

# DARWIN: THE ULTIMATE LIQUID XENON DIRECT DETECTION EXPERIMENT

Sara Diglio on behalf of the DARWIN Collaboration

Subatech – Nantes

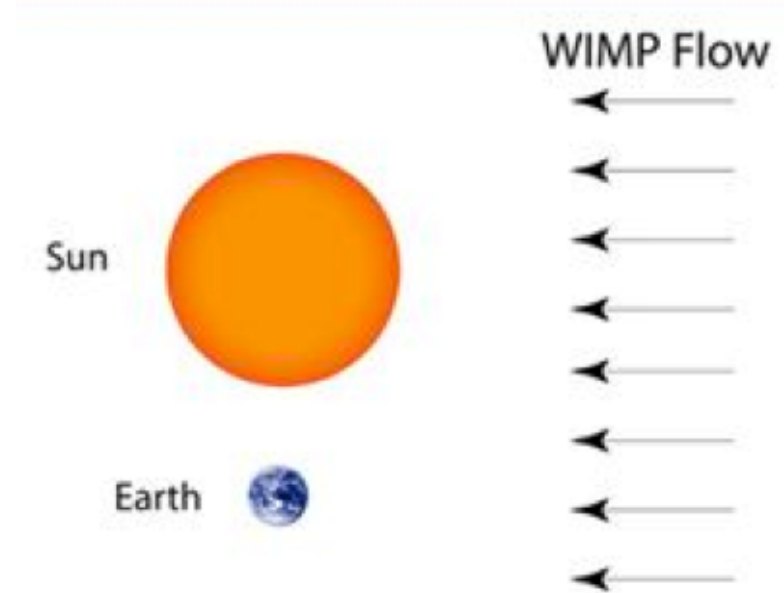
DARKWIN: 2<sup>nd</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> September 2019, Natal



# THE DIRECT DETECTION CHALLENGE

## The WIMP DM hypothesis ...

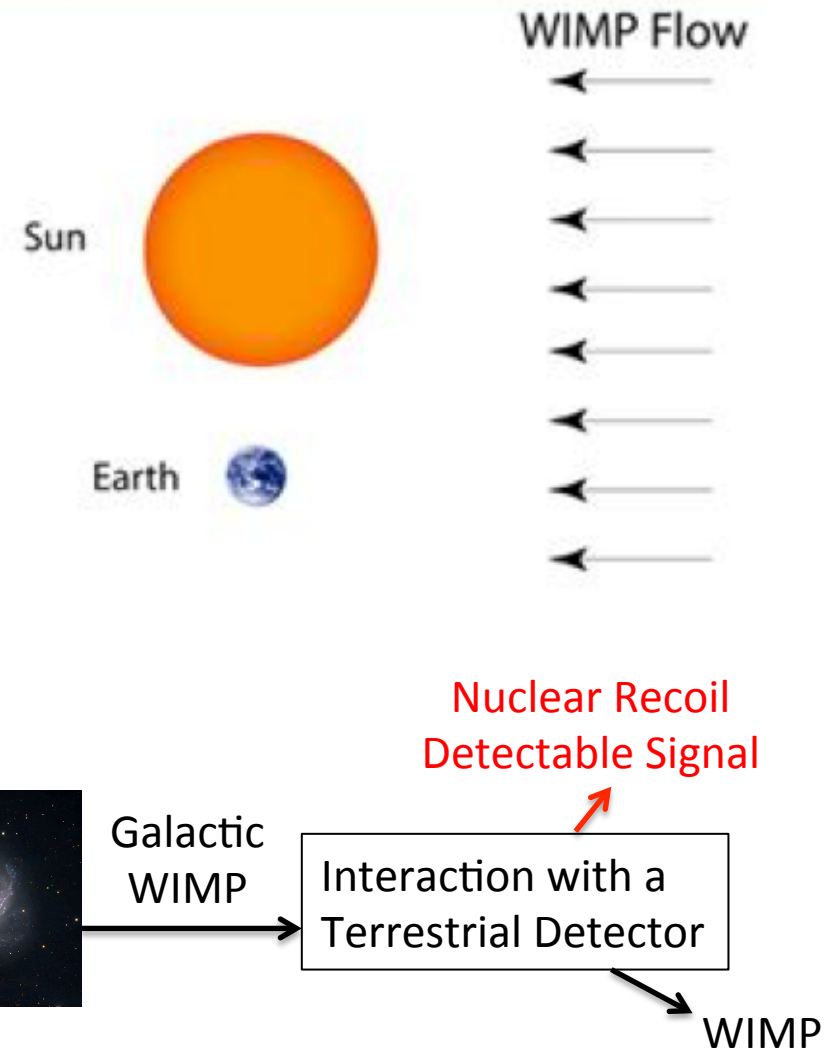
- Galactic rotation curves suggest the Dark Matter forms an extended halo around galaxies
- Earth is passing through a halo of WIMPs
- We feel a WIMP 'wind' as we move through the halo



# THE DIRECT DETECTION CHALLENGE

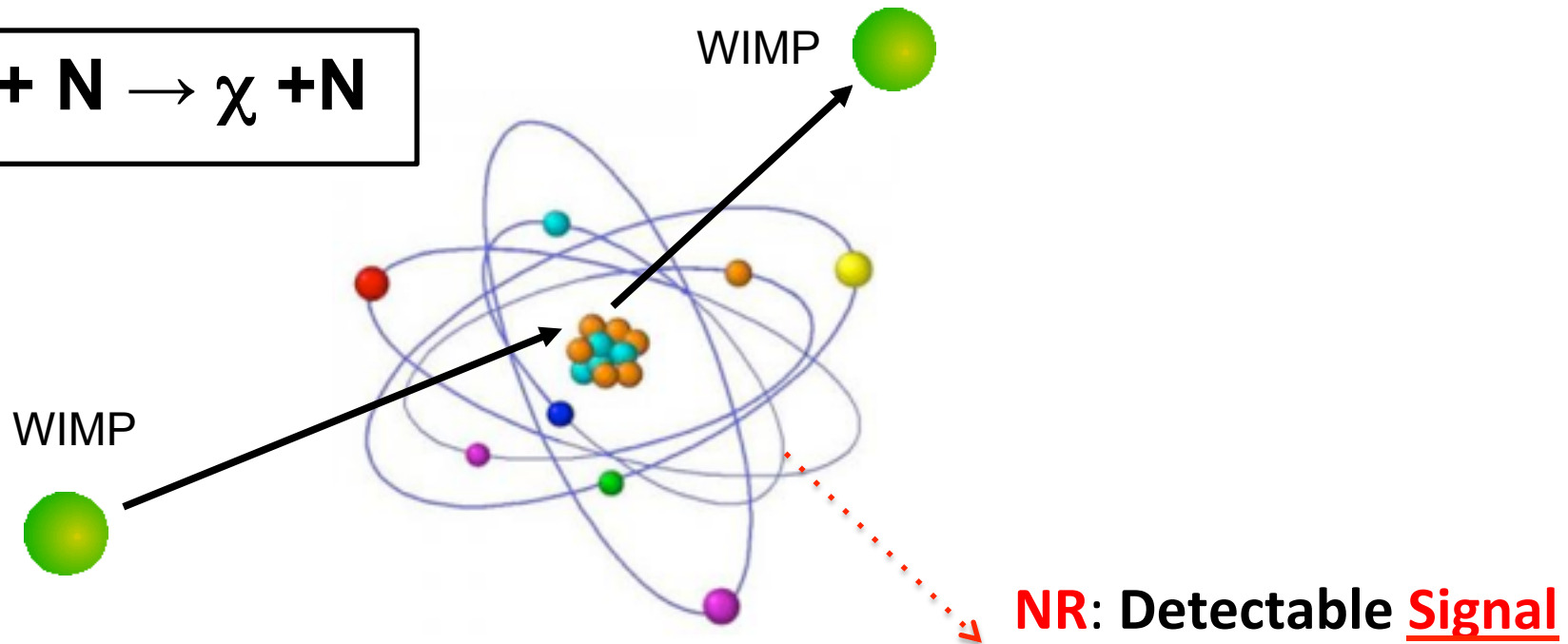
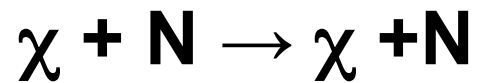
## The WIMP DM hypothesis ...

- Galactic rotation curves suggest the Dark Matter forms an extended halo around galaxies
- Earth is passing through a halo of WIMPs
- We feel a WIMP 'wind' as we move through the halo
- We search for the rare collisions of WIMPs with target nuclei in detectors on Earth



# THE DIRECT DETECTION PRINCIPLE

WIMPs elastically scatter off nuclei in targets, producing **Nuclear Recoils (NR)**



For example, by assuming

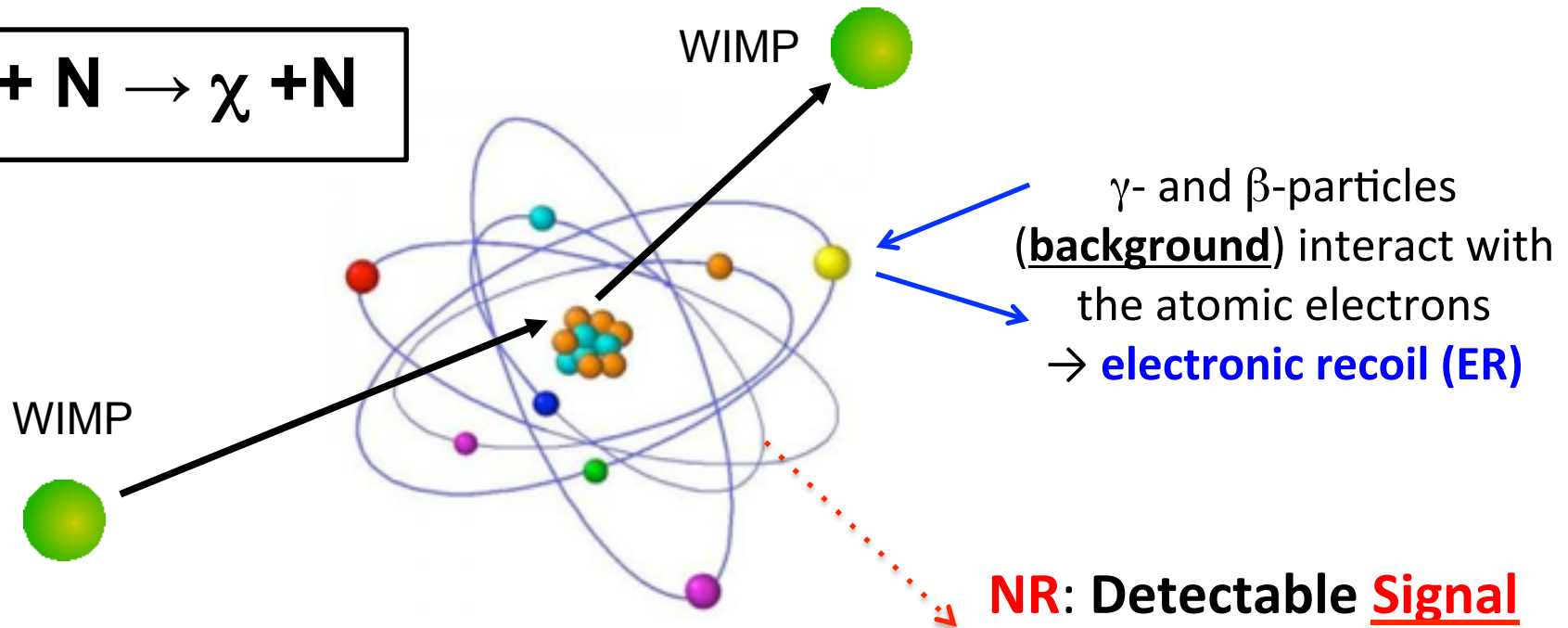
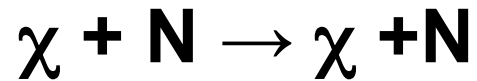
- WIMP mass:  $M_\chi = 100 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
- WIMP velocity:  $v_0 = 220 \text{ km/s}$

we have the average recoil energy:  $E_0 = \frac{1}{2} M_X v_0^2 \sim 30 \text{ keV}$

$$E_{recoil} \leq 50 \text{ keV}$$

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**NR: Detectable Signal**

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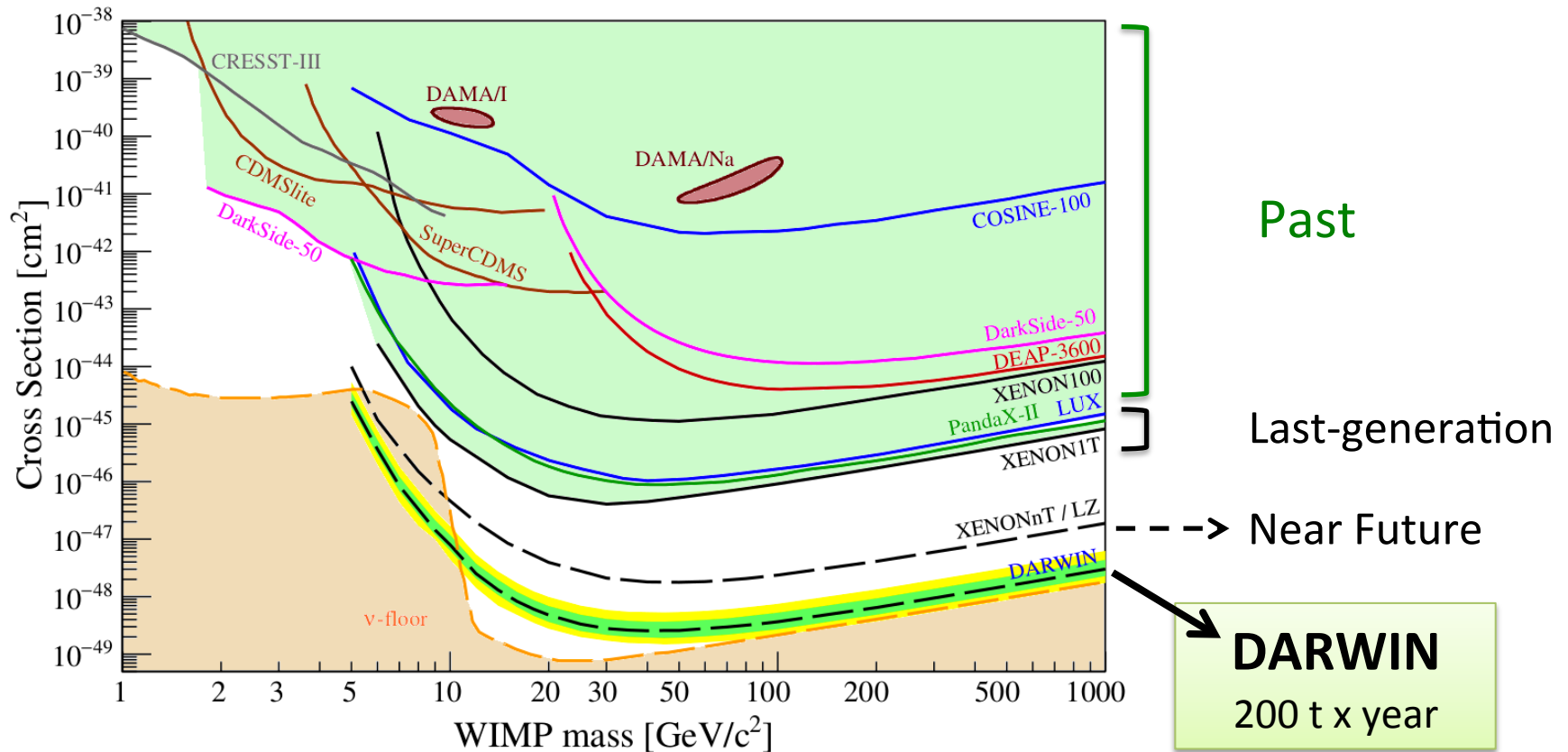
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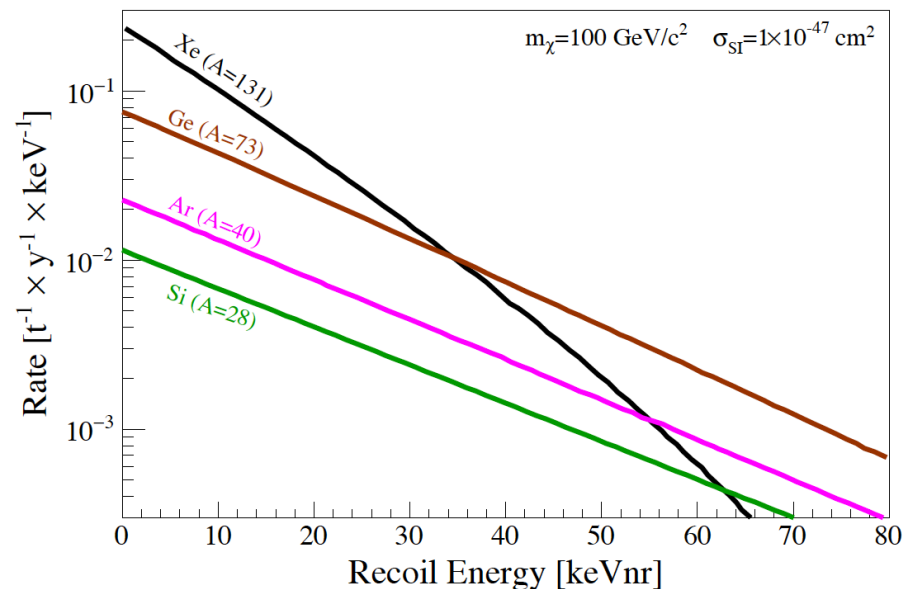
# THE STATE-OF-THE-ART OF THE WIMP LANDSCAPE

- LXe Dual Phase Time Projection Chambers detectors are leading the WIMP search above 5  $\text{GeV}/c^2$
- Larger detectors needed to increase the sensitivity reach
- **DARWIN** is targeting the **ultimate WIMP discovery limit**



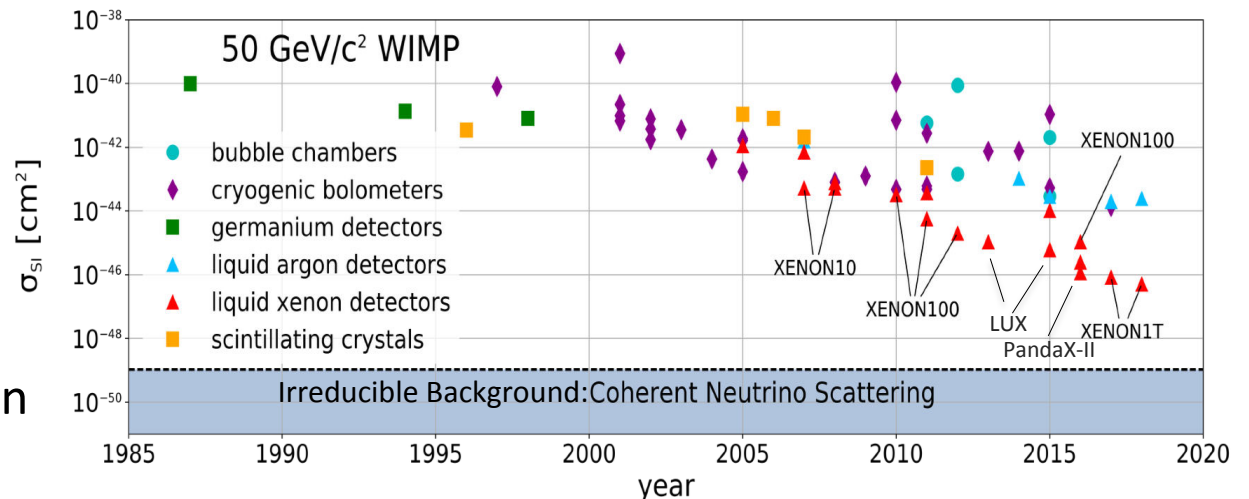
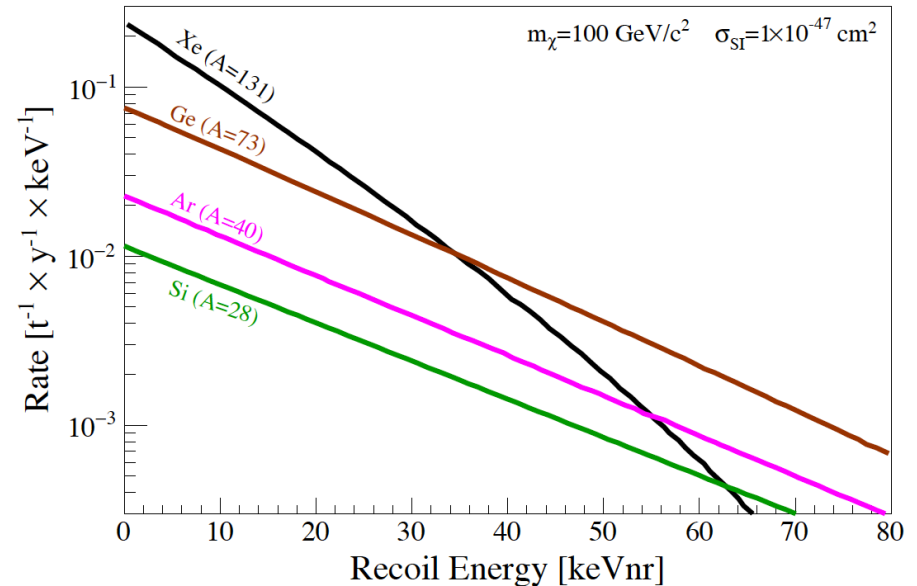
# WHY XENON AS A DETECTOR MEDIUM?

- **High mass number**  
high rate for Spin Independent interactions ( $\sigma \sim A^2$ )
- **Intrinsically pure**
  - no long-lived radioactive isotopes
  - $^{85}\text{Kr}$  that can be reduced to  $< \text{ppt}$
- **Self shielding**  
high  $Z=54$ , high density  $\rho \sim 3 \text{ kg/l}$
- **Odd-nucleon isotopes**  
 $^{129}\text{Xe}, ^{131}\text{Xe}$  for Spin Dependent Interactions
- **“Easy” purification**
- **Scalability**  
compact detectors,  
scalable to larger dimension



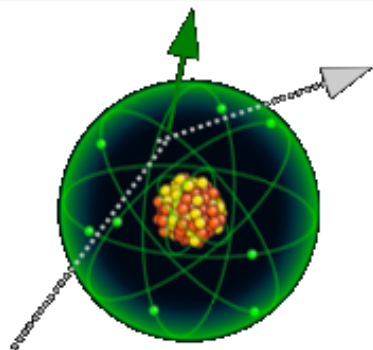
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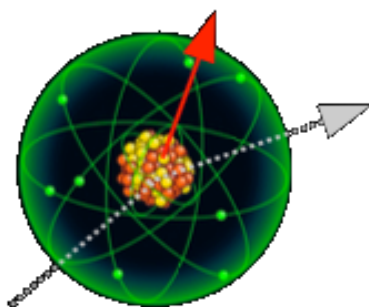




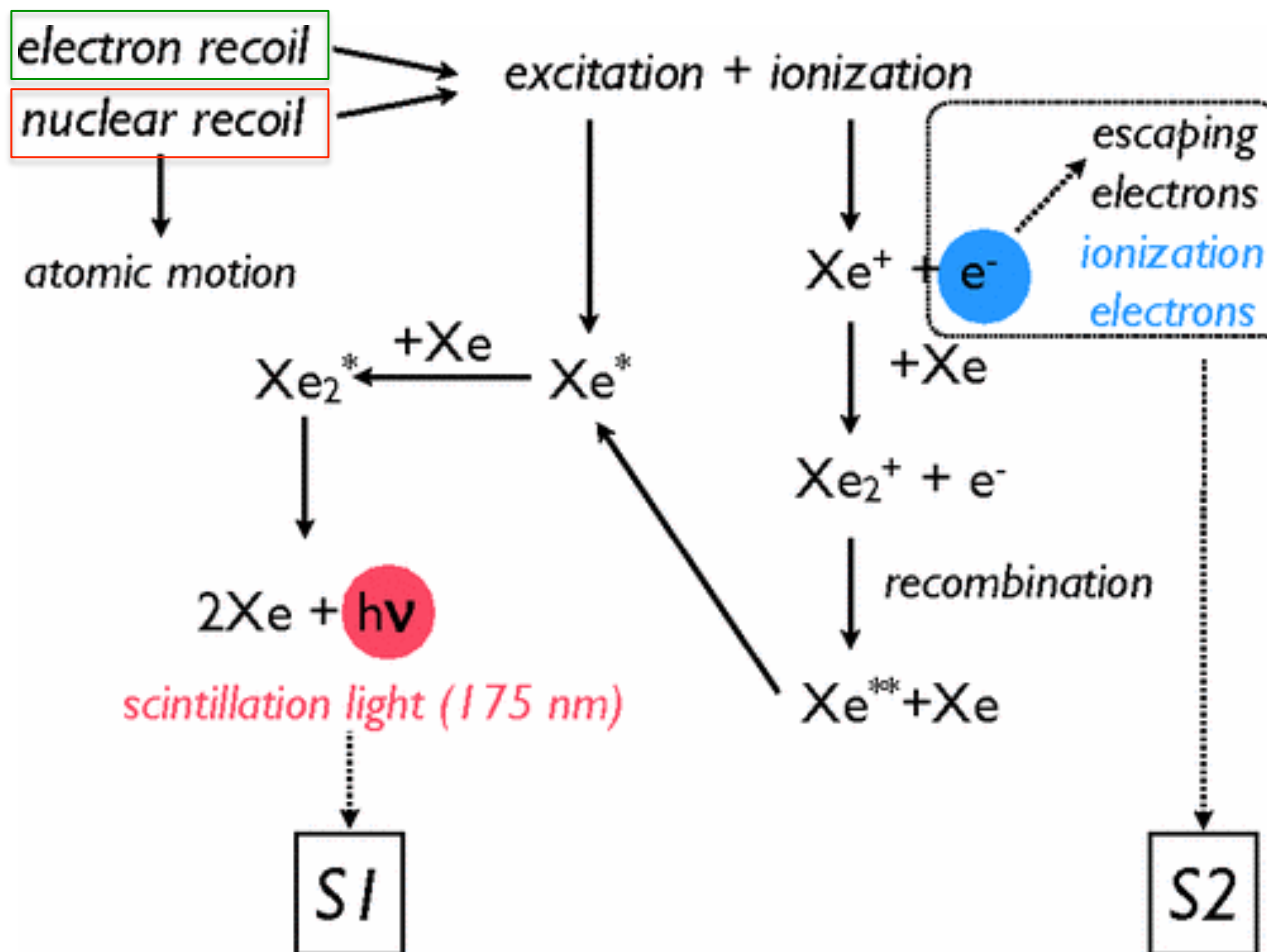
# SCINTILLATION AND IONIZATION SIGNALS IN LXE



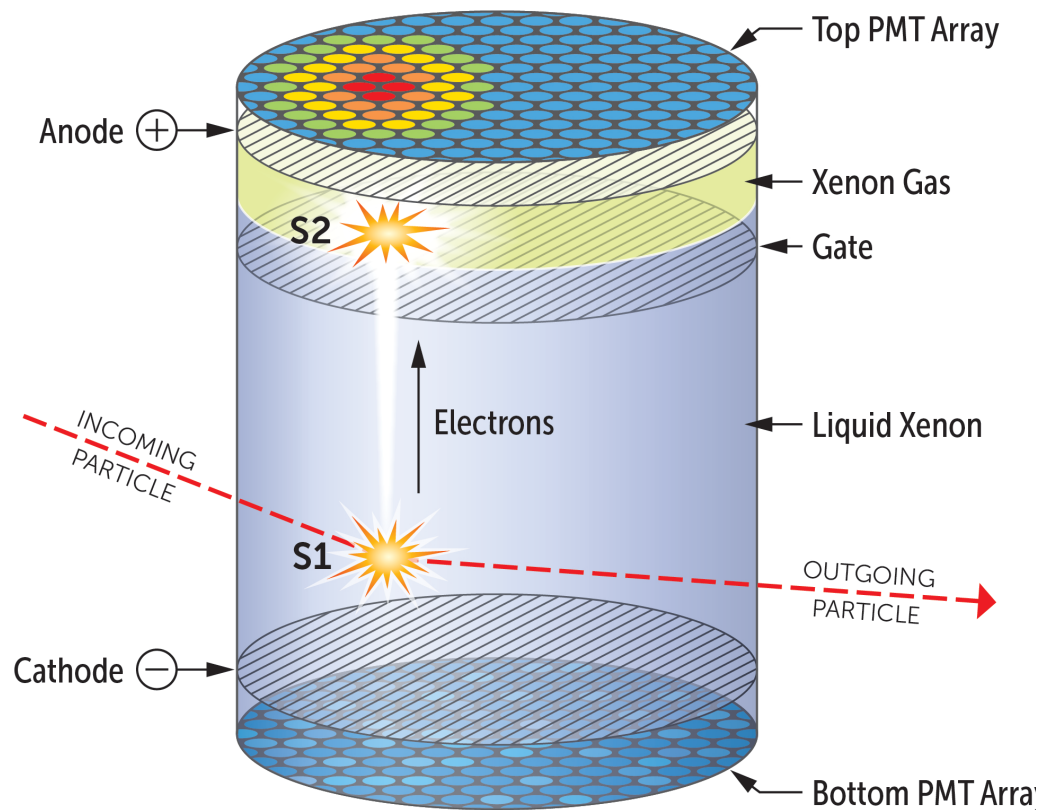
Electron Recoil  
(gamma, beta)



Nuclear Recoil  
(neutron, WIMP)



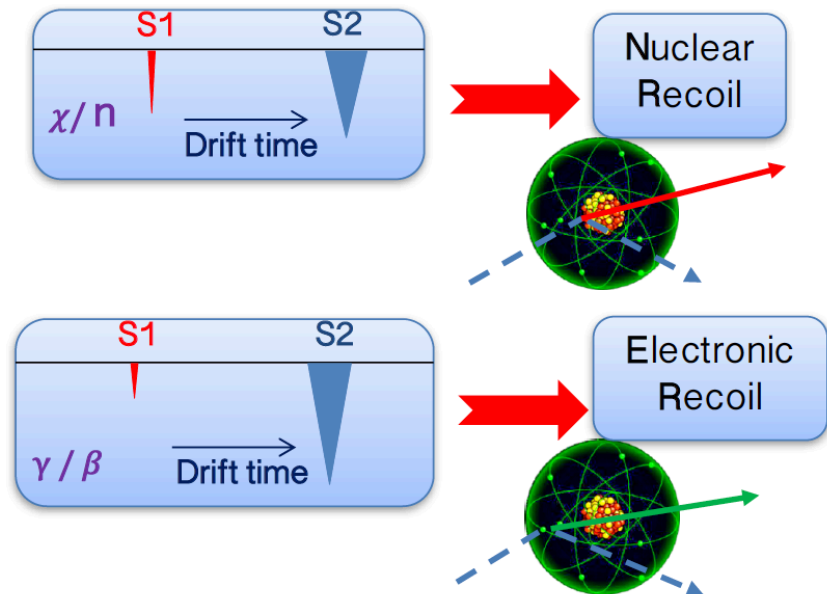
# LXe DUAL PHASE TIME PROJECTION CHAMBER



Credits: Purdue University

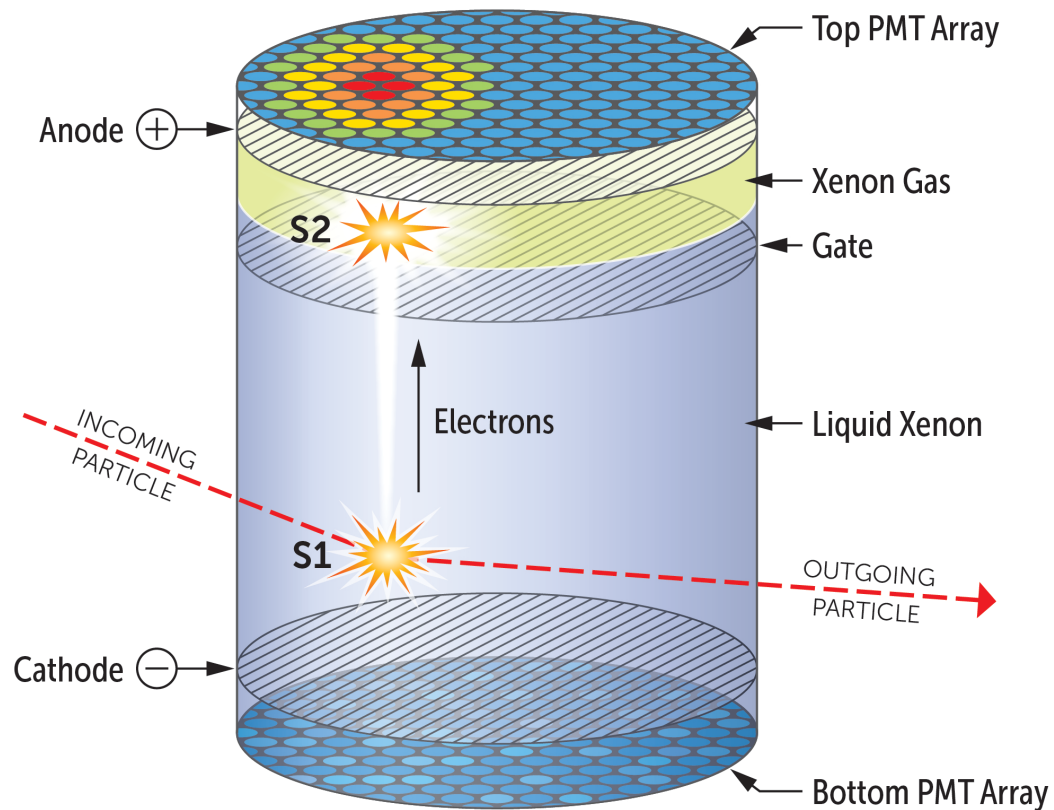
**S1:** Prompt Scintillation (light)

**S2:** Proportional scintillation following  $e^-$  drift and extraction into gas (charge)



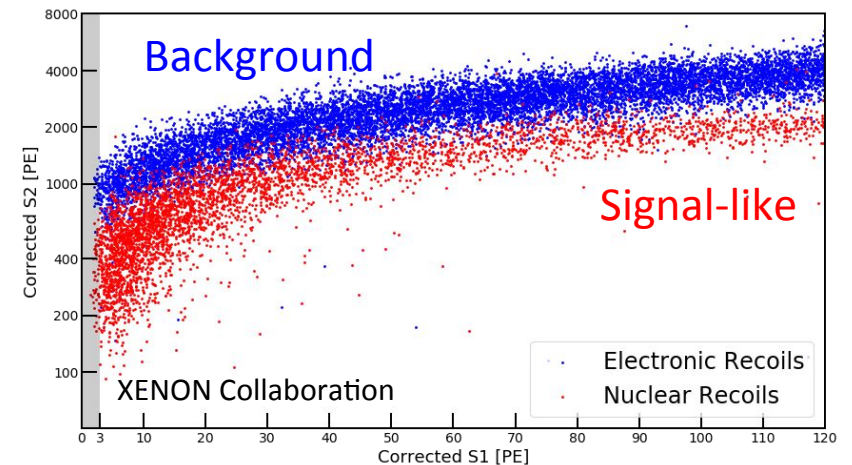
$$(S2/S1)_{WIMP,n} < (S2/S1)_{\gamma,\beta}$$

# LXe DUAL PHASE TIME PROJECTION CHAMBER



Credits: Purdue University

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



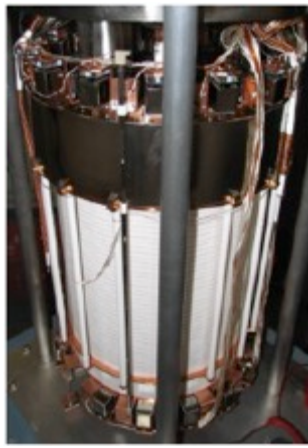
# DARWIN IN THE CONTEXT OF THE XENON PROJECT

Time

XENON10  
2005—2007

XENON100  
2008—2016

XENON1T  
2012 – 2019



Total mass : 25 kg

Total mass : 161 kg

Total mass : 3.2 t

Target mass: 14 kg

Target mass: 62 kg

Target mass: 2 t

Drift TPC: 15 cm

Drift TPC: 30 cm

Drift TPC: 96 cm

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

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

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

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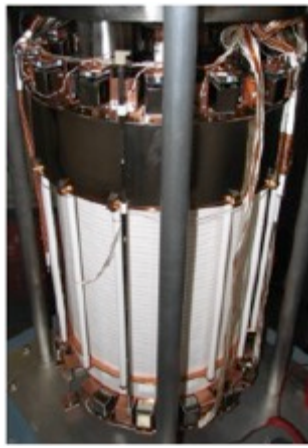
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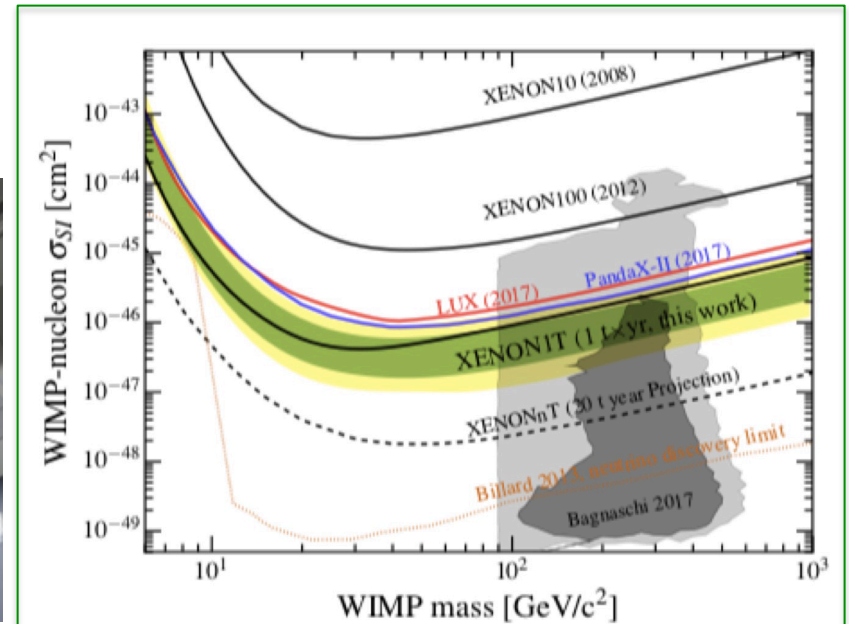


Total mass : 161 kg  
Target mass: 62 kg  
Drift TPC: 30 cm  
Limit  $\sim 10^{-45} \text{ cm}^2$

XENON1T  
2012 – 2019



Total mass : 3.2 t  
Target mass: 2 t  
Drift TPC: 96 cm  
**Limit  $\sim 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2$**



World-wide best limit for masses  
above  $6 \text{ GeV}/c^2$

PRL 121 (2018) no.11

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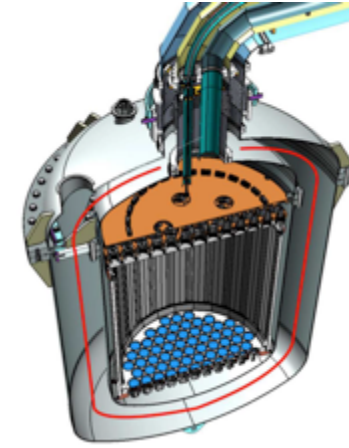
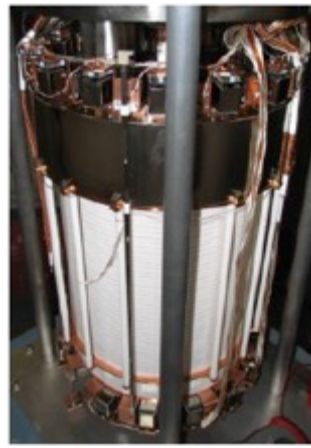
Time

XENON10  
2005—2007

XENON100  
2008—2016

XENON1T  
2012 – 2019

XENONnT  
2017 – 2023



Total mass : 25 kg

Total mass : 161 kg

Total mass : 3.2 t

Total mass : ~8 t

Target mass: 14 kg

Target mass: 62 kg

Target mass: 2 t

Target mass: ~6 t

Drift TPC: 15 cm

Drift TPC: 30 cm

Drift TPC: 96 cm

Drift TPC: 144 cm

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

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

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

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

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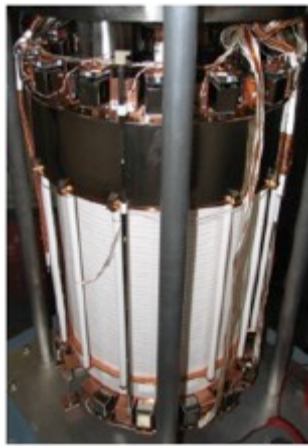
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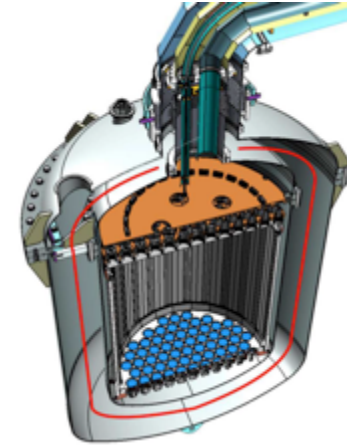
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2017 – 2023



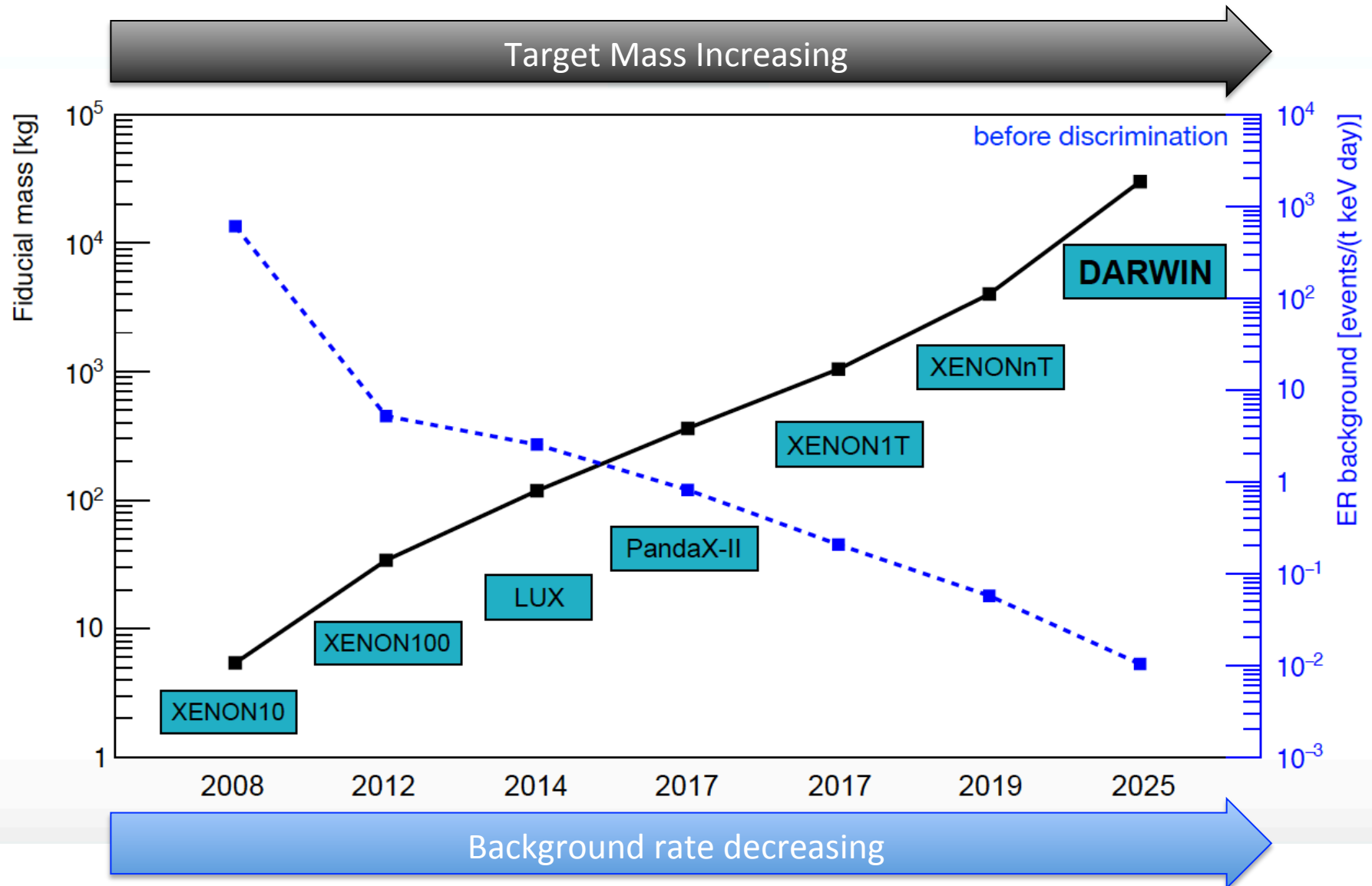
Total mass :  $\sim 8 \text{ t}$   
Target mass:  $\sim 6 \text{ t}$   
Drift TPC: 144 cm  
Sensitivity  $\sim 10^{-48} \text{ cm}^2$

**DARWIN**  
 **$\sim 2023 -$**



**Total mass :  $\sim 50 \text{ t}$**   
**Target mass:  $\sim 40 \text{ t}$**   
**Drift TPC: 260 cm**  
**Sensitivity  $\sim 10^{-49} \text{ cm}^2$**

# LXeTPCs AS WIMP DETECTORS SCALING



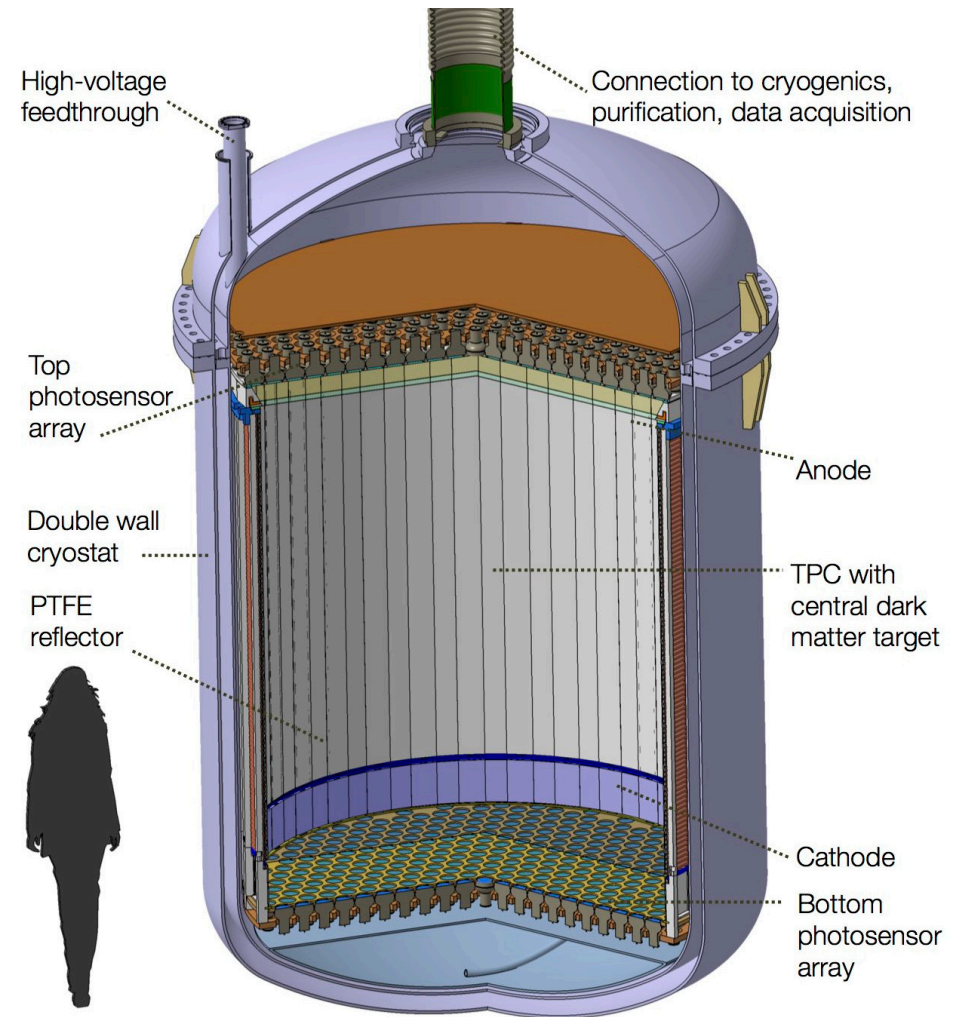
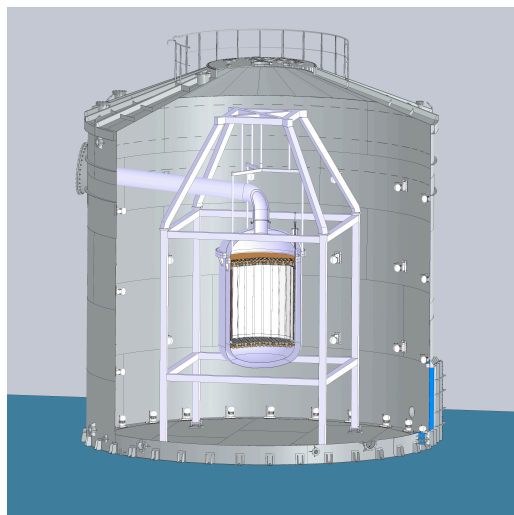


# DARWIN BASELINE DESIGN

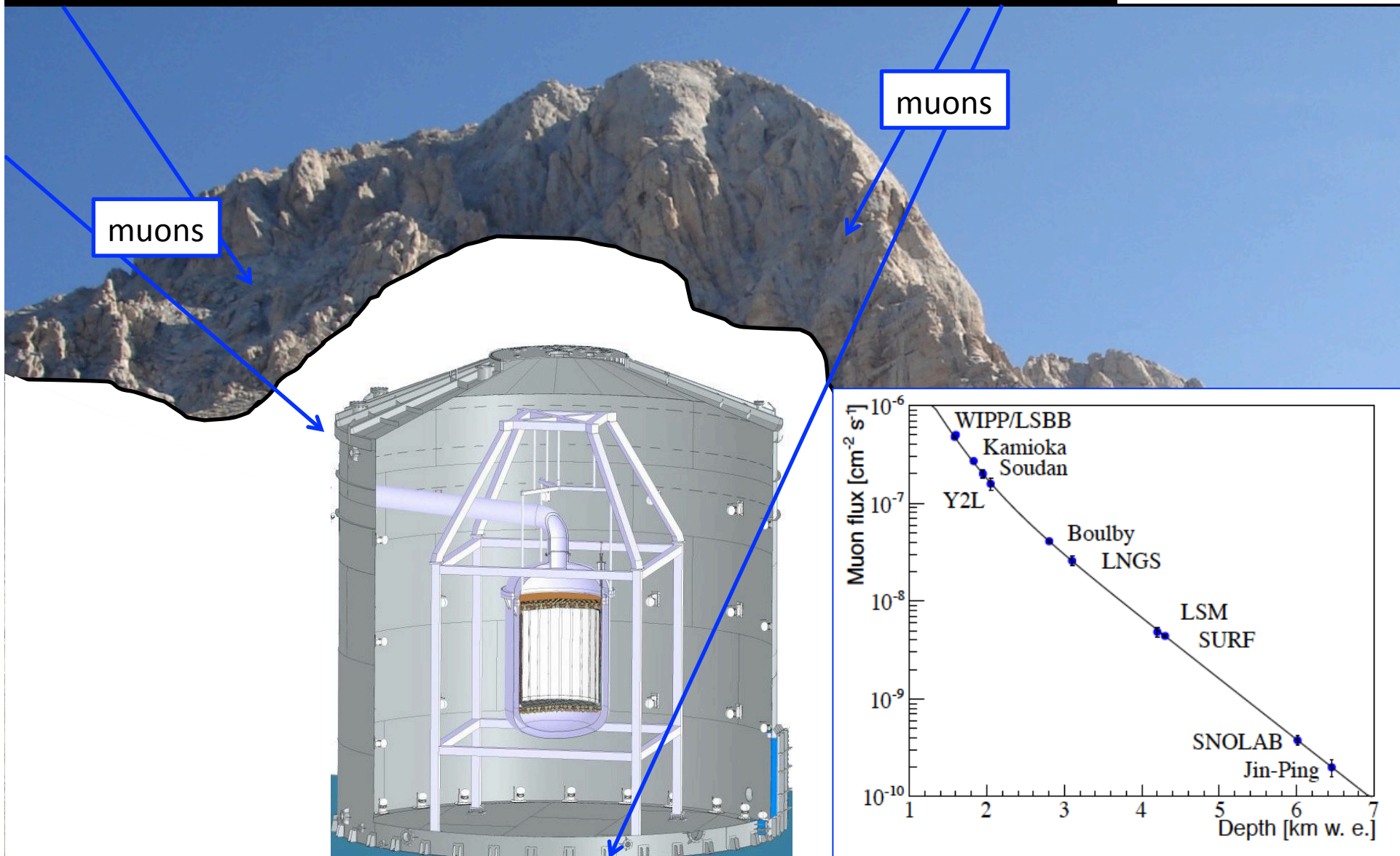


- 2.6 m x 2.6 m Dual Phase TPC
- 50 t (40 t active) LXe target
- Top & bottom arrays of photosensors
- Drift field  $\sim 0.5$  kV/cm
- 14 m x 14 m water shield and neutron veto

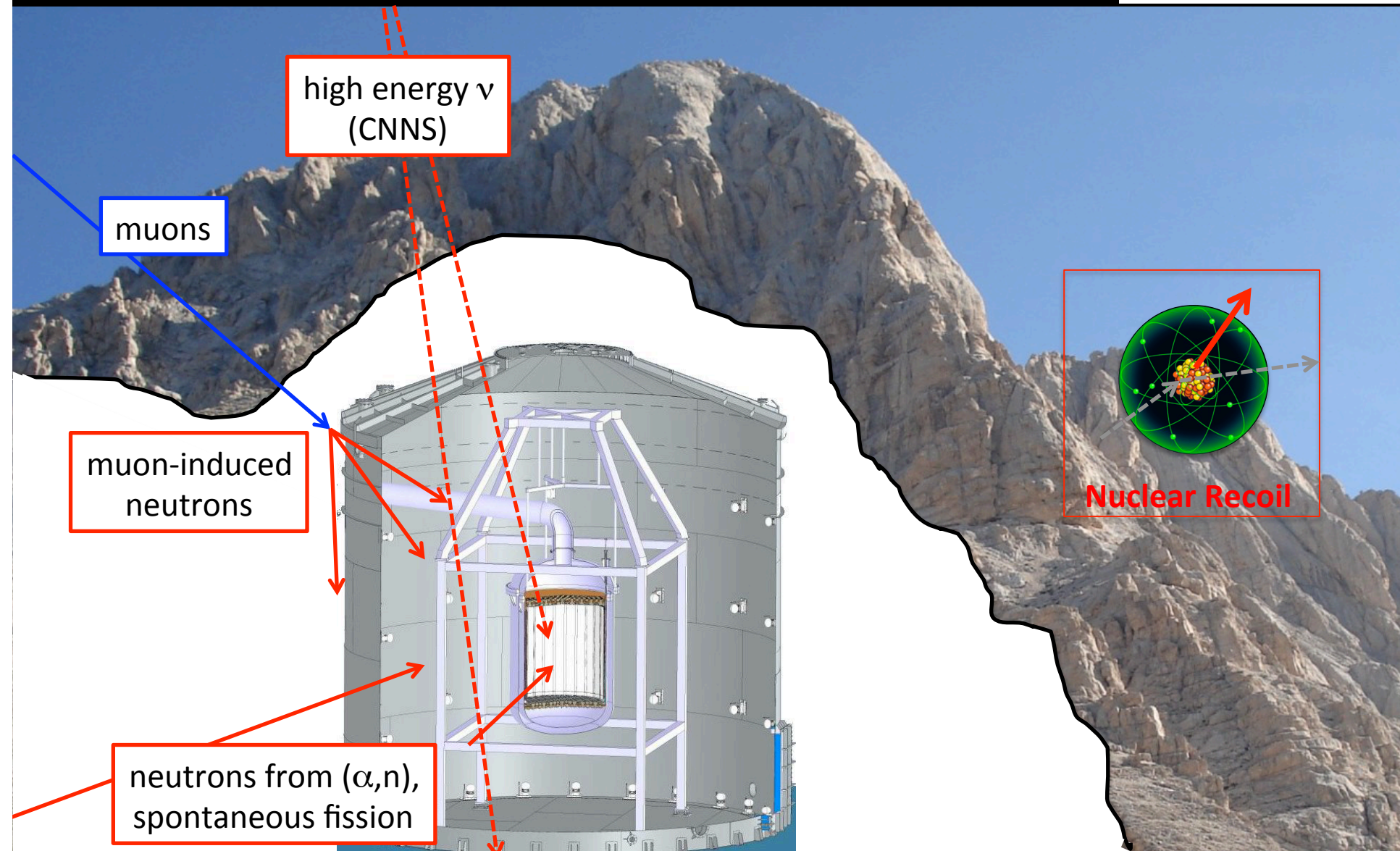
DARWIN Collaboration, JCAP 1611 (2016) 017



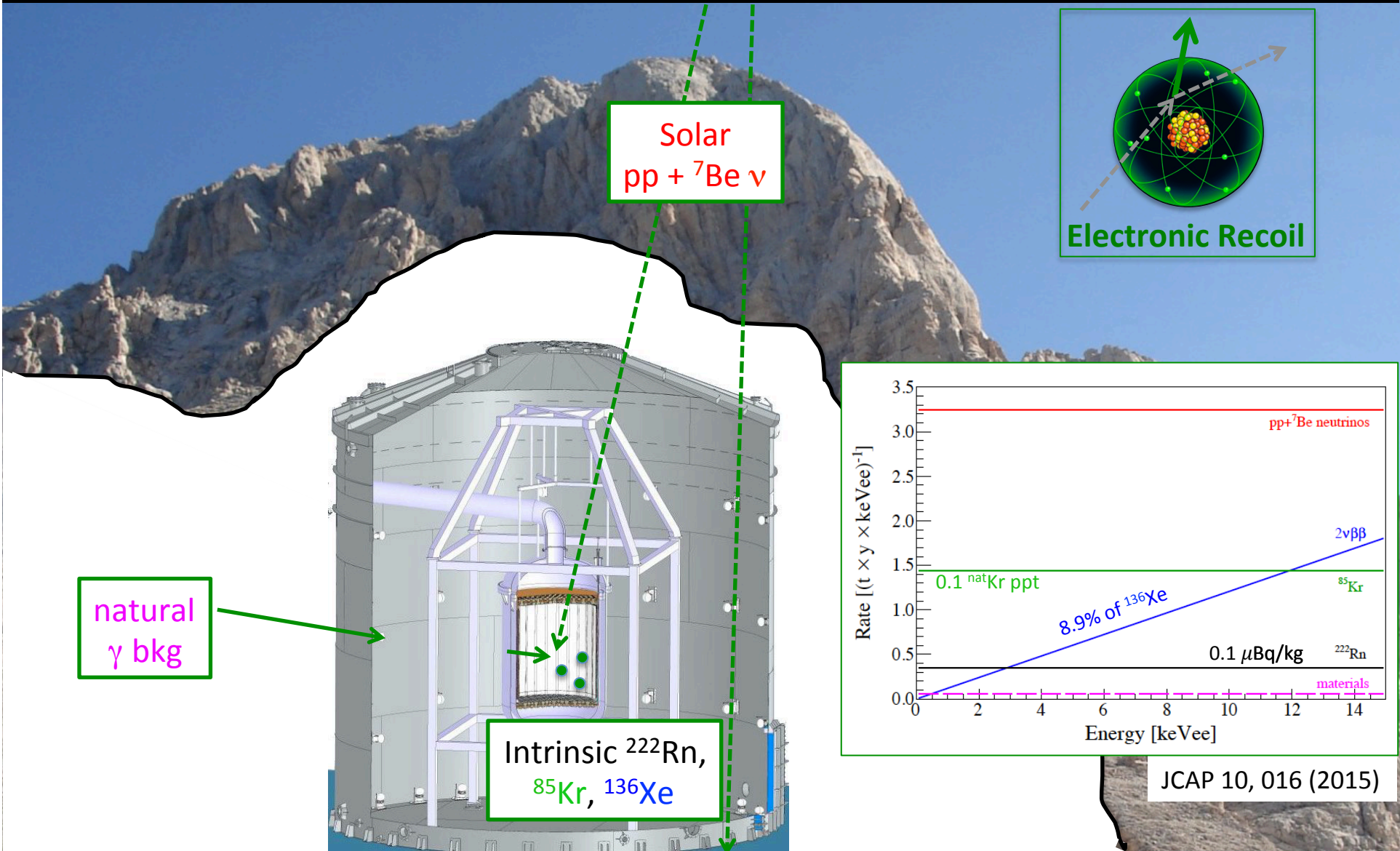
# BACKGROUND SOURCES



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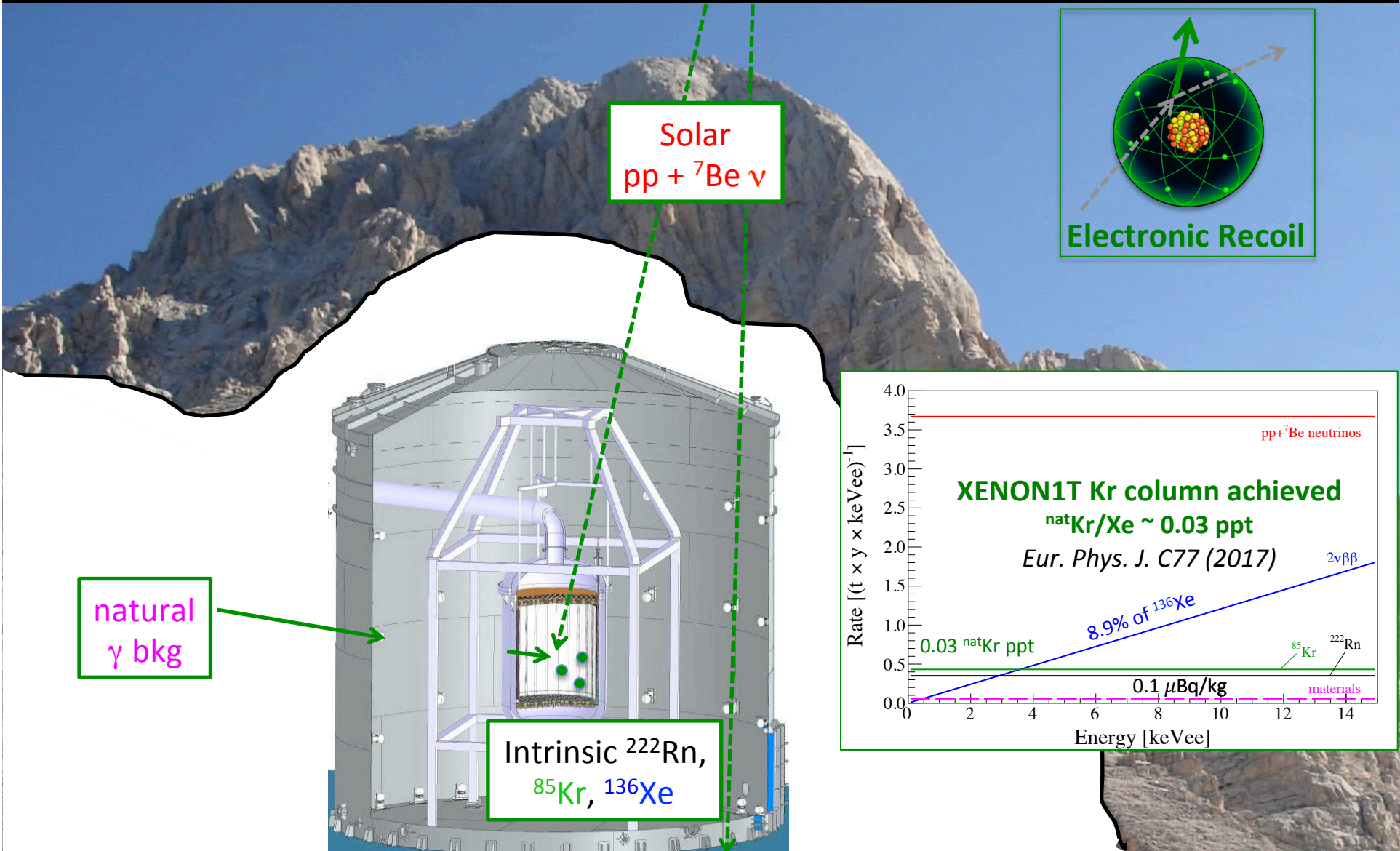


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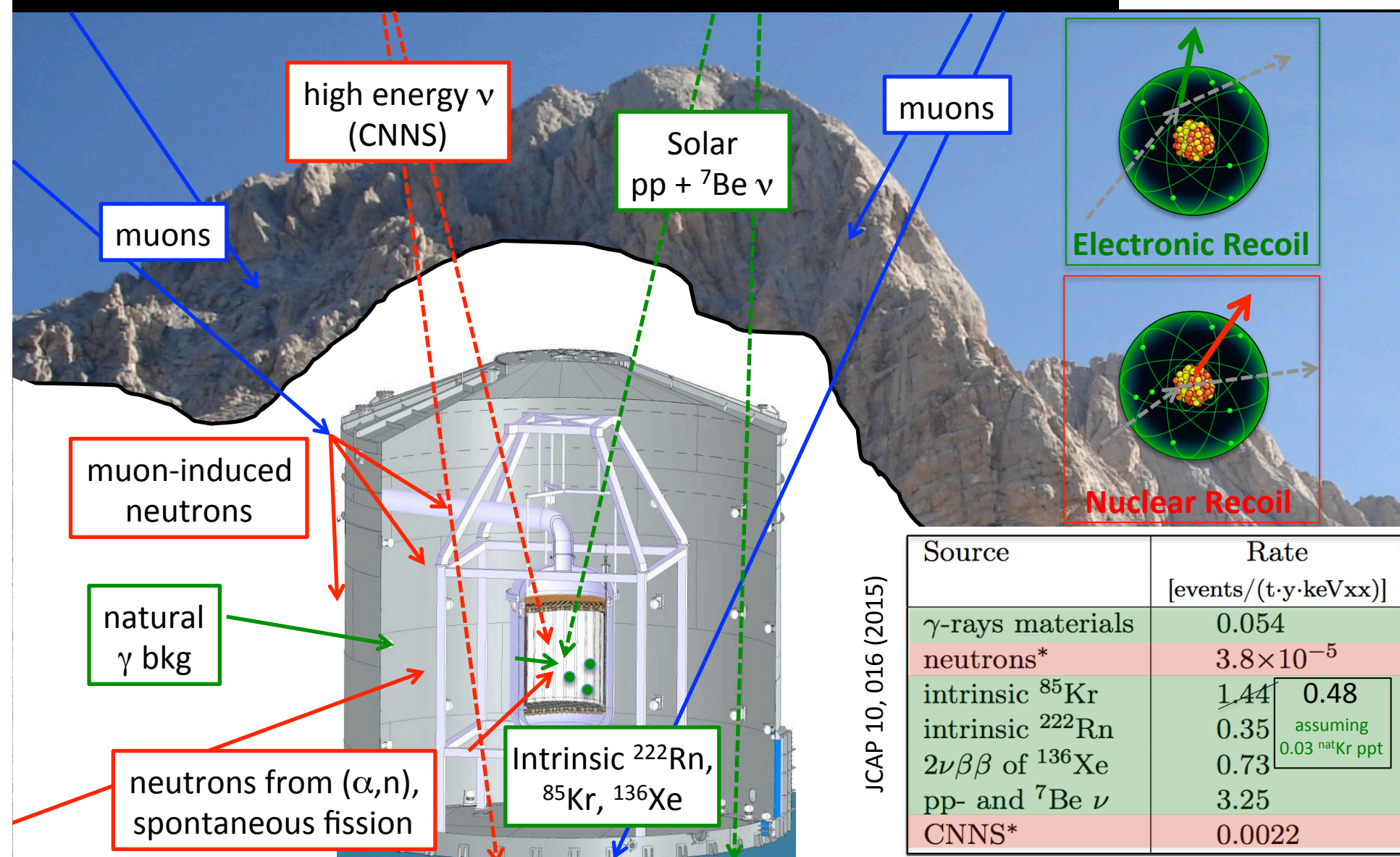


JCAP 10, 016 (2015)

# BACKGROUND SOURCES



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JCAP 10, 016 (2015)

Source	Rate [events/(t·y·keVxx)]
$\gamma$ -rays materials	0.054
neutrons*	$3.8 \times 10^{-5}$
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

0.48  
 assuming  
 0.03 natKr ppt

### Dark Matter

- Dark photons
- Axion-like particles
- Planck mass

### WIMPs

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

**Sun** As detector size increases physics channels open up

- Solar pp neutrinos
- Solar Boron-8 neutrinos

- Neutrinoless double beta decay
- Double electron capture

Some backgrounds to Dark Matter search become interesting Signals in its own

### Supernova

- Supernova neutrinos
- Multi-messenger

### Cosmic Rays

- Atmospheric neutrinos

**DARWIN : more than a Dark Matter Experiment**

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### Big Bang

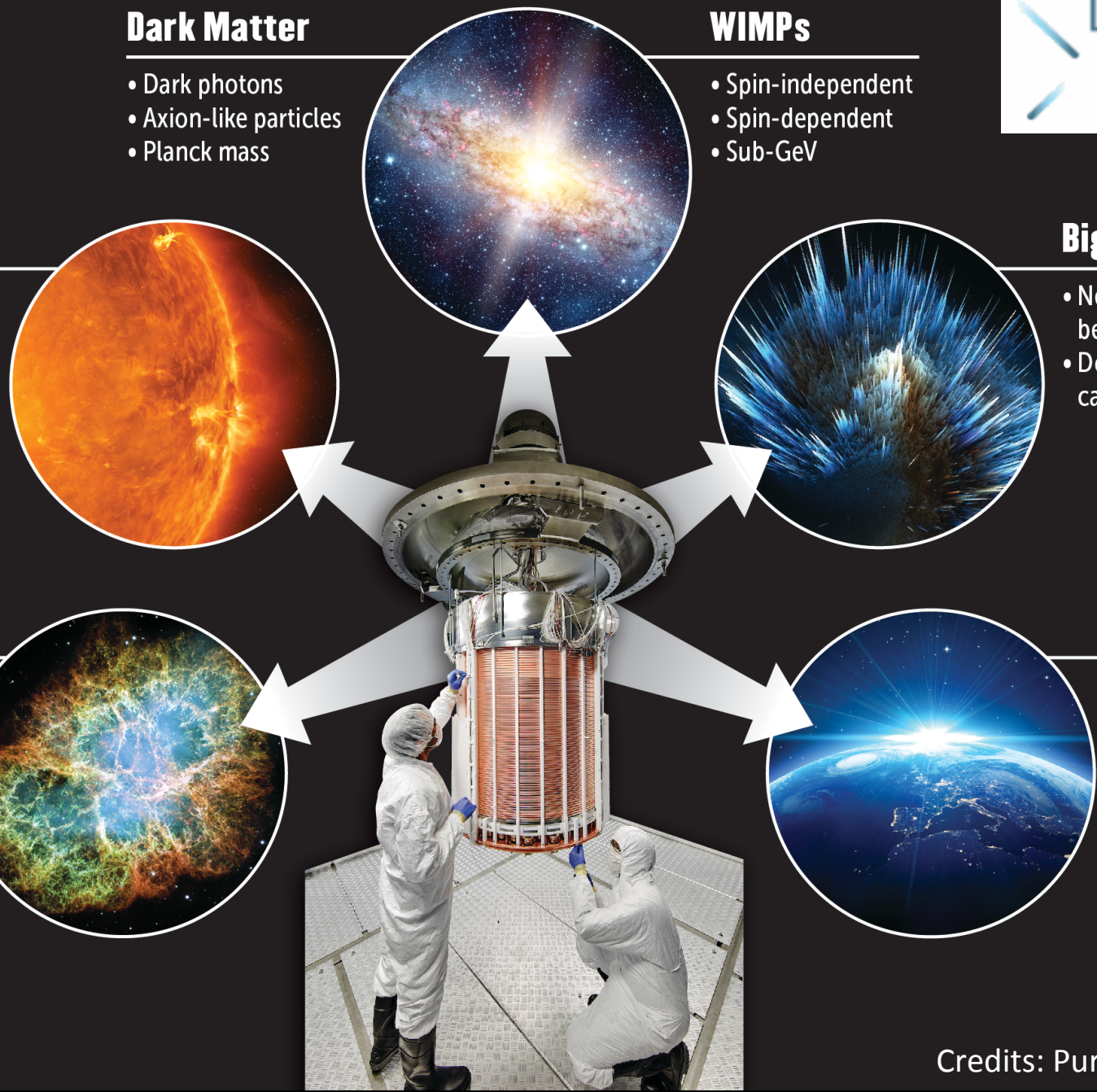
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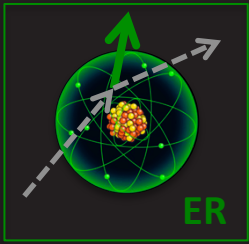
### Cosmic Rays

- Atmospheric neutrinos



Credits: Purdue University



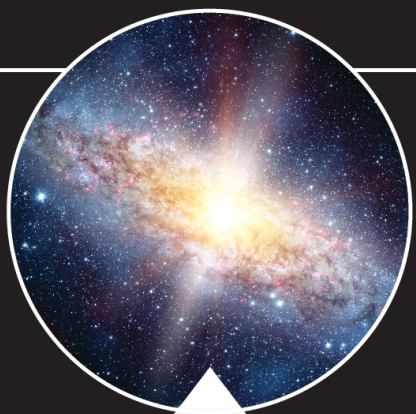


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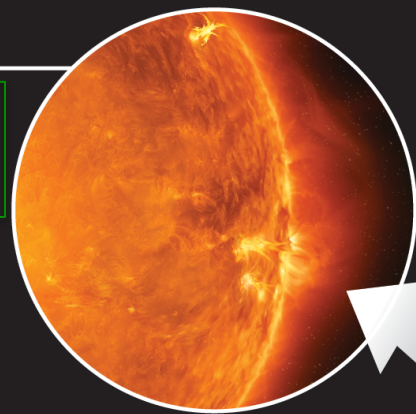
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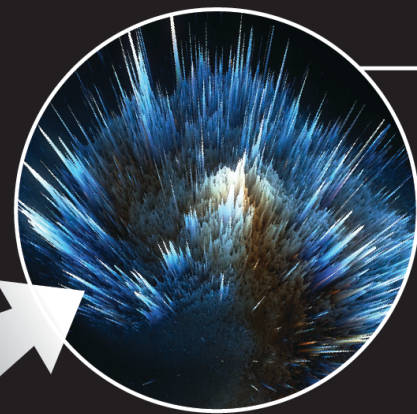
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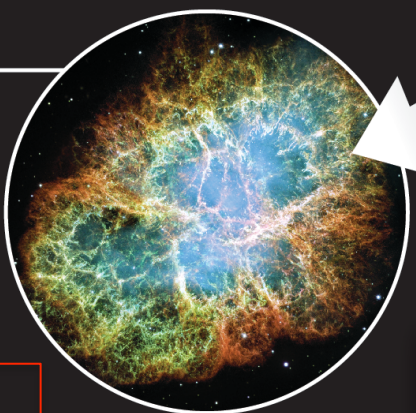
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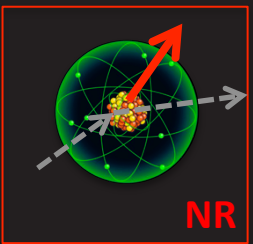
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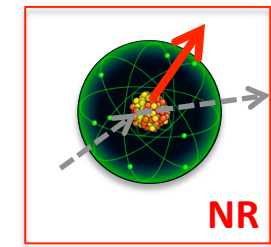
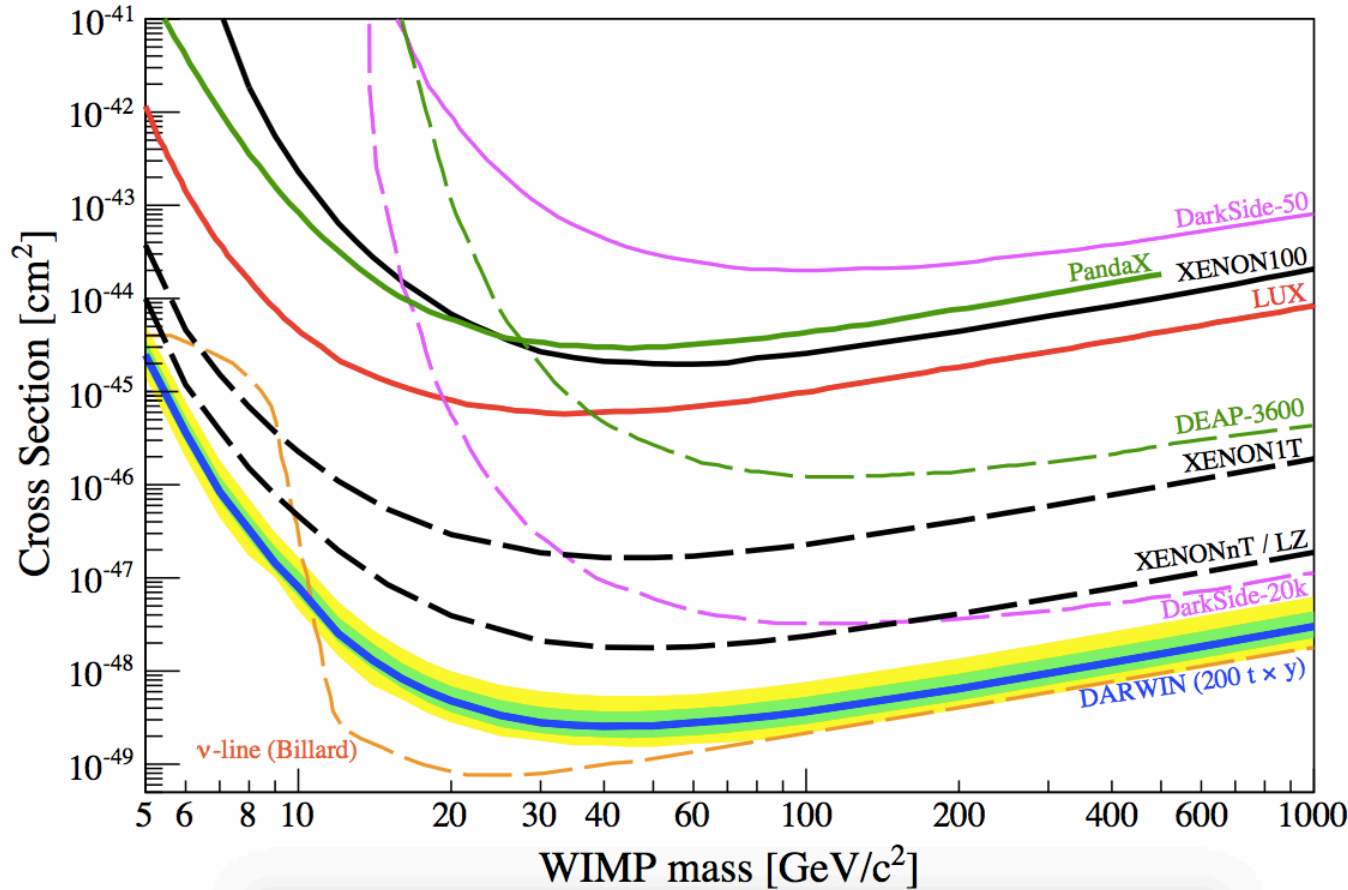


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# SPIN INDEPENDENT WIMP SENSITIVITY



JCAP11 (2016) 017

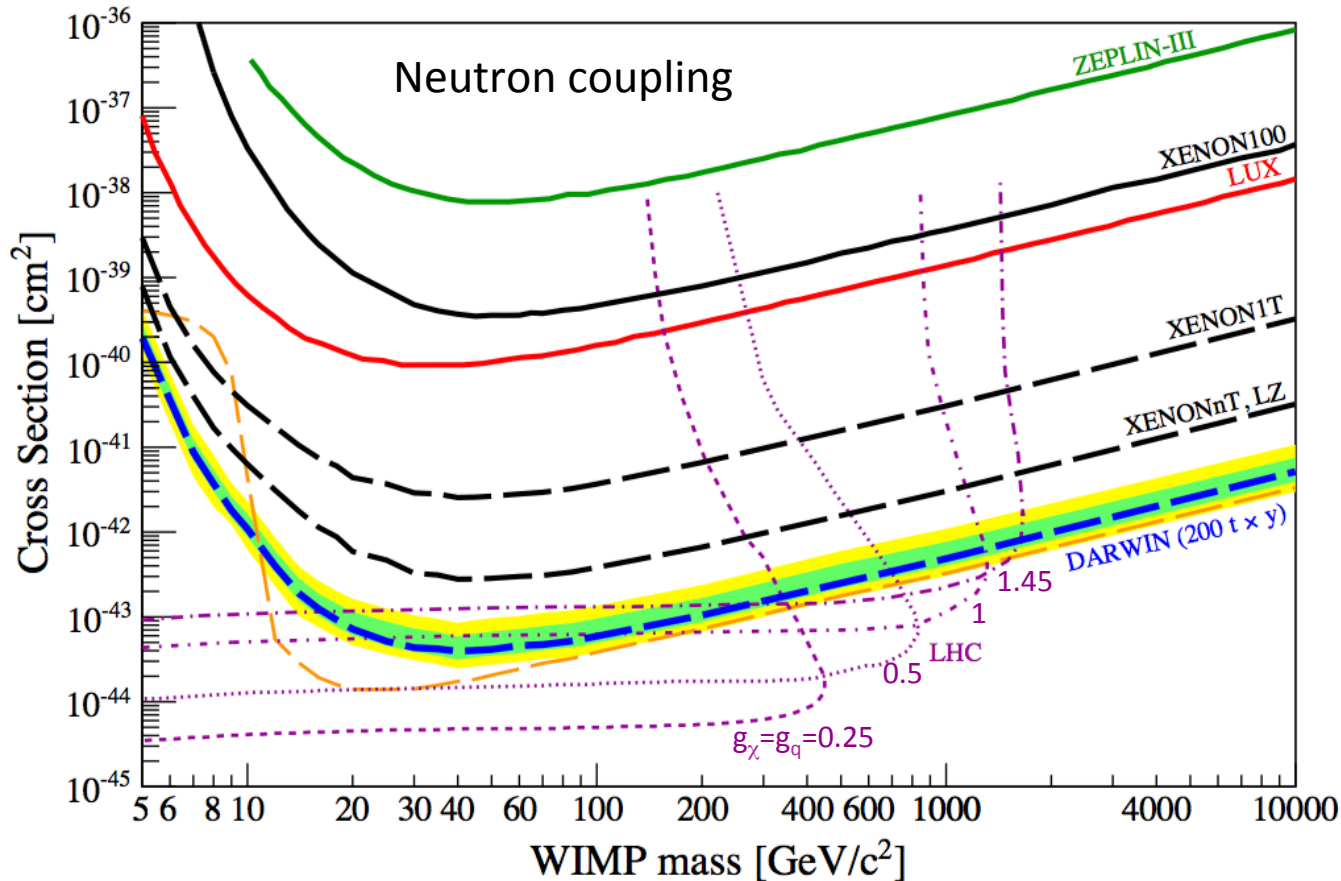


- 30 t fiducial volume
- 99.98% ER rejection @ 30% NR acceptance
- Light yield 8 PE/keV @ 122 keV

# SPIN DEPENDENT WIMP SENSITIVITY



JCAP11 (2016) 017



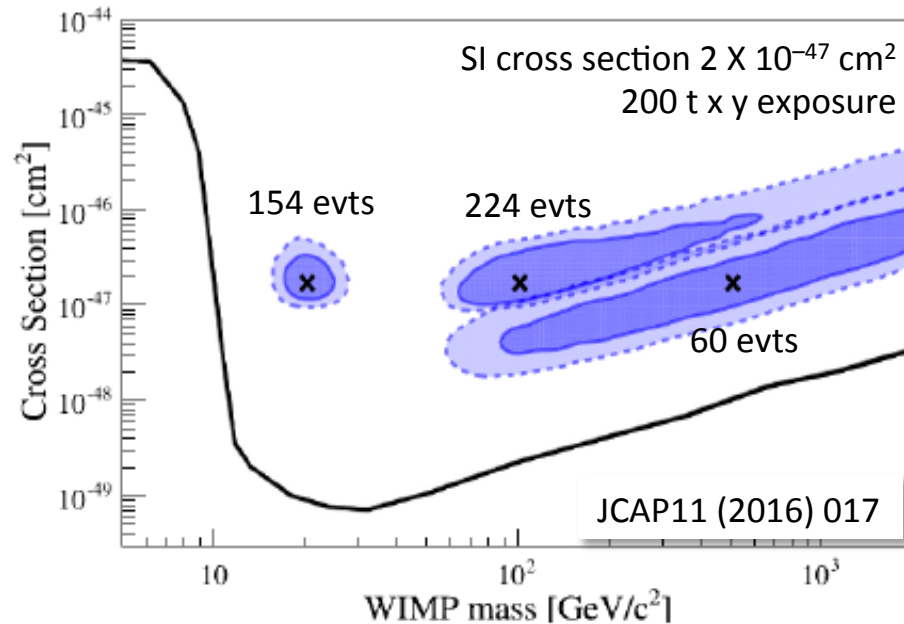
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Complementarity  
with the LHC @14 TeV

# WIMP SPECTROSCOPY



Reconstruction of WIMP properties:  
mass and scattering cross-section

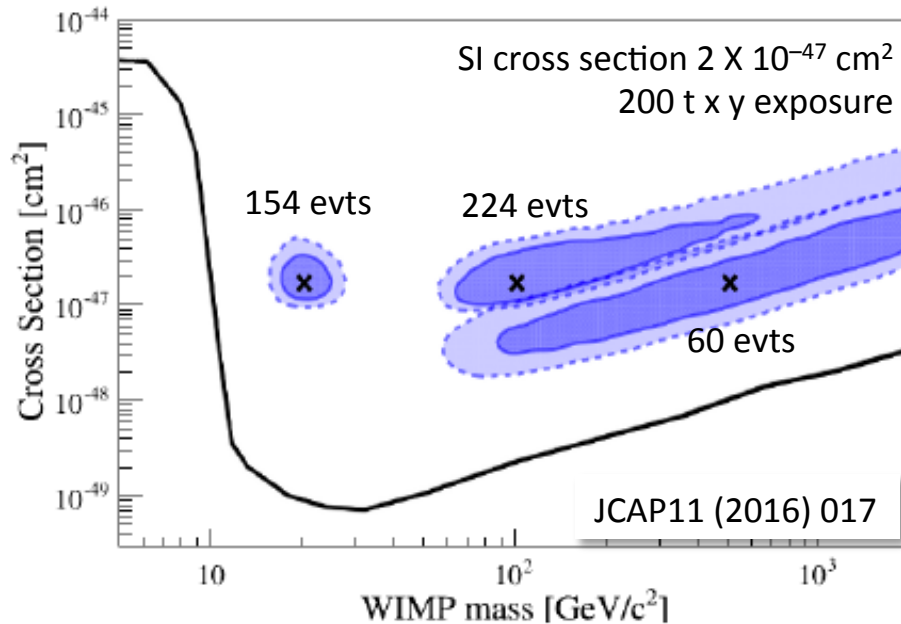


- $m_\chi = 20, 100, 500 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
- $1\sigma/2\sigma$  CI, marginalized over astrophysical parameters
- due to flat WIMP spectra, no target can reconstruct masses  $> 500 \text{ GeV}/c^2$

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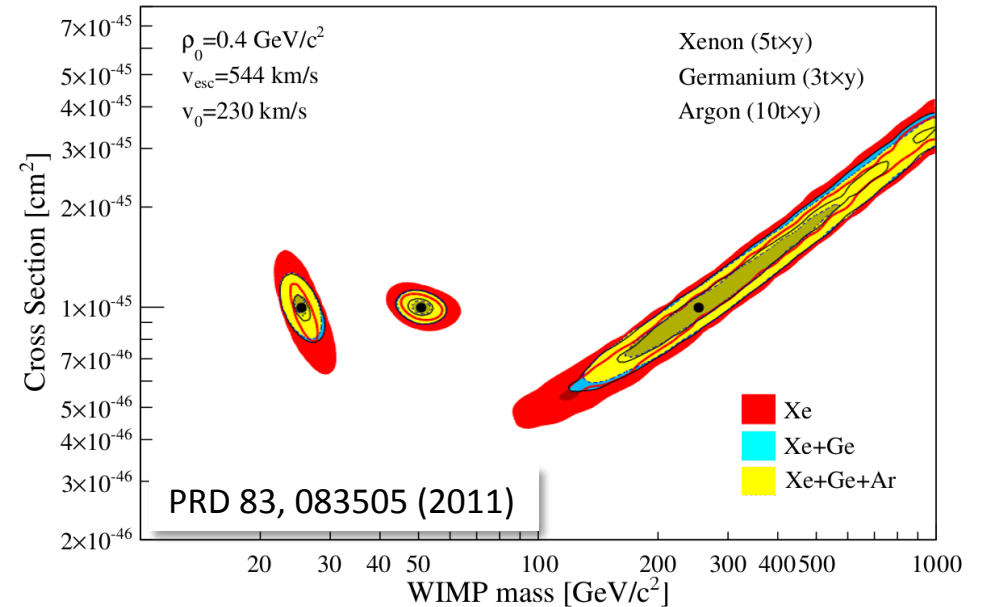


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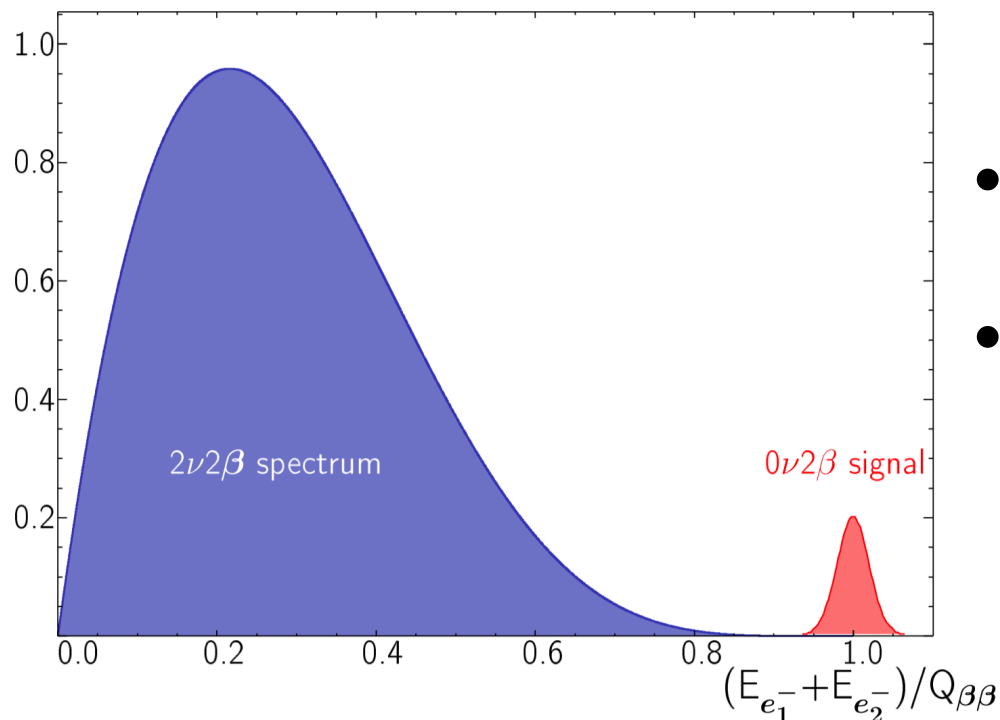
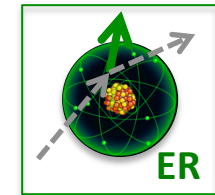
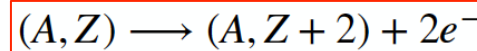
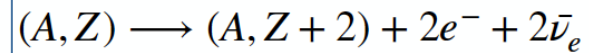
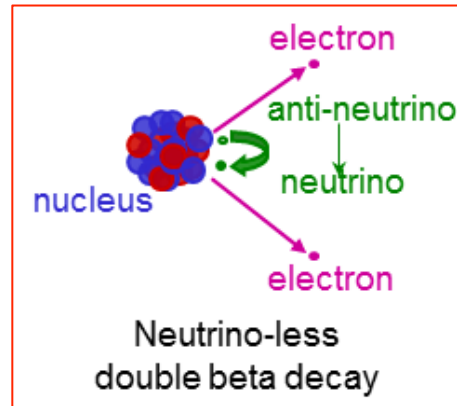
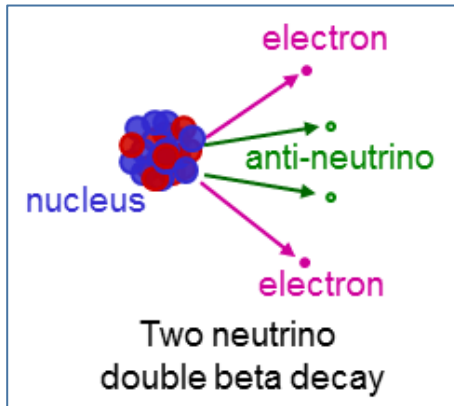
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Target Complementarity



- Reconstruction improves considerably by adding Ge data to Xe
- Only minimal improvement for Ar

# NEUTRINOLESS DOUBLE BETA DECAY



- Test the nature of neutrinos: Majorana or Dirac particles?
- General approach: detect the two final-state electrons
- Signature: two simultaneous electrons with summed energy  $Q_{\beta\beta}$ , the Q-value of the decay of the isotope under study

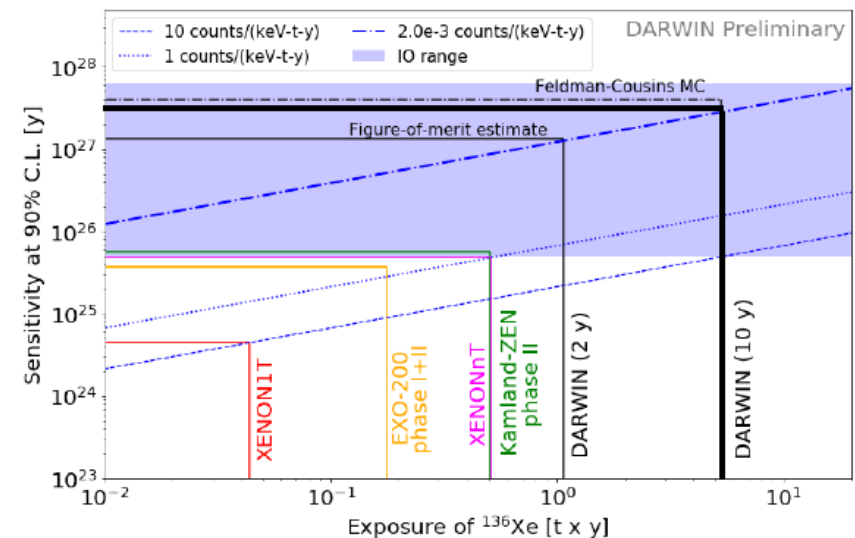
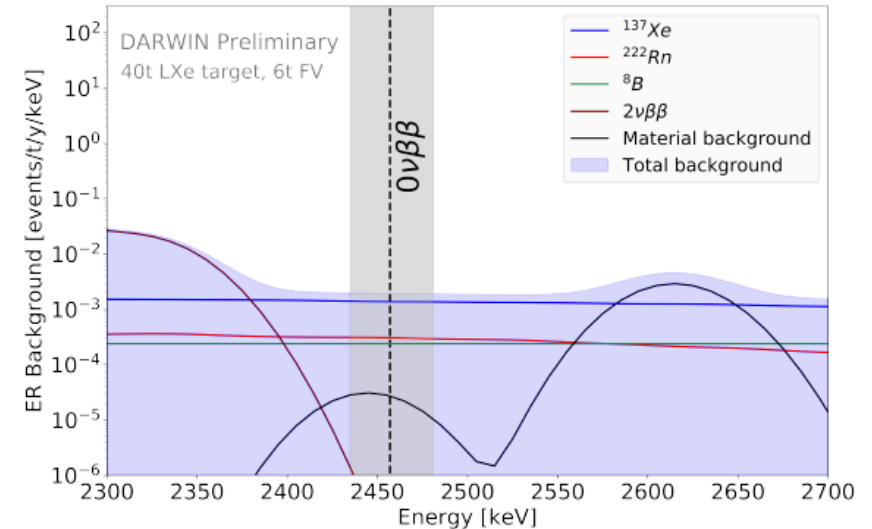
# NEUTRINOLESS DOUBLE BETA DECAY



- $^{136}\text{Xe}/^{\text{nat}}\text{Xe} \sim 8.9\%$
- more than 3.5 t of active  $^{136}\text{Xe}$  (with no enrichment)
- Q-value = 2.458 MeV
- Assumptions
  - 6 t fiducial mass
  - $^{222}\text{Rn}$ : 0.1  $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$
  - resolution  $\sim 1\%$  @ Q-value

- Preliminary sensitivity @ 90% CL
  - $T_{1/2} > 1.3 \times 10^{27}$  yr in 12 t y
  - $T_{1/2} > 3.0 \times 10^{27}$  yr in 60 t y

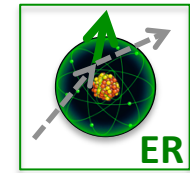
(nEXO sensitivity prediction  $T_{1/2} > 10^{28}$  yr in 20 t y)



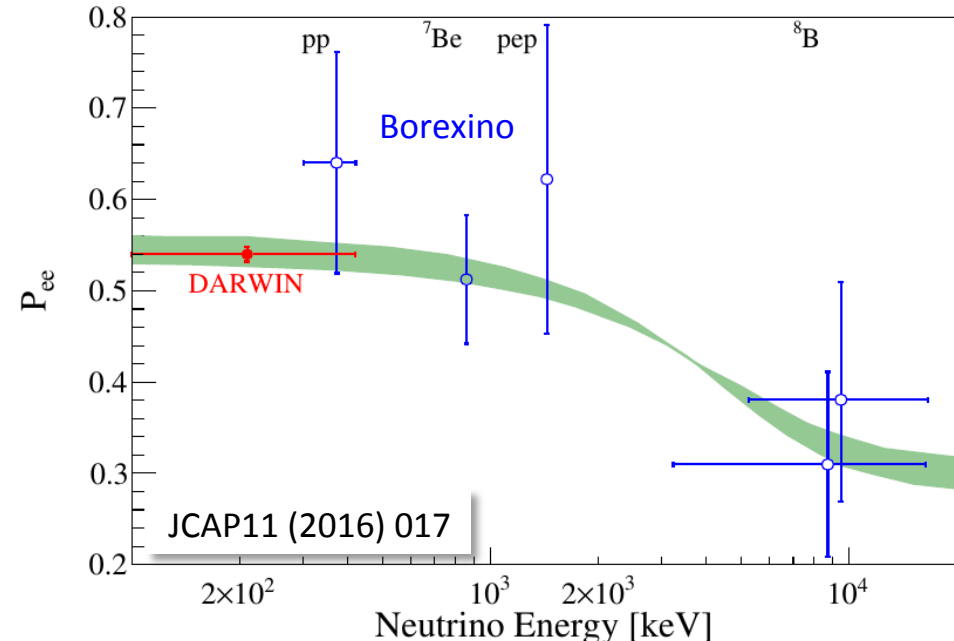
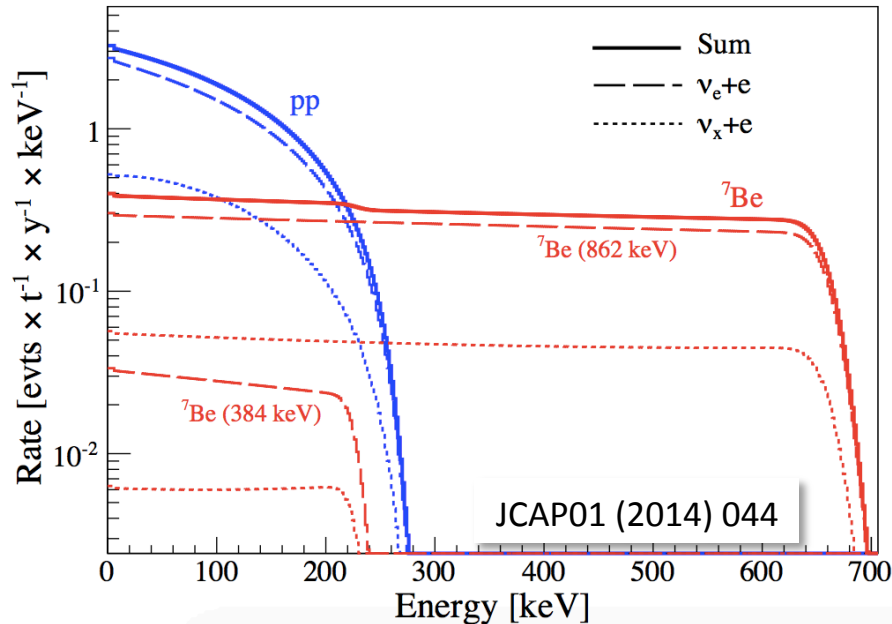
# LOW-ENERGY SOLAR NEUTRINOS



Test the energy production mechanism in the Sun via  $\nu_x + e \rightarrow \nu_x + e$



- Expected rate at 2-30 keV, fiducial mass 30 t:  
pp neutrinos : 7.2 events/day ,  $^7\text{Be}$  neutrinos : 0.9 events/day
- 2% (1%) statistical precision after 1 year (5 years)  $\rightarrow$  constrain solar models
- Electron-neutrino survival probability  $\rightarrow$  deviation from predictions would indicate new physics

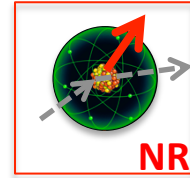




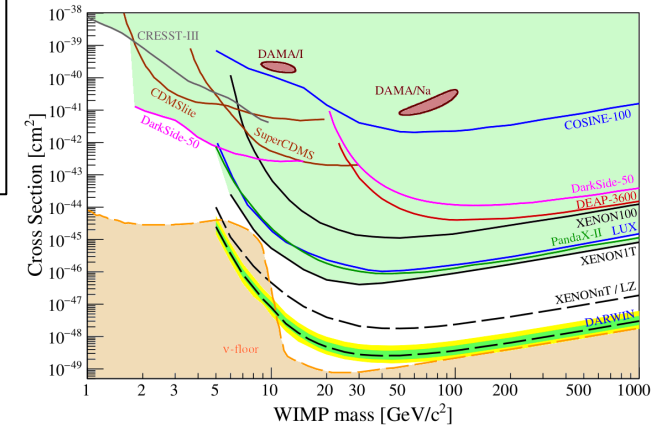
# COHERENT NEUTRINO NUCLEUS SCATTERING



CNNS is an irreducible bkg for WIMP searches:  $\nu + N \rightarrow \nu + N$



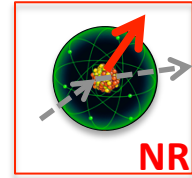
- **Impact on WIMP sensitivity**
  - $^8\text{B}$  solar neutrinos  $\rightarrow$  low WIMP masses
  - atmospheric neutrinos  $\rightarrow$  higher WIMP masses



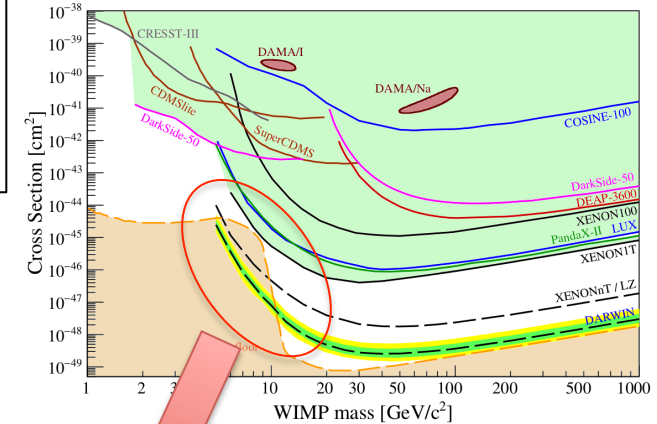
# COHERENT NEUTRINO NUCLEUS SCATTERING



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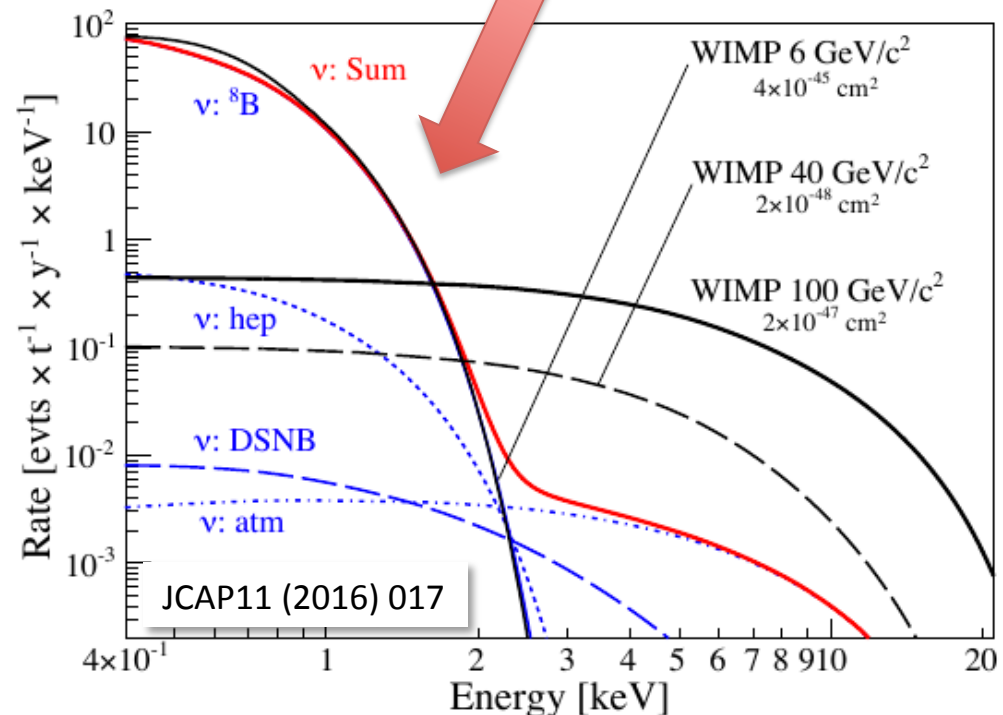


- Impact on WIMP sensitivity
  - $^8\text{B}$  solar neutrinos  $\rightarrow$  low WIMP masses
  - atmospheric neutrinos  $\rightarrow$  higher WIMP masses



It is a science goal by itself

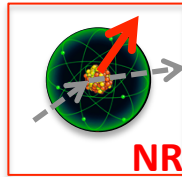
- Predicted by the SM
- $^8\text{B}$  solar neutrinos : 90 evt/t/y @  $E_{th} > 1$  keV
- atmospheric neutrinos :  $3 \times 10^{-3}$  evt/t/y @  $E_{th} > 4$  keV
- Deviation from predictions would indicate new physics



# SUPERNOVA NEUTRINOS

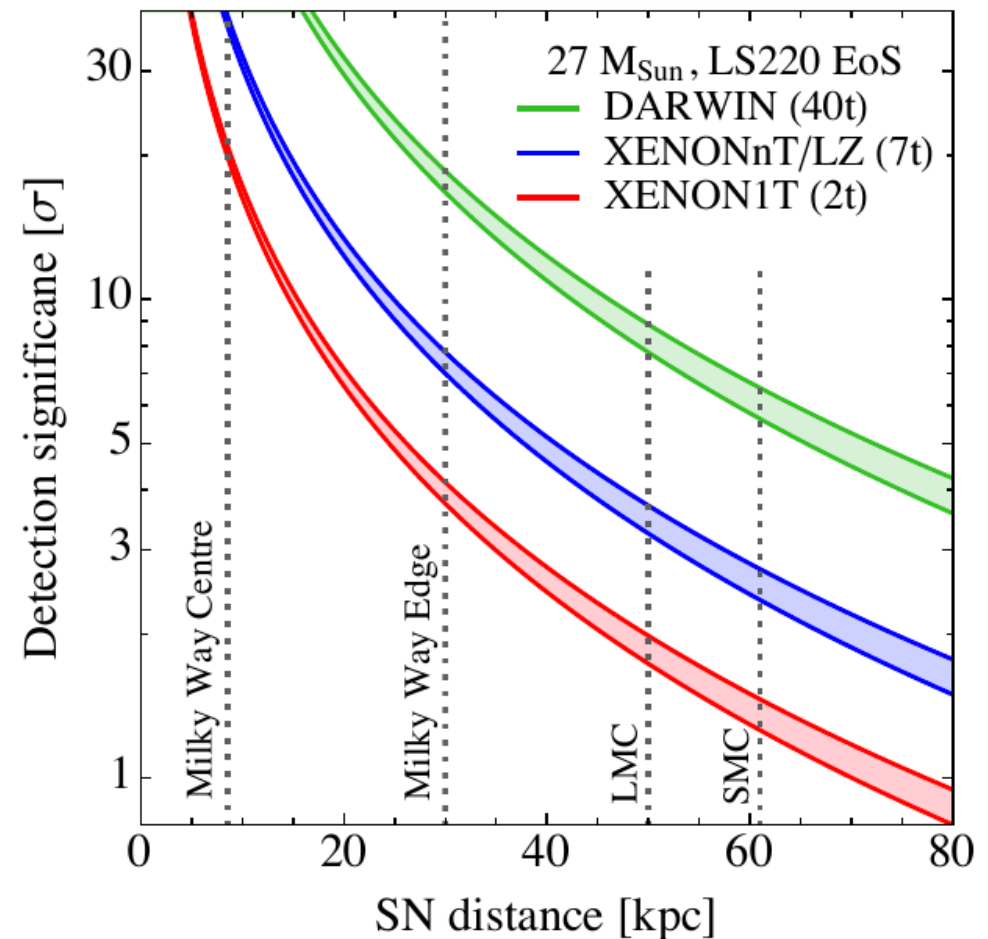


$$\nu + N \rightarrow \nu + N$$

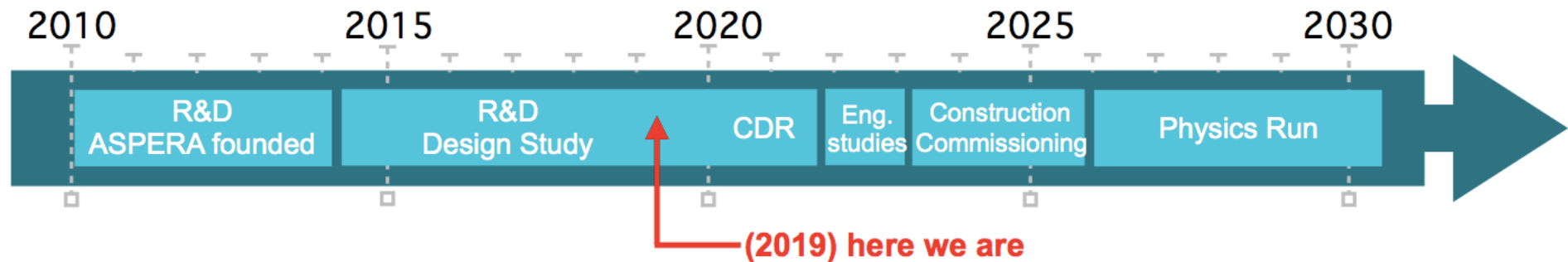


- Low threshold using proportional scintillation signal (S2) only
- Negligible background due to short burst ( $\sim$ sec)
- $5\sigma$  significance to a supernova burst far up to  $\sim 65$  kpc from Earth
- Detection of all 6 neutrino species
- $\sim 700$  events for a  $27M_{\odot}$  SN progenitor at 10 kpc

Phys. Rev. D 94 (2016) no.10, 103009



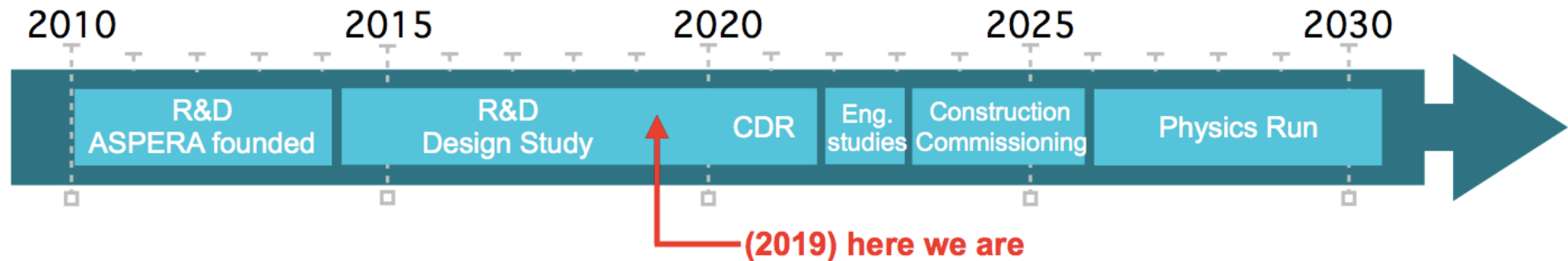
# THE DARWIN COLLABORATION & CURRENT STATUS



- **29 groups from 12 countries**
- DARWIN is in the APPEC roadmap
- 2 ERCs grants for R&D:
  - Xenoscope (UZH)
  - ULTIMATE (UniFr)
- 6 Working Packages for perspective studies and R&D activities



# THE DARWIN COLLABORATION & CURRENT STATUS



- **29 groups from 12 countries**
- DARWIN is in the APPEC roadmap
- 2 ERCs grants for **R&D**: →
  - Xenoscope (UZH)
  - ULTIMATE (UniFr)
- 6 Working Packages for perspective studies and **R&D activities**

- detector design
- photosensors technologies
- large scale demonstrators
- cryogenics
- ...

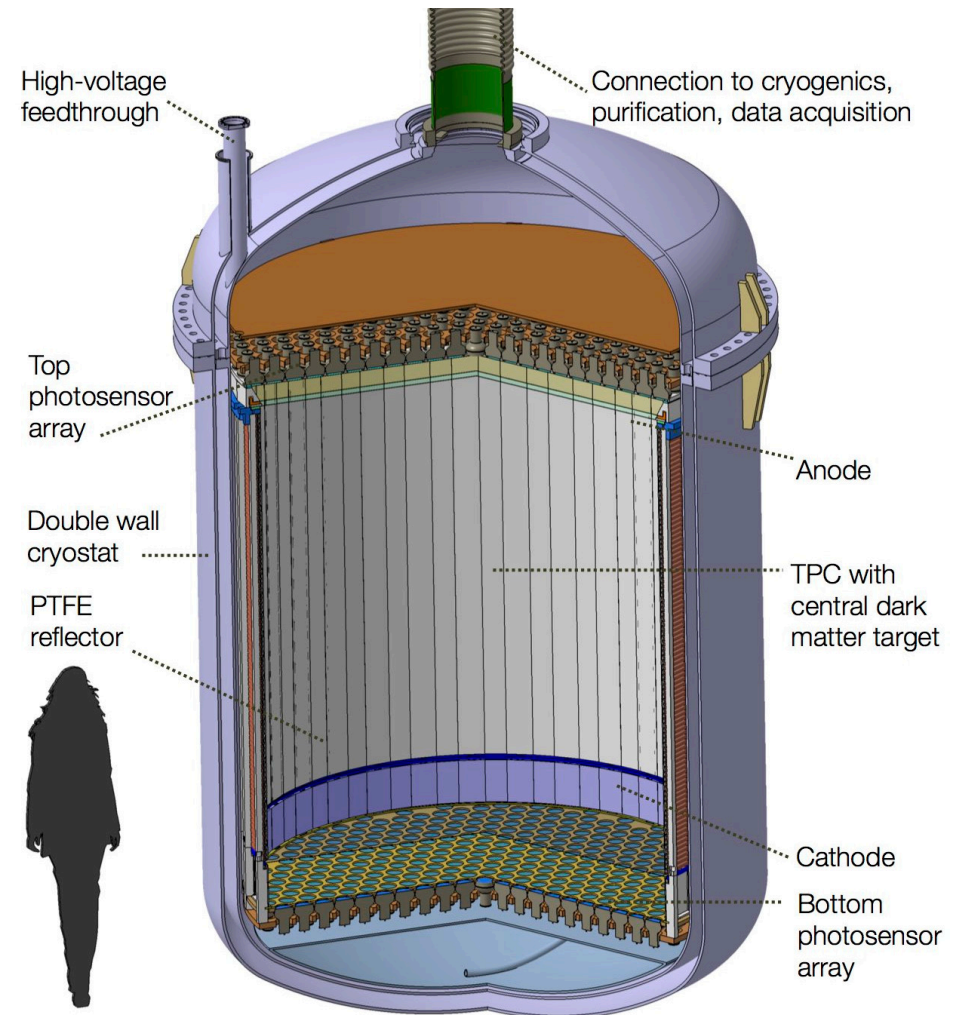


# DARWIN CHALLENGES



DARWIN Collaboration, JCAP 1611 (2016) 017

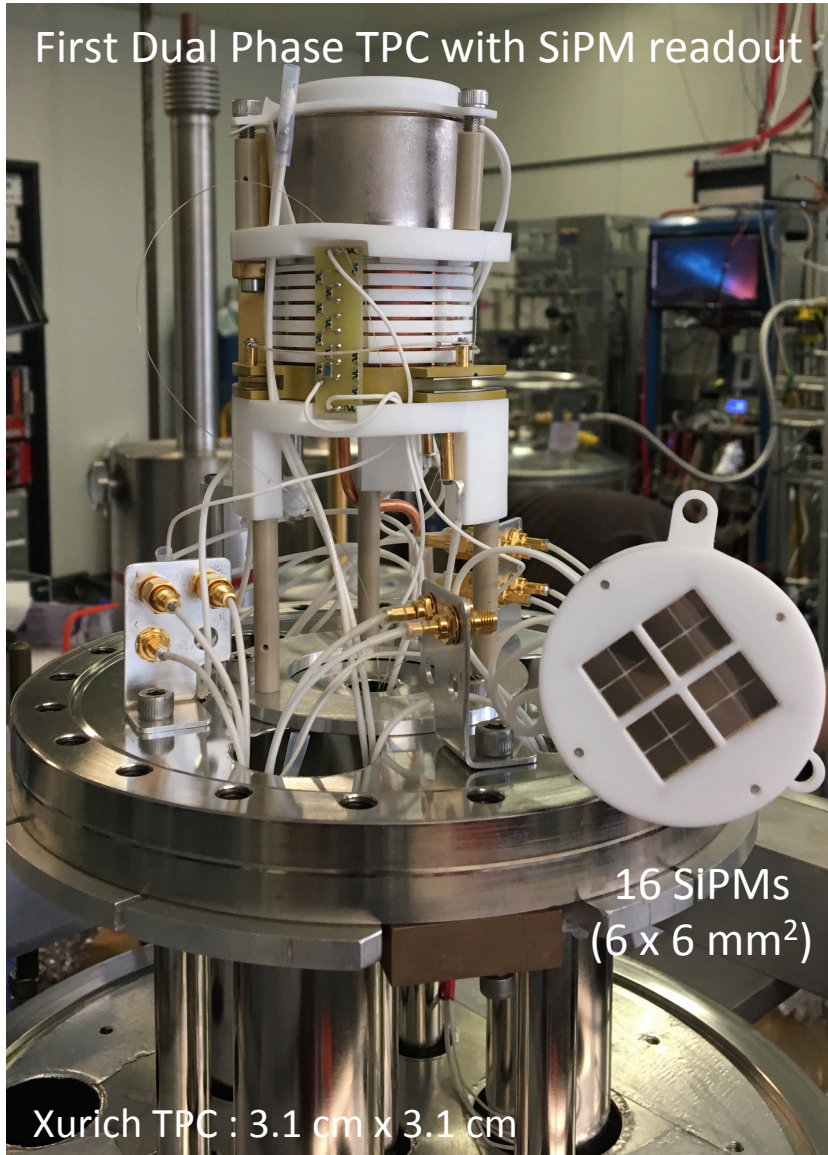
- Top & bottom arrays of photosensors  
→ alternatives to traditional PMTs (improving discrimination, radiopurity, cost, compactness,... )
- 2.6 m x 2.6 m Dual Phase TPC  
→ high voltage, proportional scintillation
- 50 t (40 t active) LXe target  
→ improving storage, purification, cooling



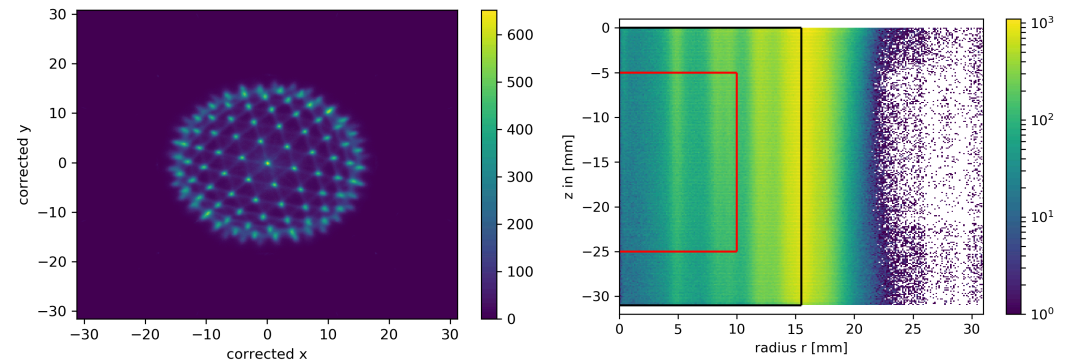
# R&D ON PHOTSENSORS



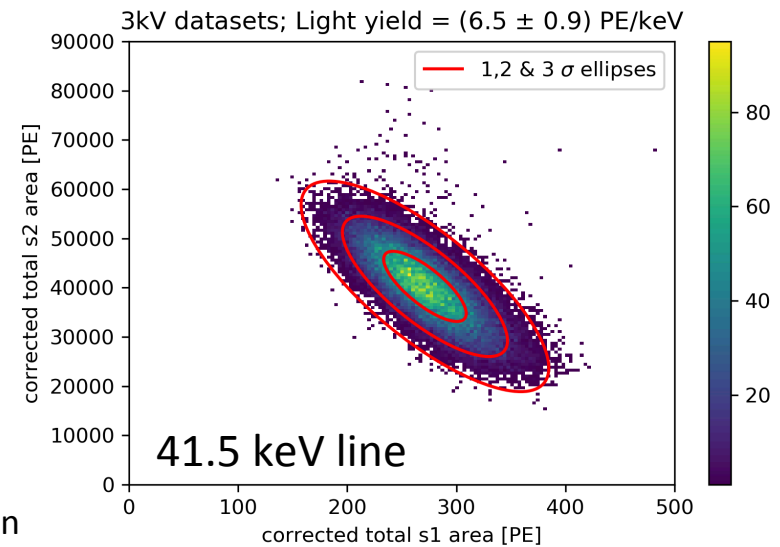
First Dual Phase TPC with SiPM readout



- 3D position reconstruction



- <sup>83m</sup>Kr (done) and <sup>37</sup>Ar (ongoing) calibrations



Credits:  
S. Hochrein

# FULL – (X,Y) DEMONSTRATOR



Courtesy of F. Tönnies

The main goal is to test components at the real DARWIN diameter under realistic conditions

- (X,Y) scale TPC
  - diameter **2.6 m**
  - height  $\sim 0.5$  m
  - filled with  $\sim 400$  kg of LXe
- Tests of
  - electrodes flatness
  - strength of the extraction field
  - (x,y) homogeneity of the extraction field



# FULL - LENGTH DEMONSTRATOR



The main goal is the demonstration of the electron drift over the full height of DARWIN

→ z position reconstruction

- Full vertical scale TPC
  - height 2.6 m
  - diameter ~20 cm
  - filled with ~300 kg of LXe
- Goal for electric field: 200 V/cm
- Required e-lifetime > 2 ms



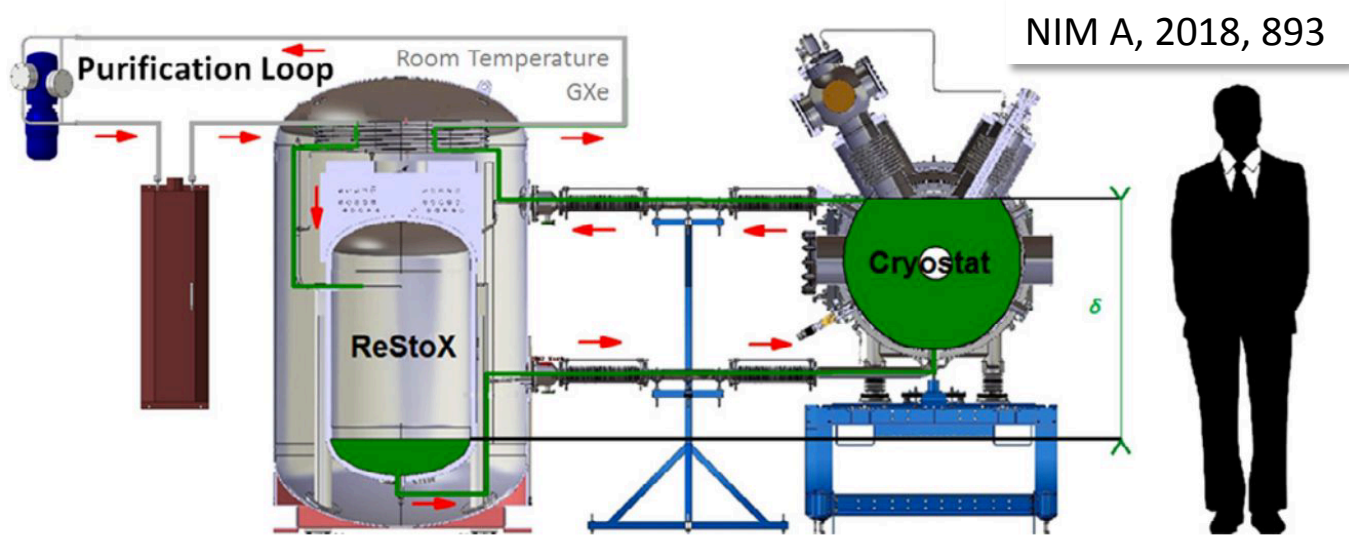
Courtesy of F. Girard

# XE RECOVERY AND STORAGE SYSTEM (ReStoX)



New Challenge for a 50 tons detector

- 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**



# SUMMARY

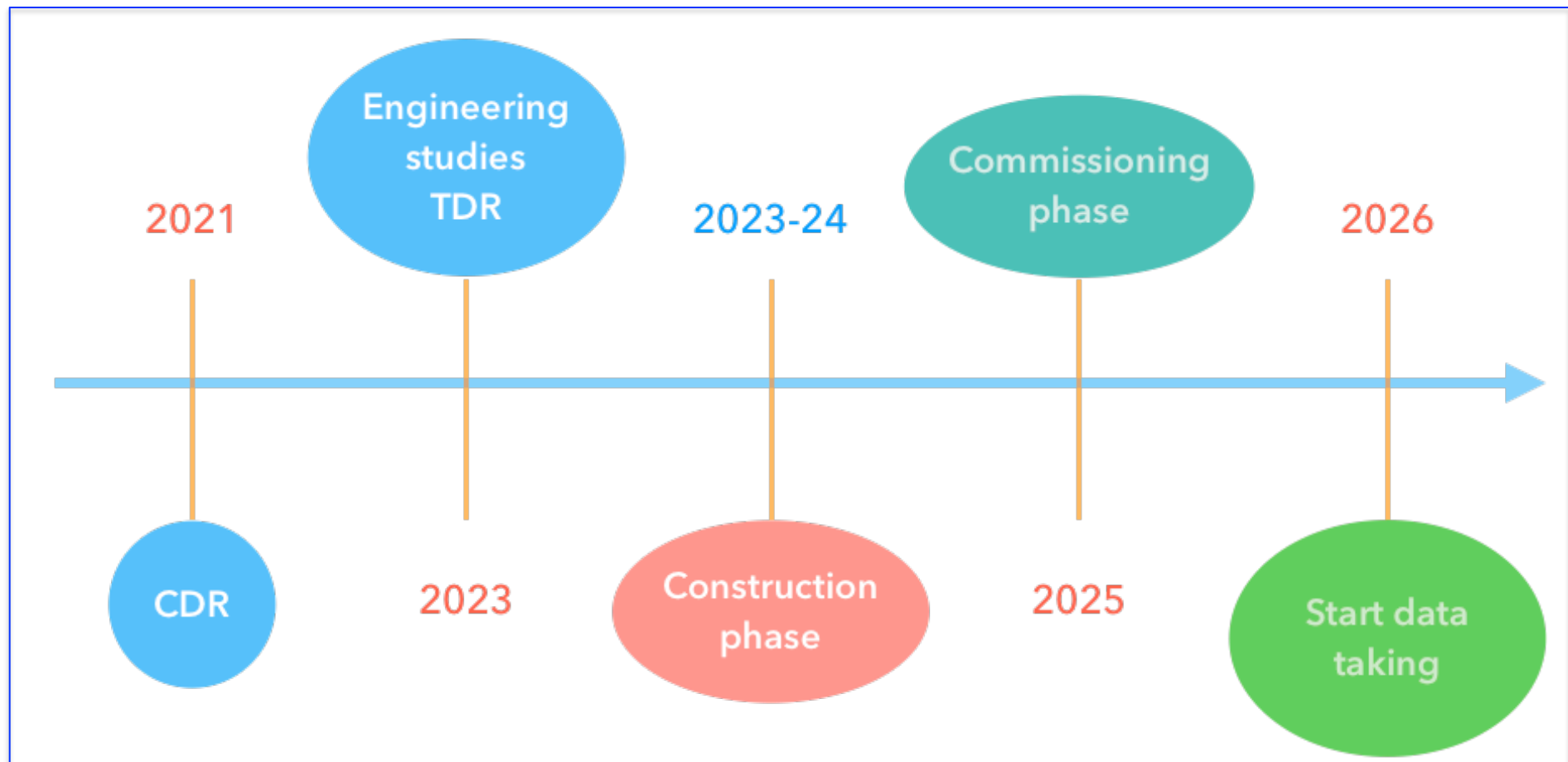


- DARWIN will be the **ultimate low-background astroparticle physics observatory**
- DARWIN will probe a variety of physics channels
  - Dark Matter
  - Neutrinoless double beta decay
  - Low energy solar neutrinos
  - Coherent neutrino nucleus scattering
  - ...
- DARWIN is a challenging detector → R&D on different aspects are ongoing
- DARWIN is growing: currently 29 groups from 12 countries

# SUMMARY

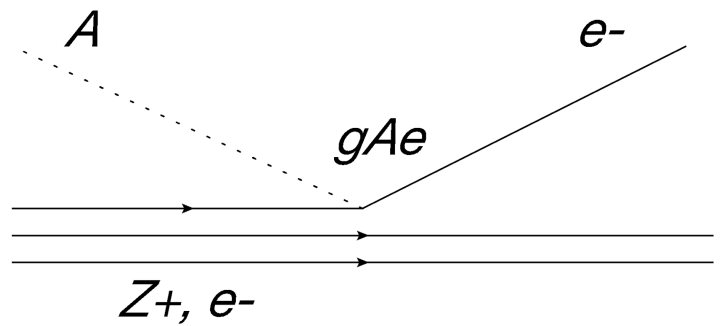


- DARWIN will be the **ultimate low-background astroparticle physics observatory**



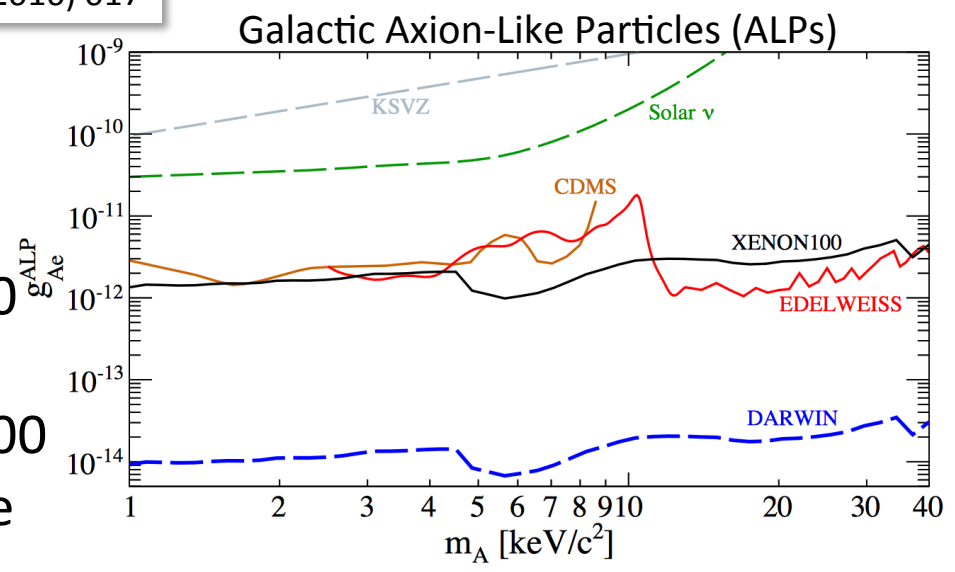
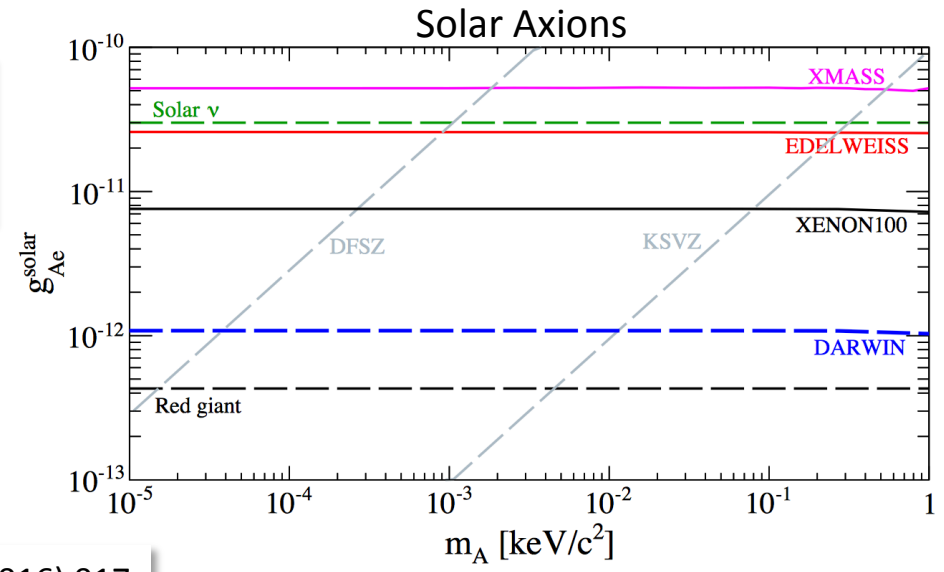
Backup

# SOLAR AXIONS AND AXION-LIKE PARTICLES



- Measurement via axio-electric effect
- Expect mono-energetic peak at the particle mass
- Dominant backgrounds:
  - solar neutrinos
  - $2\nu\beta\beta$  of  $^{136}\text{Xe}$
- Sensitivity to Solar Axions
  - x10 improvement wrt XENON100
- Sensitivity to ALPs
  - x100 improvement wrt XENON100
- Sensitivity scales poorly with exposure

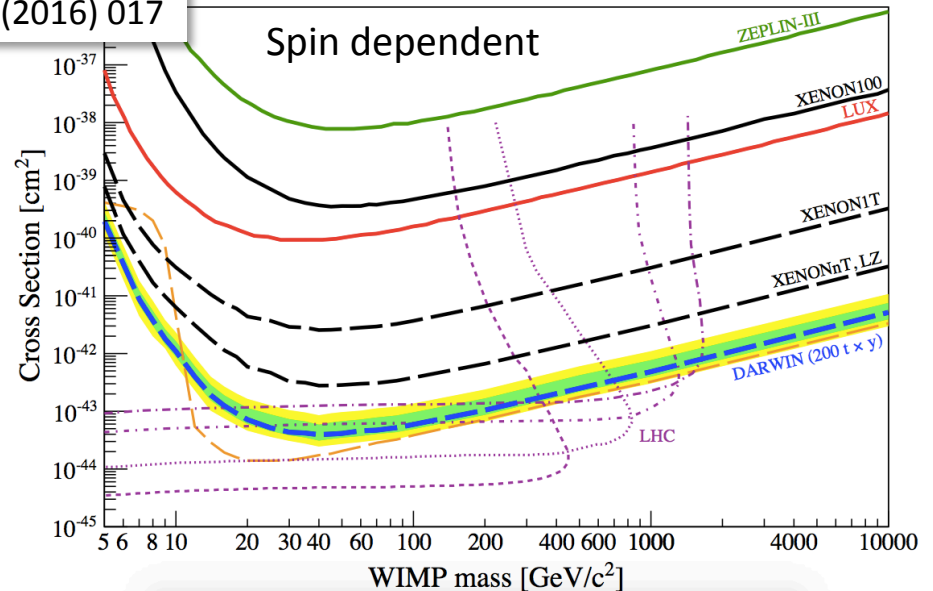
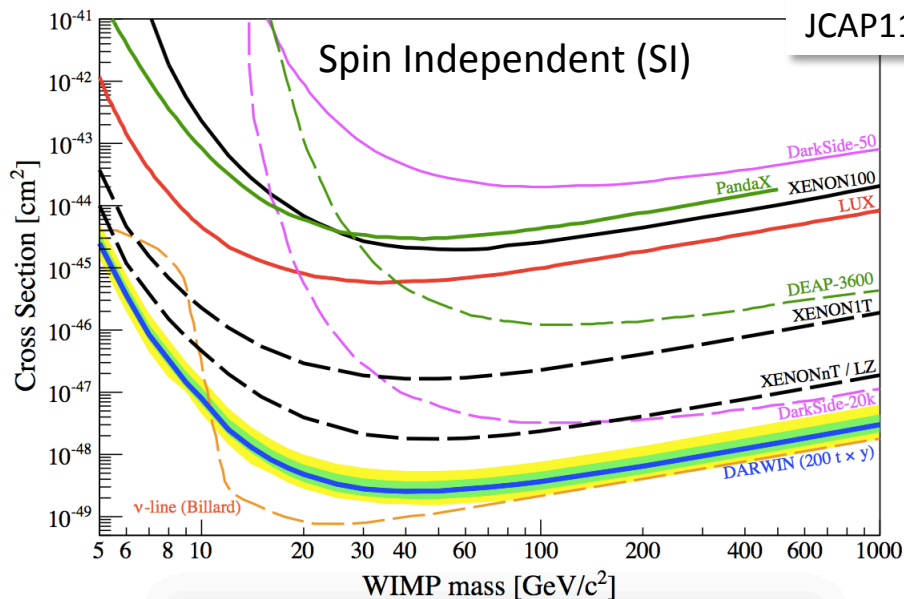
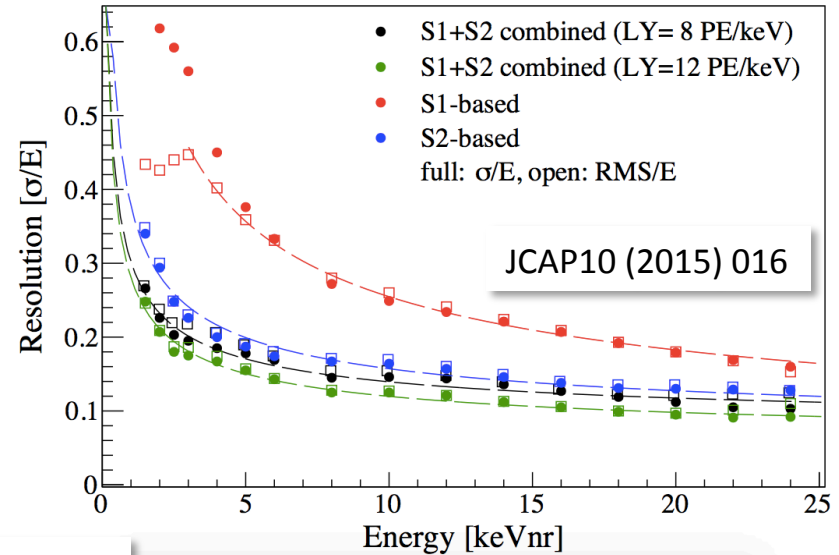
JCAP11 (2016) 017



# DIRECT WIMP SENSITIVITY



- 200 t × y exposure
- 30 t fiducial volume
- all backgrounds included
- 99.98% ER rejection @ 30% NR acceptance
- Combined (S1+S2) energy scale
- Light yield 8PE/keV @ 122 keV

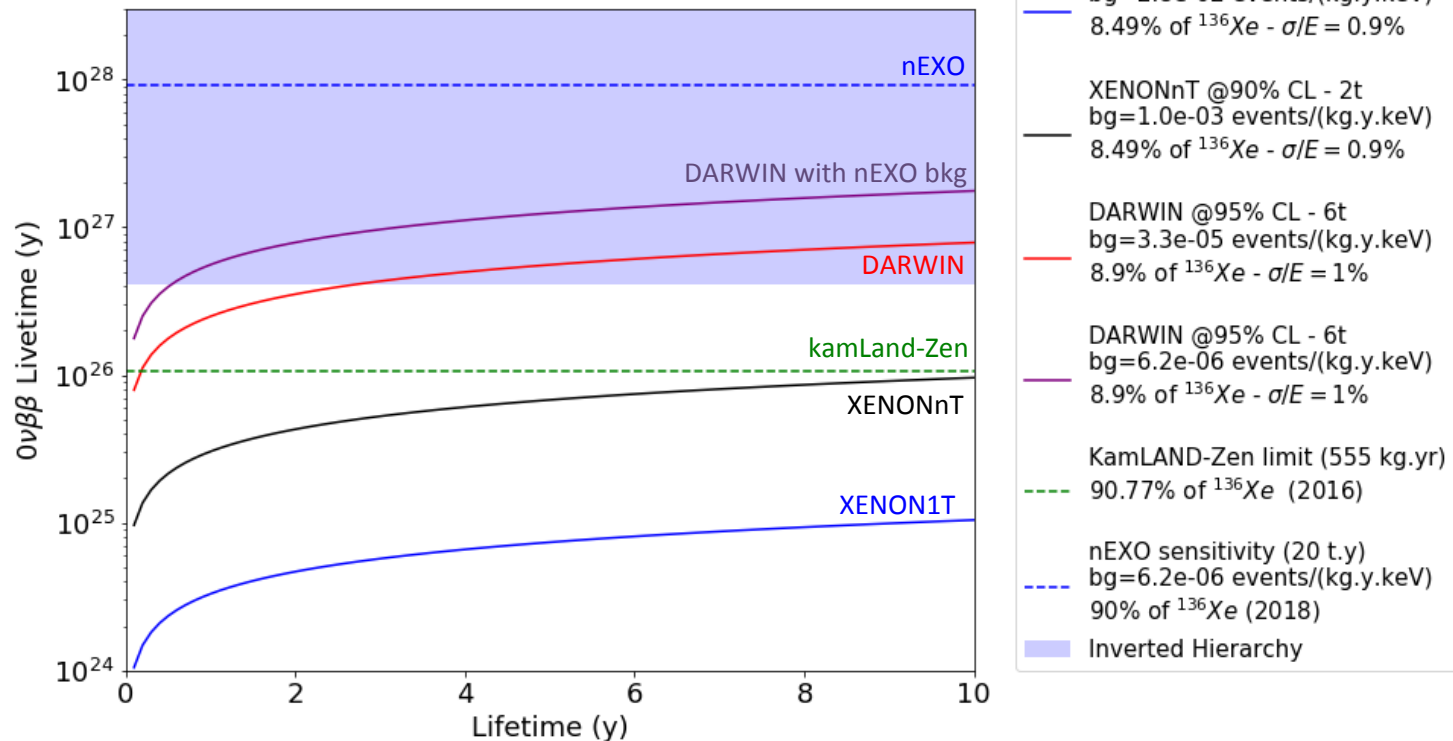


# SENSITIVITY TO $0\nu 2\beta$



$$S(T_{\frac{1}{2}}^{0\nu}) \propto \frac{\epsilon a}{A} \sqrt{\frac{m t}{b \Delta E}}$$

efficiency 90%  $\leftarrow \epsilon$  isotopic abundance  $\leftarrow a$  fiducial mass  $\leftarrow m$   
 lifetime  $\leftarrow t$   
 atomic mass  $\leftarrow A$  total bkg  $\leftarrow b$  Energy resolution at Q value: 1%  $\leftarrow \Delta E$



Is it possible to increase the sensitivity of the Neutrinoless double decay search without affecting (too much) the WIMPs search?



## Sensitivity study

$$S^{0\nu} = \frac{\ln(2) \times N_a \times \epsilon \times enr}{\sigma_{CL} \times M_{molar}} \sqrt{\frac{\text{exposure}}{bkg_{index} \times \Delta E}}$$

### Physical constant:

- $N_a$  the Avogadro number (/mol)
- $\sigma_{CL}$  factor to take into account the Confidence Level. 1.64 at 90% C.L

### Isotope properties:

- $M_{molar}$  the molar mass of  $^{136}\text{Xe}$
- $enr$  is the  $^{136}\text{Xe}$  abundance (Natural: 8.9%)

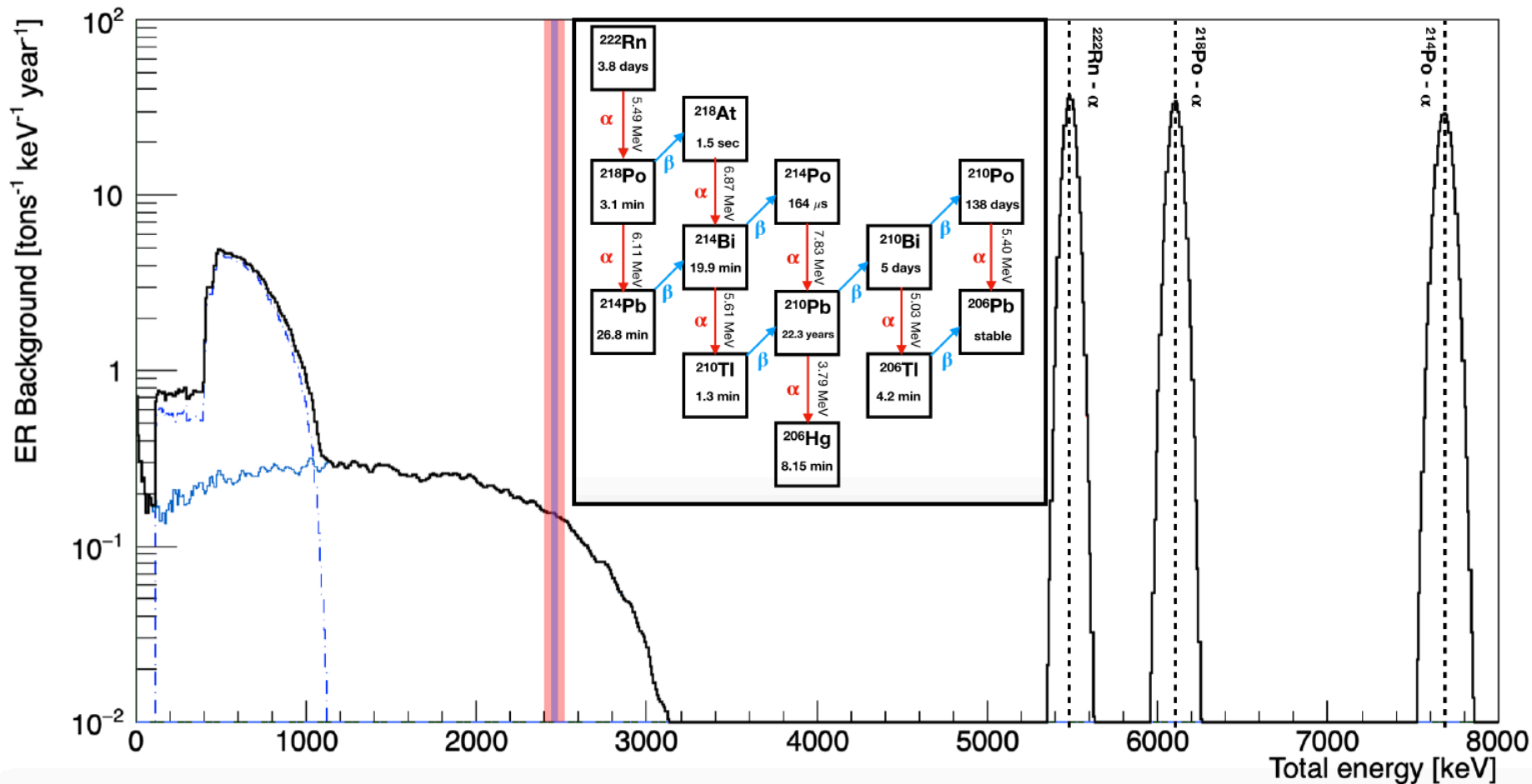
### Detector characteristics:

- $\epsilon = 0.8$  is the detection efficiency
- $\text{exposure} = 30 \text{ t.y}$  is the running time of the experiment times the target mass
- $\Delta E$  is the FWHM energy resolution at the Q-value (2457 keV)

### Backgrounds estimations:

- $bkg_{index}$  is the number of background events per unit of time, mass and energy in the ROI

# $^{222}\text{Rn}$

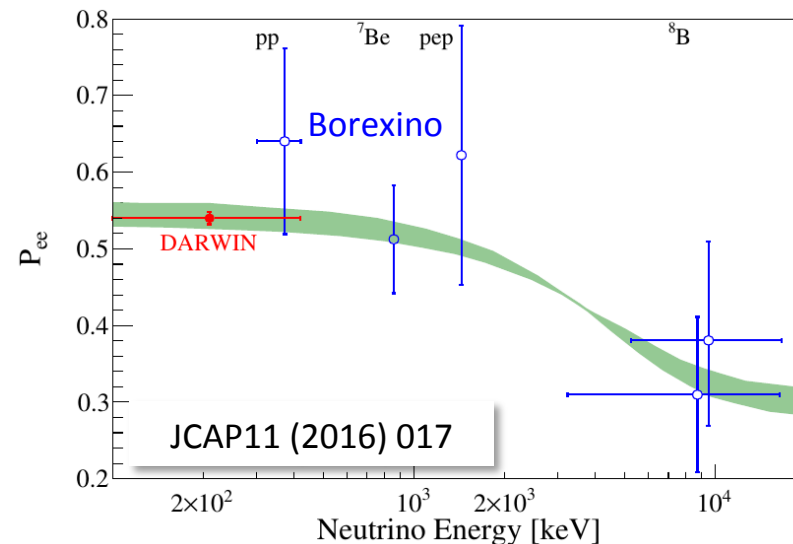
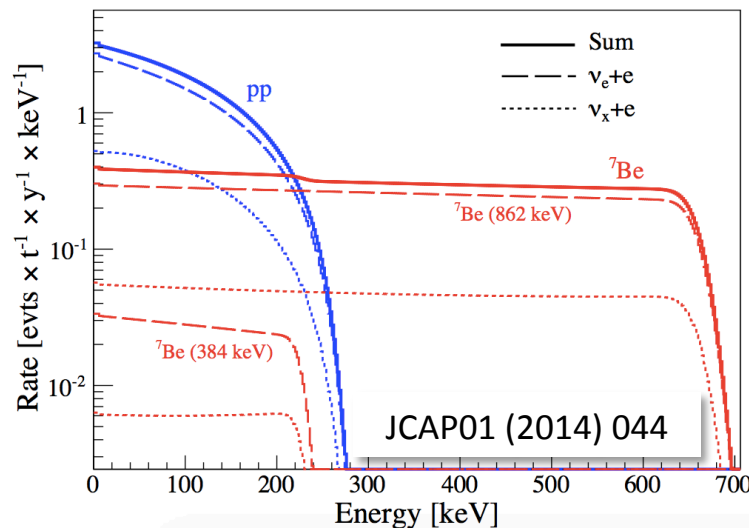
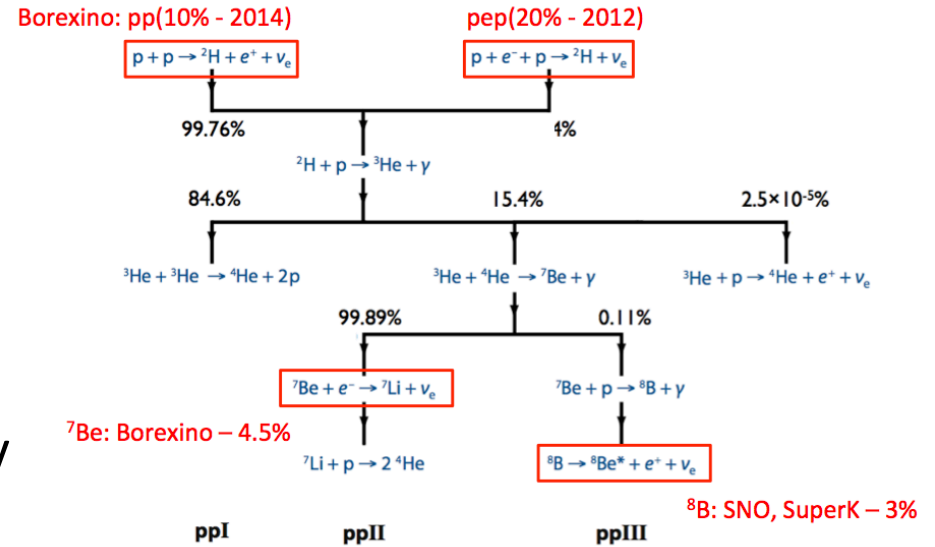


- Main contributor in the  $0\nu\beta\beta$  ROI  $\rightarrow$   $^{214}\text{Bi}$
- Applying a BiPo tagging will reduce the  $^{214}\text{Bi}$  &  $^{214}\text{Po}$  contamination  $\rightarrow$  99.8%

# LOW-ENERGY SOLAR NEUTRINOS

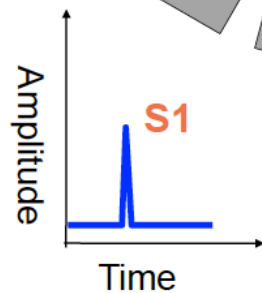
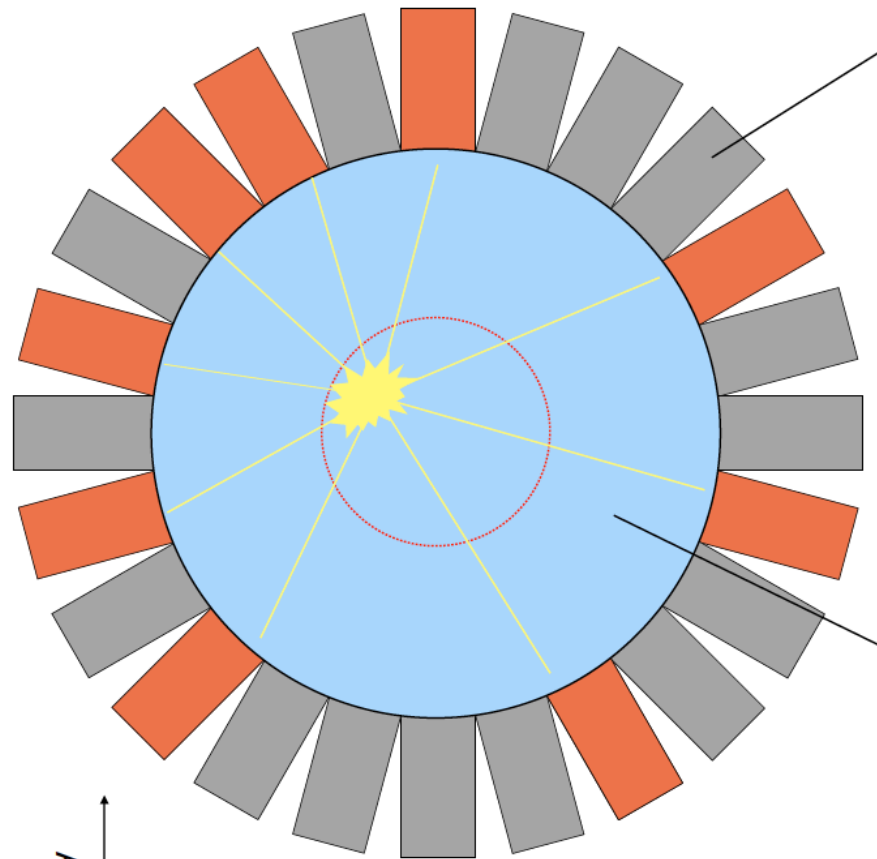


- Expected rate at 2-30 keV, fiducial mass 30 t:  
pp neutrinos : 7.2 events/day ,  $^7\text{Be}$  neutrinos : 0.9 events/day
- 2% (1%) statistical precision after 1 year (5 years)  $\rightarrow$  constrain solar models
- Electron-neutrino survival probability  $\rightarrow$  deviation from predictions would indicate new physics

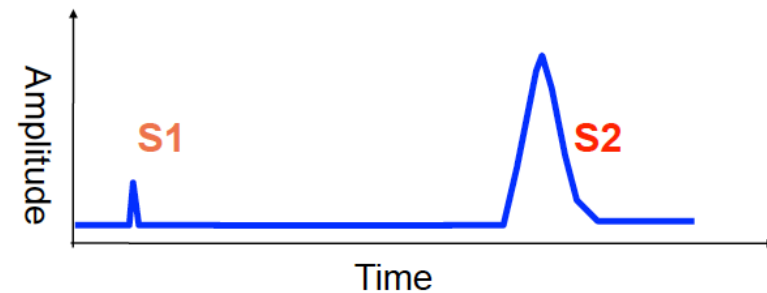
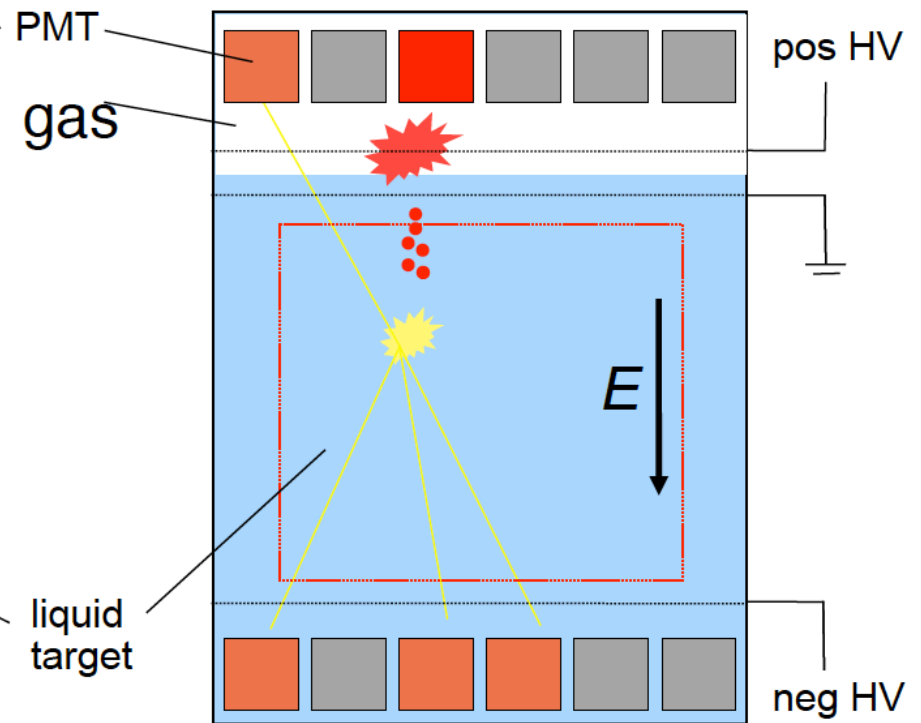


# NOBLE LIQUIDS DETECTORS CONCEPTS

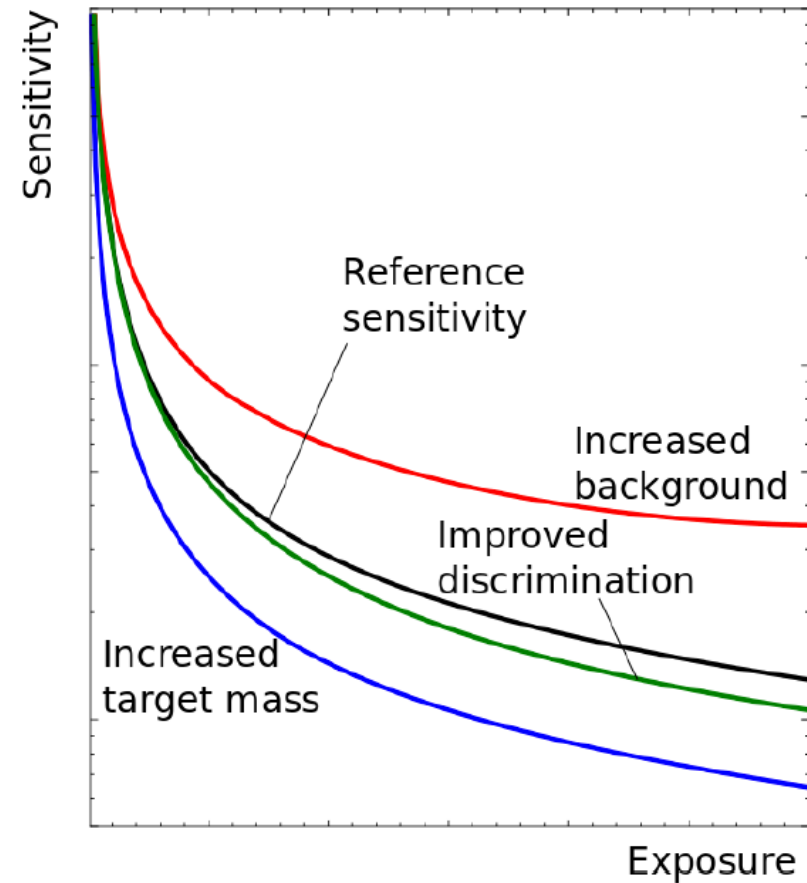
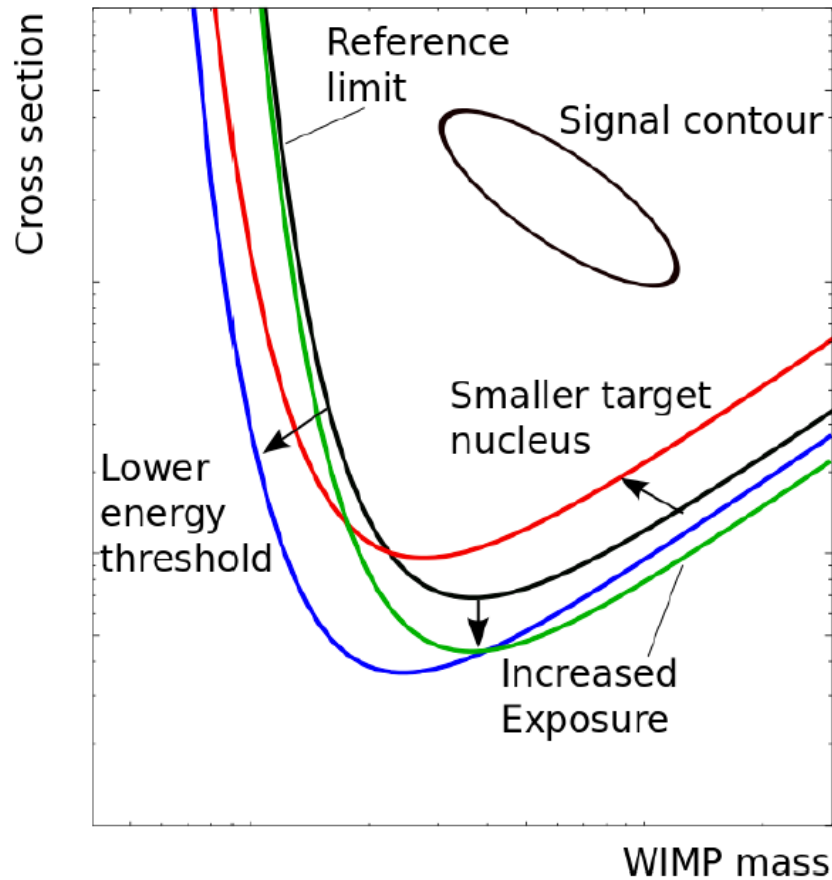
Single Phase Detector



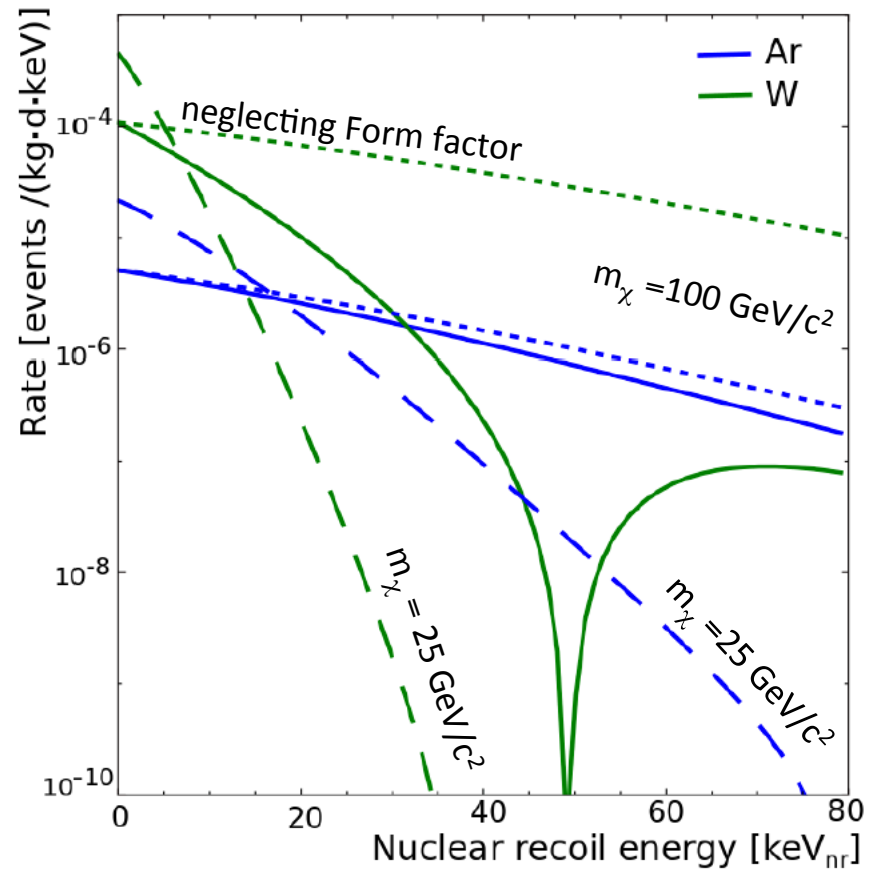
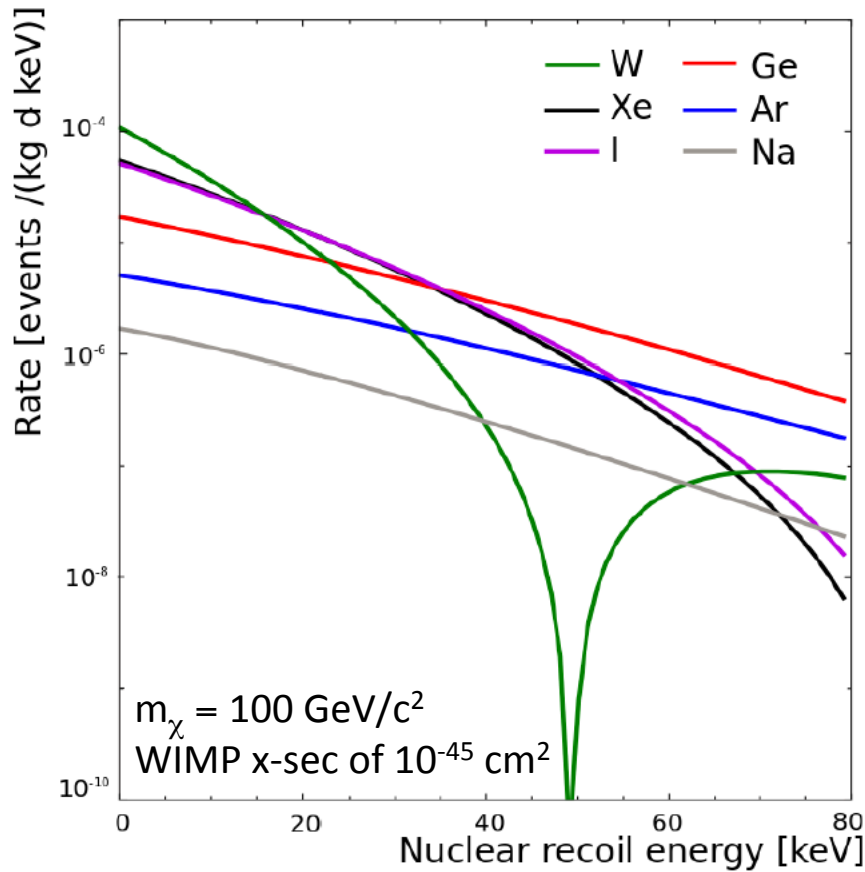
Dual Phase Detector



# WIMP SENSITIVITY



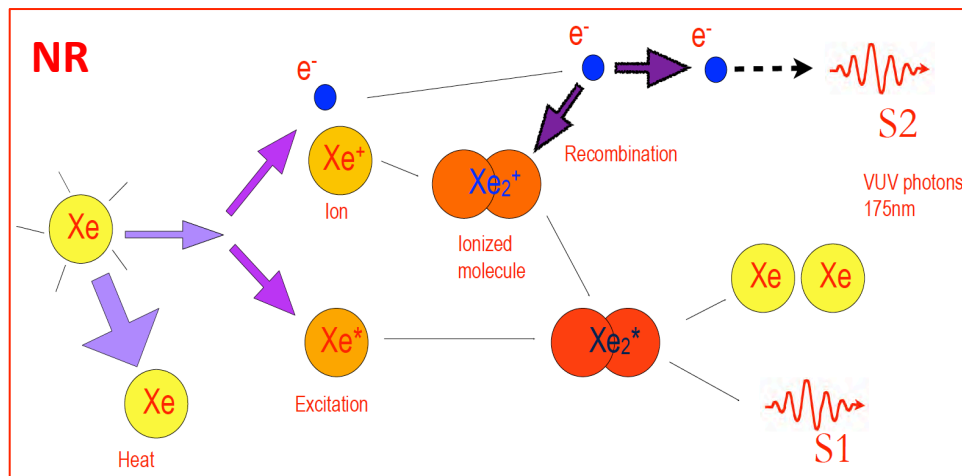
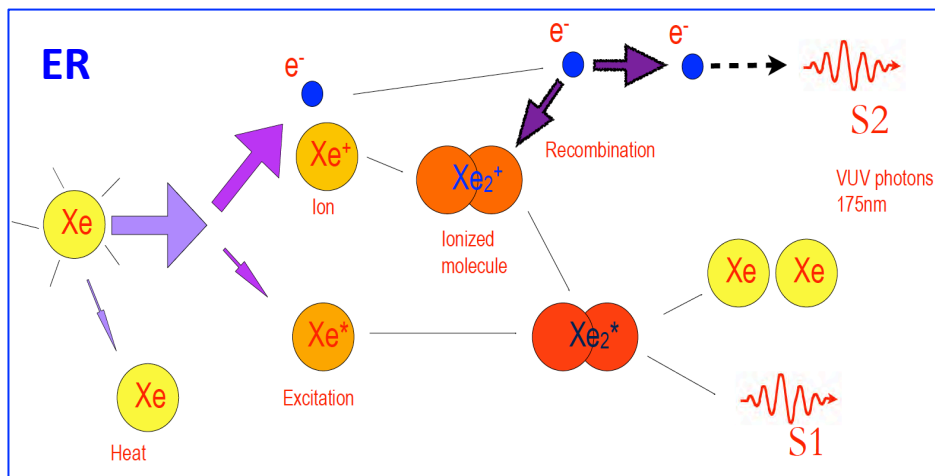
# RATE & FORM FACTORS



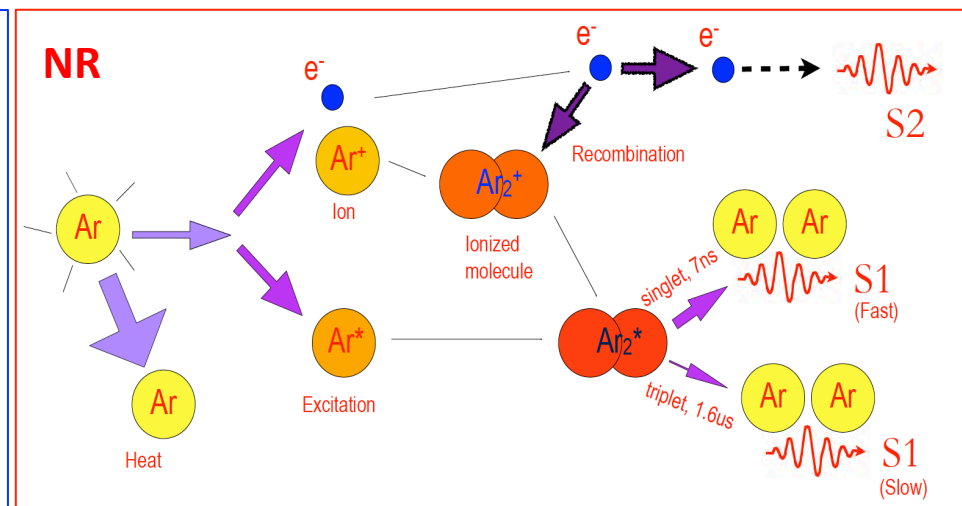
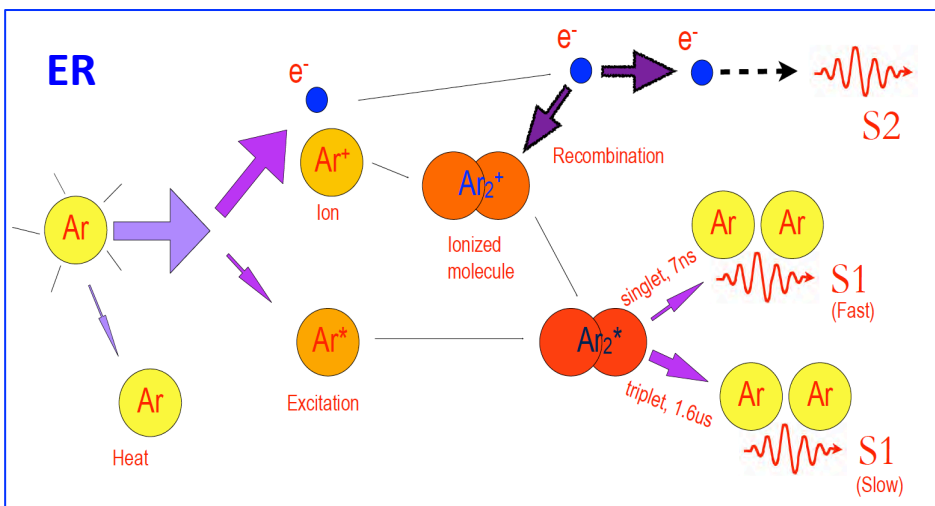
For lighter targets a low energy threshold is of less relevance than for the heavier ones

The form factor correction for a heavy target is more important than for light targets.

# SIGNALS PRODUCTION IN NOBLE LIQUIDS



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



# Noble Liquids Comparison

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

- Higher mass number in Xe wrt Ar → higher WIMP rate in Xe
- Ar has a smaller wavelength emission light wrt Xe that requests a light shifter to allow its detection
- The average ionization energy (W) in LXe is smaller than the one in LAr
- The ionization and scintillation yields are highest in LXe



# The drift field struggle



	XENON10	XENON100	LUX	XENON1T	DARWIN	
Drift length	15 cm	30.5 cm	48 cm	97 cm	260 cm	
Design field	1000 V/cm	1000 V/cm	2000 V/cm	1000 V/cm	500 V/cm	
Actual field	730 V/cm	530 V/cm	181 V/cm	117 V/cm	500 V/cm	60 V/cm
Actual V	11 kV	16.1 kV	8.7 kV	11.3 kV	130 kV	15 kV

## Changing quantities

- Light and charge yields
- Diffusion constant
- S1 pulse shape
- Drift velocity
- Electron lifetime

