



# Results from the 1 tonne x year Dark Matter Search with XENON1T

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Columbia University

LNGS  
May 28, 2018



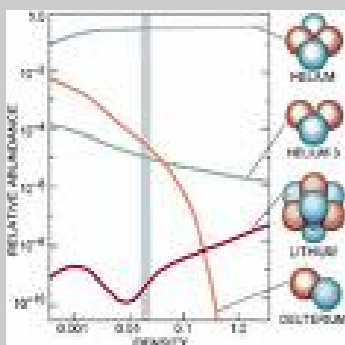
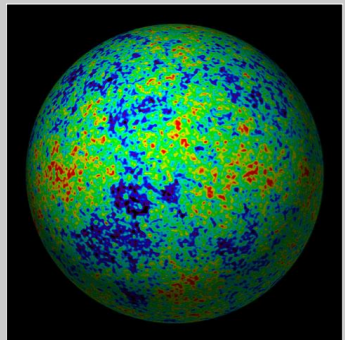
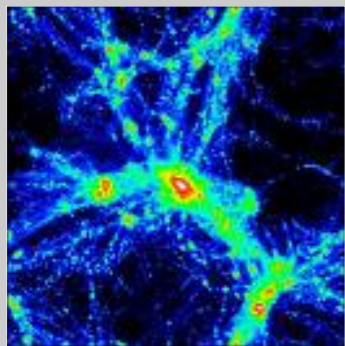
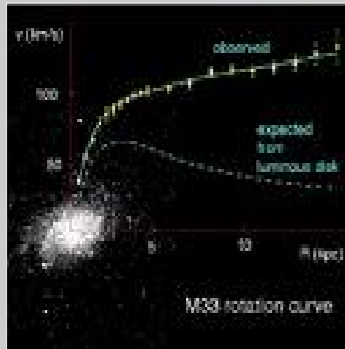


# The XENON Collaboration: ~165 scientists

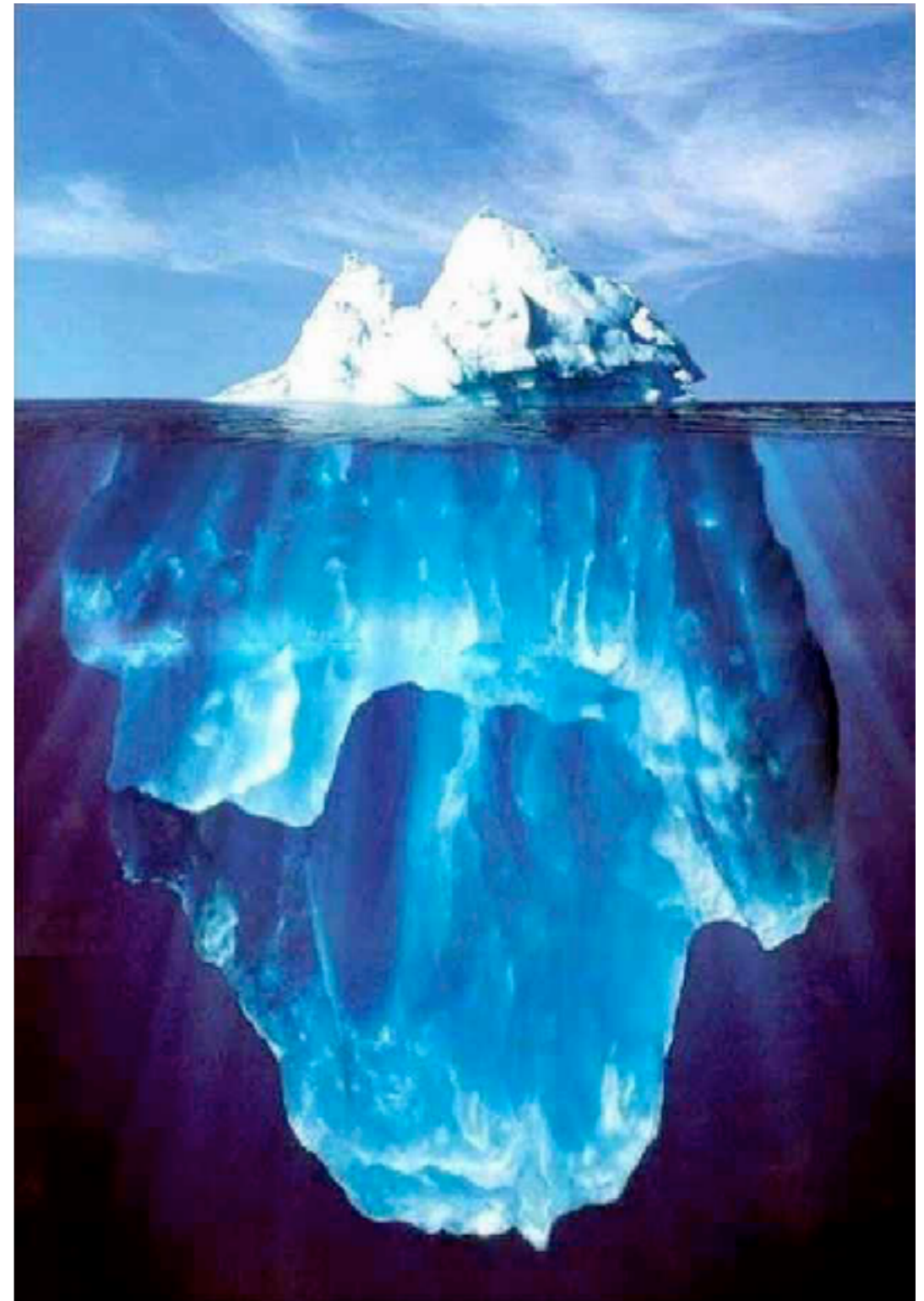




# The Matter in the Universe: 85% invisible



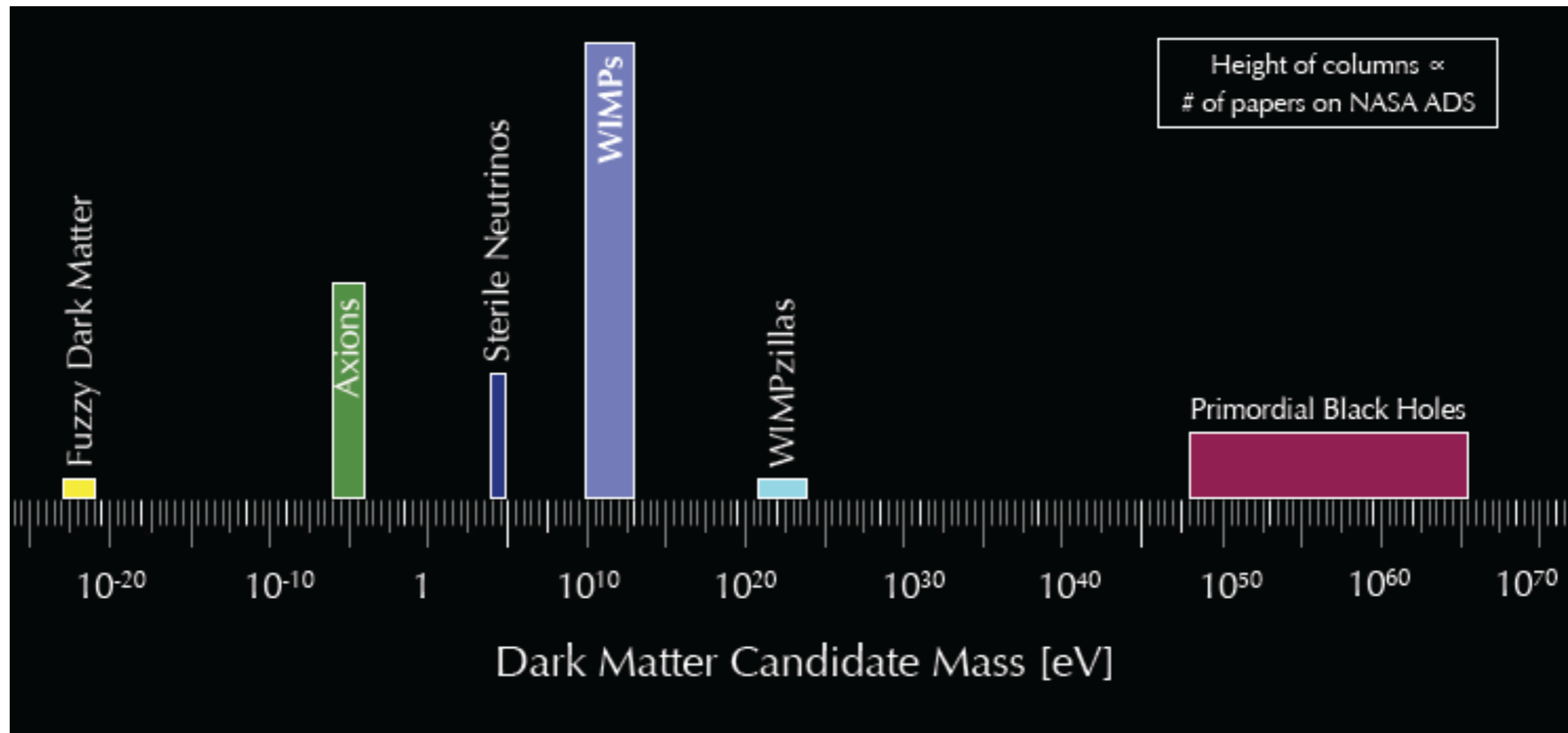
Stars	1%
Gas in Halos	7%
Gas in IGM	7%
Dark Matter	85%





# 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*

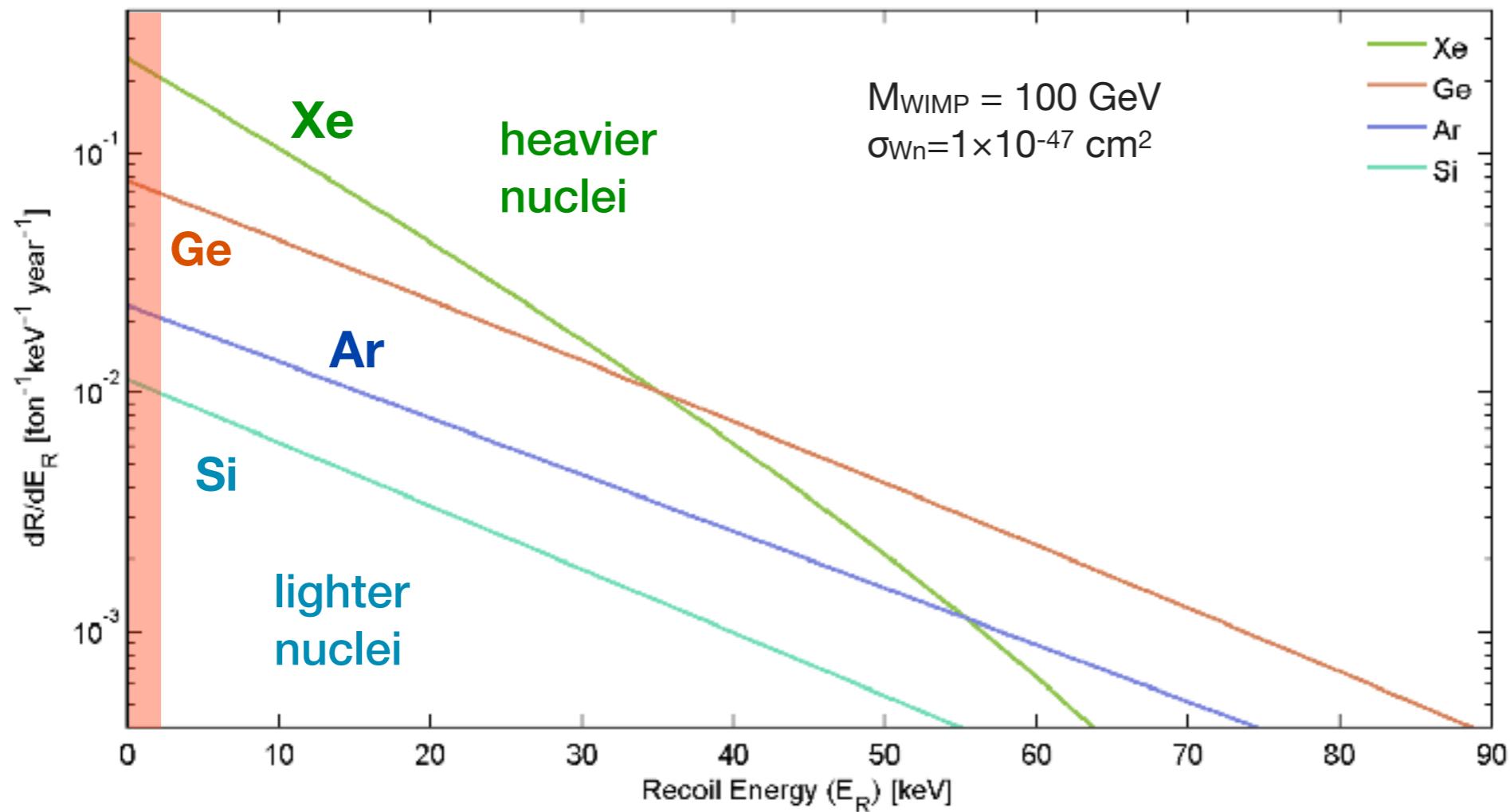
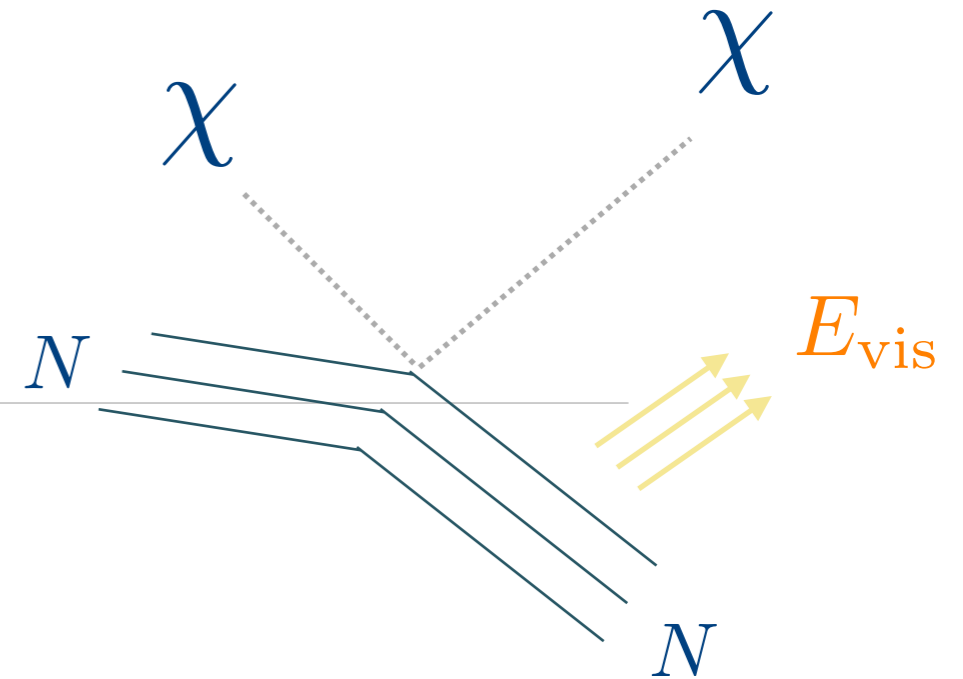




# WIMPs direct detection

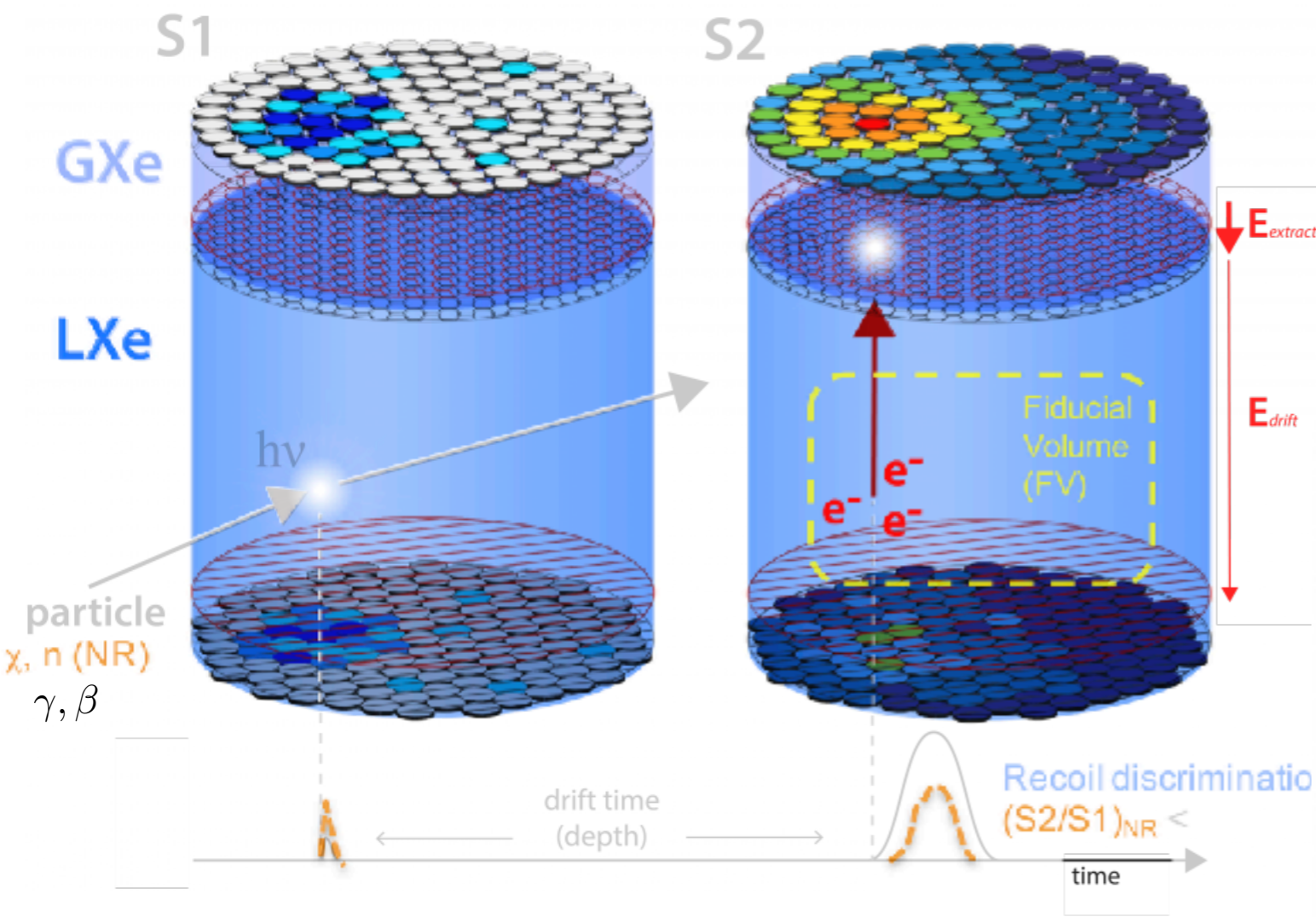
## Collisions of WIMPs with atomic nuclei

=> Measure energy of recoiling nucleus

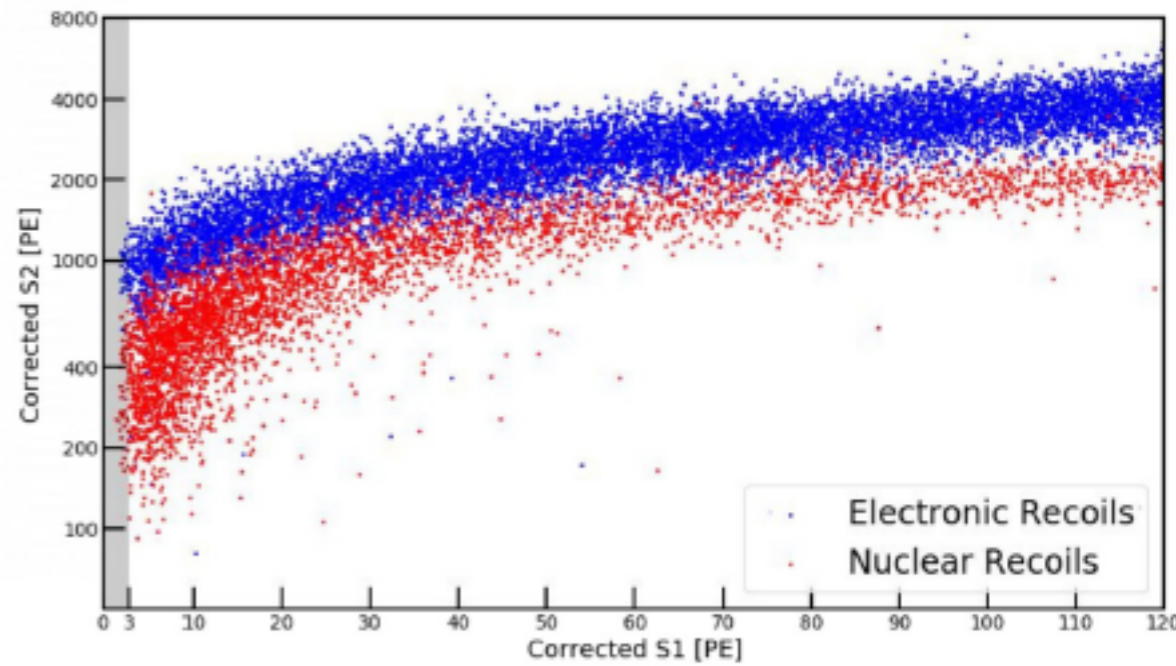




# Two-phase Xe Time Projection Chamber as WIMP detector



- ◆ two signals for each event:
  - ◆ Energy from S1 and S2 area
  - ◆ 3D event imaging: x-y (S2) and z (drift time)
  - ◆ self-shielding, surface event rejection, single vs multiple scatter events
- ◆ Recoil type discrimination from ratio of charge (S2) to light (S1)



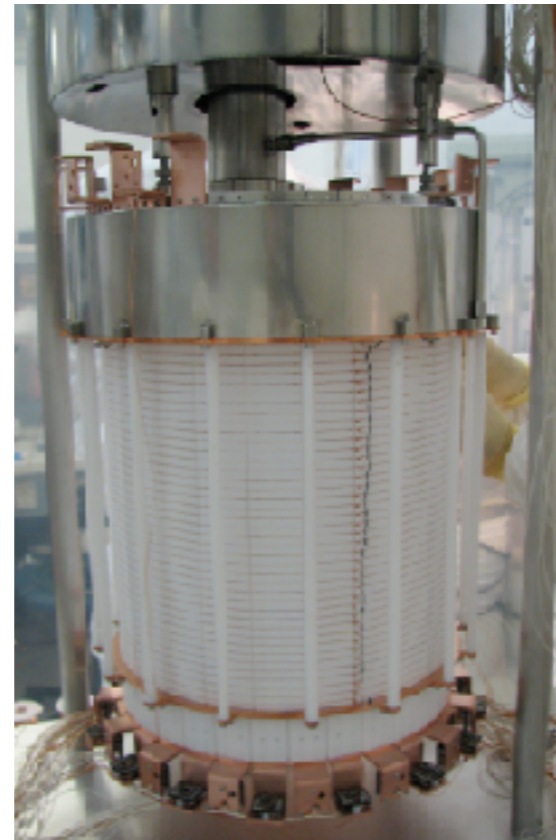


# The phases of XENON

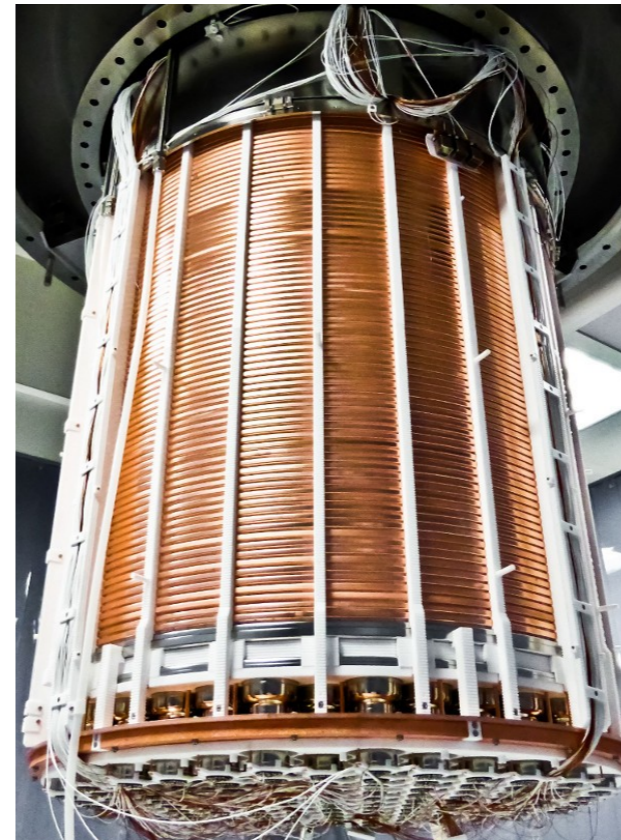
XENON10



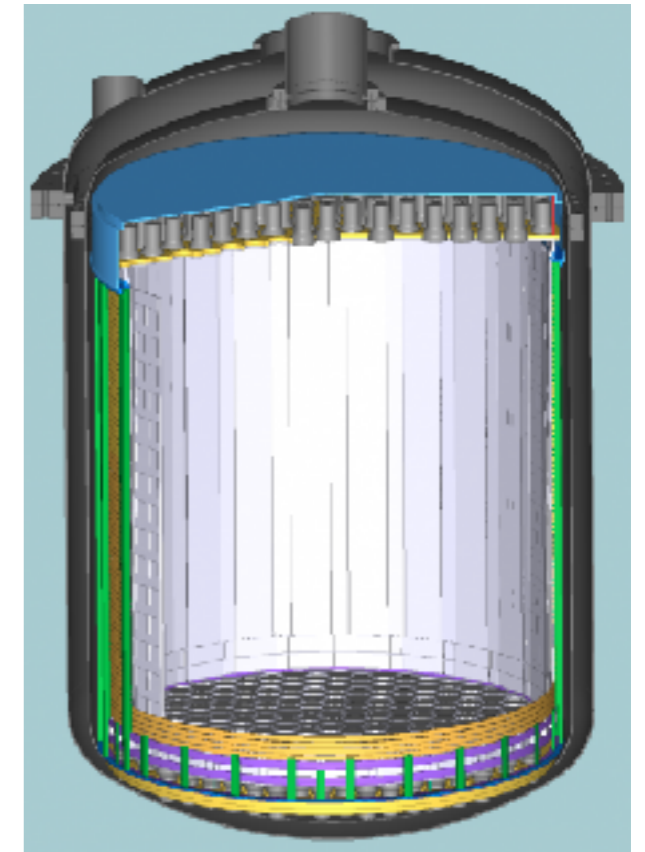
XENON100



XENON1T



XENONnT



2005-2007

25 kg - 15cm drift

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

2008-2016

161 kg - 30 cm drift

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

2012-2018

3.2 ton - 1 m drift

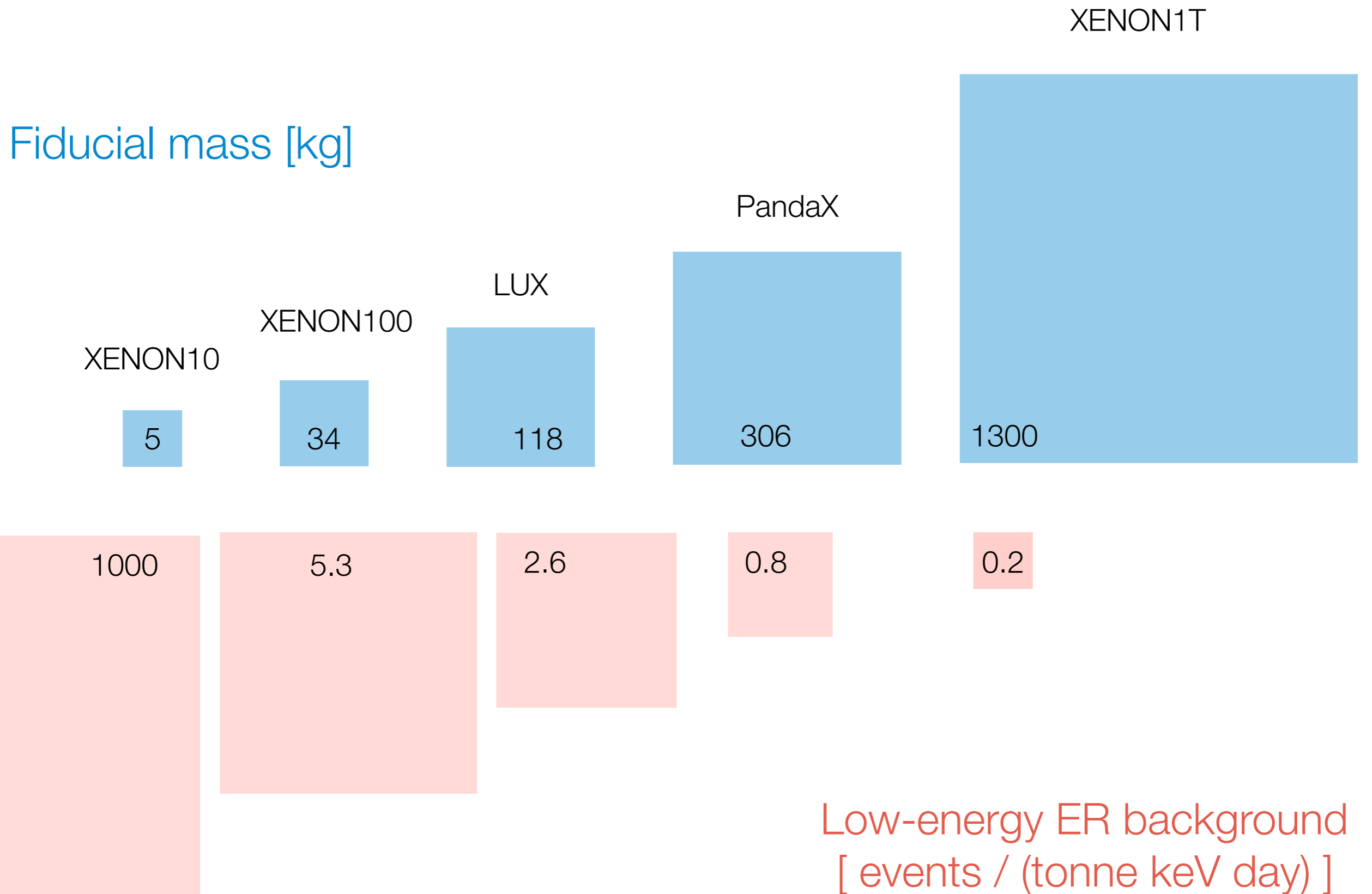
$\sim 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2$

2019-2023

8 ton - 1.5 m drift

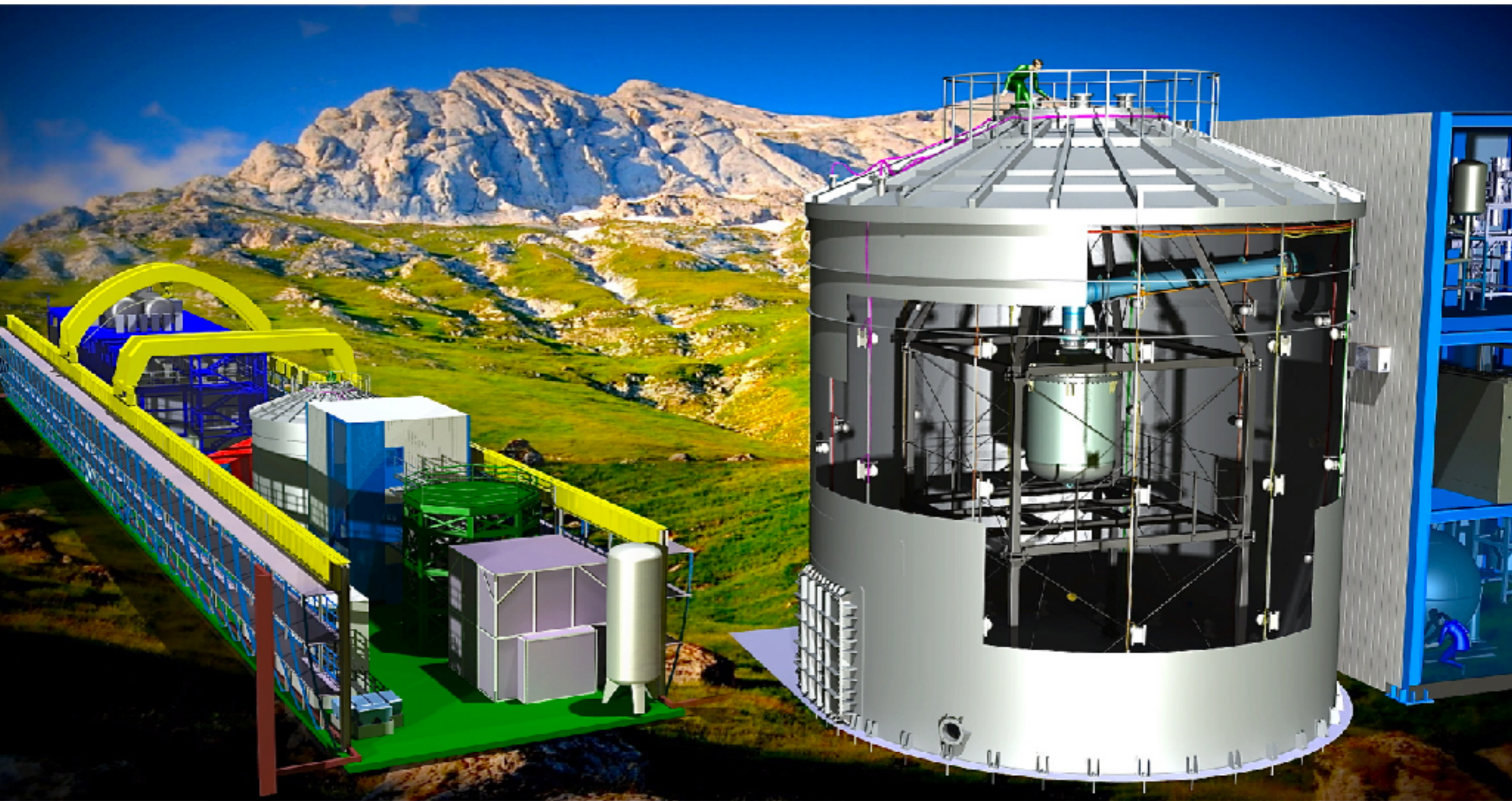
$\sim 10^{-48} \text{ cm}^2$

# Impressive evolution of LXeTPCs as WIMP detectors



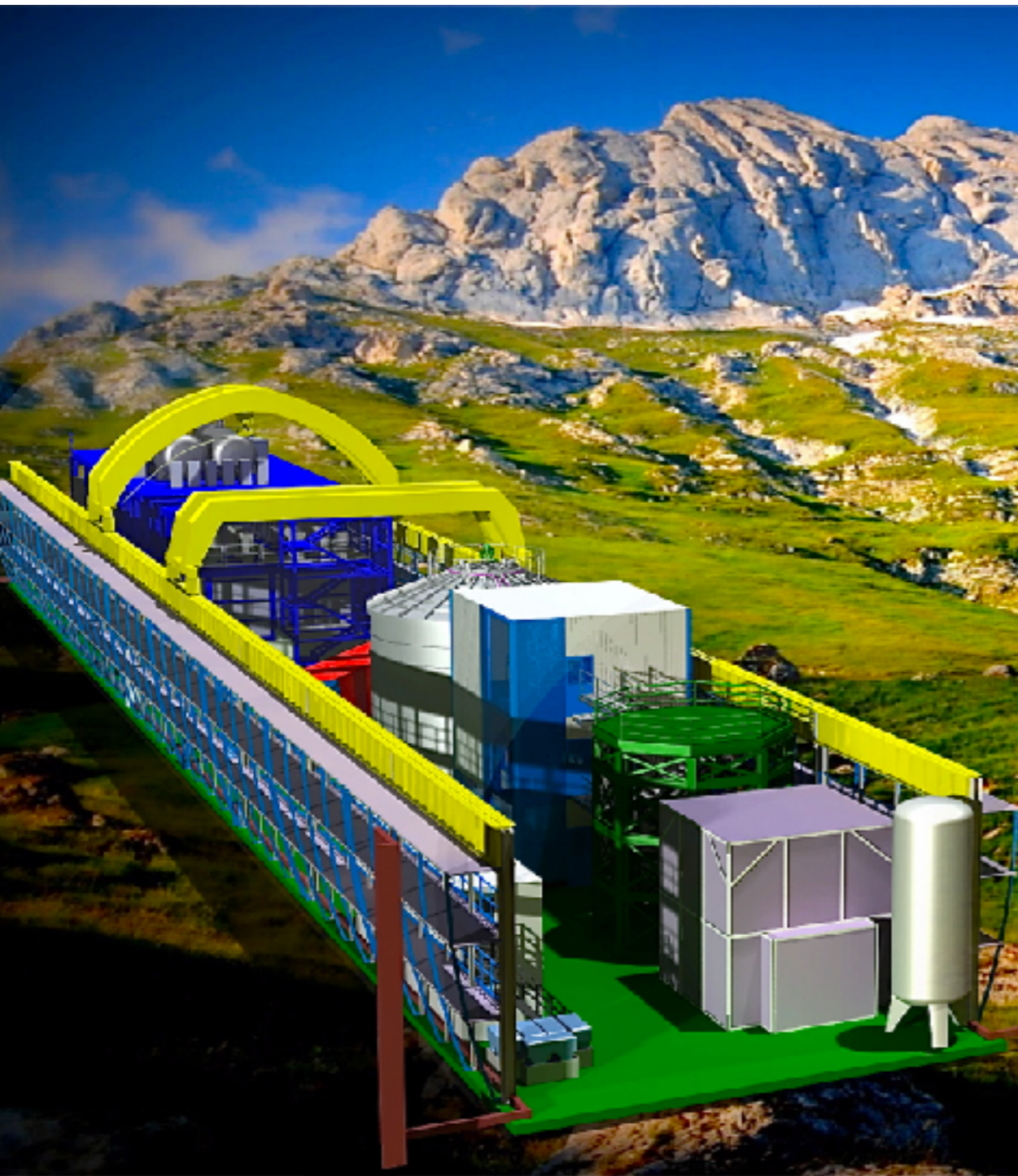


# The XENON1T Experiment @ LNGS





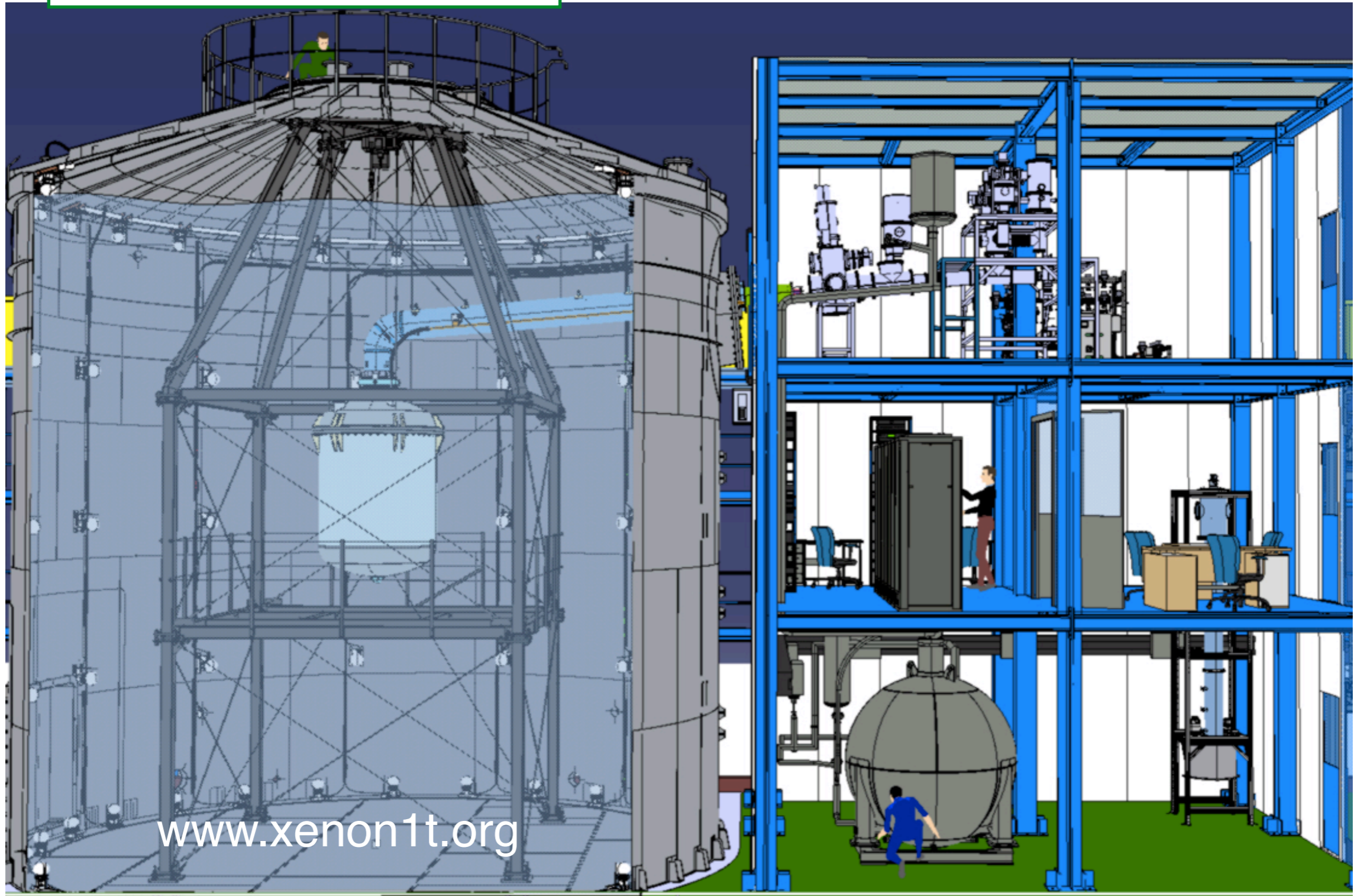
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# XENON1T: All Systems

E. Aprile et al.,  
“The XENON1T Dark Matter Experiment”,  
EPJ C 77, 881 (2017).





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



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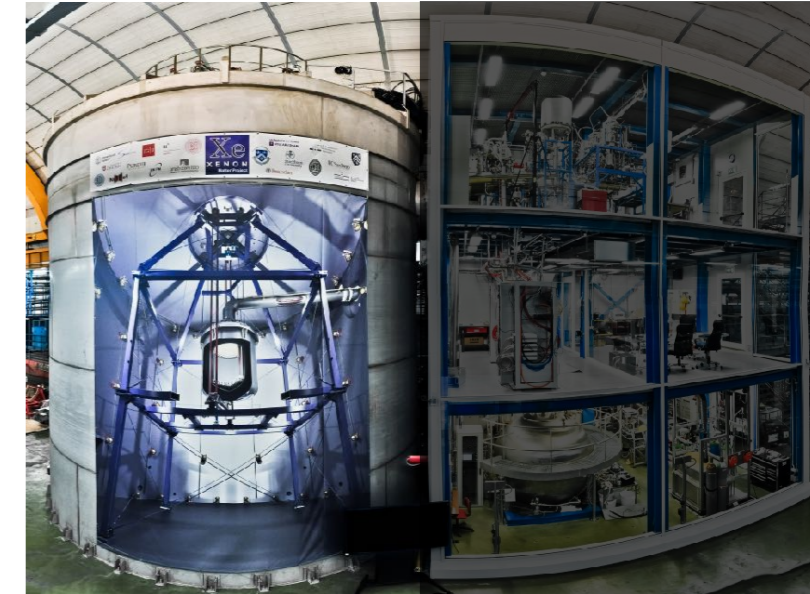
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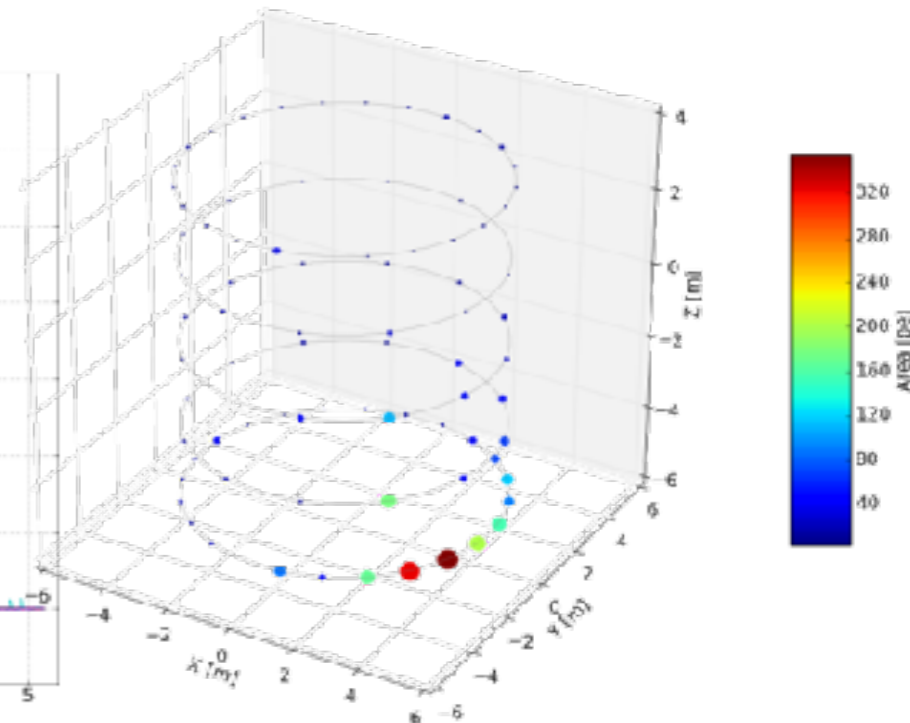
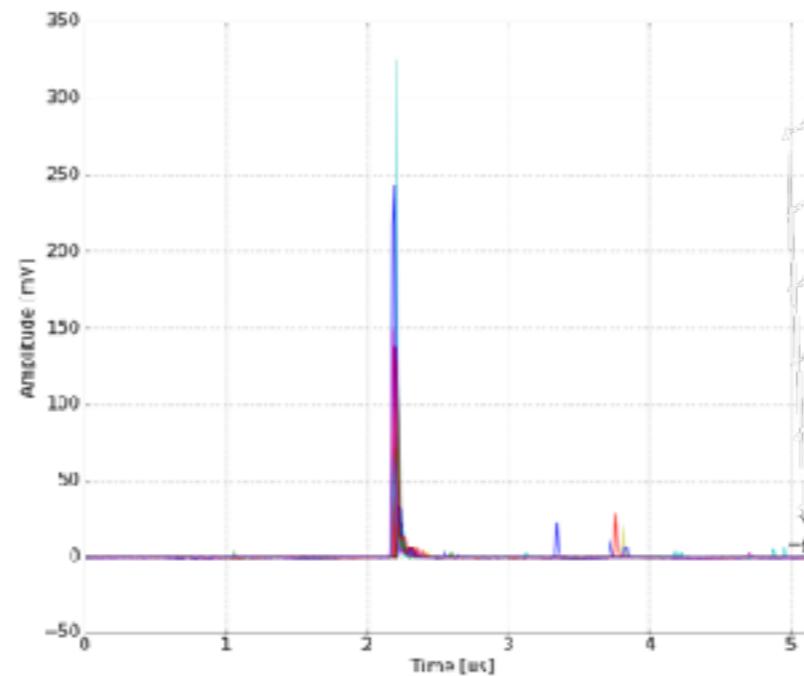




# Water Cherenkov Muon Veto



- 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)



# The XENON1T Time Projection Chamber





# Understanding the Detector





# The XENON1T Light Detection System

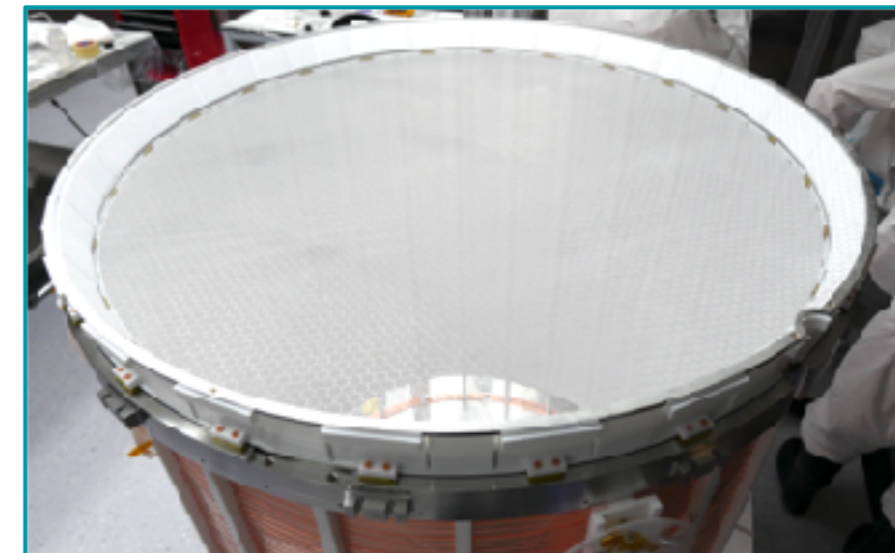
- 248 3-inch low-radioactivity Hamamatsu R11410-21 PMTs arranged in two arrays.
- 35% QE @ 178 nm
- each PMT digitized at 100MHz
- operating gain  $1-5 \times 10^6$  @ 1.5kV stable within 1-2 %
- SPE acceptance ~94%
- High reflectivity PTFE lining of entire inner volume
- Highly-transparent (>90%) grid electrodes



127 PMTs in the top array



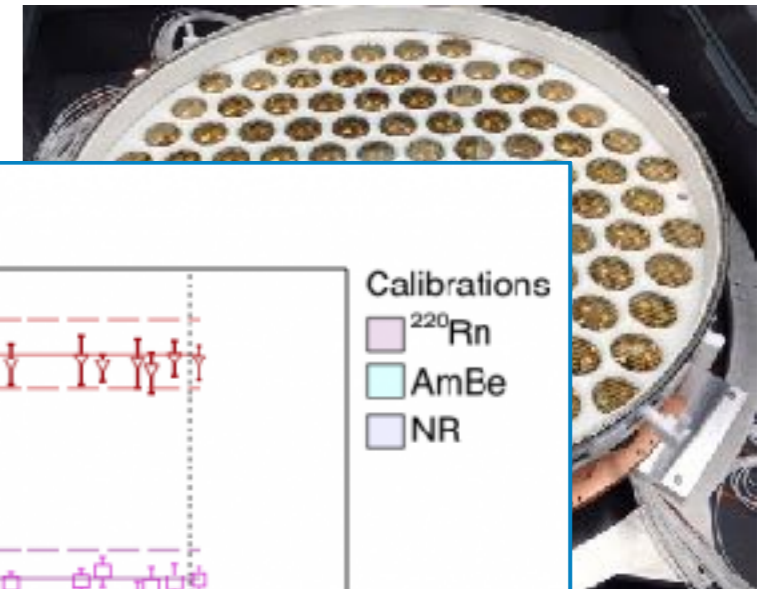
121 PMTs in the bottom array



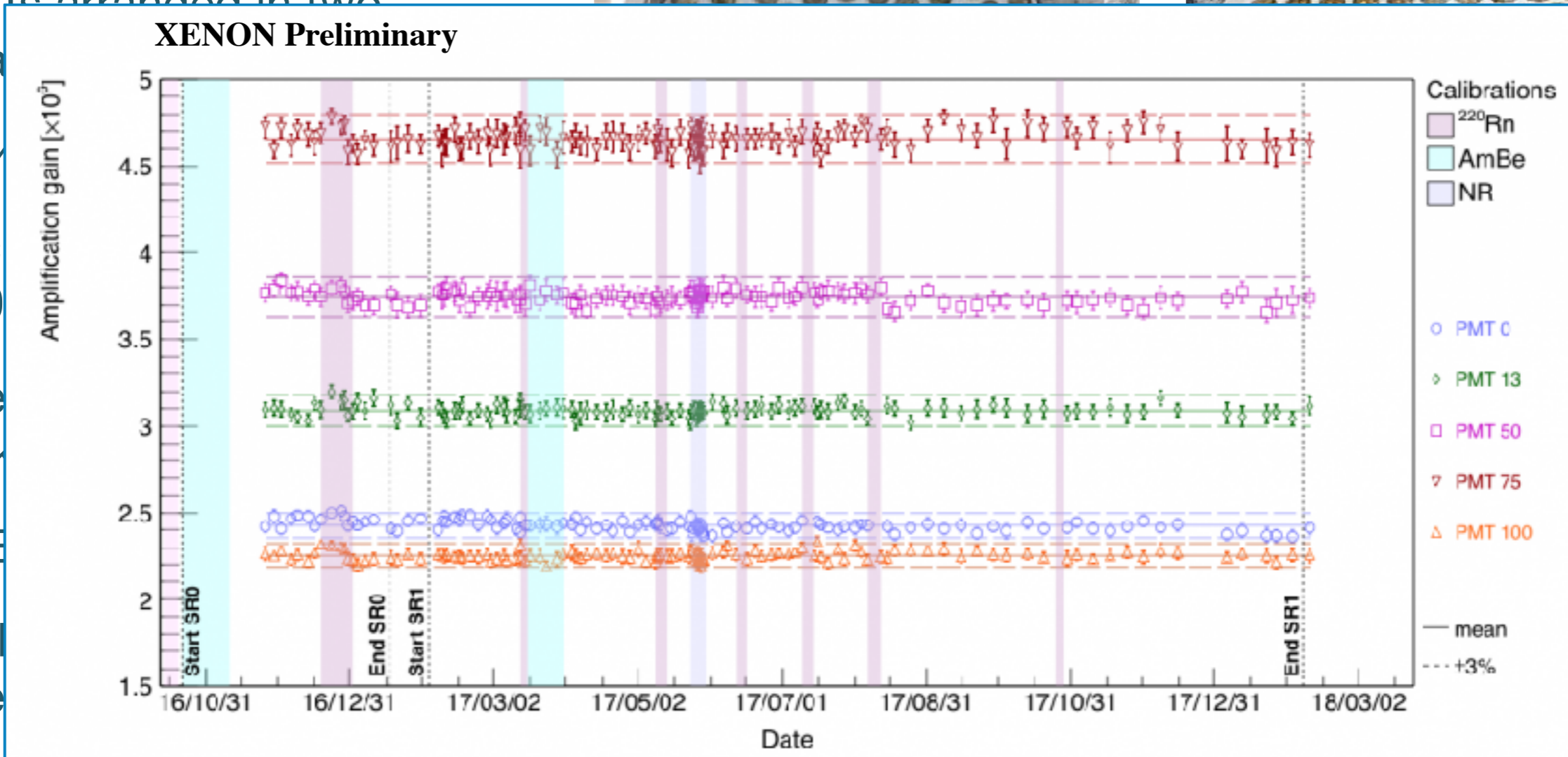


# The XENON1T Light Detection System

- 248 3-inch low-radioactivity Hamamatsu R11410-21 PMTs arranged in two

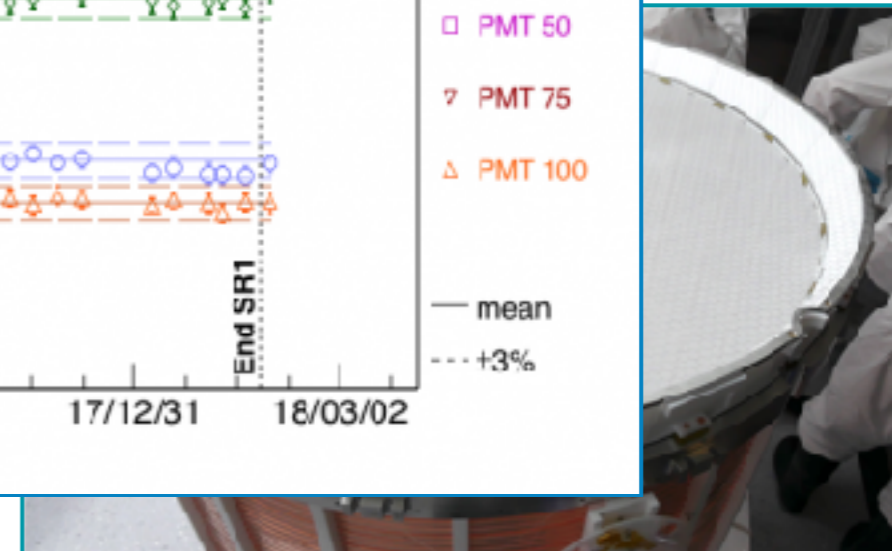
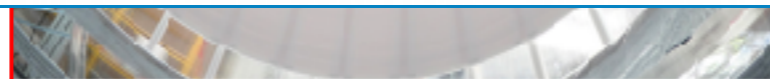


- 35%
- each
- 100
- open
- 1.5k
- SPE
- High
- of e



array

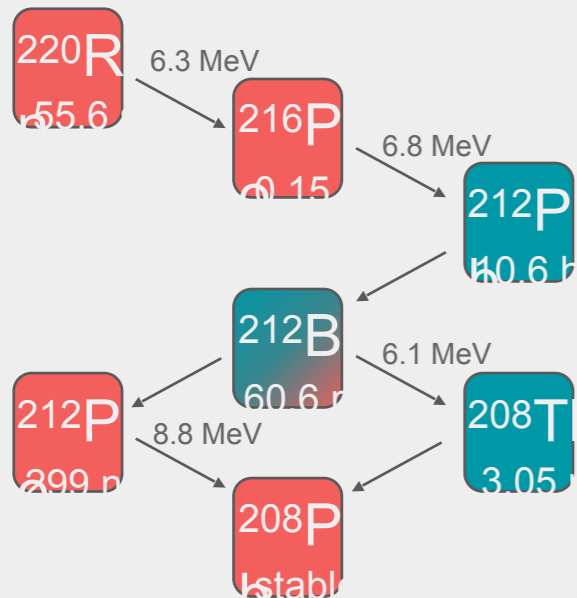
- Highly-transparent ( $>90\%$ ) grid electrodes





# Calibration Sources

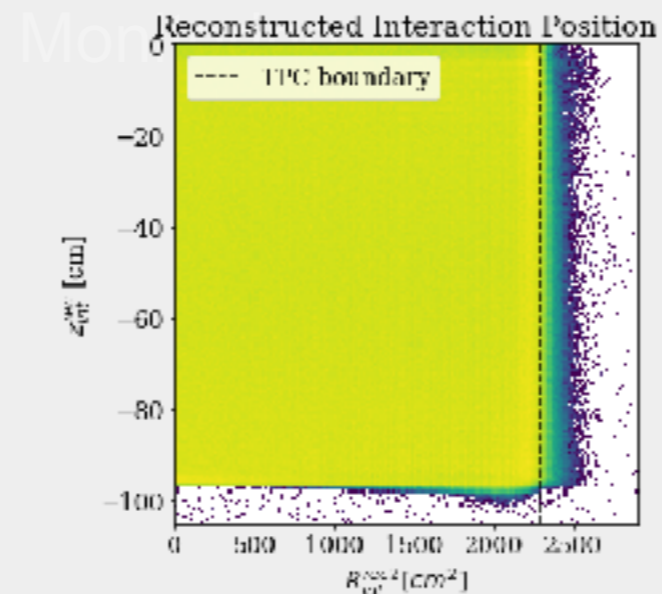
## $^{220}\text{Rn}$ : Low Energy ER



**Type:** Internal  
**Freq:** 1-2 Months  
**Length:** Few days

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

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

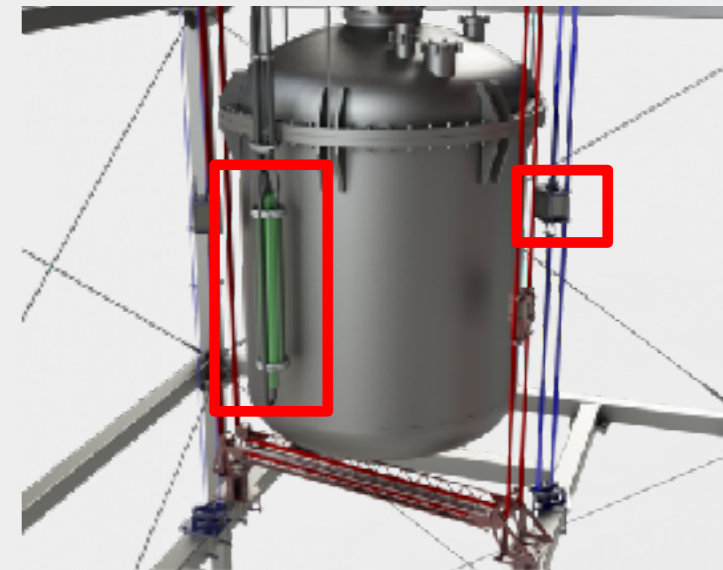


**Type:** Internal  
**Freq:** 2-3 weeks  
**Length:** 1 day  
**Half life:** 1.83h

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

## Neutrons: Signal

Response

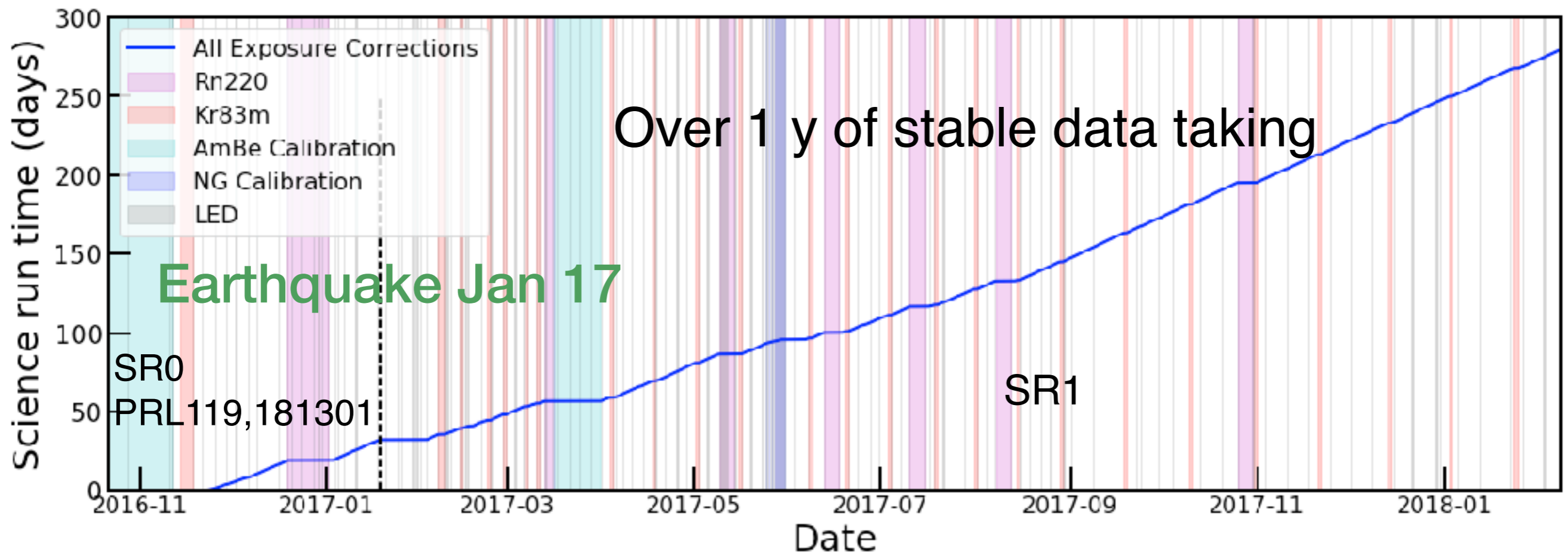


**Type:** External  
**Freq:** As needed  
**Length:** 6 weeks (AmBe)  
**2 days (generator)**



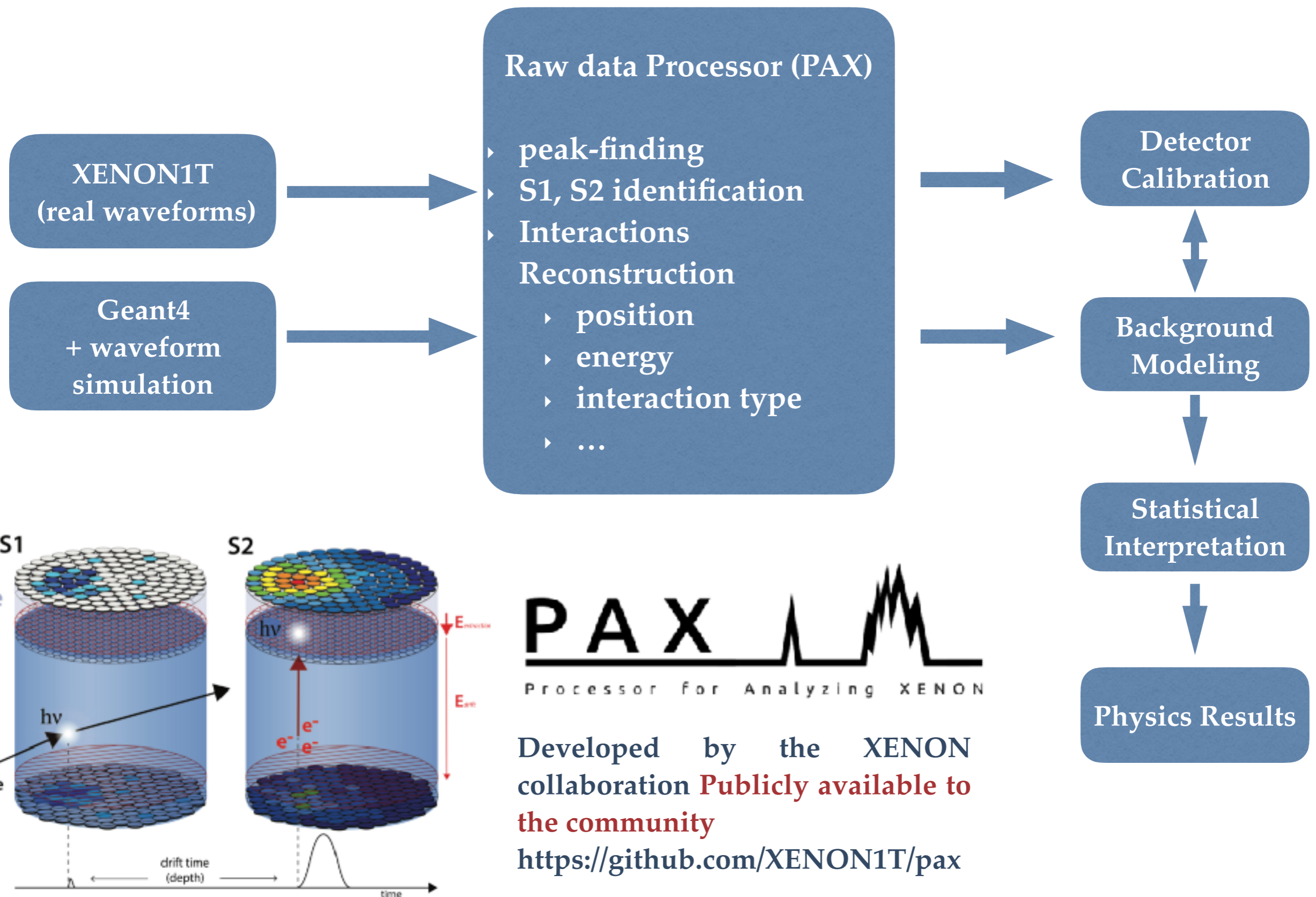
# XENON1T: science and calibration data

- 279 days high quality data (lifetime-corrected) spanning more than 1 year of stable detector's operation. The LXeTPC has been “cold” since Spring 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





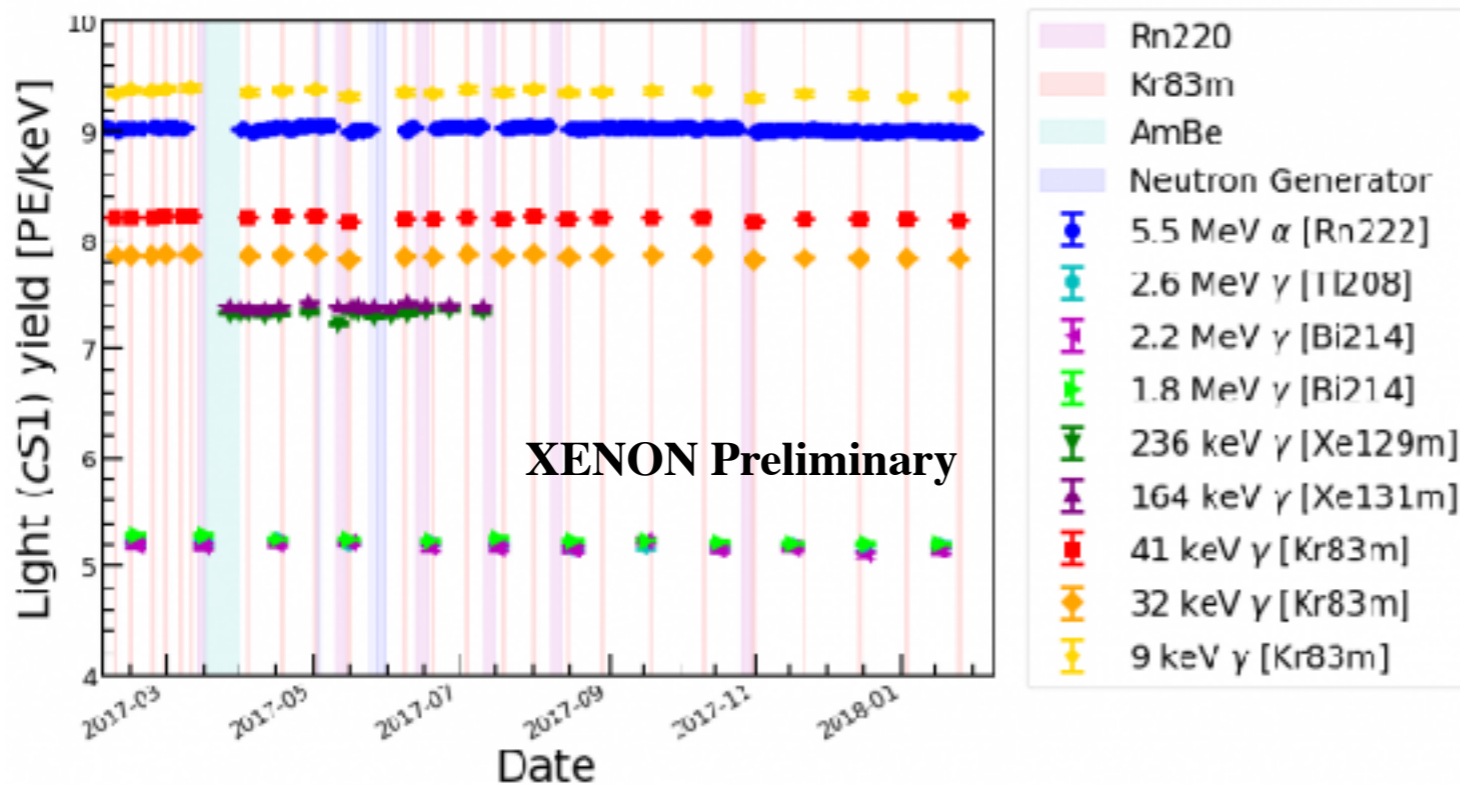
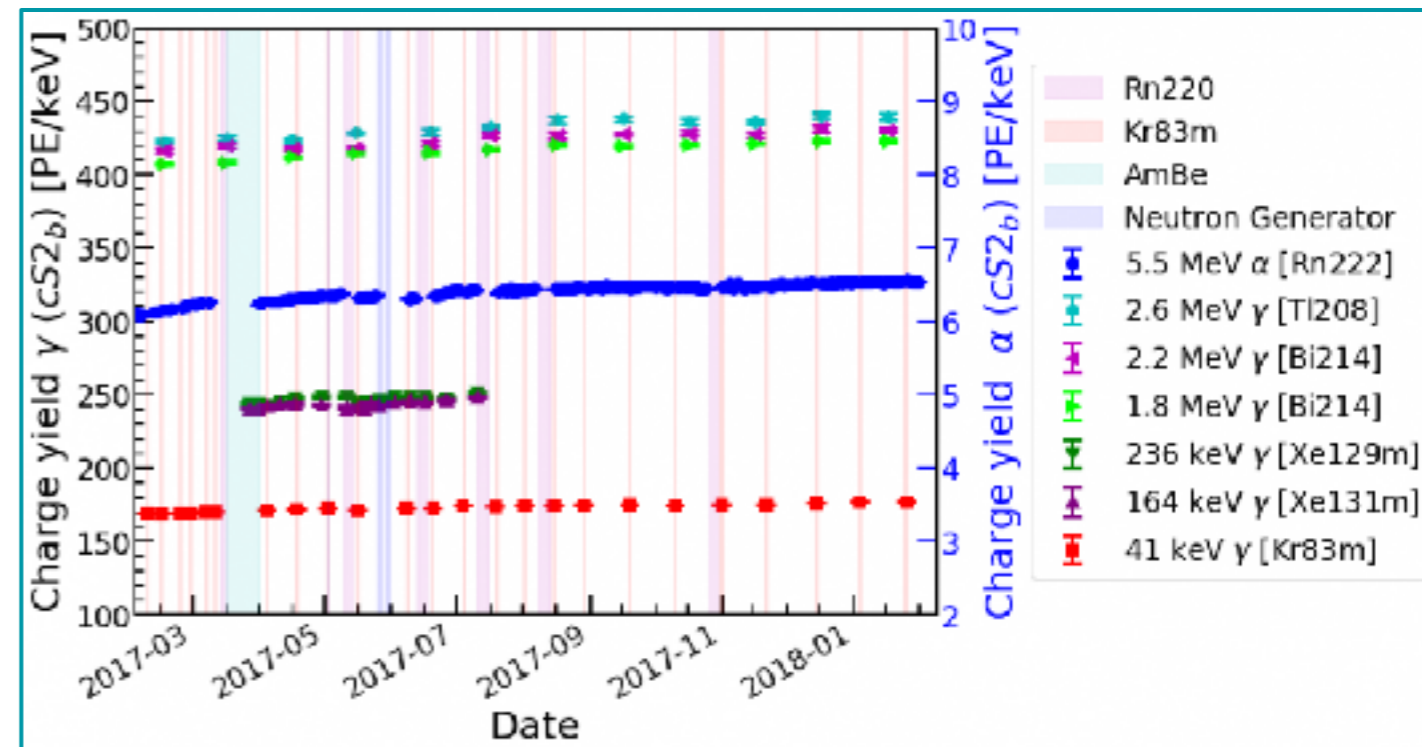
# Data Analysis: overview





# Light and Charge Signals Stability

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

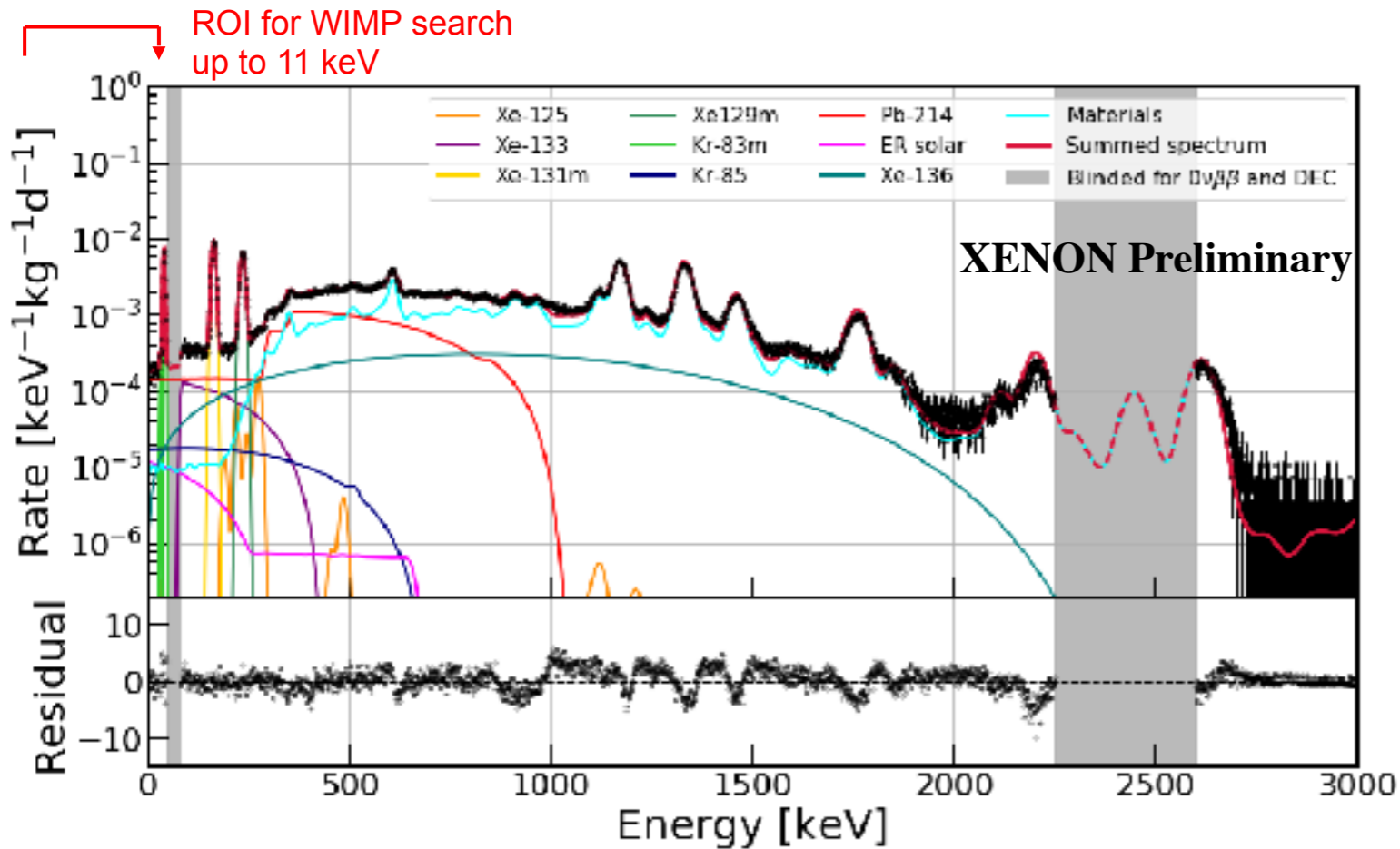


Light and charge yield stability monitored with several sources:

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

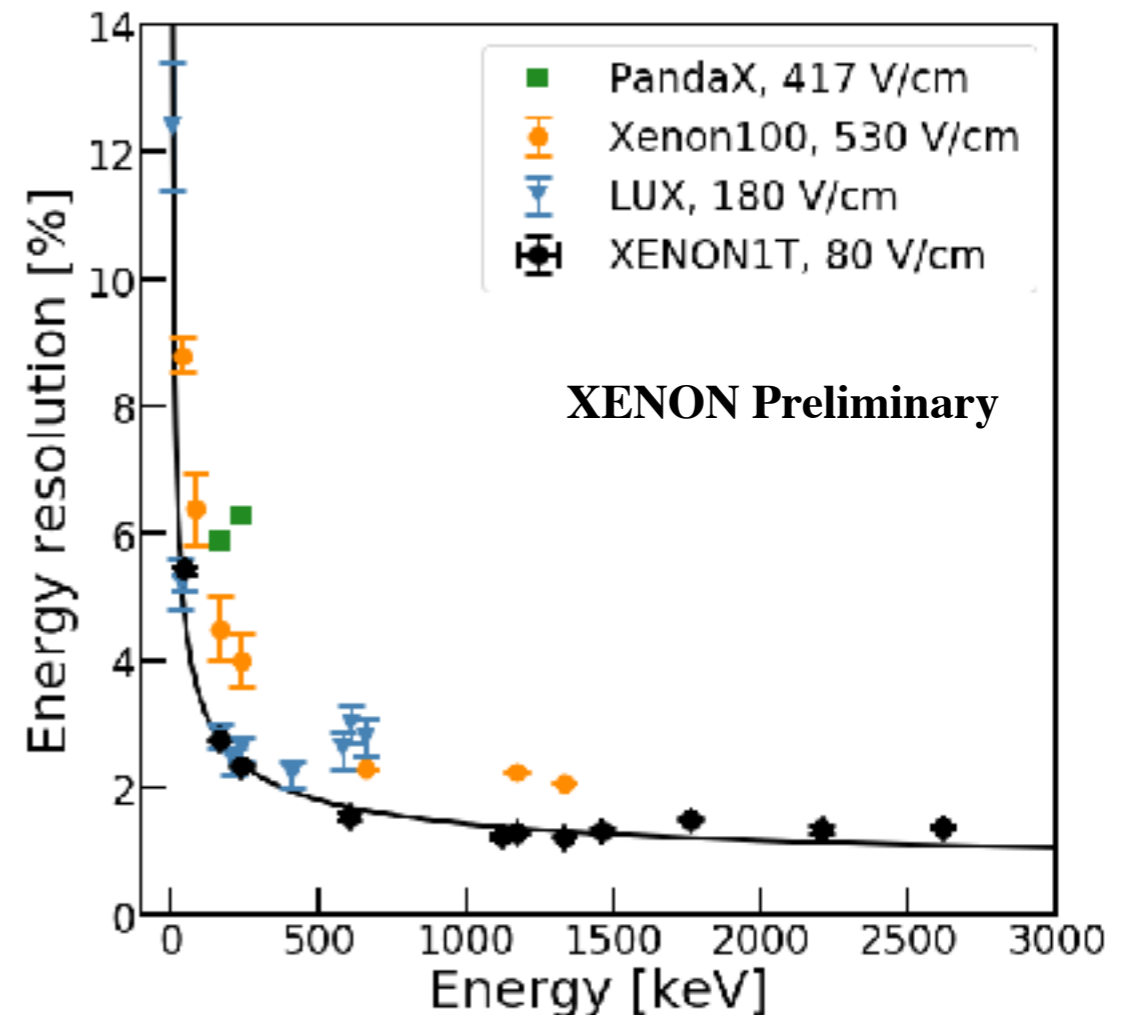


# Energy Resolution



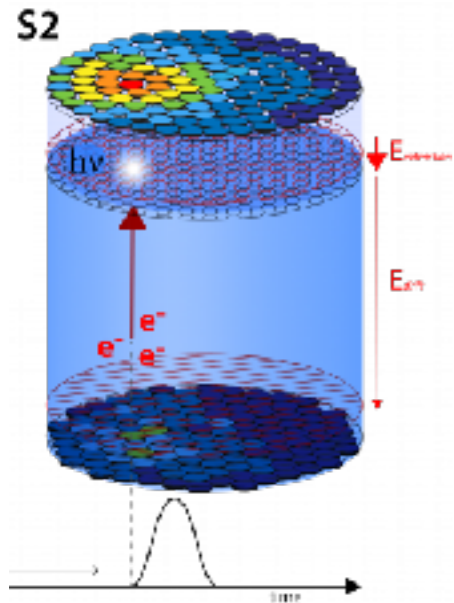
- Good agreement between predicted and measured background spectrum
- Kr: 0.66 ppt; Pb214: ~ 10  $\mu$ Bq/kg
- Gammas based on screening measurements

- 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





# Position Reconstruction



## X-Y reconstruction via **neural network**:

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

## **Position resolution** using $^{83}\text{mKr}$

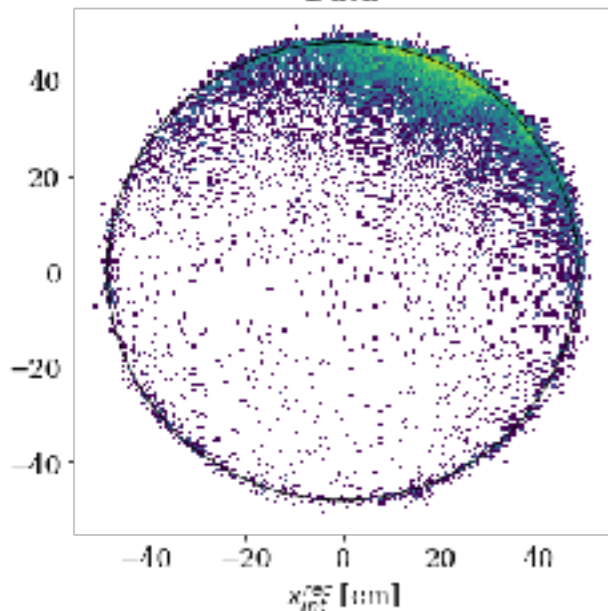
- Two interactions (9, 31 keV), same x-y
- Position resolution (1-2 cm)
- PMT diameter (7.62 cm)

## **Position corrections** using $^{83}\text{mKr}$

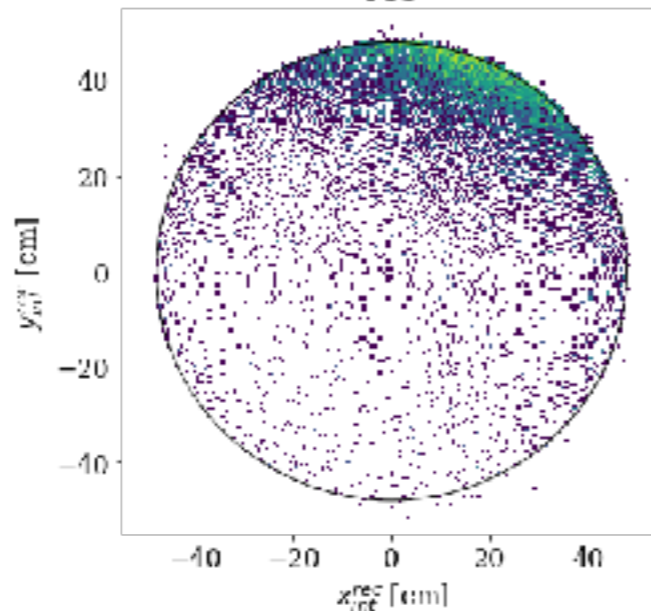
- **Drift field distortion**
- Localized inhomogeneities from inactive PMTs
- Data-derived correction verified by comparison to MC with several event sources

Neutron Generator data

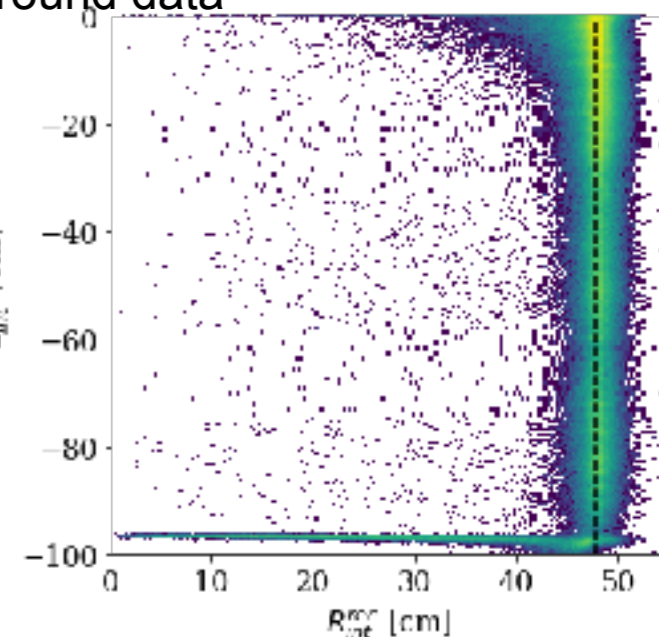
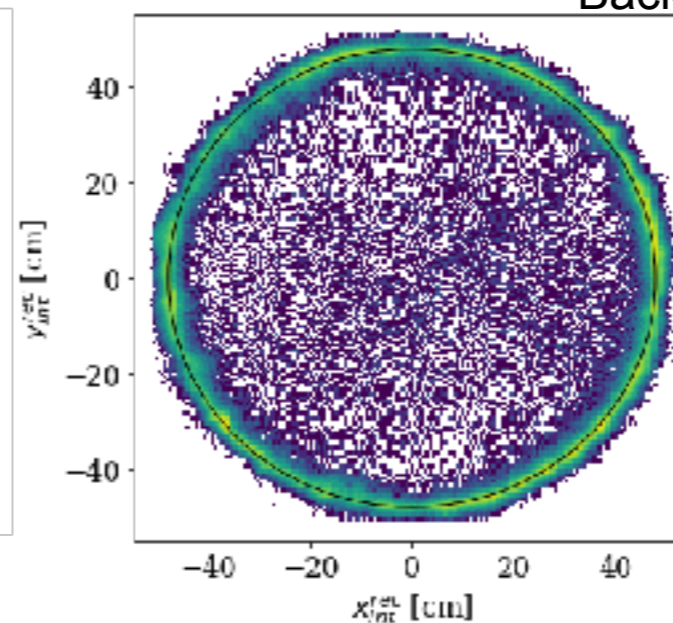
Data



MC



Background data





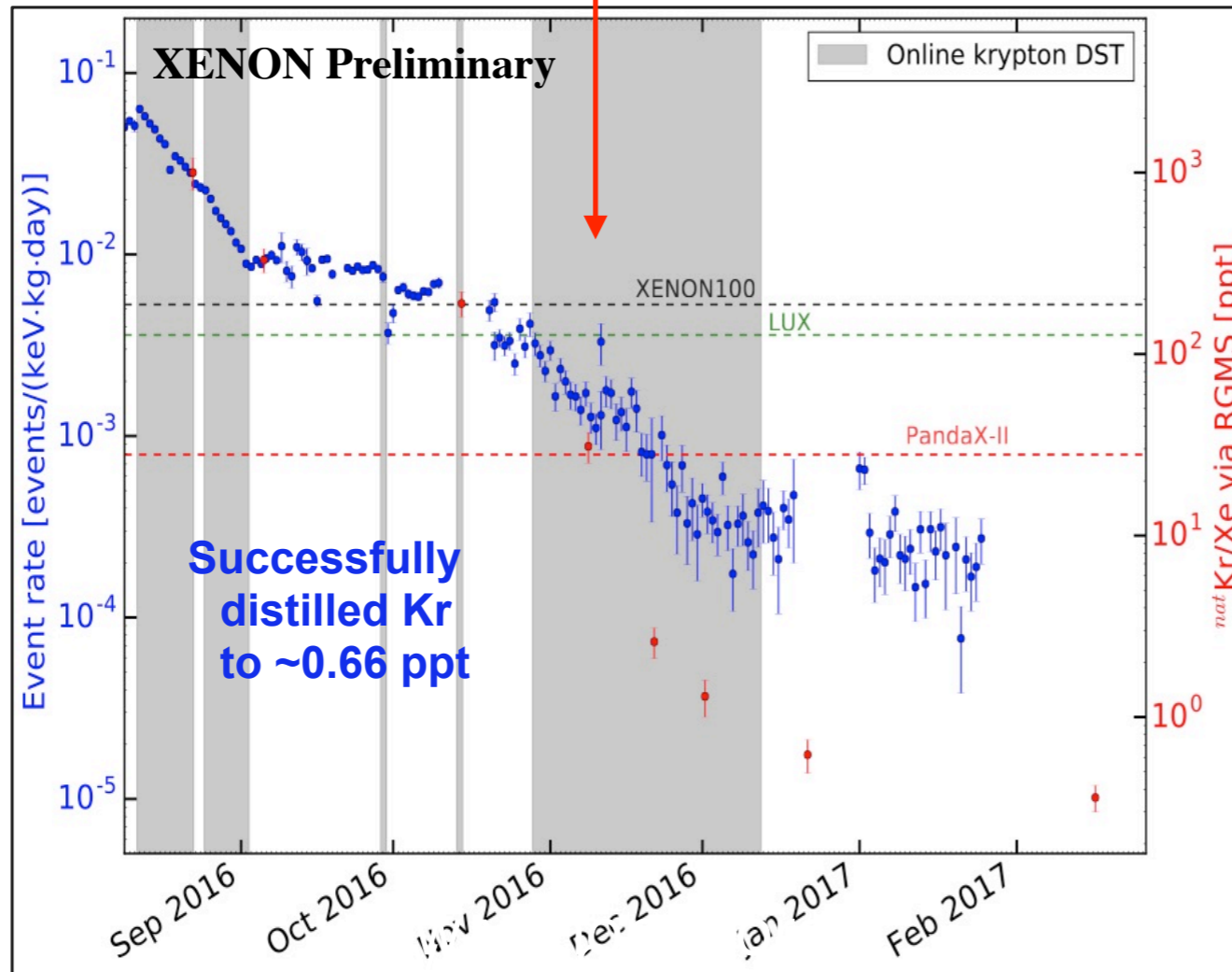
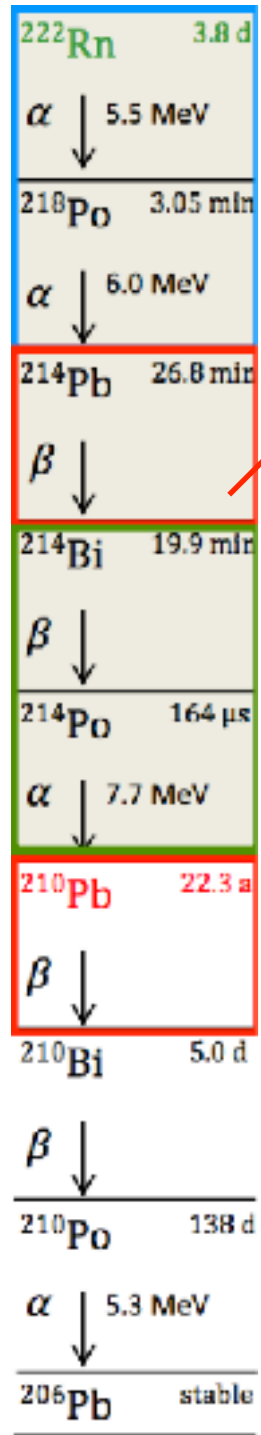
# Understanding the Backgrounds





# Electronic Recoil Backgrounds

- Rn222 : 10 uBq/kg
  - Achieved with careful surface emanation control and measurements
  - Further reduction with online cryogenic distillation
- Kr85 : sub-ppt Kr/Xe
  - Achieved with online cryogenic distillation
- Materials radioactivity (HPGe gamma screening): subdominant



Source	Rate [ $\text{t}^{-1} \text{y}^{-1}$ ]	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
<b>Total</b>	$720 \pm 60$	

(Expectations in 1-12 keV search window, 1t FV, single scatters, before ER/NR discrimination)

JCAP04 (2016) 027



# ER Background Evolution

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**Predicted:** (considering 10 uBq/kg of  $^{214}\text{Pb}$ , and on average 0.66 ppt of Kr):

**$(76 \pm 8)$  events / (ton·year·keV)**

**Measured:**

**$(82^{+5}_{-3}$  (syst.)  $\pm 3$  (stat) ) events / (ton·year·keV)**

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



# Nuclear Recoil Backgrounds

Cosmogenic  $\mu$ -induced neutrons significantly reduced by rock overburden and muon veto

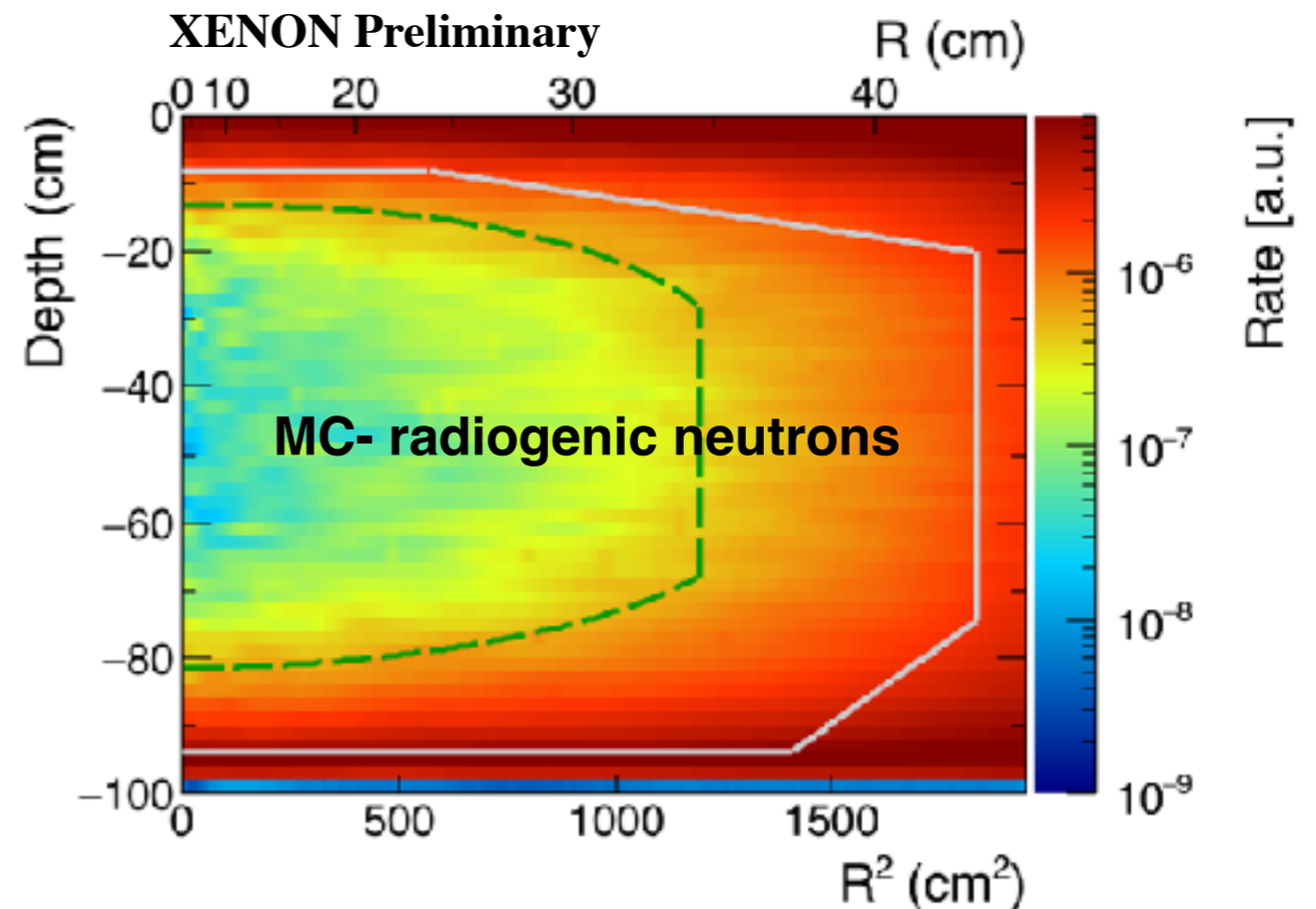
Coherent elastic  $\nu$ -nucleus scattering, constrained by  $^8\text{B}$  neutrino flux and measurements, is an irreducible background at very low energy (1 keV)

Radiogenic neutrons from  $(\alpha, n)$  reactions and fission from  $^{238}\text{U}$  and  $^{232}\text{Th}$ : reduced via careful materials selection, event multiplicity and fiducialization

Source	Rate [ $\text{t}^{-1} \text{y}^{-1}$ ]	Fraction [%]
Radiogenic n	$0.6 \pm 0.1$	96,5
$\text{CE}\nu\text{NS}$	0,012	2,0
Cosmogenic n	$< 0.01$	$< 2.0$

(Expectations in 4-50 keV search window, 1t FV, single scatters)

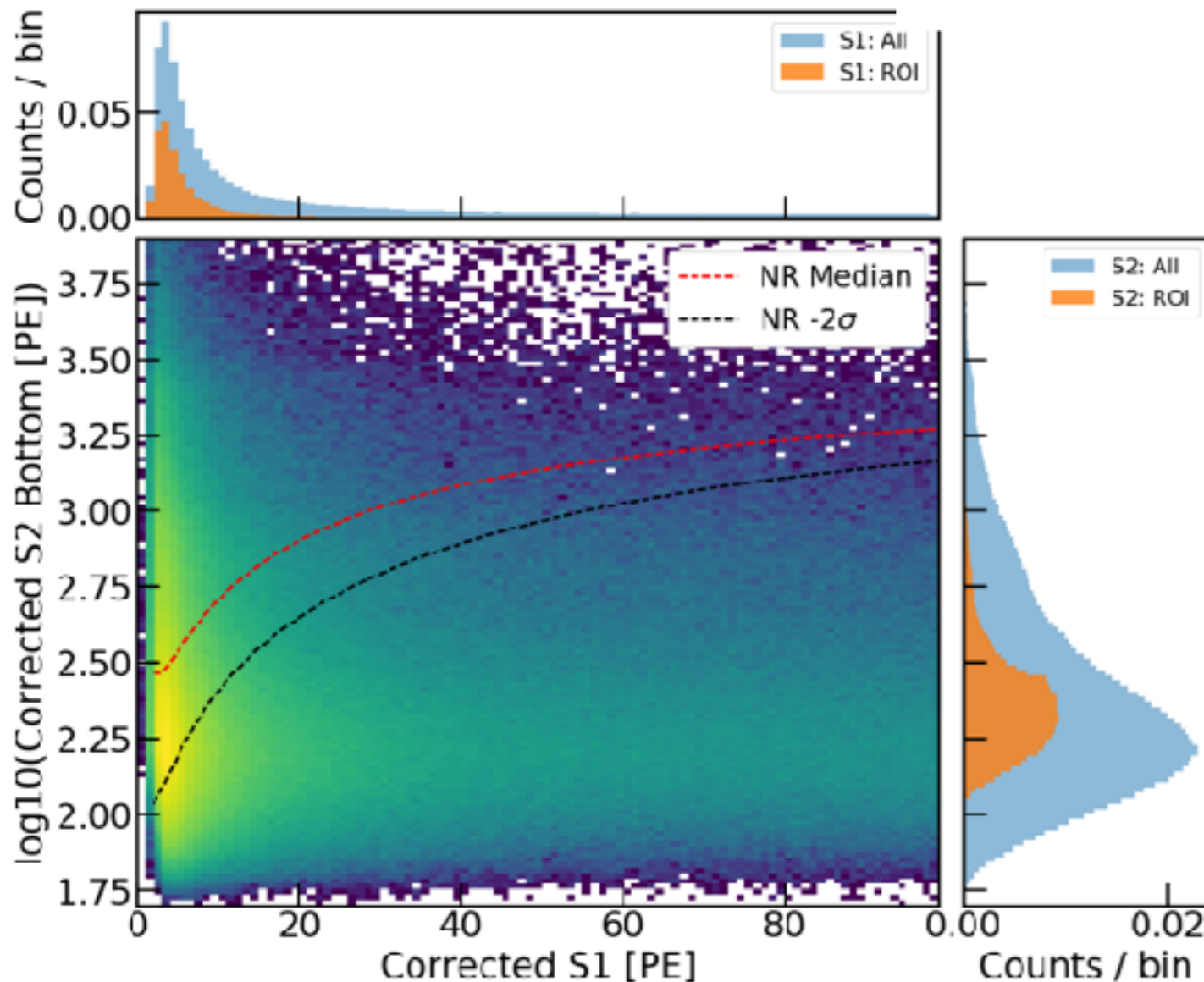
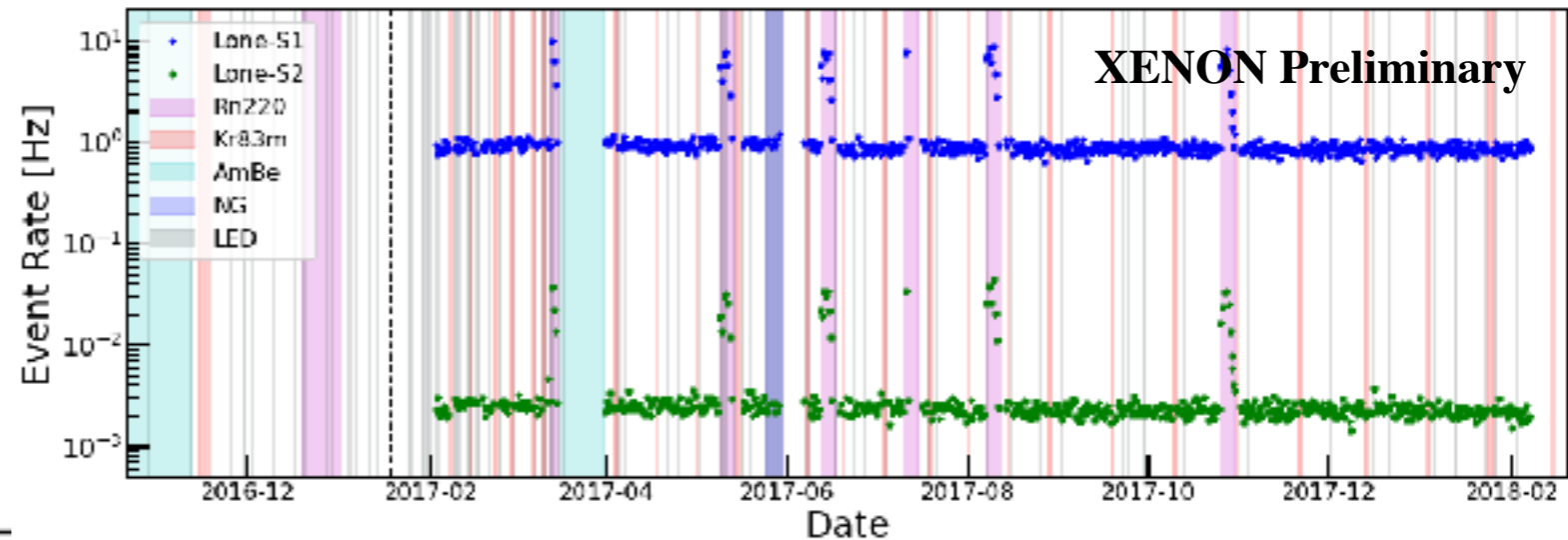
JCAP04 (2016) 027





# Accidental Coincidence Background

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



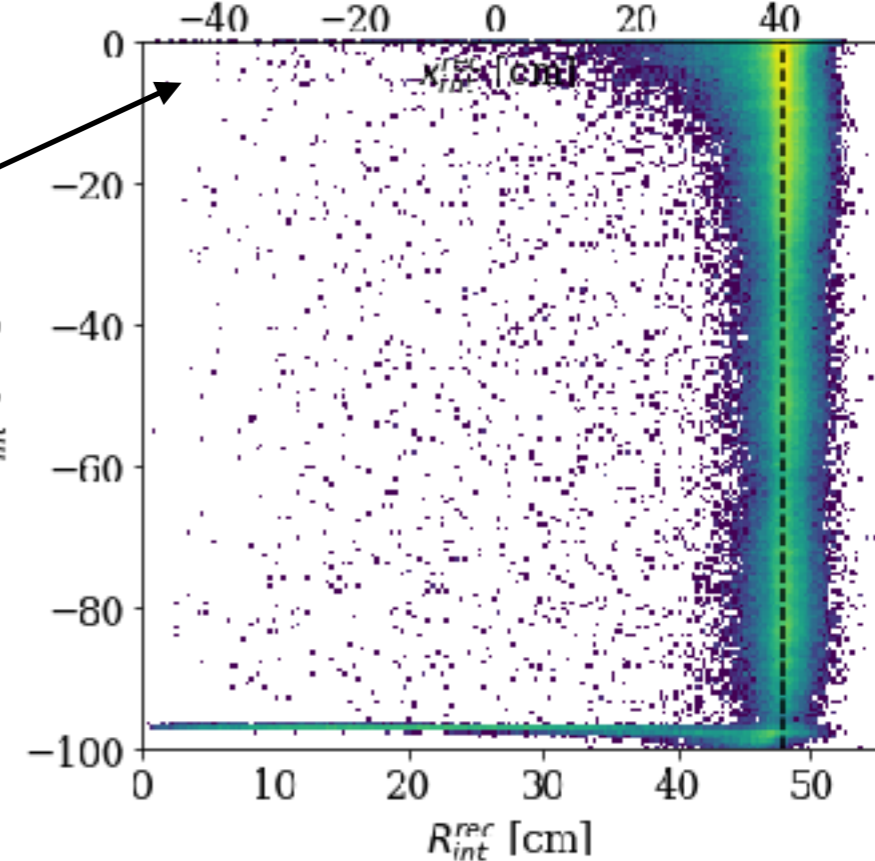
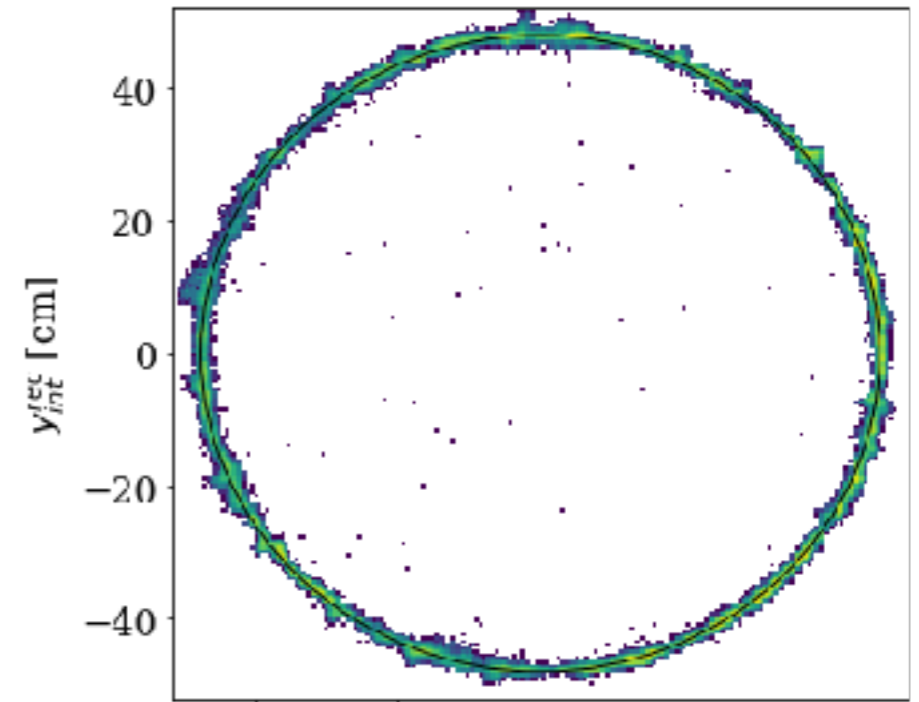
Empirical model shows an overall small rate in the ROI for NRs

- Select unpaired S1/S2 from data
- Randomly pair to form events
- Apply selection conditions from analysis
- Performance verified with <sup>220</sup>Rn data and background sidebands

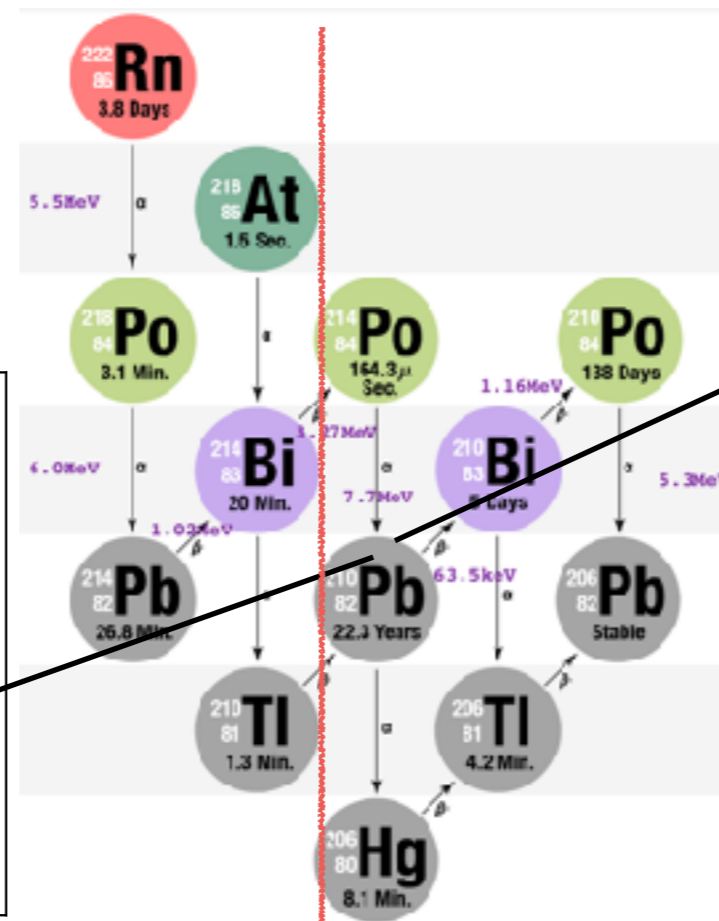
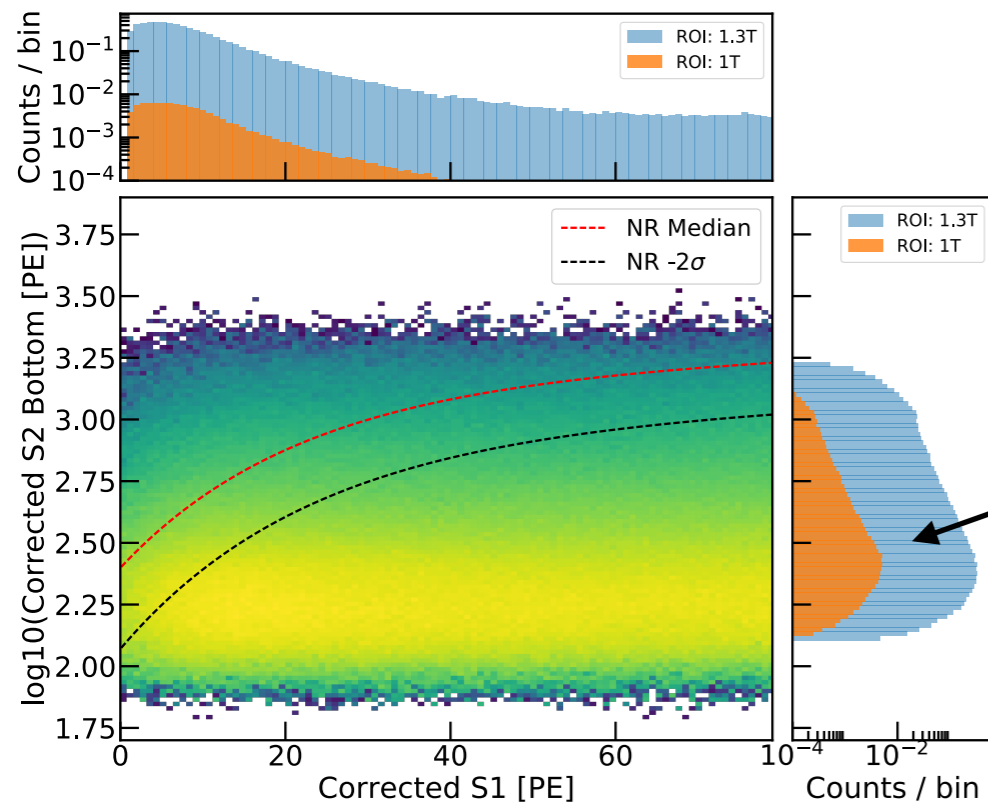


# Surface Background

- Pb210 and Po210 plate-out on PTFE surface produce events with reduced S2 -> can be mis-reconstructed into NR signal region
- Suppressed by fiducialization of volume
- Data-driven model derived from surface event control samples

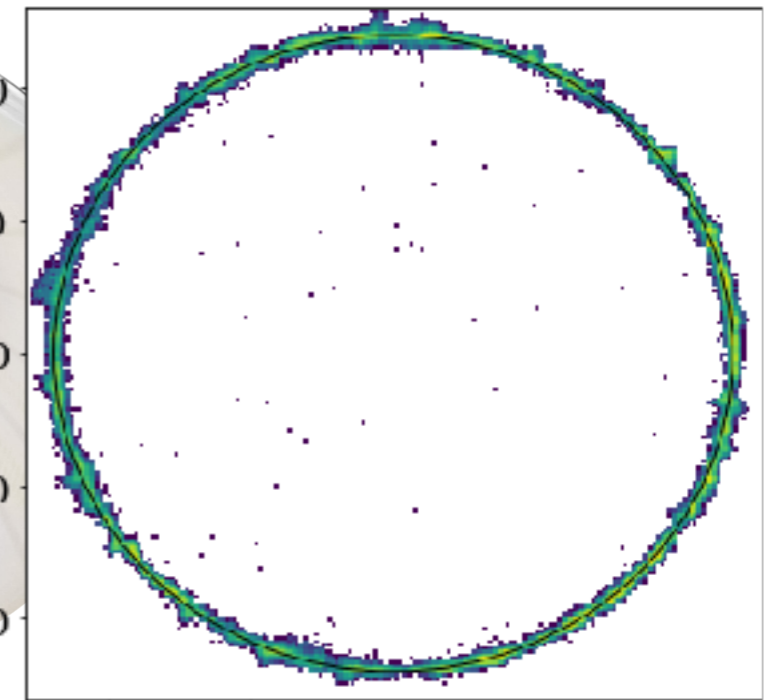


XENON Preliminary

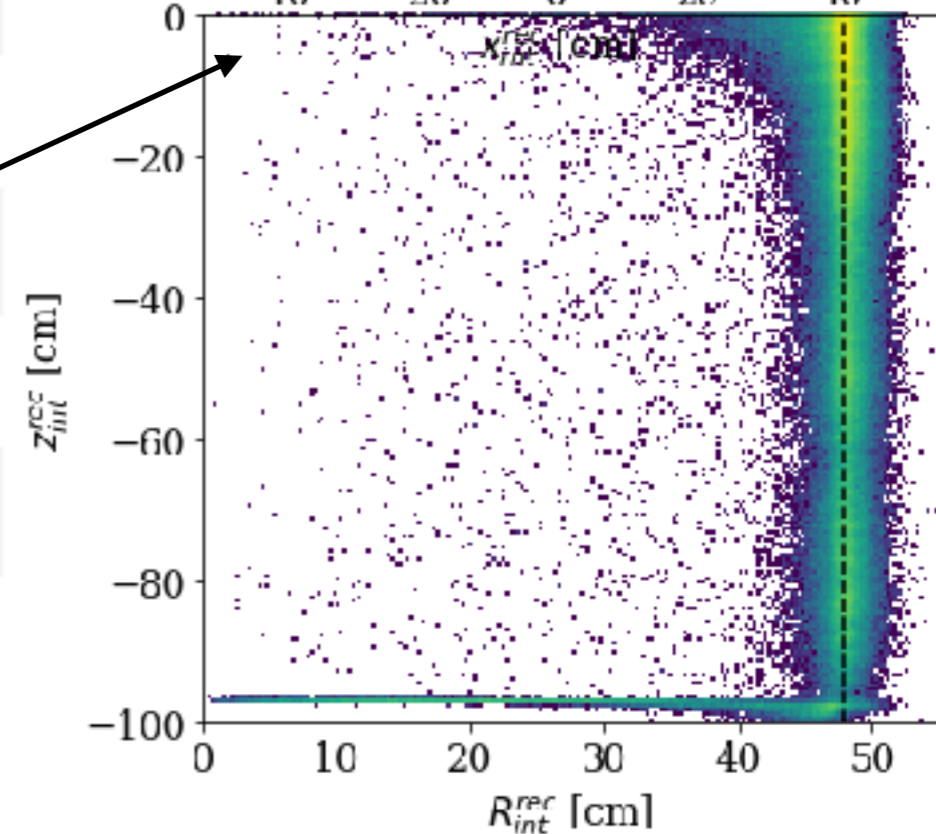
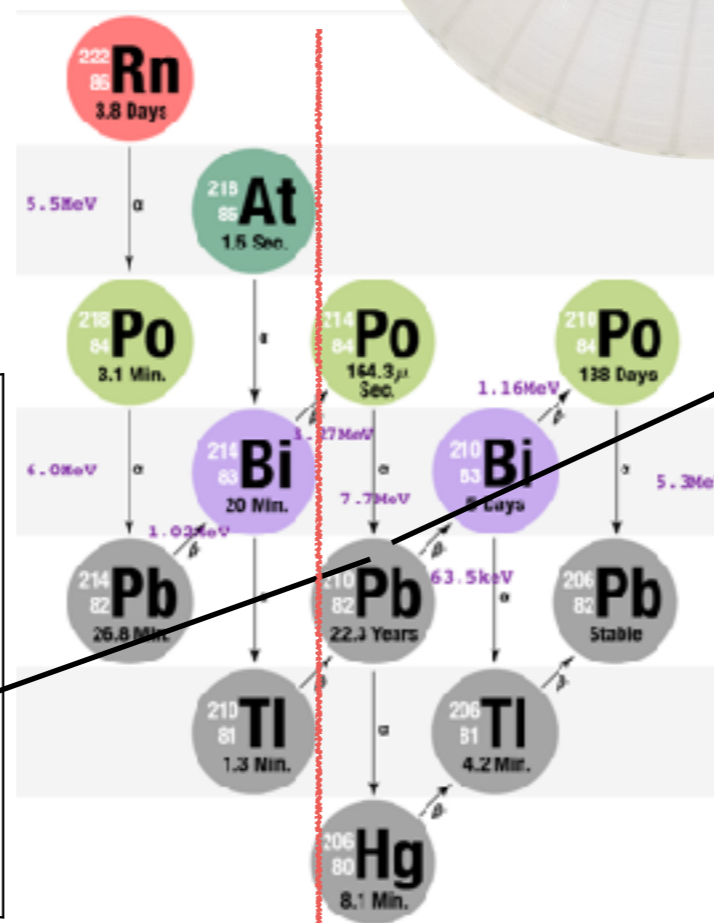
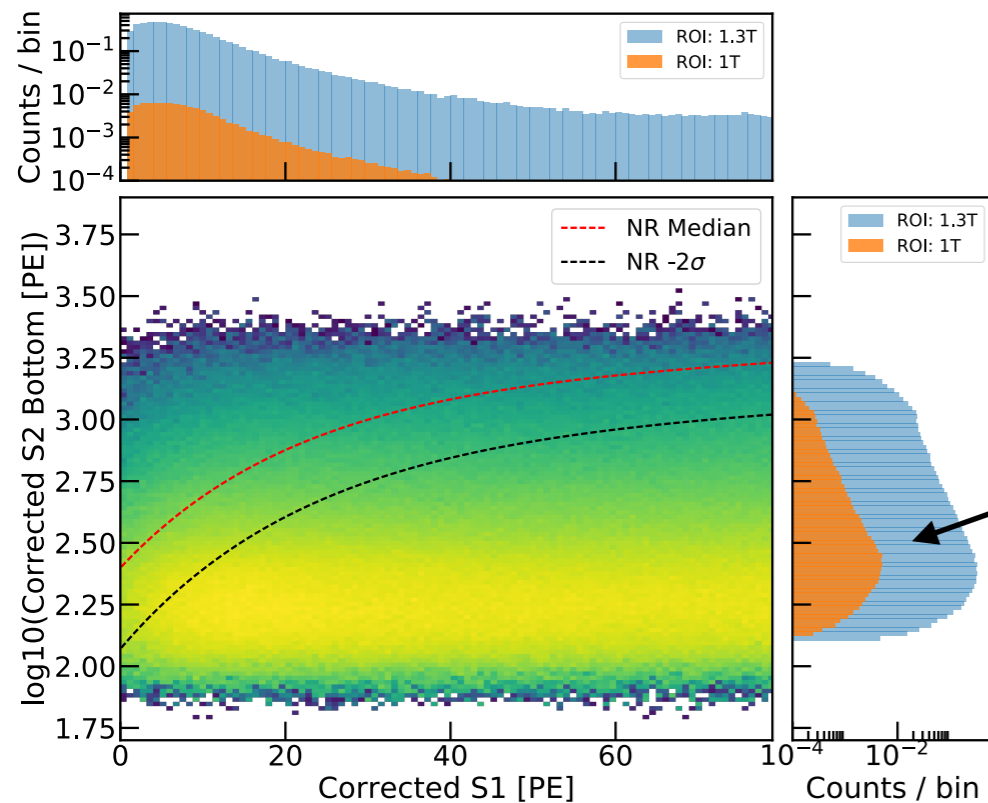


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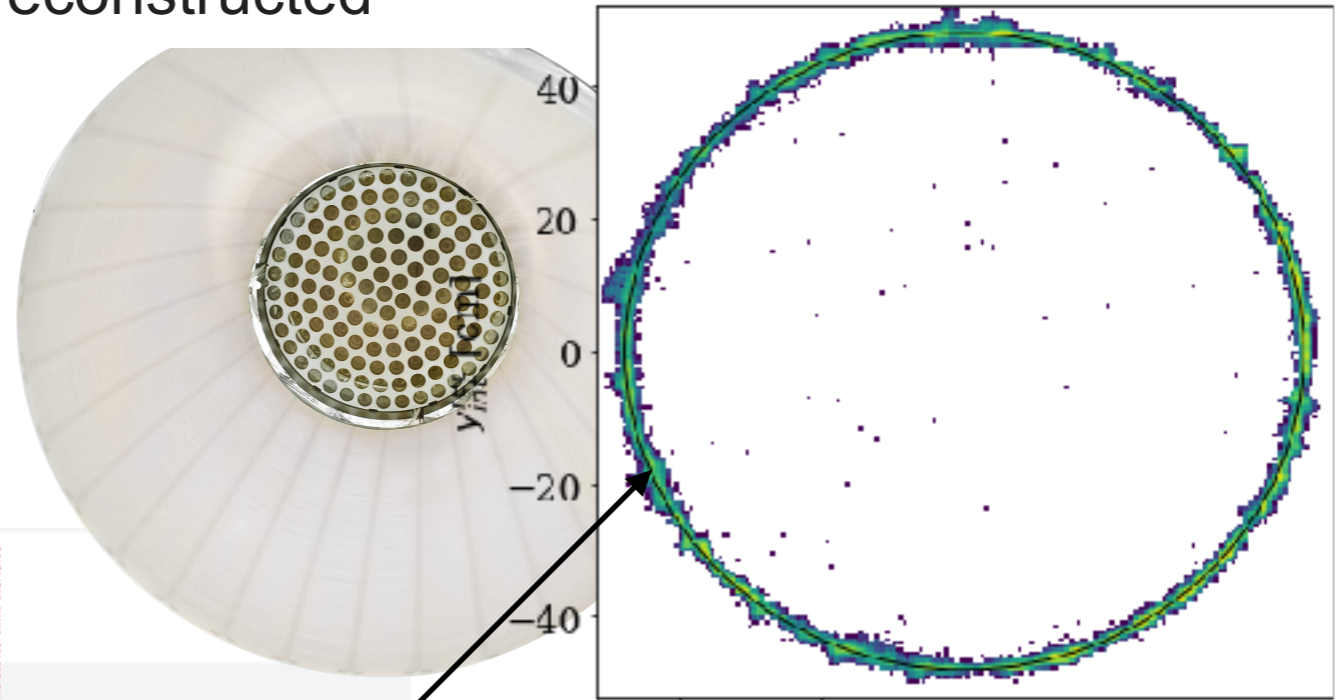
XENON Preliminary



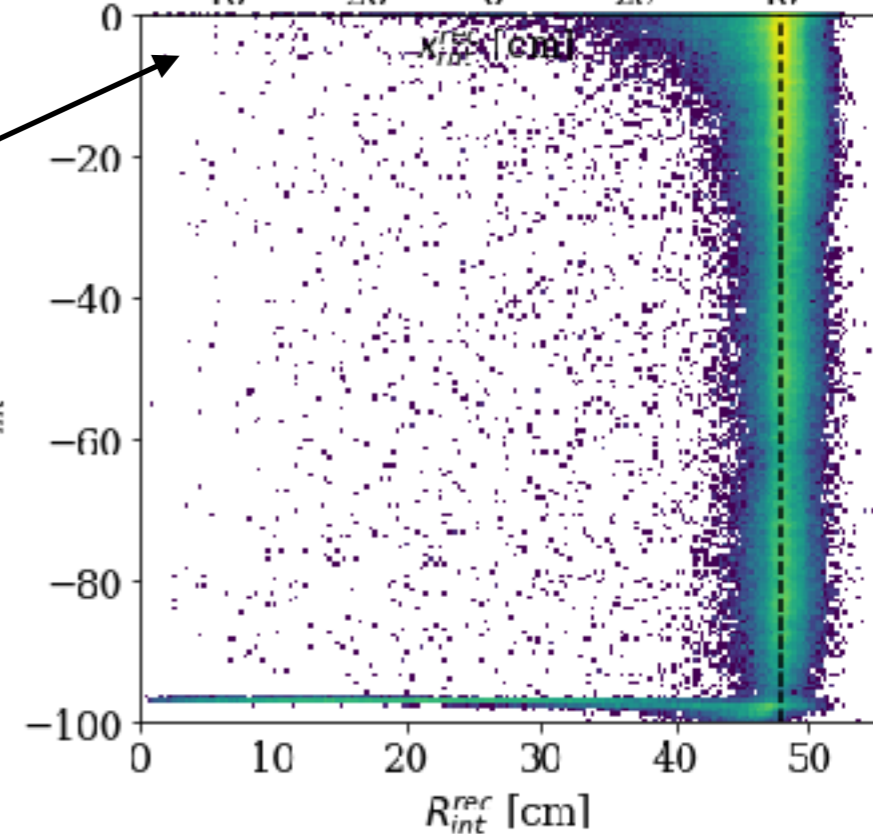
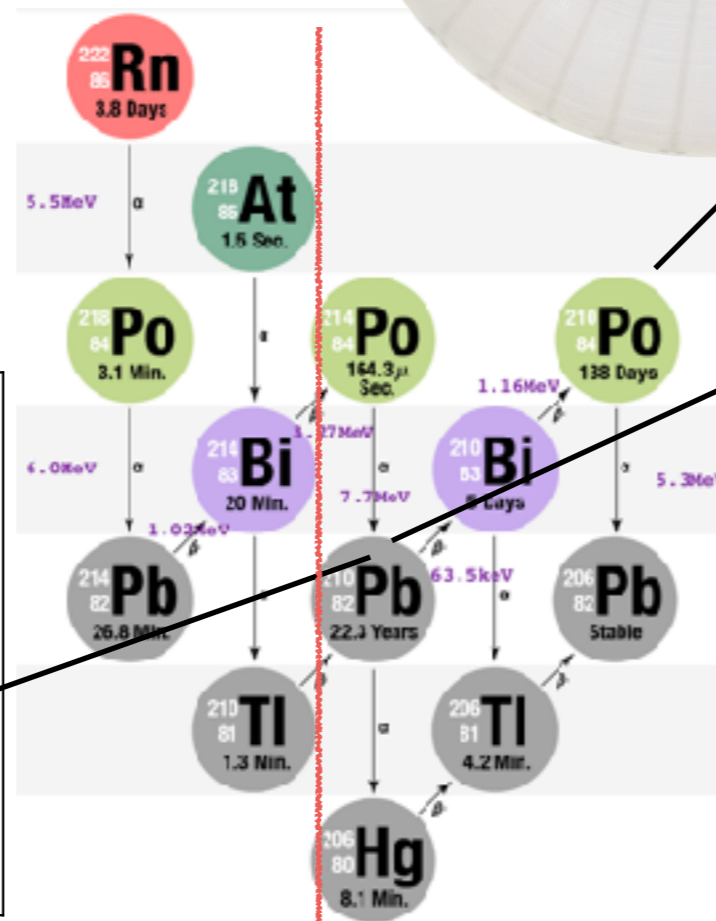
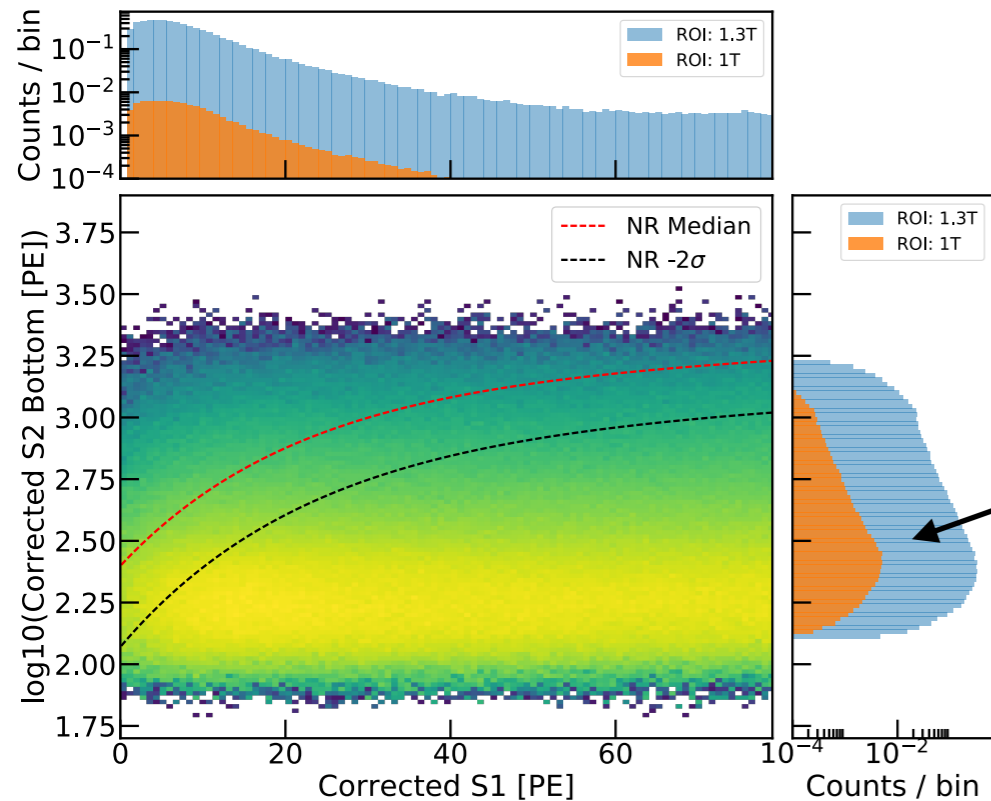


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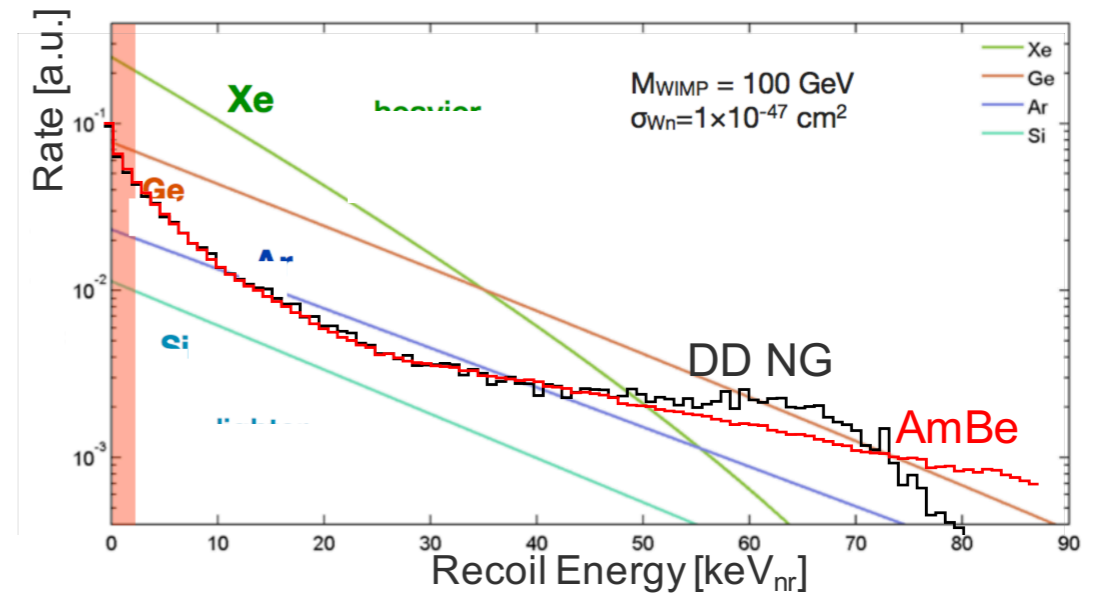
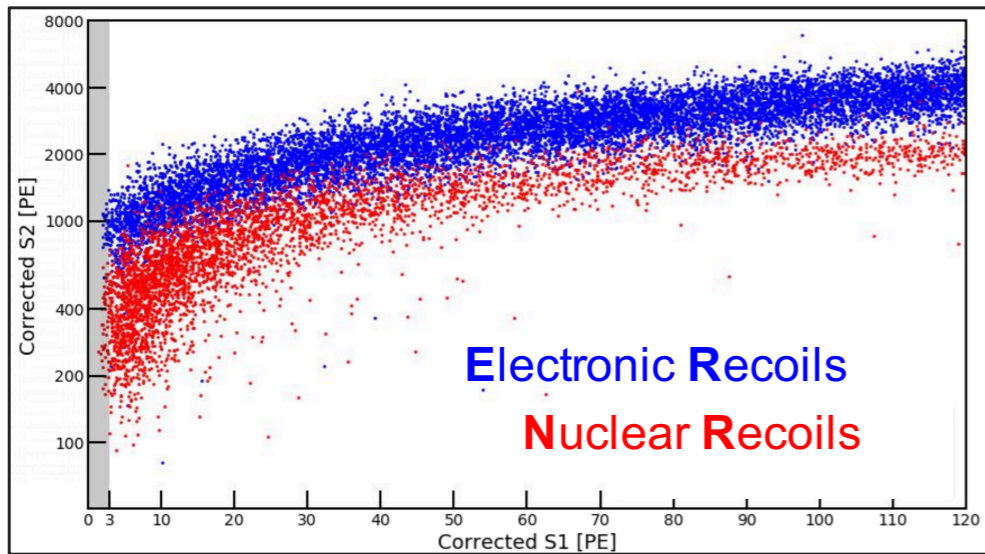


# Response to Electronic and Nuclear Recoils

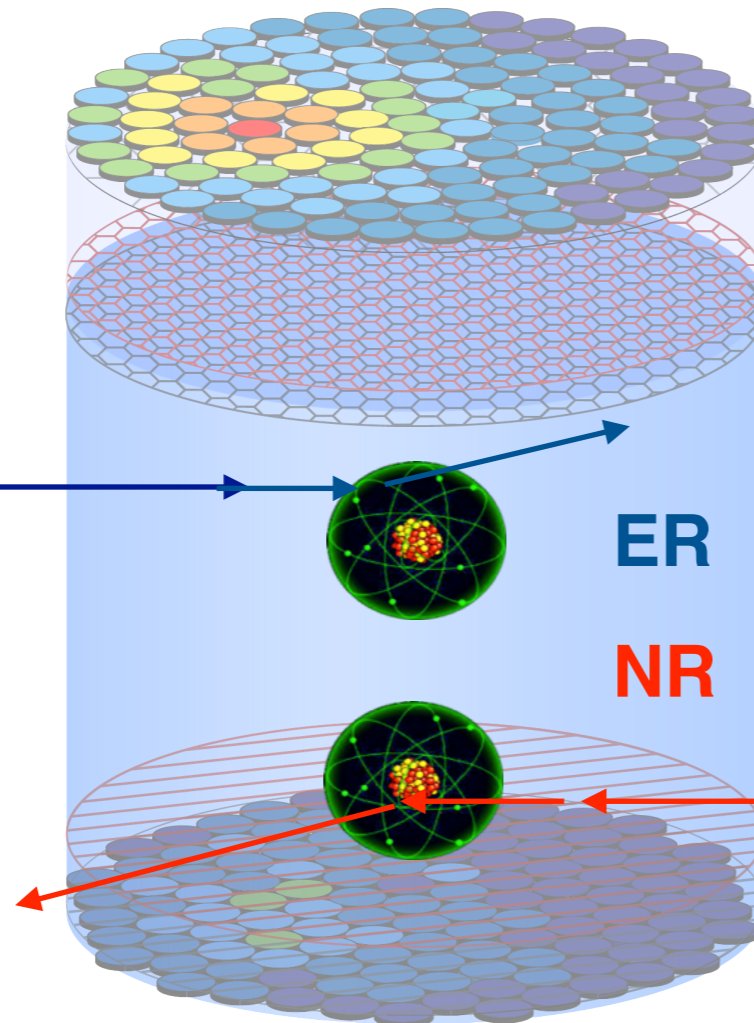




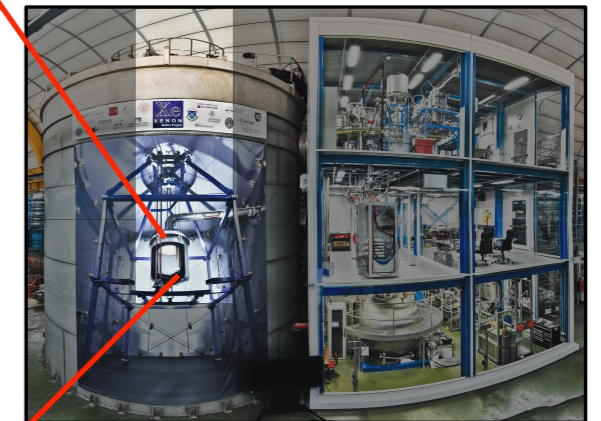
# Calibrating ERs and NRs



<b><math>^{222}\text{Rn}</math></b> 3.8 d	<b><math>^{220}\text{Rn}</math></b> 56 s
$\alpha \downarrow 5.5 \text{ MeV}$	$\alpha \downarrow 5.5 \text{ MeV}$
$^{218}\text{Po}$ 3.05 min	$^{216}\text{Po}$ 0.2 s
$\alpha \downarrow 6.0 \text{ MeV}$	$\alpha \downarrow 6.0 \text{ MeV}$
<b><math>^{214}\text{Pb}</math></b> 26.8 min	<b><math>^{212}\text{Pb}</math></b> 11 h
$\beta \downarrow$	$\beta \downarrow$
$^{214}\text{Bi}$ 19.9 min	$^{212}\text{Bi}$ 61 min
$\beta \downarrow$	$\beta \downarrow$
$^{214}\text{Po}$ 164 $\mu\text{s}$	$^{212}\text{Po}$ 0.3 $\mu\text{s}$
$\alpha \downarrow 7.7 \text{ MeV}$	$\alpha \downarrow 7.7 \text{ MeV}$
<b><math>^{210}\text{Pb}</math></b> 22.3 a	<b><math>^{208}\text{Pb}</math></b> stable
$\beta \downarrow$	$\beta \downarrow$

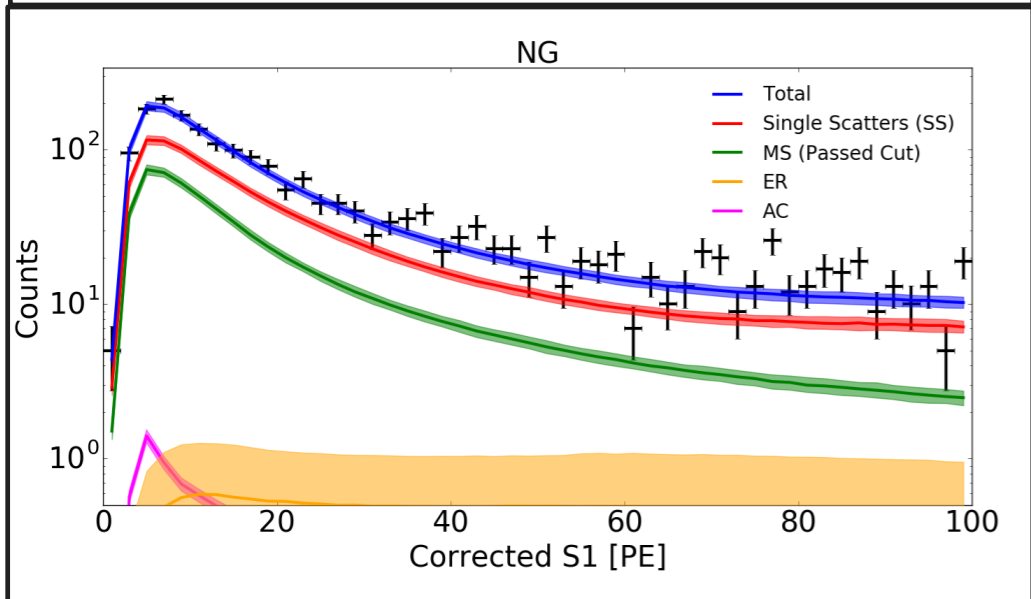
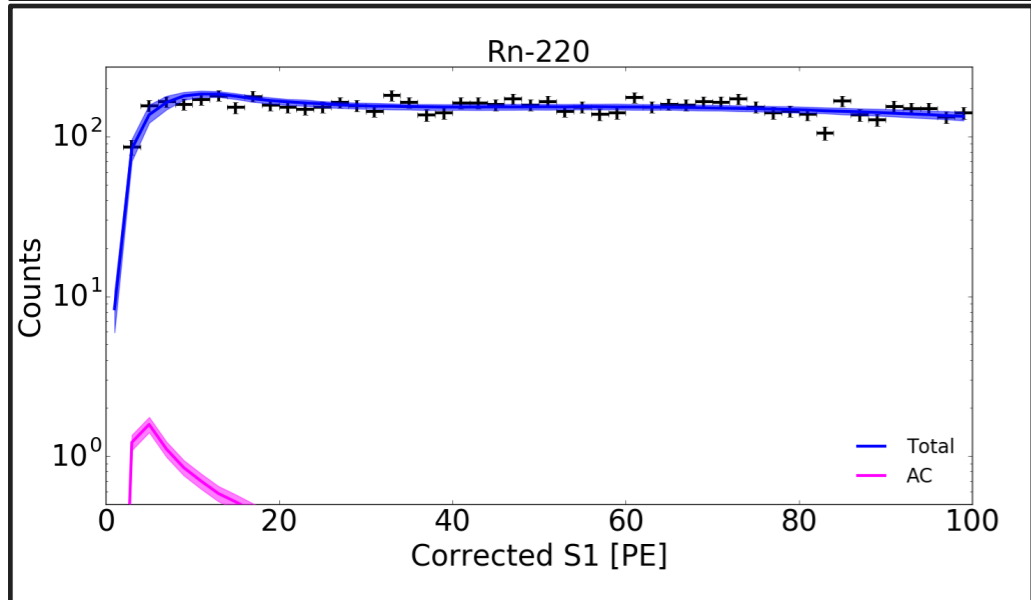
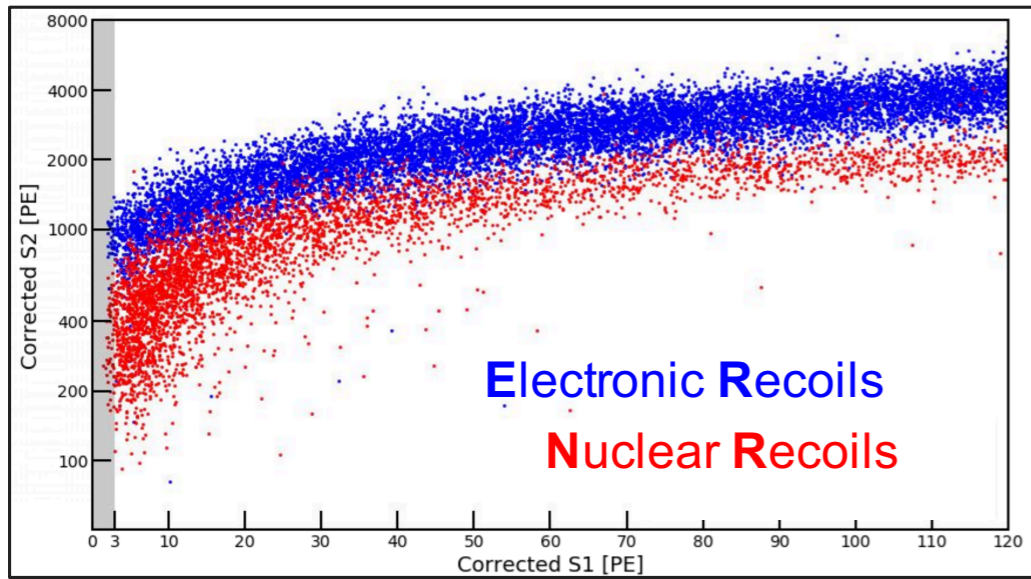


1), DD fusion neutron generator

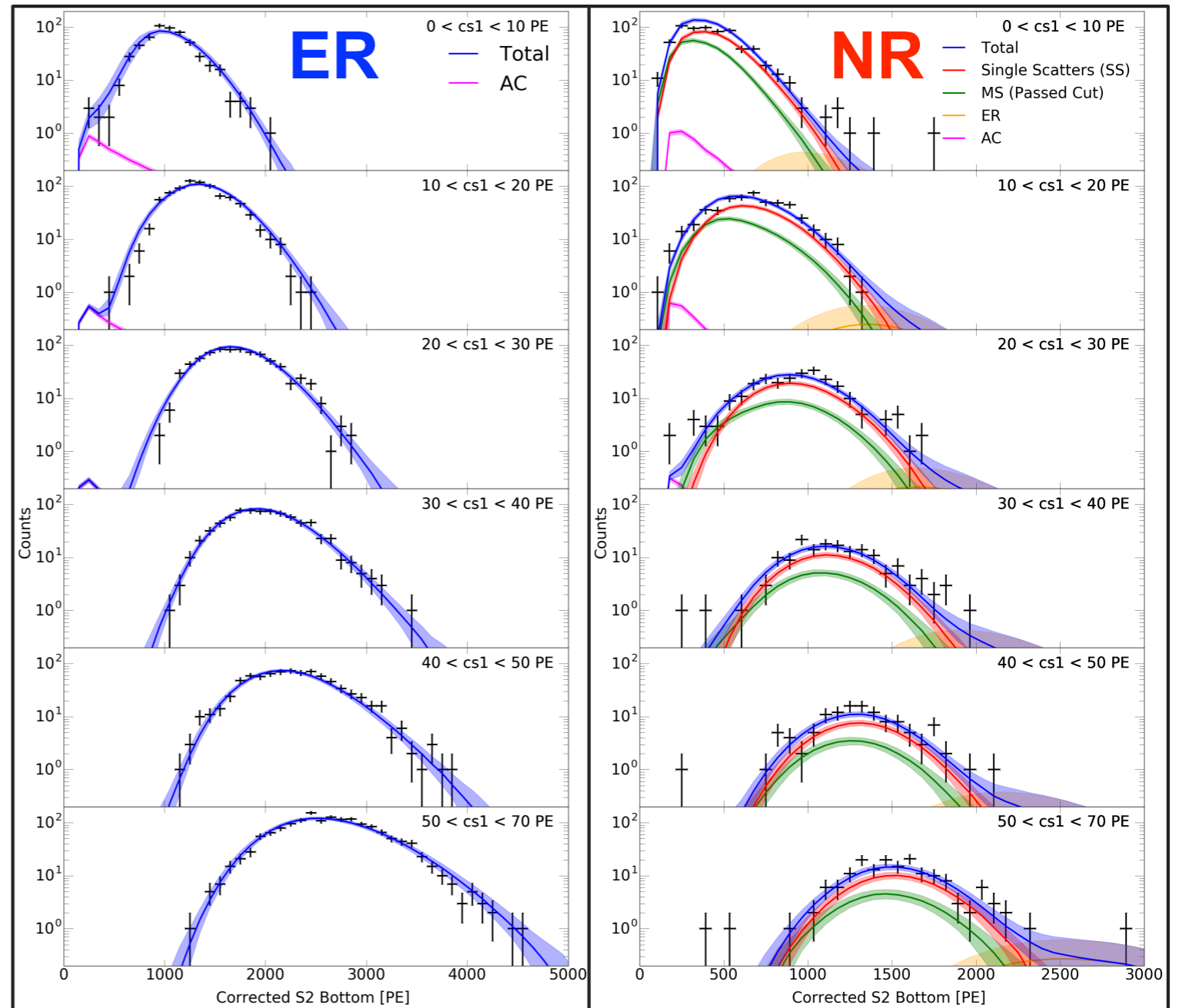


2), AmBe radioactive source

# Calibrating ERs and NRs



Particle propagation with detailed detector geometry and LXe physics modeled  
Parameters tuned and constrained by calibration data

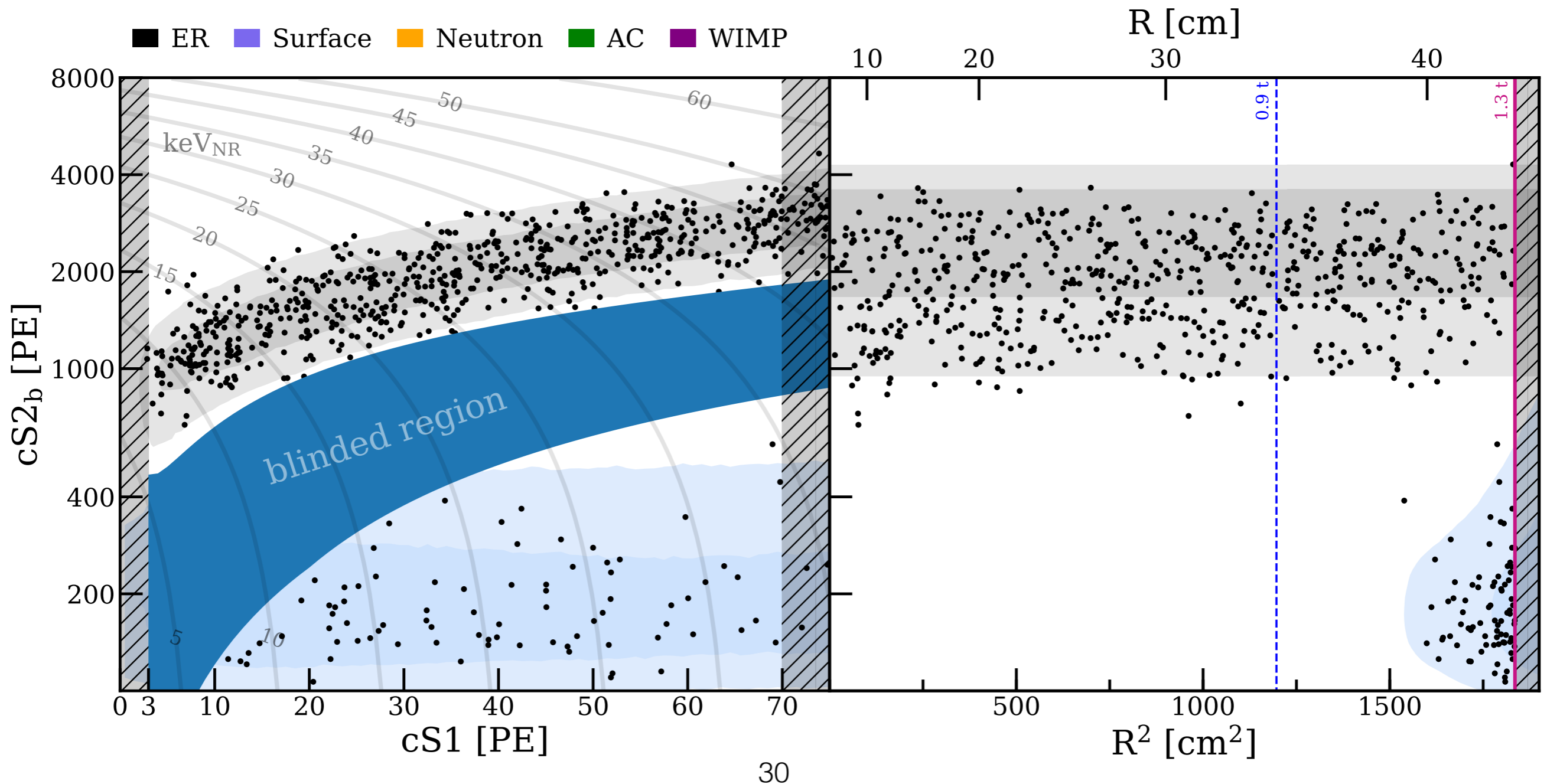


ER rejection: ~99.7% with NR acceptance within  $[-2\sigma, \text{median}]$  for both runs.



# Dark Matter Search Data: Blinded and salted

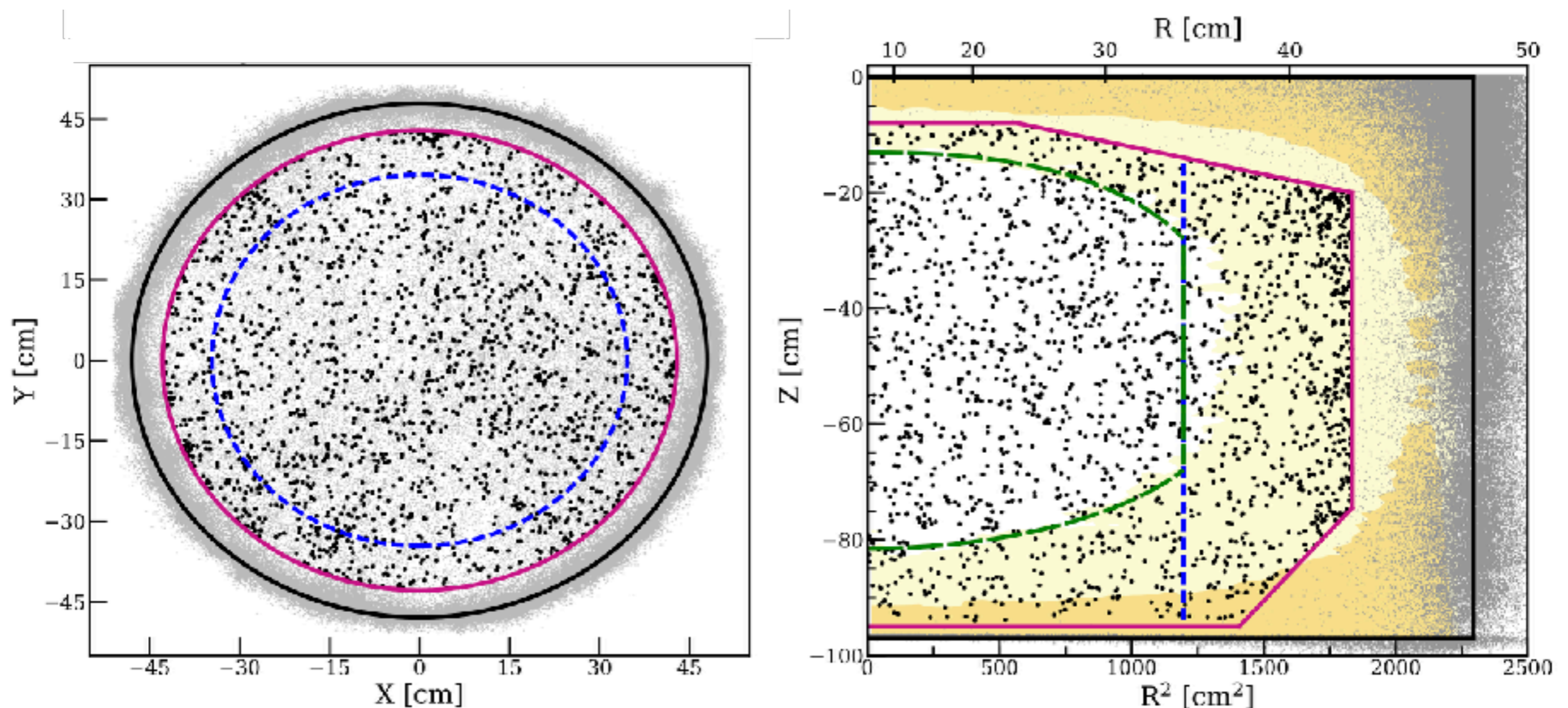
- Blinding: to avoid potential bias in event selection and the signal/background modeling the nuclear recoil ROI (S2 vs S1 only) was blinded from the start of SR1 analysis (and SR0 re-analysis).
- Salting: to protect against post-unblinding tuning of cuts and background models, an undisclosed number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



# Fiducial Volume Optimization

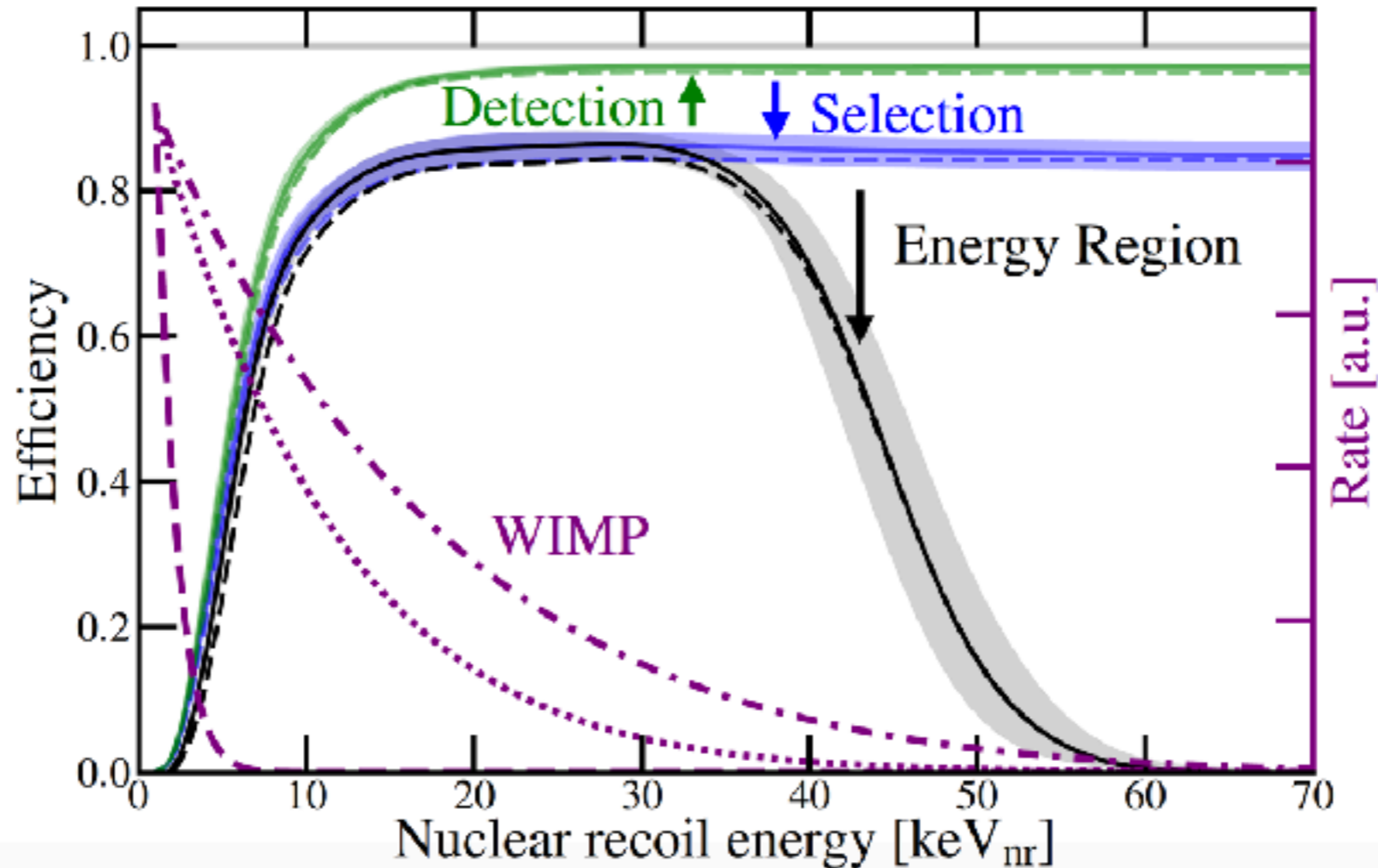
Optimize FV prior to unblinding to reduce materials and surface background

- FV volume increased from 1 tonne (in SR0 First Result) to 1.3 tonne thanks to improvements in position reconstruction, including PTFE charge-up and field corrections
- new surface background model allowed inclusion of radius,  $R$ , in statistical inference to maximize useful volume. Analysis space became  $cS1$ ,  $cS2b$ ,  $R$  and  $Z$





# Event Selection & 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
- 10 GeV (dashed), 50 GeV (dotted) and 200 GeV (dashed-dotted) WIMP spectra shown

# Background prediction and Unblinding

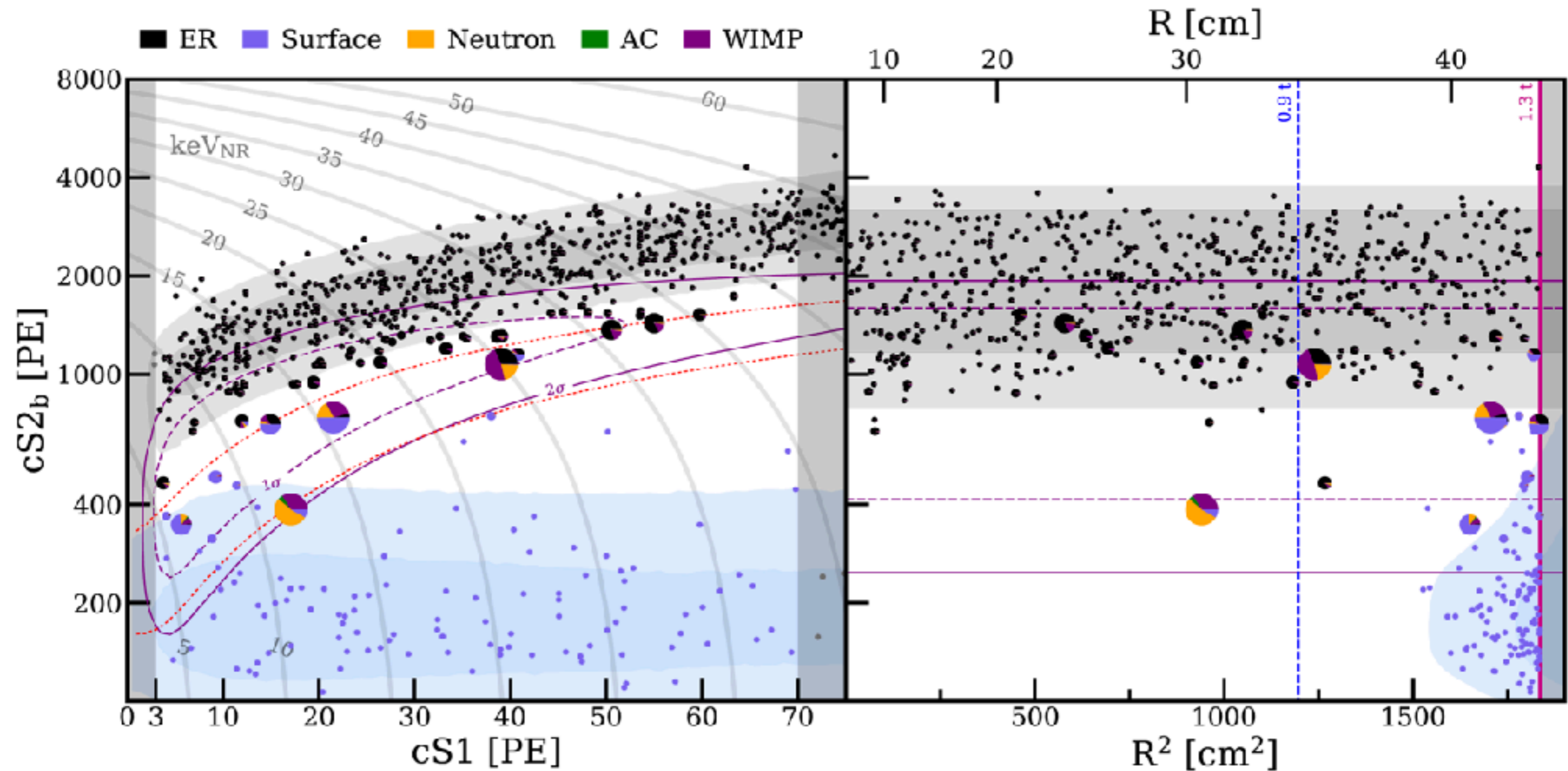
Mass	1.3t	1.3t
(S2, S1)	Full	Reference
ER	$627 \pm 18$	$1.62 \pm 0.30$
Neutron	$1.43 \pm 0.66$	$0.77 \pm 0.35$
CENNS	$0.05 \pm 0.01$	$0.03 \pm 0.01$
AC	$0.47 \pm 0.27$	$0.10 \pm 0.06$
Surface	$106 \pm 8$	$4.84 \pm 0.40$
BG	$735 \pm 20$	$7.36 \pm 0.61$
Data	<b>739</b>	<b>14</b>
WIMPs best-fit for $m=200$ GeV: $4.7 \cdot 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2$	3.56	1.70

- Reference region is defined as between NR median and NR - 2sigma
- ER is the most significant background and uniformly distributed in the volume
- Surface background contributes most in reference region, but its impact is subdominant in inner R
- Neutron background is less than one event, and impact is further suppressed by position information
- Other background components are completely sub-dominant
- Numbers in the table are just for illustration, statistical interpretation is done based on profile likelihood analysis



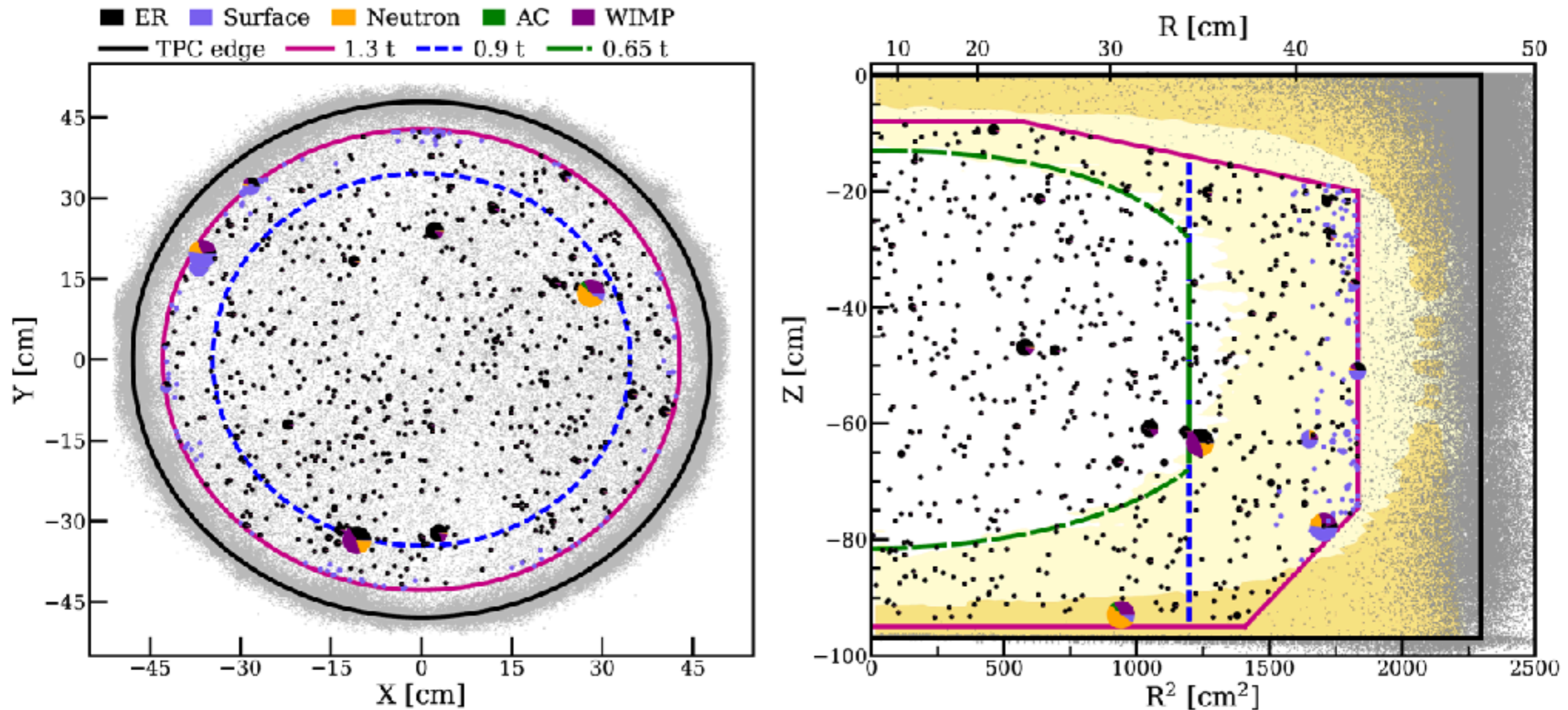
# Dark Matter Search Results

- Results interpreted with unbinned profile likelihood analysis in  $cs_1$ ,  $cs_2$ ,  $r$  space
- piechart indicate the relative PDF from the best fit of  $200 \text{ GeV}/c^2$  WIMPs with a cross-section of  $4.7 \times 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2$



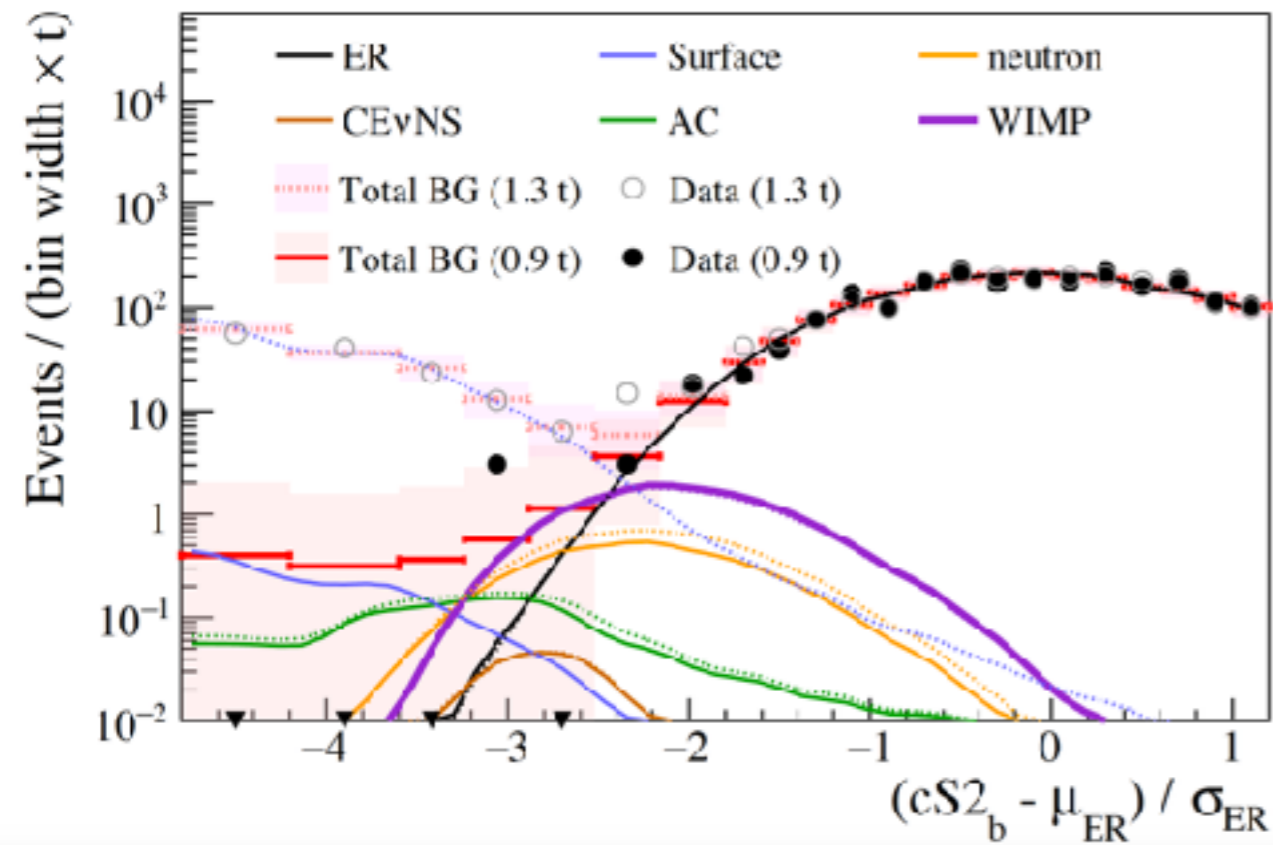
# Spatial Distribution of Dark Matter Search Data

- Results interpreted with unbinned profile likelihood analysis in  $cS1$ ,  $cS2$ ,  $r$  space
- **Core volume** to distinguish WIMPs over neutron background



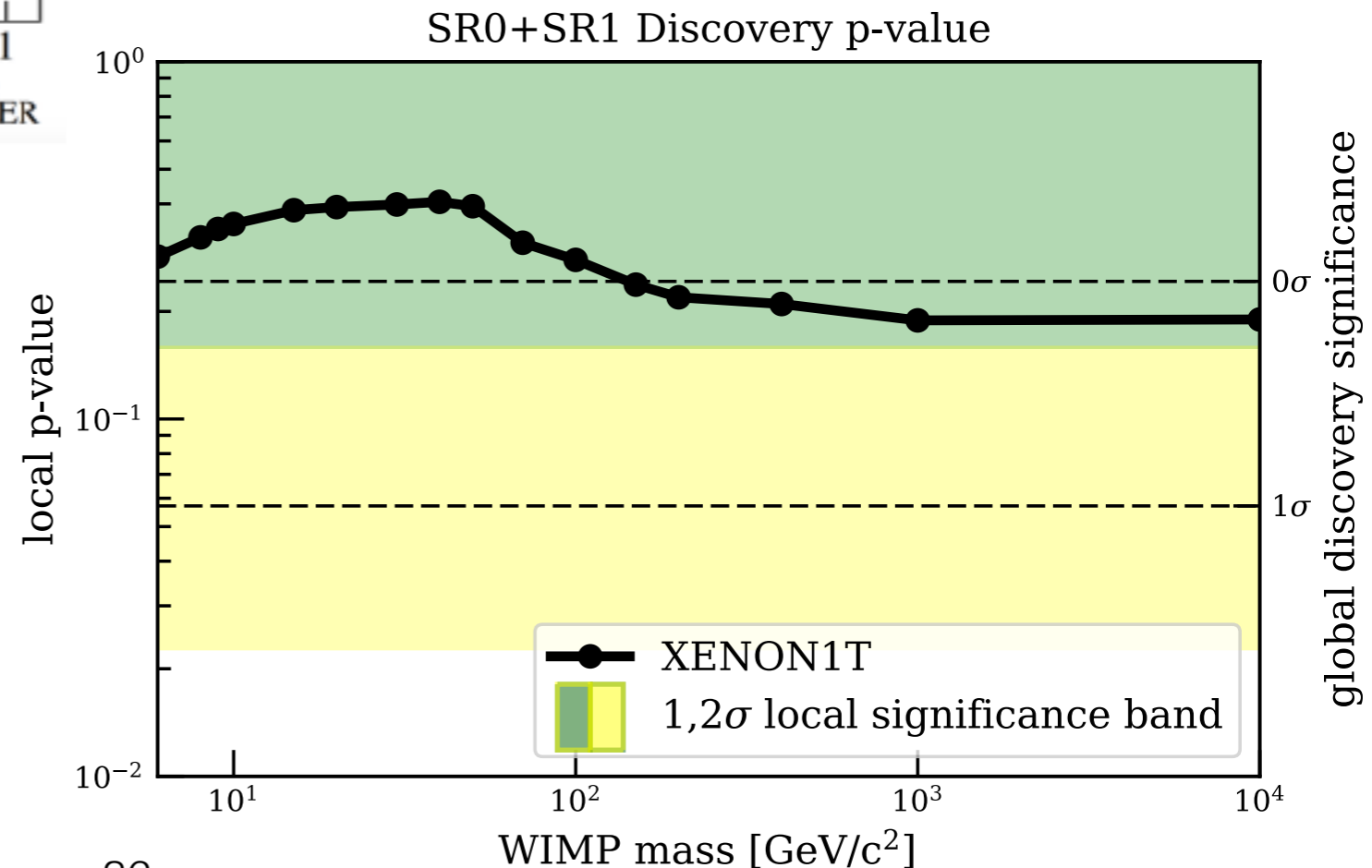


# Statistical Interpretation

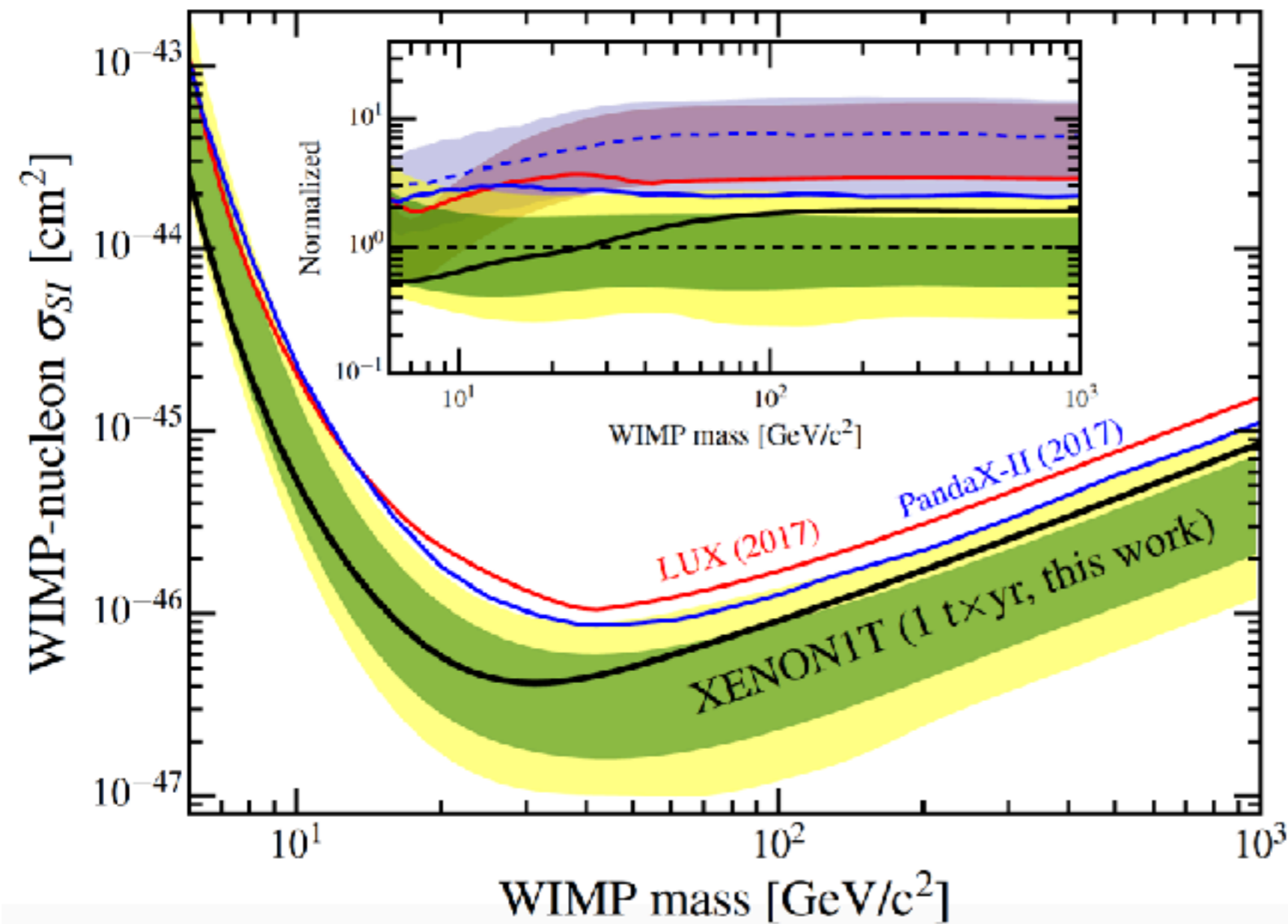


- Extended unbinned profile likelihood analysis
- Example left: Background and 200 GeV WIMP signal best-fit predictions, assuming  $4.7 \times 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2$ , compared to data in 1.3 t and 0.9 t
- Most significant ER & Surface backgrounds shape parameters included
- Safeguard to protect against spurious mis-modeling of background

- 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



# XENON1T Dark Matter Search Results



- Most stringent 90% CL upper limit on WIMP-nucleon cross section at all masses above 6 GeV
- Factor of 7 more sensitivity compared to previous experiments (LUX, PandaX-II)
- $\sim 1$  sigma upper fluctuation at high WIMP masses, could be due to background or signal

**Minimum at  $4.1 \times 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2$  for a WIMP of  $30 \text{ GeV}/c^2$**



# The next step: XENONnT

Aprile et al., Eur. Phys. J. C (2017) 77: 881. *XENON1T sub-systems*

Aprile et al., JCAP 77 (2016), 358. *online Rn-removal*

Aprile et al., Eur. Phys. J. C (2017) 77: 275. *online Kr-removal*

Aprile et al., JCAP 4 (2016), 27. *sensitivity*



## Minimal Upgrade

The XENON1T infrastructure and sub-systems were originally designed to **accommodate a larger LXe TPC**.

## Fiducial Xe Target

**XENONnT TPC** features:  
total Xe mass = 8 t  
target mass = 5.9 t  
**fiducial mass = ~4 t**

## Background

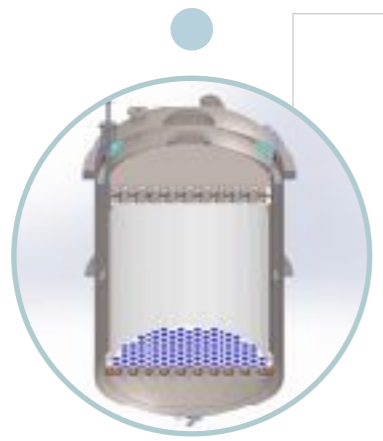
Record low-back levels in XENON1T dominated by  $^{222}\text{Rn}$ -daughters.  
Identified strategies to effectively **reduce  $^{222}\text{Rn}$  by ~ a factor 10**.

## Fast Turnaround

Use **XENON1T sub-systems**, already tested  
Fast pace:  
**Installation starts in 2018**  
**commissioning in 2019**

# XENON1T Infrastructure and sub-Systems (already operative)

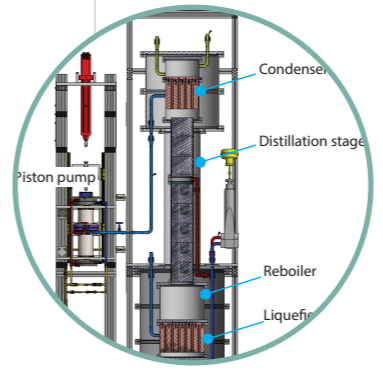
Aprile et al., Eur. Phys. J. C (2017) 77: 881



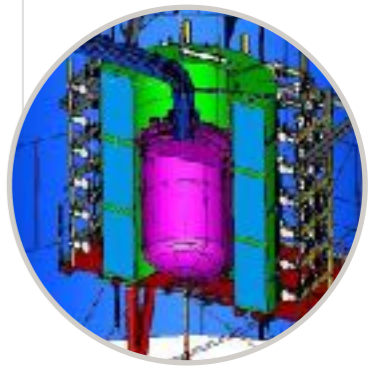
**New TPC**  
5.9-ton Time Projection Chamber



**LXe Purification**  
To achieve fast cleaning of the large LXe volume (5000 SLPM)



**Radon Distillation**  
To online remove the  $^{222}\text{Rn}$  emanated inside the detector



**Neutron Veto**  
To tag and measure in situ neutron-induced background



# Summary

- Successfully operated the first multi-ton scale LXeTPC for > 1 year
- Achieved lowest background in any DM detector: 0.2 events / (t keV d)
- With XENON1T we have surpassed the sensitivity projections of the proposed XENON program and yet have found no sign of WIMPs
- The result from a blind analysis of 1 tonne x year data places strongest limit above 6 GeV/c<sup>2</sup> on WIMP-nucleon SI cross-section at 4.1x10<sup>-47</sup> cm<sup>2</sup> for a WIMP of 30 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>
- the search with XENON1T continues until its upgrade with a larger and better detector, XENONnT, to enable another boost in sensitivity

