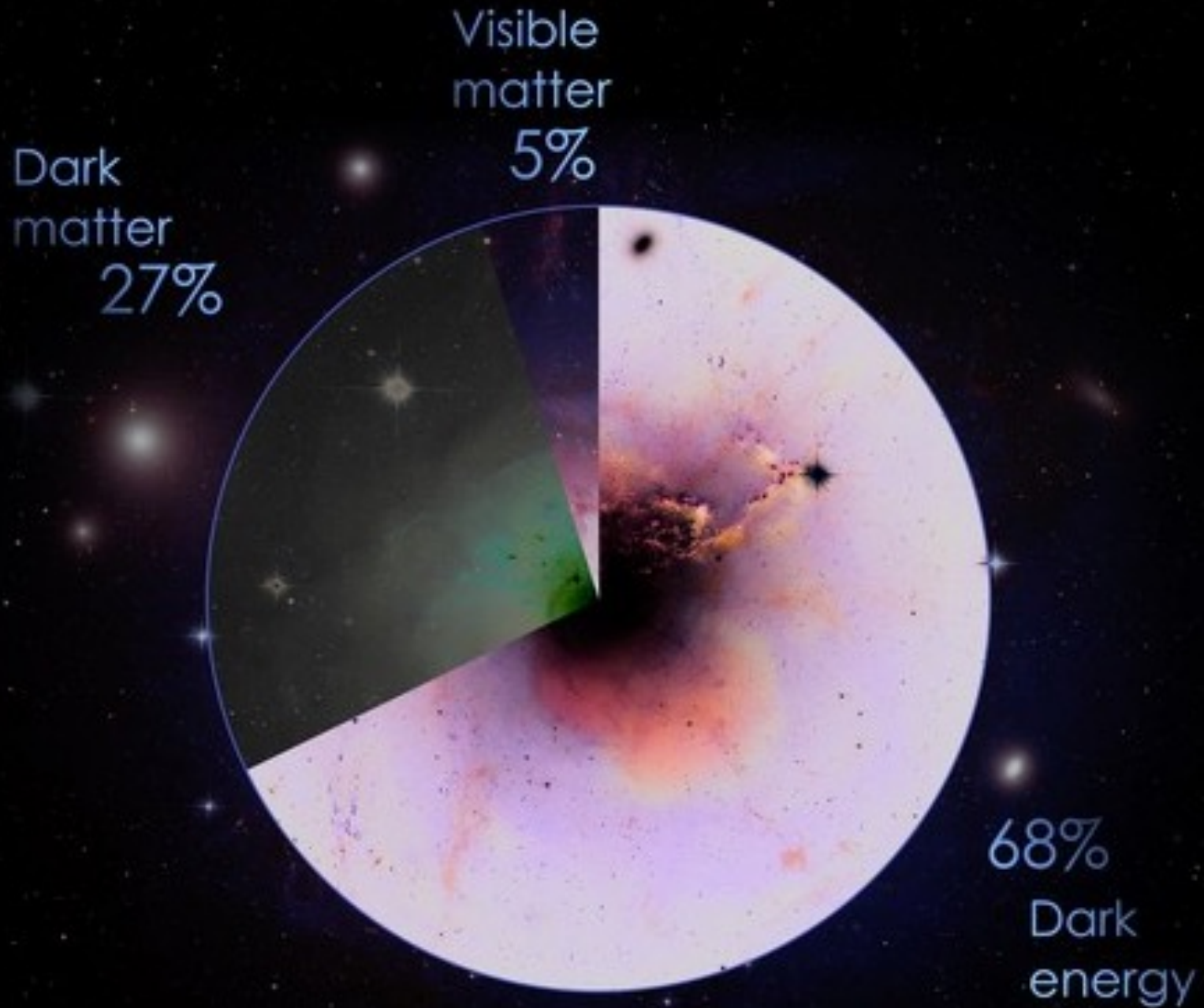


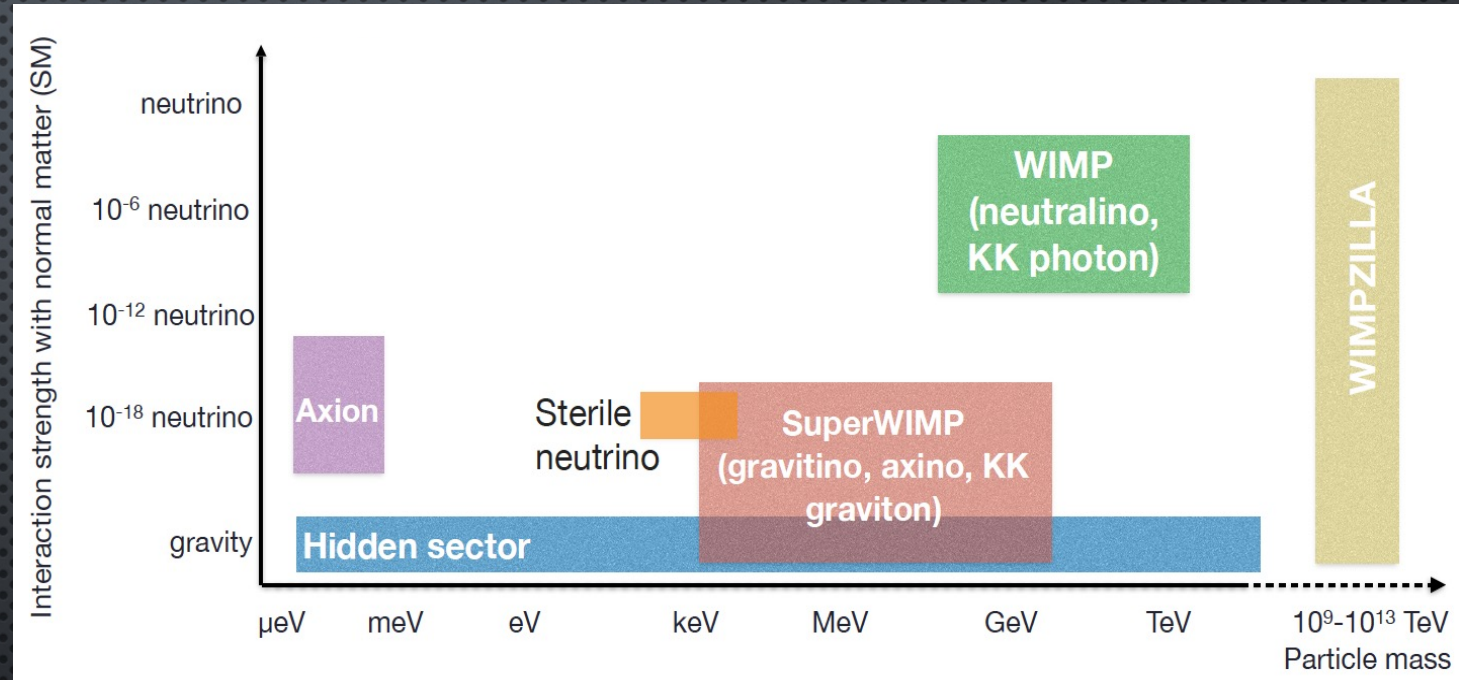
STATUS & PROSPECTS ON NOBLE GAS EXPERIMENTS

SARA DIGLIO, SUBATECH-NANTES



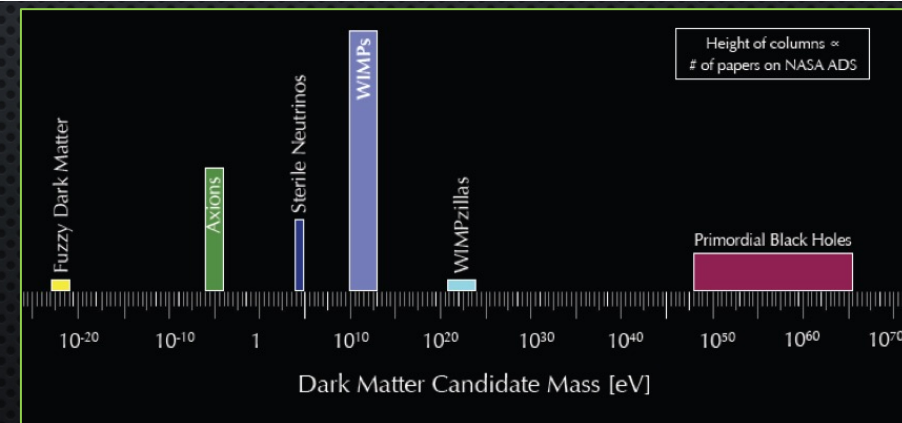
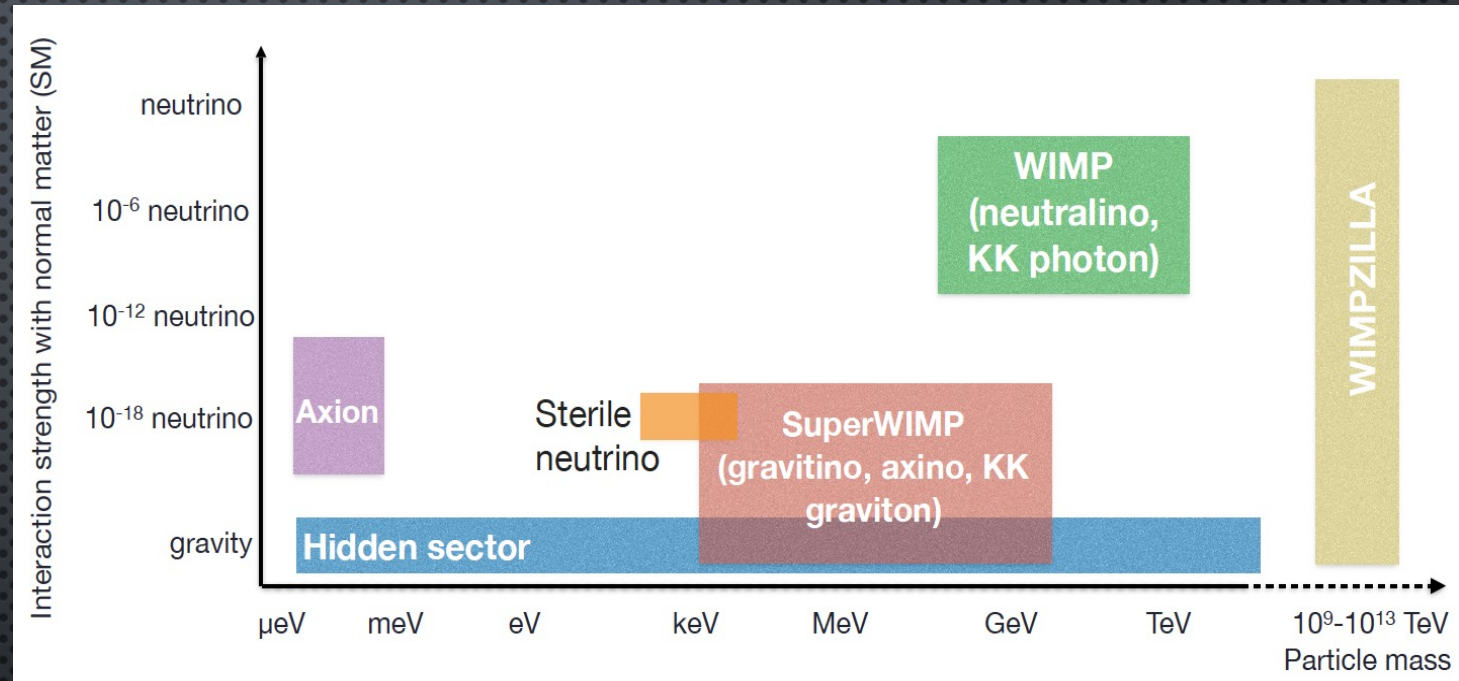
DARK MATTER PARTICLE CANDIDATES

- Plenty of models
 - Weakly Interactive Massive Particles
 - Axions
 - ...
- The mass and interaction strengths span many order of magnitude

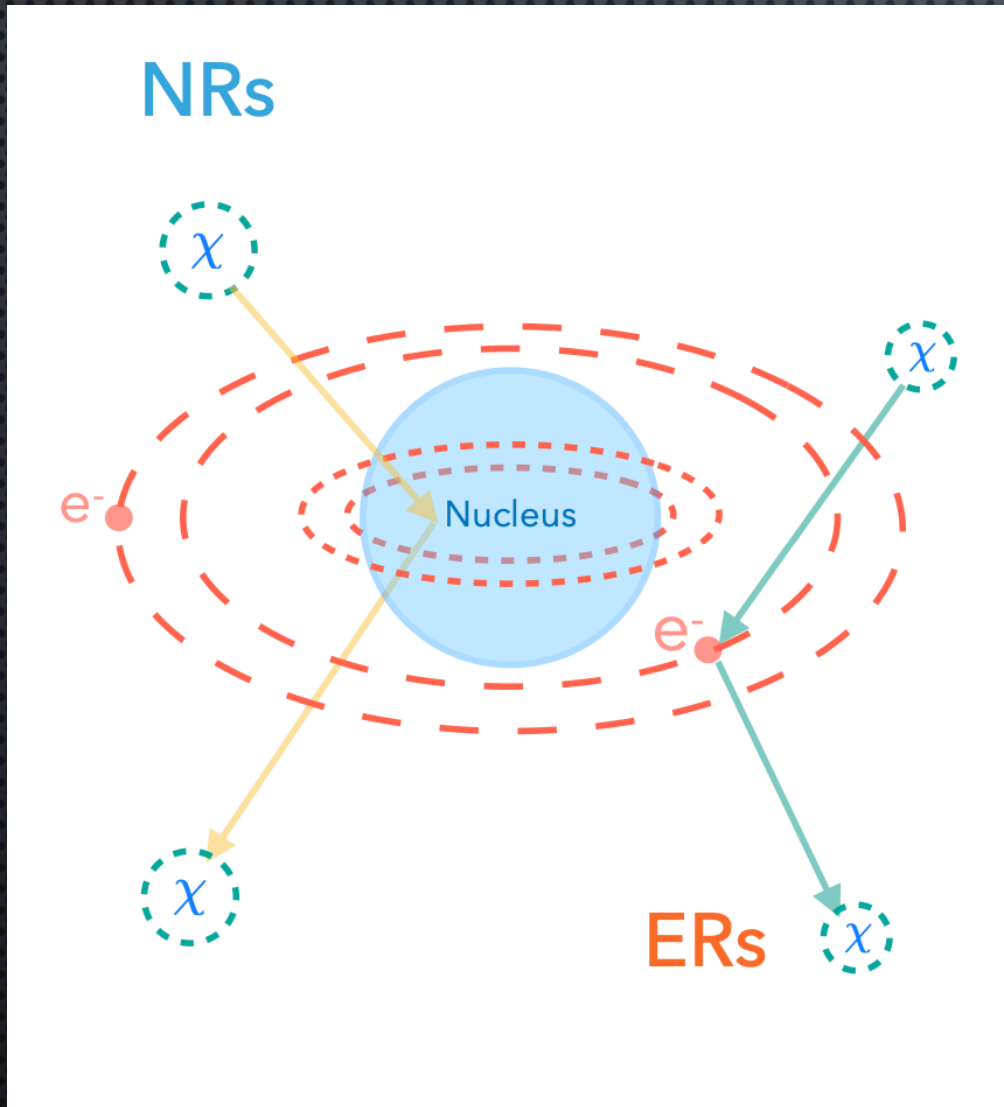


DARK MATTER PARTICLE CANDIDATES

- Plenty of models
 - Weakly Interactive Massive Particles
 - Axions
 - ...
- The mass and interaction strengths span many order of magnitude



DARK MATTER DIRECT DETECTION

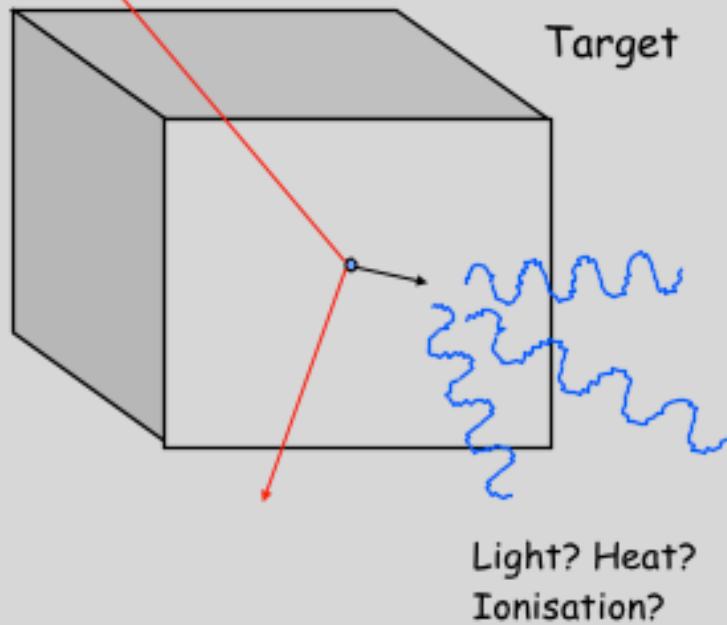


- DEPENDING ON THE DM CANDIDATE, COLLISIONS MIGHT HAPPEN
 - WITH NUCLEI → **NUCLEAR RECOILS (NRs)** (EX. WIMPS)
- OR
- WITH ELECTRONS IN THE ATOMIC SHELL → **ELECTRONIC RECOILS (ERs)** (EX. AXIONS)

HOW TO DETECT A DM CANDIDATE ?

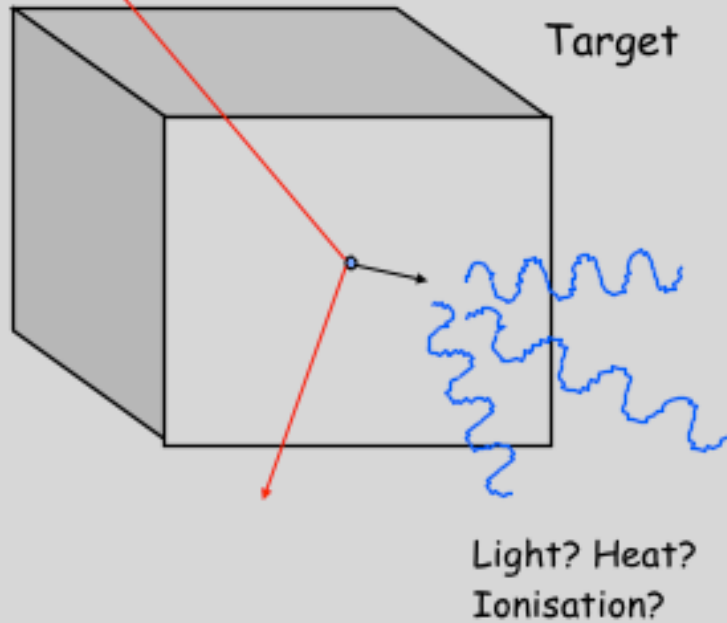
Dark Matter

A simple particle detector...

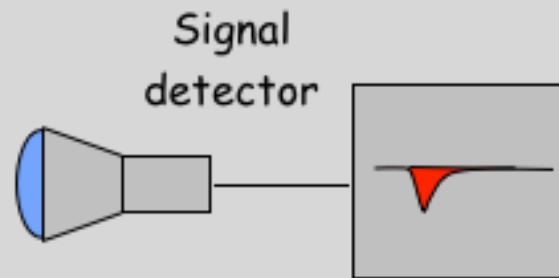


HOW TO DETECT A DM CANDIDATE ?

Dark Matter



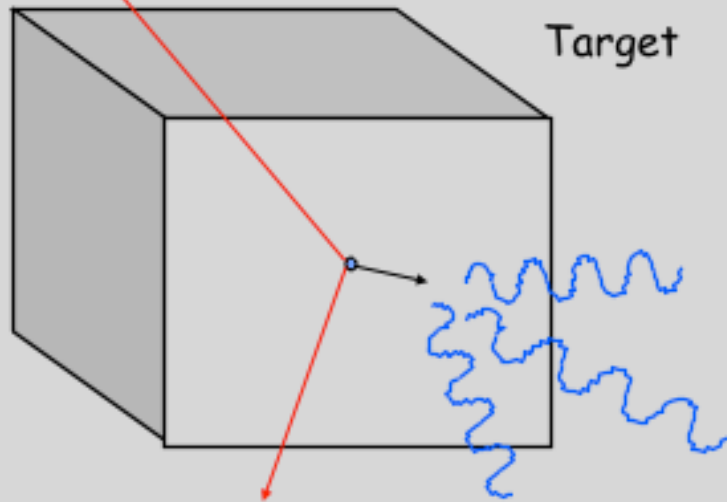
A simple particle detector...



Hunts Needle in a Haystack

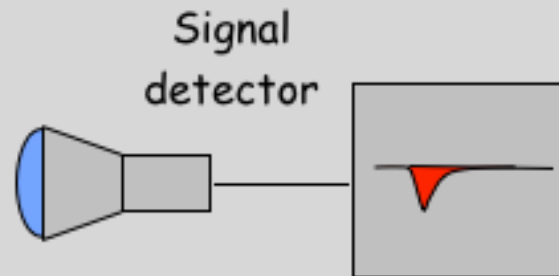
HOW TO DETECT A DM CANDIDATE ?

Dark Matter



Light? Heat?
Ionisation?

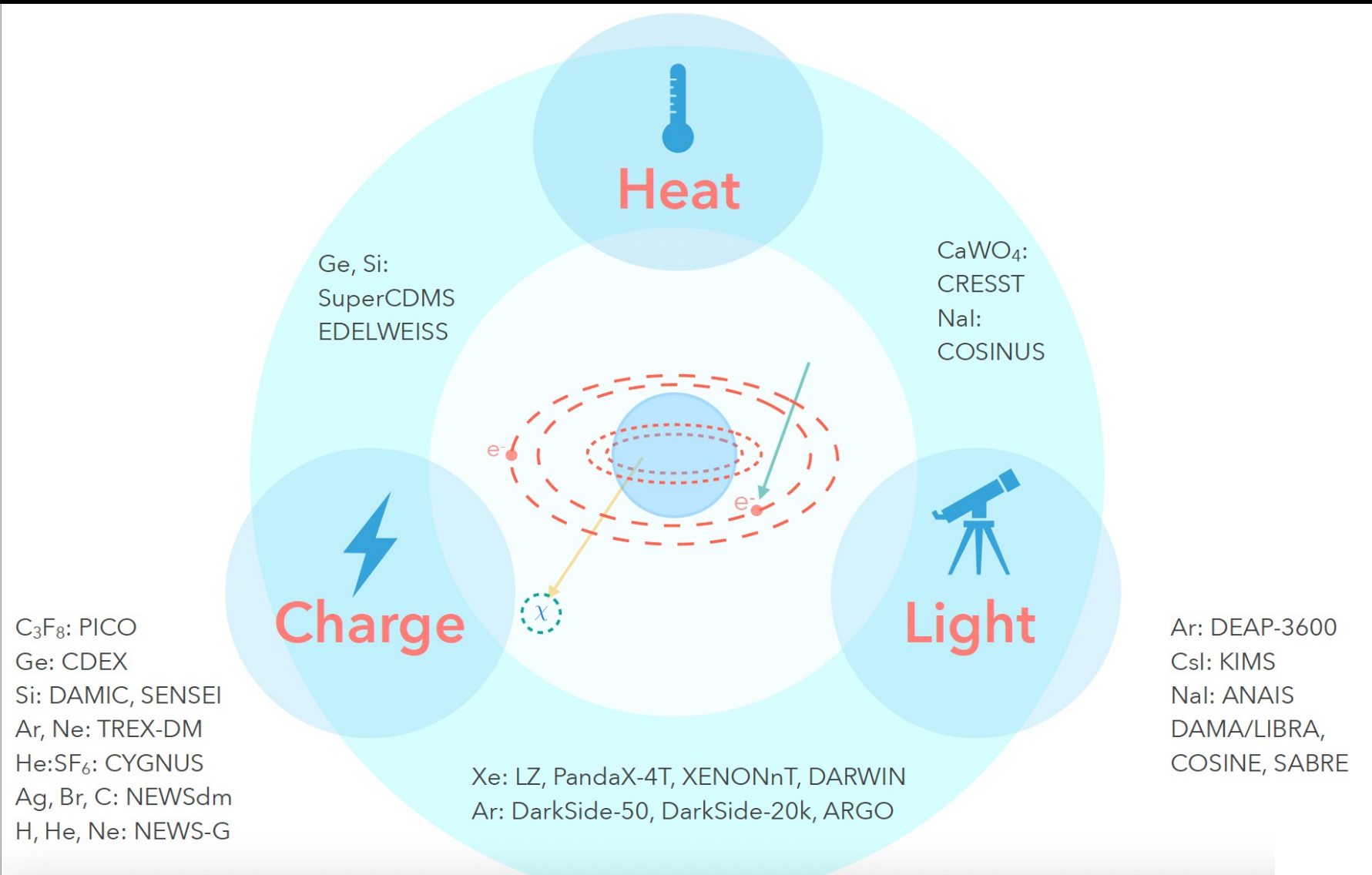
A simple particle
detector...



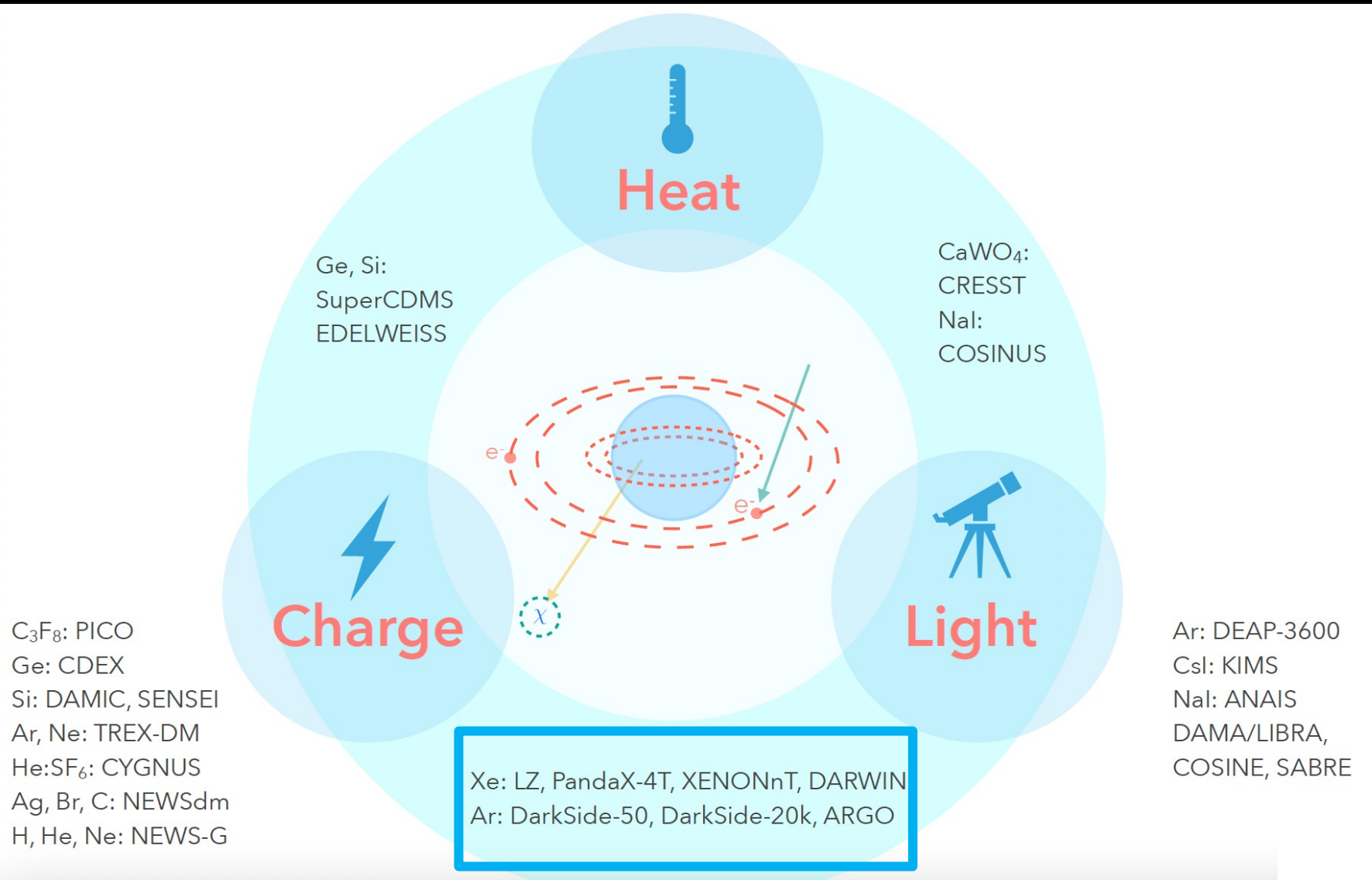
- ULTRA-LOW BACKGROUND EXPERIMENTAL ENVIRONMENT
- LOW ENERGY THRESHOLD TO DETECT SMALL RECOIL ENERGY SIGNALS
- GOOD DISCRIMINATION POWER AGAINST BACKGROUND
- LARGE DETECTOR MASS TO ENHANCE THE INTERACTION PROBABILITY INSIDE THE TARGET

Disclaimer: experiments I will present, are primarily built for **WIMPs searches** $\rightarrow E_R \sim 30 \text{ keV}$

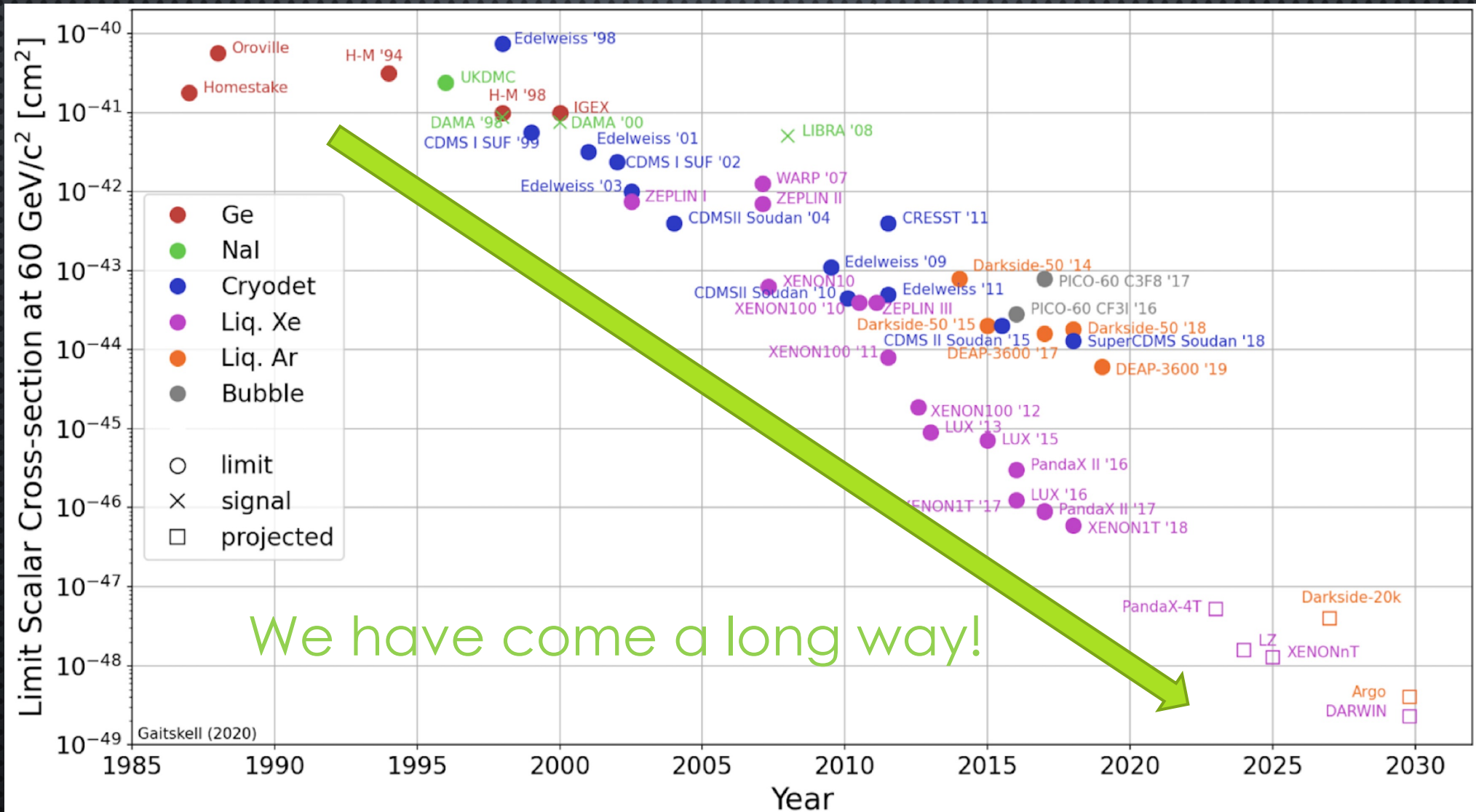
DIRECT DETECTION TECHNIQUES



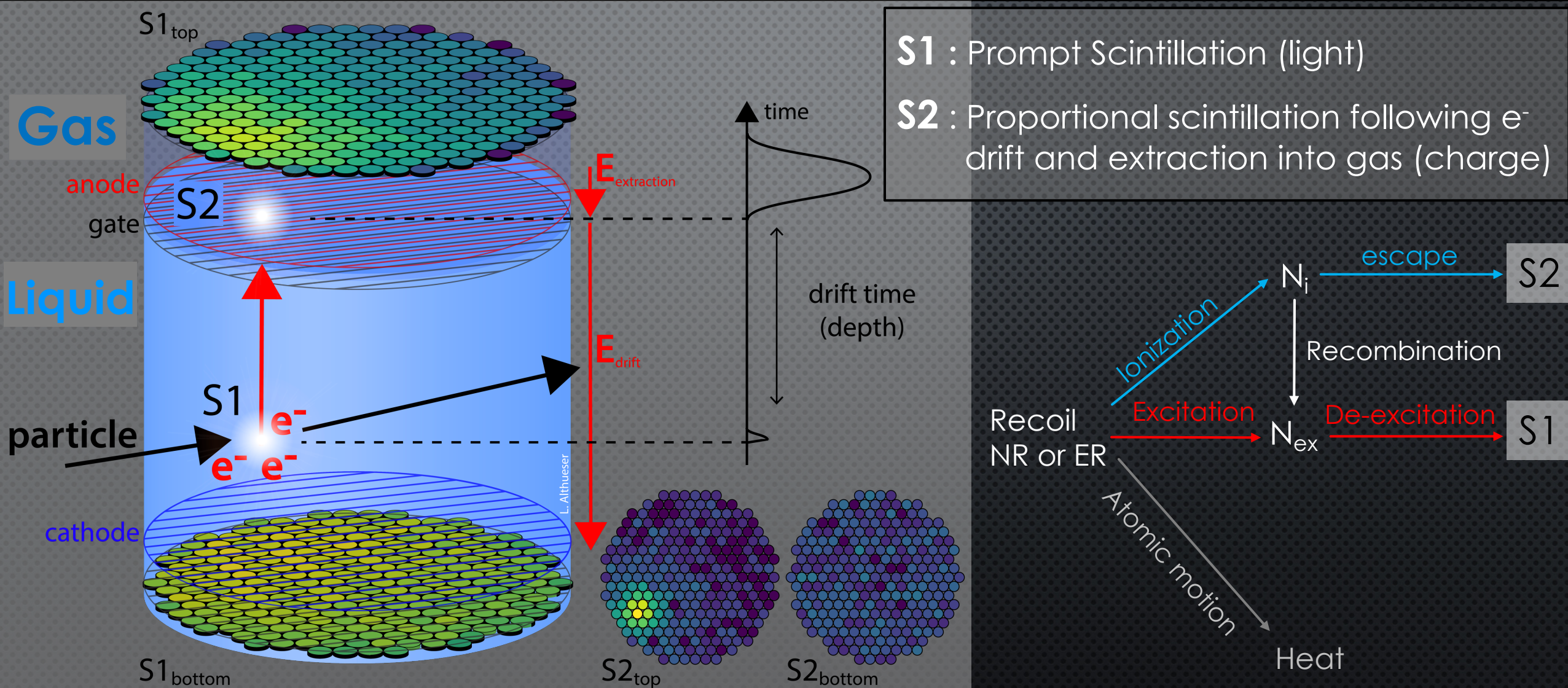
DIRECT DETECTION TECHNIQUES



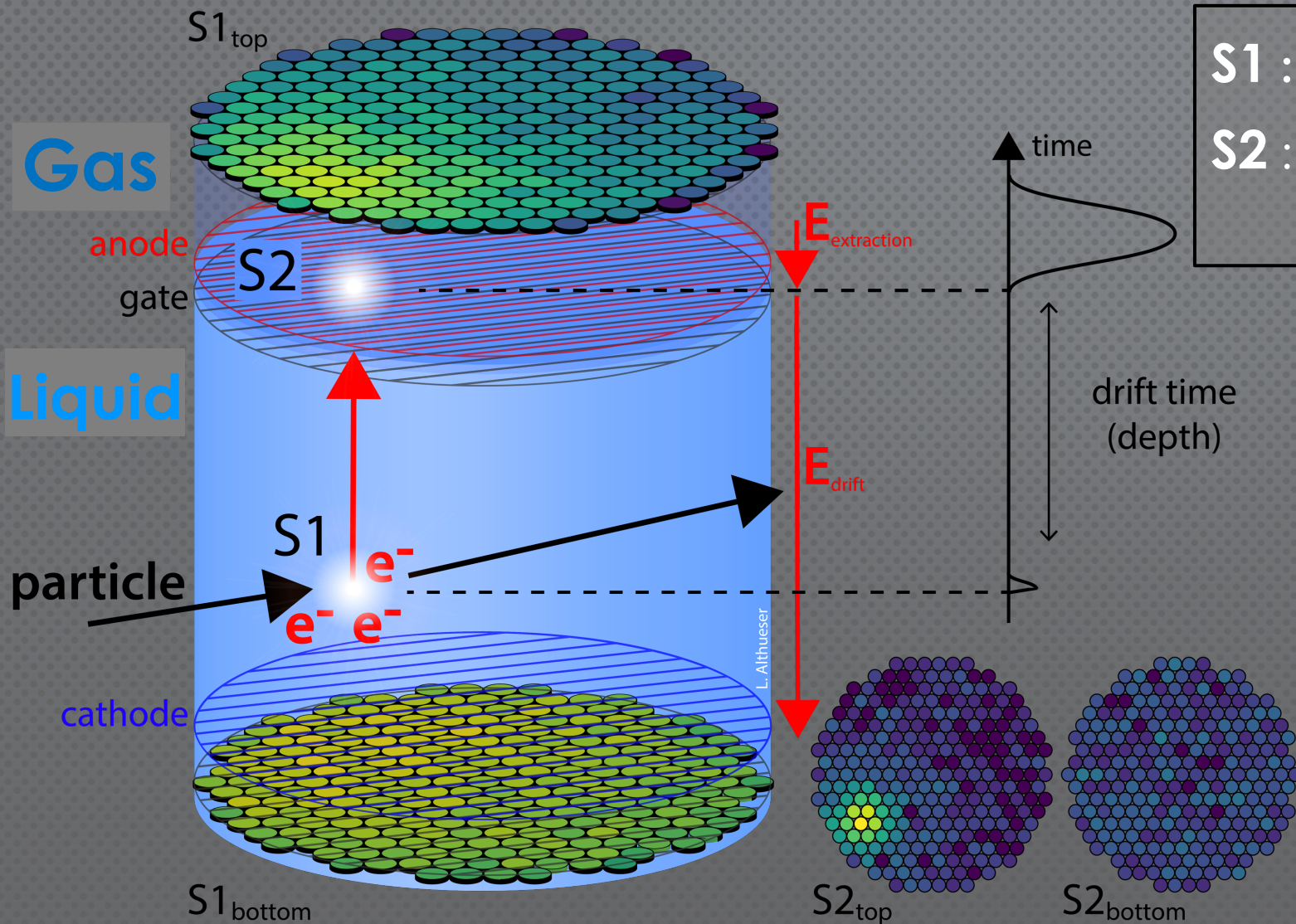
CURRENT STATUS OF WIMP SEARCH



DUAL PHASE TIME PROJECTION CHAMBERS

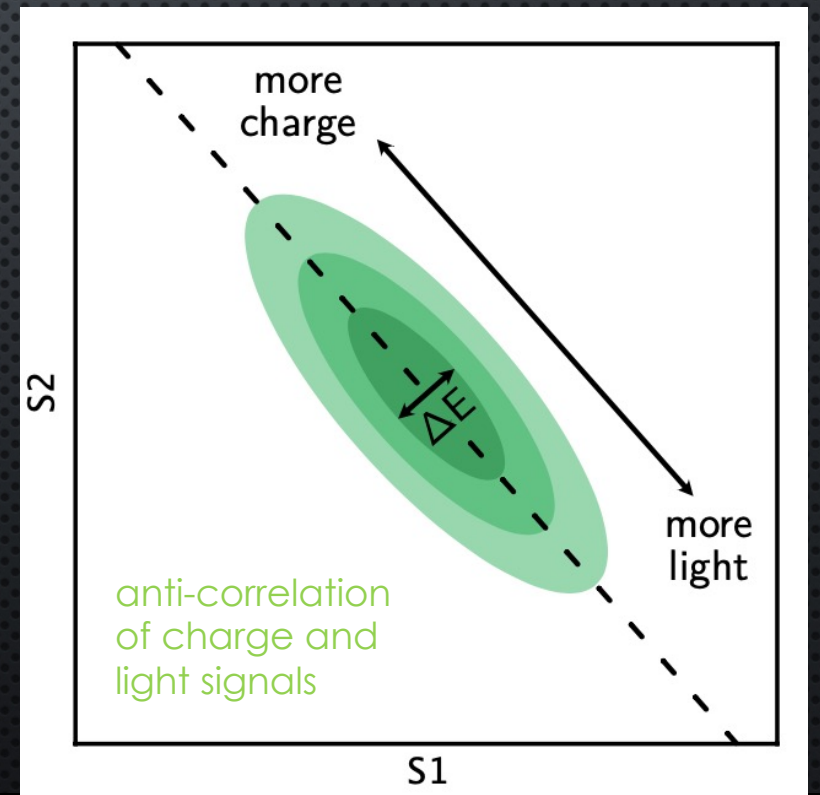


DUAL PHASE TIME PROJECTION CHAMBERS

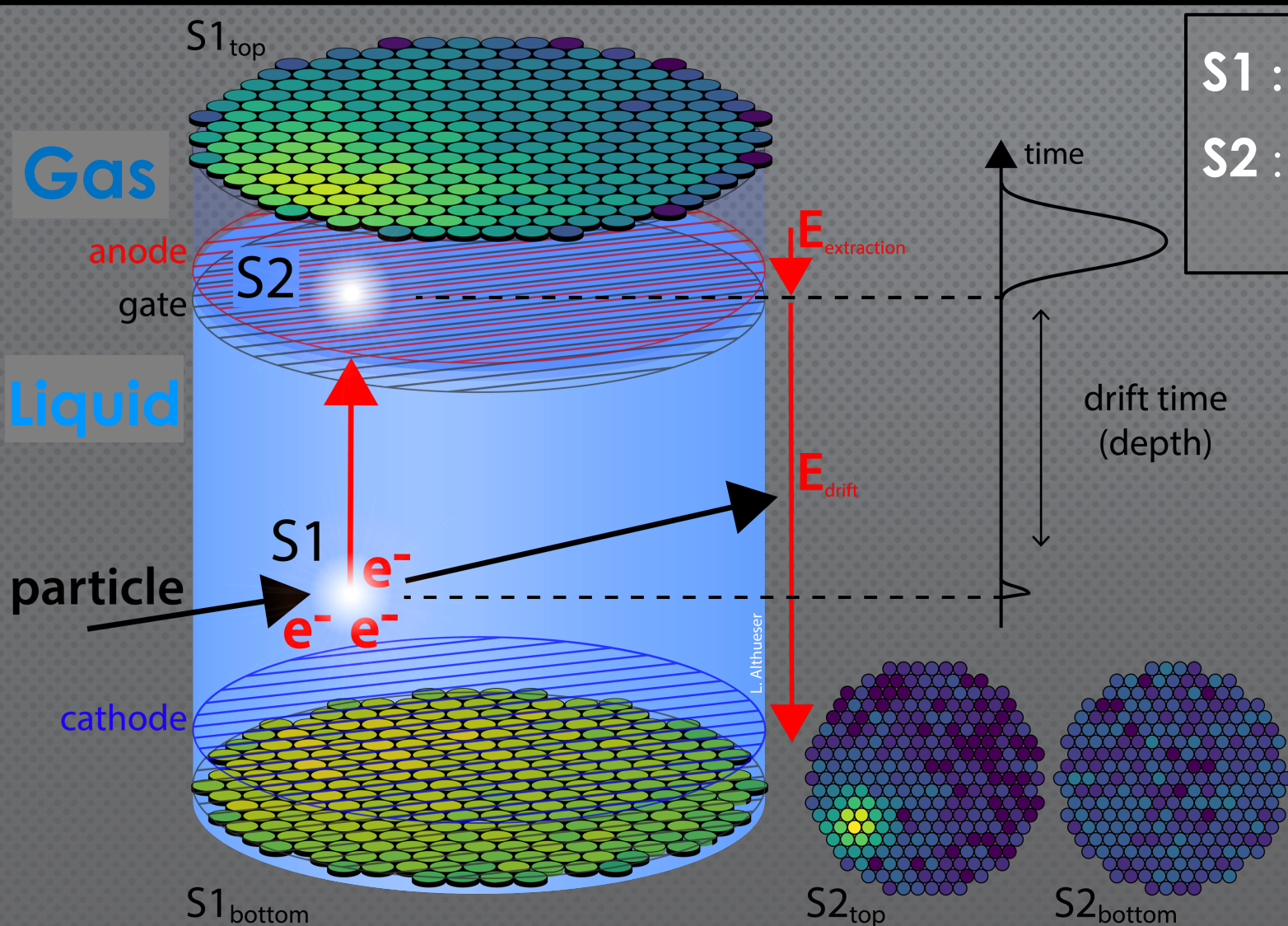


S1 : Prompt Scintillation (light)

S2 : Proportional scintillation following e⁻ drift and extraction into gas (charge)

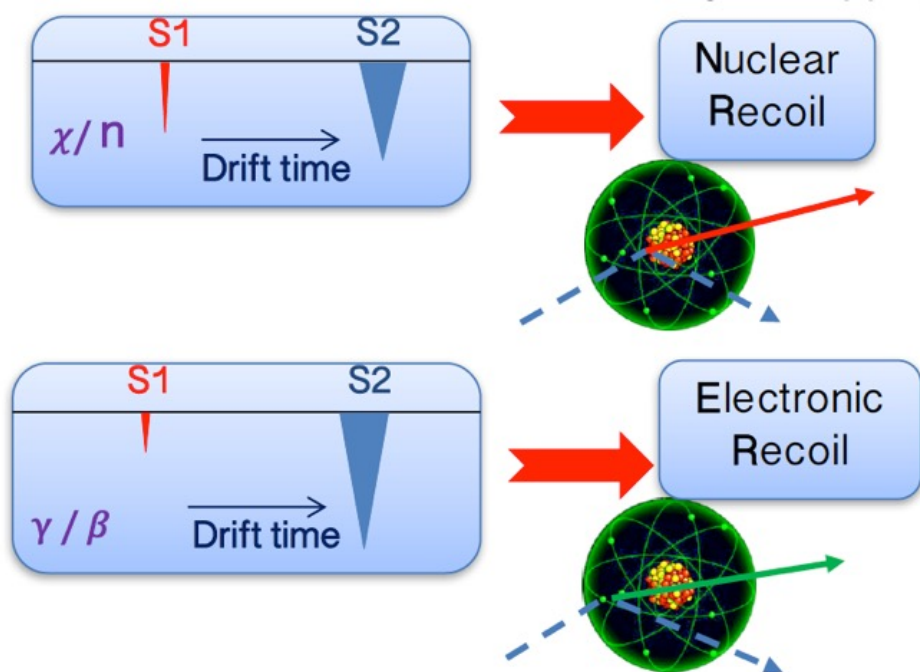


DUAL PHASE TIME PROJECTION CHAMBERS



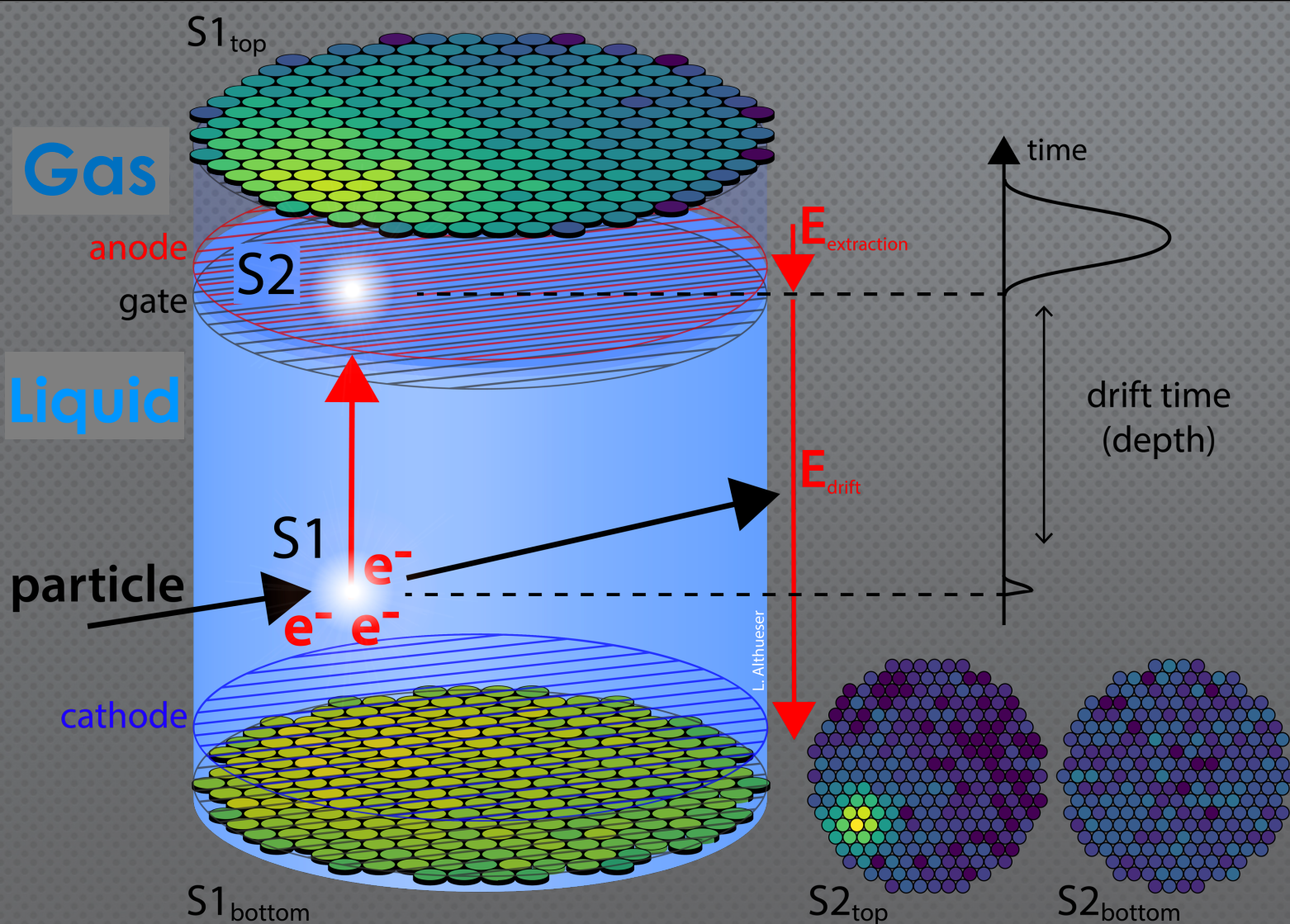
S1 : Prompt Scintillation (light)

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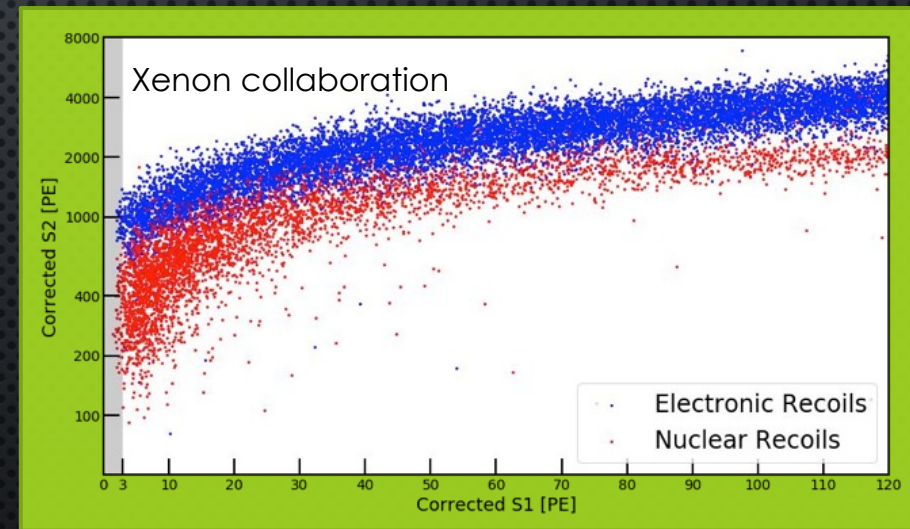


$$(S2/S1)_{NR} < (S2/S1)_{ER}$$

DUAL PHASE TIME PROJECTION CHAMBERS

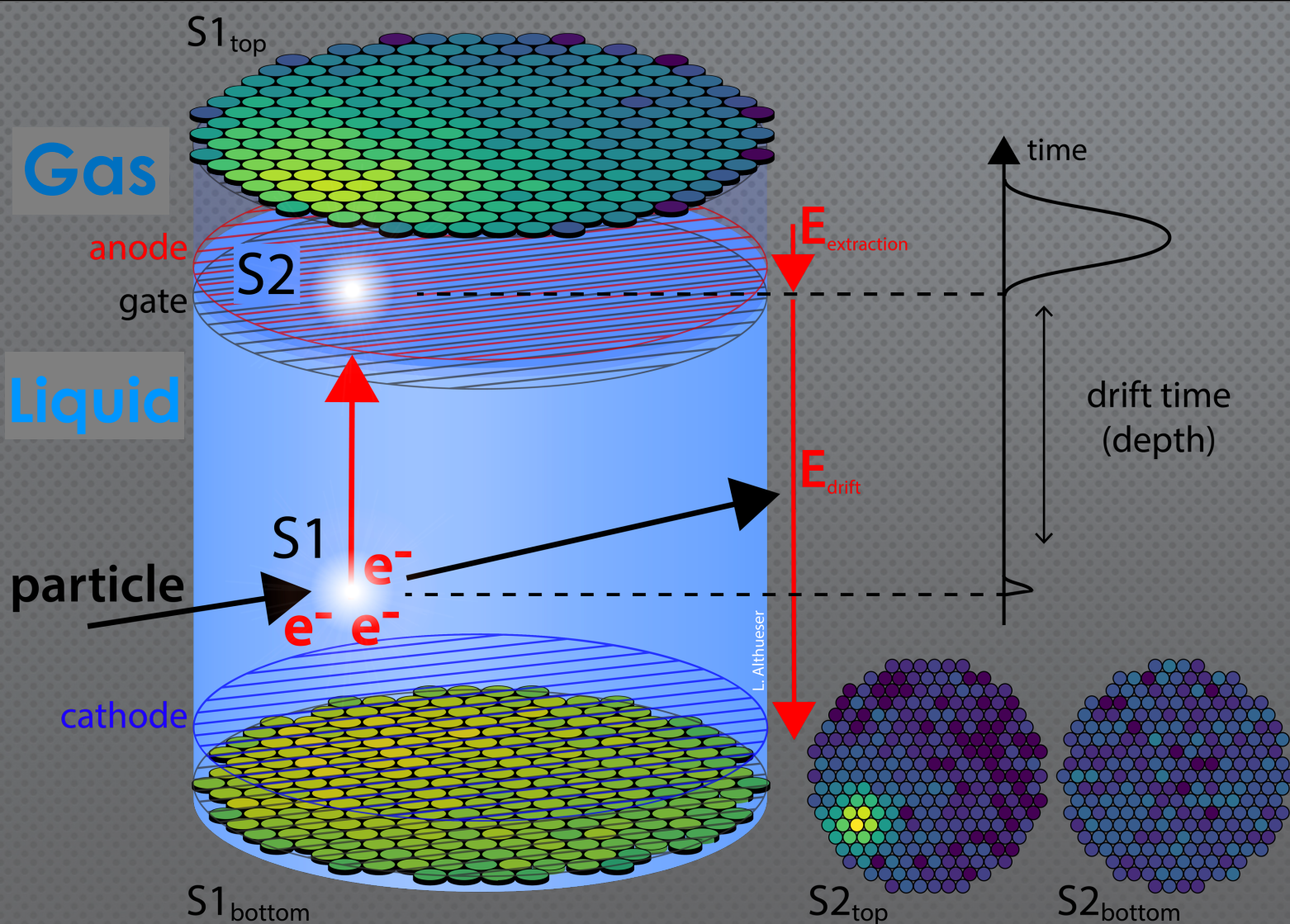


- Energy from S1 and S2
- 3D event reconstruction:
 - X, Y from S2 hit pattern on top PMTs
 - Z from electrons drift time



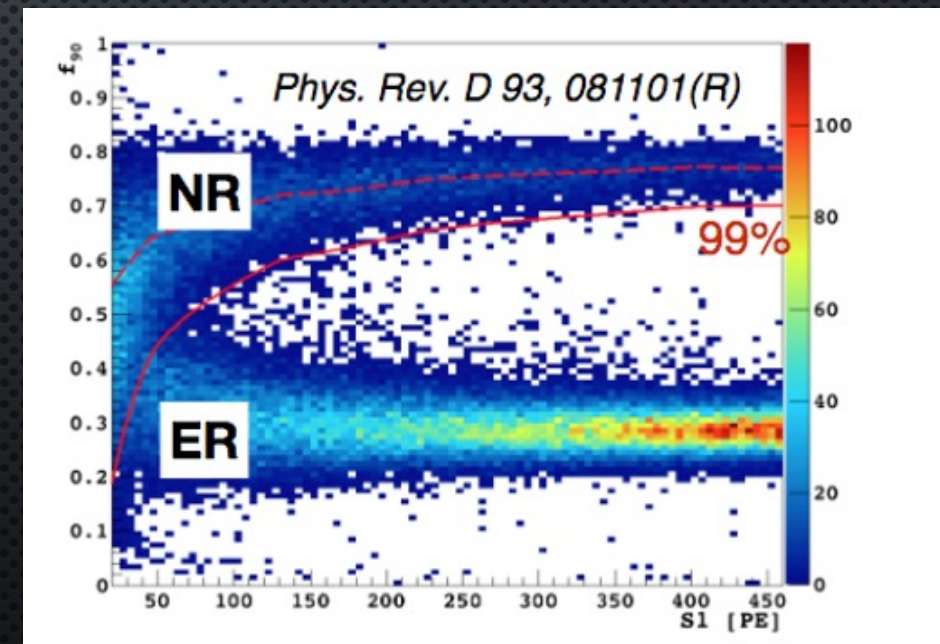
$$(S2/S1)_{NR} < (S2/S1)_{ER}$$

DUAL PHASE TIME PROJECTION CHAMBERS



Additional ER/NR discrimination in LAr TPCs

- Pulse Shape Discrimination (PSD) parameter f_{90} : fraction of light seen in the first 90 ns



NOBLE LIQUIDS FOR DARK MATTER DIRECT DETECTION

- **Scalability** : compact detectors, scalable to larger dimension
- **Easy cryogenic** : 170 K (LXe), 87 K (LAr)
- **Self shielding** : very effective (especially for LXe) for external bkg reduction
- **Low threshold** : high scintillation yield (similar to NaI(Tl) but much faster timing)
- **NR vs ER discrimination** by charge to light ratio and PSD (for LAr)
- **Xe nucleus ($A \sim 131$)** good for SI and SD sensitivity ($\sim 50\%$ odd isotopes)
- For Xe : no long lived radioactive isotopes (^{85}Kr can be removed)
- For Ar : radioactive ^{39}Ar can be reduced

PROPERTIES OF NOBLE GASES

Liquefied noble gases allow for:

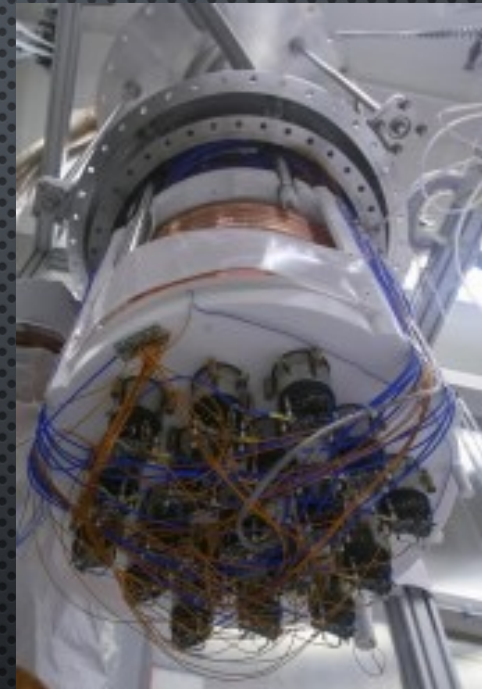
- dense, homogeneous targets for ionising radiation
- detectors with self-shielding and fiducialisation
- large detector masses with ultra-low levels of radioactivity

Noble Gas	LXe	LAr
Atomic mass [g/mol]	131.3	39.95
Density [g/cm ³]	3.06	1.40
Wavelength [nm]	178	128
Average ionization energy W [eV]	15.6	23.3
Ionization Yield [e ⁻ /keV]	64	42
Scintillation Yield [photon/keV]	46	40

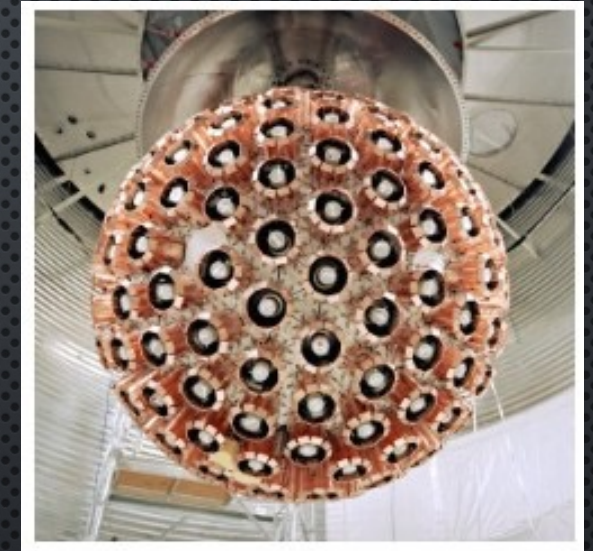
LAR TPC CURRENT EXPERIMENTS

Status

- DarkSide50
 - Target: 37 kg liquid argon (depleted in Ar39)
 - Exposure: 532 live-days
 - Decommissioned in 2019
- DEAP 3600
 - Target : 3.3 ton (fiducial 1 t)
 - Exposure: 231 live-days (2019)
 - Data taking finished in 2020
 - upgrading detector for background reduction to restart in 2023



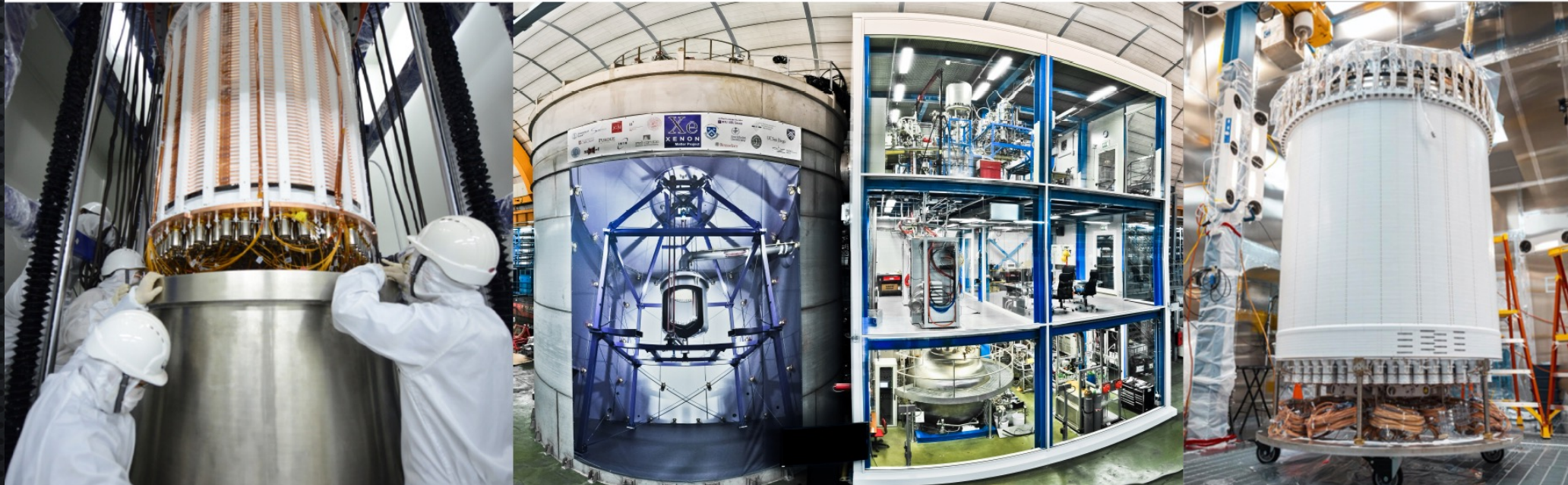
DarkSide50 @LNGS
Dual phase



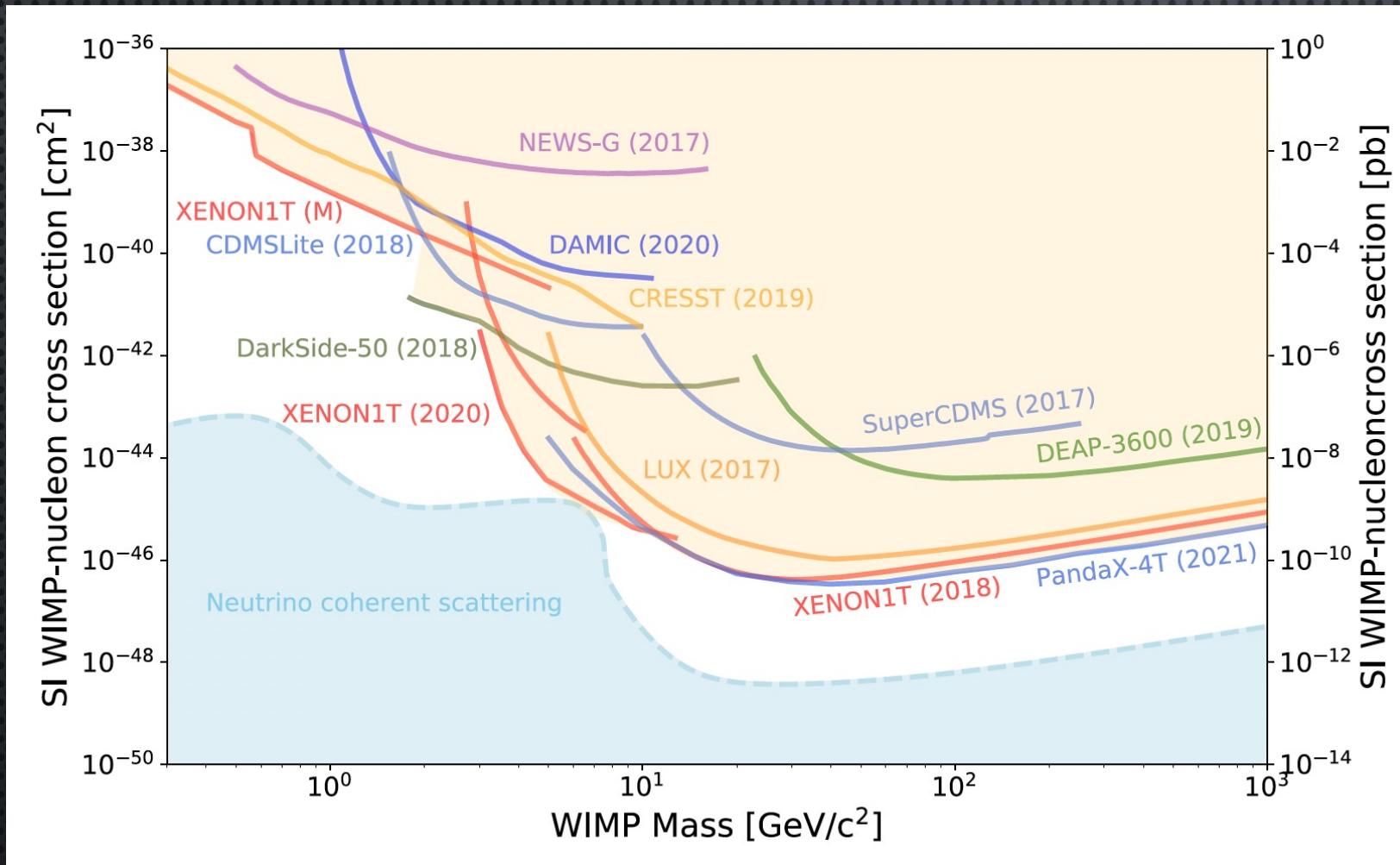
DEAP3600 @Snolab
Single phase

LXE TPC CURRENT EXPERIMENTS

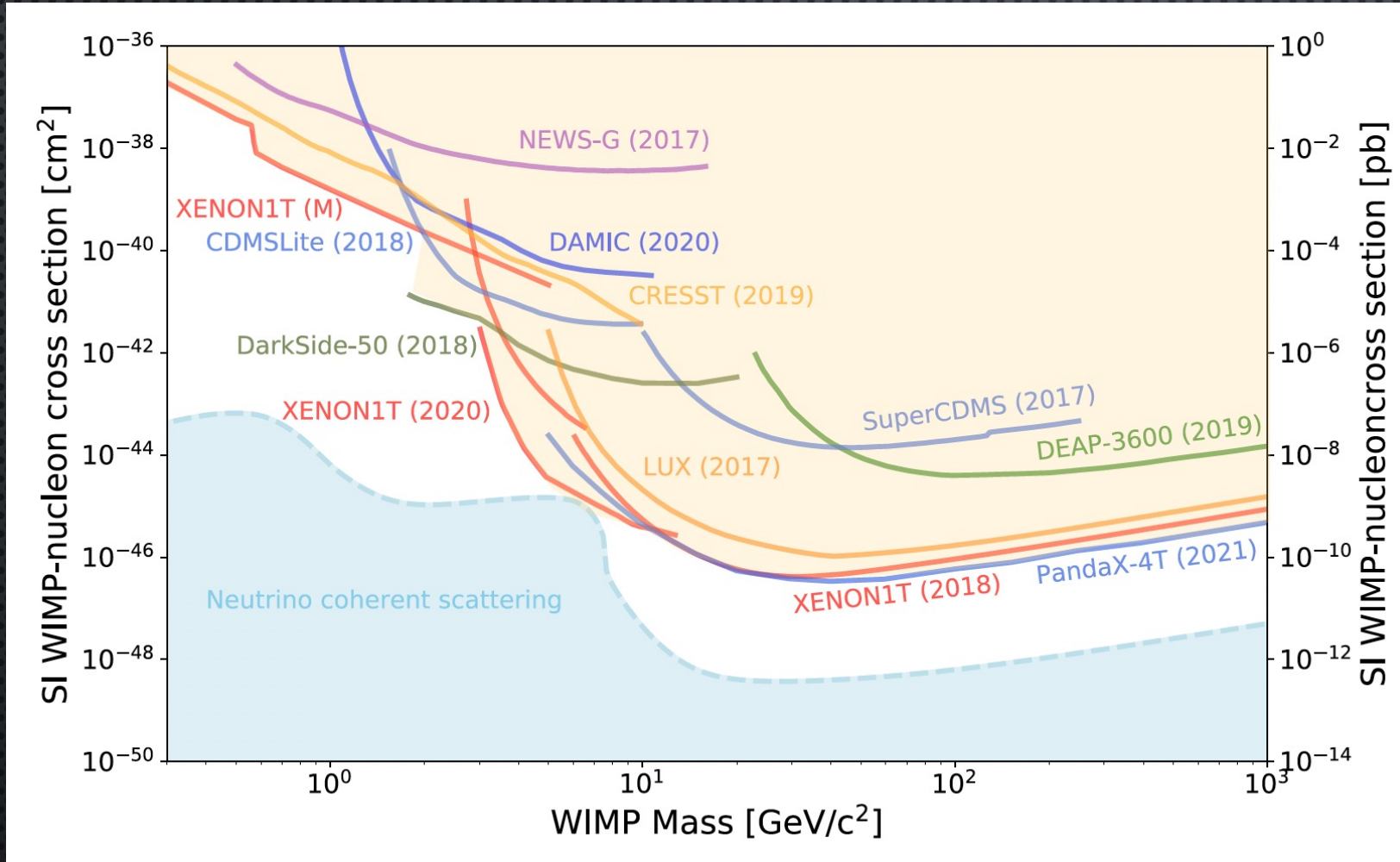
Experiments	Location	Sensitive Mass [t]	Fiducial mass [t]	Radon reduction	Neutron veto	Data taking	First Results
PandaX-4T	CJPL (China)	4.0	2.8	Y	N	2021	2021
XENONnT	LNGS (Italy)	5.9	4.9?	Y	Y	2021	2022
LZ	SURF (US)	7.0	5.5	Y	Y	2022	2022



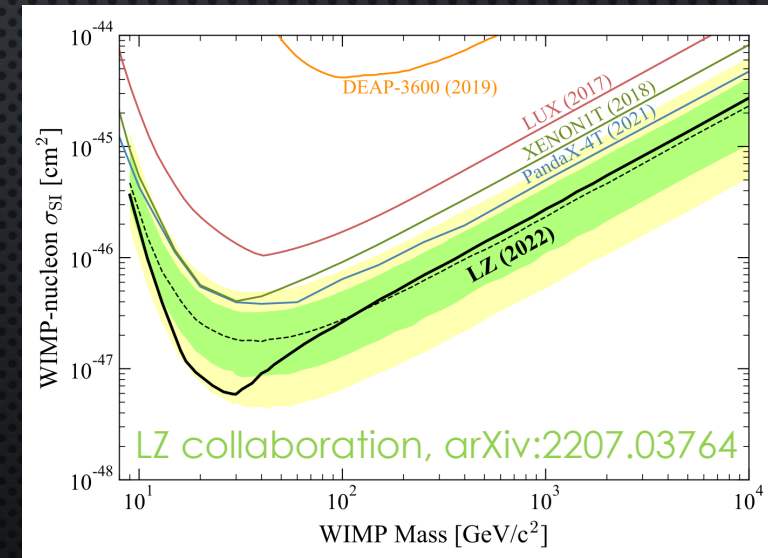
WIMP SEARCH RESULTS IN EARLY 2022



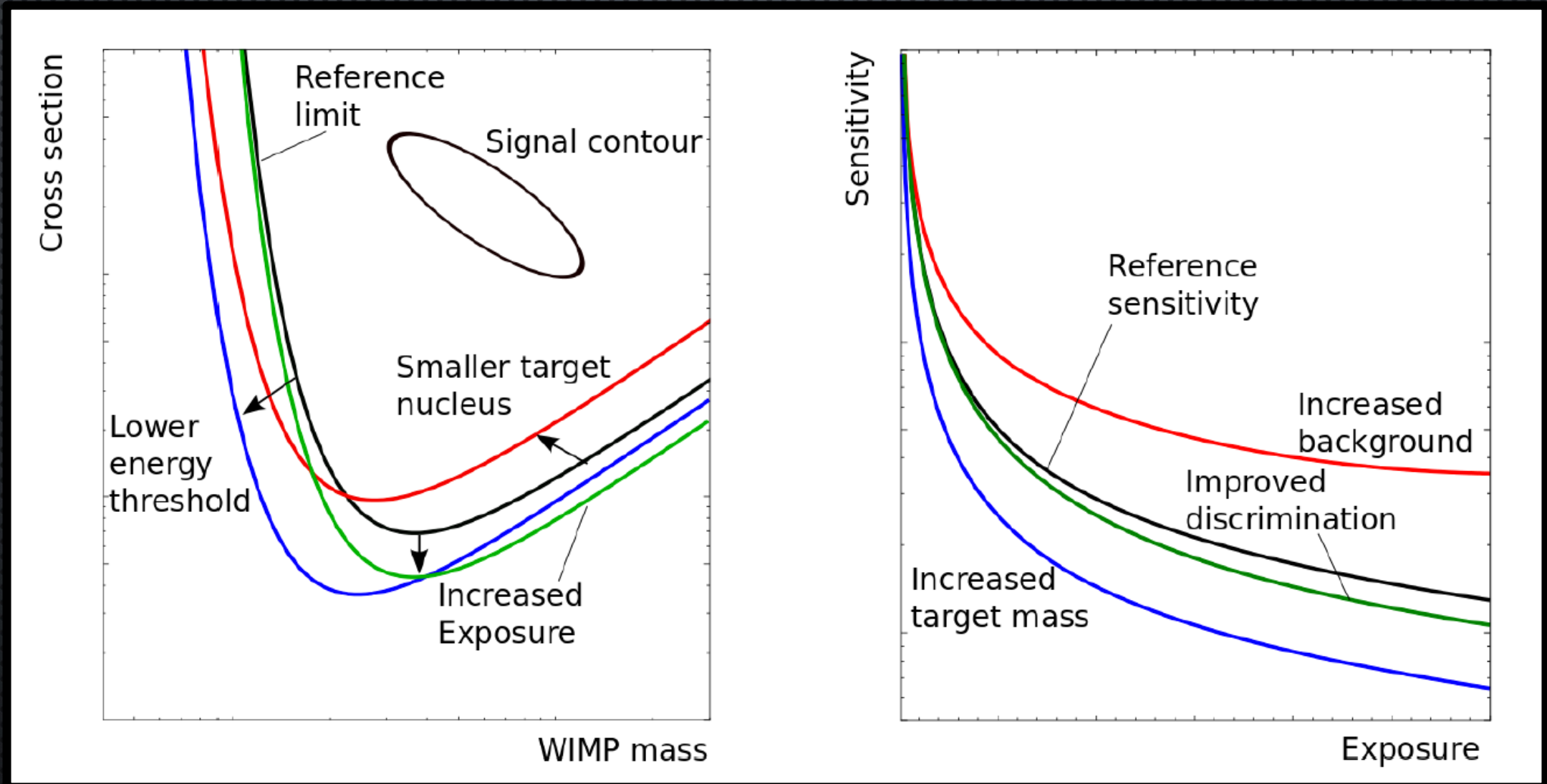
WIMP SEARCH RESULTS IN ~~EARLY~~ 2022



Liquid Noble gas dual phase time projection chambers are leading the field of WIMPs searches for masses above few GeV



HOW TO IMPROVE WIMPS SENSITIVITY?



BACKGROUND MITIGATION STRATEGIES

- SHIELDING

- DEEP UNDERGROUND LOCATION
- LARGE SHIELD (Pb, WATER, POLY)
- ACTIVE VETO
- SELF SHIELDING → FIDUCIALIZATION

- USE OF RADIOPURE MATERIALS

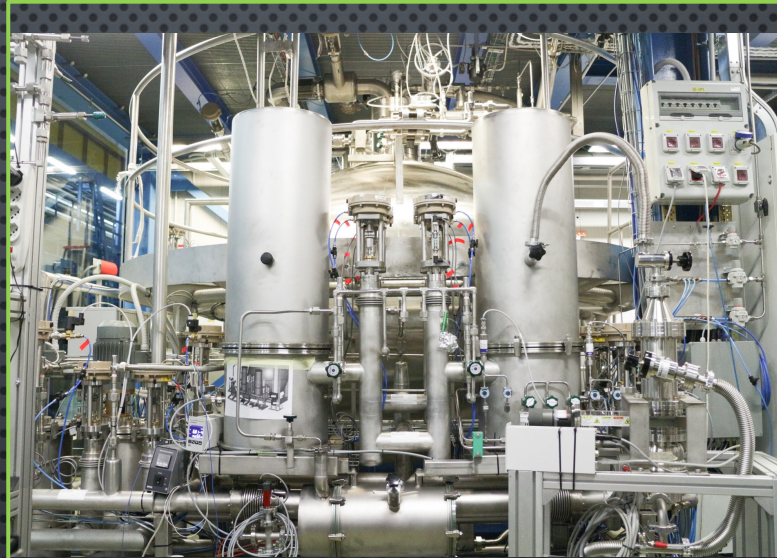
- SCREENING CAMPAIGNS

- CLEANLINESS

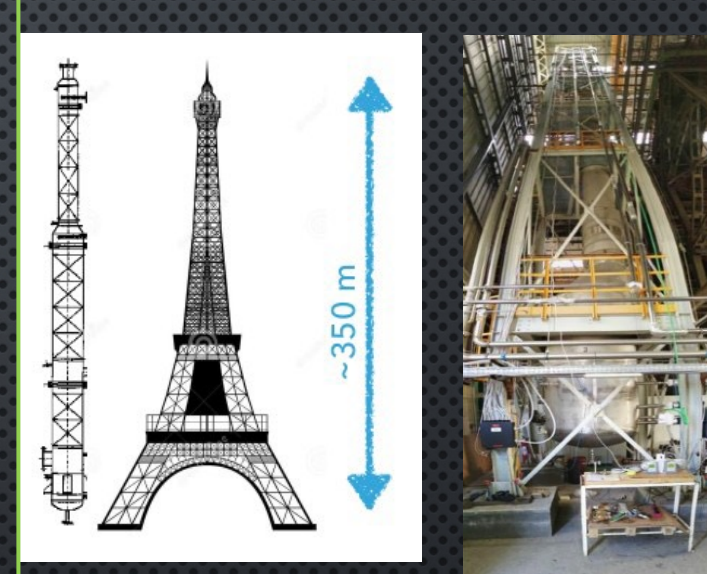
- (RN222 ABATED) CLEANROOMS

- PURIFICATION OF TARGET MATERIAL

- DURING PRODUCTION
- AT PROCUREMENT LEVEL
- DURING DATA TAKING



LXe purification system (5 L/min LXe, faster cleaning; 2500 slpm)

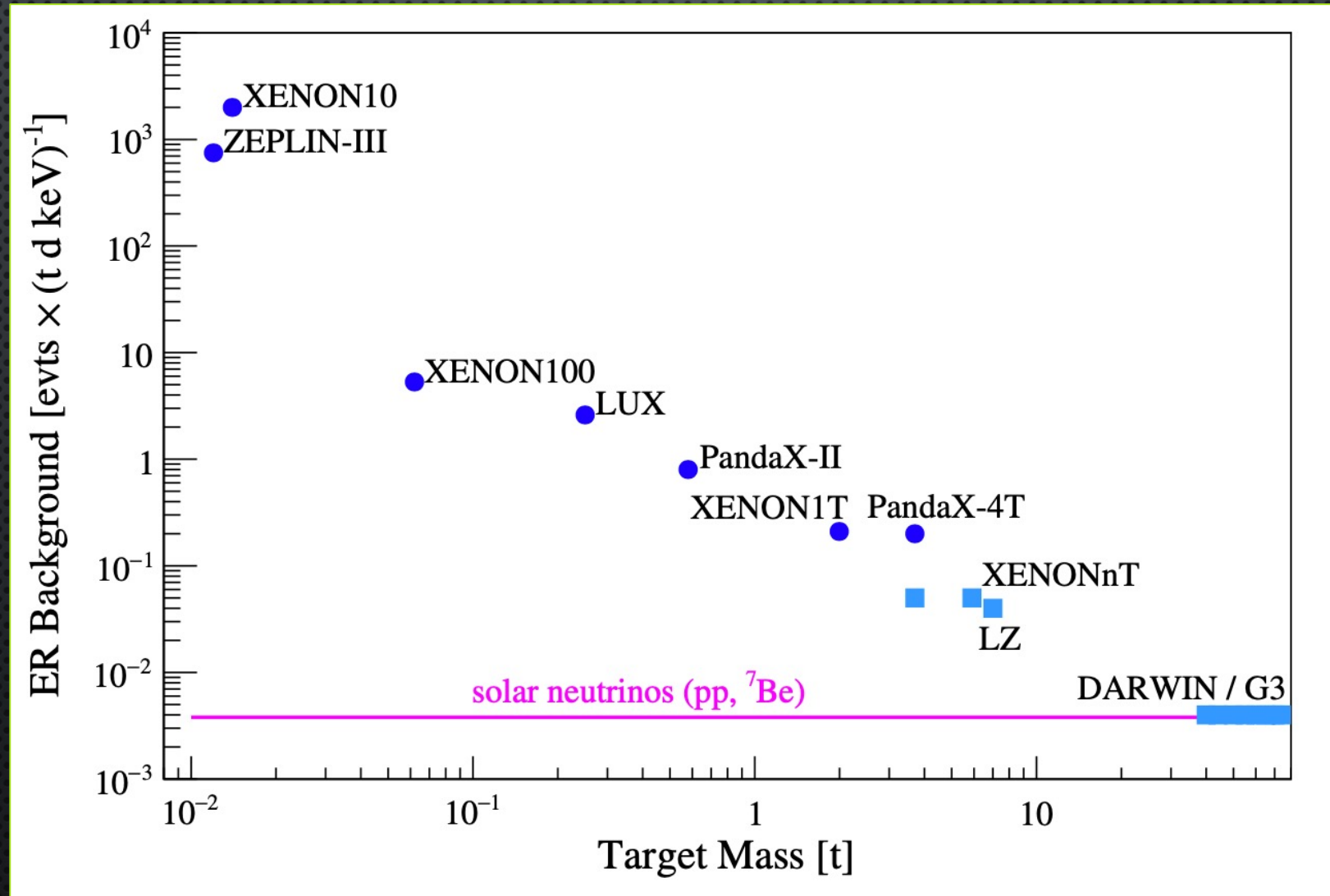


ARIA: Perform chemical and isotopic purification of UAr

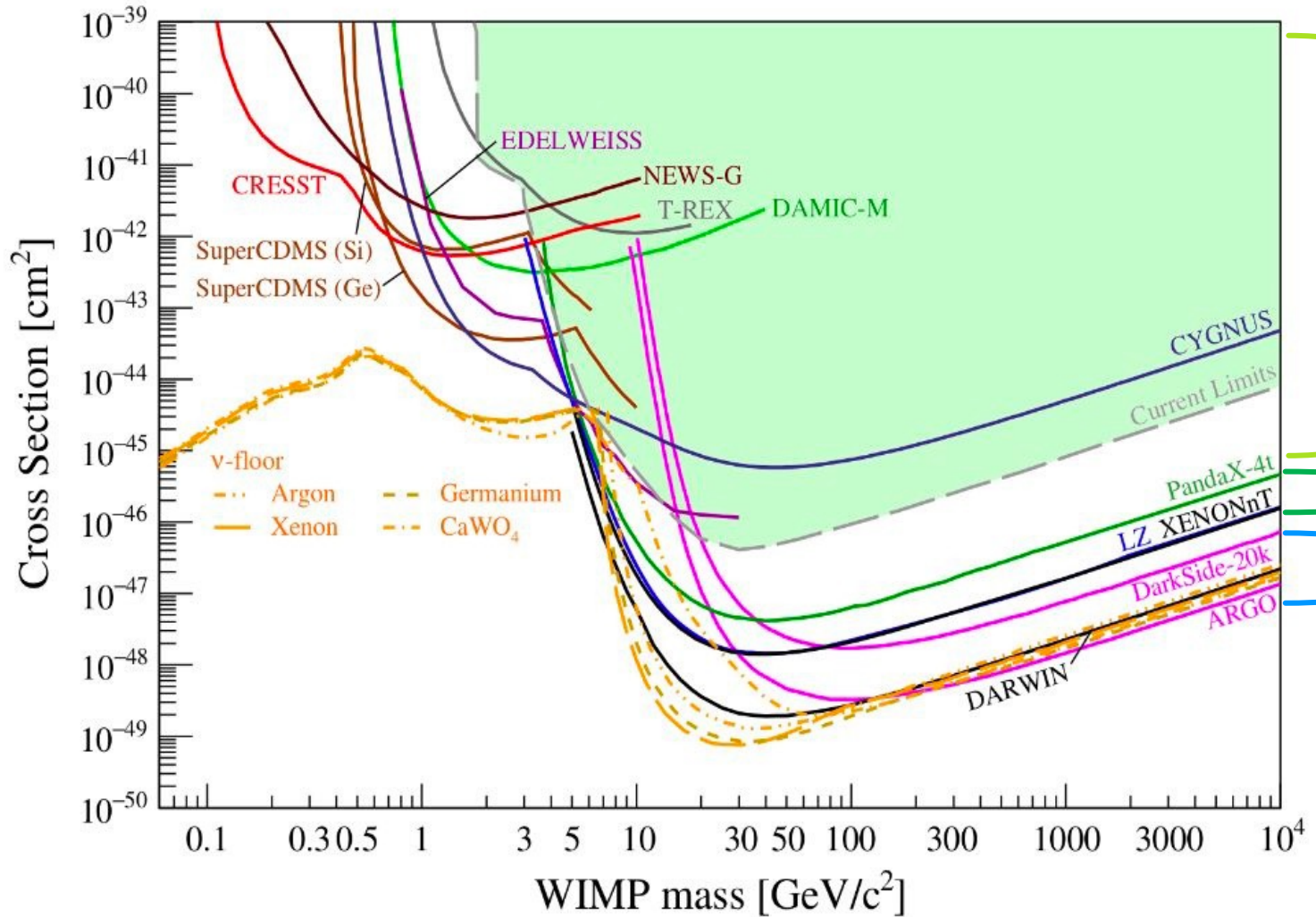
- IMPROVE DISCRIMINATION AT ANALYSIS LEVEL

- SINGLE SCATTER WIMPs EVENTS
- WIMPs INTERACT VIA NR → PSD & CHARGE/LIGHT RATIO

REDUCING THE BKG AND INCREASING THE TARGET MASS



ULTIMATE WIMP SENSITIVITY

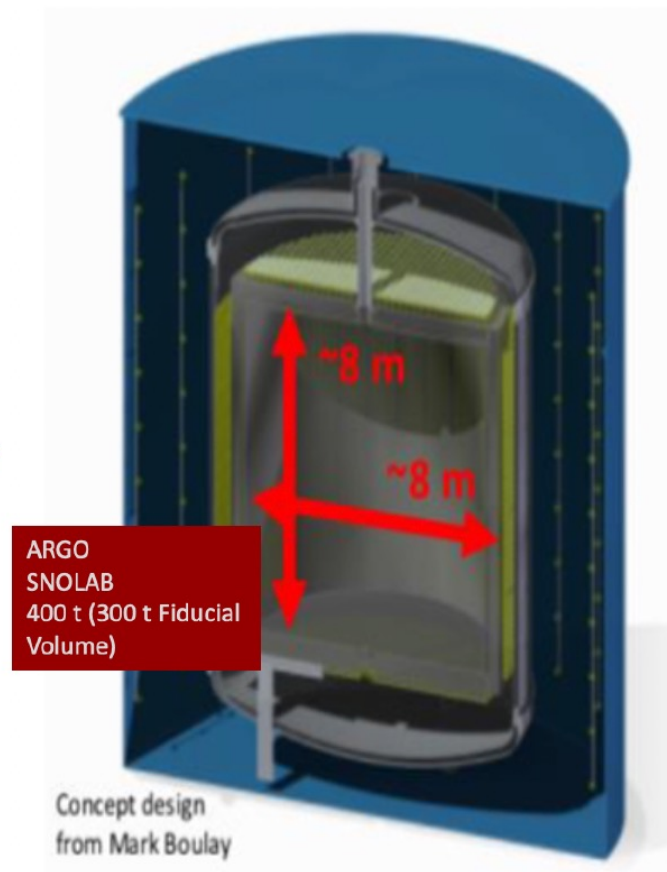
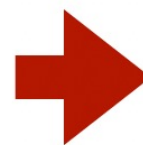
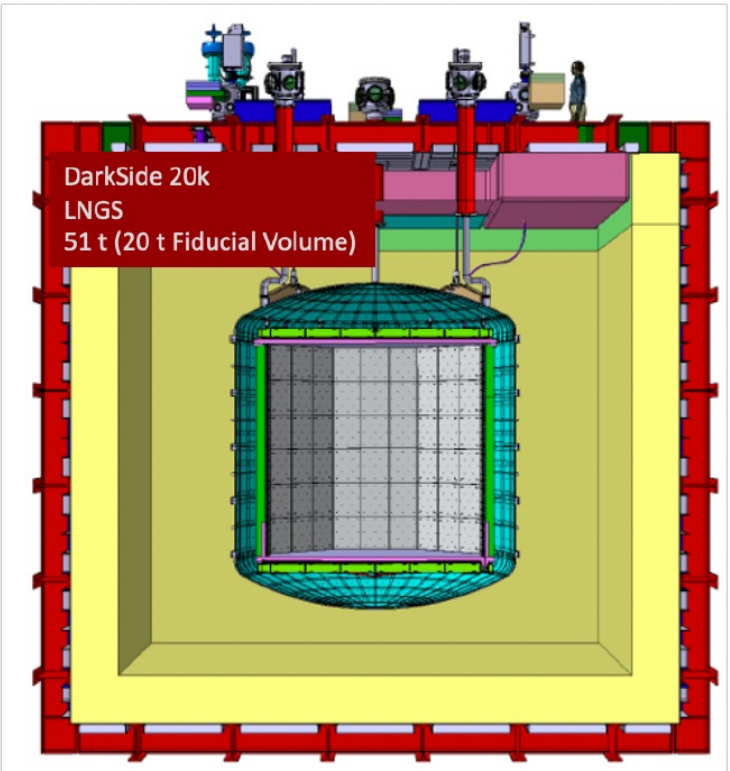
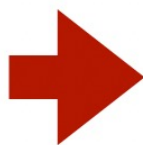


Ultimate sensitivity dominated by neutrino interactions

Past
 Present
 Future:
 Darkside 20k
 ARGO
 DARWIN

THE GLOBAL ARGON DARK MATTER COLLABORATION - GADMC

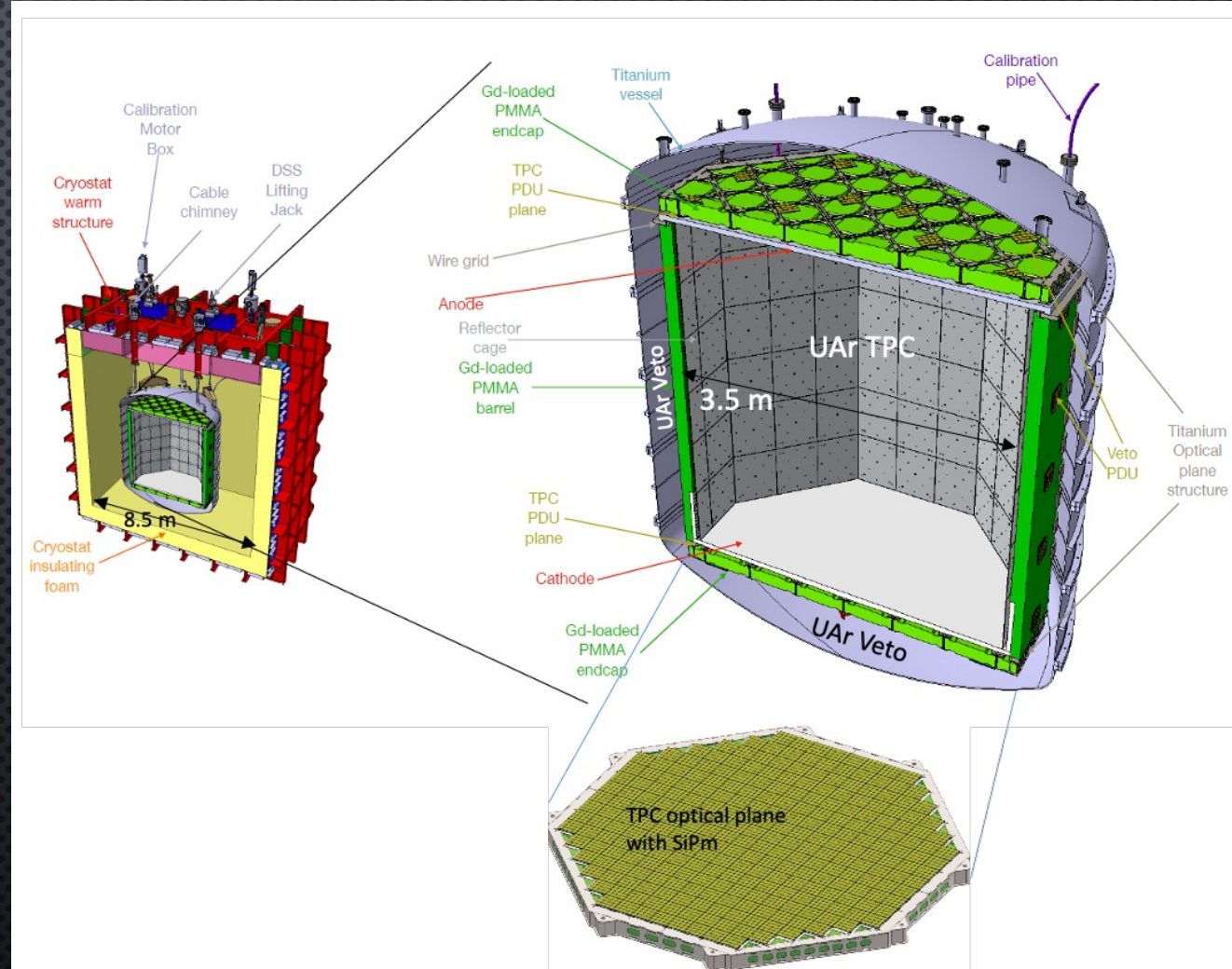
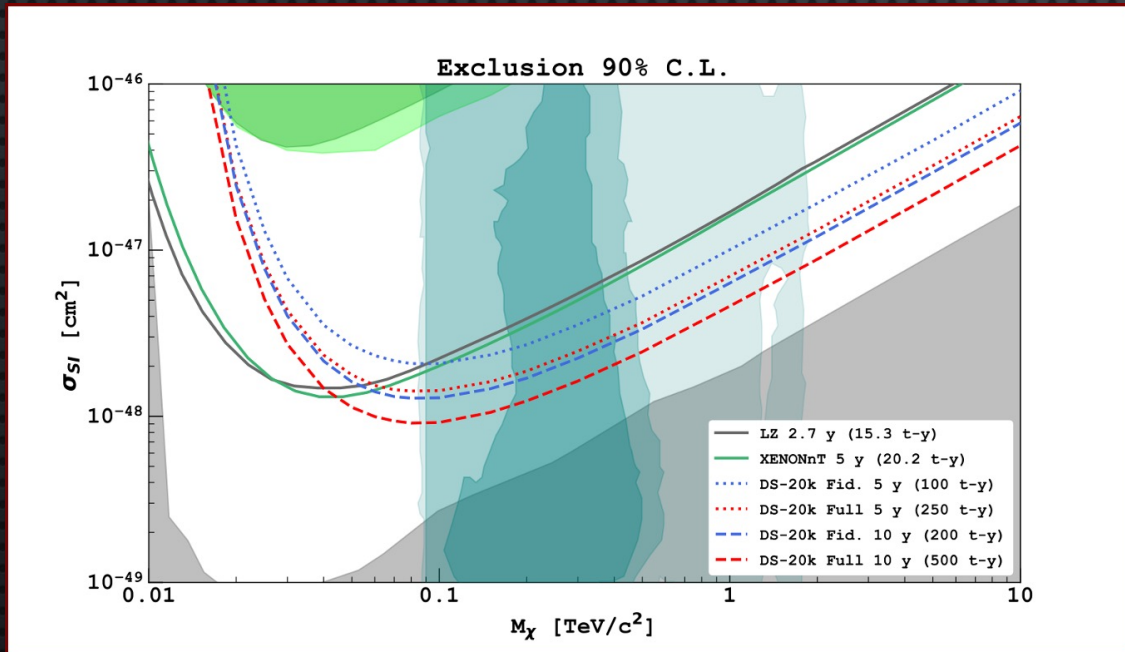
GADMC includes over 400 researchers from 69 institutions in 14 countries



construction starts in 2022
data taking in 2025
nominal run time 10 years

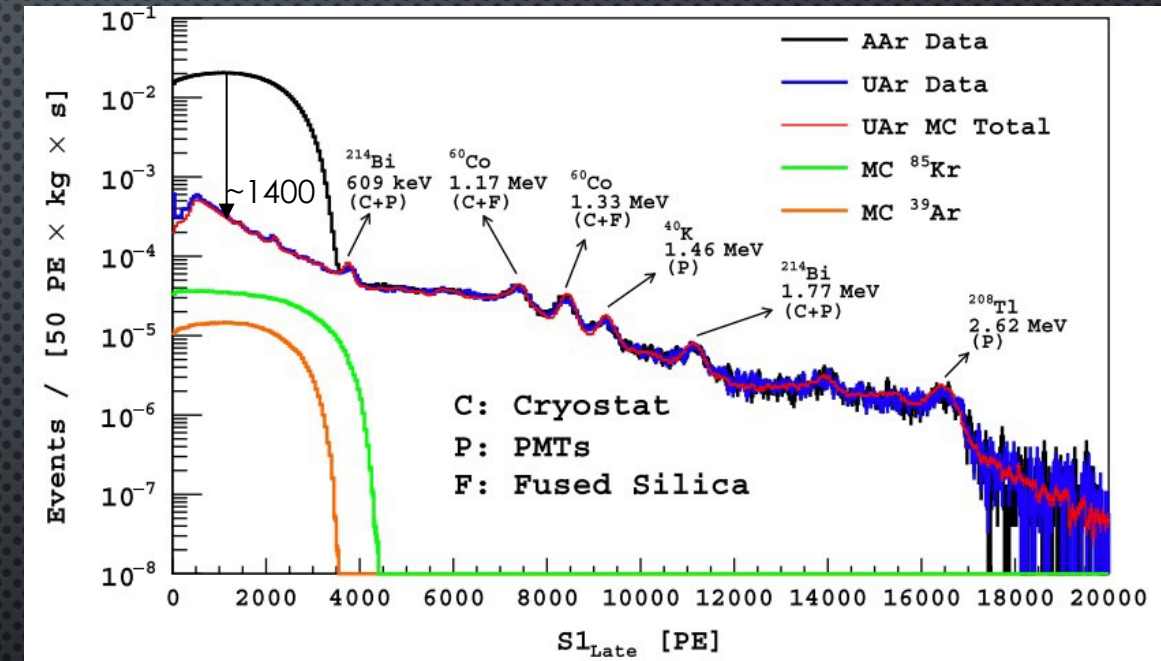
DARKSIDE 20K

- Dual phase LAr TPC
- 21 m² cryogenic SiPMs
- Inner TPC surrounded by a single phase LAr neutron Veto detector
- Integration of inner TPC + veto in a single object



UNDERGROUND ARGON (UAR)

- ^{39}Ar radioactivity in **atmospheric** argon:
 - β -emitter with an endpoint of 565 keV
 - activity $\sim 1\text{Bq/kg}$
- ^{39}Ar **cosmogenic** isotope
 - \rightarrow Lower ^{39}Ar production rate in UAr

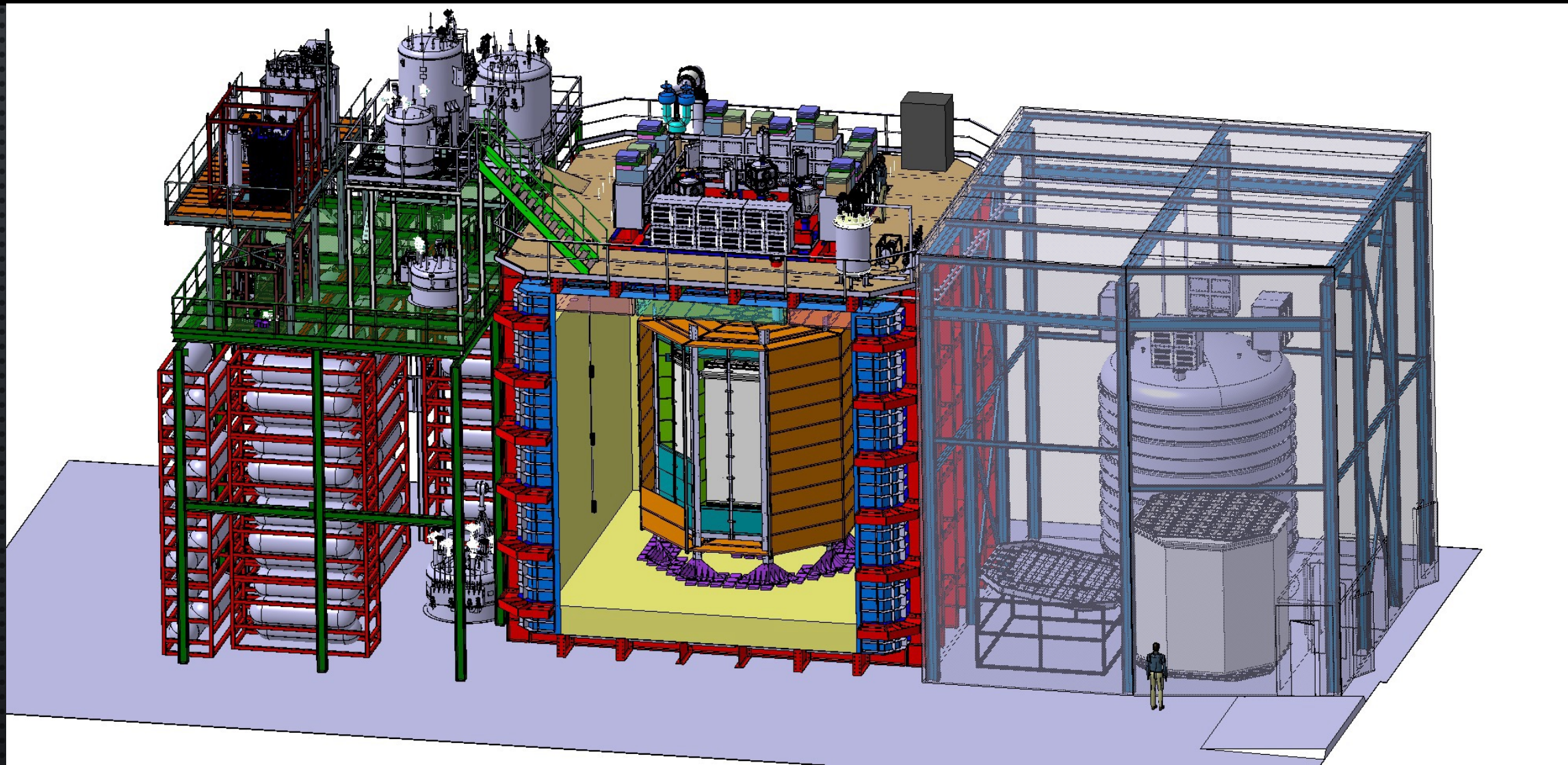


Extraction of Ar from **underground** sources, where such processes are suppressed

DS50 used 157kg of **UAr**

Depletion factor in ^{39}Ar : 1400 +/- 200

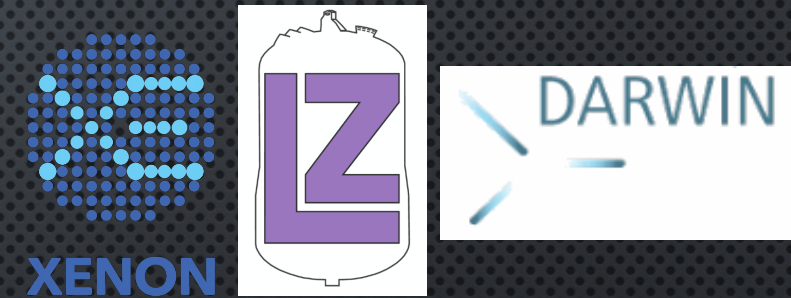
DARKSIDE 20K IN HALL C @LNGS



XLZD CONSORTIUM

XLZD consortium (xlzd.org) to design and build a common multi-ton xenon experiment

- currently 104 group-leaders in 16 countries : MoU signed in July 2021
- joint “white paper” on physics reach : 600 authors, 141 institutions
- Already official and active:
 - first in-person meeting at KIT in June 2022
 - second in person meeting in US in Spring 2023w
 - Weekly calls to discuss working group progress and status



PHYSICS REACH

Dark Matter

- Dark photons
- Axion-like particles
- Planck mass

WIMPs

- Spin-independent
- Spin-dependent
- Sub-GeV

Sun

- Solar pp neutrinos
- Solar Boron-8 neutrinos

Big Bang

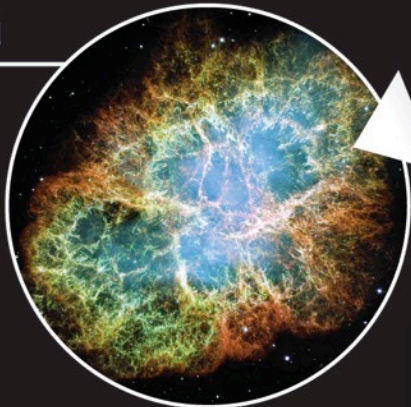
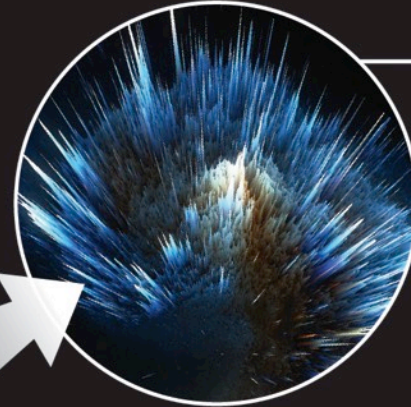
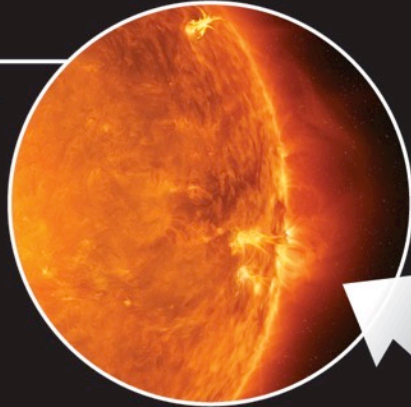
- Neutrinoless double beta decay
- Double electron capture

Supernova

- Supernova neutrinos
- Multi-messenger

Cosmic Rays

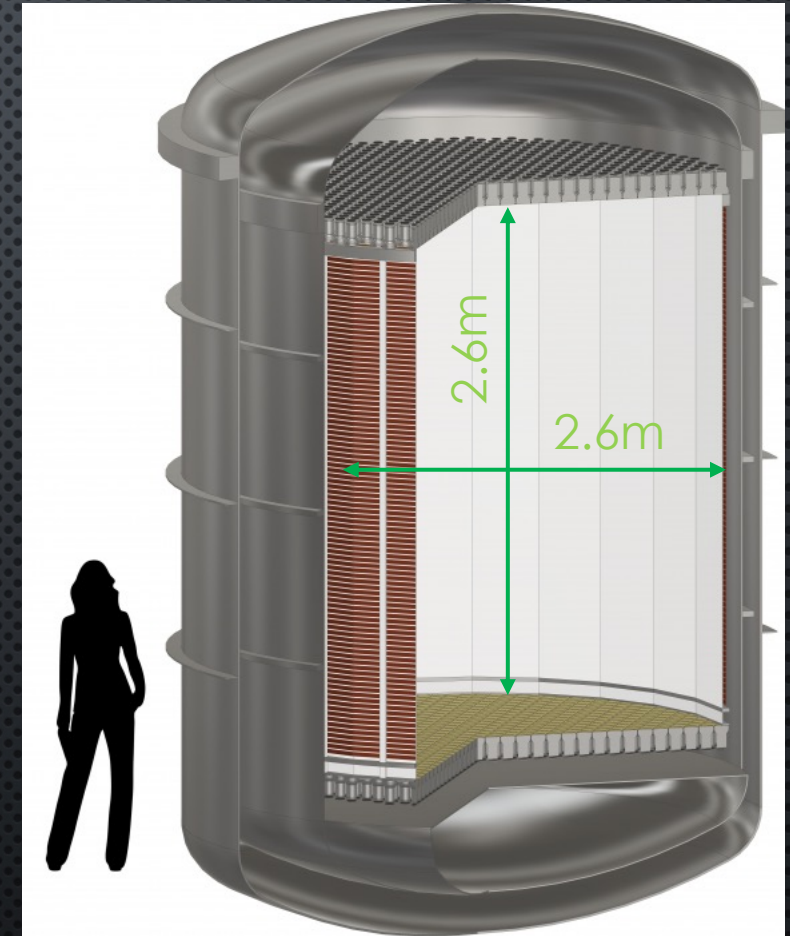
- Atmospheric neutrinos



DARWIN BASELINE DESIGN & CHALLENGES

BASELINE DESIGN

- Dual-phase TPC: 2.6 m \varnothing and 2.6 m height
- 50 t (40 t) LXe in total (in TPC)
- Top & bottom arrays of photosensors (e.g., 1800 3-inch PMTs)
- PTFE reflectors and Cu field shaping rings
- Low-background Ti cryostat
- Gd-doped water as n- and μ -vetos



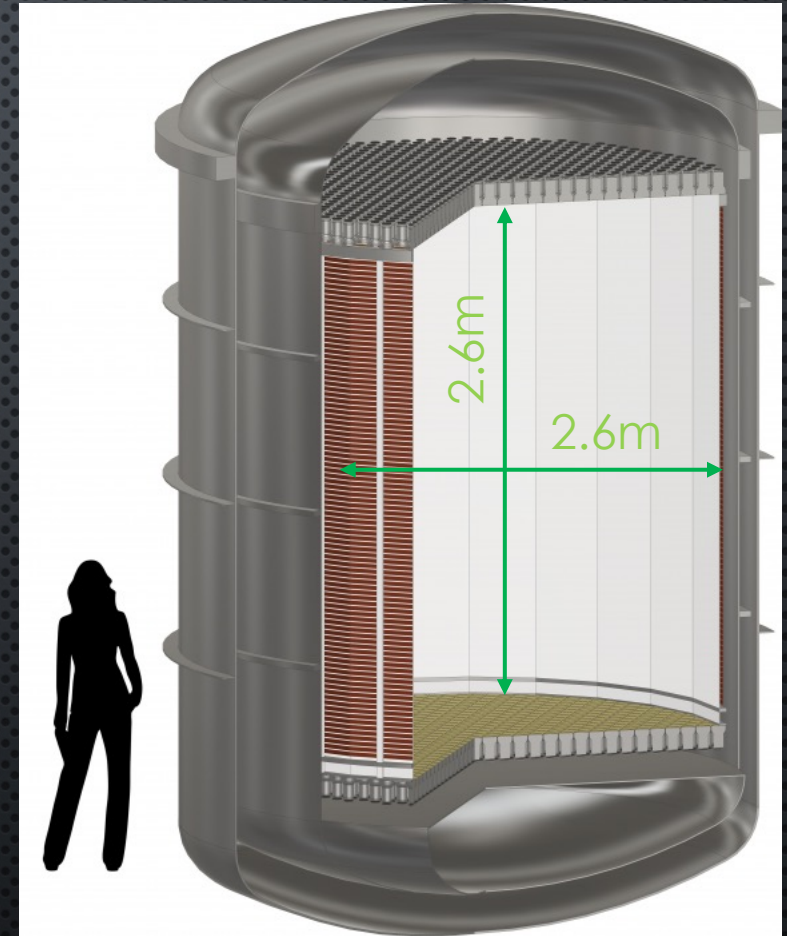
DARWIN Collaboration, JCAP 1611 (2016) 017

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*alternative designs and photosensors under consideration
→ various R&D ongoing in several institutions*



DARWIN Collaboration, JCAP 1611 (2016) 017

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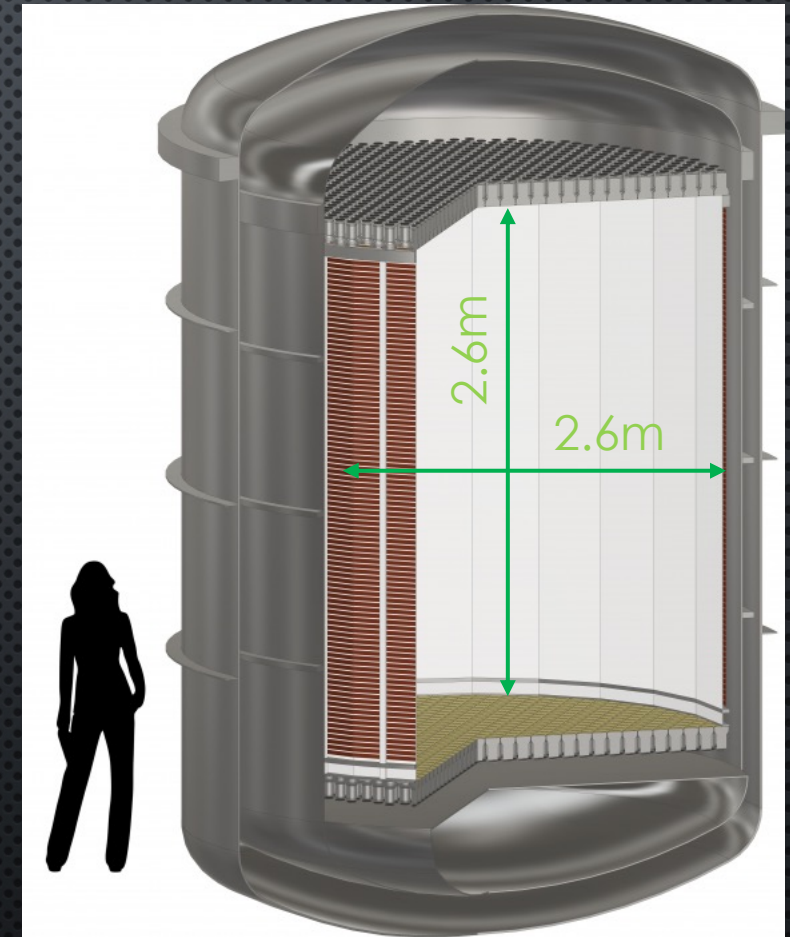
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→ various R&D ongoing in several institutions*

CHALLENGES

- Design of electrodes: robustness (minimal sagging/deflection), maximal transparency, reduced e- emission
- Xenon procurement & storage
- High voltage supply
- Liquid level control
- Significant staging space and UG fabrication capabilities
- ...



DARWIN Collaboration, JCAP 1611 (2016) 017

DARWIN R&D : DEMONSTRATORS

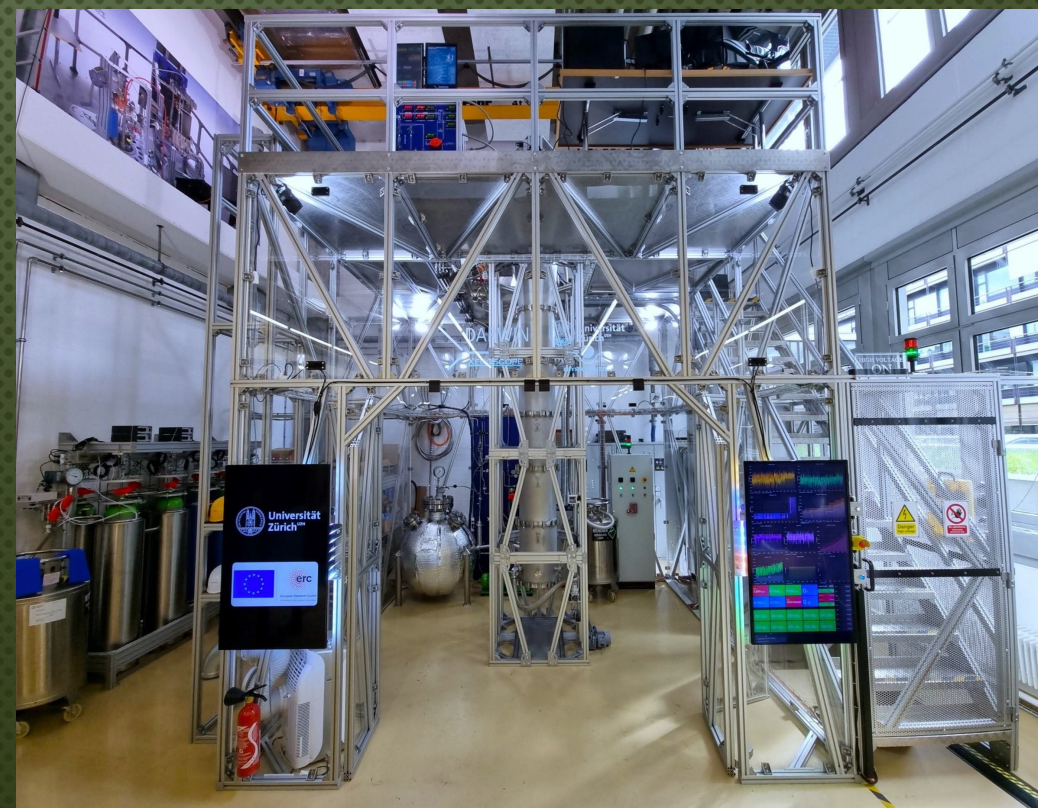
Horizontal demonstrator Pancake in Freiburg:

- 2.7 m diameter, 5 cm LXe height
- test horizontal components – real scale frames, electrodes etc.



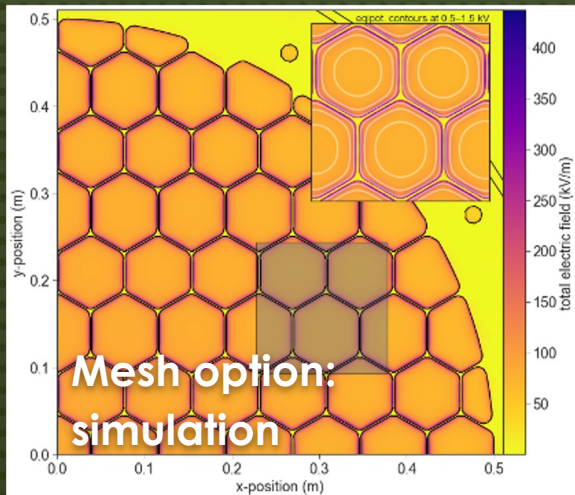
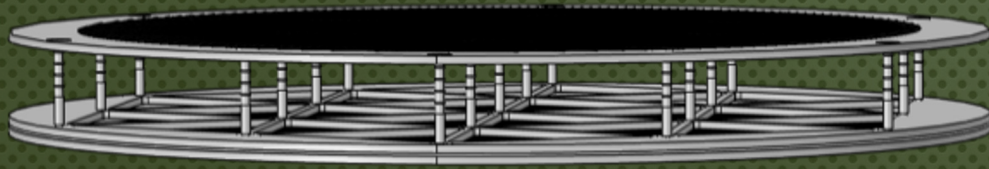
Vertical demonstrator Xenoscope in Zurich:

- 16 cm inner diameter, up to 2.6 m LXe height
- Full scale electron drift demonstration – high voltage, drift field properties, purity etc



DARWIN R&D : ELECTRODES & XENON RECOVERY

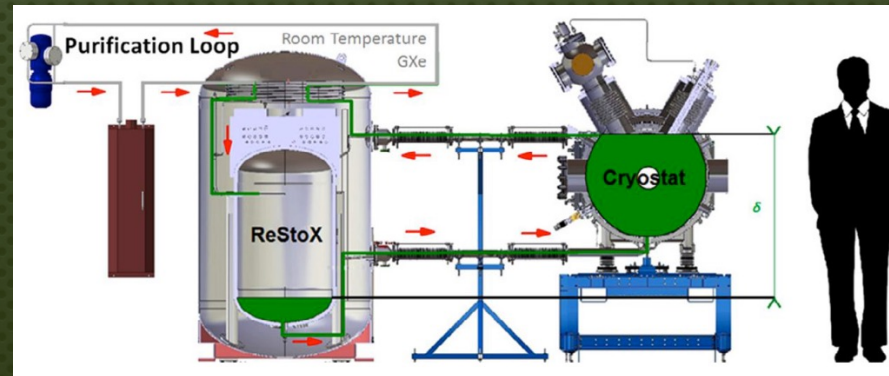
R&D on electrodes



French laboratories:
SUBATECH-Nantes
LPNHE - Paris

Recovery & Storage of Xenon

- Just increasing the storage size is not reasonable
→ towards a modular approach
- Evaluating and testing the new concept of the **LXe fast recovery by gravity**

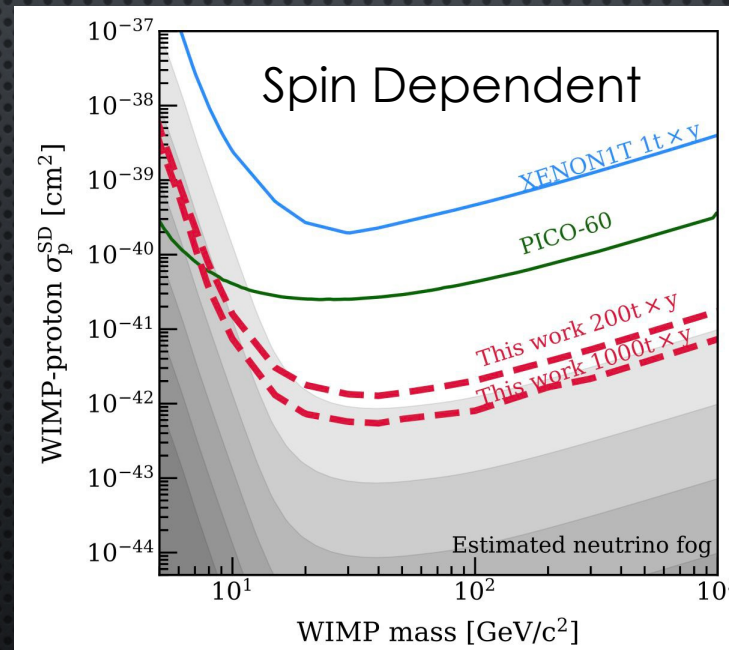
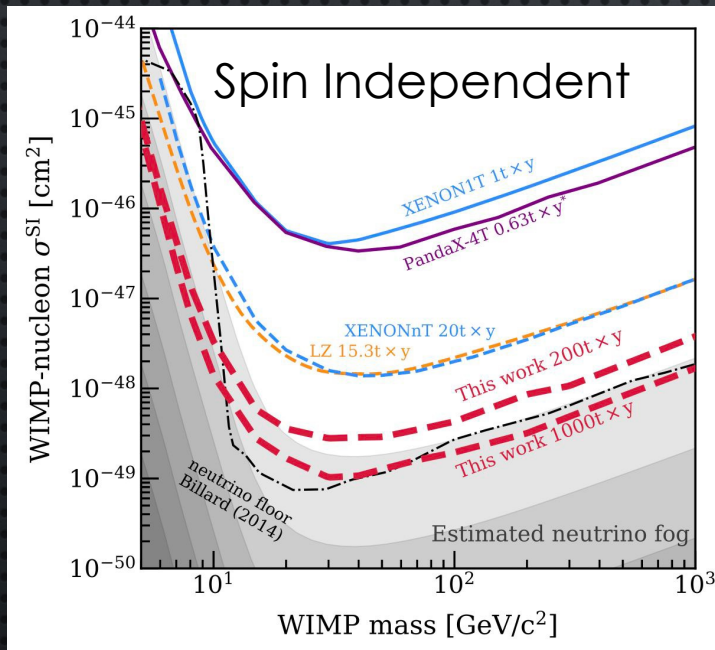


DARWIN : WIMPS SEARCHES

Arxiv : 2203.02309

WIMP SENSITIVITY

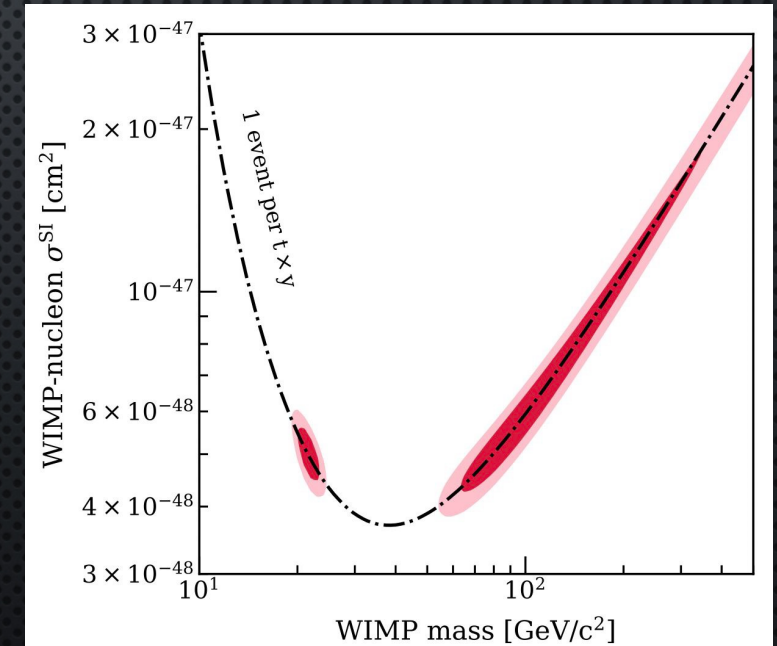
- Will probe entire parameter region for $m_\chi \sim 2 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ until neutrino fog
- 99.8% ER rejection @30% NR acceptance



WIMP SPECTROSCOPY

Capability to reconstruct WIMP mass & cross section (SI) for various masses below $500 \text{ GeV}/c^2$

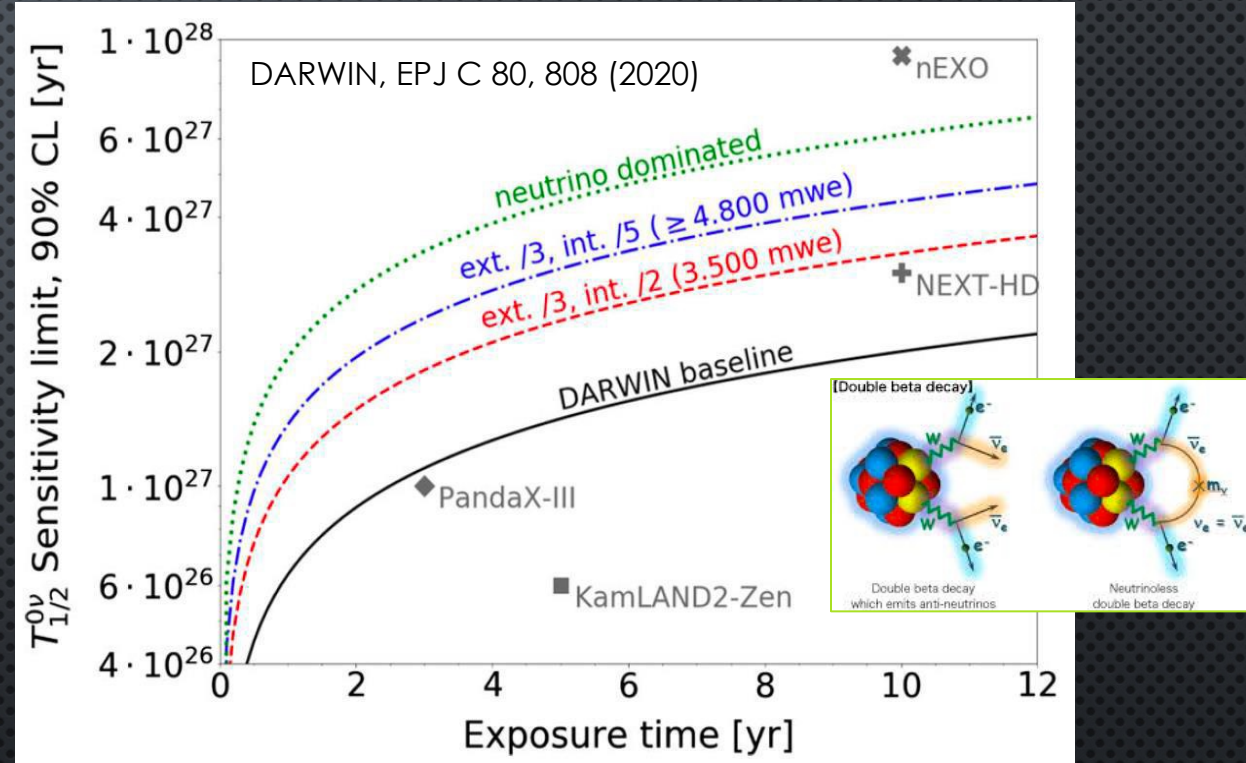
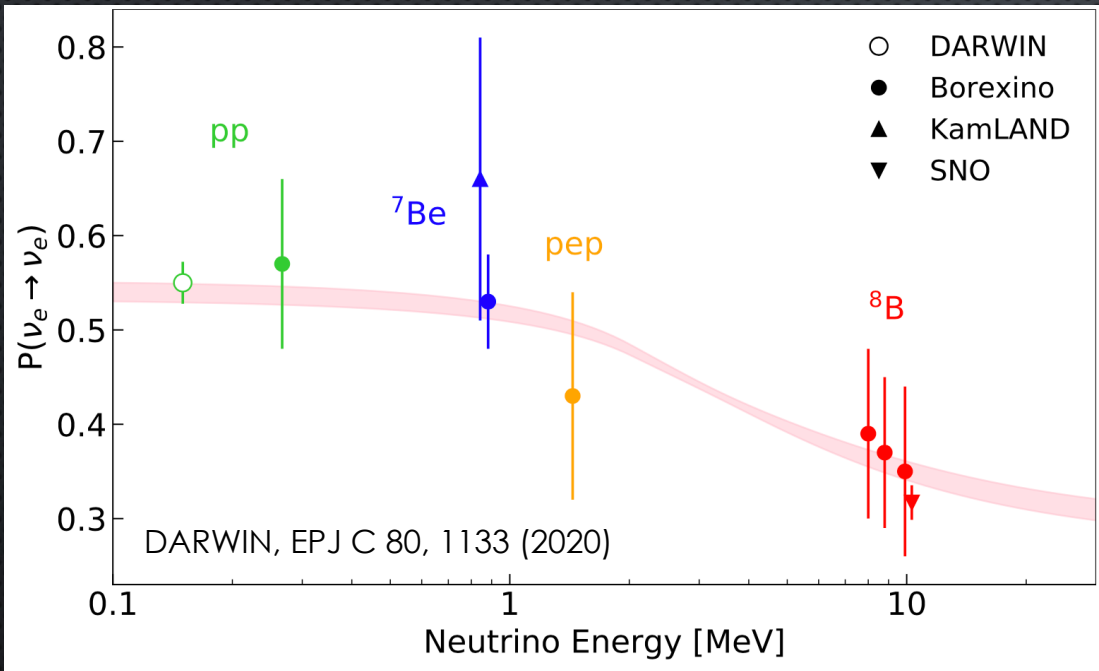
Exposure : $1000 \text{ t} \times \text{y}$
Reconstruction $m_\chi = 20, 100 \text{ GeV}/c^2$



DARWIN : NEUTRINO PHYSICS

SOLAR NEUTRINOS

- elastic electron-neutrino scattering
- Flux at 0.15% with 300 ty exposure
- Measurement of electron neutrino survival probability (and weak mixing angle)
- Event rate 365 pp neutrino / t y



$0\nu\beta\beta$ in ^{136}Xe

- Abundance 8.9% \Rightarrow 3.5 t in DARWIN
- Resolution 0.8% achieved by XENON1T
- $2.4 \cdot 10^{27}$ yr sensitivity with 50 t x 10 yr exposure

CONCLUSION & OUTLOOK

- LXe and LAr TPCs have demonstrated to be the leading technologies to exploit WIMPs searches at masses $> 3 \text{ GeV} / c^2$
- Current generation of noble liquid TPCs recently presented first results and continue to take data over the coming years
- They proved to be sensitive to additional rare events too
- An effort is in place in both Xe and Ar communities towards big consortia (GADMC & XLZD) to build giant detectors aiming to explore the WIMP parameter space up to the neutrino fog + other rare events channels
- R&D and design of these next-generation detectors is ongoing

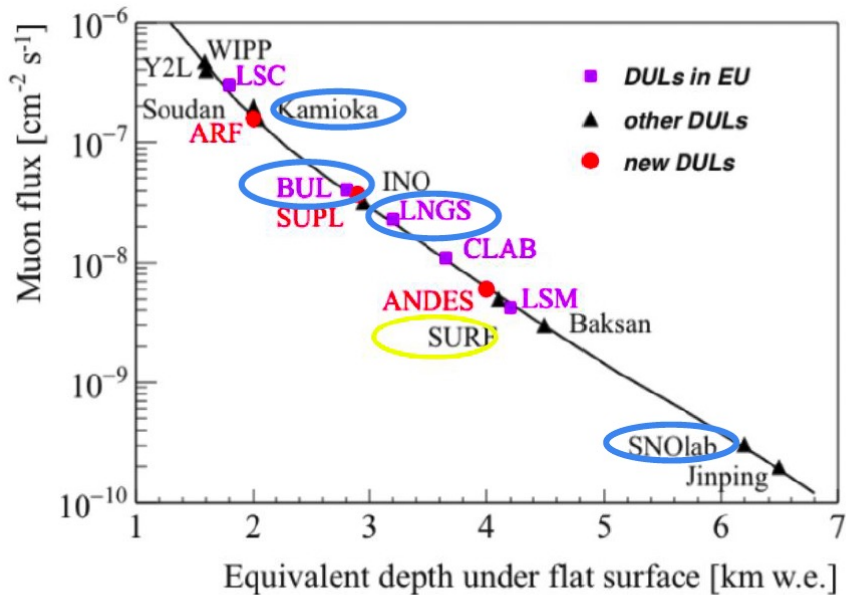
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GOOD TIME TO JUMP ON BOARD!

BACKUP

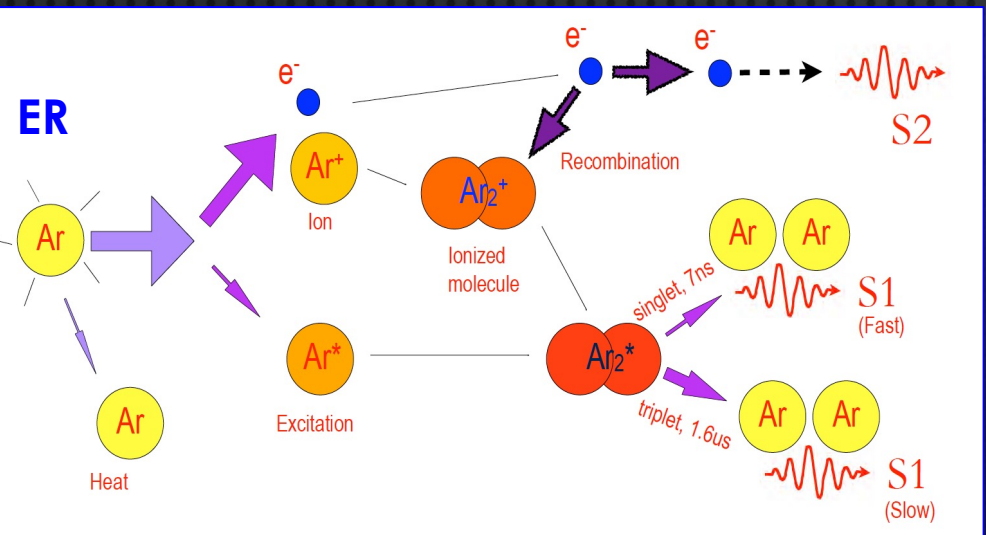
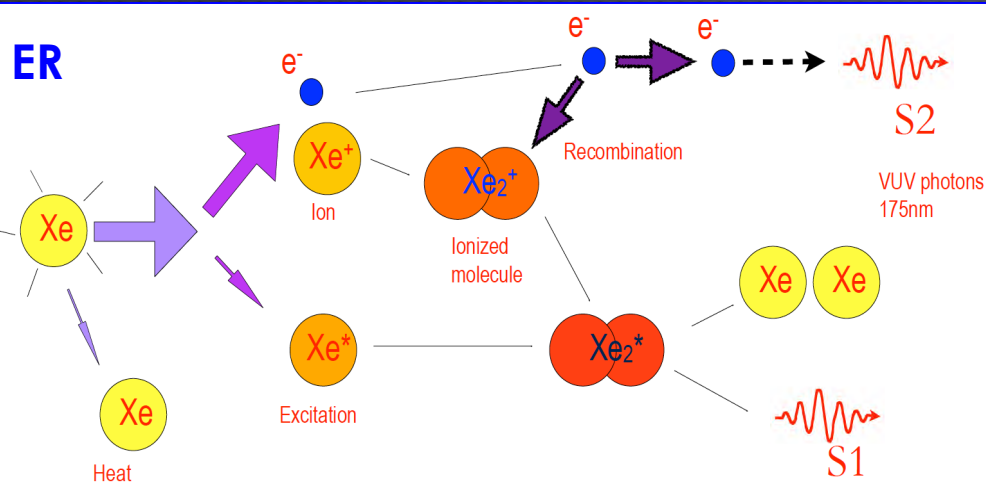
DARWIN / XLZD SITING



- 5 sites are being evaluated for XLZD (SURF, KAMIOKA, BOULBY, SNOLAB & LNGS)
 - Well known sites which demonstrated good supporting capabilities (SC) to carry out the science goals of state-of-the-art rare event search experiments.
- A next generation G3 detector like XLZD (~3 meter scale) will require **additional SC**: significant staging space and underground fabrication capabilities (e.g. larger and lower RRCR) than what currently exist in most of these facilities.
 - Required **cavity ~20 to 25 meters in diameter**: Gran Sasso (exist), Boulby (new construction), SURF (new construction or shared with LBNF)
 - UG access is generally a challenge and should be carefully planned

From
Alvine Kamaha (UCLA)

SIGNAL PRODUCTION IN NOBLE LIQUIDS



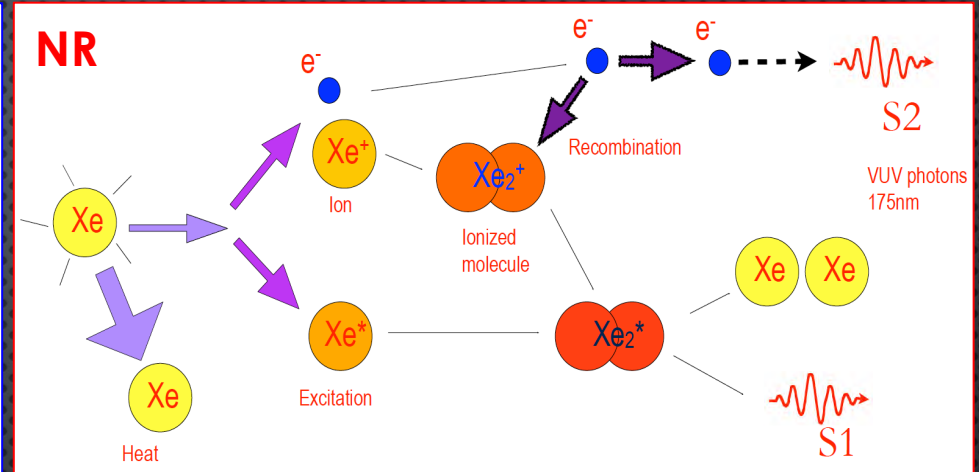
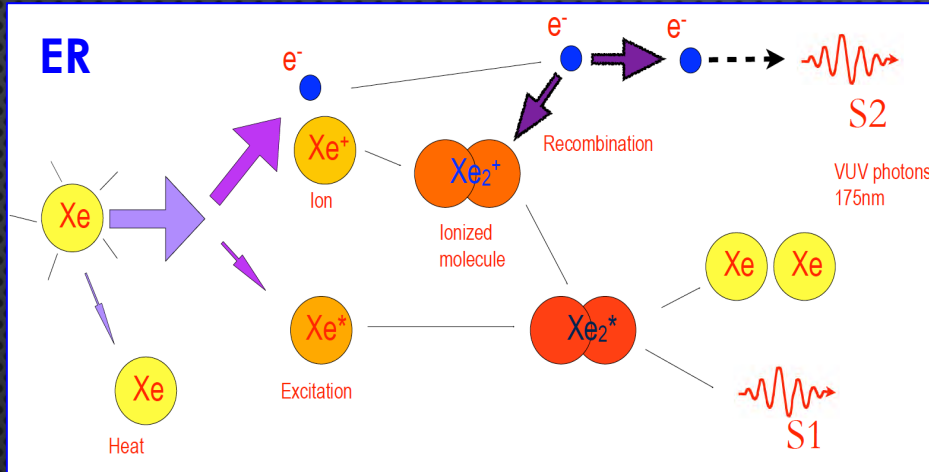
PULSE SHAPE DISCRIMINATION (PSD)

- WHEN THE RECOILING PARTICLE EXCITES THE ENCOUNTERED ATOMS, THE LATTER WILL COMBINE ITSELF WITH ANOTHER ATOM, CREATING AN **EXCITED DIMER**
- TWO DIFFERENT ENERGETIC STATES OF THE DIMER CAN OCCUR: THE SHORT- (SINGLET) AND LONG-LIVED (TRIPLET) STATES
- THE ASSOCIATED RELAXATION TIMES ARE DIFFERENT DEPENDING ON THE PARTICLE TYPE

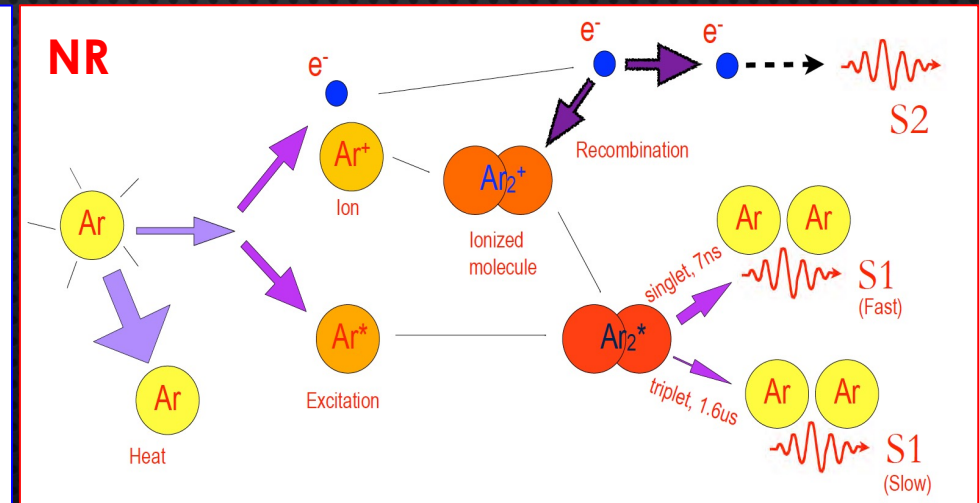
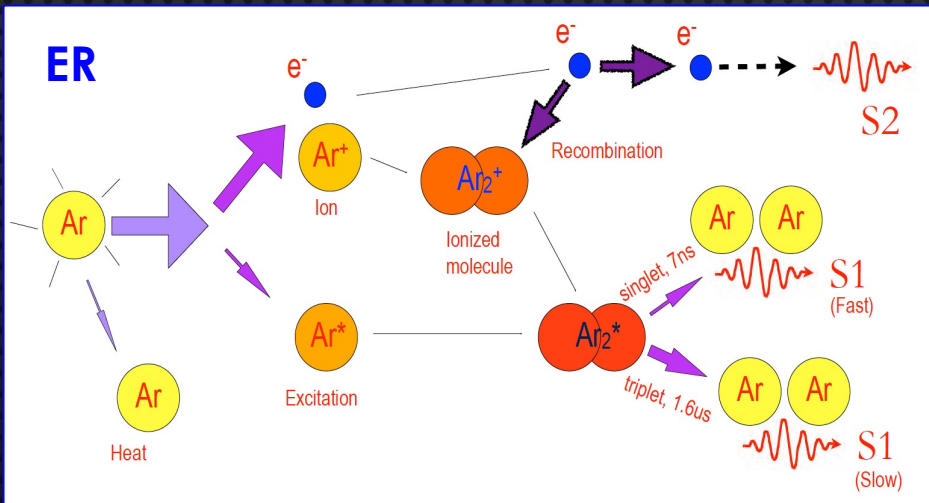
→ **PSD TECHNIQUE IS VERY POWERFUL IF THE TWO COMPONENTS HAVE VERY DIFFERENT LIFETIME AND ARE THUS EASILY SEPARABLE**

Noble gas	Singlet (Fast) lifetime [ns]	Triplet (Slow) lifetime [ns]
Xenon	4.3 ± 0.6	22.0 ± 2.0
Argon	7.0 ± 1.0	1600 ± 100

SIGNAL PRODUCTION IN NOBLE LIQUIDS

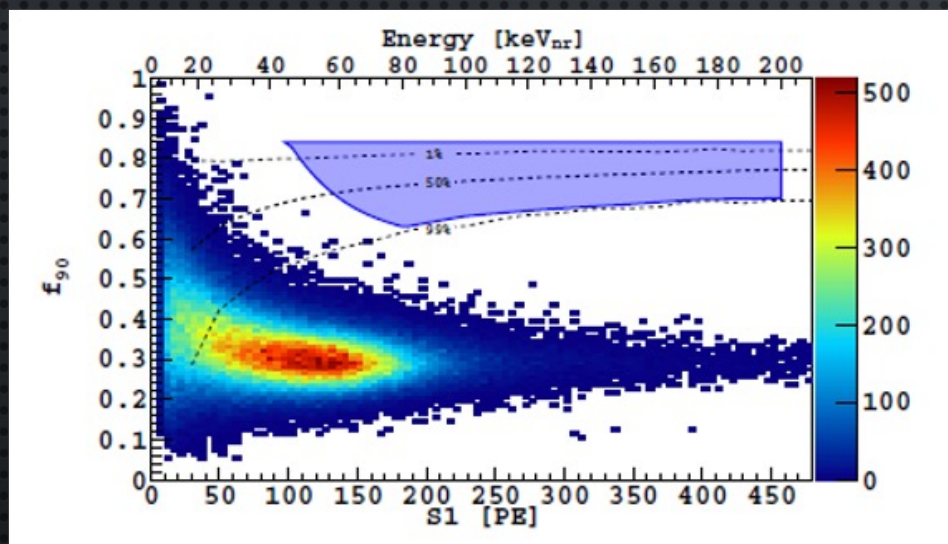
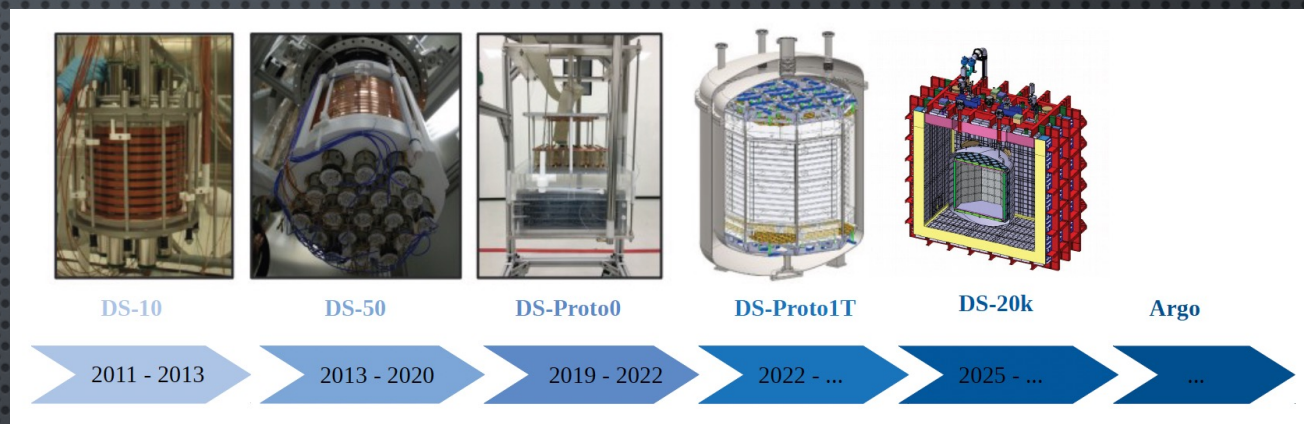


PSD is used in LAr experiment to improve the ER/NR discrimination

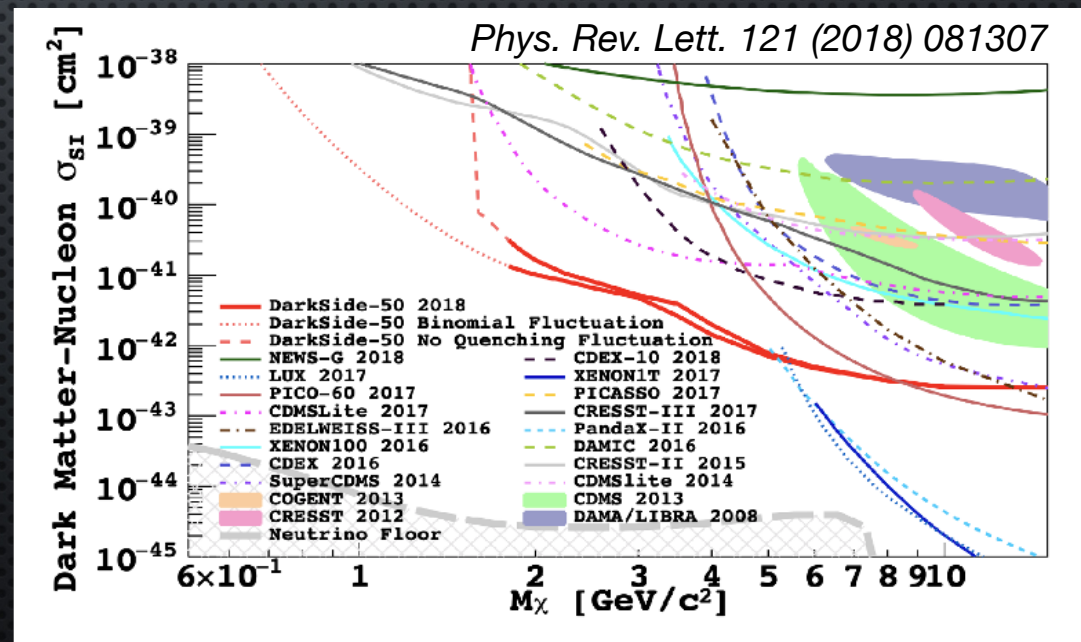


DARKSIDE EXPERIMENTS

- Argon dual-phase TPCs
- Direct detection by NR & ER
- Background free at high WIMPs masses (Pulse Shape Discrimrimation)
- Modelled background for low DM masses studies ($< 10 \text{ GeV}/c^2$)



DarkSide50 Collaboration,
Phys Rev D 98 (2018) 102006



LIQUID ARGON : DARKSIDE 50

LAr scintillation times:

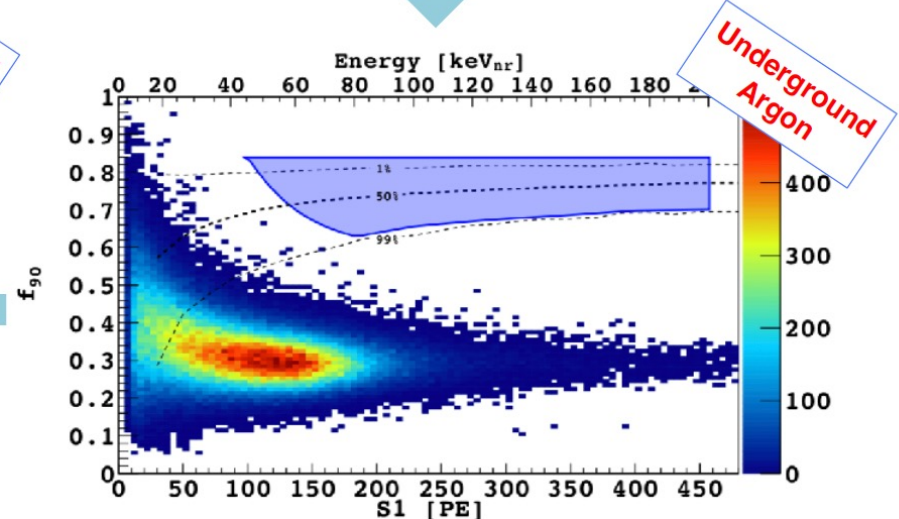
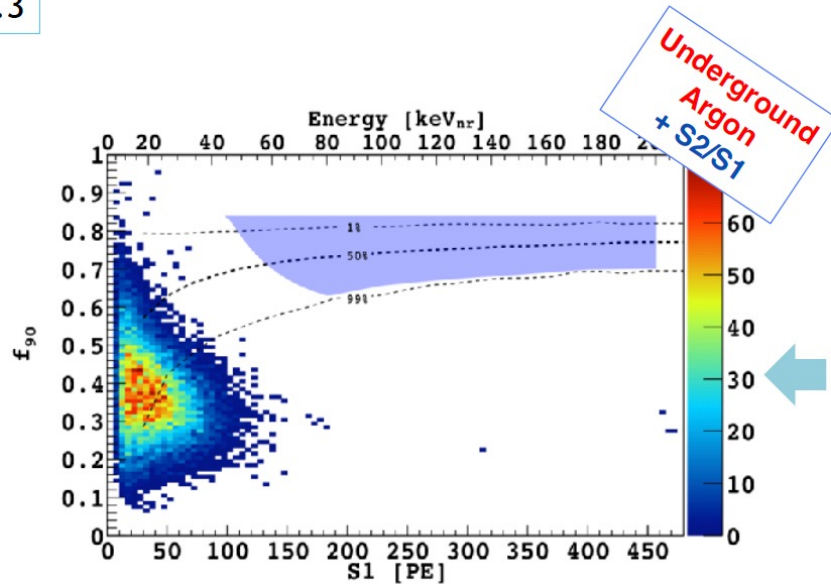
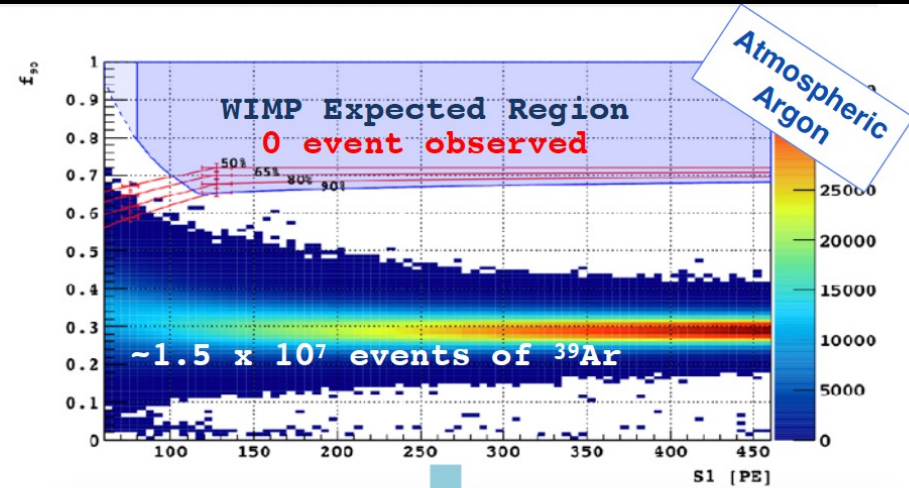
- singlet ~ 6 ns
- Triplet ~ 1600 ns

Singlet-to-triplet ratios:

- Nuclear recoils ~ 0.7
- Electron recoils ~ 0.3



Very distinctive (and unique) signatures to separate electron recoils from nuclear recoils

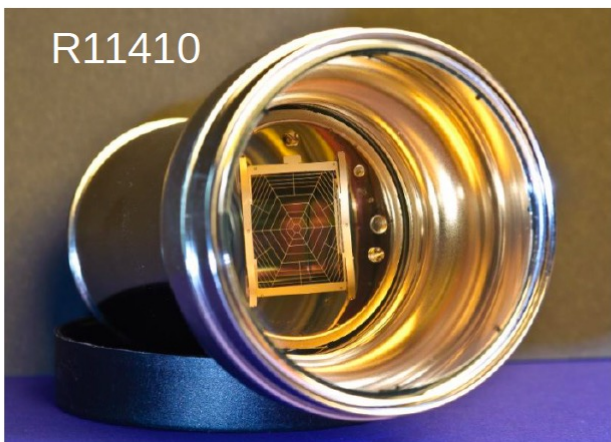


Background-free over more than 530 days!

DARWIN R&D : PHOTOMULTIPLIERS

> “Baseline” design with PMTs

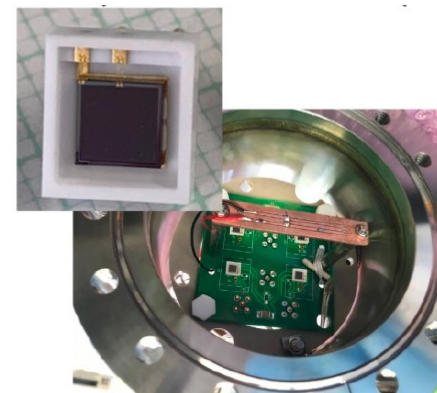
- 3” PMTs R11410 (XENONnT, LZ)
- reliable well-tested solution
- But: relatively “dirty”



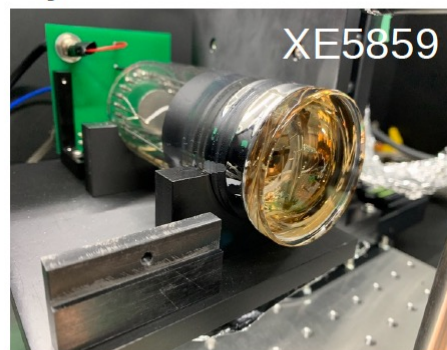
> Clean PMT alternative?



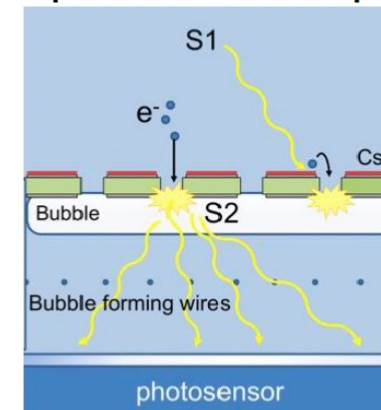
> Silicon PMs



> Hybrid sensors?



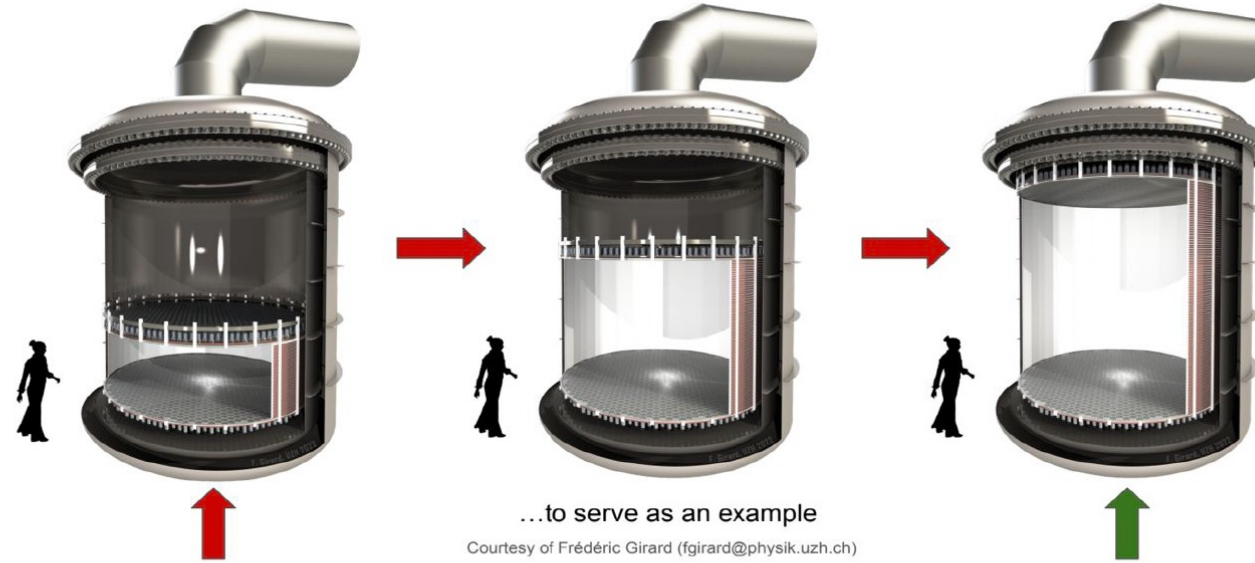
> Liquid hole multipliers?



- > Current R&D on quantum efficiency, dark count rates, radioactivity, operations...

DARWIN R&D : DETECTOR CONCEPTUAL DESIGN & SIZE

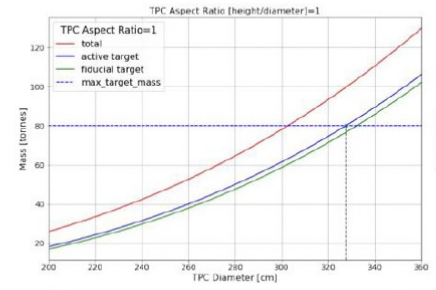
Stage approach
VS
Monolithic approach



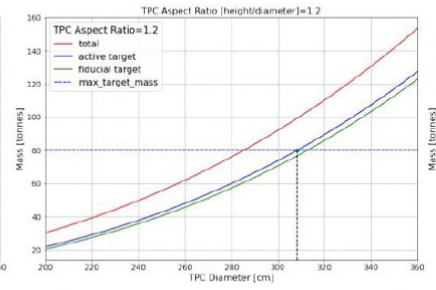
...to serve as an example

Courtesy of Frédéric Girard (fgirard@physik.uzh.ch)

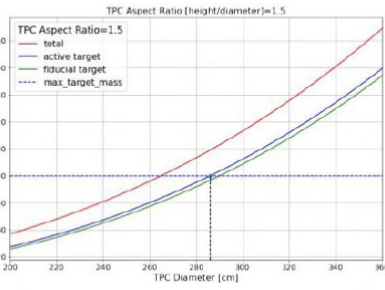
In either approach, optimum size is ~100 tonnes in volume (linear dimensions ~3 meter) → huge detector!



- AR = 1**
- TPC Act. Mass = 40 tonnes: → TPC Ø=259 cm & drift=259 cm
 - TPC Act. Mass = 60 tonnes: → TPC Ø=297 cm & drift=297 cm
 - TPC Act. Mass = 80 tonnes: → TPC Ø=327 cm & drift=327 cm



- AR = 1.2**
- TPC Act. Mass = 40 tonnes: → TPC Ø=244 cm & drift=292 cm
 - TPC Act. Mass = 60 tonnes: → TPC Ø=280 cm & drift=336 cm
 - TPC Act. Mass = 80 tonnes: → TPC Ø=308 cm & drift=369 cm



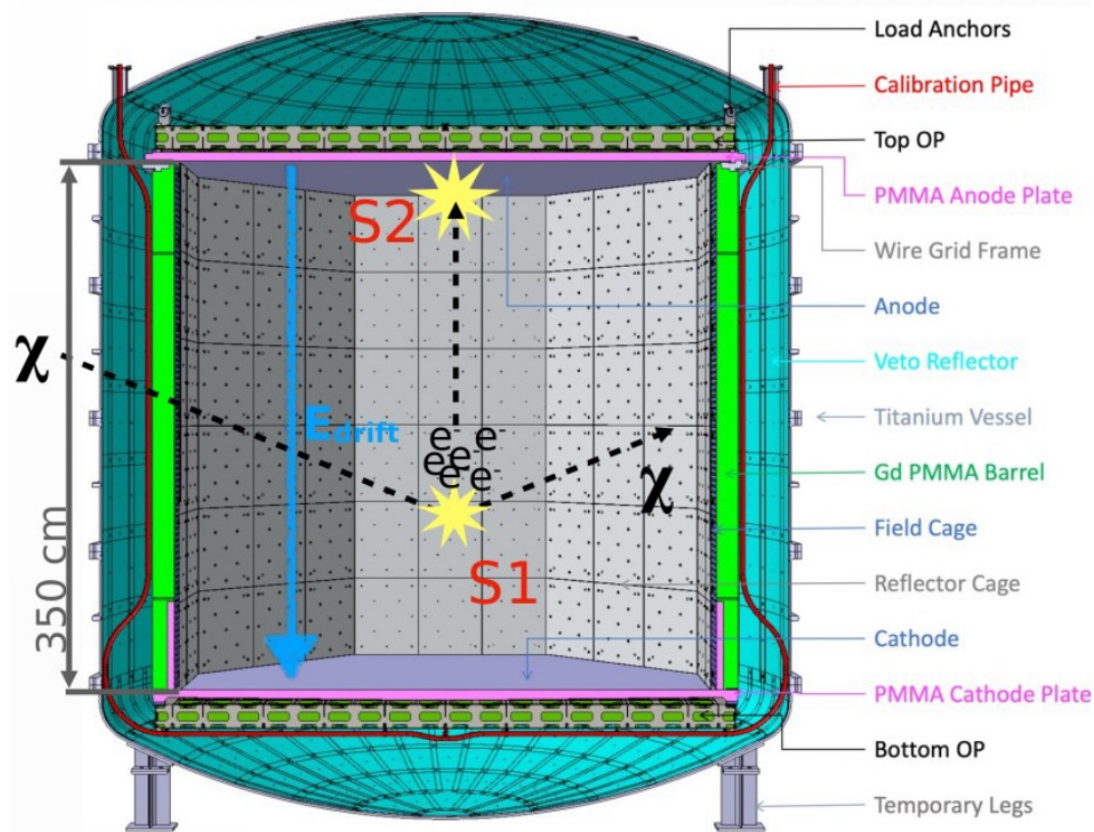
- AR = 1.5**
- TPC Act. Mass = 40 tonnes: → TPC Ø=227 cm & drift=340 cm
 - TPC Act. Mass = 60 tonnes: → TPC Ø=259 cm & drift=388 cm
 - TPC Act. Mass = 80 tonnes: → TPC Ø=286 cm & drift=429 cm

Pancake (AR <1) vs Oval (AR >1)

AR: Aspect Ratio

DARKSIDE 20K TPC

Design inside the Titanium Vessel:



Features:

Maximum drift length: 348 cm
Octagonal inscribed circle diameter: 350 cm
Gas pocket width: 7.0 ± 0.5 mm
S1 Light Yield: 10 pe/keV
S2 Yield: > 20 pe/e⁻

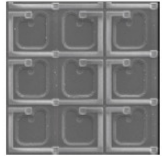
Drift field: 200 V/cm
Extraction field: 2.8kV/cm
Luminescence field: 4.2kV/cm

XY resolution: < 5 cm
Z resolution: 1 mm

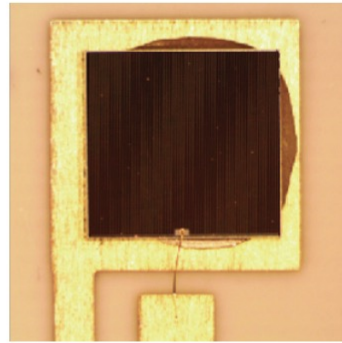
UAr mass in TPC: 51.1t
Vertical fiducial cut: 70 cm
Radial fiducial cut: 30 cm
Fiducial UAr mass: 20.2t

DARKSIDE 20 K PHOTODETECTION

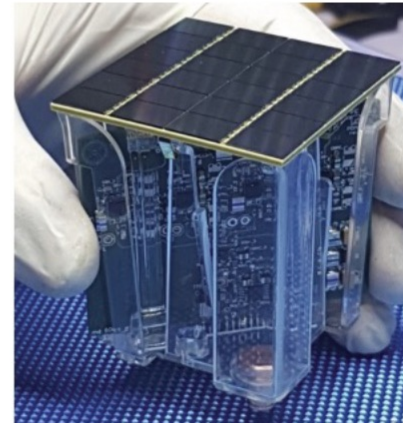
Development of large area cryogenic radiopure SiPMs



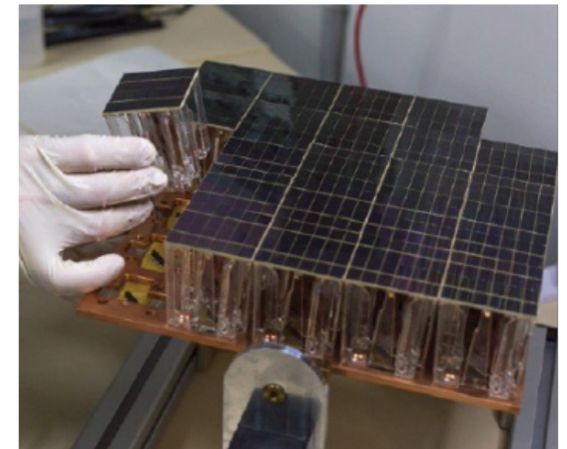
Single SPAD
~25 μm^2



Single SiPM ~1 cm^2



Photodetector module (PDM)
matrix of 16-24 SiPMs
~5x5 cm^2



Photodetector Unit
matrix of 16-25 PDMs

> 8000 PDMs (+2000 in the veto)
21 m^2 (inner TPC) + 5 m^2 (veto)
Mass production of the raw **wafers** at **LFoundry** (Italy)
Assembling facility **NOA** at **LNGS**
Other assembling facility for veto in UK
Testing facility in **Napoli**

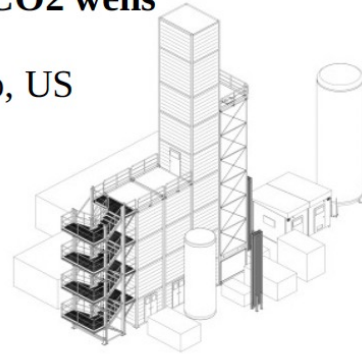
Radiopure ~2mBq/PDM dominated by substrate and PCB
High **PDE** (~45%) >90% fill factor
Gain ~ 10^6
Dark Count rate at 87 K < 5 cps/PDM
Time **resolution** (sigma) ~10 ns
Low power consumption < 100 $\mu\text{W}/\text{mm}^2$

UNDERGROUND ARGON (UAR)

Urania

Extraction of UAr from CO₂ wells

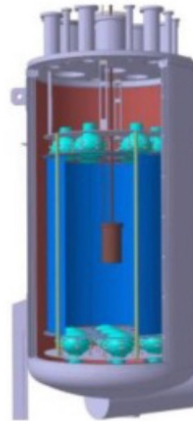
- Plant in Cortez, Colorado, US
- Can extract 330 kg/day
- Purity 99.99%



DArT

Measures ³⁹Ar depletion factor

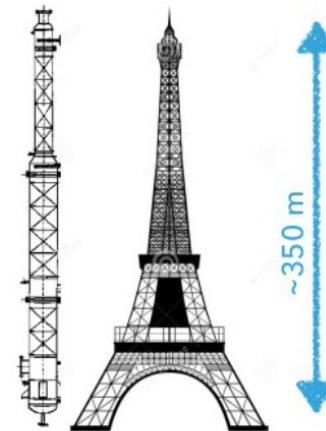
- At LSC, Canfranc, Spain
- Radiopure single phase LAr inner detector (1.42 kg LAr)
- Veto: Inside ArDM detector (1t LAr)



Aria

Perform chemical and isotopic purification of UAr

- At Seruci mine in Sardinia, Italy
- Distillation Column, rate 1t/day
- A ³⁹Ar reduction factor 10 expected per pass
- Medical applications (oxygen isotope separation for instance)
- Assembly of the final column will be finish this year



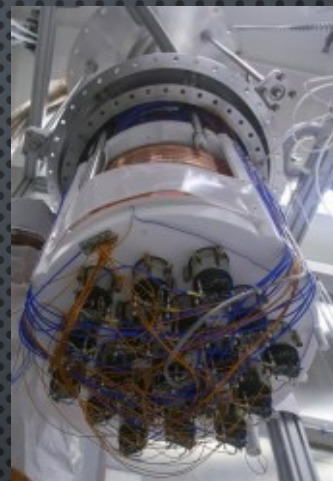
GADMC CONSORTIUM

- Detectors:

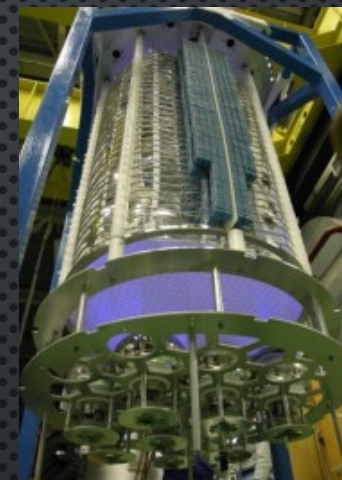
- DarkSide50 and ArDM : dual phase
- MiniClean and DEAP : single phase

- Status:

- DarkSide50
 - Target: 37 kg liquid argon (depleted in Ar39)
 - Exposure: 532 live-days
- ArDM
 - Target : 1 ton
 - Decommissioned in 2019 → DArT project
- MiniClean
 - Target : 500 kg liquid argon
 - Decommissioned in 2019
- DEAP 3600
 - Target : 3.3 ton (fiducial 1 t)
 - Exposure: 231 live-days (2019)
 - Data taking finished in 2020
 - upgrading detector for background reduction to restart in 2023



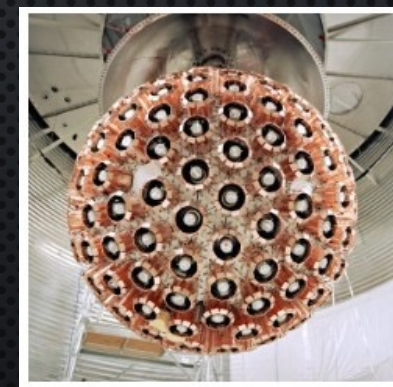
DarkSide50 @LNGS



ArDM @Canfranc

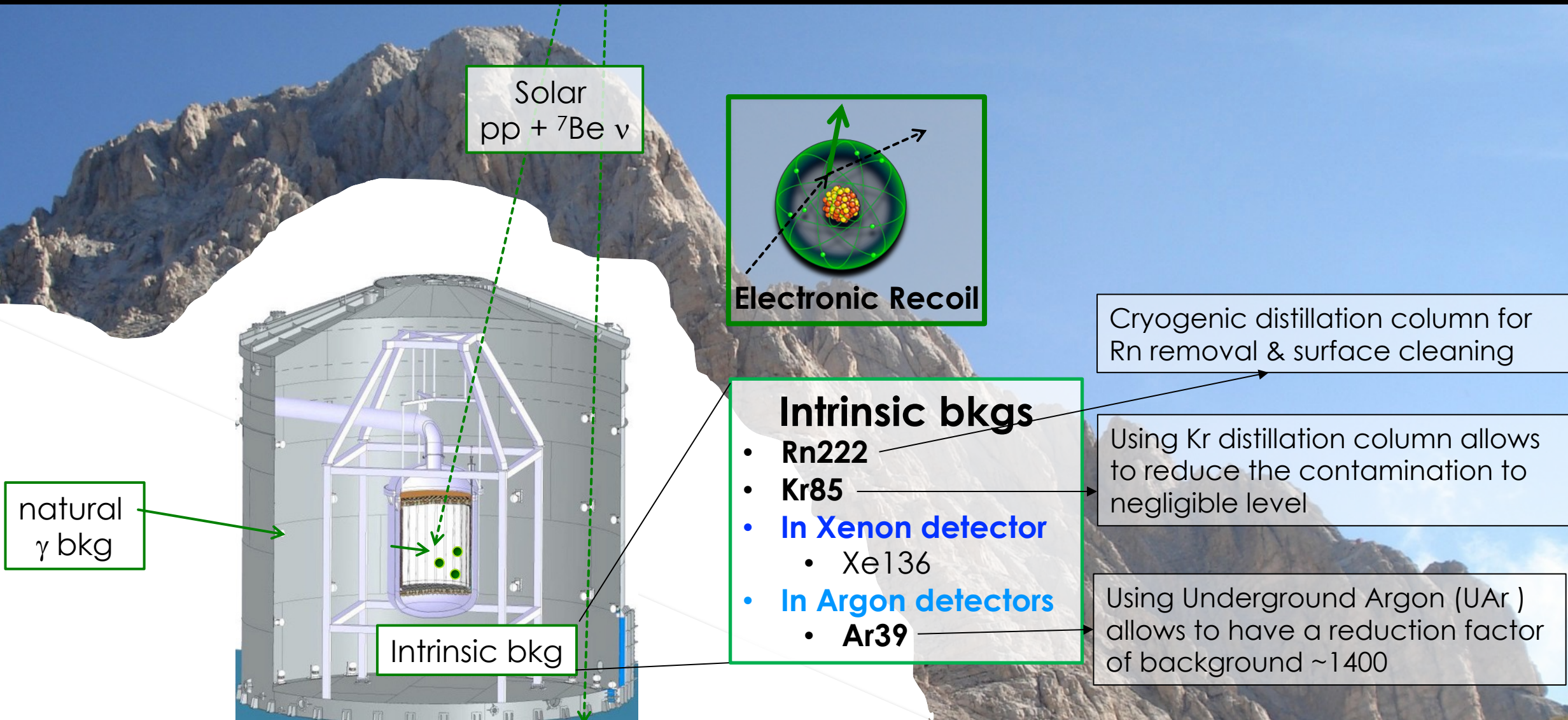


MiniClean @Snolab

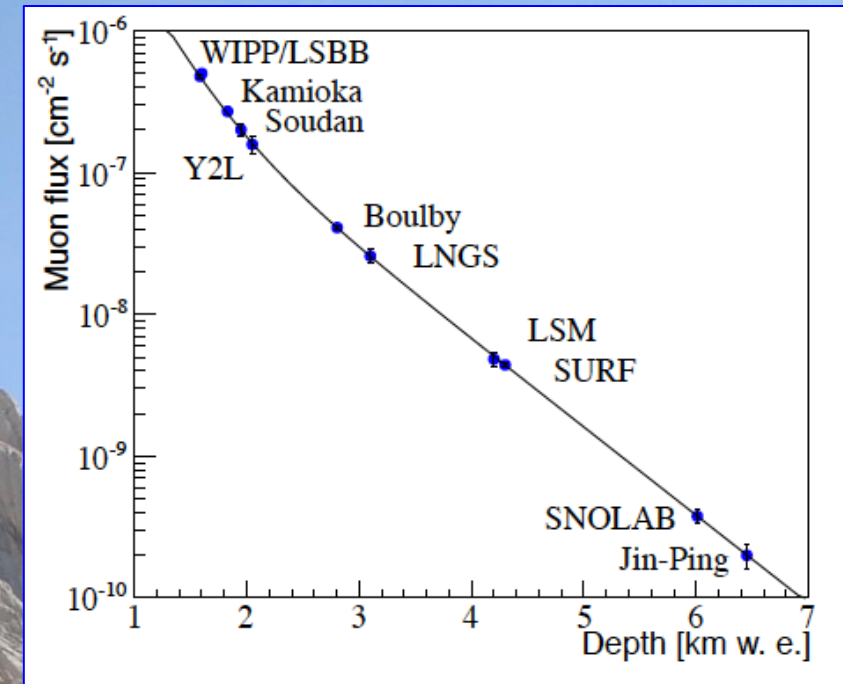
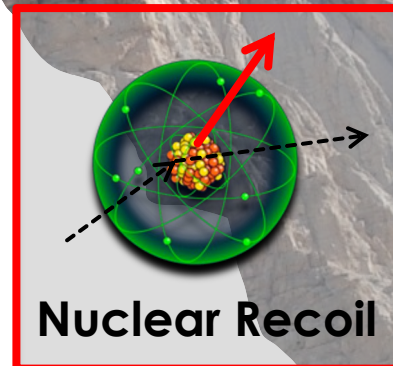
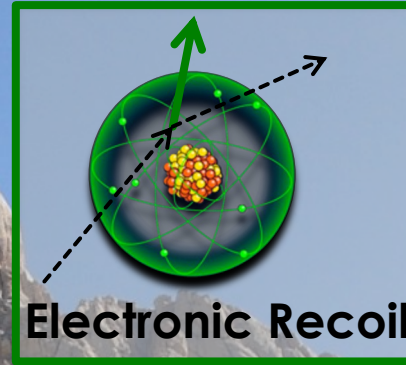
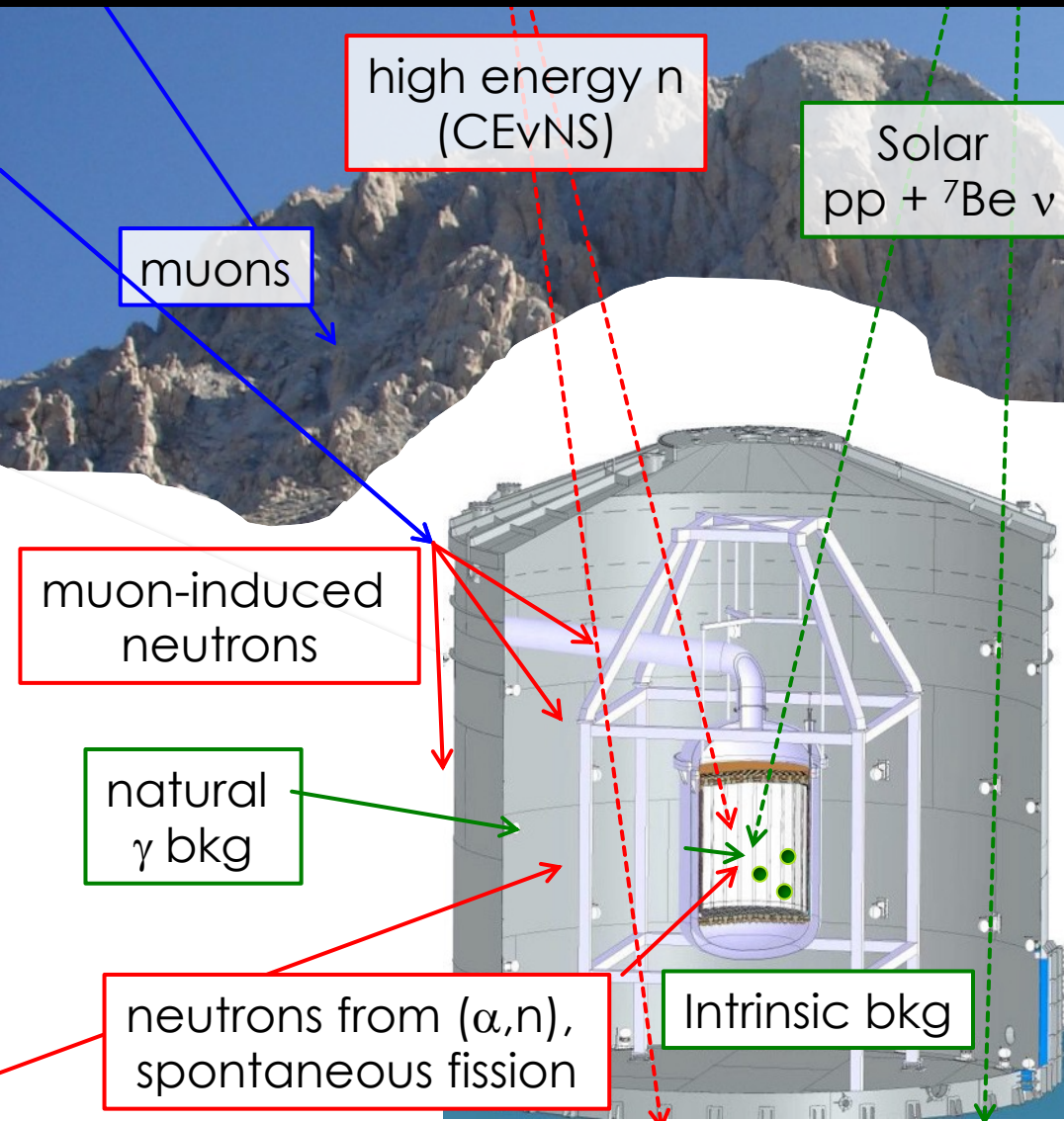


DEAP3600 @Snolab

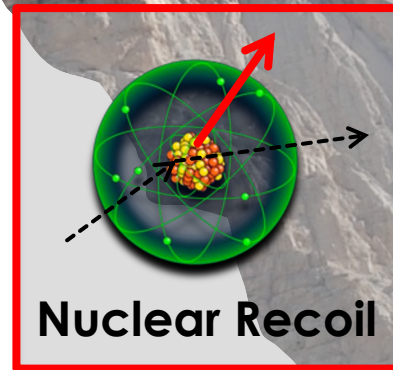
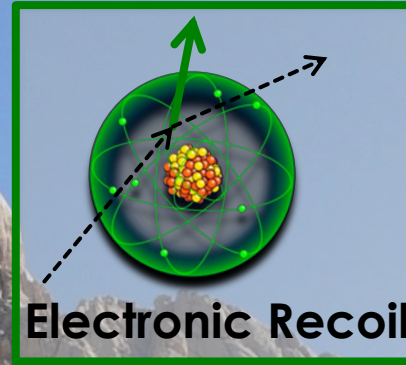
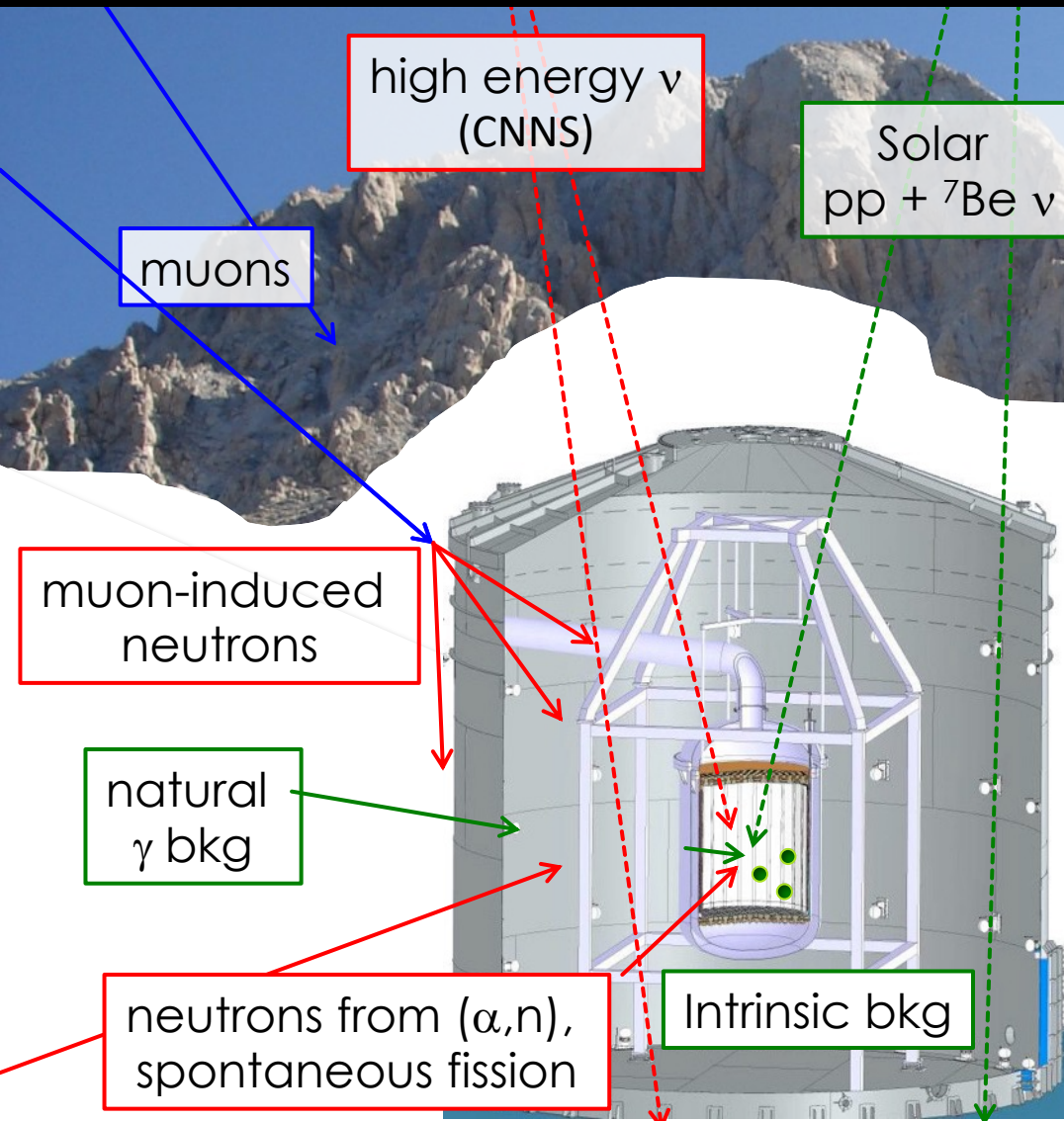
BACKGROUND SOURCES



BACKGROUND SOURCES



BACKGROUND SOURCES



Expected bkg on WIMPs searches in a 50 t LXe detector

Source	Rate [events/(t·y·keVxx)]
γ -rays materials	0.054
neutrons*	3.8×10^{-5}
intrinsic ${}^{85}\text{Kr}$	1.44
intrinsic ${}^{222}\text{Rn}$	0.35
$2\nu\beta\beta$ of ${}^{136}\text{Xe}$	0.73
pp - and ${}^7\text{Be } \nu$	3.25
CNNS*	0.0022

JCAP 10, 016 (2015)