

Collider Searches, Scattering Interpretations

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Science and
Technology
Facilities Council

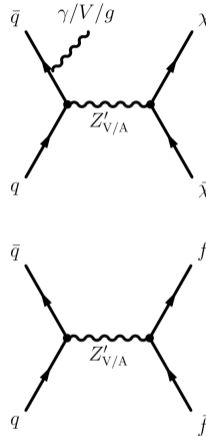
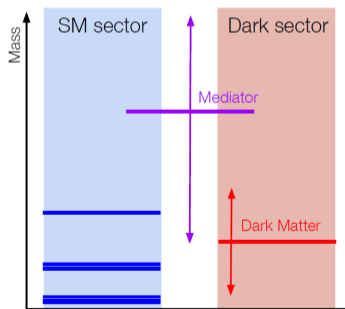


Tuesday 5th May 2026

- Aim: provide overview of the standard collider interpretations in terms of scattering cross-section.
- Will not go into great detail on each one (refs provided).

S-channel Mediator Simplified Models - V/AV mediators

- Introduce mediator, talks to DM and SM sectors.
- Two complementary approaches:
 - ▶ Look for DM - mono-X signature
 - ▶ Look for mediator - resonance search

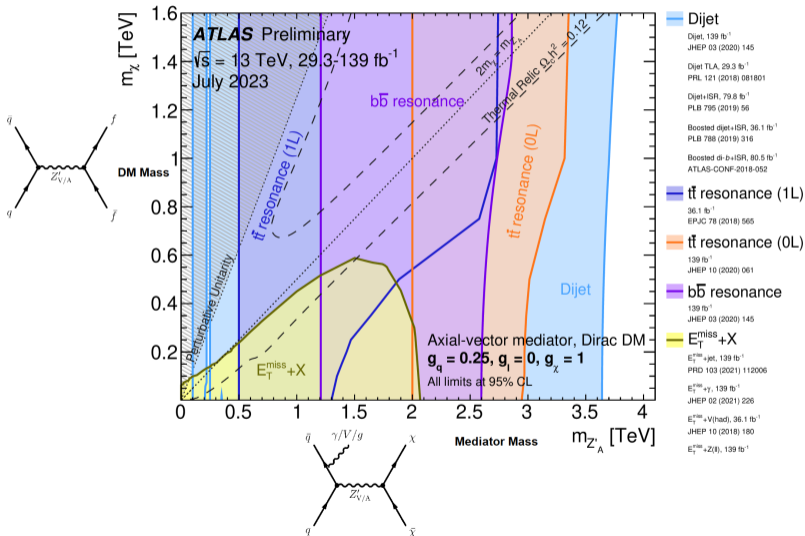


[LHCDMWG White Paper \(1507.00966\)](#)

- Relic density: use to *guide* searches (simplified model useful, but incomplete)

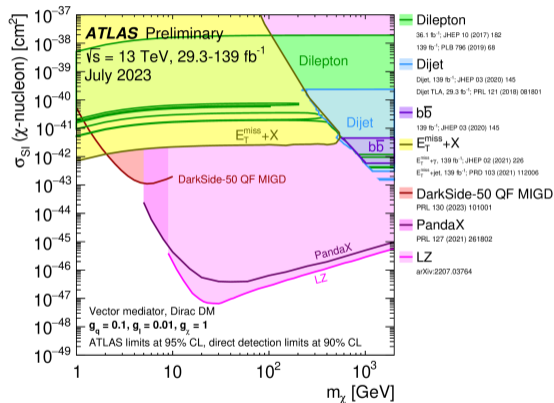
Putting it all together - Simplified Models I

- ATLAS DM Summaries
- Illustrate complementarity between mediator and invisible searches.



Comparisons with Detection Experiments

- **Key message: complementarity**
- LHCDMWG white paper on presentation ([1603.04156](#))
- Assumptions: WIMP, local DM density, interaction type (model-dependence).
- Colliders insensitive to DM mass (all is E_T^{miss}), mediator more important.
- Explore couplings to illustrate variations ([2203.12035](#), [2206.03456](#))



Conversions to Scattering Cross-sections

Vector interactions

- SI DM-nucleon scattering takes form (p/n diff. negligible, flavour-blind):

$$\sigma_{\text{SI}} = \frac{f^2(g_q)g_{\text{DM}}^2\mu_{n\chi}^2}{\pi M_{\text{med}}^4}, \quad f(g_q) = 3g_q,$$

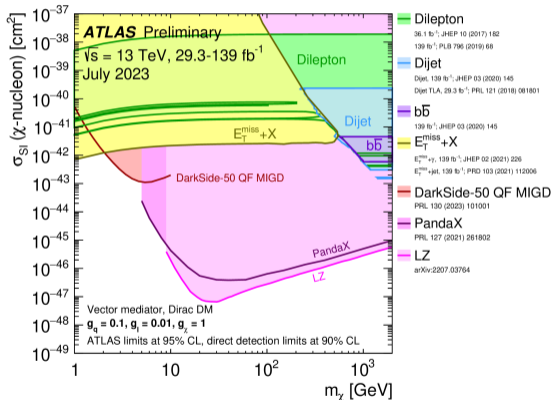
$$\sigma_{\text{SI}} \simeq 6.9 \times 10^{-41} \text{ cm}^2 \cdot \left(\frac{g_q g_{\text{DM}}}{0.25}\right)^2 \left(\frac{1 \text{ TeV}}{M_{\text{med}}}\right)^4 \left(\frac{\mu_{n\chi}}{1 \text{ GeV}}\right)^2.$$

Axial-vector interactions

- Scattering is SD, σ_{SD} :

$$\sigma_{\text{SD}} = \frac{3f^2(g_q)g_{\text{DM}}^2\mu_{n\chi}^2}{\pi M_{\text{med}}^4}, \quad f(g_q) = 0.32g_q,$$

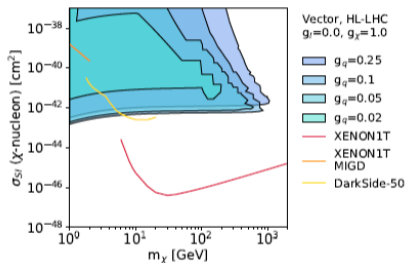
$$\sigma_{\text{SD}} \simeq 2.4 \times 10^{-42} \text{ cm}^2 \cdot \left(\frac{g_q g_{\text{DM}}}{0.25}\right)^2 \left(\frac{1 \text{ TeV}}{M_{\text{med}}}\right)^4 \left(\frac{\mu_{n\chi}}{1 \text{ GeV}}\right)^2.$$



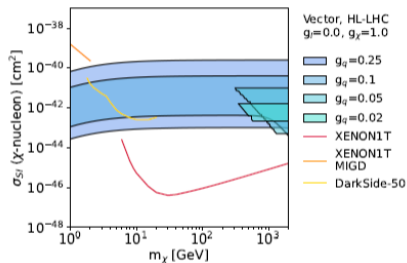
- Largely m_χ -independent
- Low dependence on coupling

$$\sigma_{SI} \simeq 6.9 \times 10^{-41} \text{ cm}^2 \left(\frac{g_q g_{DM}}{0.25} \right)^2 \left(\frac{1 \text{ TeV}}{M_{\text{med}}} \right)^4 \left(\frac{\mu_{\chi N}}{1 \text{ GeV}} \right)^2$$

Product of couplings Mediator mass Reduced mass
 $\mu_{\chi N} = m_\chi m_{DM} / (m_\chi + m_{DM})$

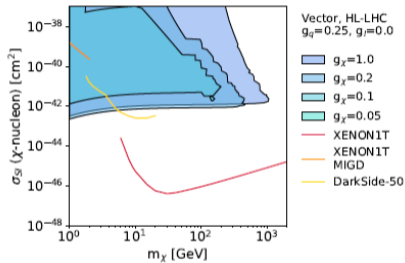


(a) Monojet analysis

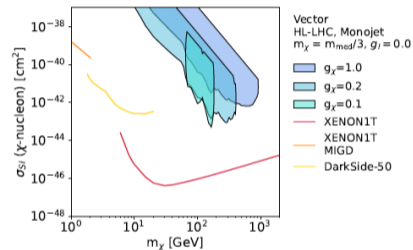


(b) Dijet analysis

- Mediator mass important
- Connect to light DM experiments
- LHC unique for larger m_{med}/m_χ

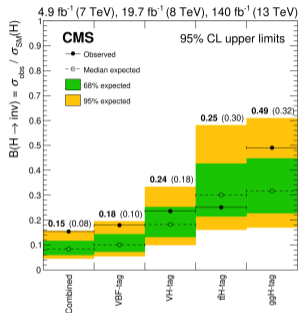


(a) Monojet analysis



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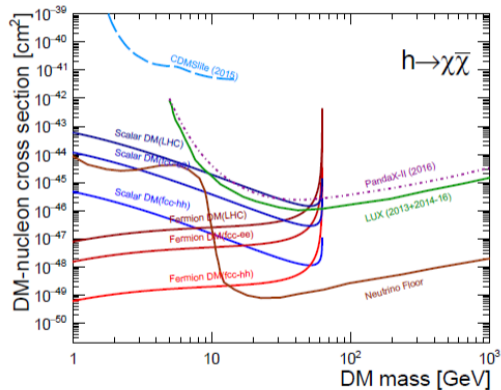
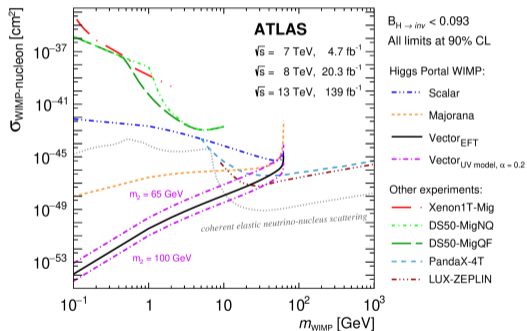
- Run-2 combinations of 139 fb^{-1} results, together with Run-1 analysis.
- $\text{VBF} + E_T^{\text{miss}}$ and $\text{Z} + E_T^{\text{miss}}$ most sensitive, Run-1 adds 4%.
- Already probing $\text{BR}(H \rightarrow \text{Inv})$ at the 10% level!



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Analysis	Best fit $\mathcal{B}_{H \rightarrow \text{inv}}$	Observed 95% U.L.	Expected 95% U.L.
Run 2 Comb.	0.04 ± 0.04	0.113	$0.080^{+0.031}_{-0.022}$
Run 1 Comb.	$-0.02^{+0.14}_{-0.13}$	0.252	$0.265^{+0.105}_{-0.074}$
Run 1+2 Comb.	0.04 ± 0.04	0.107	$0.077^{+0.036}_{-0.022}$

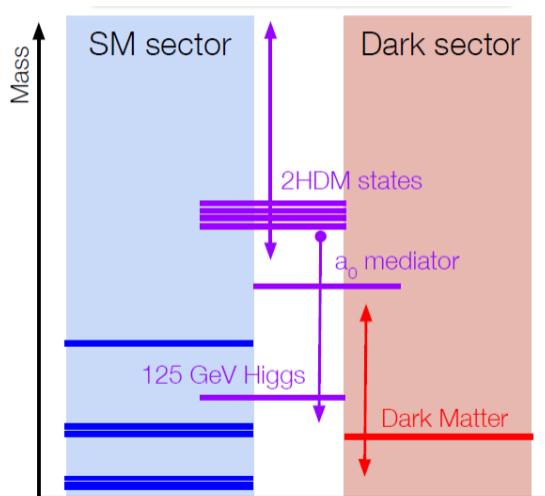
● Conversions to scattering cross-section (2107.01252)

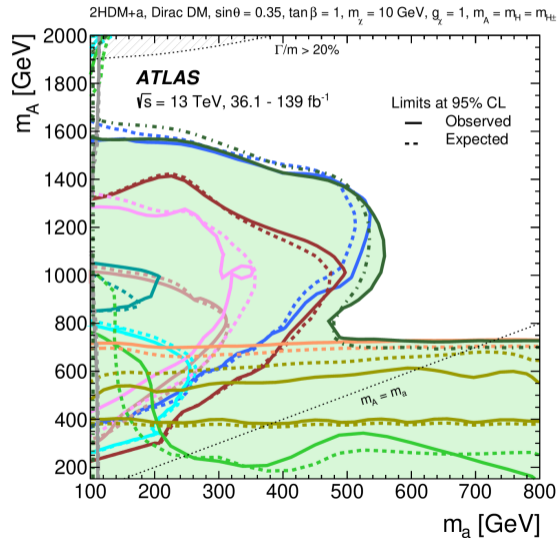


(b) Higgs portal model

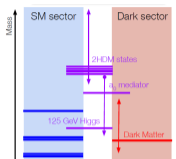
Extended Higgs sectors - 2hdm+a

- Higgs sector unique and unexplored
- Natural portal to dark matter
- LHC DM WG benchmark white paper ([1810.09420](#))
- Postulate two-Higgs doublet (ext. Higgs sector)
- Pseudoscalar (a) portal to DM. Reduced constraint from DD.
- For heavier m_{DM} , target scalar sector mediators.
- Interesting physics from wide range of signatures and A-a mixing.

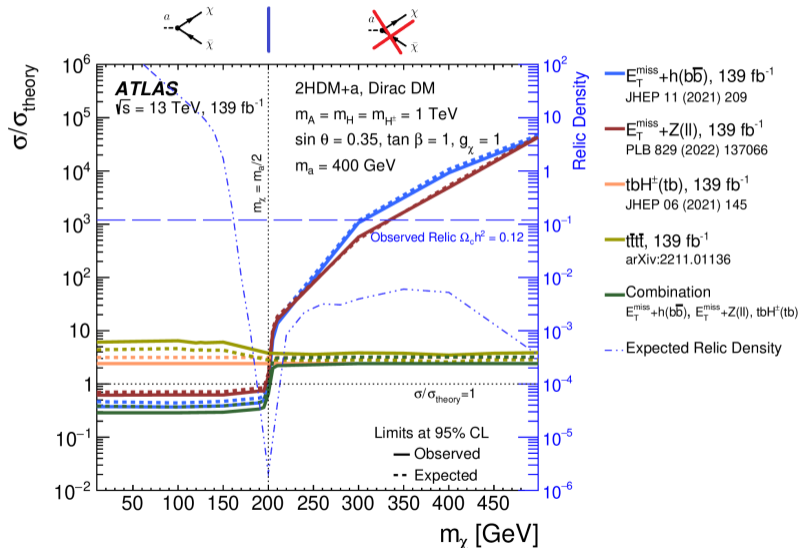




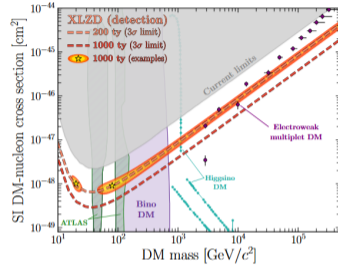
- $E_T^{\text{miss}} + h(b\bar{b})$, 139 fb⁻¹
JHEP 11 (2021) 209
- $E_T^{\text{miss}} + h(\tau\tau)$, 139 fb⁻¹
arXiv:2305.12938
- $E_T^{\text{miss}} + h(\gamma\gamma)$, 139 fb⁻¹
JHEP 10 (2021) 13
- $E_T^{\text{miss}} + Z(\ell\ell)$, 139 fb⁻¹
PLB 829 (2022) 137066
- $E_T^{\text{miss}} + Z(q\bar{q})$, 36.1 fb⁻¹
JHEP 10 (2018) 180
- $E_T^{\text{miss}} + tW$, 139 fb⁻¹
arXiv:2211.13138
- $E_T^{\text{miss}} + j$, 139 fb⁻¹
PRD 103 (2021) 112006
- $tbH^\pm(tb)$, 139 fb⁻¹
JHEP 06 (2021) 145
- $t\bar{t}t$, 139 fb⁻¹
arXiv:2211.01136
- $h \rightarrow \text{invisible}$, 139 fb⁻¹
arxiv:2301.10731
- **Combination**
 $E_T^{\text{miss}} + h(b\bar{b}), E_T^{\text{miss}} + Z(\ell\ell), tbH^\pm(tb)$



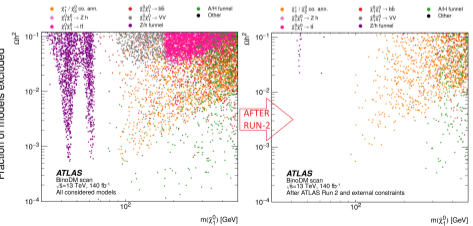
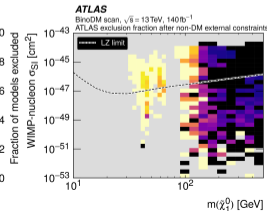
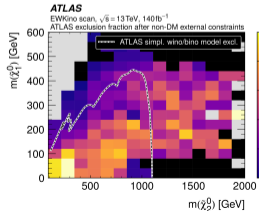
- Insensitivity to DM mass allows R.D. satisfaction.
- But can vary the DM mass to show dependence.
- Heavy Higgs/Mediator searches constrain higher m_χ .



- LHC has a full SUSY programme, (long-standing DM search).
- Cover all signatures - many final states and processes constrained.
- Also look to contextualise in model space. Difficult.
- e.g. 'EWK pMSSM scan' - assumes squarks/sleptons are decoupled (heavy), only EWKinos LHC-accessible.

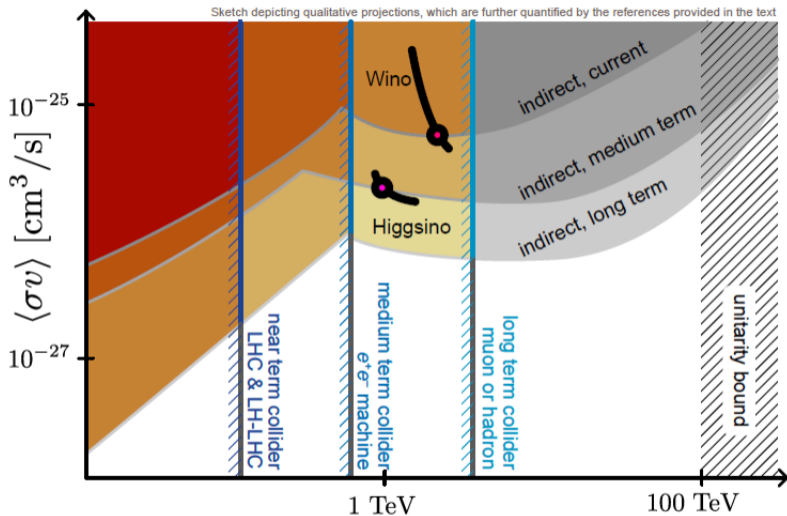


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Snowmass complementarity 2206.03456

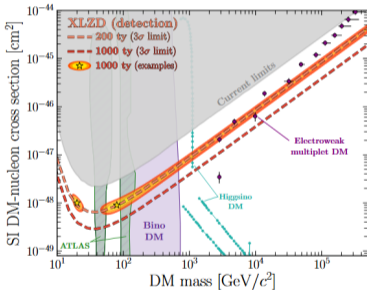
- DM in Dirac fermion doublet (Higgsino) or of a Majorana fermion triplet (Wino)
- Very minimal/predictive model
- RD + cosmology + freezeout gives mass.
- Wino at edge of ν fog, Higgsino foggy.



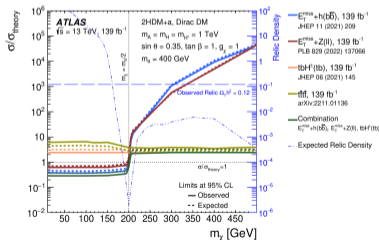
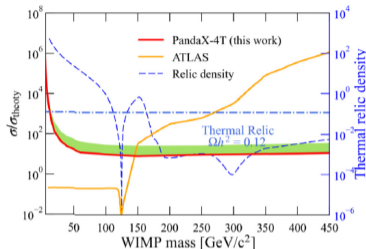
dark matter mass

Complementarity II

- Lovely to see cross-fertilisation!

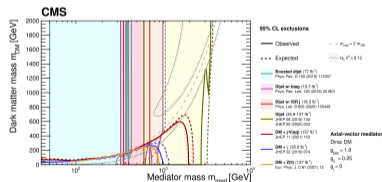
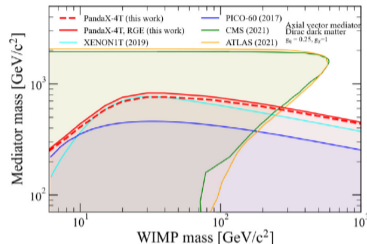


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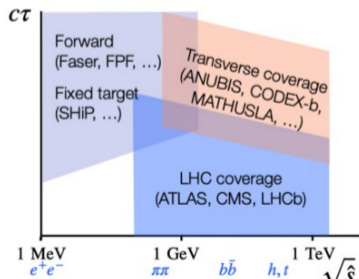
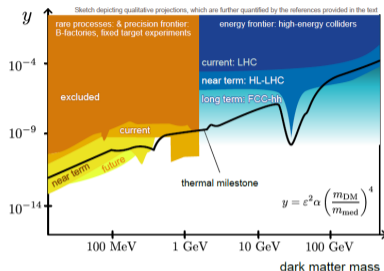
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New, light/weakly coupled DM experiments - **Not Today**

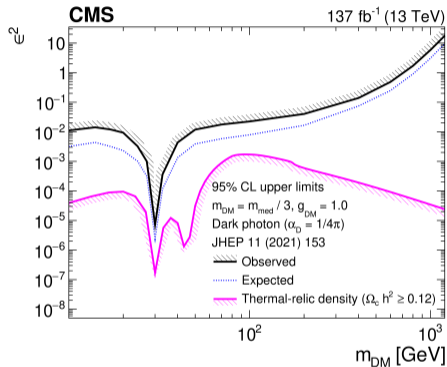
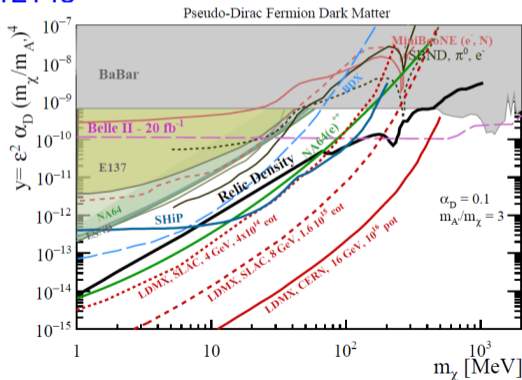
- New generation of experiments designed which complement existing LHC experiments.
 - ▶ Forward experiments
 - ▶ Transverse coverage
 - ▶ Fixed target
- Cover very weakly interacting light particles, may exploit LHC as source (e.g. neutrino beam).
- Focussing on DM - but motivations are much wider than this!
 - ▶ collider neutrino physics, low-x QCD, astro-/cosmic ray physics, [dark matter](#), new exotica,



Monojet and the dark photon portal

- Can also recast limits into PBC portals to connect to light DM.
- Full m_{DM} picture.
- Note colliders cover full m_{DM}/m_{med} range.

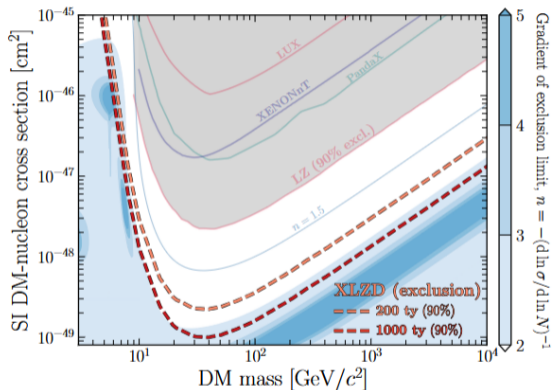
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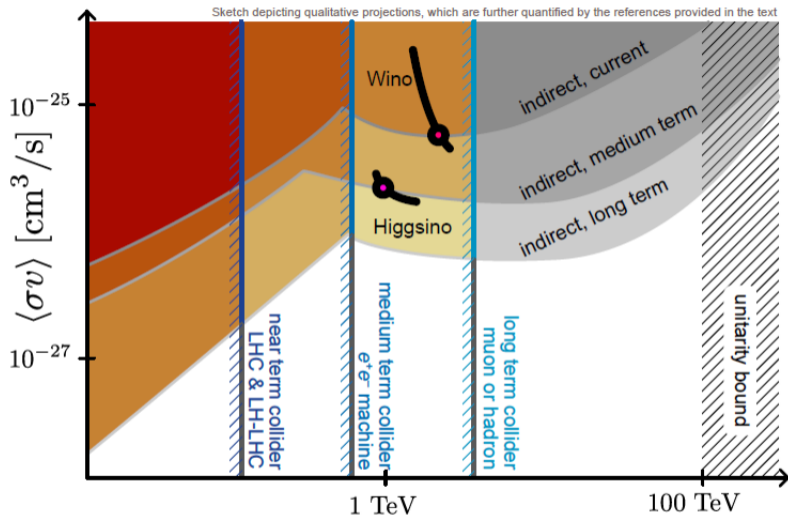
Summary

- Hopefully a useful overview/resource - apologies for lack of polish.
- Will revise for discussing complementarity.
- Next meeting (19th May), Joe will discuss the DD side of the scattering plot.



Snowmass complementarity 2206.03456

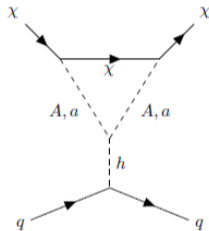
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- Very minimal/predictive model
- RD + cosmology + freezeout gives mass.
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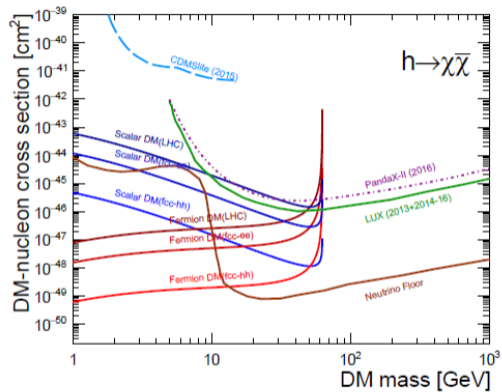
dark matter mass

Beyond Collider Reinterpretations / Colliders as data consumers

- Great to increase interaction with detection results.
- **Challenges**
 - ▶ We have varied models, interactions not necessarily pure SI/SD.
 - ▶ Would our events always show up in the WIMP search region?
 - ▶ Sensitivity to DM is indirect (once mediator decays invisibly) - m_{DM} /couplings set as benchmark or left to allow R.D. satisfaction.
- **Wishlist for moving to more complete models, or exploration of wider model spaces (e.g. pMSSM, 2hdm+a)**
 - ▶ would like translation from HEP model set (masses, interactions) to DD/ID cross-section and constraints? (MadDM)
 - ▶ or translation from detection limit to limits on a given interaction/set of effective interactions.
 - ▶ e.g. DD not sensitive to our 2hdm+a benchmarks ($m_{DM} = 10$ GeV). But enforcing R.D. may require $m_{DM} \sim m_a/2$ - then is DD important? Or if we scan m_{DM} ?
 - ▶ e.g. We scan pMSSM (20-D) space, imposing R.D. not exceeded, where do these lie on WIMP exclusion curve?



SI detection signal from loop-level in 2hdm+a

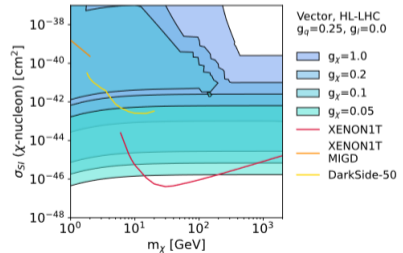
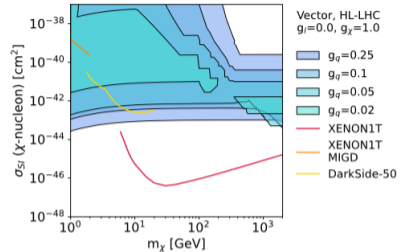


(b) Higgs portal model

- Multi-D space.
- Usually we fix 2 of these, scan 1.

$$\sigma_{SI} \simeq 6.9 \times 10^{-41} \text{ cm}^2 \cdot \left(\frac{g_q g_{DM}}{0.25}\right)^2 \left(\frac{1 \text{ TeV}}{M_{\text{med}}}\right)^4 \left(\frac{\mu_{n\chi}}{1 \text{ GeV}}\right)^2$$

Product of couplings Mediator mass Reduced mass
 $\mu_{n\chi} = m_n m_{DM} / (m_n + m_{DM})$



Spare slide