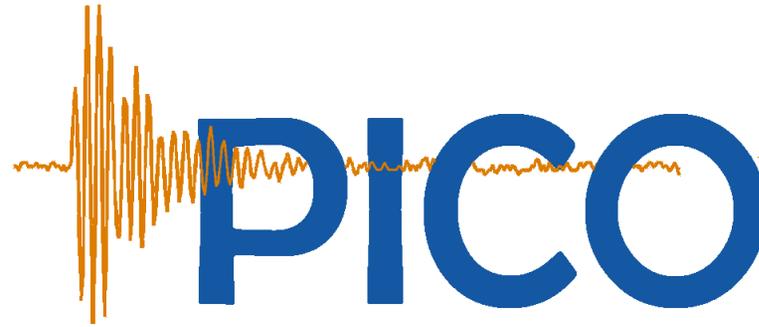


# *Dark Matter Searches: Direct Detection*



Eric Vázquez Jáuregui

IFUNAM

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XV Workshop on Particles and Fields  
Mazatlán, Sinaloa; 2 de Noviembre de 2015

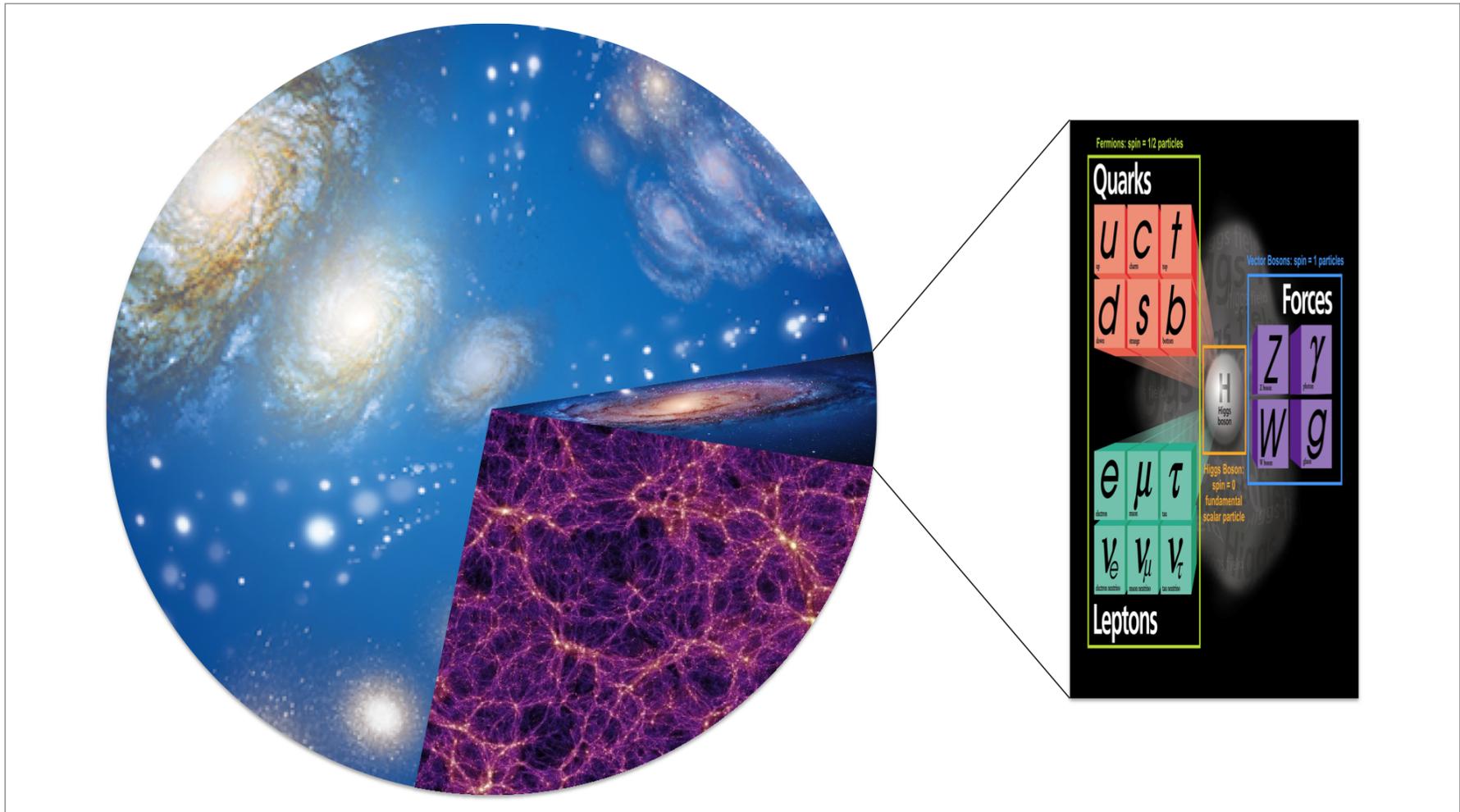
# Outline

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- Direct detection of dark matter
- Noble fluids
- Crystals
- Threshold detectors
- New techniques
- Final remarks

# Pie chart of the Universe

What is the dark matter that makes up about one quarter of the contents of the universe?  
( 85% of the matter in the Universe)

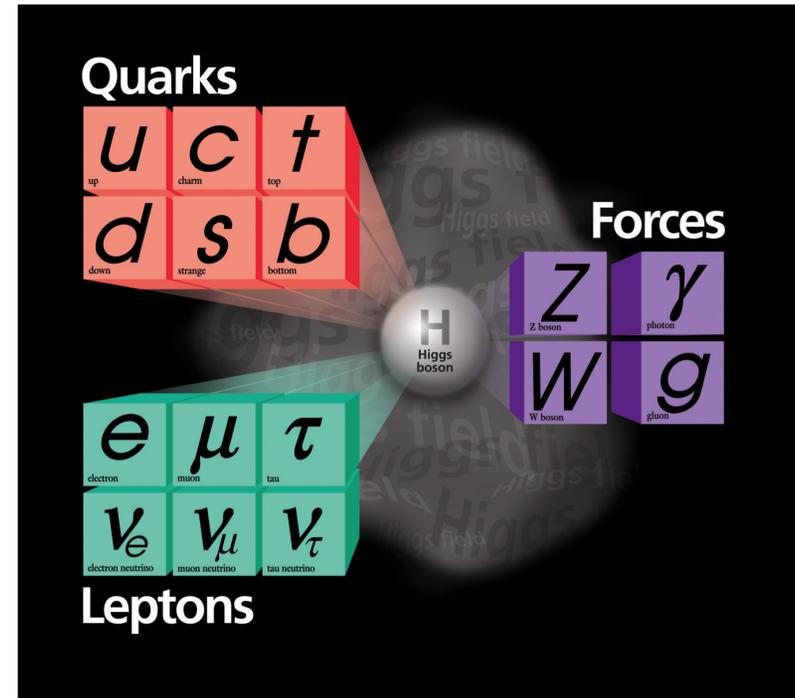


Our Universe today:  $\Lambda$ CDM  
from an impressive number of observations

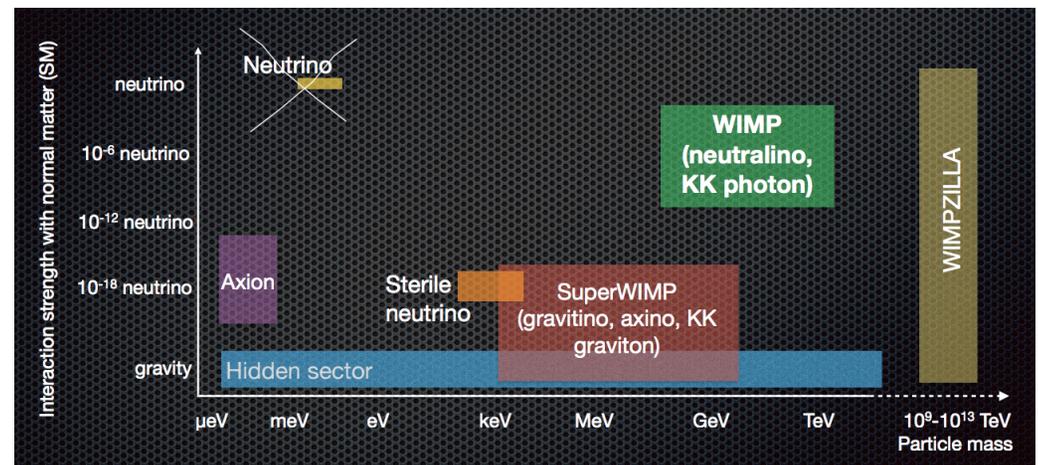
# What do we know about dark matter?

- Gravitationally interacting
- Stable or long-lived
- Cold or warm  
not hot (relativistic)
- Non-baryonic
- Electrically neutral
- No Color
- Feebly interacting

## Physics beyond the Standard Model



Mass and cross section range  
span many orders of magnitude



# Candidates to dark matter

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Two main candidates attract most of the present activity in the field

## WIMPs

(Weakly Interacting  
Massive Particles)

a neutral heavy fermion  
like the LSP in SUSY

Supersymmetry produces a  
theoretical candidate,  
but others exist  
(e.g. Kaluza-Klein particles, ...)

Introduced by Peccei & Quinn  
as a solution to the  
strong CP problem

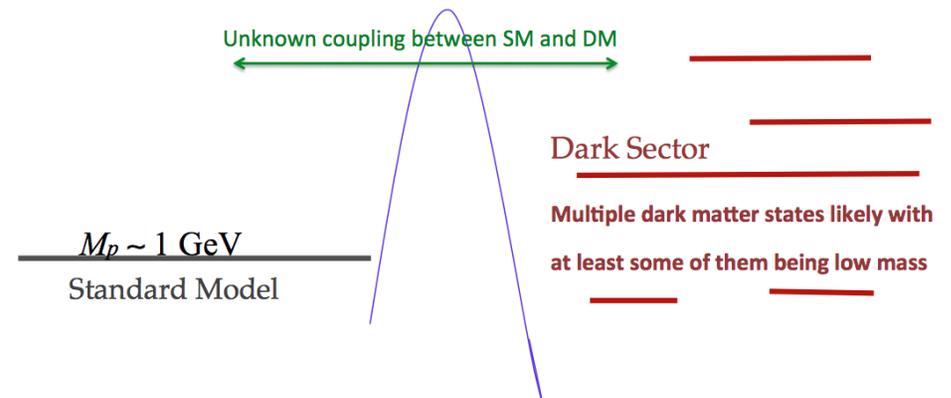
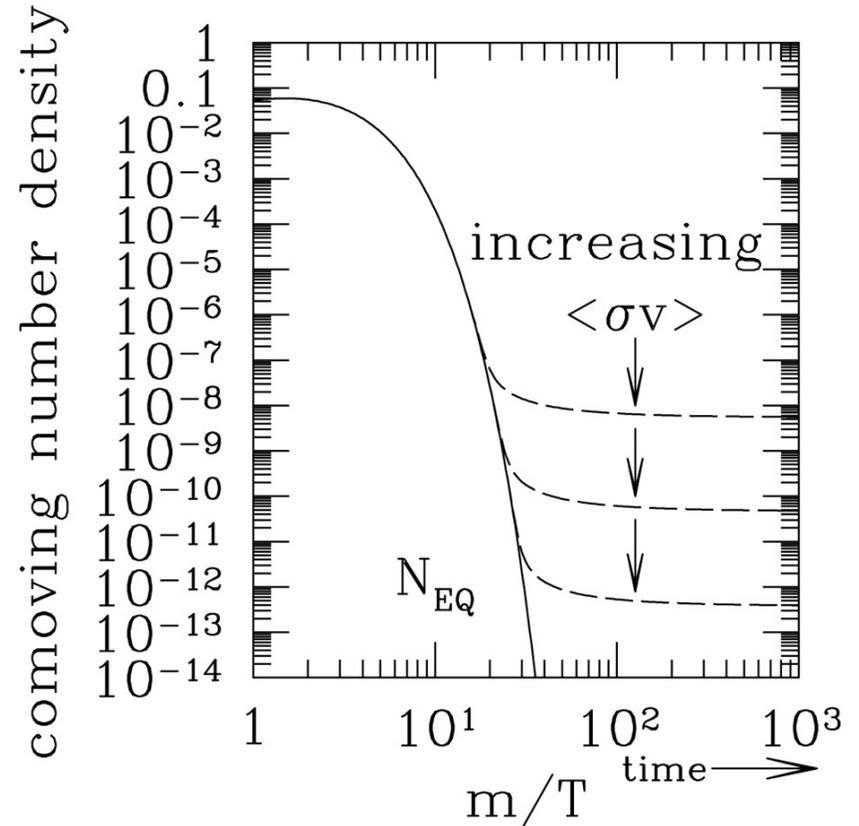
Axion-like particles to refer  
to fundamental very light  
(pseudo) scalar of similar  
properties without referring  
to a specific theory model

## Axions

# WIMP

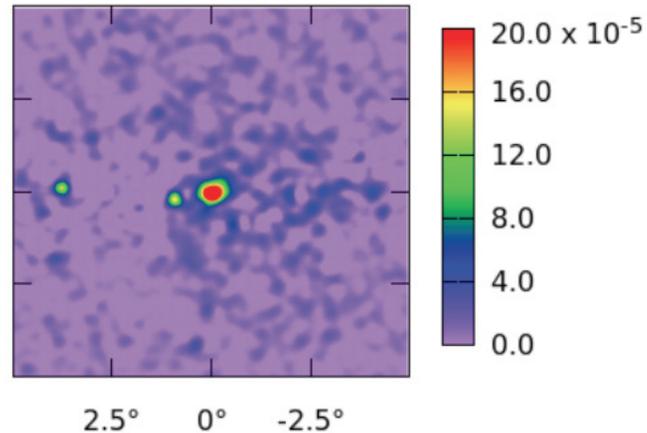
- Most discussed candidate:  
**Weakly Interacting Massive Particle**
- Produced during Big Bang, in thermal equilibrium in the early Universe
- Decouples from ordinary matter as the Universe expands and cools
- Still around today with densities of about a few per liter

Dark sector could be as complicated as the SM  
 Searches not limited by expectations from SUSY models

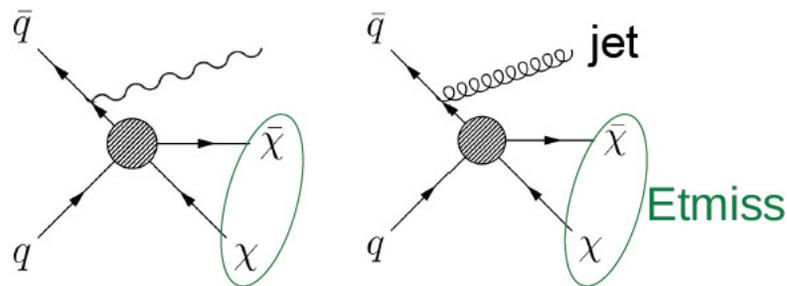


## Detection methods

- Astrophysics / Cosmology:  
measurement of gravitational effects
- Indirect detection:  
from annihilation or decay (AMS, HAWC)



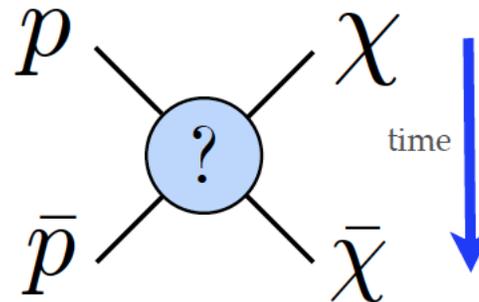
- Accelerator-based creation and measurement (LHC)



- Direct detection: **WIMP scattering**

## Direct detection

WIMPs can scatter elastically with nuclei and the recoil can be detected

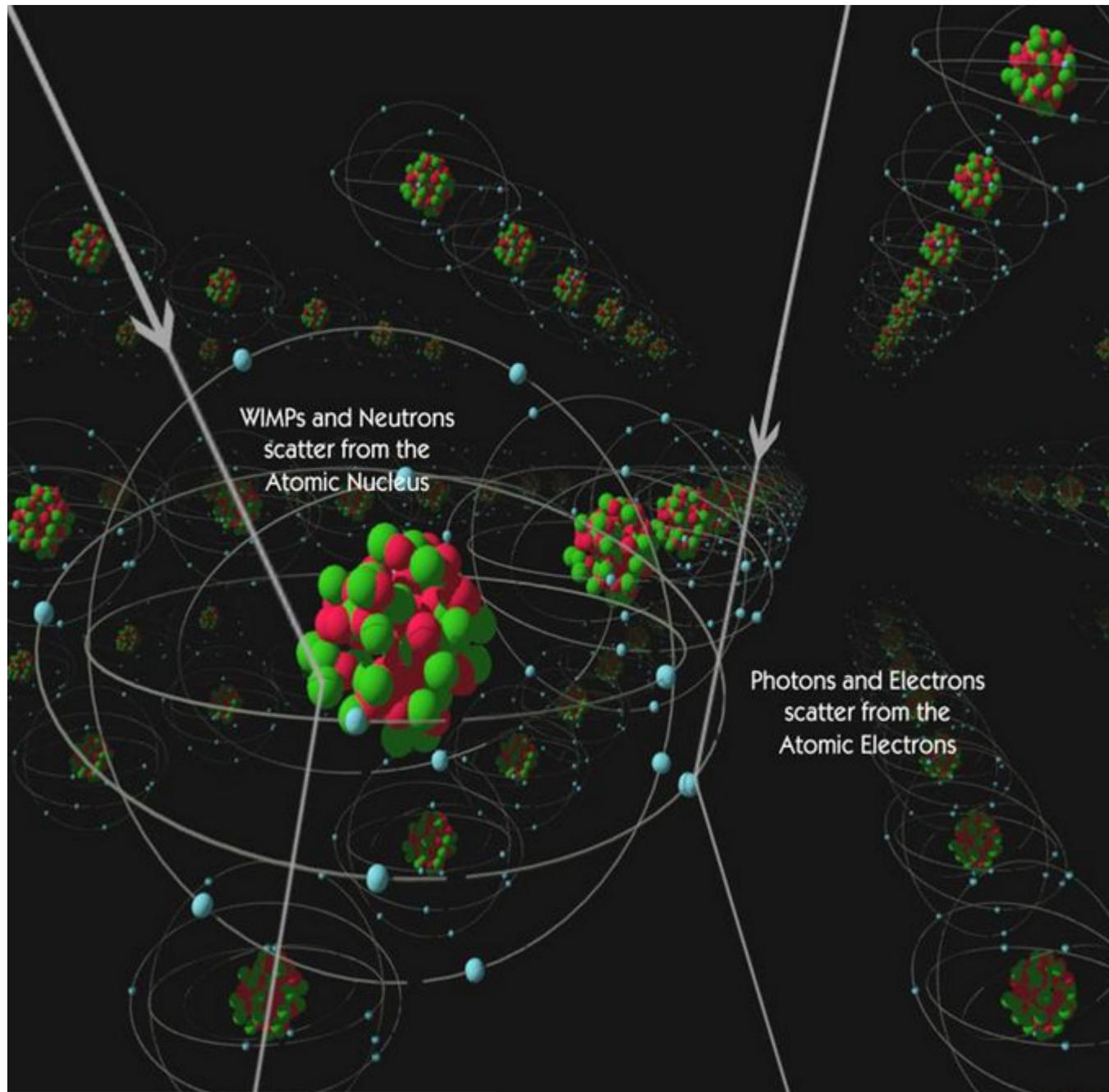


- Calculate rate based on assumptions about the dark matter distribution and interaction
- Historically two interactions are considered (by DM experimentalists)
  - Spin independent (SI) - couples to all nucleons (enhancement for large nuclei)
  - Spin dependent (SD) - couples to the spin of the nucleus (unpaired spin of one nucleon)

$$\sigma_0 = \frac{4\mu^2}{\pi} [f_p N_p + f_n N_n]^2 + \frac{32G_F^2 \mu^2}{\pi} \frac{J+1}{J} [a_p \langle S_p \rangle + a_n \langle S_n \rangle]^2$$

The first term is circled in blue and labeled "Spin-independent". The second term is circled in red and labeled "Spin-dependent".

# Direct detection



## Rate calculation

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The differential cross section (for spin-independent interactions) in events/kg/keV mass per unit recoil energy is:

$$\frac{dR}{dQ} = \frac{\rho_0}{m_\chi} \times \frac{\sigma_0 A^2}{2\mu_p^2} \times F^2(Q) \times \int_{v_m} \frac{f(v)}{v} dv \quad (1)$$

- Dark matter density component, from local and galactic observations with historically a factor of 2 uncertainty
- The unknown particle physics component  $\sigma_0$  (where  $\mu_p$  is the reduced mass of the proton)
- The nuclear part, approximately given by  $F^2(Q) = e^{-Q/Q_0}$  (where  $Q_0 = \frac{80}{A^{5/3}}$  MeV)
- The velocity distribution of dark matter in the galaxy of order 30% uncertainty (not-statistical) and  $v_m = \sqrt{Qm_N/2m_r^2}$

# Backgrounds in dark matter detectors

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- Radioactivity of surroundings
- Radioactivity of detector and shield materials
- Cosmic rays and secondary reactions

Some comparisons:

- How much radioactivity (in Bq) is in your body? where from?
- What is the most radioactive food we eat?
- How many radon atoms escape per  $m^2$  of ground, per second?

# Backgrounds in dark matter detectors

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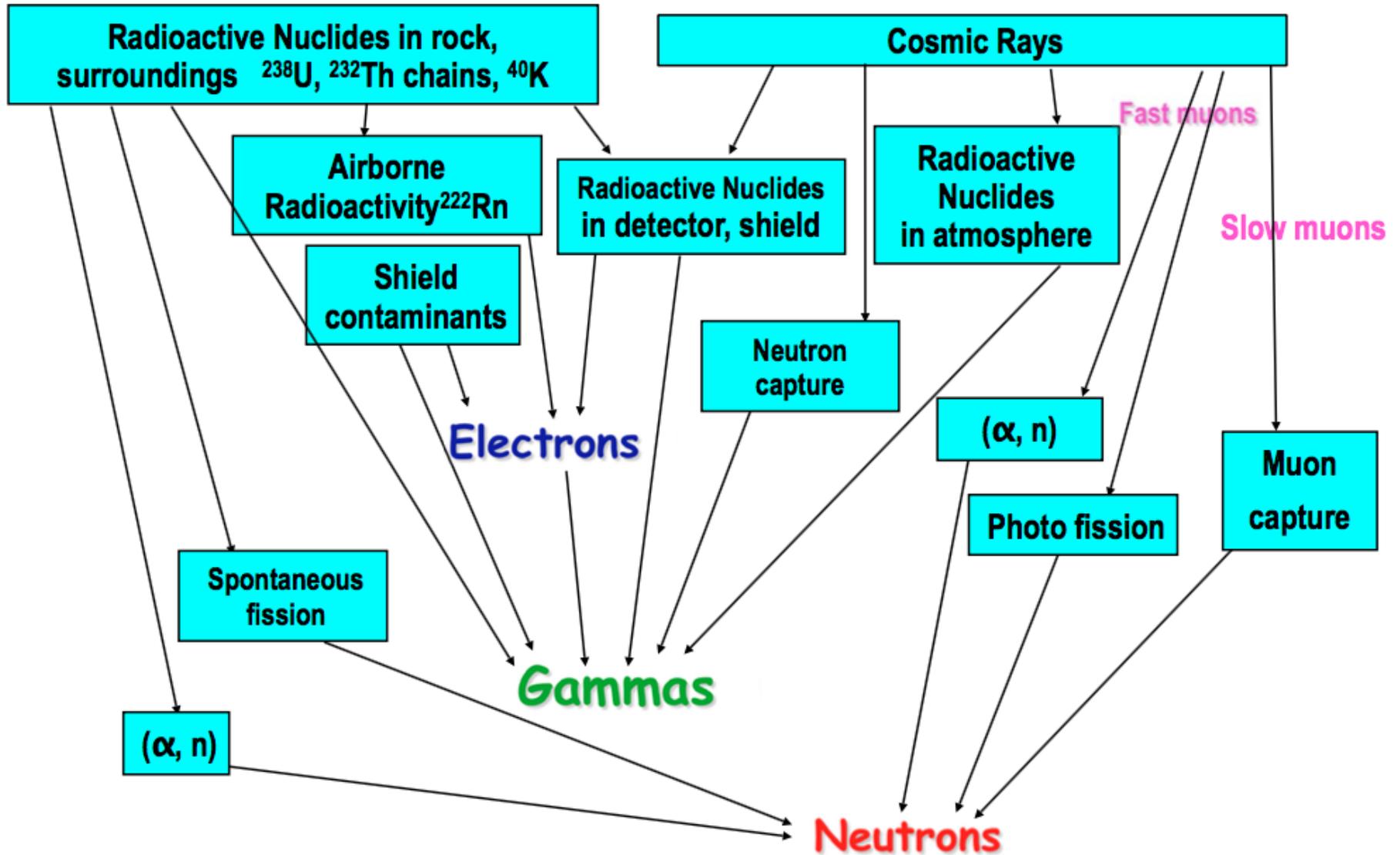
- Radioactivity of surroundings
- Radioactivity of detector and shield materials
- Cosmic rays and secondary reactions

## Some comparisons:

- How much radioactivity (in Bq) is in your body? where from?  
4000 Bq from  $^{14}\text{C}$ , 4000 Bq from  $^{40}\text{K}$  (including about 8000 neutrinos)
- What is the most radioactive food we eat?  
Bananas and coffee (1000 Bq)
- How many radon atoms escape per  $\text{m}^2$  of ground, per second?  
7000 atoms/ $\text{m}^2/\text{s}$

WIMP scatters ( $< 1$  event/ton/year) swamped by backgrounds  
( $> 10^{11-12}$  events/ton/year)

# Cosmic rays and natural radioactivity

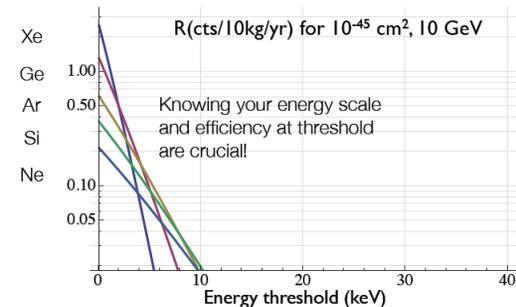
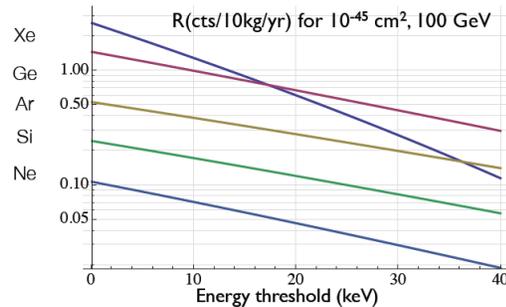


courtesy of S. Kamat

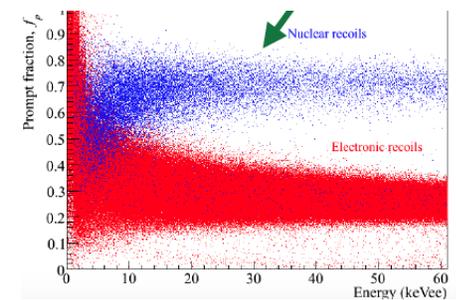
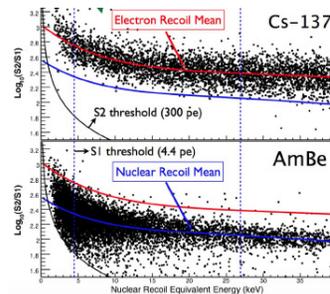
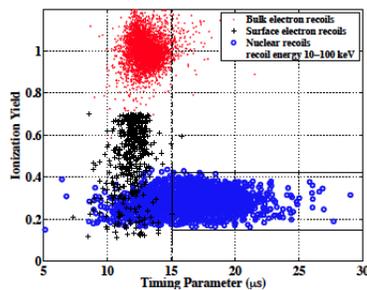
# The recipe for direct detection of dark matter

- Detect tiny energy deposits, energy of recoils is tens of keV  

$$\frac{1}{2}m_N v_N^2 = \frac{1}{2}(100\text{GeV})(10^{-6}) = 50\text{keV}$$



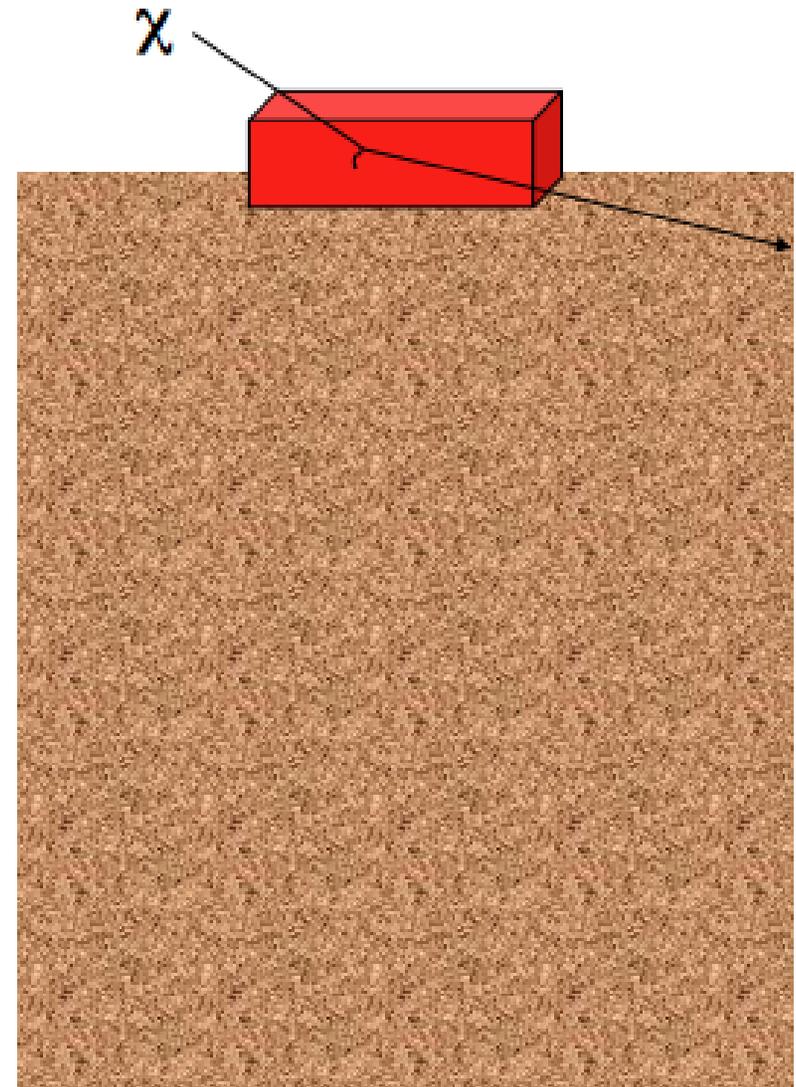
- Background suppression:
  - Deep sites to reduce cosmic ray flux
  - Passive/active shielding
  - Careful choice and preparation of material
- Background discrimination (electronic recoils vs nuclear recoils)



- Large target mass, scalability to ton-scale targets

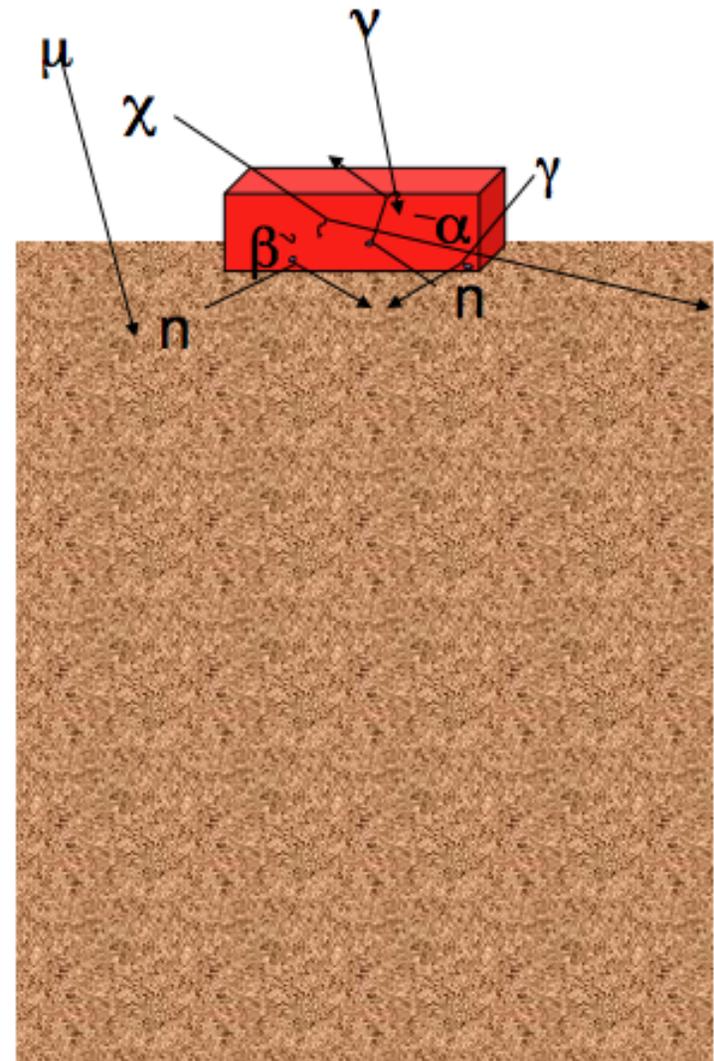
# How to catch a WIMP

- We live in a Dark Matter halo!
  - Local density  $\sim 0.4 \text{ GeV}/\text{cm}^3$
  - rms velocity 230 km/s
- Look for coherent elastic scattering off nuclei
- Two generic interactions
  - spin-independent: scalar coupling, coherent scattering ( $\sigma \propto A^2$ )
  - spin-dependent: vector coupling, couples to odd-nucleon



# How to catch a WIMP

- We live in a Dark Matter halo!
  - Local density  $\sim 0.4 \text{ GeV/cm}^3$
  - rms velocity 230 km/s
- Look for coherent elastic scattering off nuclei
  - Recoil energies  $O(10) \text{ keV}$
  - Rates  $\leq O(1) \text{ event/kg-year}$
  - Many backgrounds from natural radioactivity



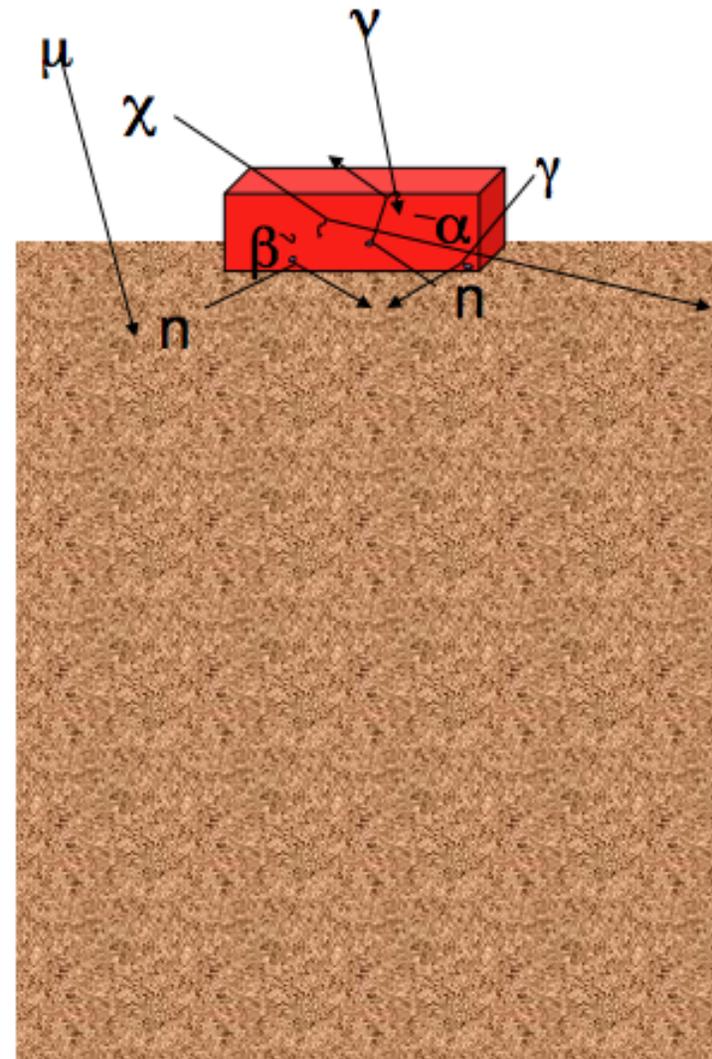
# Internal backgrounds

- $\beta$  decays

- screen and purify detector materials
- discriminate between electron tracks and nuclear recoils

- $\alpha$  decays

- screen and purify detector materials
- discriminate between  $O(10)$  keV WIMP events and 5 MeV  $\alpha$ -decays

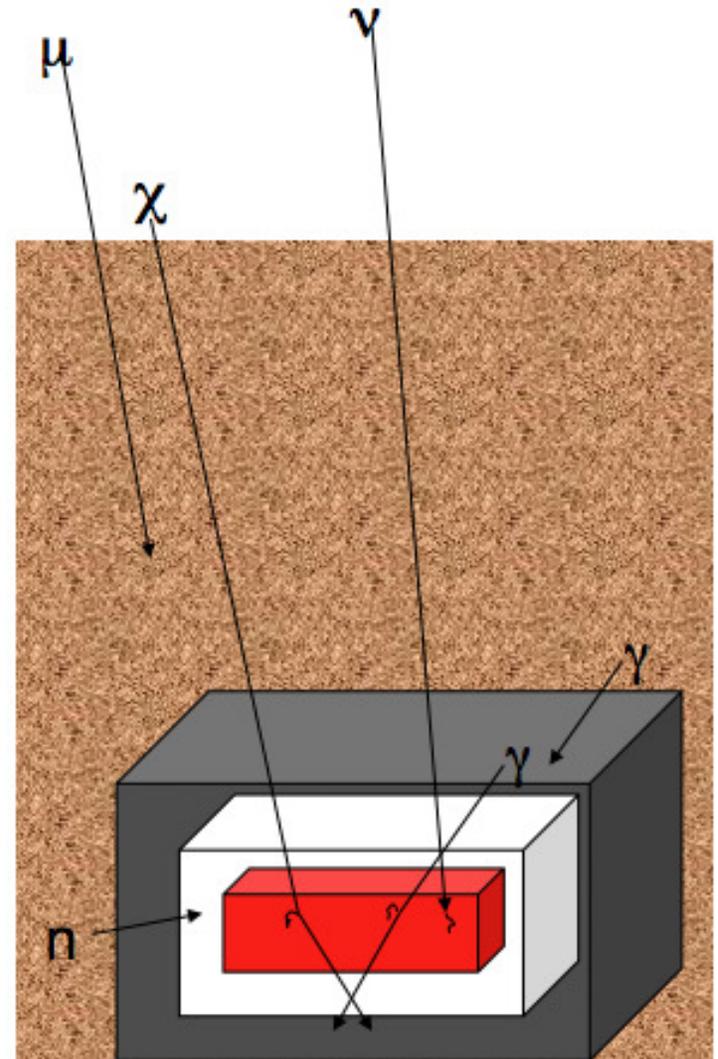




# External backgrounds

- neutrons

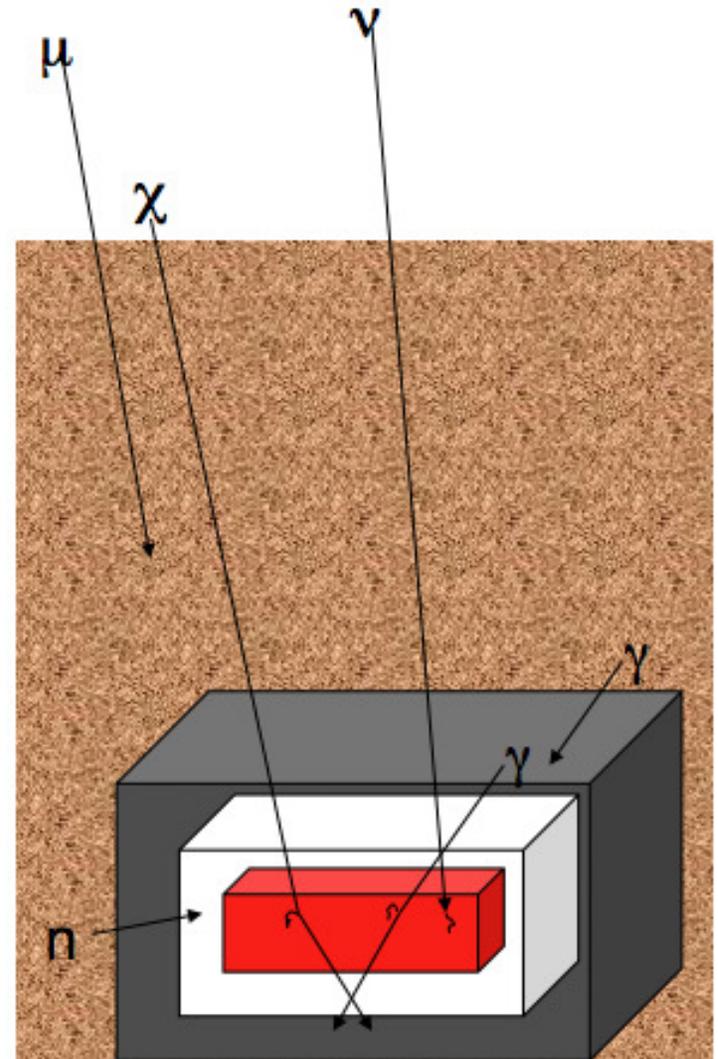
- Produced by fission, ( $\alpha, n$ ) reactions, cosmic rays
- Give elastic scatters off nuclei, same as WIMP signal
- Shield detector with low-Z moderator, screen materials, go underground
- Reject multiple-scatters



# External backgrounds

- gammas

- Compton scatter in detector
- discriminate between electron tracks and nuclear recoils
- Shield detector with low-Z moderator, screen materials, go underground
- Reject multiple-scatters

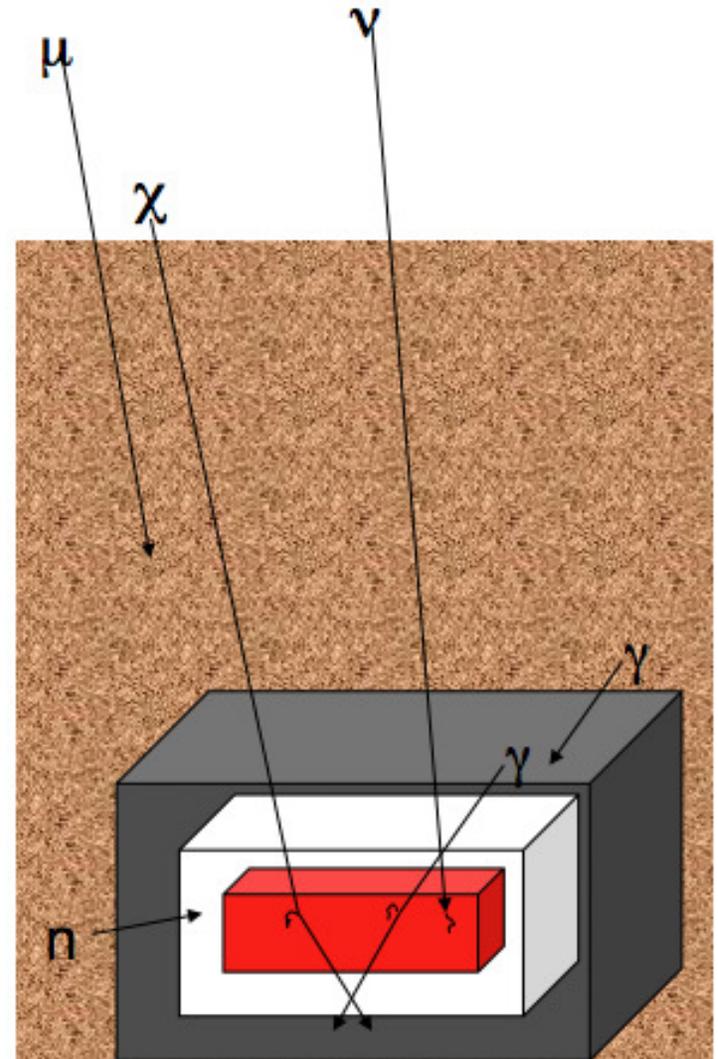


# External backgrounds

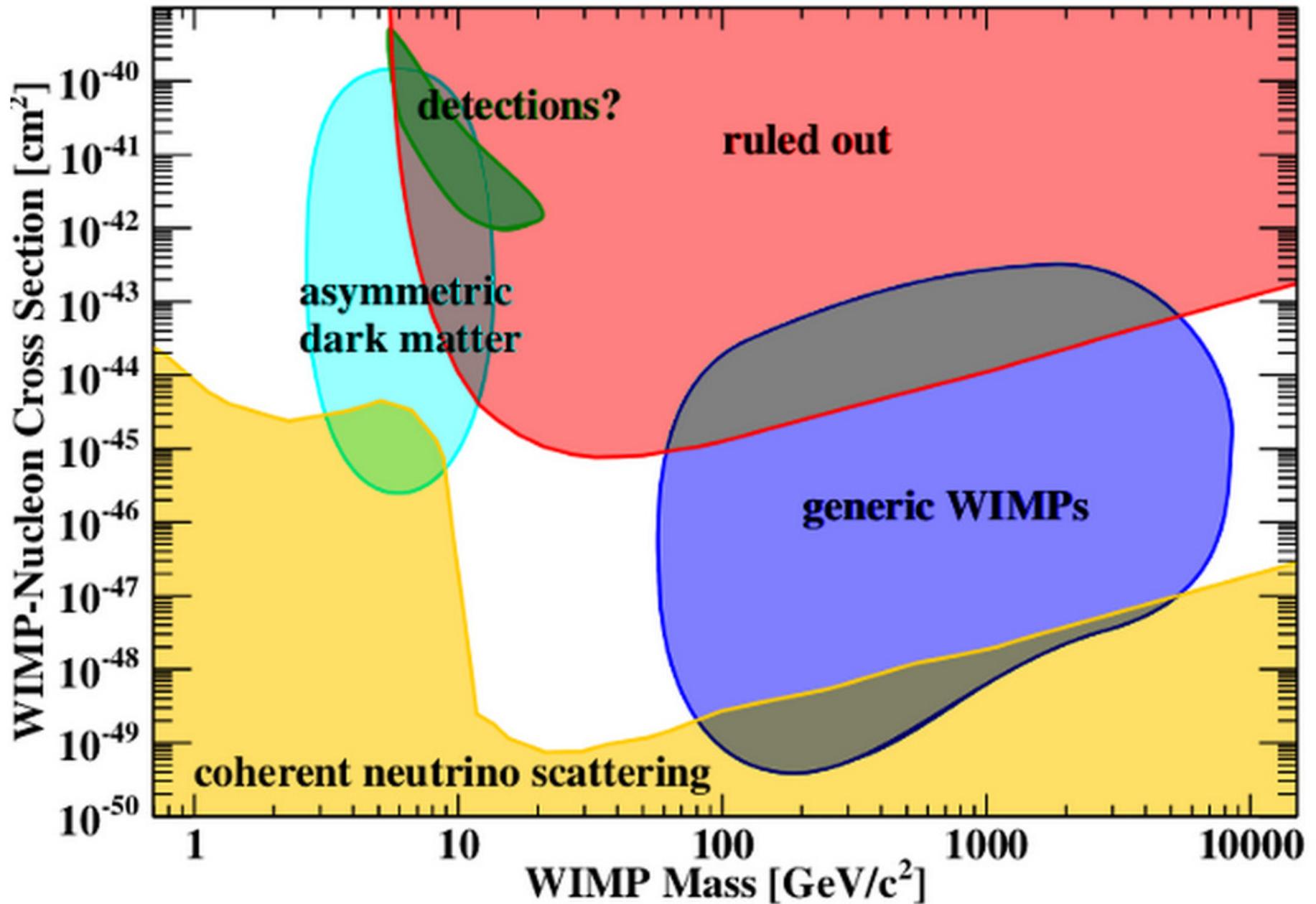
- neutrinos

- discriminate against charged-current interactions
- No defense against high-energy neutrino neutral-current elastic scatters off nuclei

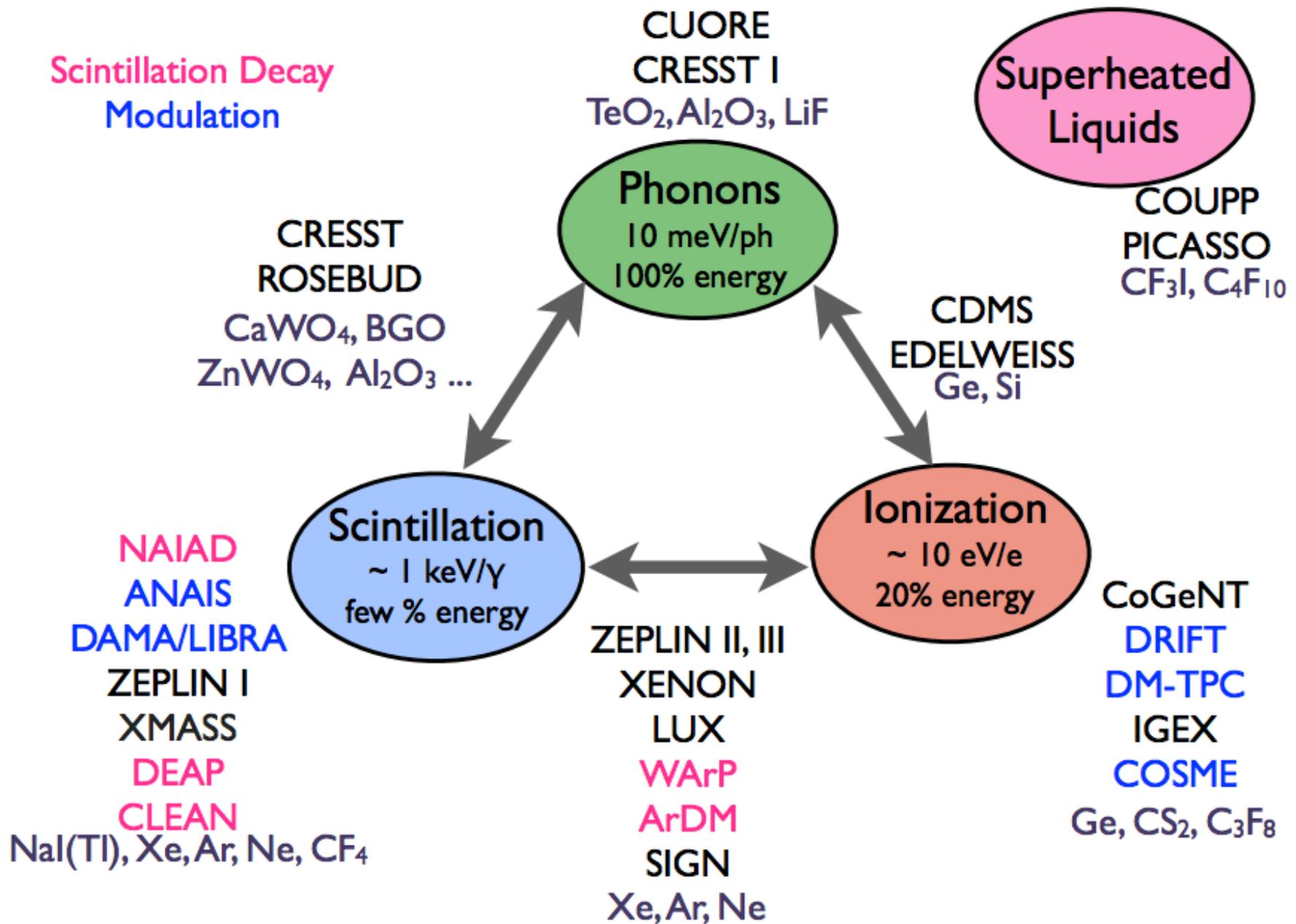
Irreducible neutrino background at  $O(1)$  event/10 ton-years



# Where are the WIMPs?: the canonical picture



# Experimental programme



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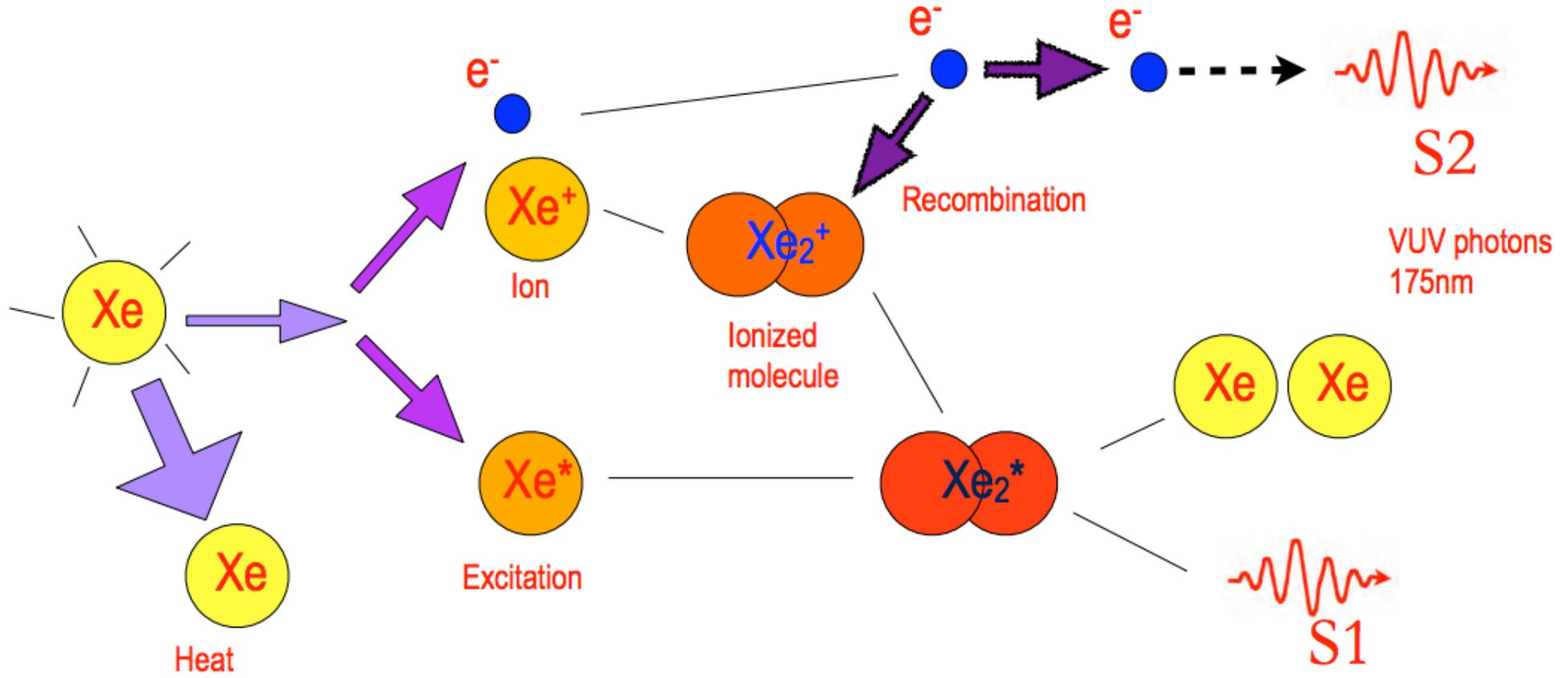
## Noble fluids

## Some properties of liquid noble detectors

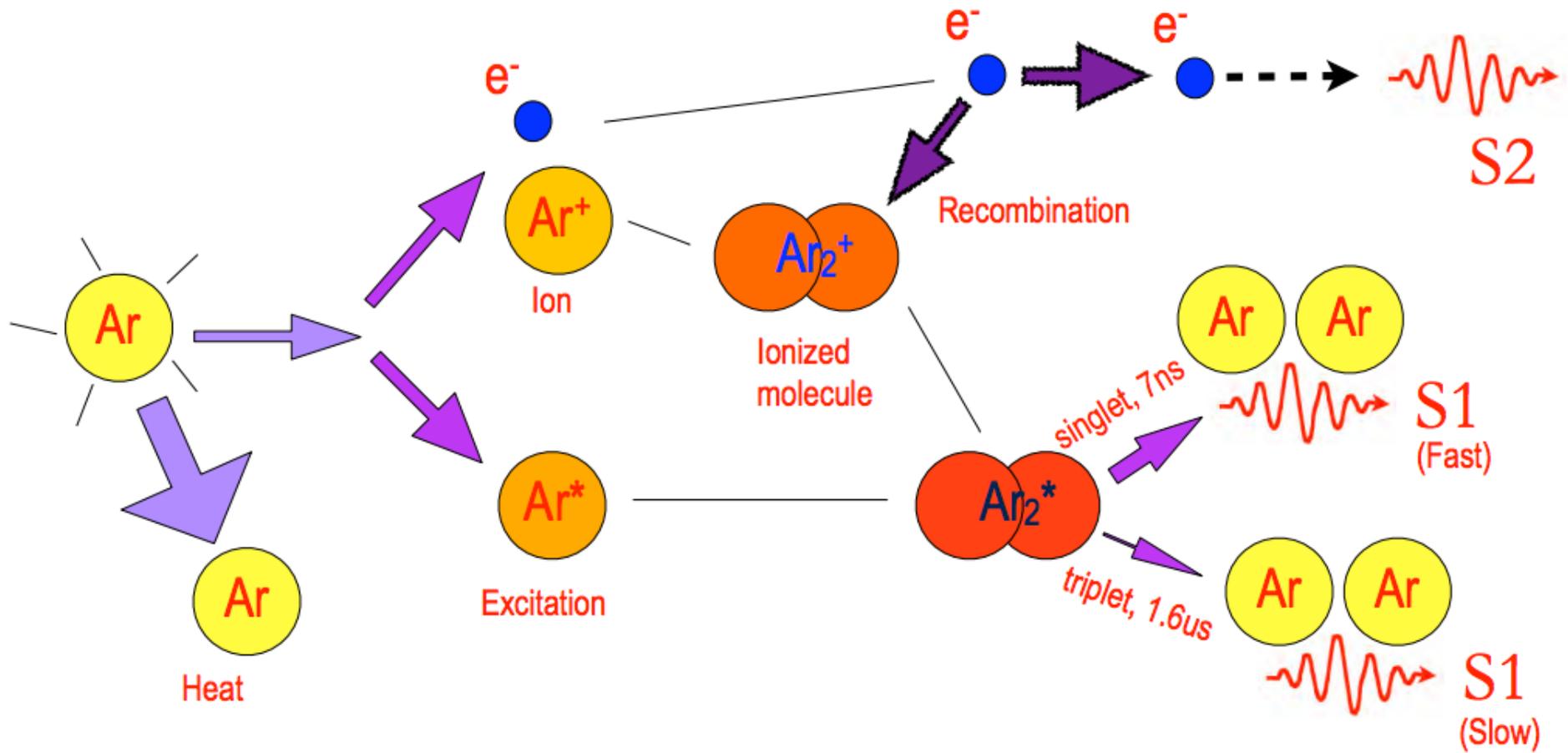
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- VUV to EUV  
challenging but not impossible for PMTs
- Long attenuation length  
nominally transparent; depends on impurities
- Long charge drift length  
but requires significant engineering for purification and high voltage
- Good dielectric / cryo environment  
“nice” for PMTS
- Low-background PMTs  
steadily improved by Hamamatsu
- Differential response for ER vs NR  
Pulse Shape Discrimination (PSD) and S2/S1

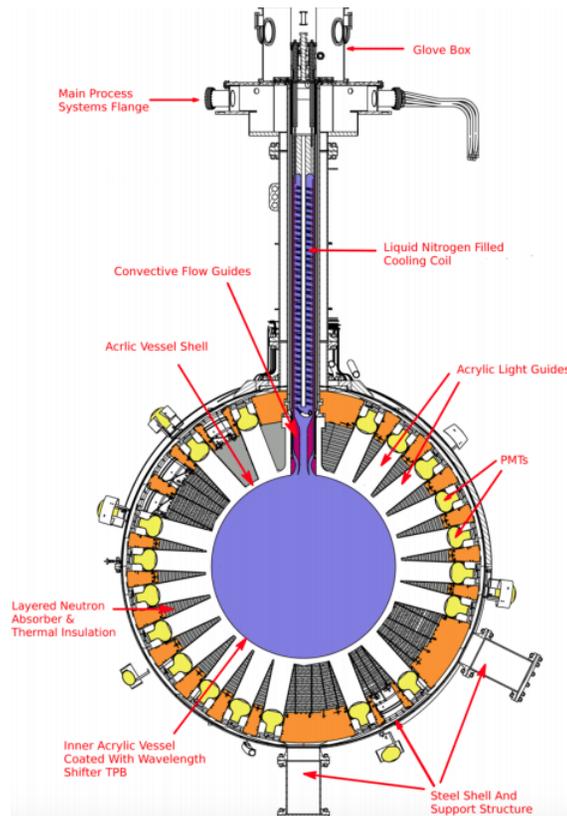
# Signal in Xe



# Signal in Ar

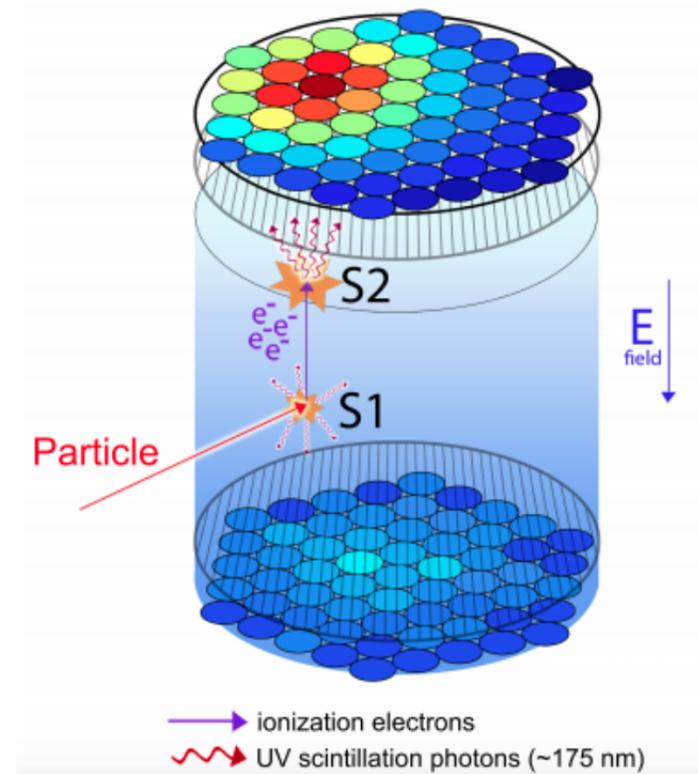


## Scintillation ( $4\pi$ ):



- Xenon: XMASS
- Argon: DEAP, miniCLEAN

## Time projection chamber:



- Xenon: LUX/LZ, XENON-100/1T/nT, PANDA-X
- Argon: DarkSide, ArDM

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## Noble liquid experiments: some examples

## Dark Matter Experiment with Argon and Pulse-shape Discrimination:

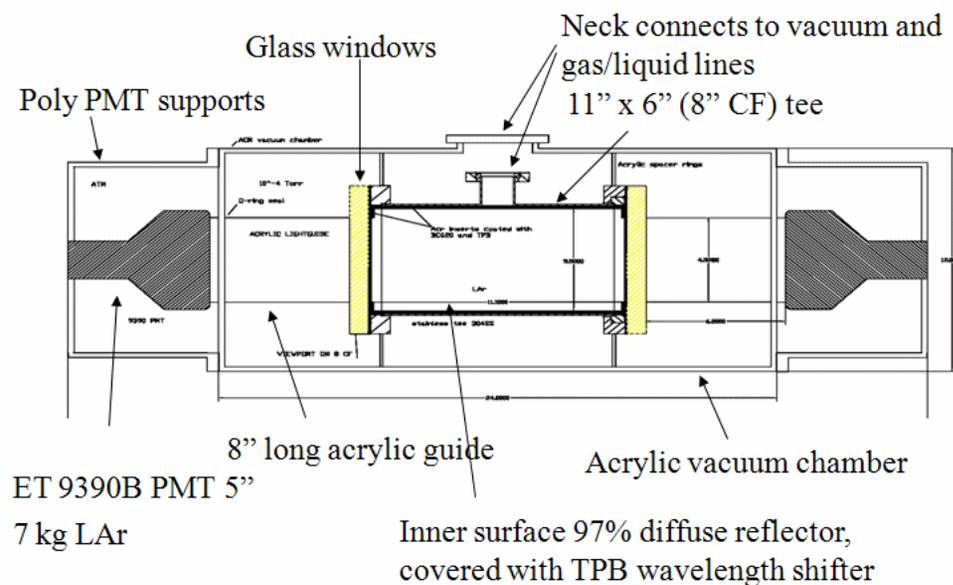
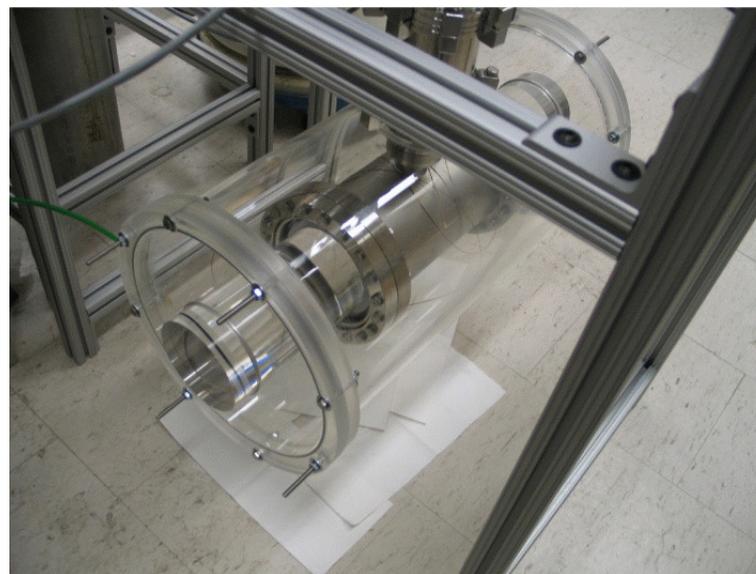
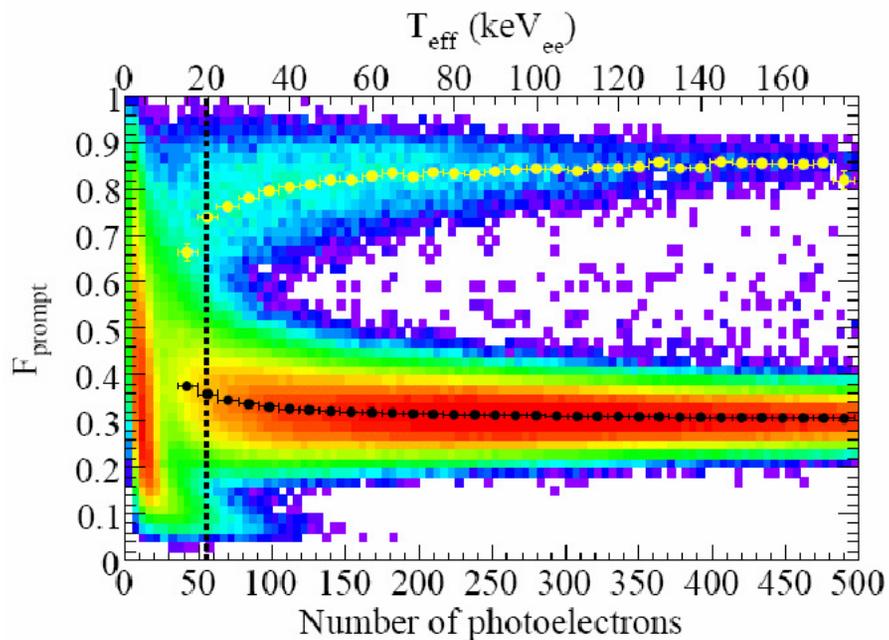
- scattered nucleus detected via scintillation
- pulse shape discrimination for suppression of  $\beta/\gamma$  events
- LAr advantages:
  - is easily purified and high light yield
  - is well understood
  - has an easily accessible temperature ( $85K$ )
  - allows a very large detector mass with uniform response
- Detectors:
  - DEAP-1: prototype, 7 kg LAr, 2 PMTs
  - DEAP-3600: 3600 kg LAr, 255 8" PMTs

## Backgrounds in liquid argon dark matter detector:

- $\beta/\gamma$  events:  
dominated by  $^{39}\text{Ar}$ , 1 Bq/kg  
PSD to distinguish from recoils, use depleted argon
- nuclear recoils:  
( $\alpha, n$ ), fission,  $\mu$  induced  
clean detector materials, shielding
- surface events:  
Rn daughters and other impurities  
clean surfaces in-situ, position reconstruction

# DEAP-1

Demonstrate discrimination  
between electromagnetic  
events and nuclear recoils  
 $\gamma$  suppression better than:  
 $3 \times 10^{-8}$ , 120-240 PE, using tagged  
 $\gamma$  source

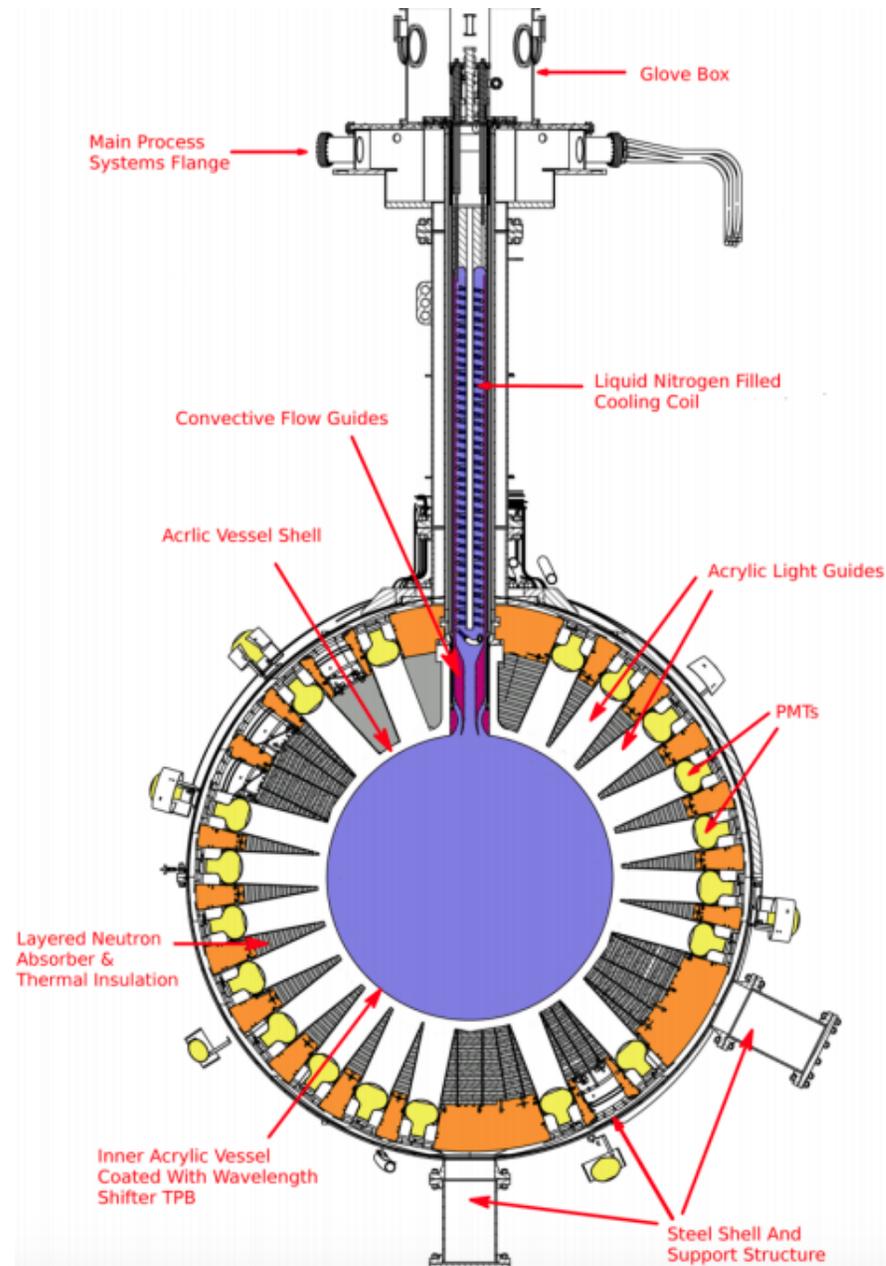


# DEAP-1



# DEAP-3600

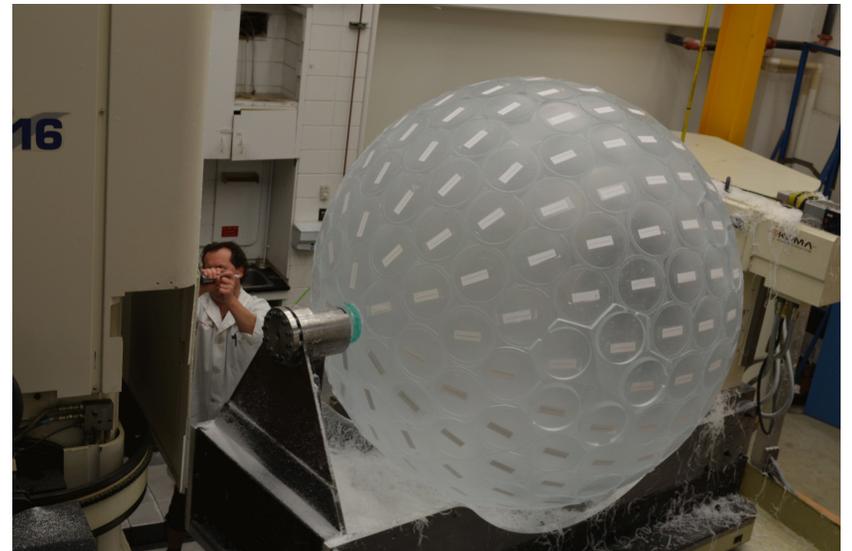
- 3600 kg argon (1000 kg fiducial) in ultra-clean AV
- Vessel is “resurfaced” in-situ to remove Rn daughters
- TPB wavelength shifter deposition
- 255 Hamamatsu R5912 HQE 8” PMTs (75% coverage)
- 50 cm light guides PE shielding for neutron moderation
- 8 m water shield in Cube Hall



# DEAP-3600



# DEAP-3600



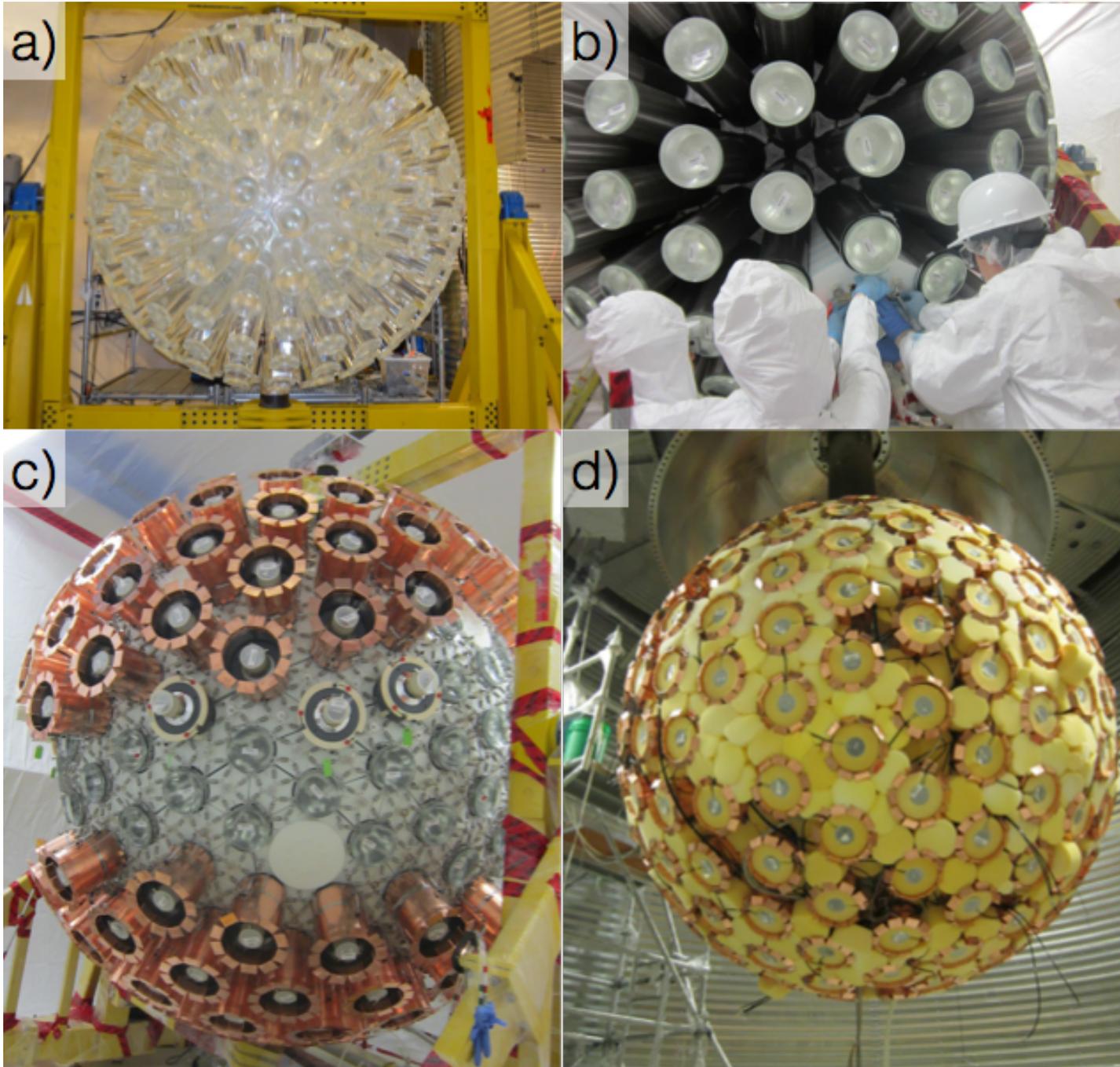
# DEAP-3600



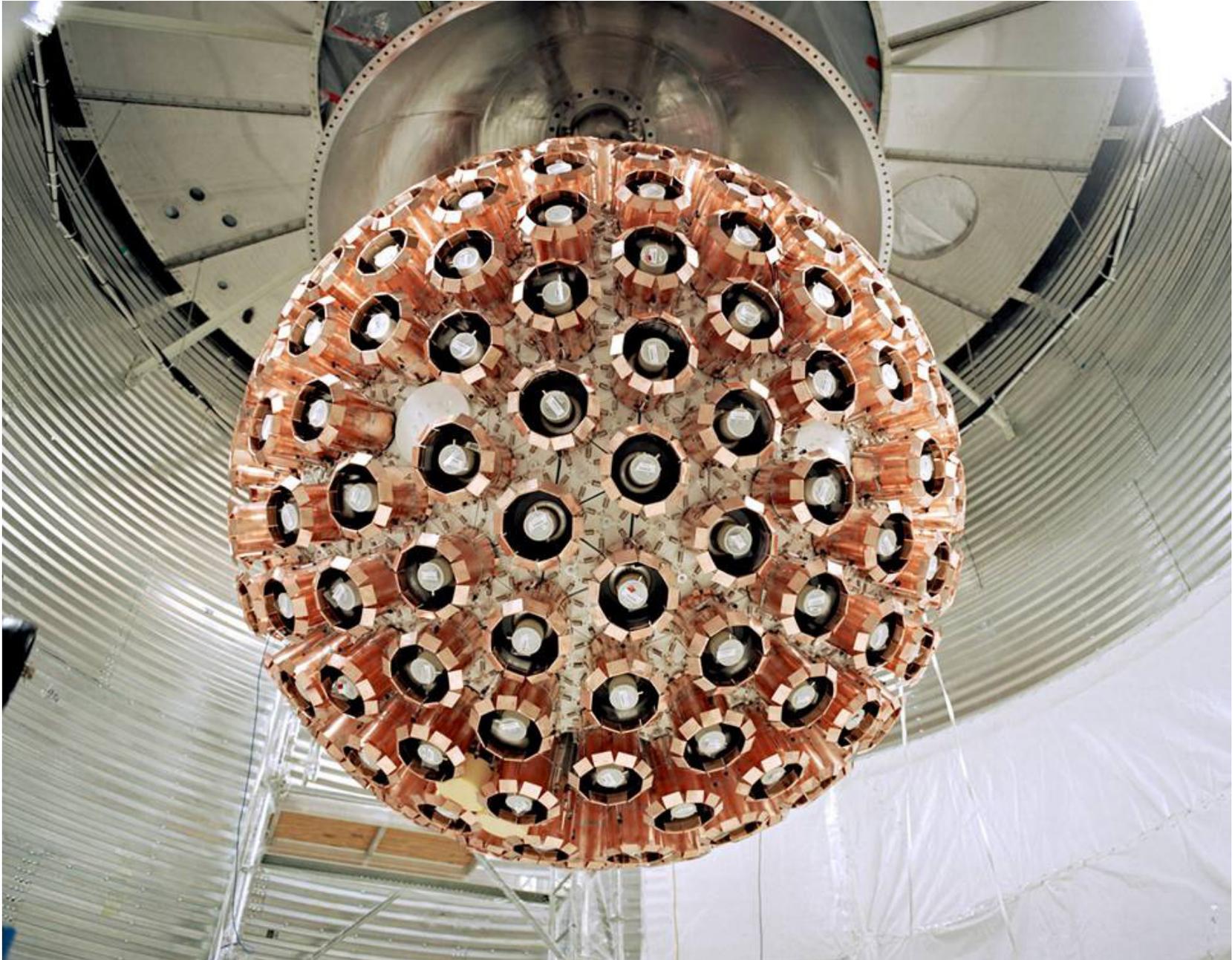
# Light guide bonding



# DEAP progress



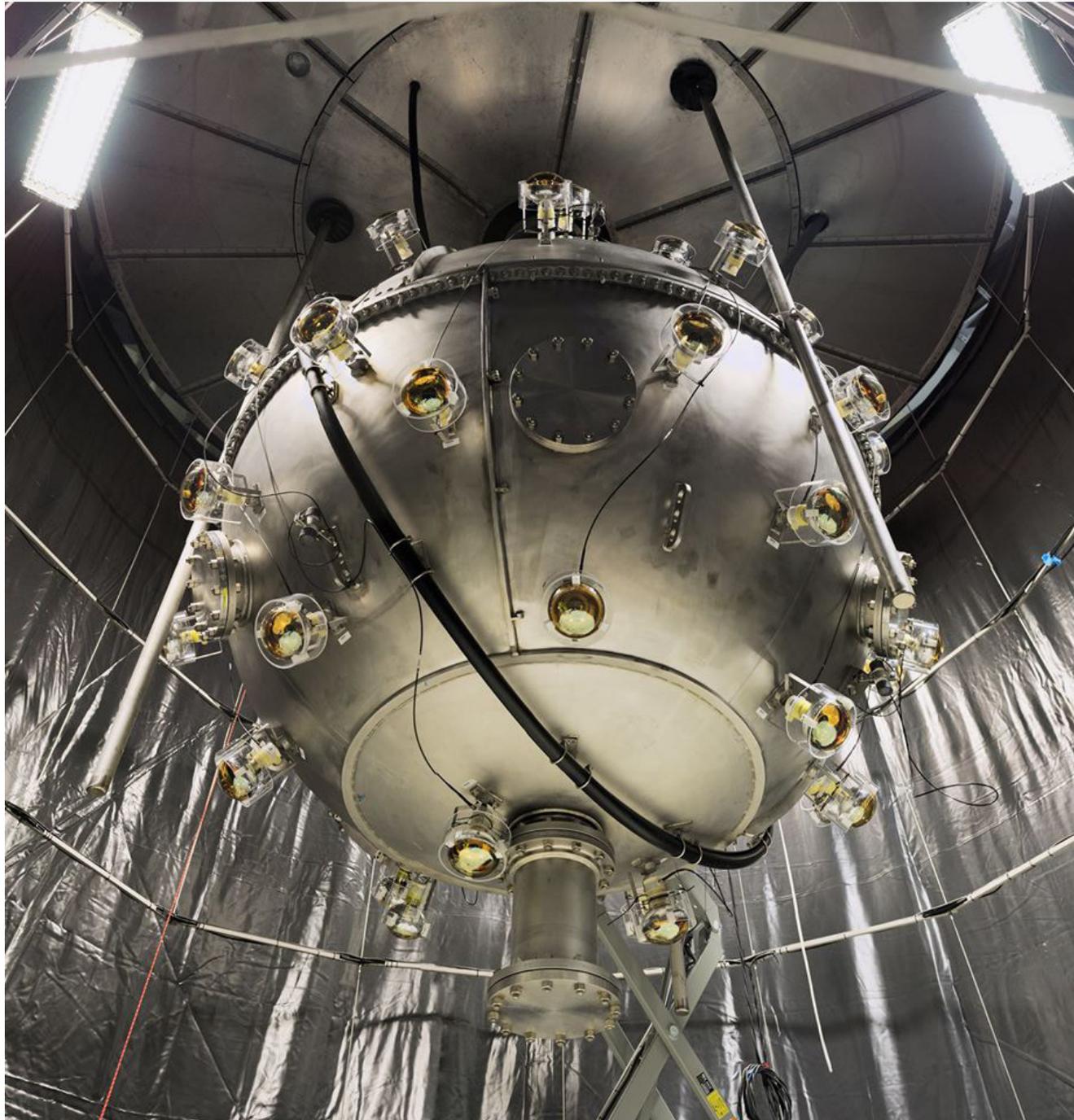
## DEAP-3600 almost ready!



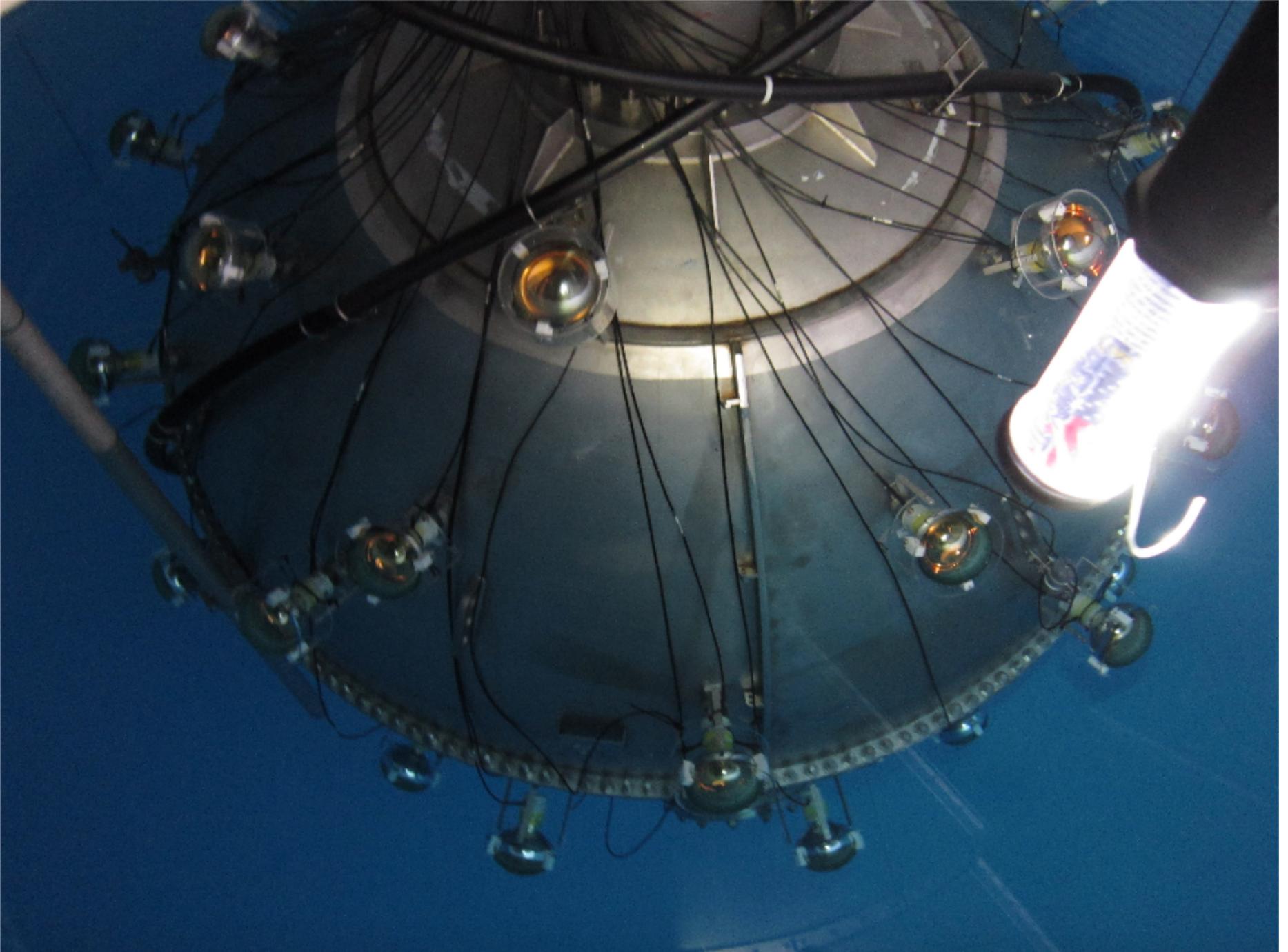
# DEAP progress



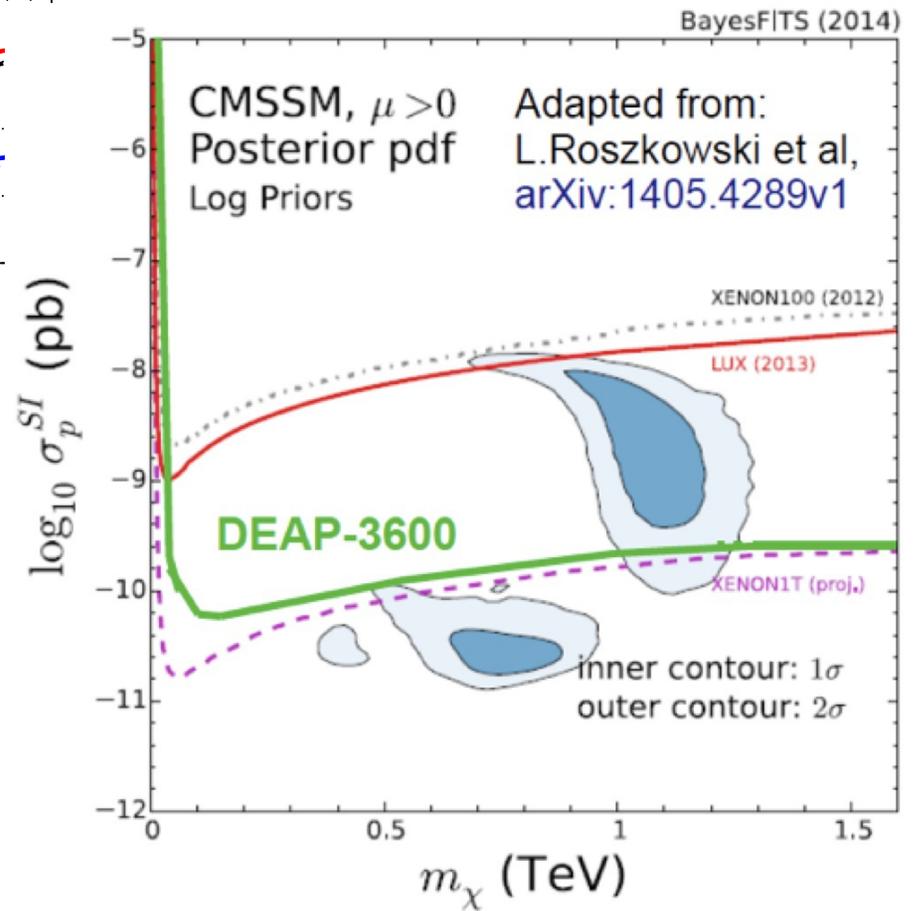
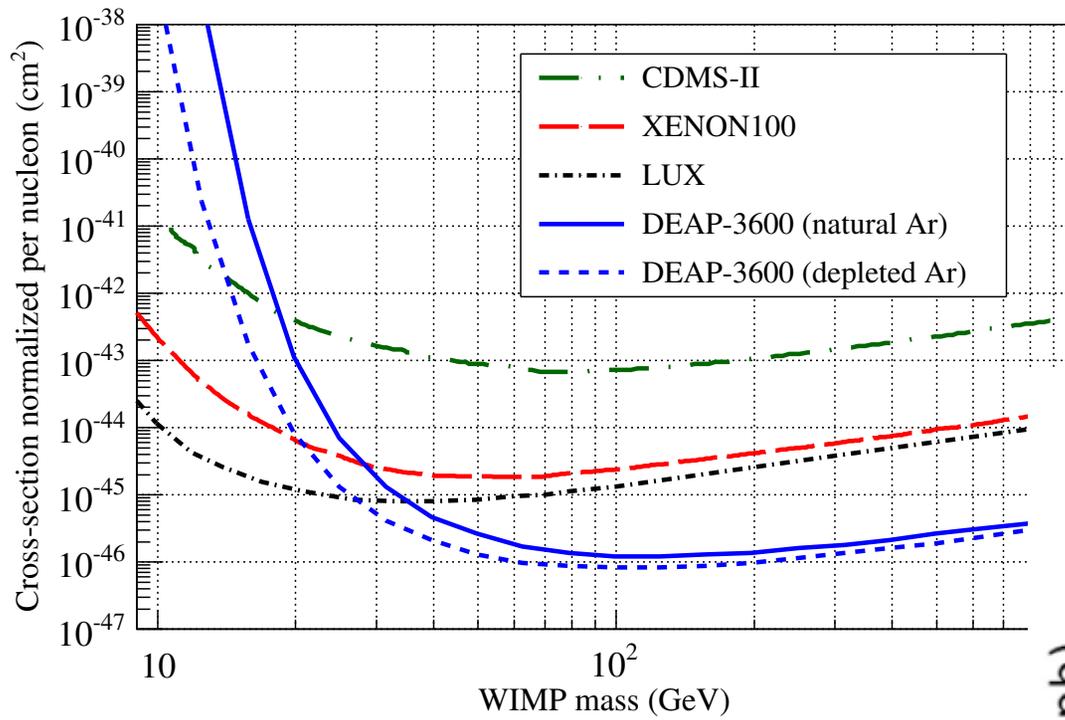
## DEAP almost ready



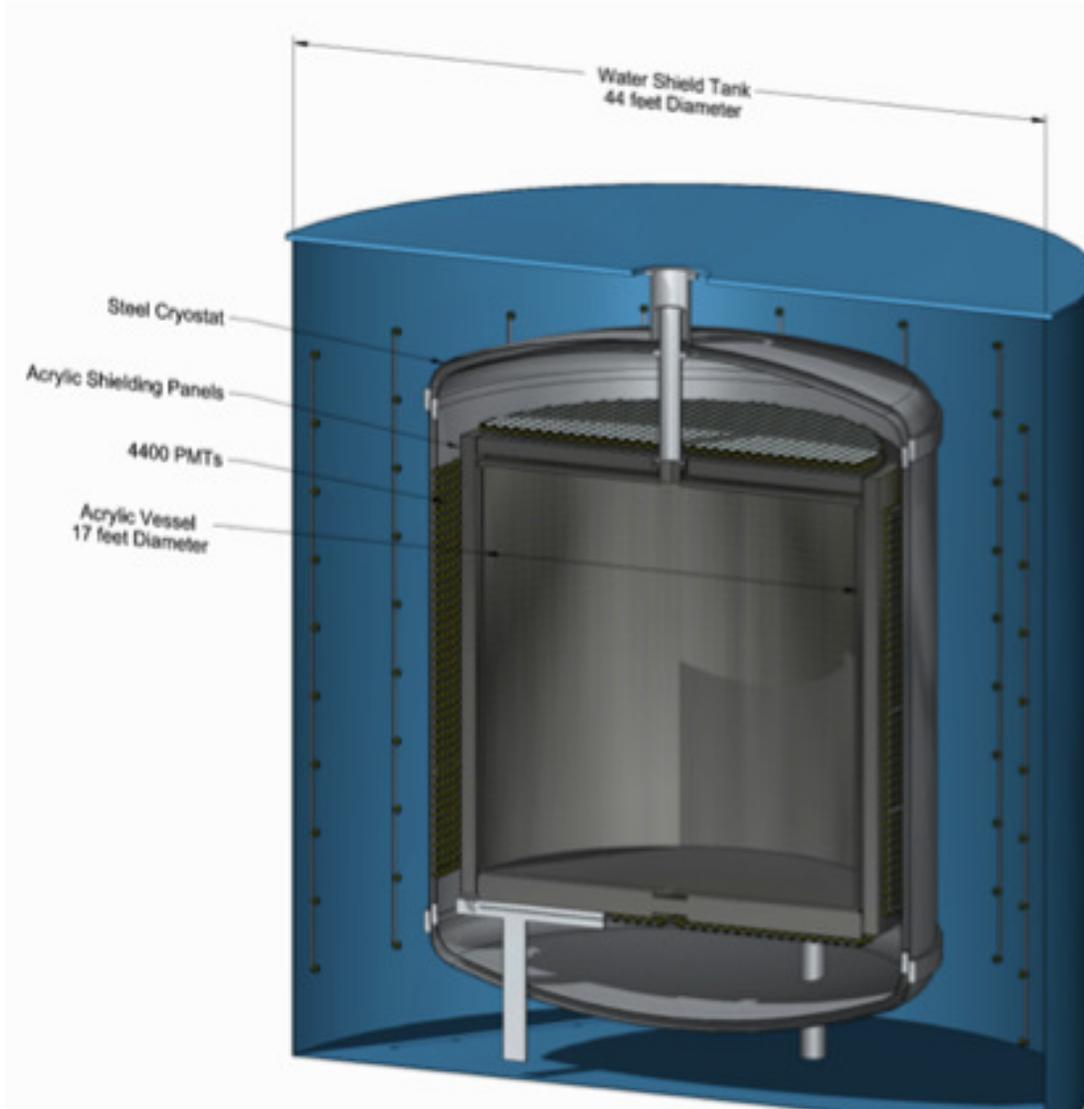
## DEAP almost ready



# DEAP-3600 sensitivity



# DEAP-50T: 50-tonnes (fiducial) of liquid argon



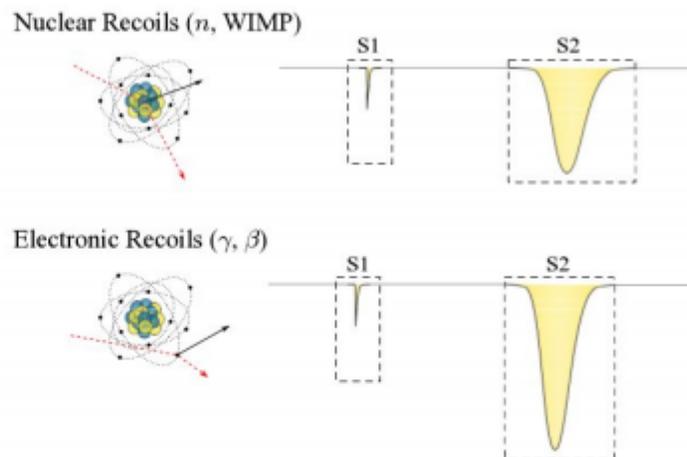
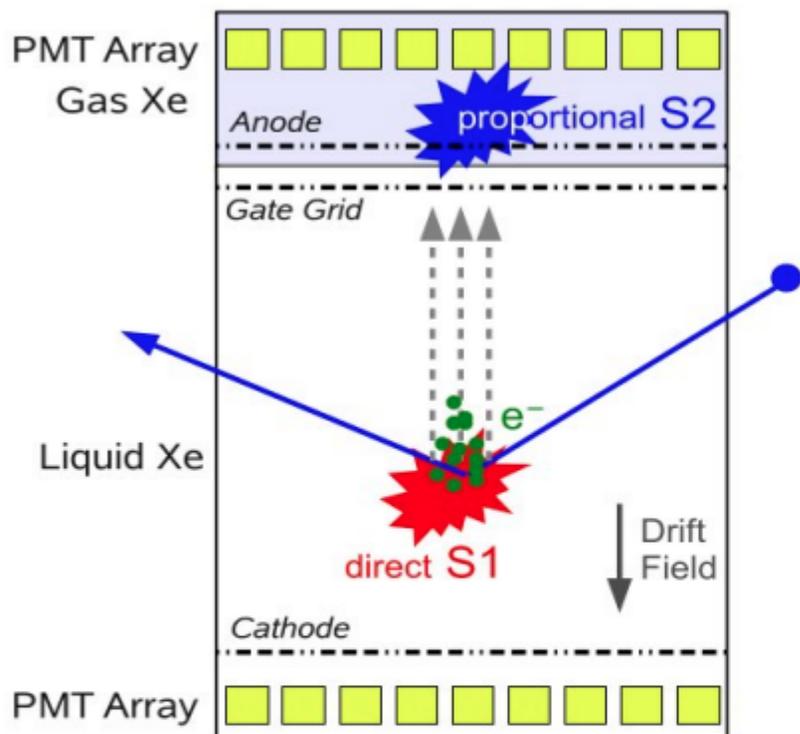
150-tonnes D<sub>Ar</sub> in AV  
50-tonne fiducial

**Sensitivity  $10^{-48} \text{ cm}^2$**

Development Proposal:

- photodetector characterization
- background reduction
- engineering design and safety
- storage and screening of Low-Radioactivity Argon

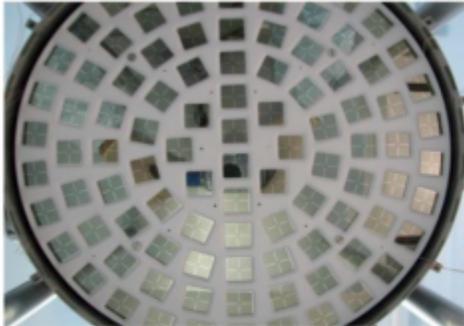
# Dual Phase TPC Principle



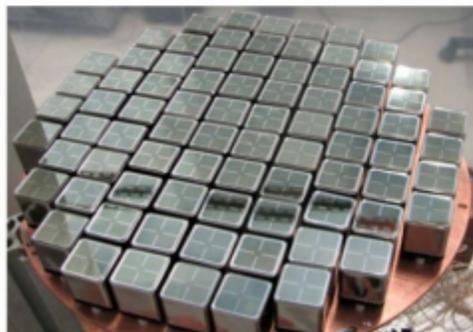
- Bottom PMT array detects scintillation signal (S1)
  - Top PMTs detect the proportional signal (S2)
  - Distribution of the S2  $\rightarrow$   $xy$  coordinate
  - Drift time  $\rightarrow$   $z$  coordinate
- S2/S1 allows for discrimination between electron recoils and nuclear recoils

## The XENON100 TPC

Top array: 98 PMTs

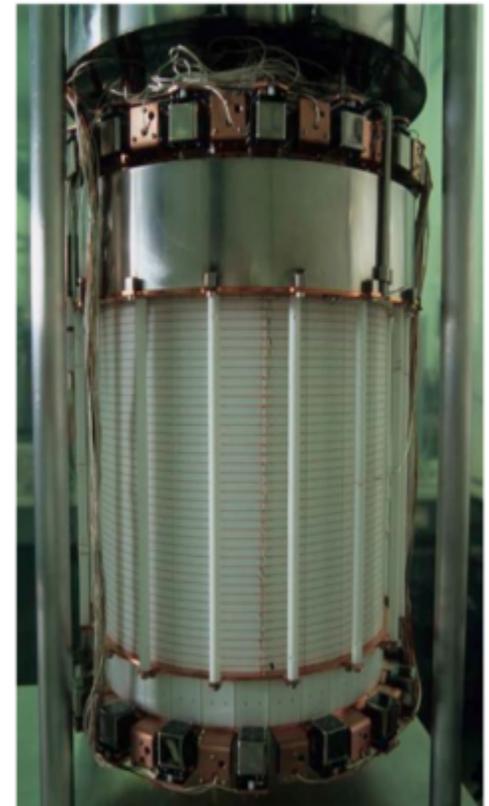


low-activity Hamamatsu  
R8520-06-A1 1"



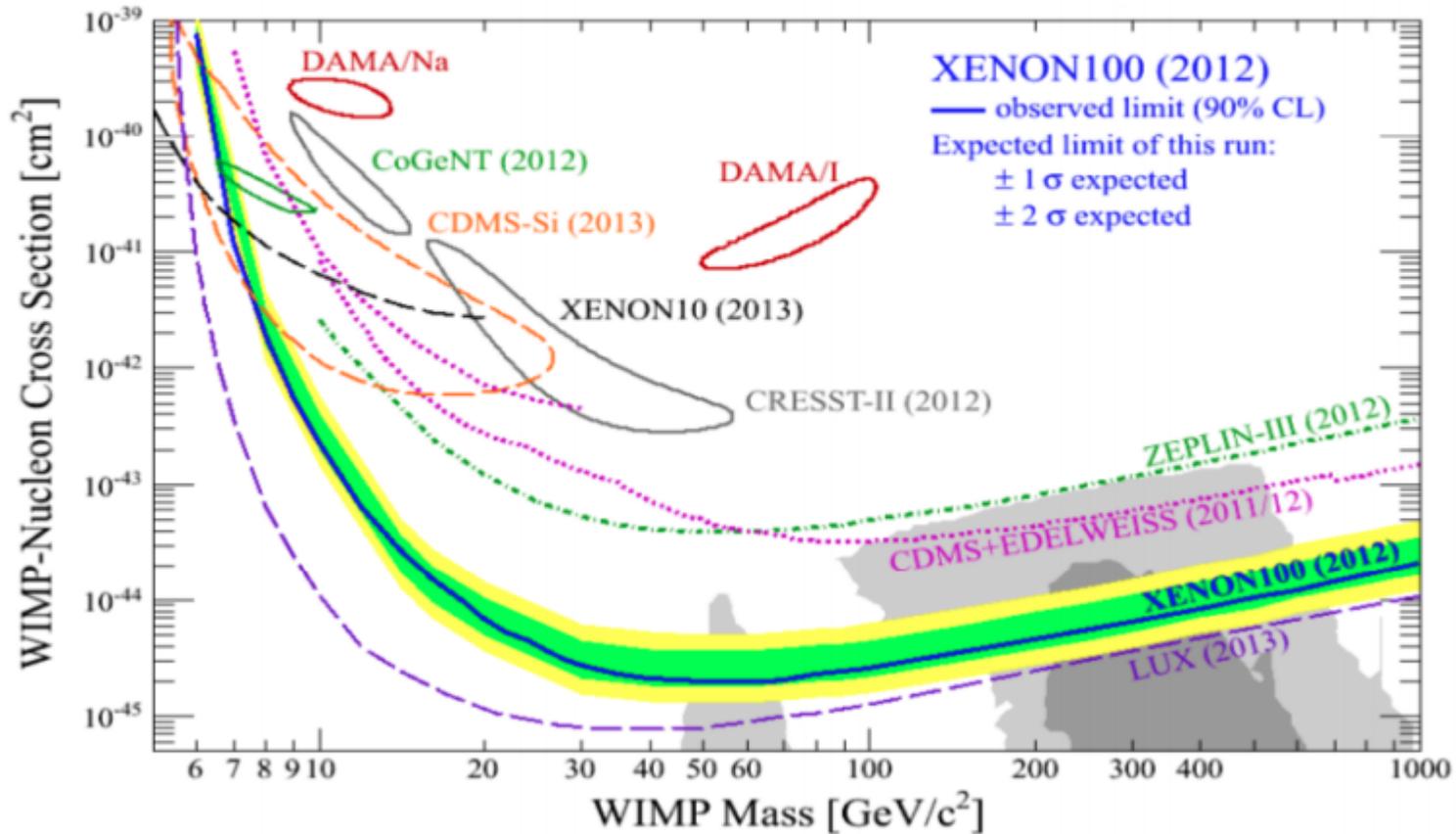
Bottom array: 80 PMTs

- 161 kg Xe, 62 kg target
- 15 cm radius, 30 cm drift length
- 0.53 kV/cm drift field
- $\sim 12$  kV/cm proportional scintillation region field
- radiopurity
  - material screening
  - $^{85}\text{Kr}$  distillation column
- LXe veto
- Passive shielding: water, lead, polyethylene, copper



# WIMP Search 225 Live-Days: Spin Independent

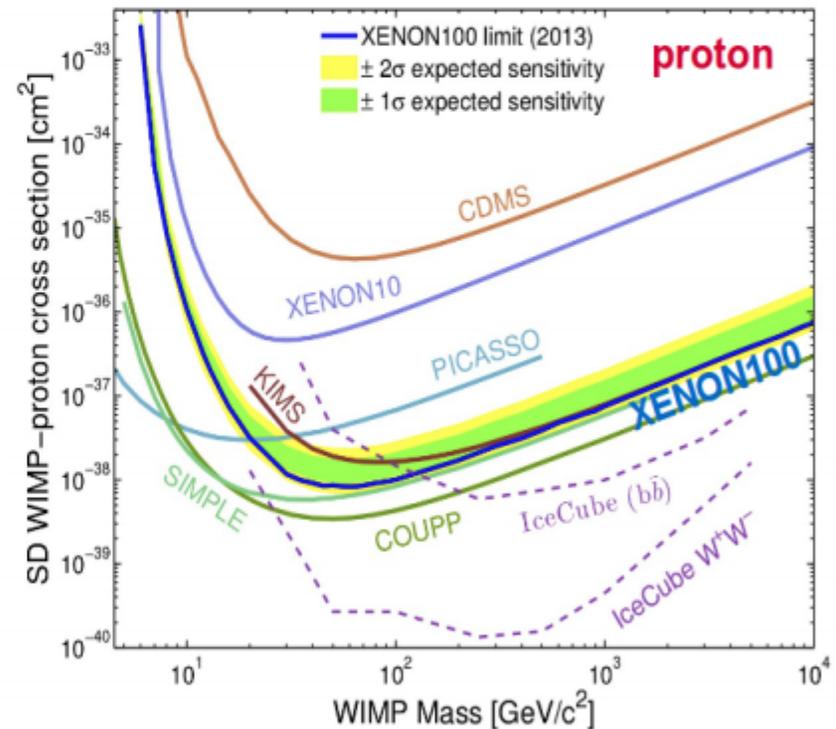
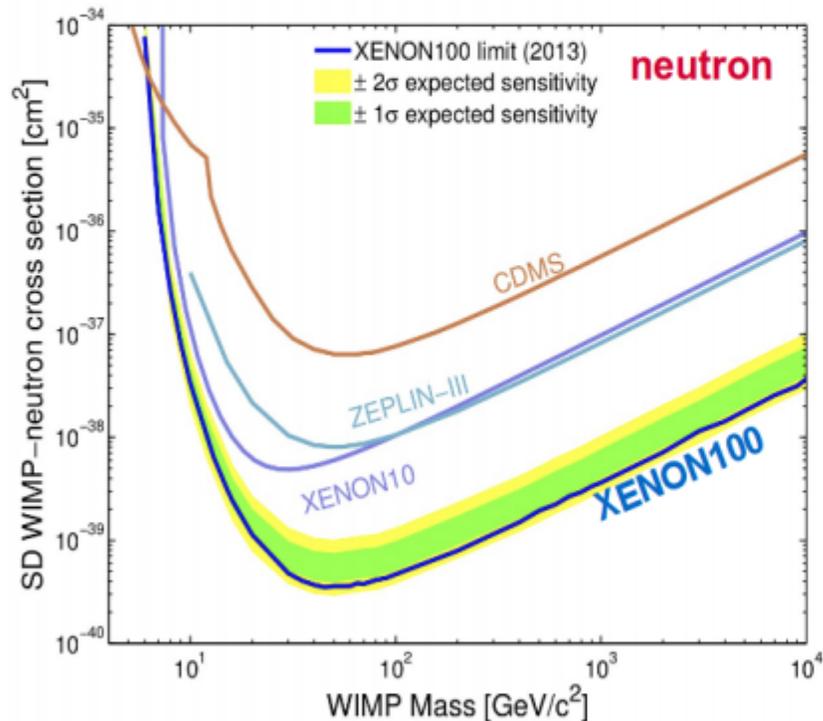
Limit 2012:  $\sigma_{SI} < 2.0 \times 10^{-45} \text{ cm}^2 @ 50 \text{ GeV}/c^2$  (90% CL)



E. Aprile et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 109, 181301 (2012)

## WIMP Search 225 Live-Days: Spin Dependent

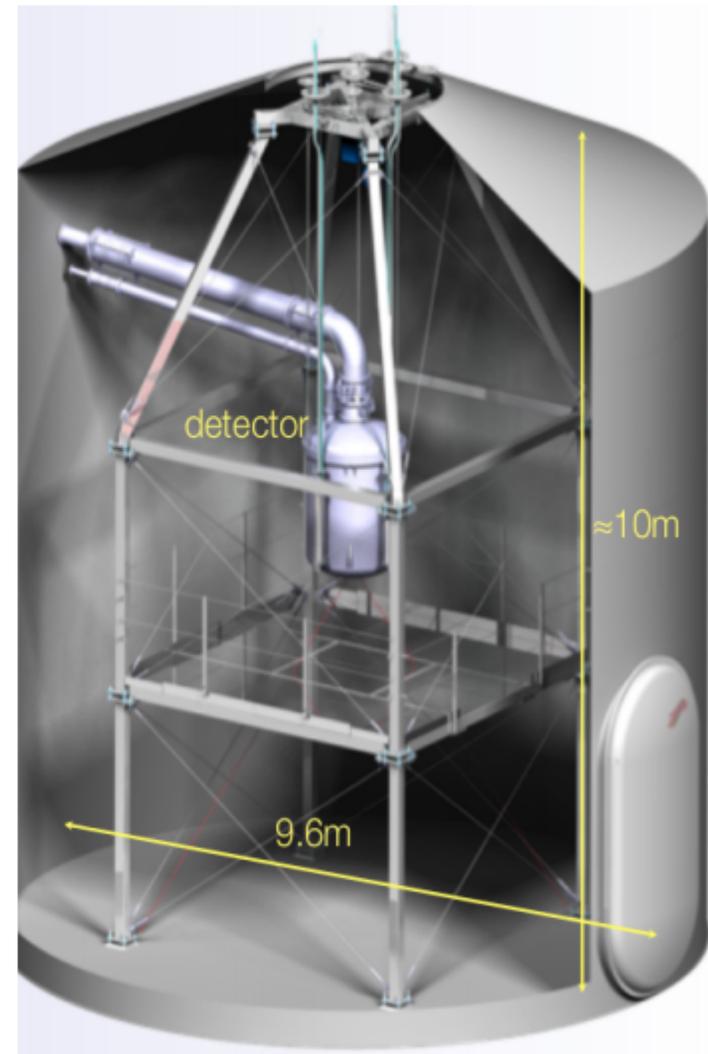
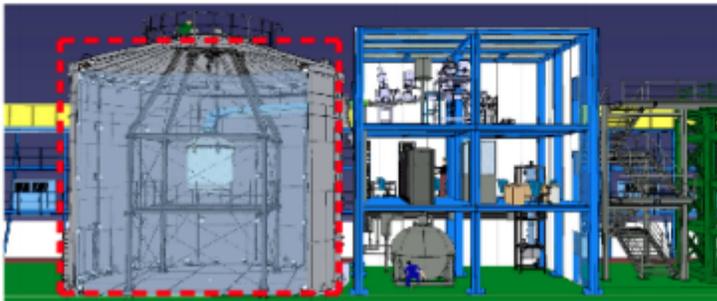
World-best limit for neutron coupling:  $\sigma_n < 3.0 \times 10^{-40} \text{ cm}^2 @ 45 \text{ GeV}/c^2$  (90 % CL).



E. Aprile et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 111, 021301 (2013)

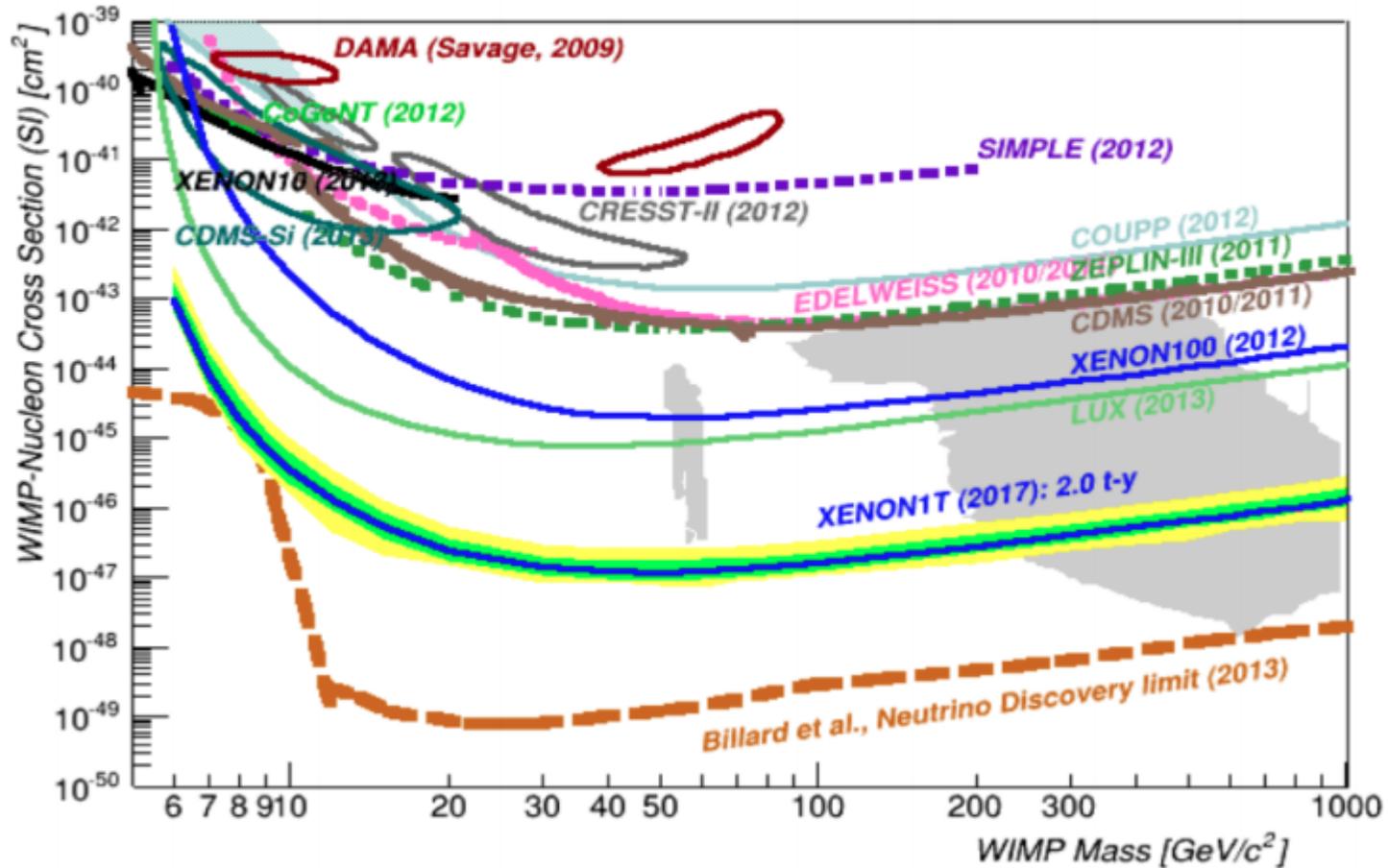
## XENON1T Design

- Dark matter detector inside cryostat
- Surrounded by 10m diameter Cherenkov active shield
- Infrastructure outside of the water tank
  - DAQ + HV + Slow Control
  - Cryogenic system
  - Xenon purification and handling

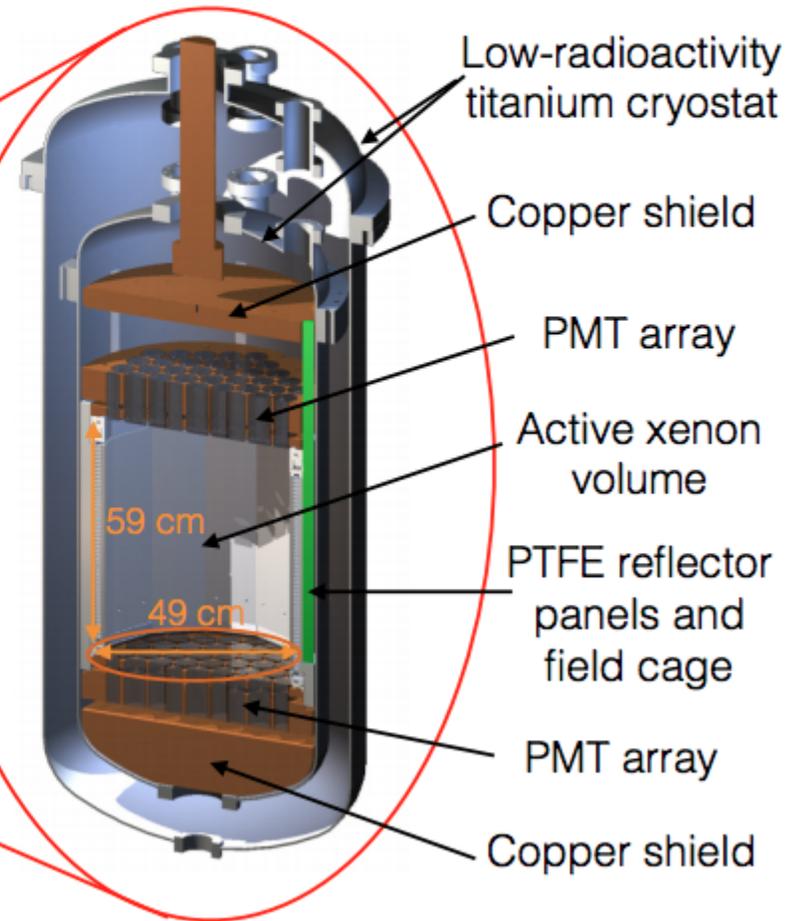
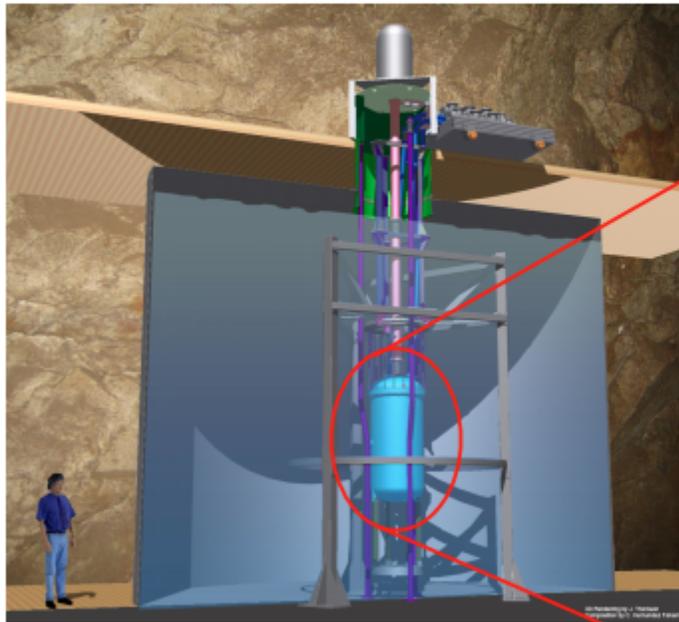


## From XENON100 to XENON1T: Sensitivity

### Spin independent sensitivity

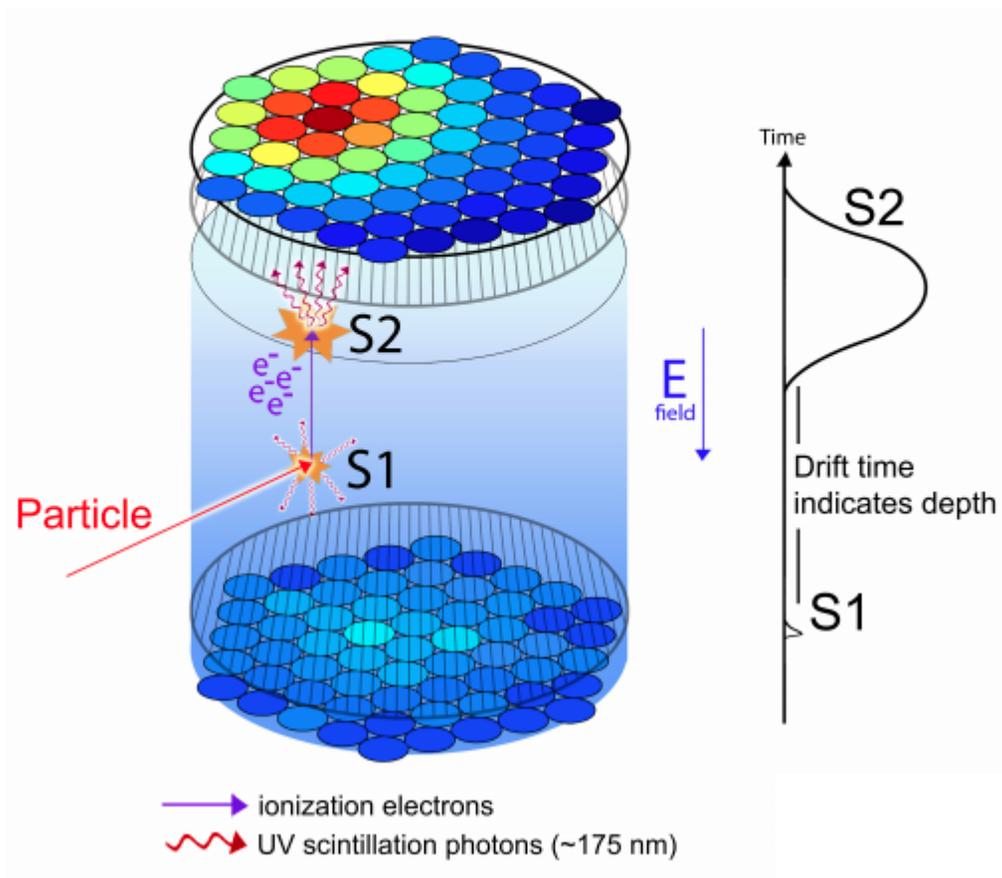


# The Large Underground Xenon Experiment

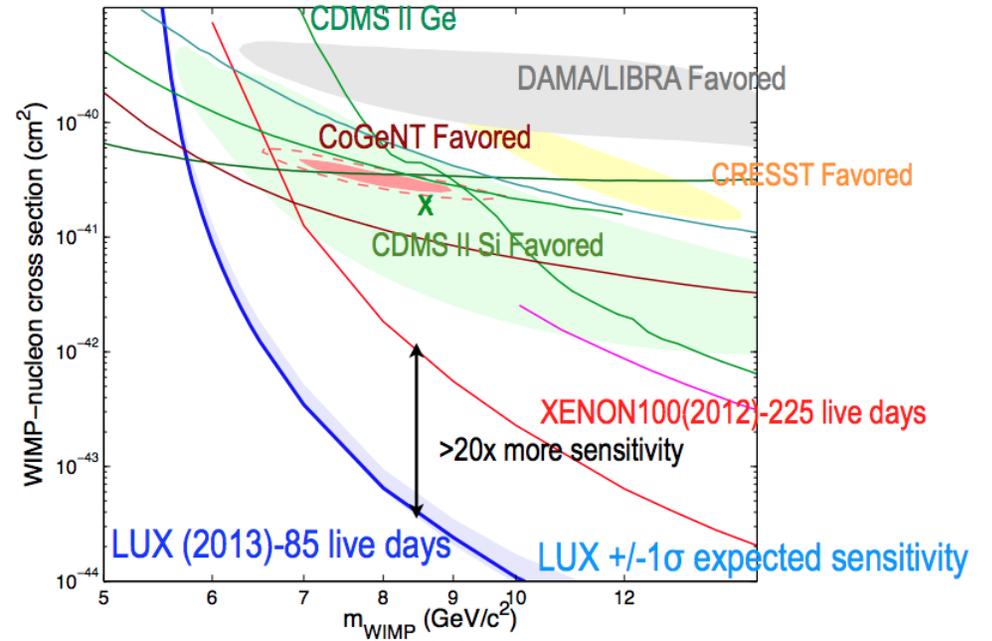
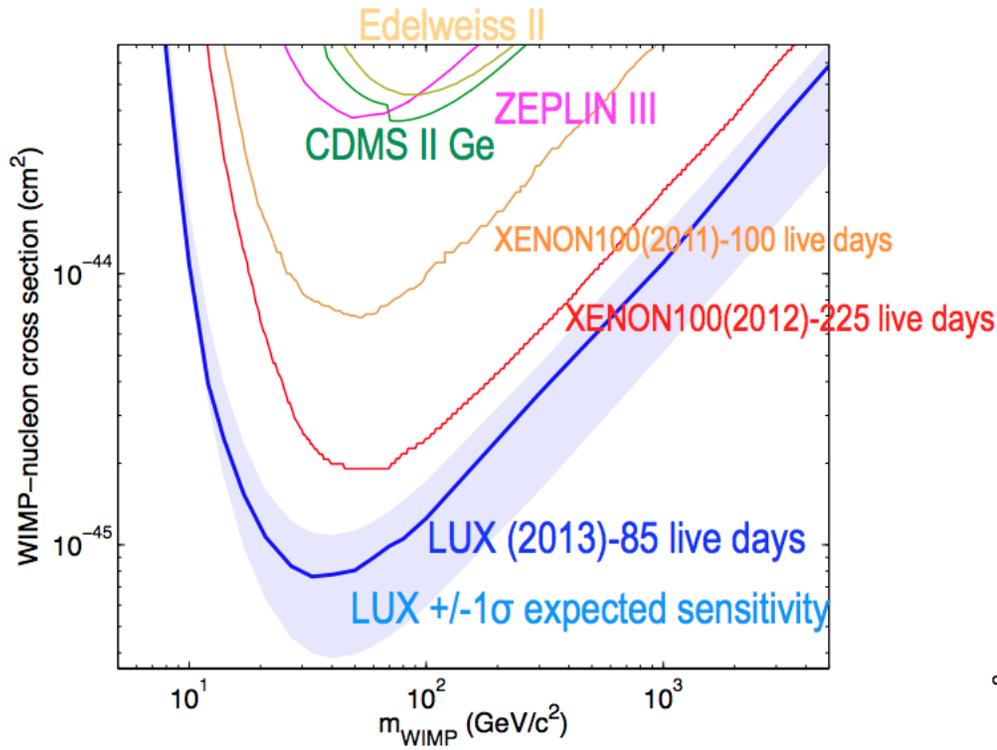


370 kg total xenon mass  
 250 kg active liquid xenon  
 118 kg fiducial mass

# How the LUX Detector Works

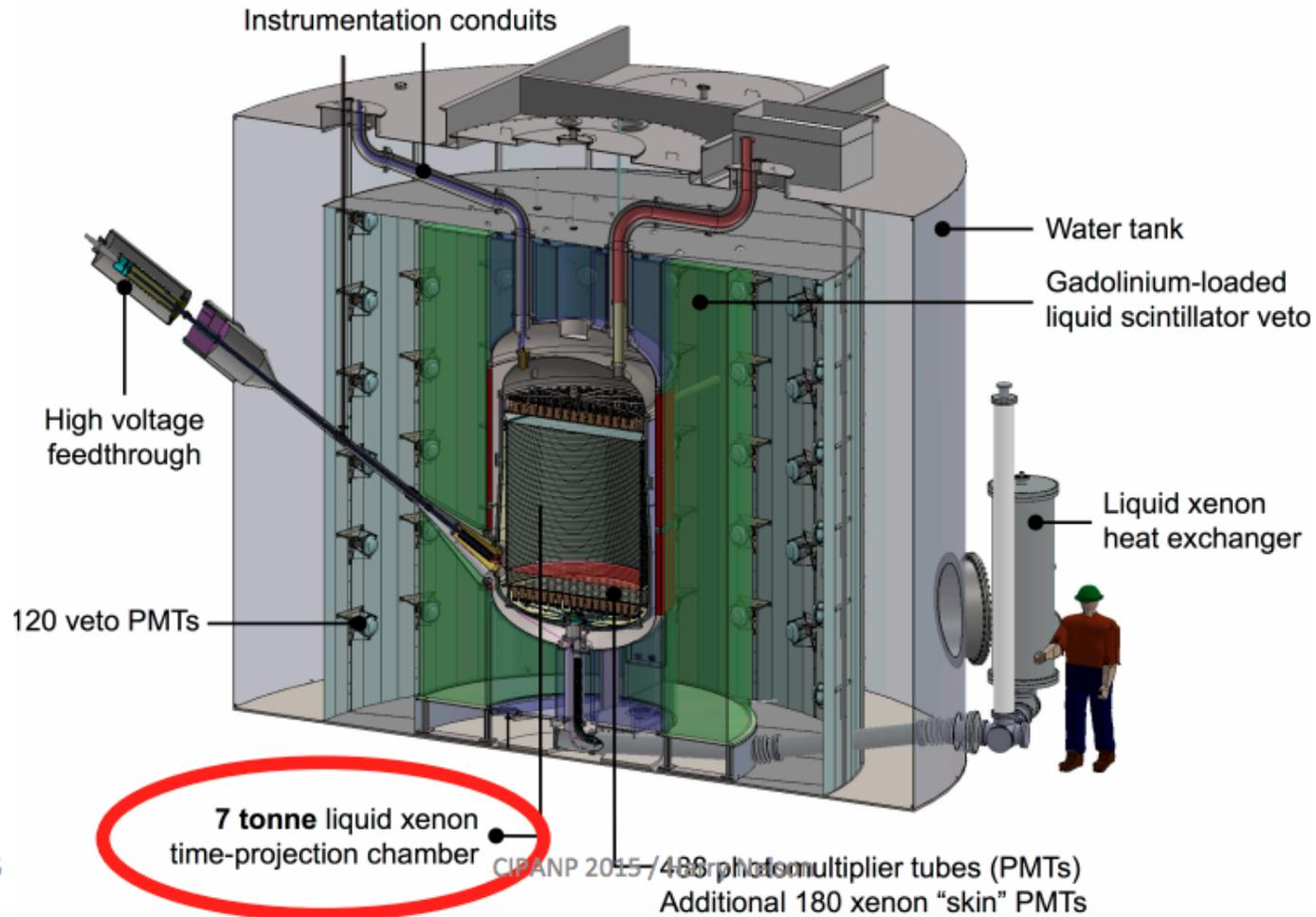


# LUX sensitivity



# LZ Design Overview

## The LZ Dark Matter Experiment



5/21/15

30

# Xenon Future

- XENON1T- 2t active Xe; LZ – 7t active Xe **(G2)**



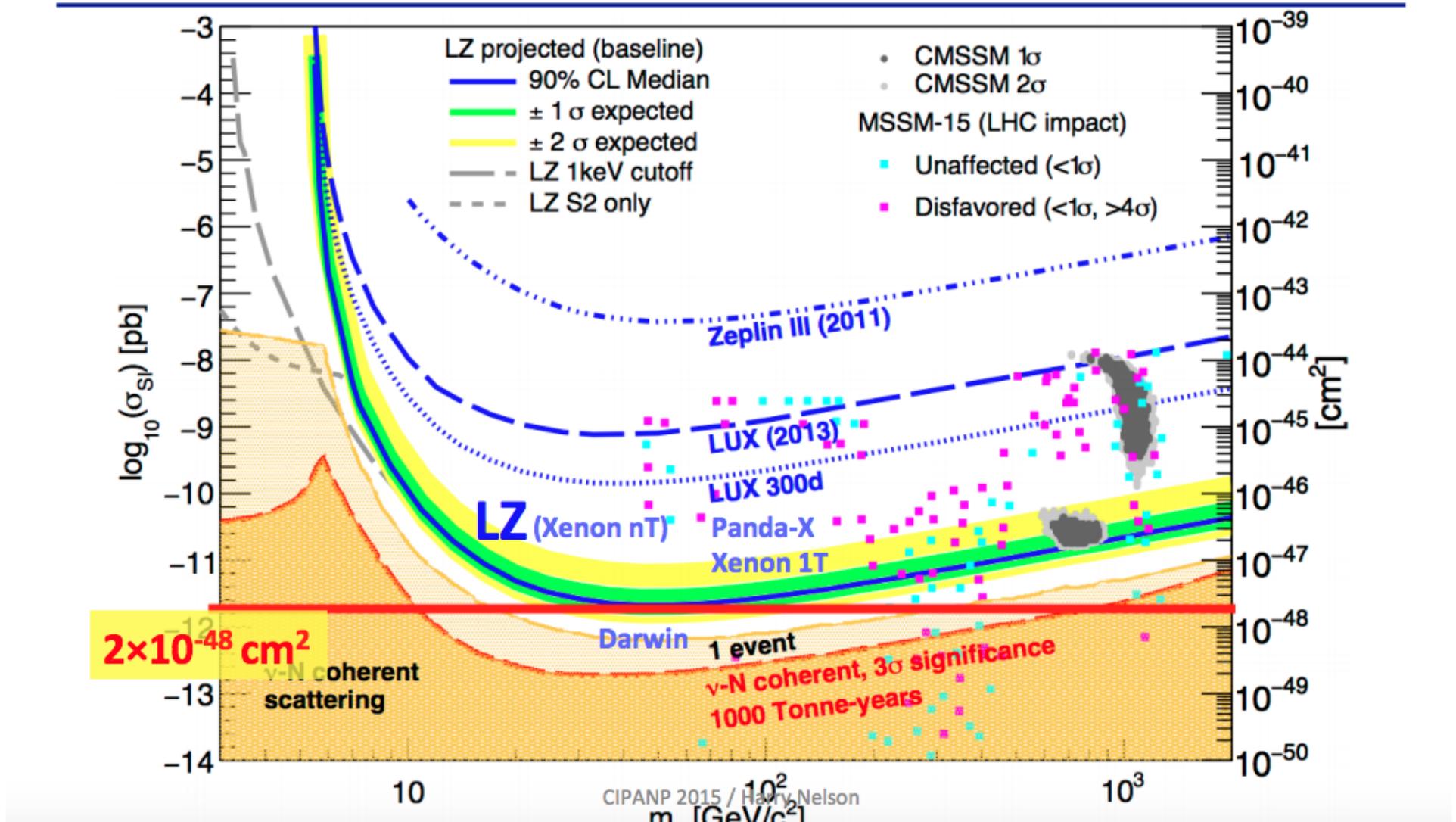
From Laura Baudis



5/21/15

CIPANP 2015 / Harry Nelson

# Expected LZ Sensitivity (1000 live days)



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# Crystals

## Some properties of crystals

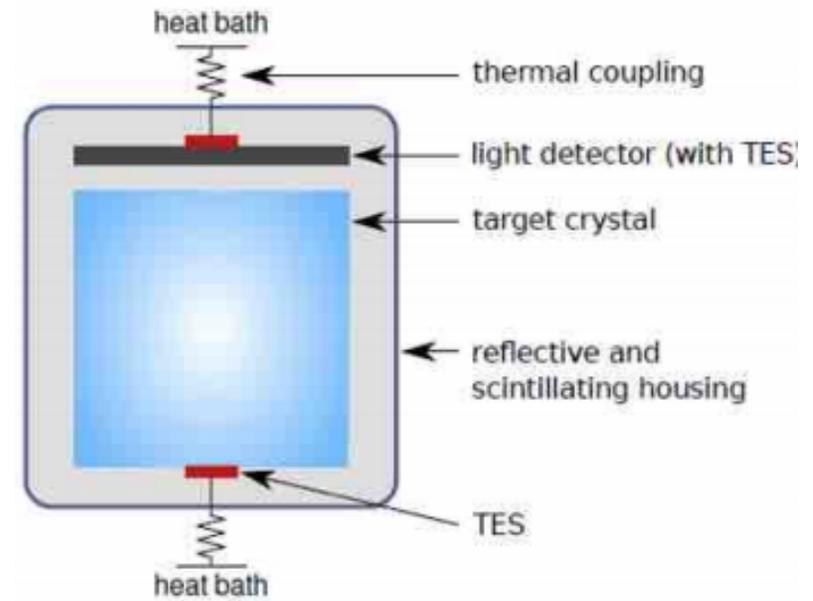
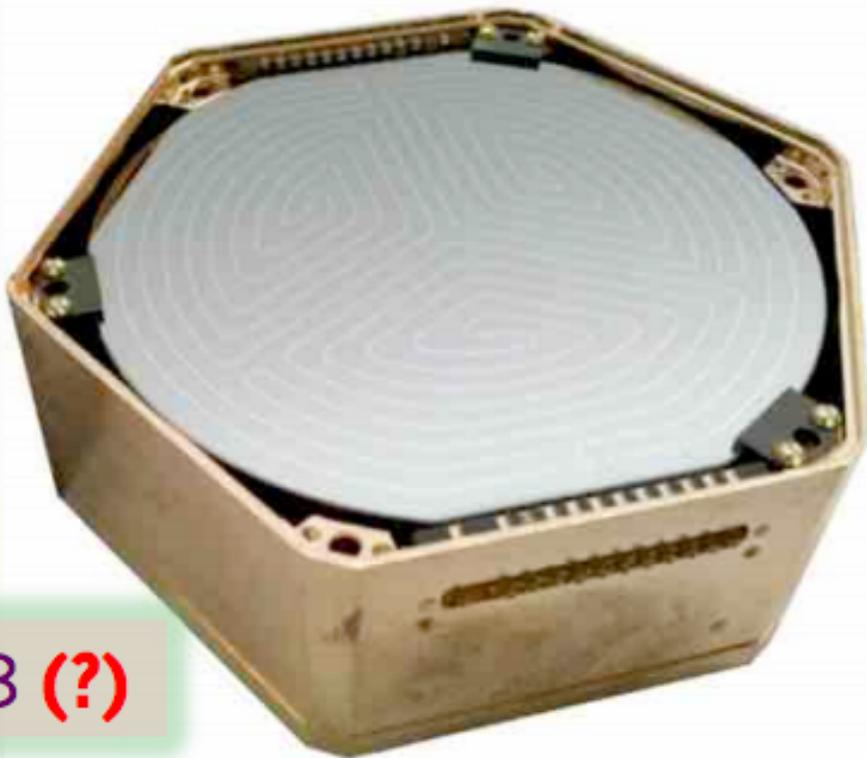
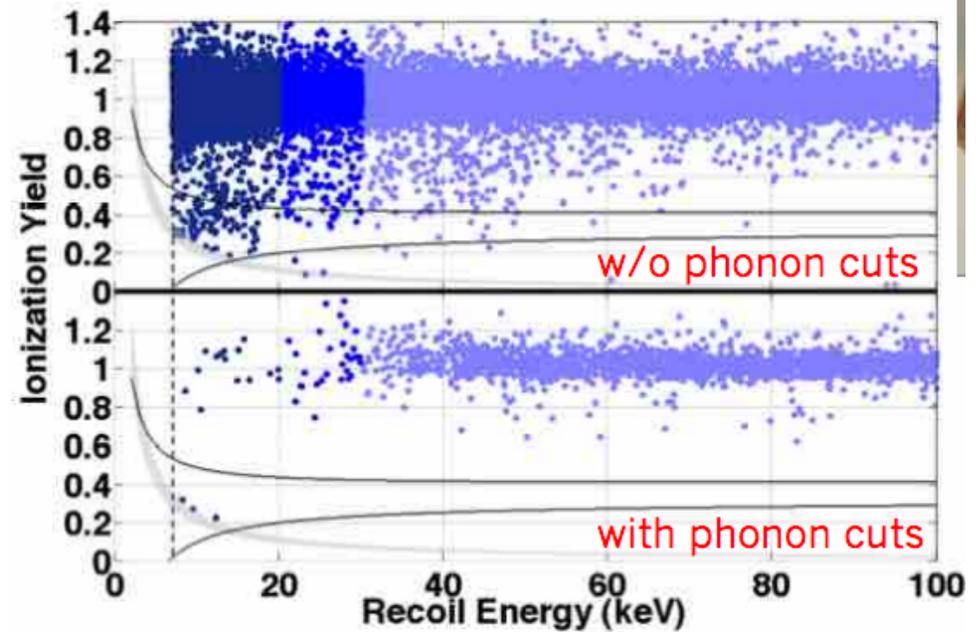
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- Many cuts on the data
- Low duty cycle  
(selected exposure) / (data taking time x mass) about 10%
- The systematics can be variable along the data taking period
- Phonon timing cut  
time and energy response vary across the detector
- Poor detector performances  
many detectors excluded in the analysis
- Critical stability of the performances
- Non-uniform response of detector  
intrinsic limit
- Surface electrons: PSD  
needed with related uncertainty

# Double read-out bolometric technique

ionization/scintillation vs heat

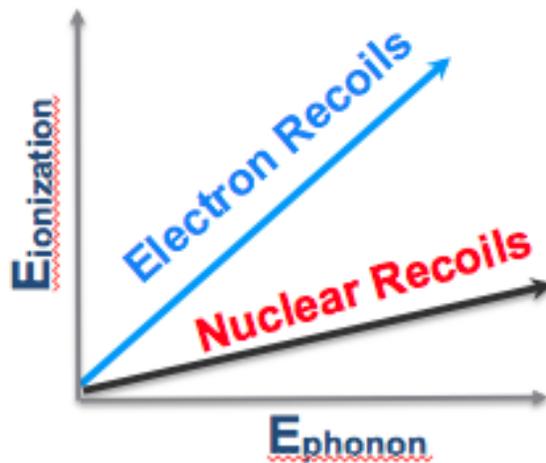
- CDMS-Ge/Si, Edelweiss, CRESST, Eureka  
CoGeNT, DAMA-LIBRA  
ANAIS, DM-ICE, KIMS  
SABRE, DAMIC



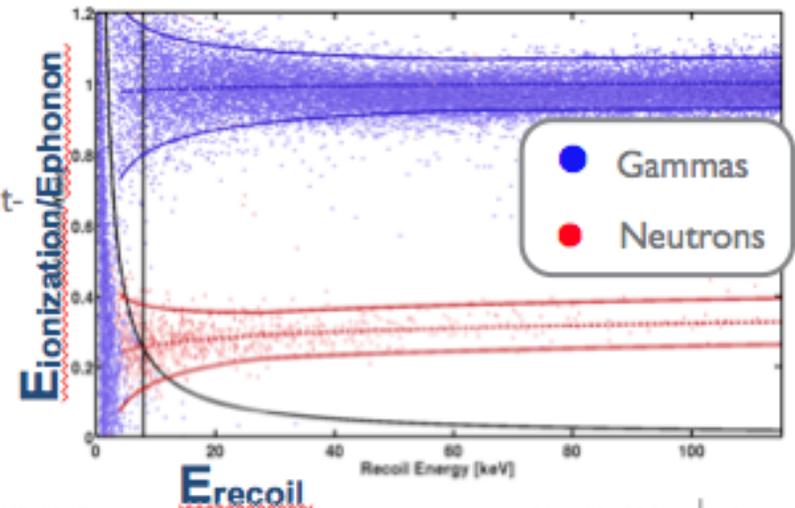
AB (?)

## The Cryogenic Dark Matter Search

- ▶ The CDMS Collaboration has developed and deployed cryogenic semi-conductor detectors for rare event searches
- ▶ Recent interesting results include (from CDMS-II)
  - Lightly Ionizing Particles, arXiv:1409.3270; PRL 114, 111302 [2015]
  - Maximum Likelihood Analysis, arXiv:1410.1003; PRD 91, 052021 [2015]
  - Reanalysis of CDMS-II, arXiv:1504.05871
- ▶ SuperCDMS consists of two experiments with substantial detector improvements
  - SuperCDMS-Soudan, an operating 9 kg germanium array
  - SuperCDMS-SNOLAB, a Generation-2 60 kg array of germanium and silicon

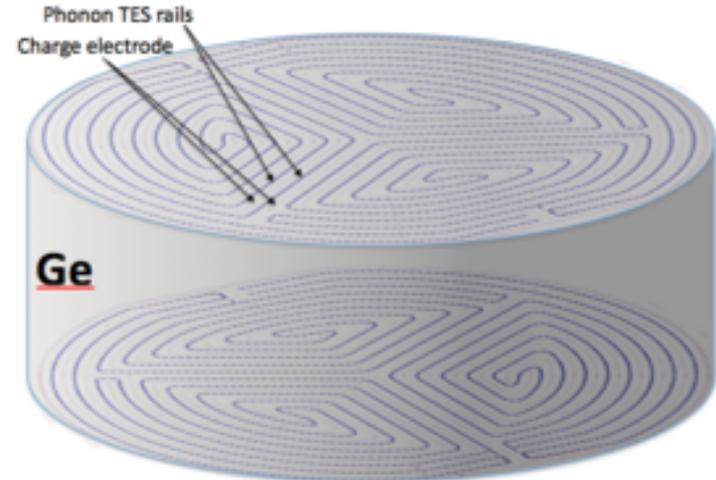


CDMS measures both the heat deposition and the ionization from particle scattering. This allows event-by-event identification the interaction as a **nuclear** or **electron** recoil to energies well below 10 keVr.

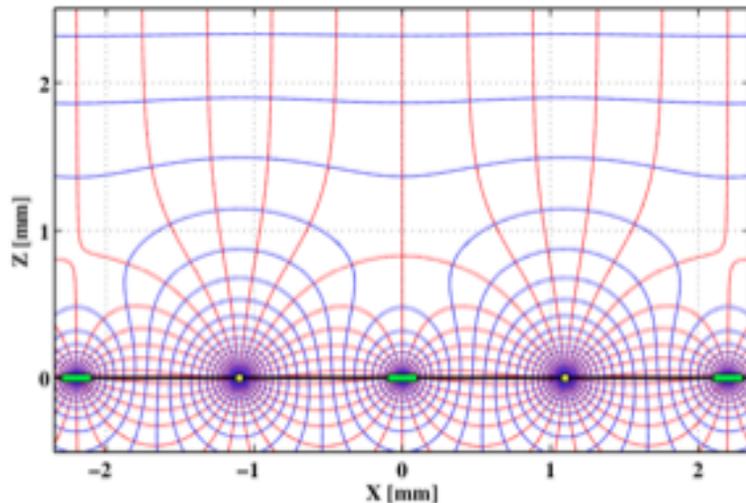


## SuperCDMS Technology – iZIPs

- ▶ Search with germanium iZIP detectors
- ▶ Operating at ~50 mK
  - Enables phonon and charge readout
  - Charge to phonon ratio separates nuclear and electron scatters
- ▶ interleaved Z-sensitive ionization and phonon sensors (iZIP) on both faces
  - Surface event identification
  - Outer phonon guard ring



SuperCDMS iZIP detectors have phonon and ionization instrumentation on both faces allowing superior z-sensitivity.  
*J. Low Temp. Phys.* 176, 194 (2014)

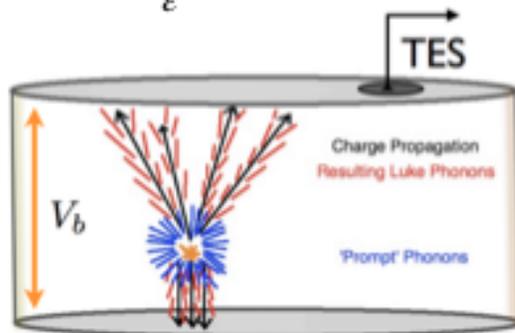


By holding a **potential** between ionization and phonon electrodes, a more complex **electric field** is created. Charge near the surface of the detector is collected on only one side. Charge in the bulk of the detector is collected on both faces.

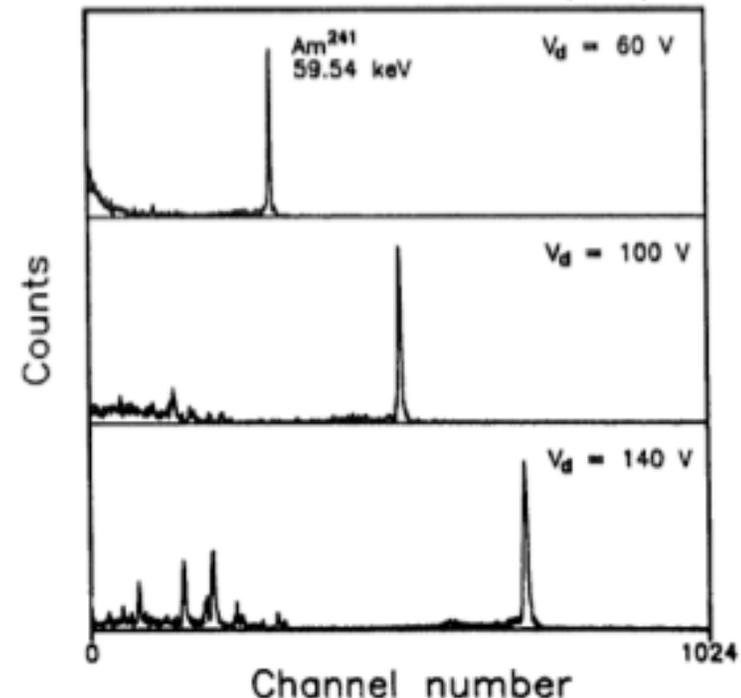
## SuperCDMS Technology – High Voltage

- ▶ HV mode leverages Neganov-Luke amplification to realize low thresholds with high-resolution
  - Ionization only, no event-by-event discrimination of nuclear recoils
- ▶ Drifting  $N_e$  electrons across a potential,  $V$ , generates  $qN_e V$  electron volts of heat

$$N_e = \frac{E_i}{\epsilon}, \epsilon = 3eV$$



P.N. Luke et al., NIM A289, 406 (1990)



The work done drifting charge carriers is detectable as heat. This **voltage-assisted calorimetric ionization detection** can improve the energy resolution and threshold of bolometers for ionizing radiation.

A number of groups have investigated this technique: Neganov and Trofimov (1985), Luke (1988), Luke *et al.* (1990), Spooner *et al.* (1992), Akerib *et al.* (2004), Stark *et al.* (2005), Isaila *et al.* (2012)

## SuperCDMS-Soudan Search for Low-Mass WIMPs

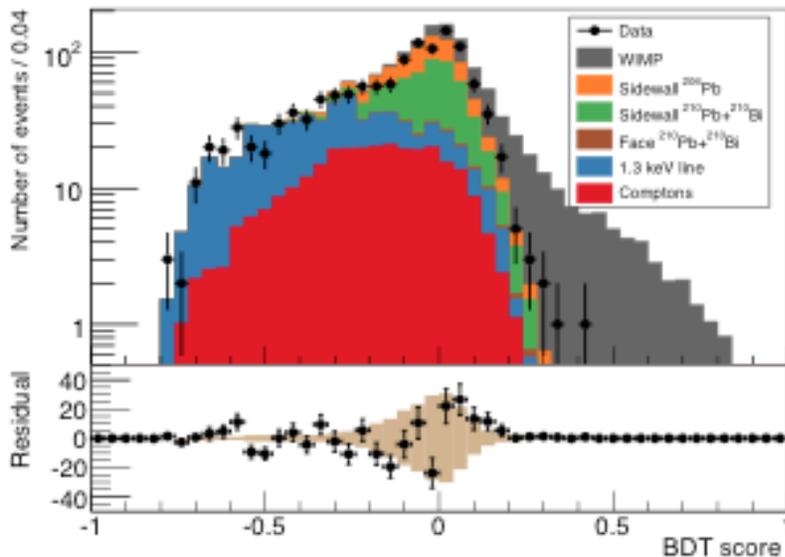
arXiv:1402.7137; Phys. Rev. Lett. 112, 241302 (2014)



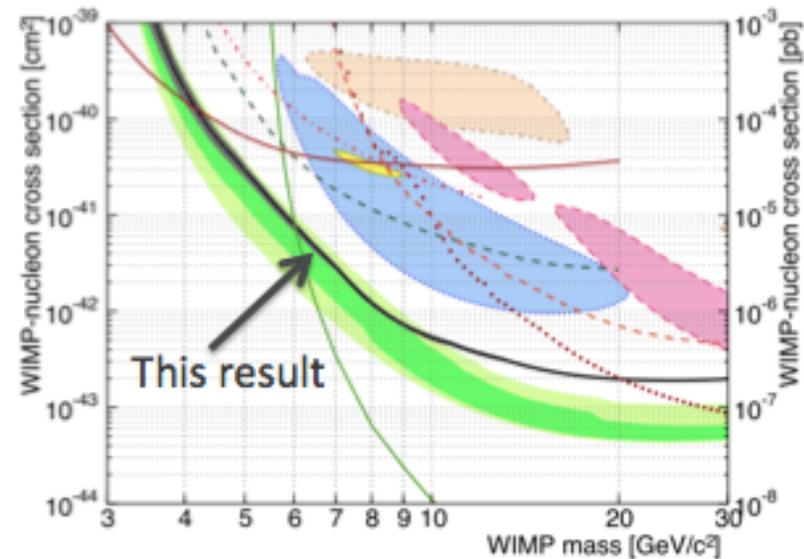
Pacific Northwest  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

Proudly Operated by Battelle Since 1965

- ▶ Boosted decision tree analysis demonstrates background model
  - Discrepancy for 1 damaged detector
- ▶ Tension with CDMS-II silicon results
- ▶ Also see Effective Field Theory interpretation (arXiv:1503.03379; accepted in Phys. Rev. D)



The most significant sources in the background model were  $^{210}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{68,71}\text{Ge}$  1.3 keV L-capture, and gamma rays from K, U, Th contamination in the detector construction



The resulting dark matter limits show excellent agreement across most of the analysis range. The discrepancy at 20-30 GeV may be due to a damaged detector.

## SuperCDMS-SNOLAB

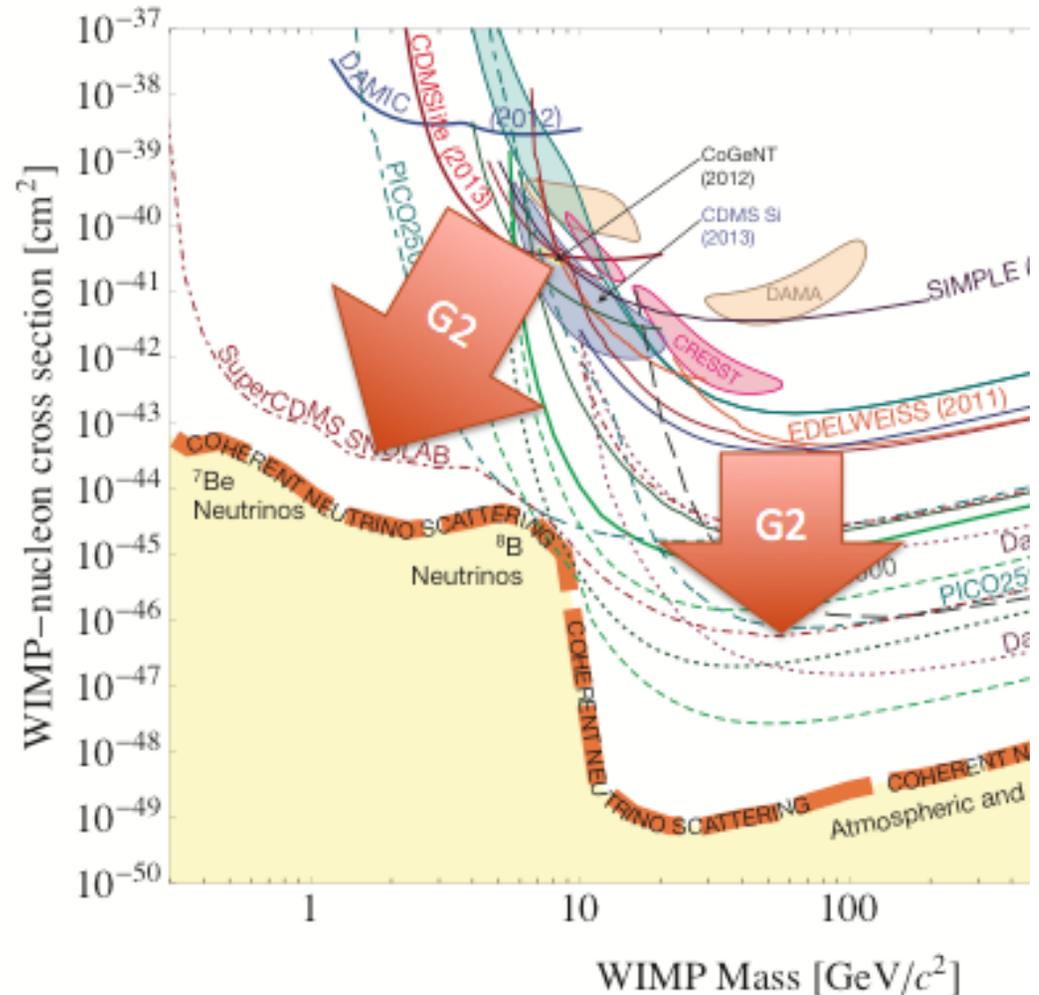
## Generation 2 Low Mass Dark Matter Search



Pacific Northwest  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

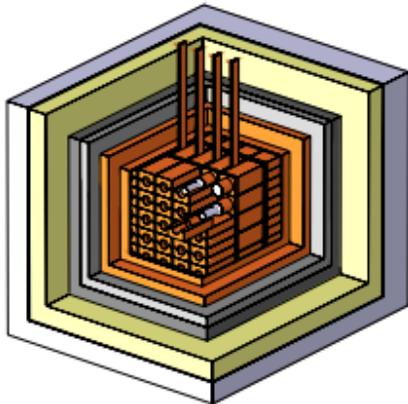
Proudly Operated by Battelle Since 1965

- ▶ The goal of Generation 2 SuperCDMS-SNOLAB is a dramatic increase in sensitivity, especially for WIMPs with mass  $< 10$  GeV
- ▶ Two main technology advances make this possible
  - X10 better energy resolution
    - Better electronics
    - Lower temperatures
  - X200 lower backgrounds
    - Material selection
    - Better cleaning/handling
    - Minimize cosmic-ray exposure



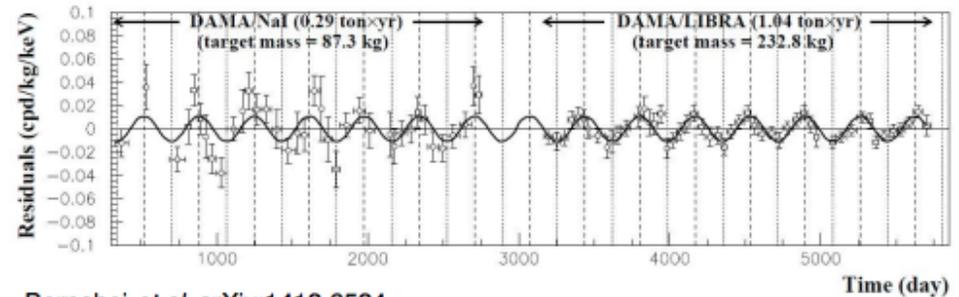
# DAMA Modulation Signal

Performed search for dark matter annual modulation with NaI(Tl) crystal array



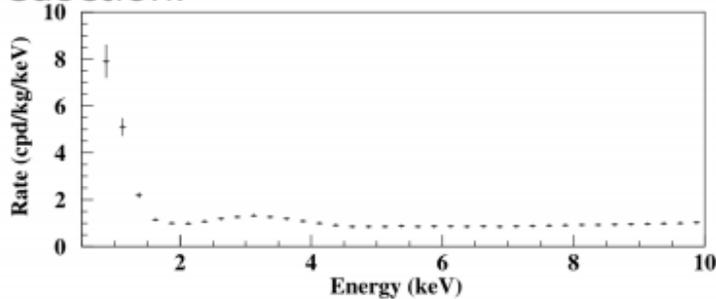
Bernabei *et al.*, NIM A, (2008)

Observe non-zero amplitude at **9.3-sigma**  
 - Consistent signal spanning 15 cycles



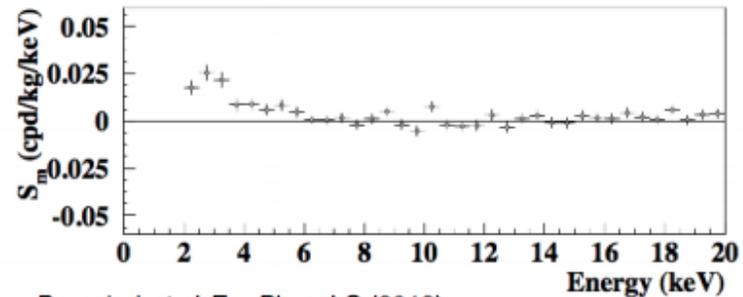
Bernabei *et al.*, arXiv:1412.6524

Demonstrated excellent background reduction:



Bernabei *et al.*, Eur Phys J C (2008)

Modulation only observed at low-energy:



Bernabei *et al.*, Eur Phys J C (2013)

*No background or environmental effect has been shown to replicate the DAMA signal*

Walter C. Pettus

CIPANP: May 2015

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## Threshold detectors

## Some properties of threshold detectors

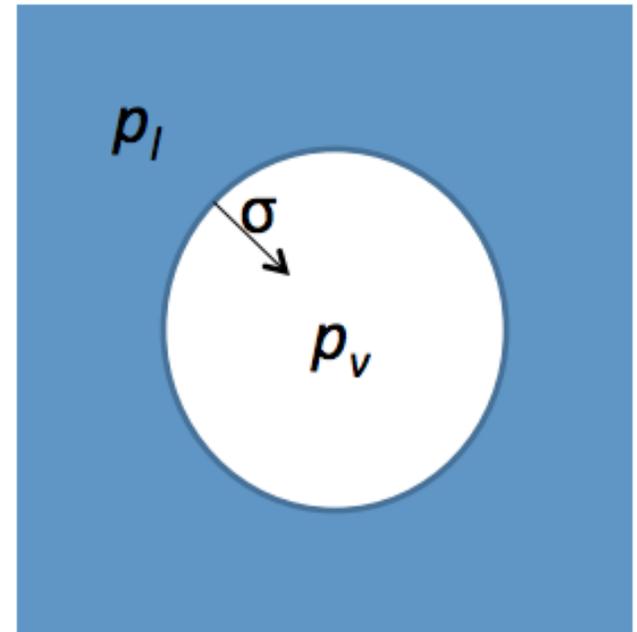
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- Threshold detector
- Fluid in a metastable state
- Can be quenched by energy depositions of particles
- Tiny energy deposition  
macroscopic phase transition
- Gammas can't or almost nucleate bubbles
- In principle, any liquid works

## PICO bubble chambers

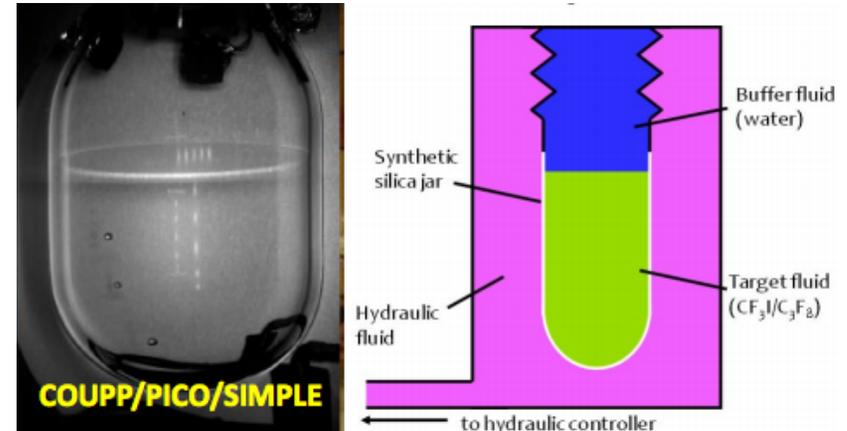
- In a superheated fluid, energy deposition greater than  $E_{th}$  in a radius less than  $r_c$  will result in a bubble large enough to overcome surface tension (Seitz “Hot-Spike” Model)
- Low E or dE/dx result in smaller bubbles that immediately collapse
- Classical Thermodynamics:

$$p_v - p_l = \frac{2\sigma}{r_c}$$
$$E_{th} = \underbrace{4\pi r_c^2 \left( \sigma - T \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial T} \right)}_{\text{Surface energy}} + \underbrace{\frac{4}{3}\pi r_c^3 \rho_v h}_{\text{Latent heat}}$$

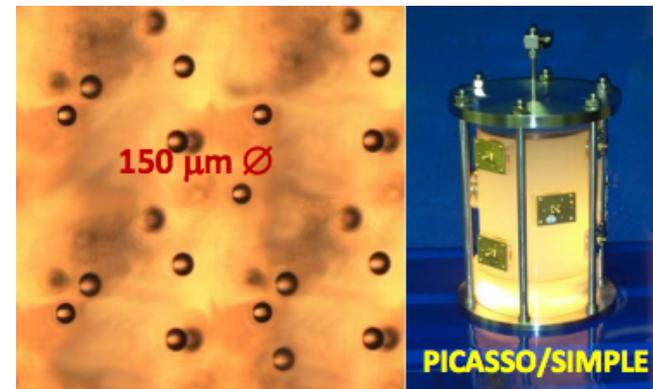


# Bubble chambers/droplet/geyser

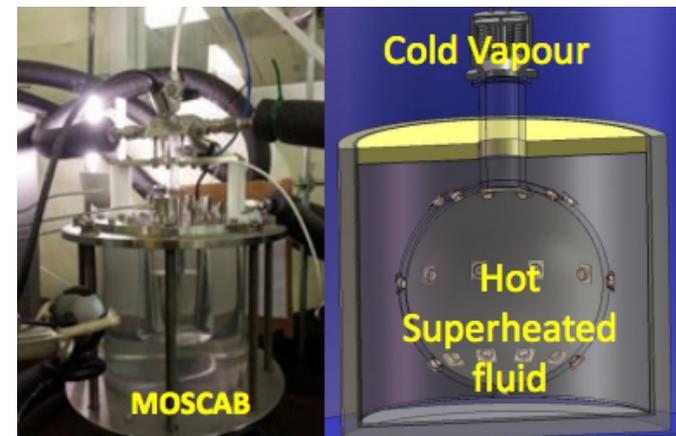
- Bubble chambers: COUPP, PICO  
Acoustic and optical readout



- Droplet detectors:  
PICASSO, SIMPLE  
Optical readout



- Condensation chambers (Geyser):  
MOSCAB  
Acoustic and optical readout



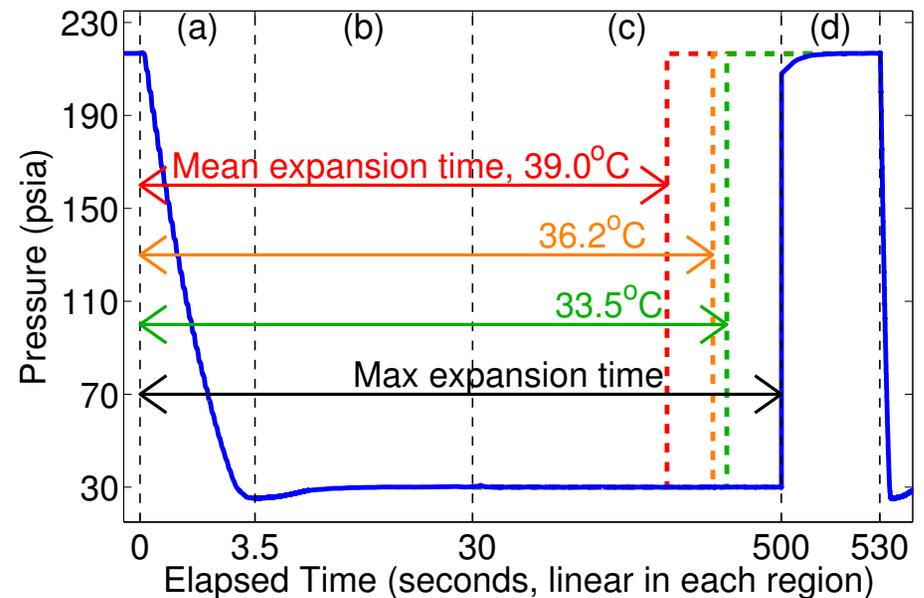
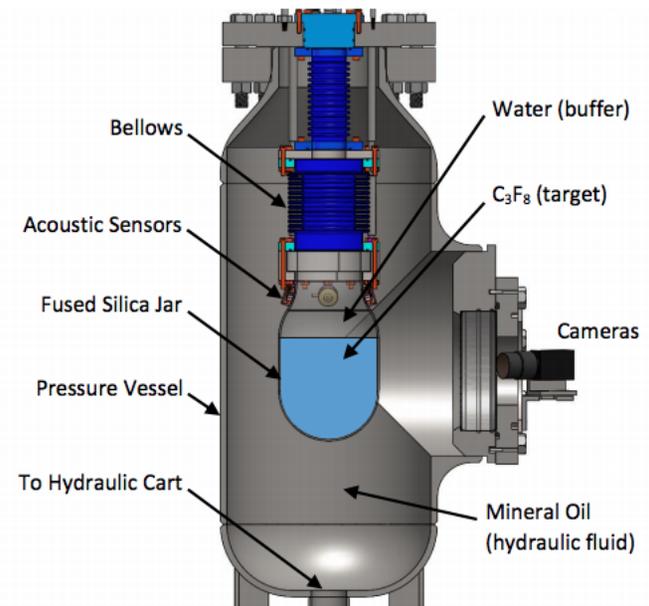


# PICO bubble chambers

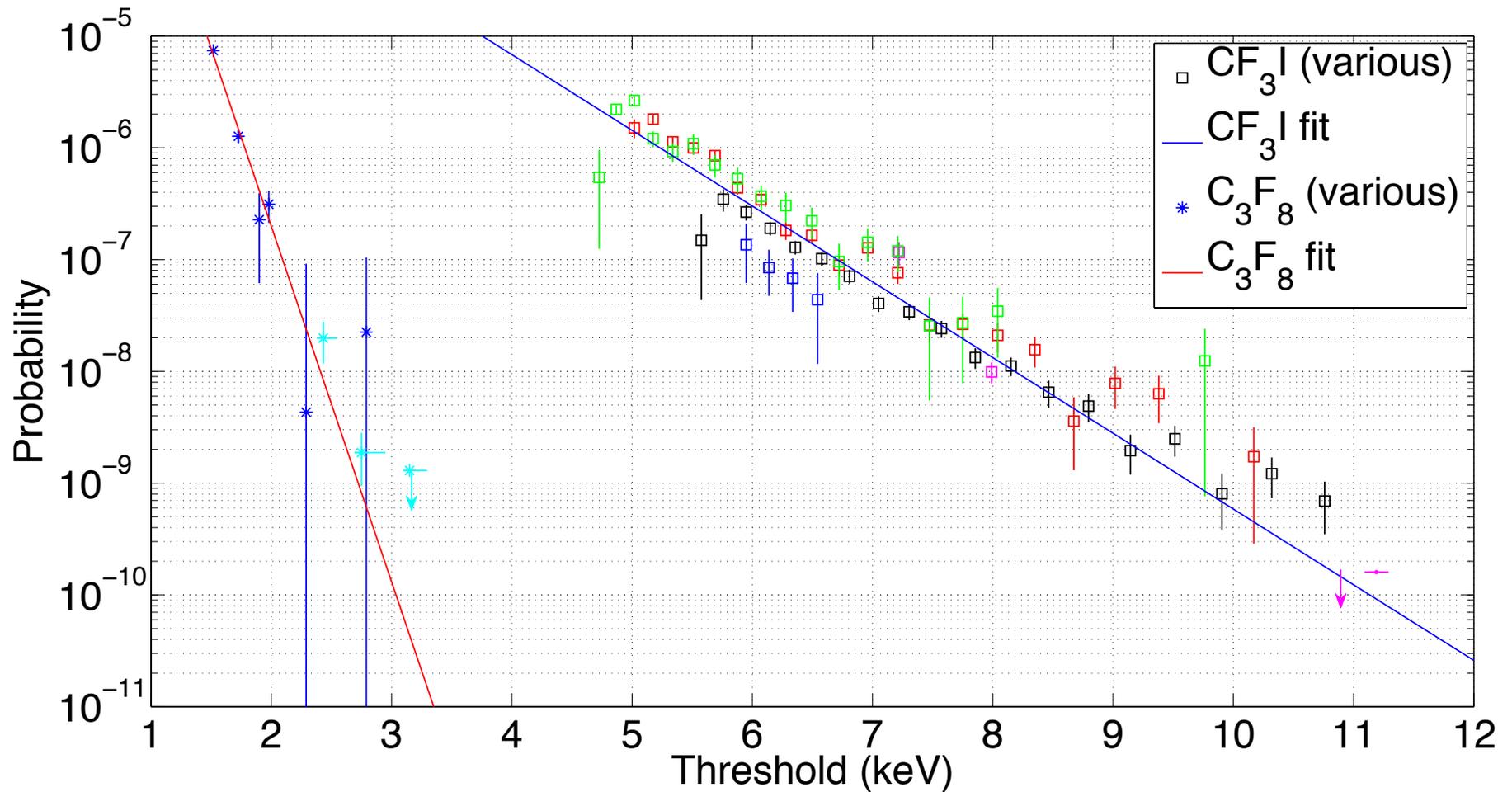
- Target material:  
superheated  $CF_3I$ ,  
 $C_3F_8$ ,  $C_4F_{10}$   
spin-dependent/independent

Could make a  
dark matter bubble  
chamber with any liquid!

- Particles interacting  
evaporate a small  
amount of material:  
bubble nucleation
- Cameras record bubbles
- Piezo sensors detect sound
- Recompression after  
each event



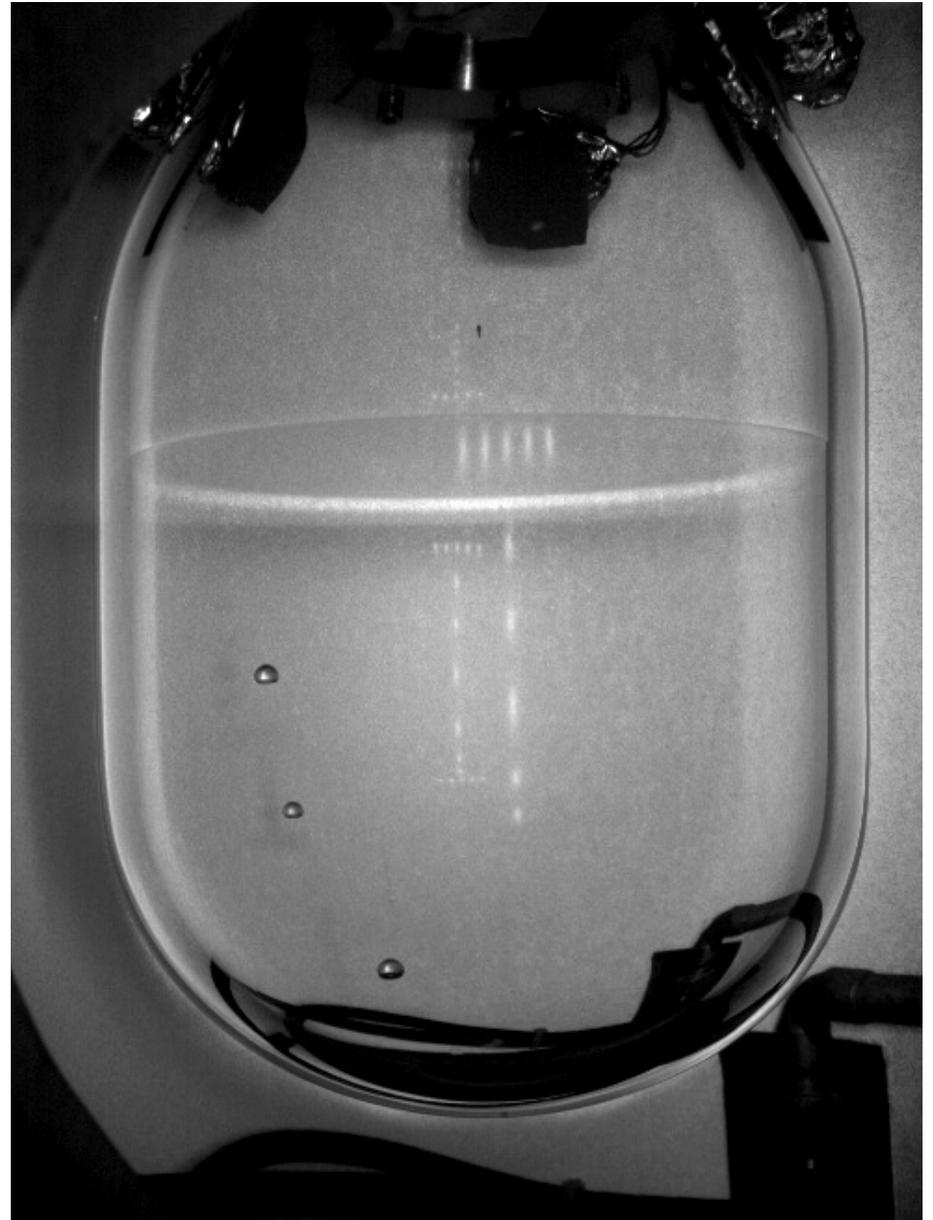
# Backgrounds in PICO: $\gamma$ rejection



Bubble nucleation probability from gamma interactions in  $C_3F_8$  and  $CF_3I$

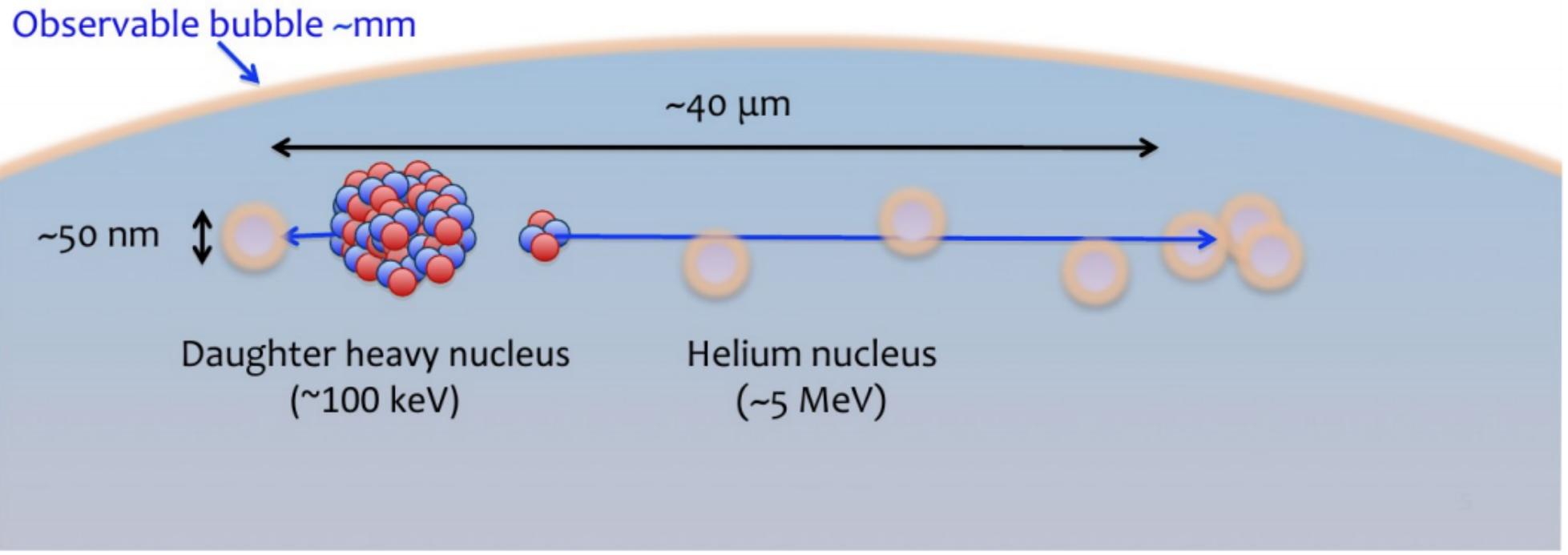
## PICO bubble chambers

- Alpha decays:  
Nuclear recoil and  
40  $\mu\text{m}$  alpha track  
1 bubble
- Neutrons:  
Nuclear recoils  
mean free path  $\sim 20$  cm  
3:1 single-multiple ratio  
in COUPP4
- WIMPs:  
Nuclear recoil  
mean free path  $> 10^{12}$  cm  
1 bubble



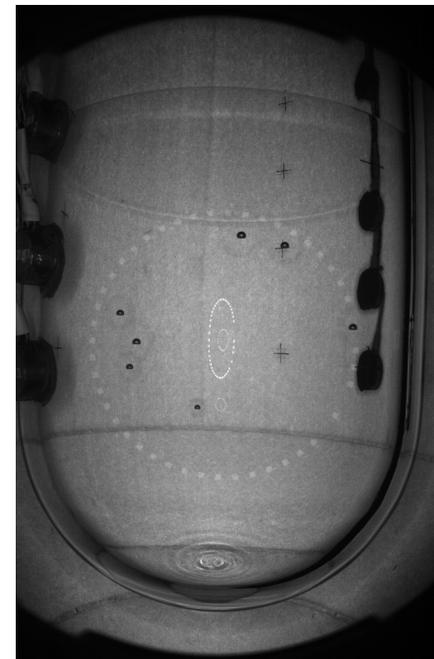
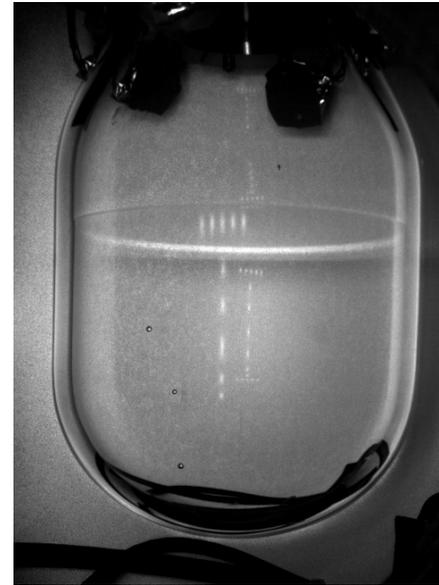
## PICO bubble chambers

- Alphas deposit energy over tens of microns, nuclear recoils deposit theirs in tens of nanometers
- Alphas are  $\sim 4$  times louder than nuclear recoil bubbles
- $> 99.4\%$  discrimination against alpha events demonstrated
- Discovered by the PICASSO collaboration



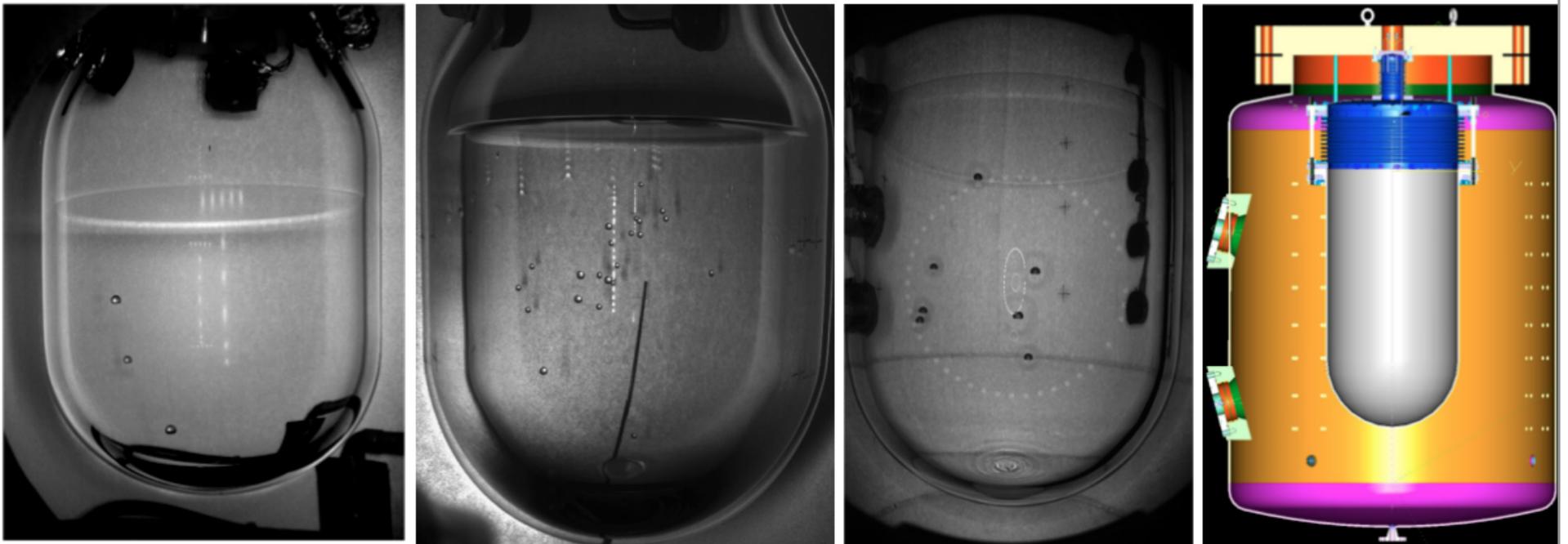
# PICO detectors features

- Energy: threshold detector
- Background suppression:
  - UG at SNOLAB
  - Water shielding
  - Clean materials
- Background discrimination:
  - Neutrons:
    - multiple bubbles
    - Nuclear recoil,  $l \sim 20$  cm
  - $\alpha$ : acoustic parameter
    - Nuclear recoil,  $40 \mu\text{m}$  track
- Large target mass:
  - COUPP4 to COUPP60
  - PICO-2L to PICO-60

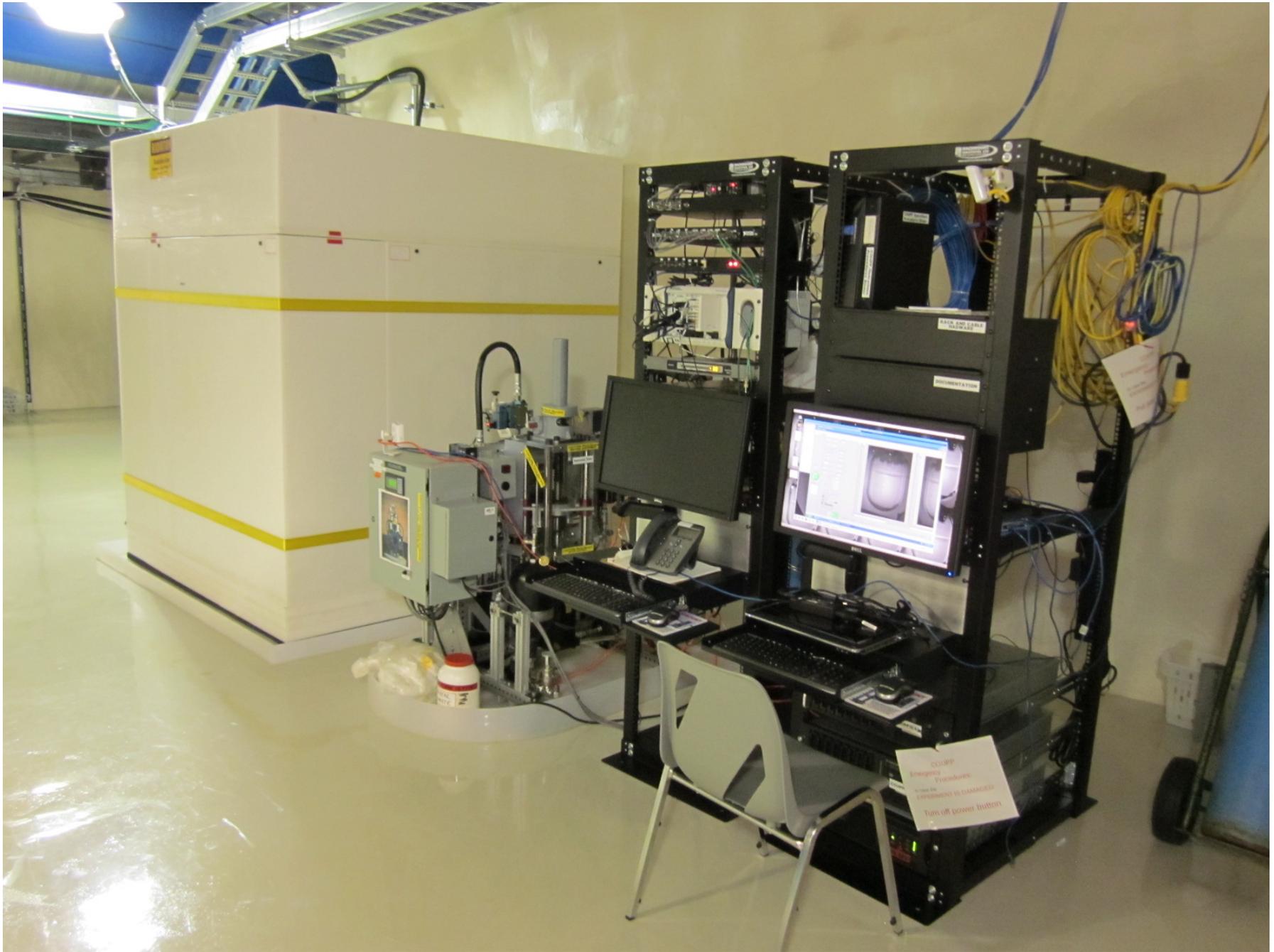


## PICO bubble chambers

- COUPP4: a 2-liter CF3I chamber run at SNOLAB in 2010 and 2012
- COUPP60: up to 40 liter CF3I chamber run at SNOLAB 2013-2014
- PICO-2L: a 2-liter C3F8 chamber run at SNOLAB 2013-2014 and 2015
- PICO-250L: future ton-scale experiment

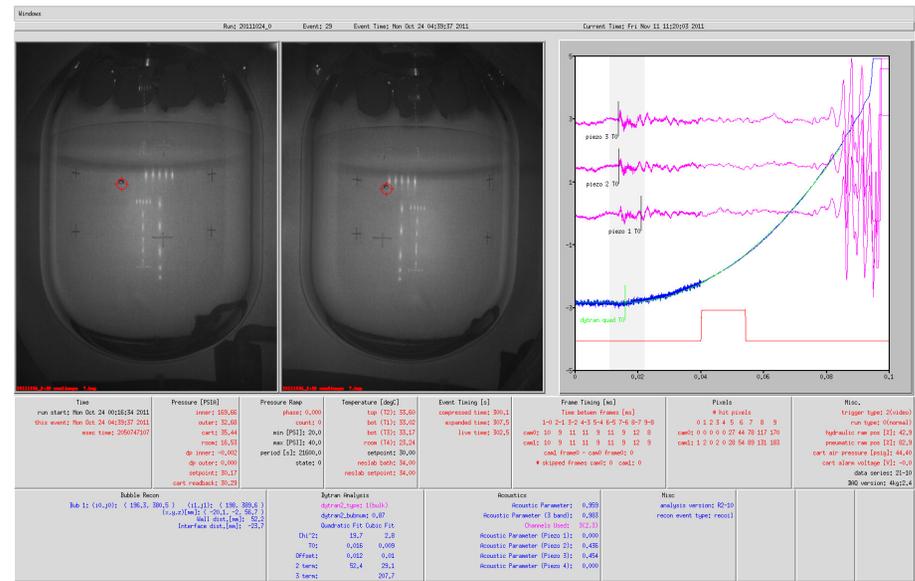


# COUPP4



# PICO: data analysis

- Examination of images: algorithm searching for clusters among pixels that changed between consecutive frames
- Examination of pressure rise: fit to the rate of pressure rise by a quadratic time dependence for bubbles in the bulk
- Examination of the acoustic signal



hand-scanned to  
resolve disagreement

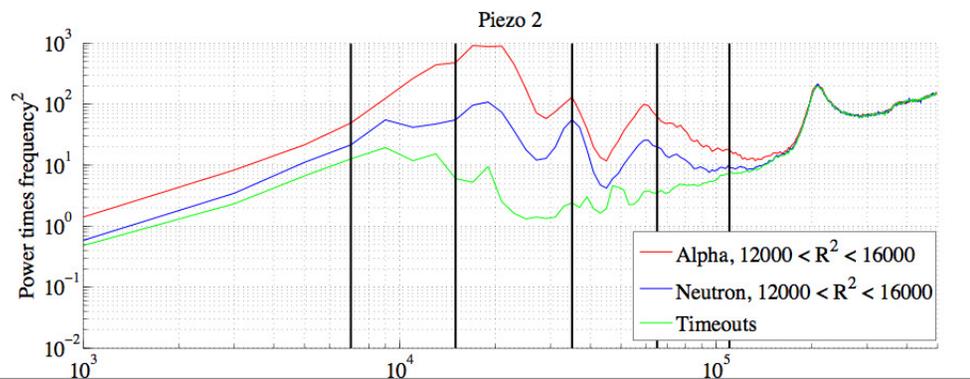
overall efficiency for all data quality  
and fiducial volume cuts is  $\sim 80\%$

# COUPP4 at SNOLAB

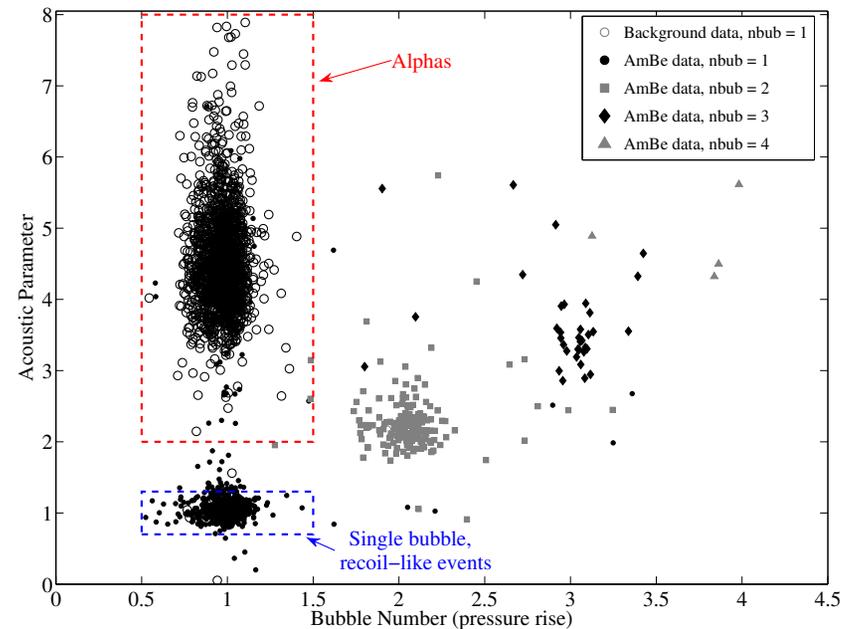
Acoustic transducer signals digitized with a 2.5 MHz sampling rate and recorded for 40 ms for each event

3 ways of counting:

- Images: cameras
- Pressure rise: transducer
- Acoustic parameter: piezos



The nuclear recoil acceptance of the AP cut is  $\sim 95\%$



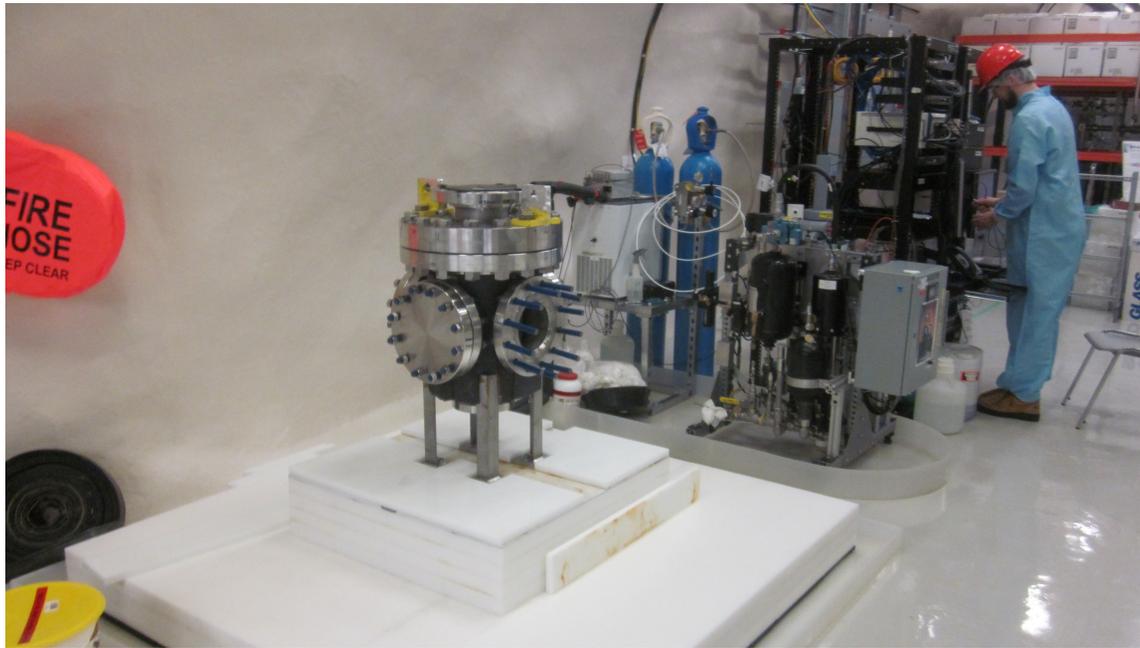
# COUPP60



# COUPP60

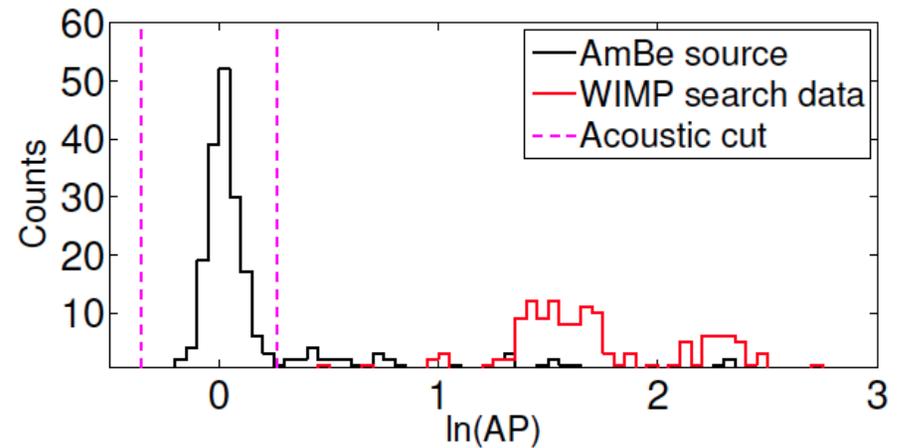
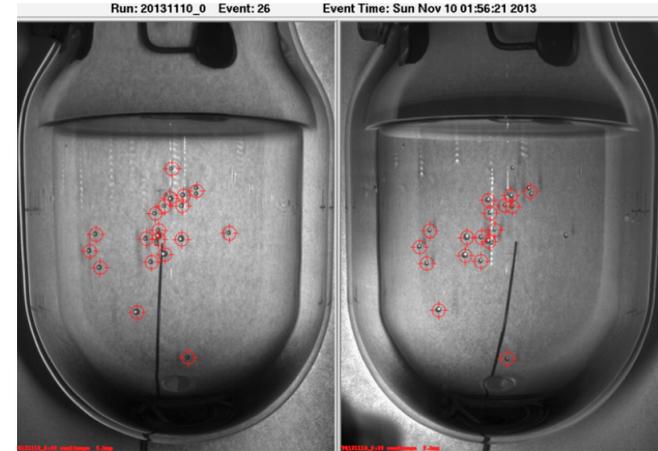
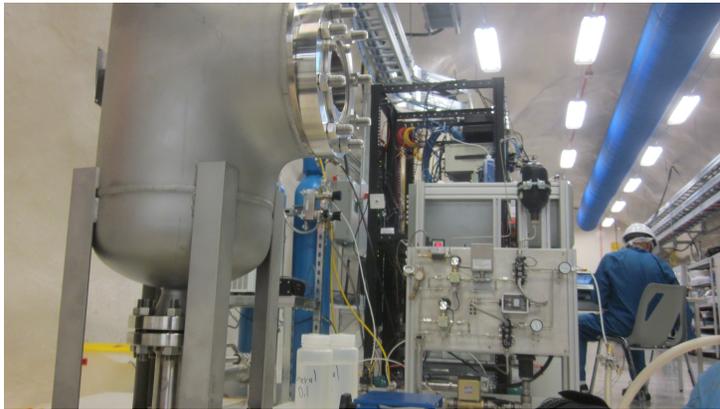


# From COUPP4 to PICO-2L



# PICO-2L

- $C_3F_8$  as target material
- spin-dependent sensitivity:  
world leading limit
- Low energy threshold,  
as low as 3 keV
- Test recent claims of  
evidence for light WIMPs



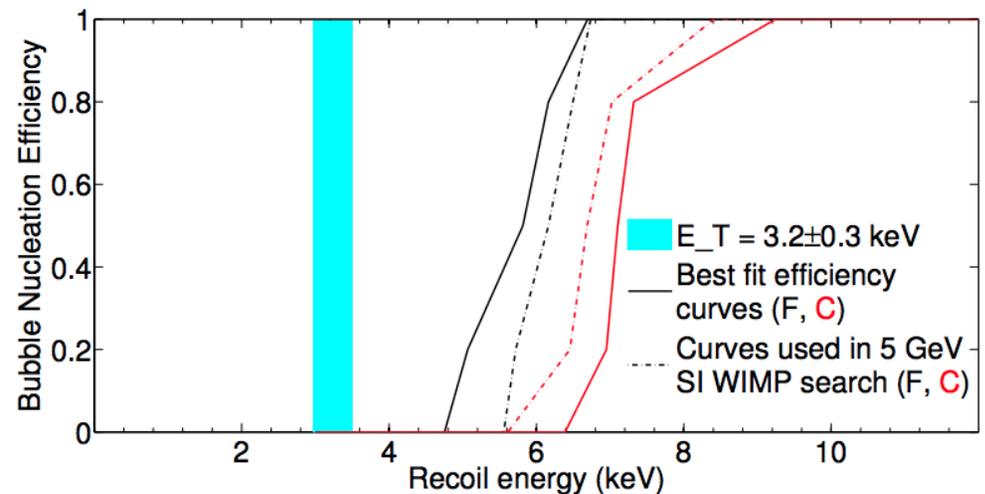
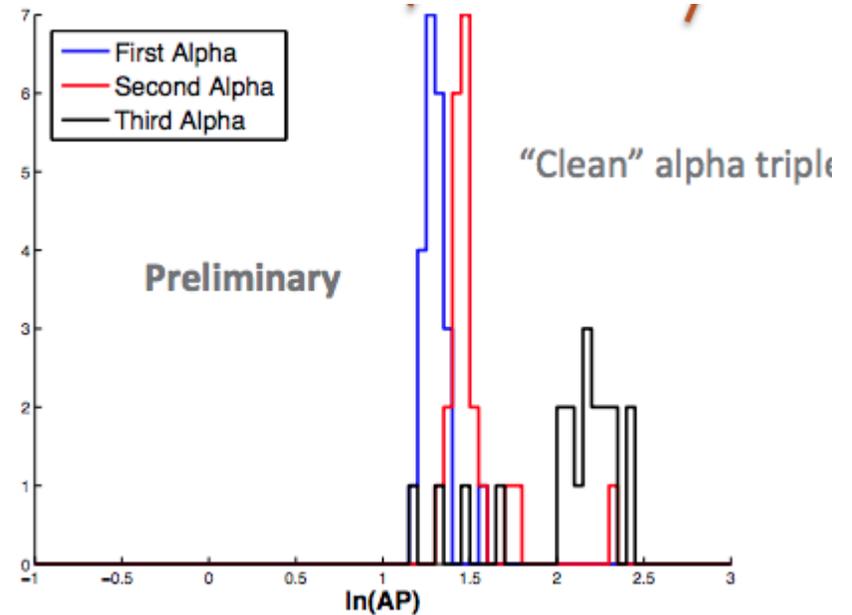
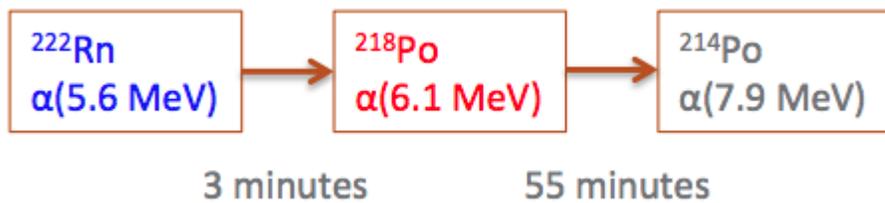
(alpha calorimetry observed  
for the first time)

**Results from run I  
published on June!**

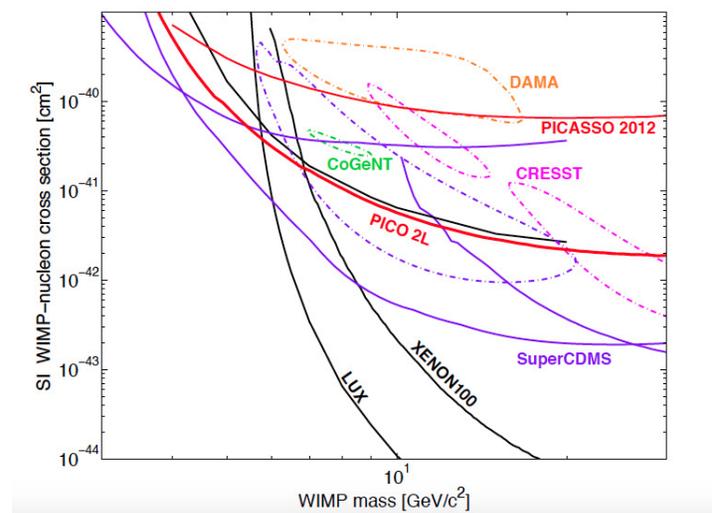
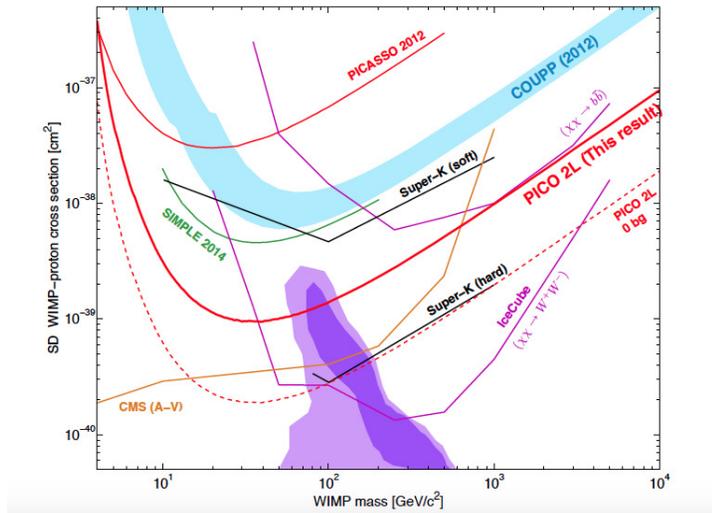
**PRL 114(2015), 231302**

# PICO-2L

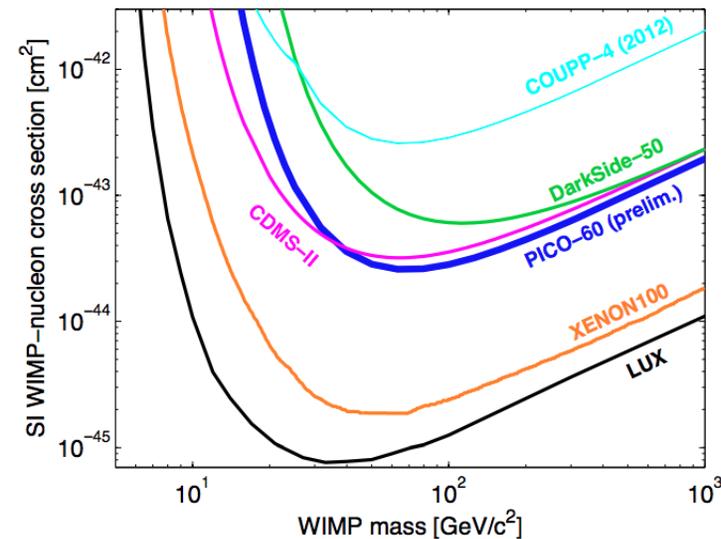
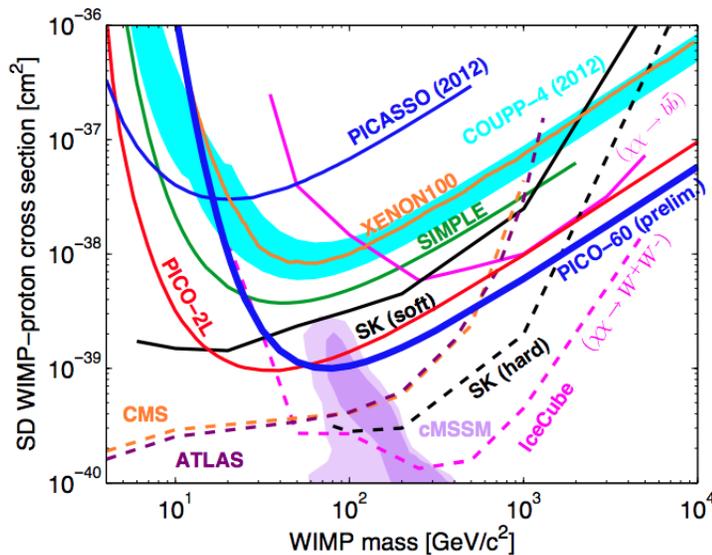
- No multiple bubble events in the low background data
- Two distinct alpha peaks, clearly separated from nuclear recoils
- Timing of events in high AP peaks consistent with radon chain alphas, and indicate that the higher energy  $^{214}\text{Po}$  alphas are significantly louder (a new effect not seen in CF3I)



# Results and preliminary results

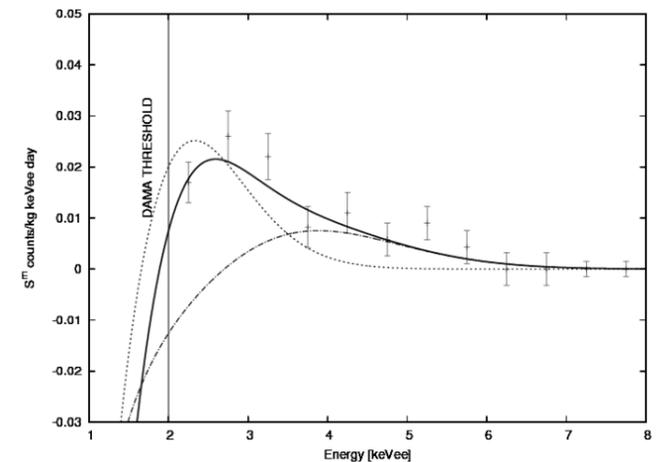
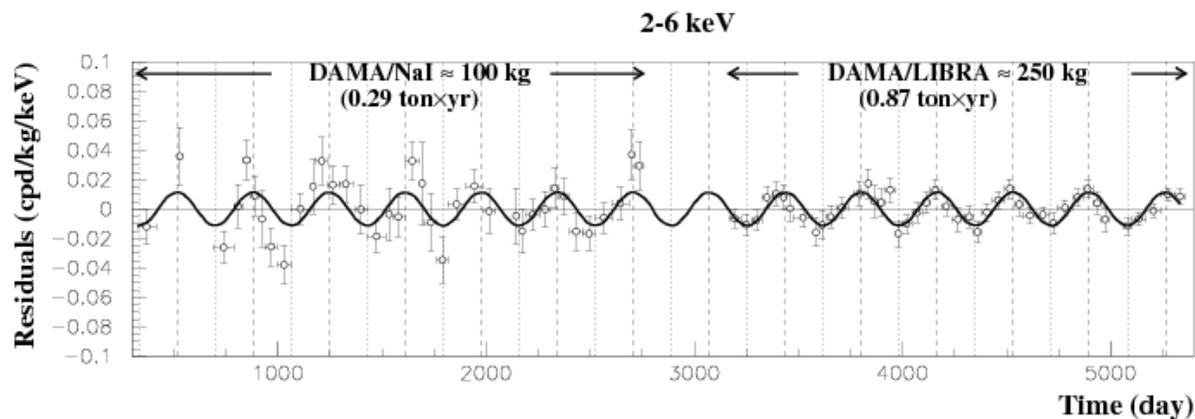


PICO-2L is world leading experiment for SD WIMP-proton scattering, first time supersymmetric parameter space has been probed by direct detection in the SD-proton channel



# Implications to DAMA-LIBRA signal

- Using DAMA spectrum between 2 and 6 keV
- Applying DAMA iodine quenching factor (0.09) results in expectation of 49 recoils above 22 keV
- PICO-60 observes  $<4.1$  events at 90% C.L.
- Background estimate:  
singles =  $4.27 \pm 1.06$  per yr, multiples =  $3.85 \pm 0.94$  per yr



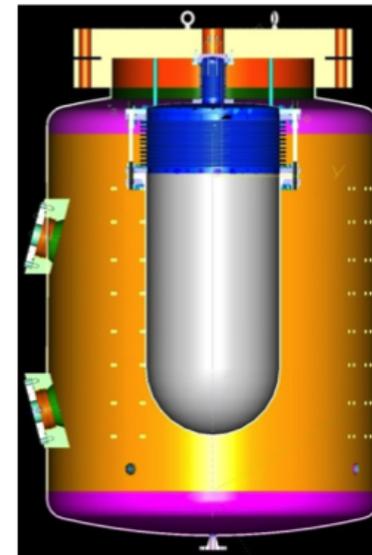
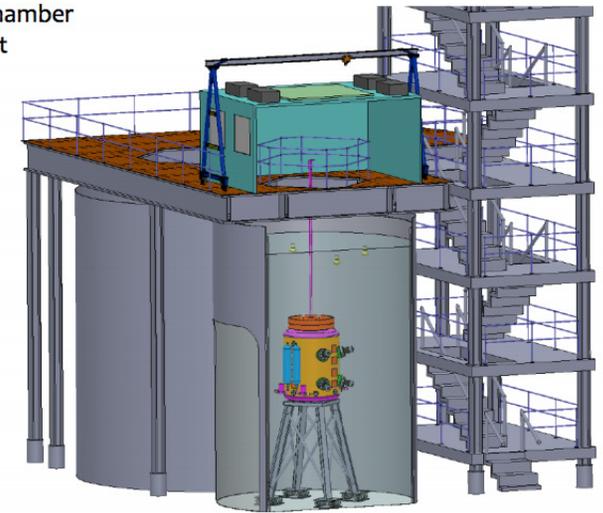
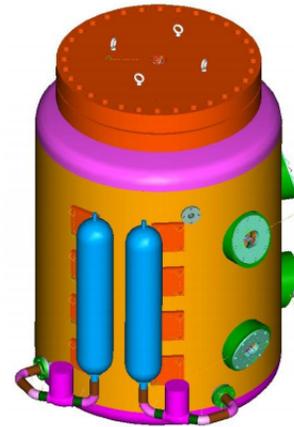
# PICO-250L

- $> 10^{10}$   $\gamma/\beta$  insensitivity
- $> 99.3\%$  acoustic  $\alpha$  discrimination
- Multi-target capability  
SD- and SI-coupling  
High- and low-mass WIMPs
- Easily scalable,  
inexpensive to replicate

Data taking by 2017-2018

Working to deploy new detector:  
Right Side Up chamber  
Solve background issues

PICO-250L: ton-scale bubble chamber  
designed for  $\text{CF}_3\text{I}$  or  $\text{C}_3\text{F}_8$  target



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## New techniques

# Low WIMP masses: NEWS

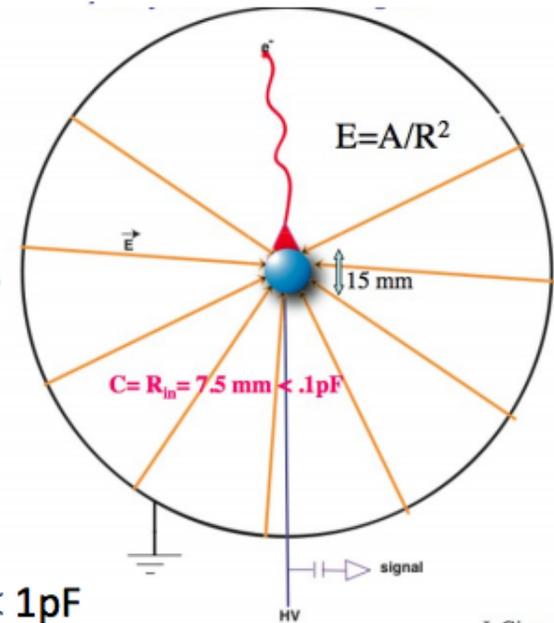


## New Experiments With Spheres

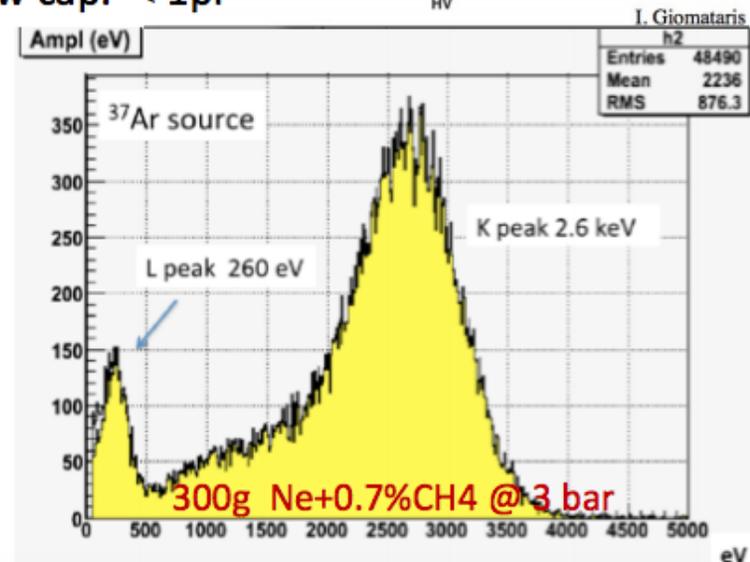
Queen's, SNOLAB, Saclay, LSM, Tessaioniki, Grenoble, Munich



- Spherical cavity + sensor
- Proportional counter mode
- Target: Ar, Ne, He, H (CH<sub>4</sub>)
- Large volume/mass (30g)
- Single channel R/O
- Low threshold – low cap. < 1pF



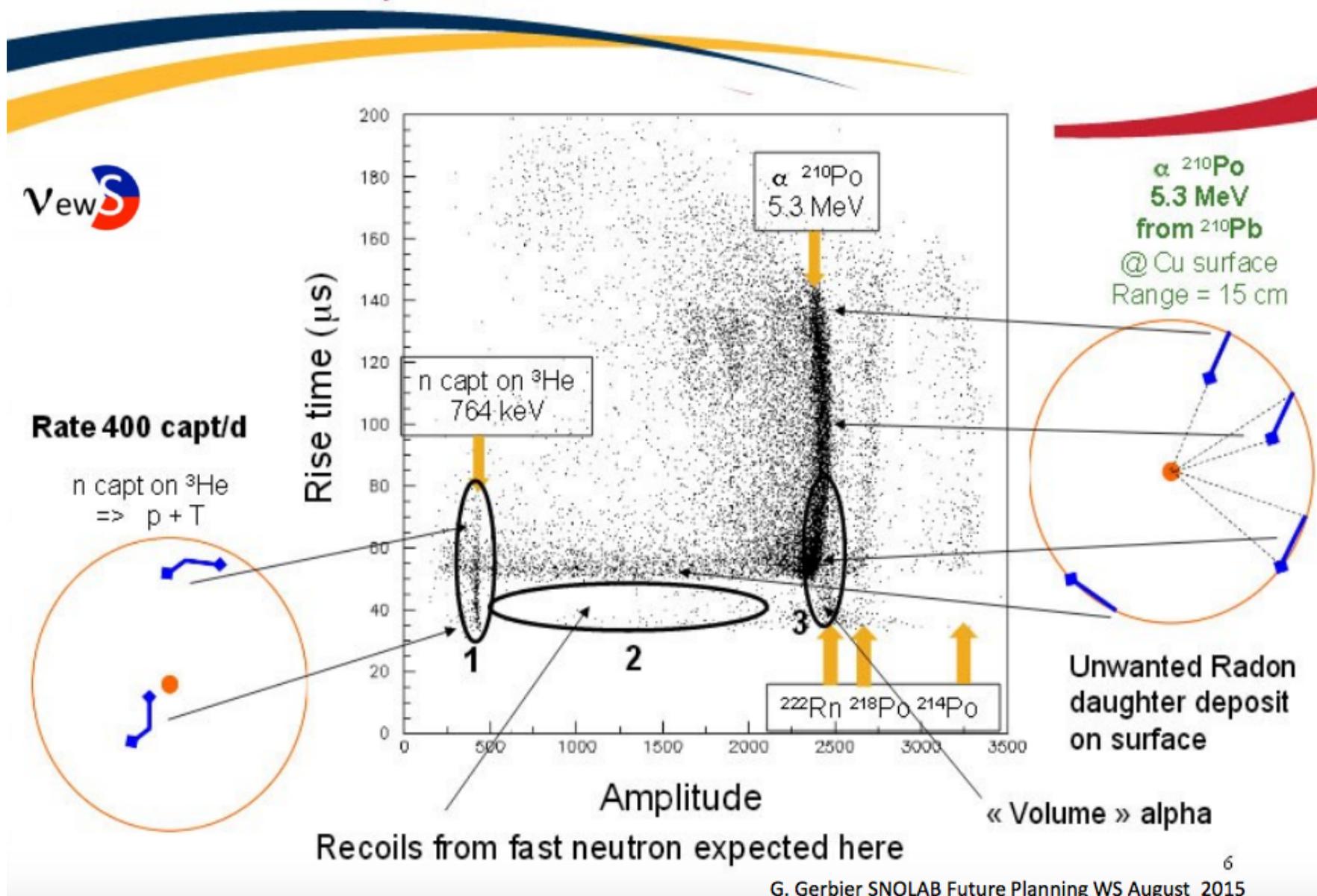
- $E_{thr} = 120$  eV demonstrated in Ne @3b
- Localisation by rise time
- 2 LEP cavities with 130 cm  $\varnothing$  tested
- **SEDINE @LSM**: low activity 60 cm  $\varnothing$  module



G. Gerbier SNOLAB Future Planning WS August 2015

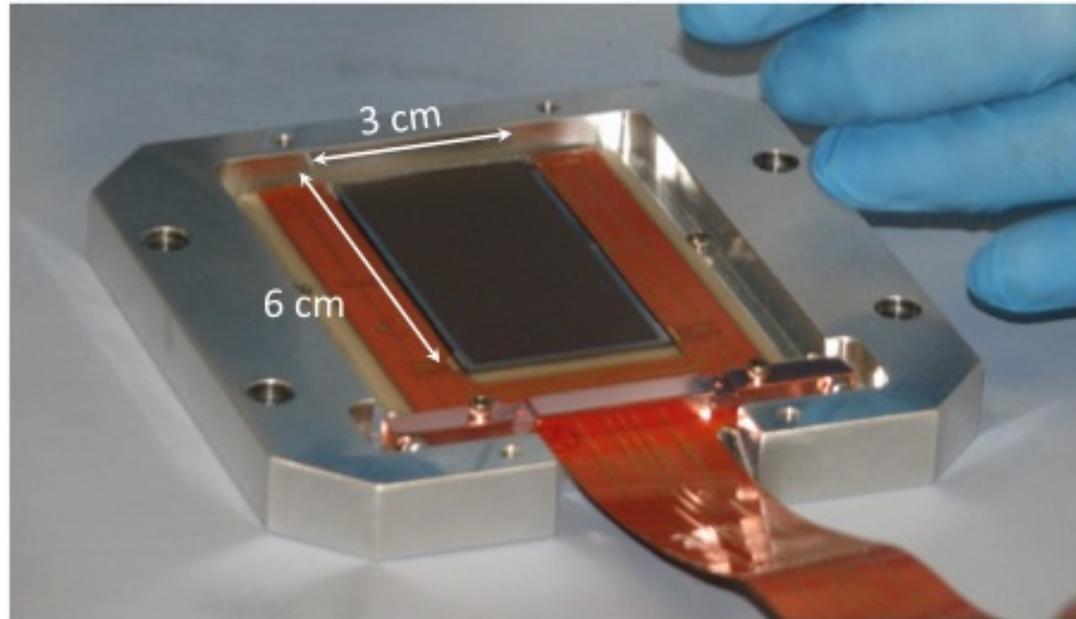
# Low WIMP masses: NEWS

Run with Ar/CH<sub>4</sub> + 3g <sup>3</sup>He @ 200 mb SPC 130cm Ø @ LSM





## TECNOLOGÍA: CCD de uso científico



Tamaño de los pixeles: 15 mm x 15 mm

No. of pixels: 16 millones

Espesor: 675 mm

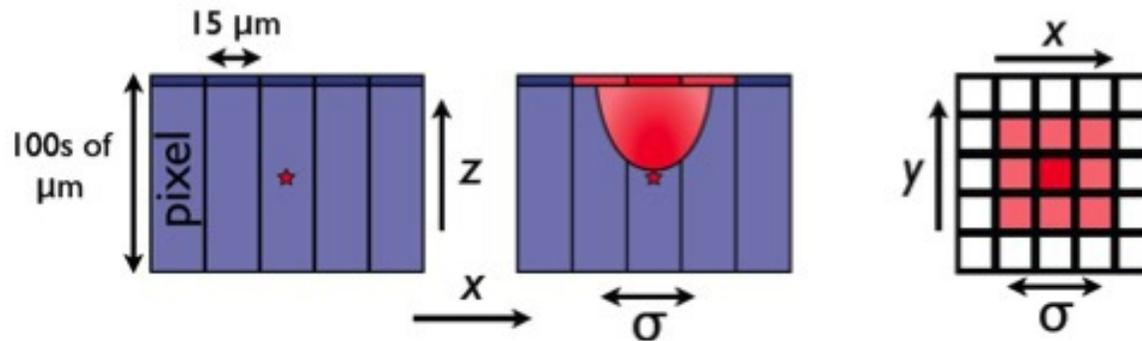
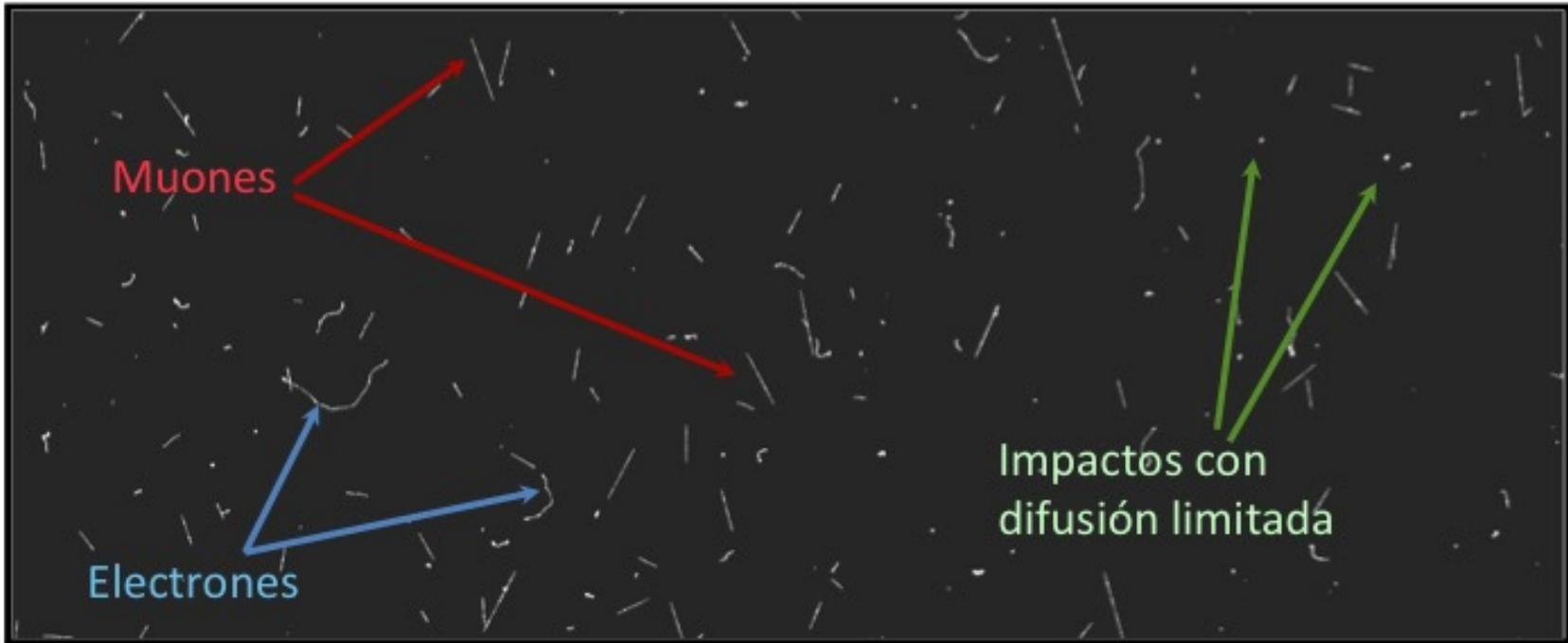
Masa: 5.2 gramos

Temp de operación: -140 C

Desarrolladas en LBLN

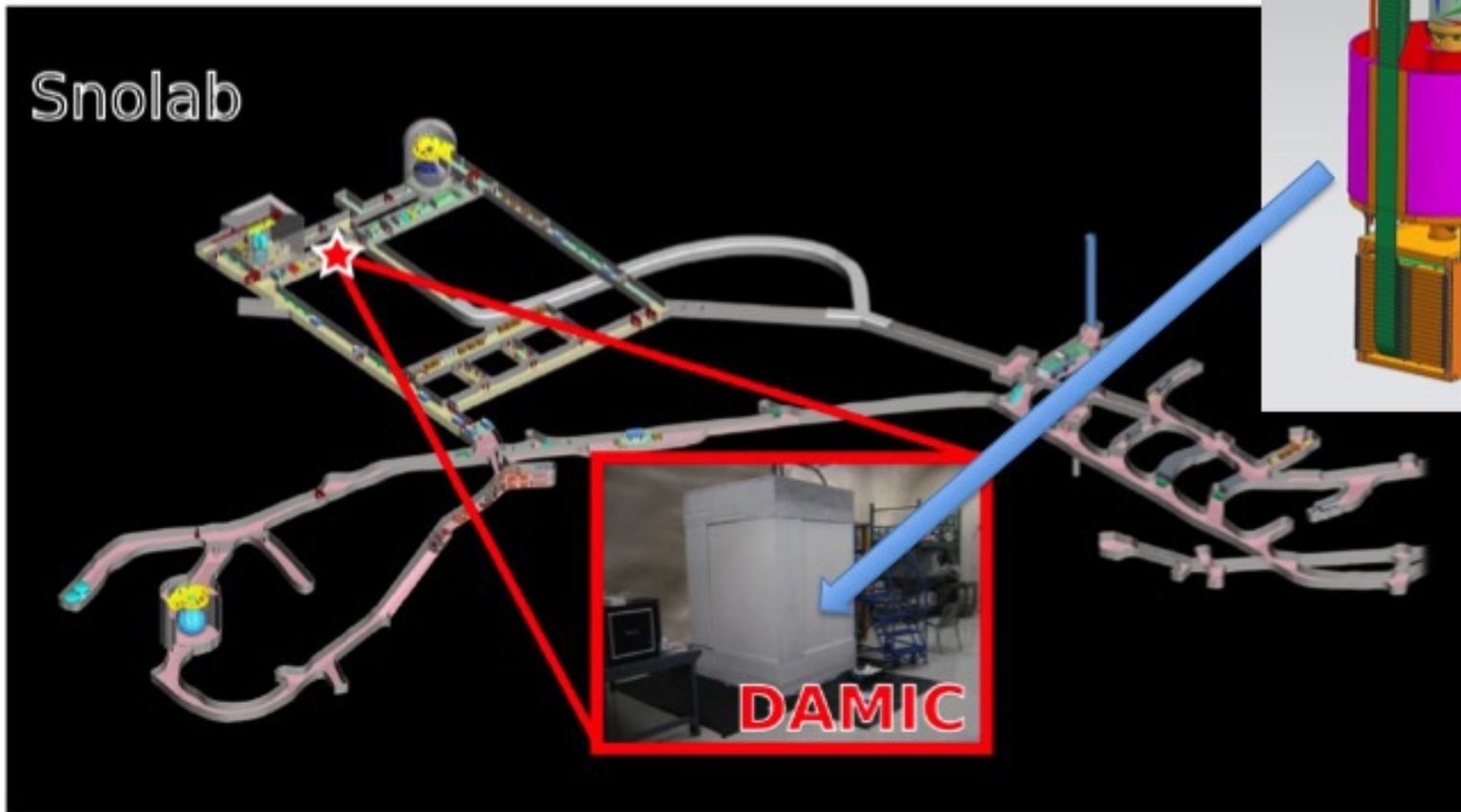
Bajo ruido electrónico.  
Umbral de detección de  
< 50 eV

# DAMIC



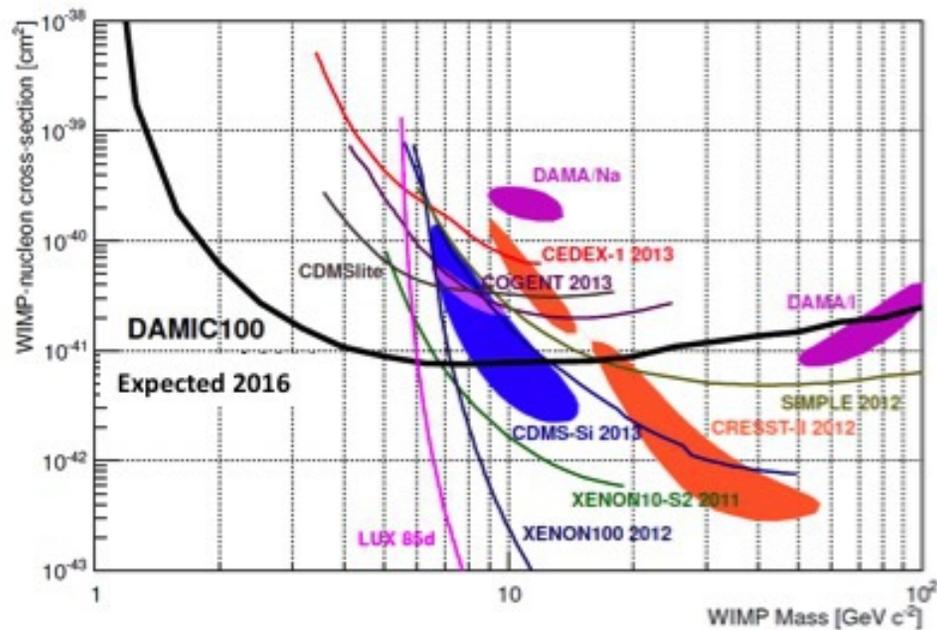
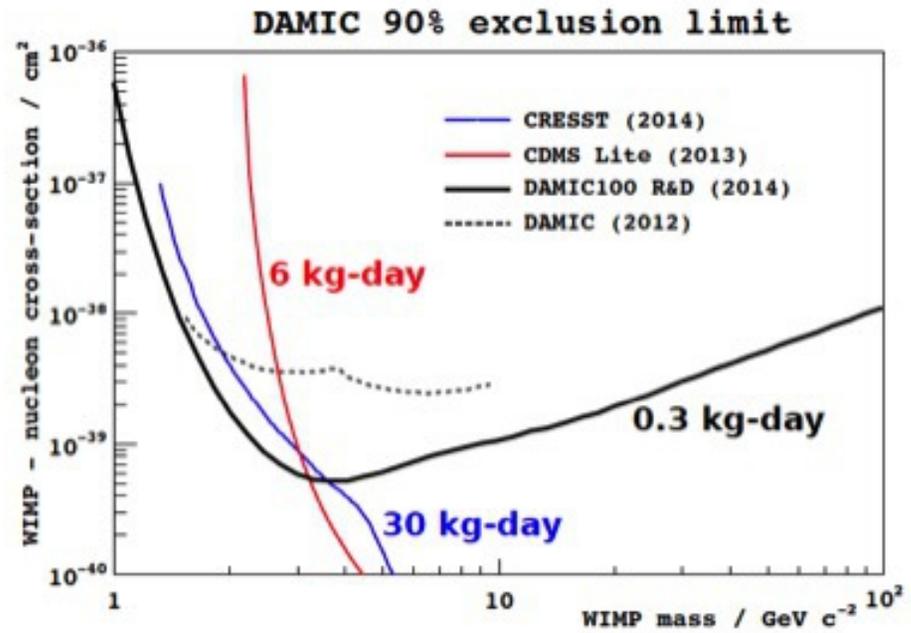
**Los retrocesos nucleares producen impactos de difusión limitada. Se espera que las partículas de MO generen estos impactos**

# DAMIC en SNOLAB



Arreglo de ingeniería instalado en diciembre de 2012

# DAMIC

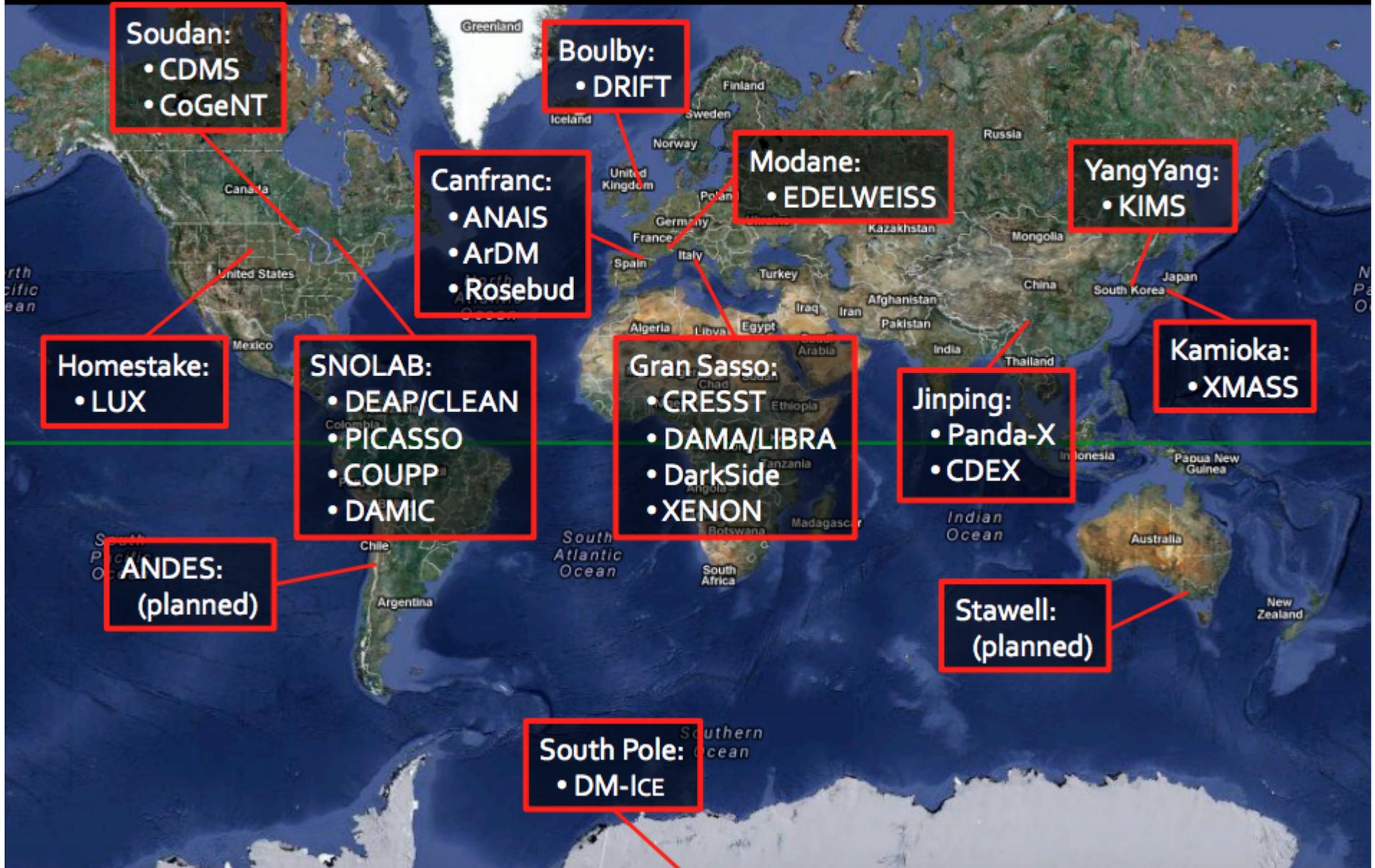


## More on new techniques

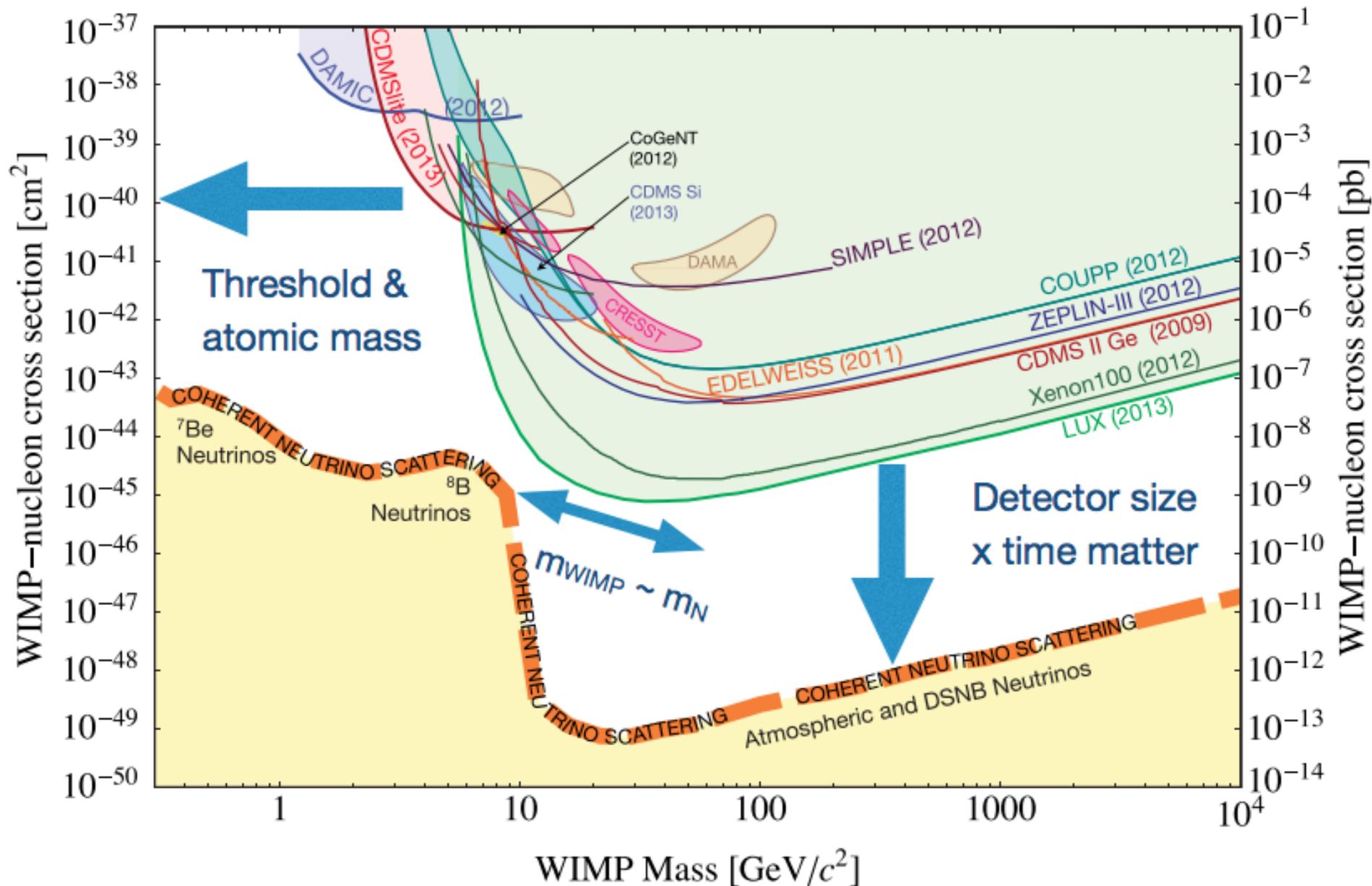
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- Scintillating bubble chambers
- Exploit directionality: DRIFT, DM-TPC
- DNA detectors: directionality
- Moving beyond the standard WIMP: MeV
- Anisotropic scintillators
- New ideas...

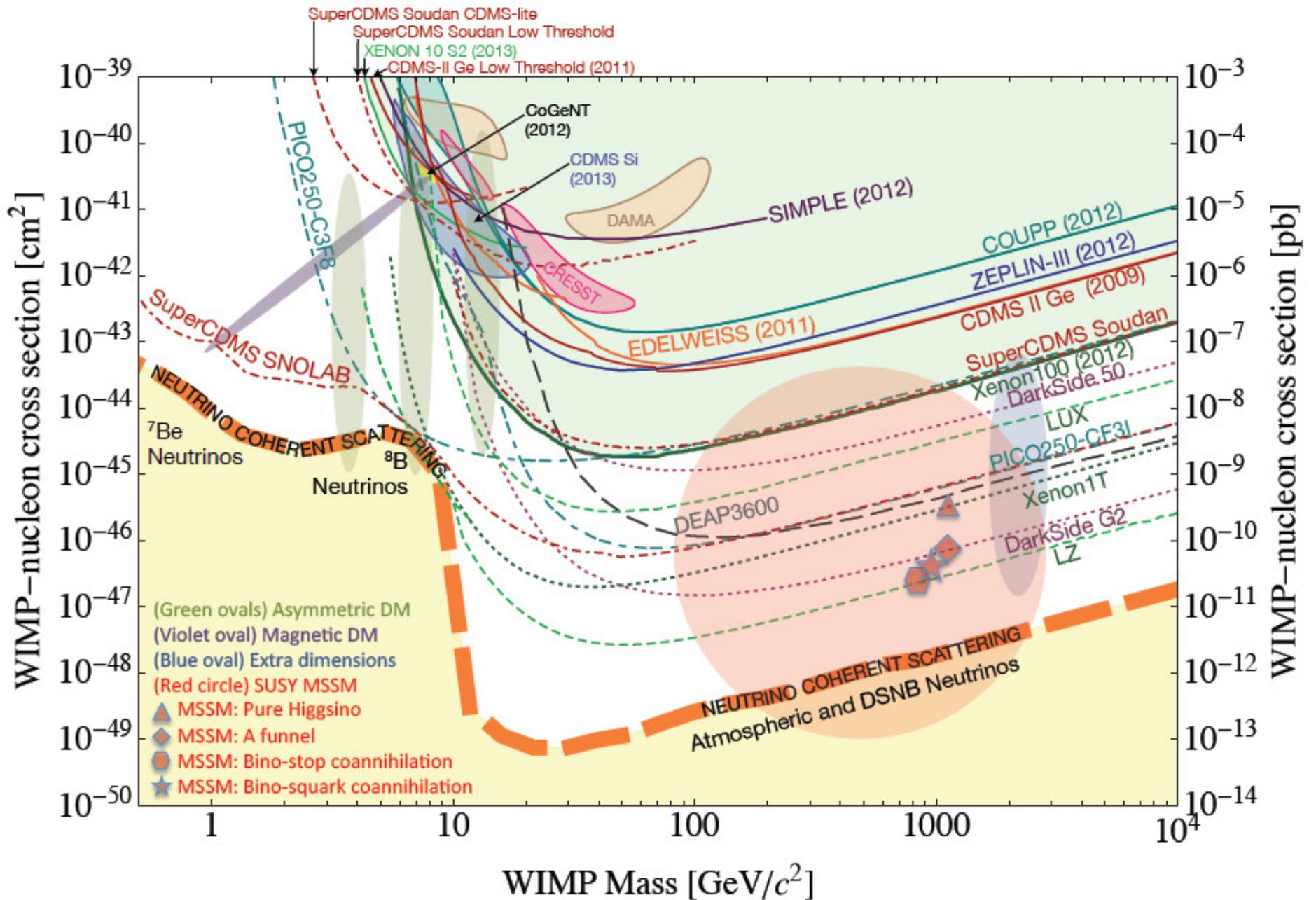
# A World of Dark Matter Searches



# The complete picture



# The future



## Final remarks

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- Cold dark matter is still a viable paradigm explaining cosmological & astrophysical observations
- It could be made of axions, and/or WIMPs (+ many other options, some less predictive and/or more difficult to test in the laboratory)
- So far, no convincing detection of a dark matter particle
- Optimistic: multiple discoveries (direct detection, the LHC, indirect detection) & constraints of the dark matter properties
- Clearly, multiple detectors / multiple techniques will be required to build a robust case
- Need to understand 3 things in detectors: backgrounds, backgrounds and backgrounds
- Calibration strategies that can provide abundant statistics, and have low systematic uncertainties are critically important
- If no discovery: “ultimate” detectors might at least be able to disprove the axion & WIMP hypotheses (still valuable information)
- However, we should be open for new theoretical ideas & of course new experiments