



Giant planet airglow induced by dark matter annihilation

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2408.15318

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Fonds
de recherche

Québec 



Outline

A person is silhouetted against a vibrant, multi-colored aurora borealis in a dark, starry night sky. The aurora displays a spectrum of colors including purple, pink, orange, and green, with a dense field of stars visible in the background.

Dark matter accumulation

Ultraviolet airglow

Dark matter-induced airglow

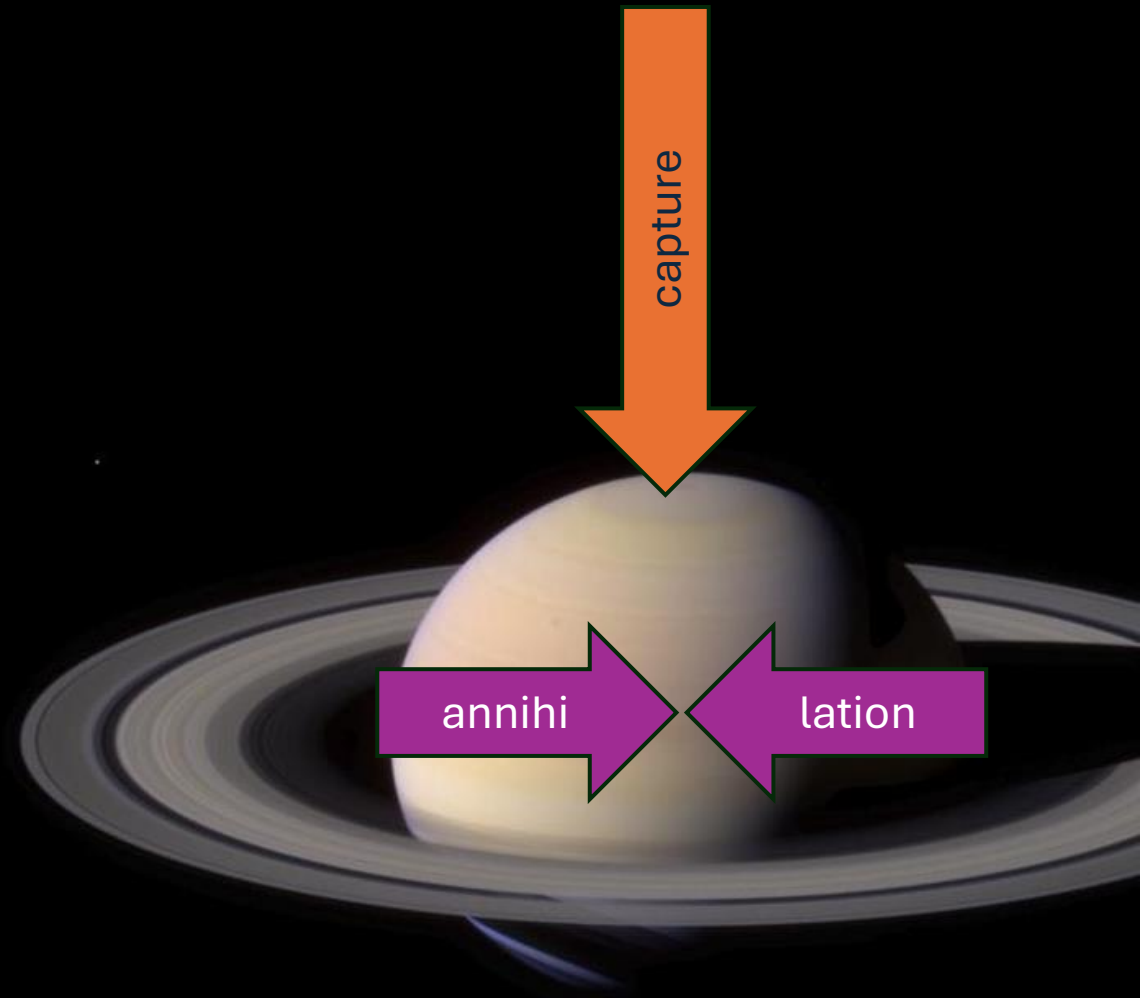
Results

Previous constraints

Summary

Dark matter accumulation in planets

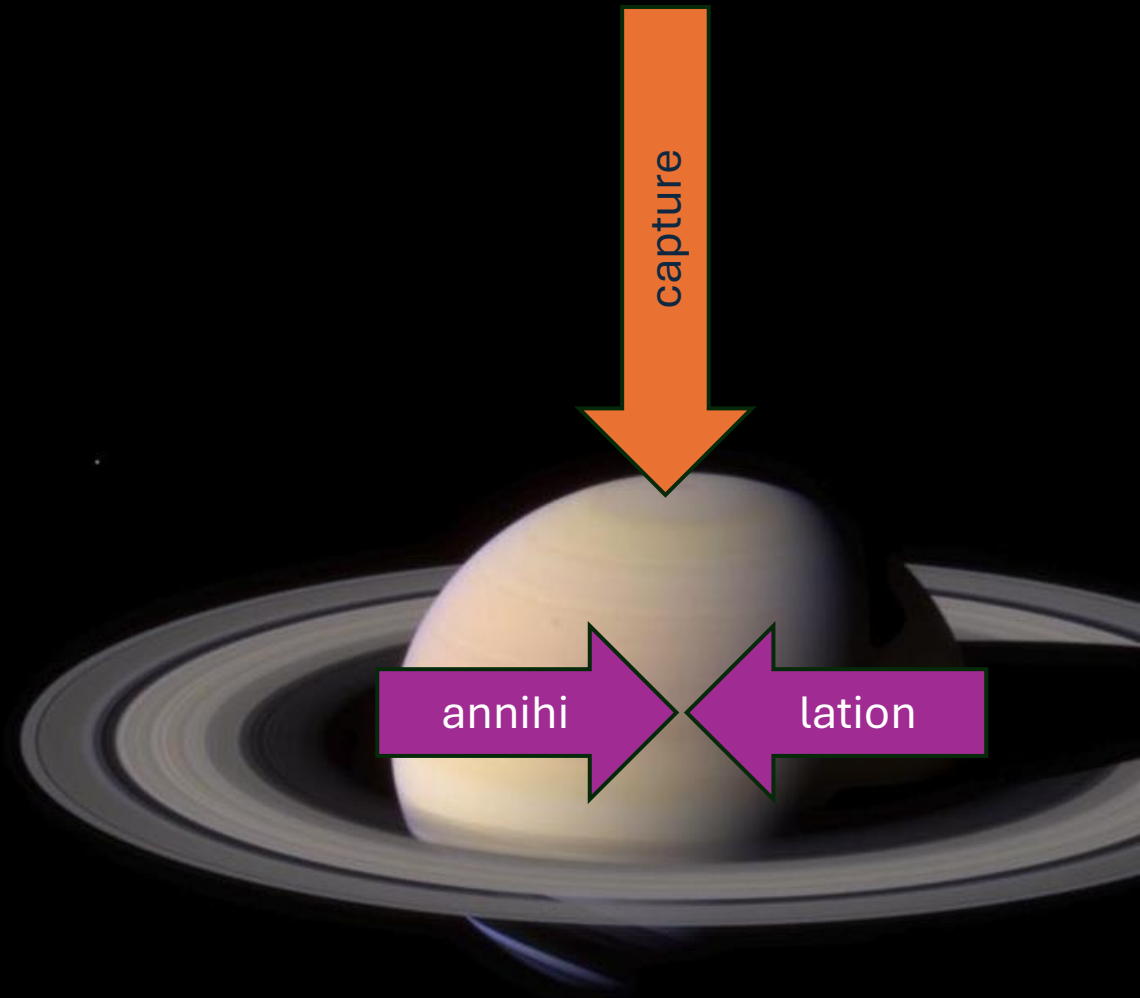
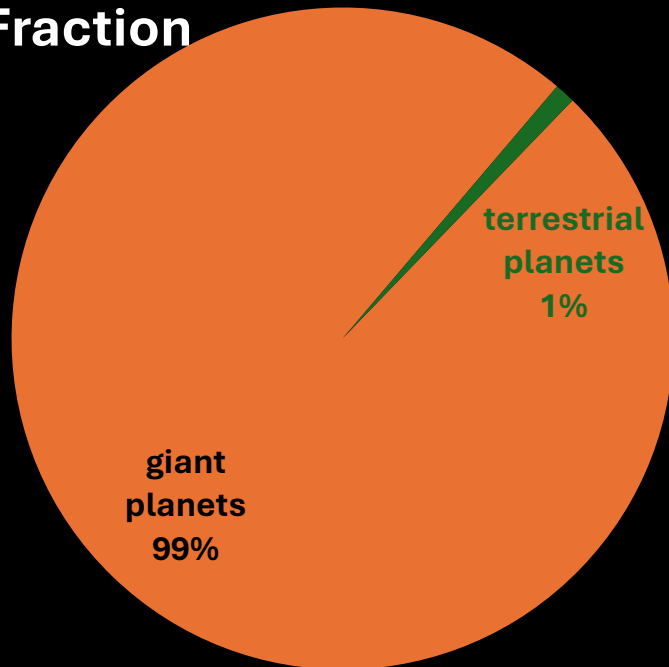
$$\frac{dN_\chi}{dt} = \Gamma_{\text{capture}} - N_\chi^2 \Gamma_{\text{annihilation}}$$



Dark matter accumulation in planets

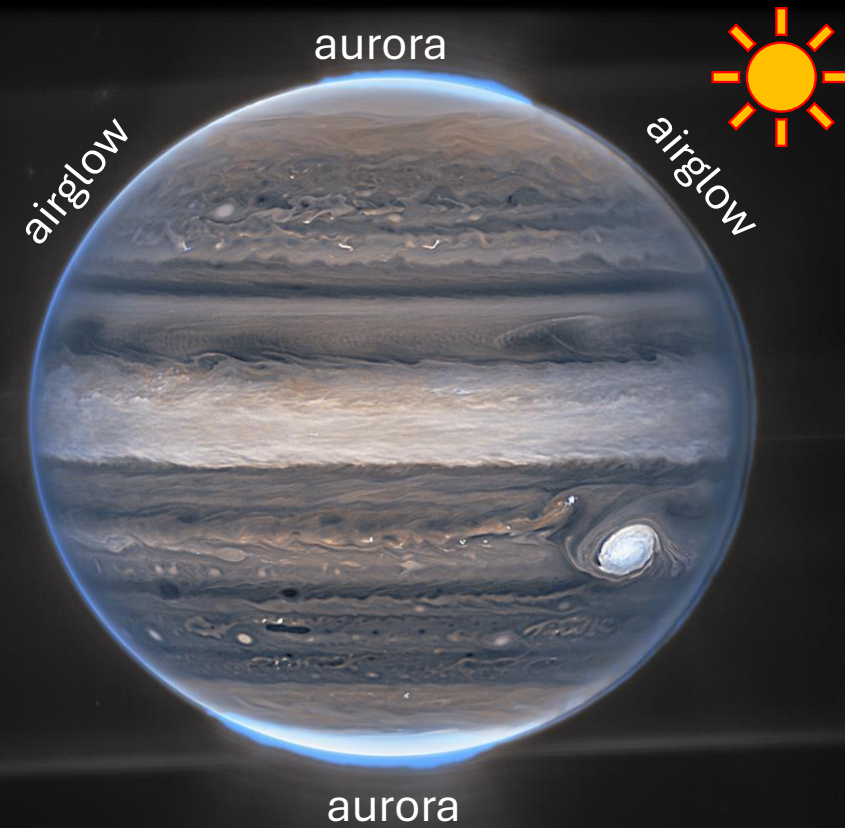
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Mass Fraction

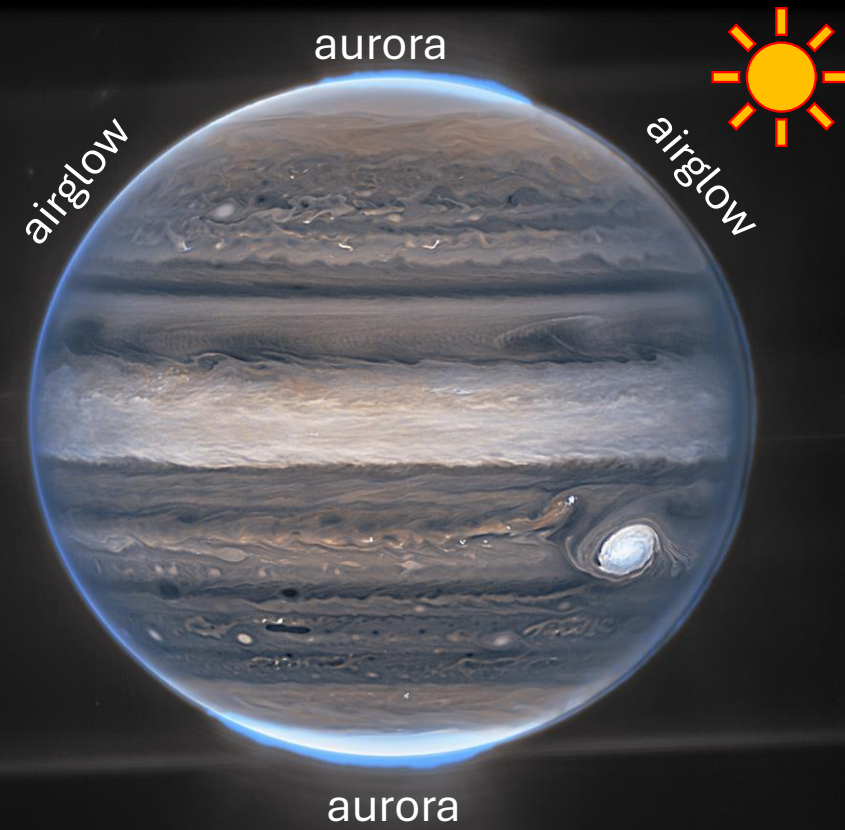


Ultraviolet airglow

- The giant planets emit an isotropic airglow and auroras
- Mostly produced by electron precipitation
 - With contamination by solar radiation on dayside
- Focus on molecular hydrogen lines
 - Clear relationship observed flux \Leftrightarrow input electron power

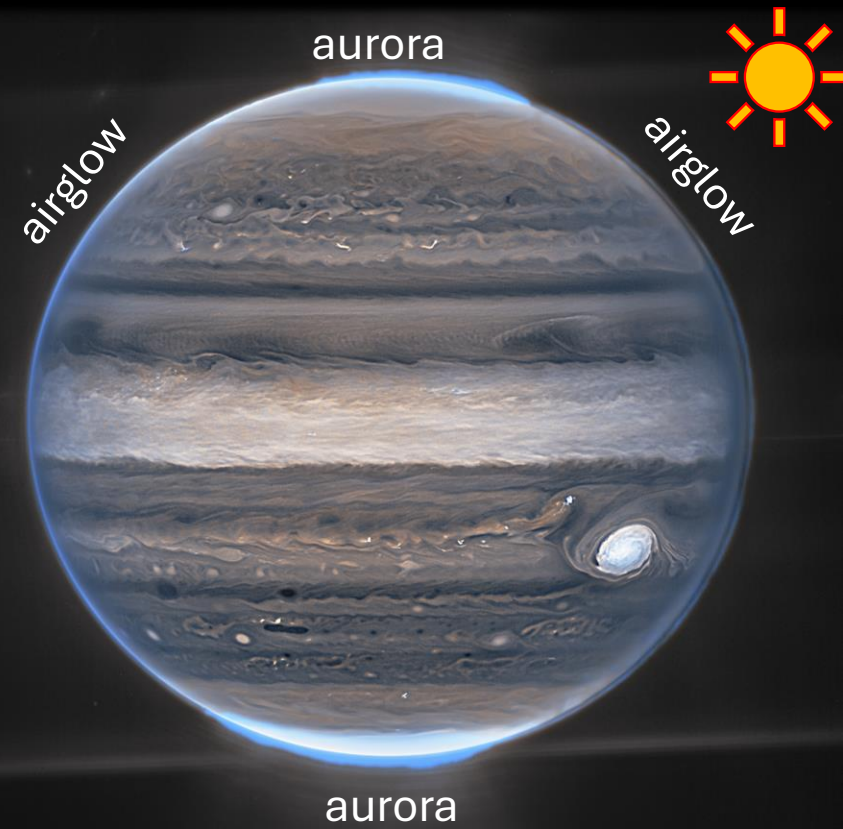
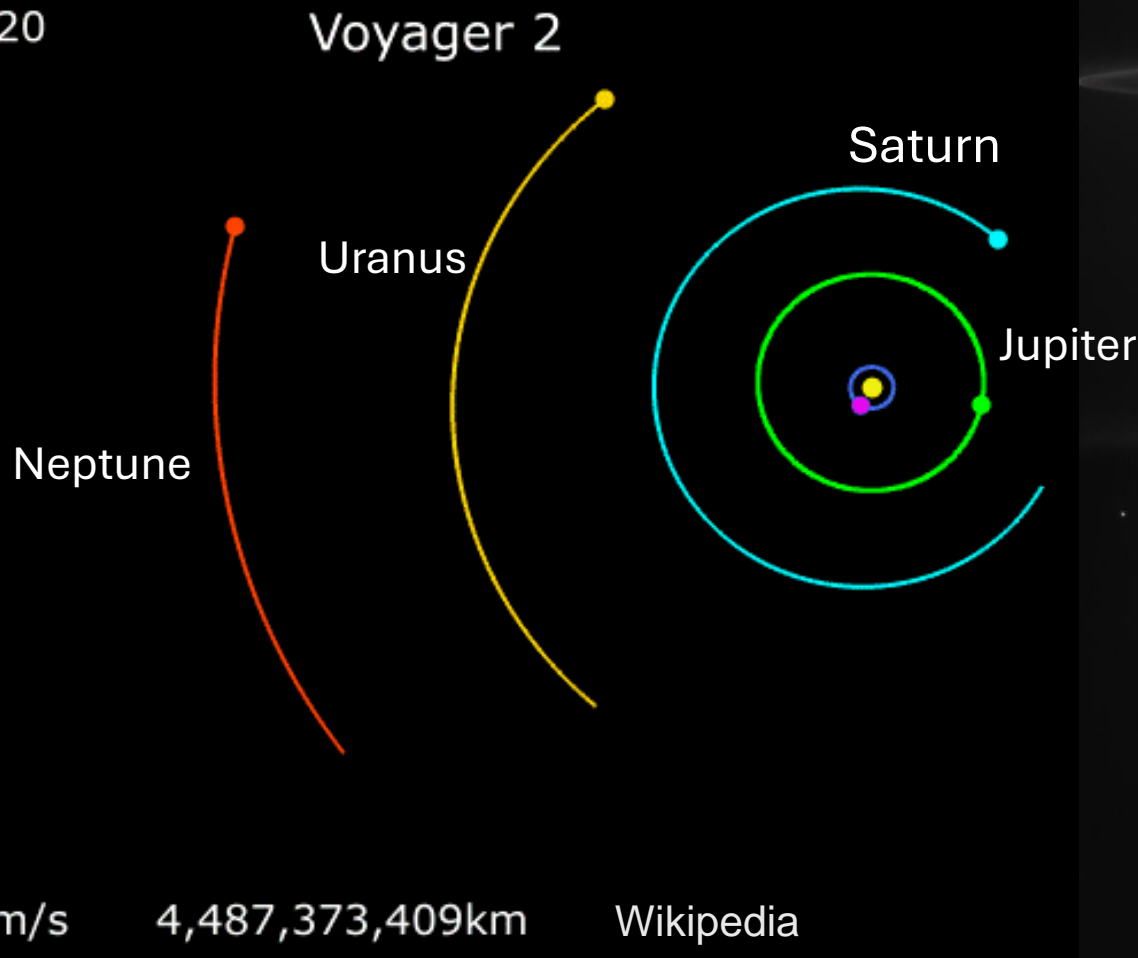


Ultraviolet airglow



Ultraviolet airglow

1977-08-20



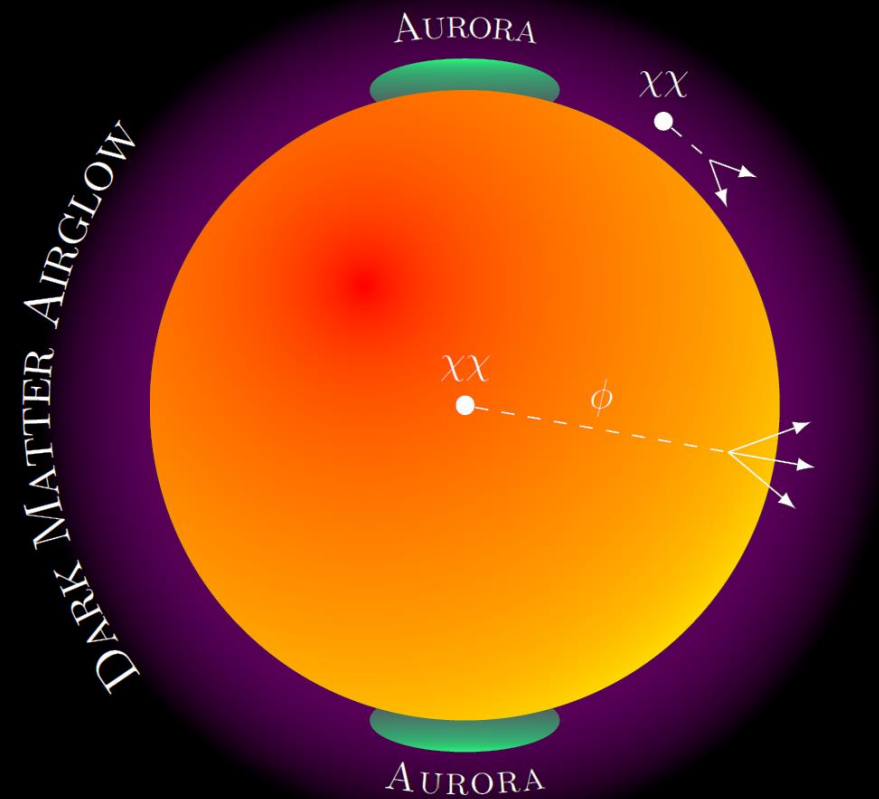
Dark matter-induced airglow

If

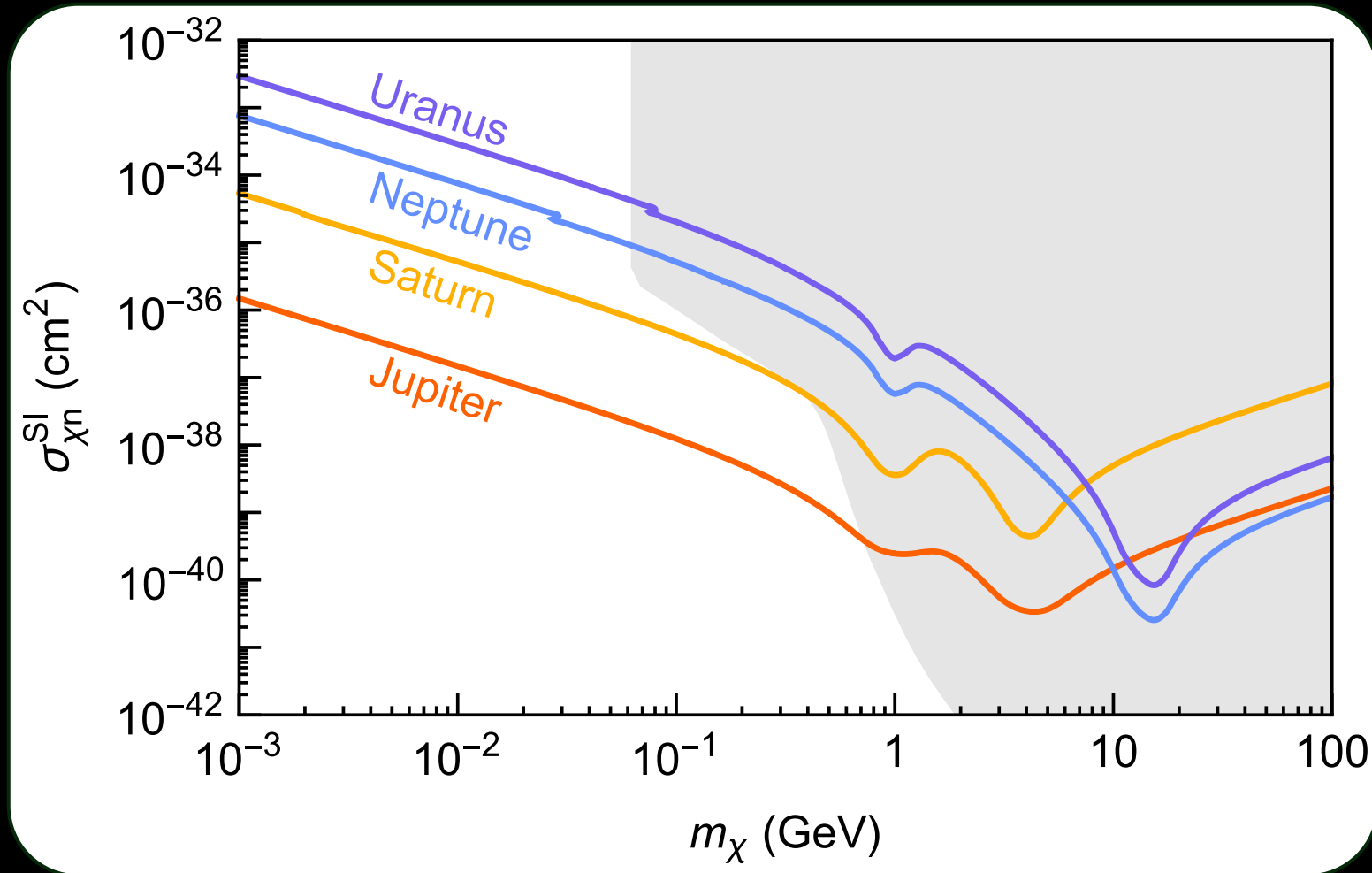
- dark matter annihilates to electrons

$$P_{\text{DM}}^{\text{airglow}} \leq P_{\text{observed}}^{\text{airglow}}$$

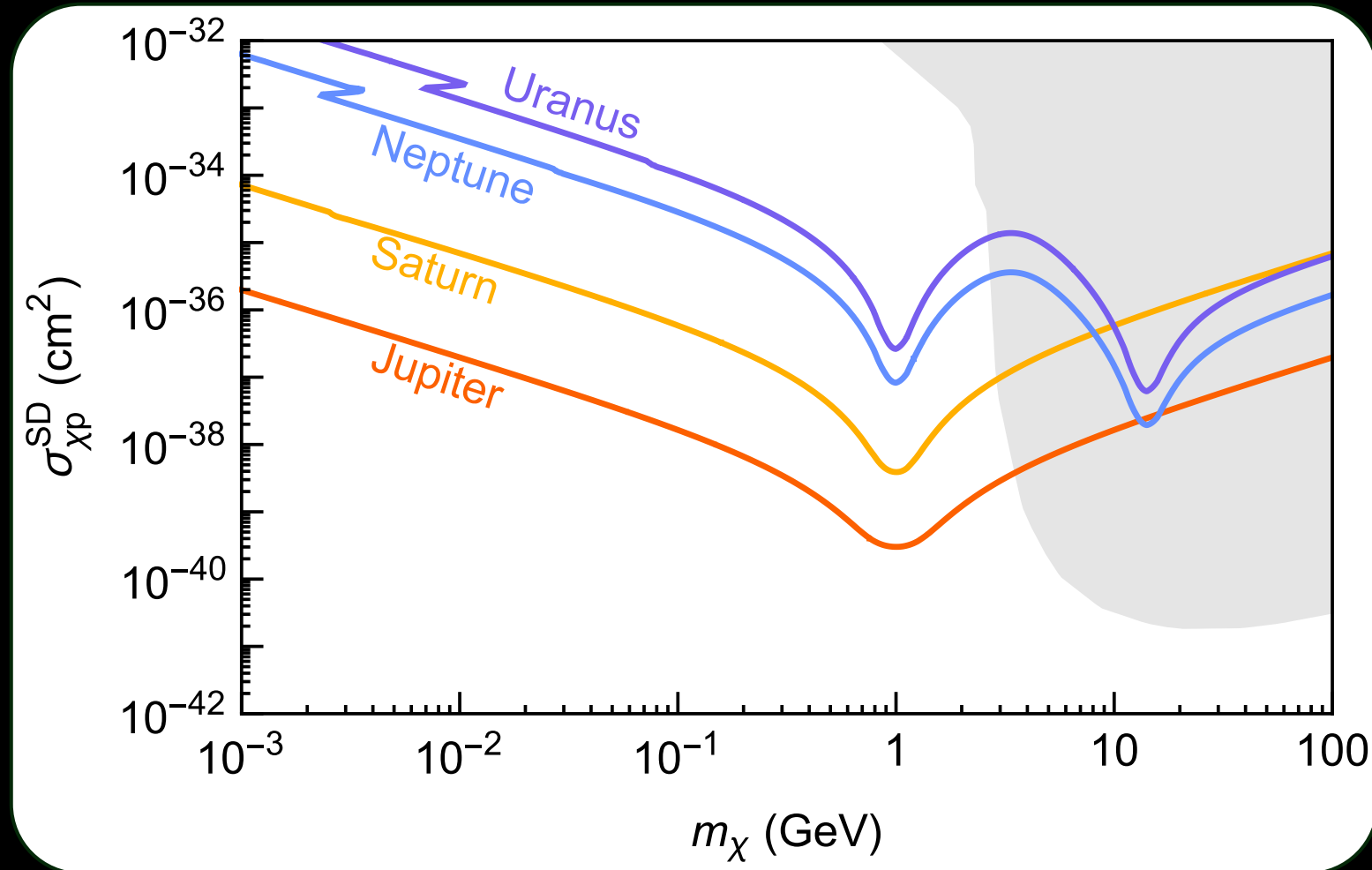
- dark matter annihilates to other final states
 - The limit is reduced by a factor of a few



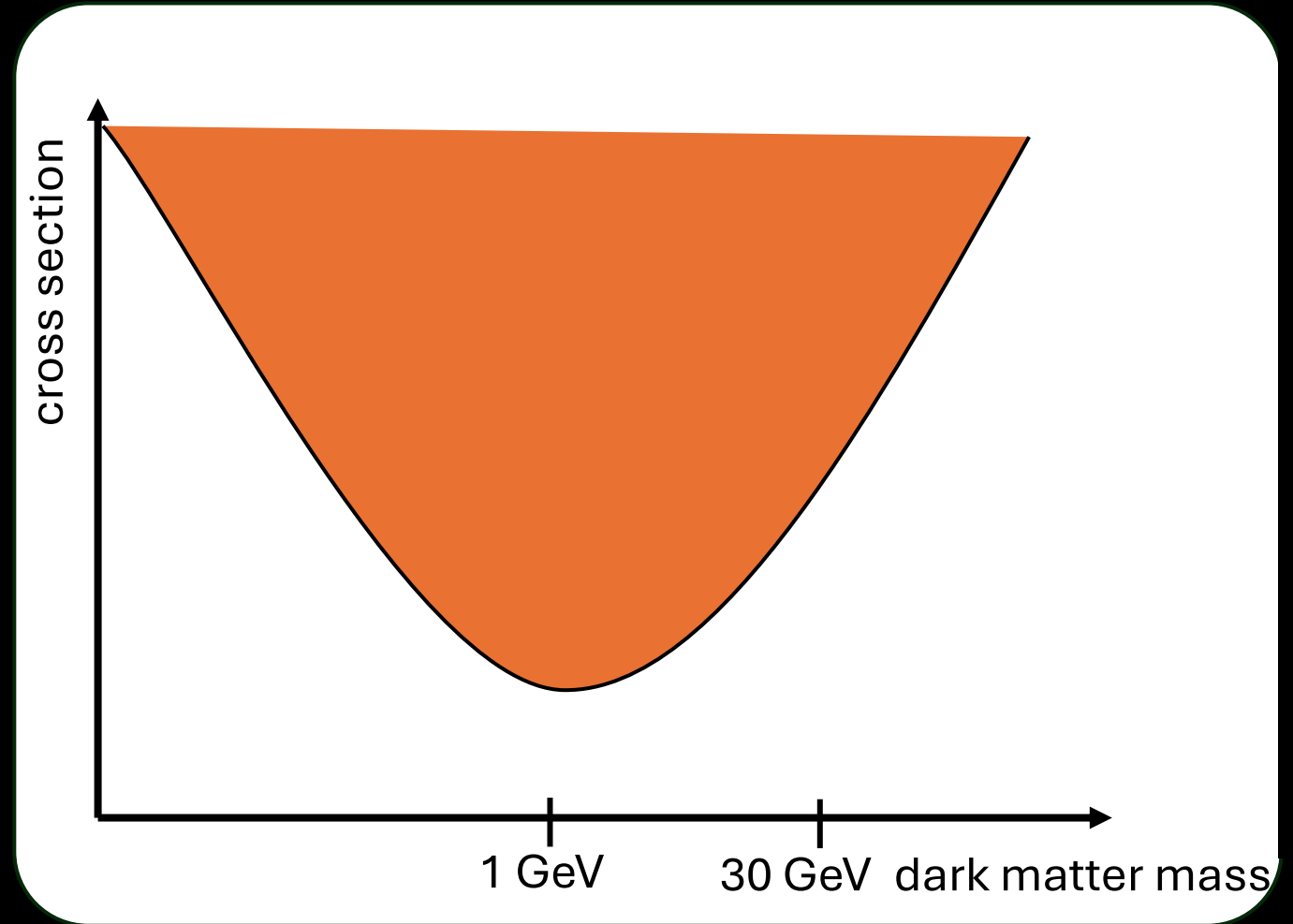
Results: spin-independent



Results: spin-dependent proton

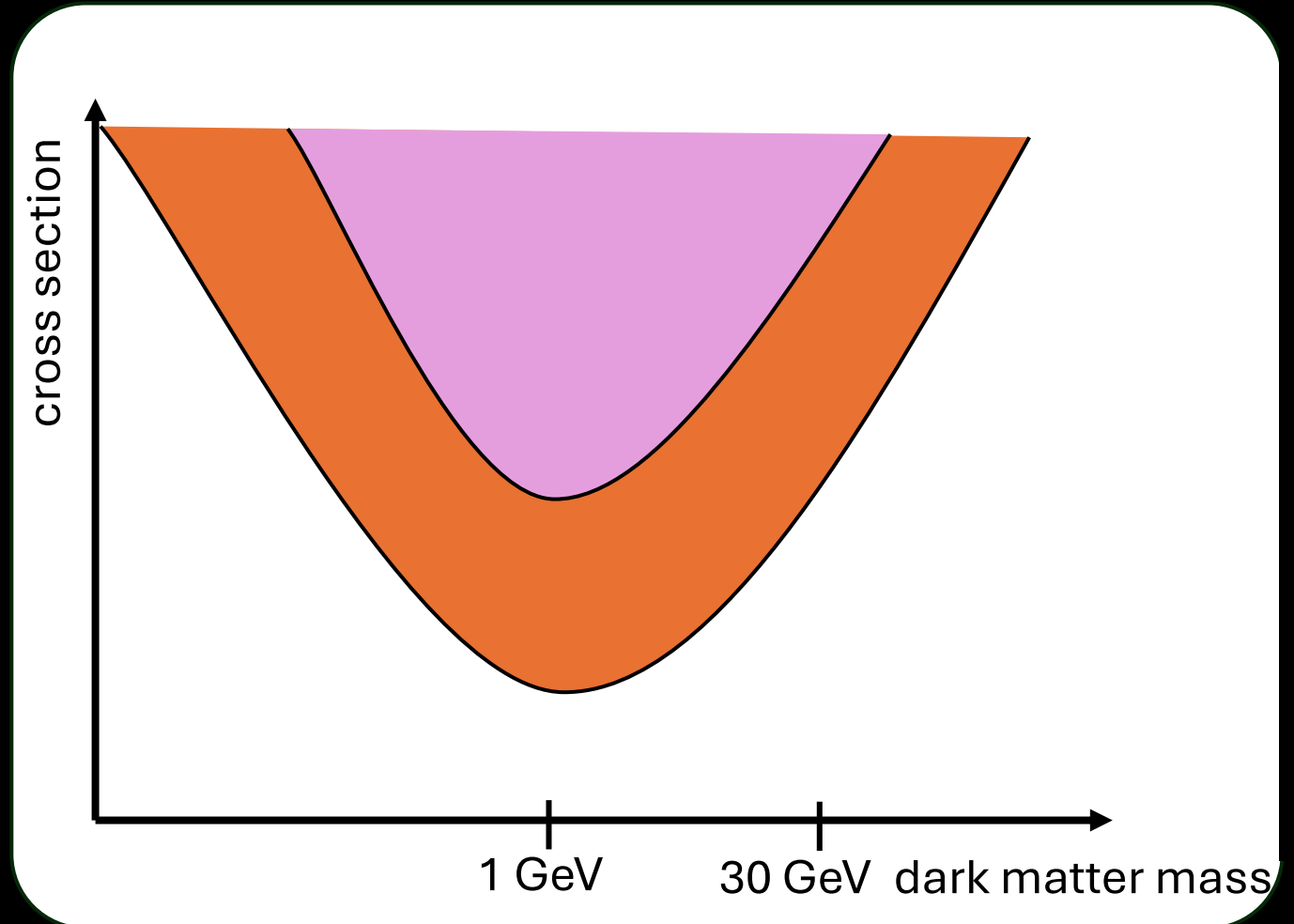


Our results vs previous constraints



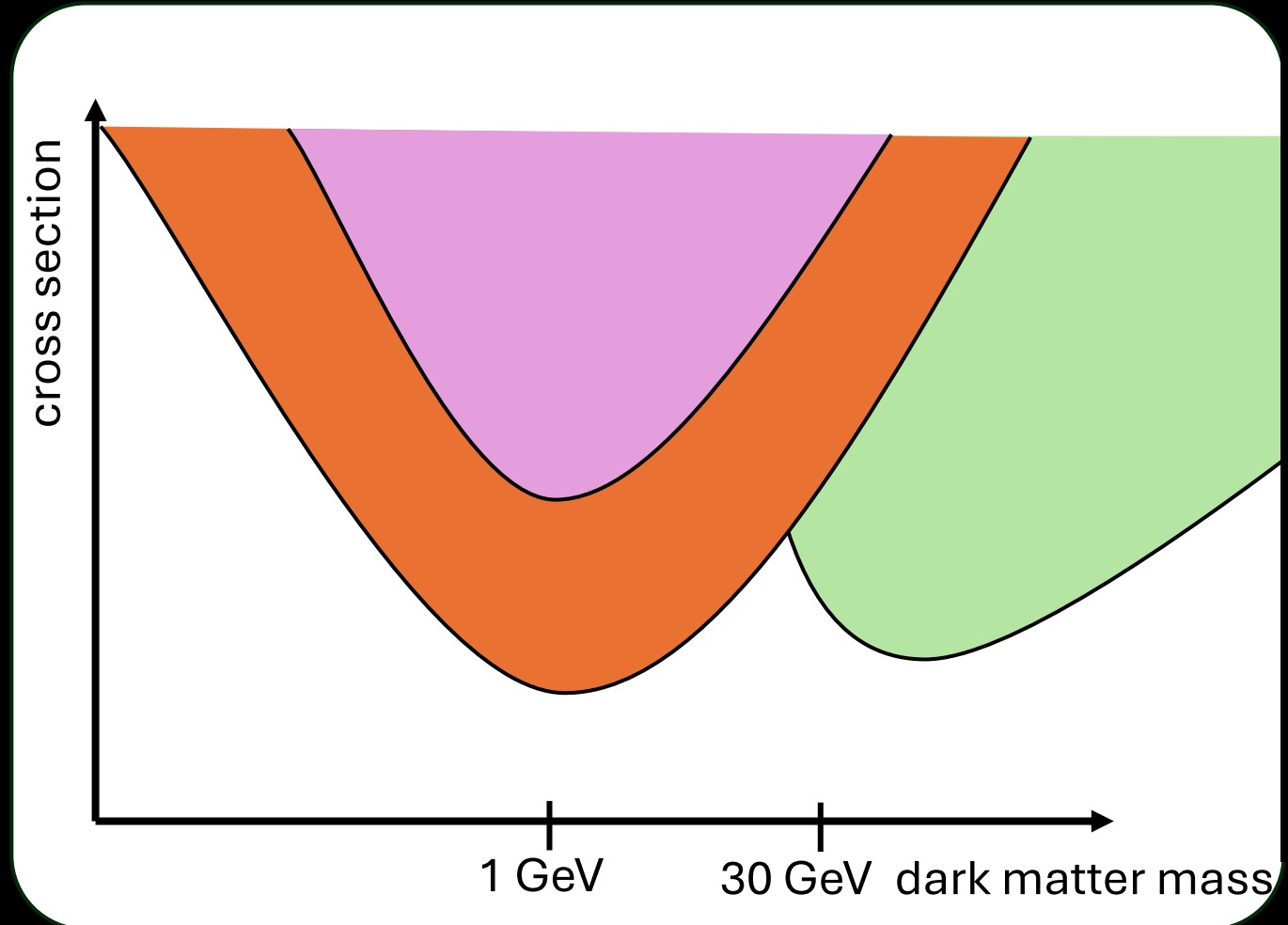
Our results vs previous constraints

- Atmospheric cooling by H_3^+ ([2312.06758](#))



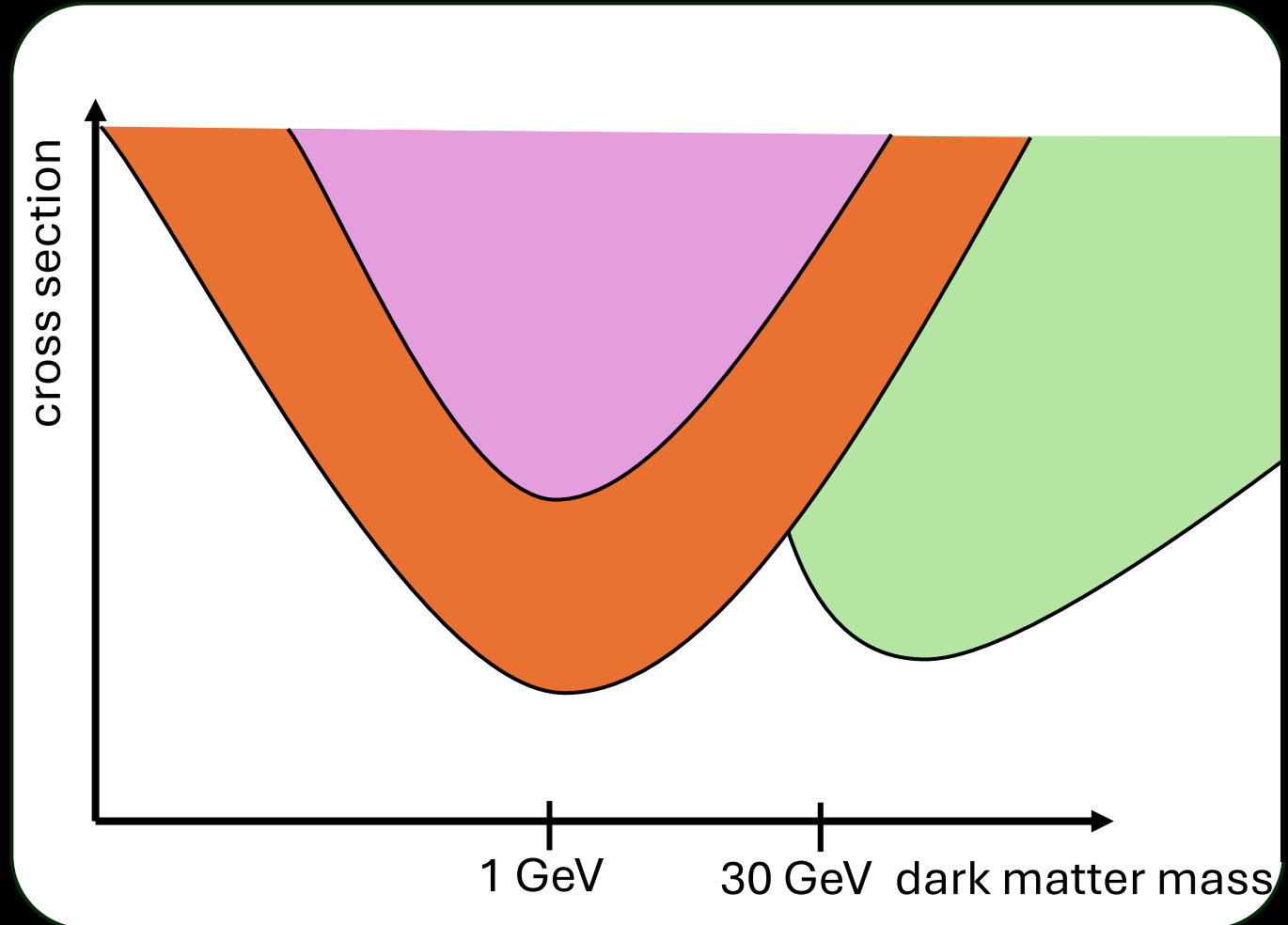
Our results vs previous constraints

- Atmospheric cooling by H_3^+ ([2312.06758](#))
- Anomalous heating of the planetary interior (e.g. [0705.4298](#), [0808.2823](#), [1909.11683](#), [2210.01812](#))



Our results vs previous constraints

- Atmospheric cooling by H_3^+ ([2312.06758](#))
- Anomalous heating of the planetary interior (e.g. [0705.4298](#), [0808.2823](#), [1909.11683](#), [2210.01812](#))
- Limits from the Galactic center

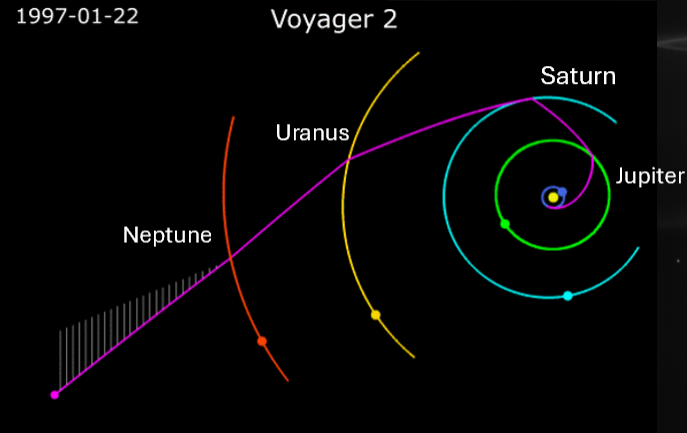


Summary

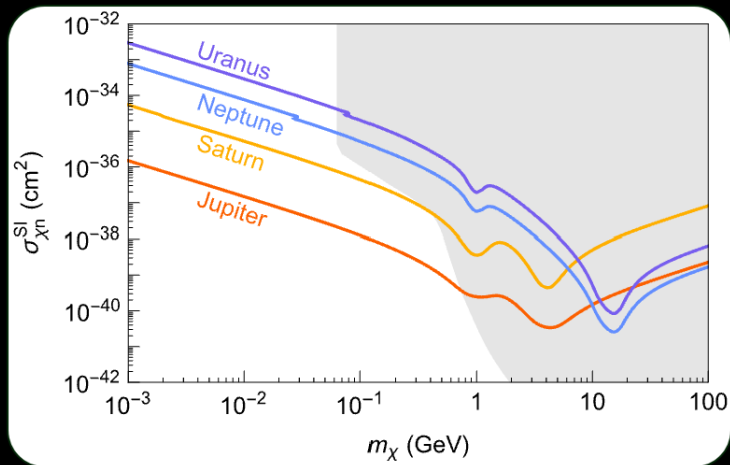
Signal



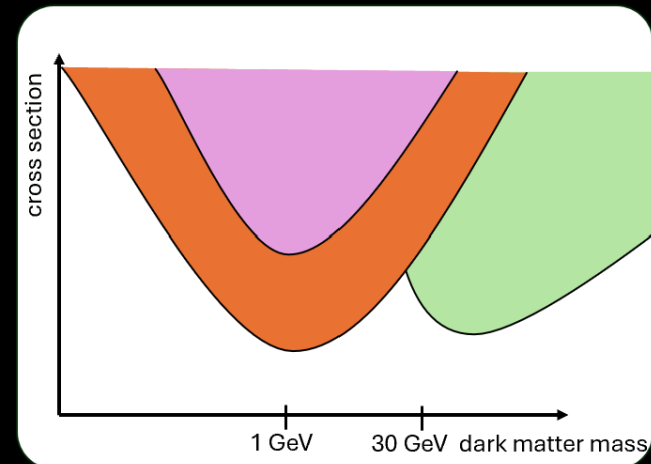
Data



Our constraints

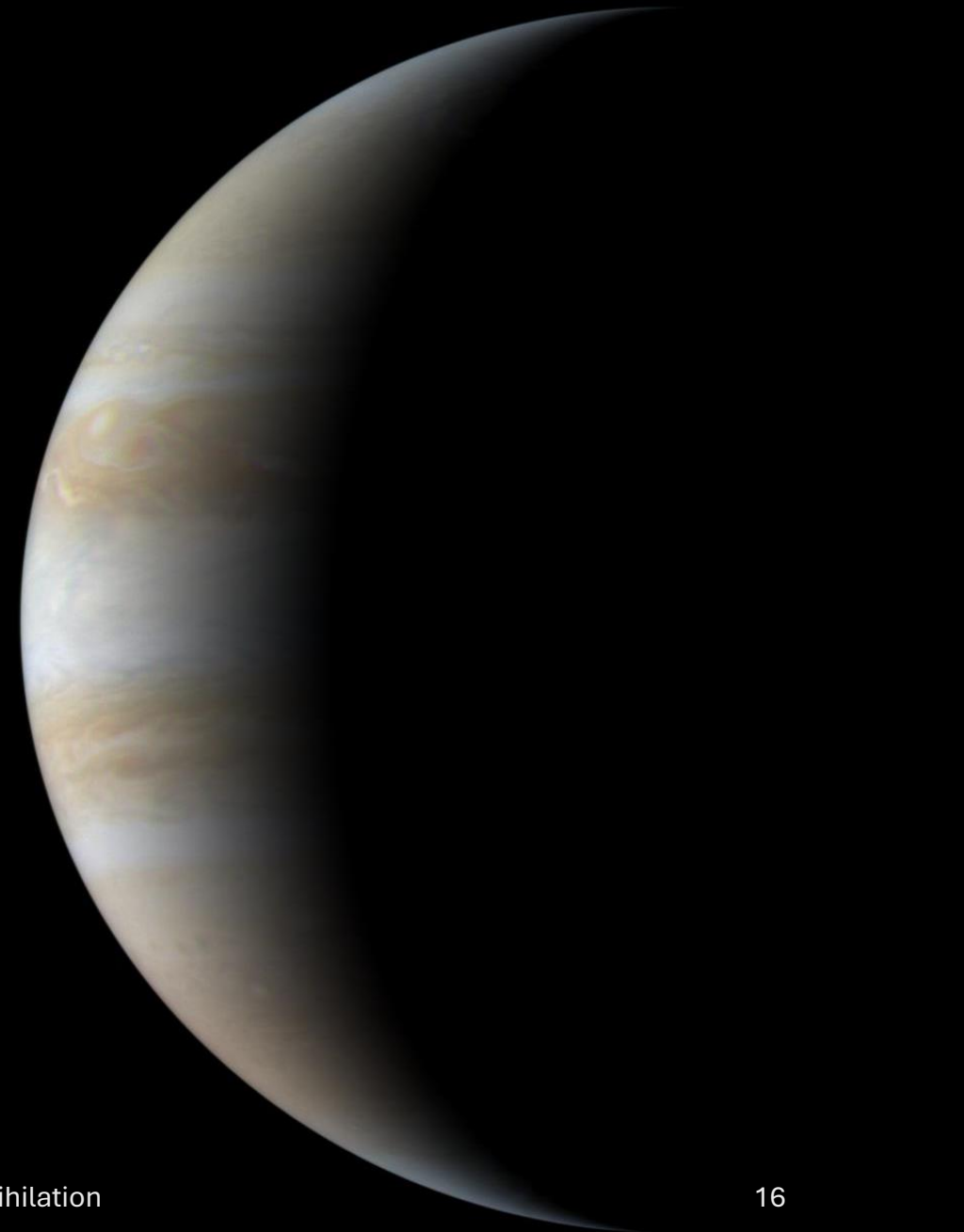


Competing constraints



Summary

UV airglow is a promising avenue
to search for dark matter

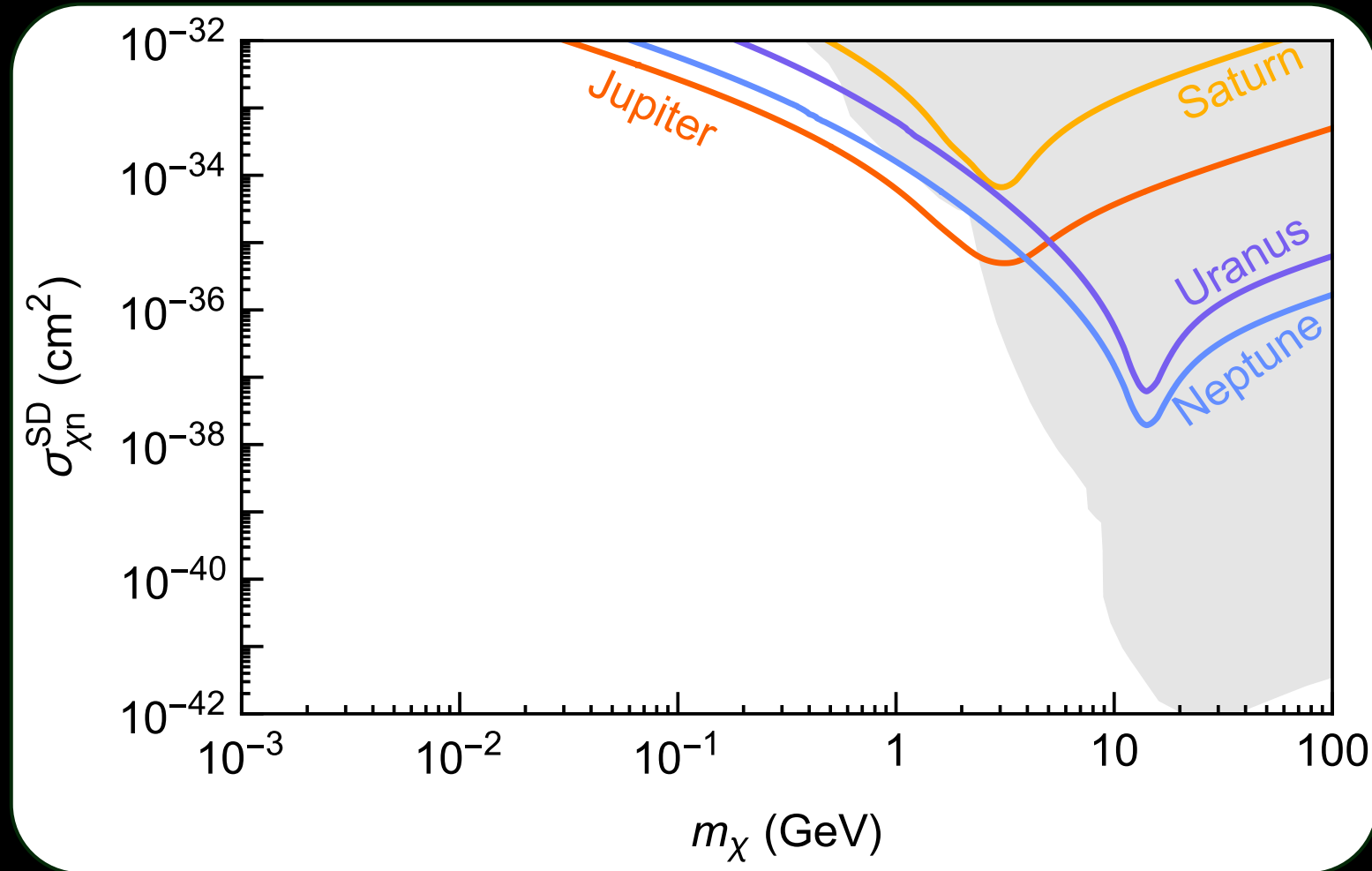


Backup slides

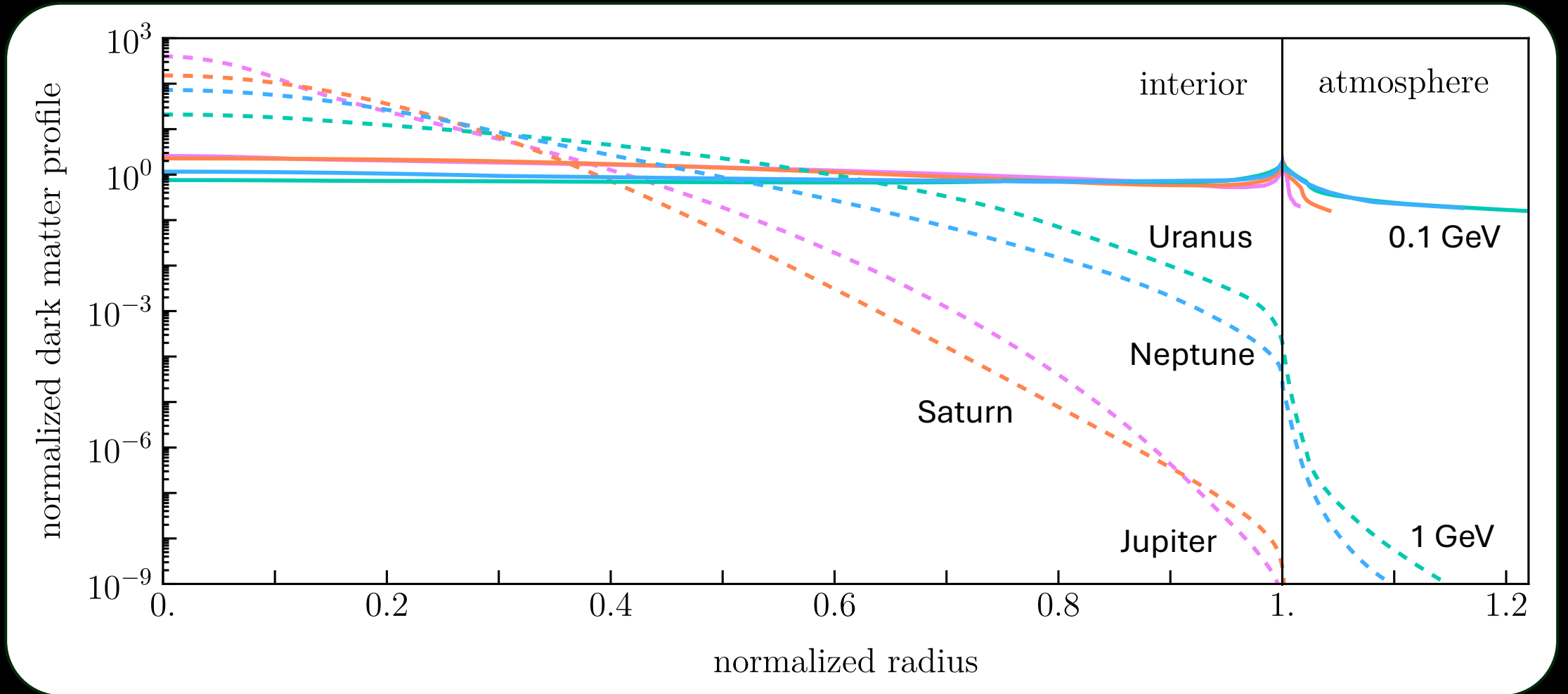
UV airglow values

Planet	$P_{\text{observed}}^{\text{airglow}}$ ($\mu\text{W}/\text{m}^2$)	Space probe
Jupiter	$0.31^{+0.19}_{-0.15}$	New Horizons
Saturn	<1	Voyager 1
Uranus	4.6	Voyager 2
Neptune	1.9 ± 0.3	Voyager 2

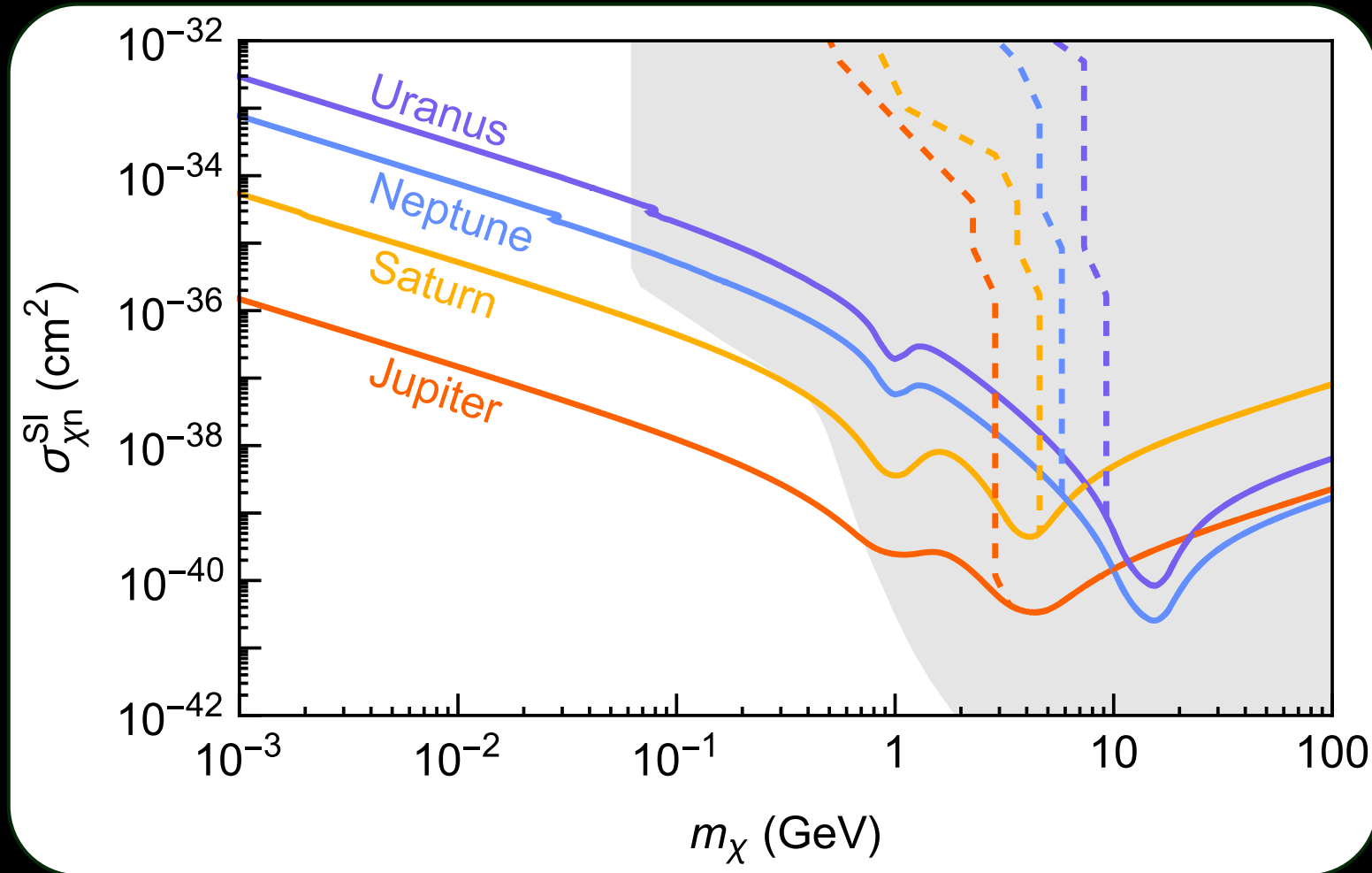
Results: spin-dependent neutron



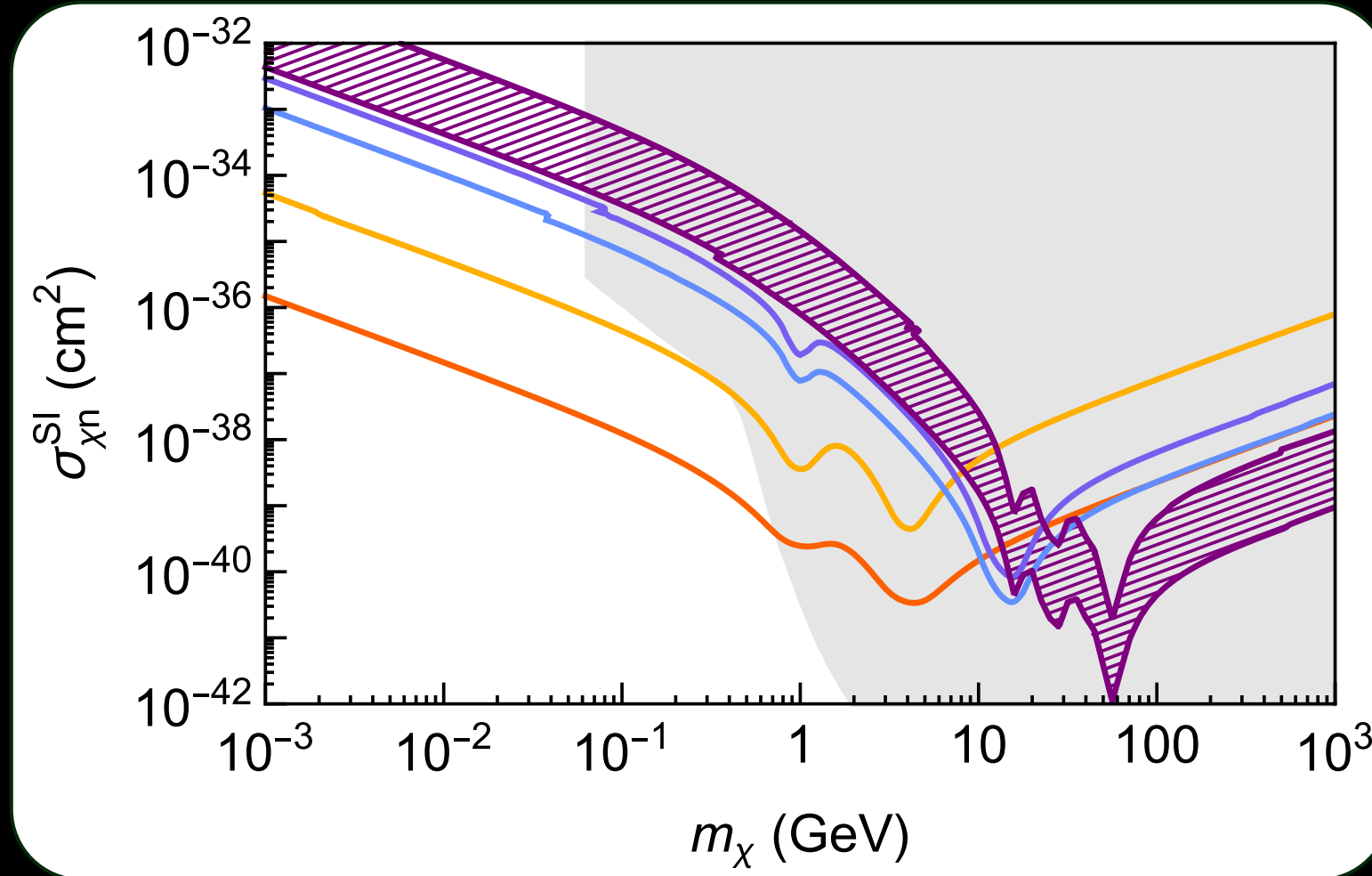
Preliminary results: dark matter radial profile



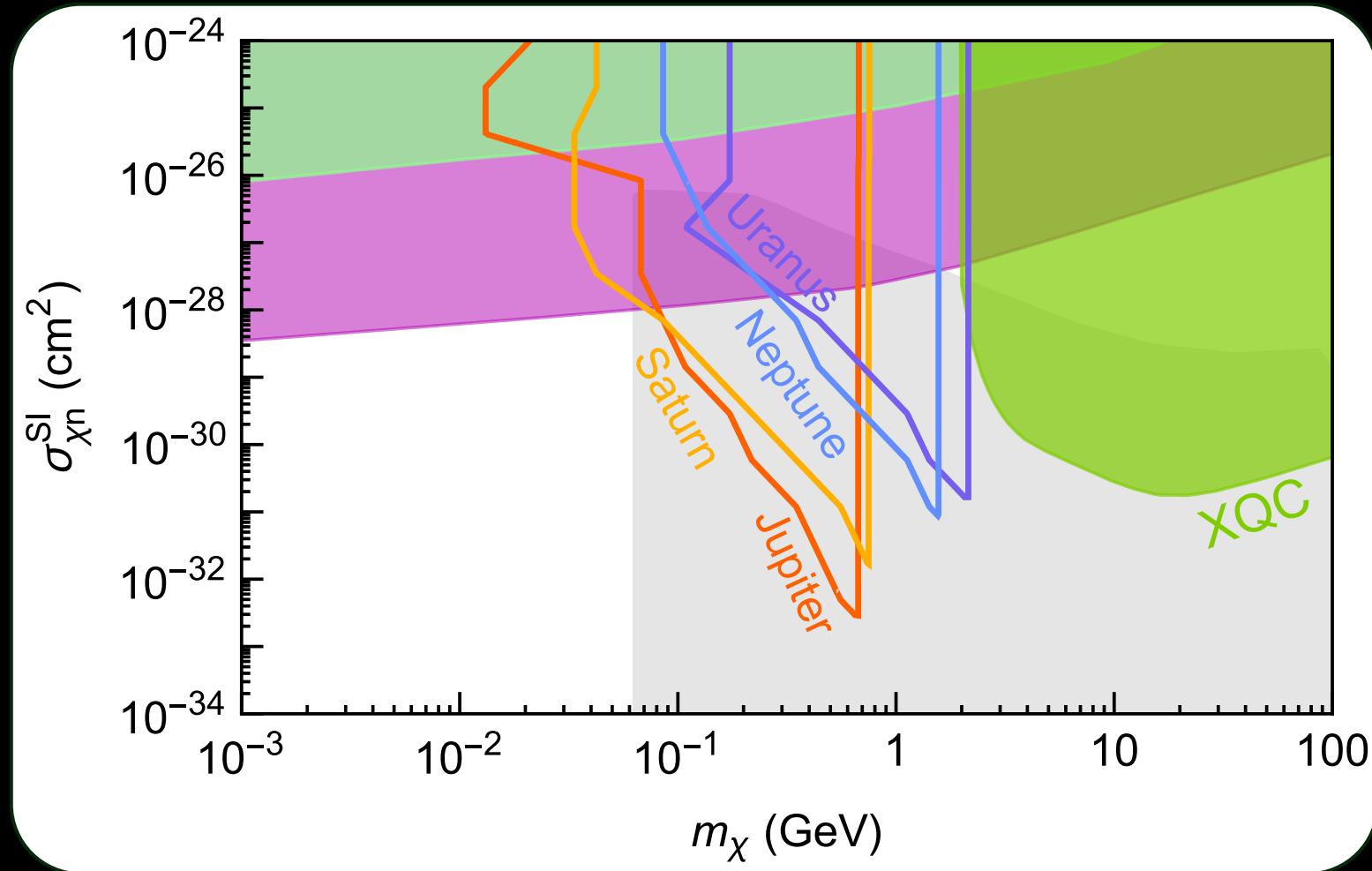
Preliminary results: evaporation



Preliminary results: what about Earth?

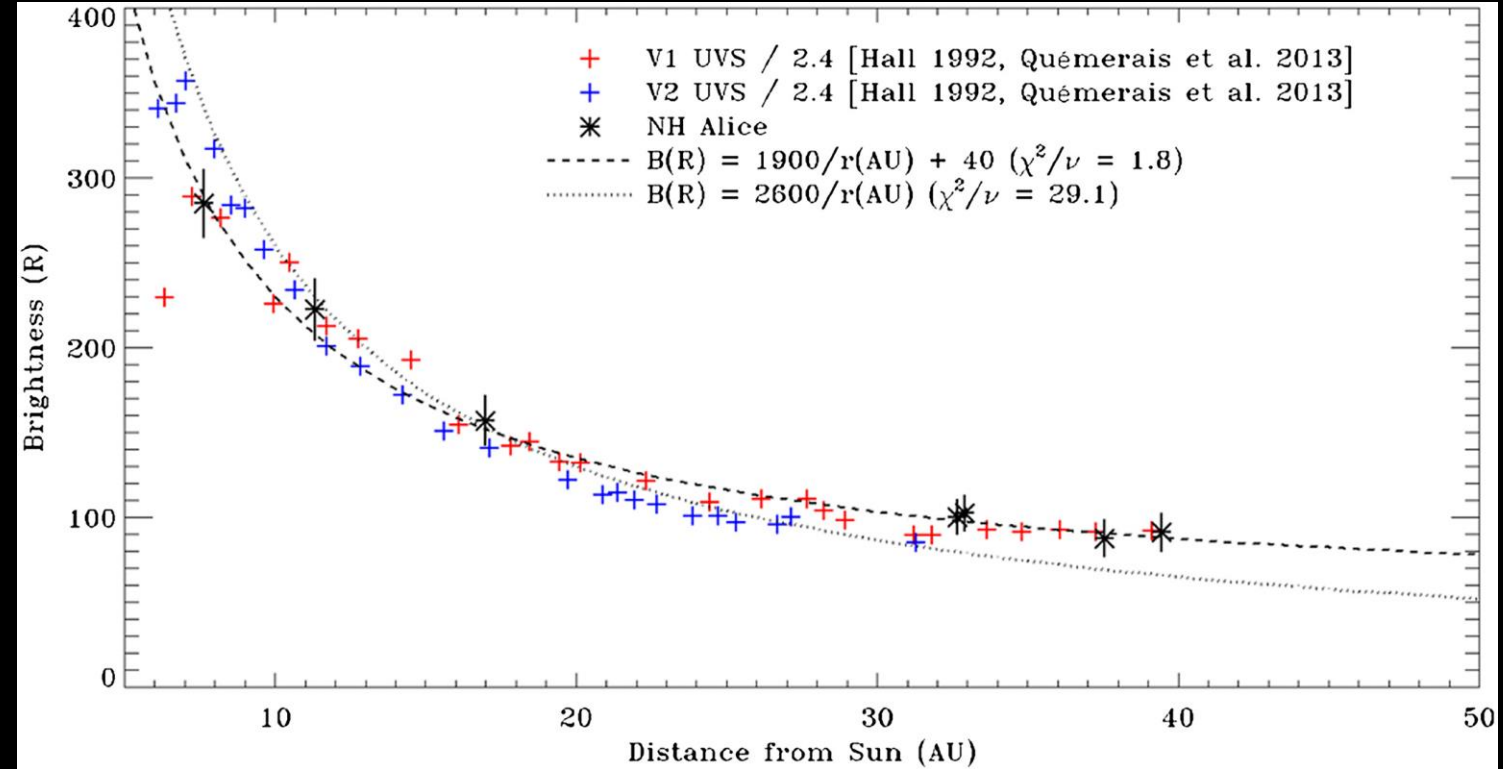


Preliminary results: heavy mediator annihilation



Why not Lyman-alpha?

Non-negligible background
on the nightside due to the
interplanetary medium



Gladstone *et al.*, GRL 2018