

# Search Prospect for Extremely Weakly-Interacting Particles in Gamma Factory

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## Some obvious questions

- *How light are the particles ?*  $\implies \sim 1\text{-}100 \text{ MeV}$
- *How weak is the interaction strength ?*  $\implies \sim 10^{-9}$
- *Why probe at Gamma Factory ?*  $\implies$  coming later, stay tuned !

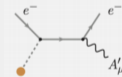
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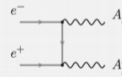
A possible candidate particle would be dark photons

## Dark Photon

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{2} m_{A'}^2 A'^2 - \varepsilon e \sum_f q_f \bar{f} A' f$$



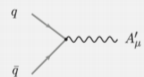
Bremsstrahlung



Annihilation

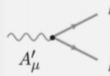


Meson decay



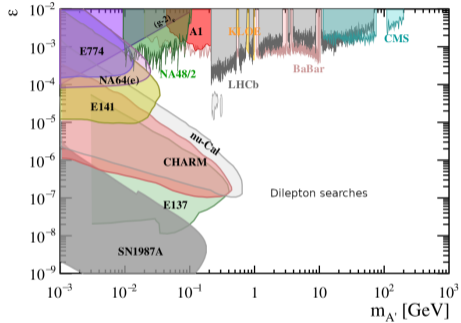
Drell-Yan

- 1) B. Holdom, *Phys. Lett. B* **166**, 196 (1986);
- 2) M. Fabbrichesi, E. Gabrielli and G. Lanfranchi, *SpringerBriefs in Physics* (2020), [[arXiv:2005.01515](https://arxiv.org/abs/2005.01515)].



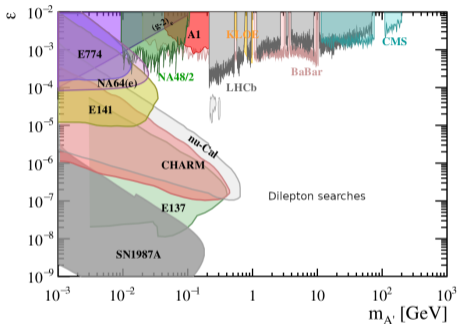
relevant production & decay channels

# Existing probes for light dark photon



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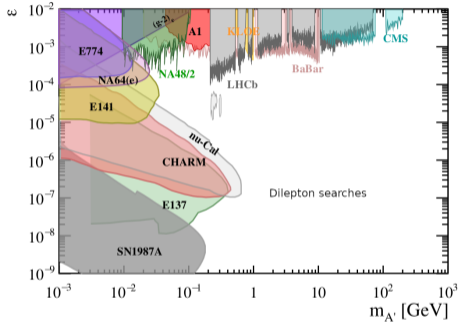
- Around low mass, only astrophysical probes from supernova cooling exists for  $\varepsilon \lesssim 10^{-8}$ .

PHYSICAL REVIEW D **101**, 123025 (2020)

**Is there a supernova bound on axions?**

Nitsan Bar,<sup>1,\*</sup> Kfir Blum,<sup>1,2,†</sup> and Guido D'Amico<sup>3,‡</sup>

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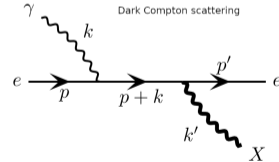
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- Is a robust complementary probe possible ?



How about photoproduction ?

## Difficulties

- *Dark photon production cross-section is proportional to  $\epsilon^4$*
- *Existing light sources cannot provide the required number of photons to probe such low coupling 😊*

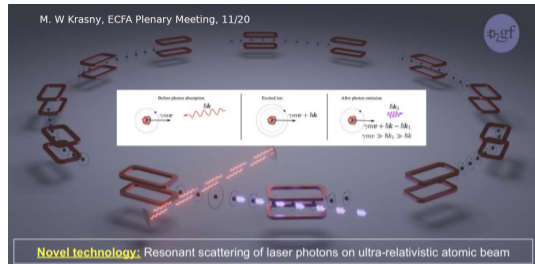
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# Status of photoproduction

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## Gamma Factory at CERN - a New Intensity Frontier

- $E_{GF} = E_{laser} \left( \sqrt{\frac{1+v/c}{1-v/c}} \right)^2 \approx 4\gamma^2 E_{laser} \sim 10 \text{ MeV}-1 \text{ GeV}$
- Big jump in intensity (by 6 - 8 orders of magnitude) compared to existing photon sources

$$E_\gamma = 20 \text{ MeV}, \quad \Phi_{GF} = 10^{18} \text{ s}^{-1}, \quad N_{GF} = 3 \times 10^{25}$$

$$E_\gamma = 200 \text{ MeV}, \quad \Phi_{GF} = 10^{17} \text{ s}^{-1}, \quad N_{GF} = 3 \times 10^{24}$$

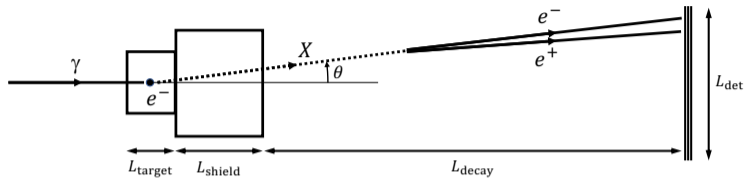
$$E_\gamma = 1.6 \text{ GeV}, \quad \Phi_{GF} = 10^{16} \text{ s}^{-1}, \quad N_{GF} = 3 \times 10^{23}$$

- Huge potential for rare BSM searches 😊

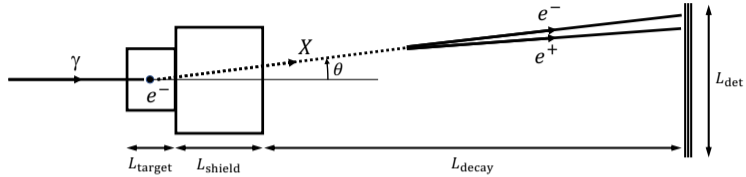
D. Budker *et. al.*, [Annalen Phys.](#) **532**, no.8, 2000204 (2020)



## A minimal fixed-target setup

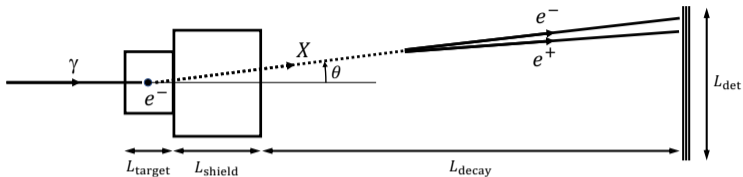


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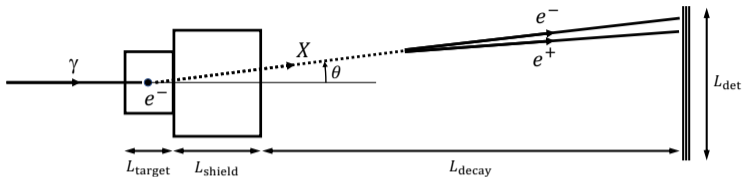


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A few feasible choices  $\implies$

$\sigma_{\text{SM}}^{\text{H}}/Z$	=	36, 19, 20 mb	for $E_\gamma = 20, 200, 1600$ MeV
$\sigma_{\text{SM}}^{\text{Be}}/Z$	=	46, 38, 42 mb	for $E_\gamma = 20, 200, 1600$ MeV
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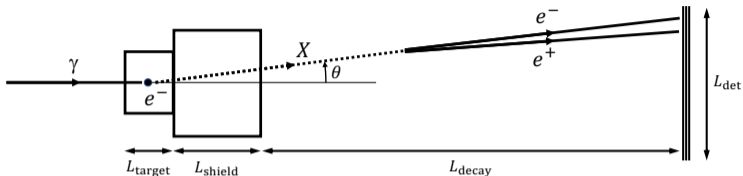
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- Shield is a high-Z material such as Pb to eliminate GF photons & SM background

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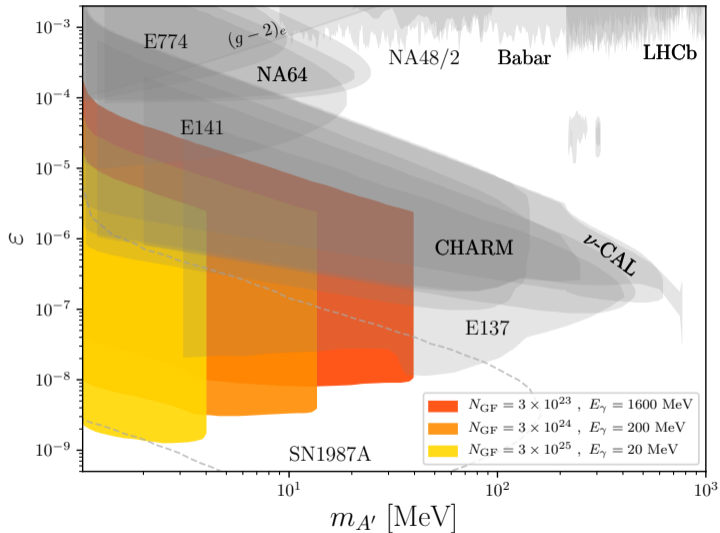
**A reasonable experimental setup :**  $L_{\text{target}}$  (Graphite) = 1 m,  $L_{\text{shield}}$  (Pb) = 2 m  
 $L_{\text{decay}} = 12 \text{ m}$ ,  $L_{\text{det}} = 3 \text{ m}$

$$\begin{aligned} N_S &= N_{\text{GF}} P_{\text{prod}} P_{\text{decay}} P_{\text{det}} \sim N_{\text{GF}} \frac{Z\sigma_X}{\sigma_{\text{SM}}} \frac{L_{\text{decay}}}{d_{A'}} \\ &\sim N_{\text{GF}} \frac{6 \varepsilon^2}{50 \text{ mb}} \frac{1 \text{ mb}}{\left[ \frac{10 \text{ MeV}}{m_{A'}} \right]^2} \frac{12 \text{ m}}{6.5 \times 10^5 \text{ m}} \left[ \frac{\varepsilon}{10^{-8}} \right]^2 \left[ \frac{m_{A'}}{10 \text{ MeV}} \right]^2 \\ &= 3 \frac{N_{\text{GF}}}{3 \times 10^{24}} \left[ \frac{\varepsilon}{2.6 \times 10^{-9}} \right]^4 \end{aligned}$$

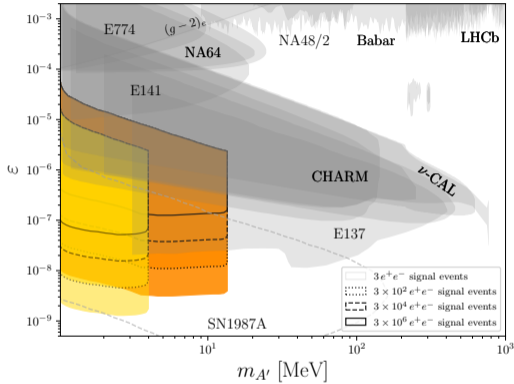
Number of signal events are

- Highly sensitive to  $\varepsilon$
- Largely insensitive to dark photon mass
- Proportional to number of GF photons on target

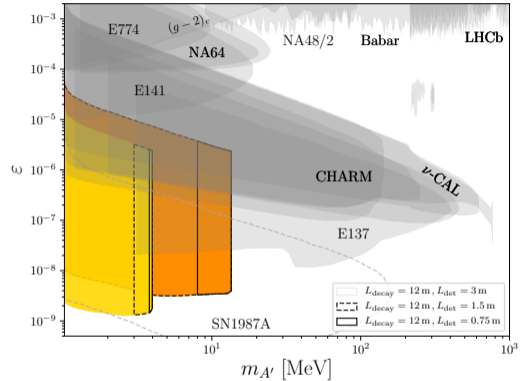
# Results



### Sensitivity vs. number of events



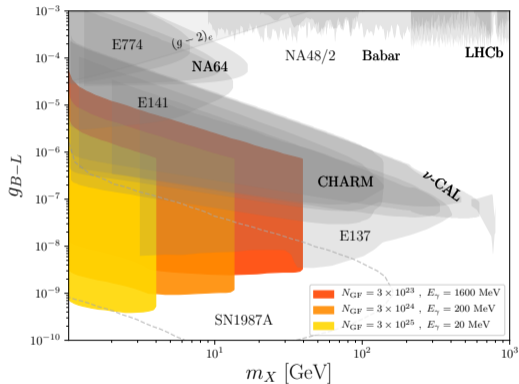
### Sensitivity vs. length of detector



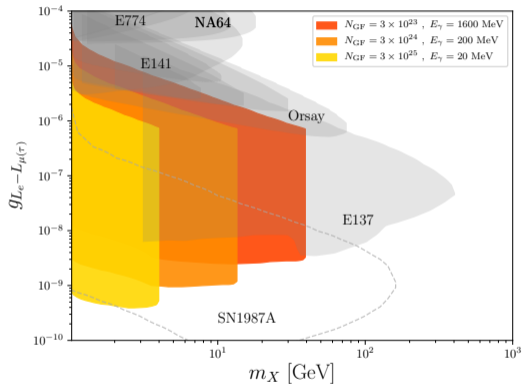
- Only a few hours of observation can probe new parameter space
- $L_{det}/L_{decay} \approx 1/3$ ,  $L_{decay} \sim \mathcal{O}(10 \text{ m})$  for full sensitivity reach within a year



## $B - L$ gauge boson sensitivity

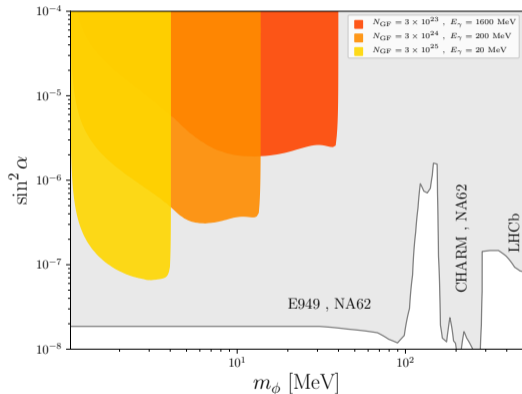


## $L_e - L_{\mu(\tau)}$ gauge boson sensitivity

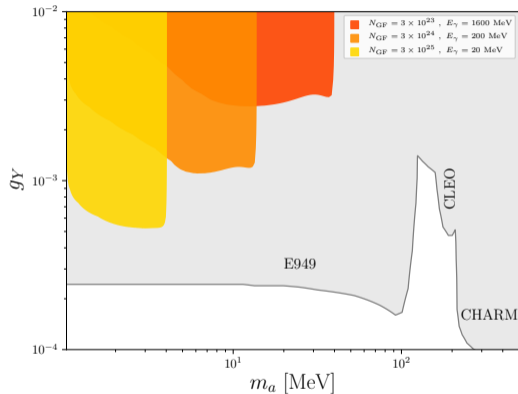


- Promising probe for anomaly free Gauge bosons
- $L_\mu - L_\tau$  gauge boson remains difficult to probe in this setup

## Dark Higgs sensitivity



## Dark pseudo scalar sensitivity



- Signal rate is compromised due to Yukawa suppressed dark mediator decay into electrons
- Even after one year of running, this setup does not probe new parameter region

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- We found promising reach also for the anomaly-free Gauge bosons
- The full potential of this facility for new physics still needs to be explored  
see R. Balkin *et. al.*, [arXiv:2105.15072](https://arxiv.org/abs/2105.15072) for ALP probe at GF

*Thank you!*