

# Dark Matter Search Experiments

Bruno Pontecorvo School 2012,  
Alushta, Crimea

# Outline

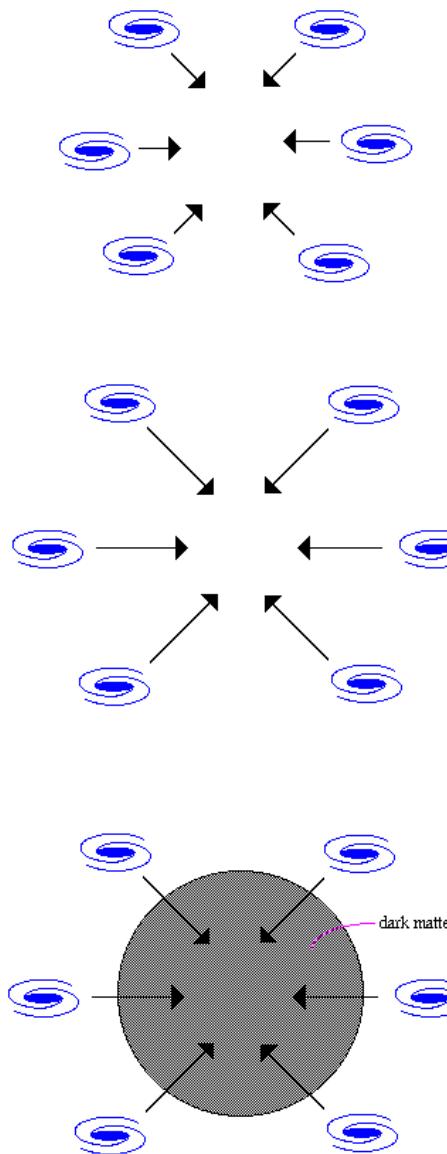
- Motivation for Dark Matter Search
- Candidates for Dark Matter
- Detection Approaches
- Direct Dark Matter Search
- Conclusions

# First Hints for Dark Matter

- In the 1930ties Swiss astronomer Fritz Zwicky (1898 – 1974) investigates galaxy clusters in the „Coma Cluster“



# Dynamics of Galaxies



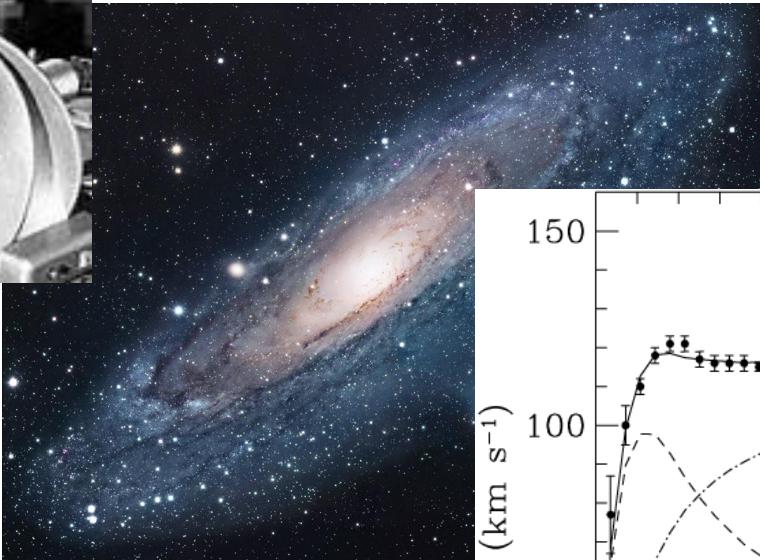
- Observation: **rotation speed of single galaxies too high**

- Luminous matter alone cannot account for the anomaly

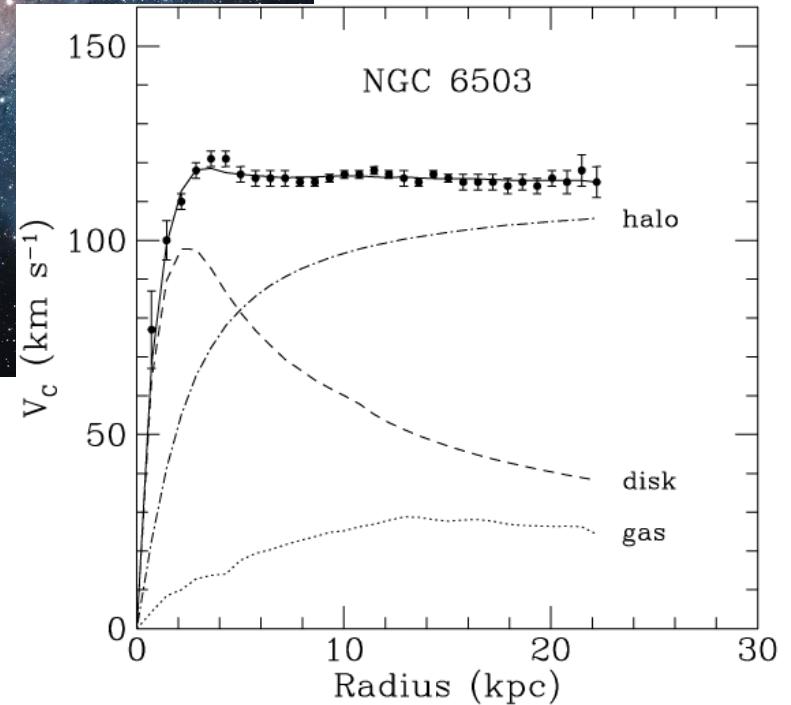
- Fritz Zwicky postulates in 1933 the existence of Dark Matter

- In 1937 (!) Zwicky predicts that gravitational lensing will be used in the future to investigate DM

# Rotation Curves of Single Galaxies

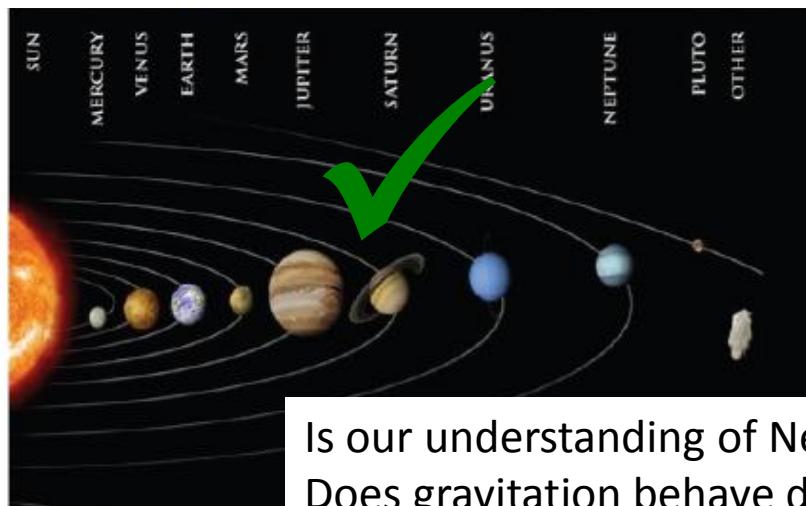


- Analogous finding by Vera Cooper-Rubin as Fritz Zwicky: rotation speed too high in the outer parts of the galaxy
- Gravitational potential of luminous matter alone not sufficient to explain effect

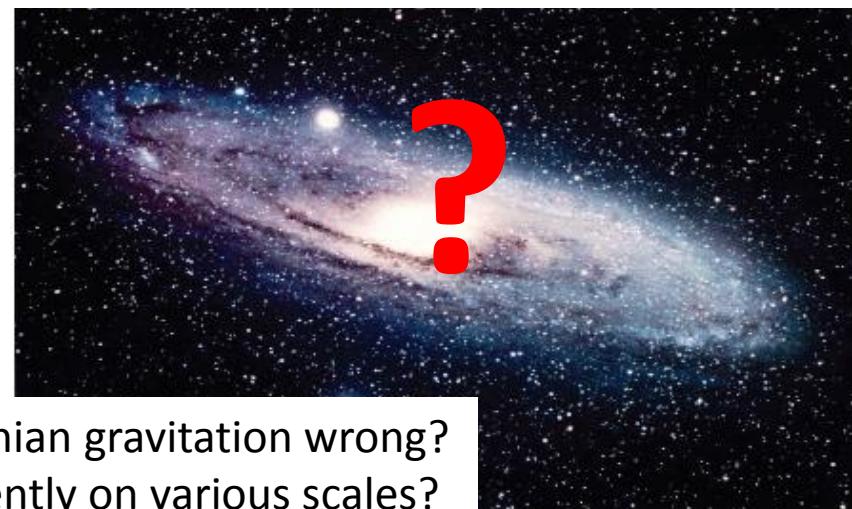


# Gravitation on Different Scales

Solar system



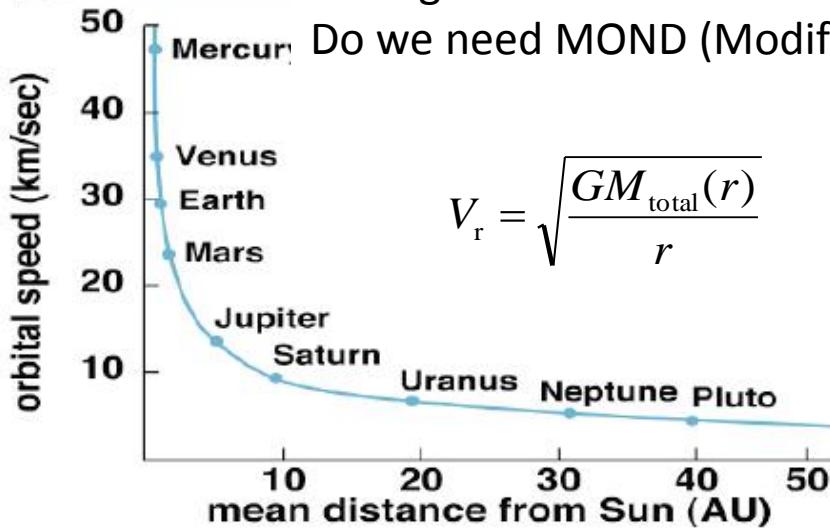
Single galaxy



Is our understanding of Newtonian gravitation wrong?

Does gravitation behave differently on various scales?

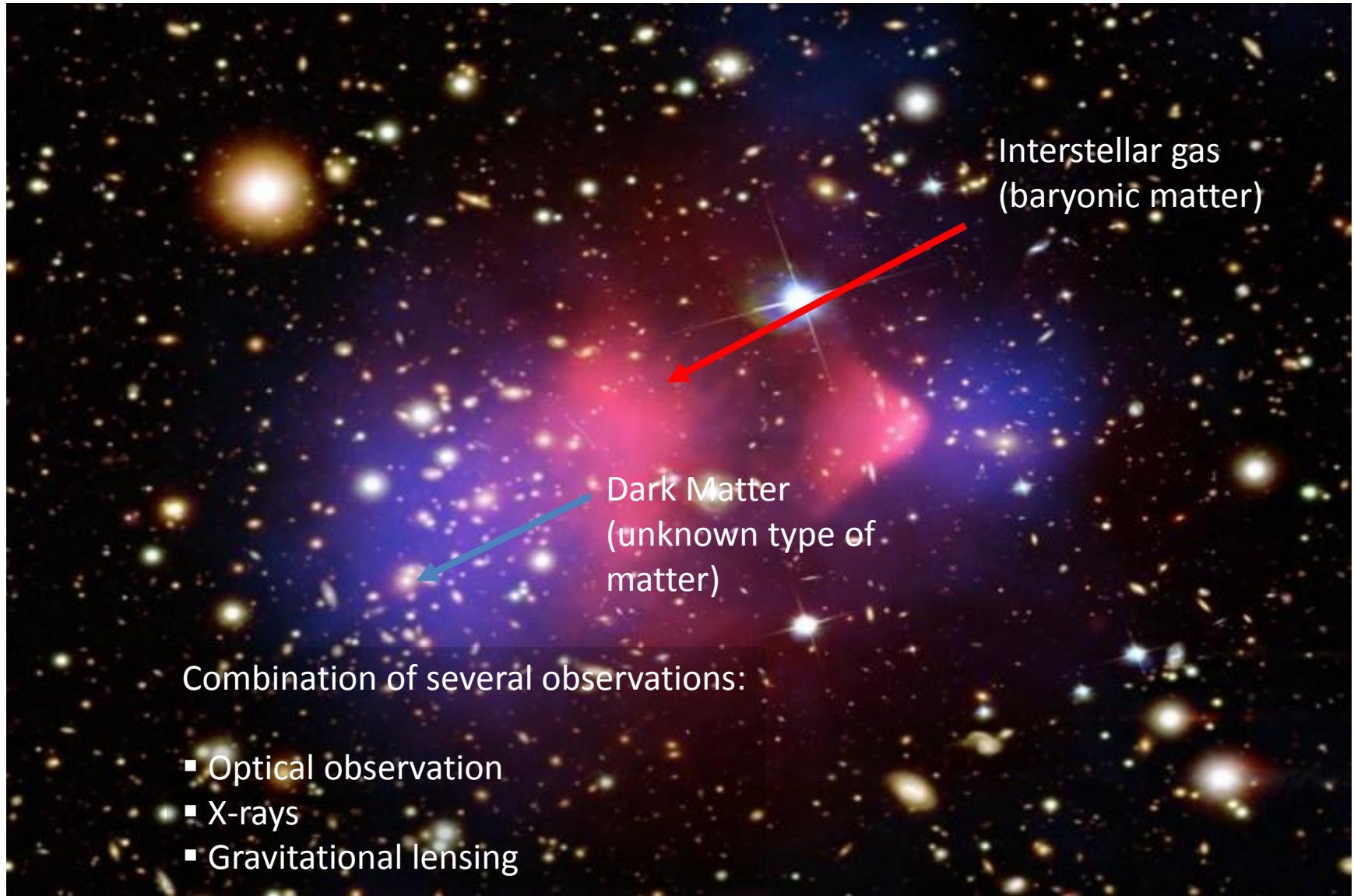
Do we need MOND (Modified Newtonian Dynamics)?



$$V_r = \sqrt{\frac{GM_{\text{total}}(r)}{r}}$$

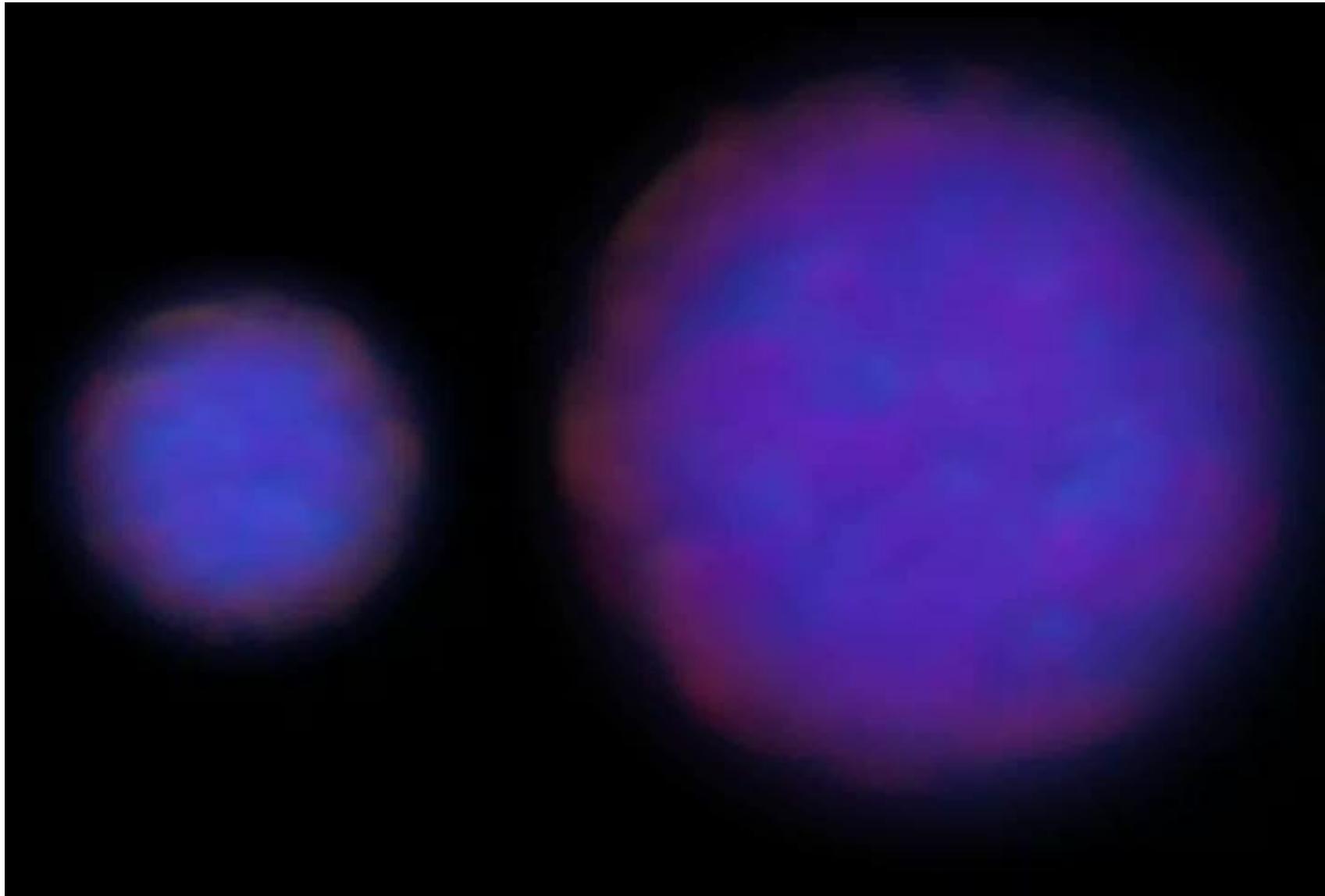


# DM Dynamics: The „Bullet“ Cluster

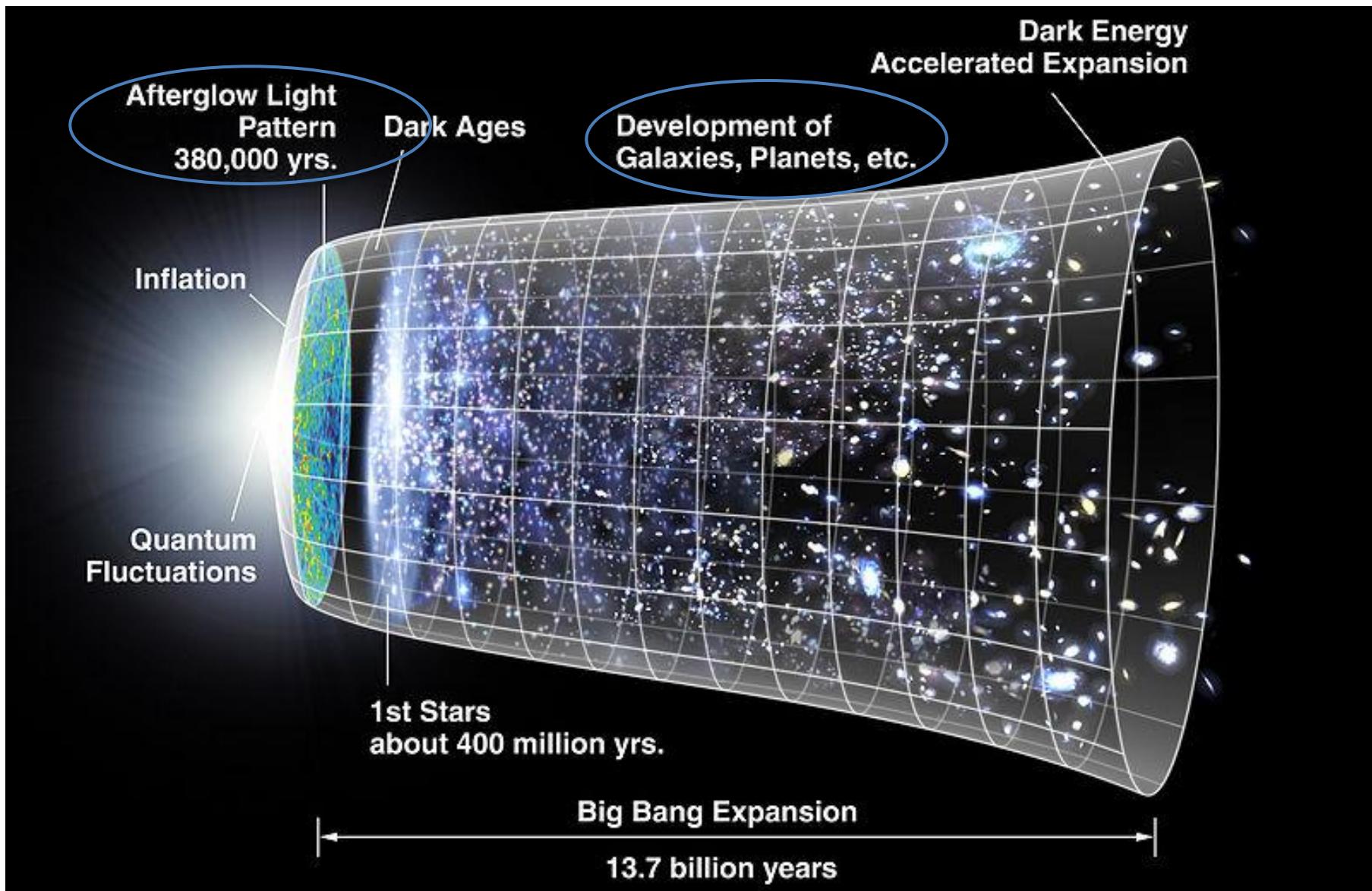


-> Up to now strongest indication for the existence of Dark Matter!!

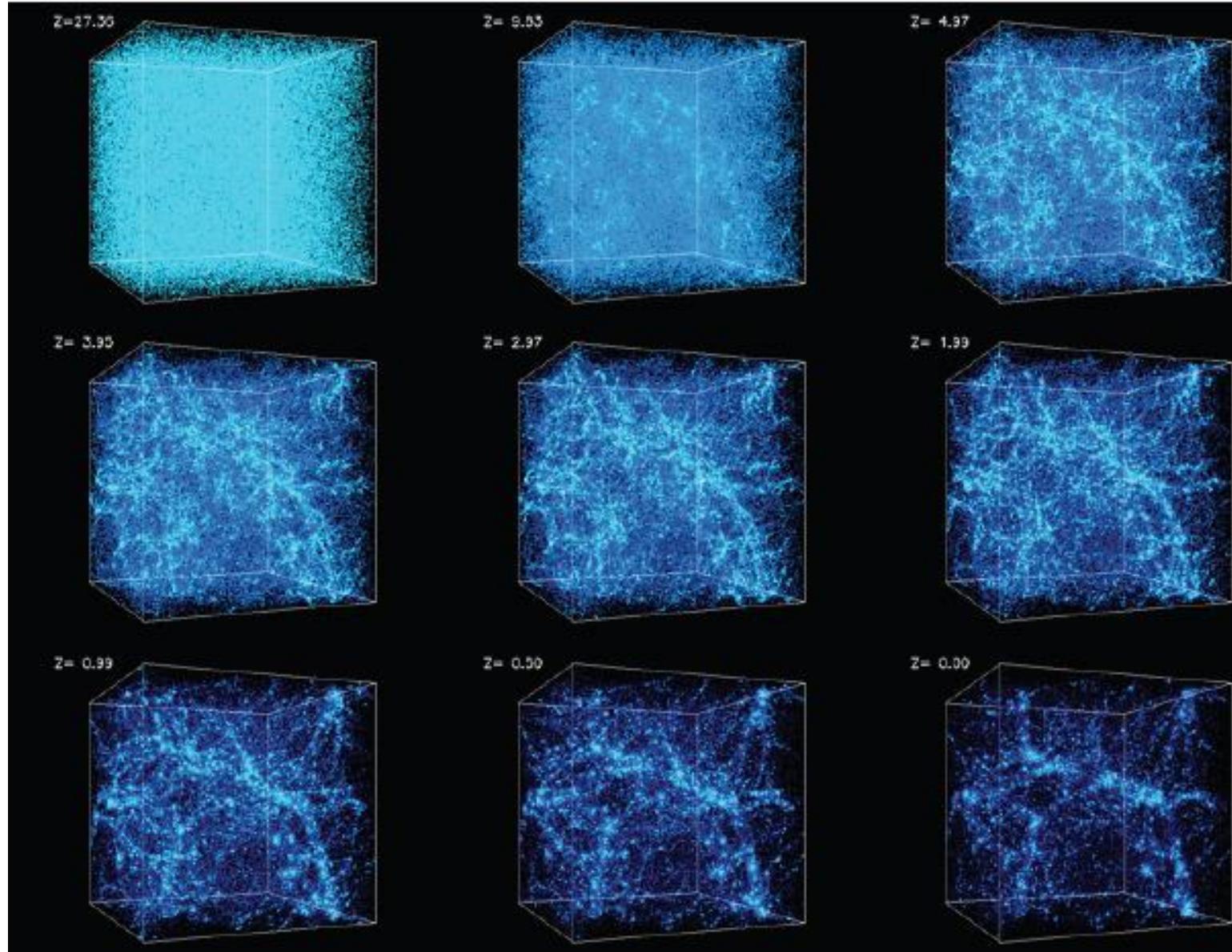
# Animation of „Bullet“ Cluster Collision



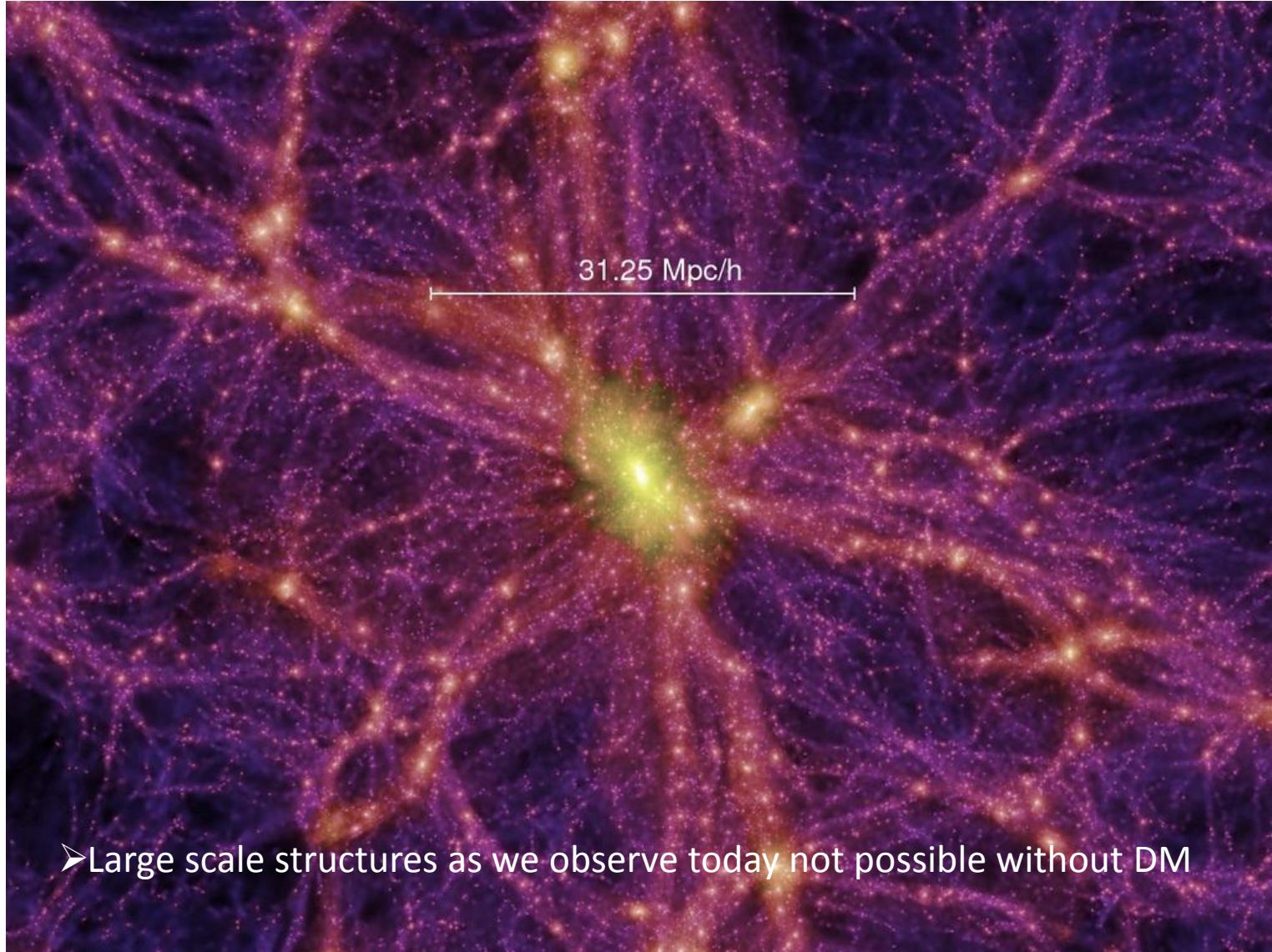
# What About Large Scales ?



# Large-Scale Structure Formation

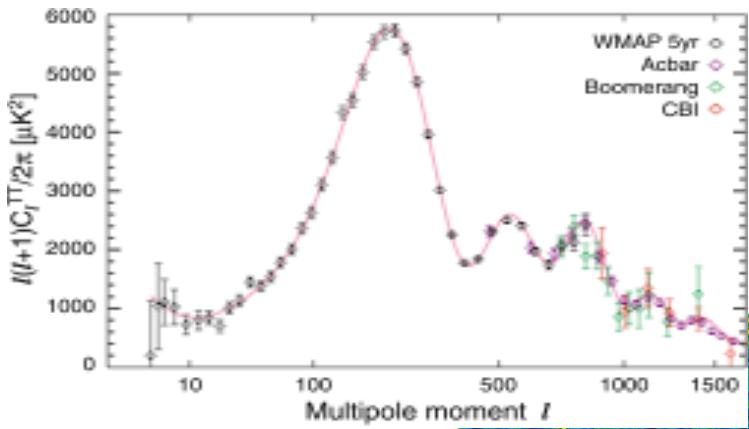


# Millenium Simulation

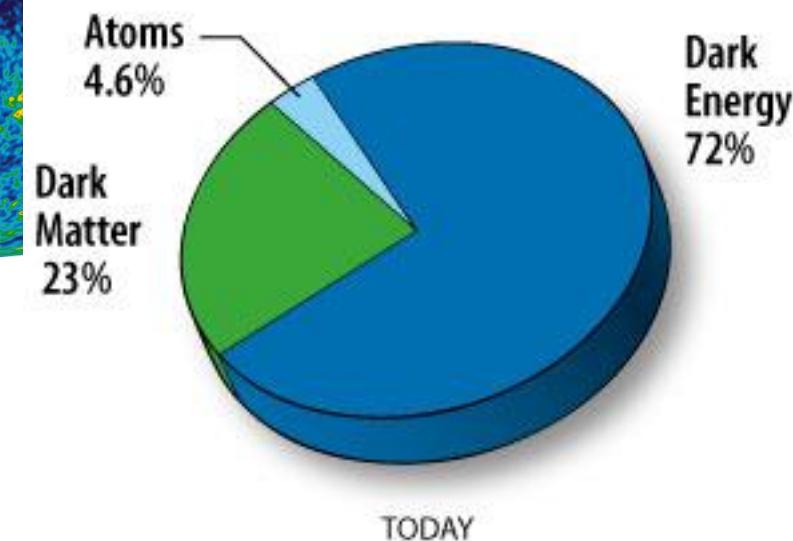
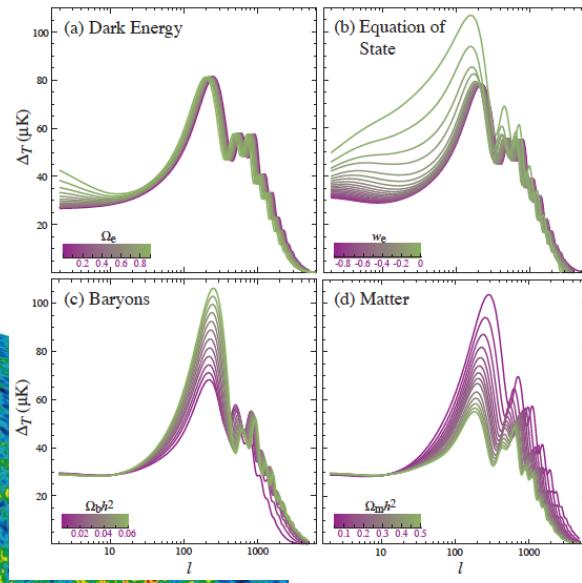
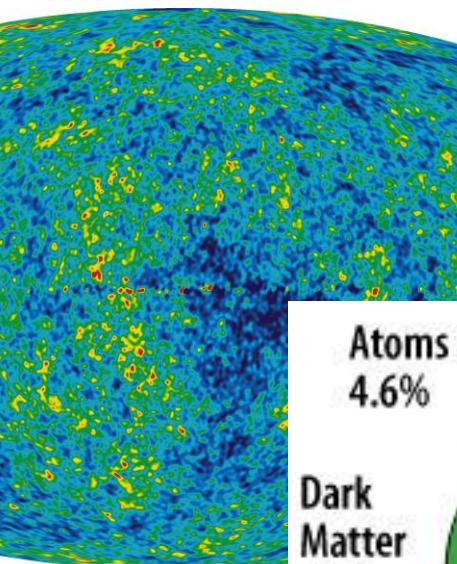
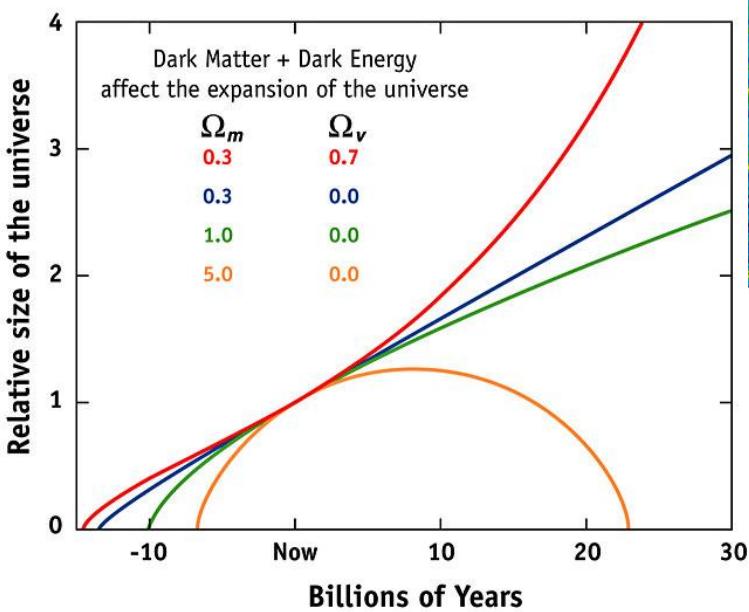


➤ Large scale structures as we observe today not possible without DM

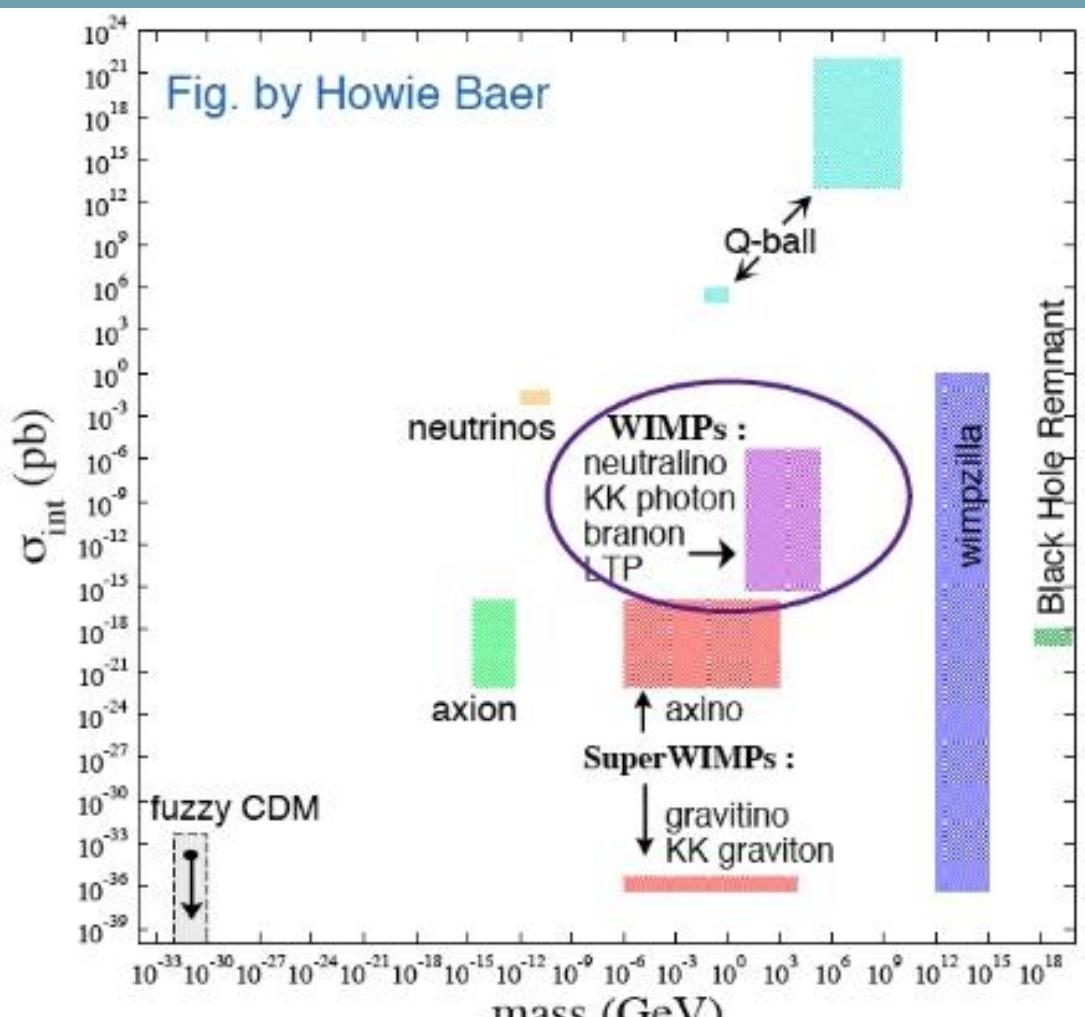
# Information from the Cosmic Microwave Background



## EXPANSION OF THE UNIVERSE



# Dark Matter Particle Candidates



The universe could plausibly consist of particles ranging from  $10^{-6}$  eV axions to  $10^{15}$  GeV WIMPzillas

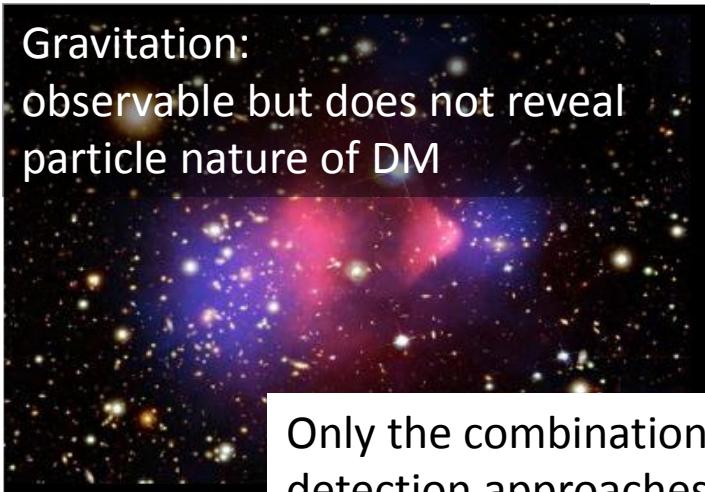
➤ **WIMP (Weakly Interacting Massive Particle)** is focused on by various detection experiments

- WIMP could be the lightest supersymmetric particle (LSP)  
-> must be stable on cosmological timescales (R-parity conservation)
- The lightest neutralino, is a very attractive and thoroughly studied candidate for Dark Matter

# Dark Matter Detection Approaches

Gravitation:

observable but does not reveal particle nature of DM



Direct Search:

subject of this lecture



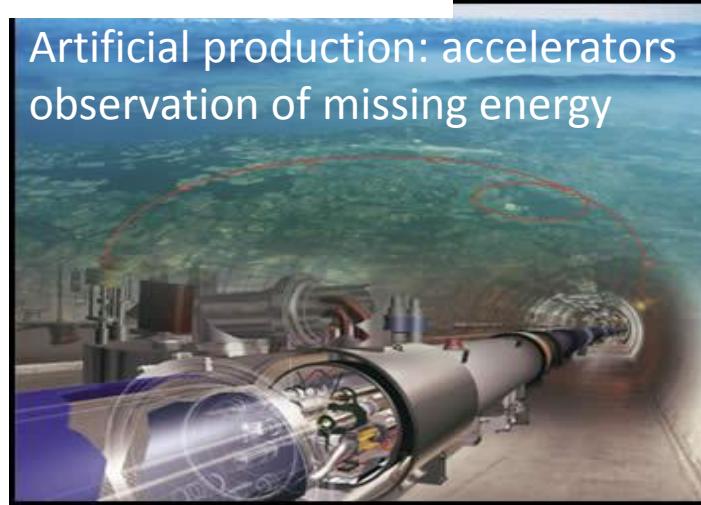
Only the combination of the different detection approaches is likely to solve the mystery of dark matter

Indirect search:

observation of annihilation products of DM particles

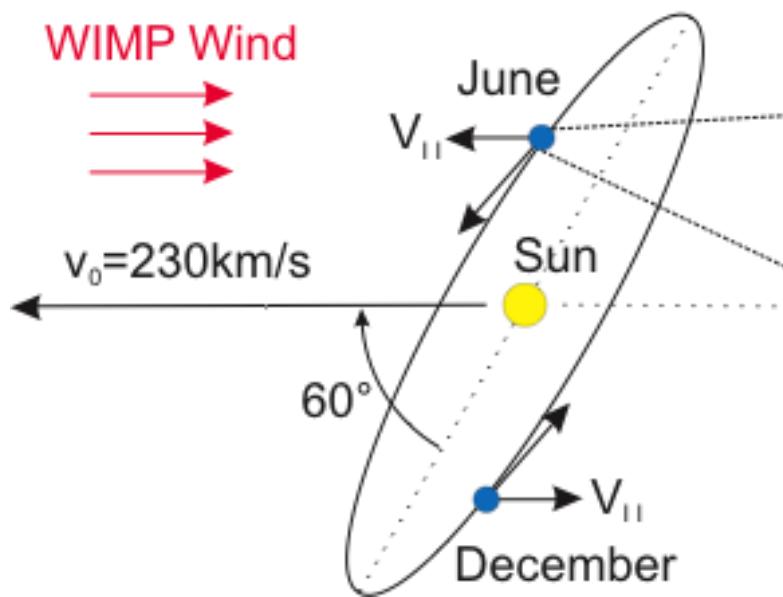


Artificial production: accelerators observation of missing energy

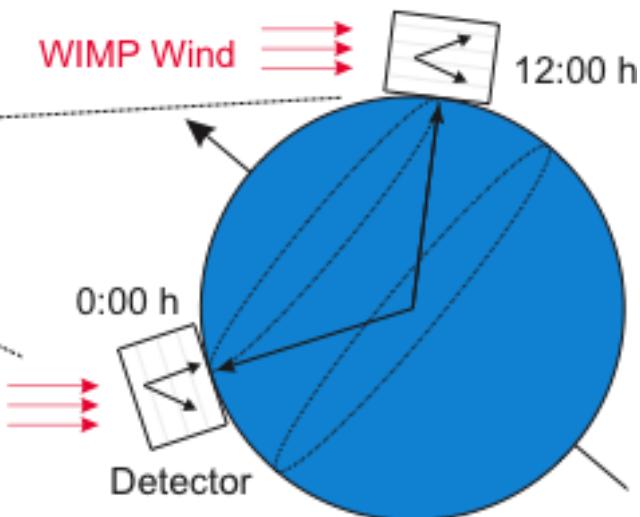


# Possible „Smoking Gun“ Signatures of Dark Matter

Annual Modulation



Diurnal Modulation



- Coherent interaction with baryonic matter:  $\sim A^2$  ( $A$  = atomic mass number)
- Information provided by high-energy accelerators (e.g., LHC at CERN)

# Detection Approach

**Goal:** Detect **WIMP (Weakly Interacting Massive Particle)** by measuring nuclear recoil of a few keV in an earth based target material

- WIMP density at the Earth:  $0.3 \text{ GeV}/c^2/\text{cm}^3$
- Wide range of WIMP masses:  $10 - 1000 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
- Expected signature: nuclear recoil (of a few keV)
- Expected scattering behaviour: coherent, i.e.  $\sim A^2$
- Single scatters distributed uniformly in target volume
- Extremely rare interaction rate with baryonic matter ( $< 0.01 \text{ evts/kg/d}$ )

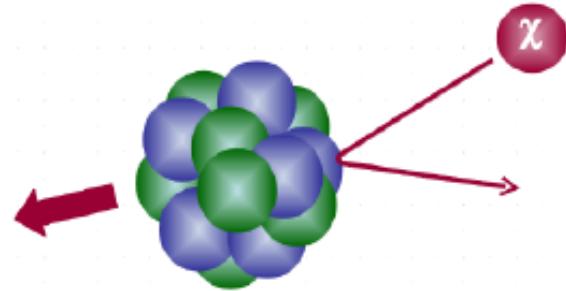
$$\frac{\partial R}{\partial E_R} \propto N F^2(\vec{q}) \frac{\rho_D}{M_D} \sigma_\chi e^{-\frac{E_R}{E_0}}$$

R measured rate in detector  
 $M_D$  mass of WIMP  
N number of target nuclei

$E_R$  recoil energy of target nucleus  
 $\sigma_\chi$  WIMP nucleus cross section  
 $F^2$  nuclear Form factor

→ suppress natural radioactivity and cosmic radiation:

- Deep underground facilities
- Additional shielding with selected materials
- Detectors with very low energy threshold and excellent background discrimination capability



# Backgrounds

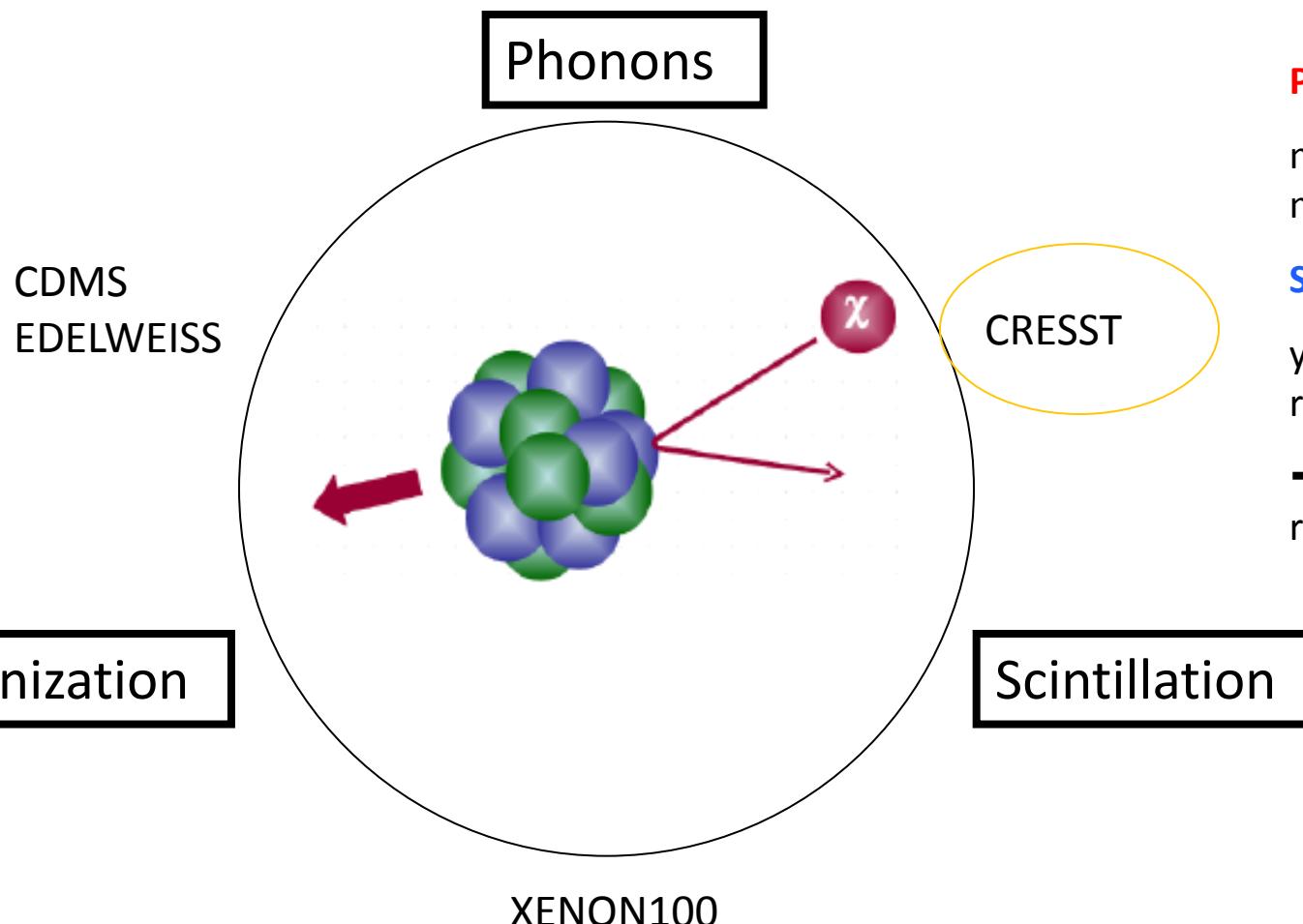
- Intrinsic radioactivity in materials surrounding the detector (U, Th, K, Co, etc.)
  - > source of gammas and neutrons
  - > careful material screening and selection
- Intrinsic radioactivity in target material itself (U, Th, Rn,...)
  - > special handling and purification techniques
- Radioactivity from the surrounding environment
  - radioactivity of environment materials ( $\gamma$  and neutrons from ( $\alpha, n$ ) and  $\mu$ -reactions)
  - > shielding (Pb, Cu, PE, H<sub>2</sub>O, ... )
- Cosmic ray muons
  - > penetrate deep underground
- Fast neutrons induced by unvetoed muon-showers in the surroundings
- Neutrinos (solar, atmospheric, ...)
  - > relevant for future ultra-low threshold detectors

# Direct Detection Experiments

Experiment	Technology	$\beta, \gamma$ rejection	Comments	
CDMS	Cryo Ge/Si	ionization/phonon	surface $\beta$ 's, timing helps surface $\beta$ 's, NbSi helps low light for WIMP on W	Background suppression by using information from <b>2 channels</b>
Edelweiss	Cryo Ge	ionization/thermal		
CRESST, Rosebud	Cryo CaWO <sub>4</sub>	scintillation/thermal		
Zeplin, XENON, WArP, ArDM,	LXe 2-phase LAr 2-phase	charge/scintillation charge/scintillation	low light, PMT radioactivity purification ( <sup>39</sup> Ar, <sup>42</sup> Ar, <sup>85</sup> Kr)	Background suppression by using information from <b>1 channel</b>
XMASS CLEAN	LXe LAr/LNe	scint, self-shielding, scint, pulse shape disc.	No E-field, good scaling also solar $\nu$ , no E-field	
CoGeNT Majorana, Gerda Genius, GEDEON Cuoricino	p-point HPGe HPGe counting HPGe counting Cryo TeO <sub>2</sub>	low threshold energy resolution extreme purity stat. subtraction	CNNs/DM primarily $\beta\beta$ -decay large mass, ann mod.	Background suppression by using information from <b>1 channel</b>
DAMA, LIBRA, ANAIS	NaI scint.	pulse shape disc. extreme purity	large mass, ann mod. also $\beta\beta$ -decay	
Picasso, COUPP	bubble chambers	nucleation thresh	large mass, alpha bkgd	
DRIFT	drift chmbr (gas)	track length	directionality/low density	

Nucl. Inst. Meth. A 579 (2007) 437

# Recoil Detection & Background Identification



## Phonons

most precise total energy measurement

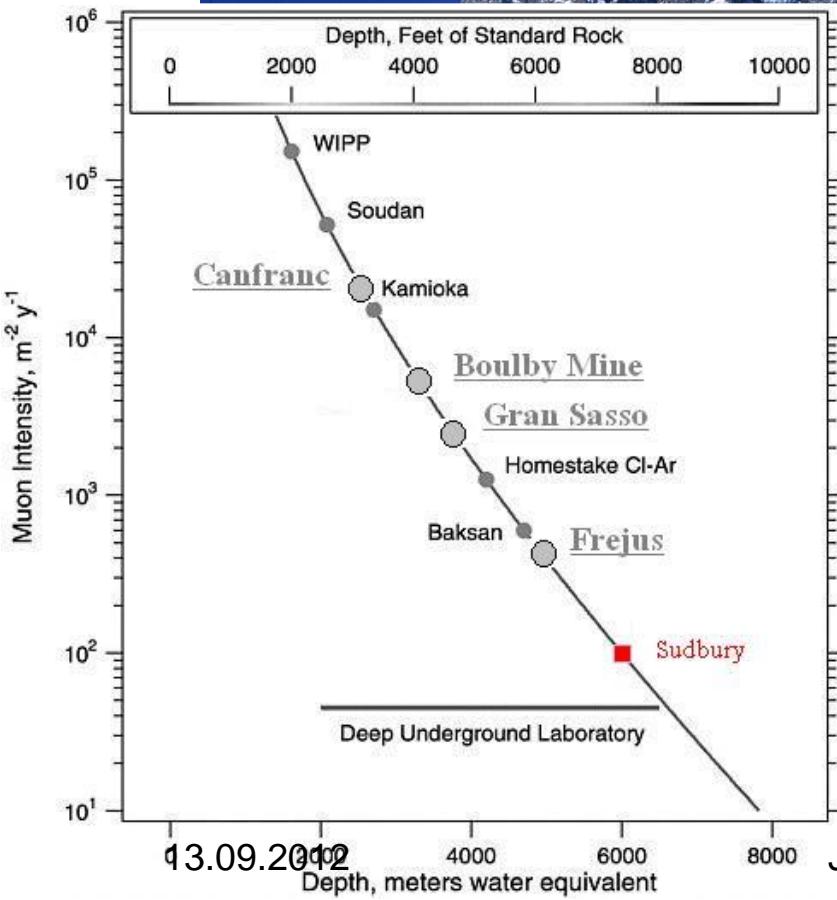
## Scintillation:

yield depends on  
recoiling particle

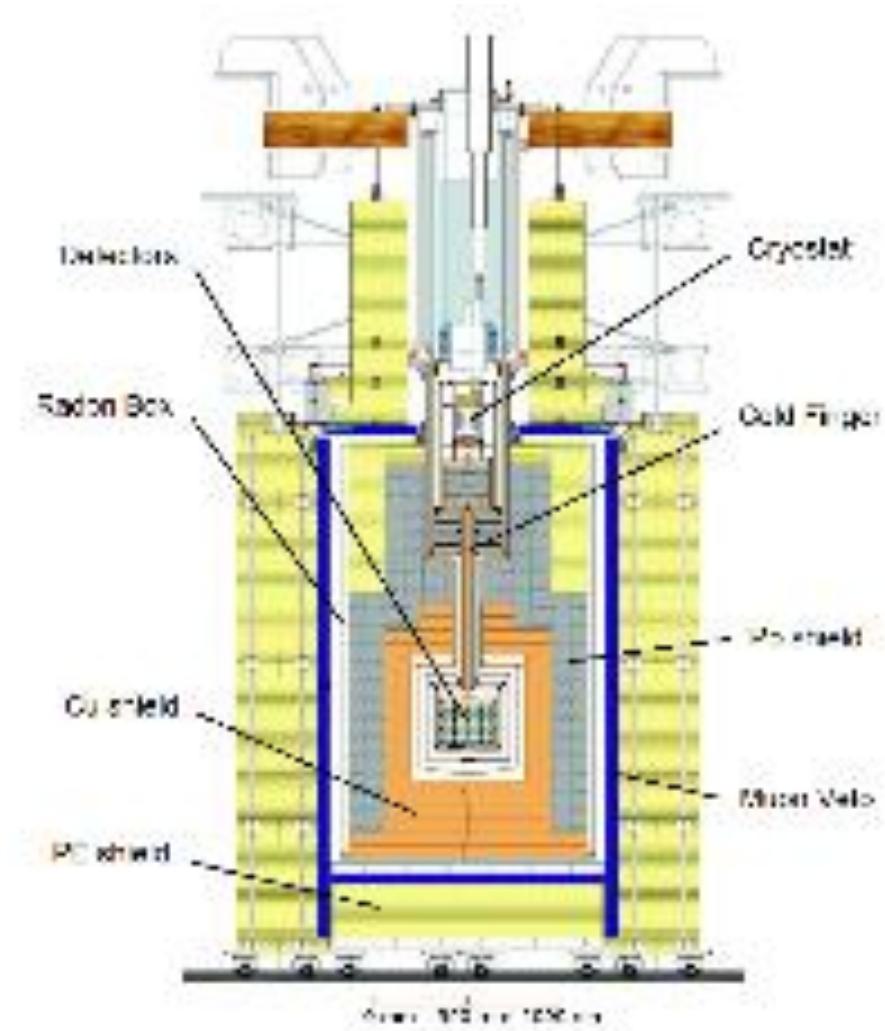
→ Nuclear / electron  
recoil discrimination

CRESST

# Underground Laboratories

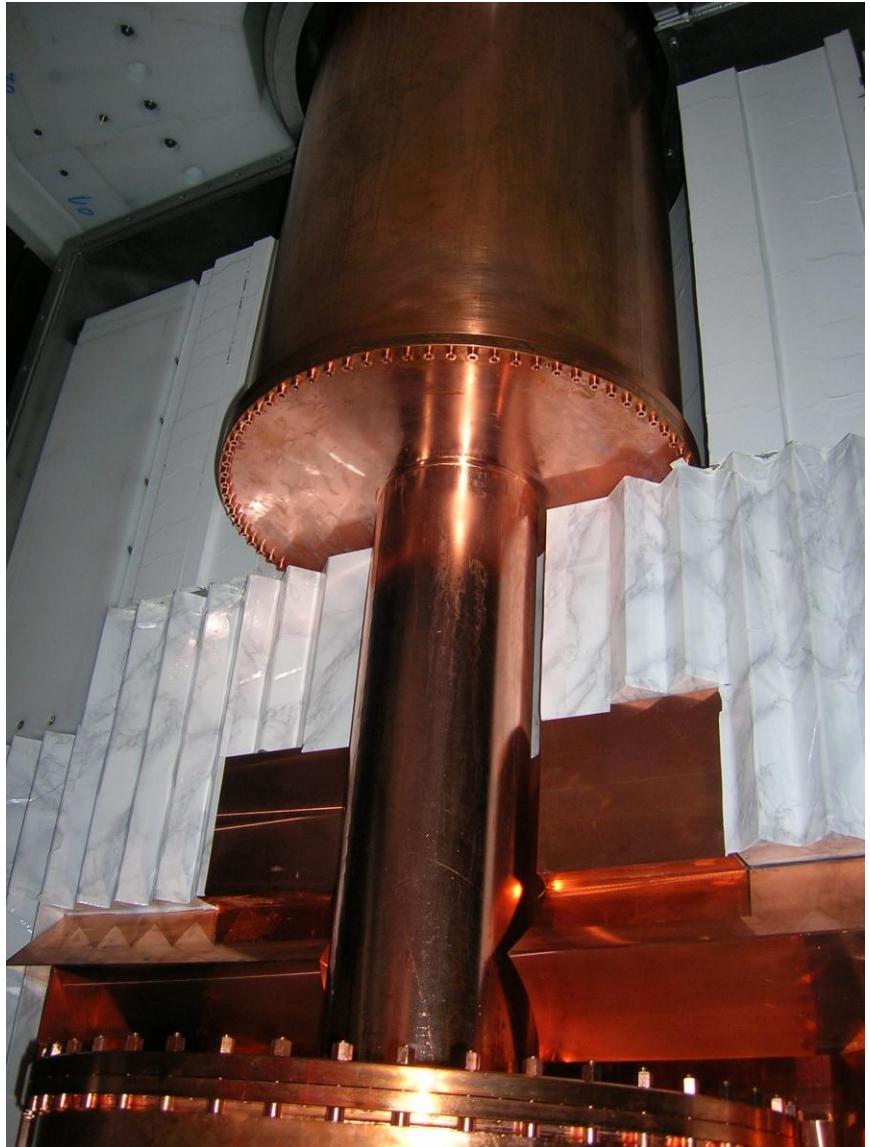
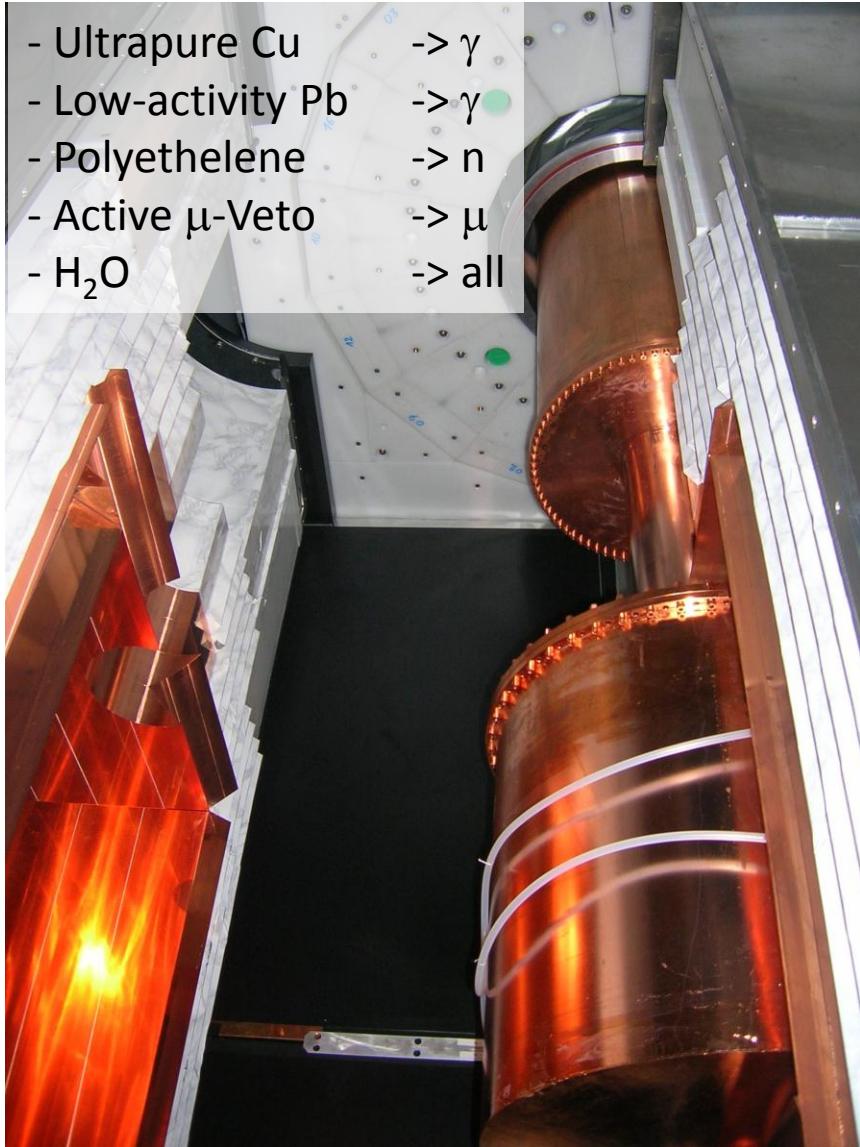


# CRESST (Cryogenic Rare Event Search with Superconducting Thermometers)



# Typical Shielding Materials

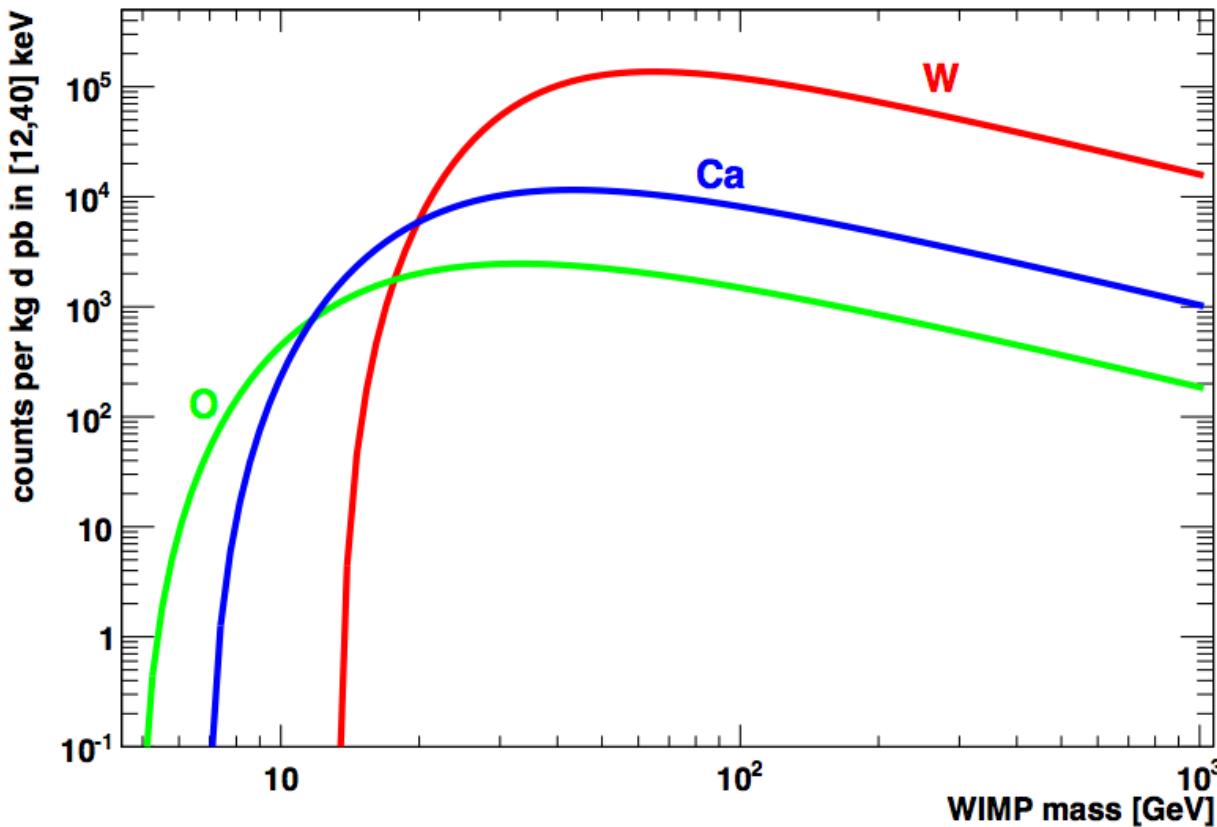
- Ultrapure Cu      ->  $\gamma$
- Low-activity Pb      ->  $\gamma$
- Polyethelene      -> n
- Active  $\mu$ -Veto      ->  $\mu$
- H<sub>2</sub>O      -> all



# $\text{CaWO}_4$ as WIMP-Target



# $\text{CaWO}_4$ Multi-Material WIMP Target



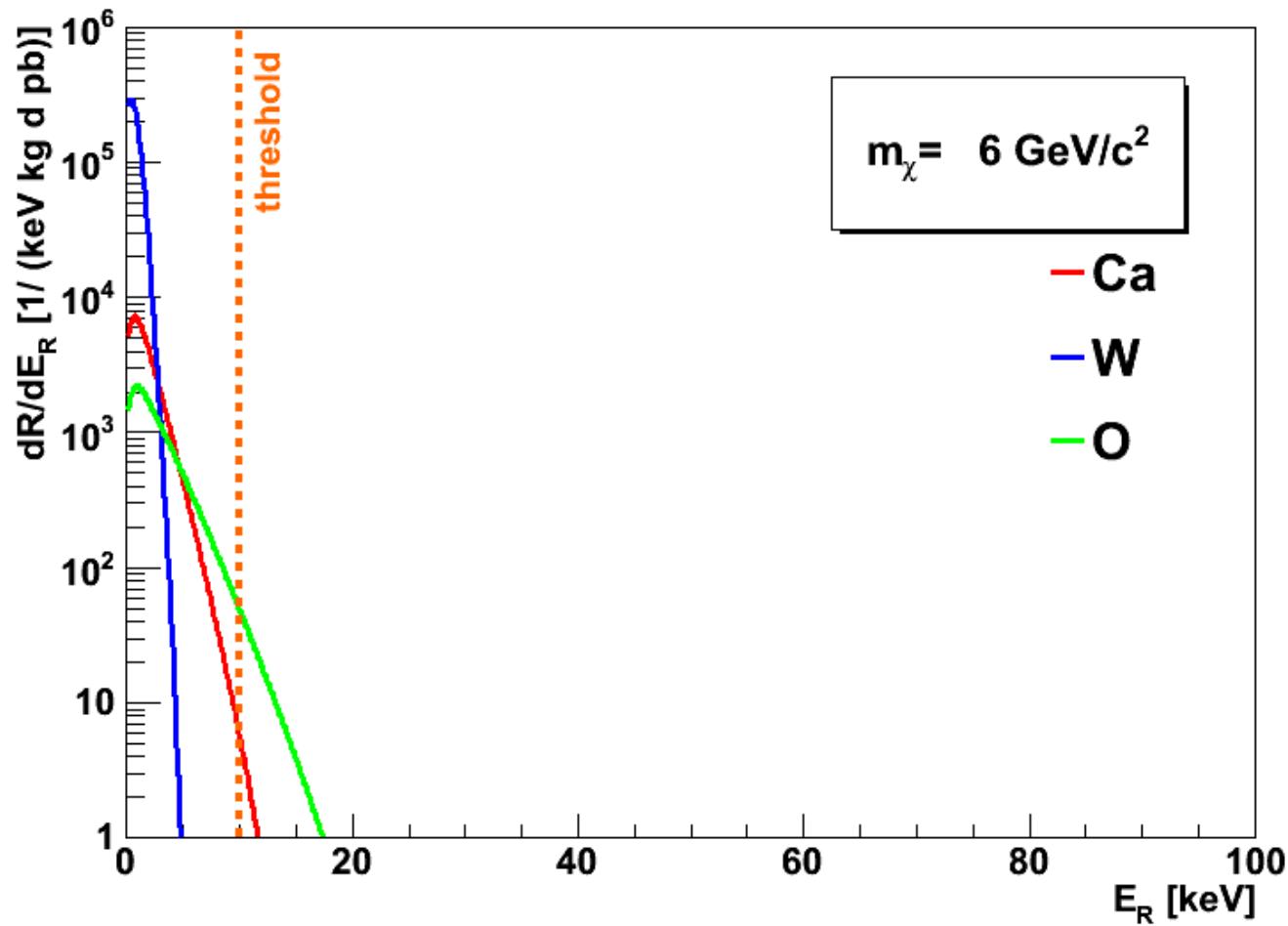
**low WIMP masses**  $\leq 20\text{GeV}$ :  
only O, Ca recoils  
above detection threshold

**high WIMP masses**  $\geq 30\text{GeV}$ :  
dominated by W  
recoils

**neutron background**  
mainly O recoils  
above detection threshold

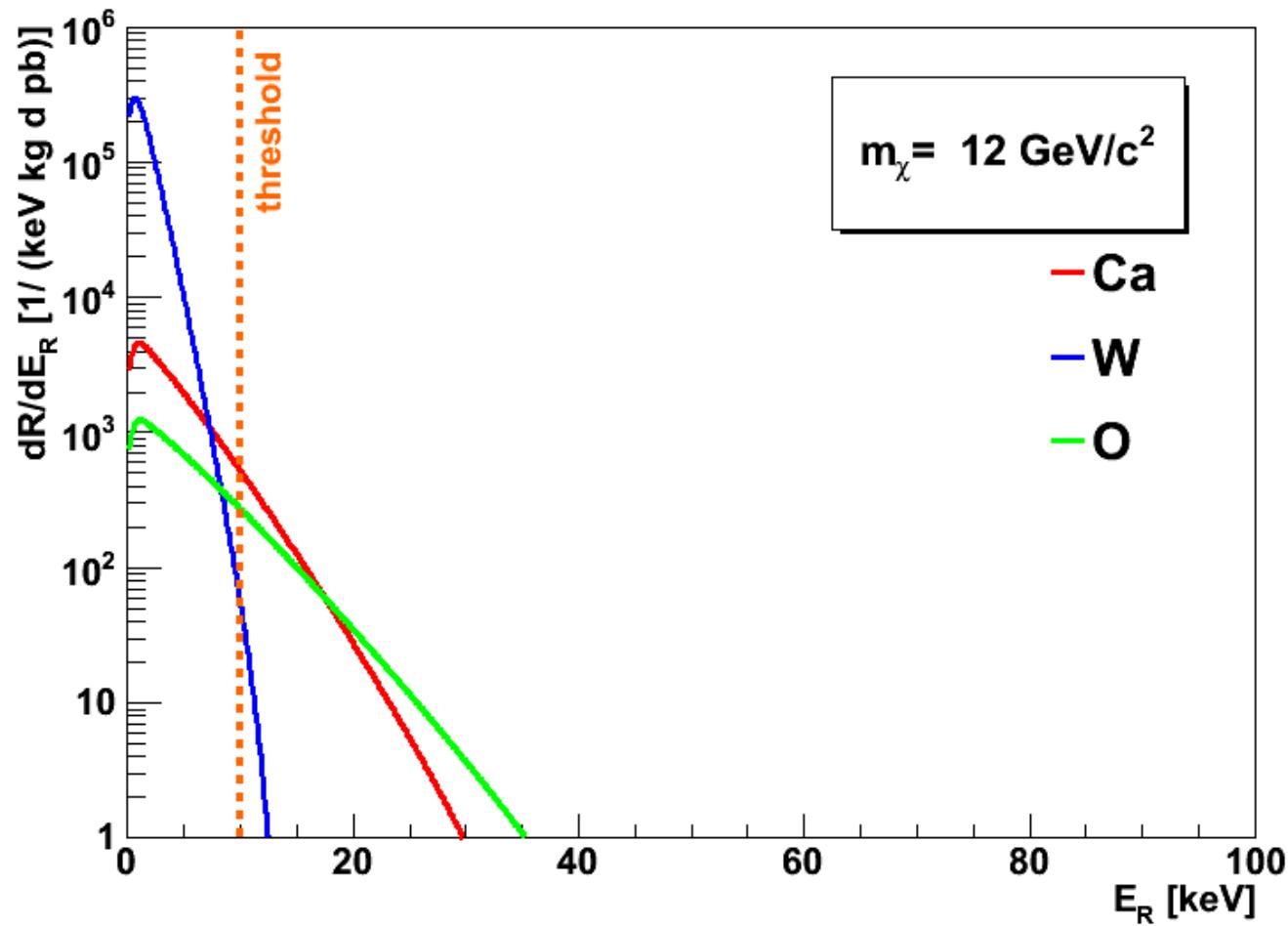
$$\Gamma = \frac{M_{\text{Target}}}{m_N} \frac{\varrho_\chi}{m_\chi} \langle v \rangle \sigma_\chi A^2$$

# Composition of Recoil Spectrum



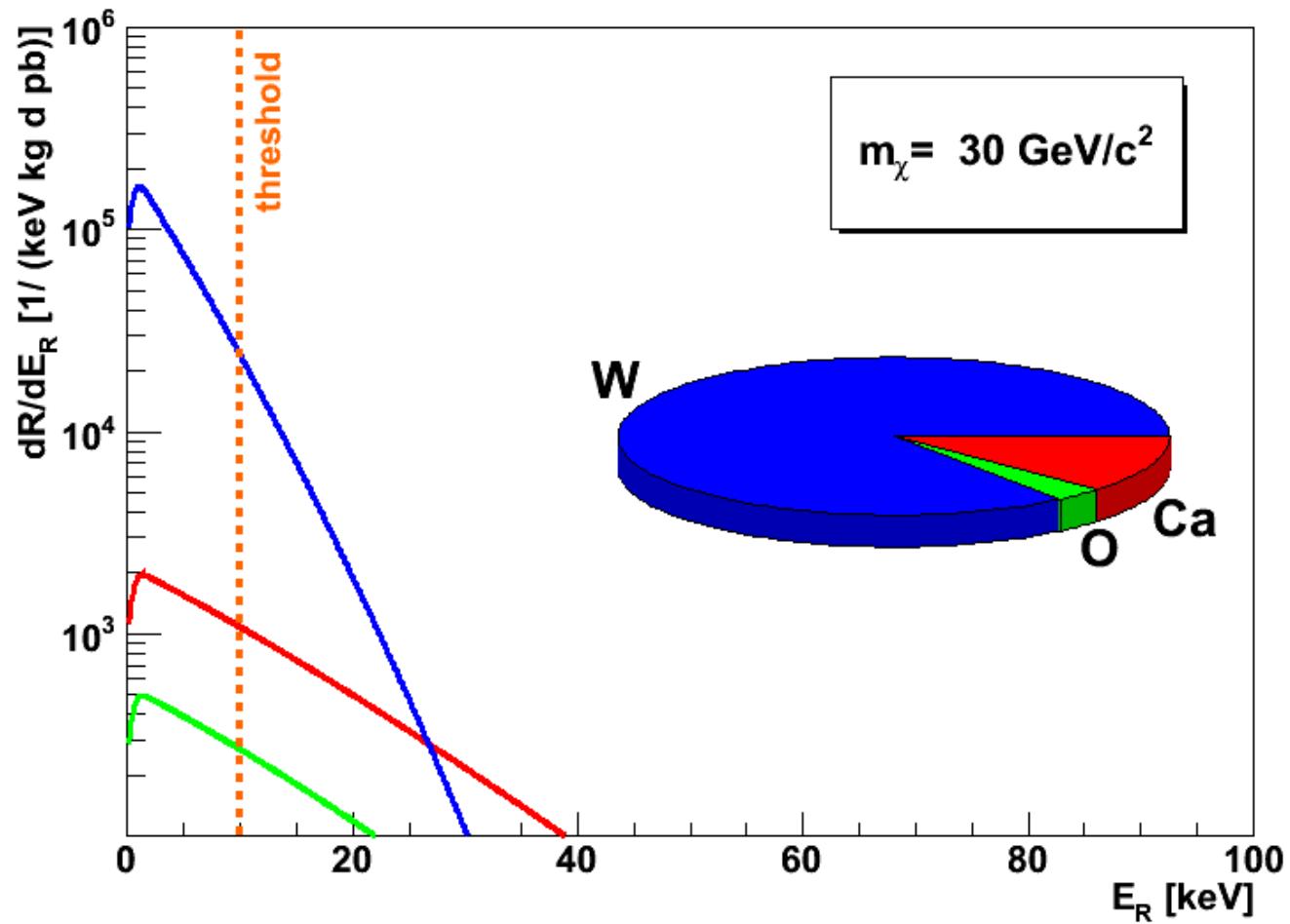
Light-mass WIMP (6GeV): only O recoils above threshold

# Composition of Recoil Spectrum



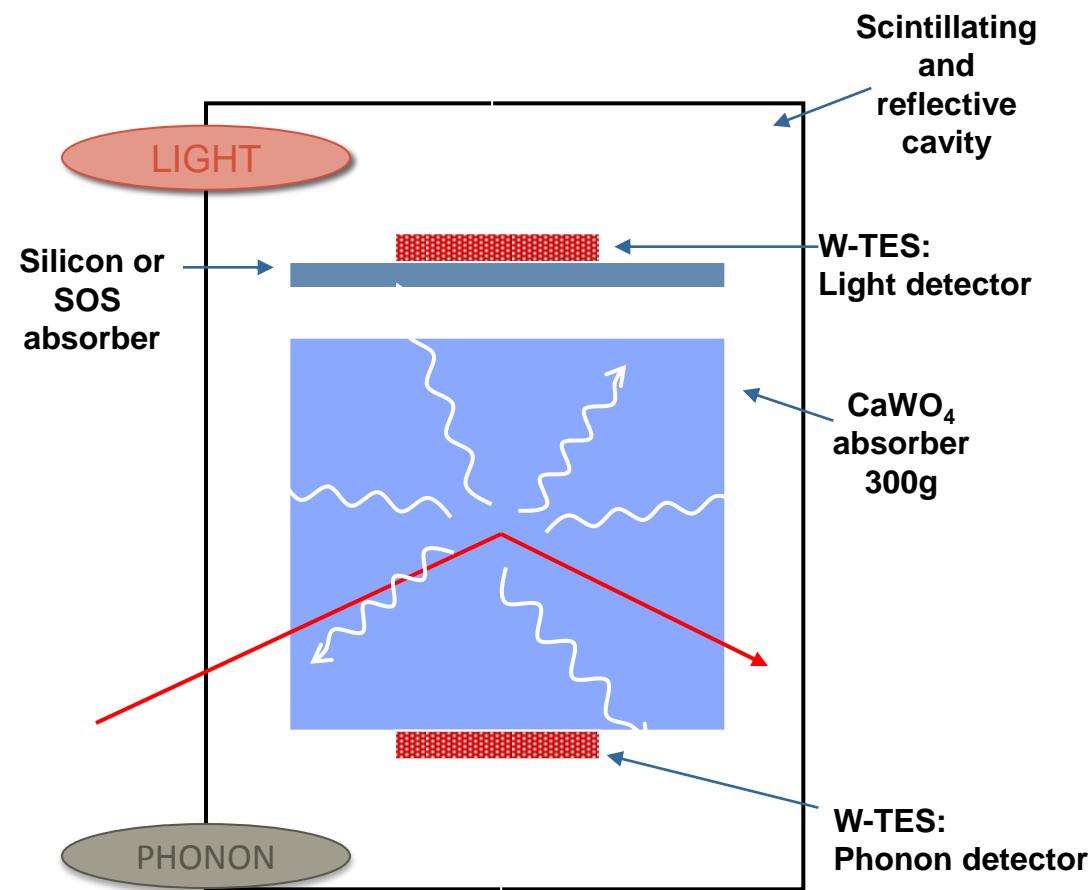
Light-mass WIMP (12 GeV): contribution of O and Ca, W just above threshold

# Composition of Recoil Spectrum

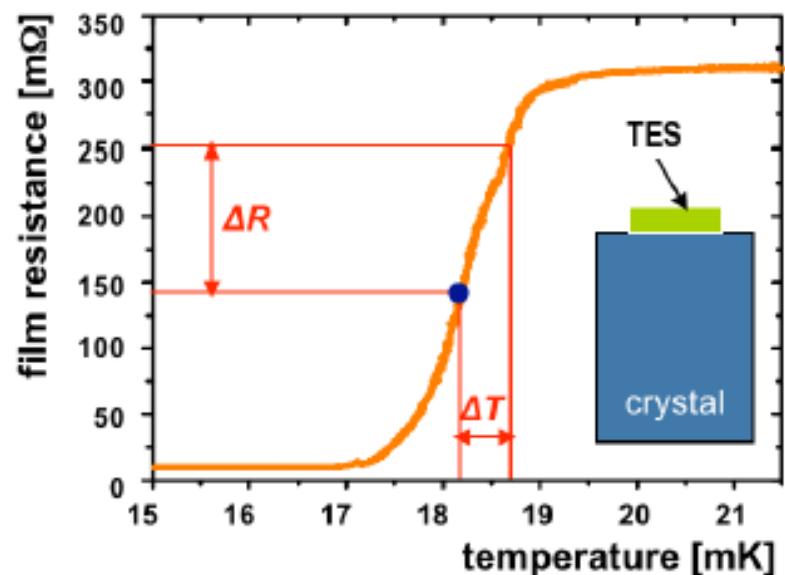


For higher WIMP masses (>30GeV): tungsten dominates recoil spectrum

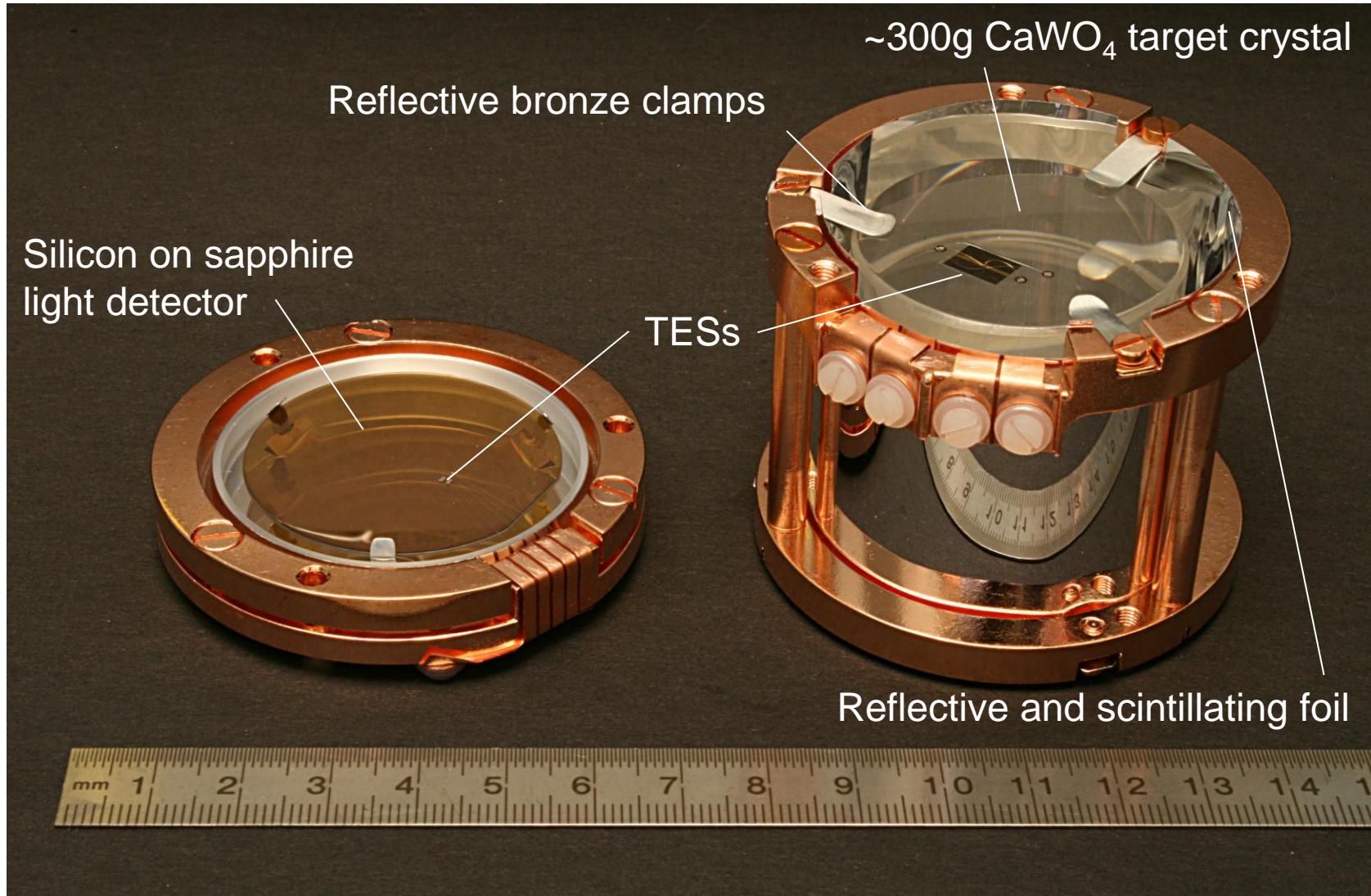
# CRESST II Detector Modules



Transition Edge Sensor (TES)

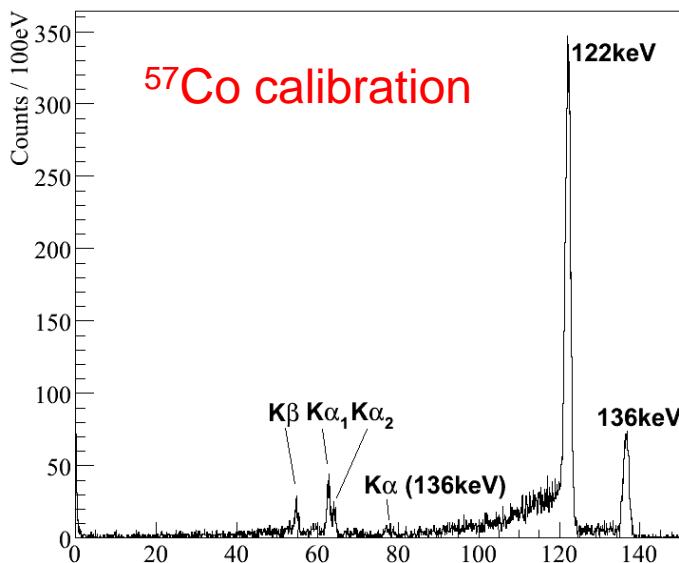


# CRESST II Detector Modules

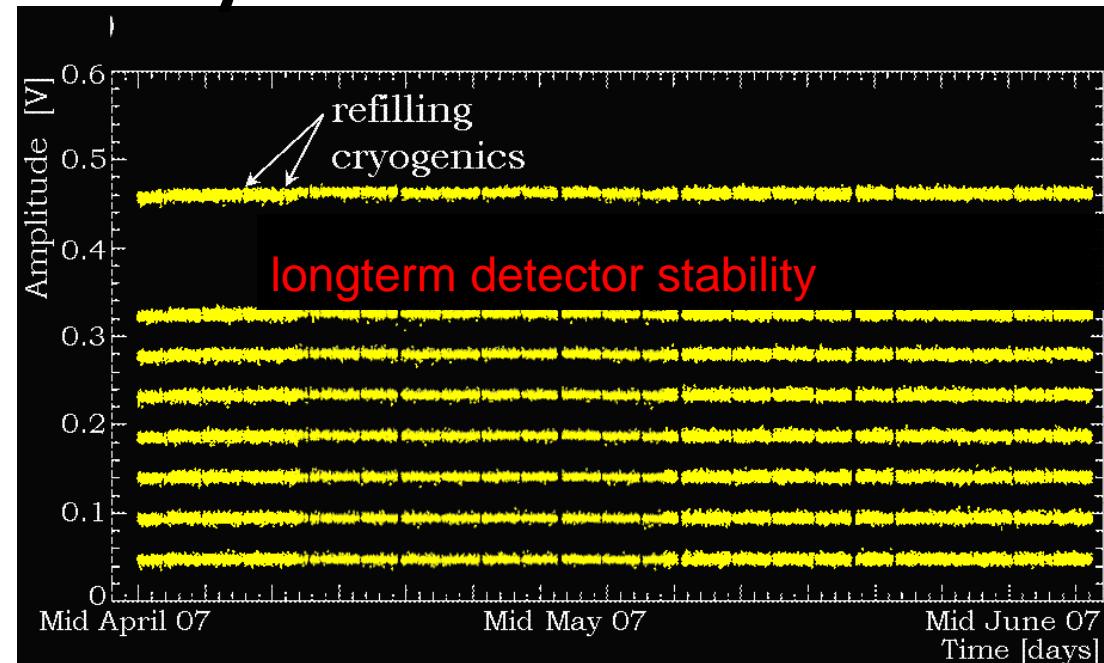


# Detector Stability & Performance

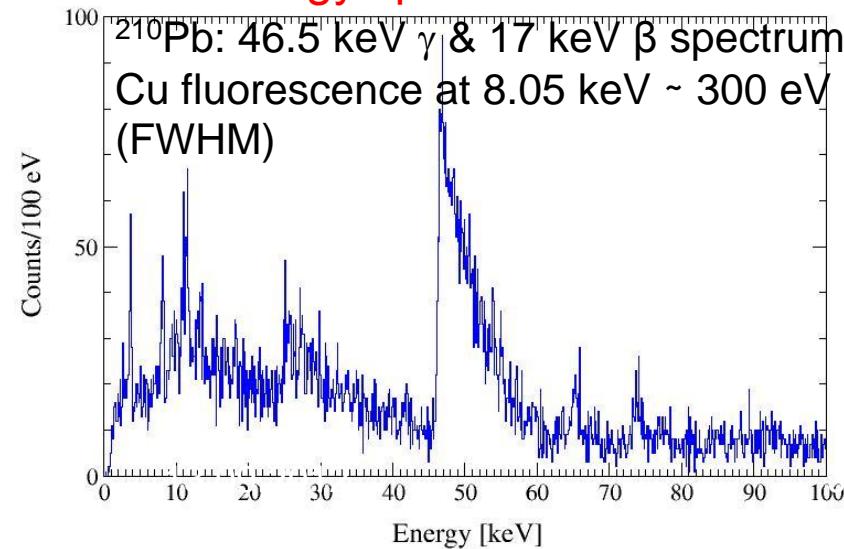
Co-57 Calibration, Detector Verena



57Co calibration



48d energy spectrum "Verena"

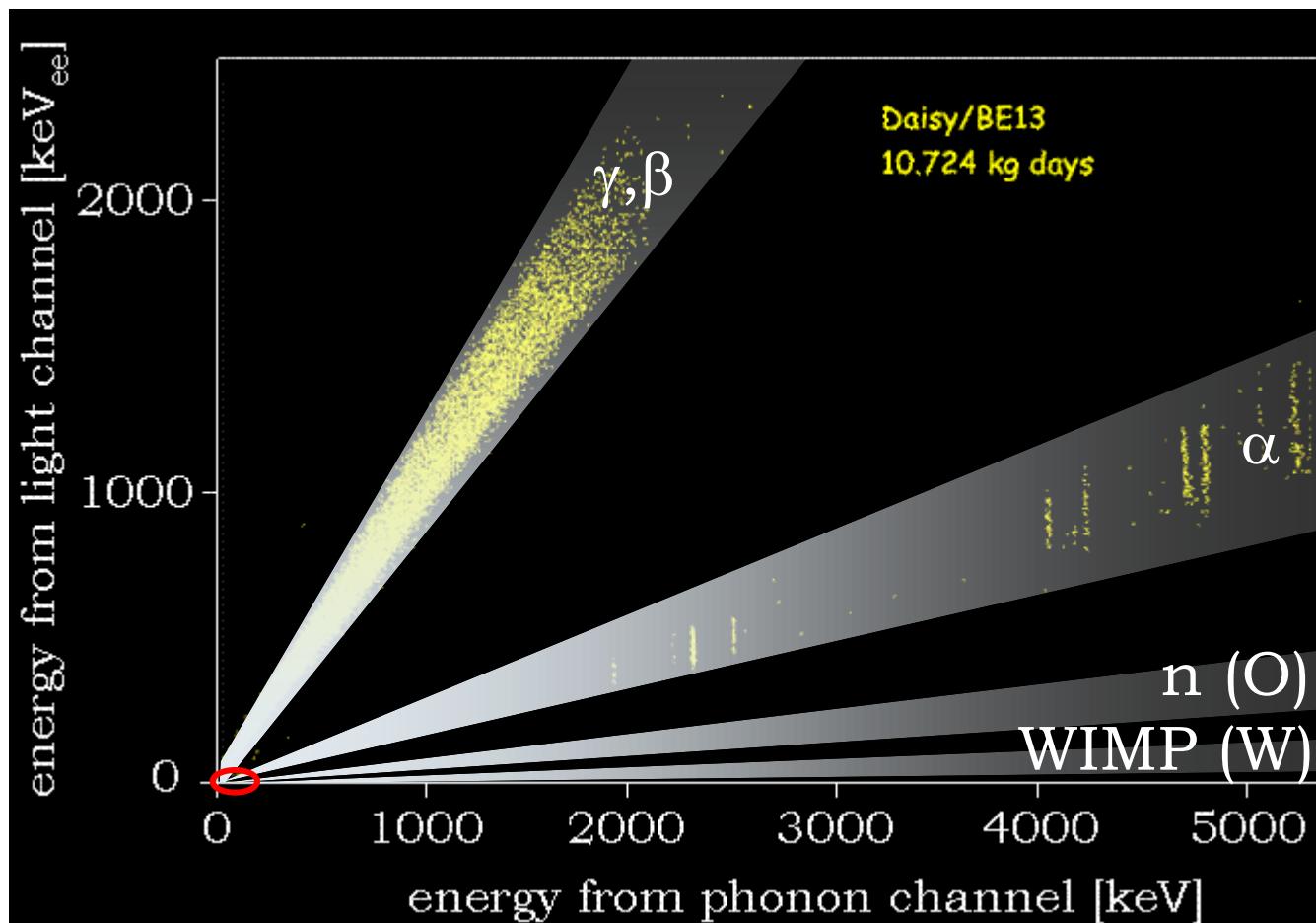


Agreement of energies with known values (background) confirm the excellent accuracy of the heater pulse calibration method.

Rafael F. Lang et al.  
„Electron and Gamma Background in CRESST Detectors“

<http://arxiv.org/abs/0905.4282>

# Unique Discrimination Capability



slope

1 (def.)

1/5

1/10

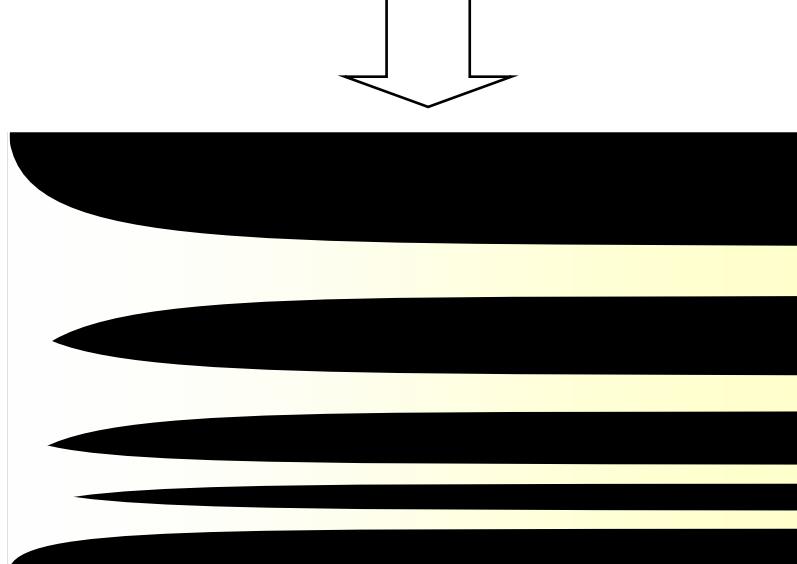
1/40

**Event-by-event discrimination !**

# Data Plots



Light versus  
phonon-energy



Light yield (light to  
phonon ratio) versus  
phonon-energy

# Identification of Event Type

- Characteristic light yield (LY) for each type of event:

e-recoil: 1 (by def.)

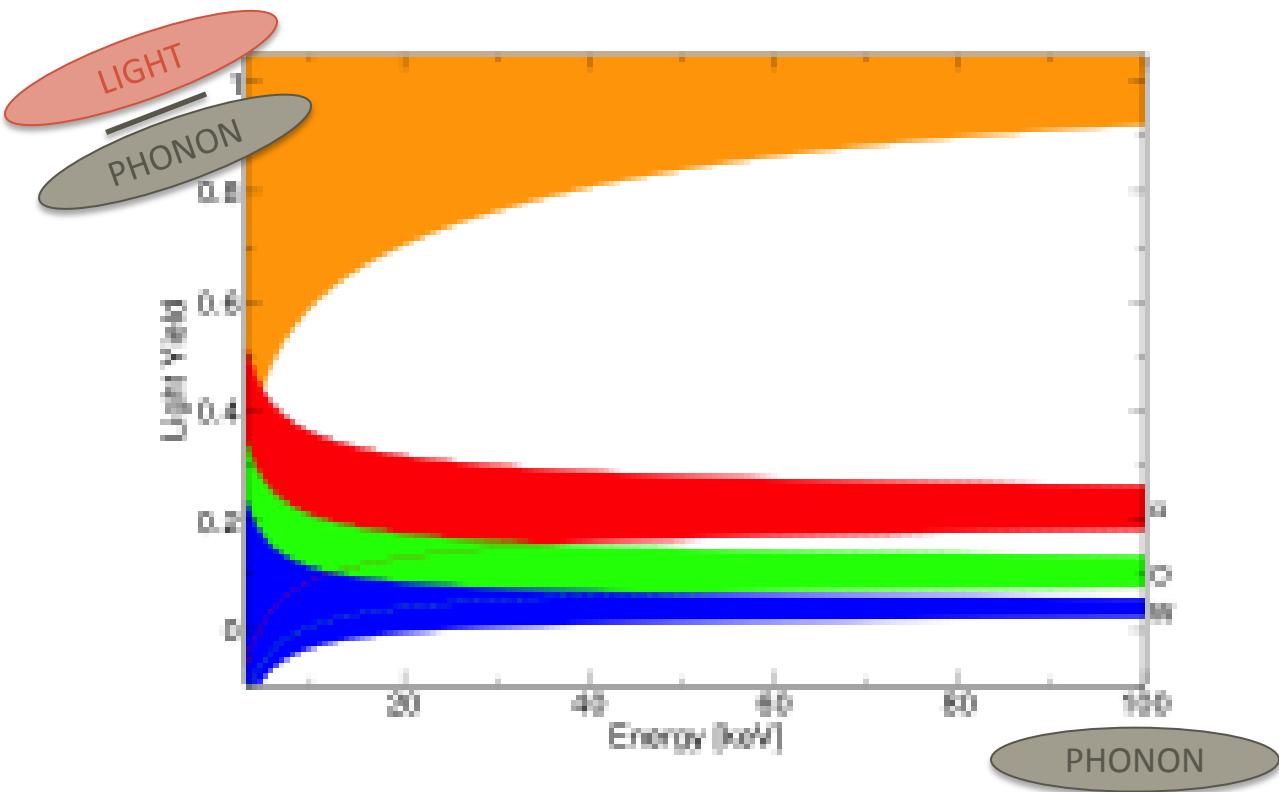
$\alpha$ : ~ 0.22

O-recoil: ~ 0.10

Ca-recoil: ~ 0.06

W-recoil: ~ 0.04

(„Quenching factors“)

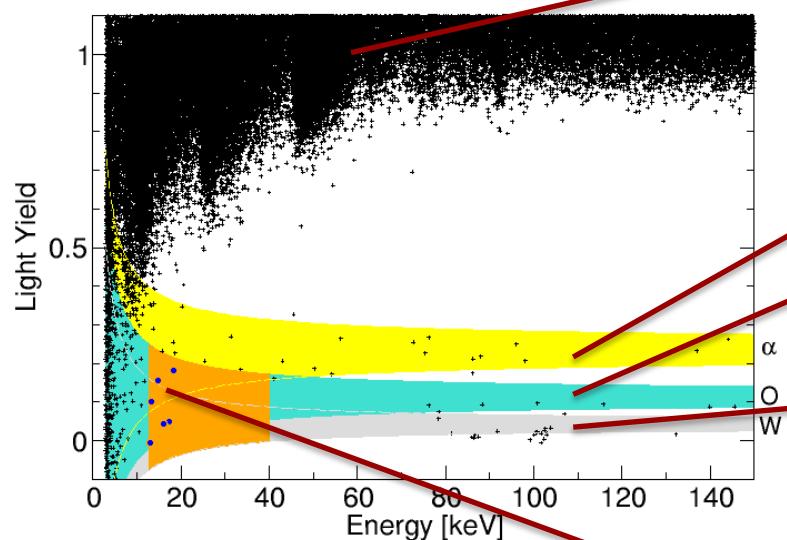


- Excellent discrimination between dominant radioactive background (electron recoils induced by  $\gamma$  and  $\beta$ ) and nuclear recoils
- To some extent identification of recoiling nucleus possible (depends on achievable separation of Ca, W and O nuclear recoil bands)
- Possibility to probe different WIMP mass scenarios in same target (unique feature of CRESST)

# Results of Run32 (2009-2011)

Eur. Phys. J. C (2012) 72:1971  
DOI 10.1140/epjc/s10052-012-1971-8

Data of one single 300g detector module in Run32:



**Acceptance region:**

includes O, Ca and W recoil bands

**Electron recoils:** excellent discrimination of from e/ $\gamma$ -band and nuclear band

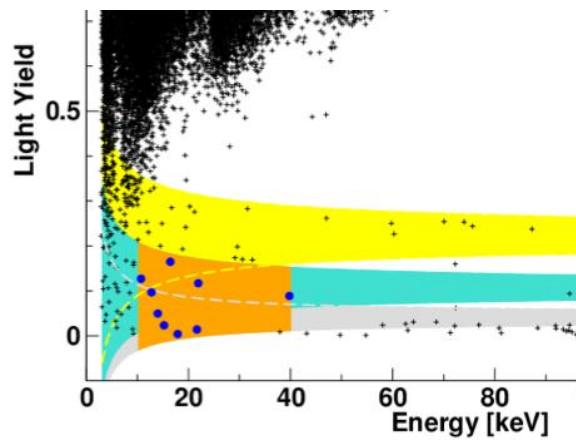
**$\alpha$ -events:** from surfaces

**O-band:** neutrons or „light“-WIMPs

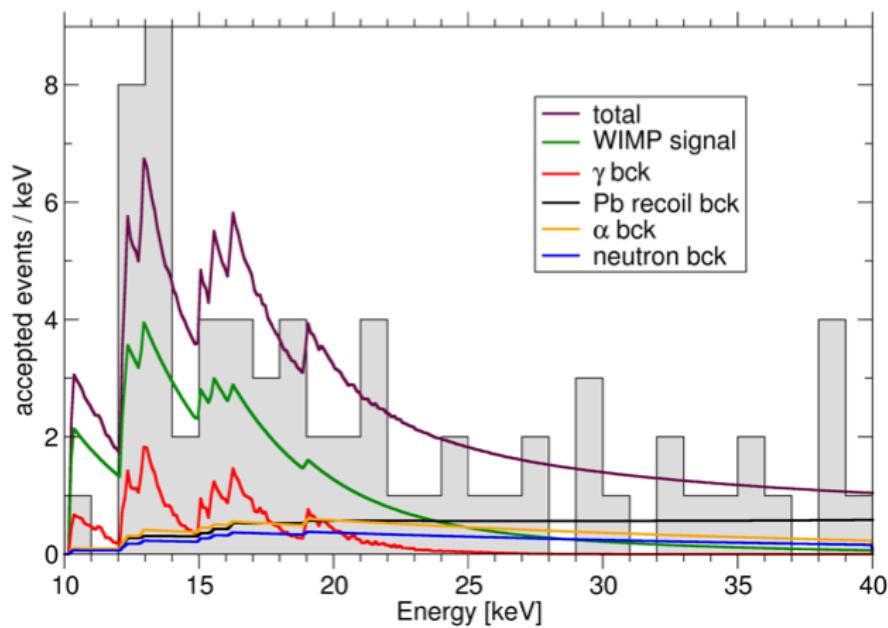
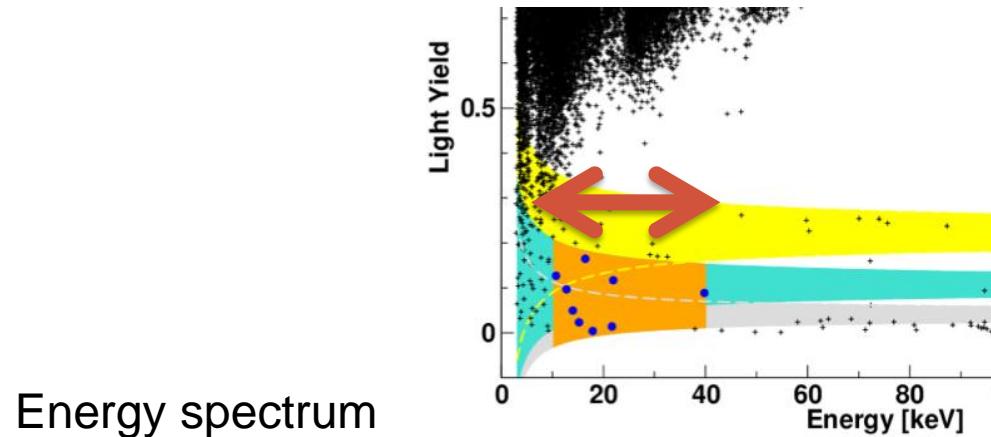
**W-band:** expect „heavy“-WIMP interaction  
-> band is contaminated by recoiling  $^{206}\text{Pb}$  nuclei  
from  $^{210}\text{Po}$   $\alpha$ -decays (clamps), 103keV  
downwards

**67 events at low energy observed in O, Ca and W-bands in all detector modules ( $\sim 730\text{kg d}$ )**

# Spectral Distribution of Observed Events

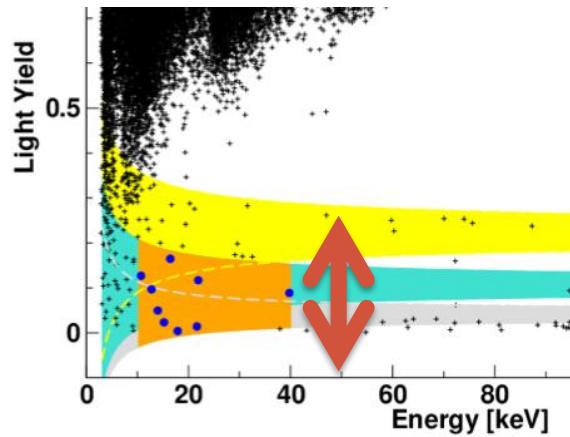
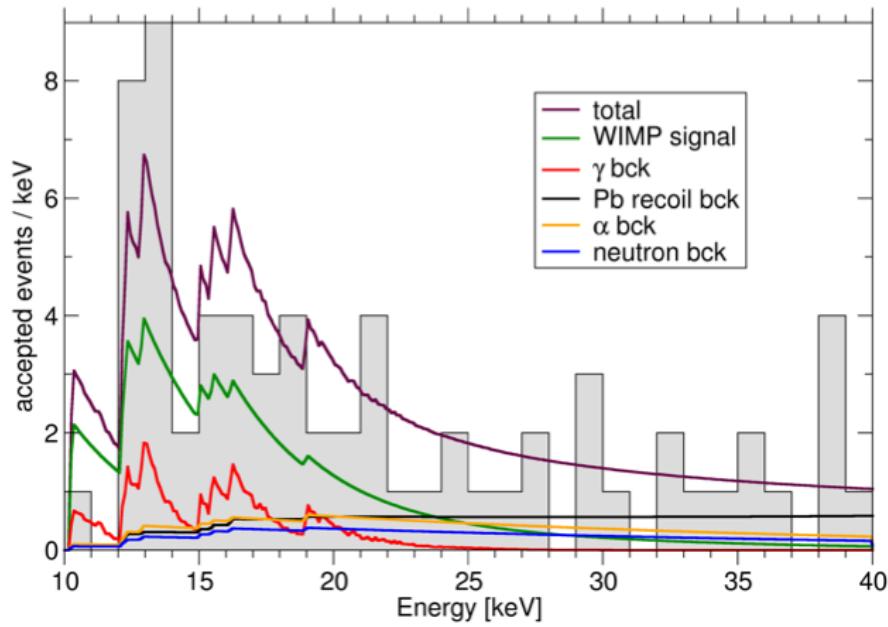


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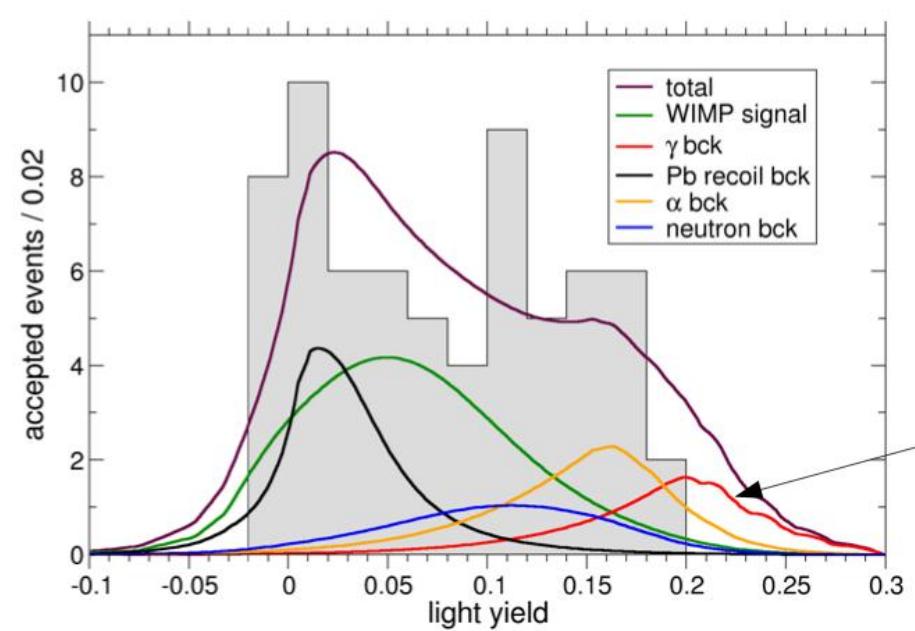


# Spectral Distribution of Observed Events

Energy spectrum

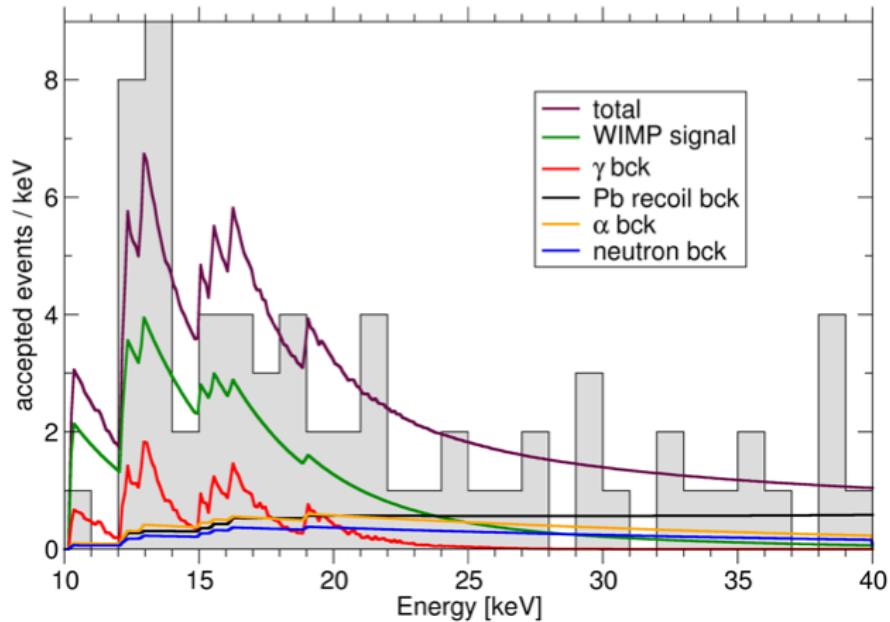


Light yield distribution

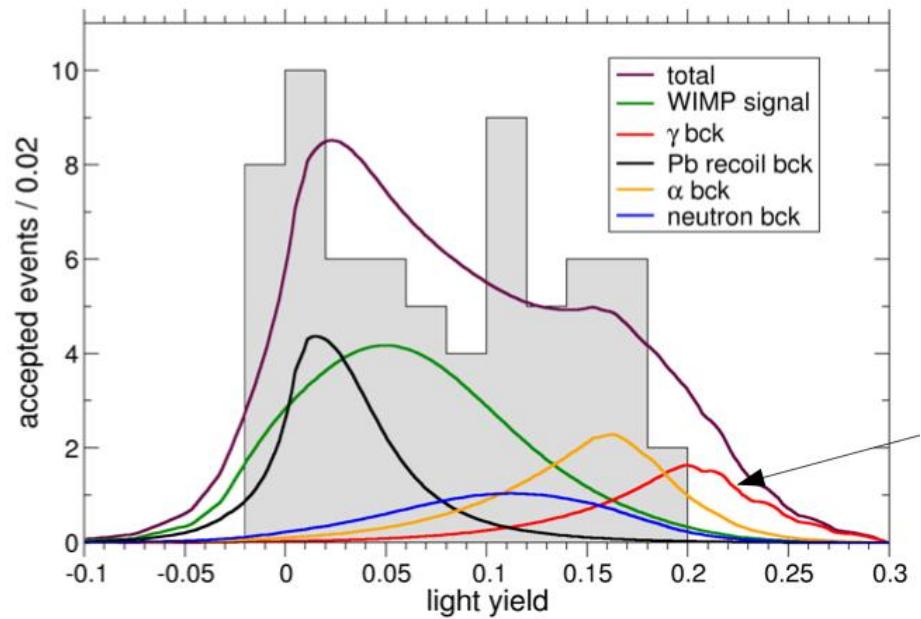


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Energy spectrum

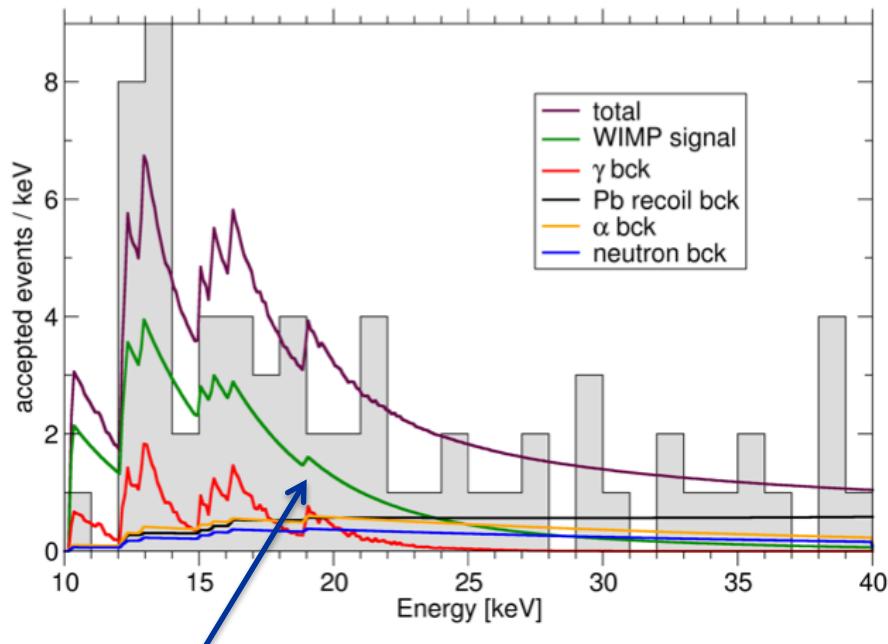


Light yield distribution



# Spectral Distribution of Observed Events

Energy spectrum



WIMP-signal spectrum is exponential  
like:

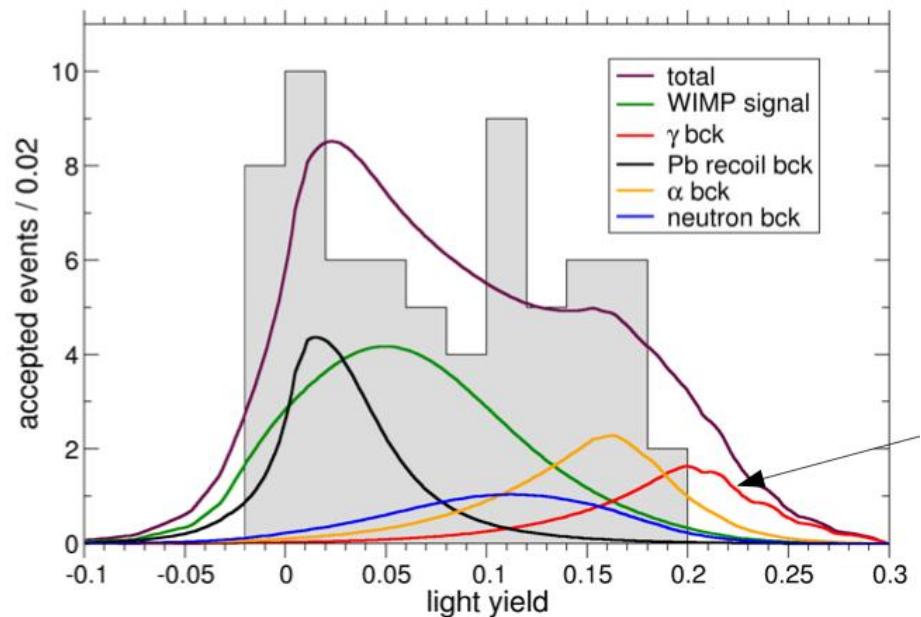
gamma background

unlike:

$^{206}\text{Pb}$ , neutron alpha background

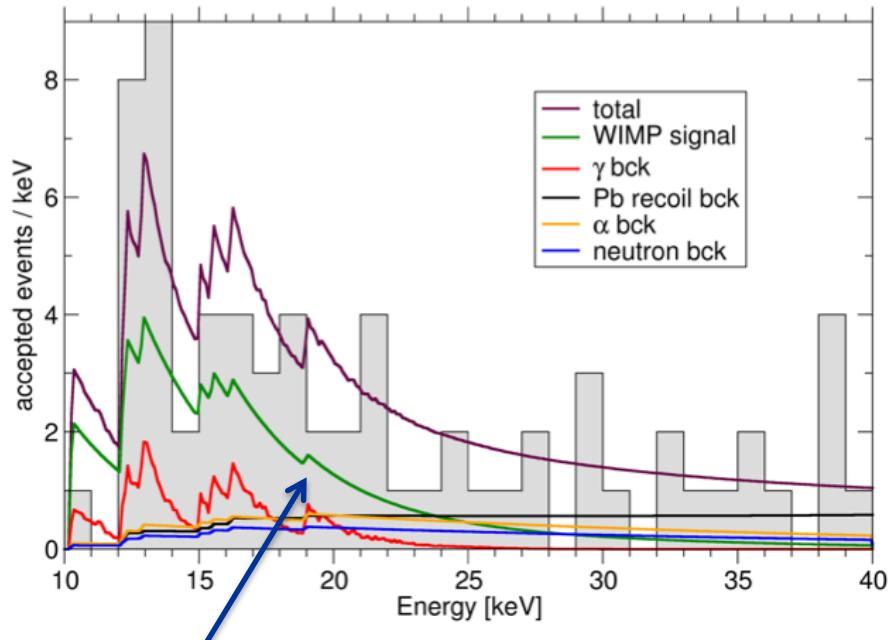
*Is the signal due to gamma leakage?*

Light yield distribution



# Spectral Distribution of Observed Events

Energy spectrum



WIMP-signal spectrum is exponential like:

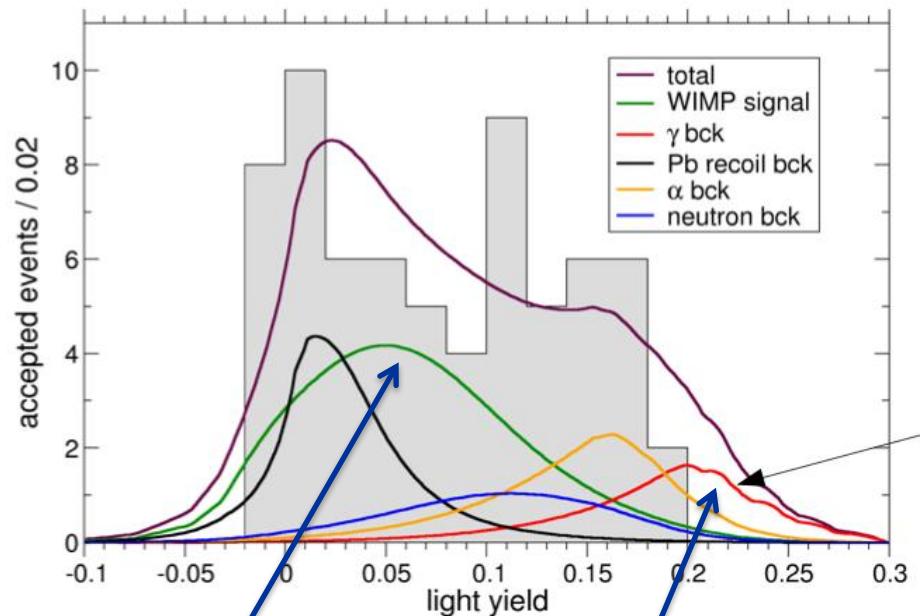
gamma background

unlike:

$^{206}\text{Pb}$ , neutron ,alpha background

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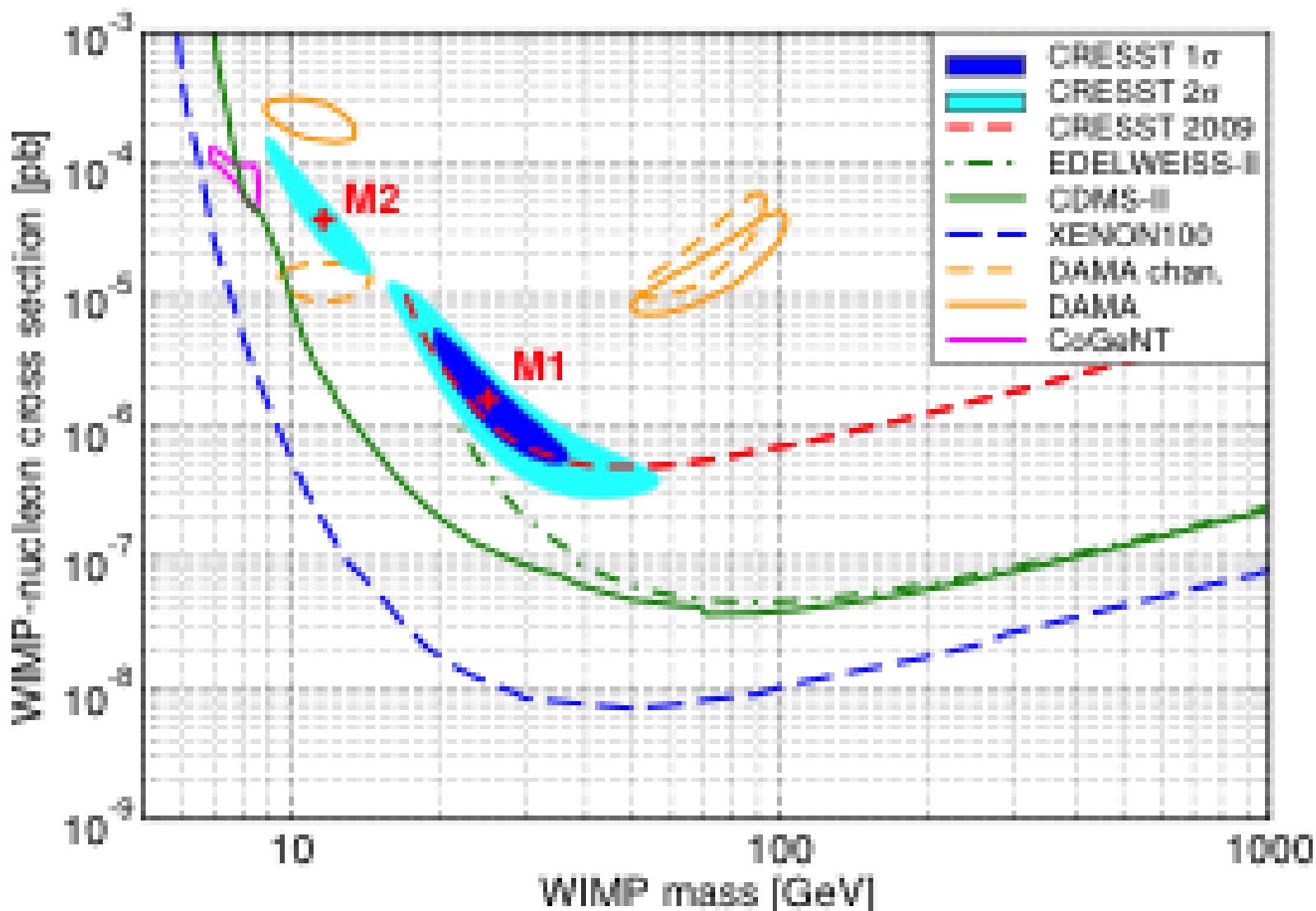
Light yield distribution



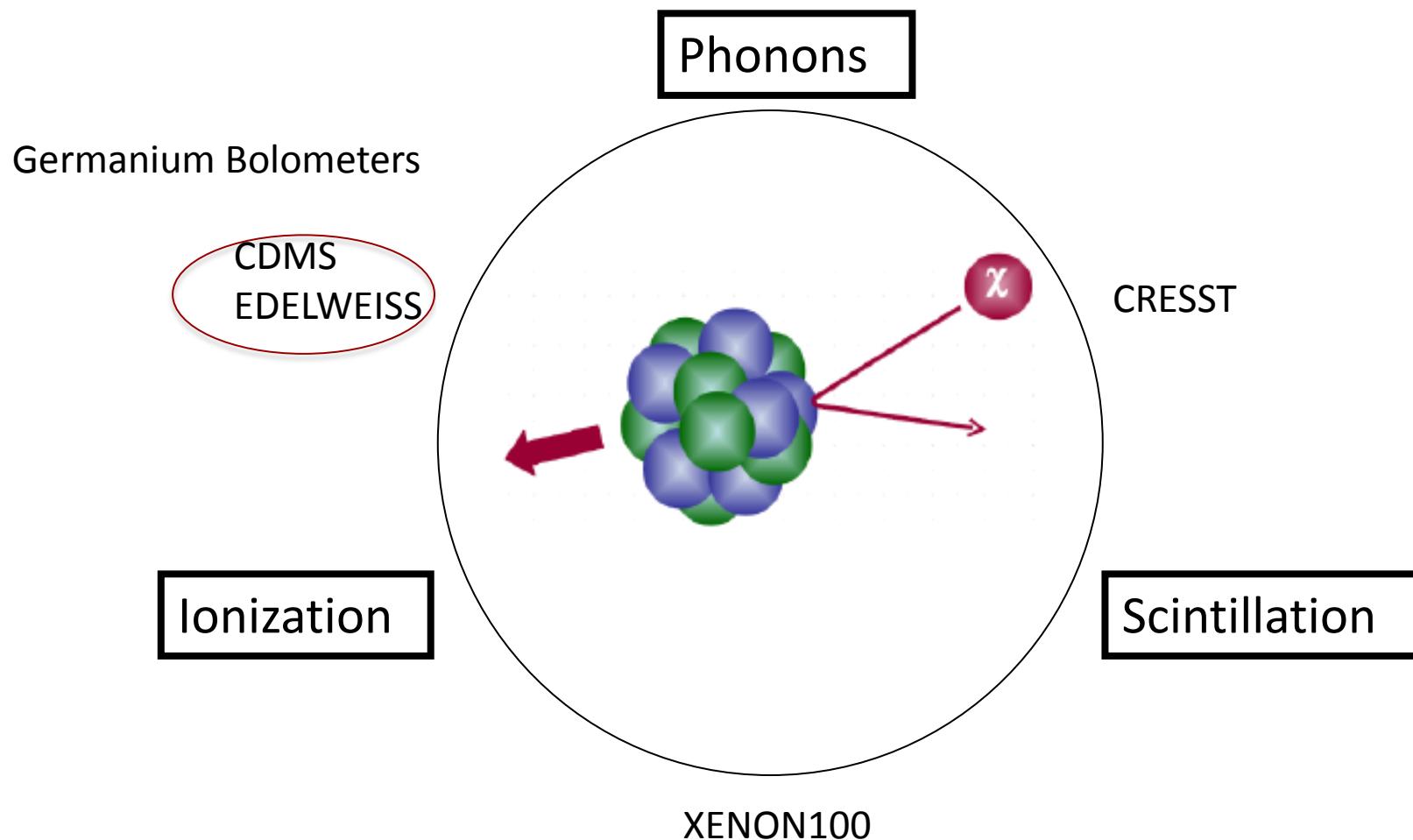
*Unlikely!*

WIMP-signal and gamma leakage differ significantly in the light yield distribution!

# WIMP Parameter Space



# Recoil Detection & Background Identification



# EDELWEISS-II Detector Technology

Germanium bolometers

➤ Heat measurement (NTD sensor)

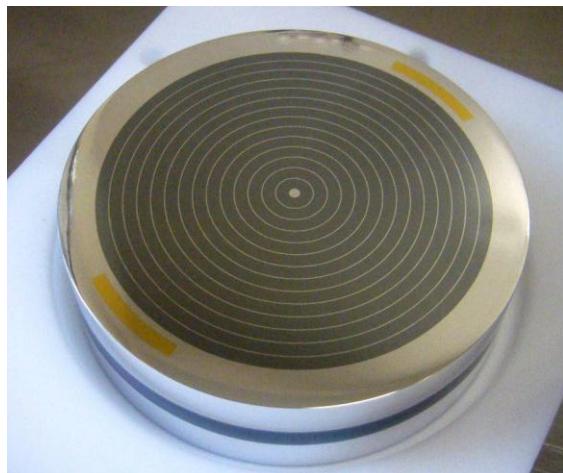
$$\rightarrow E_{\text{recoil}} \approx E_h \text{ (after NL correct.)}$$

➤ Ionization measurement @ few V/cm

➤ discrimination between ER and NR

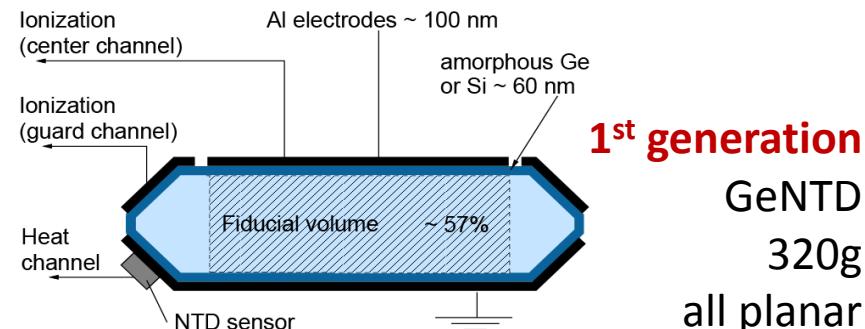
Q = ionization/recoil energy

$$Q(\text{NR}) \sim 1/3 Q(\text{ER})$$

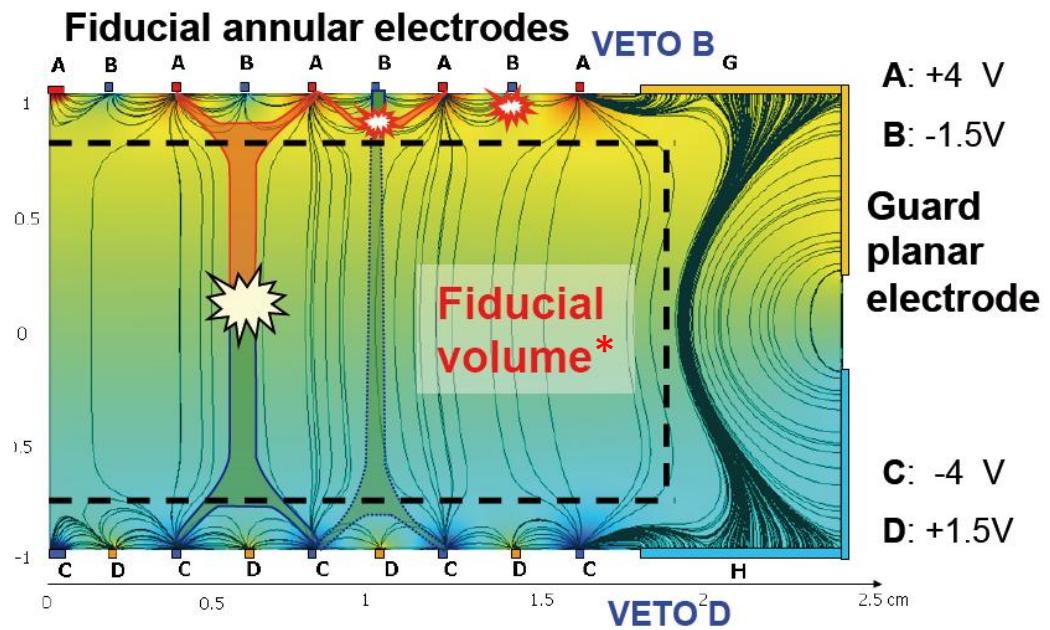


ID400g

(Courtesy K. Eitel, KIT)

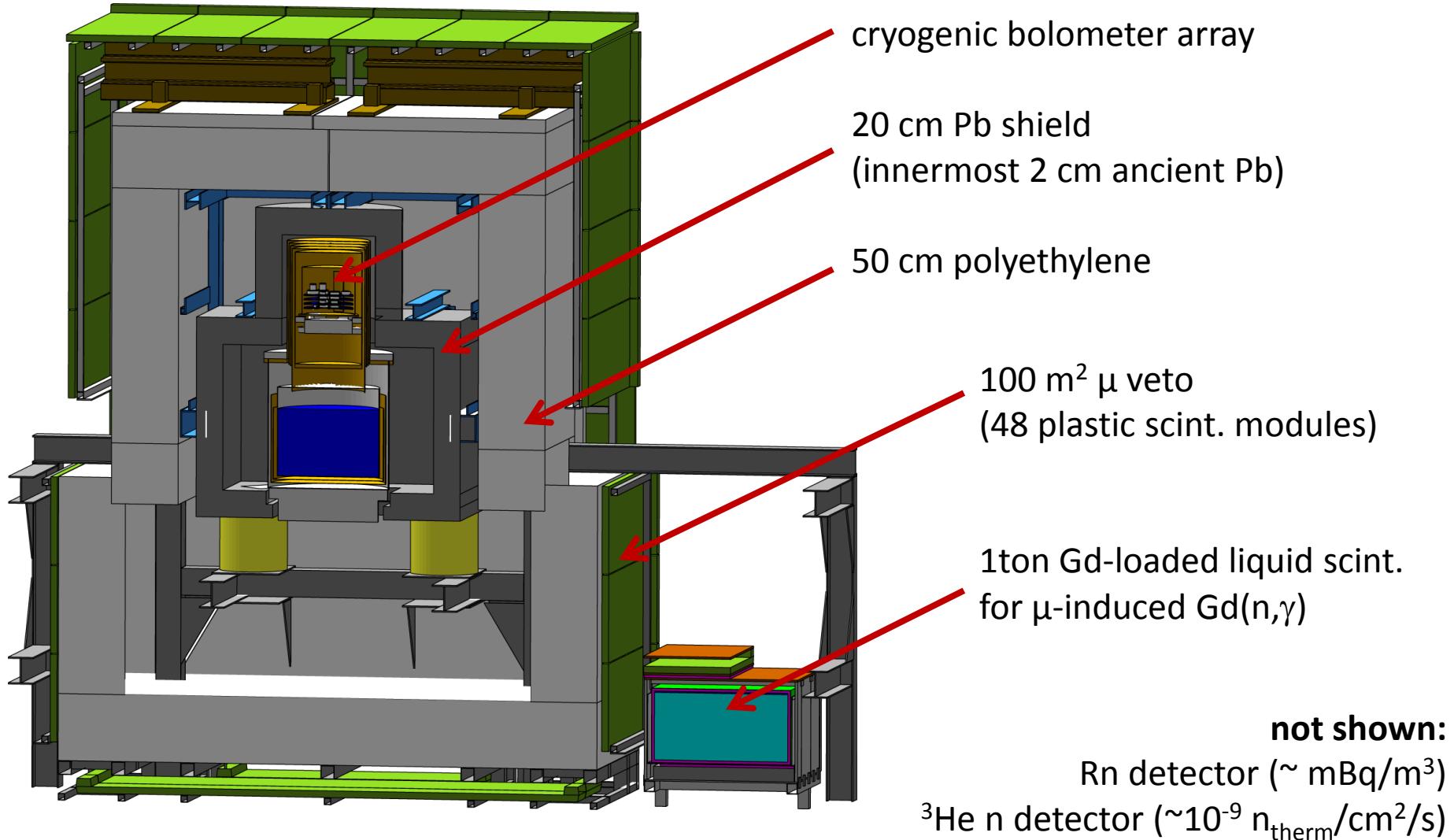


2<sup>nd</sup> generation ID400

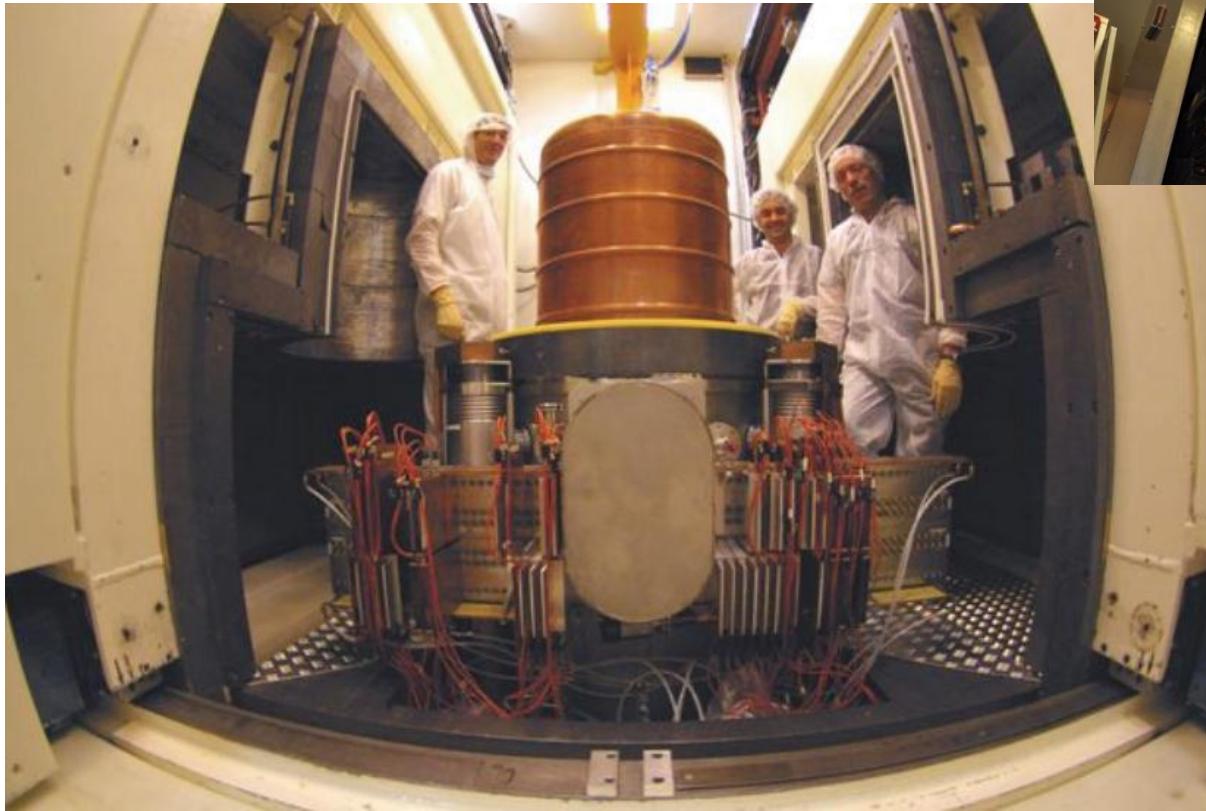


\*measured via cosmogenic  $\gamma$  lines

# EDELWEISS-II Experimental Setup



# EDELWEISS-II Experimental Setup

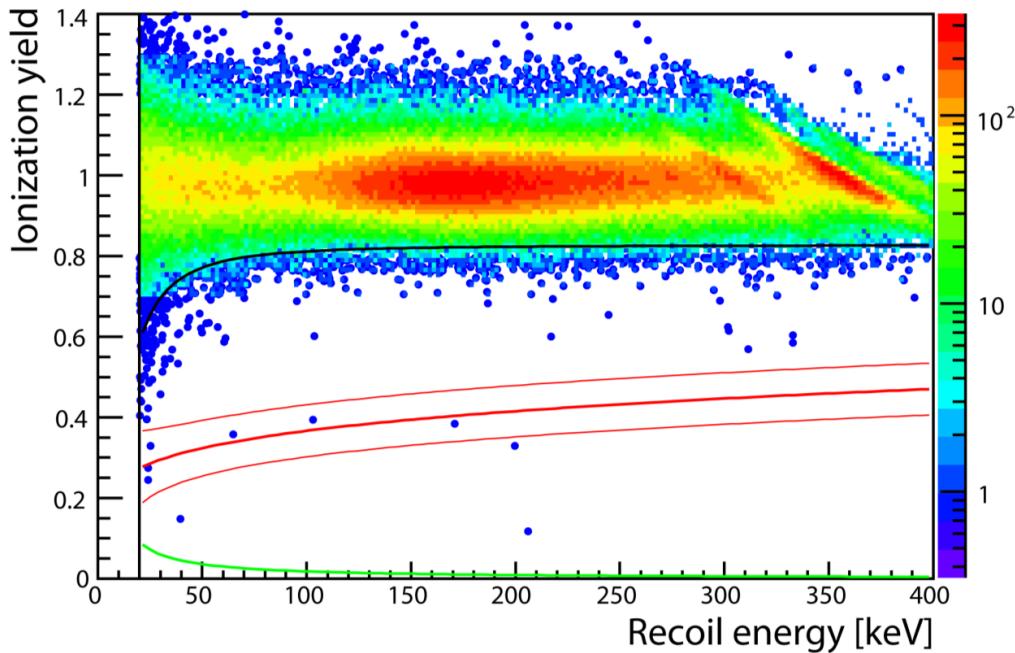


(Courtesy K. Eitel, KIT)

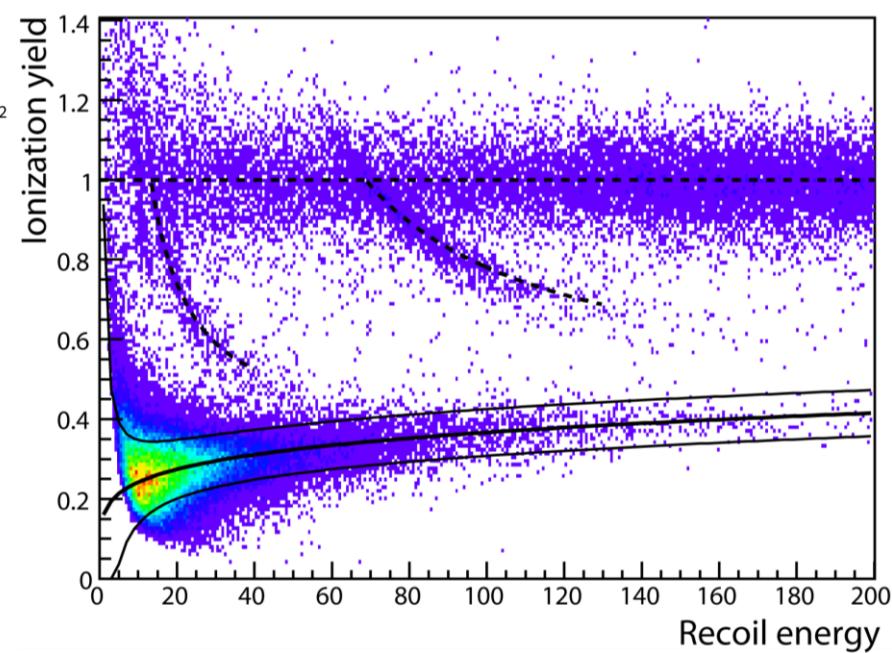
J.-C. Lanfranchi

# Calibration with $\gamma$ /n-Sources

$\gamma$  calibrations with  $^{133}\text{Ba}$



n calibrations with AmBe



more than 350.000  $\gamma$ 's

$\gamma$  suppression factor  $3 \times 10^{-5}$

1 "NR" for every 30k  $\gamma$ 's (20-200keV)

90% CL signal region

$Q = 0.16 E_r^{0.18}$  from <10 to 200keV

(detection efficiency below 20keV)

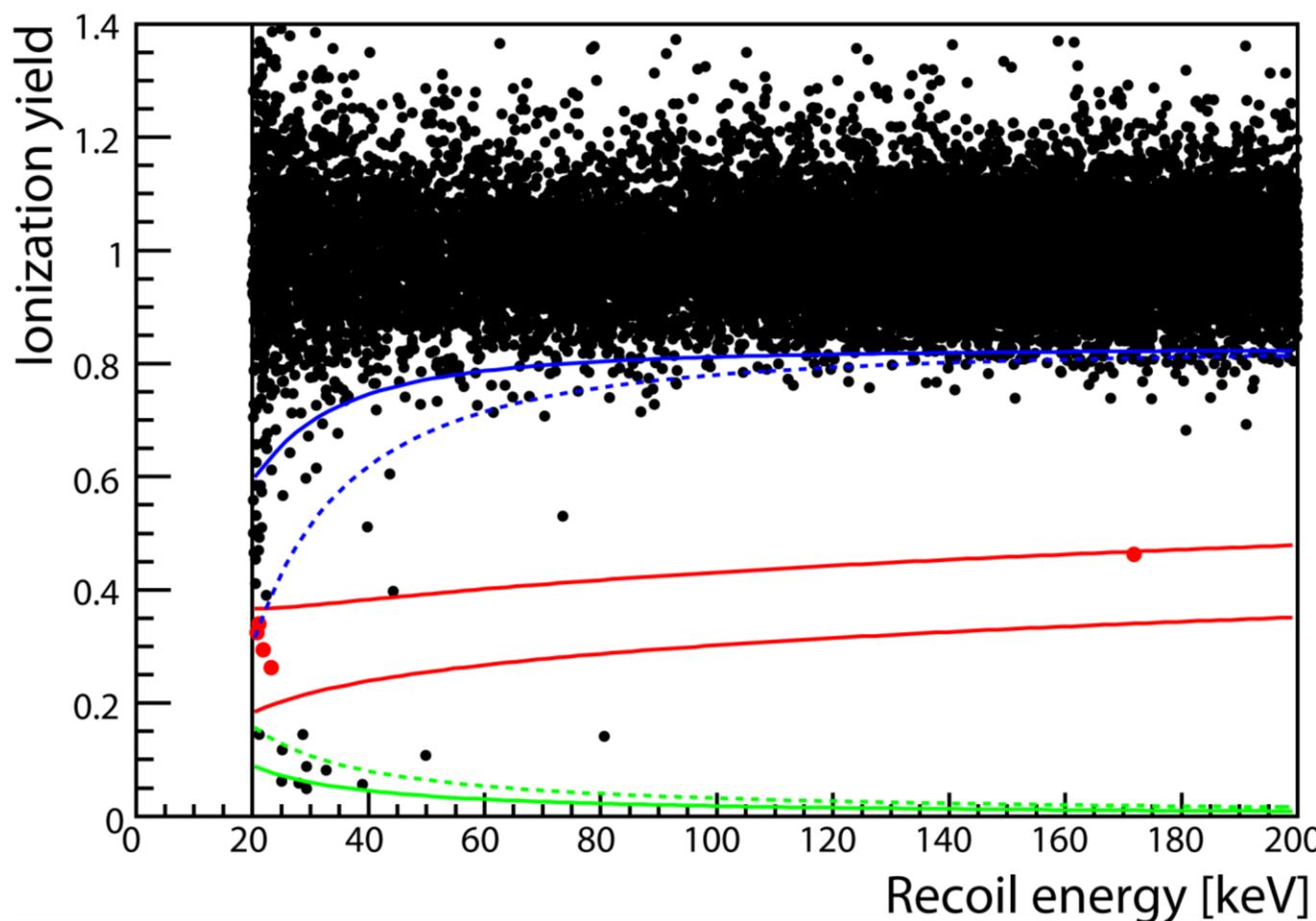
P. Di Stefano et al., ApP14 (2001) 329

O. Martineau et al., NIMA 530 (2004) 426

A. Broniatowski et al., PLB 681 (2009) 305

(Courtesy K. Eitel, KIT)

# EDW-II final result (2008+2009+2010)



(PLB702,5 (2011) 329)

total exposure  
of 427kg.d  
→ 384kg.d  
in 90% NR band  
(WIMP Roi)  
fiducial mass 1.6kg

5 events observed  
(4 with  $E < 22.5\text{keV}$ ;  
1 with  $E = 172\text{keV}$ )

3 evts bg expected  
 $20 < E < 100 \text{ keV}$

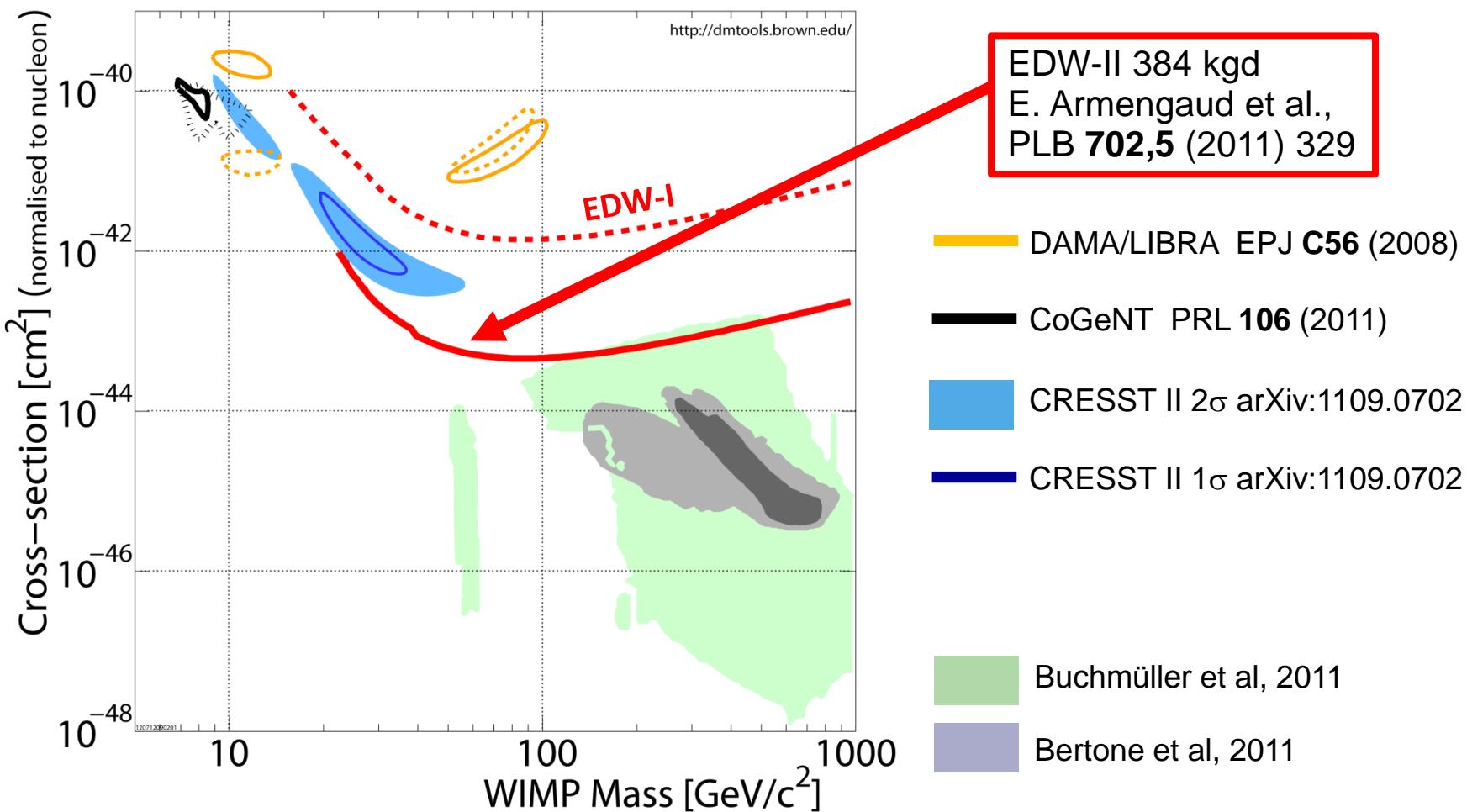
→ no indication for a WIMP signal

standard halo →  $\sigma_{\text{SI}} < 4.4 \times 10^{-8} \text{ pb}$  at 90%C.L. for  $M_{\text{WIMP}} = 85 \text{ GeV}/c^2$

(Courtesy K. Eitel, KIT)

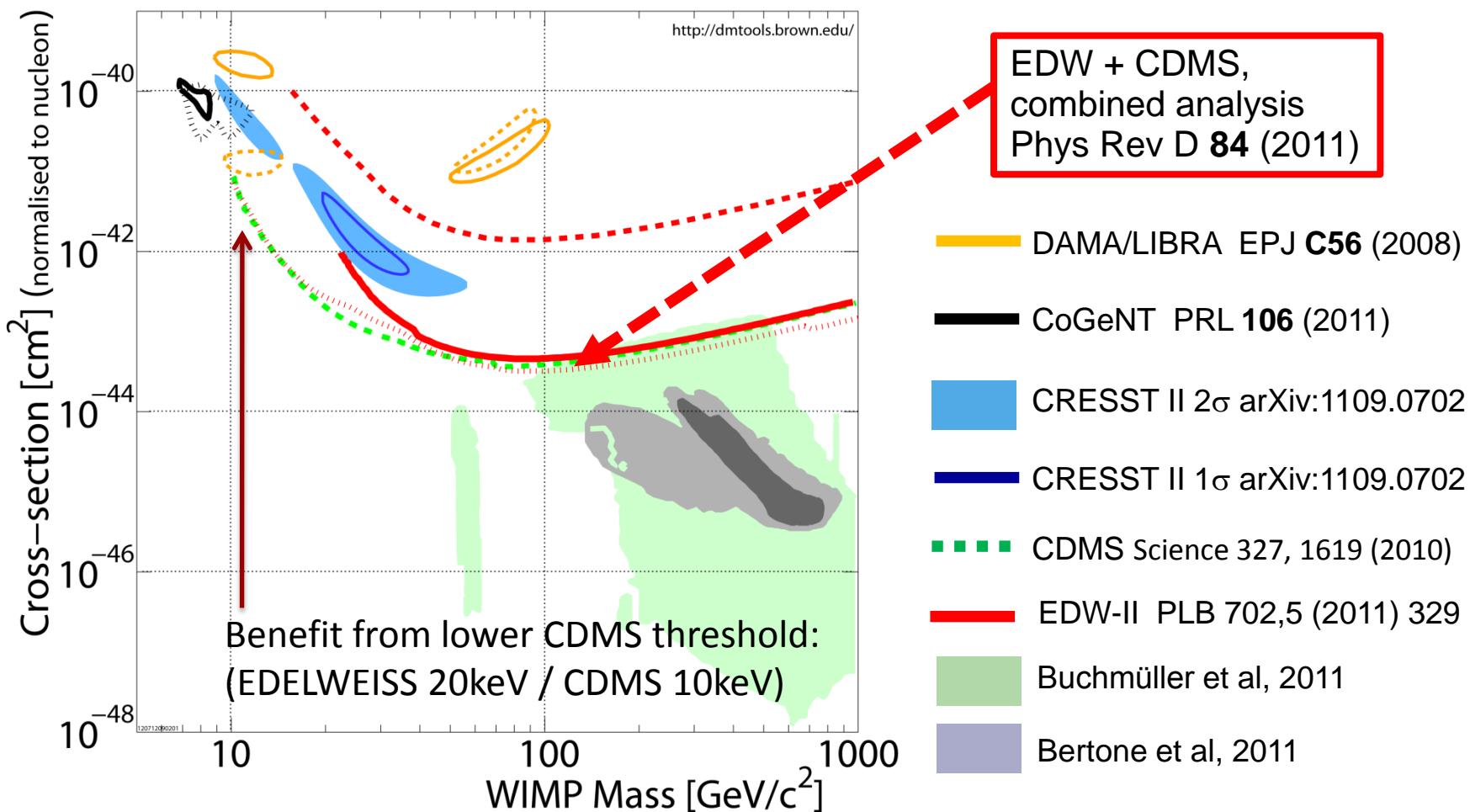
# EDW-II results in $\sigma_\chi$ vs. $m_\chi$

EDW (384kgd; [20-200keV], 5evts  $\rightarrow \sigma_{\text{SI}} < 4.4 \times 10^{-8} \text{ pb}$ ;  $M_{\text{WIMP}} = 85 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ )  
EDW-I  $\rightarrow$  EDW-II **x20 improvement**



# EDW-II & CDMS comb. in $\sigma_\chi$ vs. $m_\chi$

EDW (384kgd; [20-200keV], 5evts  $\rightarrow \sigma_{\text{SI}} < 4.4 \times 10^{-8} \text{ pb}$ ;  $M_{\text{WIMP}} = 85 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ )  
 CDMS ( $\sim 379 \text{ kgd}$ ; [ $\sim 10$ -100keV], 4 evts;  $\sigma_{\text{SI}} < 3.8 \times 10^{-8} \text{ pb}$ ;  $M_{\text{WIMP}} = 70 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ )

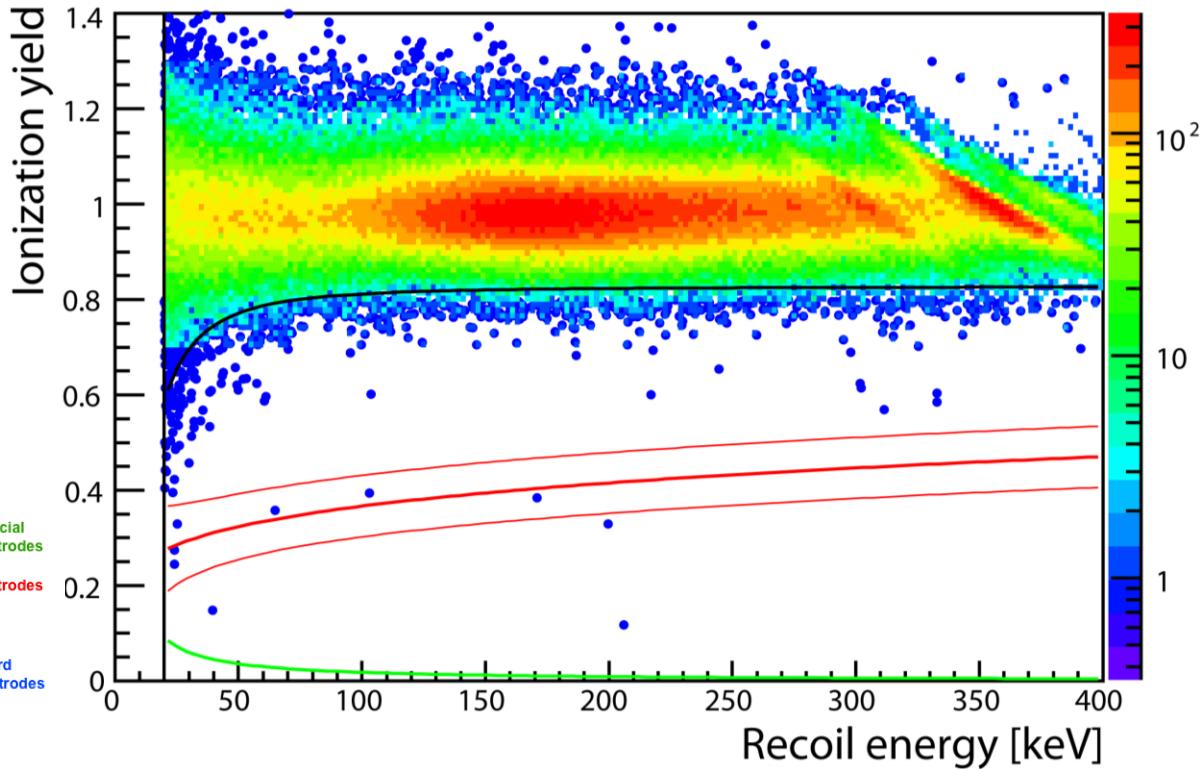
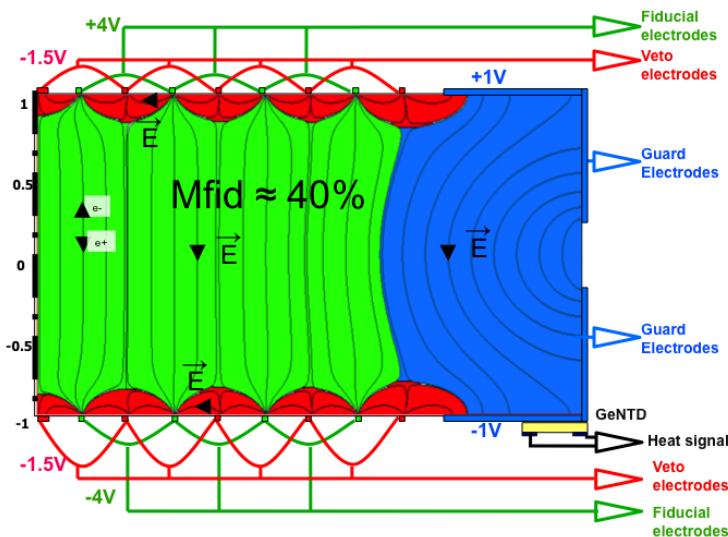


# EDW-III: next generation of detectors

2. generation ID detectors  
with lateral planar electrodes



400g cylindrical ID detector

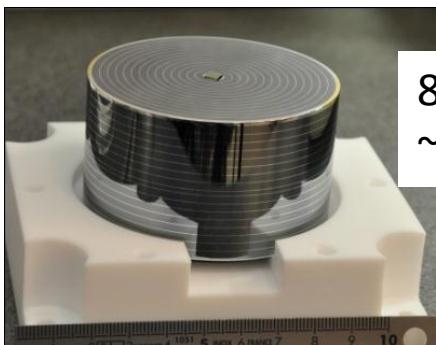
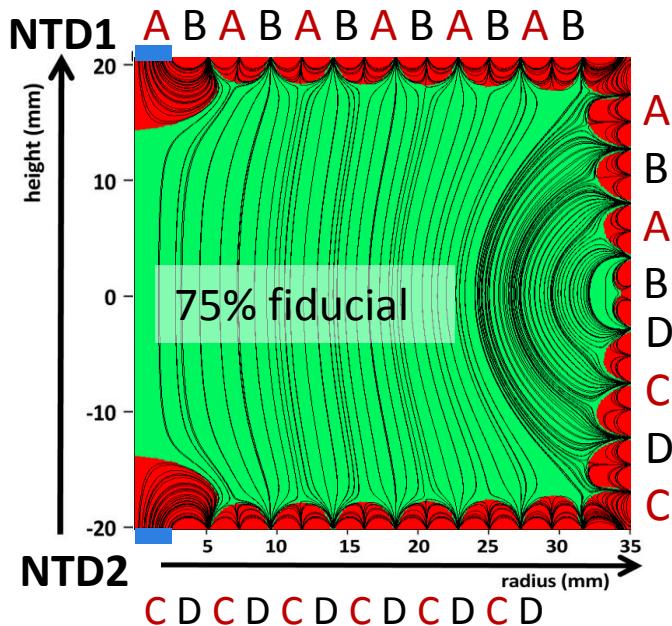


(Courtesy K. Eitel, KIT)

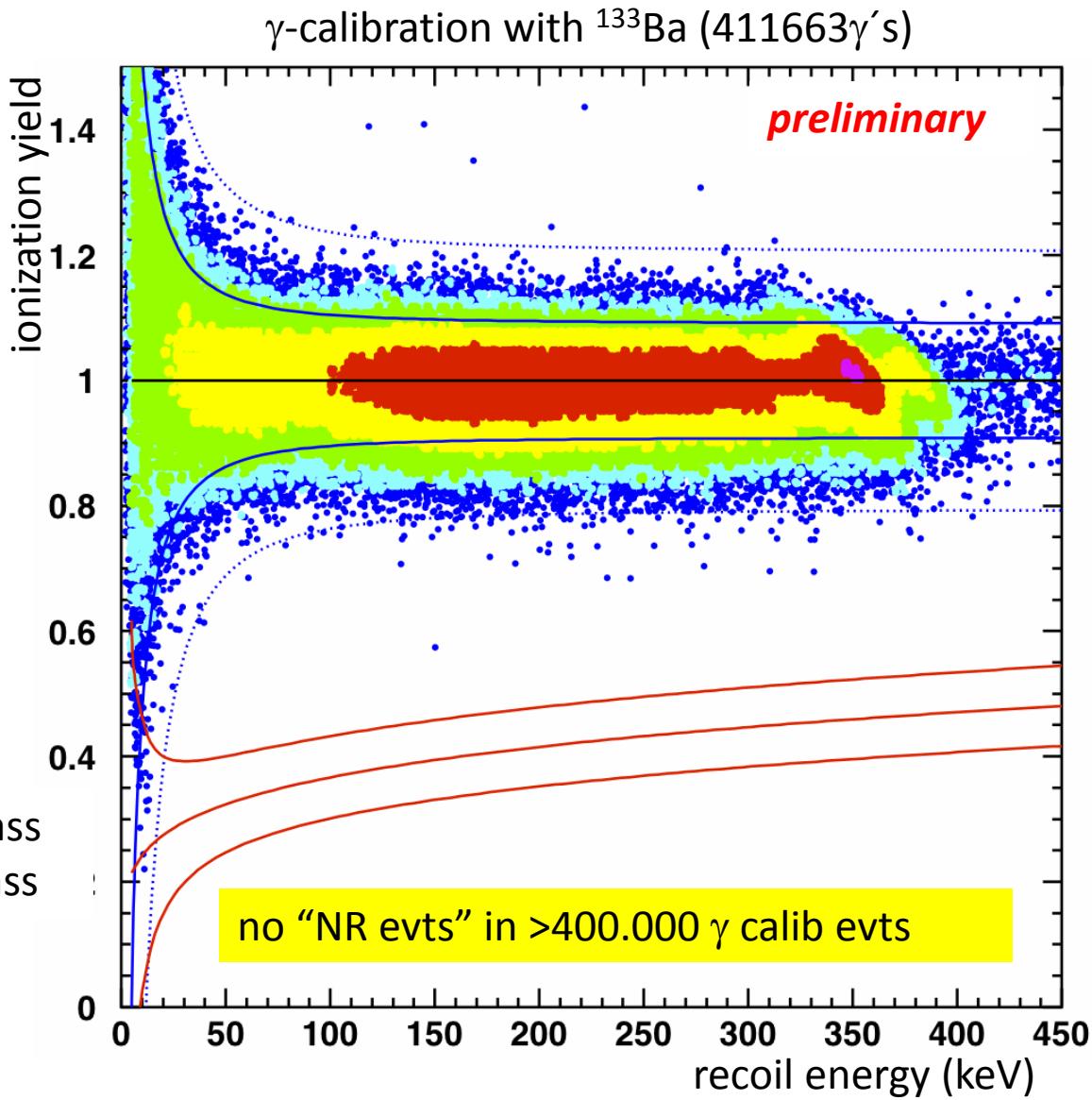
J.-C. Lanfranchi

# EDW-III: next generation of detectors

3. generation: FID detectors  
with rings on all surfaces



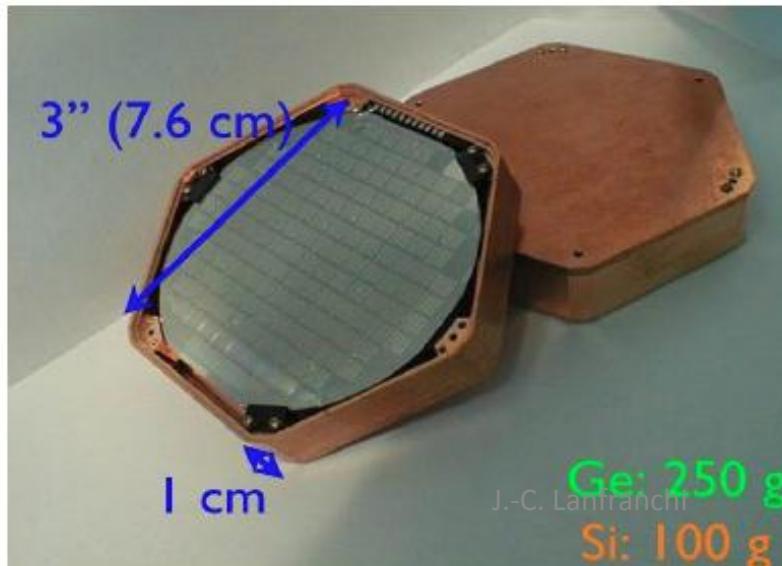
800g total mass  
~600g fid. mass



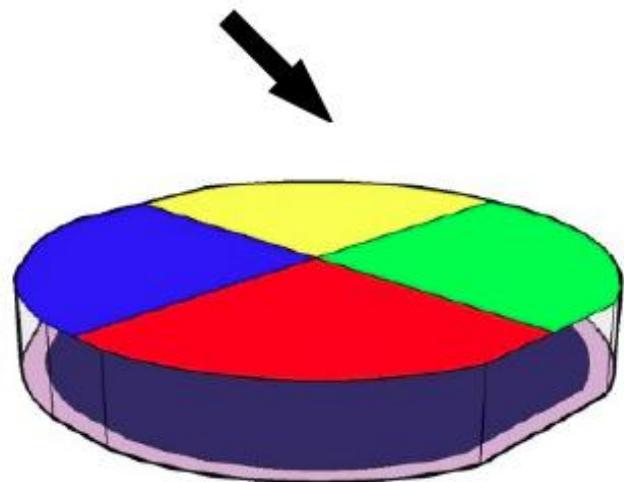
(Courtesy K. Eitel, KIT)

# CDMS – Cold Dark Matter Search

- 19 Ge and 11 Si semiconductor detectors
- operated at cryogenic temperatures ( $\sim 40$  mK)
- 2 signals from interaction (ionization and phonon) → event by event discrimination between electron recoils and nuclear recoils
- z-sensitive readout
- xy-position imaging

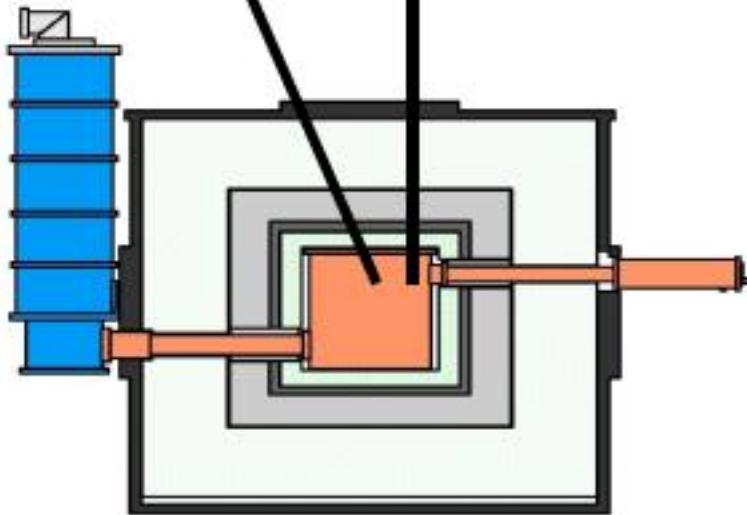
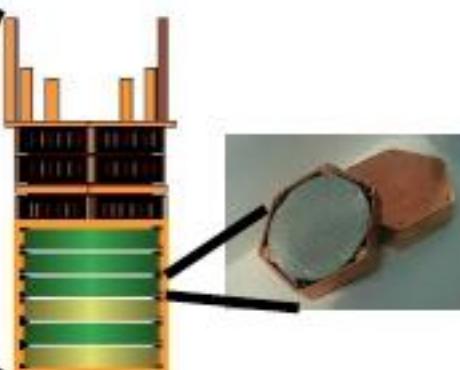


Phonon readout:  
4 quadrants of  
phonon sensors



Charge readout:  
2 concentric  
electrodes

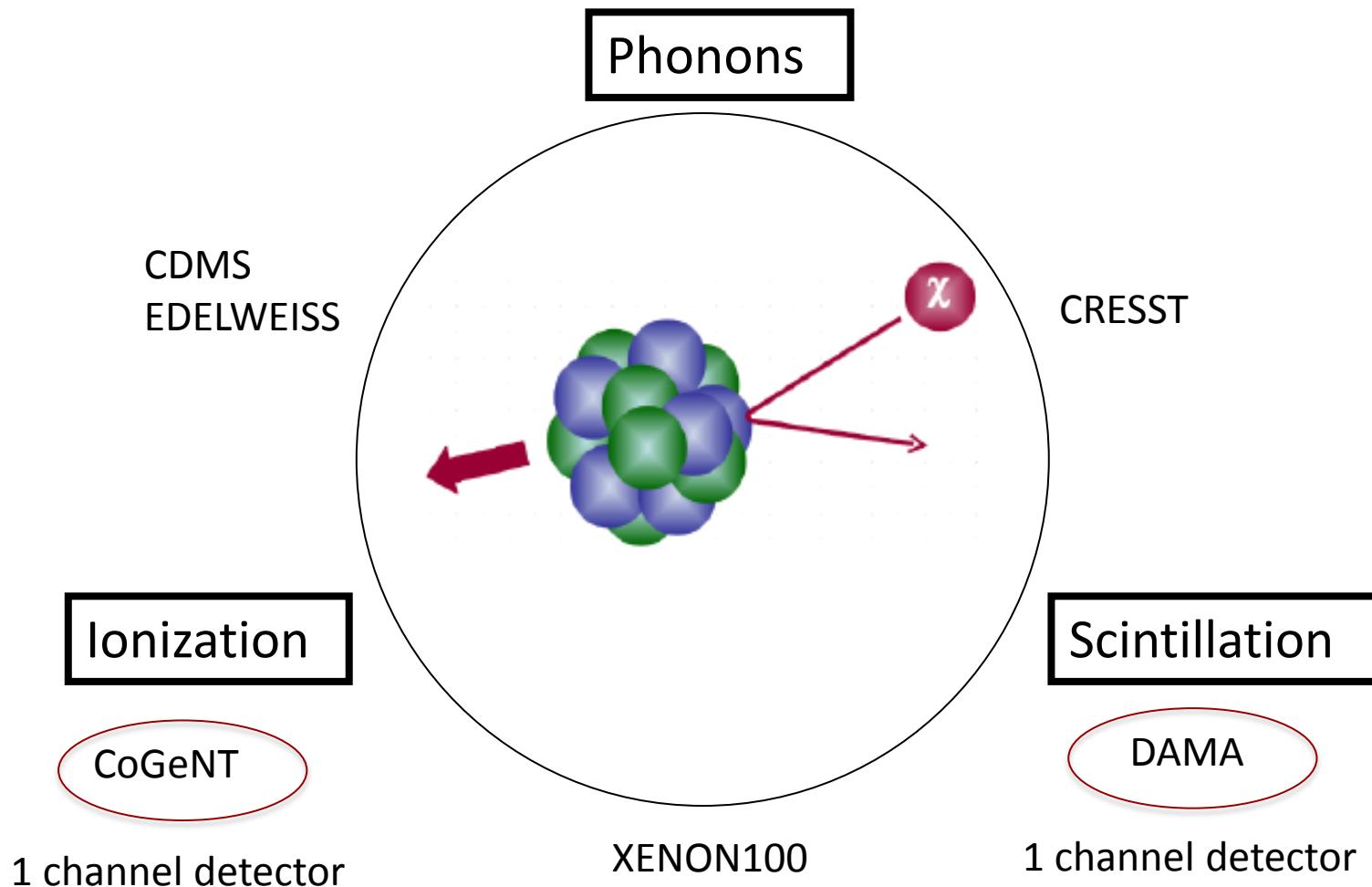
# CDMS Setup and Shielding



- 5 towers with 6 detectors each
- active veto against high energetic muons
- passive shielding:
  - lead against gammas from radioactive impurities
  - polyethylene to moderate neutrons from fission decays and from  $(\alpha, n)$  interactions resulting from U/Th decays

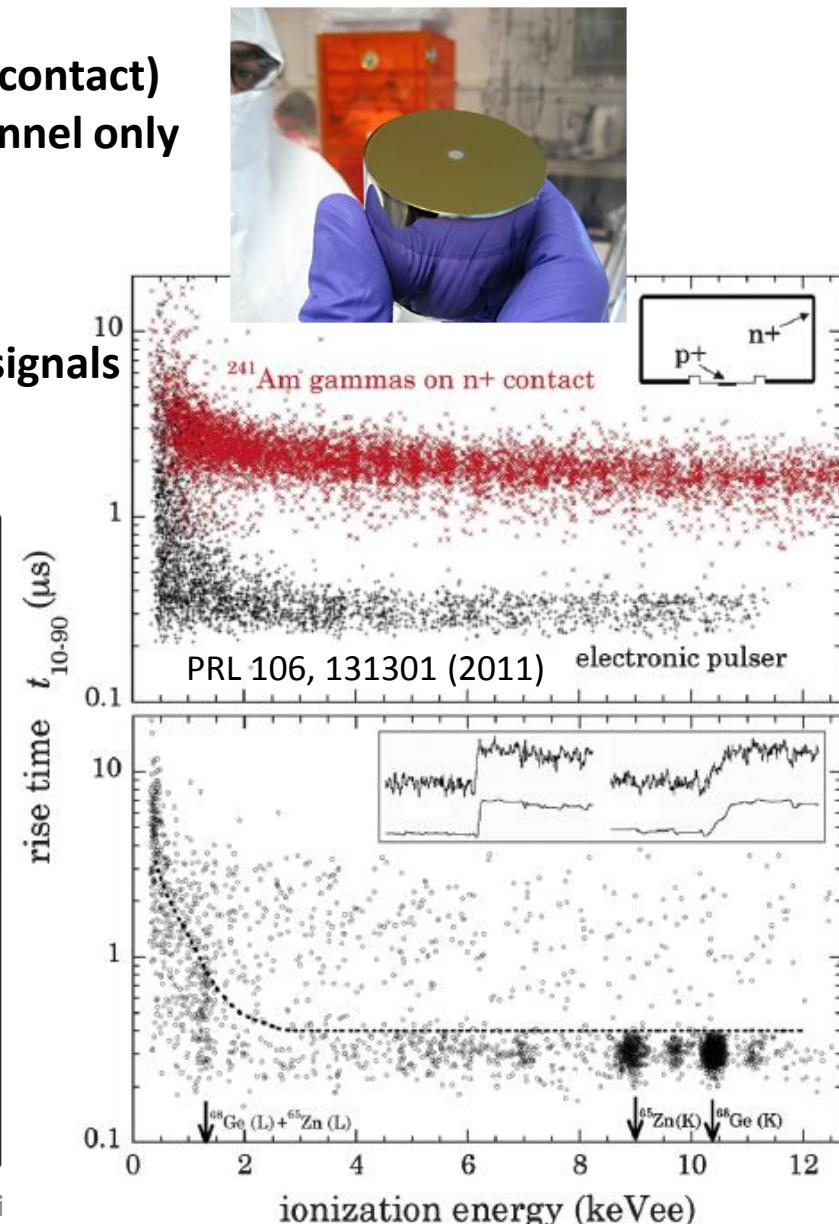
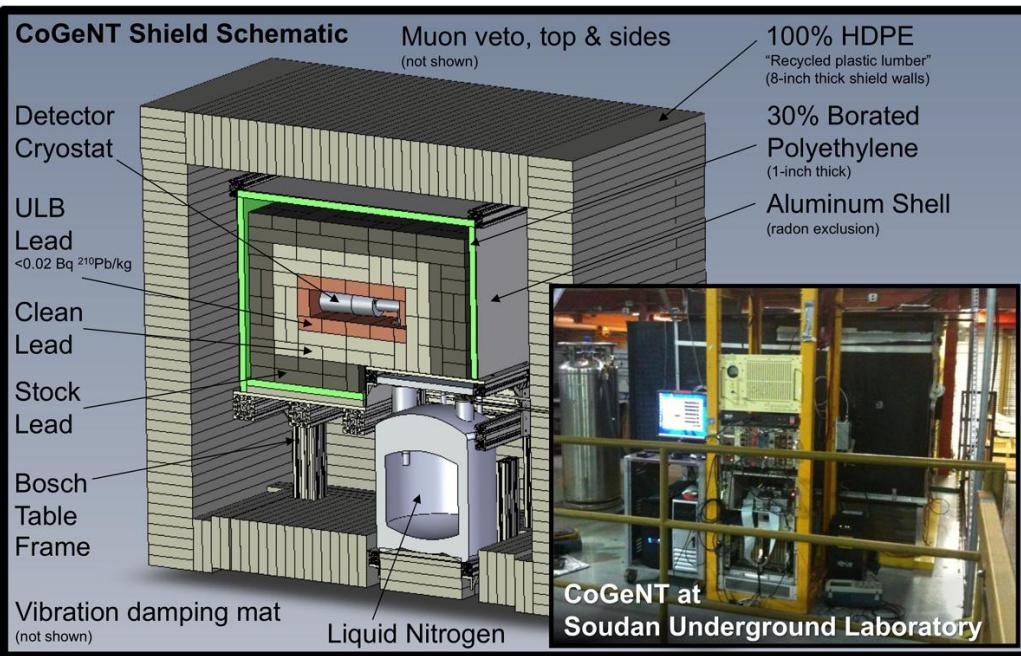


# Recoil Detection & Background Identification



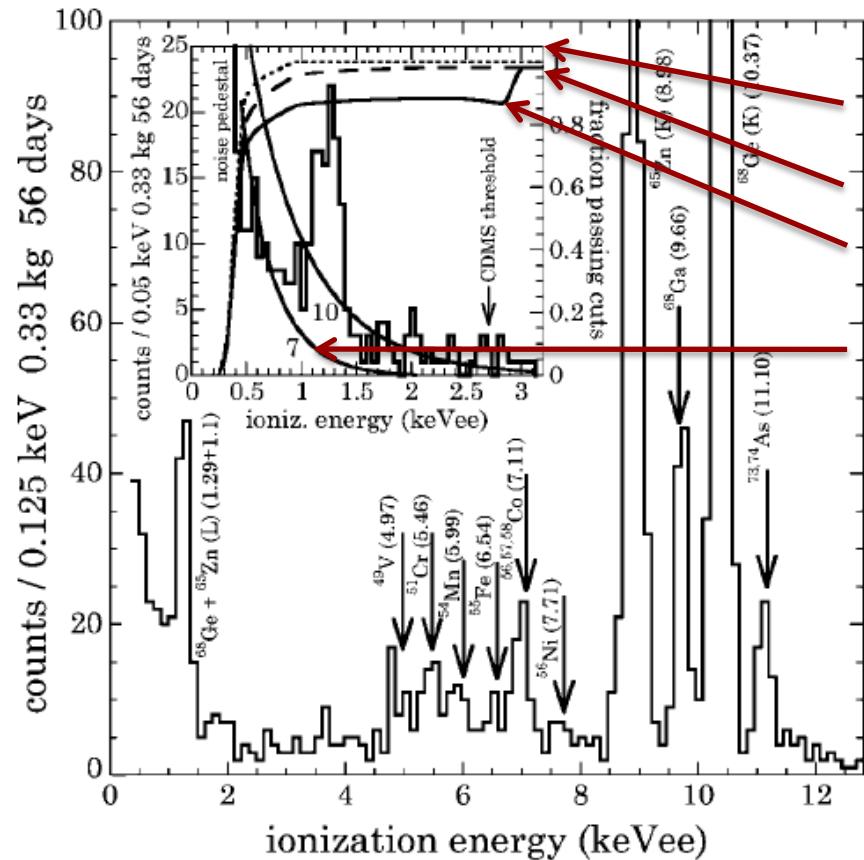
# CoGeNT- Coherent Germanium Neutrino Technology

- 440g high-purity germanium crystal (p-type point contact)
- Measurement of nuclear recoils via ionization channel only
- Location: Soudan Underground Laboratory (SUL)
- Very low energy threshold:  $\sim 0.5\text{keV}$
- Sensitivity to low-mass WIMPs ( $> 5\text{GeV}/c^2$ )
- Surface events can be rejected by risetime of the signals



# CoGeNT Results

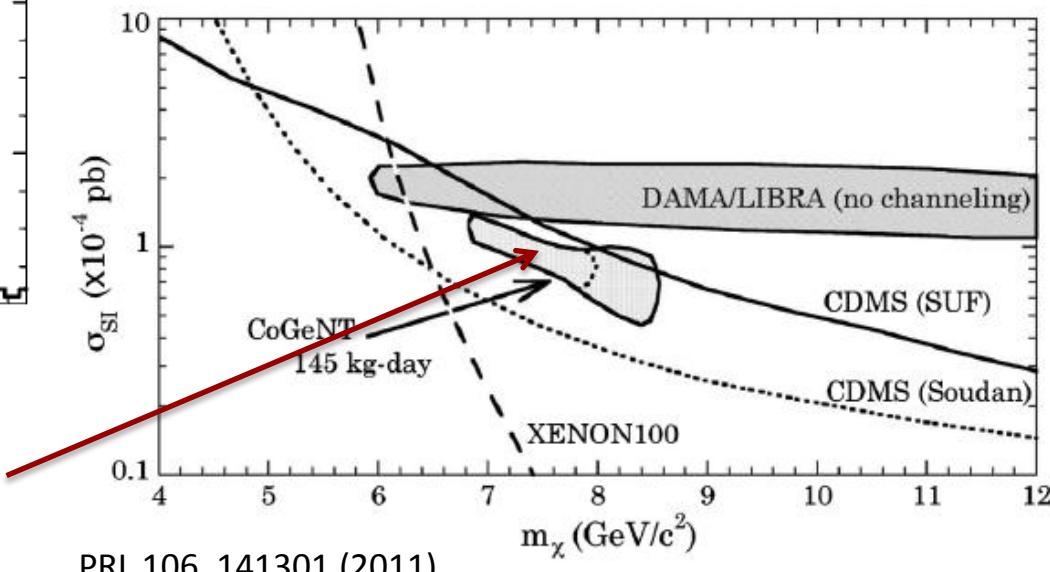
Low-energy spectrum after all cuts:



- Expanded threshold region with  $^{65}\text{Zn}$  and  $^{68}\text{Ge}$  L-shell EC*
- Trigger efficiency*
- Microphonic cuts*
- Rise time cuts (high-stati. by electr. pulser calibration)*
- Fits for a 7  $\text{GeV}/c^2$  and 10  $\text{GeV}/c^2$  WIMP,  $\sigma_{\text{SI}} = 10^{-4}\text{pb}$*

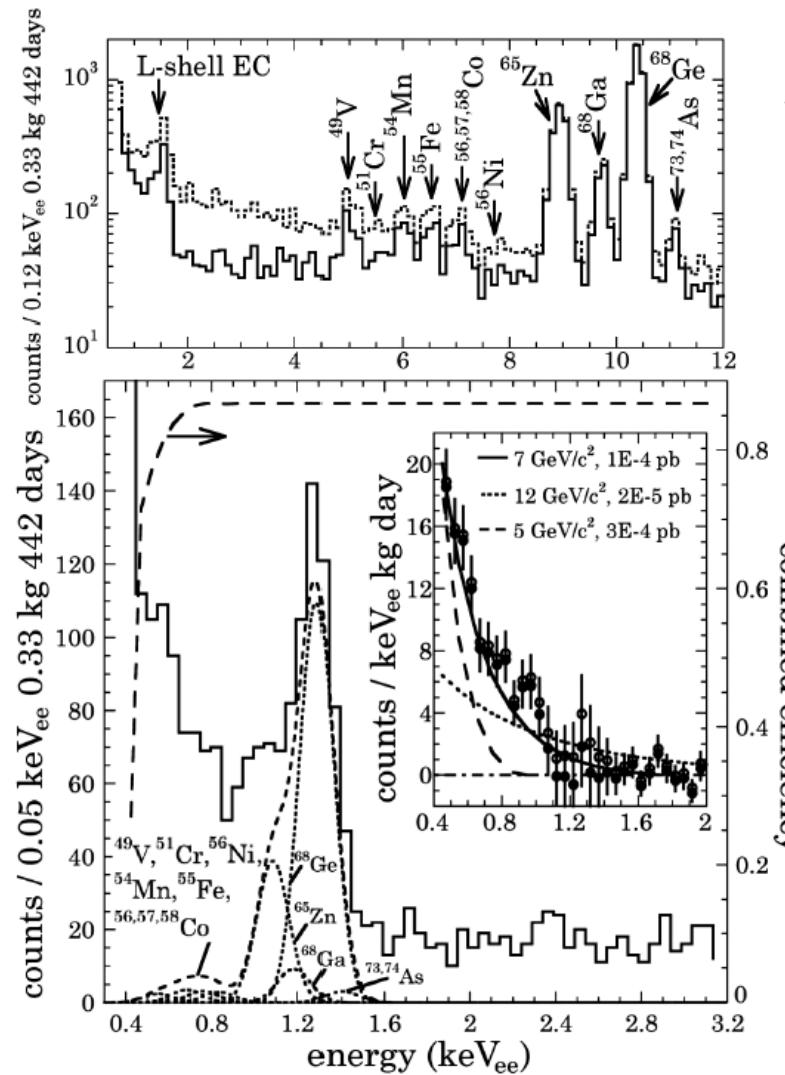
PRL 106, 131301 (2011)

WIMP parameter space favoured by the experiment



PRL 106, 141301 (2011)

# CoGeNT – Search for Annual Modulation



Uncorrected spectrum  
with all expected K-  
shell ECs (cosmogenic)  
spectrum prior to  
surface event rejection

Comb. threshold  
efficiency  
L-shell contributions

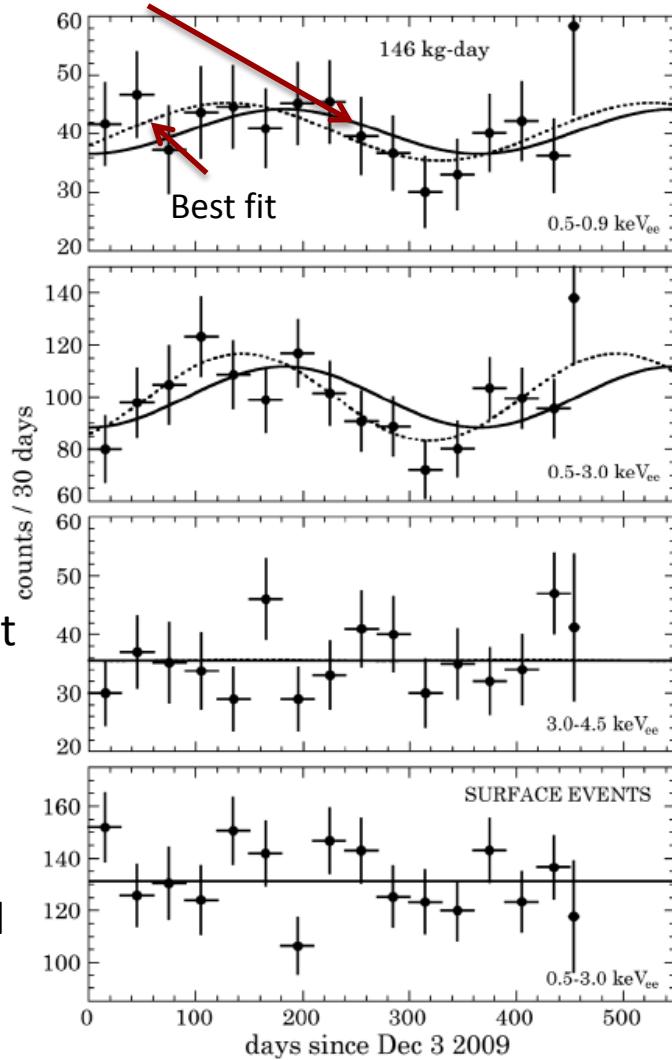
Significance of effect  
 $2.8\sigma$

L-shell events removed  
Fits for 3 WIMP types

PRL 106, 141301 (2011)

13.09.2012

Predicted modulation for 7GeV WIMP

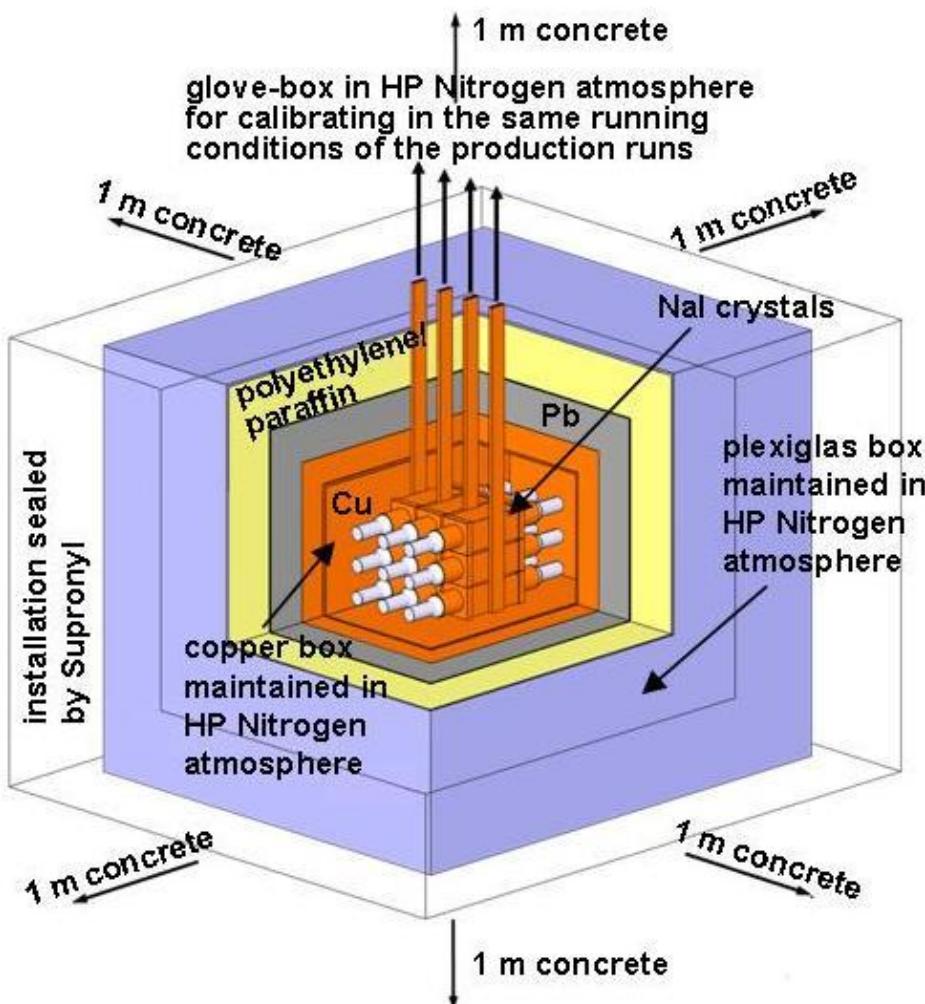


PRL 106, 141301 (2011)

J.-C. Lanfranchi

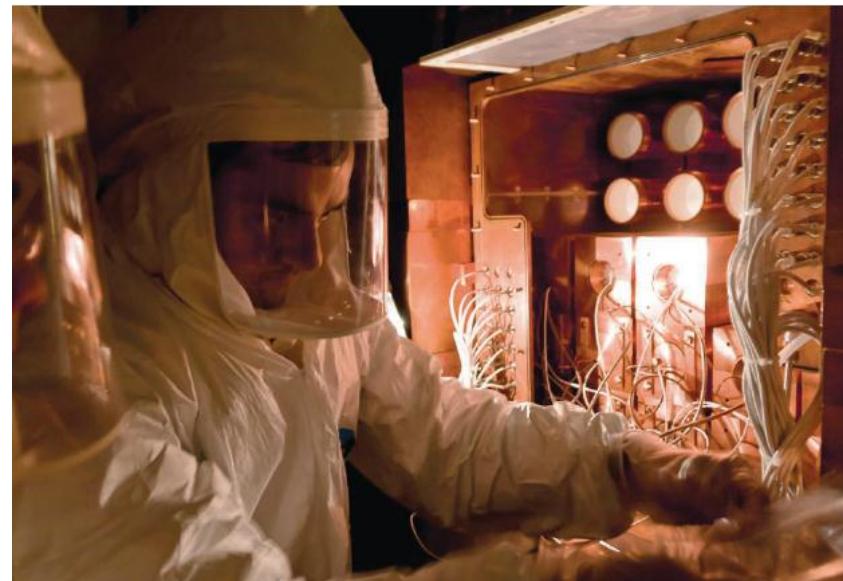
57

# DAMA

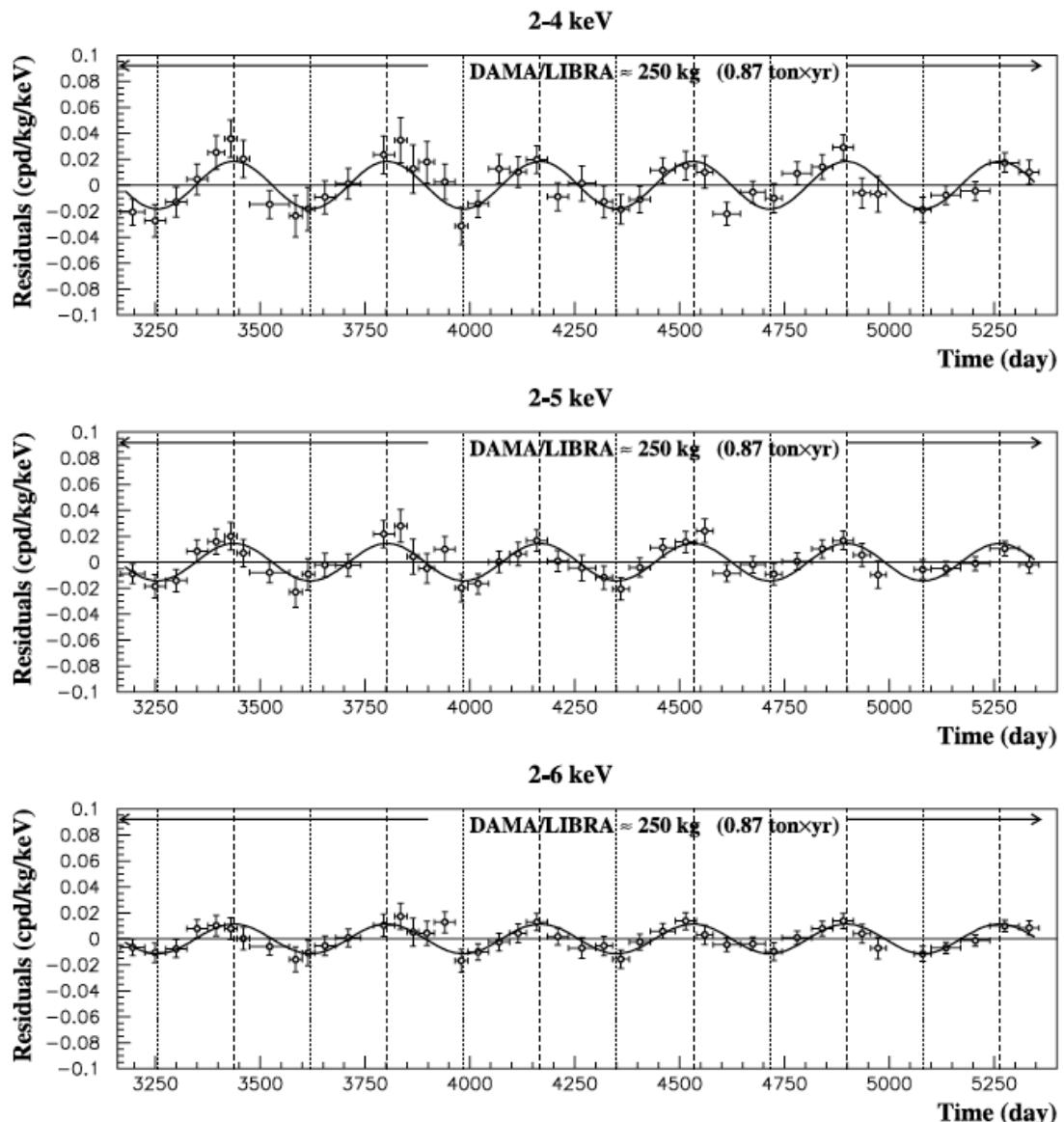


Simplified schema of ~ 100 kg NaI(Tl) set-up

Location: Gran Sasso, Italy  
Pure scintillation detector using NaJ(Tl)  
Large target mass: ~250kg  
Goal: measure DM induced modulation  
of signal over the year: max on June 2nd  
Smallest December 2nd  
Under standard halo assumptions:  
<7% effect



# DAMA – Annual Modulation



Cumulative exposure of DAMA/NaJ and DAMA/LIBRA: **1.17 ton years**

In total: **13 annual cycles**

Modulation only present at low energies: **2-6keV**

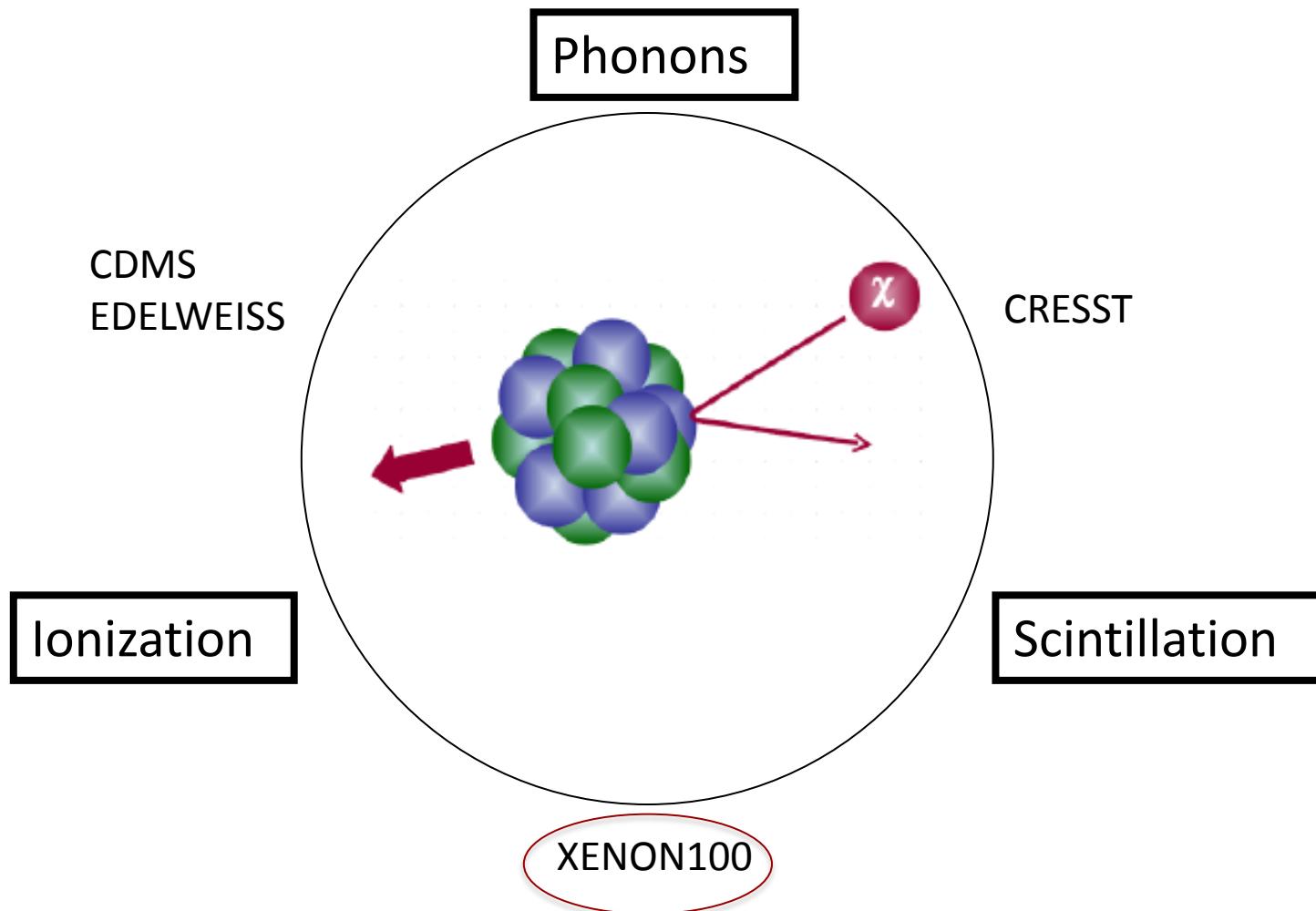
Only single hits exhibit modulation

Phase of modulation within error margins agrees well with predictions:

- measured: **147+/-7 days**
- expected: **156.5 days**

DM annual modulation signature: confidence level **8.9 $\sigma$**

# Recoil Detection & Background Identification



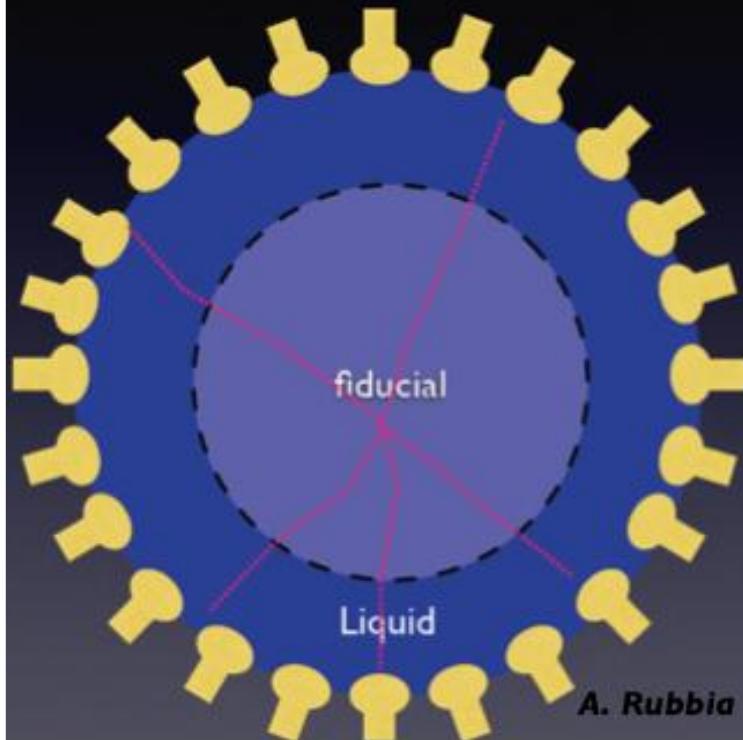
# Liquid Noble Gas Detectors

## Two basic detector concepts

### Single phase:

No drift ( $E=0$ )

XMASS, CLEAN/DEAP)



### Double phase:

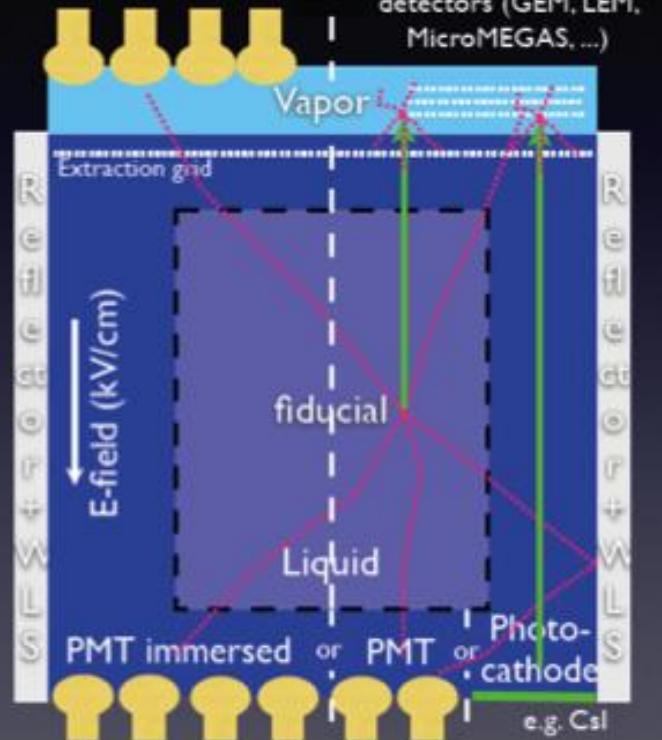
Ionization  $e^-$  drift ( $E \neq 0$ )

XENON, LUX, ZEPLIN II/III, WARP, ArDM)

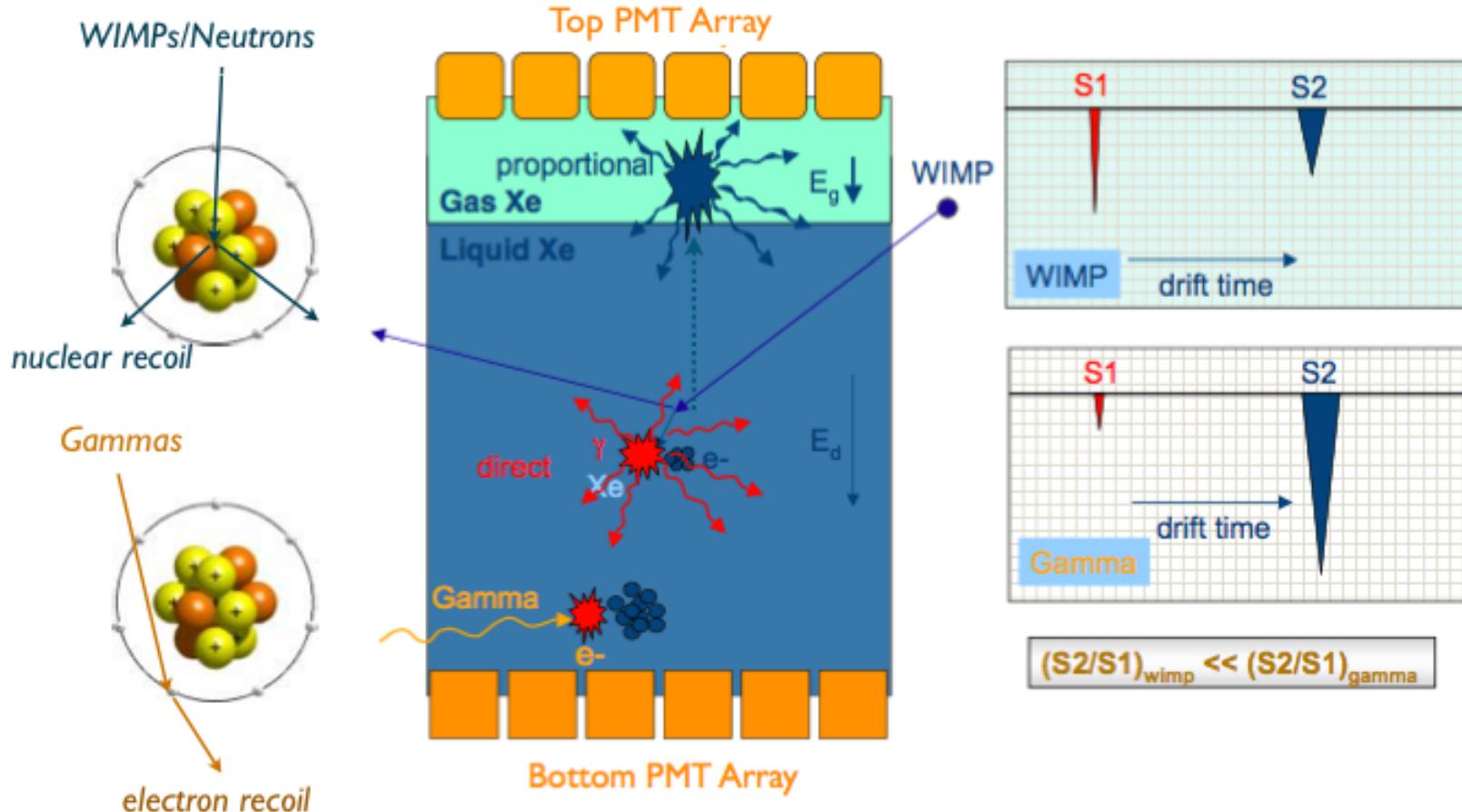
PMT readout

or

Micropattern gaseous  
detectors (GEM, LEM,  
MicroMEGAS, ...)



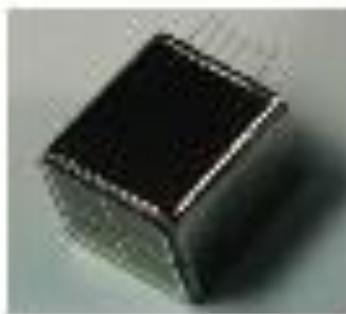
# XENON Detector



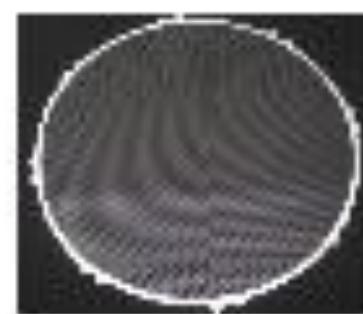
- Single electron and single photon measurement sensitivity
- > 99.5% ER rejection via Ionization/Scintillation ratio ( $S2/S1$ )
- 3D event-by-event imaging with millimeter spatial resolution

# XENON100 Detector

- 30 cm drift length and 30 cm  $\phi$
- 161 kg total (30-50 kg fiducial volume)
- $\sim 100\times$  less background than XENON10
- Material screening and selection
- 242 low activity 1" PMTs (R8520)
- Cooling (PTR) outside the shield
- Active liquid xenon veto

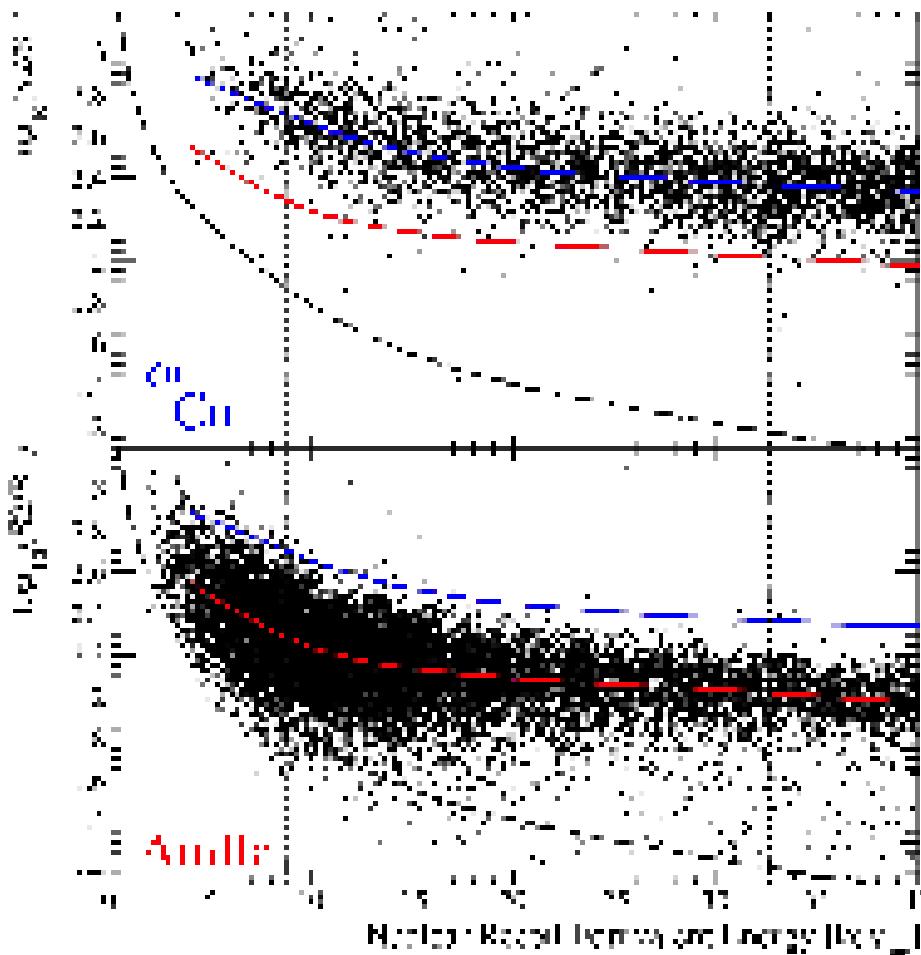


1 inch PMTs



30 cm  $\times$  30 cm meshes

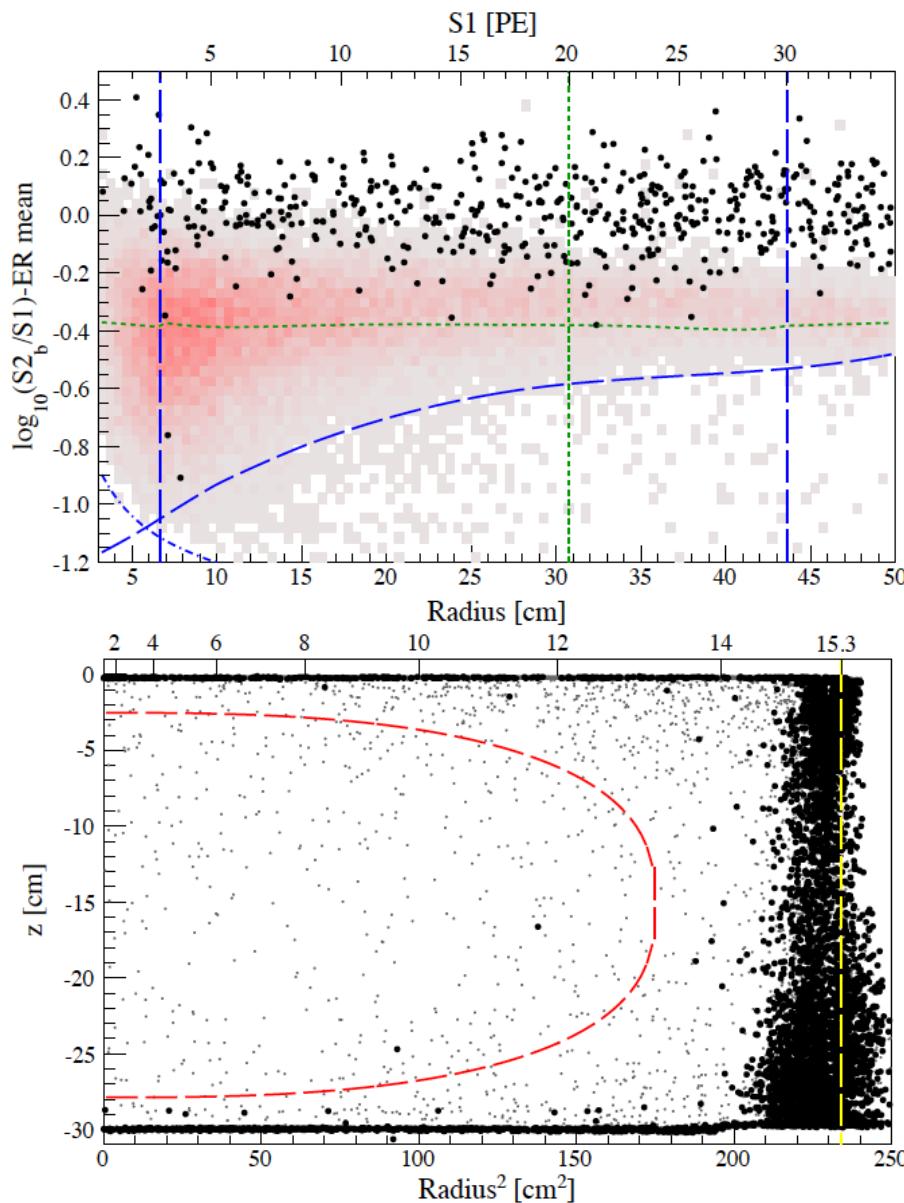
# Event Discrimination



- **Electronic recoil band:** defined with  $^{60}\text{Co}$  source
- **Nuclear recoil band:** defined with AmBe neutron source
- Discrimination better than **99% @ 50%** nuclear recoil acceptance

# XENON100

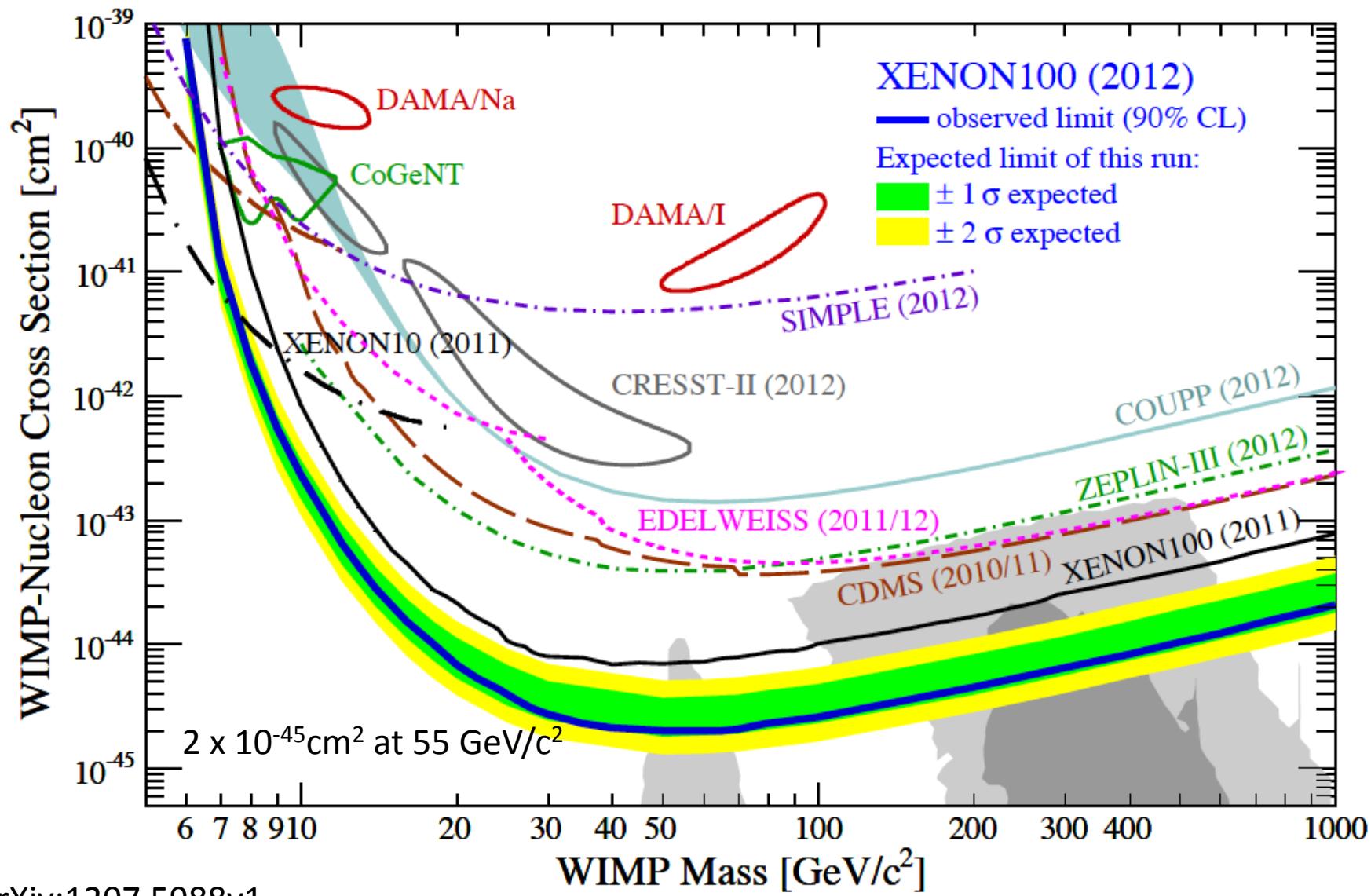
arXiv:1207.5988v1



- Total exposure: 224.6d x 34kg
- 2 events detected (after all cuts) in region of interest for WIMP search
- Expected background: 1.0 +/- 0.2 events
- 2 events still compatible with background

- spatial reconstruction of the 2 events  
-> events contained in fiducial volume of the detector

# XENON100



# Future Ton-Scale Dark Matter Detectors

~1 event/kg/day

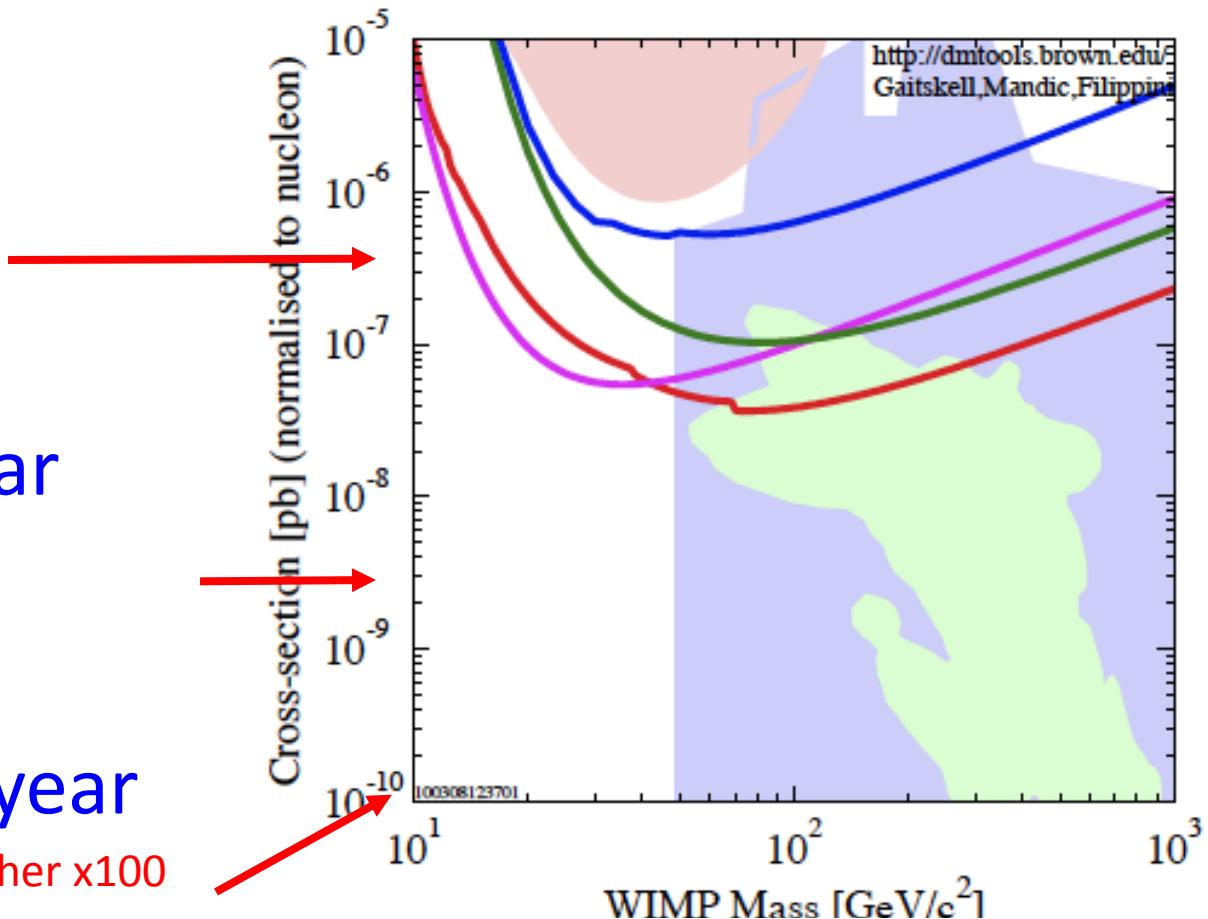
Reached

~3 events/kg/year

Present phase II experiments

~30 events/ton/year

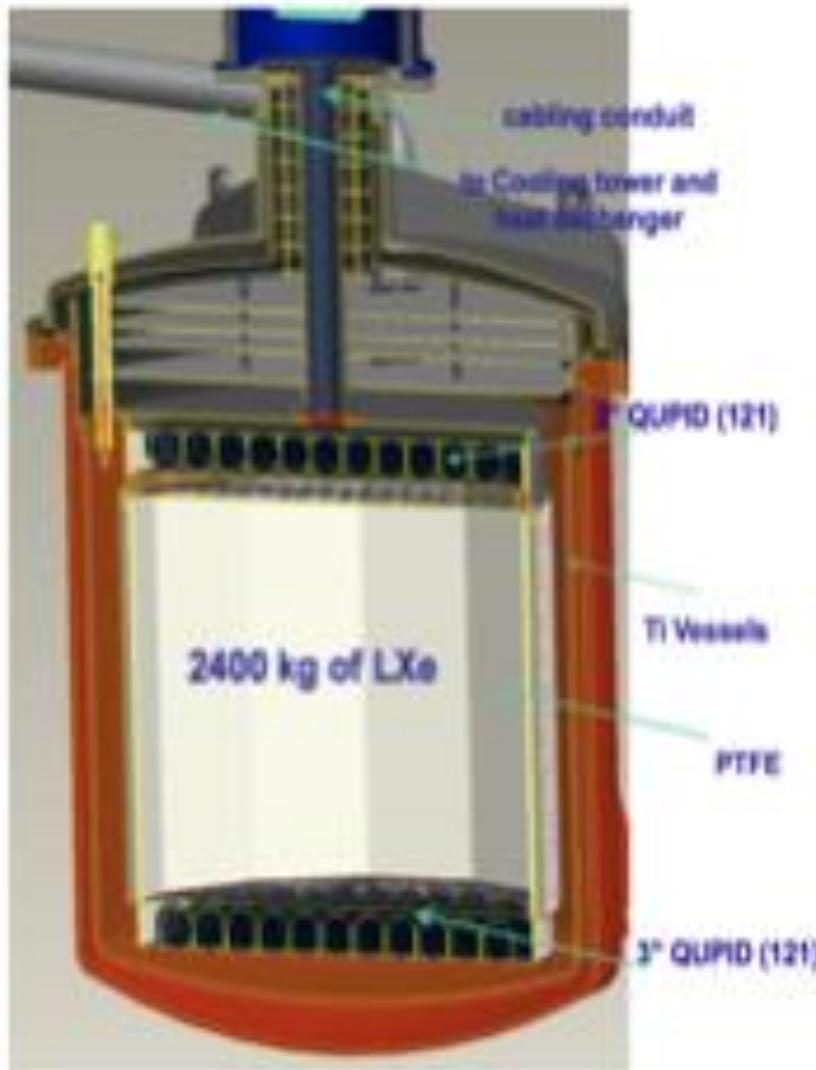
Next generation requires further x100 improvement!



J.-C. Lanfranchi

DATA listed top to bottom on plot  
DAMA/LIBRA 2008 5sigma, no ion channeling  
CRESST 2007 60 kg-day CaWO4  
Edelweiss II first result, 144 kg-days interleaved Ge  
XENON10 2007, measured L<sub>eff</sub> from Xe cube  
CDMS: Soudan 2004-2009 Ge  
Trotta et al 2008, CMSSM Bayesian: 95% contour  
Baltz and Gondolo 2003  
100308123701

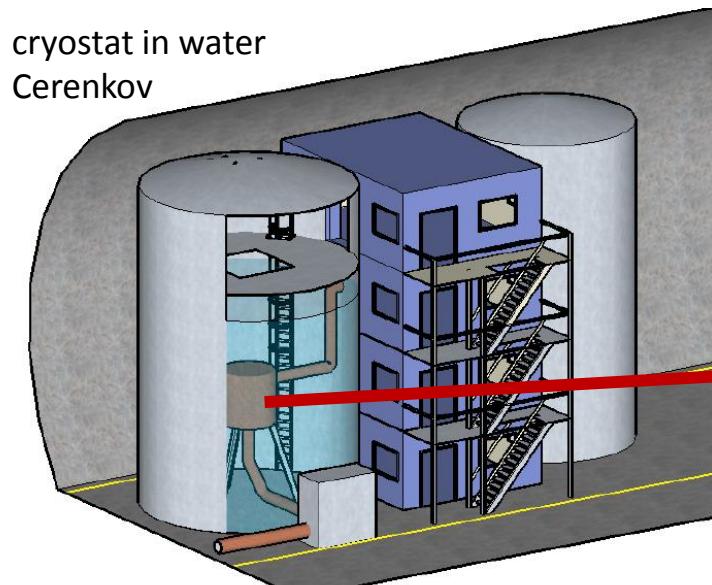
# Future XENON Detector



- 1.2 ton fiducial mass (total of 2.4 ton LXe)
- Drift length = ~ 90 cm
- 100x background reduction
- Muon veto
- Copper/titanium cryostat
- New photo-detectors: QUPIDs
  - New collaborators
  - Currently working on MC simulations and design + secure remaining funding
- Timeline: 2010 - 2015

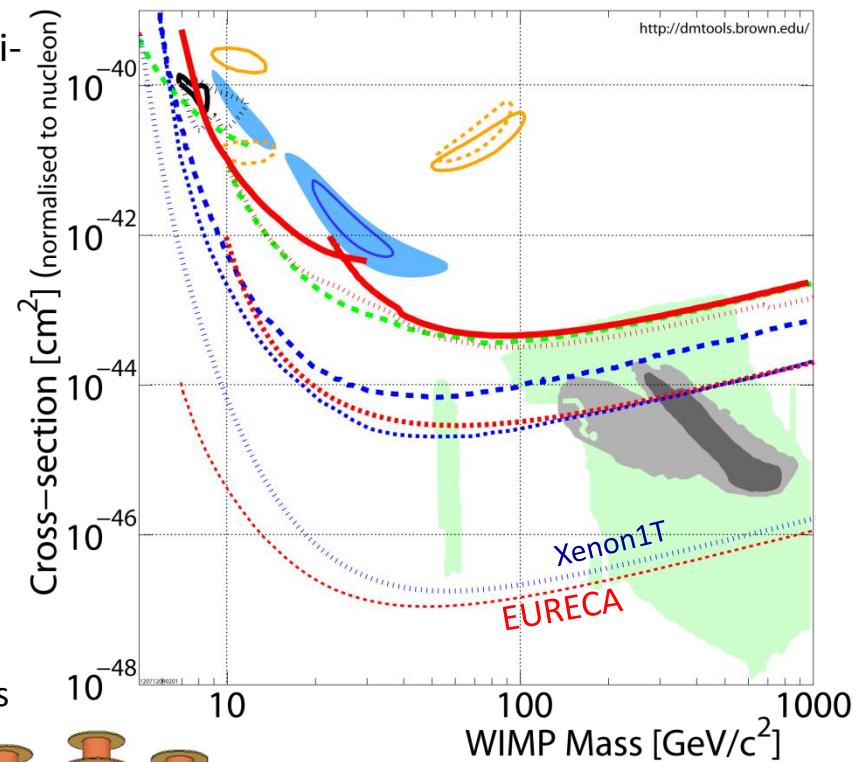
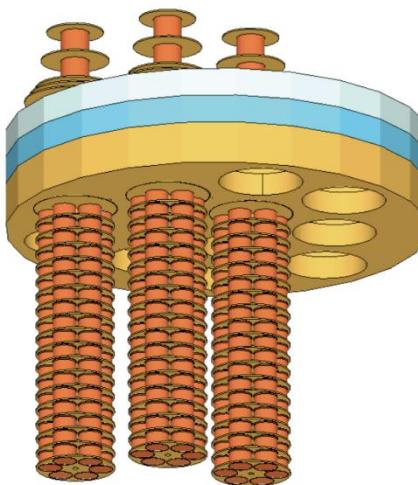
# EURECA (European Underground Rare Event Calorimeter Array)

- EURECA goal:  $10^{-10}$ - $10^{-11}$  pb, 150kg  $\rightarrow$  1000kg, multi-target, bkgd  $\sim 10^{-3}$  evts/(kg.y)
- EDW, CRESST, ROSEBUD, + others...
- coordinated cooperation with SuperCDMS
- CDR in summer 2012
- facility type (DM,  $0\nu\beta\beta$ ,...)
- part of European ASPERA roadmap



(Courtesy K. Eitel, KIT)

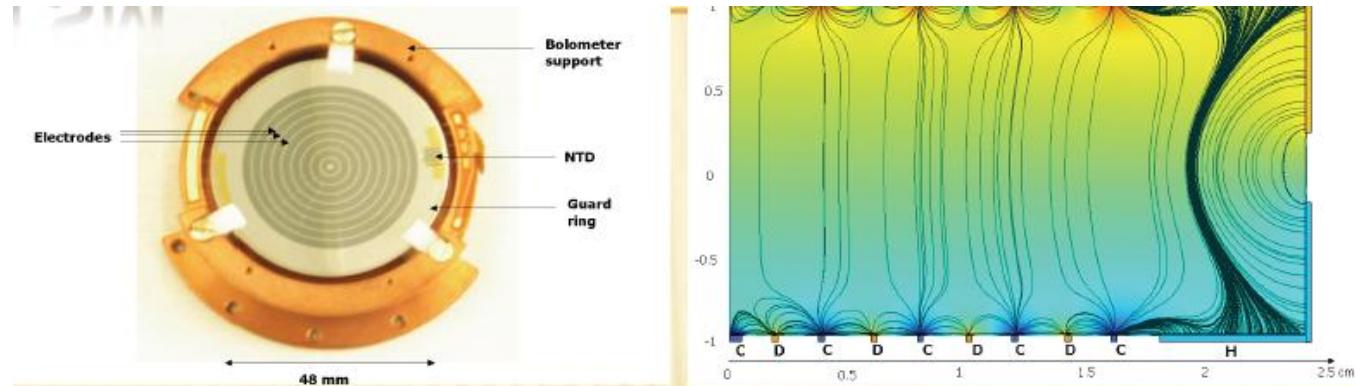
detector towers  
multi-target det's



# EURECA Combining Detection Techniques

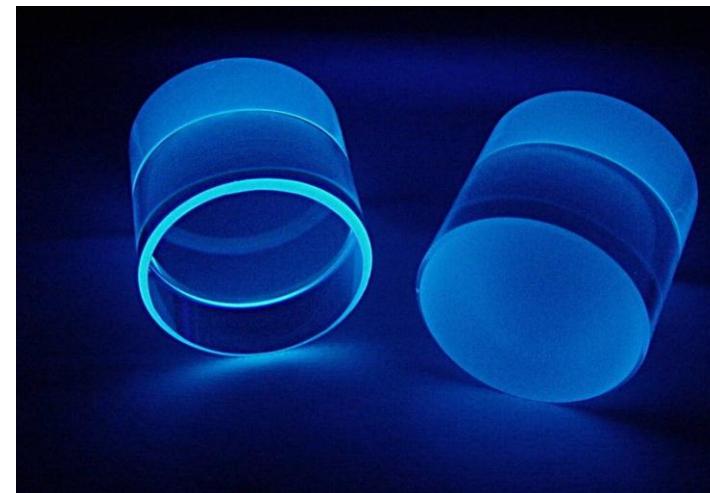
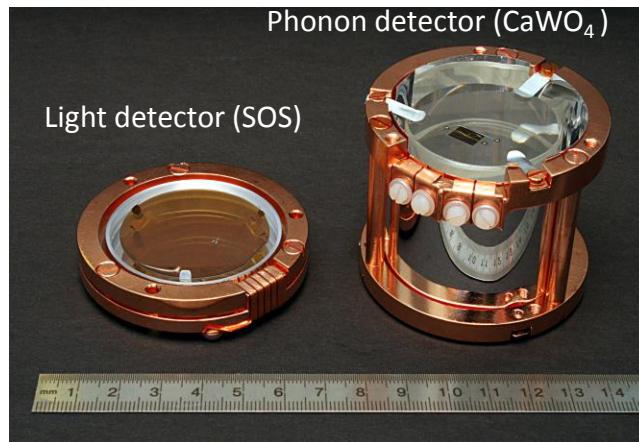
## Phonon - Charge (EDELWEISS)

Ge detectors with surface event rejection (interdigit)



## Phonon - Scintillation (CRESST, ROSEBUD)

Event by event discrimination in scintillating  $\text{CaWO}_4$  detectors



Phonon-scintillation technique allows flexibility in choice of target materials:  $\text{ZnWO}_4$ ,  $\text{CaMoO}_4$ ,  $\text{BGO}$ ,  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{NaI}$  ...

# Ultimate Background - Neutrinos

PHYSICAL REVIEW D

VOLUME 30, NUMBER 11

1 DECEMBER 1984

## Principles and applications of a neutral-current detector for neutrino physics and astronomy

A. Druckier and L. Stodolsky

*Max-Planck-Institut für Physik und Astrophysik, Werner-Heisenberg-Institut für Physik,  
Munich, Federal Republic of Germany*

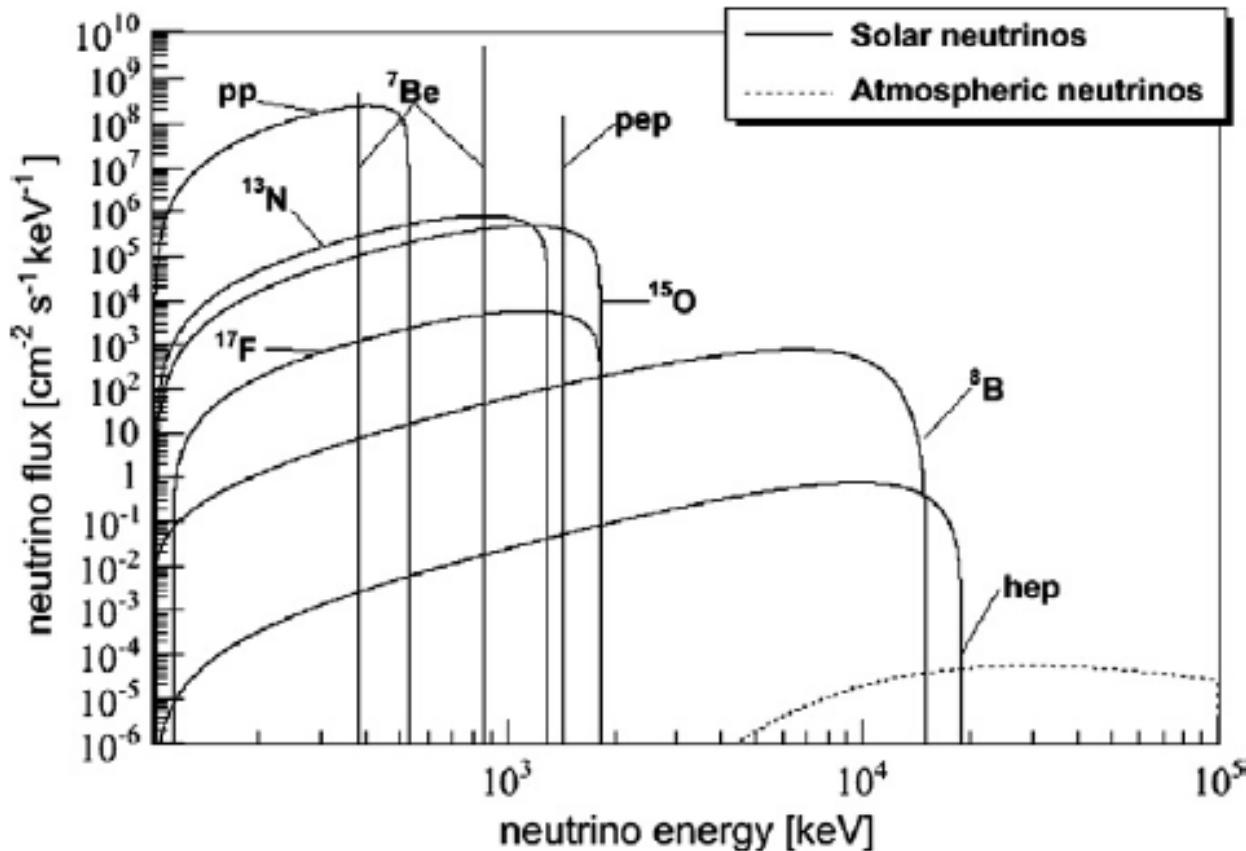
(Received 21 November 1983)

We study detection of MeV-range neutrinos through elastic scattering on nuclei and identification of the recoil energy. The very large value of the neutral-current cross section due to coherence indicates a detector would be relatively light and suggests the possibility of a true "neutrino observatory." The recoil energy which must be detected is very small ( $10-10^3$  eV), however. We examine a realization in terms of the superconducting-grain idea, which appears, in principle, to be feasible through extension and extrapolation of currently known techniques. Such a detector could permit determination of the neutrino energy spectrum and should be insensitive to neutrino oscillations since it detects all neutrino types. Various applications and tests are discussed, including spallation sources, reactors, supernovas, and solar and terrestrial neutrinos. A preliminary estimate of the most difficult backgrounds is attempted.

- For future DM searches Coherent Neutrino Nucleus Scattering (CNNS) may constitute a limiting background for future direct Dark Matter searches
- CNNS is a neutral current process sensitive to all neutrino flavours
- cross section is enhanced by  $N^2$

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}} \approx \frac{G_F^2}{4\pi} N^2 E_\nu^2 |f(q)|^2 = 4.2 \times 10^{-45} N^2 \left( \frac{E_\nu}{1 \text{ MeV}} \right)^2 |f(q)|^2 \text{ cm}^2$$

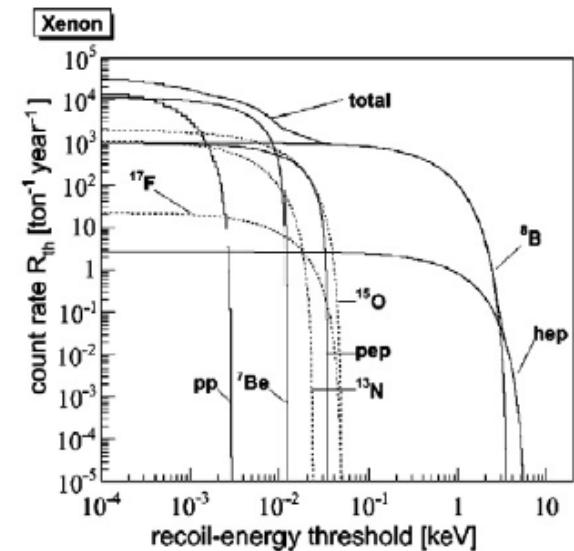
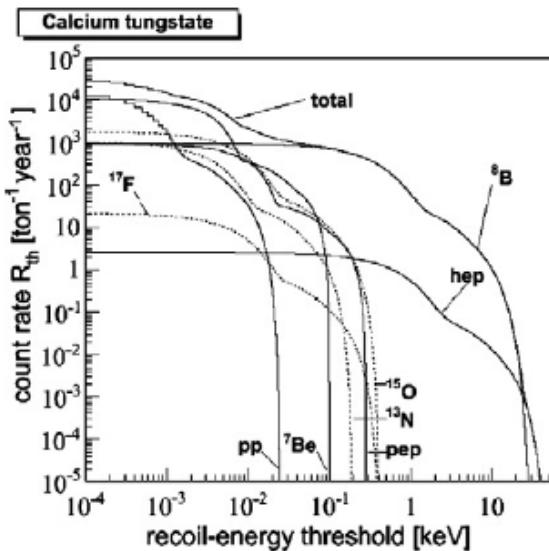
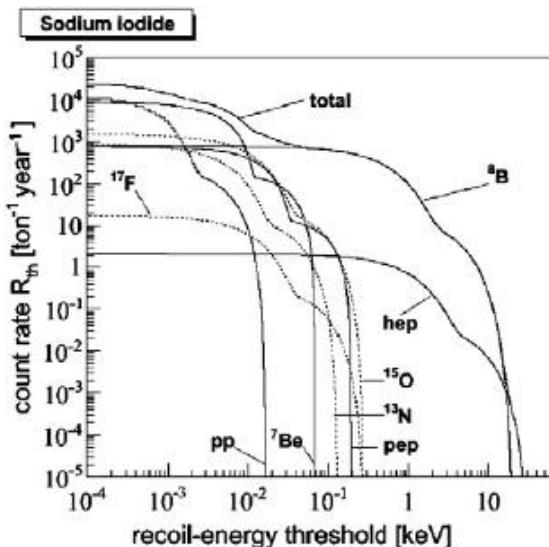
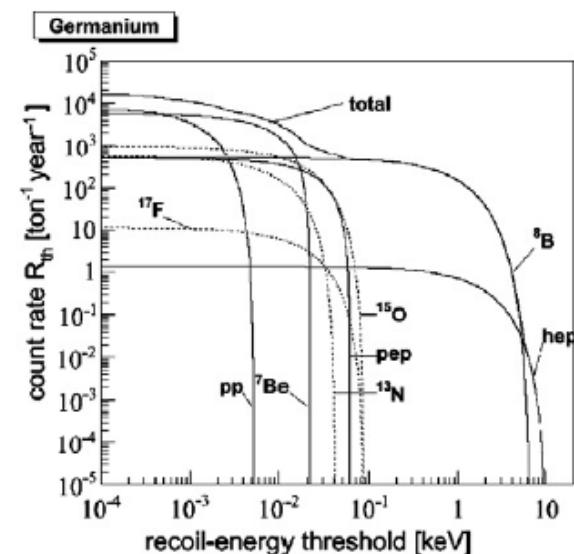
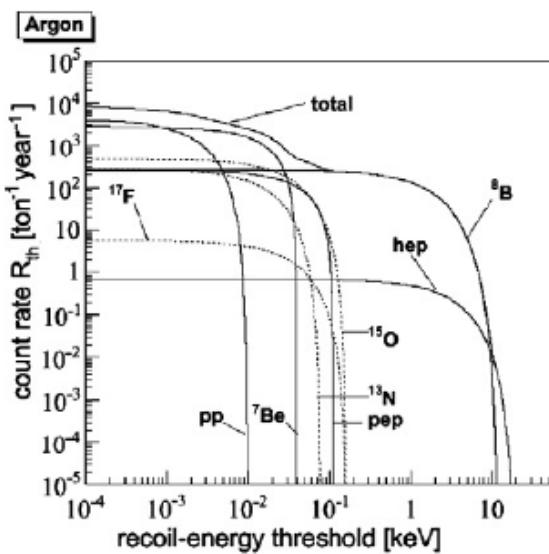
# Neutrino Spectrum



# Solar Neutrino Count Rates for Various DM Targets

Astroparticle Physics 34 (2010) 90–96

- Neutrino „background“ depends on achievable energy threshold in the various experiments



# Ultimate Backgrounds

Astroparticle Physics 34 (2010) 90–96

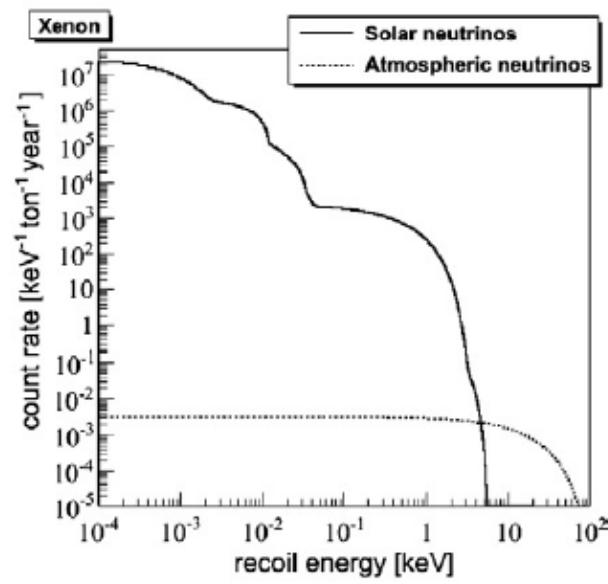
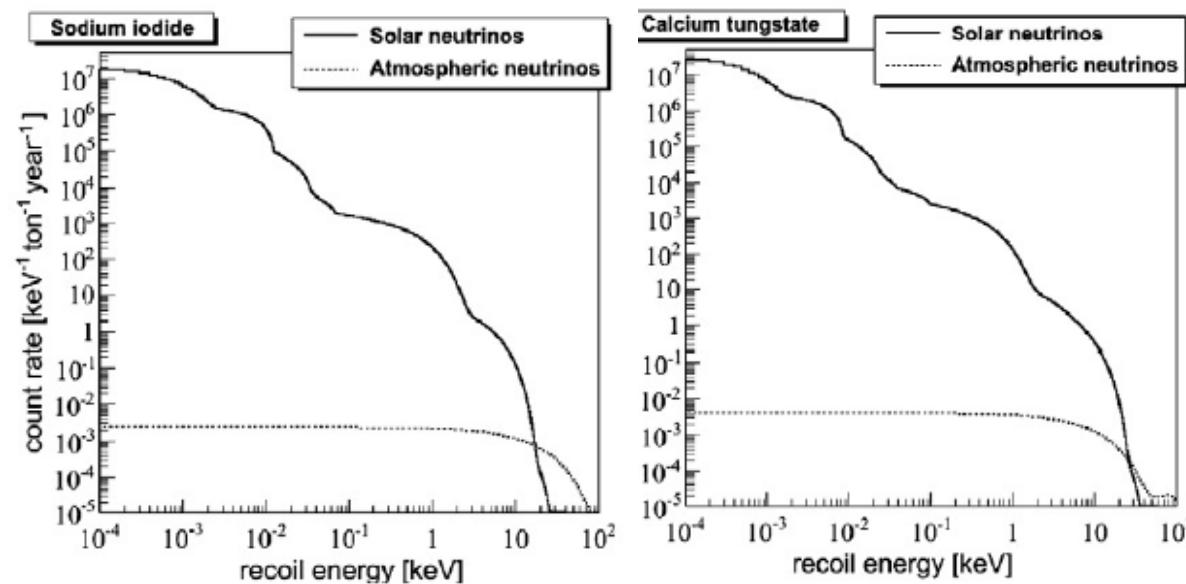
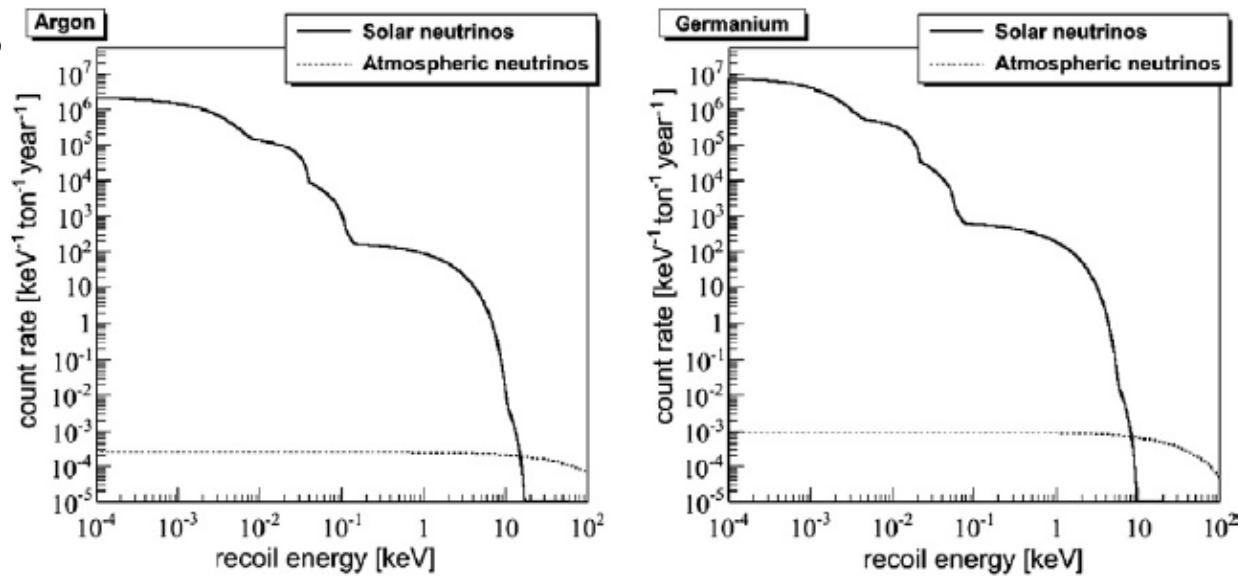
Nuclear recoil count rates from solar neutrino scattering per ton-year for various target materials and different energy thresholds. The count rates for the different nuclei of calcium tungstate are given separately.

Material	0 keV	1 keV	2 keV	3 keV	5 keV	10 keV
Ar	$8.0 \times 10^3$	$1.3 \times 10^2$	$6.5 \times 10^1$	$3.2 \times 10^1$	6.2	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$
Ge	$1.6 \times 10^4$	$1.4 \times 10^2$	$3.6 \times 10^1$	7.2	$7.9 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-8}$
NaI	$2.4 \times 10^4$	$9.6 \times 10^1$	$1.4 \times 10^1$	6.3	2.7	$2.4 \times 10^{-1}$
Xe	$3.0 \times 10^4$	$9.5 \times 10^1$	4.7	$6.2 \times 10^{-2}$	$9.0 \times 10^{-5}$	-
ZnWO <sub>4</sub>	$2.7 \times 10^4$	$6.6 \times 10^1$	$1.8 \times 10^1$	9.7	4.4	1.0
CaWO <sub>4</sub>	$2.8 \times 10^4$	$5.8 \times 10^1$	$1.8 \times 10^1$	$1.2 \times 10^1$	5.4	1.1
O	$5.8 \times 10^2$	$1.4 \times 10^1$	$1.1 \times 10^1$	8.1	4.6	1.1
Ca	$9.0 \times 10^2$	$1.4 \times 10^1$	7.2	3.5	$6.9 \times 10^{-1}$	$1.7 \times 10^{-3}$
W	$2.6 \times 10^4$	$2.9 \times 10^1$	$1.4 \times 10^{-1}$	$2.3 \times 10^{-3}$	-	-

# Atmospheric and Solar Neutrino Count Rates

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For DM search sensitivities better than  $10^{-12}$  pb atmospheric neutrinos become an ultimate background even with carefully chosen energy thresholds!



# Conclusions

- Great progress has been made in the past few years in the field of direct Dark Matter detection
- Tension between different experiments exists at present
- Ongoing searches will produce new results in the near future and new detector concepts on the ton-scale are underway aimed at clarifying the present situation
- Complementary information from indirect searches and accelerator experiments are required to draw a consistent picture in the end
- The understanding of Dark Matter is a great challenge for the next generation of scientists working in this field ...

➤YOU?