

A large iceberg floats in the ocean. The top part of the iceberg is visible above the water, while the much larger bottom part is submerged. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds.

Dark Matter Searches – WIMPs

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The Future of Non-Collider-Physics
Mainz, April 27, 2017

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with input from K. Eitel, M. Lindner, F. Petricca,
T. Pollmann, S. Schönert, C. Weinheimer

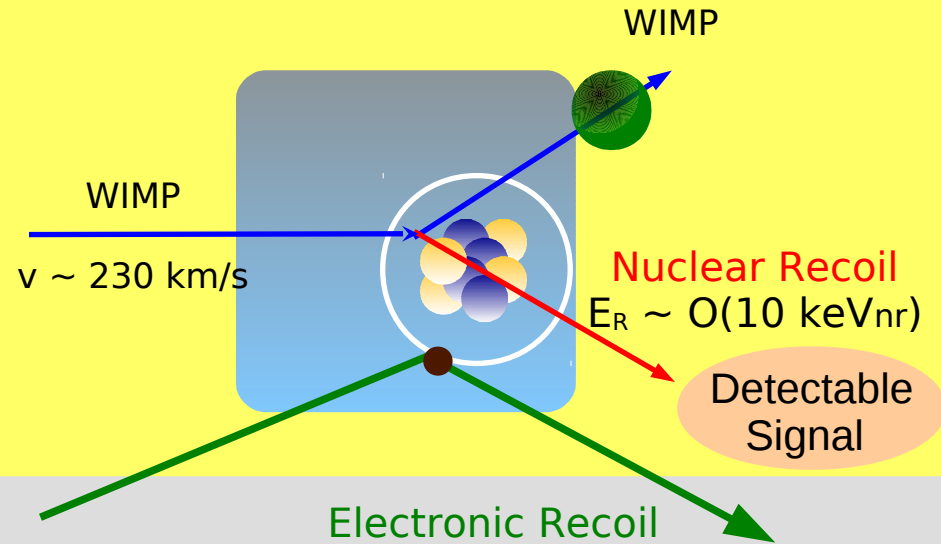
Direct Detection in Germany

CRESST

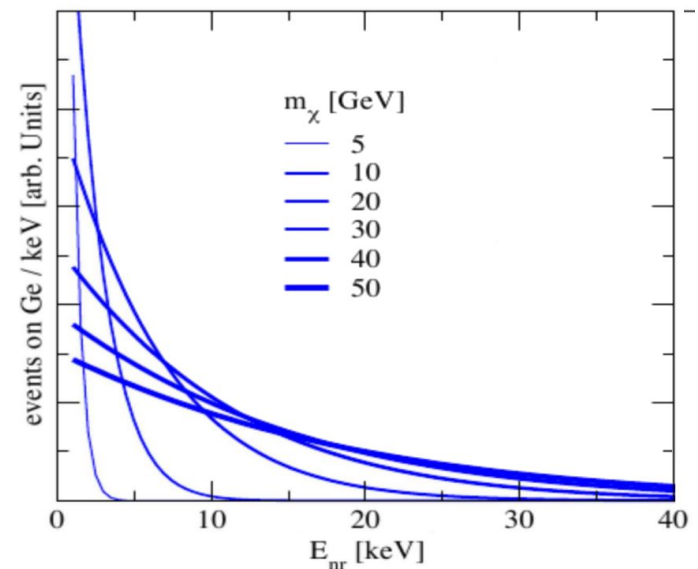
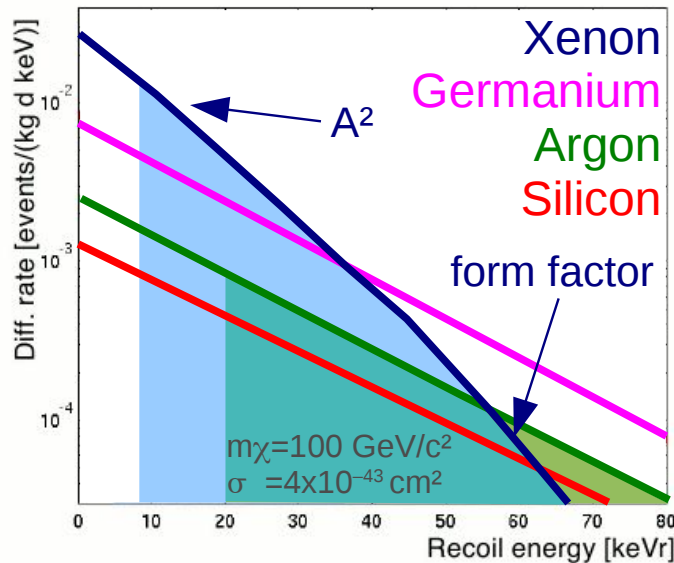


Direct WIMP Search

Elastic Scattering of WIMPs off target nuclei
 → nuclear recoil



Recoil Spectra:



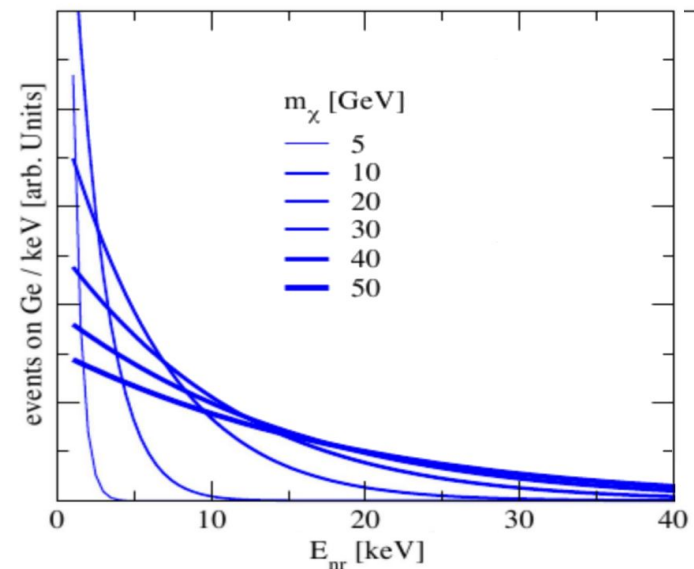
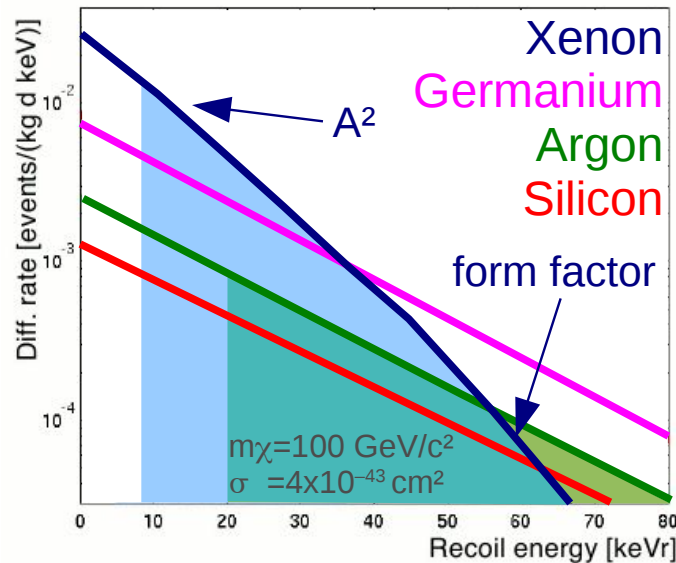
Direct WIMP Search

Elastic Scattering of WIMPs off target nuclei
→ nuclear recoil

How to build a WIMP detector?

- large total mass, high A
- very low energy threshold
- ultra low background
- good signal / background discrimination

Recoil Spectra:



Background Sources

muons

muon-induced neutrons

neutrons from (α, n) and sf

natural γ -bg

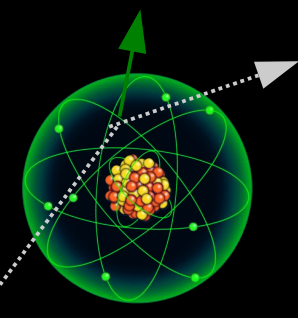
neutrons from (α, n) and sf

pp+ ^7Be neutrinos
→ ER signature

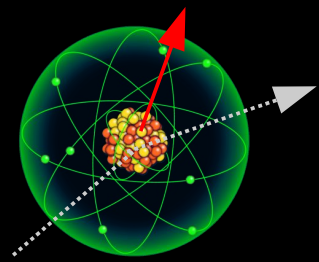
high-E neutrinos
→ CNNS bg
→ NR signature

natural γ -bg

target-intrinsic bg:
 α -, β -, γ -radiation, n;
activation, impurities,
 $2\nu\beta\beta$



Electronic Recoils
(gamma, beta)



Nuclear Recoils
(neutron, WIMPs)

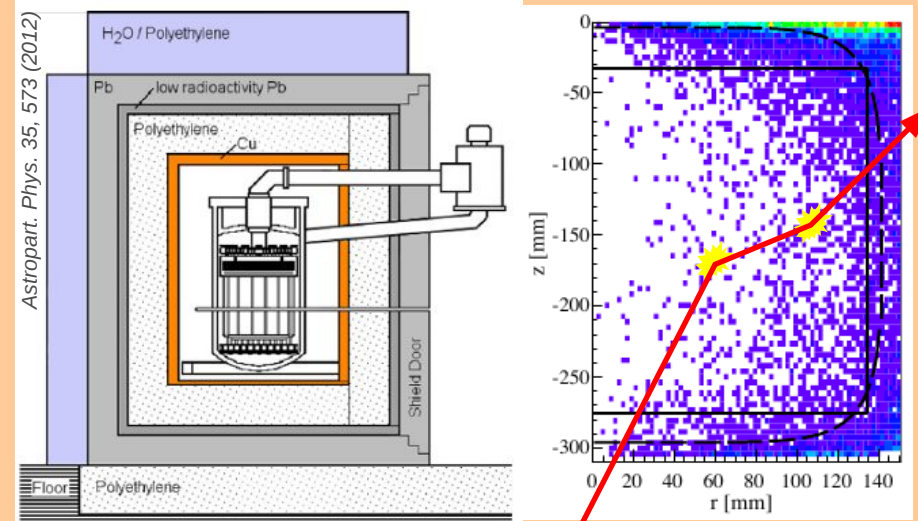
Background Suppression

Avoid Backgrounds

Shielding

deep underground location
large shield (Pb, water, poly)
active veto (μ , γ coincidence)
self shielding \rightarrow fiducialization

Use of radiopure materials



Use knowledge about expected WIMP signal

WIMPs interact only once

\rightarrow single scatter selection
requires some position resolution

WIMPs interact with target nuclei

\rightarrow nuclear recoils
exploit different dE/dx from
signal and background \longrightarrow

Examples:

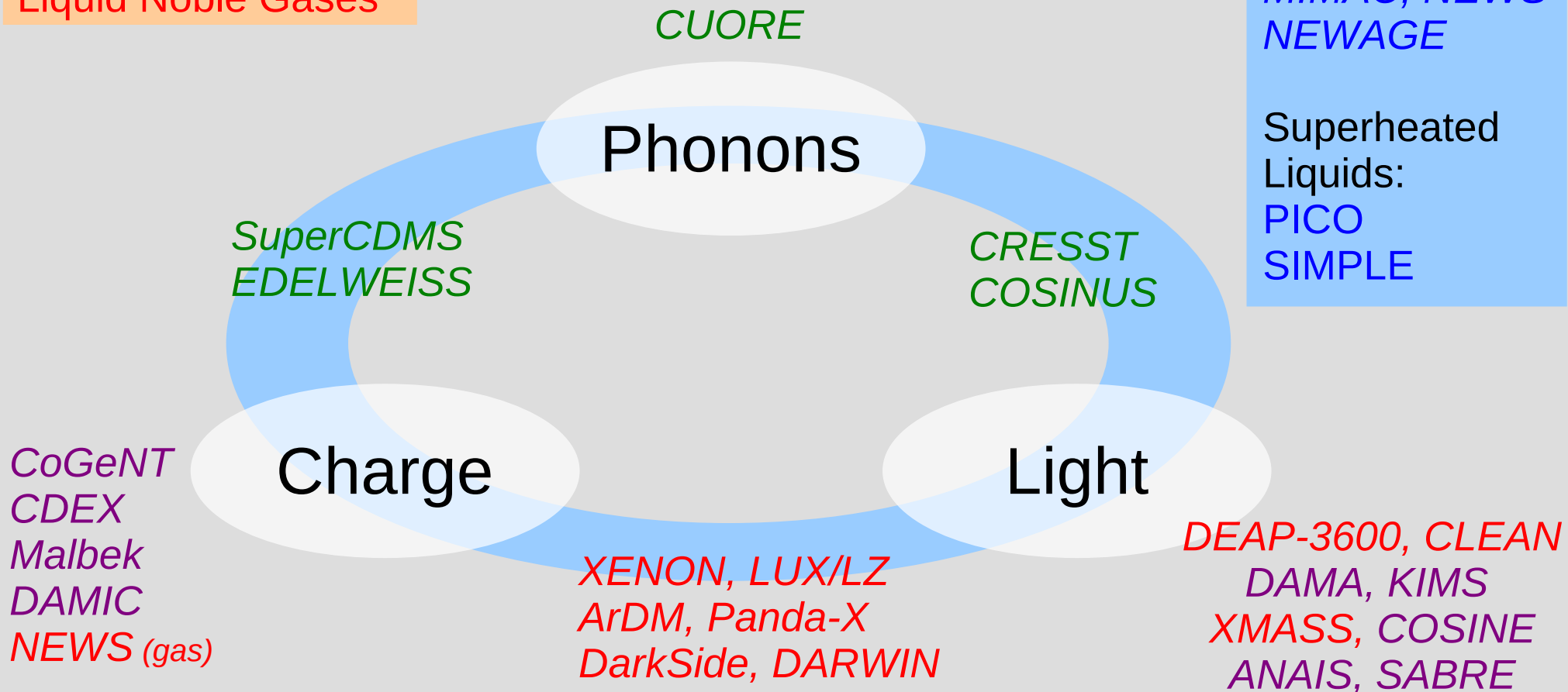
- scintillation pulse shape
- charge/light ratio
- ionization yield

Direct WIMP Detection

Crystals (NaI, Ge, Si)
Cryogenic Detectors
Liquid Noble Gases

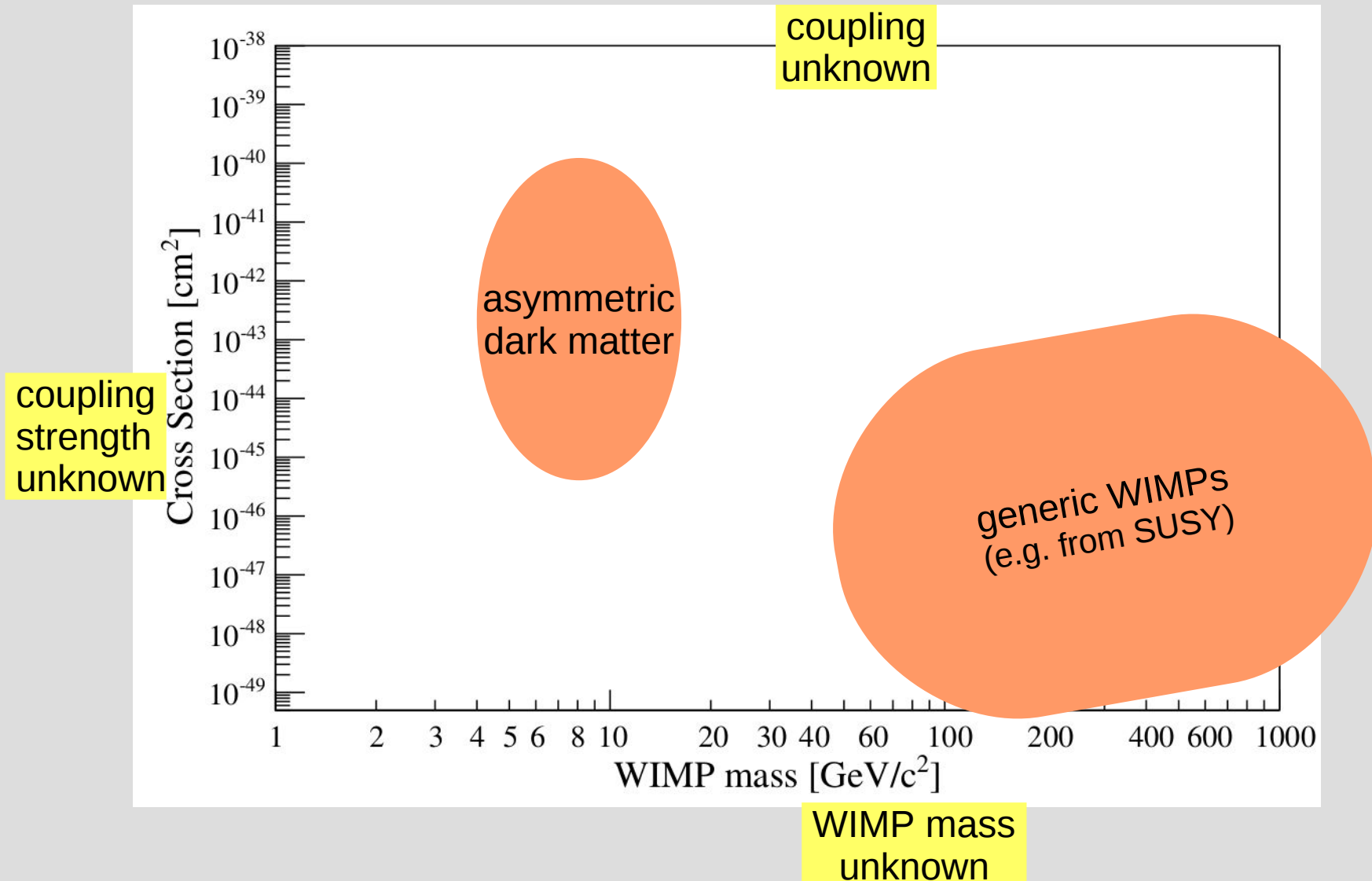
Tracking:
DRIFT, DMTPC
MIMAC, NEWS
NEWAGE

Superheated
Liquids:
PICO
SIMPLE



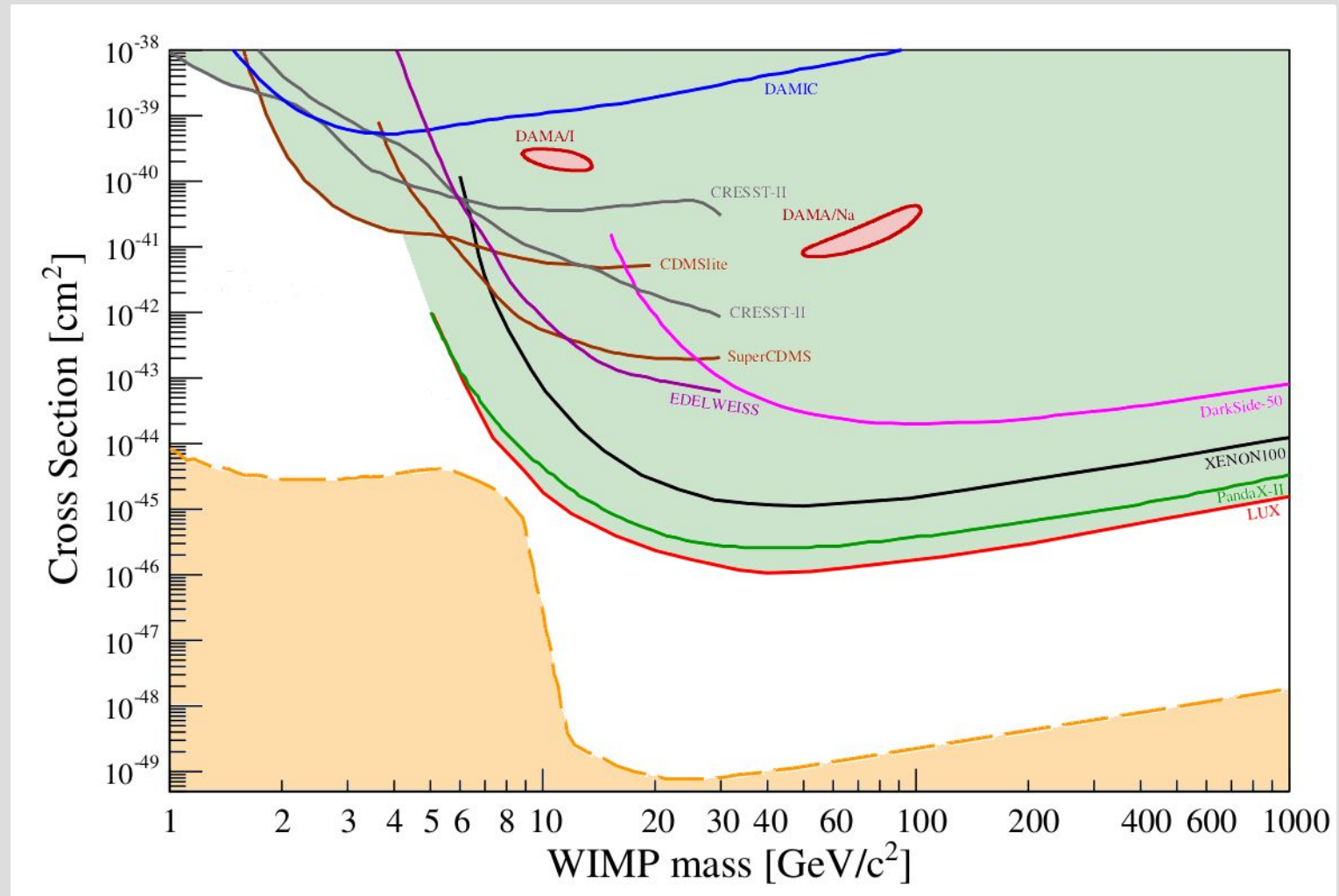
The WIMP Parameter Space

spin-independent WIMP-nucleon interactions



Current Status

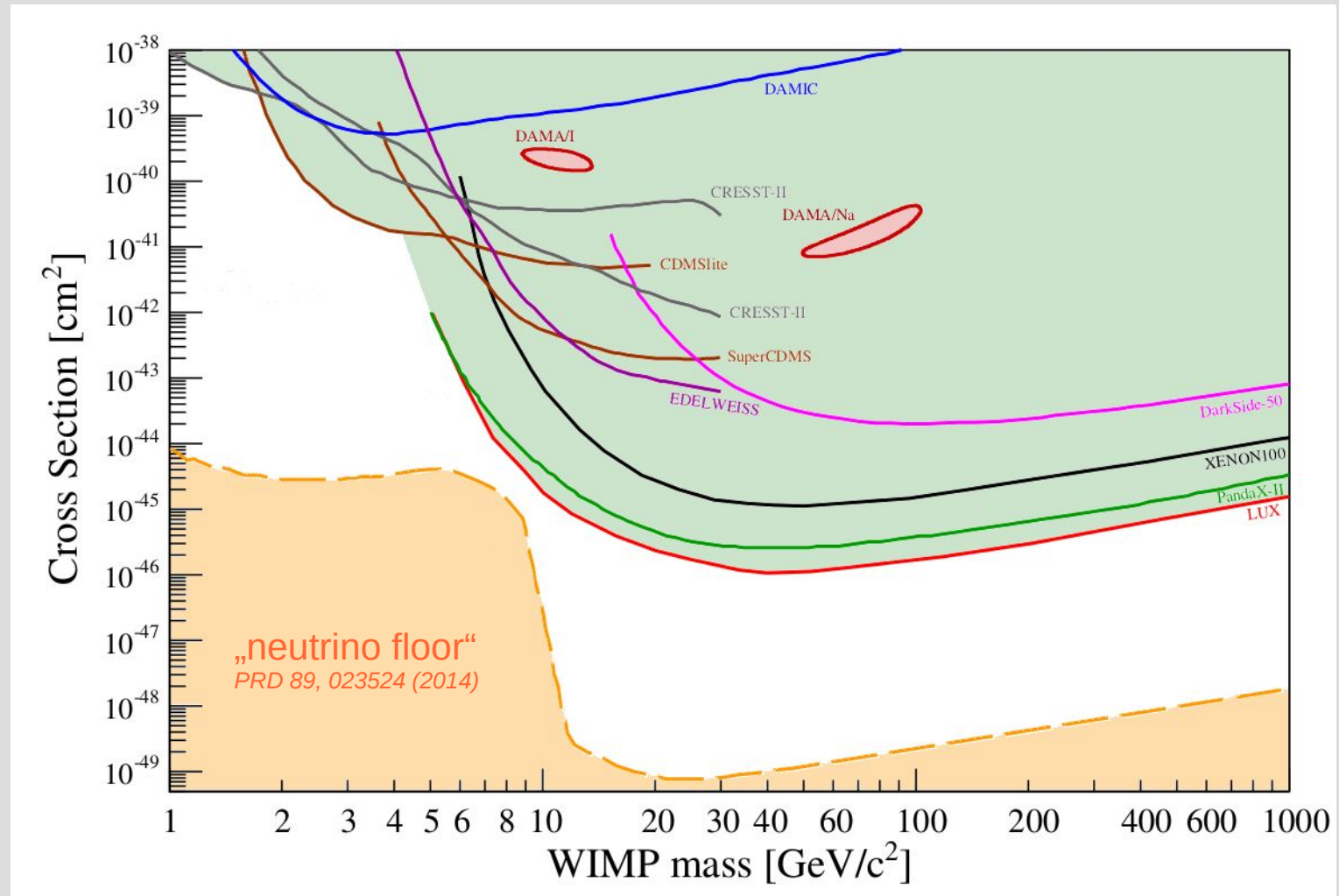
spin-independent WIMP-nucleon interactions



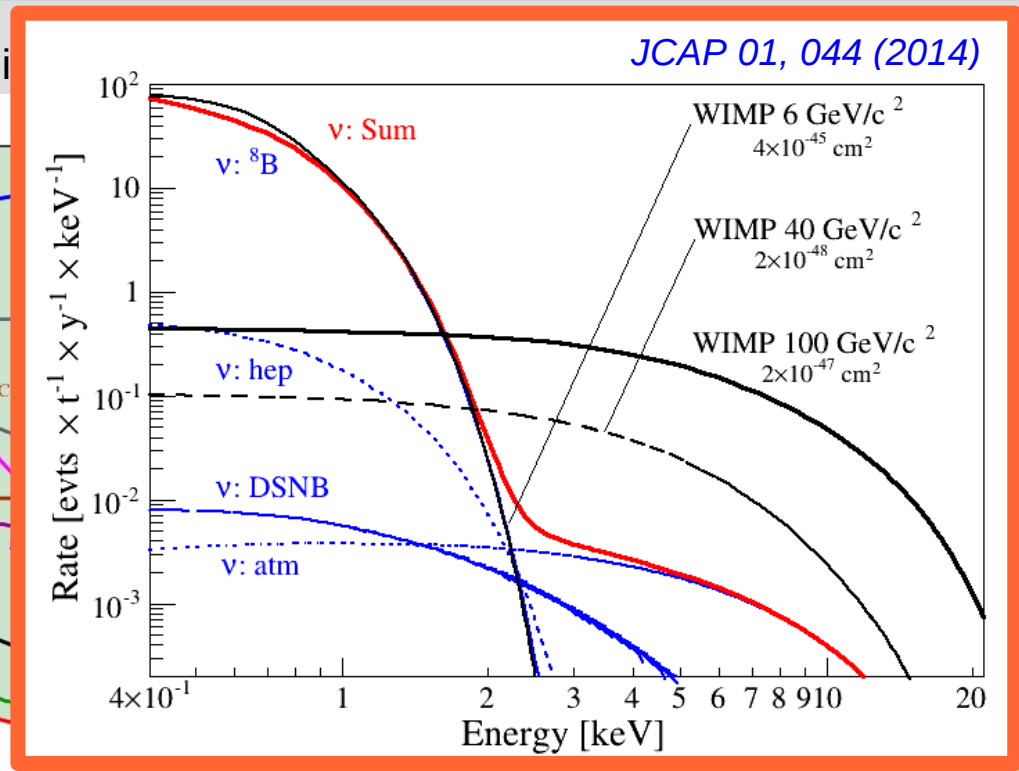
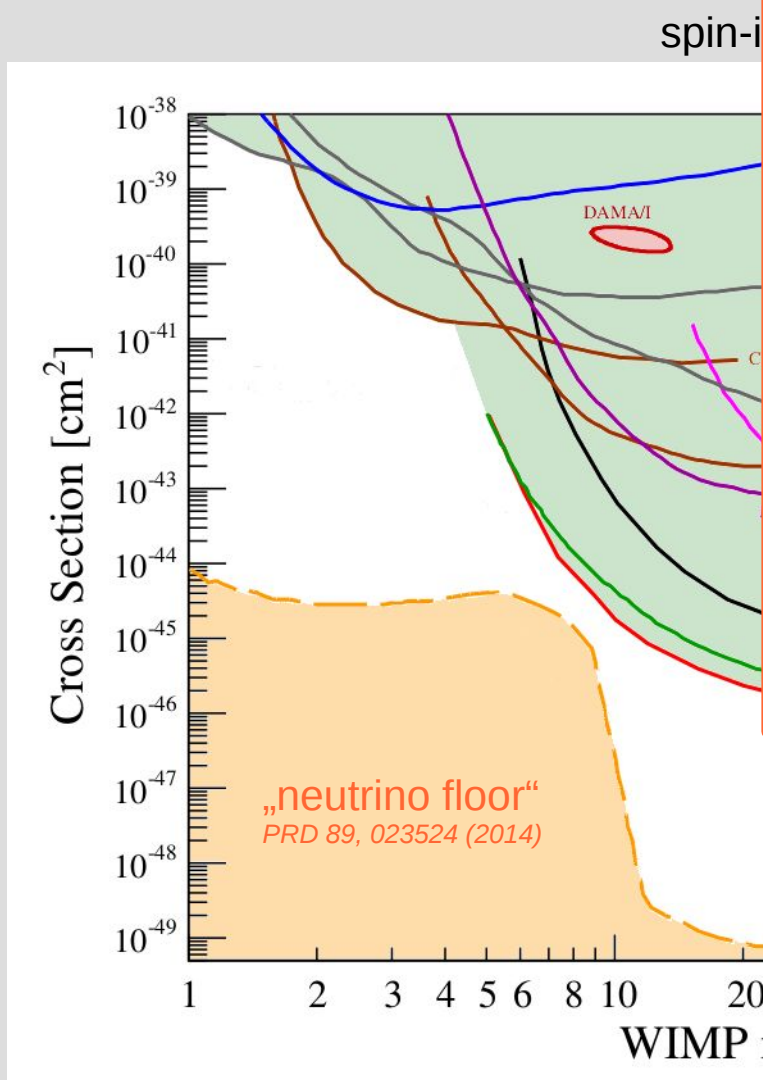
some results are missing...

Neutrino Floor

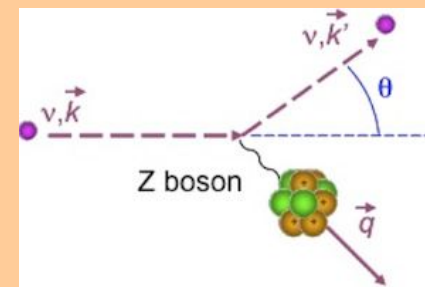
spin-independent WIMP-nucleon interactions



Neutrino Floor

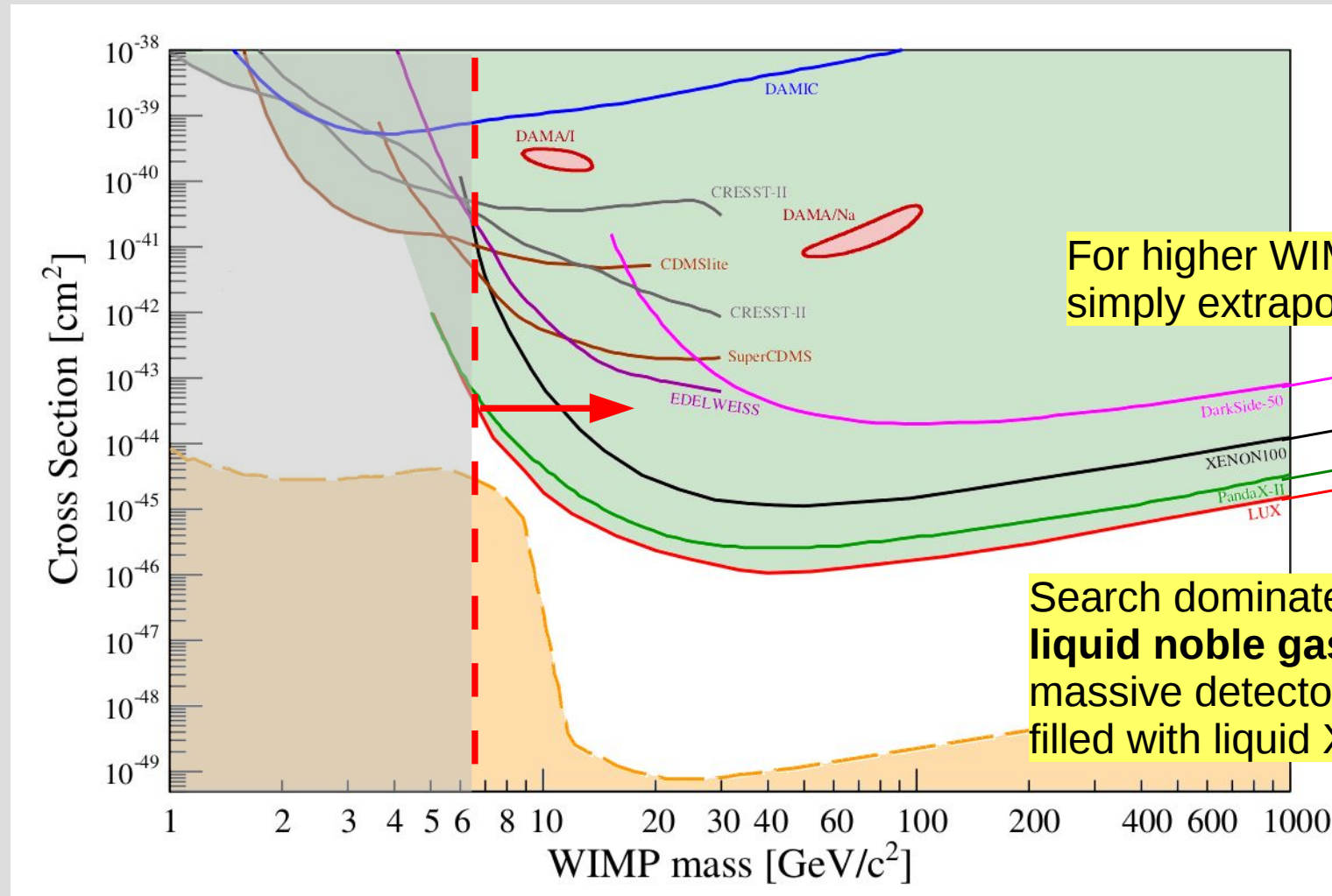


Interactions from coherent neutrino-nucleus scattering (CNNS) will dominate
 → **ultimate background** for direct detection



High WIMP Masses

spin-independent WIMP-nucleon interactions



For higher WIMP masses,
simply extrapolate limits

Search dominated by
liquid noble gas TPCs:
massive detectors
filled with liquid Xe or Ar

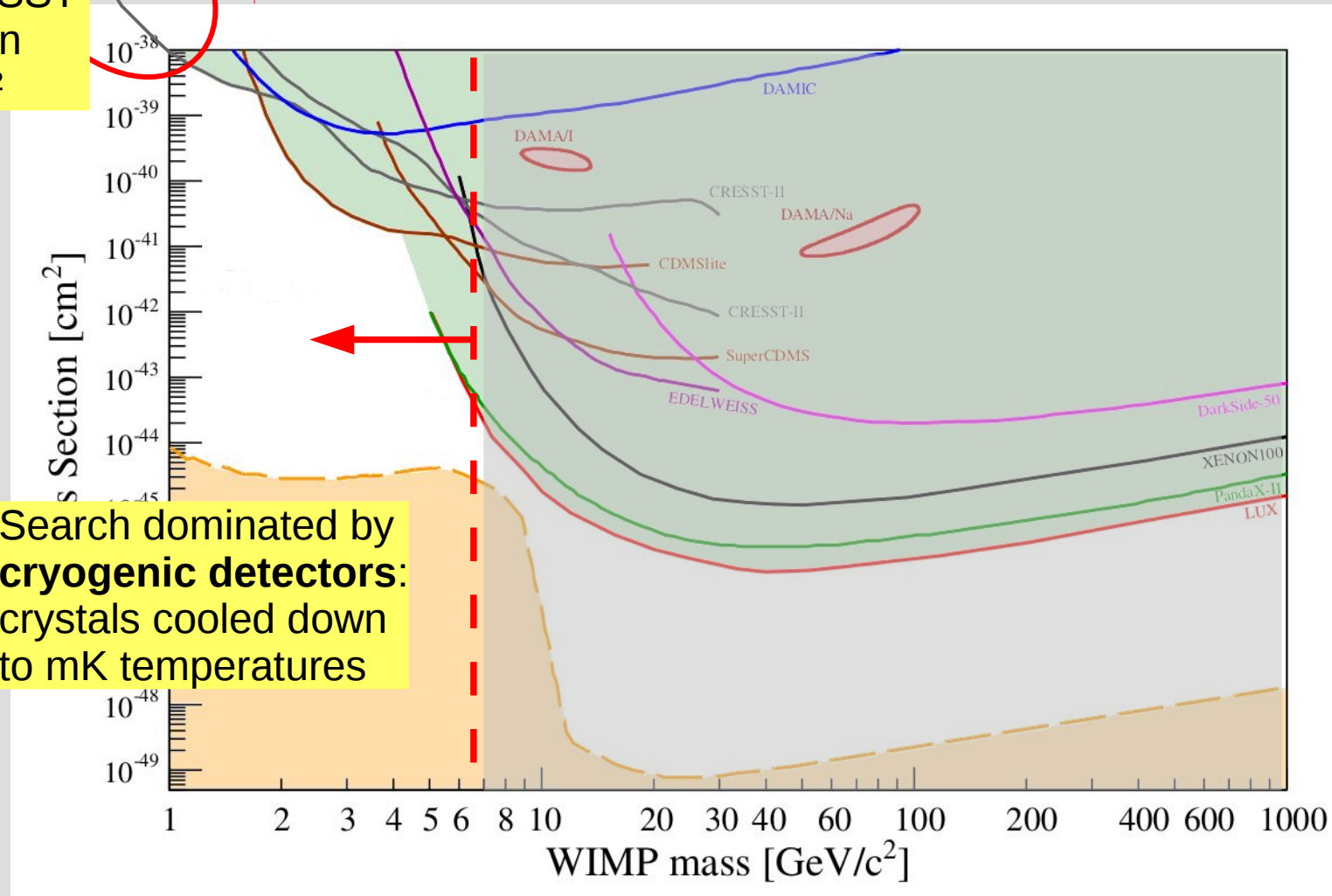
some results are missing...

Low WIMP Masses

Current CRESST limits go down to 500 keV/c²

Search dominated by cryogenic detectors: crystals cooled down to mK temperatures

spin-independent WIMP-nucleon interactions



some results are missing...

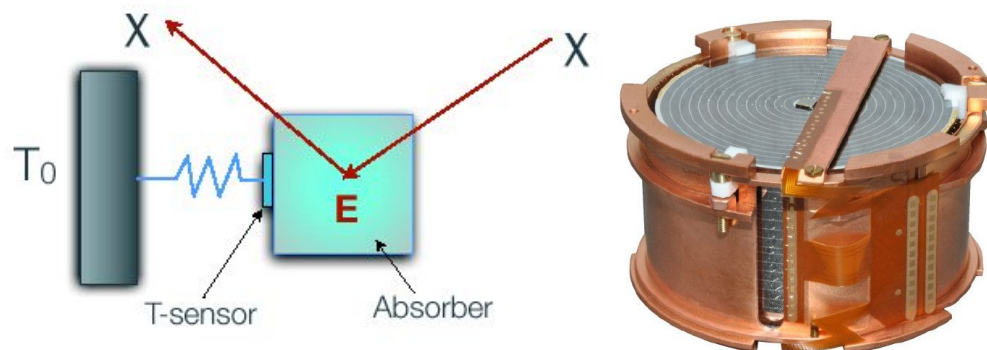
Cryogenic Detectors

measure charge or light and heat (phonons) in crystals: Ge, (Si), CaWO_4

E deposition \rightarrow temperature rise $\Delta T \sim \mu\text{K}$ (\rightarrow TES)

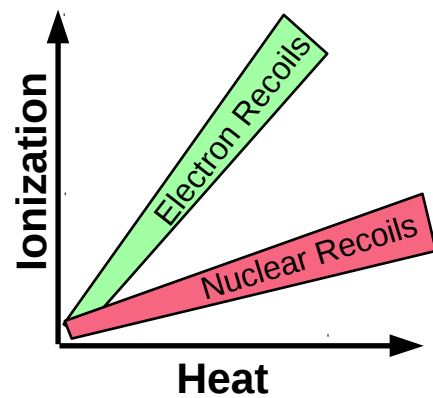
\rightarrow requires detectors with low heat capacity at mK temperatures

Ge: SuperCDMS, EDELWEISS, CDEX



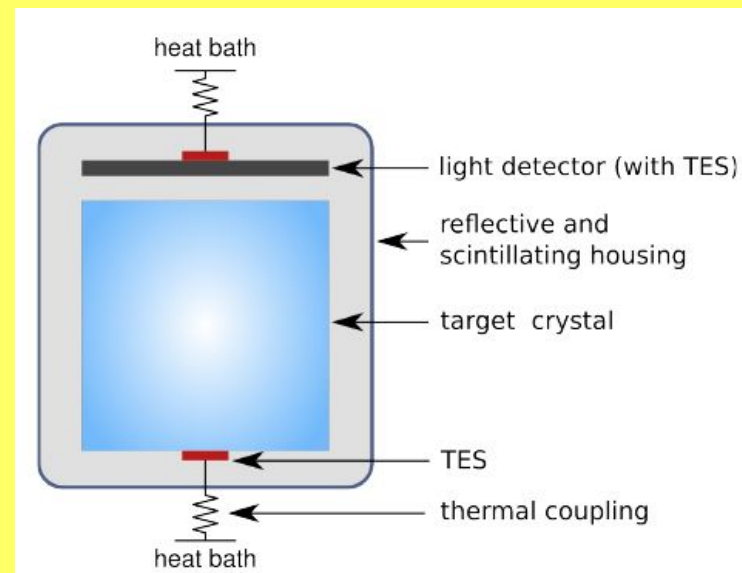
Charge and heat measurement

Very good discrimination
 \rightarrow BUT: need to reject surface events



very low threshold in „HV mode“

CaWO_4 : CRESST

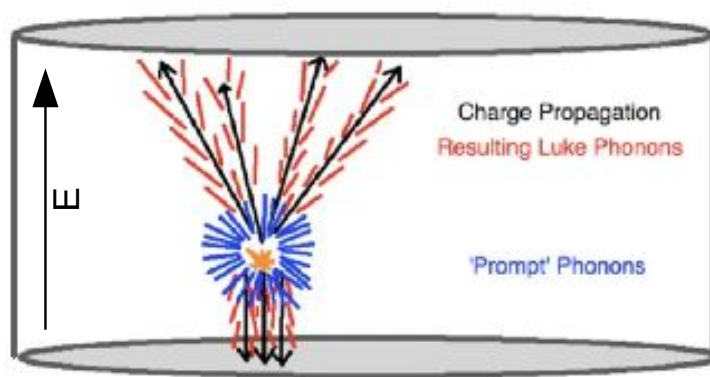


- Light and heat measurement
- very good discrimination
- multi-isotope target

Ge: Very low WIMP masses

very low threshold for sensitivity to very low-mass WIMPs:
 amplify signal → HV operation: **Neganov-Luke effect** to amplify charge signal

convert work done by E-field on e-hole pairs to phonons



$$\begin{aligned}
 E_{tot} &= E_r + E_{luke} \\
 &= E_r + n_{eh} e V_b \\
 &= E_r \left(1 + \frac{e V_b}{\epsilon_{eh}} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

initial recoil

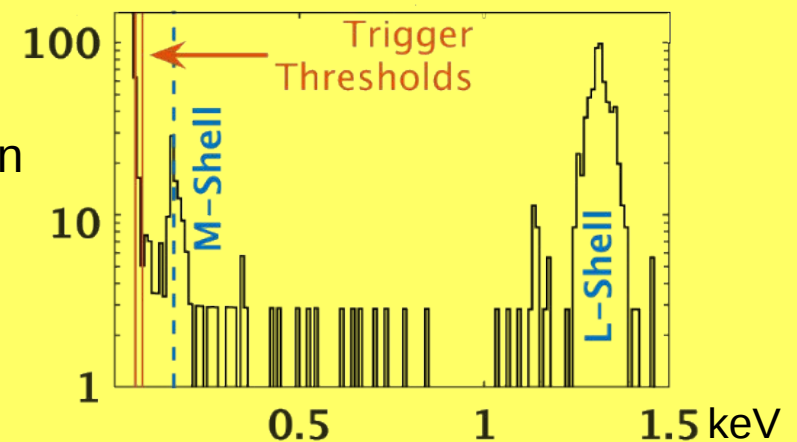
bias voltage

3 eV/pair

CDMSlite *PRL 116, 071301 (2016)*

- 625 g iZIP detector, 70 kg×d exposure
- $V_b=69$ V, **56 eV_{ee} threshold!** 14 eV_{ee} resolution
- no ionization measured

→ **no ER rejection**



Cryogenic Detectors: Status

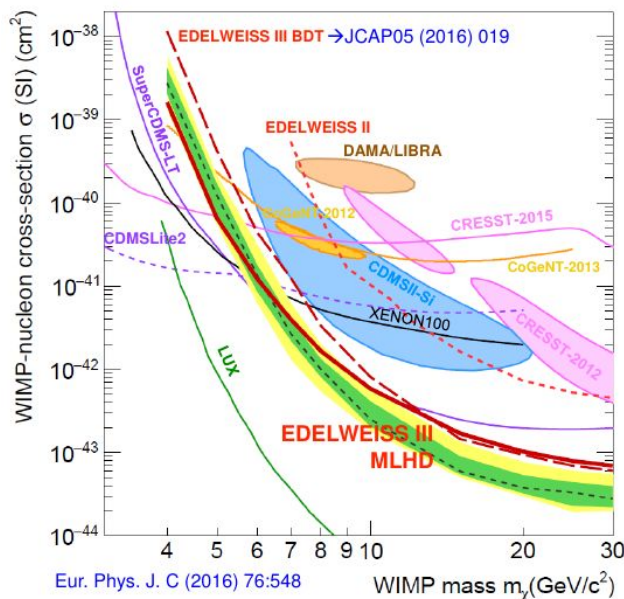
EDELWEISS-III @ Modane



new **low-threshold result:**

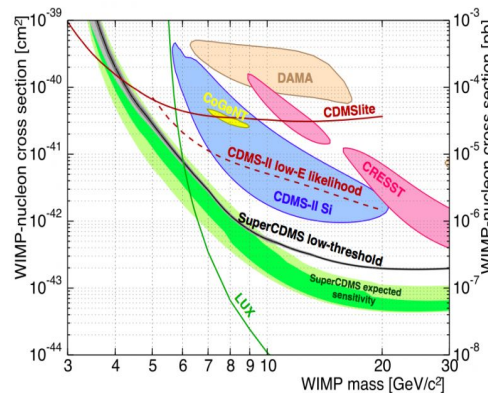
- 8 Ge detectors
- lowest thresholds (2.5–20 keVnr)
- no significant excess
- 40× better than EDW-II @ 5 GeV/c²

BDT: *JCAP 05, 019 (2016)*
 PL: *EPJ C 76, 548 (2016)*



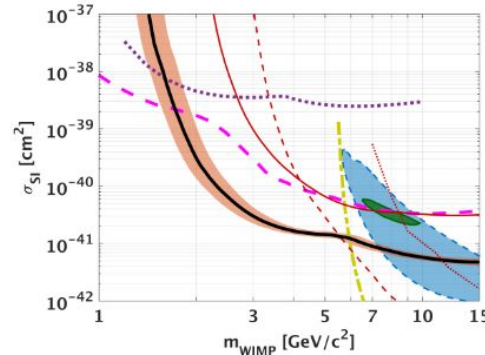
SuperCDMS @ Soudan

- 100×33.3 mm IZPs (1.4 kg Ge)
- results on low-mass WIMPs



PRL 112, 241302 (2014)

CDMSlite @ Soudan



PRL 116, 071301 (2016)

Not operational anymore!

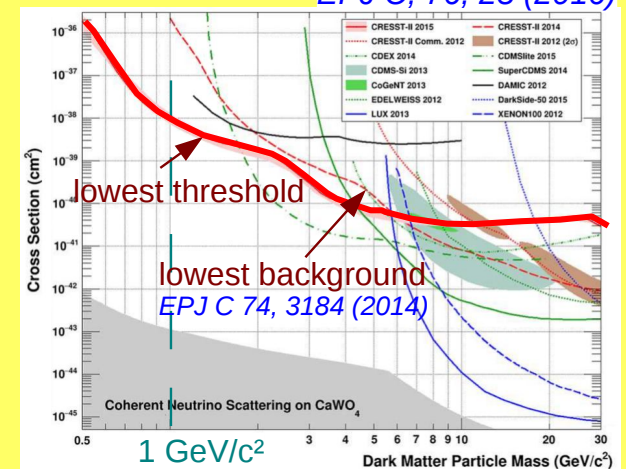
CaWO₄: CRESST @ LNGS



The low mass record

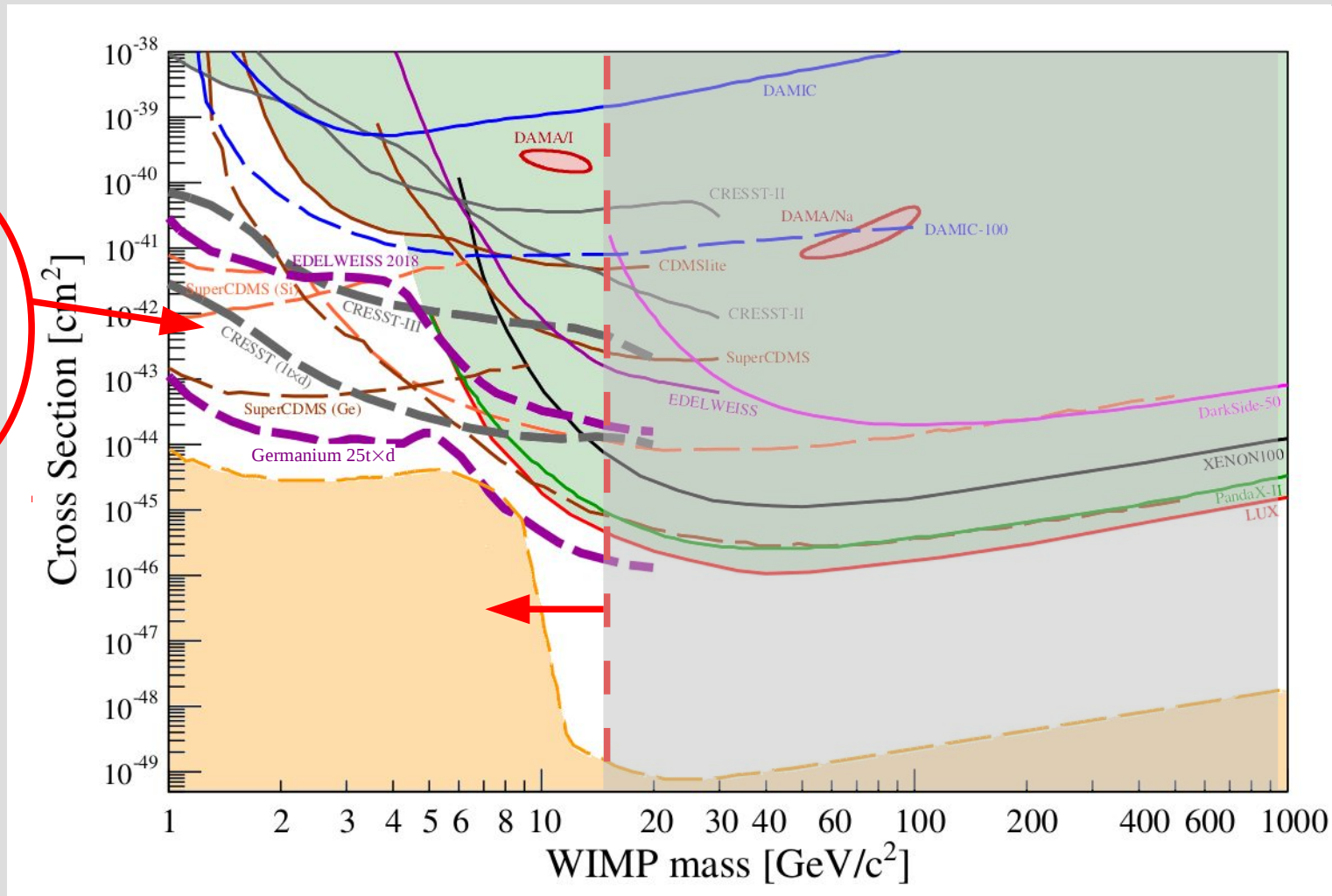
- target: CaWO₄ → multi-element material
- bg reduced successfully data taking 2013-2015, 52 kg×d
- new result *EPJ C, 76, 25 (2016)*
 300 g crystal with **307 eVnr threshold**

EPJ C, 76, 25 (2016)



Upcoming Projects

basically funded



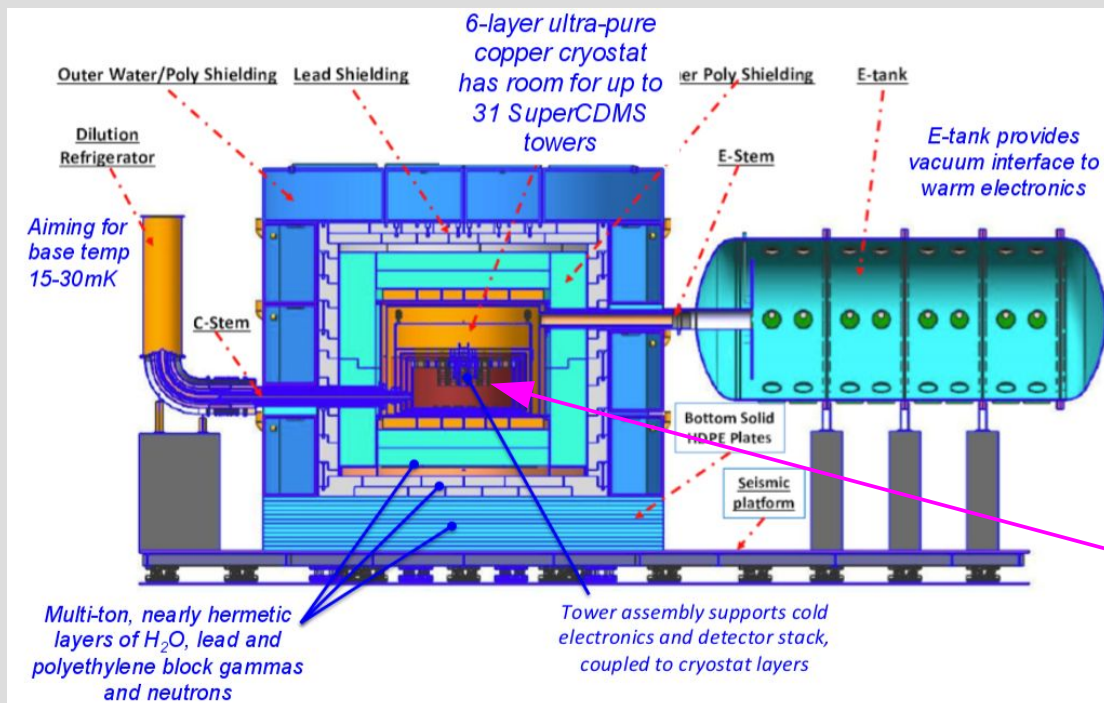
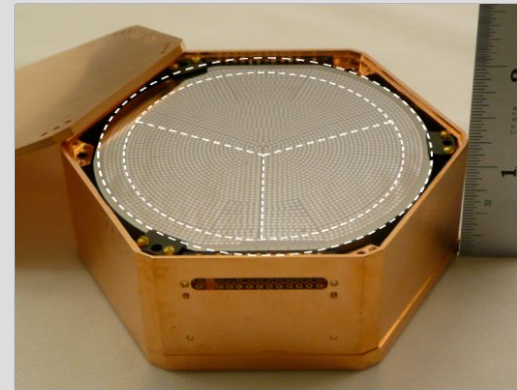
some results are missing...

Ge/Si: SuperCDMS

PRD 95, 082002 (2017)

selected by NSF-DOE downselection

- ~50 kg target (upgrade to 400 kg possible)
- low threshold
→ focus on 1-10 GeV/c² mass range
- Move Soudan → SNOLAB:
deeper lab, better materials & shield, improved resolution, electronics, ...
- 100×33.3 mm IZPs (1.4 kg Ge, 0.6 kg Si)



Timeline:

- 2018/19: construction
- commissioning/science by **2020**
- beyond 2024: upgrade mass?

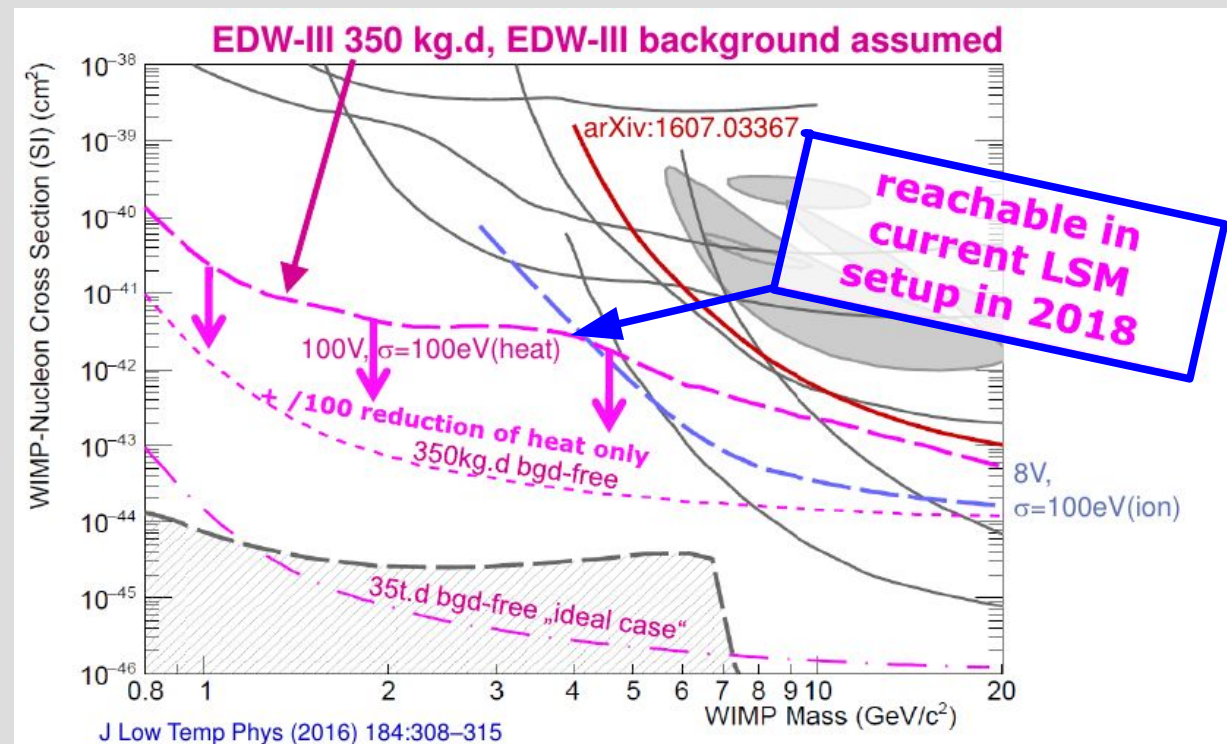
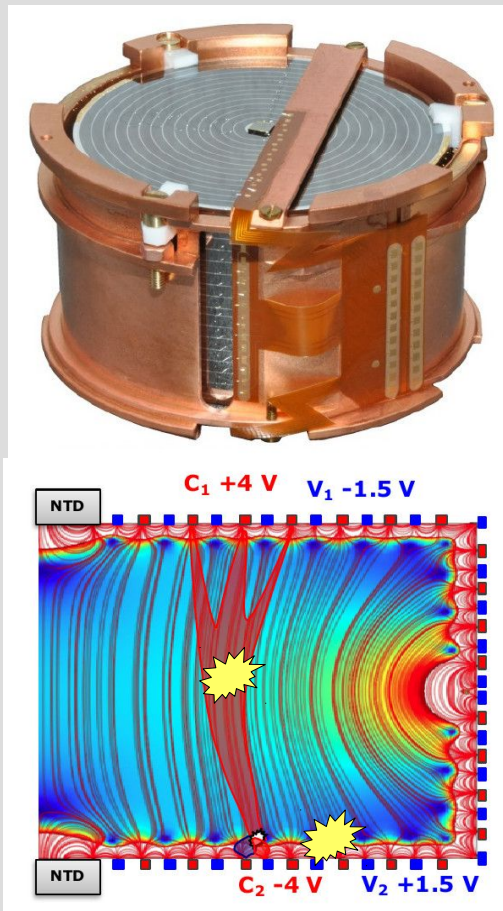
until then:

- CUTE detector R&D platform at SNOLAB

cryostat oversized:
offers prime real-estate with
<40 mK, ultra low-noise,
ultra-low background

Ge: EDELWEISS-III

- continue operation of a few kg of Ge detectors in Modane Lab (F)
- 800 g Ge crystals measure ionization and heat (NTD sensors)
interdigitized electrodes: fiducialization (~600 g)
- **focus on low-mass WIMPs (HV or „lite“ mode)**



Strategy beyond 2019:

→ potential to cooperate with SuperCDMS @ SNOLAB

CaWO₄: CRESST-III

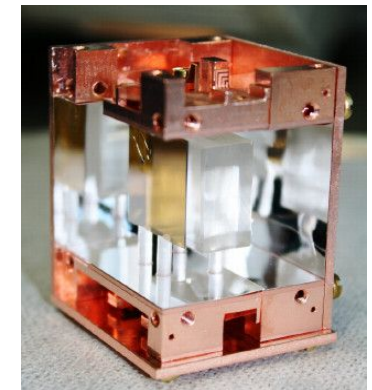
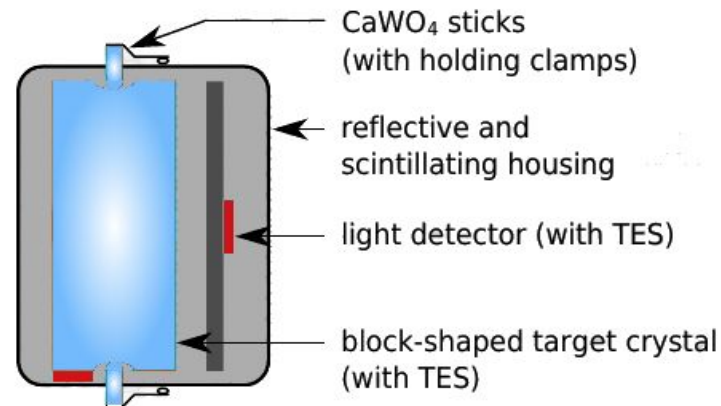
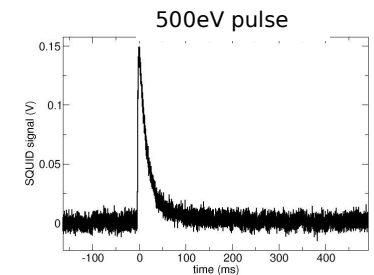
CRESST-III: lower threshold to 100 eV_{nr}

- smaller, cleaner, self-grown crystals (300 g → 25 g)
- all-scintillating detector design
 - avoid partial energy depositions
- improve signal-to-noise
- still able to discriminate ER/NR

Status:

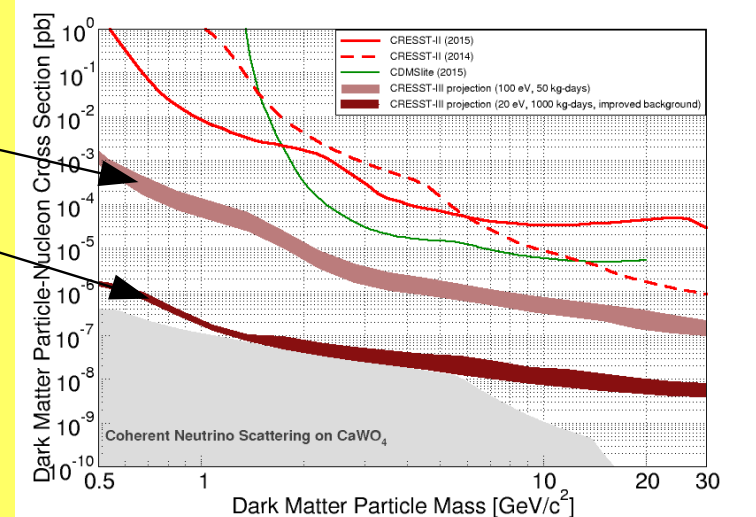
- Prototype exceeds design goal: 50 eV_{nr} threshold
- 6 modules with <100 eV threshold running @ LNGS

[arXiv:1503.08065](https://arxiv.org/abs/1503.08065)



CRESST-III Timeline

- Phase 1 (2017): „faster than SuperCDMS“
50 kg×days (1 y), design goal threshold (100 eV)
- Phase 2 (>2019): „approaching the neutrino floor“
 - 1000 kg×days (2 y, 100 detectors)
 - background reduced by factor 100
 - 20 eV_{nr} threshold
- Beyond CRESST-III: depends on WIMP results
 - CRESST detectors sensitive to CNNS etc.



Technical Challenges

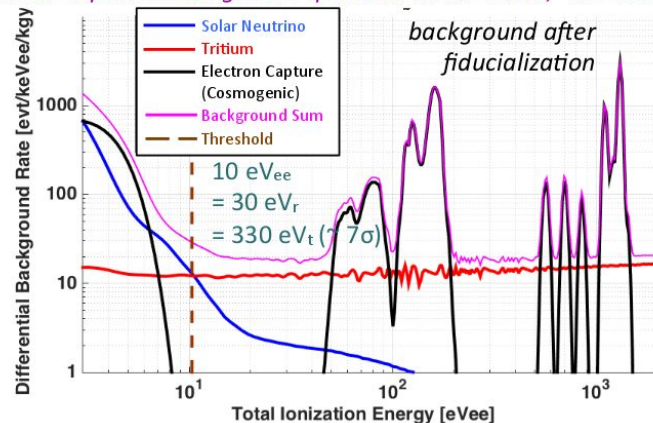
CRESST (CaWO₄)

- at which energy does ER/NR discrimination not work anymore? (no photons created in 10 eV regime)
- smaller crystals lower threshold
 - technical challenge to reach required large exposure
 - **radiopurity of crystals** becomes very important
- **background:**
 - many small crystals: small S/V ratio
 - bg from instrumentation/cables etc?

EDELWEISS / SuperCDMS (Ge)

- **no ER rejection in HV mode**
 - background challenging
 - **detection experiment or always background limited?**
- phonon resolution crucial
 - environmental noise reduction
- „heat-only“ events in EDW: dominant and reproducible low-E background
 - currently not fully understood (stress from gluing?)
 - **factor 100 reduction required**

Ge HV expected background spectrum at $V_b = 100V$, $\sigma_t = 50 eV$



L. Hsu @ ICHEP 2016

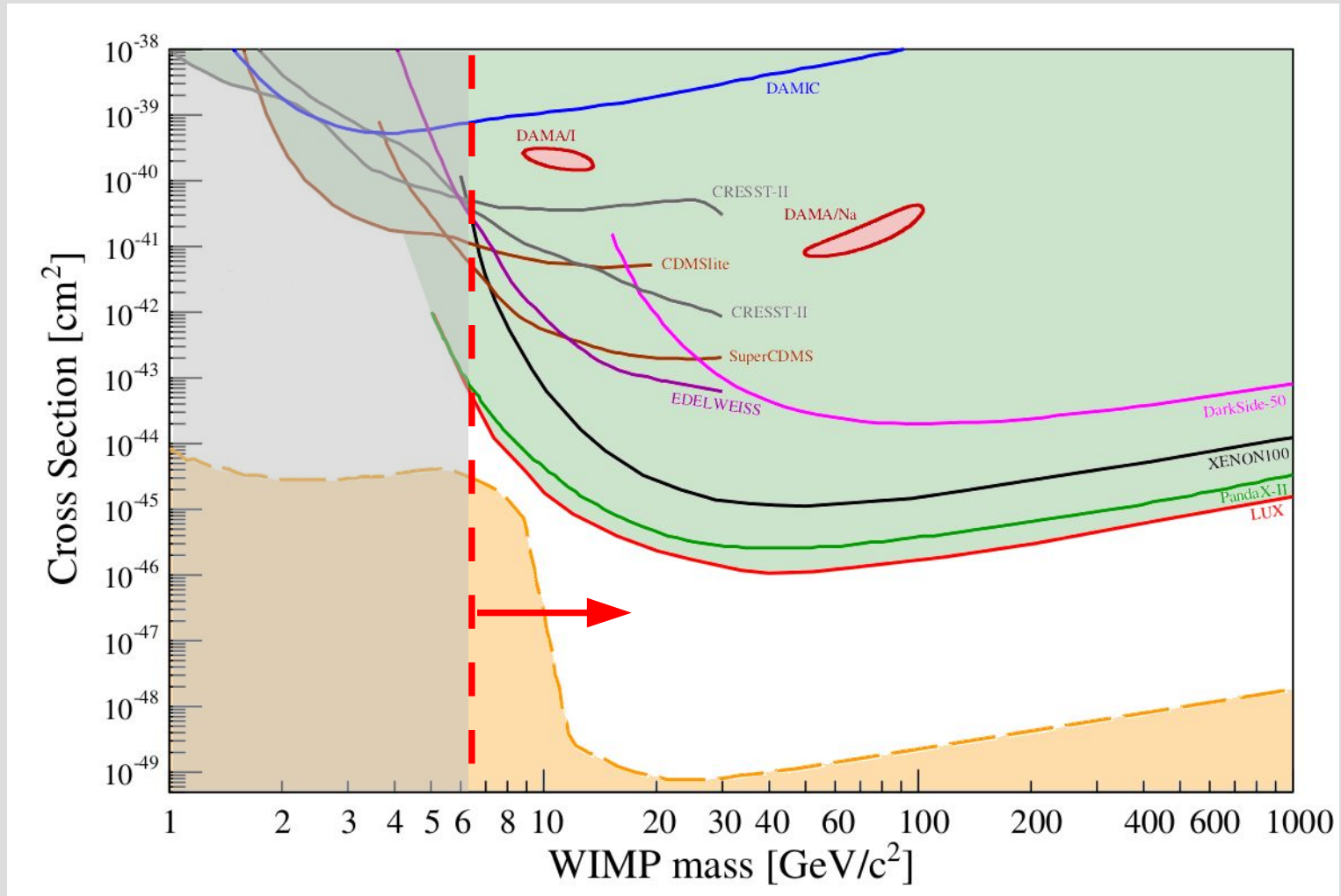
- HV detector background dominated by **cosmogenic activation**

- Ge isotopes
- ^3H production in Ge/Si

Astropart. Phys. 91, 51 (2017)

High WIMP Masses

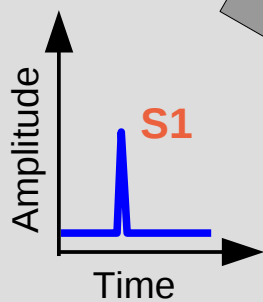
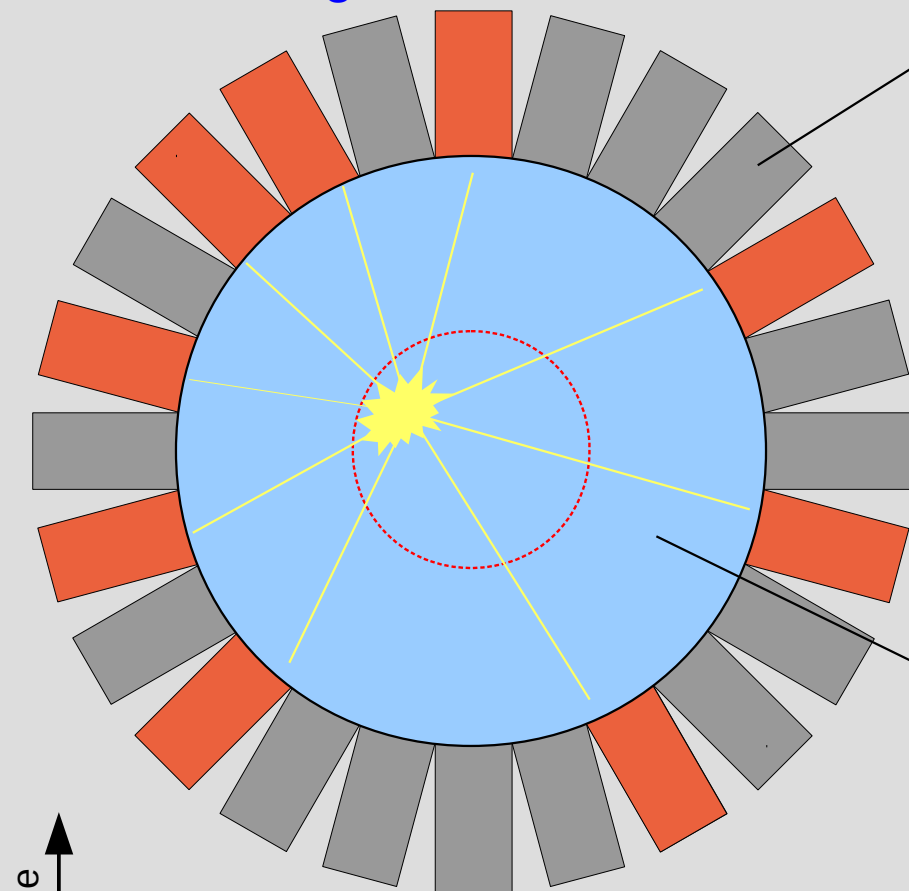
spin-independent WIMP-nucleon interactions



some results are missing...

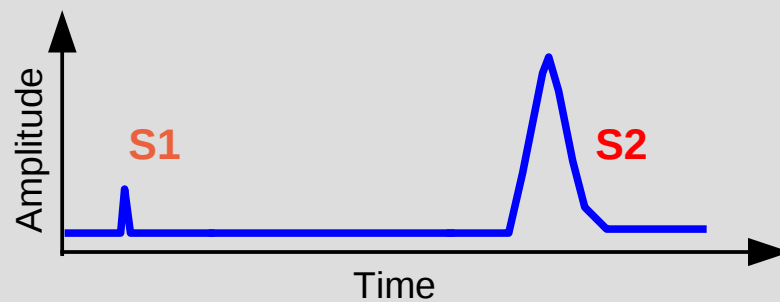
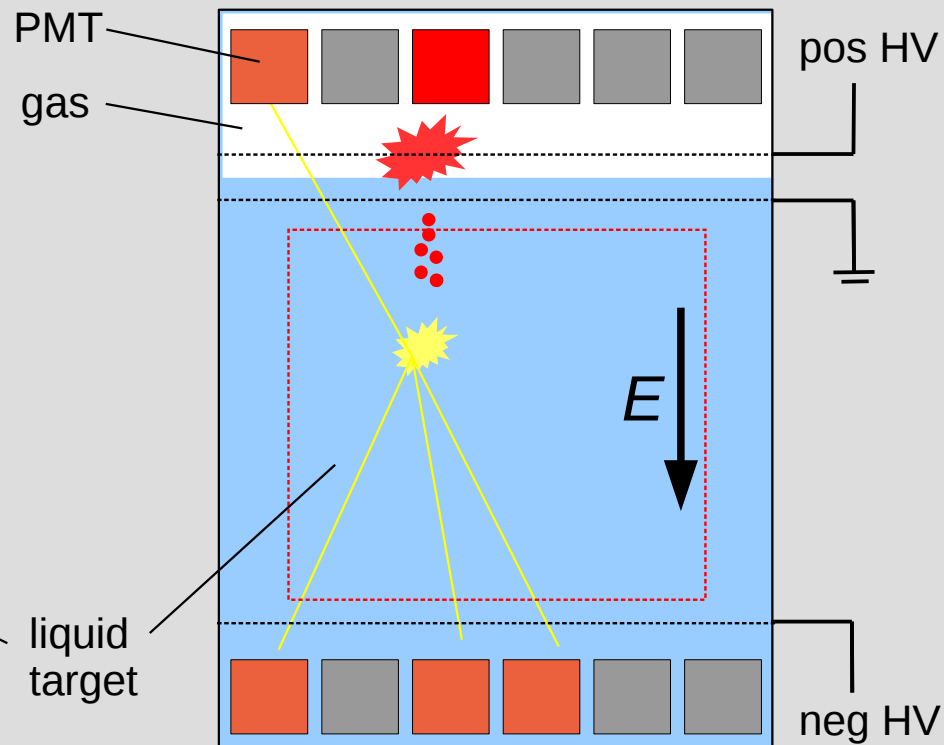
Liquid Noble Gases: Detector Concepts

Single Phase Detector



- + no high voltage, very high light yield
- O(cm) resolution, no double scatter rejection

Time Projection Chamber



- + O(mm) resolution, S2/S1 NR rejection
- technical challenges (HV), less light

Noble Liquid Targets

Target	LXe	LAr
Atomic Number	54	18
Atomic mass	131.3	40.0
Boiling Point T_b [K]	165.0	87.3
Liq. Density @ T_b [g/cm ³]	2.94	1.40
Fraction in Atmosphere	0.09	9340
Price	\$\$\$ no consumable; can be re-used	(\$) ³⁹ Ar-depleted gas: \$\$\$
Scintillator	✓	✓
Scint. Wavelength [nm]	178	128
Ionizer	✓	✓
W (E to generate e-ion pair) [eV]	15.6	23.6
Radioactive Isotopes	¹³⁶ Xe (2 $\nu\beta\beta$)	³⁹ Ar (~1 Bq/kg)
ER Rejection	ok (2-phase only)	great (high-E only)
Odd Isotopes (\rightarrow SD couplings)	50% (¹²⁹ Xe, ¹³¹ Xe)	✗
Scalability	✓	✓
Projects [running, in preparation]	~4	~2½

18	2
He	2
Helium	4.002602
10	2
Ne	8
Neon	20.1797
18	2
Ar	8
Argon	39.948
36	2
Kr	18
Krypton	83.798
54	2
Xe	18
Xenon	131.293
86	2
Rn	18
Radon	32
(222.0176)	18

ER Background Rejection

Pulse shape discrimination (PSD):

Lifetimes of singlet and triplet states:

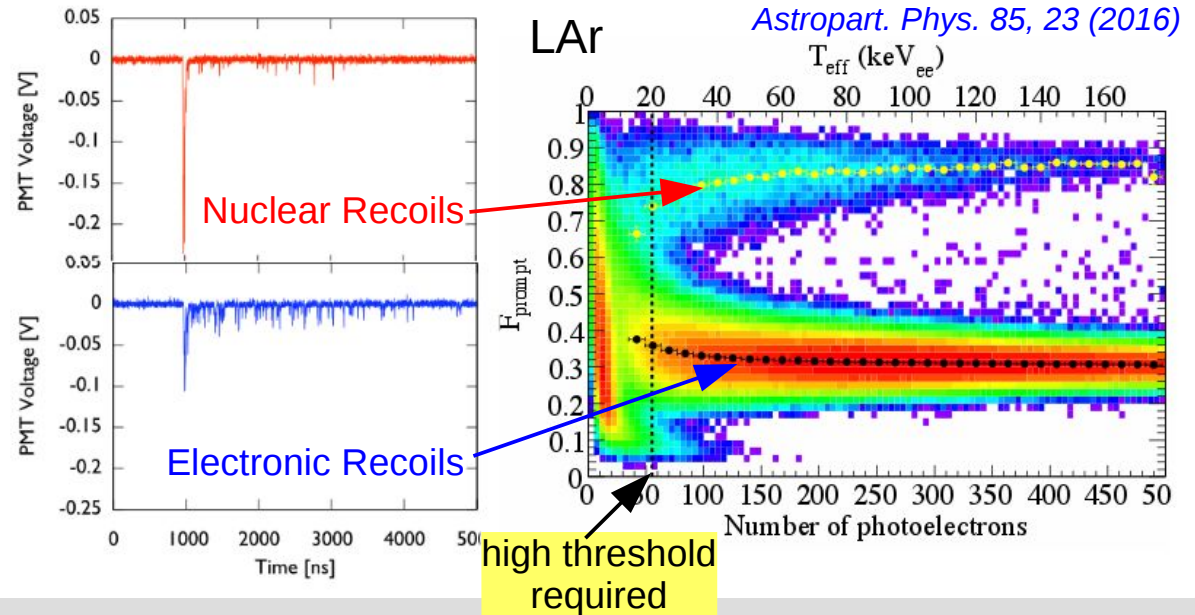
Ar: 5 ns, 1.6 μ s

Xe: 4 ns, 22 ns

Ratio N_{trip}/N_{sing} depends on dE/dx
 → the interaction type

LAr: excellent $\sim 3 \times 10^{-8}$
PRC 78, 035801 (2008)

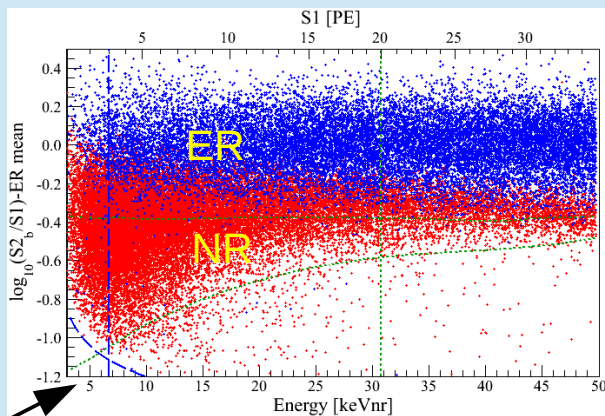
LXe: irrelevant $\sim 1 \times 10^{-1}$
NIM A 612, 328 (2010)



Charge-Light-Ratio (S_2/S_1):

Signal partition in light/charge depends on dE/dx → the interaction type

→ works for **LXe** and **LAr**
 → significant loss of acceptance



	Edrift [kV/cm]	LY @ 122 keV [PE/keV]	NR acc [%]	ER rej [%]
XENON100	0.53	3.8	40	2.5×10^{-3}
XENON100	0.53	3.8	30	1×10^{-3}
LUX	0.18	8.8	50	1.1×10^{-3}
ZEPLIN-III	3.4	4.2	50	1.3×10^{-4}
K. Ni <i>APP14</i>	0.2-0.7	10	50	$< 1 \times 10^{-4}$

works down to low-E threshold in (Freiburg) – Direct WIMP Searches

Relevant Backgrounds

	LXe	LAr
Radioactivity Laboratory (ER, NR) Muon-induced neutrons	x x	x x
Detector materials Gamma (ER) Neutrons (NR)	x ✓	x ✓
Target Intrinsic isotopes (ER) ^{39}Ar ^{85}Kr ^{222}Rn	— ✓ ✓	✓ x price: high threshold x price: high threshold
Neutrinos NR: ^8B , atmospheric ER: pp, ^7Be	✓ ✓	x threshold too high for ^8B x ER rejection mandatory
Artefacts	??	??

- all experiments are underground and sufficiently shielded
- all TPCs employ fiducialization and multiple-scatter rejection

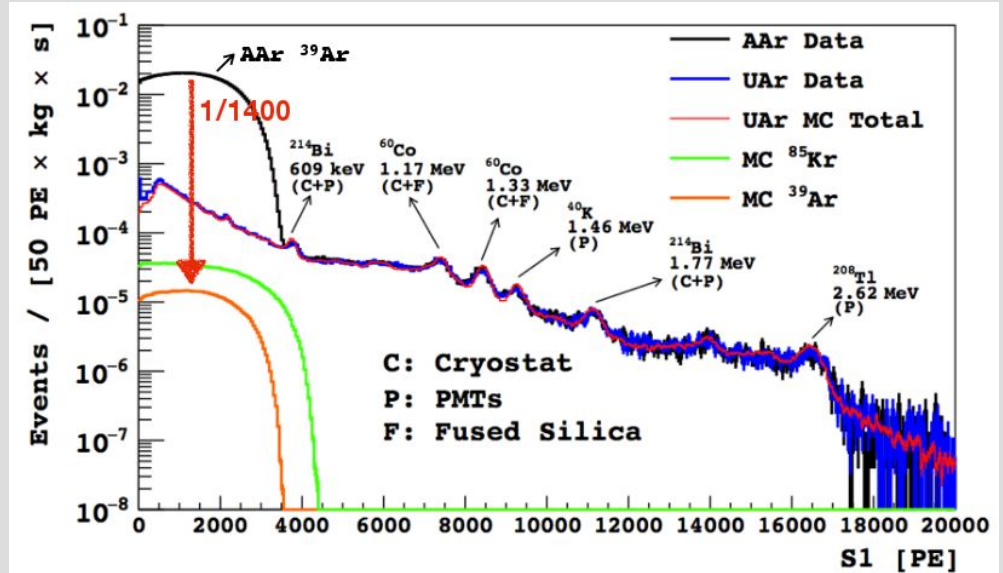
DarkSide: ^{39}Ar -depleted Argon

content: M. Wada, Moriond 2017

- extract underground Ar (UAr) in CO_2 well in Colorado
- cryogenic distillation @ FNAL

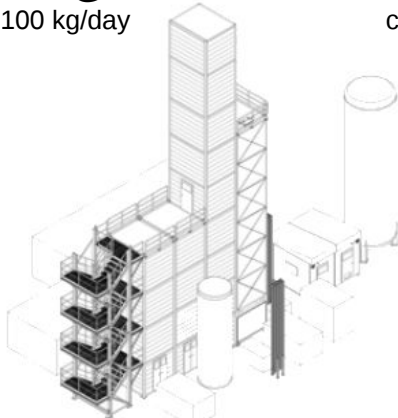


- ^{39}Ar reduced by factor ~1400!
- 155 kg UAr produced in 6 years effort

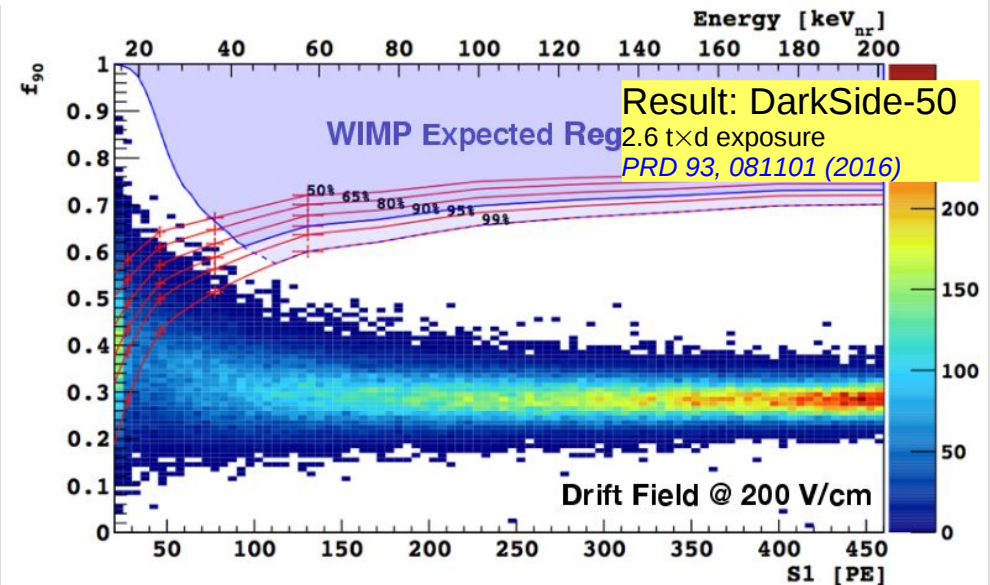
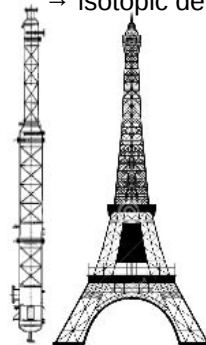


Future: mass-production planned

URANIA @ Colorado
extract 100 kg/day



Aria @ Sardegna
column: 350m high, 1.5m OD
→ isotopic depletion



LXe: Krypton Removal

Two methods: – cryogenic distillation (XMASS, XENON)
– chromatography (LUX)

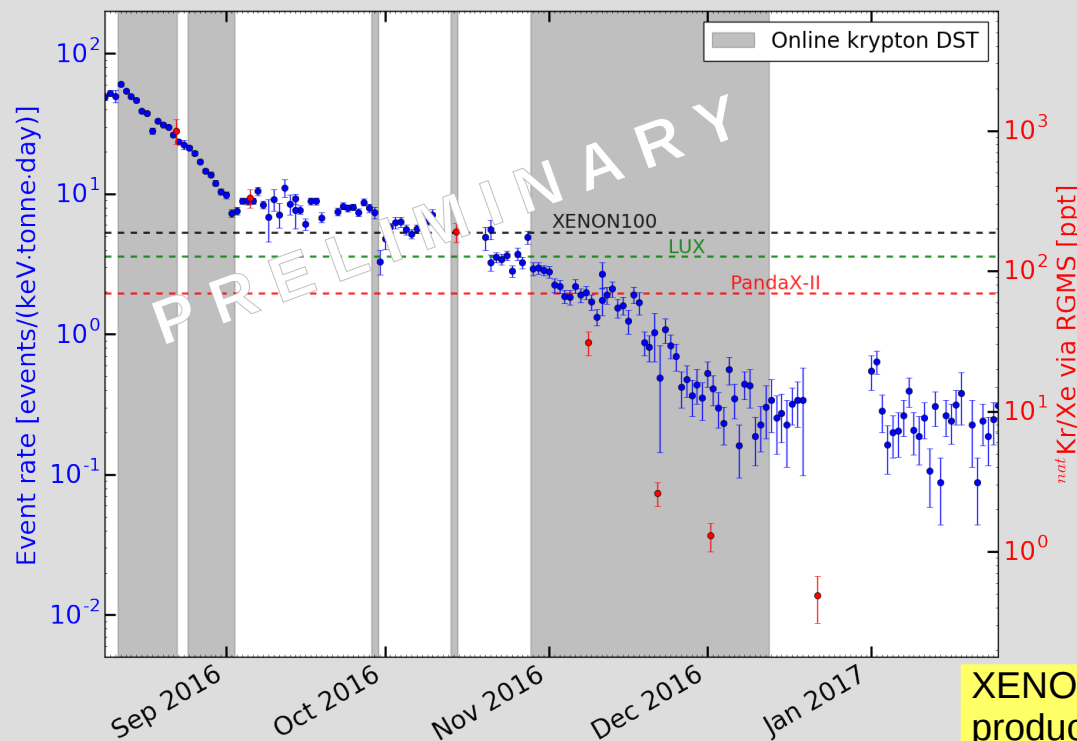
Example:

XENON1T 

goal: $^{\text{nat}}\text{Kr}/\text{Xe} = 0.2$ ppt (below level of pp-neutrinos)
achieved by novel online distillation:

$^{\text{nat}}\text{Kr}/\text{Xe} = (0.36 \pm 0.06)$ ppt achieved

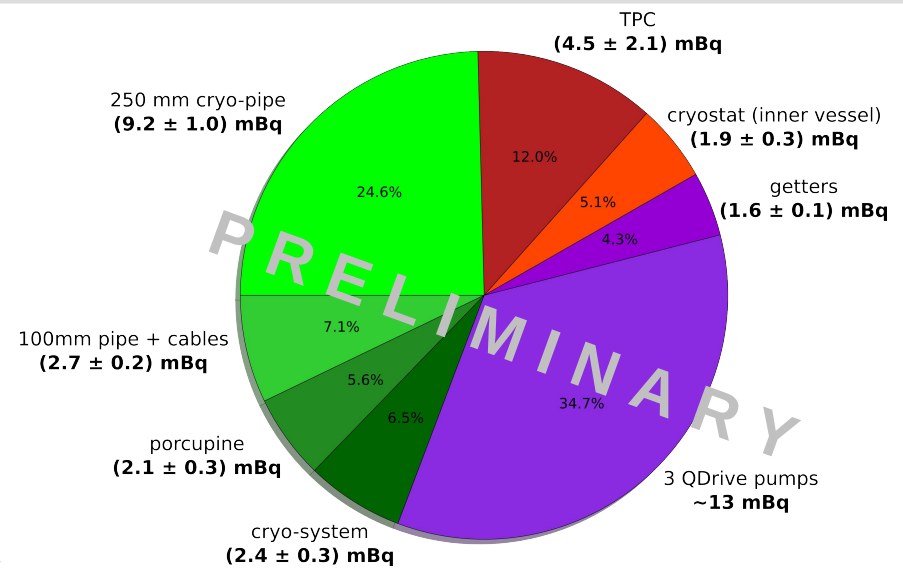
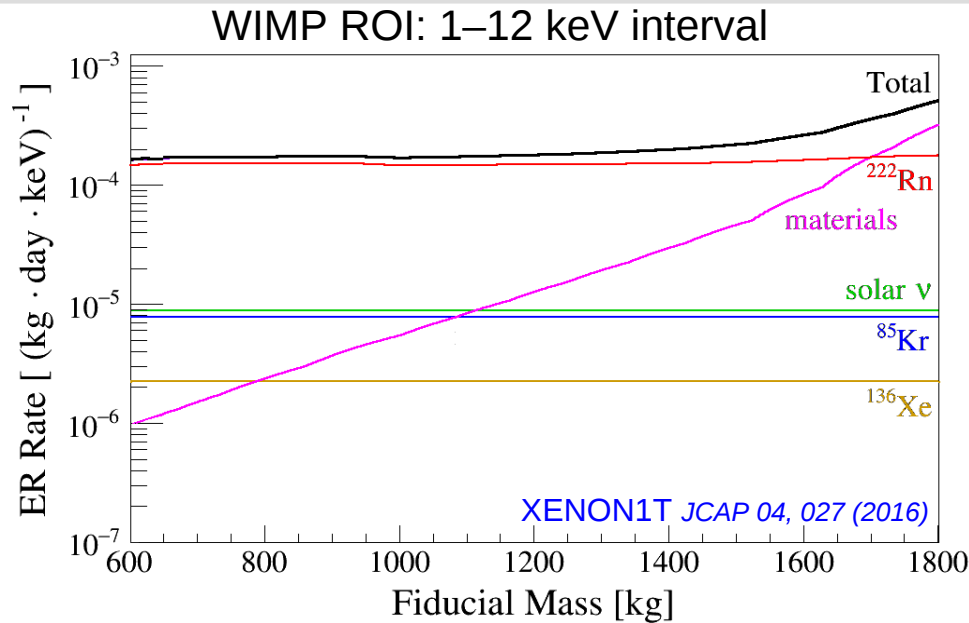
→ lowest value in LXe experiments ever



XENON1T column has produced large gas sample
<0.048 ppt = 4.8×10^{-14} (90% CL)
→ 4x cleaner than needed



LXe: Radon Background



Current Strategy

avoid Rn emanation by selecting clean materials

Example: goal

10 μBq/kg

 XENON1T measured (11 ± 2) μBq/kg *prelim.*

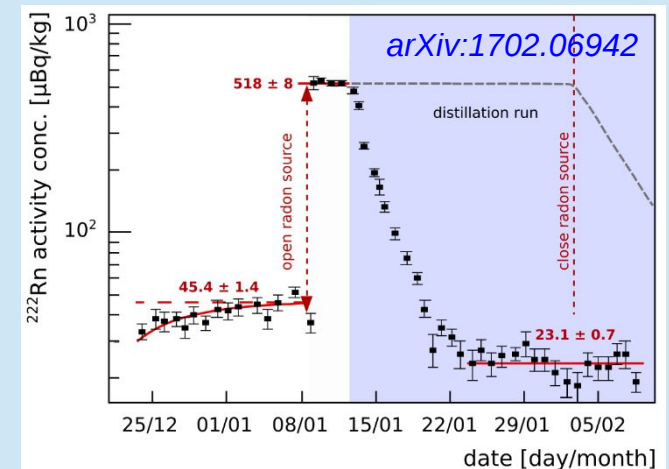
Future Strategy

– active Rn removal

– Example: cryogenic distillation

XENON1T distillation column installed @ XENON100

→ demonstrated reduction factor >27 (@ 95% CL)



Noble Gas: Single Phase Detectors

XMASS @ Kamioka (JP)

LXe

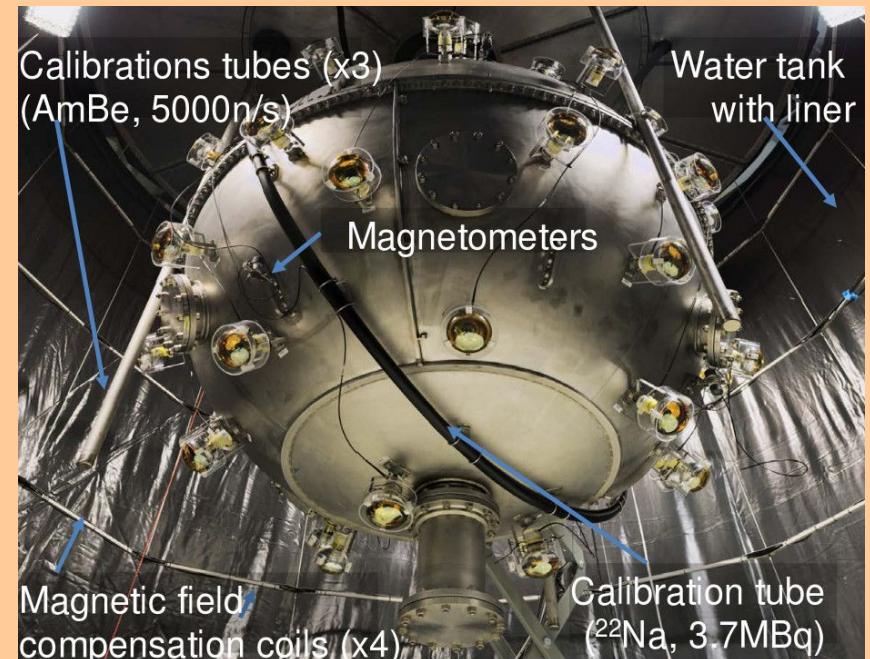
- 832 kg LXe target, 642 PMTs
- very high light yield, low threshold (0.5 keV_{ee})
- BUT: **no possibility to reject NRs**
- many results: summary: [arXiv:1506.08939](https://arxiv.org/abs/1506.08939)
→ **background limited!**
- stable data taking since >2 years



DEAP-3600 @ SNOLAB (CA)

LAr

- **light pulse-shape for discrimination**
- **3.6t** liquid argon target;
- high ³⁹Ar background in ^{nat}Ar (~1 Bq/kg)
- **data taking right now... high light yield,**
→ **results expected for TAUP 2017**
- sensitivity: $1 \times 10^{-46} \text{ cm}^2 @ 100 \text{ GeV}/c^2$



F. Retiere (LIDINE 2015)

Running dual phase detectors

DarkSide-50 @ LNGS (IT)

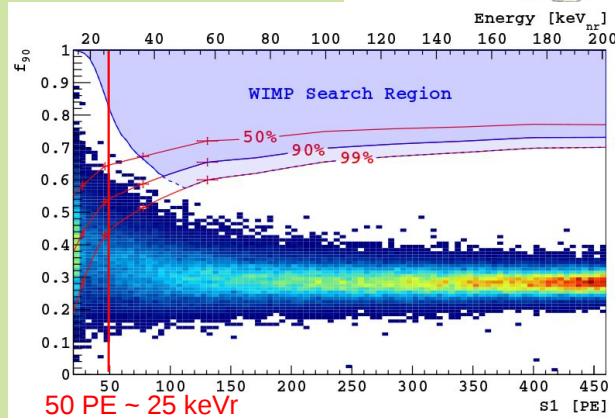
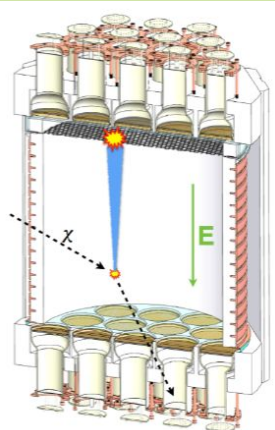
LAr

PRD 93, 081101 (2016)

- 46 kg LAr, which is ^{39}Ar -depleted by a factor 1400
- 71d \times 37kg exposure
- no event in ROI

- still taking data

(mid March:
>35 kg \times y data)



PandaX-II @ CJPL (CN)

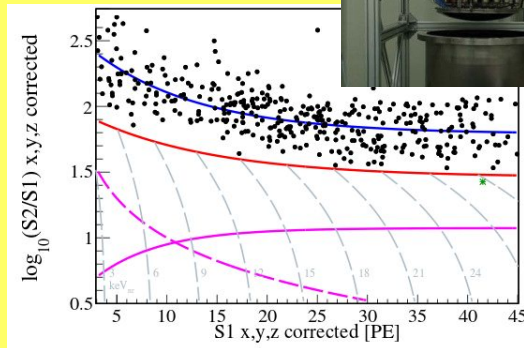
LXe

PRL 117, 121303 (2016)

- 60cm \times 60cm, 500 kg target
- 2nd largest operational LXe TPC

New result July 2016:

- combines data from 2 runs (^{85}Kr differs by factor 10)
- 3.3×10^4 kg \times d = 0.1 t \times y exposure
- no signal excess
- best limit above ~ 4.5 GeV/ c^2
- still taking data
- aim for 2 years of data



XENON1T @ LNGS (IT)

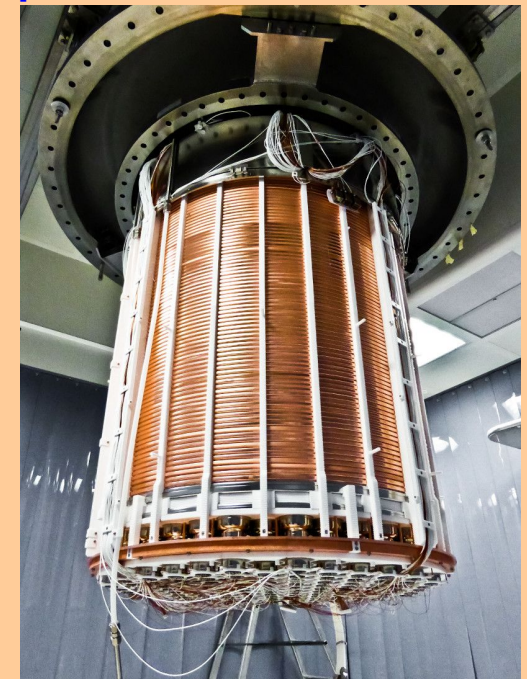
LXe

JCAP 04, 027 (2016)



- 96cm \times 96cm, 2.0 t target
- largest LXe TPC taking data
- Rn and Kr background goals basically achieved

Expect first result soon!



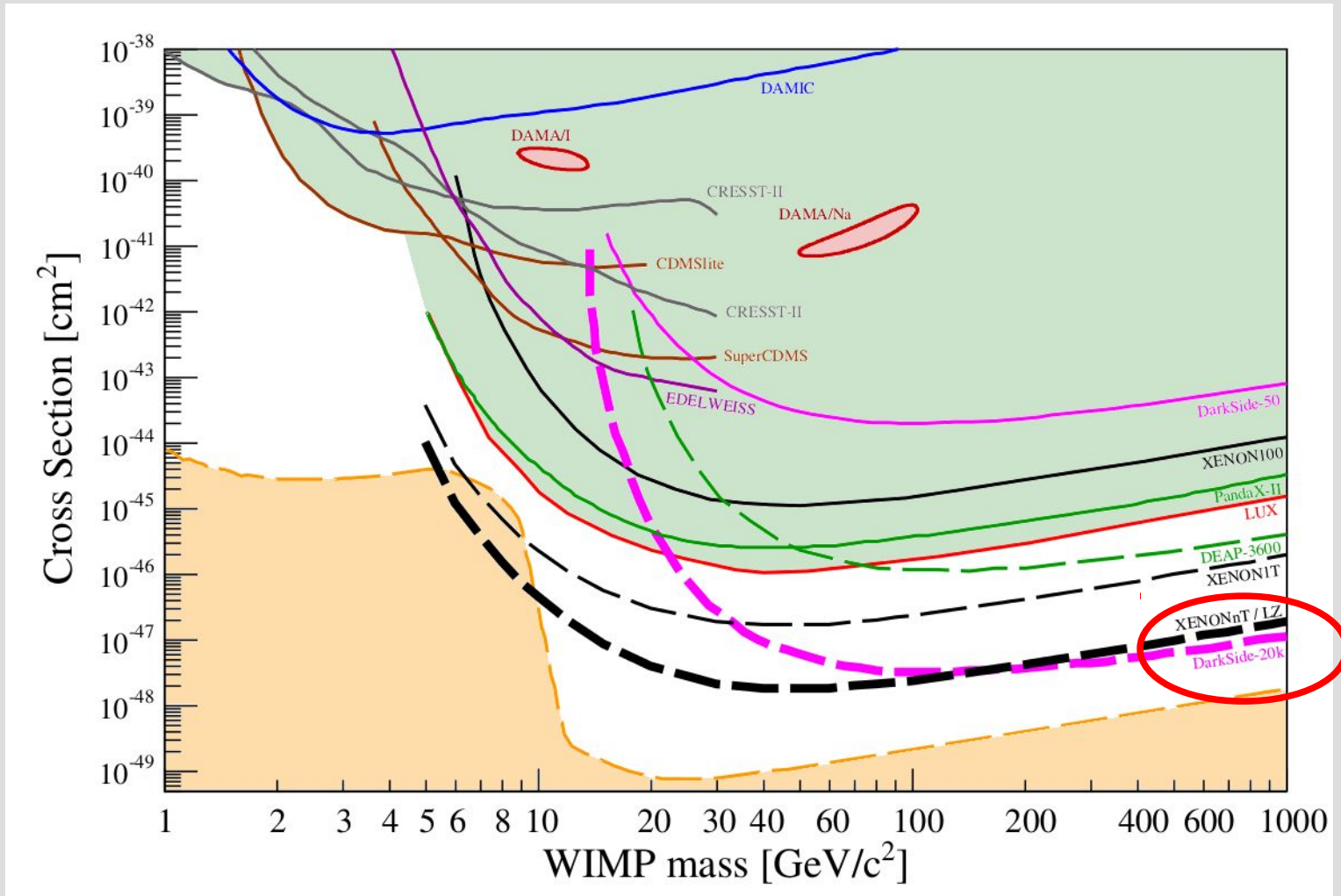
Goal: $< 2 \times 10^{-47}$ cm 2 @ 50 GeV/ c^2

LXe

Finished projects: XENON100 @ LNGS (IT), LUX @ SURF (USA)

Upcoming Projects

basically funded



some results are missing...

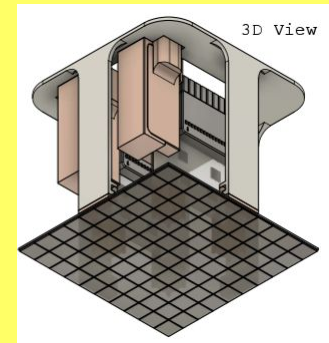
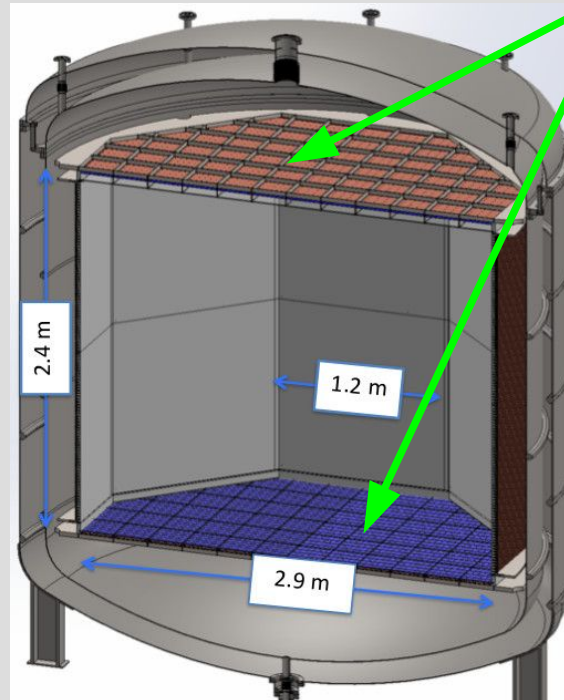
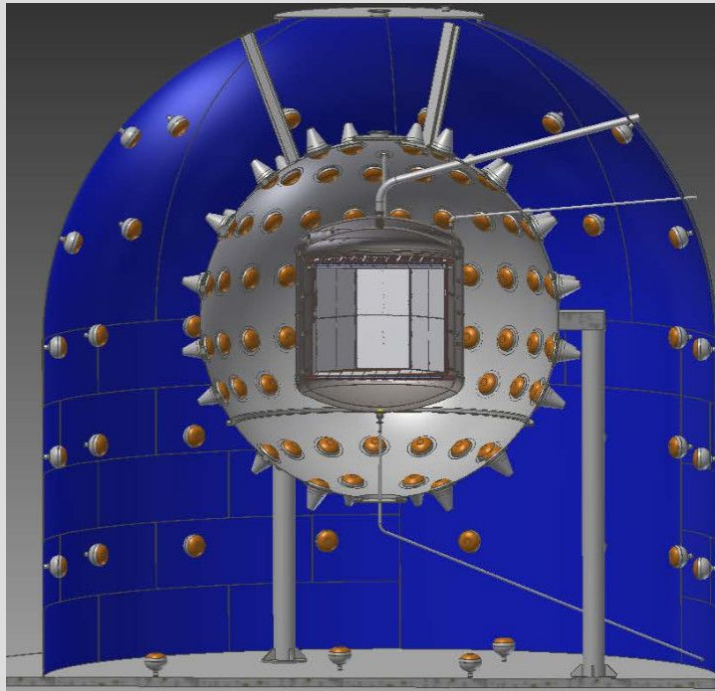
DarkSide-20k

LAr

- scale up DS-50 by factor 400: **30t LAr total**
20t fiducial
- focus on high-mass region $>400 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
- keep strategy for background-free search with $100 \text{ t}\times\text{y}$ exposure
 - large amount of underground Ar: URANIA (+ARIA)
 - pulse-shape discrimination → high LY needed
 - liquid scintillator neutron veto
- start operations @ LNGS within 2021

Readout by two arrays of grouped SiPMs:
14 m² total

Requirements:
– PDE: 45% ✓
– Dark Count Rate:
0.1 Hz/mm² ✓

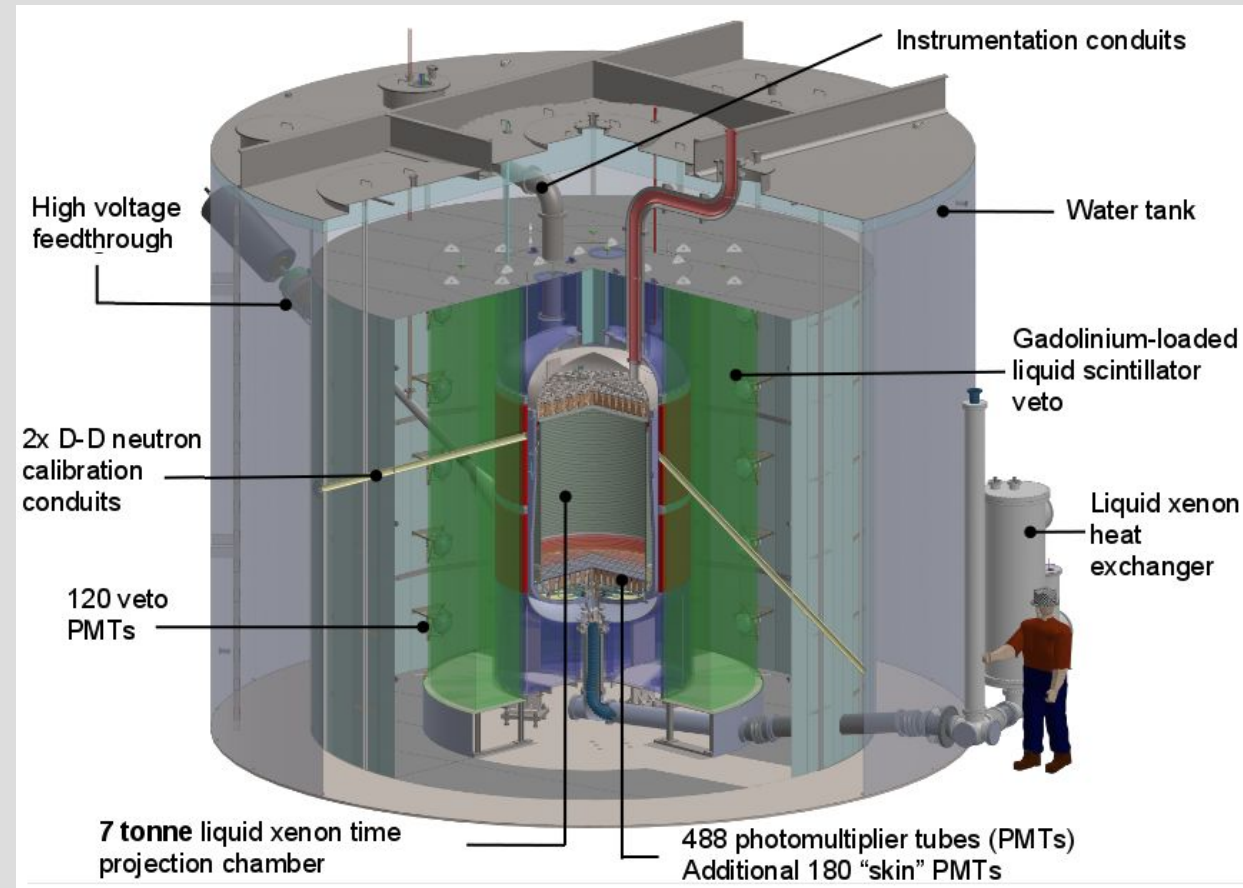


LZ – LUX/ZEPLIN

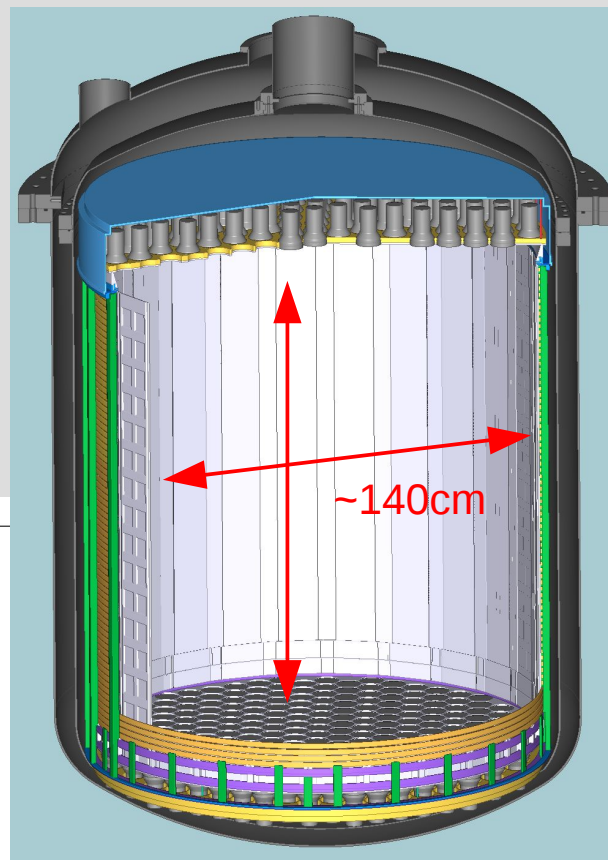
LXe










arXiv:1509.02910

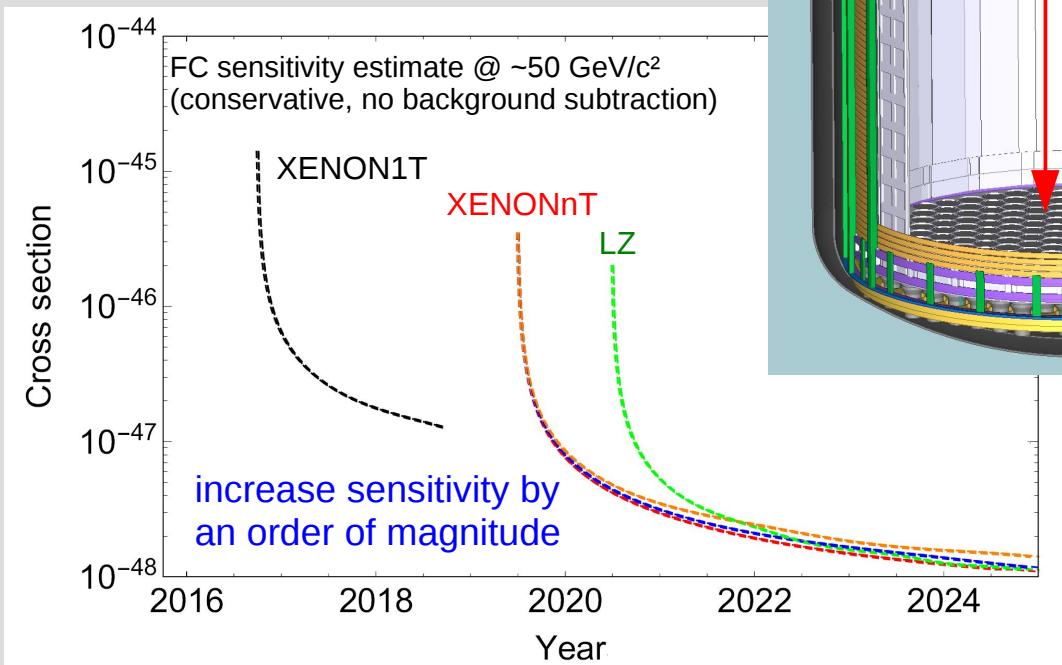
- **LZ = LUX+ZEPLIN**
selected by 2014
US DOE-NSF downselection
- to be installed @ SURF (USA)
- 50× larger than LUX
- 10t total LXe mass,
7t active target,
5.6t fiducial target
- 488 R11410 PMTs
- 2015: started procurement of
xenon gas, PMTs, ...
- 06/2020: start commissioning
- goal: $2 \times 10^{-48} \text{ cm}^2$ @ $\sim 50 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
after 15 t×y exposure









- @ LNGS using XENON1T systems
- **6.0t** active target
~8t total mass
- 476 R11410 PMTs
- projected to start science in 2019
- goal: factor 10 better than XENON1T




- Existing/operational:*
- Muon Veto 
 - Cryostat Support
 - Outer Cryostat
 - in-LXe Cabling
 - LXe storage system 
 - Cryogenic system
 - Purification system 
 - Kr removal  responsibility or participation
 - DAQ 
 - 95% of Electronics 
 - Calibration System
 - 260 PMTs 
 - >8t of LXe 
 - Screening facilities 



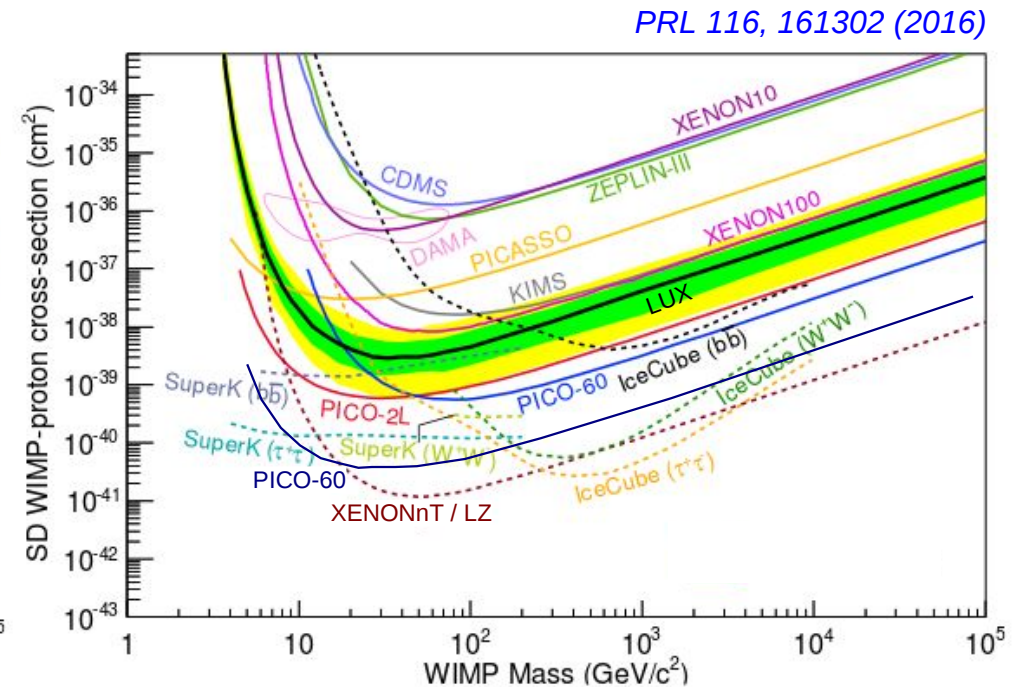
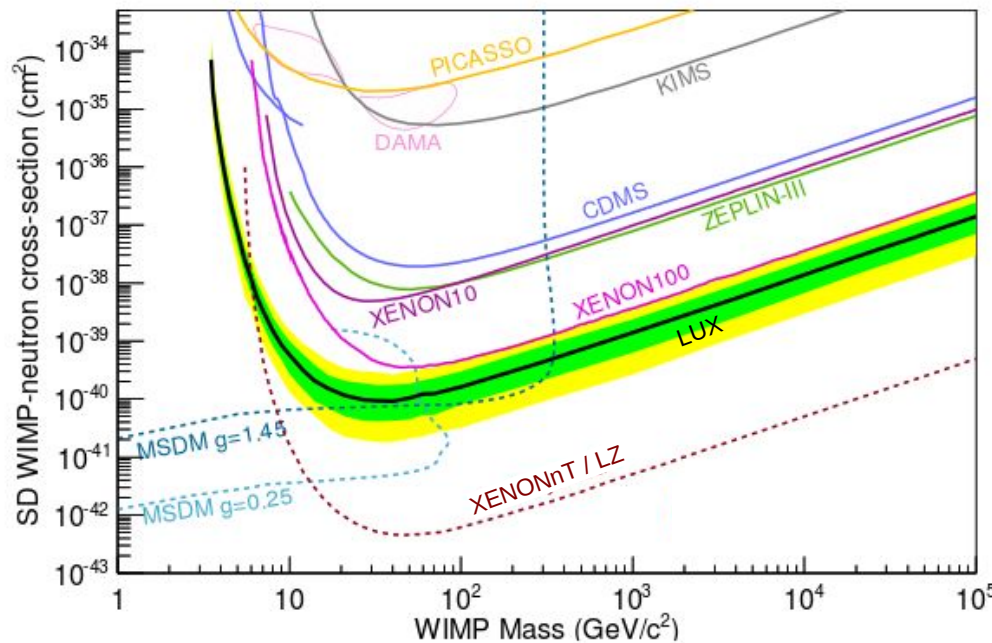
LZ information from: <https://indm2016.shef.ac.uk/indico/event/0/contribution/69/material/slides/0.pdf>

- Started:*
- 230 new PMTs ordered 
 - TPC/Cryostat design 
 - first material orders 
 - Screening campaign 
 - Neutron veto studies 
 - 2nd storage vessel ordered 
 - Rn reduction system design 
 - purification improvements 
 - etc.

Spin-dependent WIMP Couplings

- WIMP-neutron scattering: 
- dominated by **LXe TPCs**
 - also: Ge, NaI, CsI, CF₃I, C₃F₈

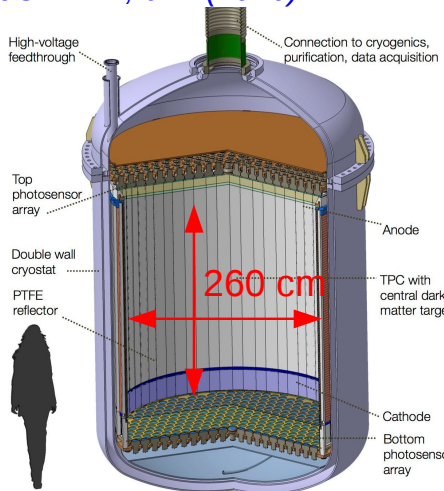
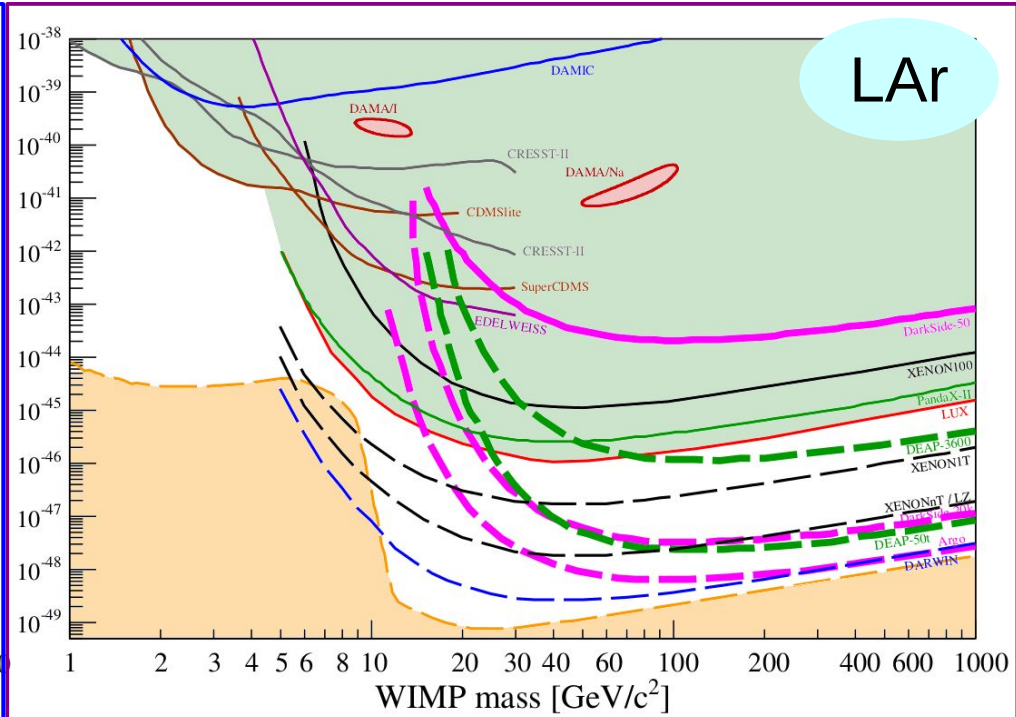
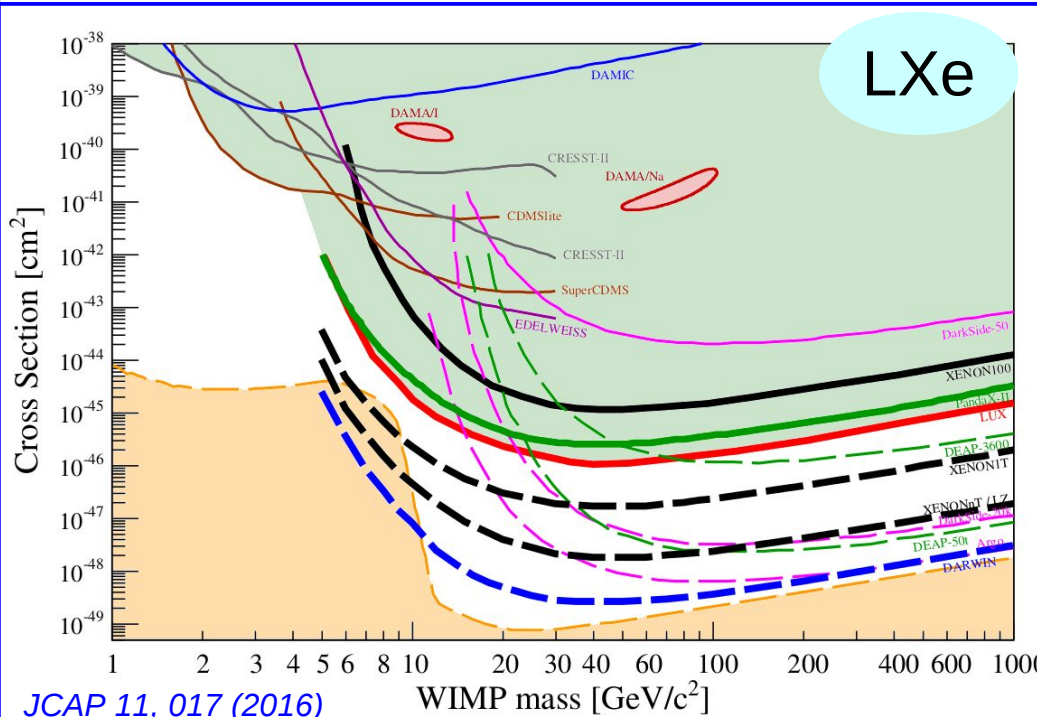
- WIMP-proton scattering:
- dominated by **bubble chambers** (CF₃I, C₃F₈)
 - also: Xe, NaI, CsI



excellent complementarity to **LHC searches** (ATLAS, CMS)

excellent complementarity to **indirect searches** (IceCube, SuperK)

Towards the Neutrino Floor

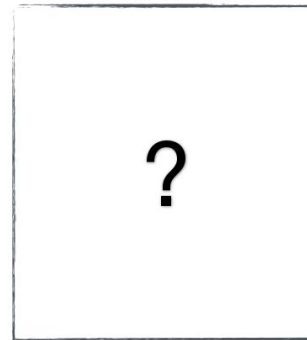


DARWIN

- ~50t total LXe
 - ~40 t LXe TPC
 - aim for 200 t×y exposure
 - start operations at LNGS by 2026??
 - lots of sensitivity studies
- darwin-observatory.org



M. Wada @ Moriond 2017



ARGO

300 tonne (200 tonne fiducial) detector

ARGO

- ~300t depleted Ar TPC
- aim for 1000 t×y exposure
- „background-free“
- start operations at LNGS by 2027??

Technical Challenges

50 t LXe TPC

LXe

- size: 2.6m (~2.7×XENON1T, ~2× XENONnT/LZ)
 - procurement of LXe → **no consumable!**
 - high voltage for drift field
 - gas purification for high e-lifetime
- *photosensors*:
 - long-term stability of PMTs?
 - alternatives? (GPMs, hybrid, etc)

– backgrounds in WIMP ROI

JCAP 10, 016 (2015)

Source	Rate [events/(t·y·keV _{xx})]	
γ-rays materials	0.054	= 0.1 ppt of ^{nat} Kr 0.5× XENON1T goal; 0.03 ppt achieved <i>EPJ C 74 (2014) 2746</i>
neutrons*	3.8×10^{-5}	
intrinsic ⁸⁵ Kr	1.44	
intrinsic ²²² Rn	0.35	= 0.1 μBq/kg of ²²² Rn 0.01× XENON1T goal; → main challenge
2νββ of ¹³⁶ Xe	0.73	
pp- and ⁷ Be ν	3.25	
CNNS*	0.0022	

- challenging Rn background
- **2×10^{-4} ER rejection is required**
 - need high LY
- challenge: keep large LXe inventory clean
- unexpected artefacts?

300 t LAr TPC

LAr

- size: 6.5m (~18× DS-50, ~2.5× DarkSide-20k)
 - DAr: **isotopic depletion by cryogenic distillation (never demonstrated for ³⁹Ar)**
 - high voltage for drift field
 - gas purification for high e-lifetime
 - **single-phase better option?**

– light detection:

- PSD requires lots of photons
 - very high LY, high threshold (→ 6x more gas)
- attenuation/scatt. length XUV photons?
- wavelength shifters: long-term stability
- SiPMs: reduce channels by tiling:
 - huge number of channels; large capacitance leads to rapidly decreasing signal-2-noise ratio
 - radiopurity? neutrons?

– backgrounds in WIMP ROI

- ³⁹Ar → PSD; PSD with pile-up?
- neutrons? Rn plate-out?
- challenge: keep large UAr inventory clean
- unexpected artefacts?

Science Channels

50 t LXe TPC 

LXe

300 t LAr TPC

LAr

Nuclear Recoil Interactions

WIMP dark matter

- spin-independent **mid/high** mass JCAP 10, 016 (2015)
- spin-dependent Phys.Dark Univ. 9-10, 51 (2015)
 - complementary with LHC, indirect search
- various inelastic models (χ , n , MiDM, ...)

- spin-independent high mass

Coherent neutrino-nucleon scattering (CNNS)

- ^8B neutrinos (low E), atmospheric (high E)
 - supernova neutrinos JCAP 1611, 017 (2016)
- PRD 89, 013011 (2014), PRD 94, 103009 (2016)

- atmospheric (high E)

Electronic Recoil Interactions

Non-WIMP dark matter and neutrino physics

- axions, ALPs JCAP 1611, 017 (2016)
 - sterile neutrinos
 - pp, ^7Be : precision flux measurements JCAP 01, 044 (2014)
- <1%

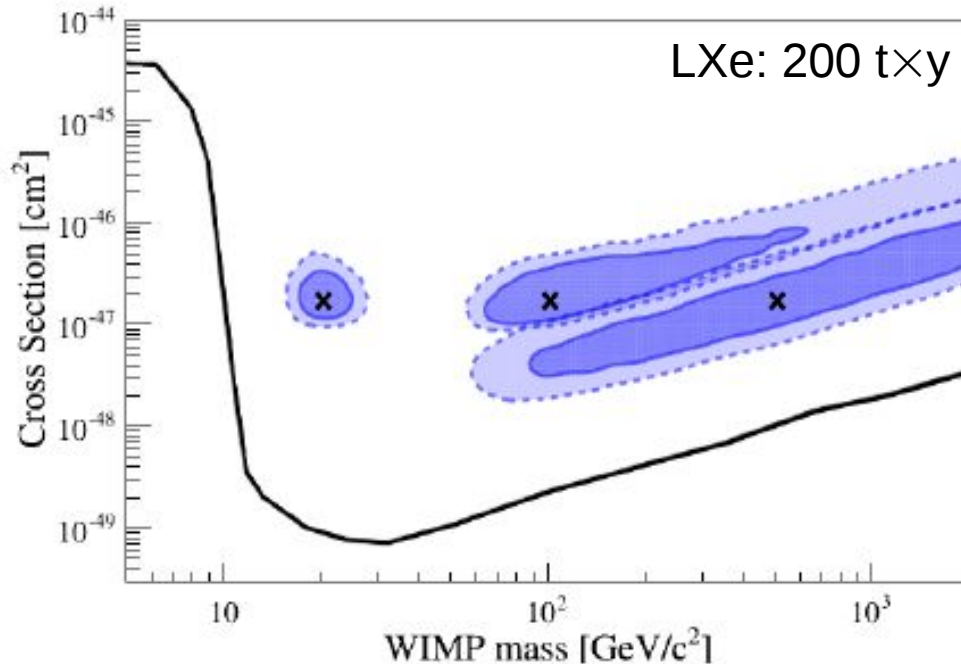
- ^7Be , pep, CNO flux measurements JCAP 1608, 017 (2016)
- 2% 10% 15%

Rare nuclear events

- $0\nu\beta\beta$ (^{136}Xe), $2\nu\text{EC}$ (^{134}Xe), ... JCAP 01, 044 (2014)

WIMP Spectroscopy

Parameter Reconstruction



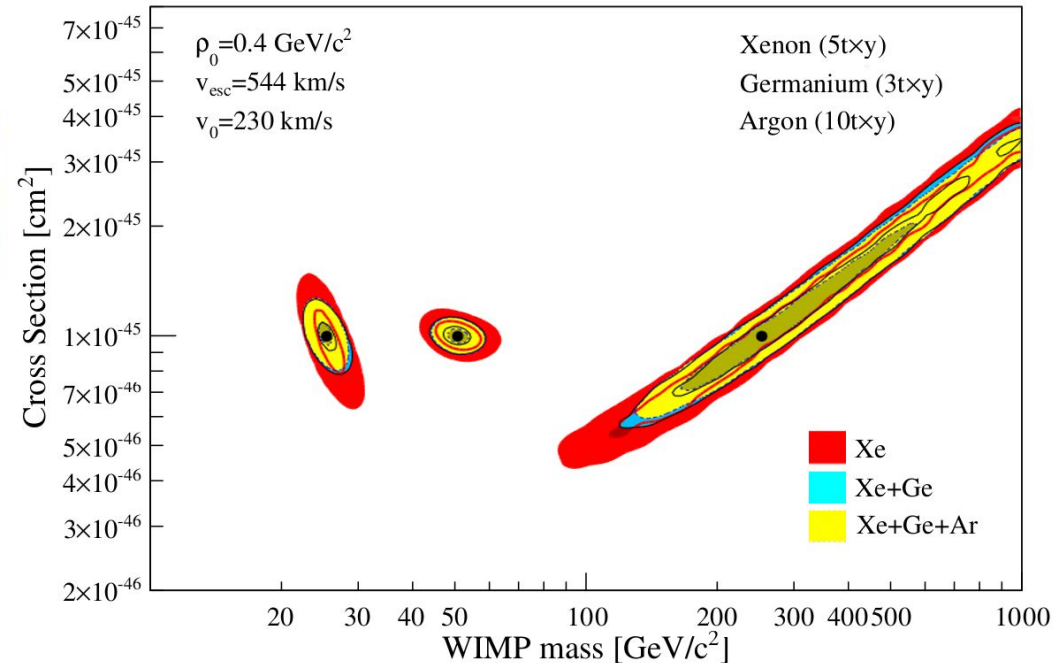
JCAP 11, 017 (2016)

Capability to reconstruct WIMP parameters

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

If there is no hint for DM from direct detection + LHC?
Do we proceed with multi-ton scale projects

Target Complementarity



PRD 83, 083505 (2011)

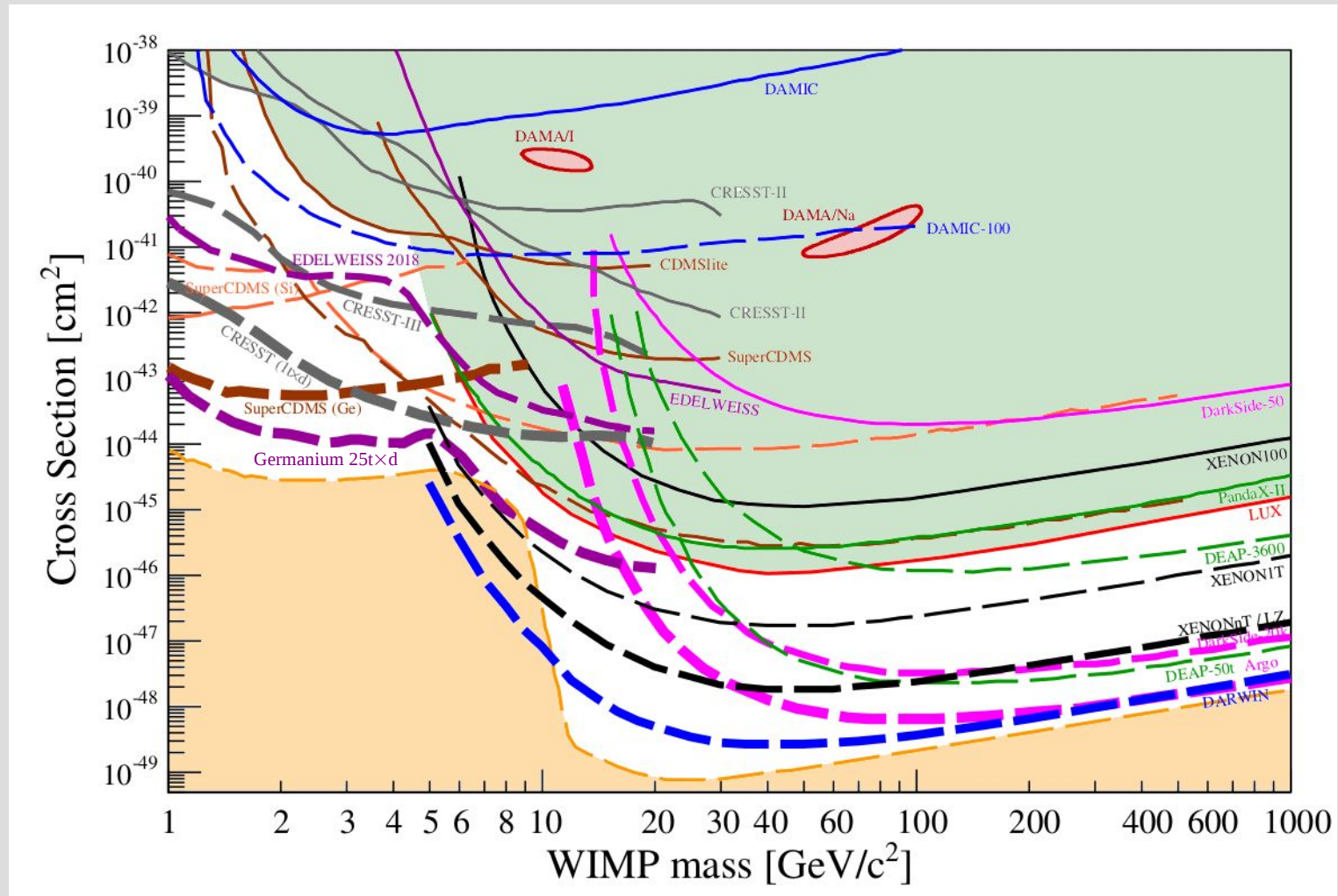
Reconstruction improves considerably by adding Ge-data to Xe.

Only minimal improvement for Ar.



R&D has to continue to be ready!

Summary



Question 1: Science I

What are the primary scientific questions of the field?

- Direct detection of WIMP dark matter
- What is the nature of the WIMP? (mass, X-section, couplings)?

Which experimental options exist to answer them and when?

- Direct measurement of WIMP-induced nuclear recoils
Different experimental approaches (different targets)
 - cryogenic detectors @ low mass:** lowest threshold, low exposure, mediocre background
 - noble-liquids @ higher masses:** high exposure, low background, mediocre threshold/resolution
- different targets are sensitive to different couplings, WIMP models
(SI: all targets, SD/inelastic: Xe, Ge, F)
- Important **complementarity** with indirect detection:
 - mainly spin-dependent (F, Xe, Ge) but also spin-independent (Super-K)
- collider searches:
 - mainly spin-dependent (Xe, F, Ge)

Question 1: Science II

For proposed projects: Important results guaranteed, likely or possible?

WIMP-detection depends on nature's choice.

Future experiments will scan well-motivated parameter space

However: even limits are high-impact results!
→ big impact on validity of models!

Which secondary topics are covered by the project and what are its chances for success?

- CNNS → not yet detected (Ge, CaWO₄, Xe) *yes!*
- Supernova neutrinos (Xe) → complementarity with large detectors *yes if SN*
- Solar neutrinos: low-E (Xe), high-E (Ar) *yes!*
- neutrinoless double beta decay (Xe) *??*
- Axions, ALPs, SuperWIMPs, dark photons, etc. *??*
(Xe, Ge, Si, CaWO₄ → experiments need ER sensitivity = low ER background)
- fractional charges (Ge, Si) *??*
- etc etc etc

Question 2

Estimate of the time scales, costs (invest) and structures (collaboration size and international composition)

- time scale:
 - next generation („basically funded“) have results by ~2022–2025
 - „ultimate“ detectors: TDRs needed in 5-6 years
operation in mid 2020s
- cost: n/a
- structures:
 - sufficient size (moderate increase) for next generation projects
 - more manpower/funding needed for „ultimate“ detectors

Which risks exist?

- see various technical challenges
- unknown and fastly changing Chinese projects → competition
- don't lose European leadership

Which competing projects exist world-wide for the physics question, taking also realistic schedules and progress into account?


- see talk


Question 3

Where is the specific German interest?

Do special strengths of German groups play a role?

Are there enough interested groups/people for a meaningful contribution?

Currently two activities pursued in Germany: 

- Low-mass with cryogenic detectors (CRESST: CaWO₄, EDELWEISS: Ge)
 - CRESST is a **German** project (75% manpower, expertise)
- High-mass with LXe TPC (XENON, DARWIN) 
 - DE groups are largest community (with US), major contributions to project
 - special expertise: **background reduction**
 - DARWIN pushed forward by German PIs
 - Special Opportunity: DARWIN is largely European project! (66% EU, 25% D)
Unique possibility for leadership!

Will the participation create synergies and international visibility?

It does already.

How does the required funding fit to the German funding structures?

CRESST: *BMBF, SFB, MPG*

XENON: *BMBF, MPG*

DARWIN: *currently: Universities, MPG, ERC → future: BMBF*

Question 4

Where could the project be realized?

- Direct WIMP searches need large underground laboratories, which do not exist in Germany.
- CRESST and XENON are installed at LNGS (IT) and will continue there.
- DARWIN: a LOI/space request has been submitted to LNGS
- SuperCDMS (Ge, Si) will be hosted by SNOLAB (CA)
 - EDELWEISS groups might join
- Argon: DarkSide-20k will be realized at LNGS.
- no concrete proposal for ARGO yet.
Maybe LNGS? Maybe SNOLAB (merger with DEAP??)
- Unknowns: China (Ge/Xe), Japan (Xe)