

# Direct Dark Matter Searches – Status and Perspectives

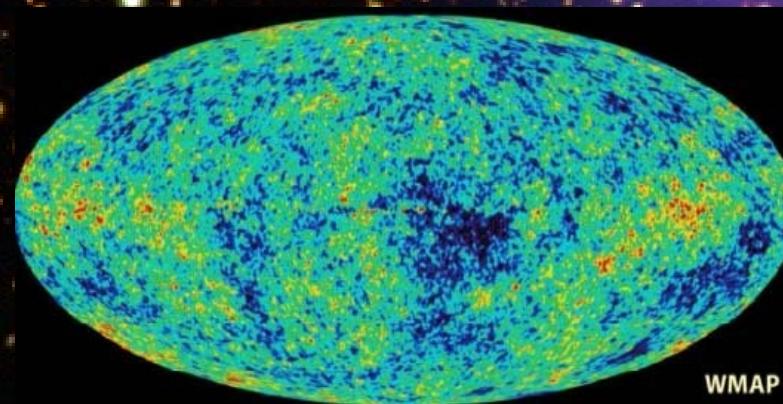
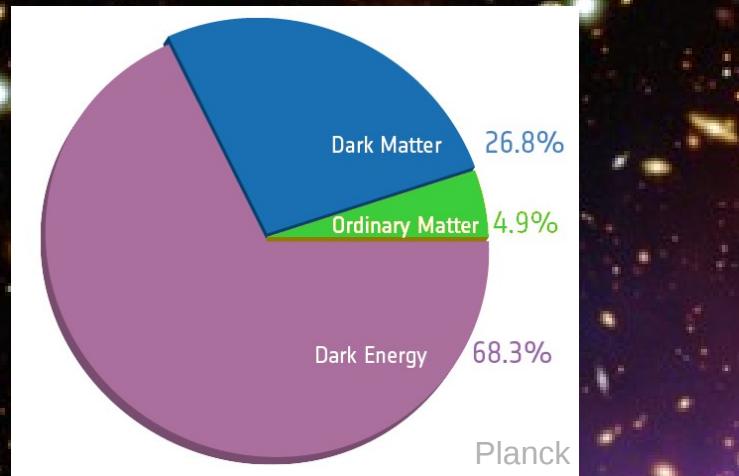
Marc Schumann

*University of Freiburg*

Particle Physics Seminar, Oxford, February 14, 2017

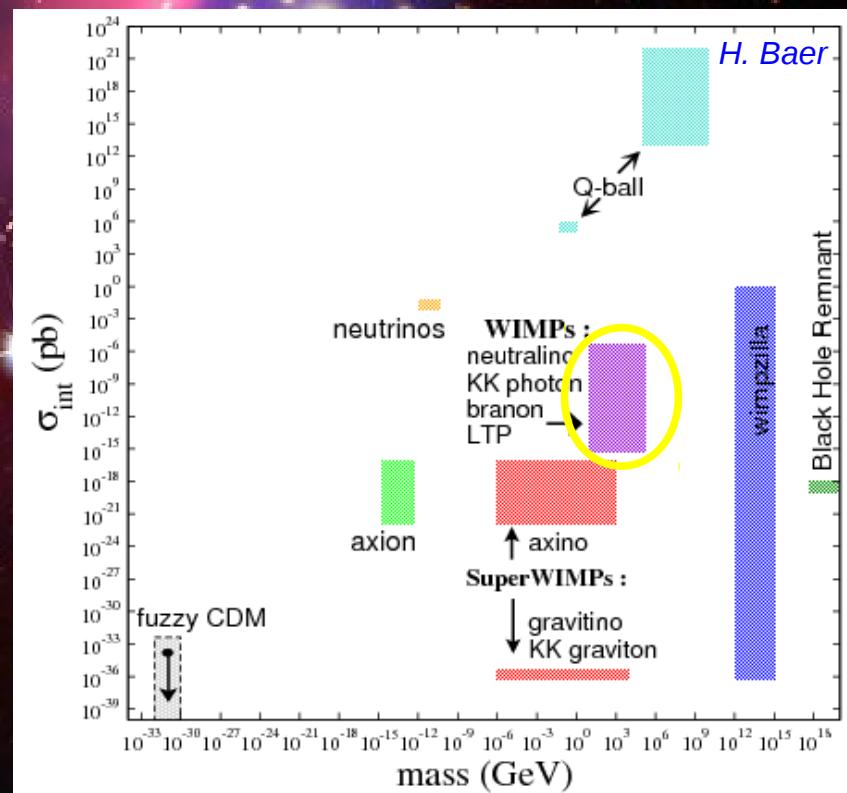
[marc.schumann@physik.uni-freiburg.de](mailto:marc.schumann@physik.uni-freiburg.de)

# Dark Matter: (indirect) Evidence

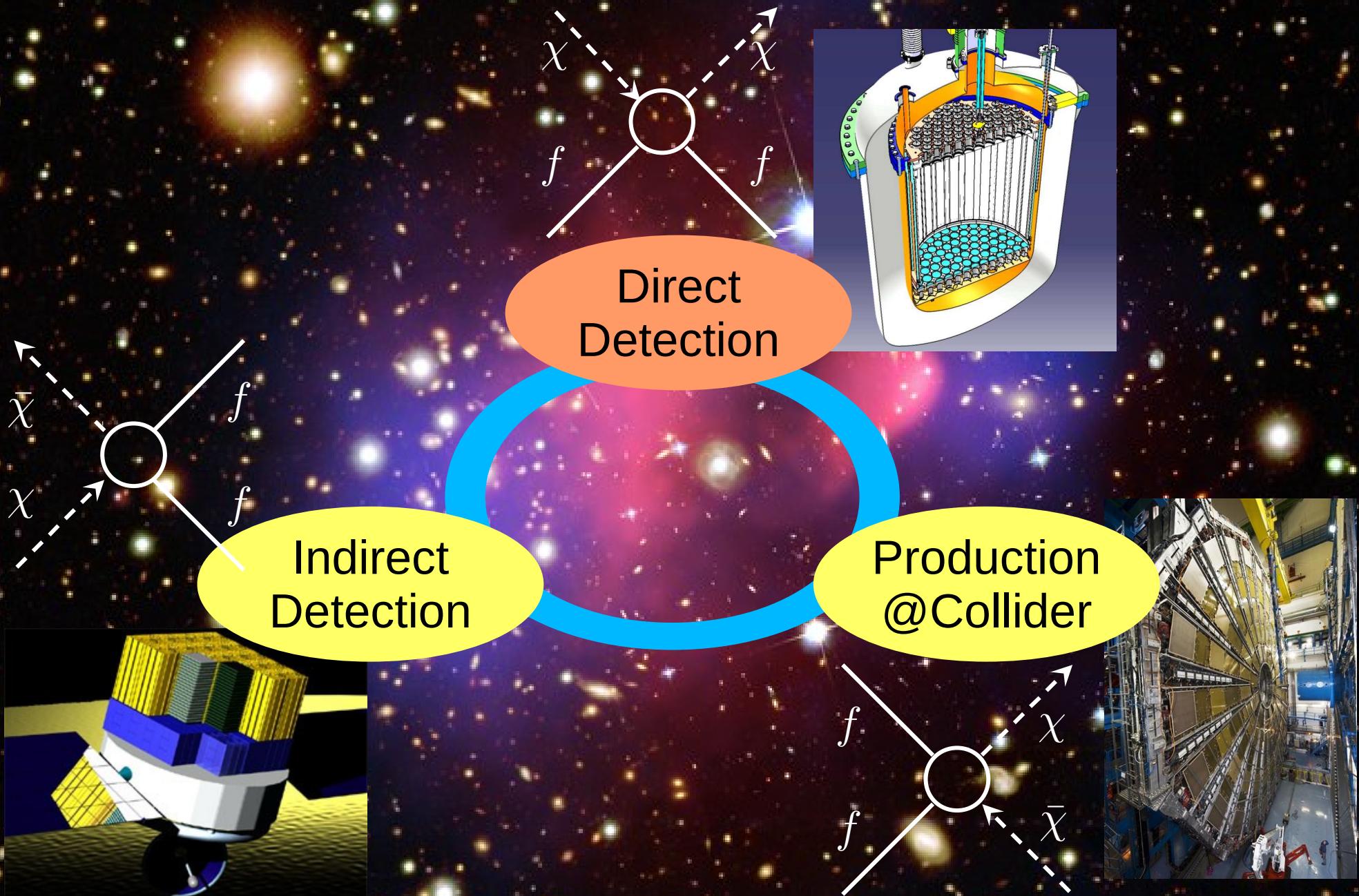


Particle Dark Matter Candidates:

- **WIMP** → „WIMP miracle“
- Axion
- SuperWIMPs
- sterile neutrinos
- WIMPless dark matter
- Gravitino
- ...

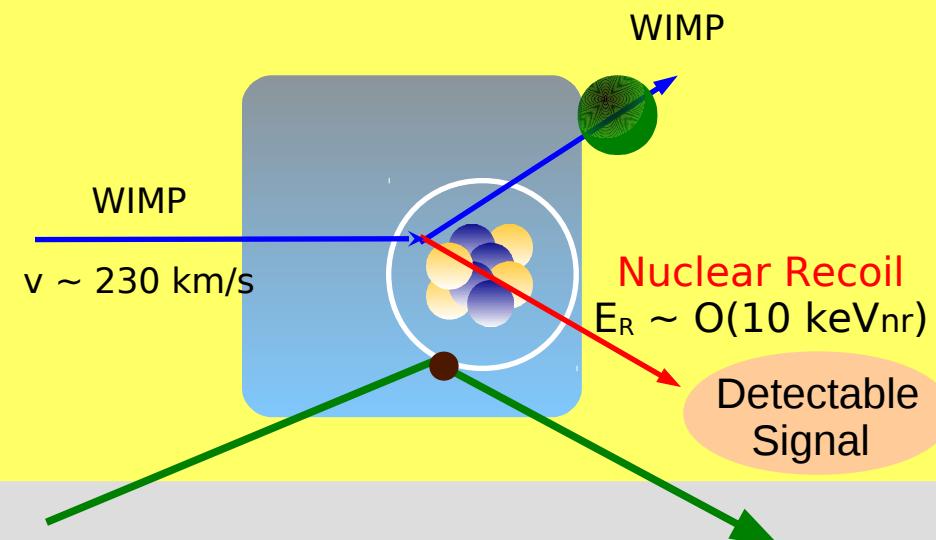
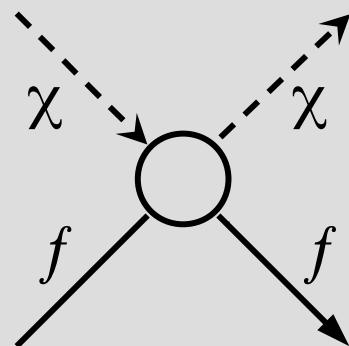


# Dark Matter Search



# Direct WIMP Search

Elastic Scattering of  
WIMPs off target nuclei  
→ nuclear recoil



gamma- and beta-particles  
(background) interact with the  
atomic electrons  
→ **electronic recoil** [in keVee]

# Direct WIMP Search

Direct Detection:

$$E_r < 100 \text{ keV}$$

$$R < 1 \text{ evt/kg/year}$$

Recoil Energy:

$$E_r \sim \mathcal{O}(10 \text{ keV})$$

Event Rate:

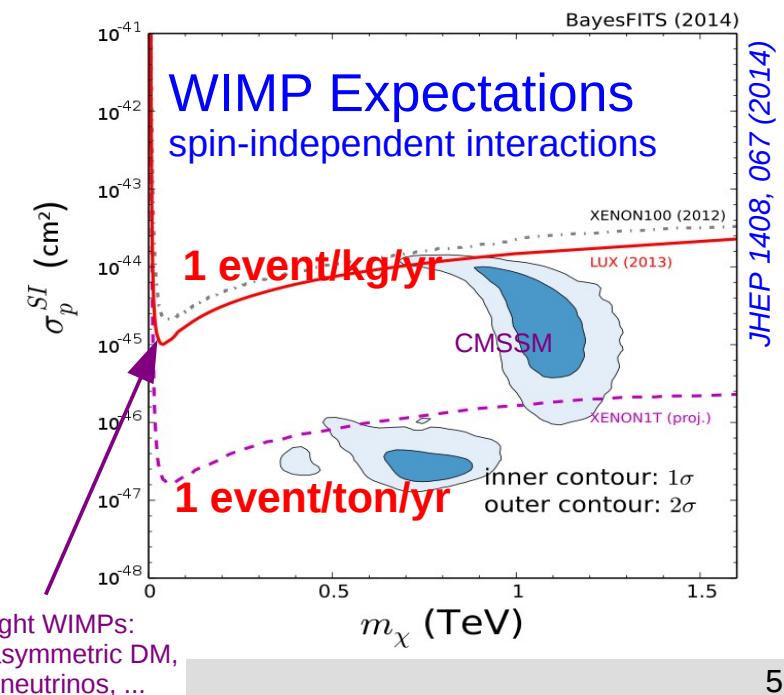
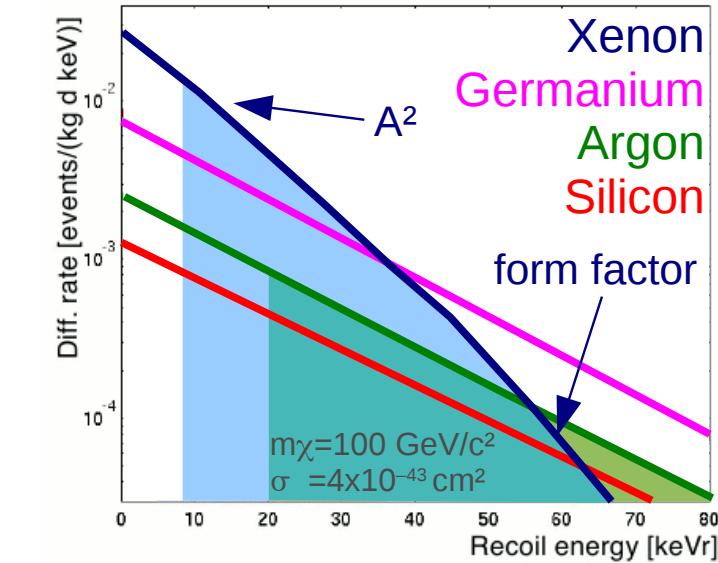
$$R \propto N \frac{\rho_\chi}{m_\chi} \langle \sigma_{\chi-N} \rangle$$

Detector

Local DM  
Density

Physics

$$\rho_\chi \sim 0.3 \text{ GeV}/c^2$$



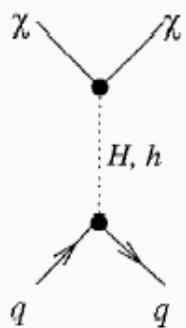
# WIMP-Nucleon Interactions

A priori, we do not know how dark matter WIMPs interact with ordinary matter

Parametrization of interactions leading to WIMP-nucleus scattering:

coupling to **mass**

Spin independent

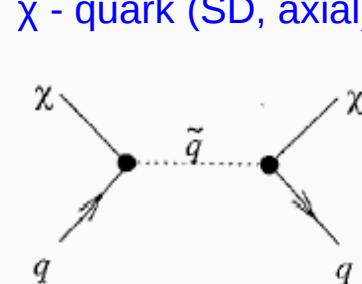
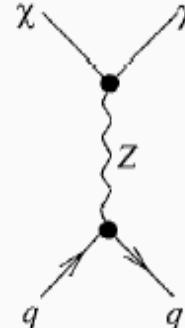


$\chi - \text{quark (SI, scalar)}$

$$\mathcal{L}_S \sim \tilde{\chi} \chi \bar{q} q \propto A^2$$

coupling to **nuclear spin**

Spin dependent



$$\mathcal{L}_A \sim \tilde{\chi} \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 \chi \bar{q} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 q \propto J(J+1)$$

Jungmann et al. '96 Phys.Rep.

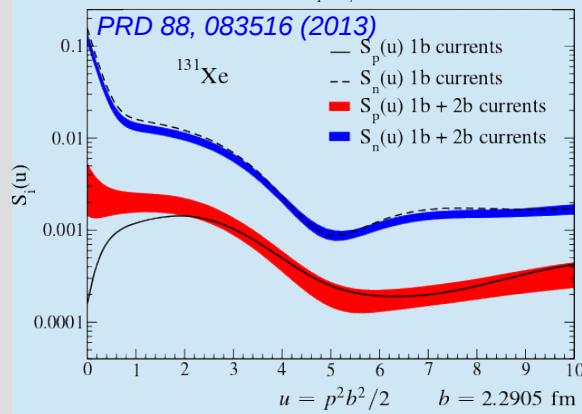
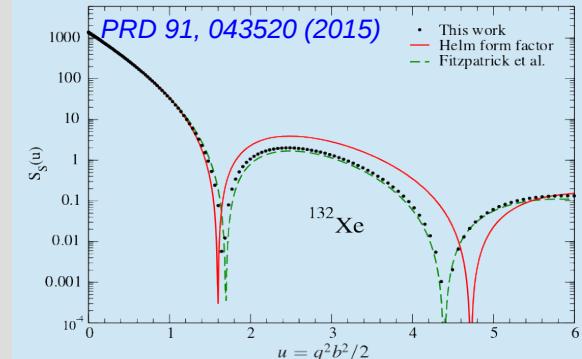
often: express SD results in **proton-only** or **neutron-only**

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d|\mathbf{q}|^2} = \frac{C_{\text{spin}}}{v^2} G_F^2 \frac{S(|\mathbf{q}|)}{S(0)}$$

$$C_{\text{spin}} = \frac{8}{\pi} [a_p \langle S_p \rangle + a_n \langle S_n \rangle]^2 \frac{J+1}{J}$$

**Form factors** describe loss of coherence

→ mainly for heavy targets and tail of  $v$ -distribution



# Direct WIMP Search

Direct Detection:

$$E_r < 100 \text{ keV}$$

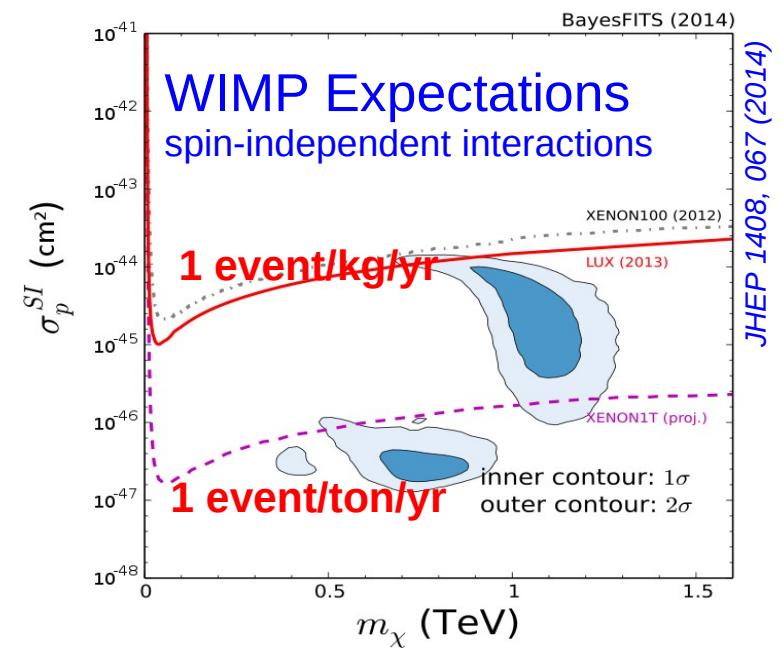
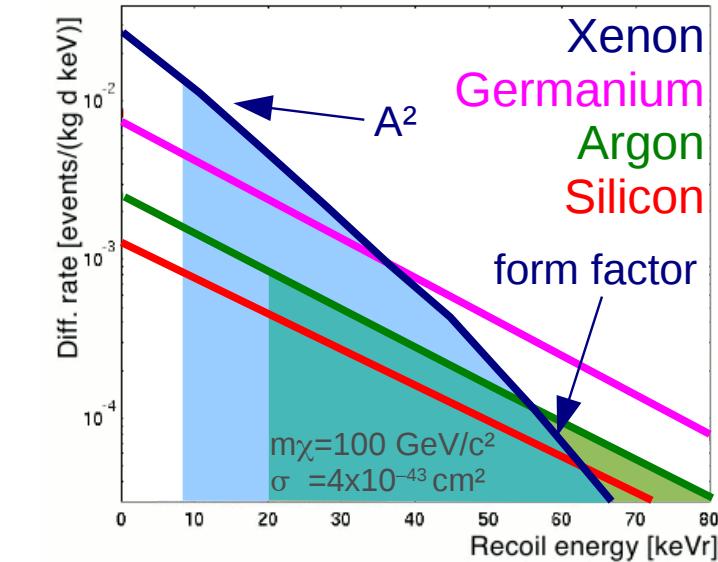
$$R < 1 \text{ evt/kg/year}$$

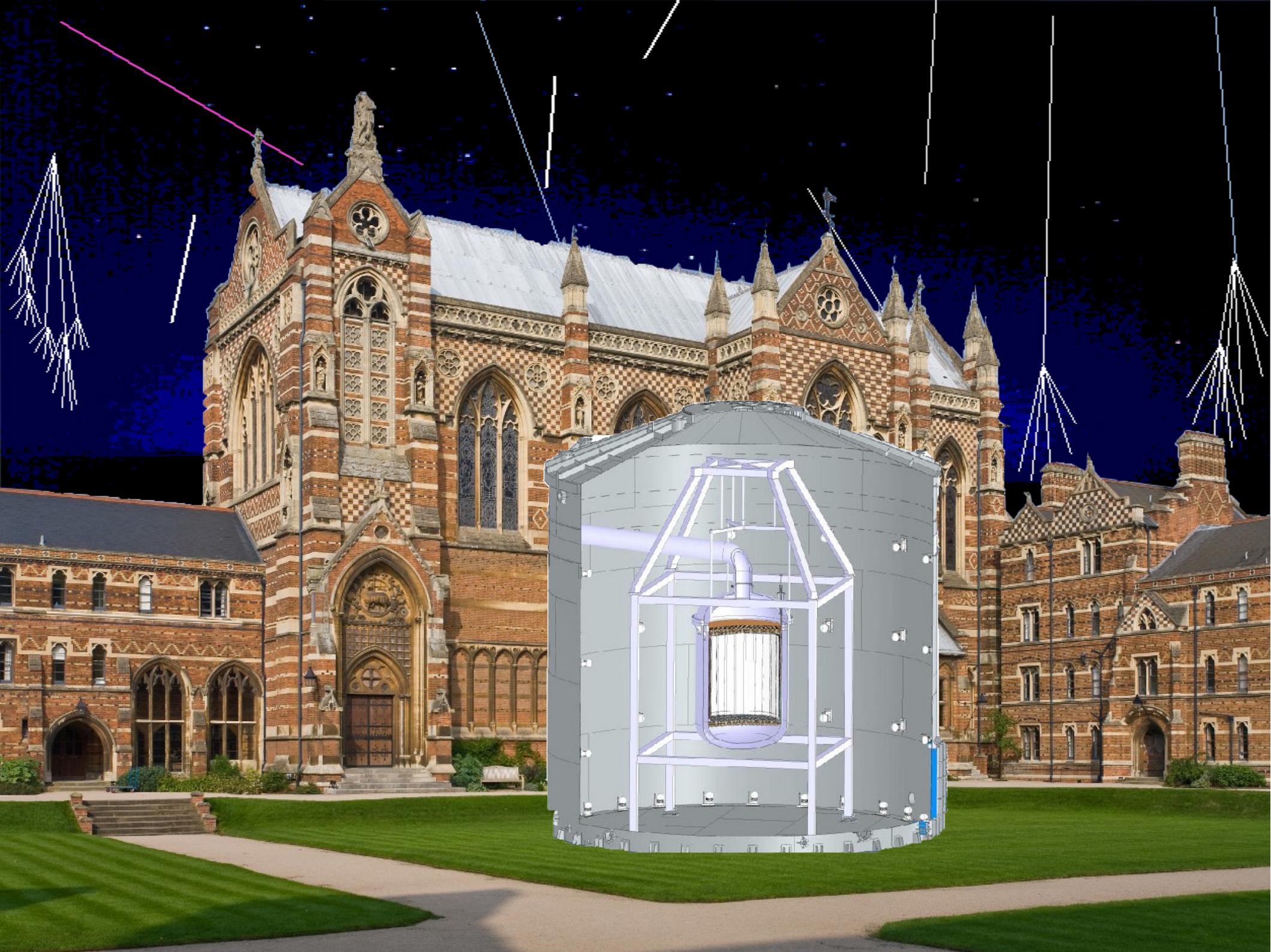
How to build a WIMP detector?

- large total mass, high  $A$
- low energy threshold
- ultra low background
- good signal / background discrimination

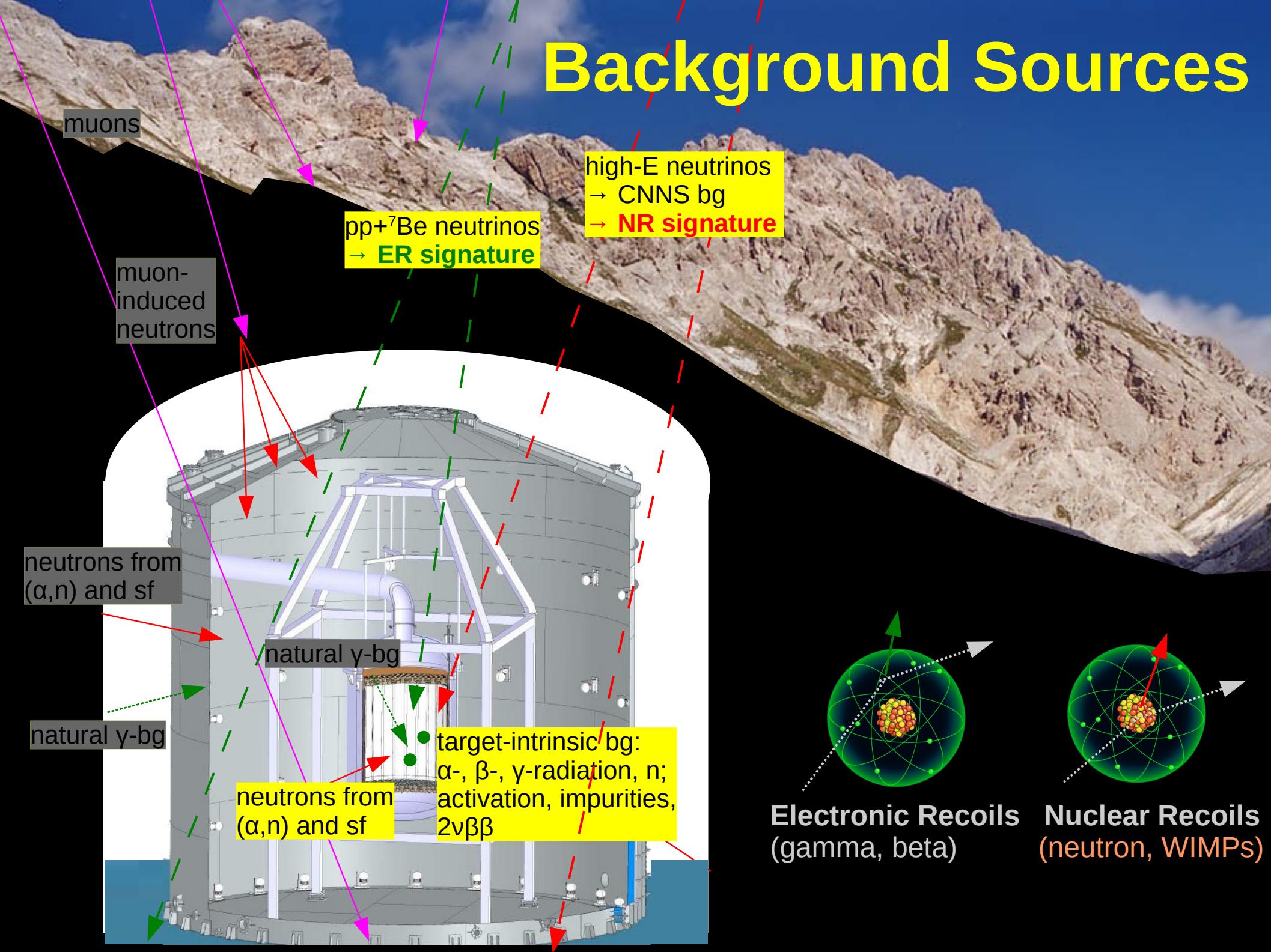
We are dealing with

- extremely **low rates** ( $\mathcal{O}(1)$  Hz)
- extremely **low thresholds** ( $\sim 2$  keV)
- extremely **low radioactive backgrounds**

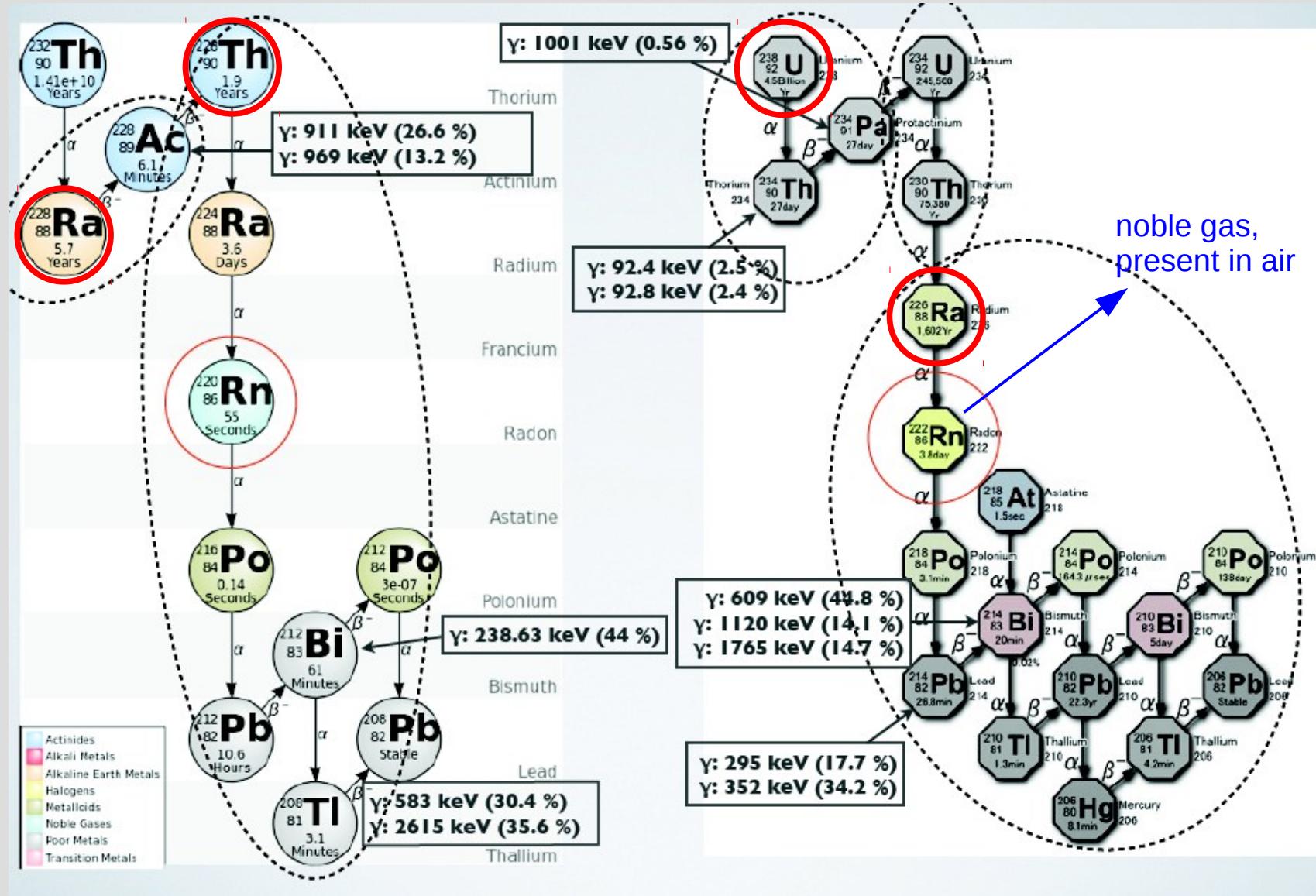




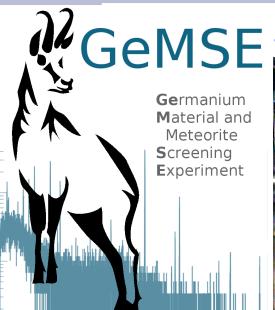
# Background Sources



# The U and Th Chains



# Low-background Screening



JINST 11, P12017 (2016)

Vue des Alpes Laboratory  
(600 mwe)



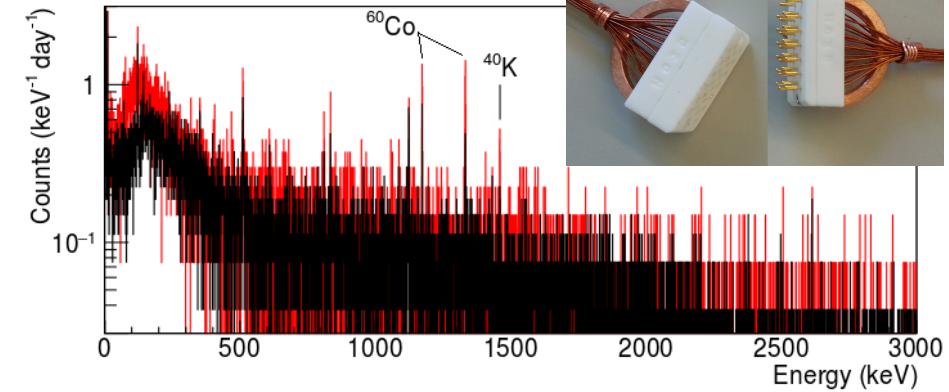
*Identify materials with lowest radioactivity:*

- $\gamma$ -spectrometry using HPGe Detectors
- mass spectroscopy: ICP-MS, GDMS
- neutron activation analysis
- $^{222}\text{Rn}$  emanation

Material	Supplier	Detector	Unit	$^{228}\text{Ra}$	$^{228}\text{Th}$	$^{238}\text{U}$	$^{226}\text{Ra}$	$^{235}\text{U}$	$^{40}\text{K}$	$^{137}\text{Cs}$	$^{60}\text{Co}$
<b>Metal</b>											
Lead	Plumbum	Gator	mBq/kg	< 6.9	< 0.52	< 260	< 4.2	< 12	14(3)	< 0.81	< 0.11
Lead	Plumbum	LNGS	mBq/kg	< 6.6	< 1.6	< 130	< 5.7	< 51	14(6)	< 2.1	< 1.1
Lead	Foundaries de Gentilly	Gator	mBq/kg	< 0.66	< 0.42	< 24	< 0.71	< 1.8	< 1.46	0.63(6)	< 0.11
Lead	Foundaries de Gentilly	LNGS	mBq/kg	< 3.9	< 4.3	< 33	< 6.8	< 20	< 28	< 0.85	< 0.19
Copper	Norddeutsche Affinerie	Gator	$\mu\text{Bq}/\text{kg}$	21(7)	21(7)	70(20)	70(20)	3.4	23(6)	2(1)	
Copper	Norddeutsche Affinerie	Gator	mBq/kg	< 0.37	< 0.33	< 11	< 0.37	< 0.47	< 1.3	< 0.14	0.24(6)
Stainless Steel 316Ti (1.5 mm)	NIRONIT	LNGS	mBq/kg	< 2.4	< 1.0	< 130	< 1.9	< 2.0	10(4)	< 0.9	8.5(9)
Stainless Steel 316Ti (2.5 mm)	NIRONIT	LNGS	mBq/kg	< 3.1	< 1.5	< 42	< 2.7	< 1.4	< 12	< 0.88	13(1)
Stainless Steel 316Ti (3.0 mm)	NIRONIT	Gator	mBq/kg	< 4.1	< 1.8	< 130	3.6(8)	< 5.8	< 5.7	< 1.1	7(1)
Stainless Steel 316Ti (25 mm)	NIRONIT	LNGS	mBq/kg	< 0.92	2.9(7)	< 20	< 1.3	< 1.3	< 7.1	< 0.82	1.4(3)
Screws 2-56 7/16"	McMaster	Gator	mBq/kg	24(5)	< 21	< 550	< 13	< 25	< 47	< 5.1	6(2)
<b>Plastic</b>											
Polyethylene	in2plastic	Gator	mBq/kg	< 5.4	< 3.7	< 170	< 5.1	< 7.6	< 14	< 1.7	< 1.4
Polyethylene	in2plastic	Gator	mBq/kg	< 4.3	< 5.8	< 220	< 6.5	< 9.9	< 13	< 2.1	< 1.7
Polyethylene	in2plastic	LNGS	mBq/kg	< 0.094	< 0.14	< 3.8	0.23(5)	< 0.37	0.7(4)	0.06(3)	
PTFE	Maagtechnic	Gator	mBq/kg	< 0.39	< 0.16	< 6.2	< 0.31	< 0.28	< 2.25	< 0.13	< 0.11
PTFE	Maagtechnic	Gator	mBq/kg	< 0.16	< 0.10	< 3.0	< 0.06	< 0.13	< 0.75	< 0.07	< 0.03
PTFE	McMaster	ICP-MS	mBq/kg	0.5(1)	0.5(1)	0.25(5)	0.25(5)	0.011(2)	< 3.1		
PTFE	McMaster	LNGS	mBq/kg	< 1.8	< 2.3	< 36	< 1.1	< 1.4	< 7.6	< 0.44	
PTFE	APT	LNGS	mBq/kg	< 0.15	< 0.13	< 12	< 0.16	< 0.59	3(1)	< 0.11	0.15(7)

Energy (keV)

low-background HV connector



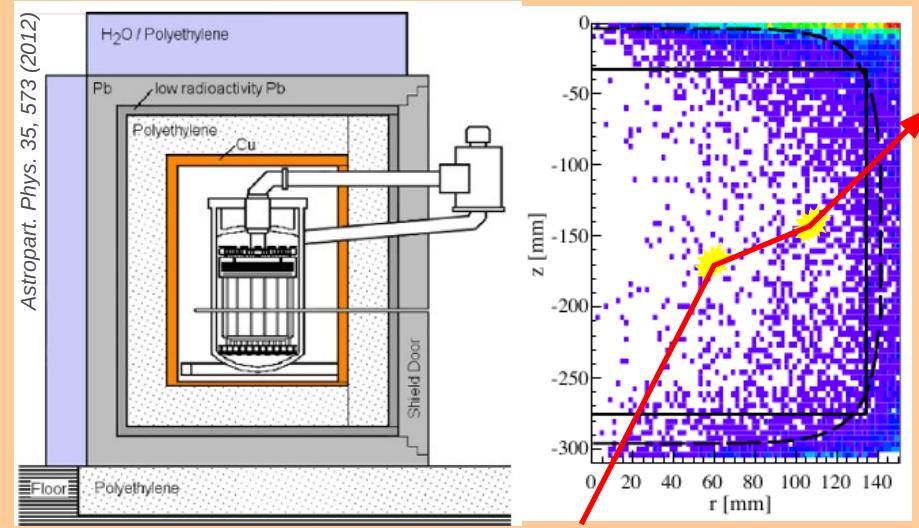
# Background Suppression

## Avoid Backgrounds

### Shielding

- deep underground location
- large shield (Pb, water, poly)
- active veto ( $\mu$ ,  $\gamma$  coincidence)
- self shielding  $\rightarrow$  fiducialization

### Use of radiopure materials



## Use knowledge about expected WIMP signal

### WIMPs interact only once

- $\rightarrow$  single scatter selection
- requires some position resolution

### WIMPs interact with target nuclei

- $\rightarrow$  nuclear recoils

exploit different  $dE/dx$  from  
signal and background

### Examples:

- scintillation pulse shape
- charge/light ratio
- ionization yield

# Direct WIMP Detection

Crystals (NaI, Ge, Si)  
Cryogenic Detectors  
Liquid Noble Gases

CoGeNT  
CDEX  
Malbek  
DAMIC  
NEWS (gas)

CUORE

Phonons

*SuperCDMS*  
*EDELWEISS*

*CRESST*  
*COSINUS*

Charge

*XENON, LUX/LZ*  
*ArDM, Panda-X*  
*DarkSide, DARWIN*

Light

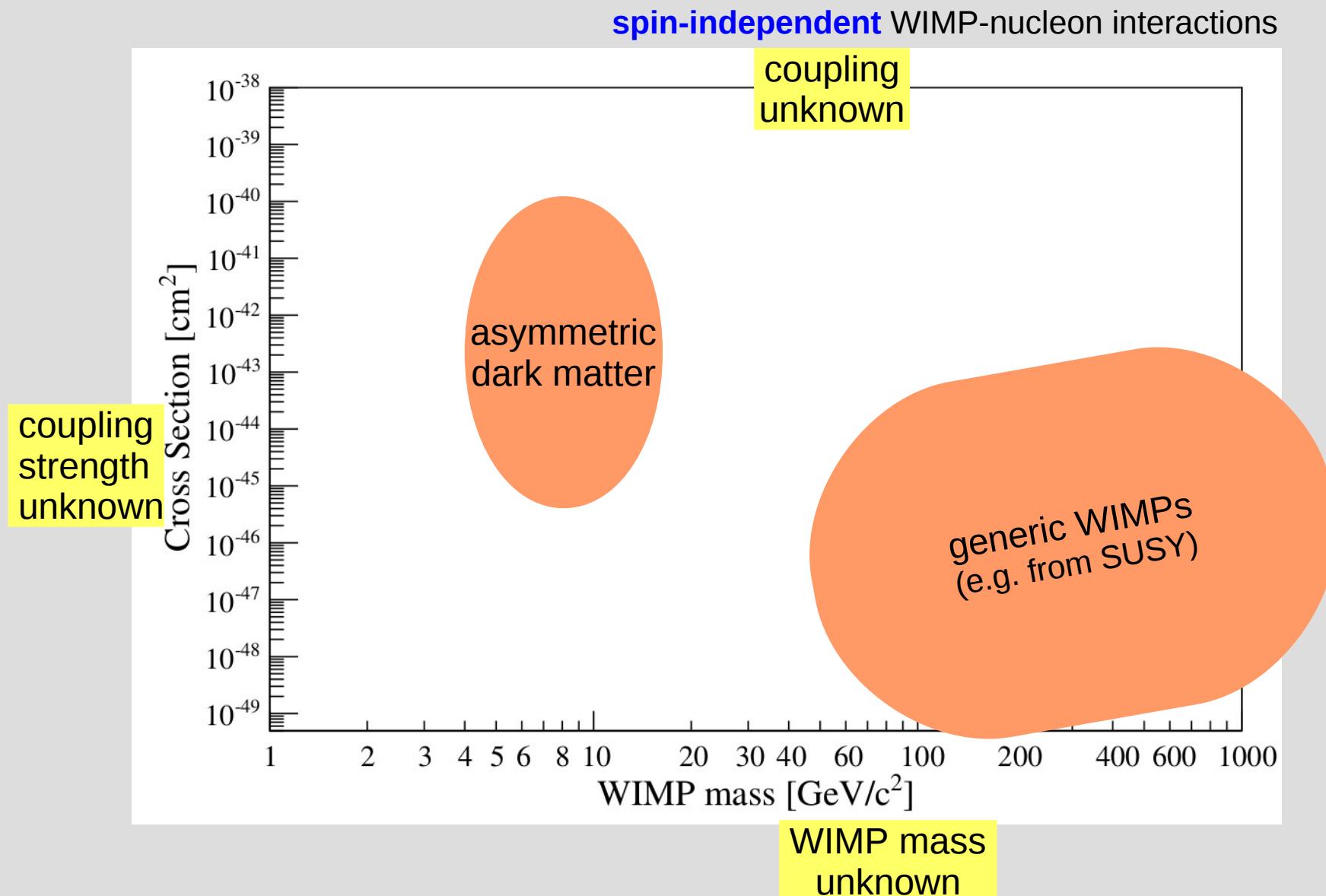
*DEAP-3600, CLEAN*  
*DAMA, KIMS*  
*XMASS, COSINE*  
*ANALIS, SABRE*

Tracking:  
*DRIFT, DMTPC*  
*MIMAC, NEWS*  
*NEWAGE*

Superheated  
Liquids:  
*PICO*  
*SIMPLE*

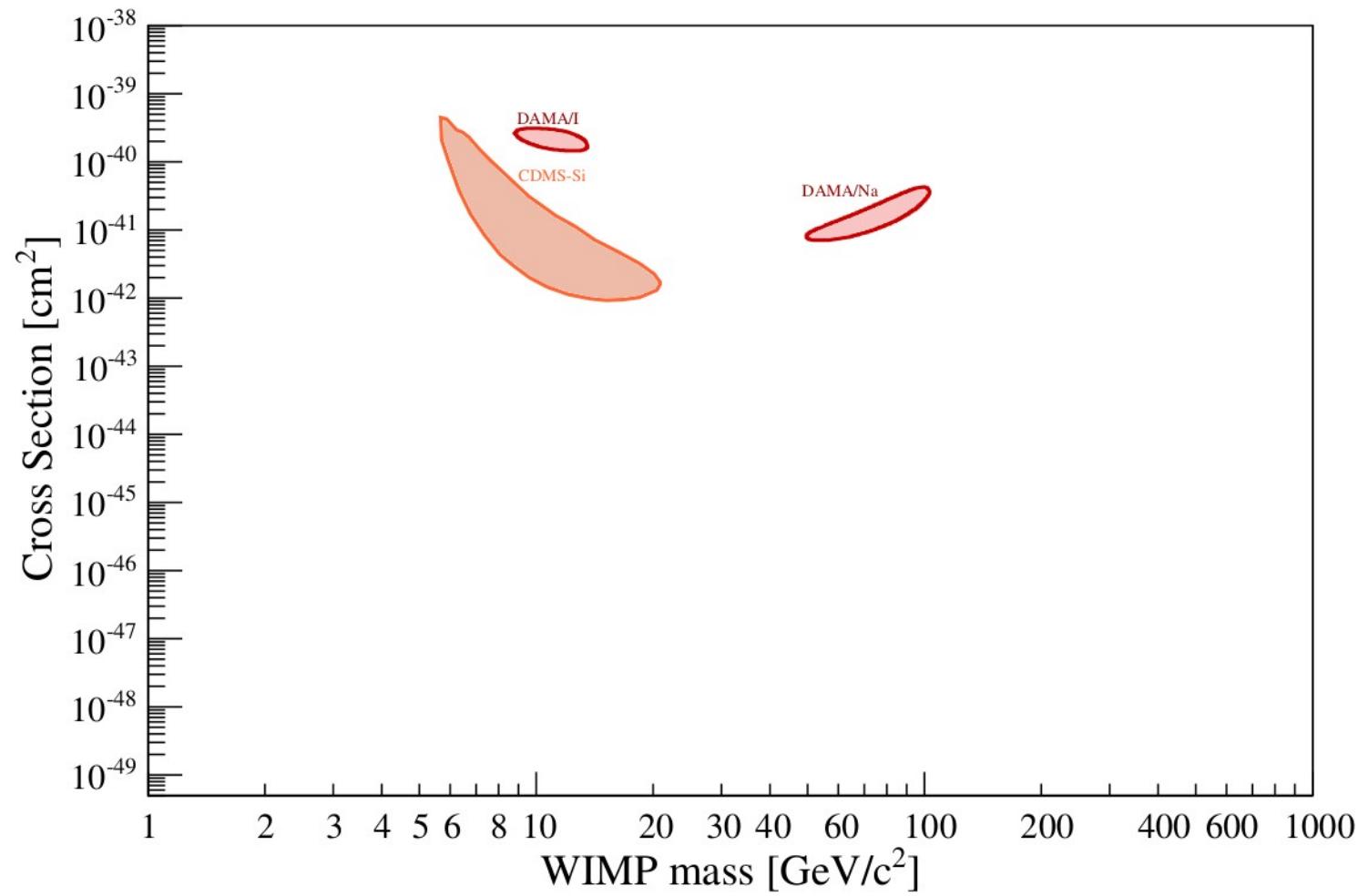
too many experimental efforts to report on → you will see a biased selection

# The WIMP Parameter Space



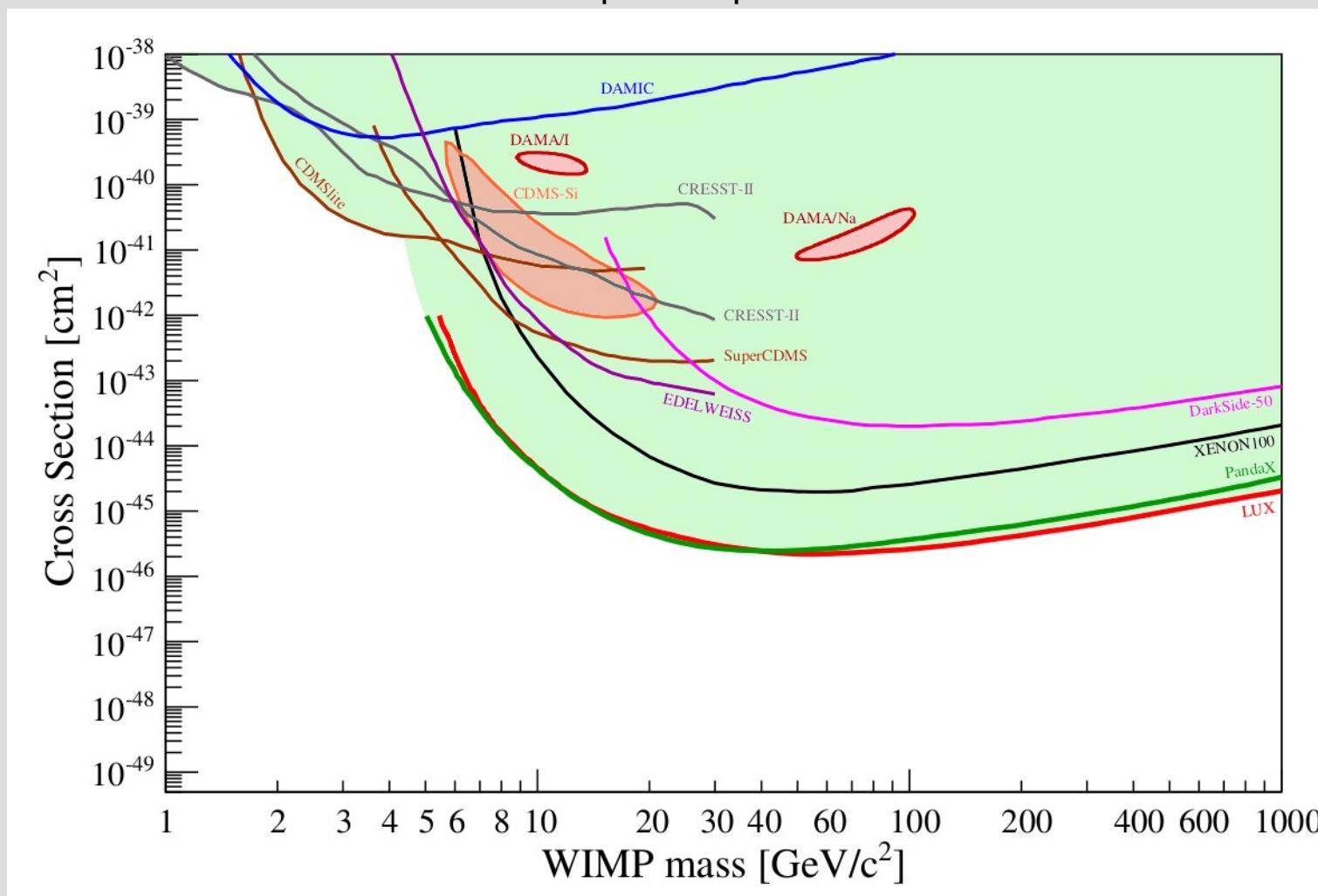
# Detections?

spin-independent WIMP-nucleon interactions



# Exclusions?

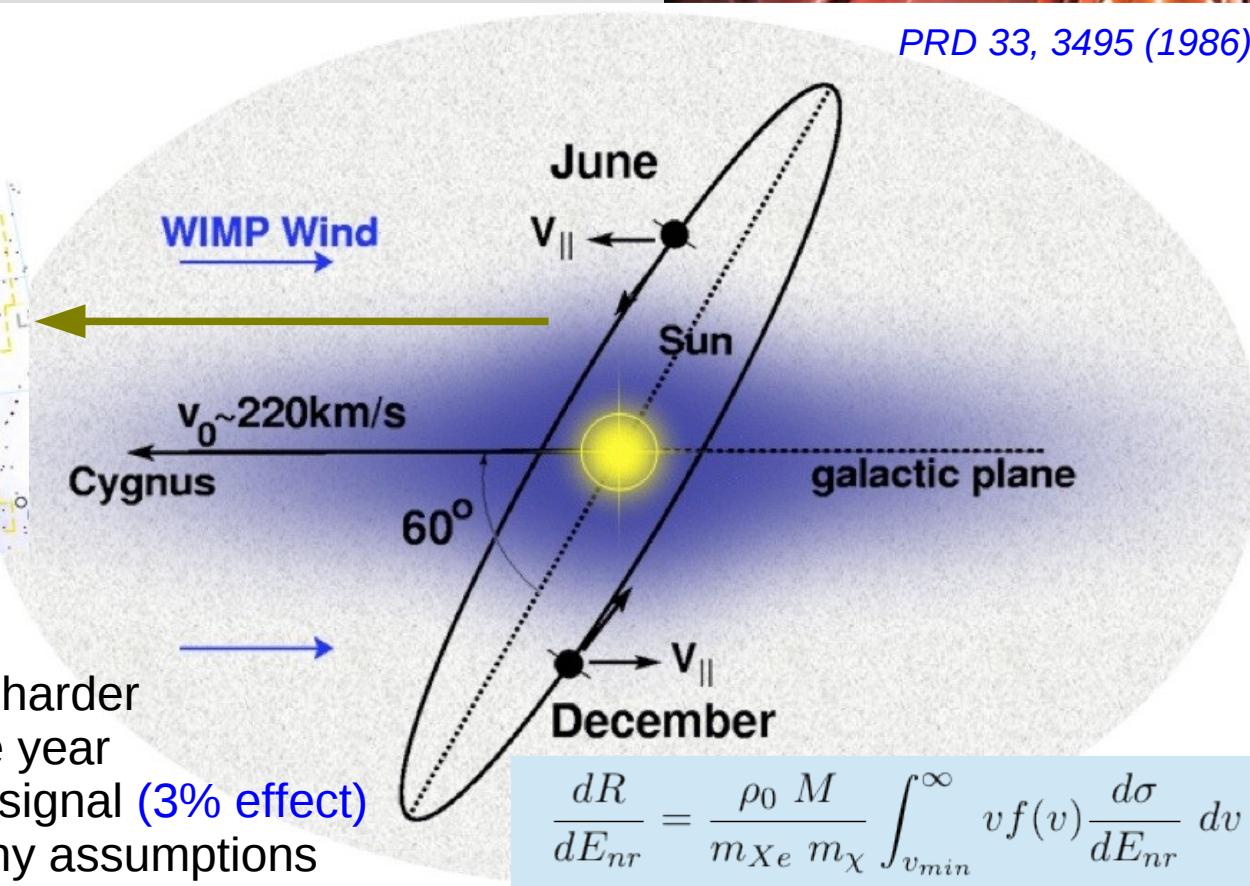
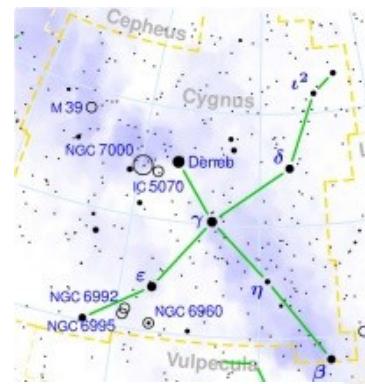
spin-independent WIMP-nucleon interactions



*some results are missing...*

# Annual Modulation: DAMA/Libra

- PMTs coupled to **Nal(Tl)** Scintillators @ LNGS  
→ extremely clean background necessary
- large mass and exposure: 1.17 t×y
- looks for **annual modulation**



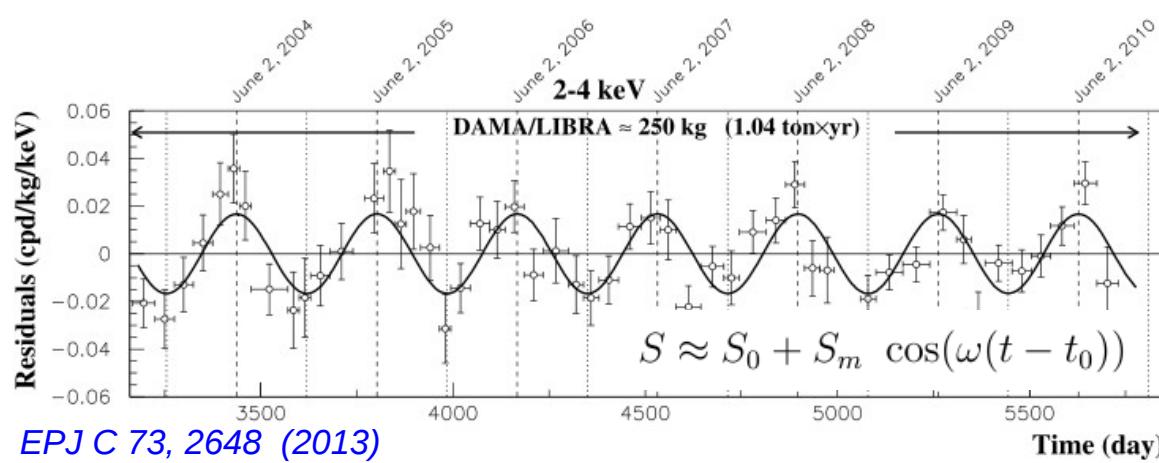
- recoil spectrum gets harder and softer during the year
- annually modulating signal (**3% effect**)
- does not require many assumptions

# Annual Modulation: DAMA/Libra

- PMTs coupled to **NaI(Tl)** Scintillators @ LNGS  
→ extremely clean background necessary
- large mass and exposure: 1.17 t×y
- looks for annual modulation



- DAMA finds annual modulation @ **9.3 $\sigma$  CL**
- BUT: no ER/NR discrimination!



interpretation as (spin-(in)dependent, inelastic) WIMP-nucleon scattering challenged by many experiments

Reconcile DAMA/Libra with the null-results from other experiments assuming **leptophilic** dark matter?  
→ DAMA might see electronic recoils

Examples:

Axial-vector couplings:

Kopp et al., PRD 80, 083502 (2009)

Chang et al., PRD 90, 015011 (2014)

Bell et al., PRD 90, 035027 (2014)

Mirror dark matter:

Foot, Int.J.Mod.Phys. A29, 1430013 (2014)

Luminous dark matter:

Feldstein et al., PRD 82, 075019 (2010)

# DAMA vs XENON

Science 349, 851 (2015)

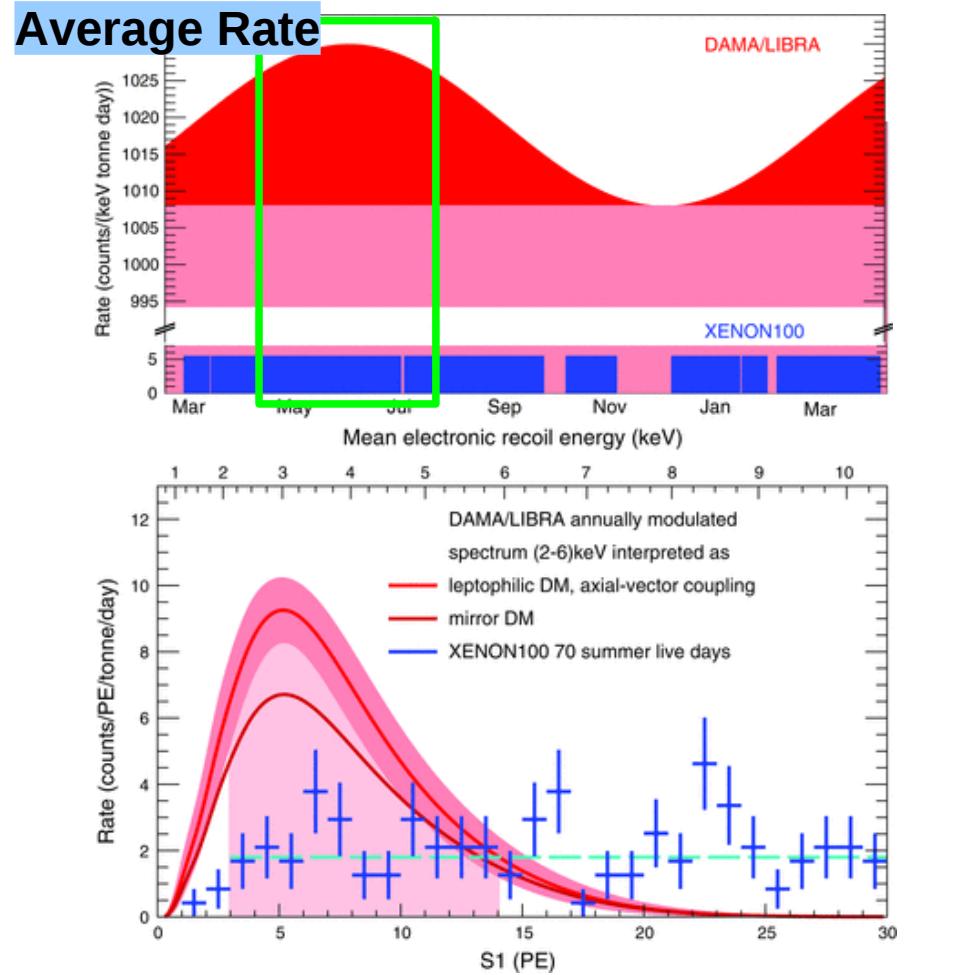
Xe  
XENON  
Dark Matter Project



XENON100 @ LNGS

Astropart. Phys. 35, 573 (2012)

result from XMASS PLB759, 272 (2016)  
→ exposure comparable to DAMA  
→ result inconsistent with DAMA



XENON100 excludes DAMA as being due to

- WIMP-e<sup>-</sup> axial-vector couplings at  $4.4\sigma$
- luminous dark matter at  $4.6\sigma$
- mirror dark matter at  $3.6\sigma$

# DAMA vs XENON

Modulation

Detector

Pressure [bar]

Temperature [K]

Analysis

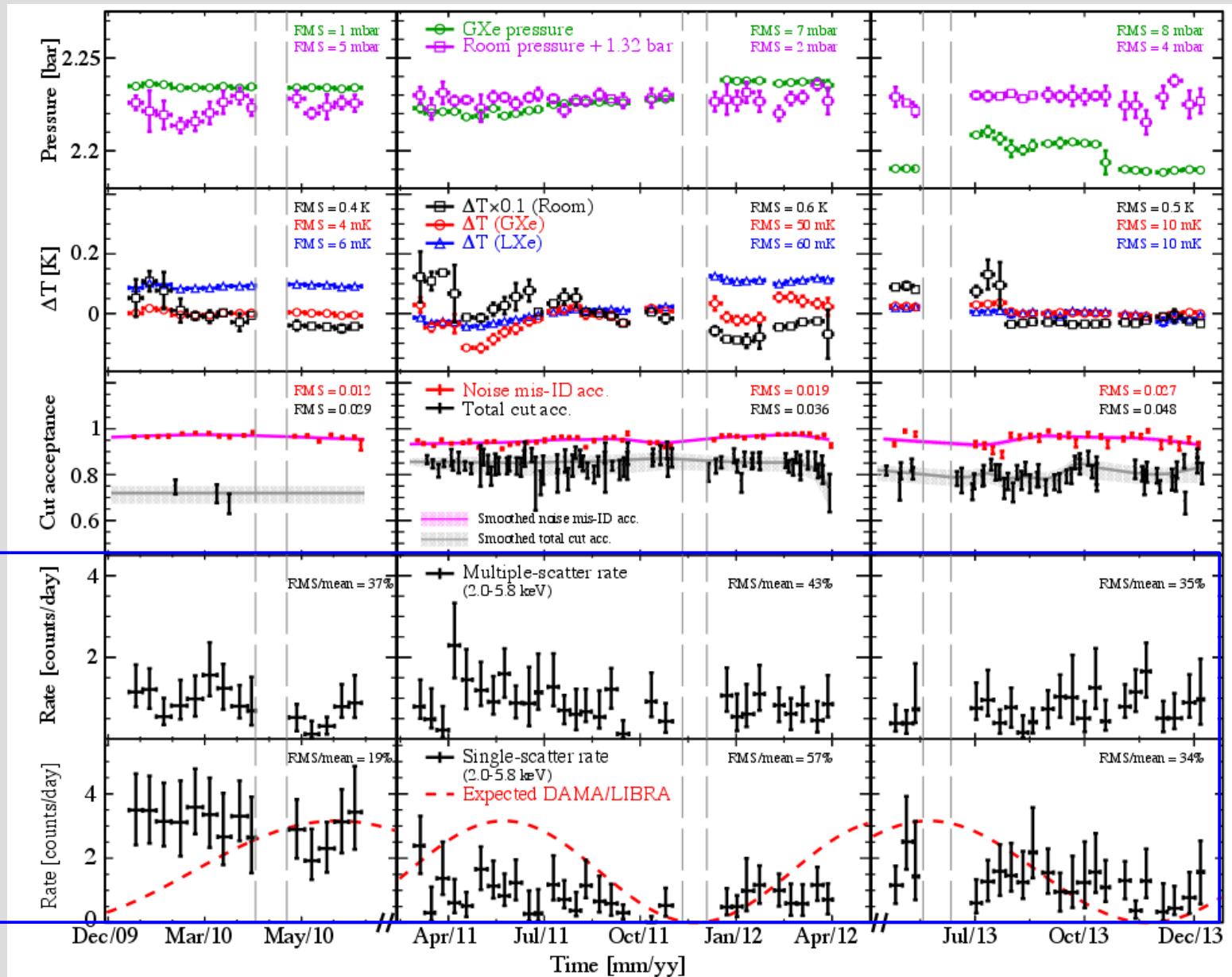
Cut Acceptance

Rate

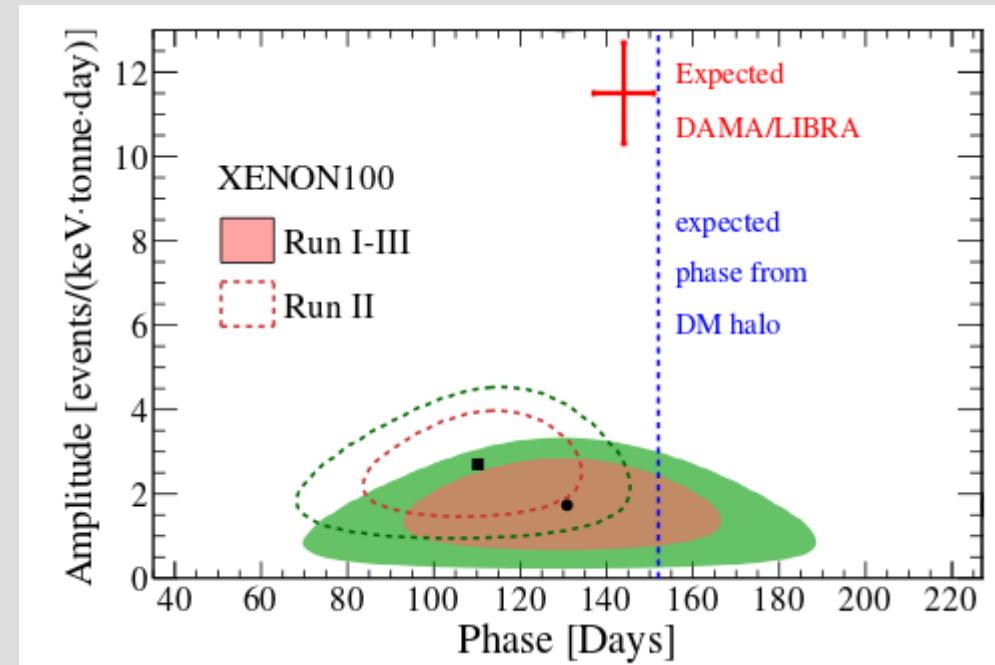
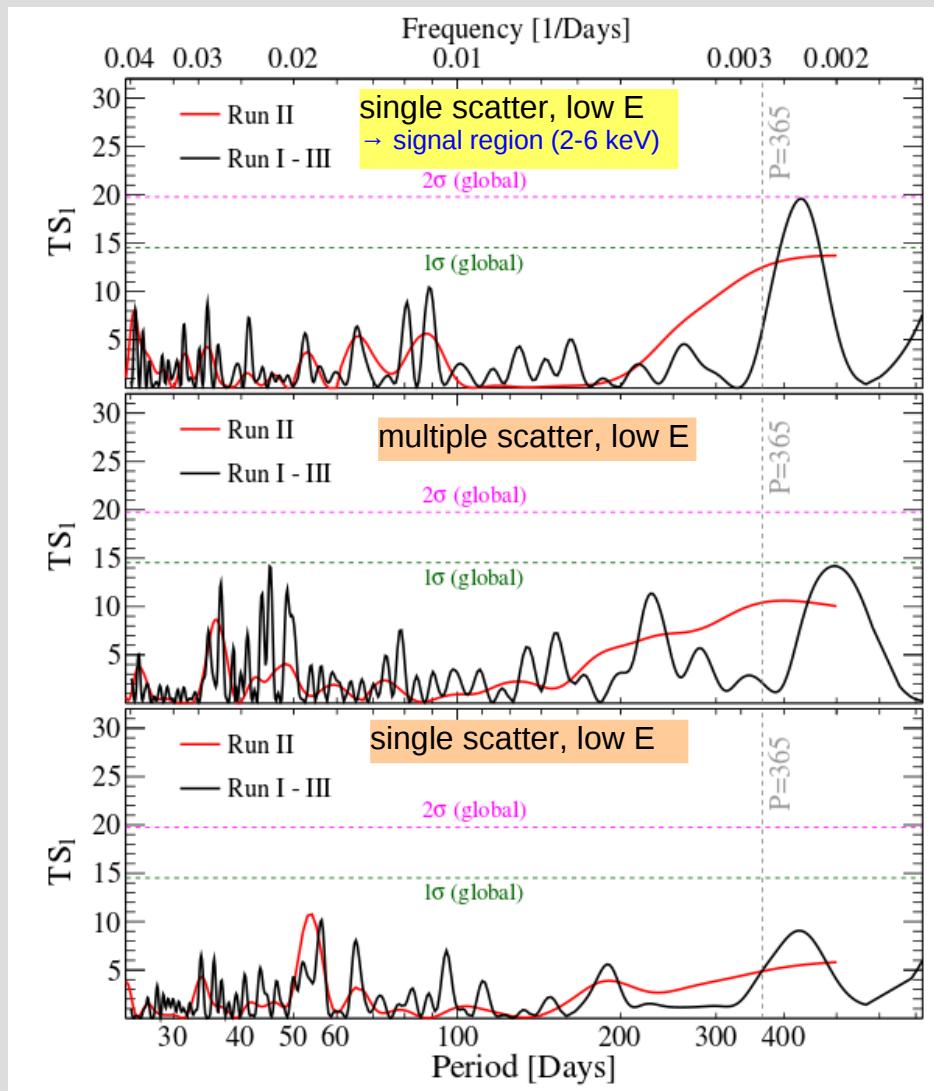
Multiples  
(=background)

Singles  
(=signal)

arXiv:2017.00769



# DAMA vs XENON



- additional data improves upon previous analysis [PRL 115, 091302 \(2015\)](#)
- no significant modulation observed
- Dark matter explanation of DAMA/LIBRA signal excluded @ **5.7 $\sigma$**

# New NaI Projects to test DAMA

aim at testing the DAMA claim using the same target/detector  
→ main challenges: crystal purity, low threshold, target mass

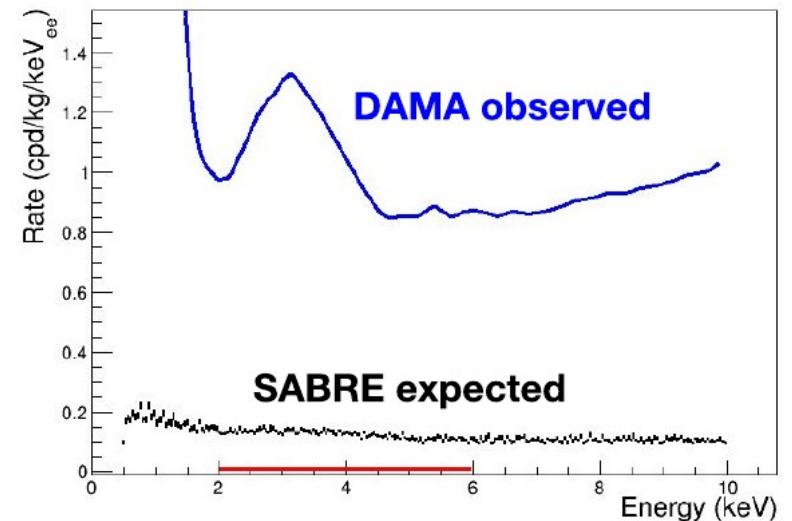
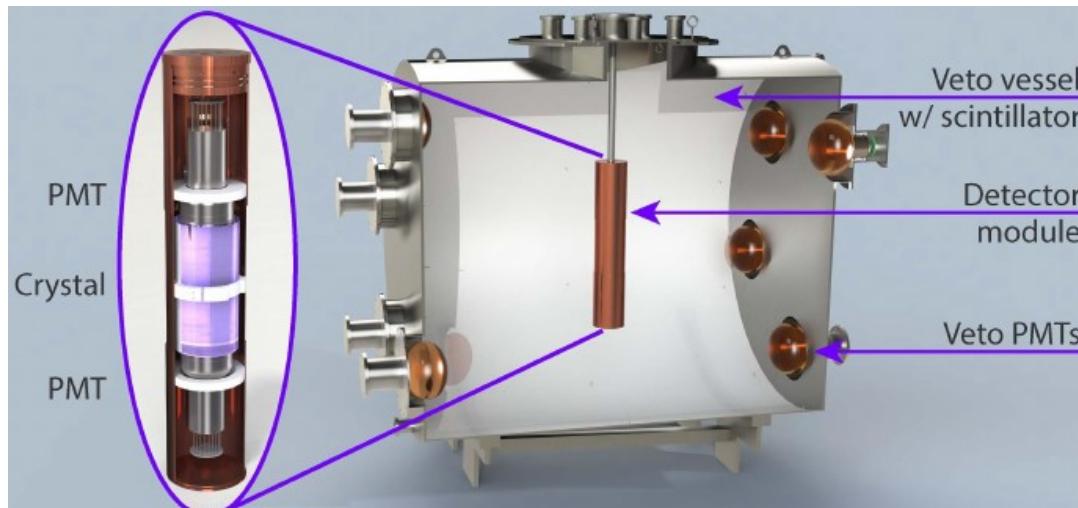
## SABRE

*NIM A 845, 418 (2017)*

Sodium-iodine with Active Background REjection

### Strategy:

- lower background: better crystals ✓, PMTs
- liquid scintillator veto against  $^{40}\text{K}$  (factor 10)
- lower threshold (PMTs directly coupled to NaI)
- North (LNGS) and South (Australia)
- Status: proof-of-principle prepared at LNGS (5 kg)



**DM-Ice**: 17 kg @ South Pole

*arxiv:1602.05939*

**COSINE** = KIMS+DM-Ice

~100 kg @ Yangyang → start soon

**ANALIS**: 112 kg @ Canfranc

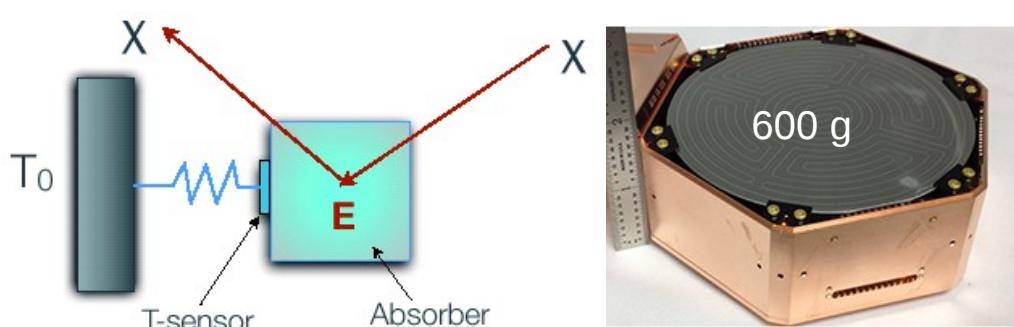
→ background ~2-3x DAMA

**COSINUS R&D**: *EPJ C 76, 441 (2016)*

NaI with bolometric+light readout

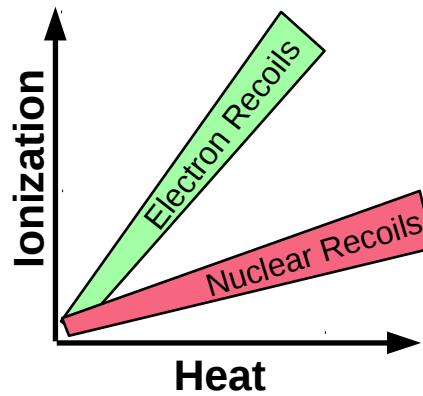
# Cryogenic Detectors

measure charge and heat (phonons) in crystals:  
 $E$  deposition  $\rightarrow$  temperature rise  $\Delta T$   
→ requires detectors at mK temperatures



Crystals: **Ge, (Si)** cooled to few mK  
– low heat capacity  
–  $\Delta T \sim \mu\text{K}$  ( $\rightarrow$  TES)

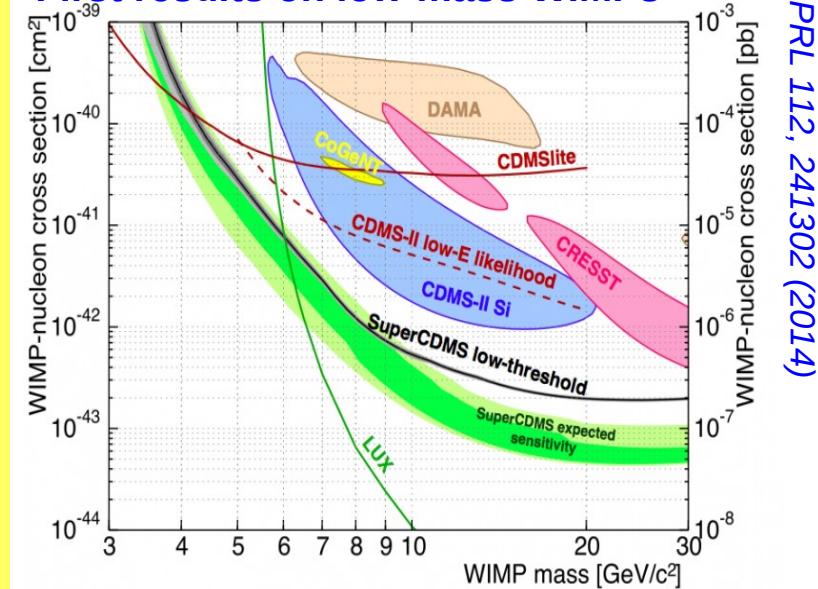
Very good discrimination  
→ BUT: need to reject surface events



## SuperCDMS @ SNOLAB

- selected by NSF-DOE downselection
- ~50 kg (upgrade to 400 kg possible)
- **low threshold**  
→ focus on 1-10  $\text{GeV}/c^2$  mass range
- deeper lab, better materials & shield, improved resolution, electronics, ...
- 100 x 33.3 mm IZPs (1.4 kg Ge, 0.6 kg Si)

## First results on low-mass WIMPs

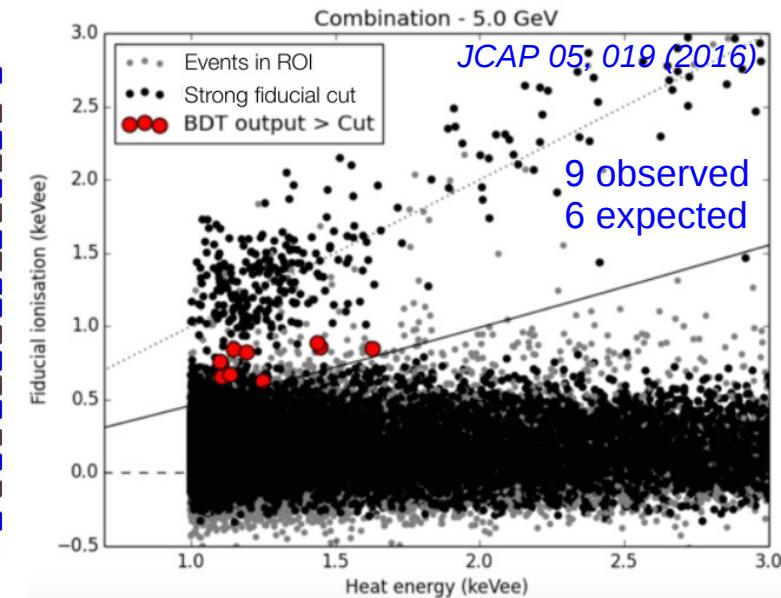
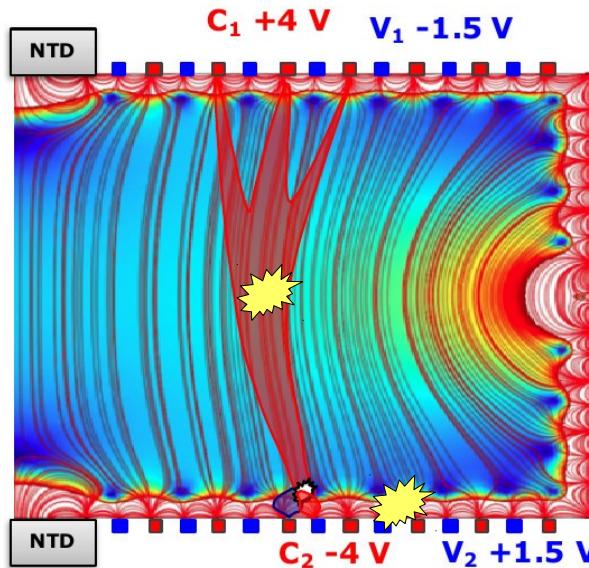
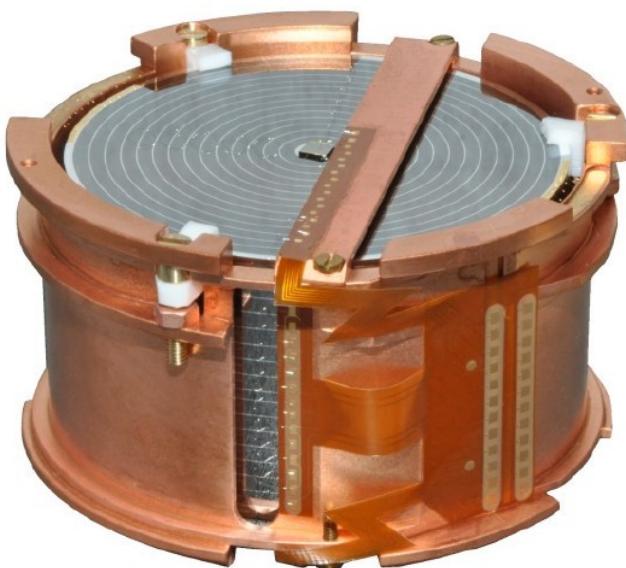


Sensitivity Study: [arXiv:1610.00006](https://arxiv.org/abs/1610.00006)

PRL 112, 241302 (2014)

# EDELWEISS-III

- operating 20 kg of Ge detectors in Modane Lab (F)
- 800 g Ge crystals measure ionization and heat (NTD sensors)
  - apply small voltage to extract charge
- interdigitized electrodes: fiducialization (~600 g)
- simultaneous measurement allows for NR/ER discrimination

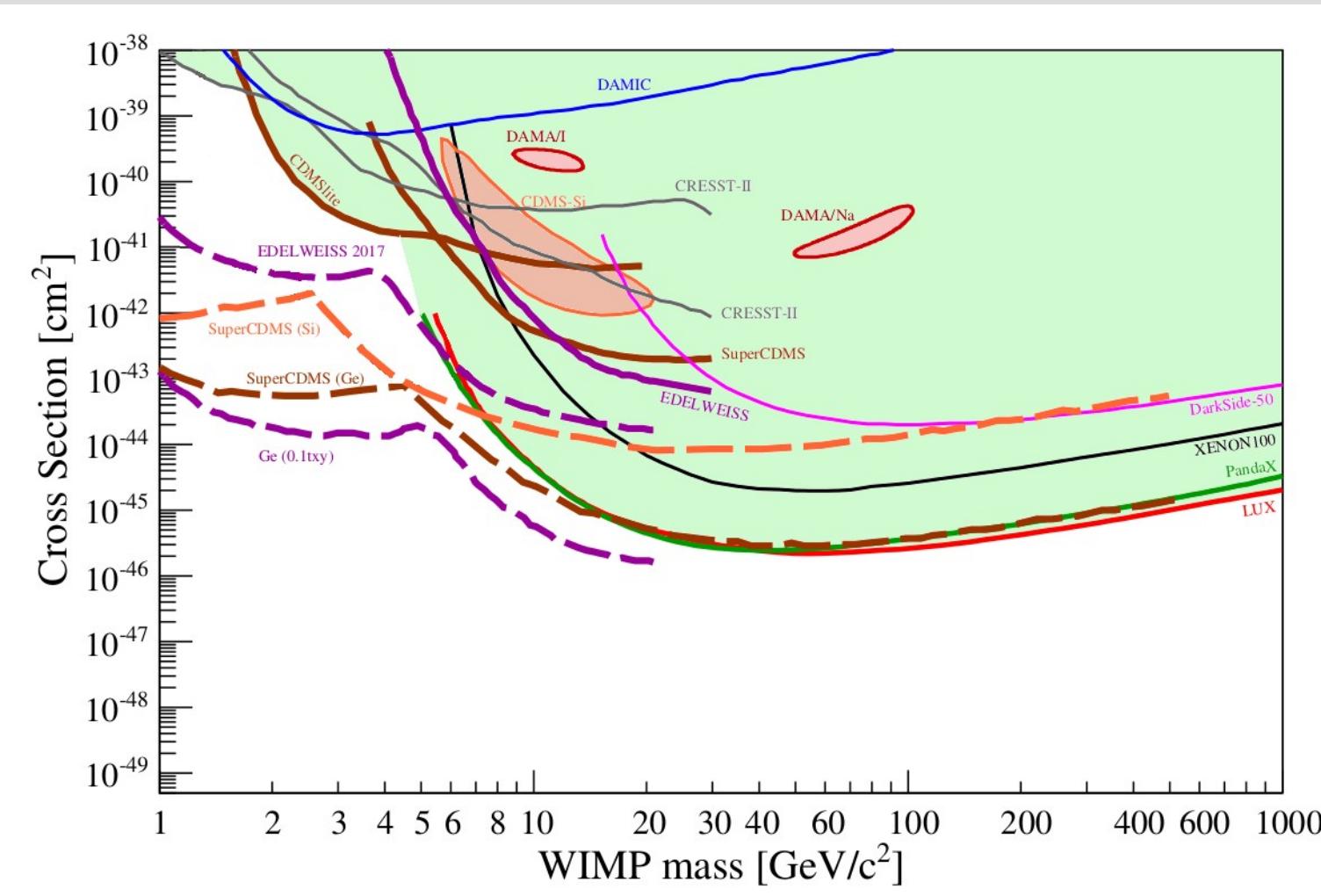


- new **low-threshold result**: 8 detectors with lowest thresholds (2.5–20 keV<sub>nr</sub>)
  - no statistically significant excess
  - 40× better limit than EDW-II @ 5 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>

BDT: JCAP 05, 019 (2016)  
PL: EPJ C 76, 548 (2016)

# Ge / Si: Status and Prospects

spin-independent WIMP-nucleon interactions

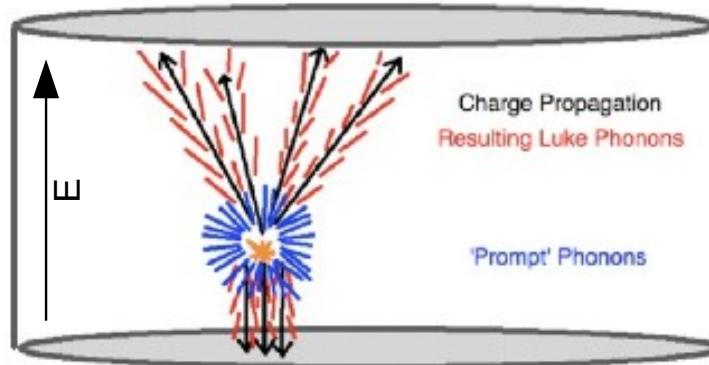


*some projects are missing...*

# Very low WIMP masses

very low threshold for sensitivity to very low-mass WIMPs:  
amplify signal → HV operation: **Neganov-Luke effect** to amplify charge signal

convert work done by E-field on e<sup>-</sup>-hole pairs to phonons



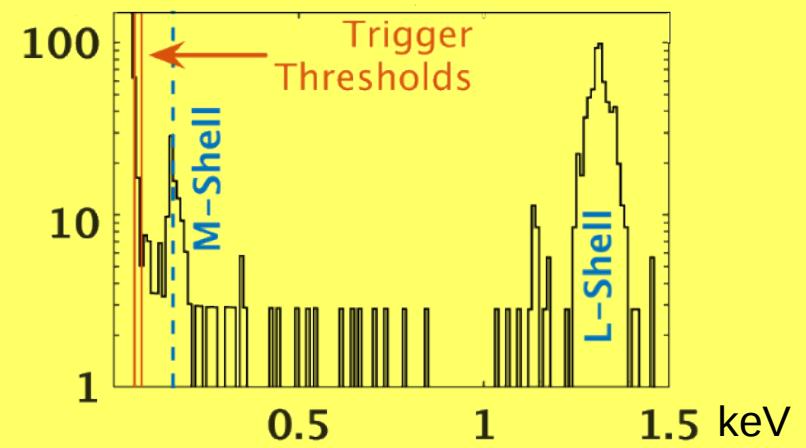
$$\begin{aligned} E_{tot} &= E_r + E_{luke} \\ &= E_r + n_{eh} e V_b \\ &= E_r \left( 1 + \frac{e V_b}{\epsilon_{eh}} \right) \end{aligned}$$

bias voltage  
initial recoil  
3 eV/pair

**EDELWEISS** plans:  
2017: 350 kg×d in HV mode  
afterwards: join forces with CDMS  
**SuperCDMS** plans:  
2018-20: construction  
2020: begin data taking

**CDMSlite** *PRL 116, 071301 (2016)*

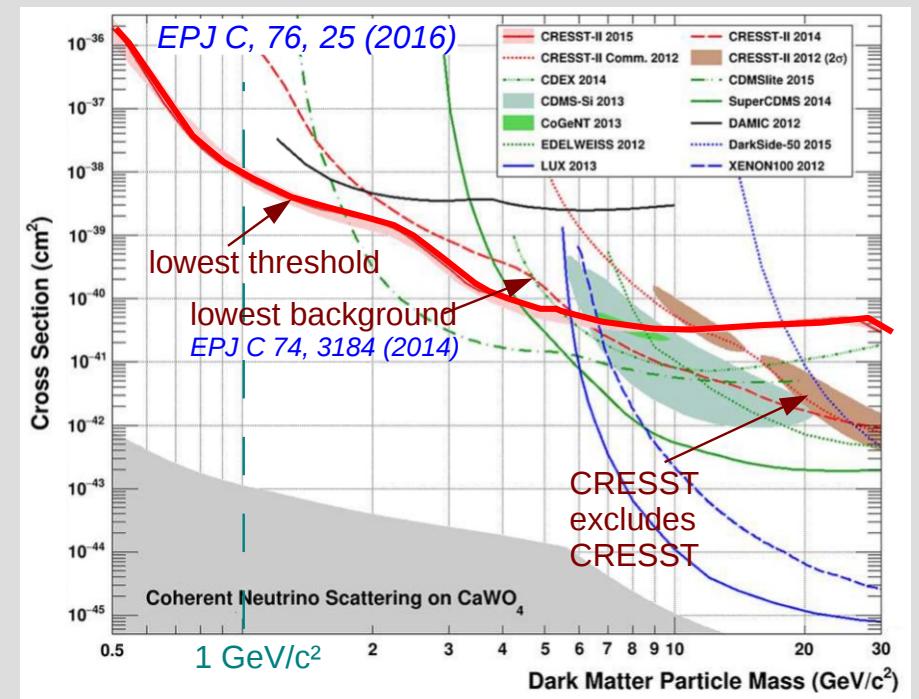
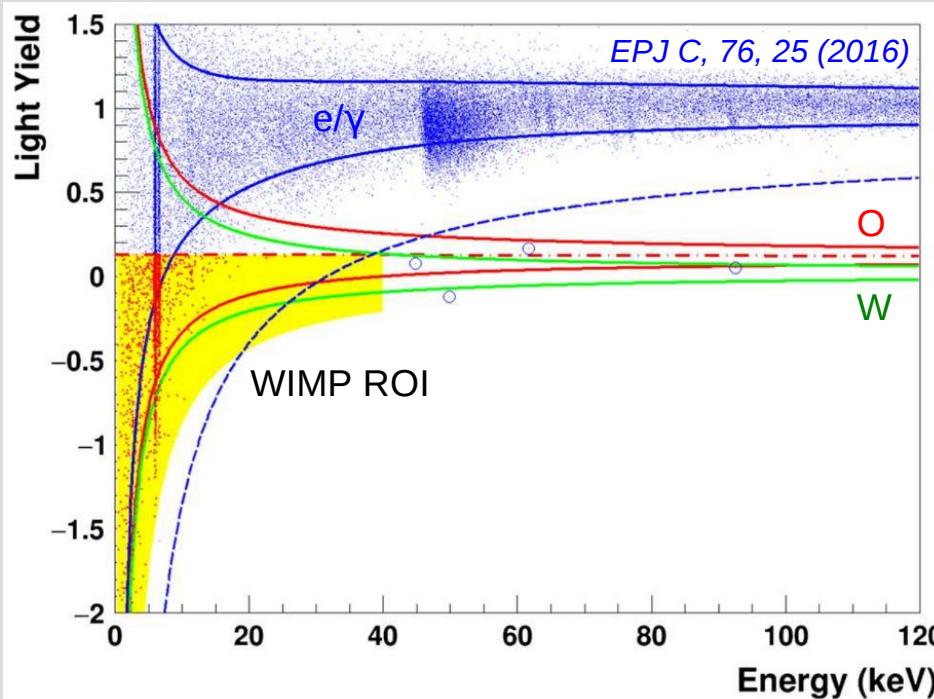
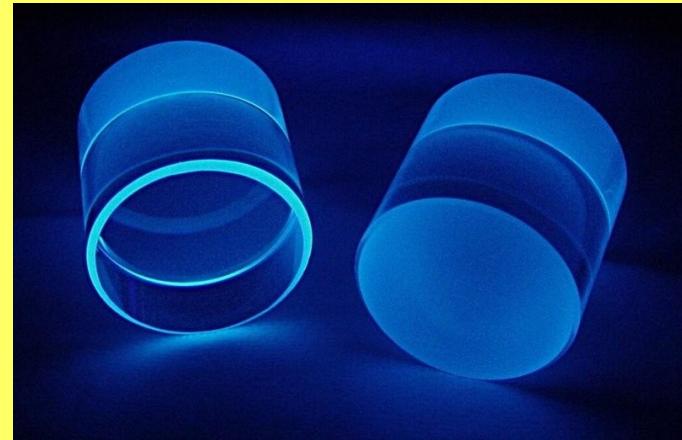
- 625 g iZIP detector, 70 kg×d exposure
- $V_b=69$  V, **56 eVee threshold!** 14 eVee resolution
- no ionization measured  
→ no ER rejection



# CRESST: the low-mass record

## CRESST-II @ LNGS

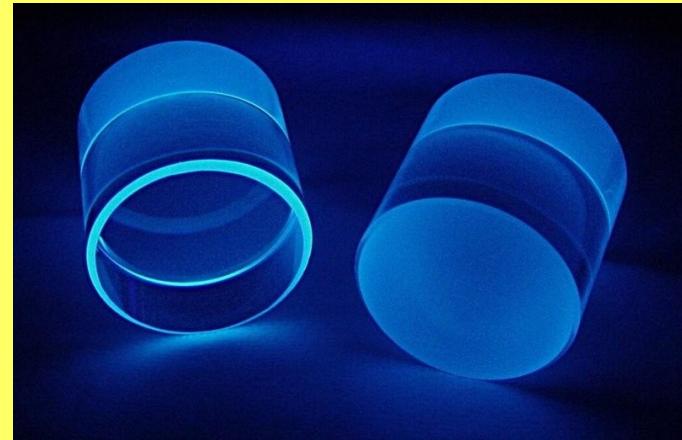
- read phonons and scintillation light
- target:  $\text{CaWO}_4$  → multi-element material
- successful background reduction;  
data taking 2013-2015, 52 kg×d
- **new result** [EPJ C, 76, 25 \(2016\)](#)  
detector with **300 eVnr** threshold



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- **new result** [EPJ C, 76, 25 \(2016\)](#)  
detector with **300 eV<sub>nr</sub>** threshold



## CRESST-III: lower threshold to 100 eV<sub>nr</sub>

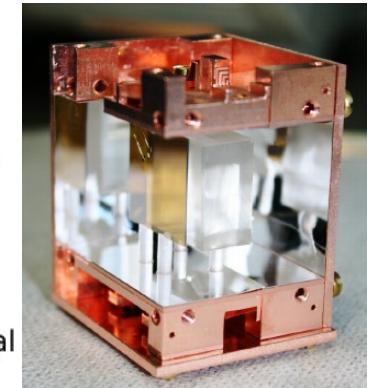
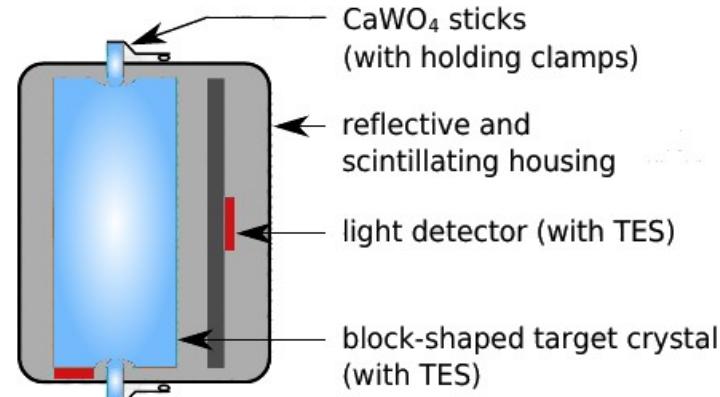
- smaller crystals (250 g → 24 g)
- all-scintillating detector design  
→ avoid partial energy depositions
- improve signal-to-noise

### Status:

- Prototype exceeds design goal:  
**50 eV<sub>nr</sub>** threshold
- commissioning and  
calibration started 2016

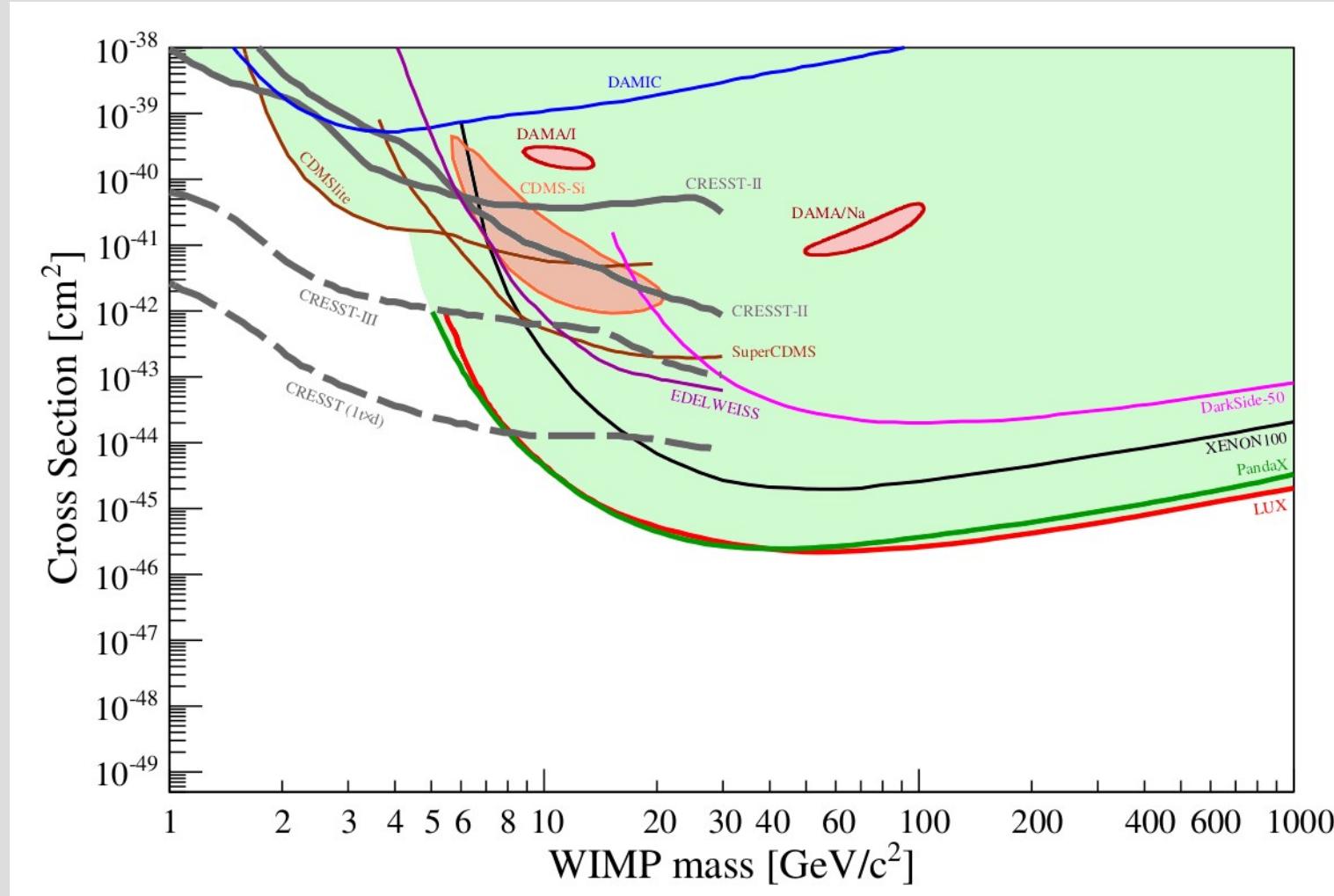
[arXiv:1503.08065](#)

[Reindl @ Lake Louise 2016](#)



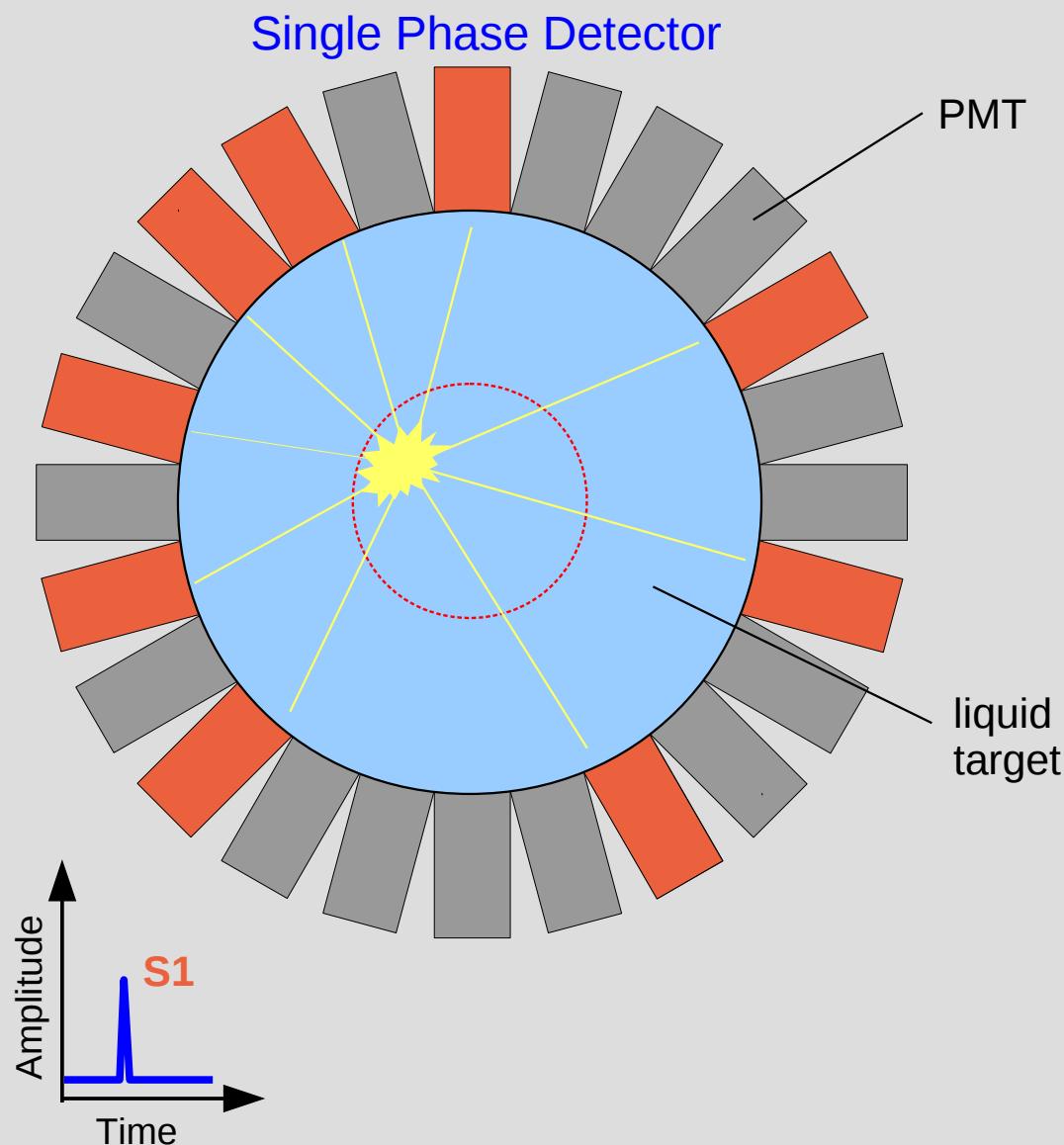
# CRESST: Status and Prospects

spin-independent WIMP-nucleon interactions



*some projects are missing...*

# Liquid Noble Gases: Detector Concepts



- + no high voltage, very high light yield
- O(cm) resolution, no double scatter rejection

# Noble Gas: Single Phase Detectors

## XMASS @ Kamioka (JP)

LXe

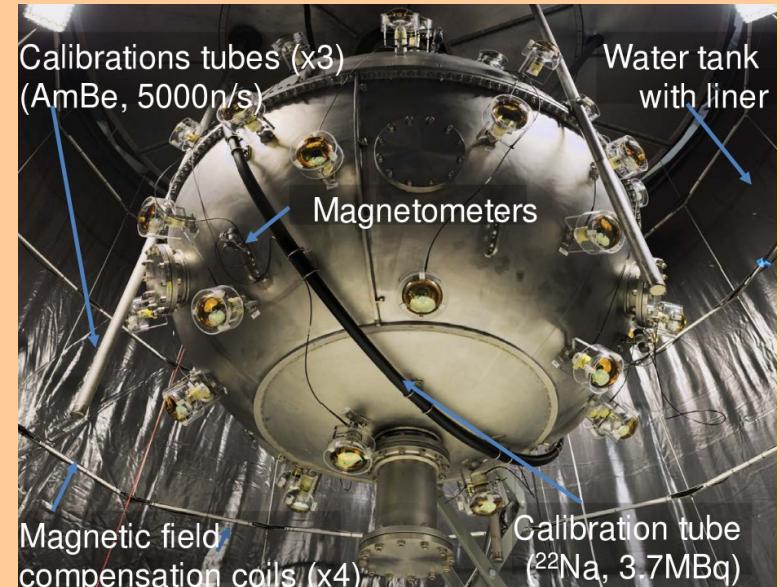
- 832 kg LXe target, 642 PMTs
- very high light yield, low threshold (0.5 keVee)  
BUT: **no possibility to reject NRs**
- many results: summary: [arXiv:1506.08939](https://arxiv.org/abs/1506.08939)
- background reduced after commissioning run  
→ **stable data taking since >2 years**
- plans towards XMASS-1.5t and XMASS-II (24t)



## DEAP-3600 @ SNOLAB (CA)

LAr

- **light pulse-shape for discrimination**  
 $3 \times 10^{-8}$  achieved in 43-86 keVee  
→ prediction:  $10^{-10}$  above 15 keVee in DEAP-3600
- **3.6t** liquid argon target;  
high  $^{39}\text{Ar}$  background when using  $^{\text{nat}}\text{Ar}$  ( $\sim 1$  Bq/kg)
- **data taking right now... high light yield,**  
→ **results expected in spring 2017**
- sensitivity:  $1 \times 10^{-46} \text{ cm}^2$  @ 100 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>



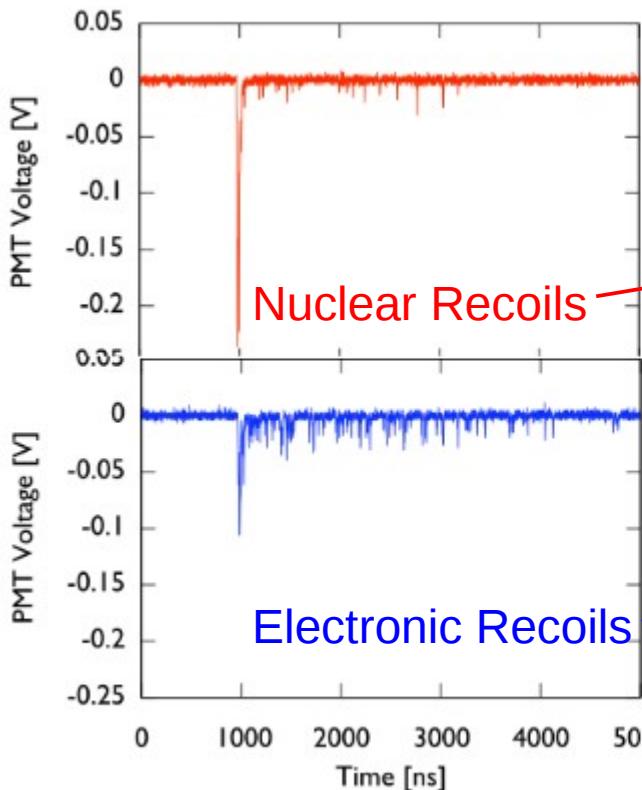
F. Retiere (LIDINE 2015)

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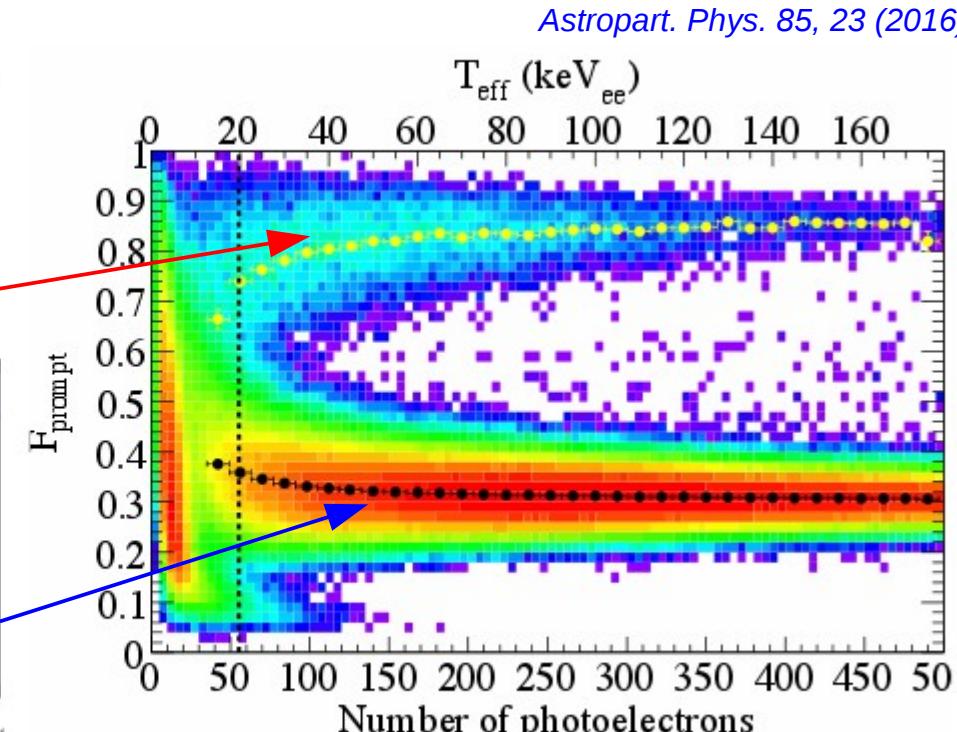
LXe



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→ prediction:  $10^{-10}$  above 15 keVee in DEAP-3600

LAr



g <sup>nat</sup>Ar ( $\sim 1$  Bq/kg)

in LAr...

GeV/c<sup>2</sup>



Water tank with liner

F. Retiere (LIDINE 2015)

magnetic field compensation coils (x4)  
 $^{22}\text{Na}$ , 3.7MBq)

# Noble Gas: Single Phase Detectors

## XMASS @ Kamioka (JP)

LXe

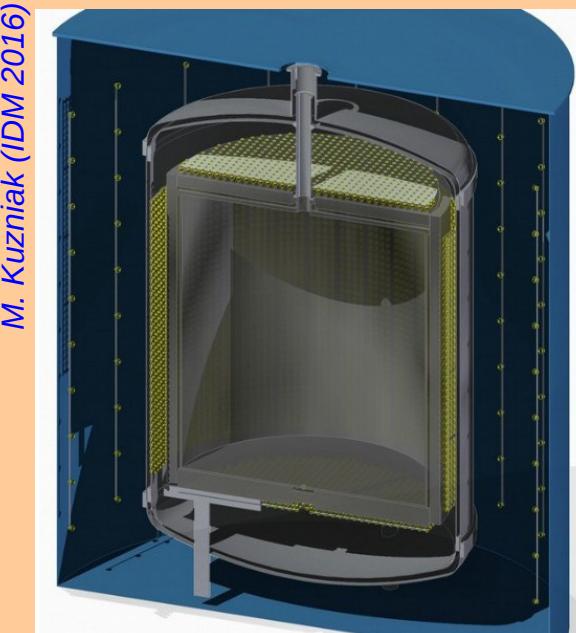
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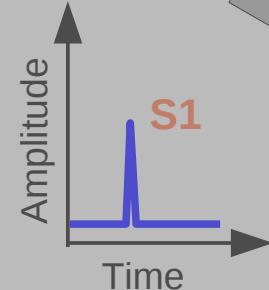
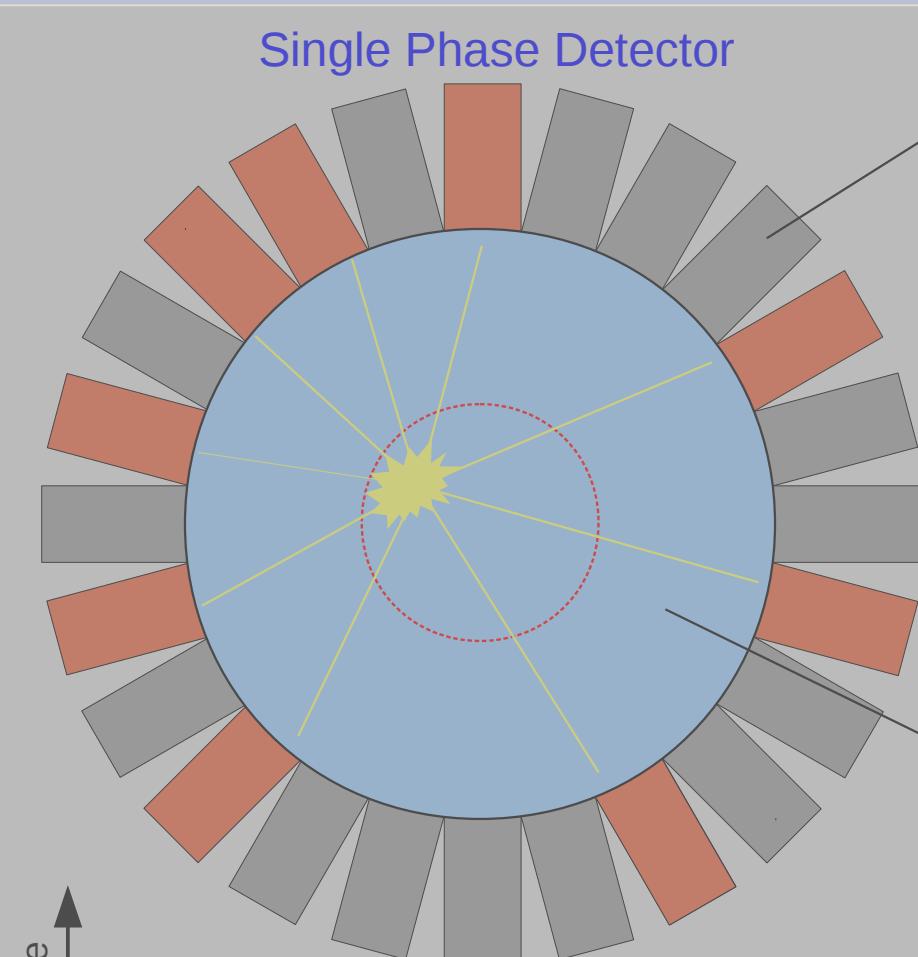
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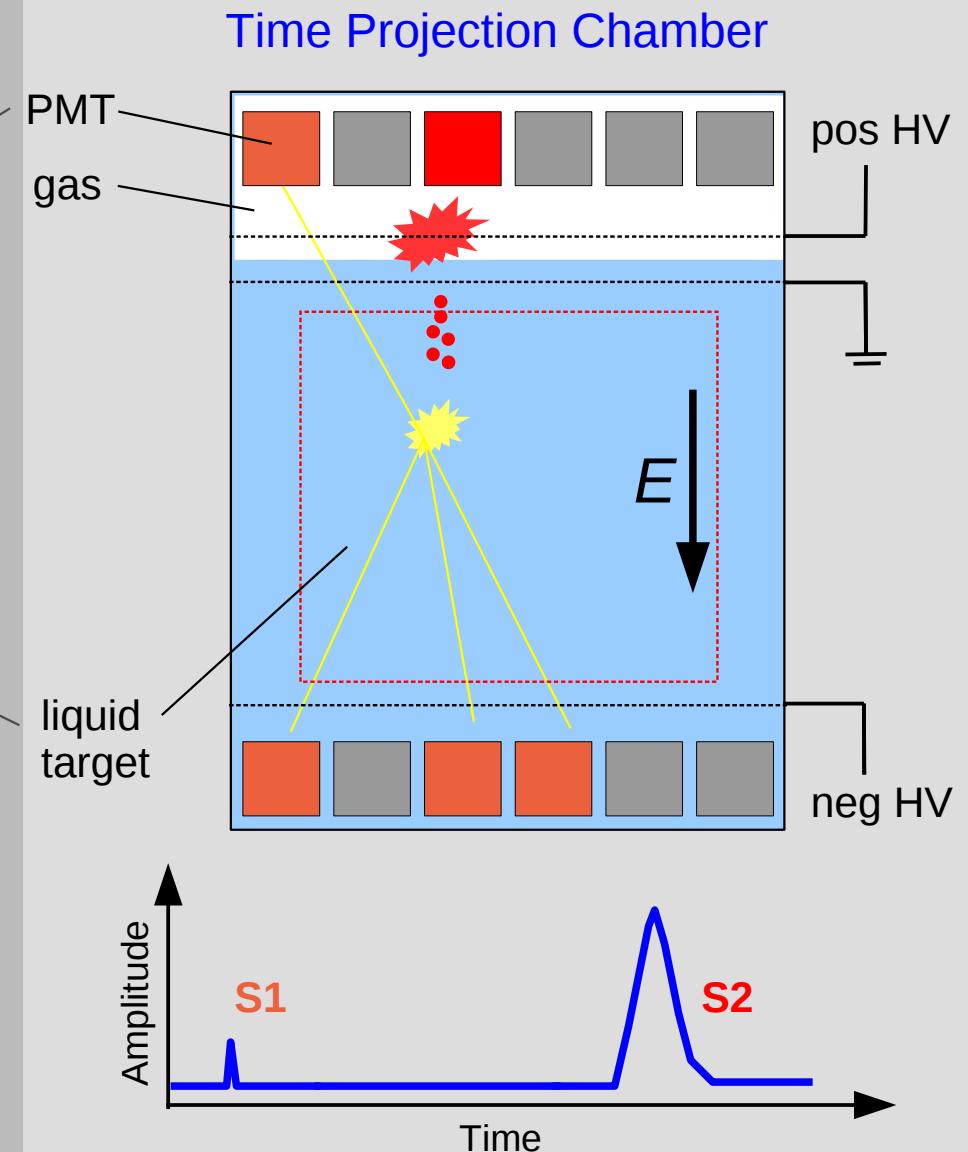
M. Kuzniak (IDM 2016)

future:  
DEAP-50T  
150t target  
50t fiducial  
→ 150 m<sup>2</sup>  
photo-coverage!

# Liquid Noble Gases: Detector Concepts

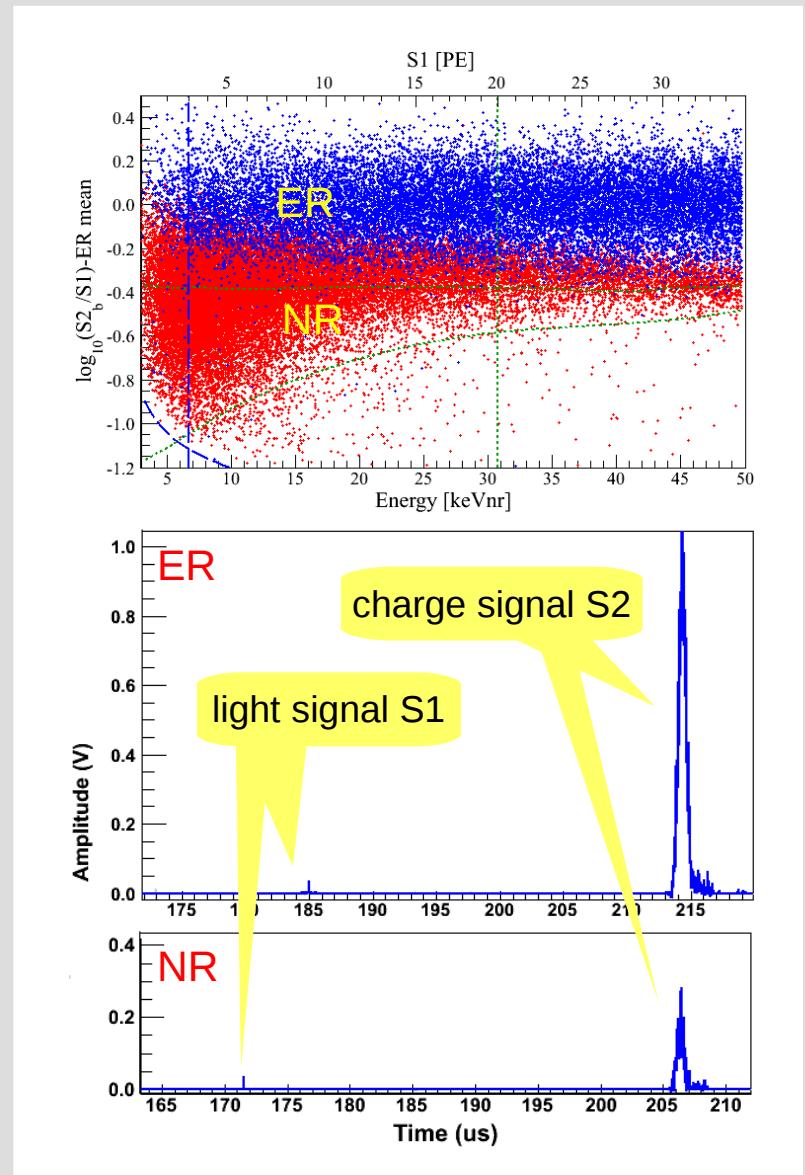
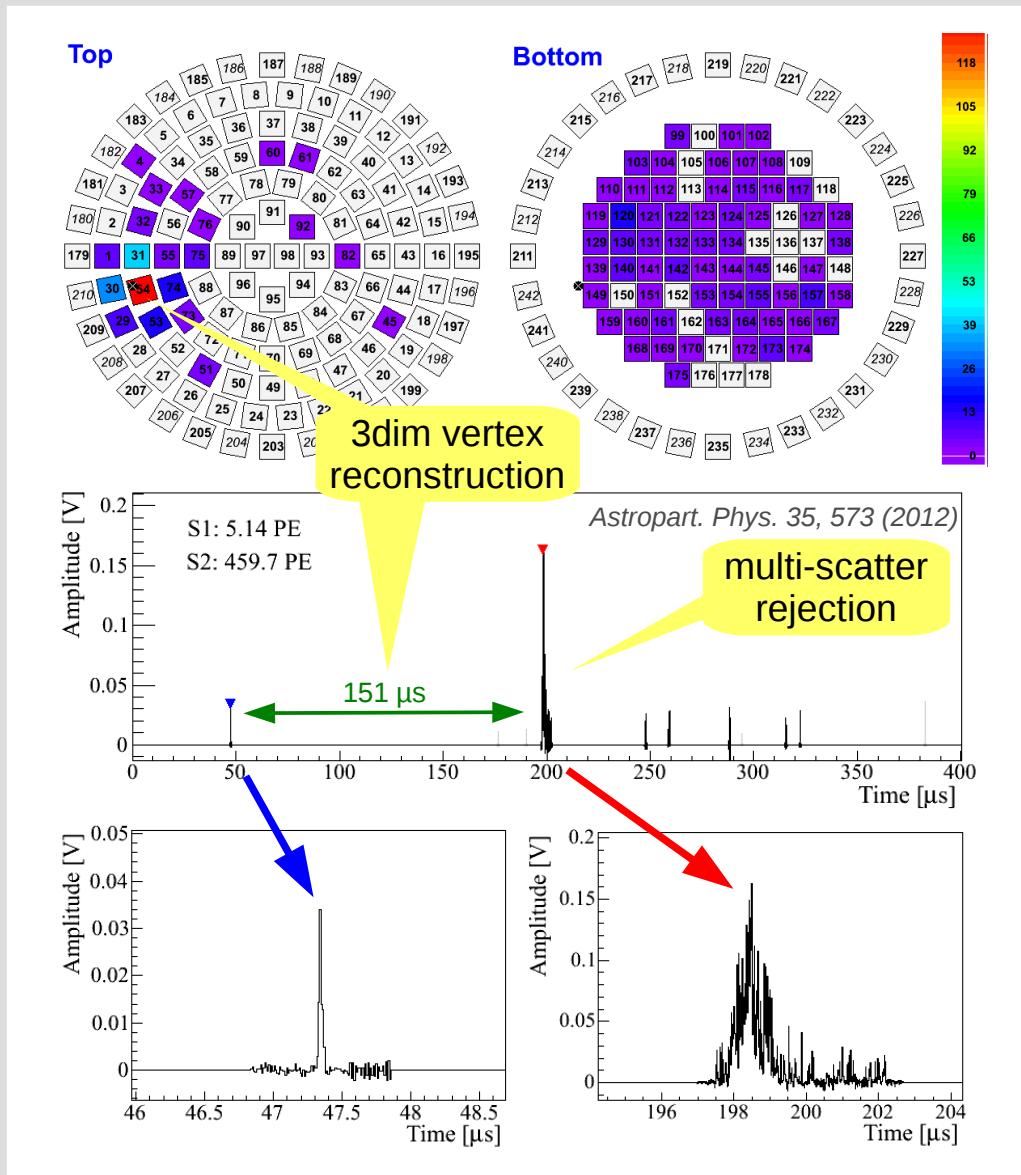


- + no high voltage, very high light yield
- O(cm) resolution, no double scatter rejection



- + O(mm) resolution, S2/S1 NR rejection
- technical challenges (HV), less light

# Dual Phase TPC



Figures from XENON100

# Existing dual phase detectors

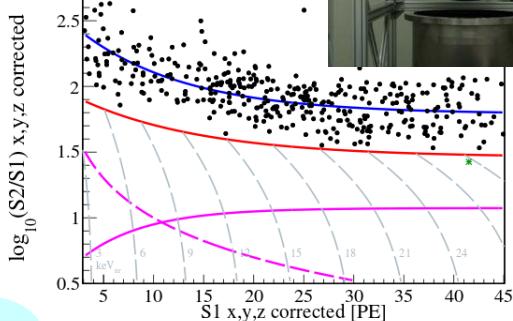
## PandaX-II @ CJPL (CN)

*PRL 117, 121303 (2016)*

- 60cm×60cm, **500 kg** target
- 2<sup>nd</sup> largest operational LXe TPC

### New result July 2016:

- combines data from 2 runs (<sup>85</sup>Kr differs by factor 10)
- $3.3 \times 10^4 \text{ kg} \times d = 0.1 \text{ t} \times y$  exposure
- no signal excess
- best limit above  $\sim 4.5 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
- still taking data  
aim for 2 years  
of data



LXe

## LUX @ SURF (USA)

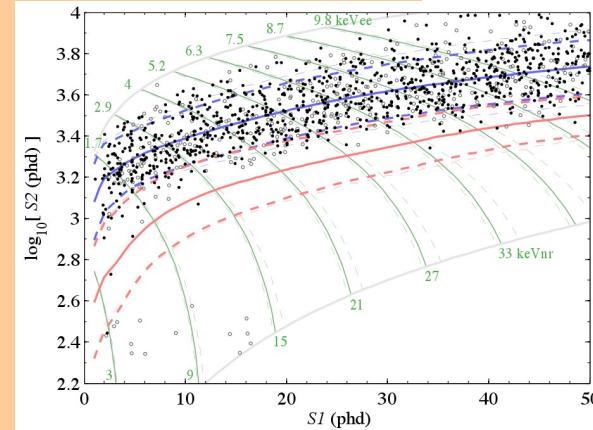
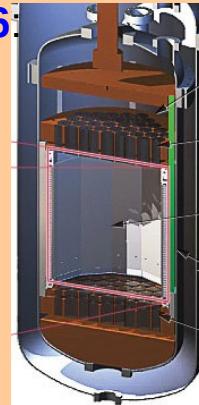
*PRL 118, 021303 (2017)*

- 48cm×48cm, **251 kg** target
- in-situ NR calibration studies

*arXiv:1608.05381*

### New result July 2016:

- 332d exposure:  
 $3.4 \times 10^4 \text{ kg} \times d$   
 $= 0.1 \text{ t} \times y$
- no signal excess
- $2.2 \times 10^{-46} \text{ cm}^2$   
@ 50 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>
- stopped

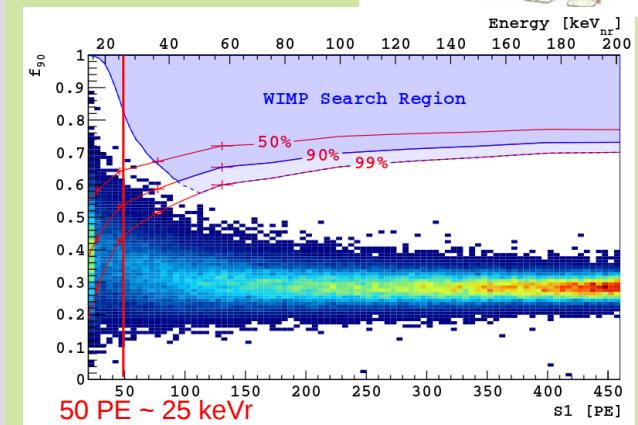
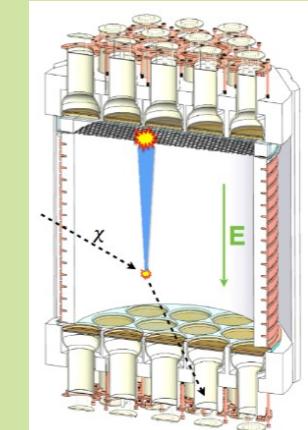


LXe

## DarkSide-50 @ LNGS (IT)

*PRD 93, 081101 (2016)*

- **46 kg** LAr, which is <sup>39</sup>Ar-depleted by a factor 1400
- 71d×37kg exposure
- no event in ROI
- taking data



LAr

## XENON100 @ LNGS (IT) New: 447 live days

*PRD 94, 122001 (2016)*

low-mass WIMPs *PRD 94, 092001 (2016)*

# Existing dual phase detectors

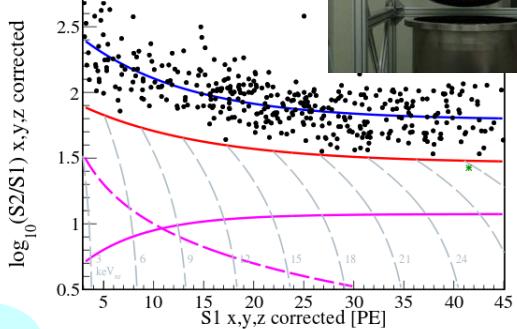
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- best limit above  $\sim 4.5 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
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LXe

## LUX @ SURF (USA)

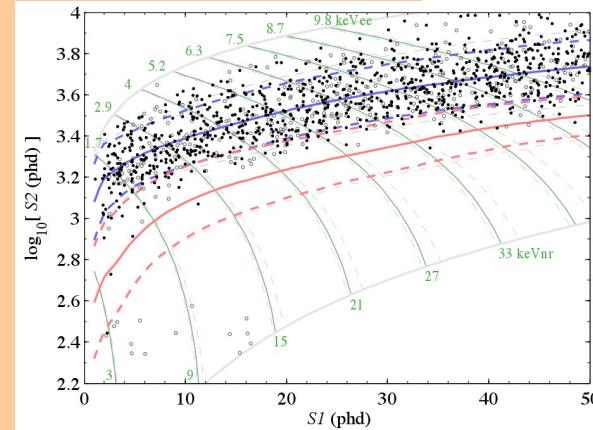
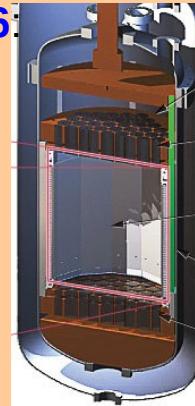
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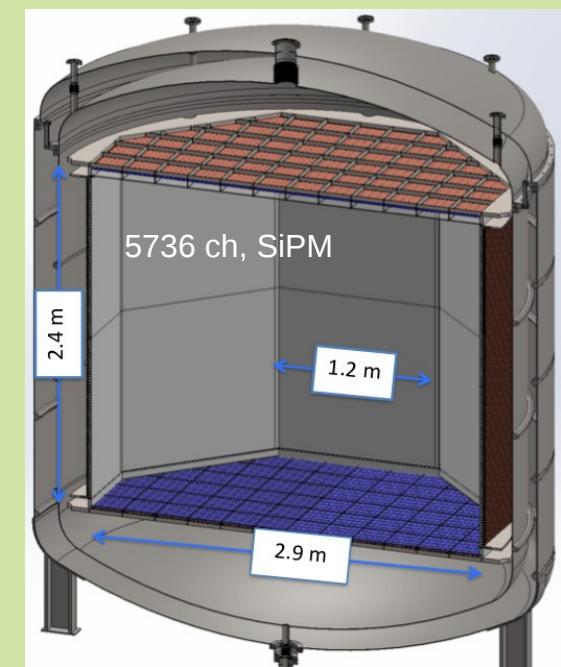


LXe

## DarkSide-50 @ LNGS (IT)

*PRD 93, 081101 (2016)*

- **46 kg** LAr, which is <sup>39</sup>Ar-depleted by a factor 1400
- 71d×37kg exposure
- no event in ROI
- taking data
- proposal for **DarkSide-20k**  
 $\rightarrow$  30t depleted Ar needed



LAr

G. Fiorillo (IDM 2016)

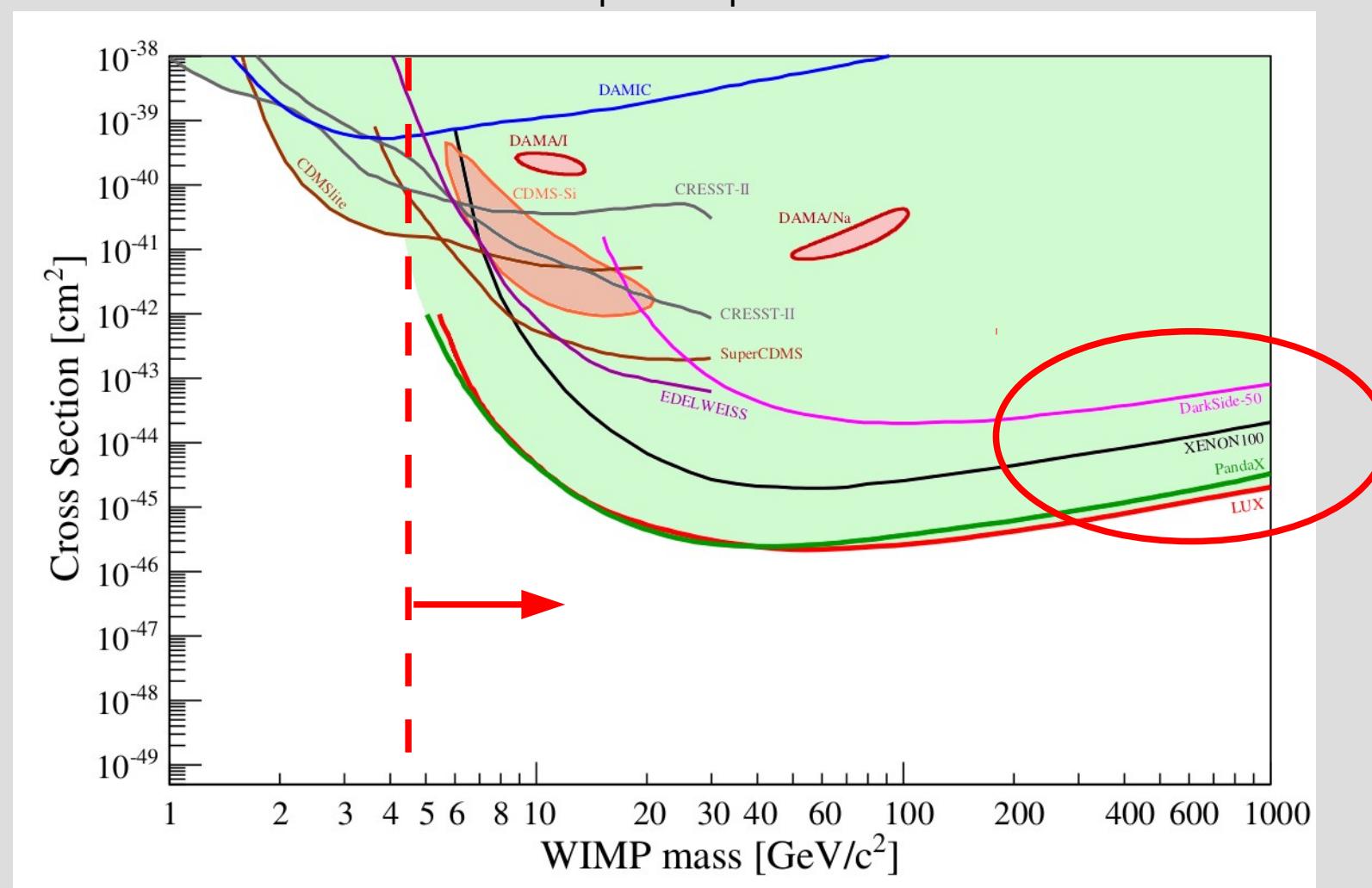
## XENON100 @ LNGS (IT) New: 447 live days

*PRD 94, 122001 (2016)* low-mass WIMPs *PRD 94, 092001 (2016)*

# High WIMP-masses TPC dominated

→  $\geq 4.5 \text{ GeV}/c^2$

spin-independent WIMP-nucleon interactions



some projects are missing...

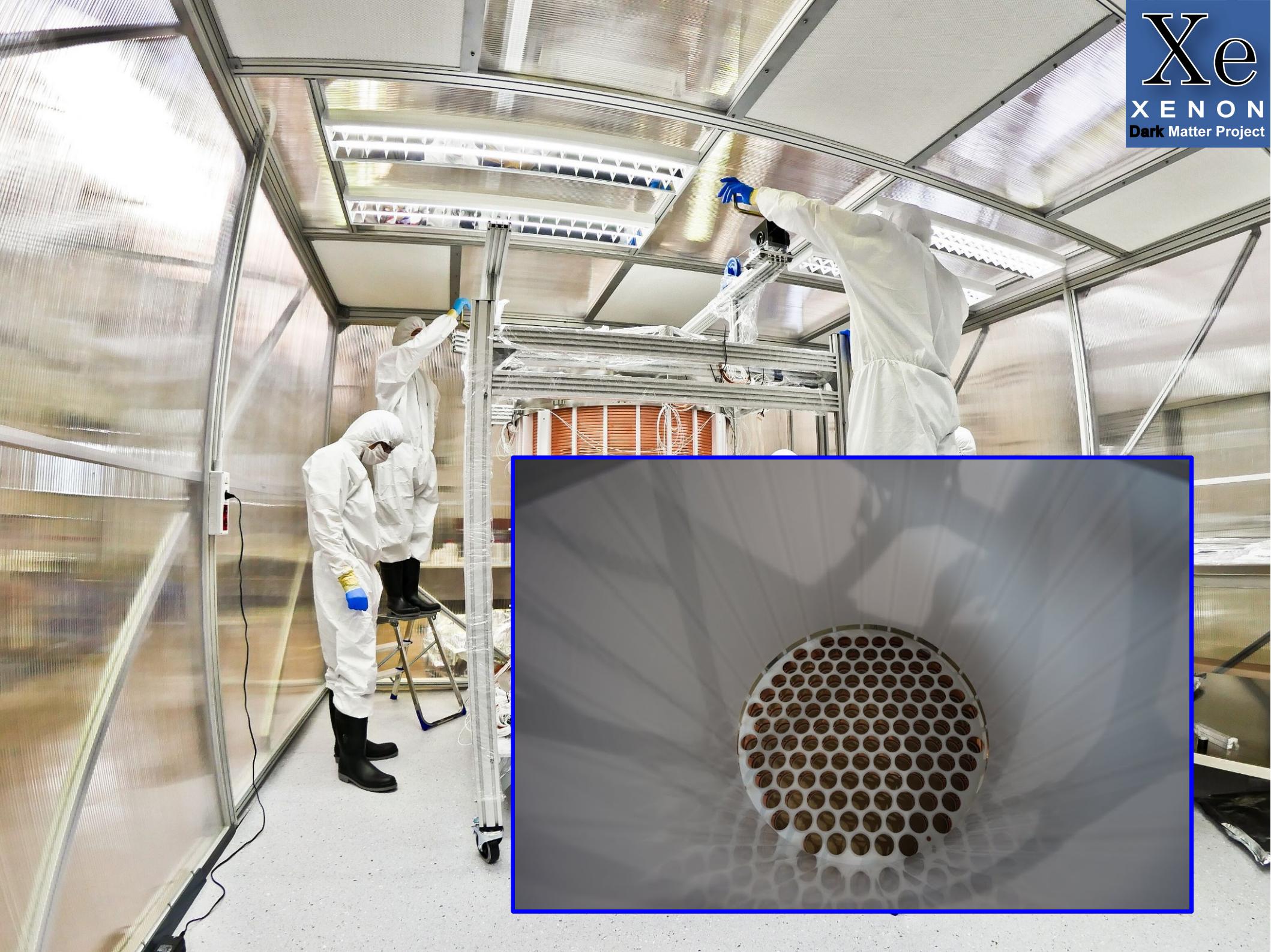
# XENON1T @ LNGS

LXe

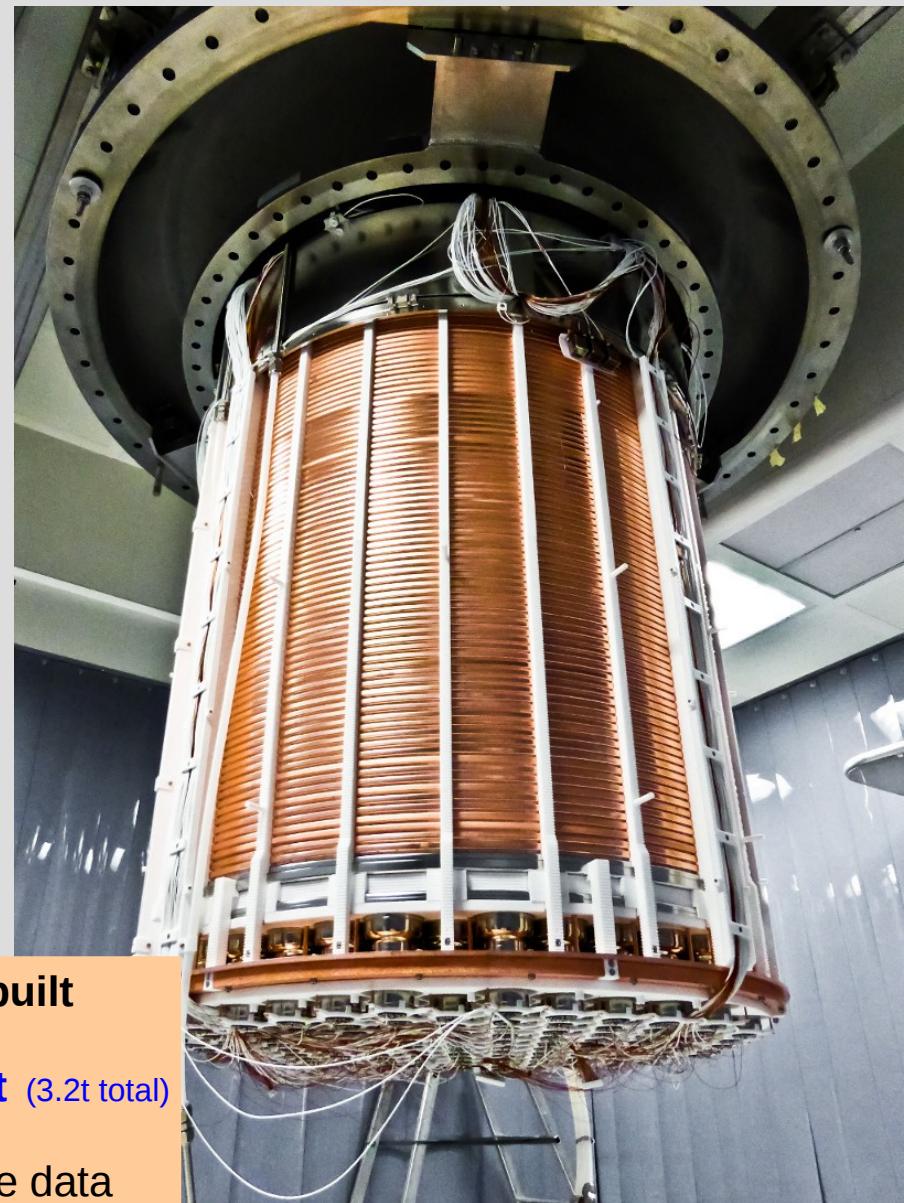
Xe  
XENON  
Dark Matter Project



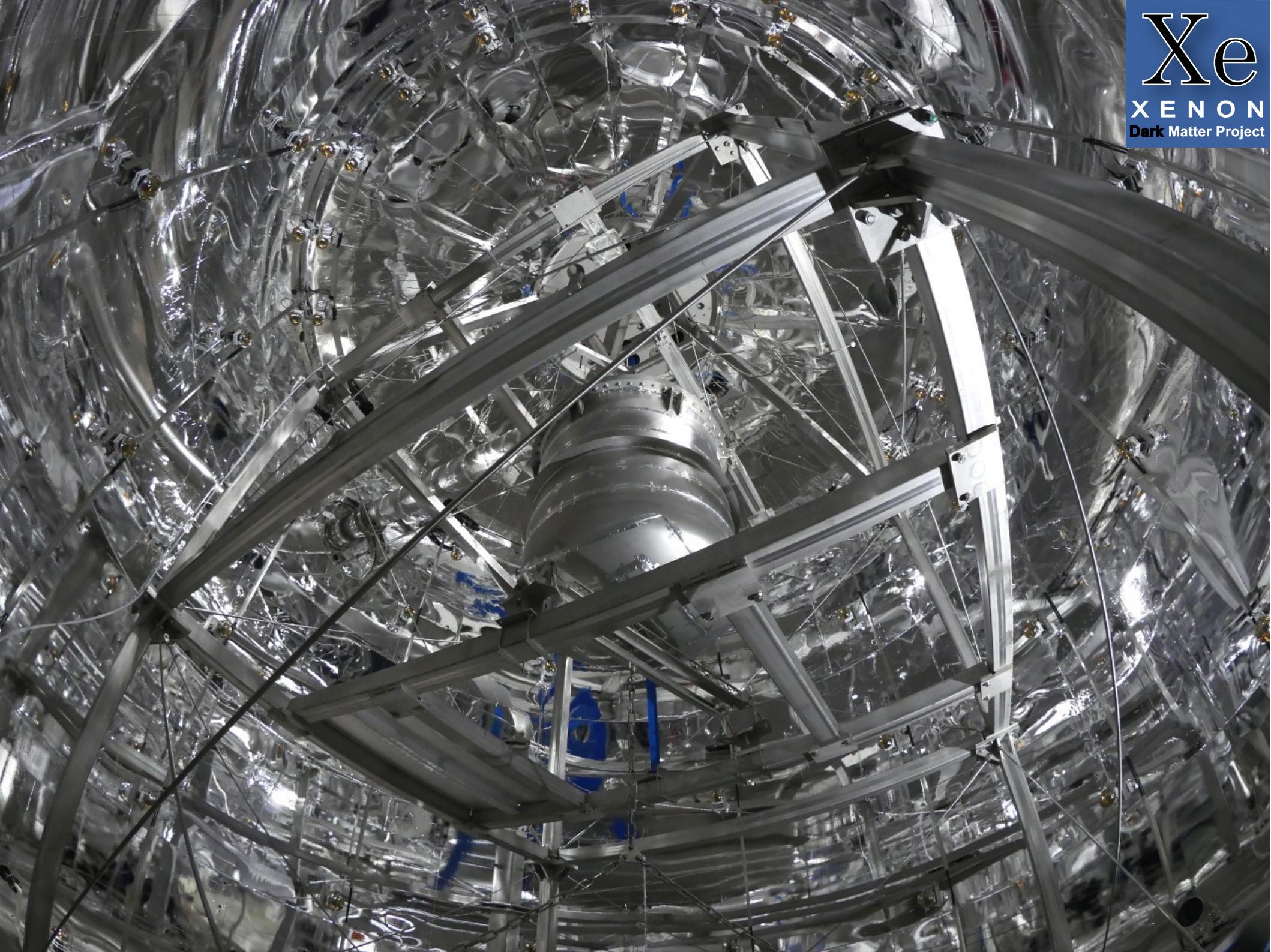




# XENON1T

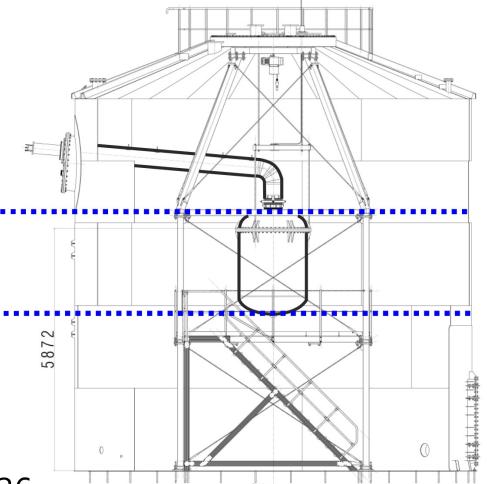
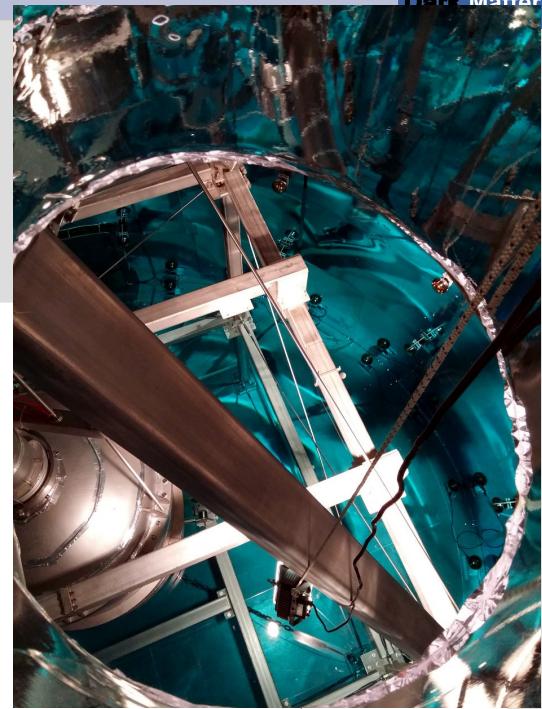
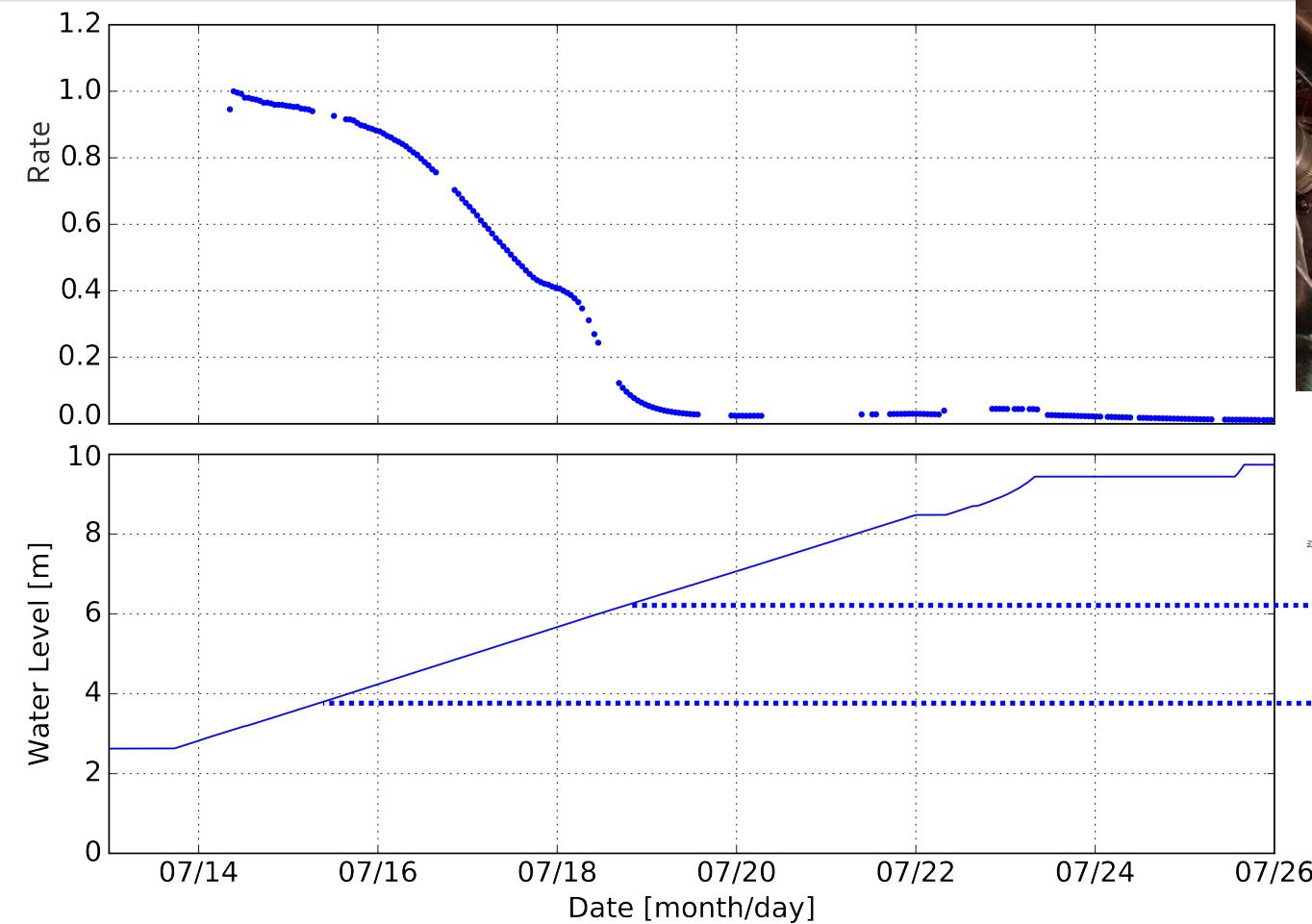


Xe  
XENON  
Dark Matter Project



# XENON1T Performance

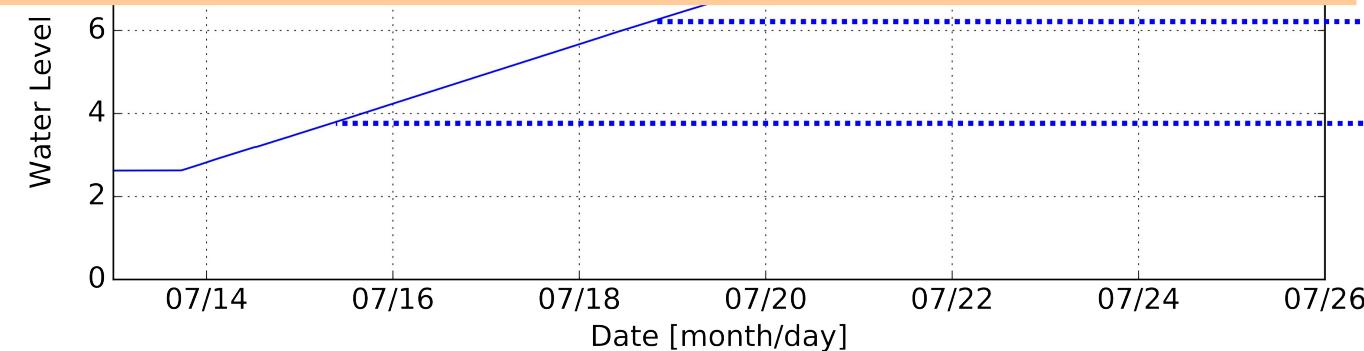
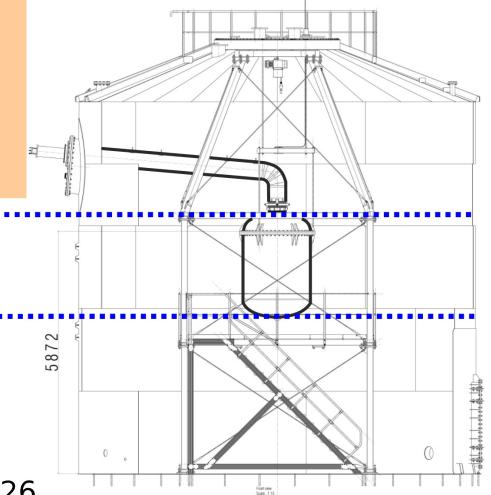
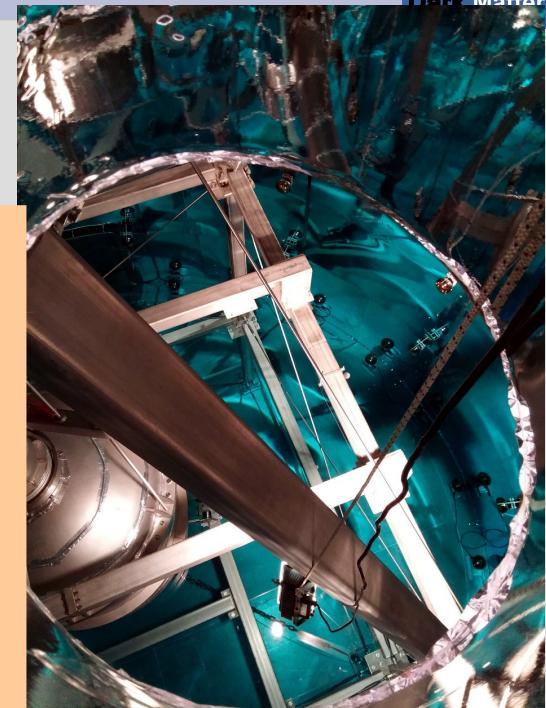
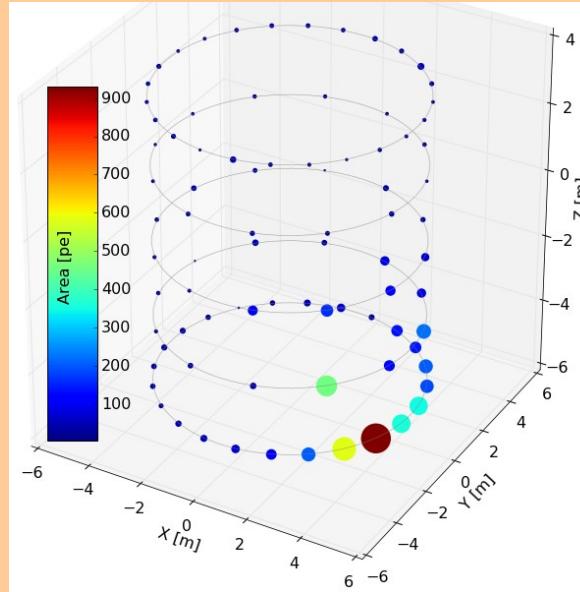
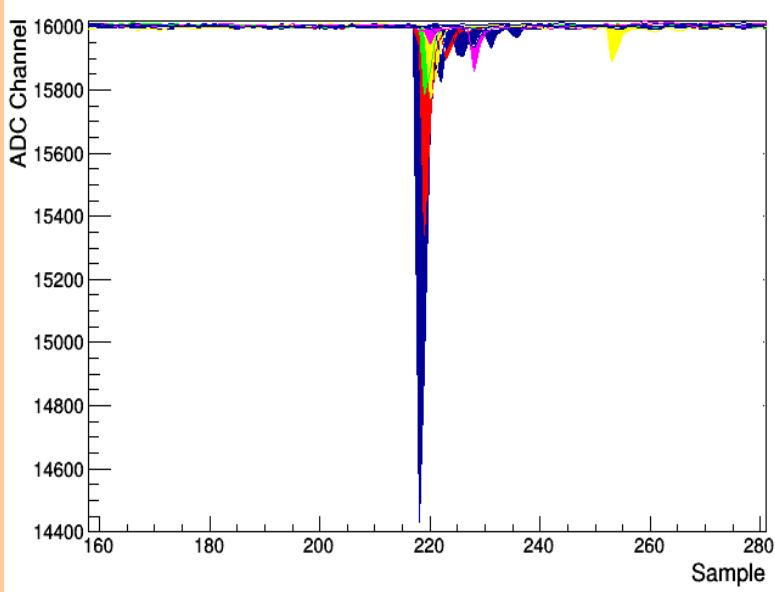
Water shield filled since Summer...



# XENON1T Performance

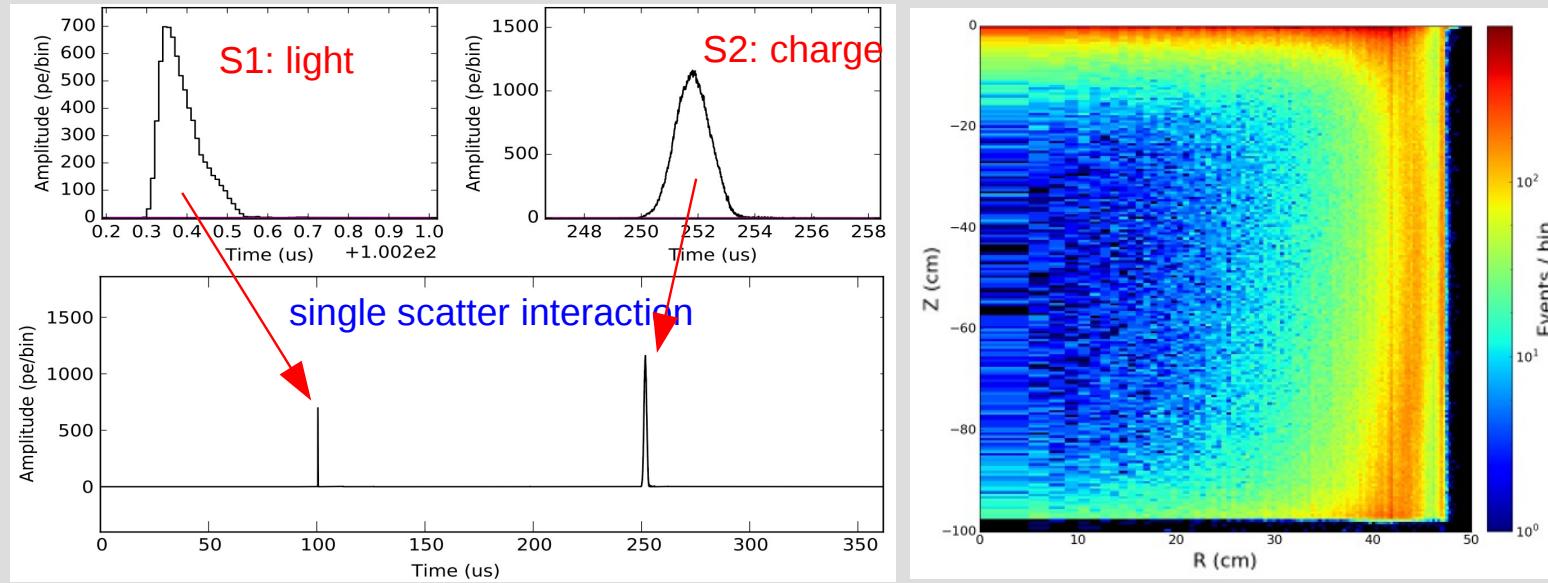
Water shield continuously filled since Summer...

Cerenkov detector sees muons...

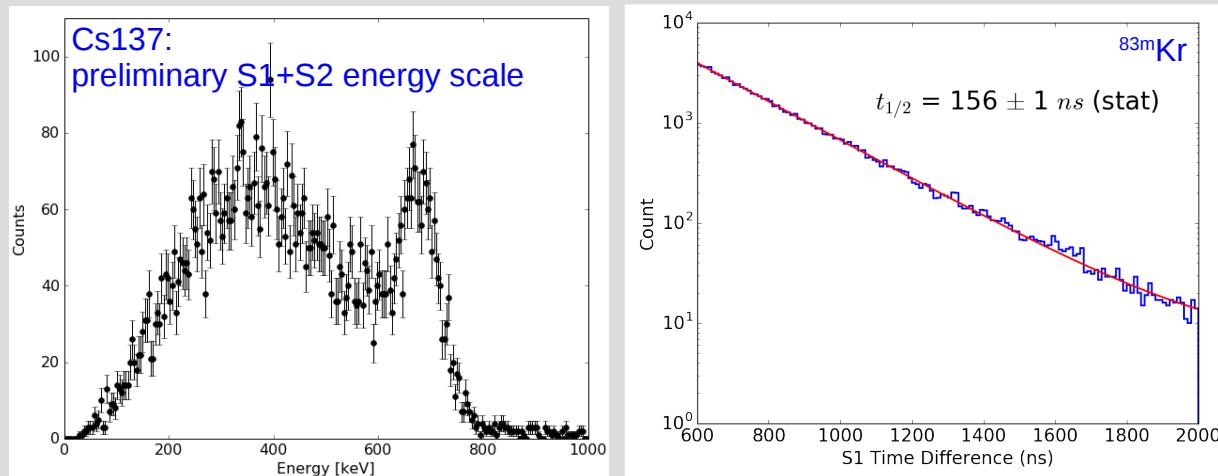


# XENON1T Performance

Recording light (S1) and light signals (S2) from the entire detector



Calibration: external ( $^{137}\text{Cs}$ , AmBe), internal ( $^{83\text{m}}\text{Kr}$ ,  $^{220}\text{Rn}$ )

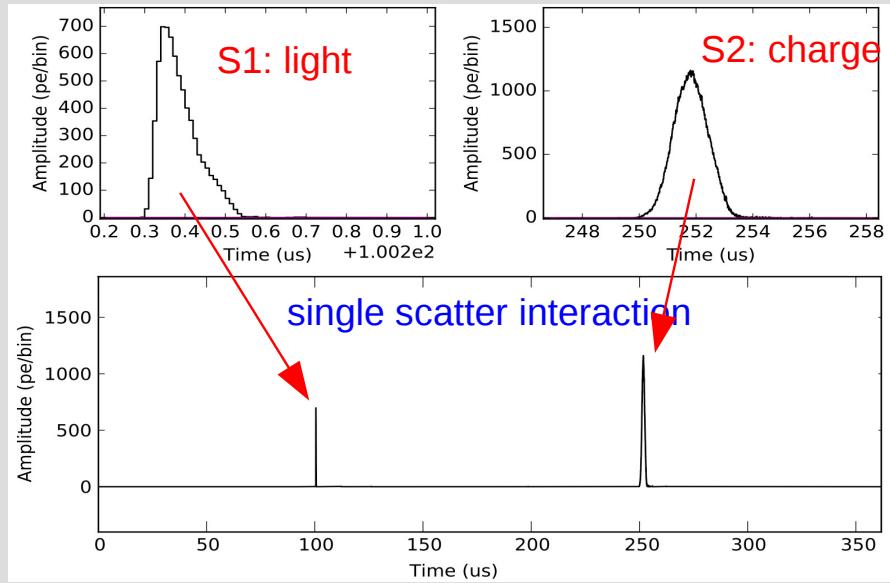


## Backgrounds

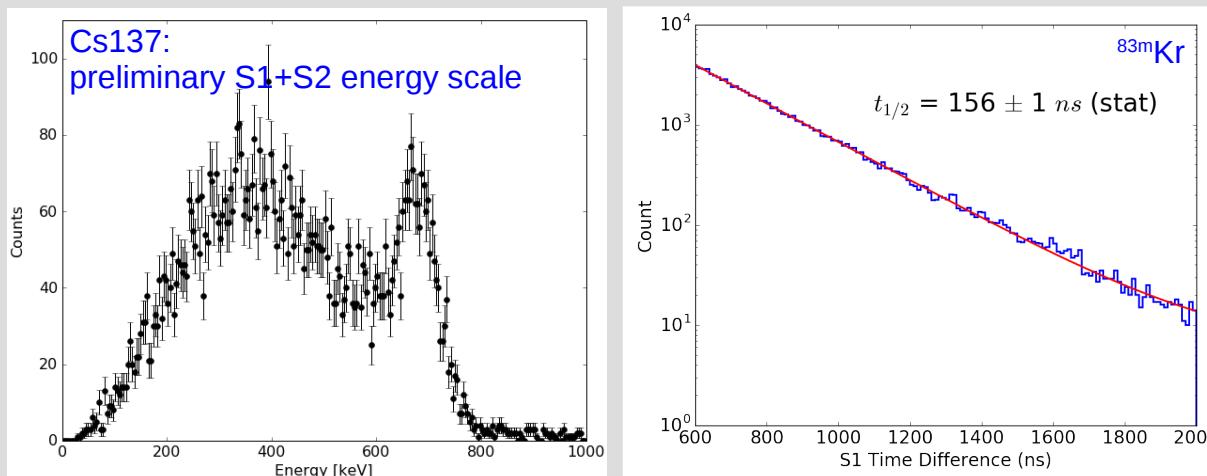
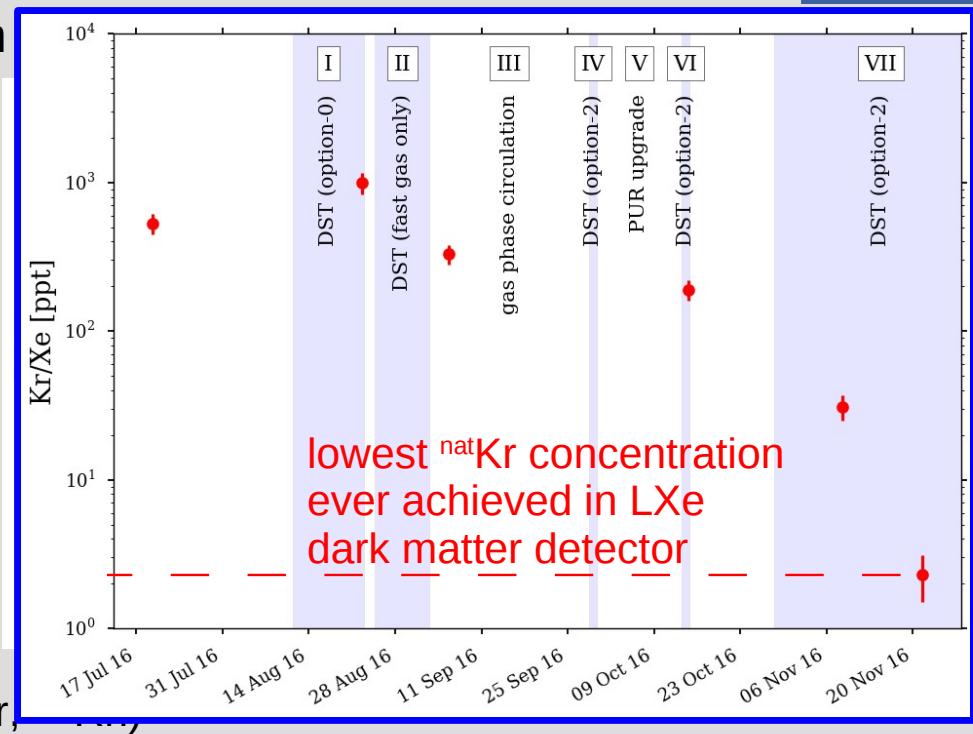
- material background low, self-shielding effective
- $^{222}\text{Rn}$  background agrees with predictions
- online removal of  $^{85}\text{Kr}$  via cryogenic distillation very successful

# XENON1T Performance

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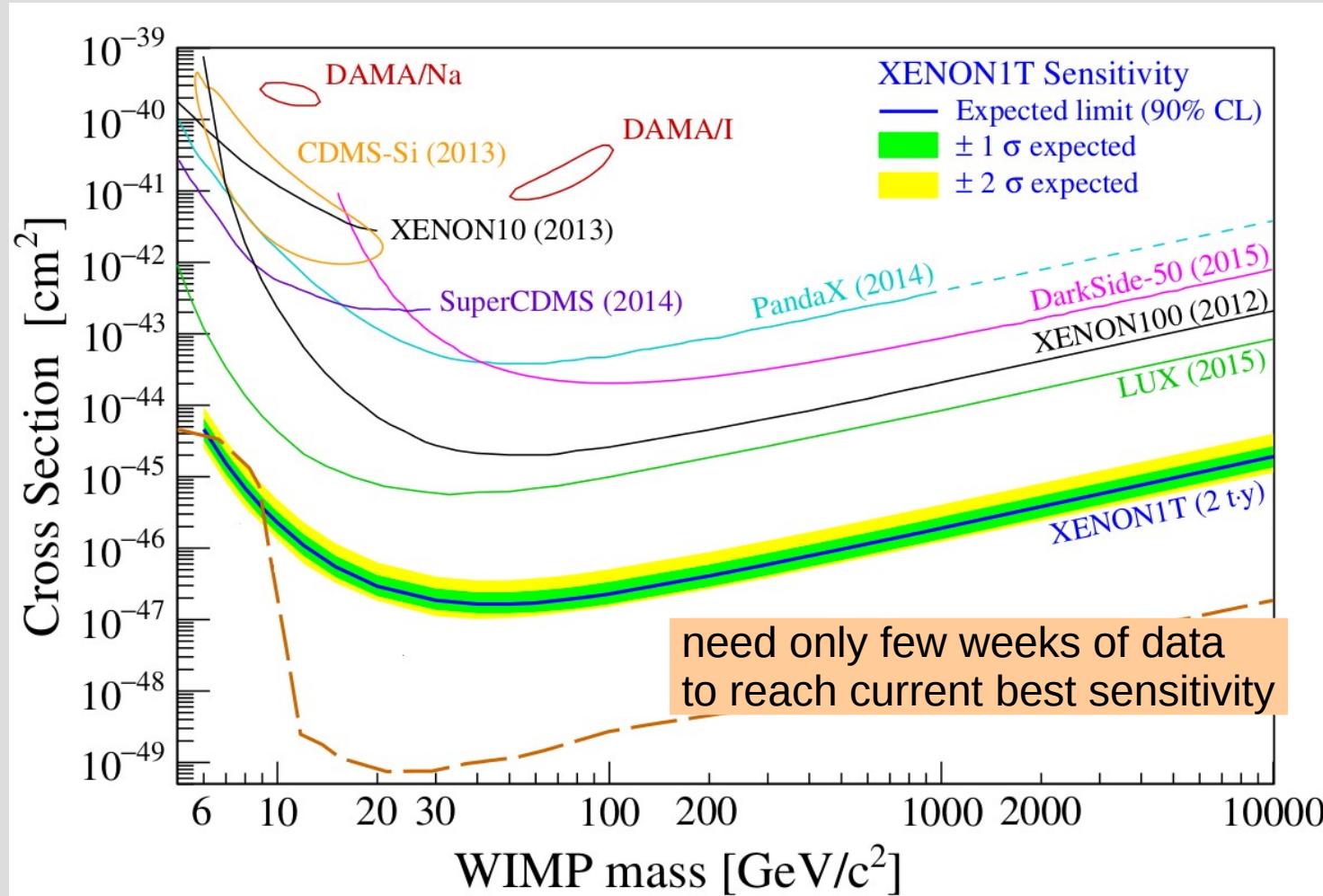
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# XENON1T Sensitivity

JCAP 04, 027 (2016)

based on detailed background predictions, 2 t $\times$ y exposure:



assumptions: energy interval: 4 – 50 keVr,

ER rejection as XENON100: 99.5% @ 50% NR acc.

→ expected LY is 2x higher than in XENON100!

confirmed by measurement!

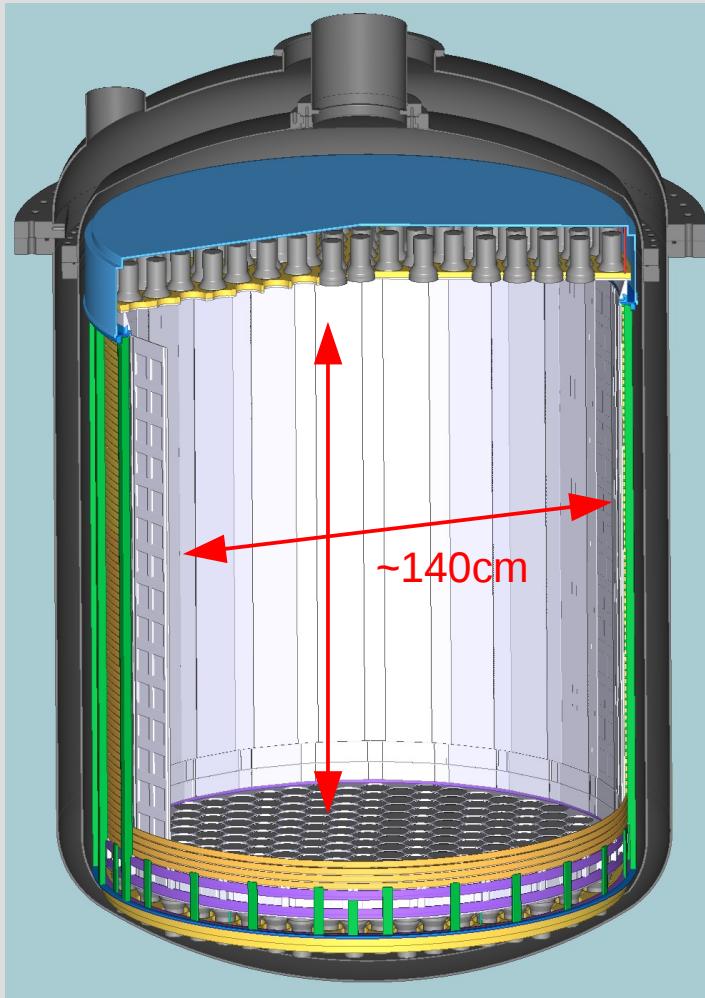
# XENON1T → XENONnT

JCAP 04, 027 (2016)



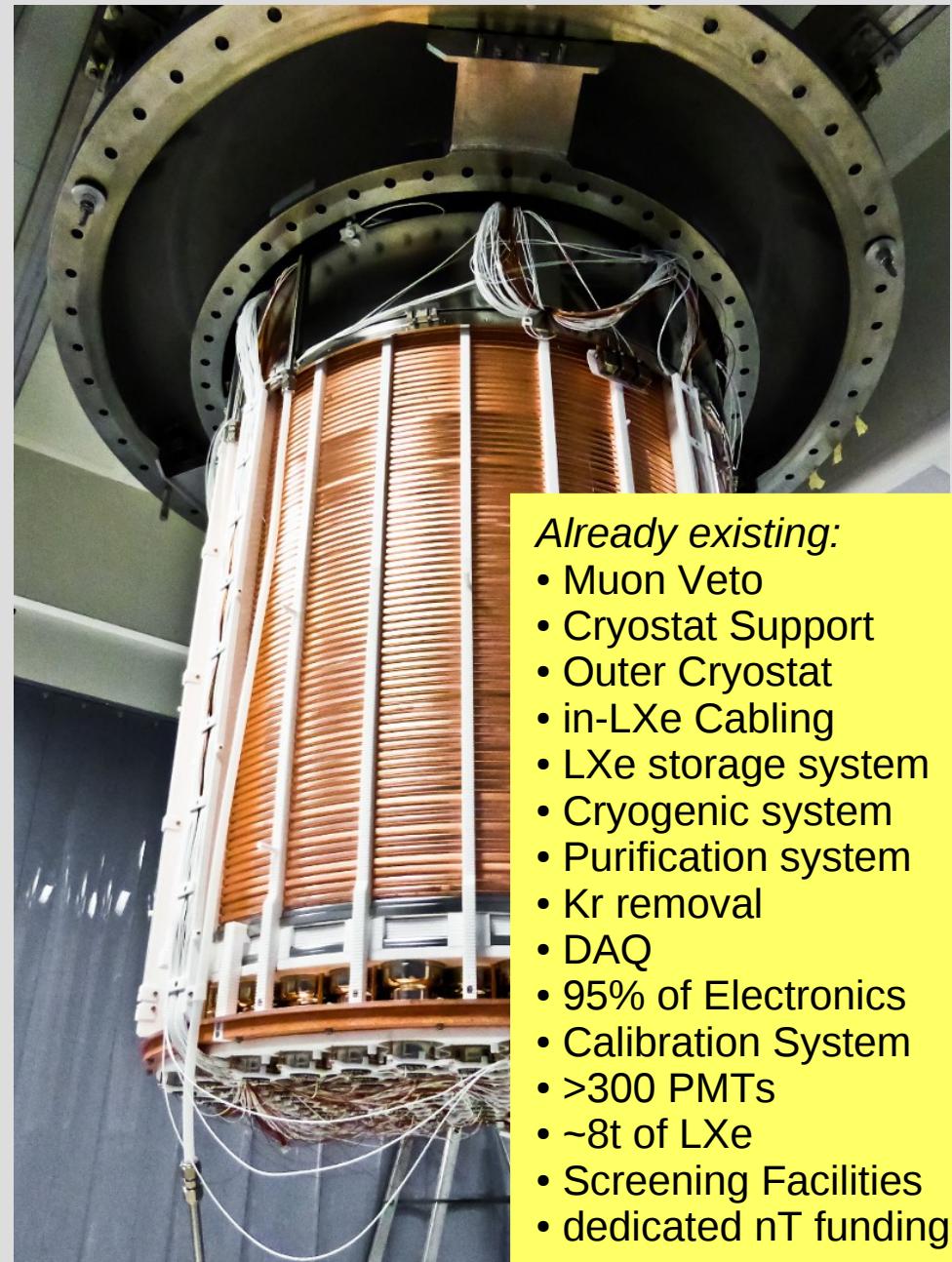
## XENON1T

- 2t active LXe target
- operating
- science run started



## XENONnT

- 6t active target
- projected to start end of 2018



### Already existing:

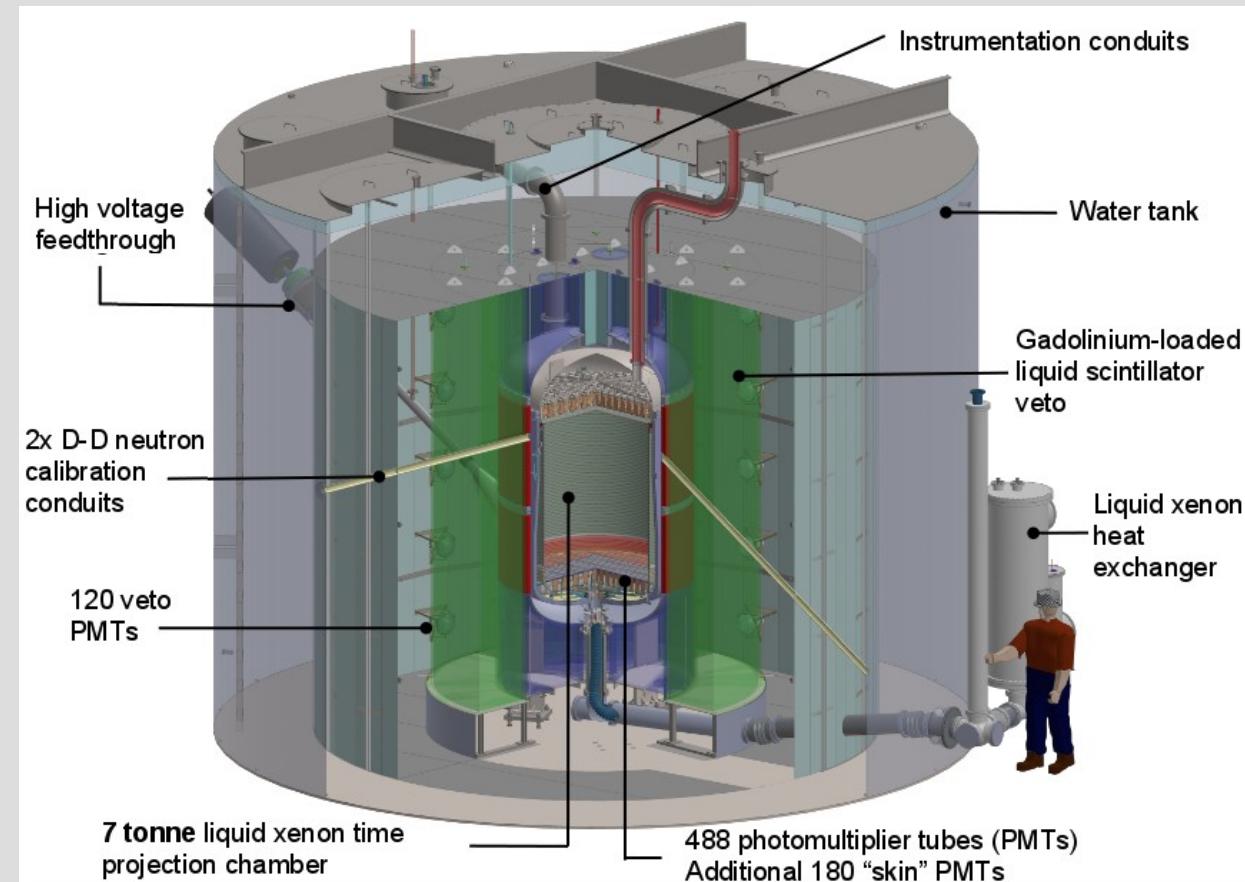
- Muon Veto
- Cryostat Support
- Outer Cryostat
- in-LXe Cabling
- LXe storage system
- Cryogenic system
- Purification system
- Kr removal
- DAQ
- 95% of Electronics
- Calibration System
- >300 PMTs
- ~8t of LXe
- Screening Facilities
- dedicated nT funding

# LZ – LUX/ZEPLIN

arXiv:1509.02910

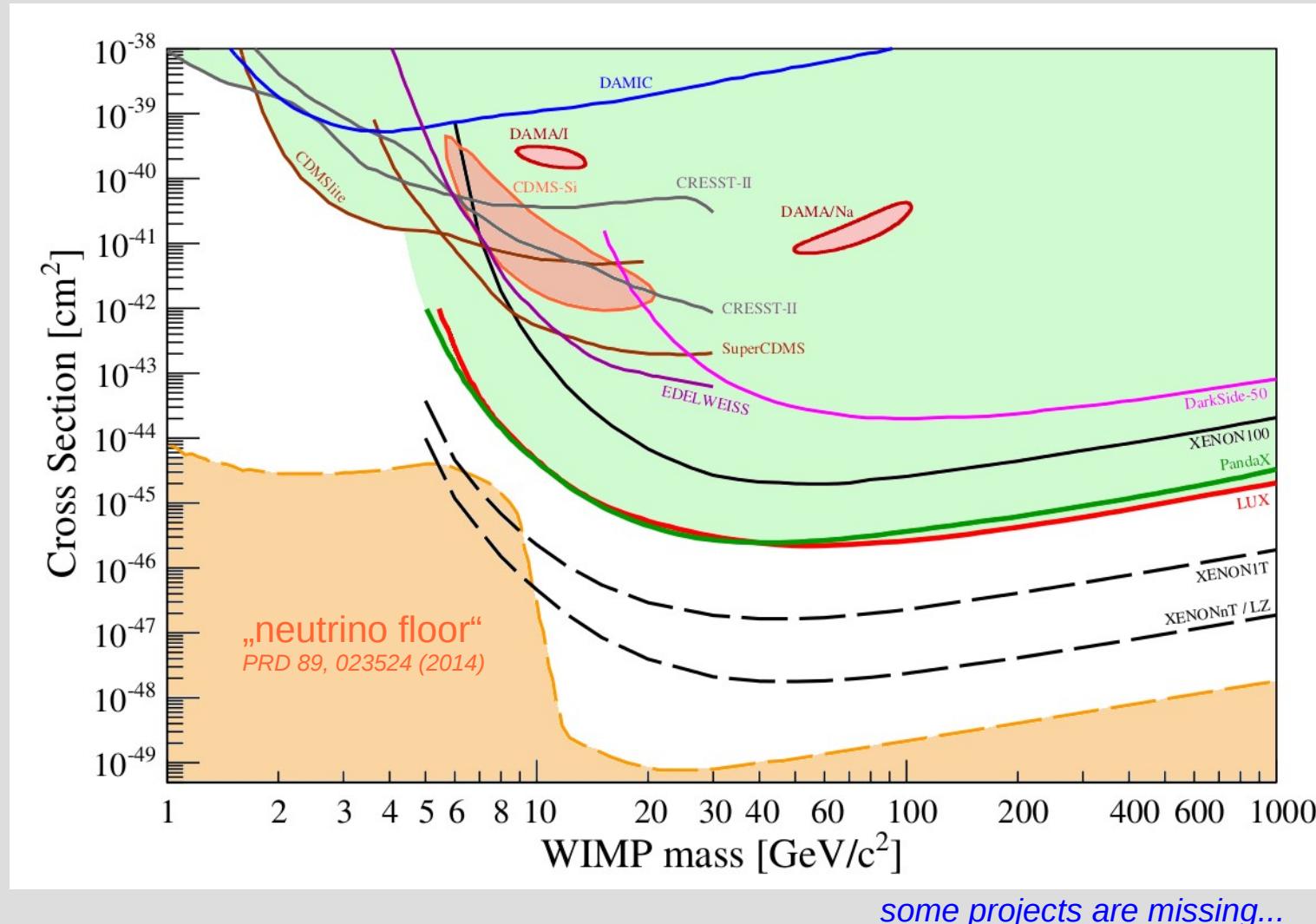
LXe

- LZ = LUX+ZEPLIN selected by 2014 US DOE-NSF downselection
- to be installed @ SURF (USA)
- 50× larger than LUX
  - 10t total LXe mass,  
**7t active target**,  
5.6t fiducial target
- 488 R11410 PMTs
- 2015: started procurement of xenon gas, PMTs, ...  
04/2020: end of construction
- goal:  $2 \times 10^{-48} \text{ cm}^2$  @  $\sim 50 \text{ GeV}/c^2$  after 15 t×y exposure

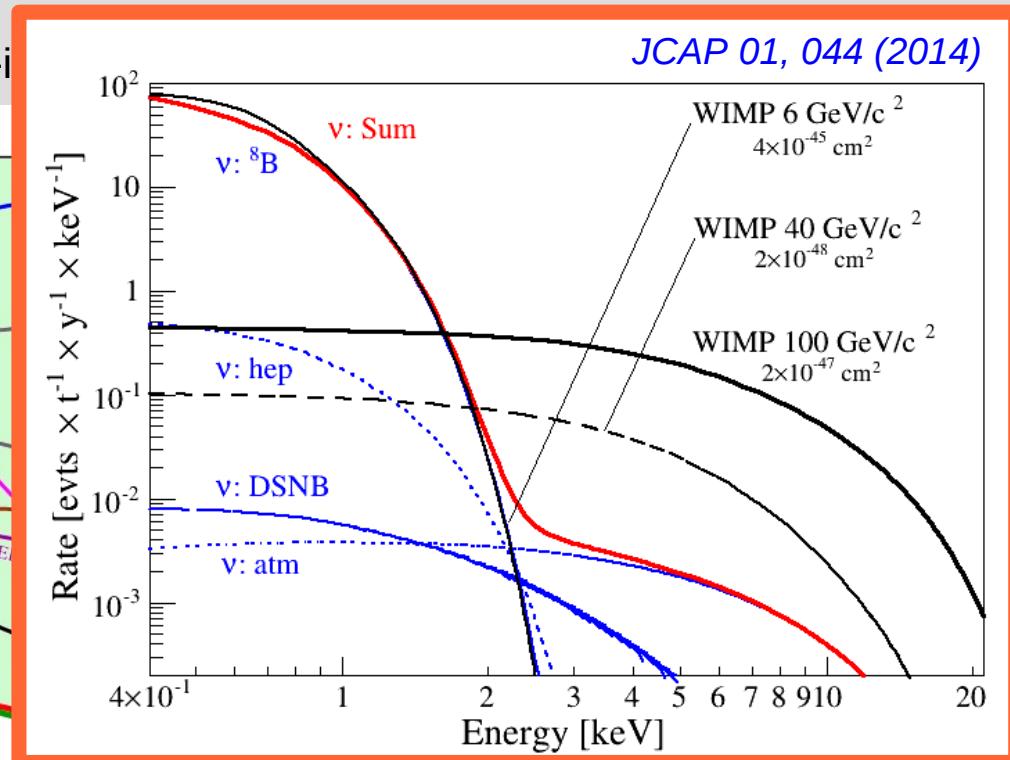
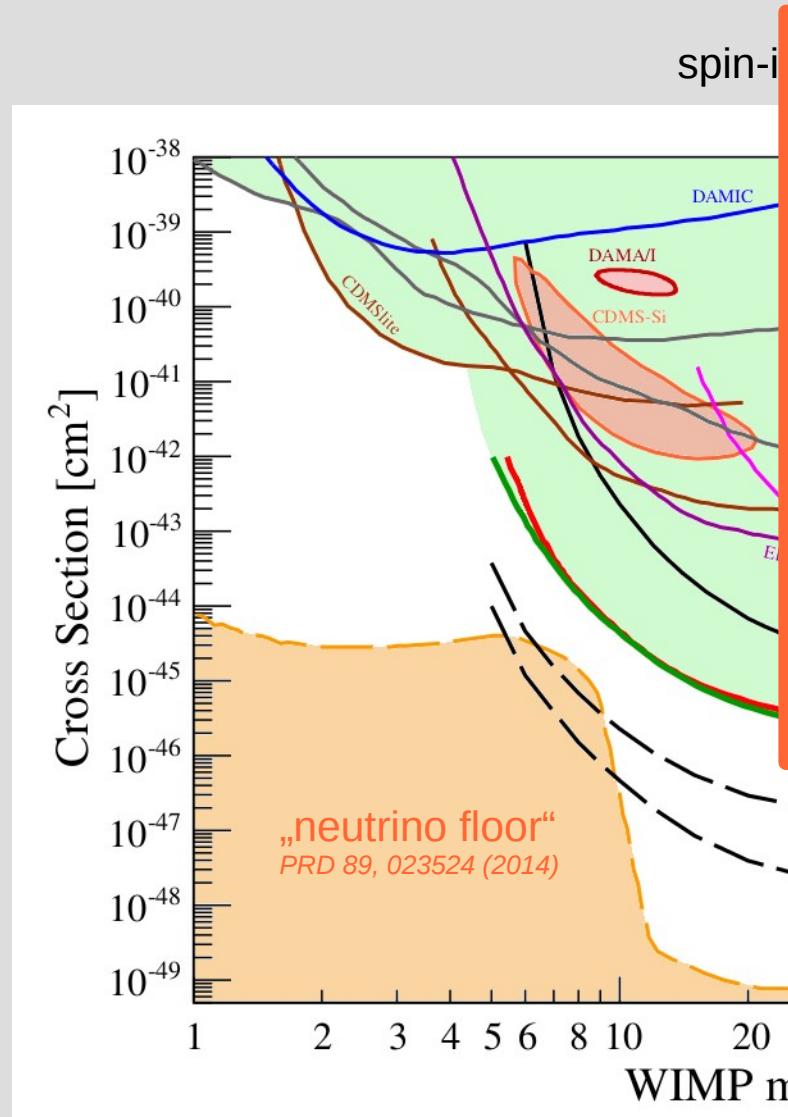


# Dark Matter Searches: The Limit

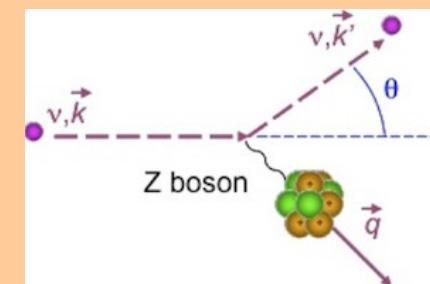
spin-independent WIMP-nucleon interactions



# Dark Matter Searches: The Limit

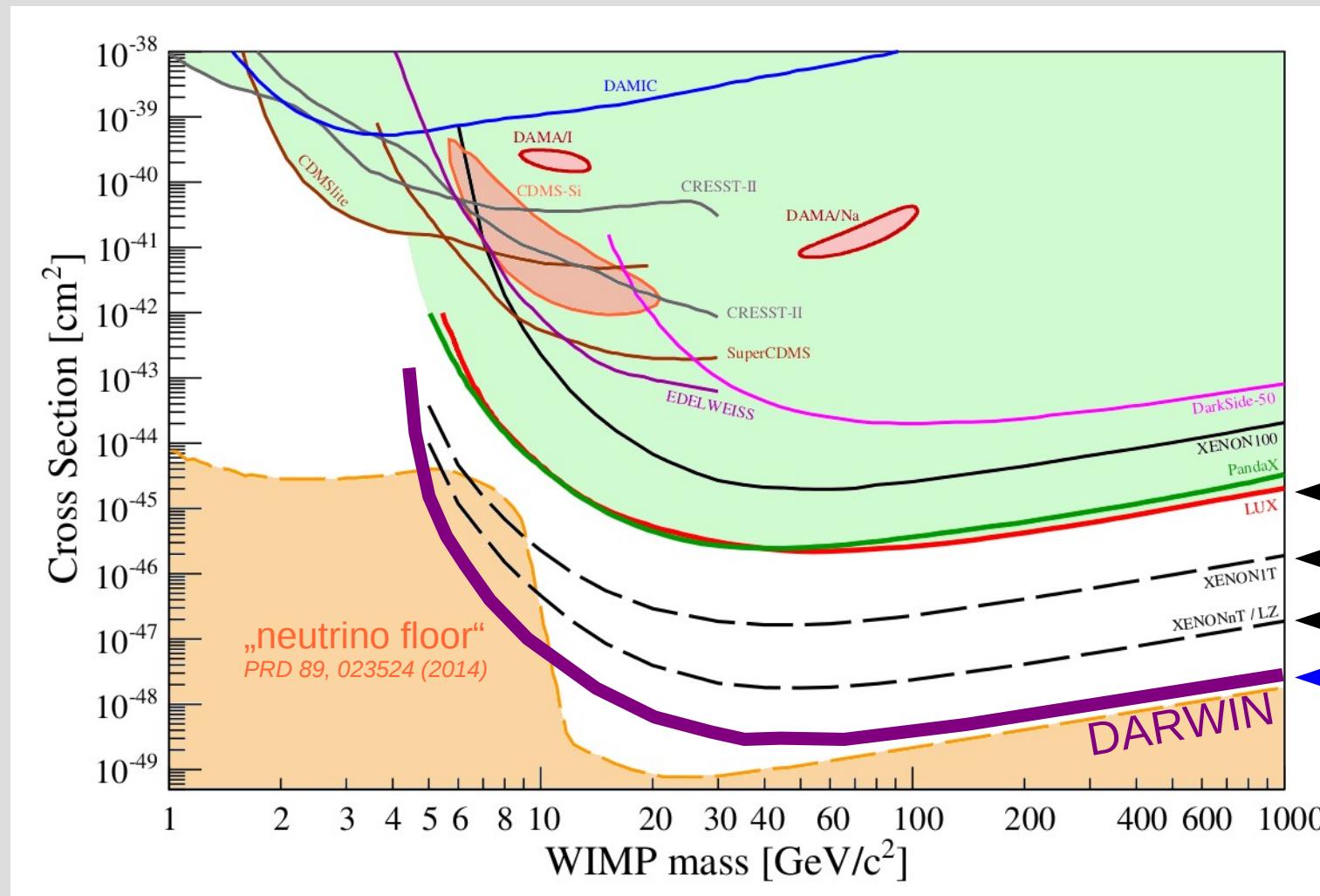


Interactions from coherent neutrino-nucleus scattering (CNNS) will dominate  
→ **ultimate background** for direct detection



# DARWIN The ultimate WIMP Detector

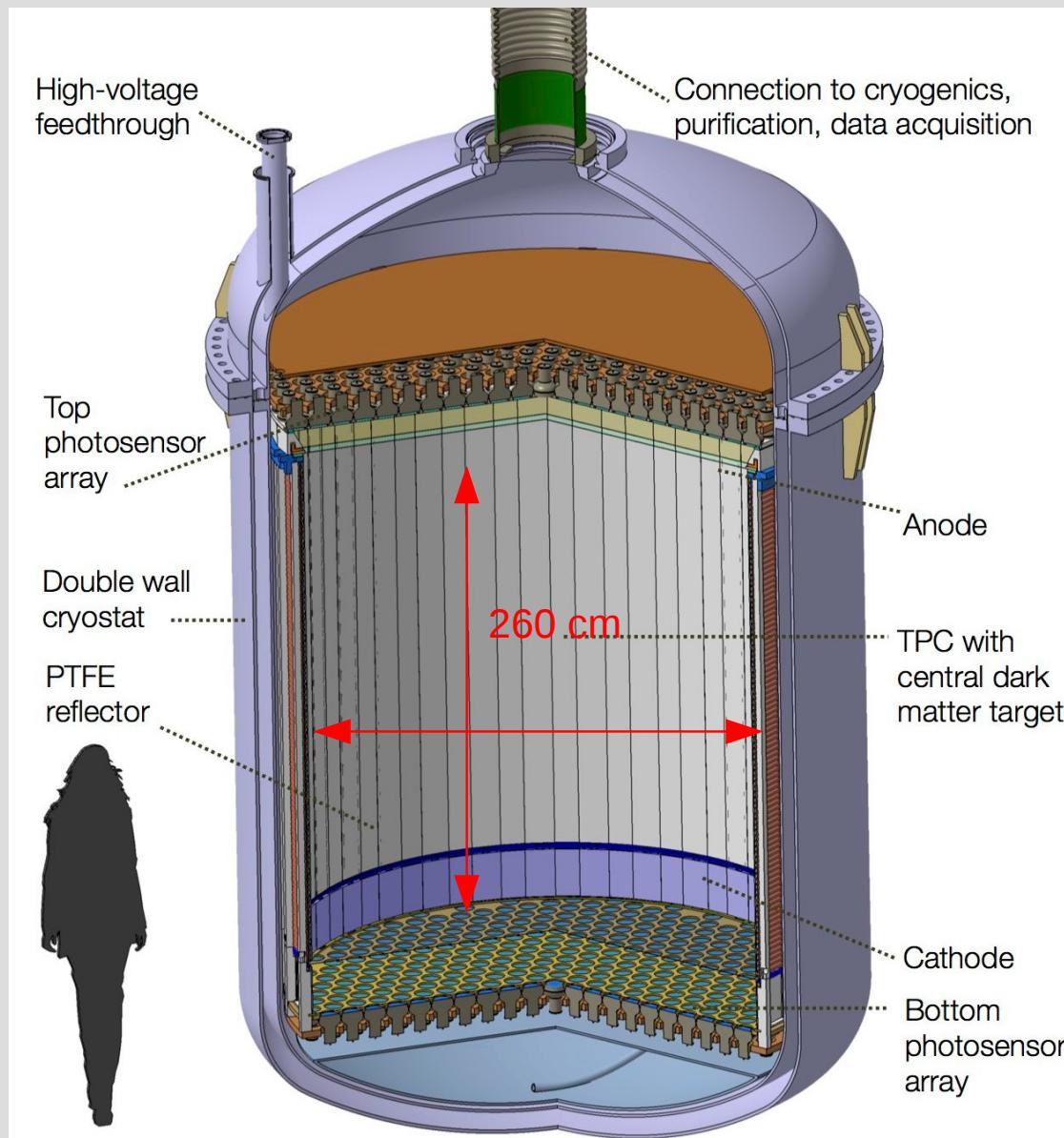
spin-independent WIMP-nucleon interactions



# DARWIN The ultimate WIMP Detector

JCAP 11, 017 (2016)

LXe



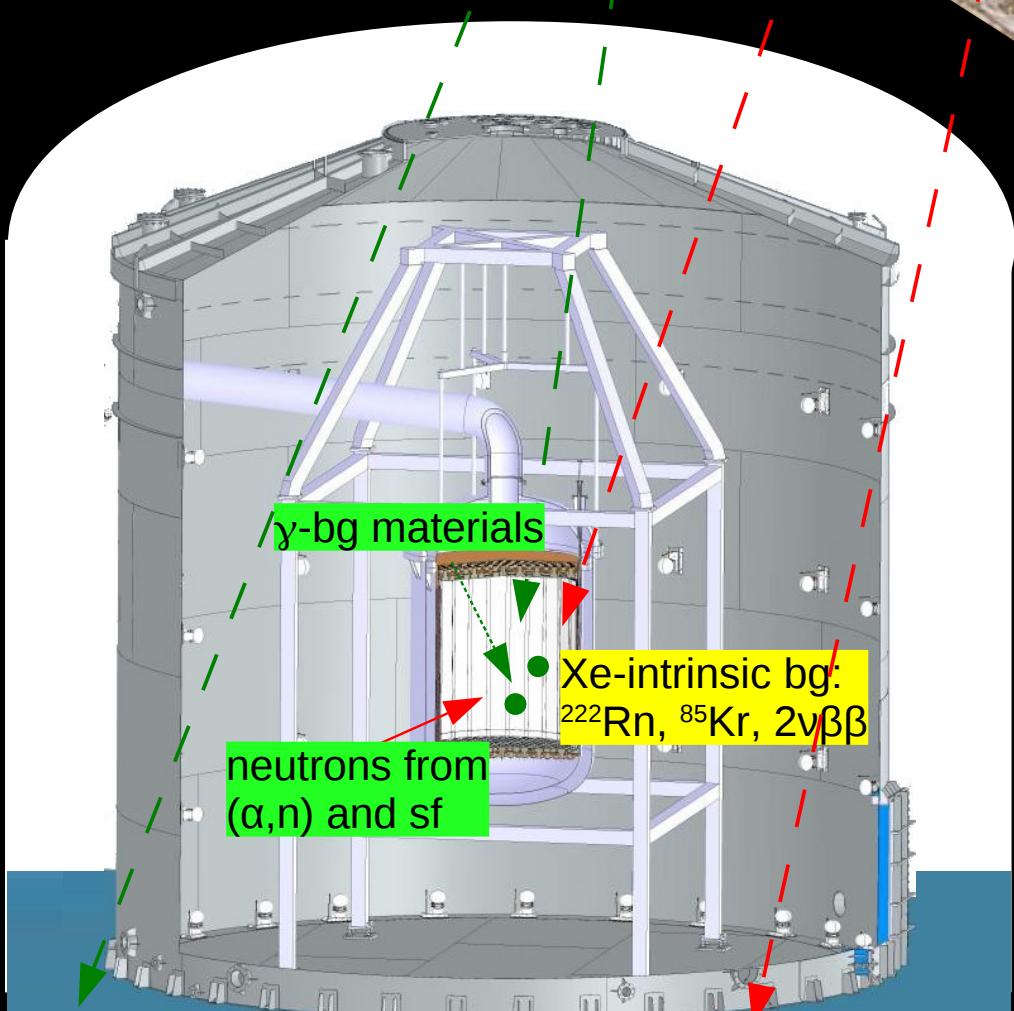
- aim at sensitivity of a few  $10^{-49} \text{ cm}^2$ , limited by irreducible  $\nu$ -backgrounds
- international consortium, 21 groups  
→ R&D ongoing

**Baseline scenario**  
 ~50t total LXe mass  
**~40 t LXe TPC**  
 ~30 t fiducial mass

- Timescale: start after XENONnT

[www.darwin-observatory.org](http://www.darwin-observatory.org)

# DARWIN Backgrounds

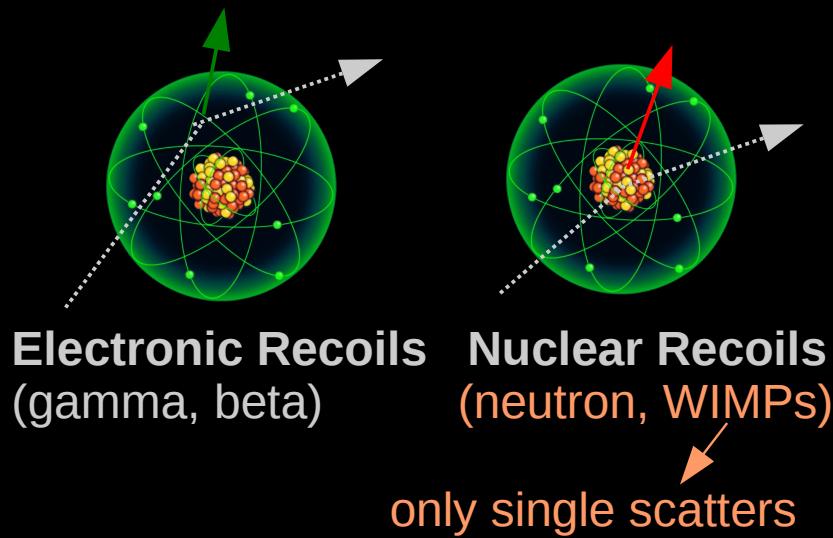


Remaining background sources:

- Neutrinos (→ ERs and NRs)
- Detector materials (→  $\gamma$ , n)
- Xe-intrinsic isotopes (→  $e^-$ )

(assume 100% effective shield (~15m) against  $\mu$ -induced background)

JCAP 10, 016 (2015)

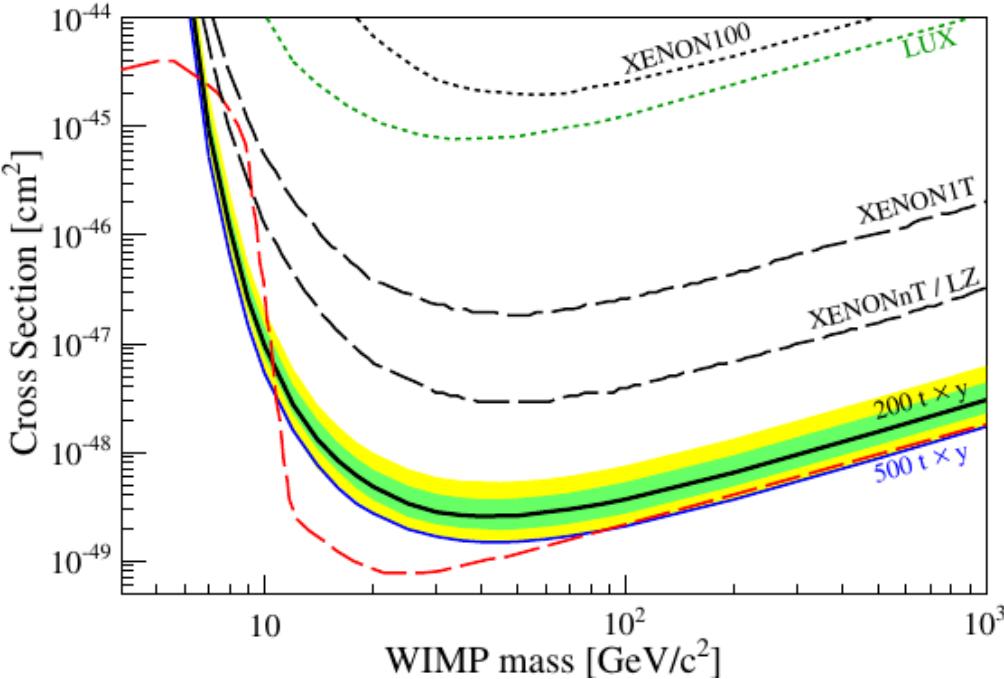


# DARWIN WIMP Sensitivity

JCAP 10, 016 (2015)

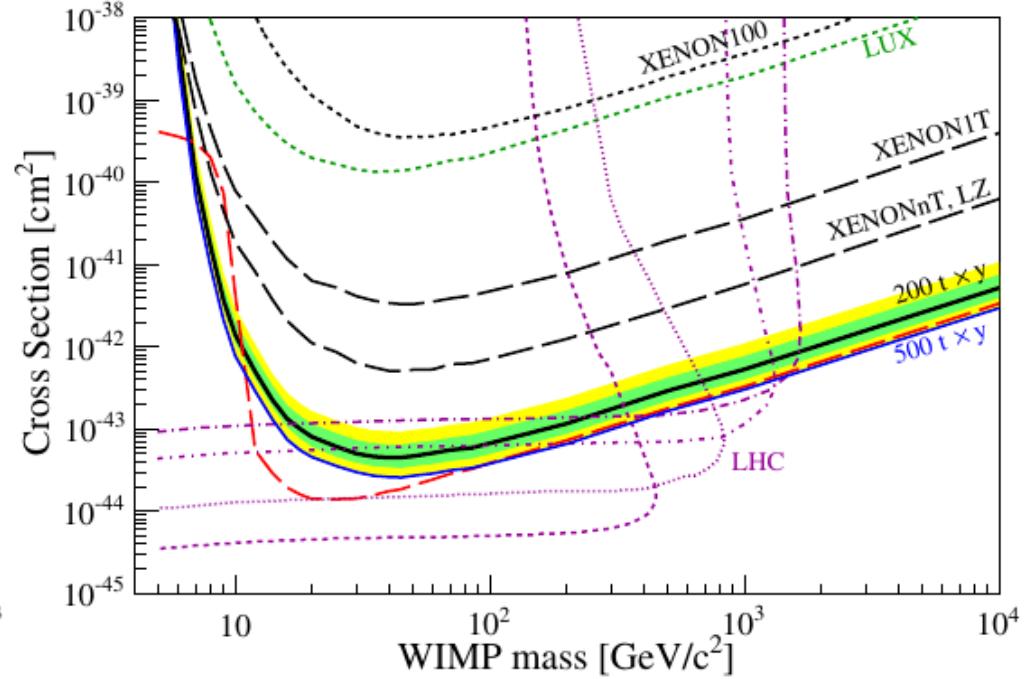
- exposure:  $200 \text{ t} \times \text{y}$ ; **all backgrounds included**
- **likelihood analysis**
- 99.98% ER rejection @ 30% NR acceptance,  
S1+S2 combined energy scale, LY=8 PE/keV, 5-35 keV<sub>nr</sub> energy window

spin-independent couplings



$200 \text{ t} \times \text{y}$ :  $\sigma < 2.5 \times 10^{-49} \text{ cm}^2$  @ 40 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>

spin-dependent couplings (n-only)



excellent complementarity to LHC searches

Phys. Dark Univ. 9-10, 51 (2015).

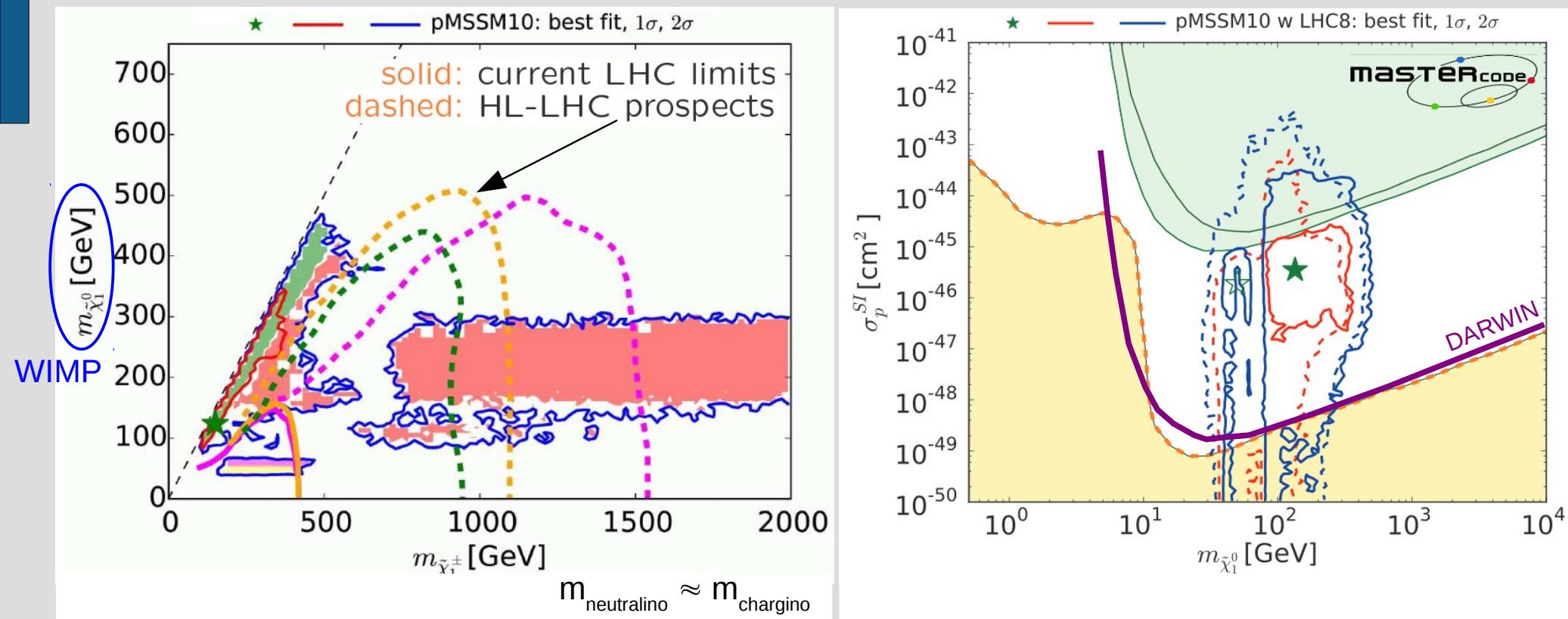
# SUSY Dark Matter

plots: Sven Heinemeyer (MasterCode 2015)

SUSY under pressure because not found at LHC?

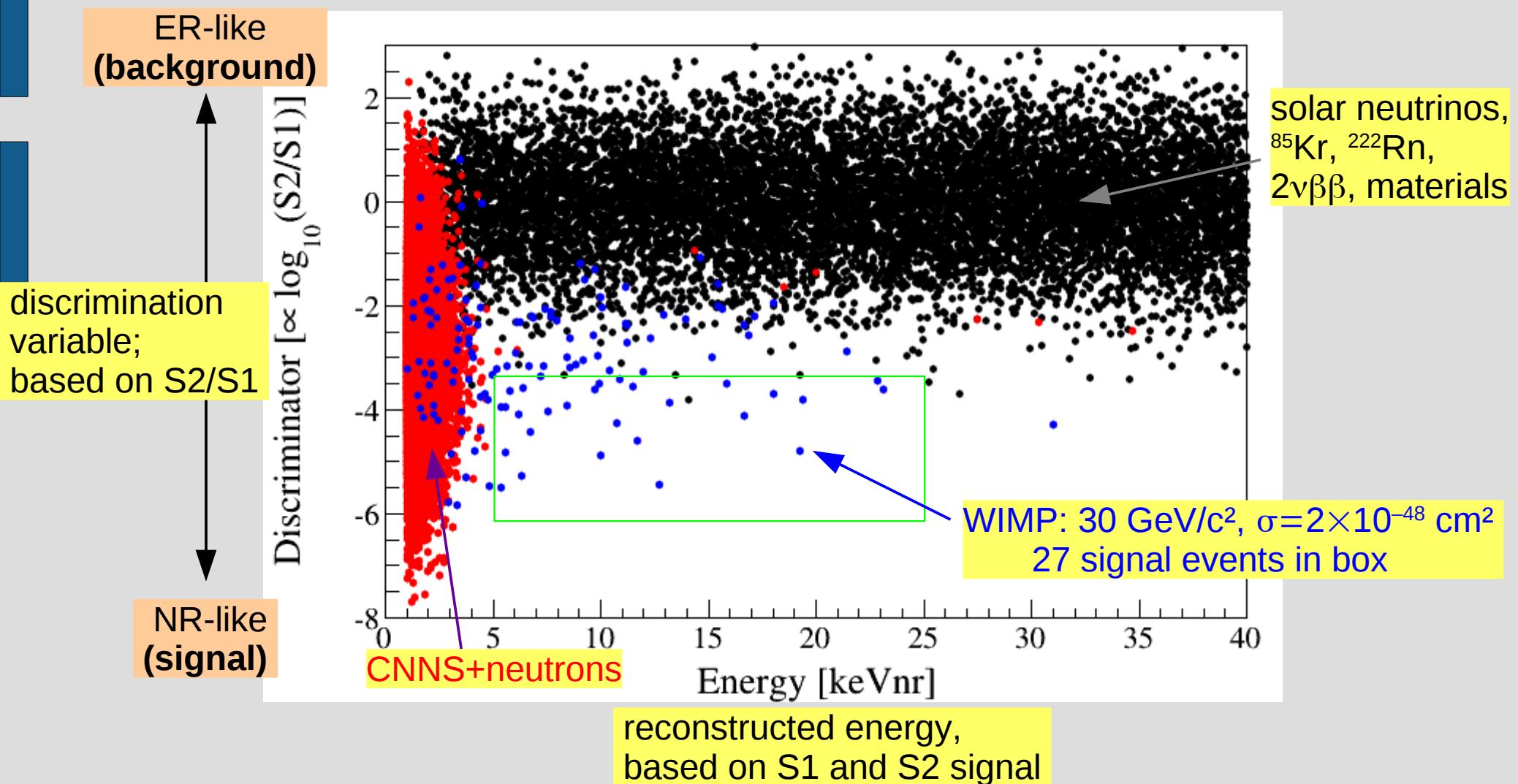
- true for some very constraint models (CMSSM etc.) but looks different when more parameters are left unconstrained

Example: pMSSM10 ← 10 SUSY parameters, e.g. EPJ C75, 422 (2015)



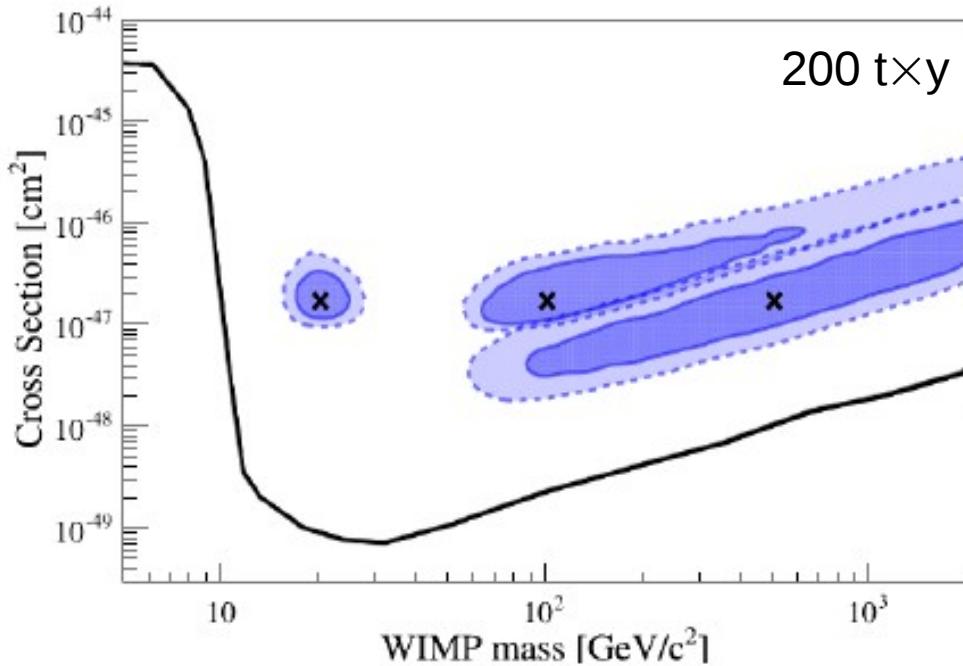
WIMP out of reach of HL-LHC (best-fit regions not covered), but accessible by DARWIN

# WIMP Detection



# WIMP Spectroscopy

Reconstruction:  $2 \times 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2$

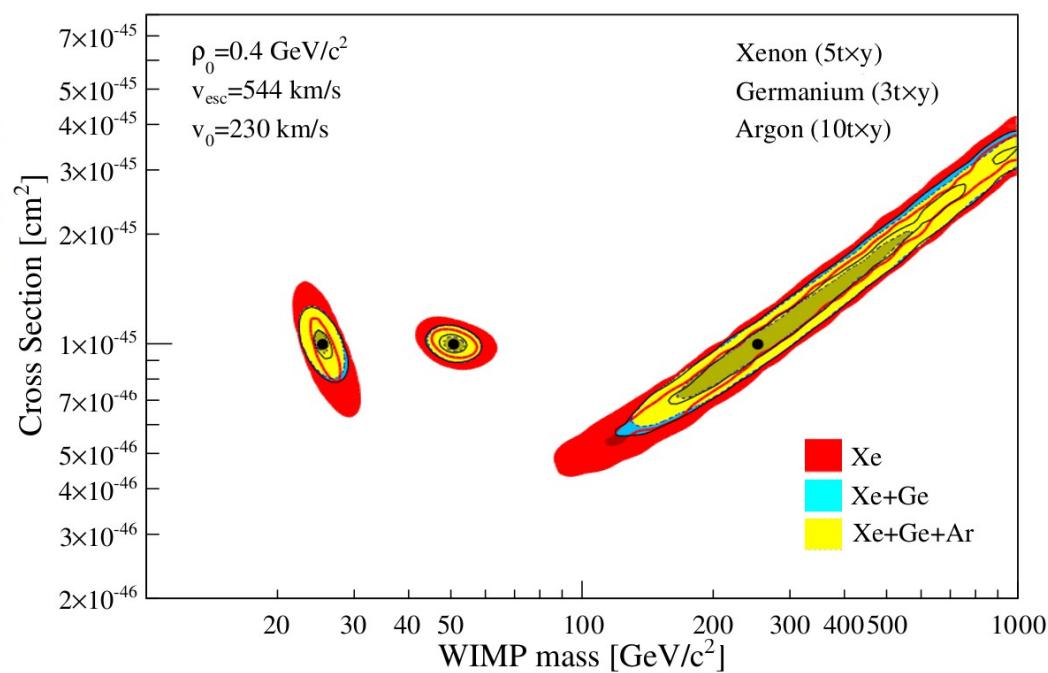


[JCAP 11, 017 \(2016\)](#)

Capability to reconstruct WIMP parameters

- $m_{\chi} = 20, 100, 500 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
- $1\sigma/2\sigma$  CI, marginalized over astrophysical parameters
- due to flat WIMP spectra, no target can reconstruct masses  $> 500 \text{ GeV}/c^2$

Target Complementarity

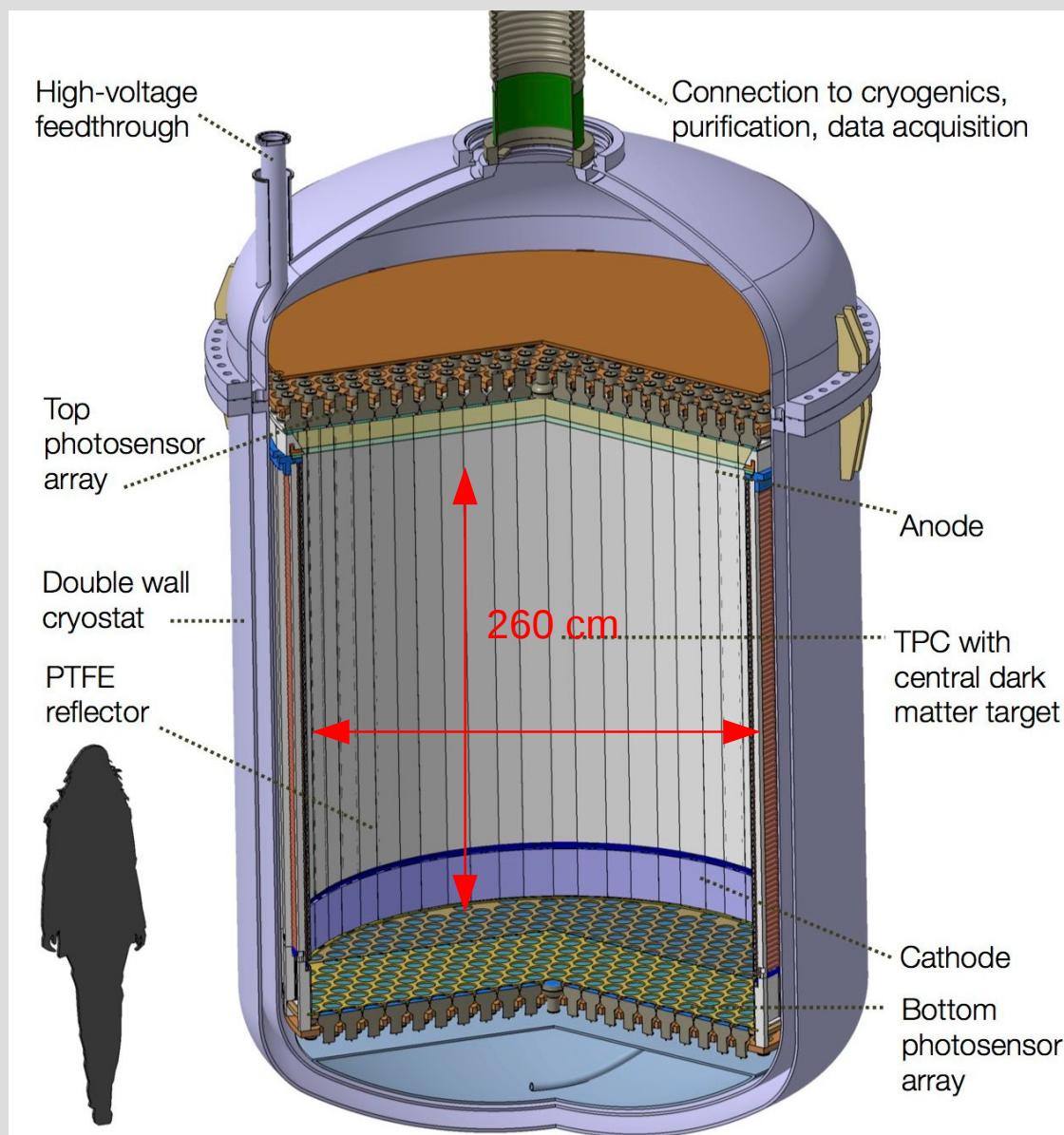


[PRD 83, 083505 \(2011\)](#)

Reconstruction improves considerably by adding Ge-data to Xe.

Only minimal improvement for Ar.

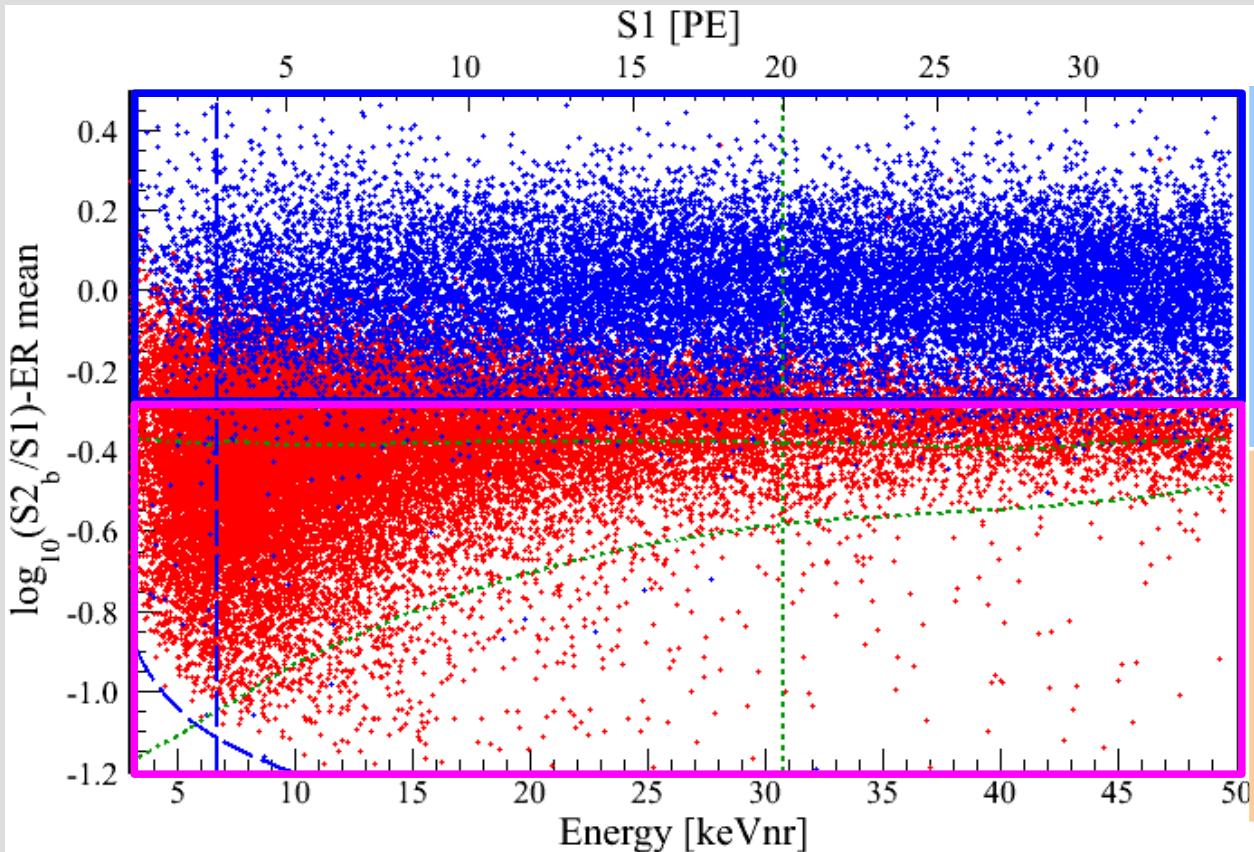
# DARWIN The ultimate WIMP Detector



other than WIMPs

**What (else) can we do with these instruments?**

# Interactions in LXe Detectors



scattering off atomic electrons,  
excitations etc.

→ electronic recoil

- rare processes detectable if ER background is low

coherent scattering  
off xenon nucleus

→ nuclear recoil

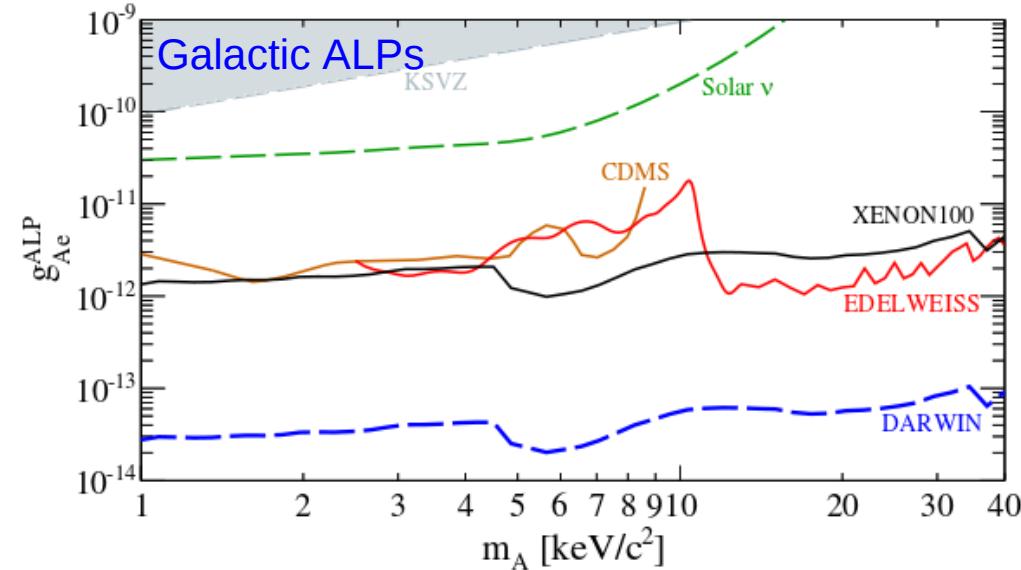
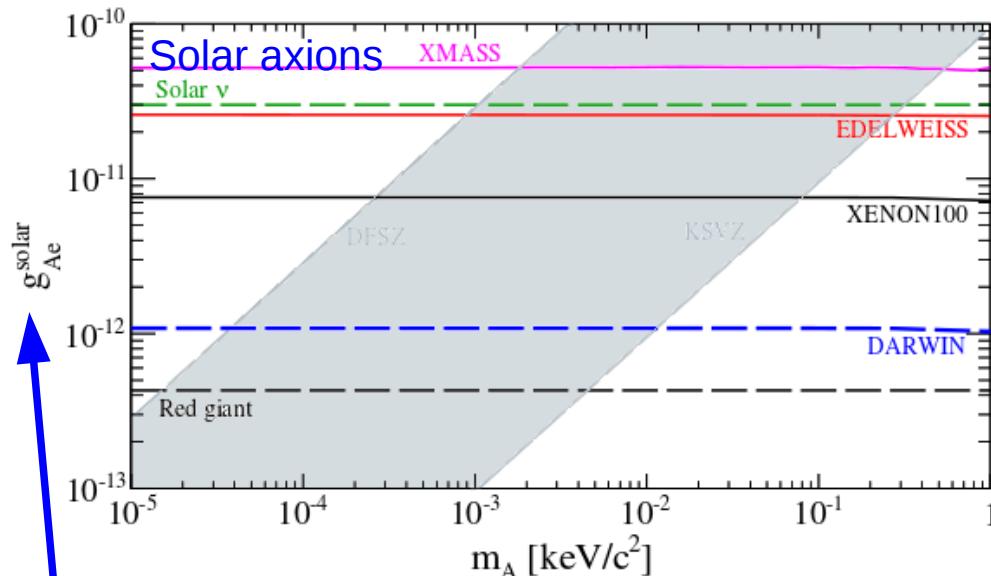
- Dark Matter
- CNNs

Many **science channels** are accessible  
with a multi-ton DARWIN detector thanks to  
its extremely low ER background.

# Solar Axions, Dark Matter ALPs



JCAP 11, 017 (2016)



Axions and ALPs couple to xenon via **axio-electric-effect**

$$\sigma_{Ae}(E_A) = \sigma_{pe}(E_A) \frac{g_{Ae}^2}{\beta_A} \frac{3E_A^2}{16\pi \alpha m_e^2} \left(1 - \frac{\beta_A}{3}\right)$$

→ axion ionizes a Xe atom

## Axion

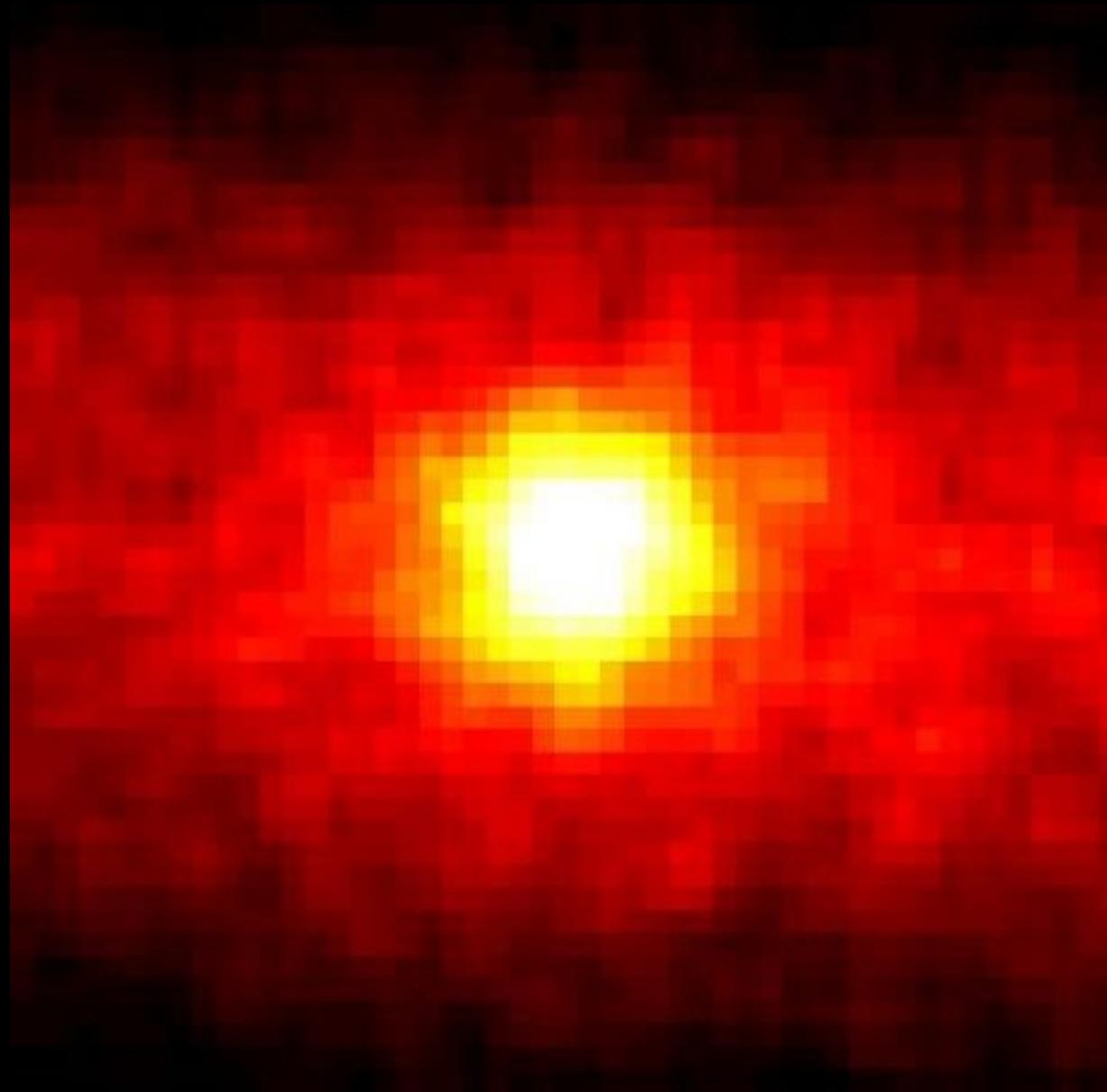
arises naturally in the Peccei-Quinn solution of the strong CP-problem

→ well-motivated dark matter candidate

## Axion-like particle (ALP)

generalization of the axion concept, but without addressing strong CP problem

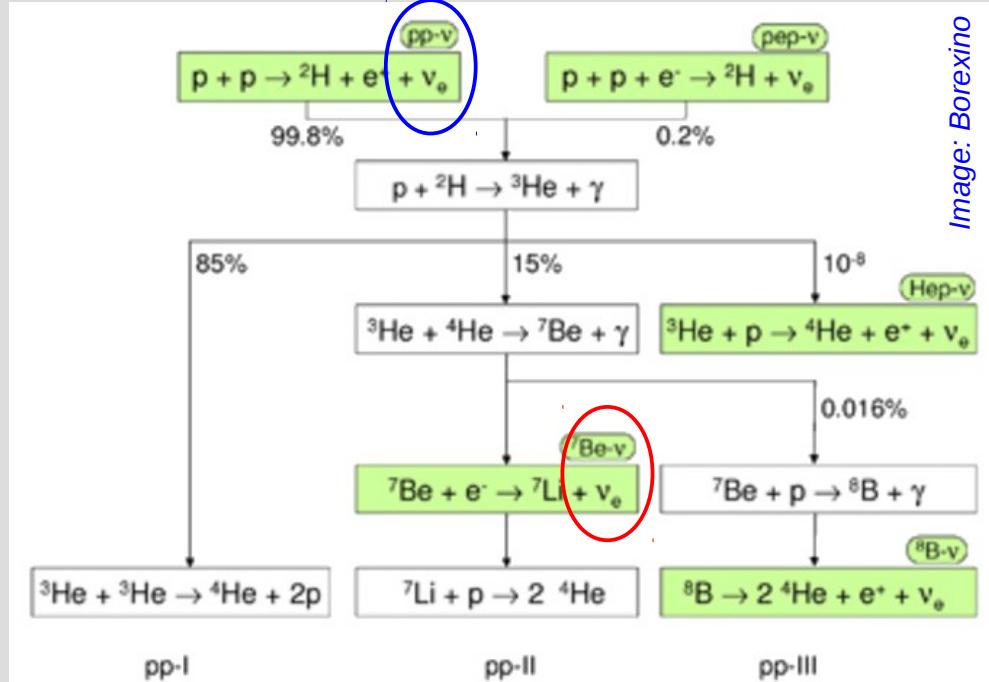
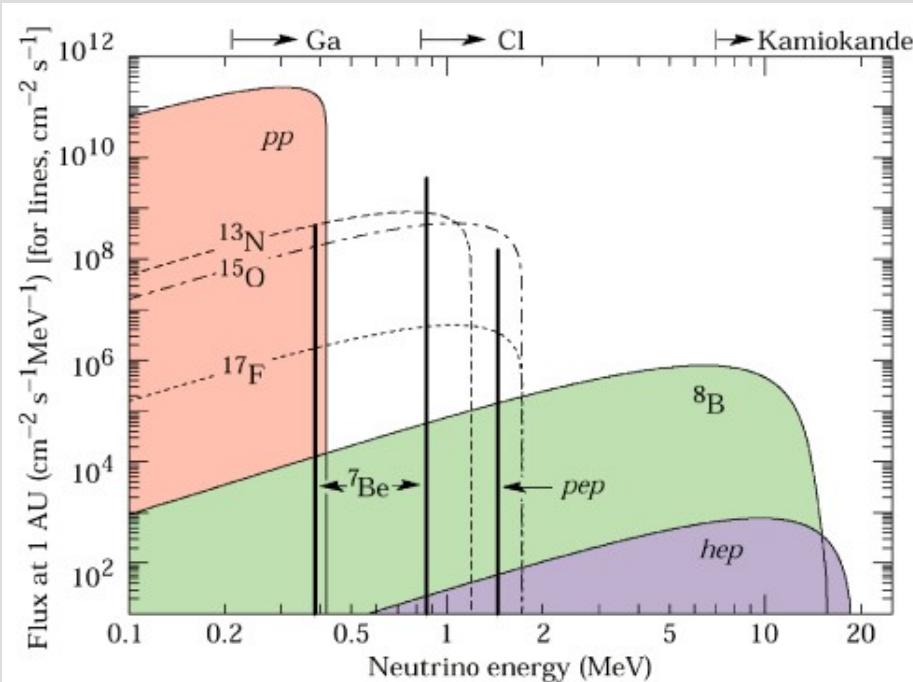
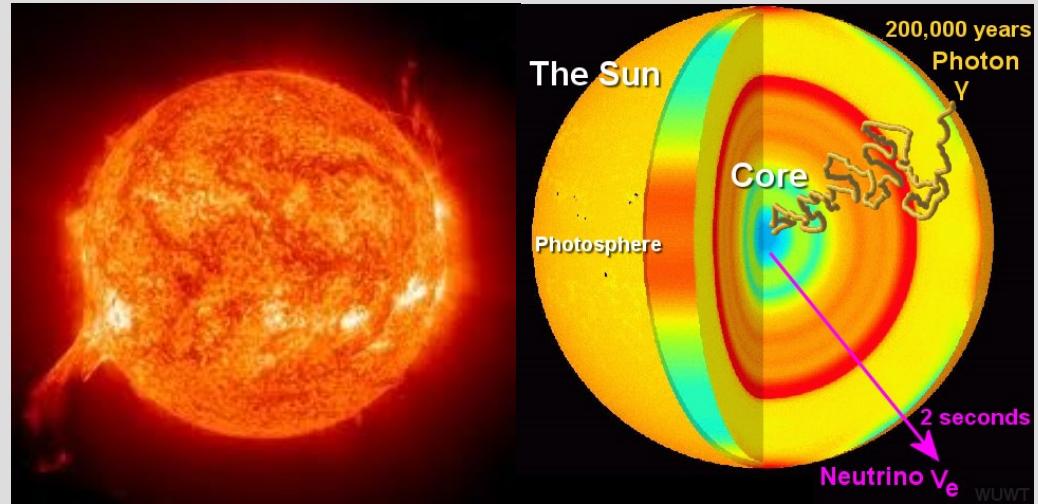
(ALPs = Nambu-Goldstone bosons from breaking of some global symmetry)



# Low-E solar Neutrinos

## Low-energy solar Neutrinos: pp, $^7\text{Be}$

- vast majority of solar neutrinos; help to understand how the Sun works
- very low energetic, hard to detect
- mainly pp-neutrinos



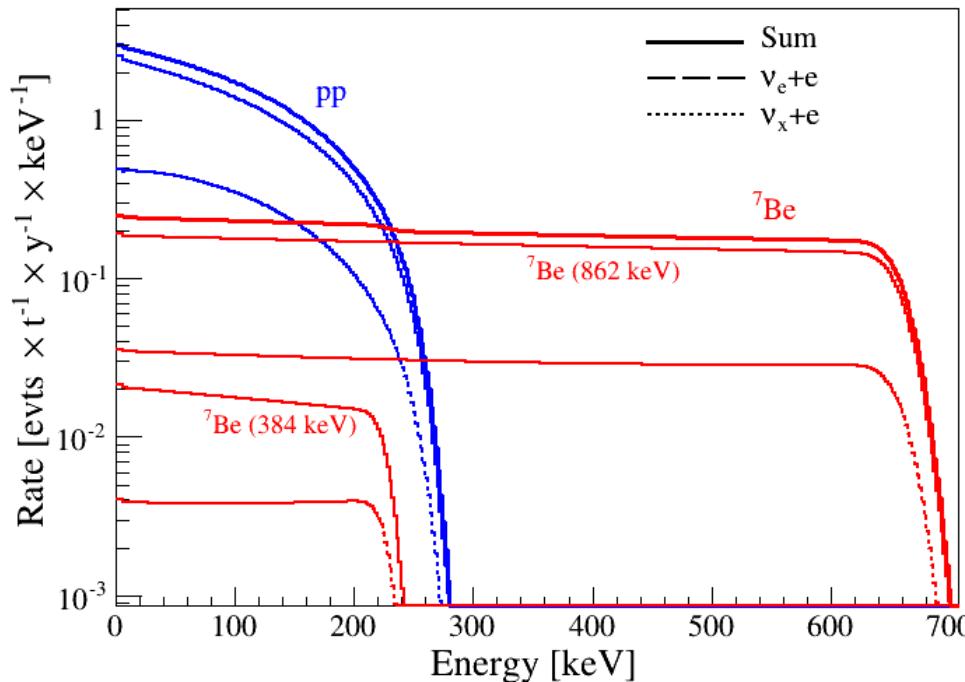
# pp-Neutrinos in DARWIN



a background for the WIMP search

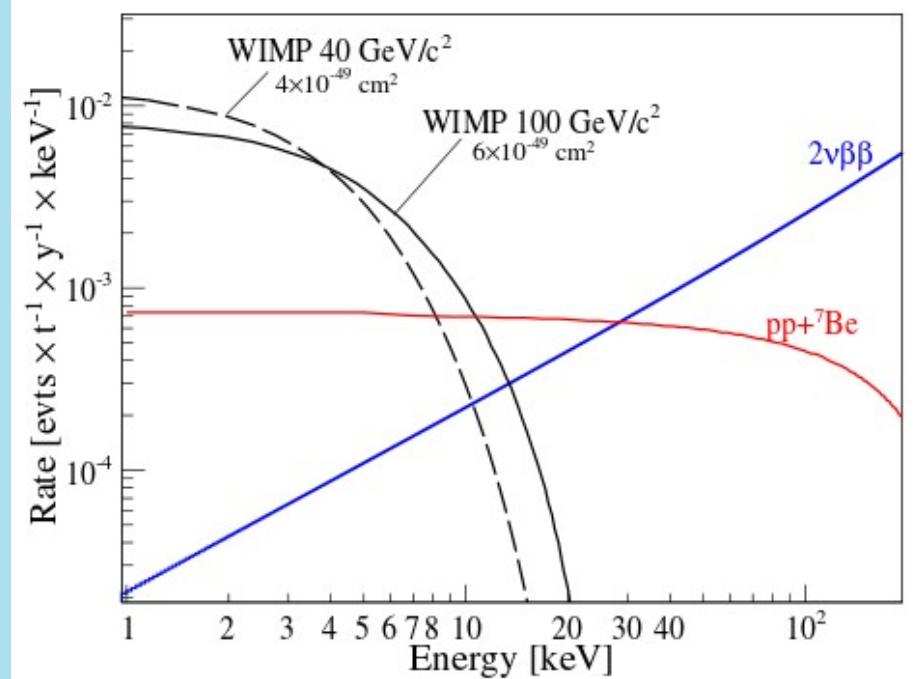
JCAP 11, 017 (2016)

Differential Recoil Spectrum in Xe



- neutrinos interact with Xe electrons  
→ electronic recoil signature
- continuous recoil spectrum  
→ largest rate at low E

Neutrino interactions



- ER rejection efficiencies ~99.98% at 30% NR efficiency are required to reduce to sub-dominant level

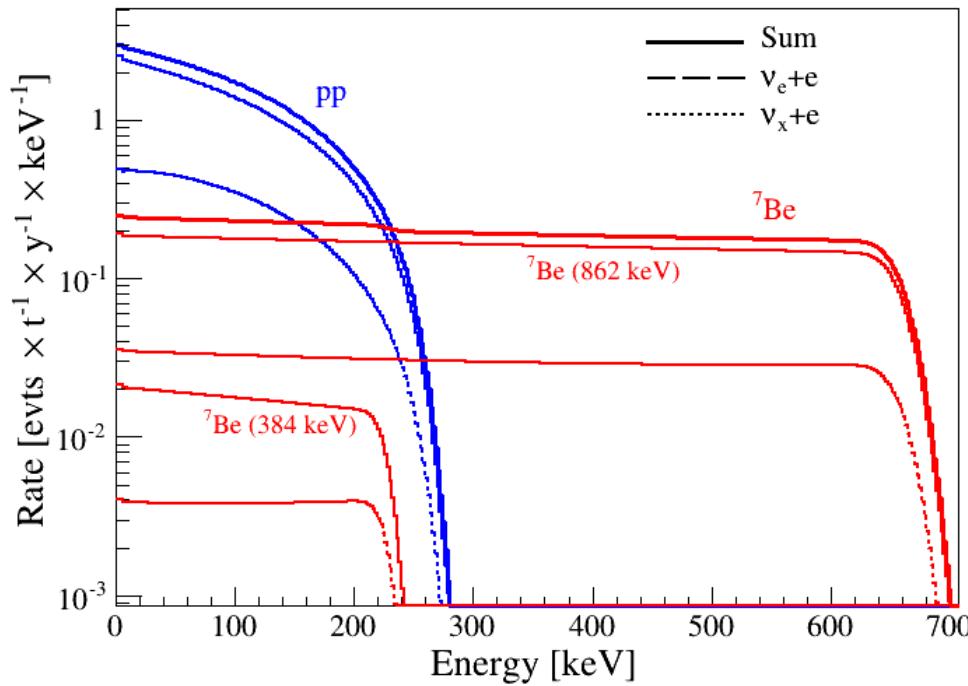
# pp-Neutrinos in DARWIN



a new physics channel!

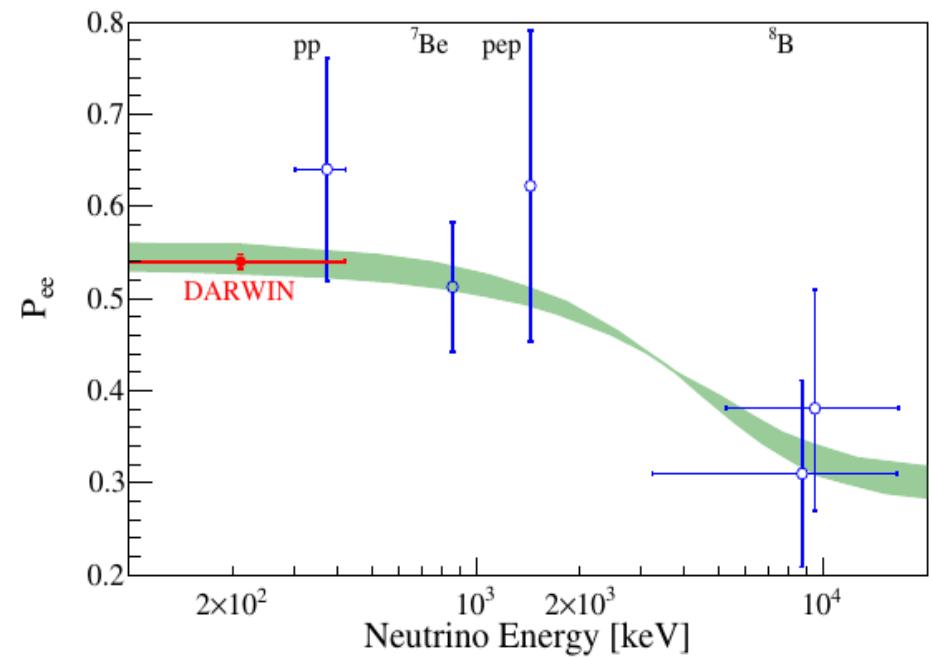
JCAP 11, 017 (2016)

Differential Recoil Spectrum in Xe



- neutrinos interact with Xe electrons  
→ electronic recoil signature
- continuous recoil spectrum  
→ largest rate at low E  
~0.26 v evts/t/d in low-E region (2-30 keV)

Neutrino interactions

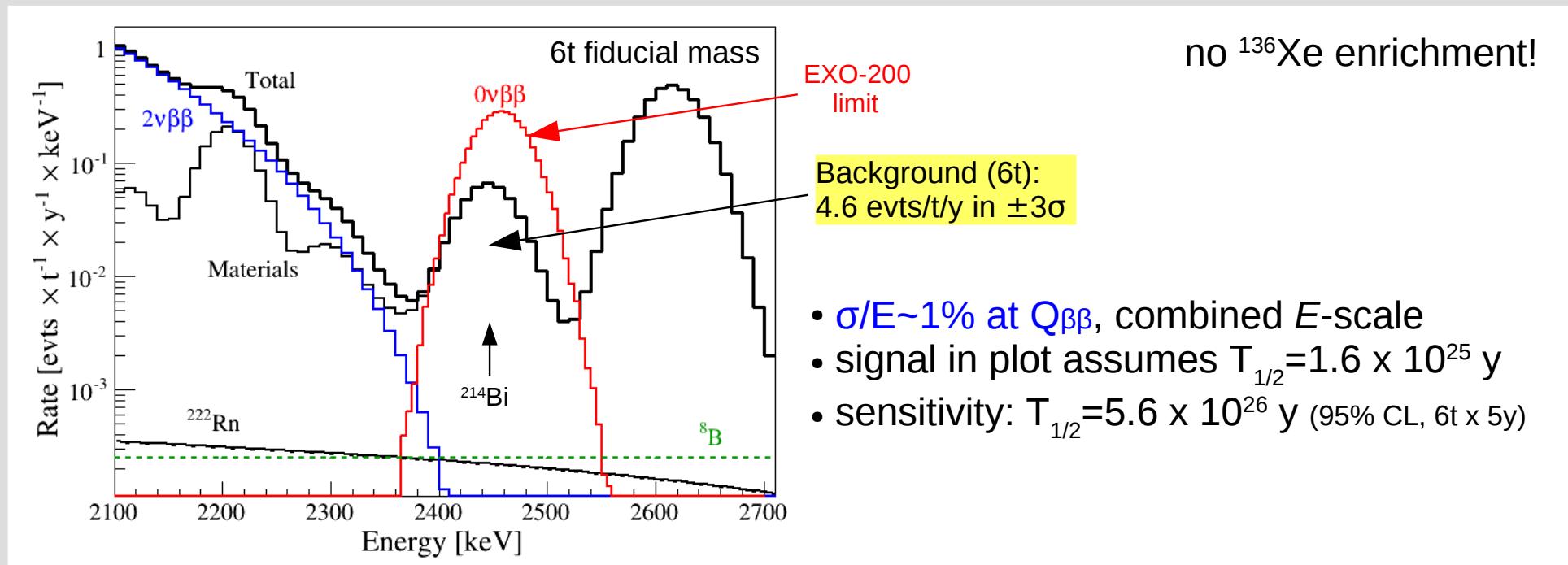
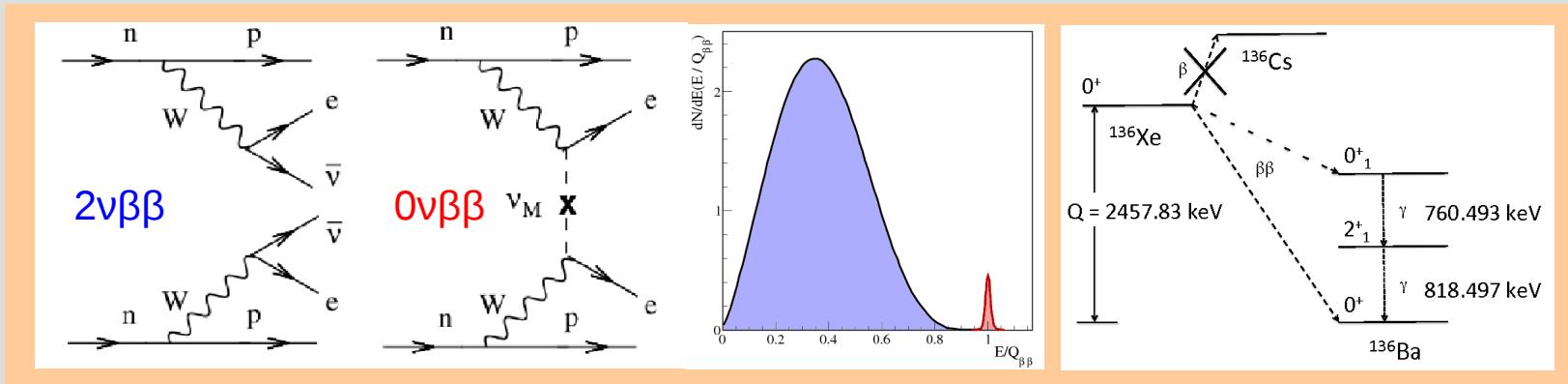


- 30t target mass, 2-30 keV window  
→ 2850 neutrinos per year (89% pp)  
→ achieve 1% statistical precision  
on pp-flux ( $\rightarrow P_{ee}$ ) with 100 t × y

# $^{136}\text{Xe}$ : $0\nu$ double-beta Decay

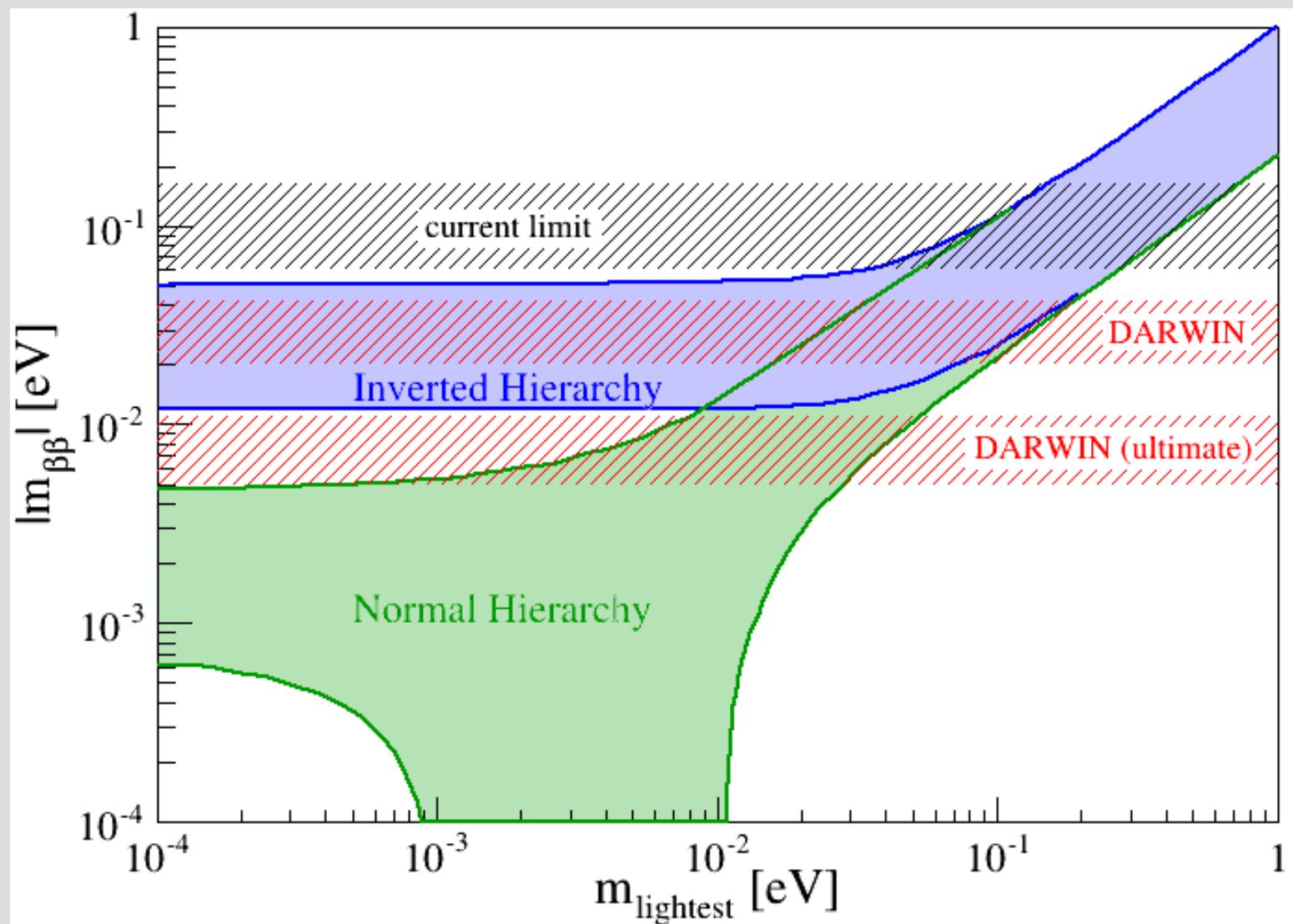


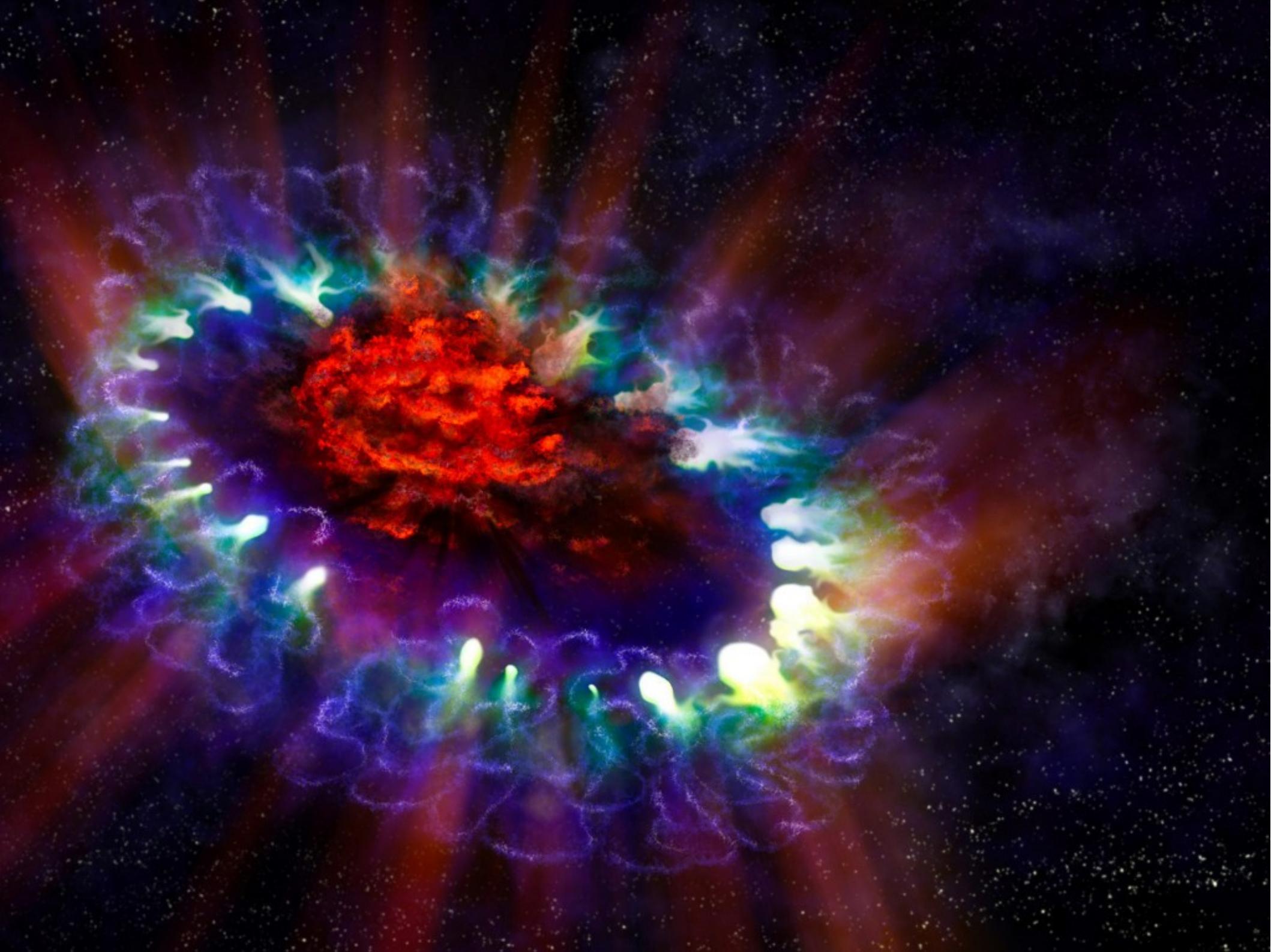
JCAP 01, 044 (2014)



# 0ν Double-beta Decay

JCAP 11, 017 (2016)

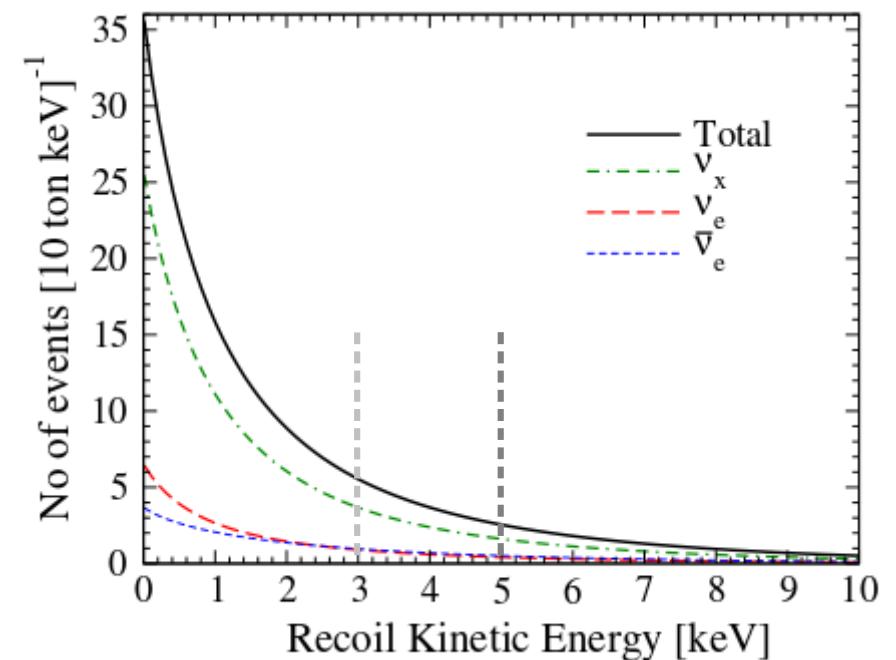
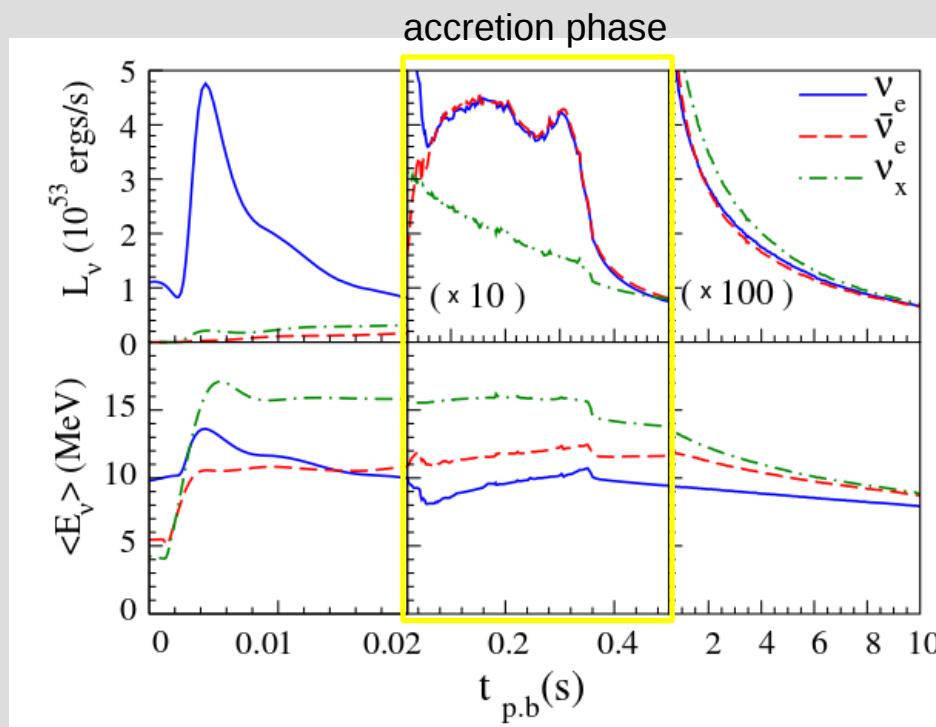




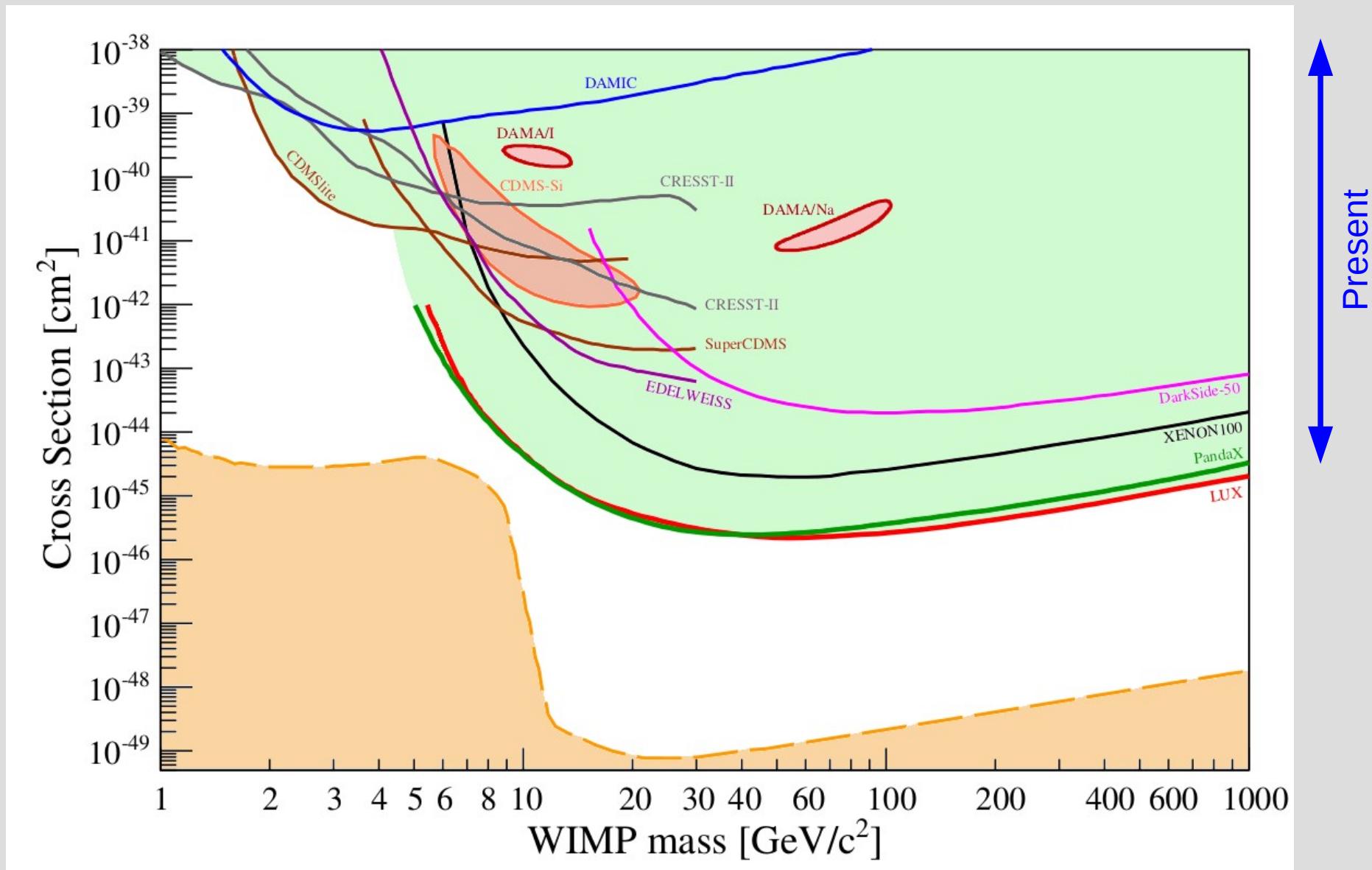
# Supernova Neutrinos

Chakraborty et al., PRD 89, 013011 (2014)  
Lang et al., PRD 94, 103009 (2016)

- $\nu$  from supernovae could be detected via CNNs as well
- signal from accretion phase of a  $\sim 18$  Msun supernova @ 10 kpc is clearly visible in DARWIN
- signal: NRs plus precise time information
- challenge: threshold



# The WIMP Landscape today



# Exciting times ahead of us

