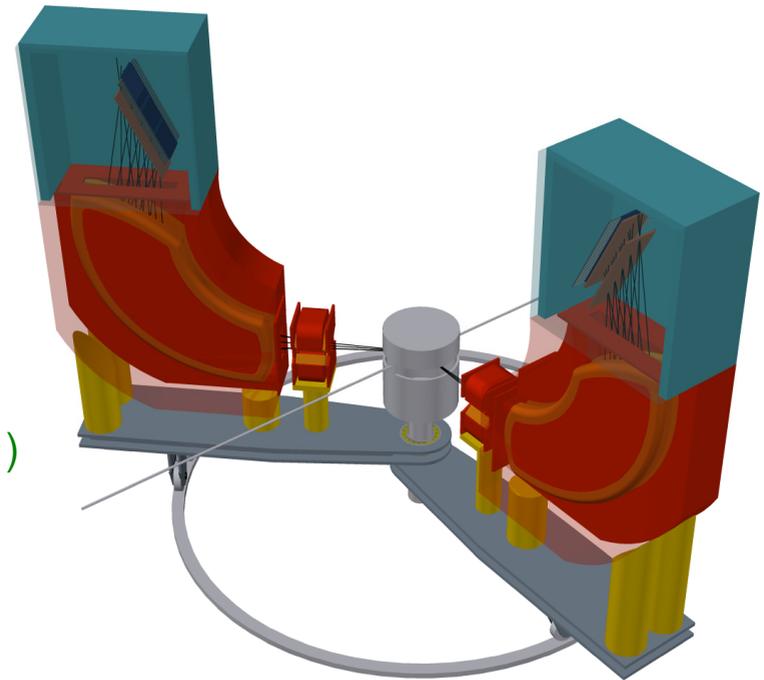
## Step 3: Access to low mass region MESA Accelerator



- Mainz Energy recovering Superconduction Accelerator
- up to 10 mA beam current
- Single pass accelerator  $\Rightarrow$  excellent beam quality
- $\Rightarrow L = 10^{35} \frac{1}{\text{scm}^2}$  with internal target

# Step 3: Access to low mass region: MESA Accelerator

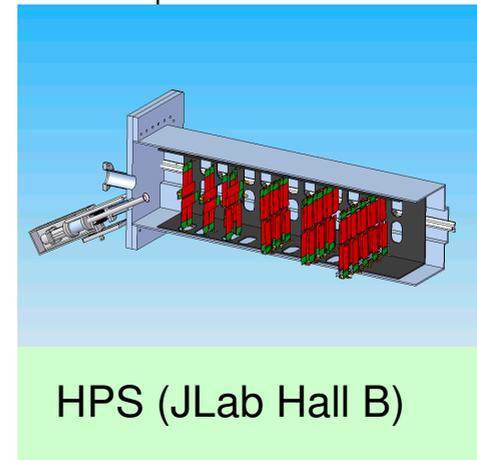
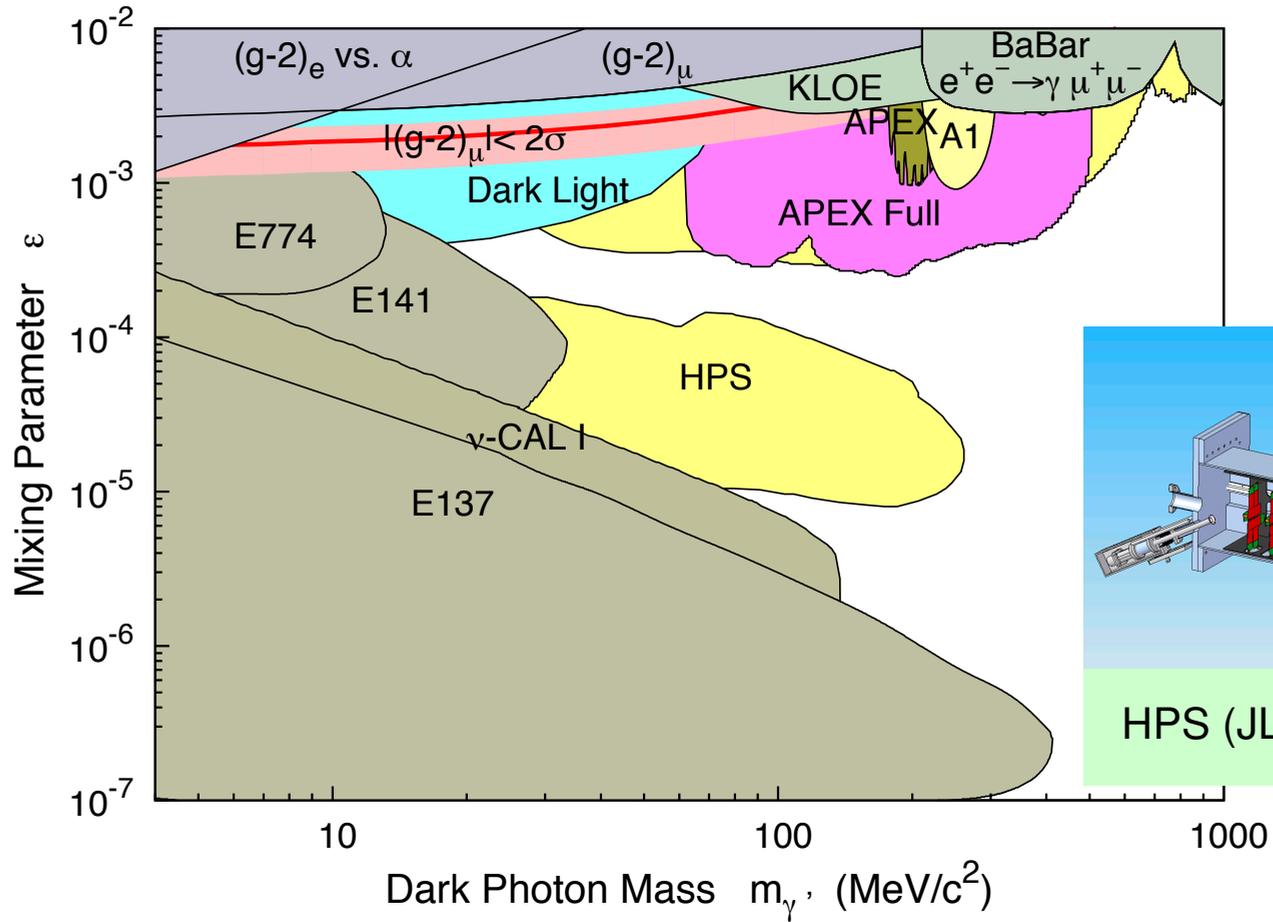
- Low energy precision physics:  $\sigma \sim \sin^{-4} \frac{\theta}{2}$
- Multi-purpose spectrometer setup
- Dark Photon experiment:  
mass-resolution beats solid angle!
- Status:
  - ▶ Finite-elements design of magnets just finished
  - ▶ (polarized) internal target design
  - ▶ Focal plane detectors ( $> 1$  MHz count rate at  $50\mu\text{m}$ )



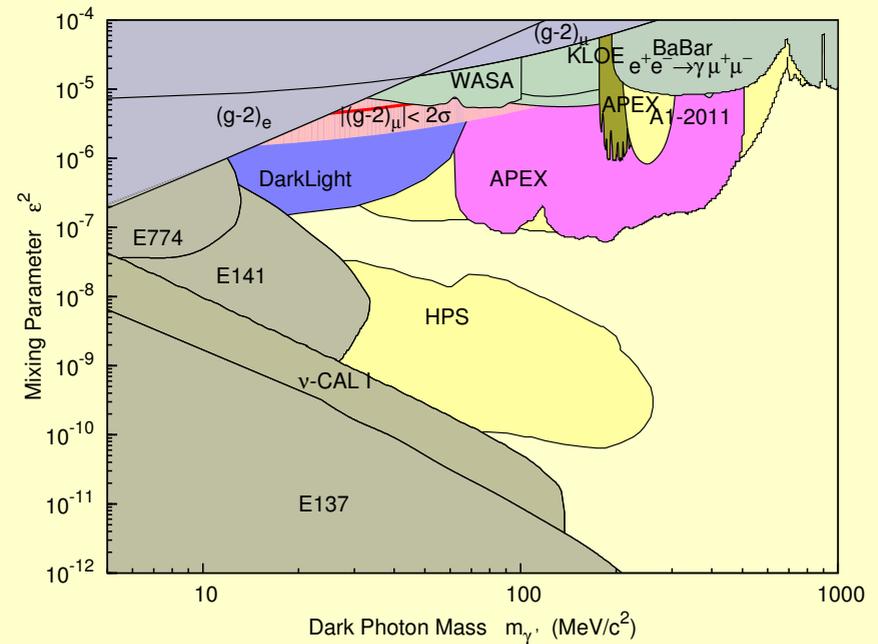
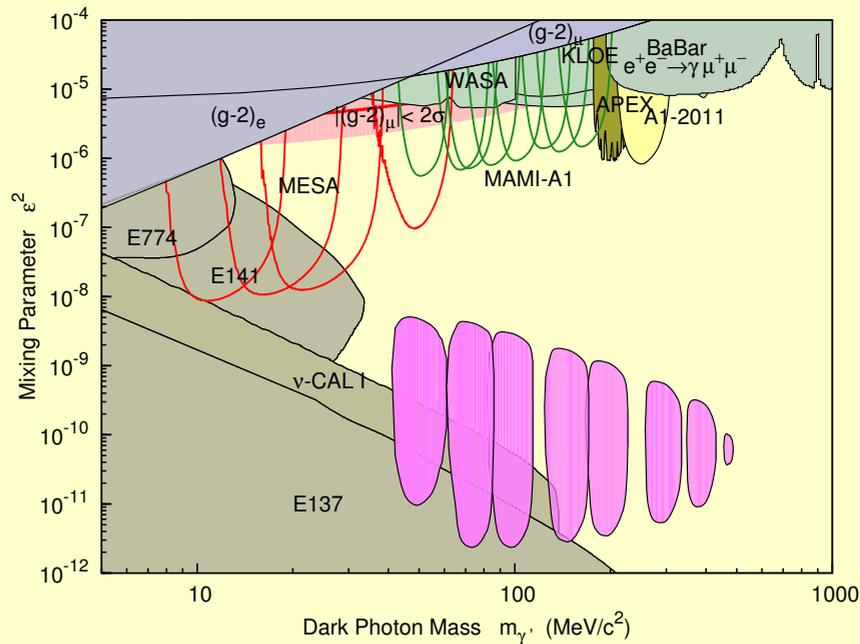
⇒ ideal for dark photon search!

Dark Light (JLab FEL)  
Freysis et al. arXiv:0909.2862

APEX (JLab Hall A)



# Summary



## Experimental Program:

- ▶ Pair production on heavy target
- ▶ Low energy – high current
- ▶ Finite production vertex

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon &> 4 \cdot 10^{-4} \\ m_{\gamma'} &< 50 \text{ MeV}/c^2 \\ 10^{-6} &< \epsilon < 10^{-4} \end{aligned}$$

## Pilot experiments at MAMI and APEX

- ▶ Experiment is feasible, background is well under control
- ▶ Q.E.D. process is understood and calculable within 1%
- ▶ First exclusion limits  $10^{-3}$ , measurements will be continued

⇒ Determination of significant exclusion limits for the  $\gamma'$  boson is possible with existing facilities