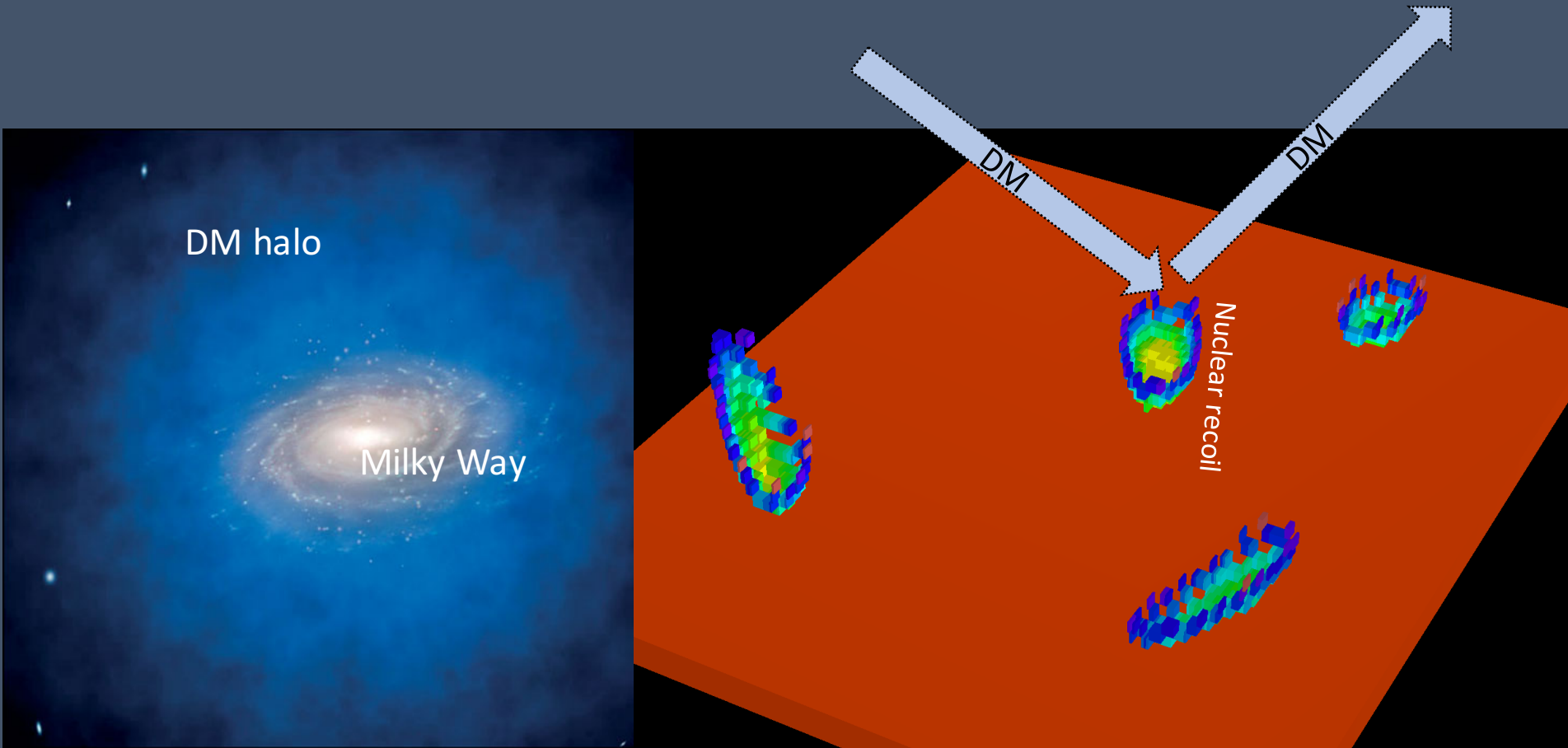


Status of the CYGNUS TPC Project



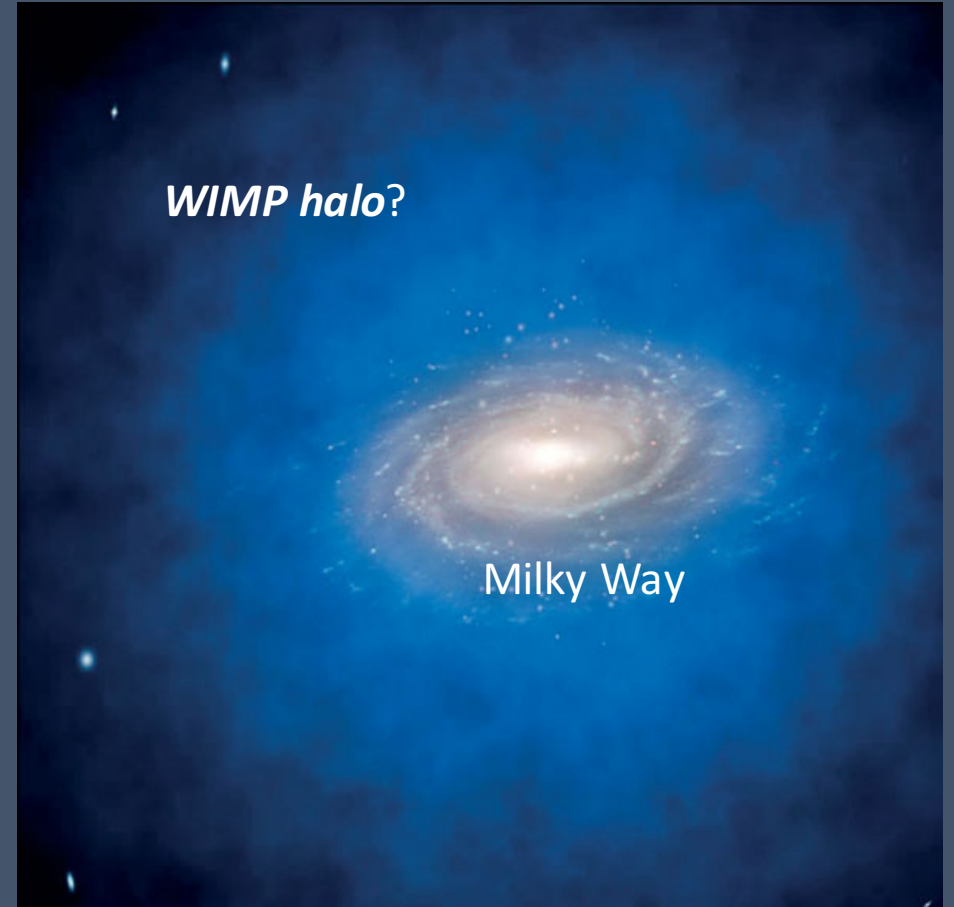
CYGNUS 2019, 7th Workshop on directional dark matter searches, Rome, Italy
Sven Vahsen (University of Hawaii) for the CYGNUS proto-collaboration

Outline

- Challenges in direct DM searches
- Motivation for directional searches
- CYGNUS TPC project
- TPC Readouts comparison
- CYGNUS sites

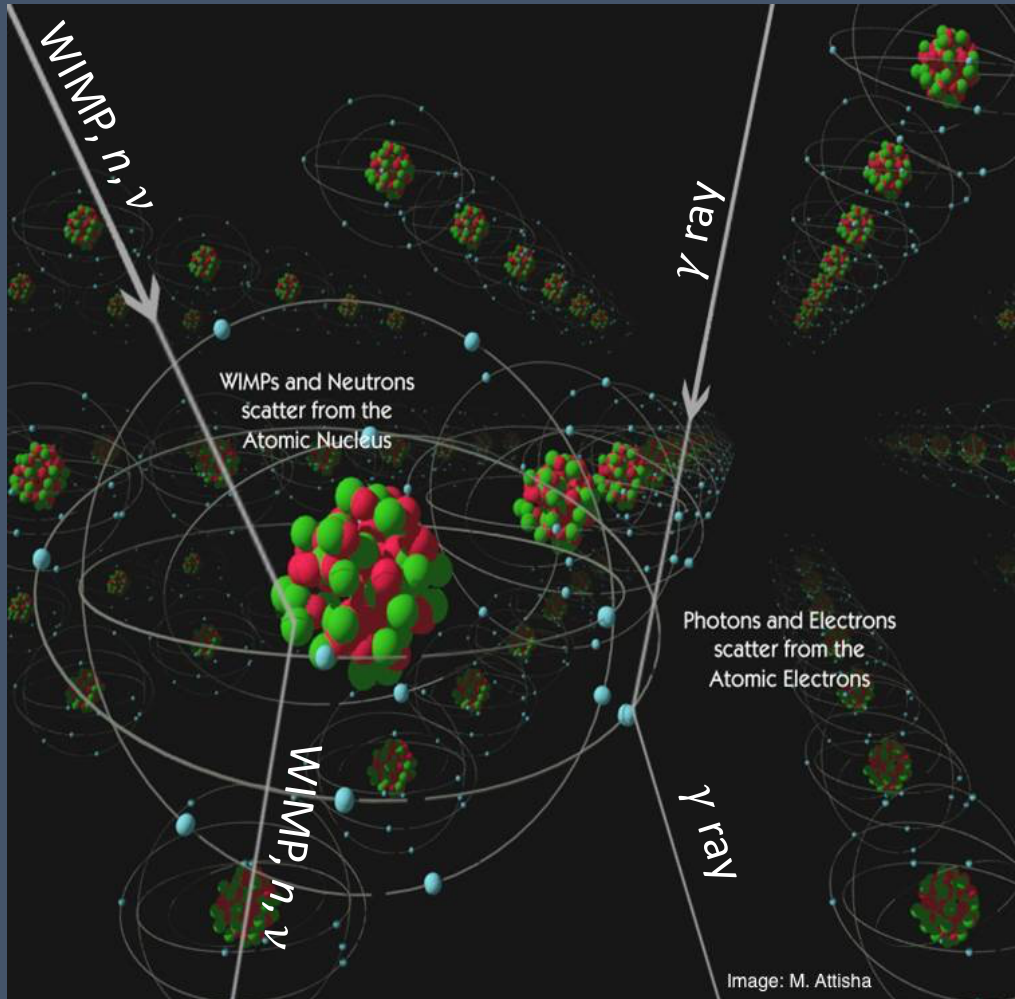
Do we live in a *WIMP halo*?

- We already know Dark Matter exists
- WIMPs are one hypothesis
- Goal of Direct DM Detection: answer
 - Does the local Milky Way DM halo contain WIMP-like particles?
 - What are their properties?
 - What is their local density and velocity distribution ?



Direction-sensitive experiments are ideally suited to answer these questions

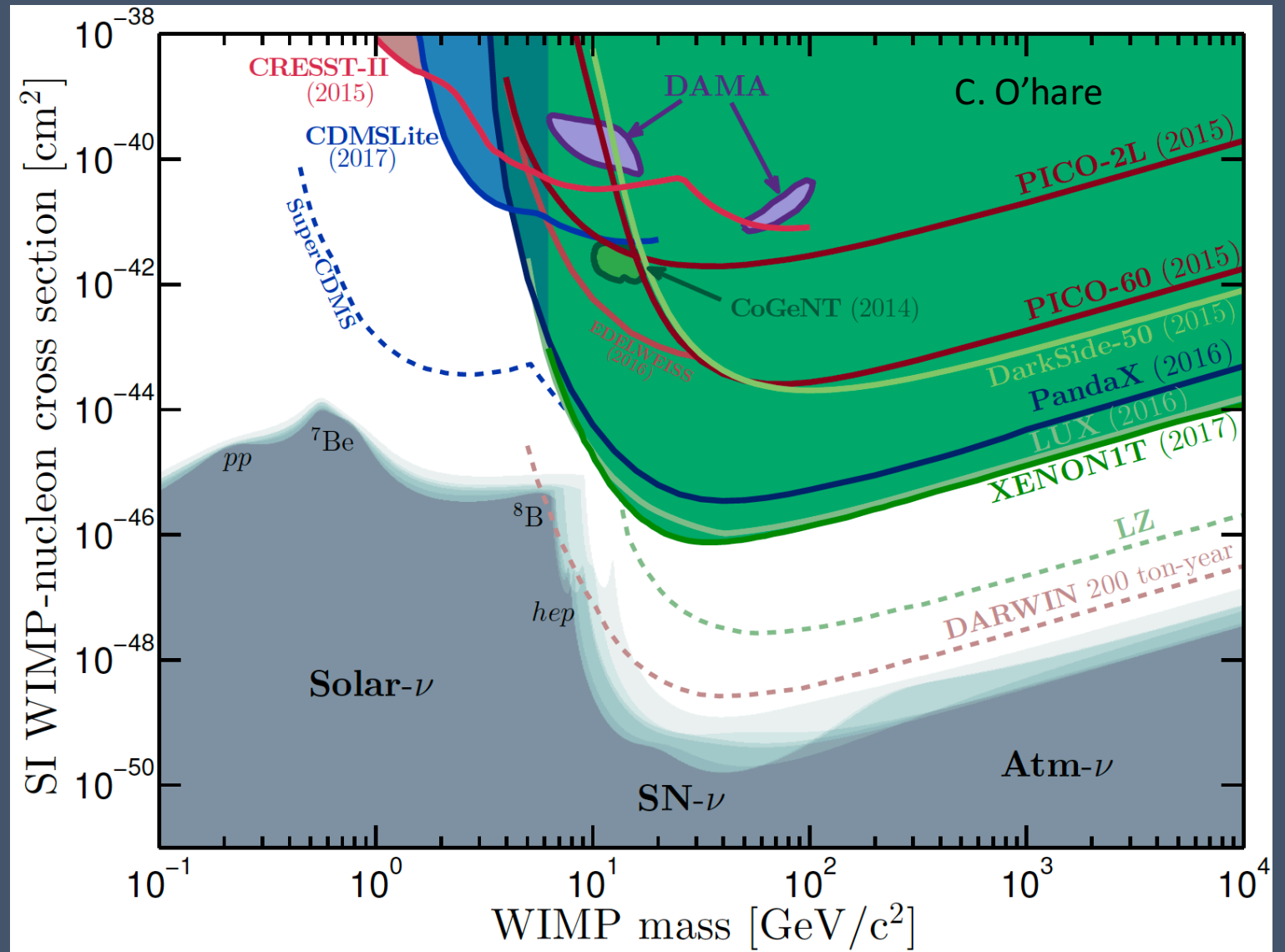
Experimental Challenges



- Huge detectors
- Stringent requirements on
 - Shielding
 - Radiopurity
 - Background rejection

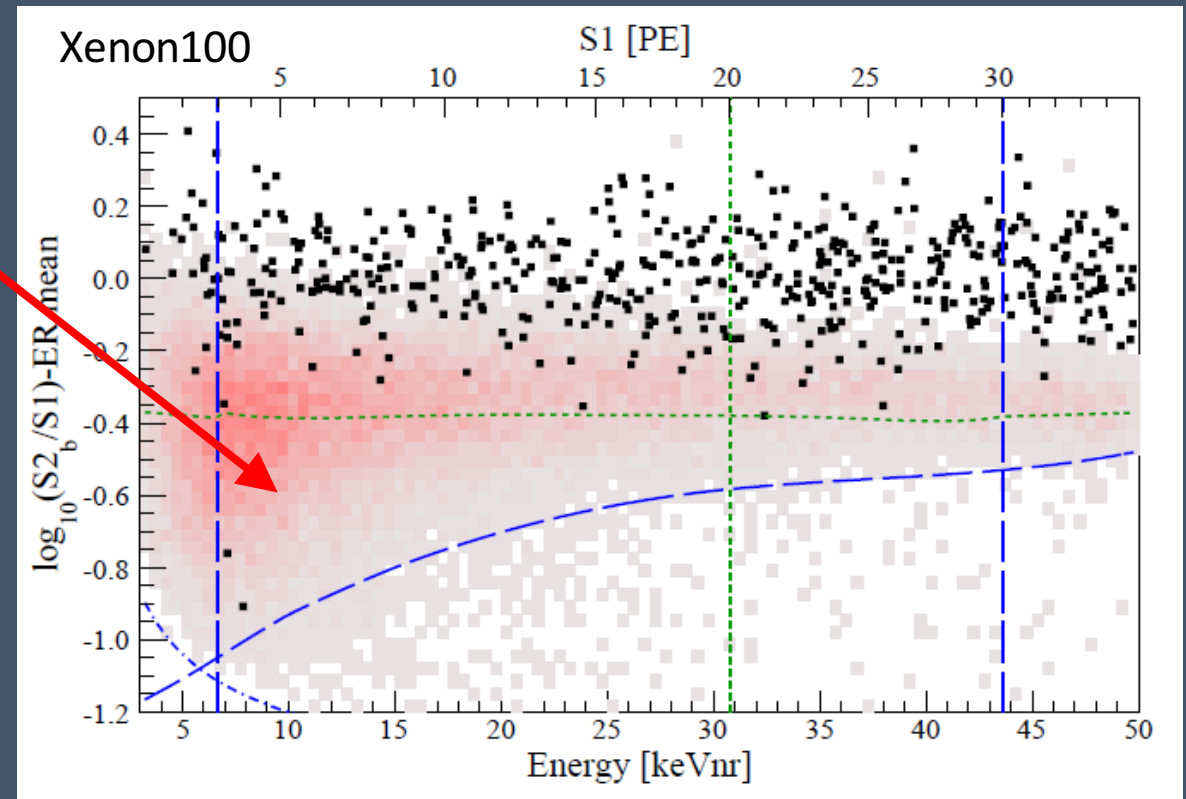
SI, elastic, WIMP/nucleon Scattering: Experimental Status

- Best limits now < 0.1 zB
- Noble liquid experiments most sensitive at $m \sim 50$ GeV/c²
- Solid targets leading around $m \sim 5$ GeV/c²
- Controversial signals suggesting $m \sim 10$ GeV



Non-directional WIMP search

- Observable: excess count rate over predicted BG in signal region
- Requires ultra-clean detectors & precise understanding of remaining backgrounds
- Single-scattering neutrons produce identical events to WIMPs
- Does not demonstrate cosmological origin



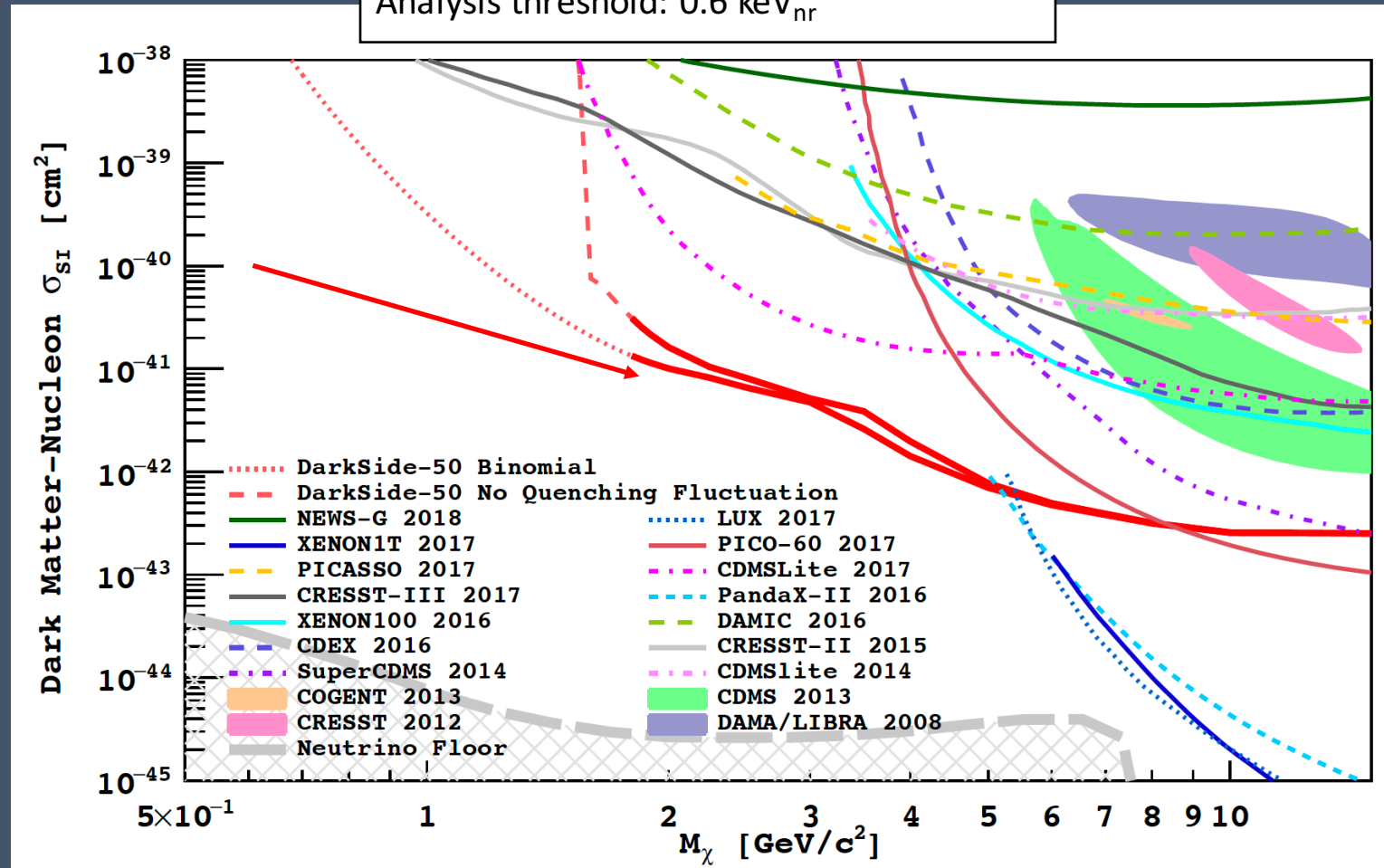
Recent Limits: Low mass

arxiv: 1802.06994

Darkside-50 ionization (S2) only analysis

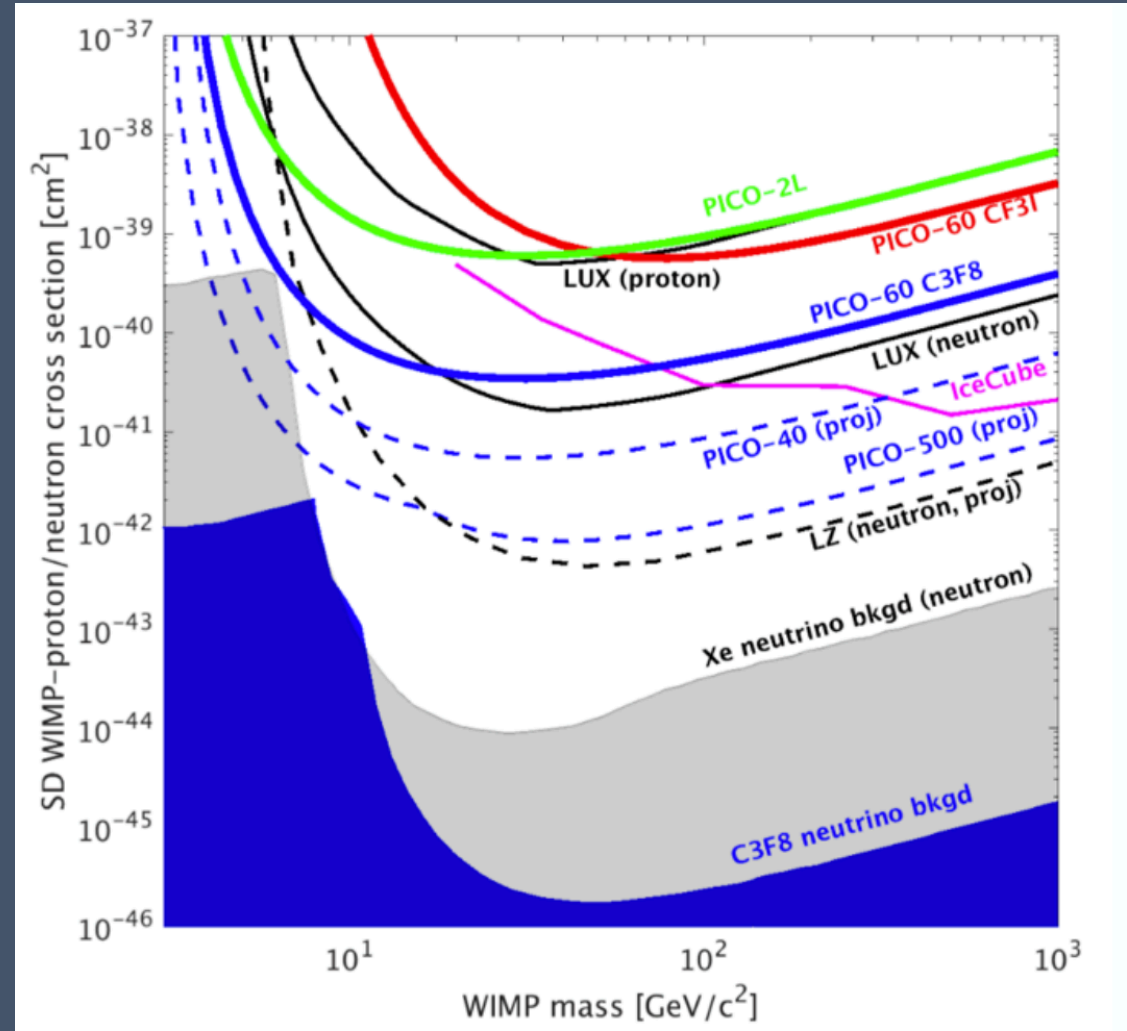
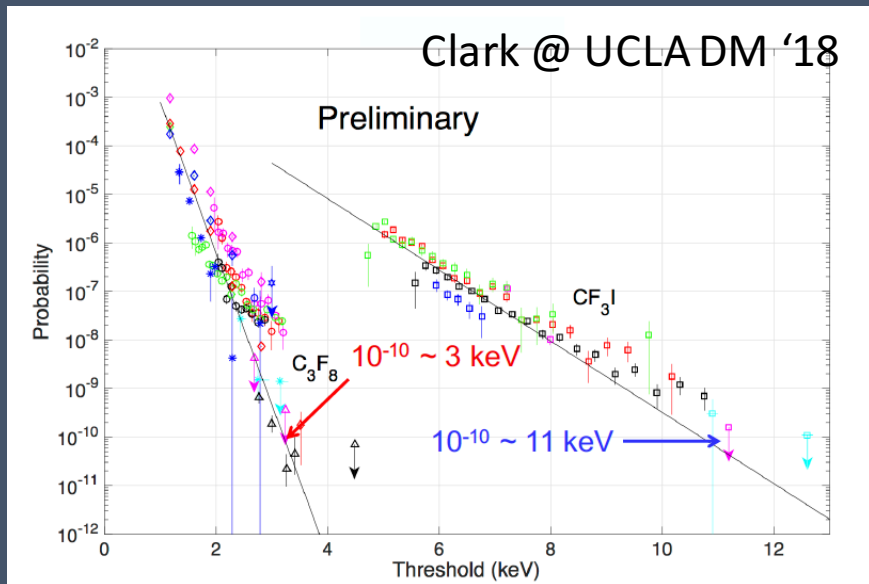
Analysis threshold: 0.6 keV_{nr}

- Ionization-only analyses from noble liquid experiments
- Dedicated, often, ionization-based experiments, including gas targets
- Often
 - lack of particle ID at lowest (keV) energies
 - background limited
 - uncertainty about low-energy sensitivity



SD, elastic, WIMP/nucleon Scattering: Experimental Status

- Bubble chambers with fluorine targets taking the lead
- Excellent gamma rejection at low energies
- But, *no energy measurement, which is important for penetrating neutrino floor*

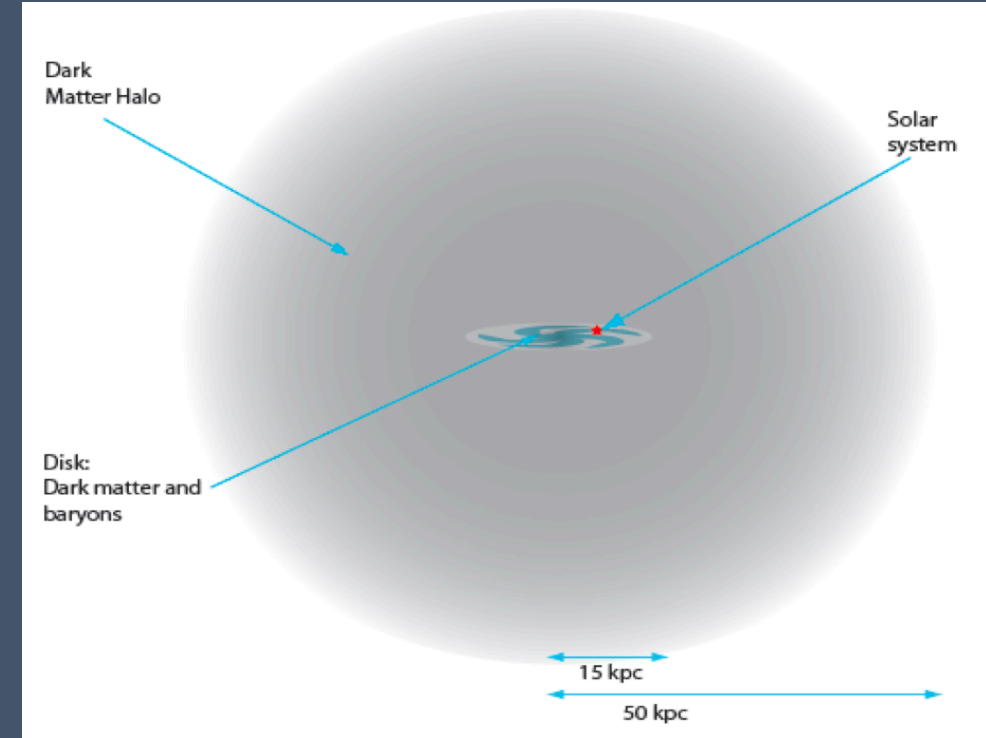
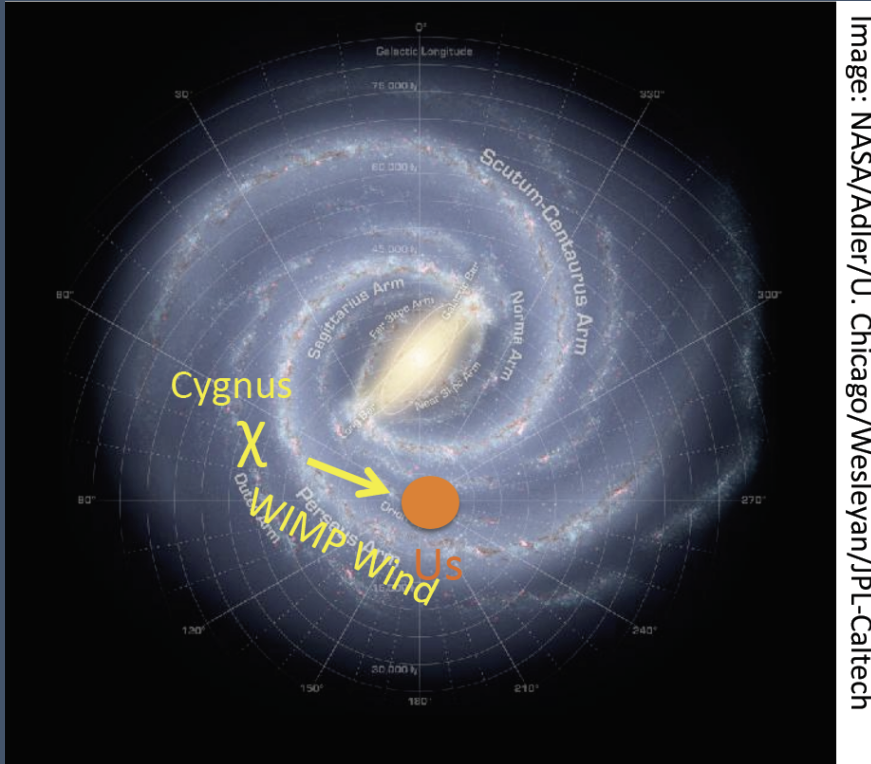


Summary of Direct Detection Status

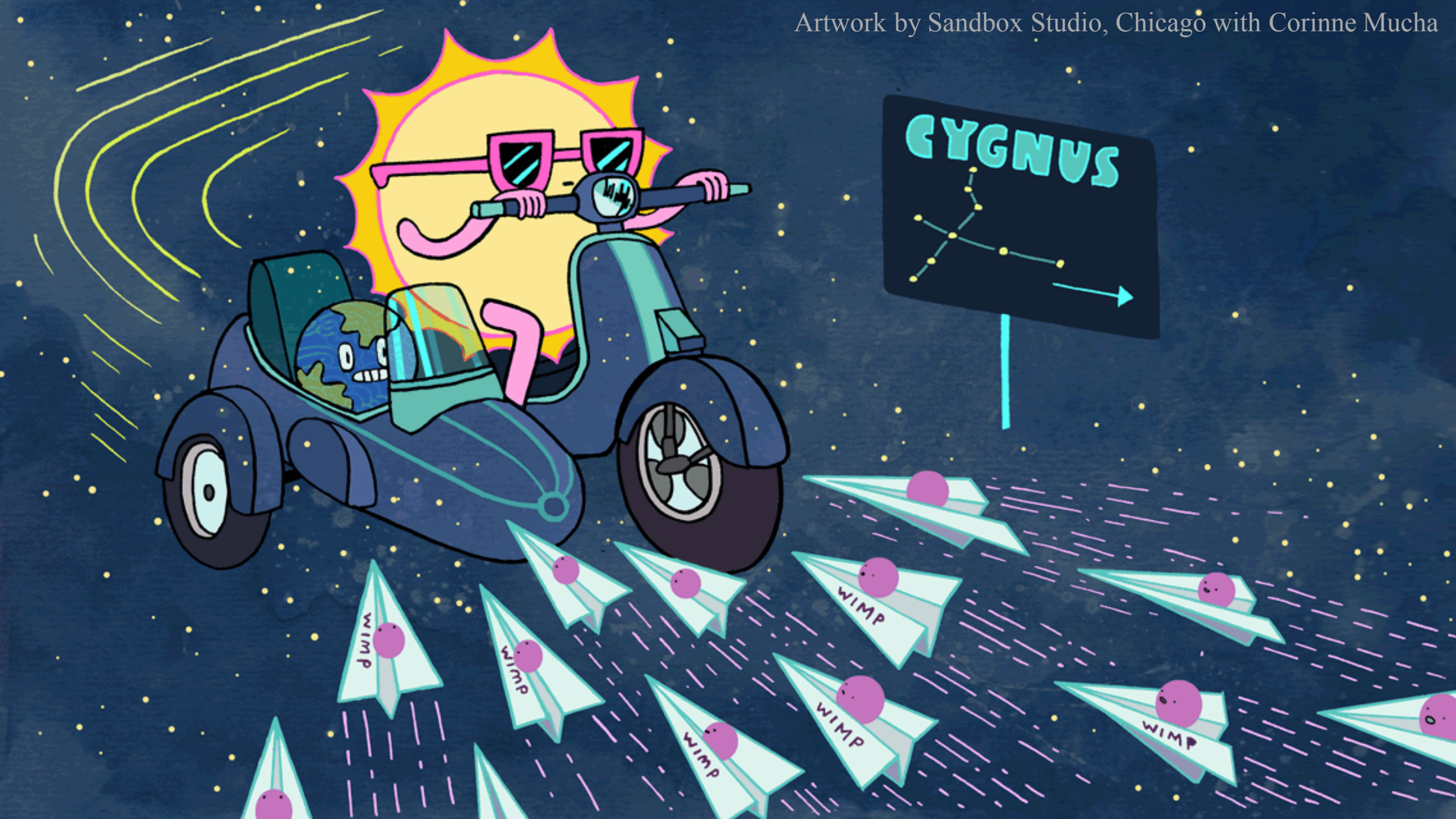
- Current DM experiments will probe cross-sections within factor 10-100 of the neutrino floor for $m > 1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
- There are **significant challenges** to further progress
 - **Neutrino background**
 - **Lack of particle ID in ionization-only experiments for $E \sim < 10 \text{ keV}$**
 - Lingering controversial signals from DAMA
 - Uncertain calibrations at lowest recoil energies
 - Ever stricter requirements on radio purity and background rejection
 - **Lack of clear discovery signal that demonstrates cosmological origin**

Motivation for Directional Detectors

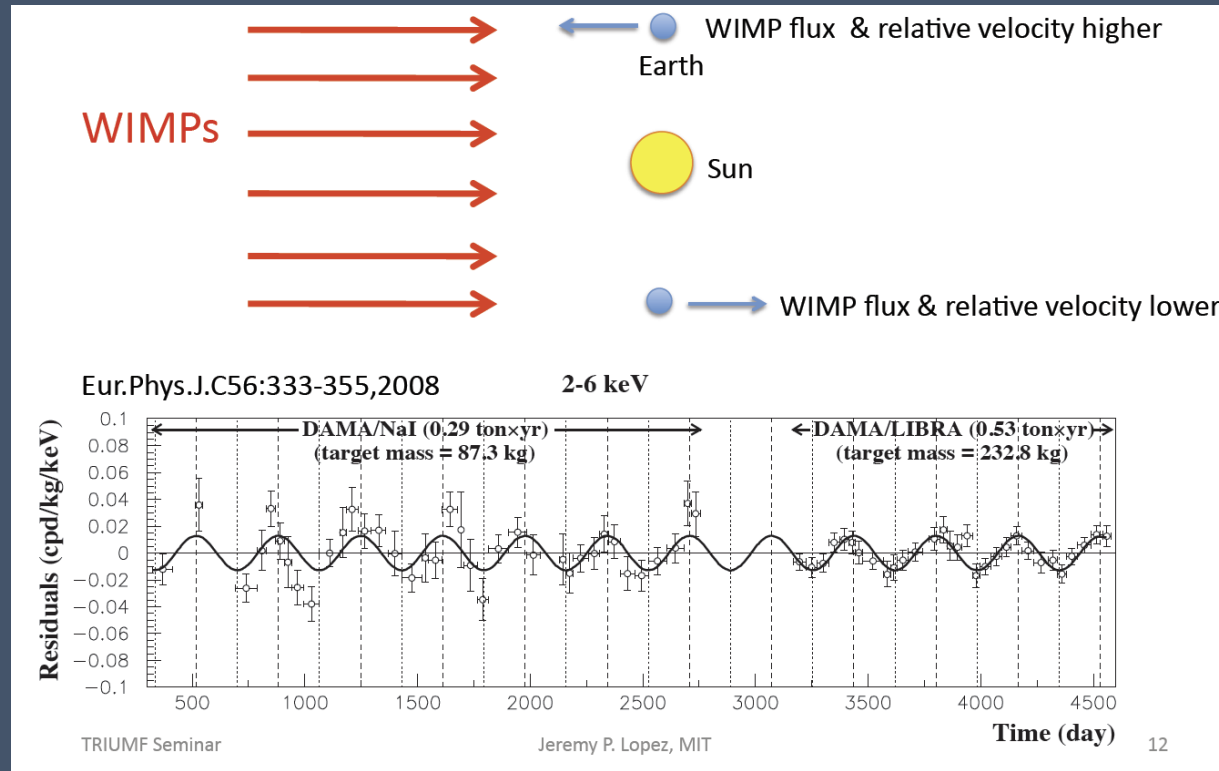
The WIMP Wind



- ~ 220 km / s
- blows from CYGNUS
- provides two additional WIMP signatures...



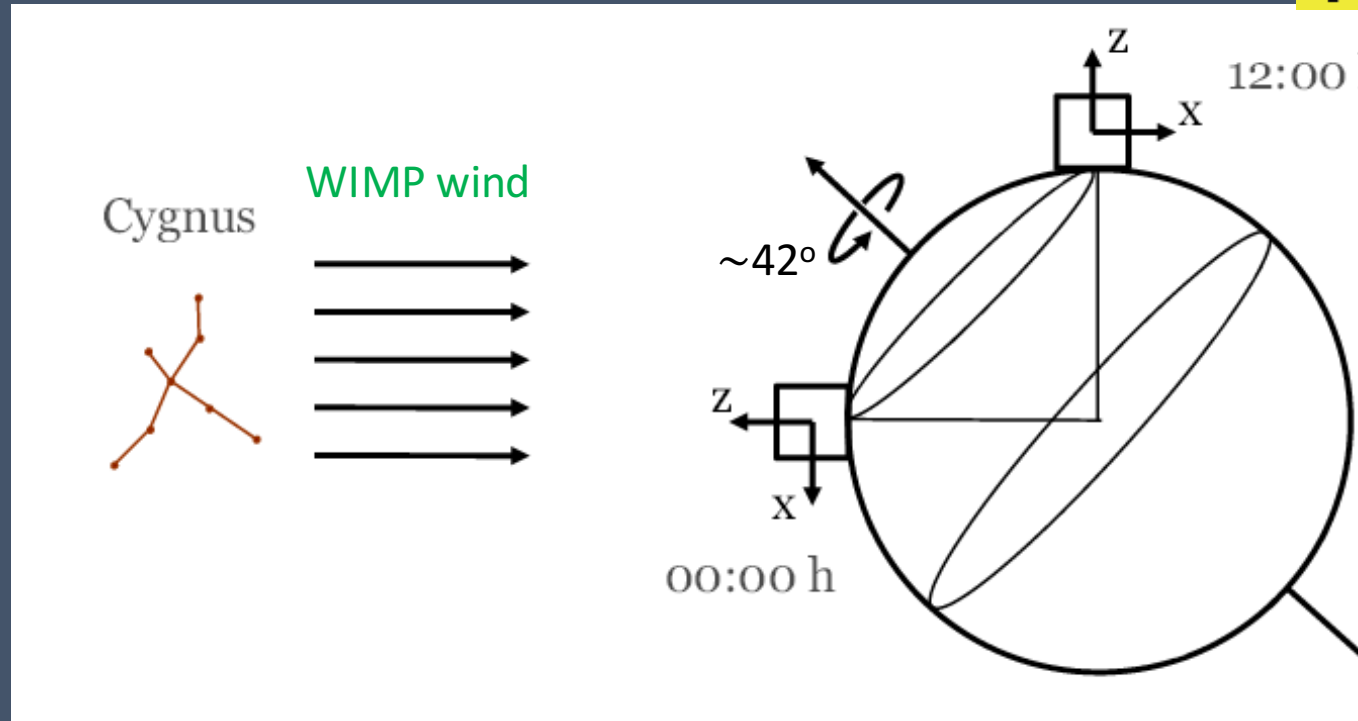
Annual Rate Modulation



- *due to motion of earth around sun*
- *%-level effect*
- requires thousands of signal events, and %-level control of BGs and gain
- *does demonstrate cosmological origin, but small magnitude, and not a robust signature*

Diurnal (Daily) Directional Oscillation

Spergel PRD 37,1353 (1988)

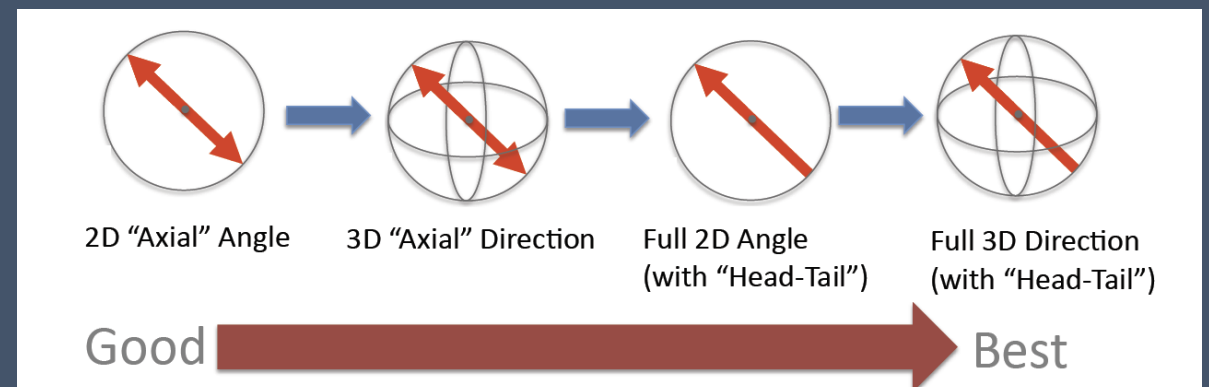
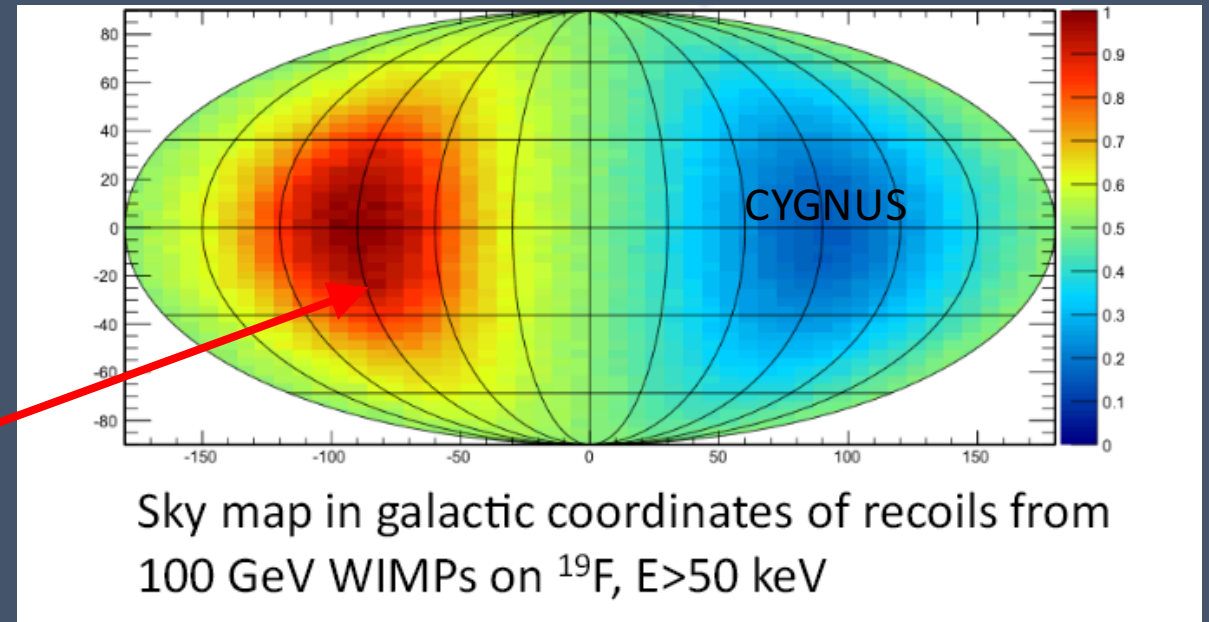


- oscillation of the mean recoil direction, due to rotation of earth
- order 1 effect
- oscillation period = sidereal day \neq solar day
- no known background with this signature

The Galactic Dipole

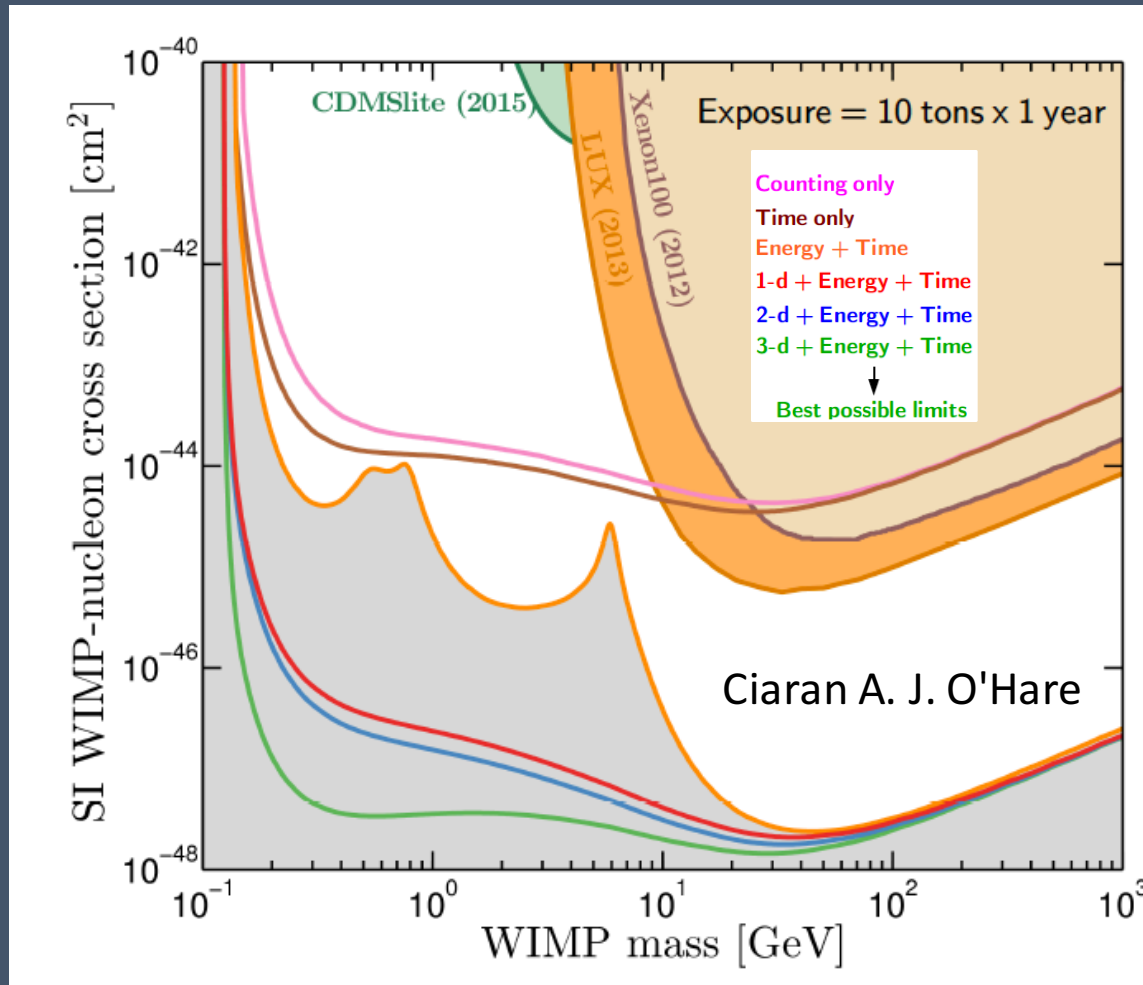
- The diurnal directional oscillation is equivalent to a dipole in galactic coordinates
- Recoils Point away from constellation CYGNUS
- Need ~ 10 3D vector events to reject isotropy.

Physics Reports 627 (2016)



Galactic dipole: - strongest predicted direct detection signature
- can unambiguously demonstrate cosmological origin of signal

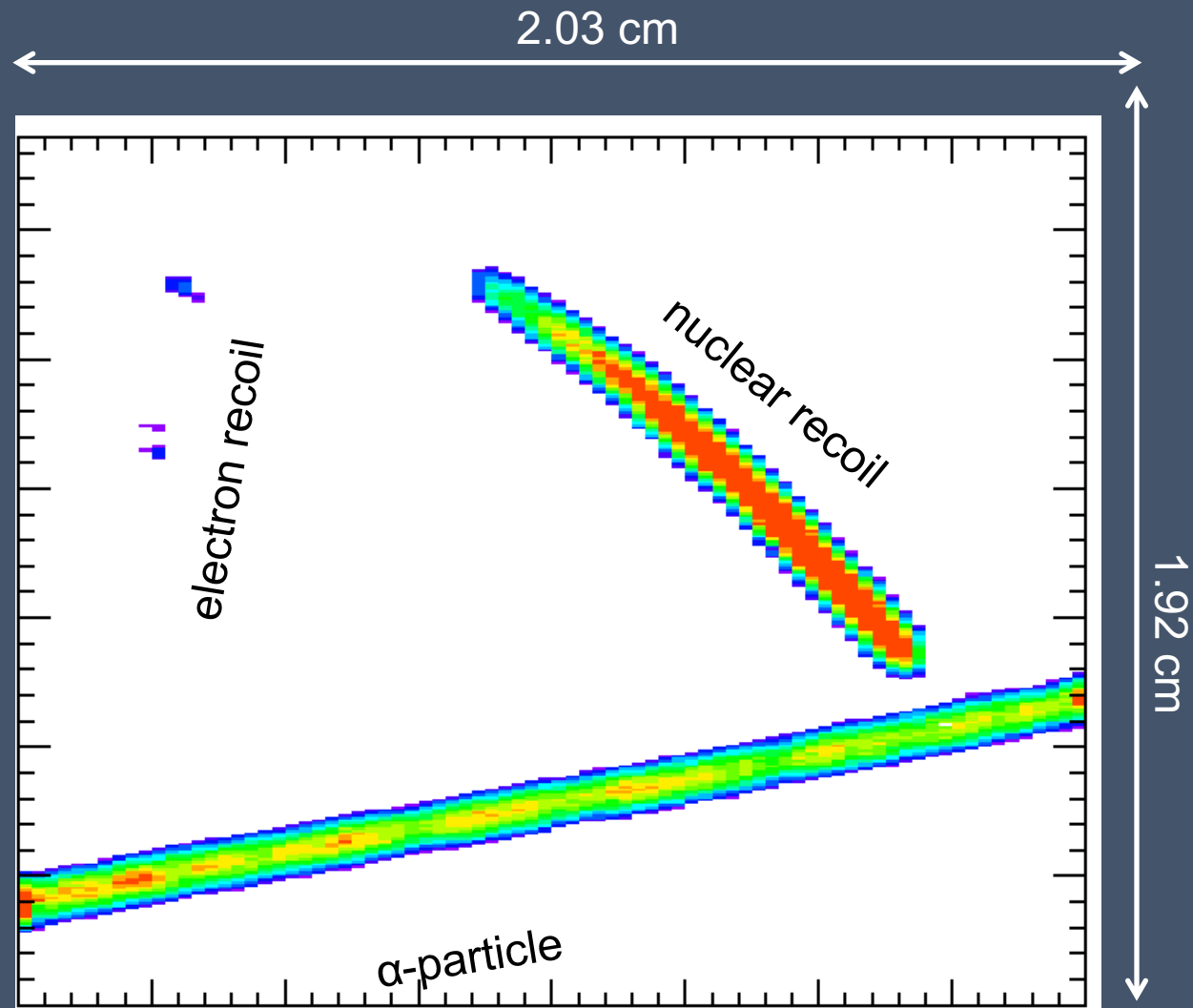
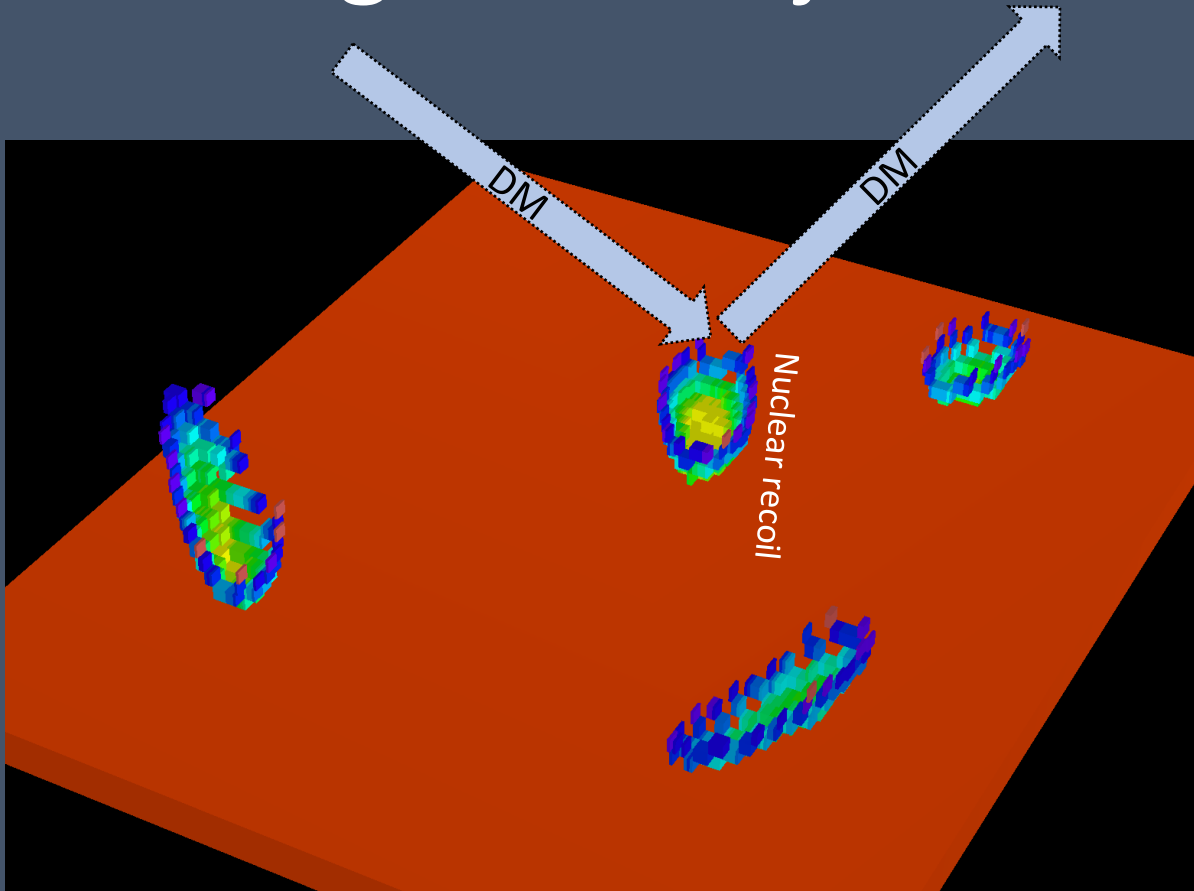
Penetrating the neutrino floor



- Directionality significantly enhances the DM sensitivity below neutrino floor
 - 3D again “best”
- But note:
 - True Figure of Merit: sensitivity / unit cost
 - A realistic detector has strongly energy-dependent directionality. This was not considered in past studies.

Readout strategies for directional dark matter detection beyond the neutrino background
Ciaran A. J. O'Hare, Anne M. Green, Julien Billard, Enectali Figueroa-Feliciano, Louis E. Strigari

Background rejection



3D vector directionality can be achieved with high-definition (HD) 3D TPC charge readout
Detectors capable of this have excellent electron recoil / nuclear recoil separation as a “free bonus”

CYGNUS

The CYGNUS Proto-Collaboration

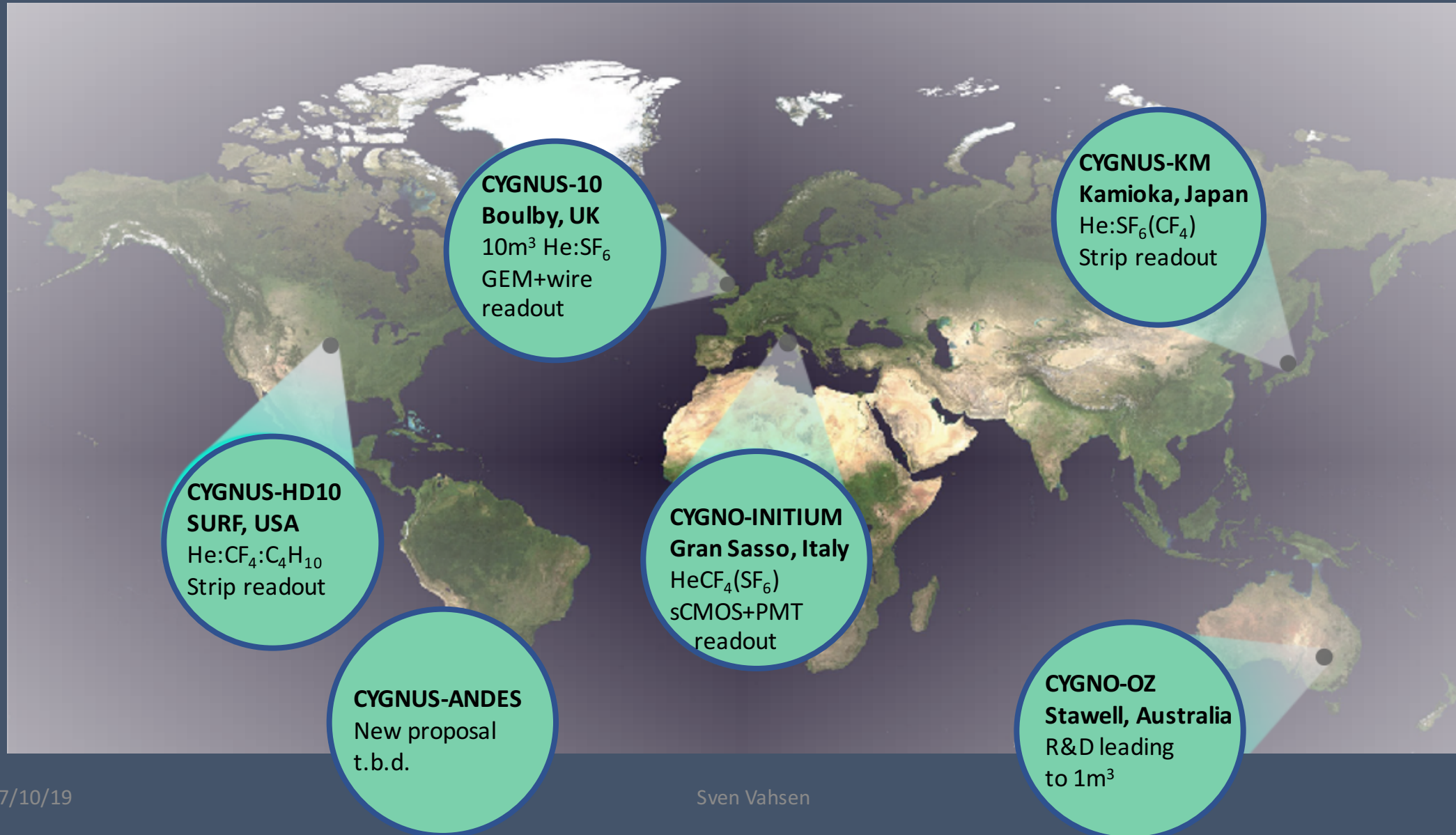
- As outcome of CYGNUS workshops, we have formed the **CYGNUS proto-collaboration**
- **>50 signed members** from the US, UK, Japan, Italy, Spain, China
- Focused on gas TPCs
- Close collaboration and regular meetings
- Encourage new members to join



The dark matter wind is expected to come from the constellation Cygnus.

CYGNUS Vision: Multi-site Galactic Recoil Observatory

with directional sensitivity to WIMPs and neutrinos



What we have agreed to

- 52 members have signed **The CYGNUS Galactic Directional Recoil Observatory Proto-Collaboration Agreement**
- (1) Finished
- (2) Ongoing
- (3-5) Next
- Interim Steering group:
 - Neil Spooner (Sheffield, UK)
 - Sven Vahsen (Hawaii, USA)
 - Kentaro Miuchi (Kobe, Japan)
 - Elisabetta Baracchini (GSSI/INFN, Italy)
 - Greg Lane (Melbourne, Australia)

Signatories to this agreement hence forward agree to work together towards this common goal and to the formation of the CYGNUS collaboration, recognising that cooperation brings mutual benefits to all. Specifically in this regard, we the undersigned, on a best efforts basis, agree to work on the following goals:

- (1) to establish the science case for CYGNUS, working with external experts as required
- (2) to establish the feasibility and technology choices for CYGNUS, coordinating R&D activities, resources and joint publications as necessary
- (3) to form an Institute Board including remit to prepare an organisational structure in readiness for launch of the collaboration
- (4) to write an experiment LOI as basis for formation of the collaboration based on (1-3)
- (5) to launch the collaboration at an appropriate date to be decided by us

The CYGNUS proto-collaboration will be coordinated by an interim steering group (ISG) with remit to facilitate activities of the proto-collaboration and organise technical meetings. The ISG will guide transition to launch of the collaboration but will be disbanded at that time.

Signatures

We the undersigned agree to work together on the CYGNUS programme, noting that this does not automatically imply participation in the CYGNUS collaboration when that is formed:

Science Case Paper – Task (1)

CYGNUS: Feasibility of a nuclear recoil observatory with directional sensitivity to dark matter and neutrinos

E. Baracchini,^{1,2,3} P. Barbeau,⁴ J. B. R. Battat,⁵ B. Crow,⁶ C. Deaconu,⁷ C. Eldridge,⁸
A. C. Ezeribe,⁸ D. Loomba,⁹ W. A. Lynch,⁸ K. J. Mack,¹⁰ K. Miuchi,¹¹ F. M. Mouton,⁸ N. S. Phan,¹²
C. A. J. O'Hare,^{13,14} K. Scholberg,⁴ N. J. C. Spooner,⁸ T. N. Thorpe,⁶ and S. E. Vahsen⁶

¹Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare, Laboratori Nazionali di Frascati, I-00040, Italy

²Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare, Sezione di Roma, I-00185, Italy

³Department of Astroparticle Physics, Gran Sasso Science Institute, L'Aquila, I-67100, Italy

⁴Department of Physics, Duke University, Durham, NC 27708 USA

⁵Department of Physics, Wellesley College, Wellesley, Massachusetts 02481, USA

⁶Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Hawaii, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822, USA

⁷Dept. of Physics, Enrico Fermi Inst., Kavli Inst. for Cosmological Physics, Univ. of Chicago, Chicago, IL 60637, USA

⁸Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Sheffield,

Hounsfield Road, S3 7RH, Sheffield, United Kingdom

⁹Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of New Mexico, NM 87131, USA

¹⁰Department of Physics, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695, USA

¹¹Department of Physics, Kobe University, Rokkodaicho, Nada-ku, Hyogo 657-8501, Japan

¹²Los Alamos National Laboratory, P.O. Box 1663, Los Alamos, NM 87545, USA

¹³School of Physics and Astronomy, University of Nottingham,

University Park, Nottingham, NG7 2RD, United Kingdom

¹⁴Departamento de Física Teórica, Universidad de Zaragoza, Pedro Cerbuna 12, E-50009, Zaragoza, España

(Dated: June 20, 2019)

Now that conventional weakly interacting massive particle (WIMP) dark matter searches are rapidly approaching the neutrino floor, there has been a resurgence in interest towards detectors with directional sensitivity. A large enough detector with such a capability introduces the possibility of identifying a clear signature of dark matter particles with signals weaker than the neutrino background. All the while fulfilling a dual purpose in measuring these neutrinos from the Sun and other sources through the novel channel of coherent neutrino-nucleus scattering. We present here, for the first time, a detailed analysis of the potential for observing a directional nuclear recoil signal using low-pressure gas time projection chamber (TPC) technology at energies below 10 keV, as well as for discriminating against electron backgrounds in this regime, as required for low-mass WIMP and solar neutrino observations. Furthermore, we present analysis of the background and technological requirements for such a detector, along with a full cost-benefit analysis to identify the optimal choice of detector readout technology. We describe how a large-scale directional nuclear recoil observatory, which we call CYGNUS, has the potential to open a new field in observational cosmology.

I. INTRODUCTION

A wide range of astrophysical observations across Galactic and cosmological scales indicate that dark matter (DM) dominates the mass budget of the Universe. While the gravitational evidence for DM is very strong (for a review, see Ref. [1]), its particle identity remains unknown. A definitive detection of particle DM is expected to be a gateway to physics beyond the standard model. Being of such fundamental importance, the quest to uncover the nature of DM remains one of the most important experimental challenges in contemporary

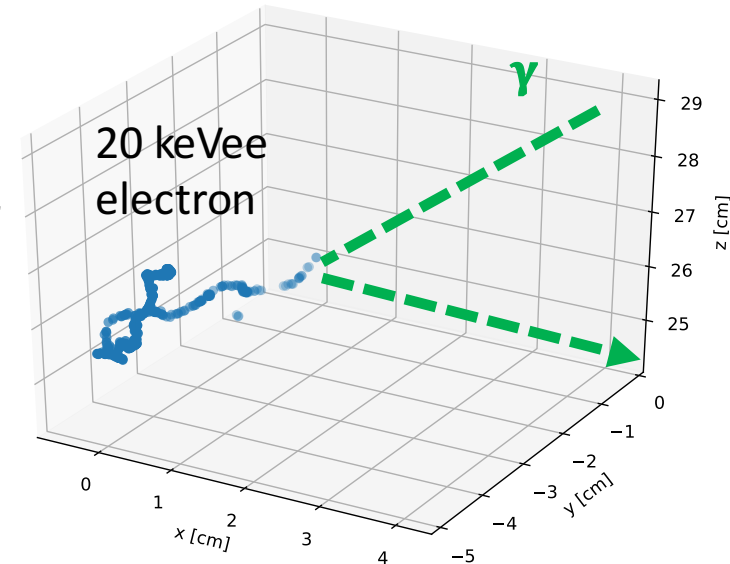
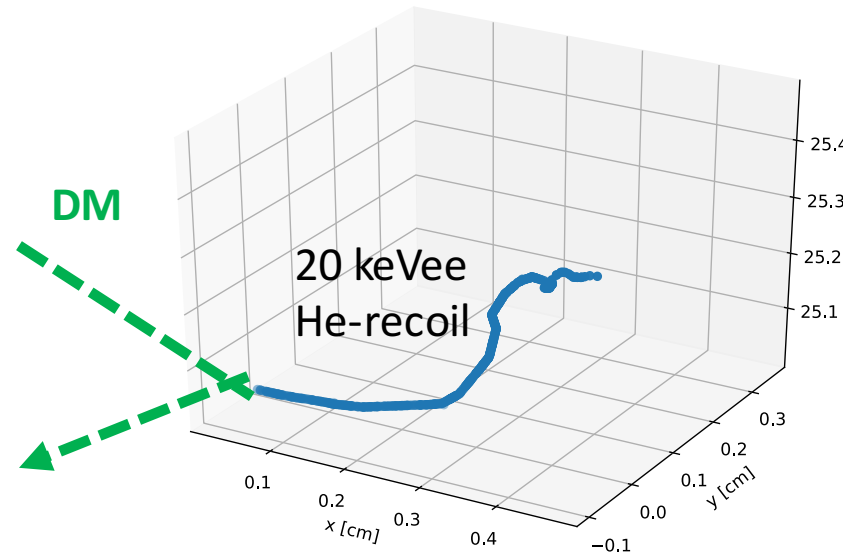
claimed [2–11]. As detectors become sensitive to lower masses and weaker cross sections, the previously negligible neutrino background will become important, potentially swamping any WIMP signal. Models which give signals weaker than the neutrino background are said to live beyond the ‘neutrino floor’, a theoretical boundary beyond which conventional DM detectors cannot probe.

DM detectors with *directional sensitivity*—the ability to reconstruct the directions of WIMP-induced recoil events—have the potential to address two of the main challenges to current detection techniques: (1) the difficulty of positively identifying detected interactions as be-

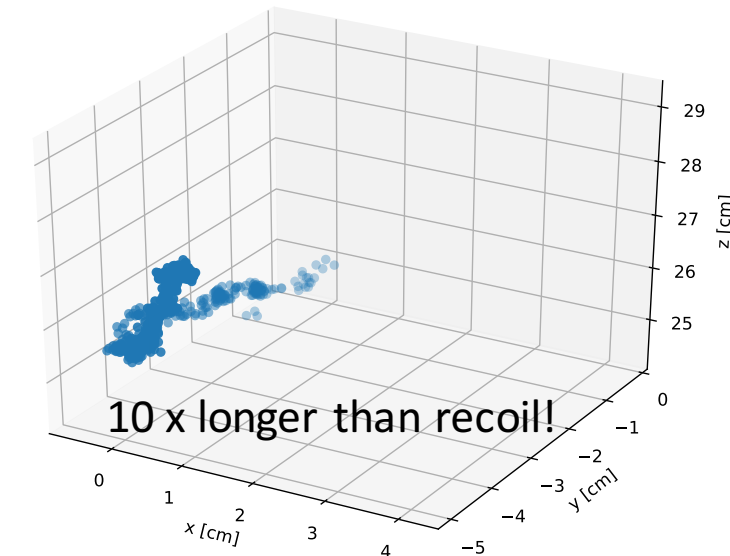
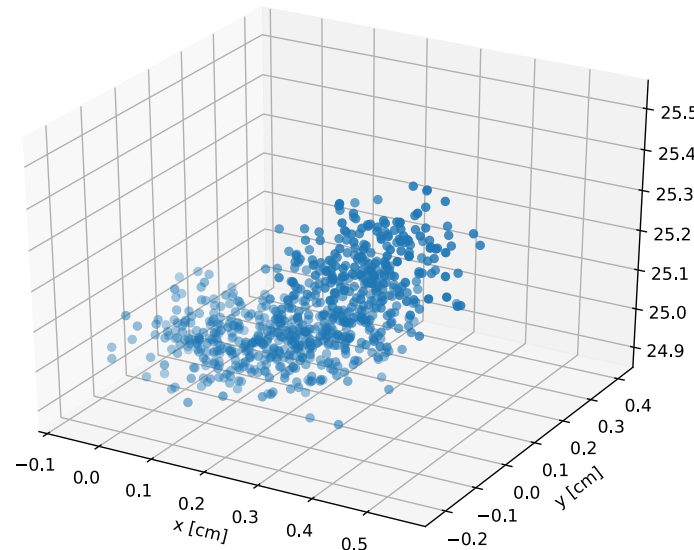
- 55 pages
- Complete, revising
- Intended for PRD
- Some results in this talk. Also see talk by O’Hare, this conference.

The main idea

- Direct DM detection w/ Gas target TPCs
- Measure spatial ionization distribution resulting from nuclear recoils
- Advantages:
 - Axial Directionality
 - Head/tail
 - Background rejection
 - Particle ID
 - 3D fiducialization
- Technologically challenging, but now achievable via multiple technologies



Initial ionization distribution



charge cloud after 25 cm drift in gas TPC

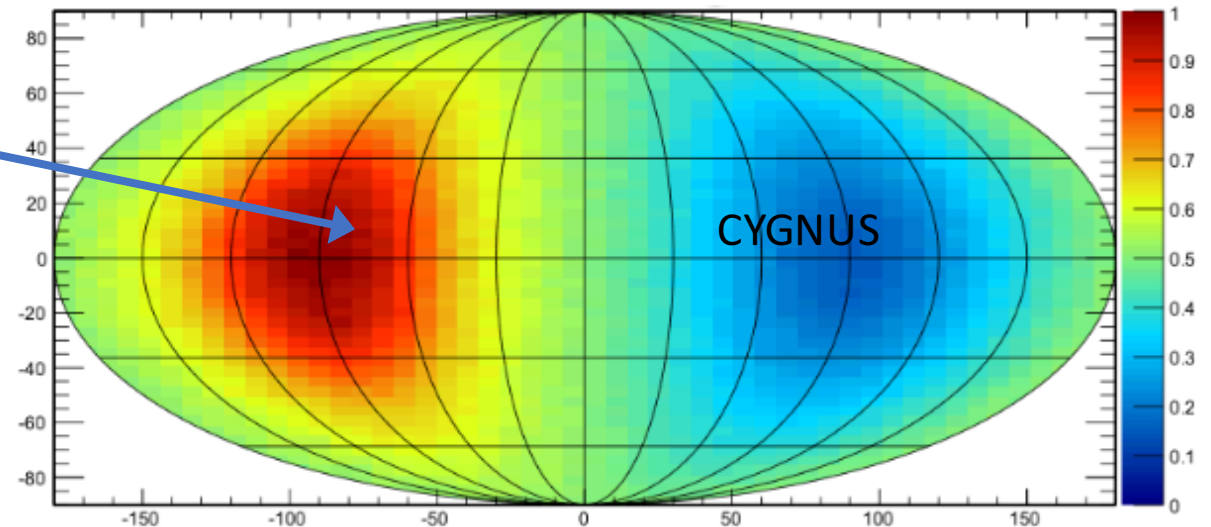
CYGNUS vision and long-term goal

> 1000 m³ directional nuclear recoil detector capable of

- Setting competitive DM limits
- Observing galactic dipole
- Detecting solar neutrinos
- Efficiently penetrating the ν floor
- Measuring DM particle properties and physics
- Measuring Geoneutrinos
- WIMP astronomy

exposure
↓

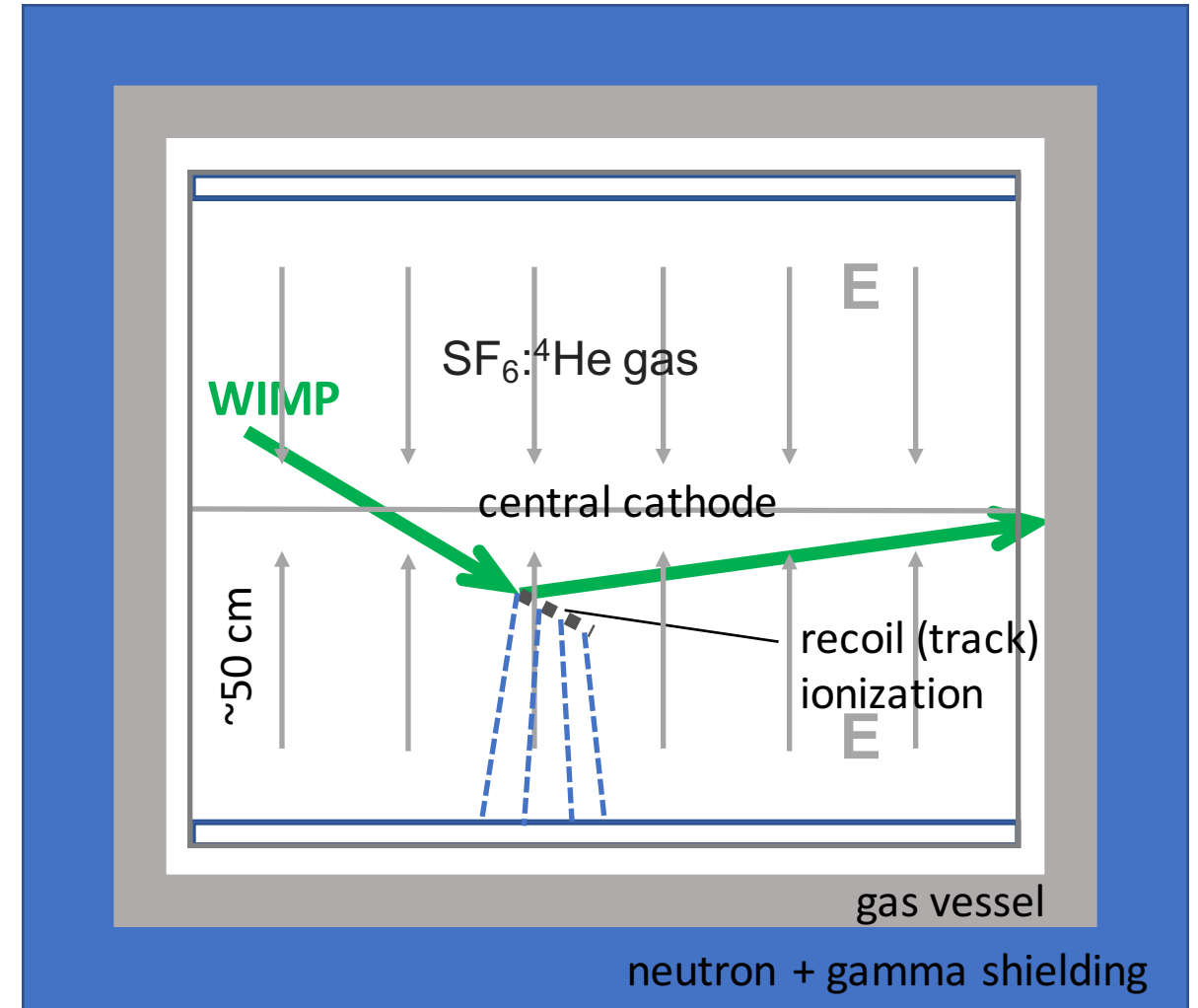
A review of the discovery reach of directional Dark Matter detection
[Physics Reports 627 \(2016\)](#)



Sky map in galactic coordinates of recoils from 100 GeV WIMPs on ¹⁹F, E>50 keV

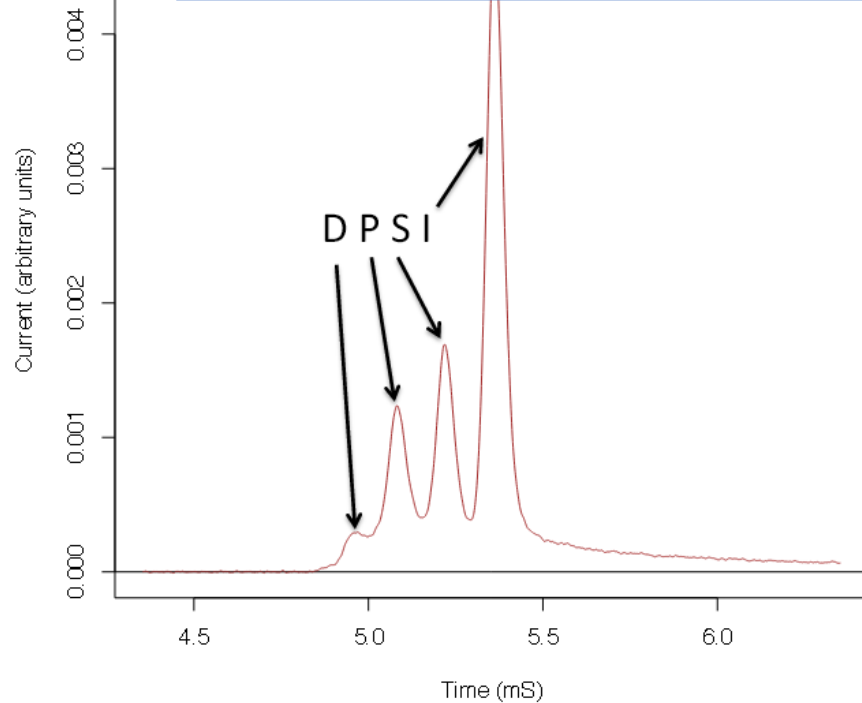
CYGNUS: Experimental Approach

- Gas Time Projection Chamber
- Order 1m^3 unit cells
- Gas mixture: SF_6 : ^4He , $p\sim 1$ atm
- Reduced diffusion via negative Ion drift (SF_6 gas)
- Fluorine: SD WIMP sensitivity
- Helium target
 - SI, low mass WIMP sensitivity
 - Longer recoil tracks, extending directionality to lower energies
- Redundant 3D fiducialization
 - SF_6 minority carriers
 - charge cloud profile
- Multiple readout plane options have been successfully demonstrated

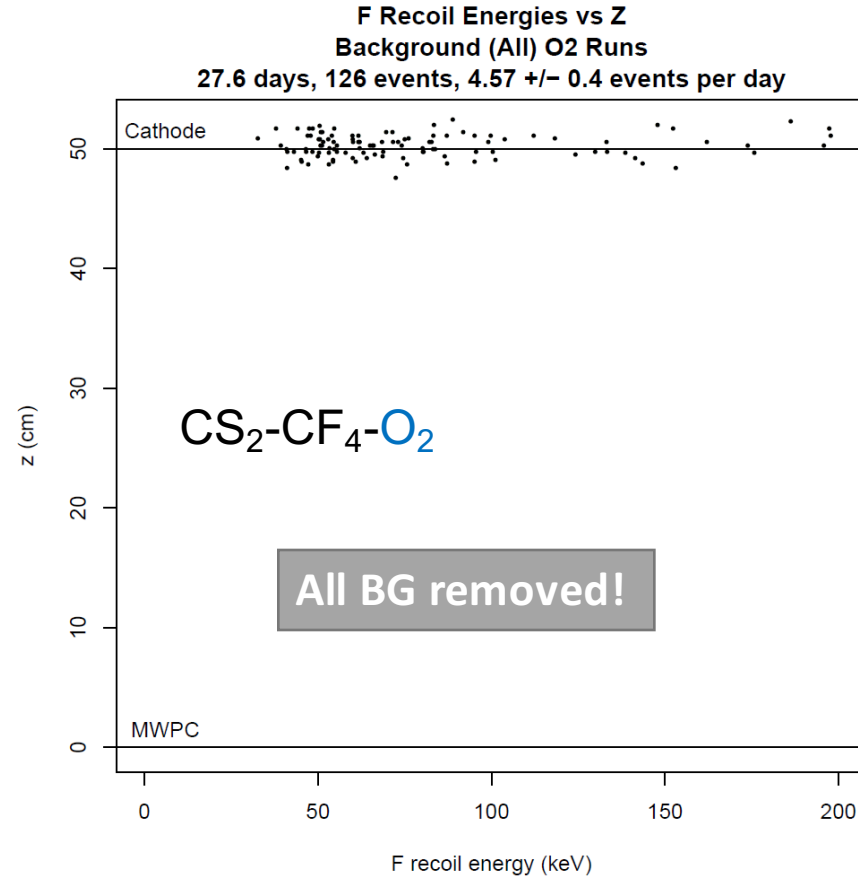


3D Fiducialization I: Minority Carriers

Discovery of Multiple, Ionization-Created Anions in Gas Mixtures Containing CS₂ and O₂
[Daniel P. Snowden-Ifft](http://arxiv.org/abs/1308.0354) <http://arxiv.org/abs/1308.0354>



- Game changer for directional WIMP search via gas TPC
- Utilizes timing - works with any charge readout (1D,2D,3D)
- First discovered in CS₂
- Now also demonstrated in pure SF₆ & CF₄ + SF₆ mixtures



The novel properties of SF₆ for directional dark matter experiments

N.S. Phan, R. Lafler, R.J. Lauer, E.R. Lee, D. Loomba, J.A.J. Matthews and E.H. Miller
Published 17 February 2017 • © 2017 IOP Publishing Ltd and Sissa Medialab srl
[Journal of Instrumentation, Volume 12, February 2017](https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-0221/12/02/020001)

3D Fiducialization II: Charge Cloud Reconstruction

Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research A 789 (2015) 81–85

P. Lewis (U. Hawaii)

- Measuring charge-profile (*not width*) of track, enables accurate measurement of transverse diffusion, which depends on drift length

→ obtain absolute position in drift direction

- Requires high resolution readout of charge density → only 2D, 3D
- However, should work with any gas
- Published version utilized “chopped” alphas, but has since been extended by I. Seong to also work with recoil events (unpublished)

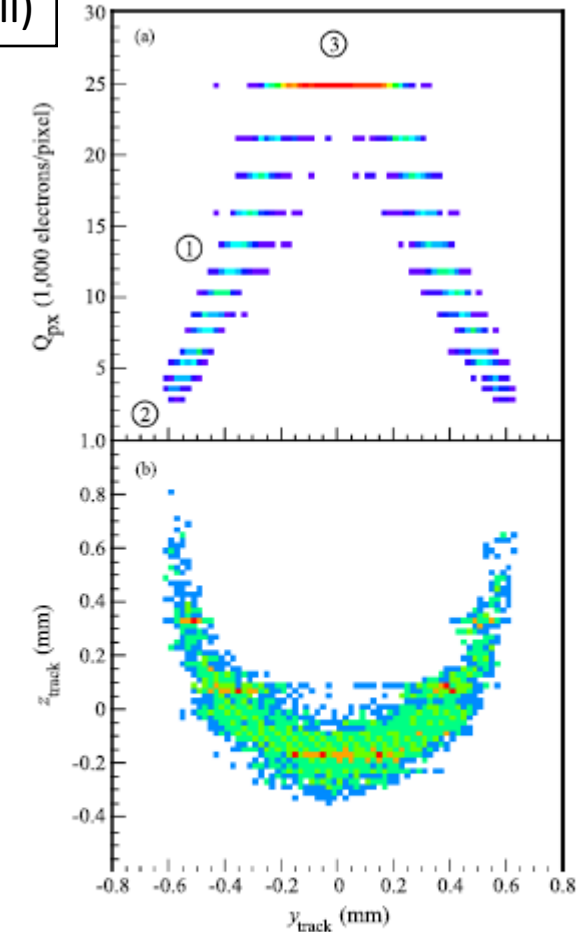
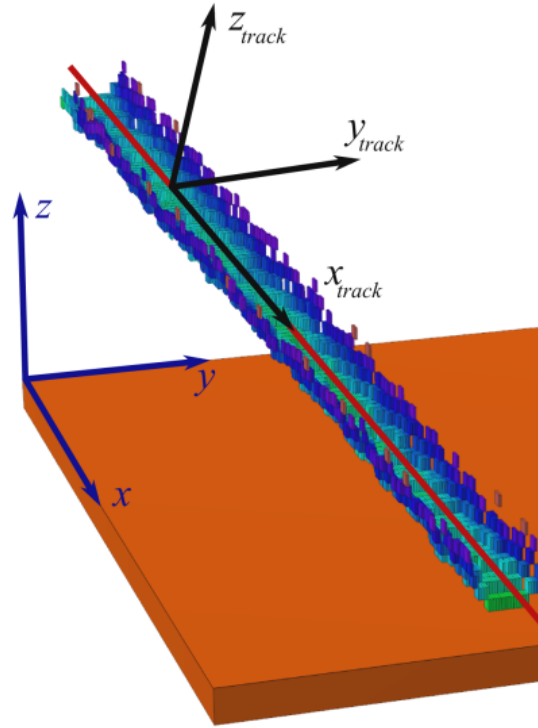
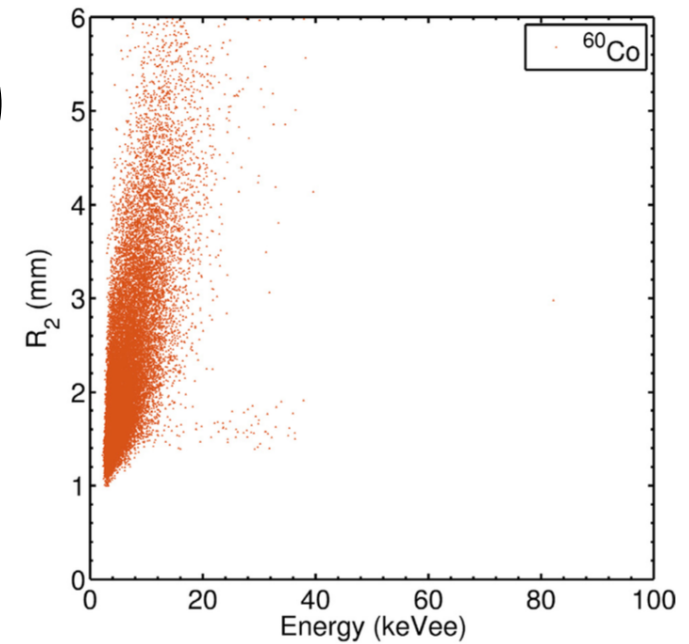


Fig. 2. Corrected pixel charge (Q_{px}) profile (a) and shell coordinates (b) for a single horizontal track from the near alpha source. Label 1 of the profile plot (a) corresponds to the Gaussian, label 2 to the threshold, and label 3 to the saturation regions of the profile. The U-shaped shell in plot (b) is very roughly the bottom half of the track in space, described in Section 21. These plots are two-dimensional histograms where the counts per bin are encoded by brightness: the outside points of each distribution (blue online) have the lowest count number, the center points (yellow and red online) have higher count numbers. (References to color apply to the web version of this article.)

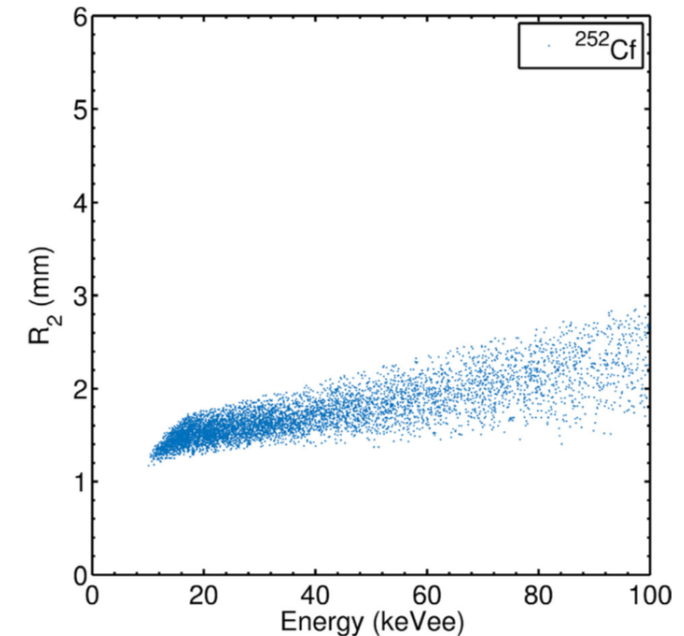
2D electron rejection (experiment)

- On right: 2D optical readout in 100 torr CF₄
 - F versus electron recoils
 - $\sigma = 0.35$ mm readout resolution, incl. diffusion
 - Using range-energy signature, electron event rejection factor $< 3.9 \times 10^{-5}$ around 10 keVee
 - *It's a limit – all available electron events rejected!*
- Extrapolating to CYGNUS
 - 20 torr SF₆ + 740 torr Helium: 50% longer tracks
 - 50 cm of thermal drift ($\sigma = 0.55$ mm): 50% higher
 - Expect similar performance

→ Should improve with 3D reconstruction and going beyond range-energy signature.



(b) ⁶⁰Co data post CCD cuts

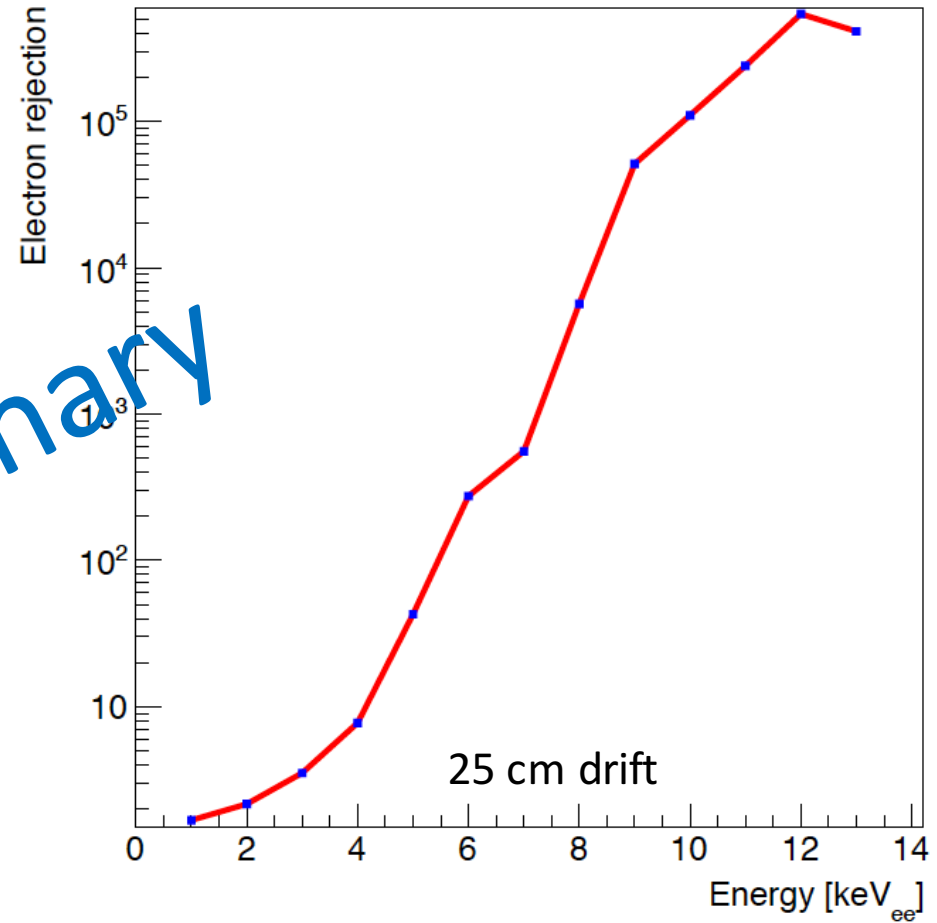
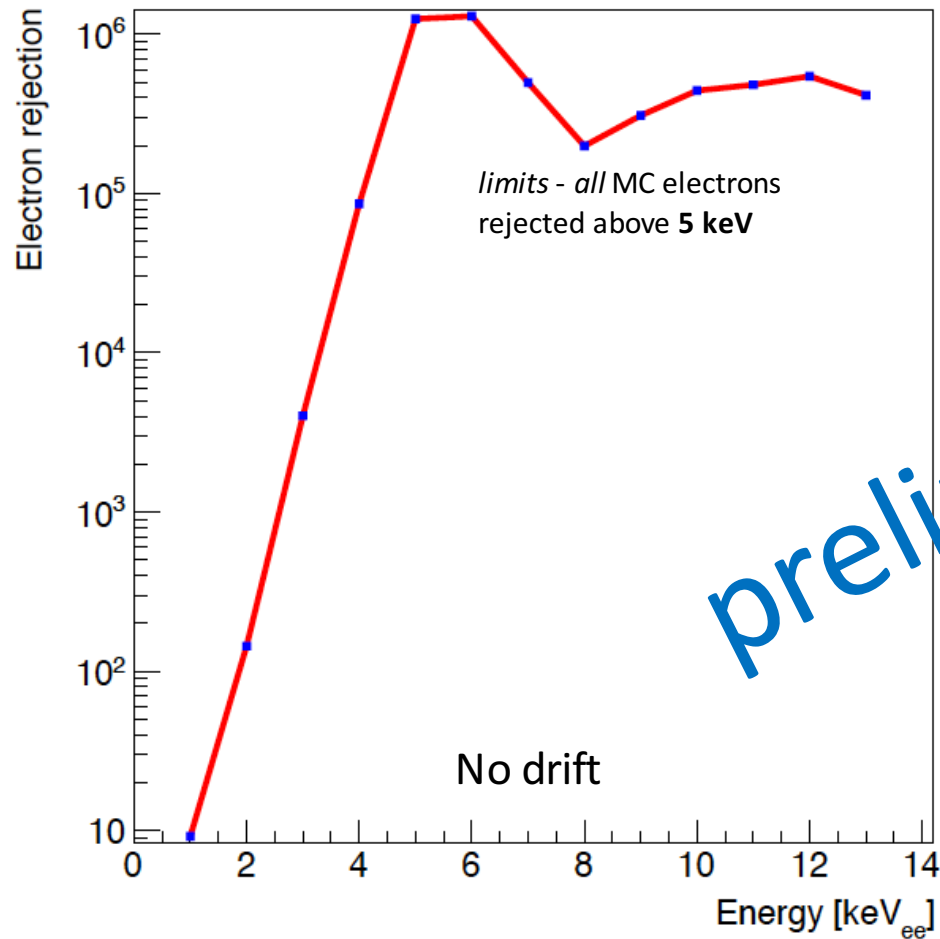


(b) ²⁵²Cf data post selection cuts

3D electron rejection (simulation) per 1keVee

20 torr SF₆ + 740 torr Helium

Evaluated at Fluorine-recoil efficiency of 50.0%



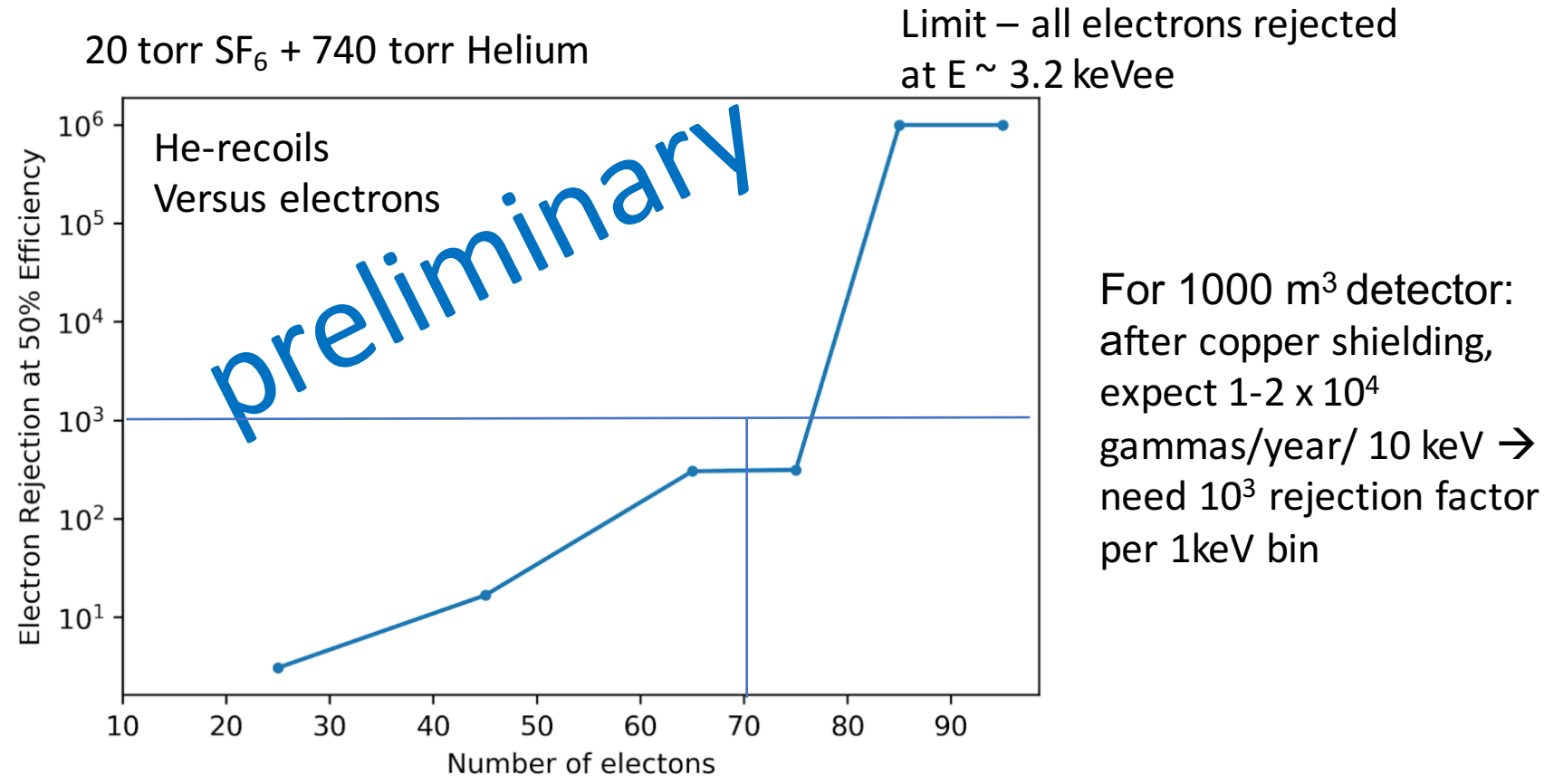
preliminary

3d-range versus energy signature: good electron rejection down to 2-5 keVee (depending on drift length)

3D Electron Rejection with Deep Learning

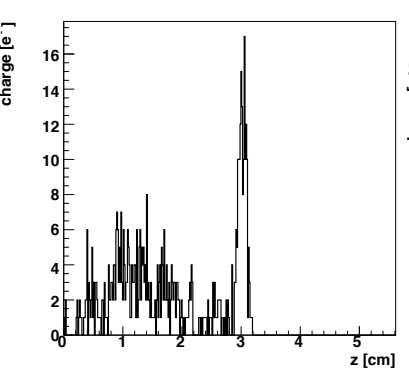
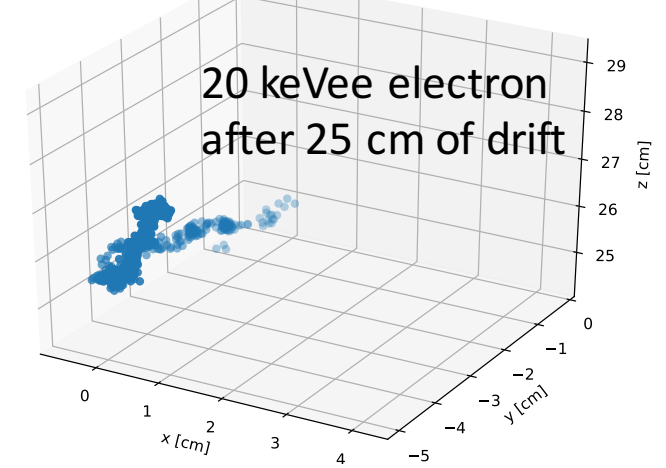
Includes 100 micron diffusion + HD 3D detector.

Huge improvements
May be possible with
machine learning!
More work needed.

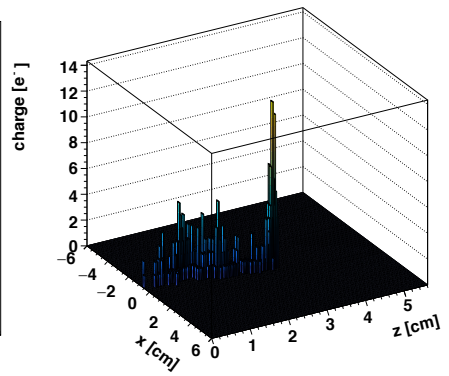


- Statistically significant electron rejection down to <=1 keVee

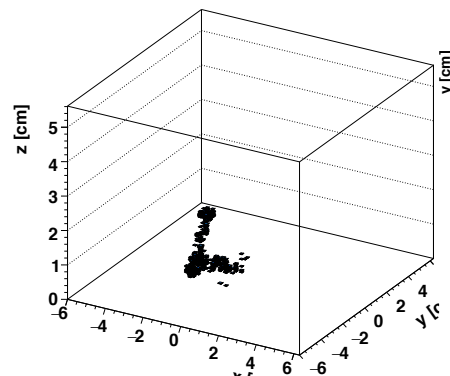
Six types of TPC charge readouts



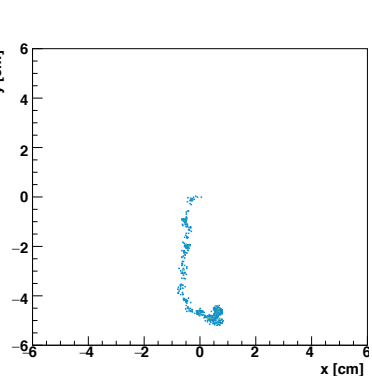
1D GEM



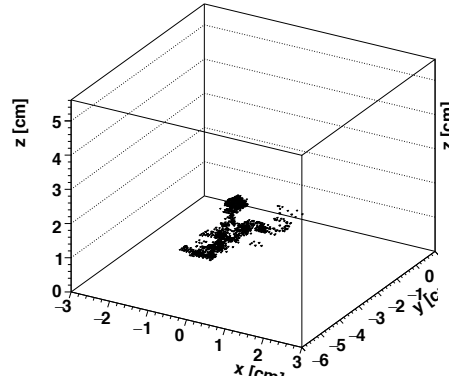
1.5 D: wires



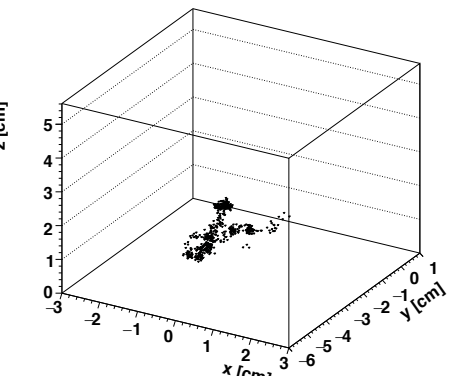
3D pads



2D optical



3D strips



3D pixels

Worse performance
Lower cost

Best compromise? Simulation study to find out

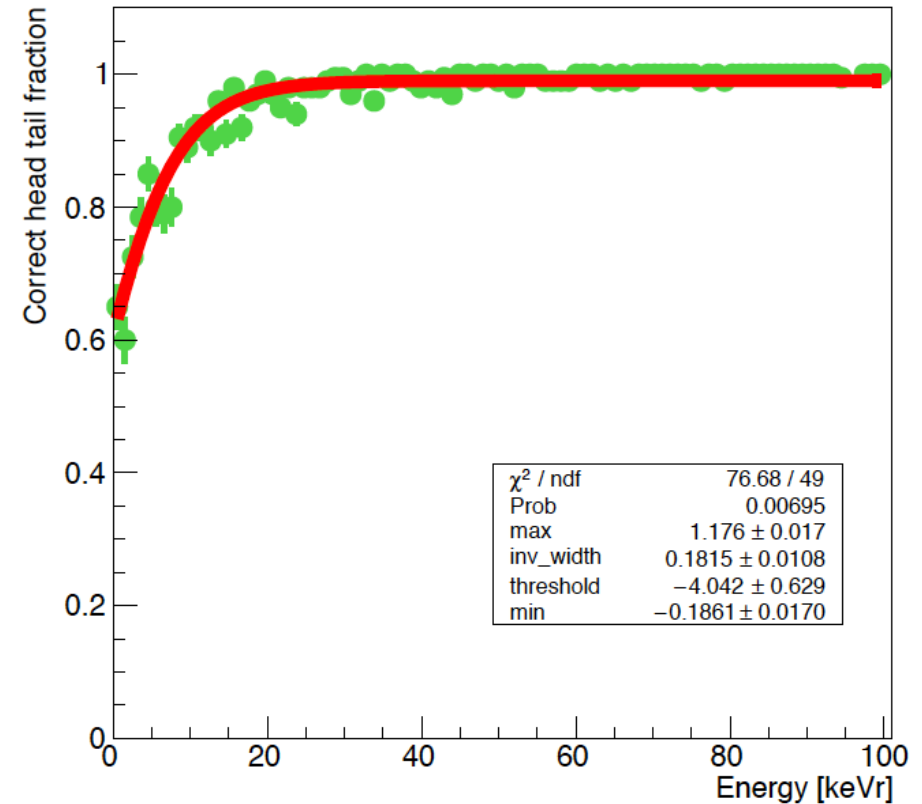
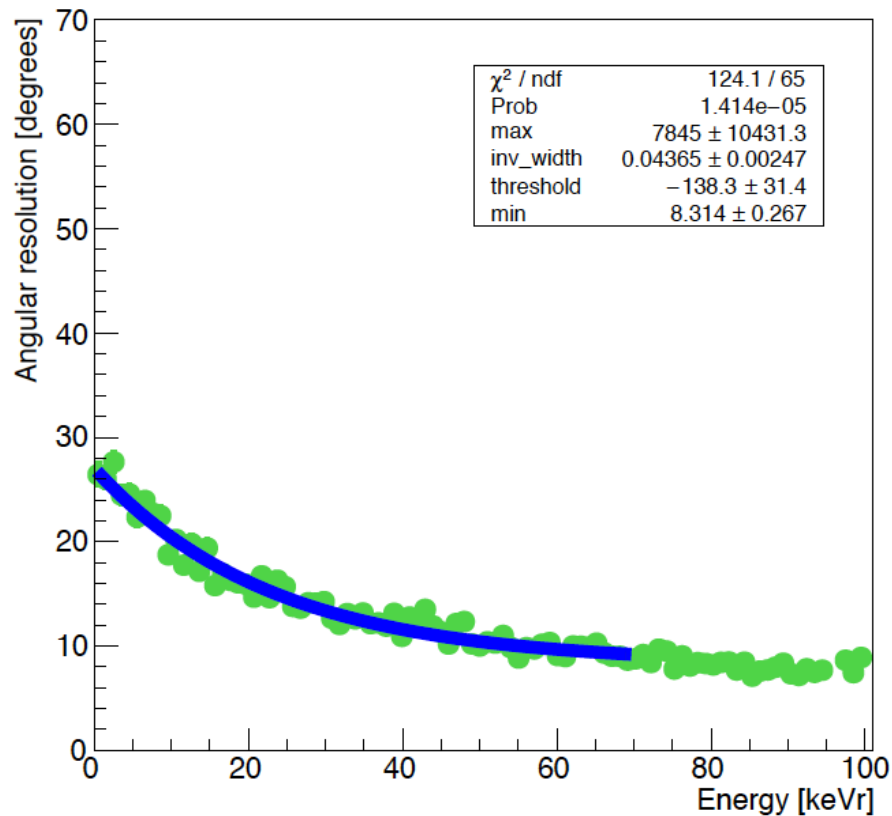
Better performance
Higher cost



New gas mix: He+SF6 755+5. Pre-drift

straggling + reconstruction algorithm

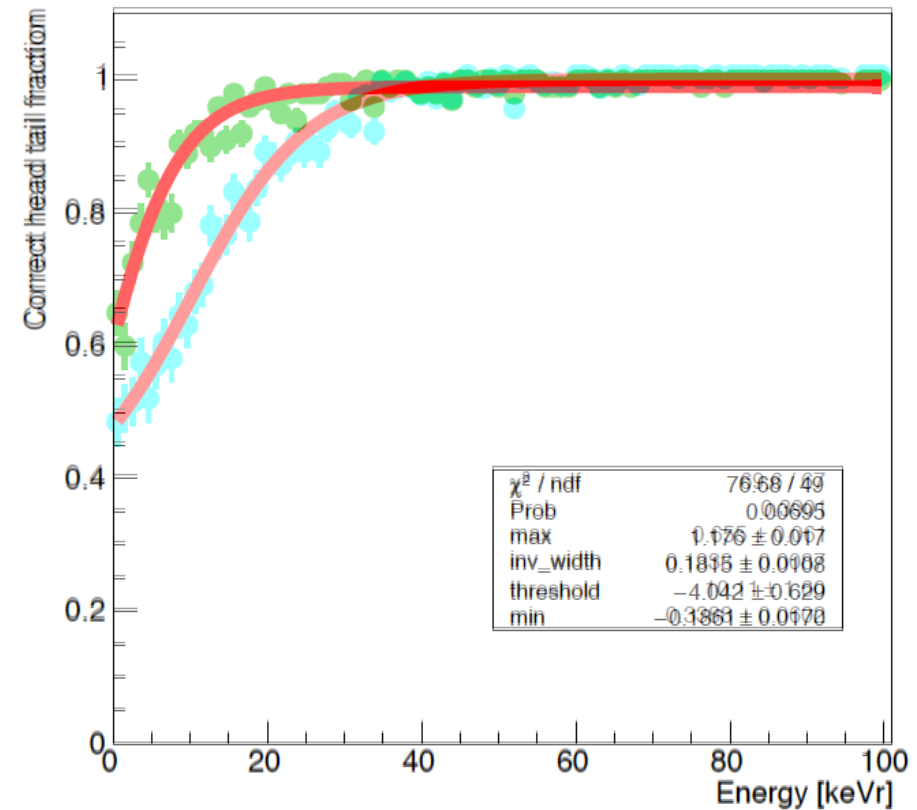
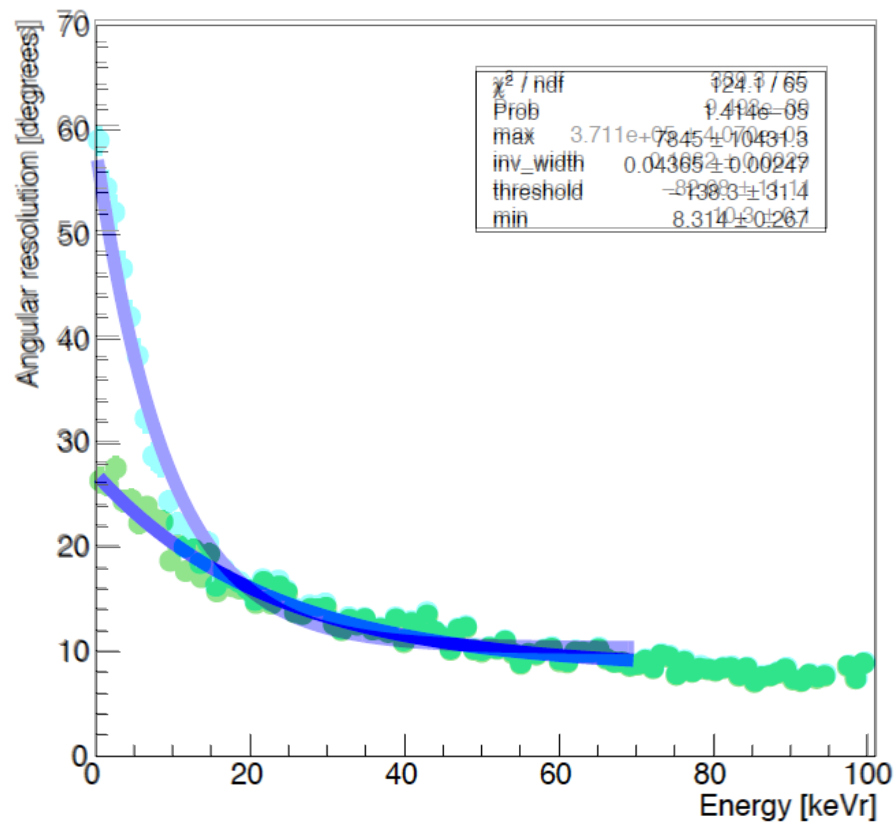
Helium recoil



New gas mix: He+SF6 755+5. Post-drift.

straggling + reconstruction algorithm + diffusion

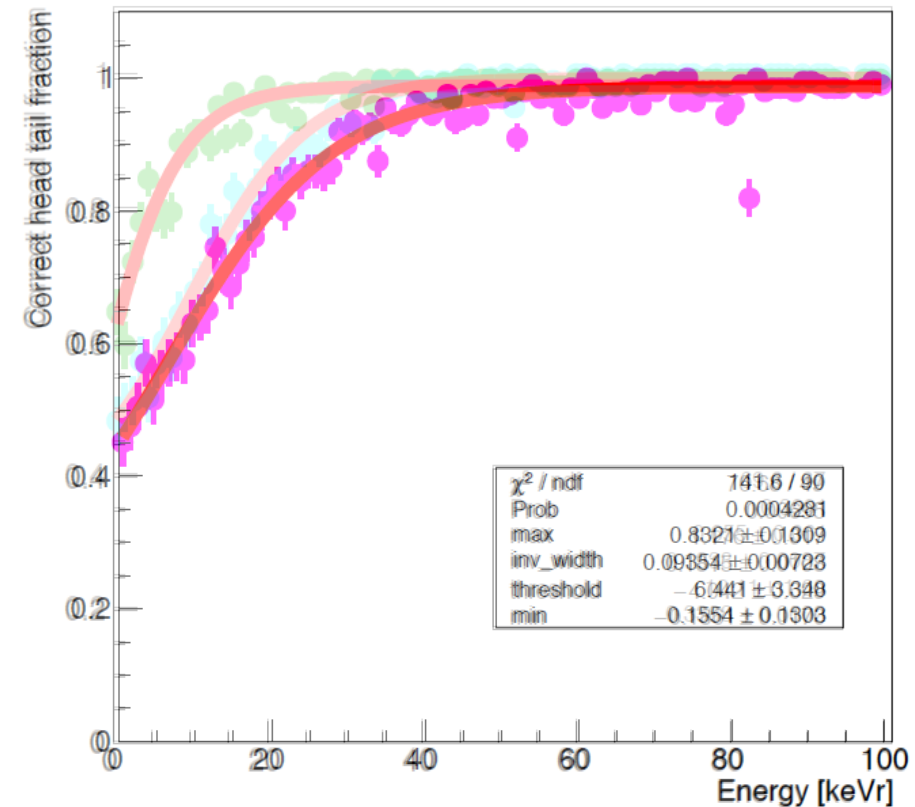
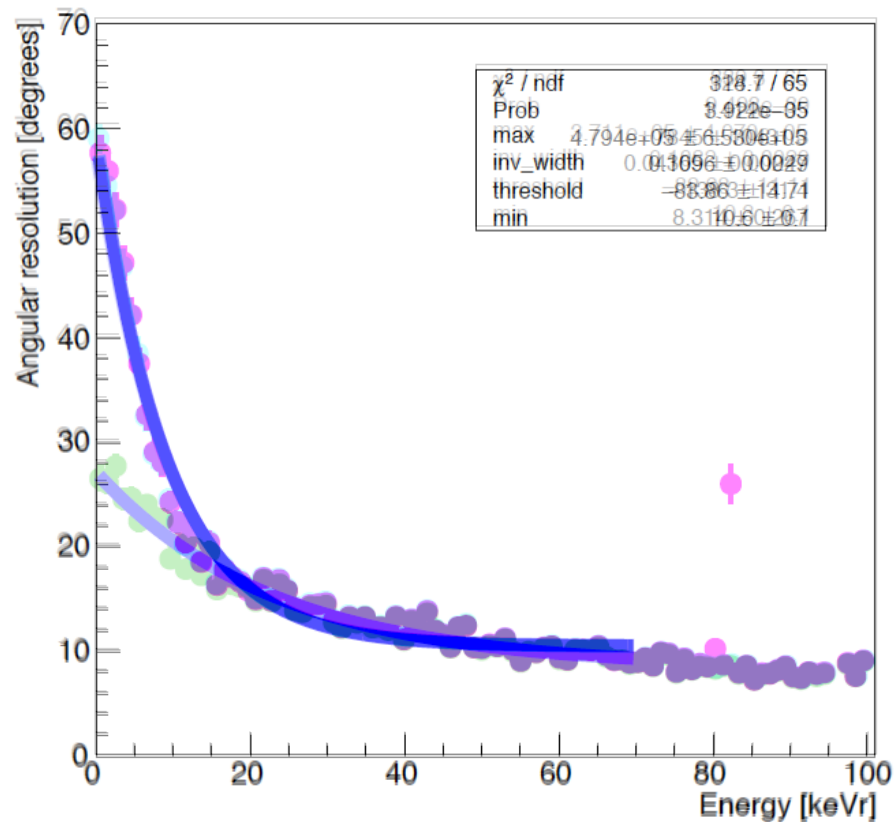
Helium recoil



New gas mix: He+SF6 755+5. Pixel readout.

straggling + reconstruction algorithm + diffusion + readout performance

Helium recoil



Directionality is diffusion limit. Pixel readout essentially extracts all information present after diffusion.

7 Possible paths to improved directionality: 1) lower diffusion 2) improved reconstruction algorithms 3) hydrogen

Final Result: Sensitivity per Unit Cost

20 torr SF₆ + 740 torr Helium

TABLE IV. Summary of main performance parameters and estimated detector cost at equal directional sensitivity, for the simulated TPC charge readout technologies. Results assume a 20:740 He:SF₆ gas mixture at 760 torr at room temperature, gain of 9000, charge diffusion of 116 $\mu\text{m}/\sqrt{\text{cm}}$, and 50 cm drift length.

Charge readout	pre diff.	post diff.	pixels	strips	pads	wires	planar
event detection threshold (F) [keVr]	0	0	< 2	3	< 2	< 2	8
event detection threshold (He) [keVr]	0	0	< 2	3	< 2	< 2	8
directionality threshold (F) [keVr]	16	30	30	80	> 100	100	> 100
directionality threshold (He) [keVr]	8	10	10	20	45	25	> 100
electron rejection threshold (F)[keVee]	1	4	-	-	-	-	-
electron rejection threshold (He)[keVee]	2.5	4.5	-	-	-	-	-
exp. penalty, exclude isotropy, 10 GeV WIMPs (He)	9	38	53	132	1512	319	>10k
exp. penalty, exclude neutrinos, 10 GeV WIMPs (He)	9	31	48	157	4897	857	>10k
exp. penalty, exclude isotropy, 100 GeV WIMPs (He)	7	23	53	107	1658	1570	>10k
exp. penalty, exclude neutrinos, 100 GeV WIMPs (He)	7	28	71	107	1274	255	>10k
average relative exposure penalty factor	n/a	n/a	1	2.46	41.5	13.3	>178
approx. cost per unit readout area [US \$/m ²]	n/a	n/a	400k	15k	5k	5k	0.050k
total readout cost (US \$)	n/a	n/a	800M	73M	415M	133M	>178M
total volume cost (US \$)	n/a	n/a	5M	12M	207M	67M	>9B
total detector cost, constant WIMP sensitivity (US \$)	n/a	n/a	805M	86M	663M	200M	>9B
total detector cost, 1000 m ³ volume (US \$)	n/a	n/a	805M	35M	15M	15M	>5.1M

Conclusion/recommendation: build a 1000 m³ detector with *strip* readout for \$35M

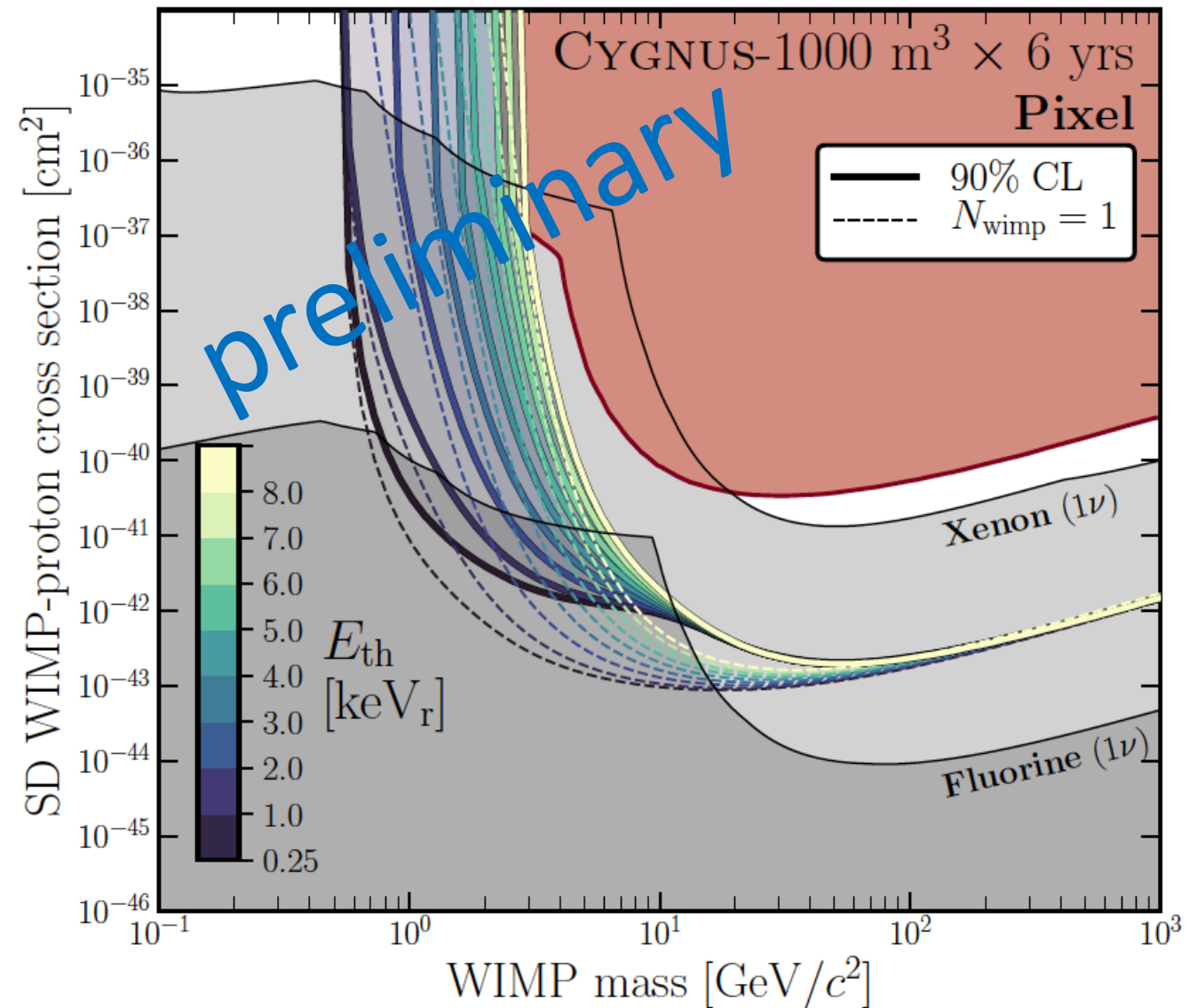
CYGNUS SD Sensitivity

Ciaran O'Hare

CYGNUS 1000: 10m x 10m x 10m

He+SF₆ 755+5

- Significant improvement in SD WIMP reach over existing experiments
- Both for high and low WIMP masses
- Sensitive well below Xe neutrino floor – where LXe experiments are not sensitive
- Low-energy reach depends strongly on electron rejection



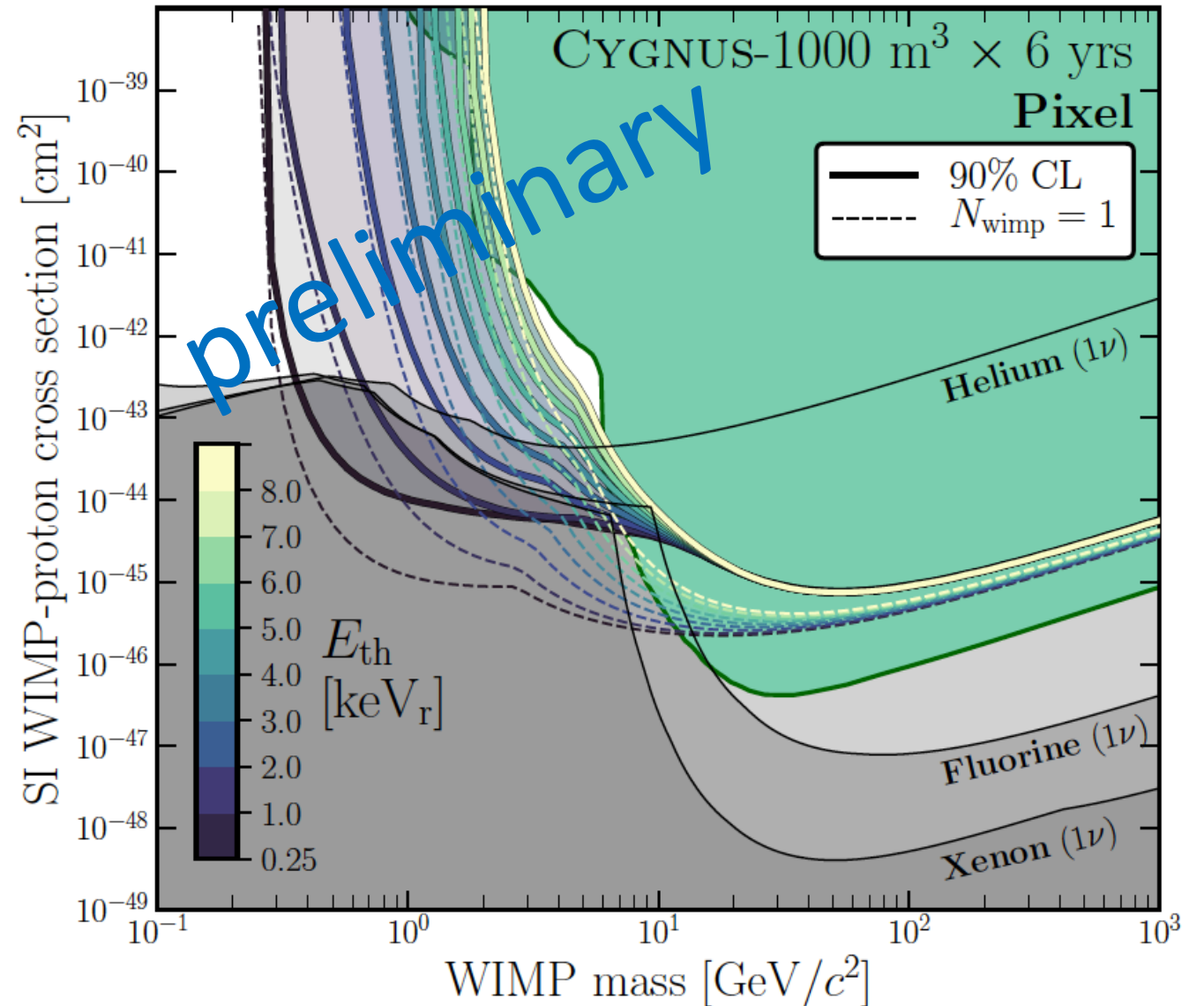
CYGNUS SI Sensitivity

CYGNUS 1000: 10m x 10m x 10m

He+SF₆ 755+5

- Main improvement is in WIMP *mass* reach
- Need more F in gas mixture to be competitive at higher masses
- Improvement depends strongly on electron rejection
- Expect 10-50 neutrino recoil events, (CEvNS) both He and F

Ciaran O'Hare



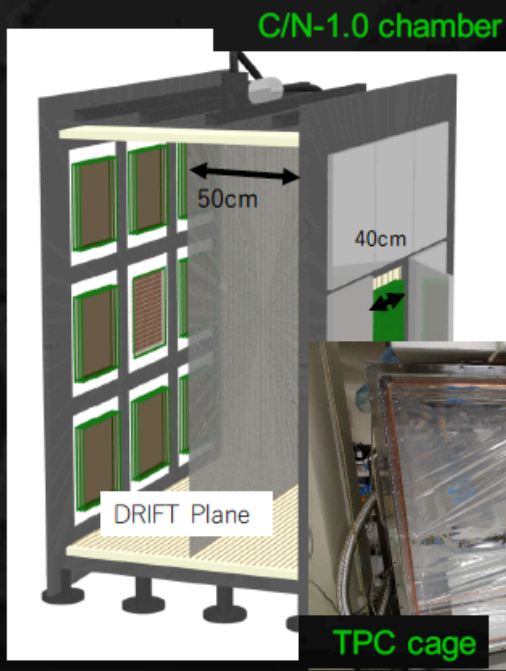
CYGNUS Japan

◆ Japan (CYGNUS/NEWAGE)

● C/N-1.0 chamber (18 × 30 × 30 cm² detectors)

- chamber ready
- TPC cage (w/ resistive sheet), feedthrough being commissioned

should be ready in 3 month !



● ASICs for negative ion strip readout

- > 5k channels made
- chip test will test soon

⇒ system design and development

● collaboration

- w/ US groups: KEK-DOE funding (2017)
- w/ Sheffield: JSPS-RS funding (2018-2019)
- w/ MMAC: TYL-FJPPL funding (2019)

⇒ welcoming more !

- Focusing on strip and pixel readout
- NEWAGE detector already running underground
- 1-m³ chamber funded and in place, detector construction ongoing
- Intended site: Kamioka

CYGNUS U.K.

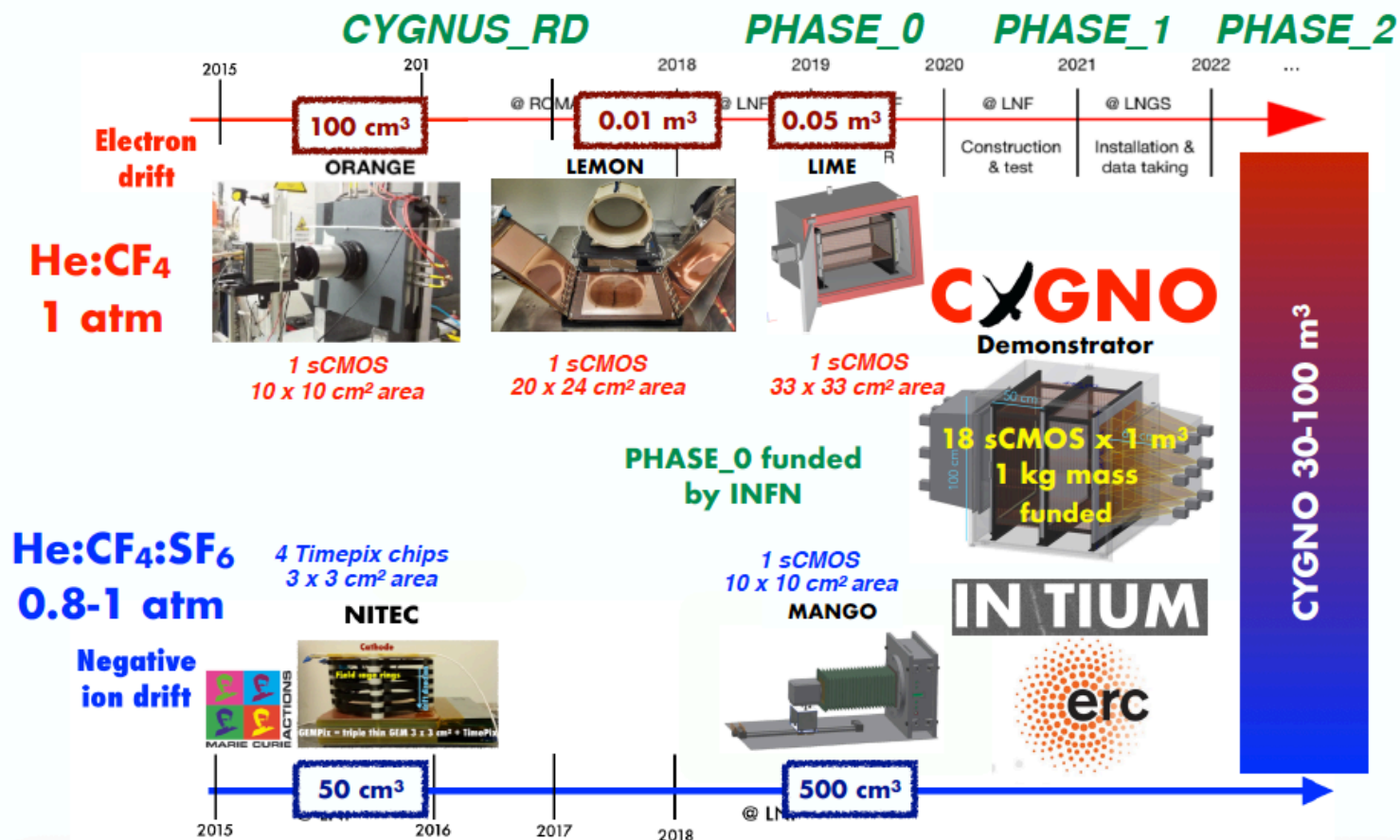


Underground at Boulby

- Focusing on GEM and wire readout
- 1-m³ exists (DRIFT)
- 10-m³ proposed
- Extensive clean lab space available underground at Boulby Mine --- and easy to excavate more

CYGNUS Italy

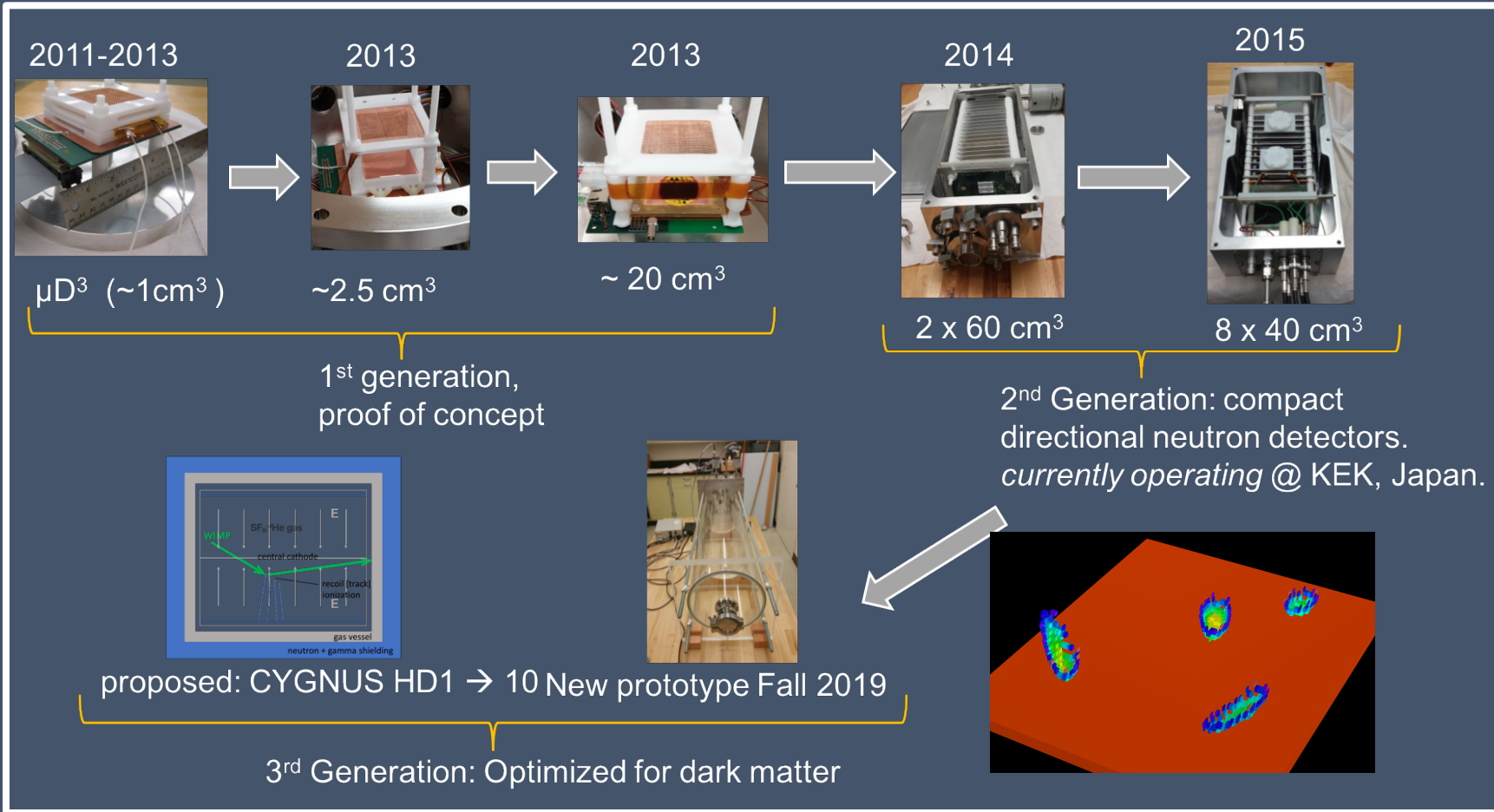
3D optical readout **CYGNORoadmap & synergy with IN TIUM** with negative ion drift



- Focusing on optical readout
- Two parallel R&D paths
 - electron drift
 - negative ion drift
- 1-m³ scale funded as demonstrator for 30-50 m³
- Intended site: Gran Sasso

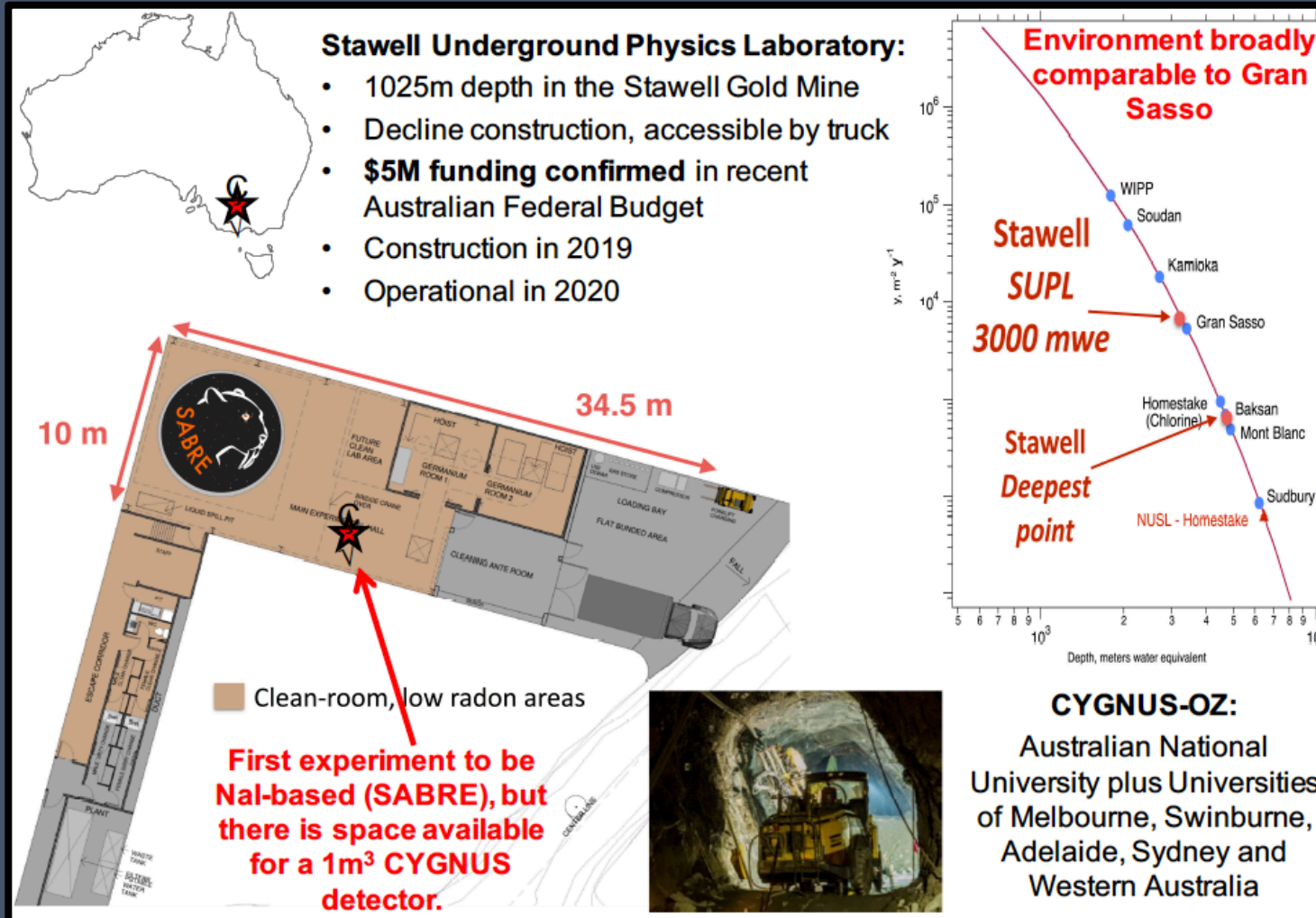
Part of this project has received fundings under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme from the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 657751 and from the European Research Council (ERC) grant agreement No 818744

CYGNUS U.S.



- Focusing on pixel, strip readout (HD)
- Extensive prototyping completed
- CYGNUS HD1 1- m^3 , demonstrator for 10 m^3 , proposed
- Intended site: SURF

CYGNUS-Australia



- New lab, operational next year
- Space available for planned 1-m³ CYGNUS gas TPC

CYGNUS ANDES

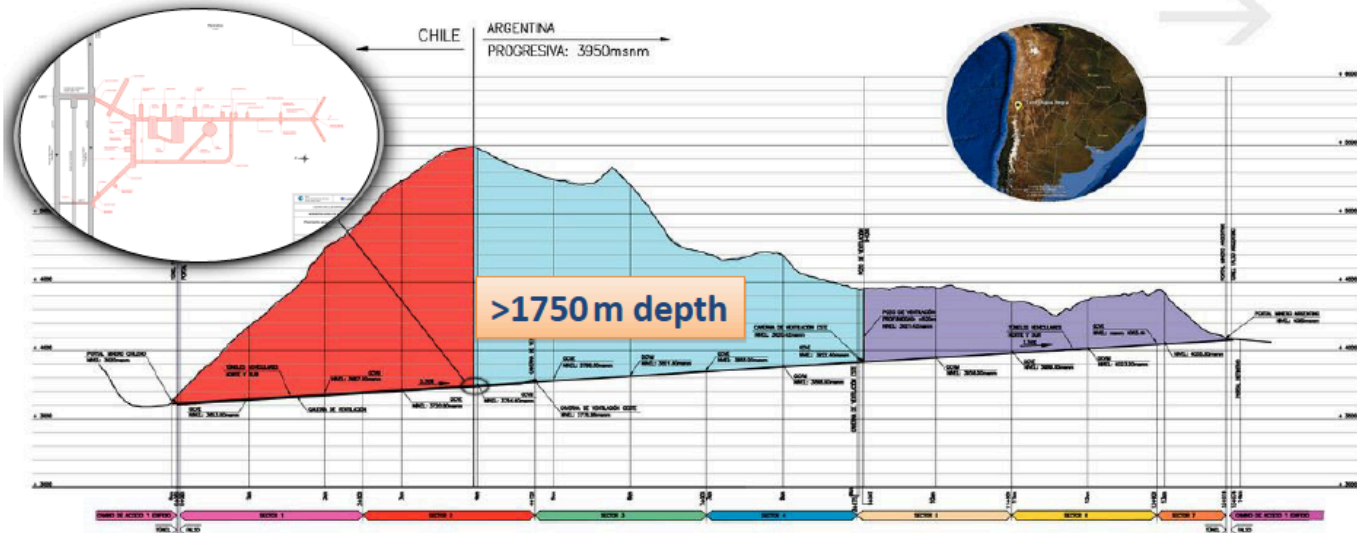
ANDES

The Agua Negra deep underground laboratory



- Agua Negra tunnel between Argentina and Chile
- Tunnel financed by Inter-American Development Bank; construction: 2020-2028
- Horizontal access, size of $\sim 4\,000\text{ m}^2$ and $\sim 70\,000\text{ m}^3$ in various halls and pits
- ANDES will be run by an international consortium

Large and deep underground laboratory in the southern hemisphere

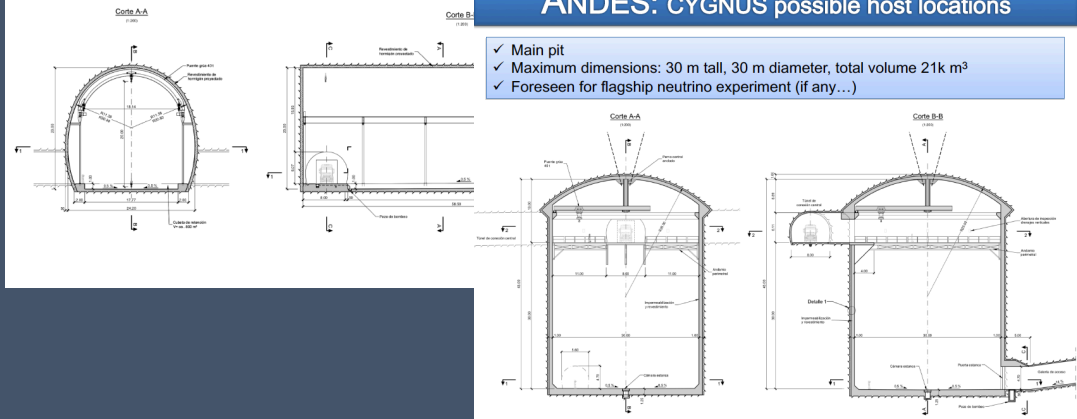


ANDES: CYGNUS possible host locations

- ✓ Main cavern
- ✓ Maximum dimensions: 23 m tall, 24 m width, 50 m long
- ✓ Foreseen for 2-3 large experiments
- ✓ Cube size $16 \times 16 \times 16\text{ m}^3$ fits ideally ($= 4\text{ k m}^3$)
- ✓ Horizontal access with truck for containers

ANDES: CYGNUS possible host locations

- ✓ Main pit
- ✓ Maximum dimensions: 30 m tall, 30 m diameter, total volume 21 k m^3
- ✓ Foreseen for flagship neutrino experiment (if any...)



- Future lab
- Significant space suitable for for CYGNUS 1000 m^3 and beyond

Conclusion & Summary

- Much of worldwide directional detection community merged into CYGNUS
- Work on science case for 1000 m³ detector nearly complete
 - Unique sensitivity in both SD (cross section) and SI (mass), in a single detector, with improved electron rejection expected at low masses
- First step towards a large-scale, distributed recoil observatory, capable of
 - unambiguously demonstrating the cosmological origin of a putative WIMP signal
 - effectively penetrating the neutrino floor
 - neutrino physics
 - eventually, WIMP astronomy
- Important next steps:
 - **Experimentally demonstrate directional performance and electron rejection**
 - Move from strawman design to technical designs
 - Evaluate complementary physics opportunities in more detail