

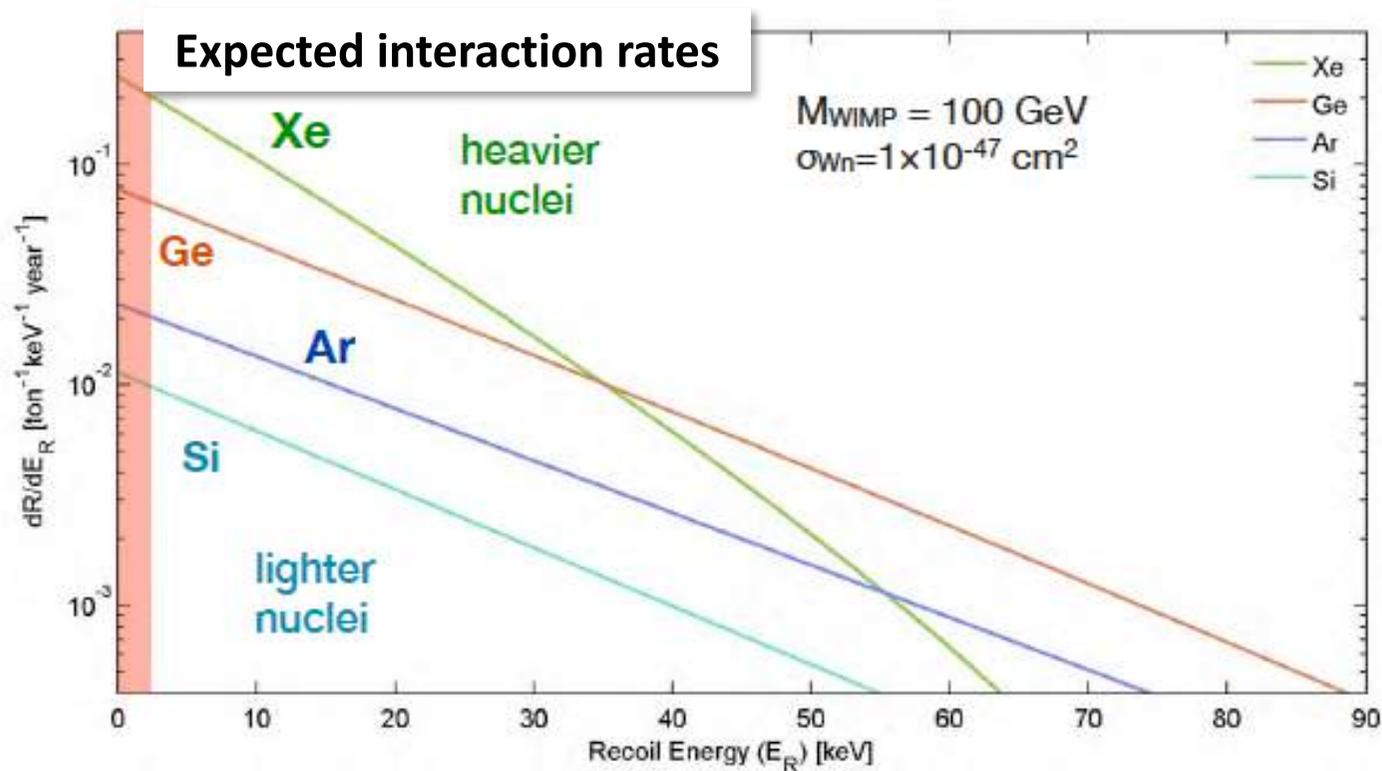
# DUAL PHASE LXe TPC: THE XENON EXPERIMENT

Sara Diglio

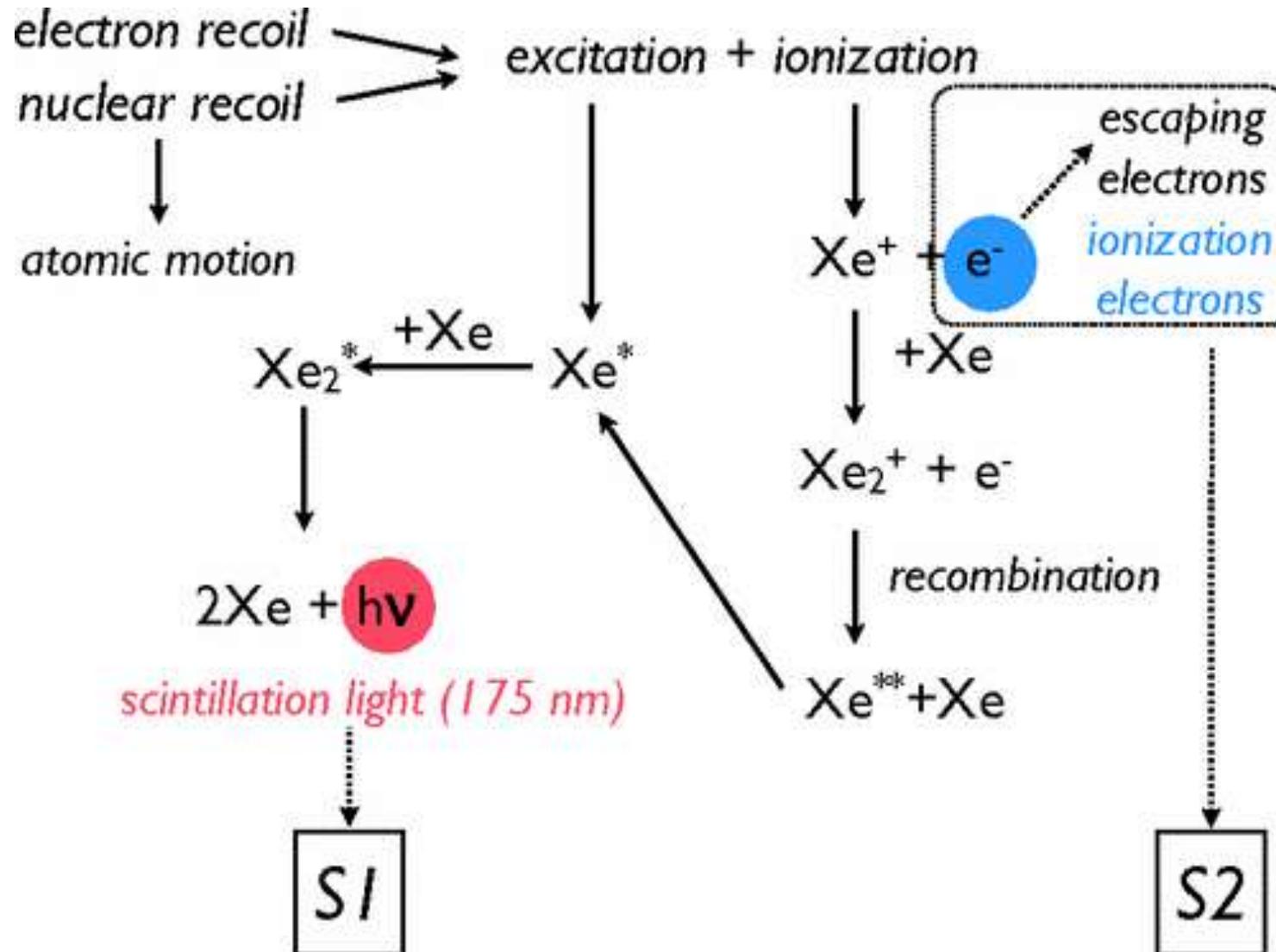
[diglio@subatech.in2p3.fr](mailto:diglio@subatech.in2p3.fr) (H111)

# WHY XENON AS A DETECTOR MEDIUM?

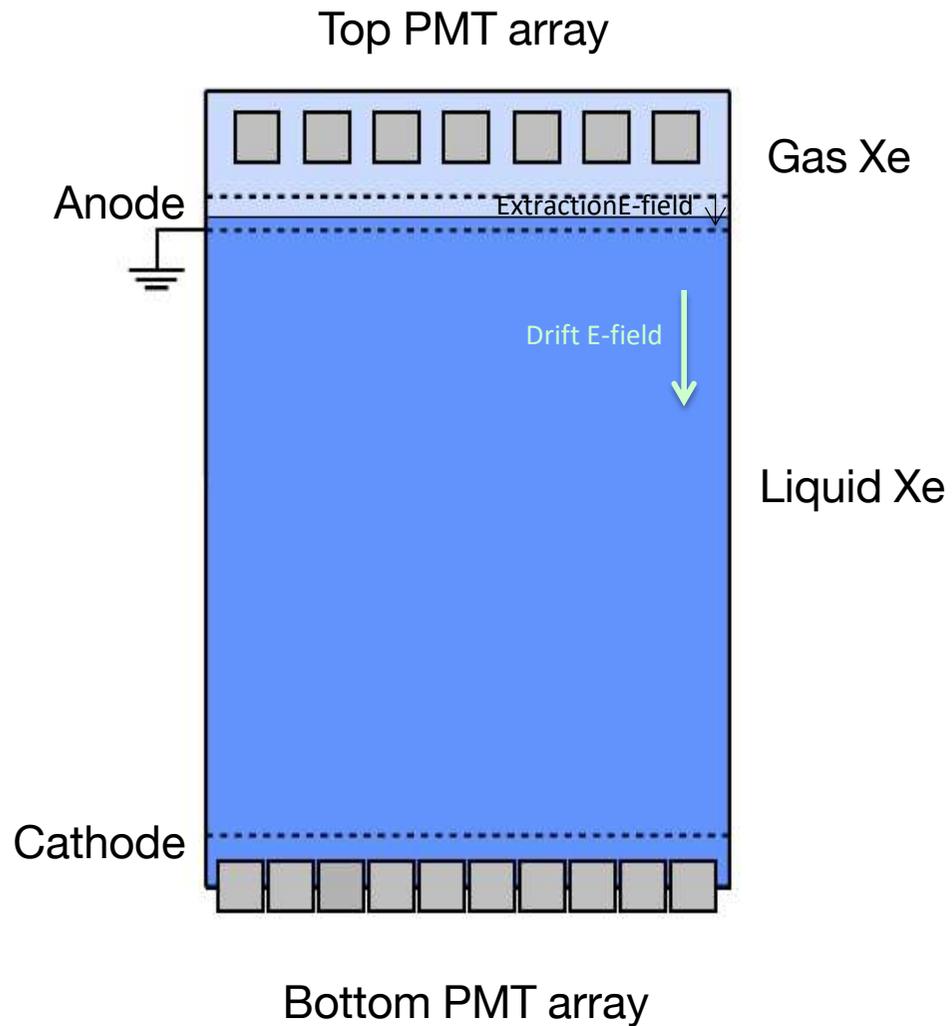
- **High mass number** : high rate for Spin Independent interactions ( $\sigma \sim A^2$ )
- **Odd-nucleon isotopes** :  $^{129}\text{Xe}, ^{131}\text{Xe}$  for Spin Dependent Interactions
- **Self shielding** : high  $Z=54$ , high density  $\rho \sim 3 \text{ kg/l}$
- **Intrinsically pure**: no long-lived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



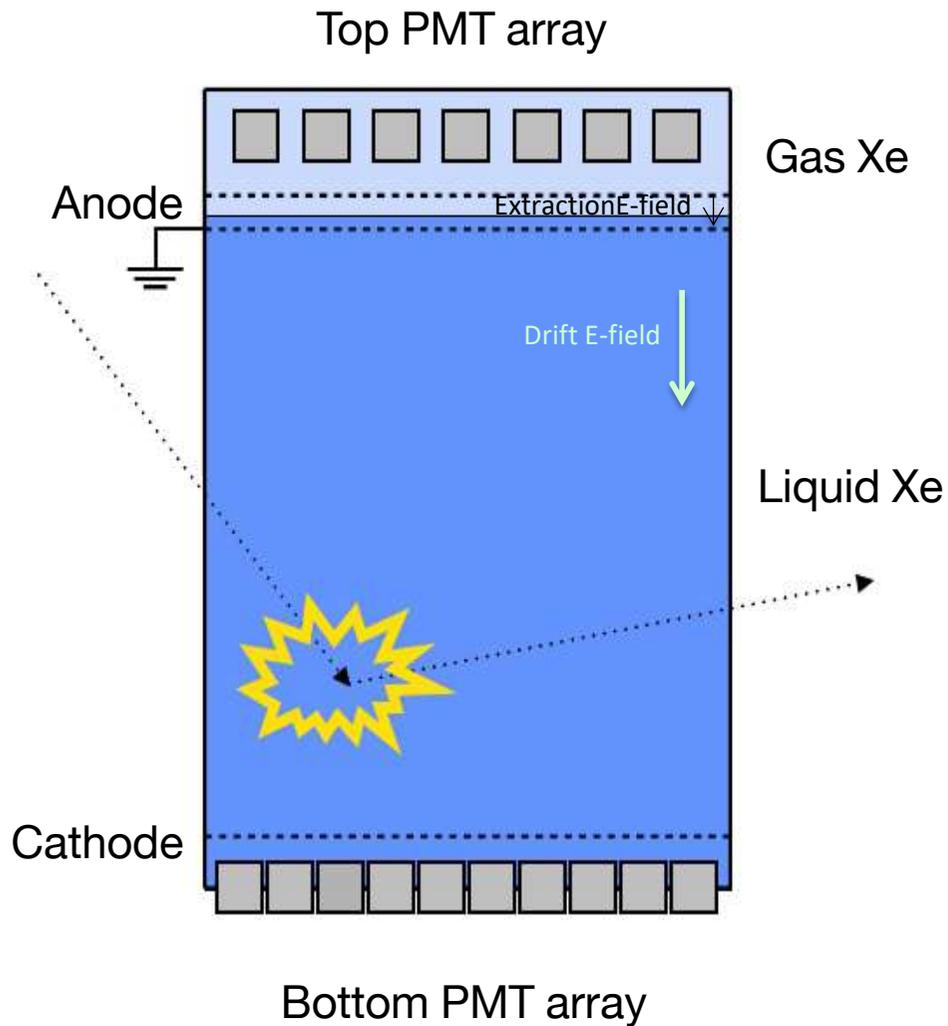
# SCINTILLATION AND IONIZATION SIGNALS



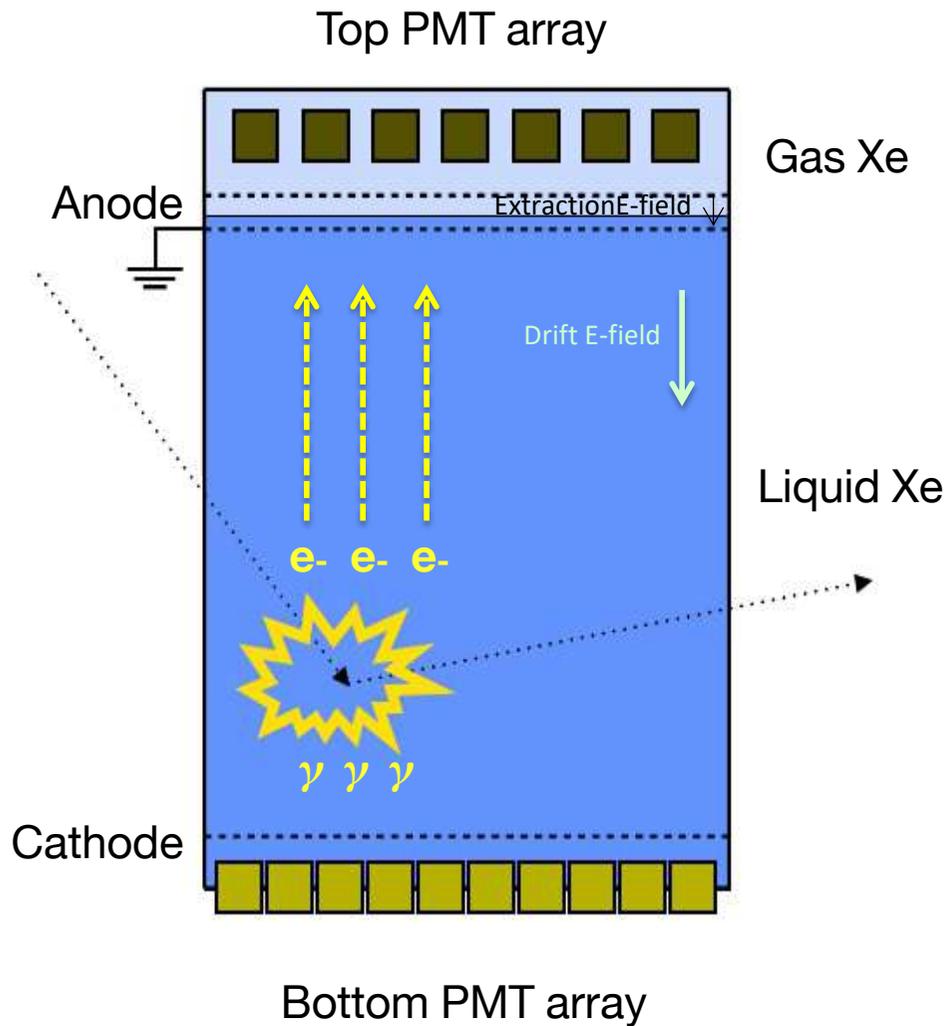
# DUAL PHASE LXe TIME PROJECTION CHAMBER



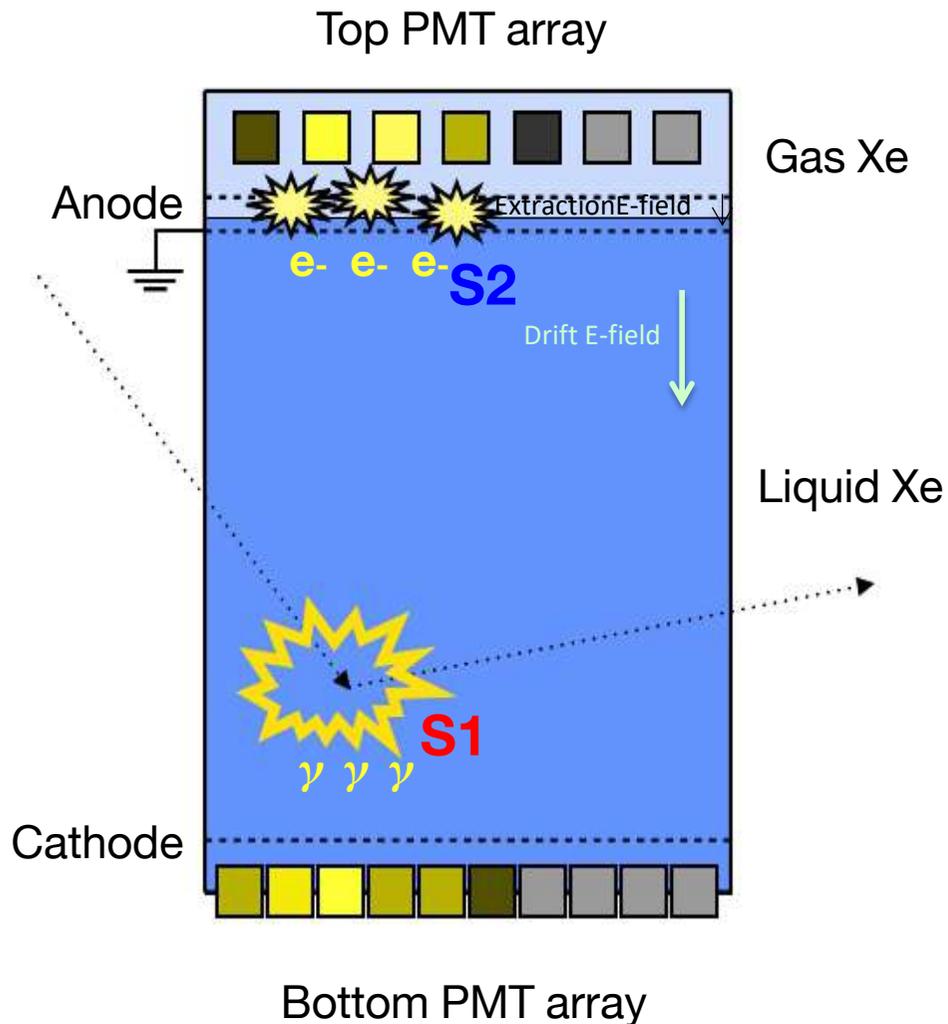
# DUAL PHASE LXe TIME PROJECTION CHAMBER



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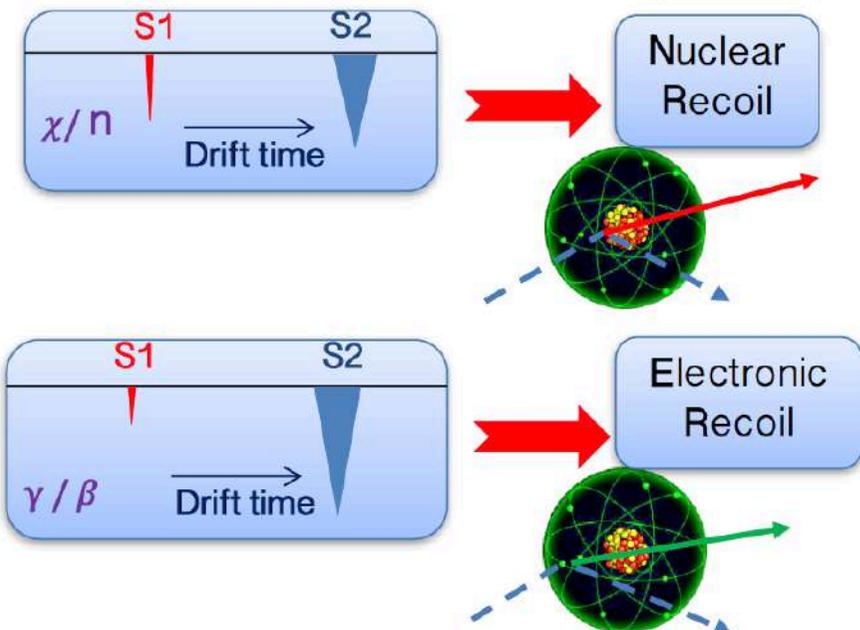


**S1 → light**

Prompt Scintillation

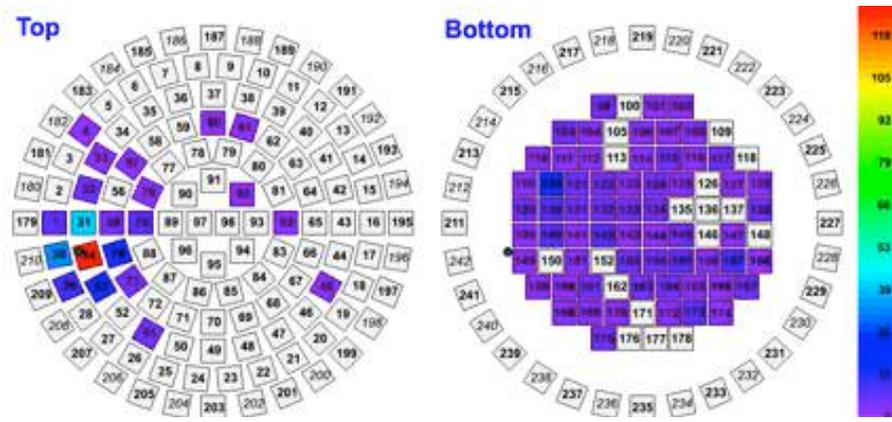
**S2 → charge**

Proportional scintillation following  $e^-$  drift and extraction into gas

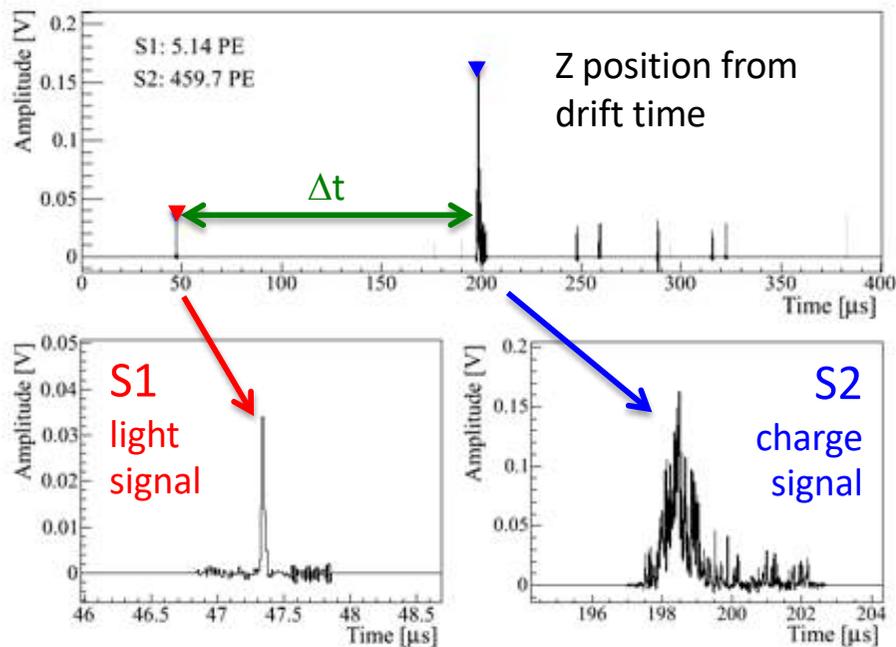


# DUAL PHASE LXE TIME PROJECTION CHAMBER

## 3D Interaction vertex reconstruction



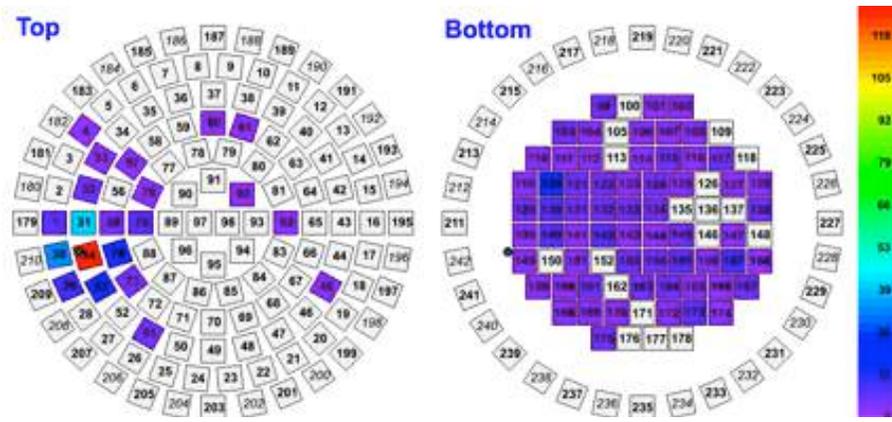
X and Y position from S2 hit pattern on top PMTs



Figures from XENON100

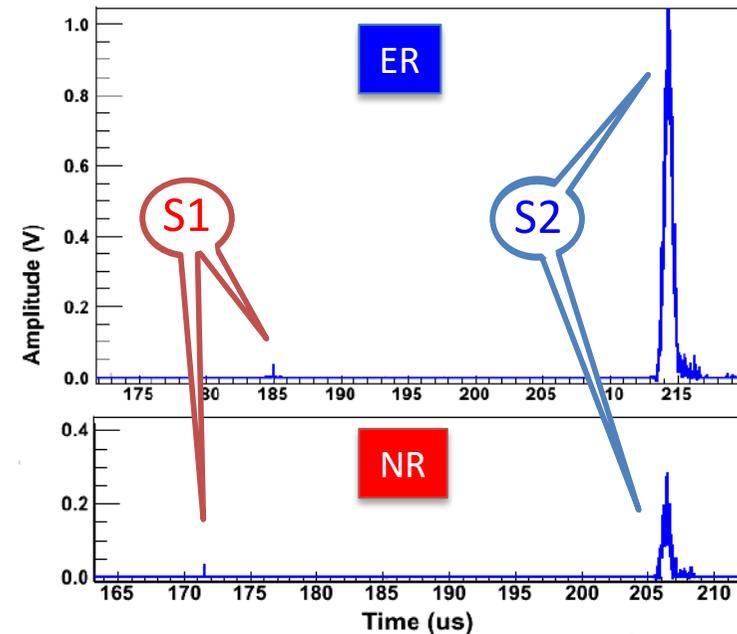
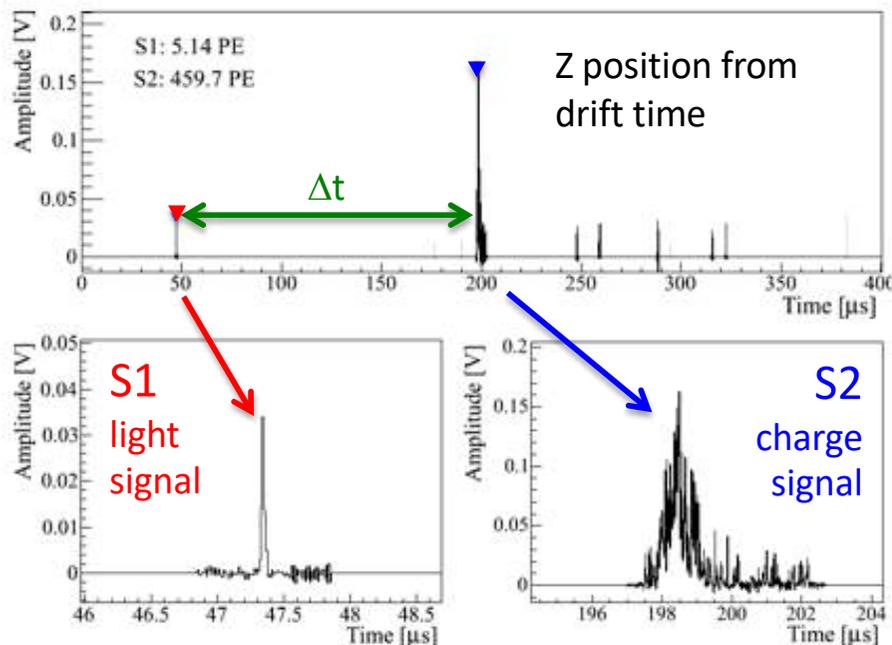
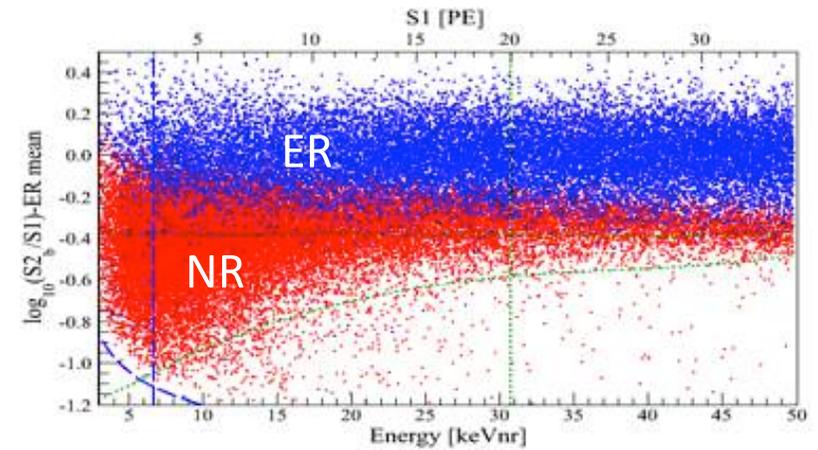
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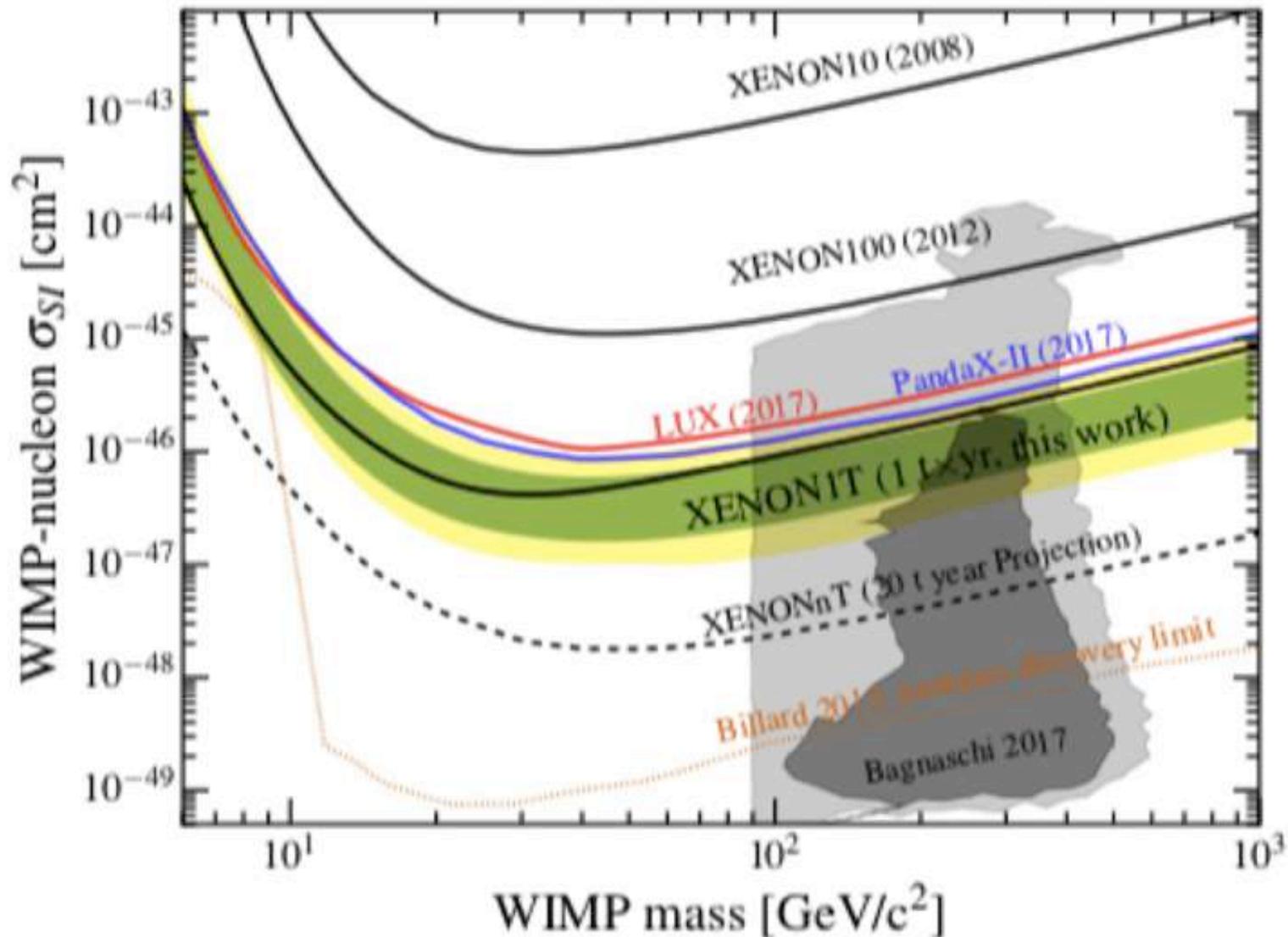
X and Y position from S2 hit pattern on top PMTs

## ER vs NR discrimination



Figures from XENON100

# THE STATE-OF-THE-ART: DRIVEN BY LXETPC EXPERIMENTS



Minimum at  $\sigma_{SI} = 4.1 \times 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2$  for a WIMP of 30 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>

# THE XENON PROJECT

Time



**XENON10**

2005-2007

25 kg - 15cm drift

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

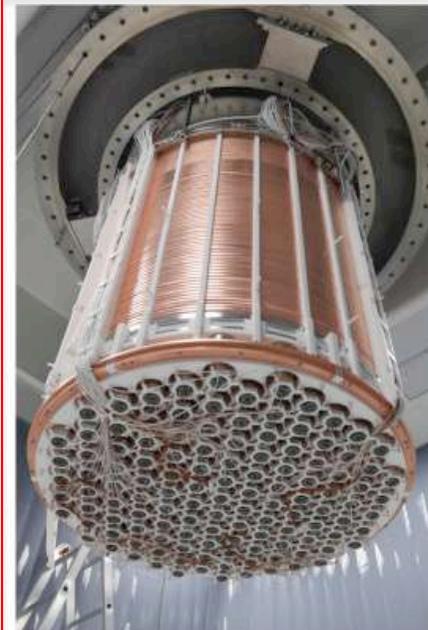


**XENON100**

2008-2016

161 kg - 30 cm drift

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

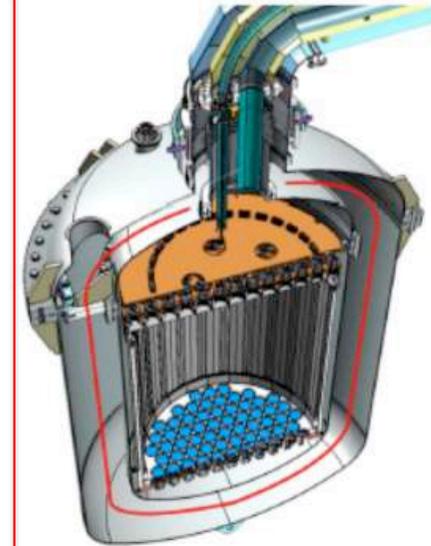


**XENON1T**

2012-2018

3.2 ton - 1 m drift

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



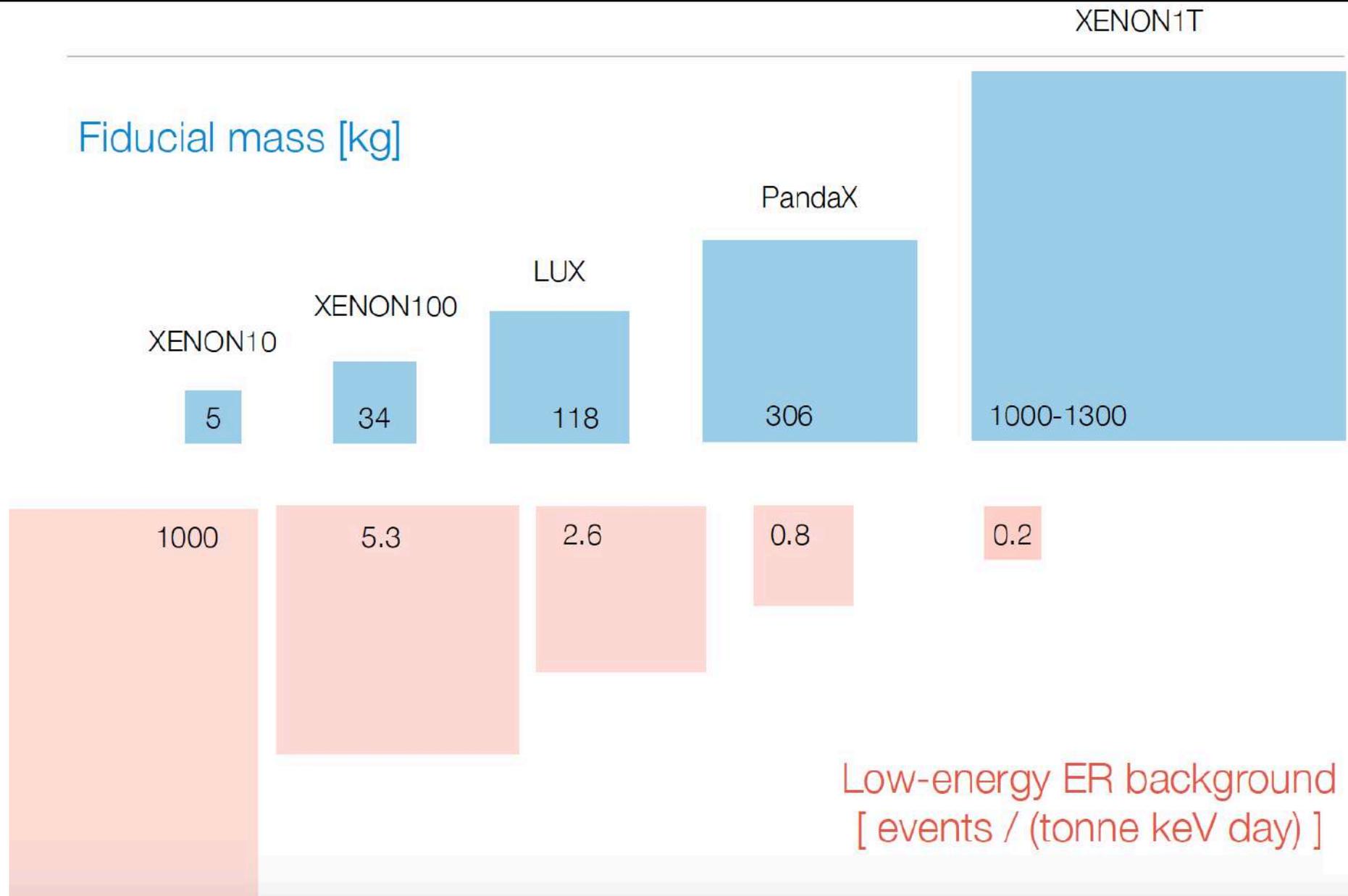
**XENONnT**

2019-2023

8 ton - 1.5 m drift

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

# THE IMPRESSIVE LXETPCS AS WIMP DETECTORS



# SCALING CONSIDERATIONS

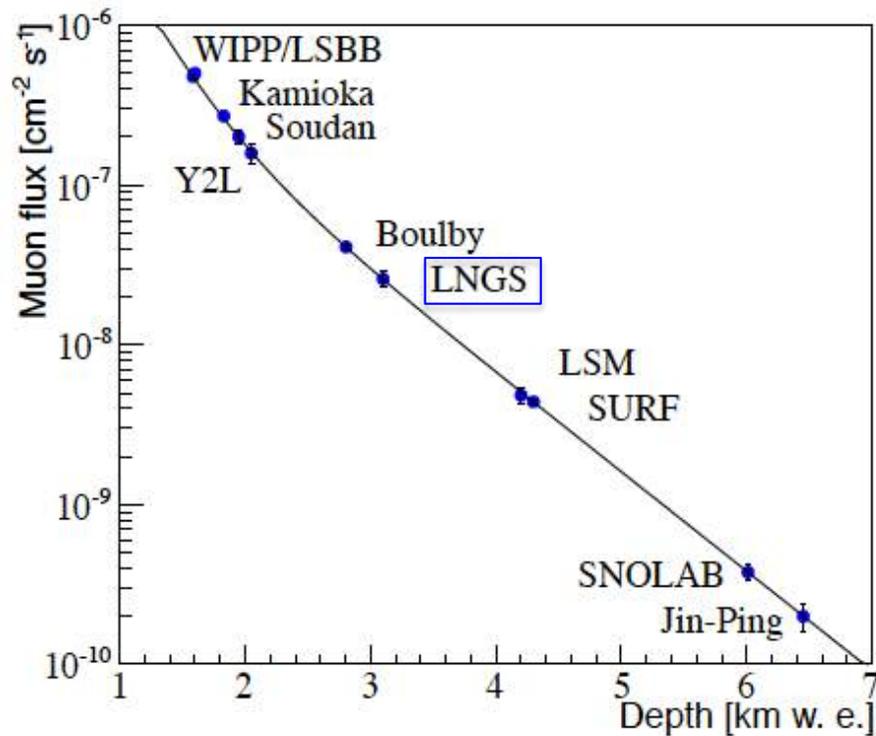
## ● Technological challenges

- Longer drift length → HV
- Increased mass → cryogenics, LXe purification, safe storage
- Detector response → calibration & required corrections
- More or bigger photo-sensors → LY, QE, long term stability
- Diameter → TPC electrodes

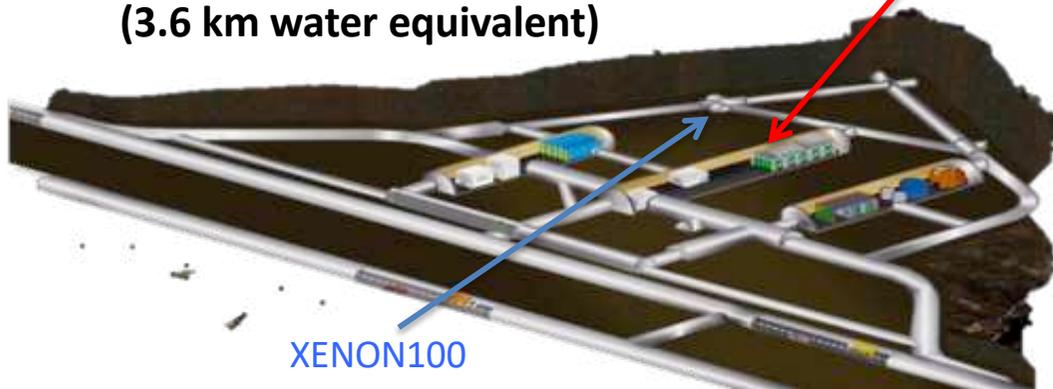
## ● Ultra low backgrounds

- Cosmogenic backgrounds → underground laboratory,  $\mu$ -veto, n-veto
- Fiducialization
- Detector materials
  - Radio-pure detector components, surfaces,  $\gamma$ 's, neutrons from ( $\alpha$ ,n)
  - very clean cryo-liquid → e-drift length, avoid  $^{222}\text{Rn}$ ,  $^{85}\text{Kr}$ , ...
  - techniques to select clean materials (g and Rn screening)
  - techniques to monitor LXe purity at required level
- Active background suppression → distillation

# LABORATORI NAZIONALI DEL GRAN SASSO



Below 1400 m of rock  
(3.6 km water equivalent)



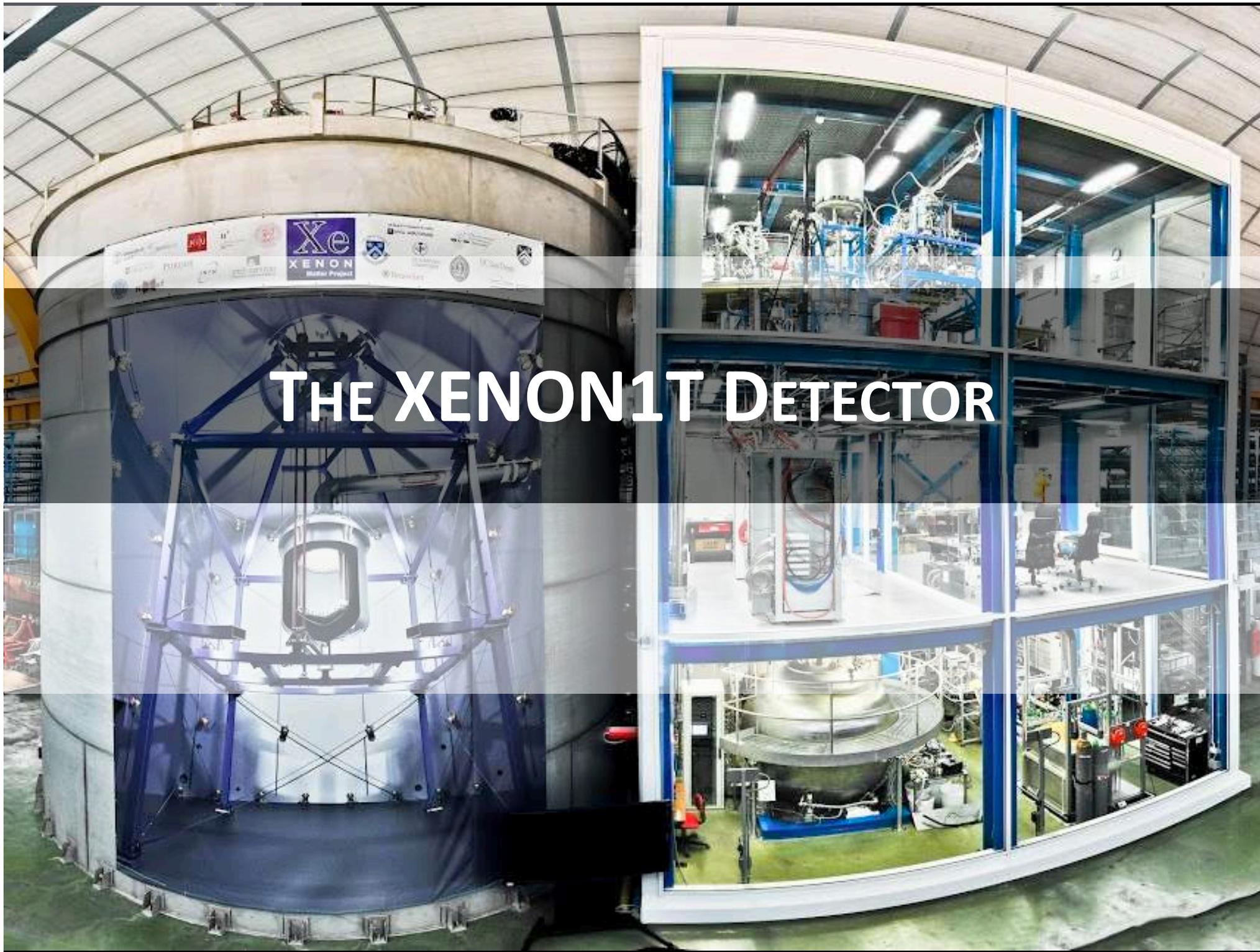
# THE XENON COLLABORATION

 ~ 170 scientists

 31 institutions

 11 countries





# THE XENON1T DETECTOR

# THE XENON1T EXPERIMENT



July 2013

# THE XENON1T EXPERIMENT



August 2014

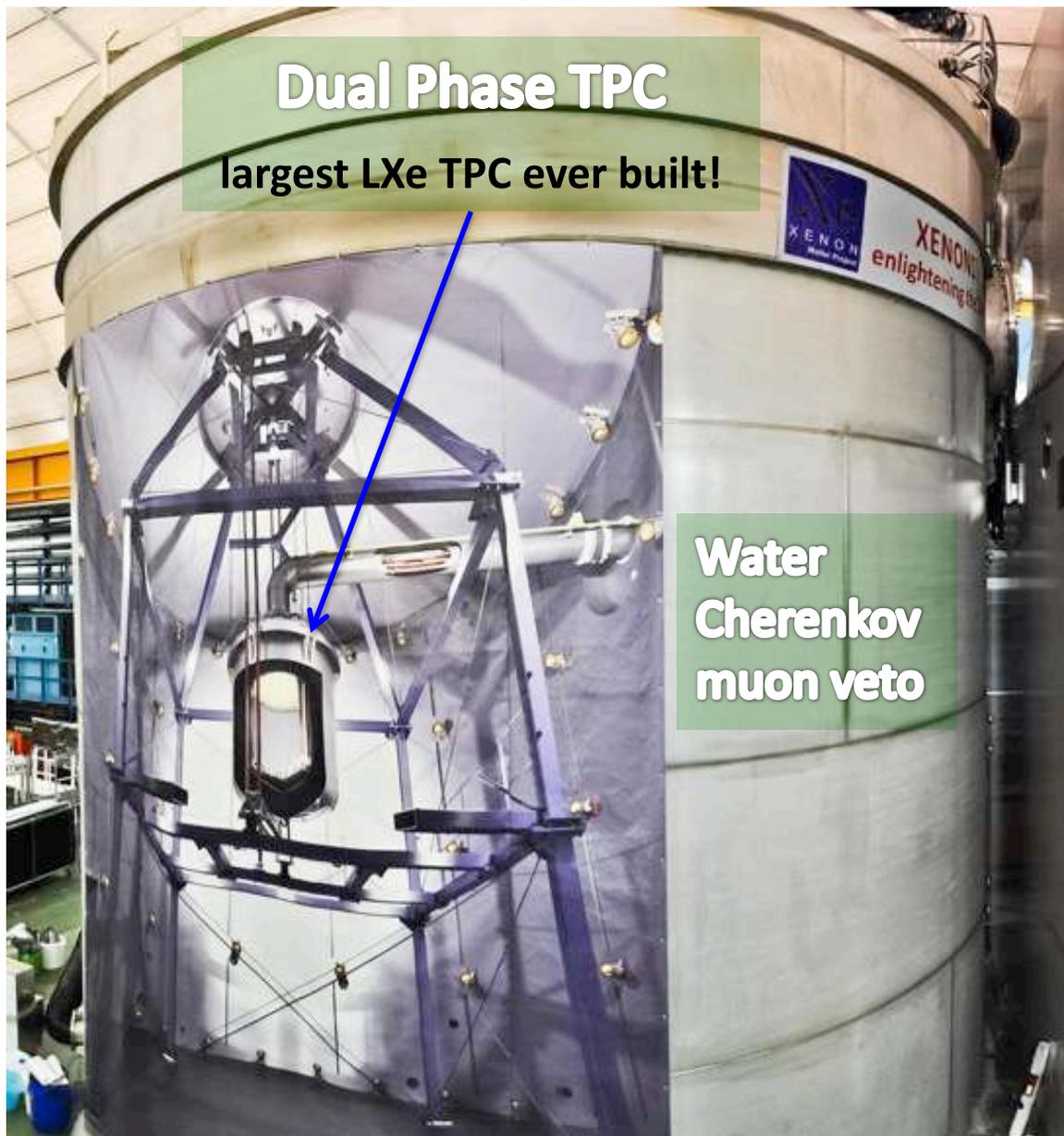
# THE XENON1T EXPERIMENT



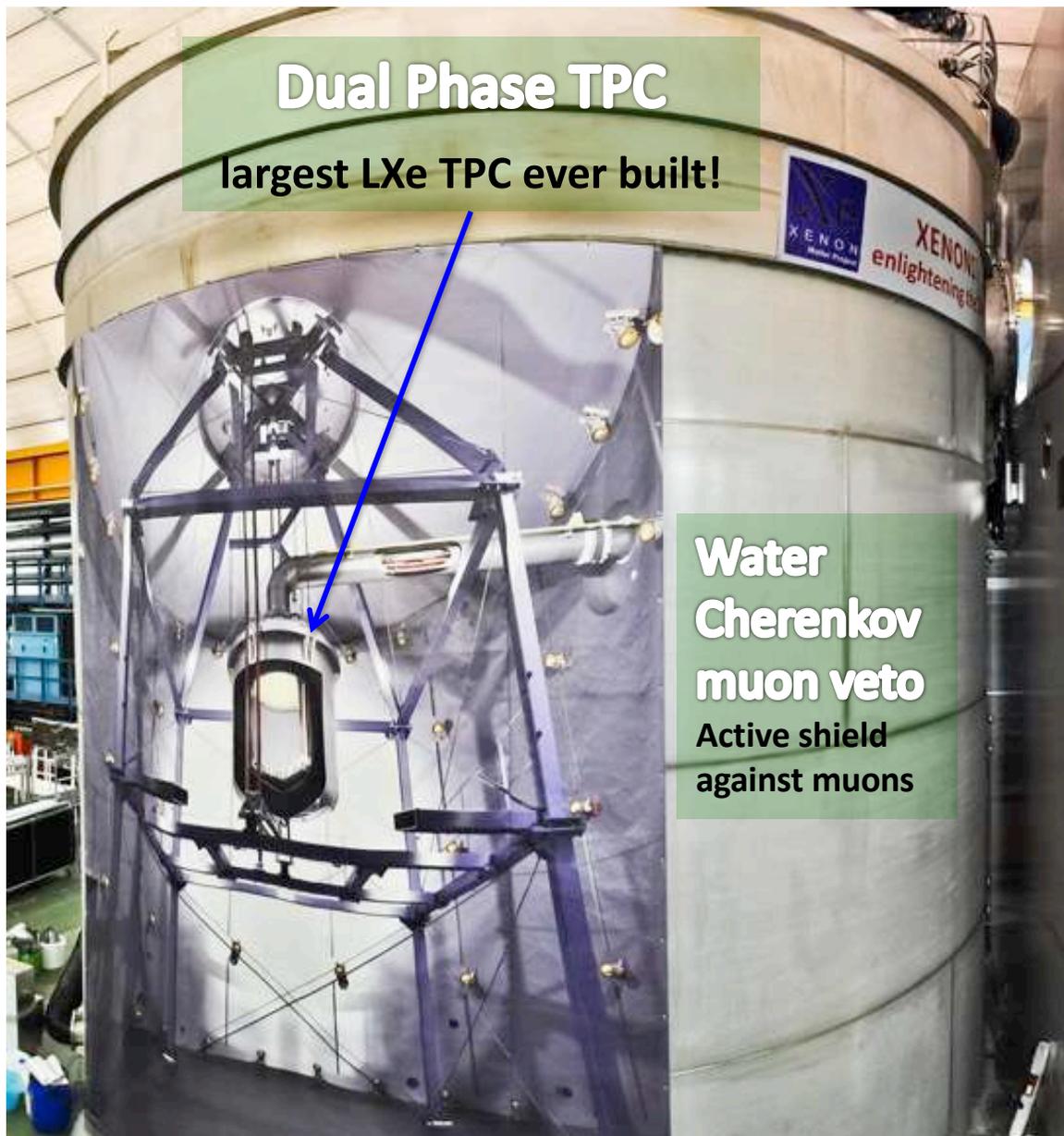
August 2014



# THE XENON1T EXPERIMENT



# THE XENON1T EXPERIMENT



## Dual Phase TPC

largest LXe TPC ever built!

Water  
Cherenkov  
muon veto  
Active shield  
against muons



## Cryogenic & Purification

maintain the Xe  
in liquid form at  
constant  
temperature  
and pressure

Clean Xe from  
electronegative  
impurities

## Electronics & DAQ

## ReStoX & Distillation

Emergency  
recovery of Xe up  
to 7.6 t

Active removal of  
Kr contamination  
in Xe

# WATER SYSTEM AND CHERENKOV MUON VETO

## Water System



## Water Cherenkov Muon Veto



### Goals

- Provide a “house” and clean water for an active shield around the LXe detector
- Provide access points and breakthroughs for water purification, calibration sources and detector leveling

### Goal

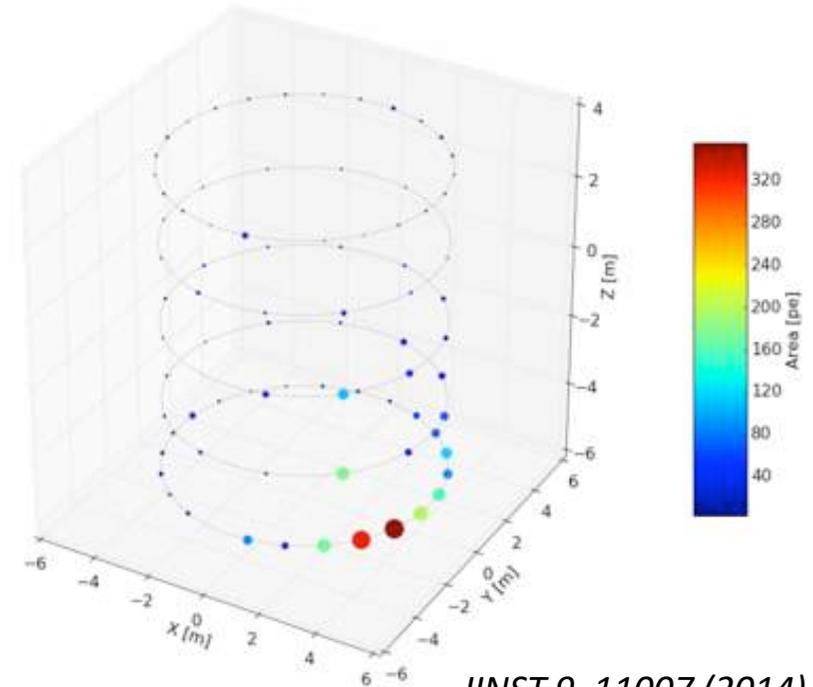
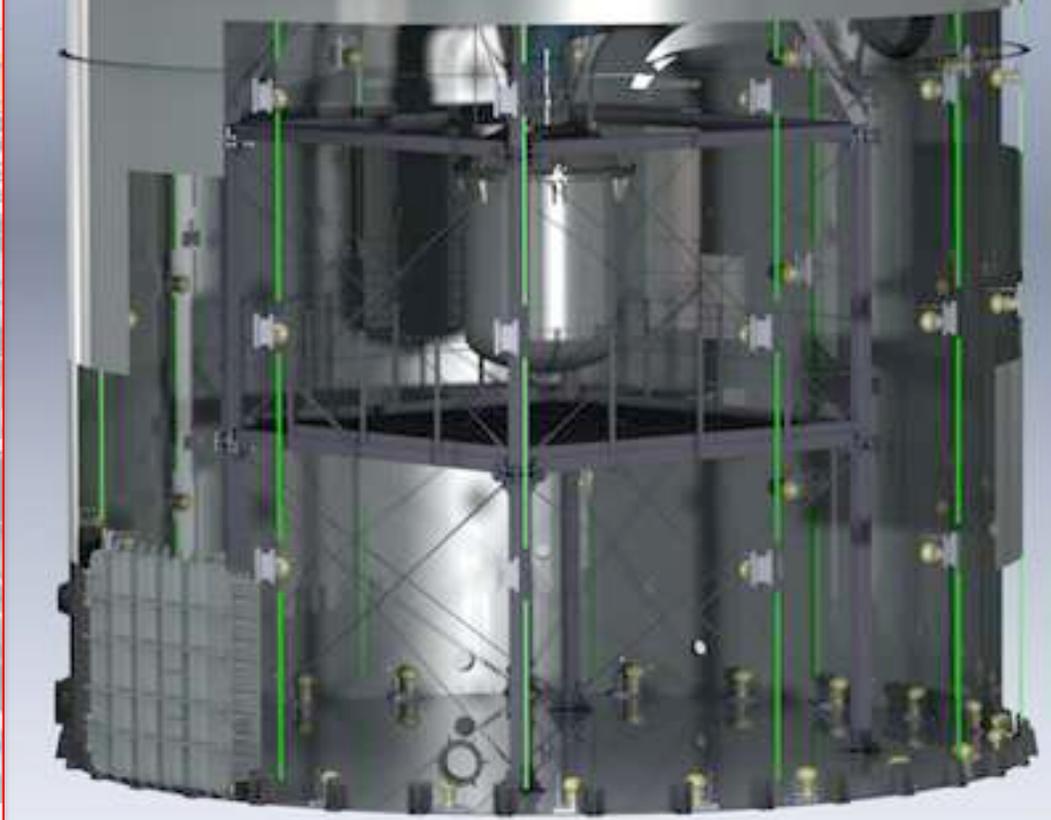
Identify cosmic ray muons reaching the detector and their induced neutrons that are a source of background for XENON1T

**Principle:** detection of the passage of the muon or its secondary charged particles through the Cherenkov light they produce in a mass of pure water surrounding the cryostat

*E. Aprile et al. (XENON Collaboration), JINST 9, P11006 (2014)*

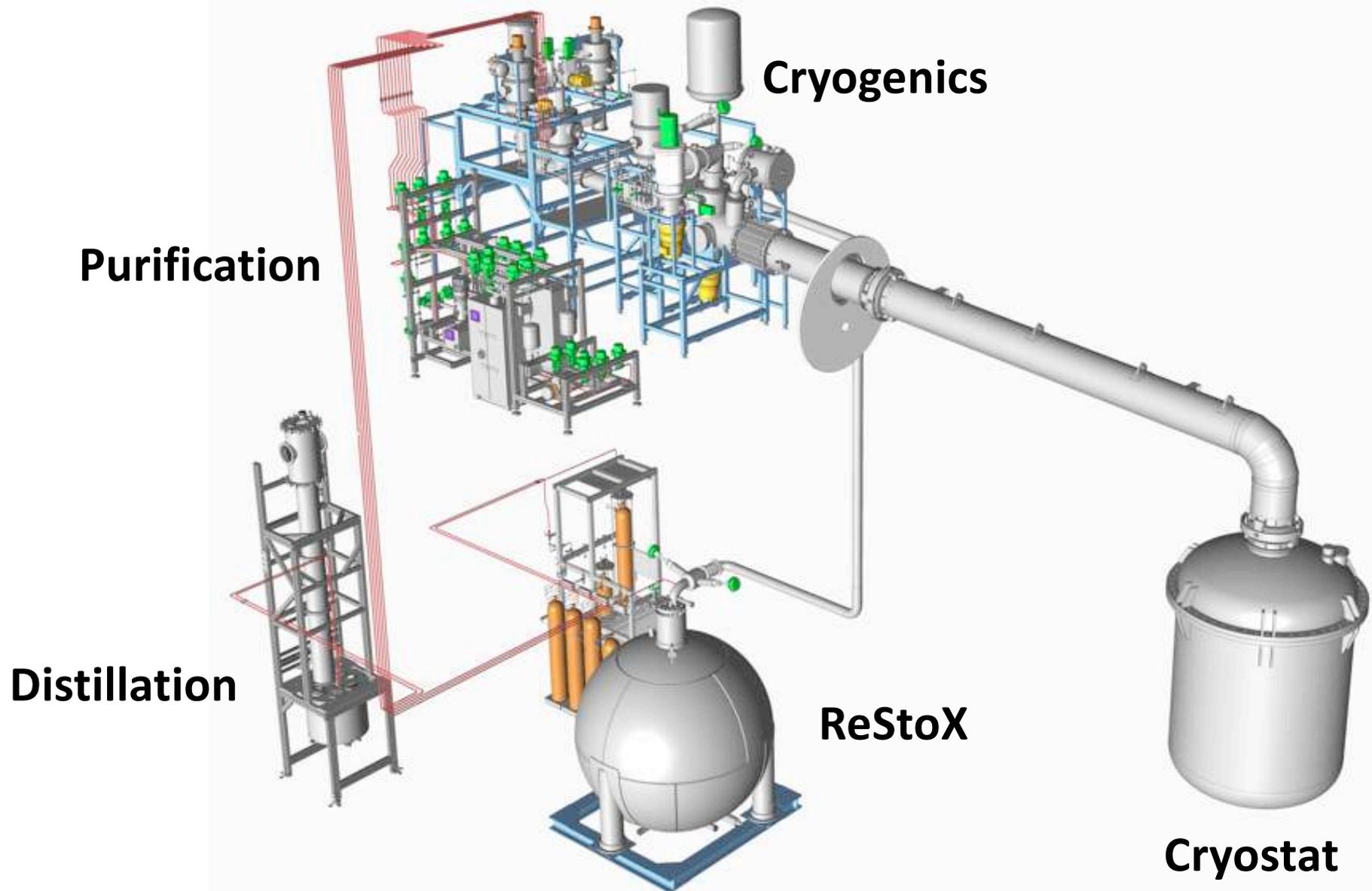
# WATER CHERENKOV MUON VETO

- Active shield against muons
- 700 m<sup>3</sup> of demineralized water
- 84 x 8" PMTs
- Muon tagging efficiency > 99.5%
- Can suppress cosmogenic background to < 0.01 ev/tonne/yr



JINST 9, 11007 (2014)

# CRYOGENIC AND GAS SYSTEMS

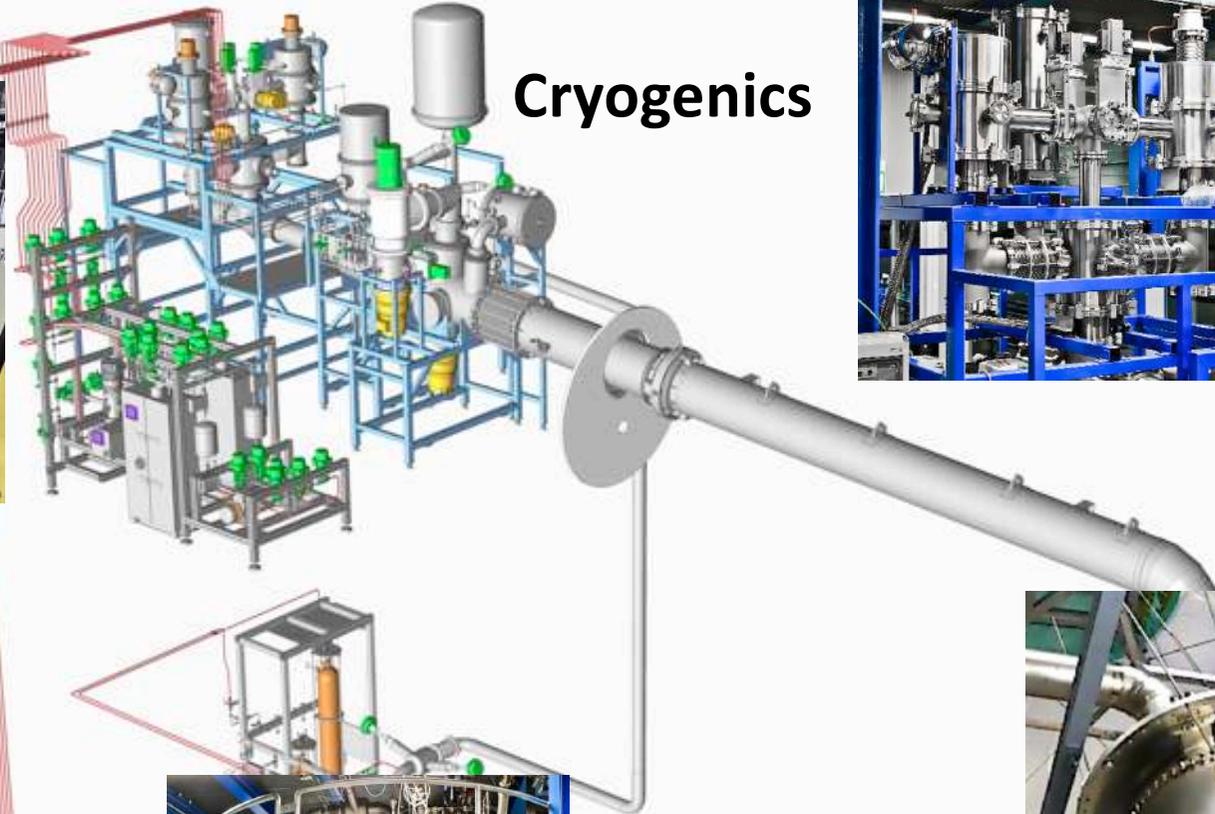


# CRYOGENIC AND GAS SYSTEMS

**Purification**



**Cryogenics**



**Distillation**



**ReStoX**



**Cryostat**

# THE CRYOSTAT

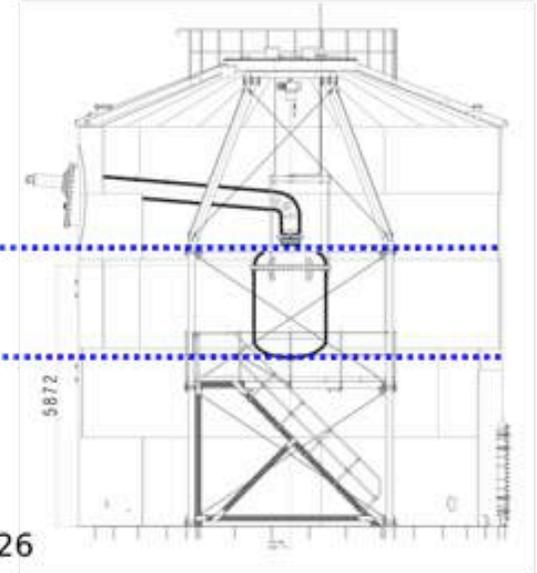
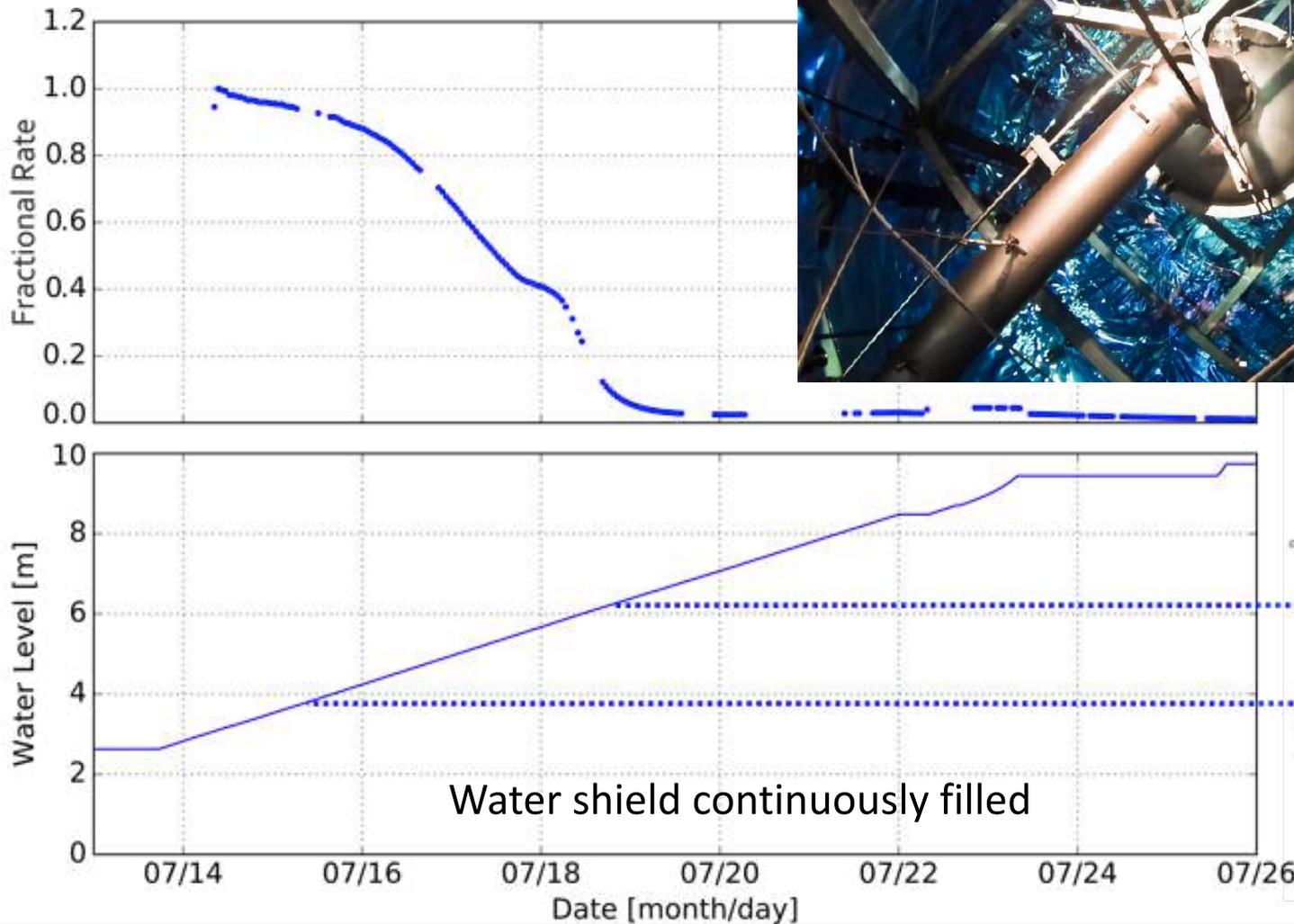
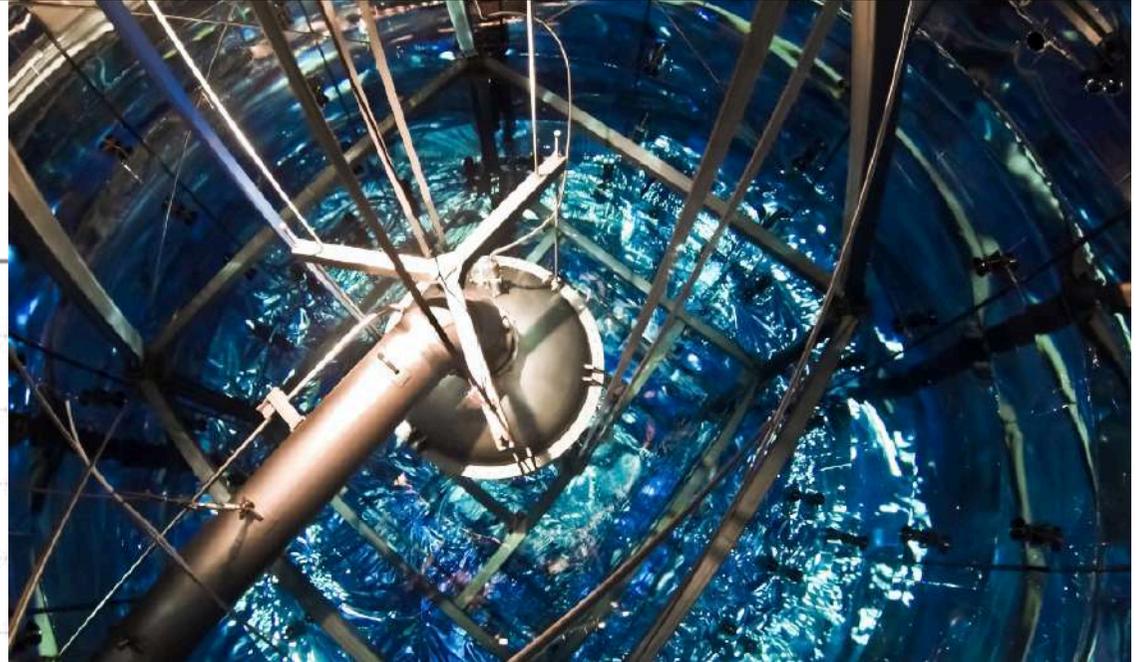
## Goal

a ultra-high-vacuum, thermally insulated system made of low-radioactivity material, to contain the detector with 3.5 tons of LXe at  $-95\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  and 2 bar pressure and to couple it to the cryogenics system outside the water shield



# CRYOSTAT IN THE WATER TANK

TPC filled with 3.2 t of Xe



# TIME PROJECTION CHAMBER



## Goal

build a ultra-low-background two-phase XeTPC with the best performance for WIMP detection

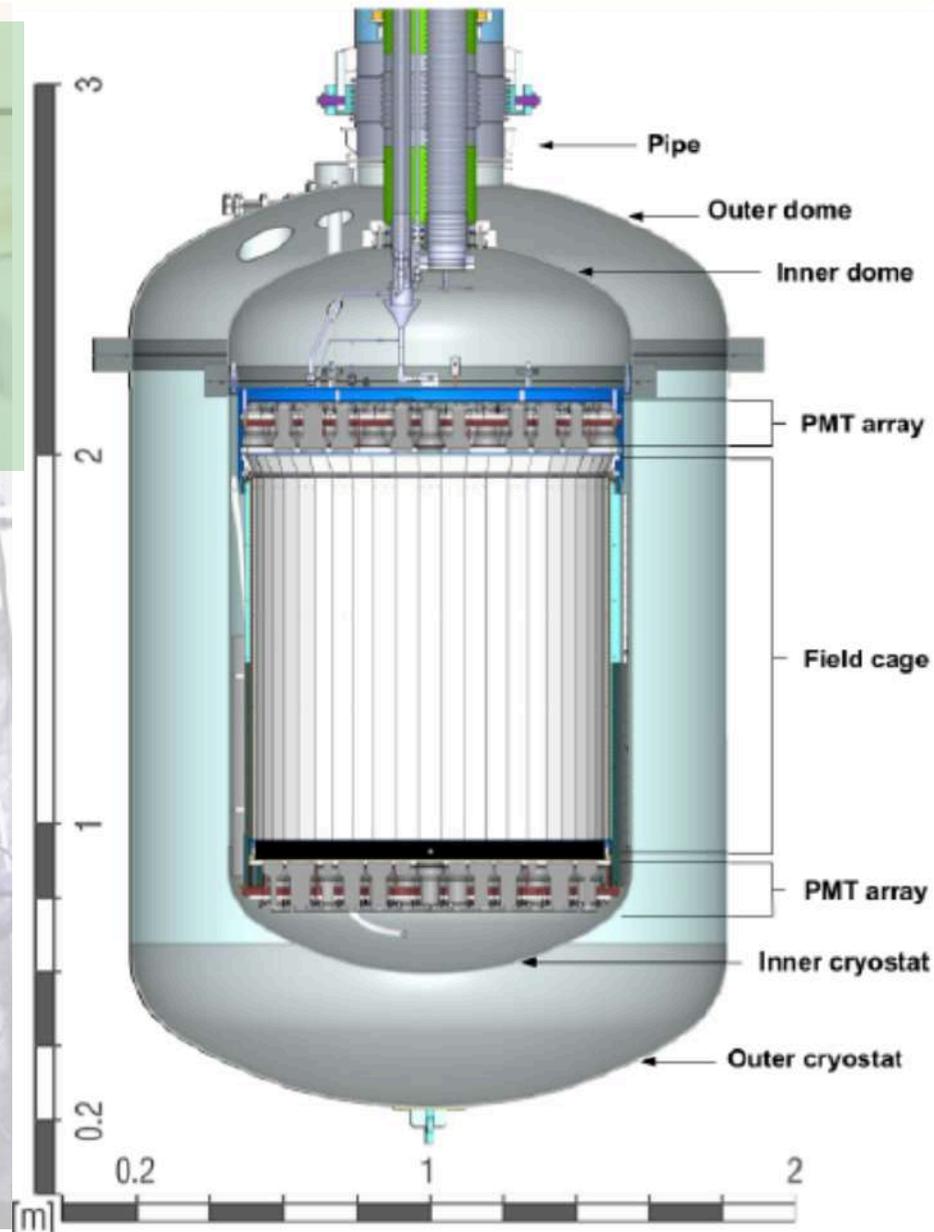
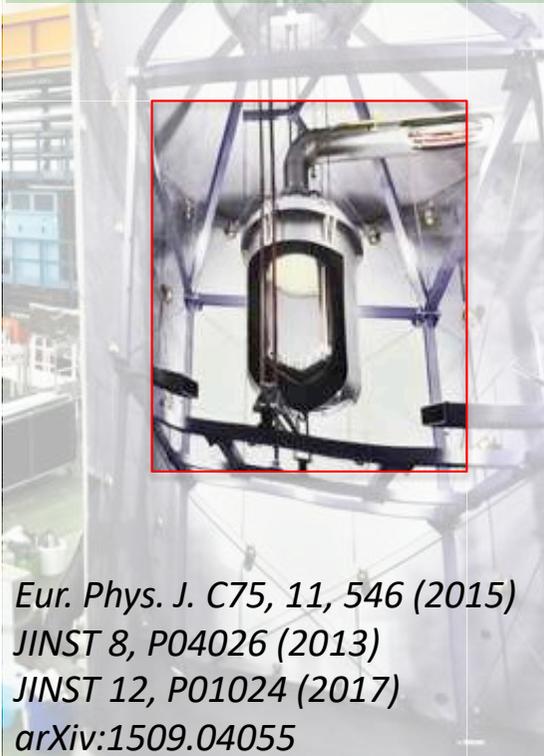


# TIME PROJECTION CHAMBER



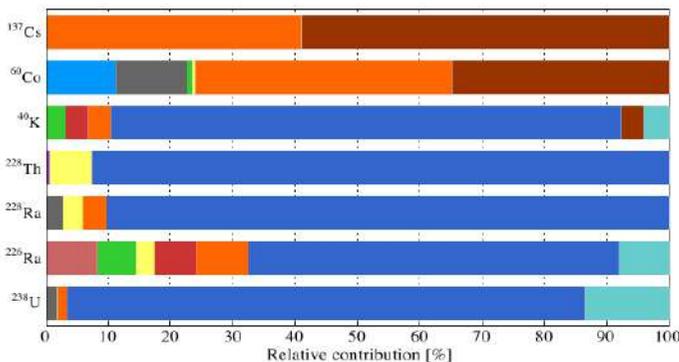
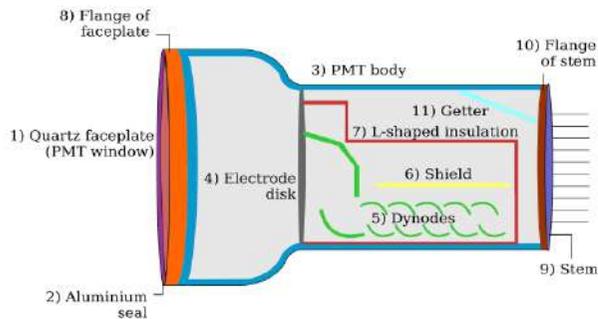
# TIME PROJECTION CHAMBER

- Total Xe: 3.2 t
- Active Xe: 2t
- Diameter ~ 1m
- Height ~1m



# PHOTOMULTIPLIERS (PMTs)

- 248 Hamamatsu R11410, 3" PMTs
- Low radioactive background
- 35% QE @ 178 nm
- operating gain  $5 \times 10^6$  @ 1.5kV stable within 1-2%
- Extensive pre-testing/characterization campaign



E. Aprile et al. (XENON), Eur. Phys. J. C75 (2015) 11, 546  
arXiv:1503.07698

# MATERIAL SCREENING AND SELECTION

## Goal

Improve radio purity of all materials used in XENON1T detector by screening and selection: all relevant components of the cryostat and the TPC have been measured



GeMPI-1, LNGS



GeMPI-4, LNGS



GIOVE, MPIK



GATOR at LNGS



LNGS screening facility

## Method

- multiple facilities available to the Collaboration
- 200 samples measured with gamma spectroscopy and ~40 samples with mass spectroscopy

# RADON CONTROL AND MEASUREMENT

## Goals

- Select construction materials with low radon ( $^{222}\text{Rn}$ ) emanation rate
- Implement measures to further reduce  $^{222}\text{Rn}$  (alternative materials, surface cleaning procedures, etc.)
- Quantify and locate remaining  $^{222}\text{Rn}$  sources

## Method

- $^{222}\text{Rn}$  detectors: Ultra-low background proportional counters
- Measurement of fully assembled sub-systems (cryostat, purification system, cryogenic system)
- Development of surface cleaning procedures optimized for  $^{222}\text{Rn}$  in cooperation with TPC group



Dedicated ultra-low background gas handling system for samples testing

# GAS HANDLING AND IMPURITY CONTROL

It takes ~600.000 liters of Xe gas to fill XENON1T  
with 3500 kg of LXe

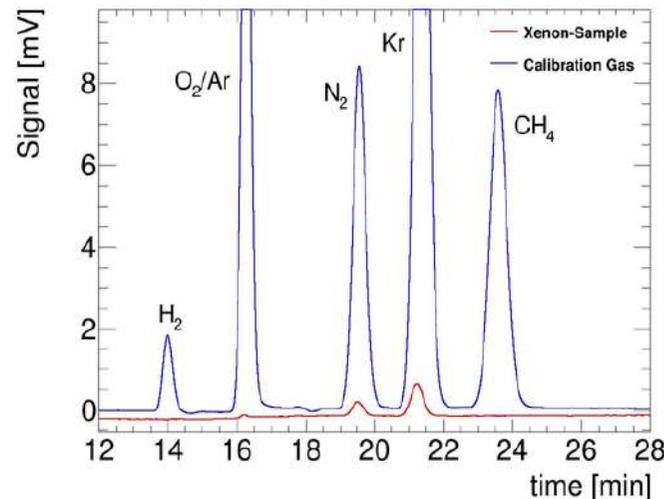
# GAS HANDLING AND IMPURITY CONTROL

It takes ~600.000 liters of Xe gas to fill XENON1T  
with 3500 kg of LXe



## Goal

Measure impurities level of each cylinder of Xe gas prior to transferring into storage vessel (ReStoX) using a dedicated Gas Chromatograph



## Method

- Connect and analyze up to four gas cylinders
- Recuperate gas residuals during detector filling
- Interface for xenon transfer (detector to bottles, distillation column to bottles, bottles to bottles)

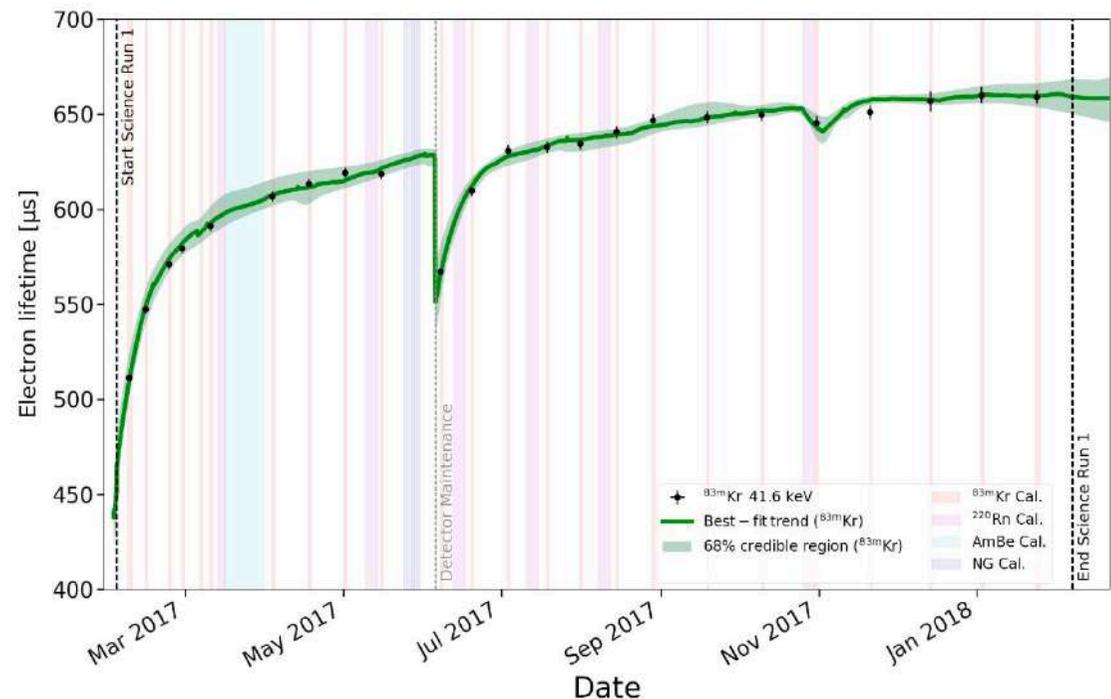
# PURIFICATION SYSTEM



- Electronegative impurities in the Xe gas and from materials outgassing reduce charge (and light) signal
- To drift electrons over 1 m requires  $< 1\text{ppb}$  ( $\text{O}_2$  equivalent)

## Goal

clean Xe from electronegative impurities via continuous gas purification through heated getters



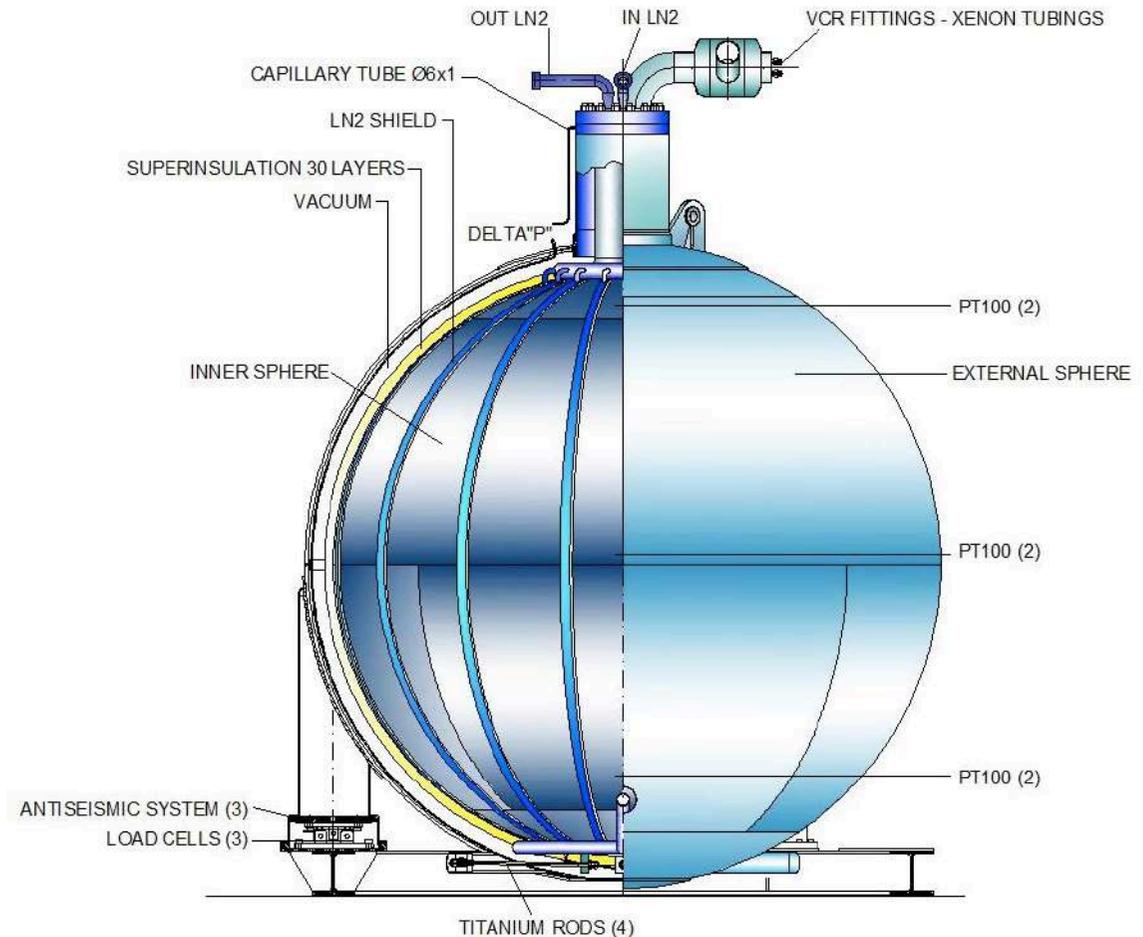
Charge loss by impurities corrected with e-lifetime measured from  $^{83\text{m}}\text{Kr}$  calibration

# RECOVERY AND STORAGE SYSTEM

## Fast Recovery and Storage of Xenon: **ReStoX**

### Goals

- Store up to 7600 kg of Xe in gaseous or liquid/solid phase under high purity conditions
- Fill Xe in ultra-high-purity conditions into detector vessel
- Recover all the Xe from the detector: in case of emergency all Xe can be safely recovered in a few hours



**System conceived by AirLiquide and Subatech**

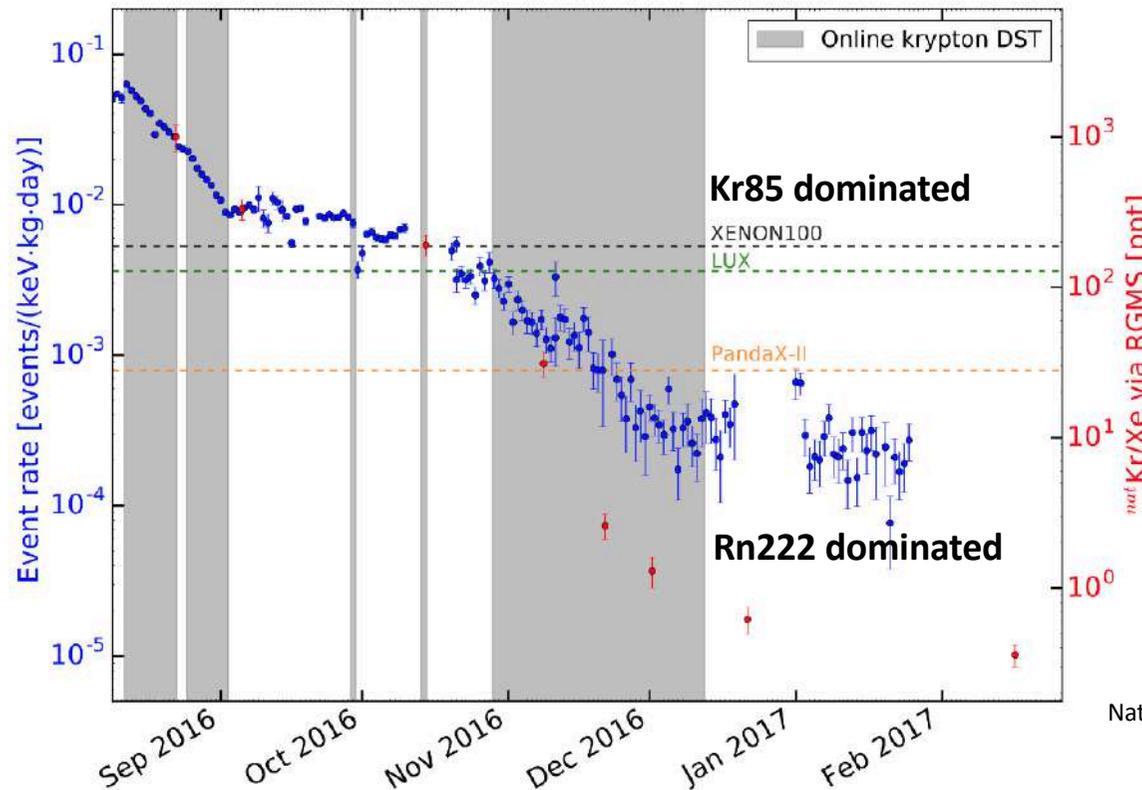
# RESTOX CONSTRUCTION PHASES



# CRYOGENIC DISTILLATION COLUMN

## Goal

Active removal of  $^{85}\text{Kr}$  contamination in Xe



**$^{nat}\text{Kr}/\text{Xe}$**   
 (2.60 ± 0.05) ppt beginning 1<sup>st</sup> science run  
 (0.36 ± 0.06) ppt 1 month after the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> science run

**First results:**  
 Purified liquid out:  
 $^{nat}\text{Kr}/\text{Xe} < 0.026$  ppt (90% c.l.)  
 A factor ~10 better than required for XENON1T!  
*Eur. Phys. J. C77 (2017)*

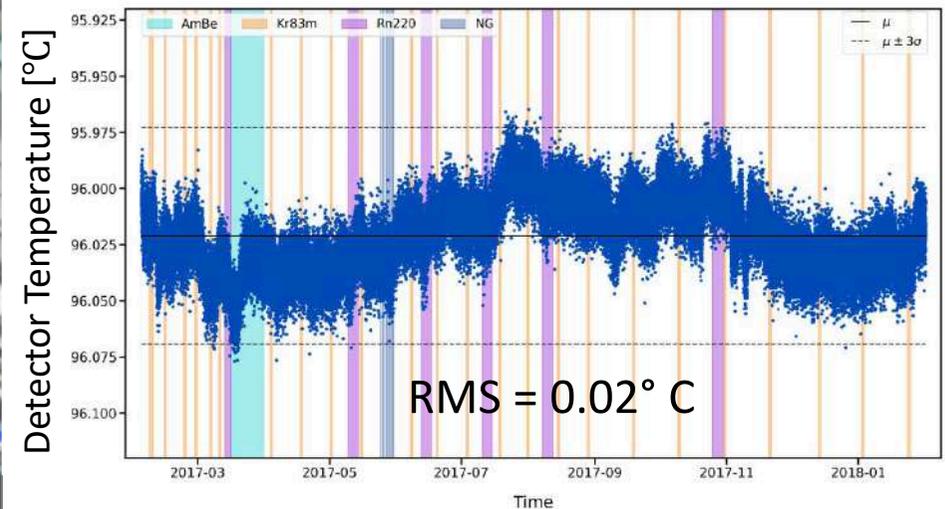
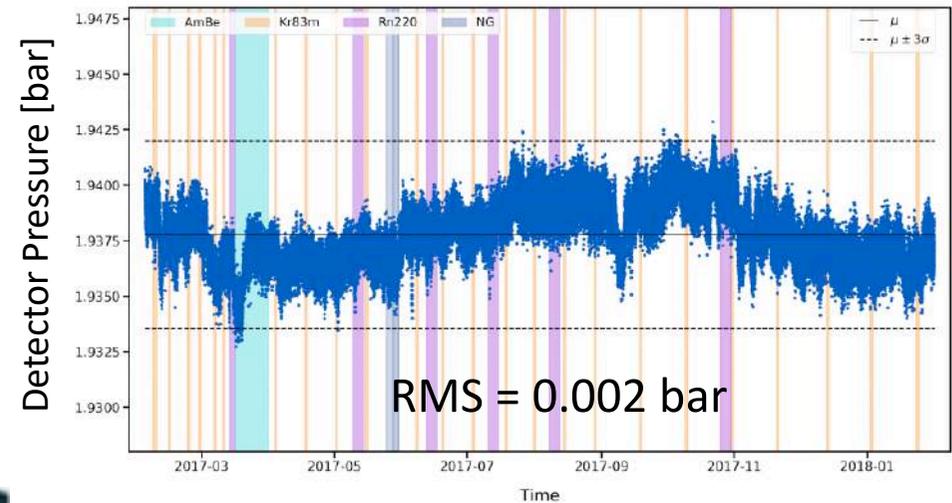
- Commercial Xe: 1 ppm - 10 ppb of Kr
- XENON1T sensitivity requires: ~0.2 ppt
- on-line distillation used to reduce Kr/Xe while taking data



# CRYOGENIC SYSTEM

## Goals

liquefy 3500 Kg of Xe and maintain the Xenon in the cryostat in liquid form, at a constant temperature and pressure, and so for years without interruption



All critical detector parameters are stable throughout science runs



# DETECTOR CALIBRATION

## Goal

Accurately calibrate the detector response to electron and nuclear recoils



- **Internal Calibration systems**

- Introduce radioactive sources directly into the gaseous xenon for uniform illumination
- Use  $^{220}\text{Rn}$ ,  $^{83\text{m}}\text{Kr}$  and tritiated methane

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- Use  $^{220}\text{Rn}$ ,  $^{83\text{m}}\text{Kr}$  and tritiated methane

- **Calibration Belts**

- Allow for transport of external sources around the cryostat
- Two belts for vertical displacement of sources
- One belt below cryostat



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- **Neutron generator**

- Mono-energetic (2.5MeV) neutrons from deuterium-deuterium fusion
- Double scatter of neutrons, calibration of nuclear recoil response

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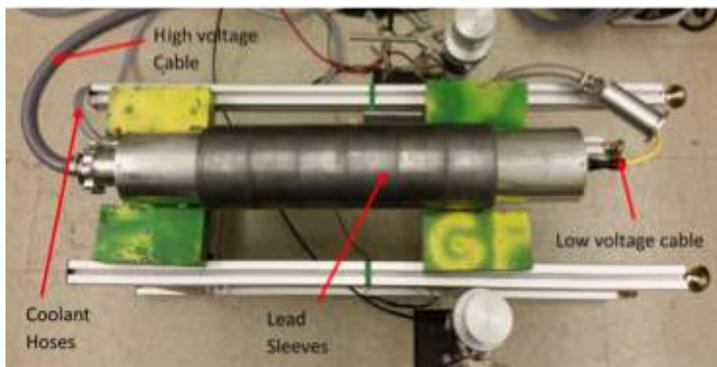
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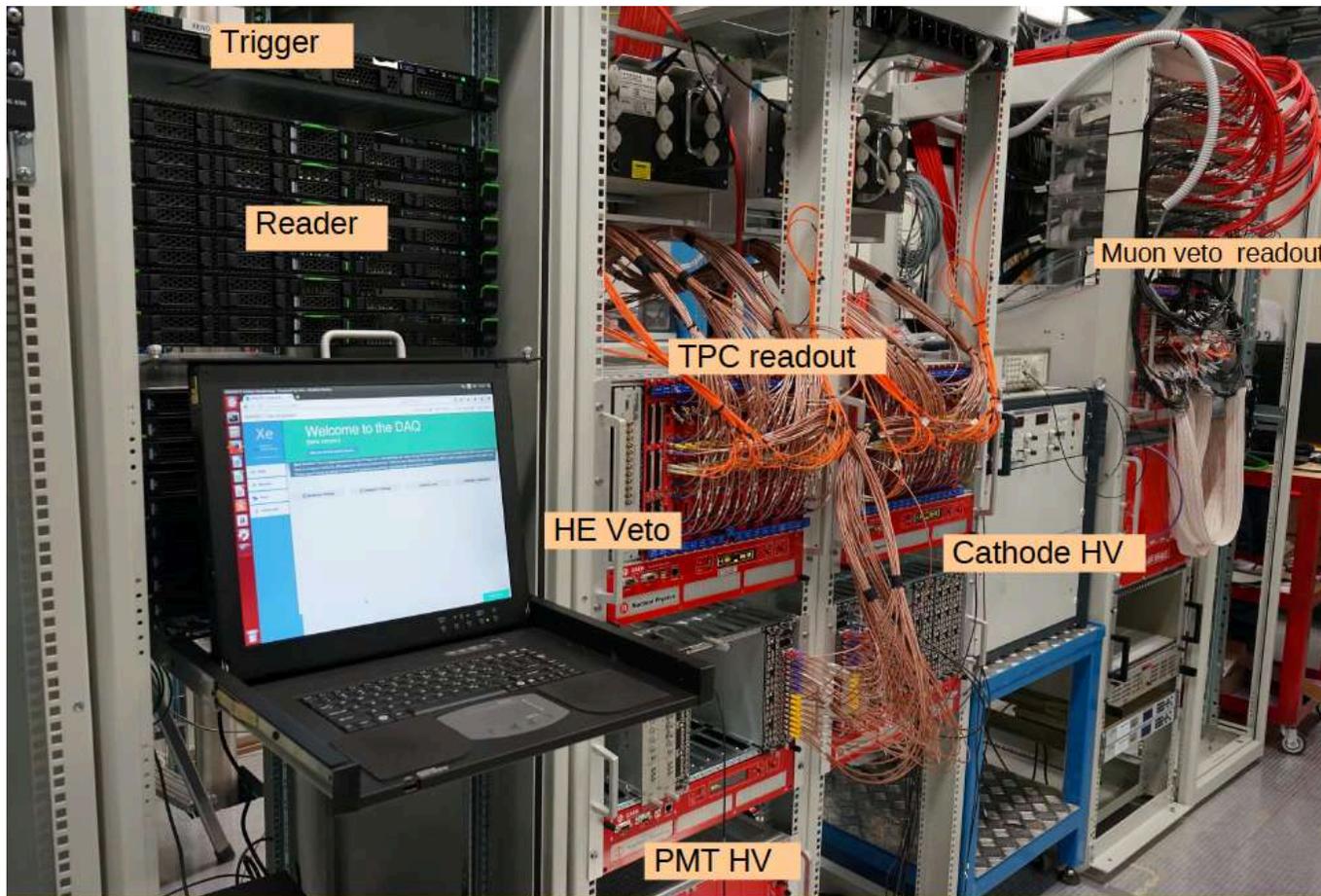
- **LED Calibrations**

- Fiber optics guide light from external LED light sources into TPC
- Used to monitor performance of PMTs

# DATA ACQUISITION (DAQ) & COMPUTING SYSTEM

## Data Acquisition Goal

Read the data from PMTs at high speed, select interesting events (online veto and event selection), store data to file, process raw data to get to physical quantities.



## Computing System Goals

- Providing enough computing facilities to process raw data and to allow data analysis by all Collaboration members
- Development and use of sharing resources

# MONTE CARLO SIMULATION

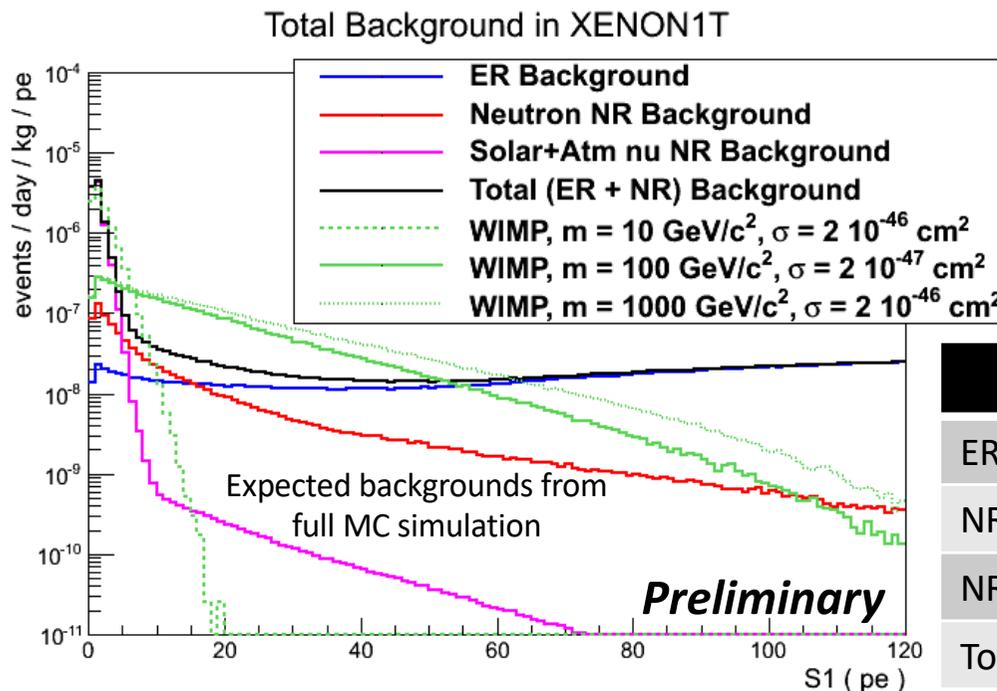
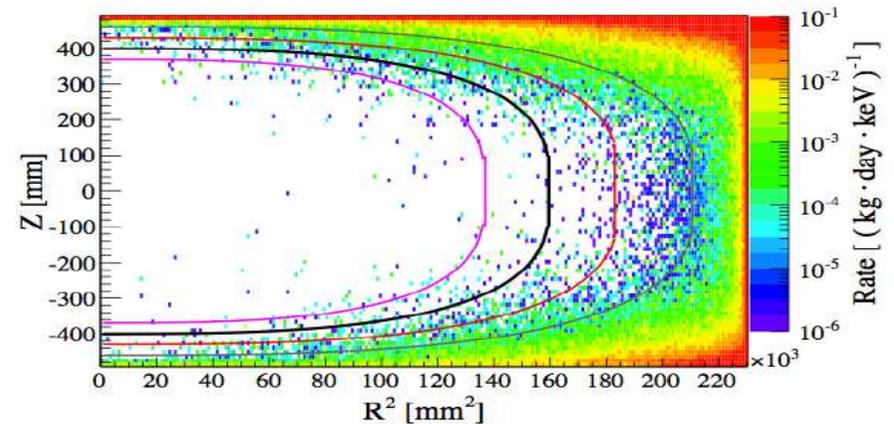
## Goal

Reproduce via software the performance of the XENON1T detector, and predict the sensitivity of the experiment

## Method:

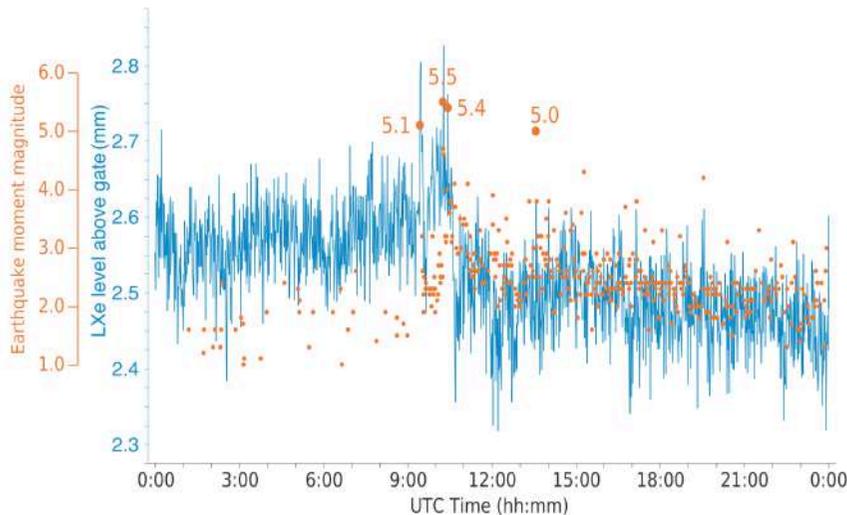
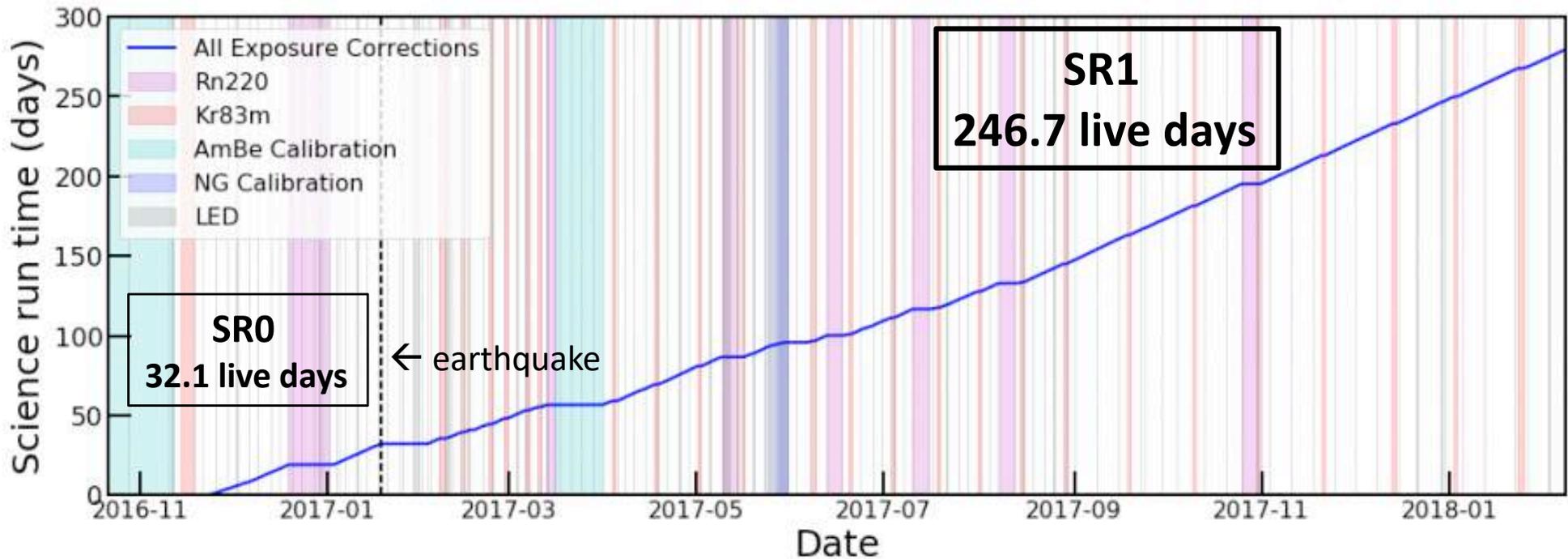
- Input from screening campaign by all detector components
- Monte Carlo simulation with GEANT4
- Statistical treatment

Position of the ER background from the materials ← they are negligible inside the 1 ton fiducial volume



| Source                                    | Bkg (evts/ton/year) |
|---|---------------------|
| ER (materials + intrinsic + solar $\nu$ ) | 0.32                |
| NR from radiogenic neutrons               | 0.22                |
| NR from $\nu$ coherent scattering         | 0.21                |
| Total                                     | 0.75                |

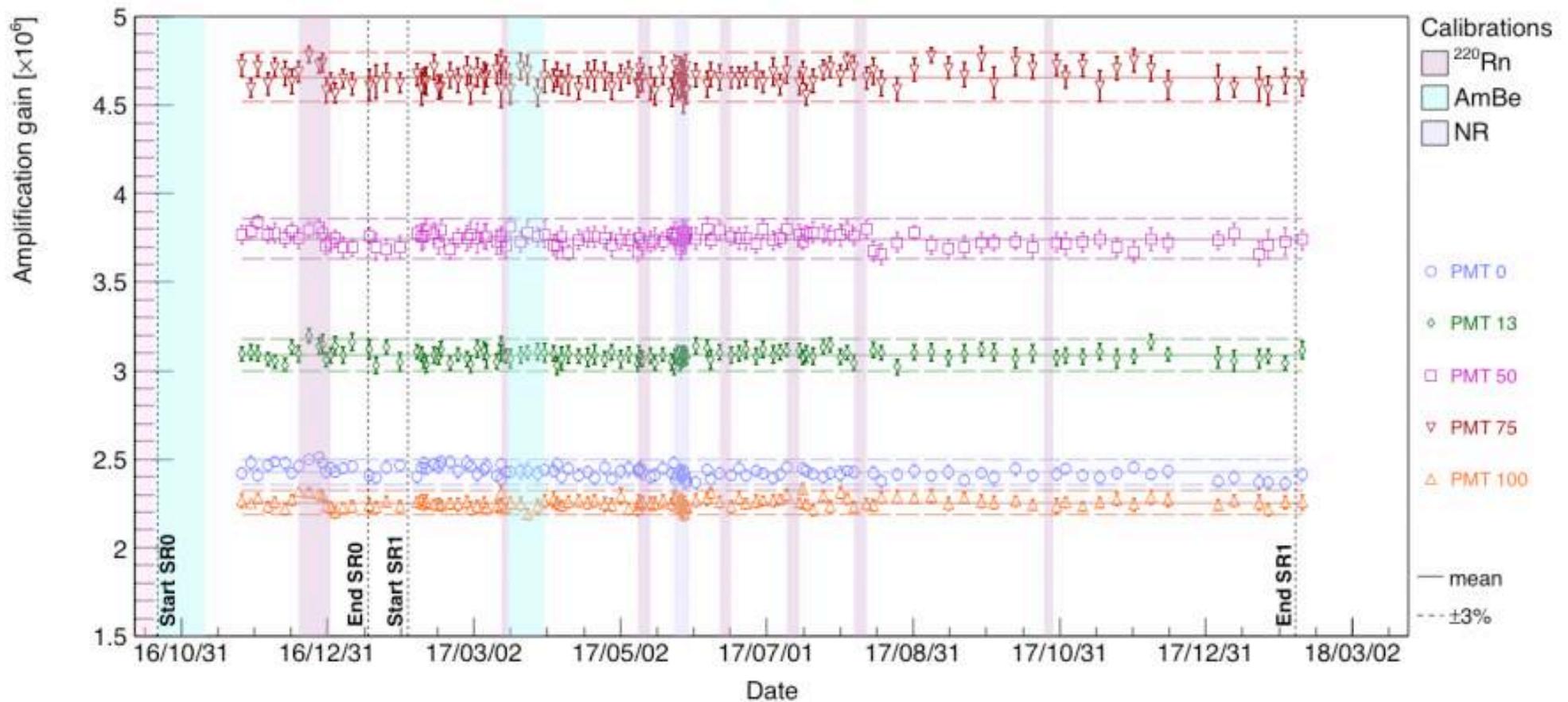
# XENON1T DATA TAKING & RESULTS



- DM total exposure SR0+SR1: 278.8 Live days
- Calibration:
  - LED → PMT gain monitoring
  - $^{83m}\text{Kr}$  → Stability monitoring, Signals corrections
  - $^{220}\text{Rn}$  → Low energy electronic recoils: **ER-bands**
  - $^{241}\text{AmBe}$  and **NG** → Signal response: **NR-bands**

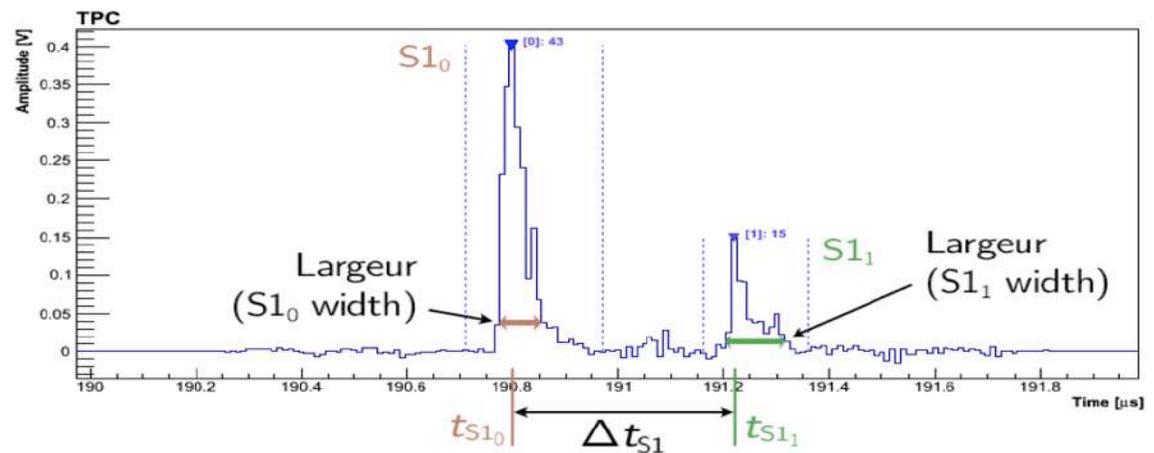
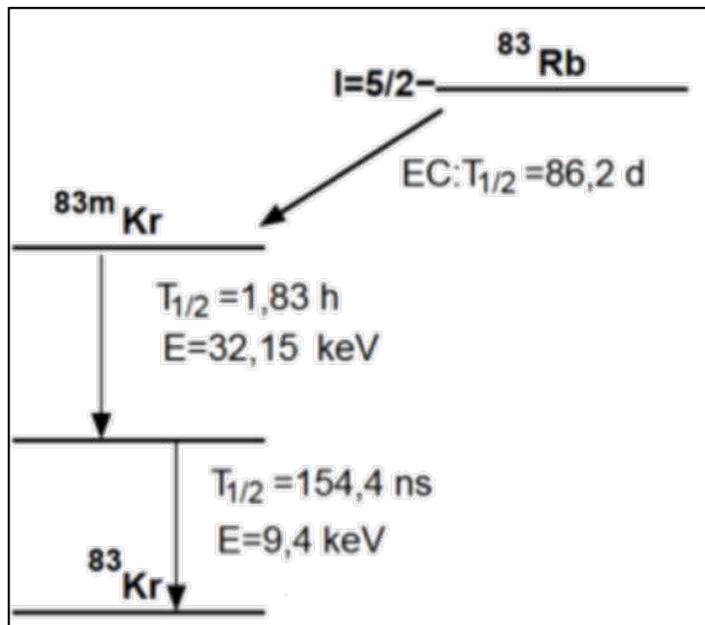
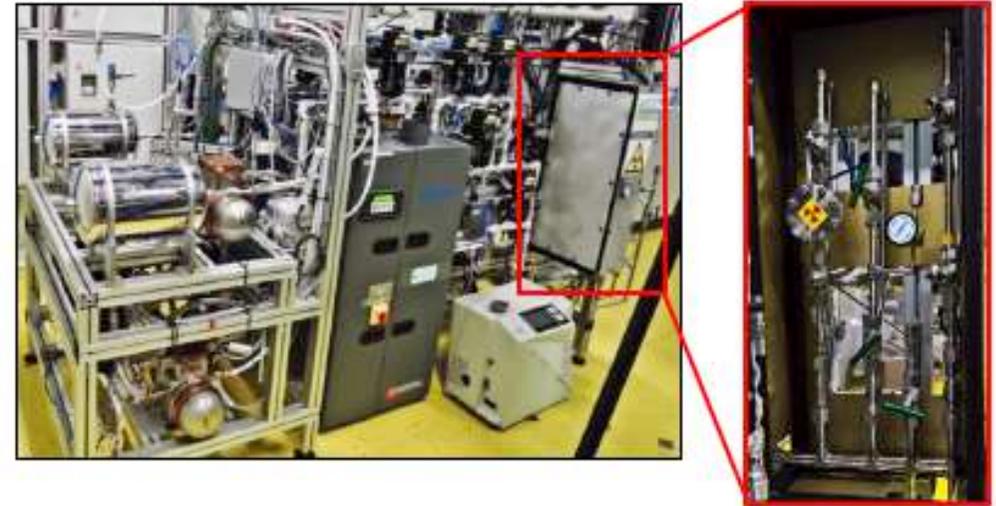
# LED CALIBRATION

PMT gain evolution during science data taking



# $^{83m}\text{Kr}$ CALIBRATION

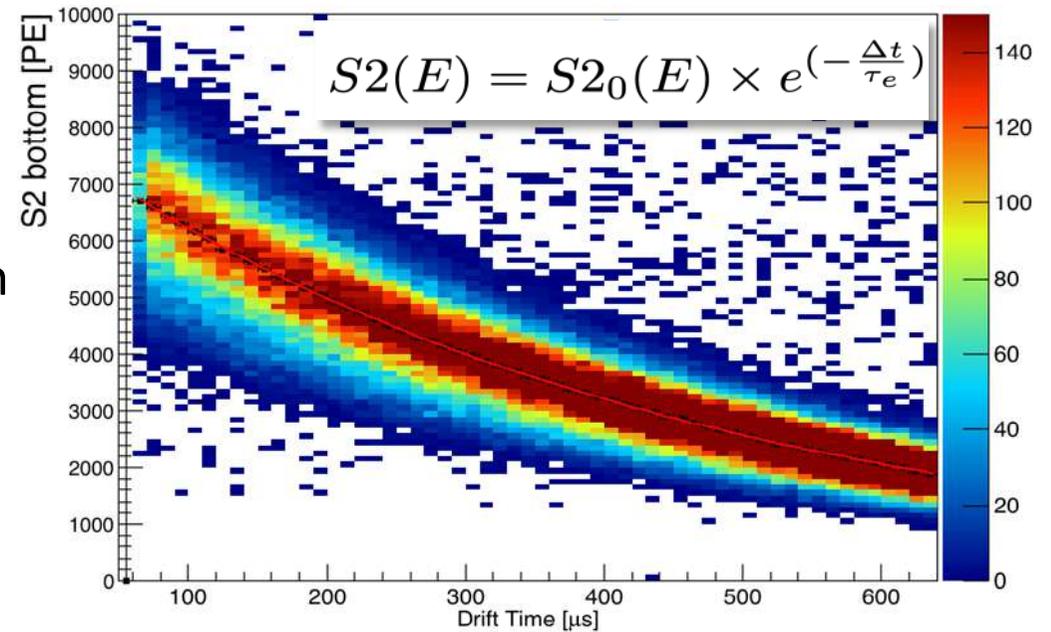
- Internal  $^{83}\text{Rb}$  ( $^{83m}\text{Kr}$ ) source
- Uniformly distributed within the LXe
- 2  $\gamma$  rays : 32 keV & 9 keV
- Energy region of interest for DM
- Short decay lifetime  $\rightarrow$  allow for a fast restart of DM data taking



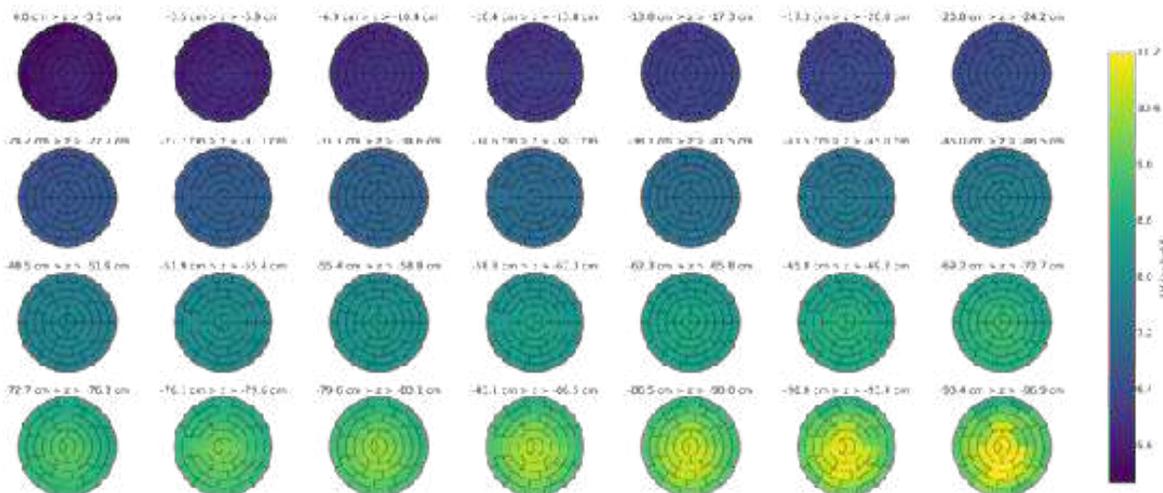
$$\Delta t_{S1} = t_{S1_1} - t_{S1_0}$$

# $^{83}\text{M}\text{K}\text{R}$ CALIBRATION

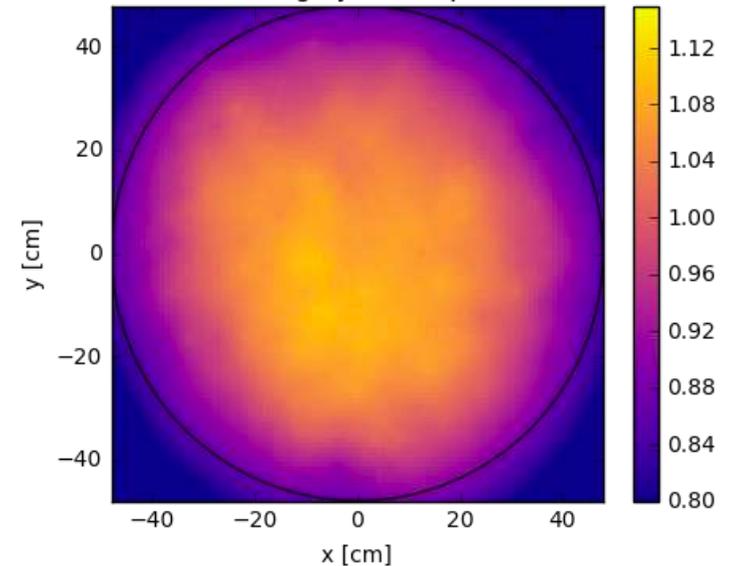
- **Signal corrections**
  - position-dependent light collection efficiency
  - position-dependent S2 amplification
  - electric field non-uniformity
- electron lifetime cross-check
- light/charge yield stability



Light collection efficiency maps



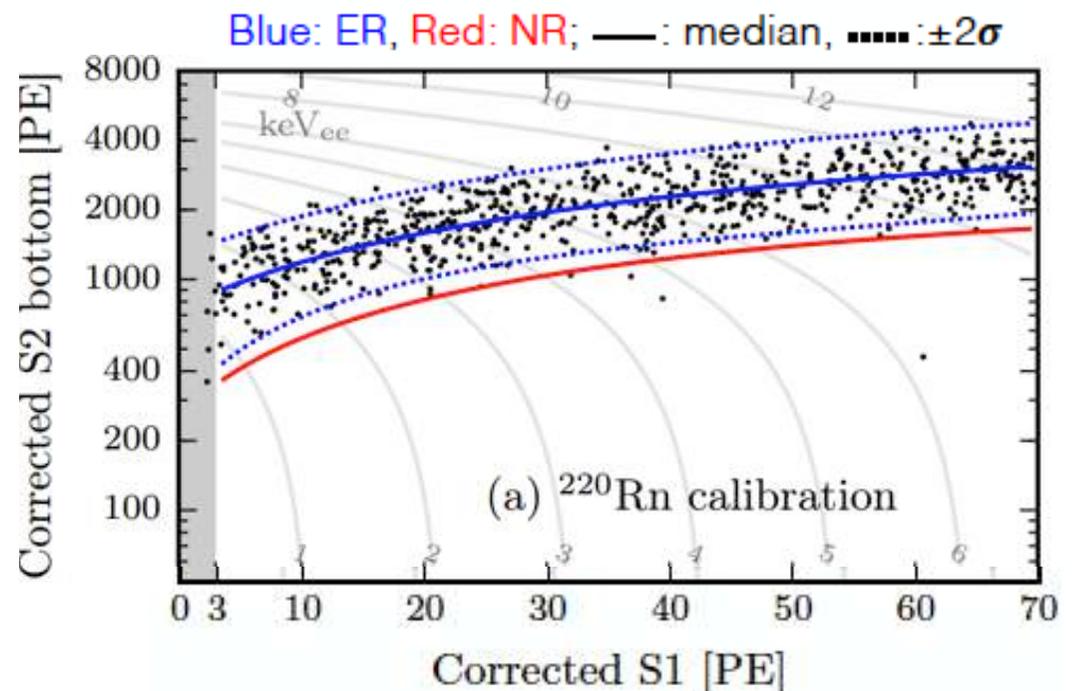
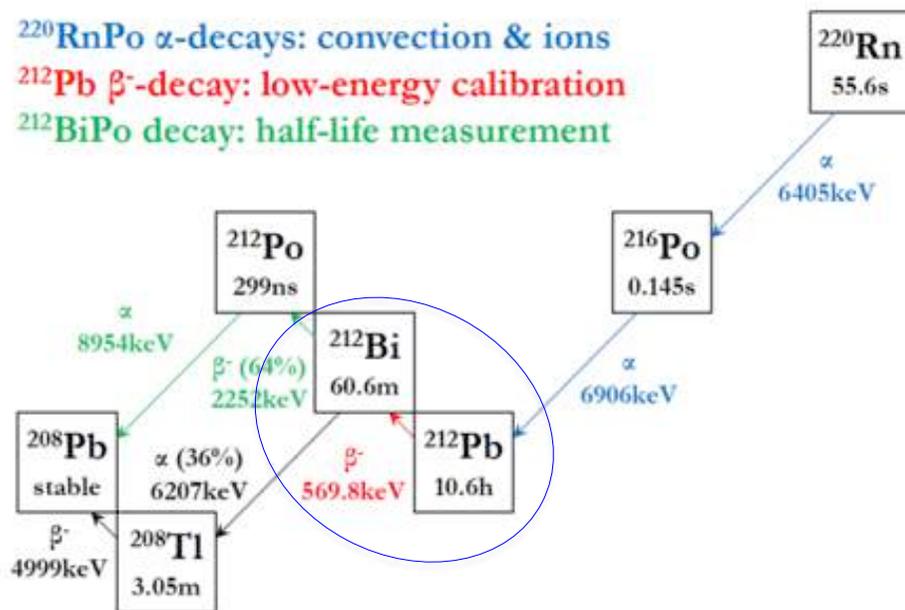
Final S2 charge yield map (bottom)



# $^{220}\text{Rn}$ CALIBRATIONS

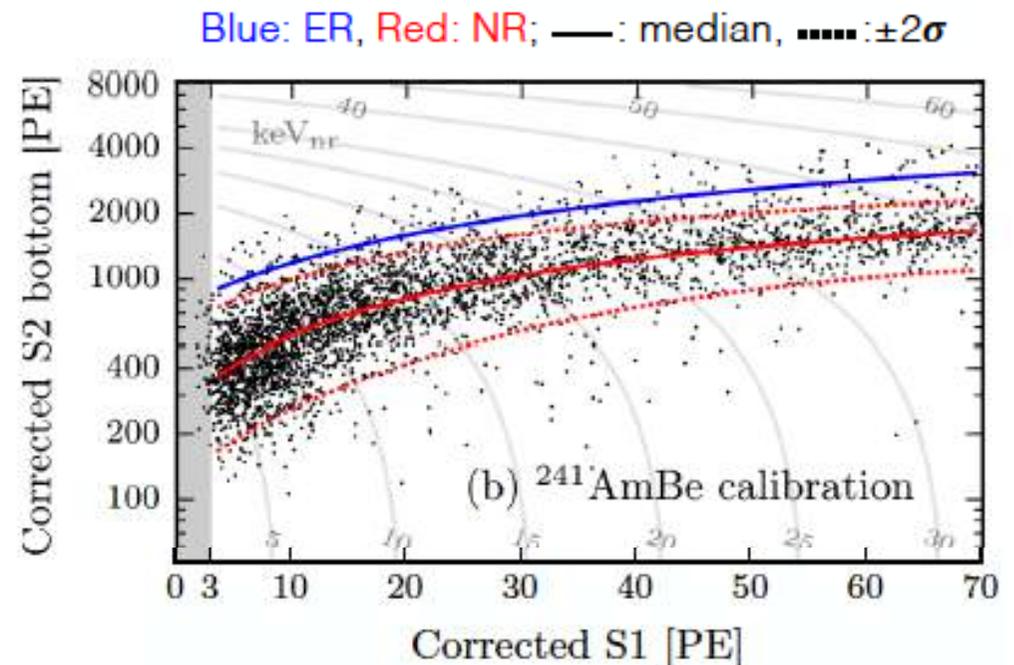
- Internal  $^{228}\text{Th}$  source emanates  $^{220}\text{Rn}$  directly into LXe
- $\beta$ -decay of  $^{212}\text{Pb}$  to  $^{212}\text{Bi}$   $\rightarrow$  **low energy** events (2-20 keV) to calibrate **ER band**
- Decay of activity dominated by  $^{212}\text{Pb}$  half-life (10.6 h)
  - No long lived isotopes
  - No purification requirement on LXe
- Bkg and signal predictions from tuned models  $\rightarrow$  Fitting model to data

$^{220}\text{RnPo}$   $\alpha$ -decays: convection & ions  
 $^{212}\text{Pb}$   $\beta$ -decay: low-energy calibration  
 $^{212}\text{BiPo}$  decay: half-life measurement



# $^{241}\text{AmBe}$ & NEUTRONS CALIBRATIONS

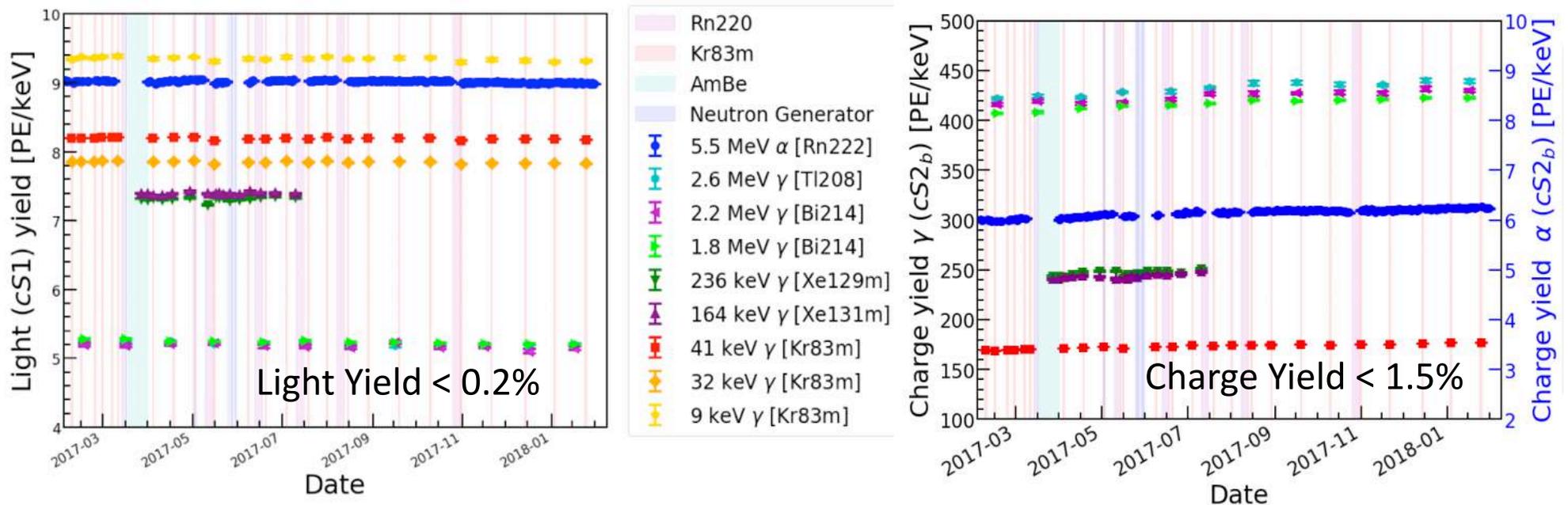
- External  $^{241}\text{AmBe}$  source mounted on a belt
- The  $\alpha$  particles emitted by the decay of the Am collide with the light Be nuclei producing **fast neutrons**  $\rightarrow$  used to calibrate **NR-band**
- Upgrade to neutron generator
  - Commissioned May 2017
  - Calibration time: weeks  $\rightarrow$  days
- Bkg and signal predictions from tuned models  $\rightarrow$  Fitting model to data



# DETECTOR STABILITY MONITORING

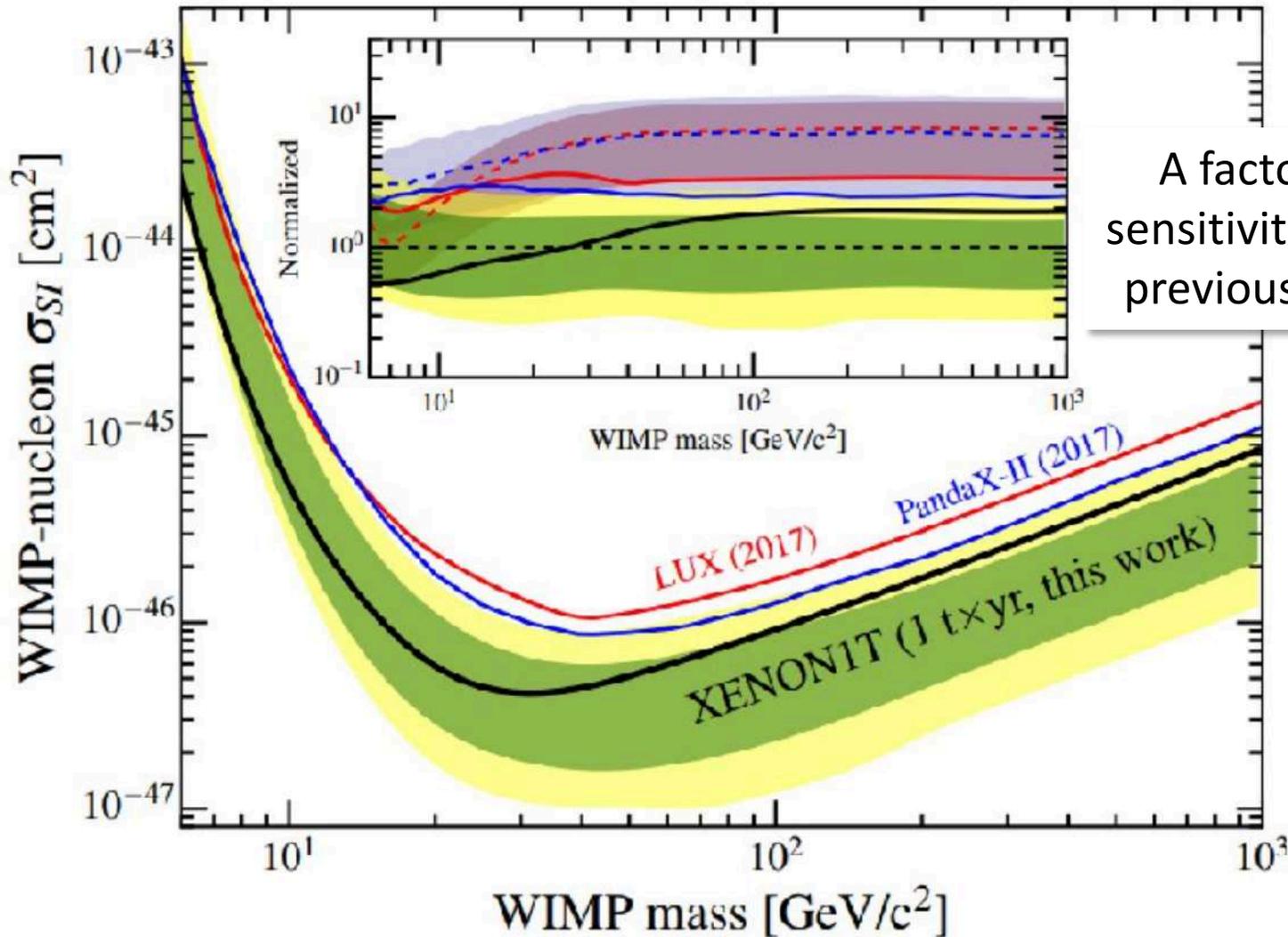
The quality of the data strongly depends on **detector conditions** during the experiment operation

→ It is important to check the stability of the detector during data-taking



# SI WIMP-NUCLEON 1 T X YEAR RESULTS

Phys.Rev.Lett. 121, 11130



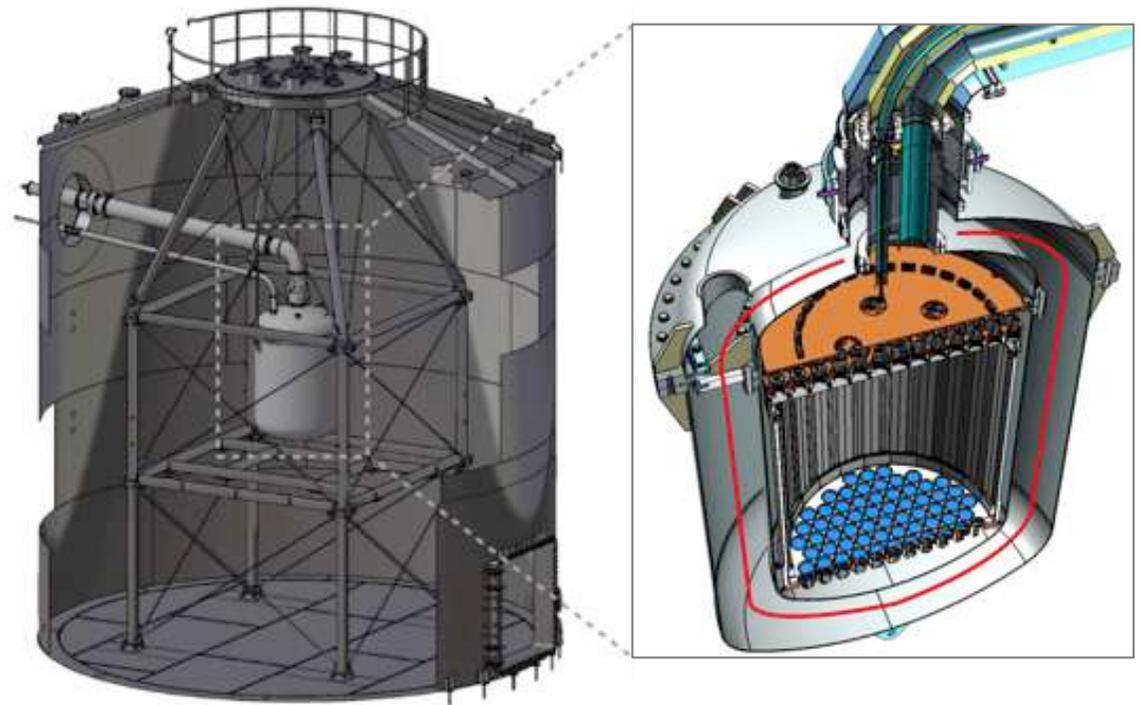
Minimum at  $\sigma_{SI} = 4.1 \times 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2$  for a WIMP of  $30 \text{ GeV}/c^2$

# XENON1T → XENONnT

## XENON1T infrastructure already designed to host XENONnT

### Fast upgrade of XENON1T

- Total LXe mass ~8 t
- Active LXe mass increases x3: 2.0 t → 6.0 t
- Additional PMTs (and electronics): 248 → 476
- New TPC and Inner Cryostat
- Additional recovery system

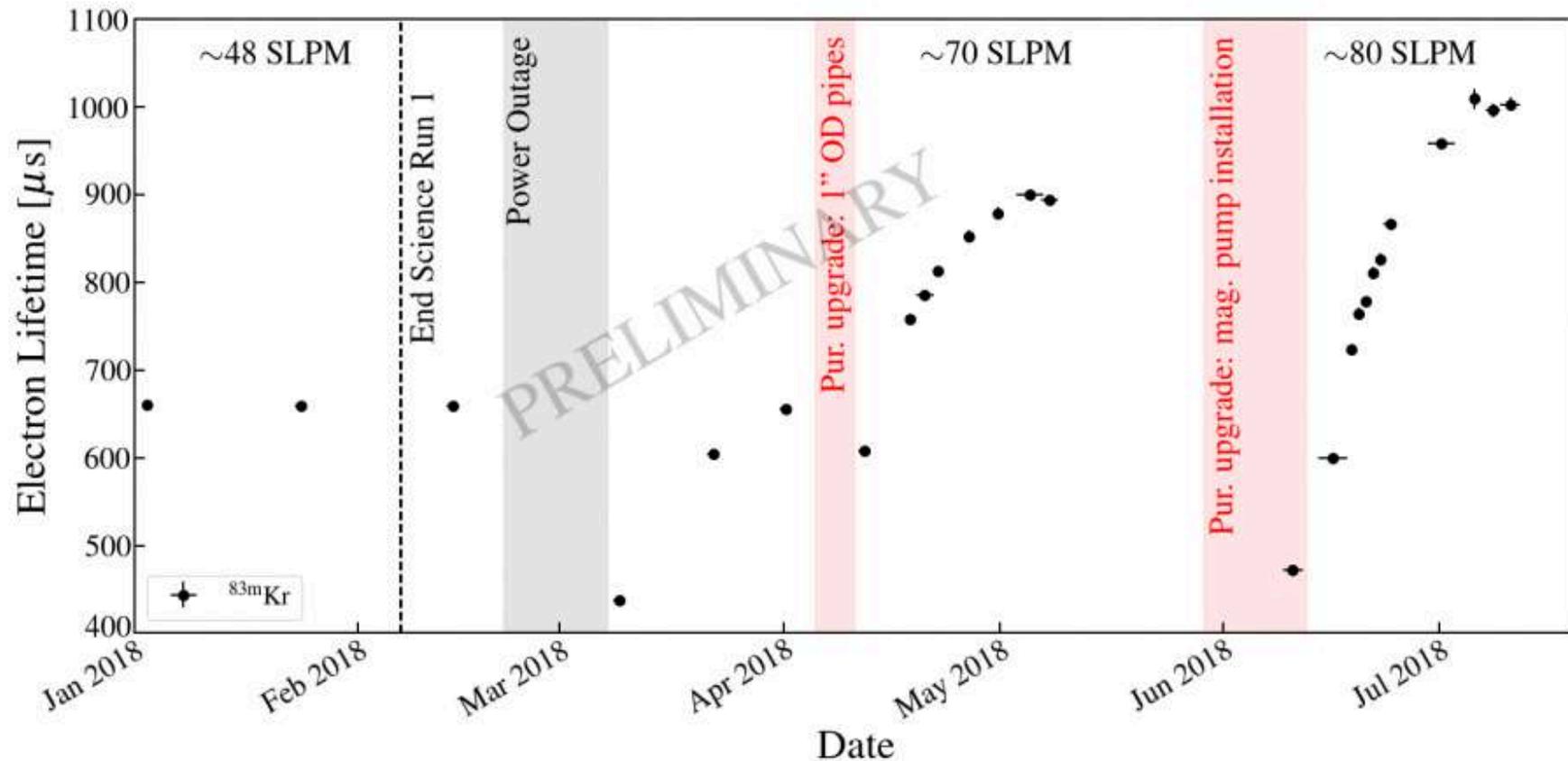


**All the other systems already sized to host and run XENONnT:**

Outer Cryostat, Cryogenics, DAQ, Purification, Support structure, Muon veto, DAQ, Calibration system, screening facilities

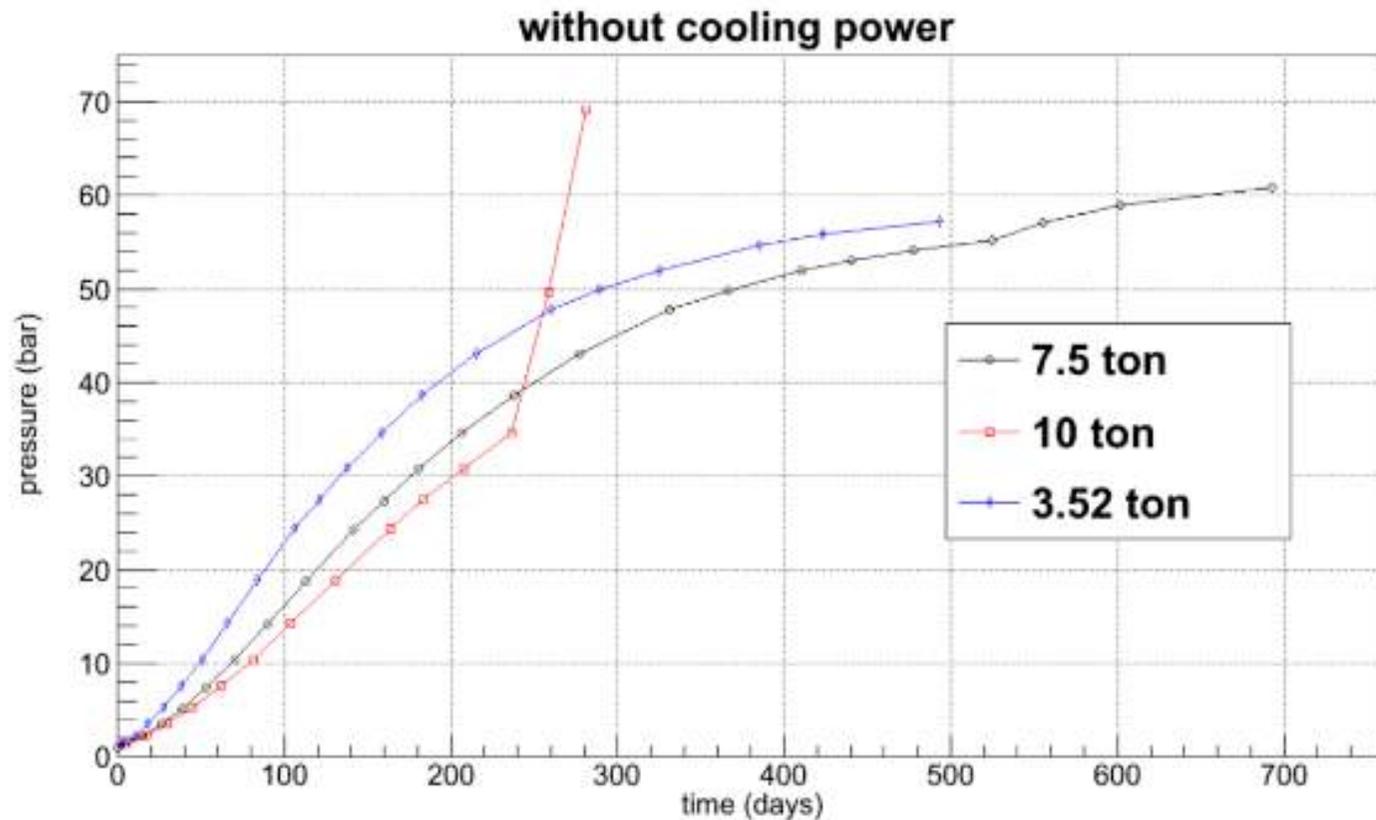
# XENON1T POST SR1 TESTS TOWARDS XENONNT

- Increased purification gas flow
  - increased by 39% wrt Q-drive
  - electron lifetime of 1 ms reached



# REStoX2: SXE /GXE STORAGE SYSTEM

- ReStoX capacity is not sufficient for XENONnT
- XENONnT needs to increase the recovering capacity in case of emergency



# XENONNT : TPC ELECTRODES



- Work started in summer 2017
- design, relationship with companies, mechanical simulation, mechanical realization and assembly ...
- Prototype tested at LNGS in summer 2018



Conception, Design and  
Construction of the 5 electrodes

# DARWIN

## Ultimate liquid xenon TPC

- 2.6 m drift length
- 2.6 m diameter TPC
- Active target  $\sim 40$  t
- Aim at **sensitivity of a few  $10^{-49}$   $\text{cm}^2$**  limited by irreducible  $\nu$ -bkg :
- **Projected to start after XENONnT**

