FASER

AND THE

FORWARD PHYSICS FACILITY

Particle and Nuclear Physics Seminar, University of Geneva

Jonathan Feng, UC Irvine, 15 June 2021

NSF SIMONS FOUNDATION HEISING-SIMONS FOUNDATION UC IRVINE CERN

RECENT NEWS

25 March 2021

CERN Bulletin

Issue No. 12-13/2021-Thursday 25 March 2021
More articles at http://home.cern/cern-people

LS2 REPORT: FASER IS BORN

FASER, the Forward Search Experiment, has been installed in the LHC tunnel during Long Shutdown 2. It is currently being tested and will start taking data next year

The final elements of FASER were put into place this month. (Image: CERN)

A WORD FROM CHARLOTTE LINDBERG WARAKAULLE

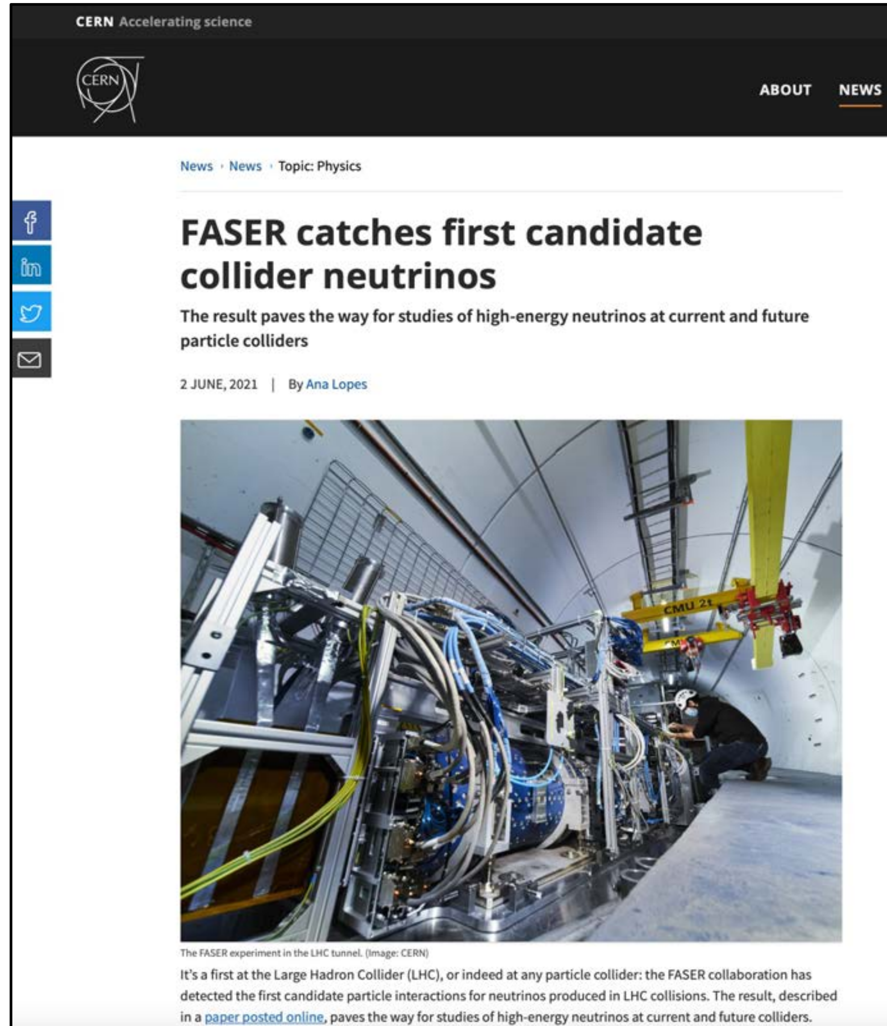
EXCELLENCE IN SCIENCE THRIVES ON GLOBAL INTERACTION

A year ago, it seemed that the world closed around us. From one day to the next, travel and movement became restricted. The usual in-person exchanges with colleagues from across the world suddenly became a rare occurrence.

(Continued on page 2)

In this issue

3 June 2021



CERN Accelerating science

ABOUT NEWS

News › News › Topic: Physics

FASER catches first candidate collider neutrinos

The result paves the way for studies of high-energy neutrinos at current and future particle colliders

2 JUNE, 2021 | By Ana Lopes

The FASER experiment in the LHC tunnel. (Image: CERN)

It's a first at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC), or indeed at any particle collider: the FASER collaboration has detected the first candidate particle interactions for neutrinos produced in LHC collisions. The result, described in a paper posted online, paves the way for studies of high-energy neutrinos at current and future colliders.

OUTLINE

MOTIVATIONS

FORWARD PHYSICS

FASER

FASERν

FORWARD PHYSICS FACILITY

SUMMARY

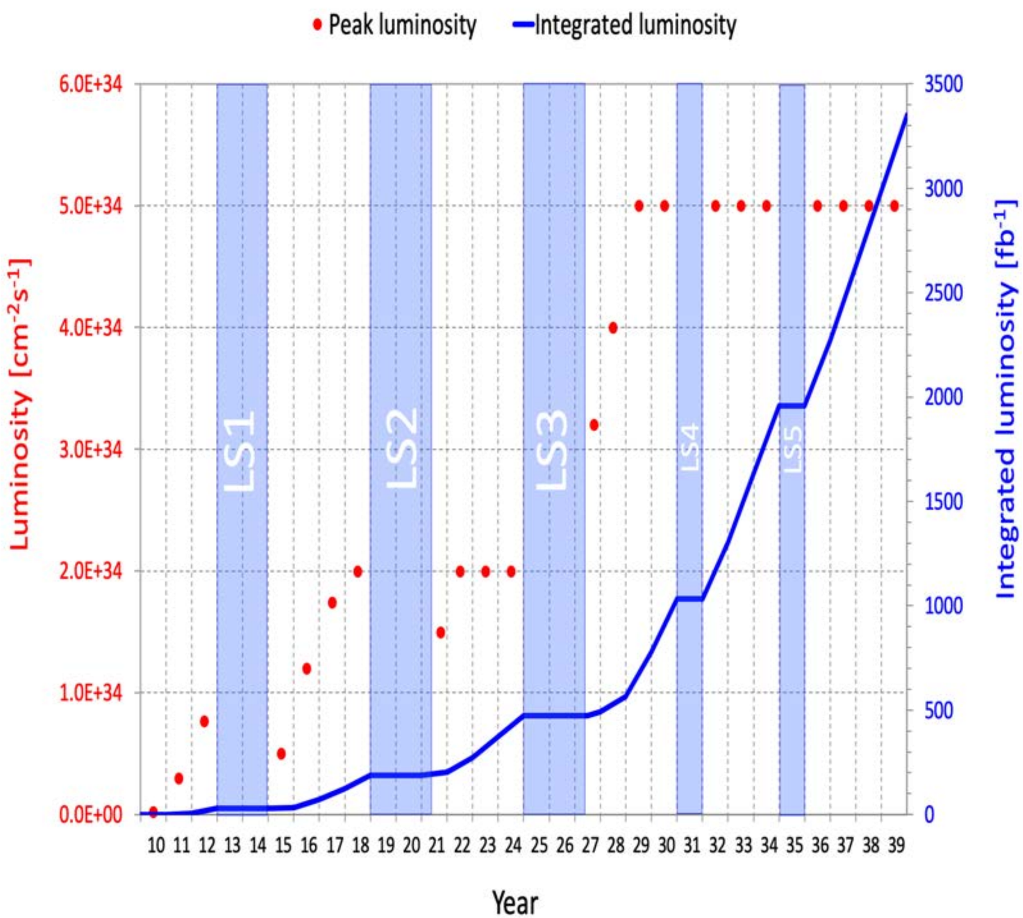
MOTIVATIONS

LHC: CURRENT STATUS

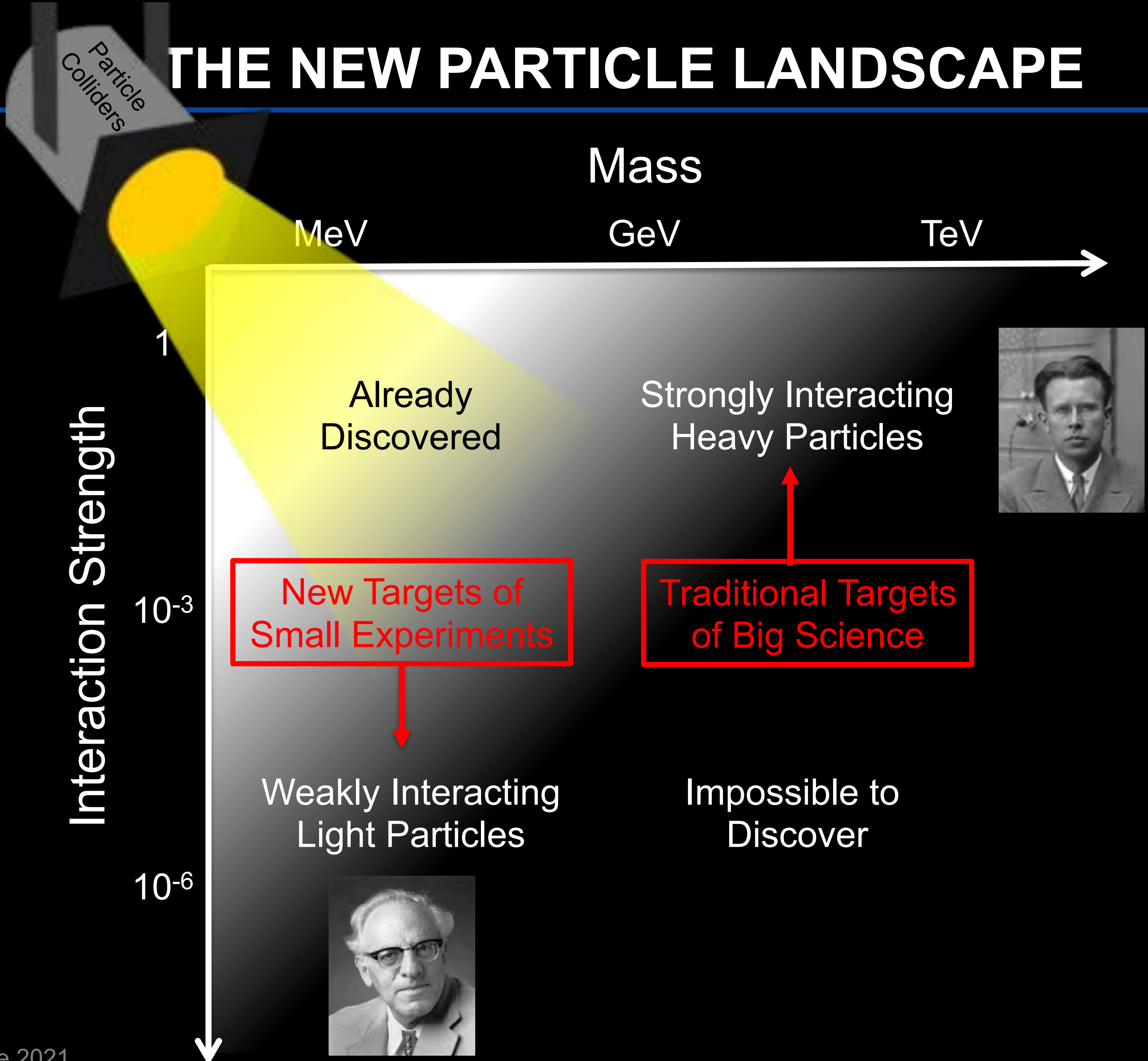
- This is a critical time in particle physics: the Higgs boson was discovered in 2012, but so far there has been no other direct evidence for new particles from the LHC.

- The LHC is currently in Long Shutdown 2, but will start up again in 2022 and run until ~2037. Will we find new particles?

- More importantly, what other approaches can enhance the prospects for discovering new physics?



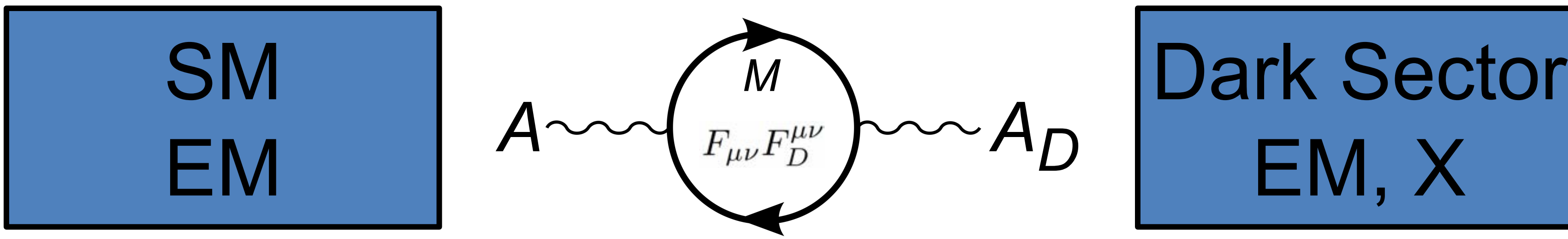
THE NEW PARTICLE LANDSCAPE



AN EXAMPLE: DARK PHOTONS

- Suppose there is a dark sector that contains dark matter X and also a dark force: dark electromagnetism.

- Generically, the force carriers of the SM and dark EM will mix



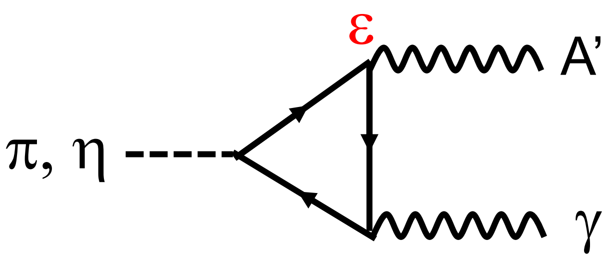
- The resulting theory contains a new particle, the dark photon A'. It's like a normal photon, except that it can have a small mass, $m_{A'}$, and its couplings to charged particles are suppressed by a small parameter ε: it is a weakly-interacting, light particle. [Note: non-decoupling!]

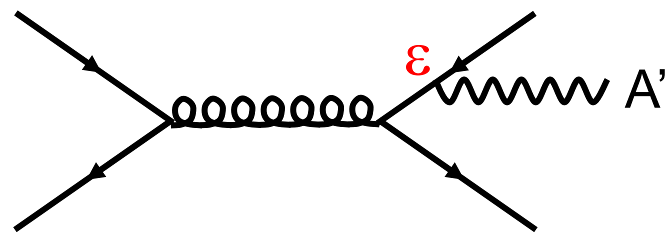
Holdom (1986)

- Finding a dark photon would imply the discovery of a new fundamental force and also our first "portal" through which to view the dark sector.

DARK PHOTON PROPERTIES

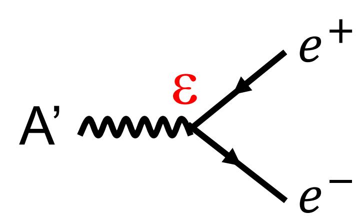
- Consider mass $m_{A'}$ ~ 1-100 MeV and coupling $\varepsilon \sim 10^{-6} - 10^{-3}$.
- Production: through meson decay, dark bremsstrahlung, ….





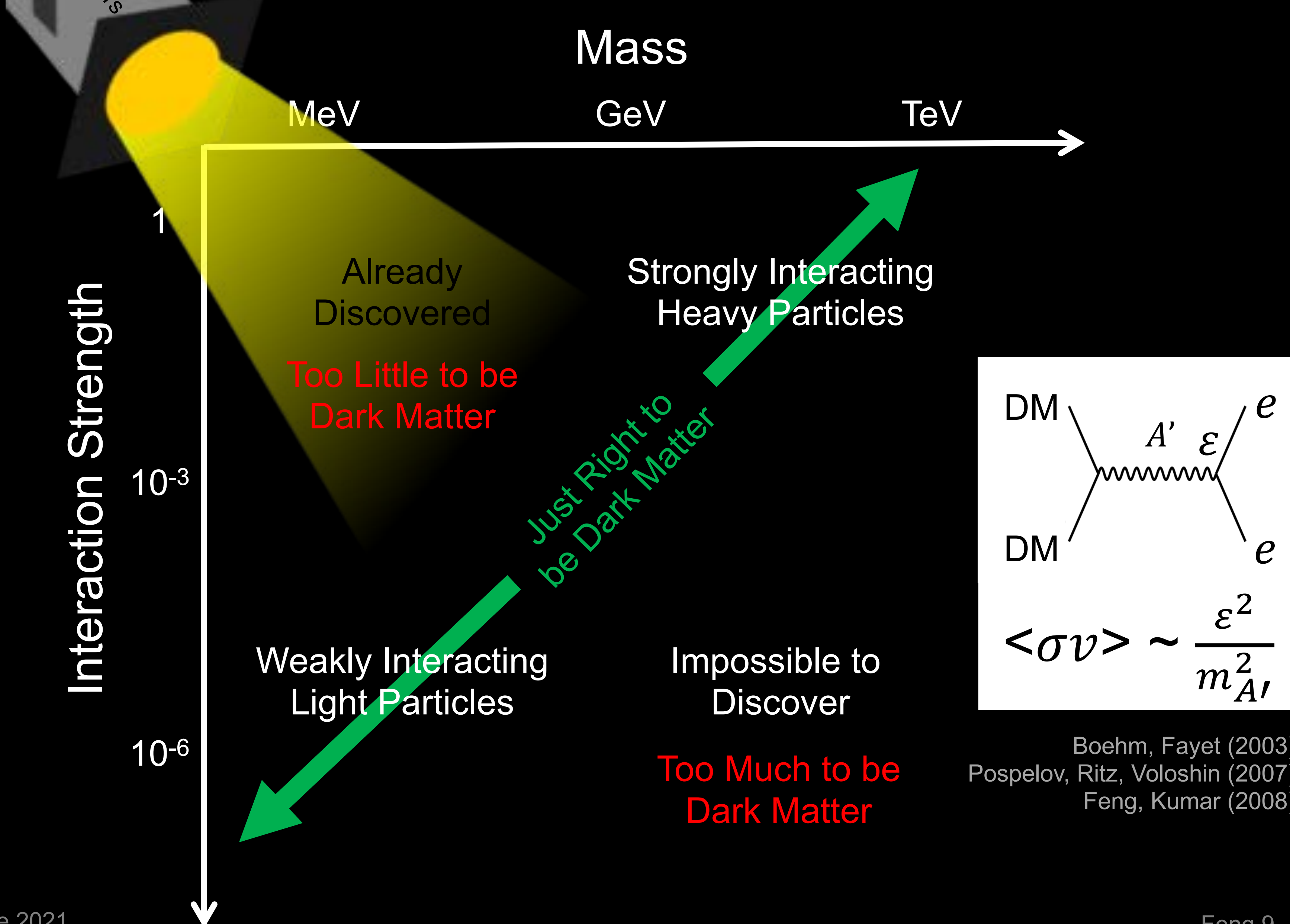
- Propagation: they pass through matter without interacting, and they go straight, unaffected by E and B fields.
- Decay: they may decay to visible particles, but only after a long time:

$$L = v\tau\gamma \sim (100\ \mathrm{m}) \left[\frac{10^{-5}}{\epsilon}\right]^2 \left[\frac{100\ \mathrm{MeV}}{m}\right]^2 \left[\frac{E}{\mathrm{TeV}}\right]$$



They are generically long-lived particles (LLPs) !

THE THERMAL RELIC LANDSCAPE



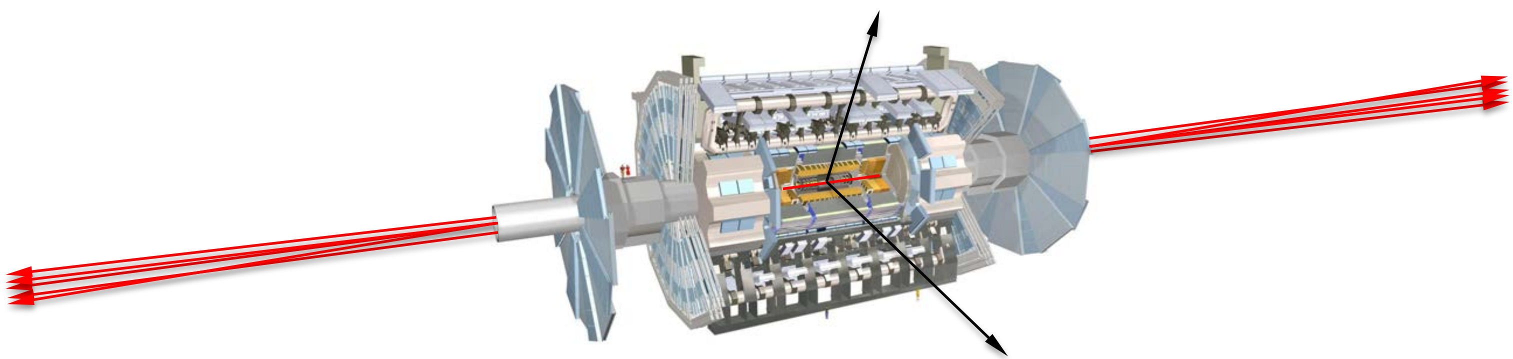
Boehm, Fayet (2003)
Pospelov, Ritz, Voloshin (2007)
Feng, Kumar (2008)

FORWARD PHYSICS

SEARCHES FOR NEW LIGHT PARTICLES

- If new particles are light and weakly interacting, existing LHC detectors are perfectly designed NOT to see them.

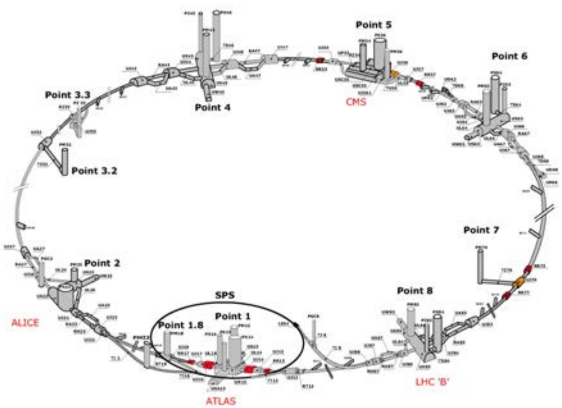
- Existing detectors are designed to find new heavy particles. These particles are produced almost at rest and decay isotropically.



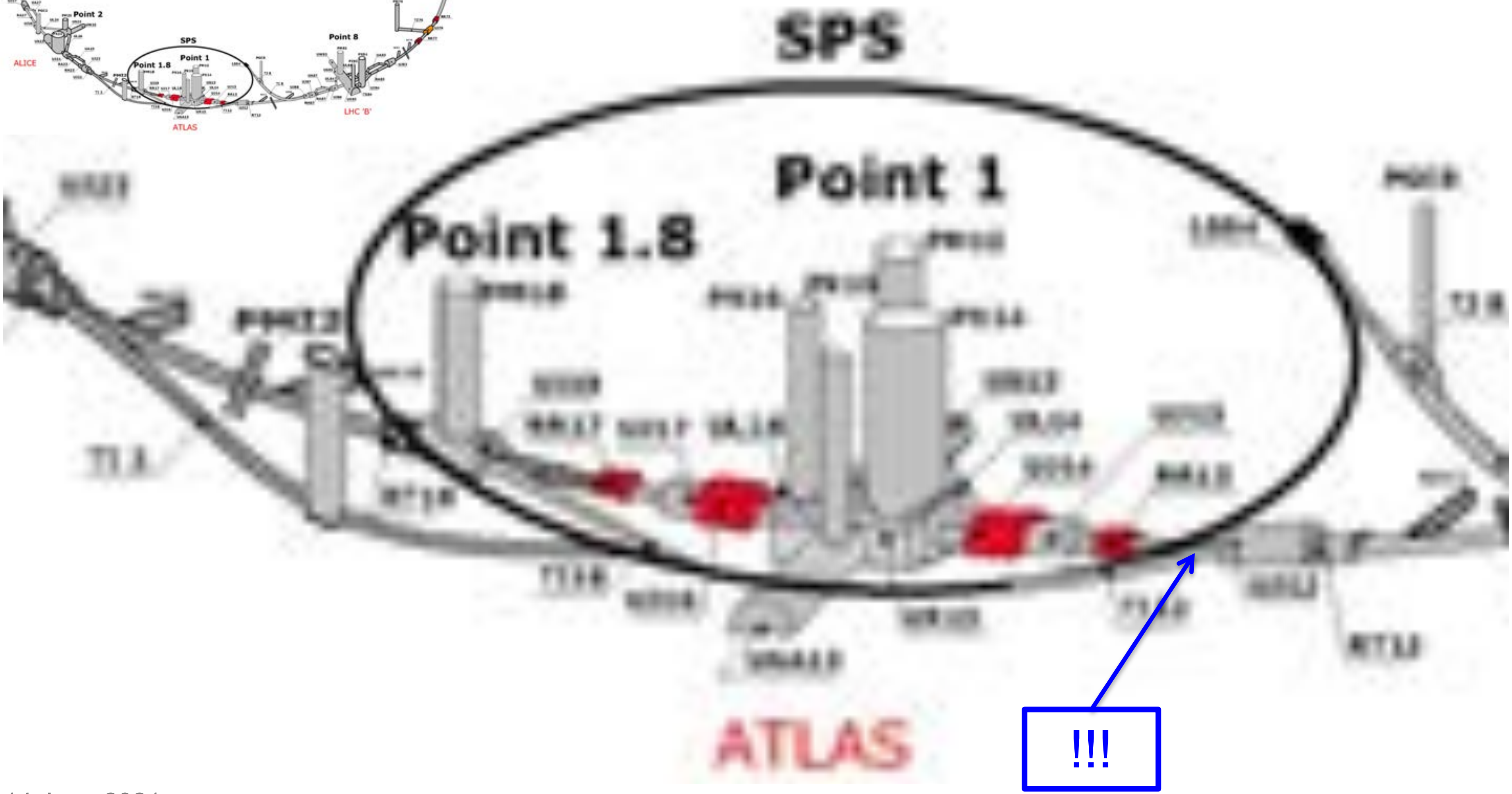
- But new light particles are mainly produced in the decays of light particles: π, η, K, D and B mesons. These are mainly produced along the beamline, and so the new particles disappear through the holes that let the beams in.

- Clearly we need a detector to exploit the "wasted" $\sigma_{inel} \sim 100$ mb and cover these "blind spots" in the forward region. If we go far enough away, the proton beams are bent by magnets (it's a circular collider!), whereas the new light particles will go straight.

MAP OF LHC

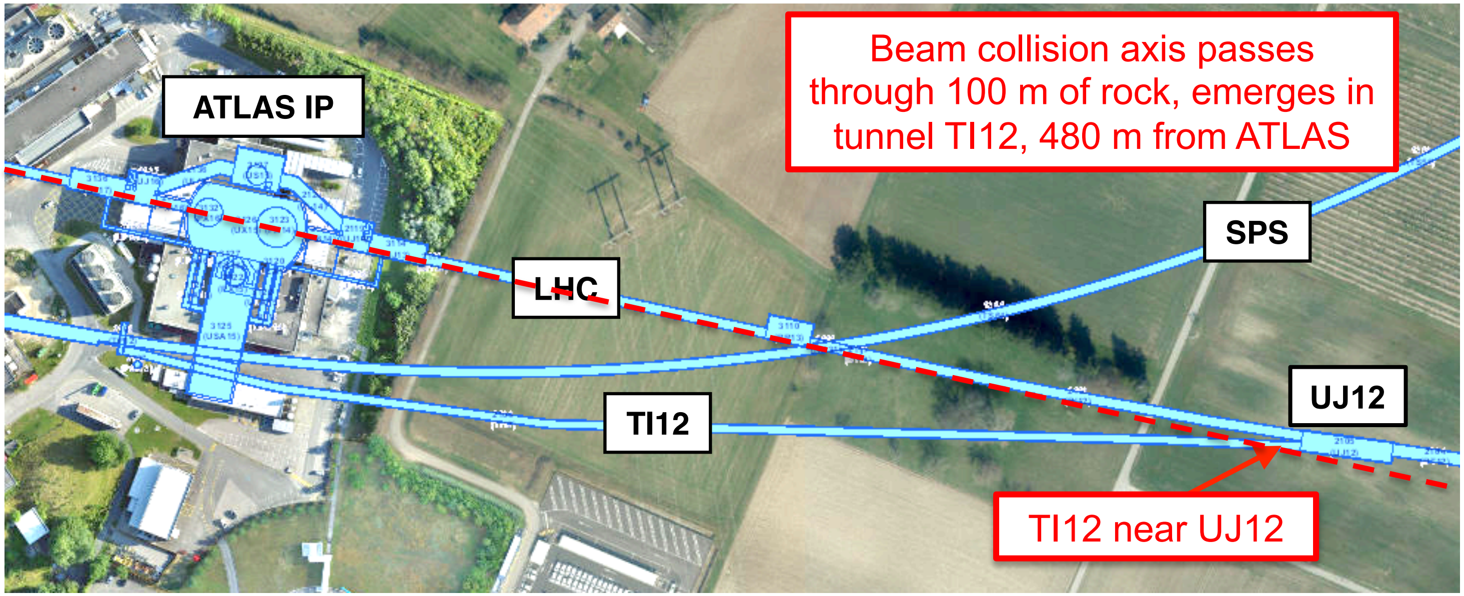


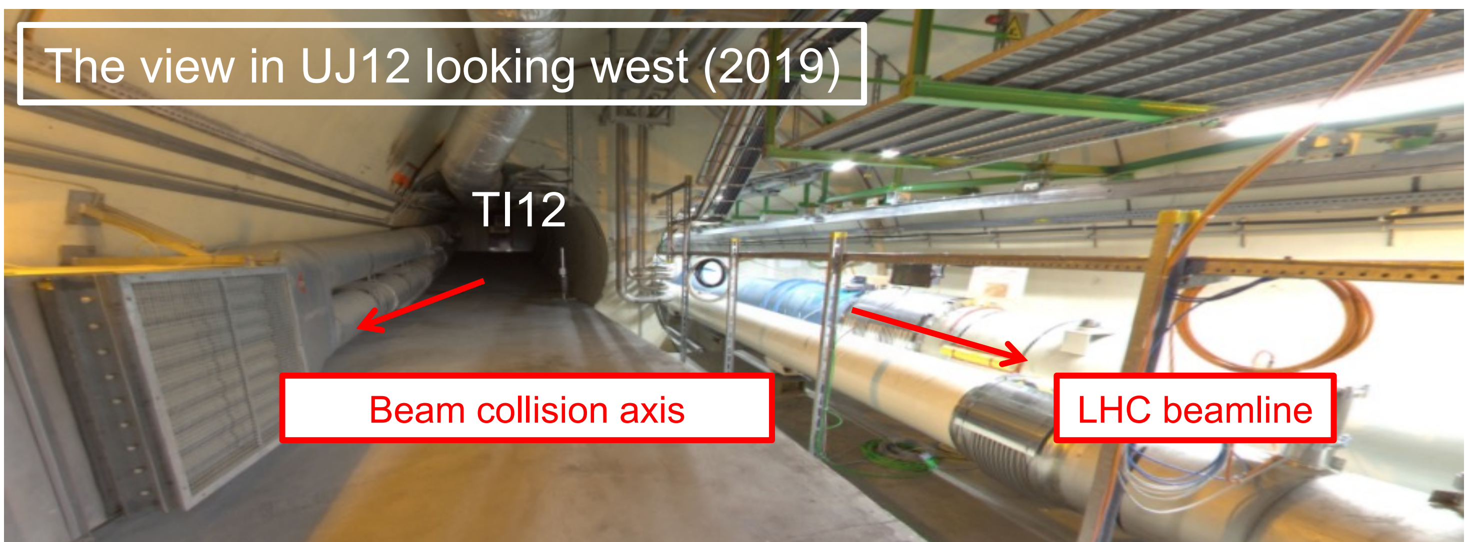
Point 5
Point 6
Point 3.3
Point 4
CMS
Point 3.2
Point 7
Point 2
Point 8
SPS
Point 1
ALICE
Point 1.8
LHC 'B'
ATLAS



SPS
Point 1
Point 1.8
ATLAS
!!!

THE FAR-FORWARD REGION

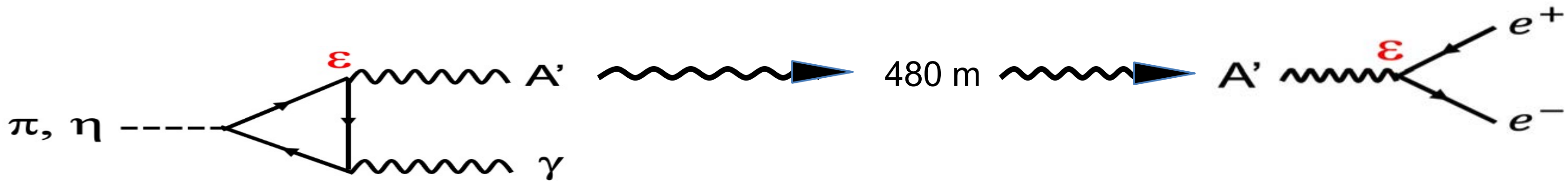




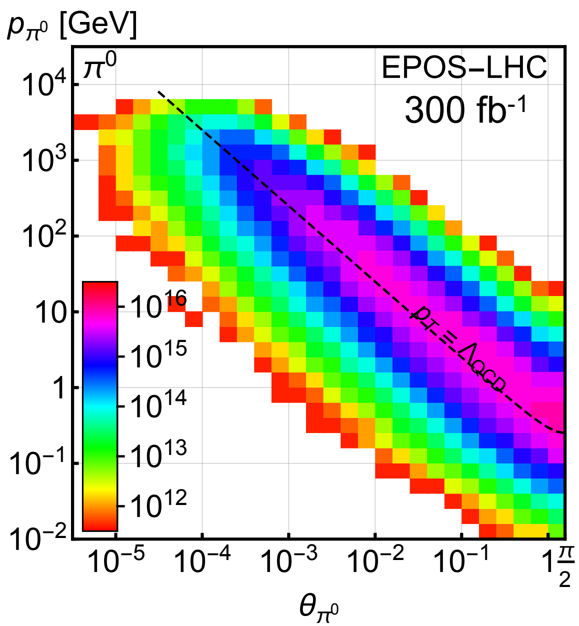
PARTICLE PATH FROM ATLAS TO TI12

Dougherty, CERN Integration (2019)

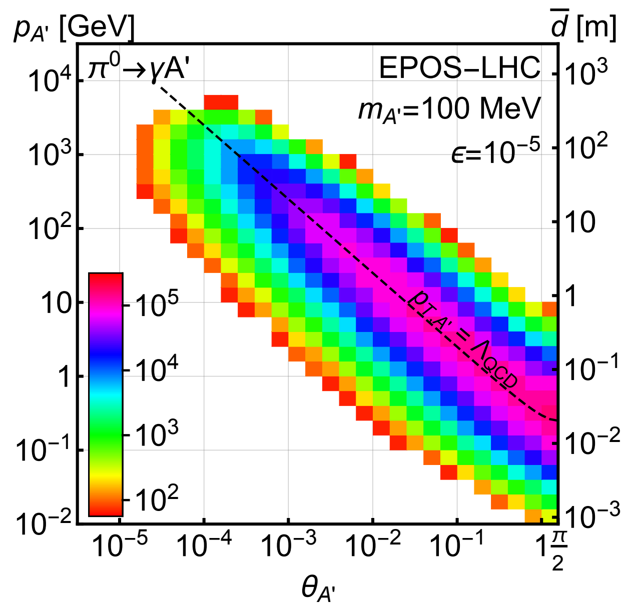
SIGNAL RATE



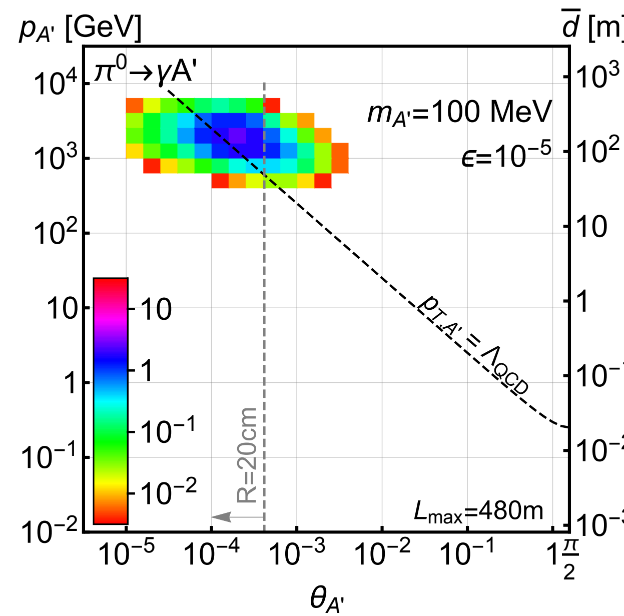
Produced Pions



Produced A's



A's decay in [480m, 483m]



- Enormous event rates: $N_\pi \sim 10^{15}$ per bin
- Huge range of p, but p_T is peaked at ~250 MeV

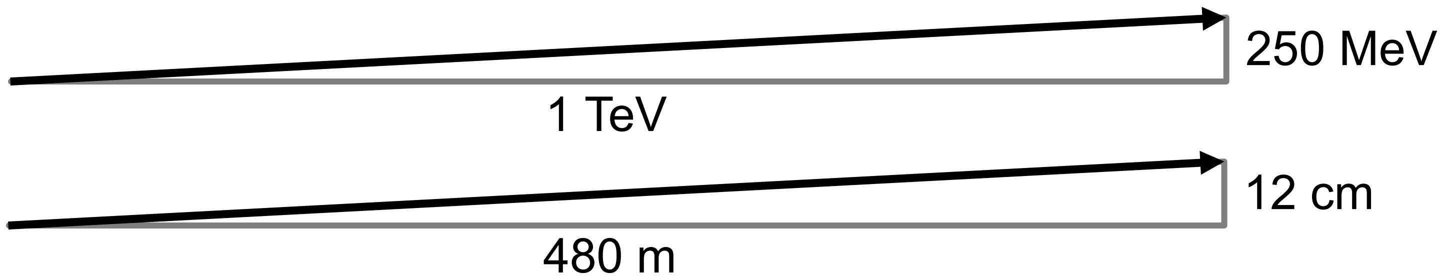
- Decays to A' are rare: $N_{A'} \sim \varepsilon^2 N_\pi$
- But still $N_{A'} \sim 10^5$ per bin

- Only highly boosted, ~TeV A's decay in the tunnel
- But these are very highly collimated along the beam collision axis

Feng, Galon, Kling, Trojanowski (2017)

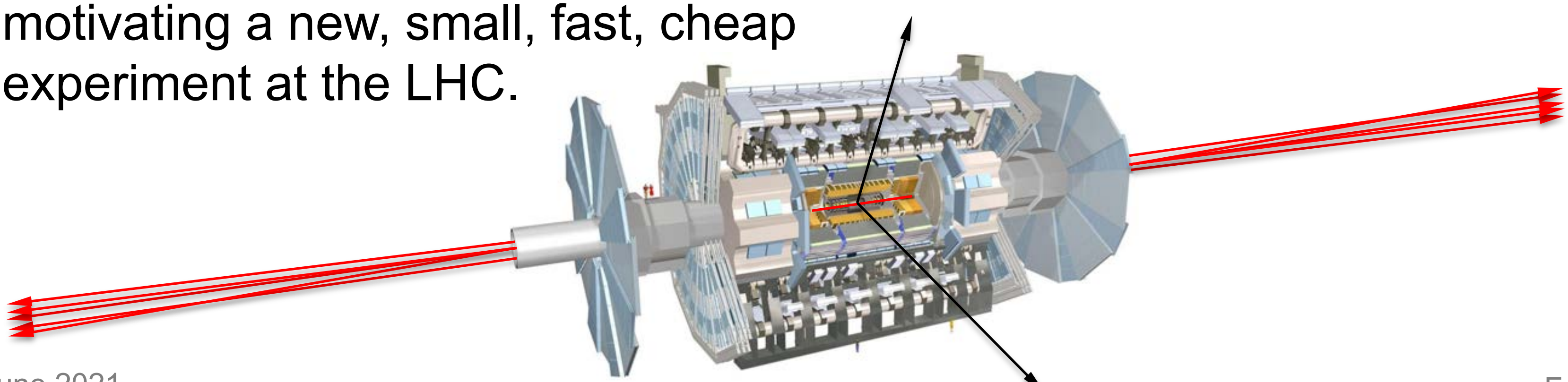
HOW BIG DOES THE DETECTOR HAVE TO BE?

- Momentum:
- Space:



- The opening angle is 0.2 mrad (η ~ 9); cf. the moon (7 mrad). Most of the signal passes through 1 sheet of paper at 480 m.

- TeV dark photons (or any other new particles produced in π, η, K, D, B decay) are far more collimated than shown below, motivating a new, small, fast, cheap experiment at the LHC.



FASER

FASER TIMELINE

- September 2017: Proposed by Feng, Galon, Kling, Trojanowski.
- July 2018: Submitted LOI to CERN LHCC
- October 2018: Approval from ATLAS SCT and LHCb Collaborations for use of spare detector modules
- November 2018: Submitted Technical Proposal to LHCC
- November 2018 – January 2019: Experiment funded by the Heising-Simons and Simons Foundations
- March 2019: FASER approved by CERN along with host lab costs
- December 2019: FASERν approved by CERN along with host lab costs
- March 2021: FASER fully installed, commissioning of the detector begins
- April 2021: FASERν announces first candidate collider neutrinos
- Early 2022: FASER and FASERν begin collecting data in Run 3

FIRST FASER COLLABORATION MEETING

THE FASER COLLABORATION TODAY

72 collaborators, 20 institutions, 8 countries

Henso Abreu (Technion), Yoav Afik (Technion), Claire Antel (Geneva), Akitaka Ariga (Chiba/Bern), Tomoko Ariga (Kyushu/Bern), Florian Bernlochner (Bonn), Tobias Boeckh (Bonn), Jamie Boyd (CERN), Lydia Brenner (CERN), Franck Cadoux (Geneva), Dave Casper (UC Irvine), Charlotte Cavanagh (Liverpool), Xin Chen (Tsinghua), Elisa Ruiz Cholis (Mainz), Andrea Coccaro (INFN), Monica D'Onofrio (Liverpool), Candan Dozen (Tsinghua), Yannick Favre (Geneva), Deion Fellers (Oregon), Jonathan Feng (UC Irvine), Didier Ferrere (Geneva), Stephen Gibson (Royal Holloway), Sergio Gonzalez-Sevilla (Geneva), Carl Gwilliam (Liverpool), Shih-Chieh Hsu (Washington), Zhen Hu (Tsinghua), Peppe Iacobucci (Geneva), Tomohiro Inada (Tsinghua), Sune Jakobsen (CERN), Enrique Kajomovitz (Technion), Felix Kling (SLAC), Umut Kose (CERN), Susanne Kuehn (CERN), Helena Lefebvre (Royal Holloway), Lorne Levinson (Weizmann), Ke Li (Washington), Jinfeng Liu (Tsinghua), Chiara Magliocca (Geneva), Josh McFayden (CERN), Dimitar Mladenov (CERN), Mitsuhiro Nakamura (Nagoya), Toshiyuki Nakano (Nagoya), Marzio Nessi (CERN), Friedemann Neuhaus (Mainz), Laurie Nevay (Royal Holloway), Hidetoshi Otono (Kyushu), Lorenzo Paolozzi (Geneva), Carlo Pandini (Geneva), Hao Pang (Tsinghua), Brian Petersen (CERN), Francesco Pietropaolo (CERN), Johanna Paine (UC Irvine), Markus Prim (Bonn), Michaela Queitsch-Maitland (CERN), Filippo Resnati (CERN), Chiara Rizzi (Geneva), Hiroki Rokujo (Nagoya), Jakob Salfeld-Nebgen (CERN), Osamu Sato (Nagoya), Paola Scampoli (Bern), Kristof Schmieden (Mainz), Matthias Schott (Mainz), Anna Sfyrla (Geneva), Savannah Shively (UC Irvine), John Spencer (Washington), Yosuke Takubo (KEK), Ondrej Theiner (Geneva), Eric Torrence (Oregon), Serhan Tufanli (CERN), Benedikt Vormvald (CERN), Di Wang (Tsinghua), Gang Zhang (Tsinghua)

HELP FROM MANY OTHERS

The FASER Collaboration has received essential support from the Heising-Simons and Simons Foundations, CERN, the ATLAS SCT and LHCb Collaborations, and also many others at CERN and elsewhere

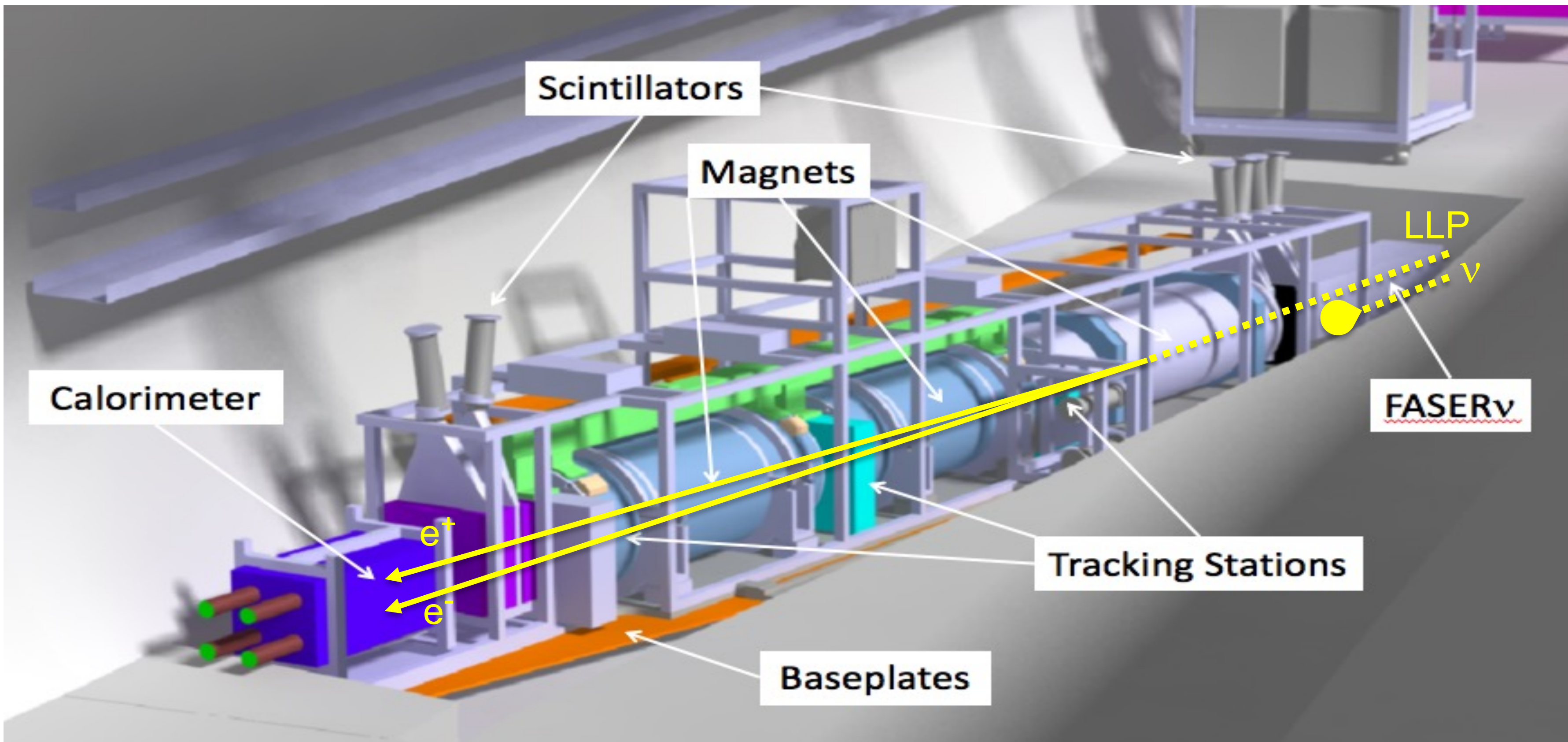
We are grateful to the ATLAS SCT project and the LHCb Calorimeter project for letting us use spare modules as part of the FASER experiment. In addition, FASER acknowledges the invaluable assistance from the CERN Physics Beyond Colliders study group; the LHC Tunnel Region Experiment (TREX) working group; the LHC Machine Committee; the LS2 Committee and the LHCC. FASER gratefully acknowledges the contributions from:

- Jonathan Gall, John Osborne (civil engineering);
- Liam Dougherty, Francisco Galan (integration);
- Pierre Thonet (magnets);
- Francesco Cerutti, Marta Sabate Gilarte (FLUKA simulation and background characterization);
- Salvatore Danzeca, Serge Chalaye (radiation measurements);
- James Storey, Swann Levasseur (beam instrumentation);
- Pierre Valentin, Tobias Dobers (survey);
- Caterina Bertone, Serge Pelletier, Frederic Delsaux (transport);
- Gael Girardot, Olivier Crespo-Lopez, Yann Maurer, Maria Papamichali (LS2 works);
- Marzia Bernardini, Anne-Laure Perrot, Katy Foraz, Markus Brugger (LHC access and schedule);
- Marco Andreini, Olga Beltramello, Thomas Otto (safety);
- Dave Robinson (ATLAS SCT), Yuri Guz (LHCb calorimeters);
- Stephen Wotton, Floris Keizer (SCT QA system and SCT readout);
- Burkhard Schmitt, Raphael Dumps, Sune Jacobsen, Giovanna Lehmann (CERN-DT contributions);
- Mike Lamont, Andreas Hoecker, Ludovico Pontecorvo, Christoph Rembser (useful discussions).

Thanks also to the CERN management for their support!

THE SIGNAL

- Nothing incoming and 2 ~TeV, opposite-sign charged tracks pointing back to the ATLAS IP: a “light shining through (100 m-thick) wall” experiment.
- Scintillators veto incoming charged tracks (muons), and permanent dipole magnets split the charged tracks, which are detected by 3 tracking stations and a calorimeter.

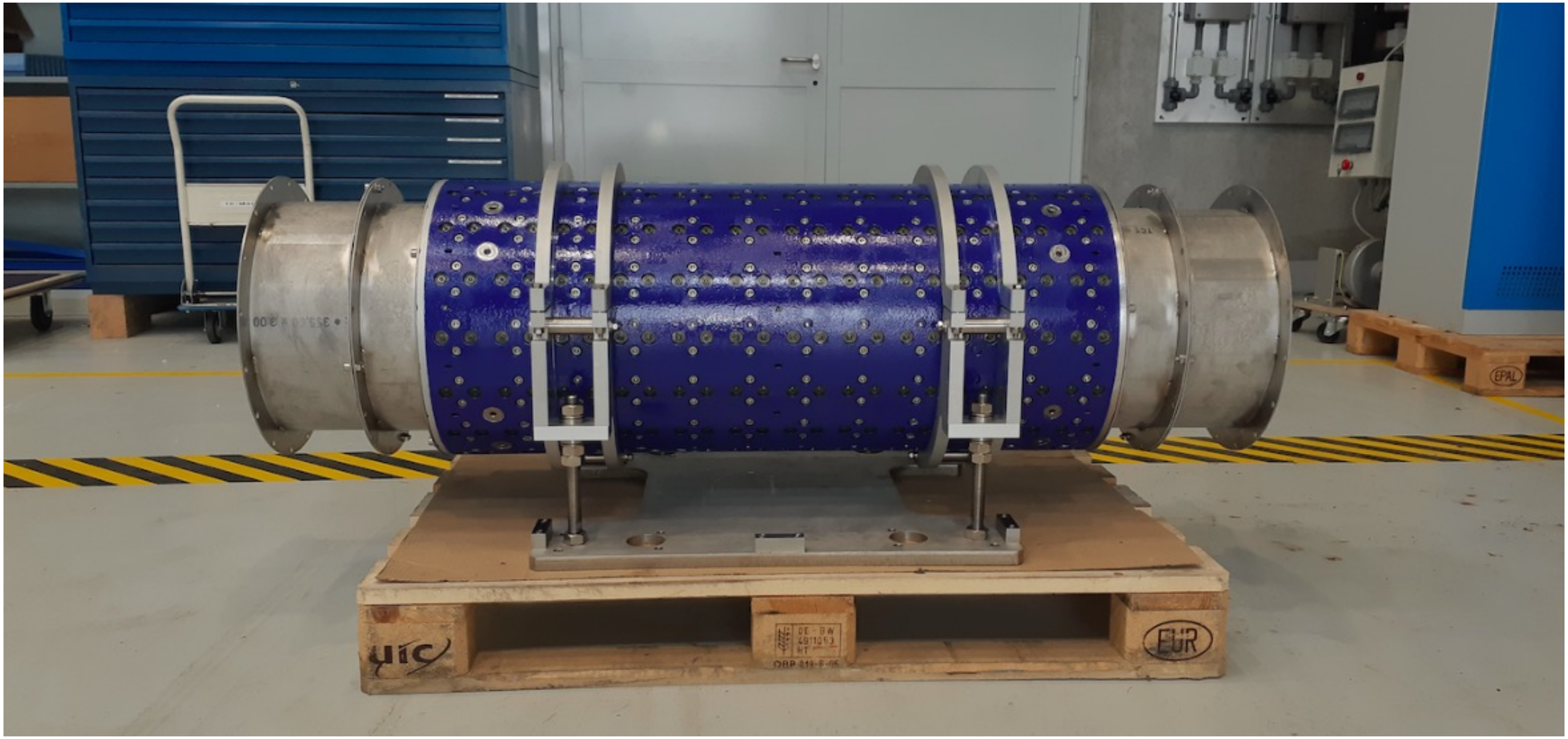


FASER IN TUNNEL TI12

- The beam collision axis has been located to mm accuracy by the CERN survey department. To place FASER on this axis, a trench was required to lower the floor by 46 cm.
- The trench was completed by an Italian firm just hours before COVID shut down CERN in Spring 2020.

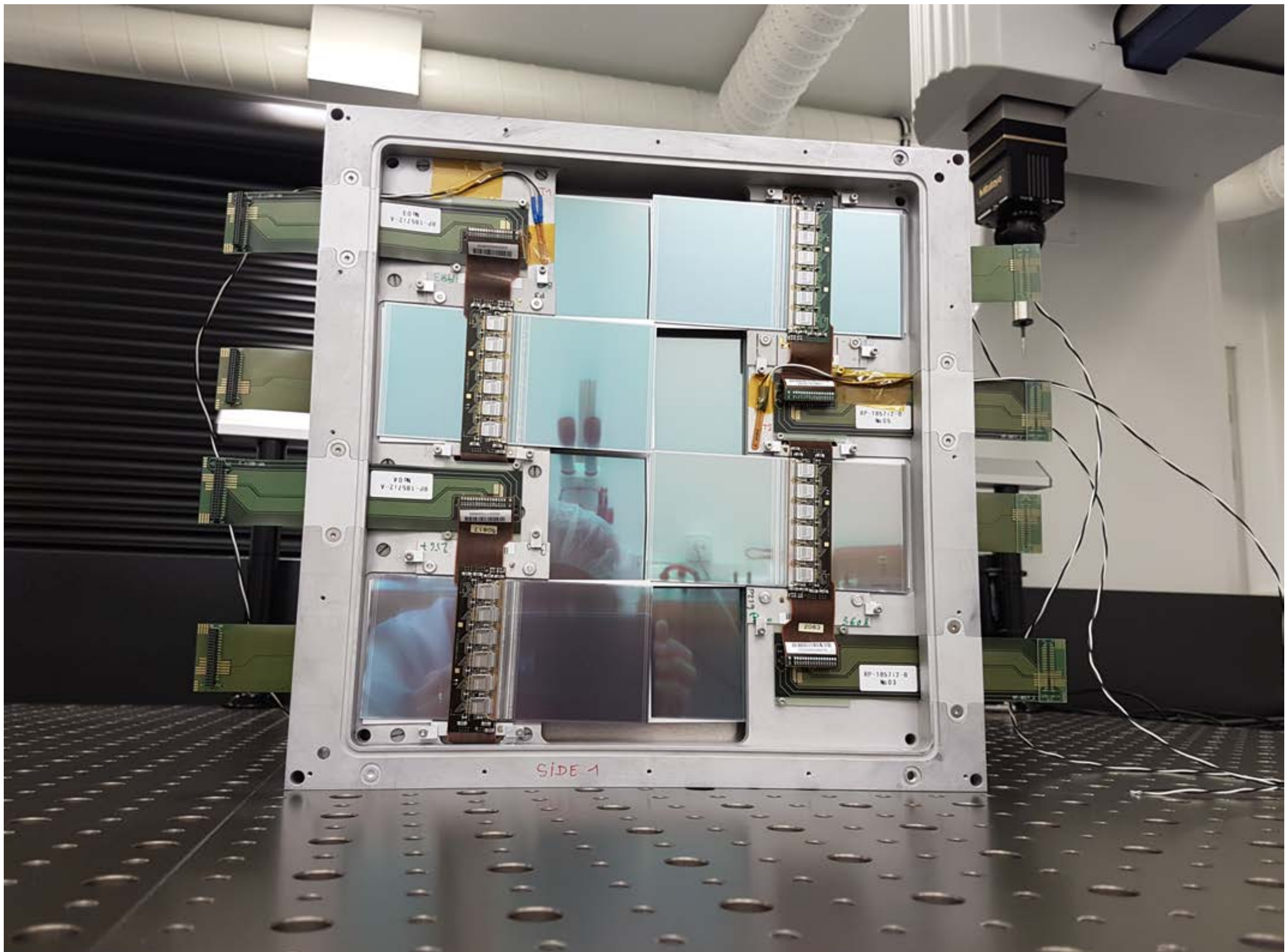
MAGNETS

- FASER includes 3 magnets: 1.5 m, 1 m, and 1m long.
- These magnets are 0.57 T permanent dipoles with an inner diameter of 20 cm, require little maintenance.
- Constructed by the CERN magnet group.



TRACKERS

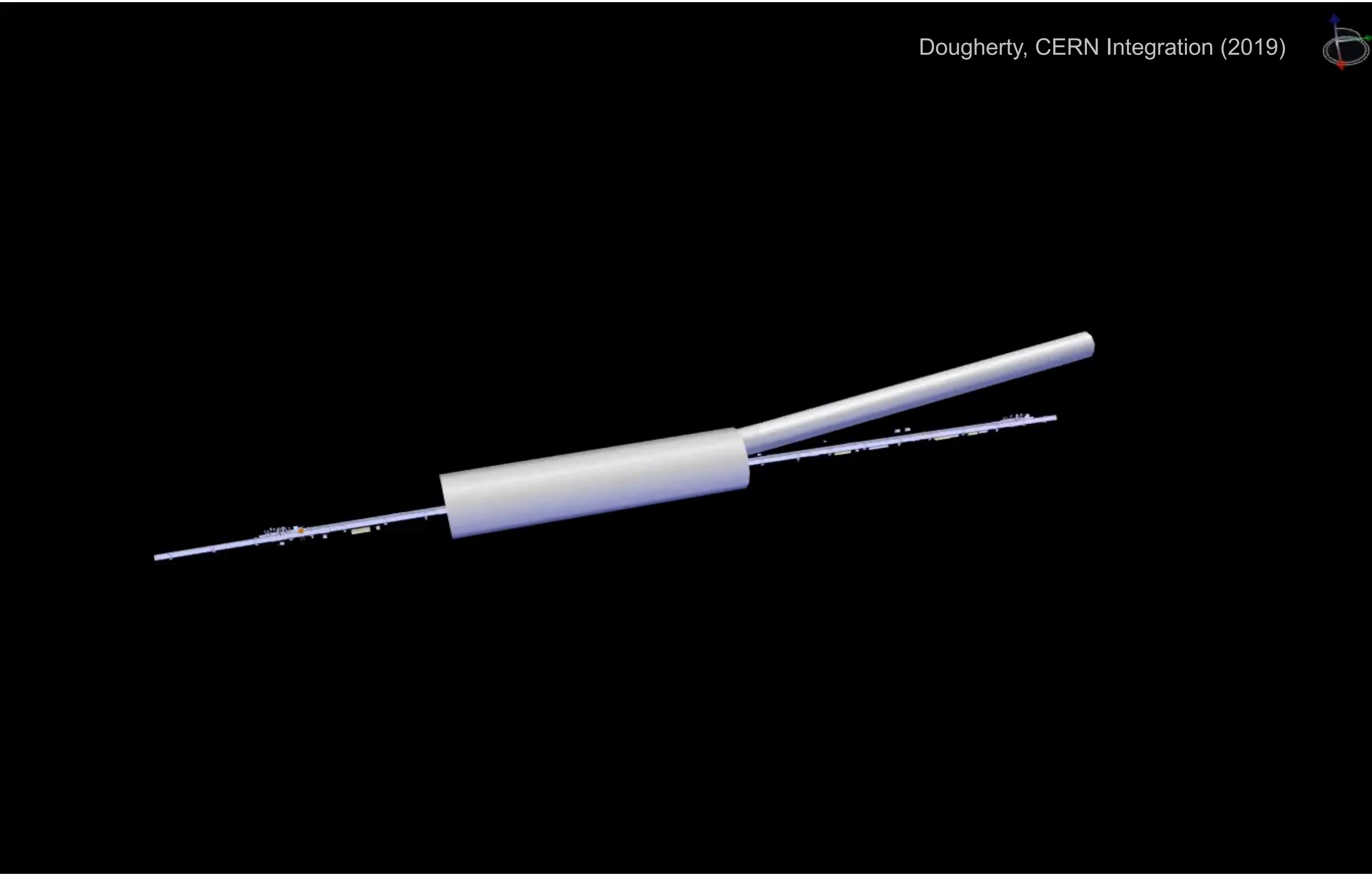
- 8 ATLAS SCT modules per tracking plane, 3 tracking planes per tracking station, 3 tracking stations at FASER.



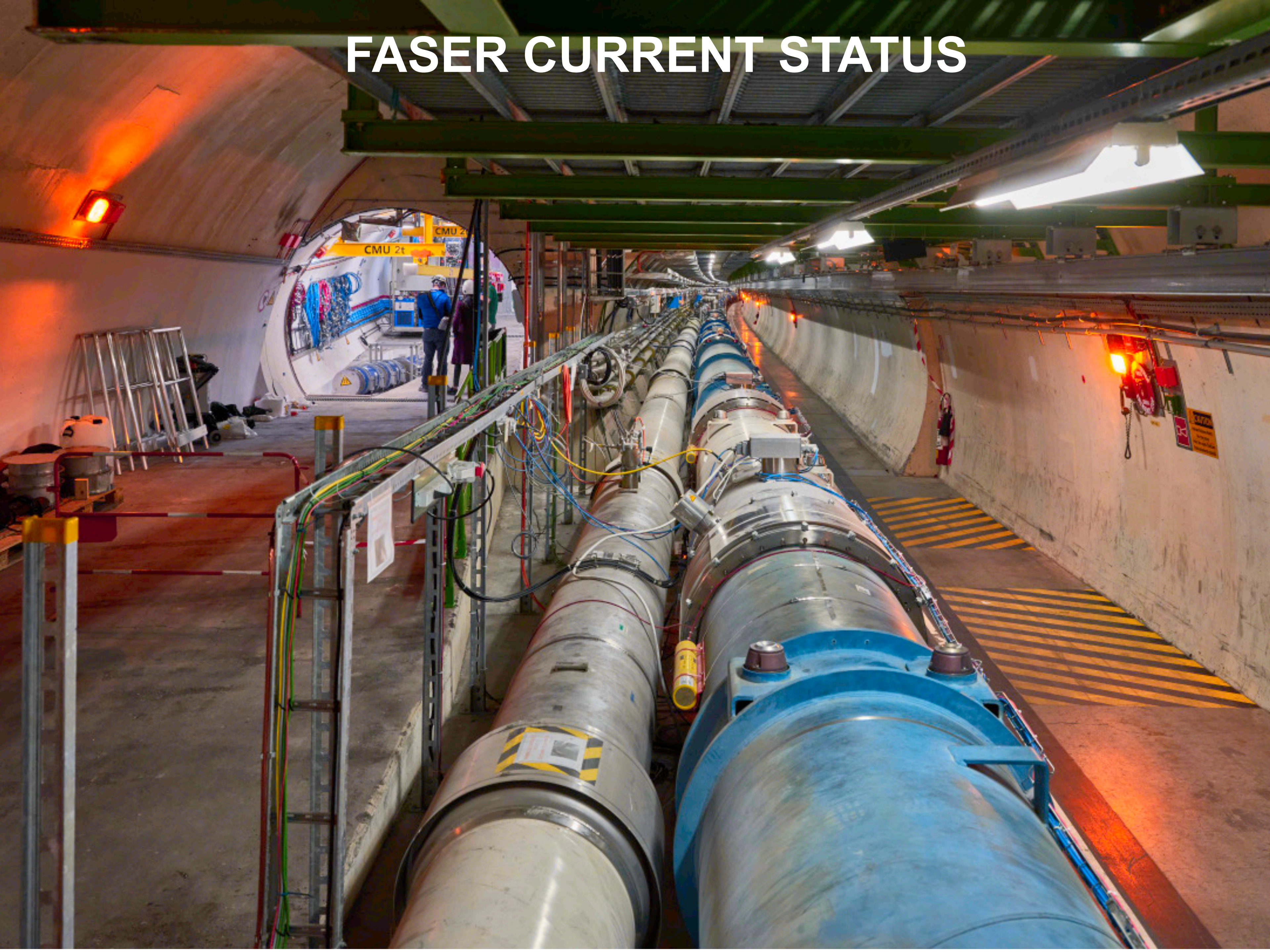
SCINTILLATORS

- 4 veto scintillators, each 2cm x 30cm x 30cm, upstream of the detector. Efficiency of each one is > 99.99%, which, barring correlations, reduces muon background to negligible levels.
- Additional beam backgrounds, simulated with FLUKA and validated with pilot detectors in 2018, are also expected to be negligible.

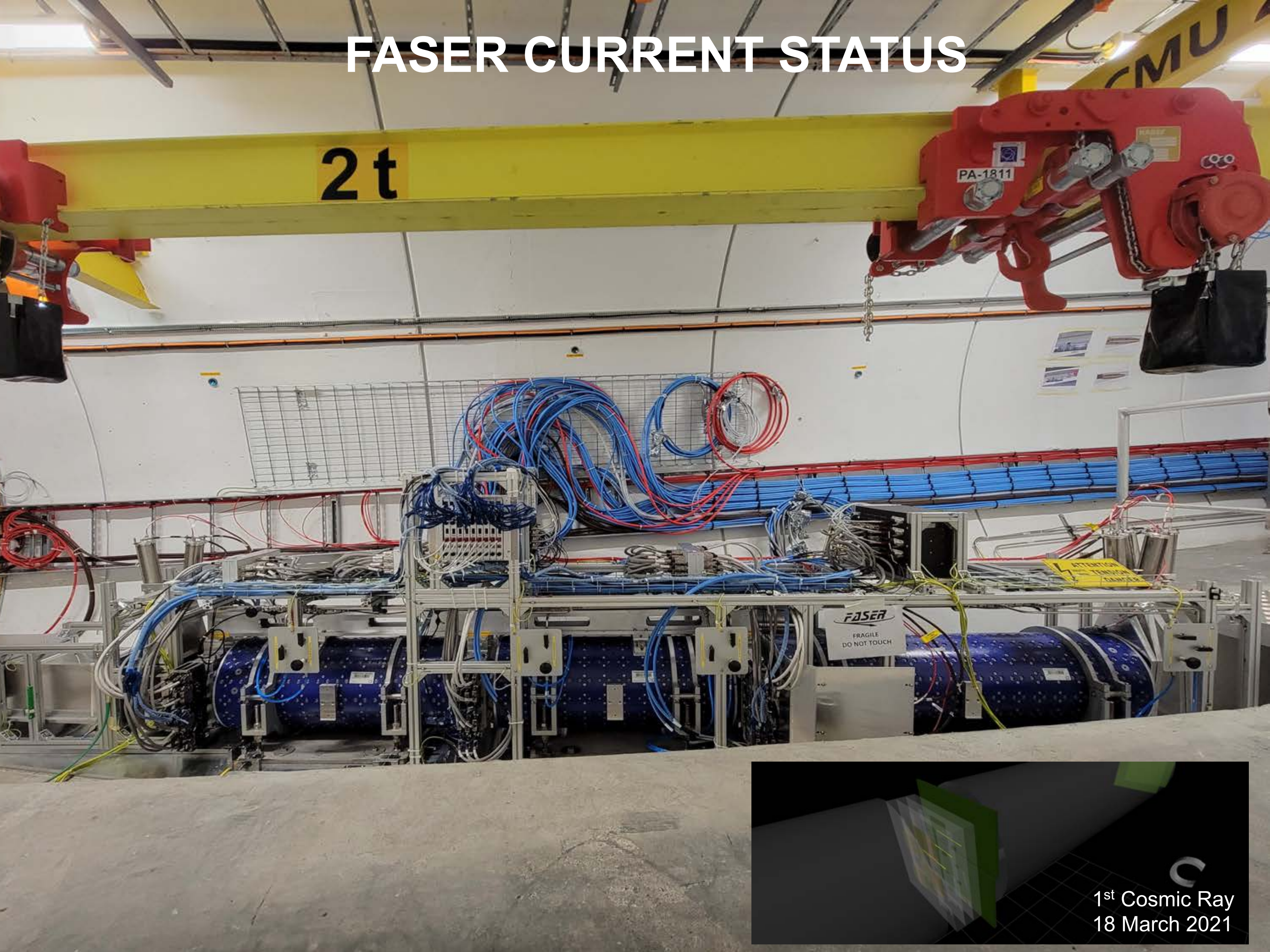
FASER INSTALLATION



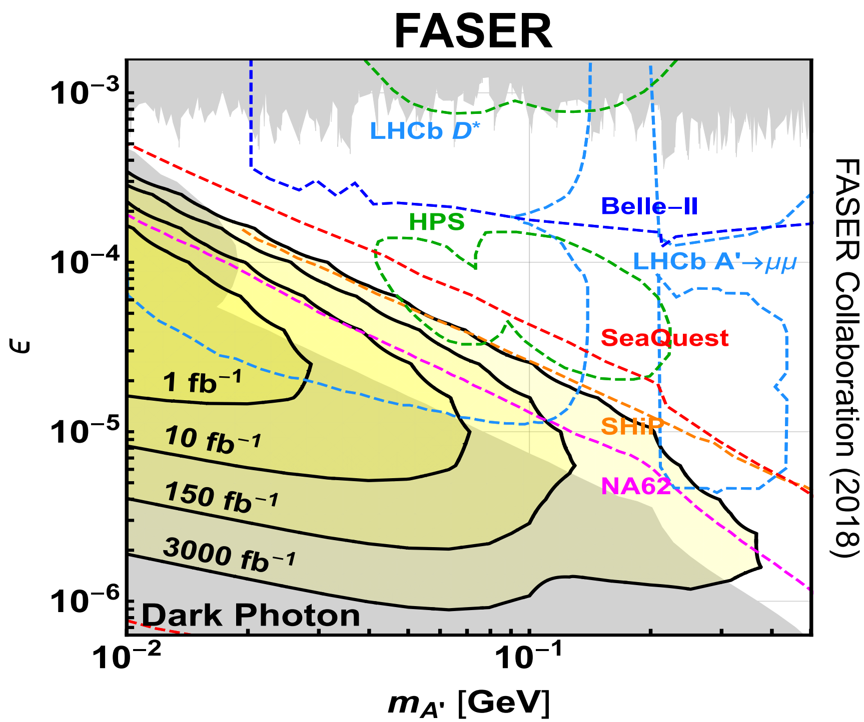
FASER CURRENT STATUS

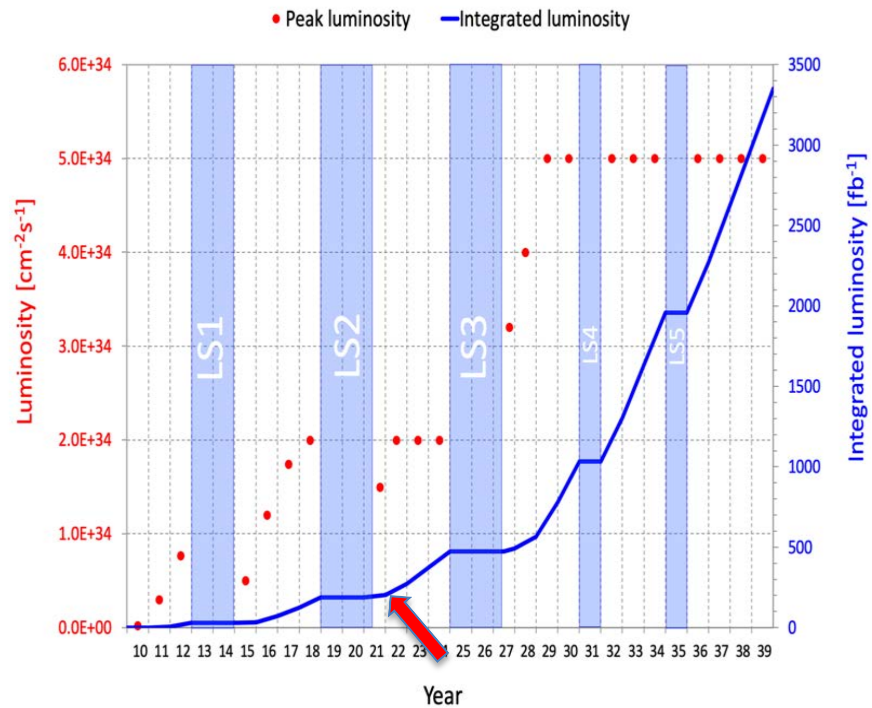


FASER CURRENT STATUS



DARK PHOTON SENSITIVITY REACH





- FASER probes new parameter space with just 1 fb^{-1} starting in 2022.
- Without upgrade, HL-LHC extends (Luminosity*Vol) by factor of 3000 – could detect as many as 10,000 dark photons.
- Possible upgrade to FASER 2 (R=1m, L=10m) extends (Luminosity*Vol) by factor of ~10^6 – could detect as many as 3 x 10^6 dark photons.

PHYSICS SUMMARY

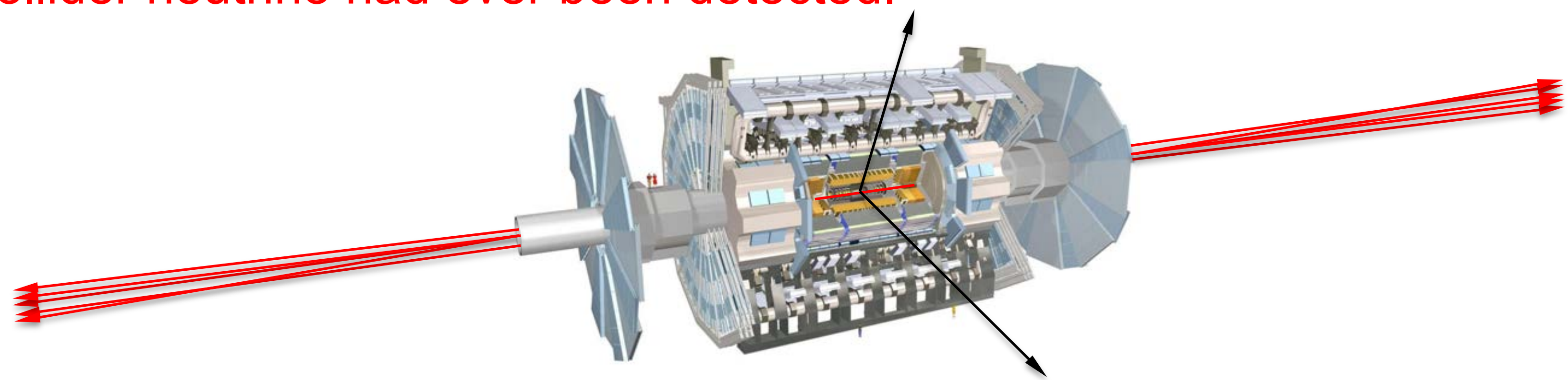
- Many other models have also be studied: FASER can discover axion-like particles, sterile neutrinos, new force particles; see 1811.12522.

Benchmark Model	FASER	FASER 2	References
V1/BC1: Dark Photon	√	√	Feng, Galon, Kling, Trojanowski, 1708.09389
V2/BC1’: $U(1)_{B\text{-}L}$ Gauge Boson	√	√	Bauer, Foldenauer, Jaeckel, 1803.05466 FASER Collaboration, 1811.12522
BC2: Invisible Dark Photon	–	–	–
BC3: Milli-Charged Particle	–	–	–
S1/BC4: Dark Higgs Boson	–	√	Feng, Galon, Kling, Trojanowski, 1710.09387 Batell, Freitas, Ismail, McKeen, 1712.10022
S2/BC5: Dark Higgs with hSS	–	√	Feng, Galon, Kling, Trojanowski, 1710.09387
F1/BC6: HNL with e	–	√	Kling, Trojanowski, 1801.08947 Helo, Hirsch, Wang, 1803.02212
F2/BC7: HNL with μ	–	√	Kling, Trojanowski, 1801.08947 Helo, Hirsch, Wang, 1803.02212
F3/BC8: HNL with τ	√	√	Kling, Trojanowski, 1801.08947 Helo, Hirsch, Wang, 1803.02212
A1/BC9: ALP with photon	√	√	Feng, Galon, Kling, Trojanowski, 1806.02348
A2/BC10: ALP with fermion	√	√	FASER Collaboration, 1811.12522
A3/BC11: ALP with gluon	√	√	FASER Collaboration, 1811.12522

FASERν

COLLIDER NEUTRINOS

- In addition to the possibility of hypothetical new light, weakly-interacting particles, there are also known light, weakly-interacting particles: neutrinos.
- But the high-energy ones, which interact most strongly, are overwhelmingly produced in the far forward direction. Before May 2021, no candidate collider neutrino had ever been detected.



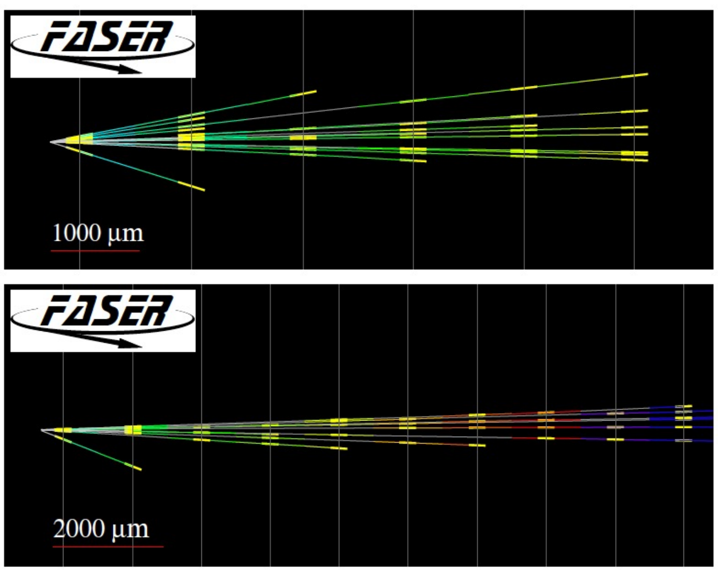
- Of course, if they can be detected, there is a fascinating new world of LHC neutrinos that can be explored.
  - The neutrino energies are ~TeV, highest human-made energies ever.
  - All flavors are produced($\pi \rightarrow \nu_\mu$, $K \rightarrow \nu_e$, $D \rightarrow \nu_\tau$) and both neutrinos and anti-neutrinos.

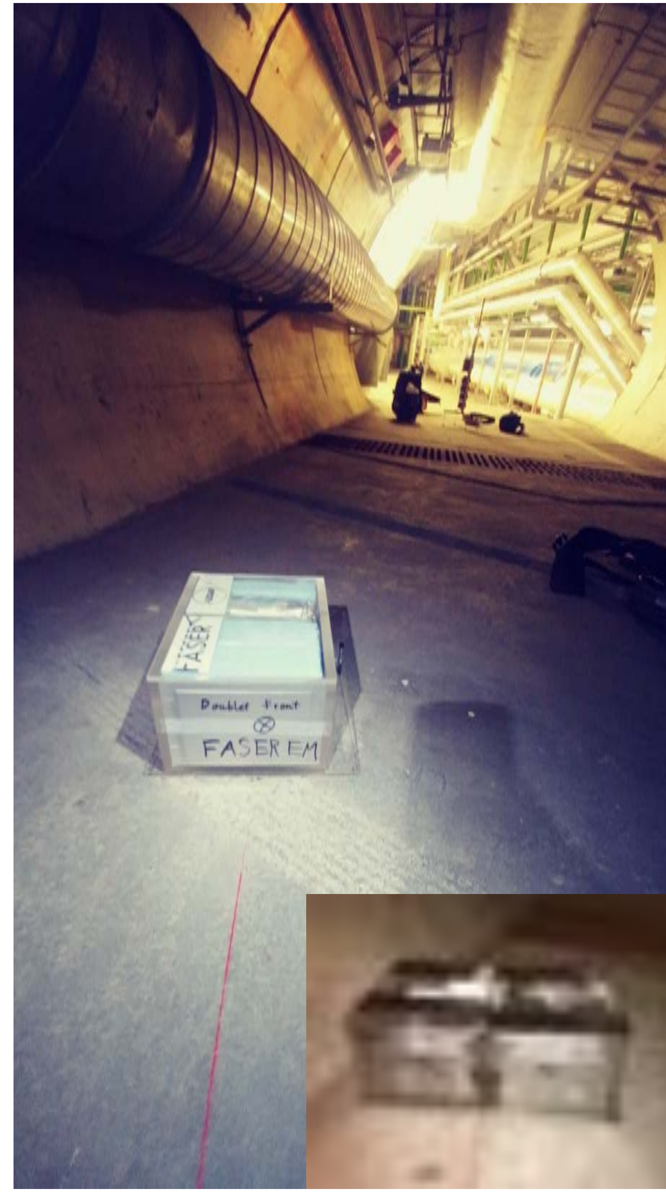
De Rujula, Ruckl (1984); Winter (1990)
FASER Collaboration (2019); Bai, Diwan, Garzelli, Jeong, Reno (2020)

FIRST COLLIDER NEUTRINOS

- In 2018 a FASER pilot emulsion detector with 11 kg fiducial mass collected 12.2 fb^{-1} on the beam collision axis (installed and removed during Technical Stops).

- On 14 May 2021, we announced the direct detection of 6 candidate collider neutrinos above 12 expected neutral hadron background events (2.7σ).



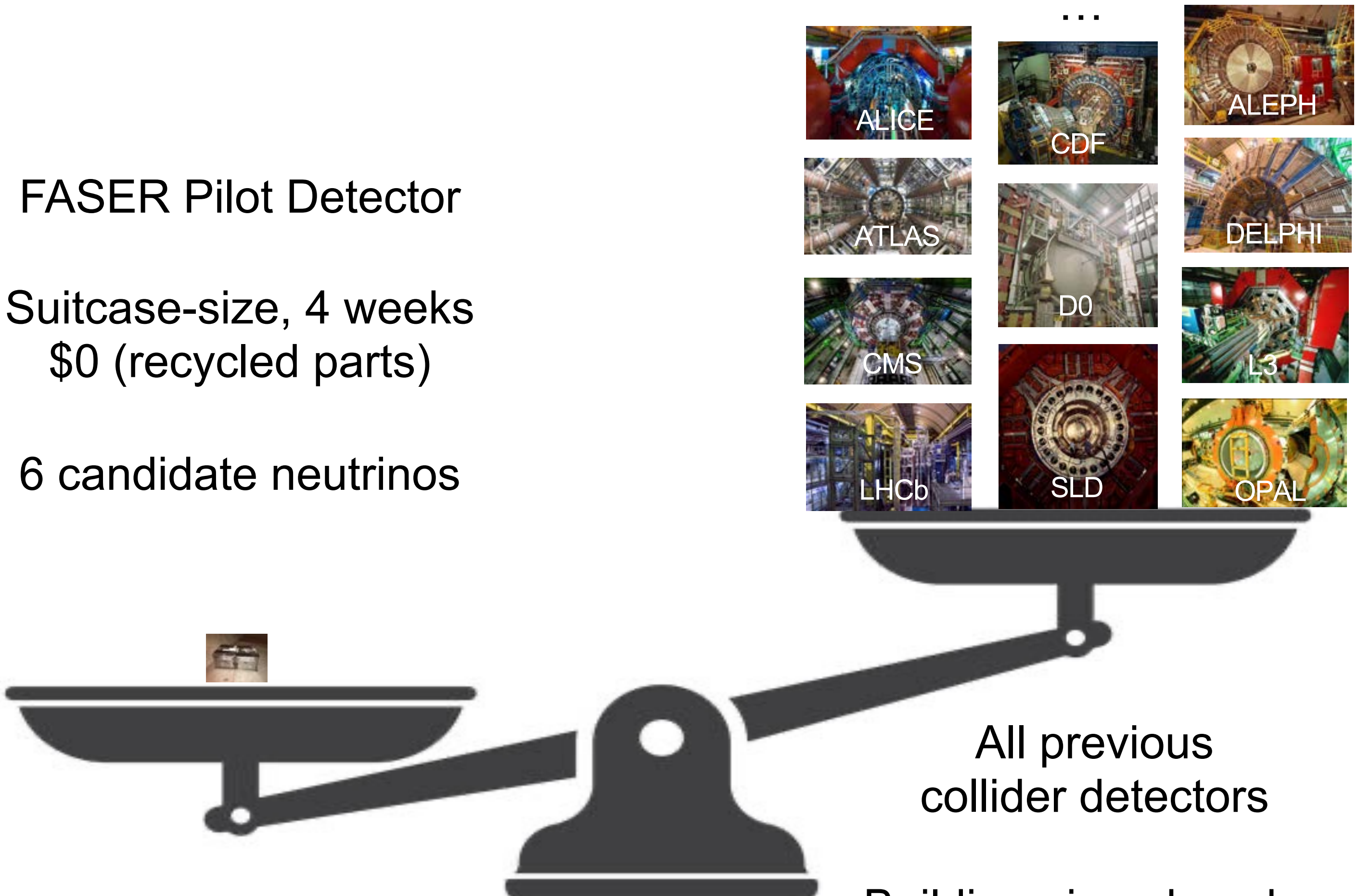


LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION !

FASER Pilot Detector

Suitcase-size, 4 weeks
$0 (recycled parts)

6 candidate neutrinos



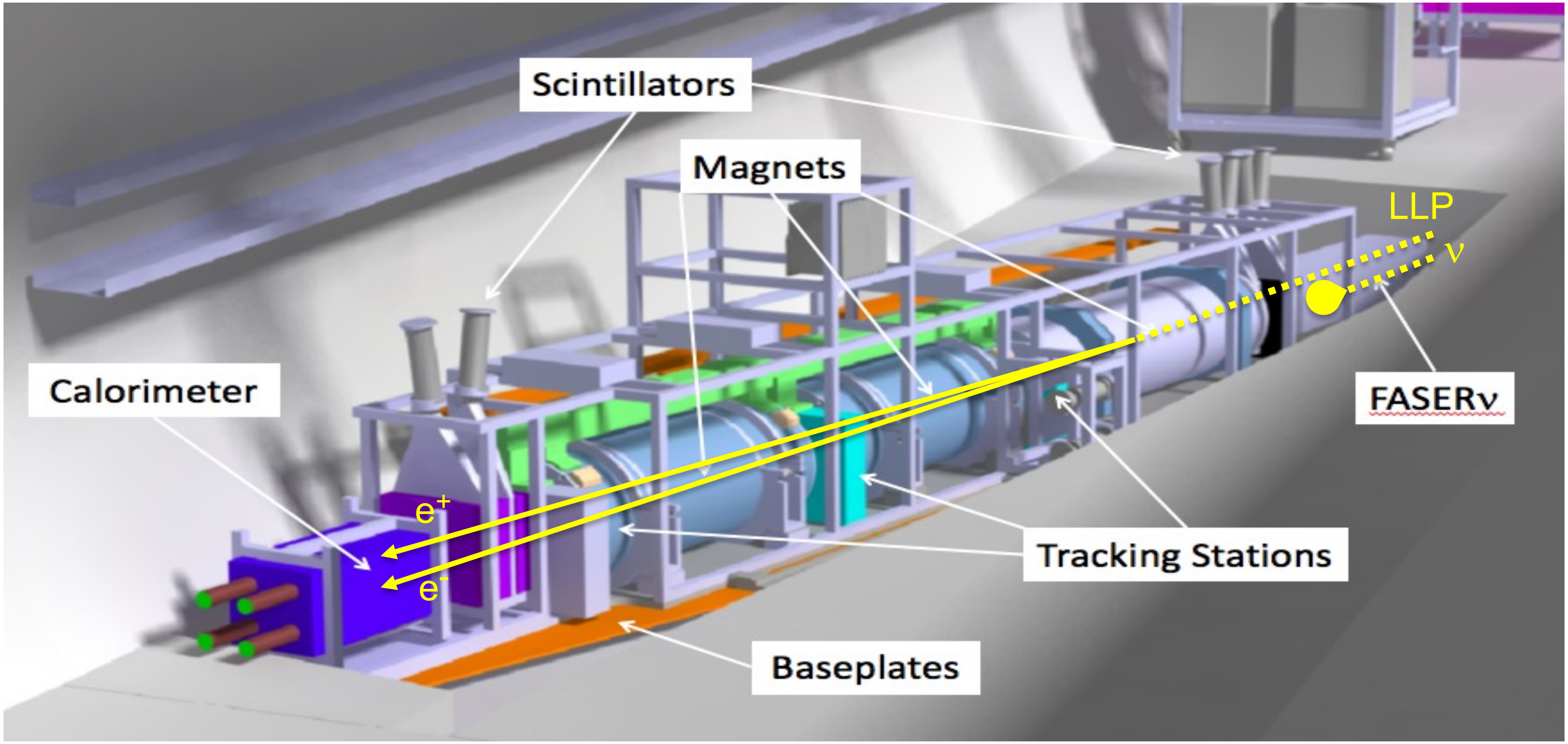
All previous
collider detectors

Building-size, decades
~$$10^9$

0 candidate neutrinos

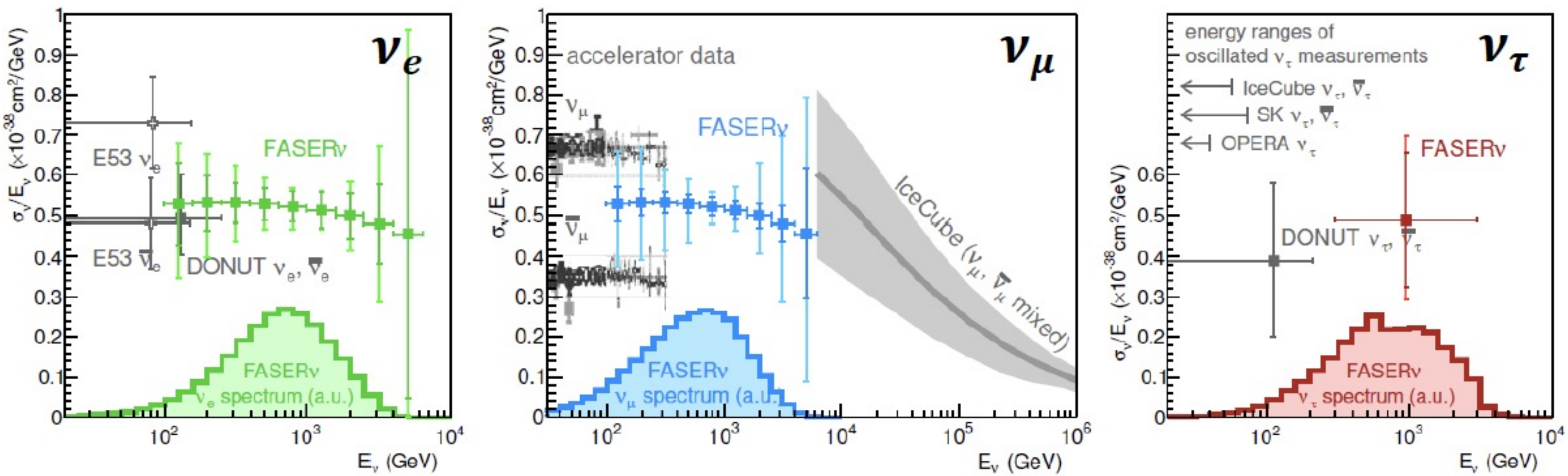
THE FASERν DETECTOR

- FASERν is designed to detect neutrinos of all flavors.
  - 25cm x 30cm x 1.1m detector consisting of 770 emulsion layers interleaved with 1mm-thick tungsten plates; target mass = 1.1 tonne.
  - Emulsion swapped out every ~10-30 fb^{-1}, total 10 sets of emulsion for Run 3.



NEUTRINO PHYSICS

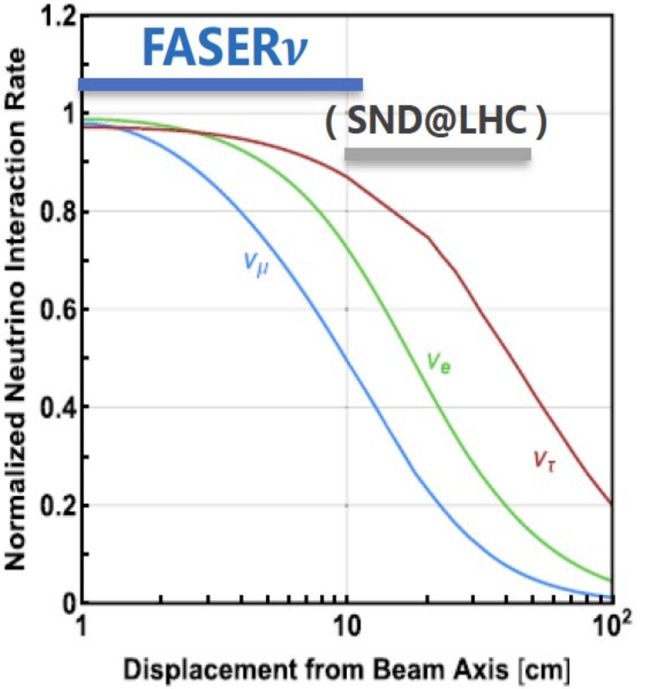
- In Run 3 (2022-24), FASERν will
  - Detect the first collider neutrino.
  - Record ~1000 ν_e, ~10,000 ν_μ, and ~10 ν_τ interactions at TeV energies, the first direct exploration of this energy range for all 3 flavors.
  - Double the world's supply of tau neutrinos.
  - Distinguish muon neutrinos from anti-neutrinos by combining FASER and FASERν data, and so measure their cross sections independently.



FASER Collaboration 1908.02310 (2019)

QCD PHYSICS

- The forward production of hadrons is currently subject to large uncertainties. Forward ν experiments will provide useful insights.
  - On- and off-axis neutrino detectors provide complementary information ($\pi \rightarrow \nu_\mu$, $K \rightarrow \nu_e$, $D \rightarrow \nu_\tau$).
  - Different target nuclei (lead, tungsten) probe different nuclear pdfs.
  - Strange quark pdf through $\nu s \rightarrow lc$.
  - Forward charm production, intrinsic charm.
  - Refine simulations that currently vary greatly (EPOS-LHC, QGSJET, DPMJET, SIBYLL, PYTHIA…).
  - Provide essential input to astroparticle experiments; e.g., distinguish galactic neutrino signal from atmospheric neutrino background at IceCube.



FORWARD PHYSICS FACILITY

FORWARD PHYSICS FACILITY

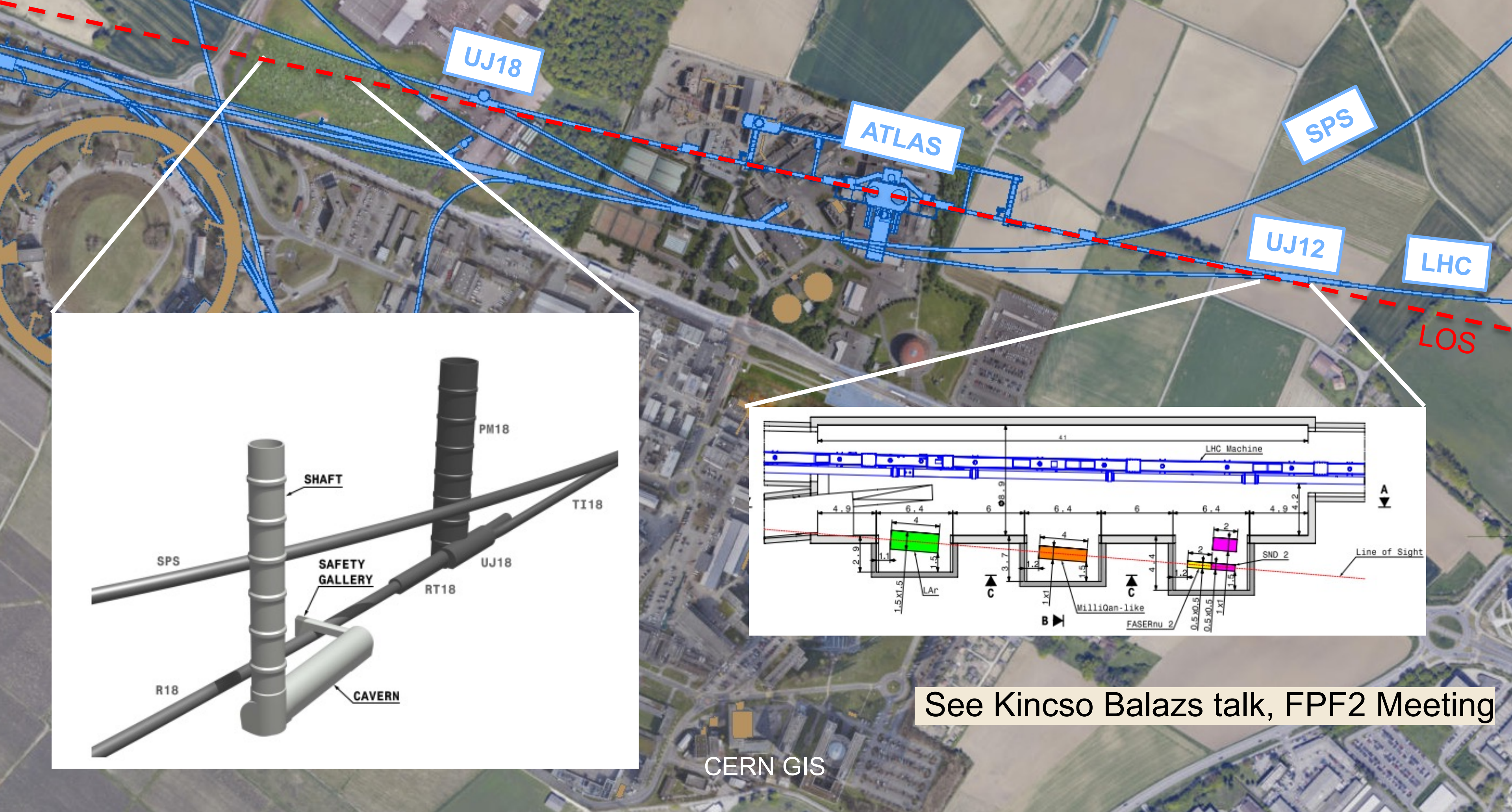
- FASER, FASERν, and other proposed far-forward detectors are currently highly constrained by 1980's infrastructure that was never intended to support experiments.

- At the same time, it is becoming clear that there is a rich physics program in the far-forward region.
  - New particle searches, neutrinos, QCD, MC event generators, milli-charged particles, dark matter, dark sector, cosmic neutrinos, …

- Strongly motivates creating a dedicated facility to house far-forward experiments for the HL-LHC era from 2027-37.
  - Snowmass LOI: 240 authors from many different communities
  - FPF Kickoff Meeting: 9-10 Nov 2020, https://indico.cern.ch/event/955956, 2nd FPF Workshop: 27-28 May 2021, https://indico.cern.ch/event/1022352.
  - 1st paper on the physics potential of the FPF will be completed July 2021, Snowmass white paper to be completed February 2022.

FPF LOCATION

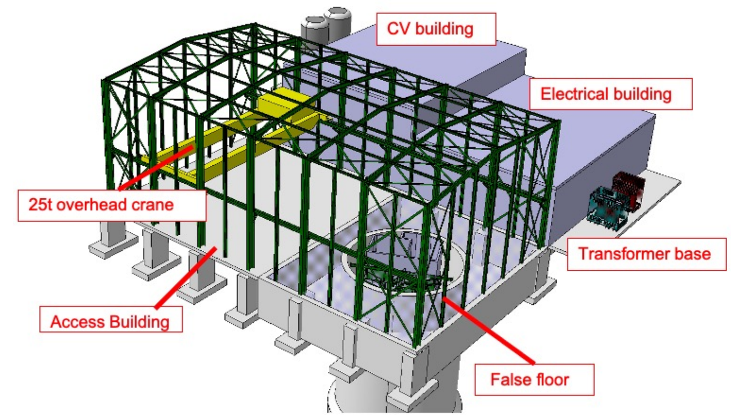
Possibilities under active investigation: enlarge existing cavern UJ12, 480 m from ATLAS and shielded from the ATLAS IP by ~100 m of rock; or create a new shaft and cavern ~612 m from ATLAS past UJ18.

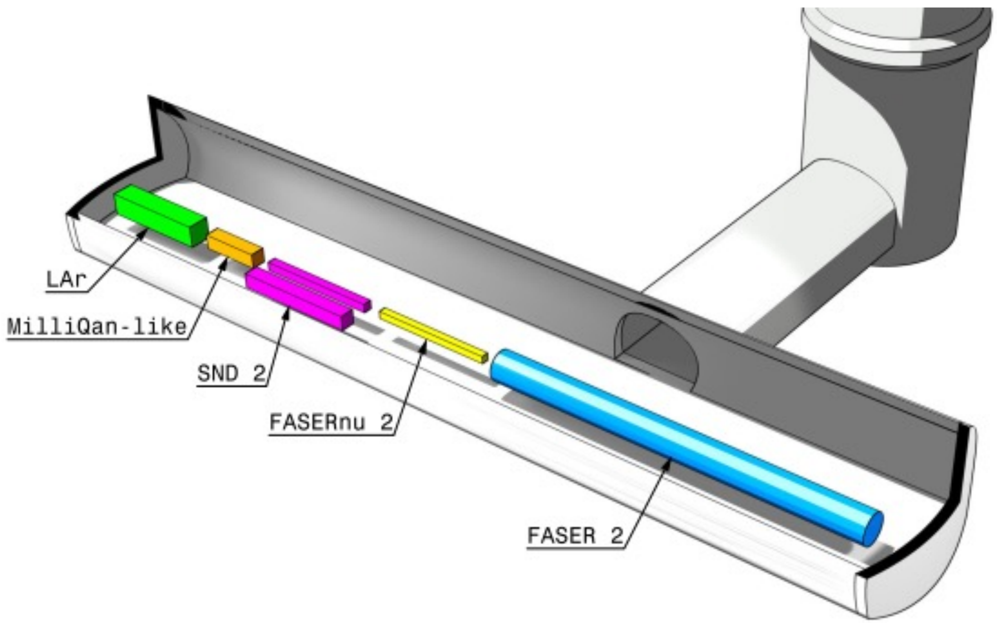


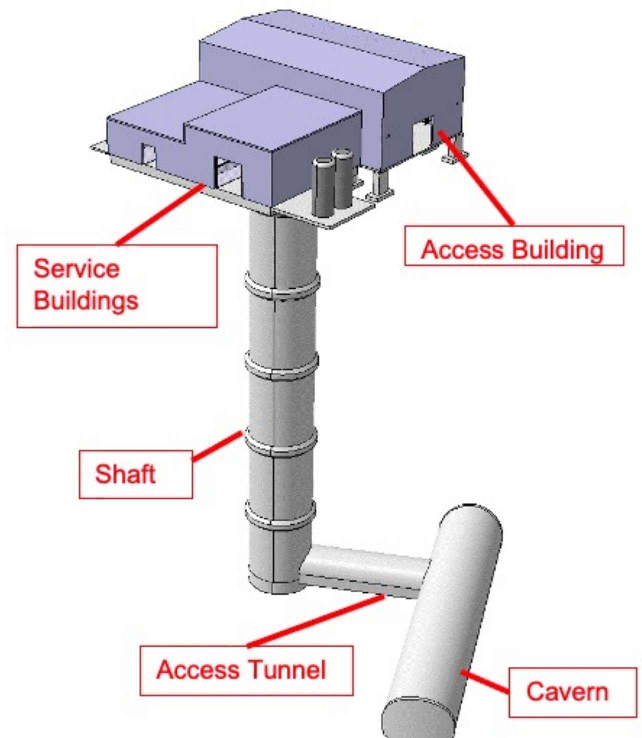
See Kincso Balazs talk, FPF2 Meeting

FPF: NEW SHAFT AND CAVERN

- Many advantages
  - Construction access far easier
  - Access possible during LHC operations
  - Size and length of cavern more flexible
  - Designed around needs of the experiments







Design by Liam Dougherty (EN-ACE-INT)

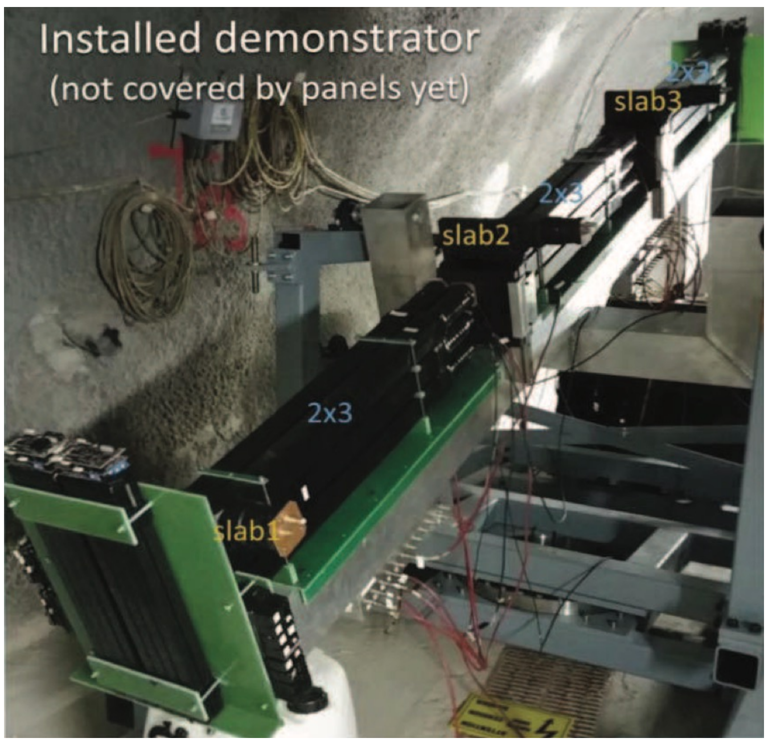
NEW PHYSICS SEARCHES AT THE FPF

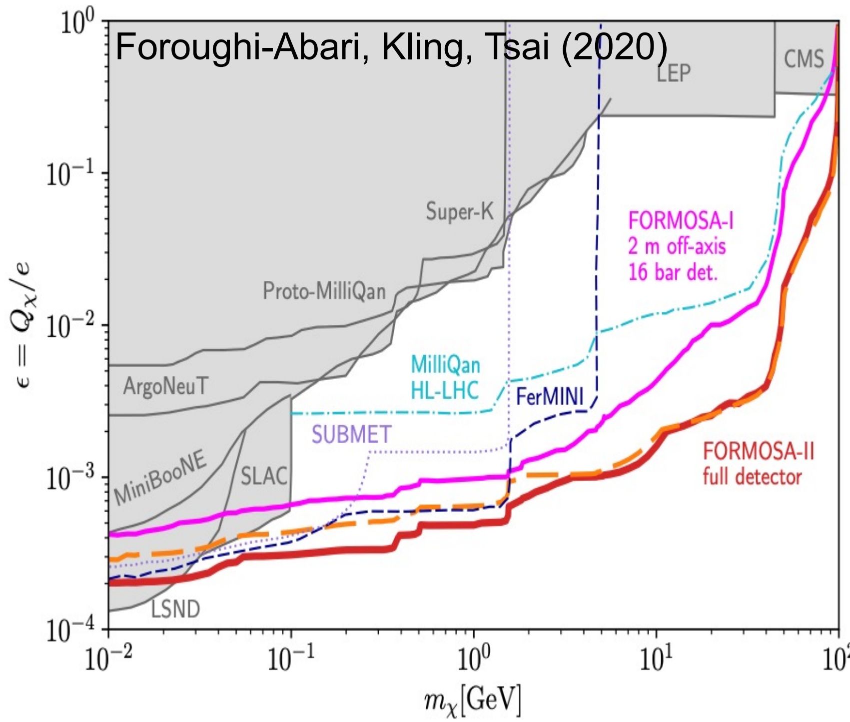
- The FPF will house a number of experiments
- FASER 2, an upgraded FASER with R = 1 m, L = 10 m, can discover all candidates with renormalizable couplings (dark photon, dark Higgs, HNL); ALPs with all types of couplings (γ, f, g); and many other particles.
- Other experiments can probe neutrinos and many other interesting ideas.

Benchmark Model	Underway	FPF
BC1: Dark Photon	FASER	FASER 2
BC1': $U(1)_{B-L}$ Gauge Boson	FASER	FASER 2
BC2: Dark Matter	–	FLArE
BC3: Milli-Charged Particle	–	FORMOSA
BC4: Dark Higgs Boson	–	FASER 2
BC5: Dark Higgs with hSS	–	FASER 2
BC6: HNL with e	–	FASER 2
BC7: HNL with μ	–	FASER 2
BC8: HNL with τ	FASER	FASER 2
BC9: ALP with photon	FASER	FASER 2
BC10: ALP with fermion	FASER	FASER 2
BC11: ALP with gluon	FASER	FASER 2

BC2: MILLI-CHARGED PARTICLES

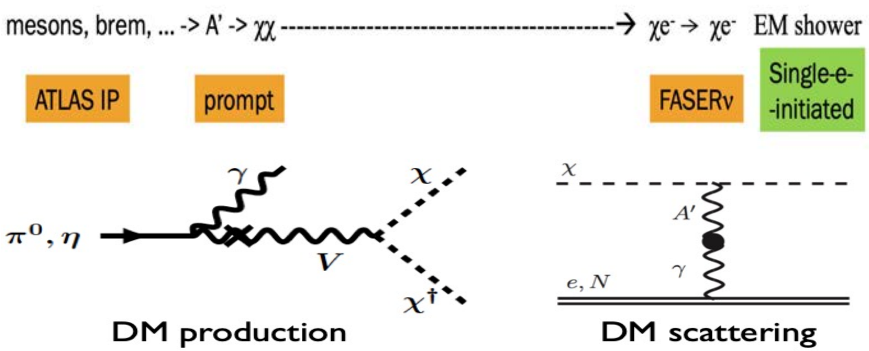
- Currently the target of the MilliQan experiment near the CMS IP.
- MilliQan Demonstrator (Proto-MilliQan) already probes new region. Full MilliQan planned to run in this location at HL-LHC, but the sensitivity can be improved significantly by moving it to the FPF (FORMOSA).



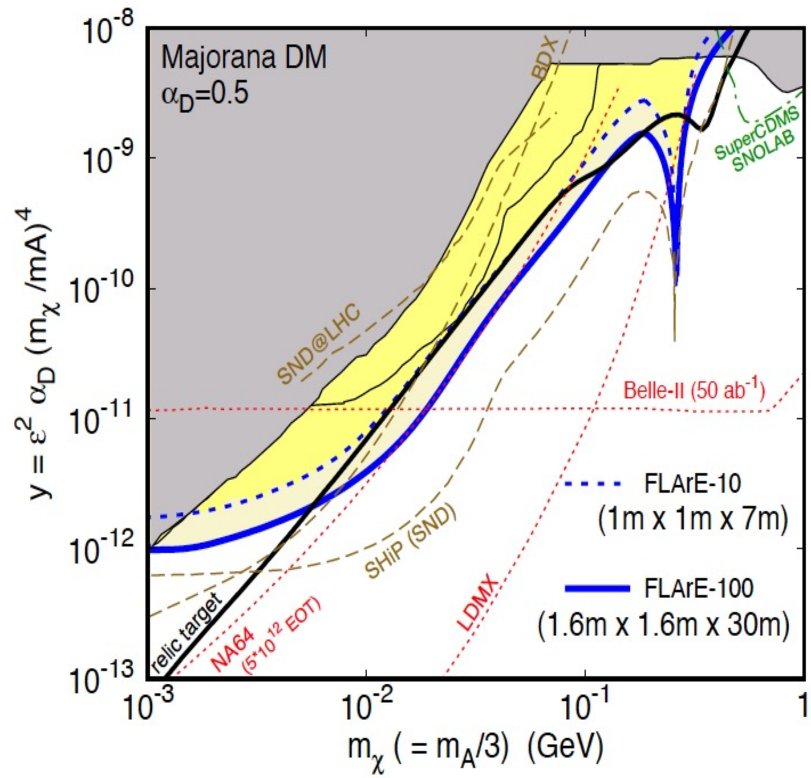


BC3: DARK MATTER

- If $m_{LLP} > 2m_{DM}$, the LLP will typically decay to dark matter, leading to a highly collimated beam of dark matter particles.
- Can look for the resulting DM to scatter off electrons at FLArE, Forward Liquid Argon Experiment, a proposed 10 to 100 tonne LArTPC.



- FLArE probes most of the favored/ allowed relic target region. Complementary to missing energy experiments that probe more of the "too large $\Omega_\chi h^2$" region, but don't detect DM scattering.



Batell, Feng, Trojanowski (2021)

SUMMARY

- New target for discovery: neutrinos and light and weakly-interacting particles probed by fast, small, cheap experiments in the far-forward region of the LHC.

- FASER and FASERν: 3.5 years from idea to completion, 5 m long, ~$2M. Data-taking starts in 2022 with a rich physics program.
  - BSM: searches for dark photons, HNLs, ALPs, new forces.
  - SM: opens the new field of LHC neutrino physics. ~1000 ν_e, ~10,000 ν_μ, ~10 ν_τ at TeV energies. Implications for neutrino properties, forward hadron production, cosmic ray and cosmic neutrino physics.

- Forward Physics Facility: Proposed facility to house a suite of far-forward experiments for the HL-LHC era from 2027-37, including upgrades of FASER, FASERν, SND, but also millicharged particle searches and FLArE: Forward Liquid Argon Experiment.