

Prospective study of light dark matter search with a newly proposed DarkSHINE experiment

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on behalf of the DarkSHINE team

MEPA2022, Hefei China

2022.12.17



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Evidence of dark matter



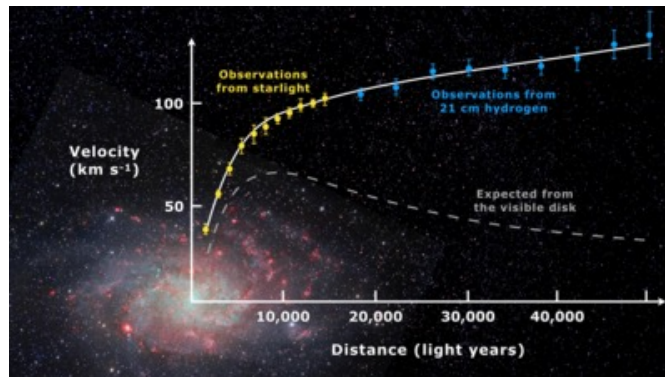
Gravitational Lensing



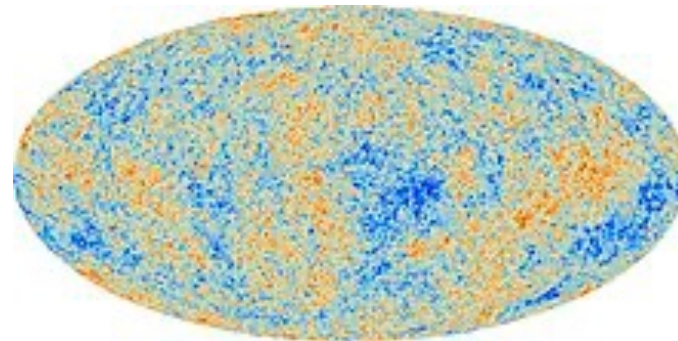
The Bullet Cluster



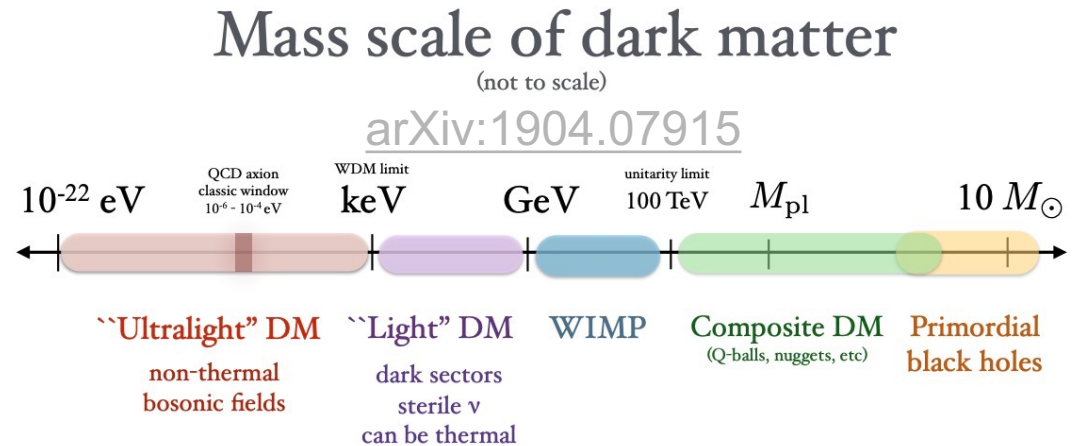
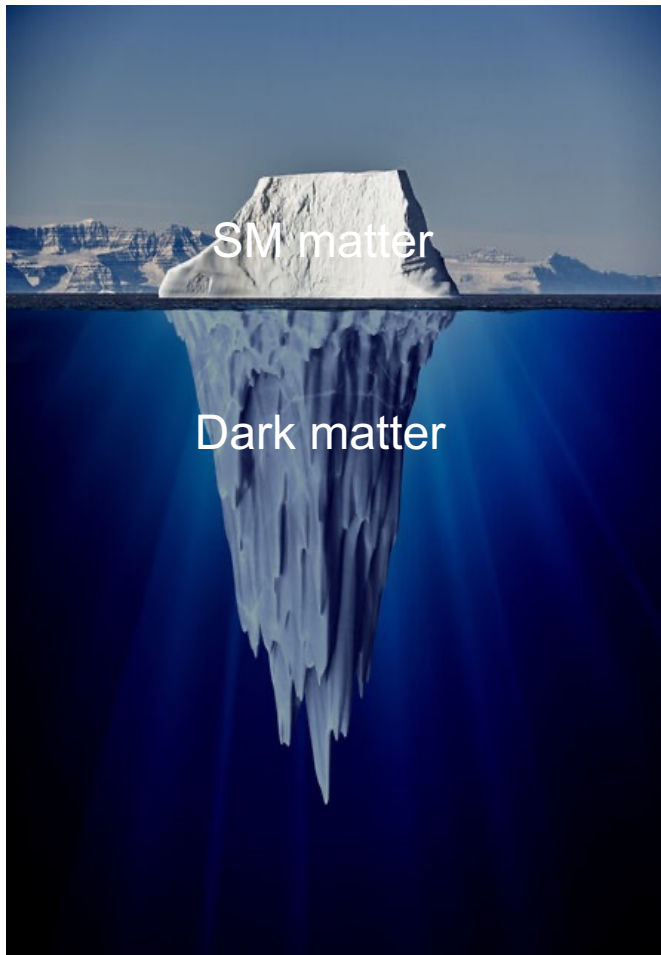
Rotation Curve



Cosmic Microwave Background



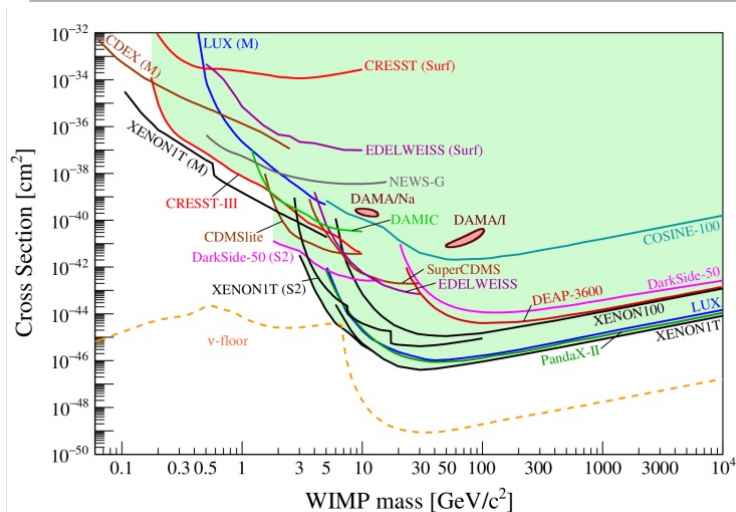
Dark matter candidates



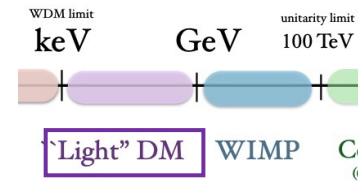
- Dark Matter can exist in **wide mass range**, from Ultralight DM to Primordial Black Holes.
- Dark matter is the mysterious substance that makes up roughly a quarter of the Universe.

Dark matter candidates

APPEC Committee Report: 2104.07634



- Experimental search:



- Space experiments: **DAMPE, AMS etc.**
- Collider experiments: **LHC, BELLE-II, BESIII etc.**
- Underground experiments: **CDEX, PandaX, LUX, Xenon etc.**

- Searching for **light DM**:

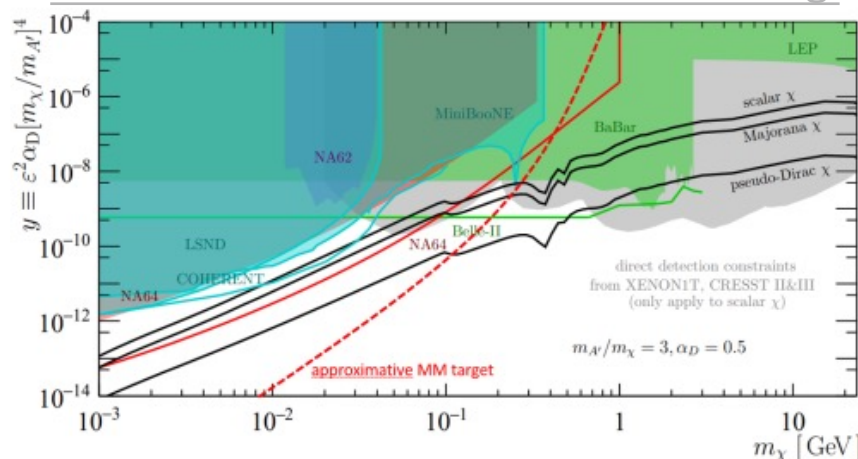
- Sub-GeV mass range is not fully explored yet.

- Dark photon A' :

1. Dark matter particles may interact with other dark matter particles via a new force mediated by A' .

2. Collider/accelerator-based experiments searching for dark photon: NA64@CERN, BESIII, BEPCII, LDMX, Lohengrin, etc.

2022 CALICE collaboration meeting

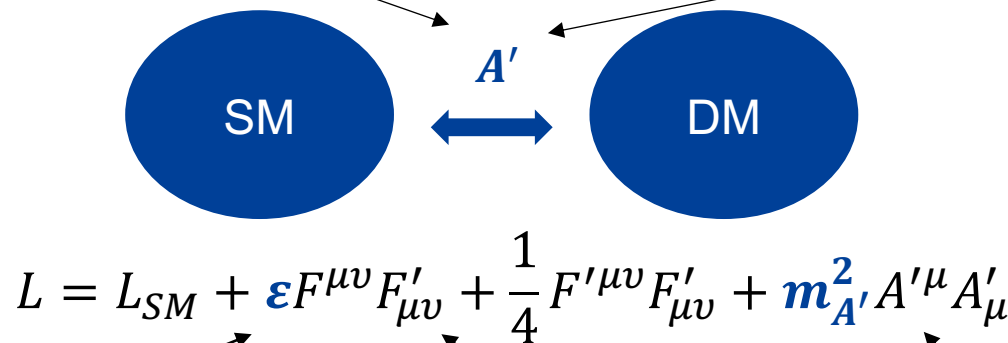


Search for dark photon

- Dark photon is an important portal between the standard model (SM) particles and the dark matter.

not couple directly to SM particles

obtain a small coupling to the EM current due to ϵ



Kinetic mixing term

Field strength tensor

Dark photon field

- DarkSHINE is an experiment based on the minimal dark-photon model with 3 unknown parameters:

ϵ : kinetic mixing between the SM hypercharge and A' field strength tensors.

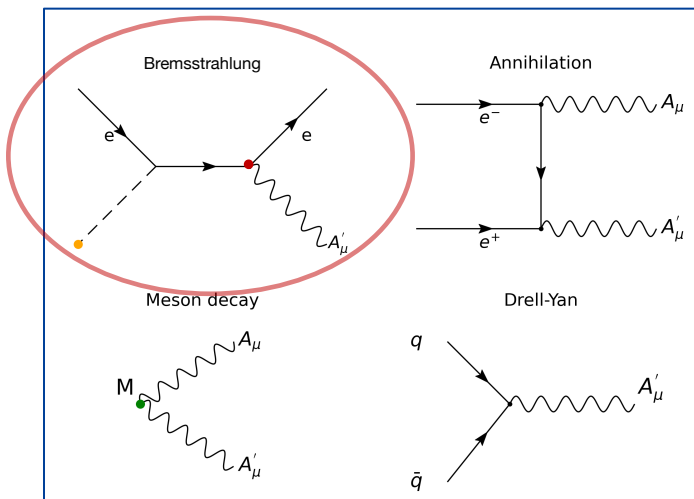
$m_{A'}$: dark photon mass.

Decay branching ratio of $A' \rightarrow \chi\chi$ (assumed to be 1 or 0)

[arXiv:2104.10280](https://arxiv.org/abs/2104.10280)

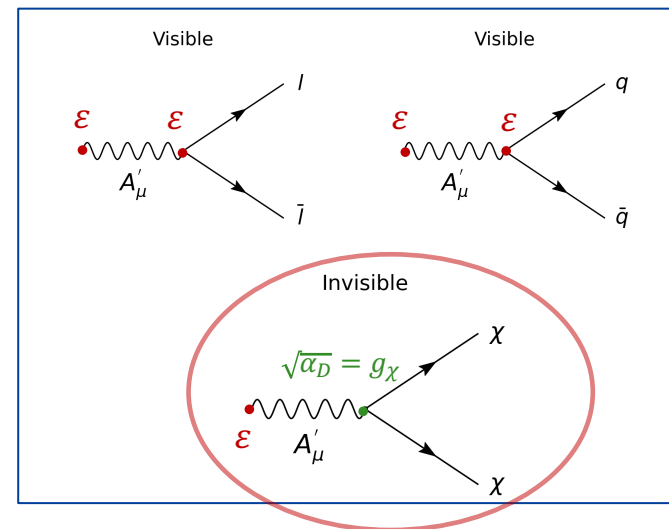
Search for dark photon

• A' production:



- Bremsstrahlung, $eZ \rightarrow eZA'$ & $pZ \rightarrow pZA'$, fixed-target experiment
- Annihilation, $e^+e^- \rightarrow A'\gamma$, e^+e^- collider
- Drell-Yan, $q\bar{q} \rightarrow A'$, hadron collider / fixed nuclear target w/ proton-beam
- Meson decay, $\pi^0 \rightarrow A'\gamma$ or $\eta \rightarrow A'\gamma$ (w/ $m_{A'} < m_{\pi,\eta}$), any experiment w/ high meson production rates

• A' decay:

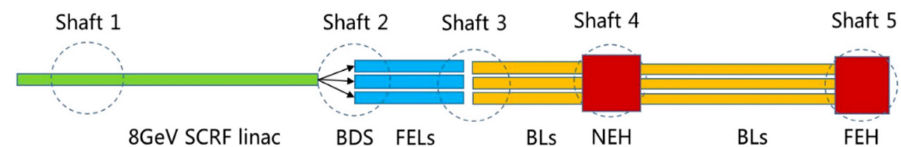


- Visible decay
Two interaction vertices \rightarrow production rate highly suppressed
- **Invisible decay**
One interaction vertex \rightarrow interaction probability enhanced
Better sensitivity!

The SHINE facility



- DarkSHINE:
 - **Fixed-target** experiment w/ high frequency **single electron beam** provided by Shanghai High Repetition-Rate XFEL and Extreme Light Facility(**SHINE**)
 - Invisible decay: $m_{A'} > 2m_\chi$, **missing energy / missing momentum**
 - Search for A' in $[m_{A'}, \varepsilon]$ parameter space
- The SHINE:
 - Under construction in Zhangjiang area, Shanghai (2018-2026).
 - $E_{beam} = 8\text{GeV}$ with frequency 1MHz
 - Beam intensity: 6.25×10^8 electrons per bunch

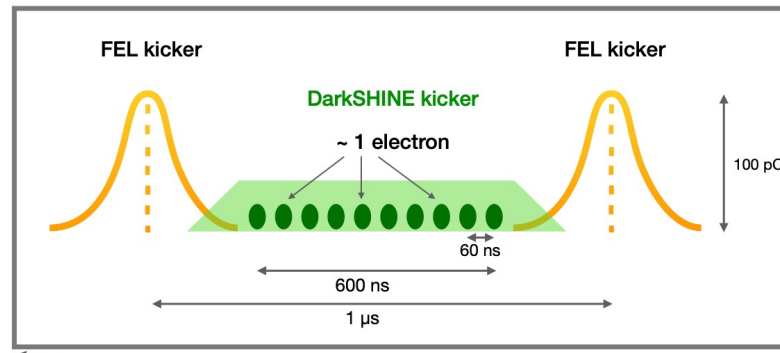


Science Bulletin 61,
117(2016), 720-727

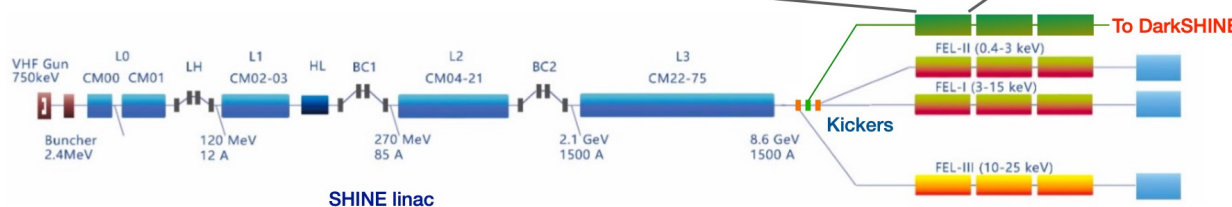
The SHINE facility



Single electron beam is needed for DarkSHINE.



DarkSHINE Kicker:
1MHz \rightarrow 10MHz



3×10^{14} electron-
on-target(EOTs)
per year!

FEL kicker

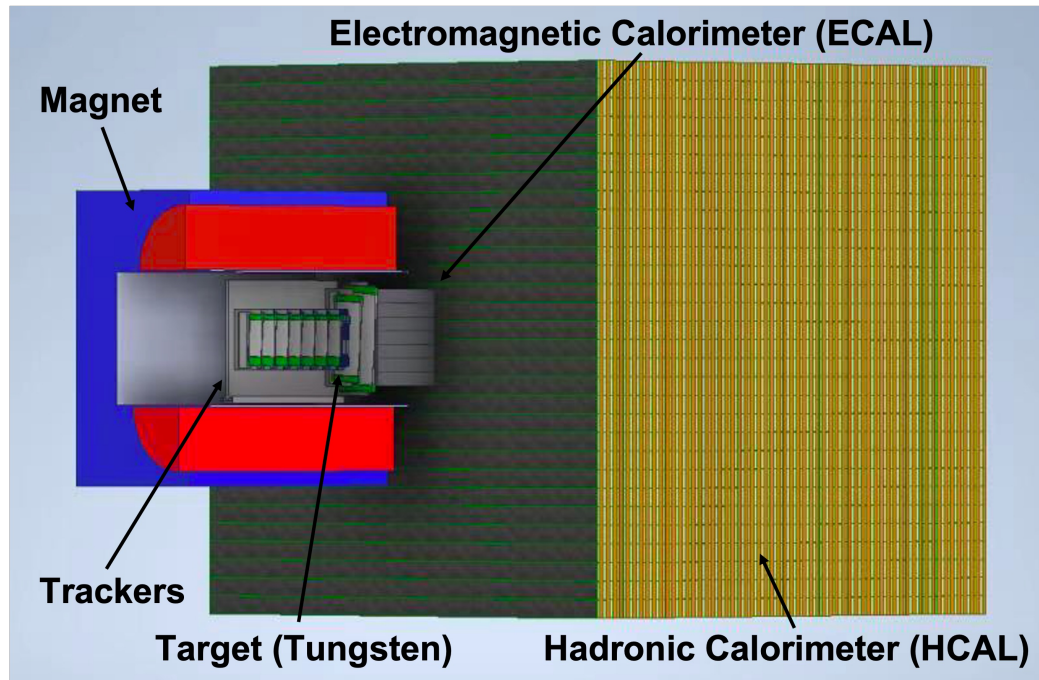
DarkSHINE Kicker

1300 buckets provided
by 1.3GHz microwave

100pC in one bucket
 6.25×10^8 electrons per bunch

electron beam w/ one
electron per bunch

DarkSHINE detector



- **Tracker:**

- Tagging tracker (7 layers) + recoil tracker (6 layers)
- Incident and recoil electron tracks
- Two silicon strip sensors w/ a small angle (0.1rad)
- Resolution: $6\mu m$ (horizontal), $60\mu m$ (vertical)

- **ECAL:**

- Electron & photon
- Scintillator: LYSO(Ce)
 - high light yield (30000 p.e/MeV), fast decay time (40 ns), low electronic noise
- $20 \times 20 \times 11$ crystals
 - $2.5 \times 2.5 \times 4 cm^3$
- Energy resolution of LYSO: 10%

- **HCAL:**

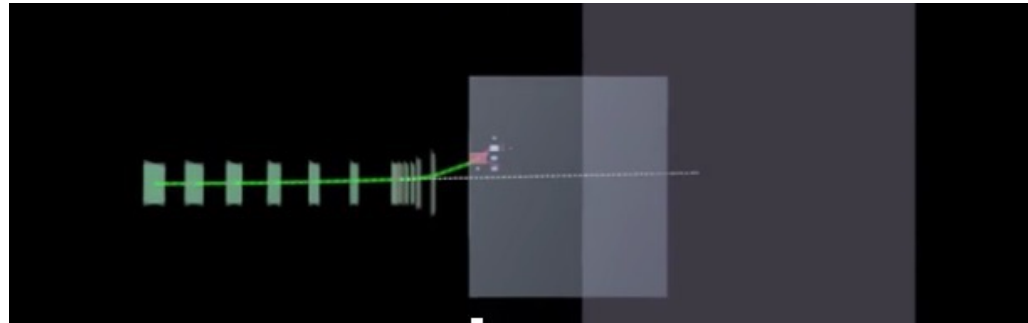
- Veto hadronic background
- Scintillator w/ steel absorber
- $4 \times 4 \times 1$ modules

- **Additional system:**

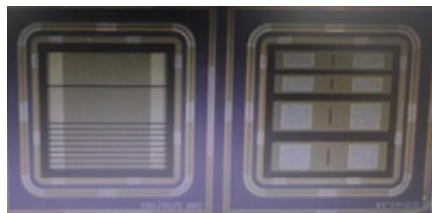
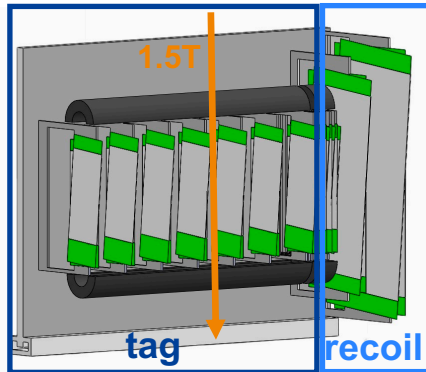
- Magnet: 1.5T magnetic field
- Readout electronics

Detector R&D

If an electron interacts with tungsten target and produce a dark photon ...

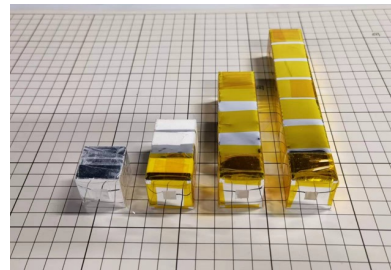
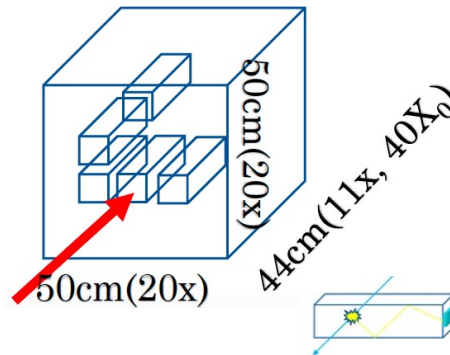


Tracker

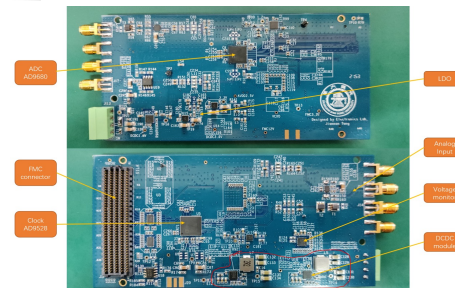
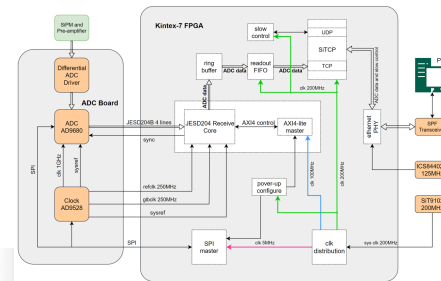


silicon strip sensor prototype

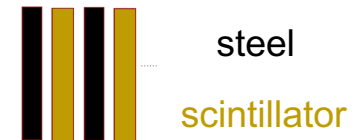
ECAL



Readout electronics



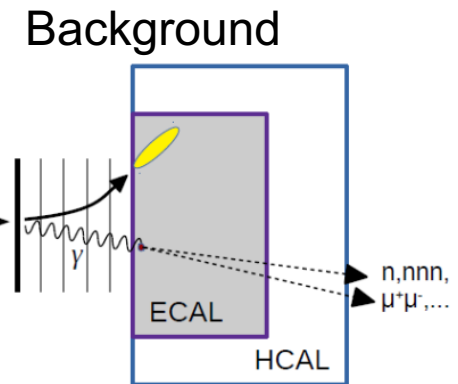
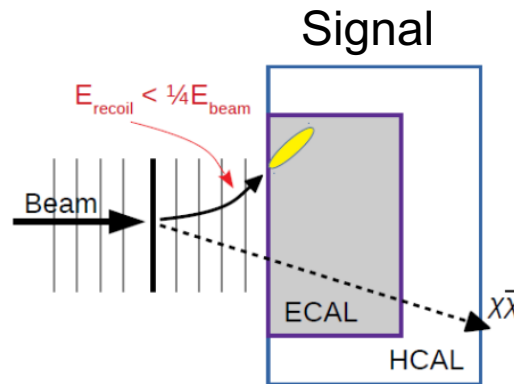
HCAL



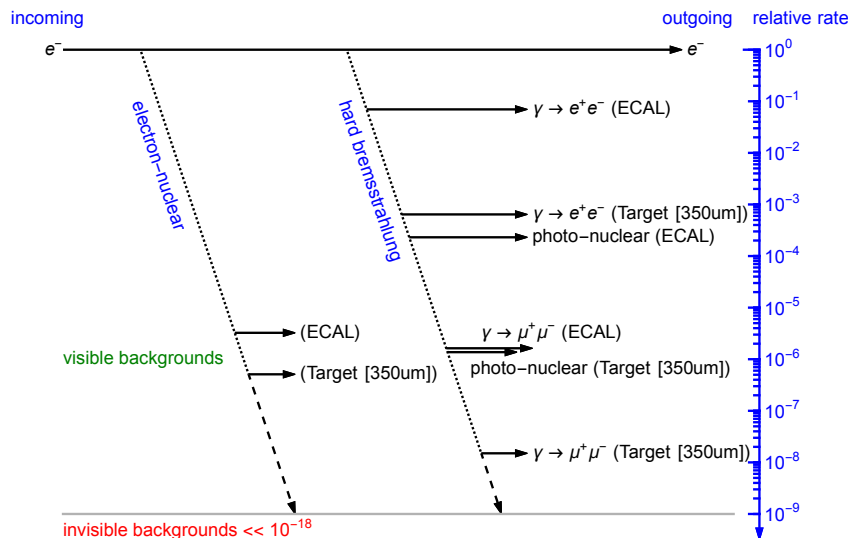
Signal & background

- Signal signature:

Most of the incident momentum is transferred to A' .



- Major background processes:



Leading background:

photon bremsstrahlung

Rare processes:

photon-nuclear, $\gamma \rightarrow \mu\mu$,
electron-nuclear

Invisible background:

Neutrino productions

MC samples



- Signal samples:
 - Dark photon mass: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 200, 500, 700, 1000, 1500, 2000 MeV.
 - 1×10^5 events in each sample.
- Background samples:

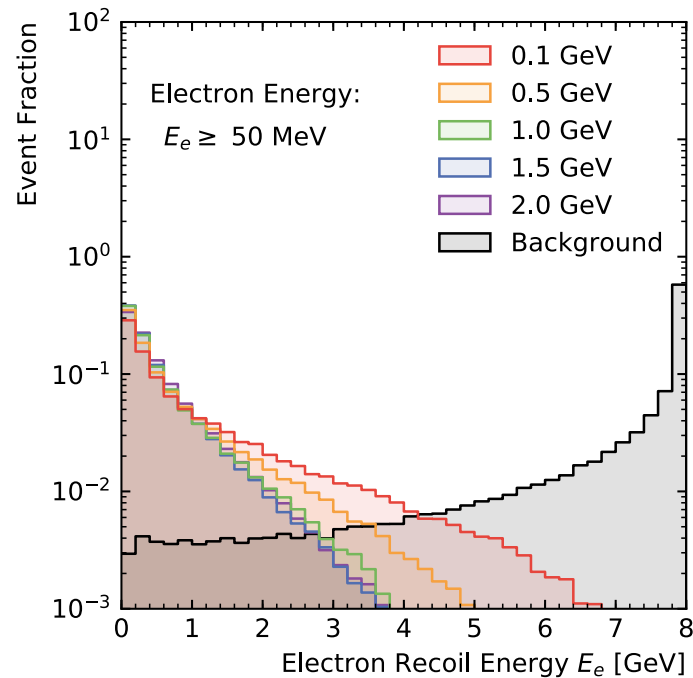
Process	Generate Events	Branching Ratio	EOTs
Inclusive	2.5×10^9	1.0	2.5×10^9
Bremsstrahlung	1×10^7	6.70×10^{-2}	1.5×10^8
GMM_target	1×10^7	$1.5(\pm 0.5) \times 10^{-8}$	4.3×10^{14}
GMM_ECAL	1×10^7	$1.63(\pm 0.06) \times 10^{-6}$	6.0×10^{12}
PN_target	1×10^7	$1.37(\pm 0.05) \times 10^{-6}$	4.0×10^{12}
PN_ECAL	1×10^8	$2.31(\pm 0.01) \times 10^{-4}$	4.4×10^{11}
EN_target	1×10^8	$5.1(\pm 0.3) \times 10^{-7}$	1.6×10^{12}
EN_ECAL	1×10^7	$3.25(\pm 0.08) \times 10^{-6}$	1.8×10^{12}

Simulation



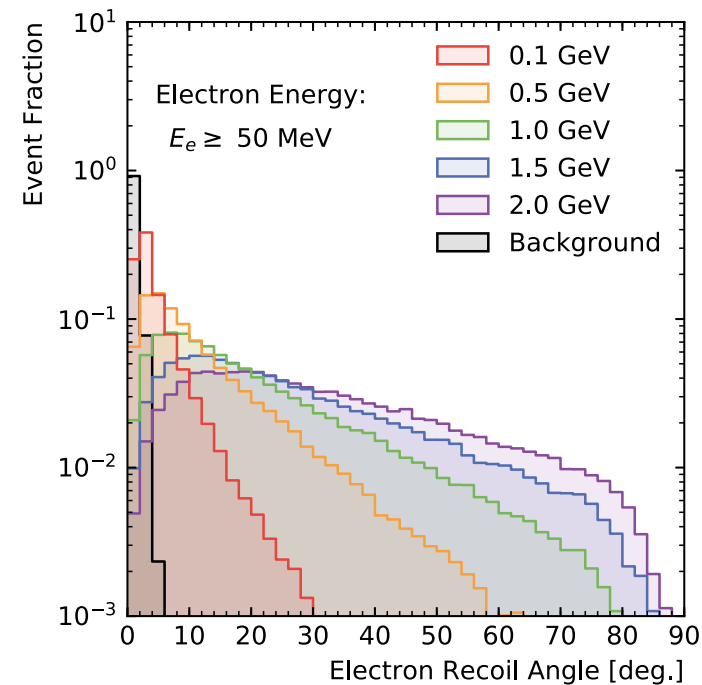
Signal

- Low momentum of recoil electron
- Recoil electron angle has on average value

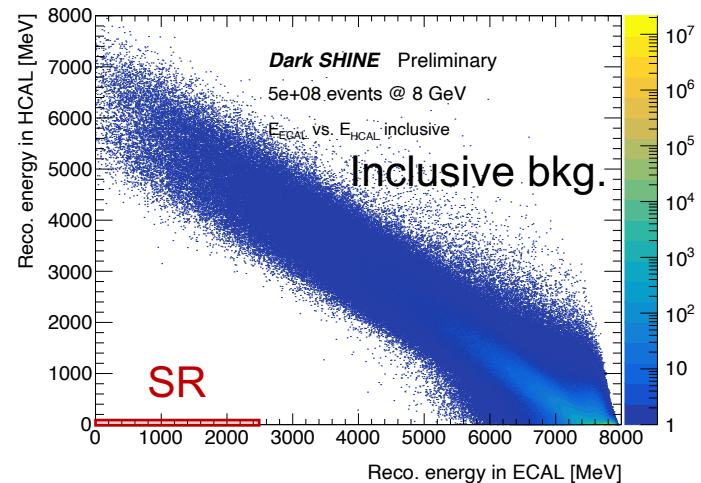
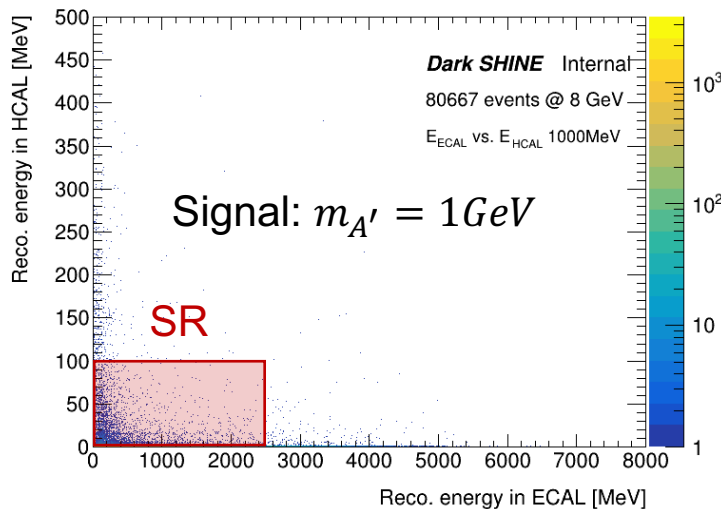
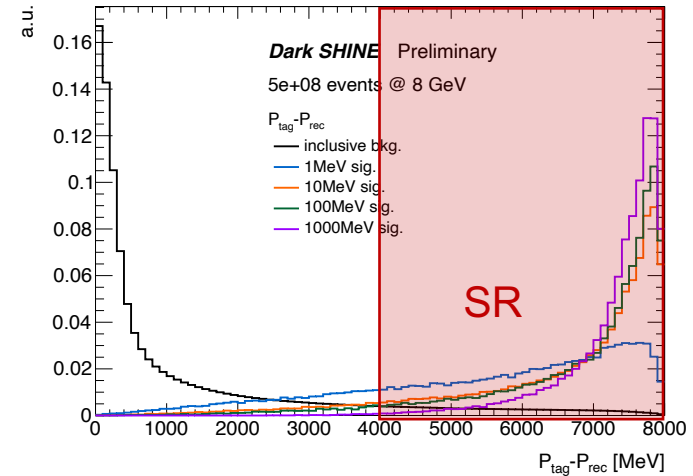
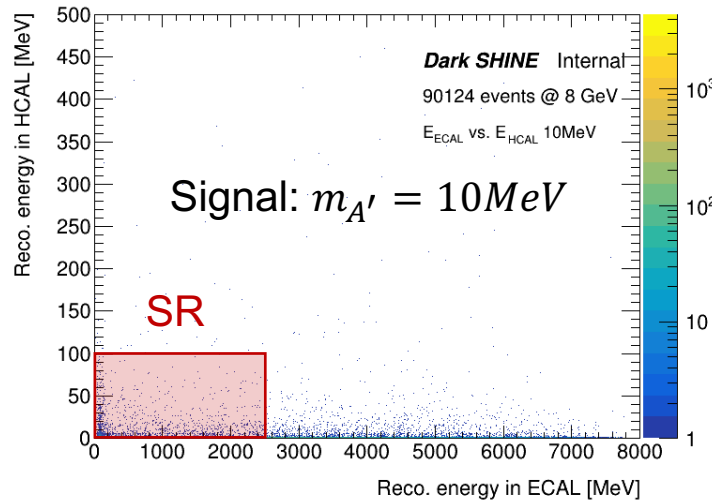


Background

- Recoil electron carry most of the incident momentum
- Recoil electron angle small



ECAL energy vs. HCAL energy



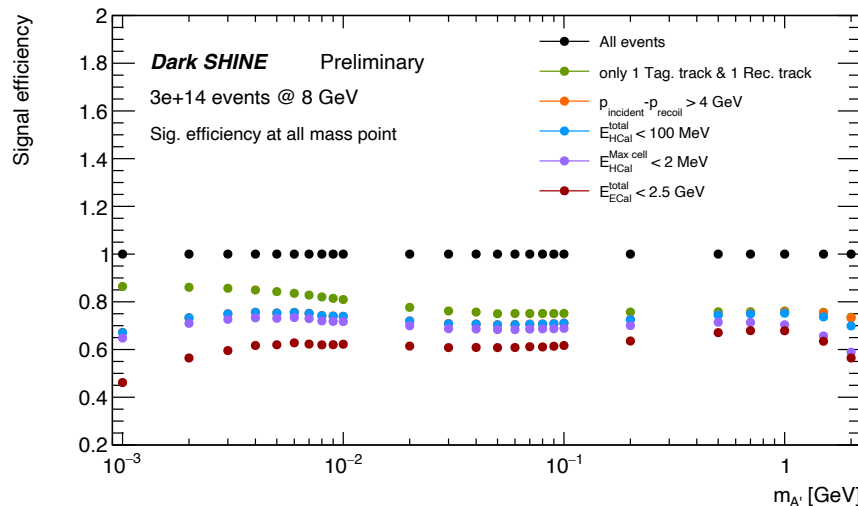
Signal region



- Signal region definition:

number of the reconstructed tracks, $N_{trk}^{tag,rec} = 1$;
 missing momentum of electron, $p_{tag} - p_{rec} > 4 \text{ GeV}$;
 total energy reconstructed in ECAL, $E_{ECAL}^{total} < 2.5 \text{ GeV}$;
 total energy reconstructed in HCAL, $E_{HCAL}^{total} < 0.1 \text{ GeV}$;
 max. cell energy in HCAL, $E_{HCAL}^{MaxCell} < 2 \text{ MeV}$.

- Signal efficiency:



- 25 mass points are produced.

- Around 60% signal events survive the cut-flow.

- Efficiency drops in:

Low-mass region of a few MeV: tight energy cuts.

High-mass region above 1 GeV: particles with large incident/recoil angle go into the HCAL directly.

Background estimation



- Cut-flow:

	EN_ECAL	PN_ECAL	GMM_ECAL	EN_target	PN_target	GMM_target	hard_brem	inclusive
total events	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
only 1 track	58.87%	70.48%	87.36%	5.85%	5.88%	$< 10^{-3}\%$	78.73%	84.40%
$P_{tag} - P_{rec} > 4 \text{ GeV}$	0.0044%	0.0033%	0.0041%	5.58%	5.46%	$< 10^{-5}\%$	70.49%	4.80%
$E_{HCAL}^{total} < 100 \text{ MeV}$	$< 10^{-3}\%$	$< 10^{-3}\%$	0%	0.30%	0.72%	0%	69.61%	4.76%
$E_{HCAL}^{MaxCell} < 10 \text{ MeV}$	$< 10^{-3}\%$	$< 10^{-3}\%$	0%	0.13%	0.27%	0%	65.00%	4.48%
$E_{HCAL}^{MaxCell} < 2 \text{ MeV}$	$< 10^{-3}\%$	$< 10^{-3}\%$	0%	0.058%	0.095%	0%	58.14%	4.04%
$E_{ECAL}^{total} < 2.5 \text{ GeV}$	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

- EOTs:

Process	EOTs
Inclusive	2.5×10^9
Bremsstrahlung	1.5×10^8
GMM_target	4.3×10^{14}
GMM_ECAL	6.0×10^{12}
PN_target	4.0×10^{12}
PN_ECAL	4.4×10^{11}
EN_target	1.6×10^{12}
EN_ECAL	1.8×10^{12}



Inclusive background:
 2.5×10^9 EOTs



$> 3 \times 10^{14}$ EOTs (1year run)

Lack of statistics!

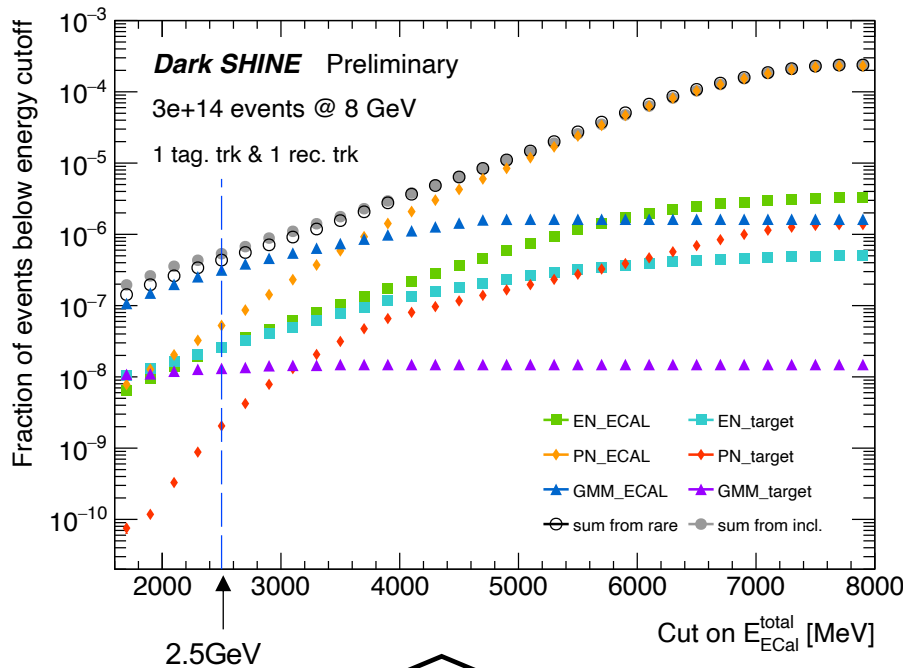


Extrapolate from fit results



No background events left after SR selection.

Background estimation



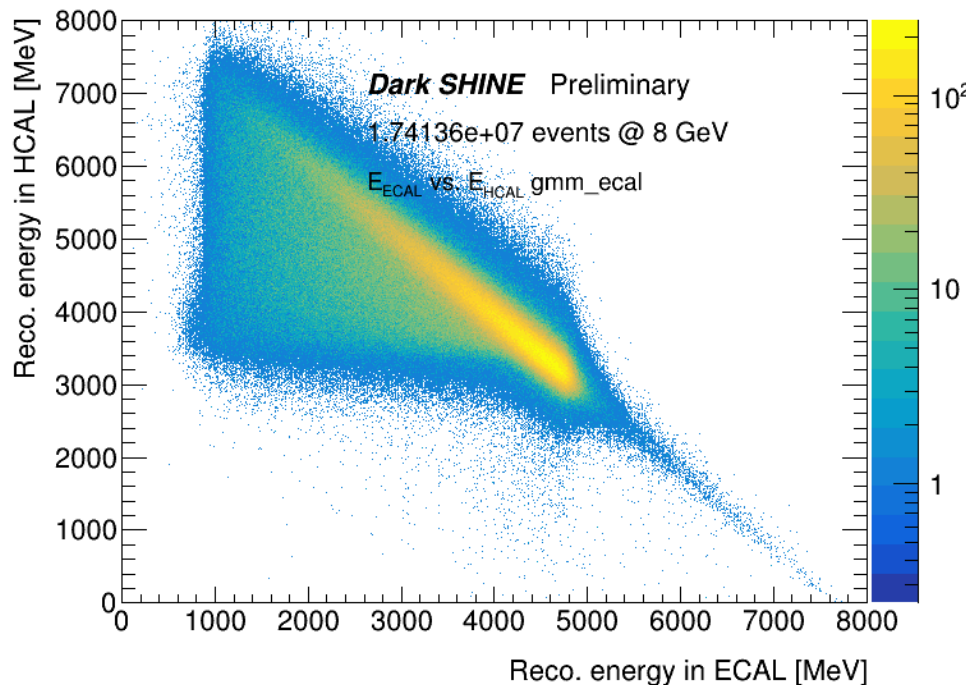
↑
rare processes scaled according to the corresponding branching ratio.

- **Extrapolate from rare processes simulation.**
- Rare processes background samples are produced with larger statistics.
- Fit the fraction of events below energy cutoff in other rare processes (EN_ECAL, EN_target, PN_ECAL, PN_target).

Background estimation



- **Extrapolate from rare processes simulation.**
- Estimate the number of background events corresponds to 3×10^{14} EOTs.



GMM_target:

$$4.3 \times 10^{14} \text{EOTs} > 3 \times 10^{14} \text{EOTs}$$

GMM_ECAL:

$$6.0 \times 10^{12} \text{EOTs}$$

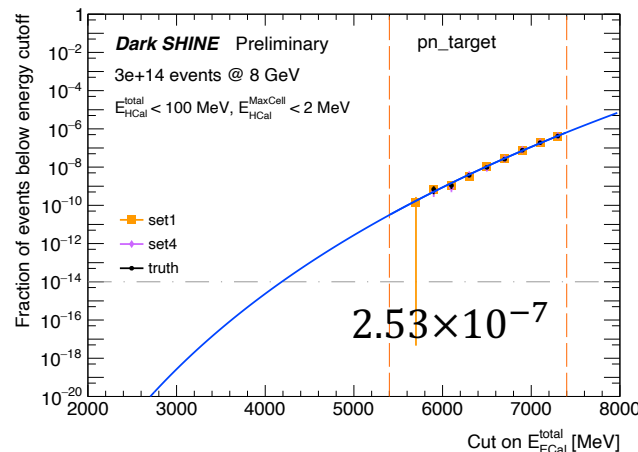
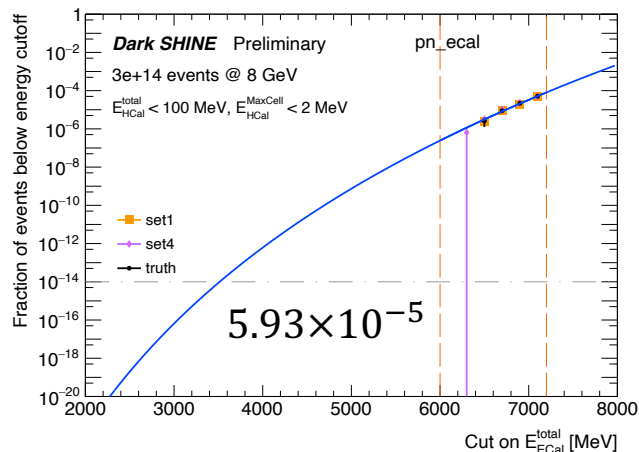
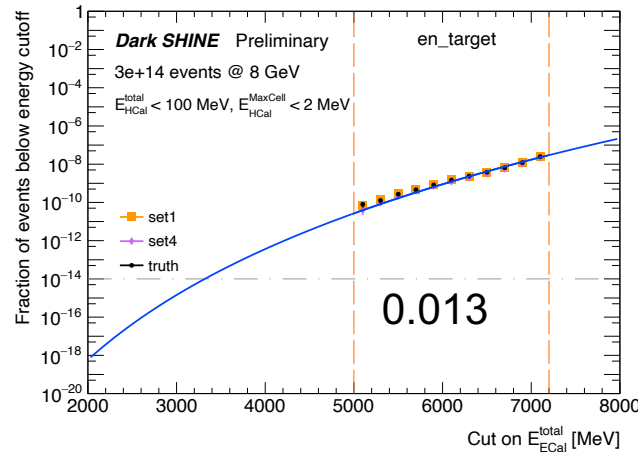
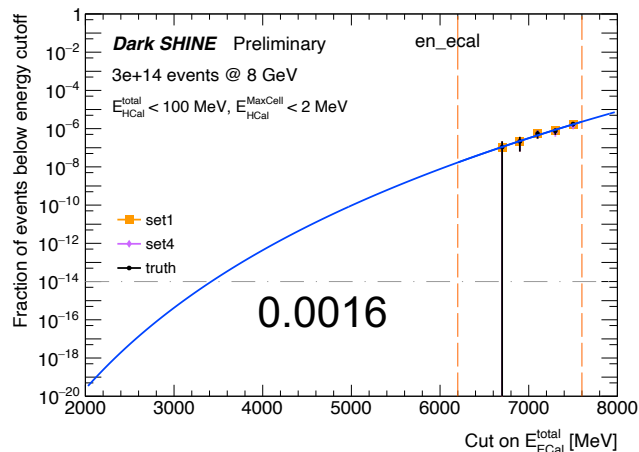
Energy carried by the muon pair

HCAL requirements can highly suppress these events (fraction of the remaining GMM events $< 10^{-6}$)

- Don't need to further extrapolation on:
GMM_target – **enough statistics**
GMM_ECAL – **can reject by HCAL requirements**

Background estimation

- Extrapolation from rare processes simulation



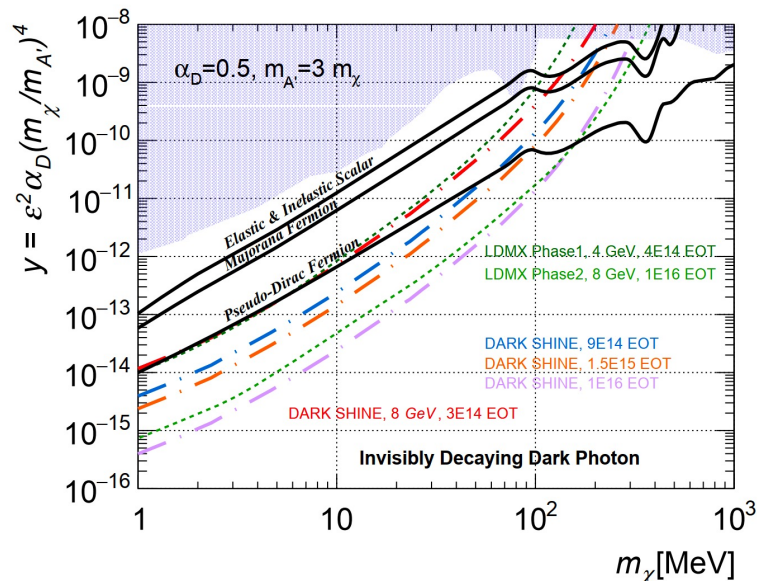
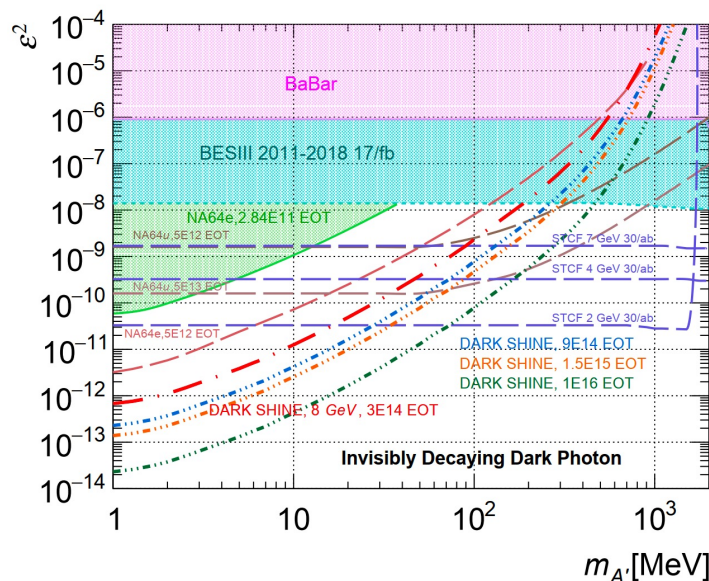
3×10^{14} EOTs



Bkg. Events:
0.015

Sensitivity study

- Expected 90% C.L. limit estimated with 3×10^{14} EOTs (running ~ 1 year), 9×10^{14} EOTs (~ 3 years), 1.5×10^{15} EOTs (~ 5 years) and 1×10^{16} EOTs (with Phase-II upgrade).



- Comparing with other experiments, DarkSHINE can provide competitive sensitivity.

Summary



- DarkSHINE: a fixed-target experiment to search for light dark matter.
- Detector R&D ongoing.
- First round of **preliminary study** has been finished:
 - Production: bremsstrahlung, $eZ \rightarrow eZA'$.
 - Invisible decay: $A' \rightarrow \chi\chi$.
 - Most of the incident momentum is transferred to A' .
 - Track, missing momentum, deposit energy in ECAL and HCAL: good signal efficiency, background well suppressed (~ 0.015 bkg. event expected for 1 year operation).
 - Expecting competitive sensitivity.
 - [Sci. China-Phys. Mech. Astron., 66\(1\): 211062 \(2023\)](#)



Backup





Event display



DarkSHINE detector

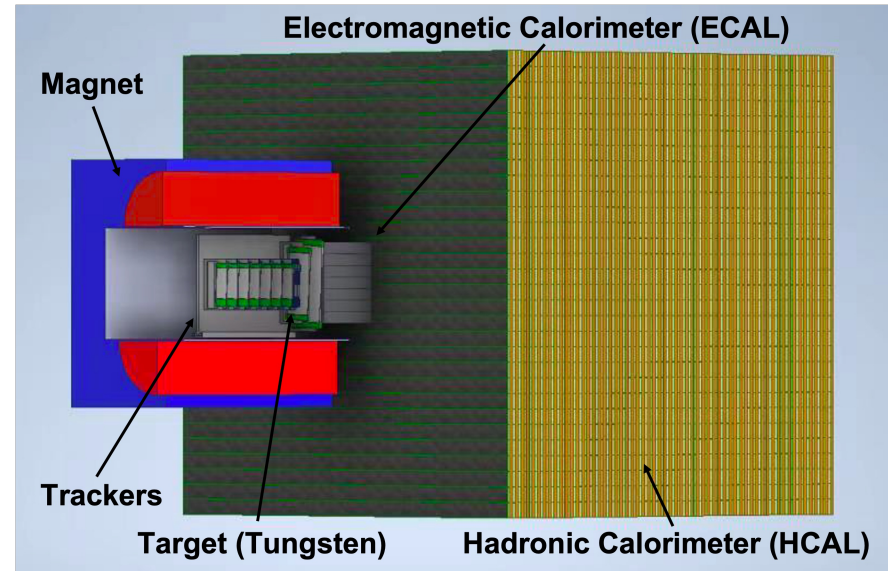
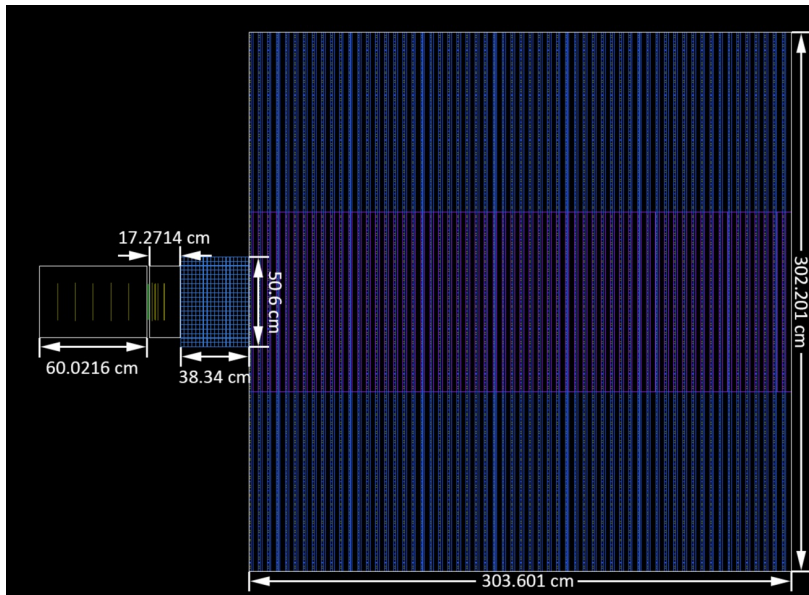
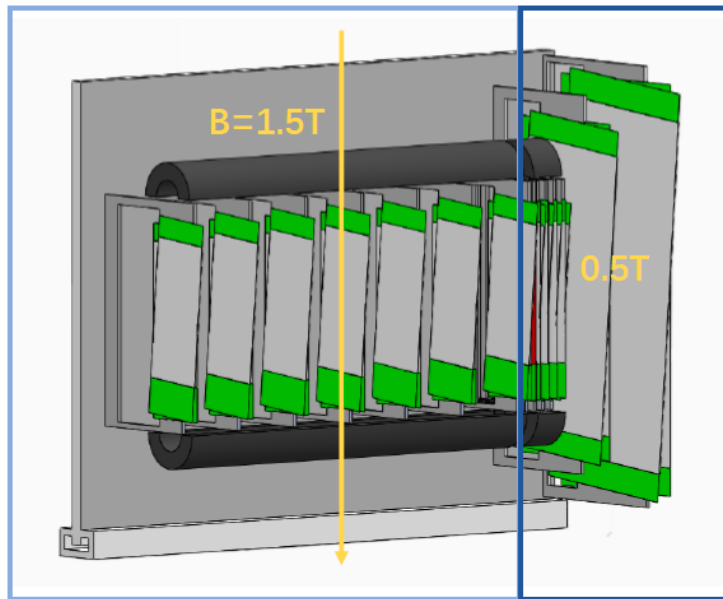


Table 1 The detector geometry overview.

Node	Centre (mm)	Size (mm)			Arrangement	Comments
	z	x	y	z		
Tagging Tracker	-307.783	200	400	600.216	7 layers	Second layer rotation: 0.1 rad
Target	0	100	200	0.35		
Recoil Tracker	94.032	500	800	172.714	6 layers	Second layer rotation: 0.1 rad
ECAL	408.539	506	506	454.3	20 × 20 × 11 cells	
HCAL	2660.69	4029.51	4029.51	4048.01	4 × 4 × 1 modules	

Tracker design

- Silicon tracker geometry



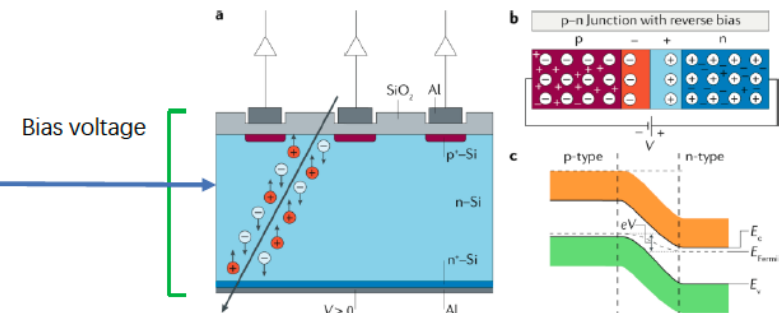
Tag tracker

Recoil tracker

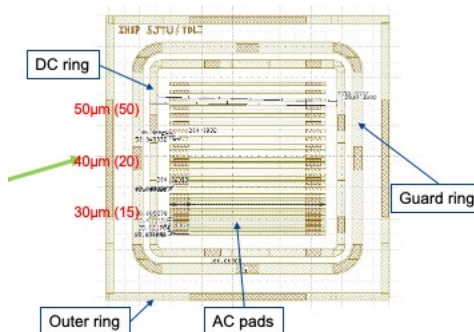
Tag tracker							
Z position/mm	-607.5	-507.5	-407.5	-307.5	-207.5	-107.5	-7.5
X size/mm	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Y size/mm	200	200	200	200	200	200	200

Recoil tracker						
Z position/mm	7.5	22.5	38.5	53.5	89.5	180.5
X size/mm	100	100	100	120	180	250
Y size/mm	200	200	200	230	280	400

Z thickness $\sim 100\mu\text{m}$, 0.001λ
Resolution x: $\sim 6\mu\text{m}$, y: $\sim 60\mu\text{m}$



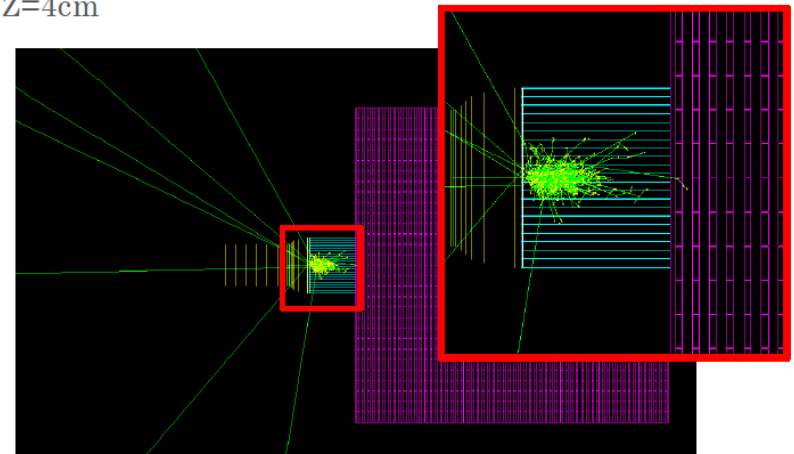
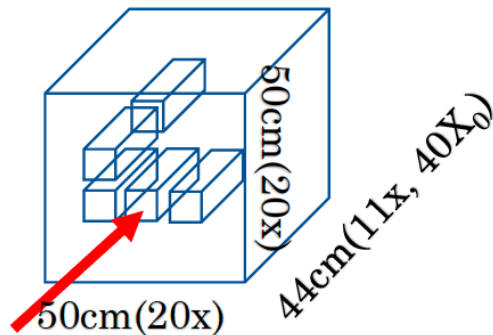
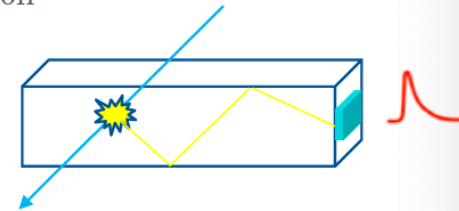
doi.org/10.1038/s42254-019-0081-z



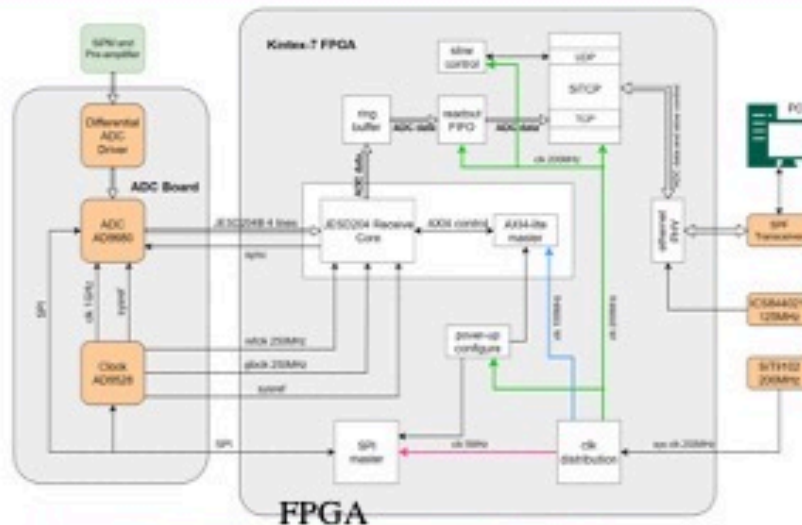
Dark Shine Simulation Workshop (20/1/2021)

Calorimeter Design (ECAL)

- **Cubic design** of crystal for the electronic calorimeter
 - Z segmentation for 3D shower reconstruction and (potential) PID
 - Potential PFA combined with tracker: location resolution and better track regression
- Readout with SiPM(light sensor) and waveform sampling
 - Wide dynamic range and abundant models for different application
 - Compact size and (relatively) easy to drive
 - High repeated rate and strictly zero integral/dead time with fast ADC&DAQ
- **LYSO crystal** chosen as baseline design with $XY=2.5\text{cm}$ $Z=4\text{cm}$
 - High light yield with good linearity
 - Radiation hard and short decay time



Detector R&D: ECAL readout system



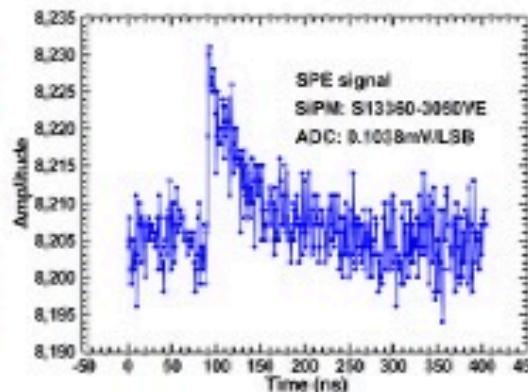
Photons from ECAL crystal are detected using SiPM + fast readout system.

- SiPM (width~10s ns, rising edge ~2ns)
 - ADC chip (AD9680 from ADI)
 - ADC Mezzanine Card
 - Data transfer and processing
- AEI works
- ADC performance has been tested.
 - Analog input: Cosmic ray + SiPM (S13360-3050VE) + plastic scintillator
 - Amplitude of SPE signal : ~42 LSB, 4.4mV
 - Noise level : ~10 LSB, 1mV

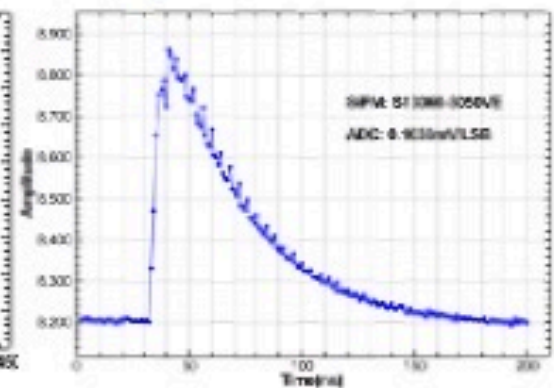
AEI workshop



ADC board

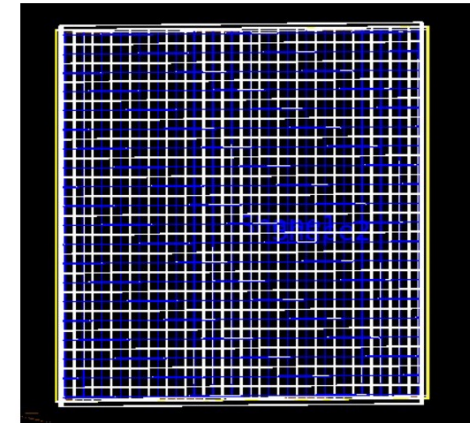
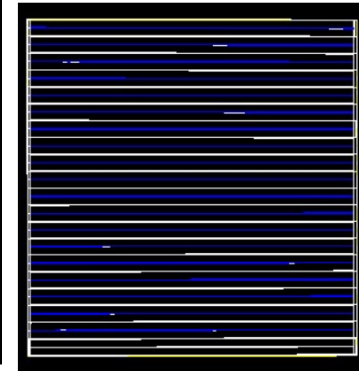
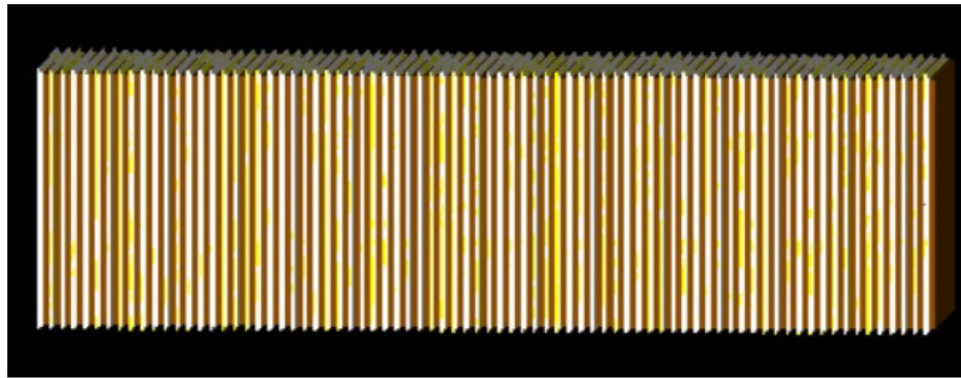


An SPE signal



A cosmic ray signal

HCAL design

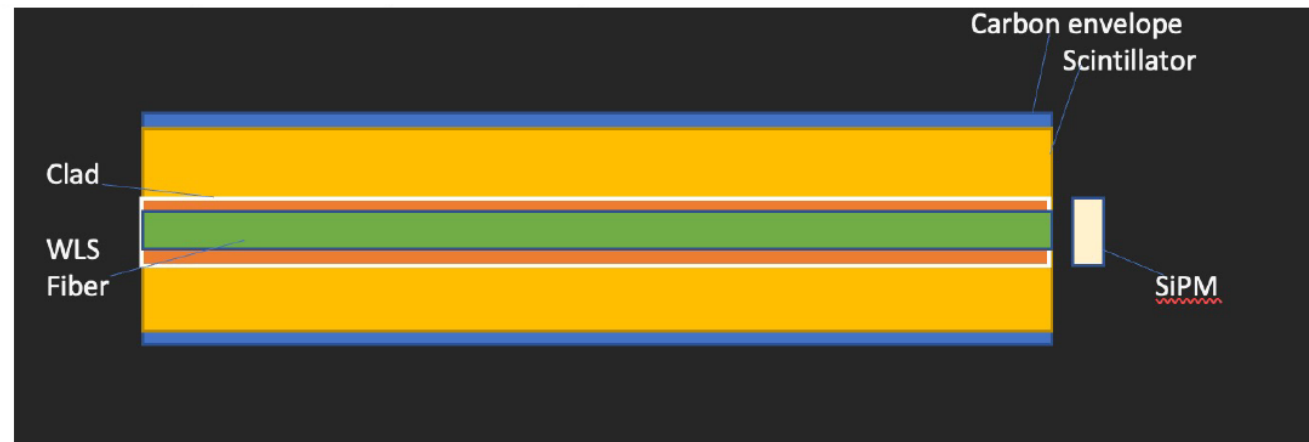


Parameter for the whole HCAL
X:100cm
Y:100cm
Z:360cm

Each scintillator wrapped by a carbon envelope, with a wavelength shifting (WLS) fiber placed in its center.

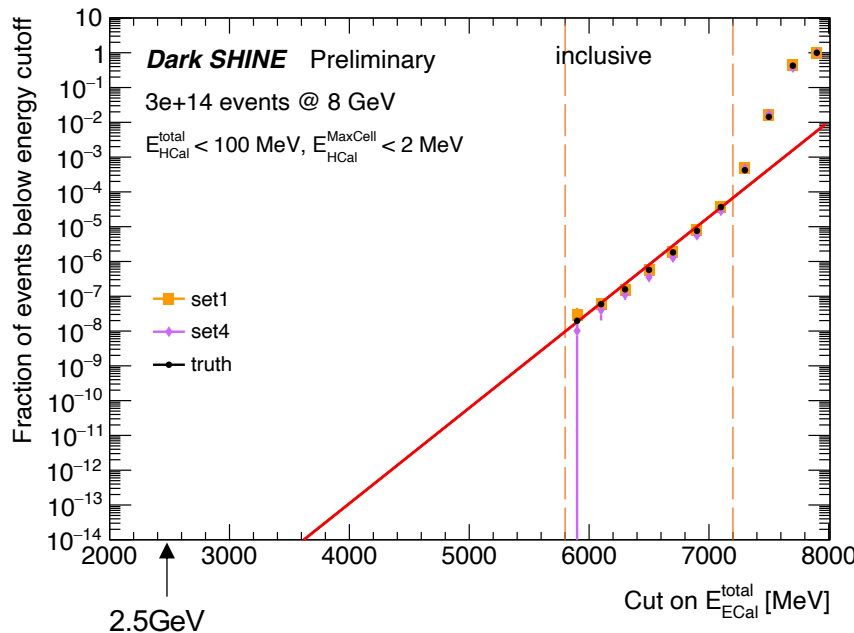
Veto the muon and hadron backgrounds.

- Simulation study ongoing with inject particles of different type and energy.



Background estimation

- Fit the fraction of events below energy cutoff as a function of cut values on ECAL energy.
- **Extrapolate from inclusive background simulation.**
- Validation from inclusive background simulation.
- Extrapolate from rare processes simulation.



$y = 10^{-14}$: less than one background event left w/ ECAL energy cut.

Extrapolate from the fit results.

Lack of statistics in low “cut on E_{ECAL}^{total} ” region.

Event yield (3×10^{14} EOTs):

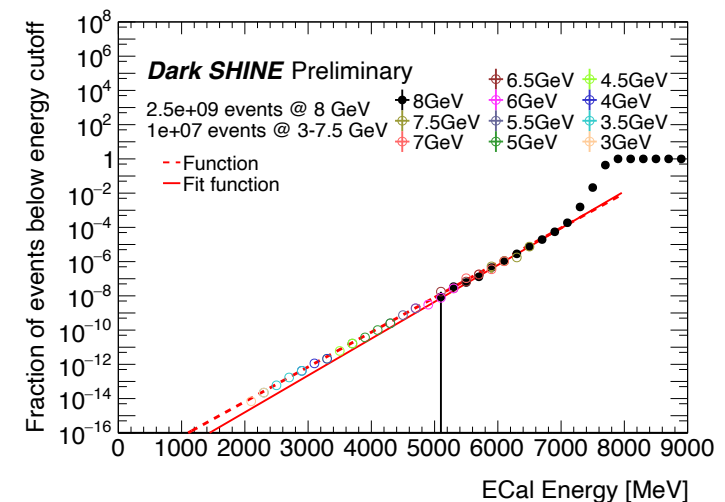
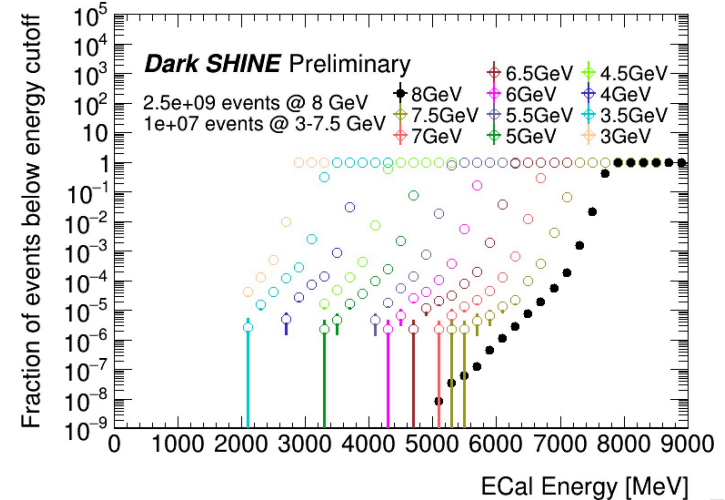
$$2.53 \times 10^{-3}$$

Background estimation

- **Validation from inclusive background simulation.**
- Statistics is limited in $E_{beam} = 8\text{GeV}$ inclusive samples.
- In extrapolation of inclusive background simulation, the fit range is far away from the final E_{ECal}^{total} cut (2.5 GeV).
- Inclusive samples with E_{beam} from 3 – 7.5 GeV are used to estimate events in low E_{ECal}^{total} .
- Scale low E_{beam} events to match the shoulder with $E_{beam} = 8\text{ GeV}$ events.
- **Event yield from direct extrapolation(3×10^{14} EOTs):**

$$N_{100,2} = 3 \times 10^{14} \times N_{100,20} \cdot \frac{N_{fit,100,2}}{N_{fit,100,20}}$$

$$= 9.23 \times 10^{-3}$$



Invisible background

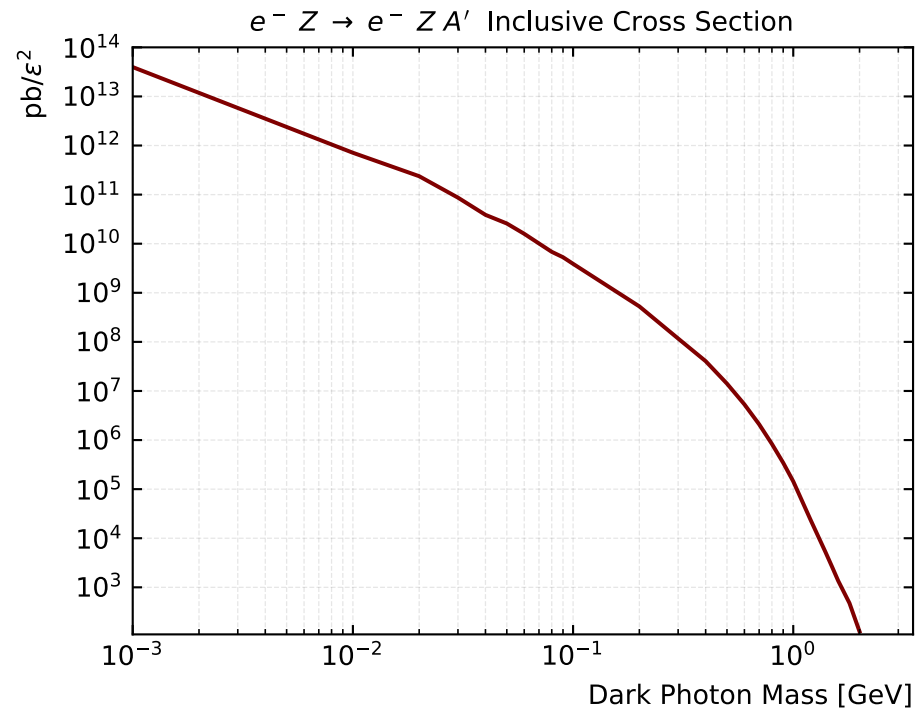


- Neutrino productions:
 - Moller scattering $e^-e^- \rightarrow e^-e^-$ followed by charged-current quasi-elastic (CCQE) reaction $e^-p \rightarrow \nu_e n$.
 - Neutrino pair production $e^-N \rightarrow e^-N\nu\bar{\nu}$.
 - Bremsstrahlung \oplus CCQE and charge-current exchange with exclusive $e^-p \rightarrow \nu n \pi_0$. No recoil electron, track requirement can remove these processes.

Table 6 Expected invisible background production corresponds to 3×10^{14} EOTs, estimated from different irreducible reaction scenarios. The Bremsstrahlung \oplus CCQE and the charge-current exchange productions can be effectively rejected by the one-track requirement.

irreducible reaction	Moller scattering	neutrino pair production
estimated yield	3×10^{-4}	$< 1.8 \times 10^{-5}$
irreducible reaction	Bremsstrahlung \oplus CCQE	charge-current exchange
estimated yield	0.3	0.3

Inclusive cross-section



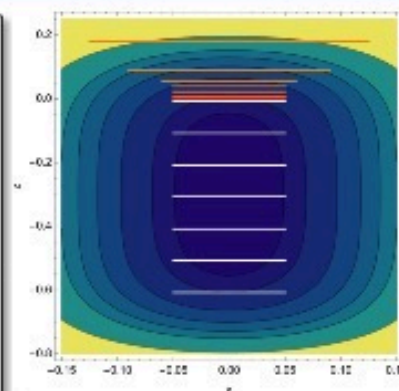
Inclusive cross-section of dark photon bremsstrahlung from electron interacting with W target, assuming $\epsilon = 1$.

What's next?

Many interesting tasks ongoing after the 1st round of prospective study based on truth information:

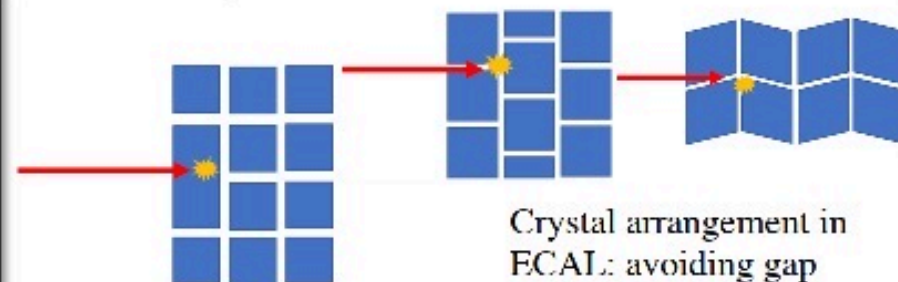
- **Detector design optimization**
 - strip sensor width, nonuniform magnetic field, calorimeter layout, radiation damage control, supporting structure & detector gap region, ...
- **Analysis using reco-level information**
 - track reconstruction from strip info., cell clustering, track-cell matching, machine learning application...
- **Other signal model?**
 - visible decay mode, axion-like particle, ...

We're stepping into the real world!



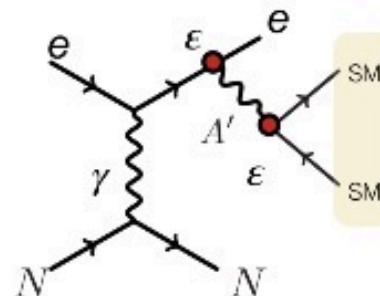
Nonuniform magnetic field: optimization for better track fitting and acceptance region.

AEI workshop



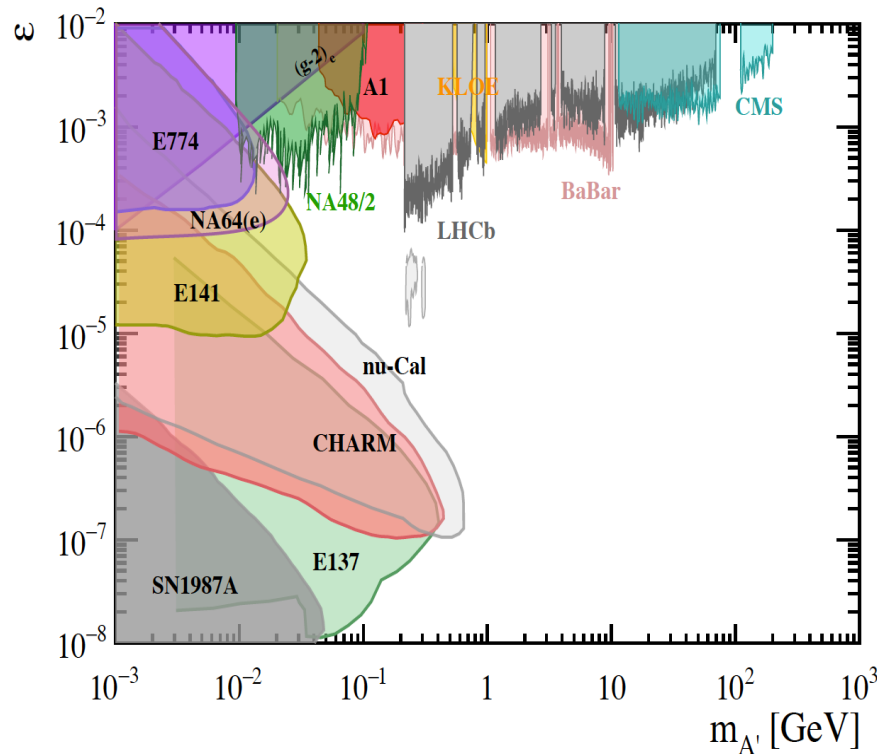
Crystal arrangement in ECAL: avoiding gap region; increased complexity in shower shape reconstruction.

VISIBLE DECAY MODE $m'_A < 2m_X$

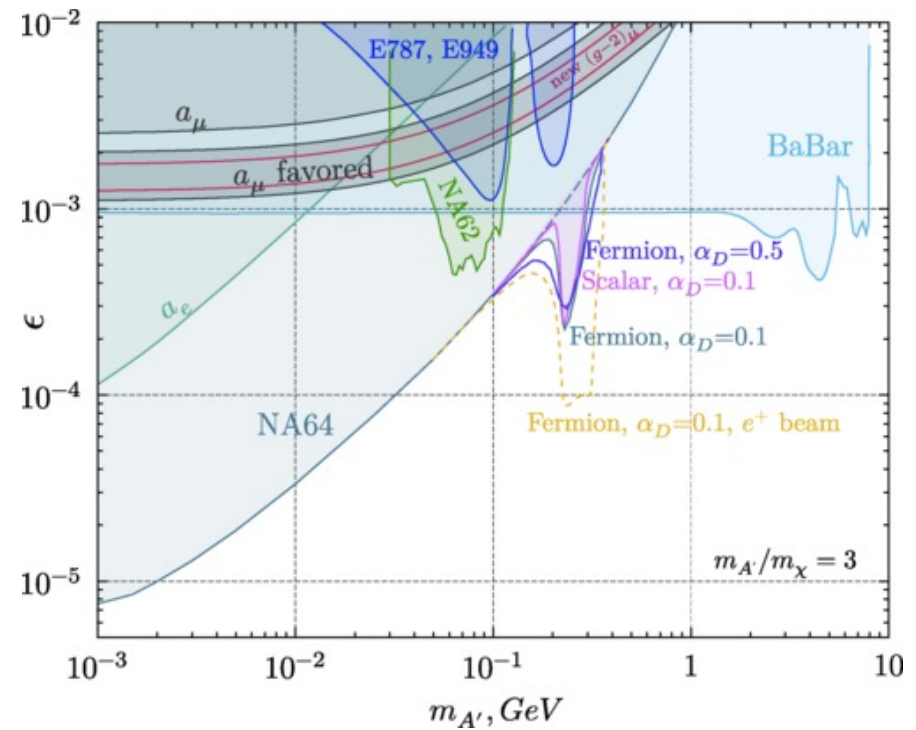


Visible decay of dark photon: no more missing energy, requiring better event reconstruction.

Dark photon search experimental results



arXiv: 1707.04591



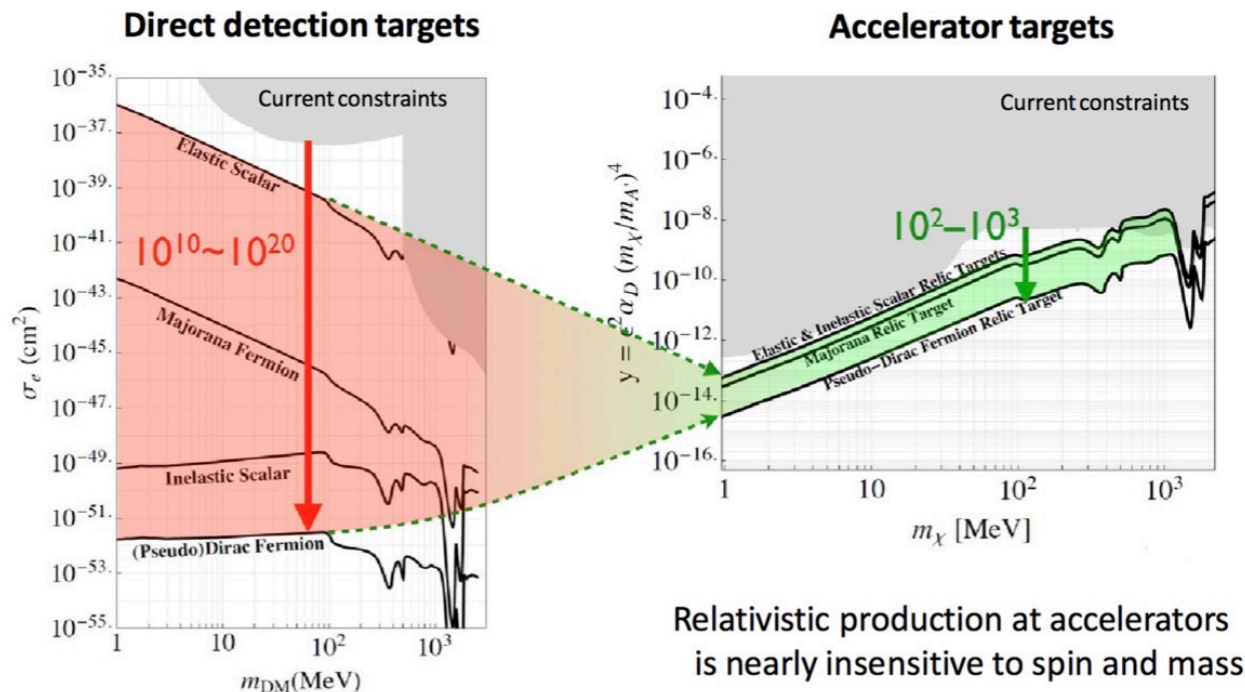
Phys. Rev. D 104, L091701 (2021)

Plan



- 2022** 1st **simulation studies** of detector system; establish DarkSHINE collaboration formally with SHINE facility (start the R&D work on the beamline).
- 2023** R&D of the **calorimeter systems, tracker system, magnet and mechanical supporting layout**; determine 1st **conceptual design** of DarkSHINE **beamline**.
- 2024** In-lab technical demonstration of detector prototypes; overall **conceptual design report** of **DarkSHINE detector system** and the preliminary **beamline conceptual design report**.
- 2025** **Sub-detector** prototyping; **cosmic** tests and **beam** tests.
- 2026** Start the **construction** of the DarkSHINE beamline and detector systems.
- 2028** 1st **commissioning** of the overall DarkSHINE experiment at the accomplished SHINE facility and dedicated DarkSHINE specific beamline.

Why need accelerator-based program?



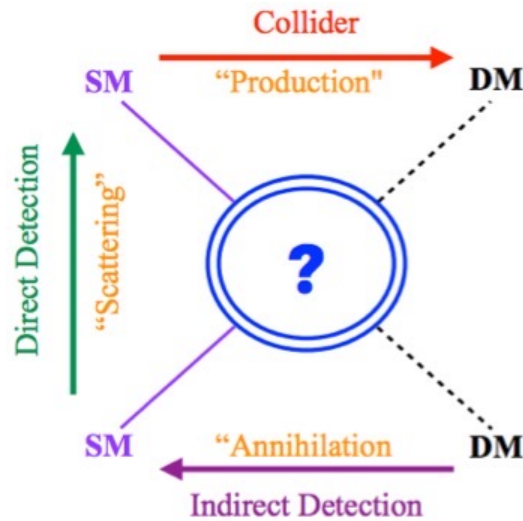
[arXiv:1707.04591](https://arxiv.org/abs/1707.04591)

- Accelerator-based experiments are much less sensitive to the details of the DM particle nature than direct detection experiments.
- Predictions with different theoretical models $\sim 10^2 - 10^3$.



Easy to carry out simultaneous verification in experiments.

Dark matter detection



- Direct Detection: nuclear recoils from DM-nuclei scattering
- Indirect Detection: products from DM annihilation
- Colliders: DM production in high-energy collisions

