



**University of
Zurich**^{UZH}

Dark Matter Searches with Underground Experiments

Michelle Galloway
University of Zurich

Unraveling the History of the Universe and Matter Evolution with Underground Physics

Tokyo University of Science, 13 June 2022



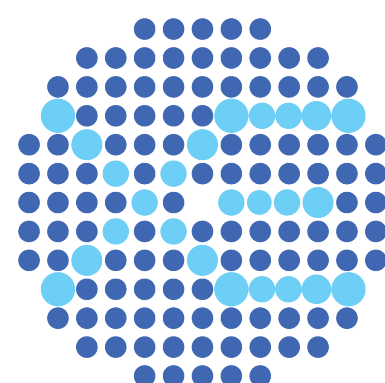
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Dark Matter Searches with Underground Experiments

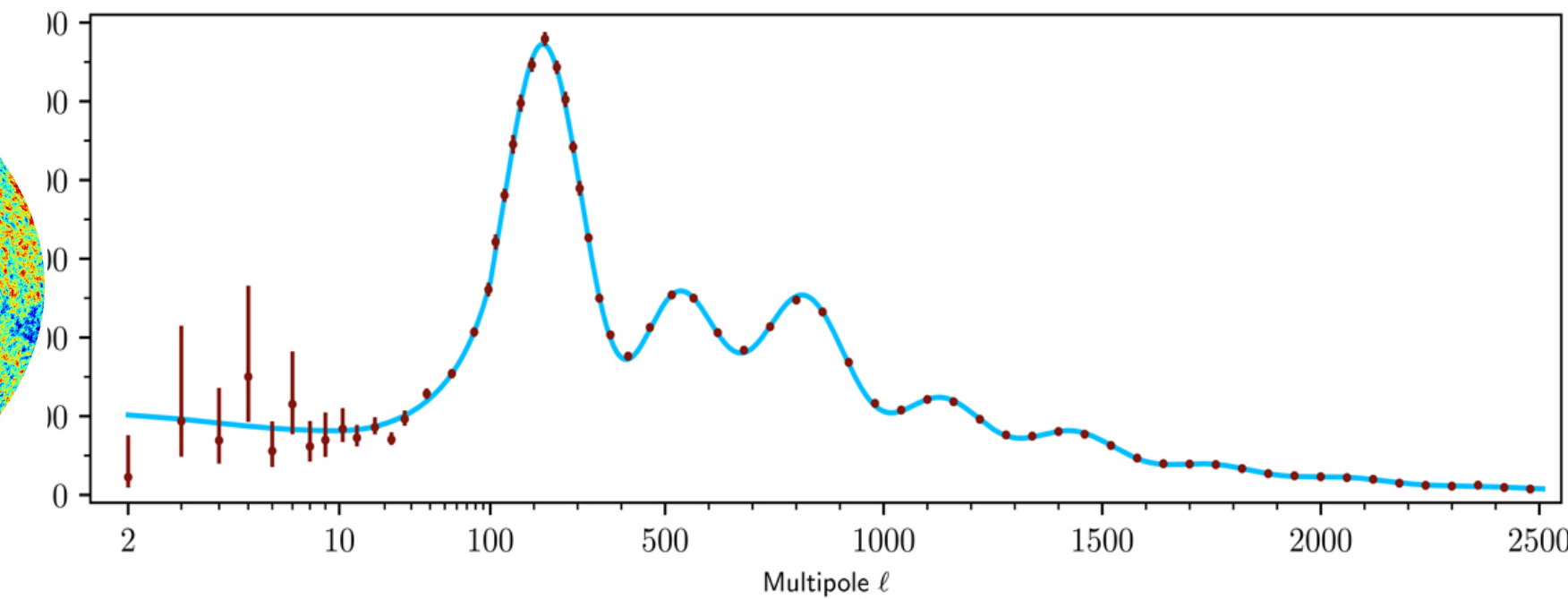
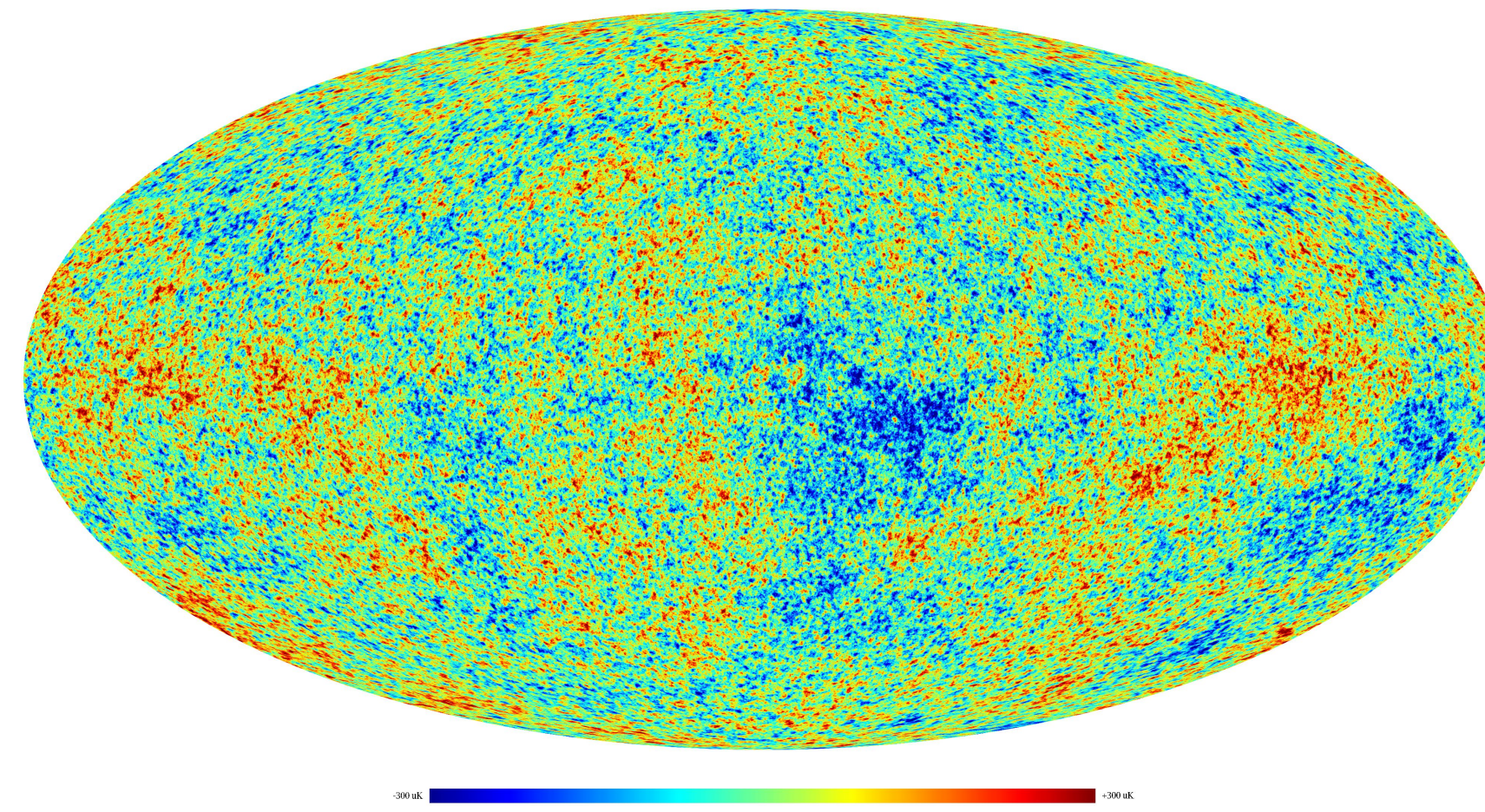
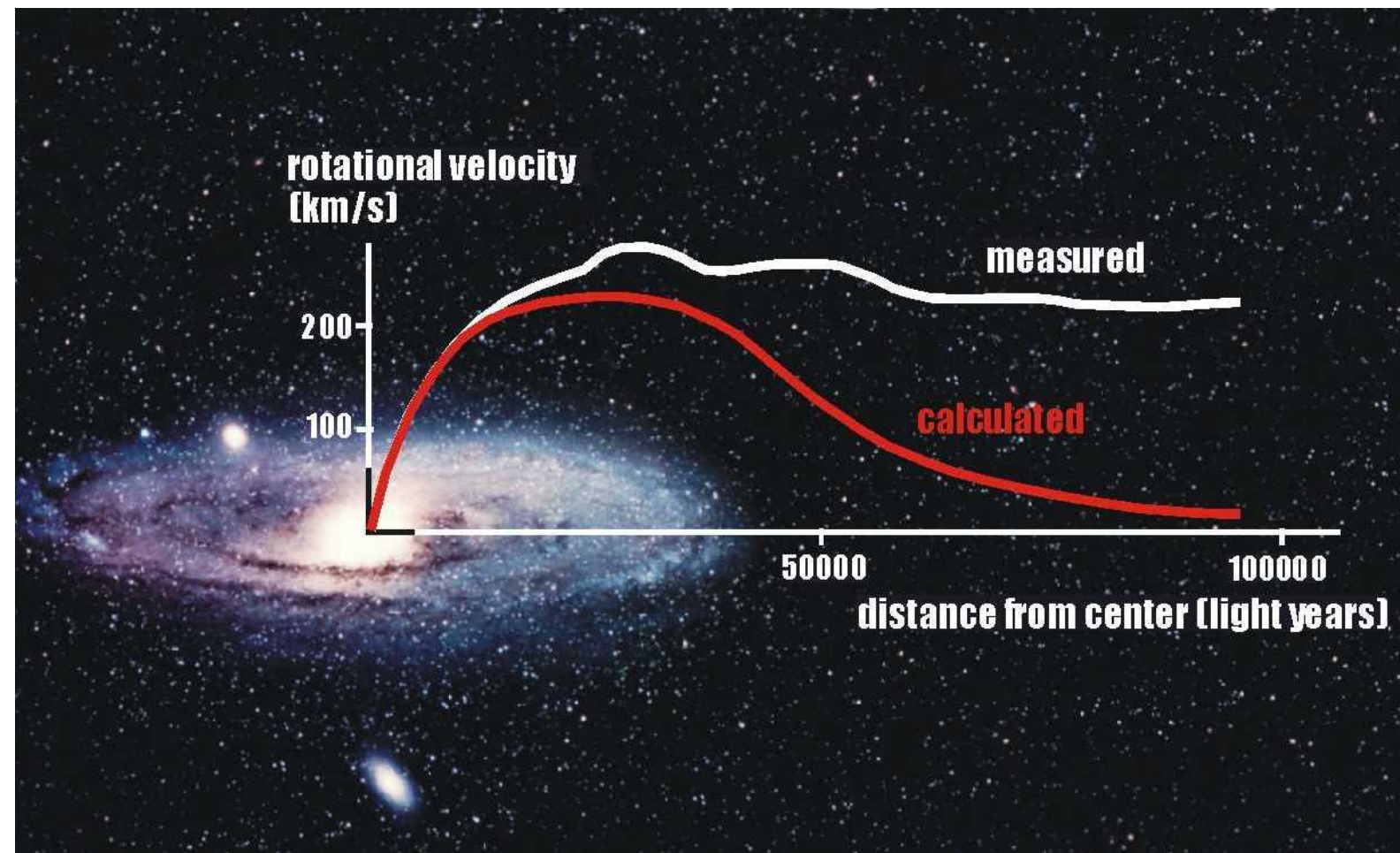
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Dark Matter



Planck collaboration, *Astron. Astrophys.* 641, A1 (2020)



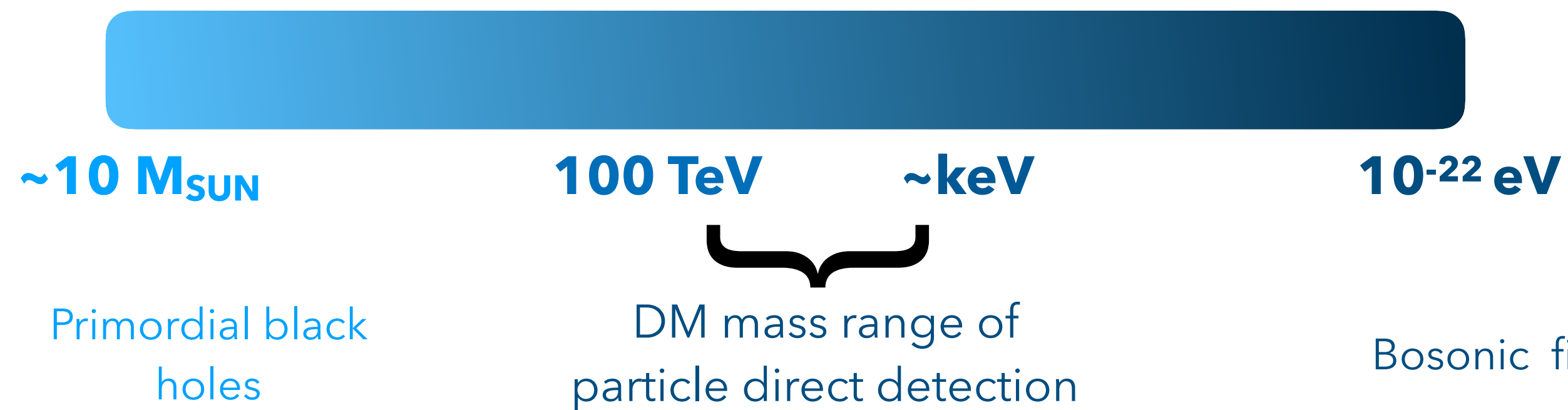
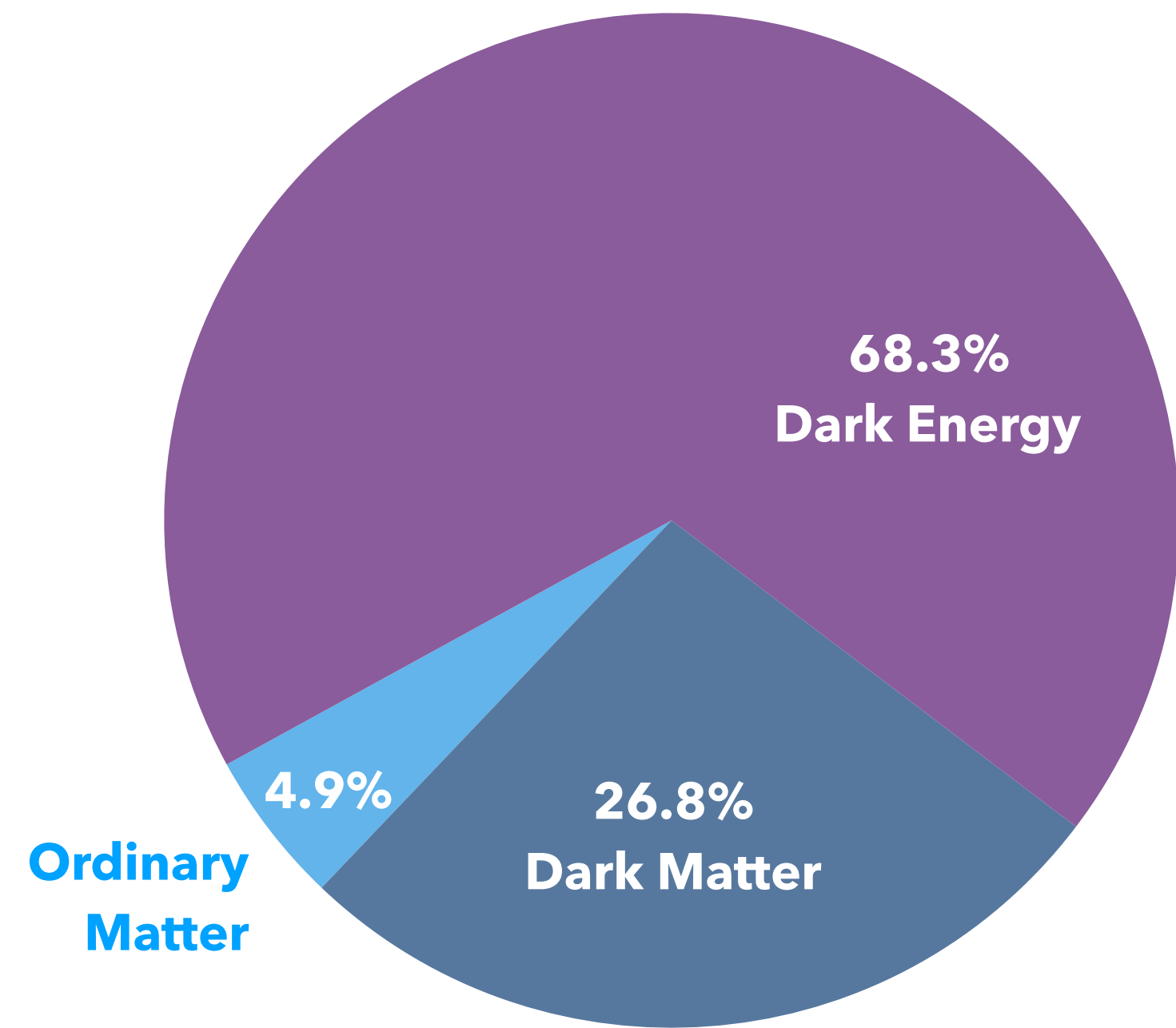
Abell 520, Chandra (x-ray green), optical (red, green) Hubble, DM core (blue) - unanchored

All the observational data are from very different eras:

- CMB \sim 350,000 years ago
- Galaxy, Lyman-alpha observations
- Mass measurements from gravitational lensing
- Rotation curves - measurements at smaller scales/masses
- BBN - a completely orthogonal measurement to all the others.

DM is not a single piece of data, but is evident throughout the history of the Universe from a variety of experimental techniques

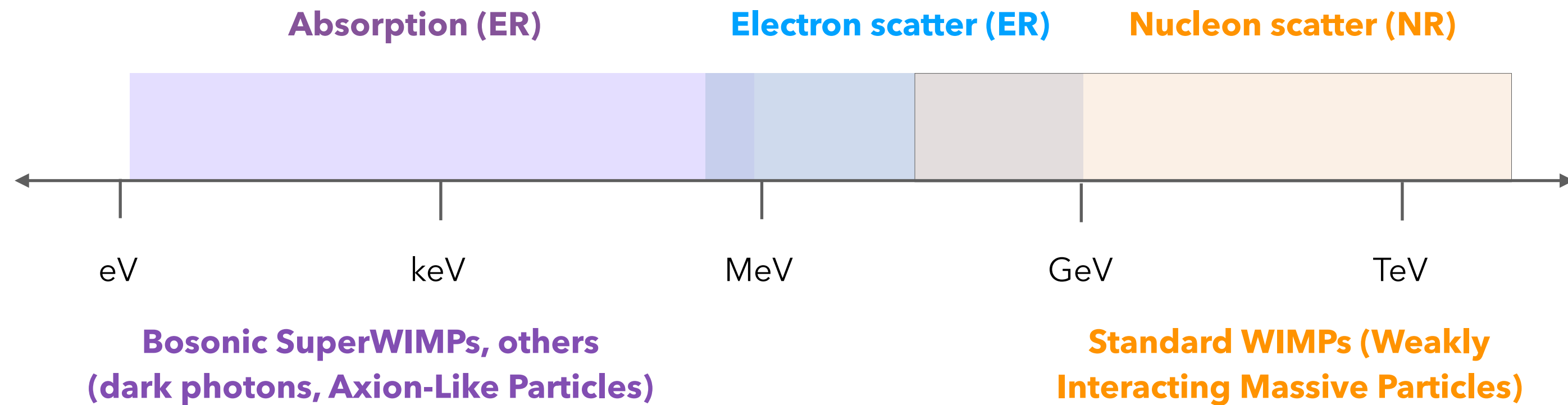
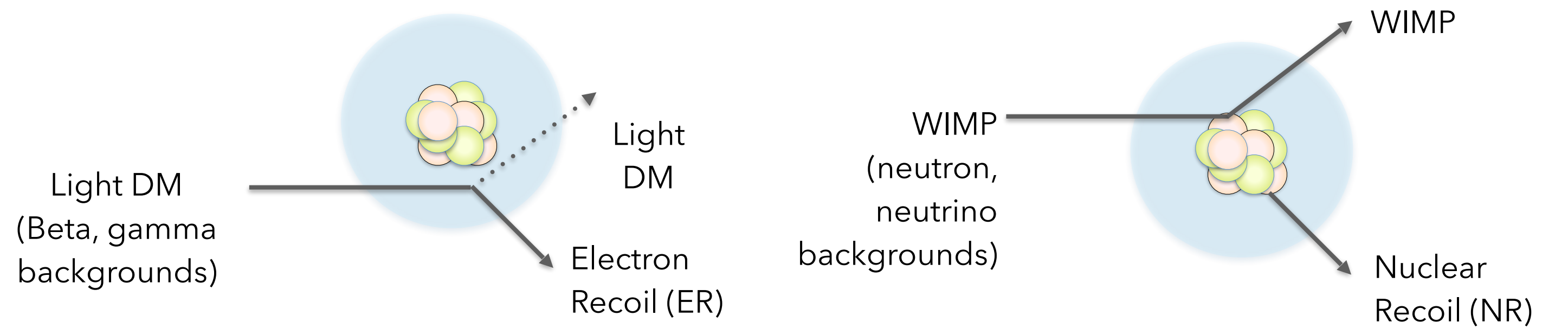
Dark Matter



Nature 562, 51 (2018)

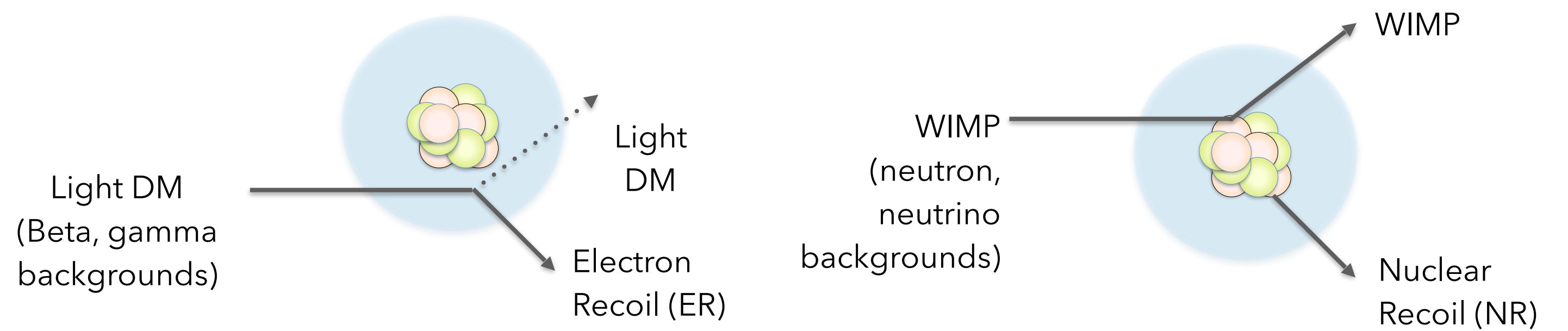
Direct Detection

Searches for interactions between Standard Model particles and dark matter from the Milky Way halo.



Direct Detection

Searches for interactions between Standard Model particles and dark matter from the Milky Way halo.



Scattering example:
WIMPs (NR)

$$m_\chi = m_N = 100 \text{ GeV} \cdot c^{-2}$$

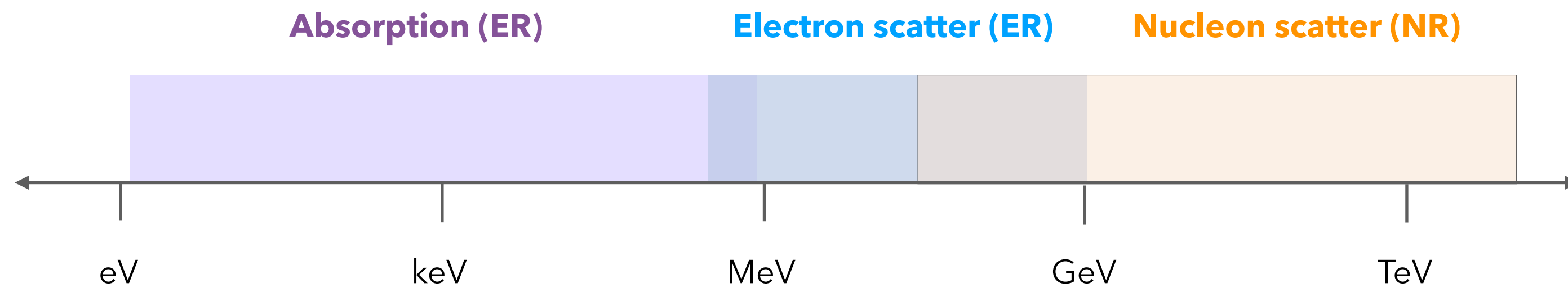
$$v \approx 220 \text{ km s}^{-1} = 0.75 \times 10^{-3} c$$

where v = mean WIMP velocity relative to target (stationary halo)

$$\langle E_R \rangle = E_0 = \frac{1}{2} m_\chi v^2$$

$$\langle E_R \rangle \approx 30 \text{ keV}$$

=> mean recoil energy deposited in a detector



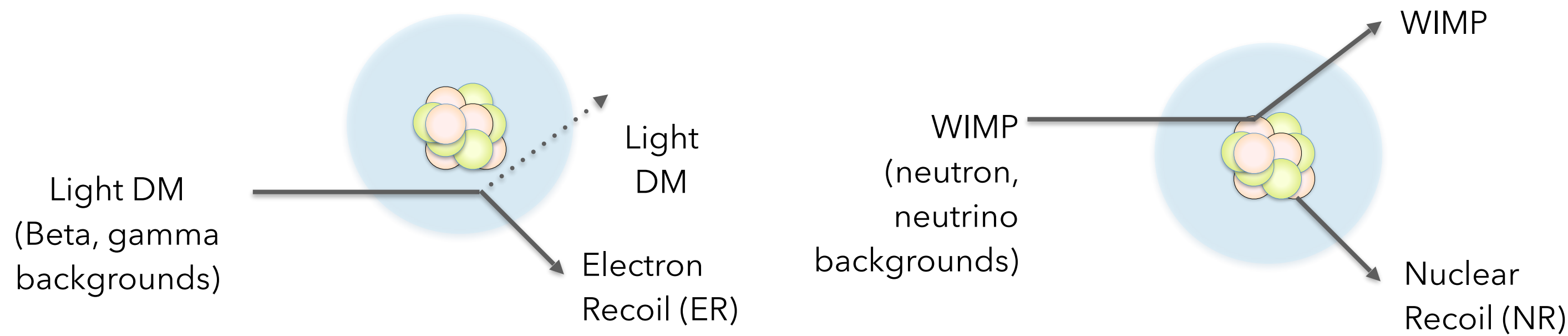
Bosonic SuperWIMPs, others
(dark photons, Axion-Like Particles)

Standard WIMPs (Weakly Interacting Massive Particles)

WIMP masses in the range of 10 - 1000 GeV c^{-2} typically yield recoil energies of 1 - 100 keV_{NR}.

Direct Detection

Searches for interactions between Standard Model particles and dark matter from the Milky Way halo.

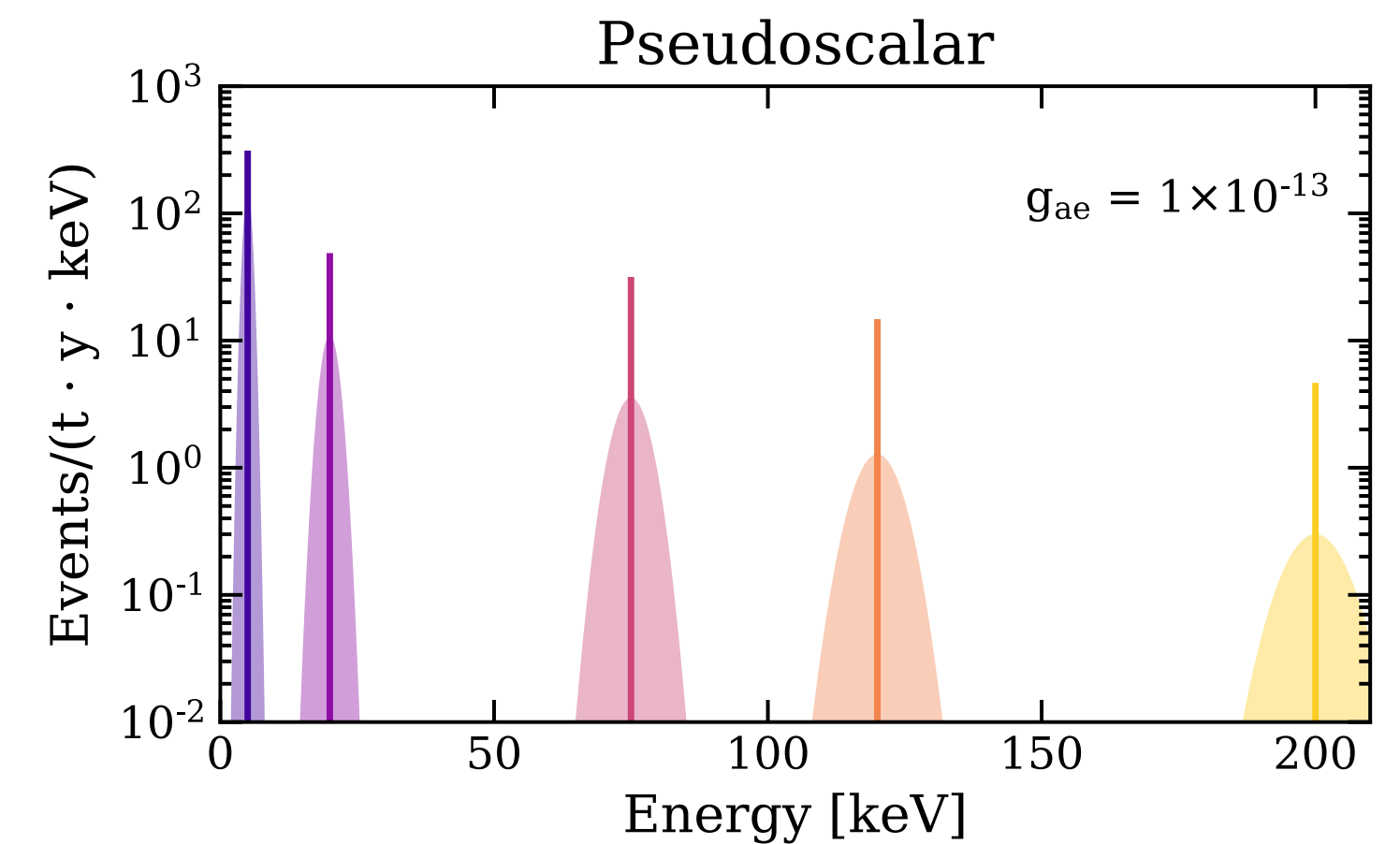
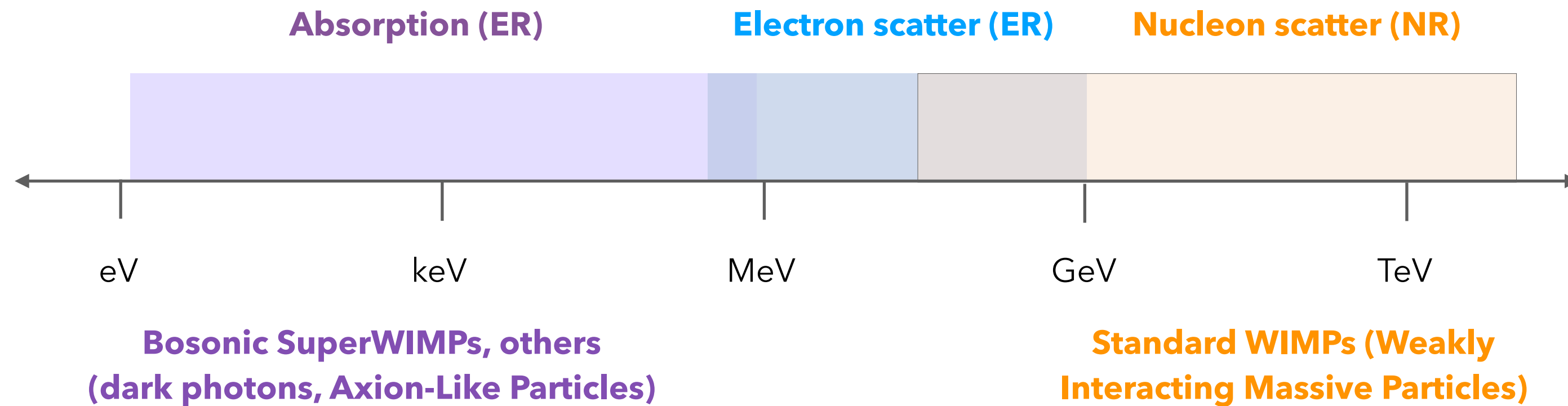


**Absorption example:
Axion-Like Particles (ER)**

Detection via axioelectric effect

$$\sigma_{ae} = \sigma_{pe} \frac{g_{ae}^2}{\beta} \frac{3E_a^2}{16\pi\alpha m_e^2} \left(1 - \frac{\beta^{2/3}}{3}\right)$$

Energy deposition is the particle rest mass (nonrelativistic)



Expected event rates

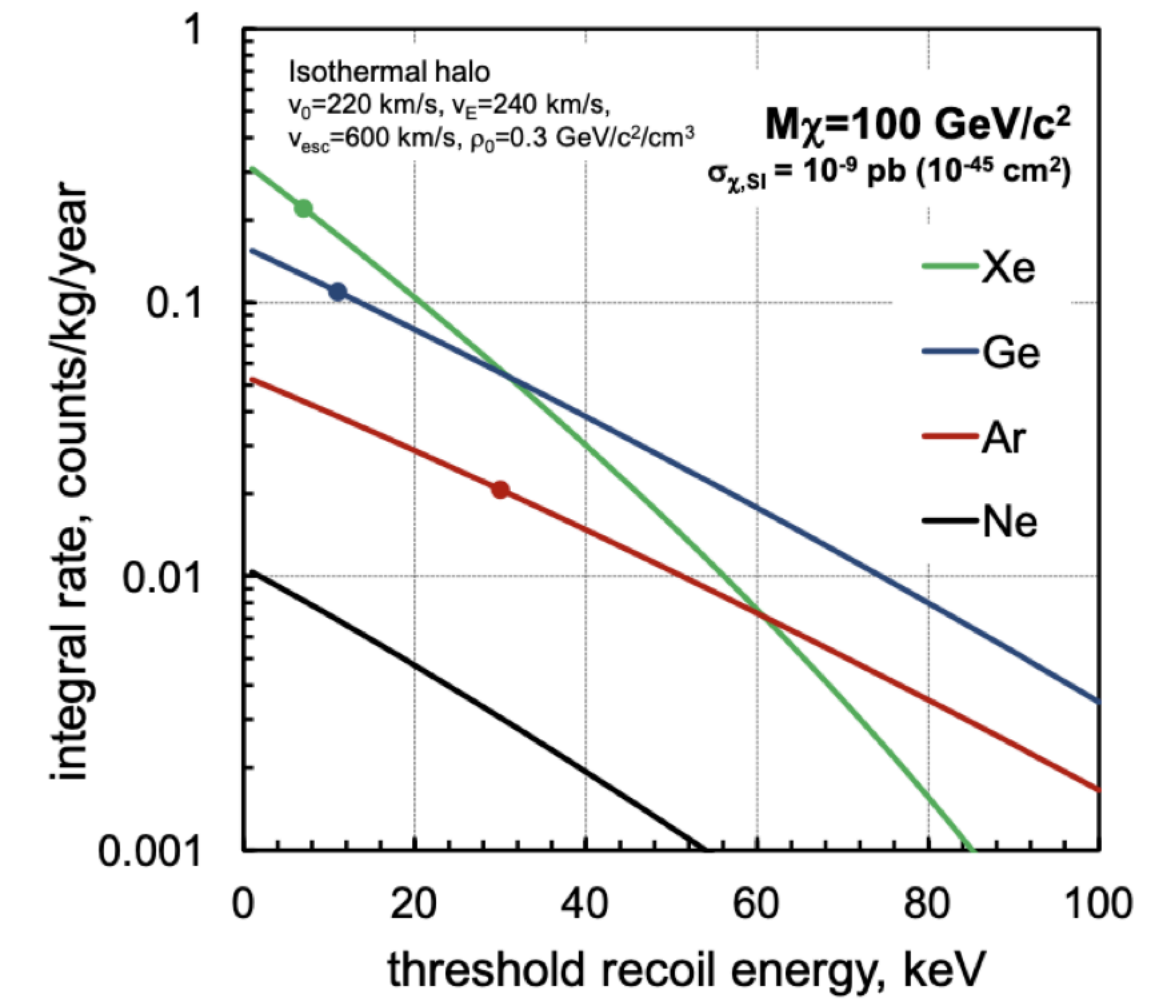
Differential event rate

$$\frac{dR}{dE_r} = \underbrace{MT}_{\text{Detector}} \times \underbrace{\frac{\rho_0 \sigma_0}{2m_X m_N^2}}_{\text{Nuclear and particle physics - mass, cross section, form factors}} \underbrace{F^2(E_r)}_{\text{Nuclear and particle physics - mass, cross section, form factors}} \int_{\underbrace{v_{min}}_{\text{Astrophysics - DM local density and distribution}}} \underbrace{\frac{f(v)}{v}}_{\text{Astrophysics - DM local density and distribution}} d^3v$$

Detector
target material, exposure and response

Nuclear and particle physics -
mass, cross section, form factors

Astrophysics - DM local
density and distribution



V. Chepel and H. Araujo, Journal of Instrumentation 8(04), R04001 (2013)

Expected event rates

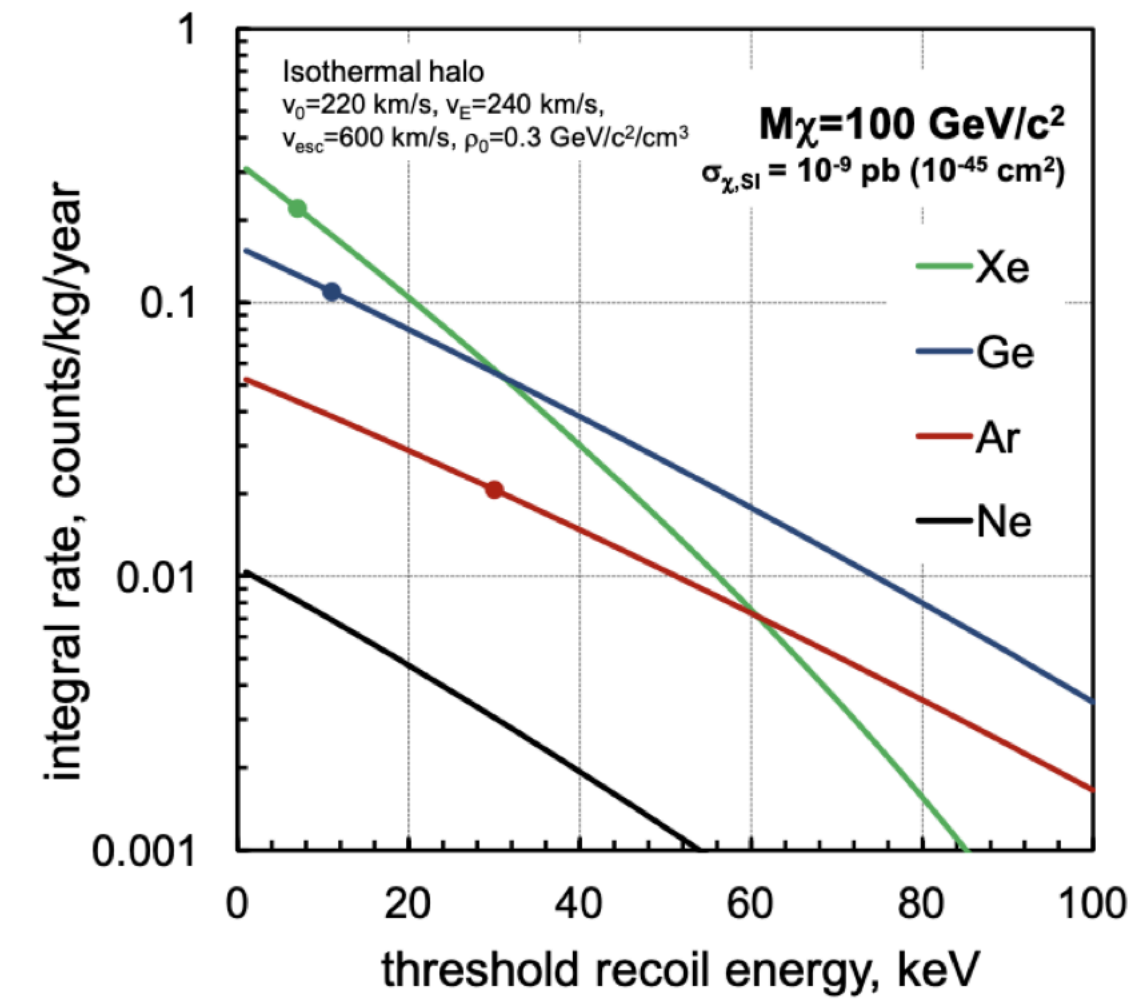
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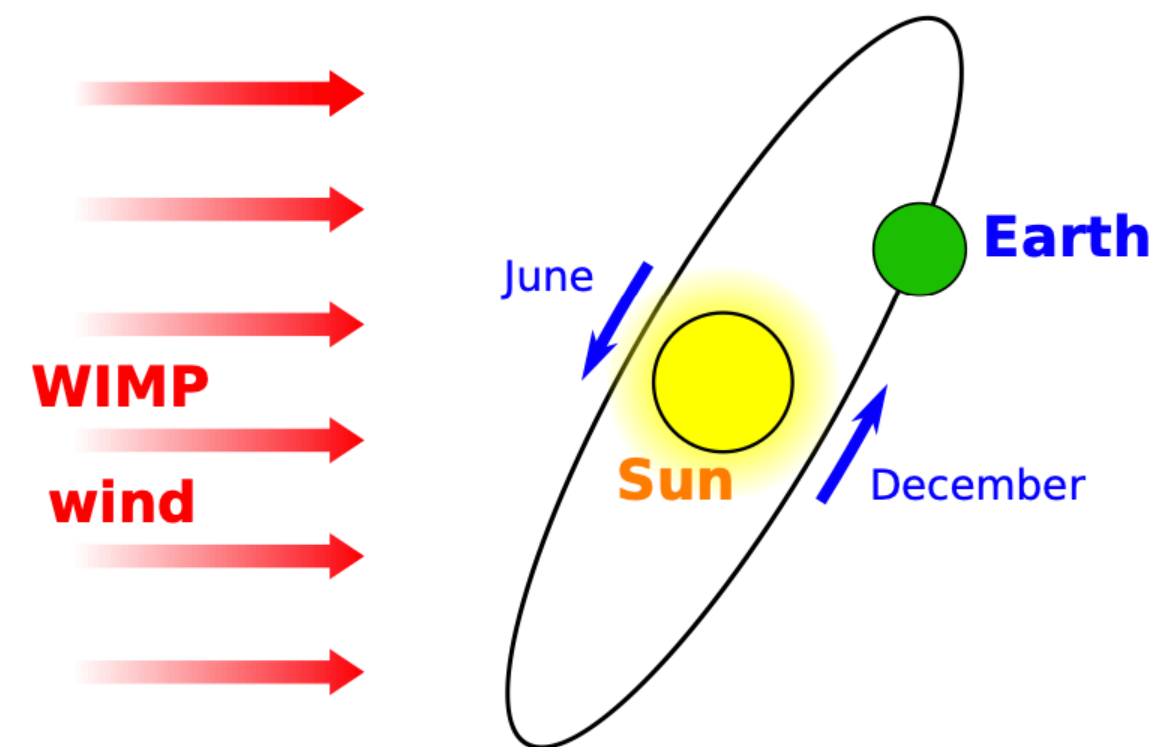


V. Chepel and H. Araújo, Journal of Instrumentation 8(04), R04001 (2013)

Annual modulation

$$\frac{dR}{dE_r}(E_r, t) \approx \frac{dR}{dE_r} \left[1 + \underbrace{\Delta(E_r)}_{\text{Modulation amplitude}} \cos \frac{2\pi(t - t_0)}{T} \right]$$

$T = 1$ year
 t_0 is phase (max ~June 2)



K. Freese, M. Lisanti and C. Savage, Rev. Mod. Phys. 85, 1561 (2013)

Expected event rates

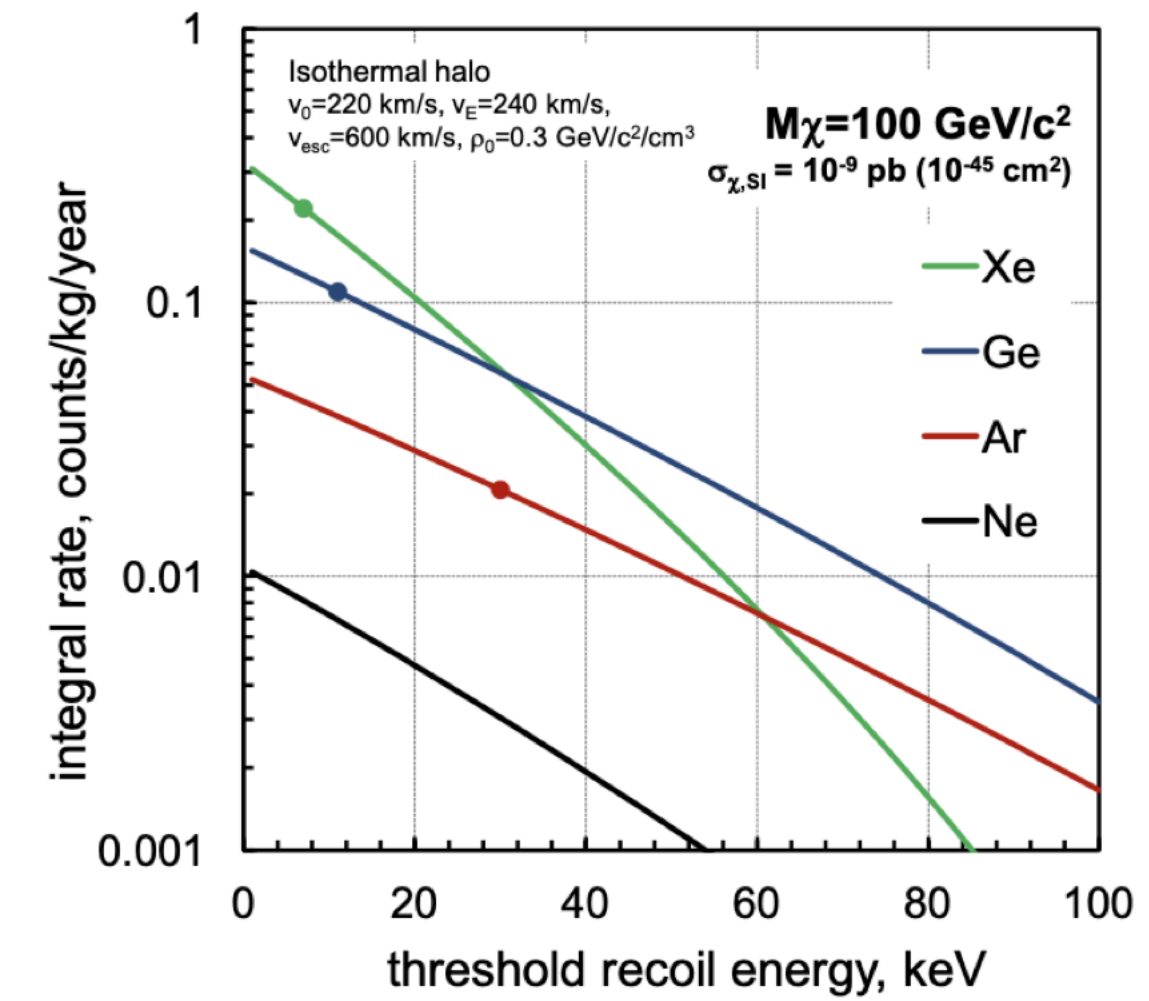
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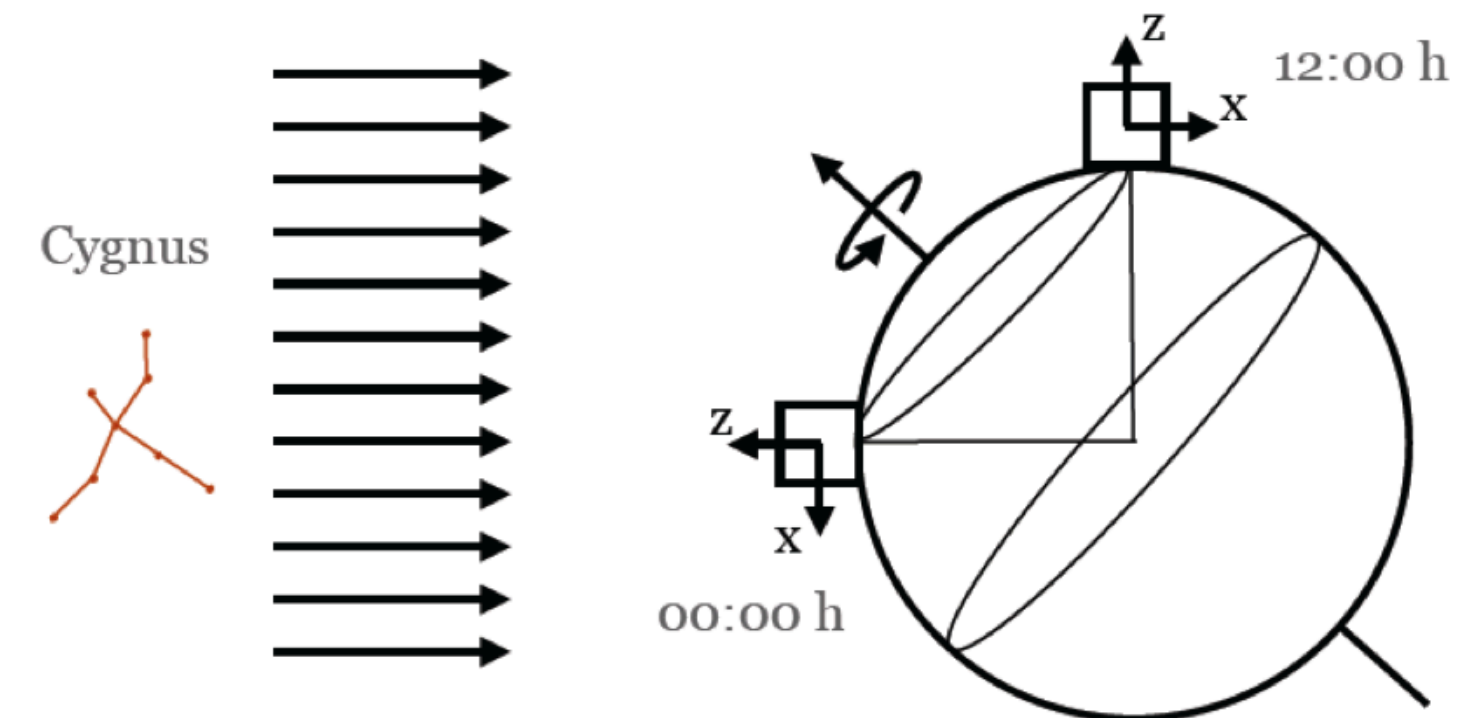
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(+ Directional detection)



R. W. Schnee, Introduction to dark matter experiments, doi:10.1142/9789814327183_0014 (2011)

Interaction cross section vs. mass

**Include cosmological and astrophysical constraints,
interaction kinematics, detector effects**

E_{low} tail of velocity distribution
(minimum velocity to induce a recoil)

$$v_{min} \approx \sqrt{m_N E_R / (2m_\chi^2)}$$

At high energies, recoil spectra ~ indep. of DM mass

$$v_{min} \approx \sqrt{E_R / (2m_N)}$$

Detector dependencies:

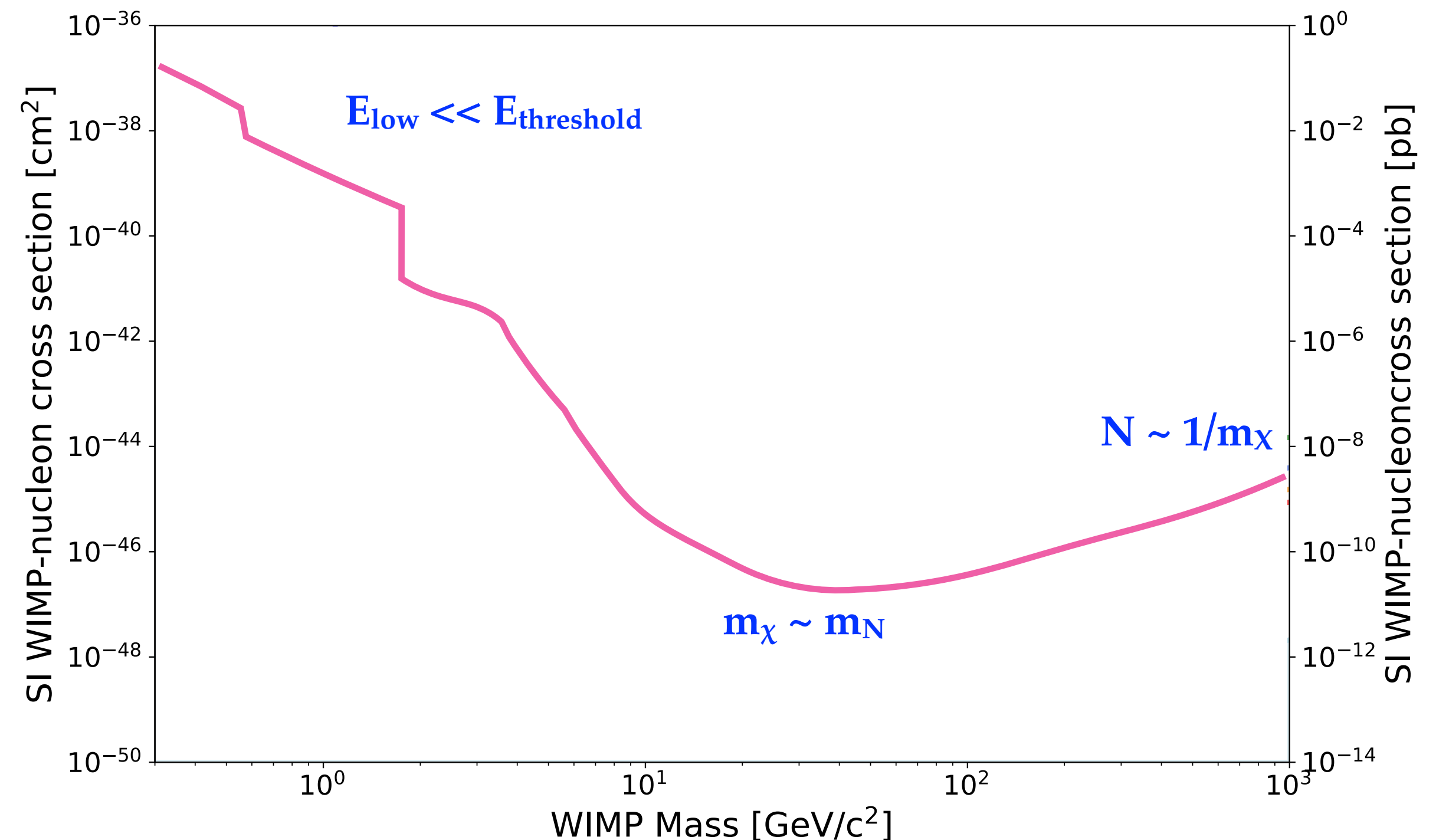
target atom (and detectability of recoil energy)
detector effects (threshold, efficiency, resolution)

Higher sensitivity:

total exposure is detector mass M_N
times observation time (t)

$$T = M_N \times t \text{ [kg days]}$$

NR-WIMP cross section vs mass parameter space



increase exposure
lower detector thresholds
lower backgrounds

Interaction cross section vs. mass

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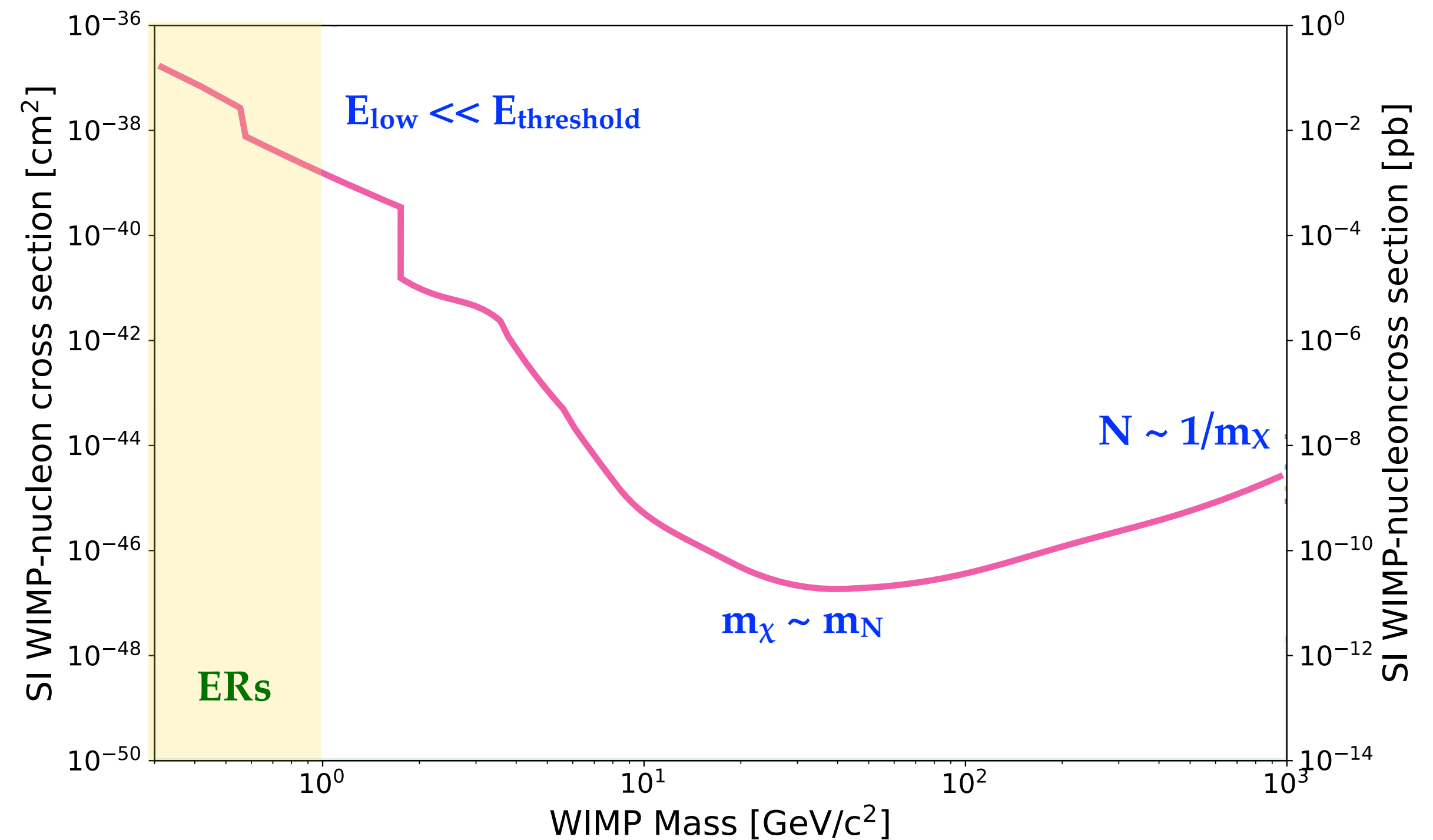
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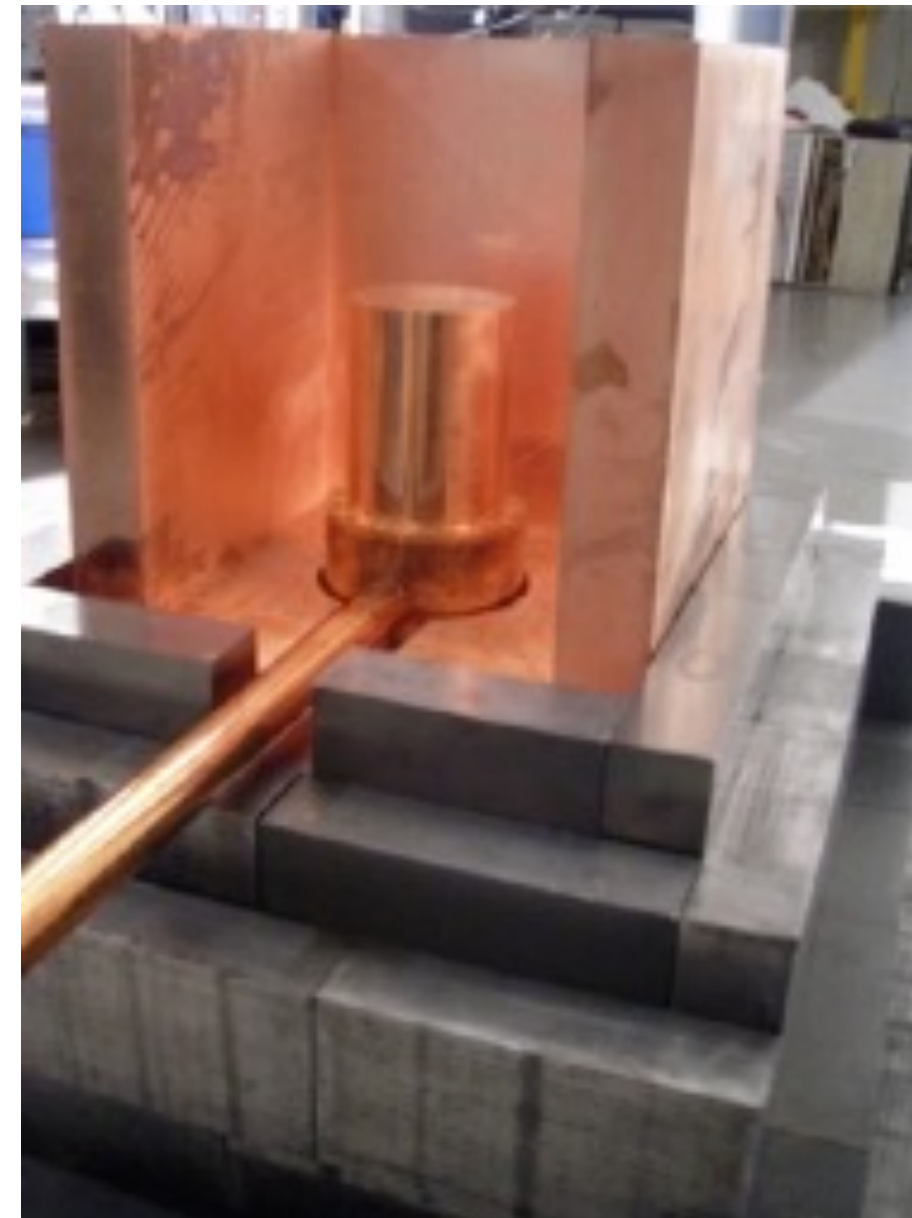
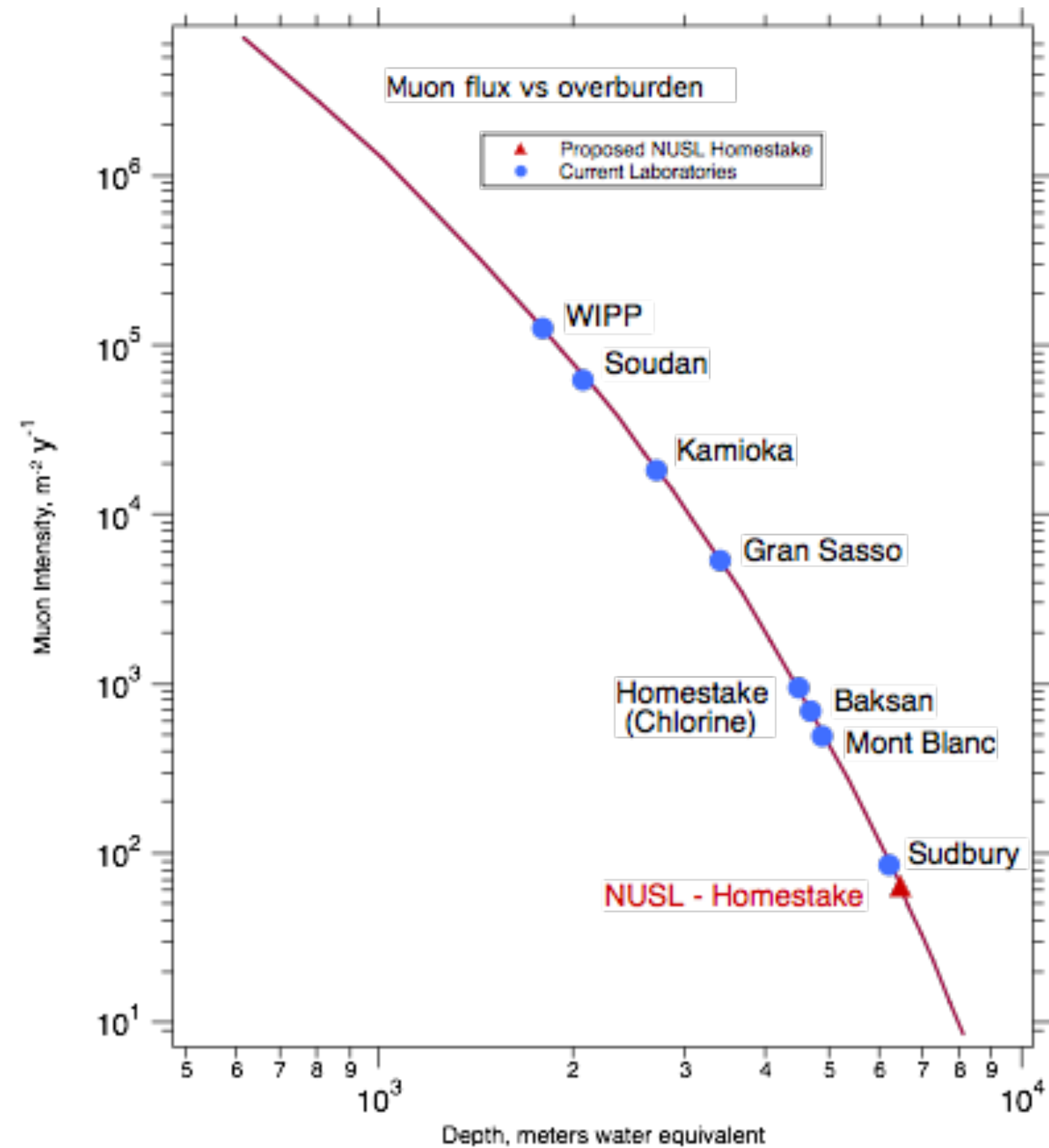
NR-WIMP cross section vs mass parameter space



- increase exposure**
- lower detector thresholds**
- lower backgrounds**

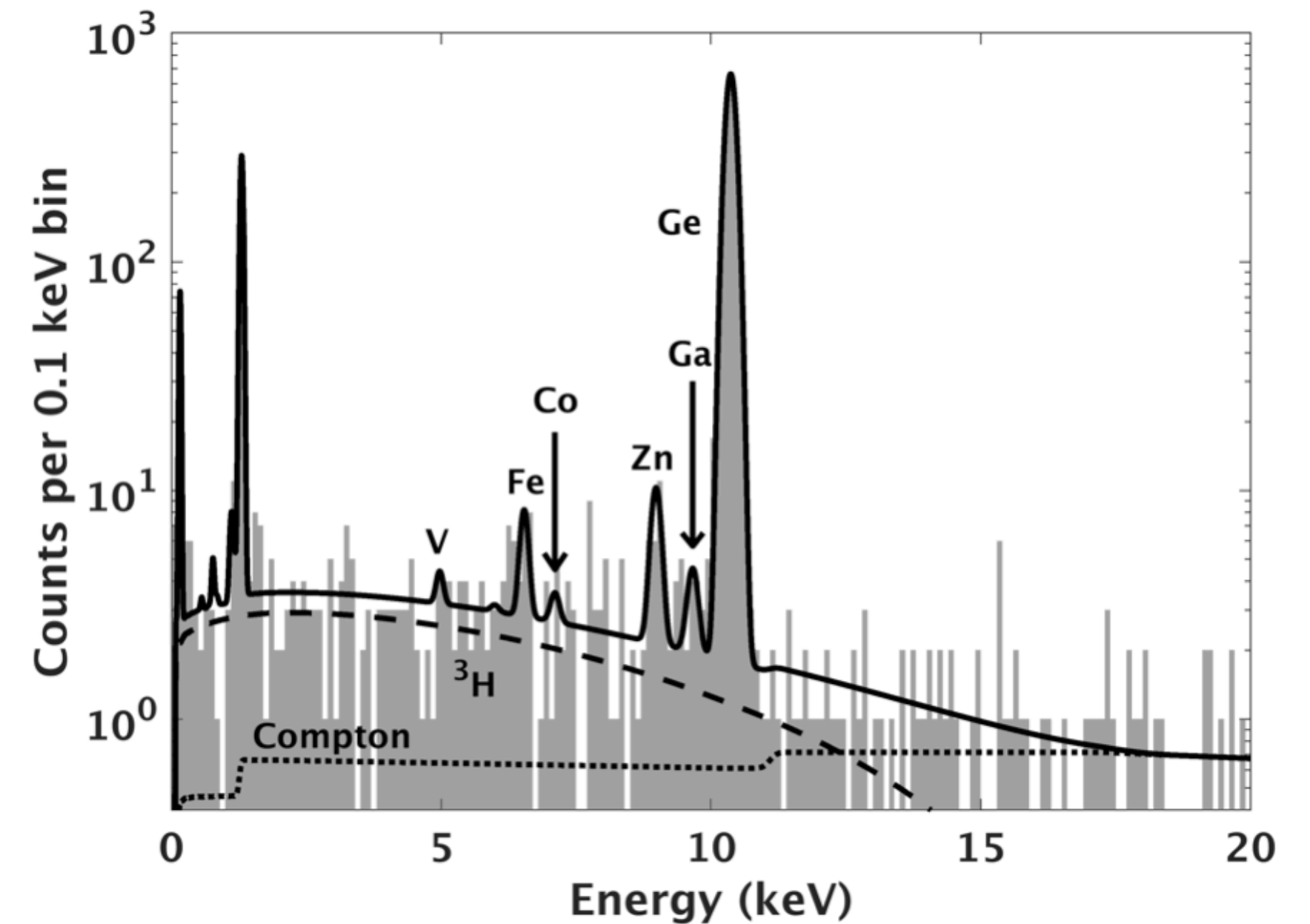
Background suppression

- **Reduce or eliminate:** Underground shielding, secondary shielding, purification and distillation
- **Model and predict:** Materials radioassay, Monte Carlo (GEANT4, ACTIVIA, other) simulations, other constraints (e.g. RGMS)
- **Cut or discriminate:** Fiducialization, active vetos, particle ID via e.g. quenching, pulse shape discrimination, etc.



Gator low-background counting facility underground at LNGS - high purity germanium detector in cryostat (central cylinder)

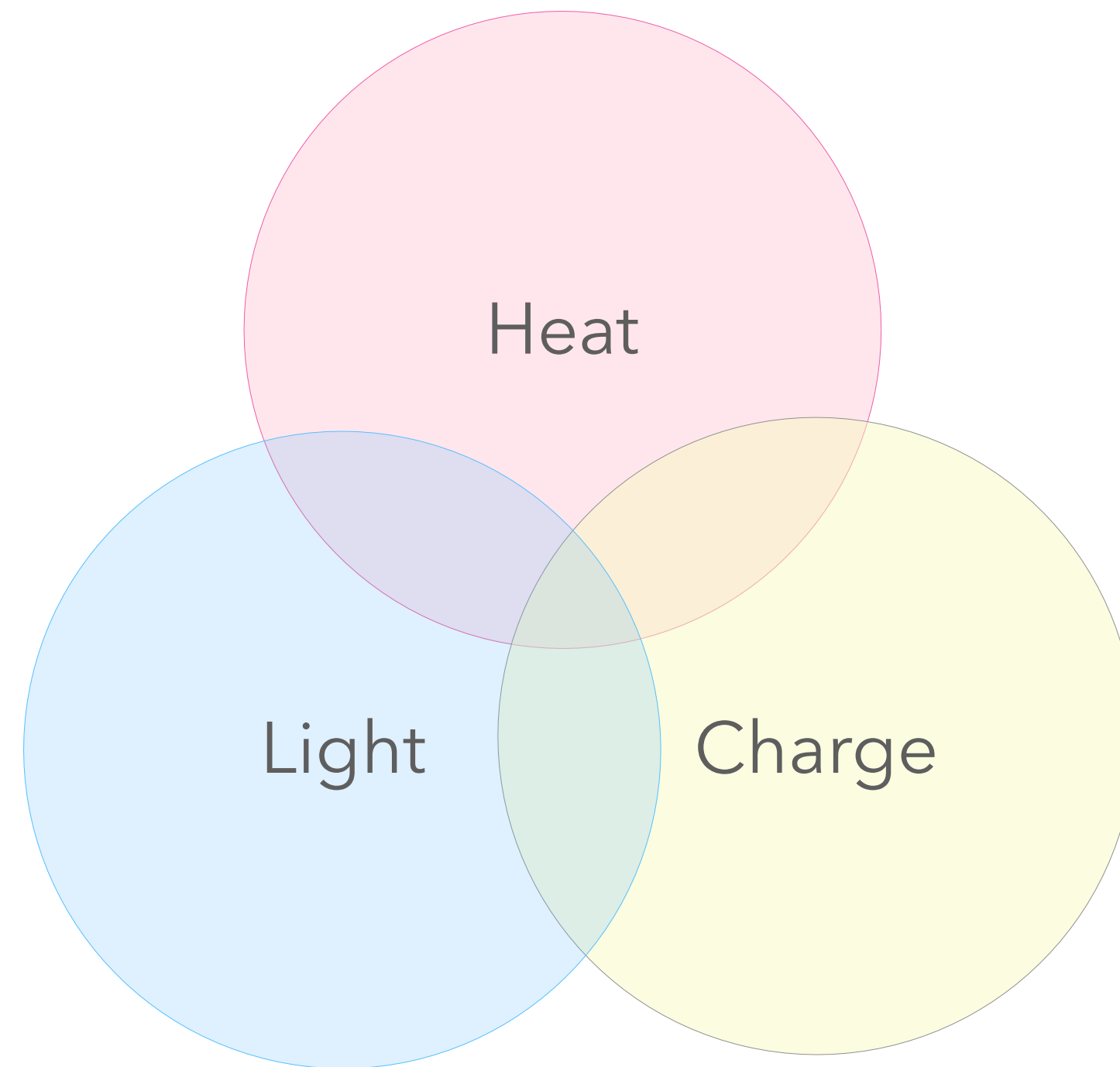
Materials database (Persephone):
<https://www.radiopurity.org>



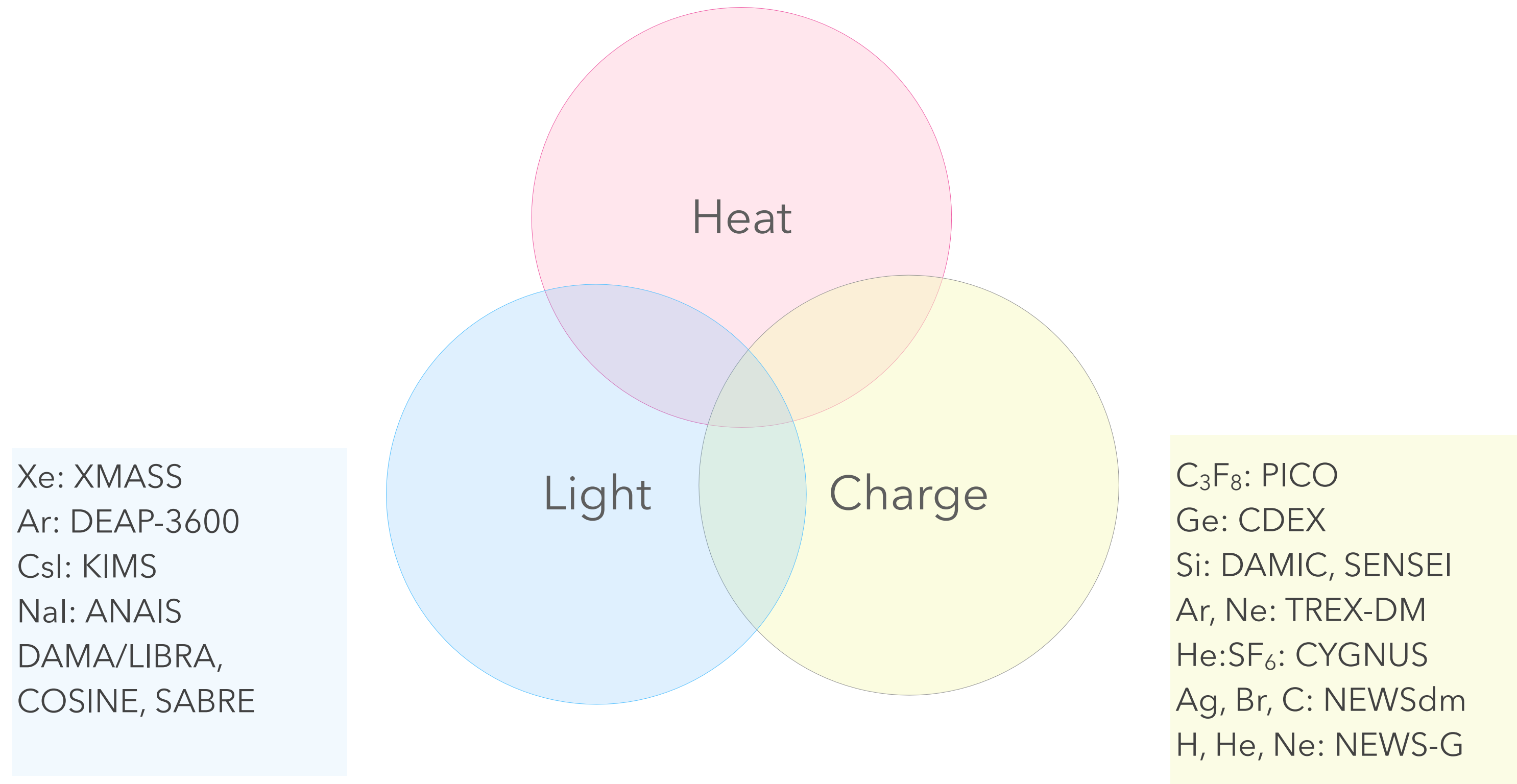
Maximum likelihood fit to extract tritium background in germanium detector (CDMSlite)

R. Agnese et al. (SuperCDMS Collaboration),
Astropart. Phys., 104 (2019)

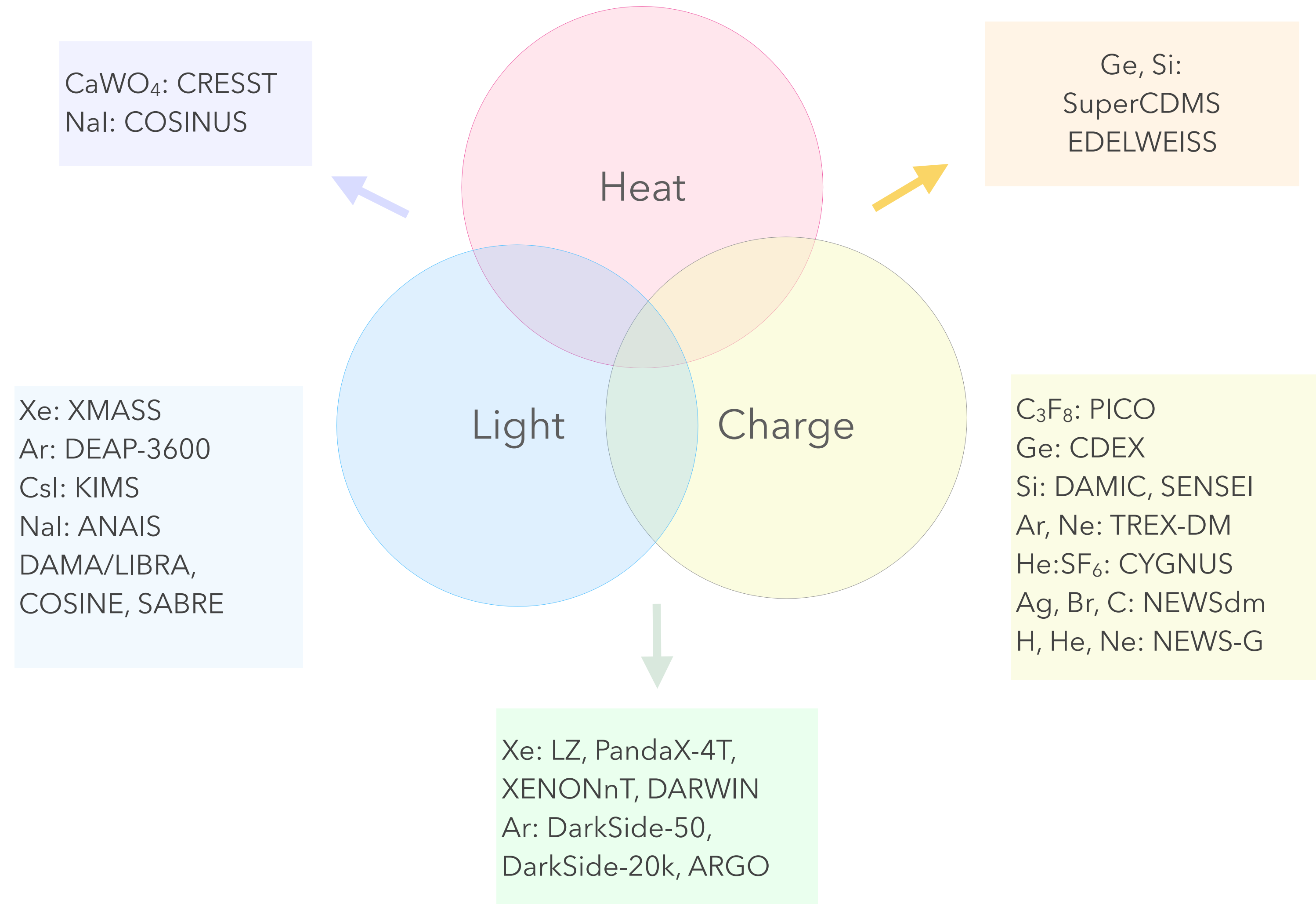
Detection channels and experiments



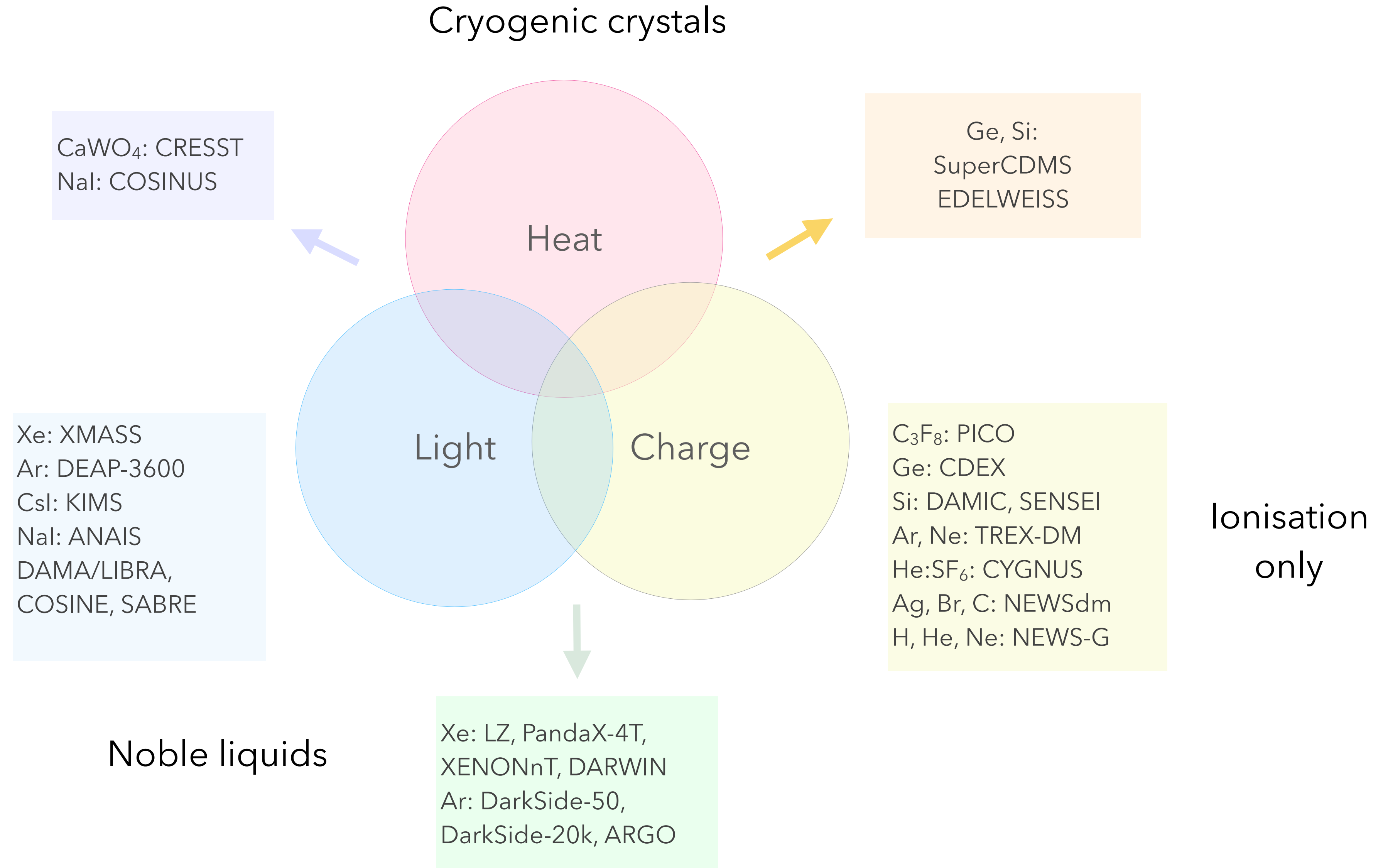
Detection channels and experiments



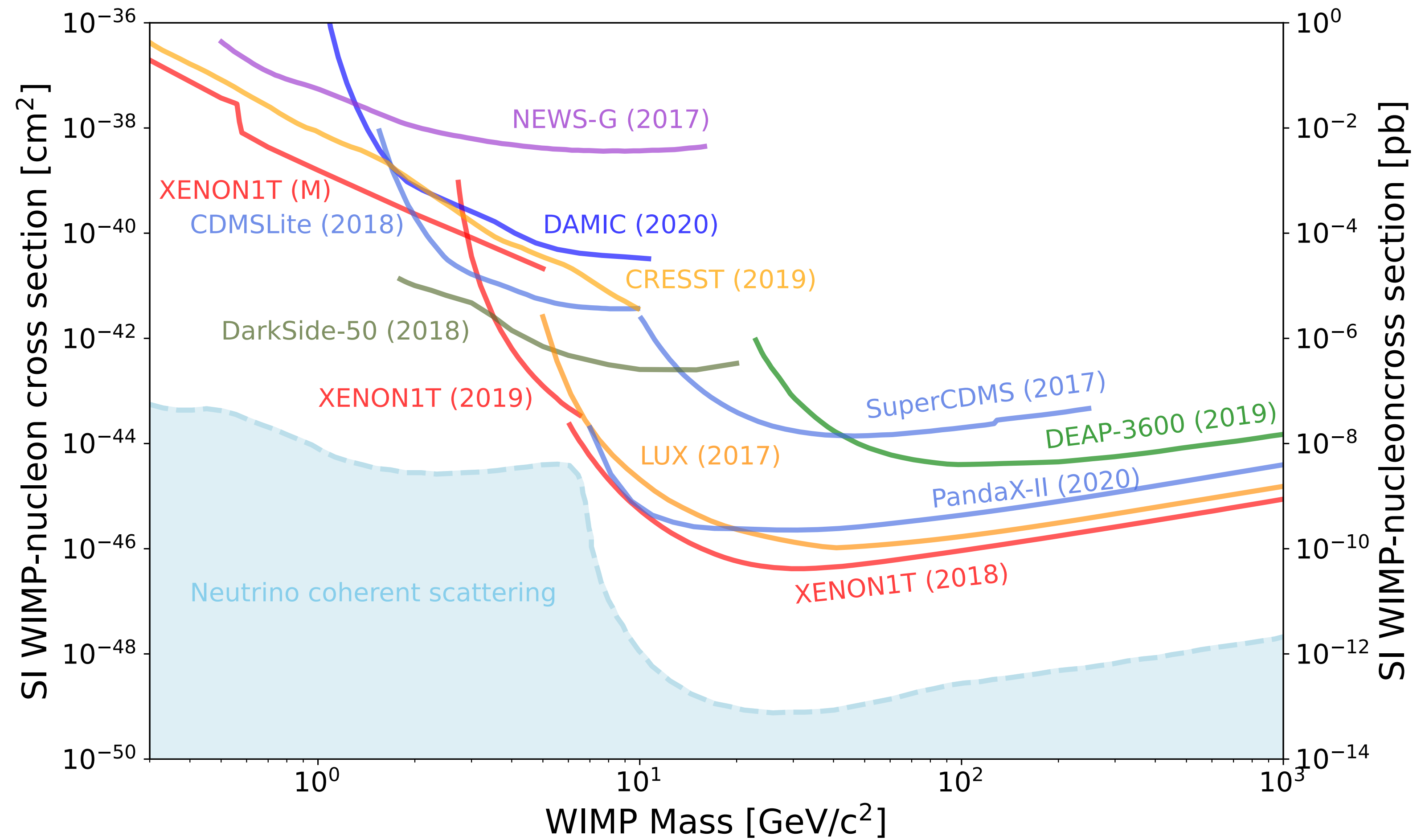
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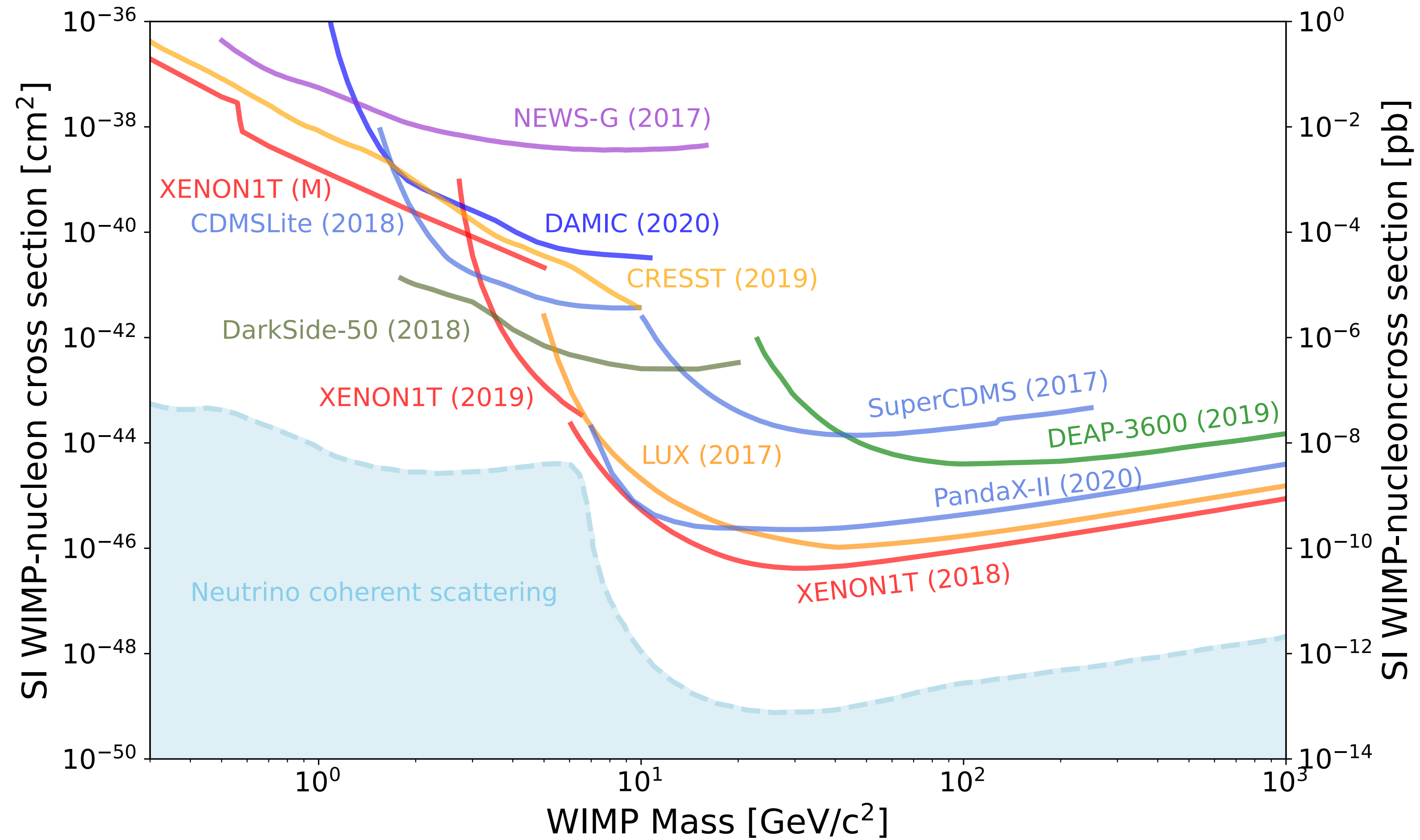
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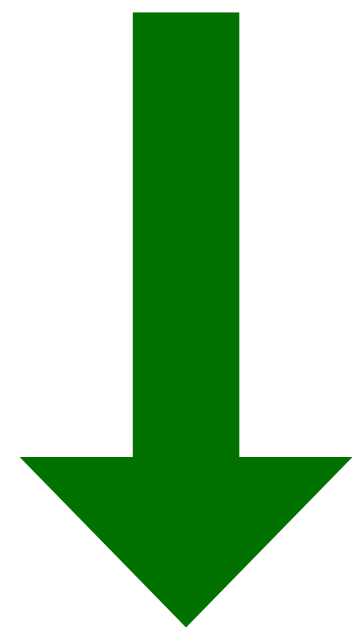
WIMP direct detection landscape



WIMP direct detection landscape



Bolometers, CCDs, new technologies

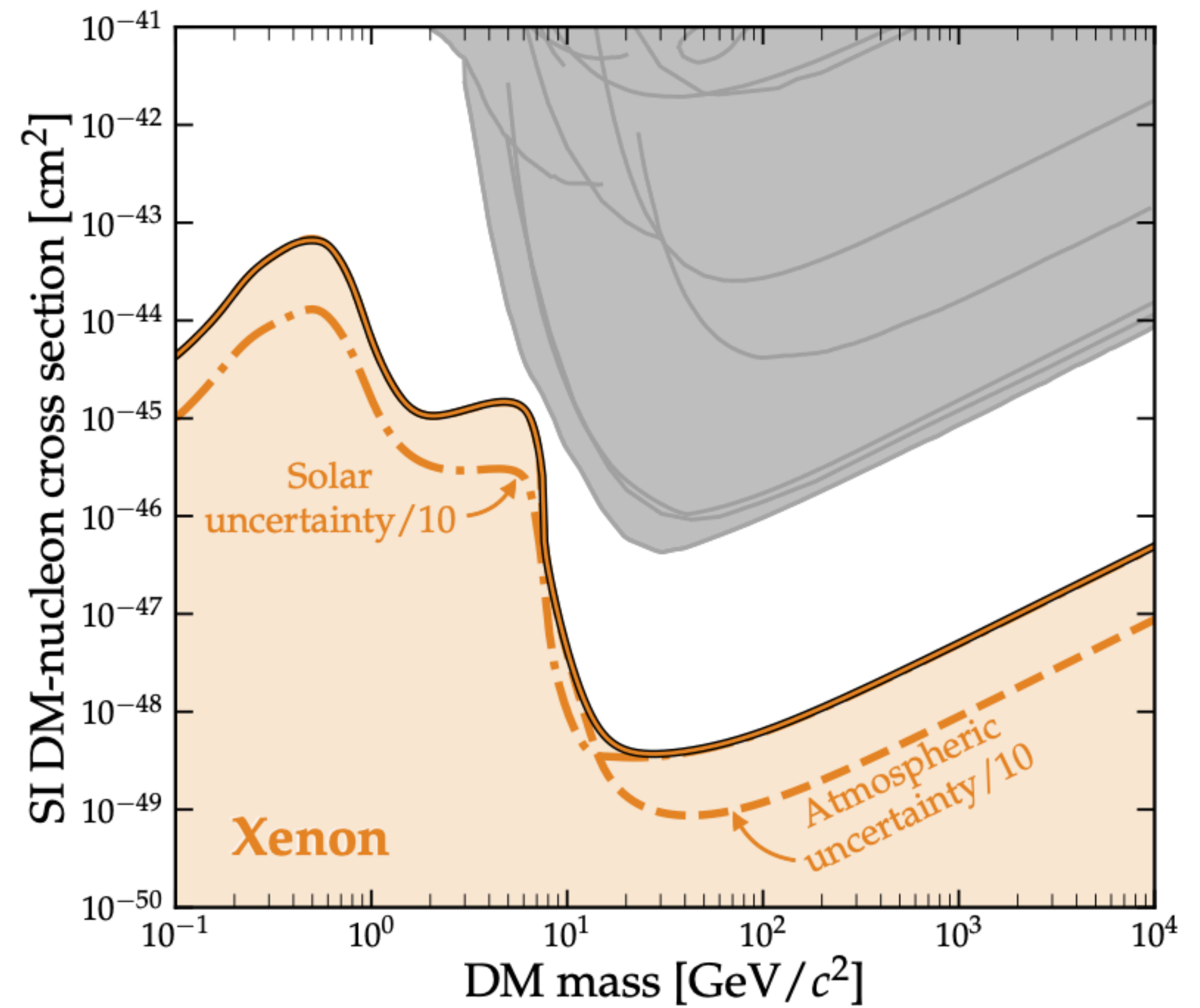
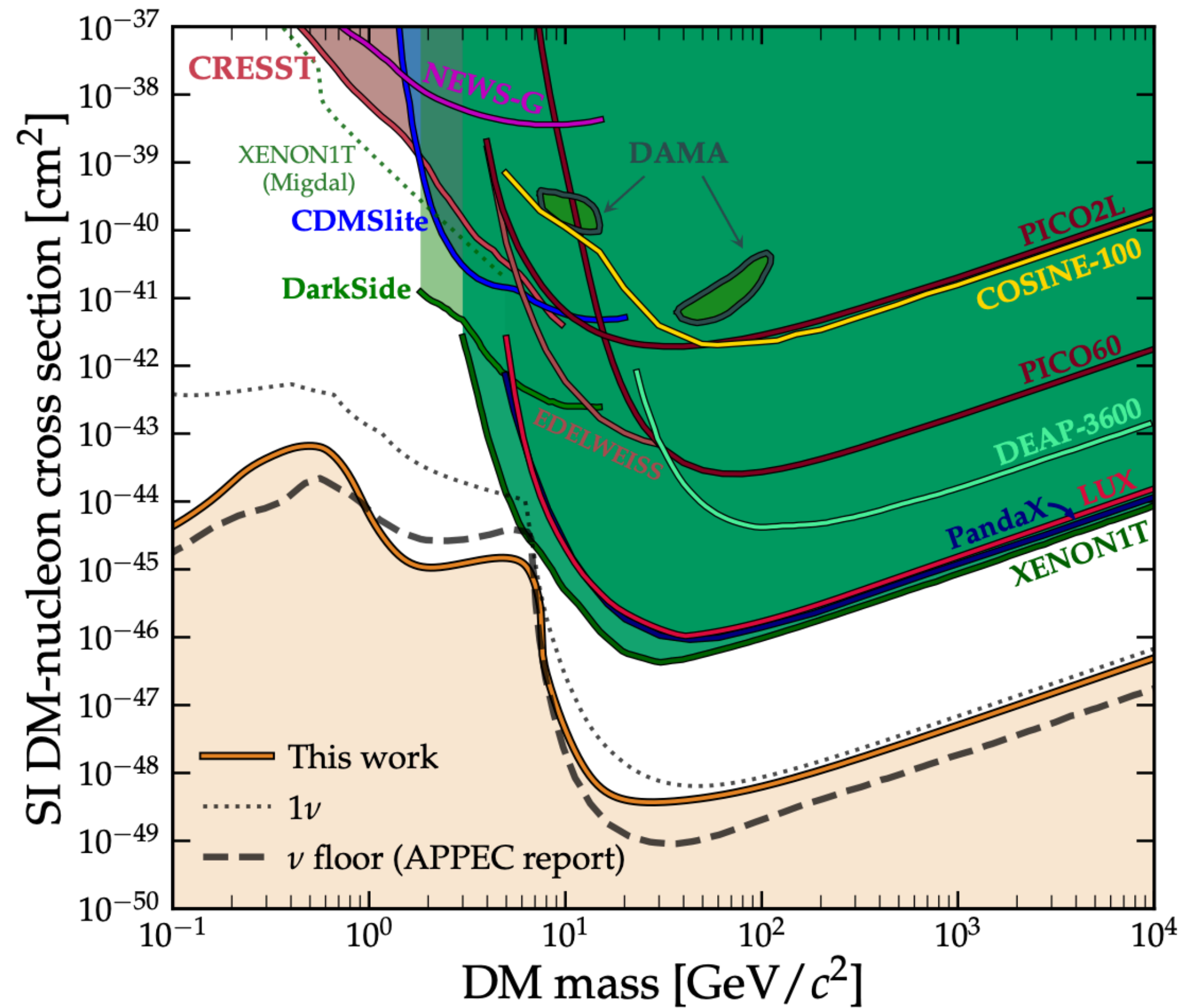


Noble liquids



Neutrino backgrounds

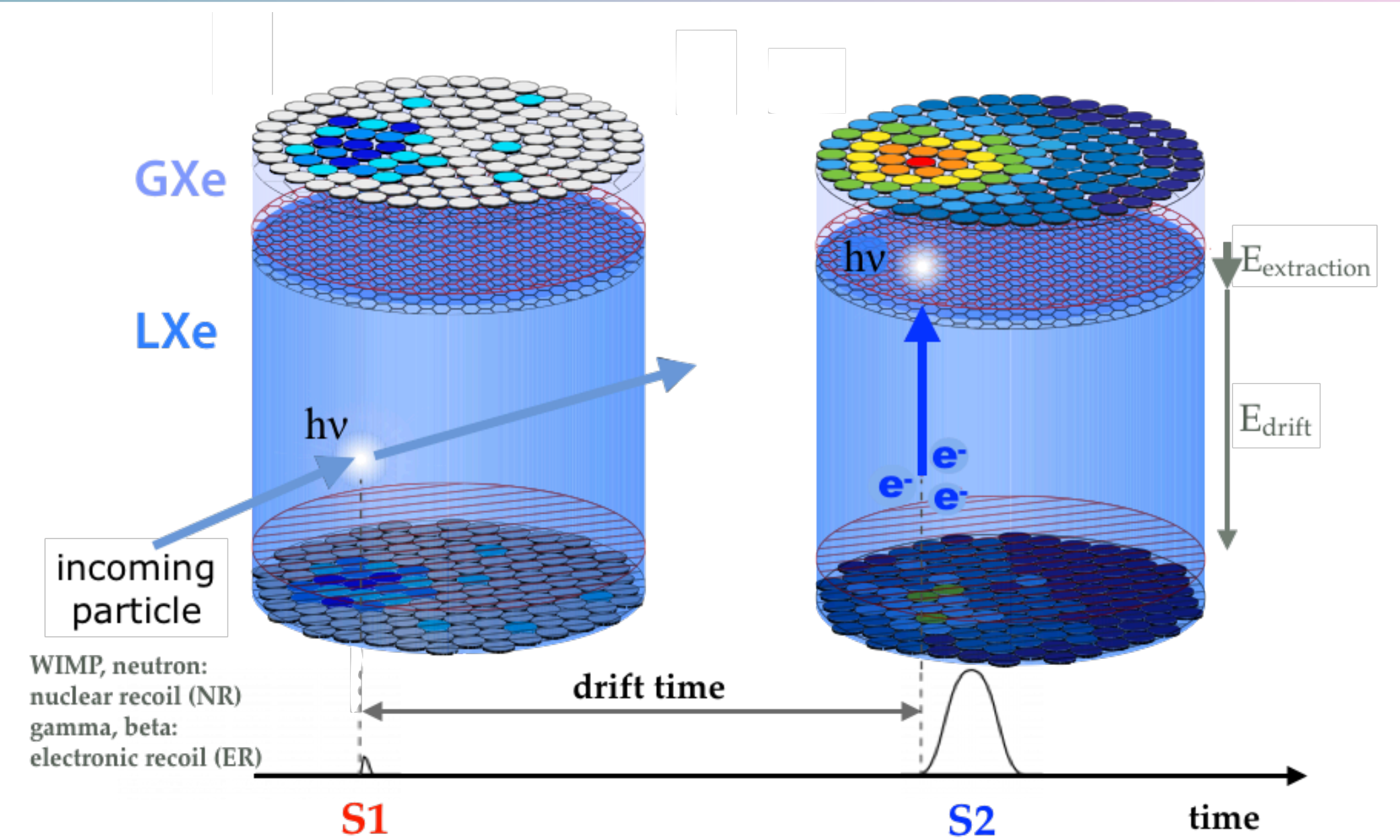
Fog on the horizon



Noble liquids

GeV to TeV DM masses

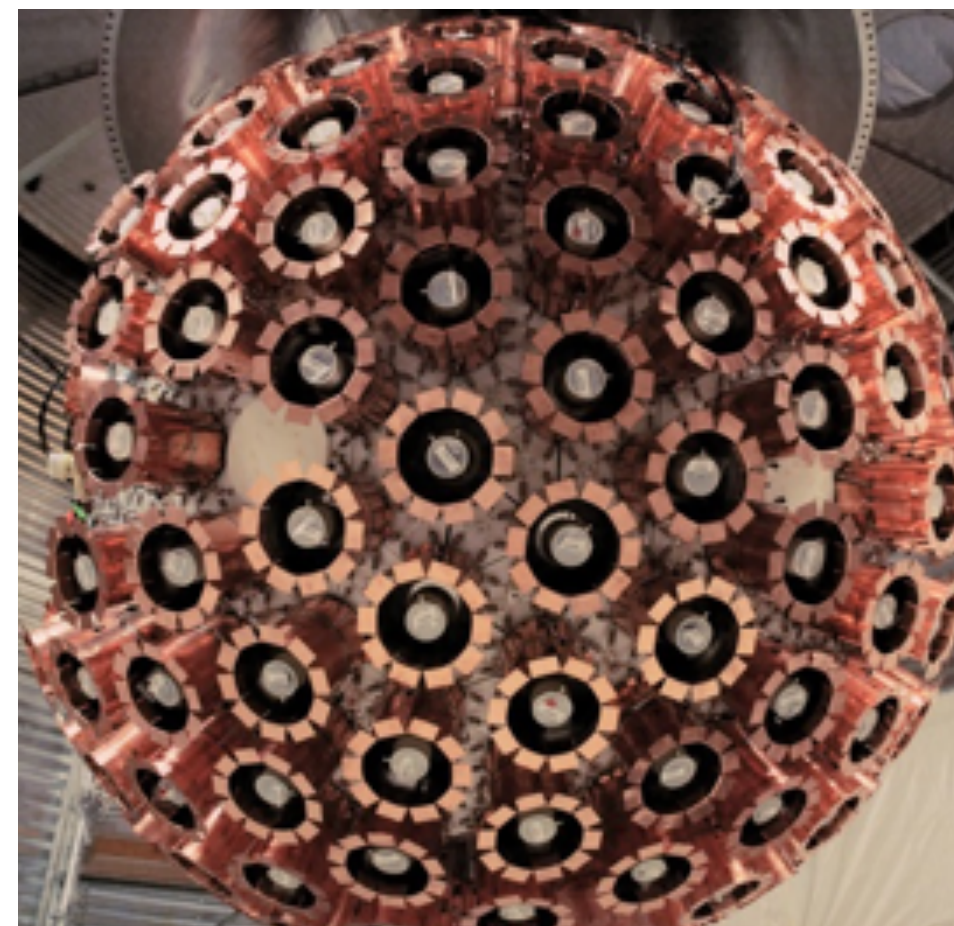
- High atomic number & high density (stopping power, self-shielding, position resolution)
- Can be easily liquified (-100 C) and purified
- Large detector masses feasible due to scalability
- Ar: pulse shape discrimination based on scintillation decay times
- Ar, Xe: Time Projection Chambers discriminate using light + charge
- May see market limits (Xe) and requires large amounts (Ar), stored underground



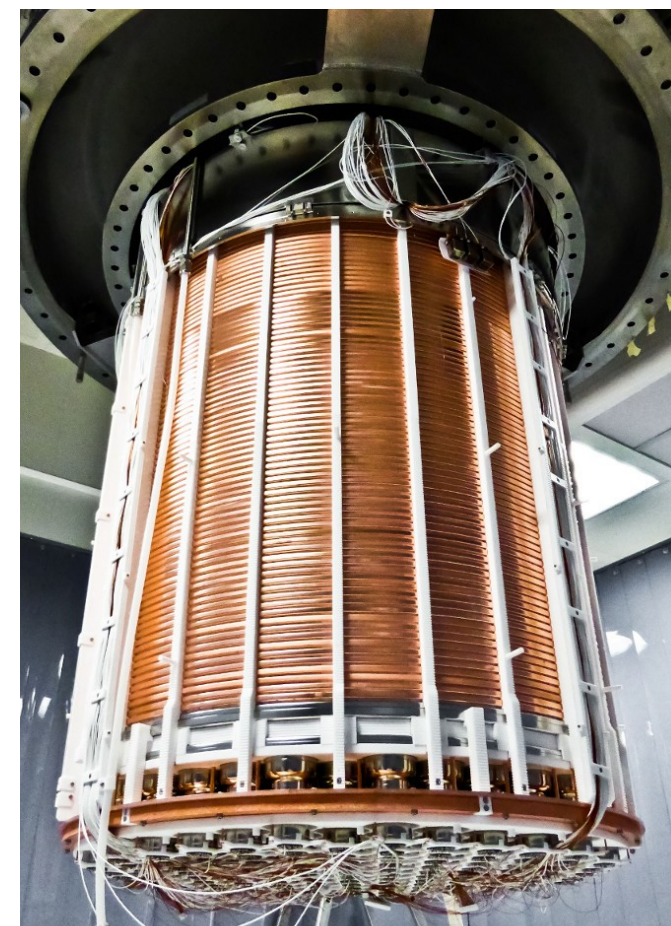
XMASS



DEAP-3600



XENON1T



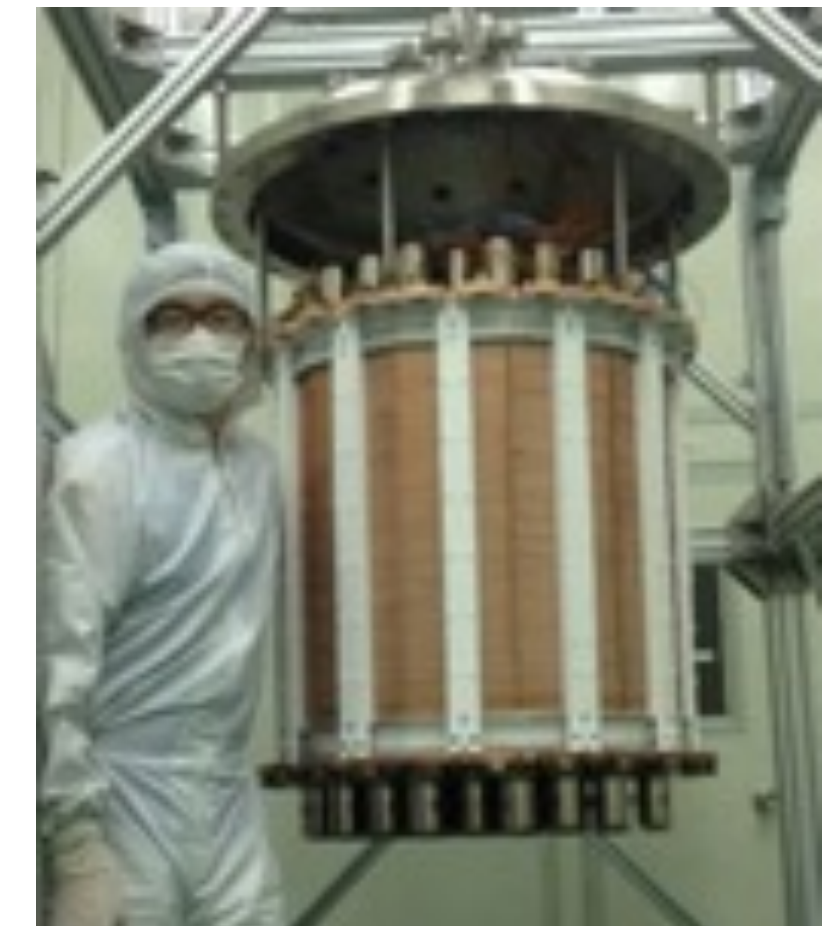
LUX



DarkSide-50

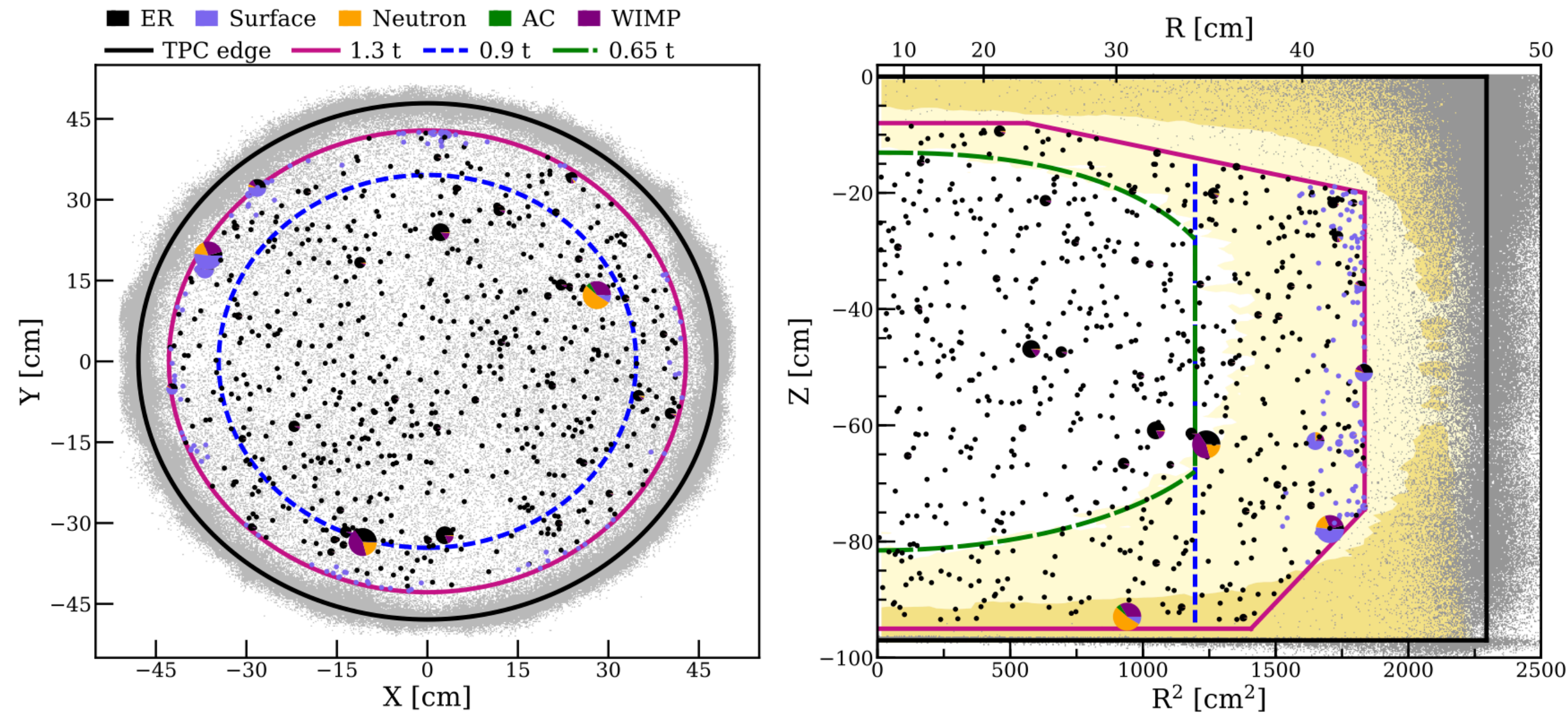


PandaX-II

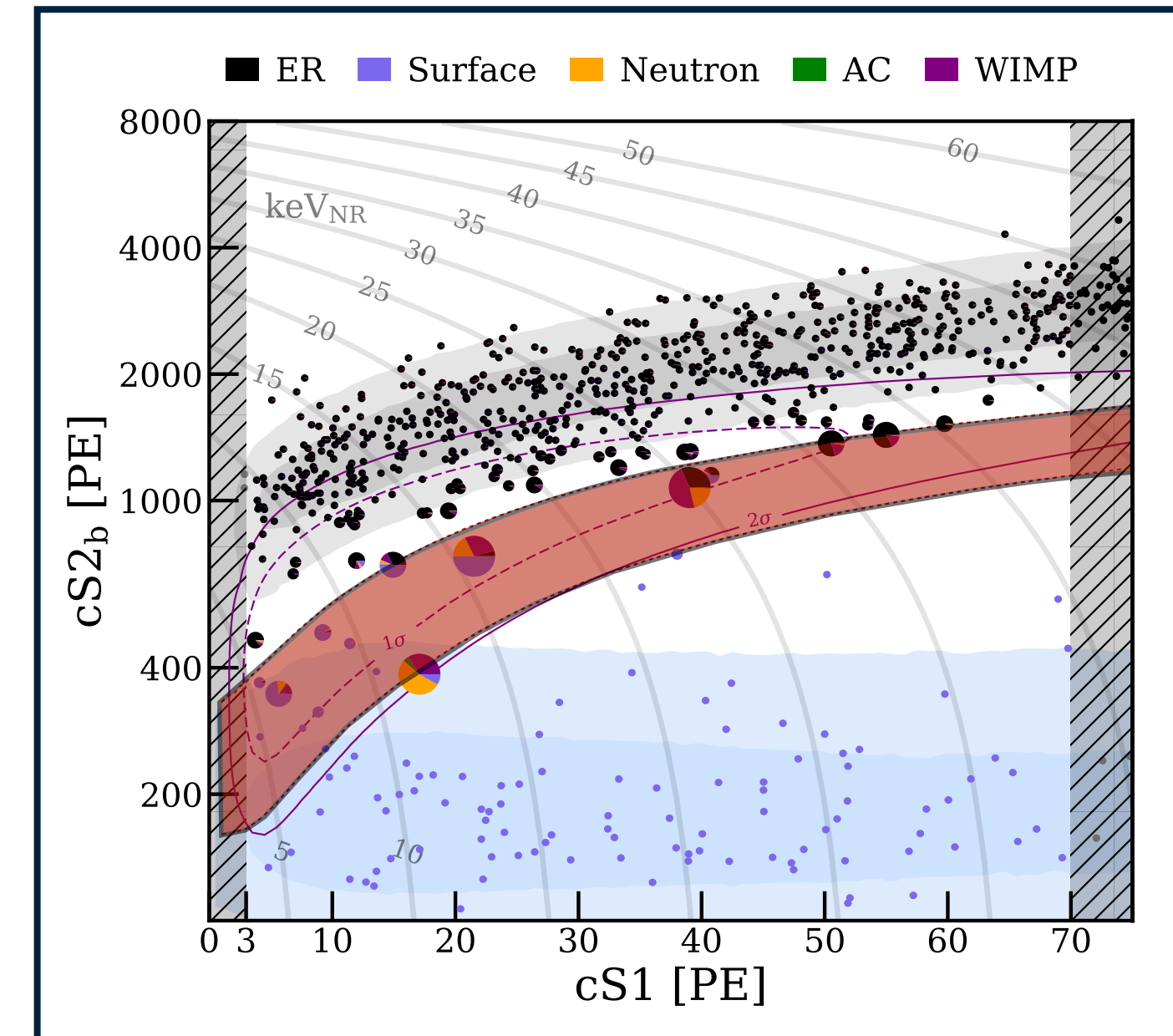


Noble liquids

Example: XENON1T



Nuclear Recoils (NR) (WIMPs, neutrons)

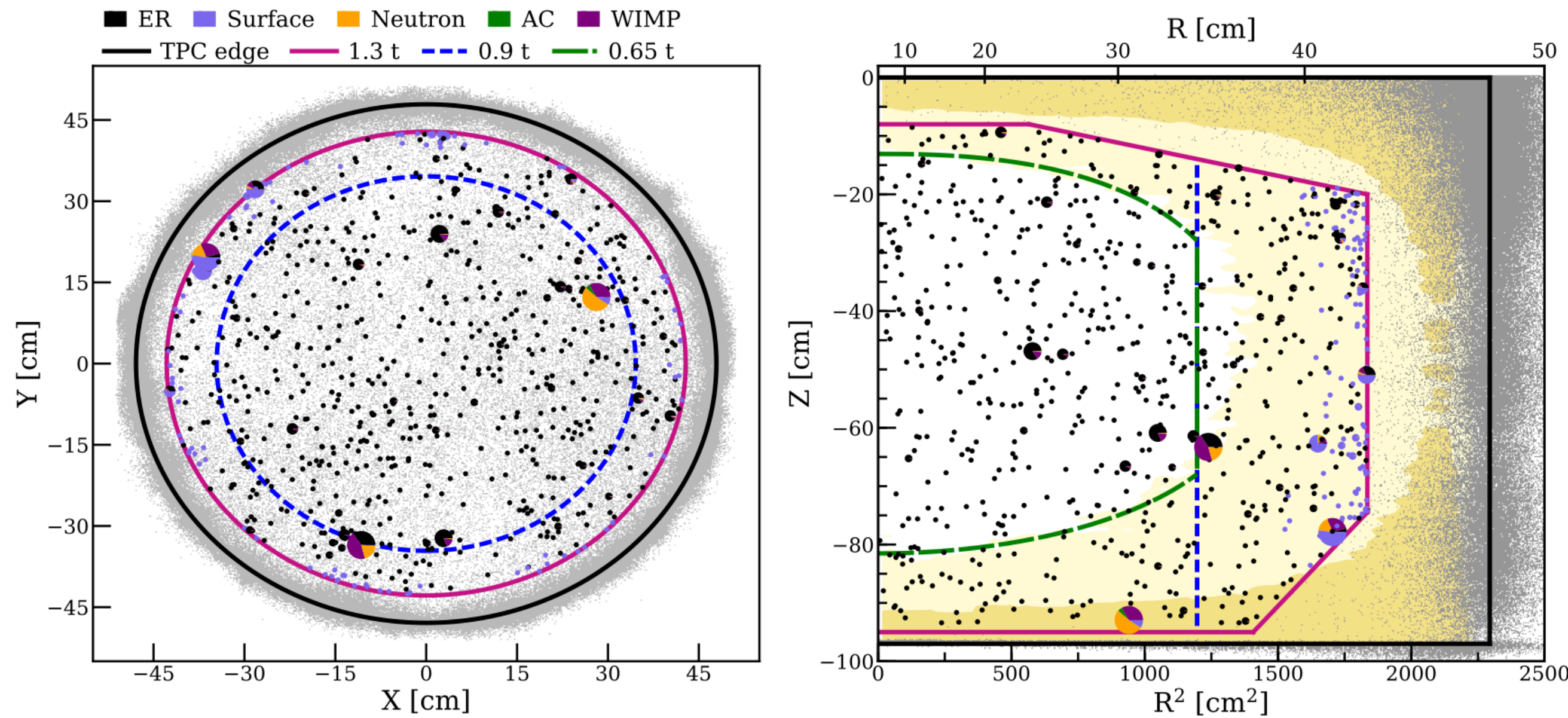


WIMP Dark Matter search channel

- fiducialization: remove events from detector materials
- WIMPs would scatter only once in detector (remove multiple scatters)
- ~ 1 keV thresholds

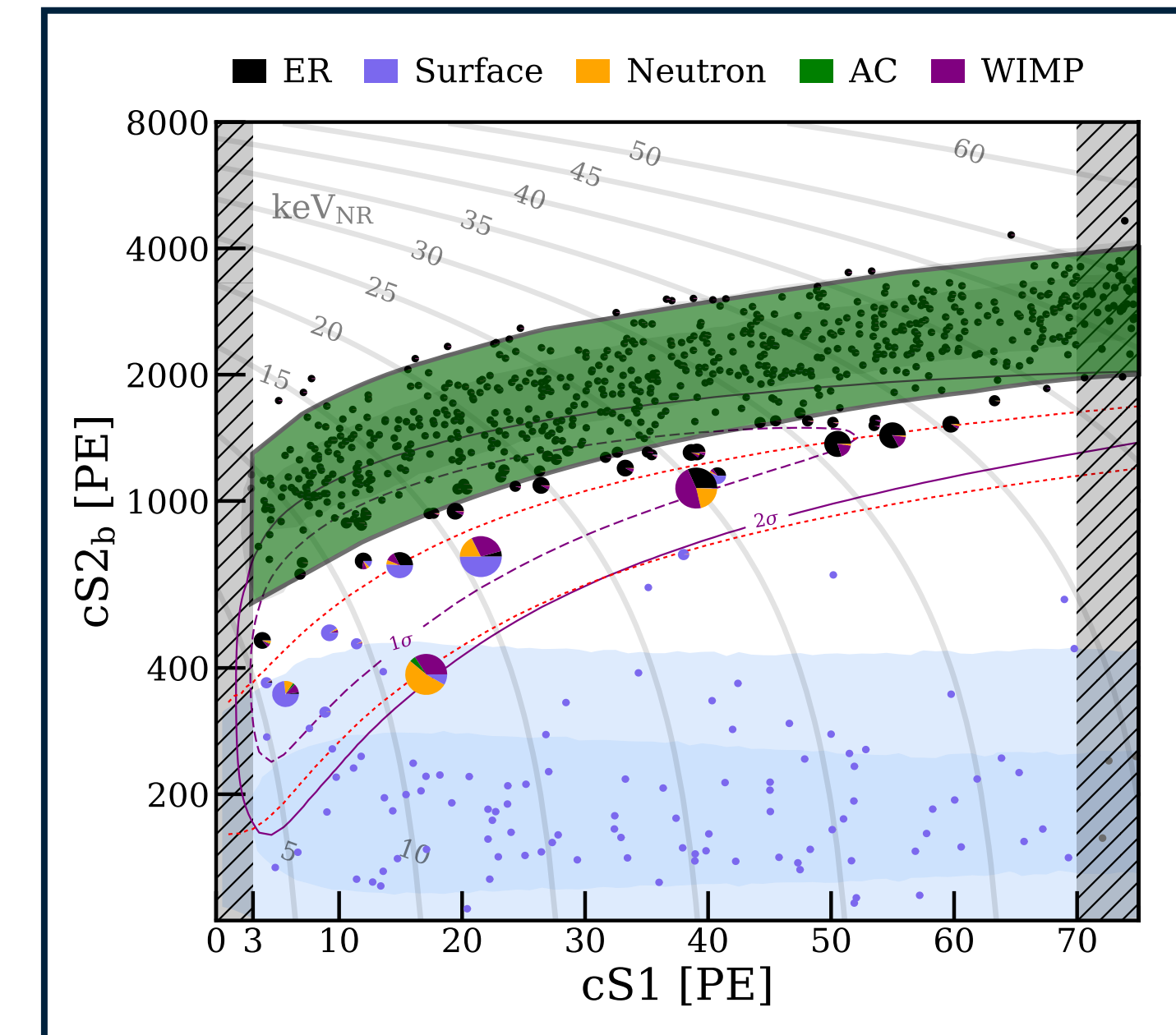
Noble liquids

Example: XENON1T



Nuclear Recoils (NR)
(WIMPs, neutrons)

Electronic Recoils (ER)
(gammas, betas, new physics)

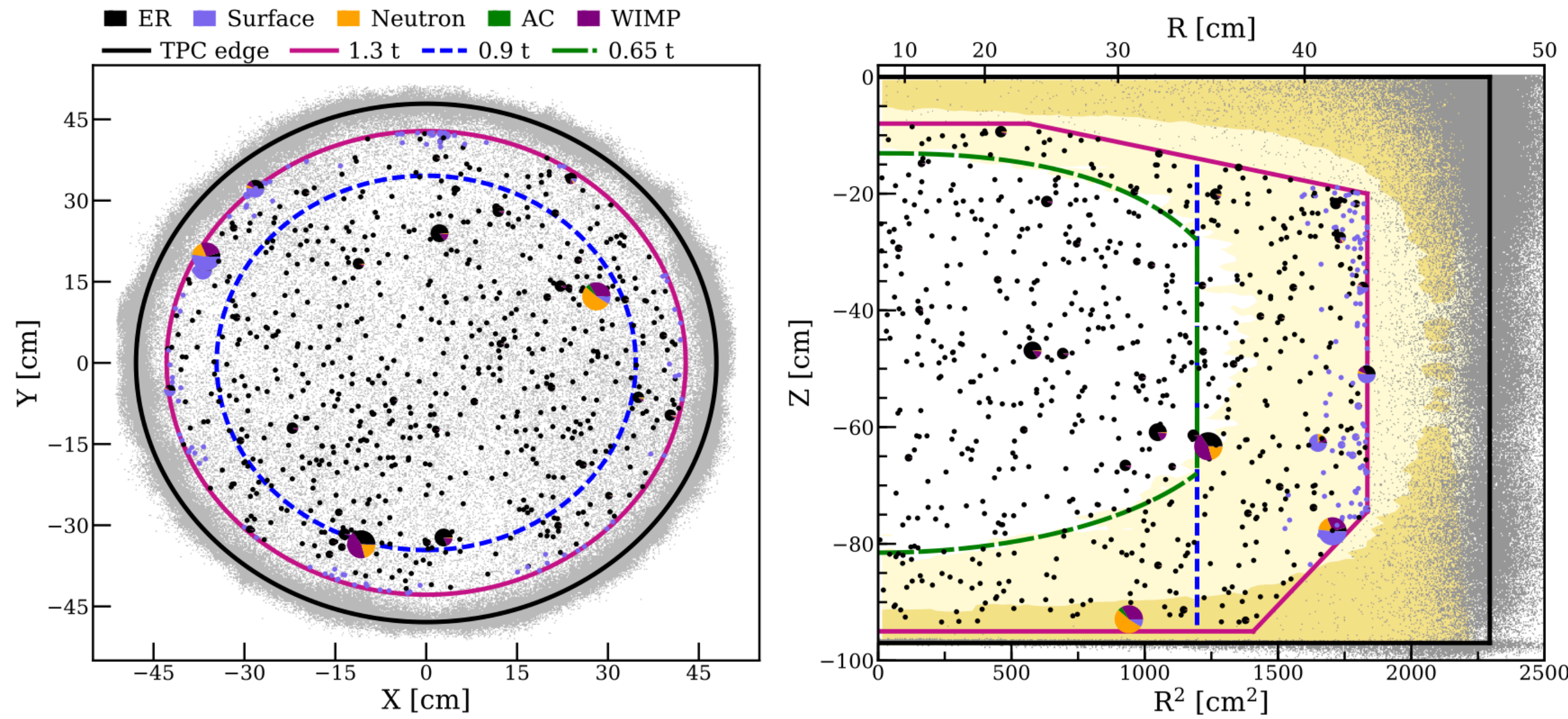


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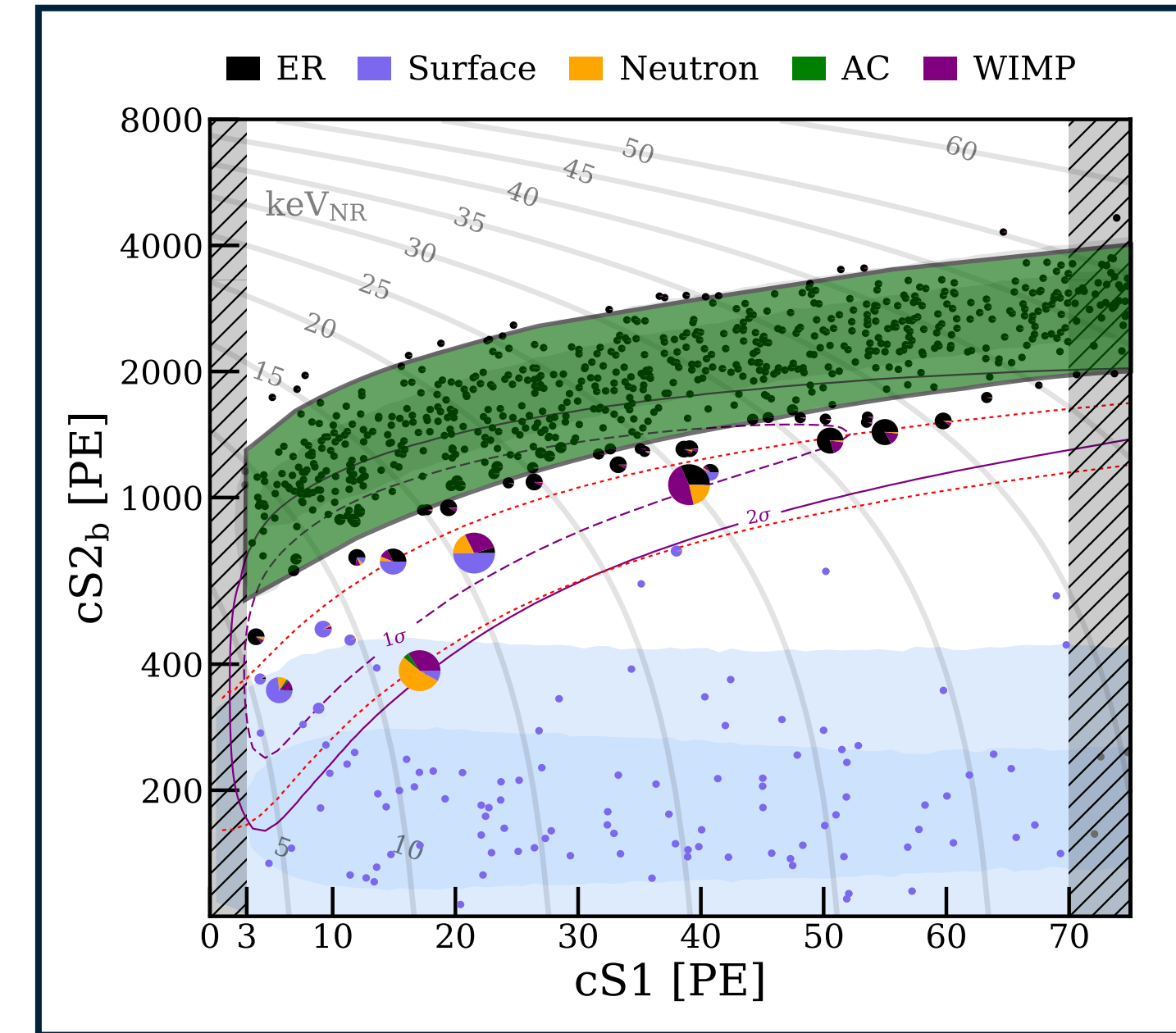
Noble liquids

Example: XENON1T



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WIMP Dark Matter search channel

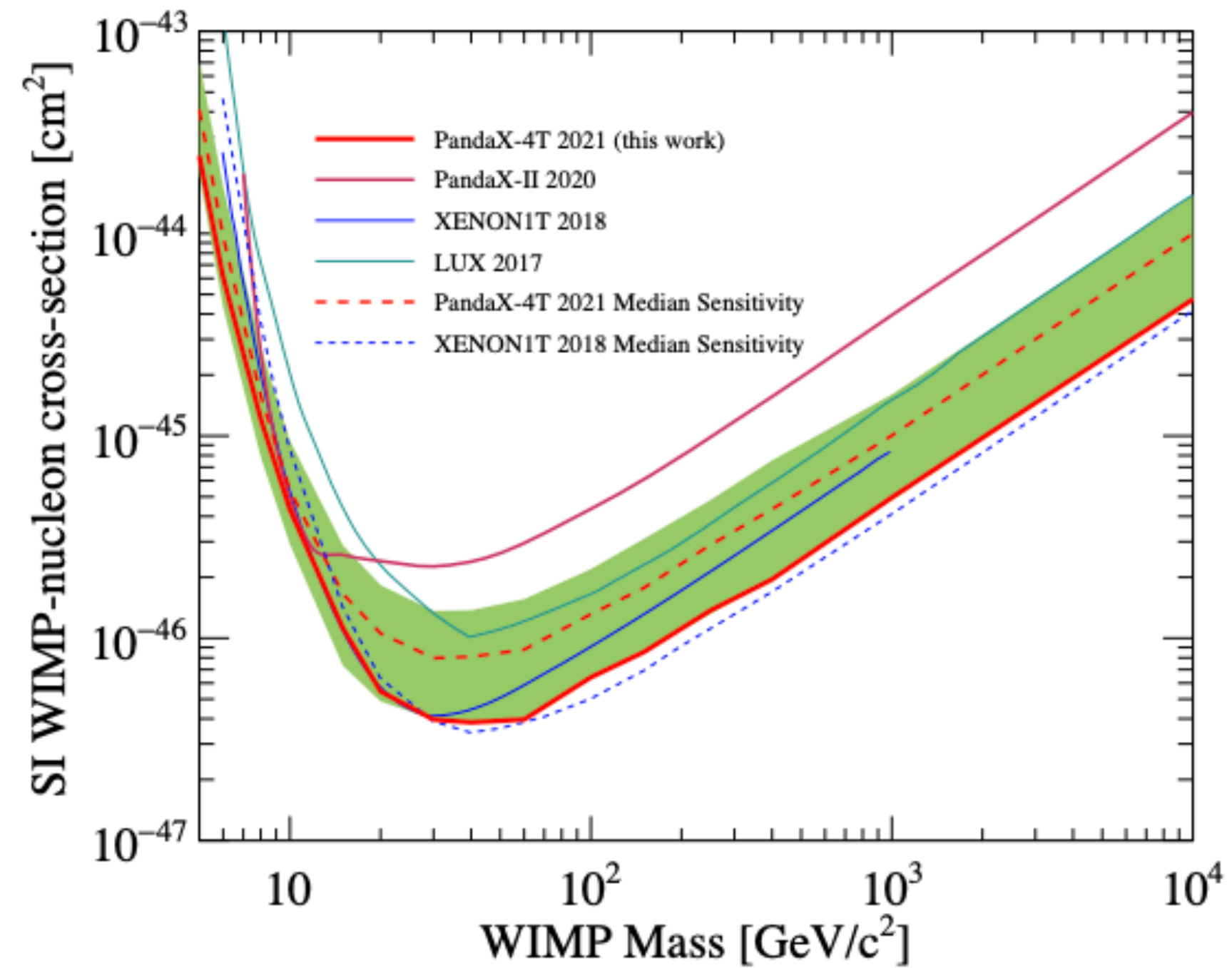
< 100 events/(t/yr/keV_{ee})

Can also search for excess above known ER backgrounds.

- fiducialization: remove events from detector materials
- WIMPs would scatter only once in detector (remove multiple scatters)
- ~1 keV thresholds

Noble liquids

Current and future experiments

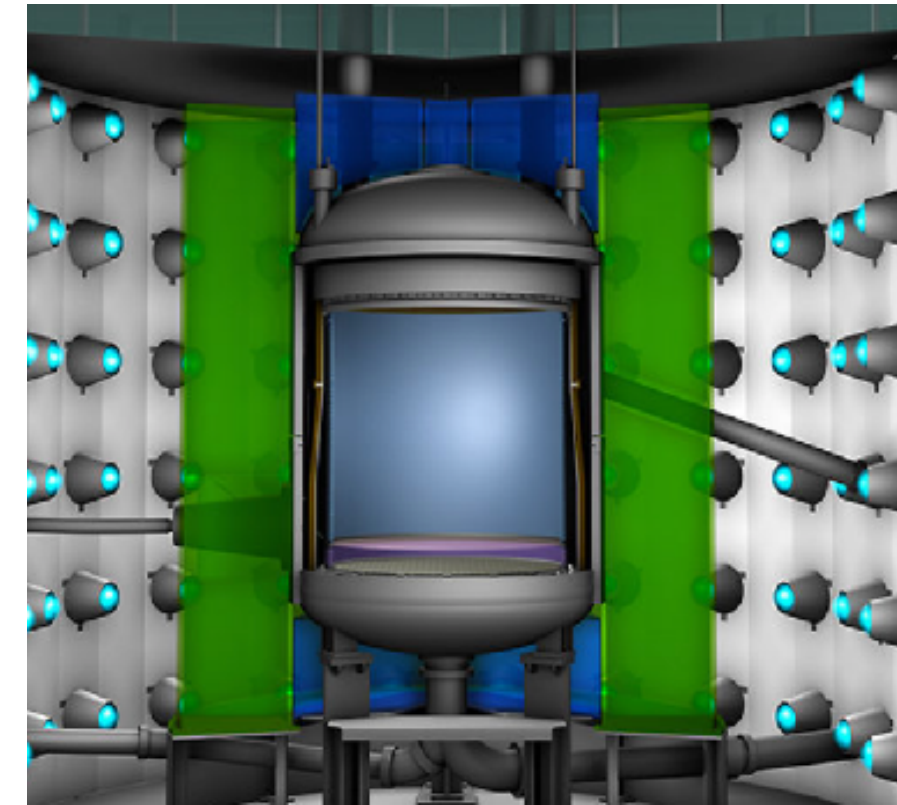


PhysRevLett.127.261802 (2021)

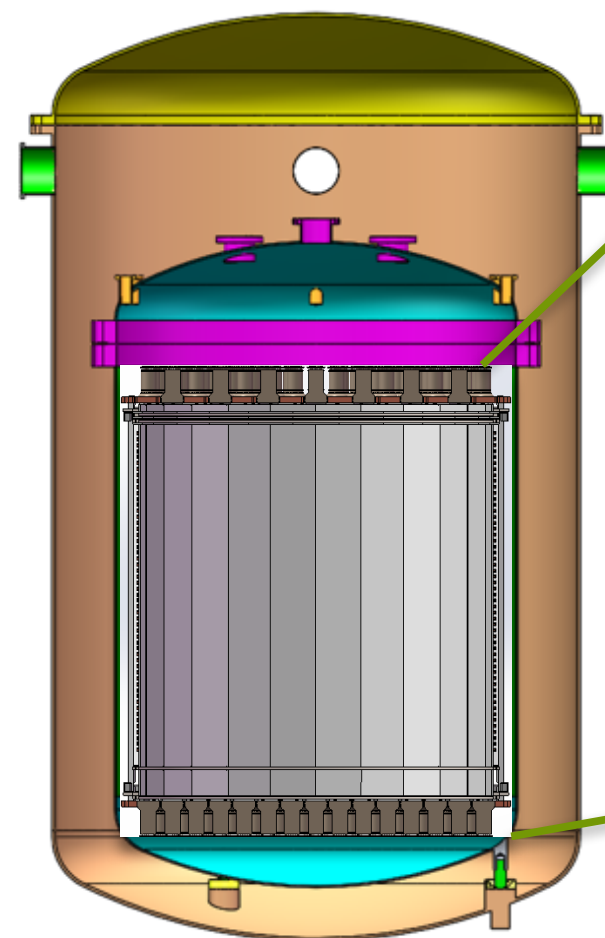
PandaX-4T: 0.63 tonne yr (3.7 t) 90% C.L.



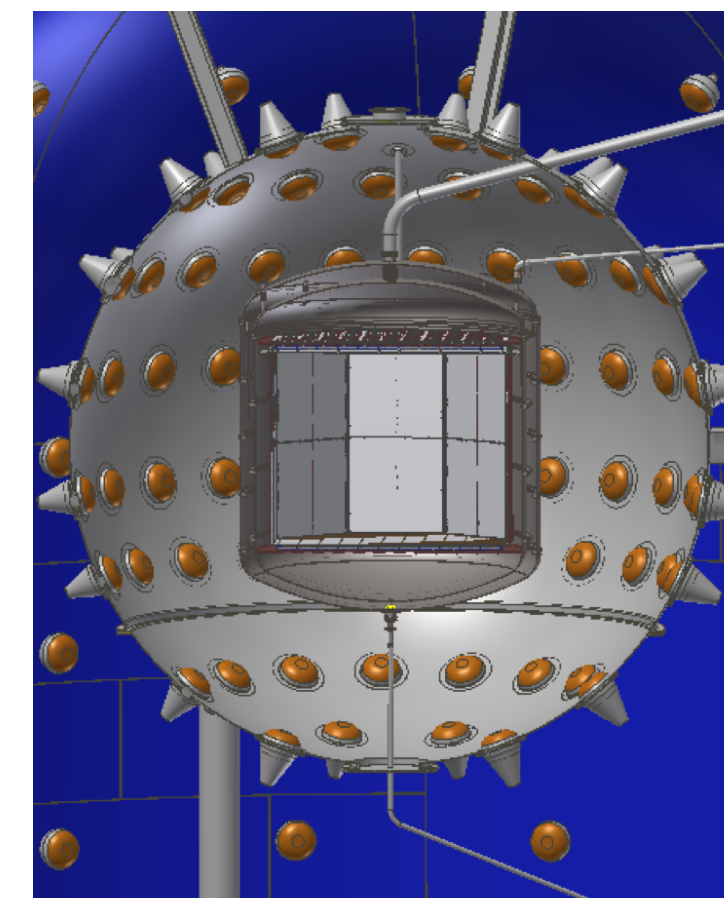
XENONnT: 8.6 t LXe
Data taking 2021



LUX-ZEPLIN: 10 t LXe
Data taking 2021



PandaX-4t LXe
First result 2021



DarkSide: 20 t LAr
Data taking 2023 ->
towards ARGO 360 t

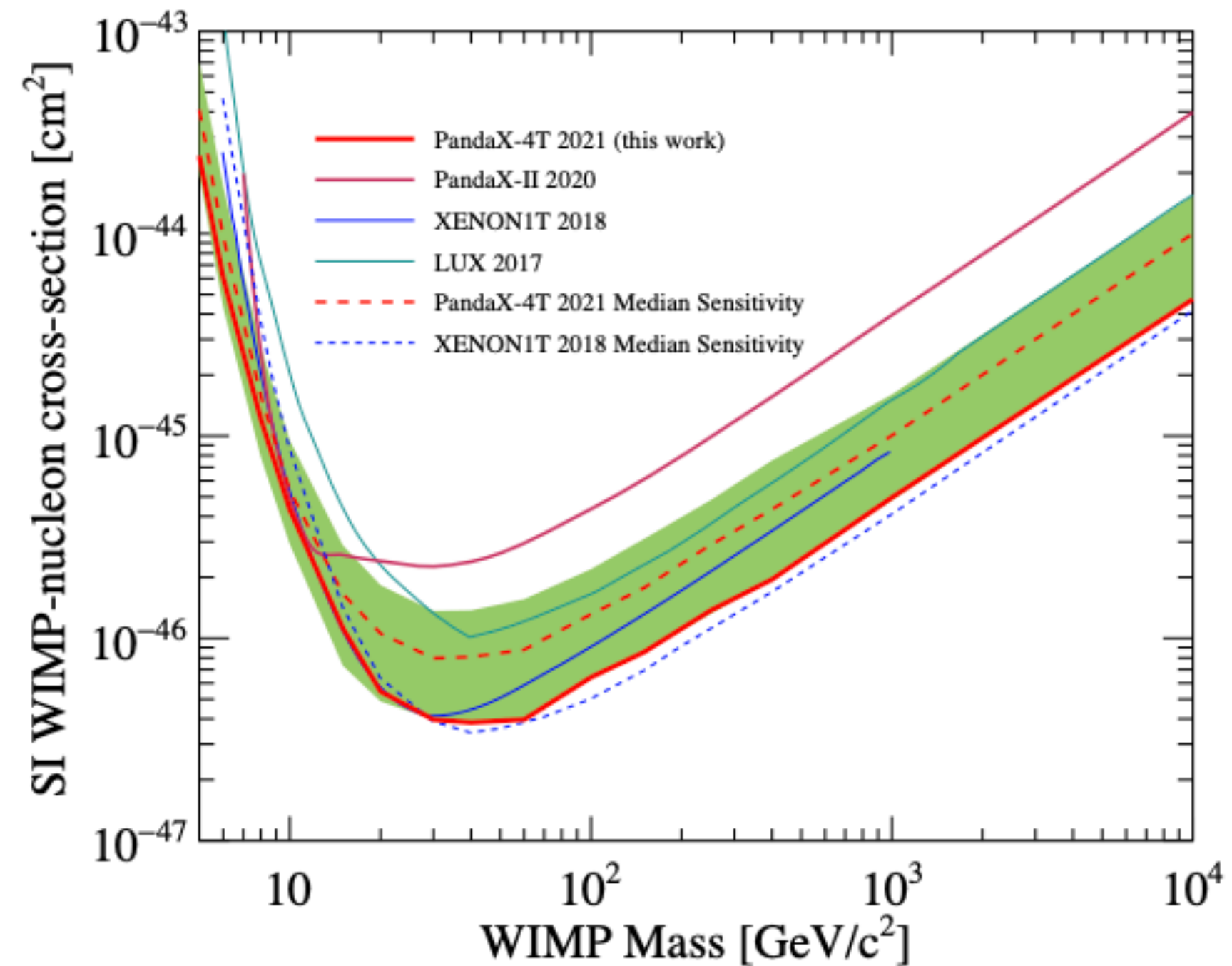
Future xenon-based
experiment:



~50 t LXe
Data taking ~2027/28

Noble liquids

Current and future experiments



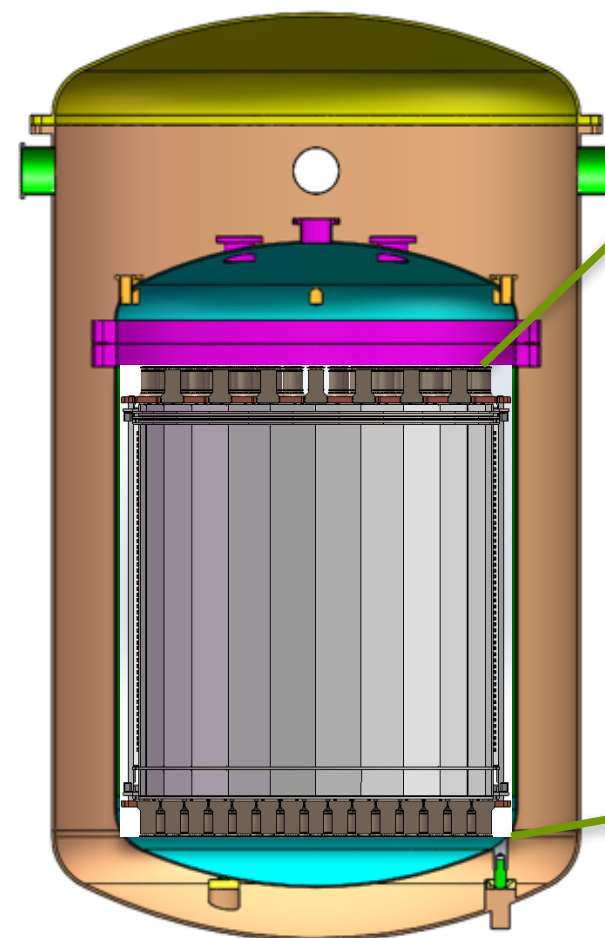
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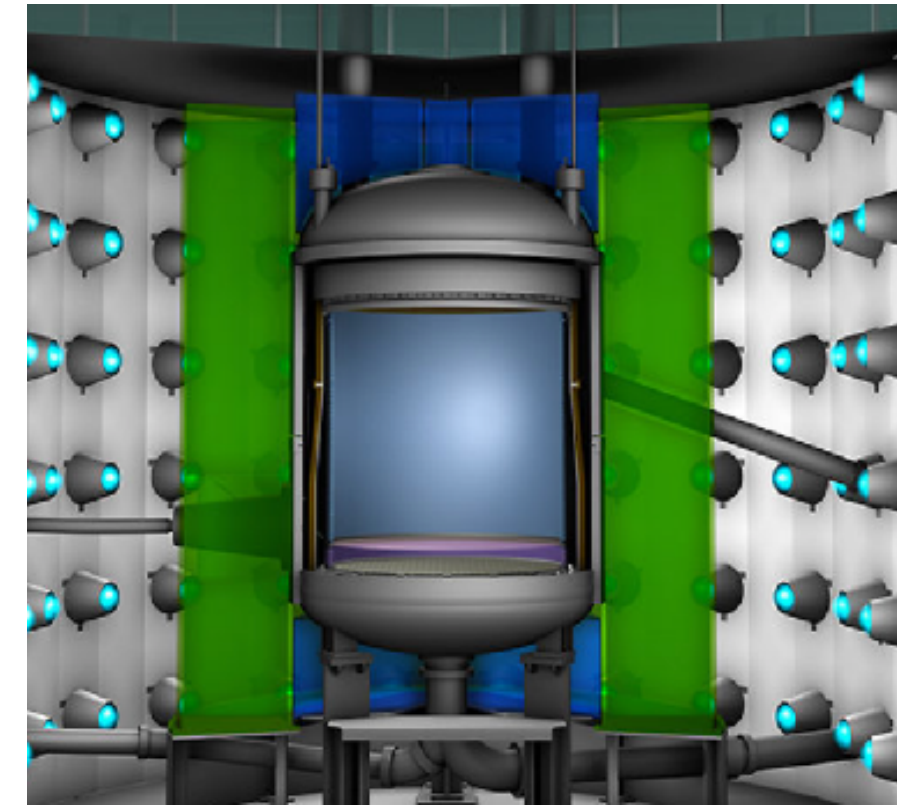
Noble liquid future includes helium:
see Dan McKinsey talk tomorrow



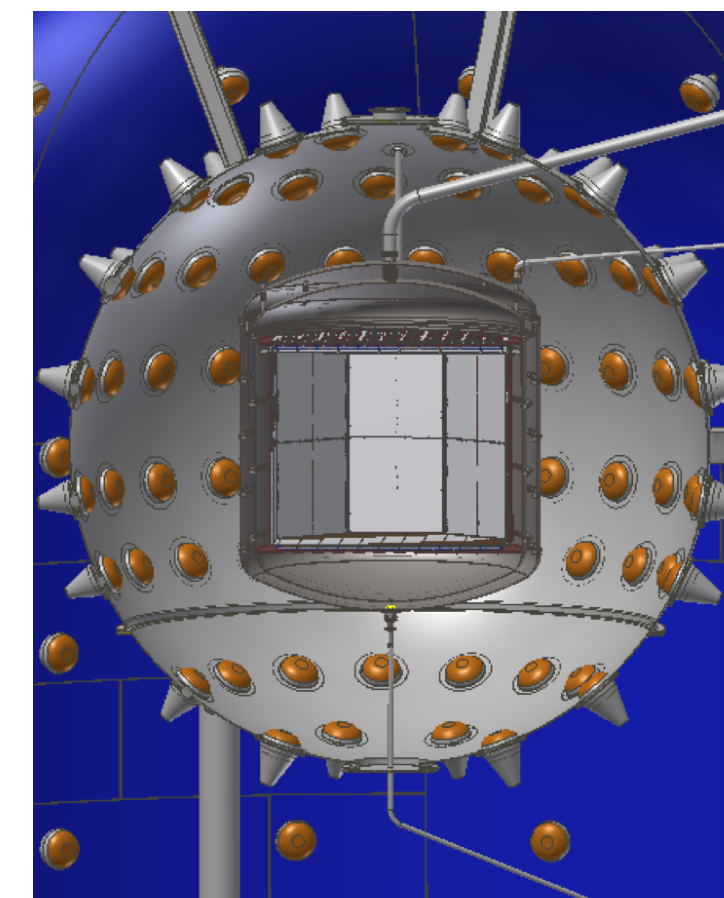
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Data taking 2023 ->
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Future xenon-based
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~50 t LXe
Data taking ~2027/28

Semiconductor cryogenic crystals

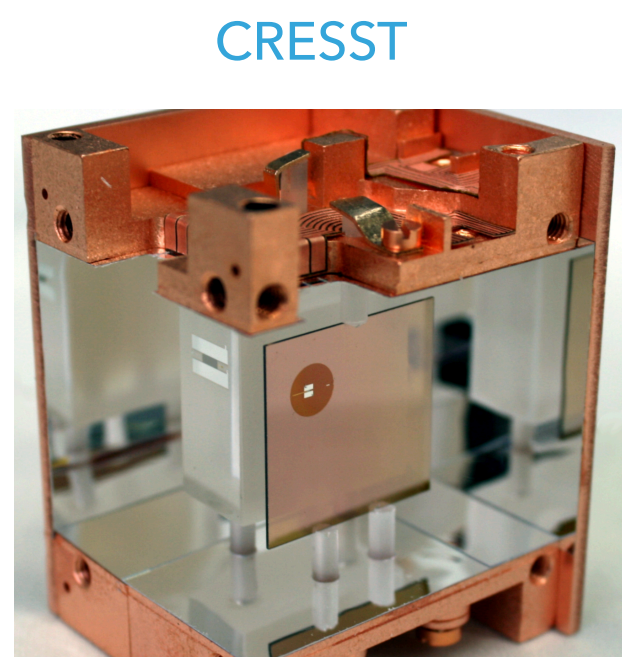
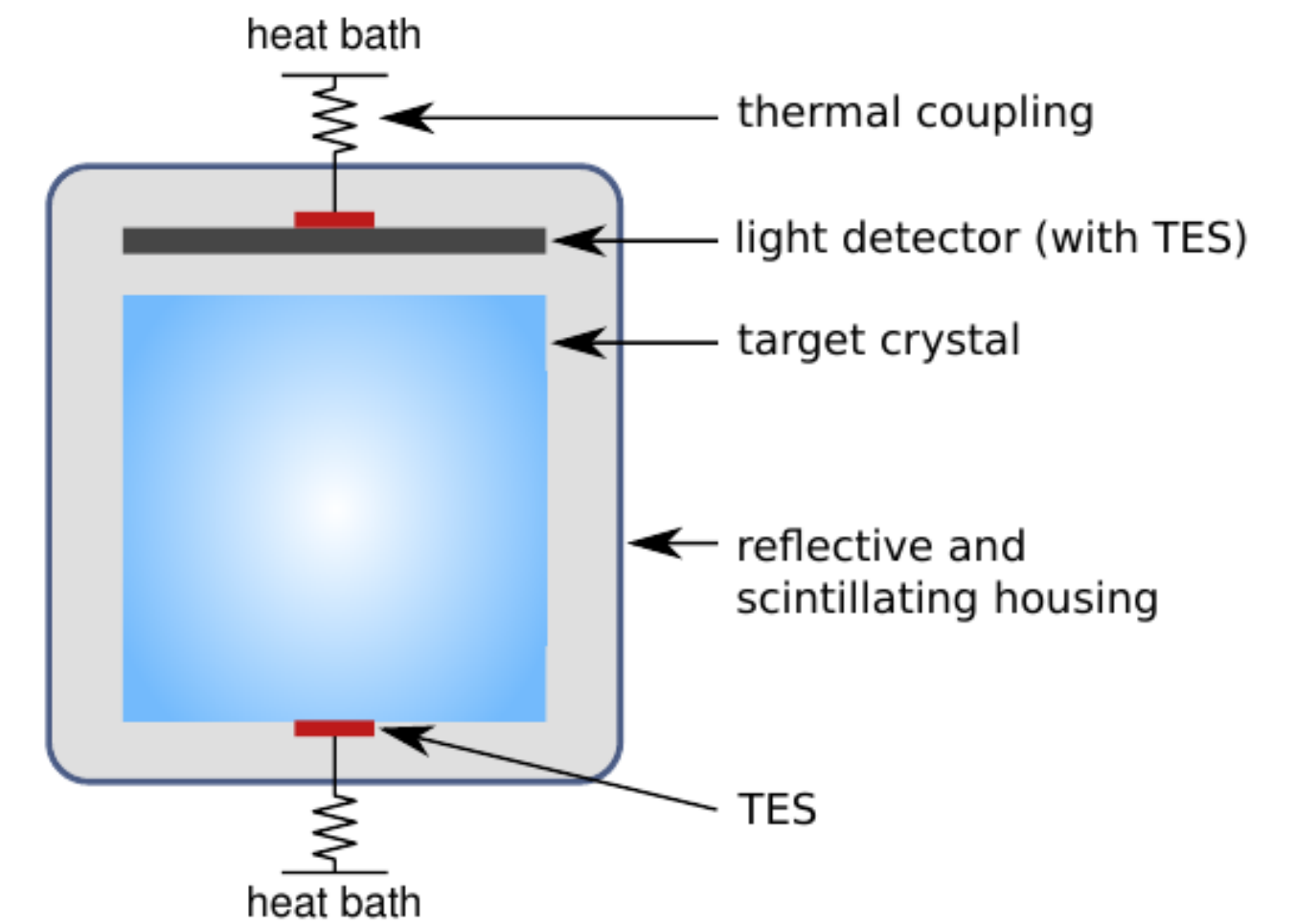
sub-GeV to GeV DM masses

- Temperatures ~mK allow for detection of small temperature increase; direct measure of energy deposition
- Simultaneous scintillation (CRESST - TES) or ionisation (SuperCDMS- TES, EDELWEISS - NTD thermistors)
- Very low thresholds - tens of eV
- Scaling up requires multiple small crystals

Ongoing and future

- CRESST-III: 30 eV threshold; best limits down to 160 MeV
- SuperCDMS relocated to SNOLAB; 30 kg Ge, Si targets to start science run soon.
- EDELWEISS testing TES sensors

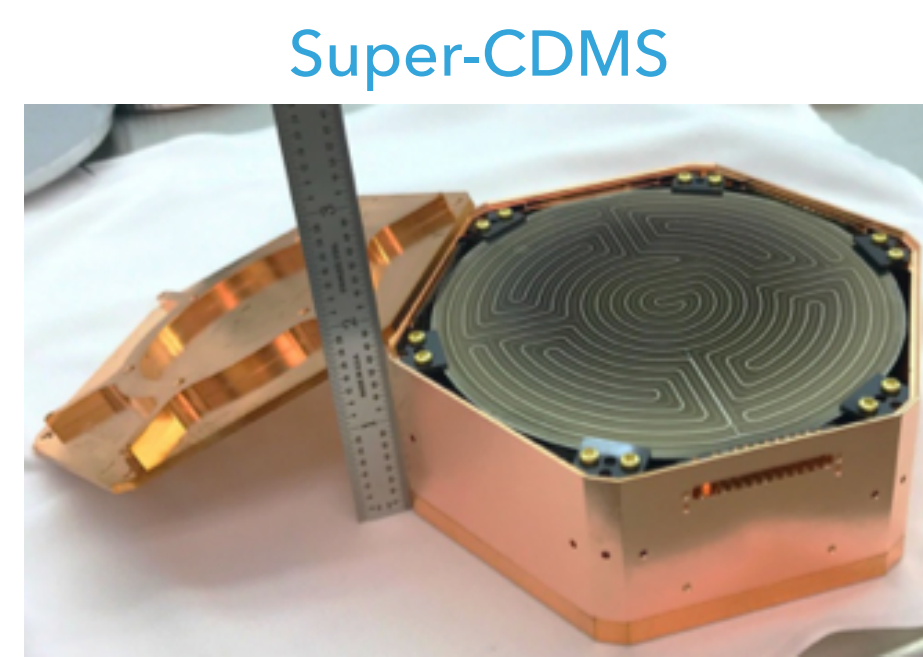
Bolometric technique



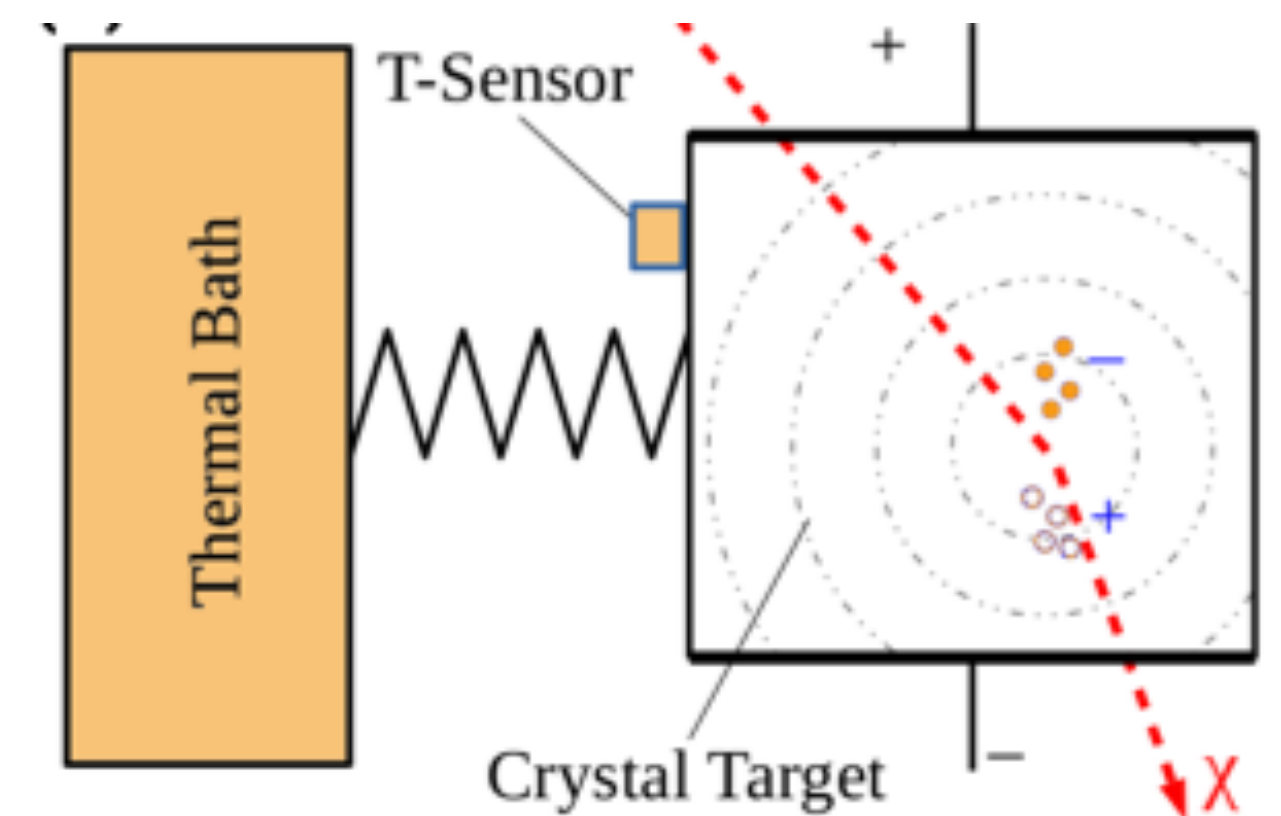
CaWO₄, Al₂O₃



Ge



Ge, Si



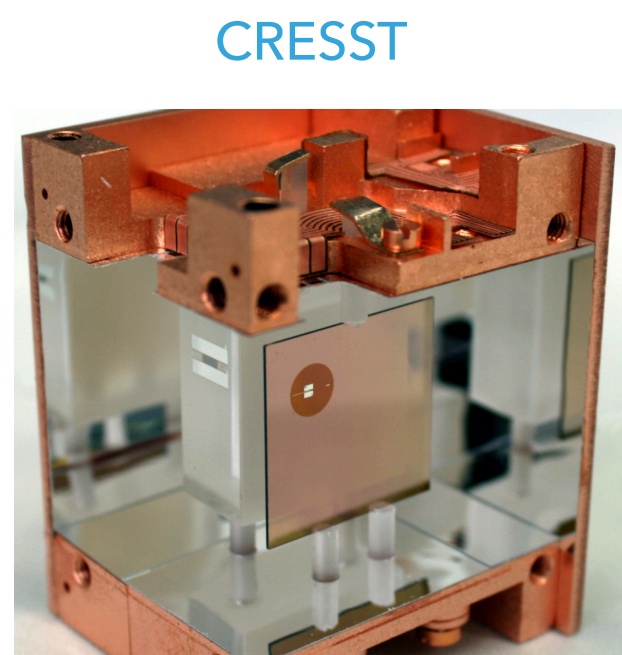
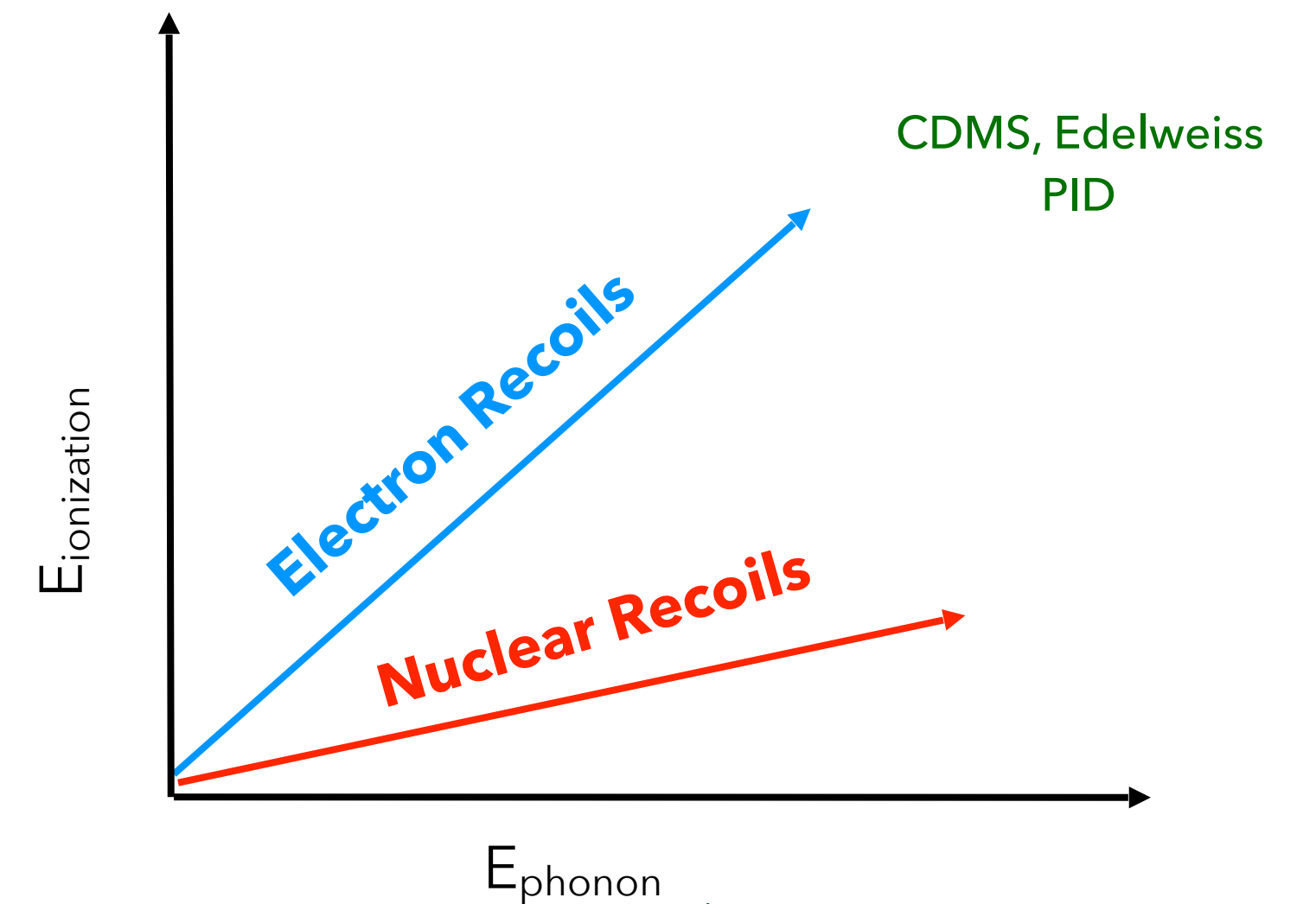
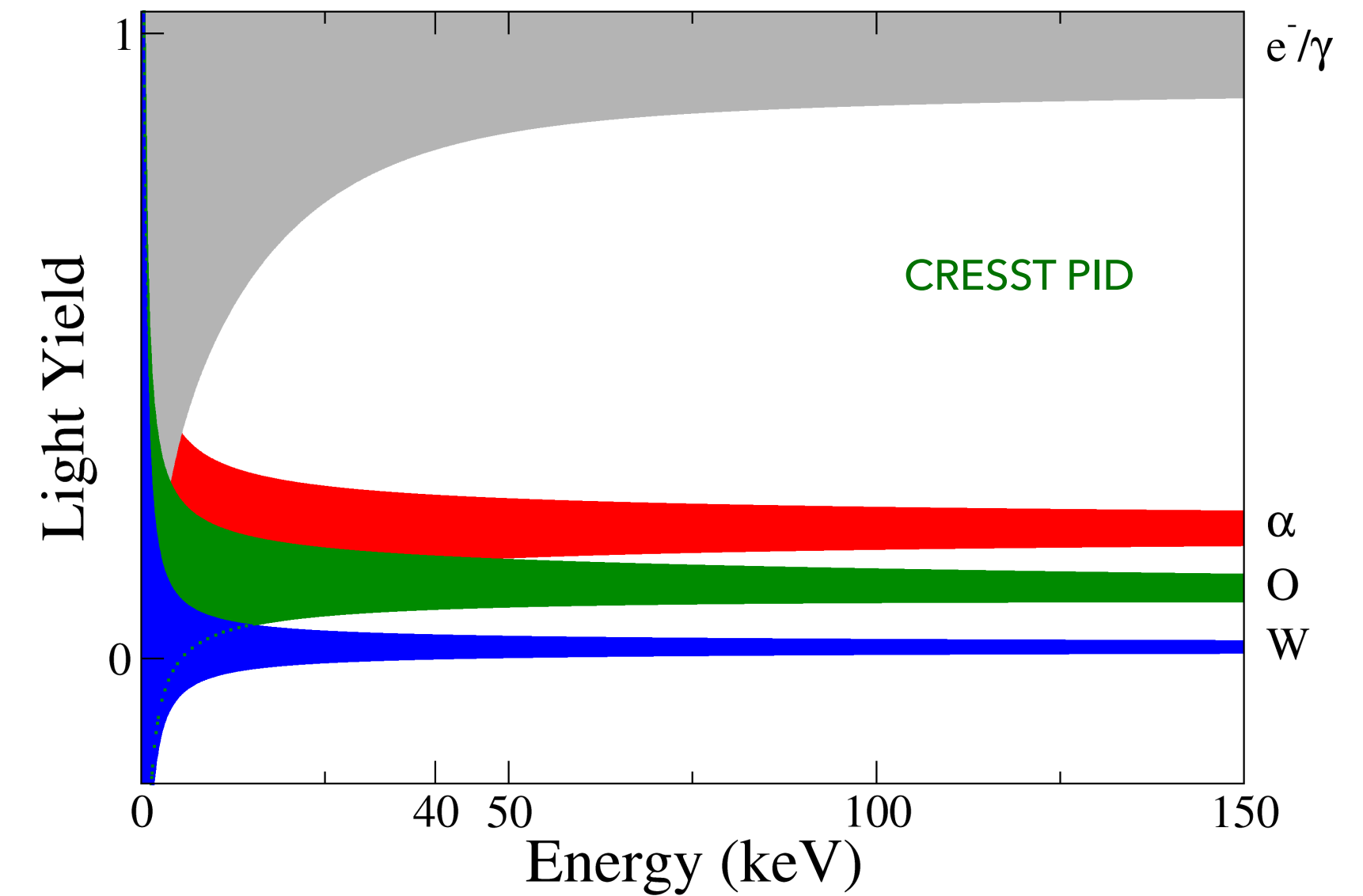
Semiconductor cryogenic crystals

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Ongoing and future

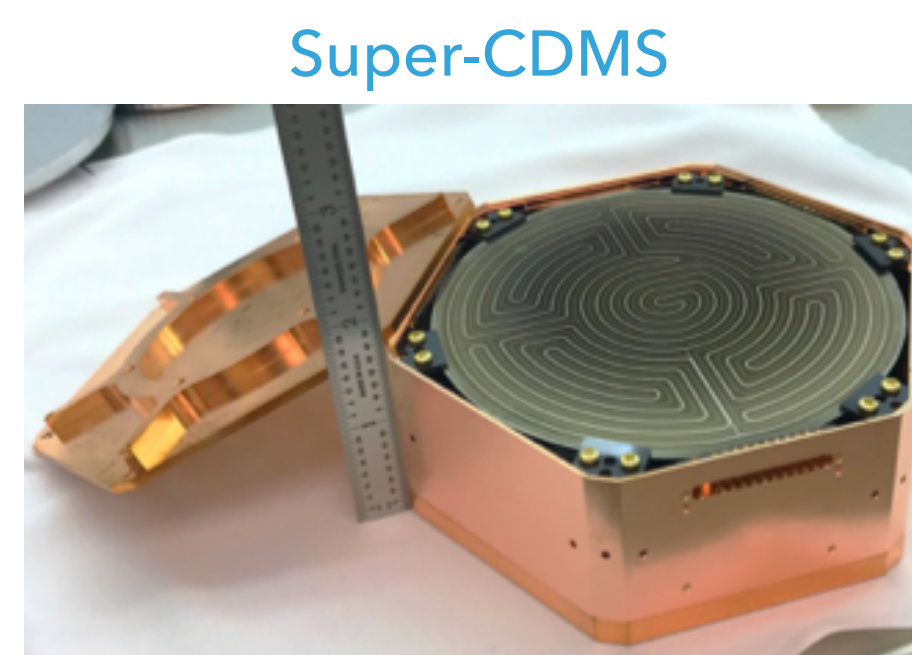
- CRESST-III: 30 eV threshold; best limits down to 160 MeV
- SuperCDMS relocated to SNOLAB; 30 kg Ge, Si targets to start science run soon.
- EDELWEISS testing TES sensors



CaWO₄, Al₂O₃



Ge

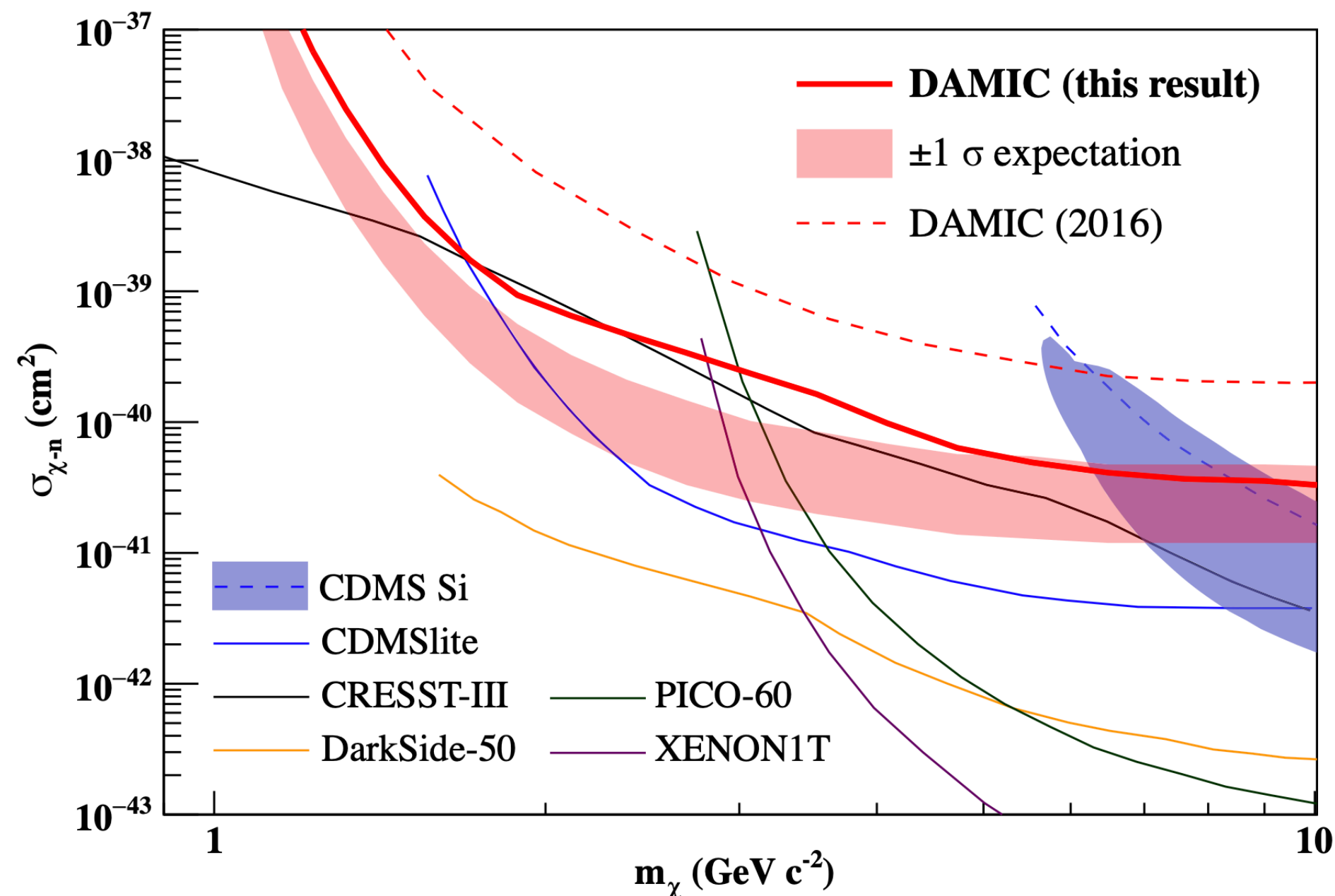


Ge, Si

Ionisation-only

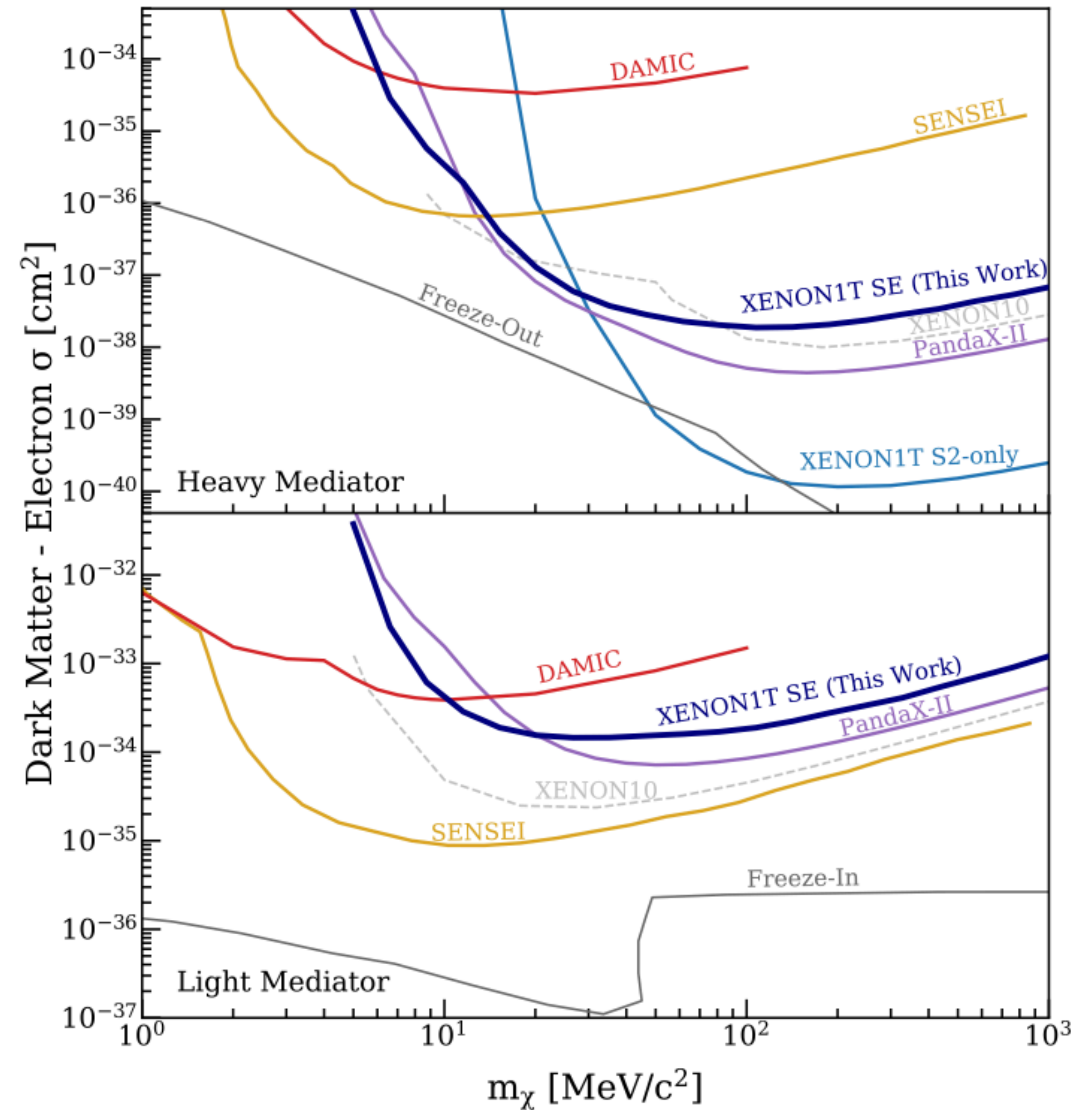
MeV to GeV DM masses

- Silicon charge-coupled devices (CCDs) - low ionisation energy, low noise, pixellated, particle tracks for background reduction (DAMIC, SENSEI)
- DAMIC-M from 7 CCDs (SNOLAB) to 50 CCDs (MODANE); x50 reduction in background; commissioning ~2023
- SENSEI - from 2 g to 100 g at SNOLAB



DAMIC, Phys. Rev. Lett. 125, 2020 SENSEI Collab., Phys. Rev. Lett. **122**, 161801

DM-electron scattering



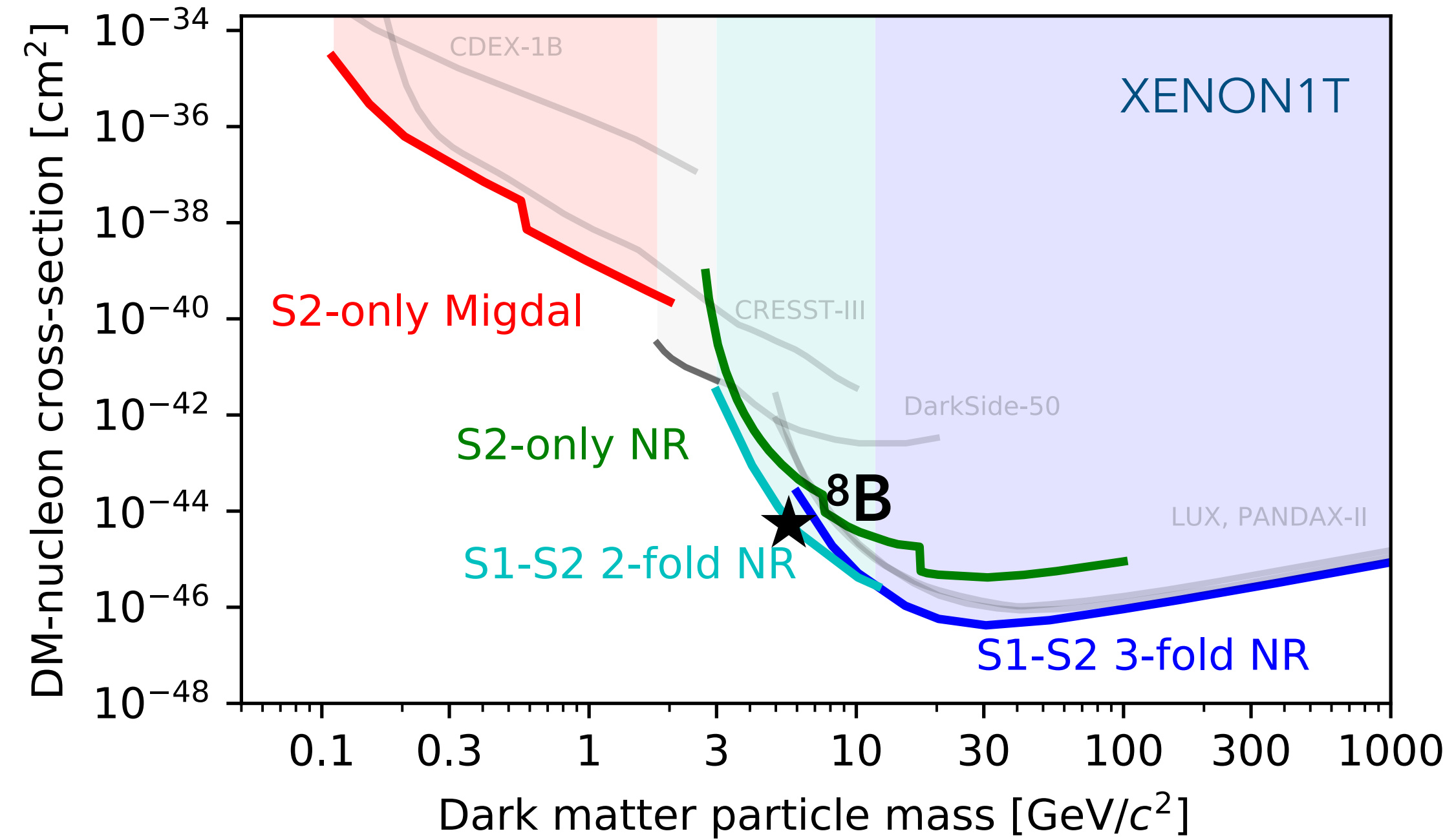
XENON collab., arXiv:2112.12116v1 (2022)

Probing lower DM masses

WIMP-nucleon and WIMP-electron scattering

S2-only channel

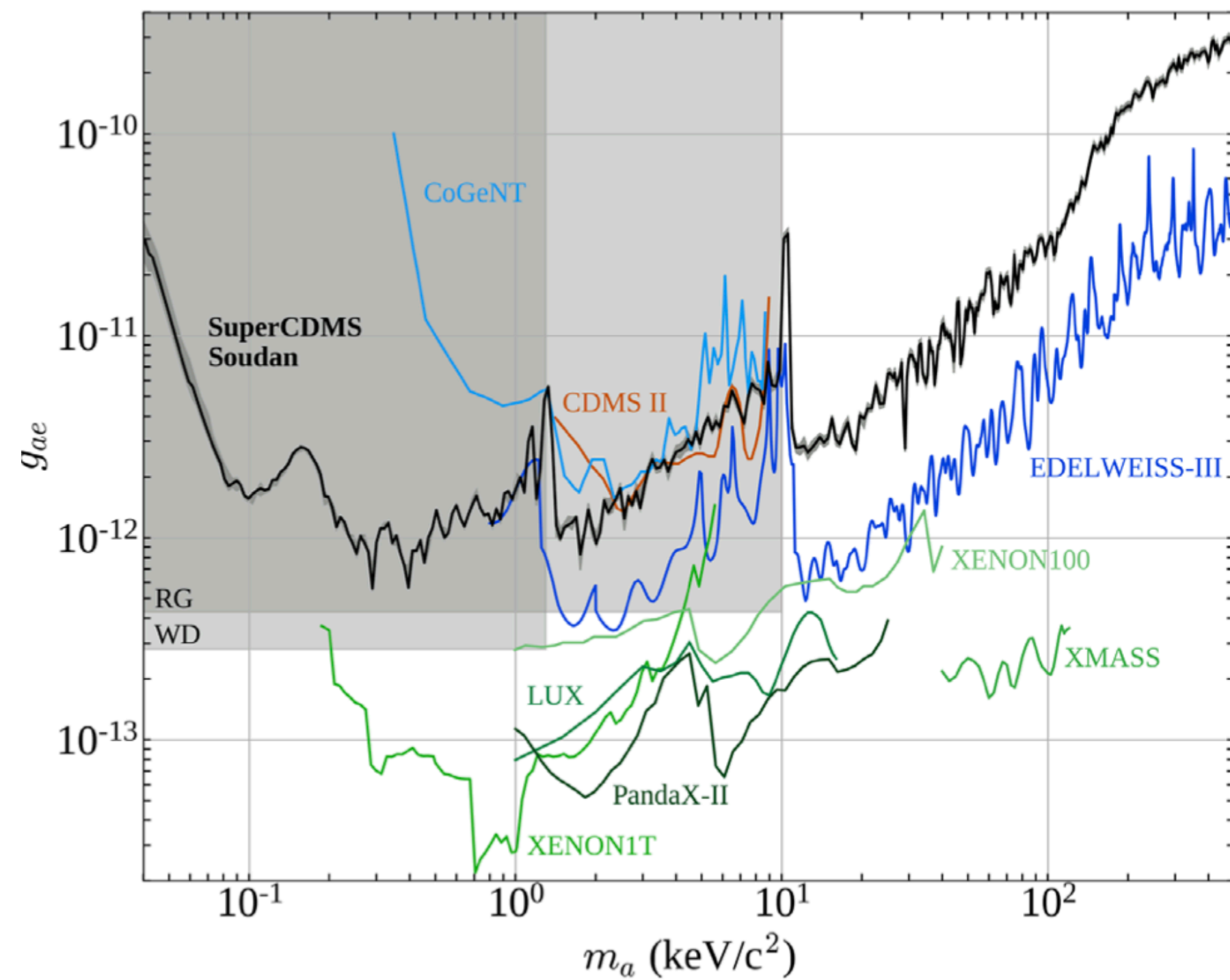
Limit setting only; interpreted as nuclear recoils or electron recoils



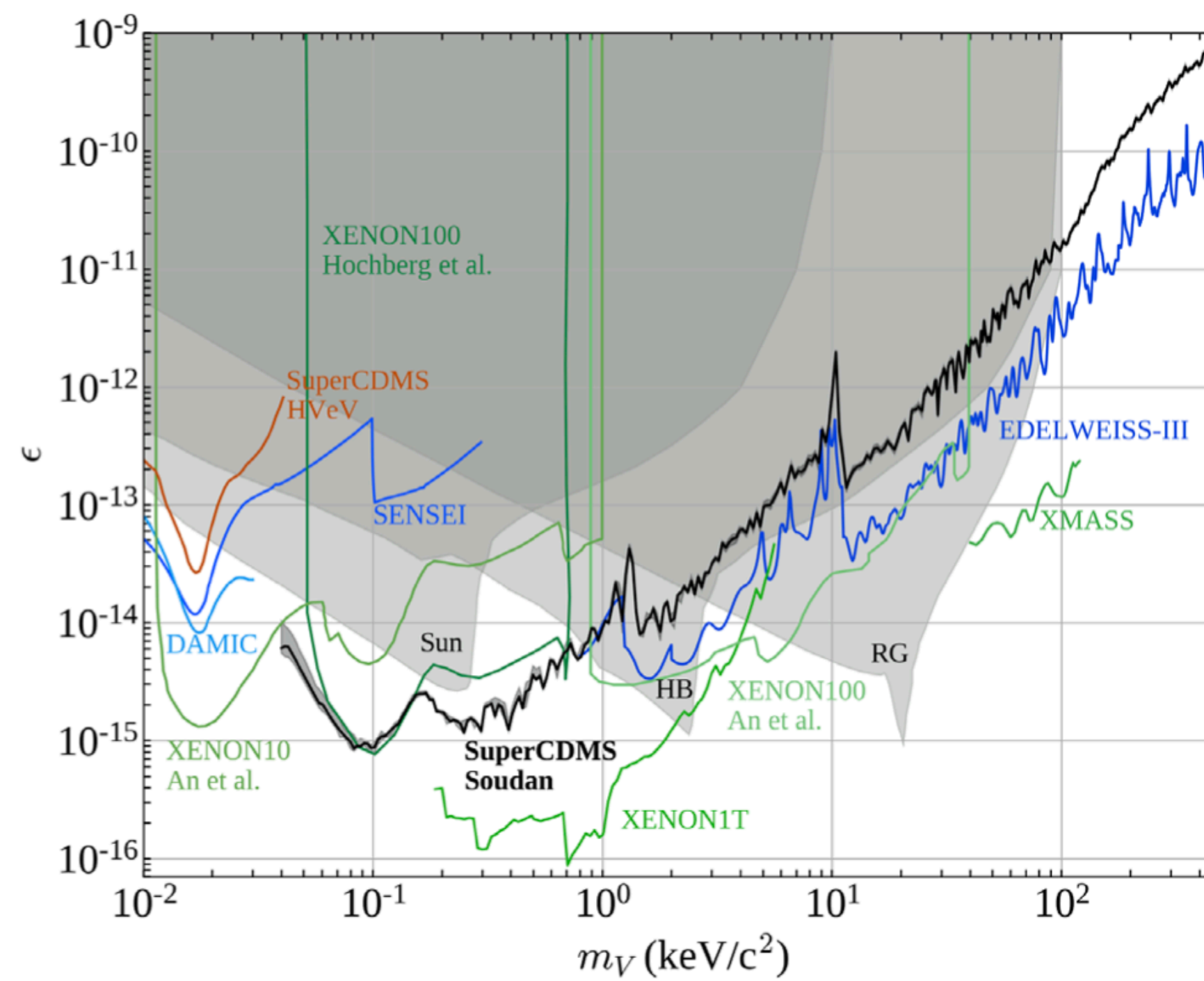
Phys. Rev. Lett. 126 (2021) 091301

Probing lower DM masses

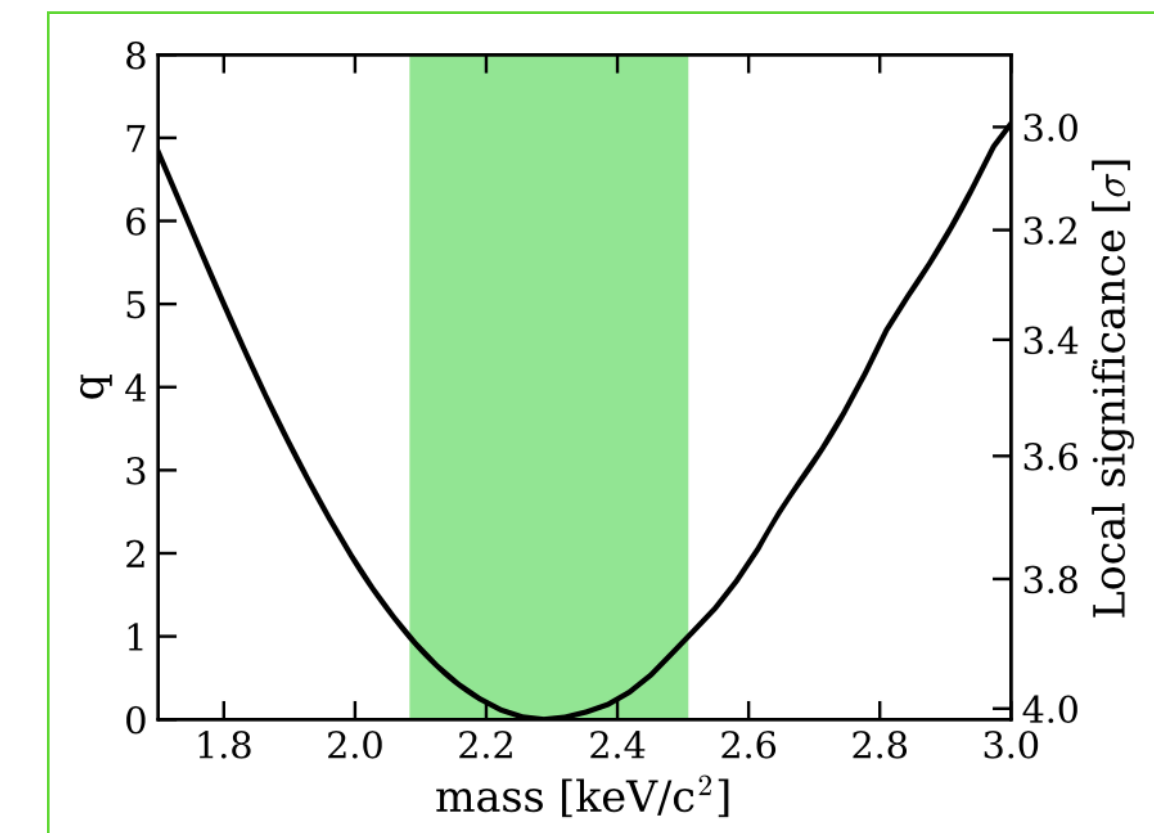
Axioelectric coupling vs ALP (axion-like particle) mass



Kinetic mixing of dark photon vs mass

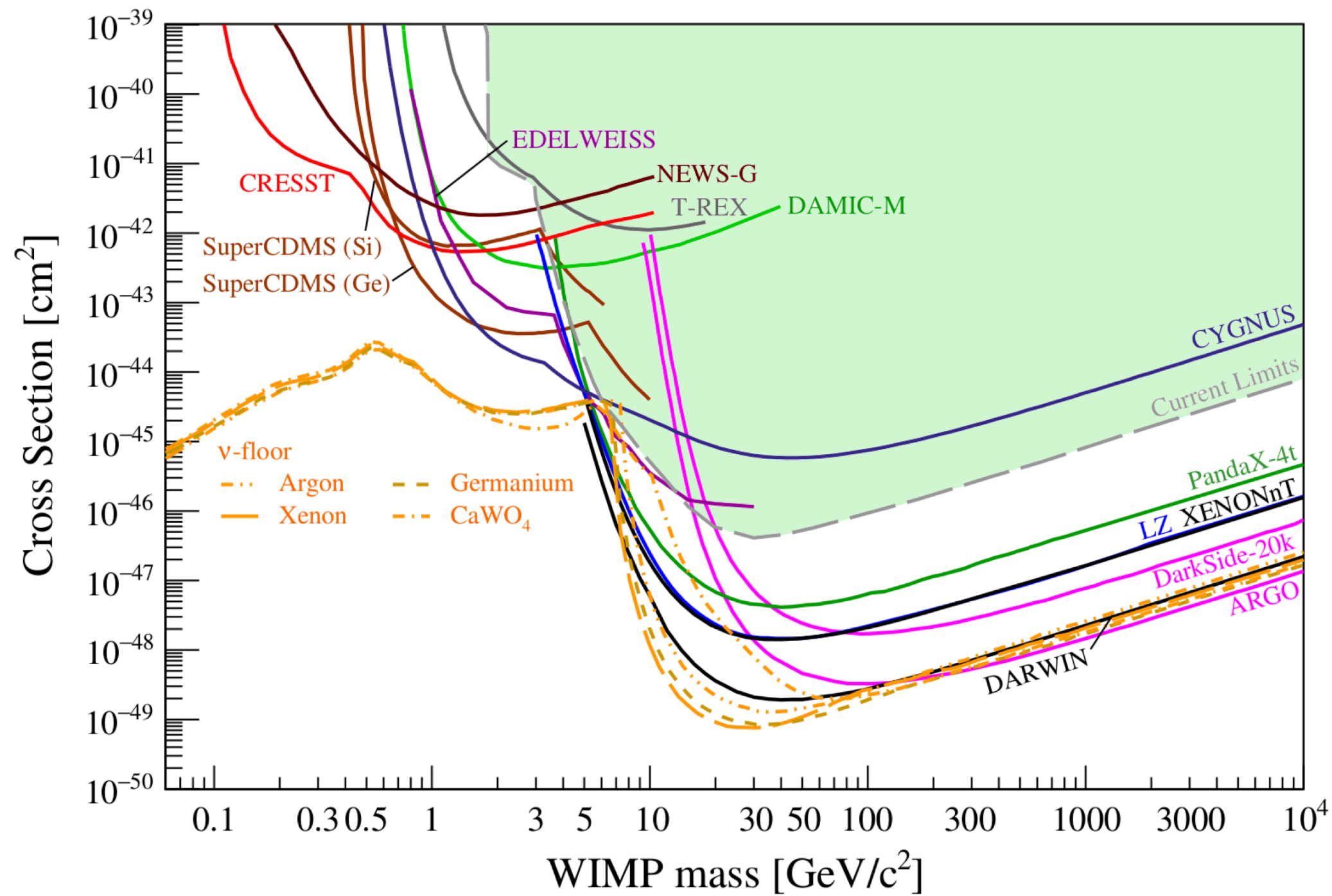


XENON1T excess



Monoenergetic peak fit
2.3 +/- 0.2 keV

WIMP landscape: past, present, future



Projections for current and future experiments

10^{-41}cm^2 in ~ 1998 to few $\times 10^{-47} \text{cm}^2$ in ~ 2018

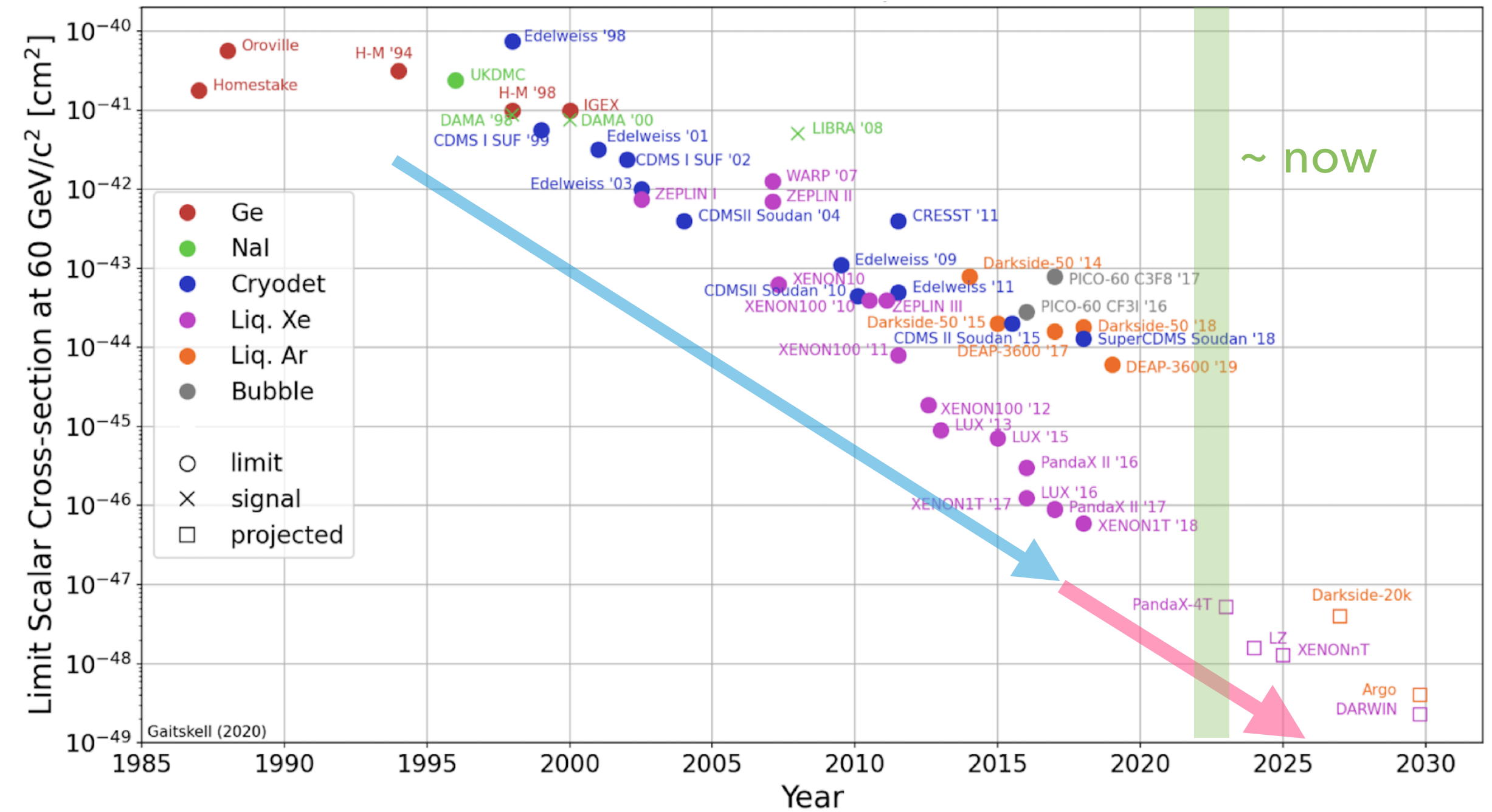
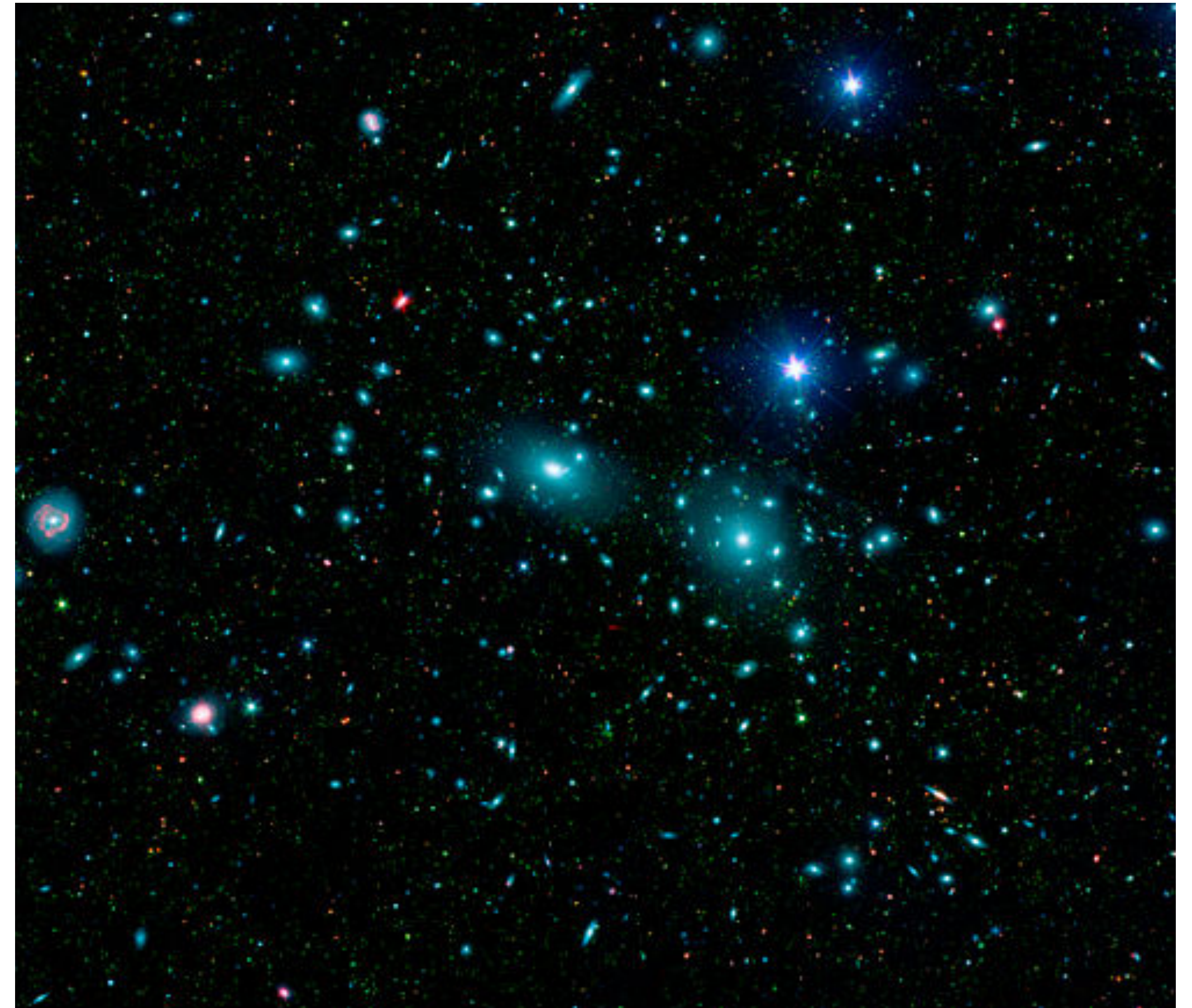


Figure: Rick Gaitskell, 2020

Spin-independent cross section upper limits at 60 GeV WIMP mass

- Dark matter evidence is abundant, but only observed indirectly via its gravitational interactions
- Over two decades of WIMP searches have covered more than 6 orders of magnitude in cross-section vs mass parameter space.
- Experiments driven by standard WIMP searches, have reached exceedingly low backgrounds, thus opening new detection channels.
- A new generation of multi-ton scale detectors are now taking science data, already with first results.
- The future requires complementarity and collaboration.
- An inevitable neutrino fog is on the horizon, but patience may bring clarity.

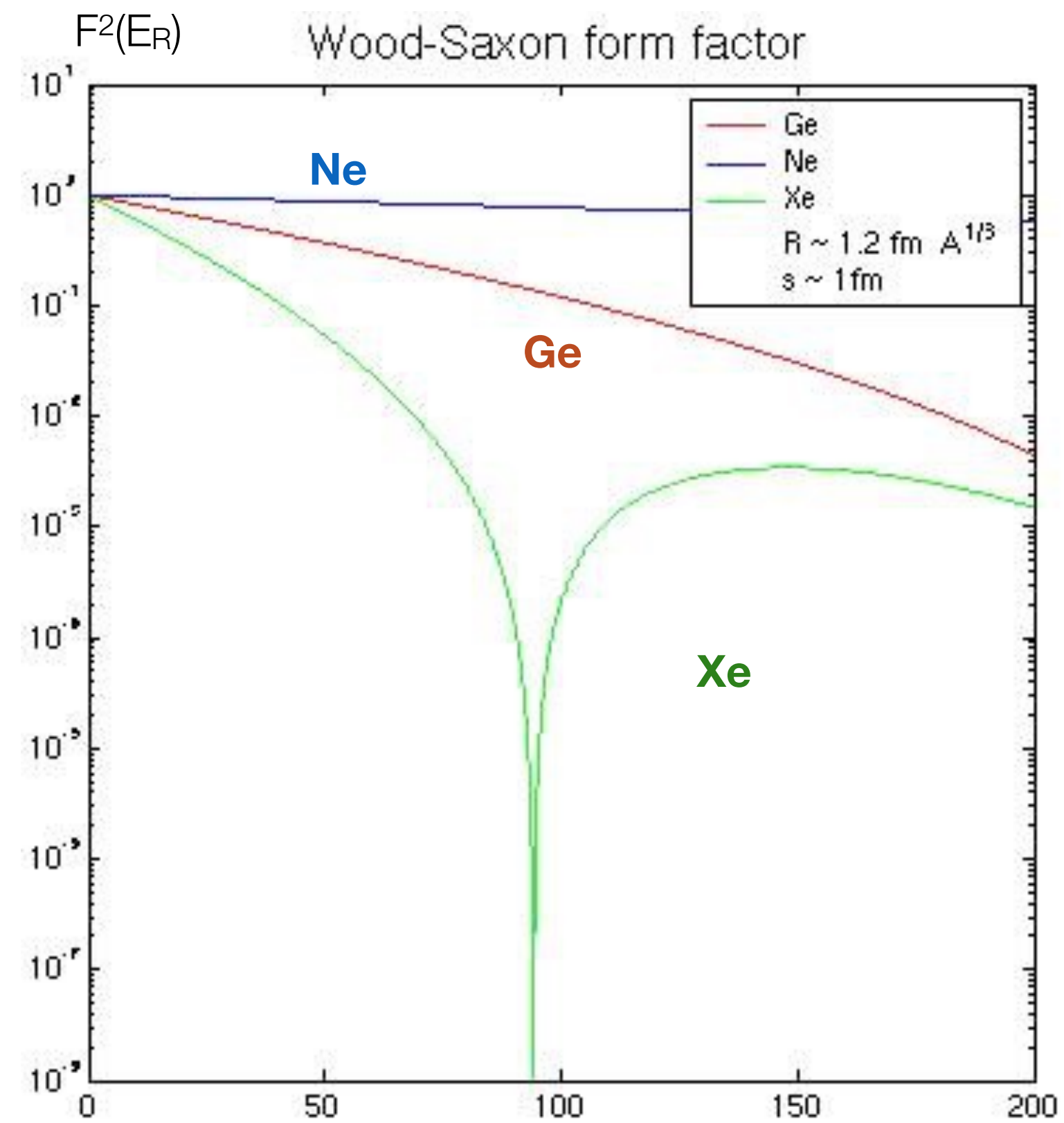
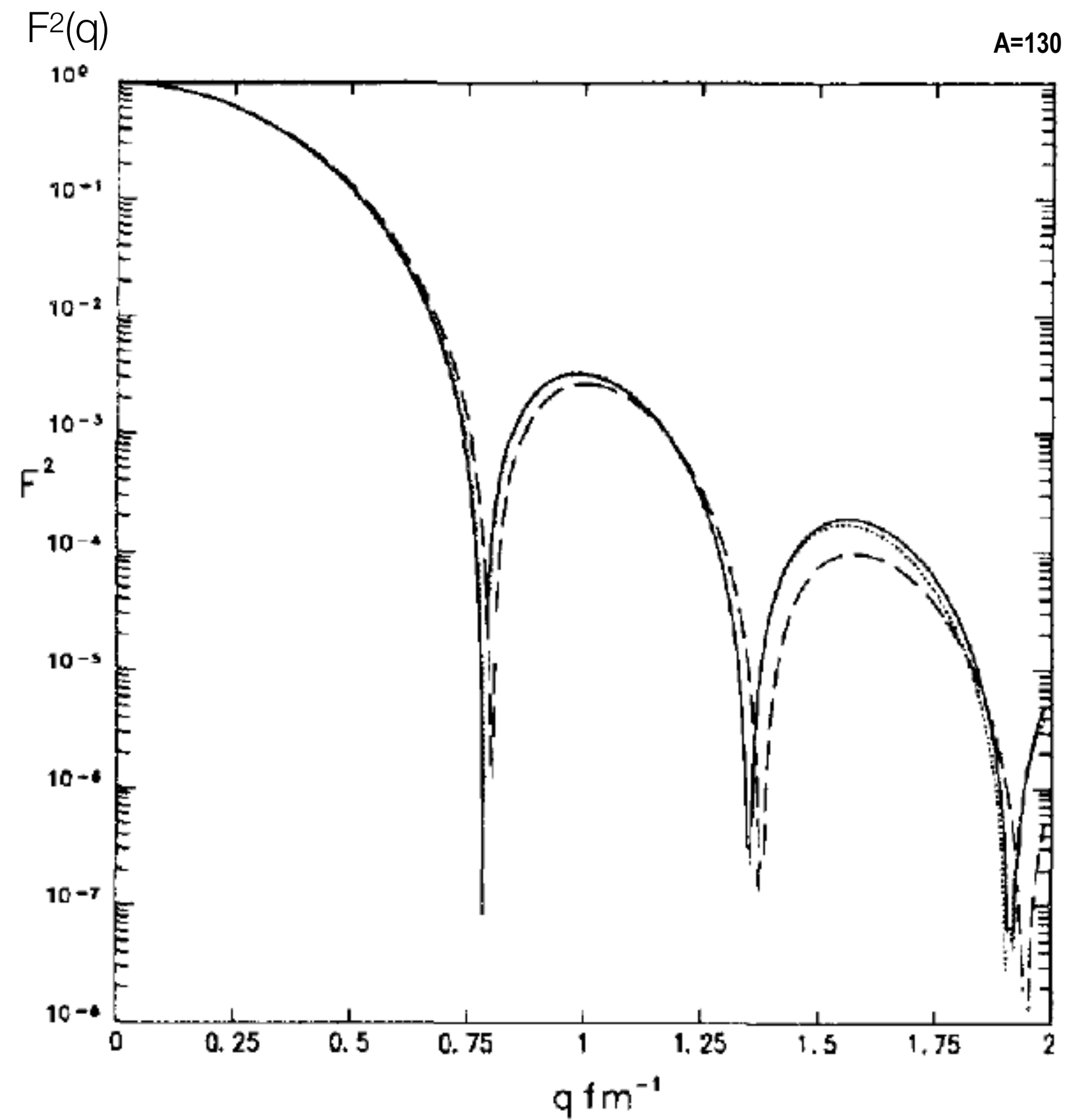


COMA Cluster, [NASA/JPL-Caltech/GSFC/SDSS](#)

Form factors

Loss of coherence as larger momentum transfers probes smaller scales:
leads to a suppression in the event rate for heavy WIMPs or nucleons

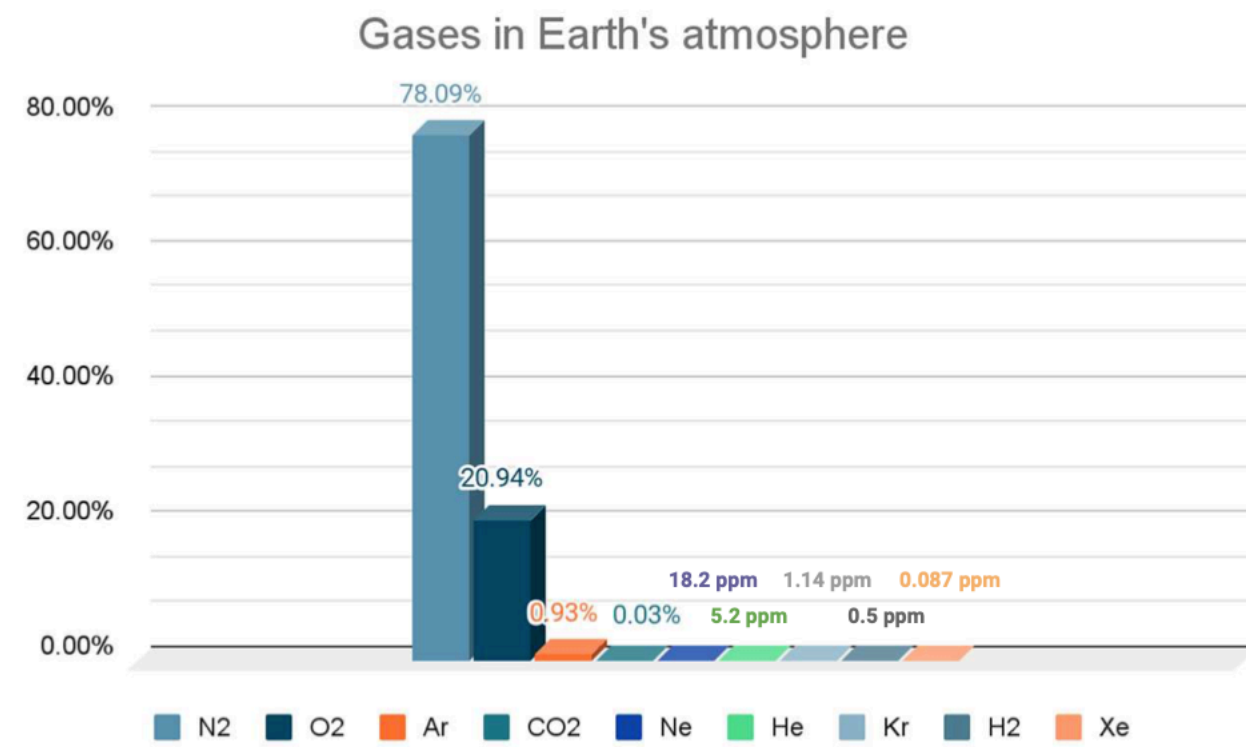
- Scattering amplitude: Born approximation
- Spin-independent scattering is coherent



XENON availability

Xenon in the Earth's atmosphere

Xenon is obtained from air, where it is present in extremely small amounts.



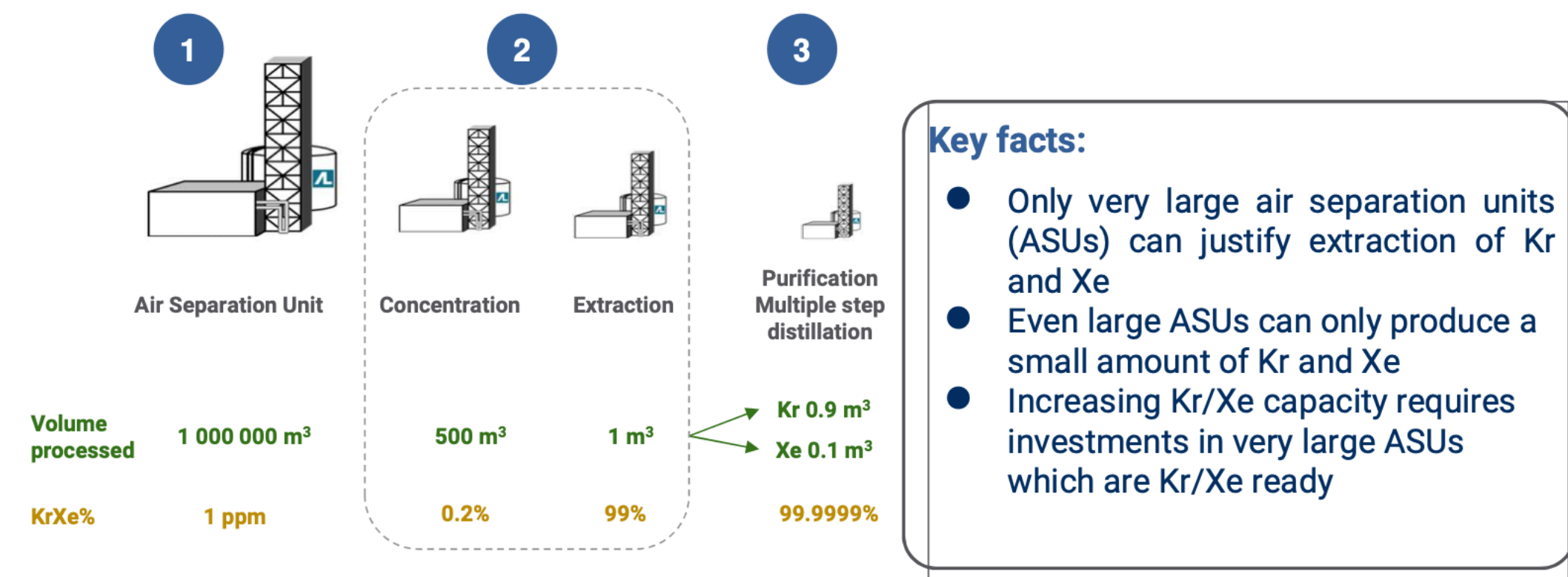
Gaz	Abundance
N2	78,09 %
O2	20,94 %
Ar	0,93 %
CO2	350 ppm
Ne	18,2 ppm
He	5,2 ppm
Kr	1,14 ppm
H2	0,5 ppm
Xe	0,087 ppm

- Electronics demand for both molecules is meant to continue until 2030
- Space demand for both molecules is booming due to recent Space developments and private investment.
- Long term supply can be affected by:
 - Geopolitical context (Russia? China?)
 - Energetic transition in some supplying countries may have a long-term impact on the krXe production

> Such demand provoked a shortage situation that is meant to continue over the next few years despite the different investments made by industrial players.

https://indico.in2p3.fr/event/20879/contributions/109397/attachments/70773/100454/AirLiquide_Gaffet_XeSAT%202022%20Workshop%20%281%29.pdf

Kr and Xe extraction from the air requires multiple steps



⇒ Production of Kr and Xe is managed globally in order to maximize reliability of supply



Test e^- drift over 2.6 m (purification, high-voltage): U. Zurich
(G-floor Assembly Hall)

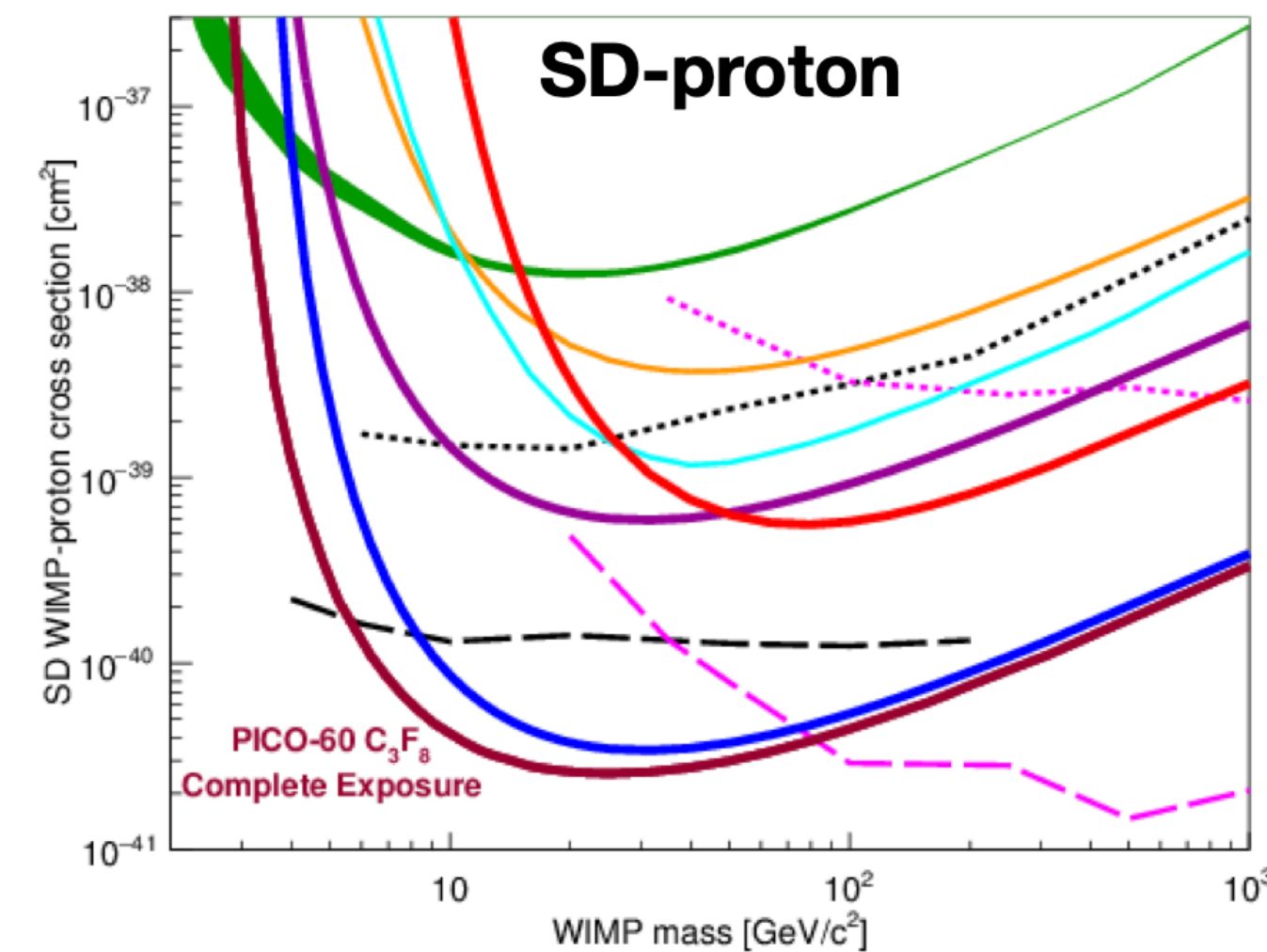
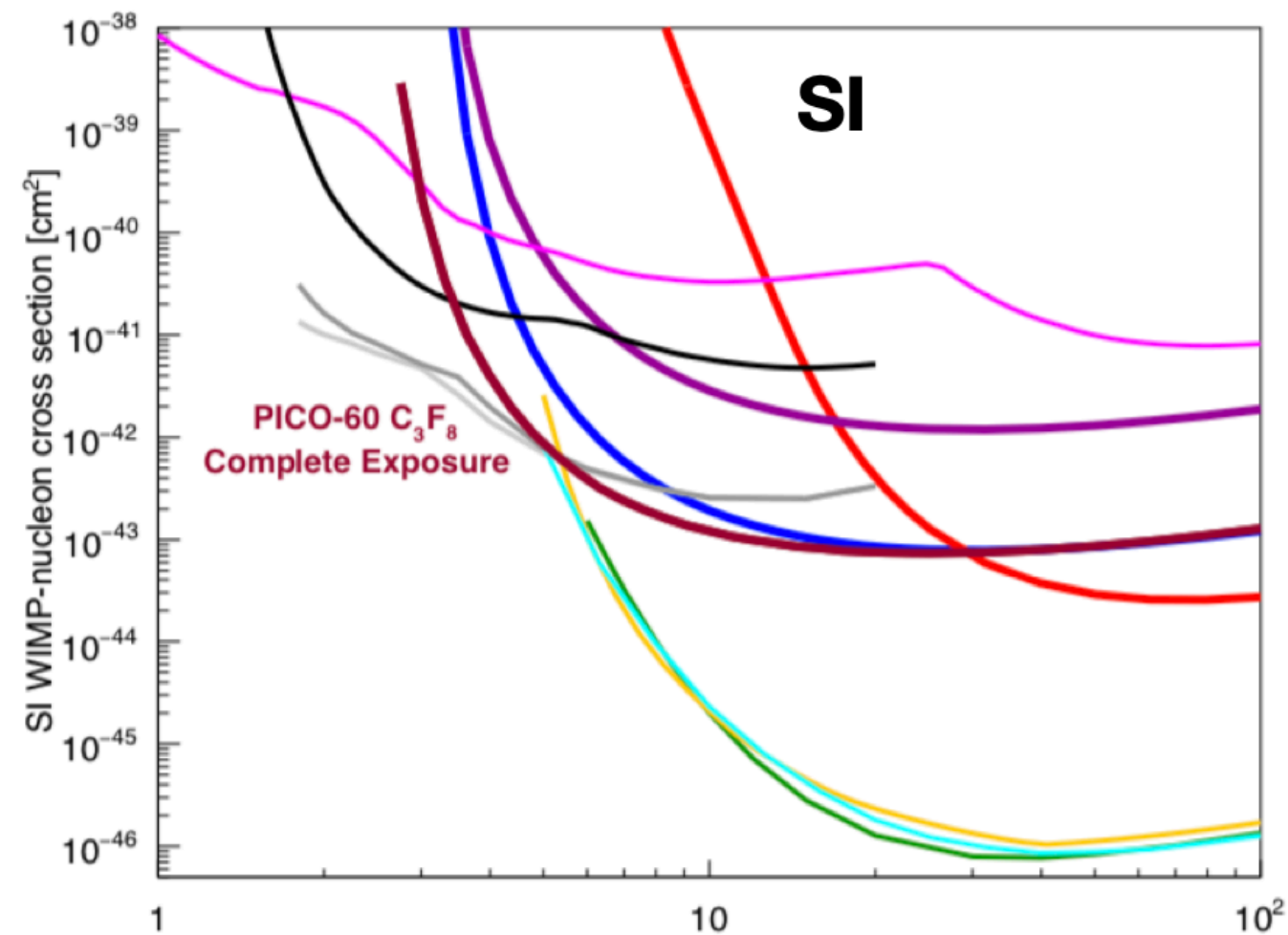
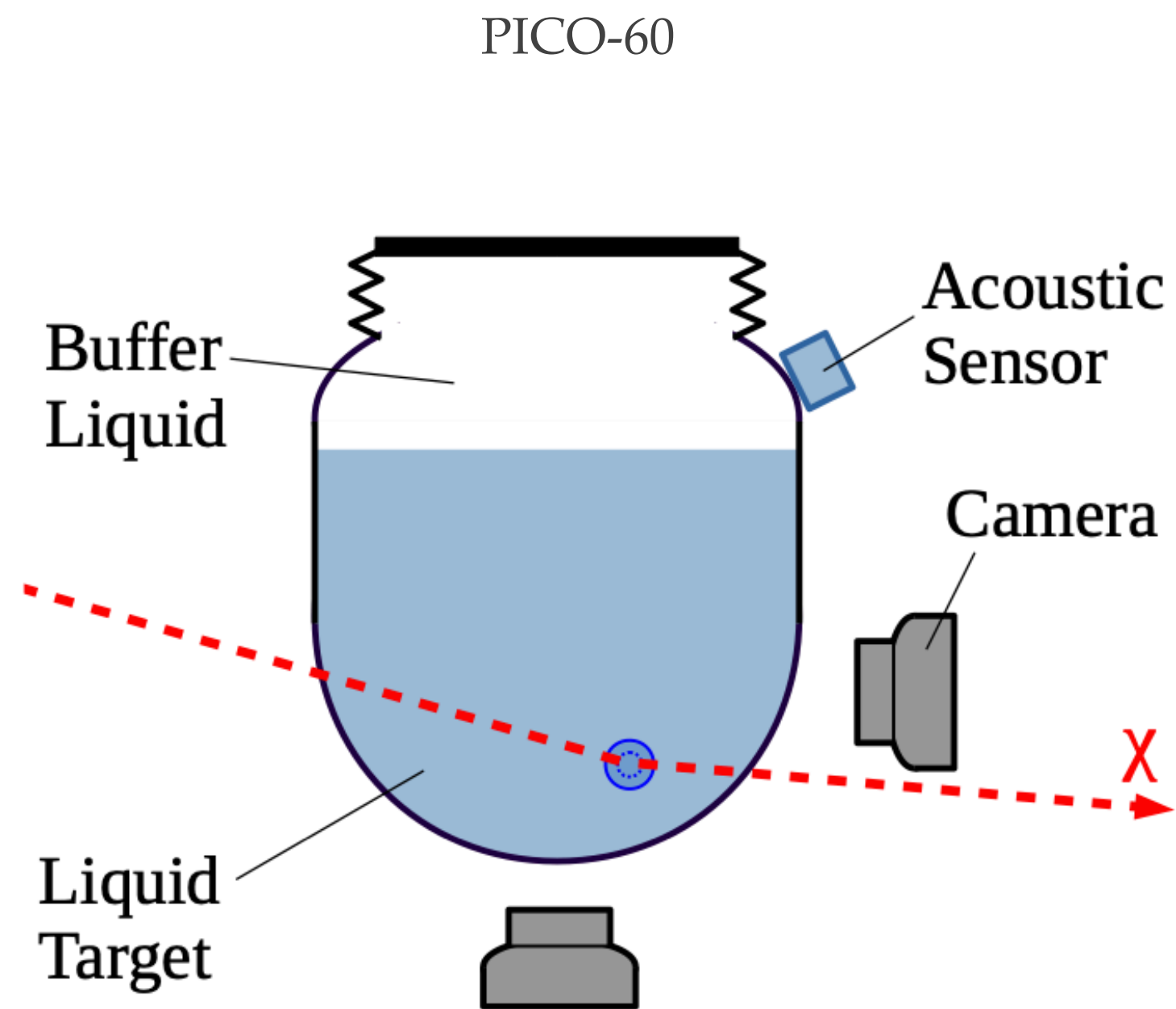


- ▶ Detector, Xe target, background mitigation, photosensors, etc
- ▶ Two large-scale demonstrators (in z & in x-y) supported by ERC grants: demonstrate electron drift over 2.6 m, operate 2.6 m \varnothing electrodes
- ▶ Demonstrators (Xenoscope, 2.6 m tall & Pancake, 2.6 m diam TPCs) in commissioning stage



Test electrodes with 2.6 m diameter: U. Freiburg

Bubble chambers



arXiv:1902.04031
PRD 100, 022001 (2019)

- bubble chamber: 52 kg C_3F_8
- excellent electron recoil and alpha rejection
- 1404-kg-day exposure at 2.45 keV threshold
- previous: 1167-kg-day exposure at 3.3 keV threshold
- larger fiducial volume
- **most stringent SD WIMP-proton limit: $2.5 \times 10^{-41} \text{ cm}^2$ at $25 \text{ GeV}/c^2$**

Annual Modulation

- Test the DAMA/LIBRA annual modulation anomaly with sodium iodide crystals: NaI(Tl)
- So far, no evidence for annual modulation from ANAIS-112 (3 y of data) and COSINE-100 (1.7 y of data)
- New experiment COSINUS: detects also phonons in undoped NaI (apart from scintillation) at few mK, for active background rejection; construction/data at LNGS 2022/23

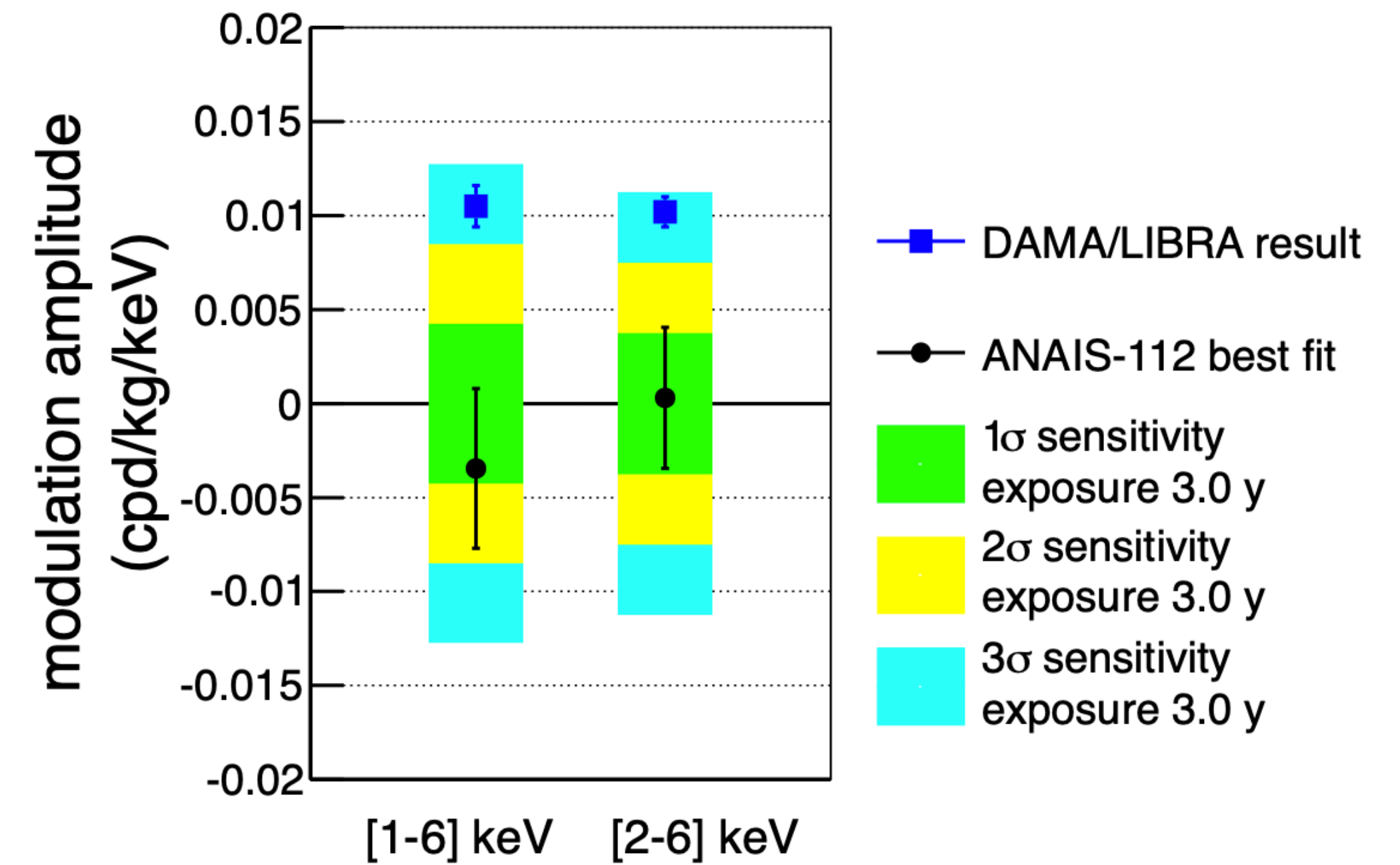
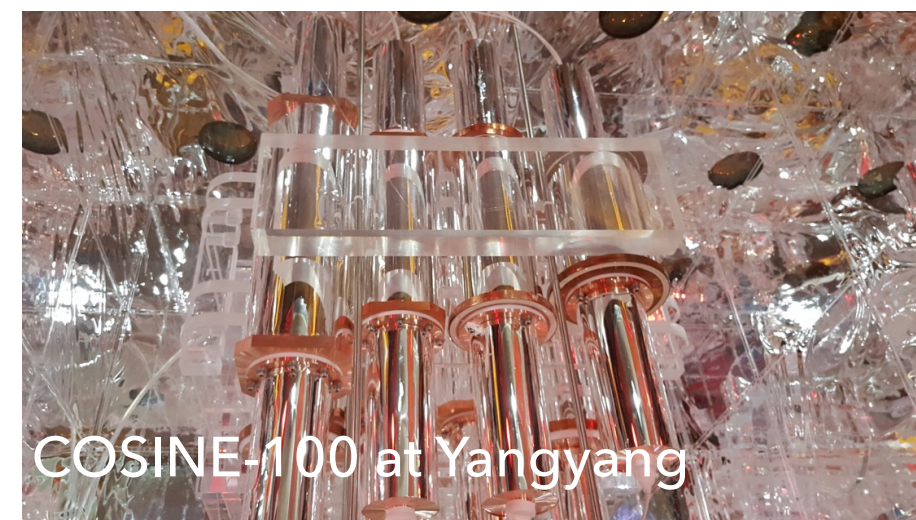


Figure 29: The ANAIS best-fit modulation amplitude result compared with the DAMA/LIBRA best-fit result for both recoil energy ranges considered by DAMA/LIBRA. Figure from Ref. [41].