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*On Behalf of the XENON Collaboration*



**2018 European Nuclear Physics Conference**  
3 September 2018

# RESULTS OF THE WIMP SEARCH WITH XENON1T

**XENON**

# THE XENON COLLABORATION



► ~165  
SCIENTISTS

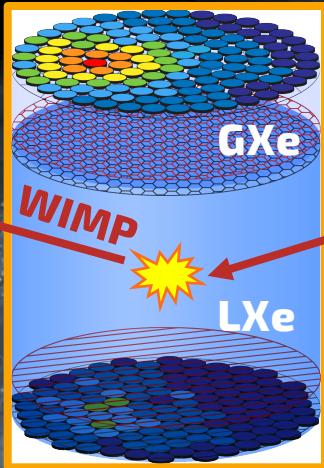
► 27  
INSTITUTIONS

► 11  
COUNTRIES



# SEARCHING FOR DARK MATTER

## DIRECT DETECTION



### UNDERGROUND LNGS (ITALY)

3600 m.w.e. rock shielding

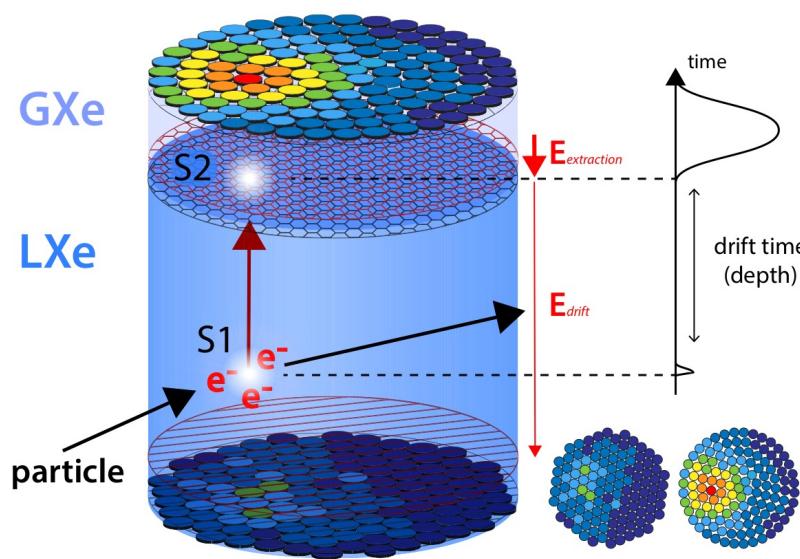
### MUON VETO CHERENKOV DETECTOR

700 tonnes active ultra-pure water shield instrumented with 84 PMTs

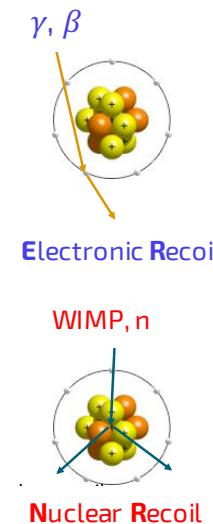


# DETECTION PRINCIPLE

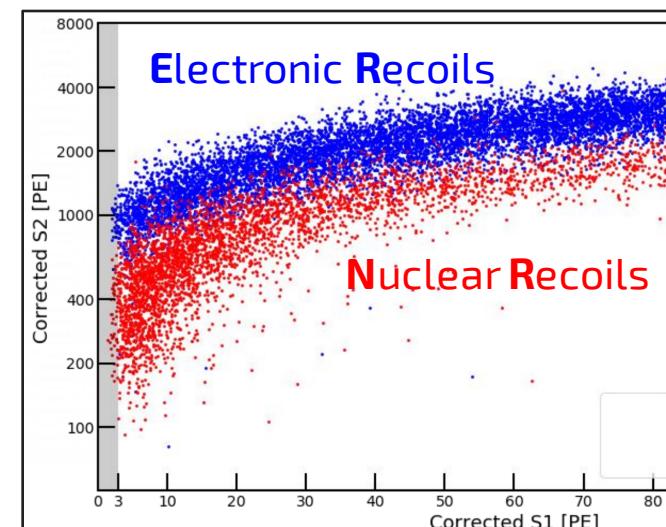
## WITH A DUAL PHASE TPC



- **NR (Nuclear Recoils)**  
WIMP signal, neutrons, CNNS
- **ER (Electronic Recoils)**  
 $\gamma$ ,  $\beta$  backgrounds
- **Recoil type identification from S2/S1**  
Larger for ER than NR



- **S1 Light signal**  
Prompt scintillation photons
- **S2 Charge signal**  
Secondary scintillation in GXe from drifted electrons
  - 👍 Energy reconstruction from combined S1 and S2
- **3D vertex reconstruction**  
**X,Y** from S2 pattern in top PMT array  
**Z** from drift time
  - 👍 Volume fiducialization
  - 👍 Single/multiple scatters discrimination

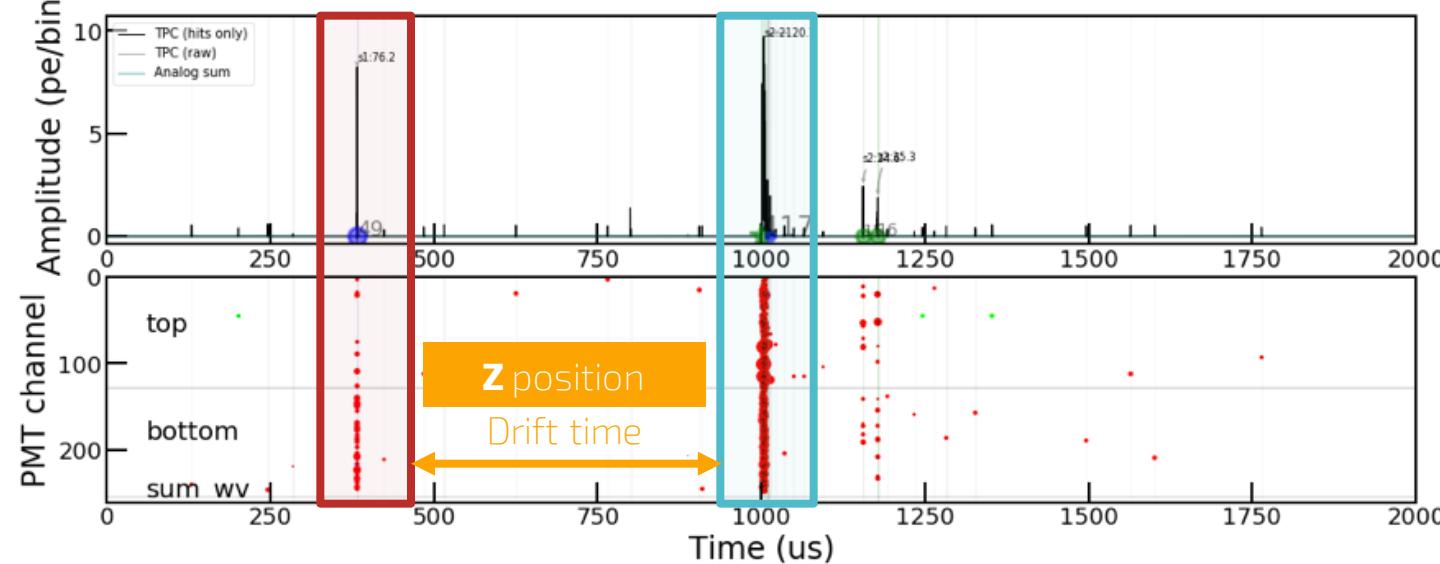
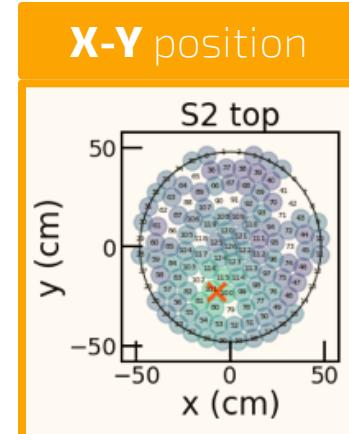
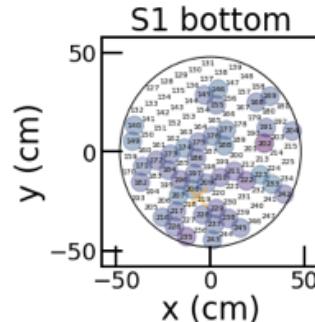
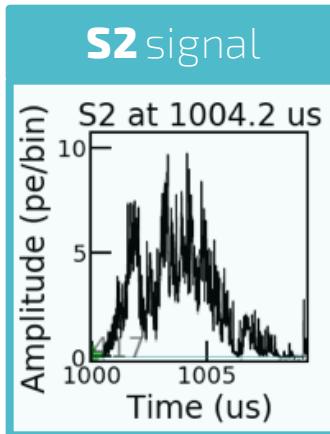
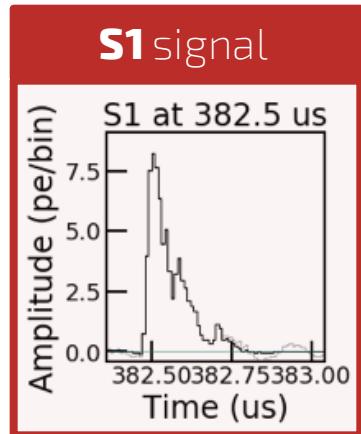


# FROM THE PRINCIPLE TO REALITY

## A TYPICAL LOW ENERGY EVENT

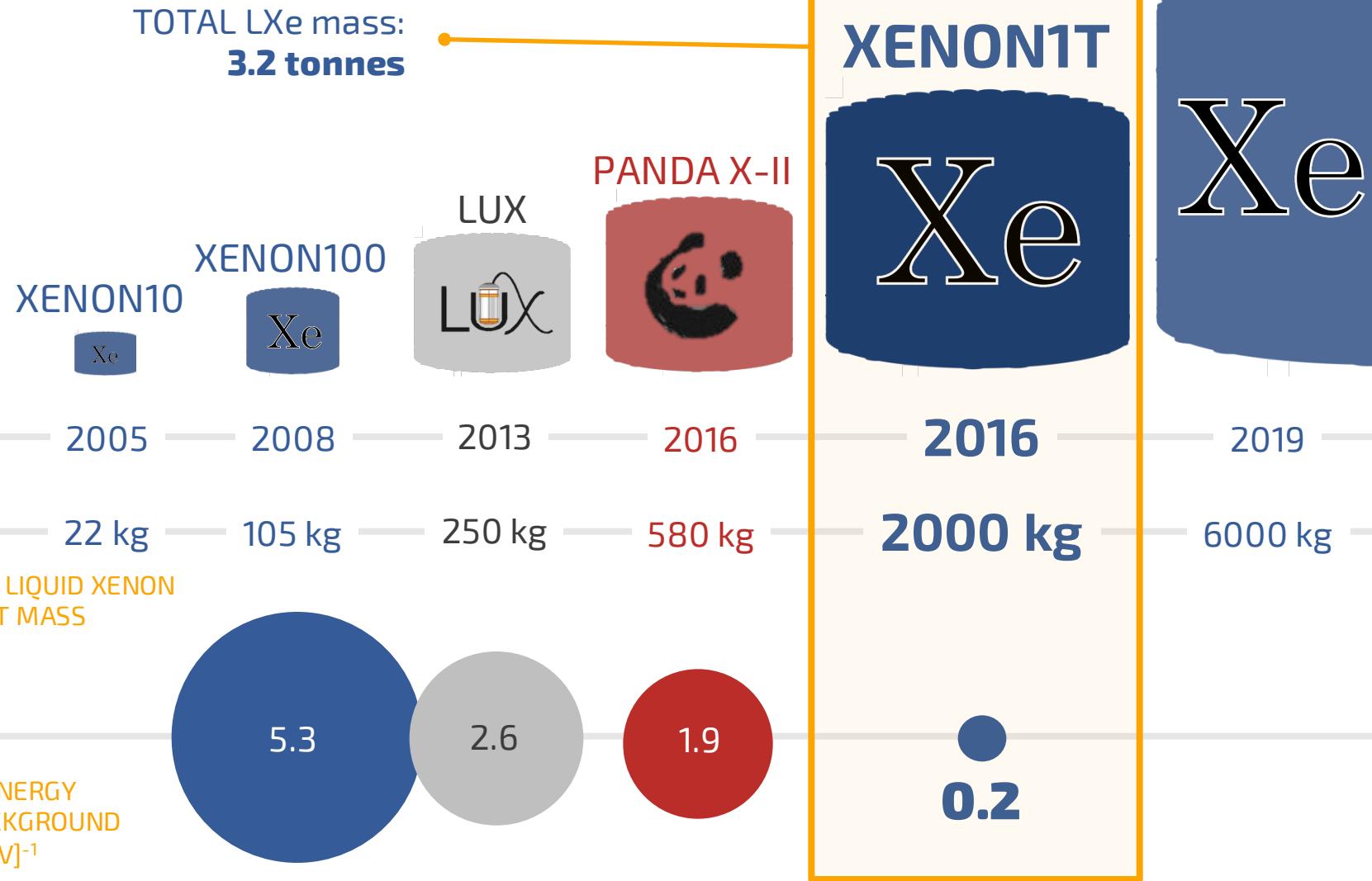
PAX  
Processor For Analyzing XENON

<https://github.com/XENON1T/pax>



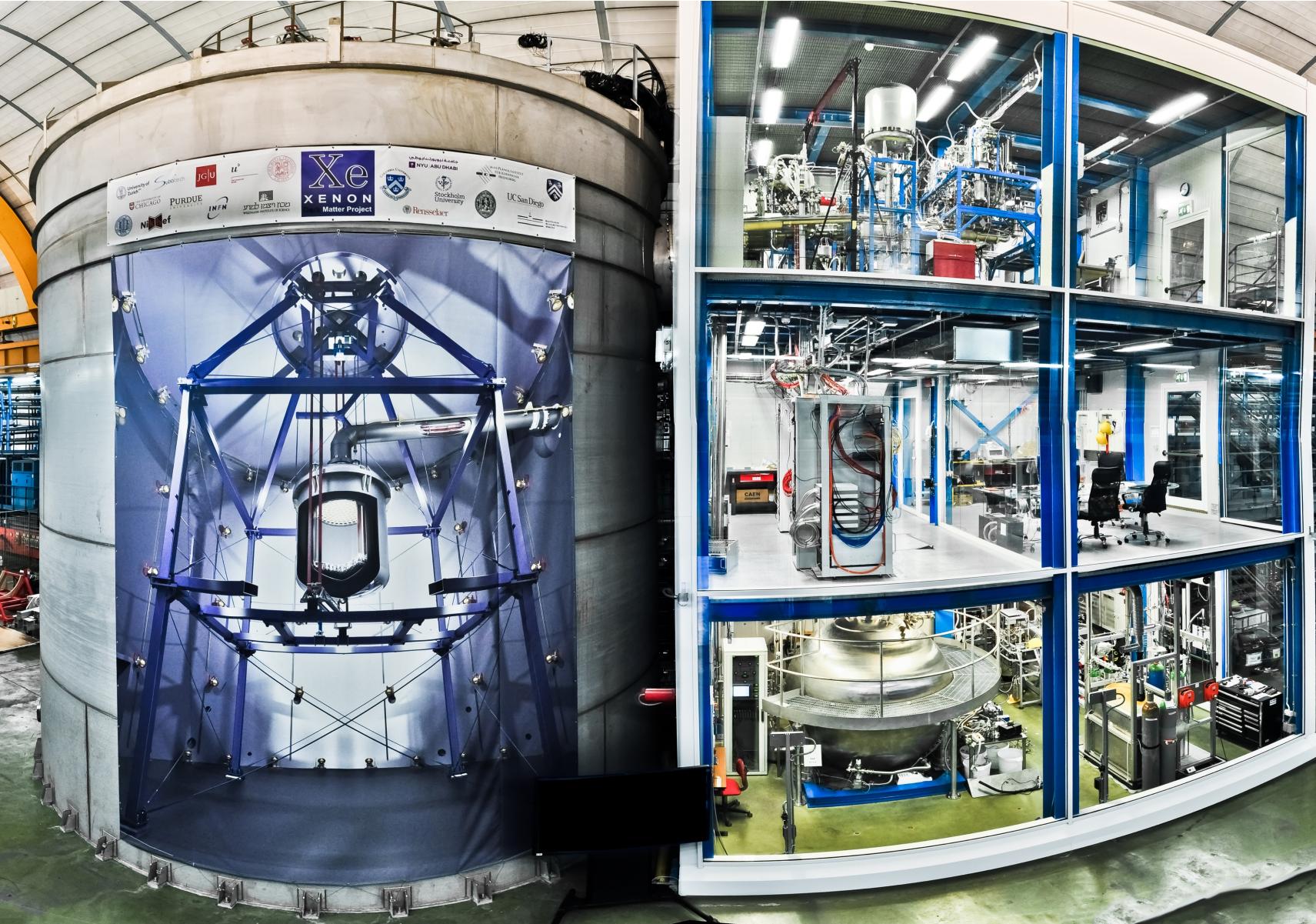
# LXe-BASED DM DETECTORS

## THE EVOLUTION OF SPECIES



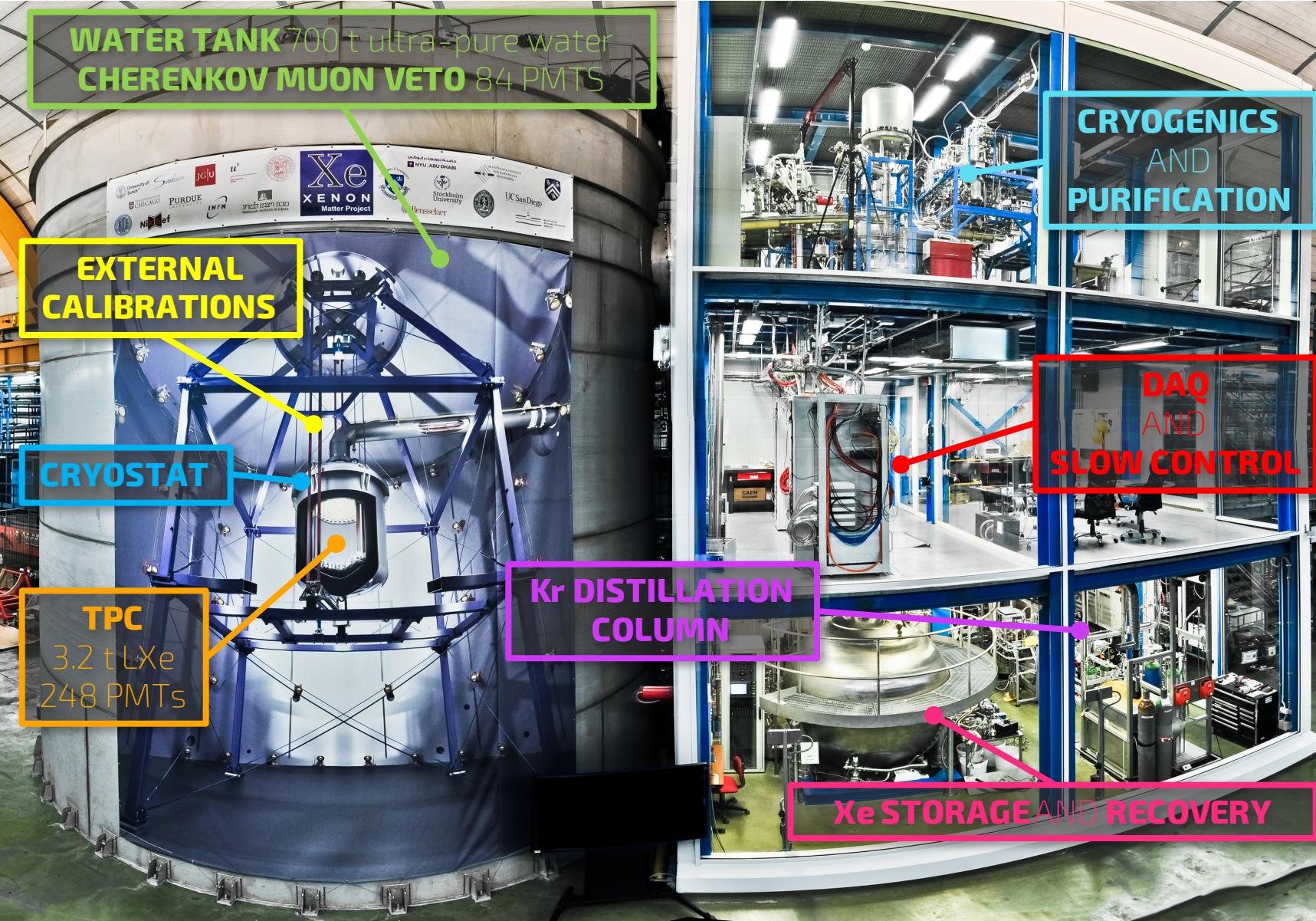
# THE XENON1T DETECTOR

## AT LNGS (ITALY)



# THE XENON1T DETECTOR AT LNGS (ITALY)

Eur. Phys. J. C. (2017) 77:881



# BACKGROUNDS

## NUCLEAR RECOIL BACKGROUND

### ► Cosmogenic neutrons

Induced by cosmic muons.

Reduced to negligible contribution by rock overburden, water passive shield and active Cherenkov Muon Veto. [JINST 9, P11006 \(2014\)](#)

### ► Radiogenic neutrons

From ( $\alpha, n$ ) and spontaneous fission in detector's materials.

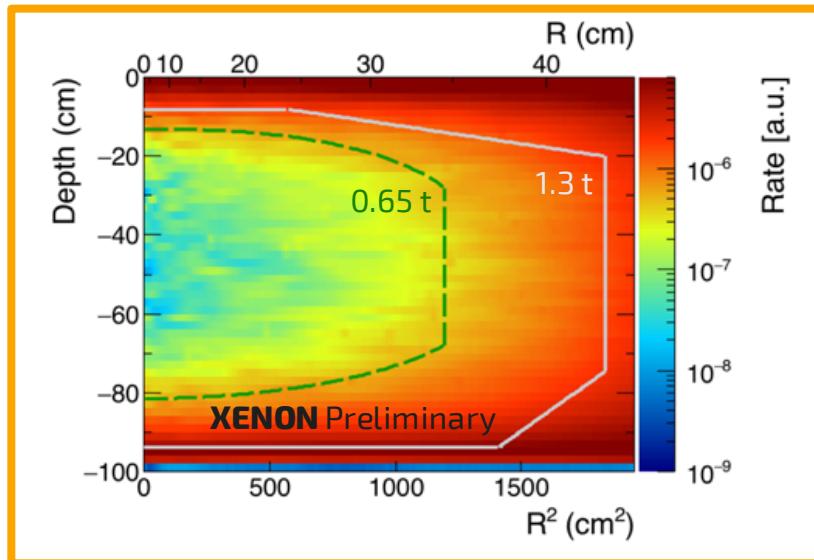
Reduced via radiopure material selection, scatter multiplicity and fiducialization.

[Eur. Phys. J. C. \(2017\) 77:890](#)

### ► Coherent Elastic neutrino-nucleus scattering

Mainly from  $^8\text{B}$  solar  $\nu$ . Constraint by flux and cross section measurement.

Irreducible background at very low energy (< 1 keV)



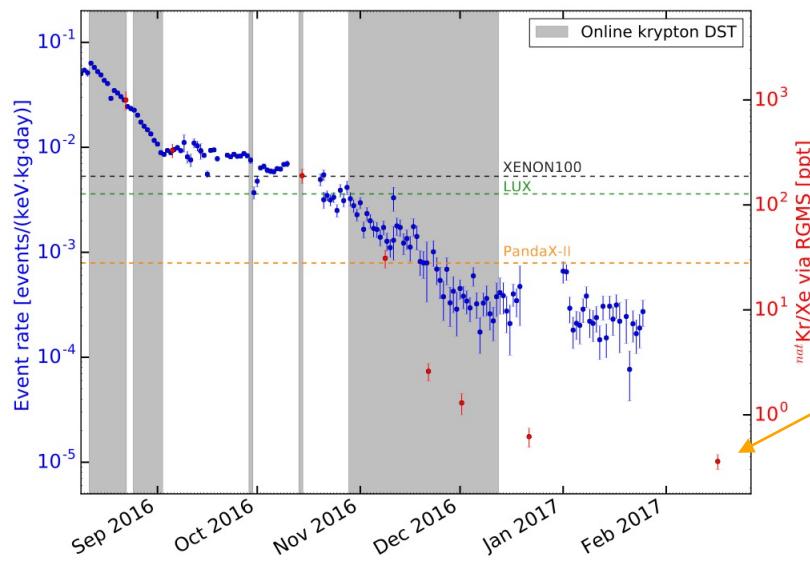
[JCAP 04, 027 \(2016\)](#)

	Rate [t $^{-1}$ y $^{-1}$ ]	Fraction [%]
Cosmogenic neutrons	<0.01	<2.0
<b>Radiogenic neutrons</b>	<b>0.6 ± 0.1</b>	<b>96.5</b>
CE $\nu$ NS	0.012	2.0

Expectations in 1 t FV, in [4,50] keV $_{\text{nr}}$ , single scatters

# BACKGROUNDS

## ELECTRONIC RECOIL BACKGROUND



► **Predicted:**

$71 \pm 7$  events /  $(t \cdot y \cdot \text{keV})$

MC simulations assuming the average 0.66 ppt Kr concentration

► **Measured:**

$82^{+5}_{-3}$  (sys)  $\pm 3$  (stat) events /  $(t \cdot y \cdot \text{keV})$

Data in 1300 kg FV and below 25 keV<sub>ee</sub>

**Lowest ER background**  
ever achieved in a DM detector

[Eur. Phys. J. C \(2017\) 77: 358](#)

►  **$^{222}\text{Rn}: 10 \mu\text{Bq/kg}$**

Careful surface emanation control and further reduction by online cryogenic distillation.

[Eur. Phys. J. C. \(2017\) 77, 275](#)

►  **$^{85}\text{Kr}: \sim 0.3 \text{ ppt} (\text{Kr}/\text{Xe})$**

More than 3 orders of magnitude reduction via online cryogenic distillation.

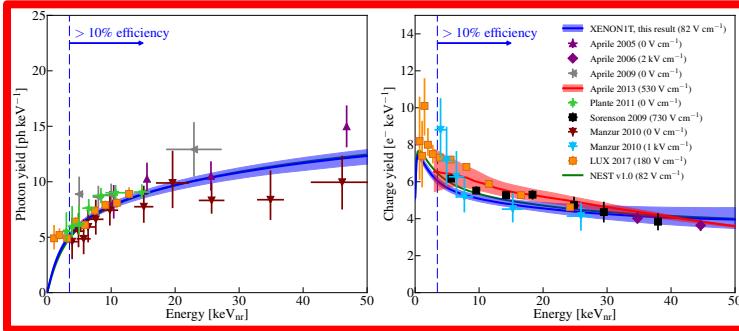
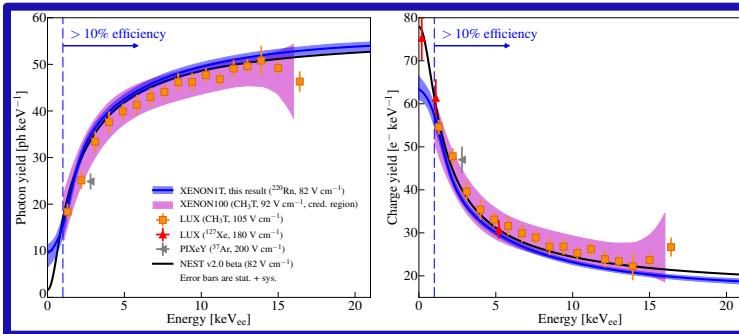
[JCAP 04, 027 \(2016\)](#)

	Rate [ $t^{-1} y^{-1}$ ]	Fraction [%]
$^{222}\text{Rn}$	$620 \pm 60$	85.4
$^{85}\text{Kr}$	$31 \pm 6$	4.3
Solar $\nu$	$36 \pm 1$	4.9
Materials	$30 \pm 3$	4.1
$^{136}\text{Xe}$	$9 \pm 1$	1.4

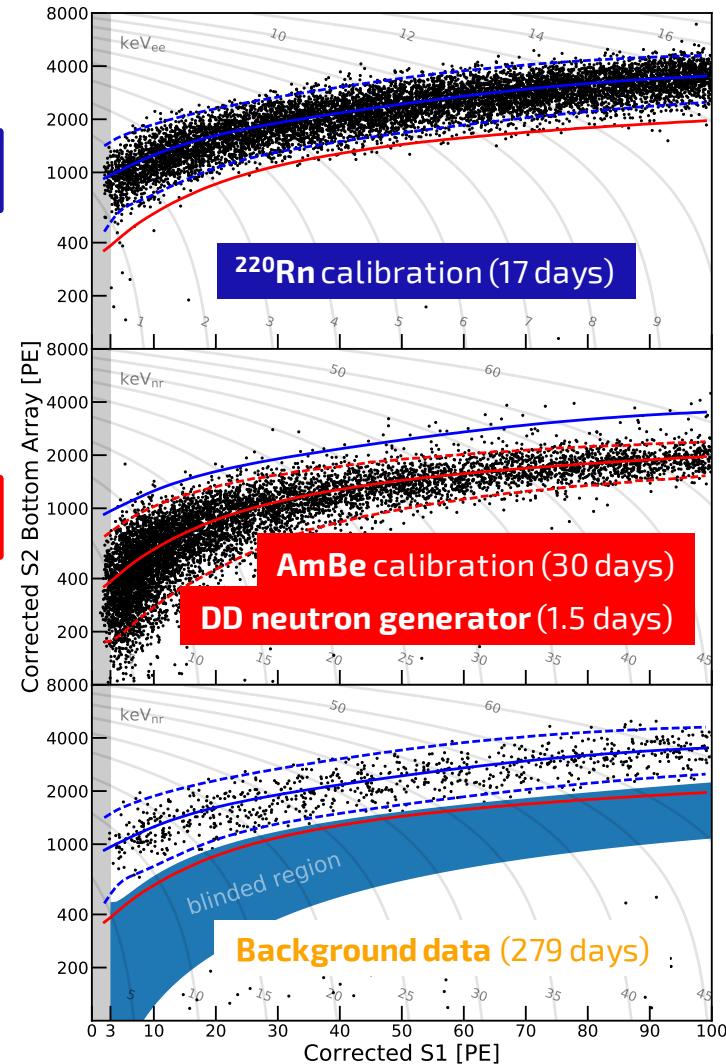
Expectations in 1 t FV, in [1,12] keV<sub>ee</sub>, single scatters, **before ER/NR discrimination**

# DETECTOR RESPONSE MODEL

## ER AND NR CALIBRATIONS



- Combined ER/NR fit
- Detailed MC simulations of LXe microphysics and detector processes
- 99.7% ER rejection  
in NR reference region [NR median,  $-2\sigma$ ]





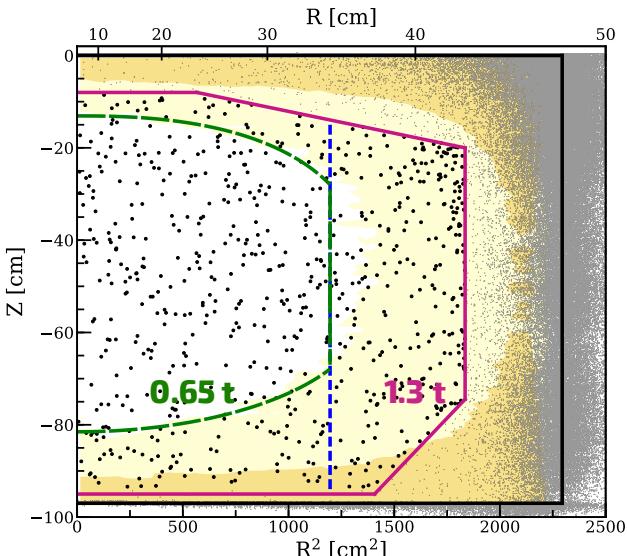
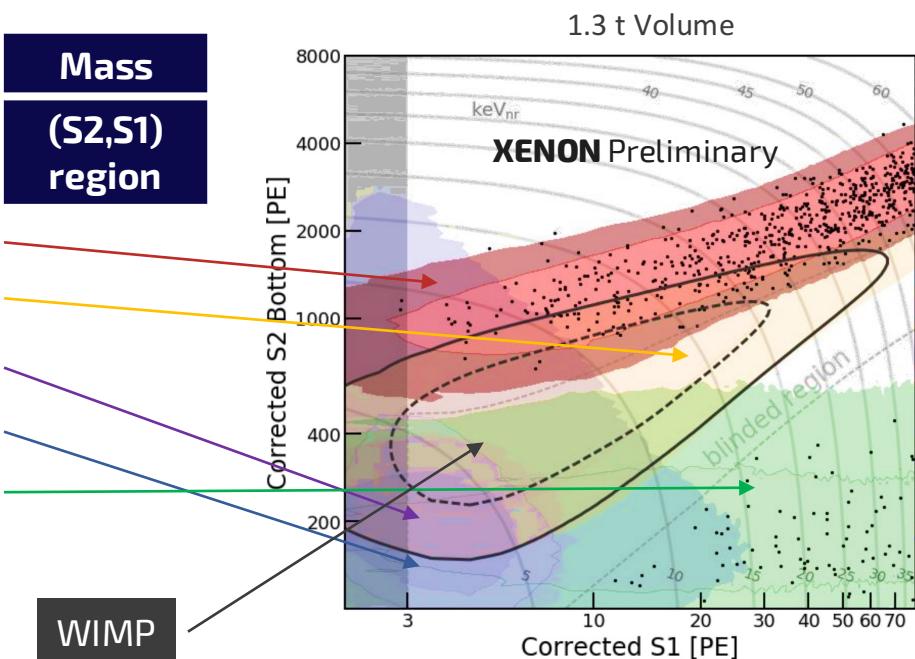
# DARK MATTER SEARCH RESULTS

1 tonne-year exposure  
278.8 live-days, 1.3 t fiducial mass

**XENON1T**

# BACKGROUND PREDICTIONS

	1.3 t	0.65 t	Mass
278.8 days live-time	Full ROI	NR Reference	(S2,S1) region
ER	$627 \pm 18$	$0.60 \pm 0.13$	
neutron	$1.43 \pm 0.66$	$0.14 \pm 0.07$	
CE $\nu$ NS	$0.05 \pm 0.01$	0.01	
AC	$0.47^{+0.27}$	$0.04^{+0.02}$	
Surface	$106 \pm 8$	0.01	
<b>TOTAL BKG</b>	<b><math>735 \pm 20</math></b>	<b><math>0.80 \pm 0.14</math></b>	



## ► Background models

In 4-dimensional space: S1, S2, r, z

## ► Statistical inference

Done with PLR analysis in 1.3 t fiducial volume and full (S1,S2) space, corresponding to  $[4.9, 40.9]$  keV<sub>nr</sub> and  $[1.4, 10.6]$  keV<sub>ee</sub>.

## ► NR reference region

Between NR median and  $-2\sigma$  quantile. Numbers in table are for illustration; final results from complete PLR statistical inference.

# RESULTS

## ENERGY SPACE

### ► Blinding and salting

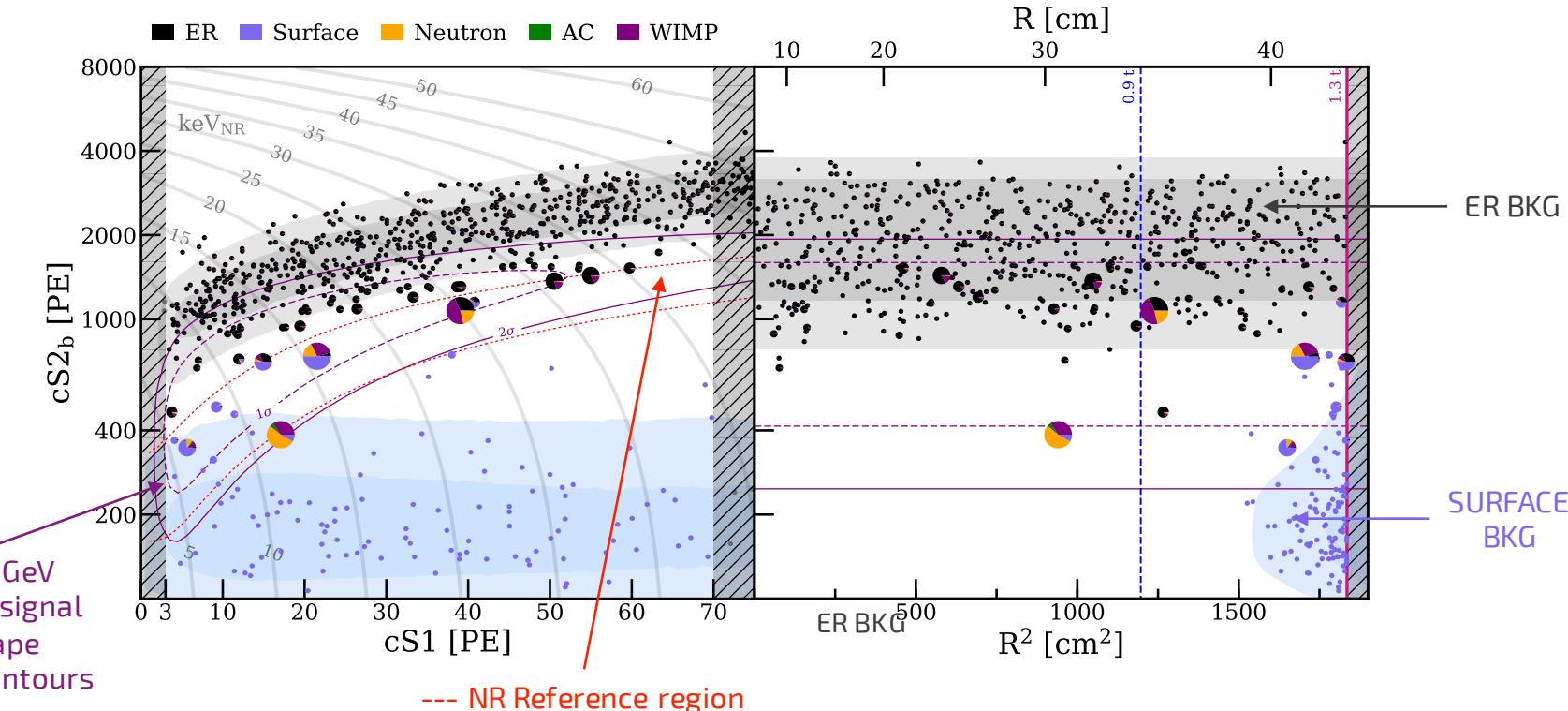
Data were blinded in the NR signal region and salted with unknown number of fake events.

### ► Pie charts

Events passing all selection criteria are shown as pie charts representing the relative PDF from each component for the best-fit model for 200 GeV WIMP ( $\sigma_{SI} = 4.7 \cdot 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2$ ).

### ► Larger charts

Represent events with larger WIMP probability.



# RESULTS

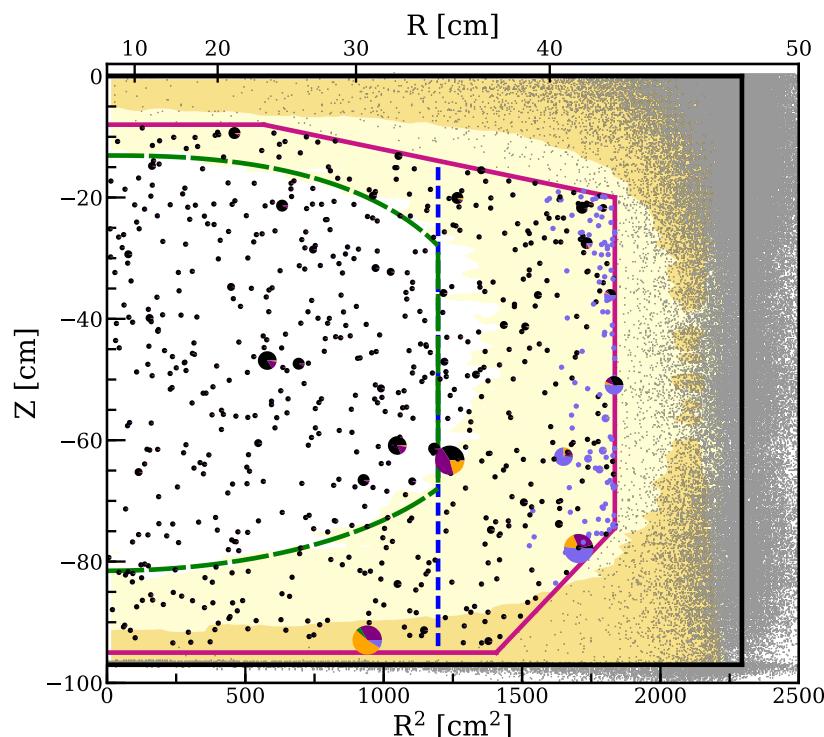
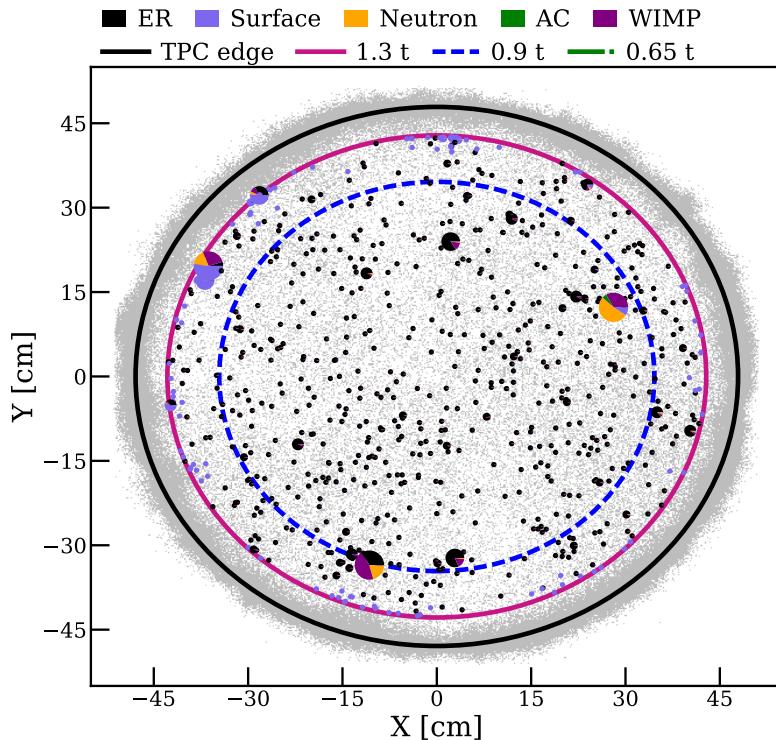
## SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION

### ► Statistical interpretation

Unbinned profile likelihood with all model uncertainties included as nuisance parameters.

### ► Core volume

The innermost volume is free of surface and neutron background. The spatial modeling of backgrounds allows to increase the fiducial volume.

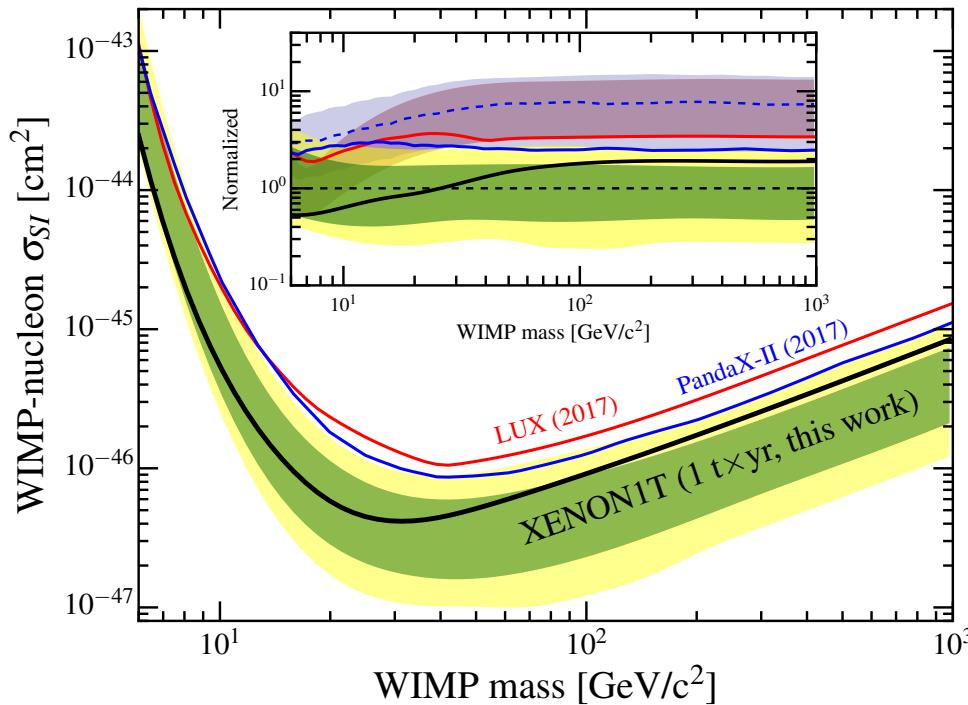


# RESULTS

## NEW CONSTRAINTS ON WIMPS

### ► Spin-independent WIMP-nucleon cross section

Strongest exclusion limits (at 90% CL) on WIMPs  $> 6 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ .



Accepted for  
publication in PRL

Available on ArXiv

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1805.12562>

7 times better sensitivity  
compared to previous  
experiments (LUX, PANDAX-II)

$\sigma_{SI} < 4.1 \cdot 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2$   
at  $30 \text{ GeV}/c^2$

### ► 1 sigma upper fluctuation at higher WIMP masses

Local p-value  $\sim 0.2$  (at  $200 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ ). No significant excess ( $> 3$  sigma) is observed.

# MOVING FURTHER

## XENONnT



### MINIMAL UPGRADE

XENON1T infrastructure and sub-systems originally designed for a larger LXe TPC



### FIDUCIAL XE TARGET

Fiducial mass: ~4 t  
Target LXe mass: 5.9 t  
Total LXe mass: 8 t



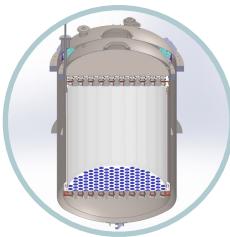
### BACKGROUND

Identified strategies to reduce  $^{222}\text{Rn}$  background by a factor ~10



### FAST TURNAROUND

Installation starts in 2018  
Commissioning in 2019



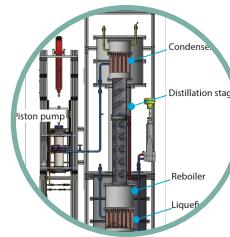
### NEW TPC

Larger inner cryostat  
476 PMTs



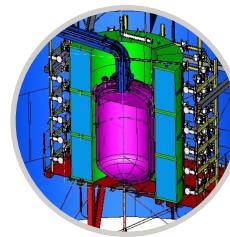
### LXe PURIFICATION

Faster cleaning of large LXe volume (5000 SLPM)



### RADON DISTILLATION

Online removal of  $^{222}\text{Rn}$  emanated inside the detector



### NEUTRON VETO

Tagging and in-situ measurement of neutron-induced background

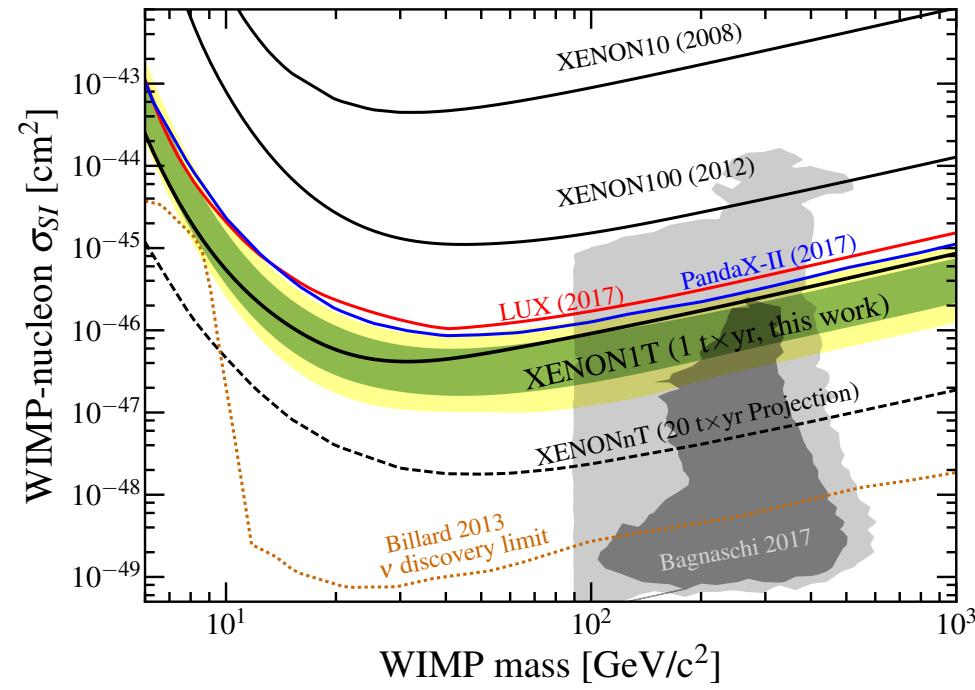
# SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK

- The first multi-ton scale LXe-TPC successfully operated for > 1 year.
- Lowest background ever in any DM detector.
- Strongest limit above 6 GeV/c<sup>2</sup> on WIMP-nucleon SI cross-section at  $4.1 \cdot 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2$  for a 30 GeV/c<sup>2</sup> WIMP.
- A larger and better detector, **XENONnT**, will enable a further boost in sensitivity.

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

► Twitter  
[twitter.com/xenon1t](https://twitter.com/xenon1t)

Pietro Di Gangi  
[digangi@bo.infn.it](mailto:digangi@bo.infn.it)



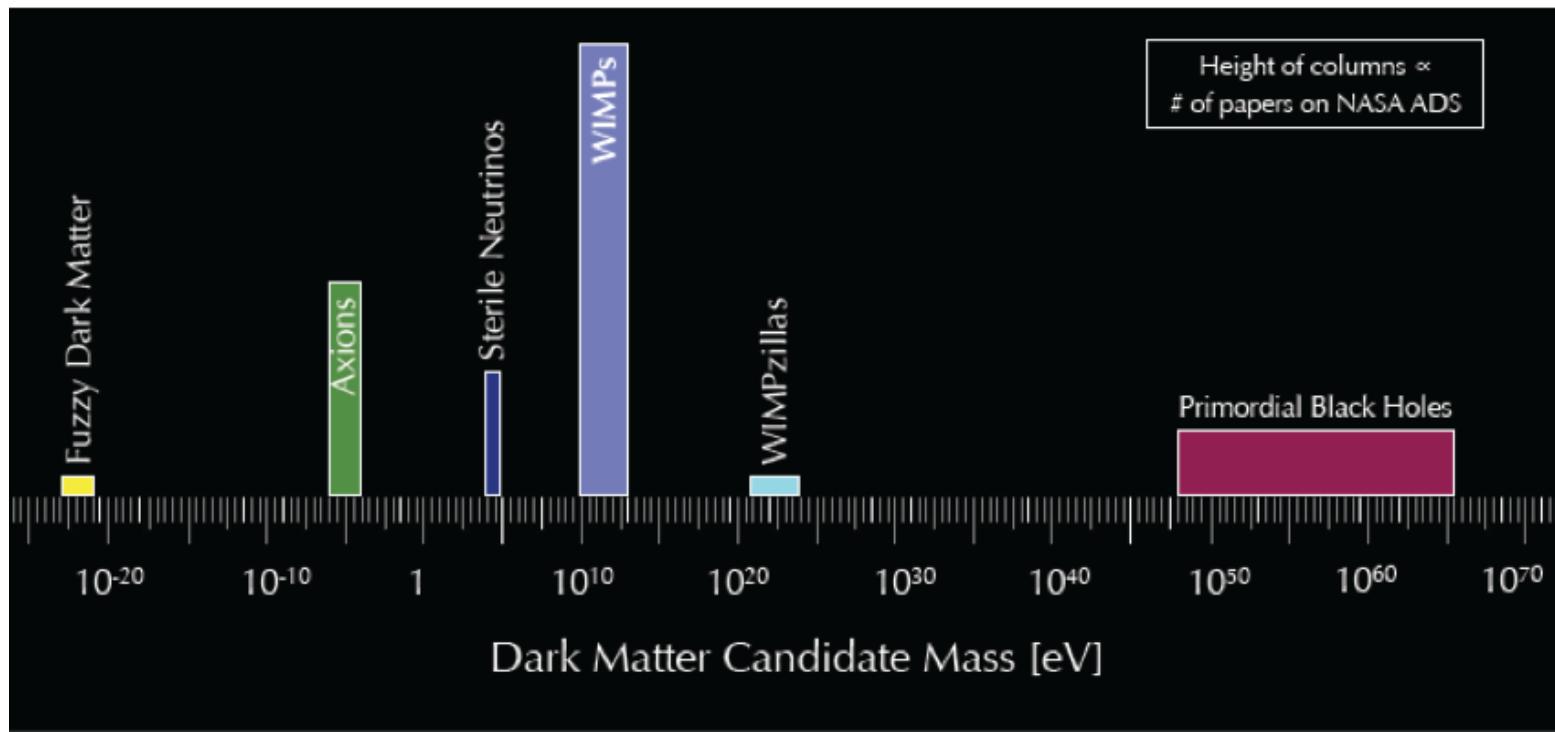


# APPENDIX

# XENON1T

# WHAT IS DARK MATTER

- tens of DM models, each with its own phenomenology
- models span 90 orders of magnitude in DM candidate mass
- WIMPs by far the most studied class of DM candidates



# WHY DO WE CHOOSE XENON?

## ► High A=131

👍  $\sigma_{WIMP-N} \sim A^2$  → Larger probability of SI WIMP-nucleon interactions

## ► Self shielding

👍 High Z=54 and high density  $\rho = 2.8 \text{ g/cm}^3$

## ► Scalability

👍 Compact detectors scalable to larger dimensions

## ► High purity

👍  $^{136}\text{Xe}$  decay rate negligible;  $^{85}\text{Kr}$  removed to <ppt level

## ► Light and charge yields

👍 Highest among noble liquids

## ► "Easy" cryogenics

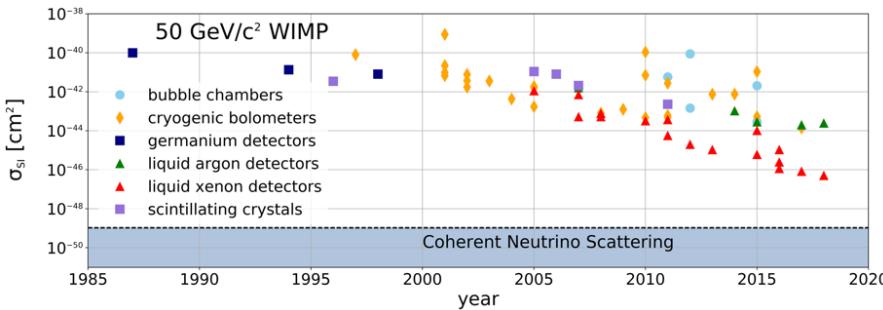
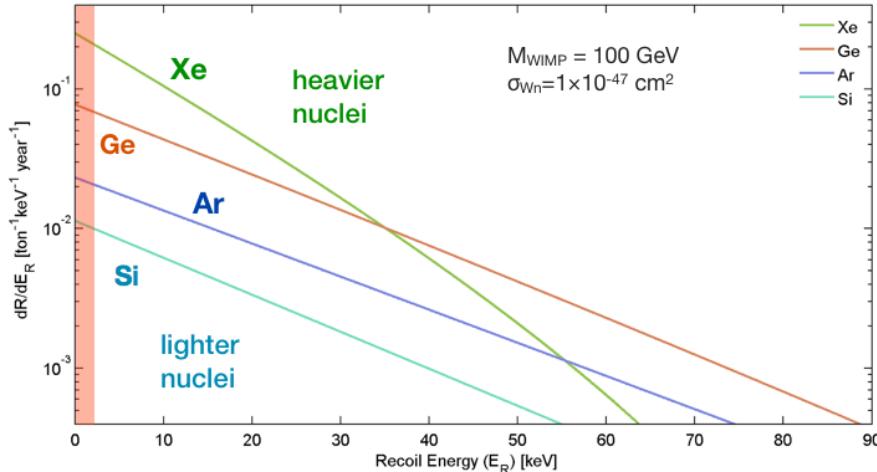
👍 Xenon is liquid at  $-95^\circ\text{C}$

## ► VUV scintillation light

👍 178 nm → no need for wavelength shifters

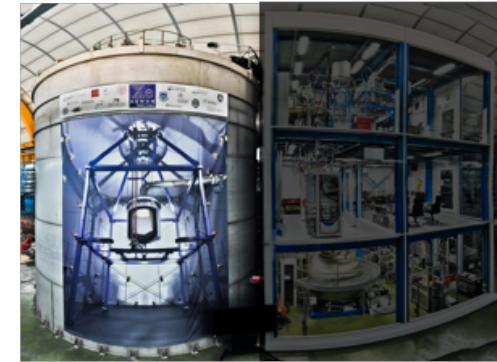
## ► Odd-nucleon isotopes

👍  $^{131}\text{Xe}$  and  $^{129}\text{Xe}$  allow to study also the SD interaction

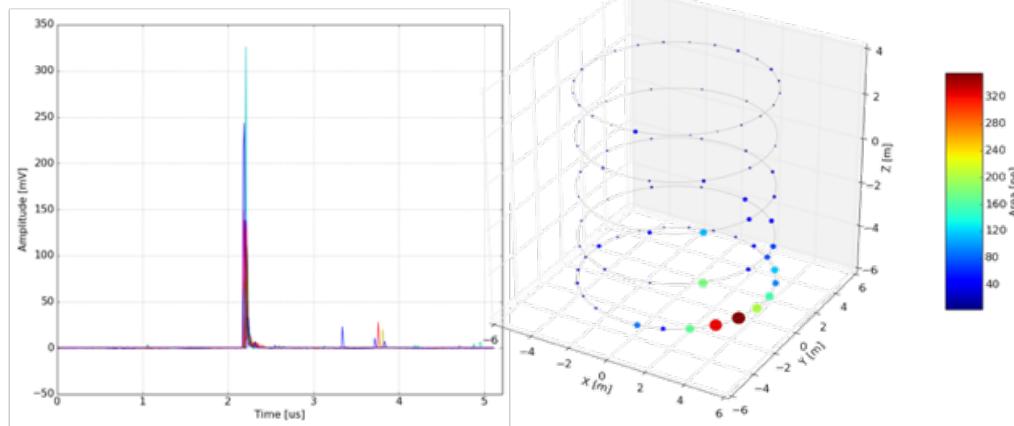


# MUON VETO

## WATER CHERENKOV SUB-DETECTOR



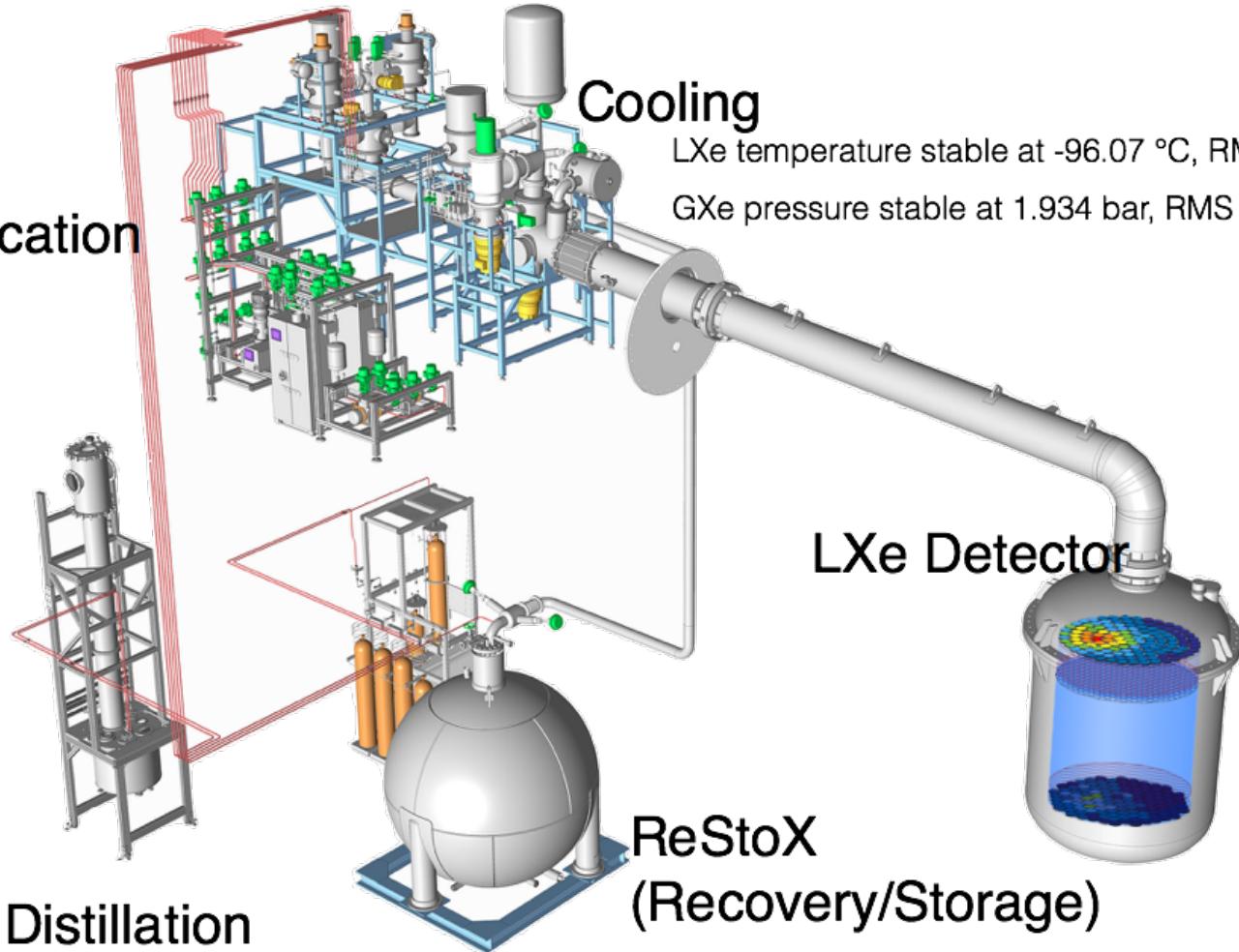
- 700 ton pure water instrumented with 84 high-QE 8" PMTs
- Active shield against muons
- Trigger efficiency > 99.5% for muons in water tank
- Cosmogenic neutron background suppressed to < 0.01 events/ton/yr



JINST 9, 11007 (2014)

# XENON SYSTEMS

Purification



Cooling

LXe temperature stable at -96.07 °C, RMS 0.04 °C

GXe pressure stable at 1.934 bar, RMS 0.001 bar

LXe Detector

ReStoX  
(Recovery/Storage)

Distillation

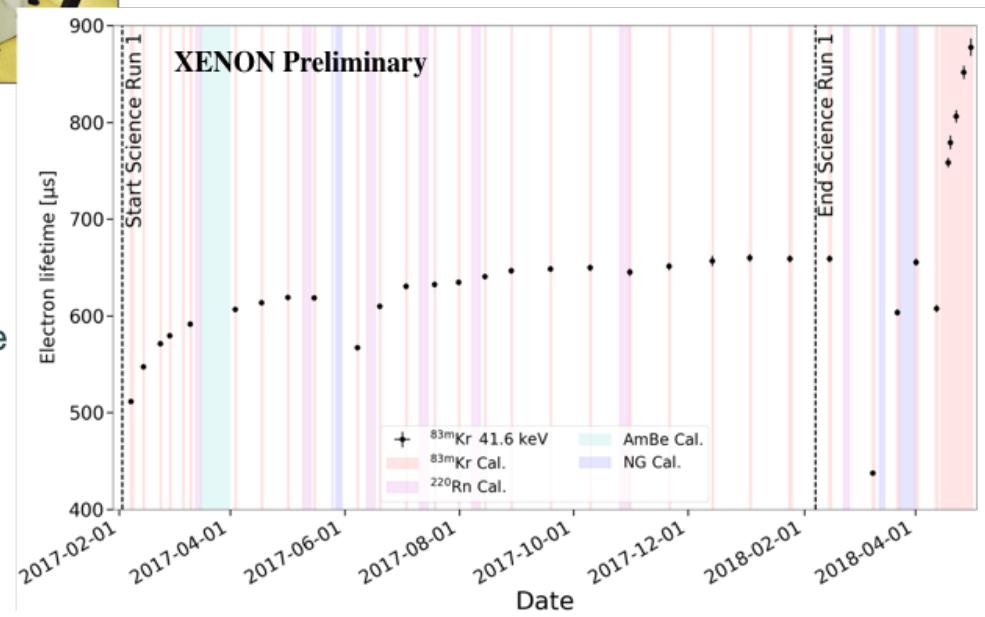
# XENON PURIFICATION

## ELECTRON LIFETIME



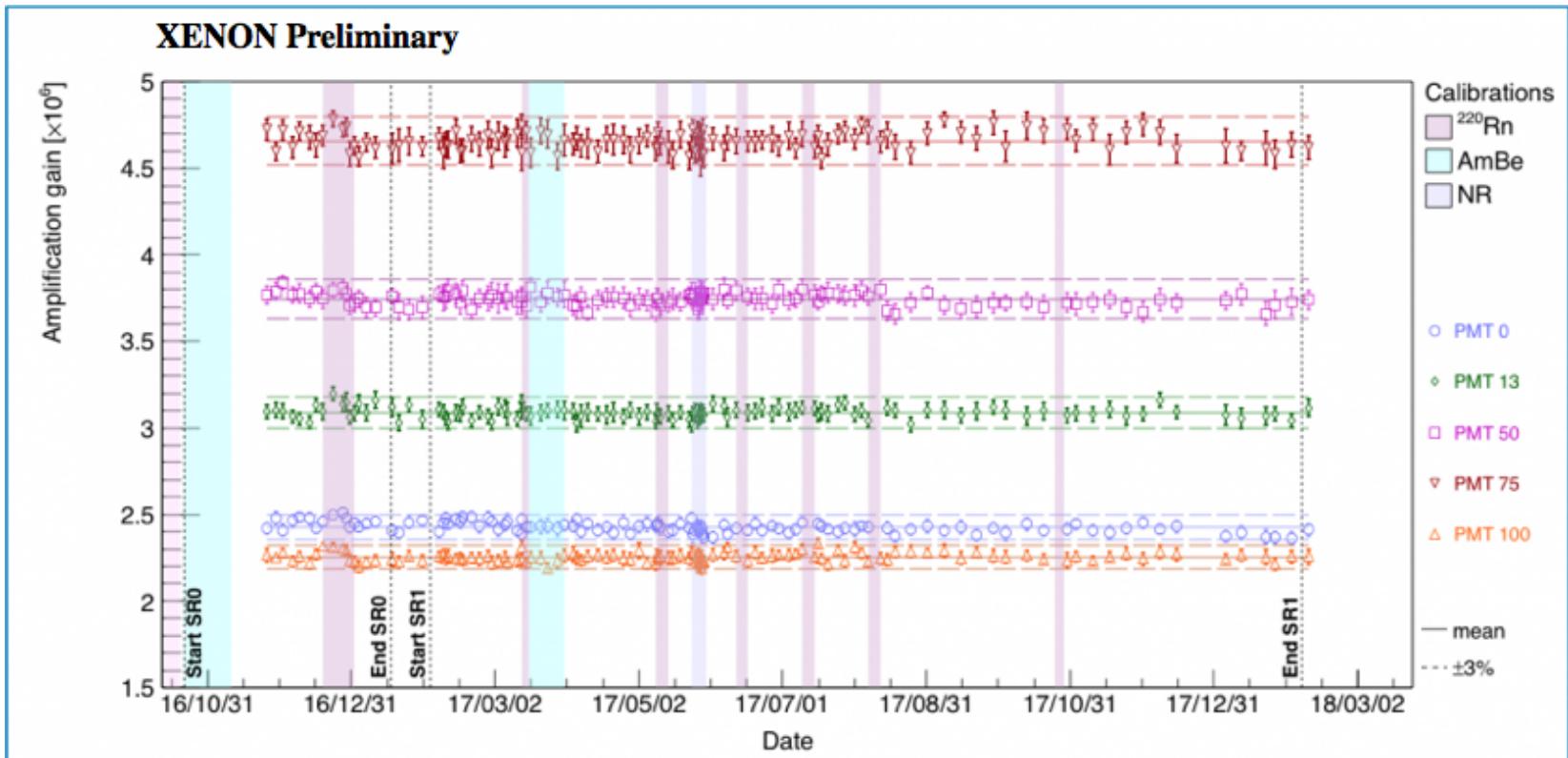
- Electronegative impurities in the Xe gas and from materials outgassing reduce charge (and light) signal.
- To drift electrons over 1 meter requires < 1 ppb (O<sub>2</sub> equivalent)
- Solution: continuous gas circulation at high flow through heated getter material

- electron lifetime is monitored regularly with ERs calibration sources.
- Current value, following increase in gas flow, approaches 1 msec



# LIGHT DETECTION SYSTEM

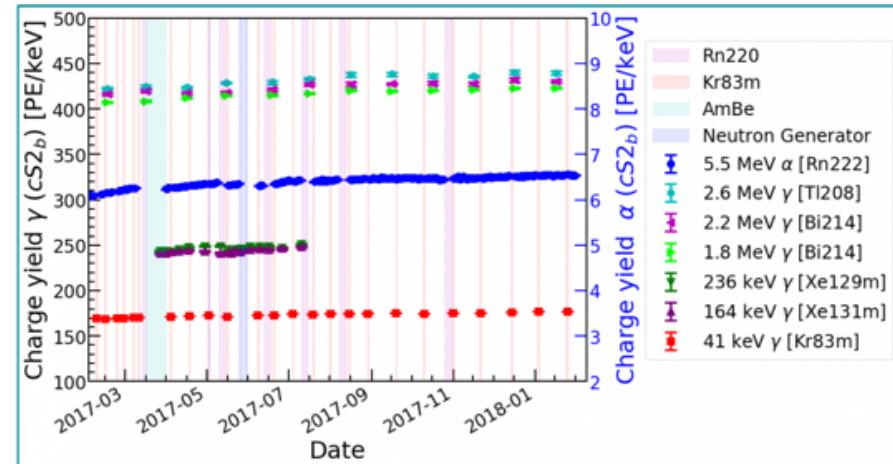
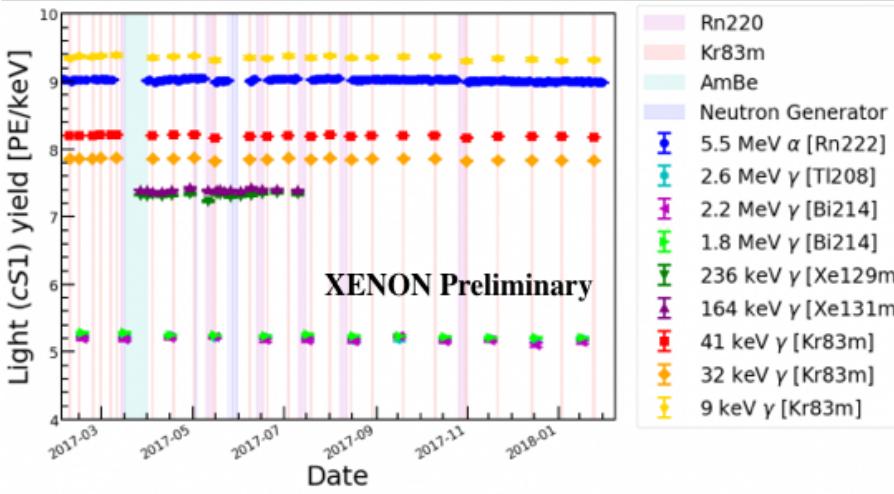
## PMT STABILITY



# LIGHT AND CHARGE SIGNALS

## TIME STABILITY

Position dependence of light (solid angle) and charge (attenuation length) signals very well understood through measurement with  $^{83m}\text{Kr}$ ,  $^{222}\text{Rn}$  alphas. Excellent agreement with optical Monte Carlo simulations and with model of purity evolution



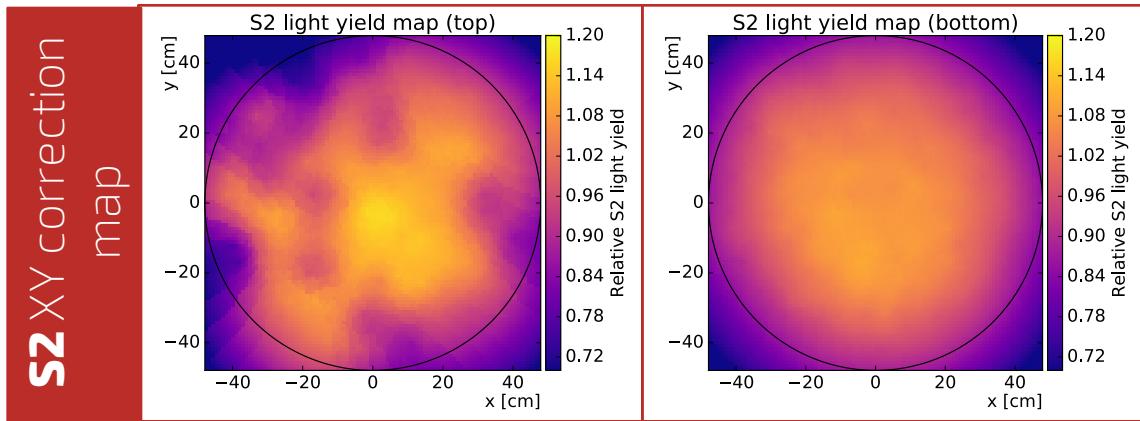
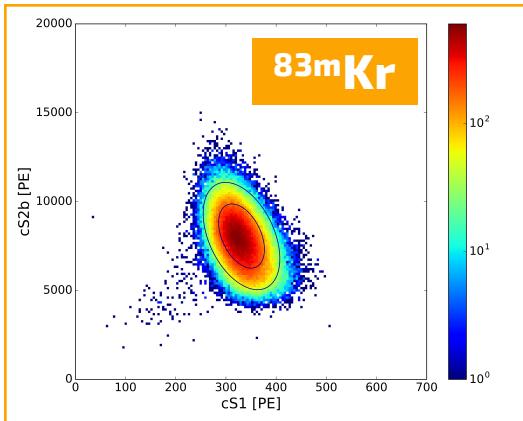
Light and charge yield stability monitored with several sources:

- $^{222}\text{Rn}$  daughters
- Activated Xe after neutron calibrations
- $^{83m}\text{Kr}$  calibrations
- Stability is within a few %

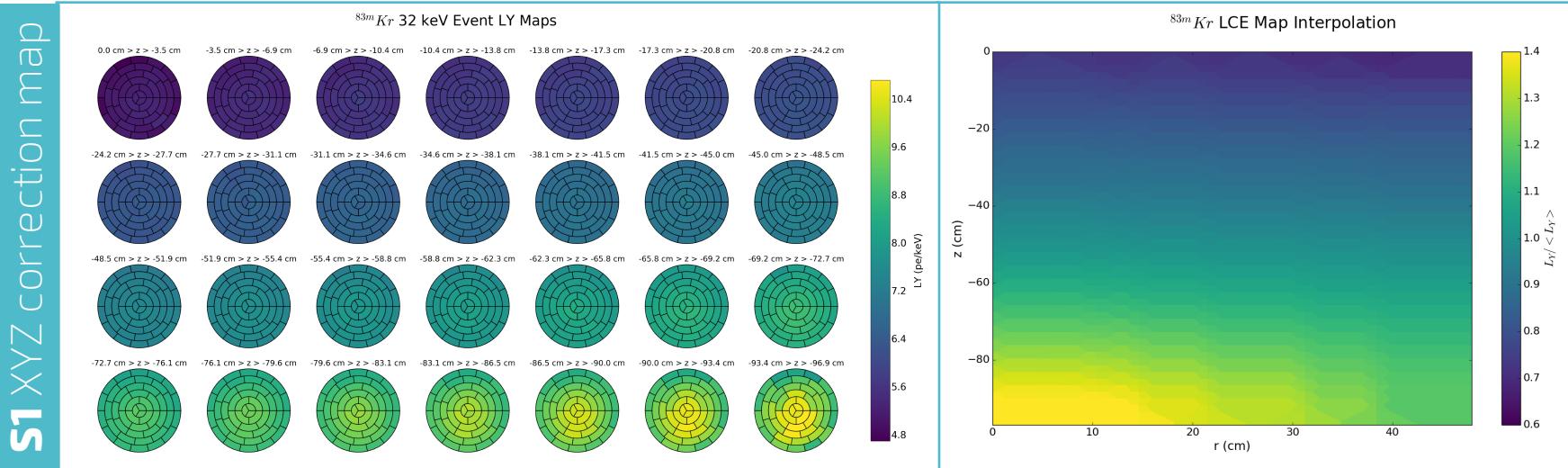
# SIGNAL SPATIAL CORRECTIONS

## VOLUME CALIBRATIONS WITH $^{83m}\text{Kr}$

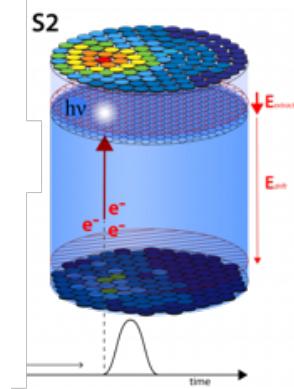
Plots just for illustration



$^{83m}\text{Kr}$  source injected in LXe which uniformly distributes in the whole TPC volume → Ideal to understand spatial dependence of the light (S1) and charge (S2) signals.



# POSITION RECONSTRUCTION



## X-Y reconstruction via neural network:

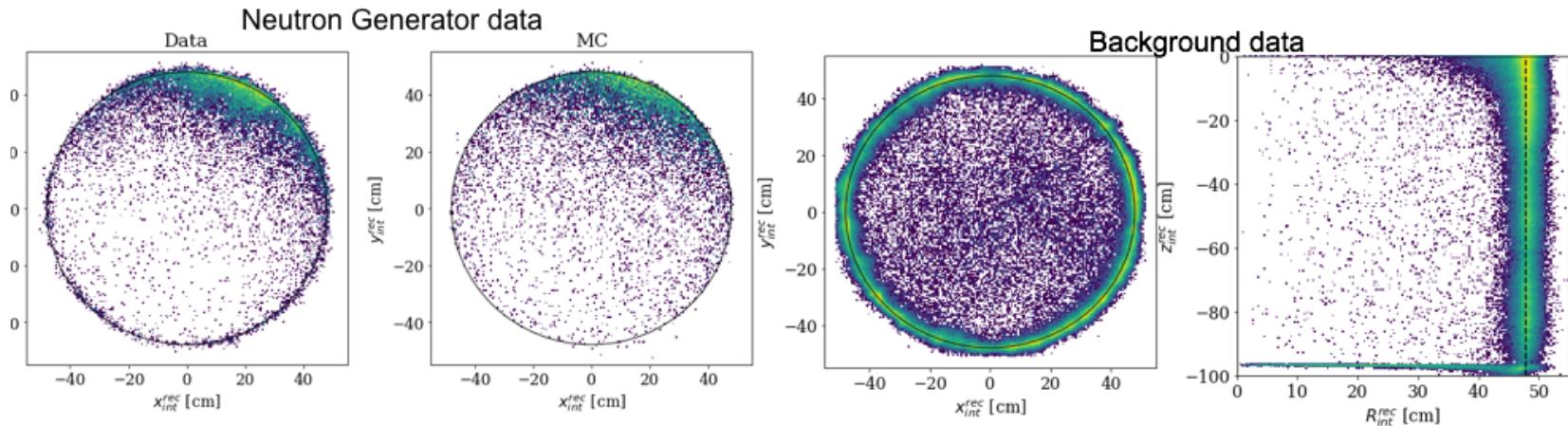
- **Input:** charge/channel top array
- **Training:** Monte Carlo simulation

## Position resolution using $^{83m}\text{Kr}$

- Two interactions (9, 31 keV), same x-y
- Position resolution (1-2 cm)
- PMT diameter (7.62 cm)

## Position corrections using $^{83m}\text{Kr}$

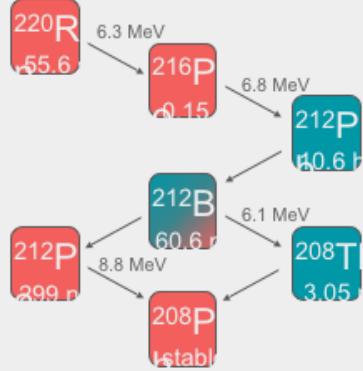
- **Drift field distortion**
- Localized inhomogeneities from inactive PMTs
- Data-derived correction verified by comparison to MC with several event sources



# CALIBRATIONS

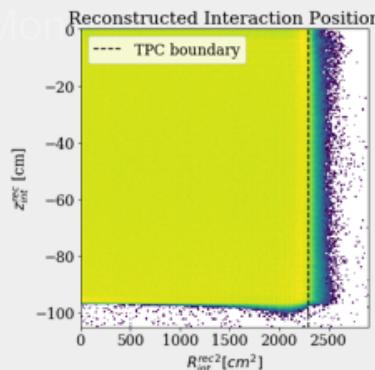


## $^{220}\text{Rn}$ : Low Energy ER



*Stable background conditions after a couple days (10.6h longest  $T_{1/2}$ )*

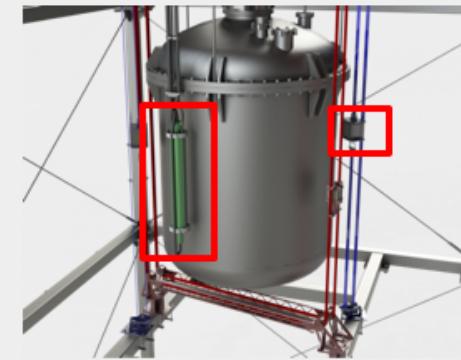
## $^{83\text{m}}\text{Kr}$ : Stability and



**Type:** Internal  
**Freq:** 2-3 weeks  
**Length:** 1 day  
**Half life:** 1.83h

*9.4 keV and 32.1 keV lines (~150 ns delay) homogeneous in volume*

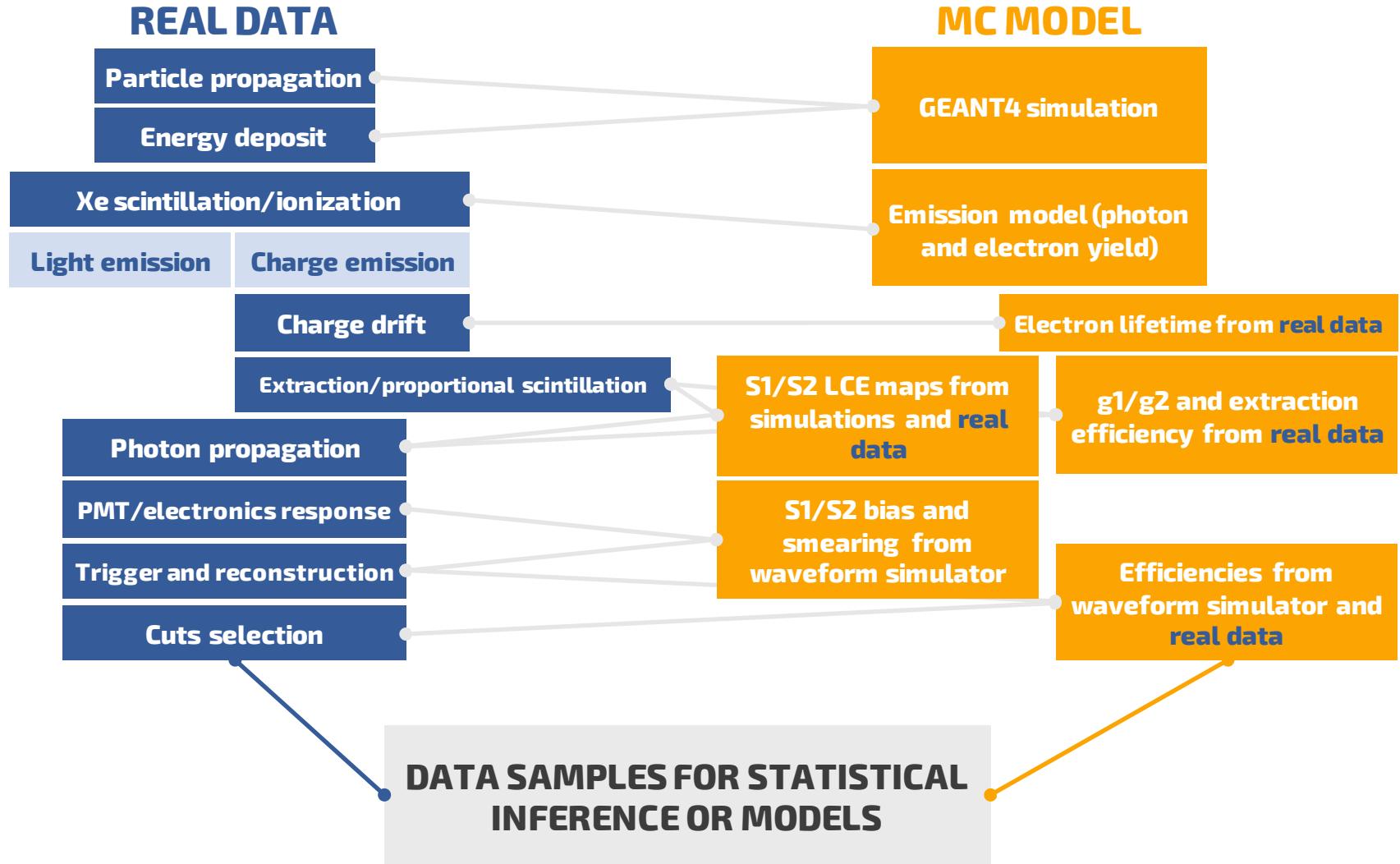
## Neutrons: Signal



**Type:** External  
**Freq:** As needed  
**Length:** 6 weeks (AmBe)  
**2 days (generator)**

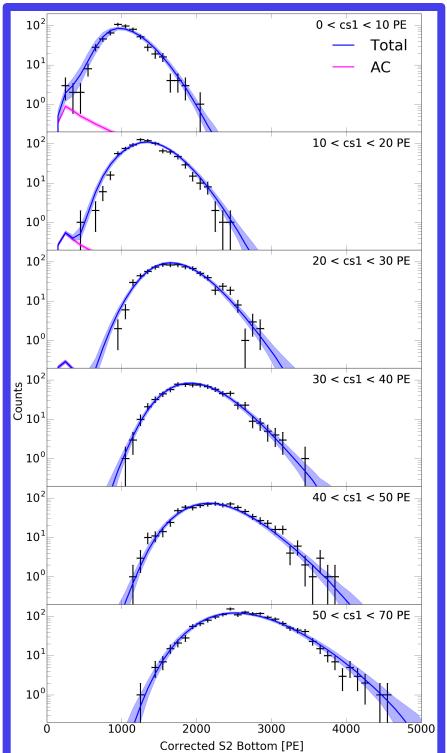
# LER AND NR MODELING

## REAL DATA AND MC SIMULATIONS

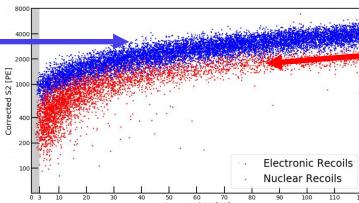


# DETECTOR RESPONSE MODEL

## ER AND NR CALIBRATIONS



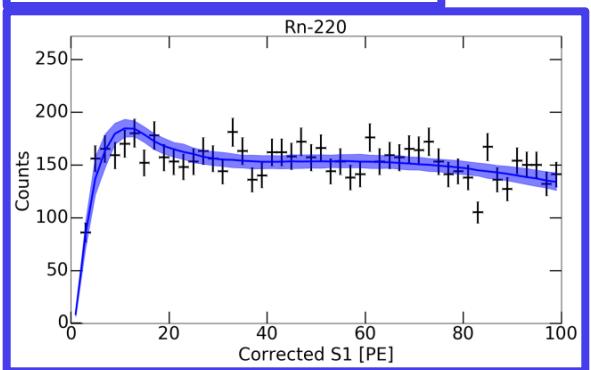
ER 220Rn



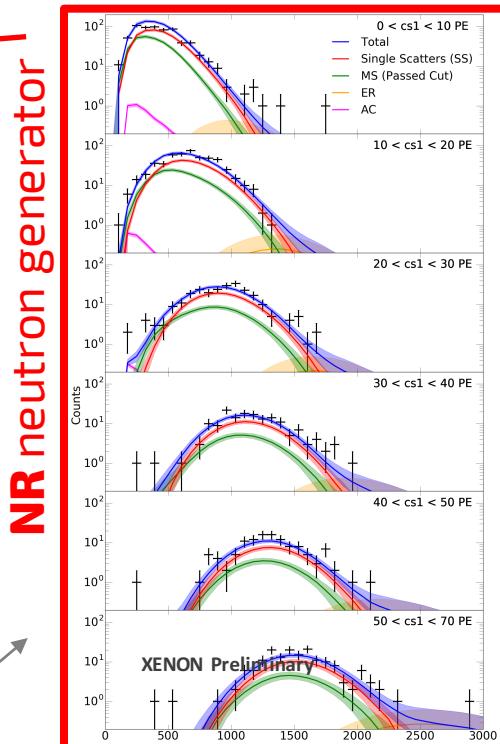
► Detailed MC simulations of **LXe microphysics** and **detector processes**

► Parameters tuned and constrained to calibration data

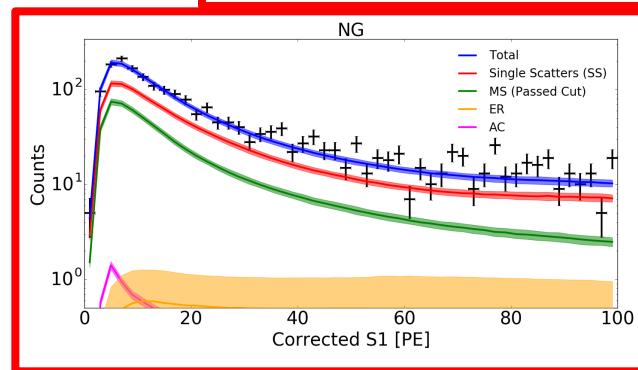
**-99.7% ER rejection in NR reference region [NR median, -2 $\sigma$ ]**



S2 projections in S1 slices



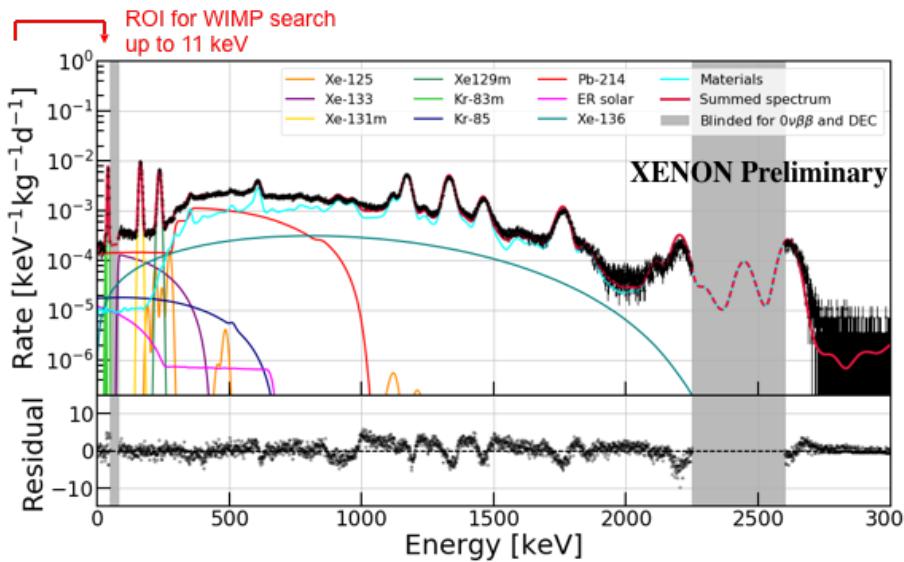
NR neutron generator



S1 projection

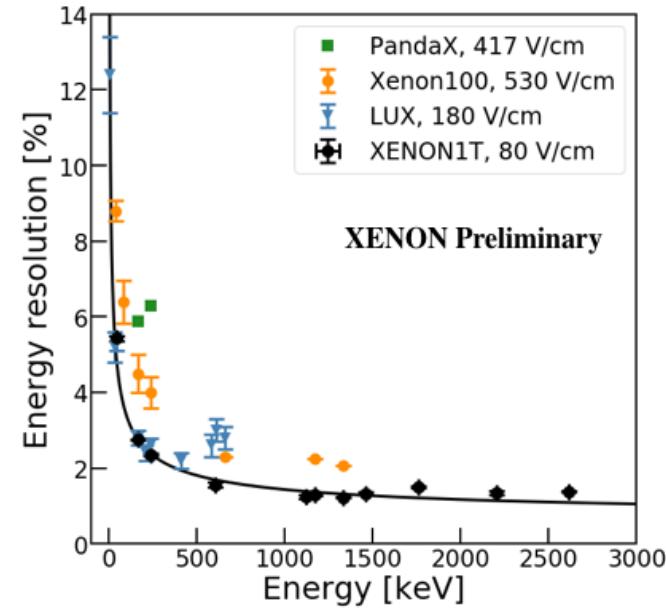
# BACKGROUND SPECTRUM

## ENERGY RESOLUTION AND MC MATCHING



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

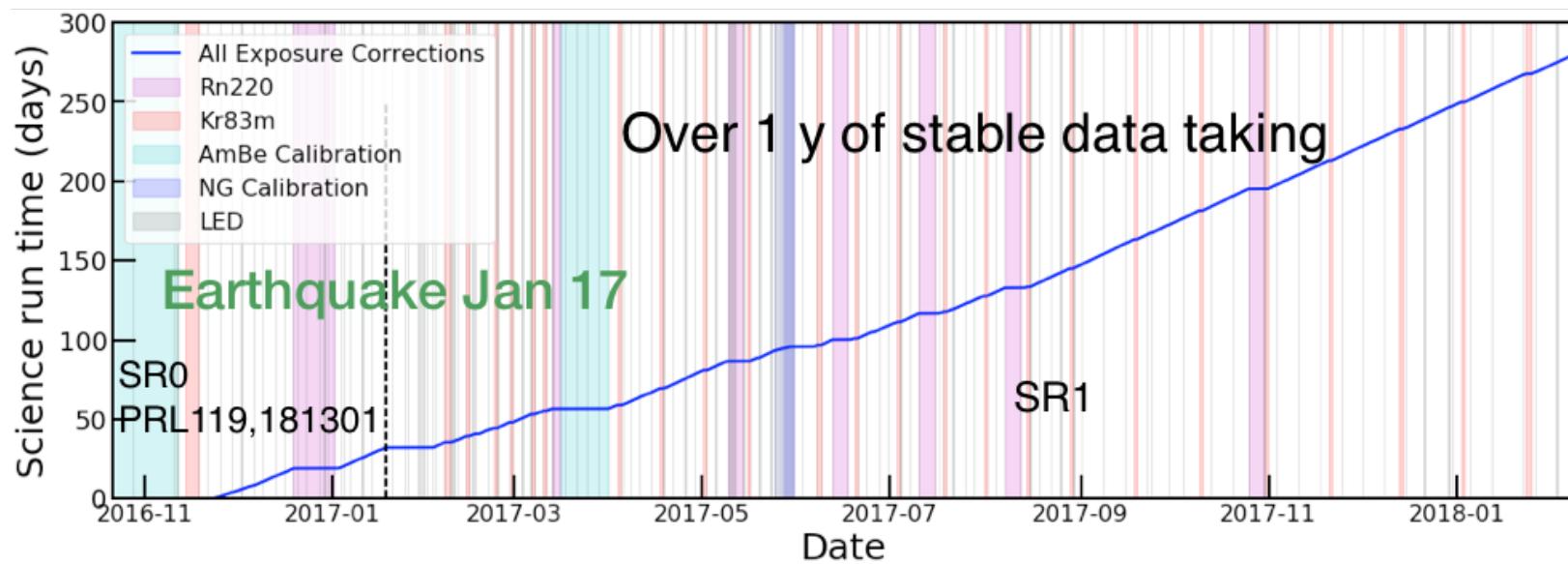
- Energy reconstructed from anti correlated S1 and S2. Excellent linearity from keV to MeV
- Best energy resolution measured with this large LXeTPC ~1.6% resolution (sigma) at 2.5 MeV



# XENON1T TIMESCALE

## SCIENCE AND CALIBRATION DATA

- 279 days high quality data (livetime-corrected) spanning more than 1 year of stable detector's operation. The LXeTPC has been “cold” since Summer 2016
- 1 tonne x year exposure given 1.3 tonne fiducial volume- the largest reported to-date with this type of detector
- Experiment still running smoothly and collecting more data



# BACKGROUNDS

## SURFACE BACKGROUND

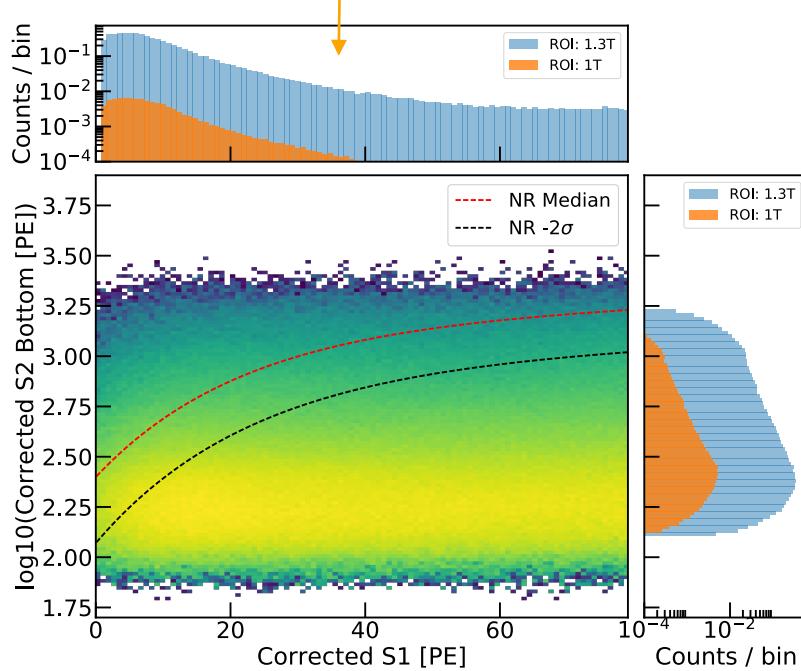
### ► Radioactivity on PTFE surface and charge loss

Events can fall in the NR energy region due to abnormally small S2. And due to position reconstruction resolution they can be reconstructed inwards.

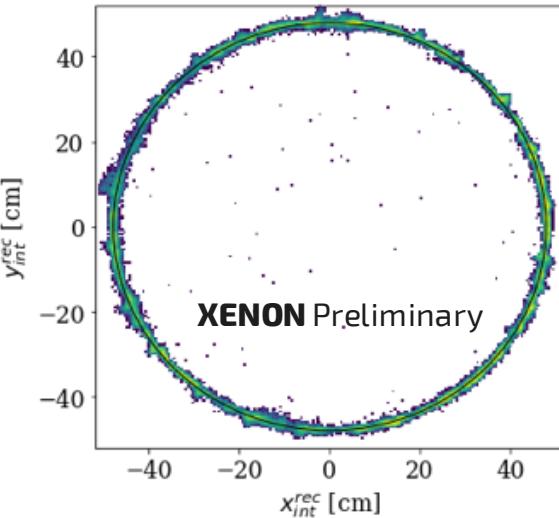
Reduced by volume fiducialization.

### ► Data driven model

Derived from event surface control samples.



**$^{210}\text{Po}$  control sample**

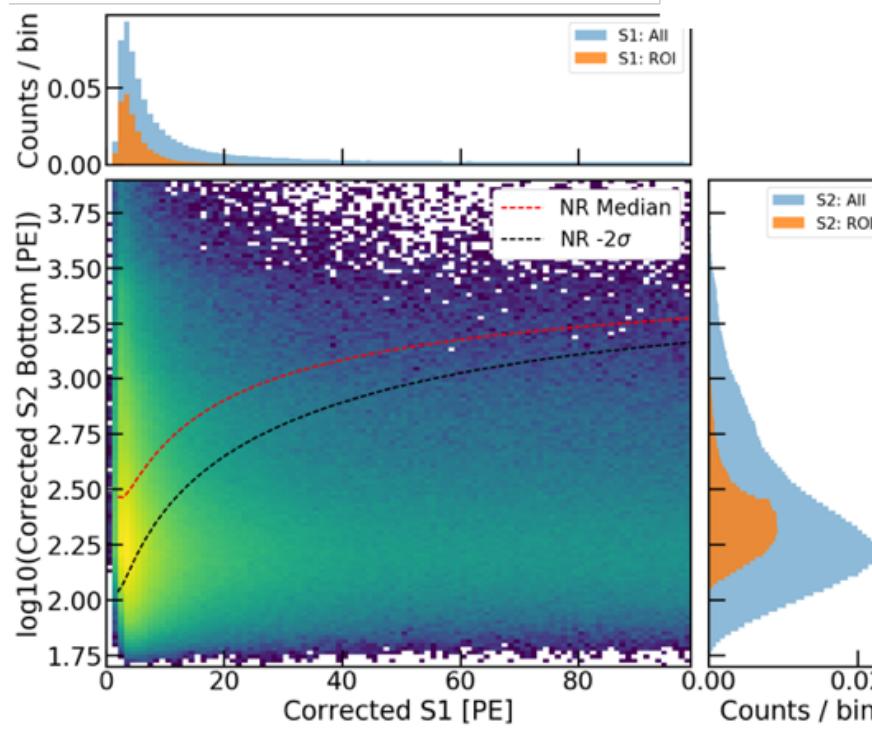
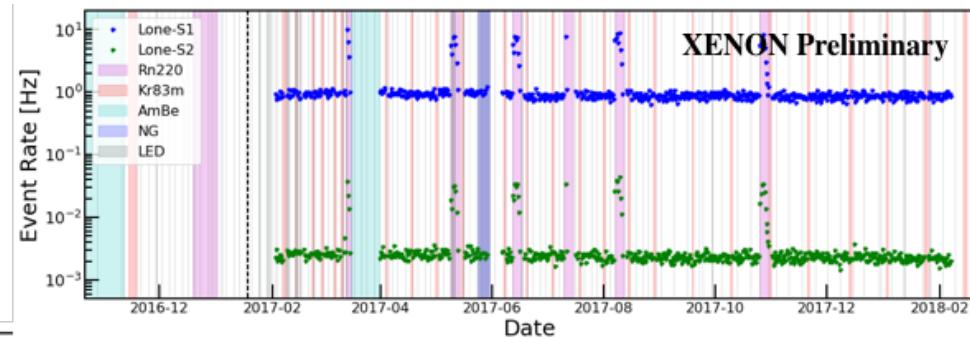


# BACKGROUNDS

## ACCIDENTAL COINCIDENCES



A “lone” S1 or S2 signal produced in light and charge insensitive regions of the TPC may be accidentally combined to produce fake events in signal region



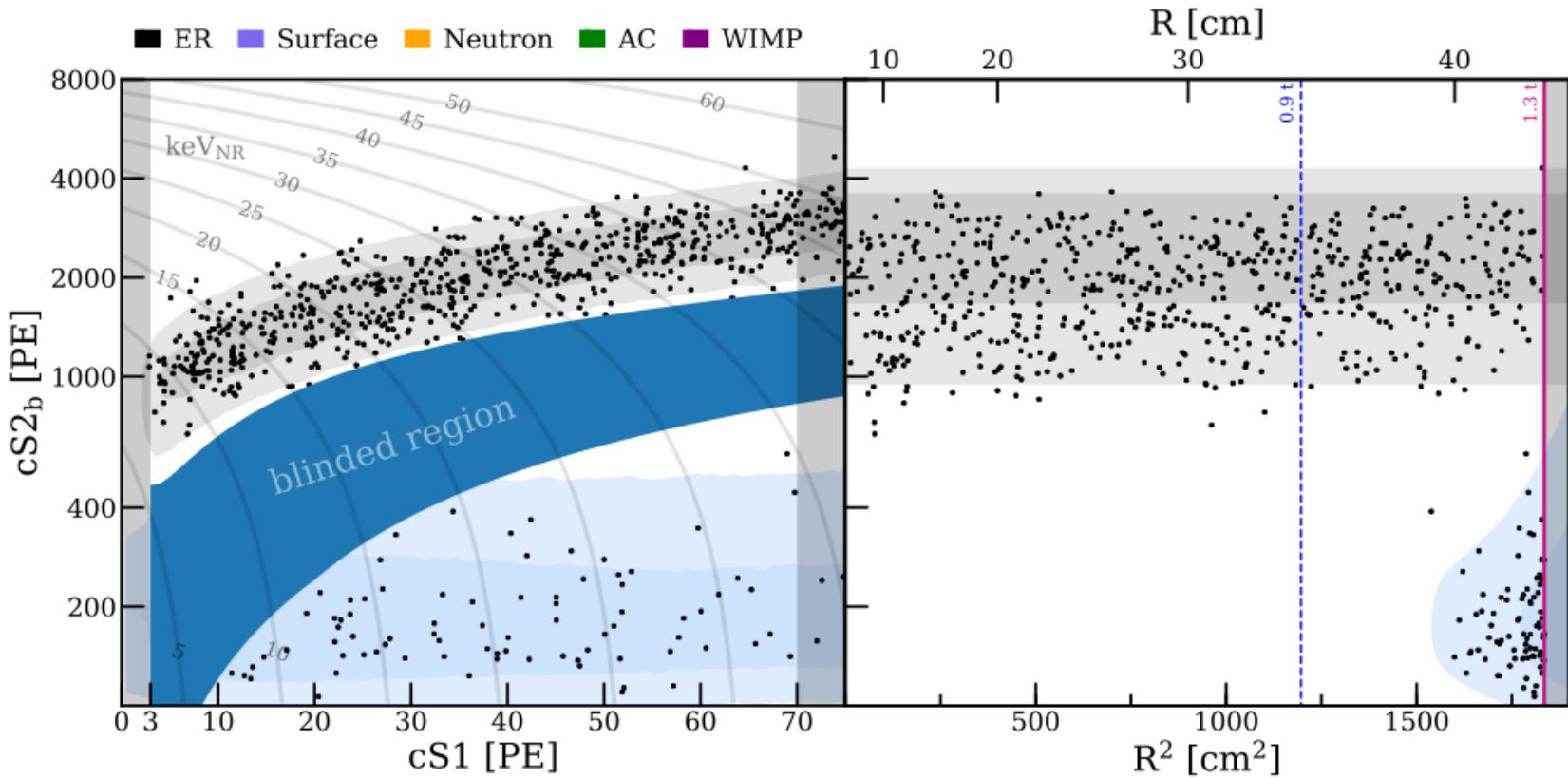
Empirical model shows an overall small rate in the ROI for NRs

- Select unpaired S1/S2 from data
- Randomly pair to form events
- Apply selection conditions from analysis
- Performance verified with  $^{220}\text{Rn}$  data and background sidebands

# WIMP SEARCH

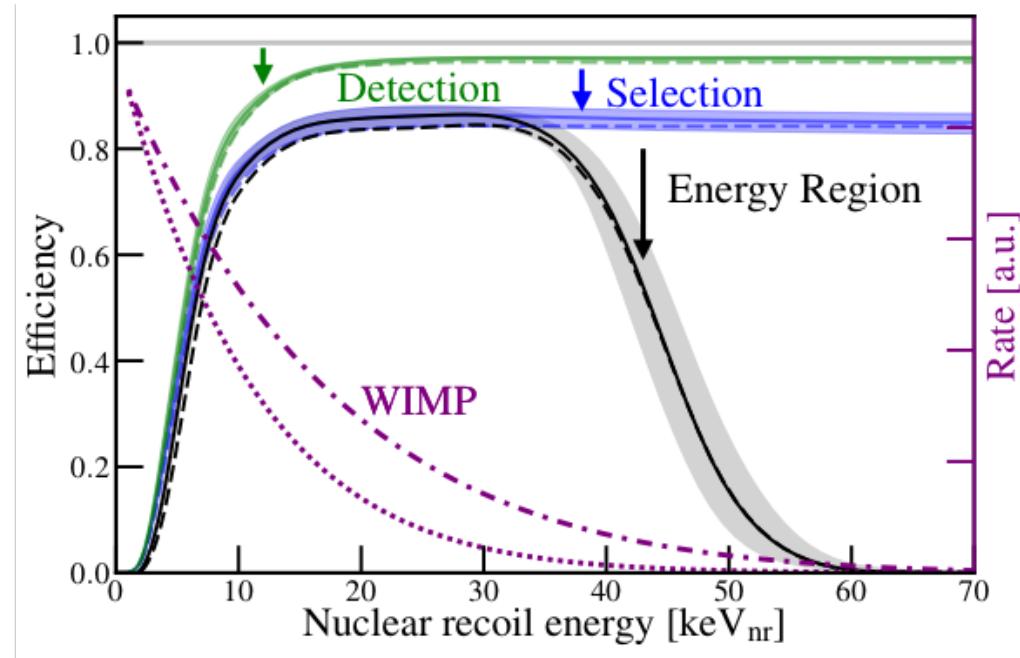
## BLINDING AND SALTING

- Blinding: to avoid potential bias in event selection and the signal/background modeling the nuclear recoil ROI (S2 vs S1 only) was blinded from the start of SR1 analysis (and SR0 re-analysis).
- Salting: to protect against post-unblinding tuning of cuts and background models, an undisclosed number and type of event was added to data



# WIMP SEARCH

## DATA SELECTION AND DETECTION EFFICIENCY



- Detection efficiency dominated by 3-fold coincidence requirement
  - Estimated via novel waveform simulation including systematic uncertainties
- Selection efficiencies estimated from control or MC data samples
- Search region defined within 3-70 PE in cS1
- 50 GeV (dotted) and 200 GeV (dashed and dotted) WIMP spectra shown

# PREDICTED AND OBSERVED DATA

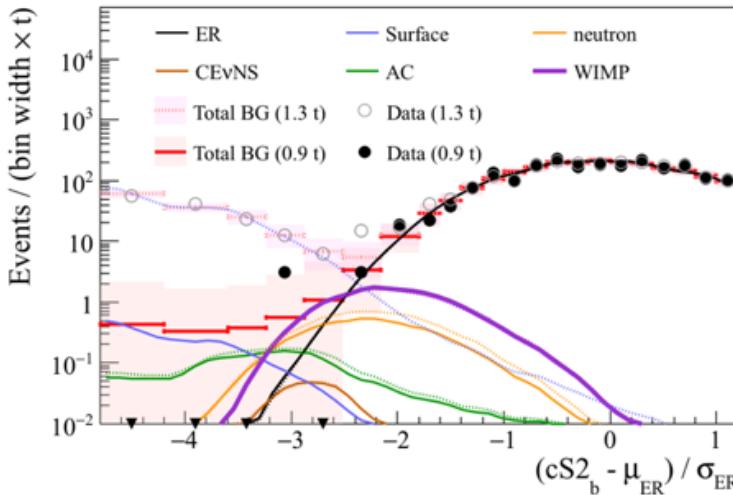
Reference and smaller fiducial masses are illustrative. Data analysis and statistical inference is performed on the full dataset with PLR approach and backgrounds/signal shape accounted.

Mass (cS1, cS2 <sub>b</sub> )	1.3 t Full	1.3 t Reference	0.9 t Reference	0.65 t Reference
ER	$627 \pm 18$	$1.62 \pm 0.30$	$1.12 \pm 0.21$	$0.60 \pm 0.13$
neutron	$1.43 \pm 0.66$	$0.77 \pm 0.35$	$0.41 \pm 0.19$	$0.14 \pm 0.07$
CE $\nu$ NS	$0.05 \pm 0.01$	$0.03 \pm 0.01$	$0.02$	$0.01$
AC	$0.47^{+0.27}_{-0.00}$	$0.10^{+0.06}_{-0.00}$	$0.06^{+0.03}_{-0.00}$	$0.04^{+0.02}_{-0.00}$
Surface	$106 \pm 8$	$4.84 \pm 0.40$	$0.02$	$0.01$
Total BG	$735 \pm 20$	$7.36 \pm 0.61$	$1.62 \pm 0.28$	$0.80 \pm 0.14$
WIMP <sub>best-fit</sub>	3.56	1.70	1.16	0.83
Data	739	14	2	2

WIMP expectation under best-fit model at m=200 GeV (cross-section =  $4.7 \times 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2$ )

# STATISTICAL INTERPRETATION

## < 1 SIGMA DISCOVERY SIGNIFICANCE



- No significant ( $>3$  sigma) excess at any scanned WIMP mass
- Background only hypothesis is accepted although the p-value of  $\sim 0.2$  at high mass (200 GeV and above) does not disfavor a signal hypothesis either

- Extended unbinned profile likelihood analysis
- Example left: Background and 200 GeV WIMP signal best-fit predictions, assuming  $4.2 \times 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2$ , compared to data in 1.3T and 0.9T
- Most significant ER & Surface backgrounds shape parameters included
- Safeguard to protect against spurious mis-modeling of background

