

# Das Rätsel der Dunklen Materie

## Auf der Suche nach der unsichtbaren Materie im Universum

Uwe Oberlack, Pedro Schwaller

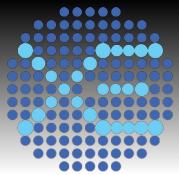
Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz  
<https://xenon.physik.uni-mainz.de>  
<https://www.staff.uni-mainz.de/pschwal/>

Bachelor-  
Vortragsreihe  
JGU Mainz

Nov. 15, 2021

Image credit: NASA, ESA,  
M. J. Jee & H. Ford et al.  
(Johns Hopkins Univ.)





# Outline

- Evidence for Dark Matter → **Uwe Oberlack**
  - The Problem of Missing Mass
  - In galaxies
  - In galaxy clusters
  - In the universe as a whole
- DM Direct Searches
  - Detection principle
  - Example experiment & results
  - Outlook
- DM Candidates → **Pedro Schwaller**
  - The DM particle zoo
  - Models of DM and their creation in the early universe

# Evidence for Dark Matter In Galaxies

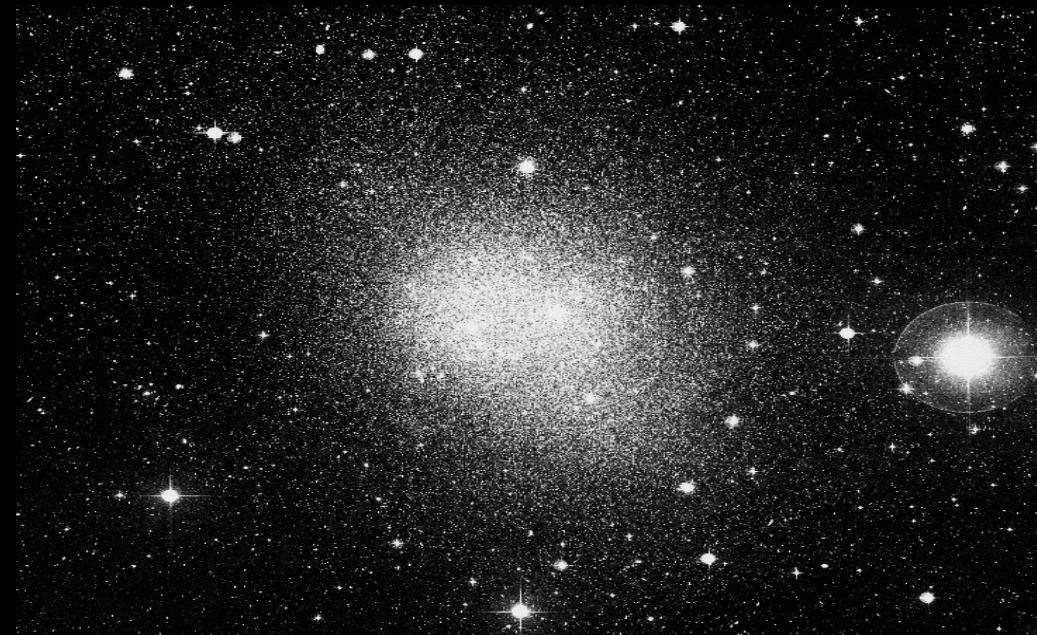
Scale:  $10^{21}$  m ( $\sim 10^5$  lightyears)

Spiral galaxies



M31, NASA

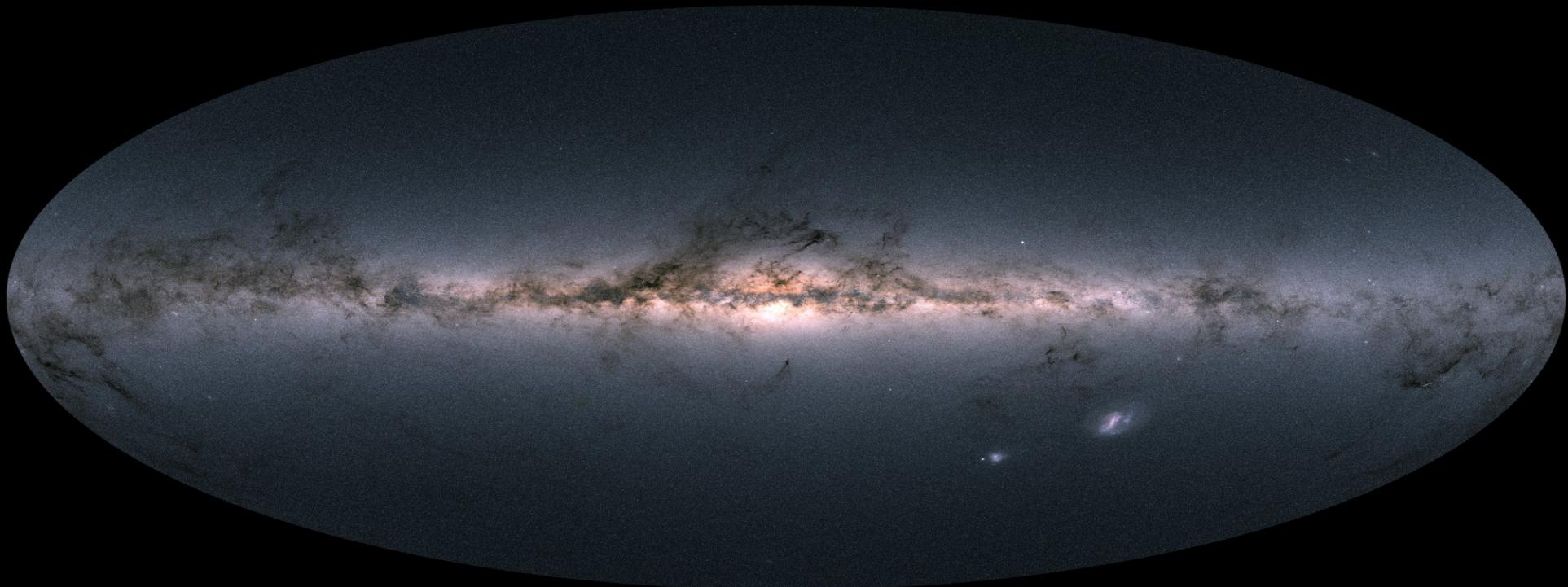
Dwarf Spheroidal galaxies



Fornax

David Malin, Anglo-Australian Observatory.

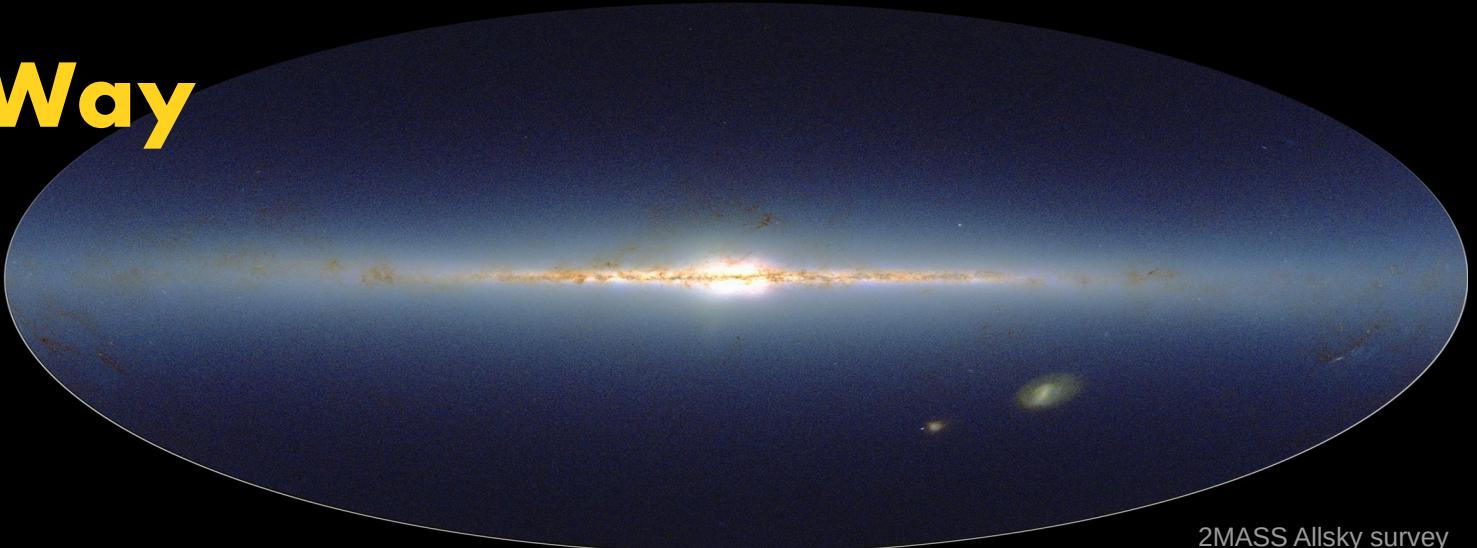
# The Milky Way in the optical wavelength range



GAIA (2018) ESA

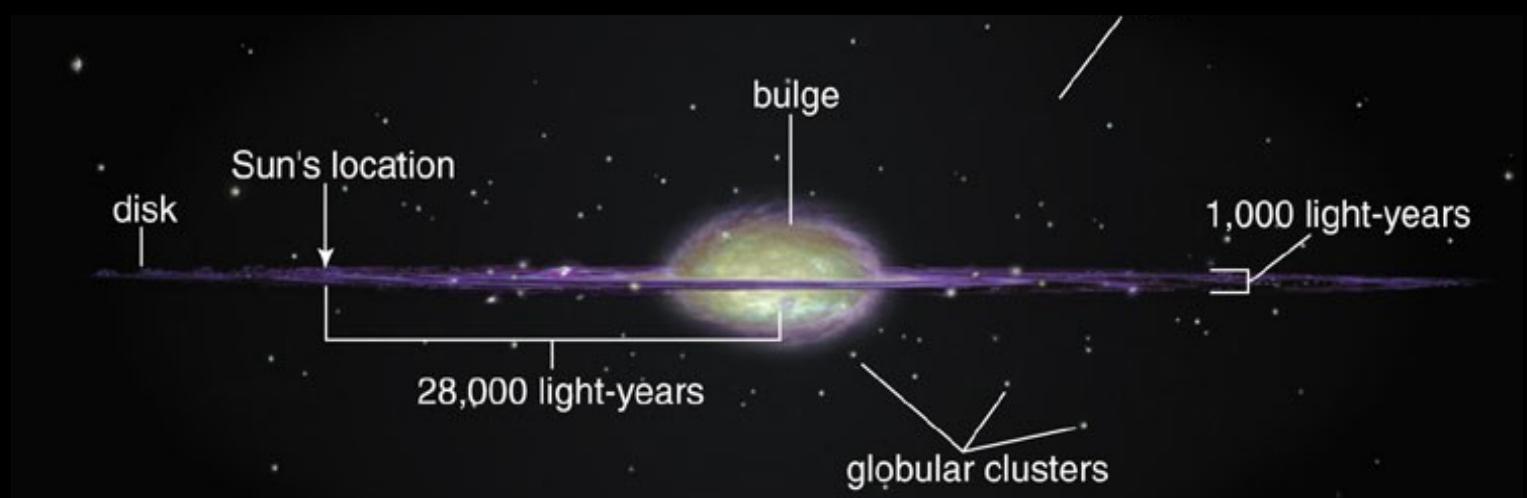
# The Milky Way

Our view from inside the disk (in near infrared radiation)



2MASS Allsky survey

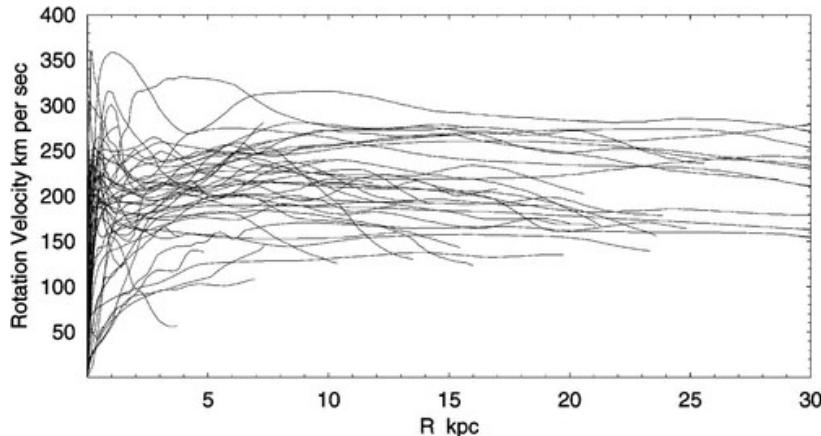
Edge-on view  
(sketch)



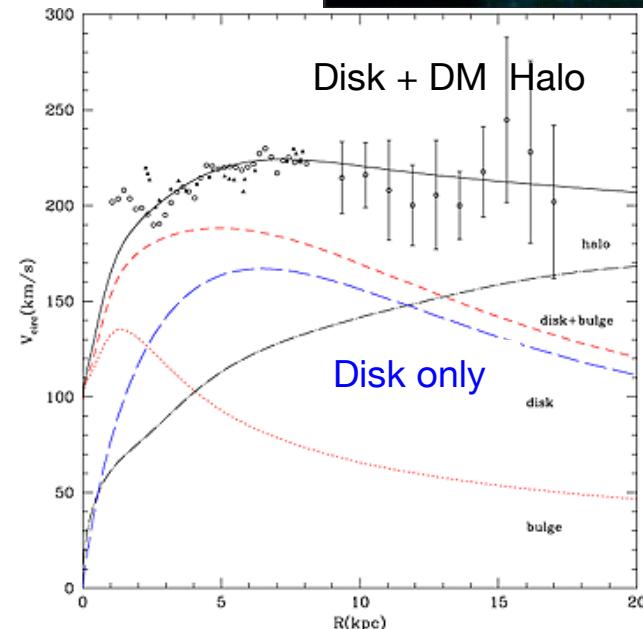
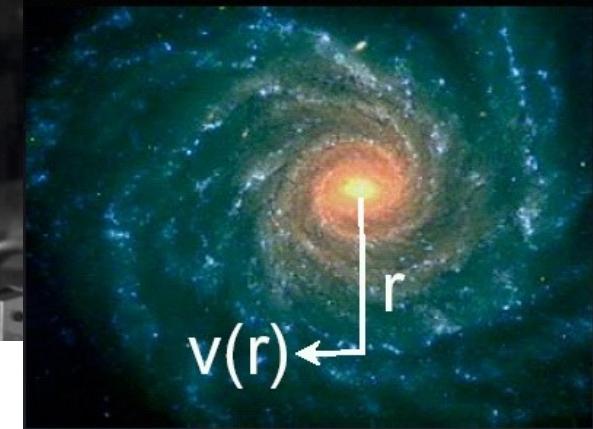
# Evidence for Dark Matter in Spiral Galaxies

Rotation curves (orbital velocity vs. galactocentric radius) remain flat well beyond the edge of the visible disk in spiral galaxies.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} v(R) = \sqrt{GM(R)/R} \\ v(R) \approx \text{const} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} M(R) \propto R \\ \rho(R) \propto R^{-2} \end{array} \right.$$



Rotation curves of nearby galaxies  
(Sofue & Rubin ARAA 2001)



Rotation curve of the Milky Way  
(A. Klypin et. al, ApJ. 573, 2002)

**z=0.0**

# Dark Matter Halo

Via Lactea 2 (2008)  
<http://www.ucolick.org/~diemand/vl>

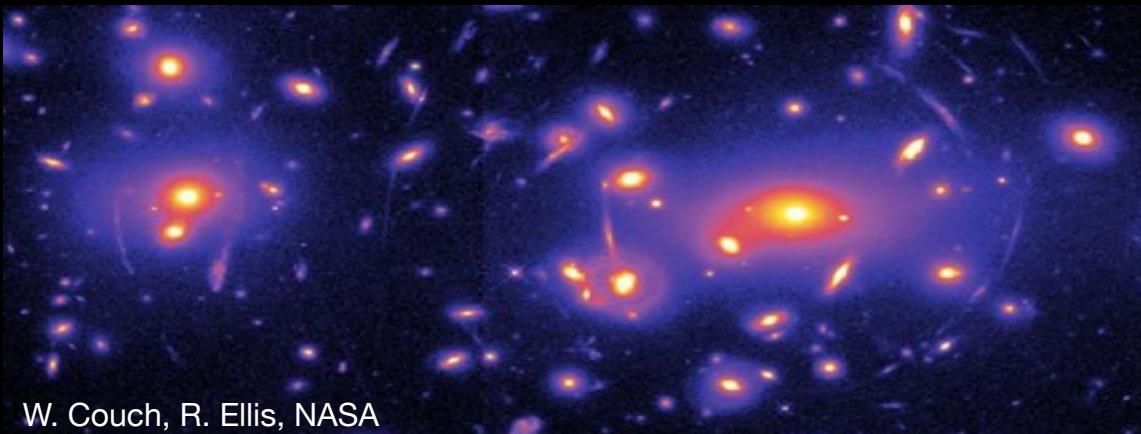


Observer

**80 kpc**

# Evidence for Dark Matter in Galaxy Clusters

- Orbital velocities of galaxies exceed escape velocity estimated from visible mass in galaxies (Zwicky 1933).
- X-ray gas: pressure too great for visible mass. Traces gravitational potential.
- Gravitational lensing: measures total mass distribution in galaxy clusters.

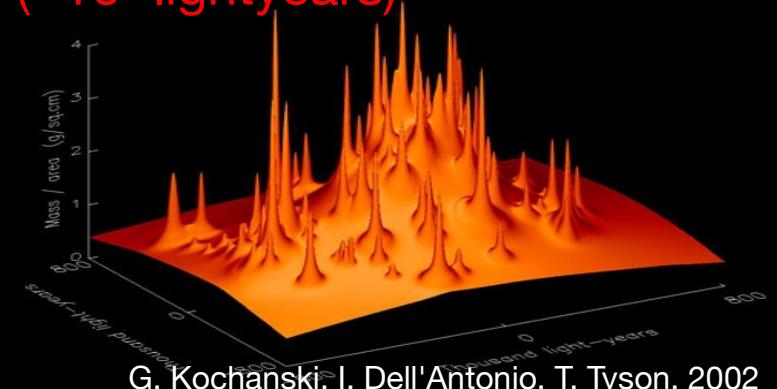


W. Couch, R. Ellis, NASA



NOAO/Kitt Peak: Uson, Dale  
NASA/CXC/IoA: Allen et al.

Scale:  $\sim 10^{22}$  m  
( $\sim 10^6$  lightyears)



G. Kochanski, I. Dell'Antonio, T. Tyson, 2002

# Velocity dispersion in galaxy clusters

Fritz Zwicky (1933) used the velocity dispersion of galaxies in the Coma cluster and the virial theorem to estimate the mass of the cluster  $M_{\text{cluster}}$ .

$$E_{\text{kin}} = -\frac{1}{2} E_{\text{pot}}$$

Comparing this mass to the luminosity of the galaxies in the cluster, using empirical relations between luminosity and mass for stars, he found:

$$M_{\text{lum}} \sim 1/400 M_{\text{cluster}}$$

Something is missing : **Dark Matter ?**

**Die Rotverschiebung von extragalaktischen Nebeln**

von F. Zwicky.

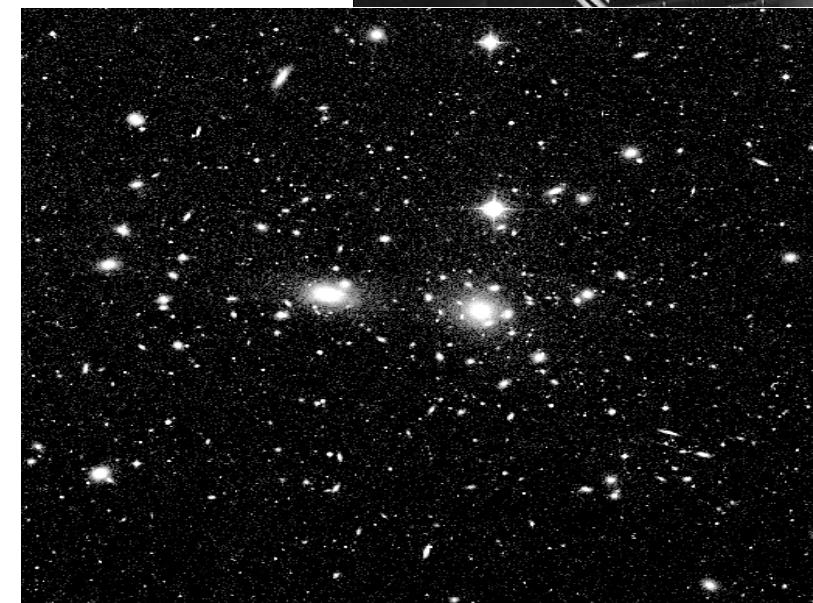
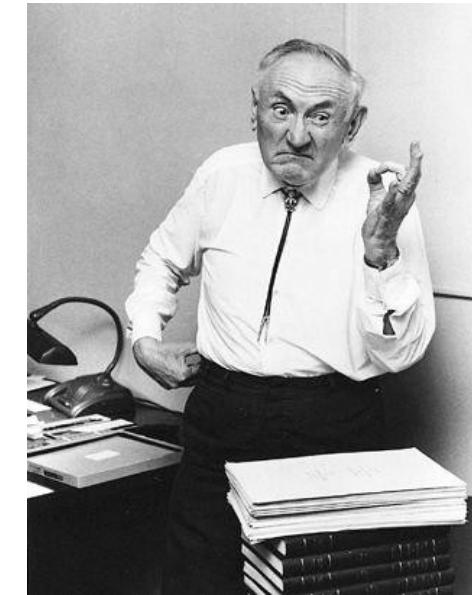
(16. II. 33.)

Helvetica Physica Acta  
6 (1933), 110

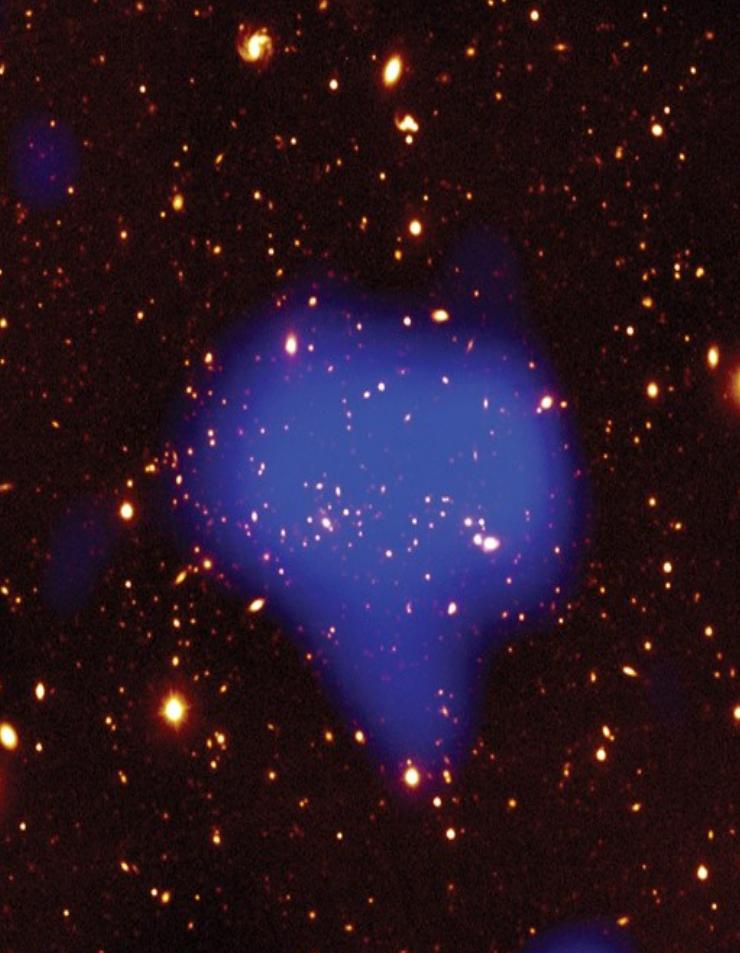
125

Um, wie beobachtet, einen mittleren Dopplereffekt von 1000 km/sec oder mehr zu erhalten, müsste also die mittlere Dichte im Comasystem mindestens 400 mal grösser sein als die auf Grund von Beobachtungen an leuchtender Materie abgeleitete<sup>1)</sup>. Falls sich dies bewahrheiten sollte, würde sich also das überraschende Resultat ergeben, dass dunkle Materie in sehr viel grösserer Dichte vorhanden ist als leuchtende Materie.

U. Oberlack



# X-Ray Observations of Galaxy Clusters



Baryonic matter in galaxy clusters is dominated by **X-ray emitting hot gas**. Temperature of the hot gas tells us the total cluster mass.

85% dark matter

13% hot gas

2% stars Zwicky knew  
only about this!

This results from the assumption that the observed clusters are virialized, i.e.,  
 $|E_{\text{pot}}| = 2 E_{\text{kin}}$

Kinetic energy = thermal energy

$$\frac{1}{2} \bar{m} \langle v^2 \rangle = \frac{3}{2} k T_{\text{virial}}$$

with avg. particle mass  $\bar{m} \approx 1.23 m_H$

Boltzmann constant:

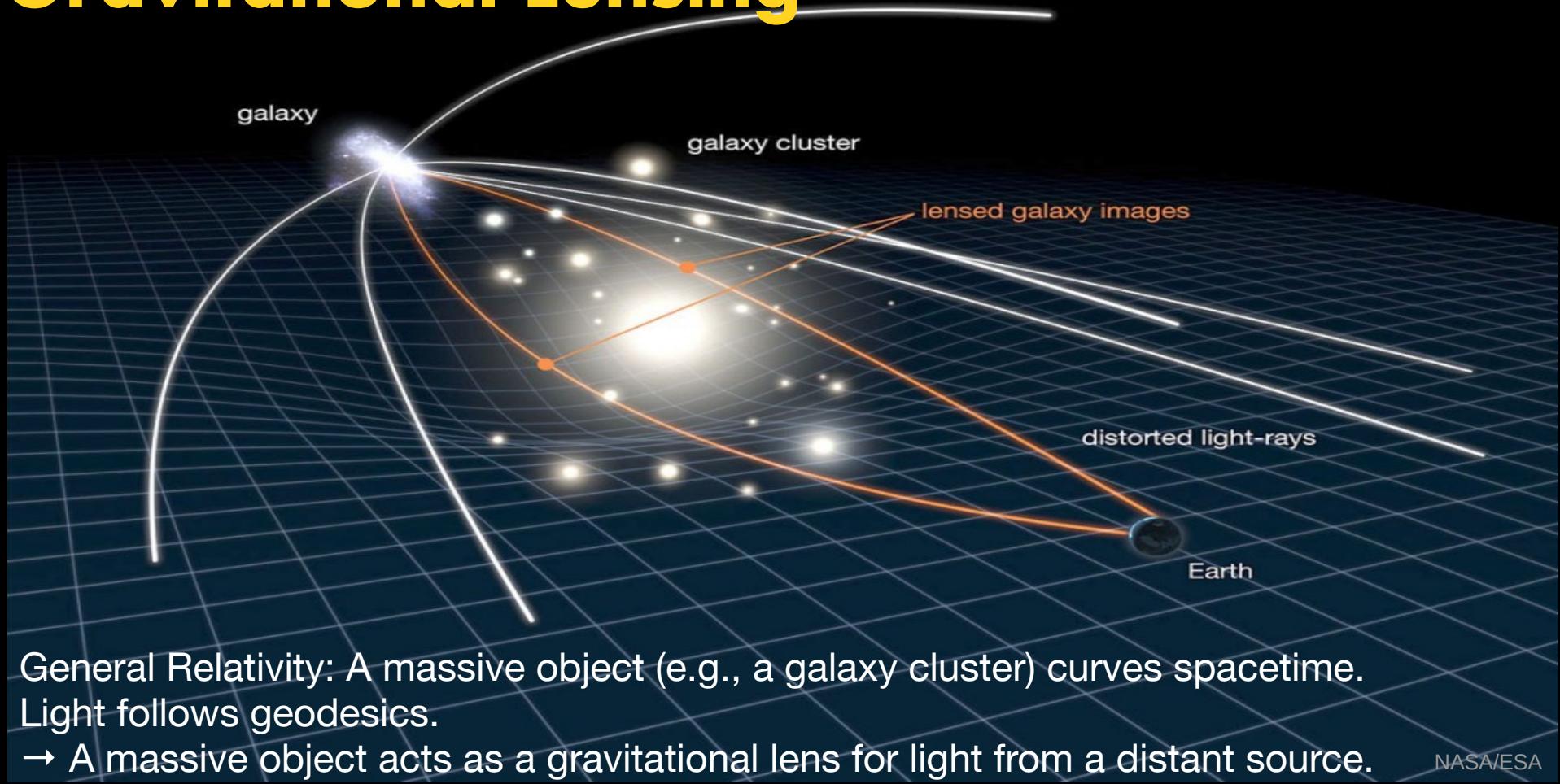
$$k = 1.38065 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J/K}$$

$\Rightarrow$  Velocity dispersion:  $\sigma = \sqrt{\langle v^2 \rangle}$

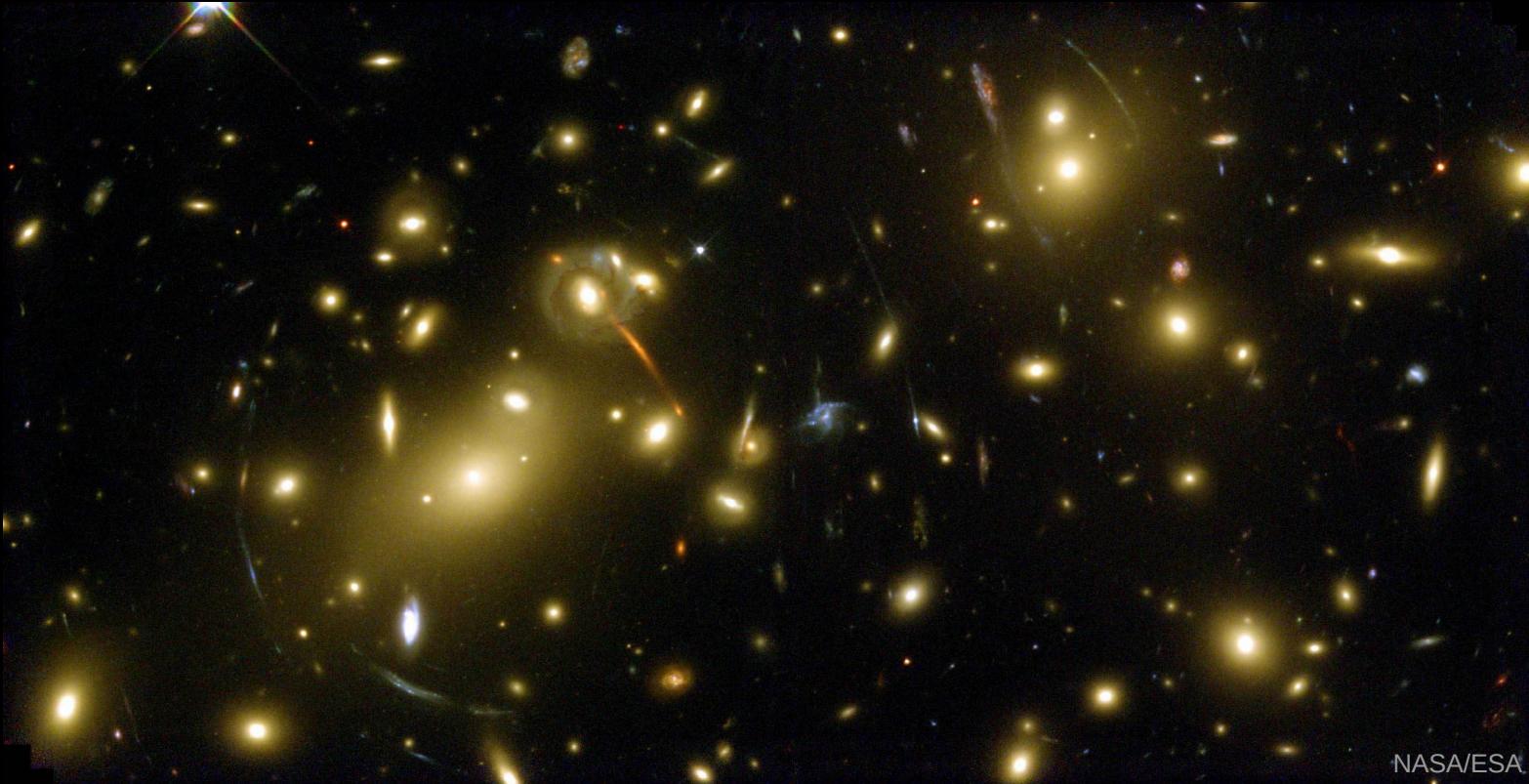
$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{3 k T}{\bar{m}}} \approx 1.4 \times 10^3 \text{ km s}^{-1} \sqrt{\frac{T}{10^8 \text{ K}}}$$

$$\sigma \sim 10^3 \text{ km s}^{-1}, T \sim (2-11) \times 10^7 \text{ K}$$

# Gravitational Lensing



# Gravitational Lensing: Strong Lensing

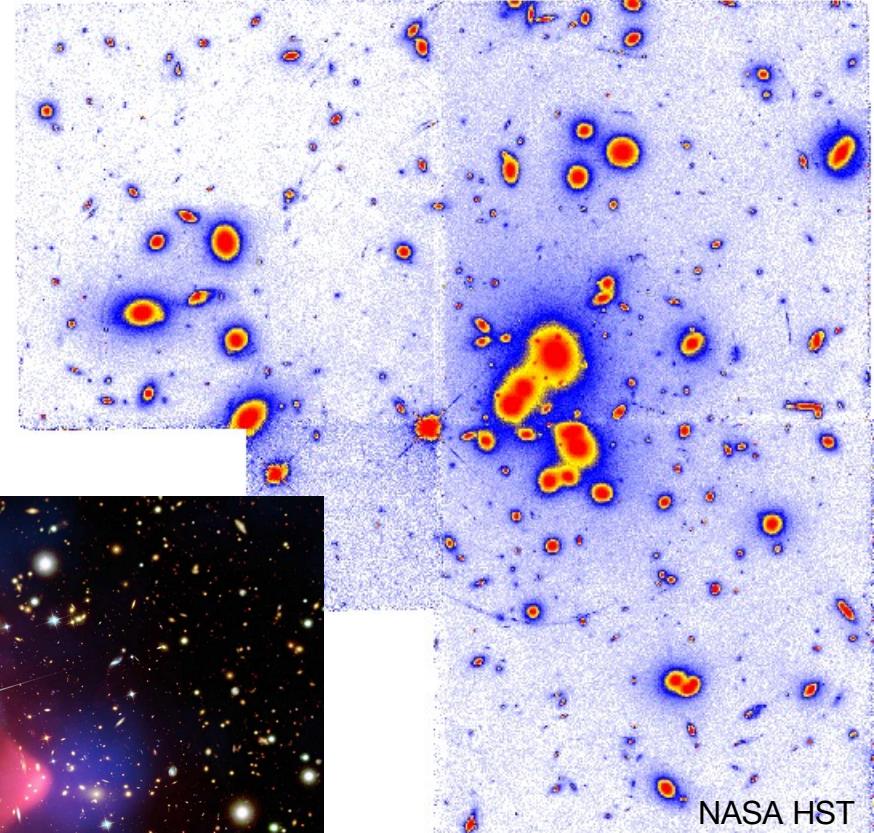
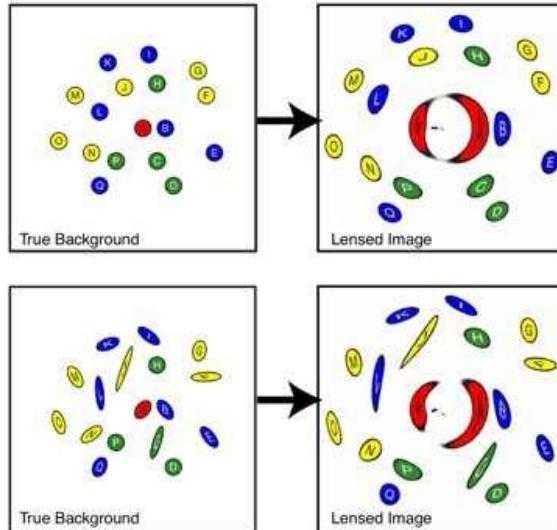


NASA/ESA

Gravitational lensing measures the total mass enclosed by the light rays, independent of the type of matter.

# Weak Lensing

- Line of sight near galaxy cluster:  
strong lensing (long arcs)
- Further out: weaker distortions, but more abundant. → weak lensing
- Measure **total** mass distribution in galaxy clusters

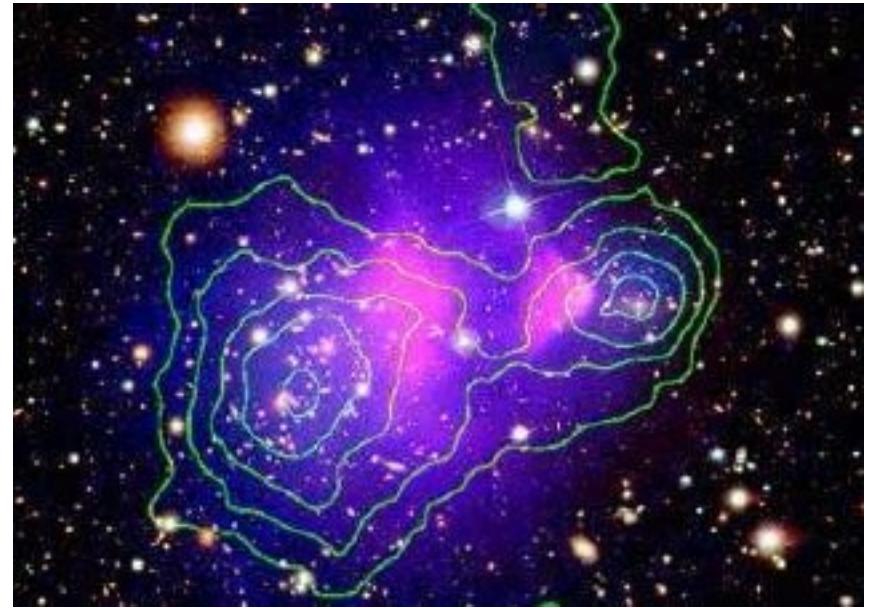


NASA HST

Bullet cluster  
pink: X-rays – hot gas  
blue: total mass  
distribution from  
weak lensing

# The Bullet Cluster

- “Bullet cluster” ( $z \sim 0.3$ ) is an ongoing merger of two galaxy clusters.
- Cores passed through each other  $\sim 100$  million years ago (recent!).
- **Weak lensing observations** (blue) trace the total mass distribution.
- Known property of clusters: bulk of regular (baryonic) matter consists of hot intracluster gas. Stars contribute just a little.
- **Chandra X-ray observations** (pink) trace hot intracluster gas, i.e., most baryons.
- Stars and Dark Matter are collisionless, whereas gas (plasma) experiences ram pressure.



D. Clowe et al., *Astrophys. J.* 648 (2006) L109

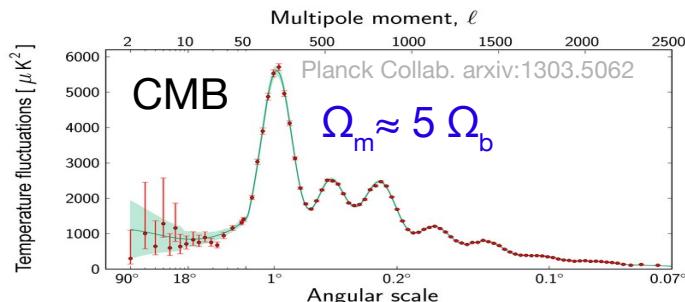
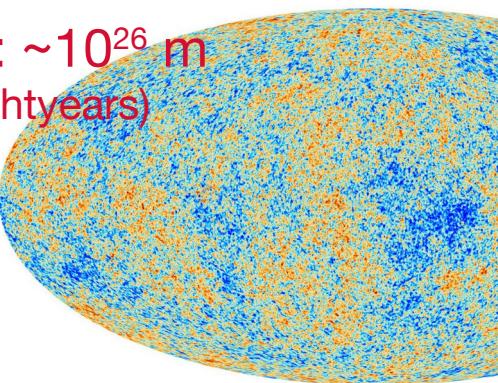
- Gas is offset with respect to total matter distribution.  
⇒ **Dark Matter!**  
... and not modified gravity.
- Mass of cluster  $>>$  Mass of gas
- Bulk of total mass offset with respect to bulk of baryonic matter.
- **But:** these systems are rare, dynamics complicated, possible counter example, etc.

# Evidence for Dark Matter from Cosmology

## Cosmic Microwave Background.

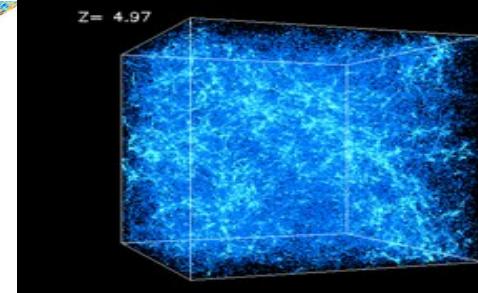
- Uniformity at age 380,000 yr.
- Flatness of the universe
- Baryon density, etc.

Scale:  $\sim 10^{26}$  m  
( $10^{10}$  lightyears)



## Supernovae as standard candles.

- Expansion history of the universe.



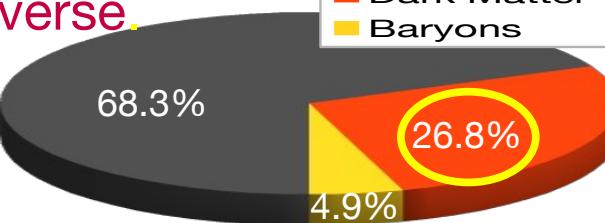
## Galaxy surveys (wide or deep) and Simulations of structure formation.

- Large scale structure.
- Early structure formation.

First stars. Quasars and galaxies.

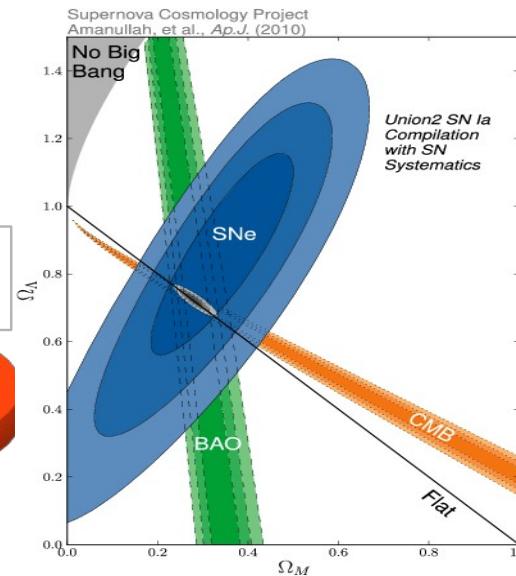
## Big Bang Nucleosynthesis and light element abundances observed in the early universe.

- Limit on baryon density, consistent with CMB.



## Baryon Acoustic Oscillations ...

- standard ruler



# Multipole Expansion of CMB WMAP after dipole subtraction

Expansion in spherical harmonics:

$$T(\vec{n}) = T_0 \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\ell}^{m=+\ell} a_{\ell m} Y_{\ell m}$$

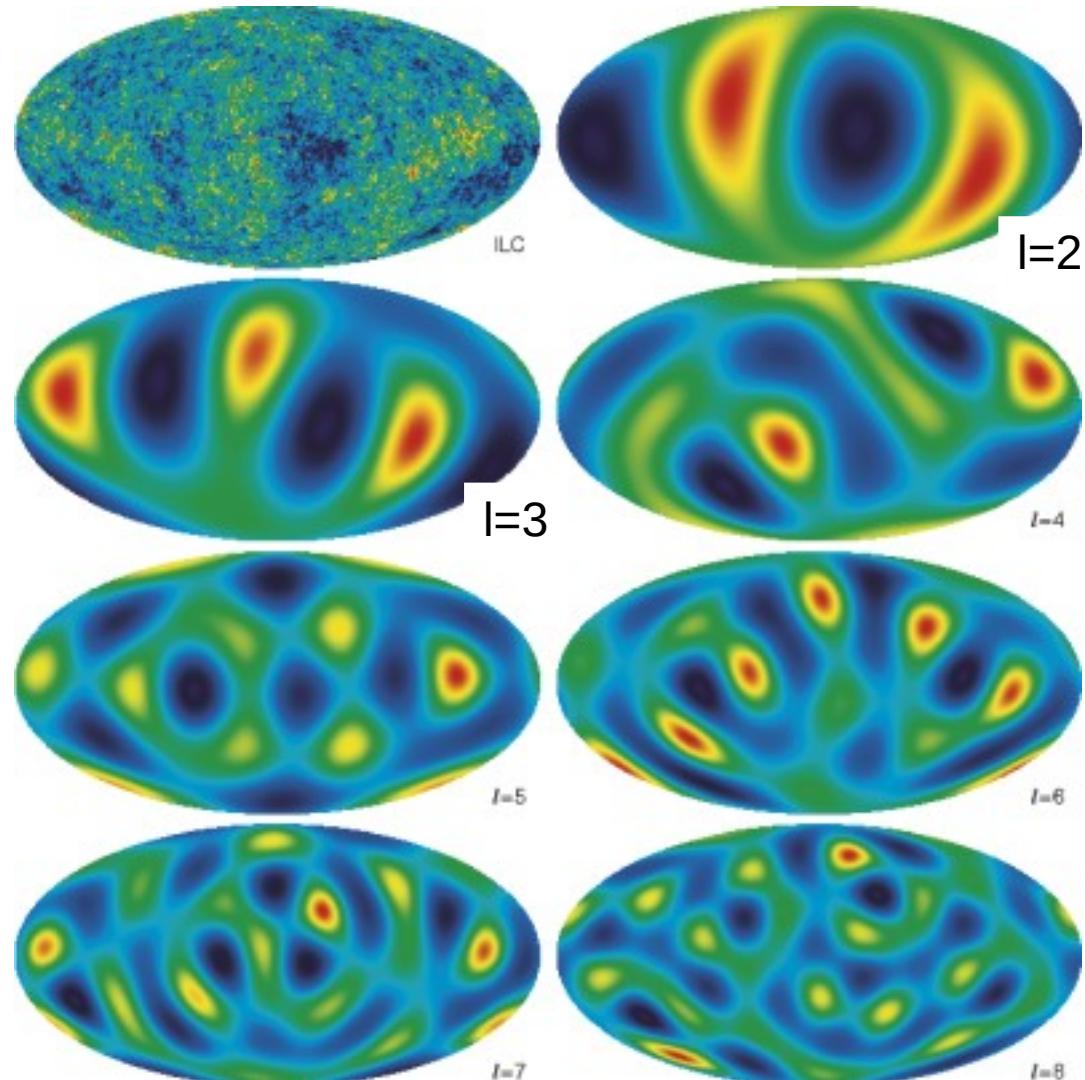
Pair correlation function:

$$C(\theta) = \left\langle \left( \frac{\Delta T(\vec{n})}{T_0} \right) \left( \frac{\Delta T(\vec{m})}{T_0} \right) \right\rangle$$

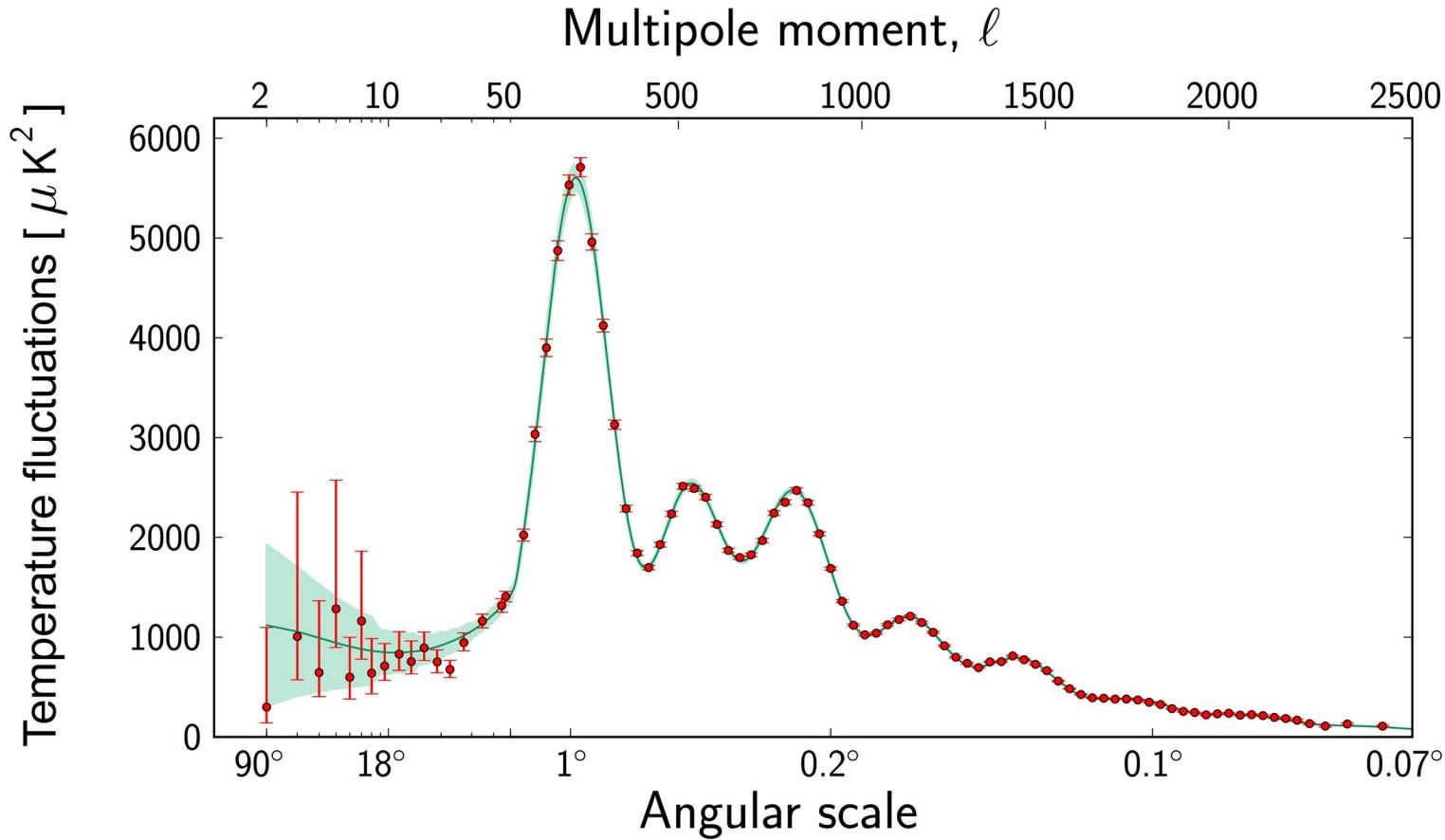
$$C(\theta) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \sum_{\ell} (2\ell + 1) C_{\ell} P_{\ell}(\cos \theta)$$

$$C_{\ell} = \frac{1}{2\ell + 1} \sum_{m=-\ell}^{\ell} |a_{\ell m}|^2$$

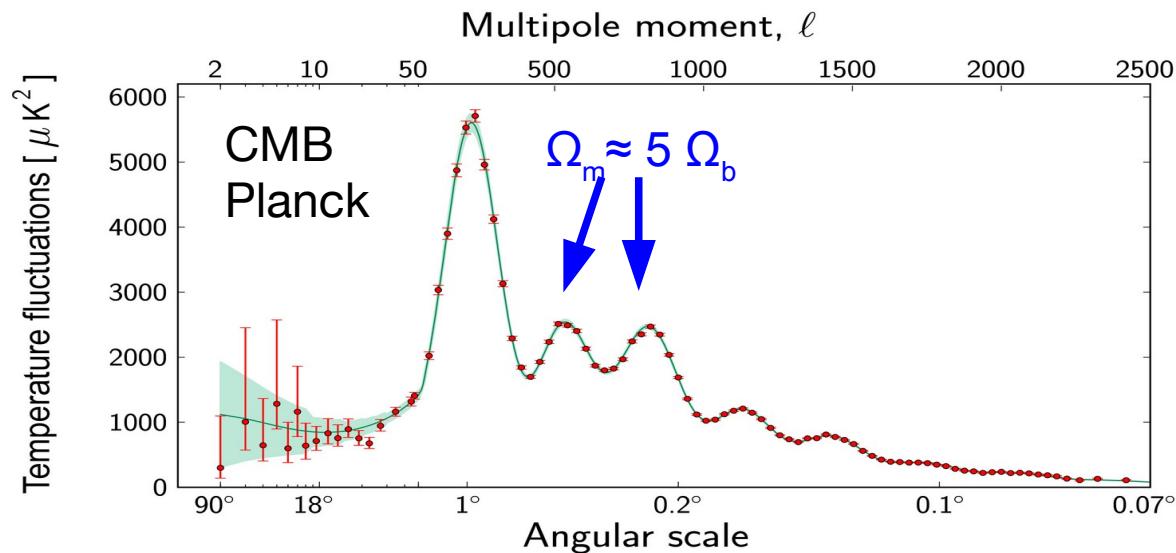
$$(\Delta T)^2 = l(l+1) \frac{C_l}{2\pi}$$



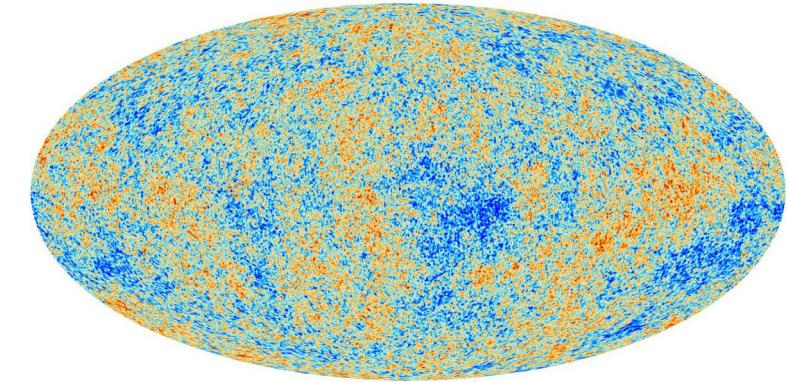
# CMB as seen by Planck: Power Spectra



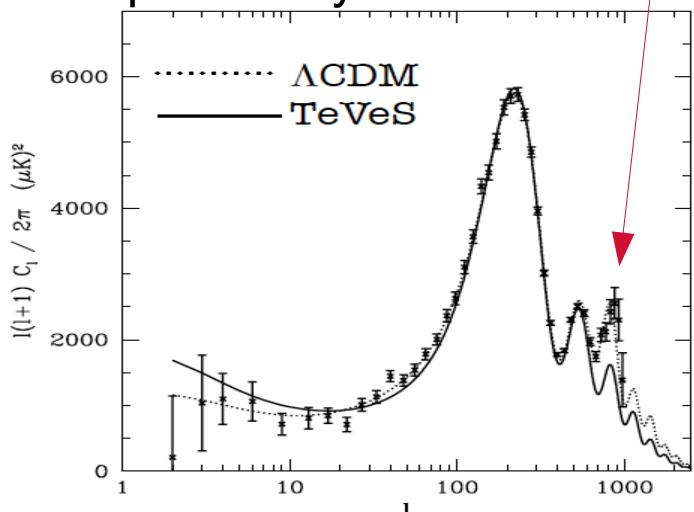
# Non-baryonic Dark Matter or Alternative Theories of Gravity?



- Relative strength of acoustic peaks provides  $\Omega_m$  and  $\Omega_b$  independently.
- One can also test for alternative theories of gravitation (e.g., TeVeS): no alternative theory can do without Dark Matter.

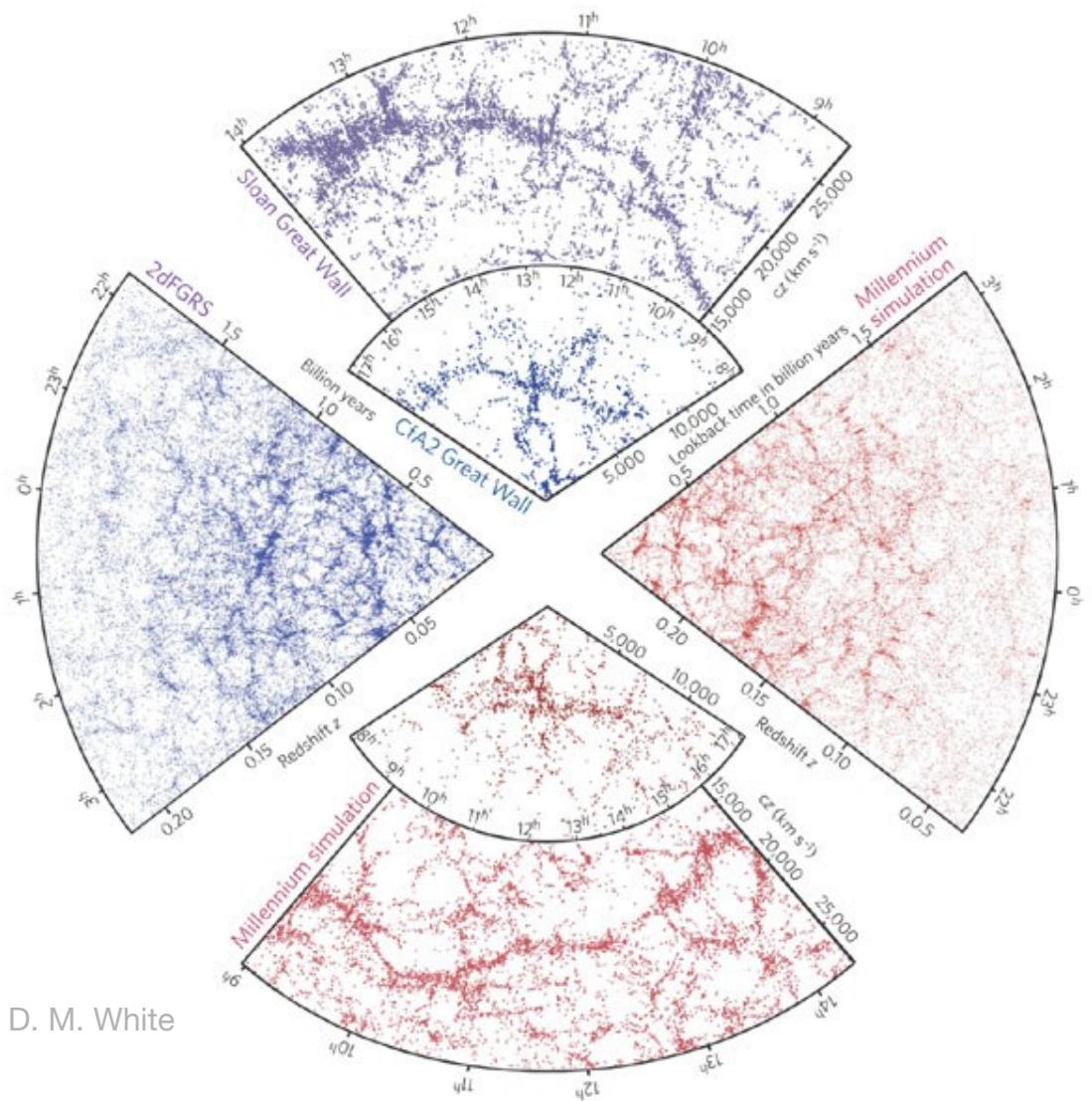


3<sup>rd</sup> peak only with Dark Matter



→ Dark Matter is non-baryonic.

# Cold Dark Matter Structure Formation

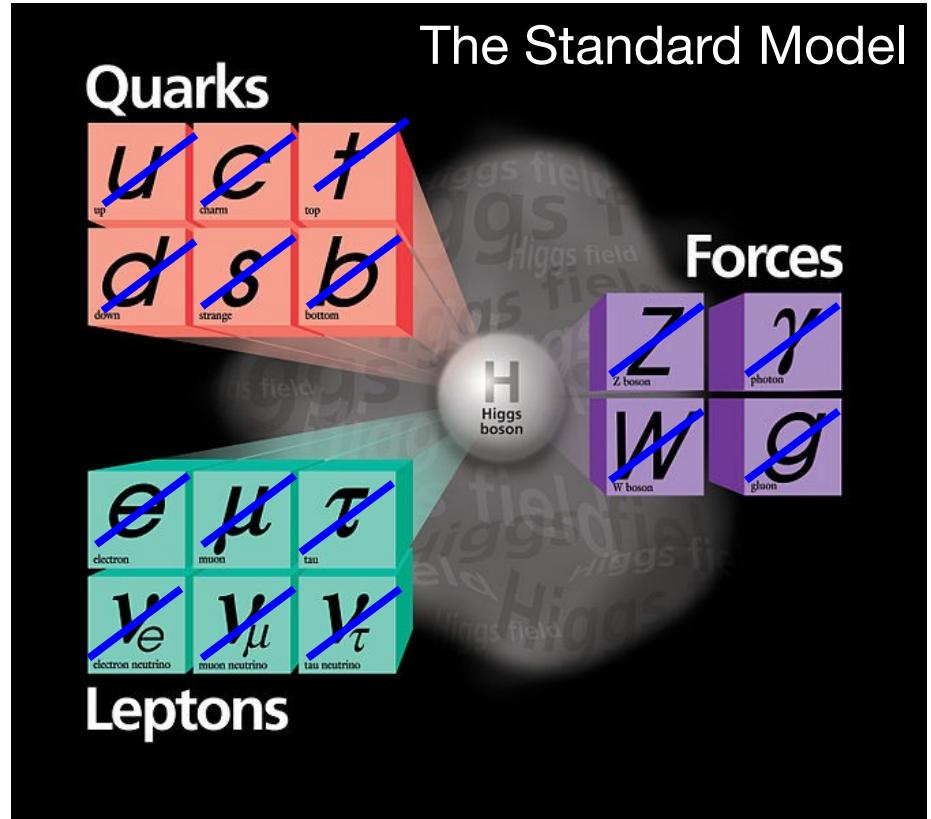


V. Springel, C. S. Frenk, S. D. M. White  
Nature 440, 1137 (2006)

→ Dark Matter is non-relativistic:  
cold, or at least not hot.

# What do we know about Dark Matter?

- Gravitationally interacting
  - ▶ How we know about Dark Matter
- Stable or long-lived
  - ▶  $\Omega_{\text{DM}} = 0.27$
- Electrically neutral
  - ▶ Dark Matter
- Non-baryonic
  - ▶ does not couple with plasma
  - ▶ CMB, Big Bang nucleosynthesis
- Cold or warm - not hot (relativistic)
  - ▶ Structure formation, CMB
- Constraints from
  - ▶ accelerator searches
  - ▶ direct searches
  - ▶ indirect searches

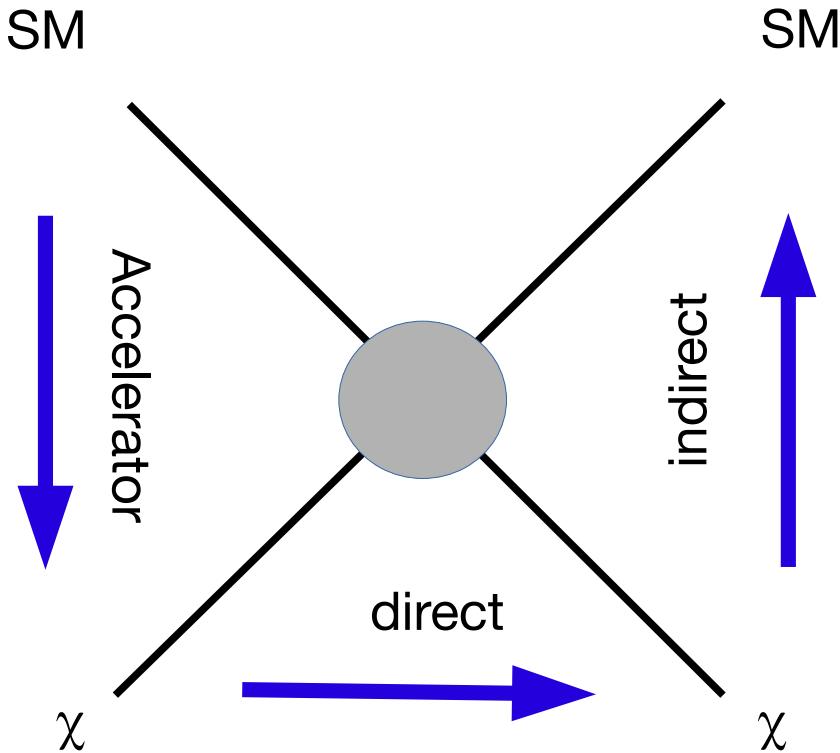


**Dark Matter requires physics beyond the Standard Model!**

# Dark Matter Candidates

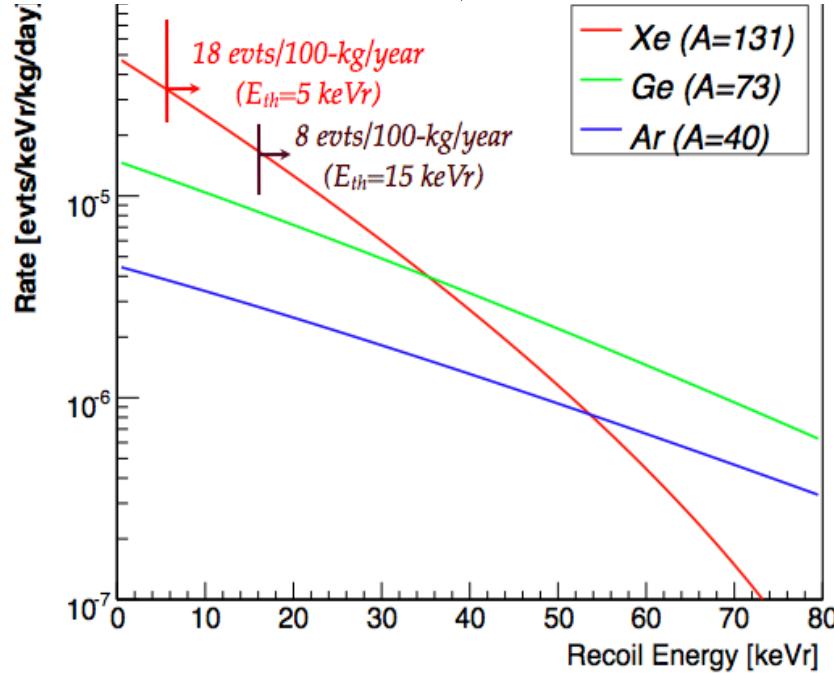
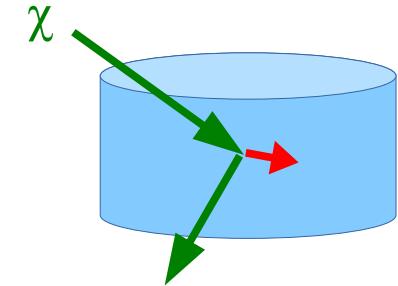


# Searching in all directions: Direct Searches, Indirect Searches, Searches at Accelerators



# WIMP Dark Matter Direct Detection

- Elastic scattering of WIMPs  $\chi$  off nuclei A.
  - **nuclear recoil**
  - spin-independent ( $\sim A^2$ ) or spin-dependent? (... EFT op's)
- Mass range
  - $m_\chi \sim 10 - \text{few } 10^3 \text{ GeV}/c^2$  ("traditional")
  - $< 1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$  to  $10^4 \text{ GeV}/c^2$  (extended)
- Energy spectrum:
  - "Standard" spherical halo
  - DM relative velocity:  $v_\chi \sim 230 \text{ km/s}$ 
    - exponential recoil spectrum
    - $\langle E \rangle \sim O(10 \text{ keV})$
  - large nuclei: coherence  $\sim A^2$  for small  $q$
  - nuclear form factor reduction at higher  $q$
- Local number density of WIMPs:  $\rho_\chi/m_\chi$ 
  - $\rho_\chi \sim 0.3 \text{ GeV}/c^2/\text{cm}^3$
  - $\rho_\chi/m_\chi \sim 100 / L * (30 \text{ GeV}/c^2/m_\chi)$



Rate  $< 10^{-4}$  events / kg / day

# Backgrounds in Direct DM Search

Cross-sections are *very* small:  $< 10^{-46} \text{ cm}^2$  (spin-independent).

Without background, sensitivity  $\propto (\text{mass} \times \text{exposure time})^{-1}$

With background subtraction  $\propto (M t)^{-1/2}$  until limited by systematics.

## Backgrounds by origin:

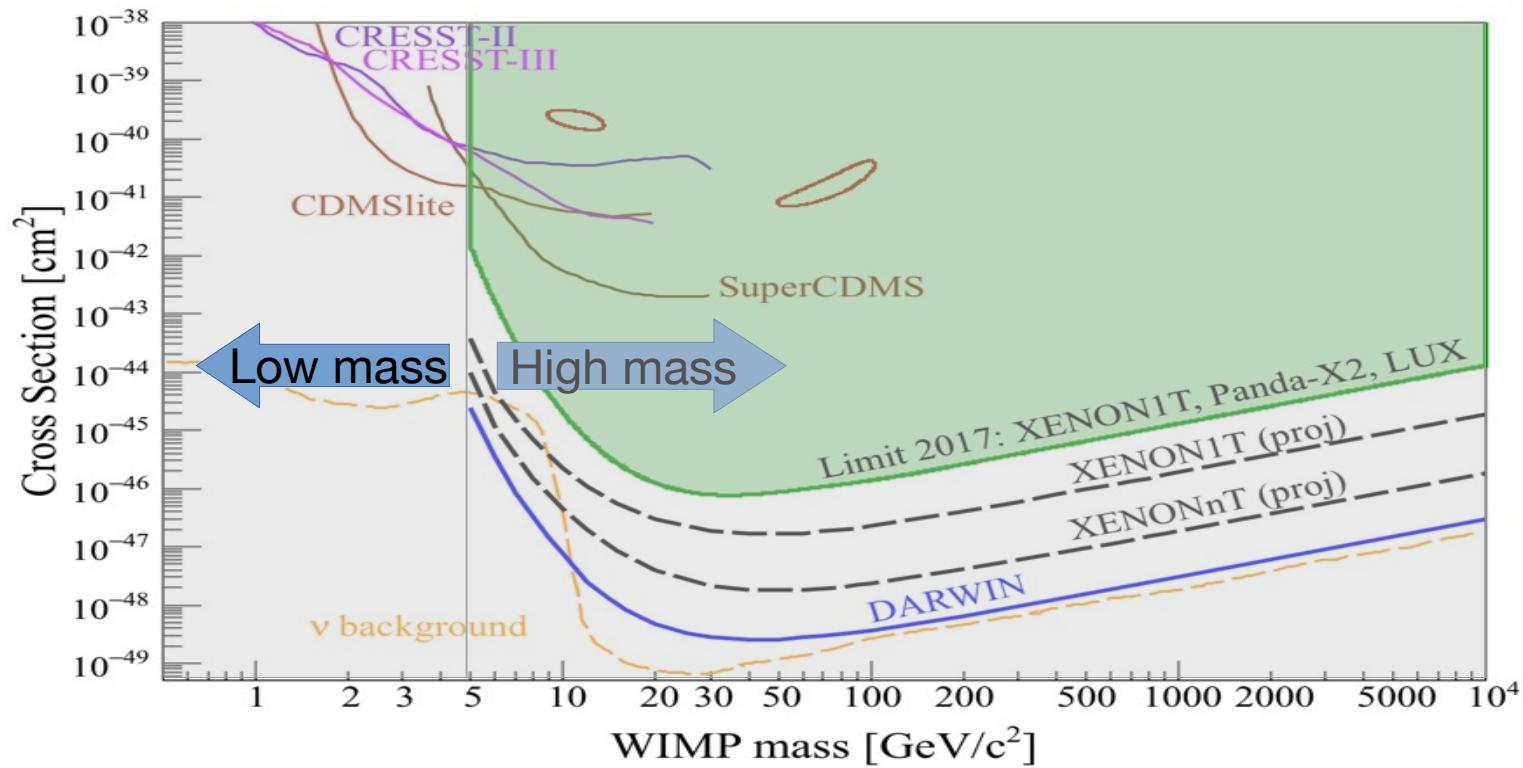
- external
  - ▶ cosmic → depth, veto
  - ▶ radiogenic → shielding, self-shielding, veto, material selection
- surface → localization, veto
- internal → minimize!

→ discrimination

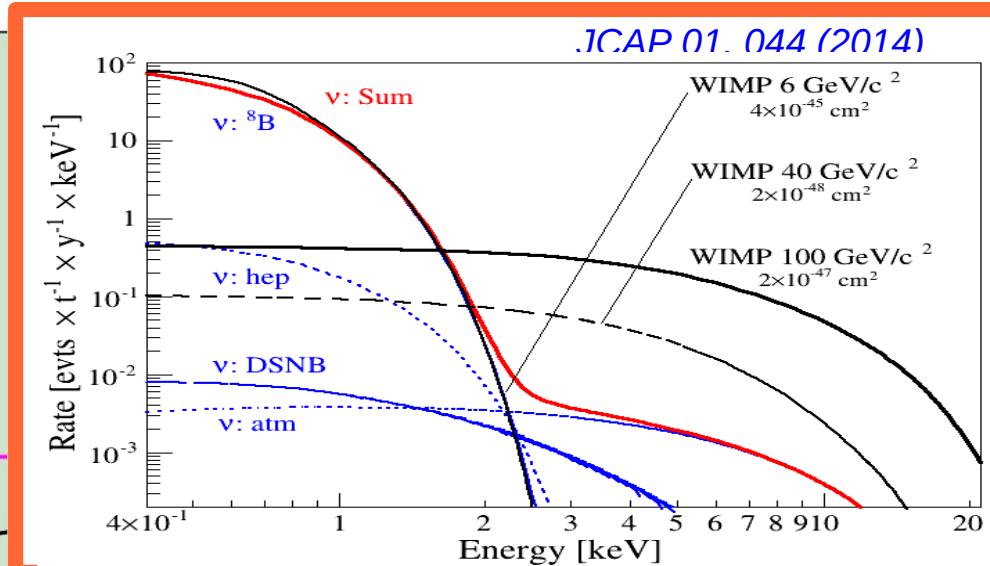
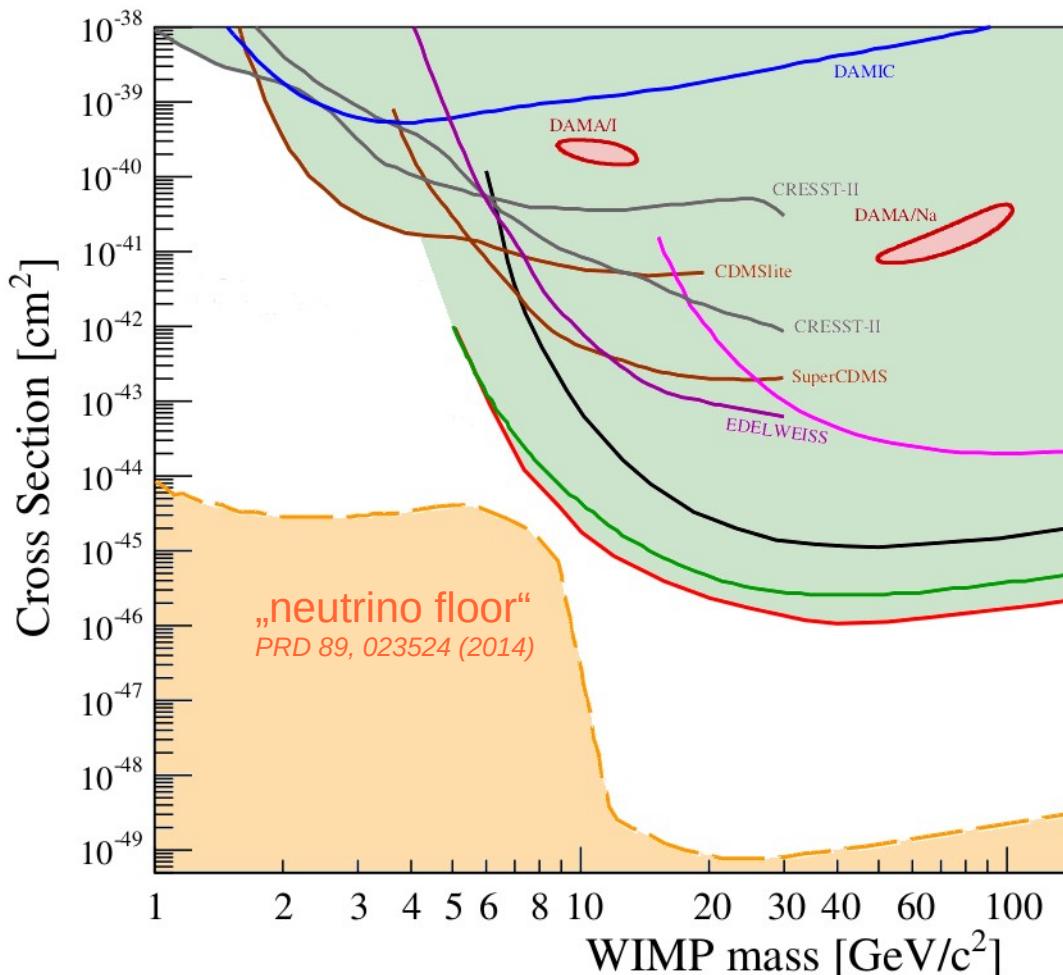
## Backgrounds by radiation type:

- gamma rays: long range
- beta decays
- $\alpha$  decays from natural decay chains + nuclear recoils
- neutrons from ( $\alpha$ , n) reactions and spontaneous fission (up to  $\sim 10 \text{ MeV}$ )
- neutrons from cosmic ray muons  $> \sim 100 \text{ MeV}$
- neutrinos!

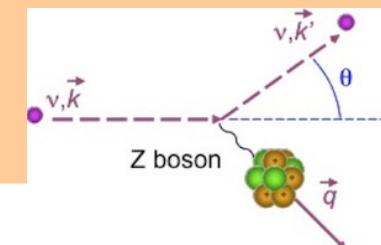
# Dark Matter Searches: Status



# Neutrino Floor: Nuclear Recoils from Solar, Supernova, and Atmospheric $\nu$ 's

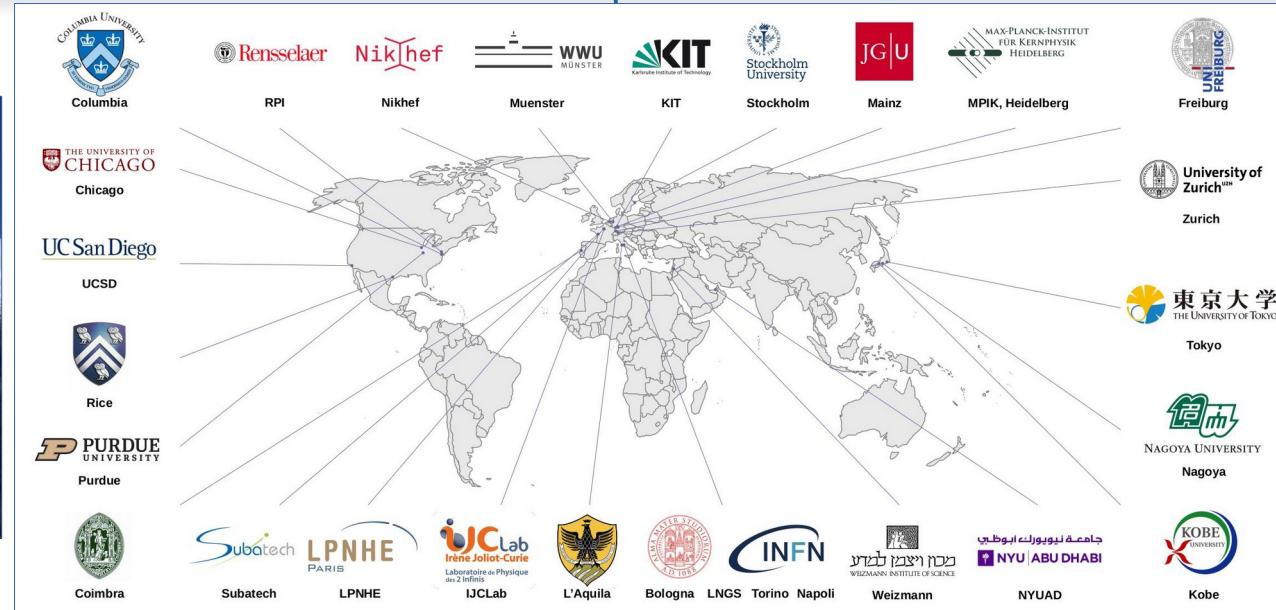


Interactions from coherent neutrino-nucleus scattering (CNNS) will dominate  
**→ ultimate background** for direct detection





# The XENON Experiment at LNGS



- ~170 scientists
- ~29 institutions

# Water tank, Support structure Experiment building



Kr distillation  
column & Xe  
analytics



# The Time Projection Chamber (LXe TPC)



127 Top  
PMTs



>90% transparent  
grid + mesh  
electrodes

121 Bottom  
PMTs



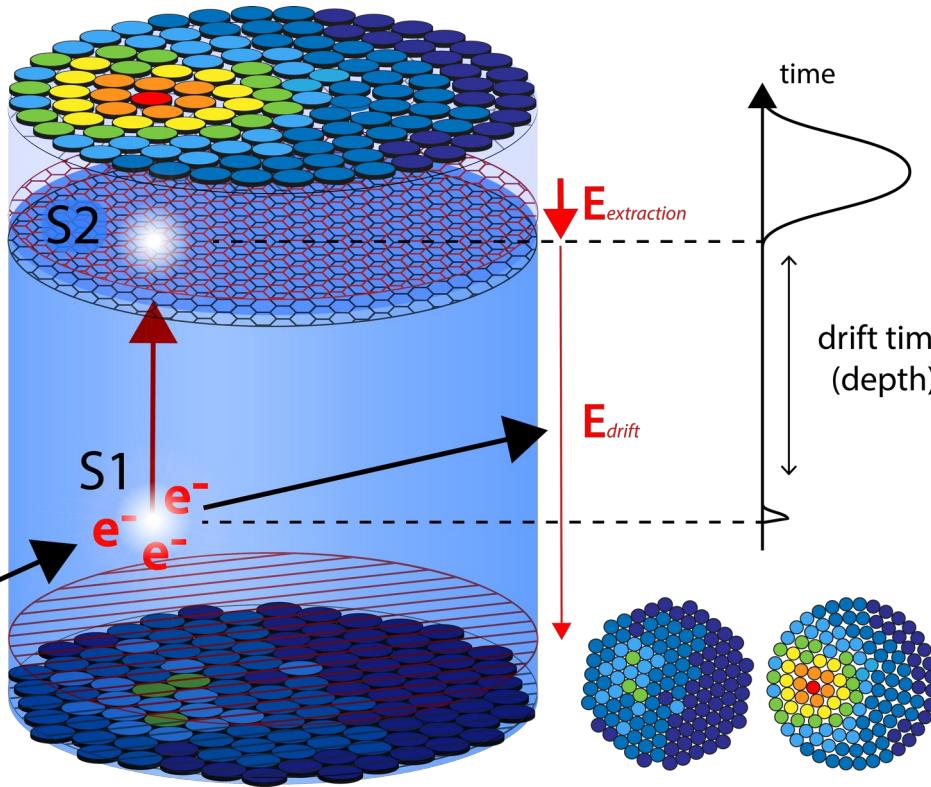


# Dual Phase TPC – Time Projection Chamber

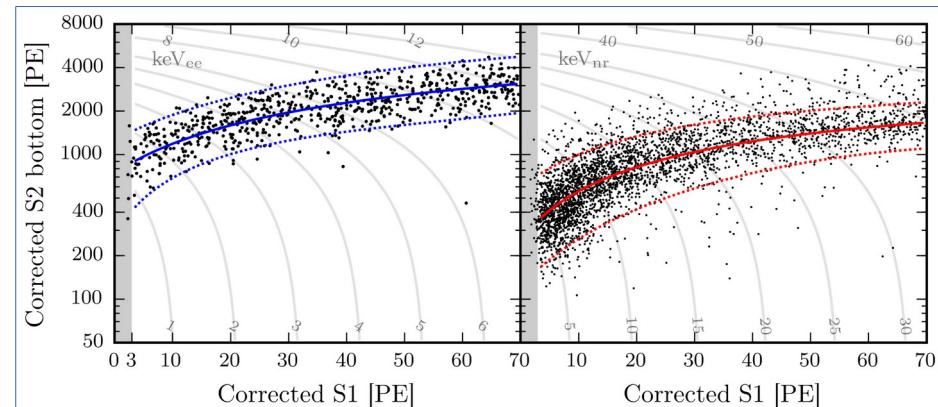
GXe

LXe

particle



- Prompt scintillation photons give first signal (**S1**)
- Ionized  $e^-$  drift up to the anode and amplified, giving **S2**
- Time difference gives **Z** position
- **S2** Hit pattern on top gives **XY** position
- Ratio  $S2/S1$  indicates type of interaction

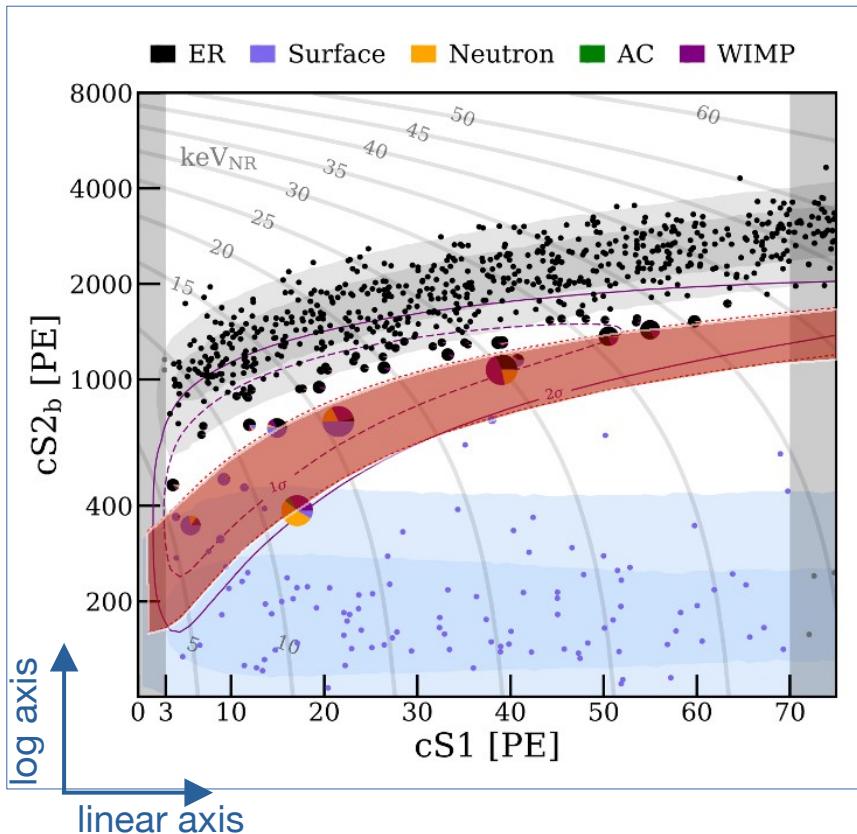


ER:  $\gamma$ ,  $\beta$

NR:  $n$ ,  $\chi$

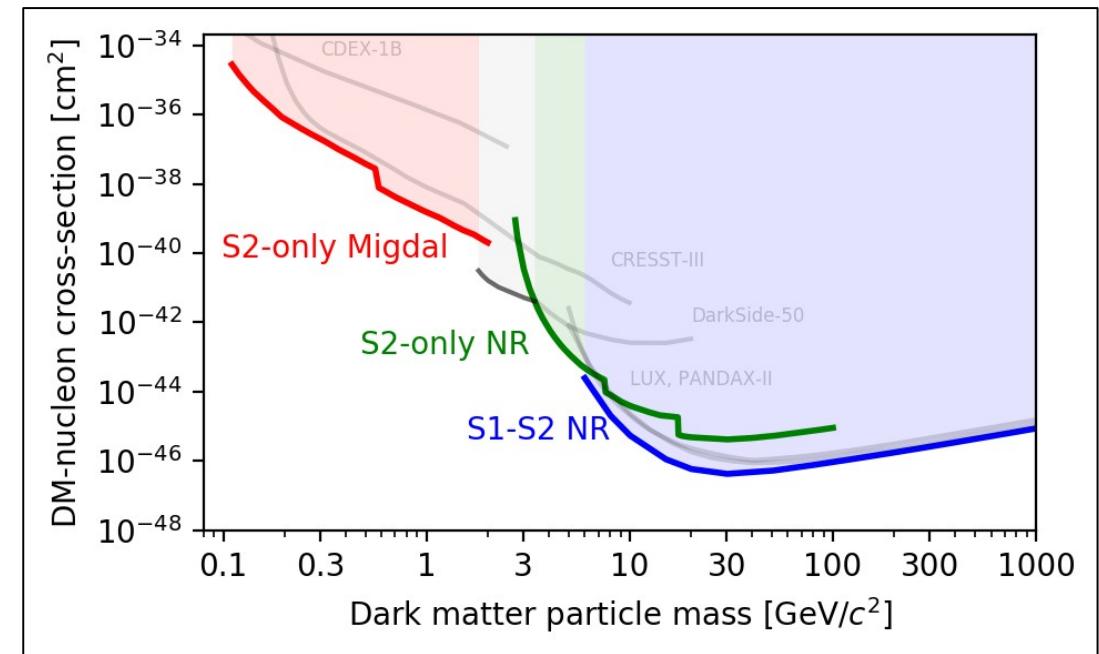


# Nuclear Recoil Searches



ER “leakage” in the NR band < 0.3 %

Best constraints on WIMP dark matter  
with masses > 3 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>



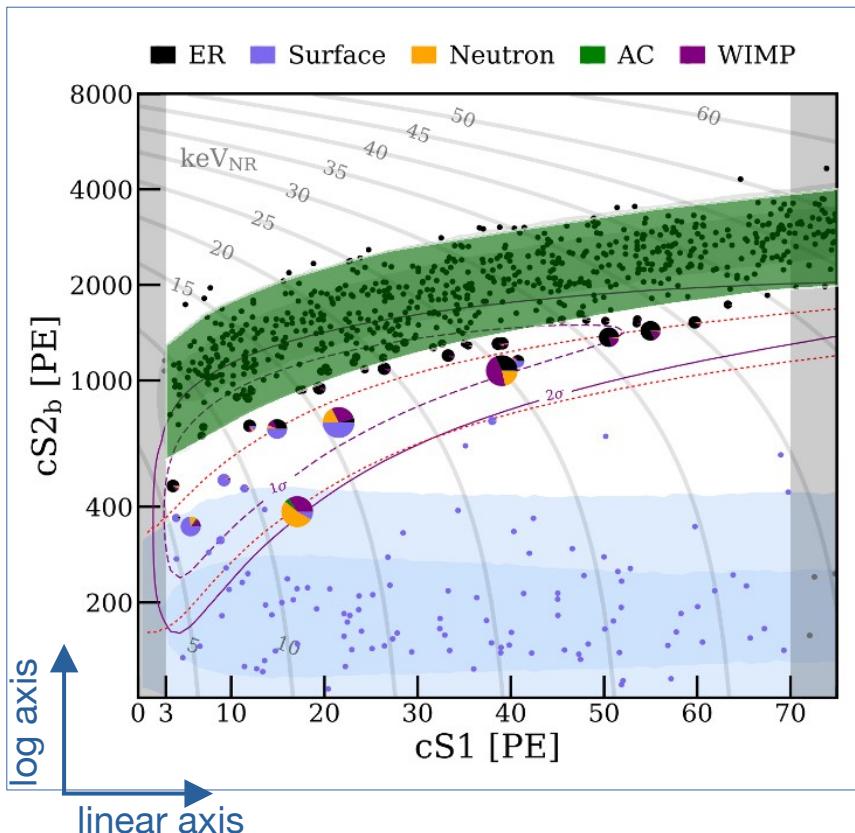
PRL 123, 241803 - Migdal effect

PRL 123, 251801 - Light dark matter

PRL 121, 111302 - Main WIMP search



# Electronic Recoil Search

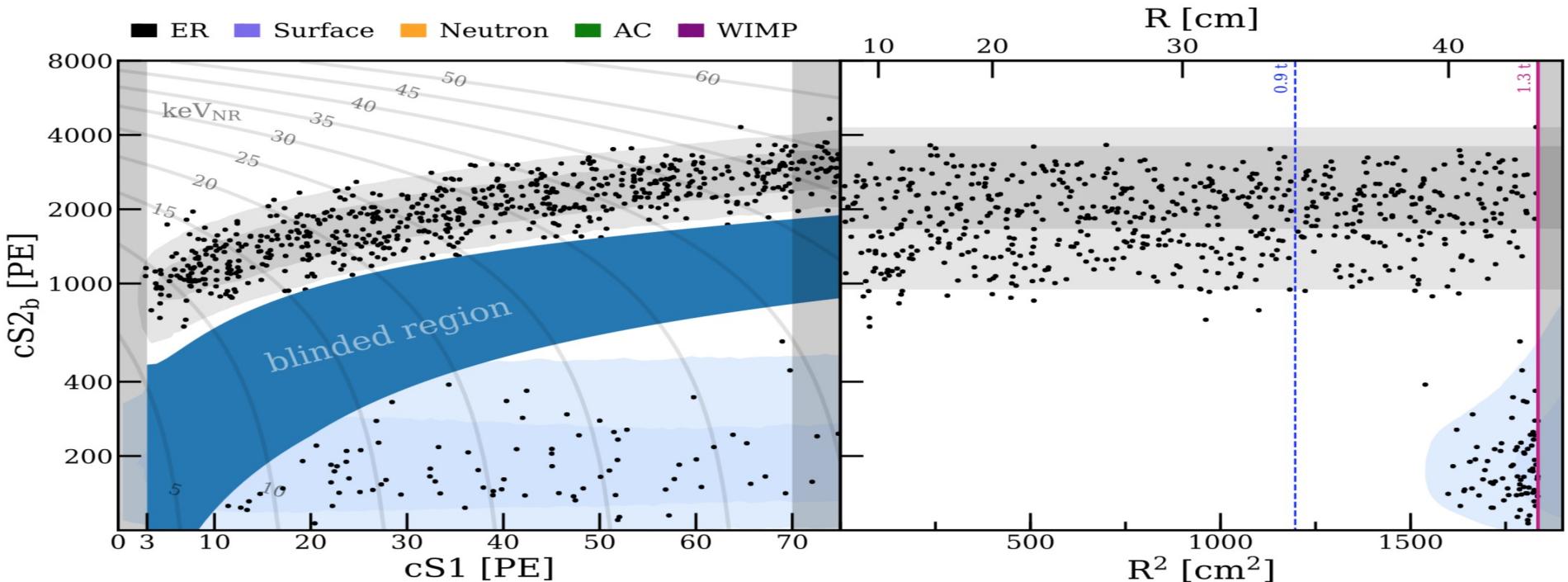


- **ER band** search for excess above known, flat-like backgrounds
- A “dedicated” Dark Matter experiment can do much more!

arxiv:2006.09721

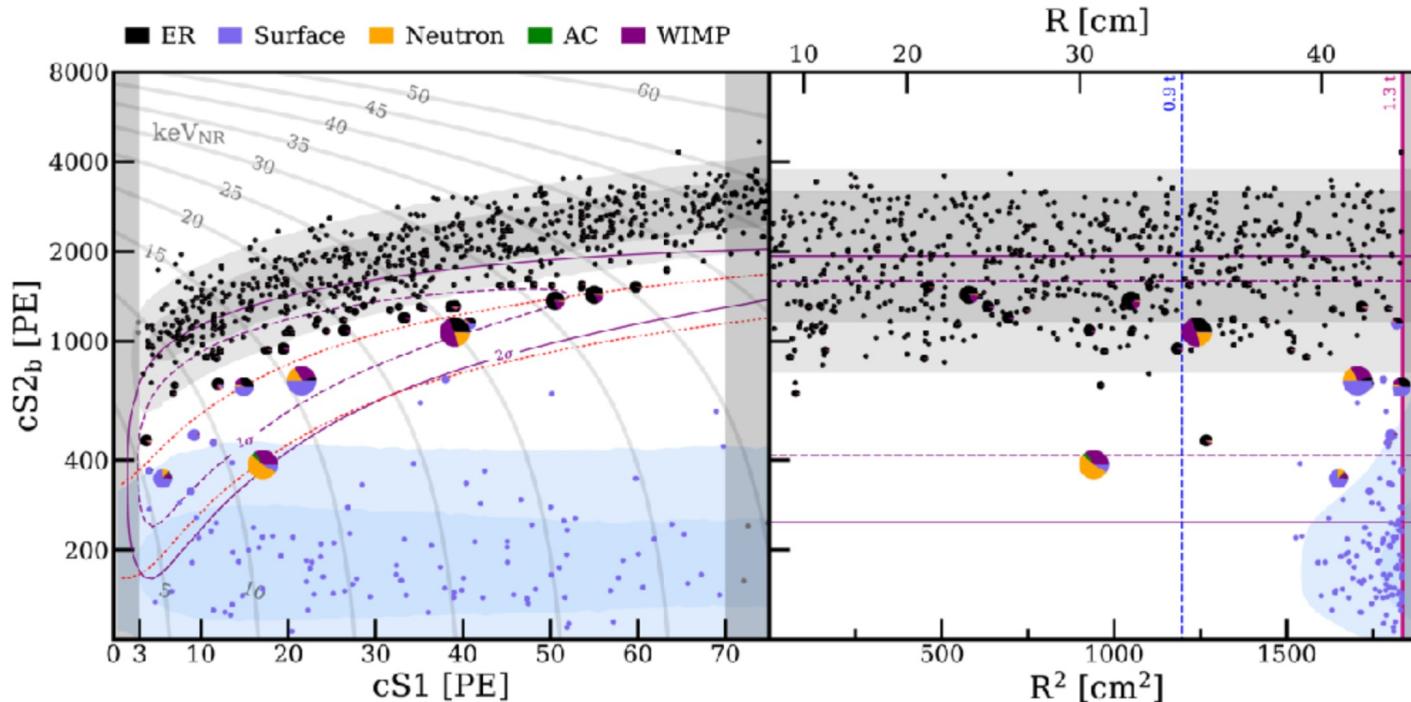
# XENON1T Dark Matter Search

- Blinding: to avoid potential bias in event selection and the signal/background modeling the nuclear recoil ROI ( $S_2$  vs  $S_1$  only) was blinded from the start of SR1 analysis (and SR0 re-analysis).
- Salting: to protect against post-unblinding tuning of cuts and background models, an undisclosed number and type of event was added to data



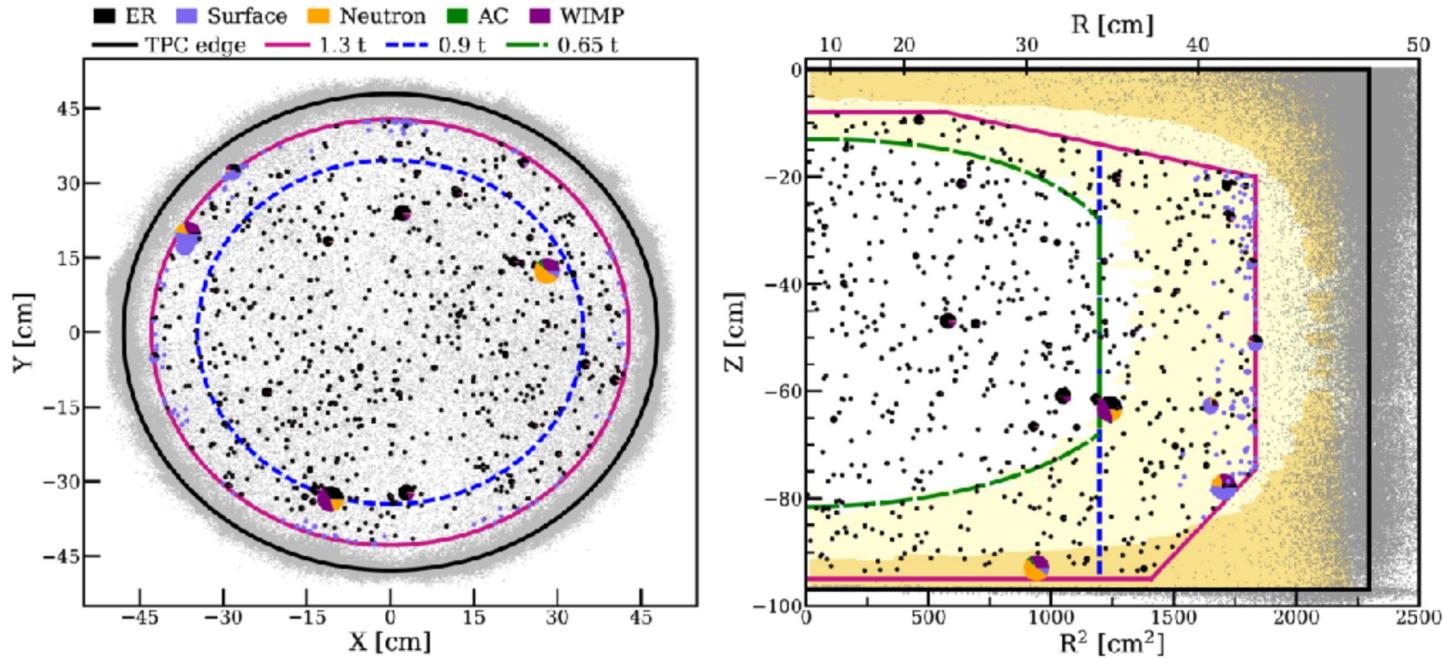
# XENON1T Result from 1 ton x year exposure

- Results interpreted with unbinned profile likelihood analysis in  $cs_1$ ,  $cs_2$ ,  $r$  space
- piechart indicate the relative PDF from the best fit of **200 GeV/c<sup>2</sup> WIMPs** with a cross-section of  $4.7 \times 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2$



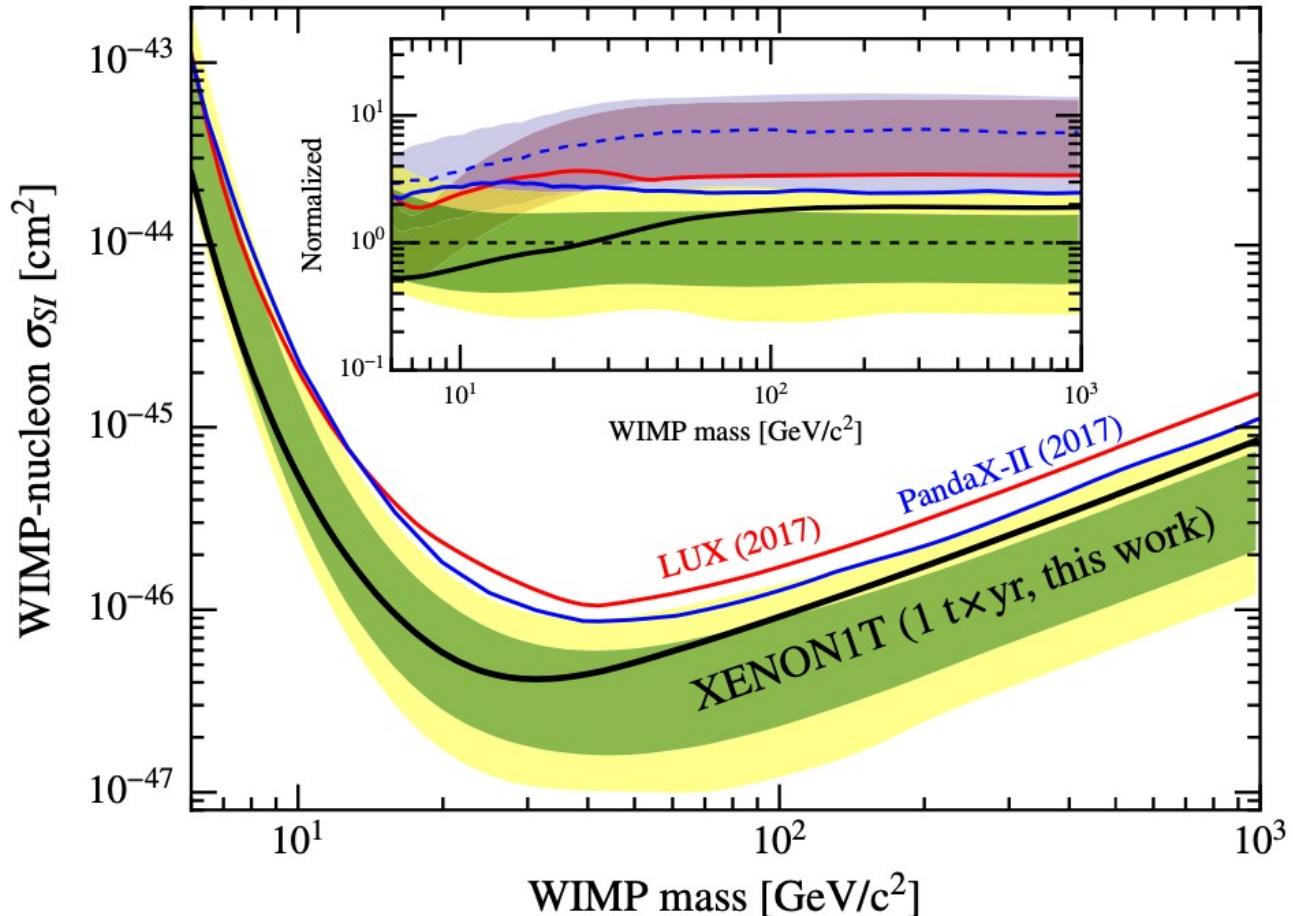
# Spatial Distribution of DM Search Data

- Results interpreted with unbinned profile likelihood analysis in cS1, cS2, r space
- **Core volume** to distinguish WIMPs over neutron background



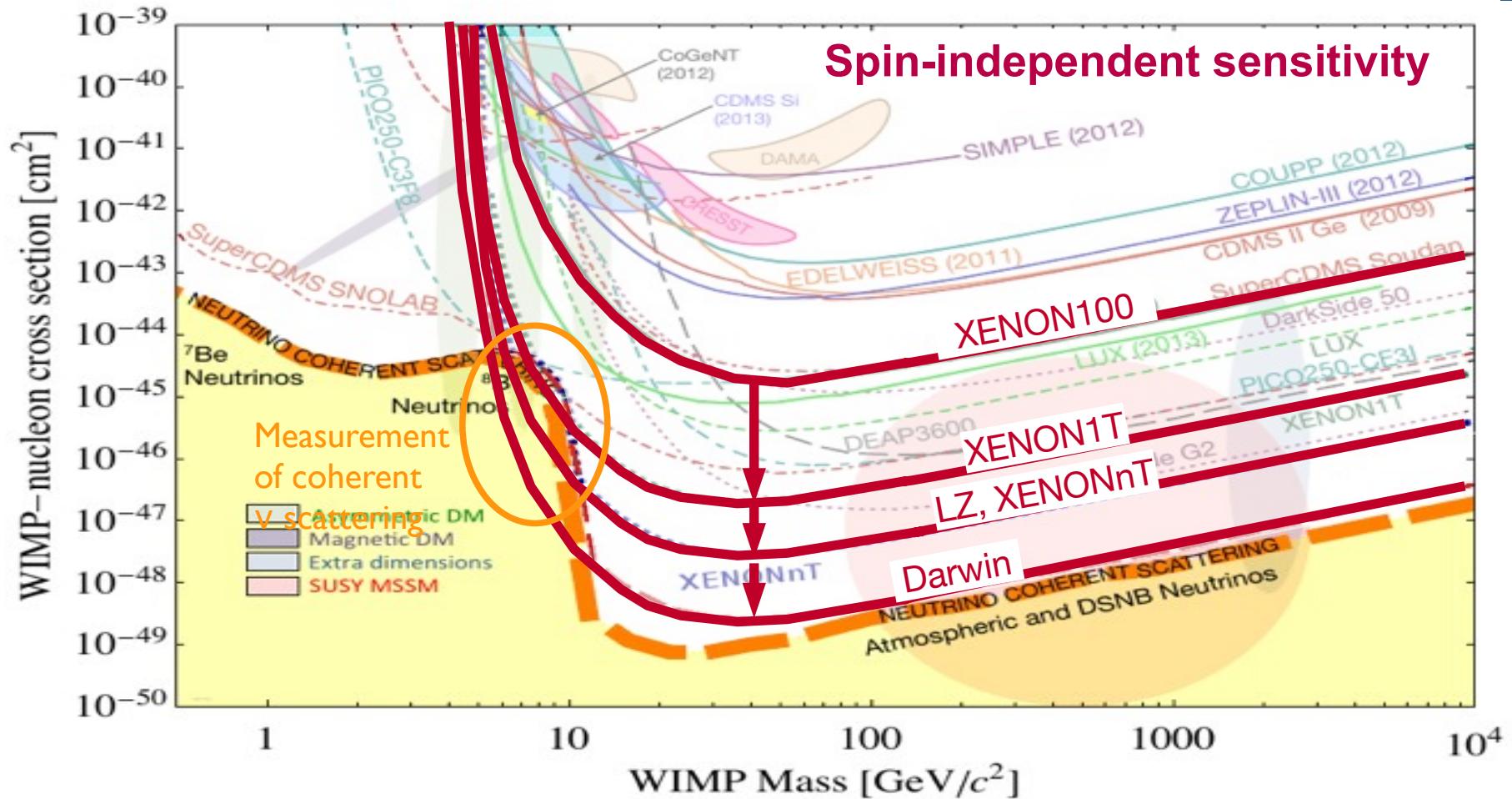
# XENON1T DM Search Result (2018)

Phys. Rev. Lett 121, 111302





# Current Status and Future Goals



# Conclusions

- Important question
- Exciting Progress
- We are still looking!
- Time for input from theory?

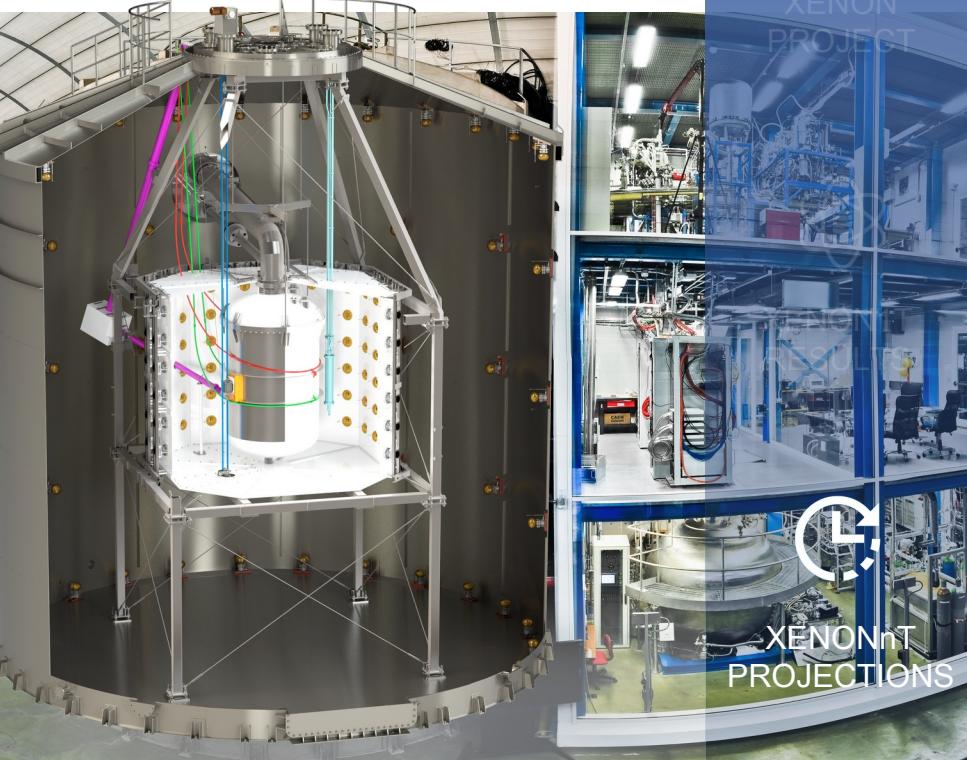
# Backup Slides



XENON1T @ LNGS (Hall B)



INFN



XENONnT @ LNGS (Hall B)



XENON  
PROJECT

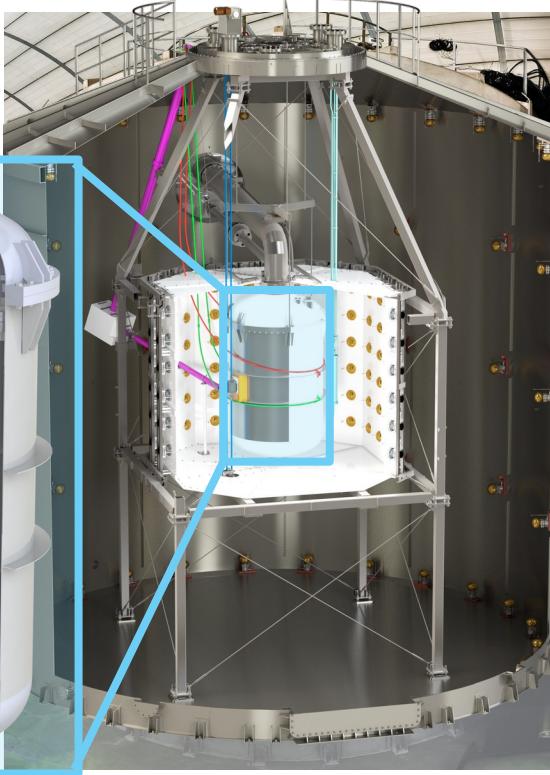


## ▲ Size

## NEW LARGER TPC

x3 LXe target mass: 2.0 t → 5.9 t

- 8.6 t total LXe in the system
- x2 PMTs: 248 → 494
- 1.5 m drift length



XENONnT @ LNGS (Hall B)

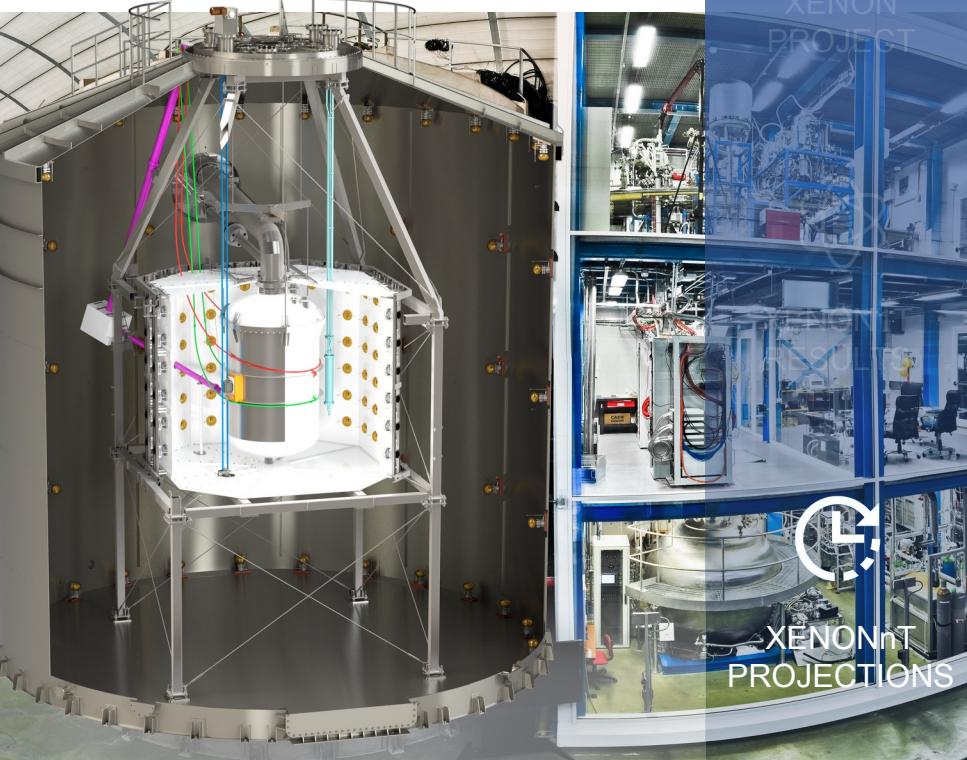
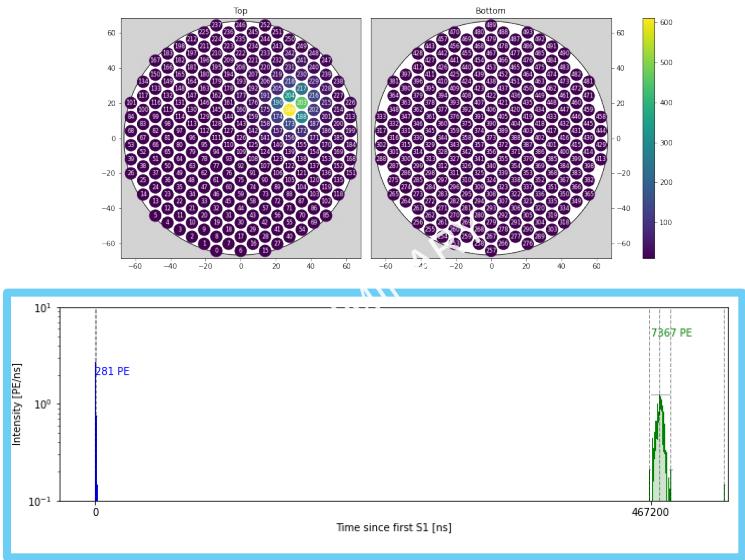




▲ Size

## NEW LARGER TPC

Under commissioning ...



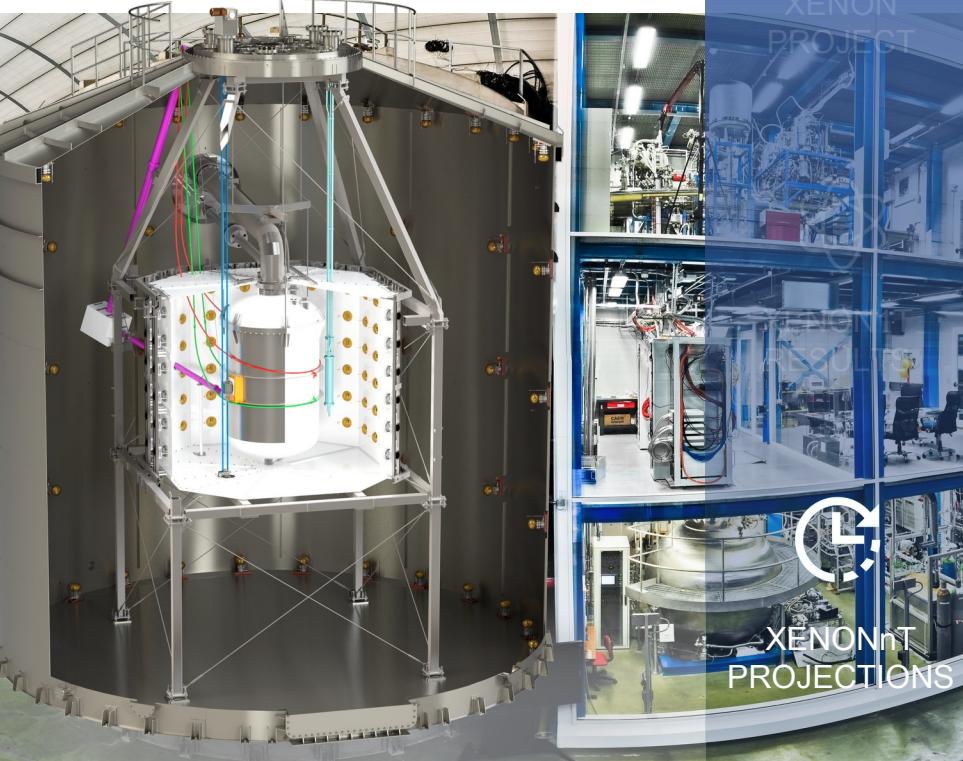
XENONnT @ LNGS (Hall B)

▼ NR  
bkg

## NEW NEUTRON VETO DETECTOR

Neutron background suppression

- Gd-doped water Cherenkov detector
- 120 PMTs, highly reflective
- 87% neutron tagging efficiency (expected)

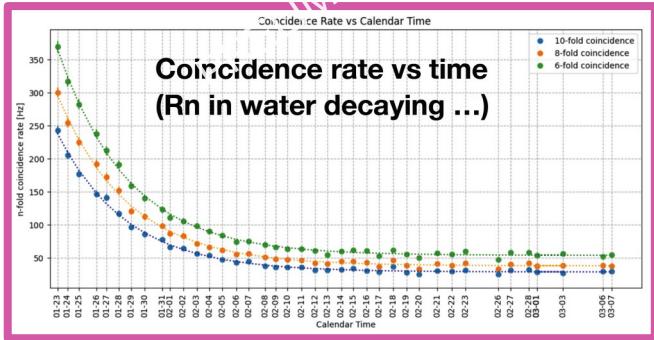
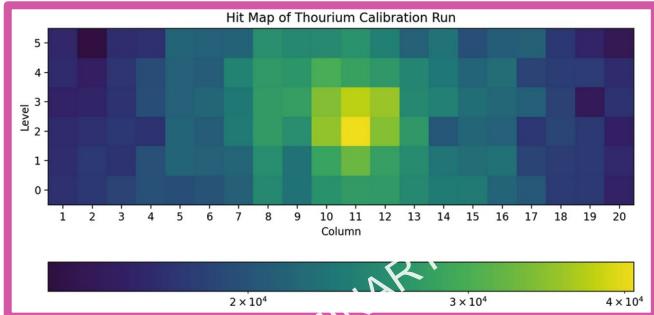


XENONnT @ LNGS (Hall B)

▼ NR  
bkg

## NEW NEUTRON VETO DETECTOR

Under commissioning ...



## ▲ Purity

## NEW LIQUID Xe PURIFICATION

Improve signal detection and target purity

- ~1000 slpm flux purification
- Ultra-low Rn emanation system
- >7 ms electron lifetime (achieved)

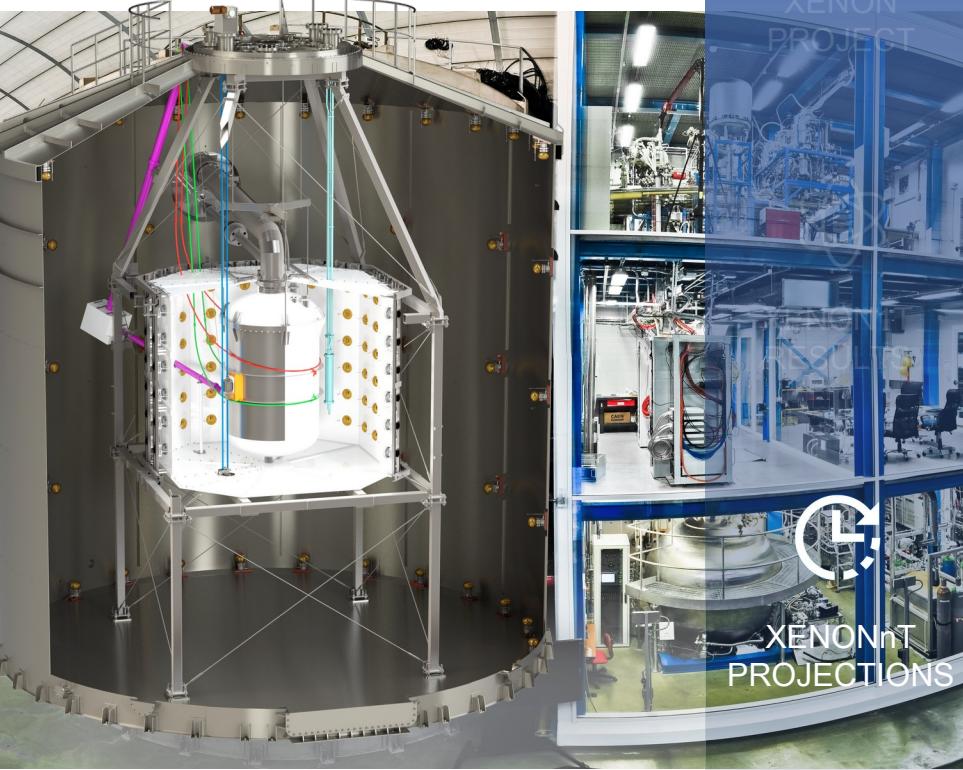


## ▼ ER bkg

## NEW RADON REMOVAL SYSTEM

ER background reduction

- Dedicated Rn cryogenic distillation column
- $1 \mu\text{Bq/kg}$   $^{222}\text{Rn}$  level (goal)
- In XENON1T was

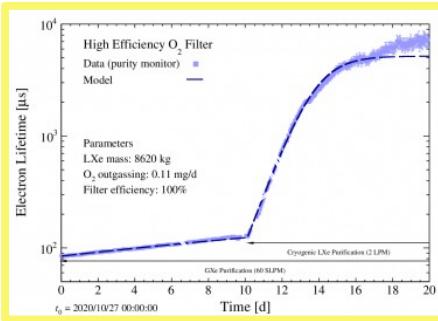
 $13 \mu\text{Bq/kg}$  (science run) $4.5 \mu\text{Bq/kg}$  (latest R&D run)



▲ Purity

## NEW LIQUID Xe PURIFICATION

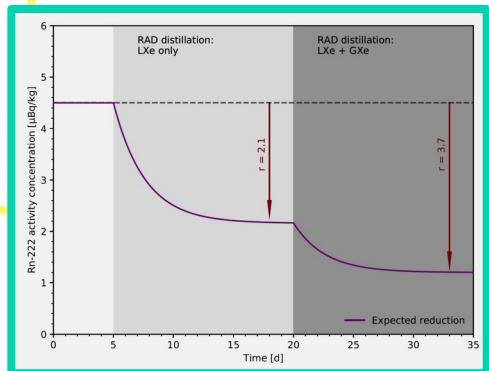
Under commissioning ...



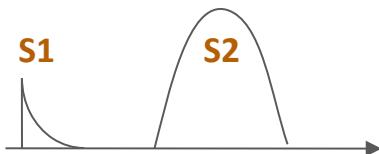
▼ ER bkg

## NEW RADON REMOVAL SYSTEM

Under commissioning ...

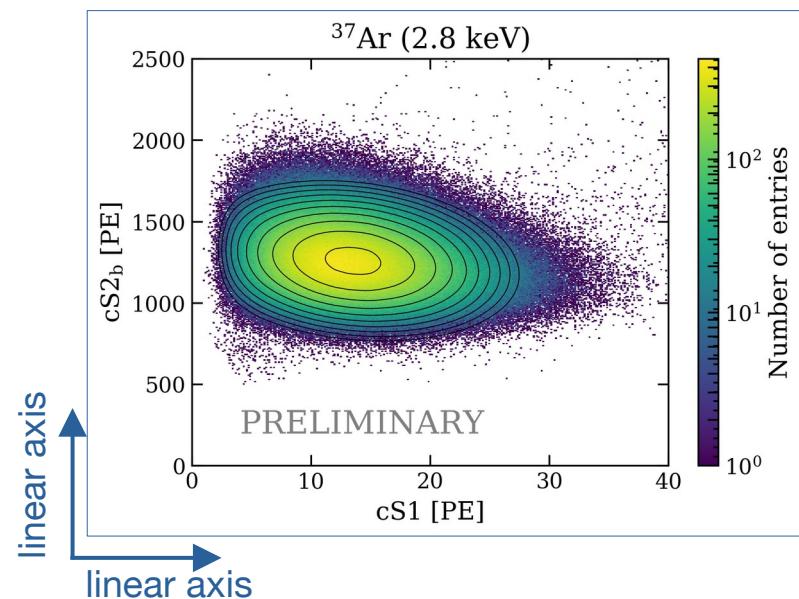


XENON PROJECT

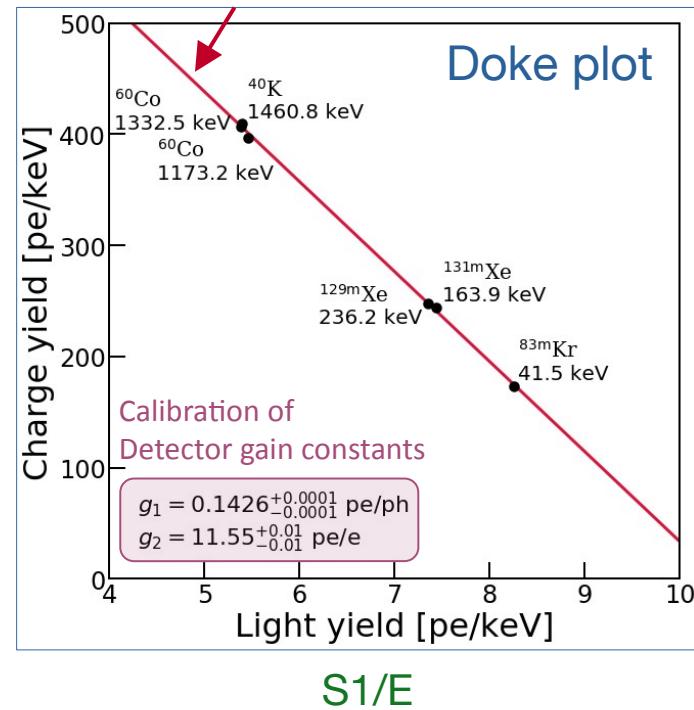


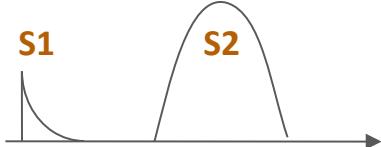
$$E = (n_{ph} + n_e) \cdot W = \left( \frac{S1}{g1} + \frac{S2}{g2} \right) \cdot W$$

$$W = 13.7 \text{ eV/quanta}$$



$$\frac{S2}{E} = \frac{g2}{W} - \frac{g2}{g1} \frac{S1}{E}$$





# Combined Energy Scale

as

A + B = C

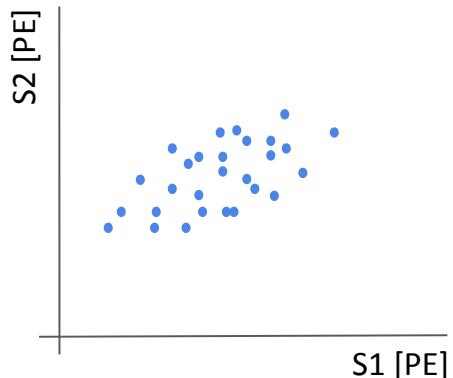
$$E = (n_{ph} + n_e) \cdot W = \left( \frac{S_1}{g_1} + \frac{S_2}{g_2} \right) \cdot W$$

$$W = 13.7 \text{ eV/quanta}$$

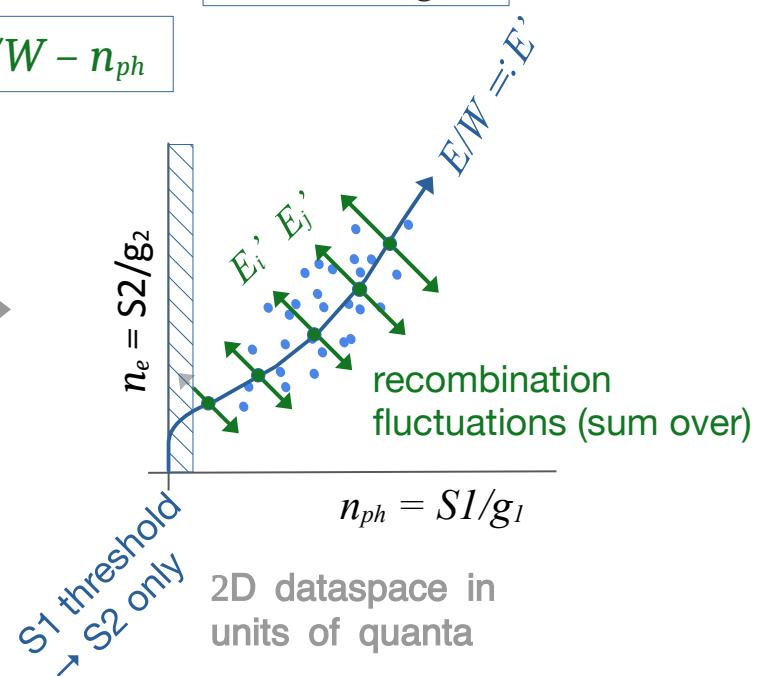
$$\leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow n_e = E/W - n_{ph}$$

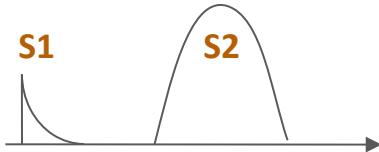
$$\frac{S_2}{E} = \frac{g_2}{W} - \frac{g_2}{g_1} \frac{S_1}{E}$$



2D analysis



2D dataspace in  
units of quanta



# Combined Energy Scale

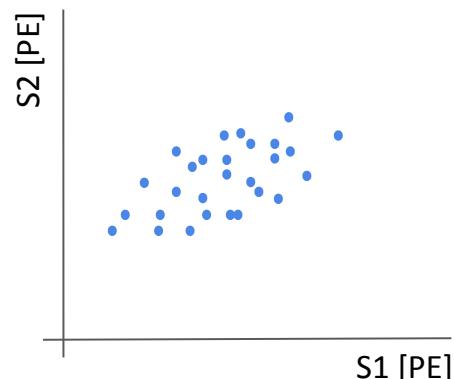
as

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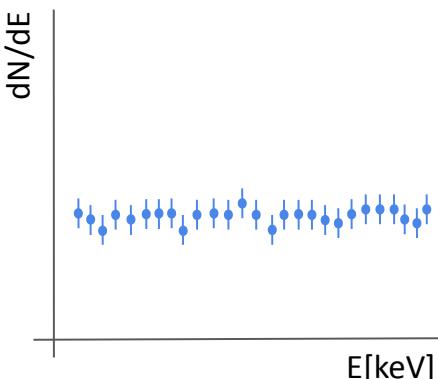
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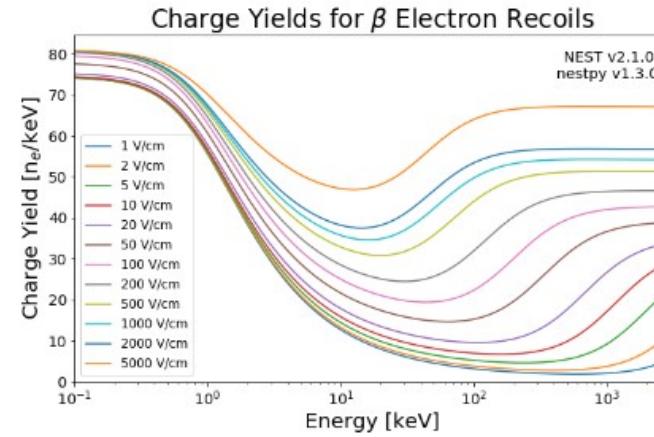
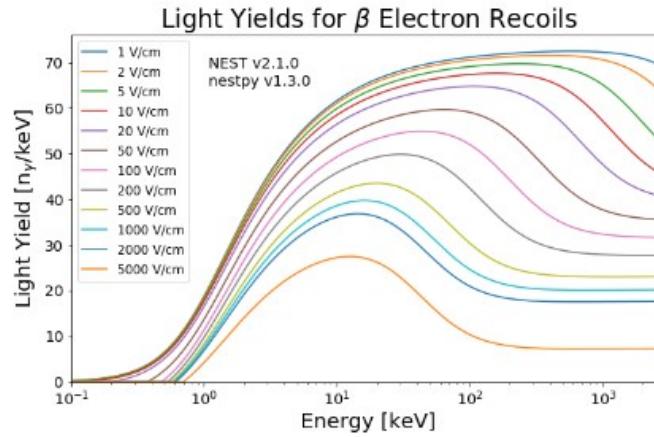
2D analysis



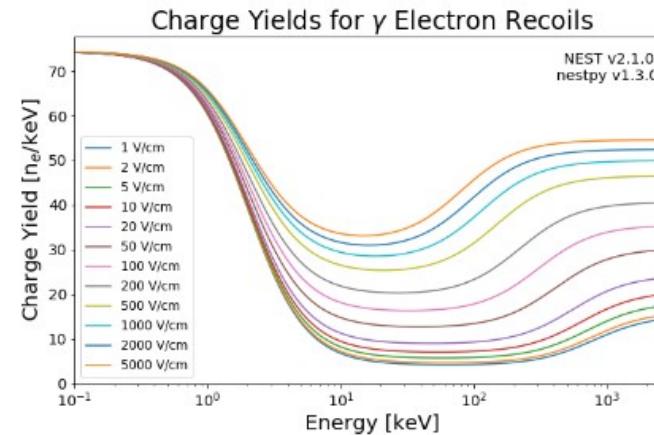
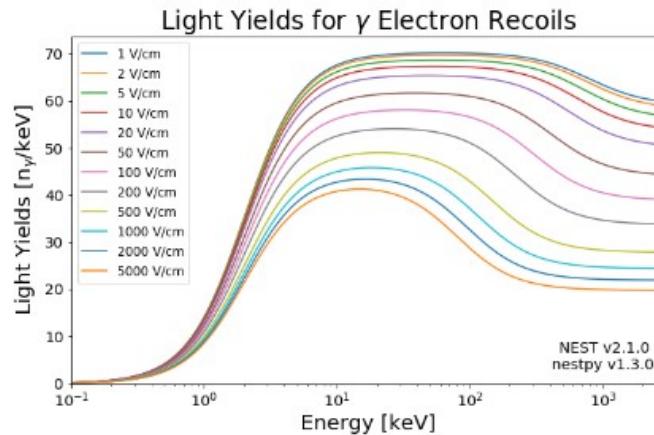
1D analysis



# Theory / Phenomenology: LXe Charge and Light Yield - ER



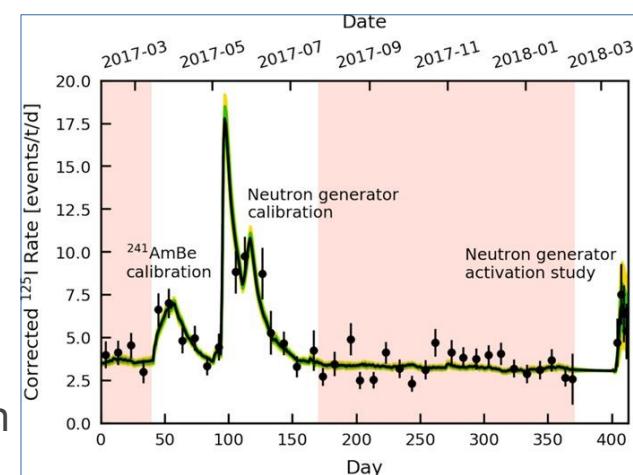
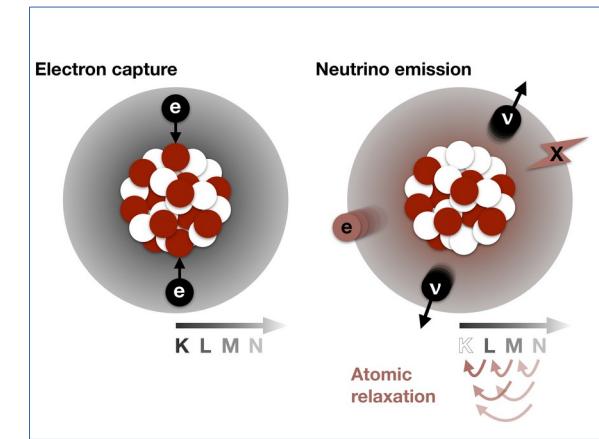
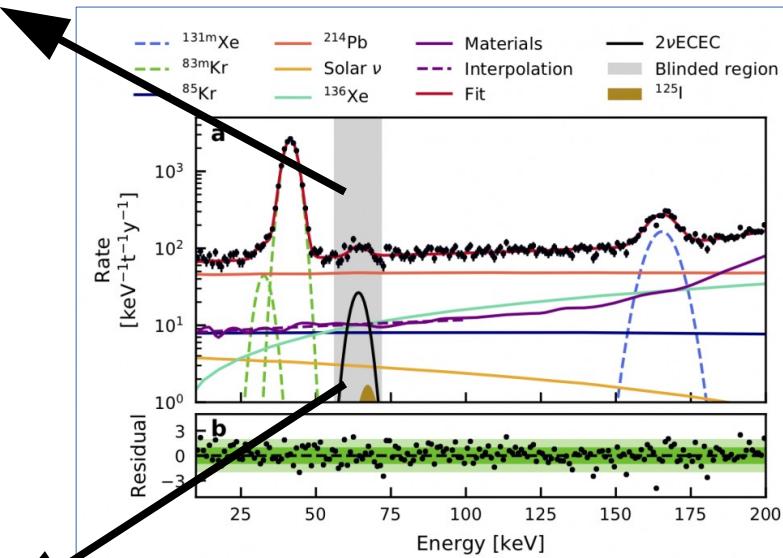
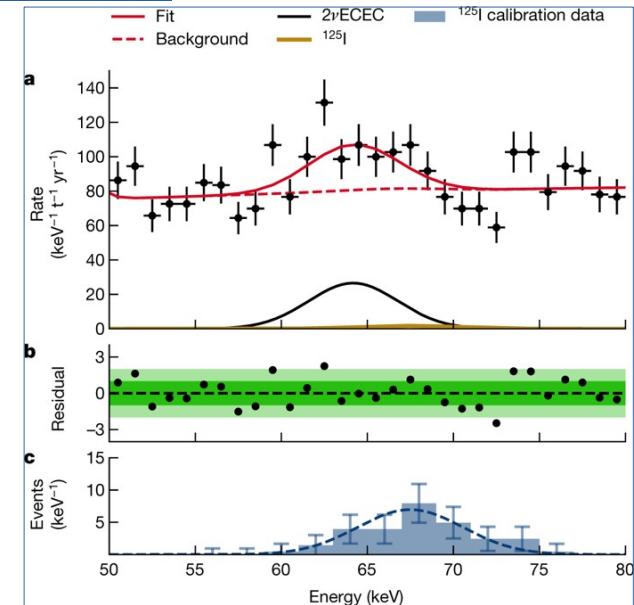
NEST





# Double Electron Capture in $^{124}\text{Xe}$

Nature 568, 532–535 (2019)



Half-life of  $(1.8 \pm 0.6) \times 10^{22}$  years,

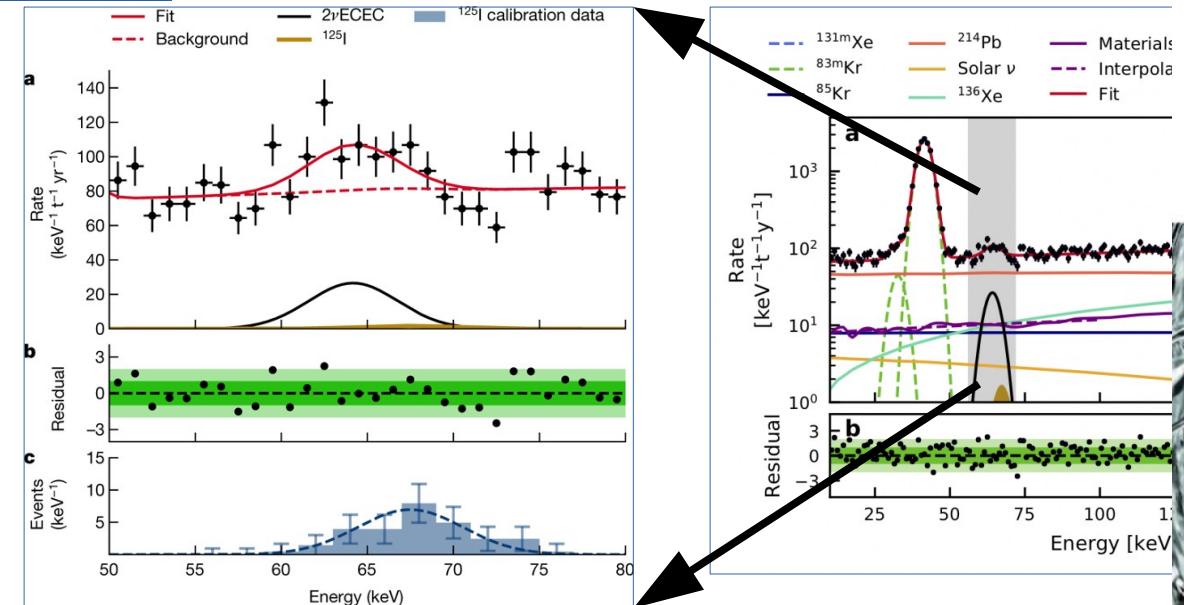
→ **longest directly measured half-life to date**

Modeled nearby background  $^{125}\text{I}$  from activation during neutron calibration



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# Potential background events in XENON1T

## [3] Infiltrate the LXe



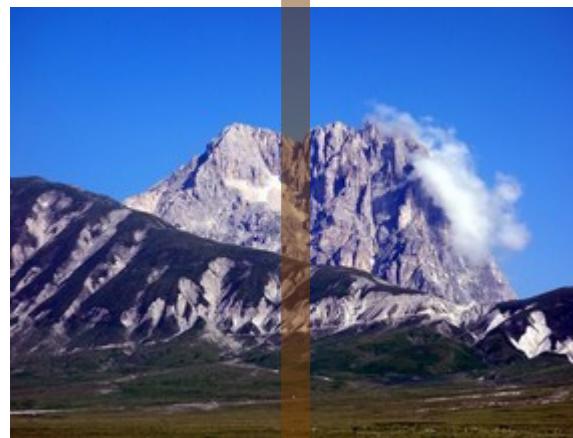
- Accounted for, different energies



- $t_{1/2} \sim$  month, too short
- Requisite air leak ruled out by Kr measurements.

## Tritium

...



## [1] Go through > km of rock

**Muons:** too high energy

**Neutrinos, dark particles**

## [2] Go through many cm of metal and xenon

**Neutrons:** different S1/S2

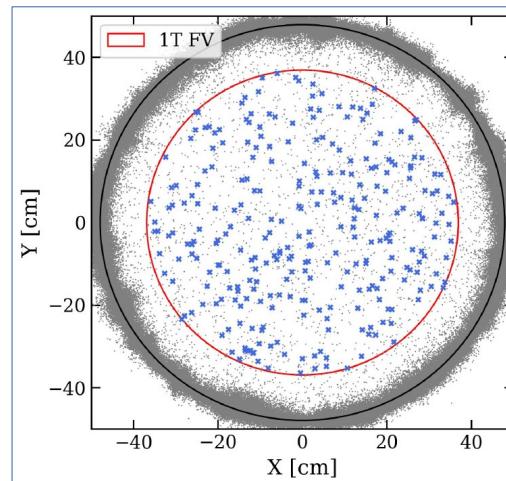
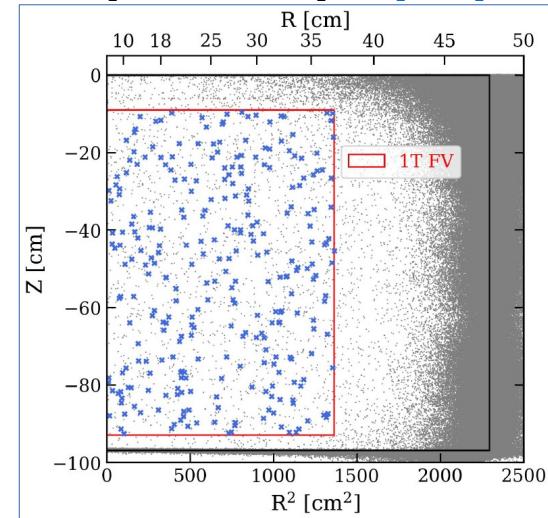
**$\beta$ ,  $\gamma$ :** Energy and spectrum incompatible



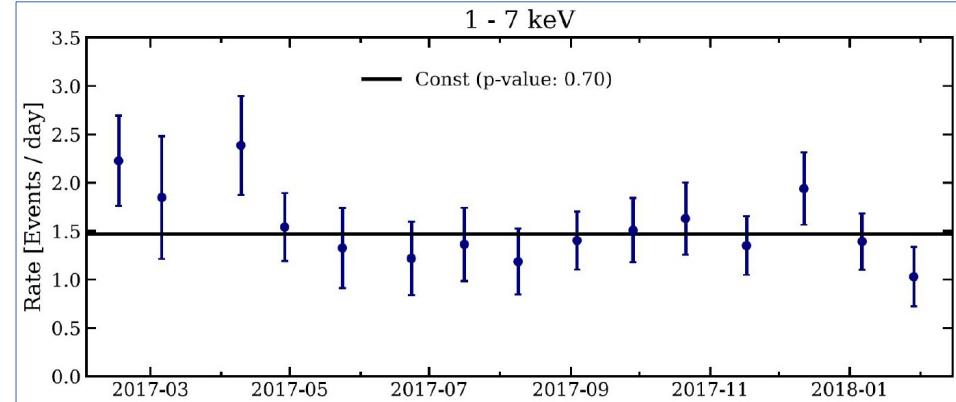
# Time or space dependence?

## Spatial distribution

[1, 210 keV] [1, 7] keV



## Temporal evolution

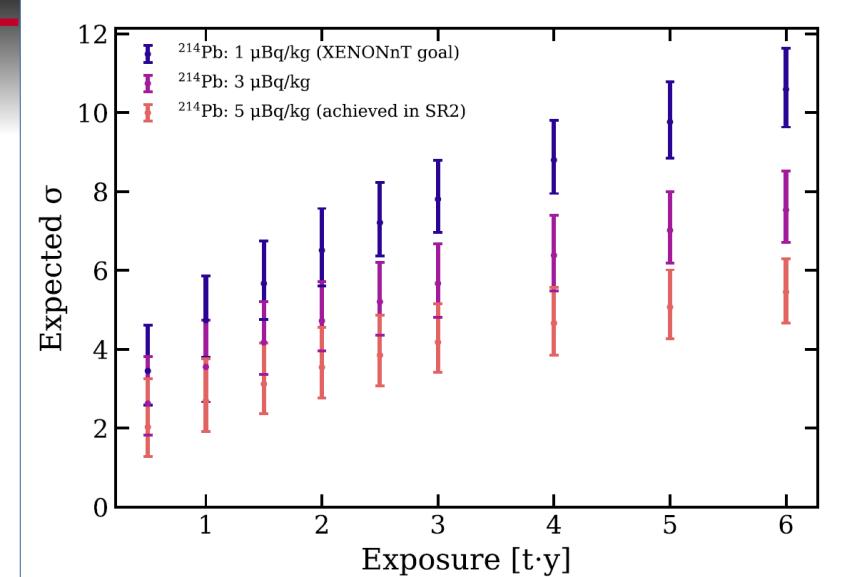


- Events are seemingly **uniformly distributed** in the fiducial volume
- Rate rather **constant in time** during SR1 (but limited statistics)



# Upgrading: XENONnT

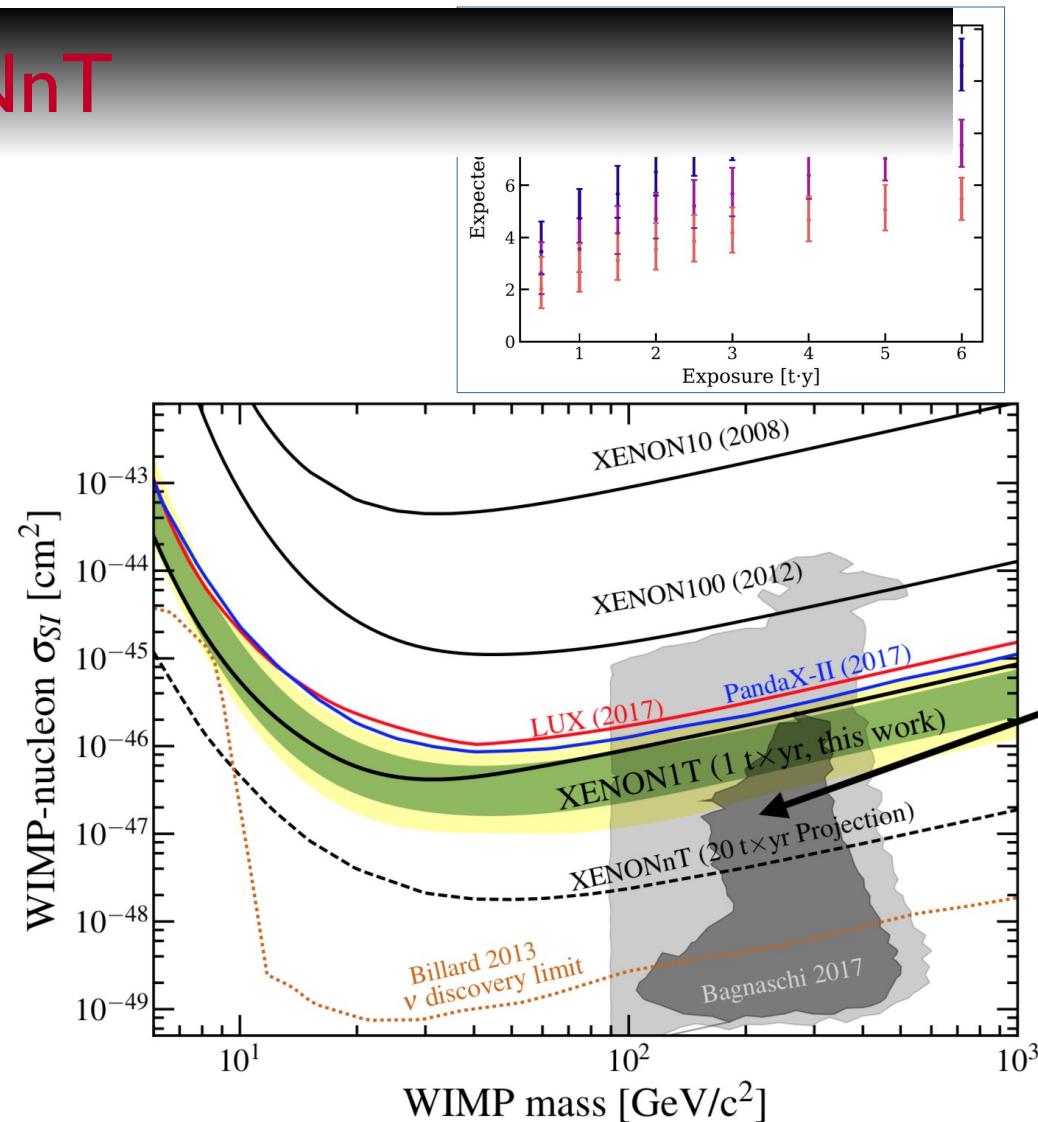
- Right now being commissioned at LNGS
- Factor 5-10 lower background
- Factor ~4 larger fiducial mass
  - ▷ Good chances to distinguish T from “shaped signal”





# Upgrading: XENONnT

- Right now being commissioned at LNGS
- Factor 5-10 lower background
- Factor ~4 larger fiducial mass
  - ▷ Good chances to distinguish T from “shaped signal”
  - ▷ And, of course, most sensitive WIMP searches ever!





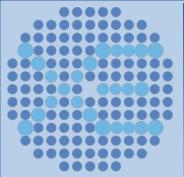
# Summary

- A low-energy ER analysis of **XENON1T** full exposure found an excess in the 1-7 keV range.
- A number of signal models are significant at  $>3\sigma$  (global).
- **Tritium**, left unconstrained, lowers the significance to  $2.x \sigma$  at most.
  - ▷ We do not have a separate way to estimate the T content.
  - ▷ It remains a possibility.
- The **excess is robust** to most assumptions, including threshold, energy reconstruction, microphysics. We continue to study new suggestions.
- We are continuing our studies for improved low-energy response modeling using a  $^{37}\text{Ar}$  source developed at Mainz. Yet, the energy scale looks robust.
- Higher exposure with lower background would allow **XENONnT** to distinguish between T and several signal models.



Thanks to ...

- the XENON low-E ER team for a great job on analysis
- everyone on XENON for putting together and operating a fantastic detector and for working hard on the XENONnT upgrade
- Ranny Budnik, Matteo Alfonsi, Evan Shockley, Jelle Aalbers for reuse of slides & plots



# The Low-Energy Electronic-Recoil Excess observed by XENON1T

Uwe Oberlack

Institute of Physics and  
PRISMA<sup>+</sup> Excellence Cluster  
Johannes Gutenberg University  
Mainz



**OUT THERE**

**The New York Times**

## Seeking Dark Matter, They Detected Another Mystery

Do signals from beneath an Italian mountain herald a revolution in physics?

By Dennis Overbye

June 17, 2020

The image shows a screenshot of a news article from The New York Times. The title is "Seeking Dark Matter, They Detected Another Mystery". Below the title is a sub-headline: "Do signals from beneath an Italian mountain herald a revolution in physics?". The author's name, "By Dennis Overbye", is at the bottom of the main headline area. Below the author's name is the date, "June 17, 2020". The background of the image is a photograph of the XENON1T detector in its underground laboratory.



arxiv:2006.09721