



# Highlights from direct dark matter detection

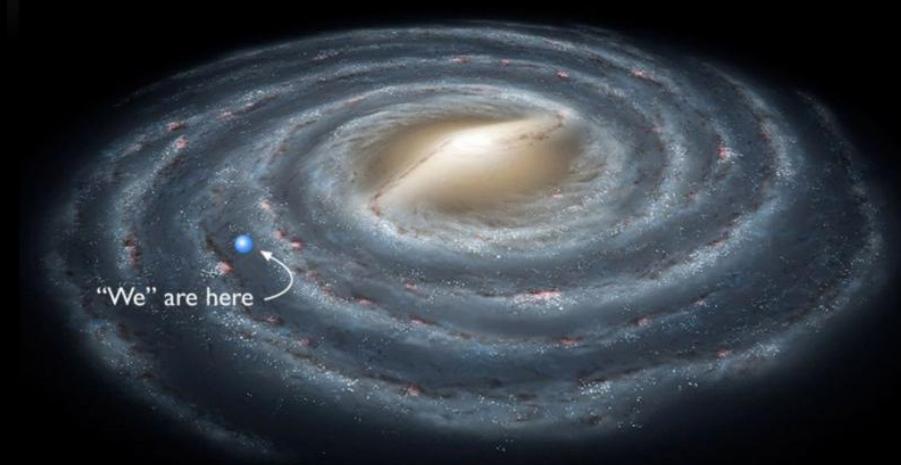
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ICRC 2021

Online, July 14, 2021

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[www.app.uni-freiburg.de](http://www.app.uni-freiburg.de)





"We" are here



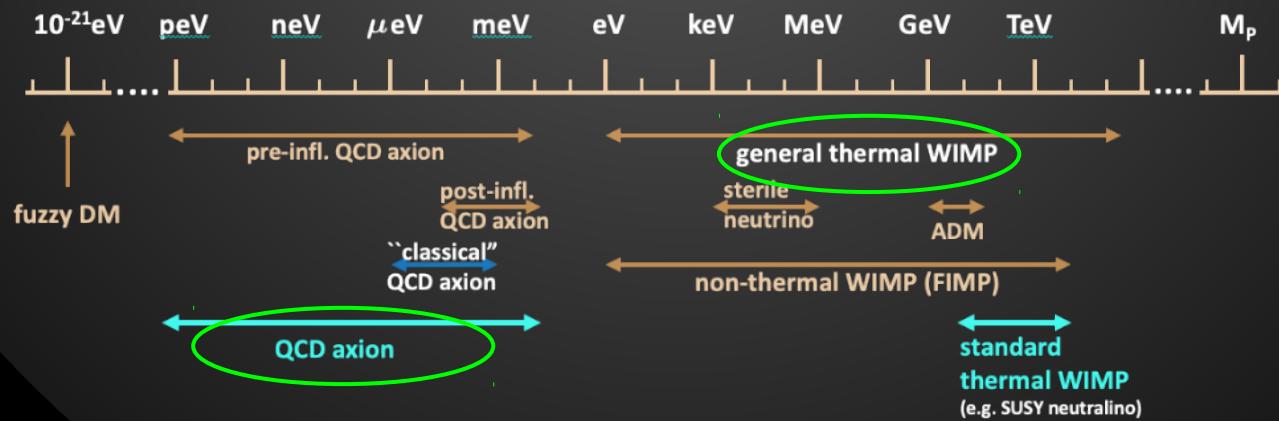
"We" are here

...moving through the Dark Matter Halo



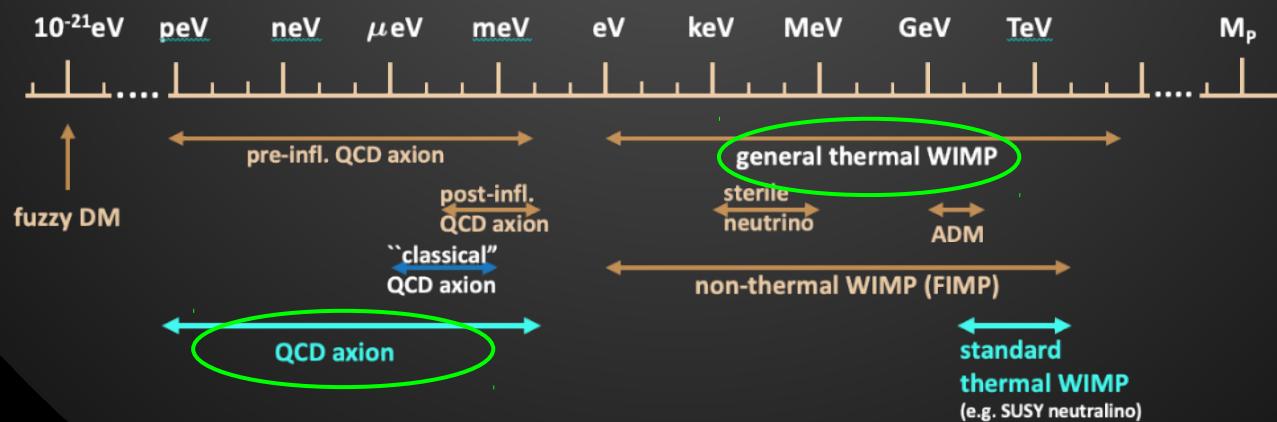
...moving through the Dark Matter Halo

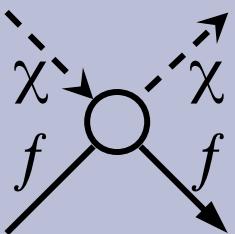
made of ???



Disclaimer: very little time for a very rich field.

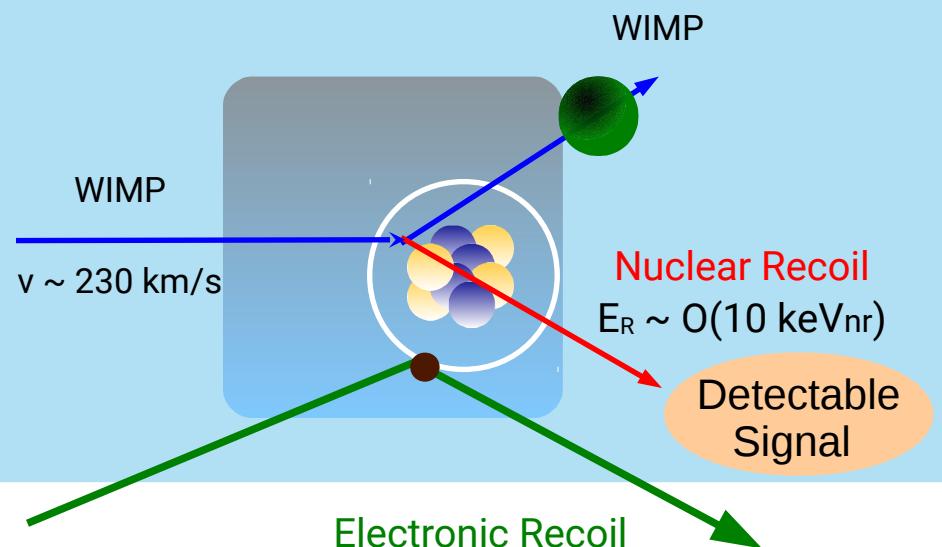
- focus on general status of field and recent results
- biased selection of topics!



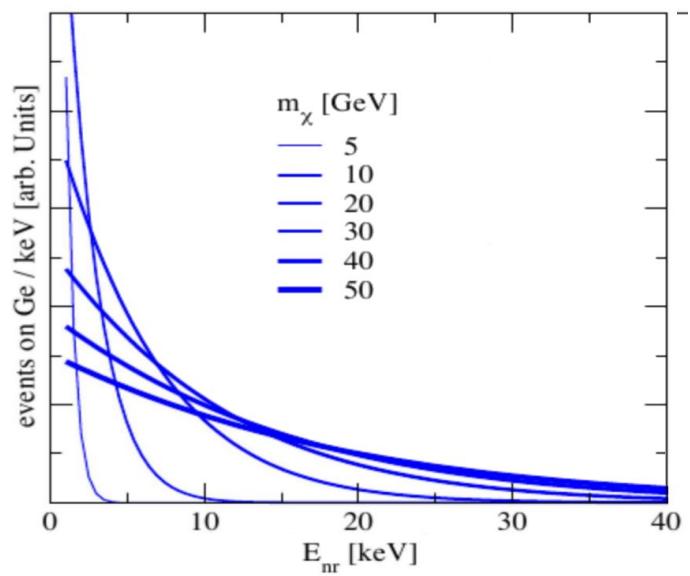
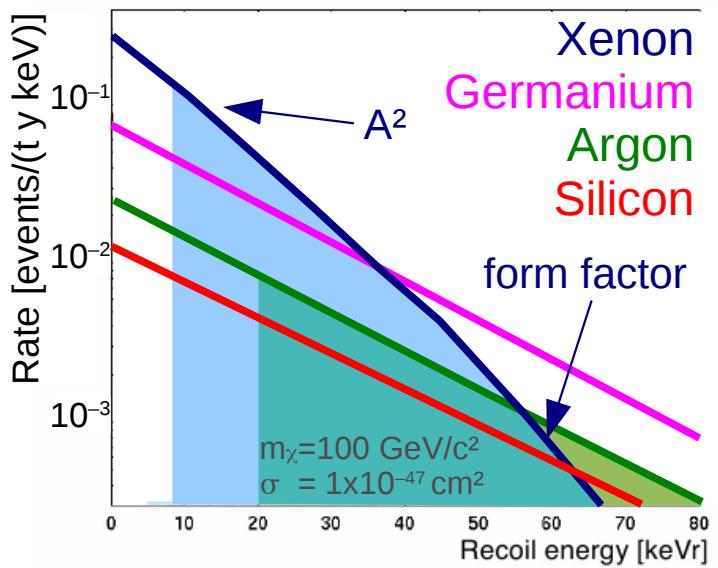


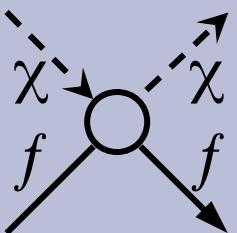
# Direct WIMP Search

Elastic Scattering of  
WIMPs off target nuclei  
→ nuclear recoil



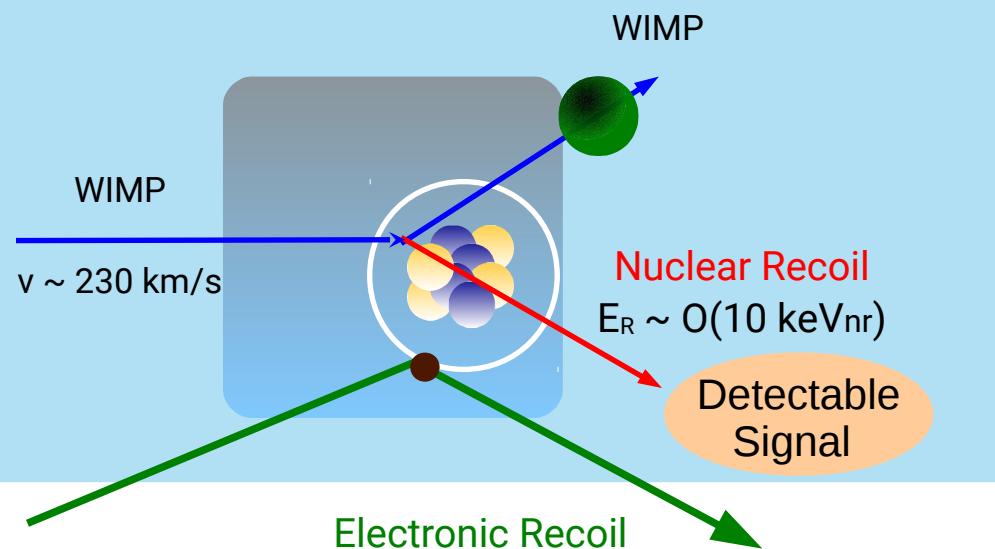
Recoil  
Spectra:



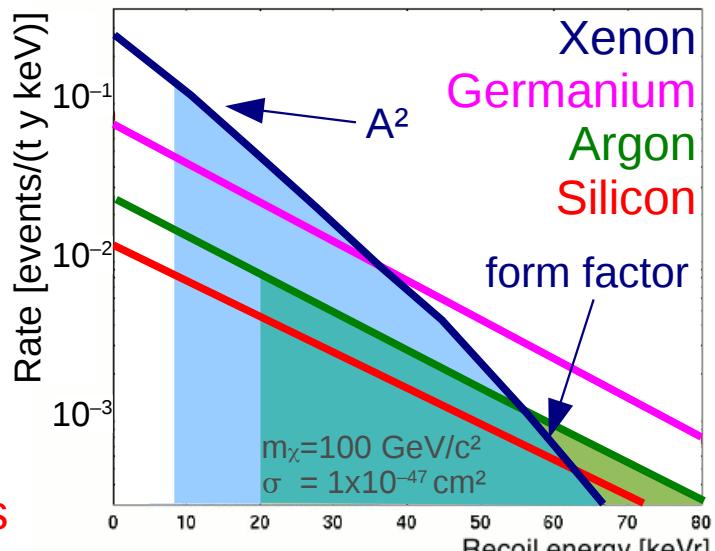


# Direct WIMP Search

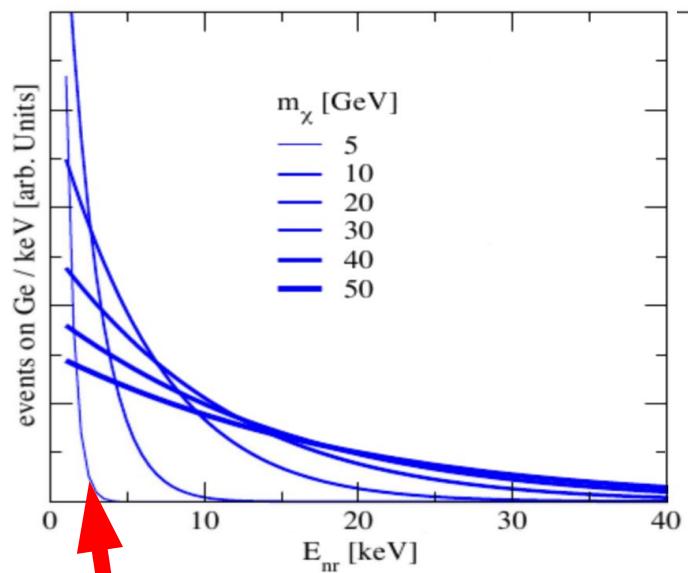
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Recoil Spectra:

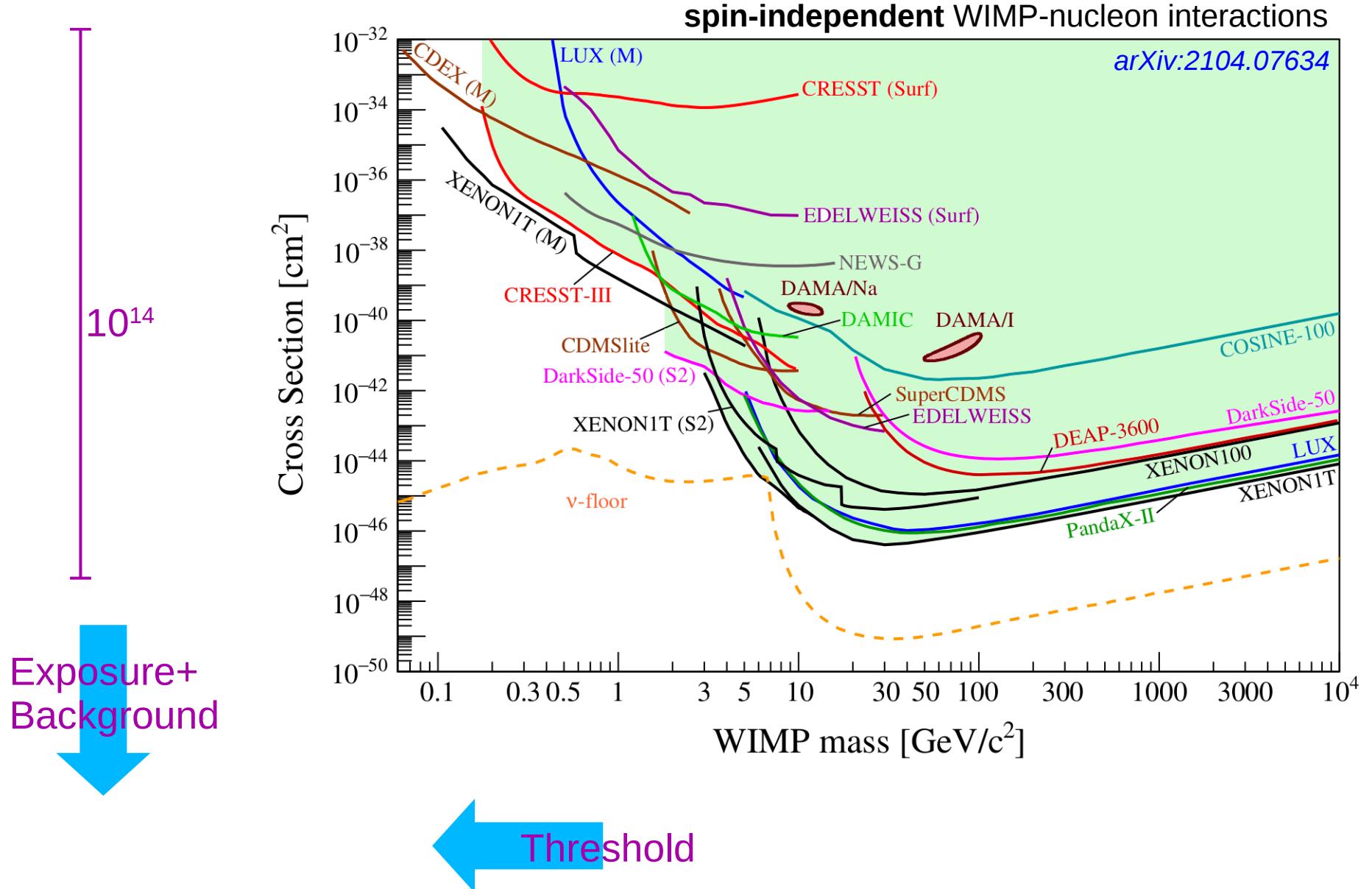


- low backgrounds
- large exposures

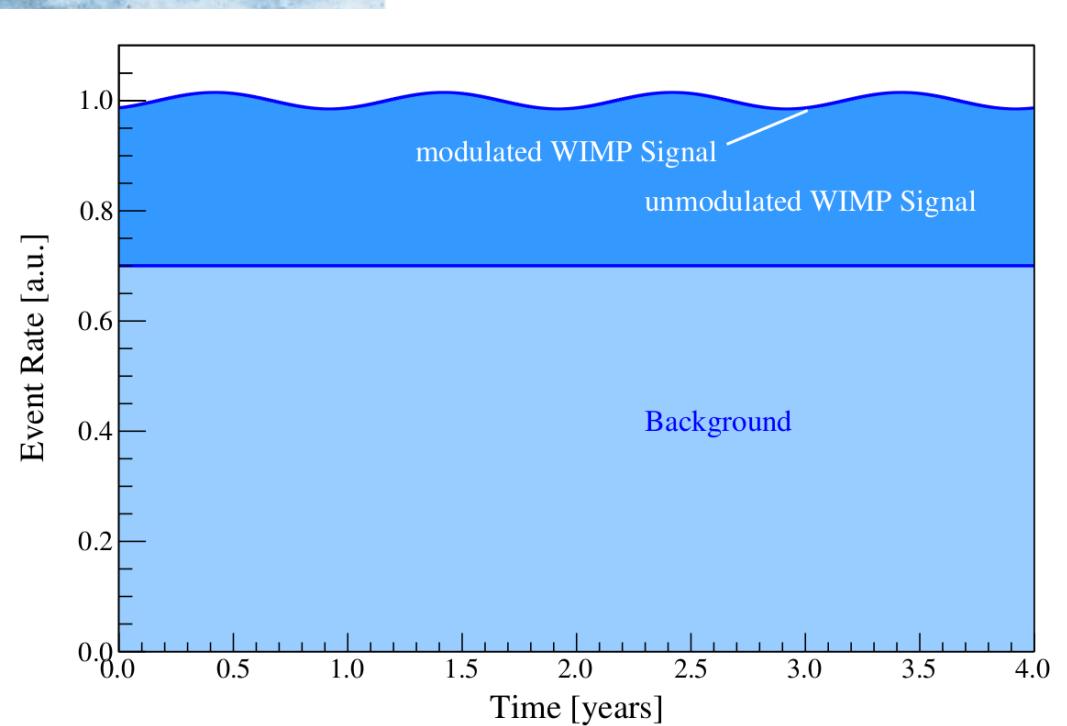
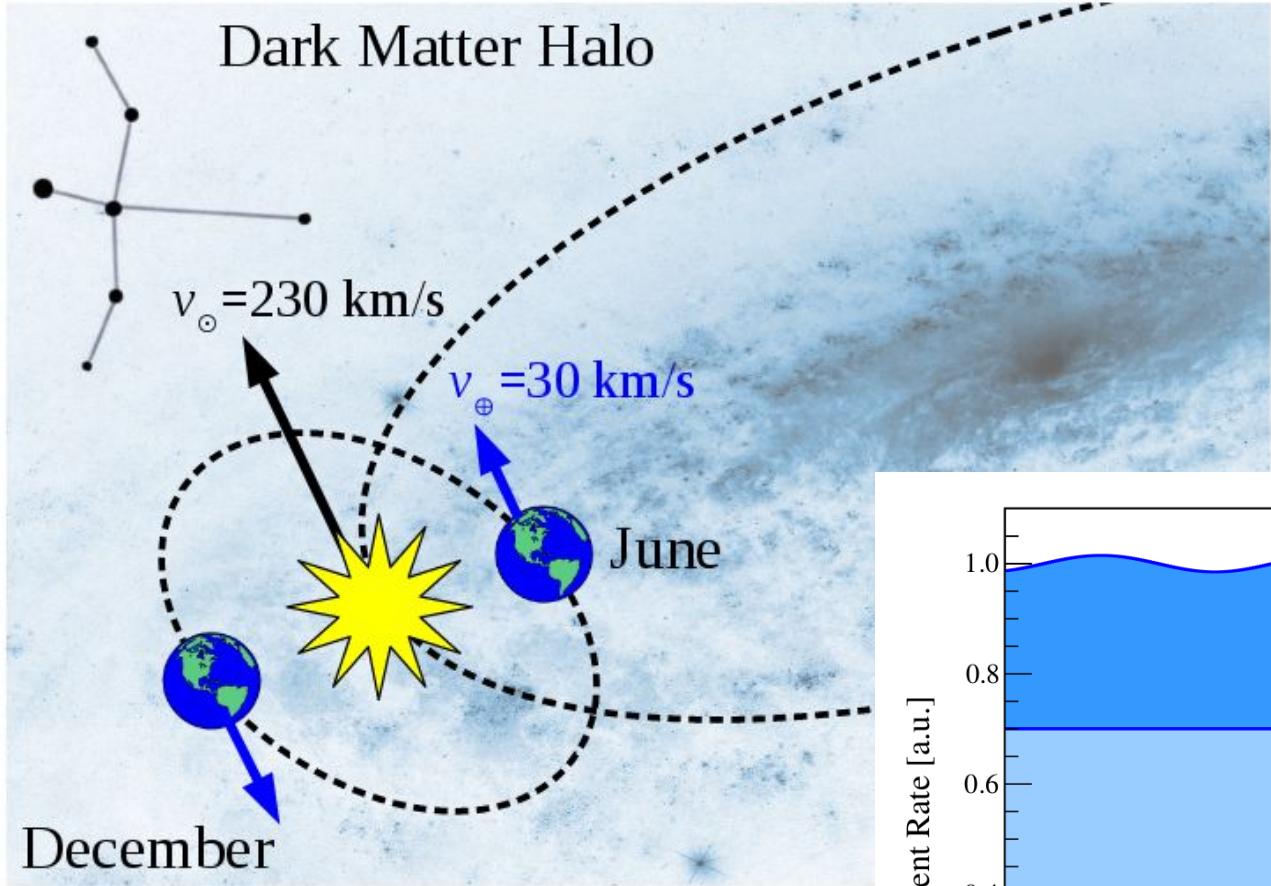


tiny!  
 low mass → low threshold

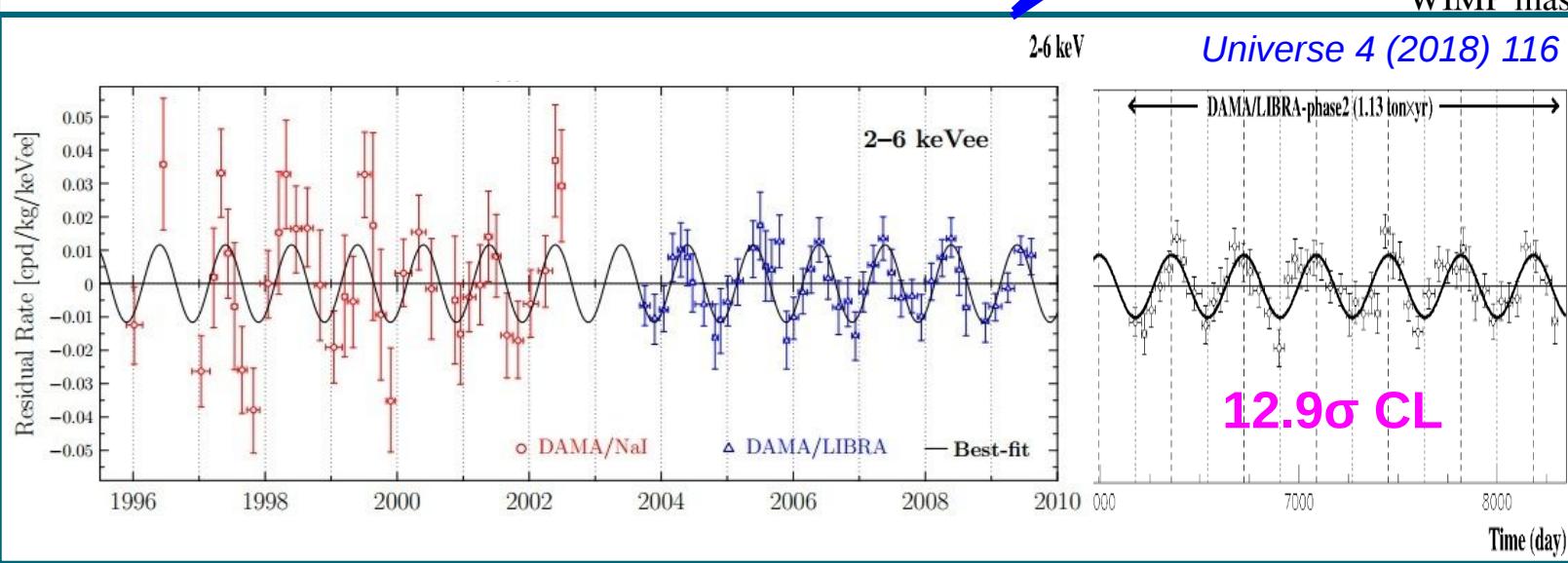
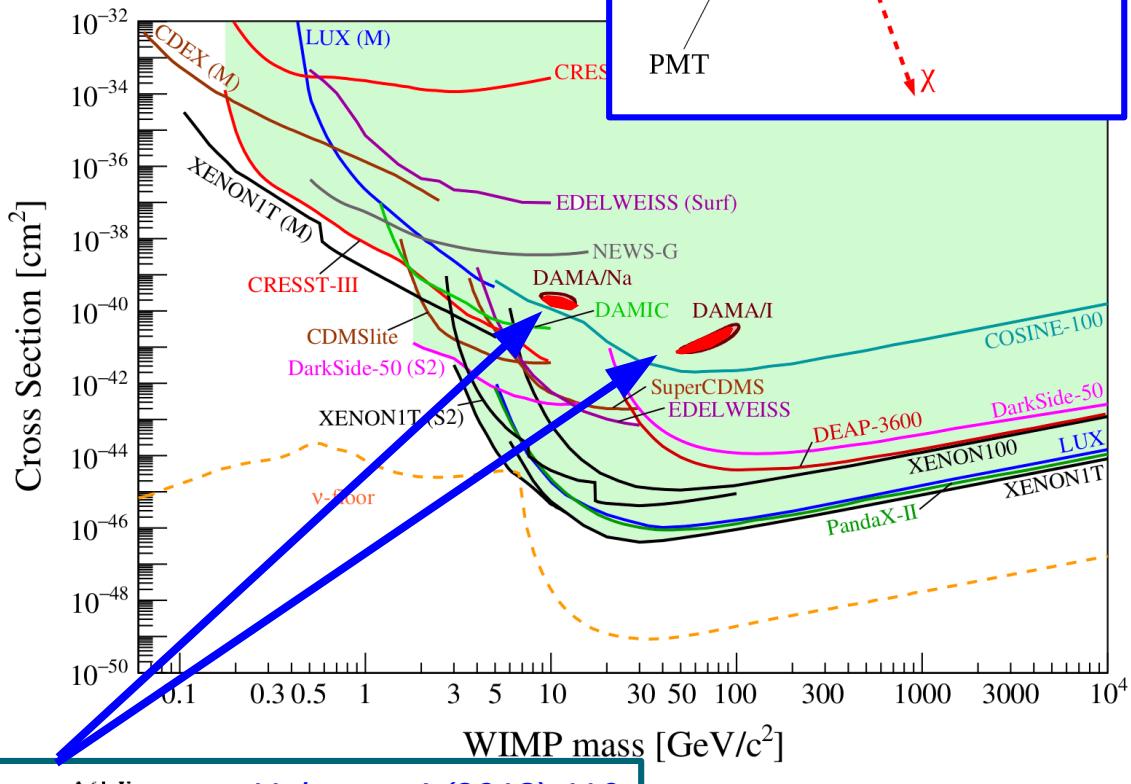
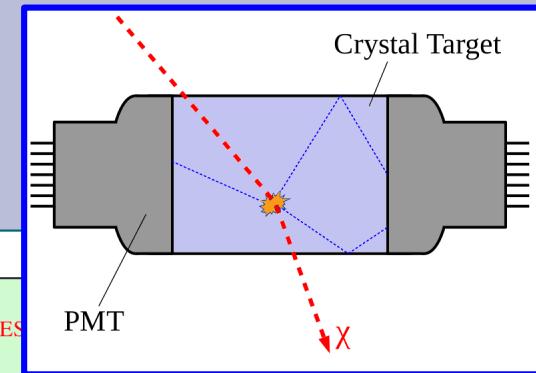
# Current Status



# Annual Modulation



# DAMA/LIBRA



~250 kg NaI(Tl)  
New data:  
– 1 keVee threshold  
– 6 annual cycles

# DAMA vs Others

## Challenged by

- SI-induced NRs ruled out by many experiments with lower backgrounds (and NR identification)
- Modulation from DM-e scattering challenged by **LXe TPCs**
- **COSINE100 (NaI)**  
<sub>Nature 564, 83 (2018), PRL 123, 031302 (2019)</sub>  
 excludes DAMA interpreted as SI interaction with standard halo model

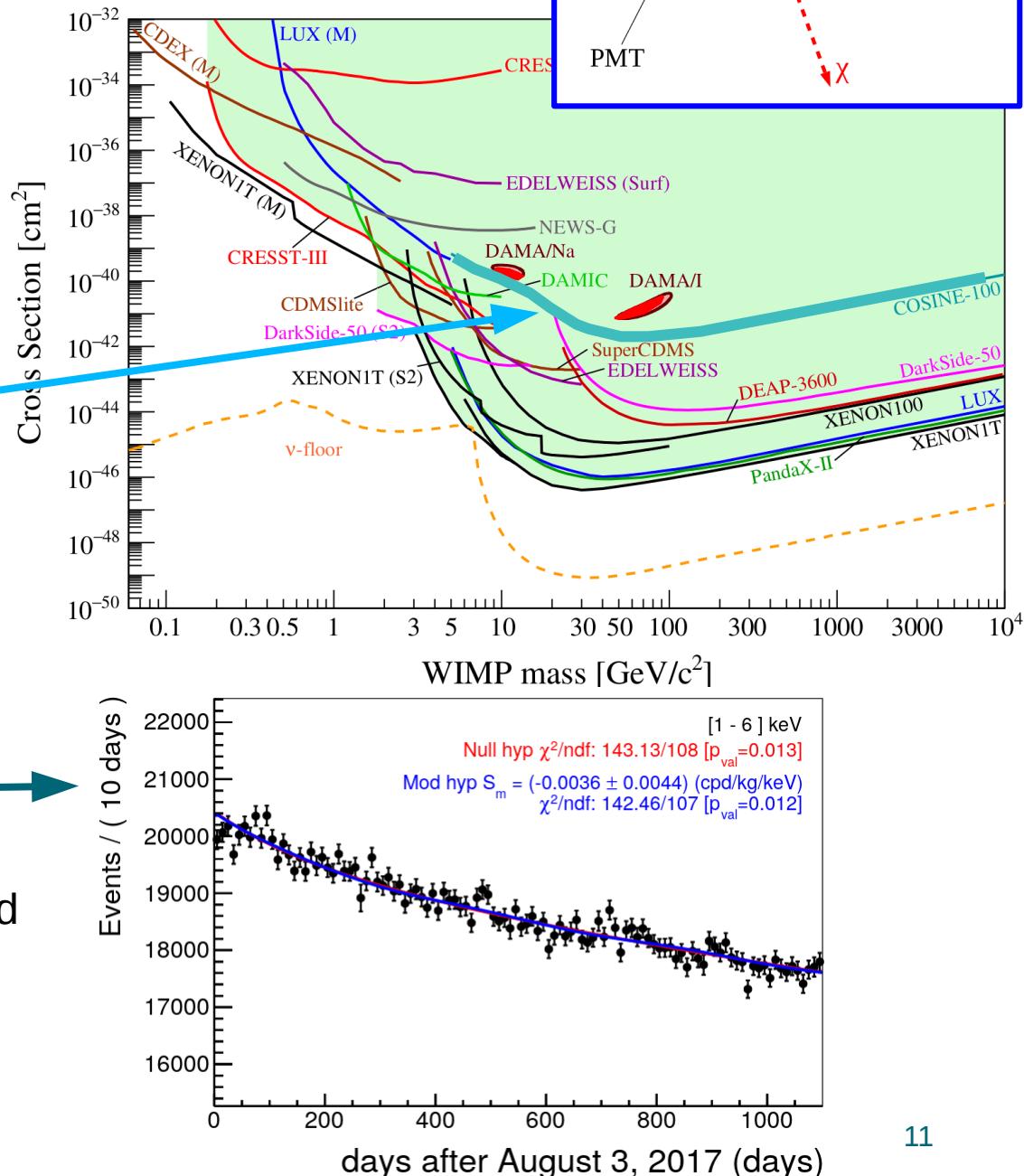


### ANALIS (NaI)

<sub>PRD 103, 102005 (2021)</sub>



- 3 year data: 314 kg x y exposure same threshold but ~3x higher background
- data consistent with no modulation; incompatible with DAMA at  $3.3\sigma$  [1-6 keV]



# Cryogenic Bolometers

## CRESST

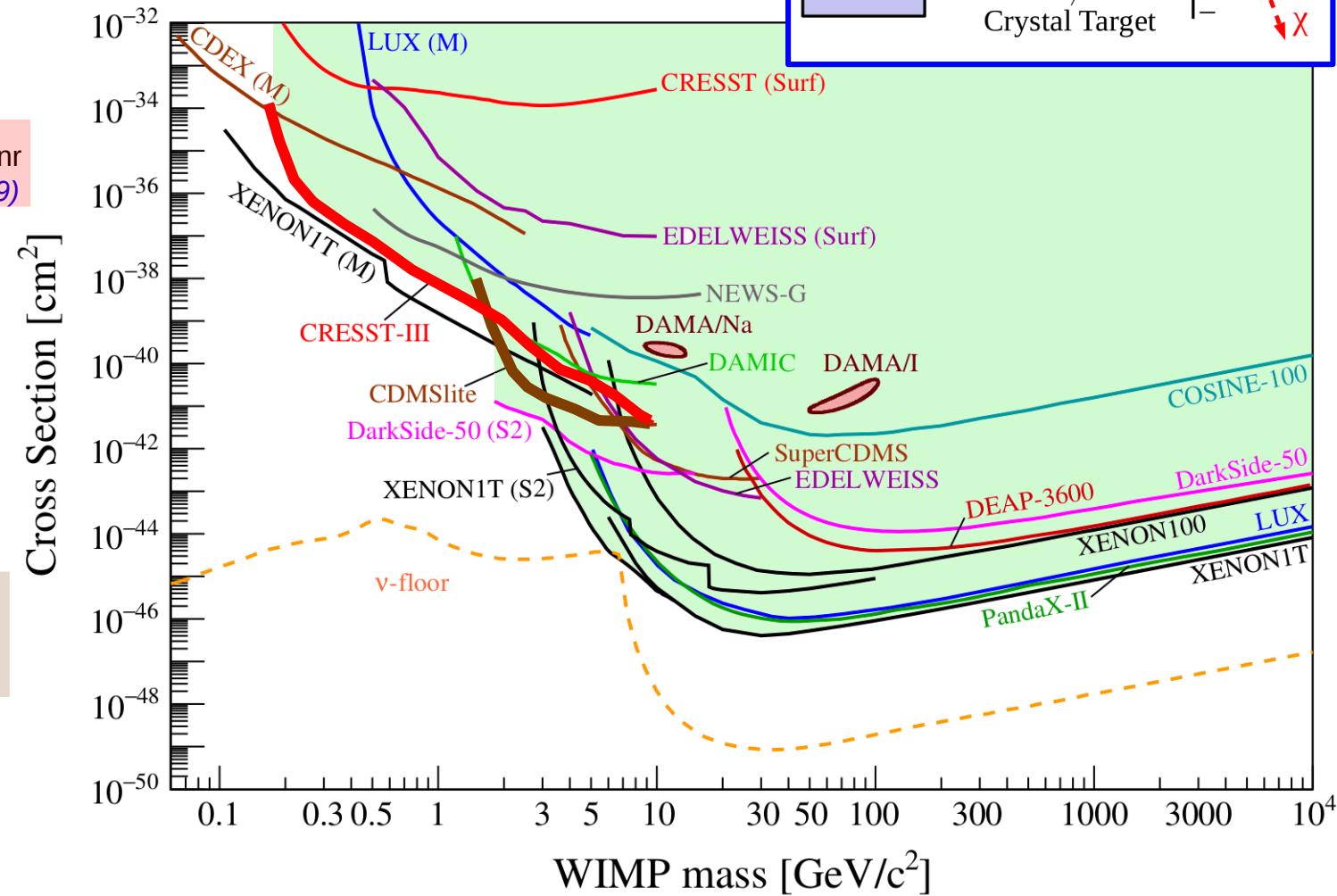
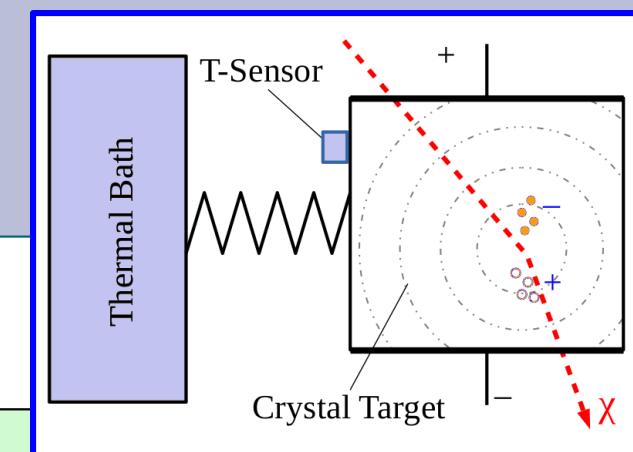
Scintillating Bolometer

24g CaWO<sub>4</sub>,  $E_{\text{thresh}}=30 \text{ eV}_{\text{nr}}$   
PRD 100, 102002 (2019)

## CDMS / EDELWEISS Ge Bolometers

„Lite“-Mode: convert  
charge into heat  
→ reduce threshold but  
no ER rejection

CDMSlite  
600g Ge,  $E_{\text{thresh}}=70 \text{ eV}$   
PRD 99, 062001 (2019)



# P-type Point Contact Ge

## CRESST

*Scintillating Bolometer*

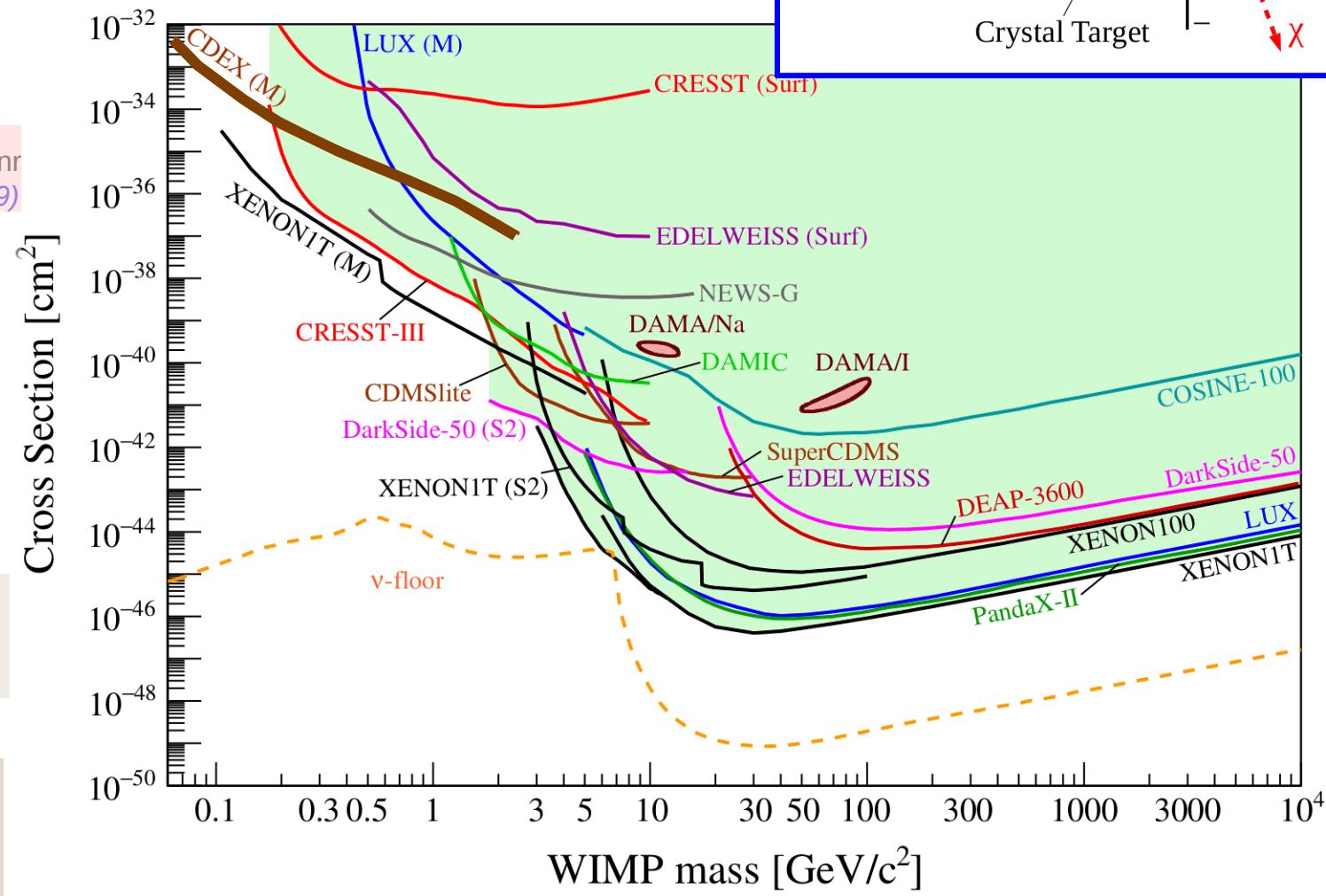
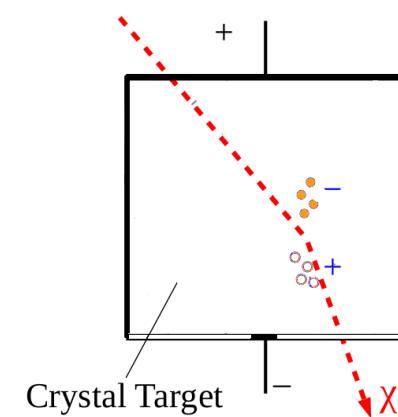
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 PRD 100, 102002 (2019)

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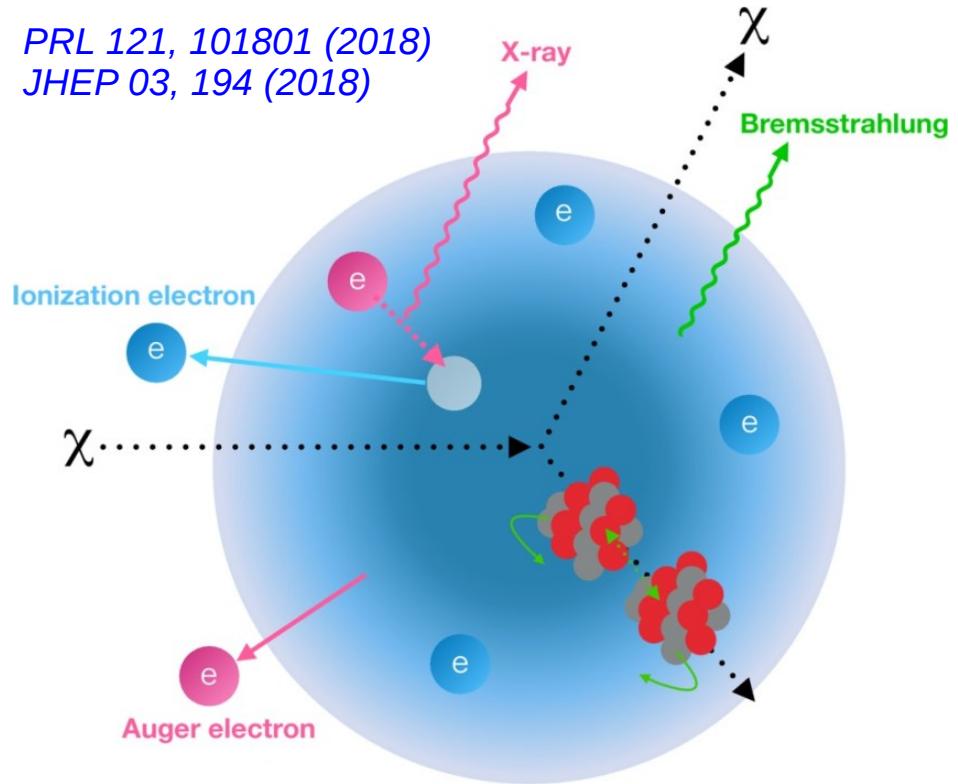
CDMSlite  
600g Ge,  $E_{\text{thresh}}=70 \text{ eV}$   
 PRD 99, 062001 (2019)

**CDEX**  
*p*-type point contact Ge  
 939g Ge,  $E_{\text{thresh}}=160 \text{ eV}$   
 PRL 123, 161301 (2019)

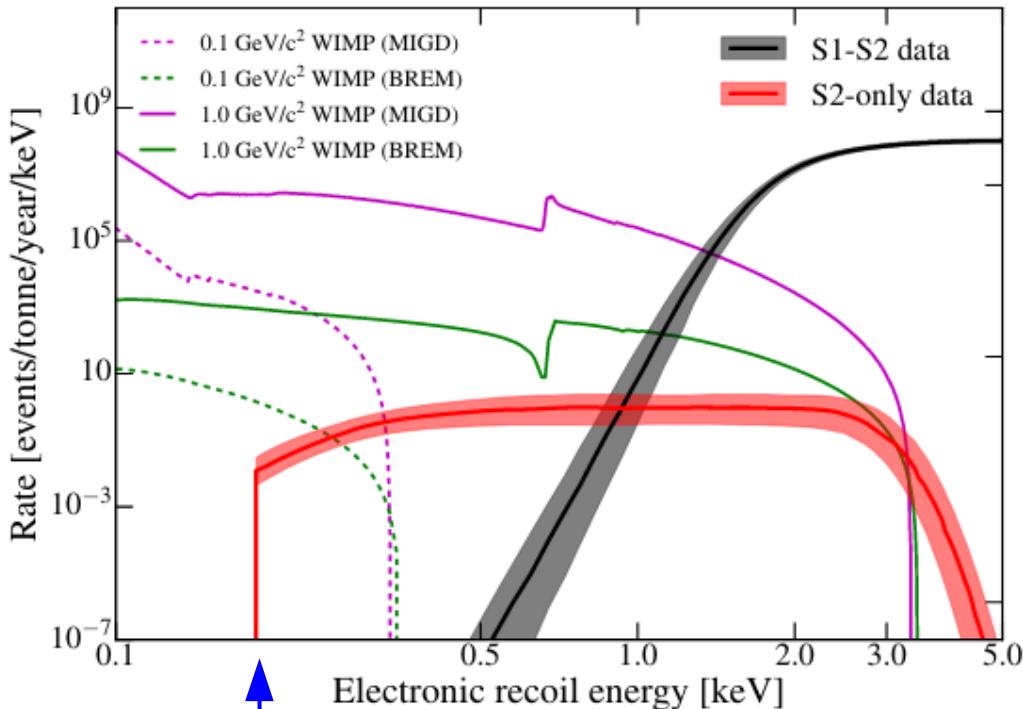


# Migdal Effect

PRL 121, 101801 (2018)  
 JHEP 03, 194 (2018)



XENON1T: PRL 123, 241803 (2019)



- exploit expected effects after nuclear recoil
- very low threshold
- caveat: effect not yet observed in calibration

# Noble Liquids: Single Phase

Xenon and Argon are excellent scintillators  
→ realize large target masses in liquid state

## XMASS

832kg Xe

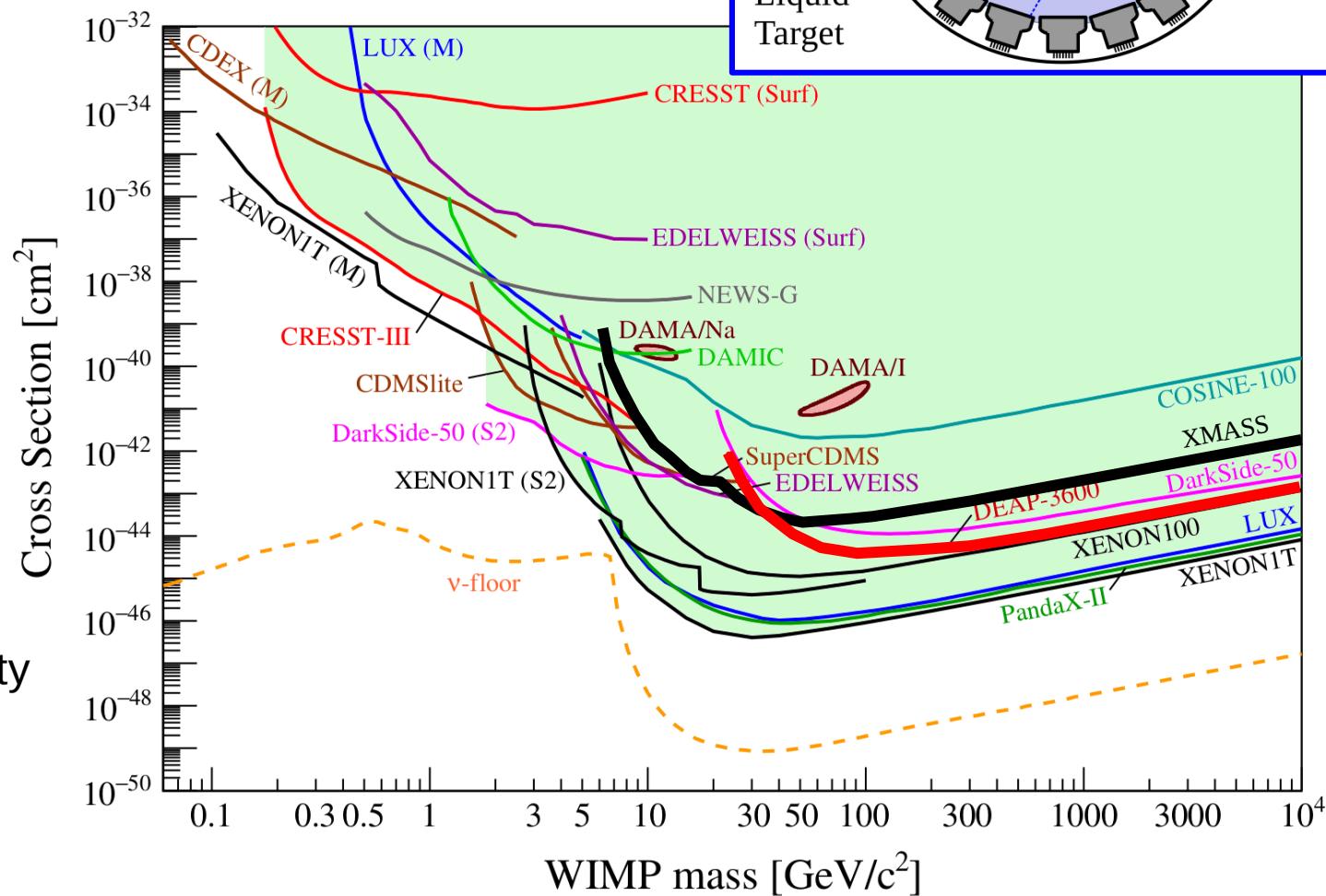
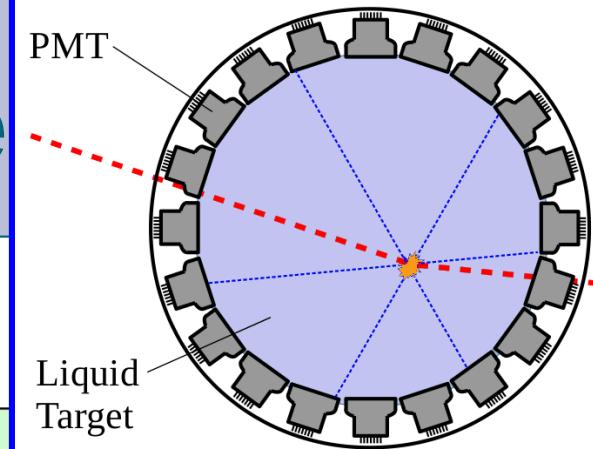
PLB 789, 45 (2019)

## DEAP-3600

3280kg Ar

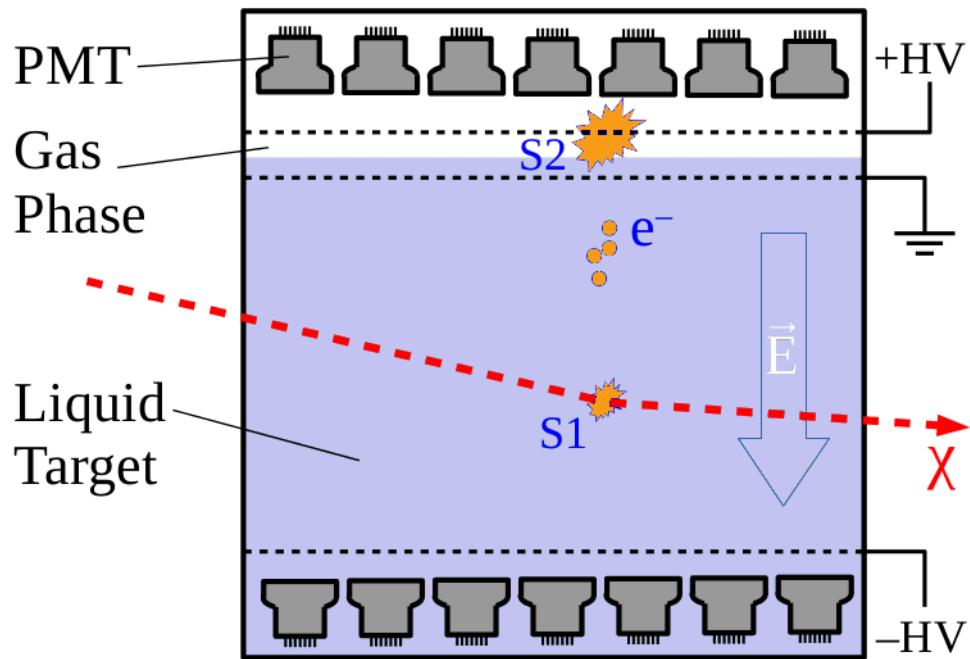
PRD 100, 022004 (2019)

- despite large target masses, both projects have no leading sensitivity
- consolidation of field:  
DEAP joined DarkSide  
XMASS joined XENON



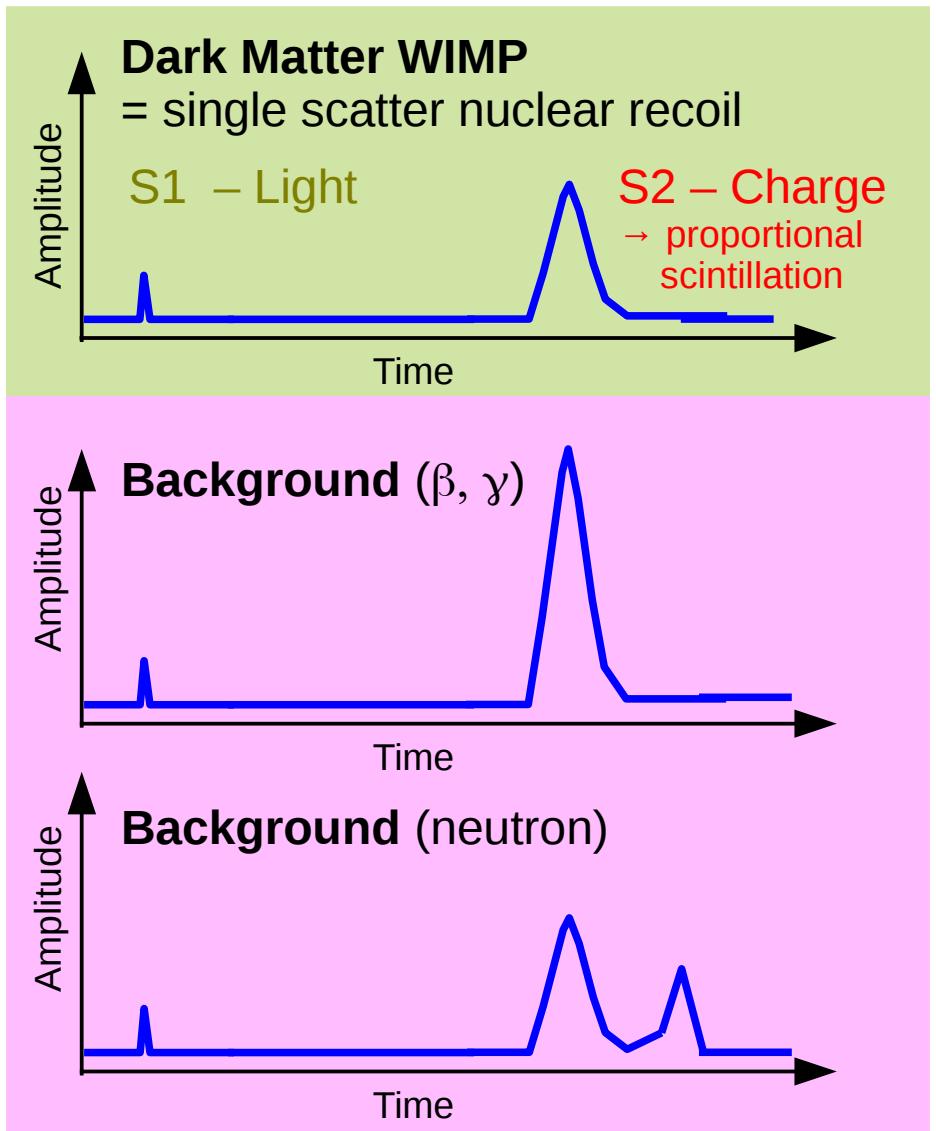
# Dual-Phase TPC

Xenon and Argon are excellent **szintillators** and can be **ionized** easily



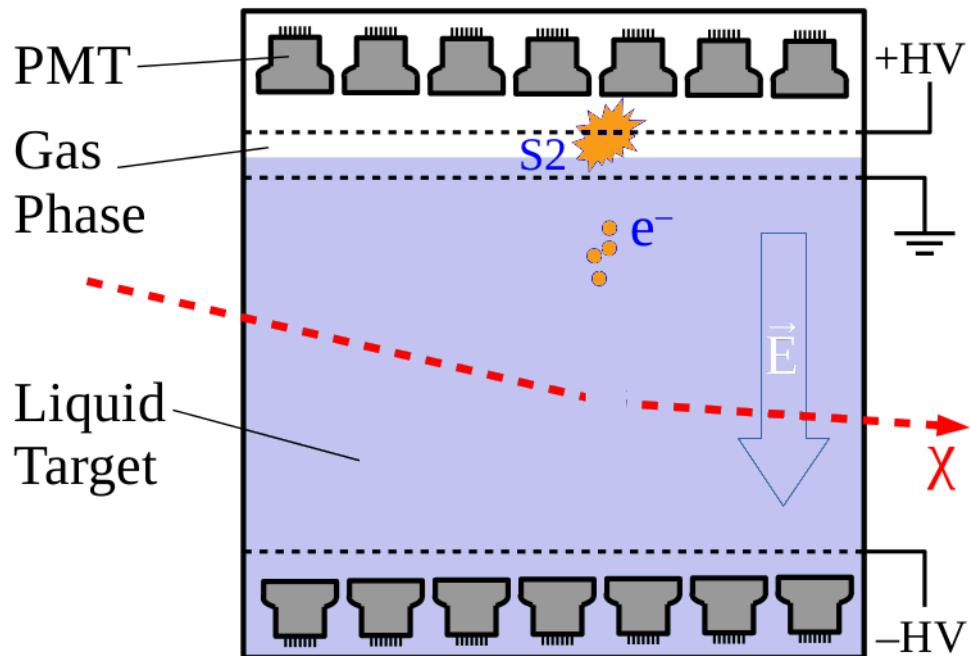
- 3d position reconstruction  
→ target fiducialization
- background rejection

TPC = time projection chamber



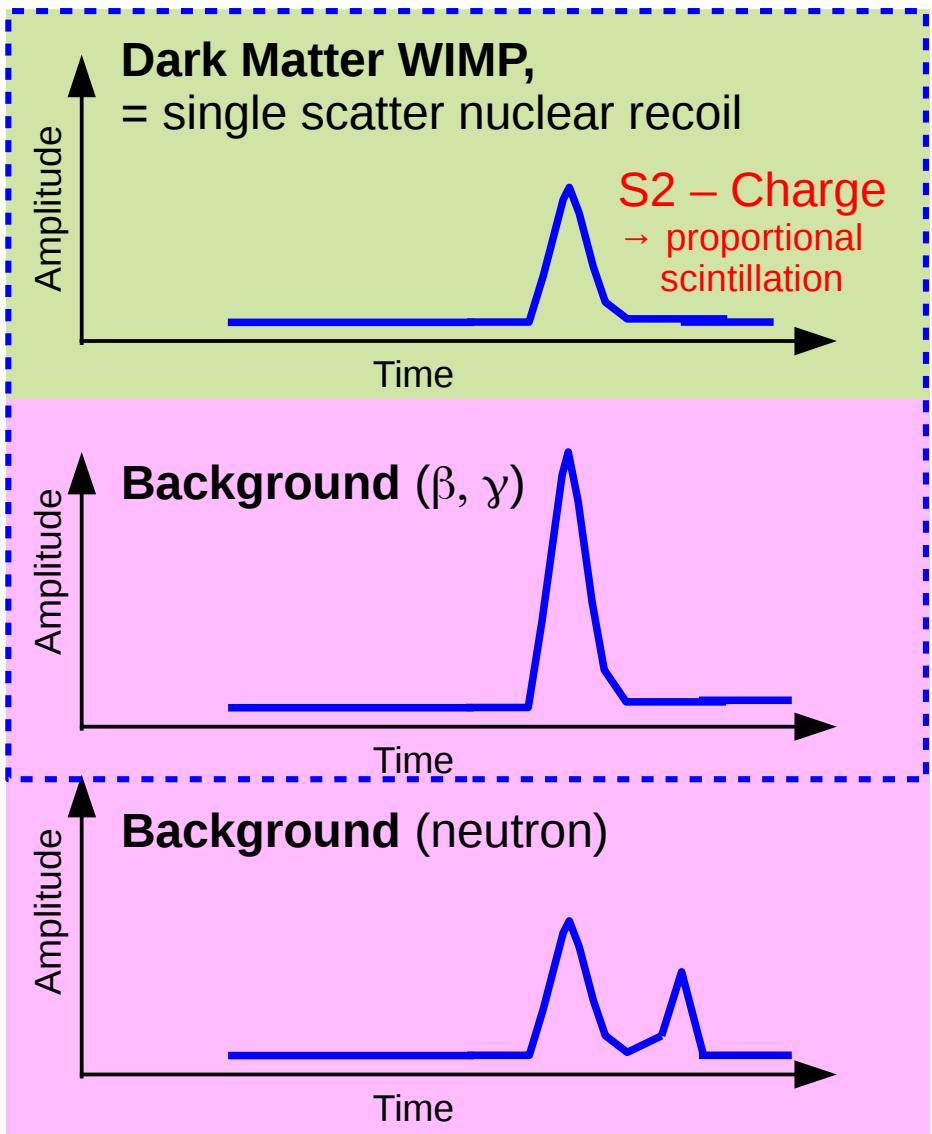
# Dual-Phase TPC – Charge Only

Xenon and Argon are excellent ~~szintillators~~ and can be **ionized** easily

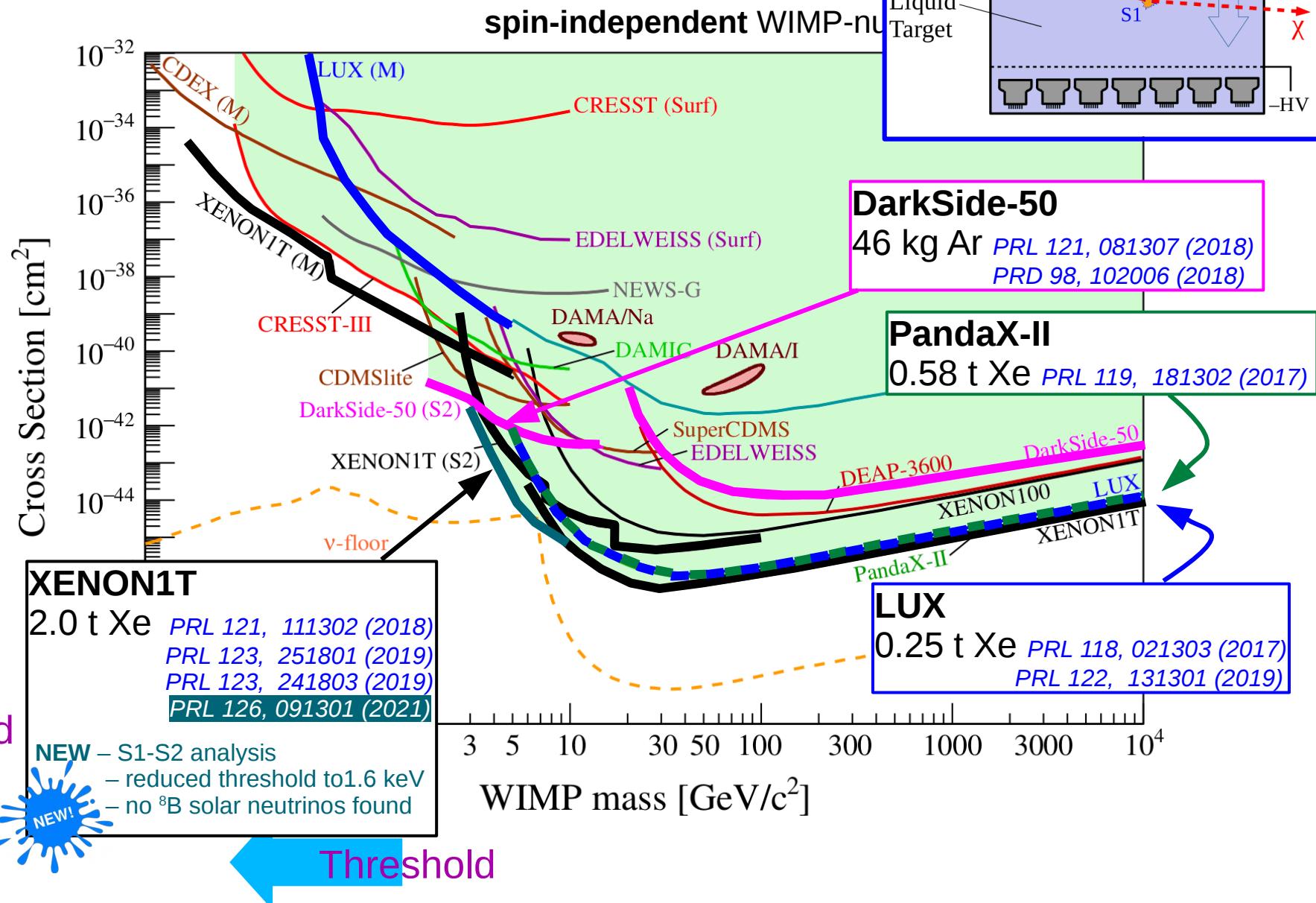


- **2d** position reconstruction  
→ **limited** target fiducialization
- ~~background rejection~~
- reduced threshold

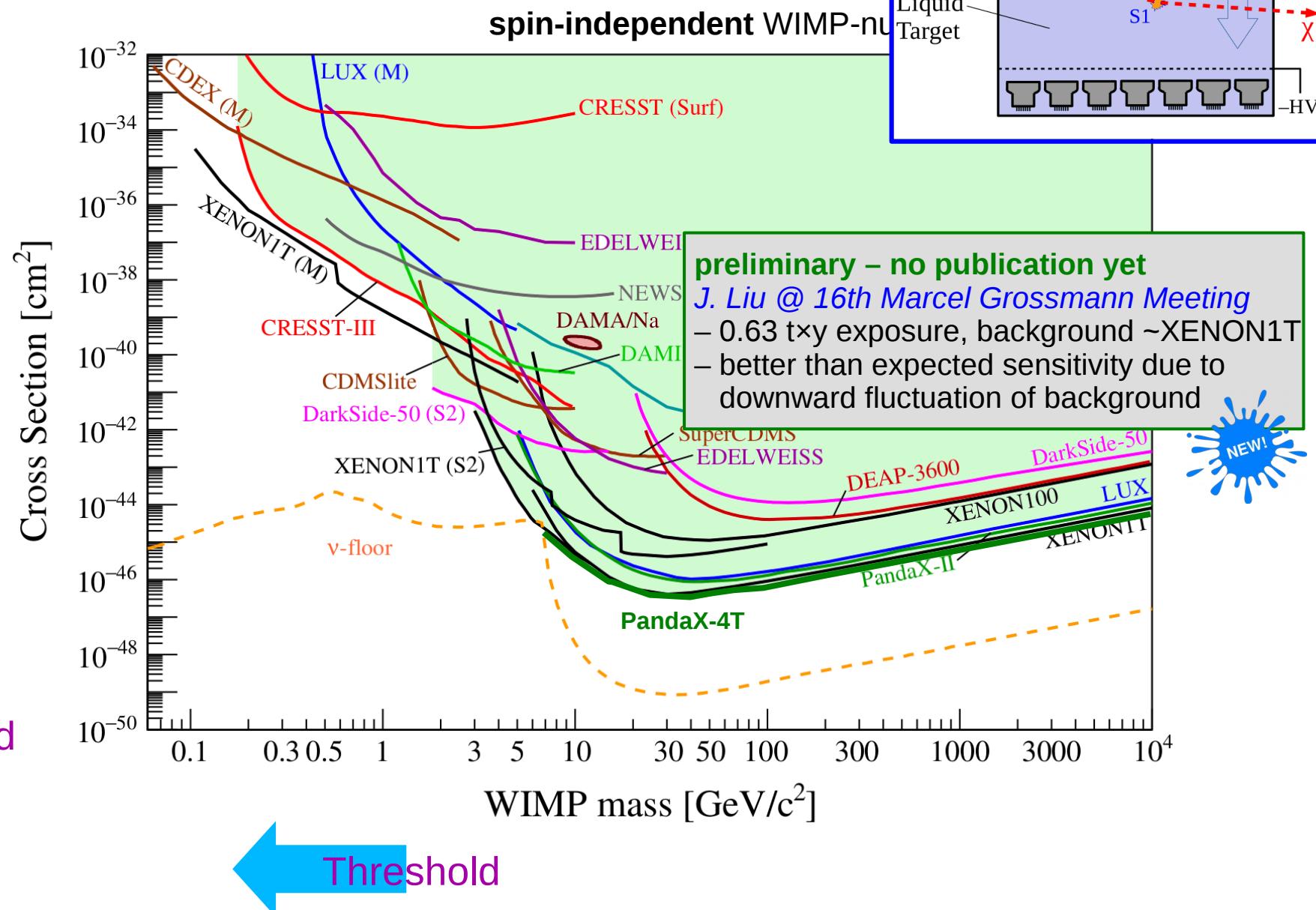
TPC = time projection chamber



# Noble Liquids: Dual Phase



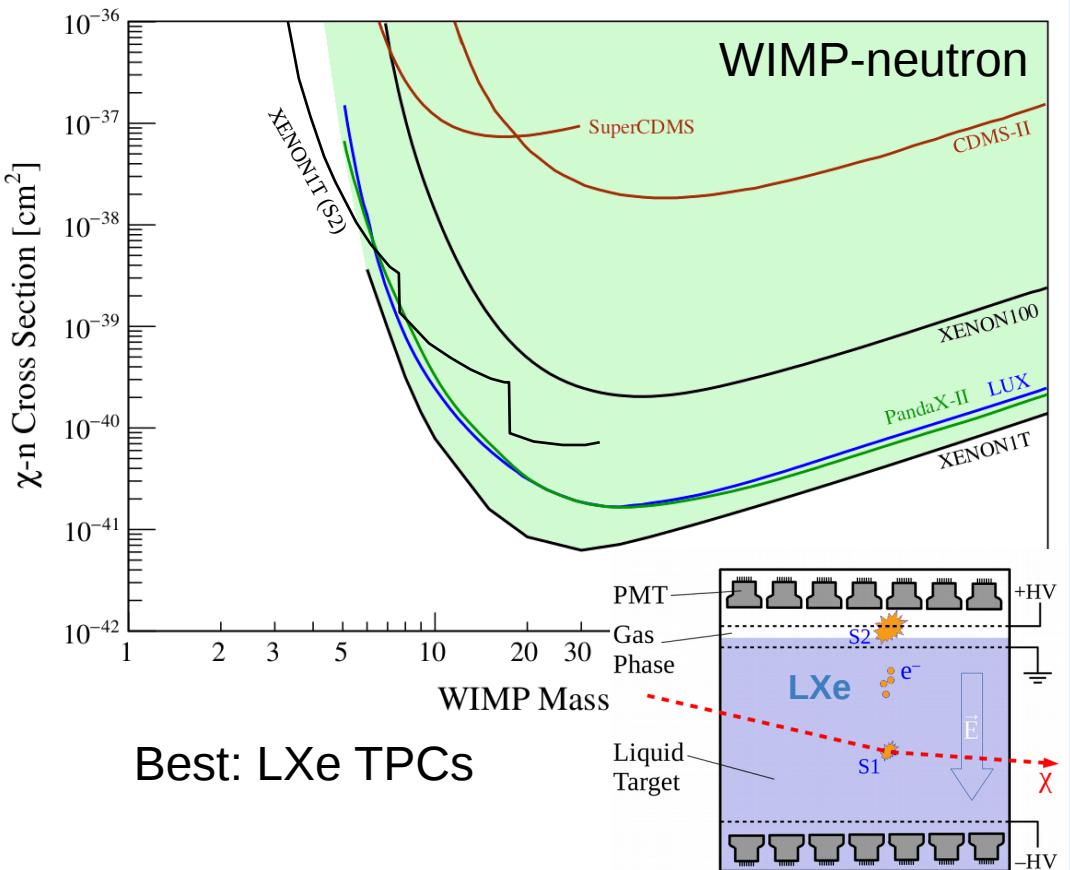
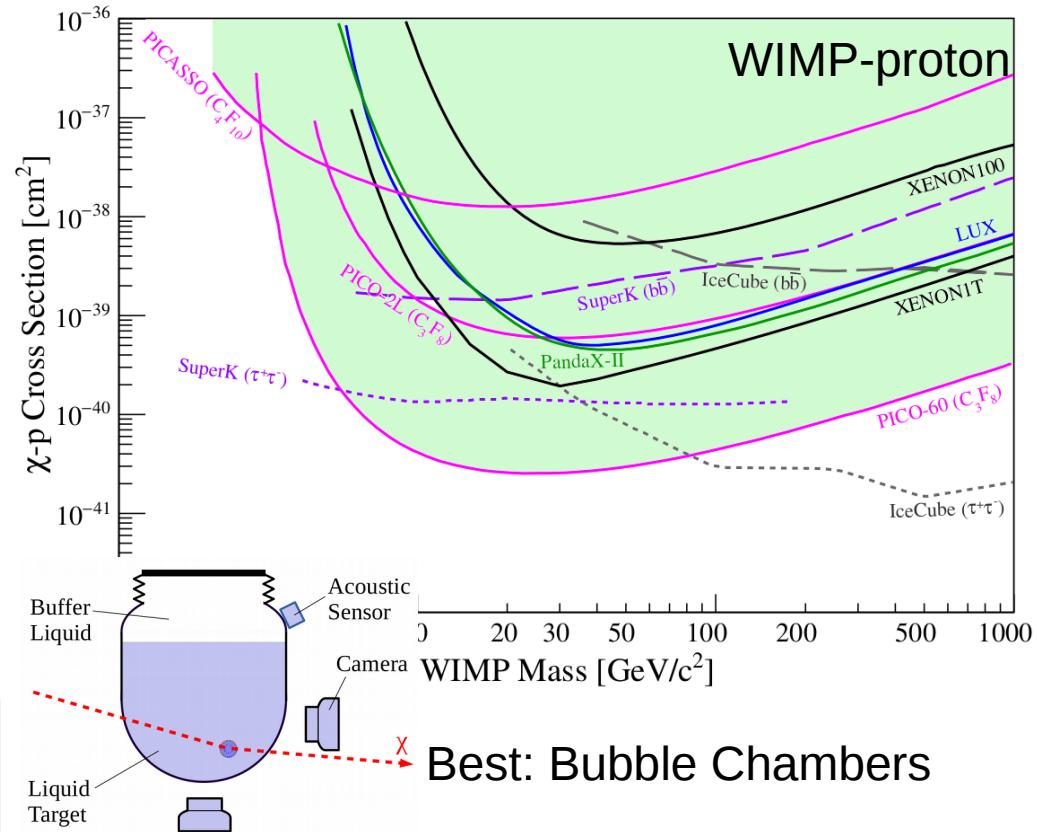
# PandaX-4T – New Result?



# Status Spin-Dependent Couplings

- coupling of WIMP to unpaired nucleon spins
- traditionally separated in proton-only and neutron-only
- same parameter space explored by indirect and collider searches

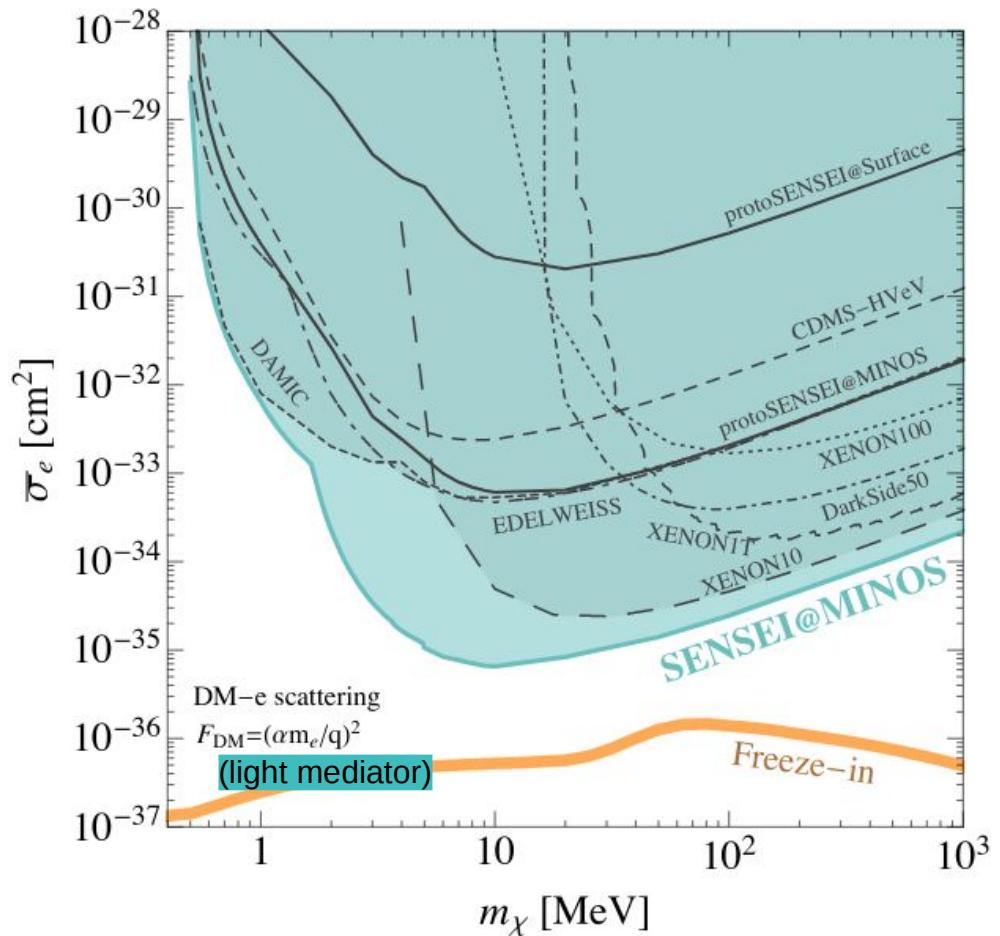
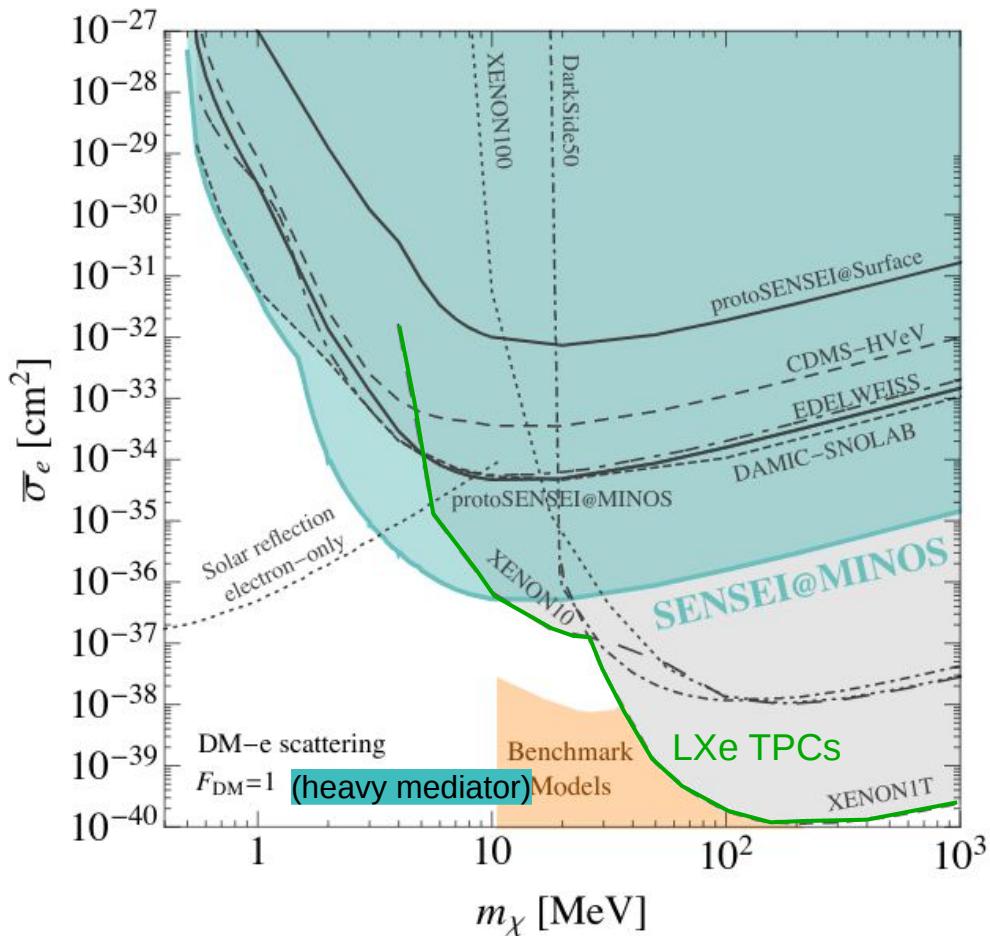
Isotope	Abundance	Spin	Unpaired Nucleon	Relative Strength
$^{7}\text{Li}$	92.6%	3/2	proton	12.8
$^{19}\text{F}$	100.0%	1/2	proton	100.0
$^{23}\text{Na}$	100.0%	3/2	proton	1.3
$^{29}\text{Si}$	4.7%	1/2	neutron	9.7
$^{73}\text{Ge}$	7.7%	9/2	neutron	0.3
$^{127}\text{I}$	100.0%	5/2	proton	0.3
$^{131}\text{Xe}$	21.3%	3/2	neutron	1.7



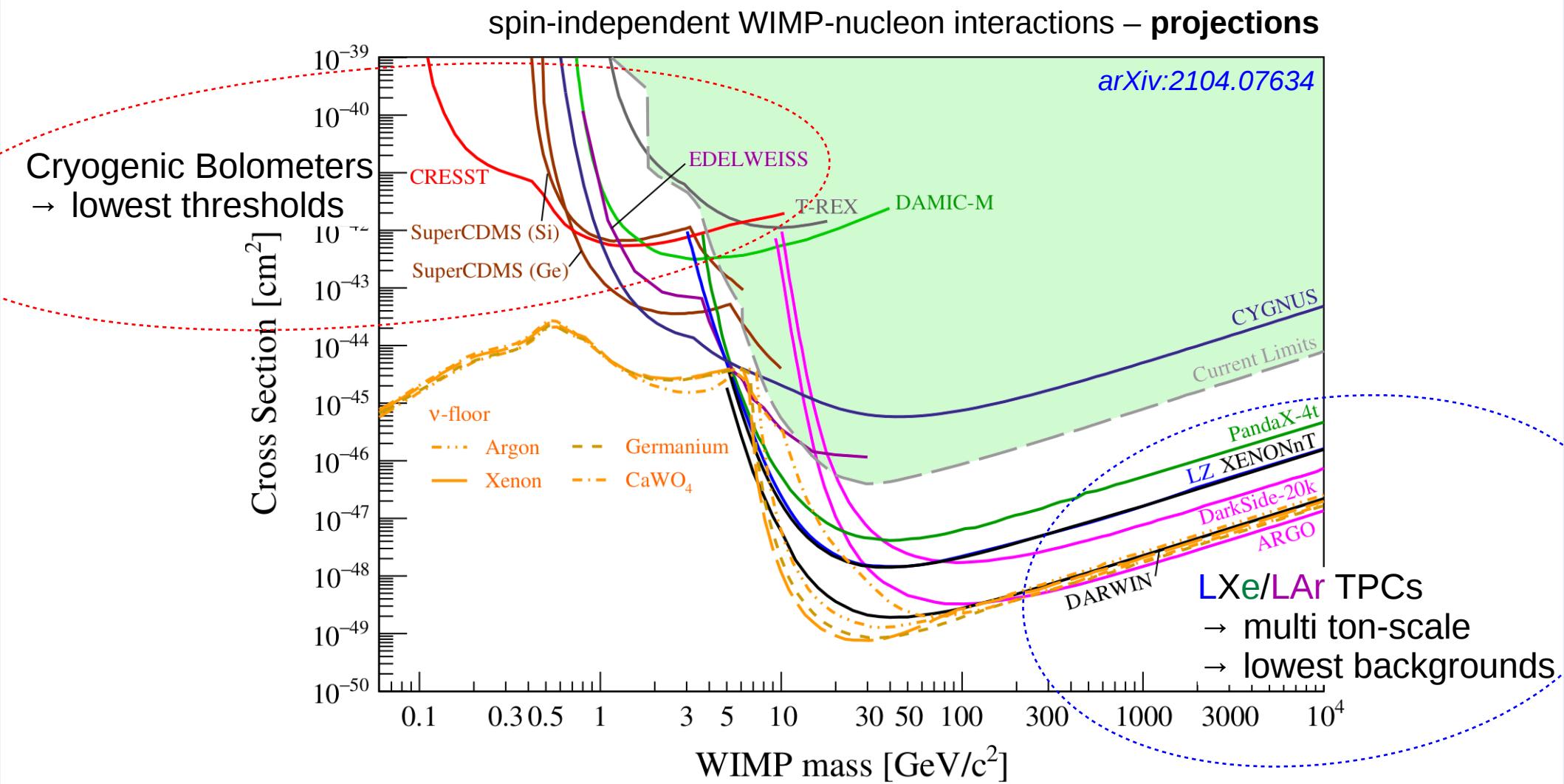
# Status: WIMP-e<sup>-</sup> Scattering

- Detectors with single-e<sup>-</sup> sensitivity required
- **SENSEI:** ~2g Si-CCD provides best limits >500 keV/c<sup>2</sup>

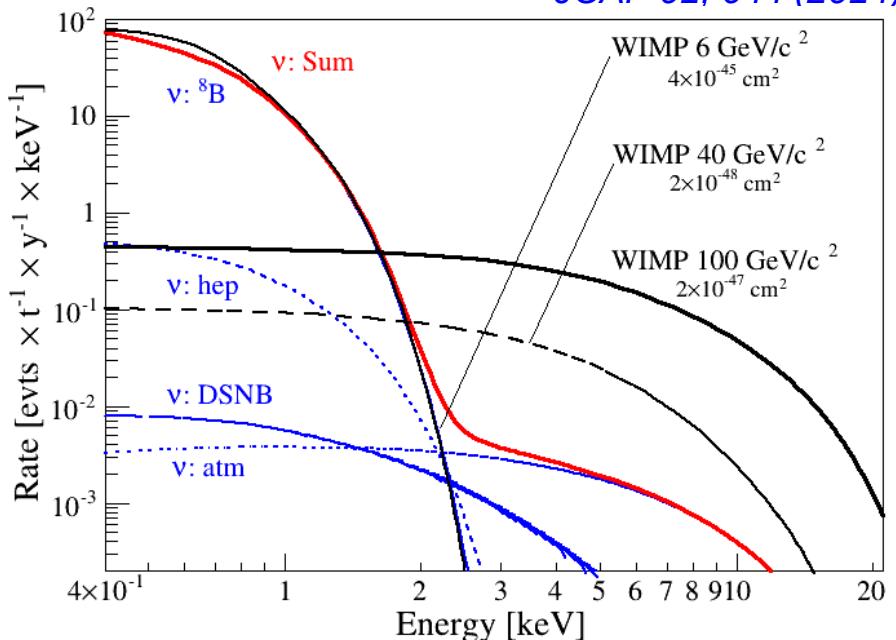
PRL 125, 171802 (2020)



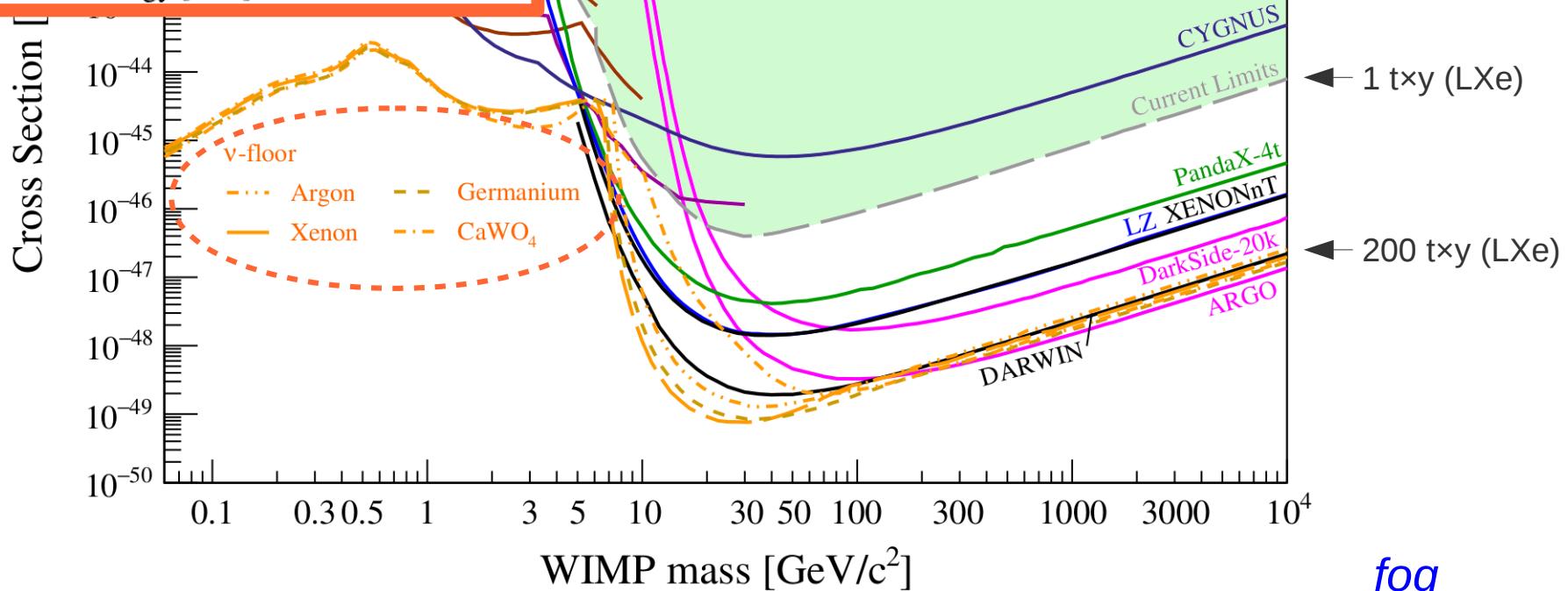
# Upcoming Projects



# The Limit



Coherent neutrino-nucleus scattering will dominate  
→ **ultimate background** for direct detection



Exposures of  $\sim 200 \text{ t} \times \text{y}$  (LXe),  $\sim 1000 \text{ t} \times \text{y}$  (LAr) needed to „reach“ atm- $v$  floor

DARWIN+LZ join forces towards  
common future detector



# Direct Axion Detection

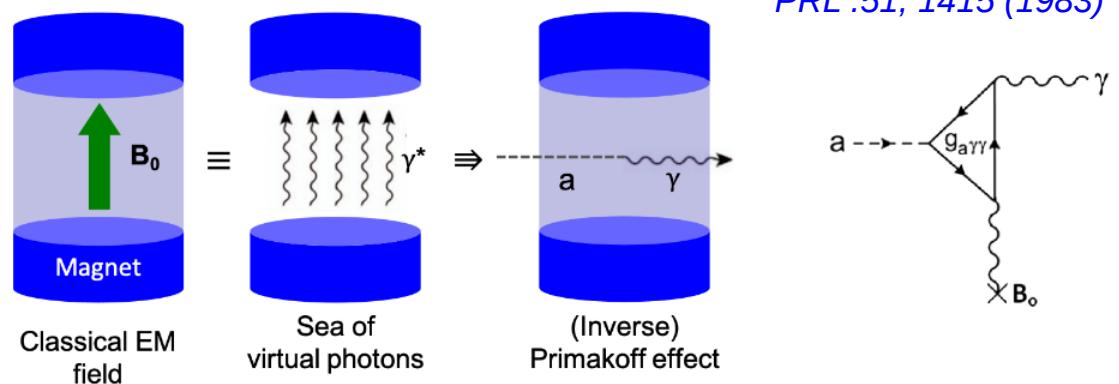
- Presence of axions modify Maxwell's eq.

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \rho - g_{a\gamma\gamma} \nabla a \cdot \mathbf{B}$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} - \dot{\mathbf{E}} = j + g_{a\gamma\gamma} (\dot{a}\mathbf{B} + \nabla a \times \mathbf{E})$$

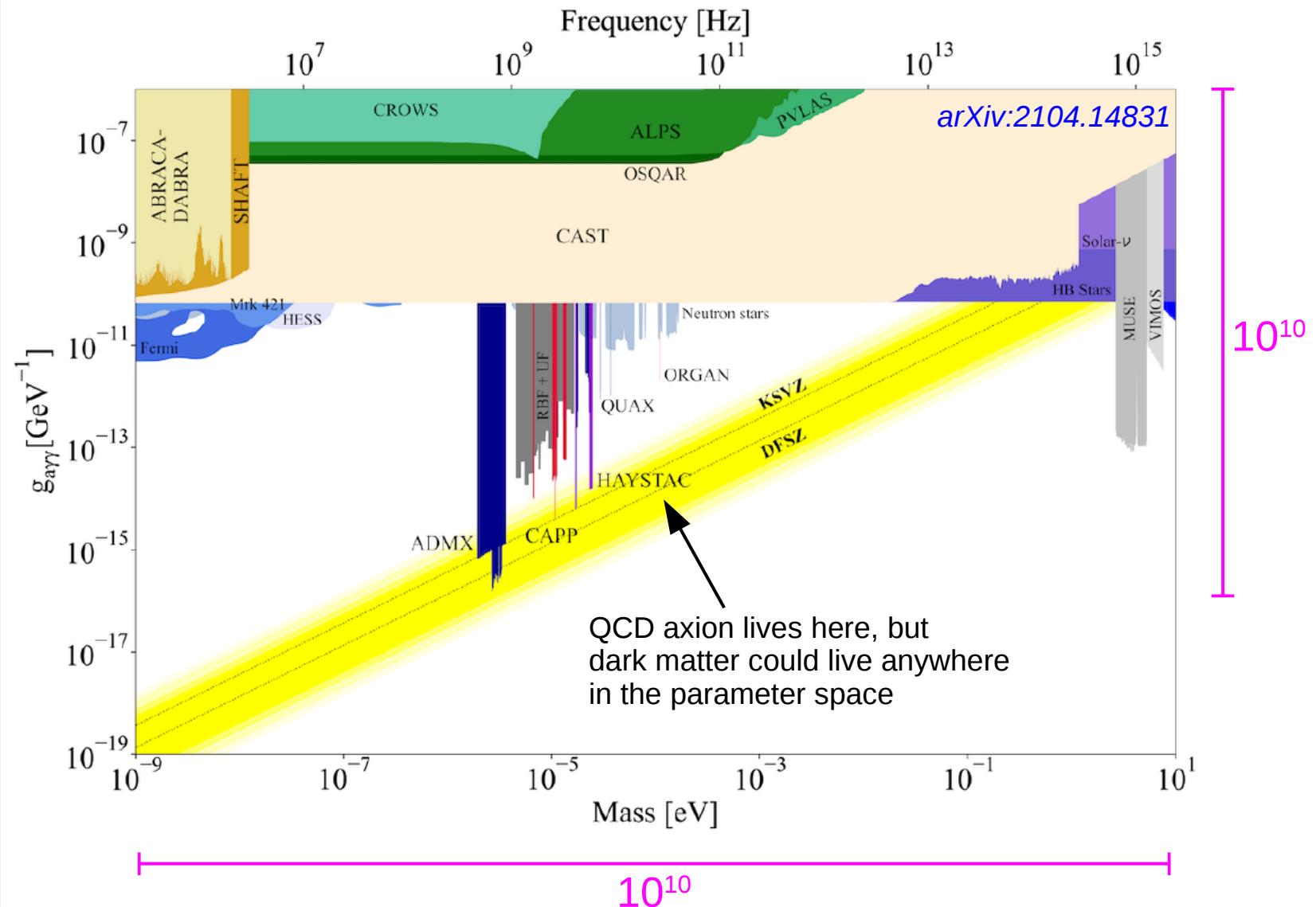
axion-induced charge and current densities  
nb:  $\nabla a \approx 0$  for DM axions

- Axion-Photon Conversion

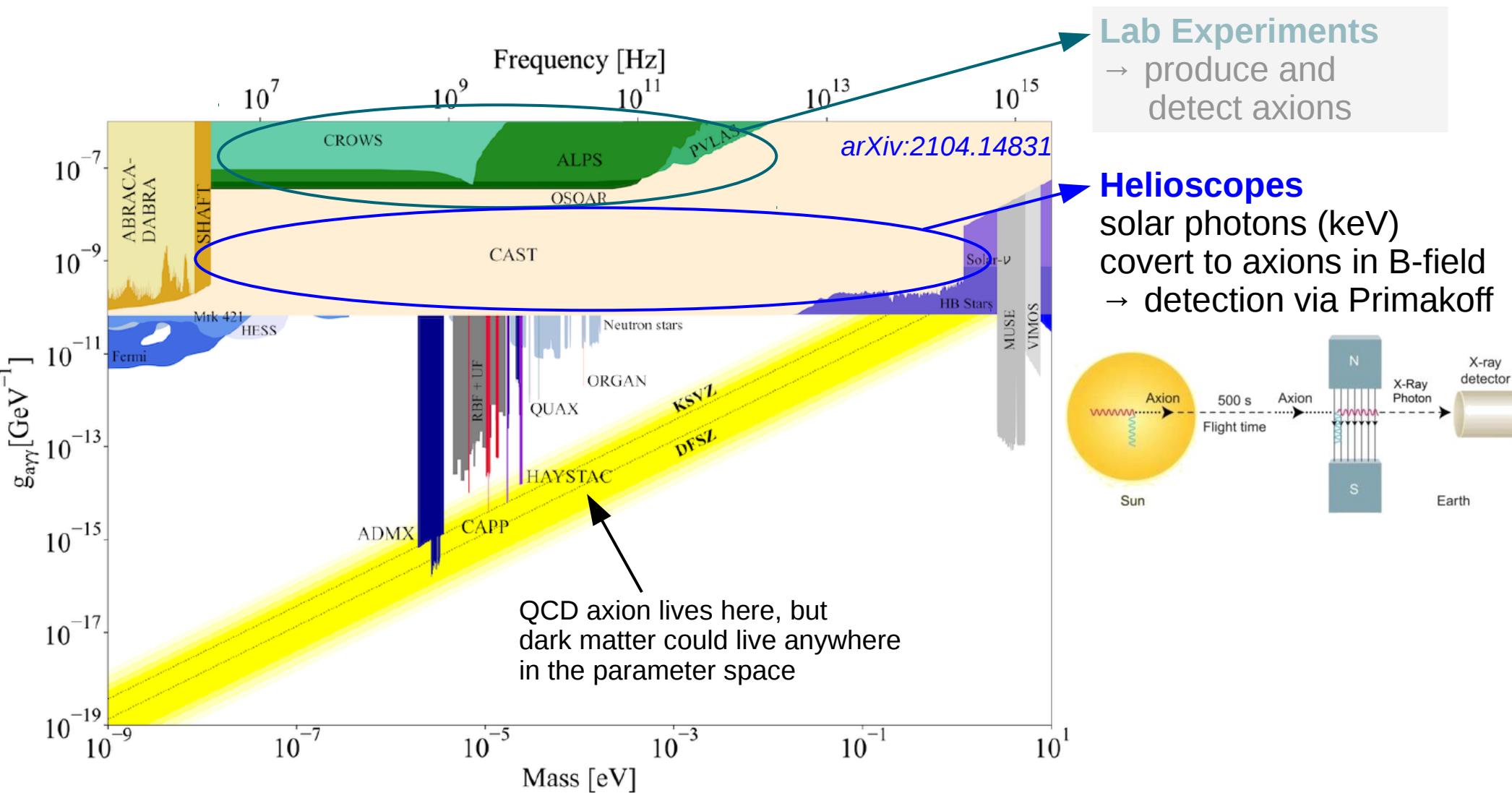


- EM interaction mediates axion-photon coupling
- too many experimental approaches and projects to cover properly

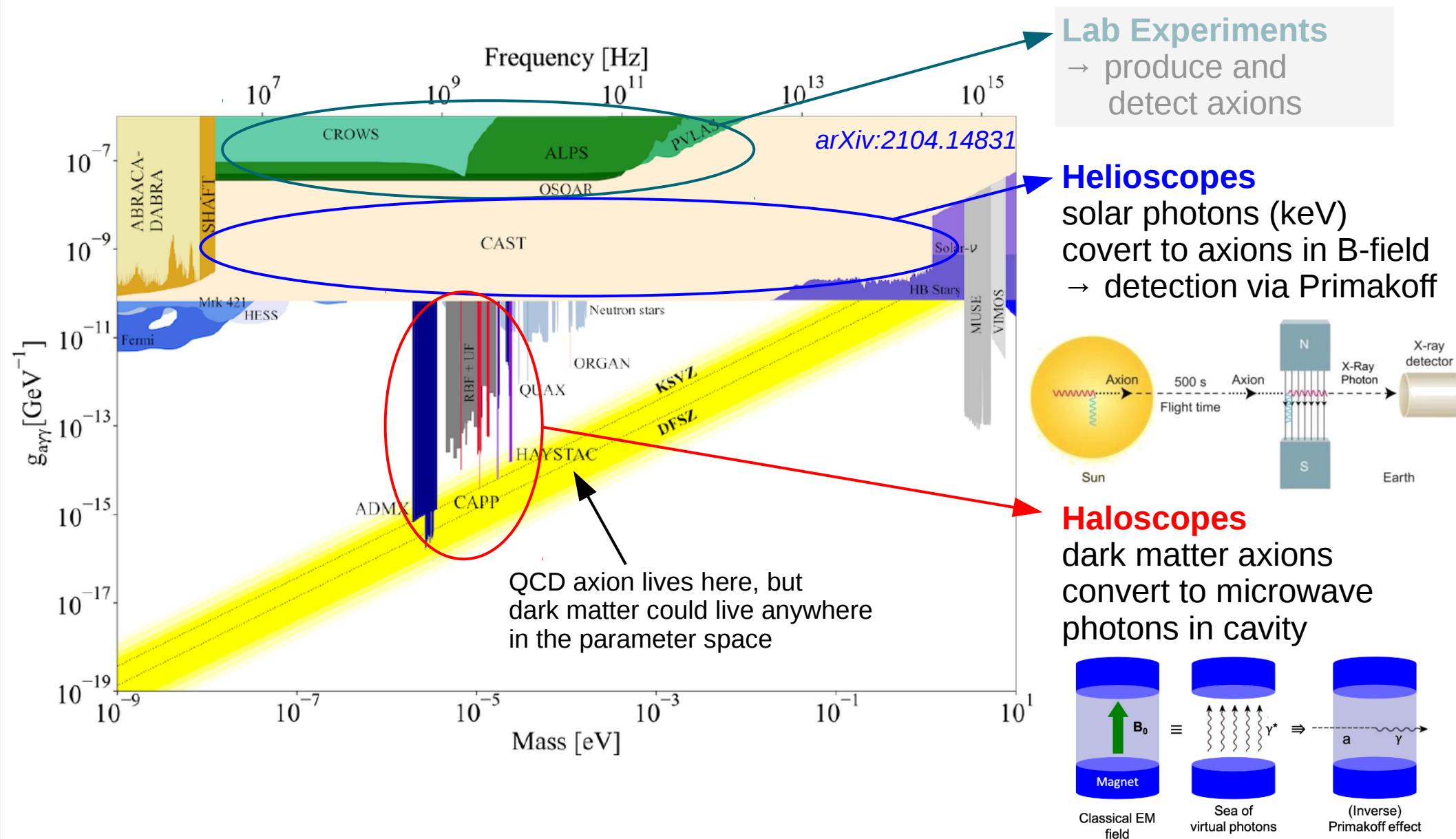
# Status and Search Strategies



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# Haloscopes: Figure of Merit

- axion mass unknown → scan all masses (~frequencies  $\nu_a$ )
- FoM: search rate („time needed to explore a mass range at a given sensitivity“)

$$\frac{df}{dt} = 1.2 \frac{\text{GHz}}{\text{year}} \left( \frac{5}{snr} \right)^2 \left( \frac{0.15 \text{ K}}{T_{\text{sys}}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{C_\gamma}{0.75} \right)^4 \left( \frac{\rho_a}{0.45 \frac{\text{GeV}}{\text{cm}^3}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{\nu_a}{1 \text{ GHz}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{B_0}{10 \text{ T}} \right)^4 \left( \frac{V}{30 \text{ L}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{G}{0.5} \right)^2 \left( \frac{Q_c}{10^5} \right)$$

**Minimize**

- system noise  $T_{\text{sys}}$ :
  - temperature of cavity
  - amplifier/receiver noise

**Set by Physics**

- Local axion density  $\rho_a$
- Frequency to be scanned  $\nu_a$
- Coupling constant  $C_\gamma$ 
  - 1.29 (KSVZ), 0.75 (DFSZ)

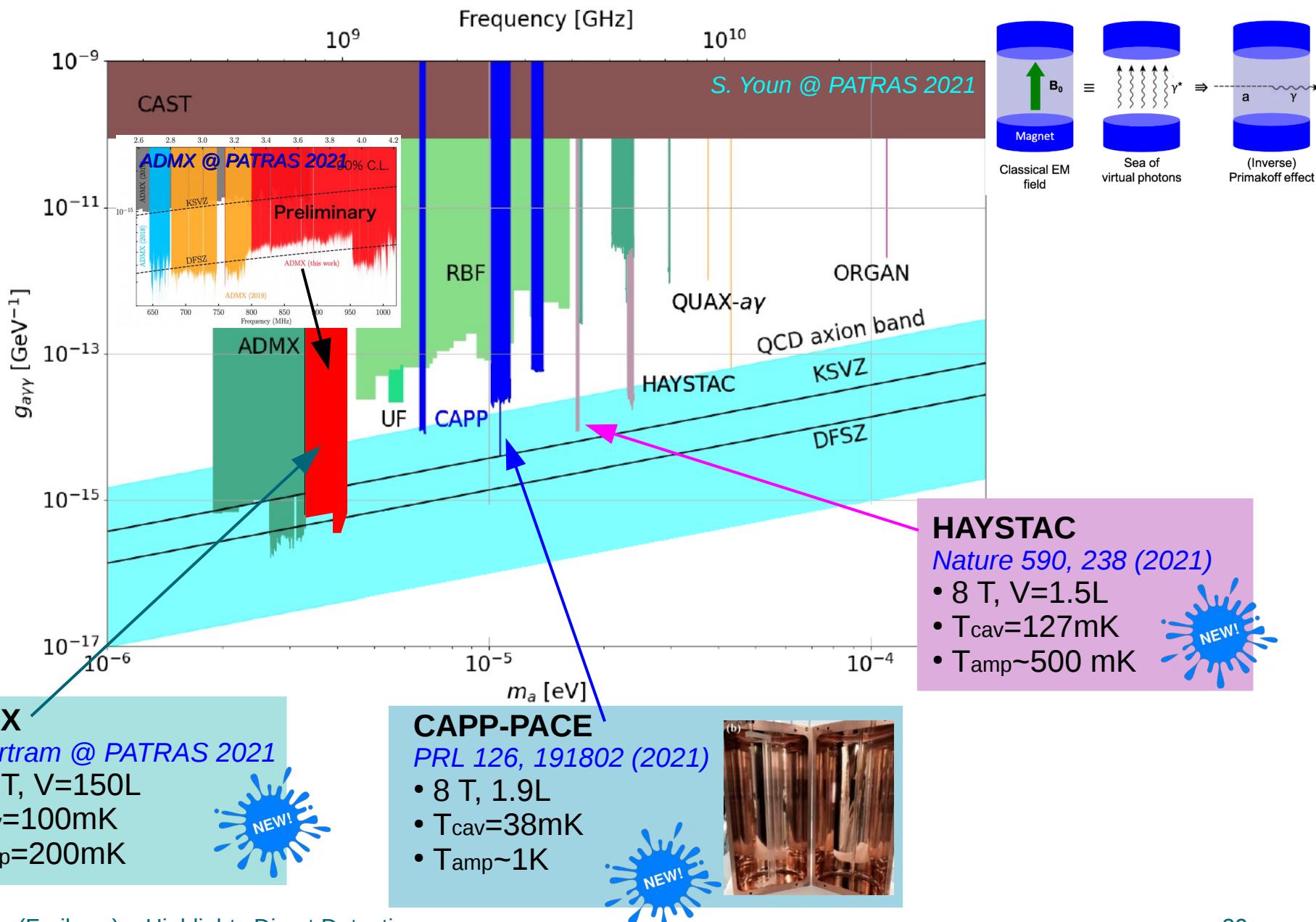
**Maximize**

- B Field  $B_0$
- Cavity Volume  $V$
- Cavity Quality Factor  $Q_c$
- Geometrical Form Factor  $G$

- many „knobs“ to optimize for a given frequency range and sensitivity
- Nb:
  - resonance frequency of cavity is inversely proportional to size
    - scanning higher frequency requires smaller cavities
  - quantum noise in RF amplifiers increases with frequency



# New Haloscope Results



# The XENON1T „Excess“



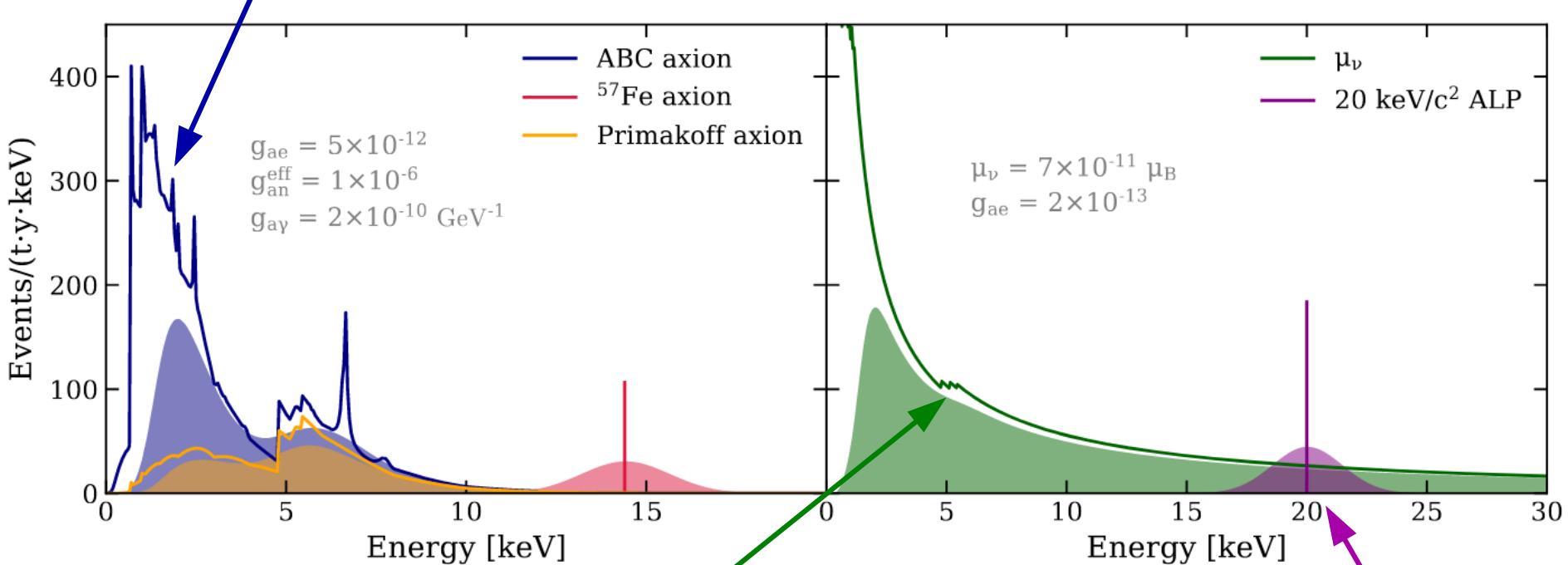
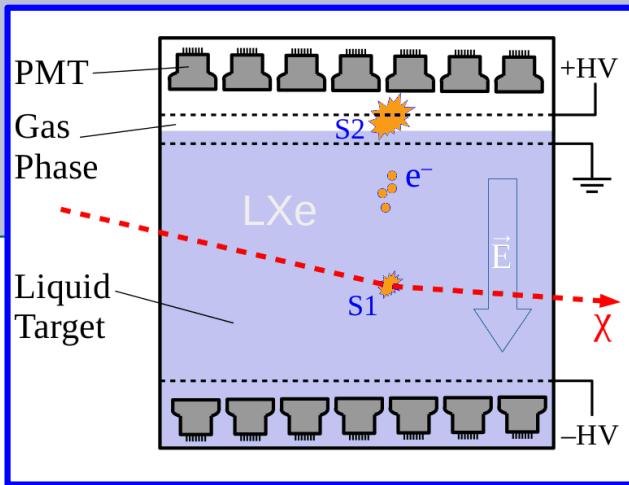
PRD 102, 072004 (2020)

New Physics signatures in low-E ER data.

The XENON1T selection:

## Solar Axions

- if axions exist, production in Sun with  $E_{\text{kin}} \sim \text{keV}$
- low-background WIMP detector as **helioscope**



## Enhanced Neutrino magn. Moment

- BSM physics could enhance  $\mu_\nu$ ;
- i/a cross-section increases with  $\mu_\nu^2/E_\nu$

## Axion-like Particle (Bosonic ALPs)

- assume all DM is made of non-relativistic ALPs
- expect mono-energetic peak at unknown  $m_a$

# The XENON1T „Excess“



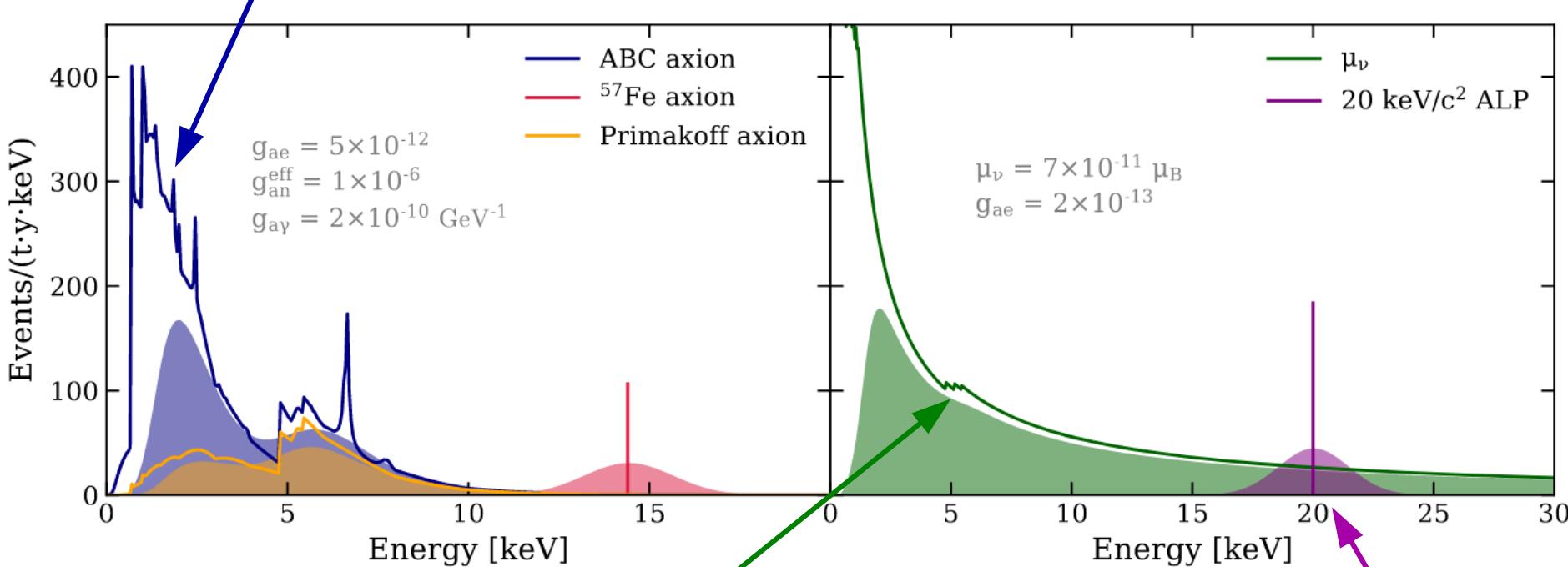
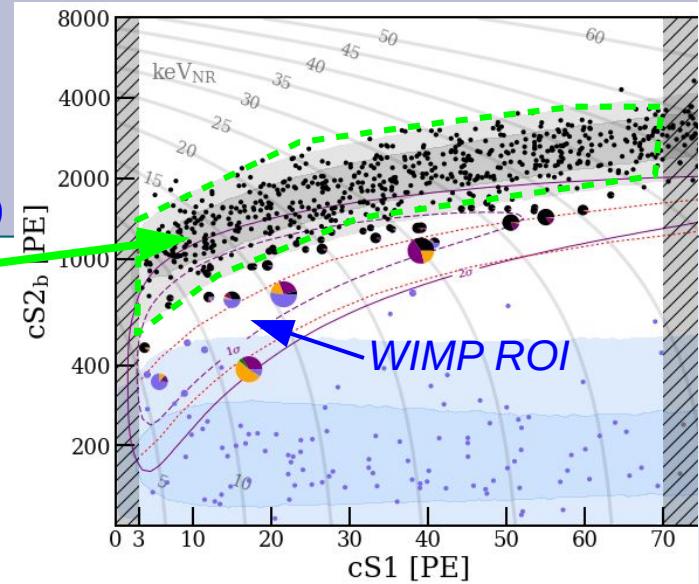
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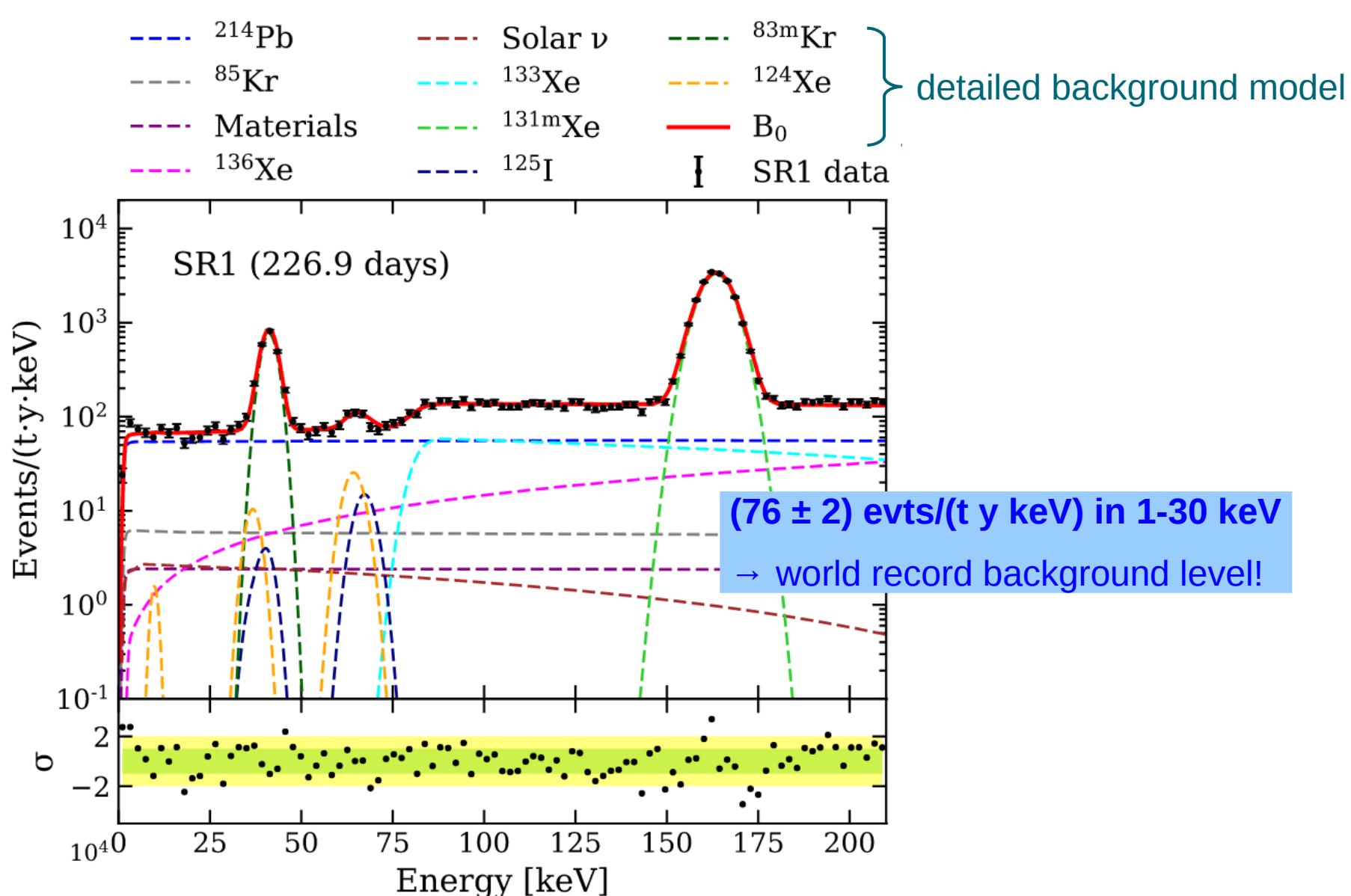
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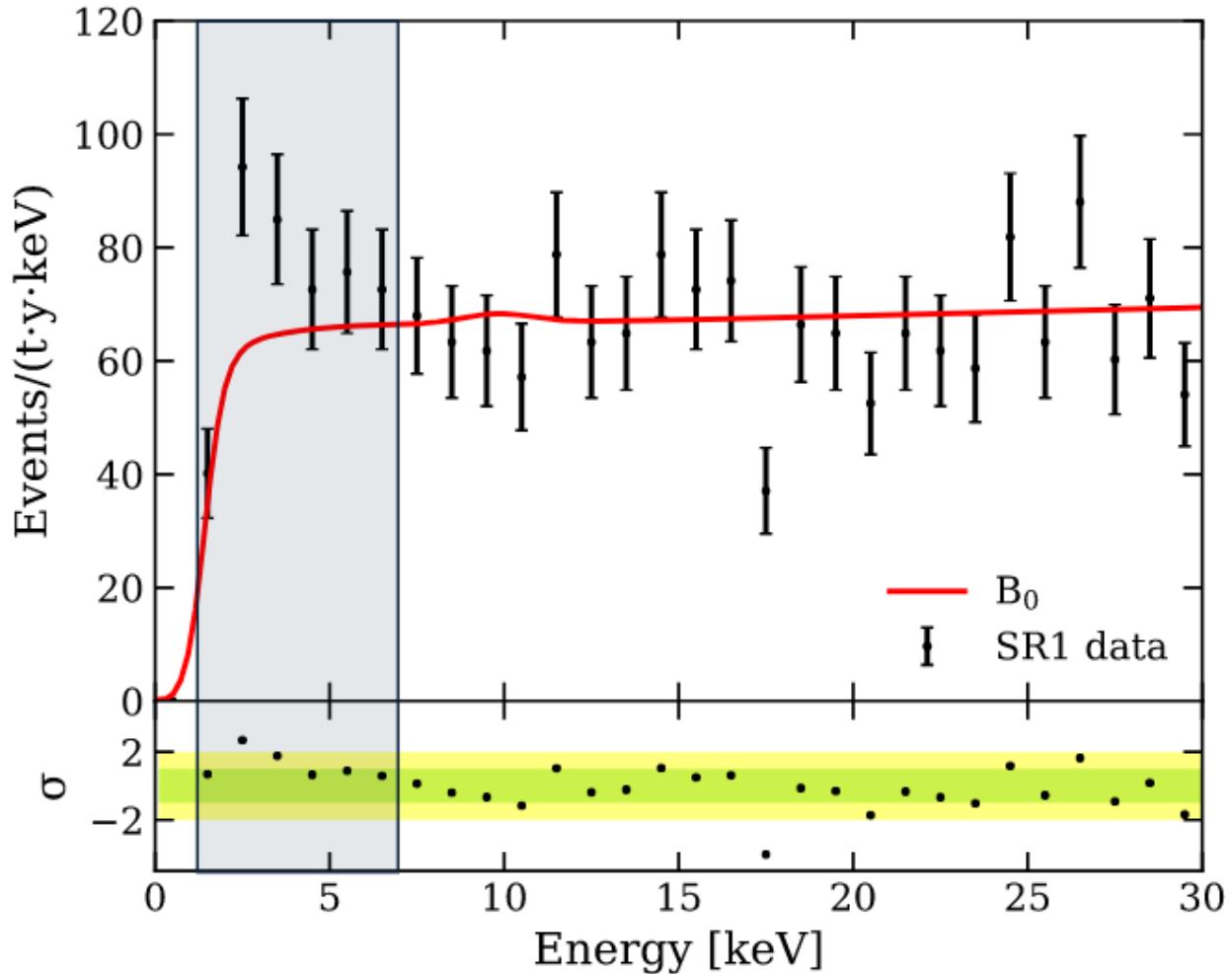
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# Background Fit

PRD 102, 072004 (2020)

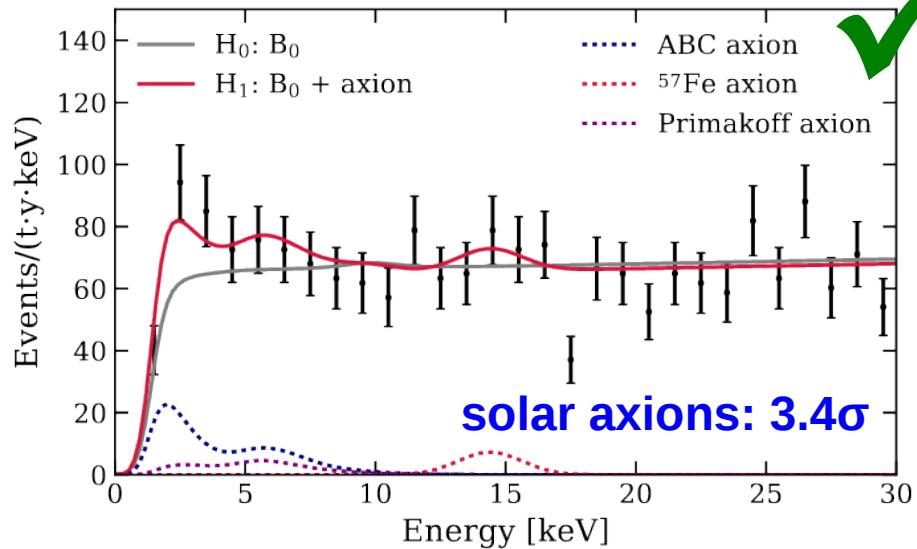


# Excess of Events

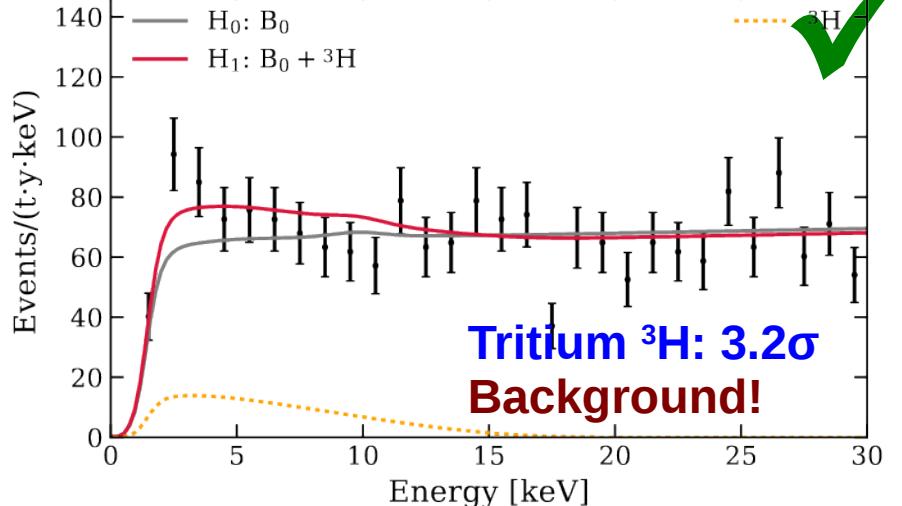
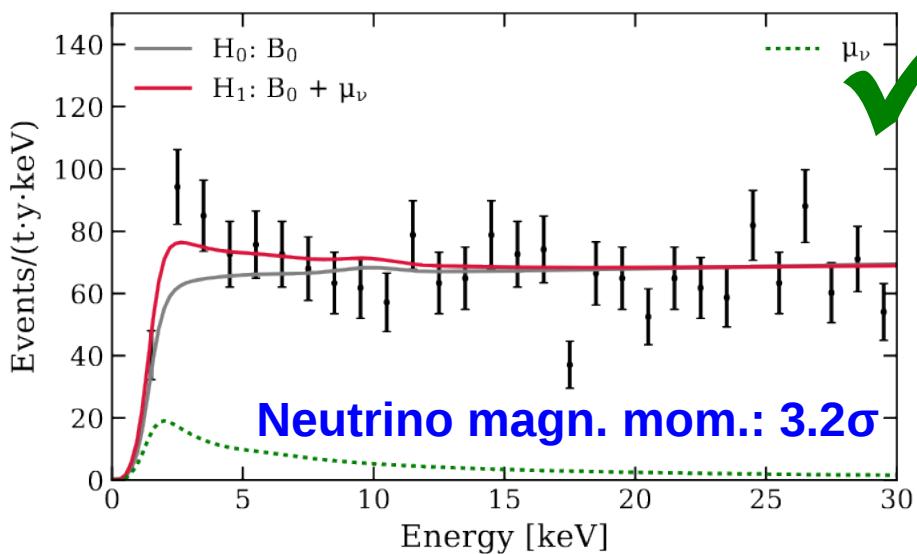
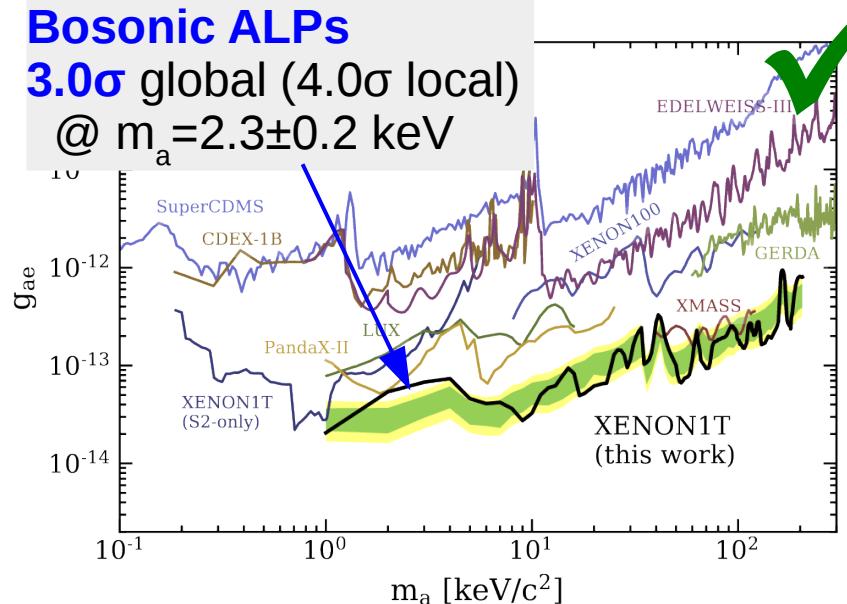
*PRD 102, 072004 (2020)*


- **excess in 1-7 keV range**  
285 evts observed vs  $232 \pm 15$  expected  
→ **(naive)  $3.3\sigma$  fluctuation**
- events uniformly distributed
  - in space
  - in time (but low stats)
- far away from typical WIMP artefact backgrounds
  - accidental coincidences
  - surface background
- efficiency and reconstruction validated down to threshold via calibration

# Possible Explanations

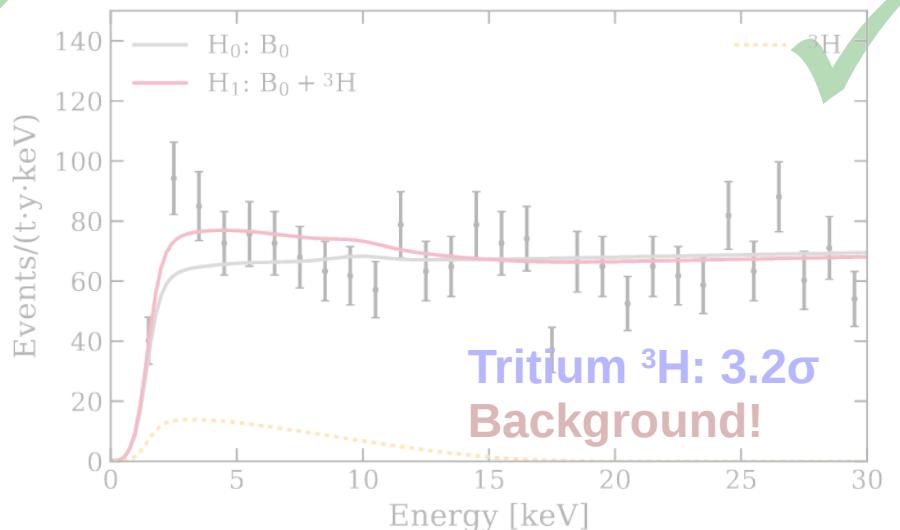
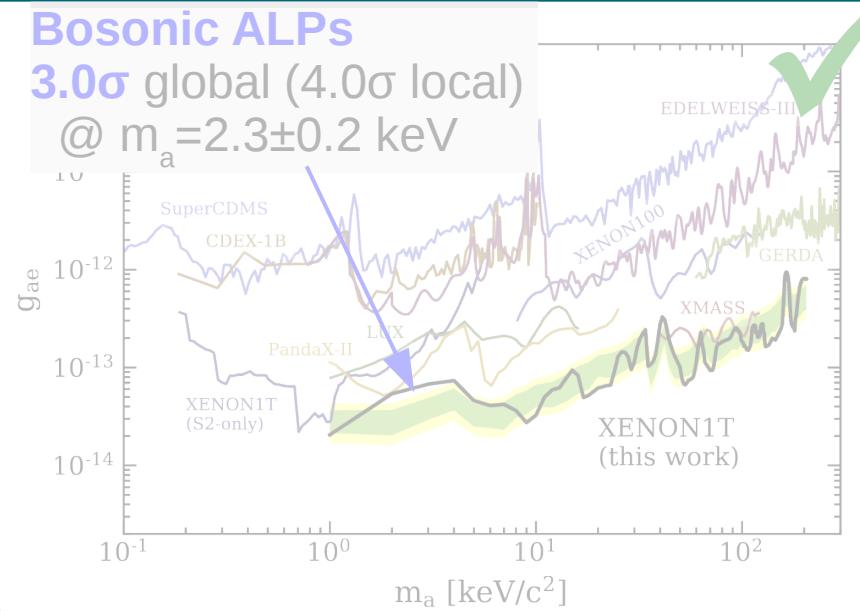
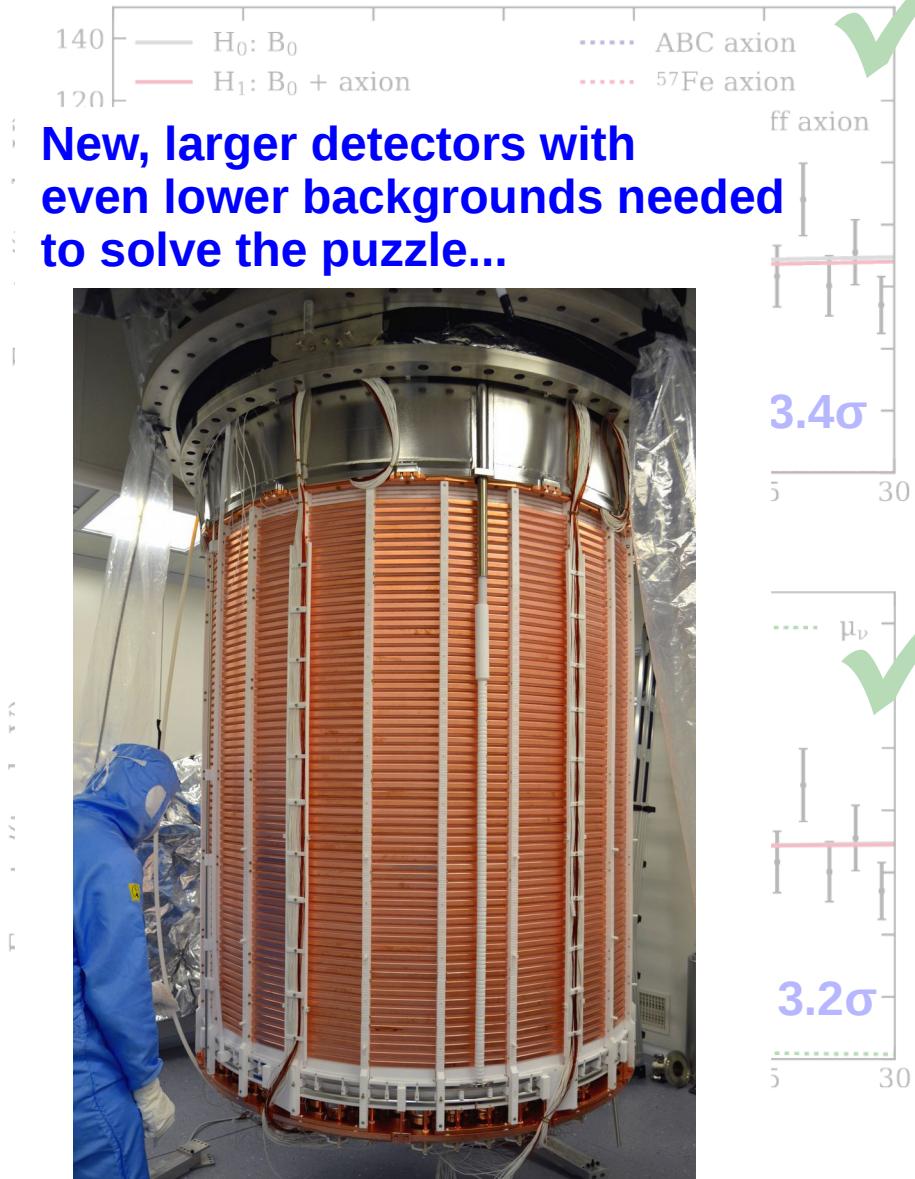


**Bosonic ALPs**  
 **$3.0\sigma$  global ( $4.0\sigma$  local)**  
 $\text{@ } m_a = 2.3 \pm 0.2 \text{ keV}$



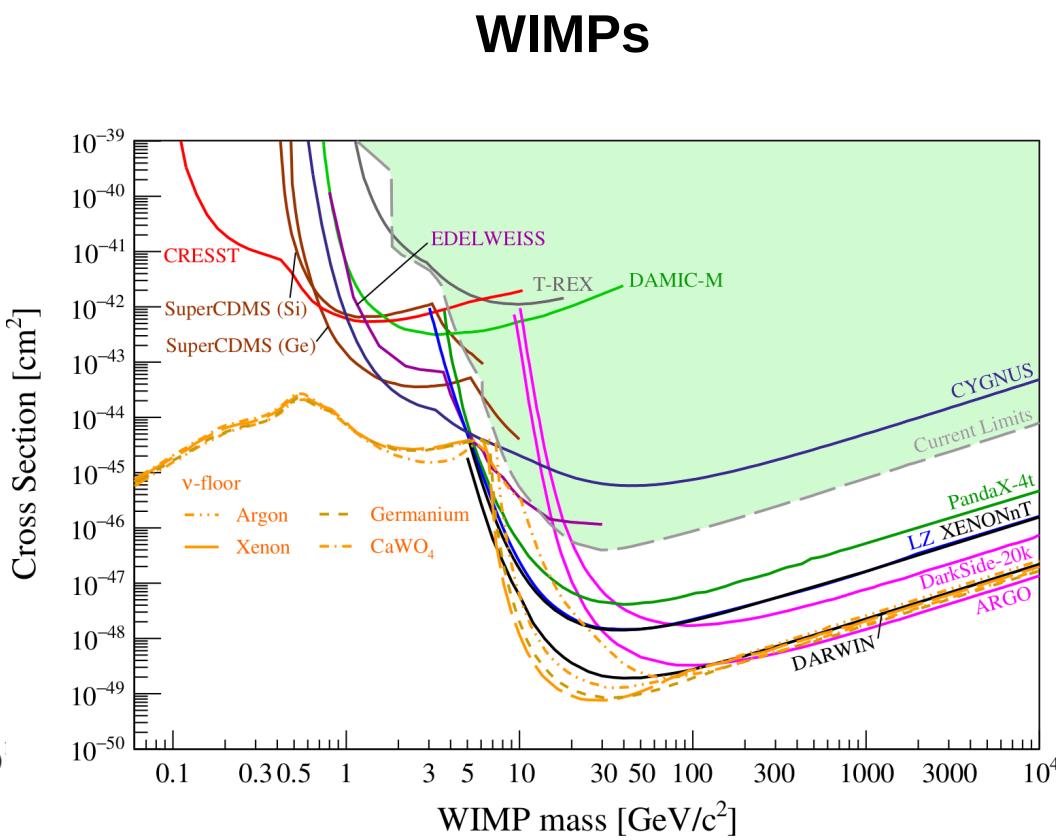
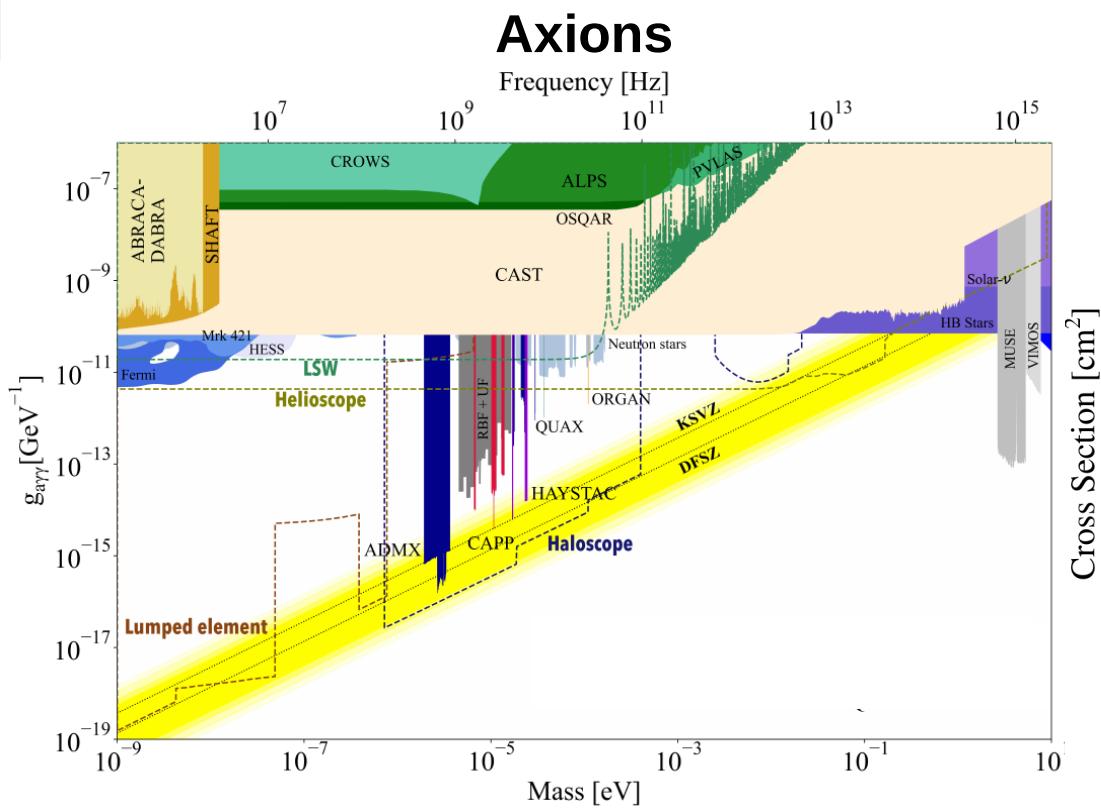
... and many others since  
XENON made result public.

# Possible Explanations

*PRD 102, 072004 (2020)*


... and many others since XENON made result public.

# Exciting Future for Direct Detection



- very diverse experimental landscape – many different projects
- both, WIMP and axion communities aim at closing most interesting parameter space in the next decade(s)