

# Dark Matter Search and Neutrino Physics at the PandaX Experiment

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On behalf of the PandaX Collaboration

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# Outline

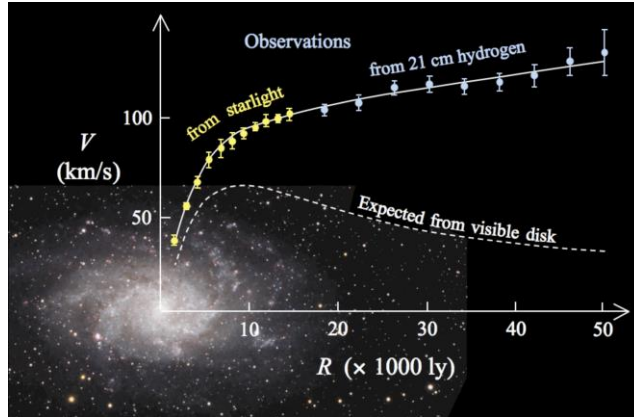


- Introduction
- Dark matter search in PandaX-II & PandaX-4T
  - Data analysis techniques
  - WIMP search results
- Neutrino physics in Pandax-4T
  - Extend detector response to  $O(\text{MeV})$
  - $^{136}\text{Xe}$   $2\nu\beta\beta/0\nu\beta\beta$  search
  - $^{124}\text{Xe}$   $2\nu\text{ECEC}$  search
  - Solar neutrino flux measurement
- Summary

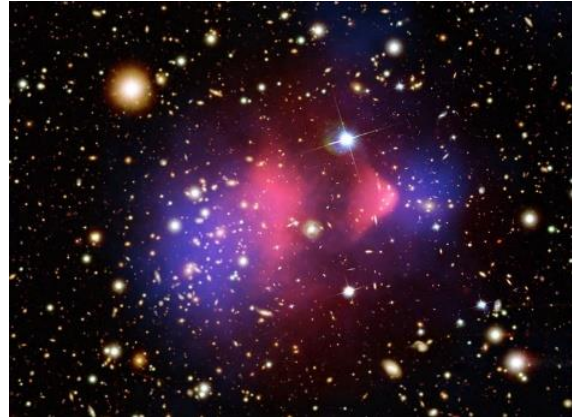
# Dark matter and its evidence



### Galactic rotation curve

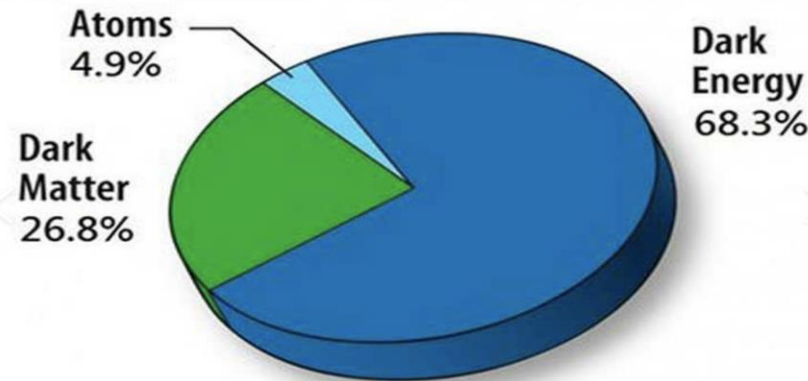
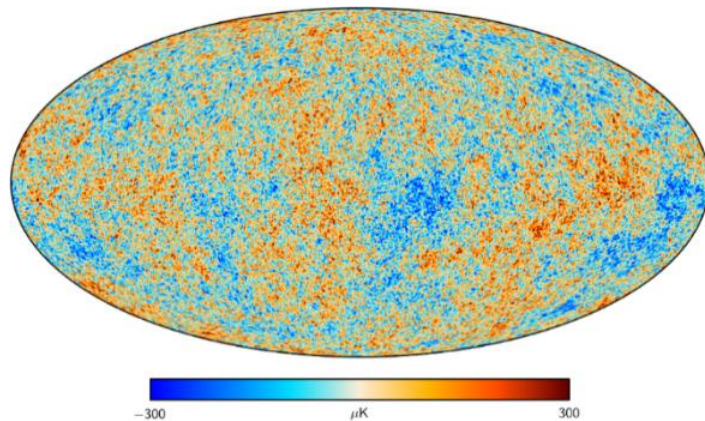


### Bullet Cluster



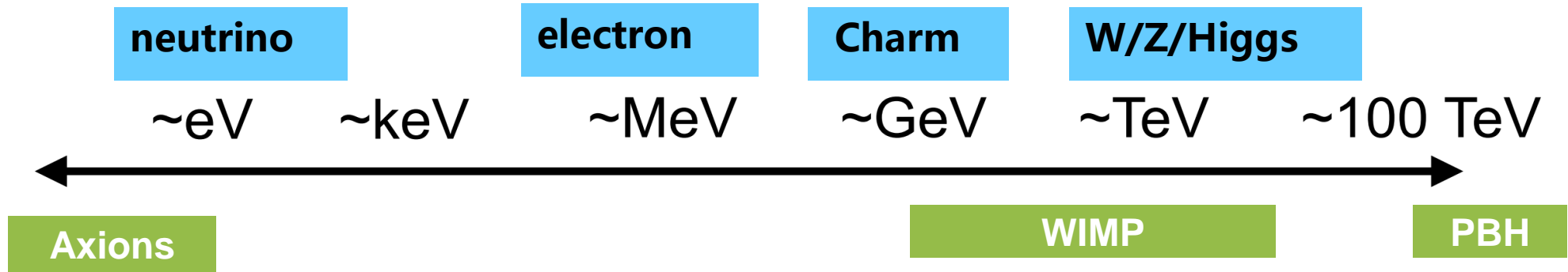
- Gravitational evidences suggest dark matter really exists and is the dominant form of matter in Universe!

### Cosmic Microwave Background



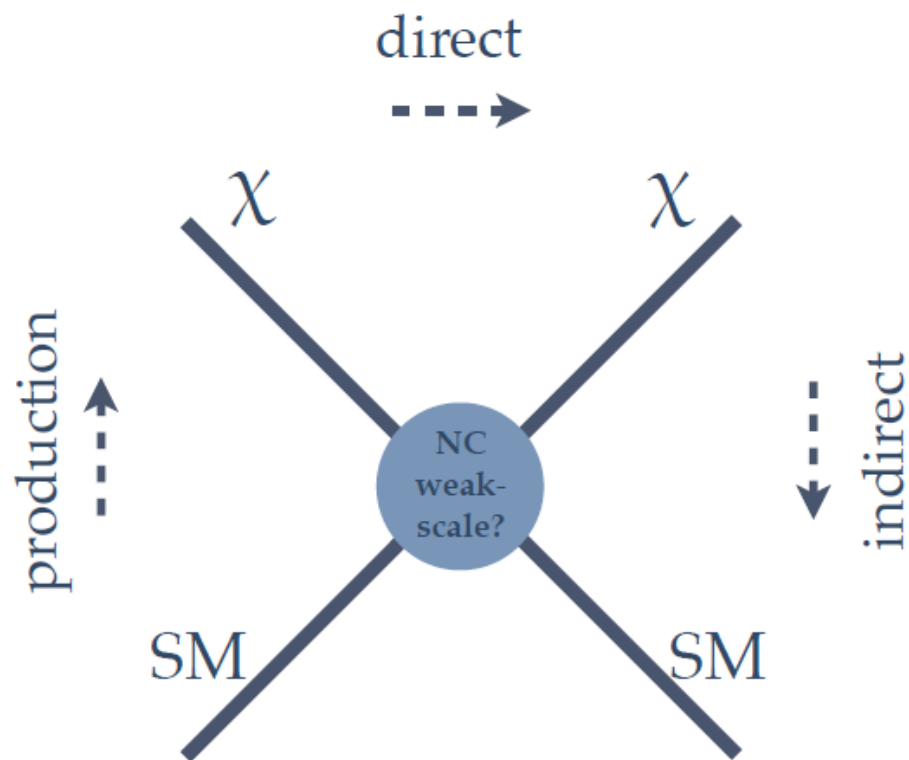
- The nature of dark matter is still a mystery: fundamental particle?

# Dark matter candidates

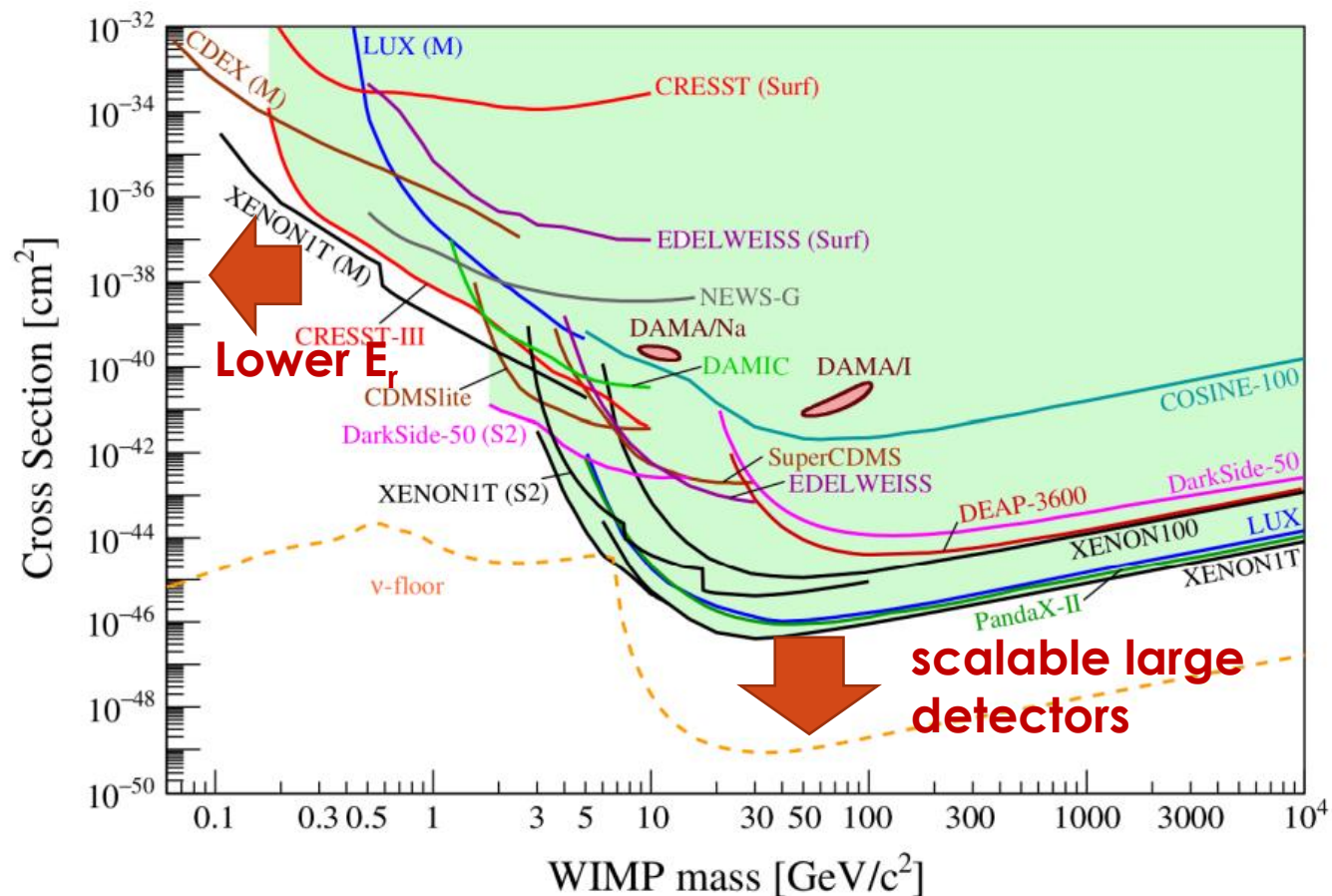


- Weakly Interacting Massive Particle (WIMP)
- mass  $\sim 100 GeV$ , “WIMP miracle”
- WIMP is one of the most promising dark matter candidates!

# Dark matter detection



- Collider search
- Direct detection
- Indirect detection



DM: low hanging fruit?

# The big three xenon DM experiments



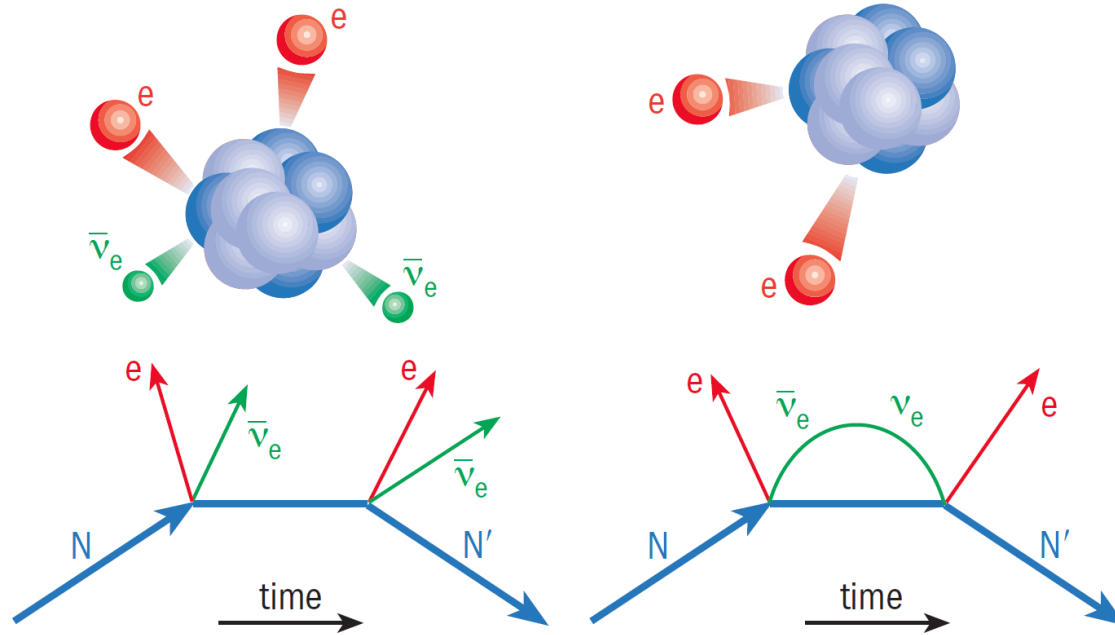
# Neutrinos are Dirac or Majorana?



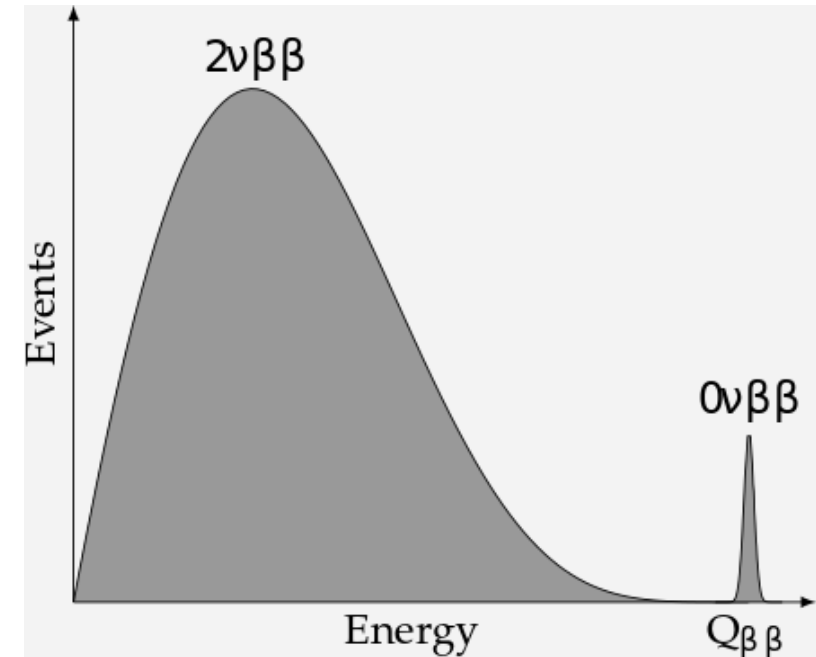
$$\bar{\nu} = \nu?$$



Neutrinoless double- $\beta$  decay



*From Physics World*



- Majorana neutrino may be an important link in connecting to matter-antimatter asymmetry in our universe.

# $0\nu\beta\beta$ probes the nature of neutrinos



- Majorana or Dirac
- Lepton number violation
- Measures effective Majorana mass: relate  $0\nu\beta\beta$  to the neutrino oscillation physics

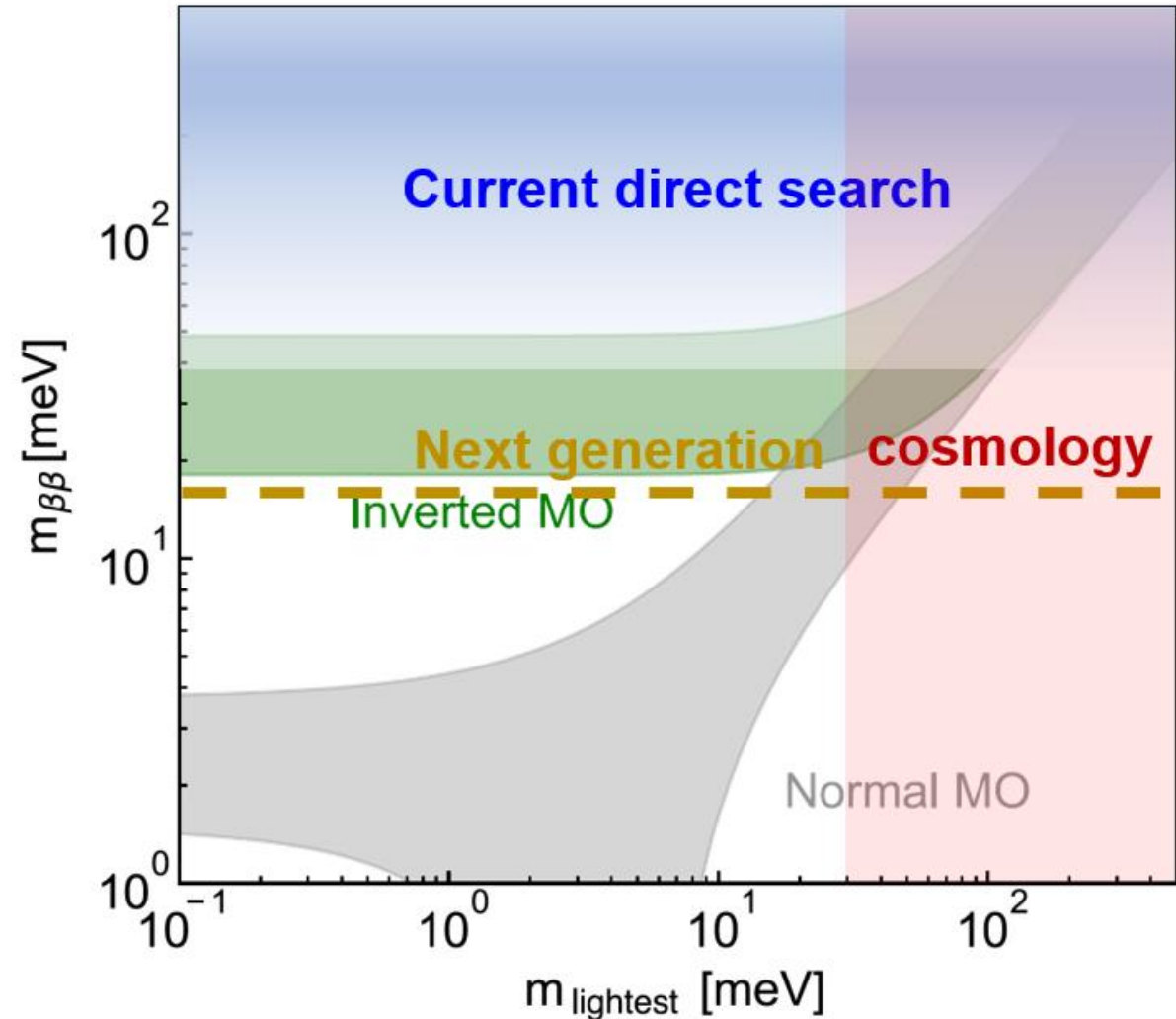
$$(T_{1/2}^{0\nu})^{-1} = G^{0\nu}(Q, Z) |M^{0\nu}|^2 \frac{|\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle|^2}{m_e^2}$$

Phase space factor

Nuclear matrix element

Effective Majorana neutrino mass:

$$|\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle| = \left| \sum_{i=1}^3 U_{ei}^2 m_i \right|$$



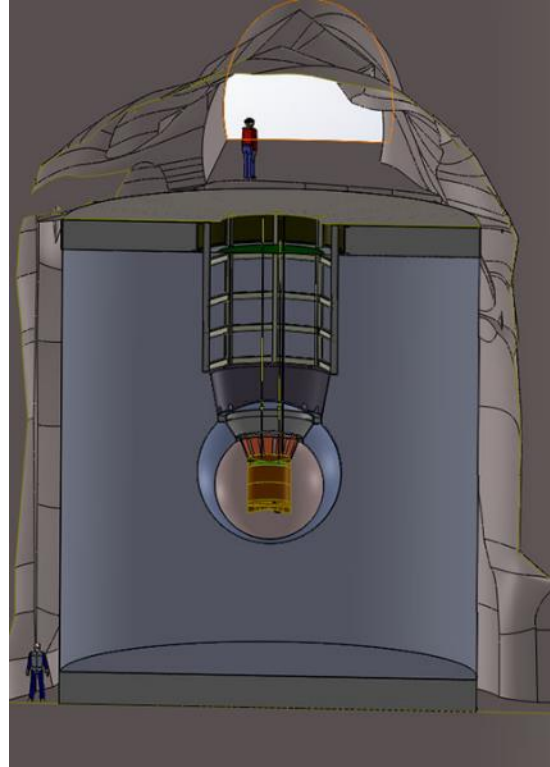


# Leading $0\nu\beta\beta$ experiments



**CUORE/CUPID**

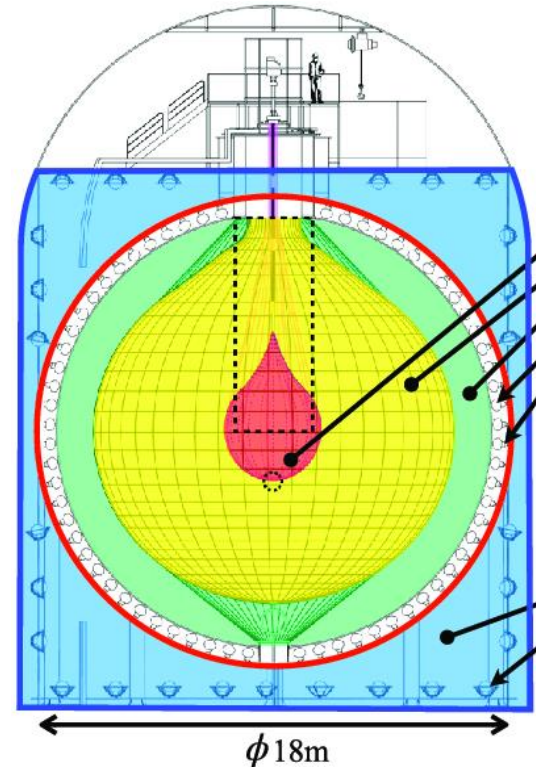
Bolometer



**EXO/nEXO**

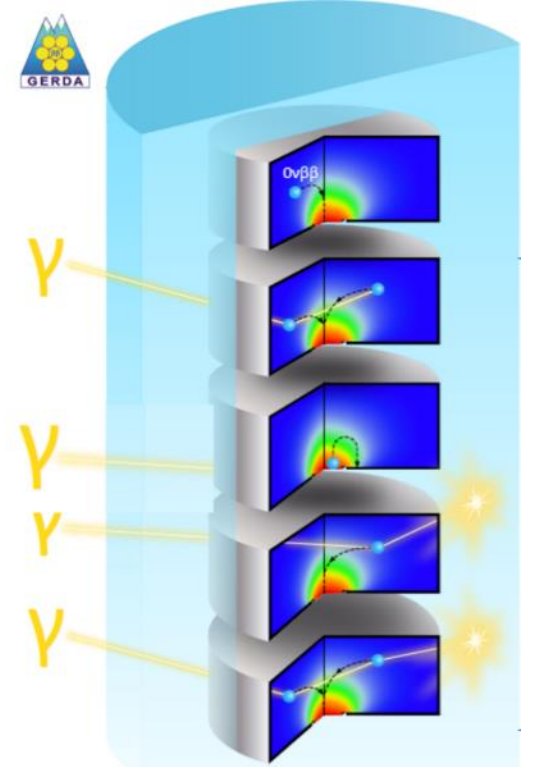
LXe TPC

$^{136}\text{Xe}$



**KamLAND-ZEN**

Doped LS



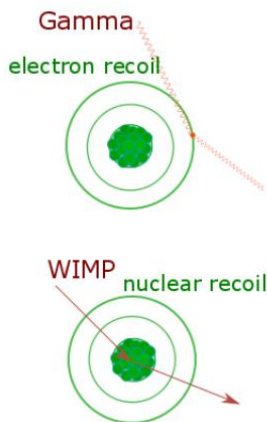
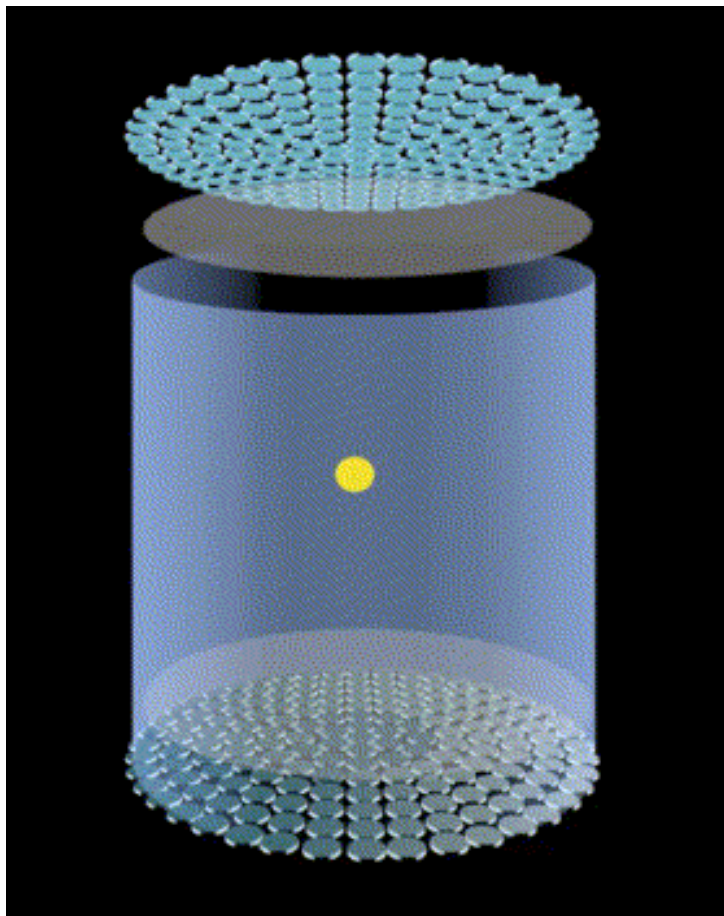
**LEGEND family**

HPGe

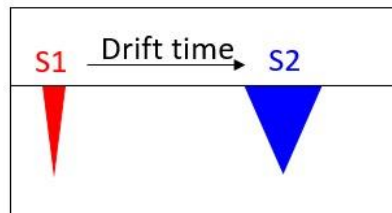
# Dual-phase xenon time projection chamber (TPC)



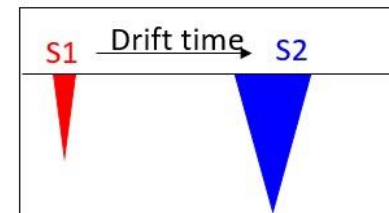
- S1: prompt scintillation signal
- S2: delayed ionization signal



Dark matter: nuclear recoil (NR)

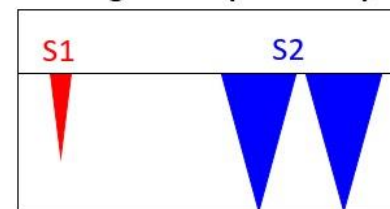


$\gamma$  background: electron recoil (ER)



$$(S2/S1)_{NR} \ll (S2/S1)_{ER}$$

Multi-site scattering background (ER or NR)



Dual phase xenon detector capability:

- ER/NR identification
- Single / multi-site identification
- 3D reconstruction and fiducialization
- Calorimeter from sub keV to MeV

# PandaX collaboration

- Particle and Astrophysical Xenon Experiment
- Now 15 institutions, ~80 authors



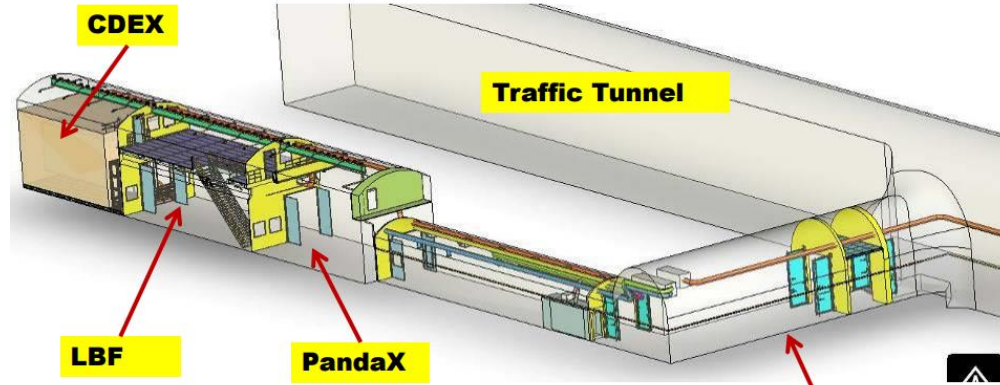
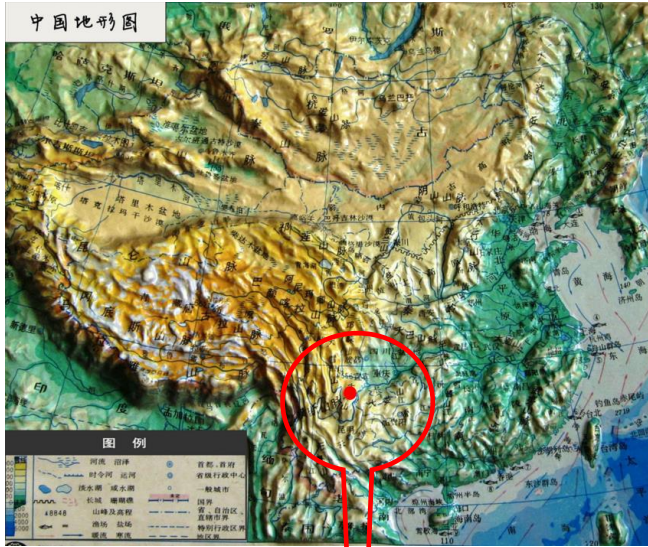
雅砻江水电



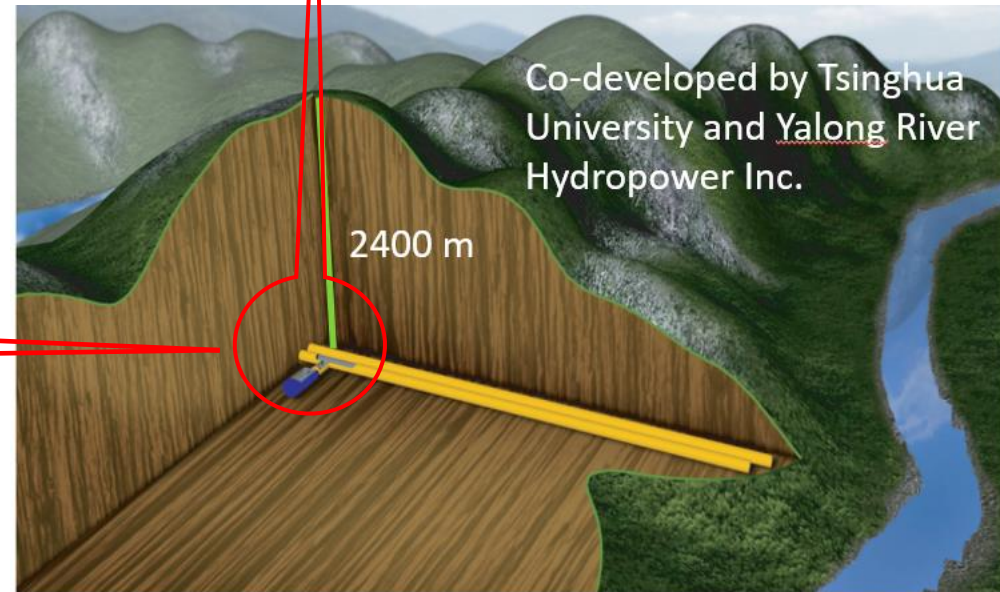
Universidad Zaragoza



# China Jinping underground Laboratory (CJPL)



■ Total space: 4000 m<sup>3</sup>  
■ Main Lab Space: 6.5(W) x 6.5(H) x 42(L)



- Deepest underground lab
  - 6800 m.w.e
  - < 0.2 muons/m<sup>2</sup>/day
- Much larger space in CJPL-II
- National key science research facility for dark matter searches, neutrino physics, and astroparticle physics, etc.

# PandaX experiments



- Increasing the detector sensitive target volume
- Lowering radioactive background

PandaX start



2009

PandaX-I  
120kg



2010-2014

PandaX-II  
580kg



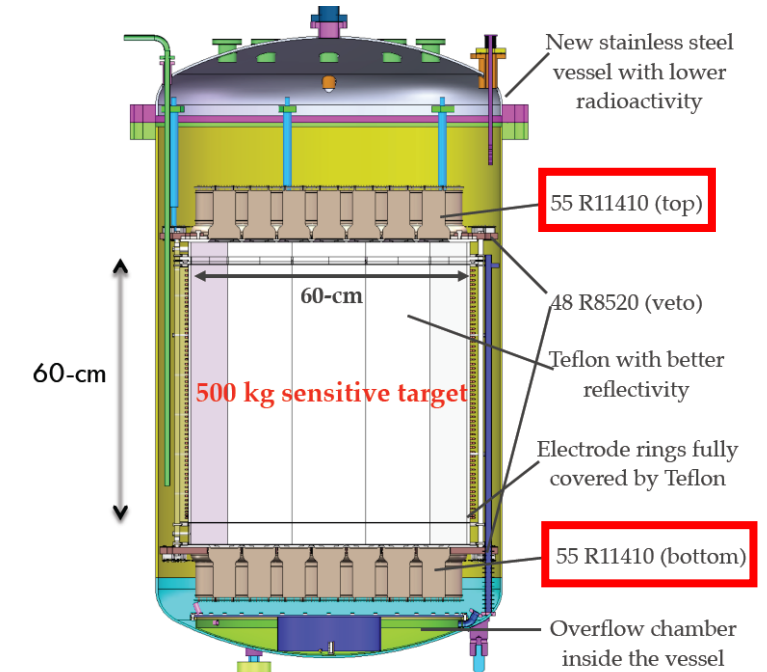
2015-2019

PandaX-4T  
(3.7 tonne)



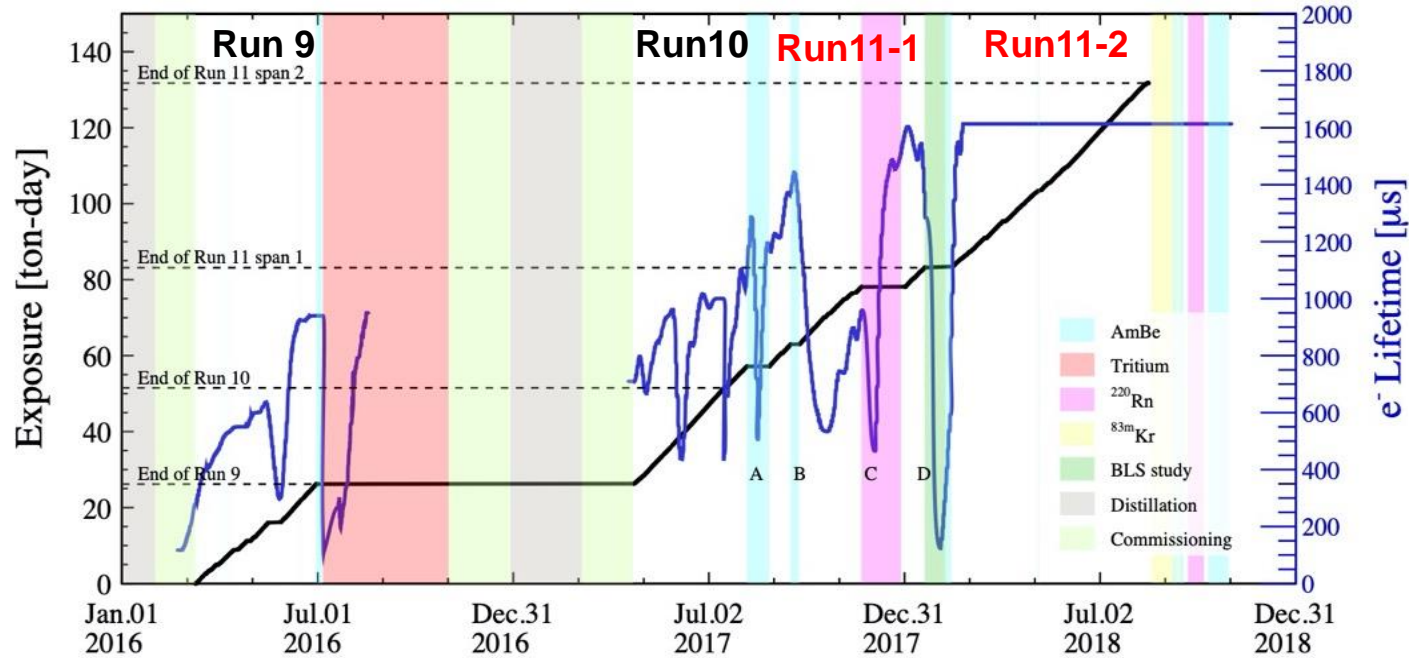
2020-

# Ph.D. work: WIMP search with PandaX-II



- PandaX-II: started the commissioning run in Nov. 2015, shut down in Jun. 2019
- Spent ~3 months per year on duty at CJPL
- Gained extensive experience in experimental particle physics and astrophysics, including detector simulation, experimental setup, commissioning and debugging, laboratory management, operation and maintenance on infrastructures and various subsystems

# PandaX-II data sets



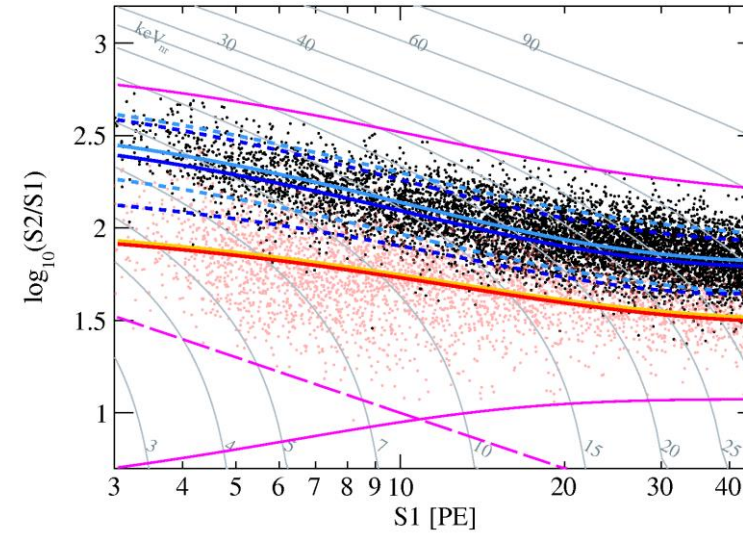
- 2019.06 “End-of-Run” completed
- Total exposure: 131.7 ton-day
  - Run 9: 79.6 days
  - Run 10: 77.1 days
  - **Run 11, span 1: 96.4 days**
  - **Run 11, span 2: 147.9 days**

- WIMP search with commissioning, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> physics runs, and full exposure of PandaX-II
- Refined algorithms: (1) detector response model, (2) improved background evaluation

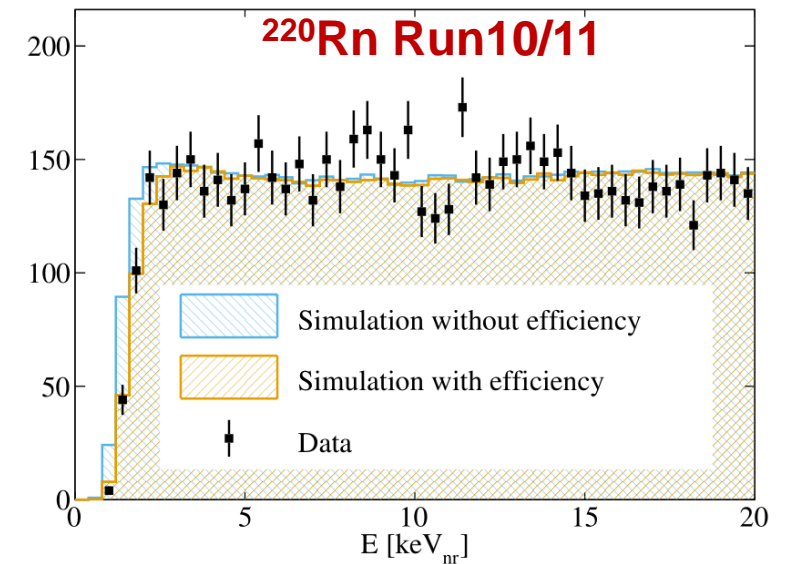
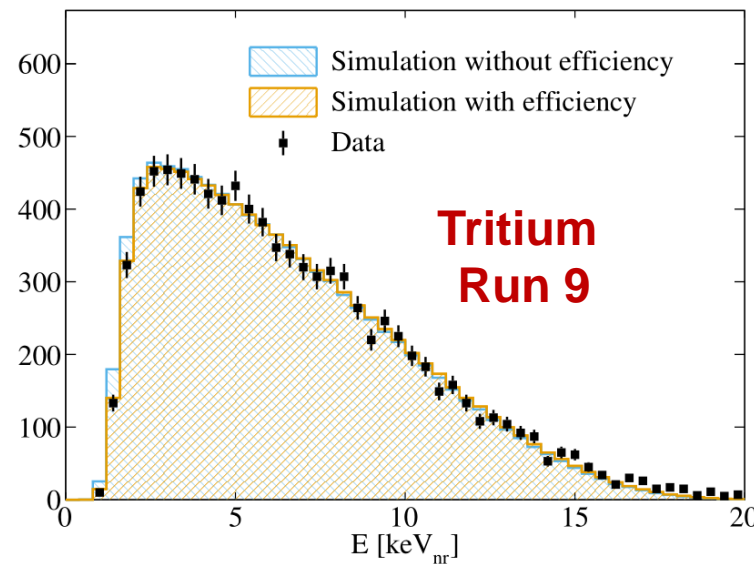
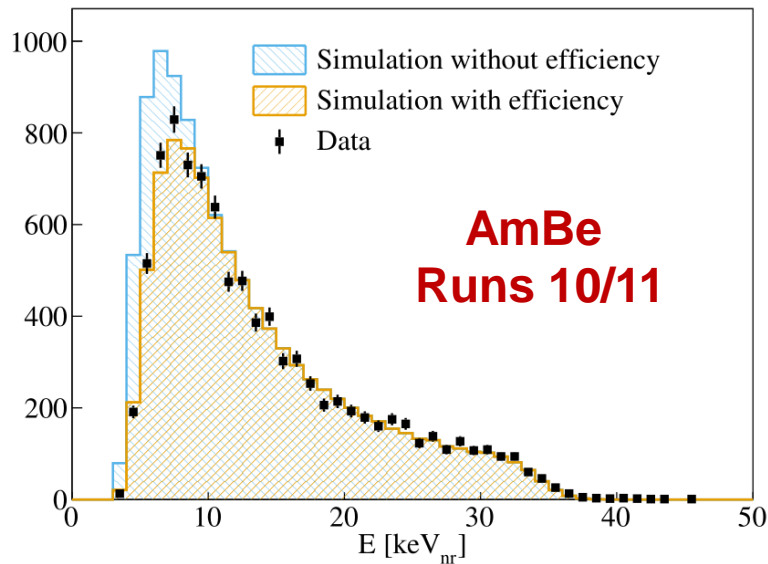
# Response Model



- Calibration data
  - ER events: tritium and  $^{220}\text{Rn}$
  - NR events: AmBe
- NEST 2.0 based response model
  - with data quality cut efficiency



ER Run 9  
ER Run 10/11  
NR Run 9  
NR Run 10/11





# Background estimation and unblinding data

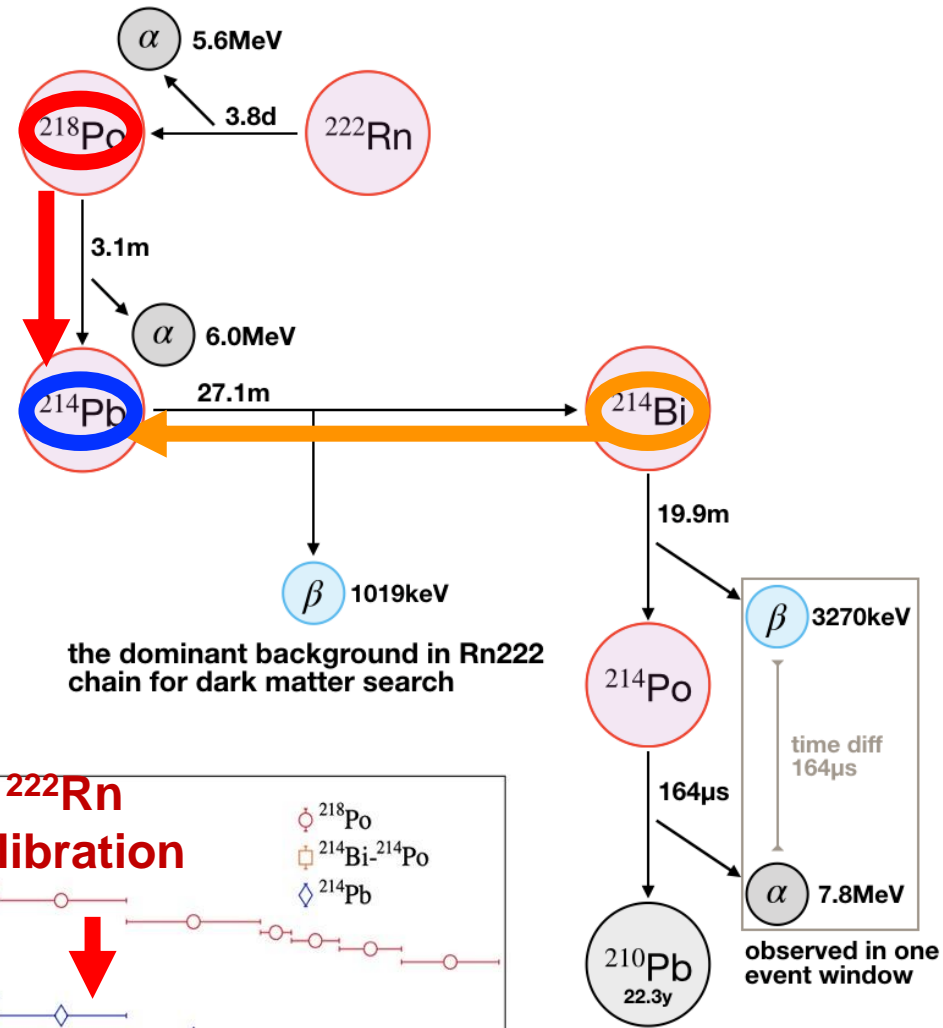


Source	Evaluation
$^{127}\text{Xe}$	35.5 day lifetime, decay away in Run 11
$^3\text{H}$	Introduced after Run 9, fitted from data, see later
$^{214}\text{Pb}$	<b>Depletion effect from measurement</b>
$^{85}\text{Kr}$	Not a constant due to air leakage in Run 11
<b>neutrons</b>	<b>Data-driven estimation</b>
surface events	Data-driven extrapolation
accidental events	Newly trained BDT discriminator

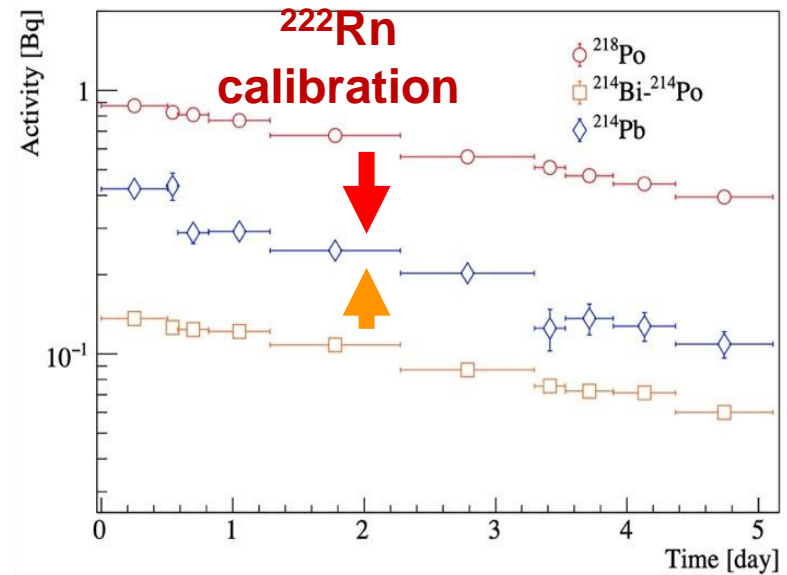
- Refined algorithms
  - New detector response model
  - **Improved background evaluation**
- Blind analysis for Run 11
- Total 1220 events, 38 below NR median
  - Consistent with background expectation (with best fit)
  - Best fit:  $1217 \pm 60$  evts
  - Below NR median:  $40.3 \pm 3.1$  evts

# $^{214}\text{Pb}$ background

- Major ER contribution from  $^{214}\text{Pb}$ 
  - Charged Rn progenies attracted to the cathode with negative HV
  - Less contribution in fiducial volume: “depletion effect”
- New method to evaluate ER event rate from  $^{214}\text{Pb}$ 
  - The depletion ratio measured from  $^{222}\text{Rn}$  calibration (end-of-run)
  - Interpolation from  $^{218}\text{Po}$  and  $^{214}\text{Bi}$
- PandaX-II  $^{214}\text{Pb}$  level:  $10\mu\text{Bq/kg}$



the dominant background in Rn222 chain for dark matter search



# Traditional calculation for neutron background



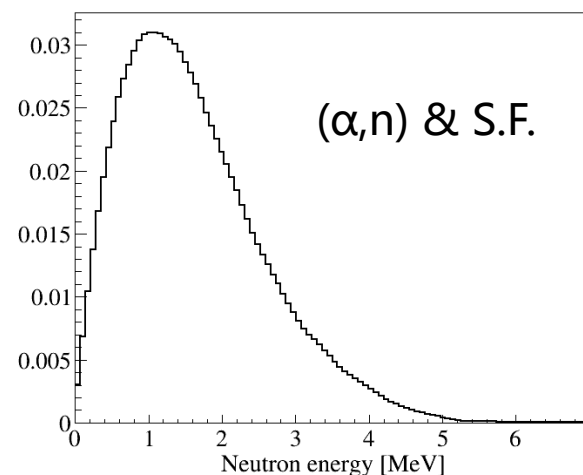
## 01 Material Radioactivity ( $^{238}\text{U}/^{235}\text{U}/^{232}\text{Th}$ )

knowledge of the radioactivities of detector materials



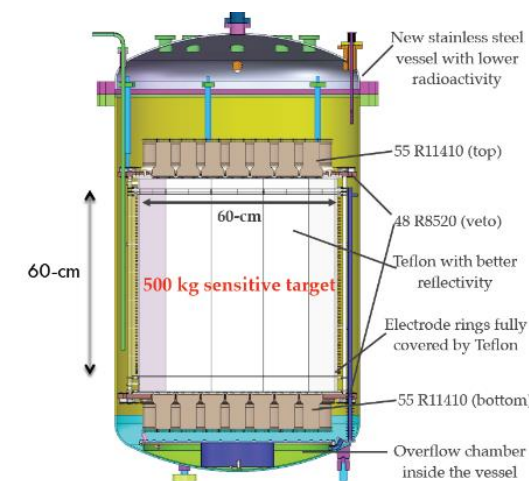
## 02 Neutron Generator (SOURCE4A)

a model convert material radioactivity to the number of neutrons and their energy spectrum



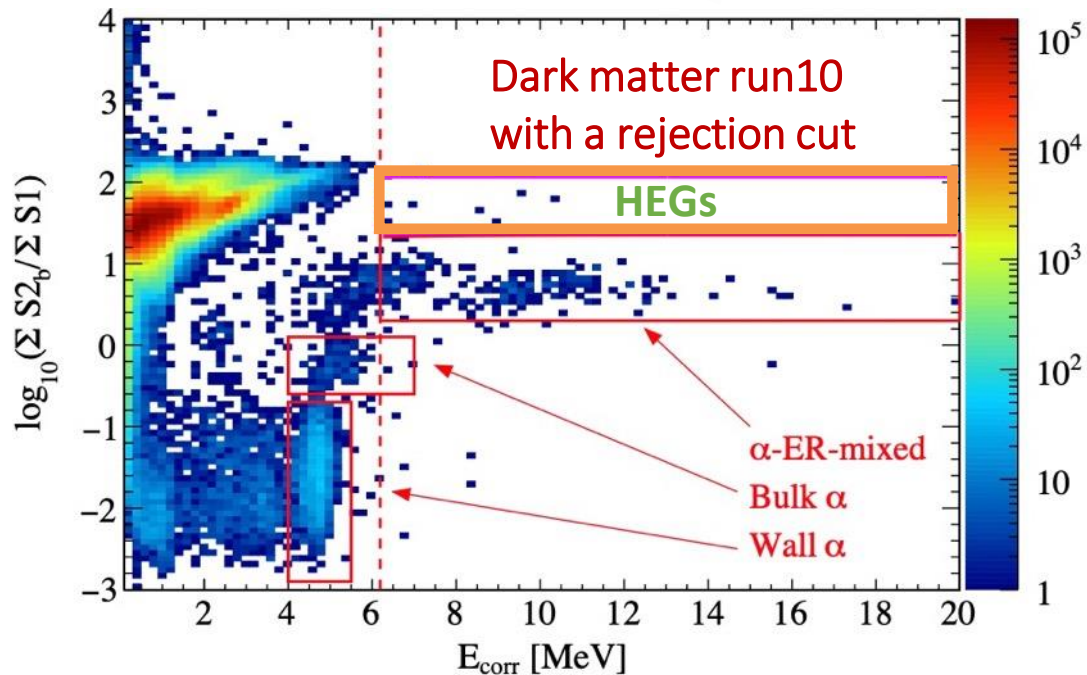
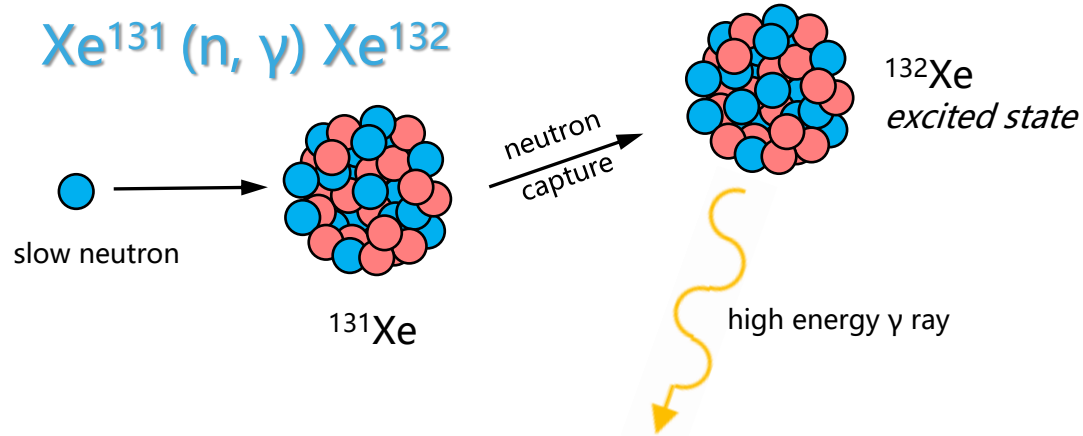
## 03 Detector Simulation (Geant4)

describe detailed neutron interactions in the xenon target and calculate the final DM-like background



- Measurement of material radioactivity has large uncertainty
- Fully rely on the Monte Carlo simulation

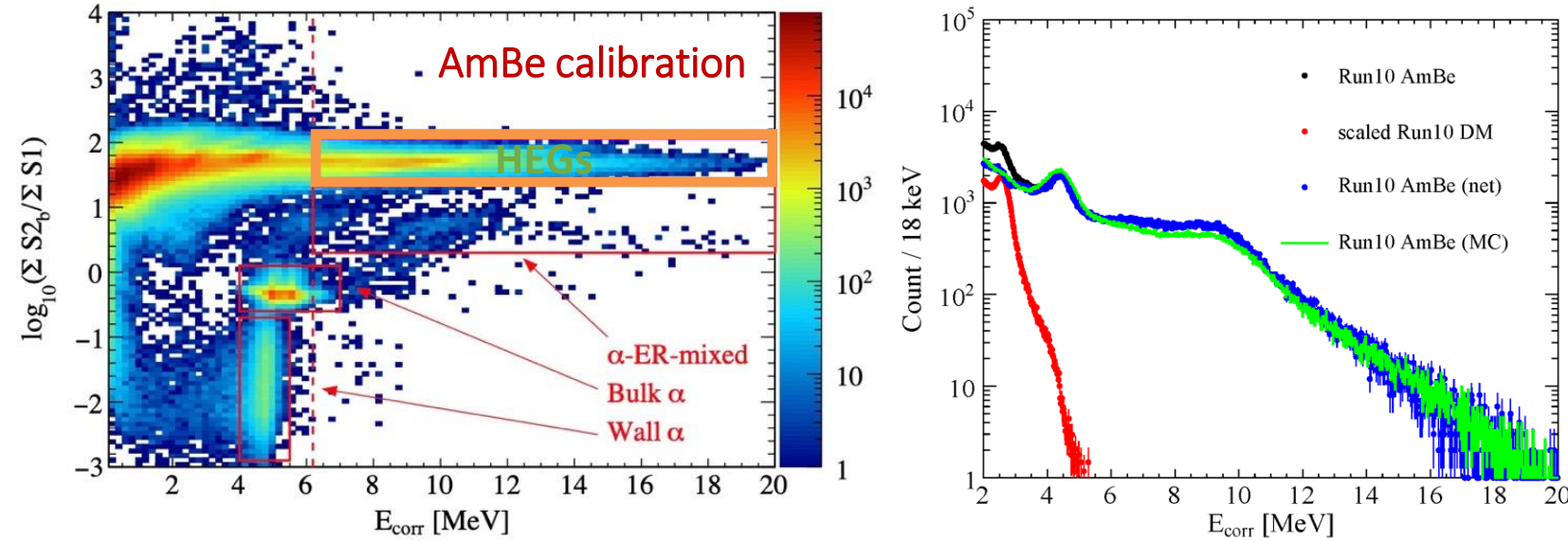
# Improved estimation on neutron background



SCIENCE CHINA Physics, Mechanics & Astronomy(2019)

- Constrain low energy neutron background via neutron-induced high energy gamma (HEG) signals
- Scale factor (neutron bkg / HEGs  $\approx$  1 : 20) predicted by MC, benchmarked by neutron source calibration (see next page)
- More reliable estimation of neutron background with a well-controlled uncertainty of 30%-50%

# Benchmarked by neutron calibration



- Compare data and MC with AmBe calibration
  - ER spectra at high energy
  - SSNR/HEG ratio
  
- Difference between data and MC indicates systematic uncertainty.

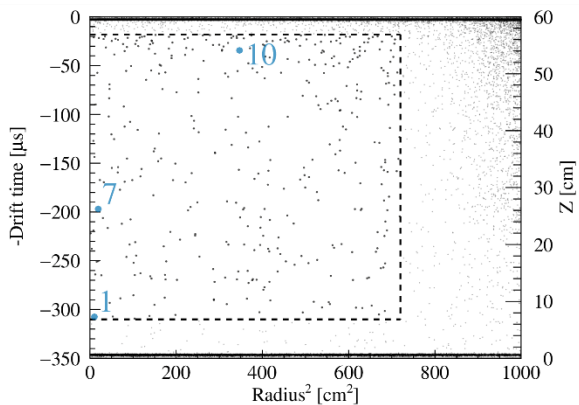
AmBe Run	Data			MC
	# SSNR	# HEG	Ratio	Ratio
Run 9	3415	49159	1/14.4	1/14.7
Run 10	10390	151783	1/14.6	1/15.2

# Event distributions

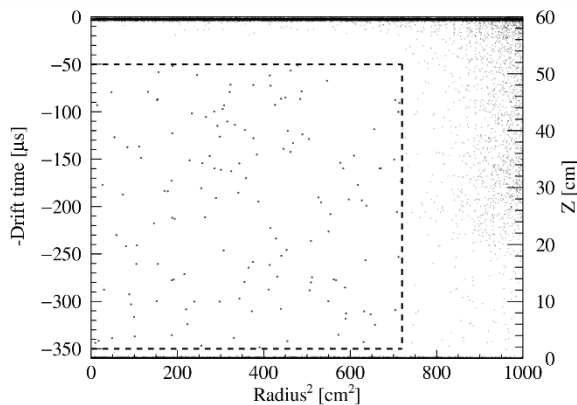


- Distribution of events with high WIMP hypothesis likelihood (400 GeV)
  - 3 events in Run 9 and 7 events in Run 11

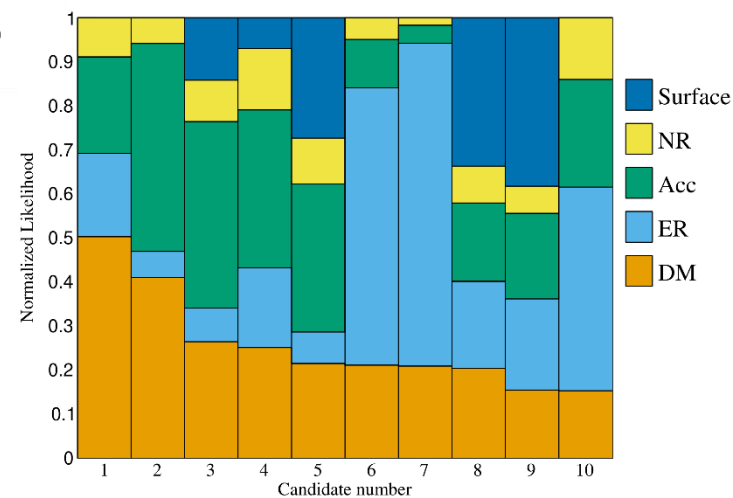
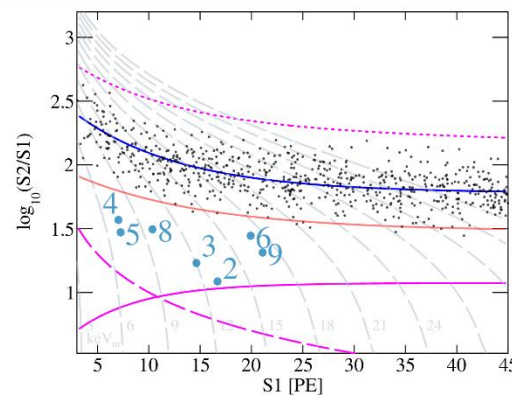
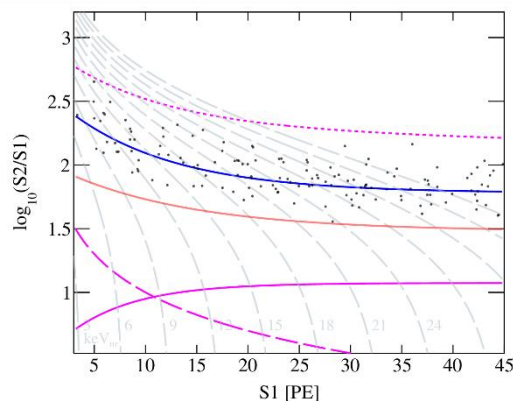
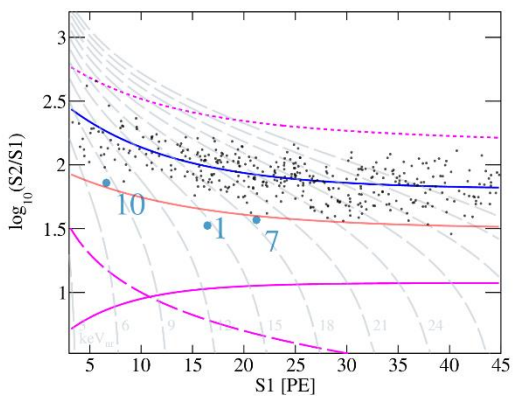
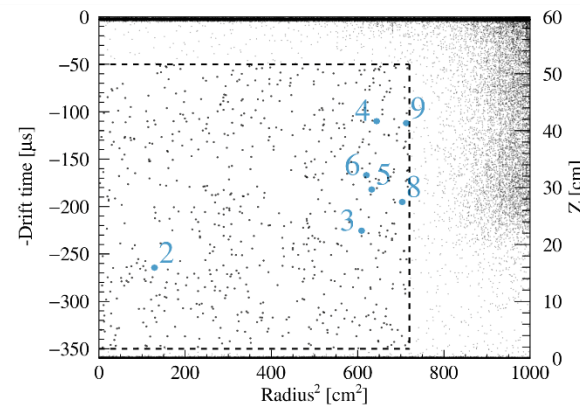
**Run 9: 26.2 ton-day**



**Run 10: 25.3 ton-day**



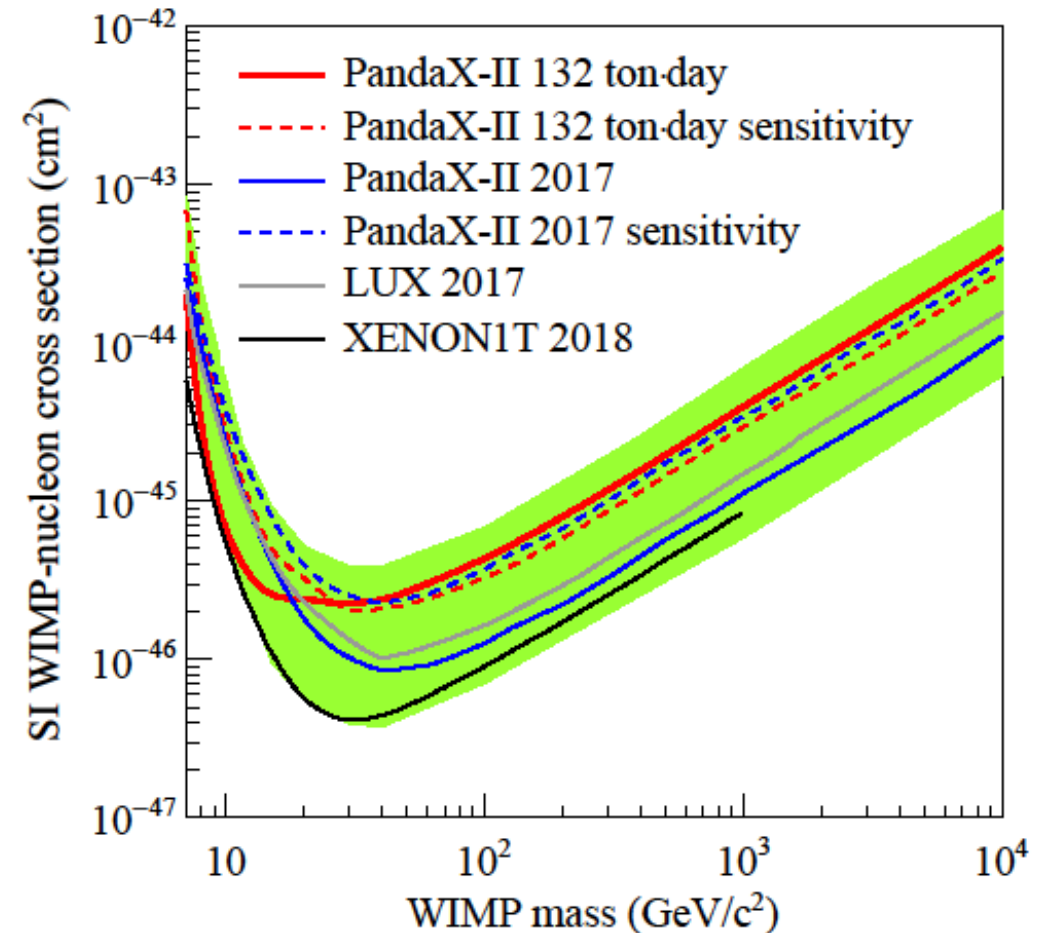
**Run 11: 80.3 ton-day**



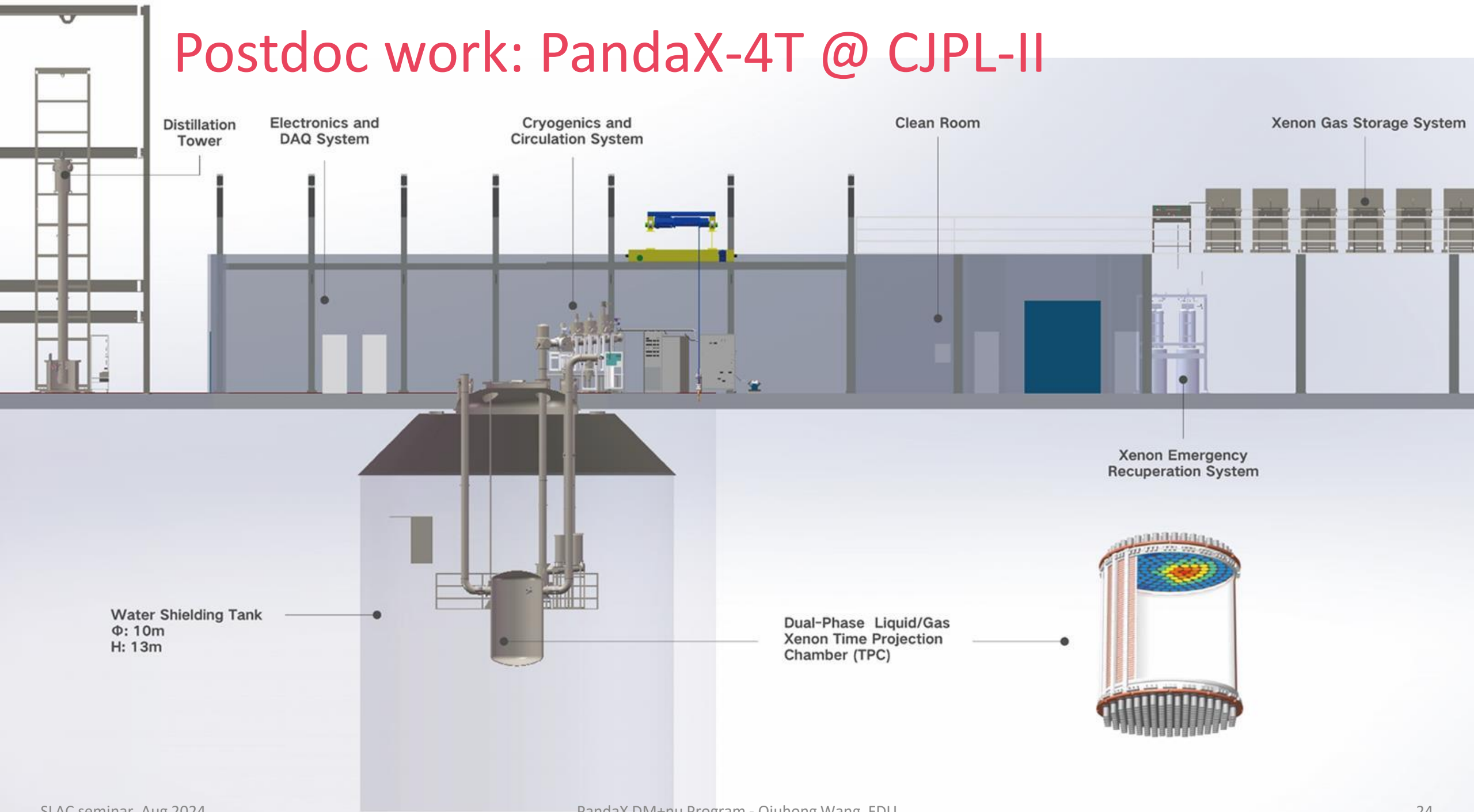
# WIMP search results of PandaX-II



- Spin-independent Interaction
- Exclusion limits on SI
  - for 30 GeV,  $2.2 \times 10^{-46} \text{ cm}^2$ , 1.7 WIMPs
- 54 ton-day exposure data, with downward fluctuation, generated a best constraint on WIMP model in 2017
- The long duration of the PandaX-II operation, the systematic studies performed, and the analysis techniques are all crucial for the development of the subsequent PandaX-4T



# Postdoc work: PandaX-4T @ CJPL-II

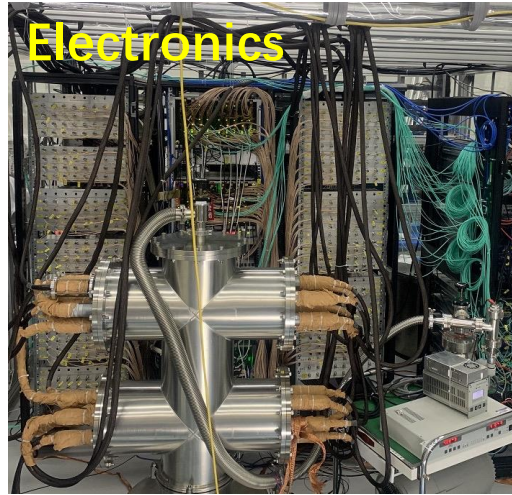




# PandaX-4T subsystems



Distillation tower



Electronics



Cryogenics system



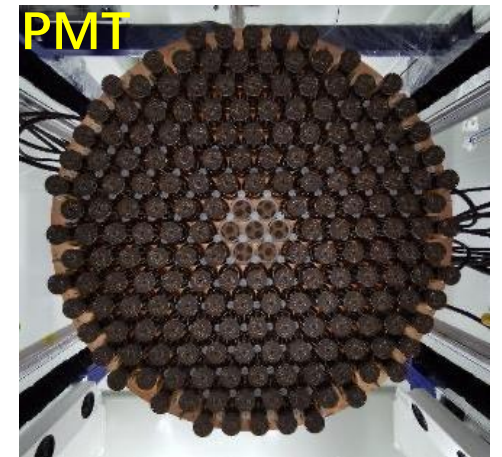
Gas storage system



Water tank



TPC



PMT

# PandaX-4T subsystems



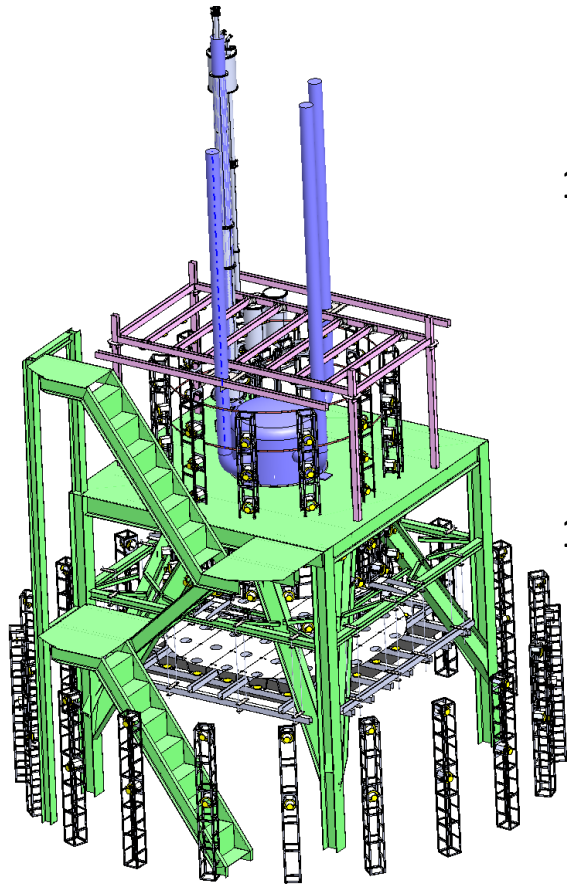
- Undertook construction and acceptance of some subsystems of PandaX-4T
- Ultrapure water system for water shielding
- Radon removal system for cleanroom



# Upgrade water shielding into a veto detector

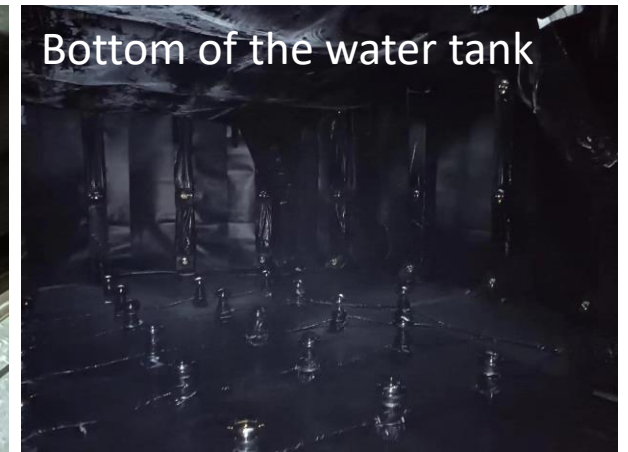
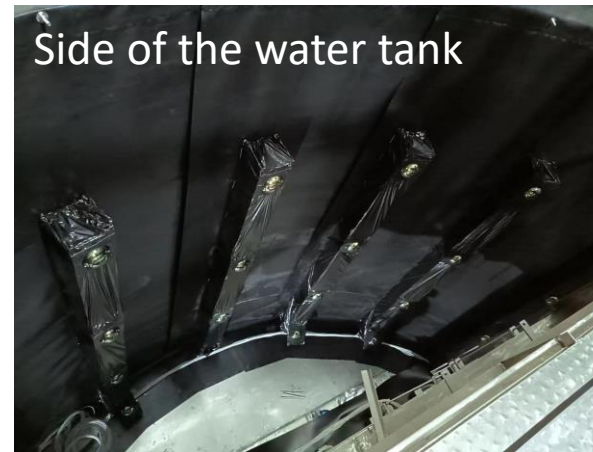


- Instrument the water shielding with 270 8-inch PMTs to form a veto for gammas, neutrons, and cosmic rays
- Contributed to installation during my time as a shift manager at CJPL



165 PMTs in the inner layer

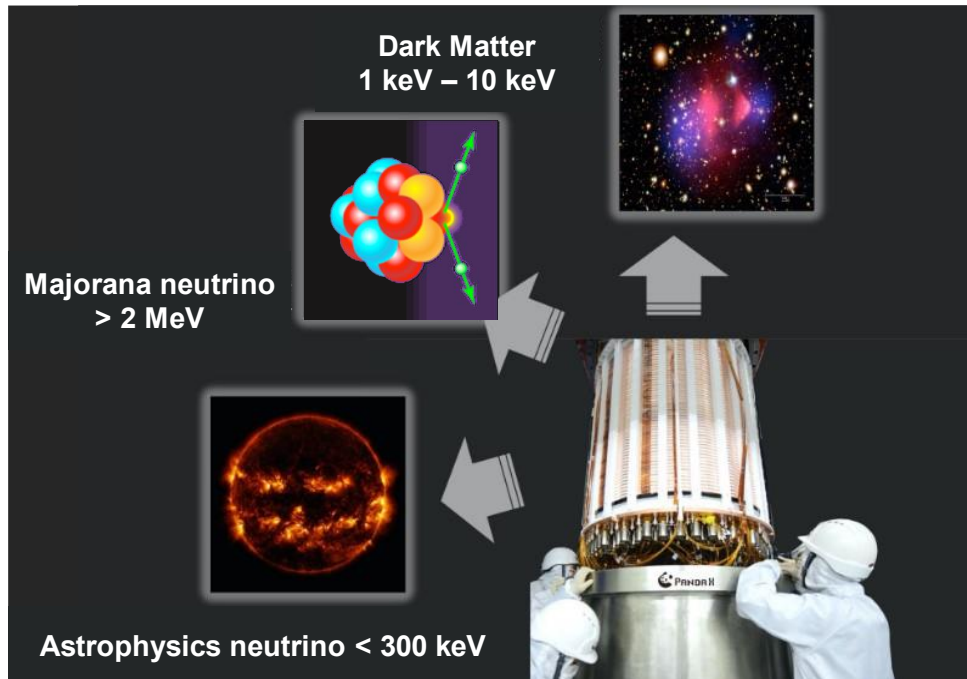
105 PMTs in the outer layer



# PandaX-4T runs and multiple physics topics

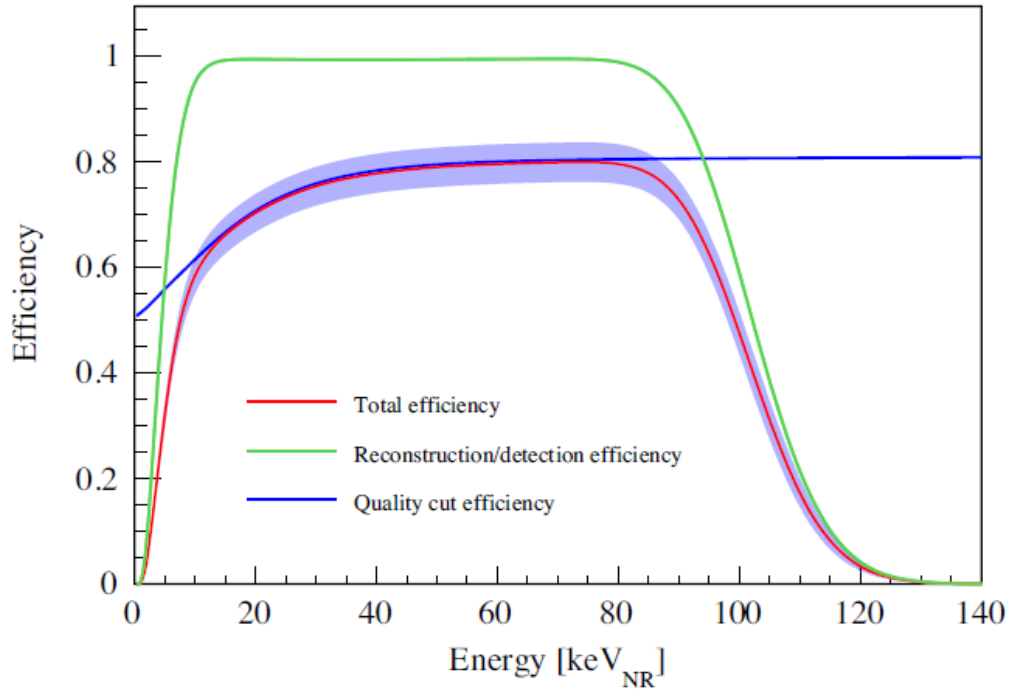


Commissioning (Run 0)	Calibration	Distillation	Physics Run (Run 1)	Calibration	Detector Upgrade
2020/11/28 – 2021/04/16	2021/04/17 – 2021/06/09		2021/11/15 – 2022/05/15	2022/05/16 – 2022/07/08	

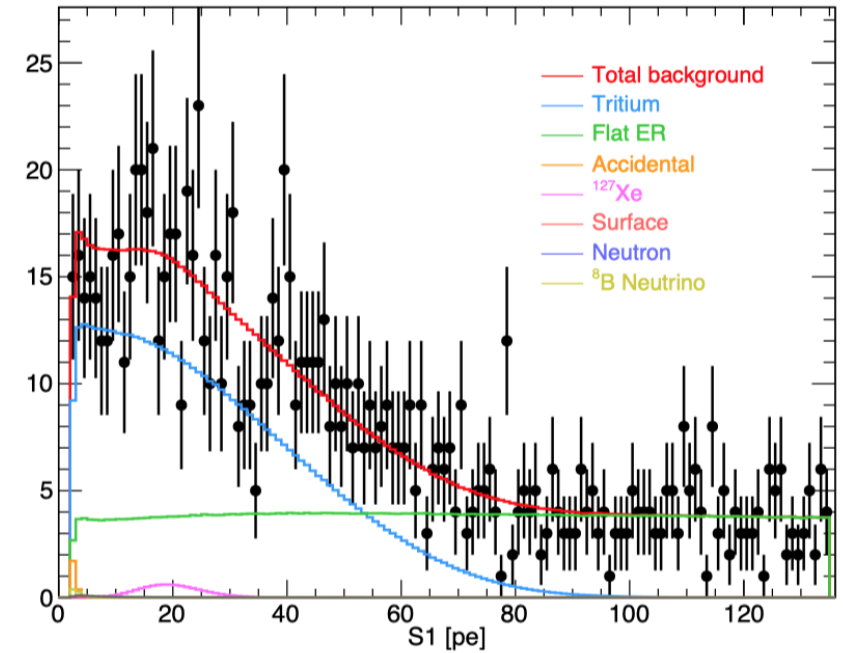
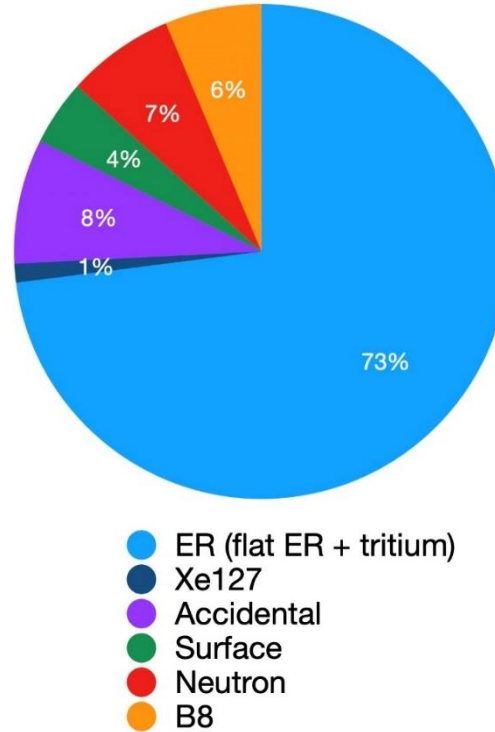


- Have completed data-taking of
  - Commissioning Run 0 (~ 95 d)
  - Physics Run 1 (~ 164 d)
- Detector upgrade and more physics runs are on-going
- Multiple physics topics are being studied now

# Efficiency and background in Run0



Expected below-NR-median events: 9.8 (0.6) evts

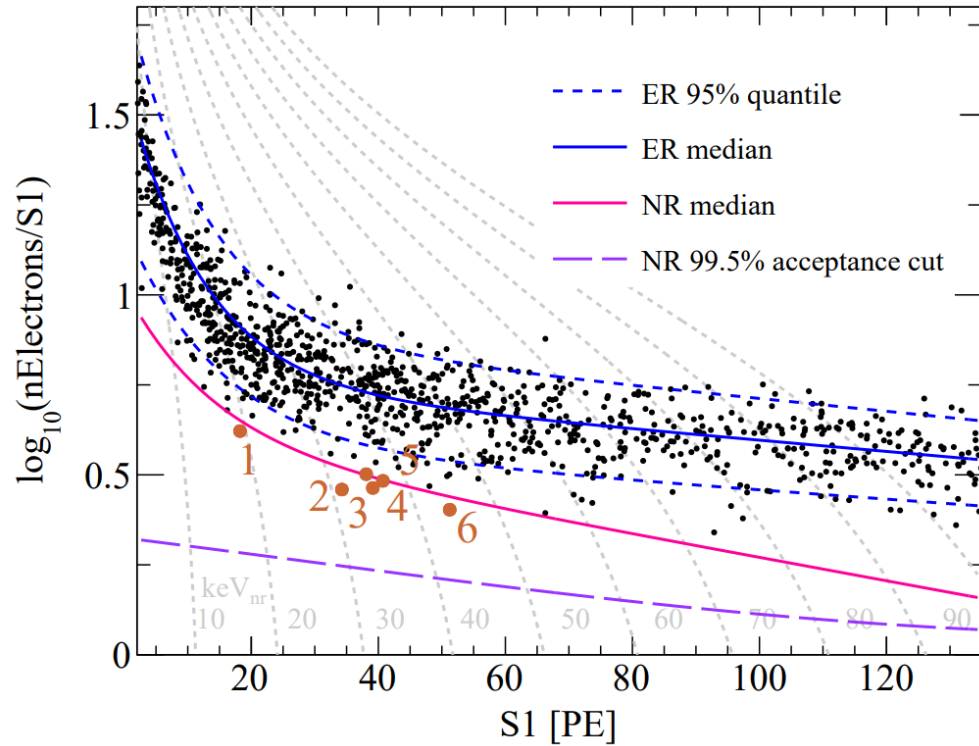


- Coordinated the efficiency calculation and several background estimations
- Background per unit target is improved from PandaX-II by 4 times (<10 keV)
- Projected S1 spectrum agrees with expected background with efficiency

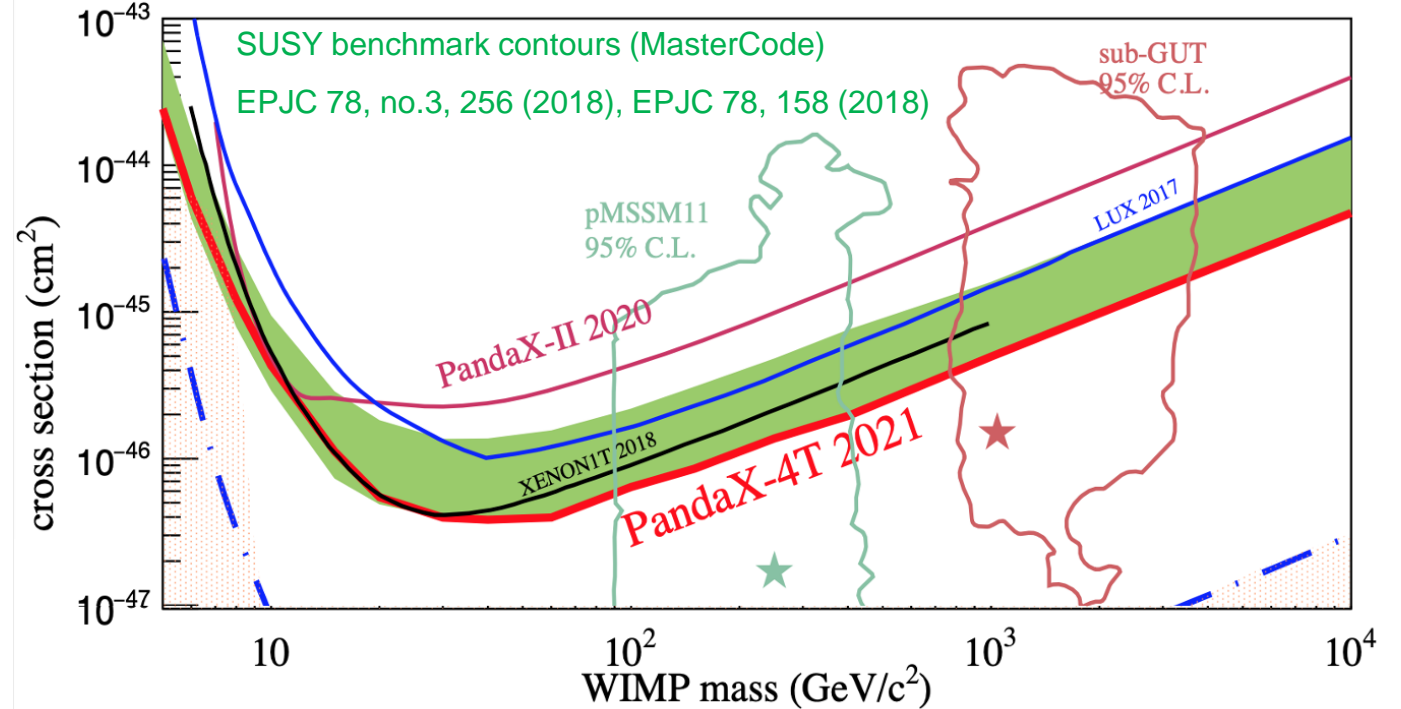
# WIMP search with PandaX-4T Run0



Exposure: 0.63 tonne-year

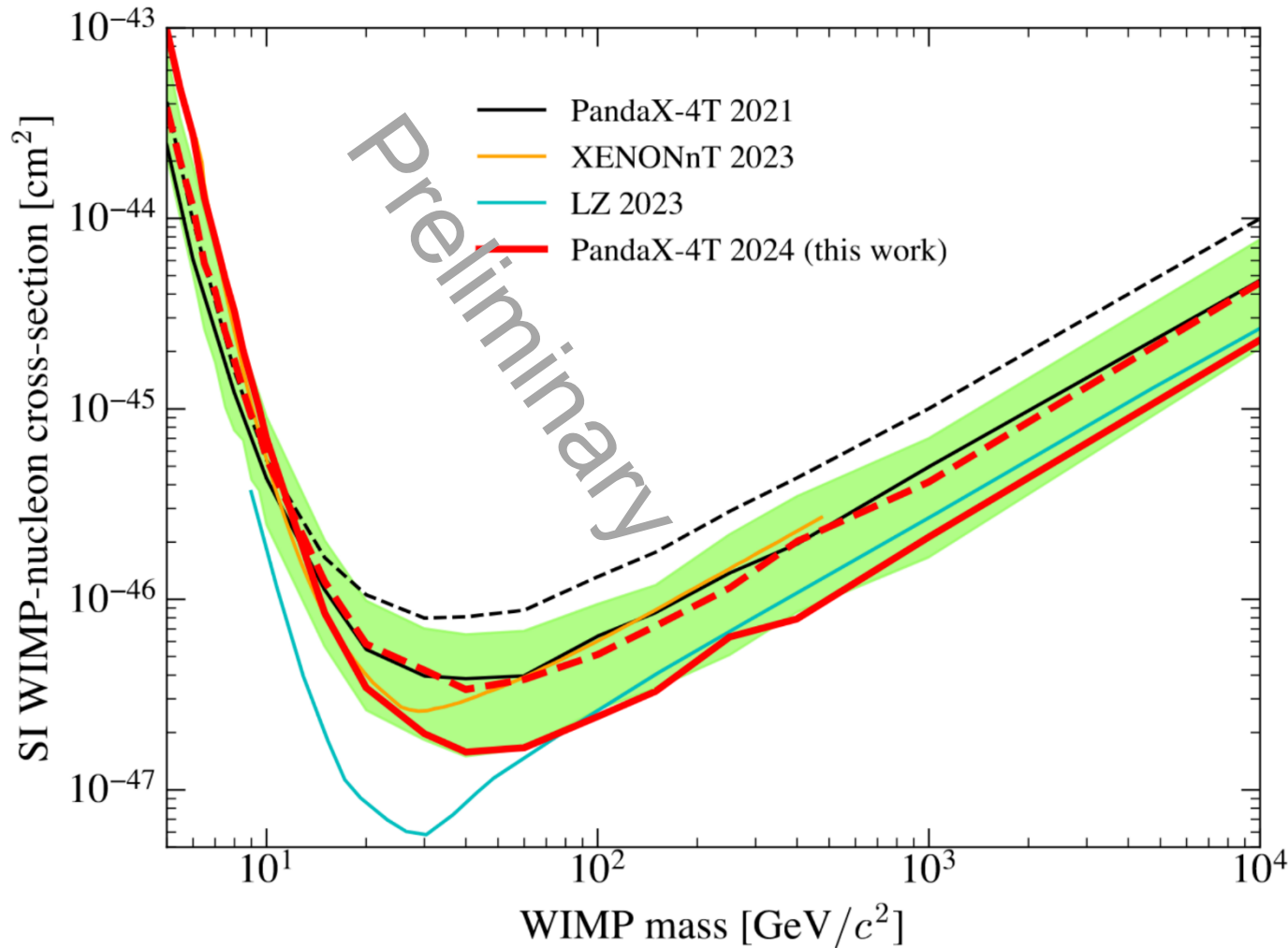


Phys. Rev. Lett. 127, 261802 (2021)



- 1058 candidates (expected  $1054 \pm 39$ ), 6 below NR median curve (expected  $9.8 \pm 0.6$ )
- Sensitivity improved from PandaX-II final analysis by 2.9 times ( $30 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ )
- Our limit is  $\sim 1.24$  times stronger than XENON1T around  $30 \text{ GeV}/c^2$

# Combined WIMP search results (Run 0+1)



- 1.54 tonne·year
- Fully blind analysis
- Most stringent constraint for WIMP mass above 100  $\text{GeV}/c$

# Multiple physics in a wide energy range



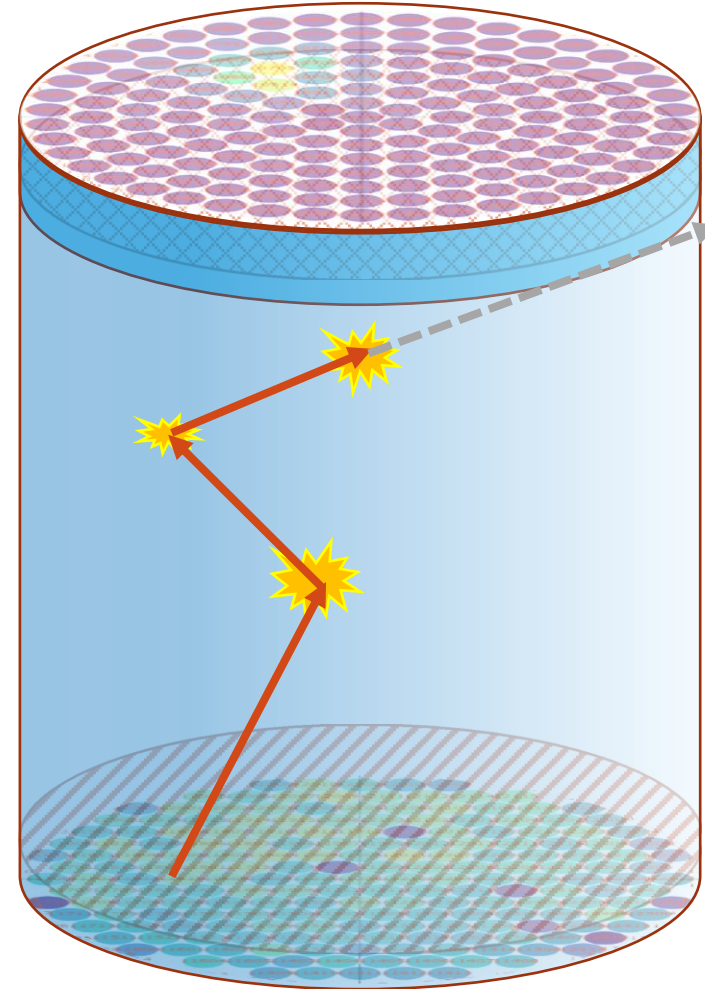
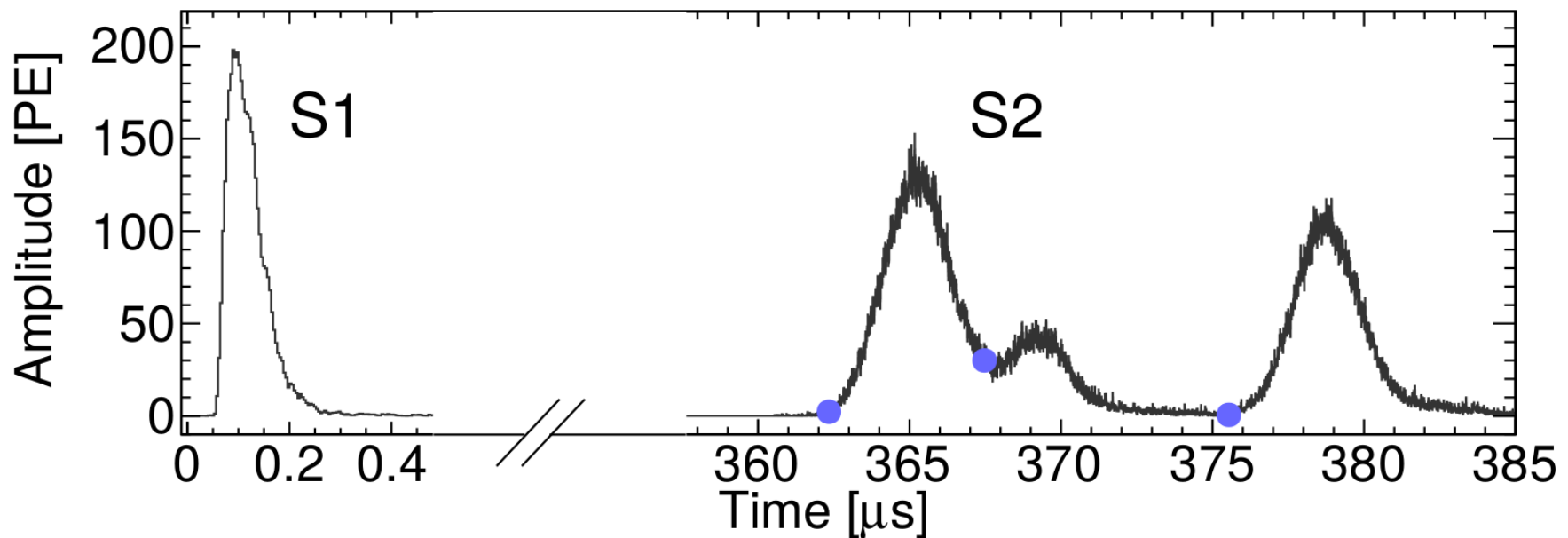
	Sub-keV	1 keV	10 keV	100 keV	1 MeV	10 MeV
$^{136}\text{Xe}$ (~9%)				2 $\nu\beta\beta$ / 0 $\nu\beta\beta$		
$^{134}\text{Xe}$ (~10%)				2 $\nu\beta\beta$ / 0 $\nu\beta\beta$		
$^{124}\text{Xe}$ (~0.1%)			2 $\nu\text{ECEC}$			
<b>Xe all isotopes</b>	Solar $^8\text{B}$ $\nu$ and light DM	WIMP, other DM models, and more		Solar pp $\nu$		Alphas, muons, and more



# Identifying SS and MS



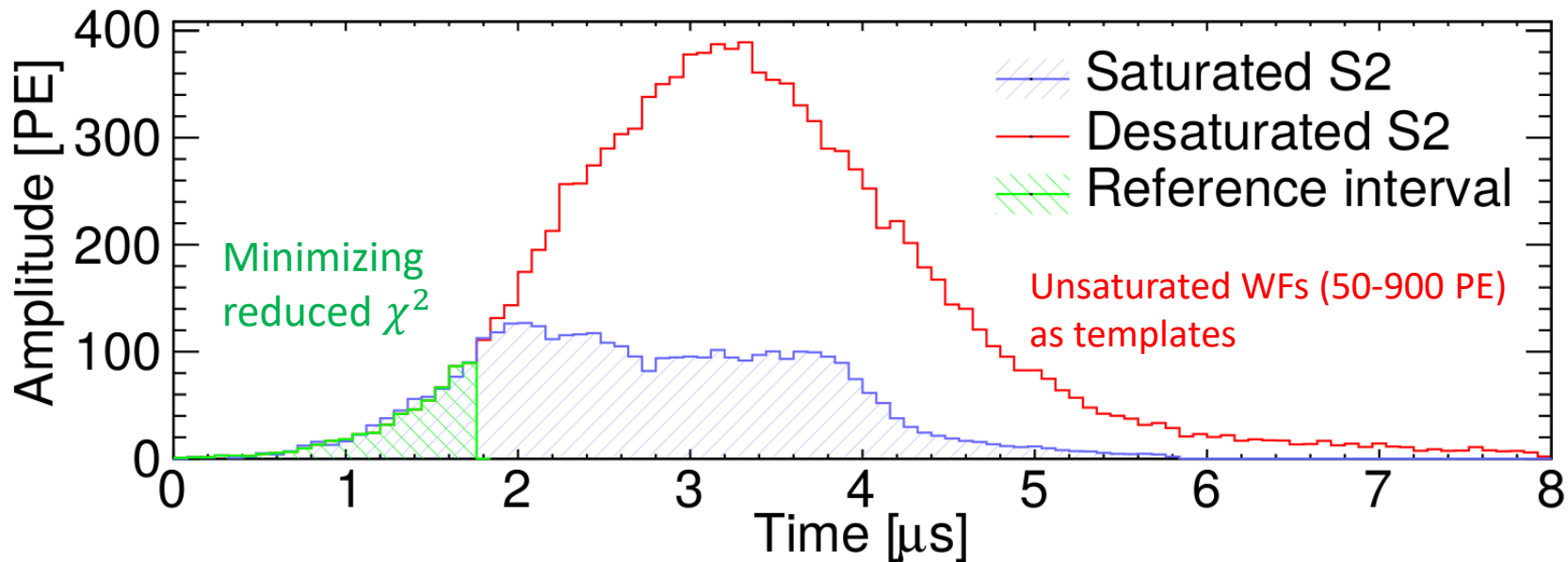
- MeV gamma-rays are mostly multi-site (**MS**) events; while signals (DBD) are mostly single site (**SS**)
- Identifying MS backgrounds with PMT waveforms



# PMT pulse saturation and desaturation



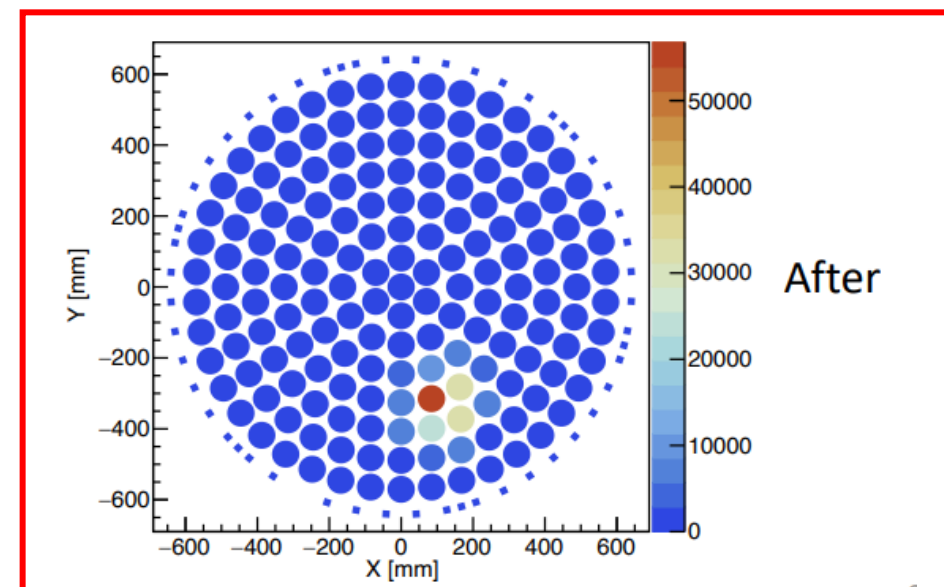
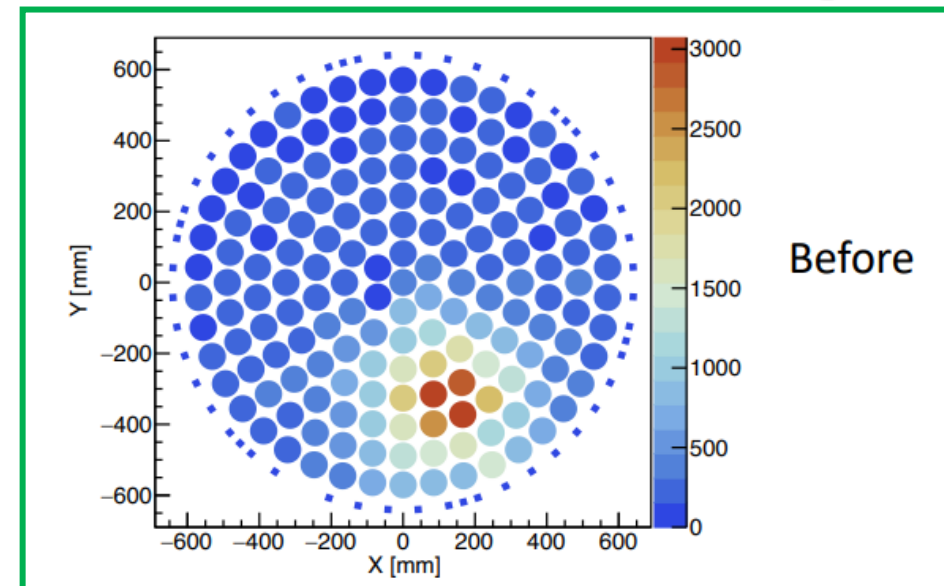
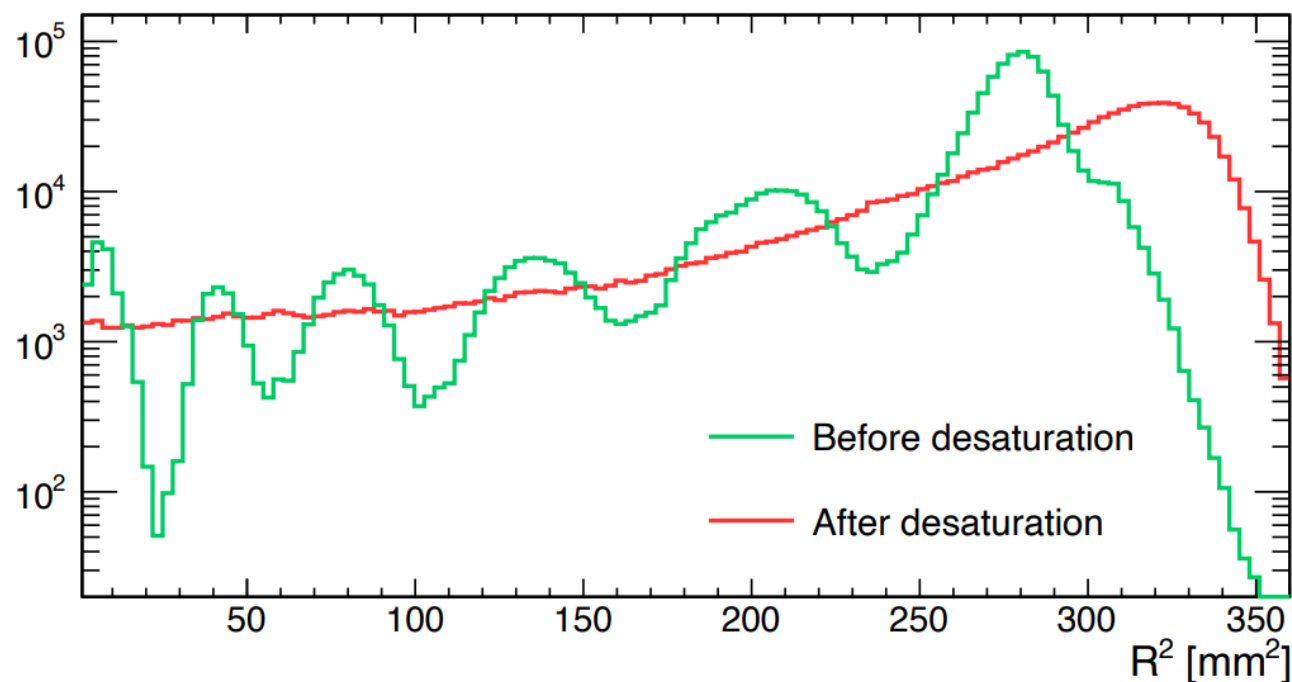
- PMT bases suffer serious saturation for MeV range events.
- Match the rising slope of the saturated to the non-saturated templates in the same events → True charge collected
- For events in the energy range of 1 to 3 MeV, the average correction factor is ~3.0 for the top PMT array



# Position reconstruction improvement with desaturation



- Position reconstruction based on PAF (photon acceptance function) methods developed in DM analysis
- Reconstruction at HE is significantly improved with desaturation
- Removed the band structure in  $R^2$  distribution



# Energy reconstruction



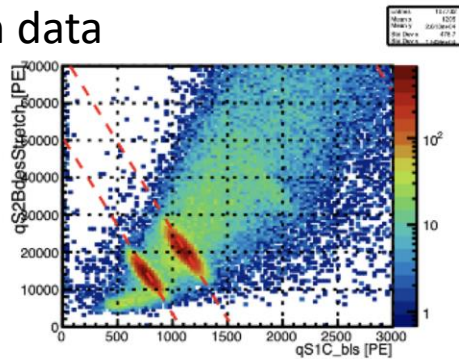
- Energy reconstruction:  $E = 13.7 \text{ eV} \times (S1/PDE + S2_b/(EEE \times SEG_b))$
- Further tune  $S1$  and  $S2_b$  vs. energy and position  $\rightarrow$  deviations of peak positions to the percent level.

PDE: photon detection efficiency for S1

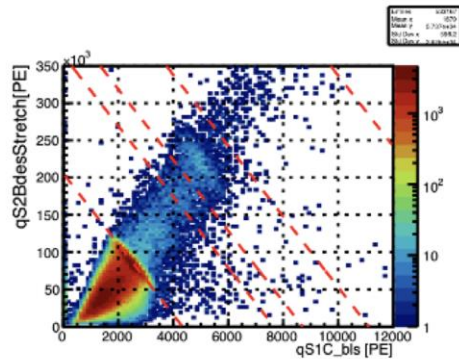
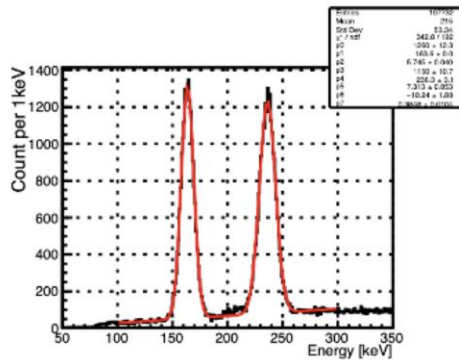
EEE: electron extraction efficiency

$SEG_b$ : single-electron gain for  $S2_b$

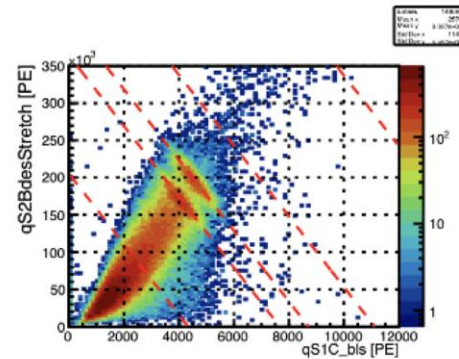
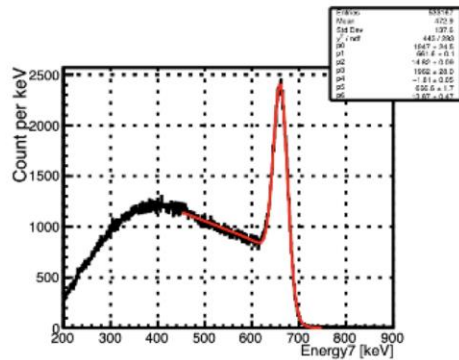
## Calibration data



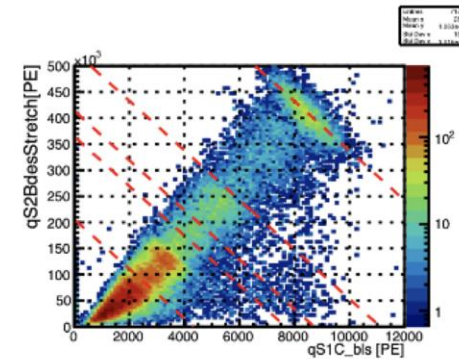
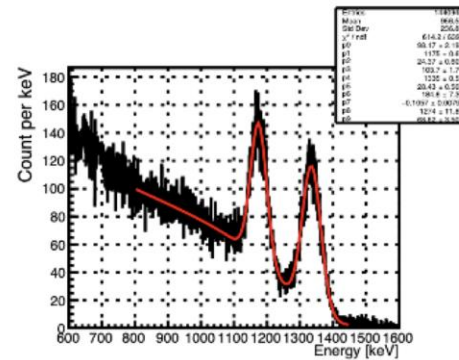
$^{131m}\text{Xe}$  (164 keV),  $^{129m}\text{Xe}$  (236 keV)



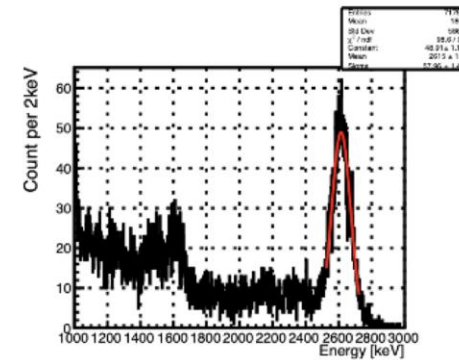
$^{137}\text{Cs}$



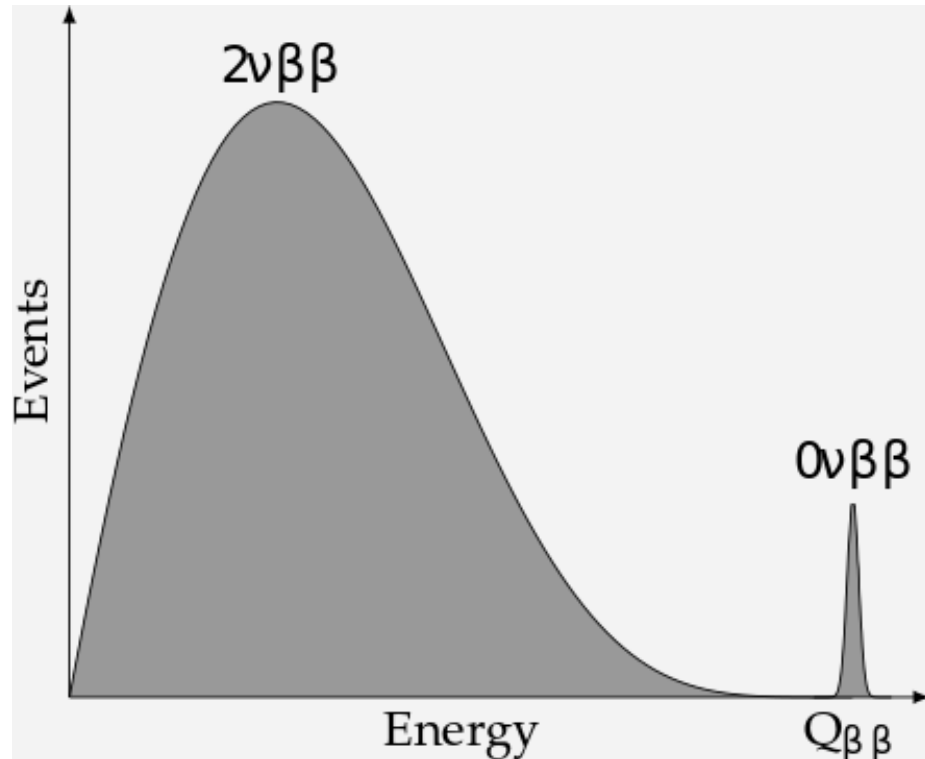
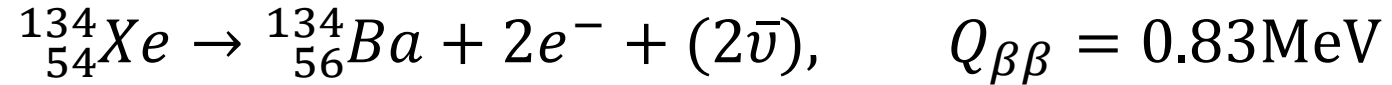
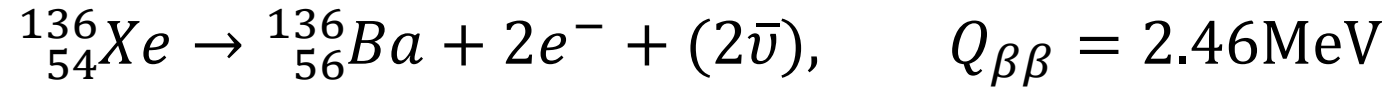
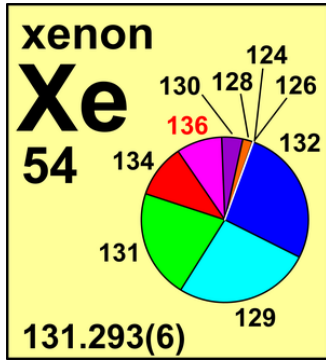
$^{60}\text{Co}$



$^{208}\text{Tl}$



# Detection of $2\nu\beta\beta$ and $0\nu\beta\beta$

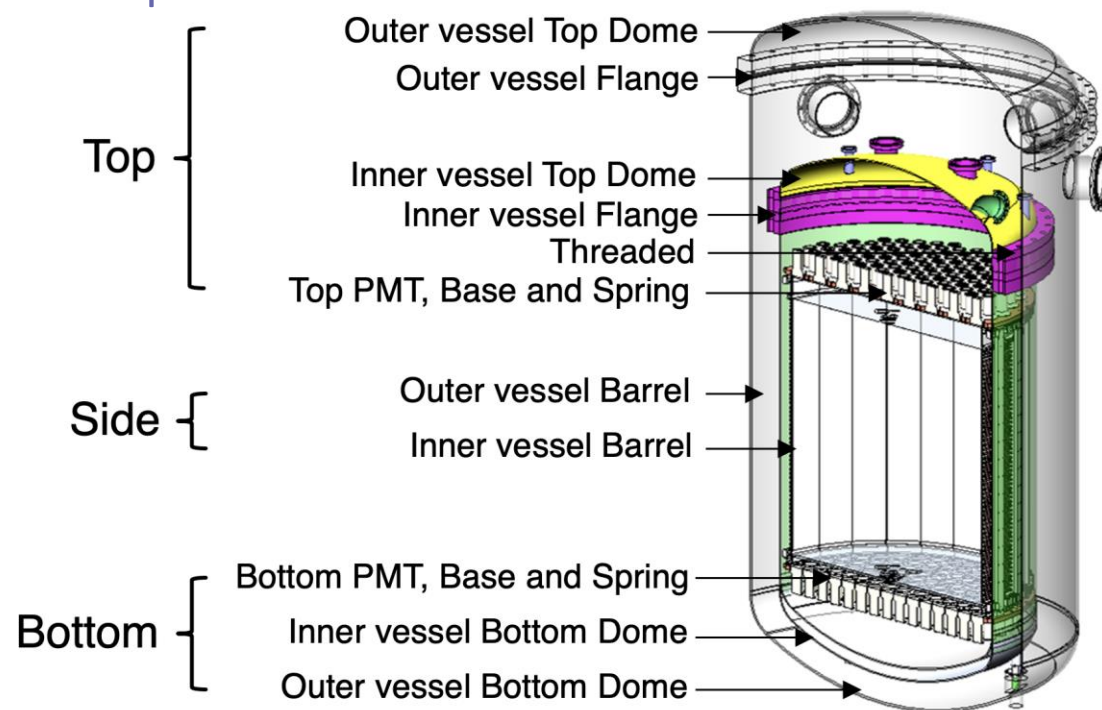
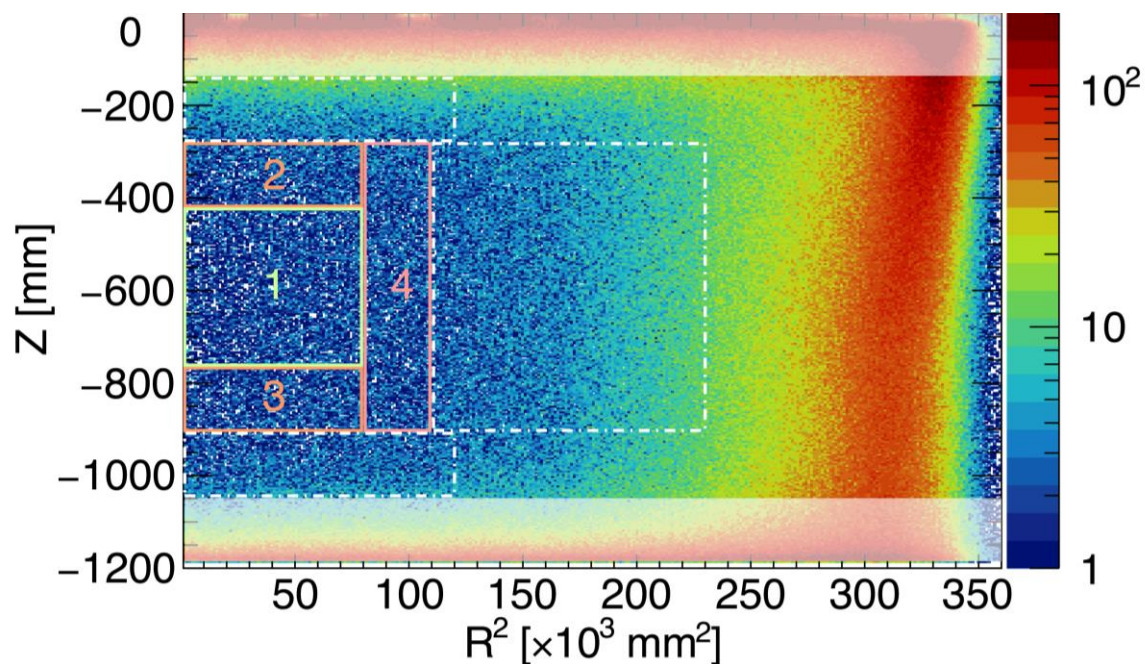


- Detect  $2\nu\beta\beta$  and  $0\nu\beta\beta$  through energies of emitted electrons
- Precision measurement of  $2\nu\beta\beta$  is a major first step for any  $0\nu\beta\beta$  experiment
  - ${}^{136}\text{Xe}$   $2\nu\beta\beta$ : discovered,  $T_{1/2} = 2.2 \times 10^{21}$  yr
  - ${}^{134}\text{Xe}$   $2\nu\beta\beta$ : next promising,  $T_{1/2} \sim 10^{24}$  yr
- Understand better the background

# Accurate background model for $^{136}\text{Xe}$



- Robust estimation of backgrounds in fiducial volume (4 regions)
  - Three categories of material backgrounds:
    - Top, bottom and side
    - Input values based on HPGe assay results
  - $^{214}\text{Pb}$  in  $^{222}\text{Rn}$  chain inside LXe
    - High energy alpha events, and consider a float depletion

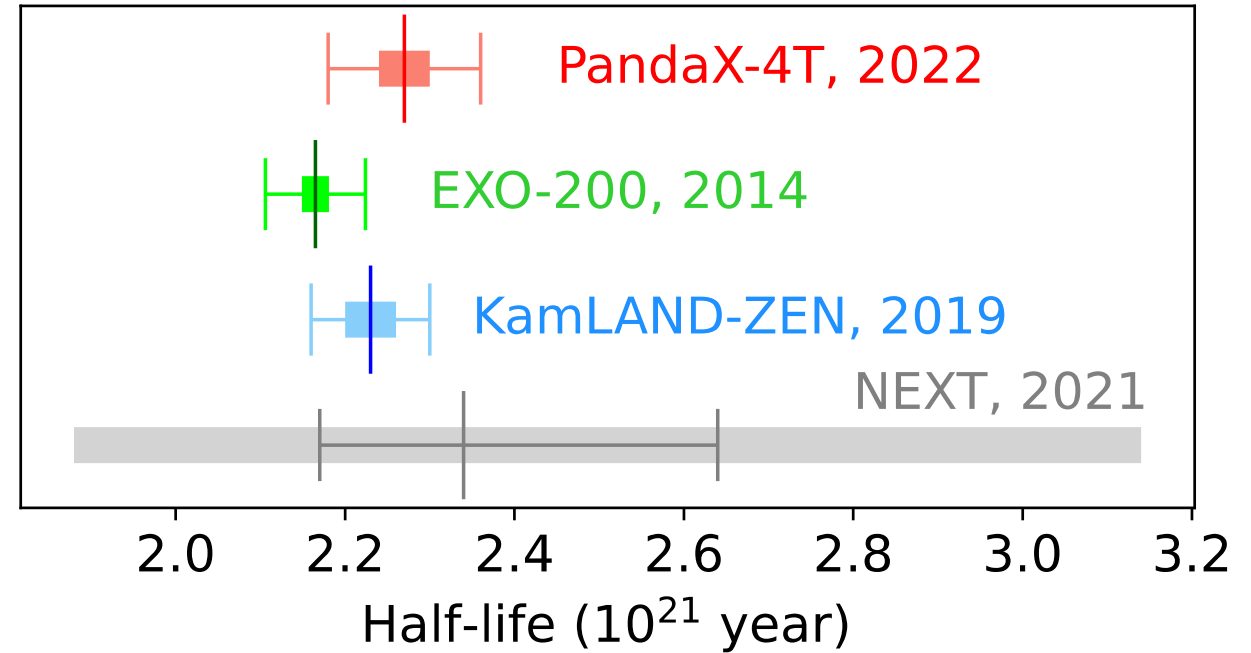
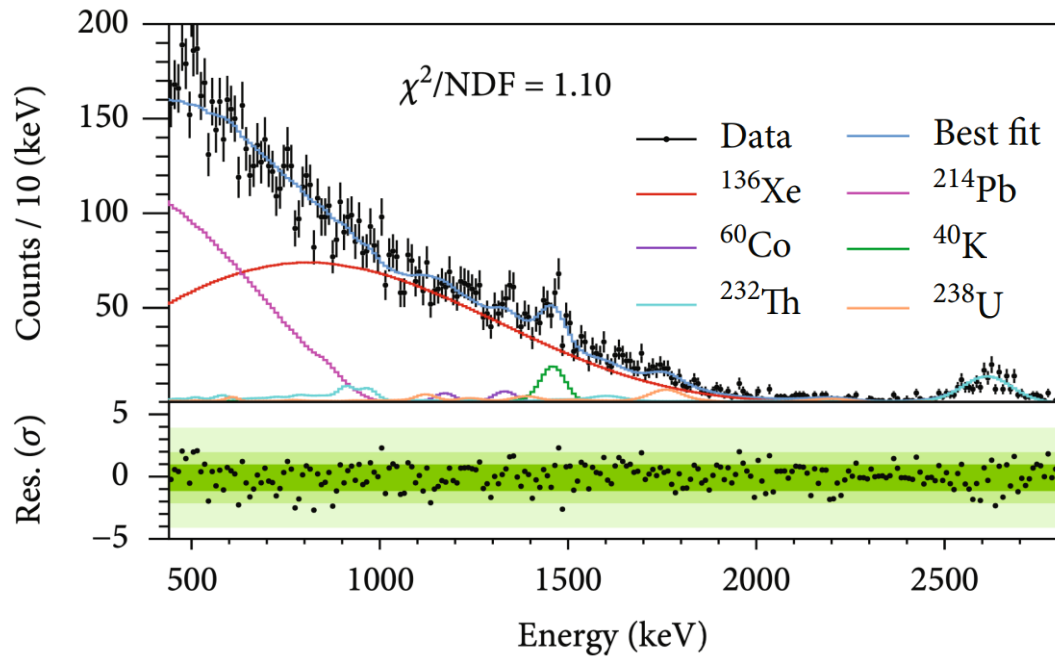


# $^{136}\text{Xe}$ $2\nu\beta\beta$ half-life measurement



Research.10.34133/2022/979872

FV region 1

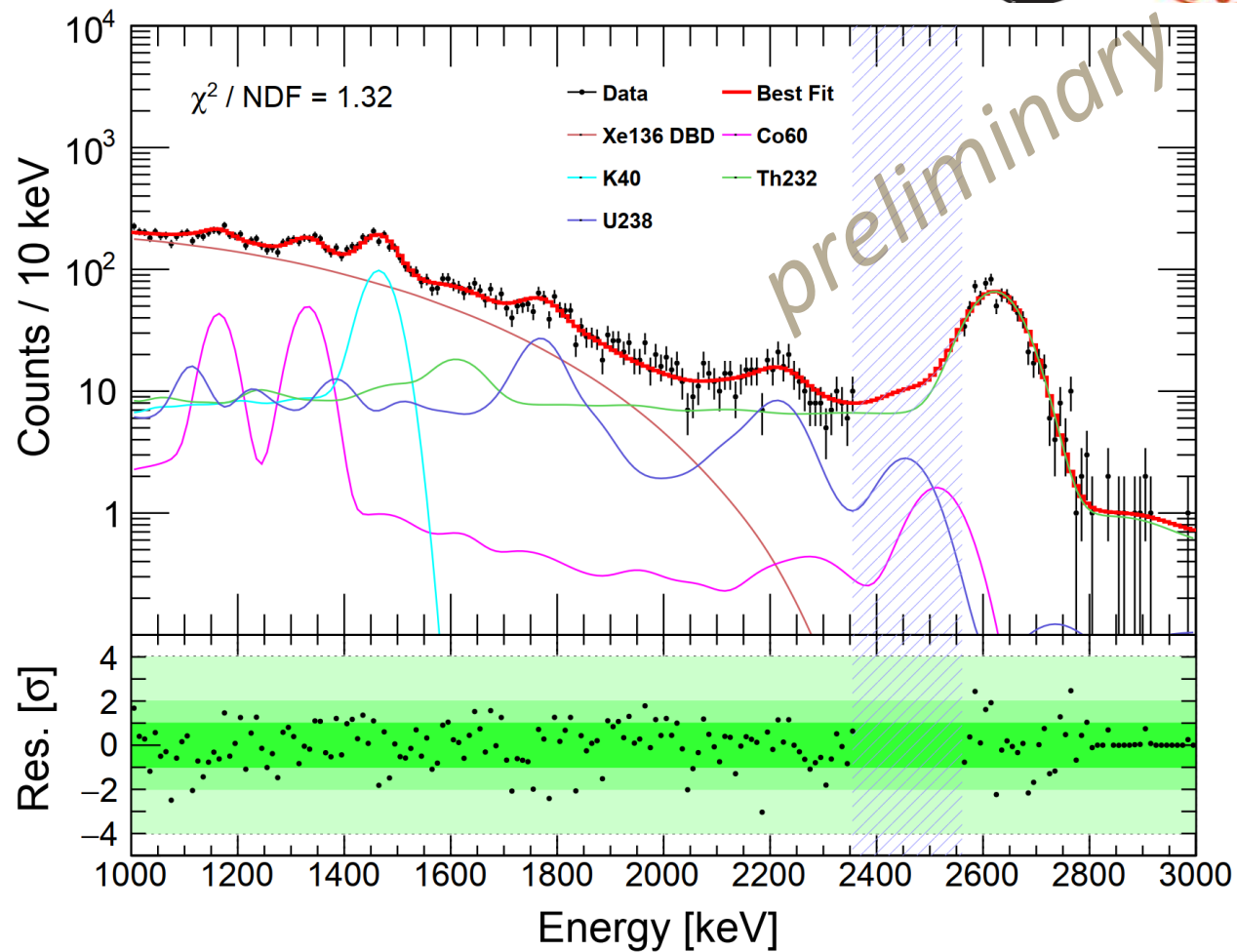
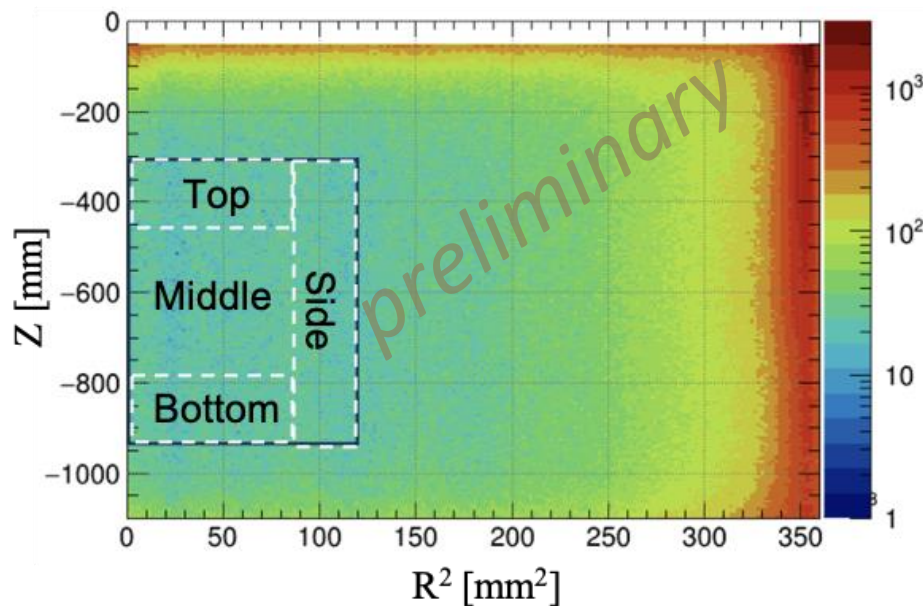


- First such result from a DM detector with natural xenon
  - $^{136}\text{Xe}$   $2\nu\beta\beta$   $T_{1/2} = 2.27 \pm 0.03(\text{stat.}) \pm 0.10(\text{syst.}) \times 10^{21}$  year
  - Comparable with enriched  $^{136}\text{Xe}$  experiments
  - The widest ROI from 440 keV to 2800 keV

# Status of $^{136}\text{Xe}$ $0\nu\beta\beta$ search



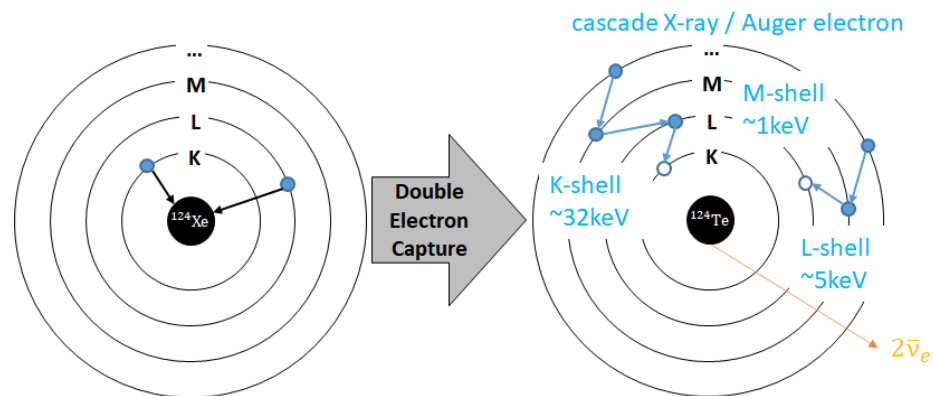
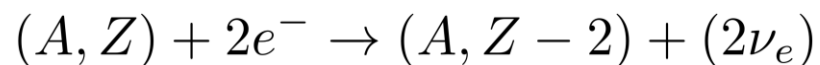
- Run0 + Run1 blind analysis
- Improved data analysis
  - FV optimization
  - Background model from “*in-situ*” fitting
  - Detector response model from calibration data and science data
  - ...



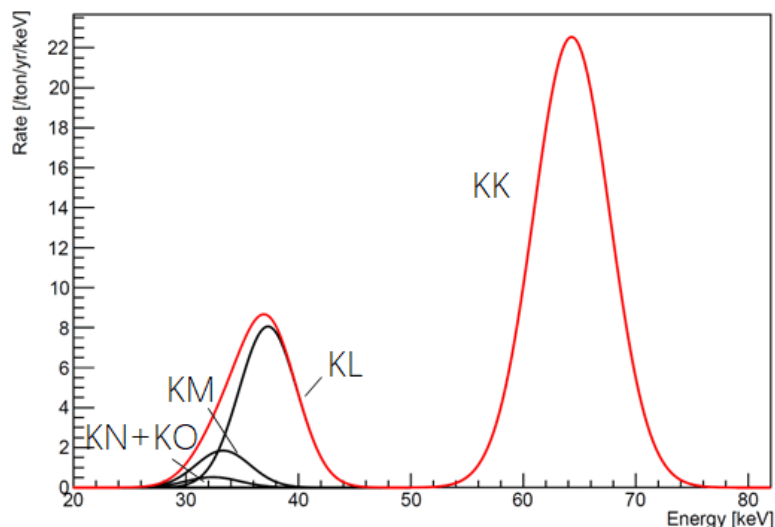
- Sensitivity of  $0\nu\beta\beta$  search in PandaX-4T:  
 $2 \times 10^{24}$  yr



# $^{124}\text{Xe}$ double electron capture (DEC)



- $2\nu/0\nu$  ECEC
  - $Q = 2857\text{ keV}$
  - Auger electron & X-ray cascades SS events
- $2\nu$ ECEC is a 2<sup>nd</sup> order weak process, with a longest measured half-life so far



- XENONnT:  $T_{1/2} = (1.18 \pm 0.13_{\text{stat}} \pm 0.14_{\text{sys}}) \times 10^{22}\text{ yr}$   
[PRL 129, 161805 (2022)]
- LZ:  $T_{1/2} = (1.1 \pm 0.1_{\text{stat}} \pm 0.2_{\text{sys}}) \times 10^{22}\text{ yr}$   
[H. Almeida, University of Coimbra, Master Thesis (2024)]

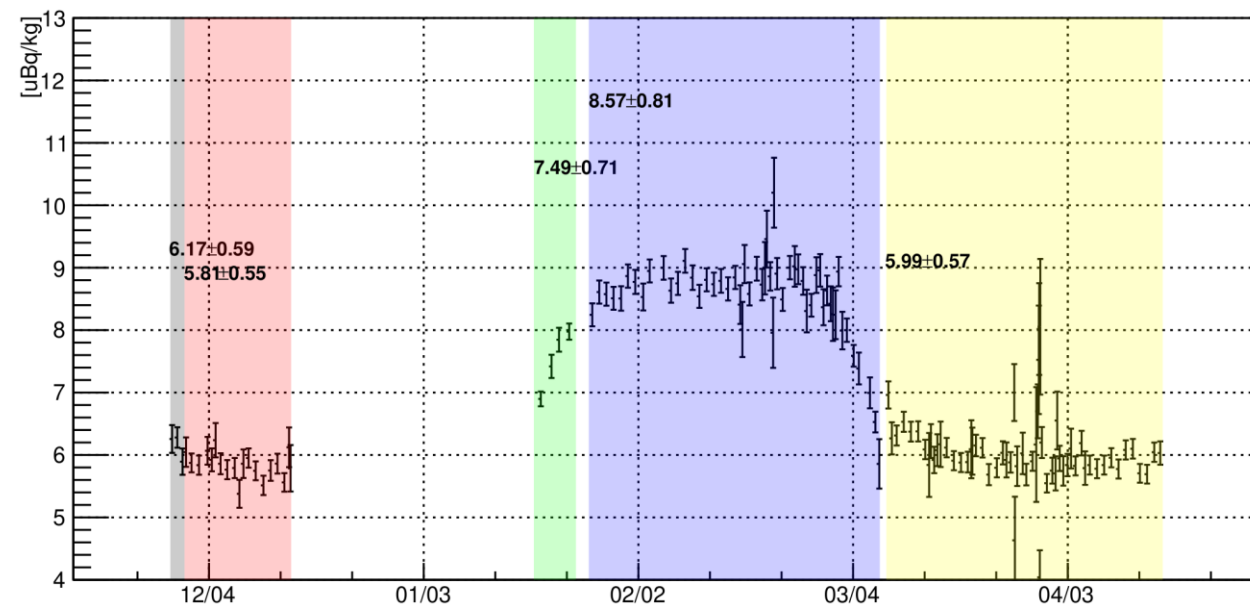
# Signal + background model for $2\nu\text{ECEC}$ in PandaX-4T



- Energy ROI: [25, 75] keV
- Construct a 2D (energy  $\times$  time) signal and background model in ROI

Source	Spectrum	Evolution
$^{124}\text{Xe}$	Multi-Gaussian	Constant
$^{125}\text{I}$	Multi-Gaussian	Decaying
$^{127}\text{Xe}$	Gaussian @33keV	
$^{133}\text{Xe}$	Tail into 75keV	
$^{214}\text{Pb}$	Flat	$^{222}\text{Rn } \alpha$
$^{212}\text{Pb}$	Flat	Constant
$^{85}\text{Kr}$	Flat	
Material ER	Flat	
$^{136}\text{Xe } 2\nu\beta\beta$	Slope	
Solar $\nu$	Slope	

$^{222}\text{Rn}$  rate evolution in Run0

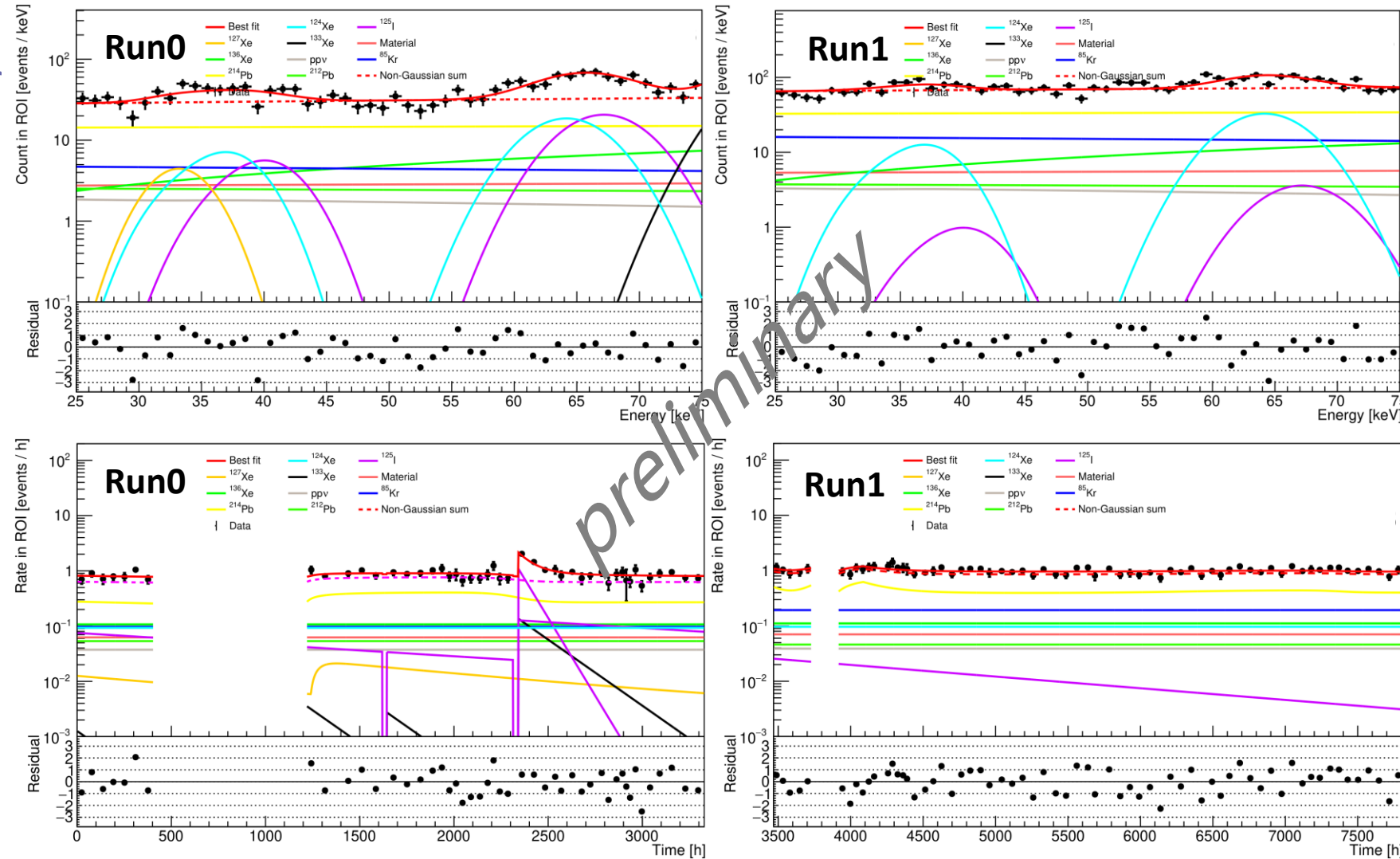


# $^{124}\text{Xe}$ $2\nu\text{ECEC}$ half-life measurement in PandaX-4T



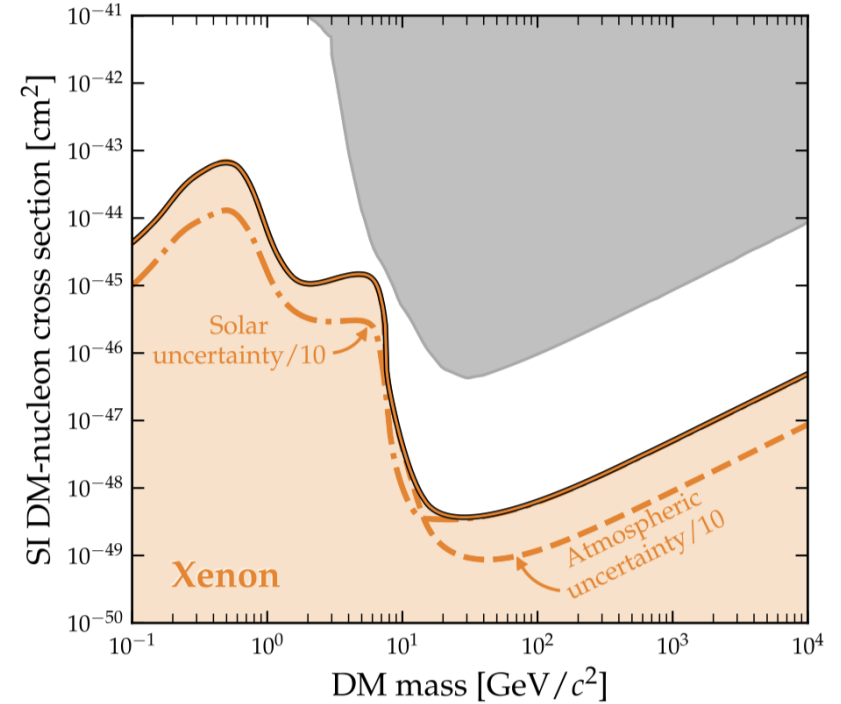
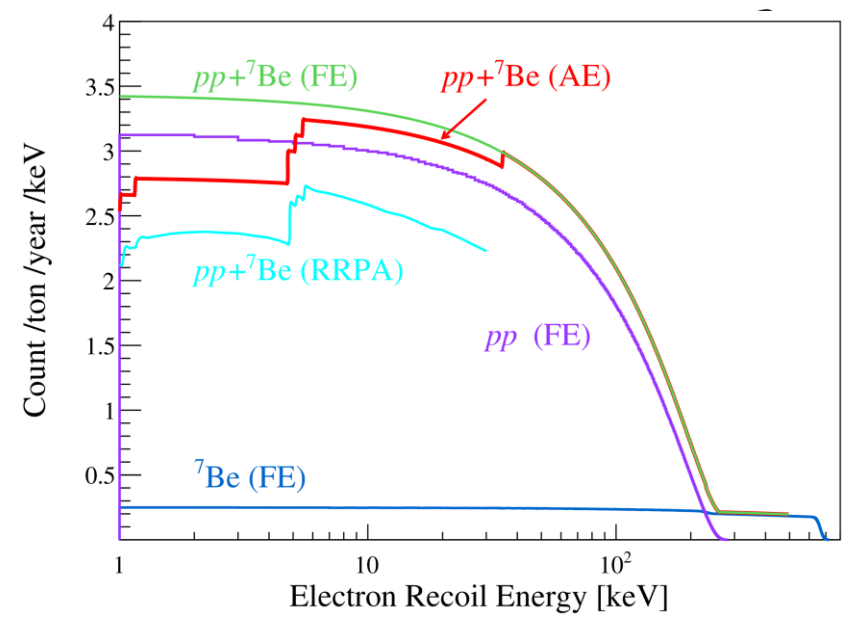
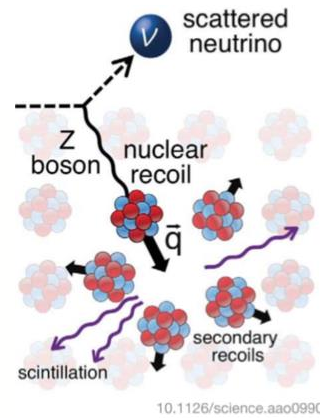
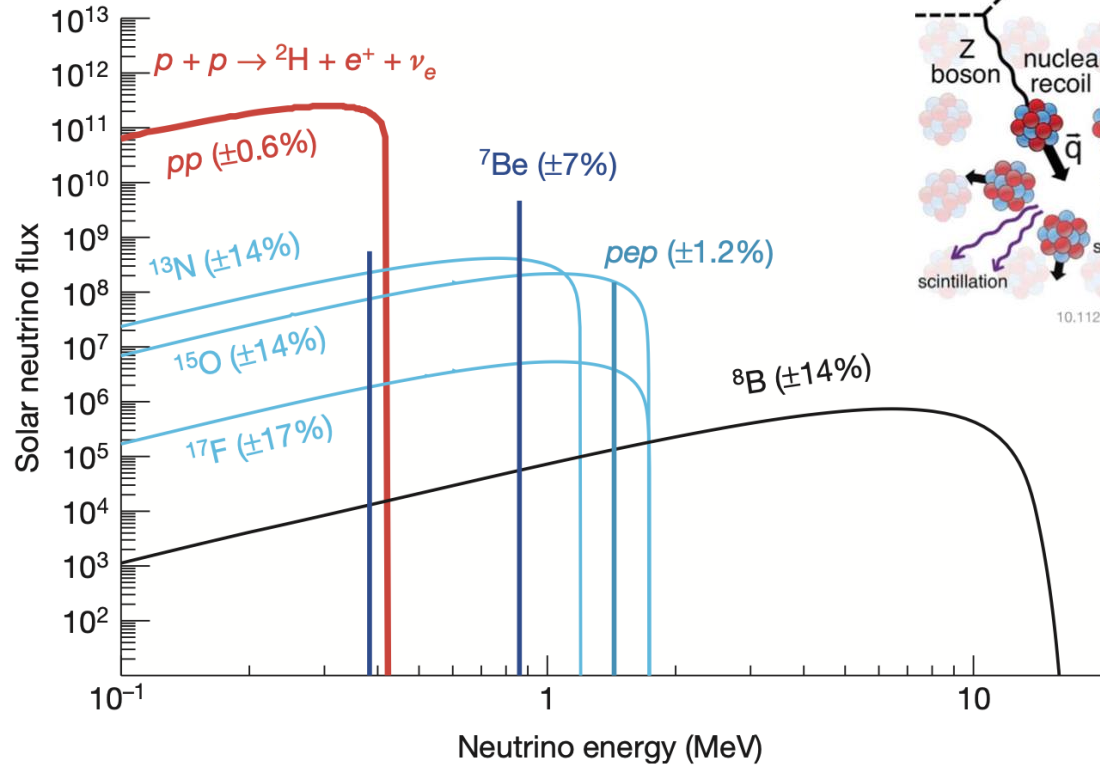
## Projected spectra and time evolution

- Unbinned 2D fit to Run0+Run1 data in parameter space of (energy, time)
- Use a profile likelihood ratio (PLR) approach
- Preliminary measurement on  $^{124}\text{Xe}$   $2\nu\text{ECEC}$  half-life:
  - $9.4 \pm 0.9(\text{stat.}) \pm 1.5(\text{syst.}) \times 10^{21}$  yr



# Solar neutrino flux

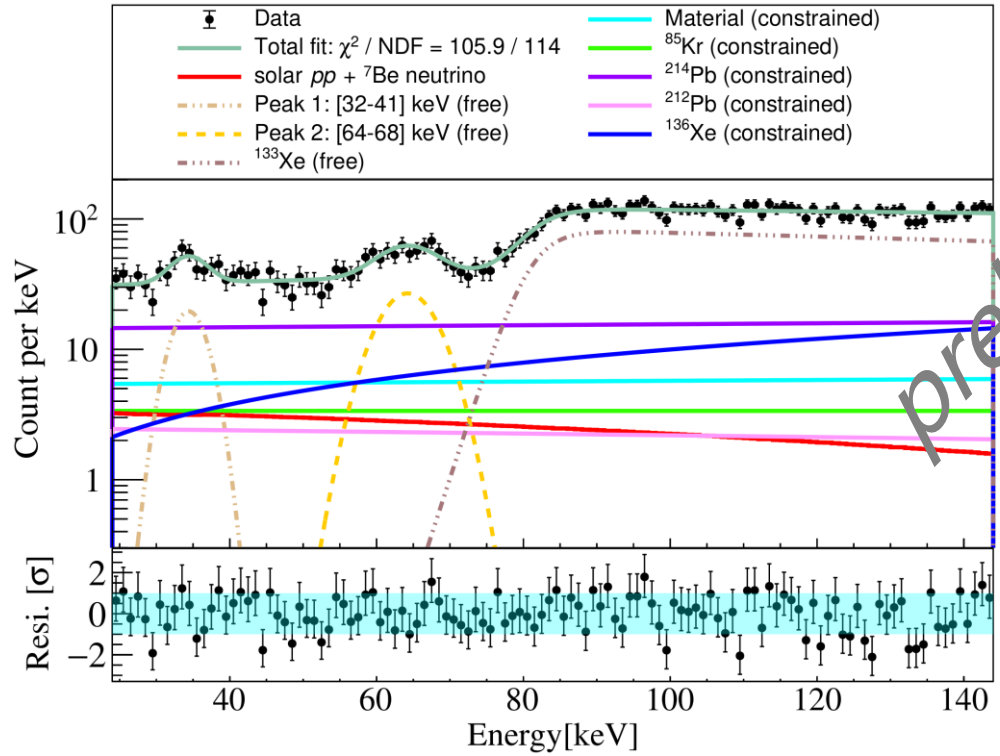
- Solar  $pp$  neutrino: neutrino-electron elastic scattering
- Solar  ${}^8\text{B}$  neutrino: Coherent Elastic Neutrino-Nucleus Scattering (CEvNS)



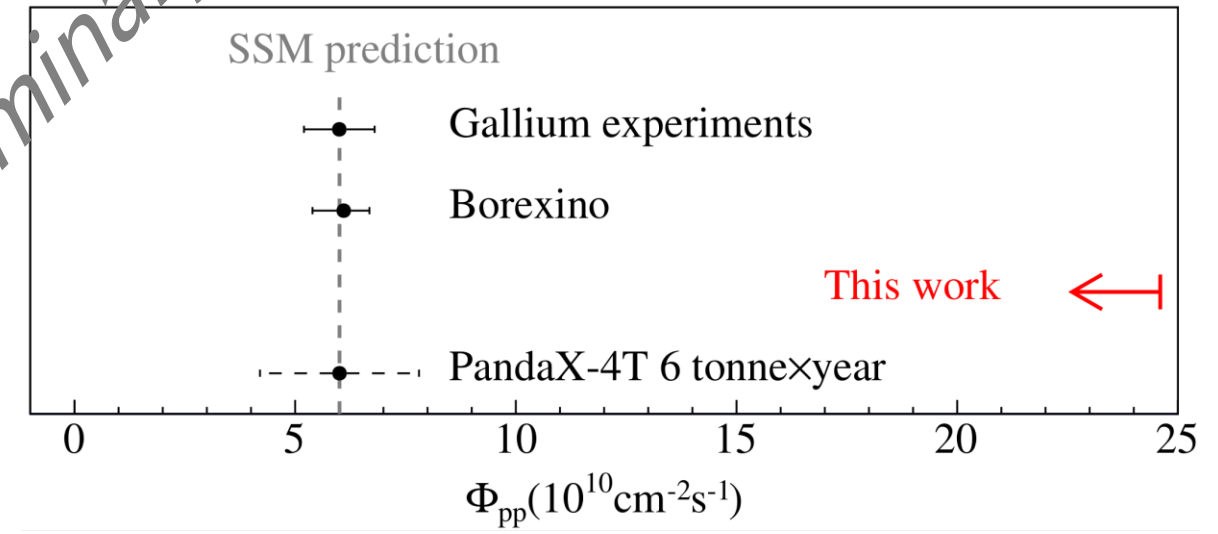
# Measurement of solar $pp$ $\nu$ flux in PandaX-4T



[arXiv:2401.07045](https://arxiv.org/abs/2401.07045)



preliminary

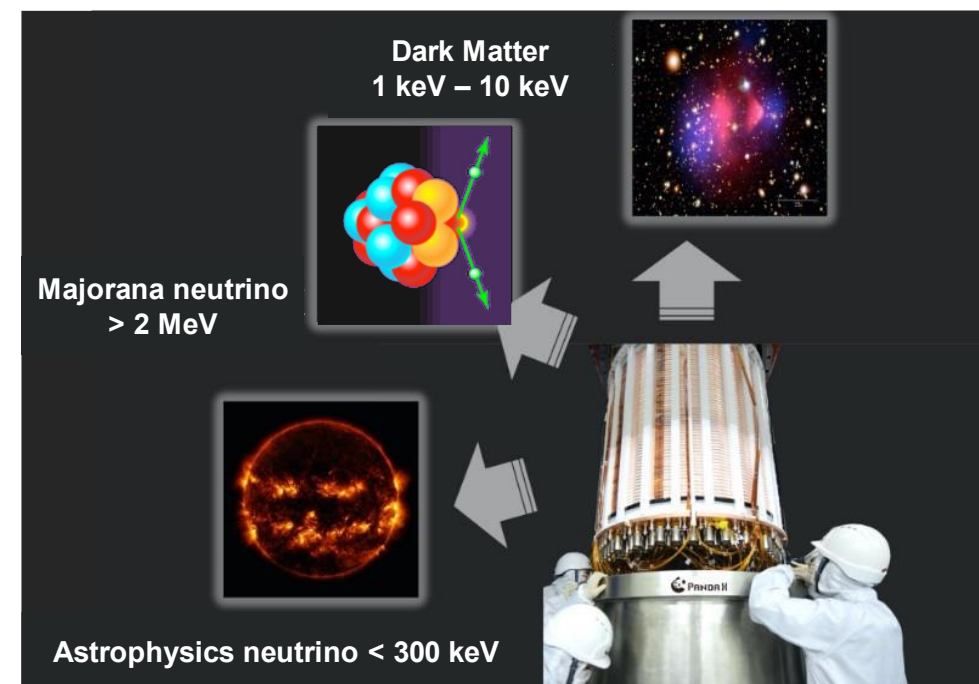


- Spectrum fit to Run0 data in [24, 144] keV (0.63 tonne $\times$ year exposure)
- First direct measurement at a recoil energy below 150 keV
  - Solar  $pp$   $\nu$  flux:  $(10.3 \pm 3.7_{\text{stat.}} \pm 9.7_{\text{syst.}}) \times 10^{10} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2}$
  - Upper limit:  $24.6 \times 10^{10} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2}$  at 90% C.L.
- With reduced backgrounds and 6 tonne $\times$ year exposure in the future:  $\sim 30\%$  uncertainty

# Summary



- PandaX reached to the forefront of DM search and neutrino physics in recent years!
- WIMP searches with PandaX-II (Ph.D. work)
  - Extensive experience in experimental HEP
  - Comprehensive analysis of the full exposure data
- Neutrino research with PandaX-4T (Postdoc work)
  - Extend DM detector response to MeV range
  - $^{136}\text{Xe}$  and  $^{134}\text{Xe}$   $2\nu\beta\beta/0\nu\beta\beta$
  - $^{124}\text{Xe}$   $2\nu\text{ECEC}$
  - Solar  $\nu$  flux:  $pp$



Thanks very much for your attention!

# Backup slides

Qihong Wang

Fudan University

On behalf of the PandaX Collaboration

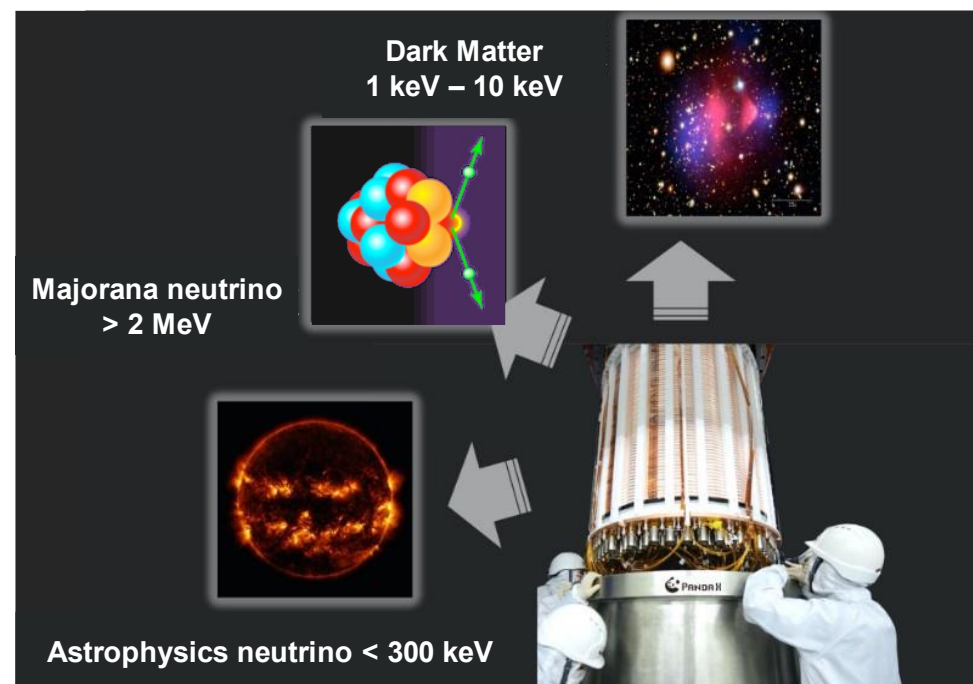
Aug 13, SLAC

[wangqihong@fudan.edu.cn](mailto:wangqihong@fudan.edu.cn)

# My research journey



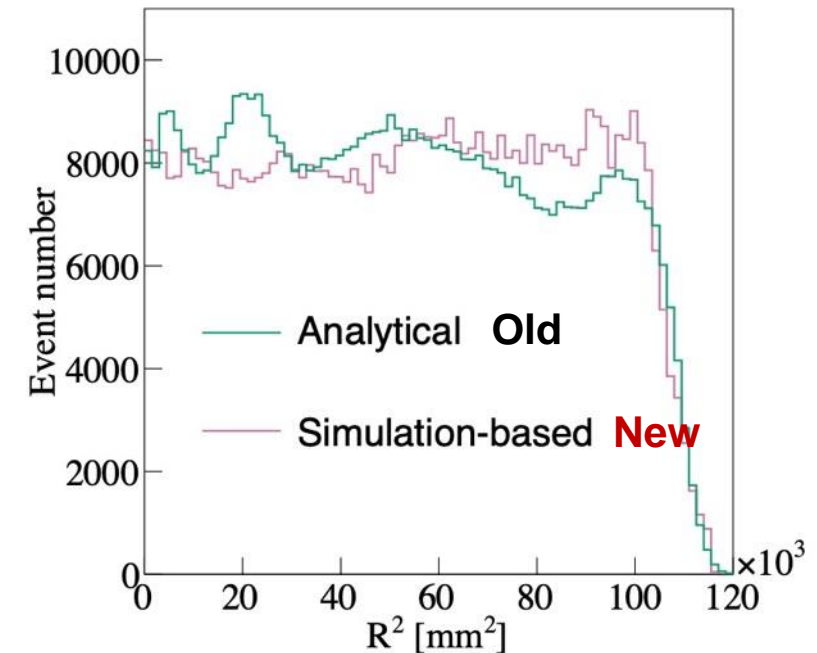
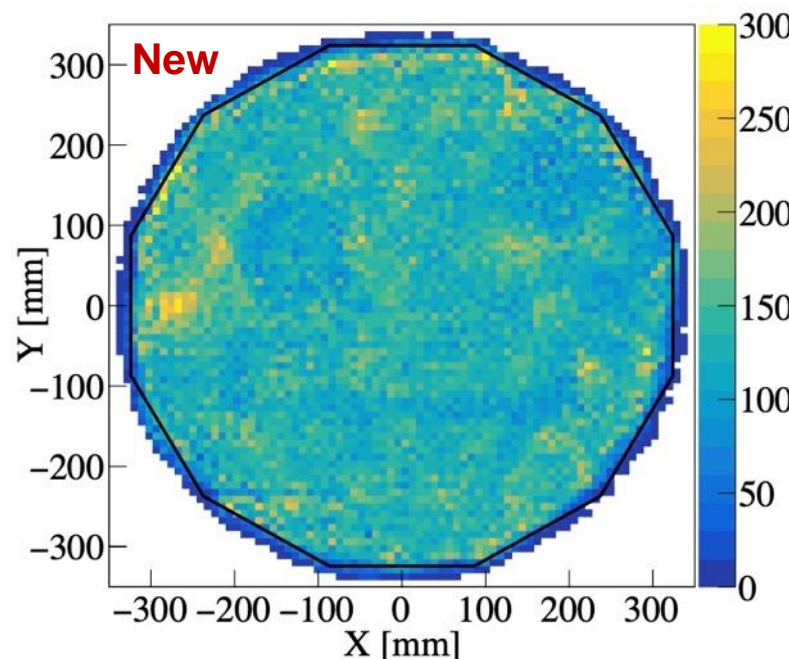
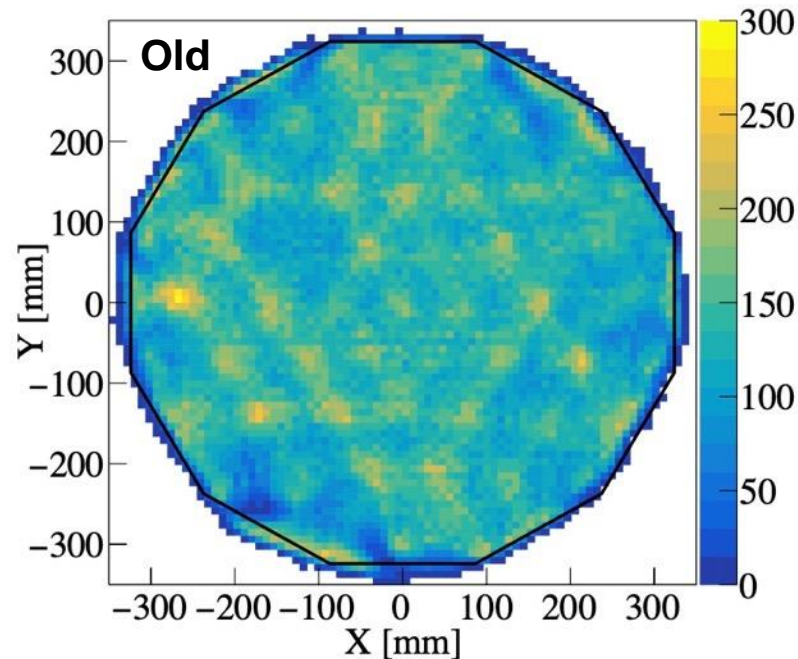
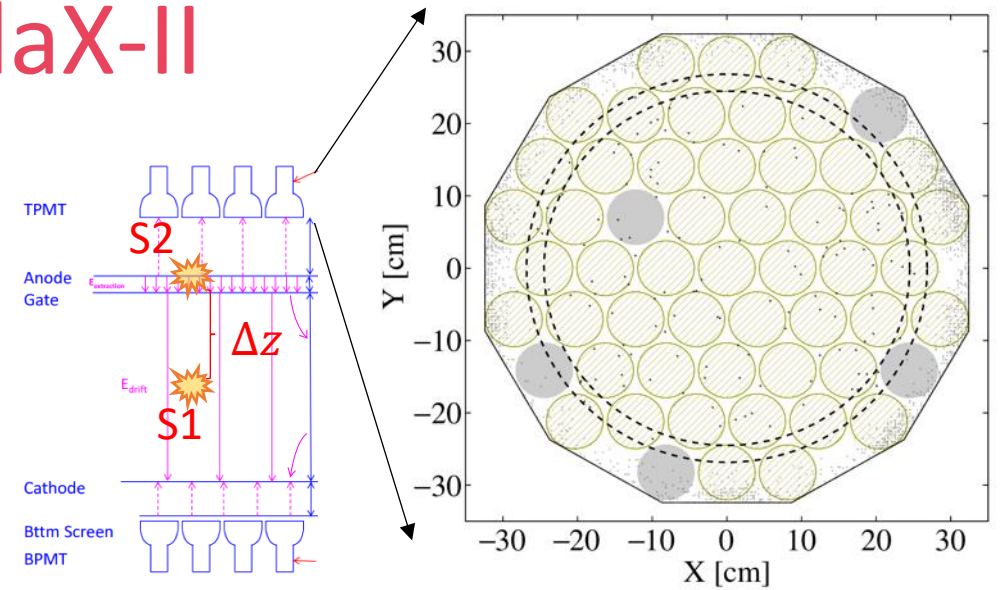
- **Dark matter search with PandaX-II (Ph.D.)**
  - **Coordinated** physical analysis of full exposure data
  - **Developed** a novel method for neutron background estimation
  - Detector R&D, simulation program, operation, and maintenance
- **Neutrino physics with PandaX-4T (Postdoc)**
  - **Undertook** construction of two subsystems, contributed to detector design, simulation, and operation
  - **Coordinated** signal reconstruction in MeV range for  $^{136}\text{Xe}$   $2\nu\beta\beta$  search
  - **Coordinated**  $^{124}\text{Xe}$   $2\nu\text{ECEC}$  search





# Position Reconstruction in PandaX-II

- Trained with evenly distributed  $^{83m}\text{Kr}$  calibration events
- Turn off 7 malfunctioned PMTs
  - 5 top and 2 bottom
- Data-driven position reconstruction: photon acceptance function
  - Analytically parameterized PAF (old)
  - Simulation-based PAF: optical simulation of the detector (new)



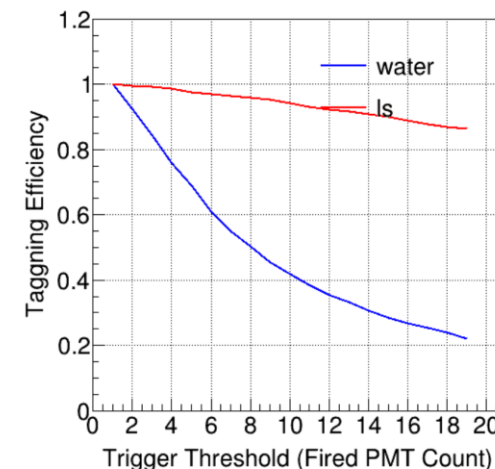
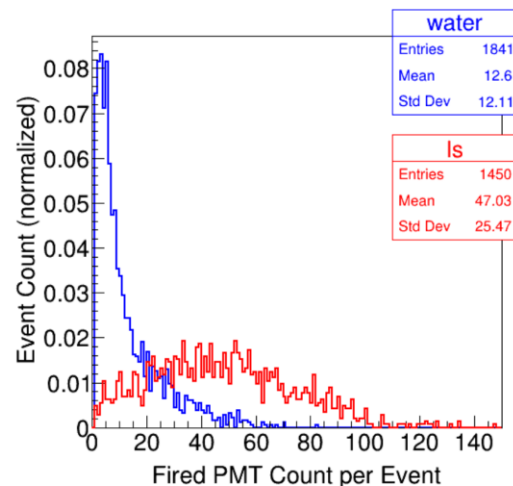
# Future upgrade to veto in PandaX-4T



## Optical Simulations in Geant4

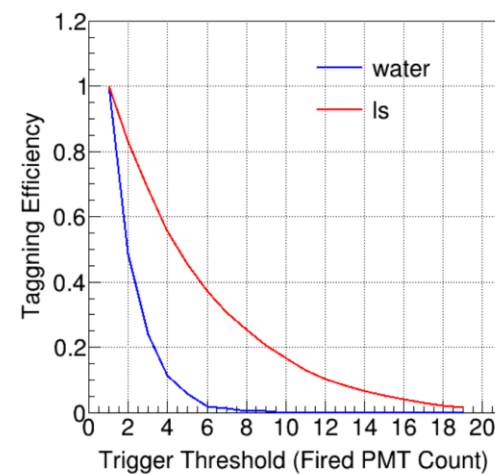
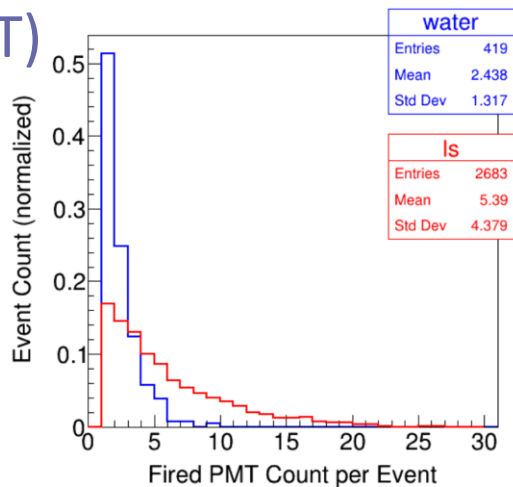
- Pure water veto
  - 78% (13%) for neutron (gamma) veto
- Water-based liquid scintillator
  - ~5% blending, 500 photons / MeV
  - ~100% (60%) for neutron (gamma) veto

### Neutron Veto Efficiency



- Gadolinium-doping water veto (XENONnT)
  - 68% -> 87% for neutron veto
- LS-based veto (LZ)
  - Chemical and fire hazards for PandaX-4T

### Neutron Veto Efficiency

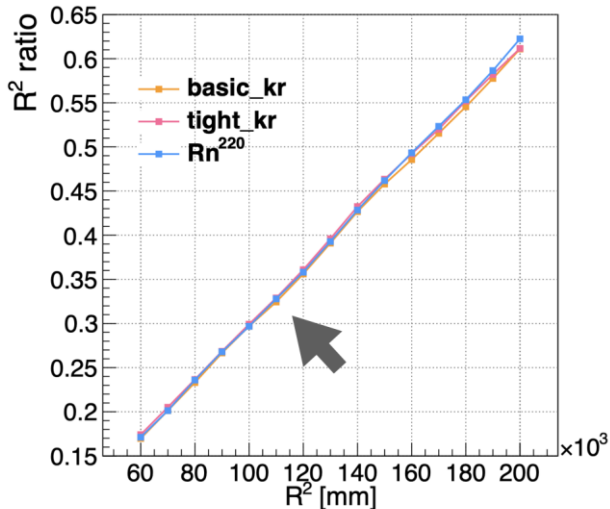


# Fiducial volume for $^{136}\text{Xe}$ $2\nu\beta\beta$ search

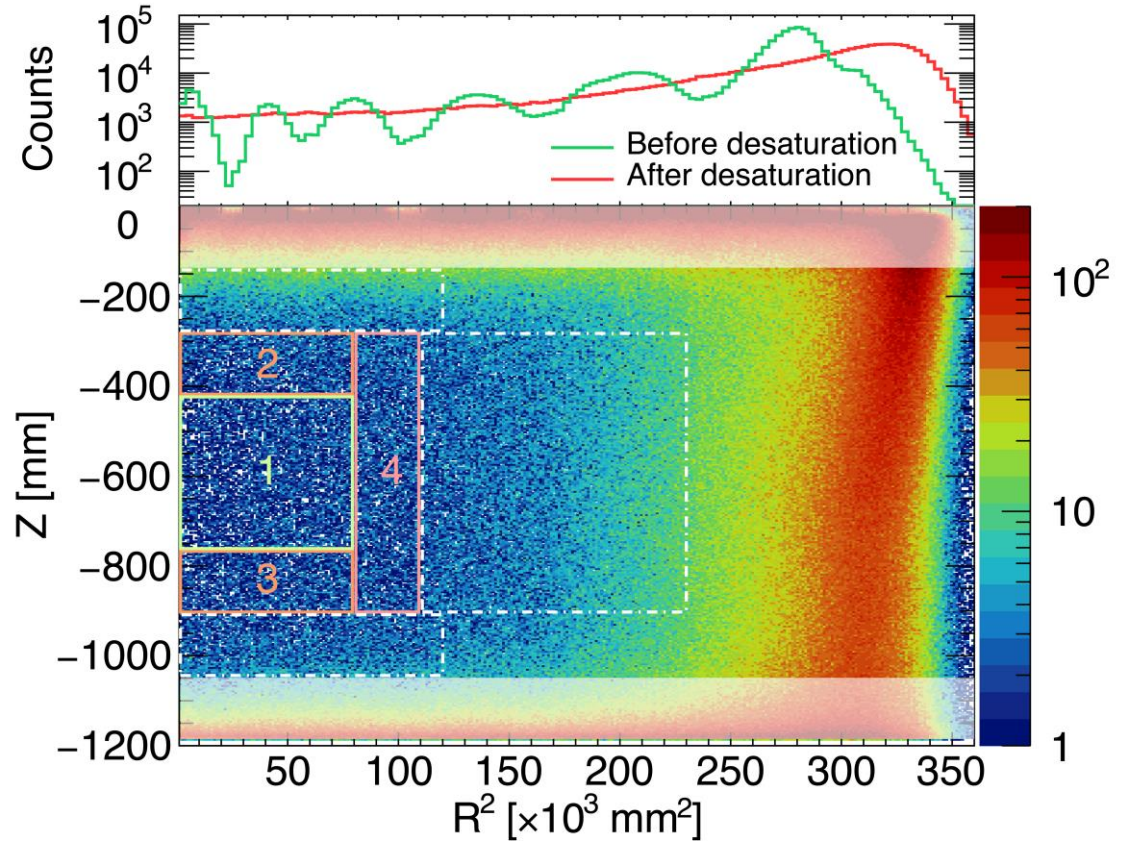
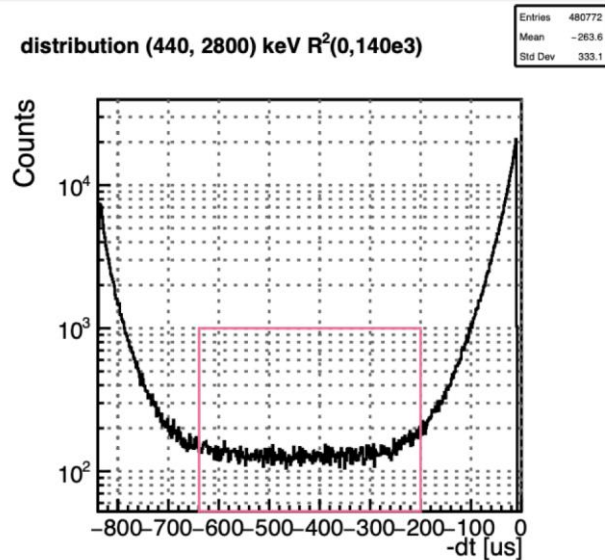


- Compare the number of events of  $^{83\text{m}}\text{Kr}$  and  $^{220}\text{Rn}$  with geometric volume; the non-linearity between the two  $<0.5\%$  defines the cut in R direction
- Z direction: smaller background rate
- Outer (dashed) region for cross-validation

## FV mass



distribution (440, 2800) keV  $R^2(0,140\text{e3})$

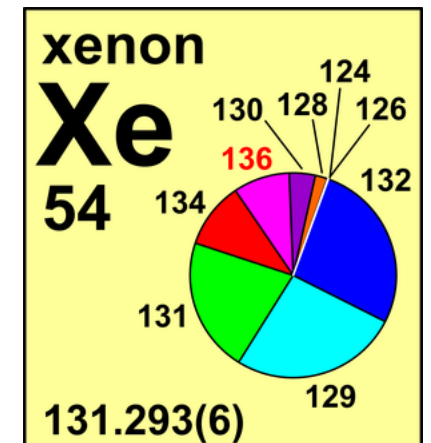
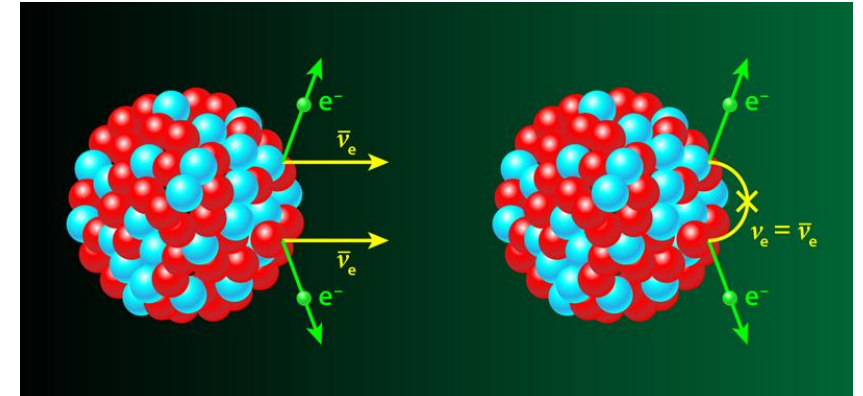


# Double beta decay



- $0\nu\beta\beta$  : Golden channel for Majorana neutrino searches
- $2\nu\beta\beta$  candidate  $^{134}\text{Xe}$  (10.4%): the next promising discoveries of  $2\nu\beta\beta$

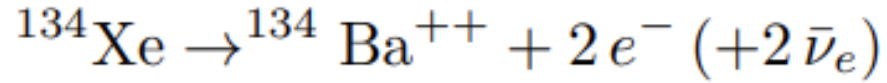
Isotope	Natural abundance[%]	$Q_{\beta\beta}$ [MeV]	$T_{1/2}^{2\nu\beta\beta}$ [yr]
$^{48}\text{Ca}$	0.187	4.26	$4.2 \times 10^{19}$
$^{76}\text{Ge}$	7.8	2.04	$1.5 \times 10^{21}$
$^{82}\text{Se}$	8.7	3.00	$0.9 \times 10^{20}$
$^{96}\text{Zr}$	2.8	3.35	$2.0 \times 10^{19}$
$^{100}\text{Mo}$	9.8	3.04	$7.1 \times 10^{18}$
$^{116}\text{Cd}$	7.5	2.81	$3.0 \times 10^{19}$
$^{130}\text{Te}$	34.1	2.53	$0.9 \times 10^{21}$
$^{136}\text{Xe}$	8.9	2.46	$2.2 \times 10^{21}$
$^{150}\text{Nd}$	5.6	3.37	$7.8 \times 10^{18}$
$^{124}\text{Xe}$	0.1	2.86	$1.1 \times 10^{22}$
$^{134}\text{Xe}$	10.4	0.83	$\sim 10^{24}$
$^{128}\text{Te}$	31.7	0.87	$\sim 10^{24}$



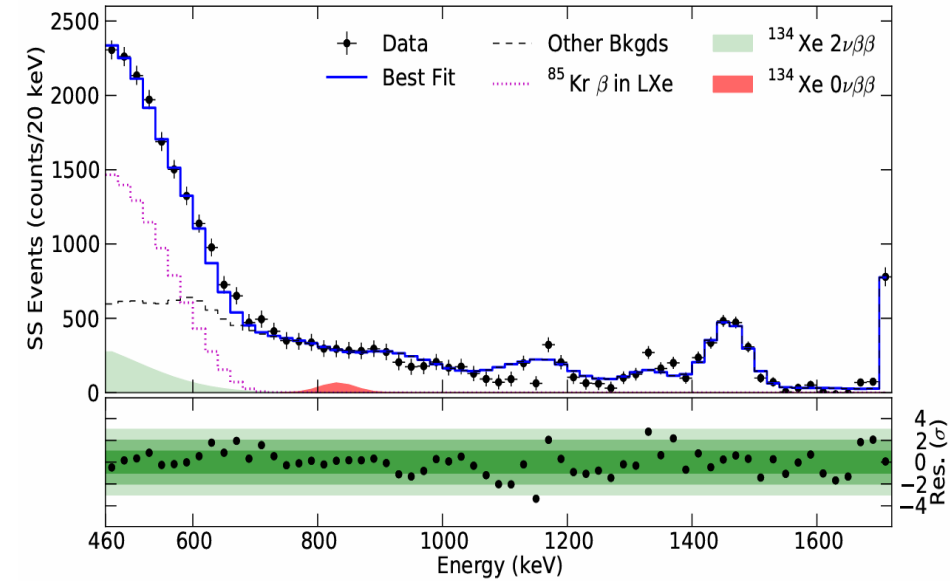
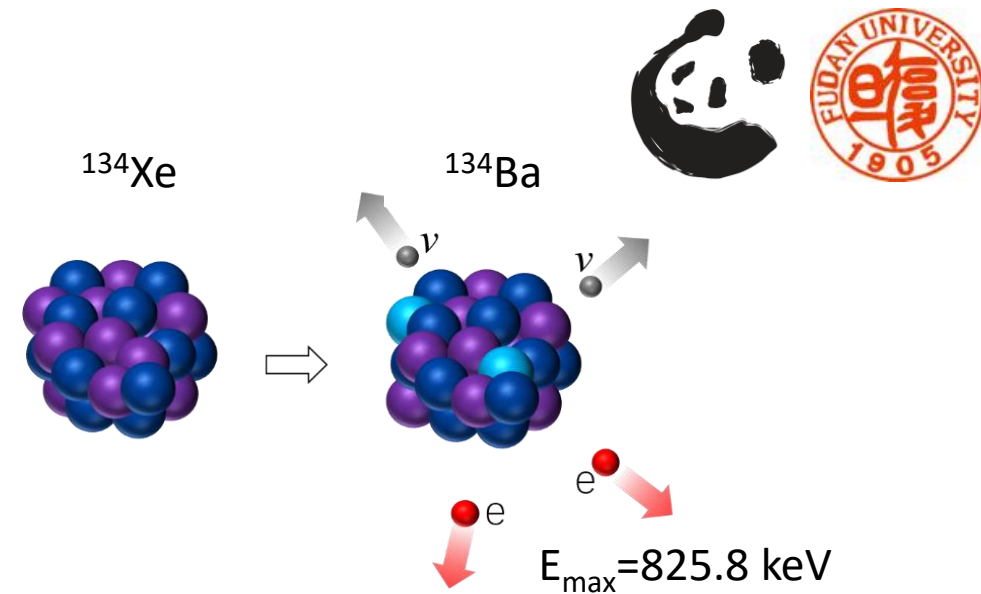
the next promising discoveries of  $2\nu\beta\beta$

# $^{134}\text{Xe}$ $2\nu\beta\beta$ and $0\nu\beta\beta$

- Double beta decay of  $^{134}\text{Xe}$  into  $^{134}\text{Ba}$ :



- Q-value is  $825.8 \pm 0.9$  keV
- Half-life from theoretical predictions:  $\sim 10^{24}$  yr
- Best experiment limits from EXO-200 with 29.6 kg·yr data of  $^{134}\text{Xe}$  :
  - $T_{1/2}^{2\nu\beta\beta} > 8.7 \cdot 10^{20}$  yr at 90% CL
  - $T_{1/2}^{0\nu\beta\beta} > 1.1 \cdot 10^{23}$  yr at 90% CL
- Isotopic composition in EXO-200 : 80.7%  $^{136}\text{Xe}$  and 19.1%  $^{134}\text{Xe}$
- Energy spectrum: ROI between 460 keV and 740 keV for  $2\nu\beta\beta$ , energy resolution  $\sigma/E = 3.56\%$  @ 825.8 keV

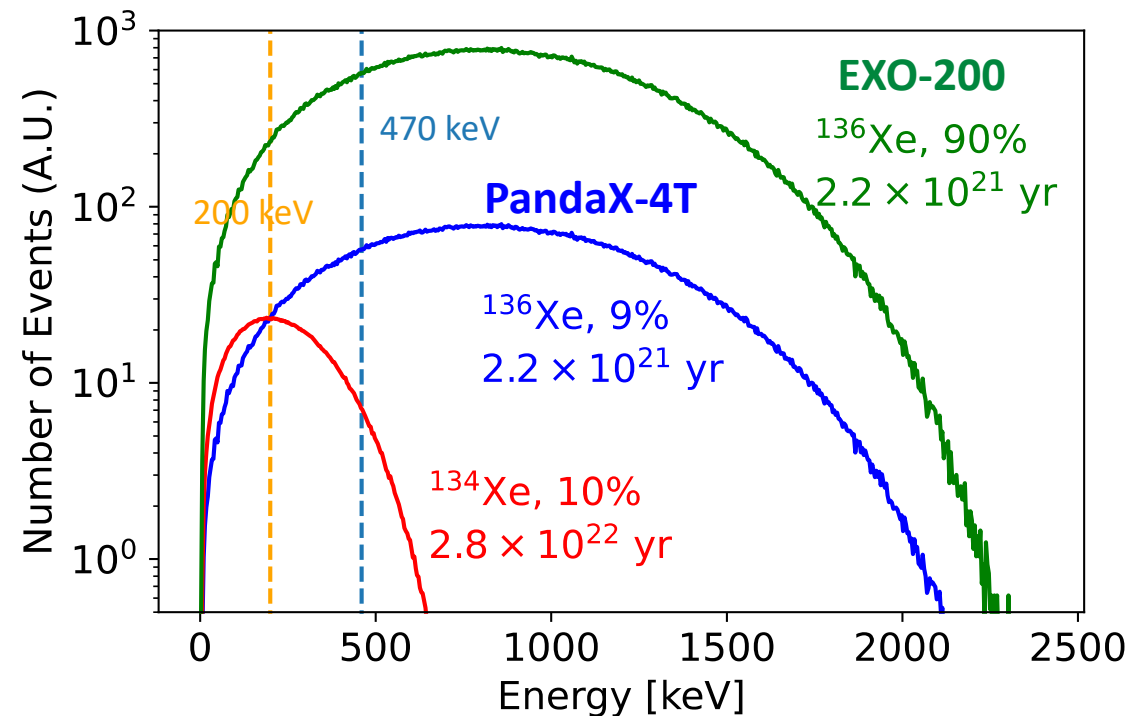


*Phys.Rev.D* 96 (2017) 9, 092001

# Down to [200, 1000] keV for $^{134}\text{Xe}$ $2\nu\beta\beta$ and $0\nu\beta\beta$ search



- $^{134}\text{Xe}$  event fraction in ROI [200, 1000] keV
  - 60.56% ( $2\nu\beta\beta$ ), 99.98% ( $0\nu\beta\beta$ )
- Compared to EXO-200, PandaX-4T has:
  - More  $^{134}\text{Xe}$ ; much less  $^{136}\text{Xe}$ ;
  - wider energy range; better resolution;
  - Self shielding effect
  - Discovery possible



	Live Time	$^{134}\text{Xe}$ mass	$^{136}\text{Xe}$ abundance	Analysis threshold	Resolution @ $Q_{\beta\beta}$
PandaX-4T	94.9 days	68.7 kg	8.9%	200 keV	2.4%
EXO-200	600 days	18.1 kg	81%	470 keV	3.56%

# Background model for $^{134}\text{Xe}$ $2\nu\beta\beta$ and $0\nu\beta\beta$ search



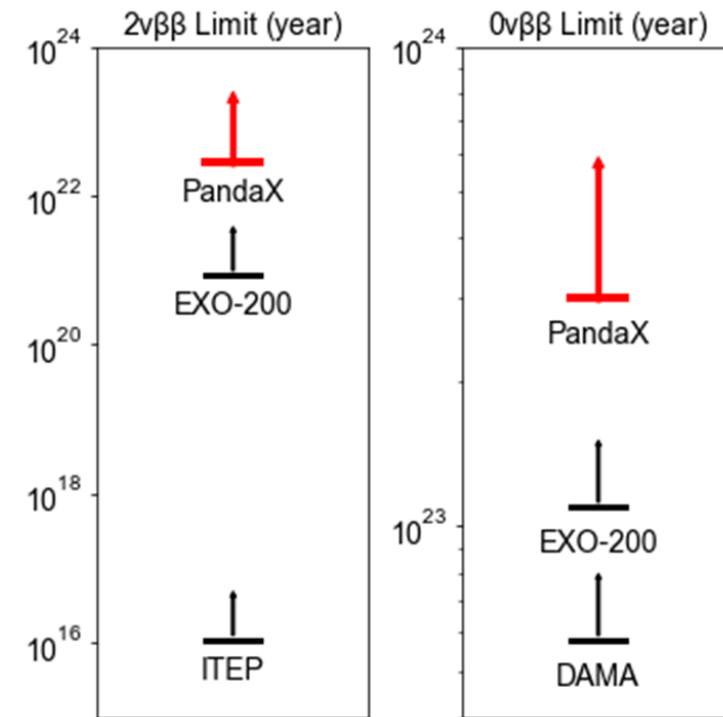
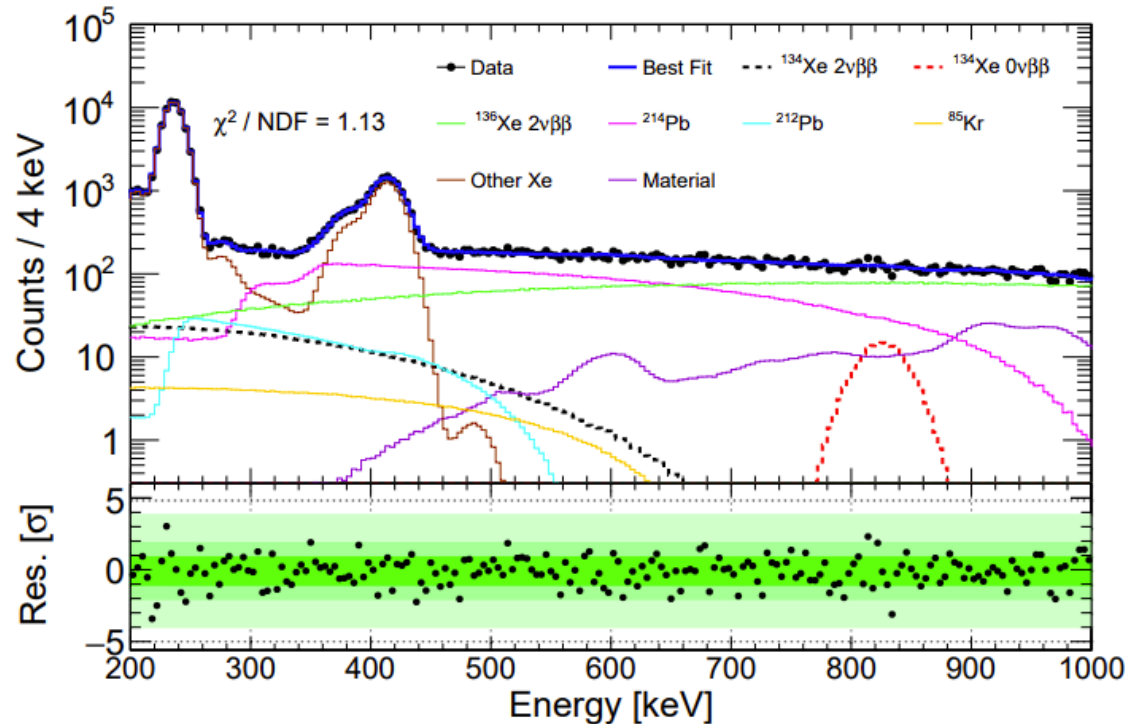
- Down to [200, 1000] keV, more backgrounds in LXe need to be considered

	Component	Input Counts	Constraint	
Materials	$^{60}\text{Co}$	130	13%	Measured in $^{136}\text{Xe}$ $2\nu\beta\beta$ analysis <i>Research 2022 (2022) 9798721</i>
	$^{40}\text{K}$	133	8%	
	$^{232}\text{Th}$	950	5%	
	$^{238}\text{U}$	274	8%	
LXe	$^{136}\text{Xe}$	12372	5%	Measured by its daughter $^{212}\text{Po}$ alpha decay
	$^{212}\text{Pb}$	1012	29%	
	$^{85}\text{Kr}$	296	52%	Determined by $\beta$ - $\gamma$ emission through the metastable state $^{85\text{m}}\text{Rb}$
	$^{133}\text{Xe}$	3423	10%	Estimated the $\beta$ + $\gamma$ shoulder of $^{133}\text{Xe}$ between 90 and 120 keV
	$^{214}\text{Pb}$	19429	Free	Determined by $^{222}\text{Rn}$
	$^{125}\text{Xe}$	-	Free	short-lived xenon isotopes induced by neutron calibration $^{127}\text{Xe}$ and $^{129\text{m}}\text{Xe}$
	Other Xe	-	Free	

# $^{134}\text{Xe}$ $2\nu\beta\beta$ and $0\nu\beta\beta$ search in PandaX-4T



- Simultaneous fit for  $^{134}\text{Xe}$   $2\nu\beta\beta$  and  $0\nu\beta\beta$
- Final counts of  $2\nu\beta\beta$  and  $0\nu\beta\beta$ :  $10 \pm 269(\text{stat.}) \pm 680(\text{syst.})$  and  $105 \pm 48(\text{stat.}) \pm 38(\text{syst.})$
- 90% C.L. lower limits on the half-life:  $T_{1/2}^{2\nu\beta\beta} > 2.8 \times 10^{22}$  yr and  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu\beta\beta} > 3.0 \times 10^{23}$  yr



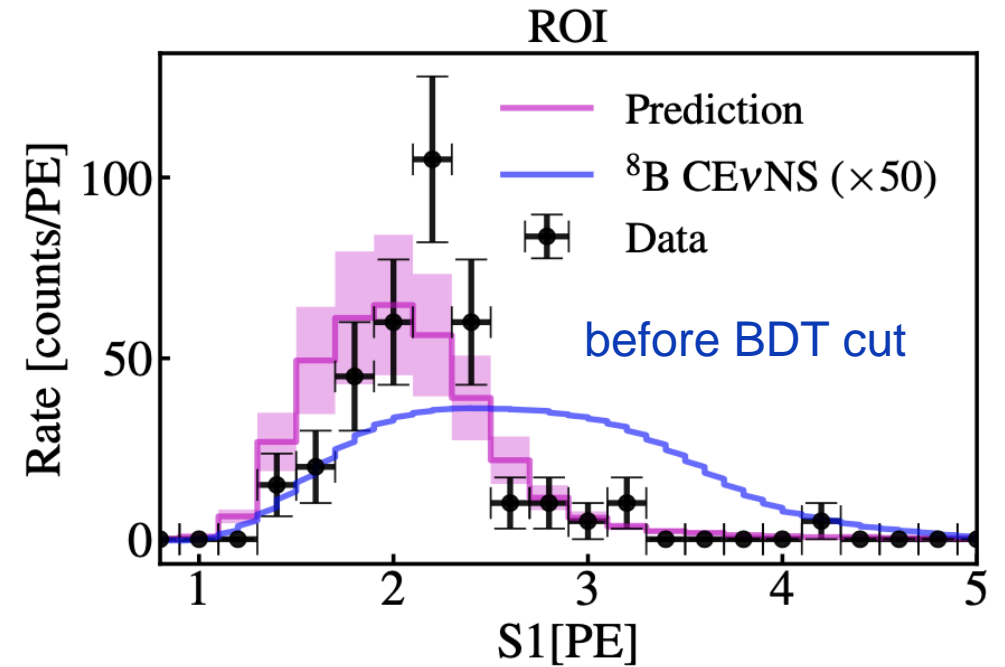
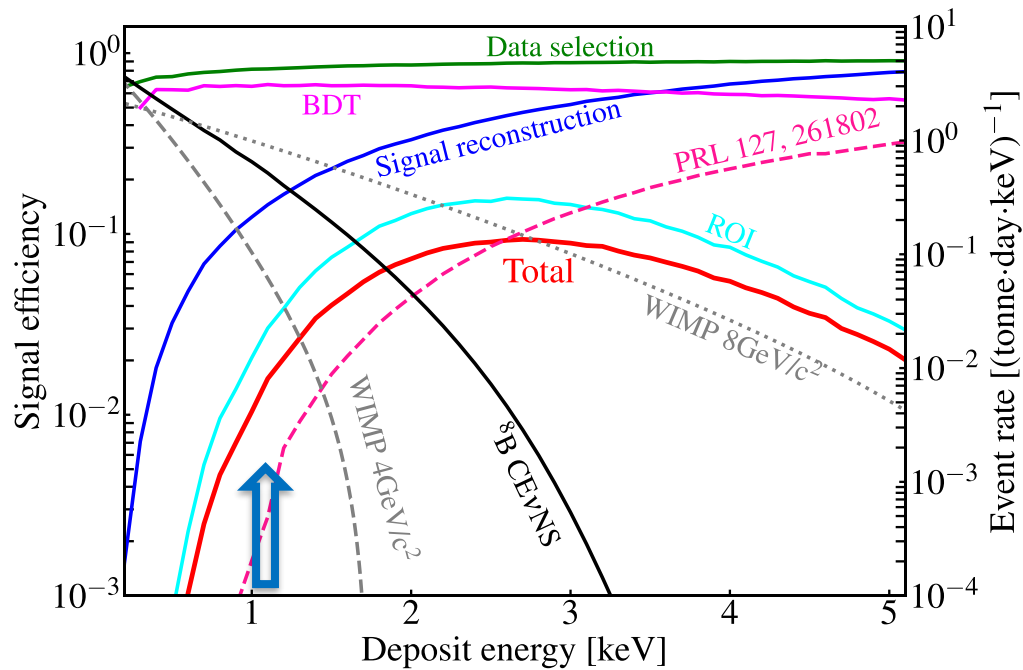
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# Towards the neutrino floor from solar $^8\text{B}$



- Lowering selection threshold for solar  $^8\text{B}$  CEvNS
  - Cut on the scintillation signal (S1) from 2 PE to 0.3 PE
  - Optimizing signal selection cuts with waveform simulation
- Accidental paired (AC) background modeling and rejection

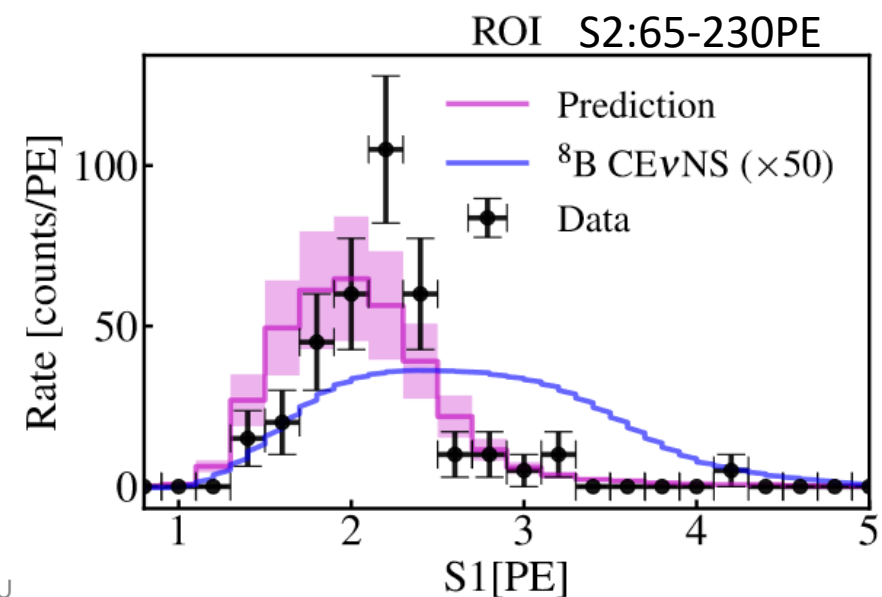
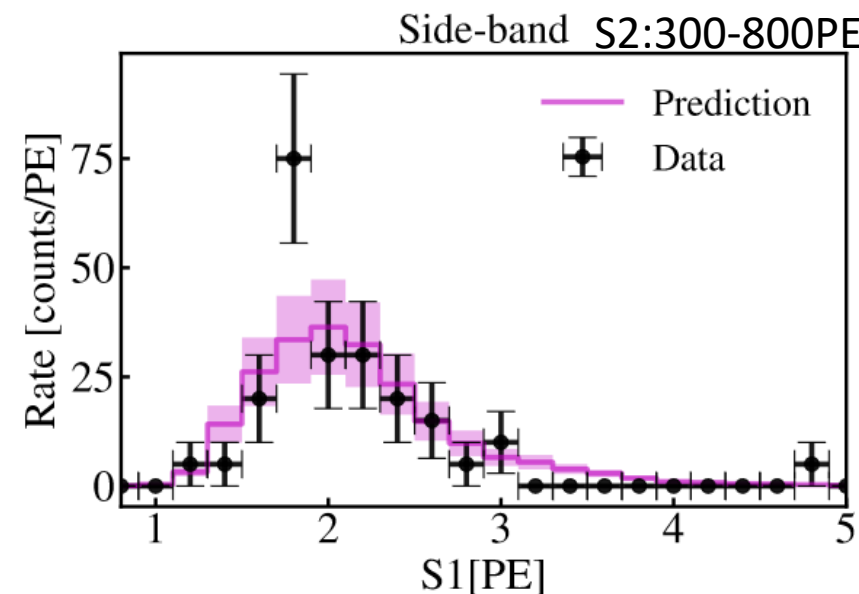


# Control of accidental background in $^8\text{B}$ search



- Use “scrambled” real data to model accidental background
- A multi-variate (BDT) algorithm trained to suppress AC background
- Training/selection is blinded
- postBDT:  $N_{\text{obs}}=1$ ,  $N_{\text{bkg}}=1.6$ ,  $N_{\text{sig}}=1.7$

$N_{\text{hit}}$	S2 range [PE]	BDT	ER	NR	Surf	AC	Total BKG	$^8\text{B}$	Obs
2	65-230	pre	0.04	0.10	0.14	62.43	62.71	2.32	<b>59</b>
		post	0.02	0.04	0.03	1.41	1.50	1.42	<b>1</b>
3	65-190	pre	0.01	0.05	0.08	0.79	0.93	0.42	<b>2</b>
		post	0.00	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.07	0.29	<b>0</b>



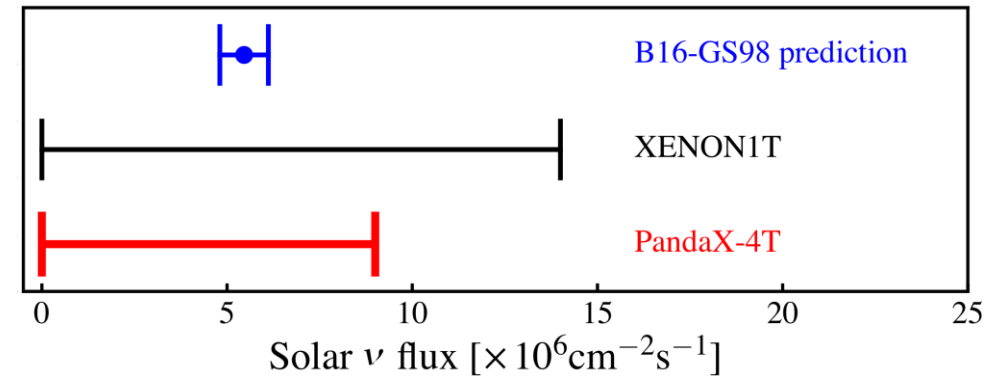
# Constraints on $^8\text{B}$ neutrino



- A multi-variate (BDT) algorithm trained to suppress AC background
- Blind analysis with 0.48 tonne-year data in Run0
- Leading constraint on  $^8\text{B}$  neutrino flux through CEvNS
  - Upper limit of  $9.0 \times 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$

ROI (BDT applied)

ER+NR+AC	8B	Total prediction	Unblind data
1.46	1.42	<b>2.88</b>	<b>1</b>
0.04	0.29	<b>0.33</b>	<b>0</b>



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