



**University of  
Zurich** <sup>UZH</sup>



**European Research Council**  
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# DARWIN - A NEXT-GENERATION OBSERVATORY FOR DARK MATTER AND NEUTRINO PHYSICS

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**LAURA BAUDIS**  
**UNIVERSITÄT ZÜRICH**  
**ON BEHALF OF THE DARWIN COLLABORATION**

**SEMINAR AT BOREXINO COLLABORATION MEETING**  
**DECEMBER 11, 2020**

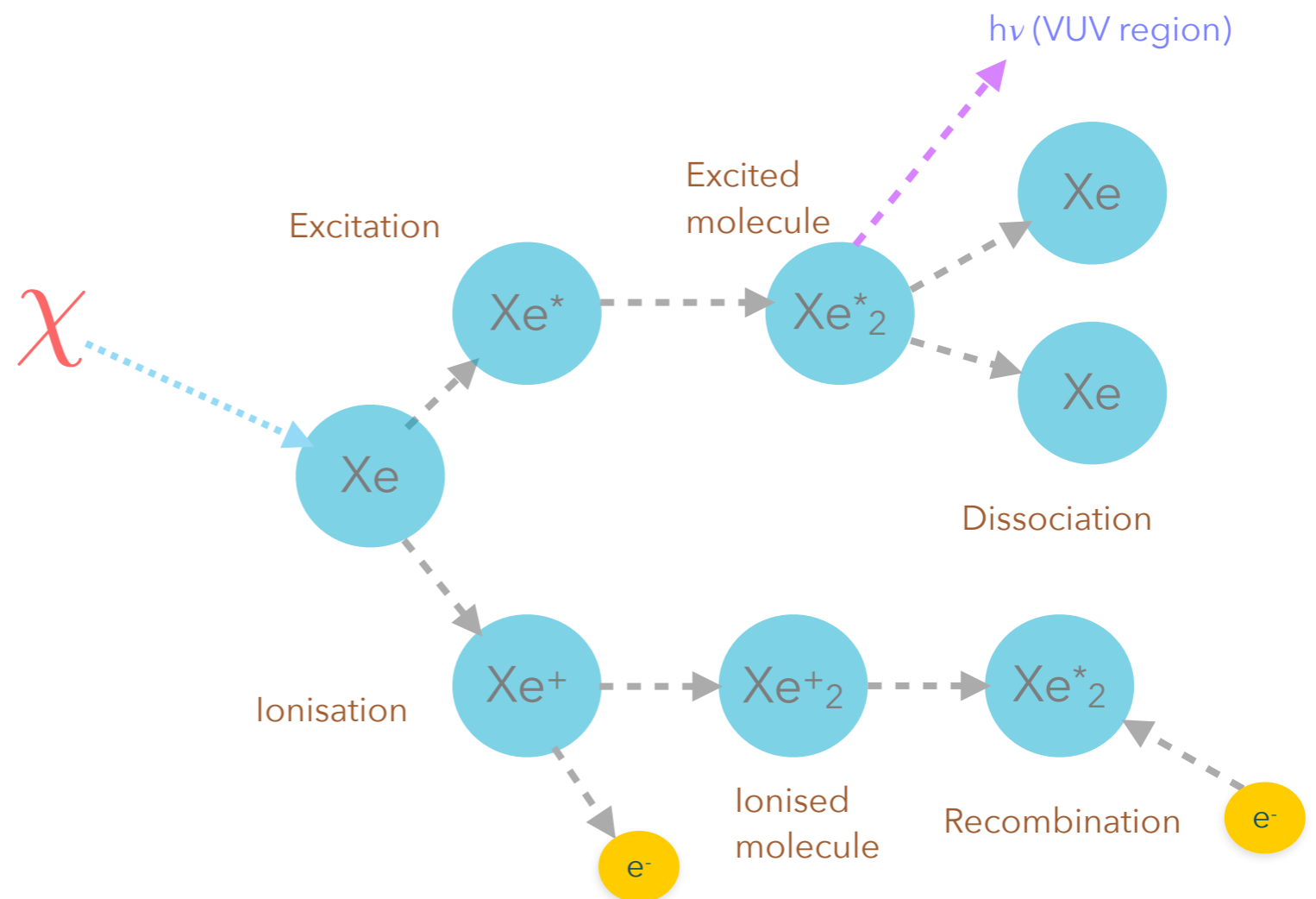
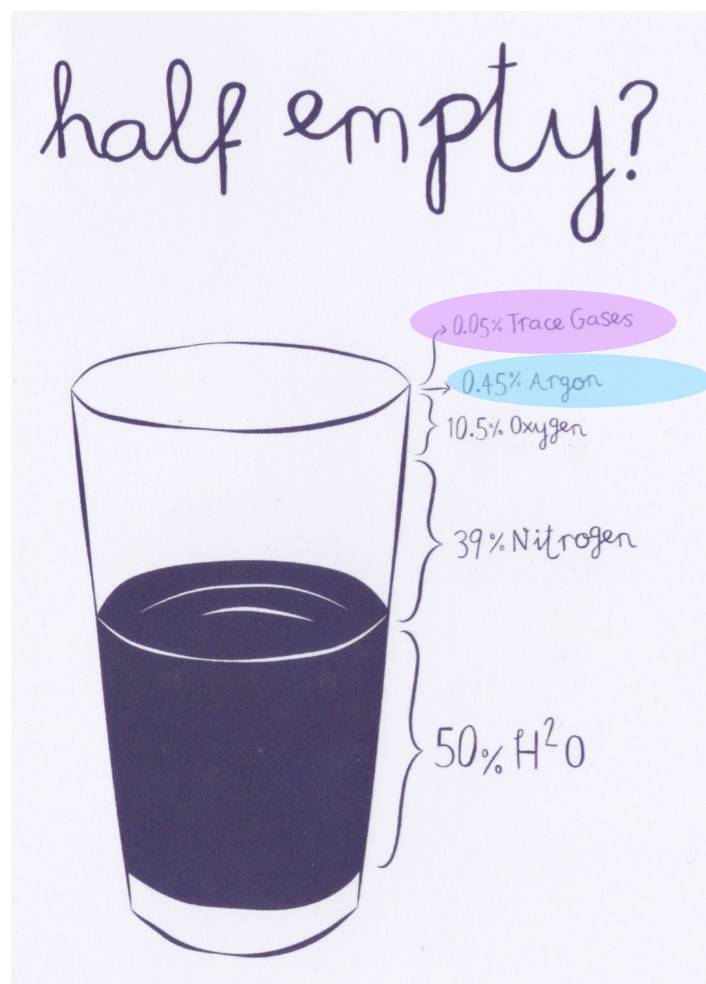
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# SOME KEY OPEN QUESTIONS IN PARTICLE PHYSICS

- ▶ The nature of dark matter
- ▶ Baryogenesis
- ▶ The strong CP problem
- ▶ The fermion mass spectrum and mixing
- ▶ The cosmological constant
- ▶ ...
  - ◎ Some of these can be addressed *with liquid xenon detectors operated deep underground*
  - ◎ Demonstrated excellent sensitivities and scalability to large target masses

# THE DARWIN EXPERIMENT

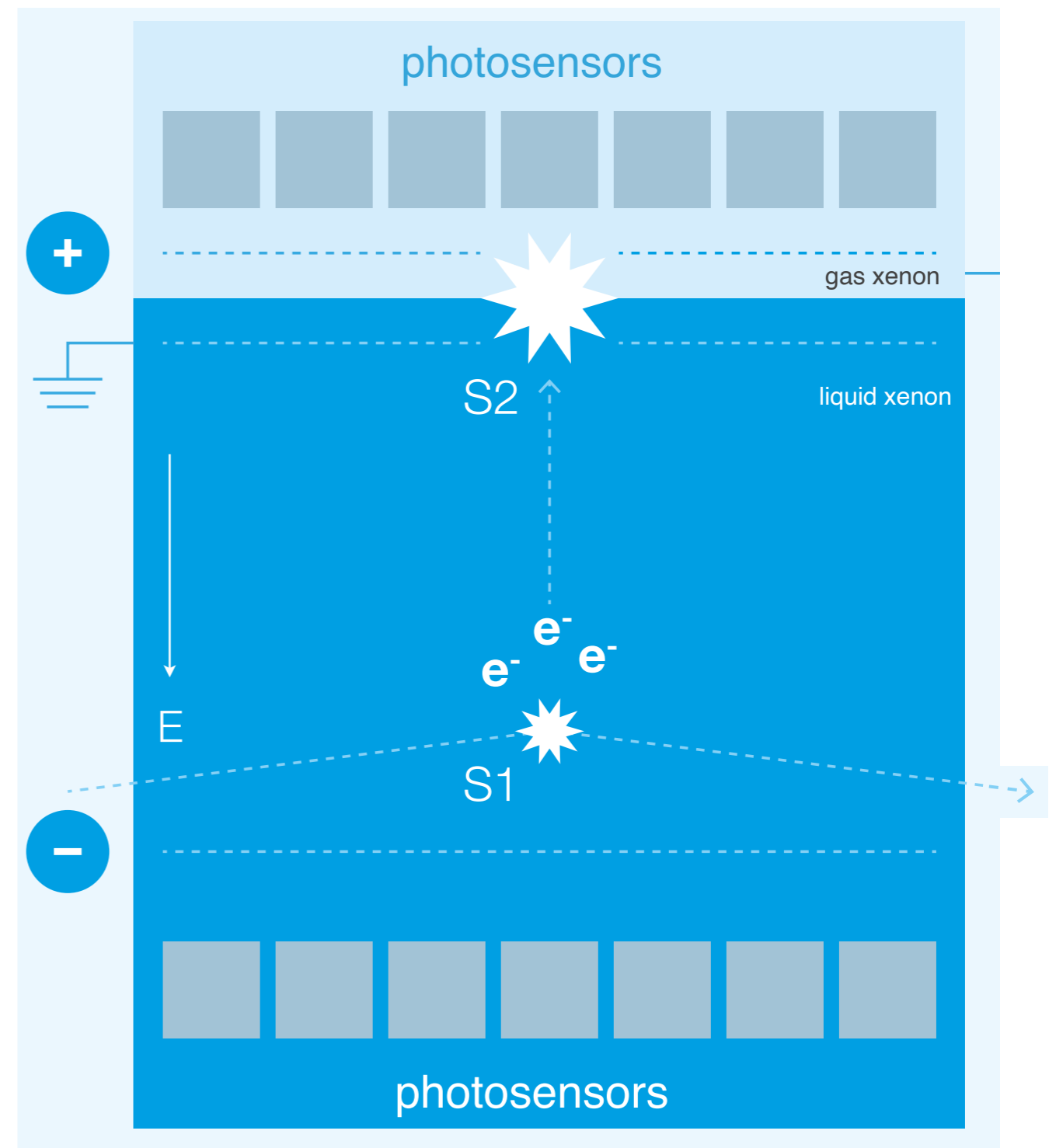
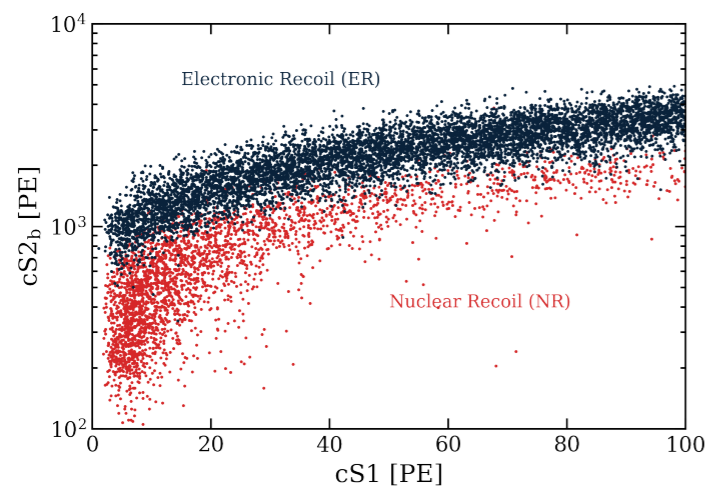
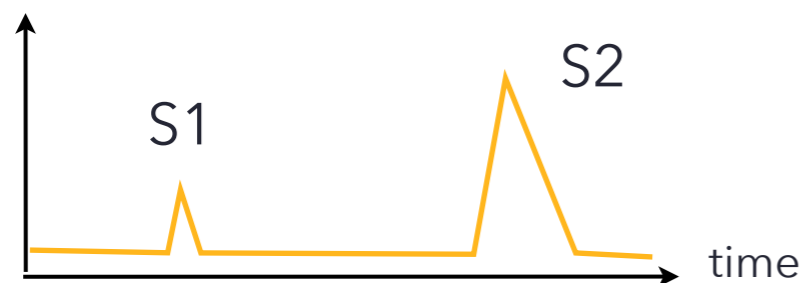
- ▶ Will use a large amount of clean liquid xenon target & detect ionisation and excitation from particle interactions
- ▶ Xenon: "the strange one", concentration in the atmosphere: 87 ppb\* (by volume)



\*[https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-39312-4\\_202](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-39312-4_202)

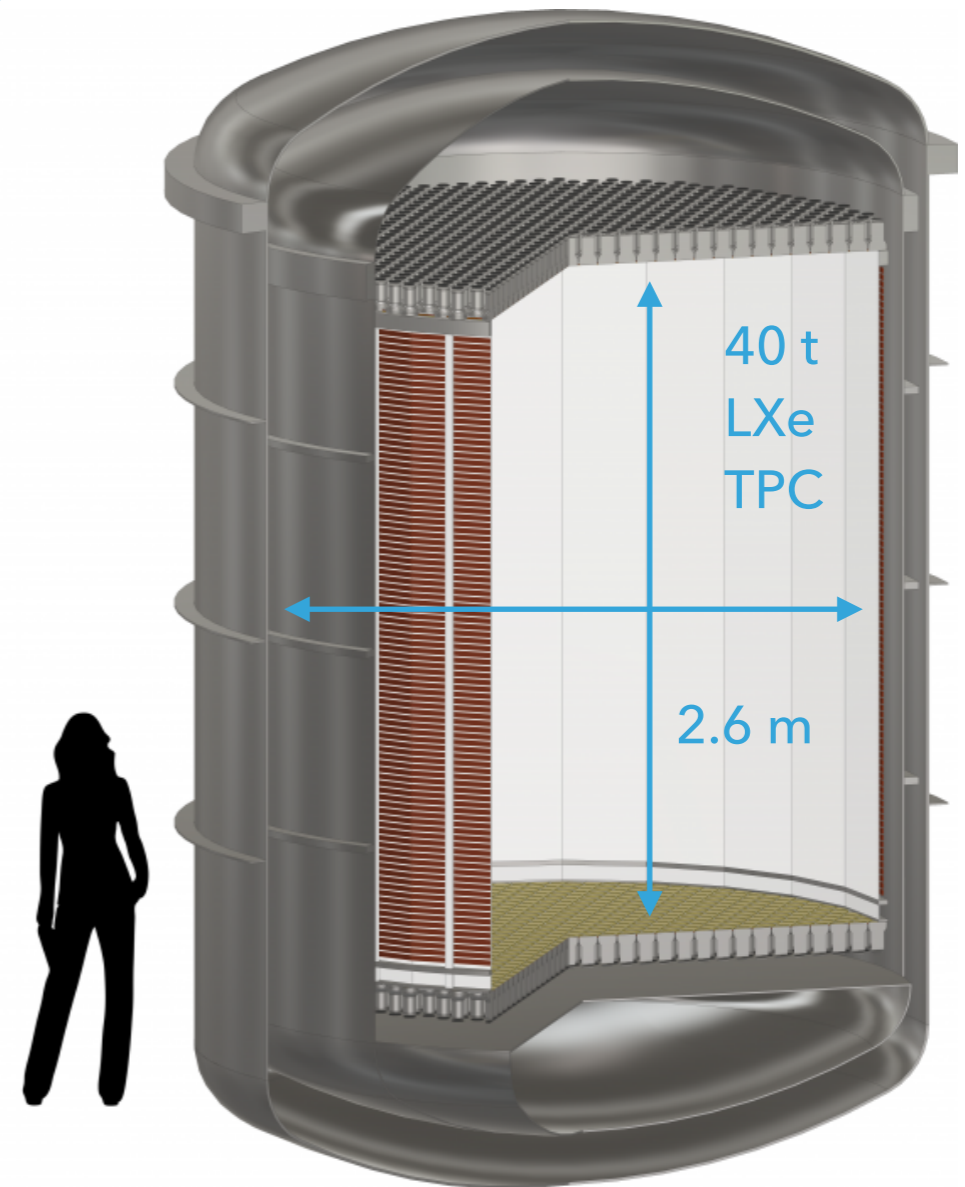
# DETECTION PRINCIPLE: A TWO-PHASE TPC

- ▶ 3D position resolution via light (S1) and charge (S2) signals
- ▶  $S2/S1$  depends on particle ID
- ▶ Fiducialisation
- ▶ Single versus multiple interactions
- ▶ Energy reconstruction (linear combination of S1, S2)



# DARWIN DESIGN: BASELINE SCENARIO

- ▶ Two-phase TPC: 2.6 m  $\varnothing$ , 2.6 m height
- ▶ 50 t (40 t) LXe in total (in the TPC)
- ▶ Two arrays of photosensors (e.g. 1800 3-inch PMTs)
- ▶ PTFE reflectors and copper field shaping rings
- ▶ Low-background, double-walled titanium cryostat
- ▶ Shield: Gd-doped water, for  $\mu$  and n



DARWIN collaboration, JCAP 1611 (2016) 017

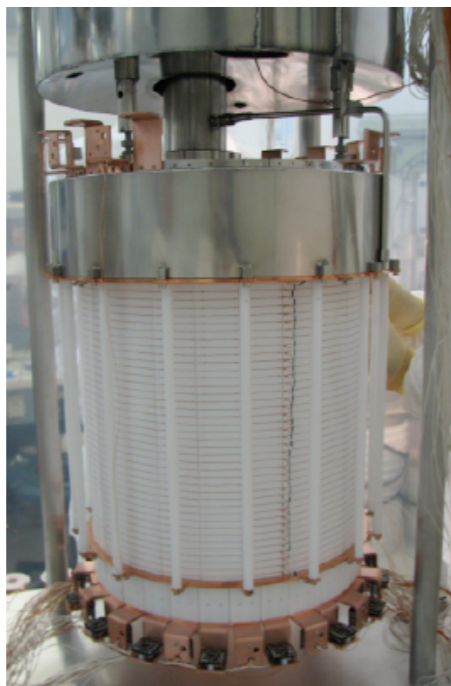
Alternative designs and photosensors under consideration

# BENCHMARK: THE XENON LEGACY AT LNGS

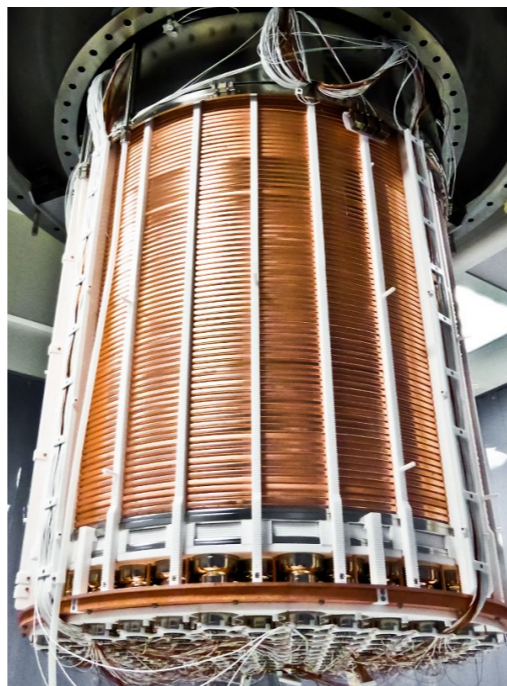
XENON10



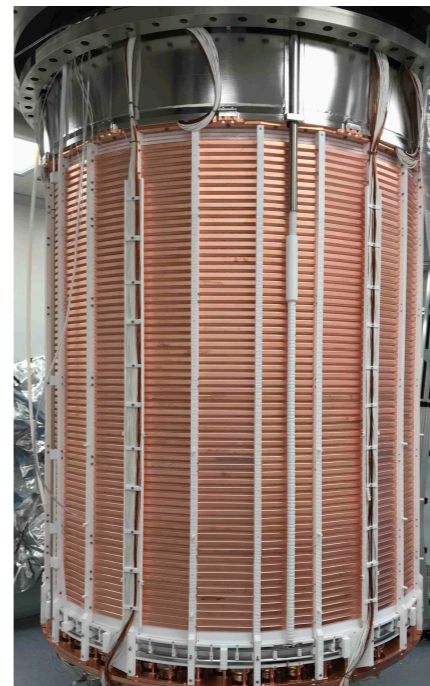
XENON100



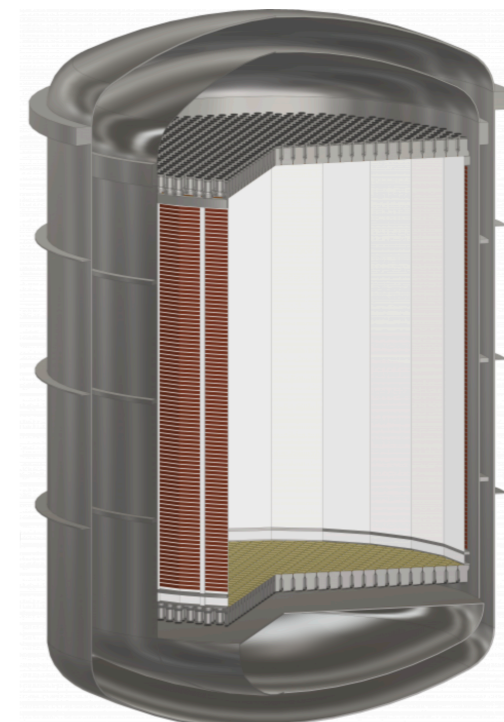
XENON1T



XENONnT



DARWIN



2005-2007

2008-2016

2012-2018

2020-2025

2027–

15 kg

161 kg

3200 kg

8400 kg

50 tonnes

15 cm

30 cm

96 cm

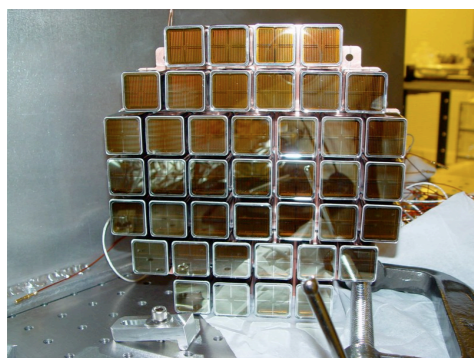
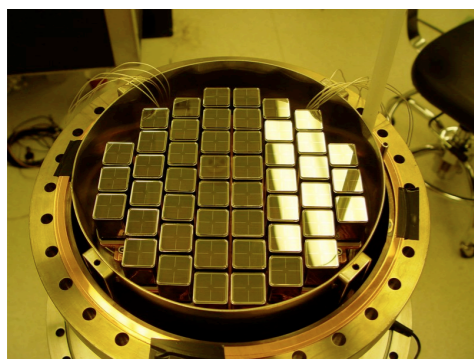
150 cm

260 cm

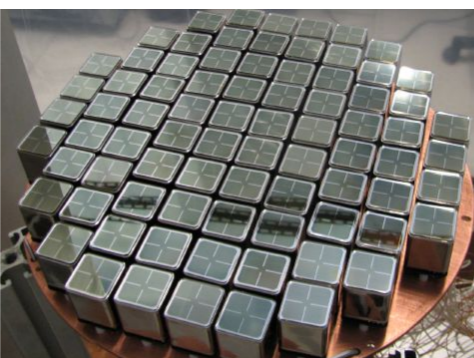
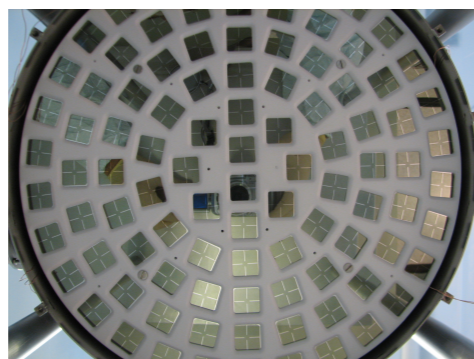
 $\sim 10^{-43} \text{ cm}^2$  $\sim 10^{-45} \text{ cm}^2$  $\sim 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2$  $\sim 10^{-48} \text{ cm}^2$  $\sim 10^{-49} \text{ cm}^2$

# BENCHMARK: THE XENON LEGACY AT LNGS

XENON10



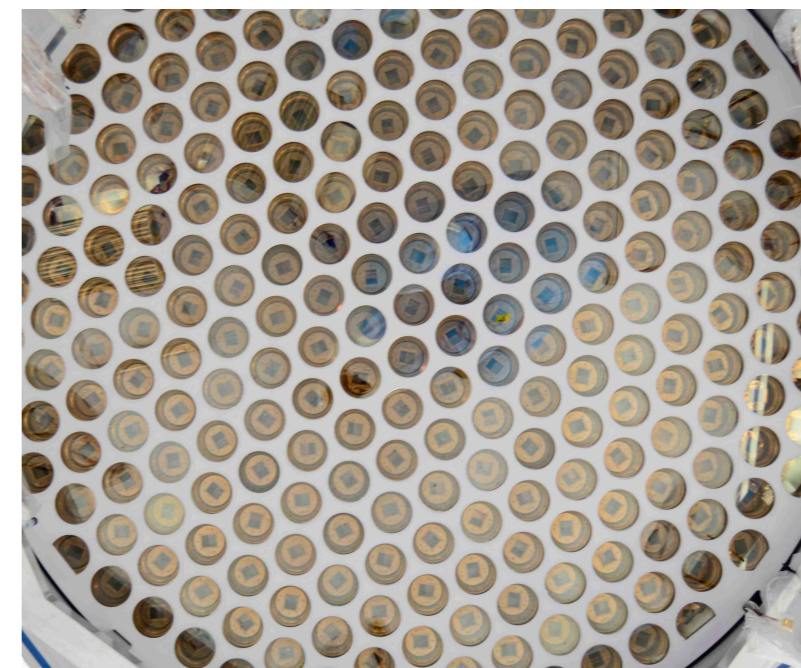
XENON100



XENON1T



XENONnT



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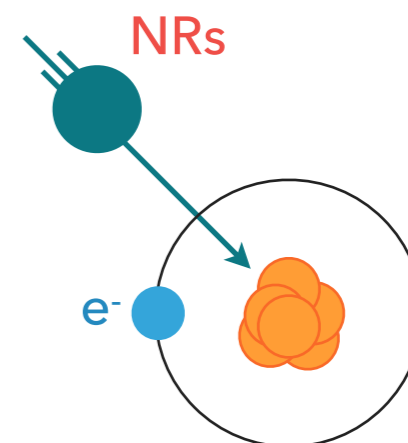
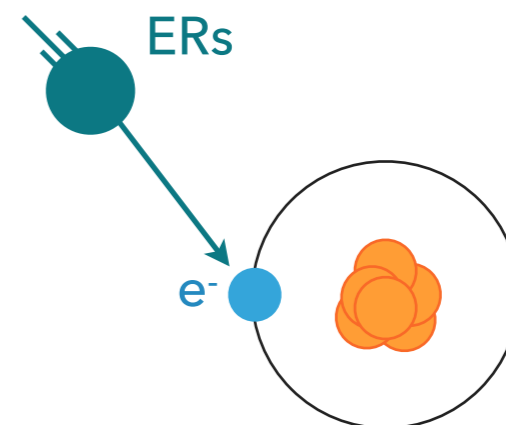
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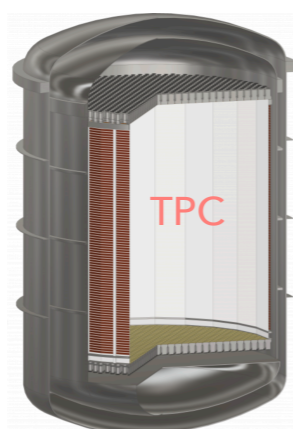
# DARWIN BACKGROUNDS: OVERVIEW

- ▶ Cosmogenic (muon-induced) neutrons: NRs
- ▶ Detector materials (n,  $\gamma$ ,  $\alpha$ ,  $e^-$ ): NRs and ERs
- ▶ Xe-intrinsic isotopes ( $^{85}\text{Kr}$ ,  $^{222}\text{Rn}$ ,  $^{136}\text{Xe}$ ,  $^{124}\text{Xe}$ , etc): ERs
- ▶ Neutrinos (solar, atmospheric): NRs and ERs



muon veto

n-veto



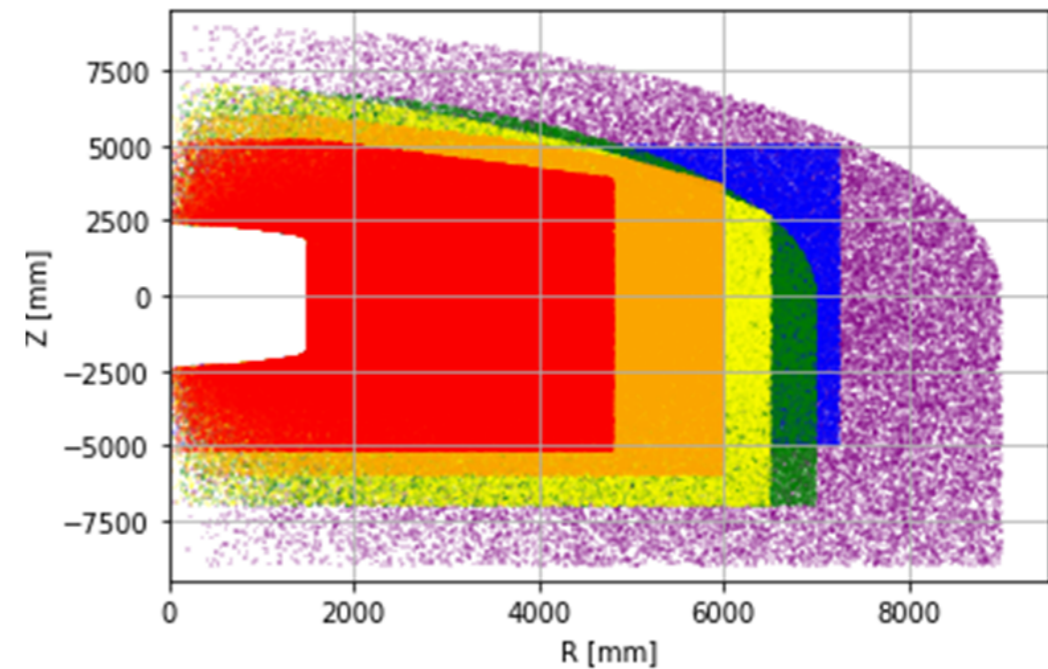
Gran Sasso Mountain



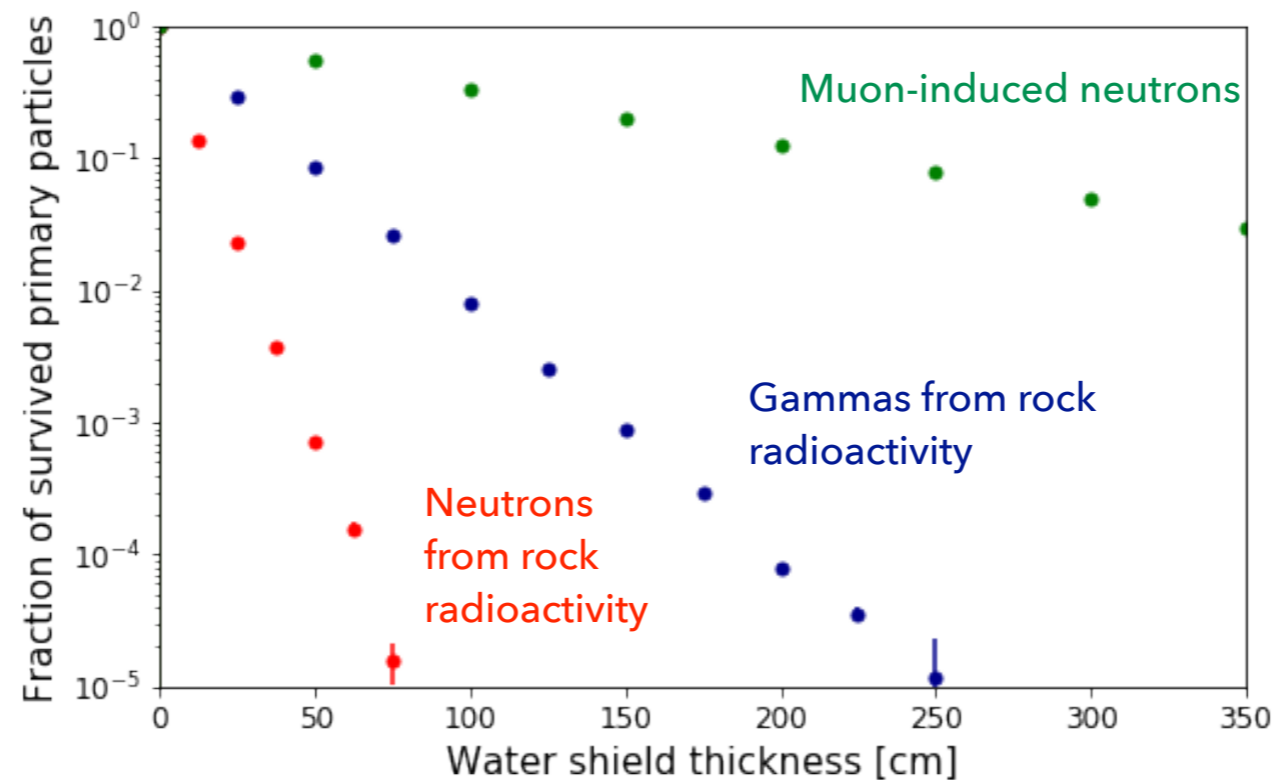
# WATER SHIELD AT LNGS

- ▶ Full MC simulation for 3600 mwe
- ▶ External  $\gamma, n$  background negligible after  $> 2.5$  m
- ▶ Muon-induced n at HE:
  - $\sim 0.4$  events/(200 t x y) for 12 m  $\varnothing$  tank
  - $< 0.05$  events/(200 t x y) for Borexino tank

Borexino, 12 m tank, XENON



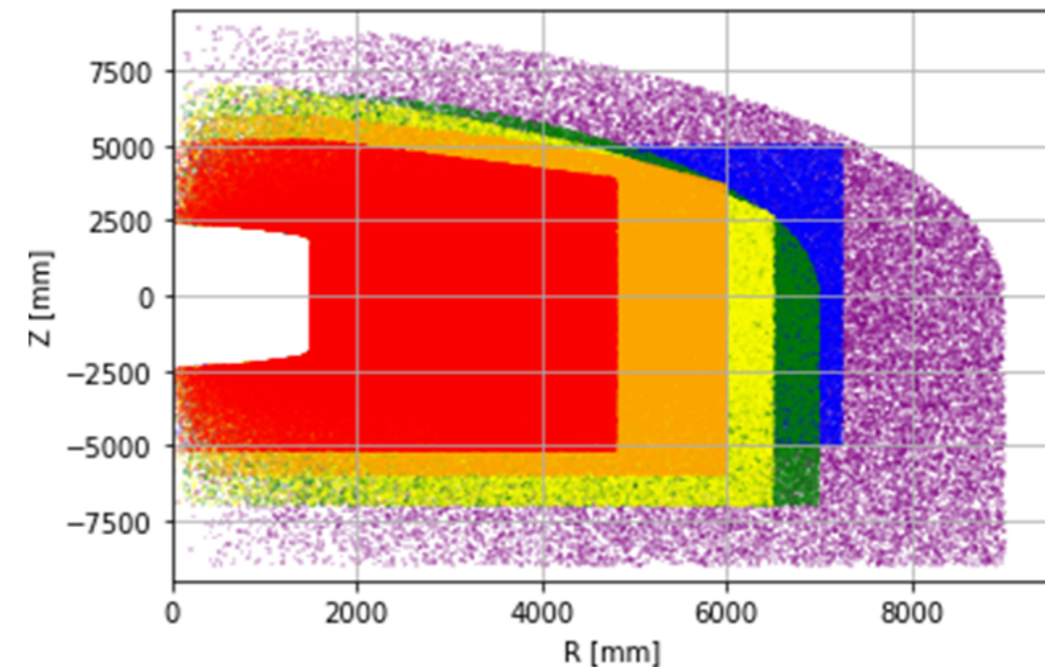
Simulations of  
the external  
background



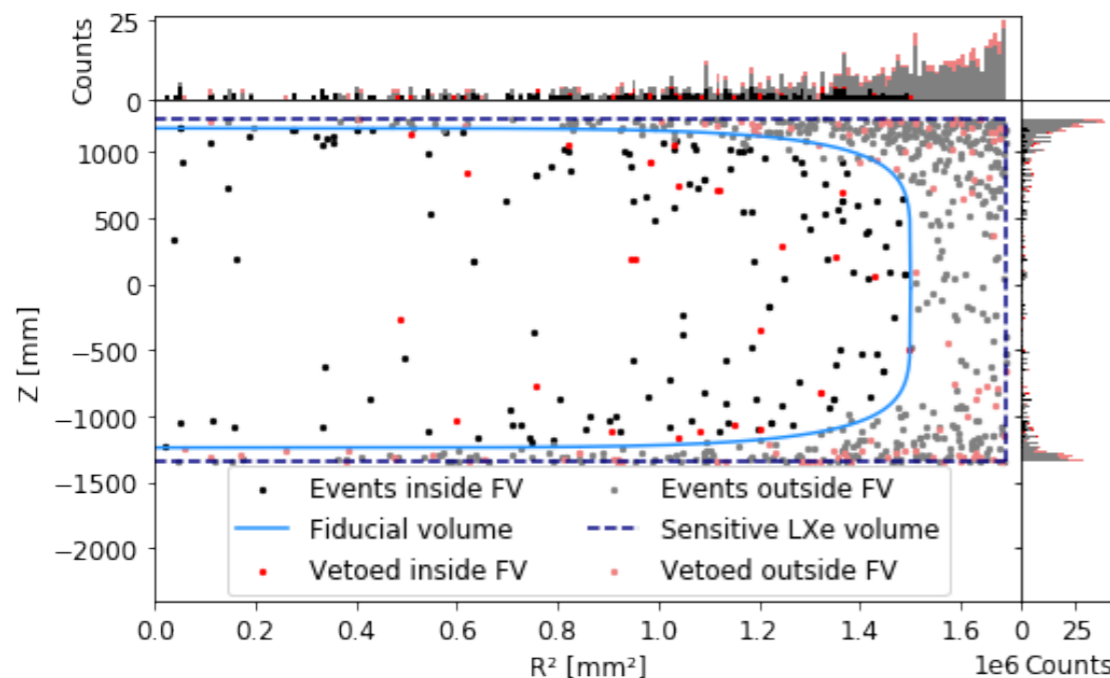
# WATER SHIELD AT LNGS

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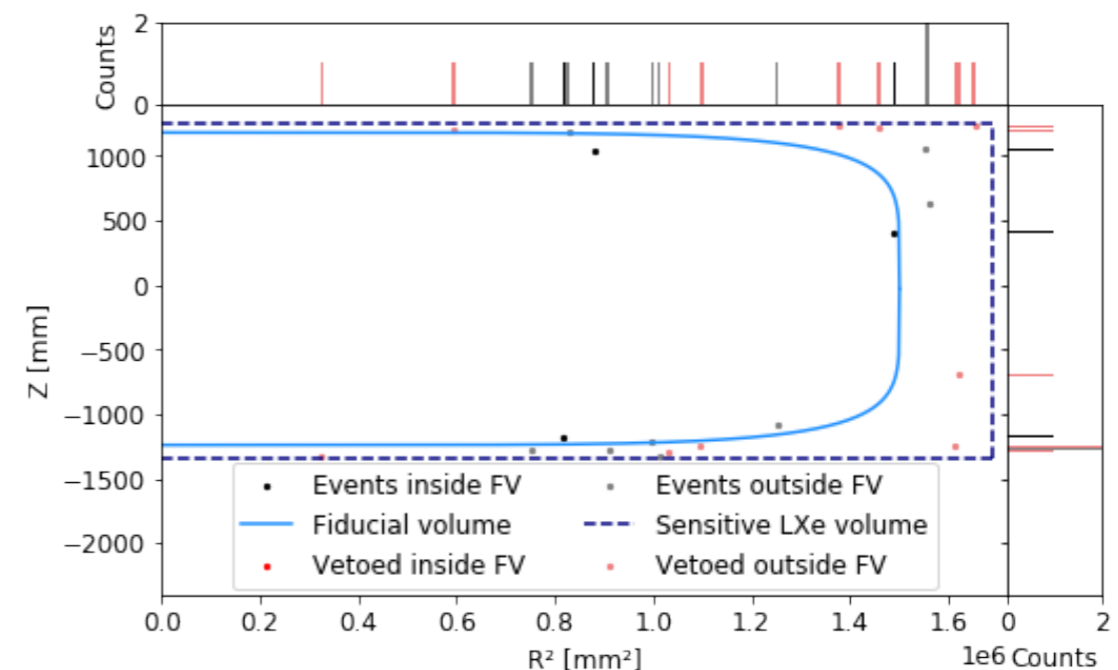
Borexino, 12 m tank, XENON



XENON



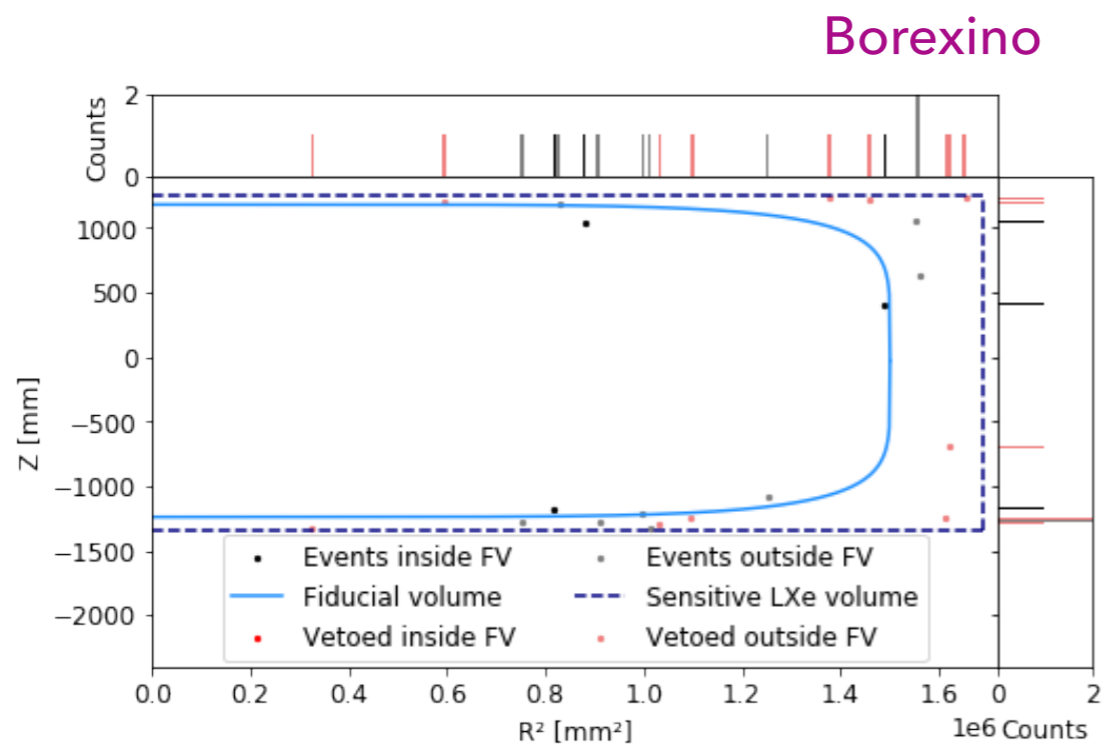
Borexino



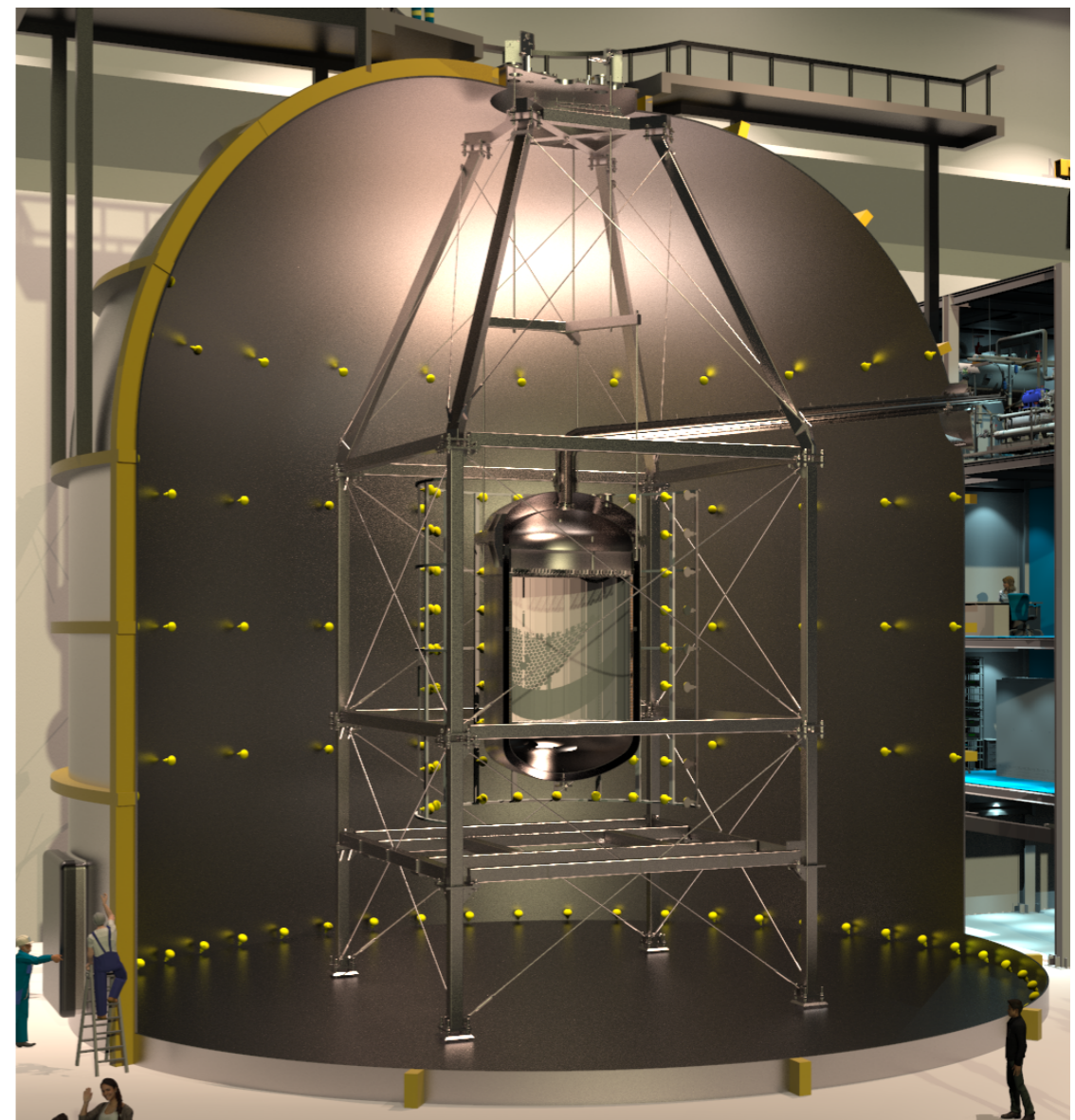
Single-scatters nuclear recoils; simulated 700 y of DARWIN lifetime

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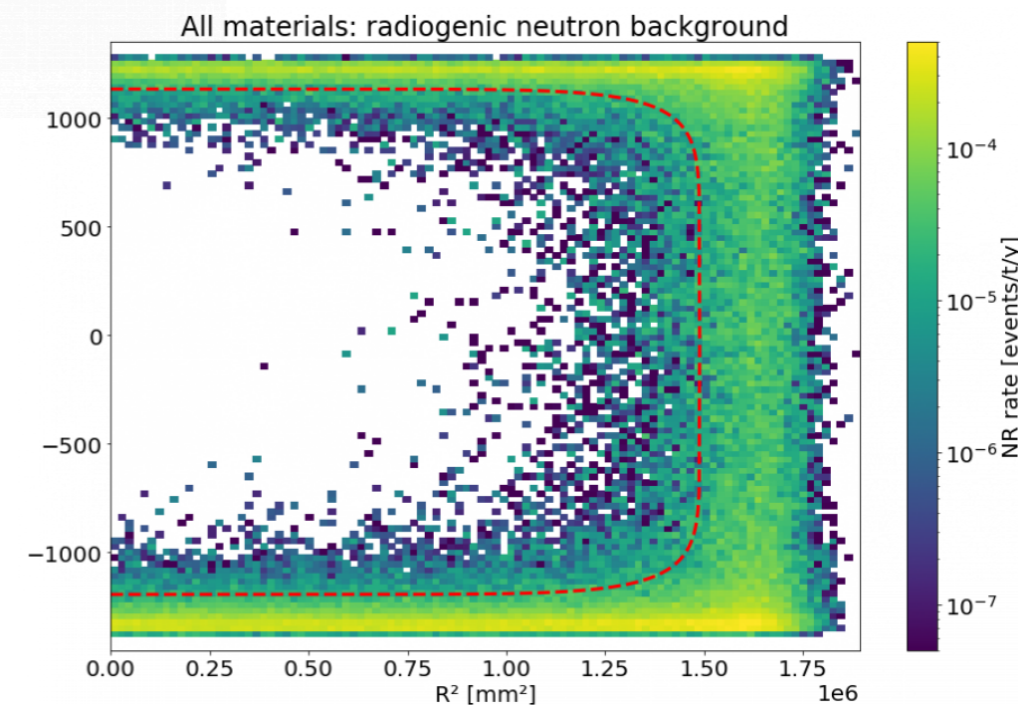
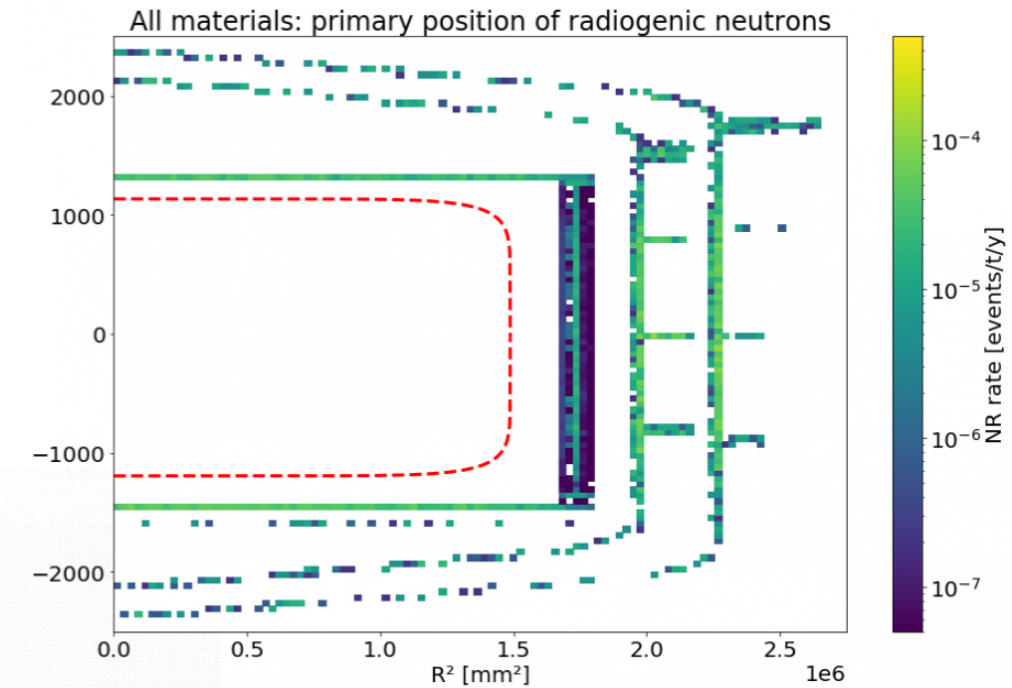
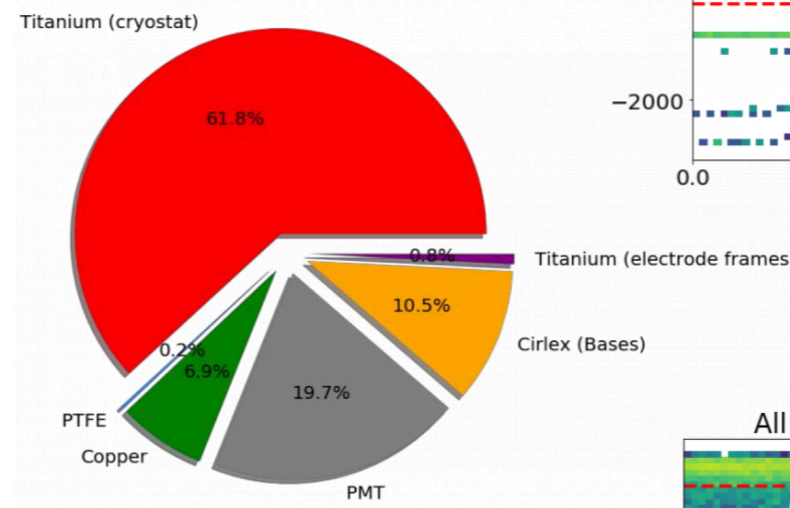
## Visualisation of DARWIN in Borexino WT



Single-scatters nuclear recoils; simulated 700 y of DARWIN lifetime

# NEUTRONS FROM MATERIALS

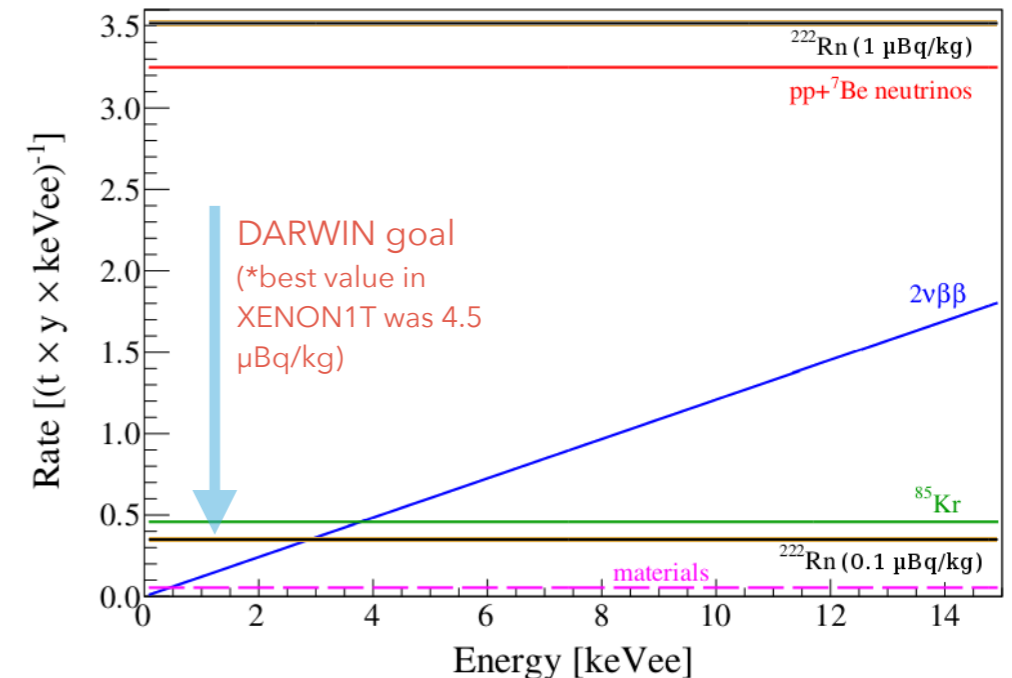
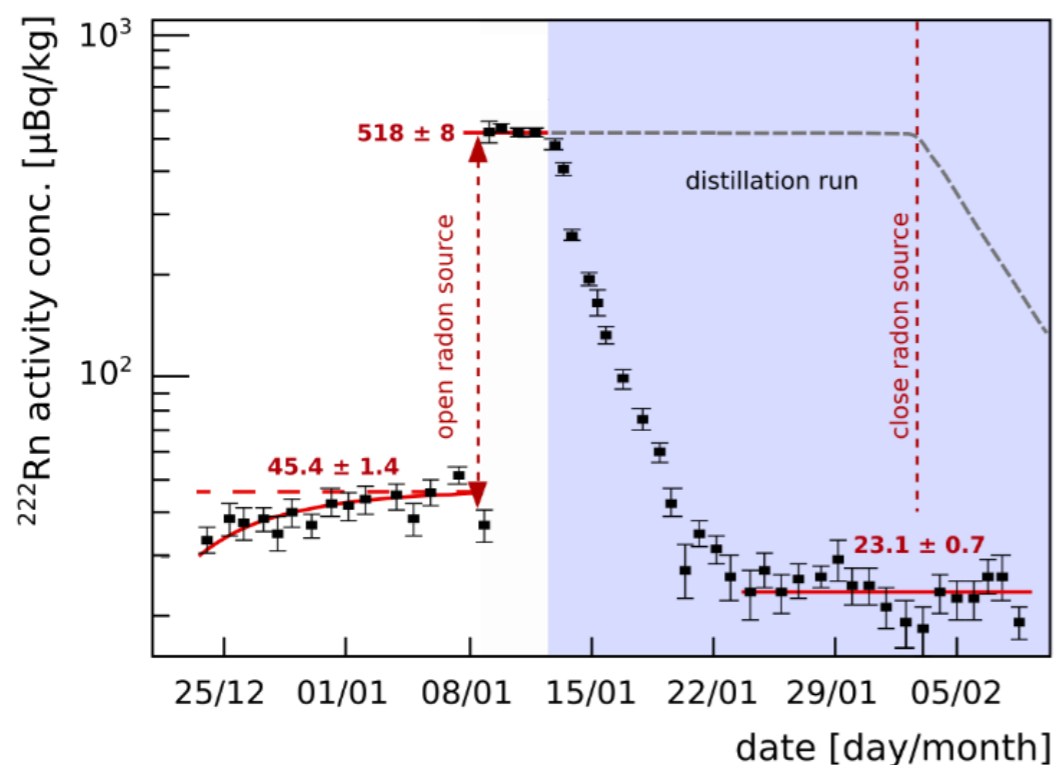
- ▶ MC simulation: define materials and requirements
- ▶ Start with achieved specific activities
- ▶ **Determine required improvements**
  - ~2.7 events/(200 t x y)
  - (5,40) keV NR region



Material	Unit	Activity					Ref.
		<sup>238</sup> U	<sup>226</sup> Ra	<sup>235</sup> U	<sup>232</sup> Th	<sup>228</sup> Th	
Titanium	mBq/kg	< 1.6	< 0.09	< 0.02	0.28	0.23	LZ
PTFE	mBq/kg	< 5e-3	< 5e-3	< 2e-4	<1.4e-3	<1.4e-3	EXO
Copper	mBq/kg	< 1	< 0.035	< 0.18	< 0.033	< 0.026	XENON
PMT	mBq/unit	8	0.6	0.37	0.7	0.6	XENON
PMT bases	mBq/unit	0.82	0.32	0.071	0.20	0.15	XENON

# LIQUID XENON: RADON BACKGROUND

- ▶ DARWIN goal: ER background dominated by solar neutrinos
- ▶  $^{222}\text{Rn}$  concentration goal: 45  $\times$  below XENON1T best level\*
- ▶  $^{222}\text{Rn}$  atoms in target: 2.25  $\times$  below XENON1T
  - avoid Rn emanation (material selection, surface treatment, detector design)
  - active Rn removal via cryogenic distillation



Example: XENON1T distillation column installed for XENON100

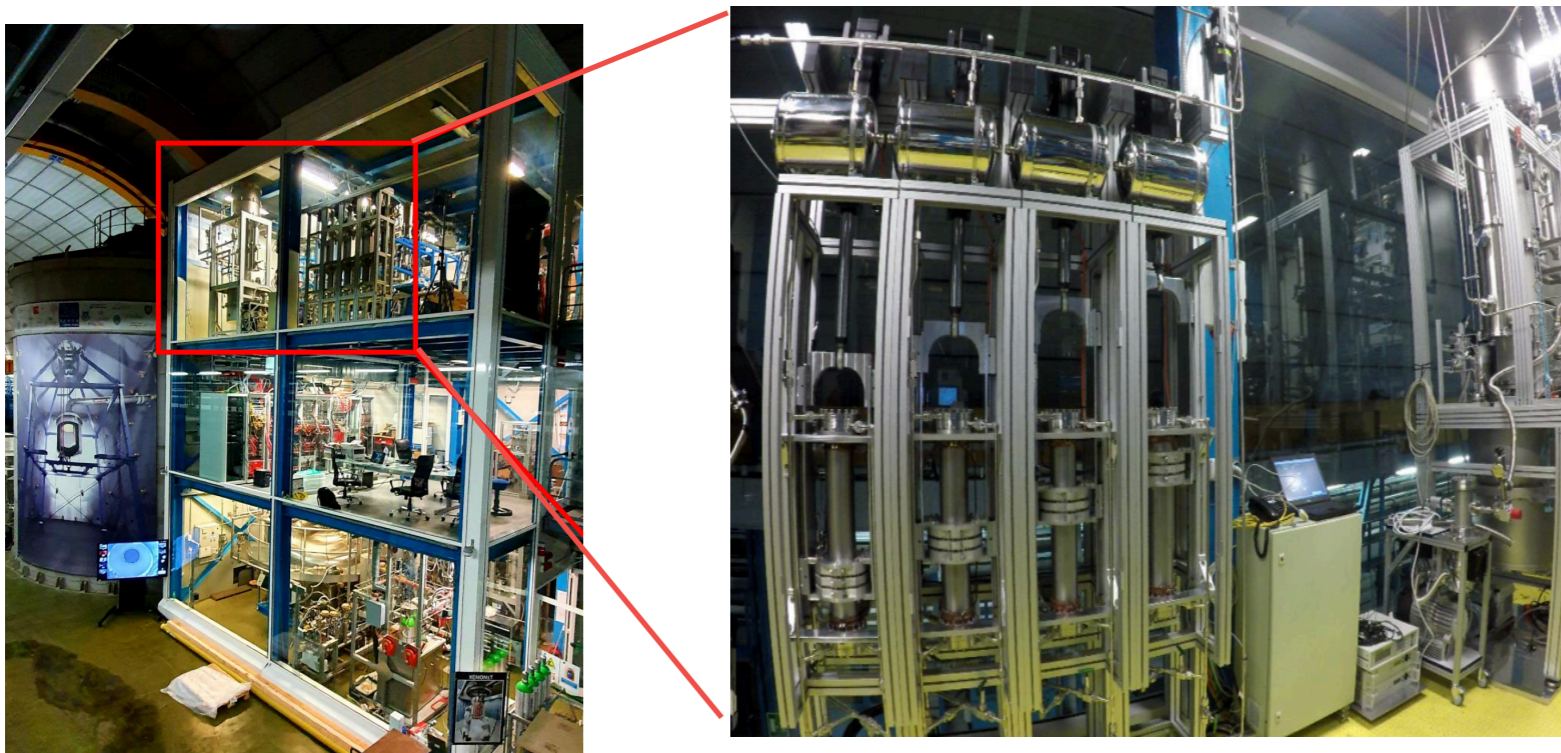
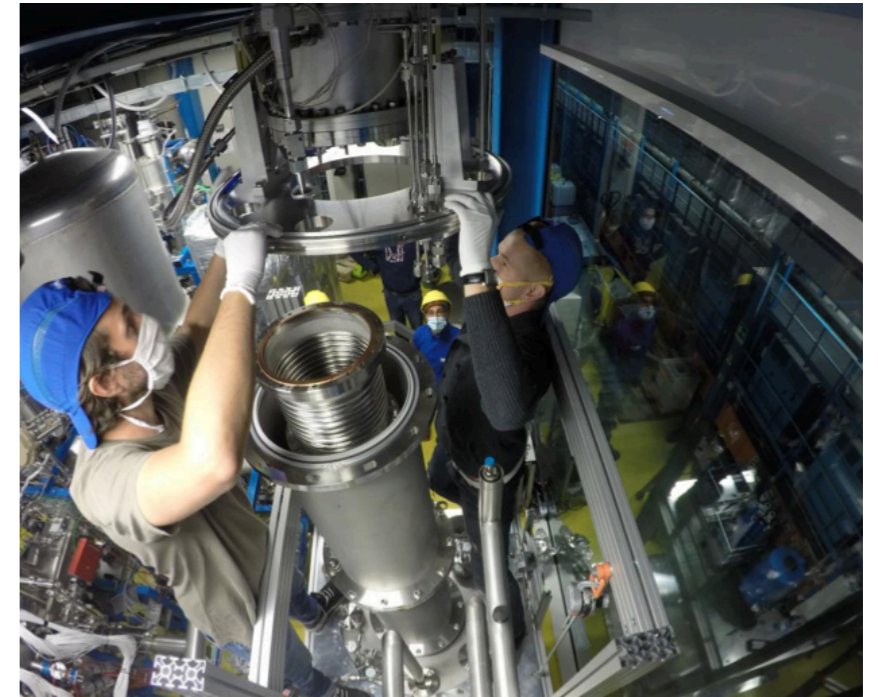
factor  $> 27$  (at 95% CL) reduction factor demonstrated

- dedicated column developed and installed underground for XENONnT

See: XENON collaboration, EPJ-C 77 (2017) 6

# LIQUID XENON: RADON BACKGROUND

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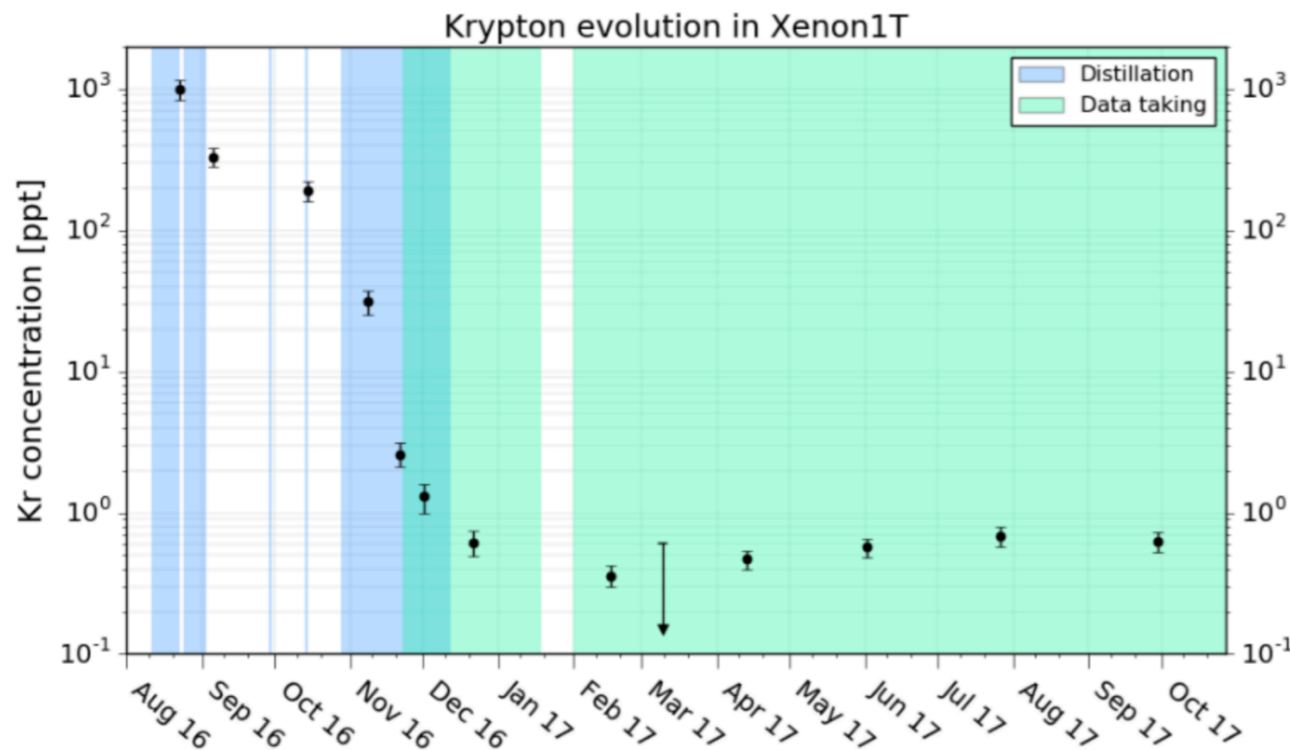
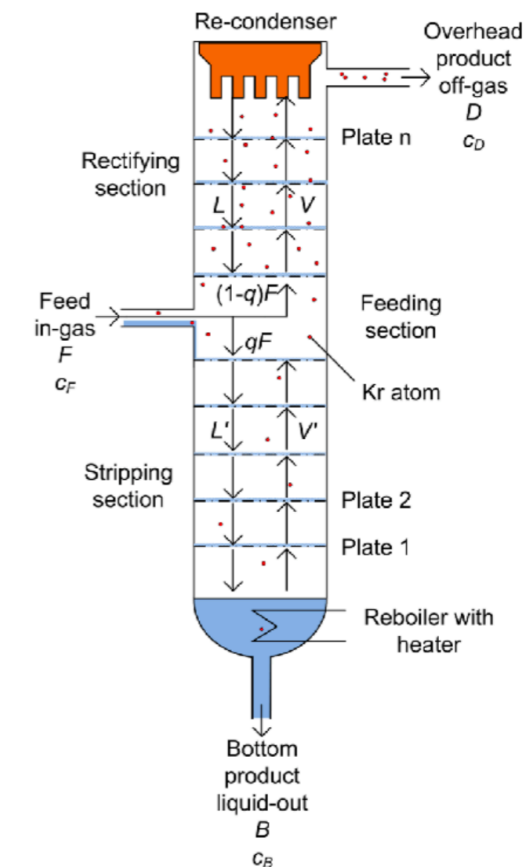


- dedicated column developed and installed underground for XENONnT, 63 kg/h (175 slpm)

# LIQUID XENON: KRYPTON BACKGROUND

XENON collaboration, EPJ-C 77 (2017) 5

- ▶ DARWIN goal: 0.03 ppt  $^{\text{nat}}\text{Kr}$  ( $\sim 0.1 \times$  pp-v background)
- ▶  $^{85}\text{Kr}$   $T_{1/2} = 10.8$  y,  $Q\text{-value} = 687$  keV;  $^{85}\text{Kr}/^{\text{nat}}\text{Kr} = 2 \times 10^{-11}$  mol/mol
- ▶ 5.5 m distillation column, 6.5 kg/h output; factor  $> 6.4 \times 10^5$  separation down to  $< 48$  ppq ( $= 10^{-15}$  mol/mol)



As measured by  
RGMS + Gas  
Chromatography  
with 8 ppq  
detection limit

(EPJ-C 74, 2014)

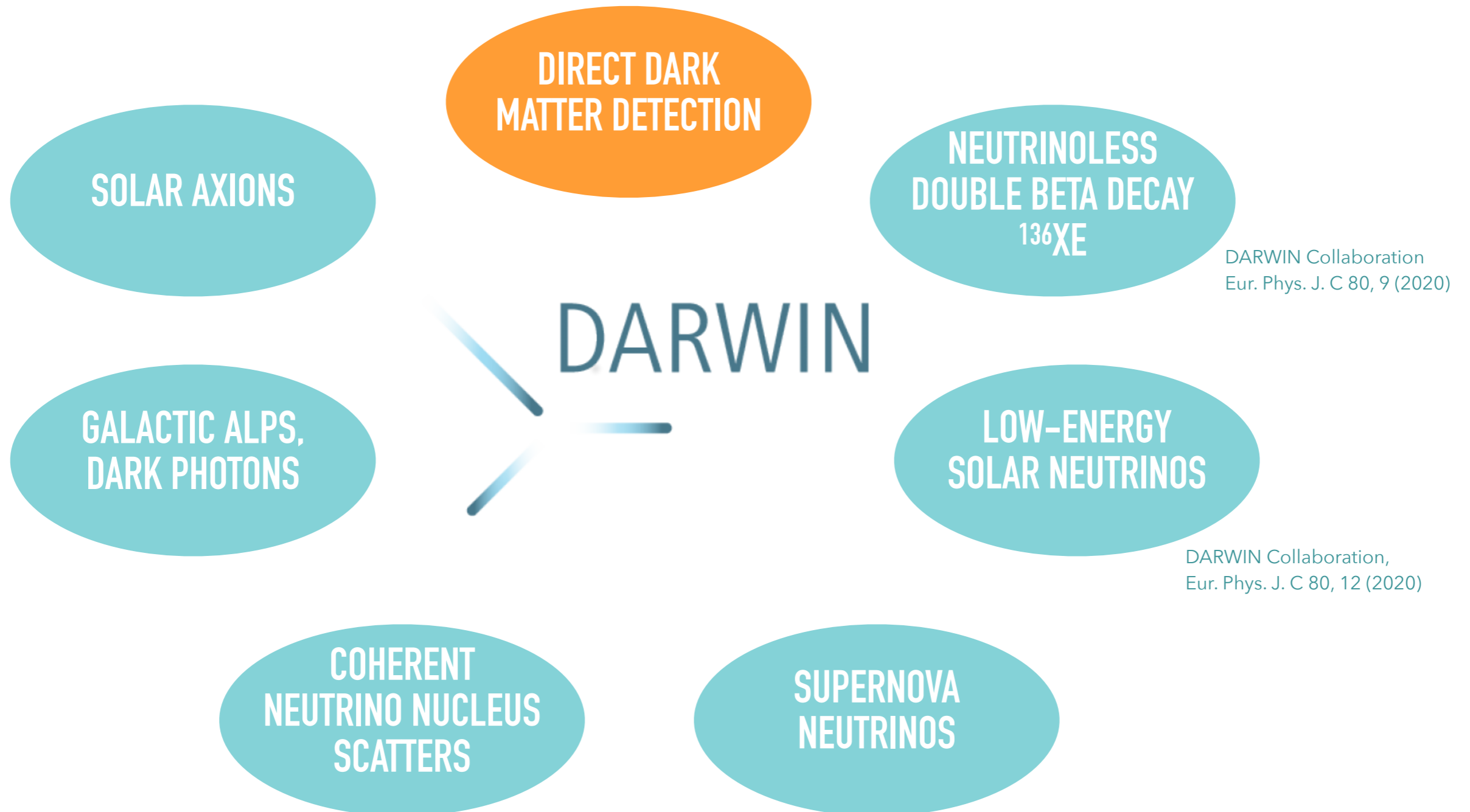
XENON1T distillation column  $^{\text{nat}}\text{Kr}/\text{Xe}$ :  
( $0.6 \pm 0.1$ ) ppt

XENON1T column has produced gas sample  
 $< 0.026$  ppt =  $2.6 \times 10^{-14}$  (at 90% CL)

○ DARWIN goal achieved

Evolution of Kr/Xe [ppt, mol/mol] level during online distillation

# DARWIN SCIENCE PROGRAMME

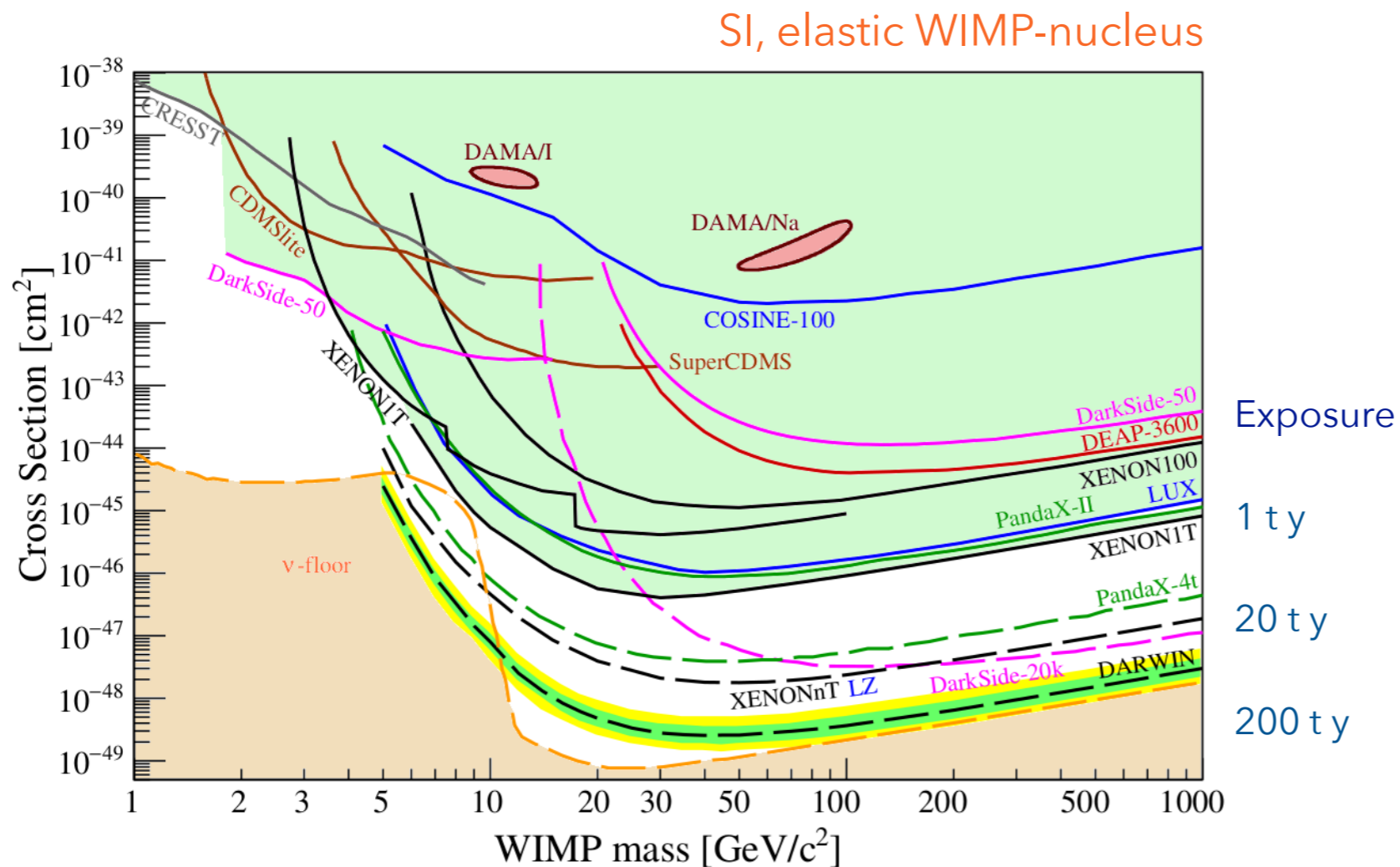




# DIRECT DARK MATTER DETECTION: WIMPS

- ▶ Probe SI elastic scattering:  $^{124}\text{Xe}$ ,  $^{126}\text{Xe}$ ,  $^{128}\text{Xe}$ ,  $^{129}\text{Xe}$ ,  $^{130}\text{Xe}$ ,  $^{131}\text{Xe}$ ,  $^{132}\text{Xe}$  (26.9%),  $^{134}\text{Xe}$  (10.4%),  $^{136}\text{Xe}$  (8.9%)
- ▶ SD elastic + inelastic DM-nucleus scattering:  $^{129}\text{Xe}$  (26.4%),  $^{131}\text{Xe}$  (21.2%)

DARWIN study: JCAP 10, 016 (2015)



Assumptions for  
DARWIN:

30 t LXe in FV

Exposure

99.98% ER rejection

1 ty

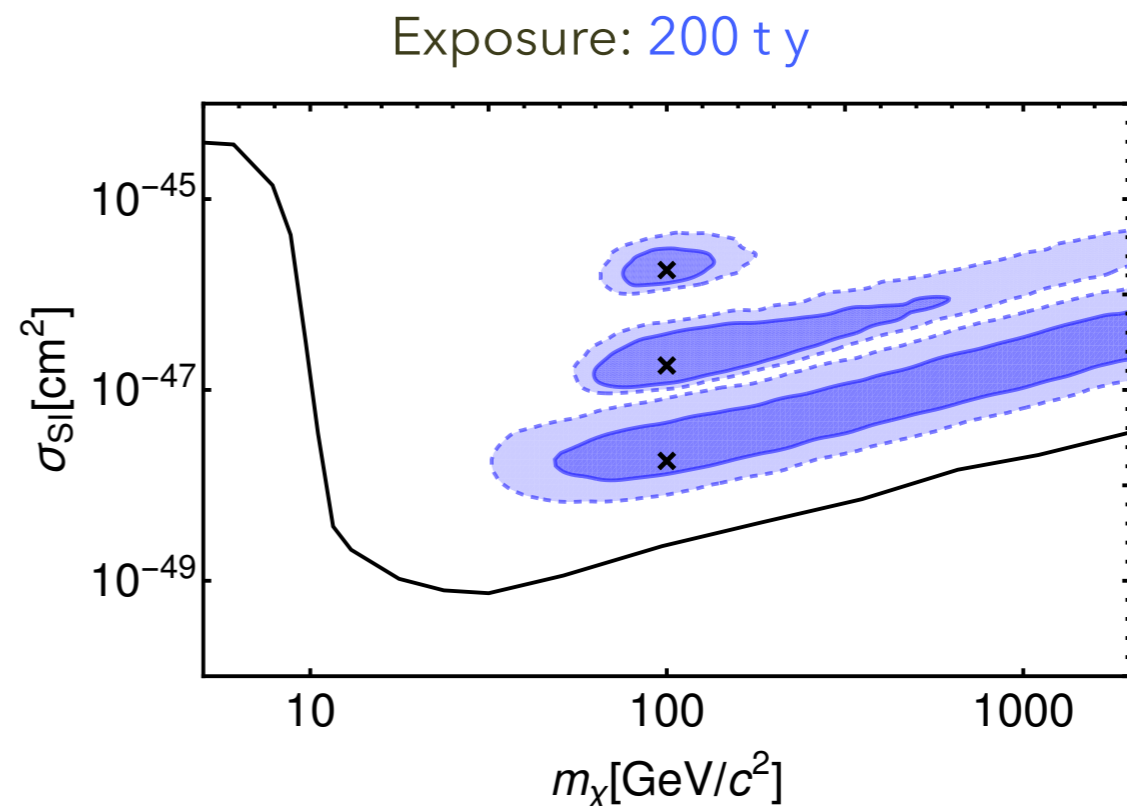
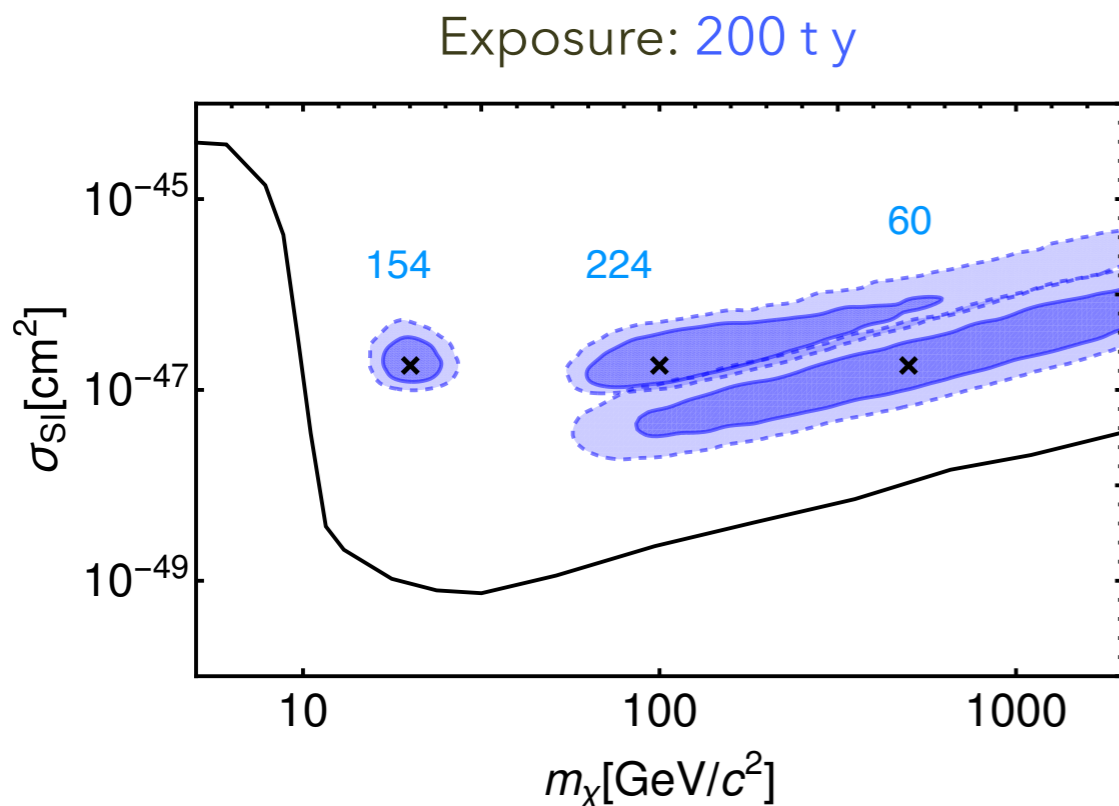
20 ty

200 ty

(at 30% NR  
acceptance)

# DIRECT DARK MATTER DETECTION: WIMP SPECTROSCOPY

- ▶ Capability to reconstruct the WIMP mass and cross section for various masses - here 20, 100, 500  $\text{GeV}/c^2$  - and cross sections



1 and 2 sigma credible regions after marginalising the posterior probability distribution over:

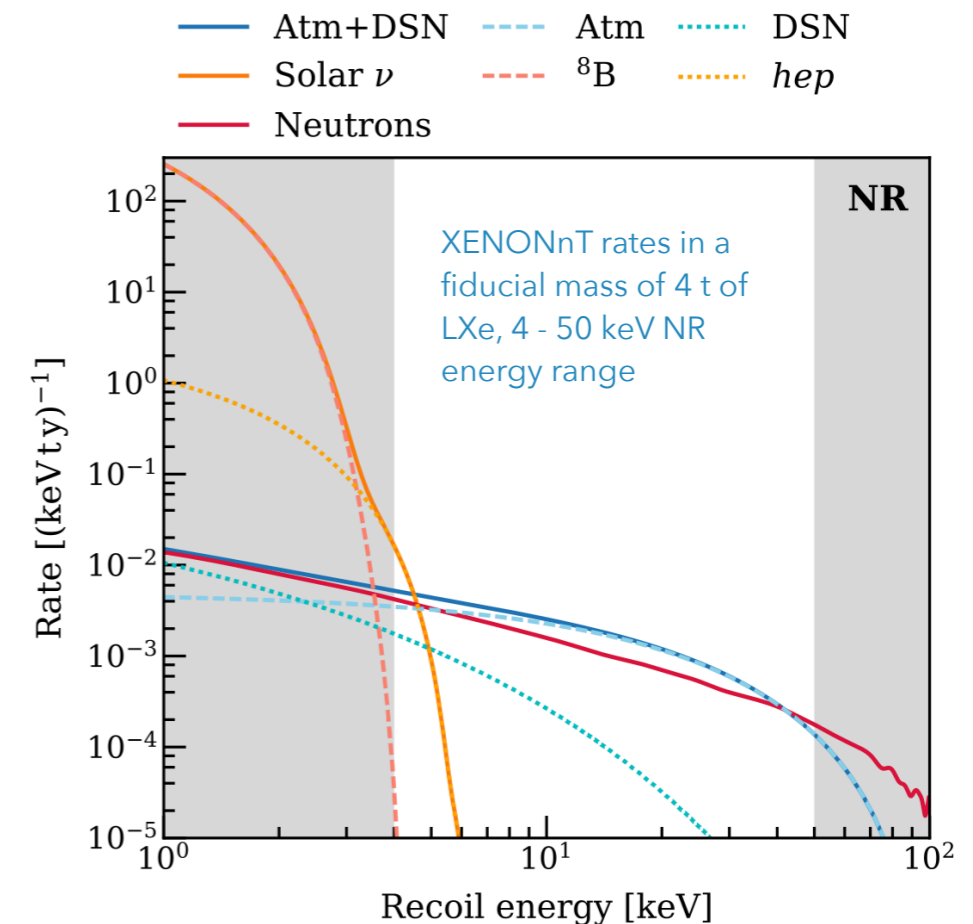
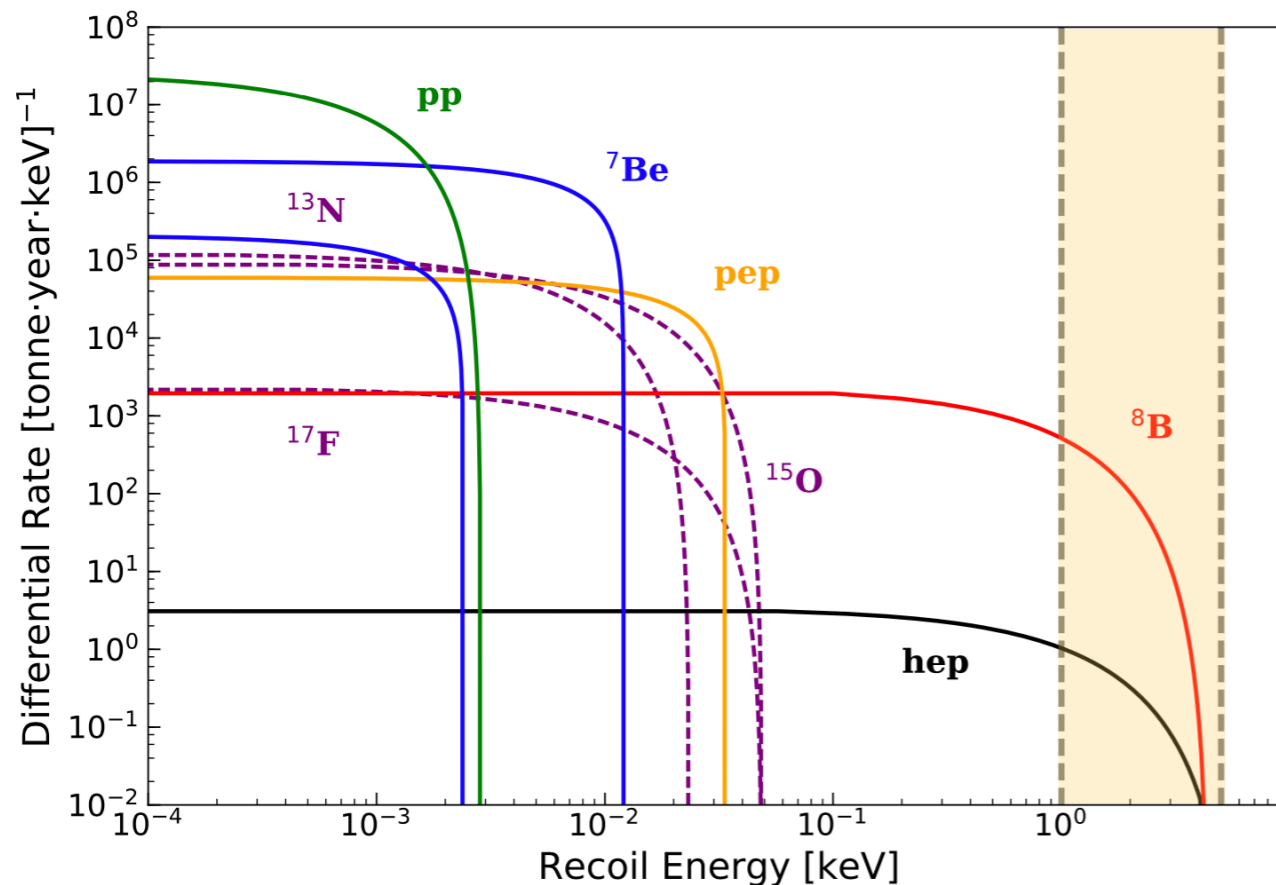
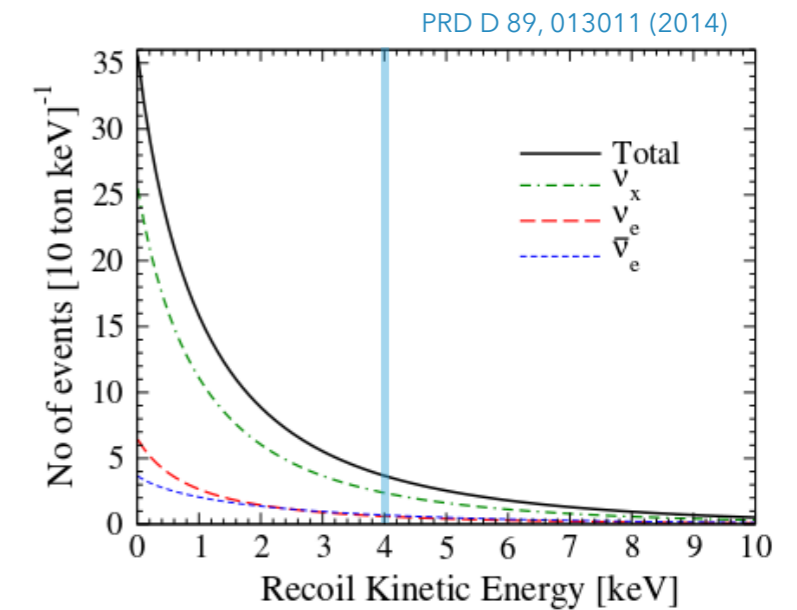
$$v_{esc} = 544 \pm 40 \text{ km/s}$$

$$v_0 = 220 \pm 20 \text{ km/s}$$

$$\rho_\chi = 0.3 \pm 0.1 \text{ GeV}/\text{cm}^3$$

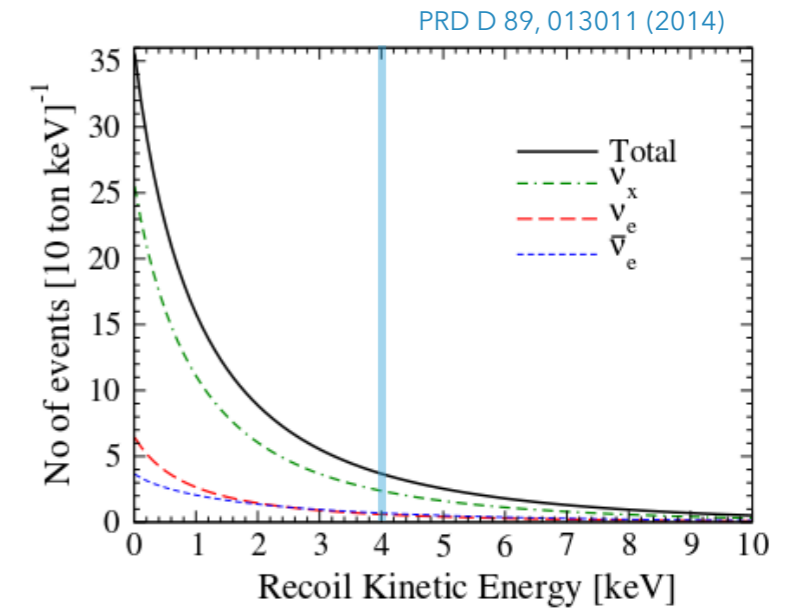
# COHERENT NEUTRINO NUCLEUS SCATTERS

- ▶ Detect solar  $^8\text{B}$   $\nu$ : 90 events for  $E_{\text{th}} > 1 \text{ keV}_{\text{nr}}$  ( $\sim$ negligible  $> 4 \text{ keV}_{\text{nr}}$ )
- ▶ Detect supernova  $\nu$ , sensitive to all neutrino flavours:
  - $\sim 700$  events from SN with  $27 M_{\text{solar}}$  @ 10 kpc
- ▶ Planned participation in SNEWS network

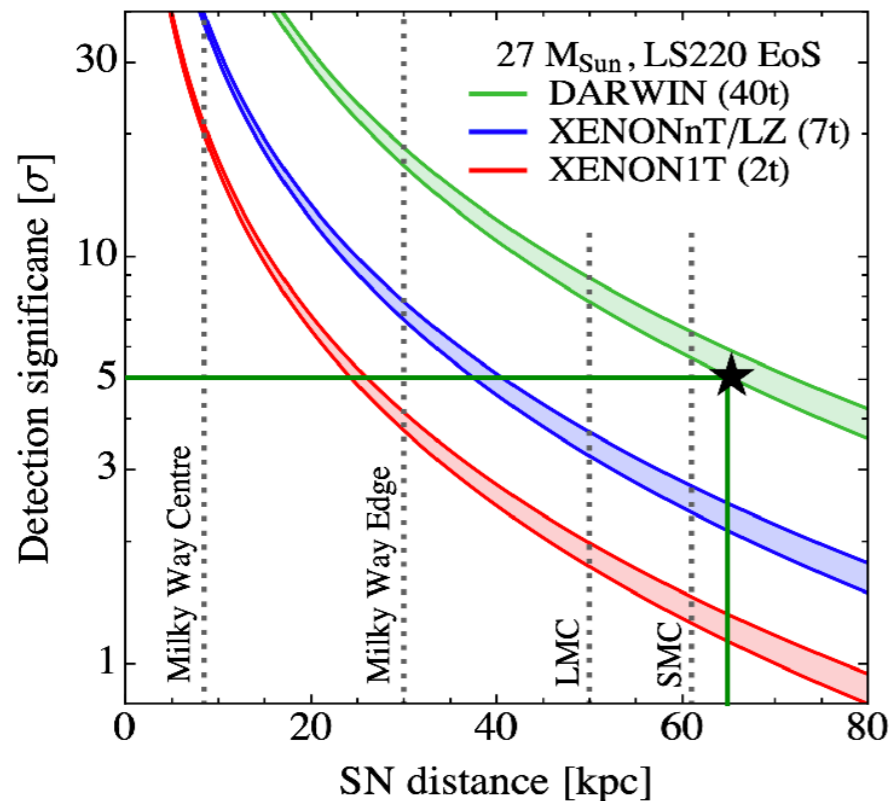


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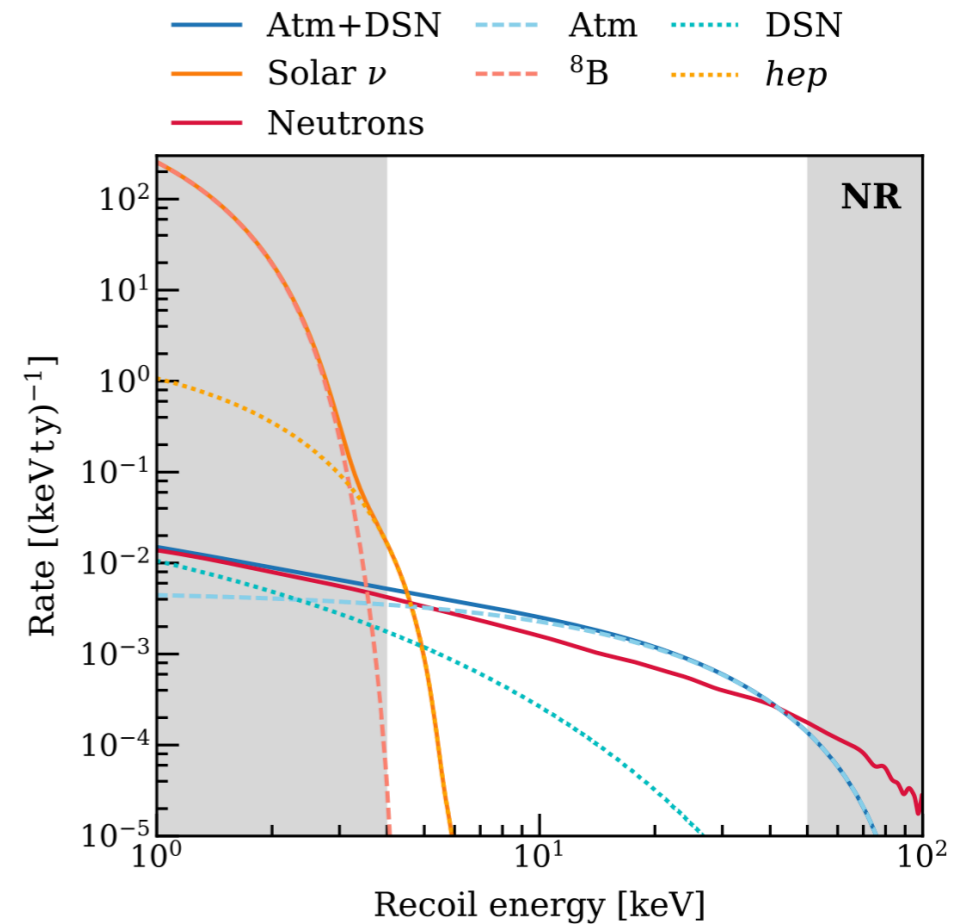
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Signal integrated from [0, 7] s



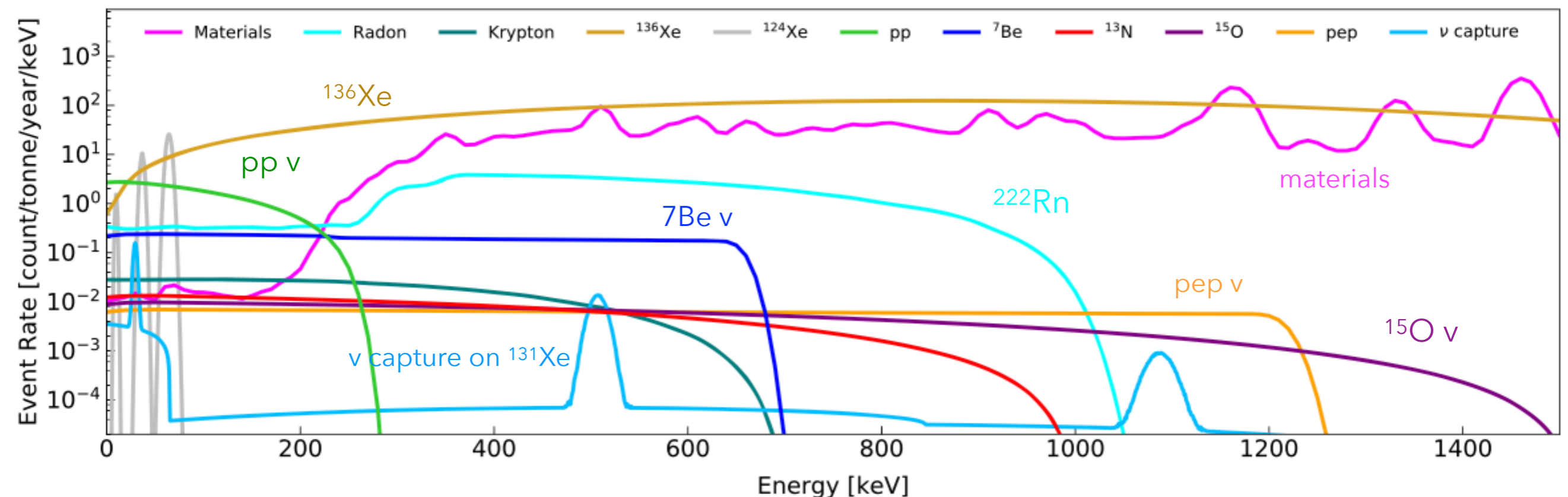
R. Lang et al., PRD 94, 103009



XENON collaboration, JCAP11(2020)031

# SOLAR NEUTRINOS

- ▶ Real-time measurement, elastic  $\nu$ -electron interaction  $\nu + e^- \rightarrow \nu + e^-$
- ▶ Consider signals from 5 solar  $\nu$  components +  $\nu$  capture on  $^{131}\text{Xe}$  (Q-value = 0.355 MeV), and 5 backgrounds up to 3 MeV; assume an energy threshold for ERs of 1 keV
- ▶ Multivariate spectra fit of all 11 components

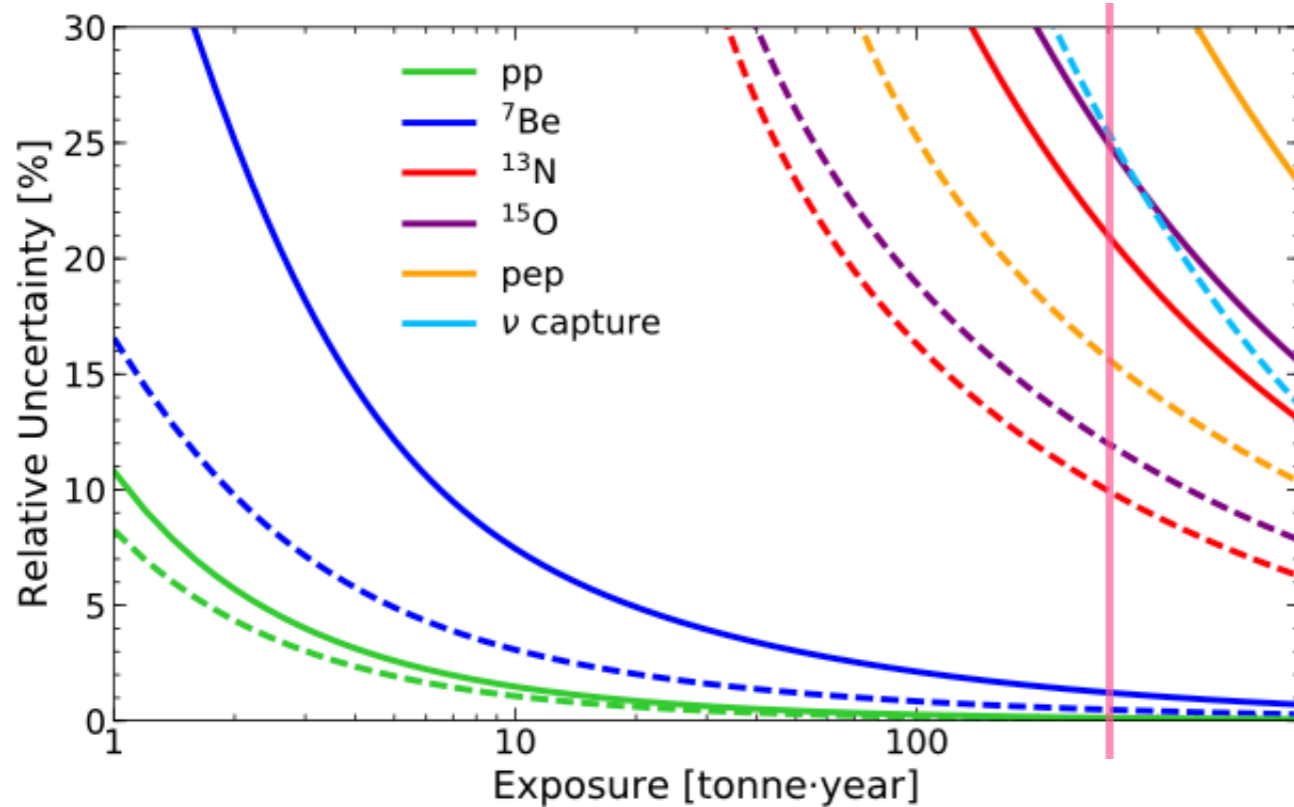


# SOLAR NEUTRINOS

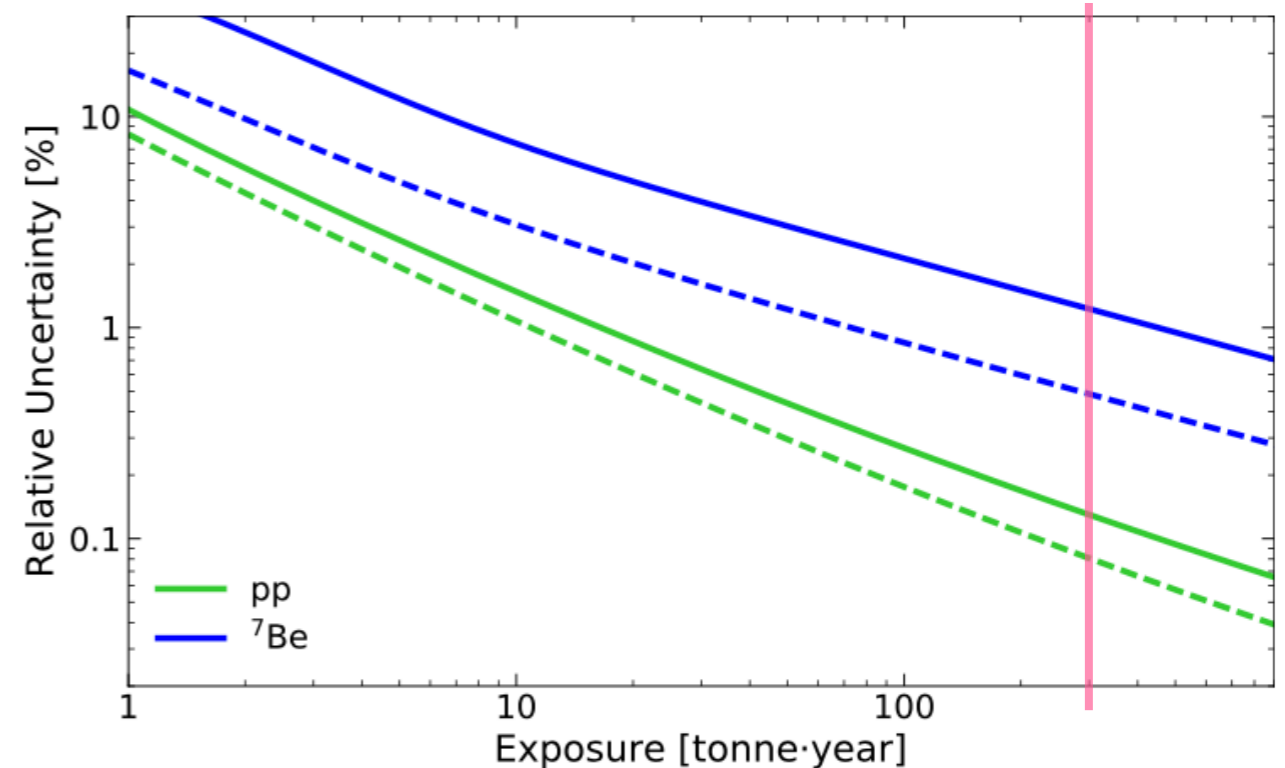
- ▶ Determined relative uncertainty of each solar  $\nu$  component vs exposure
- ▶ Solid: natural xenon target; dashed: target depleted in  $^{136}\text{Xe}$

2% precision in  $^7\text{Be}$  flux with 100 ty

10% precision in pp flux with 1 ty; 0.15 % with 300 ty



300 ty



300 ty

**Solar neutrino detection sensitivity in DARWIN via electron scattering**

DARWIN Collaboration, J. Aalbers, F. Agostini, S. E. M. Ahmed Maouloud, M. Alfonsi, L. Althueser, F. D. Amaro, J. Angevaere, V. C. Antochi, B. Antunovic et al. (157 more)

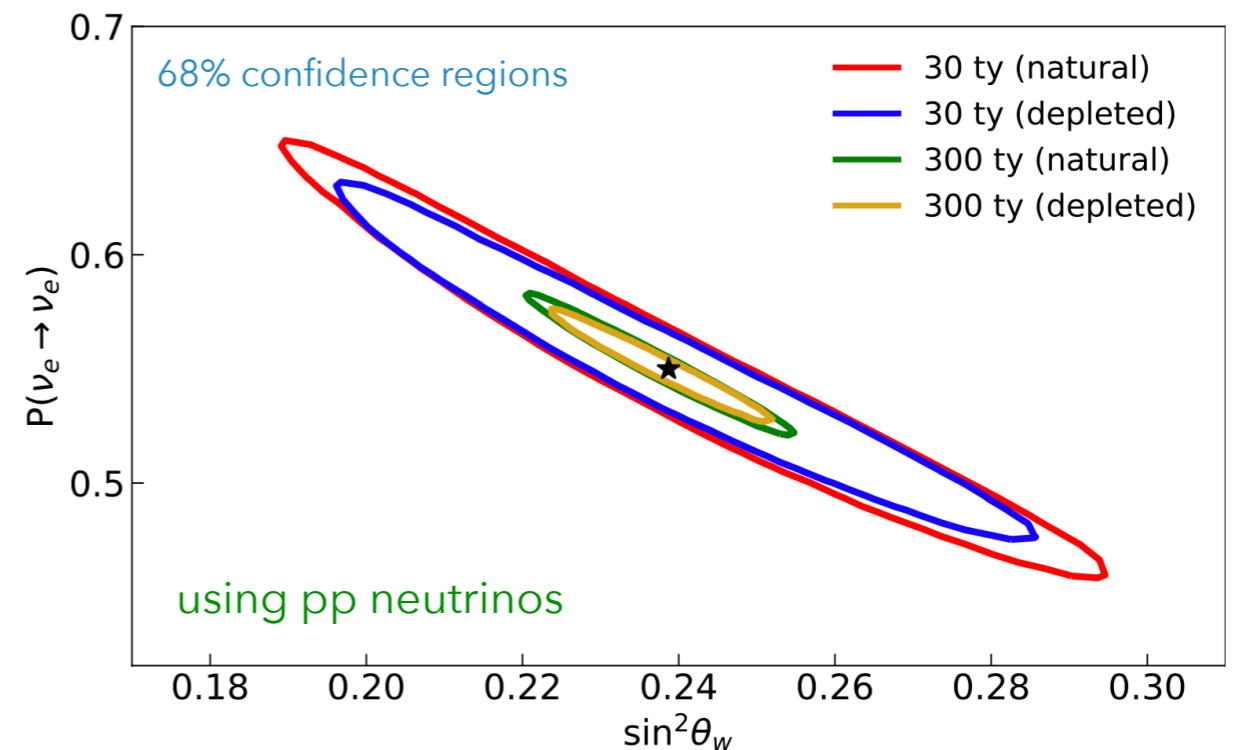
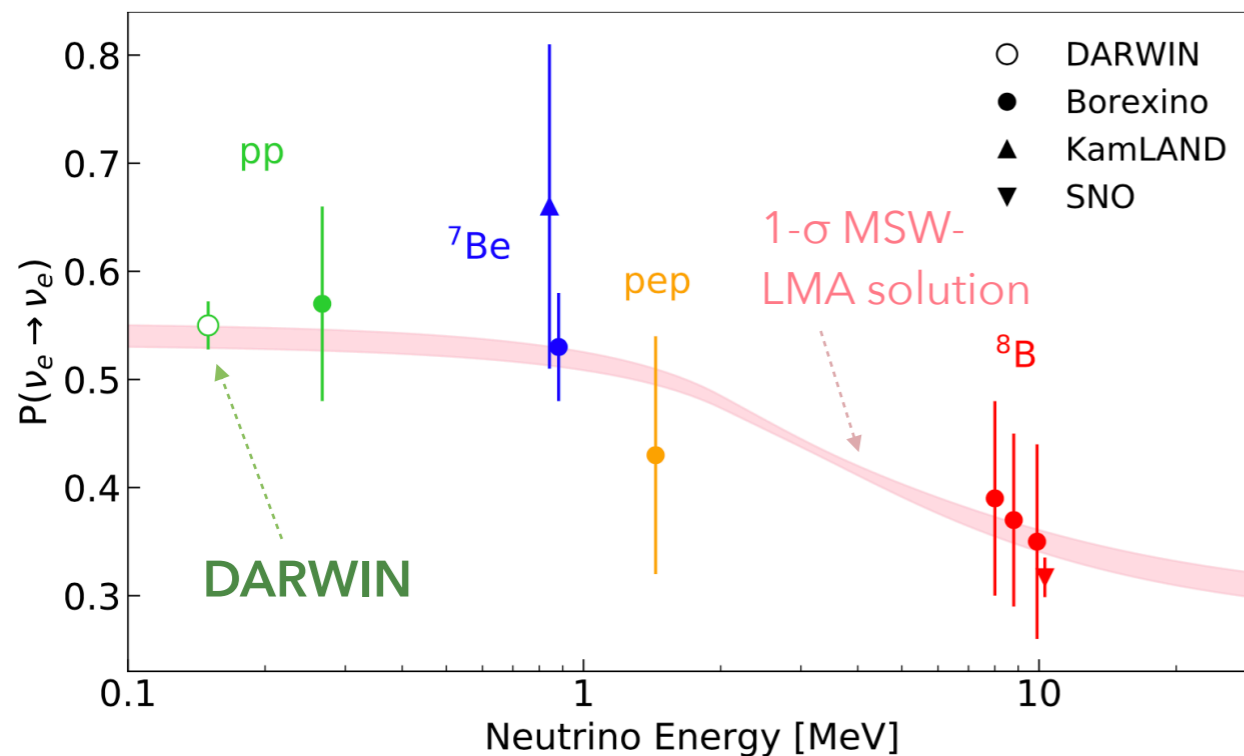
Eur. Phys. J. C, 80 12 (2020) 1133

Published online: 10 December 2020, DOI: 10.1140/epjc/s10052-020-08602-7

Abstract | PDF (604.0 KB)

# SOLAR NEUTRINOS

- ▶ Main rates: 365 events/(t y) from pp  $\nu$  and 140 events/(t y) from  ${}^7\text{Be}$   $\nu$ ;  ${}^{13}\text{N}$ : 6.5/(t y),  ${}^{15}\text{O}$ : 7.1/(t y)
- ▶ **pp-flux measurement: 0.15% statistical precision with 300 t y exposure** (sub-percent after 10 t y)
- ▶ Measurement of  $\nu_e$  survival probability & weak mixing angle  $< 300$  keV
  - $P_{ee}$ : 4% relative uncertainty,  $\sin^2\theta_w$ : 5% relative uncertainty



# DOUBLE BETA DECAY IN DARWIN

- ▶  $^{136}\text{Xe}$ : excellent candidate
  - ⦿ abundance in  $^{\text{nat}}\text{Xe}$ : 8.9%, Q-value:  $(2457.83 \pm 0.37)$  keV\*
- ▶ Amount of  $^{136}\text{Xe}$  in DARWIN:  $\sim 3.6$  tonnes ( $\sim 4.5$  t in total)
- ▶ Expected ( $1-\sigma$ ) energy resolution:
  - ⦿  $\sim 0.8\%$  at 2.5 MeV, demonstrated by XENON1T
- ▶ Ultra-low background environment
- ▶ Main potential backgrounds:  $^{222}\text{Rn}$ ,  $^8\text{B}$  neutrinos,  $^{137}\text{Xe}$  from cosmogenic activation,  $2\nu\beta\beta$ -decays

\*M. Redshaw et al., PRL 98, 2007:  $M(^{136}\text{Xe})-M(^{136}\text{Ba}) = 2457.83(37)$



# BACKGROUND SIMULATIONS

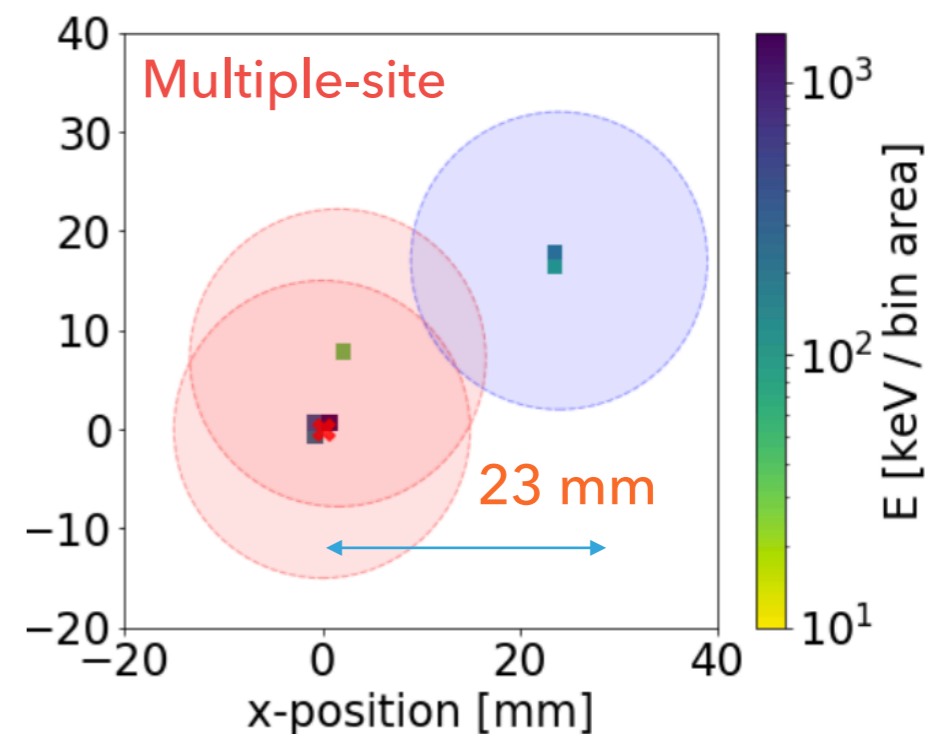
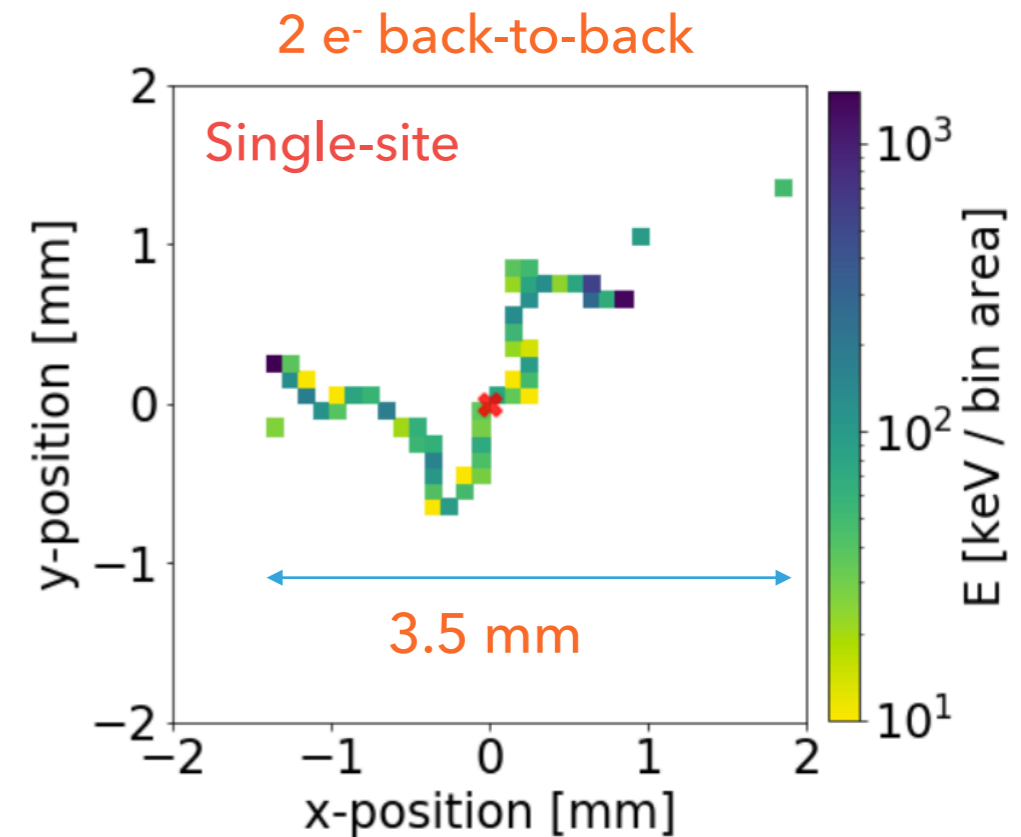
- ▶ Detailed detector model in Geant4

Component	Material	Mass	
Outer cryostat	Titanium	3.04 t	} Cryostat
Inner cryostat	Titanium	2.10 t	
Bottom pressure vessel	Titanium	0.38 t	
LXe instrumented target	LXe	39.3 t	} Xenon
LXe buffer outside the TPC	LXe	9.00 t	
LXe around pressure vessel	LXe	0.27 t	
GXe in top dome + TPC top	GXe	30 kg	
TPC reflector (3mm thickness)	PTFE	146 kg	} TPC components
Structural support pillars (24 units)	PTFE	84 kg	
Electrode frames	Titanium	120 kg	
Field shaping rings (92 units)	Copper	680 kg	
Photosensor arrays (2 disks):			} Photosensors and electronics
Disk structural support	Copper	520 kg	
Reflector + sliding panels	PTFE	70 kg	
Photosensors: 3" PMTs (1910 units)	composite	363 kg	
Sensor electronics (1910 units)	composite	5.7 kg	

# SIGNAL EVENTS IN LIQUID XENON

- ▶ Electrons thermalise within  $O(\text{mm}) \Rightarrow$  **single-site topology**
- ▶ Bremsstrahlung photons: may travel  $> 15\text{mm}$  ( $E > 300\text{ keV}$ )  $\Rightarrow$  **multi-site event**
- ▶ Energy depositions: **spatially grouped** using density-based spatial clustering algorithm
  - ⦿ New cluster, if distance to any previous  $E_{\text{dep}} > \varepsilon$  (separation threshold)

Assumption:  $\varepsilon = 15\text{ mm}$ ; 90% efficiency for  $\beta\beta$ -events



# MAIN BACKGROUND COMPONENTS

## ▶ Intrinsic:

- ▶  ${}^8\text{B}$   $\nu$ 's,  ${}^{137}\text{Xe}$ ,  $2\nu\beta\beta$ ,  ${}^{222}\text{Rn}$

## ▶ Materials:

- ▶  ${}^{238}\text{U}$ ,  ${}^{232}\text{Th}$ ,  ${}^{60}\text{Co}$ ,  ${}^{44}\text{Ti}$

## ▶ FV cut: super-ellipsoidal

$$\left(\frac{z + z_0}{z_{max}}\right)^t + \left(\frac{r}{r_{max}}\right)^t < 1$$

Already achieved specific activities (or upper limits) of detector materials:

Material	Unit	${}^{238}\text{U}$	${}^{226}\text{Ra}$	${}^{232}\text{Th}$	${}^{228}\text{Th}$	${}^{60}\text{Co}$	${}^{44}\text{Ti}$
Titanium	mBq/kg	<1.6	<0.09	0.28	0.25	<0.02	<1.16
PTFE	mBq/kg	<1.2	0.07	<0.07	0.06	0.027	-
Copper	mBq/kg	<1.0	<0.035	<0.033	<0.026	<0.019	-
PMT	mBq/unit	8.0	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.84	-
Electronics	mBq/unit	1.10	0.34	0.16	0.16	<0.008	-

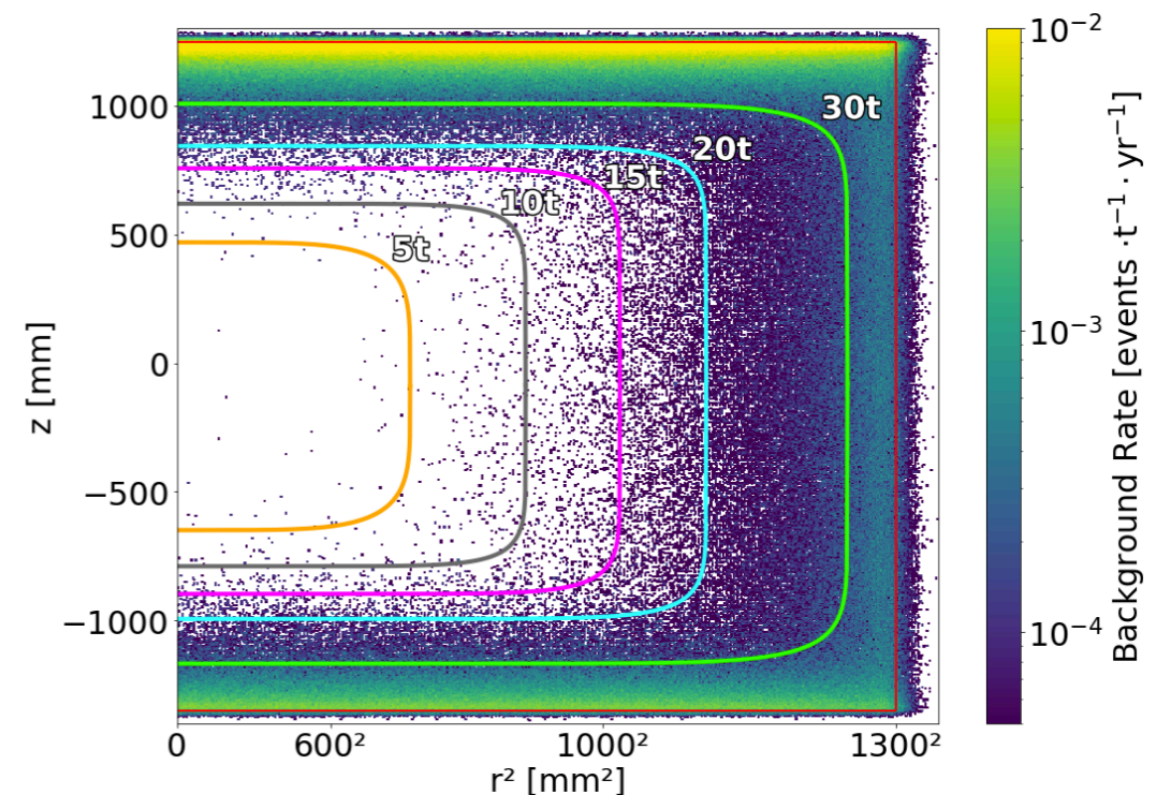
${}^{44}\text{Ti}$ :  $T_{1/2} = 59$  y, cosmogenic

Ti: LZ, *Astrop. Phys.*, 96 (2017)

Other: XENON, *EPJ-C* 77 (2017)

100 y of DARWIN run time

External background events with energy deposits in the ROI [ $Q_{\beta\beta} \pm \text{FWHM}/2$ ] = [2435 - 2481] keV

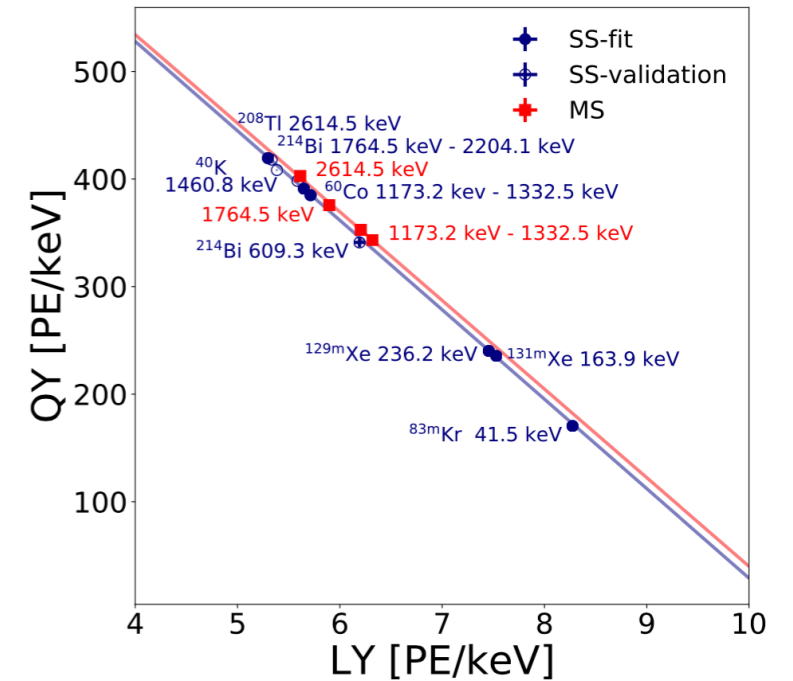


# ENERGY RESOLUTION

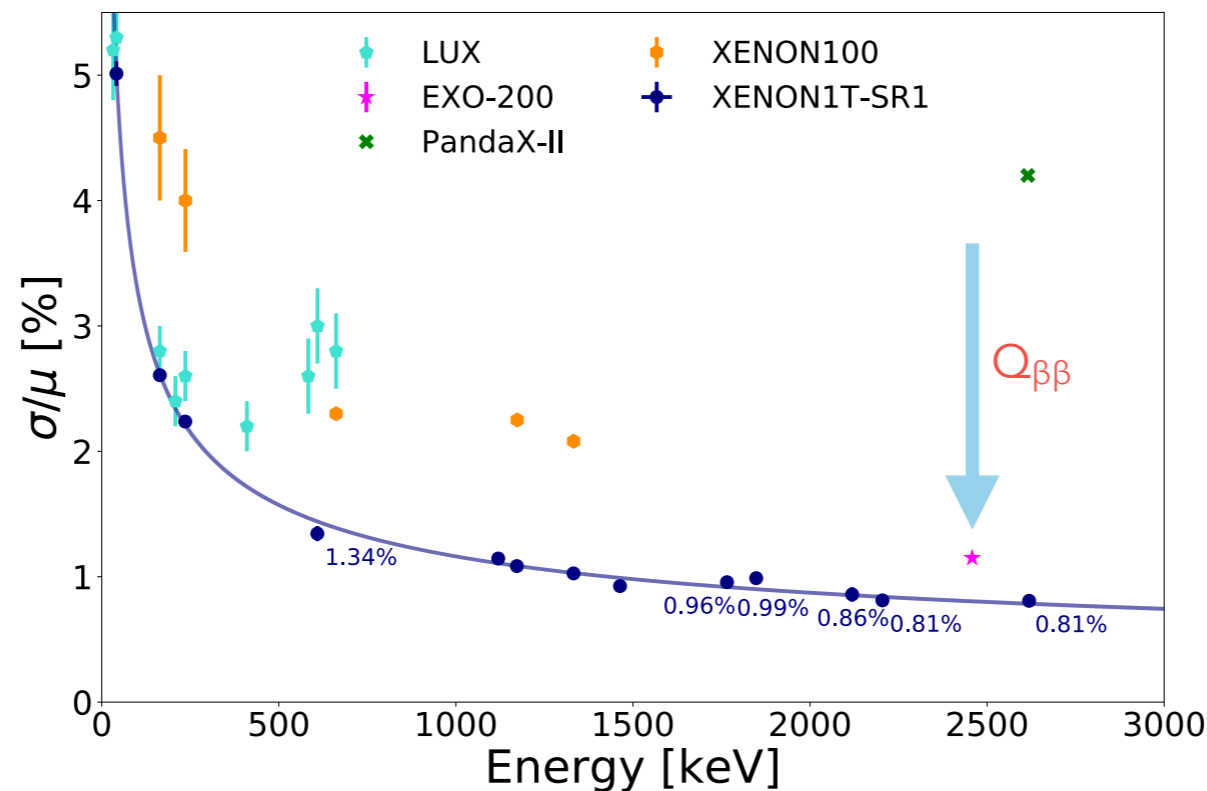
- ▶ Anti-correlation between light (S1) and charge (S2)
- ▶ Energy scale uses linear combination of S1 and S2
- ▶ Photon gain:  $g_1$  (pe/photon), electron gain:  $g_2$  (pe/electron)

$$E = (n_{ph} + n_e) \cdot W = \left( \frac{S_1}{g_1} + \frac{S_2}{g_2} \right) \cdot W$$

W-value = 13.7 eV



$$\frac{S_2}{E} = \frac{g_2}{W} - \frac{g_2}{g_1} \frac{S_1}{E}$$



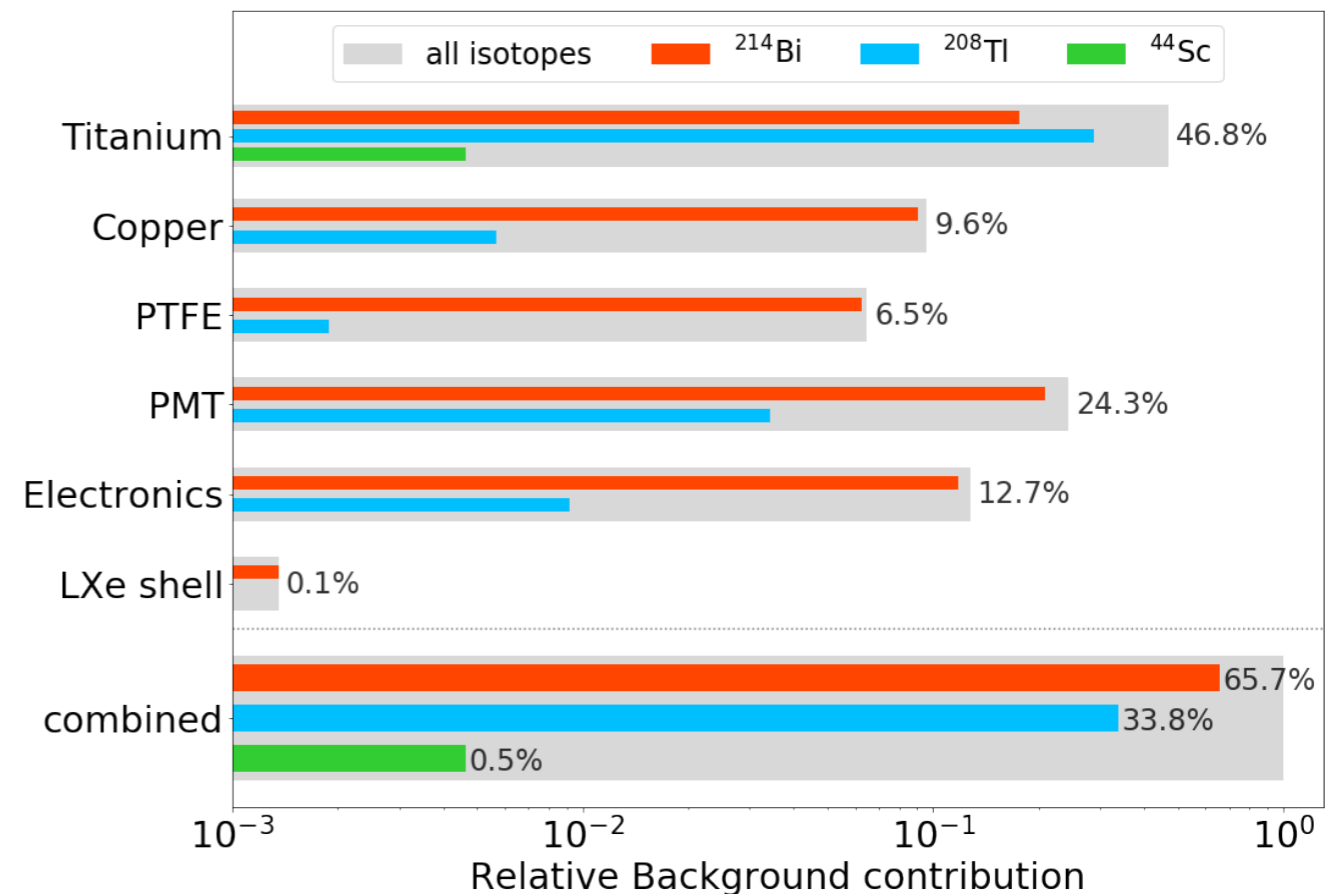
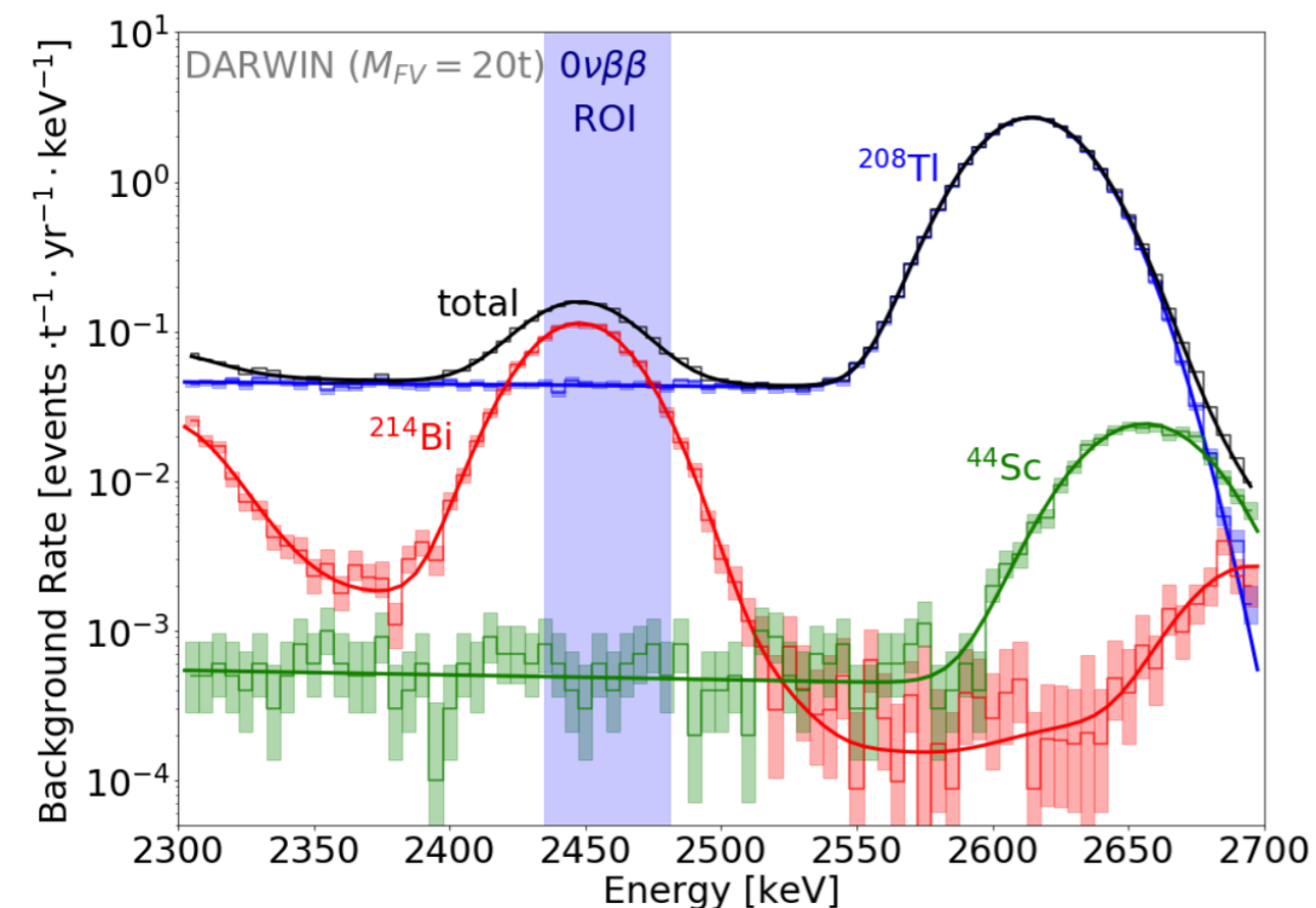
Example for XENON1T:

$\sigma/E \approx 0.8\%$  at  $Q_{\beta\beta}$

XENON collaboration,  
Eur. Phys. J. C 80 (2020) 9

# EXTERNAL (MATERIAL) BACKGROUND

- ▶ ROI: [2435-2481] keV = FWHM around  $Q_{\beta\beta}$
- ▶  $^{214}\text{Bi}$ :  $\gamma$  at 2.45 MeV,  $^{208}\text{Tl}$ ,  $\gamma$  at 2.61 MeV;  $^{44}\text{Sc}$ ,  $\gamma$  at 2.66 MeV



Example for 20 tonnes of LXe in fiducial volume (not the final FV for the study)

# INTERNAL BACKGROUNDS

▶  $^{222}\text{Rn}$  in LXe:

- $0.1\mu\text{Bq/kg}$ , 99.8% BiPo tagging

▶  $^8\text{B}$  solar neutrinos

- $\Phi_{\nu e} = (5.46 \pm 0.66) \times 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$

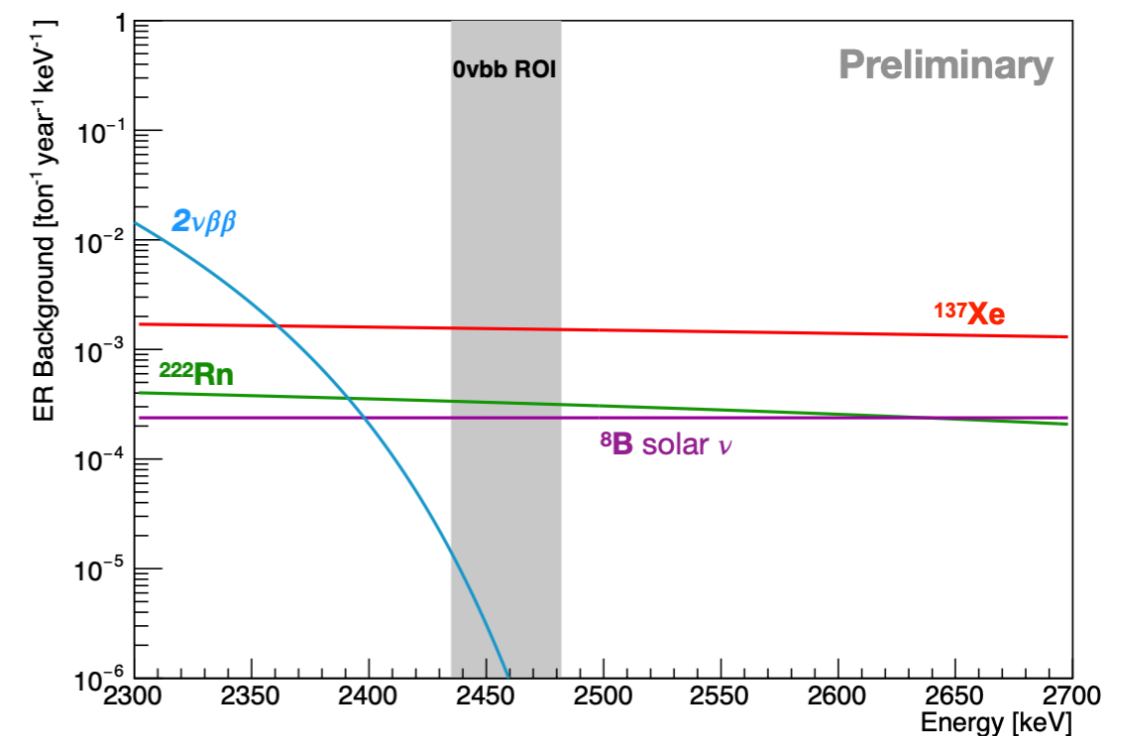
- $P_{ee} = 0.50$

▶  $2\nu\beta\beta$ -decay: subdominant

▶  $^{137}\text{Xe}$ : cosmogenic activation underground

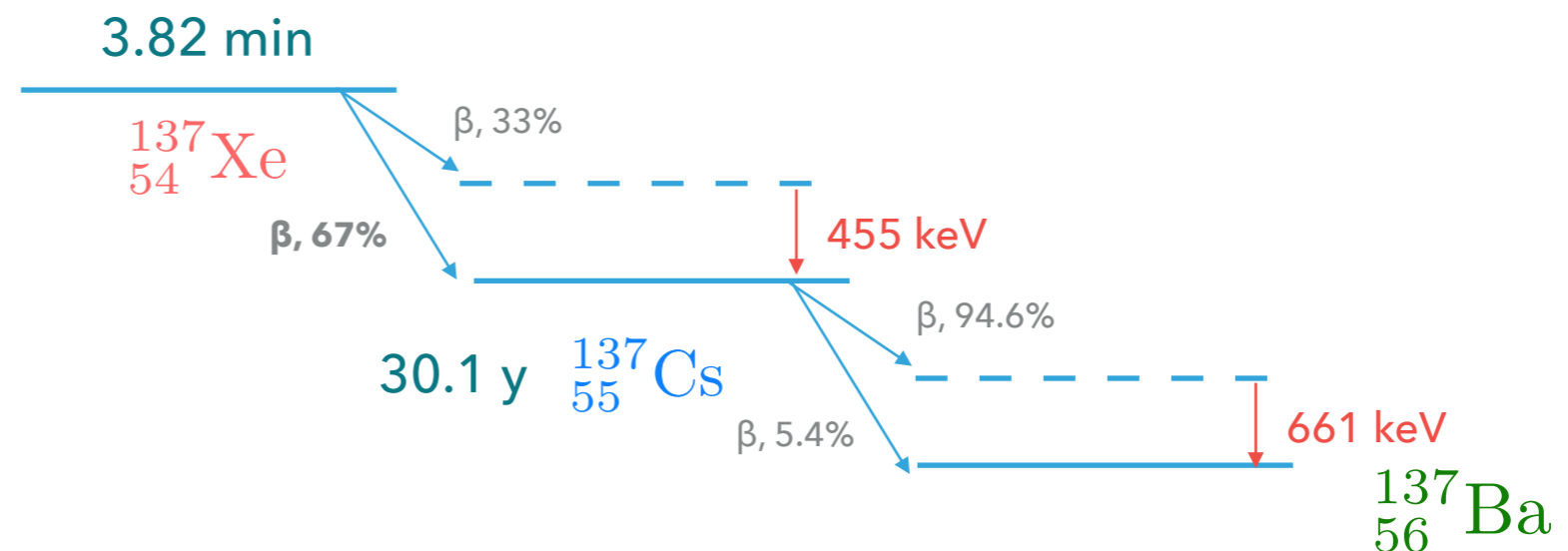
- $n + ^{136}\text{Xe} \rightarrow ^{137}\text{Xe}$

$^{137}\text{Xe}$ :  $(6.9 \pm 0.4) \text{ atoms}/(\text{t y})$



$T_{1/2} = 3.82 \text{ min}$

Q-value: 4173 keV



# RADON BACKGROUND

## ▶ Assumption:

- 0.1  $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$   $^{222}\text{Rn}$  (cryogenic distillation + material selection)

## ▶ Problematic:

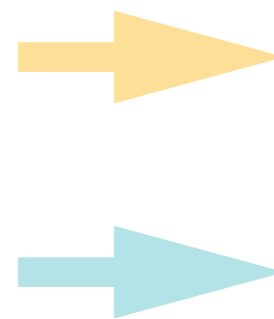
- $^{214}\text{Bi}$  decay,  $Q$ -value = 3.27 MeV, "naked"  $\beta$ -decay without  $\gamma$  emission: 19.1% BR

## ▶ $^{214}\text{Po}$ :

- $\alpha$ -decay with short half-life,  $T_{1/2} = 164.3 \mu\text{s} \Rightarrow$  active veto for  $^{214}\text{Bi}$ -decays

## ▶ Assumption:

- 99.8% BiPo tagging efficiency

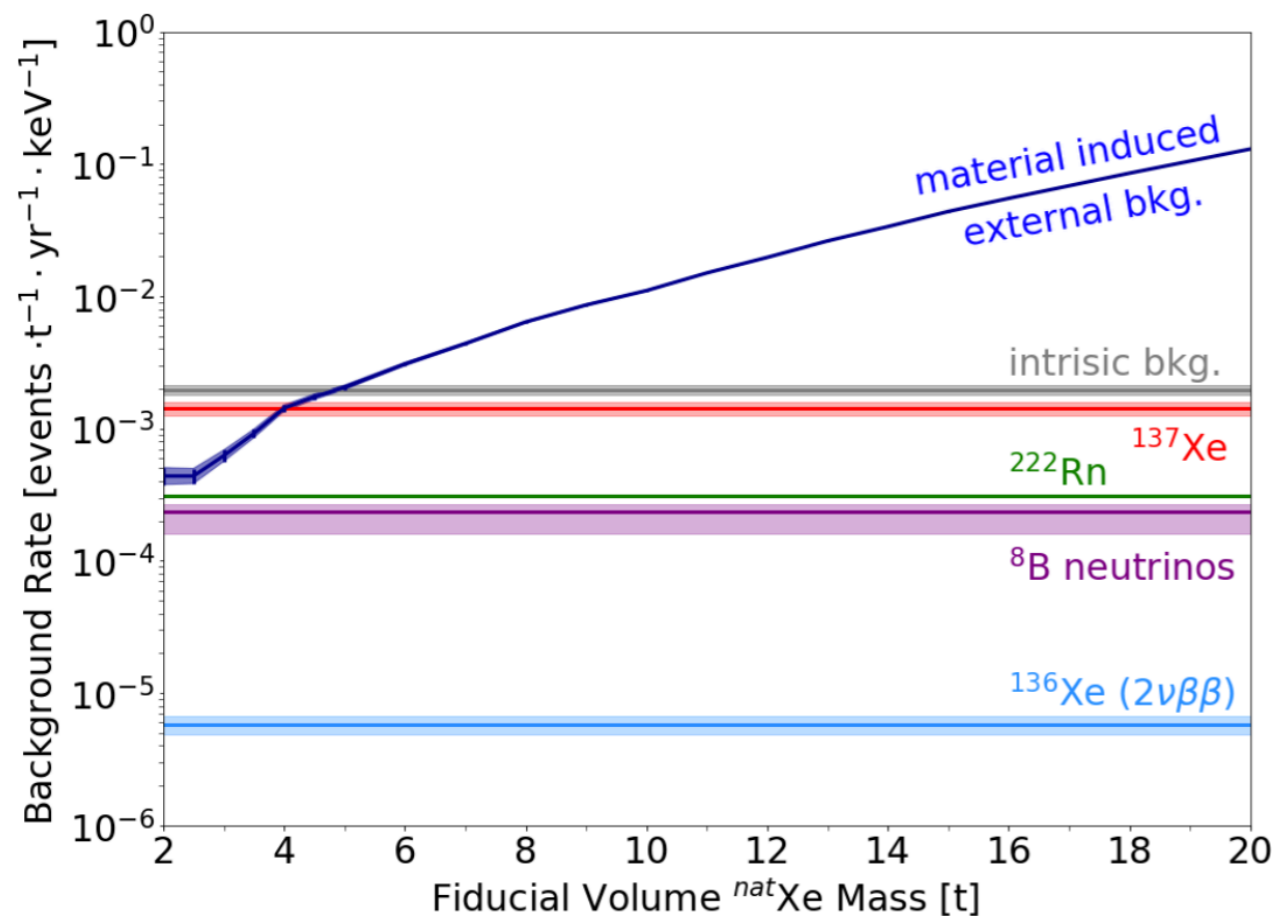


$^{222}\text{Rn}$	3.8 d
$\alpha$	↓ 5.5 MeV
$^{218}\text{Po}$	3.05 min
$\alpha$	↓ 6.0 MeV
$^{214}\text{Pb}$	26.8 min
$\beta$	↓
$^{214}\text{Bi}$	19.9 min
$\beta$	↓
$^{214}\text{Po}$	164 $\mu\text{s}$
$\alpha$	↓
$^{210}\text{Pb}$	22.3 y
$\beta$	↓
$^{210}\text{Bi}$	5.0 d
$\beta$	↓
$^{210}\text{Po}$	138 d
$\alpha$	↓
$^{206}\text{Pb}$	stable

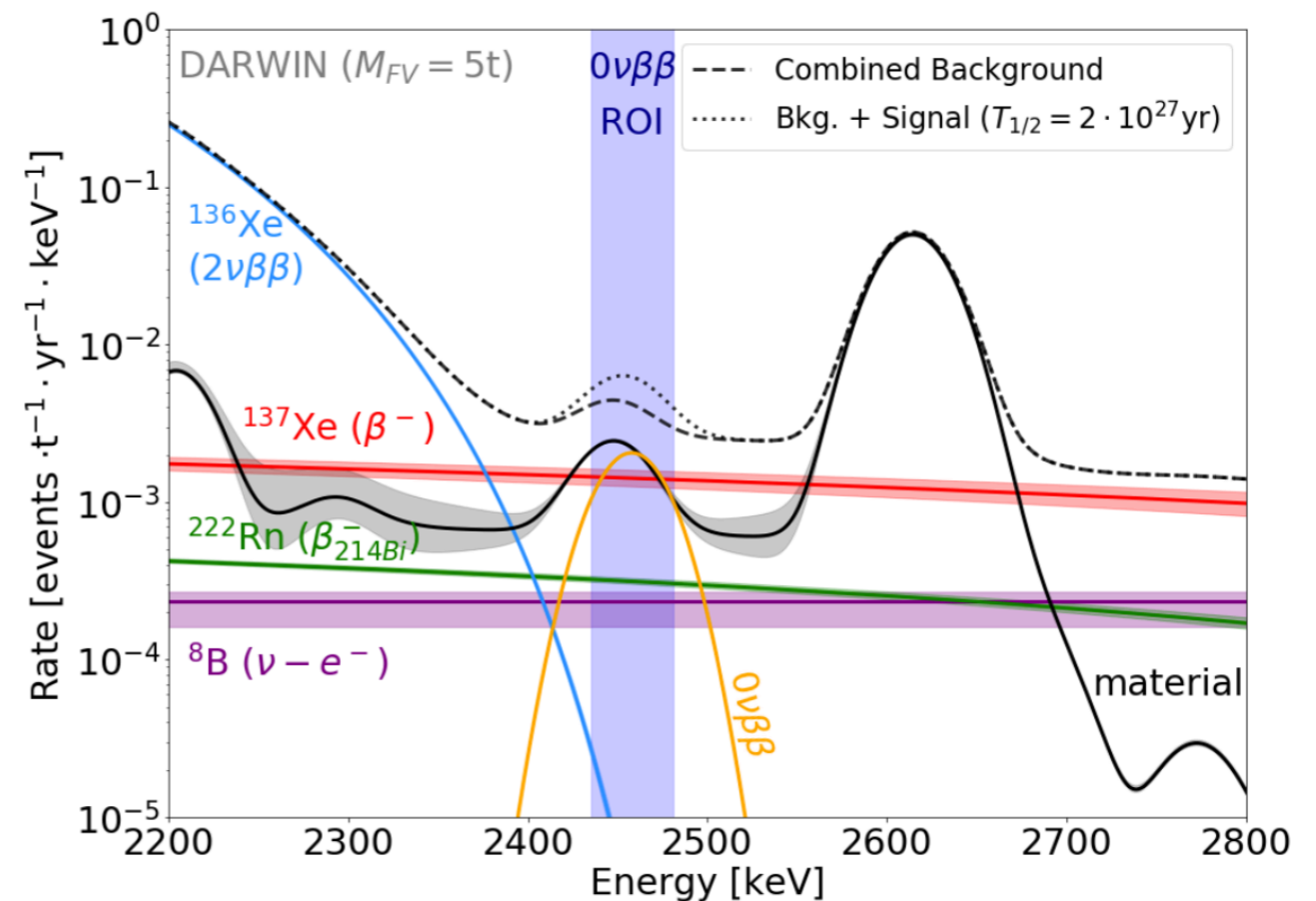
# MATERIAL + INTRINSIC BACKGROUND

- ▶ ROI: [2435-2481] keV = FWHM around  $Q_{\beta\beta}$
- ▶  $^{137}\text{Xe}$ :  $\beta$ -decay with  $Q=4173$  keV,  $T_{1/2}=3.82$  min (via n-capture on  $^{136}\text{Xe}$ )

Signal:  $T_{1/2} = 2 \times 10^{27}$  y



Rate versus fiducial mass

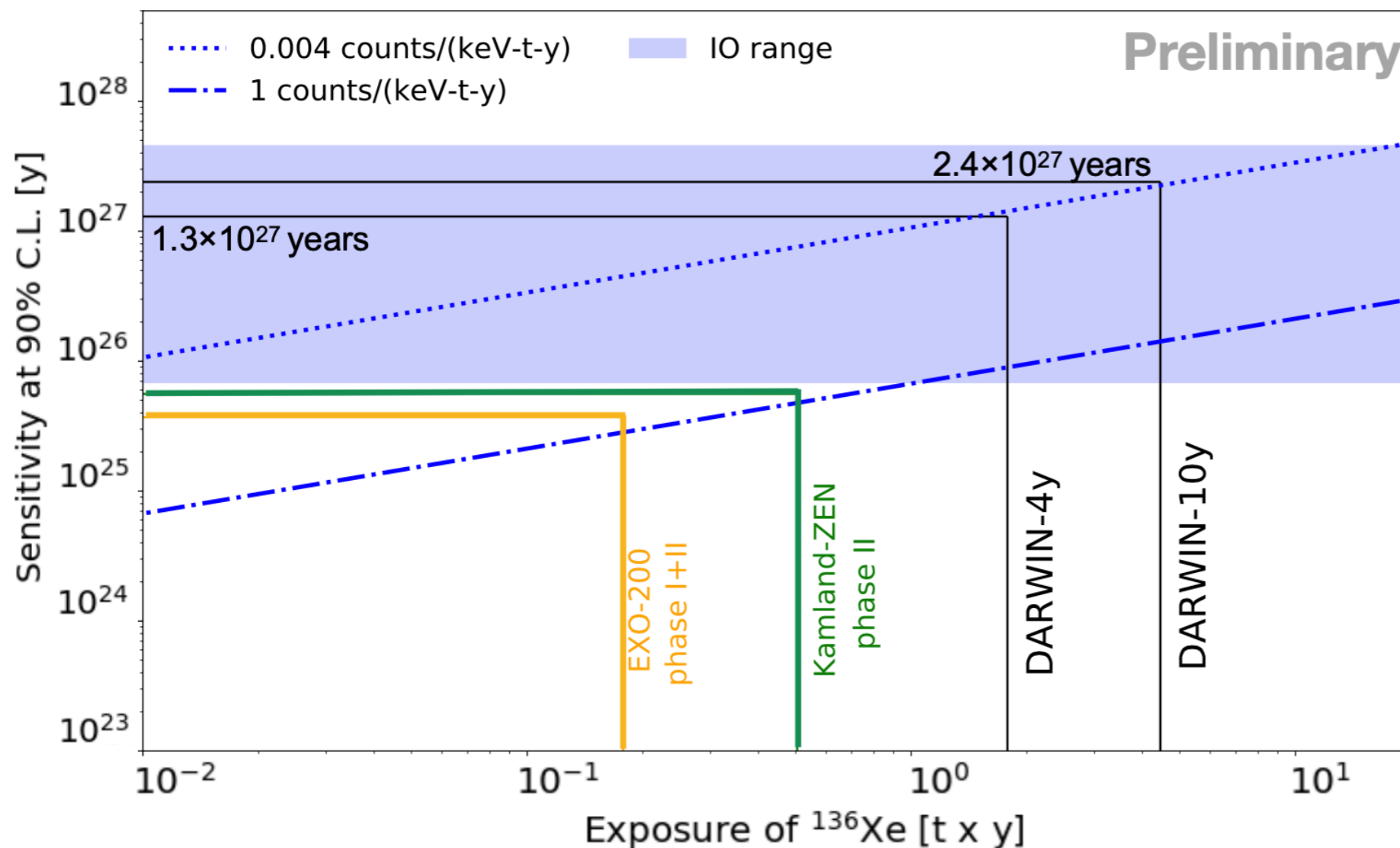


Rate in 5 tonnes fiducial region (0.45 t  $^{136}\text{Xe}$ )



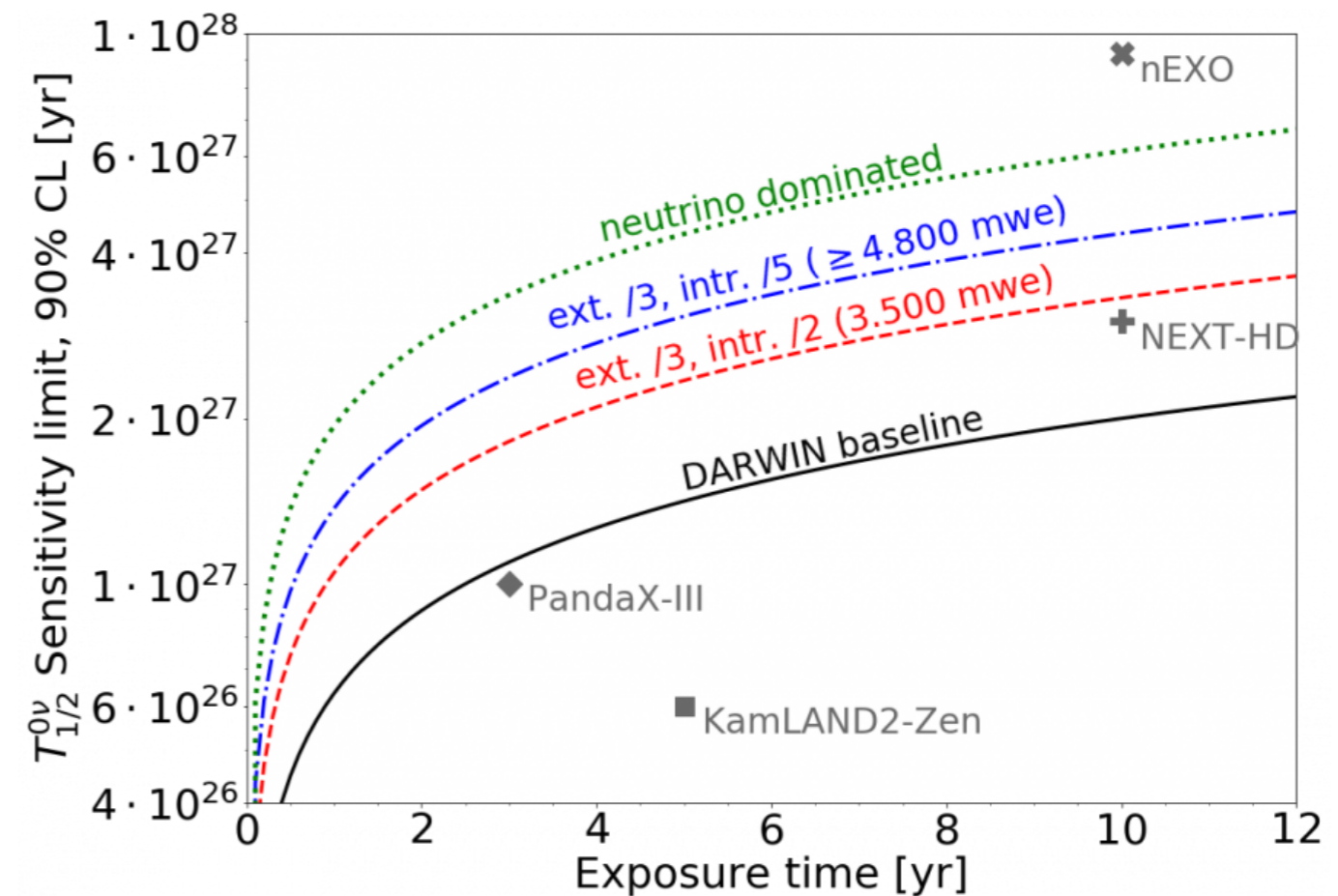
# DOUBLE BETA DECAY SENSITIVITY

- ▶ Profile likelihood analysis, baseline  $T_{1/2}$  sensitivity:
- ▶  $2.4 \times 10^{27}$  y for 5 t fiducial mass x 10 y exposure (90% CL)



# ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT?

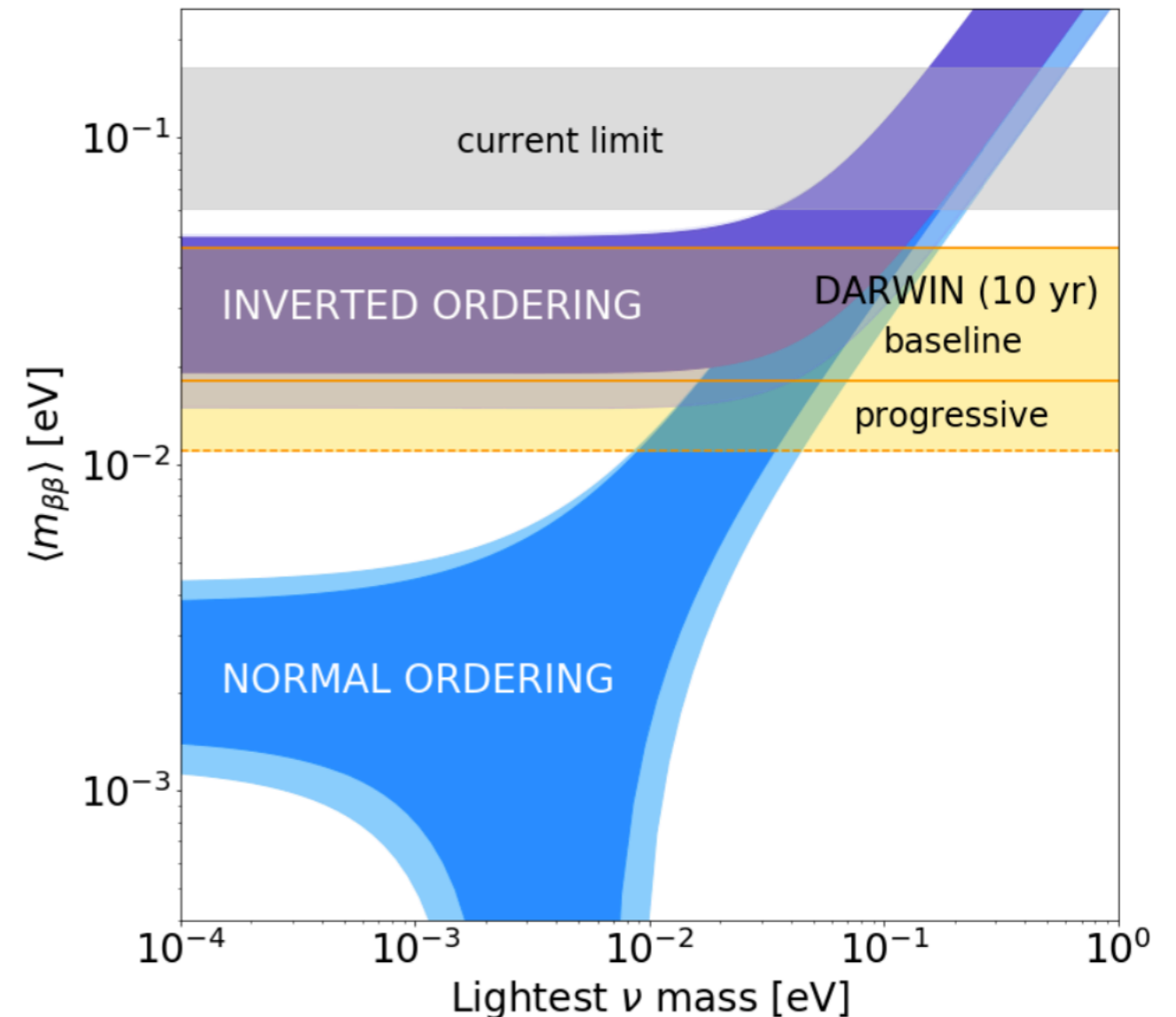
- ▶ Reduce external backgrounds
  - ▶ SiPMs, cleaner materials & electronics
- ▶ Reduce internal background
  - ▶ Time veto for  $^{137}\text{Xe}$ , deeper lab, BiPo tagging
- ▶ Improve signal/background discrimination; resolution...



DARWIN could reach  $\sim 6 \times 10^{27}$  y sensitivity

# ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT?

- ▶ Reduce external backgrounds
  - ▶ SiPMs, cleaner materials & electronics
- ▶ Reduce internal background
  - ▶ Time veto for  $^{137}\text{Xe}$ , deeper lab, BiPo tagging
- ▶ Improve signal/background discrimination; resolution...



Baseline:  $m_{\beta\beta} = (18 - 46) \text{ meV}$

Progressive:  $m_{\beta\beta} = (11 - 28) \text{ meV}$

# DOUBLE BETA DECAY: COMPARISON WITH OTHER PROJECTS

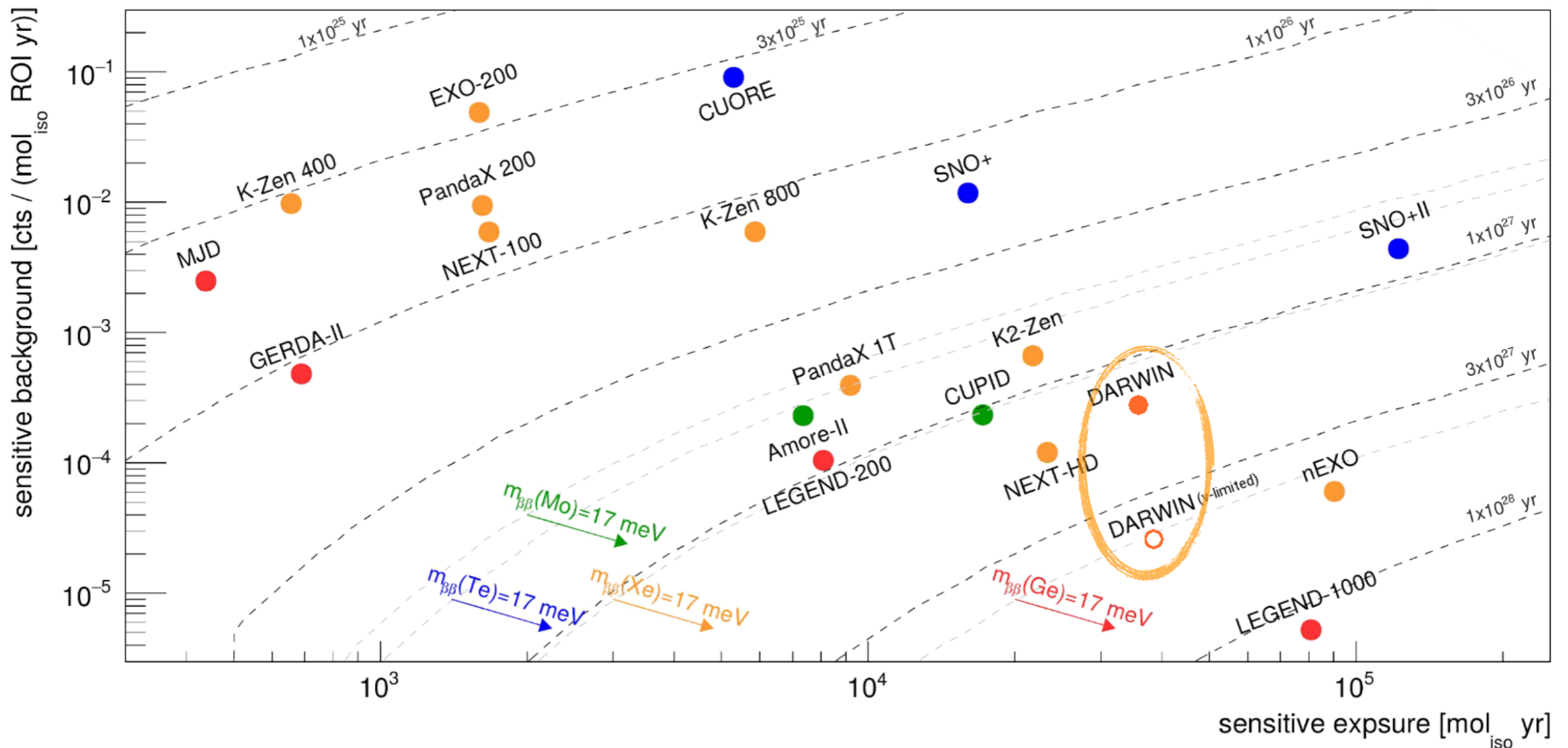


Figure adapted after M. Agostini

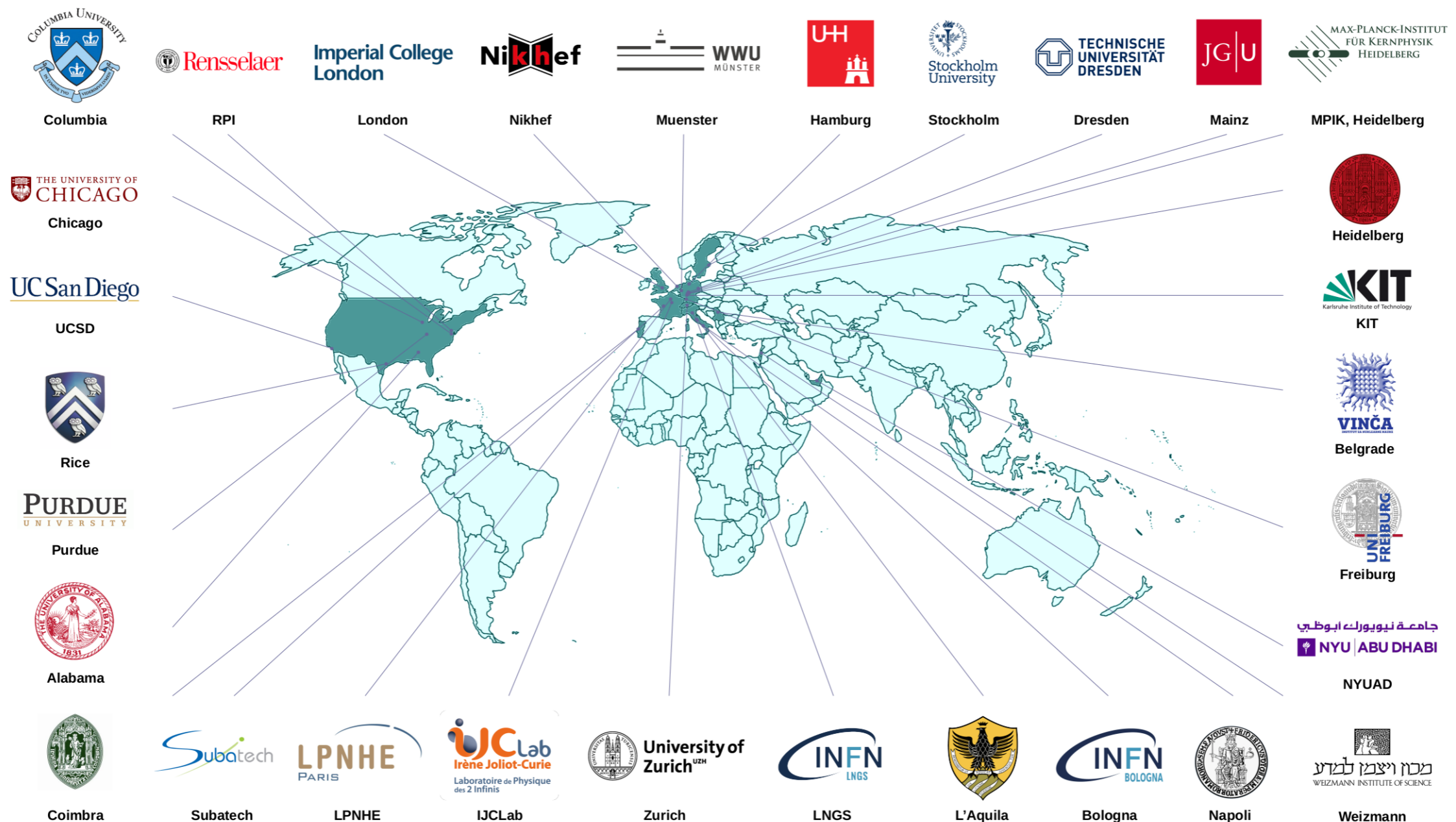
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## PROJECT OVERVIEW

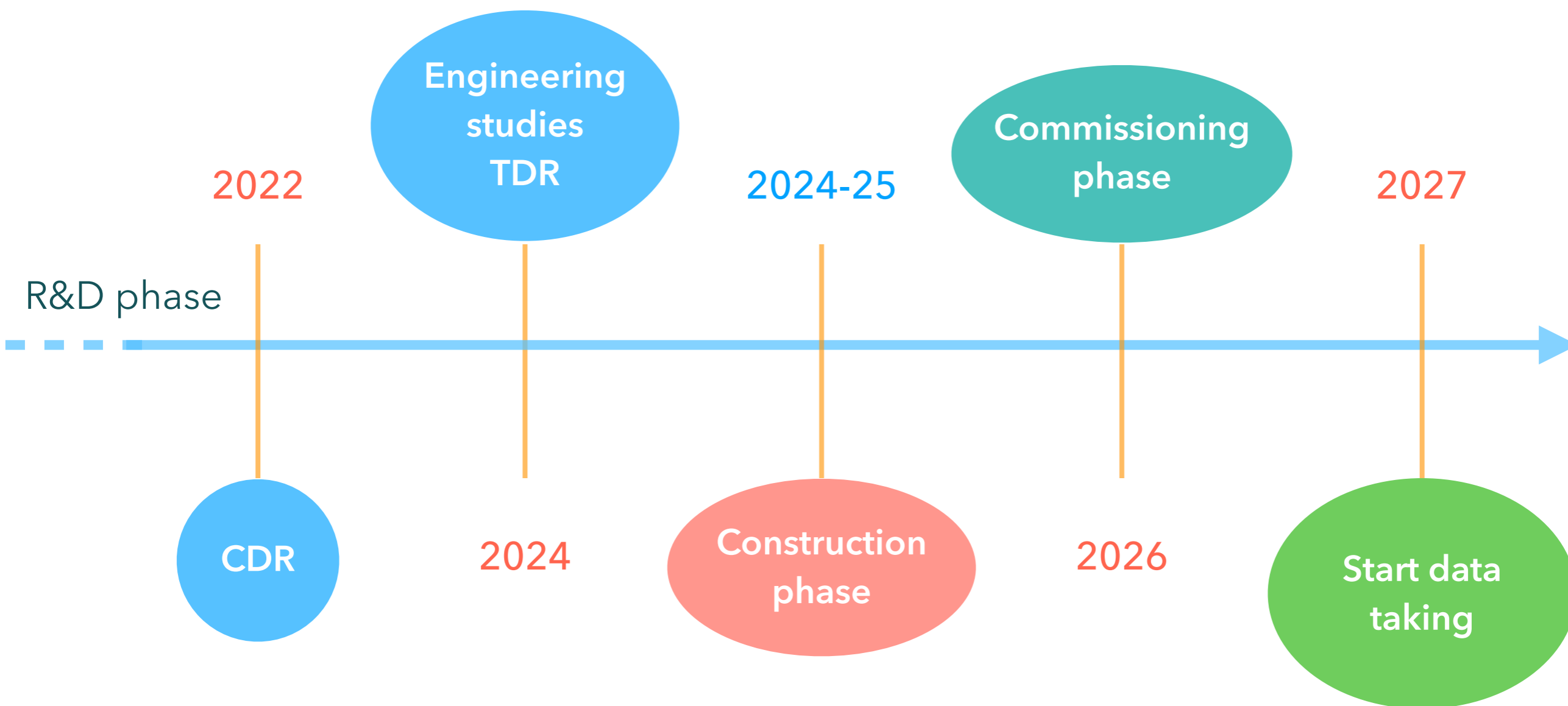
- ▶ 33 groups from 12 countries, working towards CDR and TDR
- ▶ R&D and design on several aspects:
  - ▶ Detector including cryostat & TPC
  - ▶ Light and charge sensors & readout
  - ▶ Backgrounds (incl. Rn/Kr removal, materials) & veto
  - ▶ LXe procurement, storage, purification & cryogenics
  - ▶ Xenon properties and calibration of 50 t detector

# THE DARWIN COLLABORATION

► About 170 members from 33 institutions in Europe, USA and Asia



# DARWIN TIMESCALE



2019: Successful Lol submission to LNGS, invited to submit a CDR

# DETECTOR PROTOTYPES

- ▶ Two large-scale demonstrators & test platforms for the entire collaboration
- ▶ Smaller R&D projects at various institutions



Test  $e^-$  drift over 2.6 m (purification, high-voltage)



Universität  
Zürich<sup>UZH</sup>



Test electrodes and homogeneity of extraction field



# DETECTOR PROTOTYPES

- ▶ Test platform in Freiburg: 2.7 m inner diameter, up to 15 cm in height (5 cm LXe), 400 kg Xe gas
- ▶ Test horizontal components, real-scale electrodes, etc



**DFG**  
Deutsche  
Forschungsgemeinschaft



European Research Council  
Established by the European Commission

# DETECTOR PROTOTYPES

- ▶ Test platform in Zurich
- ▶ 16 cm inner diameter
- ▶ up to 2.6 m LXe height
- ▶ 400 kg Xe gas
- ▶ Test vertical components
- ▶  $e^-$  drift
- ▶ HV feedthroughs, etc



Universität  
Zürich<sup>UZH</sup>



European Research Council  
Established by the European Commission





European Research Council  
Established by the European Commission

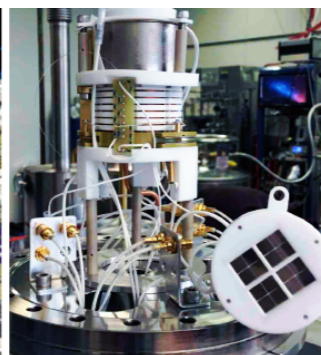
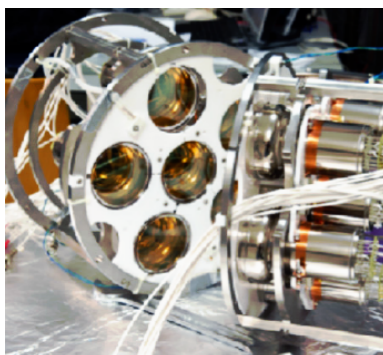
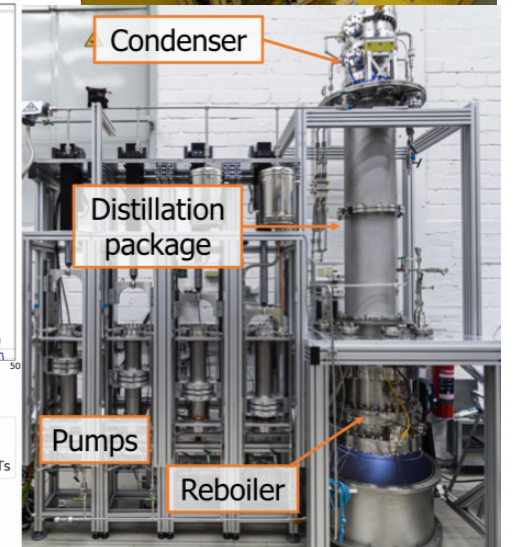
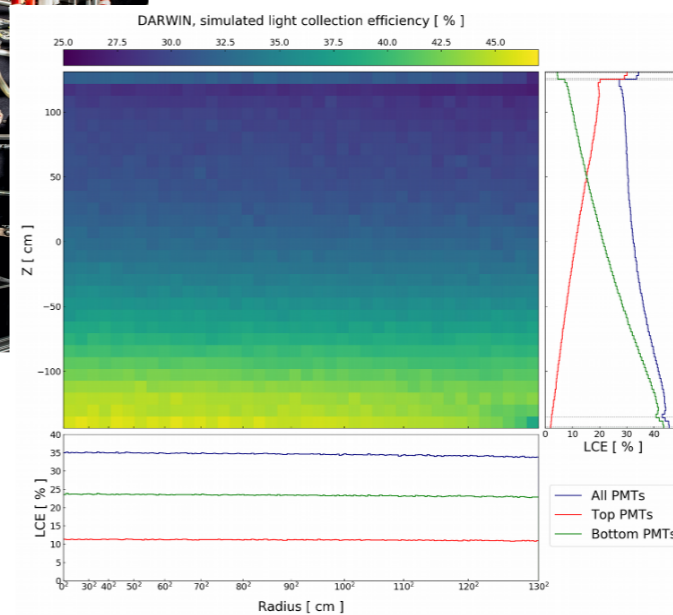
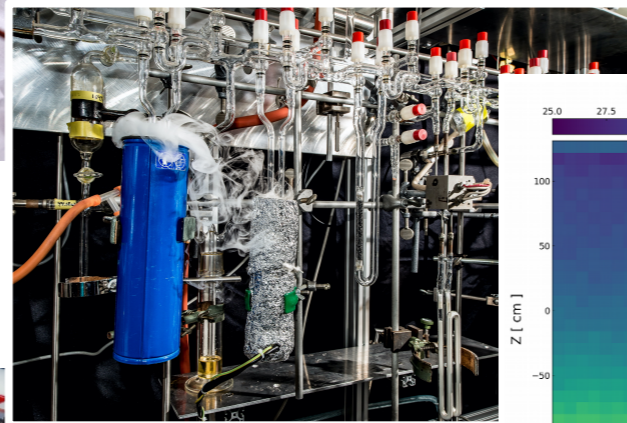
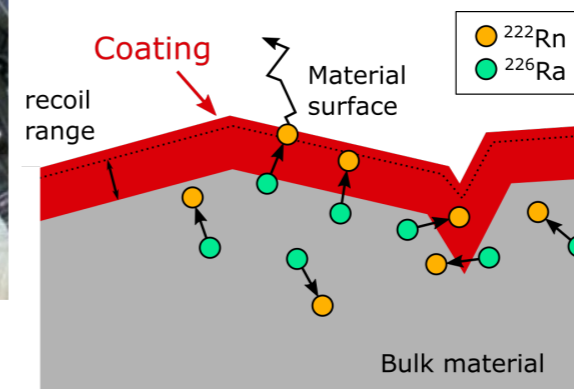
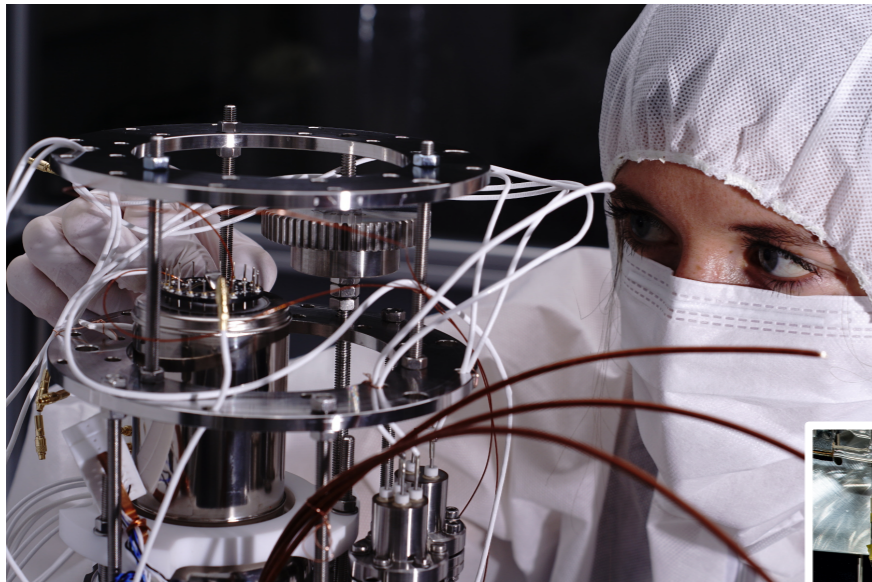
# DETECTOR PROTOTYPES: XENOSCOPE

- ▶ Under construction at UZH, first commissioning in early 2021
- ▶ Support structure, gas system, cryostat, cooling tower, electrical system, etc completed
- ▶ HV feed-through, TPC and purity monitor under design/construction
- ▶ Goals: test 200 V/cm drift field, 100 slpm purification speed, measure  $e^-$  cloud diffusion, etc



# DARWIN R&D EXAMPLES

- ▶ New detector concepts, analytics and screening, radon reduction, new photosensors, etc



# SUMMARY

- ▶ DARWIN observatory: excellent sensitivity in particle/astroparticle physics
- ▶ Due to very low expected event rates, we need:
  - a large detector mass and ultra-low backgrounds (material radio-assay & Rn reduction remain crucial)
  - a very good energy resolution and a low energy threshold
- ▶ In general: DM detectors are optimised at keV energy scales,  $0\nu\beta\beta$  detectors at MeV-scale energies, solar  $\nu$  detectors are much larger, monolithic and have ultra-low backgrounds
  - Ideally, DARWIN will have sensitivity to search for a variety of signals in particles physics: neutrinos,  $0\nu\beta\beta$ , solar axions, dark matter ALPs & dark photons, WIMPs, etc
- ▶ Eventually limited by neutrino interactions (but also new physics opportunities!)
- ▶ Remember that yesterday's background might be today's signal ;-)

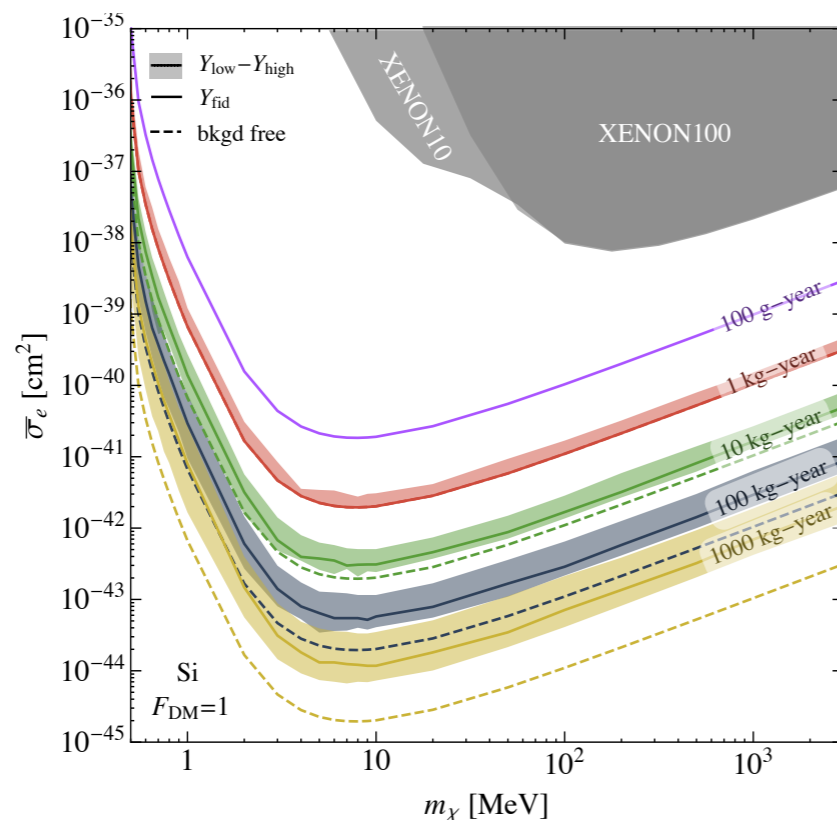
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# BACKUP SLIDES

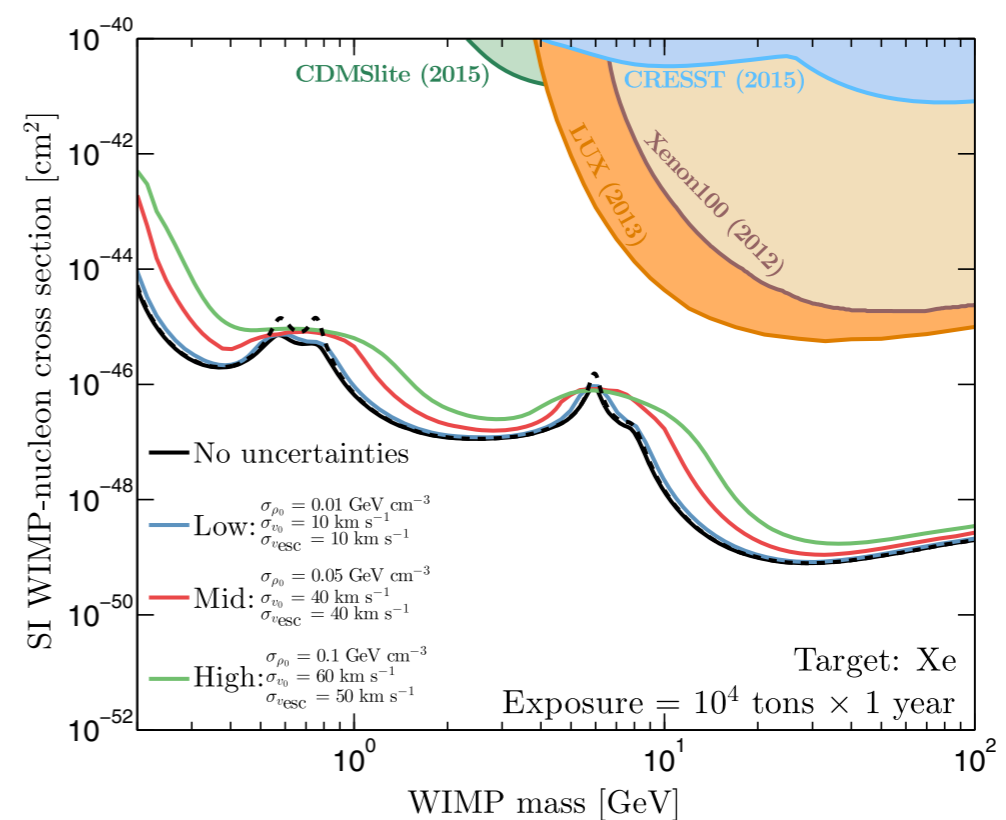
# NEUTRINO BACKGROUNDS FOR DM SEARCHES

- ▶ Low mass region: limit at  $\sim 0.1$ - 10 kg year (target dependent)
- ▶ High mass region: limit at  $\sim 10$  ktonne year
- ▶ But: annual modulation, directionality, momentum dependence, inelastic DM-nucleus scatters, etc

Discovery limits  
( $2\text{-}\sigma$ ) for various  
ionisation  
efficiencies  $Y$ ,  
solar  $\nu$   
background  
only



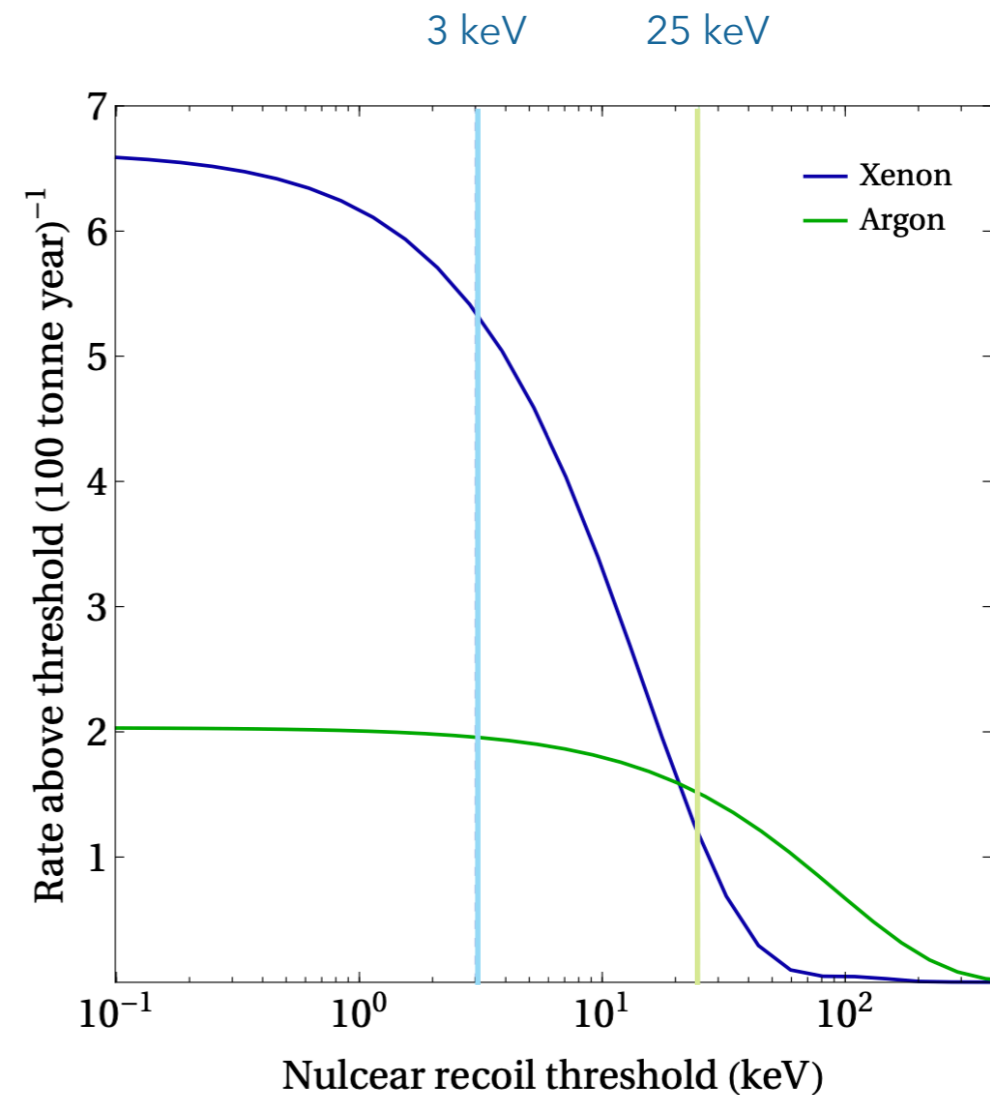
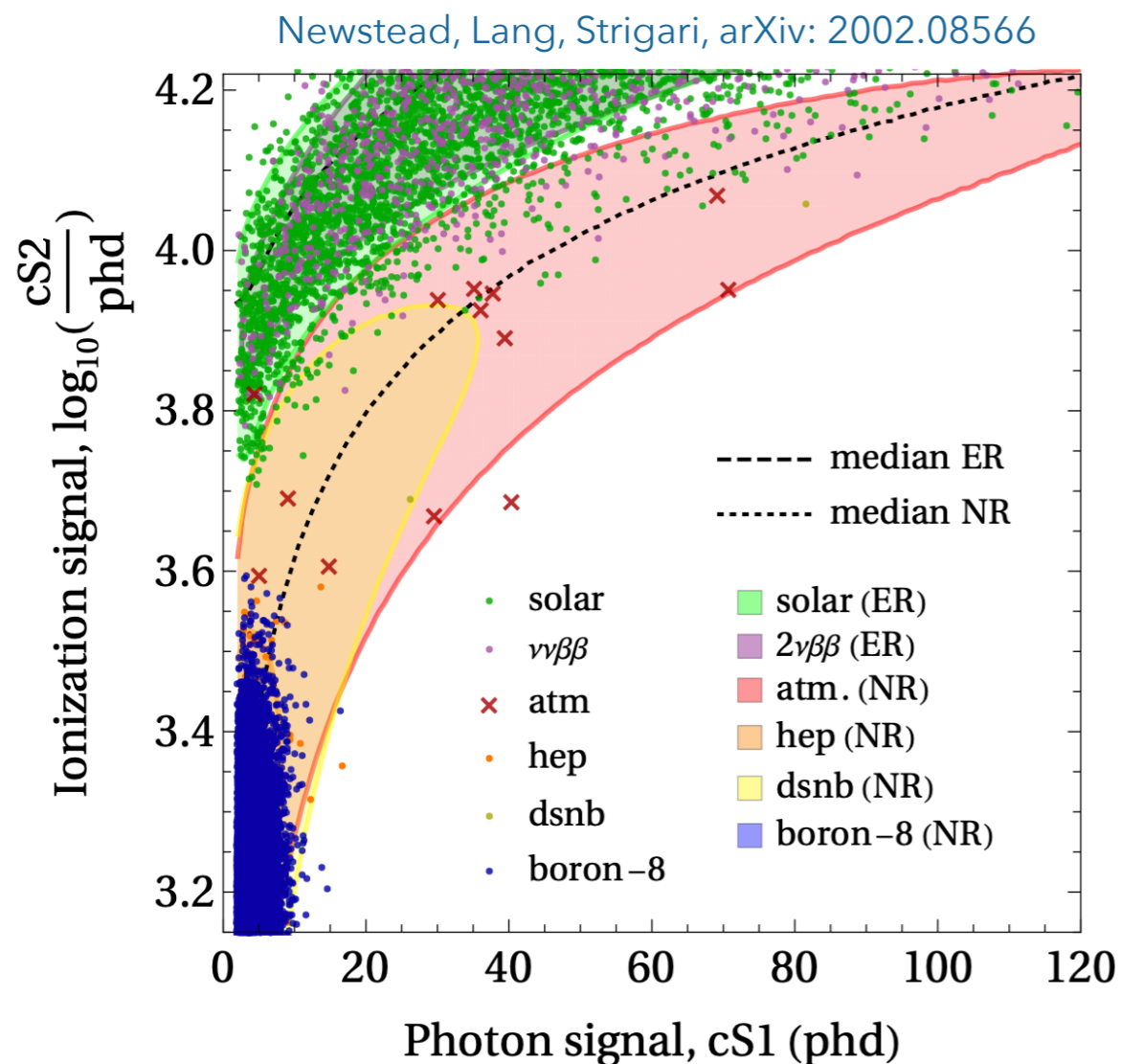
DM-electron scatters (R. Essig et al, PRD97, 2018)



DM-nucleus scatters (C.A.J. O'Hare, PRD94, 2016)

# NEUTRINOS IN A DARWIN-LIKE DETECTOR

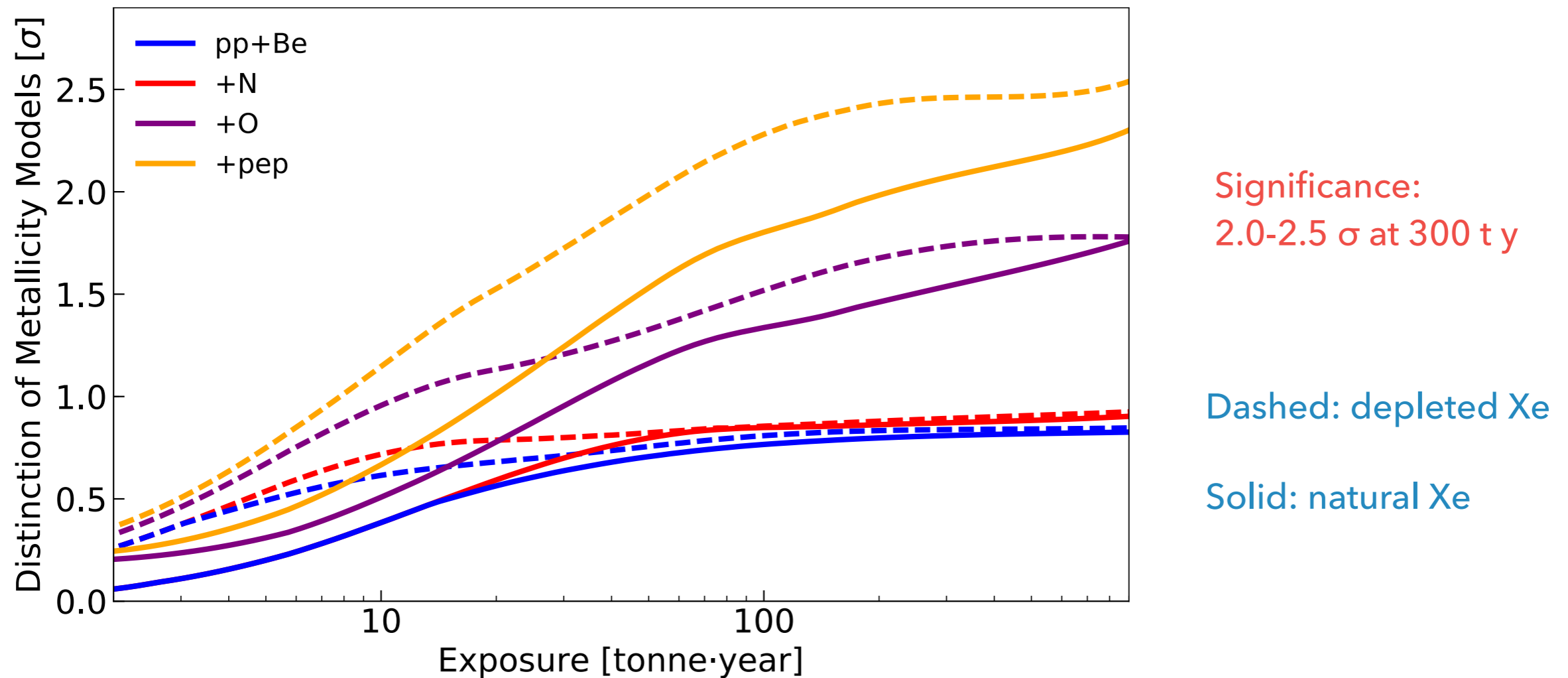
- ▶ Study of sensitivity to atmospheric neutrinos (using NEST to model the signals)
- ▶ Below: exposure of 200 t y; need 700 t y to obtain a 5- $\sigma$  detection of atmospheric neutrinos





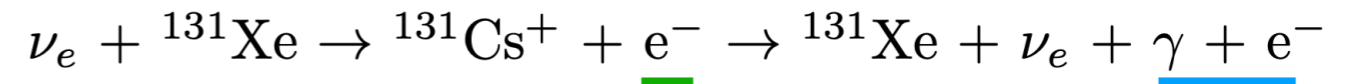
# SOLAR NEUTRINOS

- ▶ Use a combination of neutrino flux measurements to probe the solar metallicity



# SOLAR NEUTRINOS

► Neutrino capture on  $^{131}\text{Xe}$



Prompt Signature

Delayed Signature

A	% > Q	R [SNU]	R <sub>PS</sub> [ty <sup>-1</sup> ]	R <sub>DS</sub> [ty <sup>-1</sup> ]
pp	17.2	9.7	0.16	0.16
Be	100	17.8	0.30	0.30
N	90.8	1.6	0.03	0.03
O	96.2	1.8	0.03	0.03
pep	100	1.6	0.03	0.03
B	99.98	12.7	0.01*	0.12
			<b>0.56</b>	<b>0.67</b>

21.2% abundance

$$Q = 355 \text{ keV}$$

$$E_\nu = 325.5 \text{ keV}$$

$$E_{\text{NC}} = 29.5 \text{ keV}$$

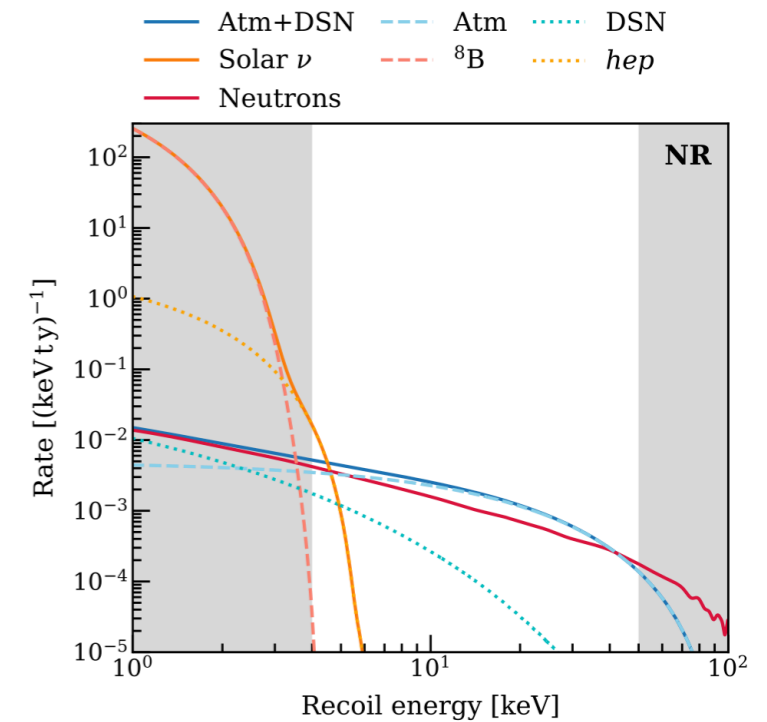
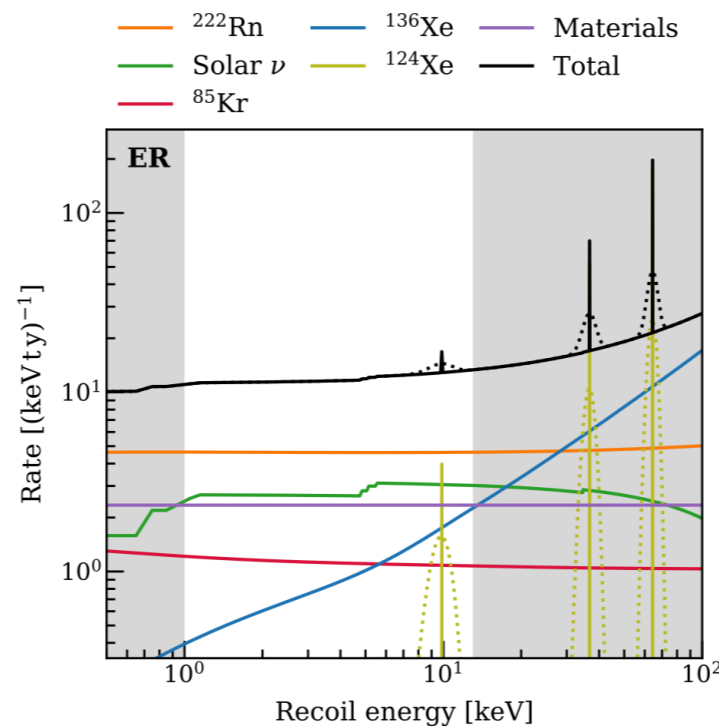
Georgadze et al.

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0927650597000170>

\* only 11.4% in [0,3] MeV

# XENON-NT: BACKGROUND PREDICTIONS

Source	Rate $[(\text{t y})^{-1}]$
<b>ER background</b>	
Detector radioactivity	$25 \pm 3$
$^{222}\text{Rn}$	$55 \pm 6$
$^{85}\text{Kr}$	$13 \pm 1$
$^{136}\text{Xe}$	$16 \pm 2$
$^{124}\text{Xe}$	$4 \pm 1$
Solar neutrinos	$34 \pm 1$
Total	$148 \pm 7$
<b>NR background</b>	
Neutrons	$(4.1 \pm 2.1) \times 10^{-2}$
$\text{CE}\nu\text{NS}$ (Solar $\nu$ )	$(6.3 \pm 0.3) \times 10^{-3}$
$\text{CE}\nu\text{NS}$ (Atm+DSN)	$(5.4 \pm 1.1) \times 10^{-2}$
Total	$(1.0 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{-1}$

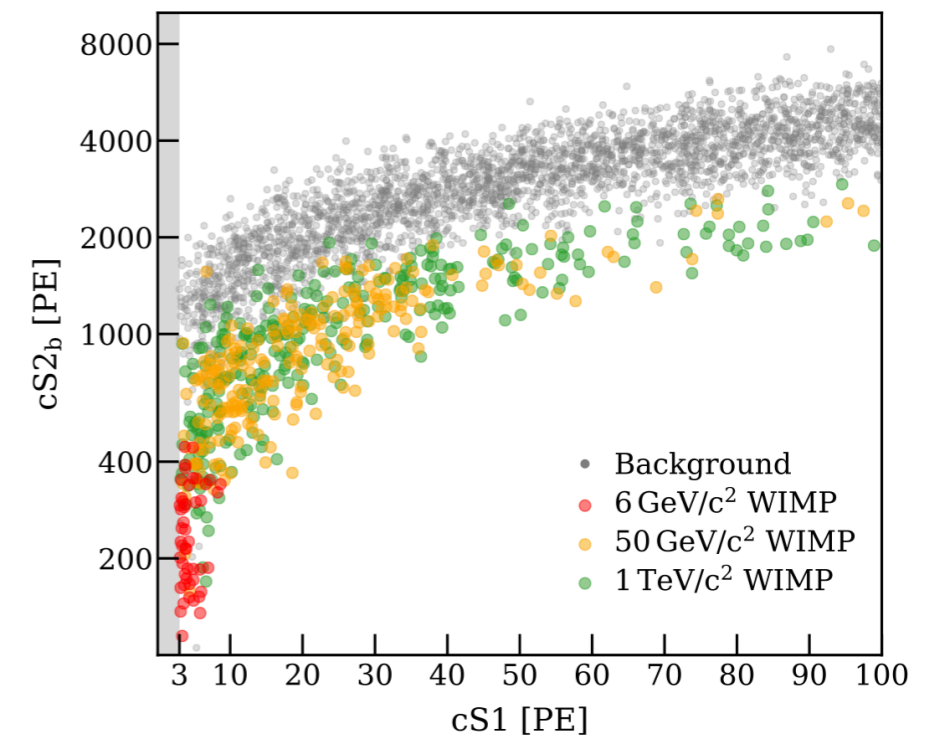
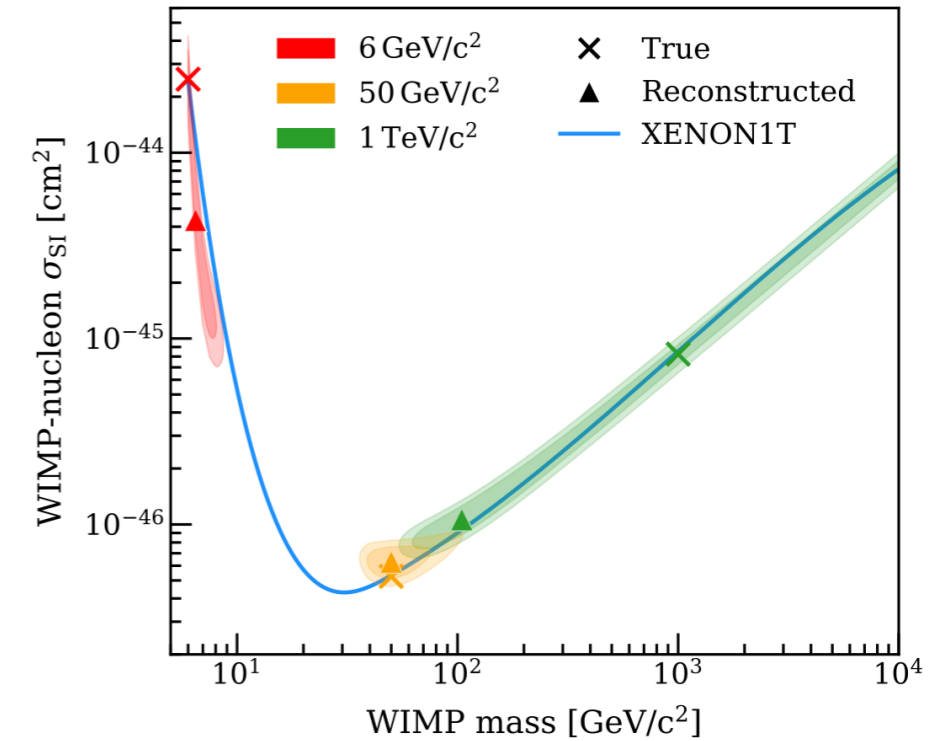


rates in a fiducial mass of 4 t of LXe, 1-13 keV ER, 4 - 50 keV NR energy range

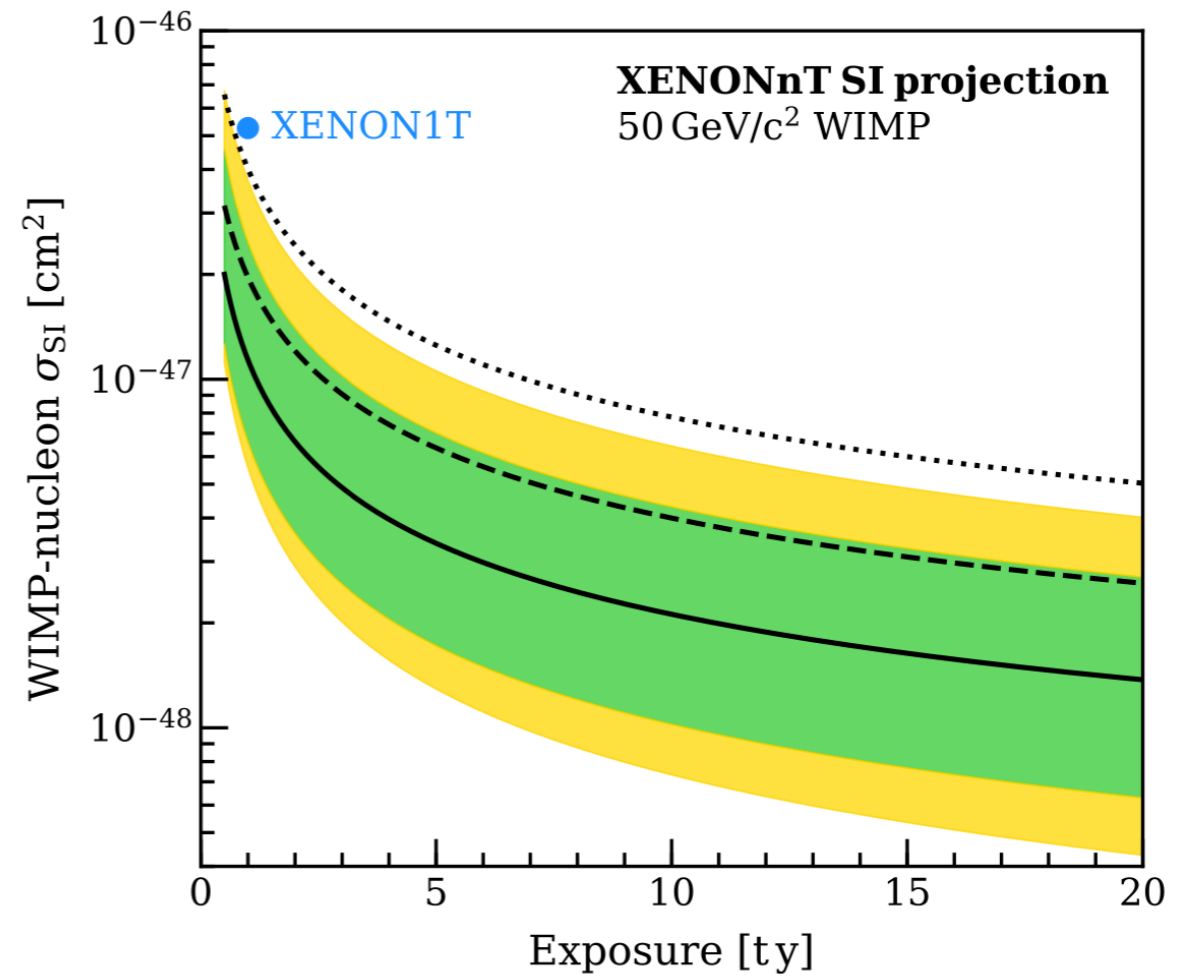
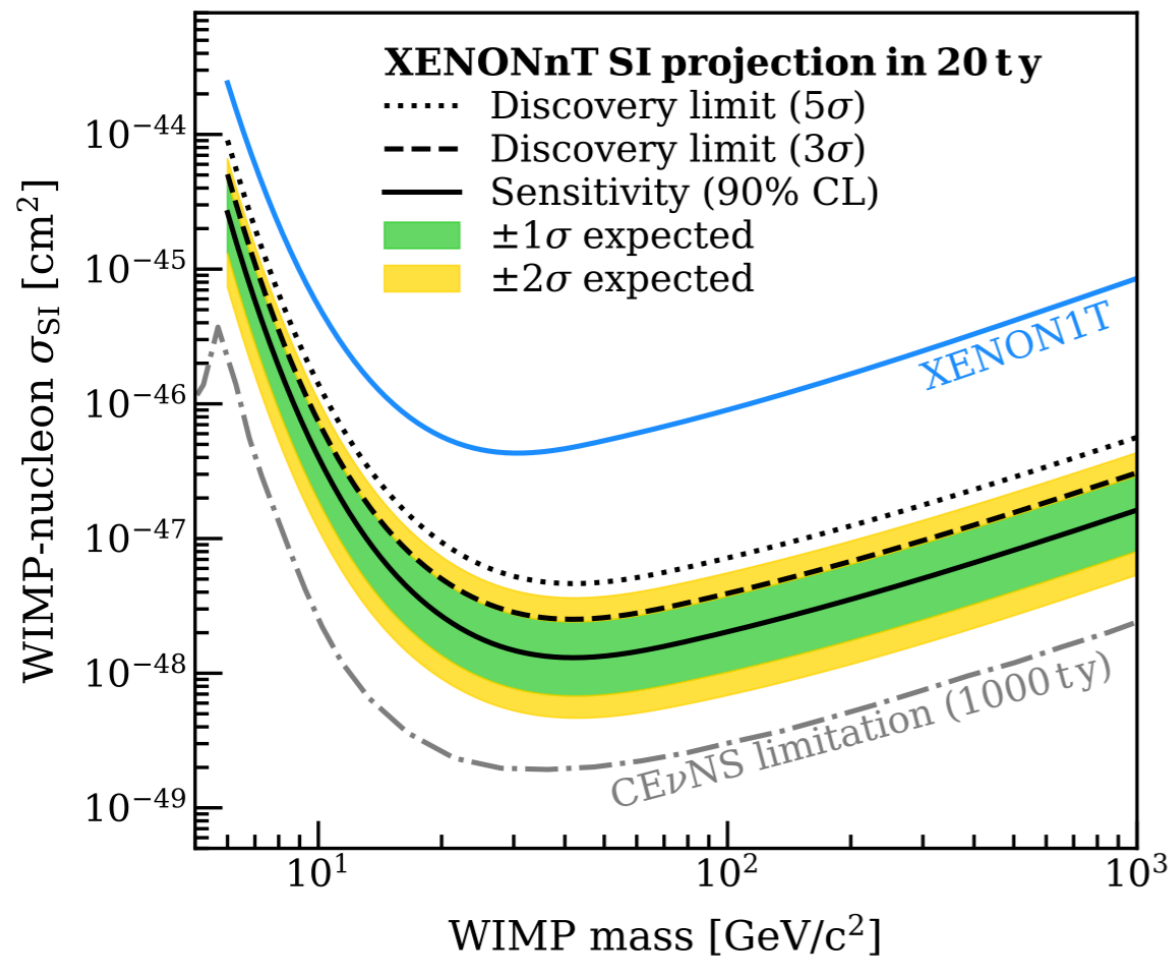
# XENON-NT: BACKGROUND PREDICTIONS

Model component	Expectation value ( $\mu$ ) in 20 t y		Rate uncertainty ( $\xi$ )
	Observable ROI	Reference signal region	
<b>Background</b>			
ER	2440	1.56	
Neutrons	0.29	0.15	50%
CE $\nu$ NS (Solar $\nu$ )	7.61	5.41	4%
CE $\nu$ NS (Atm+DSN)	0.82	0.36	20%
<b>WIMP signal</b>			
6 GeV/c <sup>2</sup> ( $\sigma_{\text{DM}} = 3 \times 10^{-44} \text{ cm}^2$ )	25	19	
50 GeV/c <sup>2</sup> ( $\sigma_{\text{DM}} = 5 \times 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2$ )	186	88	
1 TeV/c <sup>2</sup> ( $\sigma_{\text{DM}} = 8 \times 10^{-46} \text{ cm}^2$ )	286	118	

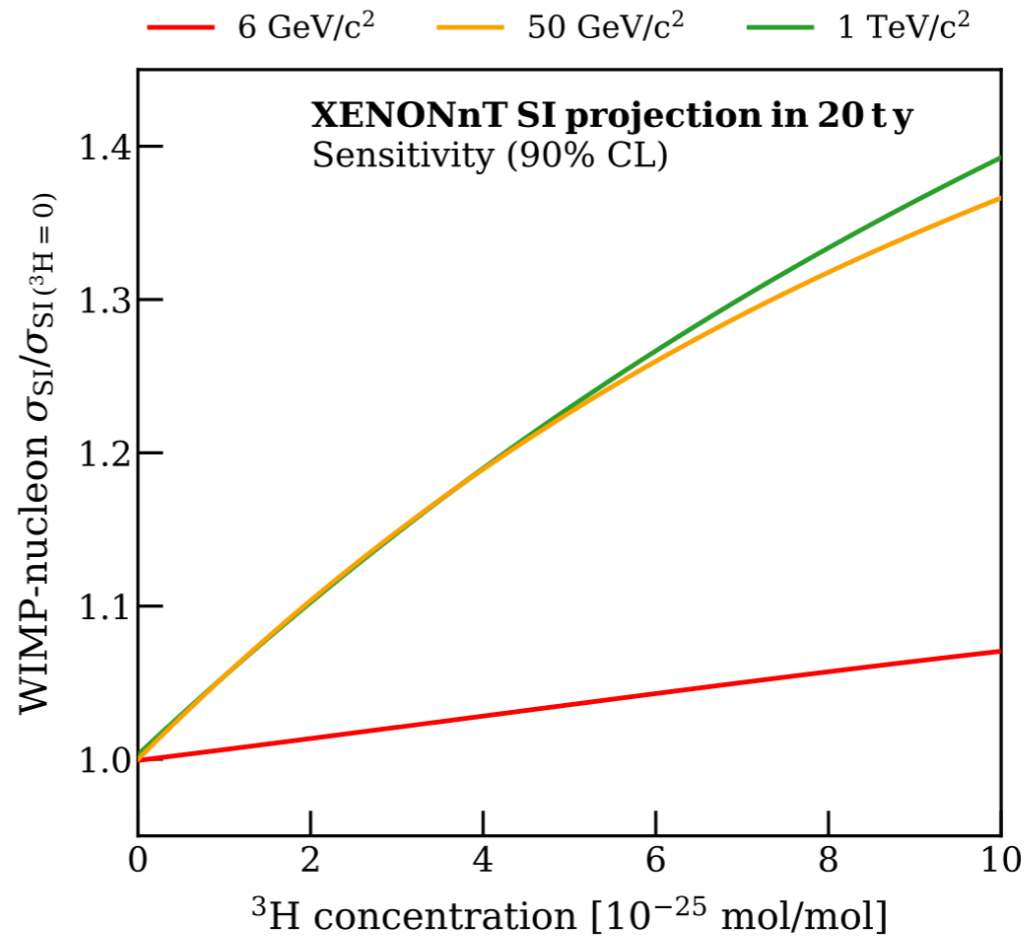
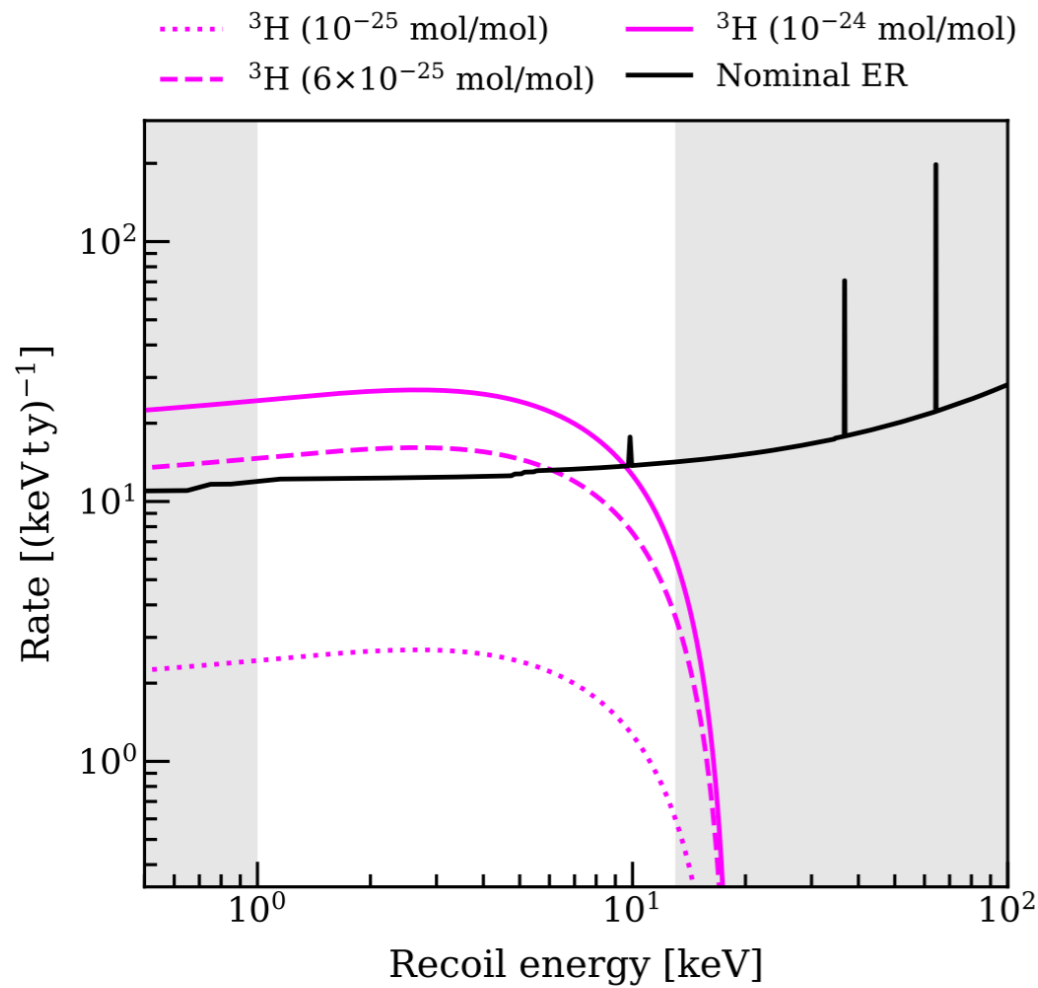
Number of events in the ROI and in a reference WIMP signal region for an exposure of 20 years



# XENON-NT: SCIENCE REACH

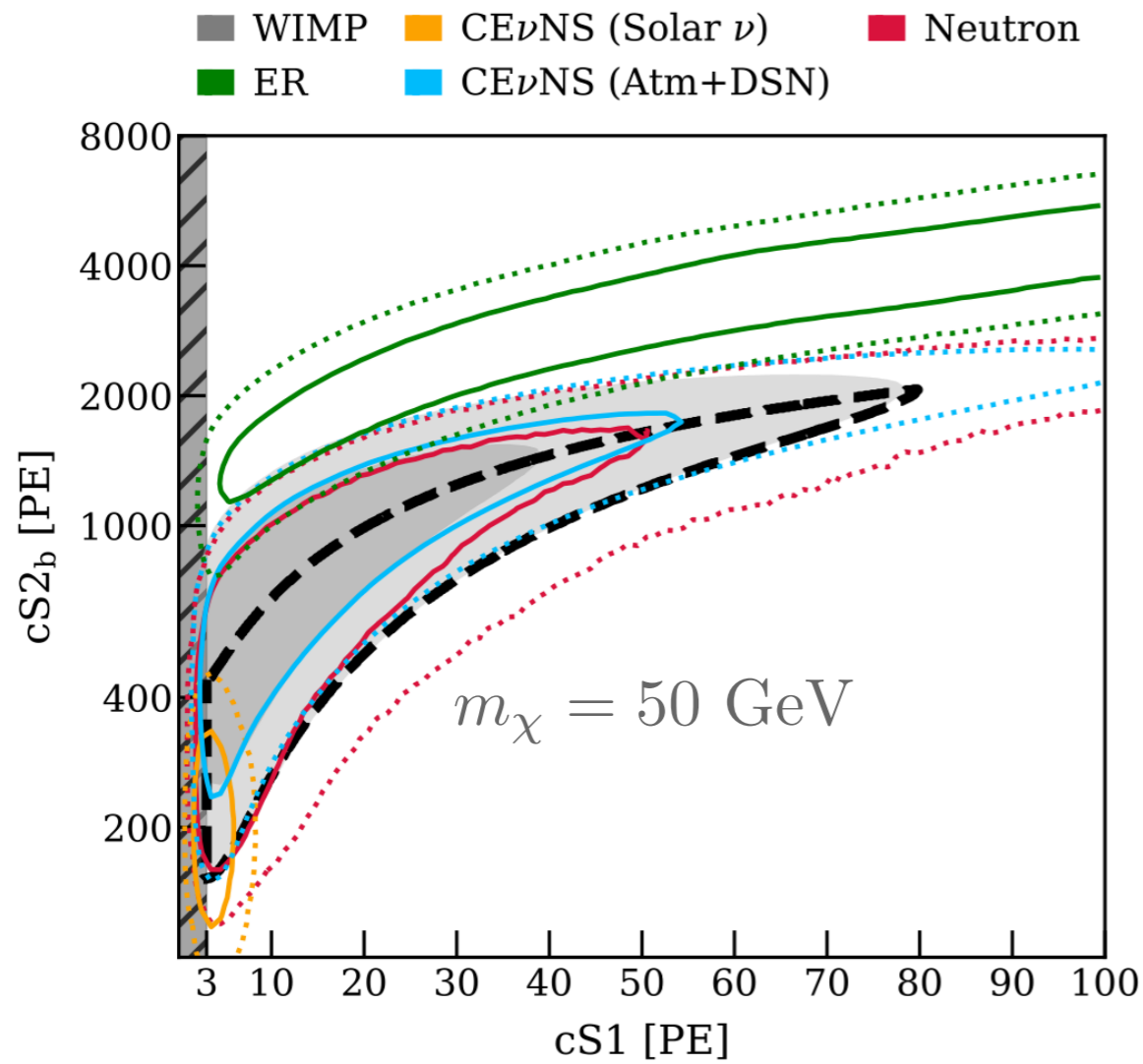


# XENON-NT: IMPACT OF (POTENTIAL) TRITIUM

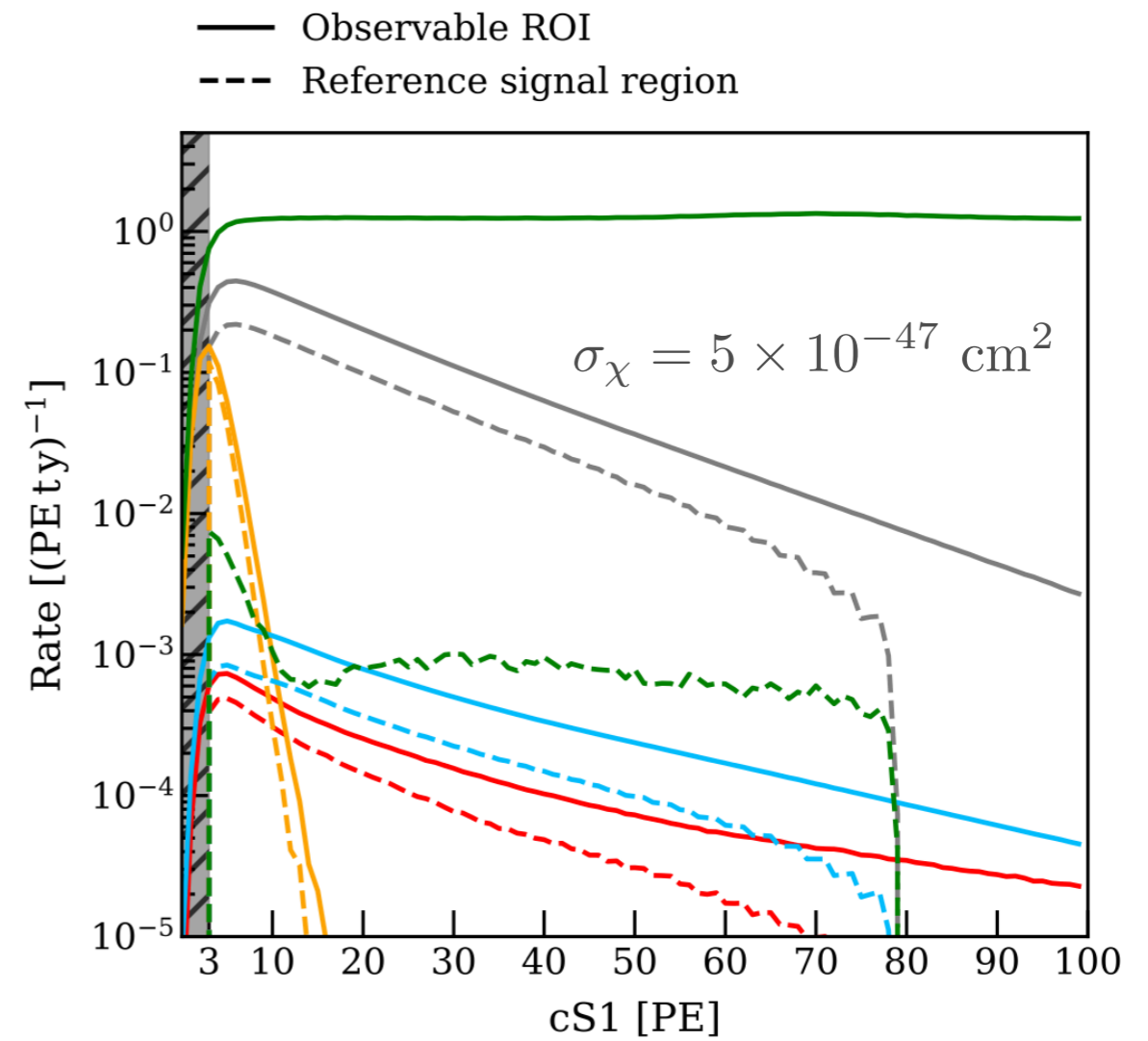


Sensitivity as a function of  $^3\text{H}$  concentration, relative to the sensitivity with no  $^3\text{H}$  contribution

# XENON-NT: SCIENCE REACH



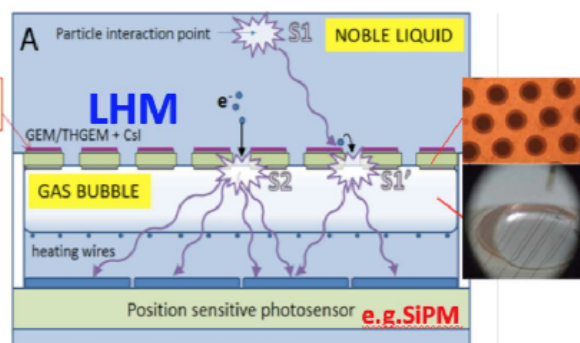
Background and signal PDFs



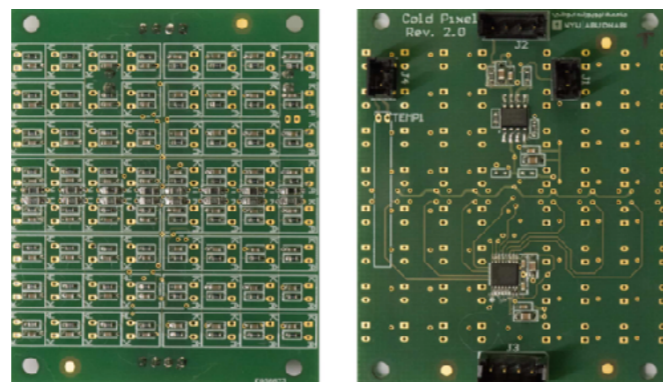
Background and signal PDFs projected on S1 space

# LIGHT AND CHARGE SENSORS AND READOUT

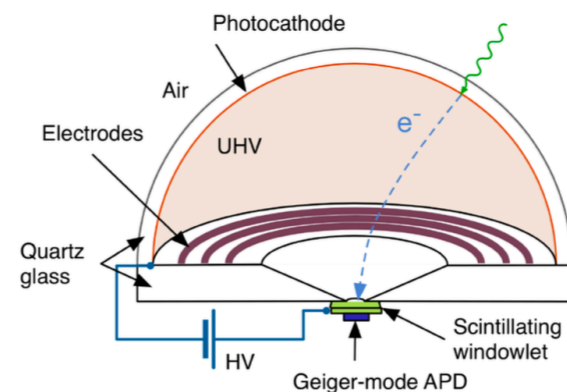
- ▶ Test alternative to PMTs: e.g., ABALONE (hybrid photosensor), VUV-SiPMs (FBK, Hamamatsu)
- ▶ Develop cryogenic electronics for SiPMs; develop cryogenic digital SiPMs
- ▶ Bubble-assisted Liquid Hole Multipliers: local vapour bubble underneath GEM-like perforated electrode in LXe



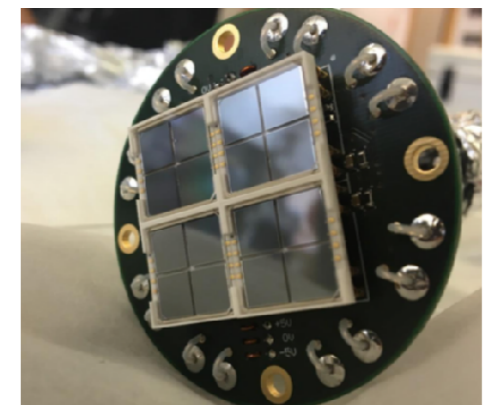
Liquid hole multipliers  
E. Erdal, 2018 JINST 13, 2018



Cryogenic preamp for SiPMs, F. Arneodo et al., NIM 936, 2019



ABALONE, D. Ferenc et al., NIM 954, 2020



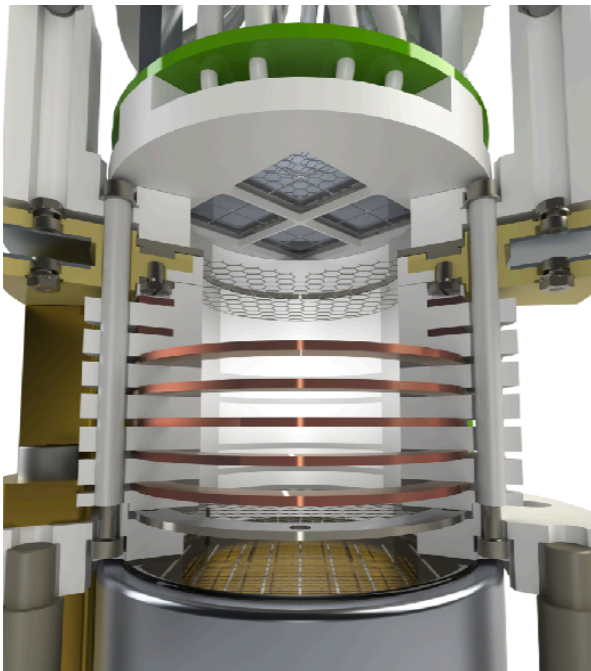
Hamamatsu SiPM arrays in two-phase TPC, LB et al., EPJ-C 80, 2020



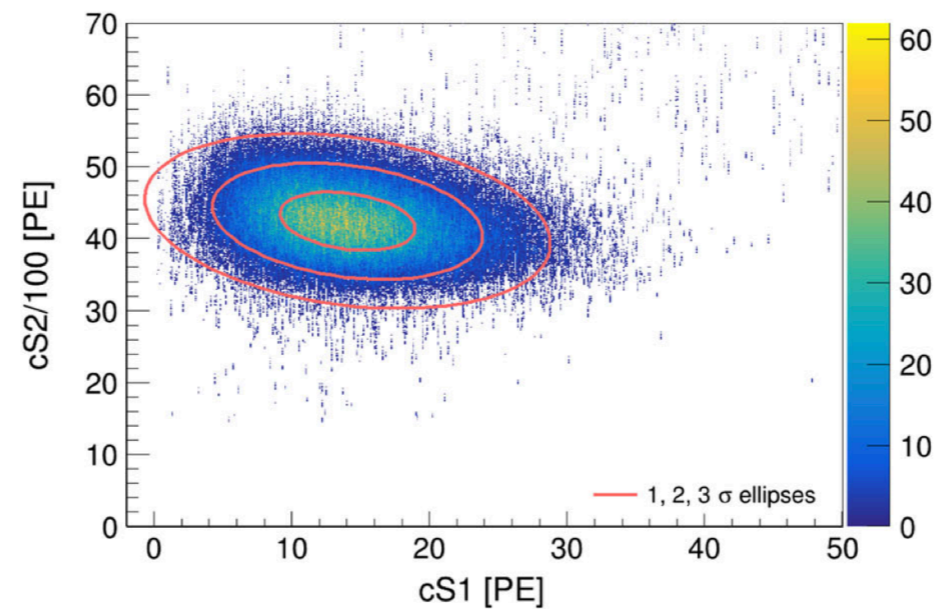
# LIGHT AND CHARGE SENSORS AND READOUT

- ▶ Test VUV-sensitive SiPMs as potential replacement for PMTs
- ▶ First Xe-TPC with SiPM in top array at UZH
- ▶ Characterisation with  $^{37}\text{Ar}$  and  $^{83\text{m}}\text{Kr}$  sources

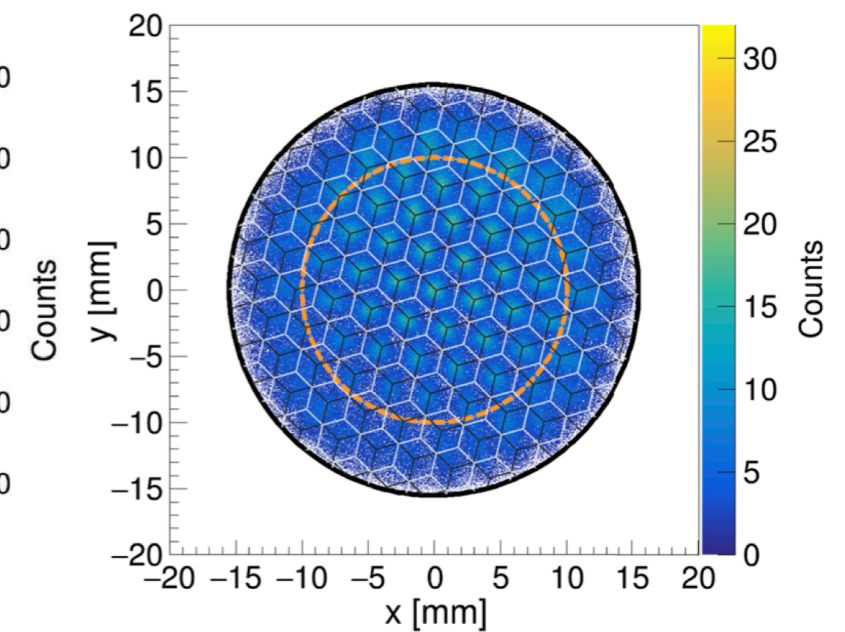
## Characterisation with $^{37}\text{Ar}$ source



Upgrade of Xurich-II (LB et al., EPJ-C 80, 2020 and EPJ- C 78, 2018)



S2 versus S1 for the 2.82 keV  $^{37}\text{Ar}$  line (K-shell, 90.2% BR)

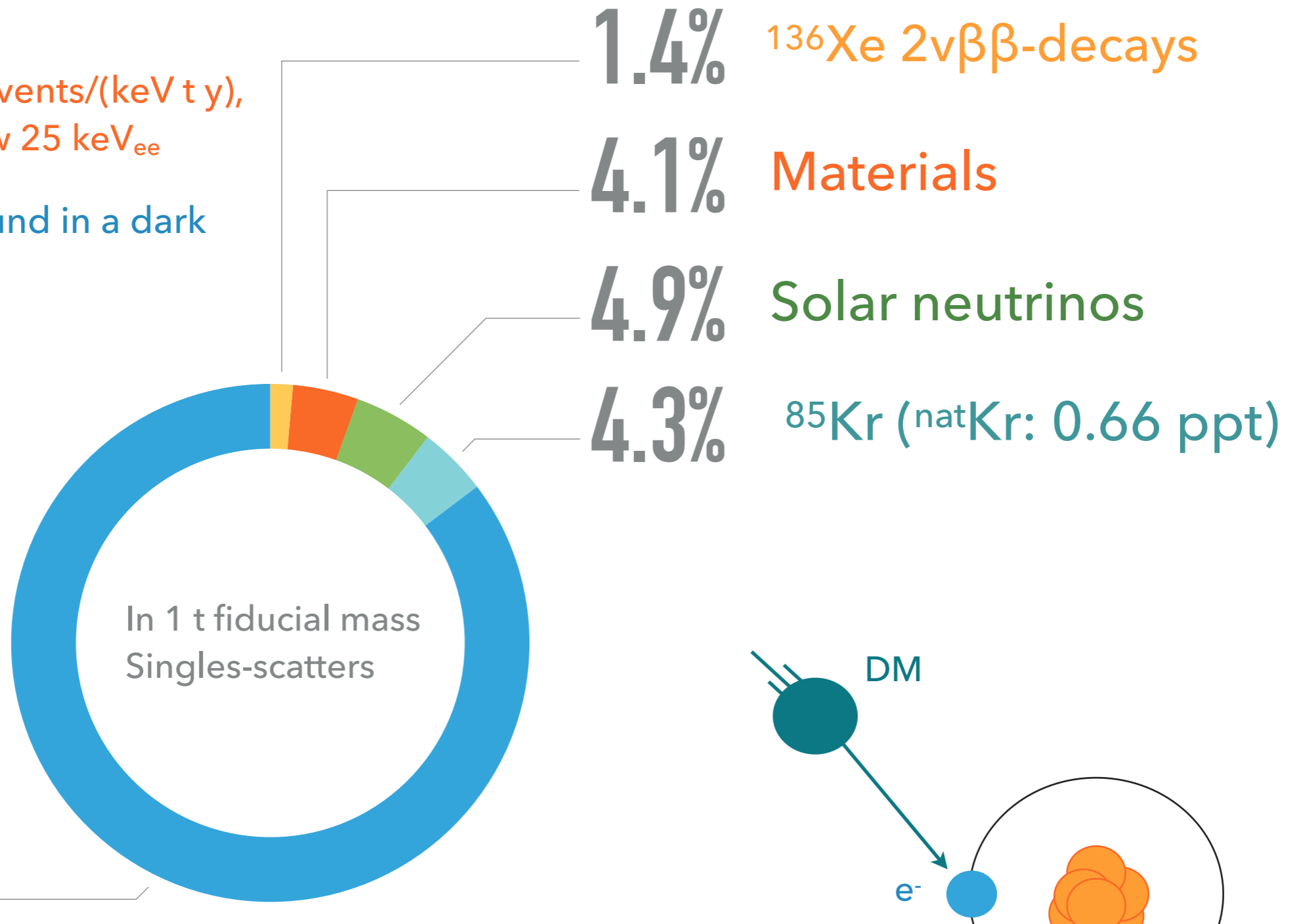


x-y position reconstruction  
~ 1.5 mm resolution

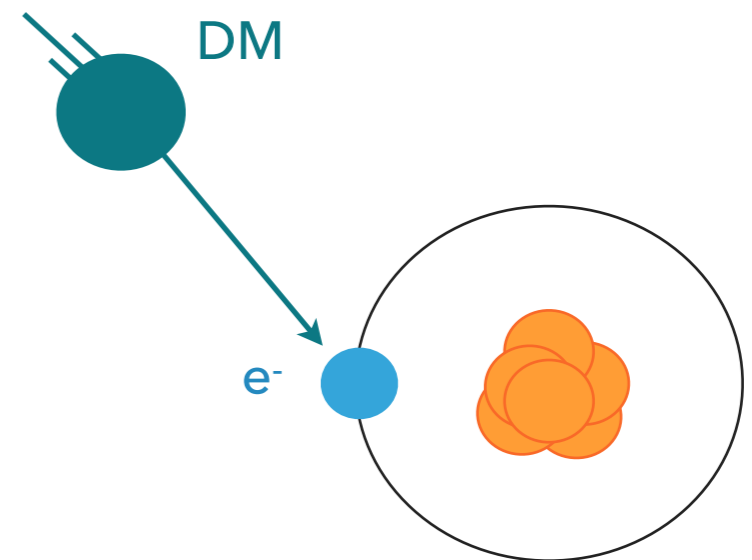
## BACKGROUND BUDGET IN DOUBLE BETA REGION

Background source	Background index [events/(t·yr·keV )]	Rate [events/yr]	Rel. uncertainty
<i>External sources (5 t FV):</i>			
$^{214}\text{Bi}$ peaks + continuum	$1.36 \times 10^{-3}$	0.313	$\pm 3.6\%$
$^{208}\text{Tl}$ continuum	$6.20 \times 10^{-4}$	0.143	$\pm 4.9\%$
$^{44}\text{Sc}$ continuum	$4.64 \times 10^{-6}$	0.001	$\pm 15.8\%$
<i>Intrinsic contributions:</i>			
$^8\text{B}$ ( $\nu - e$ scattering)	$2.36 \times 10^{-4}$	0.054	+13.9%, -32.2%
$^{137}\text{Xe}$ ( $\mu$ -induced $n$ -capture)	$1.42 \times 10^{-3}$	0.327	$\pm 12.0\%$
$^{136}\text{Xe}$ $2\nu\beta\beta$	$5.78 \times 10^{-6}$	0.001	+17.0%, -15.2%
$^{222}\text{Rn}$ in LXe (0.1 $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$ )	$3.09 \times 10^{-4}$	0.071	$\pm 1.6\%$
<b>Total:</b>	<b><math>3.96 \times 10^{-3}</math></b>	<b>0.910</b>	<b>+4.7%, -5.0%</b>

- ER rate:  $(82 \pm 5)$  events/(keV t y), in 1.3 t and below  $25 \text{ keV}_{ee}$
- Lowest background in a dark matter detector

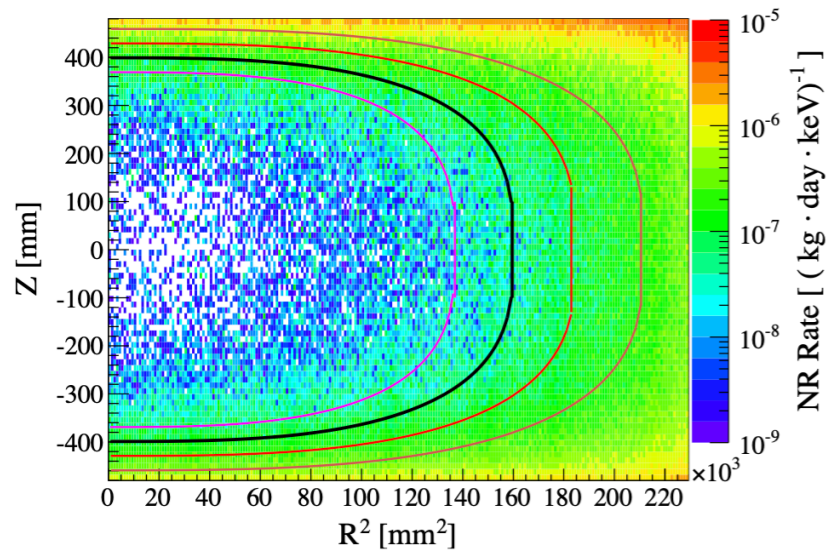


In 1 t fiducial mass  
Singles-scatters

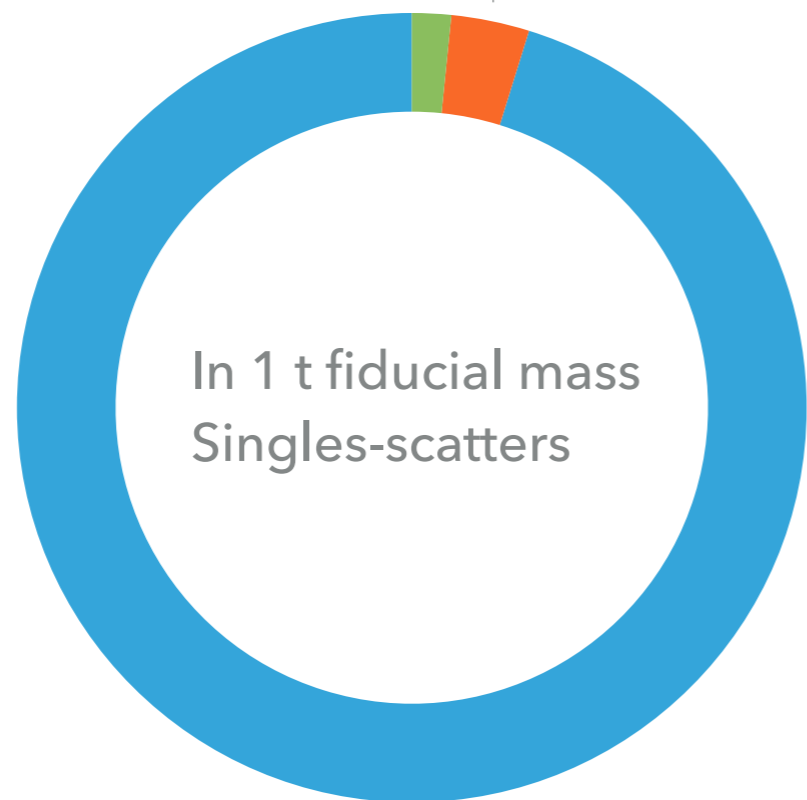


$^{222}\text{Rn}$  (10  $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$ )

Control surface emanation  
Reduce by online distillation



1.6%  
3.2%



In 1 t fiducial mass  
Singles-scatters

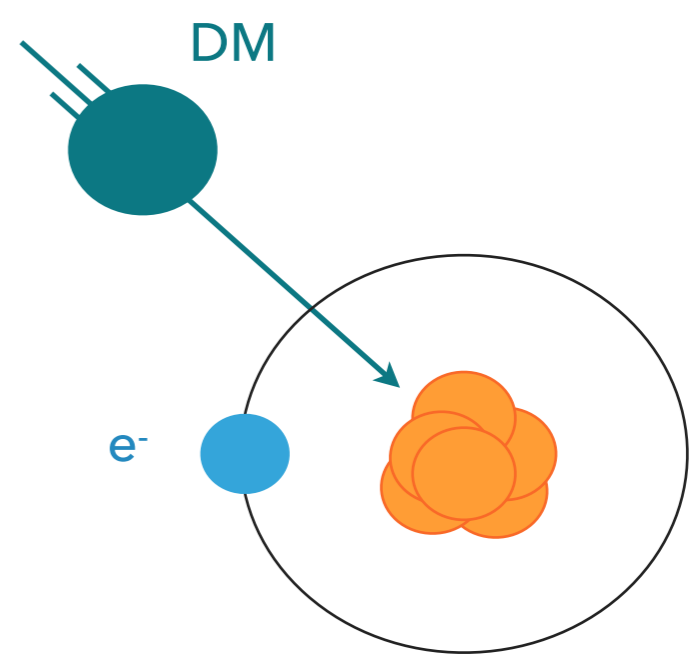
95.2%

Radiogenic neutrons

From ( $\alpha, n$ ) and SF reactions; material selection; single versus multiple-scatters

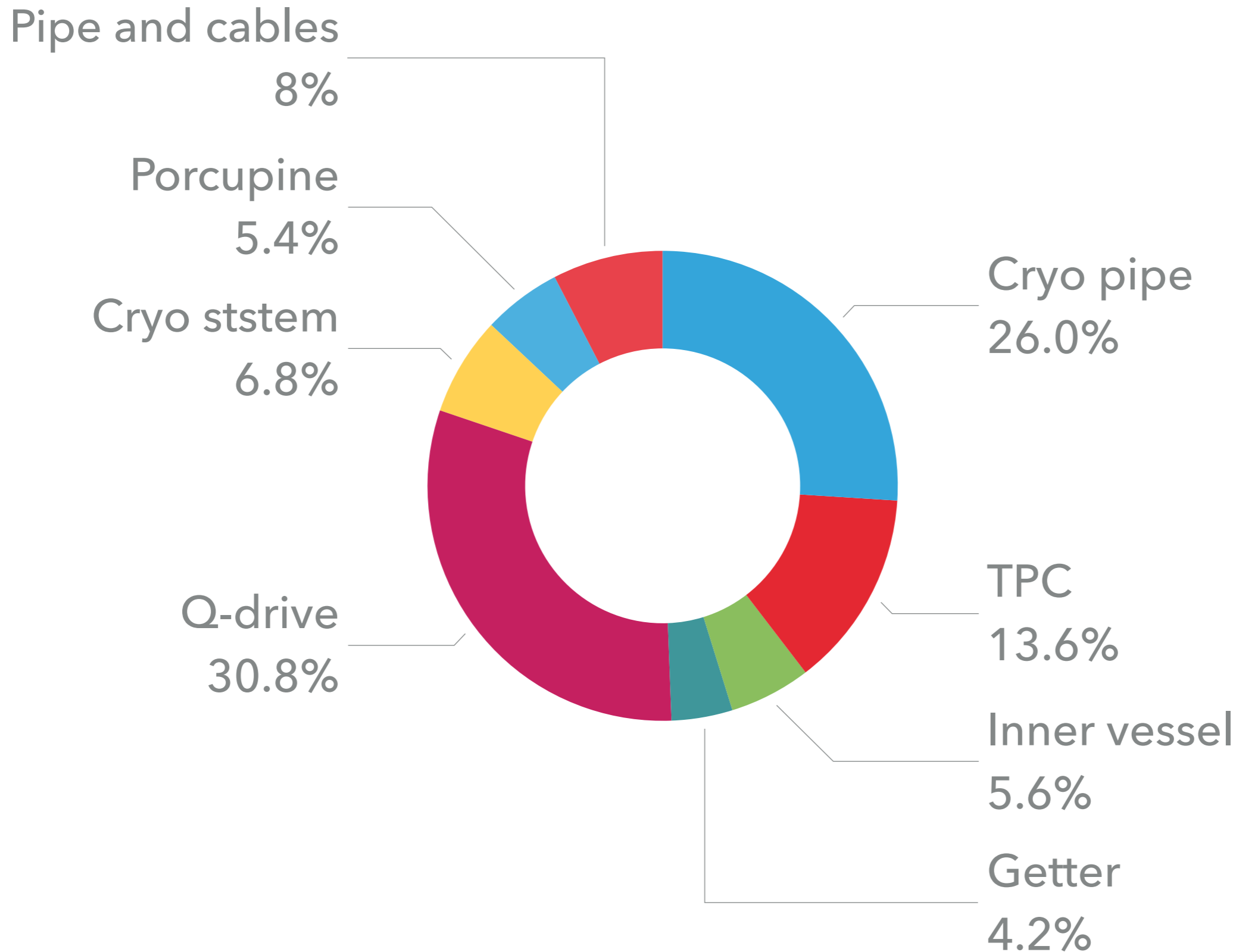
Cosmogenic neutrons (muon induced neutrons); rock overburden, water Cherenkov shield (here upper limit)

Coherent neutrino-nucleus scattering from  $^8\text{B}$  neutrinos; irreducible, but relevant at low (<1 keV) energies



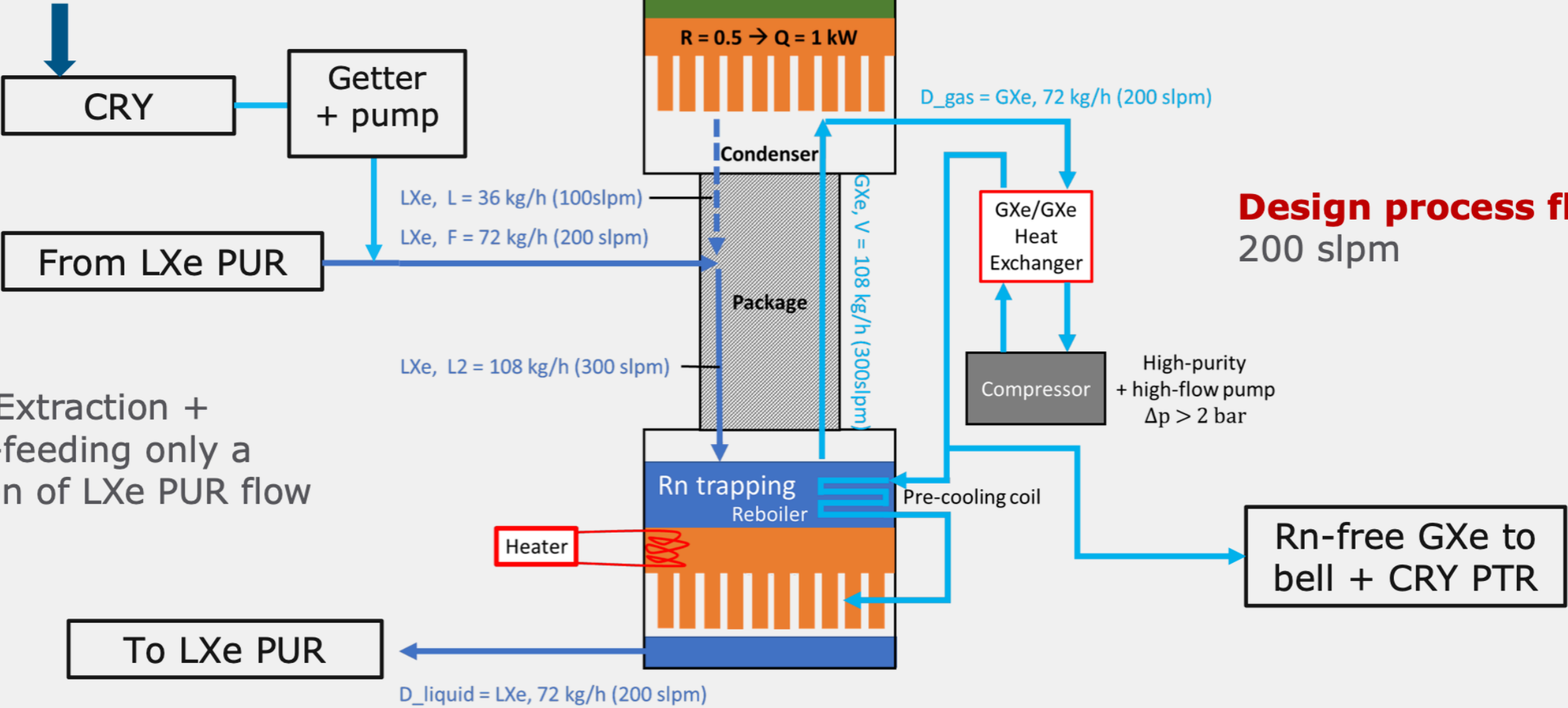
# RADON BUDGET IN XENON1T

10  $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$  (before replacement of Q-drive pumps)



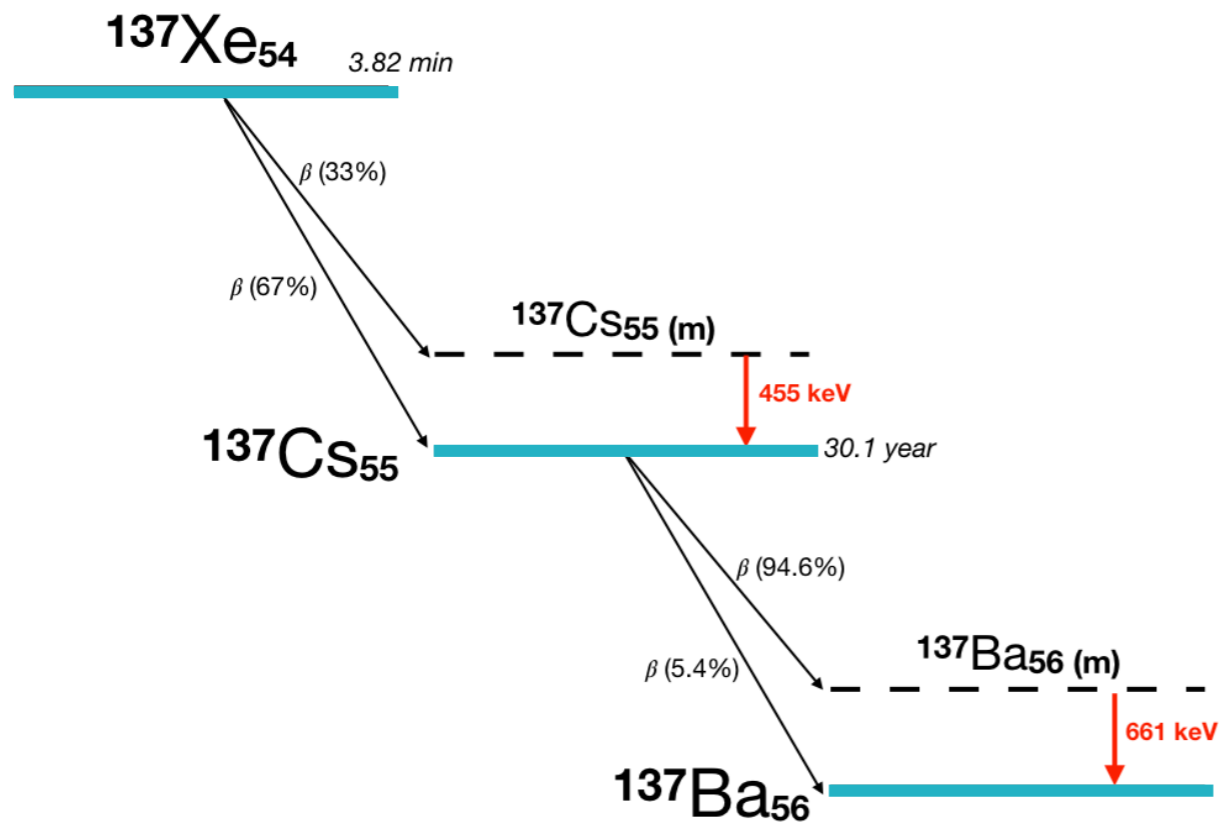
# XENON RADON DISTILLATION COLUMN

Like online DST in XENON1T

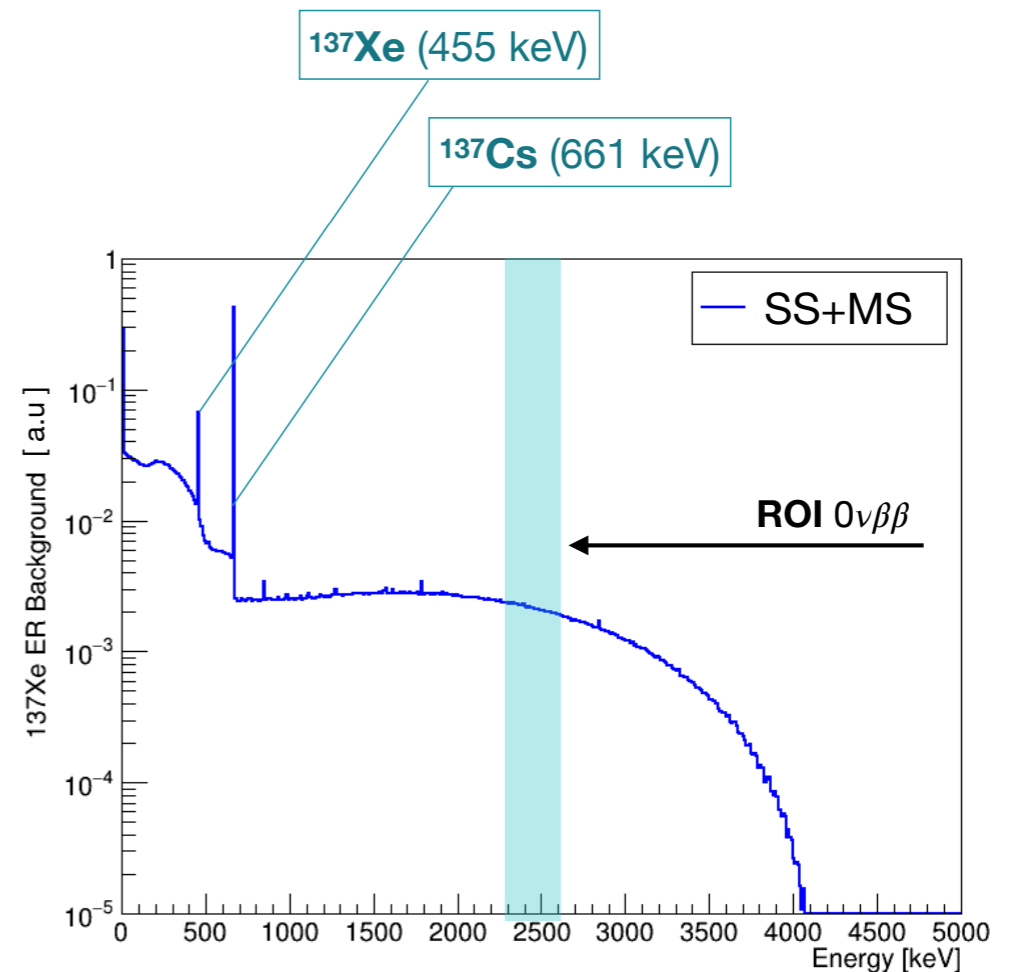


# 137-XE BACKGROUND

- ▶ Simulate  $^{137}\text{Xe}$ , production rate by cosmogenic n-capture
- ▶ Rate: 6.7 atoms/(t y), dominated by production on LXe (6.3 atoms/(t y) (at LNGS, 3600 mw.e.)
- ▶ nEXO: 2.2 atoms/(t y) at SNOLAB (PRC 97, 2018); KamLAND-Zen: 1.42 atoms/(t y) at Kamioka (PRL 117, 2016)



Rate in ROI:  $(1.40 \pm 0.06) \times 10^{-3}$  events/(t y keV)



ROI: Q-value  $\pm$  FWHM/2 = (2435-2481) keV

# 137-XE BACKGROUND

- ▶ Simulate  $^{137}\text{Xe}$ , production rate by cosmogenic n-capture
- ▶ Rate: 6.7 atoms/(t y), dominated by production on LXe (6.3 atoms/(t y) (at LNGS, 3600 mw.e.)
- ▶ nEXO: 2.2 atoms/(t y) at SNOLAB (PRC 97, 2018); KamLAND-Zen: 1.42 atoms/(t y) at Kamioka (PRL 117, 2016)

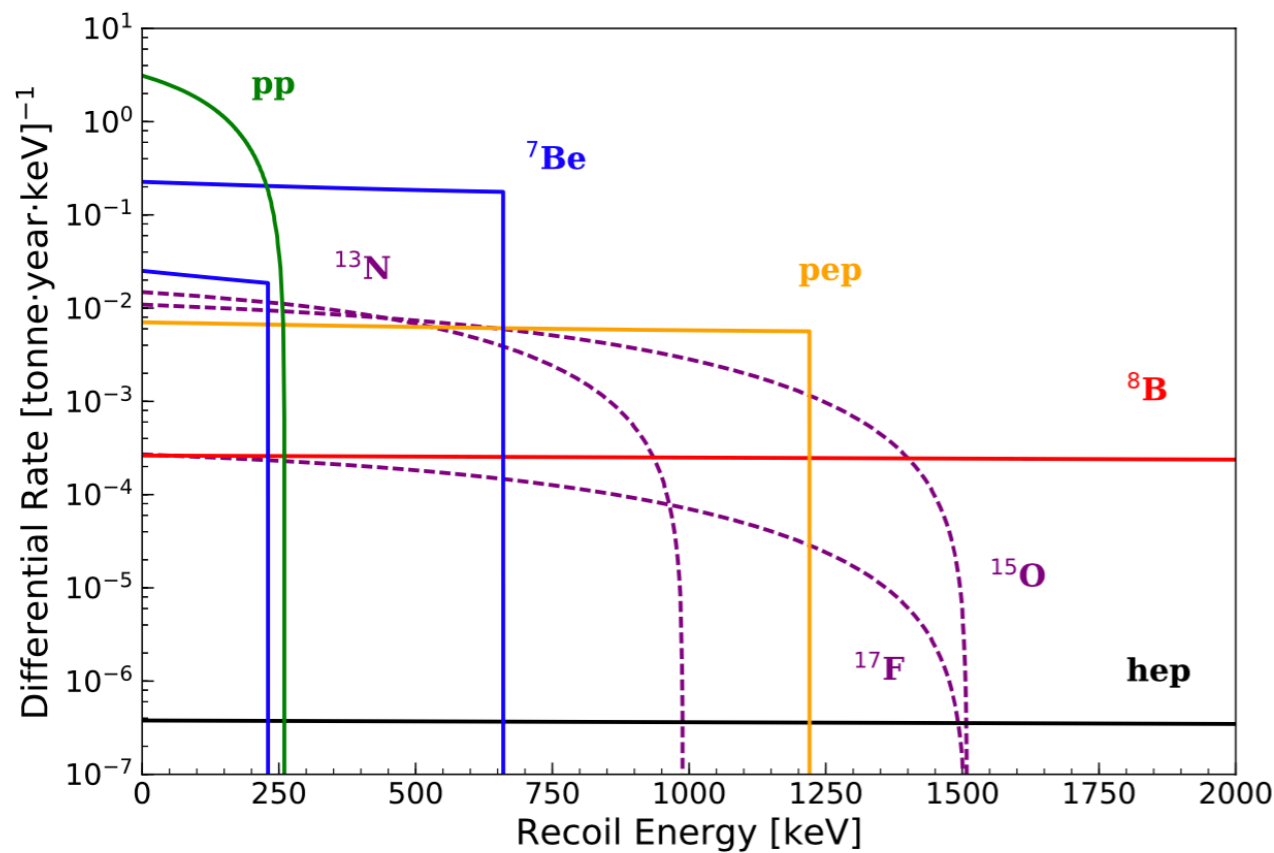
Material	Muon-induced Neutron Production Rate [n/year]	$^{137}\text{Xe}$ Production Rate [atoms/kg/year]
Copper	$1.12 \times 10^4$	$7.39 \times 10^{-5}$
SS	$1.32 \times 10^5$	$2.40 \times 10^{-4}$
LXe	$1.02 \times 10^6$	$6.34 \times 10^{-3}$
<b>Total</b>		$6.66 \times 10^{-3}$

Experiment	Location	Depth [m.w.e]	$^{137}\text{Xe}$ Production Rate [atoms/kg/year]
KamLAND-Zen [2]	Kamioka	2050	$1.42 \times 10^{-3}$
DARWIN	LNGS	3600	$6.66 \times 10^{-3}$
nEXO [3]	SNOLAB	6011	$2.20 \times 10^{-3}$



# SOLAR NEUTRINOS

- ▶ Real-time measurement, elastic  $\nu$ -electron interaction  $\nu + e^- \rightarrow \nu + e^-$



$$\frac{dN_i}{dT} = \Phi_i N_e \sum_j \int P_{ej} \frac{dN}{dE_\nu} \frac{d\sigma_j}{dT} dE_\nu$$

Number of target electrons (points to  $N_e$ )  
Neutrino survival probability (points to  $P_{ej}$ )  
Depends on weak mixing angle (points to  $\frac{d\sigma_j}{dT}$ )

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dT} = \frac{G_F^2 m_e}{2\pi} [(g_v + g_a)^2 + (g_v - g_a)^2 (1 - \frac{T}{E_\nu})^2 + (g_a^2 - g_v^2) \frac{m_e T}{E_\nu^2}]$$

$$g_v = 2 \sin^2 \theta_w - \frac{1}{2}$$

$$g_a = -\frac{1}{2}$$

For electron neutrinos...

$$g_{v,a} \rightarrow g_{v,a} + 1$$