

# Dark Matter Direct Detection: the state-of-the-art

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# Outline of Lecture

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- **Evidence for Dark Matter and Candidates**

  - Rotation curves

  - gravitational lensing

- **WIMP direct detection**

  - kinematics of the elastic WIMP-nucleus scattering

  - cross sections, differential rates, expected rates in a detector

- **WIMP signatures and Backgrounds**

  - time dependance of the rate, directional dependance

  - background sources, background discrimination

- **State-of-the-art in direct detection**

  - noble liquid properties

  - the XENON project

# References and Additional Readings

- ***Rate/Signal Definition***

J. D. Lewin and P. F. Smith, *Astropart. Phys.* 6, (1996) 87.

F. Donato, N. Fornengo, and S. Scopel, *Astropart. Phys.* 9,(1998) 247.

- ***Backgrounds and more***

G. Heusser, *Ann. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci.*, 45, (1995) 543.

R. J. Gaiskell, *Ann. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci.*, 54, (2004) 315.

- ***Detectors and experimental methods***

W. R. Leo, *Techniques for nuclear and particle physics experiments*, Springer, (1994).

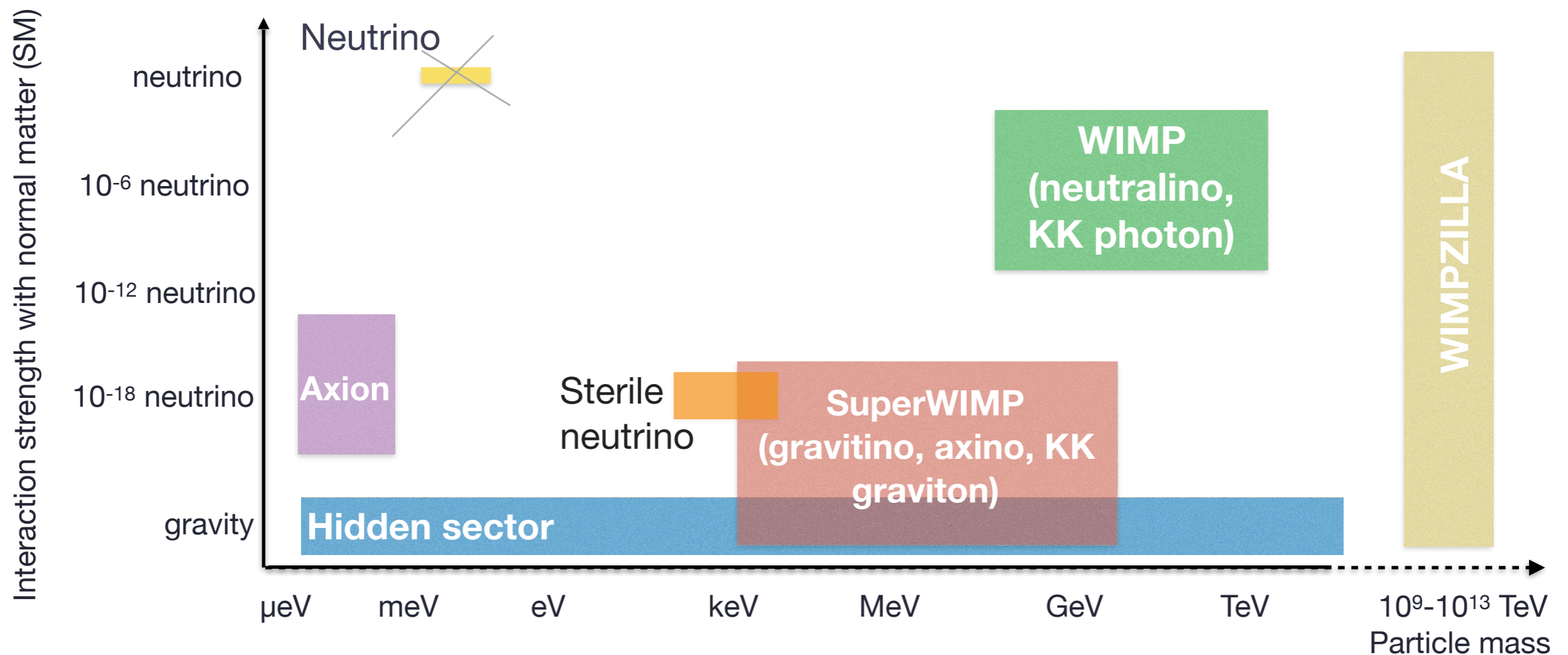
G. F. Knoll, *Radiation Detection and Measurement*, Wiley, (2000).

- ***LXe Detectors and Applications***

E. Aprile and T. Doke, *Review of Modern Physics* (2010).

# Dark Matter Candidates

- **Attractive idea: a new particle produced in an early phase of our Universe**
- Predicted masses and cross sections span many orders of magnitude
- Most experiments optimized to search for WIMPs, but also searches for axions, SuperWimps,...



# How to detect Weakly Interacting Massive Particles

## Direct detection

nuclear recoils from elastic scattering

dependance on A, J; annual modulation, directionality

local density and v-distribution

## Indirect detection

high-energy neutrinos, gammas, charged CRs

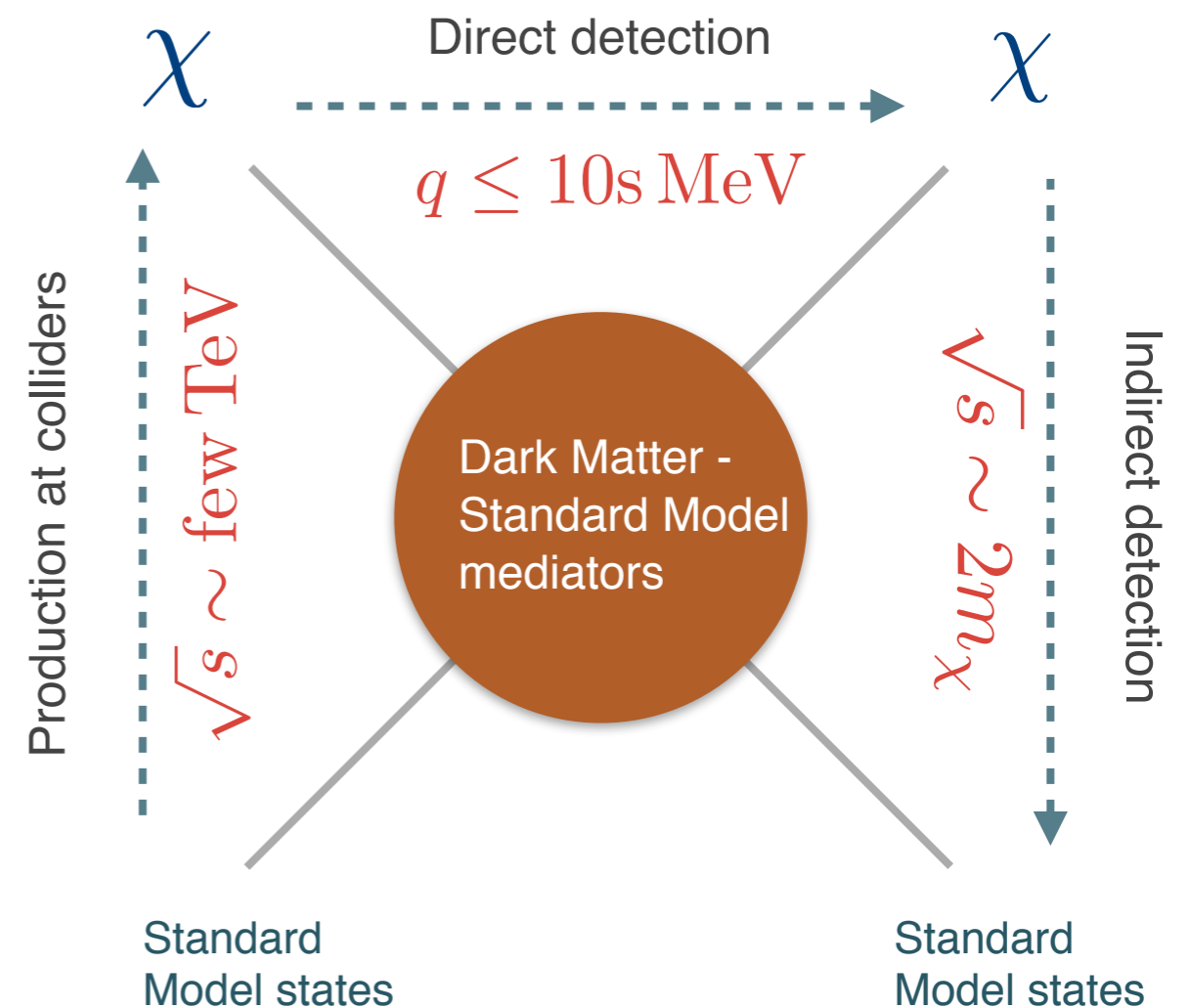
look at over-dense regions in the sky

astrophysics backgrounds difficult

## Accelerator searches

missing  $E_T$ , mono-‘objects’, etc

can it establish that the new particle is the DM?

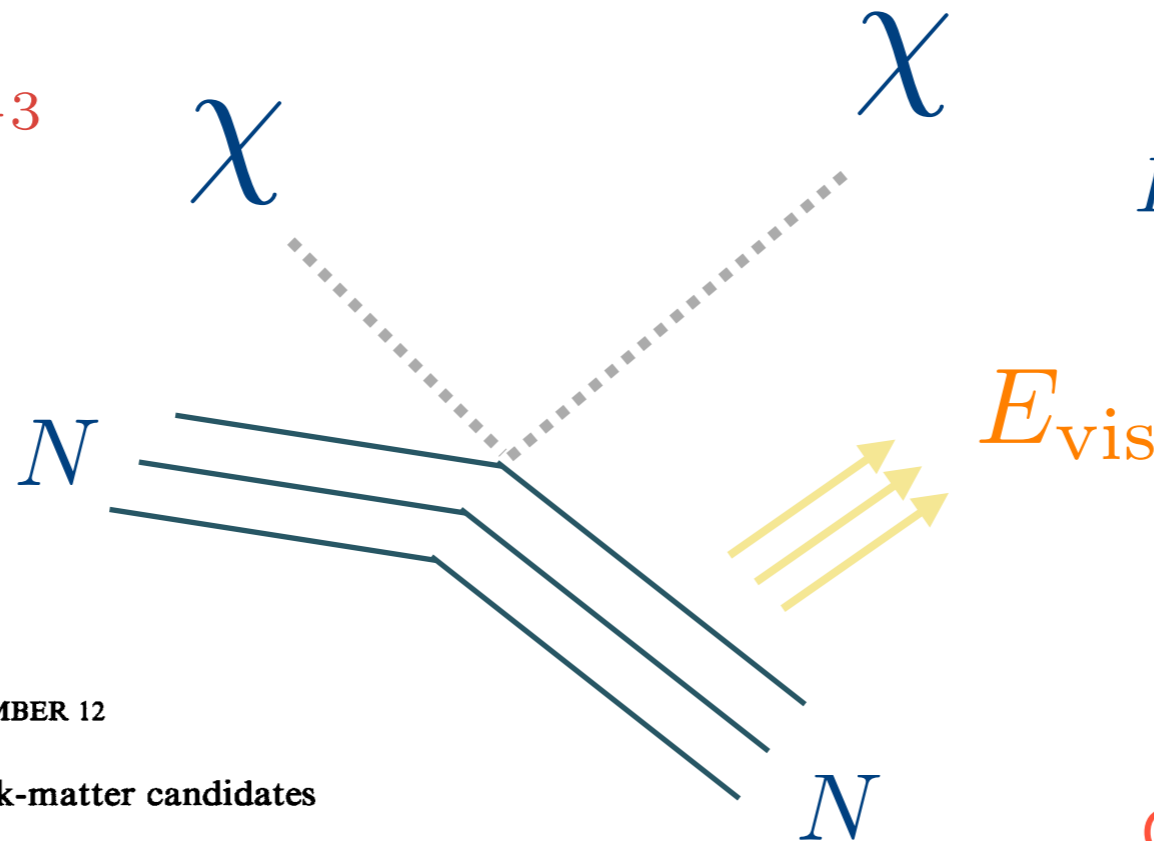


# Direct detection

## Collisions of invisible particles with atomic nuclei

=>  $E_{\text{vis}}$  ( $q \sim$  tens of MeV):

$$v/c \sim 0.75 \times 10^{-3}$$



$$E_R = \frac{q^2}{2m_N} < 30 \text{ keV}$$

Observable: kinetic energy of the recoiling nucleus

REVIEW D

VOLUME 31, NUMBER 12

### Detectability of certain dark-matter candidates

Mark W. Goodman and Edward Witten

Joseph Henry Laboratories, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey 08544

(Received 7 January 1985)

We consider the possibility that the neutral-current neutrino detector recently proposed by Drukier and Stodolsky could be used to detect some possible candidates for the dark matter in galactic halos. This may be feasible if the galactic halos are made of particles with coherent weak interactions and masses  $1-10^6$  GeV; particles with spin-dependent interactions of typical weak strength and masses  $1-10^2$  GeV; or strongly interacting particles of masses  $1-10^{13}$  GeV.

# Expected Rates in a Detector

$$\frac{dR}{dE_R} = N_N \frac{\rho_0}{m_W} \int_{\sqrt{(m_N E_{th}) / (2\mu^2)}}^{v_{max}} dv f(v) v \frac{d\sigma}{dE_R}$$

**Detector physics**

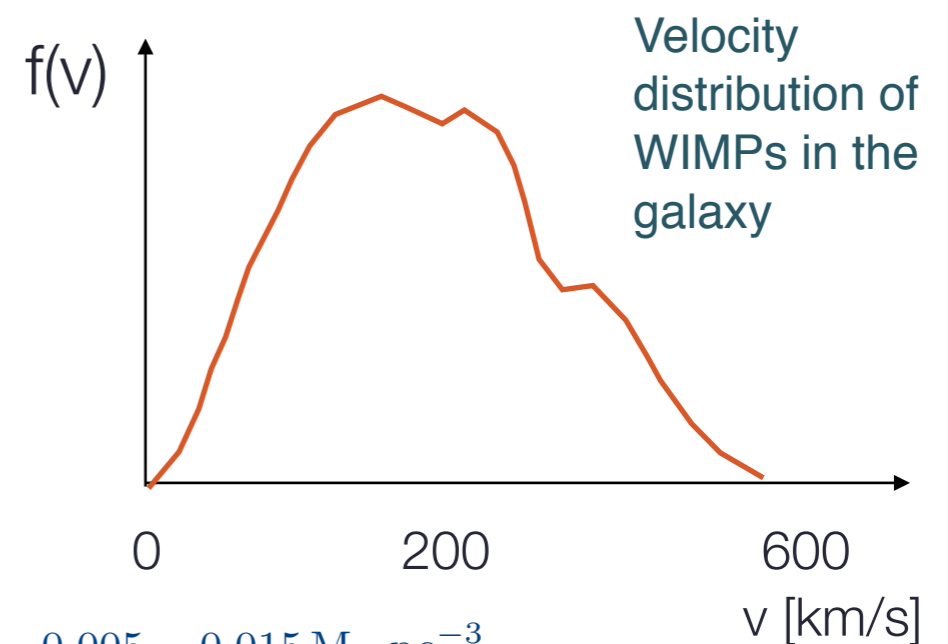
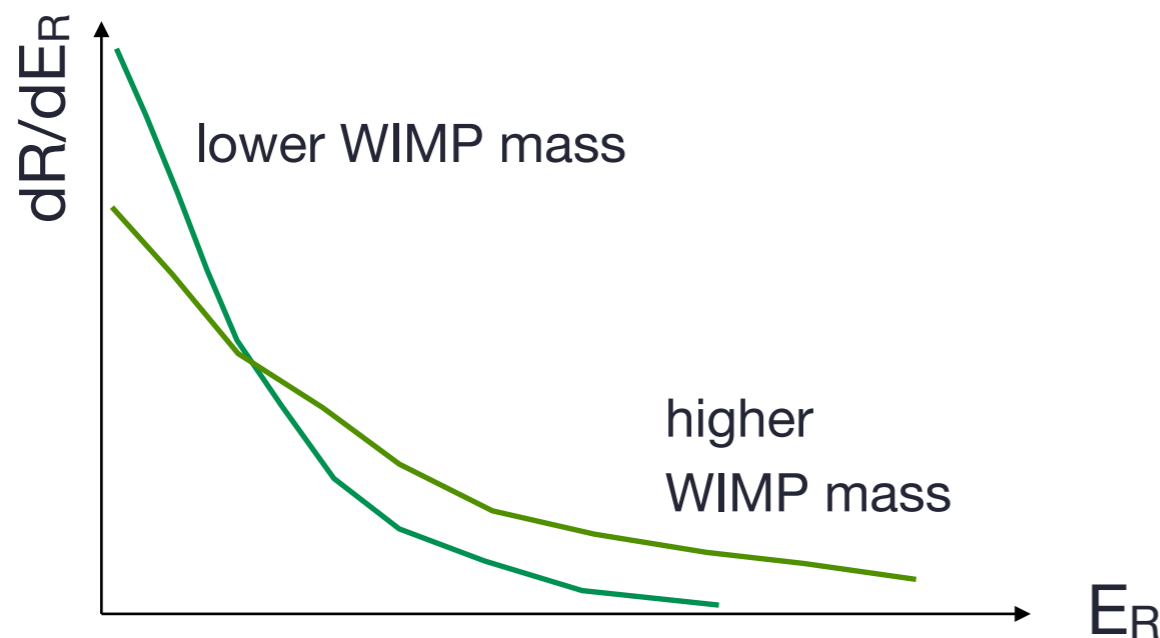
$$N_N, E_{th}$$

**Particle/nuclear physics**

$$m_W, d\sigma/dE_R$$

**Astrophysics**

$$\rho_0, f(v)$$

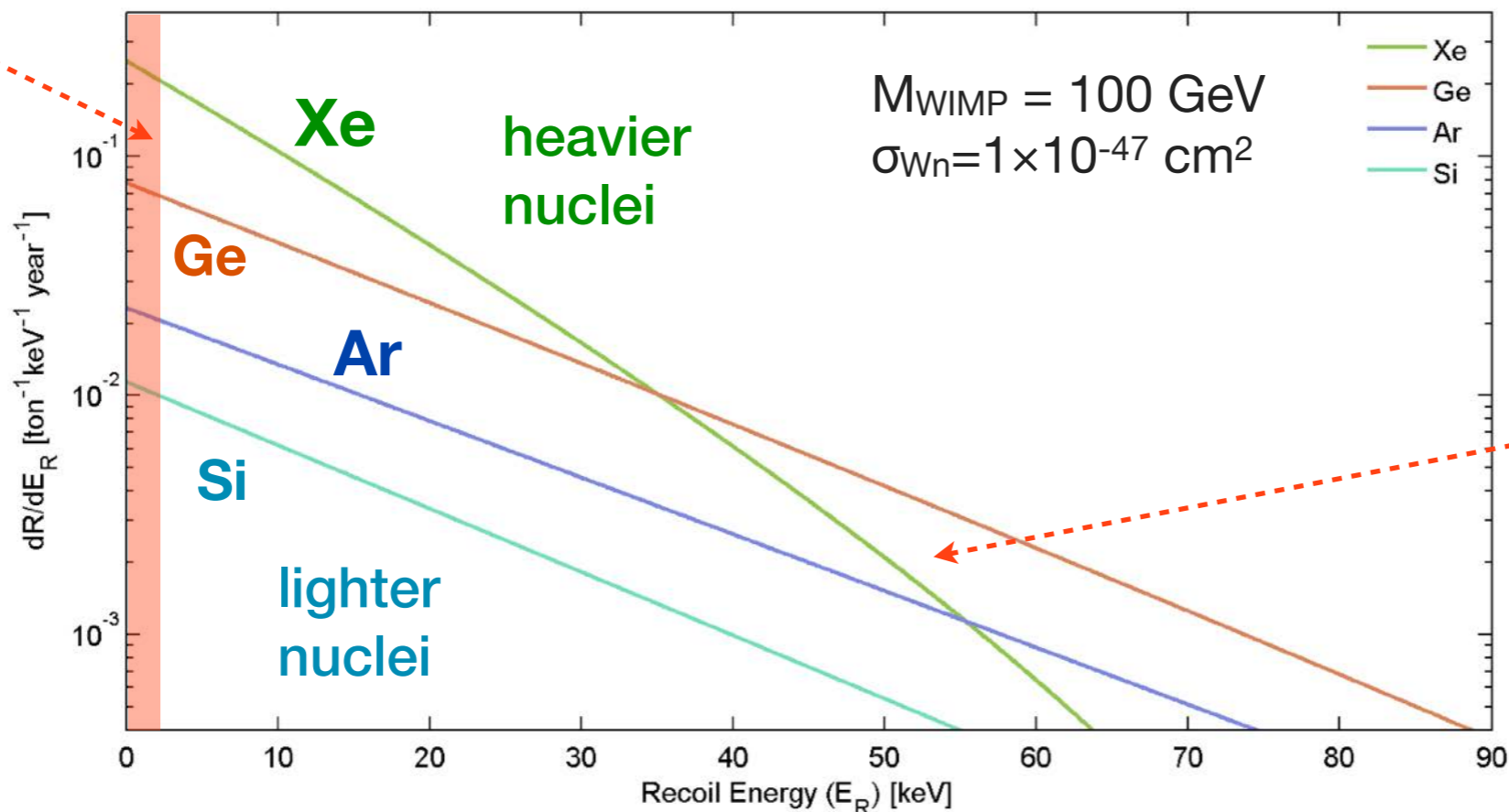


$$\rho(R_0) = 0.2 - 0.56 \text{ GeV cm}^{-3} = 0.005 - 0.015 M_\odot \text{ pc}^{-3}$$

# Expected interaction rates

$$R \sim 0.13 \frac{\text{events}}{\text{kg year}} \left[ \frac{A}{100} \times \frac{\sigma_{WN}}{10^{-38} \text{ cm}^2} \times \frac{\langle v \rangle}{220 \text{ km s}^{-1}} \times \frac{\rho_0}{0.3 \text{ GeV cm}^{-3}} \right]$$

$$v_{min} = \sqrt{\frac{m_N E_{th}}{2\mu^2}}$$



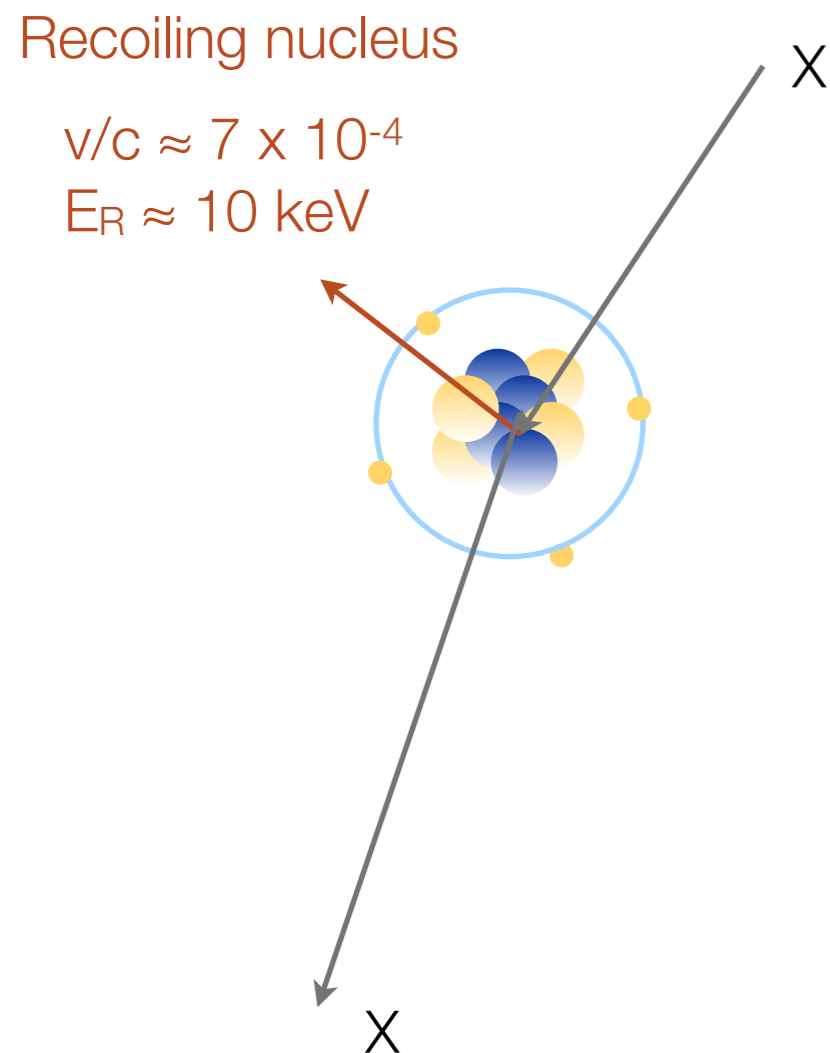
$F^2(E_R)$



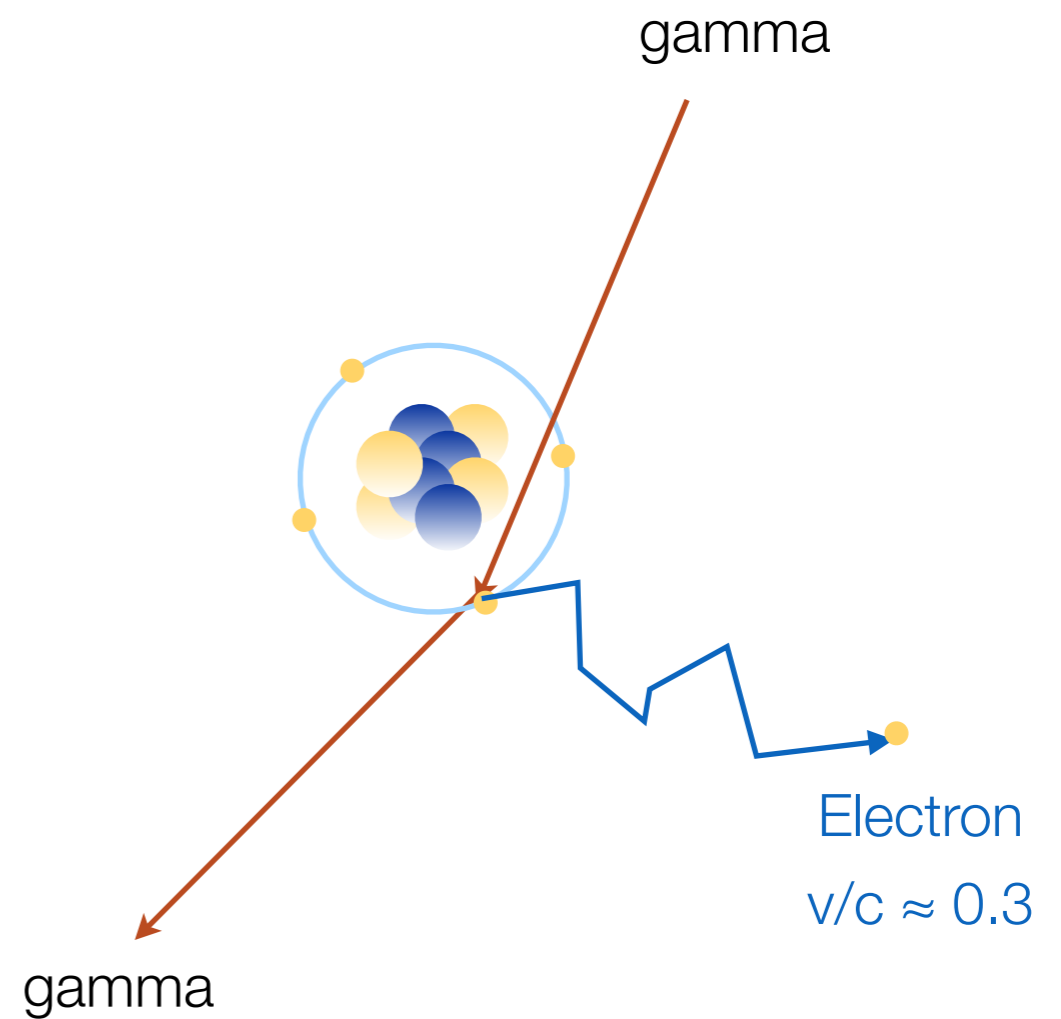
# Detection of WIMPs: Signal and Backgrounds

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Signal (WIMPs)

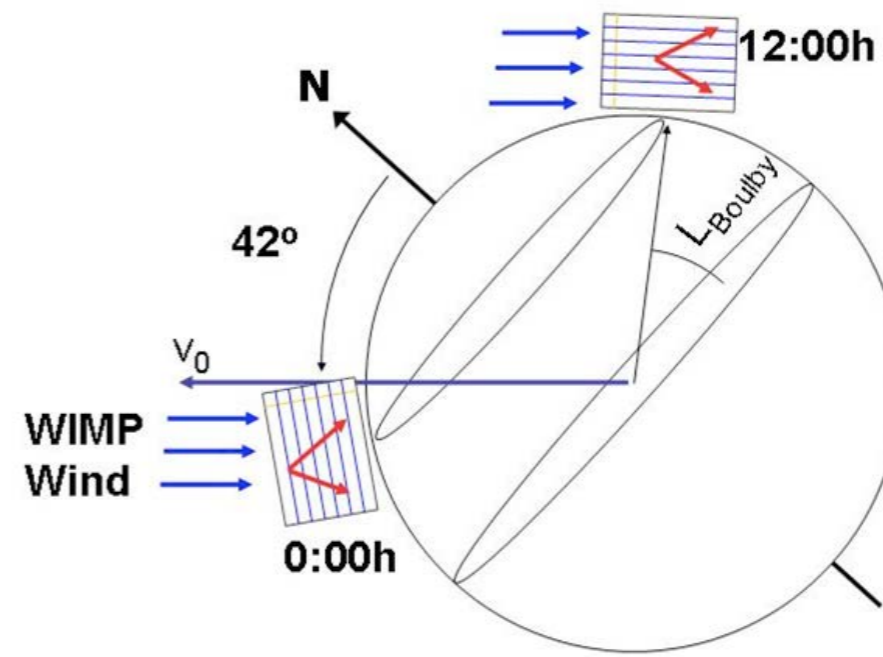
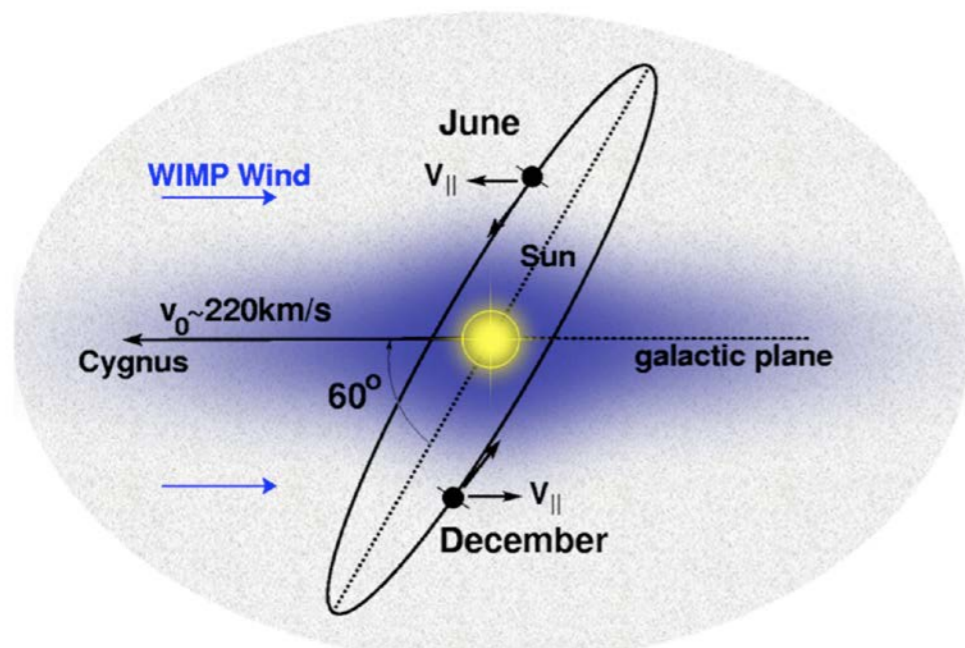


Background (gamma-, beta-radiation)



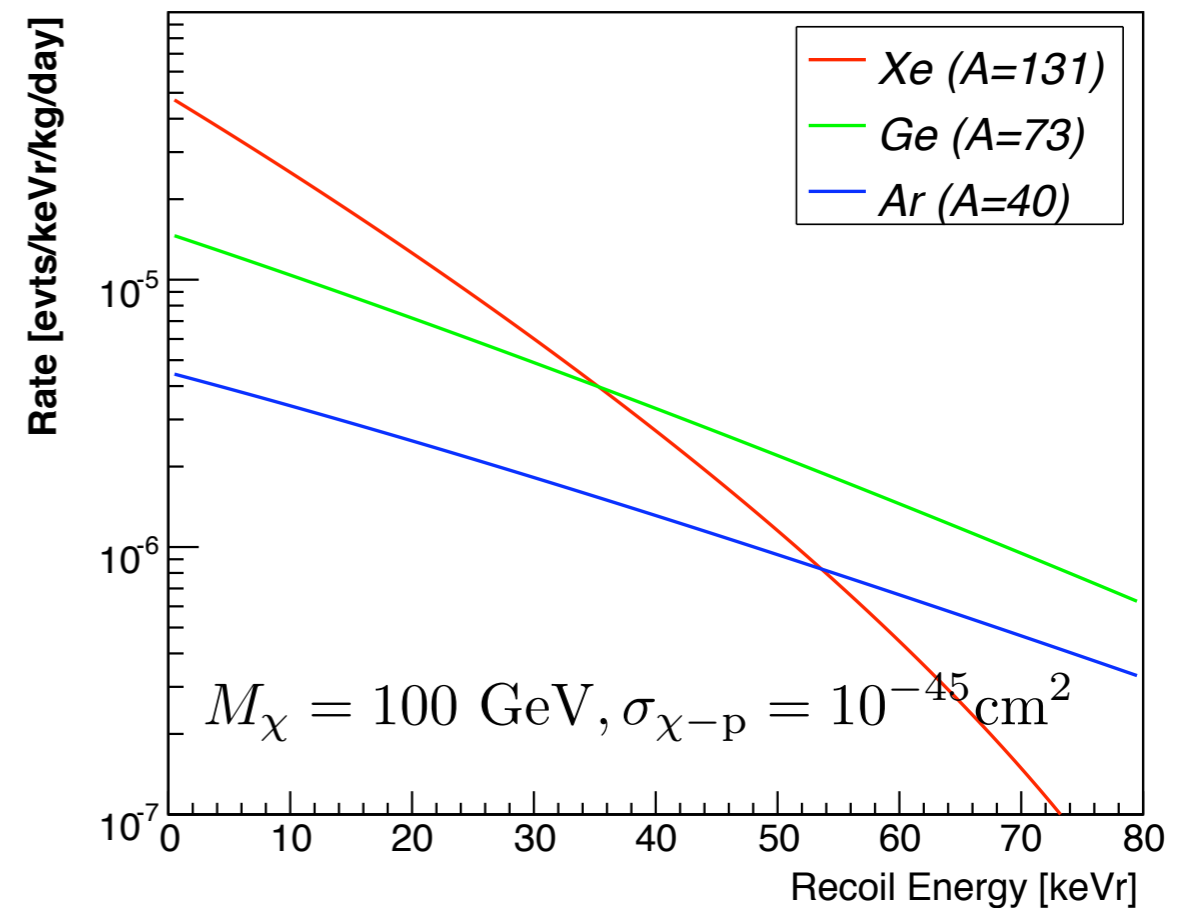
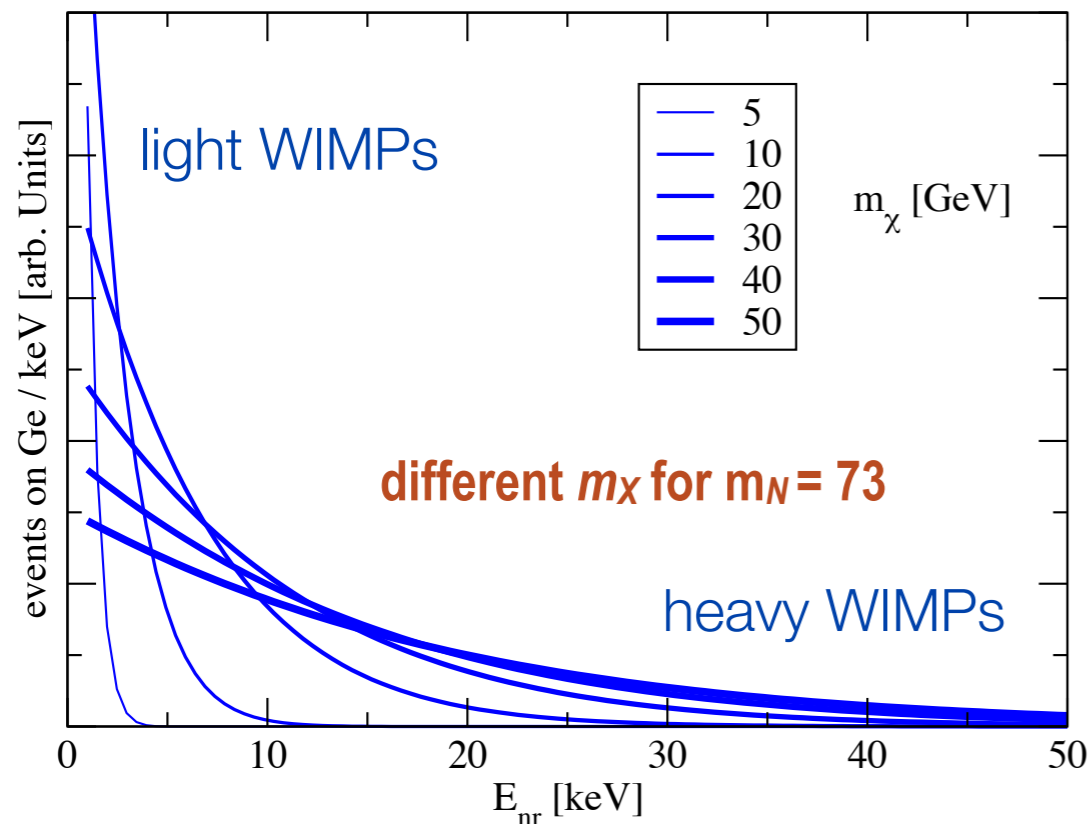
# WIMP Signatures

- **Nuclear recoils:** single scatters with uniform distribution in target volume
- **$A^2$  &  $F^2(Q)$  Dependence:** we have seen that recoil rate is energy dependent due to kinematics and WIMP velocity distribution. Hence we can test consistency of signal with different targets (SI and SD)
- **Annual Modulation:** Earth annual rotation around Sun: orbital velocity has a component that is anti-parallel to WIMP wind in summer and parallel to it in winter. So apparent WIMP velocity (and hence the rate) will increase (decrease) with season: rate modulation with a period of 1 year and phase  $\sim 2$  June; small effect (few %) among other effects which also have seasonal dependence
- **Diurnal Direction Modulation:** Earth rotation about its axis, oriented at angle  $w$  w/respect to WIMP “wind”, change the signal direction by 90 degree every 12 hrs.  $\sim 30\%$  effect.



# Summary: Signal Characteristics of a WIMP

- $A^2$  - dependence of rates
- coherence loss (for  $q \sim \mu v \sim 1/r_n \sim 200$  MeV)
- relative rates, for instance in Ge/Si, Ar/Xe,...
- dependance on WIMP mass
- time dependence of the signal (annual, diurnal)



# Backgrounds in Dark Matter Detectors

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## **Electromagnetic radiation**

- natural radioactivity in detector and shield materials
- airborne radon ( $^{222}\text{Rn}$ )
- cosmic activation of materials during storage/transport

## **Neutrons**

- slow/low energy neutrons from materials radioactivity: ( $\alpha, n$ ) and fission reactions. Can be reduced by shielding
- fast/energetic neutrons from spallation of nuclei in materials by cosmic muons. Cannot be shielded. Detectors must operate deep underground to reduce muon flux

## **Alpha particles**

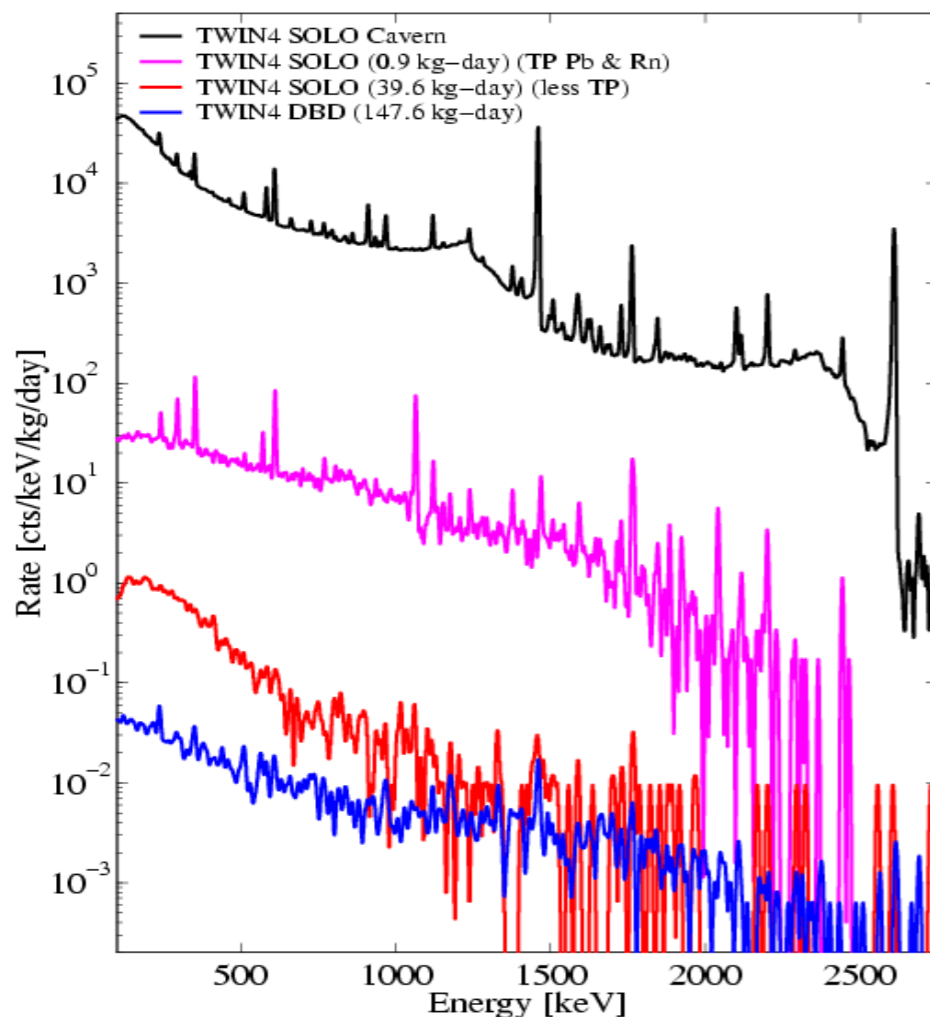
- $^{210}\text{Pb}$  decays at the detector surfaces
- nuclear recoils from the Rn daughters

## **Neutrinos**

- scattering on electrons give ERs which can “leak” into ROI. Rate is however still very low
- coherent neutrino-nucleus scattering give nuclear recoils-undistinguishable from WIMPs-the ultimate background for direct searches. Of course exciting signal per se

# Backgrounds in Dark Matter Detectors

- **External, natural radioactivity:**  $^{238}\text{U}$ ,  $^{238}\text{Th}$ ,  $^{40}\text{K}$  decays in rock and concrete walls of the laboratory => mostly gammas and neutrons from ( $\alpha$ ,n) and fission reactions
- Radon decays in air
  - ➔ **passive shields:** Pb against the gammas, polyethylene/water against neutrons
  - ➔ **active shields:** large water Cherenkov detectors or scintillators for gammas and neutrons



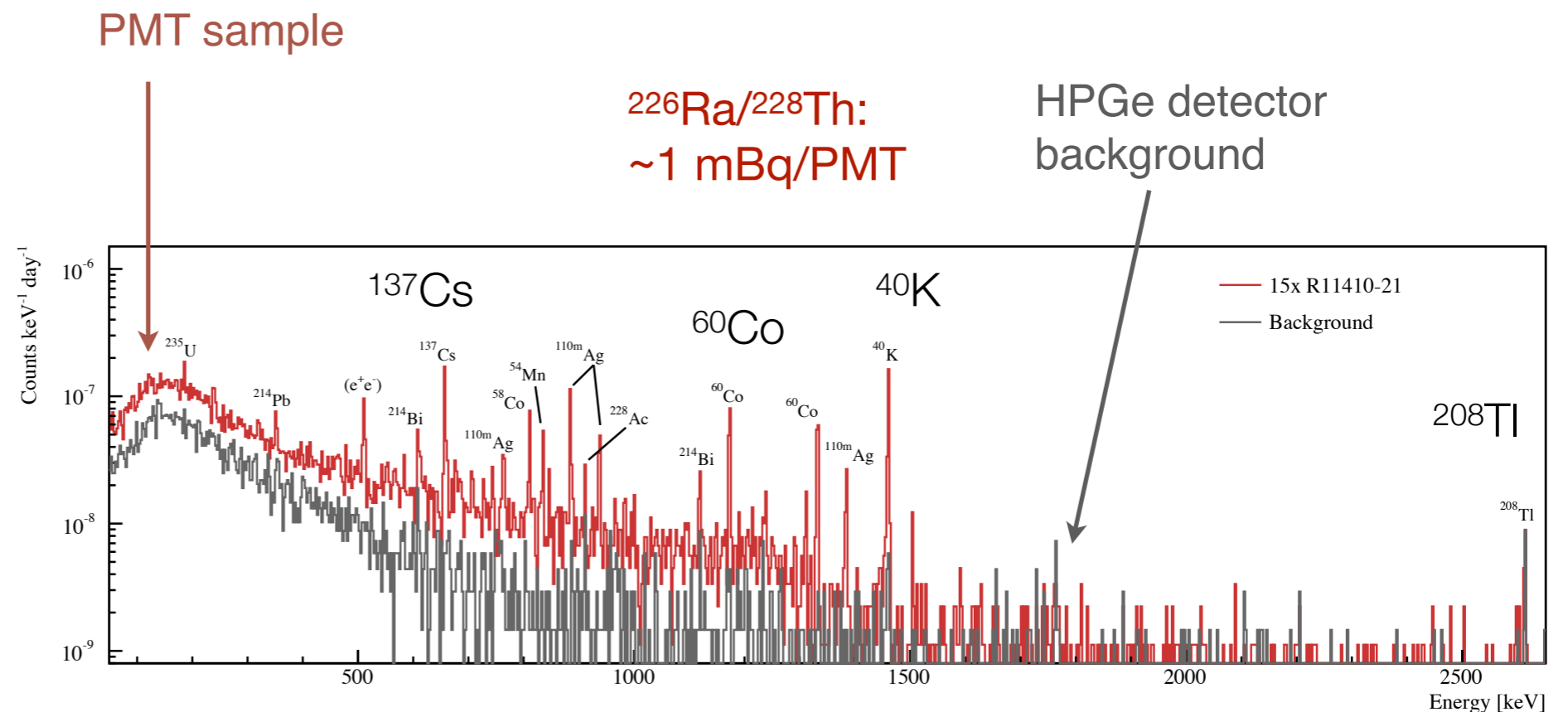
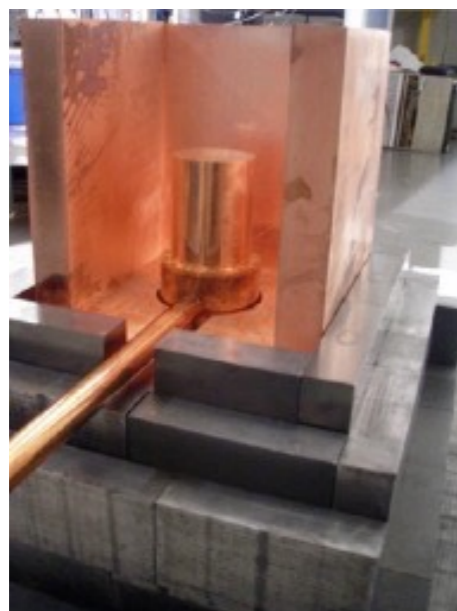
Ge detector  
underground,  
no shield

Ge detector  
underground,  
Pb shield and  
purge for Rn



# Backgrounds in Dark Matter Detectors

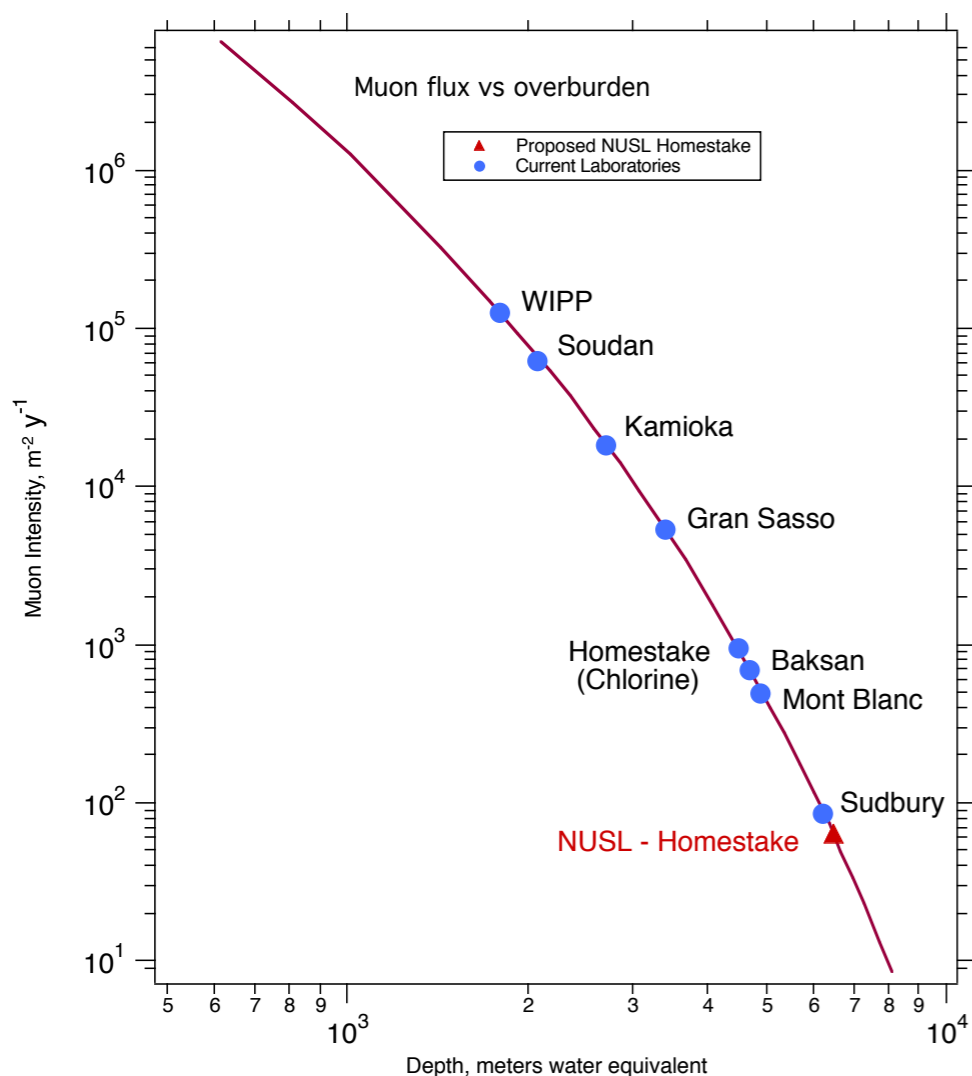
- **Internal radioactivity:**
- $^{238}\text{U}$ ,  $^{238}\text{Th}$ ,  $^{40}\text{K}$ ,  $^{137}\text{Cs}$ ,  $^{60}\text{Co}$ ,  $^{39}\text{Ar}$ ,  $^{85}\text{Kr}$ , ... decays in the detector materials, target medium and shields
- Ultra-pure Ge spectrometers (as well as other methods) are used to screen the materials before using them in a detector, down to parts-per-billion (ppb) (or lower) levels



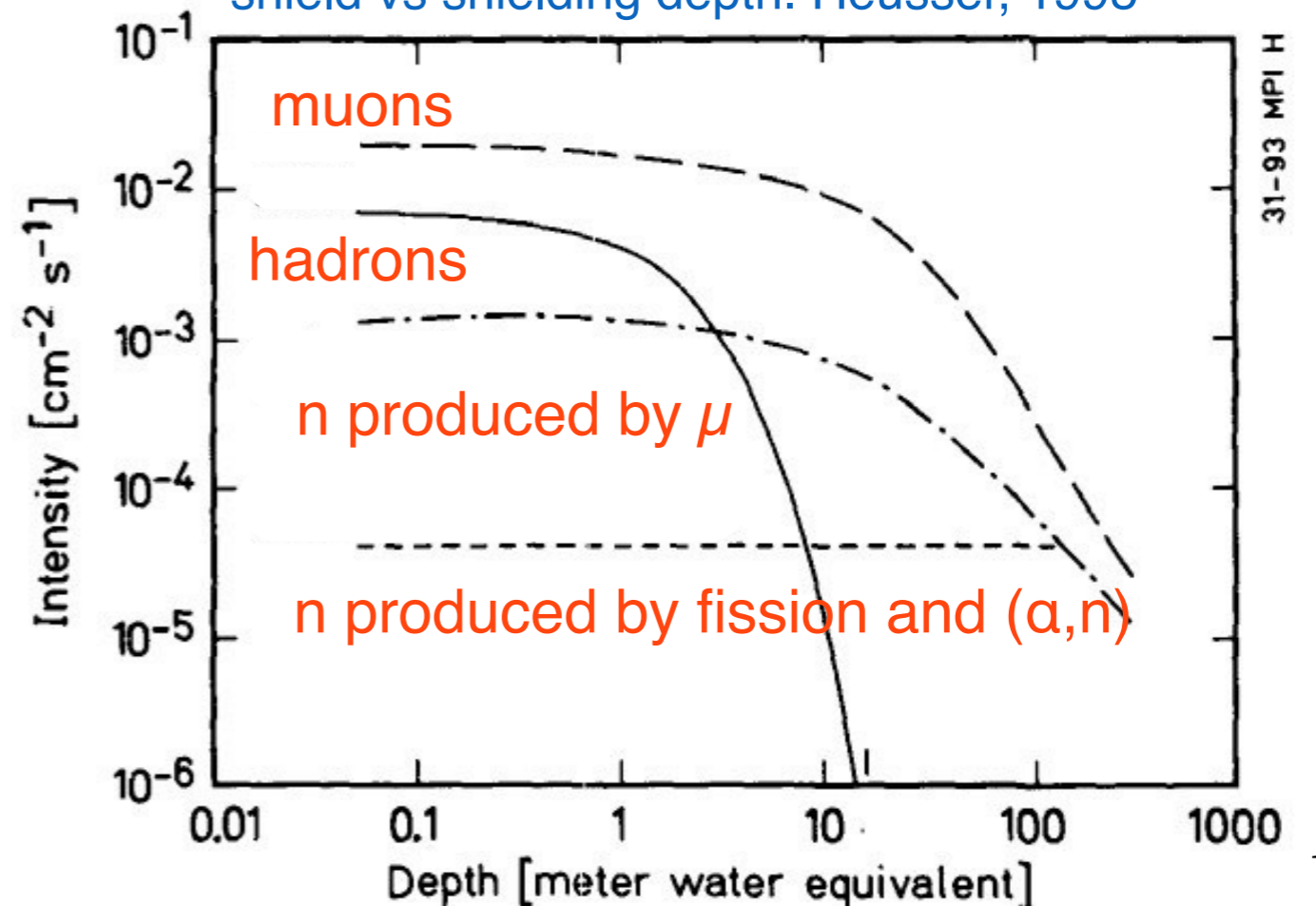
XENON collaboration, arXiv:1503.07698v1

# Backgrounds in Dark Matter Detectors

- **Cosmic rays and secondary/tertiary particles:** **deep underground** laboratories
- **Hadronic component (n, p):** reduced by few meter water equivalent (m w. e.)
- **Most problematic:** muons and muon induced neutrons. MeV neutrons can mimic WIMPs

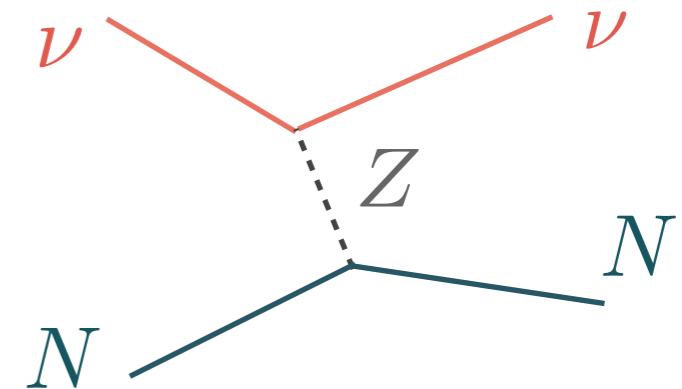
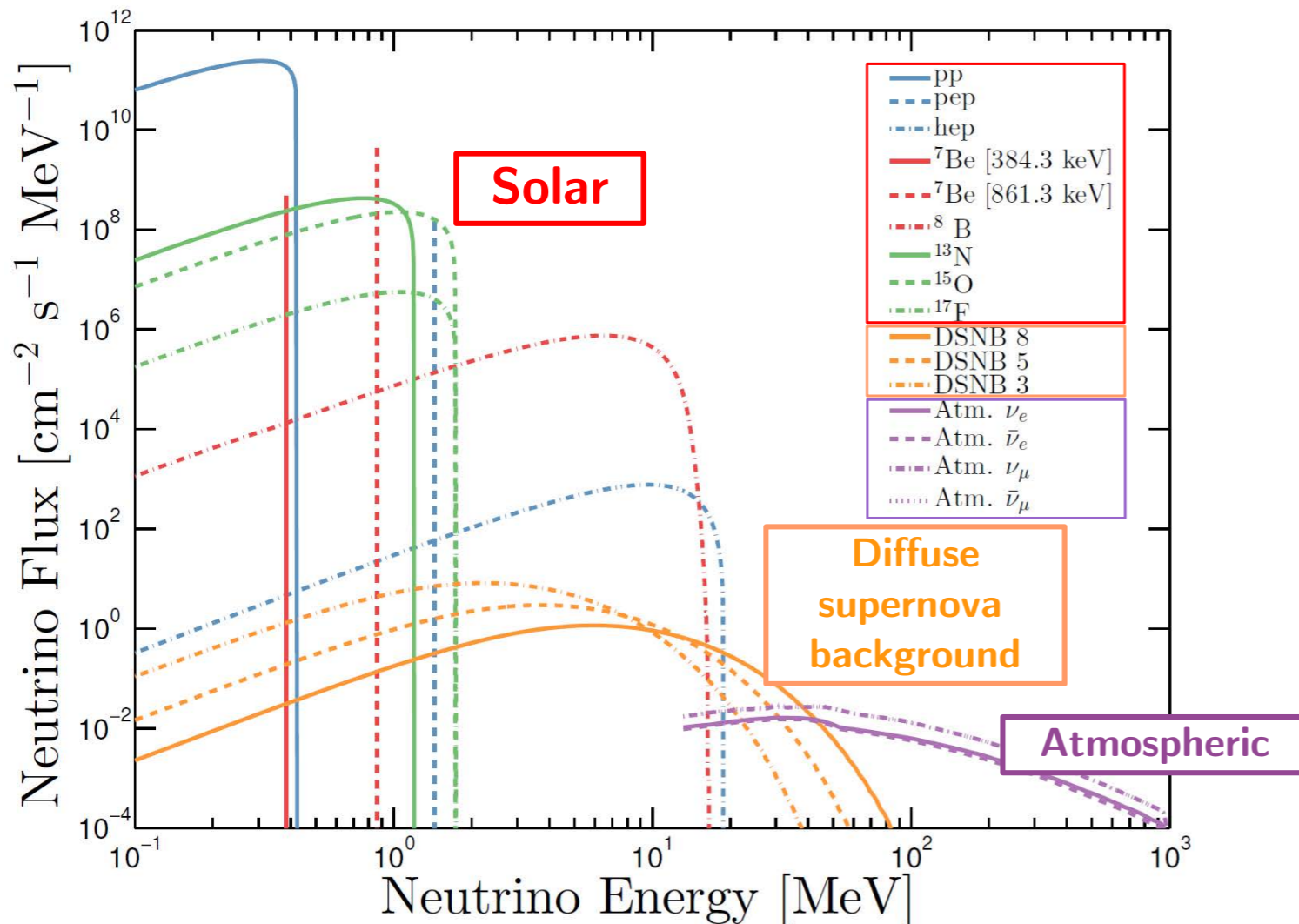


Flux of cosmic ray secondaries and tertiary-produced neutrons in a typical Pb shield vs shielding depth. Heusser, 1995



# Neutrino backgrounds

- Neutrino-electron and neutrino-nucleus scatters



$$\frac{d\sigma(E_\nu, E_r)}{dE_r} = \frac{G_f^2}{4\pi} Q_\omega^2 m_N \left(1 - \frac{m_N E_r}{2E_\nu^2}\right) F_{SI}^2(E_r)$$

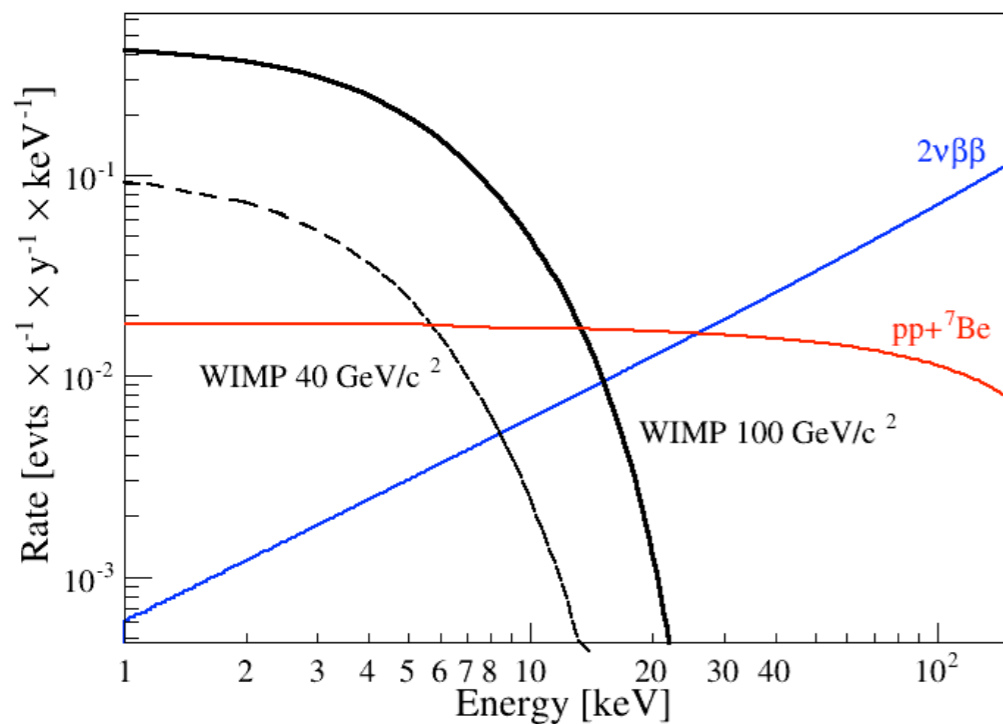
$$Q_\omega = N - (1 - 4\sin^2 \theta_\omega)Z$$



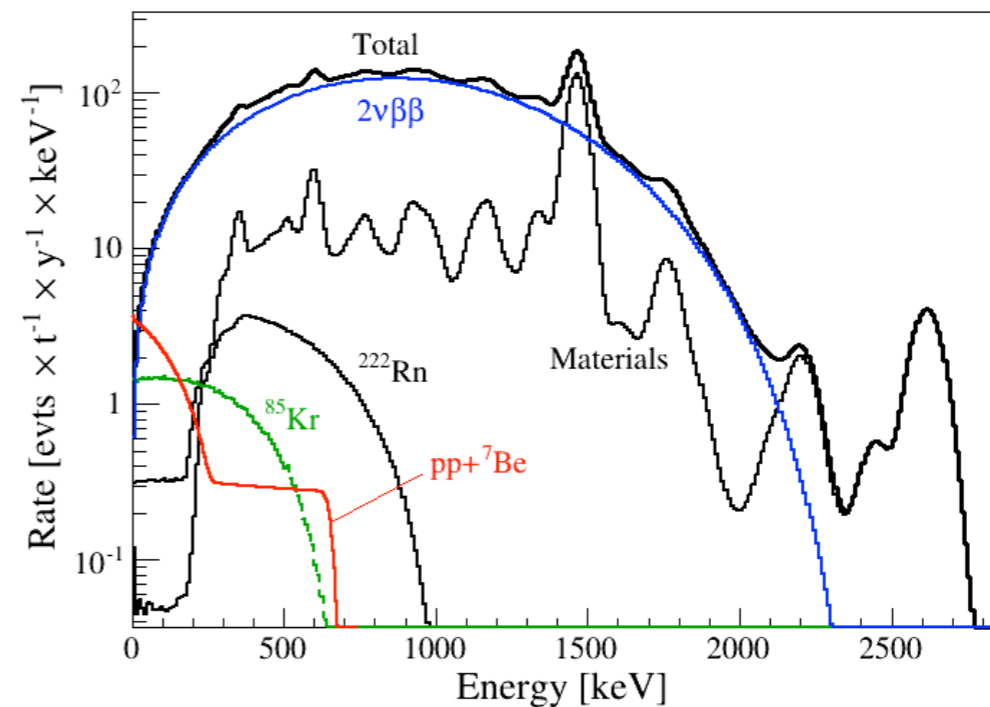
# Neutrino-electron scatters

- Will generate electron recoils, uniformly distributed in the detector
- In spite of various background discrimination techniques, such events can potentially “leak” into the signal region
- Example (in liquid xenon) for spectra expected from WIMPs and solar neutrinos

After discrimination (99.5%)



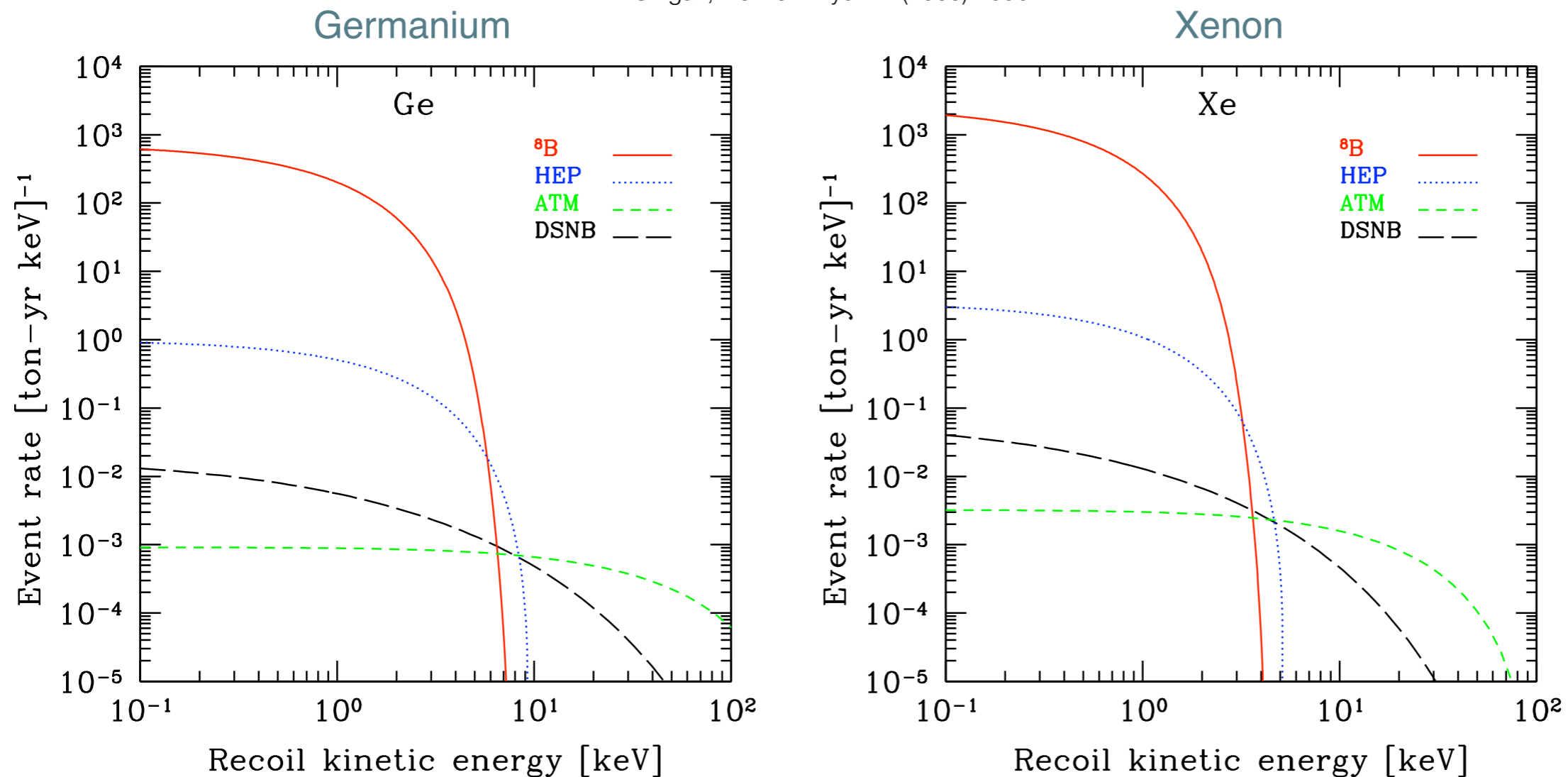
Before discrimination



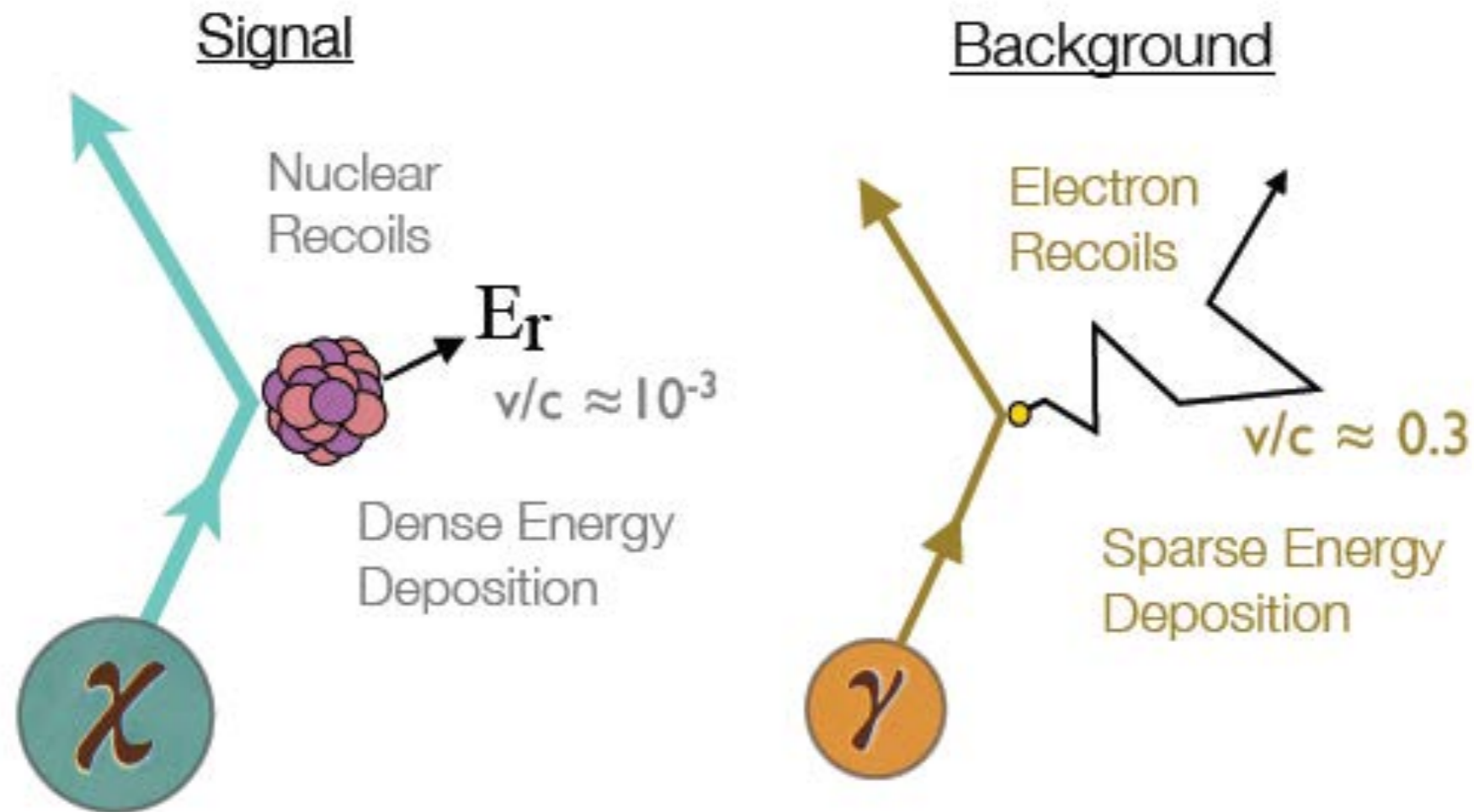
# Neutrino-nucleus scatters

- $^8\text{B}$  neutrinos dominate: serious background if the WIMP-nucleon cross section  $< 10^{-10}$  pb
- But: energy of nuclear recoils:  $< 4$  keV (heavy targets, Xe, I etc) to  $< 30$  keV in light targets (F, C)
- Non- $^8\text{B}$  neutrinos: impact on WIMP detectors at much lower WIMP-nucleon cross sections

L. E. Strigari, New J. Phys. 11 (2009) 105011



# Discriminating Signal from Background



- given that background from radioactivity and environment cannot be eliminated completely, despite effort in materials selection, shielding and underground location, detectors must have effective S/N discrimination
- scattering from an atomic nucleus leads to different response in most materials than scattering from an electron
- Detectors which can measure this difference can effectively reduce the dominant EM background
- Neutrons however scatter also off nuclei but unlike WIMPs they scatter in multiple sites hence can be recognized with position sensitive detectors large enough compared to the typical mean free path of order 10 cm

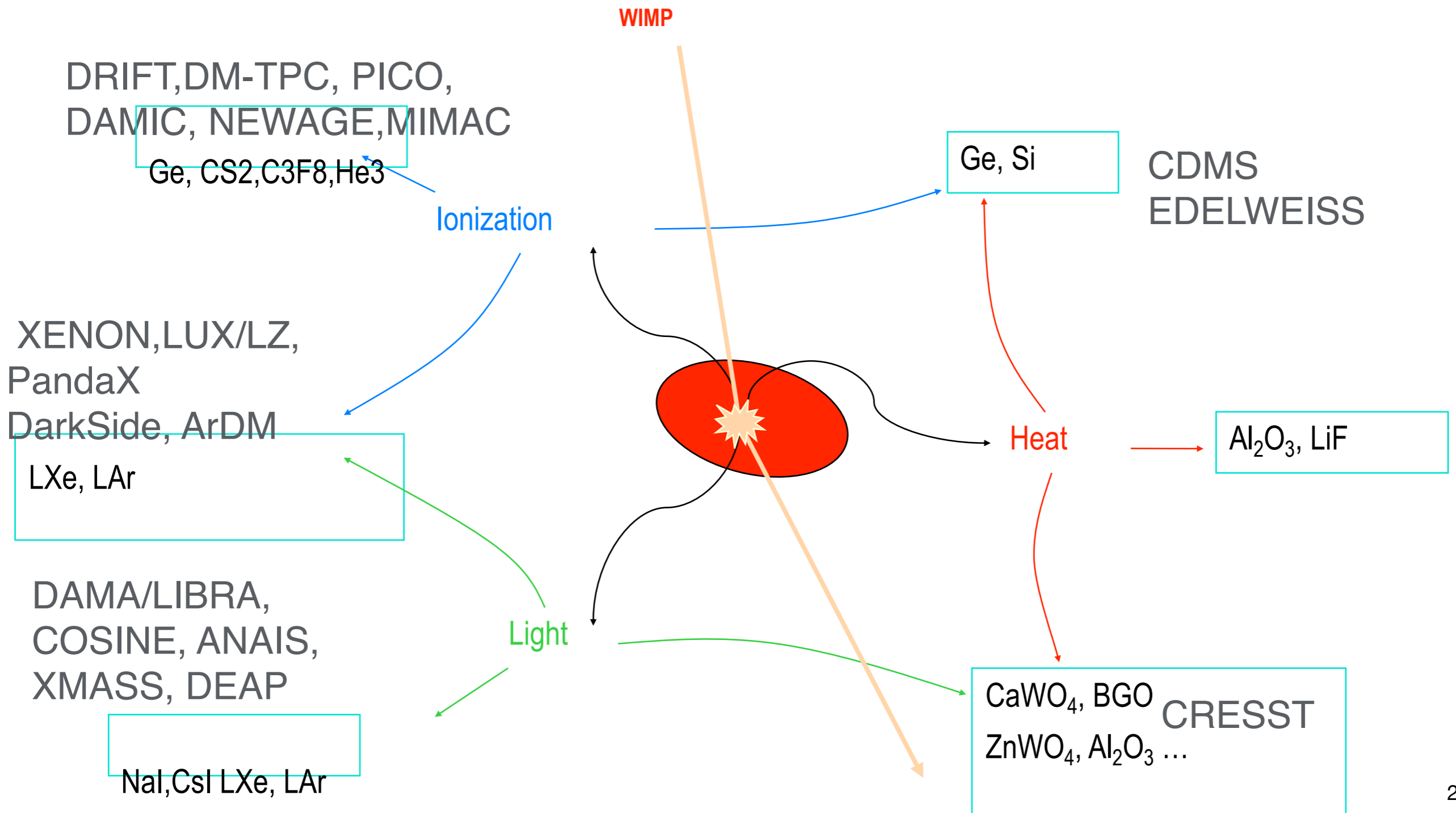
# Detector strategies

Aggressively reduce the absolute background & pulse shape analysis	Background reduction by pulse shape analysis and/or self-shielding	Background rejection based on simultaneous detection of two signals	Other detector strategies
<p>State of the art: (primary goal is <math>0\nu\beta\beta</math> decay):</p> <p><b>Past experiments:</b> Heidelberg-Moscow HDMS IGEX</p> <p><b>Current and near-future projects:</b> GERDA MAJORANA</p>	<p>Large mass, simple detectors:</p> <p>NaI (DAMA/LIBRA, COSINE, ANAIS, SABRE)</p> <p>Large liquid noble gas detectors:</p> <p>XMASS, DEAP-3600</p>	<p><b>Charge/phonon</b> (CDMS, EDELWEISS, SuperCDMS)</p> <p><b>Light/phonon</b> (CRESST)</p> <p><b>Charge/light</b> (XENON, LUX-LZ, PandaX DarkSide)</p>	<p>Large bubble chambers - insensitive to electromagnetic background:</p> <p>COUPP, PICASSO, SIMPLE, PICO</p> <p>Low-pressure gas detectors, sensitive to the direction of the nuclear recoil:</p> <p>DRIFT, DMTPC, NEWAGE, MIMAC, DAMIC</p>

## In addition:

- reject multiple scattered events and events close to detector boundaries
- look for an annual and a diurnal modulation in the event rate

# Direct Detection Experiments

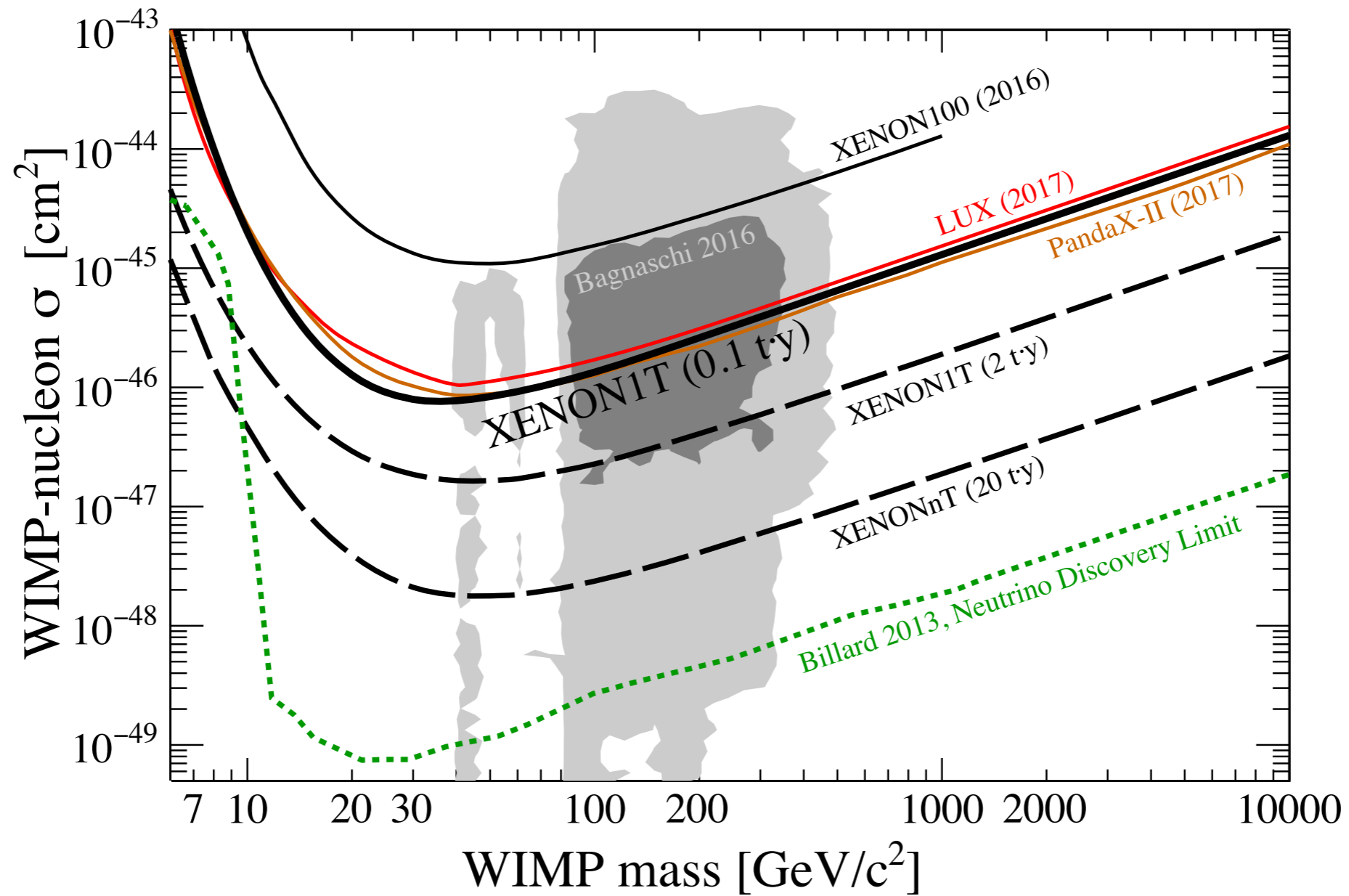


# Worldwide WIMP Searches

**~50% use Noble Liquids**

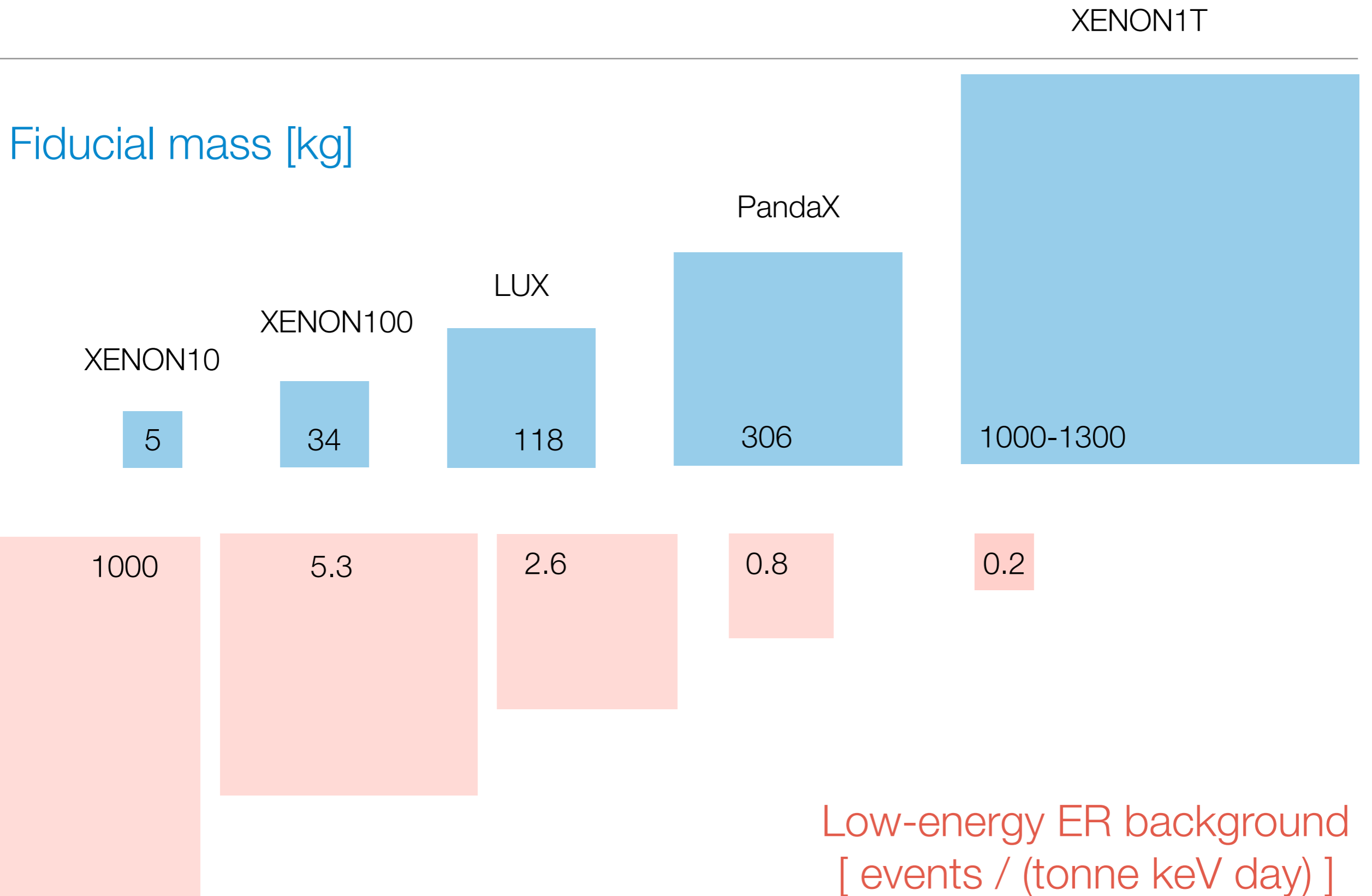


the state-of-the-art: driven by LXeTPC experiments



$$\sigma_{\min} = 7.7 \times 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2 \text{ at } 35 \text{ GeV}/c^2$$

# The impressive evolution of LXeTPCs as WIMP detectors





# Cryogenic Noble Liquids: some properties

- Suitable materials for detection of ionizing tracks:
  - ➔ dense, homogeneous target and also detectors (scintillation and ionization)
  - ➔ do not attach electrons; inert not flammable, very good dielectrics
  - ➔ commercially easy to obtain and purify
- Large detector masses are feasible (at modest costs compared to semiconductors)
- Self-shielding + good position resolution in time projection chamber mode

Element	Z (A)	BP ( $T_b$ ) at 1 atm [K]	liquid density at $T_b$ [g/cc]	ionization [e-/keV]	scintillation [photon/keV]
He	2 (4)	4.2	0.13	39	15
Ne	10 (20)	27.1	1.21	46	7
Ar	18 (40)	87.3	1.4	42	40
Kr	36 (84)	119.8	2.41	49	25
Xe	54 (131)	165	3.06	64	46

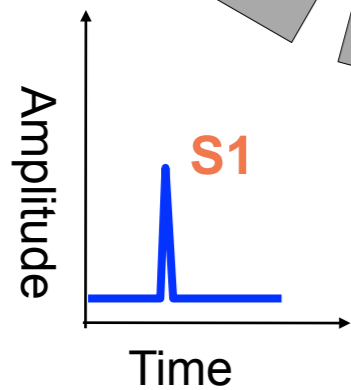
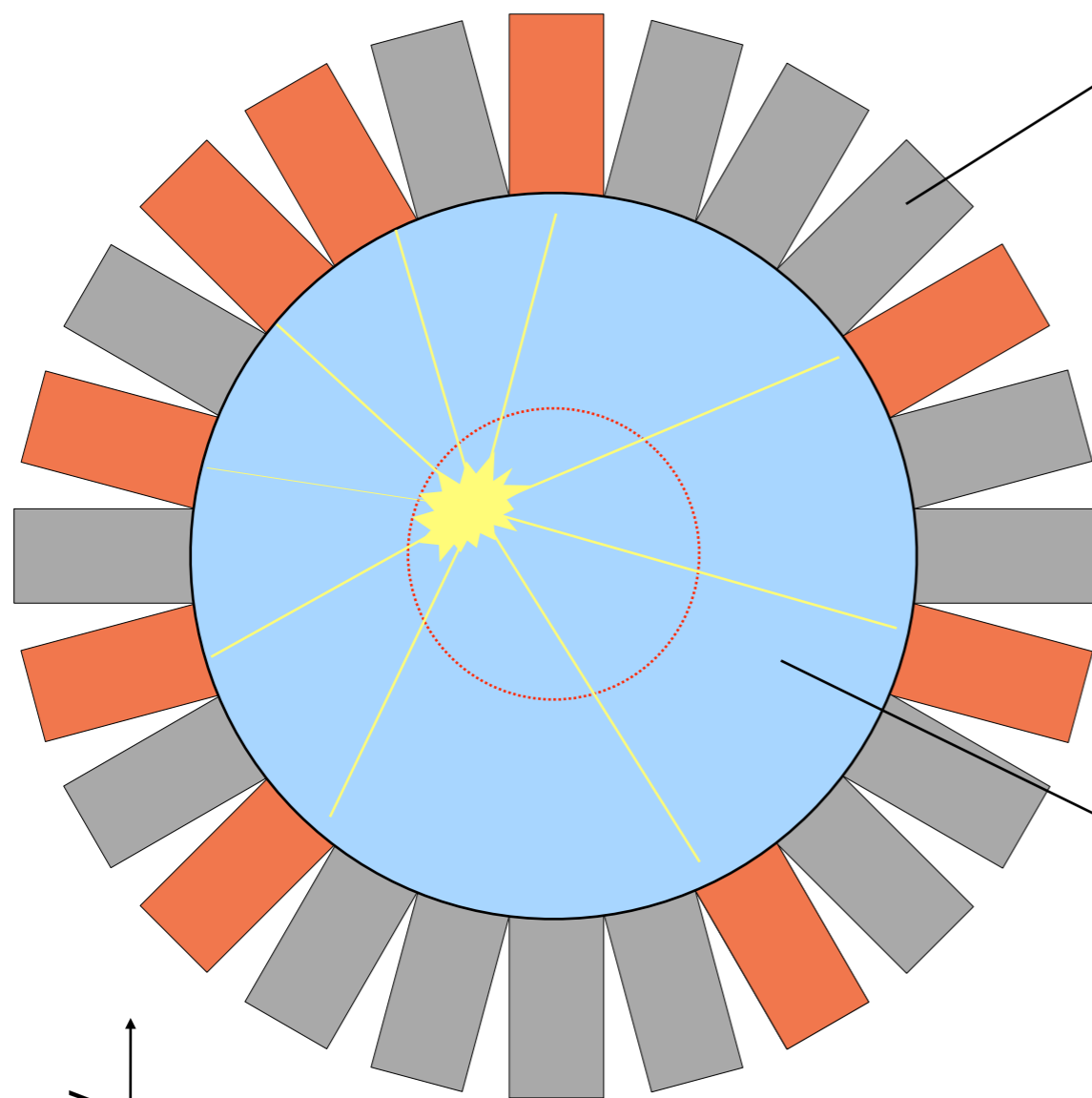
# Why Noble Liquids for Dark Matter Detection

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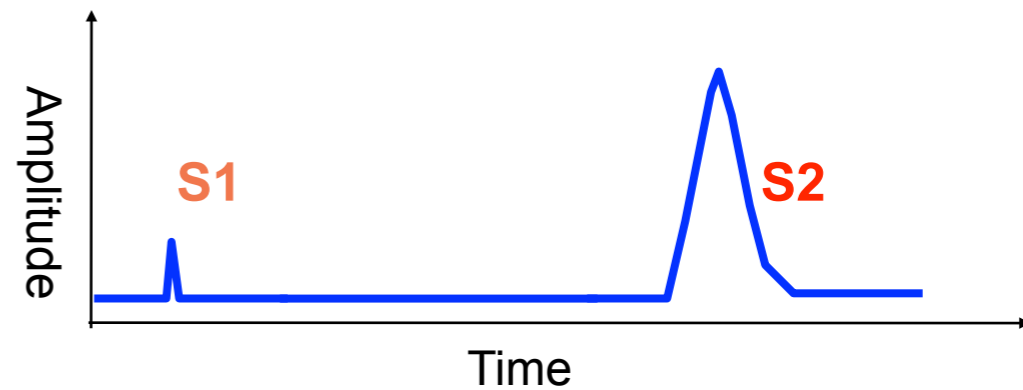
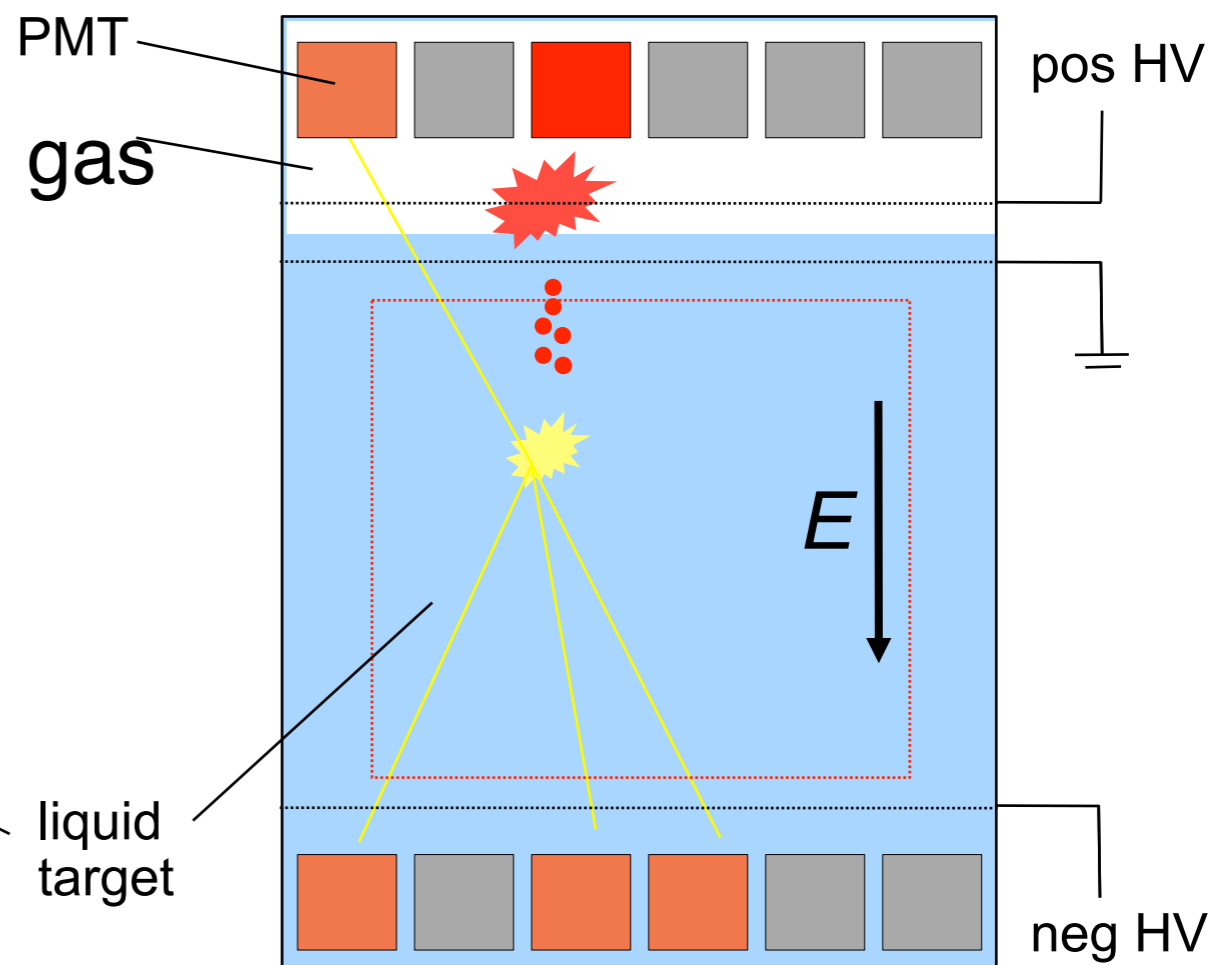
- ◆ **scalability** : relatively inexpensive for large scale (multi-ton) detectors
- ◆ **easy cryogenics** : 170 K (LXe), 87 K (LAr)
- ◆ **self-shielding** : very effective (especially for LXe case) for external background reduction
- ◆ **low threshold** : high scintillation yield (similar to NaI(Tl) but much faster timing)
- ◆ **n-recoil discrimination**: by charge-to-light ratio and pulse shape discrimination
- ◆ **Xe nucleus ( $A \sim 131$ )** : good for SI plus SD sensitivity ( $\sim 50\%$  odd isotopes)
- ◆ **For Xe**: no long-lived radioactive isotopes (Kr-85 can be removed)
- ◆ **For Ar**: radioactive Ar-39 is an issue but there are ways to overcome it

# Noble Liquid Detector Concepts

Single Phase Detector

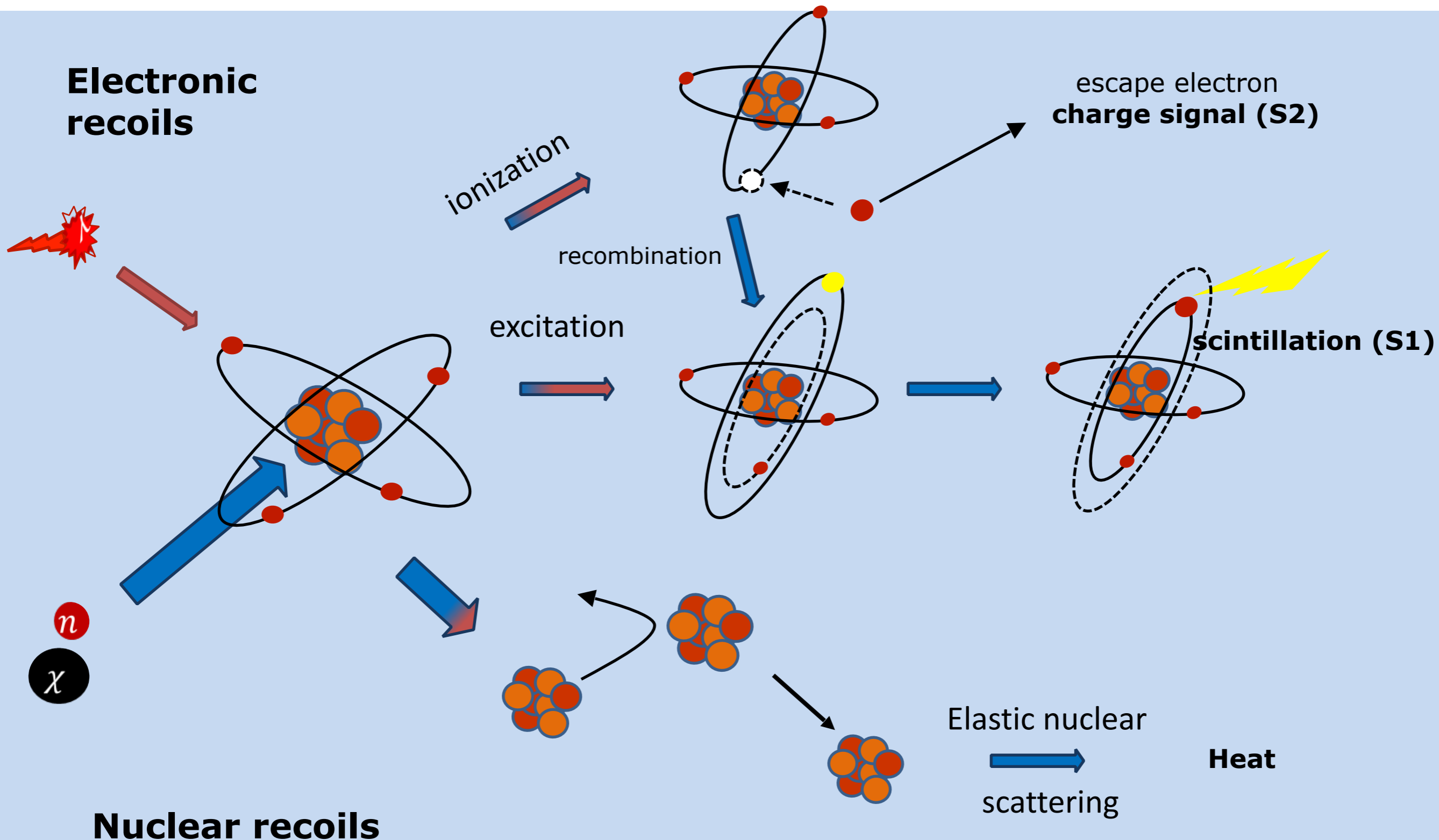


Dual Phase Detector



# Signals in Noble Liquids

- Detect either light only or simultaneously light and charge signals produced by a particle interaction in the sensitive liquid target



# Ionization in Noble Liquids

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- The energy loss of an incident particle in noble liquids is shared between excitation, ionization and sub-excitation electrons liberated in the ionization process
- The average energy loss in ionization is slightly larger than the ionization potential or the gap energy, because it includes multiple ionization processes
- as a result, the ratio of the W-value (= average energy required to produce an electron-ion pair) to the ionization potential or gap energy = 1.6 - 1.7

Material	Ar	Kr	Xe
<b>Gas</b>			
Ionization potential $I$ (eV)	15.75	14.00	12.13
$W$ values (eV)	26.4 <sup>a</sup>	24.2 <sup>a</sup>	22.0 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Liquid</b>			
Gap energy (eV)	14.3	11.7	9.28
$W$ value (eV)	23.6±0.3 <sup>b</sup>	18.4±0.3 <sup>c</sup>	15.6±0.3 <sup>d</sup>

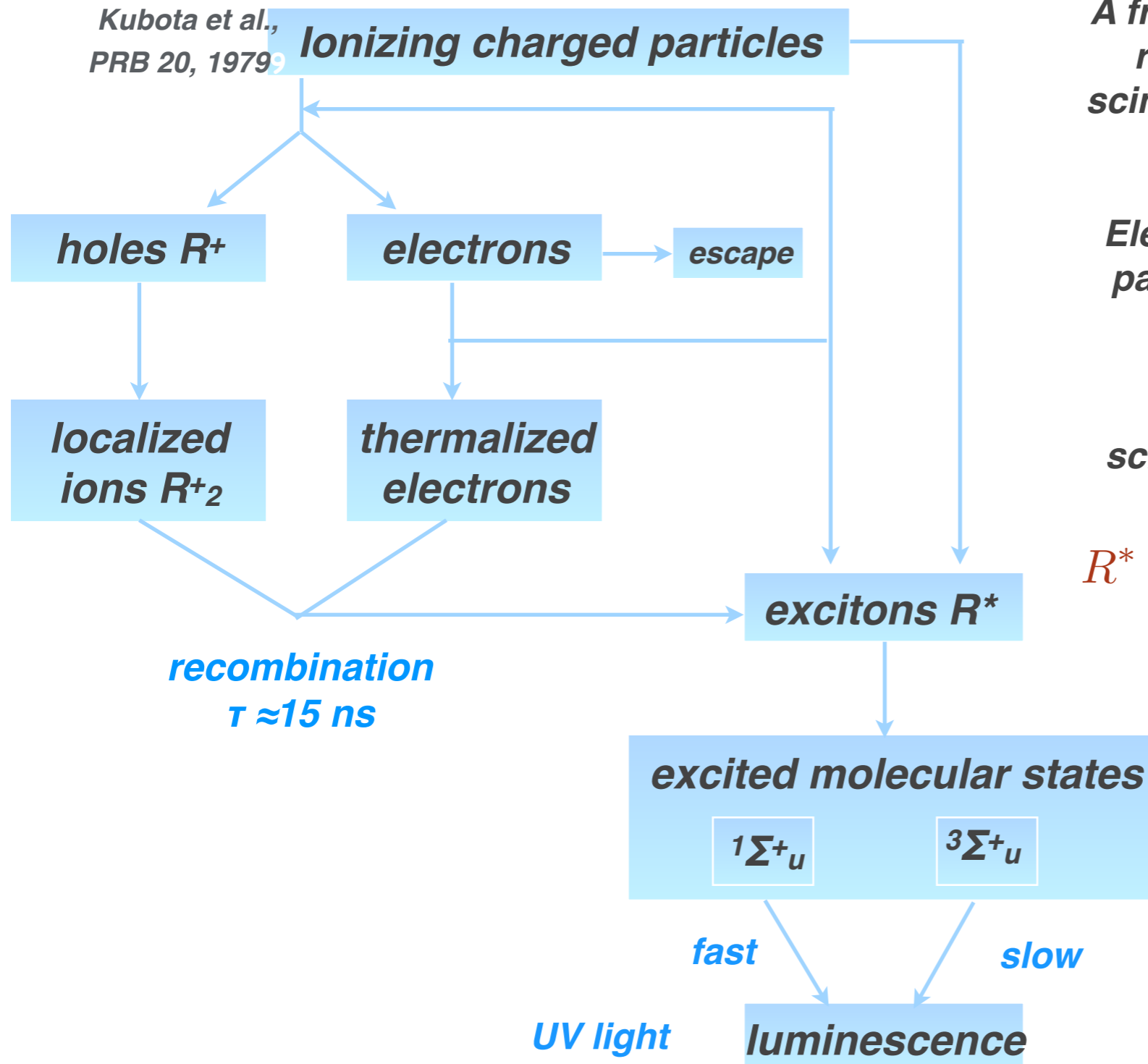
- the  $W$ -value in the liquid phase is smaller than in the gaseous phase

- the  $W$ -value in xenon is smaller than the one in liquid argon, and krypton (and neon)

=> the ionization yield is highest in liquid xenon (of all noble liquids)

# Scintillation in Noble Liquids

Kubota et al.,  
PRB 20, 1979



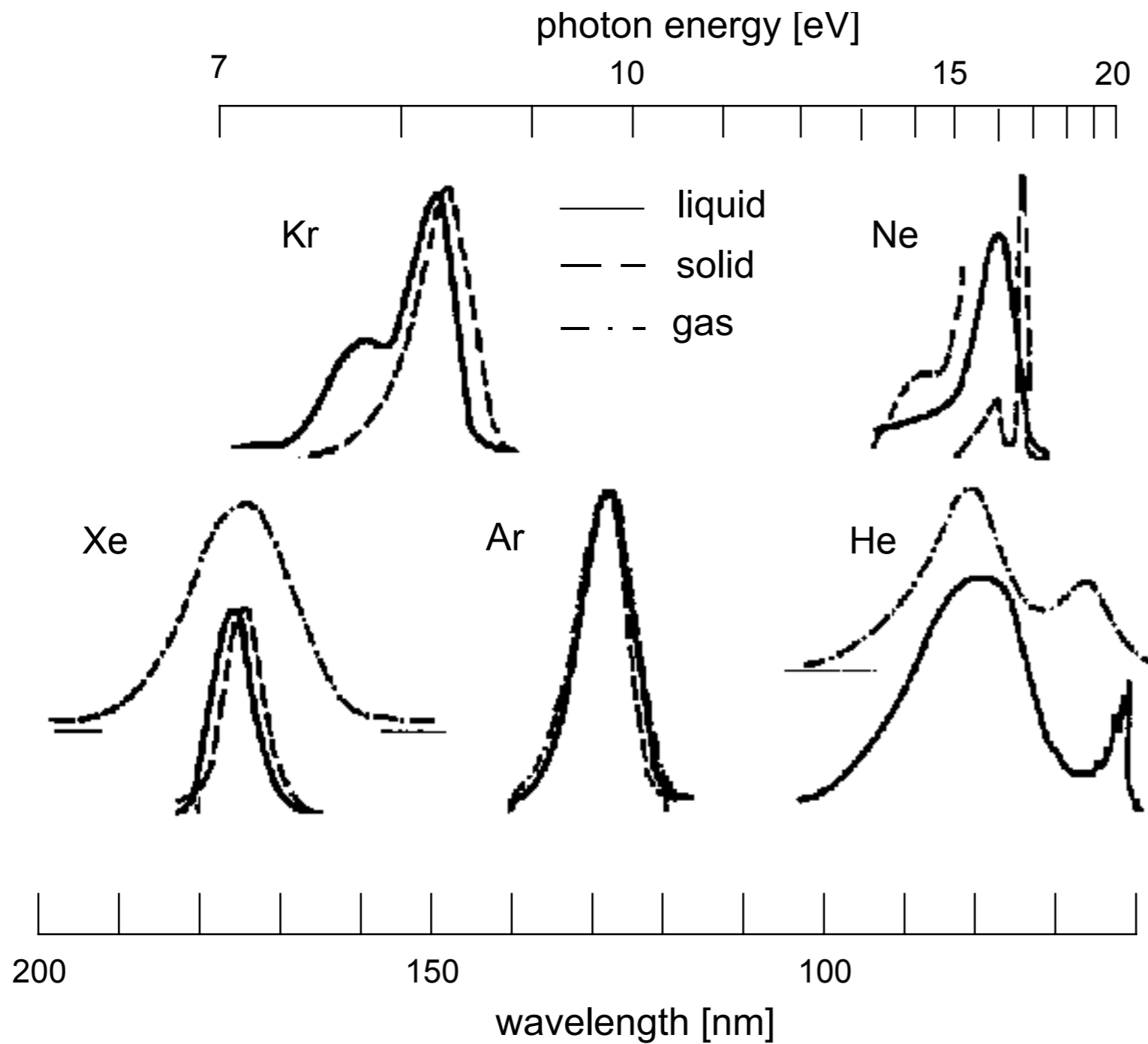
*A fraction of the ionization electrons will recombine with ions and produce a scintillation photon in the process called recombination*

*Electrons that thermalize far from their parent ion may escape recombination*

*A mechanism called “bi-excitonic quenching” can also reduce the scintillation yield in very dense tracks:*



# Energy of the Scintillation Photons



$$\lambda_{LNe} \sim 78nm$$

$$\lambda_{LAr} \sim 128nm$$

$$\lambda_{LXe} \sim 178nm$$

# Electron Attachment and Light Absorption

- To achieve a high collection efficiency for both ionization and scintillation signals, the concentration of impurities in the liquid has to be reduced and maintained to a level *below 1 part per 10<sup>9</sup> (part per billion, ppb) oxygen equivalent*
- The scintillation light is strongly reduced by the presence of water vapour
- The ionization signal requires both high liquid purity (in terms of substances with electronegative affinity, SF<sub>6</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, O<sub>2</sub>, etc) and a high field (typically ~ kV/cm)
- Attenuation lengths of ~1 m for electrons and photons were already achieved > 1m and are necessary for ton-scale experiments

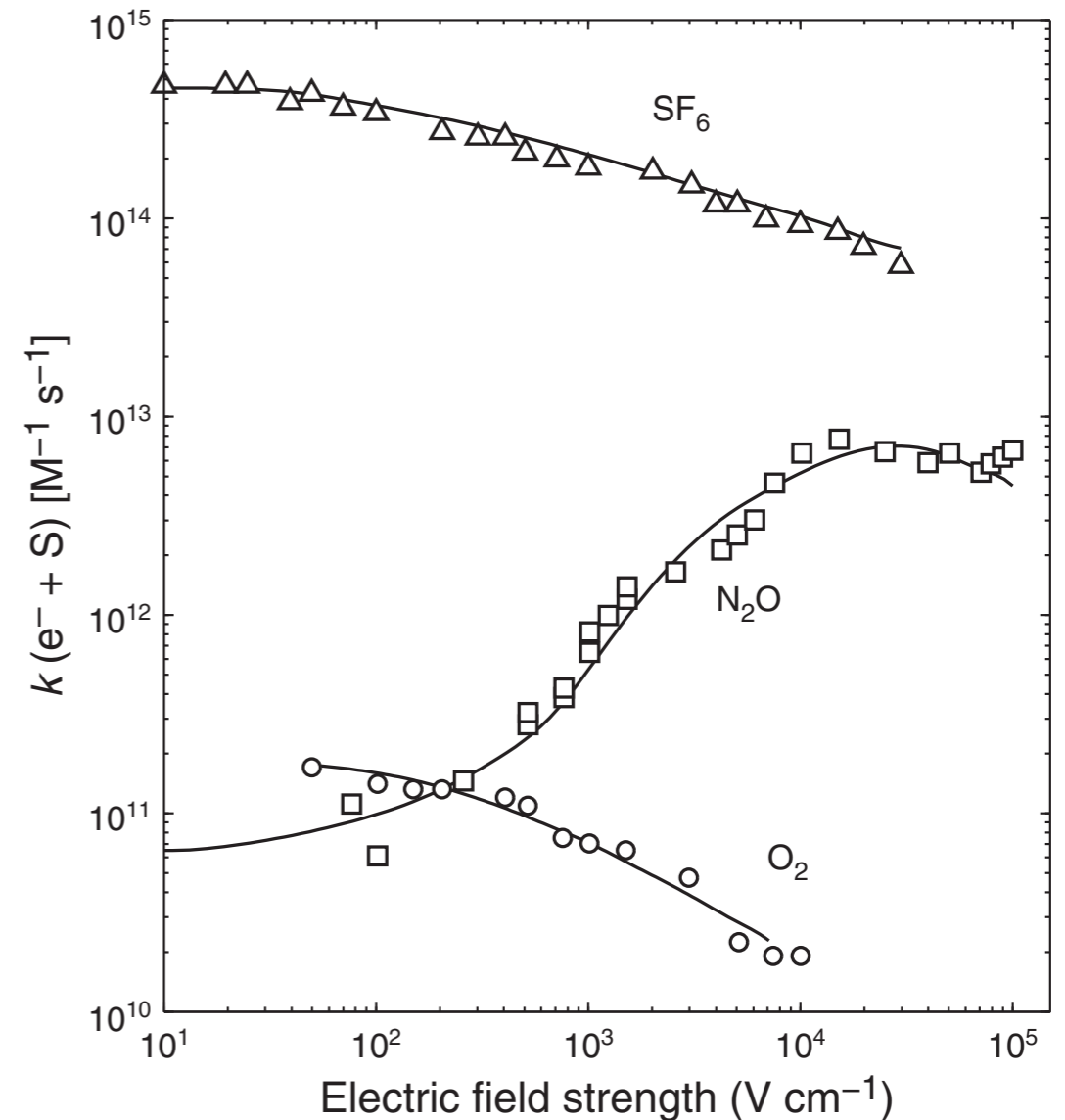


Fig. 21.4. Rate constant for the attachment of electrons in liquid xenon ( $T = 167^\circ K$ ) to several solutes: ( $\Delta$ ) SF<sub>6</sub>, ( $\square$ ) N<sub>2</sub>O, ( $\circ$ ) O<sub>2</sub> [174].



# ***Noble Liquid Detectors: some challenges***

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- Cryogenics: efficient, reliable and cost effective cooling systems
- Detector materials: compatible with low-radioactivity and purity requirements
- Intrinsic radioactivity:  $^{39}\text{Ar}$  and  $^{42}\text{Ar}$  in LAr,  $^{85}\text{Kr}$  in LXe, radon emanation/diffusion
- **Light detection:**
  - ➔ efficient VUV PMTs, directly coupled to liquid (low T and high P capability, high purity), effective UV reflectors (also solid state Si devices are under study)
  - ➔ light can be absorbed by  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{O}_2$ : continuous recirculation and purification
- **Charge detection:**
  - ➔ requires  $\ll 1$  ppb ( $\text{O}_2$  equivalent) for e-lifetime  $> 1$  ms (commercial purifiers and continuous circulation)
  - ➔ electric fields  $\geq 1$  kV/cm required for maximum yield for MIPs; for alphas and NRs the field dependence is much weaker, challenge to detect a small charge in presence of HV

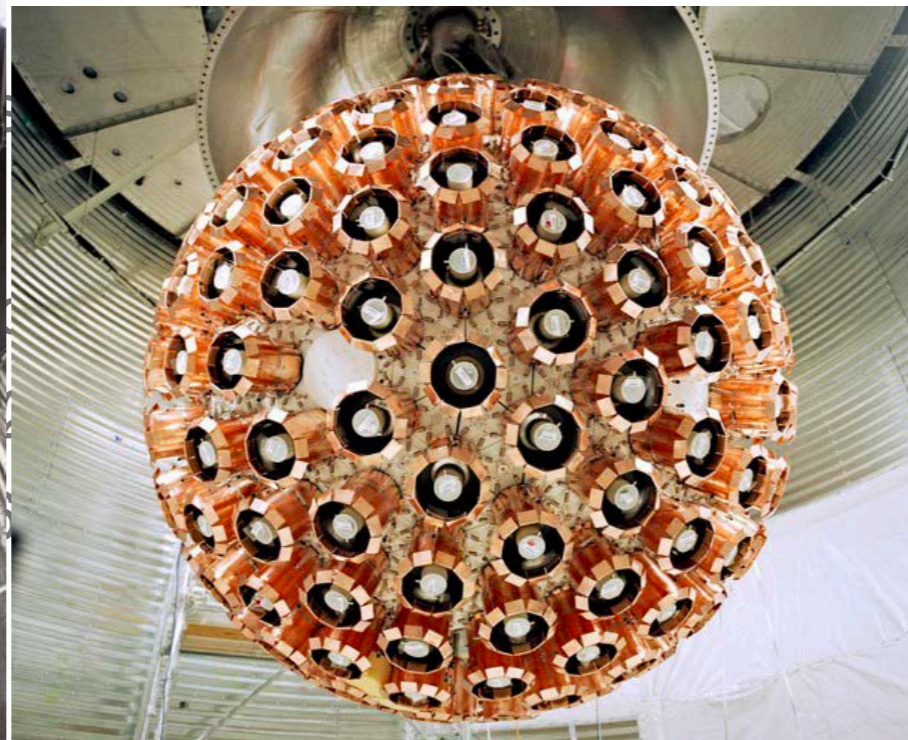
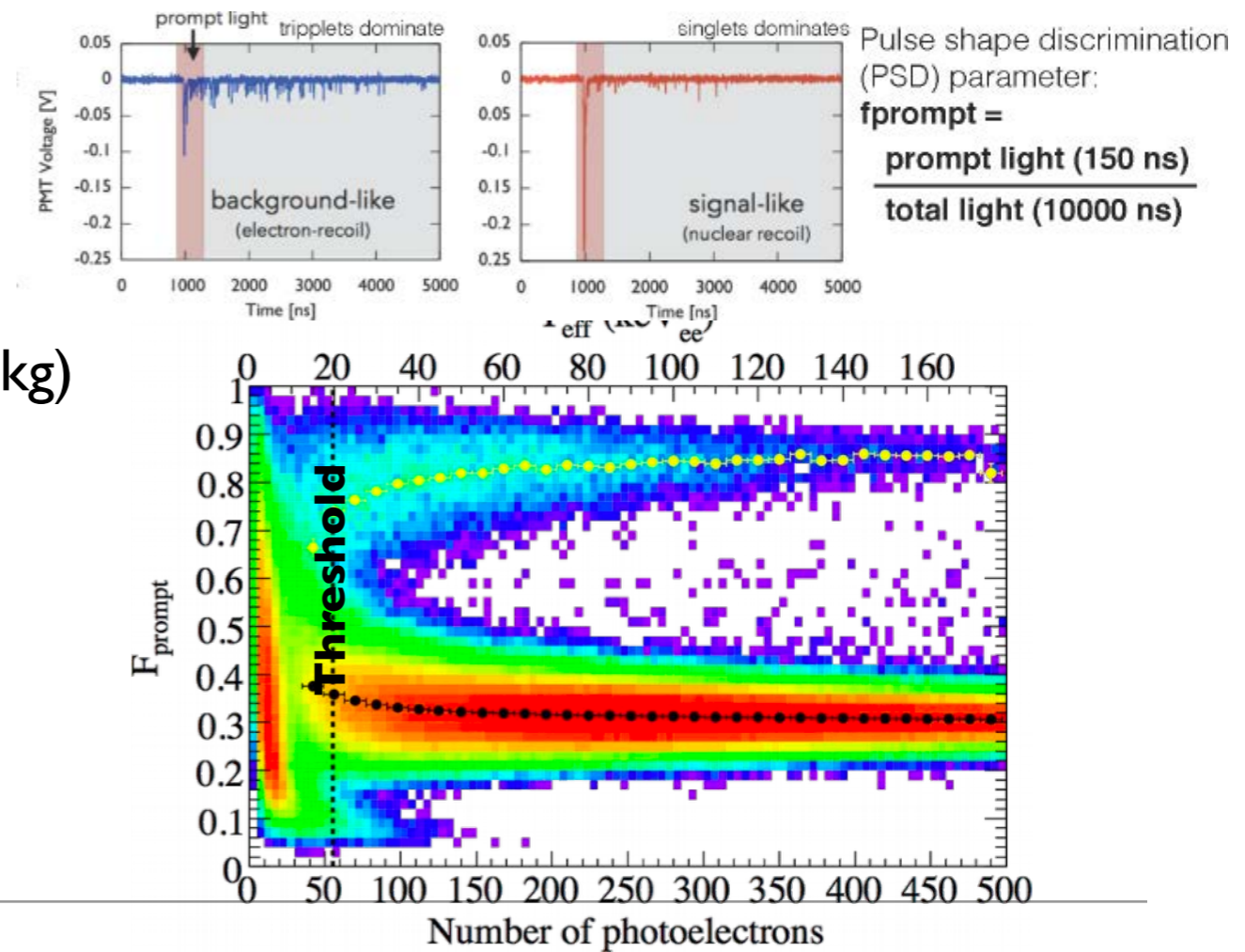
# State-of-the-art in LAr Experiments: DEAP3600

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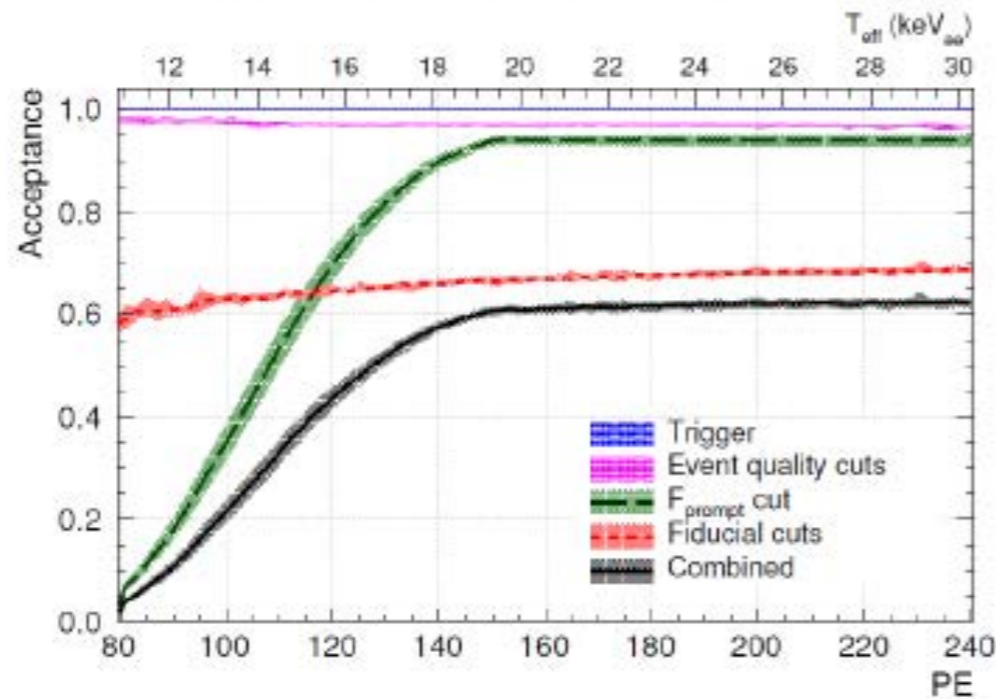
# DEAP-3600 @ SNOLAB

## Single-phase liquid argon (no E-field)

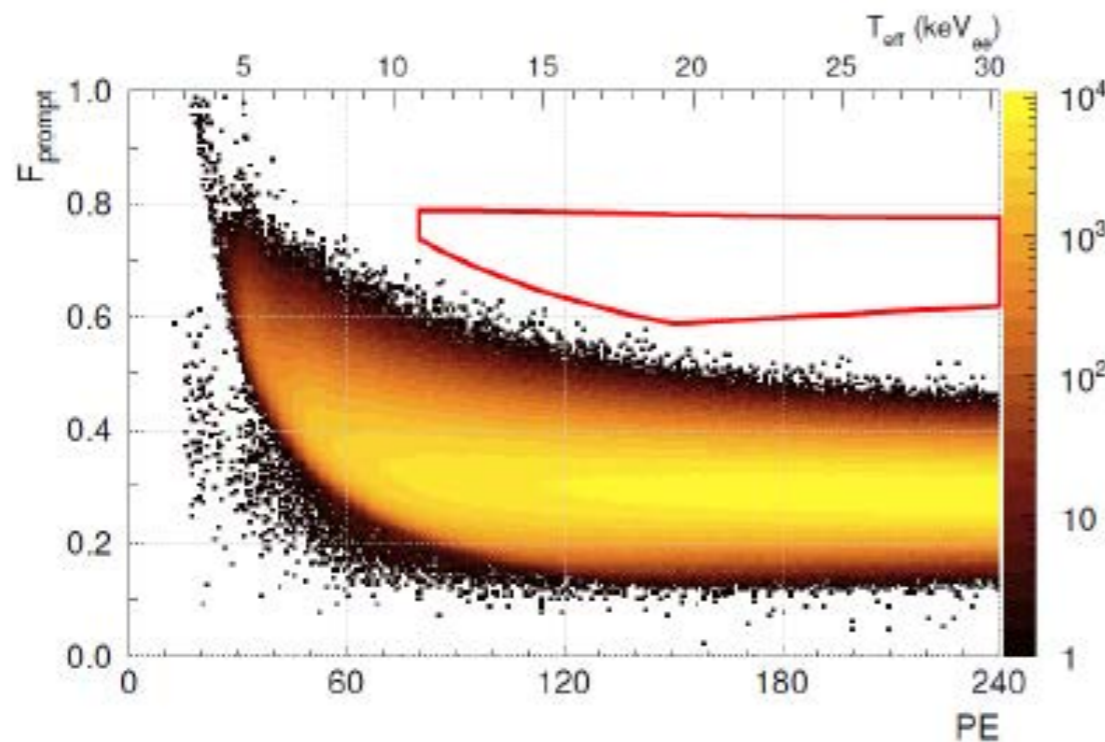
- 3.6 T of LAr, ~1 T fiducial
- High  $^{39}\text{Ar}$  background when using  $^{\text{nat}}\text{Ar}$  (~1 Bq/kg)
- Excellent discrimination using pulse shape. Prediction:  $\sim 10^{10}$  ER suppression
- Higher energy threshold compared with Xe detectors
- Collecting data since late 2016
- Projected sensitivity  $10^{-46} \text{ cm}^2 @ 100 \text{ GeV}/c^2$



# First Dark Matter Search with DEAP-3600 – 9,870 kg-days



Cut	Livetime	Acceptance %	#ROI #evt.
run			
Physics runs	8.55 d		
Stable cryocooler	5.63 d		
Stable PMT	4.72 d		
Deadtime corrected	4.44 d		119181
low level			
DAQ calibration			115782
Pile-up			100700
Event asymmetry			787
quality			
Max charge fraction per PMT		99.58±0.01	654
Event time		99.85±0.01	652
Neck veto		97.49 <sup>+0.03</sup> <sub>-0.05</sub>	23
fiducial			
Max scintillation PE fraction per PMT		75.08 <sup>+0.09</sup> <sub>-0.06</sub>	7
Charge fraction in the top 2 PMT rings		90.92 <sup>+0.11</sup> <sub>-0.10</sub>	0
Total	4.44 d	96.94±0.03	66.91 <sup>+0.20</sup> <sub>-0.15</sub>



4.44 live days

Selected ROI for < 0.2 leakage from  $\beta$ 's

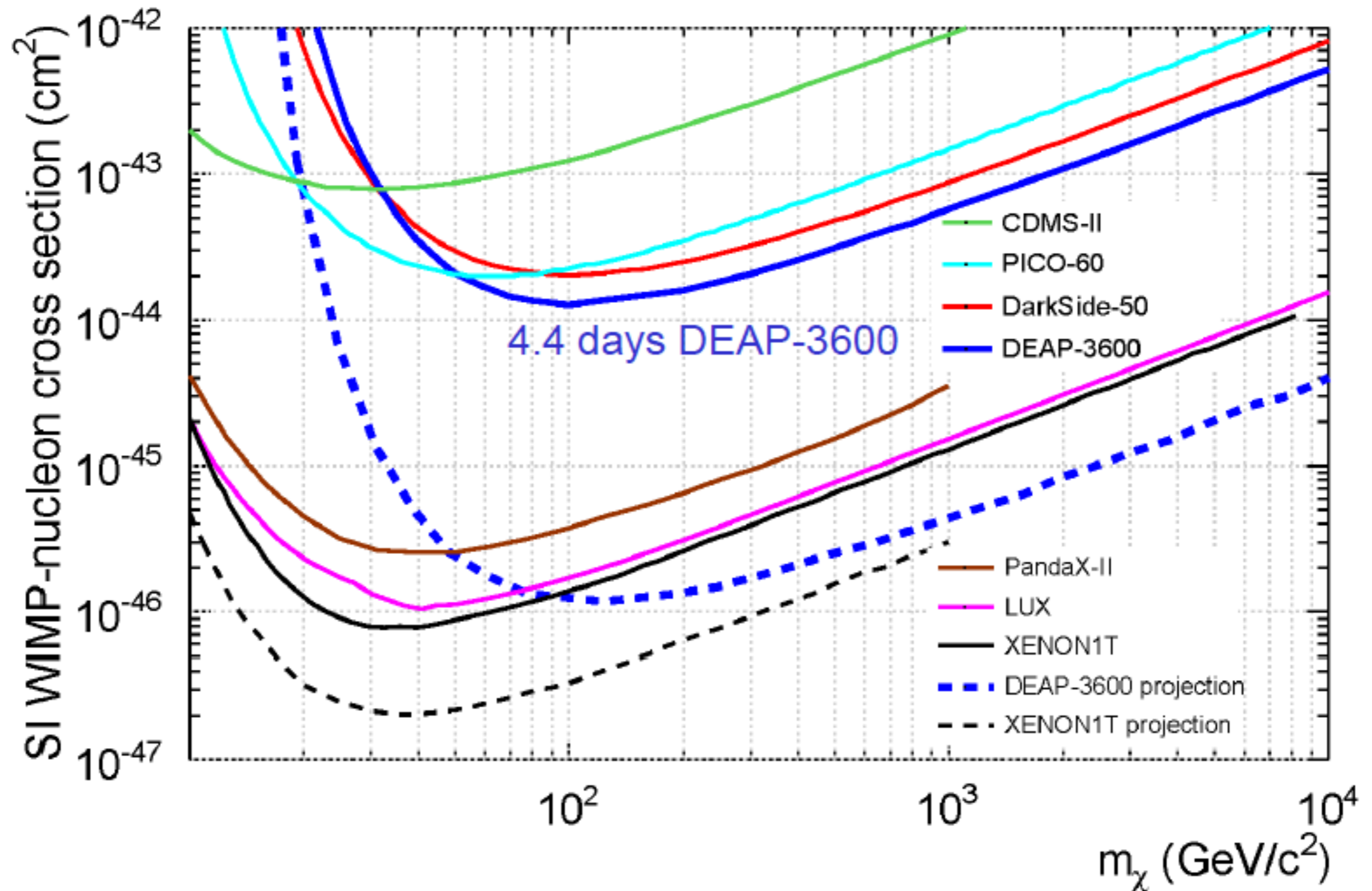
Developed prelim. cuts for instrumental and external-source events

2223 kg fiducial mass

9,870 kg-day exposure

No events observed in ROI

# WIMP exclusion with DEAP-3600



# State-of-the-art in LXe Experiments: XENON1T

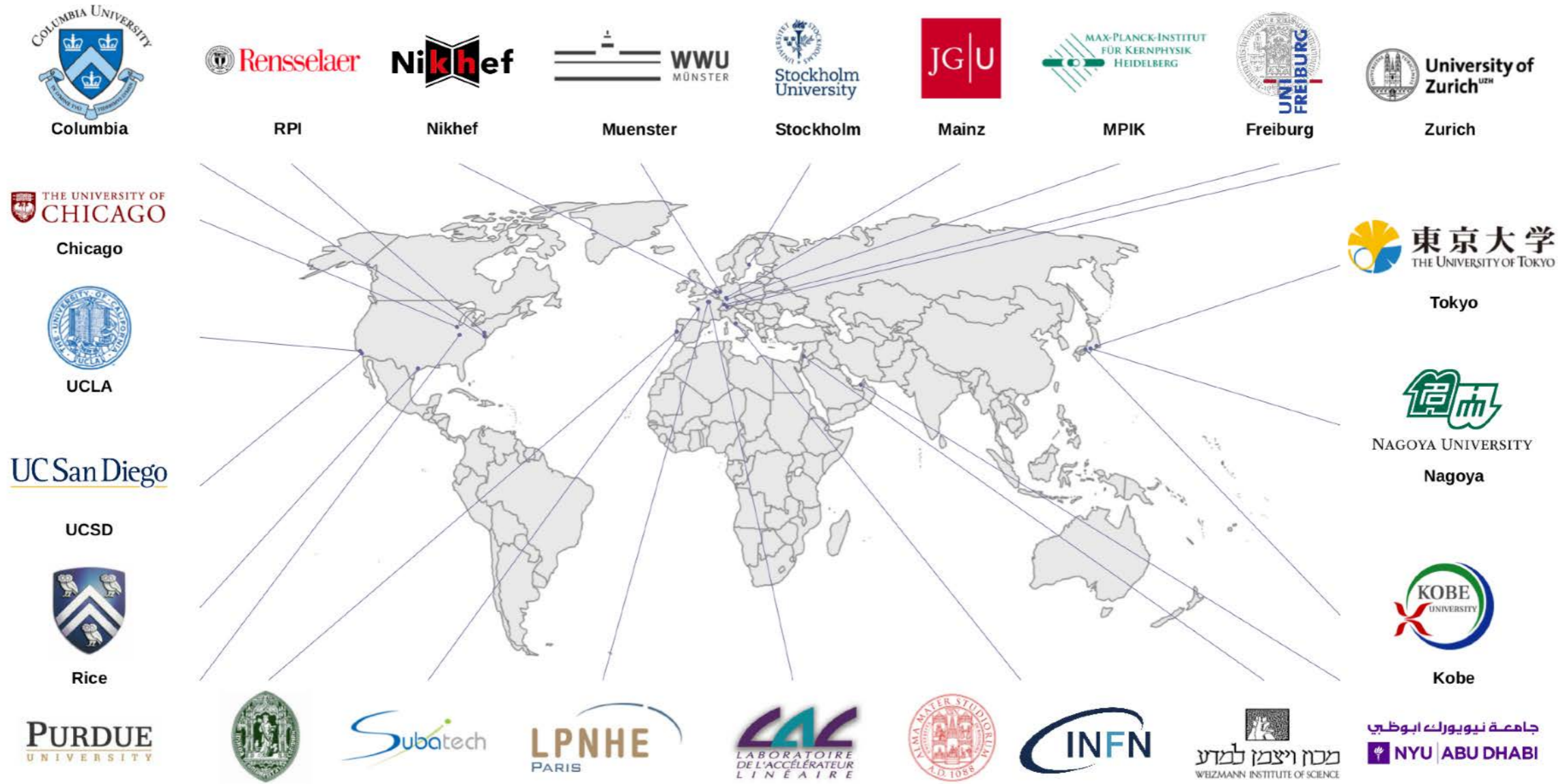
---

# The XENON1T Experiment

[www.xenon1t.org](http://www.xenon1t.org)



# The XENON Collaboration: 160 scientists





# The phases of XENON

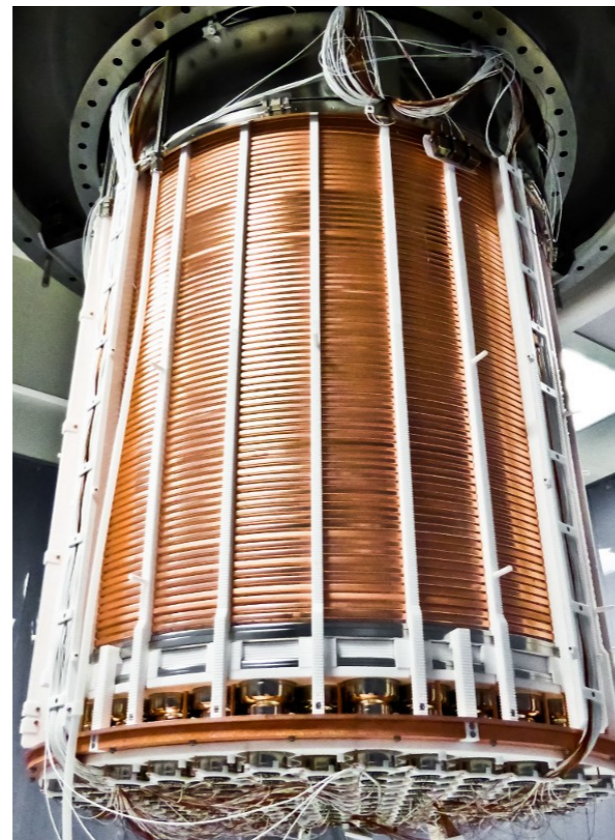
XENON10



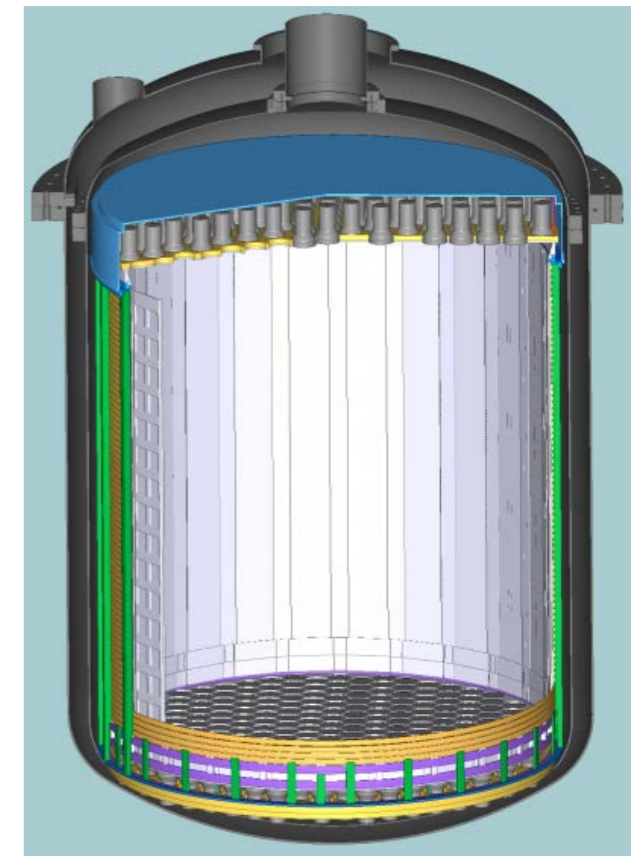
XENON100



XENON1T



XENONnT



2005-2007

25 kg - 15cm drift

$\sim 10^{-43} \text{ cm}^2$

2008-2016

161 kg - 30 cm drift

$\sim 10^{-45} \text{ cm}^2$

2012-2018

3.2 ton - 1 m drift

$\sim 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2$

2019-2023

8 ton - 1.5 m drift

$\sim 10^{-48} \text{ cm}^2$

# XENON1T Overview

EPJ C 77, 881 (2017)

Water tank and  
Cherenkov muon veto

Cryostat and support  
structure for TPC

Time projection  
chamber

Umbilical pipe  
(cables, xenon)

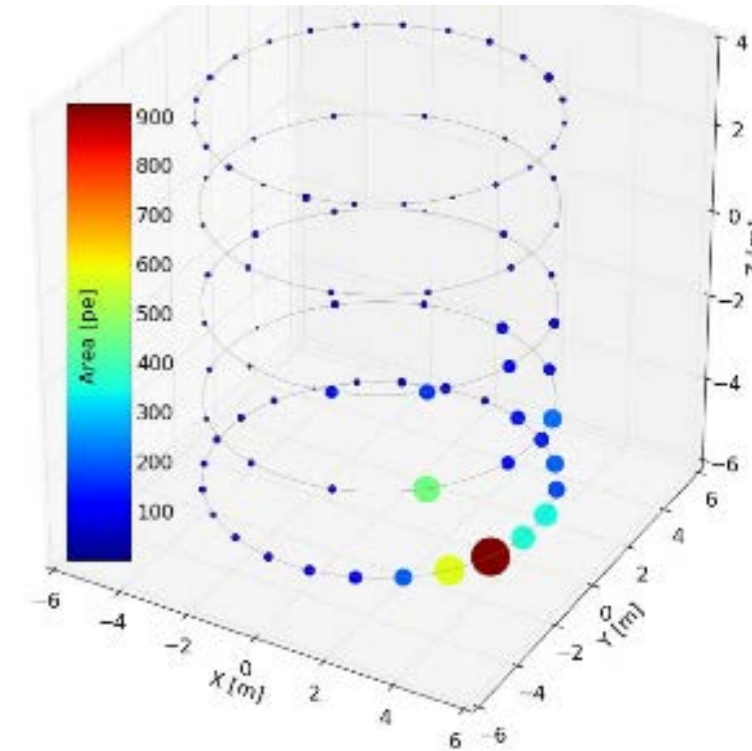


Cryogenics and  
purification

Data acquisition and  
slow control

Xenon storage,  
handling and  
distillation column

# The XENON1T Water Cherenkov Muon Veto



- 84 x 8 “ PMTs (R5912) with high QE and gain
- Taking data with a stable configuration:  $R = 0.45$  Hz

SR	Coverage (%)	$\mu$ -Tag. Eff. (%)	Shower Tag. Eff. (%)
0	96	99.5	43
1	99	99.5	43

**Muon-induced nuclear recoil background rate in SR1  
 $1.2 \cdot 10^{-2}$  (events/year) in 1 ton fiducial volume**

# The XENON1T Time Projection Chamber



**3.2 t LXe @180 K**  
**2.0 t active target**  
**~1 meter drift length**  
**~1 meter diameter**

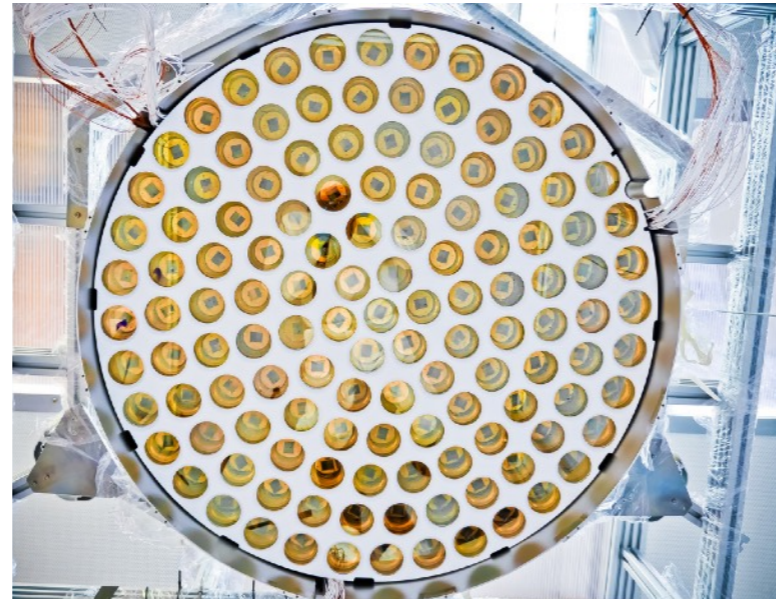


# XENON1T Photomultipliers

- 248 3-inch, low-radioactivity R11410-21 PMTs with 34.5 % average QE at 178 nm



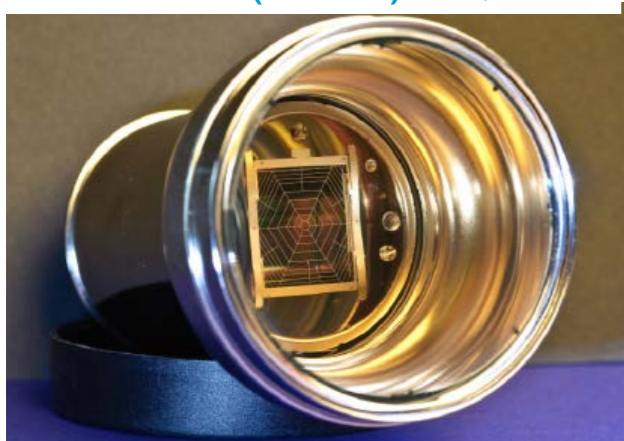
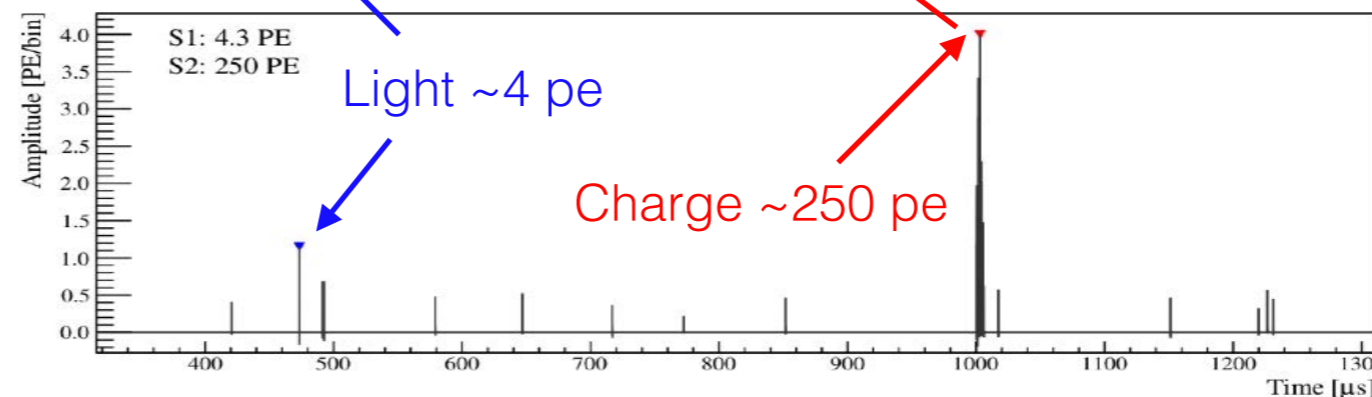
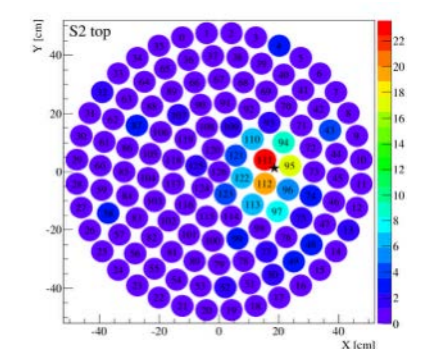
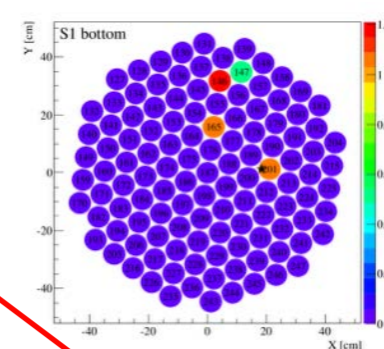
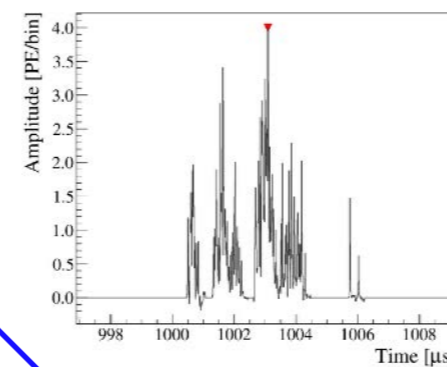
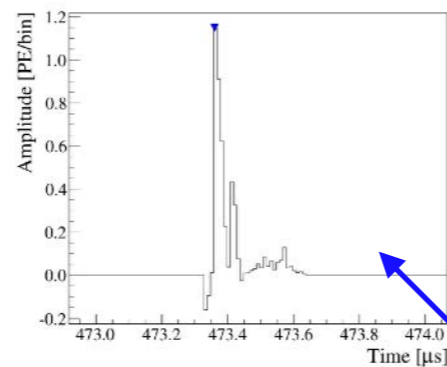
EPJC 75 (2015) 11, 546



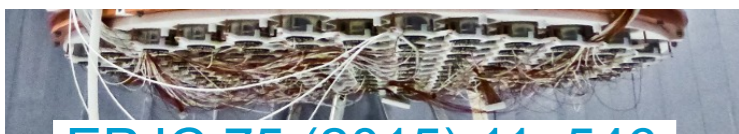
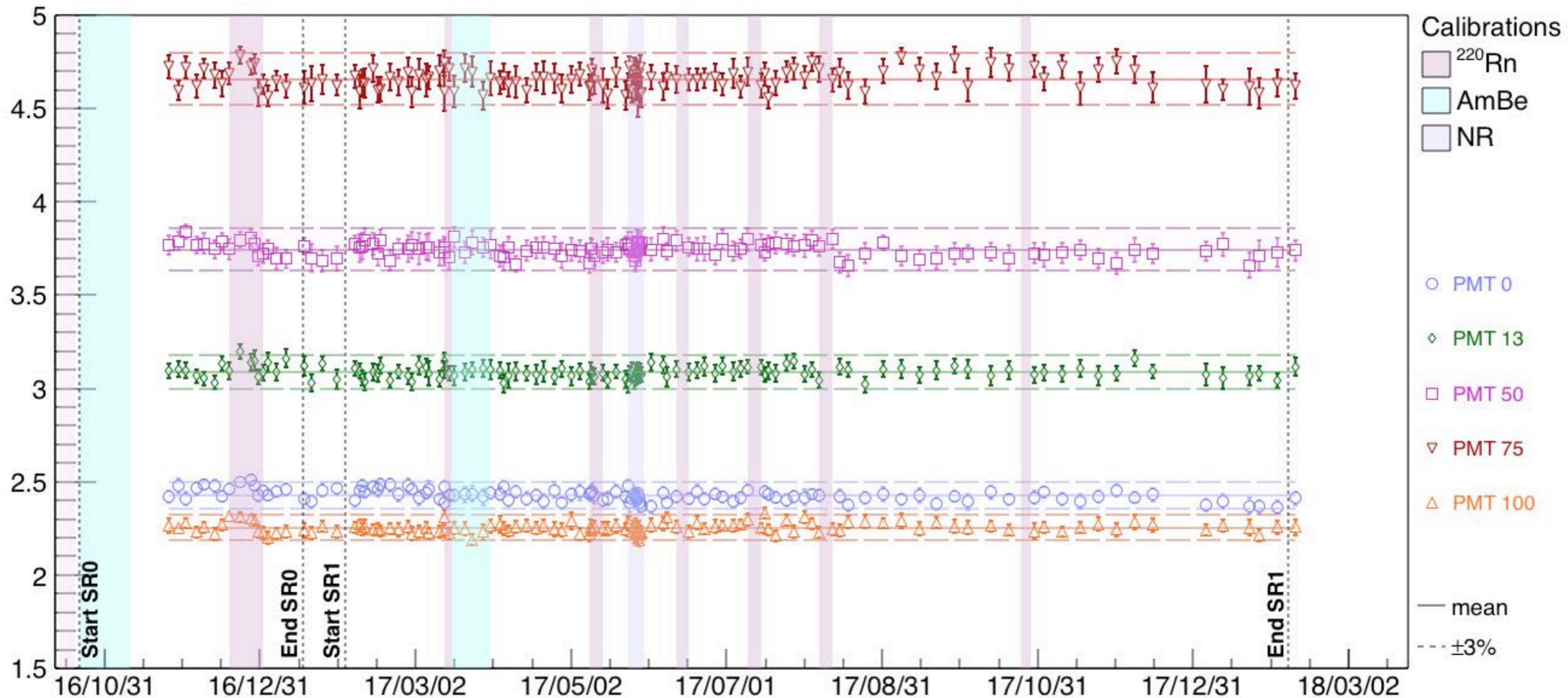
127 PMTs in the top array



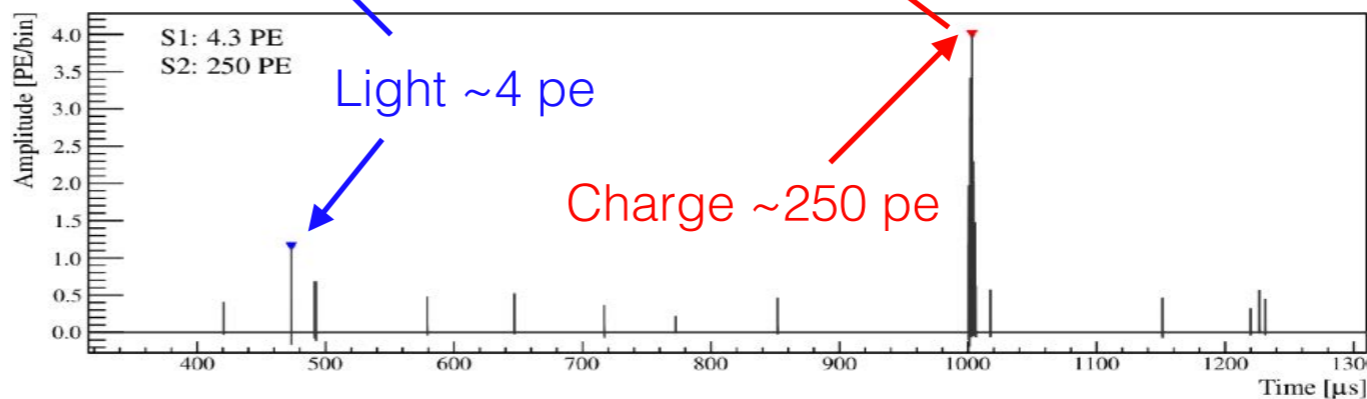
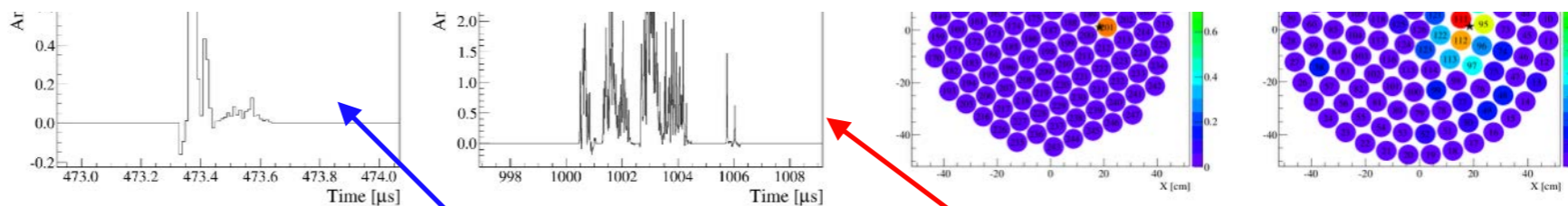
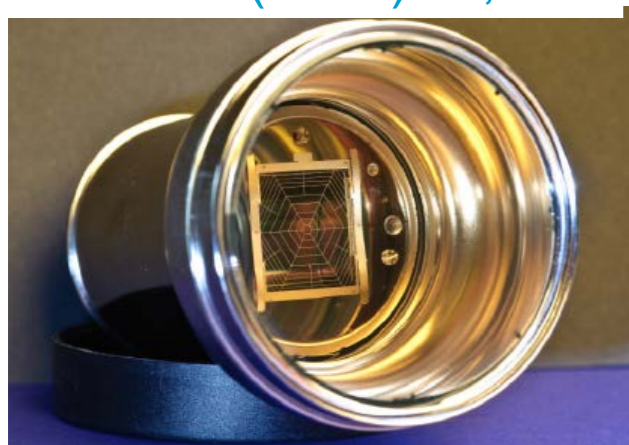
121 PMTs in the bottom array



Amplification gain [ $\times 10^6$ ]



EPJC 75 (2015) 11, 546

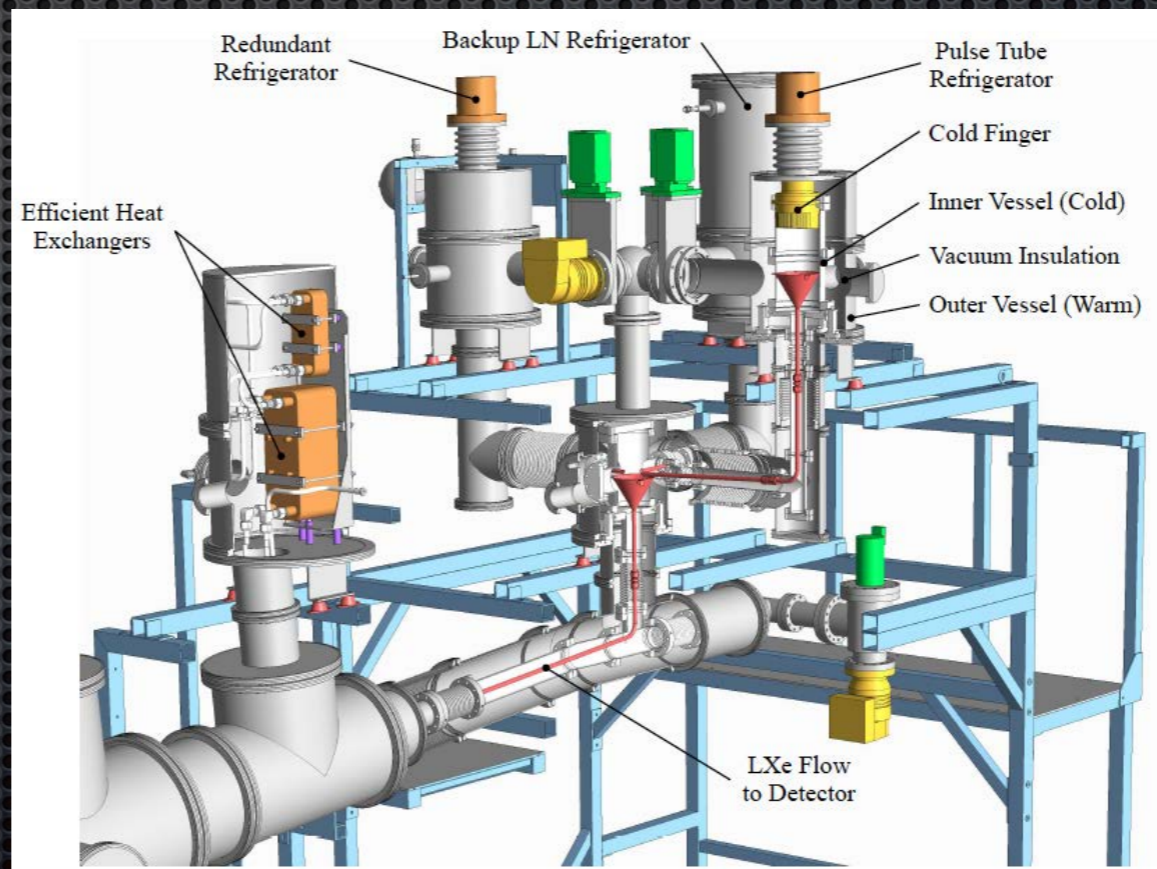


It takes  $\sim 600,000$  liters of Xe gas to fill the detector  
with 3200 kg of LXe





and several systems to handle/condense/purify/  
keep cold and clean the Xe in the detector



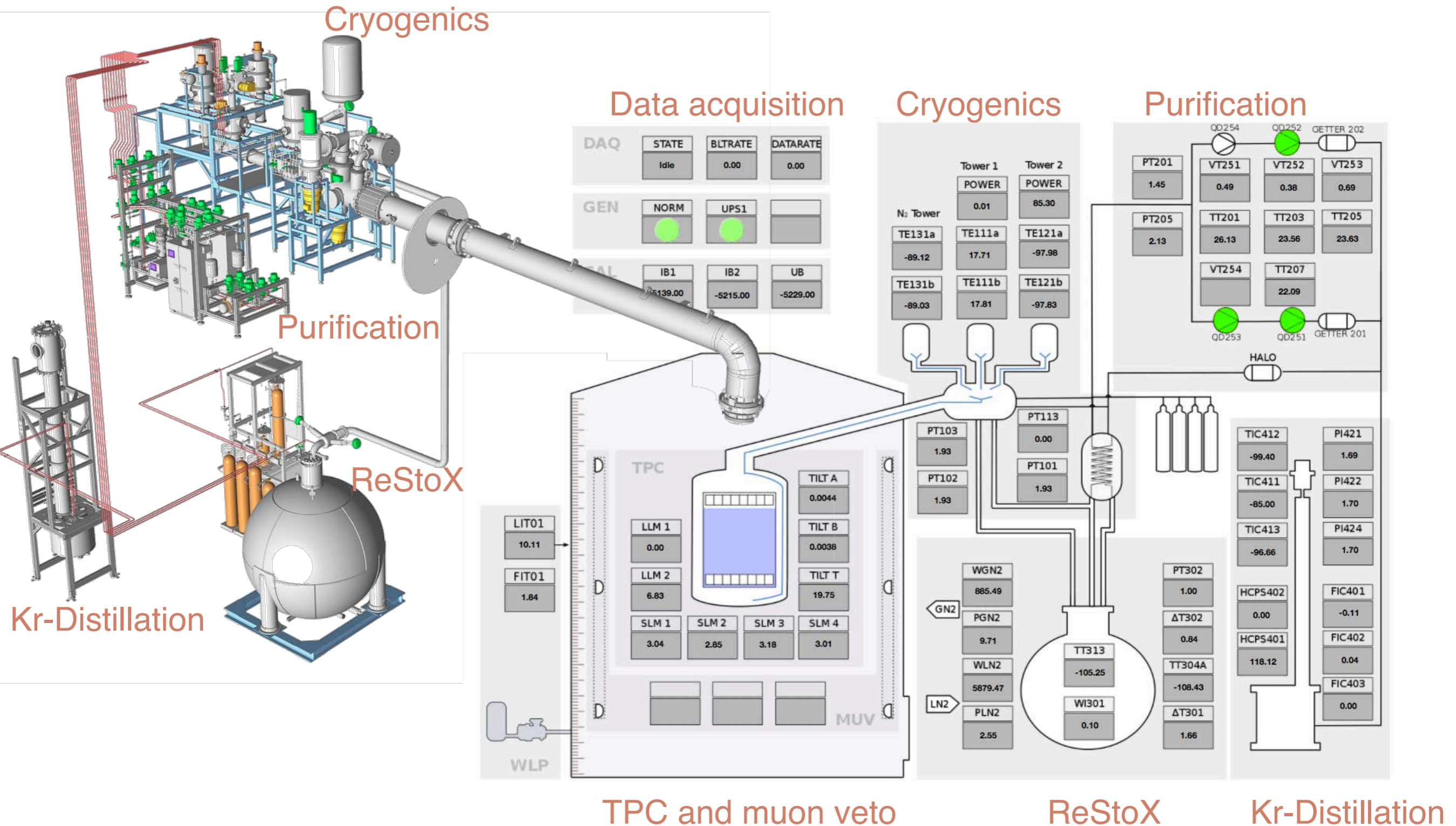
and several systems to handle/condense/purify/  
keep cold and clean the Xe in the detector



and several systems to handle/condense/purify/  
keep cold and clean the Xe in the detector



# XENON1T Cryogenic Plants



DAQ	STATE	BLRATE	DATARATE
	Idle	0.00	0.00
GEN	NORM	UPS1	
	<span style="color: green;">●</span>	<span style="color: green;">●</span>	
VAL	IB1	IB2	UB
	5139.00	-5215.00	-5229.00

	Tower 1	Tower 2
N <sub>2</sub> Tower	POWER	POWER
	0.01	85.30
TE131a	TE111a	TE121a
-89.12	17.71	-97.98
TE131b	TE111b	TE121b
-89.03	17.81	-97.83

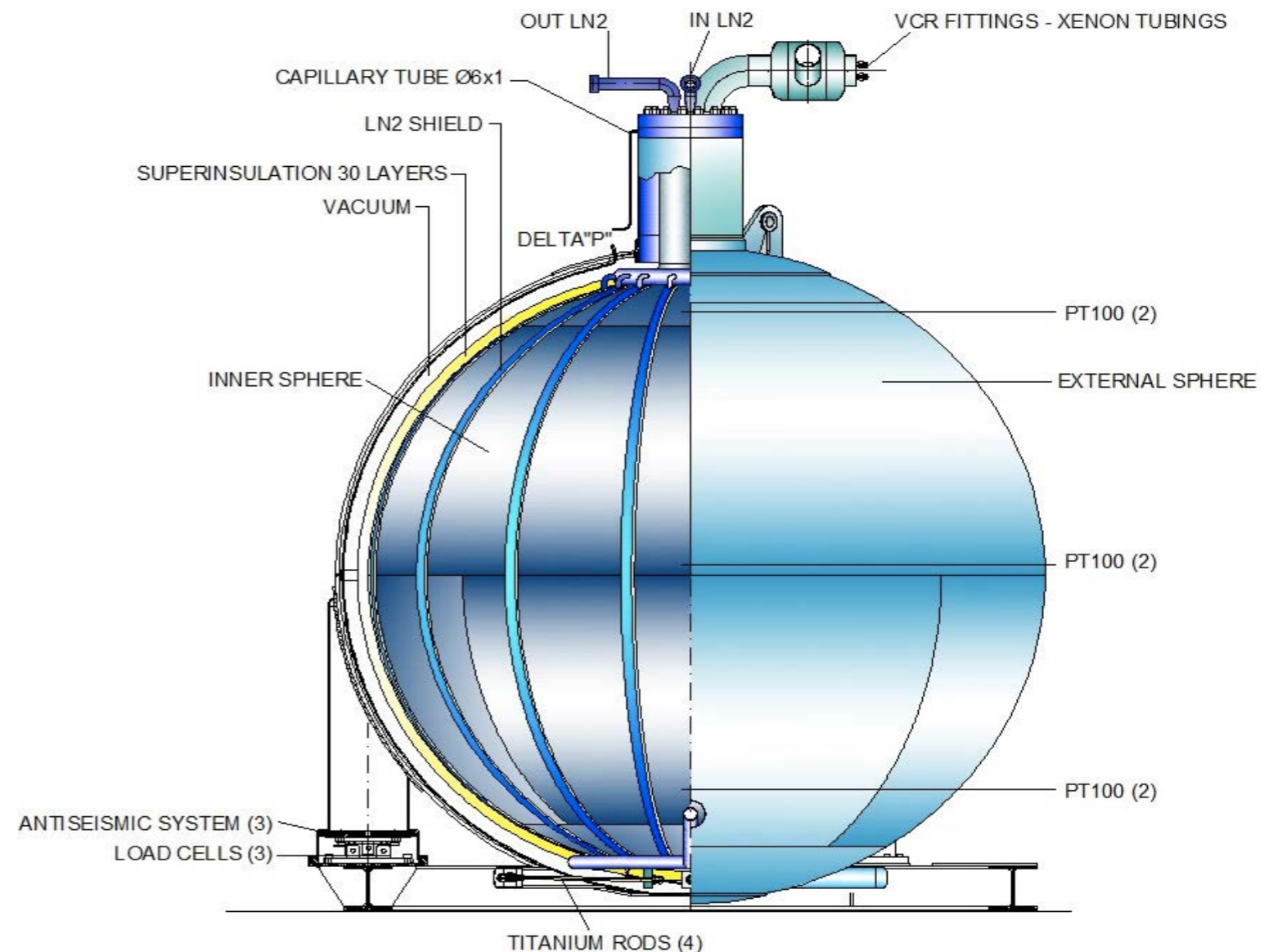
PT201	VT251	VT252	VT253
1.45	0.49	0.38	0.69
PT205	TT201	TT203	TT205
2.13	26.13	23.56	23.63
	VT254	TT207	
		22.09	

LIT01	TPC				TILT A
10.11	LLM 1	LLM 2	SLM 1	SLM 2	0.0044
FIT01	0.00	6.83	3.04	2.85	0.0038
1.84			SLM 3	SLM 4	19.75
			3.18	3.01	
					MUV
					WLP

PT103	PT113	TIC412	PI421
1.93	0.00	-99.40	1.69
PT102	PT101	TIC411	PI422
1.93	1.93	-85.00	1.70
		TIC413	PI424
		-96.66	1.70
WGN2	PT302	HCPS402	FIC401
885.49	1.00	0.00	-0.11
PGN2	ΔT302	HCPS401	FIC402
9.71	0.84	118.12	0.04
WLN2	TT304A		FIC403
5879.47	-108.43		0.00
PLN2	ΔT301		
2.55	1.66		

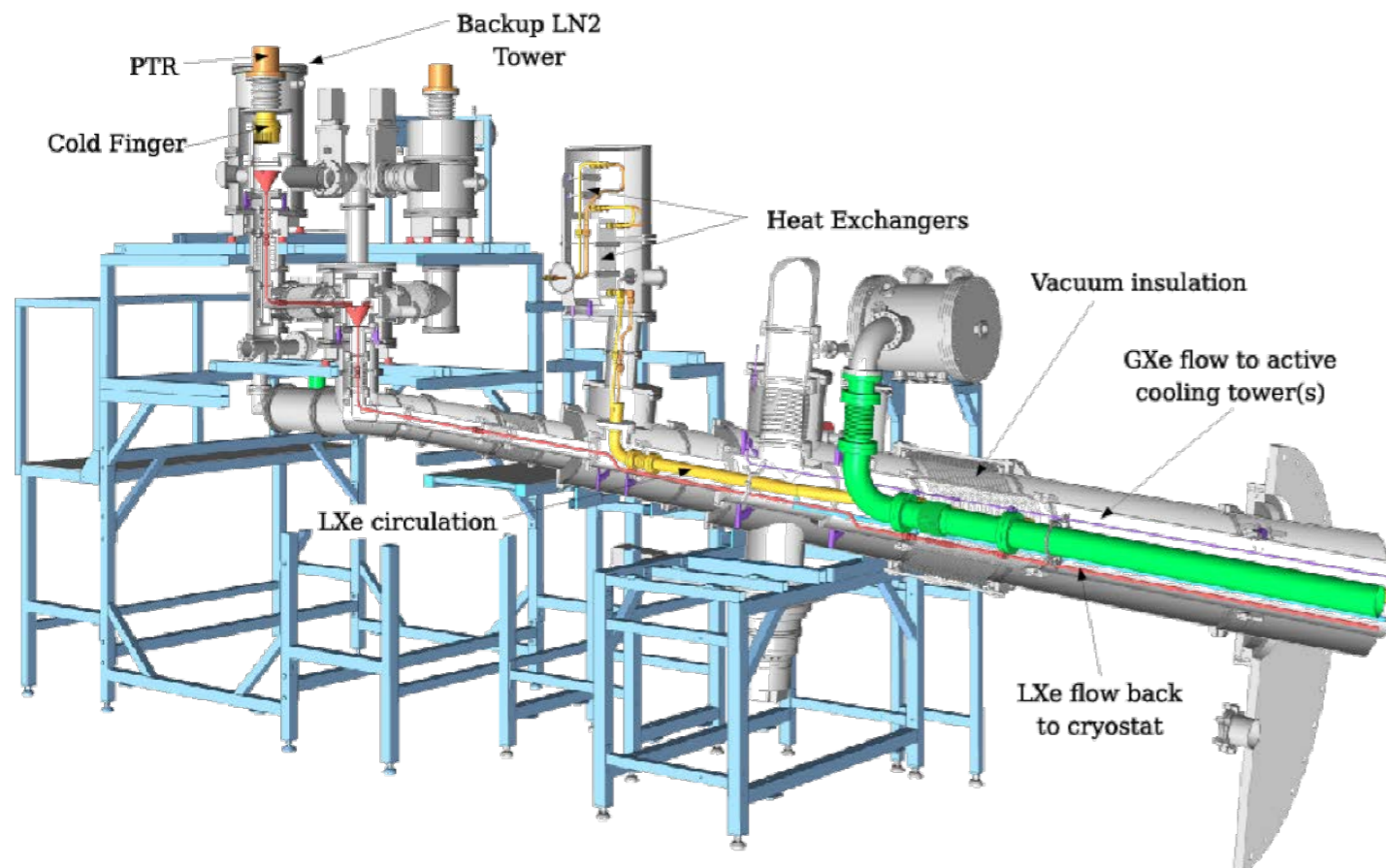
# The Xe Recovery & Storage System

- Double-walled, high pressure (70 atm), vacuum-insulated, LN<sub>2</sub> cooled sphere
- Can store up to 10t of xenon in gas or liquid/solid phase in high-purity conditions

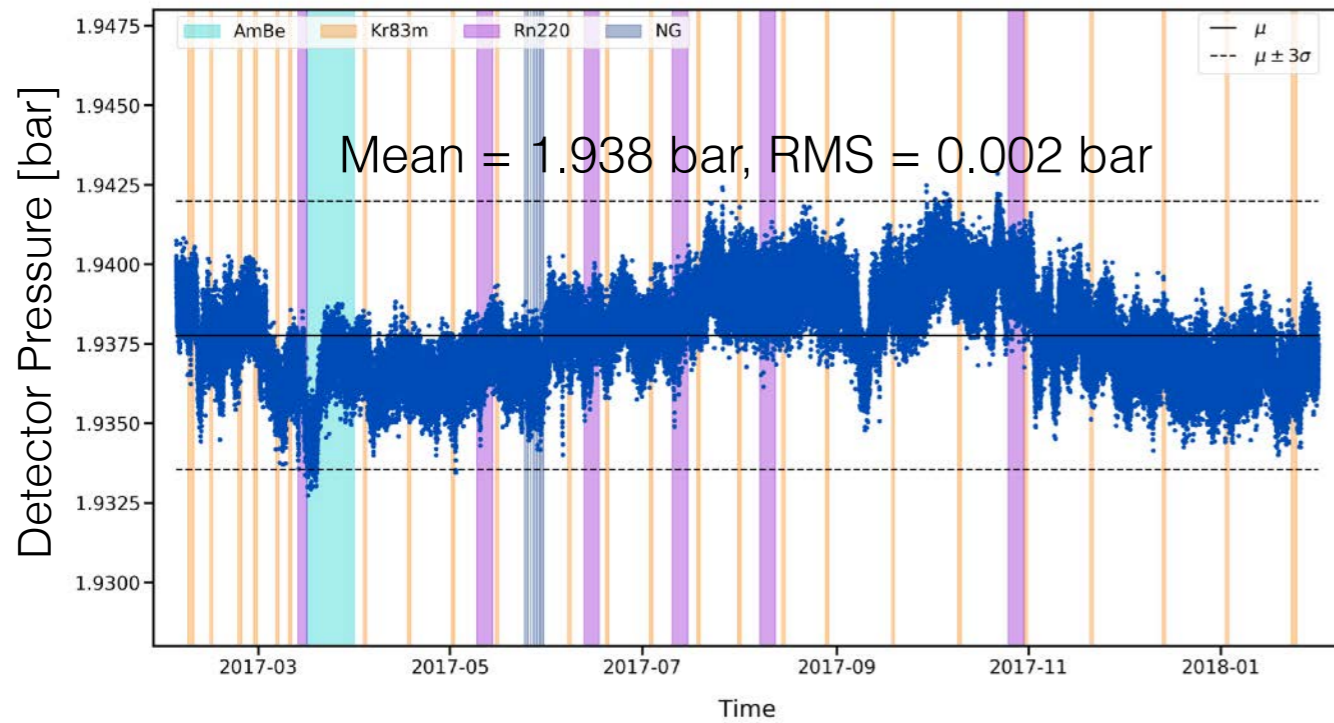


# The Cryogenic System

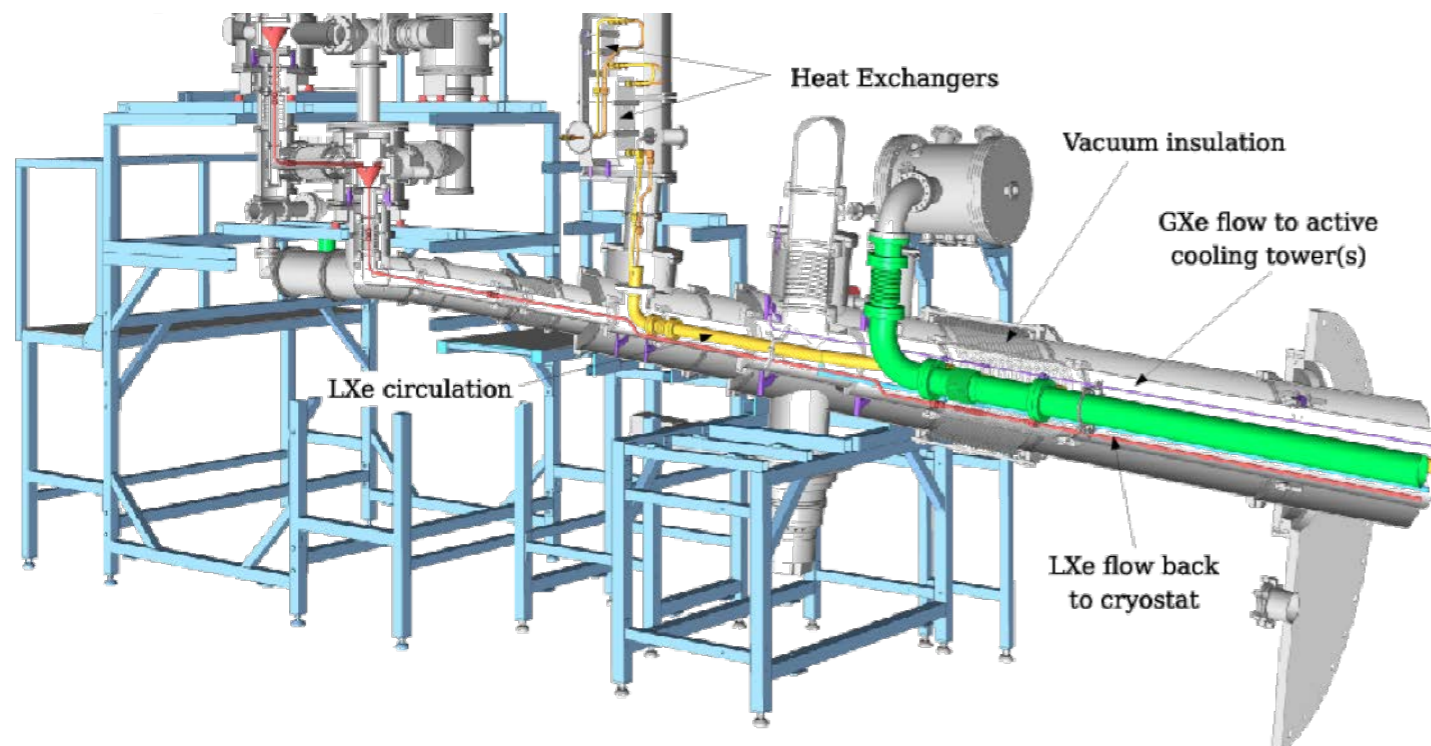
- Liquefies and maintains xenon in liquid state, provides stable conditions for data taking
- Two redundant PTR cooling systems and one LN<sub>2</sub> cooling tower backup
- Efficient two-phase heat exchangers
- Detector cold with stable pressure/temperature since Fall 2016!



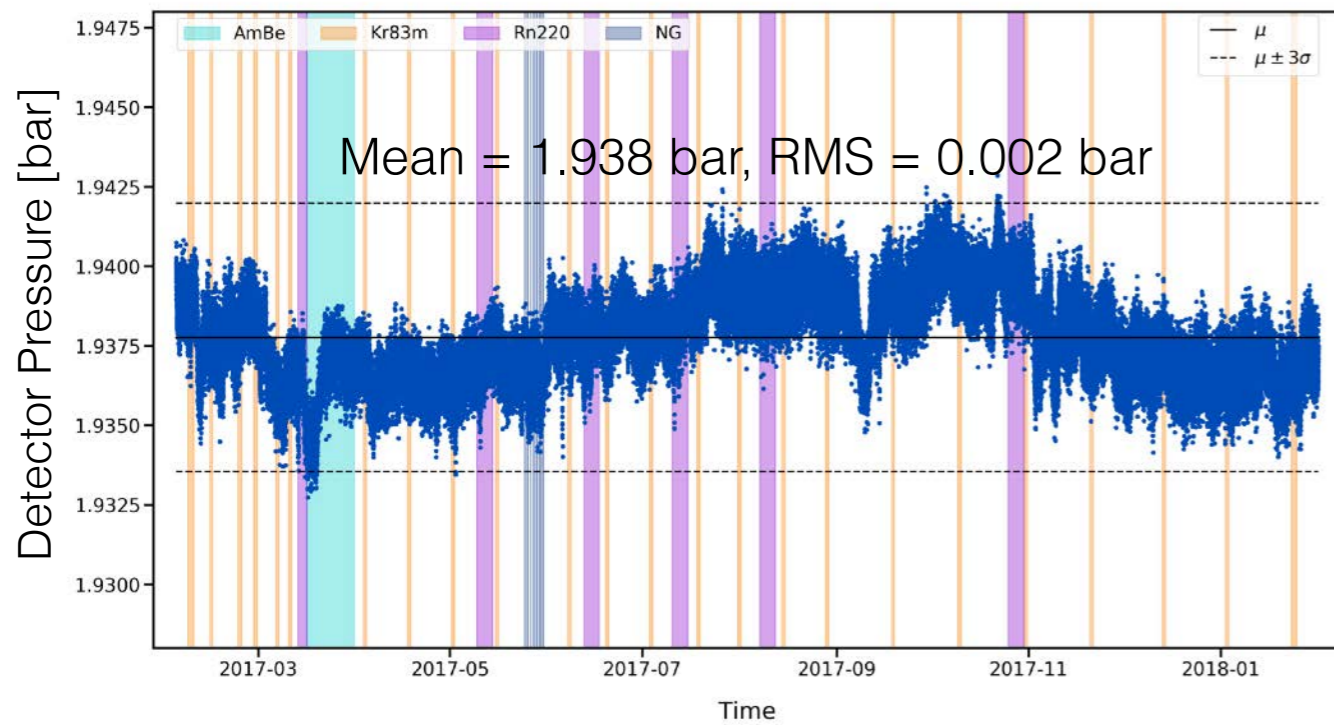
# The Cryogenic System



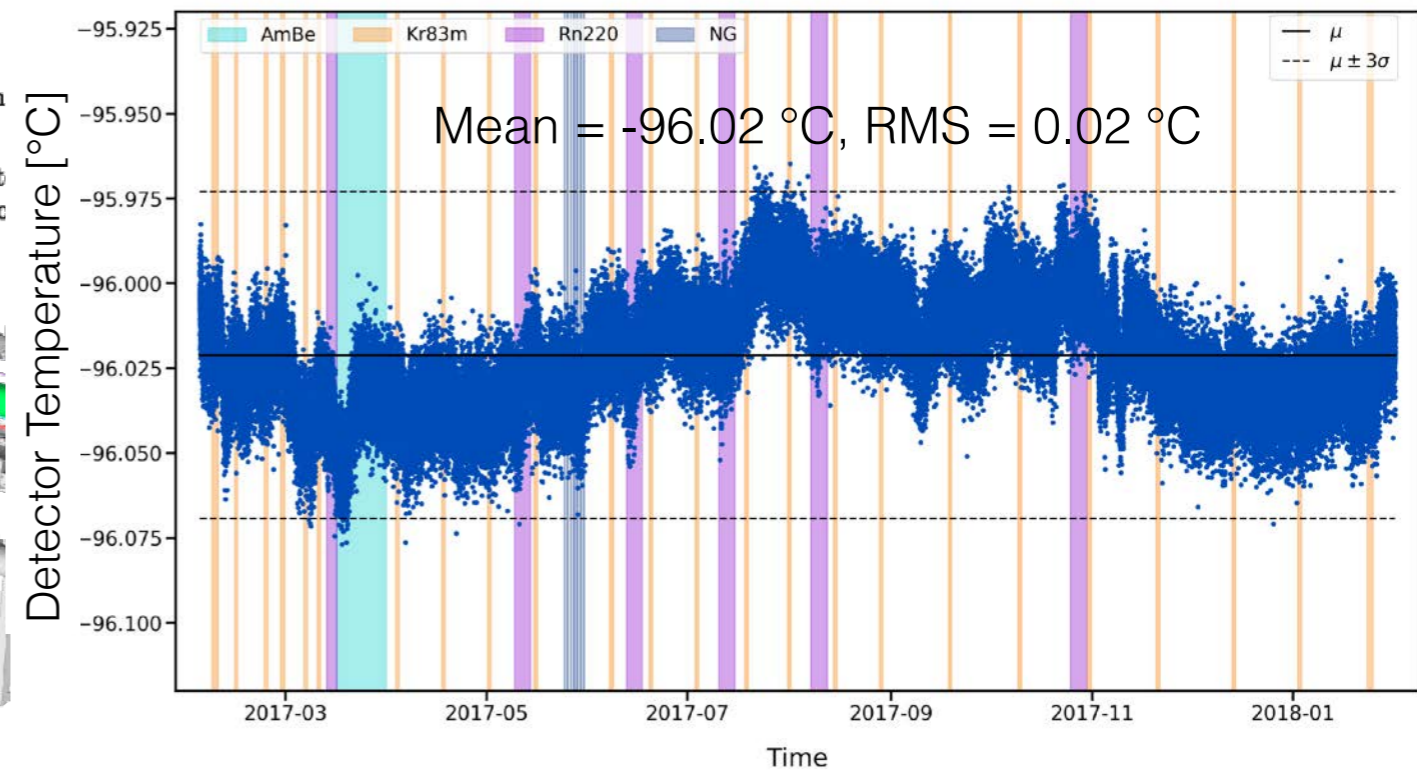
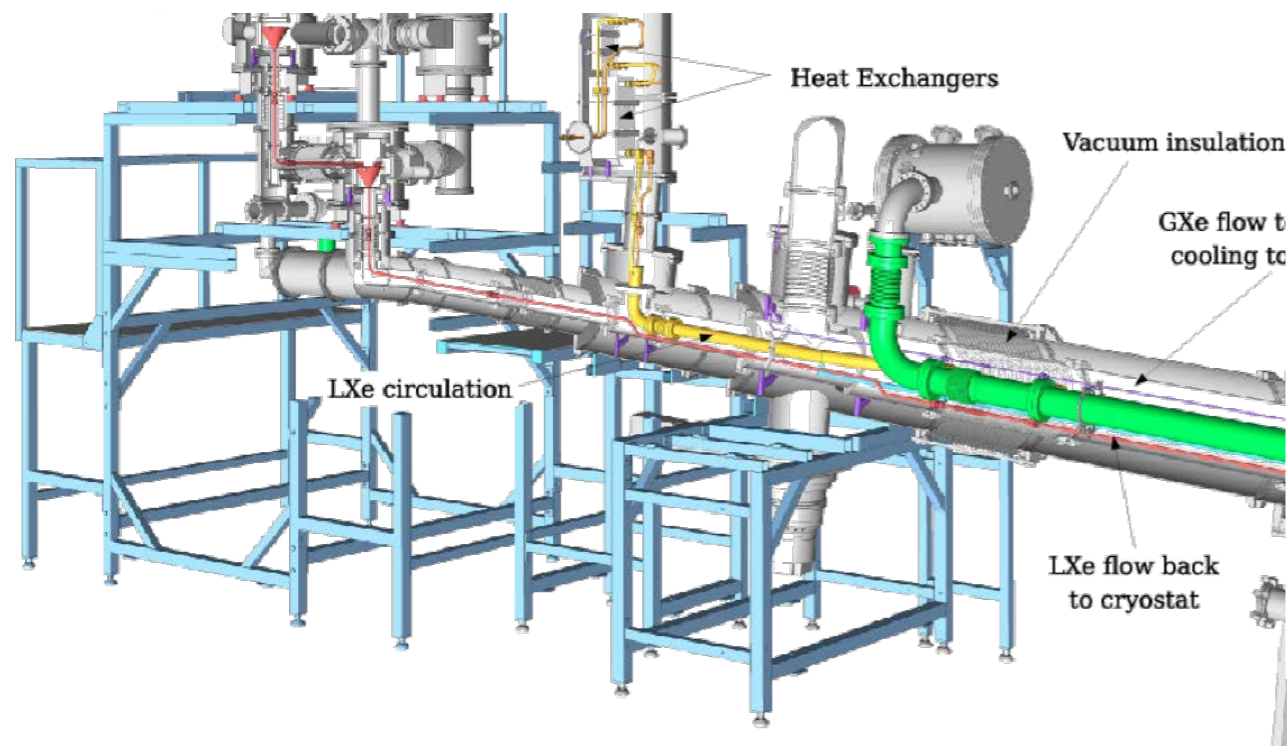
te, provides stable conditions for data taking



# The Cryogenic System

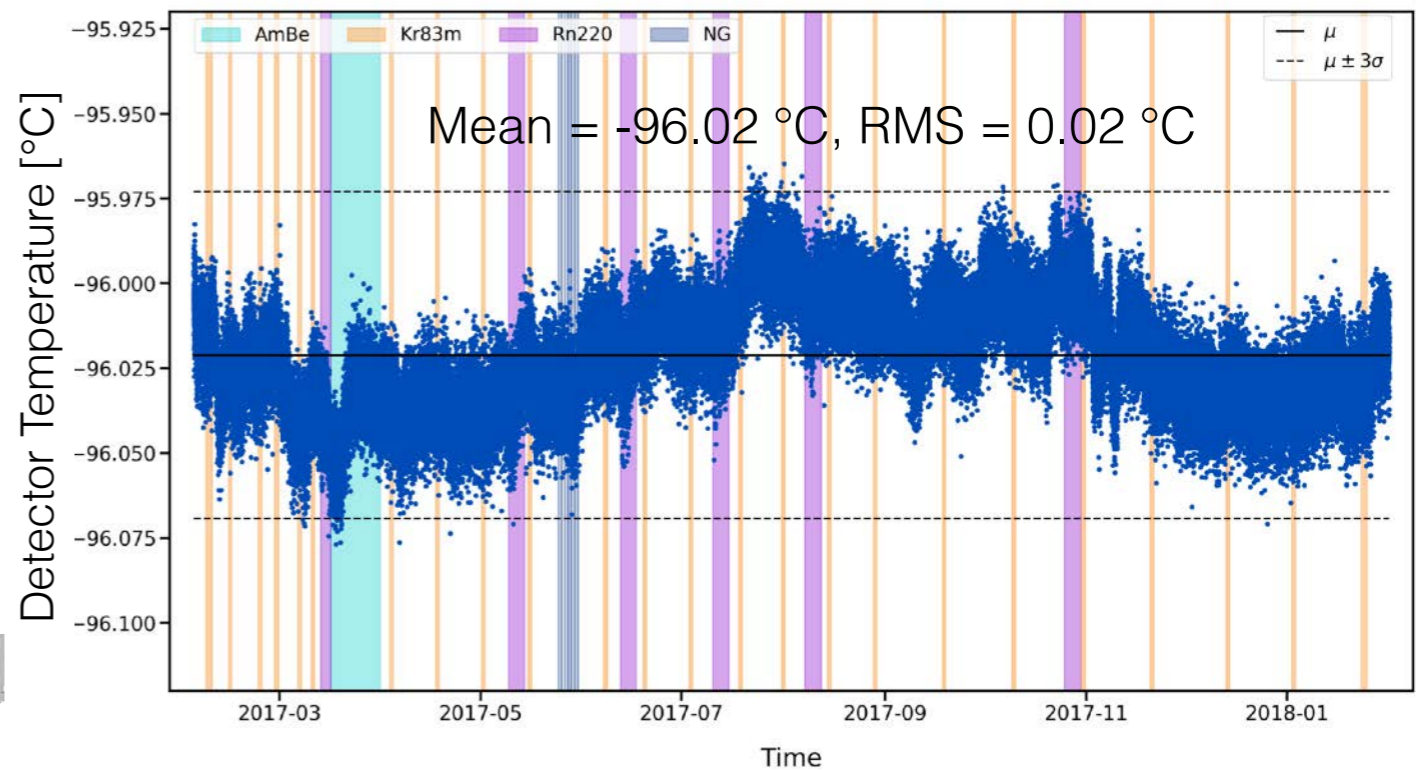
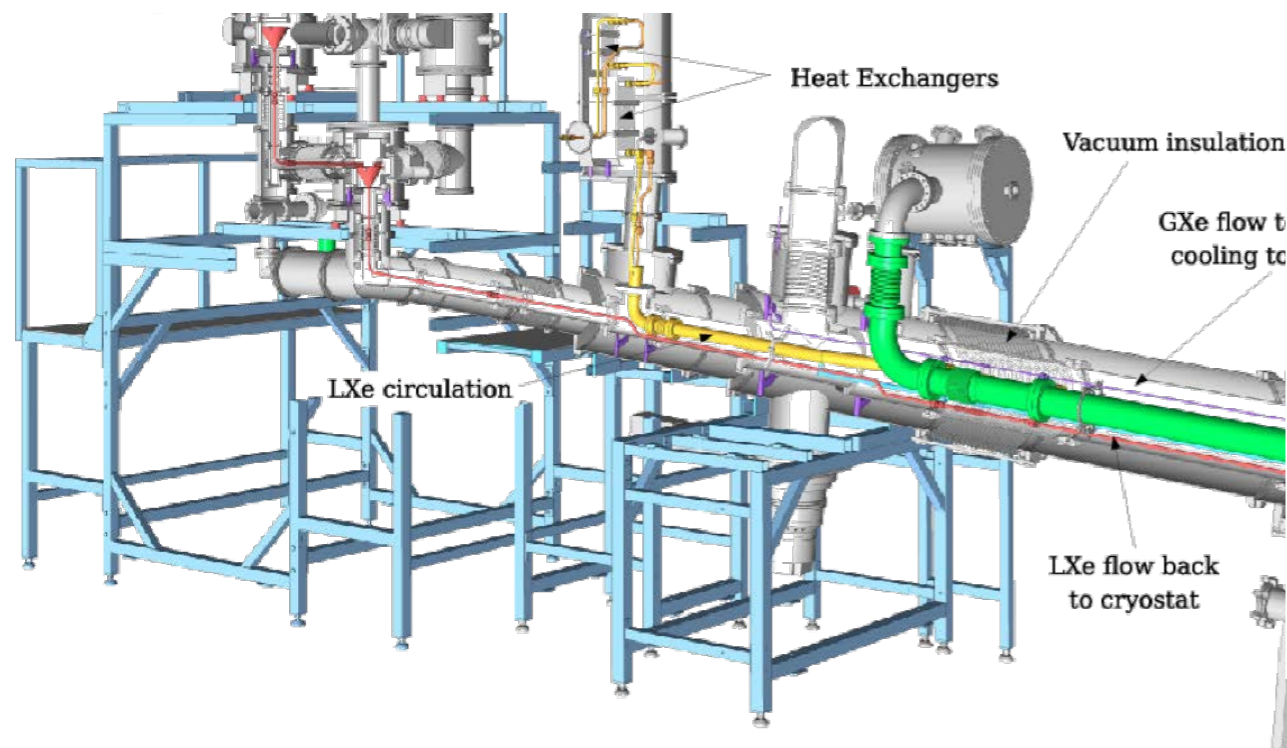
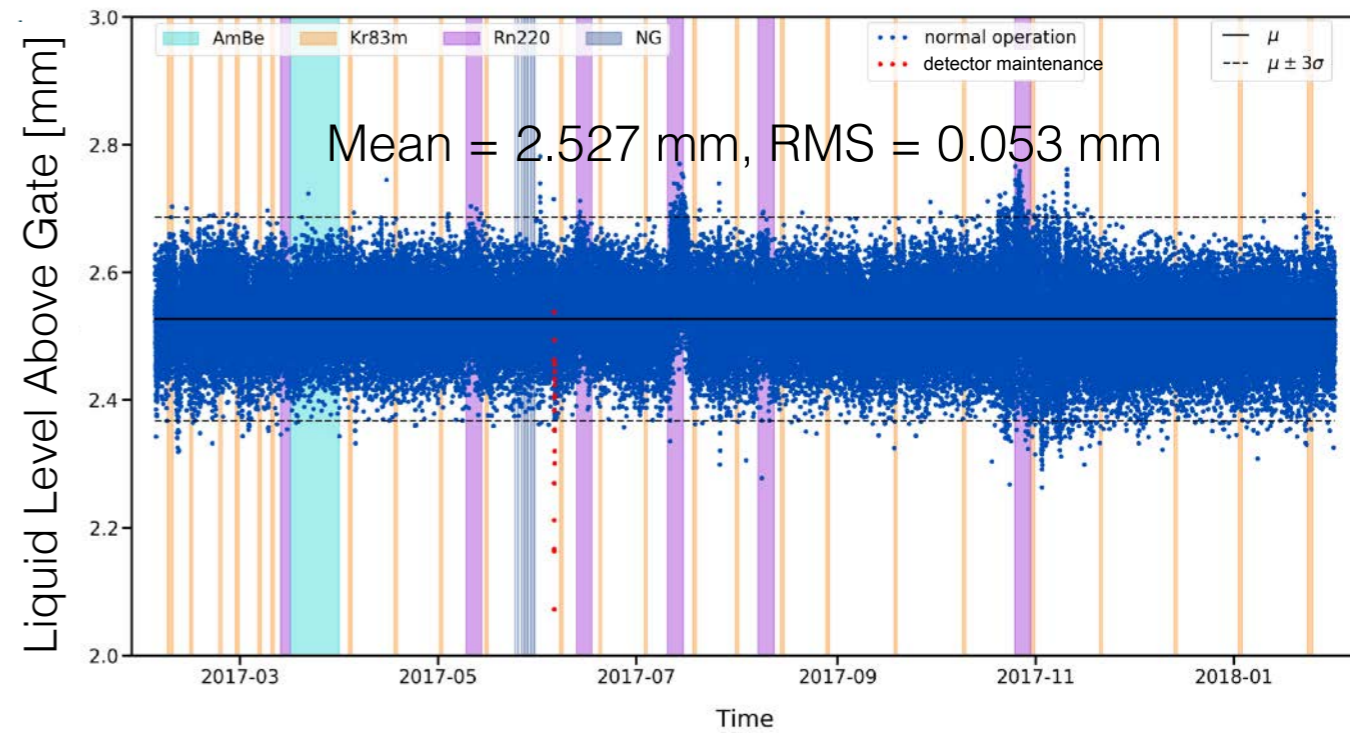
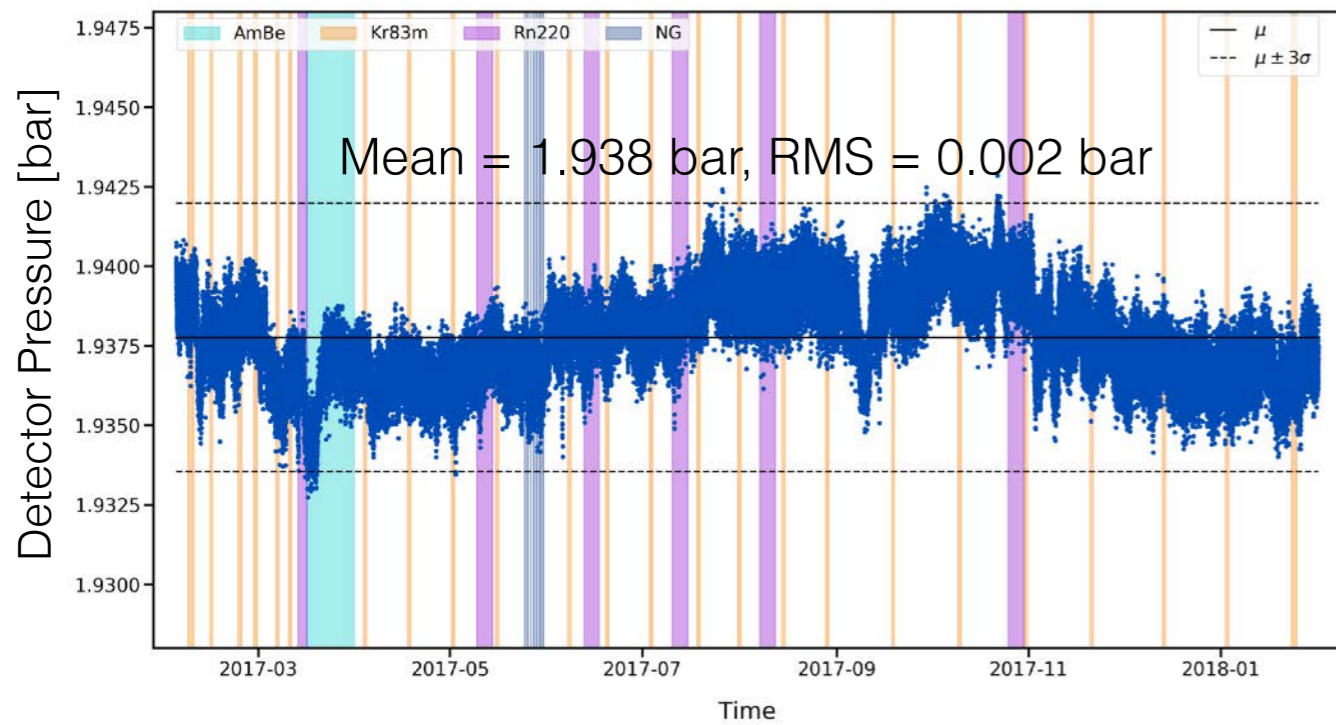


te, provides stable conditions for data taking





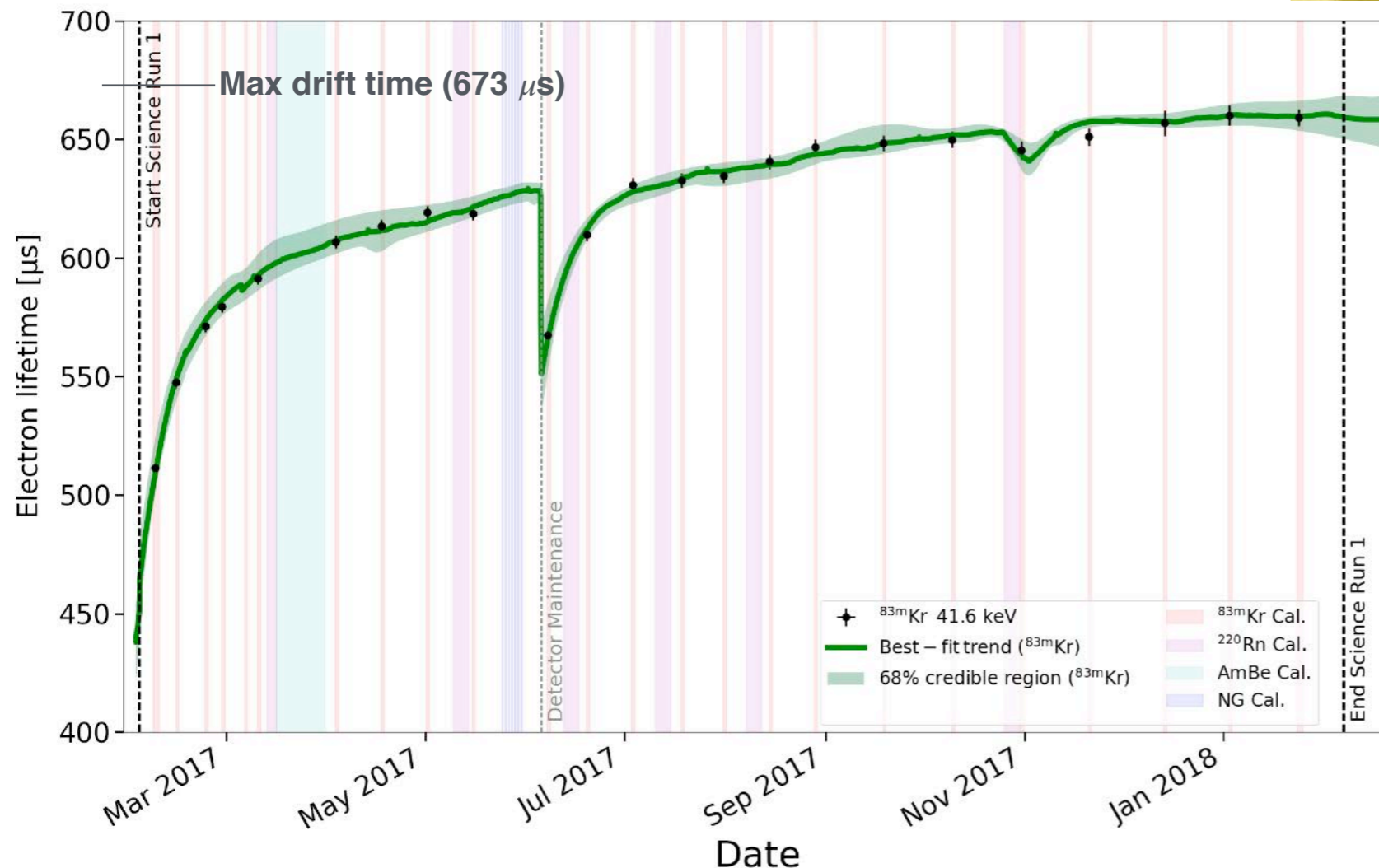
# The Cryogenic System



# The Gas Purification System

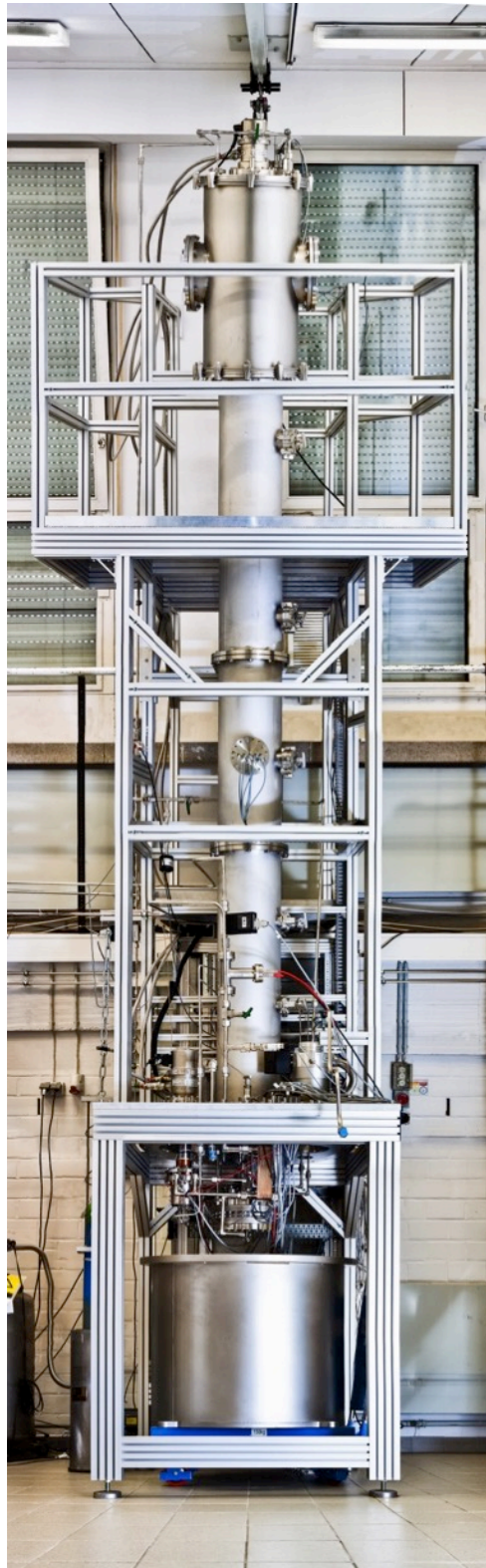
- Continuous gas purification through heated getters
- Charge loss by impurities corrected with e-lifetime measured from  $^{83m}\text{Kr}$  calibration and Rn222 alphas

$$S_2(t) = S_2(t_0)e^{(-t/\tau_e)}$$



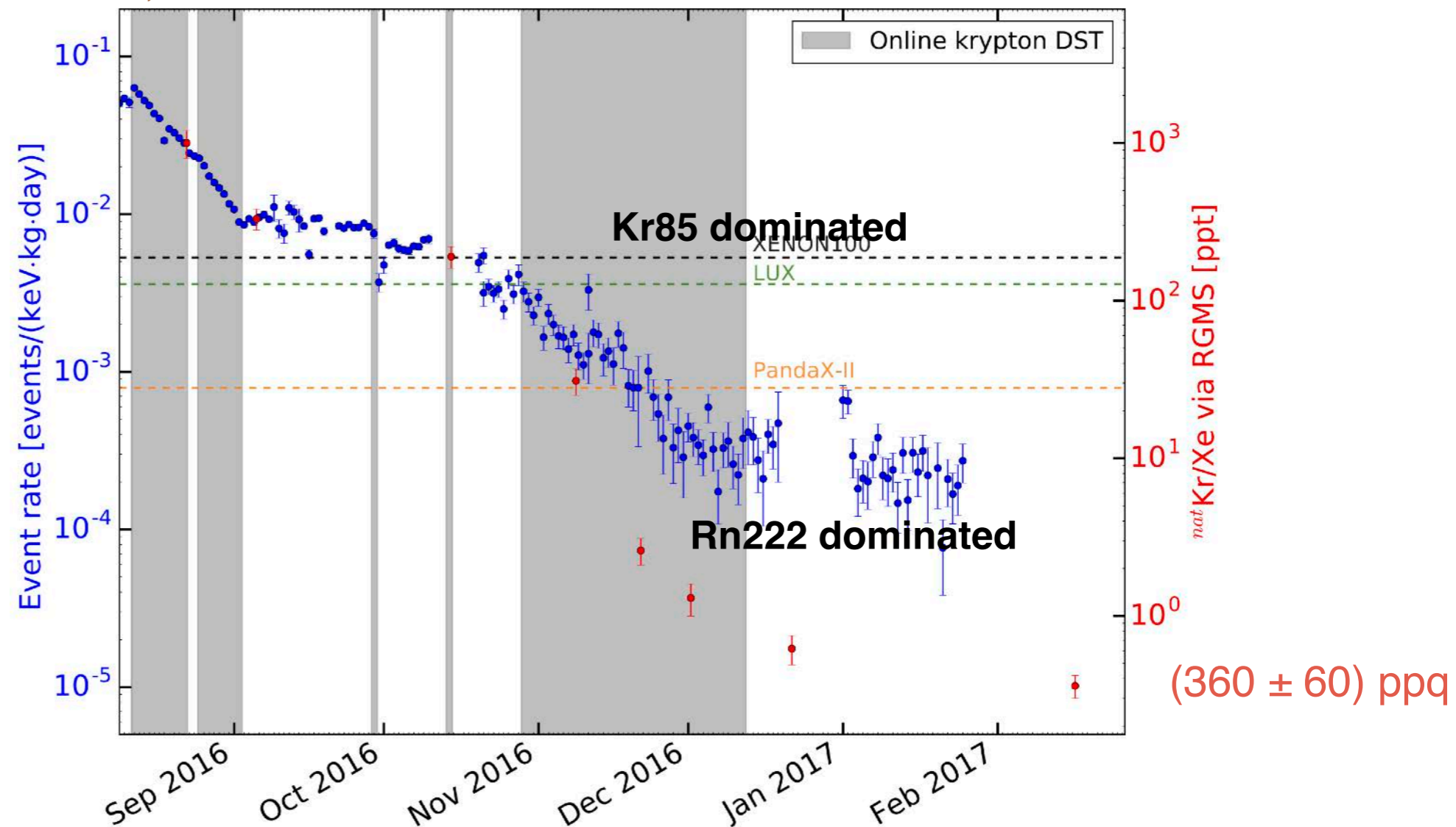
- Model accounts for the different impurity concentrations and outgassing in GXe and LXe, flow rate and other detector conditions
- Maximum electron lifetime achievable is limited by the outgassing of materials and the maximum purification flow rate, itself limited mostly by the circulation pumps

# The Distillation Column



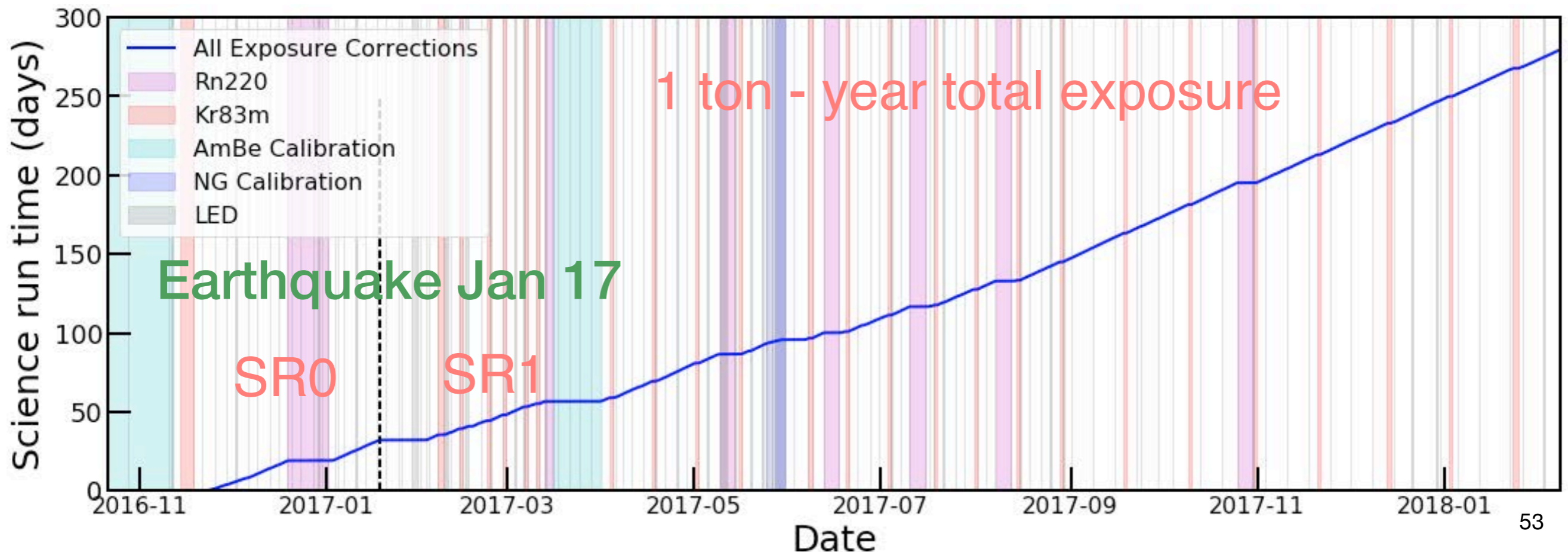
- Commercial Xe: 1 ppm - 10 ppb of Kr
- XENON1T sensitivity demands: 0.2 ppt
- Solution: 5.5 m distillation column, 6.5 kg/h throughput  
> $6.4 \times 10^5$  separation, output concentration < 26 ppq (RGMS)
- on-line distillation used to reduce Kr/Xe while taking data
- Regular samples from TPC measured with a RGMS

EPJ-C74, 2014



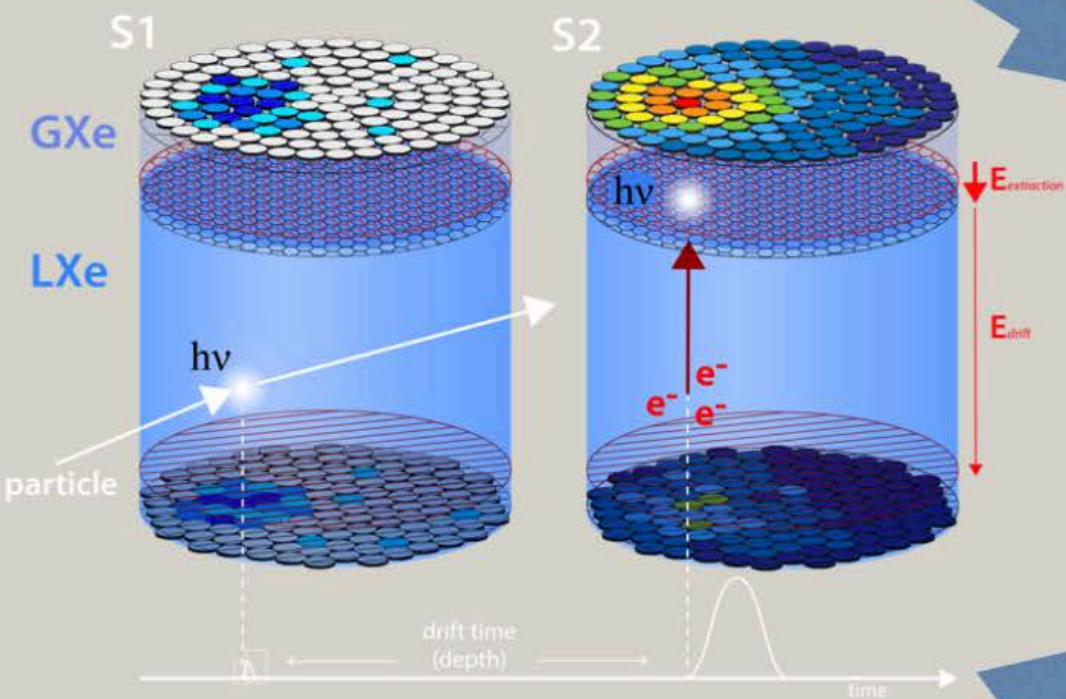
# XENON1T Data overview: science and calibration

- Detector still running smoothly and taking data with high efficiency
- SR0 (34.2 days): best SI limit  $7.7 \times 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2$  at  $35 \text{ GeV/cm}^2$  (PRL 119, 2017)
- SR1 (246.7 days): improved detector stability - calibration statistics - refined analysis
- Total Exposure: 1 ton-year for the estimated 1.3 ton fiducial mass!



# XENON1T data analysis

XENON1T  
(real waveforms)



Raw data  
Processor (PAX)

- ▶ pulse-finding
- ▶ pos reconstruction
- ▶ S1, S2
- ▶ etc.

Calibration  
analysis

Background  
analysis

Statistical  
interpretation

Physics Results

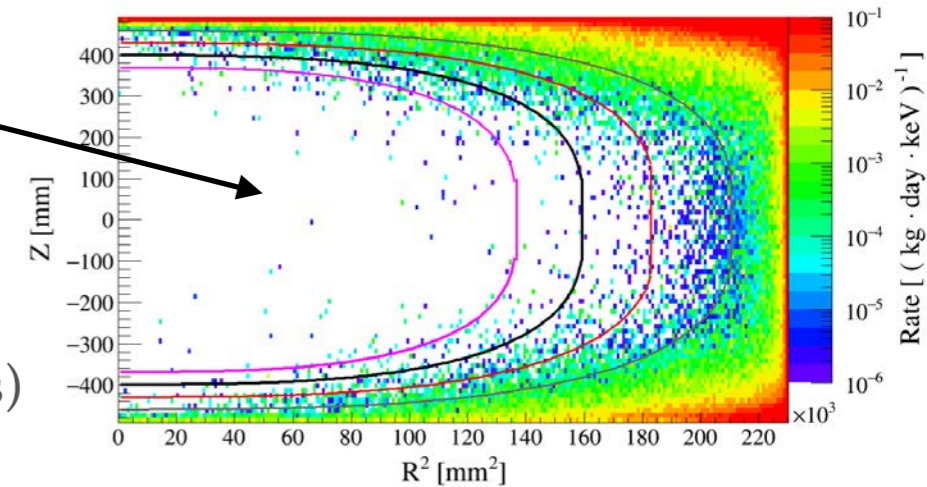
Geant4  
+ waveform  
simulation

# ER Background: Monte Carlo

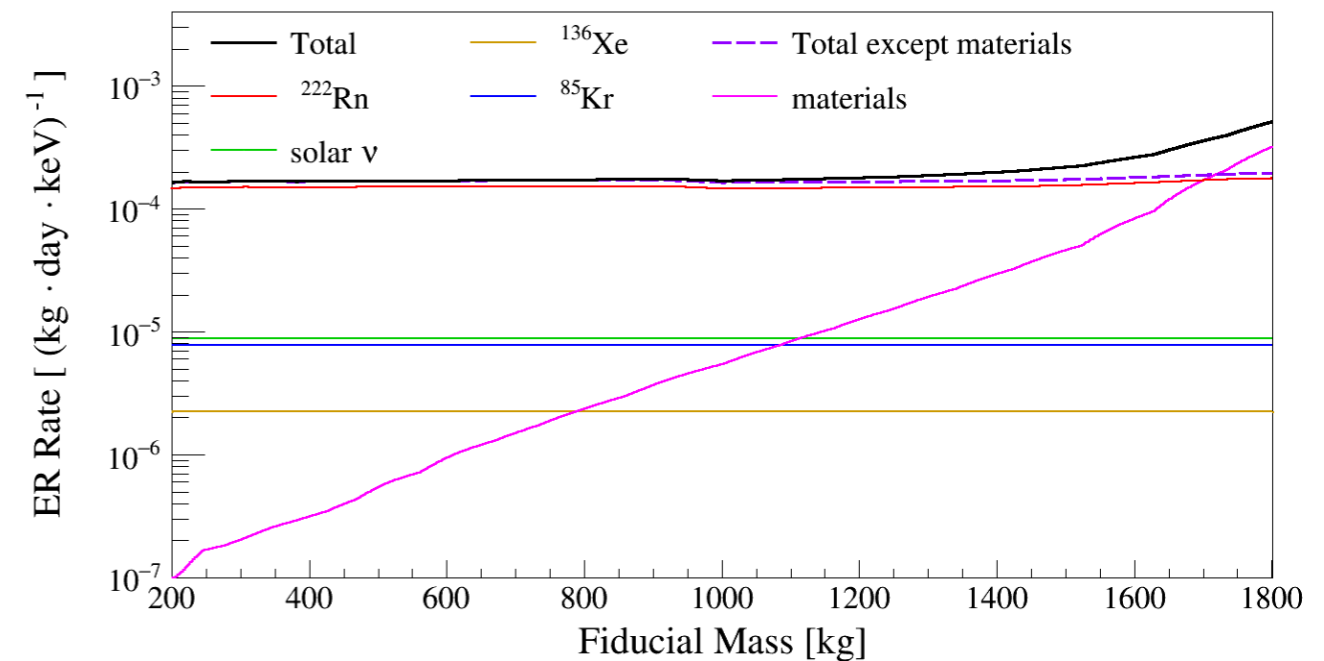
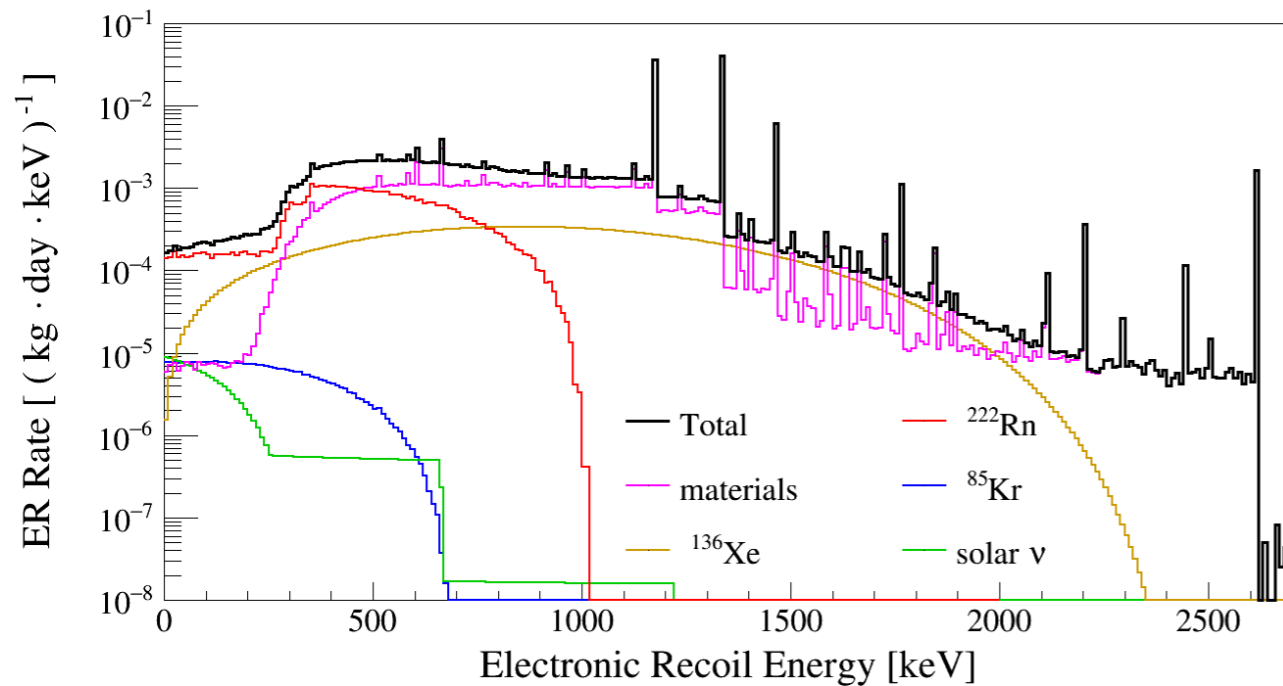
Predictions from MC simulations: ER background from materials is negligible in the 1t FV.

MC assumptions on the intrinsic backgrounds:

- 0.2 ppt of  $^{nat}\text{Kr}$  (achieved in XENON1T distillation column tests),
- $10 \mu\text{Bq/kg}$  of  $^{222}\text{Rn}$  (estimation based on Rn emanation measurements)

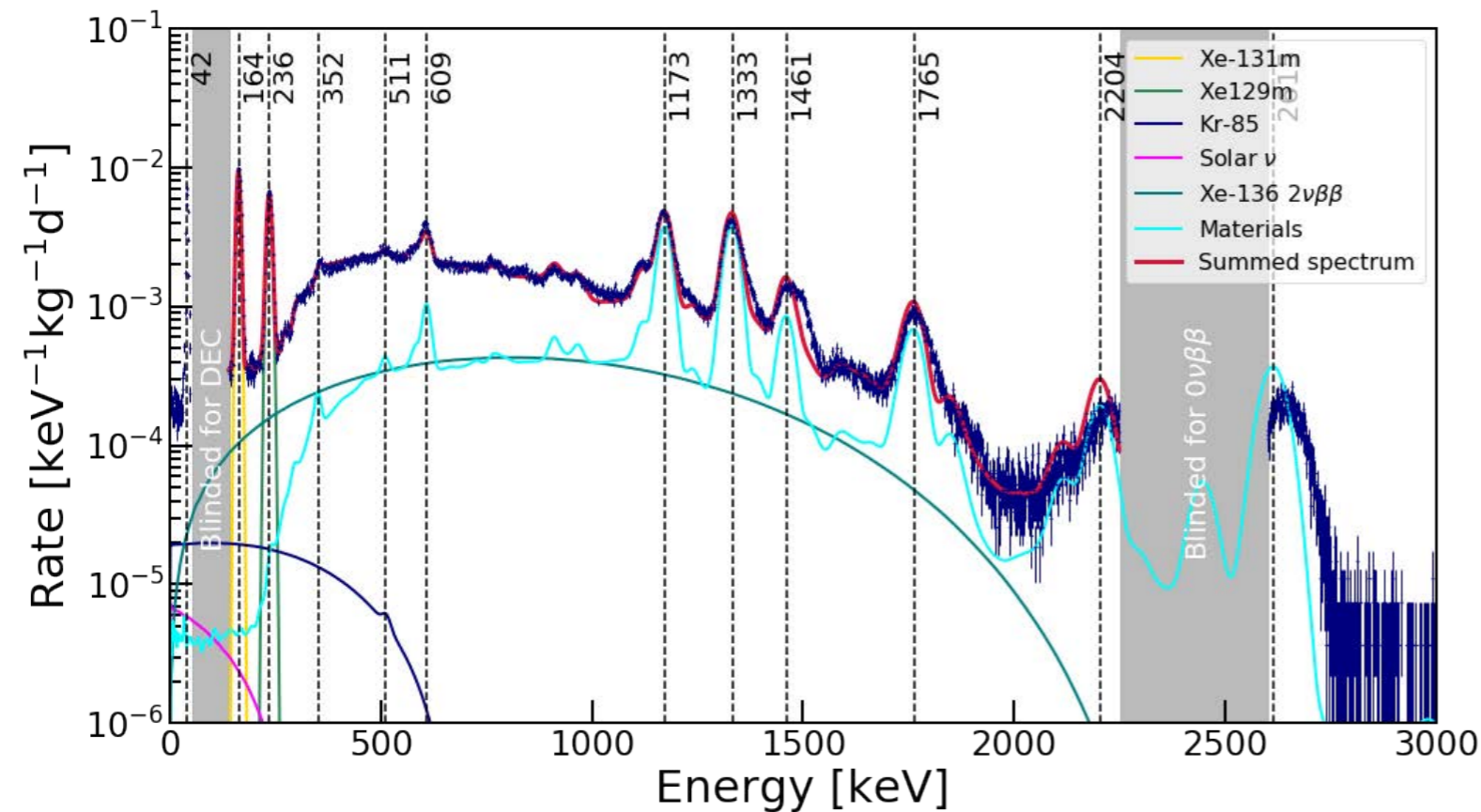


Eur. Phys. J. C77 (2017) no.5, 275 & arXiv:1702.06942



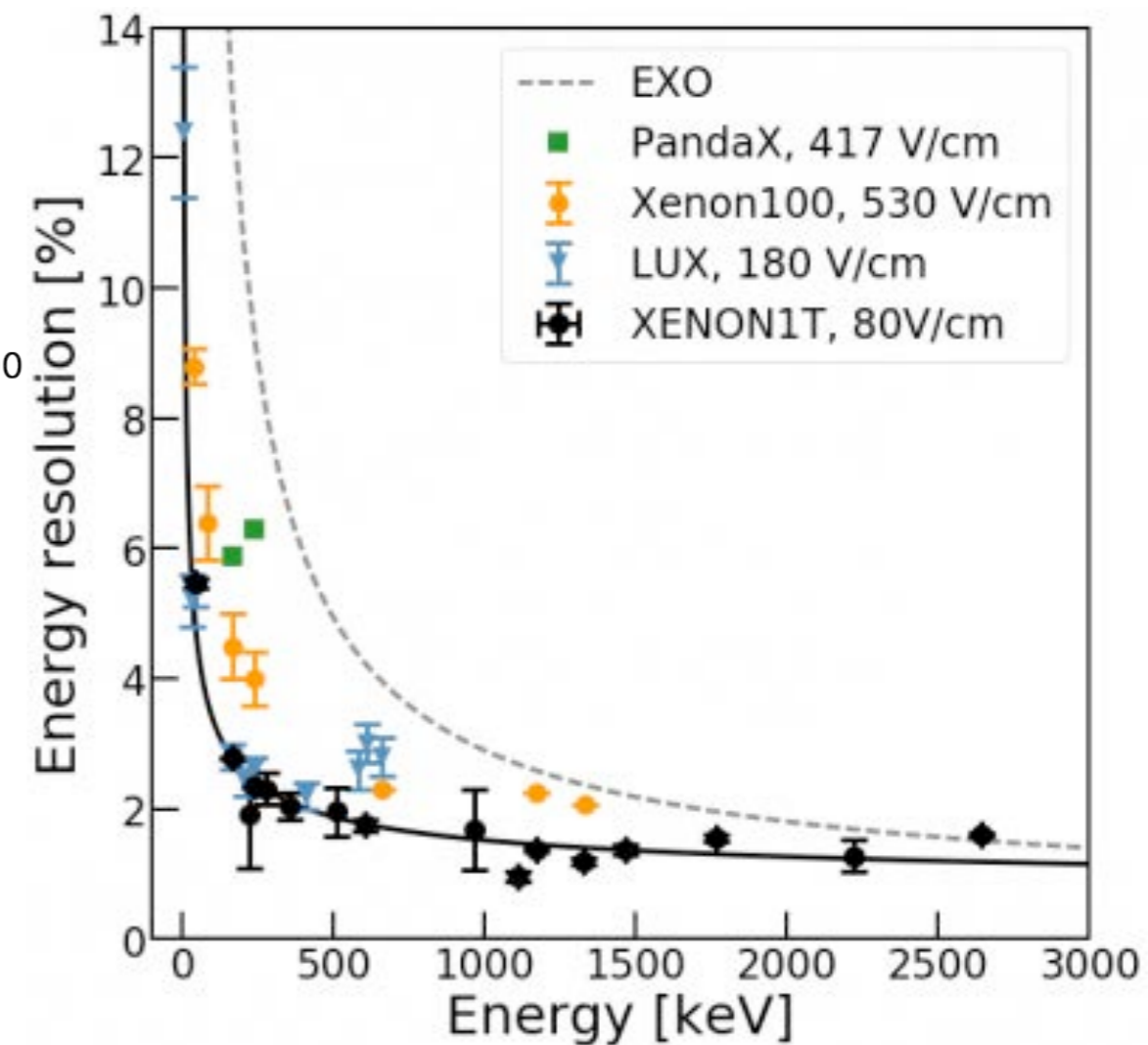
$^{222}\text{Rn}$  (mainly from  $^{214}\text{Pb}$   $\beta$ -decay) is the most relevant source of ER background in most of the TPC.

# Background Data: Energy Spectrum and Energy Resolution



- Good agreement between predicted and measured background spectrum
- Kr:  $\sim 0.45$  ppt; Pb214:  $\sim 10$  uBq/kg
- Gammas based on screening measurements

- Excellent energy resolution measured with a large LXeTPC
- Background



# Exciting time ahead!

***A blind analysis is the only way to perform this type of rare event search***

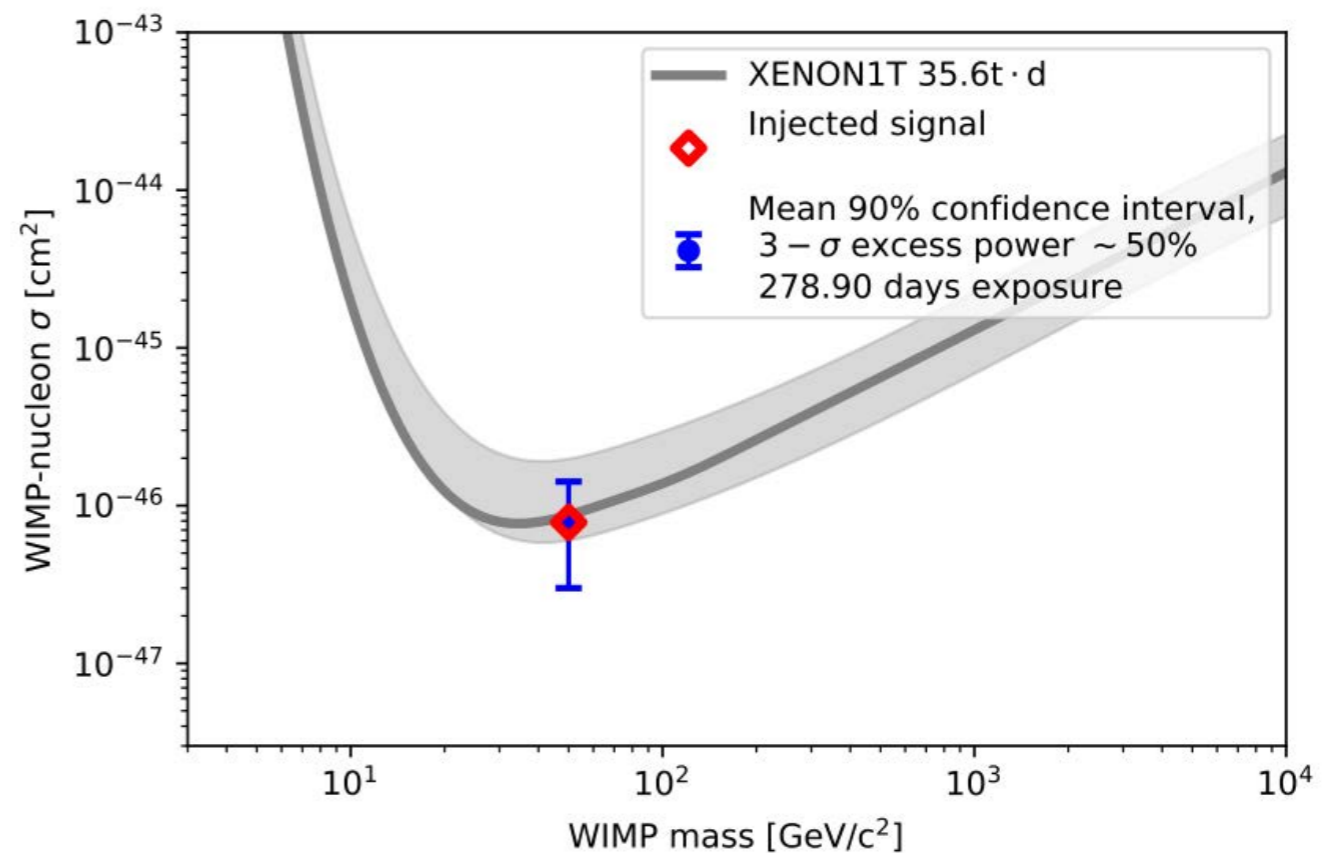
- Signal region inaccessible to analysts until analysis fixed
- Prevents human bias

***The data is also ‘salted’***

- Fake signal events may or may not inhabit signal region
- Additional protection against bias in post-unblinding scrutinization of events

***We’re unblinding this data very soon!***

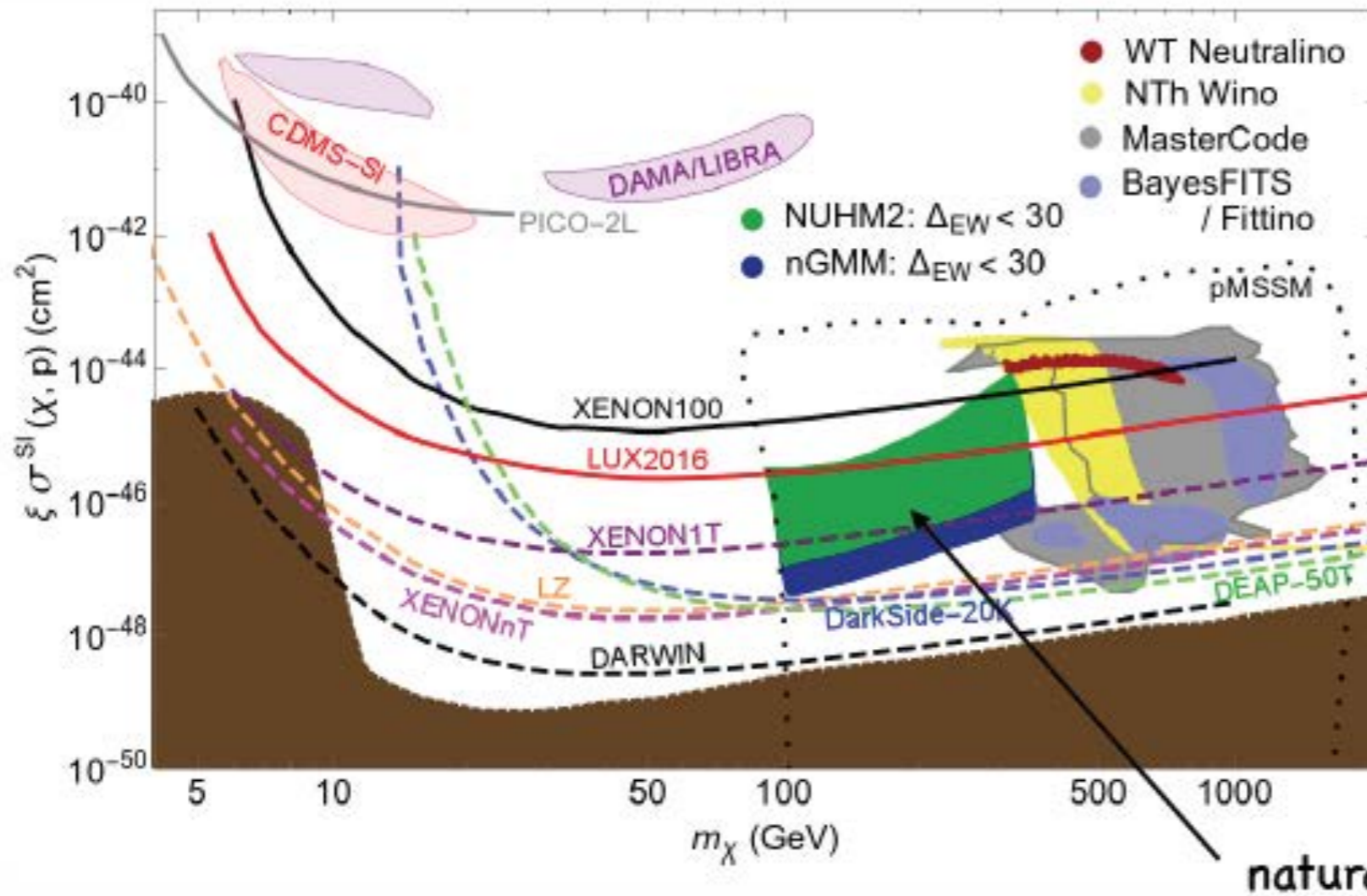
- For a WIMP-nucleon cross-section at the current best limit, this exposure has  $>50\%$  chance at a 3-sigma excess





# Direct higgsino detection rescaled

for minimal local abundance  $\xi \equiv \Omega_{\chi}^{TP} h^2 / 0.12$



Bae, HB, Barger, Savoy, Serce

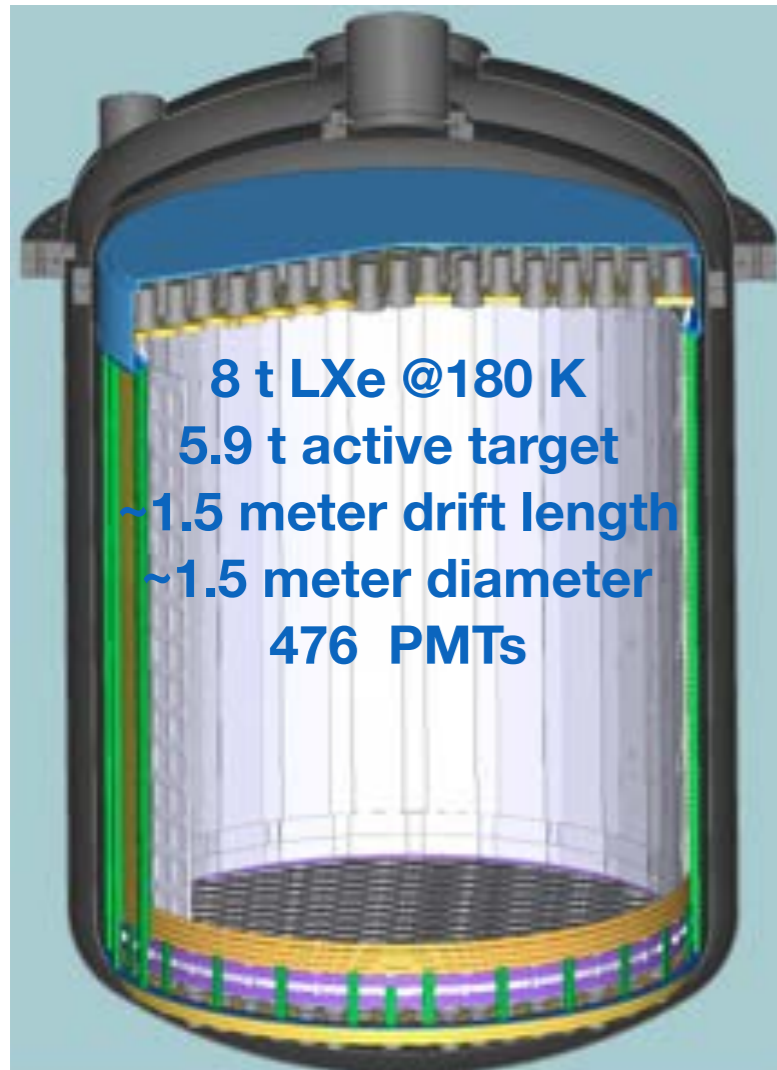
$$\mathcal{L} \ni -X_{11}^h \bar{\tilde{Z}}_1 \tilde{Z}_1 h$$

$$X_{11}^h = -\frac{1}{2} (v_2^{(1)} \sin \alpha - v_1^{(1)} \cos \alpha) (g v_3^{(1)} - g' v_4^{(1)})$$

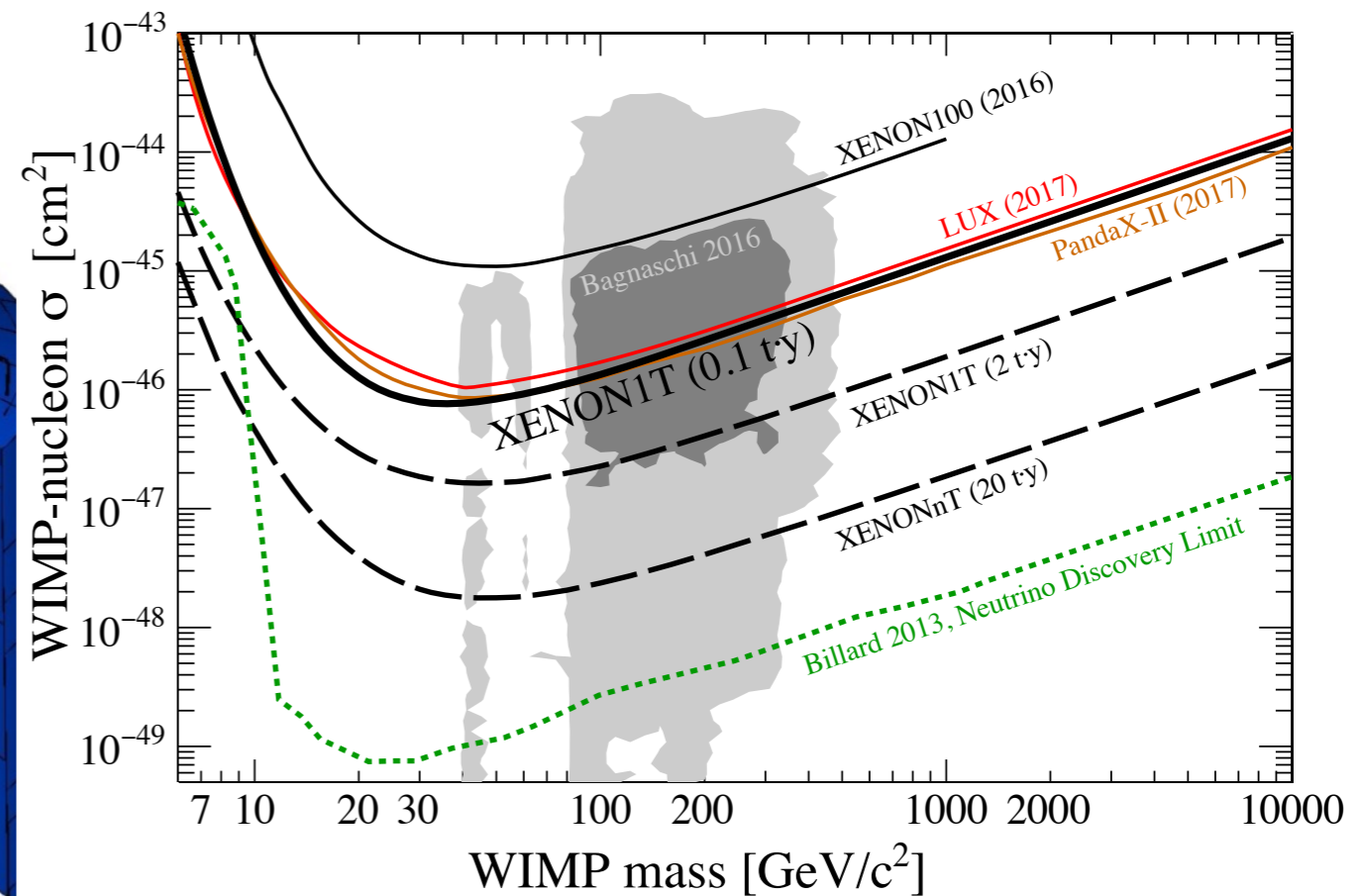
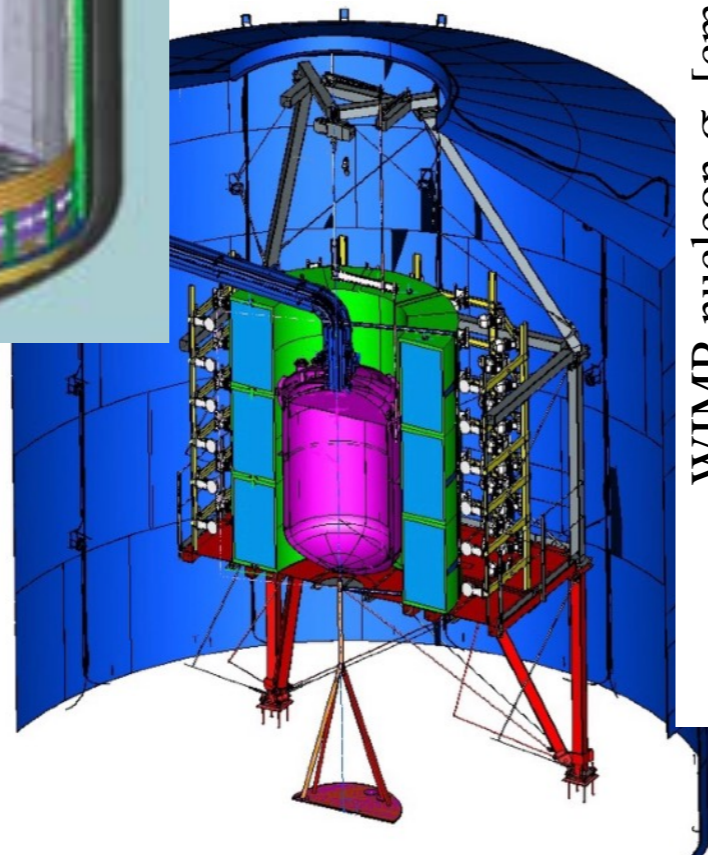
Xe-1-ton  
now operating!

Can test completely with ton scale detector  
or equivalent (subject to minor caveats)

# Next step: XENONnT to start in 2019

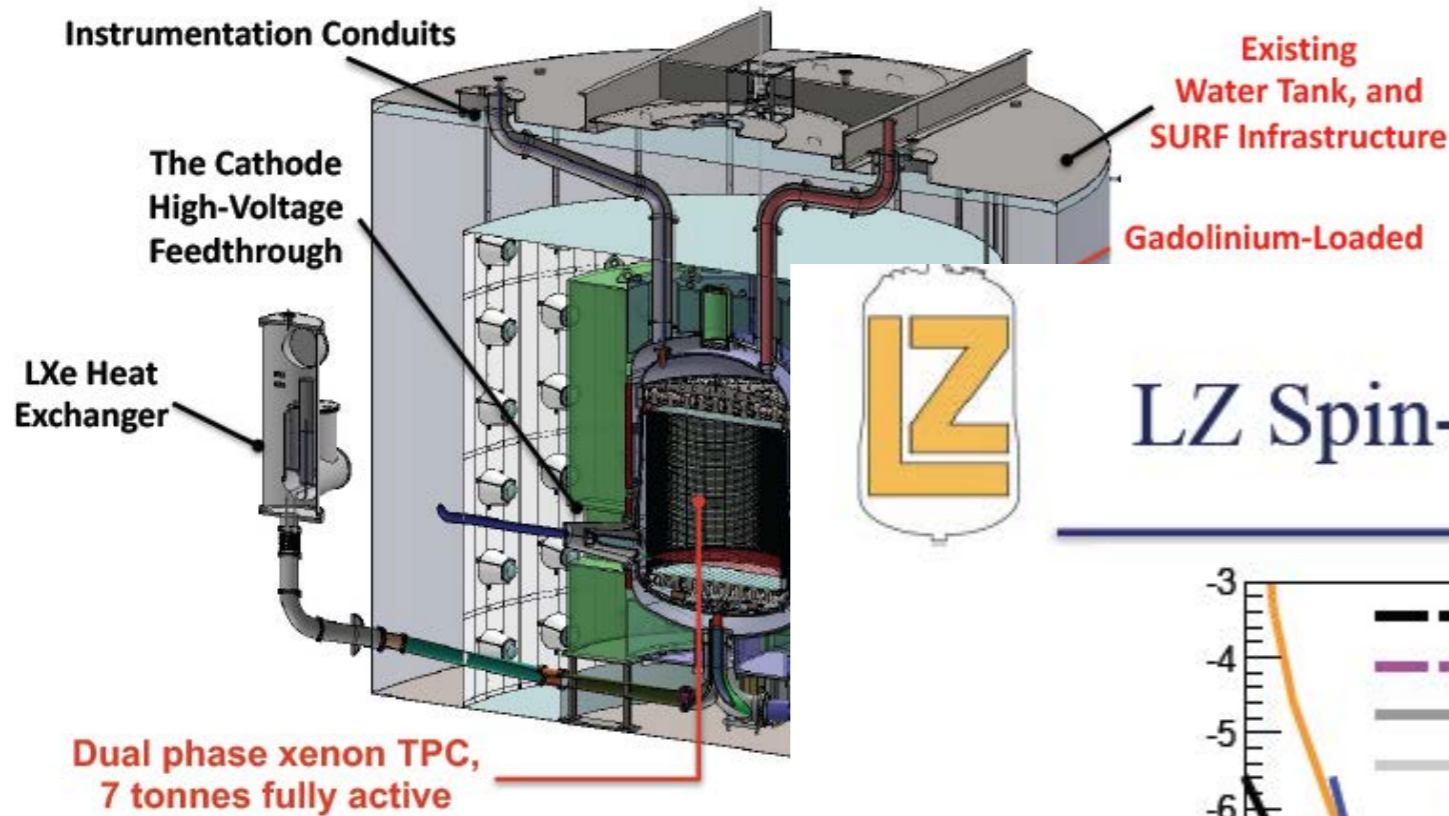


- A rapid upgrade to XENON1T, with a new TPC with 4 x target mass than XENON1T
- Most sub-systems, already operative, designed with this upgrade in mind
- Main challenge: reduce Radon by x 10

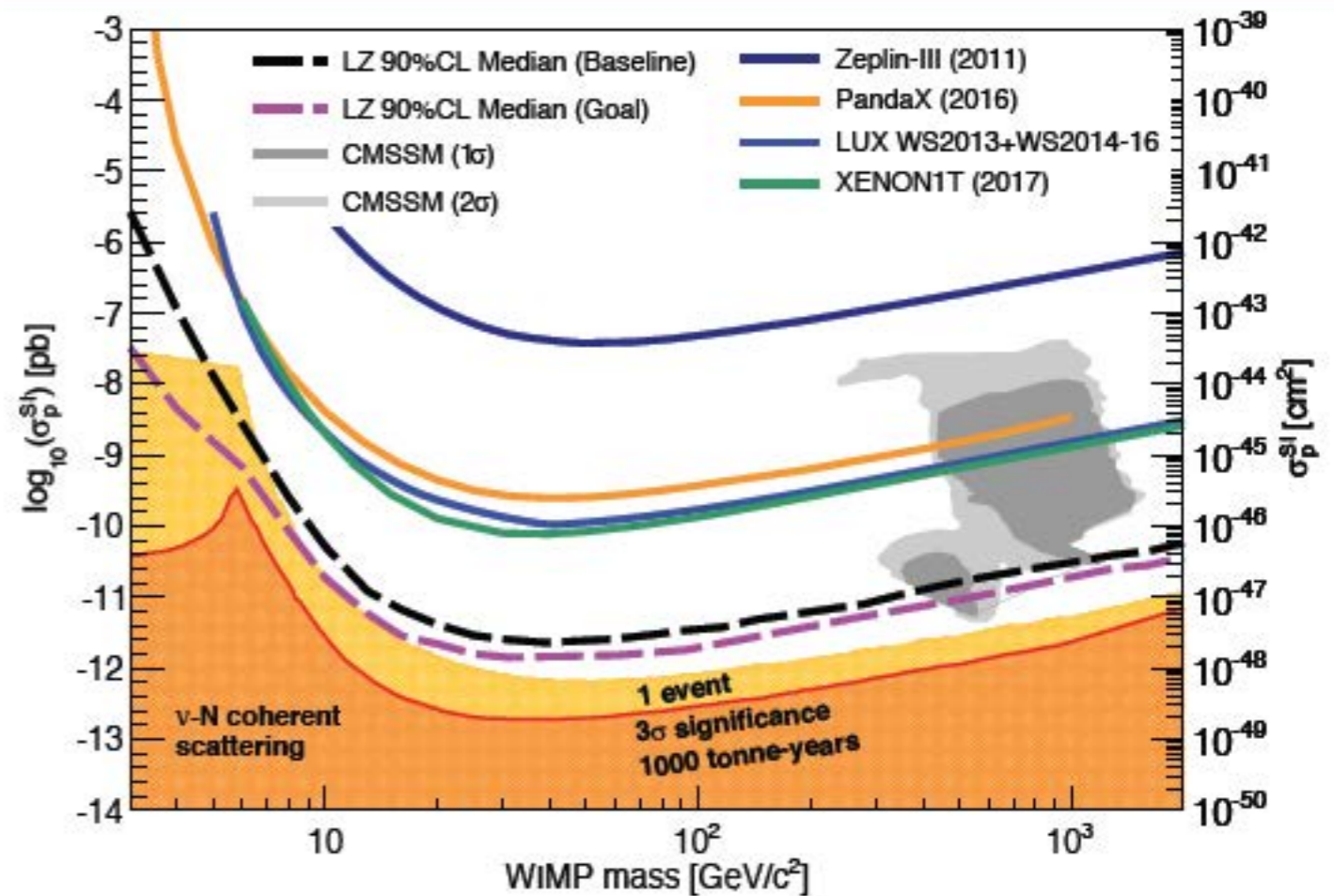




# The LUX-ZEPLIN detector



## LZ Spin-Independent WIMP Sensitivity



- Baseline WIMP sensitivity is  $2.3 \times 10^{-48} \text{ cm}^2 @ 40 \text{ GeV}/c^2$  (arXiv:1703.0914).
- 1000 days, 5.6 tonne fiducial mass.
- Begin on-site assembly spring 2018, install underground 2019, first data spring 2020.

# Summary

---

- XENON1T is the first LXeTPC dark matter at the multi-ton scale in operation.
- First result with 34 live days yielded the most stringent limit on SI WIMP cross section.
- Detector has continued to work incredibly well after the break forced by an earthquake.
- Demonstrated  $> 1$  year operation with 3.2 t of LXe: a milestone for this technology.
- Achieved the lowest background ever measured in a DM detector: 0.2 events/ (t keV d)
- Collected  $\sim 1$  ton x year dark matter data and large calibration statistics.
  - Data still blinded. Expect world-leading result in March 2018.
  - $> 50\%$  chance for a 3 sigma signal if WIMP cross-section at current limit!
- XENON1T continues to take data until we upgrade it to XENONnT. Installation of the new TPC ( $\sim 6$  t Xe target) before end of 2018.