

# Atomic responses for Dark matter scattering off electrons with Ge & Xe Detectors

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## References:

1. Mukesh K. Pandey et al ., [Phys. Rev. D 102, 123025 \(2020\)](#); [arXiv:1812.11759](#).
2. C.-P. Liu et al., [PHYS. REV. D 106, 063003 \(2022\)](#); [arXiv:2106.16214](#)

[DISCRETE 2022](#)

7-11 November 2022

Kongresshaus Baden-Baden

# Outline of the talk

- 1. What is the need of this study(Motivation)**
- 2. About Dark matter**
- 3. Why Atomic Physics ?**
- 3. Brief outline about Theoretical approach**
- 4. Result and discussions**
- 5. Conclusion**

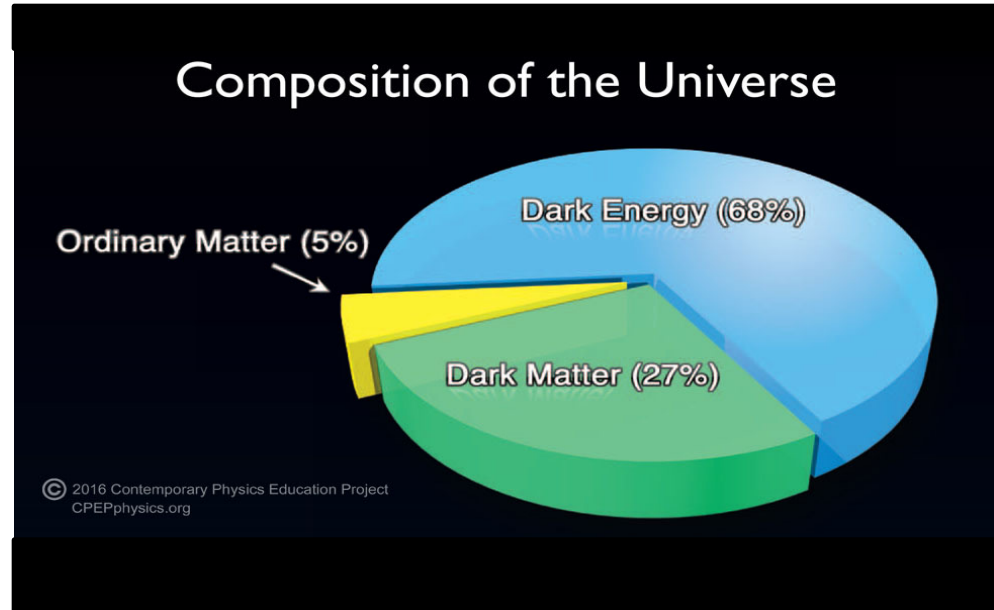
# A smaller question

What's the minimum set of particles and interactions that builds the material world?

This is a problem particle physicists worry about. They are driven to look for “New Physics”.

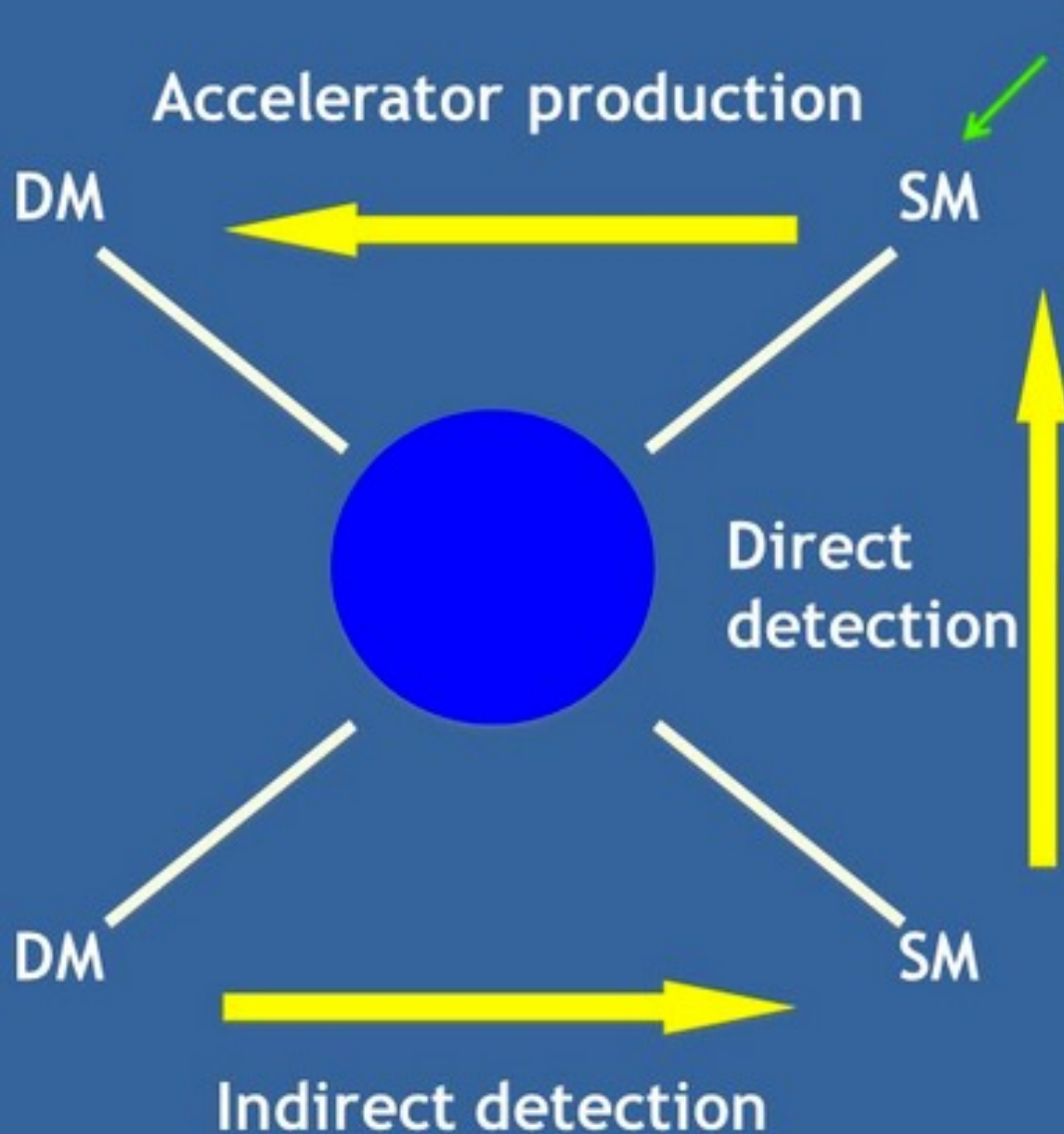
# Hint of New Physics

- Neutrino
- Dark matter
- Dark energy



They are “Portals” to New Physics!

# Strategies: search for Dark Matter



SM: Standard Model particle

- » Production in accelerators (LHC)
- » Indirect detection:
  - search for annihilation/decay products of  $\chi$ 's (self-antiparticle)
- » Direct detection:
  - $\chi$ -nucleus elastic scattering

# Why Atomic Physics?

# Why Atomic Physics?

- Energy scales: Atomic ( $\sim$  eV) Reactor neutrino ( $\sim$  MeV) WIMP ( $\sim$  GeV)
- Neutrino: NNM atomic ionization signal larger at lower energy scattering (current Ge detector threshold 0.1 keV)
- DM: direct detection, velocity slow ( $\sim$  1/1000), max energy 1 keV for mass 1 GeV DM.

# When atomic structures should be considered (free target approx. fail)?

- Incident momentum  $\sim 100$  keV and below
  - The wavelengths of incident particles are about the same order with the size of the atom.
  - For Innermost orbital, the related momentum  $\sim Z m_e \alpha \sim Z^*3$  keV ( $Z$  = effective nuclear charge)
- Energy transfer  $\sim 10$  keV and below
  - barely overcome the atomic thresholds
  - For Innermost orbital, binding energy  $\sim 11$  keV (Ge) and 34 keV (Xe)
- Phase-space suppression (Ex: WIMP-e scattering)

Opportunity: Applying atomic physics at keV (low for nuclear physics but high for atomic physics)



# What We've Done in This Work

- ❖ SD DM-e interaction should be considered together with SI interaction, to provide a more comprehensive understanding about the nature of DM & its interaction.
- ❖ We set a limit on the SD & SI DM-e cross sections at leading order with state-of-the-arts atomic many-body calculations and current best experiment data.
- ❖ One can differentiate the shape of SD and SI recoil spectra at high energies when spin orbit interaction becomes more relevant; or new detector design with spin polarizable target and known spin states of the ionized electrons.

# EFT DM-matter Lagrangian

Refs: Fan et. al., JCAP11(2010) 042; Fitzpatrick, et. al., JCAP02(2013) 004

- Leading-Order

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}}^{(\text{LO})} = \sum_{f=e,p,n} \left\{ \begin{aligned} & \underbrace{c_1^{(f)}}_{\text{SI}} (\chi^\dagger \chi) (f^\dagger f) + \underbrace{c_4^{(f)}}_{\text{SD}} \chi^\dagger \vec{S}_\chi \chi \cdot (f^\dagger \vec{S}_f f) \quad \leftarrow \text{SR} \\ & + \underbrace{d_1^{(f)}}_{\text{LR}} \frac{1}{q^2} (\chi^\dagger \chi) (f^\dagger f) + \underbrace{d_4^{(f)}}_{\text{LR}} \frac{1}{q^2} (\chi^\dagger \vec{S}_\chi \chi) \cdot (f^\dagger \vec{S}_f f) \quad \leftarrow \text{LR} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

- Next-to-Leading-Order  $O(q)$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}}^{(\text{NLO})} = \sum_{f=e,p,n} \left\{ c_{10}^{(f)} (\chi^\dagger \chi) (f^\dagger i\vec{\sigma}_f \cdot \vec{q} f) + c_{11}^{(f)} (\chi^\dagger i\vec{\sigma}_\chi \cdot \vec{q} \chi) (f^\dagger f) \right. \\ \left. + d_{10}^{(f)} \frac{1}{q^2} (\chi^\dagger \chi) (f^\dagger i\vec{\sigma}_f \cdot \vec{q} f) + d_{11}^{(f)} \frac{1}{q^2} (\chi^\dagger i\vec{\sigma}_\chi \cdot \vec{q} \chi) (f^\dagger f) \right\} + \dots$$

where  $\chi$  and  $f$  denote the DM and fermion fields, respectively,  $S_\chi$ ,  $S_f$  are their spin operators (scalar DM particles have null  $S_\chi$ ), the DM 3-momentum transfer  $|q|$  depends on the DM energy transfer  $T$  and its scattering angle  $\theta$

# Differential Cross Section

Example: a  $c_1^{(e)}$  type interaction with NR DM

$$d\sigma|_{c_1^{(e)}} = \frac{2\pi}{v_\chi} \sum_F \overline{\sum_I} |\langle F | c_1^{(e)} \rho(\vec{q}) | I \rangle|^2 \delta(T - E_{\text{CM}} - (E_F - E_I)) \frac{d^3 k_2}{(2\pi)^3}$$

- All dynamical information in **response functions**
- $E_{\text{CM}}$  for CM recoil,  $E_F - E_I$  for internal state change
- Biggest challenge: many-body wave functions for the initial and final states

# Folding with DM Velocity Spectrum

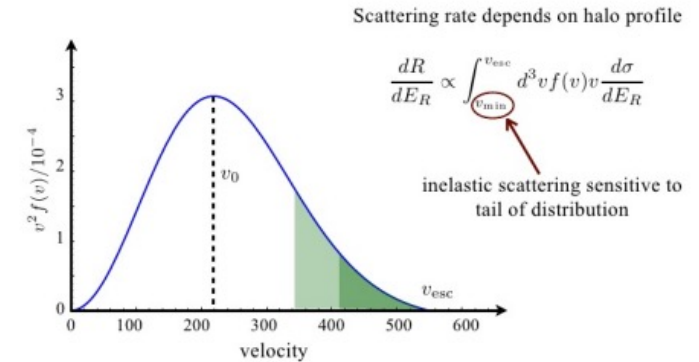
$$\frac{d\mathcal{R}}{dT} = \frac{\rho_\chi N_T}{m_\chi} \frac{d\langle\sigma v_\chi\rangle}{dT}$$

$$\frac{d\langle\sigma v_\chi\rangle}{dT} = \int_{v_{\min}}^{v_{\max}} d^3v_\chi f(\vec{v}_\chi) v_\chi \times \frac{1}{2\pi v_\chi^2} \int_{q^-}^{q^+} dq q \left[ \left| c_1 + \frac{d_1}{q^2} \right|^2 \right] R(T, q)$$

$$\eta(\tilde{v}_{\min}) = \int_{v_{\min}}^{v_{\max}} d^3v_\chi f(\vec{v}_\chi) \frac{1}{v_\chi} \Theta(v_\chi - \tilde{v}_{\min})$$

has analytic form with Standard Halo Model velocity spectrum

## Standard Halo Model



$$\frac{1}{K} e^{-\frac{|\vec{v}_\chi + \vec{v}_E|^2}{v_0^2}} \Theta(v_{\text{esc}} - |\vec{v}_\chi + \vec{v}_E|)$$

$$v_0 = 220 \text{ km/s} \sim 10^{-3} c$$

$$v_E = 232 \text{ km/s}$$

$$v_{\text{esc}} = 544 \text{ km/s}$$

To explore the impact of uncertainties in the DM velocity spectrum, we follow Ref.

G. Belanger, A. Mjallal, and A. Pukhov, Recasting direct detection limits within micrOMEGAs and implication for non-standard dark matter scenarios, *Eur. Phys. J. C* 81, 239 (2021).

vary  $(v_0, v_{\text{esc}}, v_E)$  in the range of  $(220 \pm 18, 232 \pm 10, 544 \pm 63)$  km/s.

# Response Function

The full information of how the detector atom responds to the incident DM particle is encoded

In the NR-IPA scheme, the SI response function

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{R}_{\text{SI}}^{(\text{ion})}(T, q) &= \sum_{k_f l_f j_f} \sum_{n_i l_i j_i} \sum_{L=0} 4\pi |\langle k_f l_f j_f || j_L(qr) Y_L(\Omega_r) || n_i l_i j_i \rangle|^2 \delta(E\dots), \\ &= \sum_{k_f l_f} \sum_{n_i l_i} \sum_{L=0} 2[l_f]^2 [l_i]^2 [L]^2 \begin{pmatrix} l_f & L & l_i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^2 \langle k_f l_f | j_L(qr) | n_i l_i \rangle_{(\text{NR})}^2 \delta(E\dots),\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{R}_{\text{SD}}^{(\text{ion})}(T, q) &= \sum_{k_f l_f} \sum_{n_i l_i} 2[l_f]^2 [l_i]^2 \left\{ [1]^2 \begin{pmatrix} l_f & 0 & l_i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^2 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \sum_{L=1} ([L]^2 + [L-1]^2 + [L+1]^2) \begin{pmatrix} l_f & L & l_i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^2 \right\} \langle k_f l_f | j_L(qr) | n_i l_i \rangle_{(\text{NR})}^2 \delta(E\dots) \\ &= \sum_{k_f l_f} \sum_{n_i l_i} \sum_{L=0} 6[l_f]^2 [l_i]^2 [L]^2 \begin{pmatrix} l_f & L & l_i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^2 \langle k_f l_f | j_L(qr) | n_i l_i \rangle_{(\text{NR})}^2 \delta(E\dots) \\ &= 3\mathcal{R}_{\text{SI}}^{(\text{ion})}(T, q),\end{aligned}$$

$R(T, q)$  is evaluated by well-benchmarked procedure based on an *ab-initio* method, the (multi-configuration) relativistic random phase approximation, (MC)RRPA.

To expedite the computation, we performed (MC)RRPA calculations only for selected data points, and the full computation is done with an additional approximation: the frozen-core approximation (FCA).

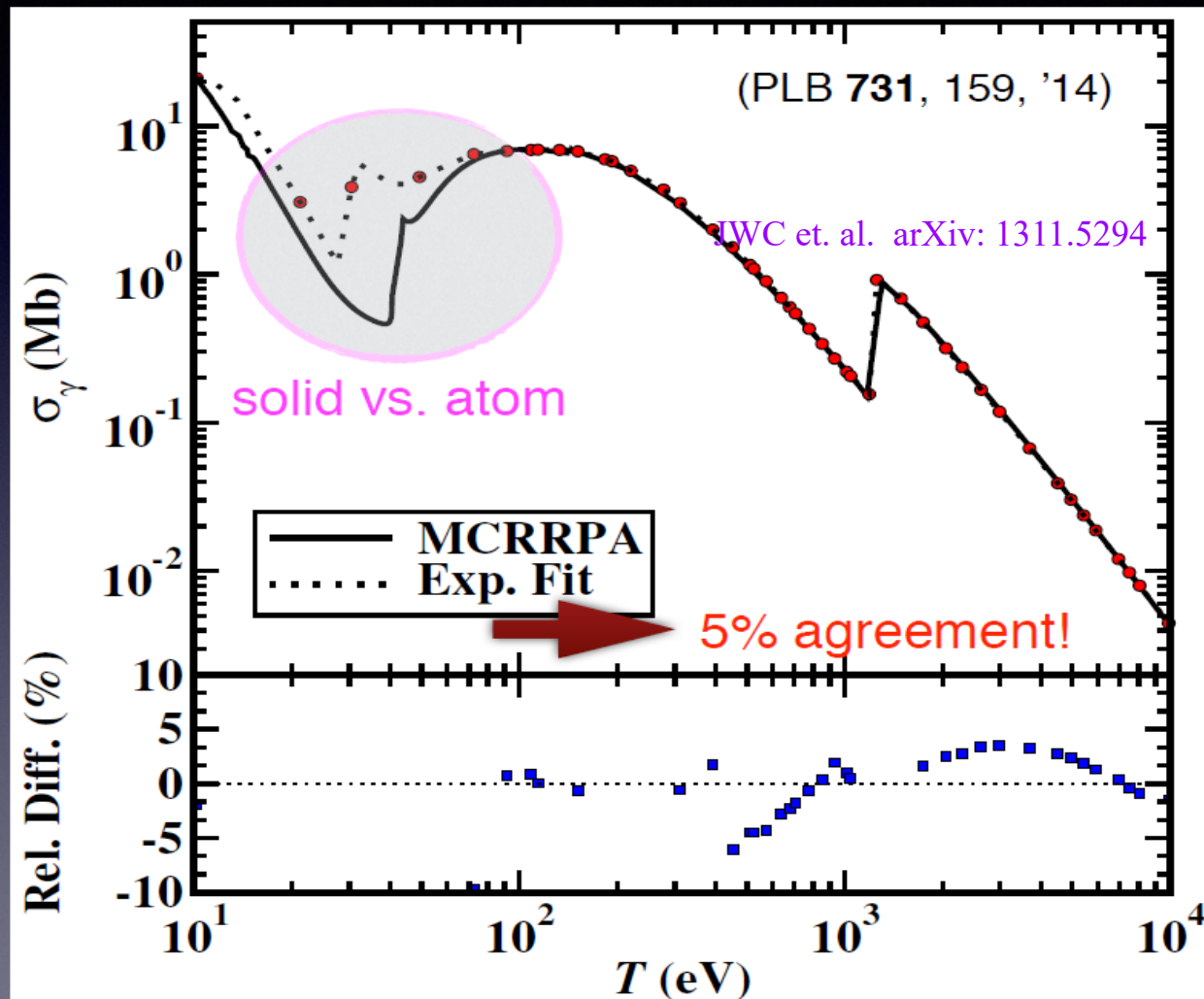
**The FCA has a discrepancy less than 20% for all our calculations.**

Results we've got:

# Important Lessons

- Benchmark, benchmark, benchmark.
- Relativistic and MB effects are important.
- Spin-orbit interaction is critical in SD responses.

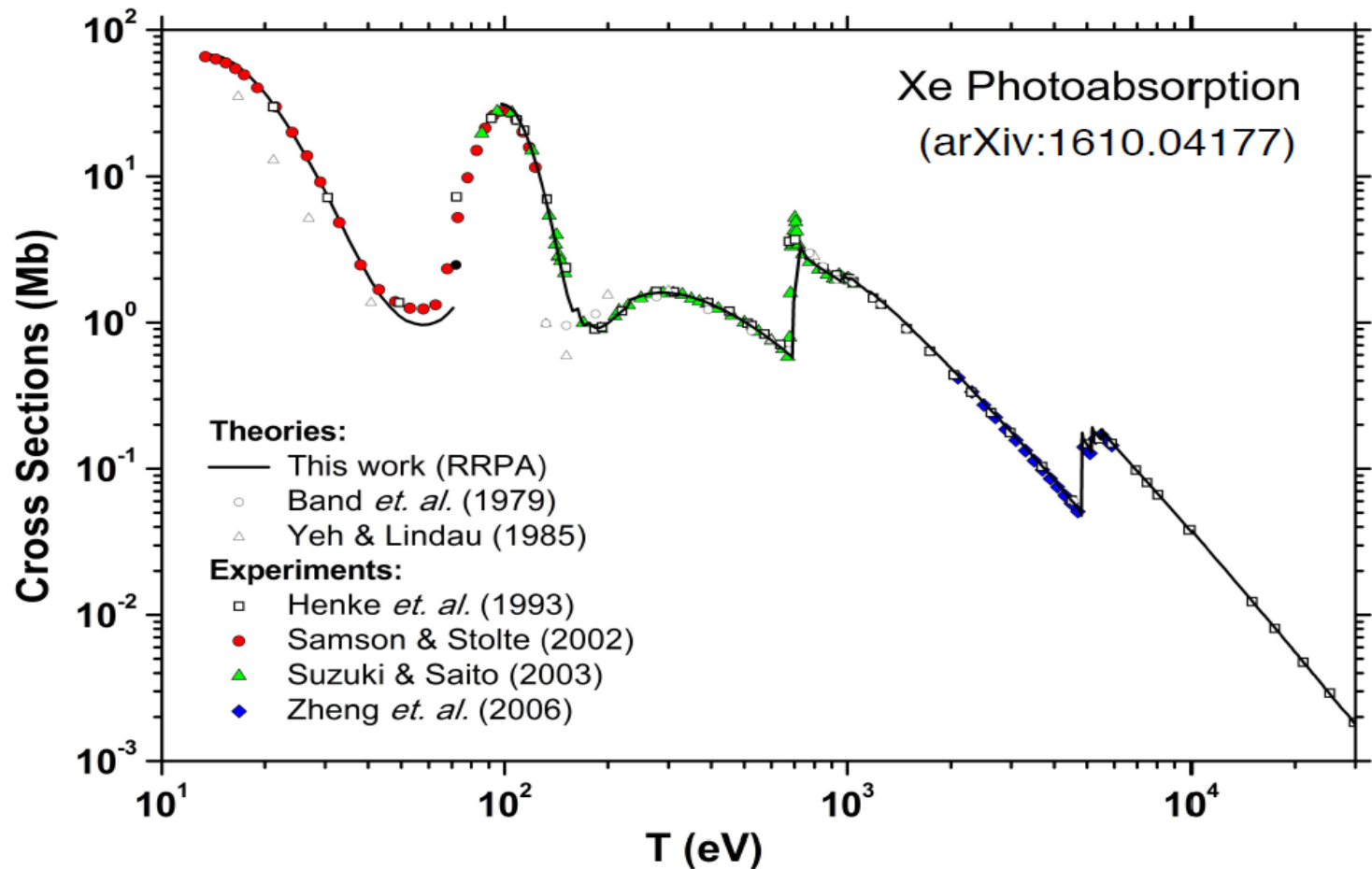
# Benchmark: Ge Photoionization

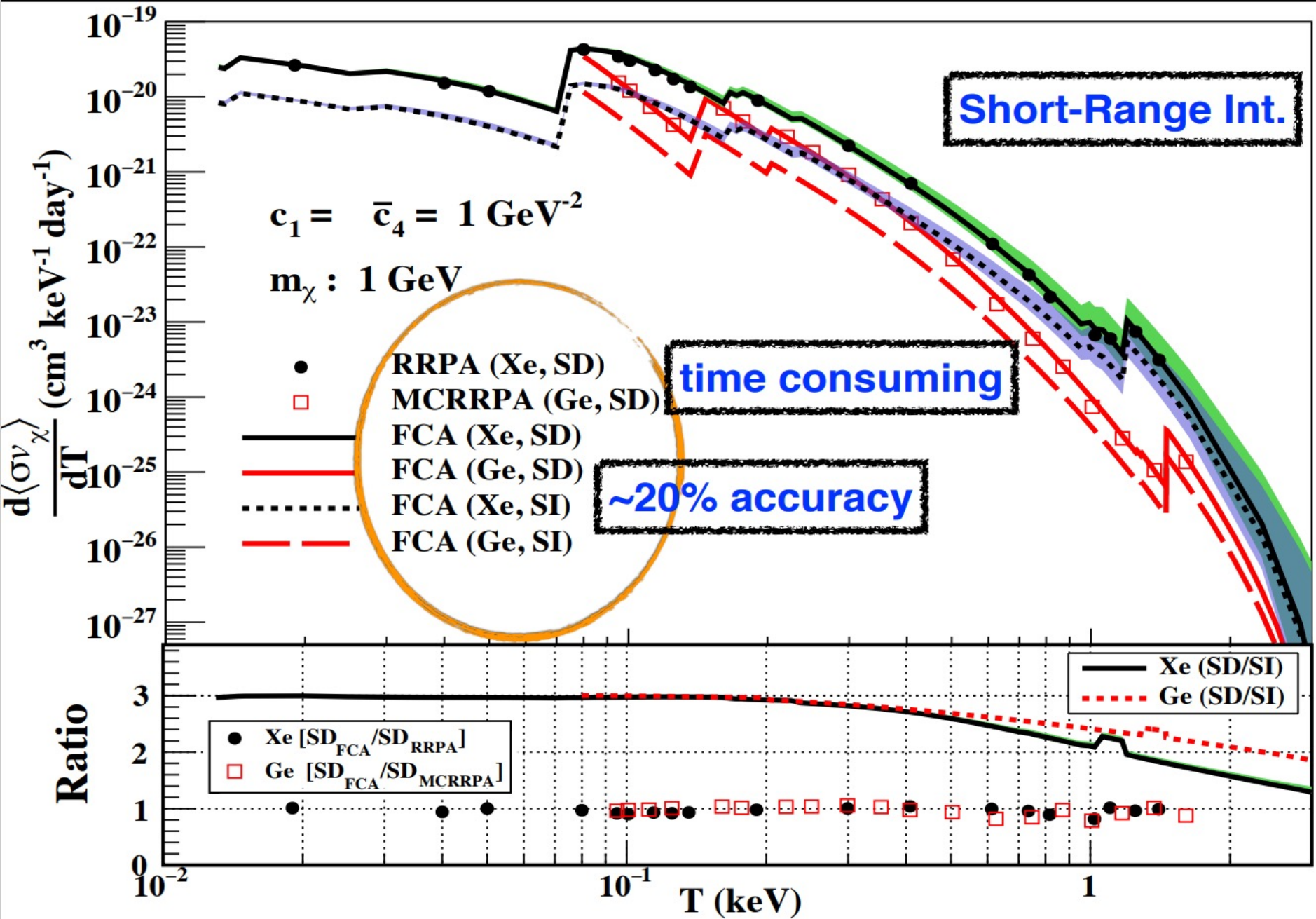


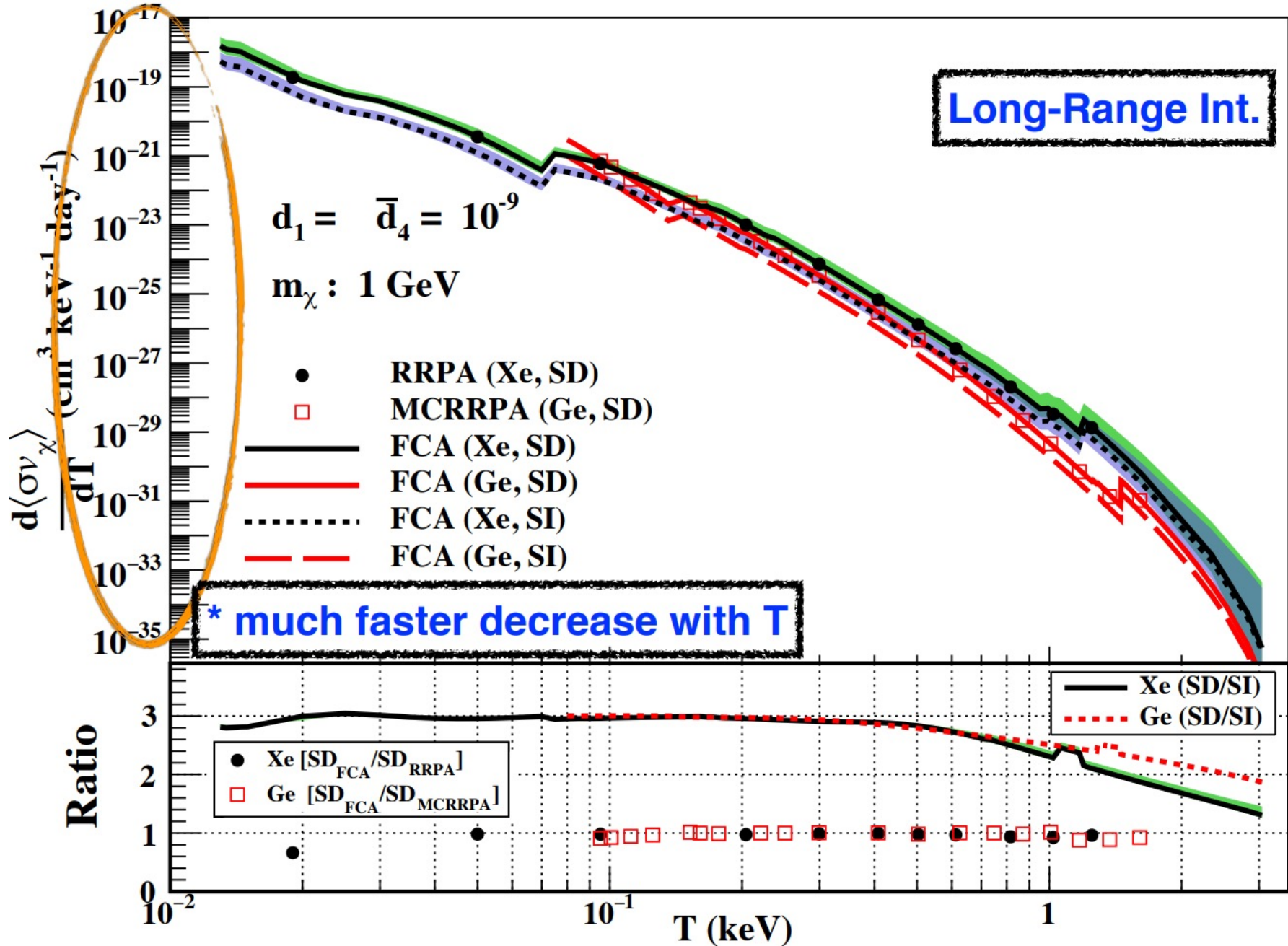
The main error are located at 10 to 100 eV for Ge case. It may come from the solid effects but in our calculations where we only consider one Ge atom.



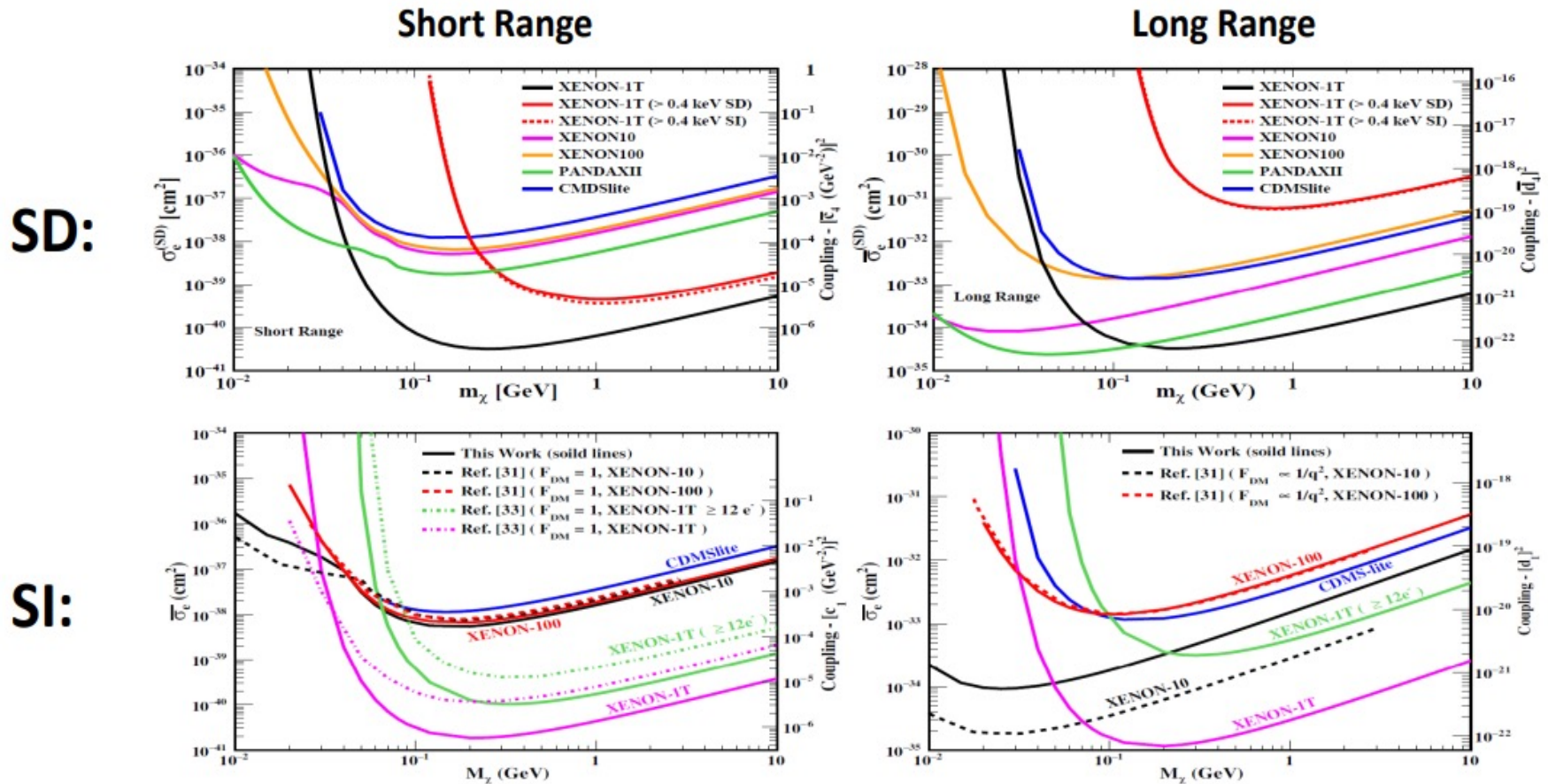
# Benchmark: Xe Photoionization





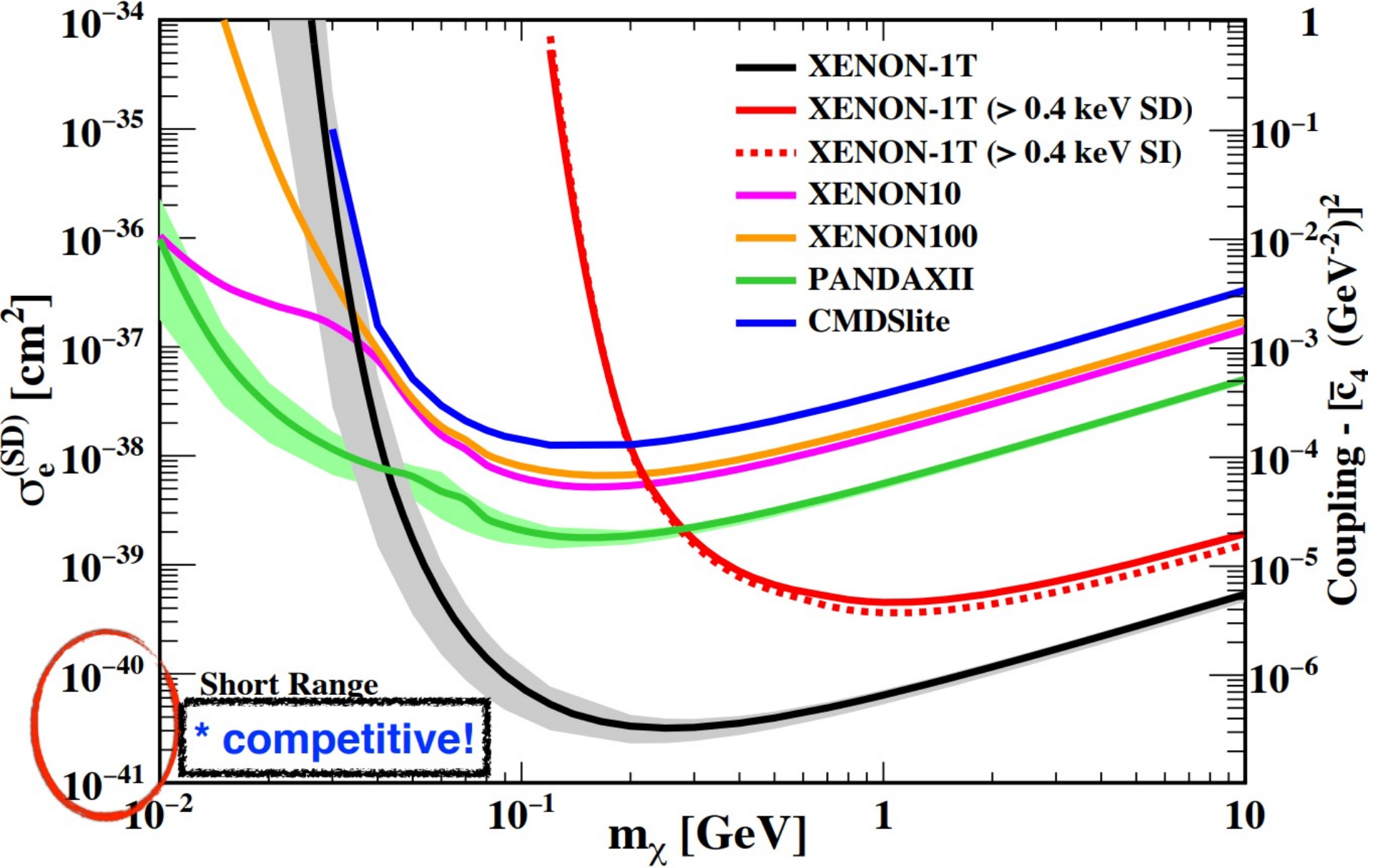


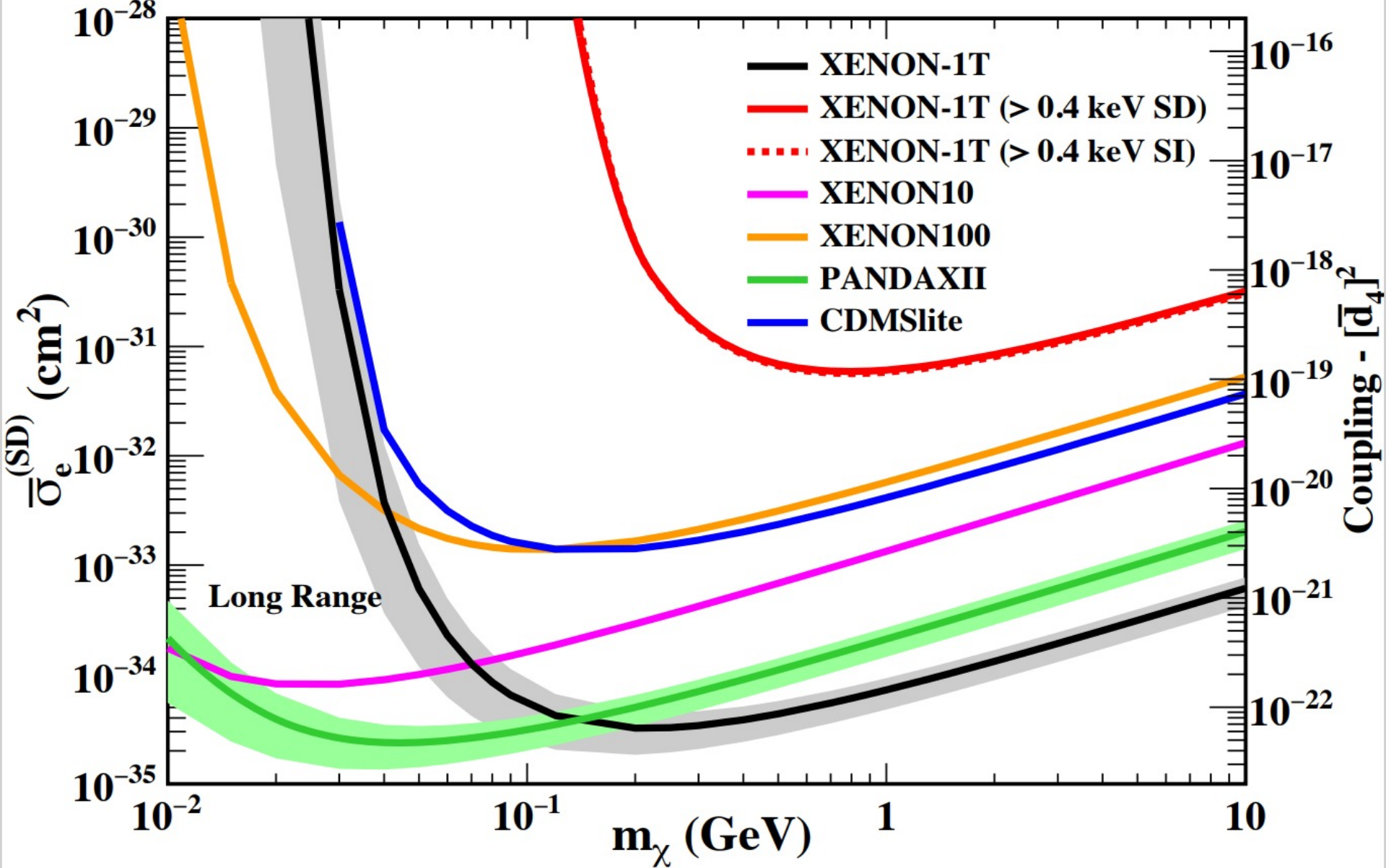
# Exclusion Limits on DM-e Interactions



[31] R. Essig, T. Volansky, and T.-T. Yu, Phys. Rev. D 96, 043017 (2017).

[33] E. Aprile et al. (XENON Collaboration), Phys. Rev. Lett. 123, 251801 (2019)



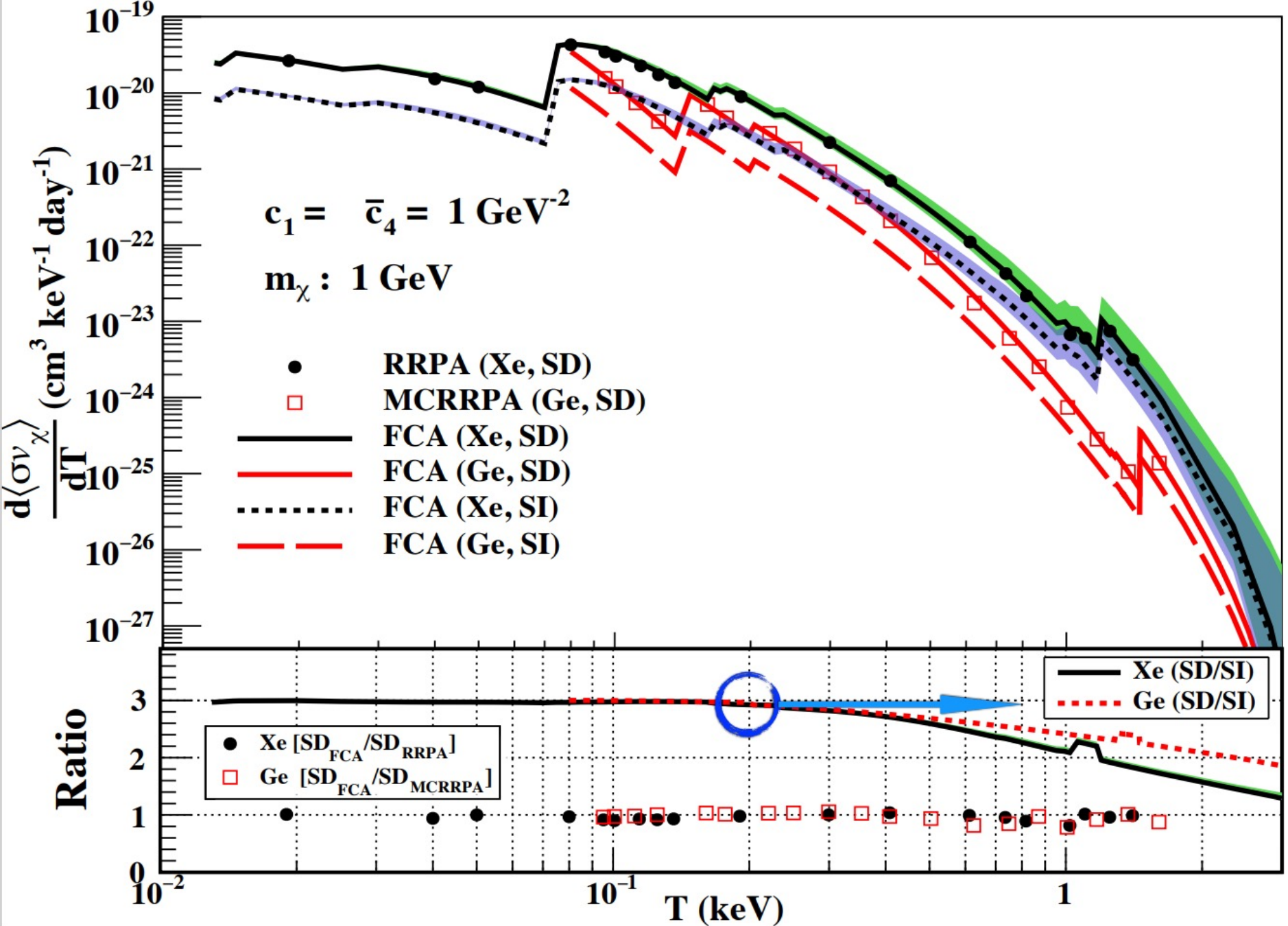


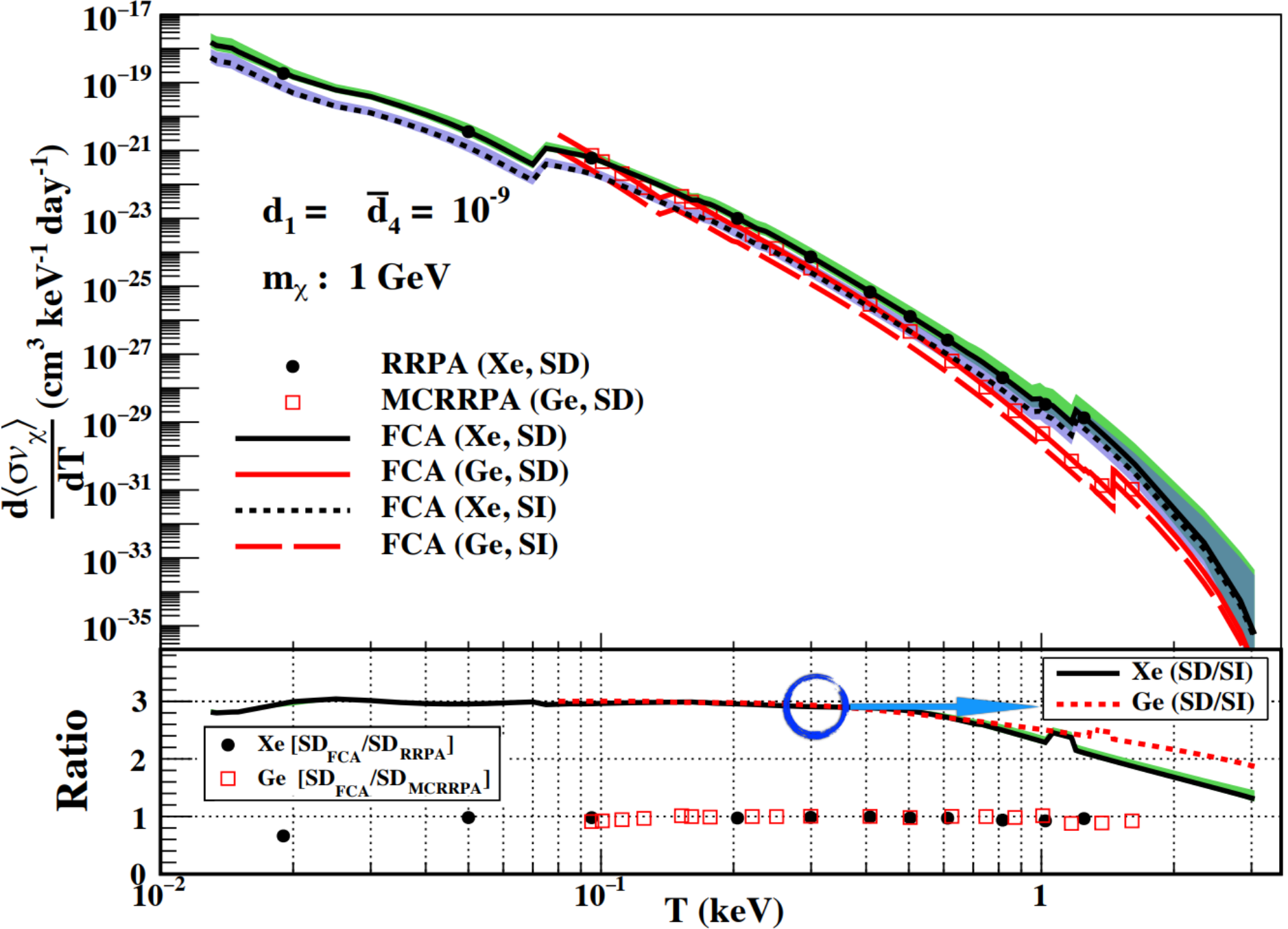
# How to distinguish the SD/SI signals?

# Opt. 1: Spectral Shape

- Because of **SOI**, SI and SD signals start to have different spectral shape as  $T$  increases.







# Summary

- DM searches with lighter masses or new interactions become more important for the design of next generation detectors. (Direct Detection is valuable complement to collider bound!)
- For LDM-electron interactions, atomic transition plays an important role because ionization channel dominates the scattering process
- SD DM-electron interactions are important to unravel the nature of DM and its interactions with matter.
- Precision spectral shape measurements of DM scattering can distinguish SD from SI interactions.

Soon, we are going to provide Data of Atomic Response function for DM and Atomic interaction on our group web site.

<https://web.phys.ntu.edu.tw/~jwc/DarkMatterandNeutrinoGroup/>

A peacock with a long, vibrant green tail and a blue and brown body stands on a stone wall. The background shows trees with yellowing leaves, suggesting an autumn setting. The word "Thanks" is written in a large, stylized font with a crumpled paper texture.

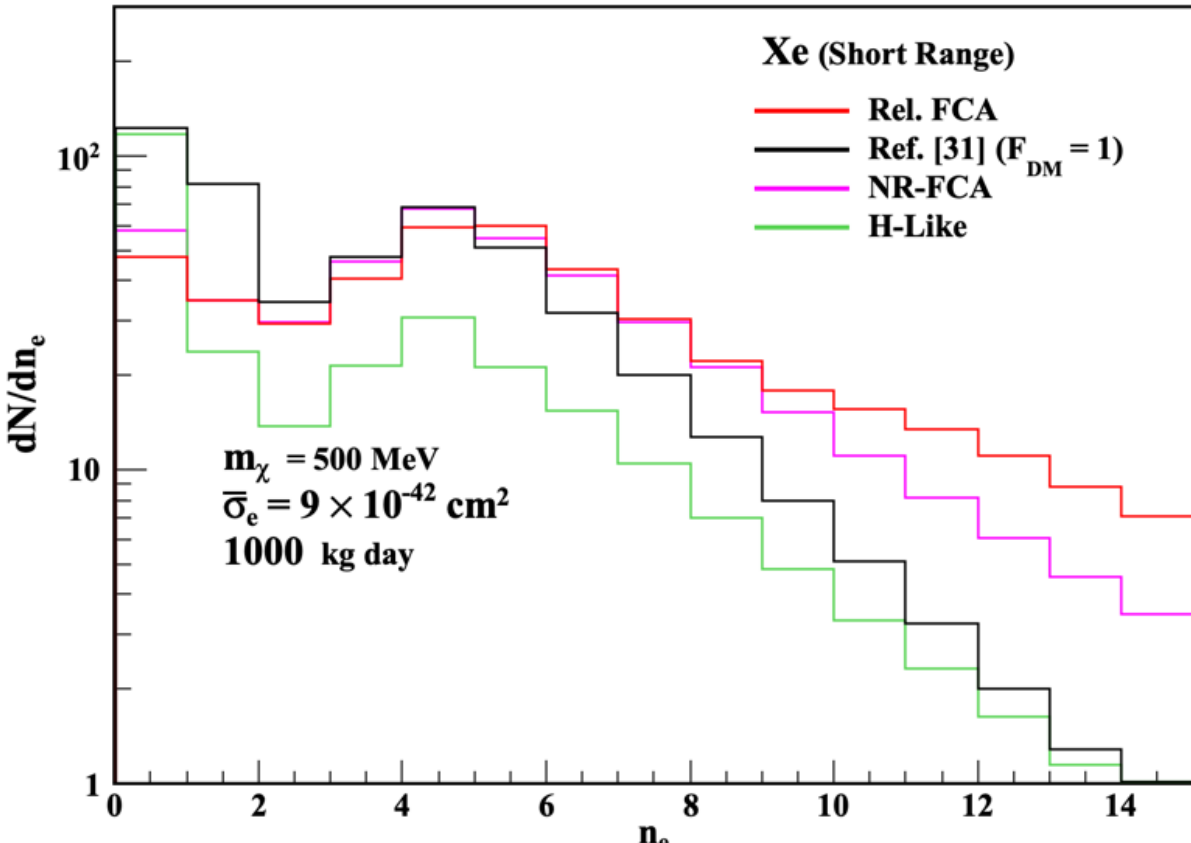
# Thanks

- The works are supported by the NSTC, NCTS, TEXONO, of Taiwan(R.O.C).
- Thank you all for your attention.

# Backup slides

# Comparisons of expected event numbers as a function of ionized electron number

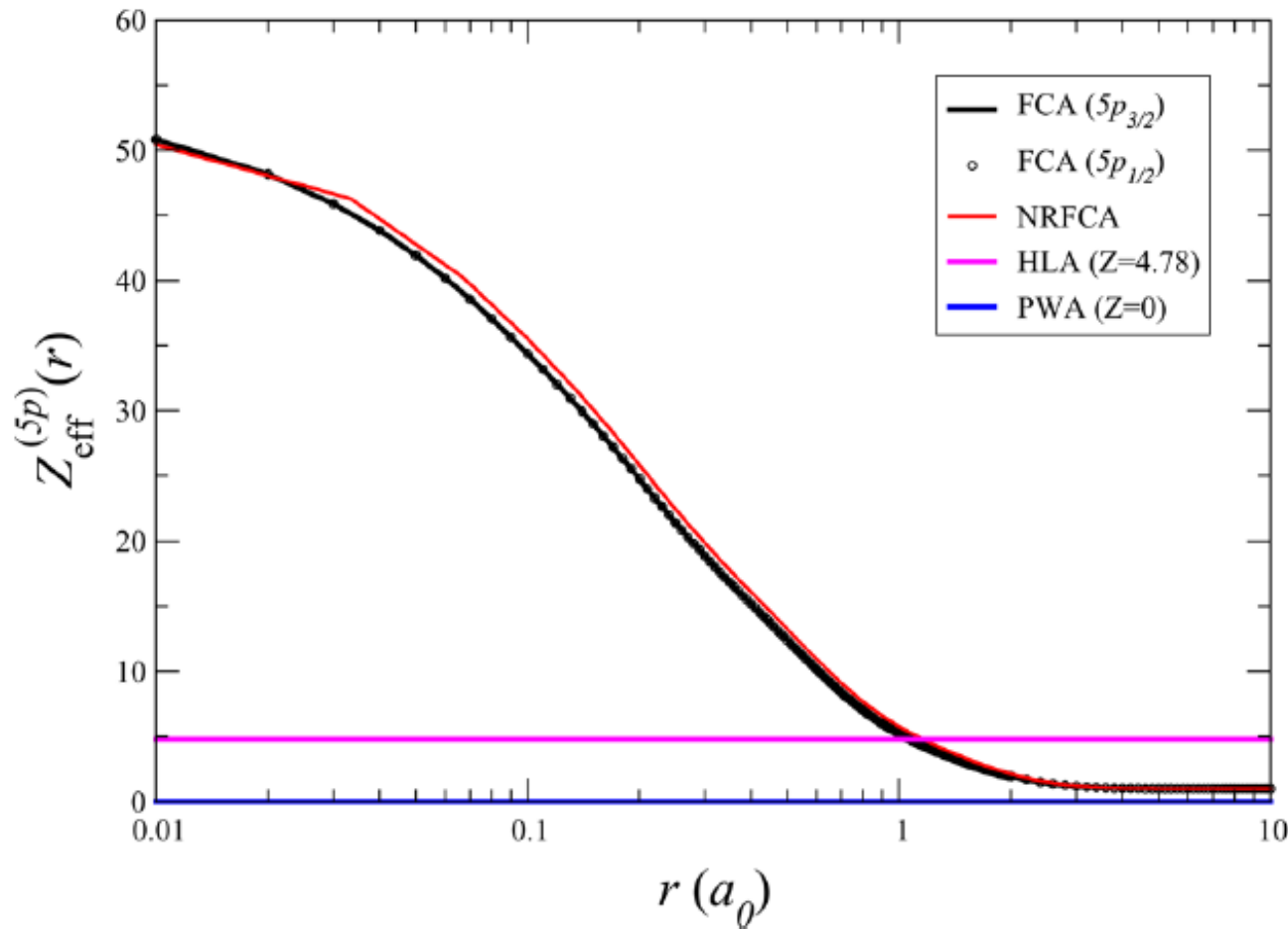
To further trace the main origin of this discrepancy, we performed two additional sets of calculations:



Comparisons of expected event numbers as a function of ionized electron number derived in this work (relativistic FCA, red), nonrelativistic FCA (magenta), hydrogenlike approximation (green), and from Ref. [31] (black) for Xe detectors with 1000 kg-year exposure, assuming DM mass  $m_\chi = 500 \text{ MeV}$ , and DM-electron interaction strengths (left)  $c1 = 5.28 \times 10$

The difference between the NR-FCA and Ref. [31] is most likely due to different formulations of the effective Coulomb potential felt by an ionized electron. However, no further comment can be made as the detail is not explicitly given in Refs. [30,31]. On the other hand, we did find the results of Ref. [31] fall in between NR-FCA and HLA, so perhaps is the reconstructed Coulomb potentials

# COMPARISON OF ATOMIC APPROACHES TO CONTINUUM STATES.



The effective charge  $Z_{\text{eff}}^{(5p)}$  felt by the electron ionized from a 5p orbital derived from the approaches of FCA, NRFCA, HLA, and PWA. Note that the difference between relativistic  $5p_{3/2}$  and  $5p_{1/2}$  is barely visible..

