

# Direct Detection Techniques Status and Future

Hans Kraus

- Detector Technologies / Historic
- Current Status
- Future Developments

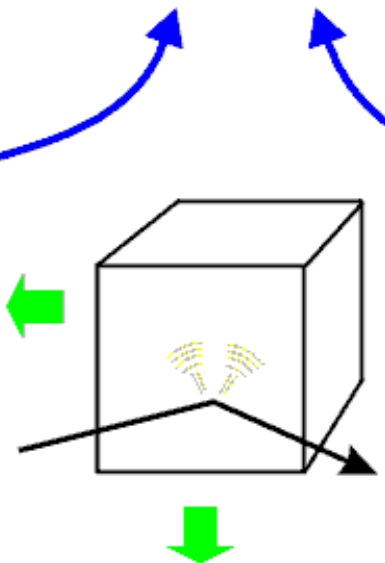
# Direct Detection Techniques

Ar, Xe

ArDM, DarkSide, XENON, ZEPLIN-II/III, LUX, Panda-X, LUX-ZEPLIN

NaI, Ar, Xe  
DAMA/LIBRA  
ANAIS  
NAIAD  
KIMS  
XMASS  
DEAP/CLEAN  
ZEPLIN-I  
SABRE

Scintillation



Ionisation

Ge  
CoGENT  
GERDA  
MAJORANA  
IGEX

Phonons

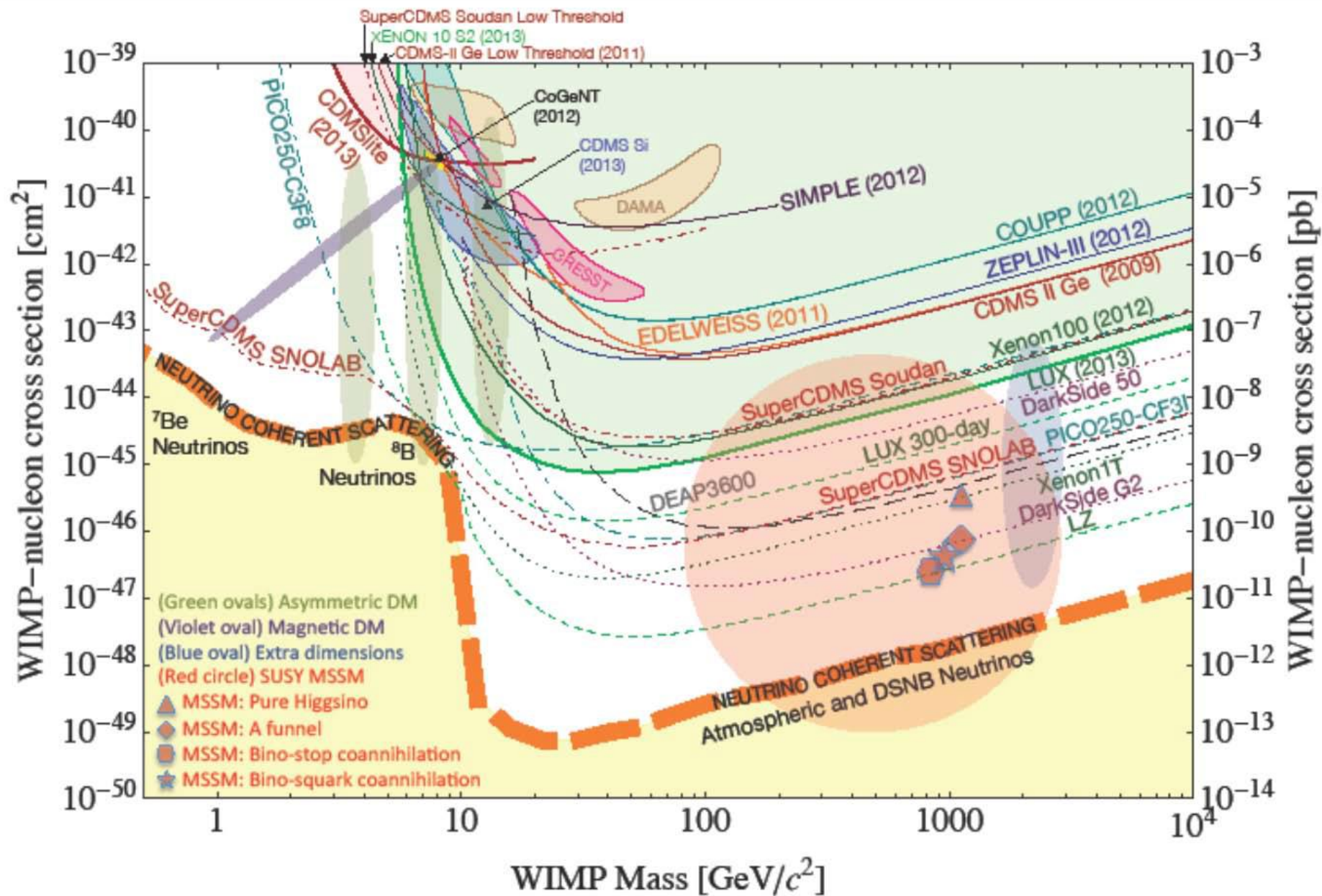
CaWO<sub>4</sub>, ZnWO<sub>4</sub>  
CRESST II  
ROSEBUD  
EURECA

Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and others  
CRESST I  
CUOPP  
SIMPLE  
PICO

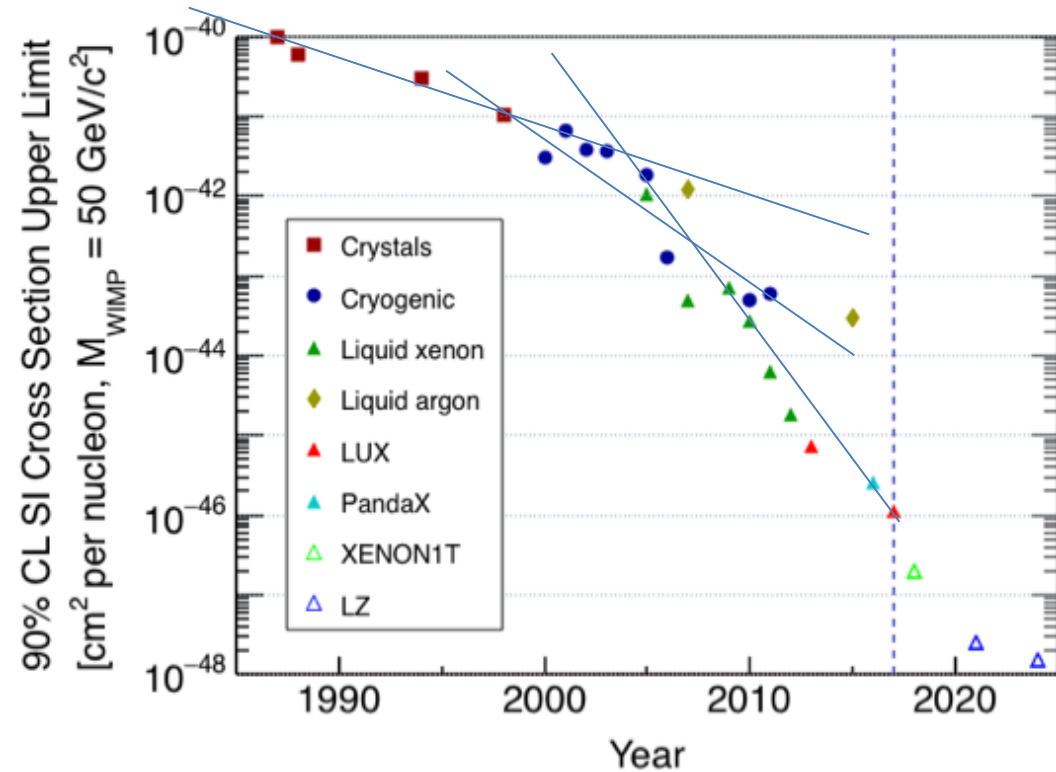
Si, Ge  
CDMS  
EDELWEISS  
EURECA

Displacement / tracking: DRIFT, Newage, MIMAC, DM-TPC

# The Physics Result Landscape (2013)

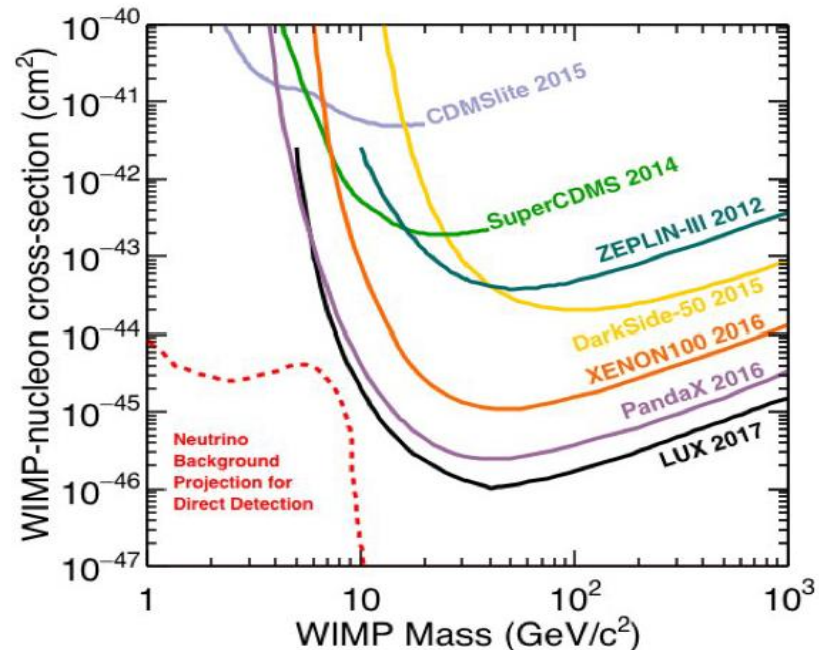
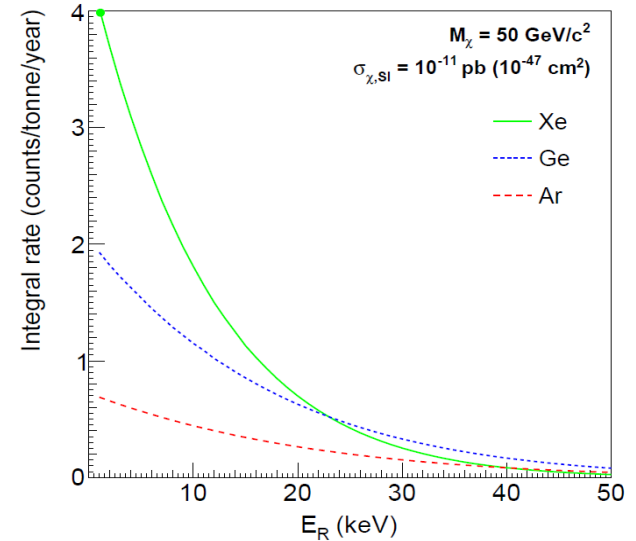


# Direct Detection Techniques



Great progress (every 3 years factor 10) over past 15 years...

Maintaining progress may from time to time require change of technology.



# Two-phase Xenon TPC Principle

## S1: prompt scintillation signal

- Light yield:  $\sim 60$  ph/keV (ER, 0 field)
- Scintillation light: 178 nm (VUV)
- Nuclear recoil threshold  $\sim 5$  keV

## S2: delayed ionisation signal

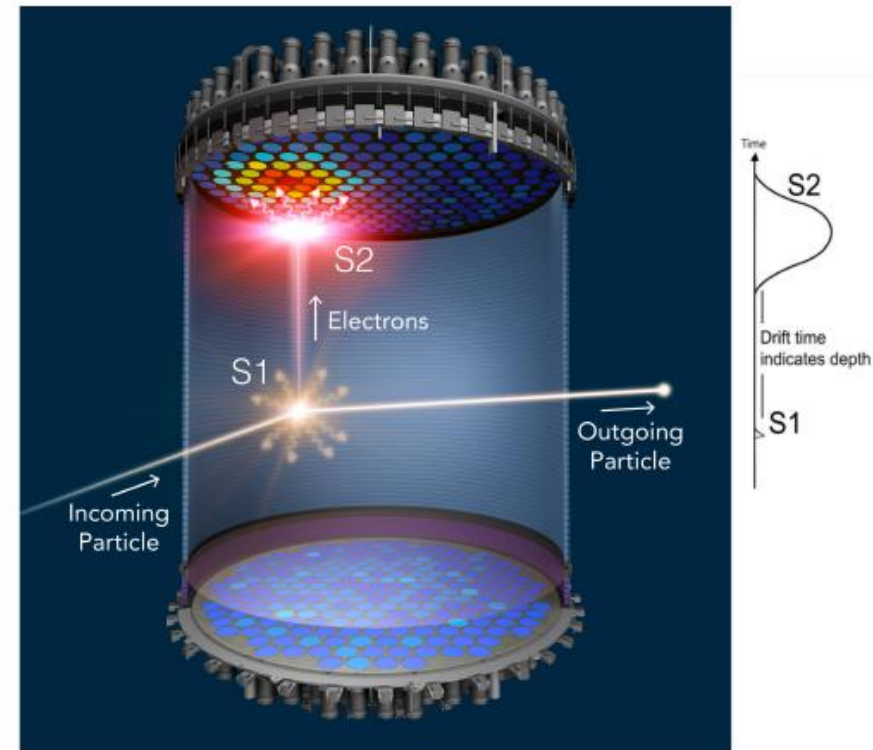
- Electroluminescence in vapour phase
- Sensitive to single ionisation electrons
- Nuclear recoil threshold  $\sim 1$  keV

## S1+S2 event by event

- ER/NR discrimination ( $>99.5\%$  rejection)
- mm vertex resolution + high density: self-shielding of radioactive backgrounds

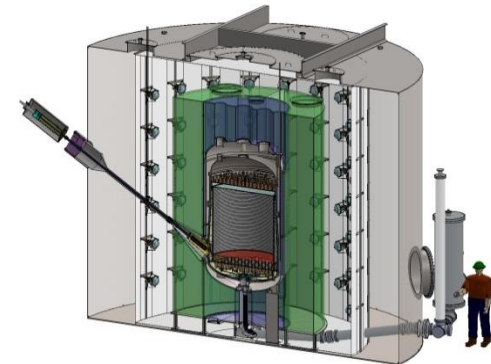
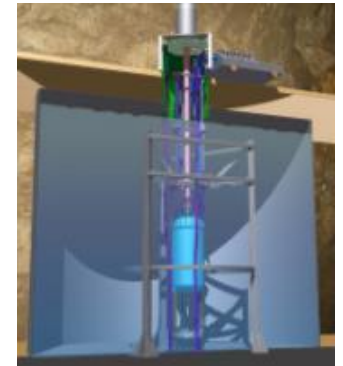
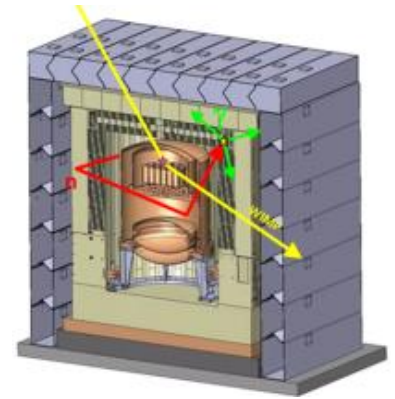
## LXe is the leading WIMP target:

- Scalar WIMP-nucleon scattering rate  $dR/dE \sim A^2$ , broad mass coverage ( $> 5$  GeV)
- Odd-neutron isotopes ( $^{129}\text{Xe}$ ,  $^{131}\text{Xe}$ ) enable SD sensitivity; target exchange possible
- No damaging intrinsic nasties ( $^{127}\text{Xe}$  short-lived,  $^{85}\text{Kr}$  removable,  $^{136}\text{Xe}$   $2\nu\beta\beta$  ok)

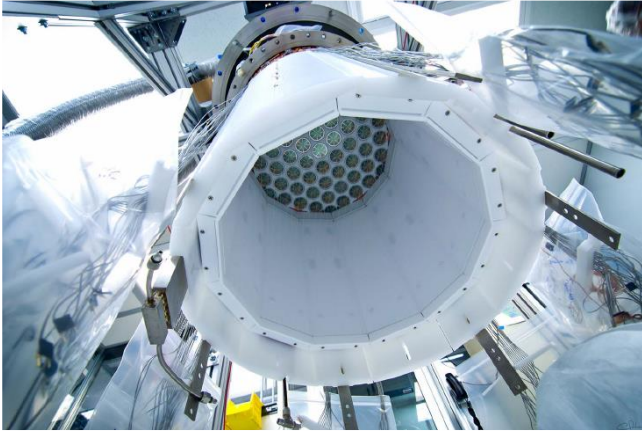


# ZEPLIN → LUX → LUX-ZEPLIN

- **UK-led ZEPLIN programme at Boulby (2001-2011)**
  - Pioneered two-phase xenon technology
  - World class results from 3 xenon experiments
  - Fiducial mass ~6 kg
- **LUX operating at Sanford Underground Laboratory**
  - Imperial, Edinburgh and UCL joined after ZEPLIN-III
  - Gave world-leading experiment
  - Fiducial mass ~100 kg
- **LZ: next-generation experiment**
  - LZ formed with MOU between LUX and ZEPLIN-III in 2008
  - Selected in 2013 by DMUK for construction proposal to STFC
  - Fiducial mass ~5,600kg ( $\sim 10^{-48}$  cm<sup>2</sup> sensitivity)
  - Technical design completed, construction in progress



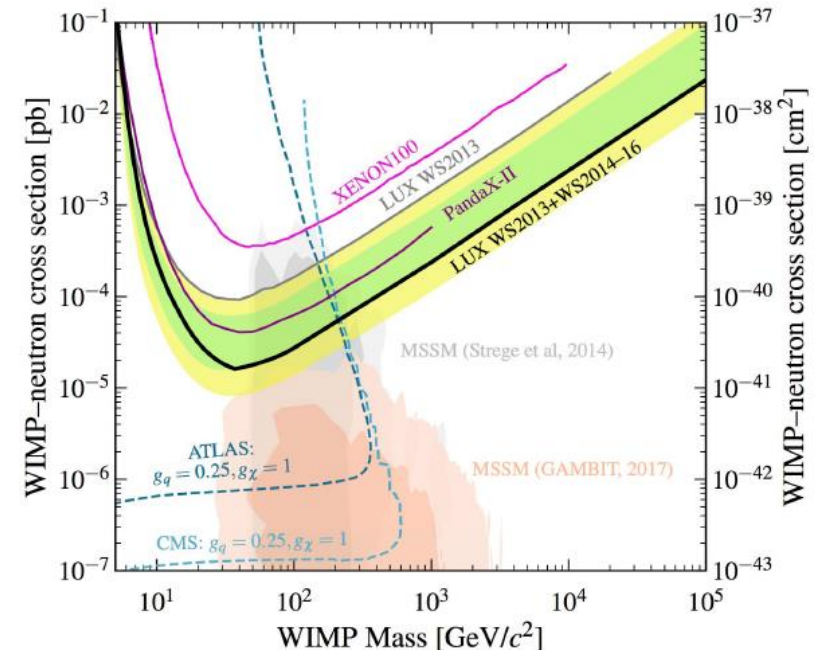
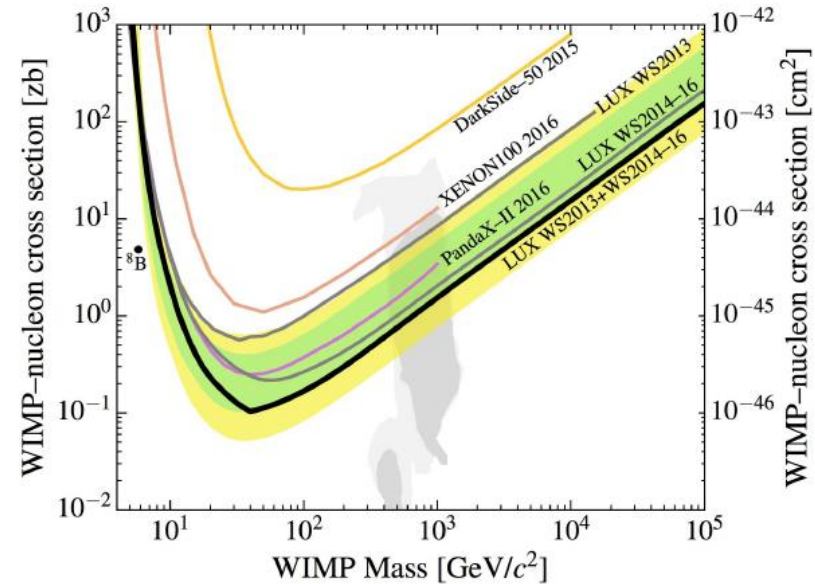
# LUX 2013 – 2017



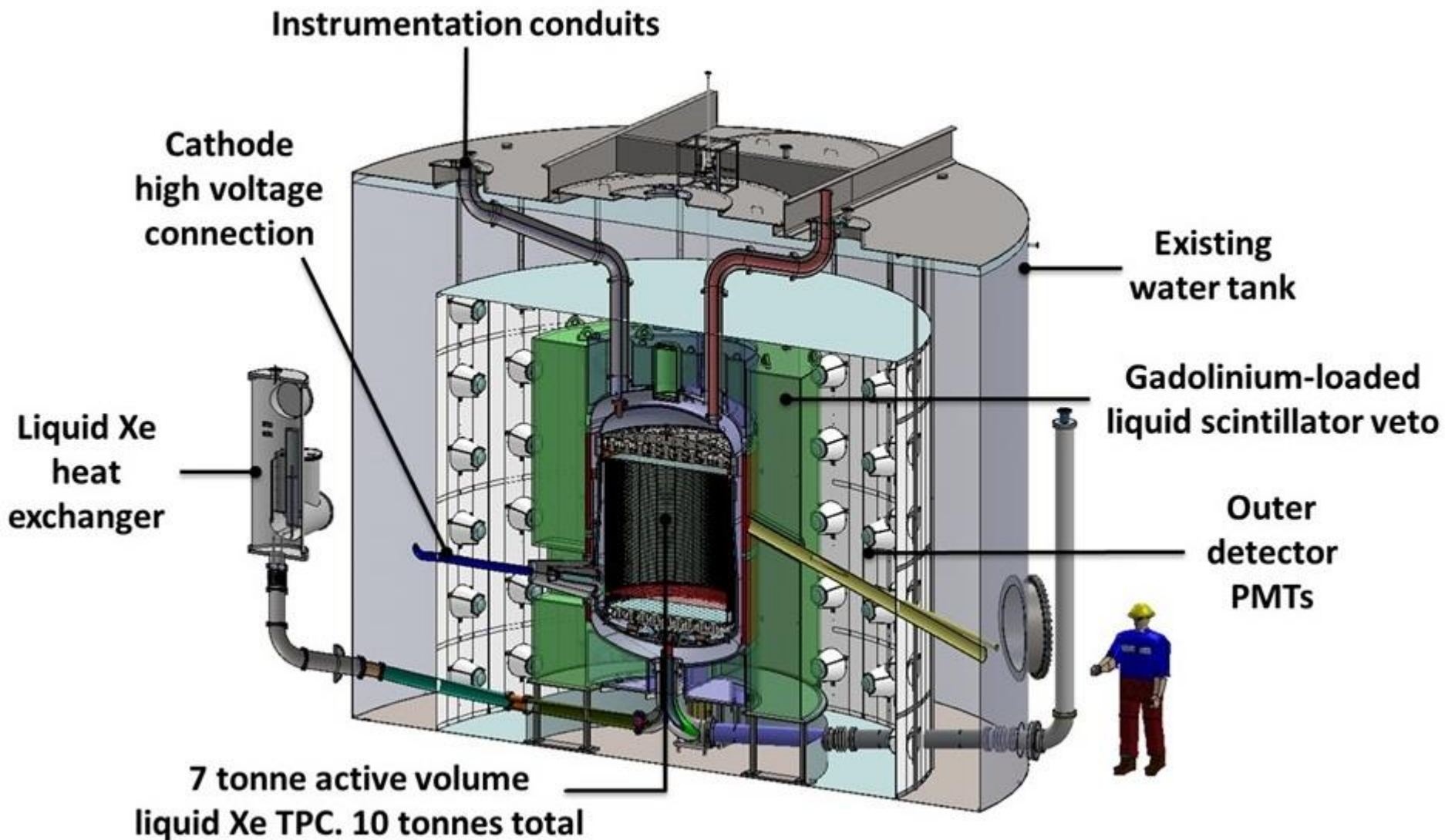
First Science Run in 2013  
Second Science Run 2014 – 2016  
Full exposure: 47,500 kg.days (427 live-days)

Improved Spin-Indep. WIMP Sensitivity  
by factor 20 since state prior to 2013.

In parallel: major programme improving LXe ER and NR calibration, which allowed significant improvement in accuracy of Xe response models.



# LZ Detector Design



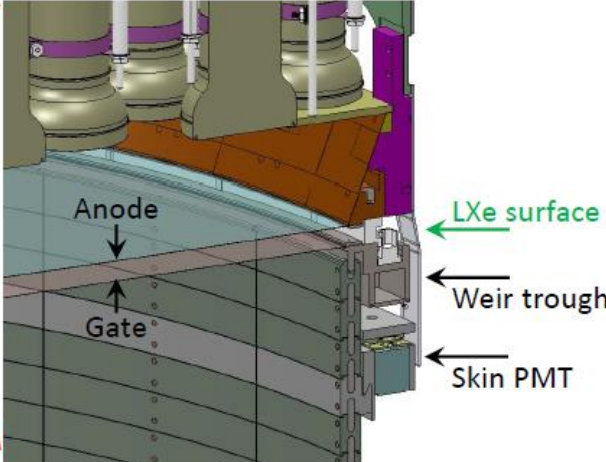


# The TPC Design

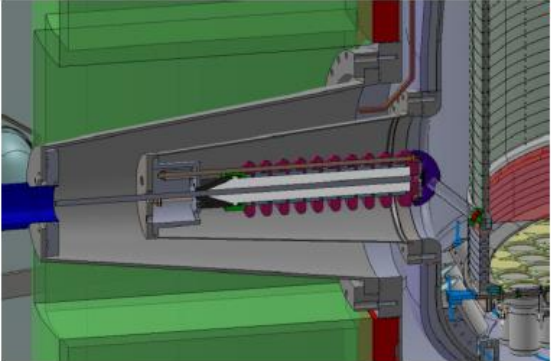
## SECTION VIEW OF LXe TPC

- Top PMT array →
- Side Skin PMTs →
- TPC field cage →

## GAS PHASE AND ELECTROLUMINESCENCE REGION



## HV CONNECTION TO CATHODE

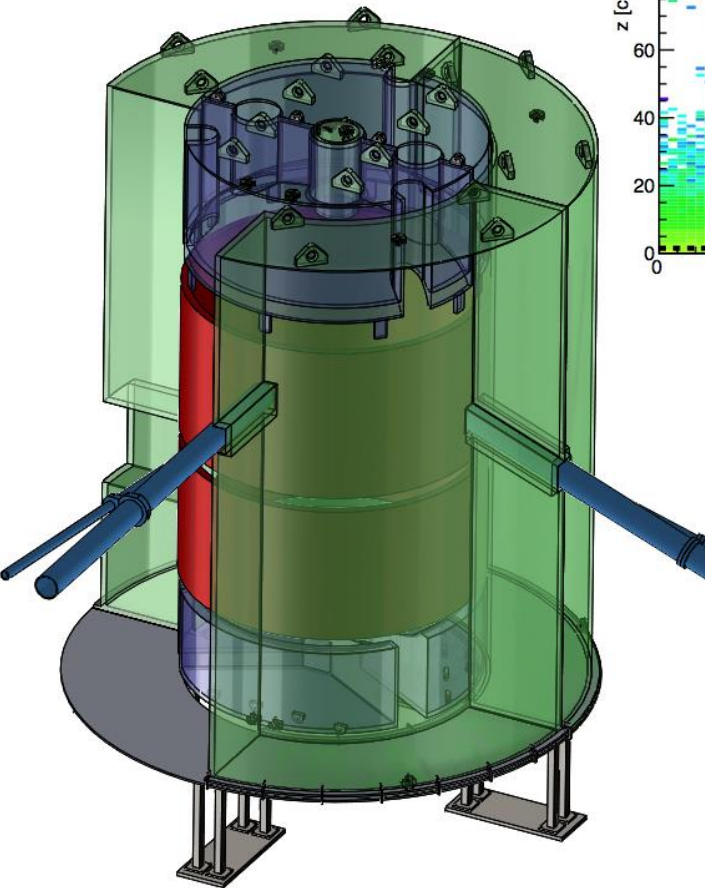
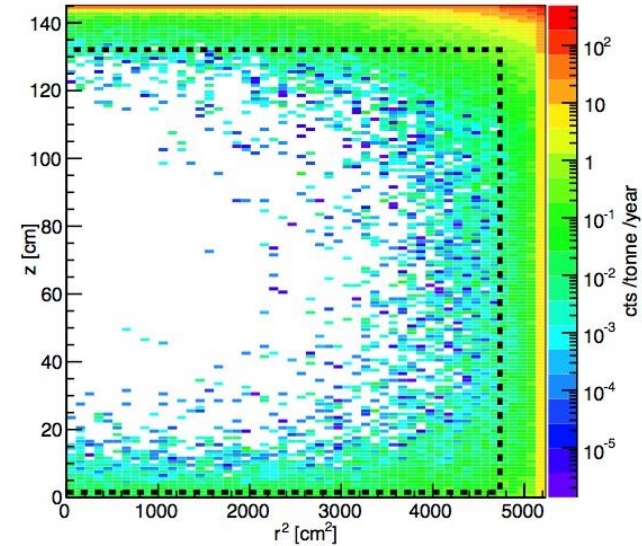
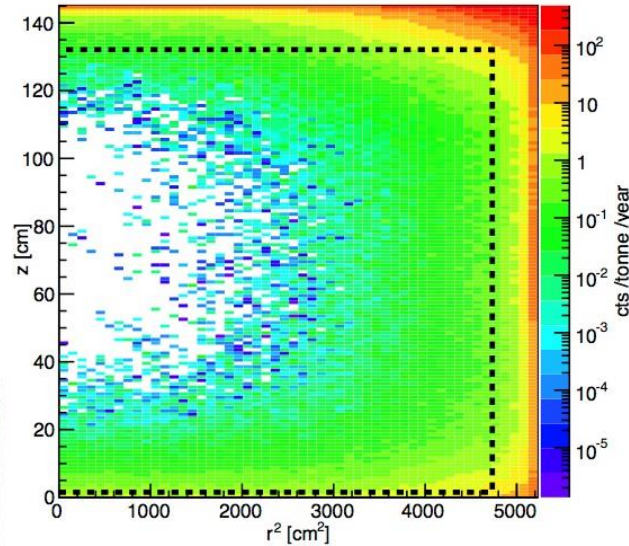


- Cathode grid
- Reverse-field region
- Side skin PMT mounting plate
- Bottom PMT array

# Outer Detector Design and Impact

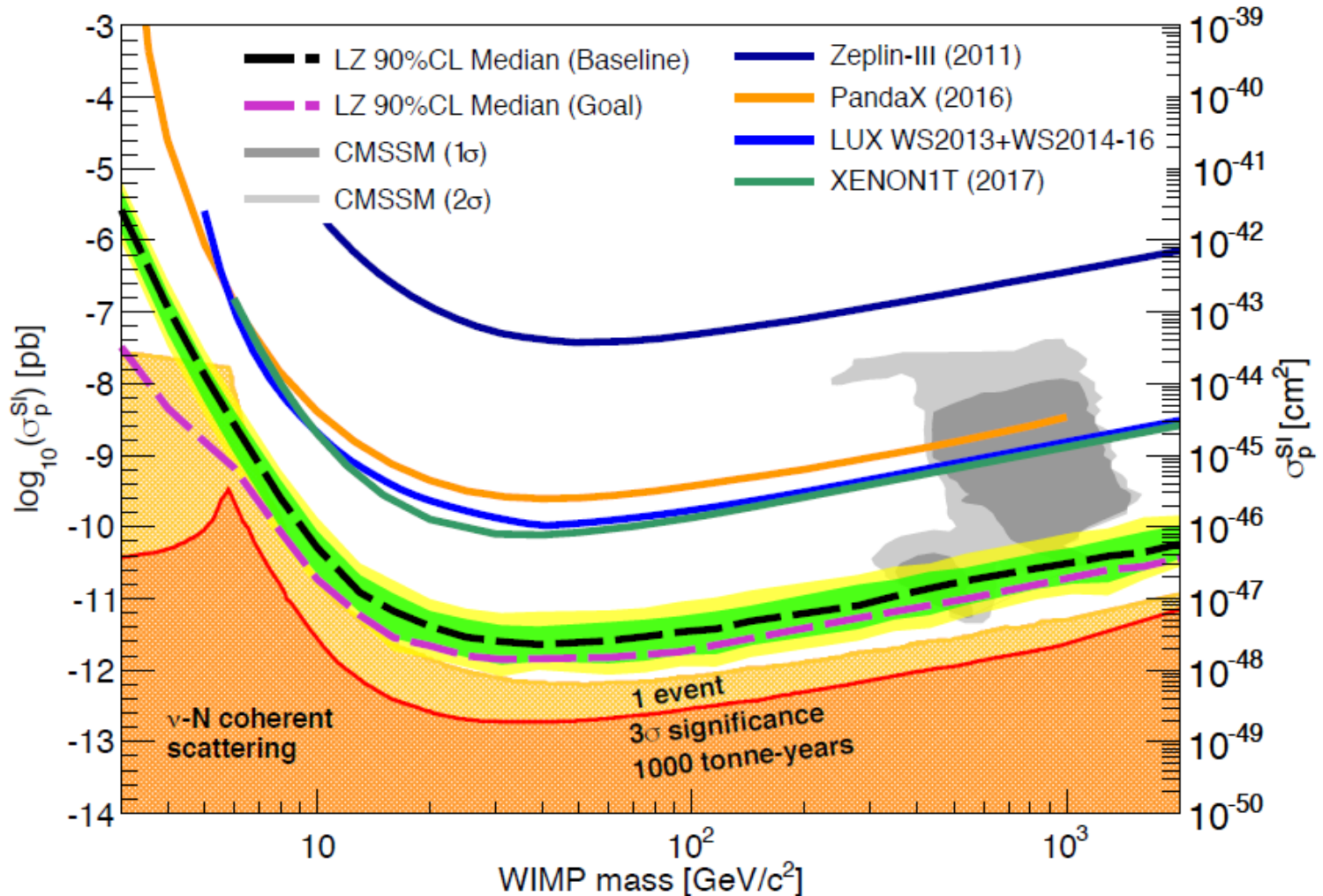
Lxe TPC only: 3.8t fid

TPC+Skin+OD 5.6t fid



- External tagging allows greater fiducial volume for analysis
- 60 cm thick, 17.2 t of gadolinium-loaded liquid scintillator, 120 8" PMTs
- 97% efficiency for neutrons

# Projected Limits



Baseline WIMP sensitivity:  $2.3 \times 10^{-48} \text{ cm}^2$  at  $40 \text{ GeV}/c^2$

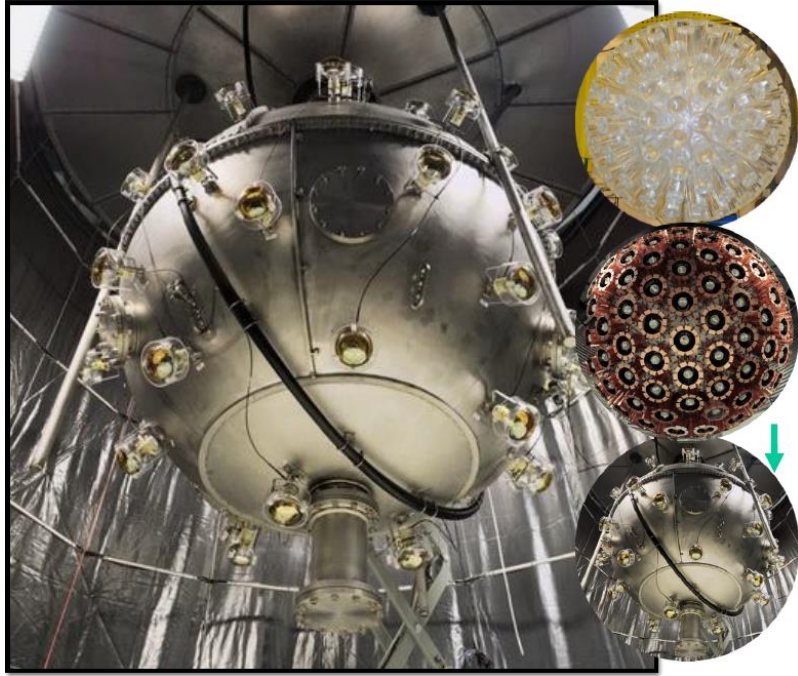
Other promising science targets:  $0\nu\beta\beta$ , pp and  $^8\text{B}$  neutrinos, coherent neutrino scattering,

# Scaling Liquid Xenon Detectors

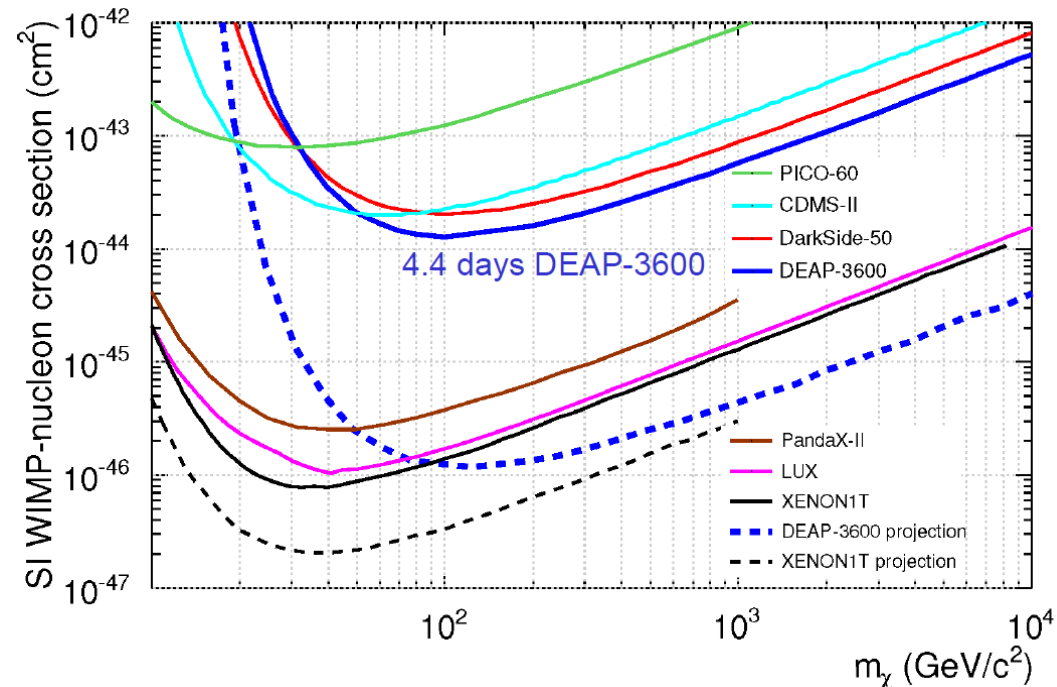
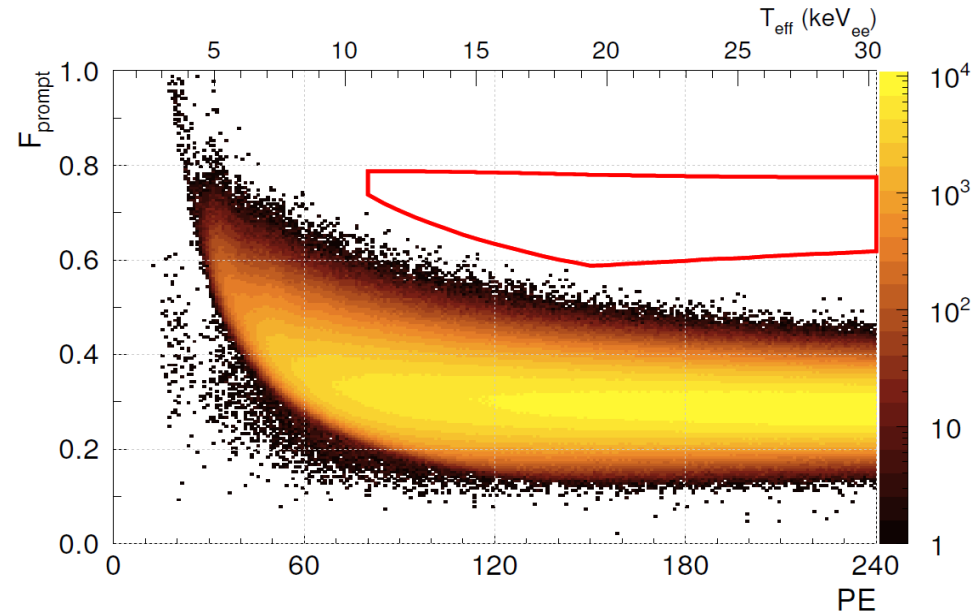
- Can electron lifetime be maintained sufficiently high?
- Larger diameter grid? Sagging, opacity, segment?
- Electric field: higher voltage needed for same field.
- Purification techniques?
- Readout devices (PMT, new forms of photon detectors) – reliability, radiopurity, cost?
- Overall radiopurity.
- Even better understanding of event topologies?

Overall verdict: achievable.

# DEAP-3600

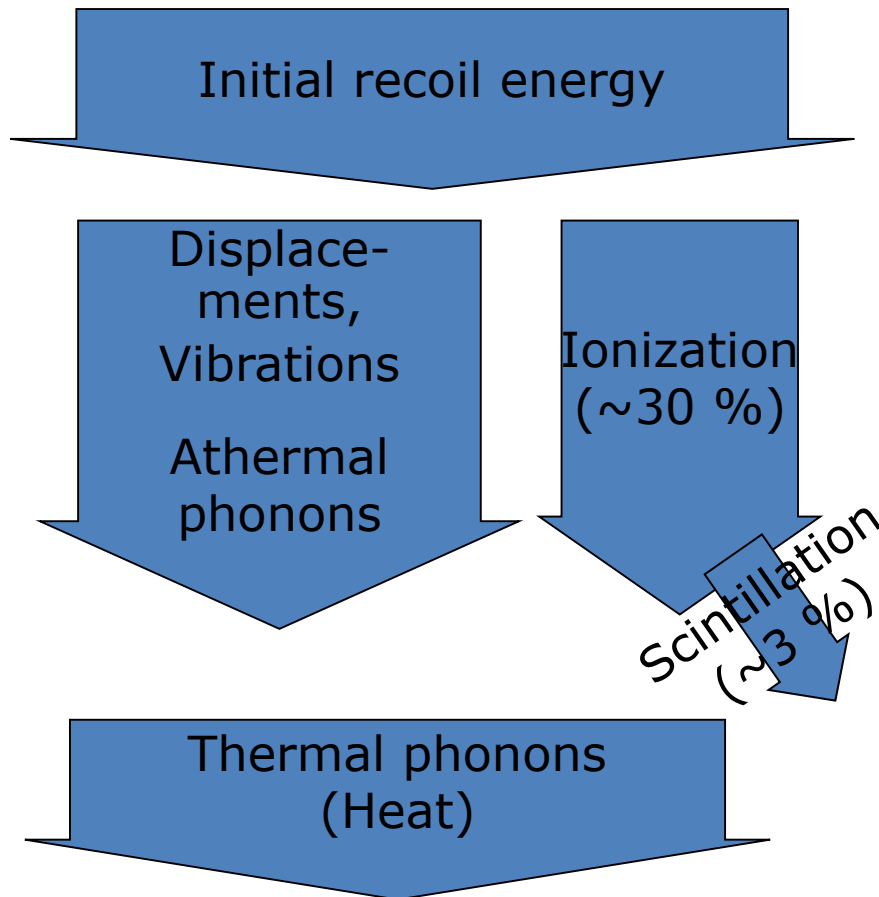


- Will run to 2020.
- Beyond DEAP-3600: significant global collaboration of argon DM searches.
- DS-20K at LNGS and future multi-hundred tonne detector.



# Niche of Cryogenic Detectors

## Phonon-ionization / phonon-scintillation

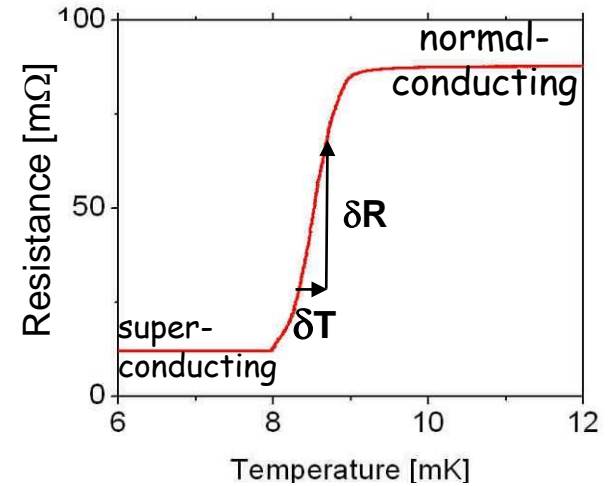
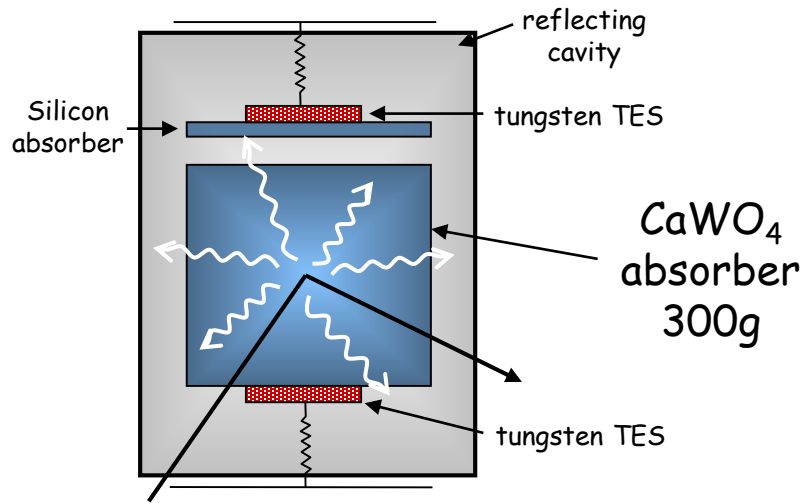


**Phonon:** most precise total energy measurement

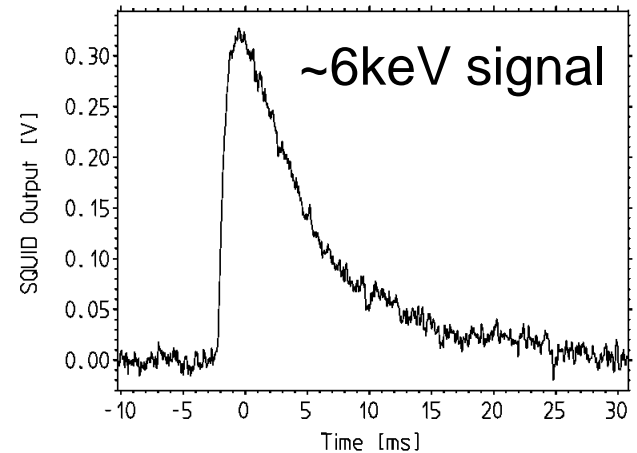
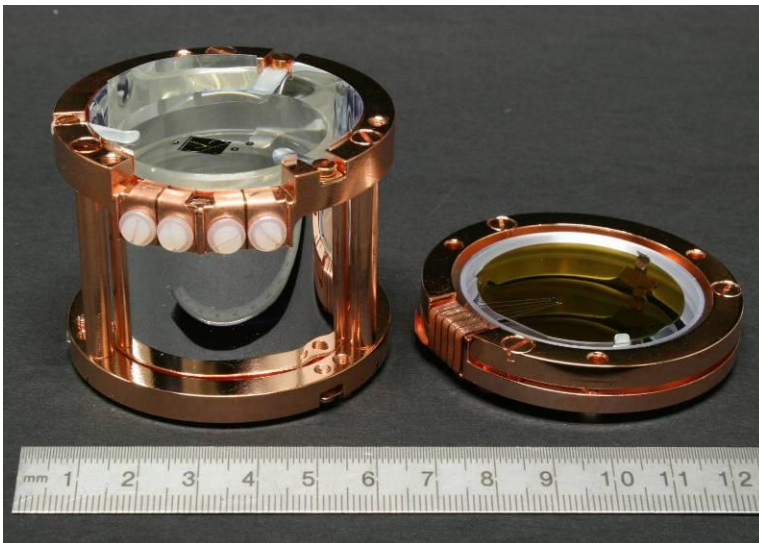
**Ionization / Scintillation:** yield depends on recoiling particle

Nuclear / electron recoil discrimination.

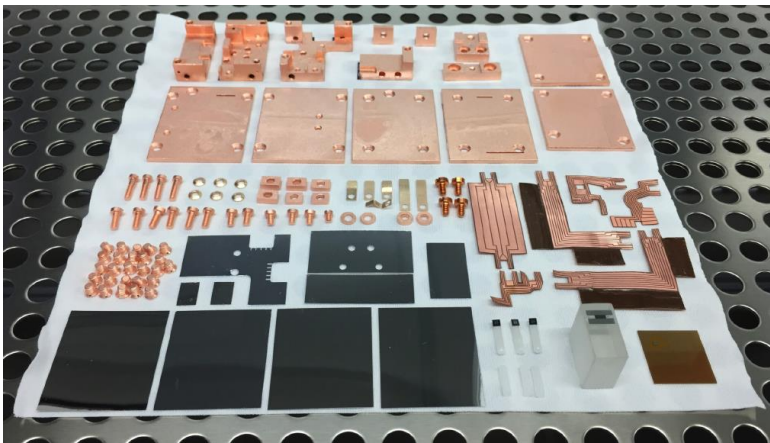
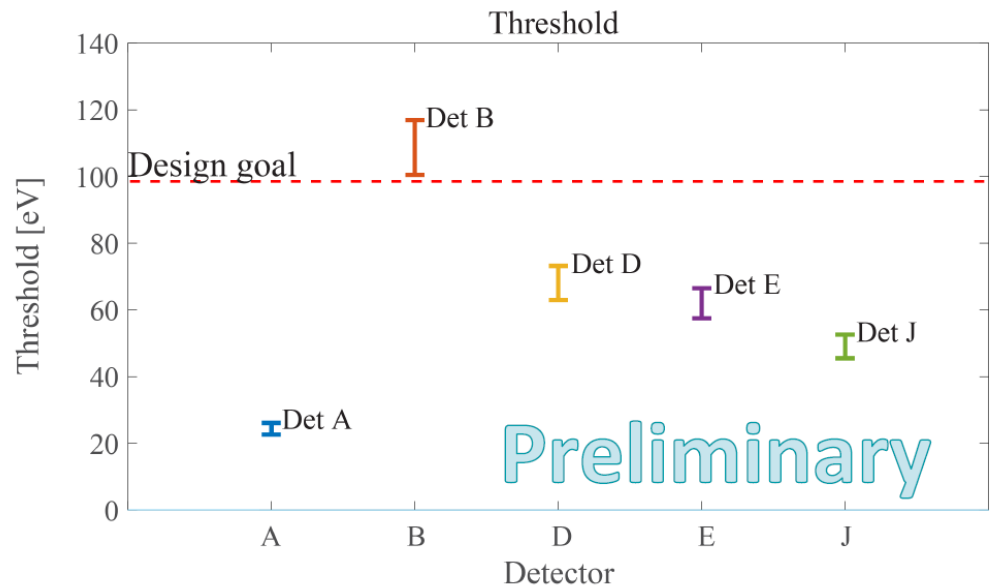
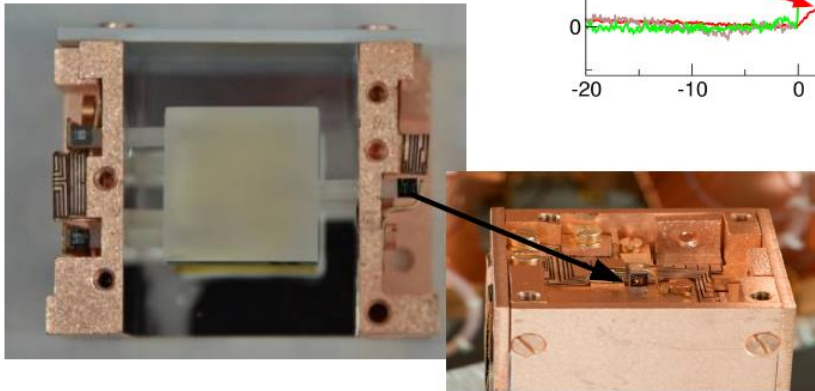
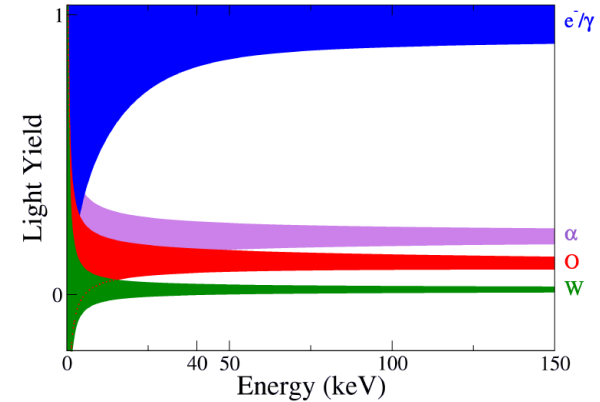
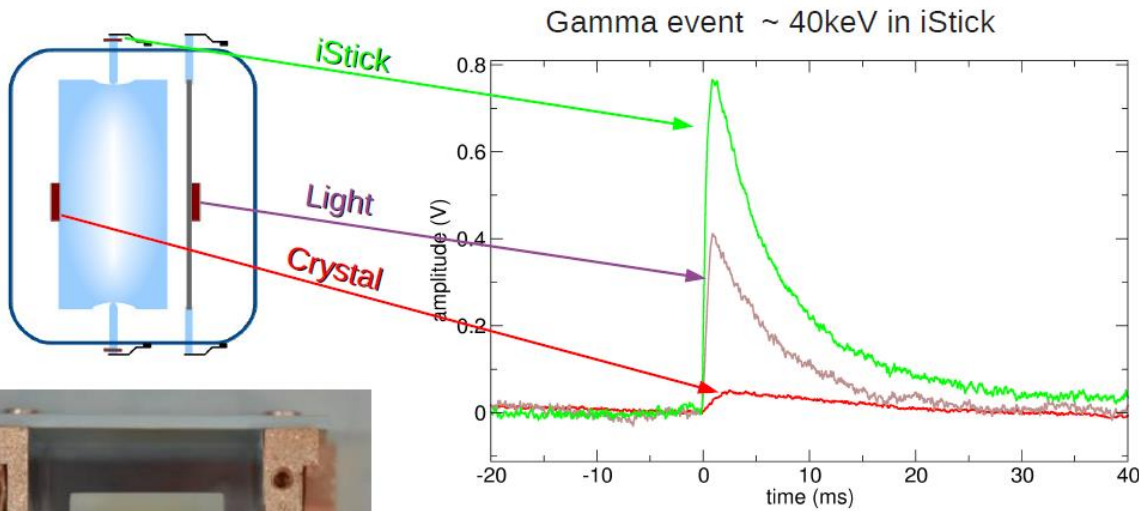
# CRESST Detectors



Width of transition:  $\sim 1$  mK  
Signals: few  $\mu$  K  
Stability:  $\sim \mu$  K

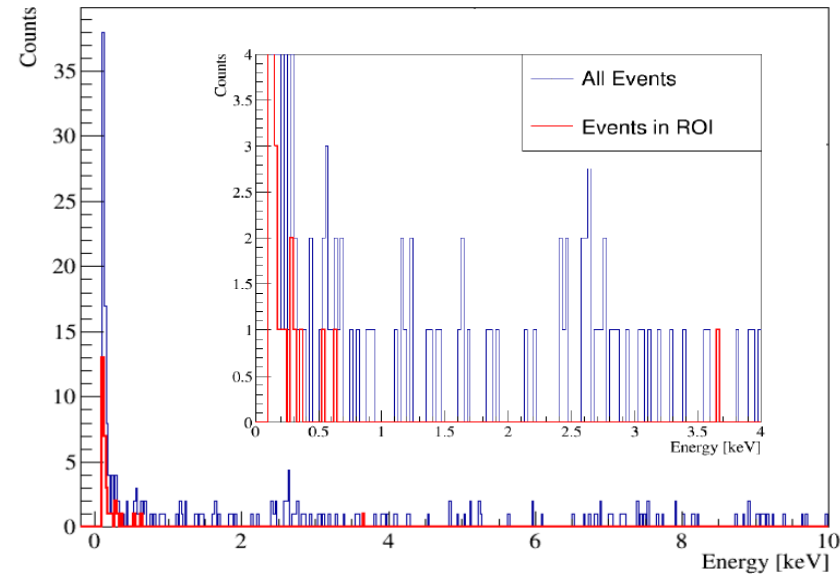
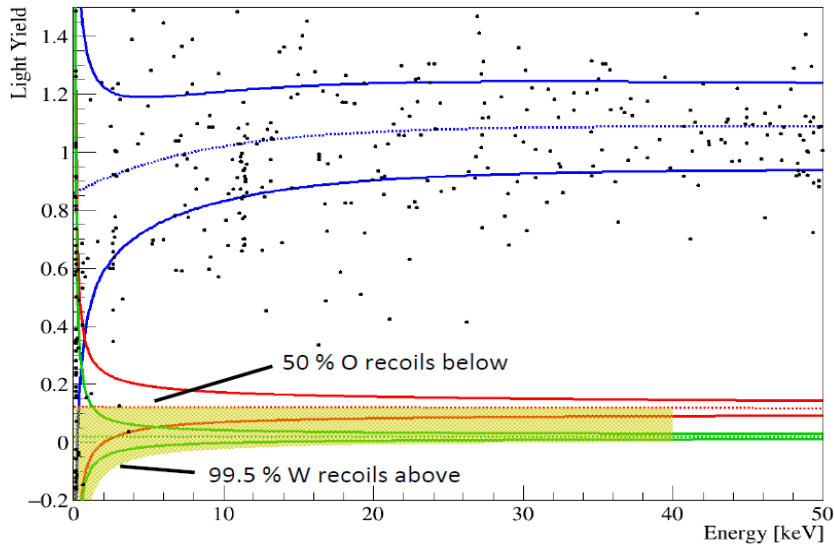


# Phonon Scintillation (CRESST-III)

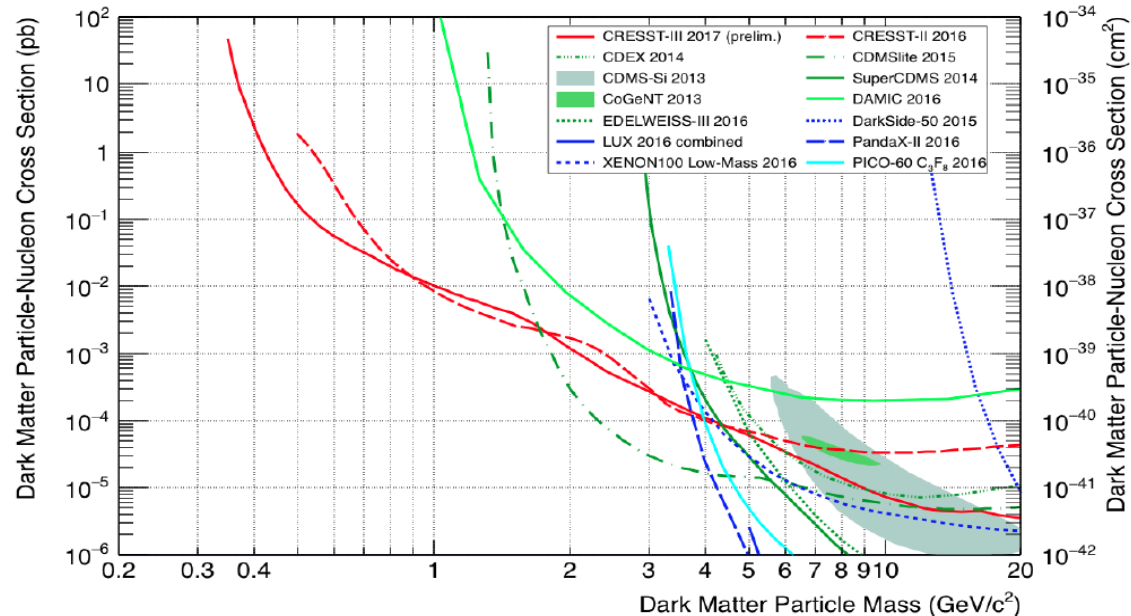




# CRESST Status (2017 results)



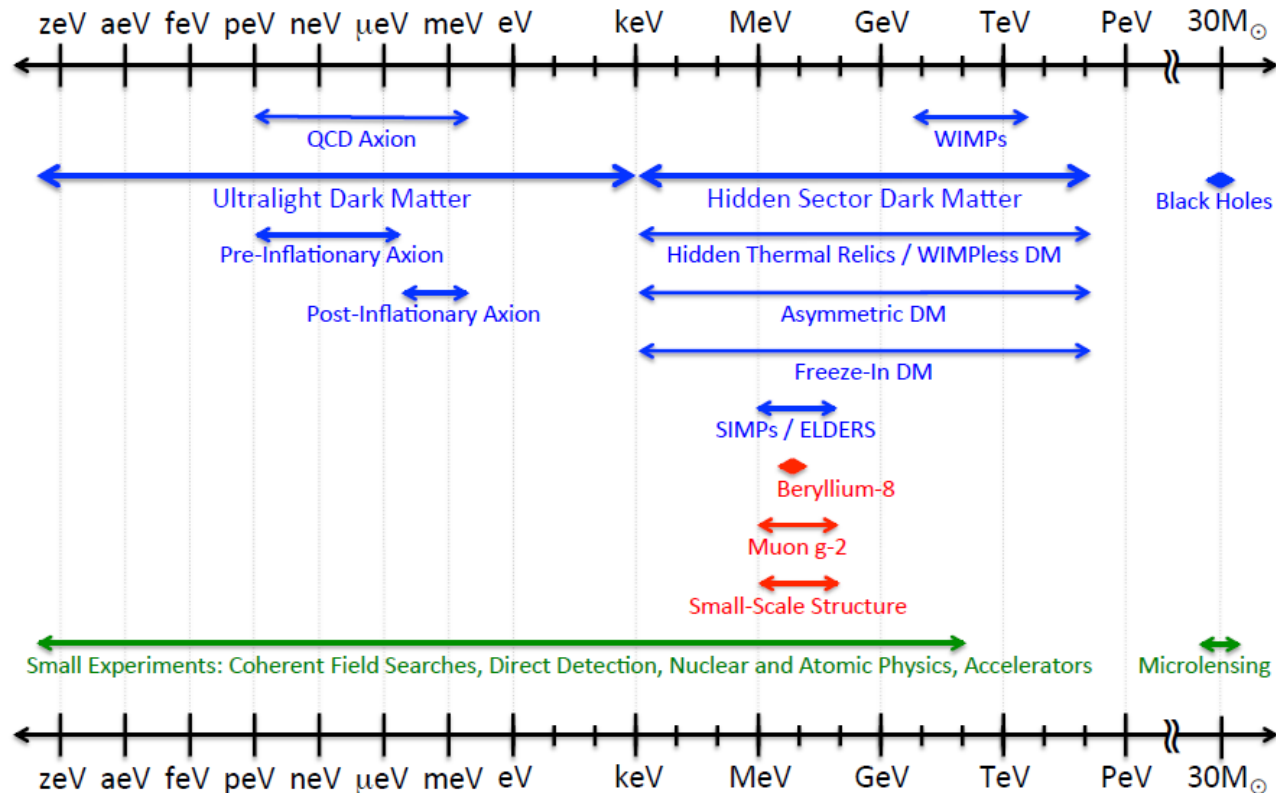
- One order of magnitude improvement at  $0.5 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
- Reach of direct dark matter experiments extended to  $0.35 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
- Exposure 2.21 kg days
- Absorber volume 24g
- Threshold 100 eV



# Future G3 R&D - UK

Largely built on our core expertise with flexibility to change direction if a new, clear direction emerges to which we could make a significant contribution.

## Dark Sector Candidates, Anomalies, and Search Techniques



From US Cosmic Vision: New Ideas in Dark Matter 2017:  
Community Report

# Future G3 R&D - UK

- **Photon Detection Methods:** testing and characterizing individual SiPM, developing fast optical photon simulations, and the SiPM readout with DAQ.
- **Further Development of LXe-TPCs:** focus on measurements related to xenon, properties of key TPC materials and improving position and energy resolution achievable at MeV energies.
- **Low Background Techniques:** developing new techniques on radon emanation, explore inline radon removal from xenon gas, improve dust control, ICP-MS and HPGe assay capability, and simulations.

# Summary

- 3 major 2-phase LXe experiments – in hand, progressing well, major effort.
- Probably one very large LXe experiment beyond G2.
- Cryogenic detectors focussing on low-mass segment – but becoming more complex with needing additional phonon-only background rejection.
- Overall landscape: we may have to broaden our searches – diversification of experimental techniques. But ultimately: it takes about a decade to achieve what one thought was “easy”.
- Hence, UK focus on technique where most of UK expertise lies.