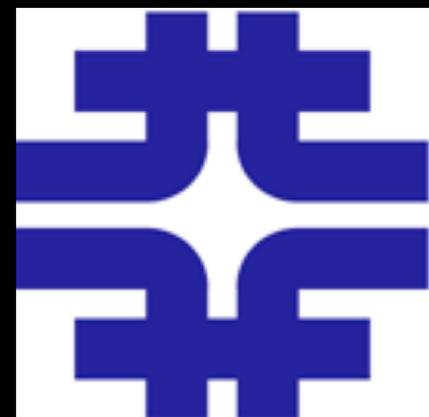


# Searching for Dark Matter

Hugh Lippincott  
Fermilab Center for Particle Astrophysics

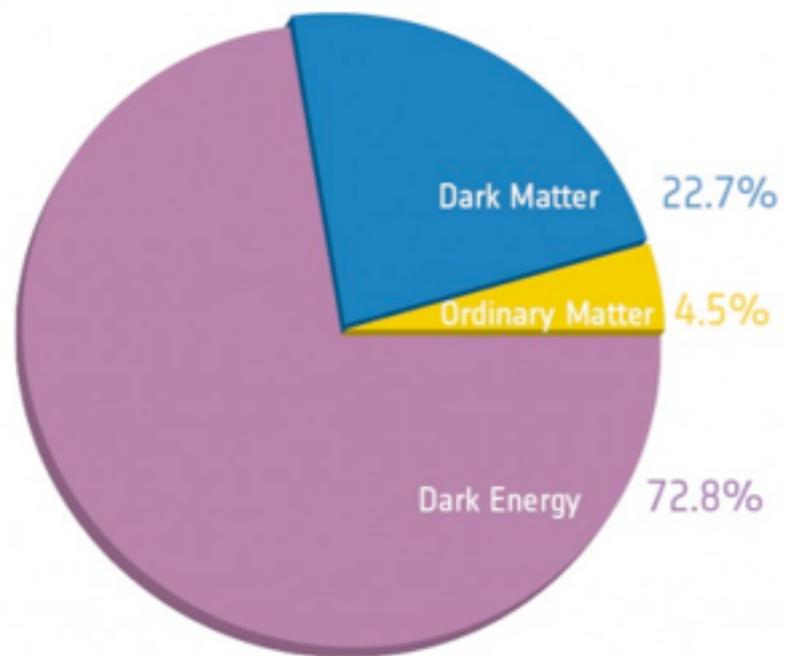
Summer Intern Undergraduate Lecture Series  
July 10, 2014



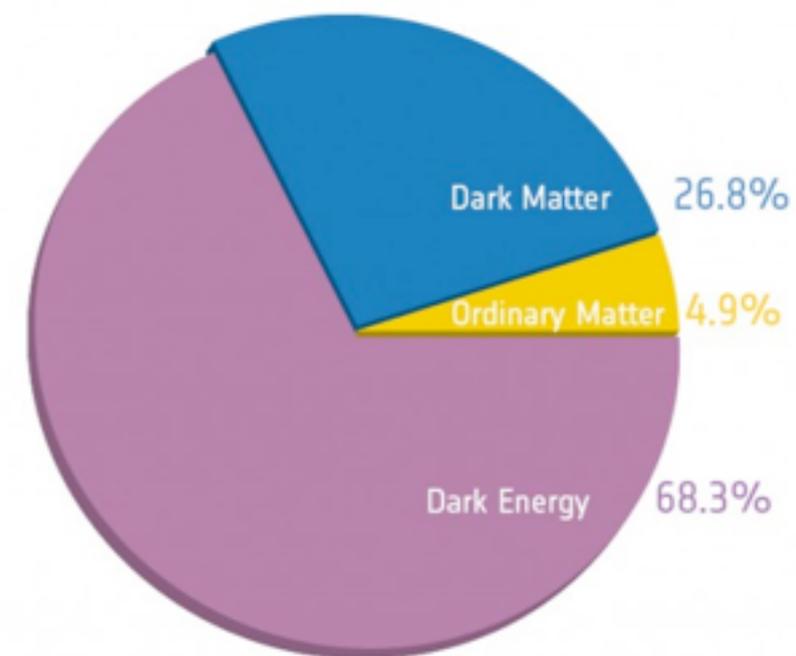


There is pretty strong consensus regarding how much stuff there is in the universe

By that same consensus, we only understand 5% of it



Before Planck



After Planck

# Dark matter - evidence?

- Galaxy rotation curves



Vera Rubin, 1970s

# Dark matter - evidence?

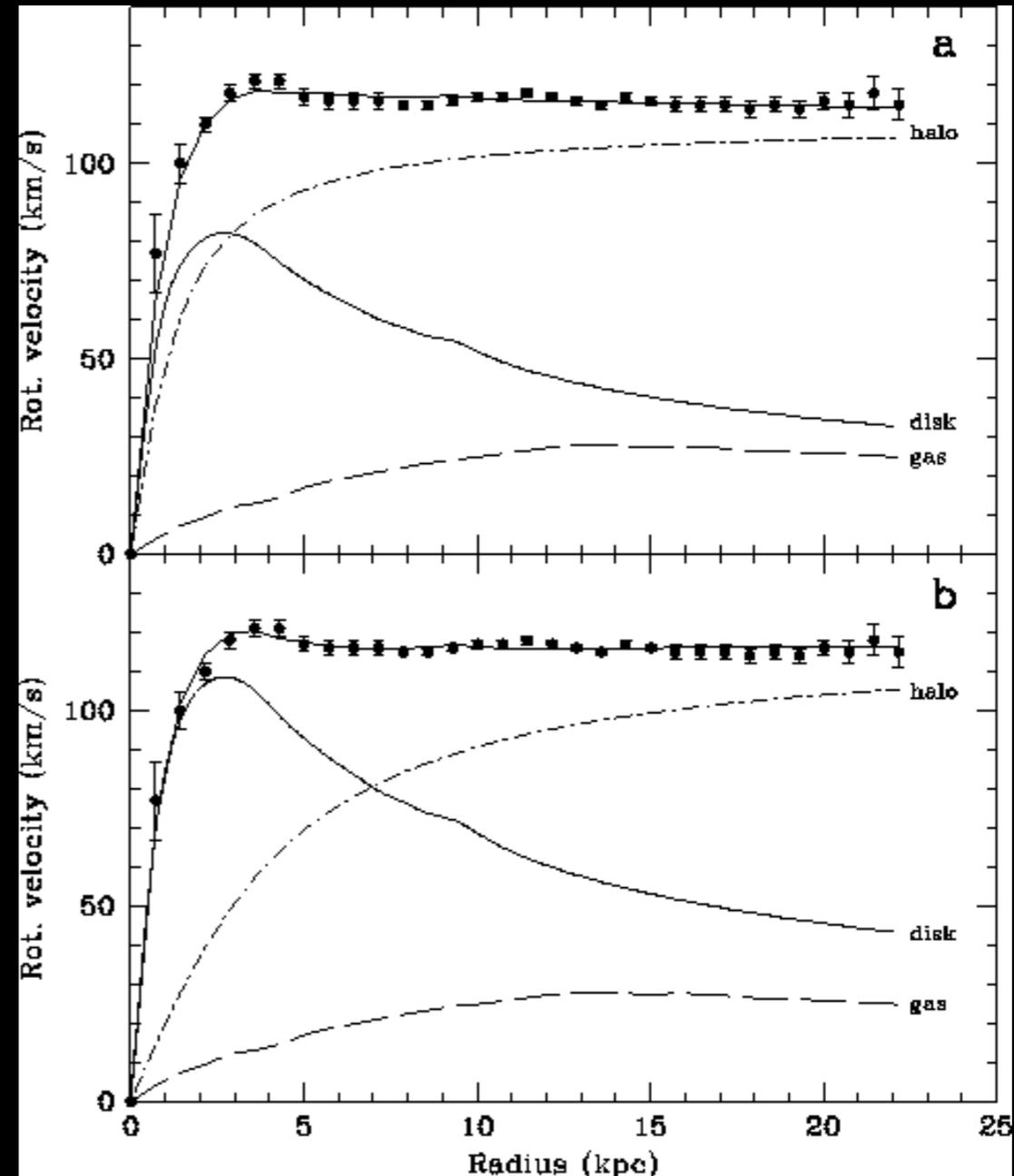
- Galaxy rotation curves

In Newtonian dynamics, the rotational velocity of an object in circular motion is

$$v(r) = \sqrt{\frac{GM(r)}{r}},$$

where  $M$  is the mass within the orbit. If  $r_l$  is the radial extent of the luminous part, and all mass is in the luminous part of the galaxy, then  $M$  is constant for  $r > r_l$  and

$$v(r) \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{r}} \text{ for } r > r_l.$$



# Dark matter - evidence?

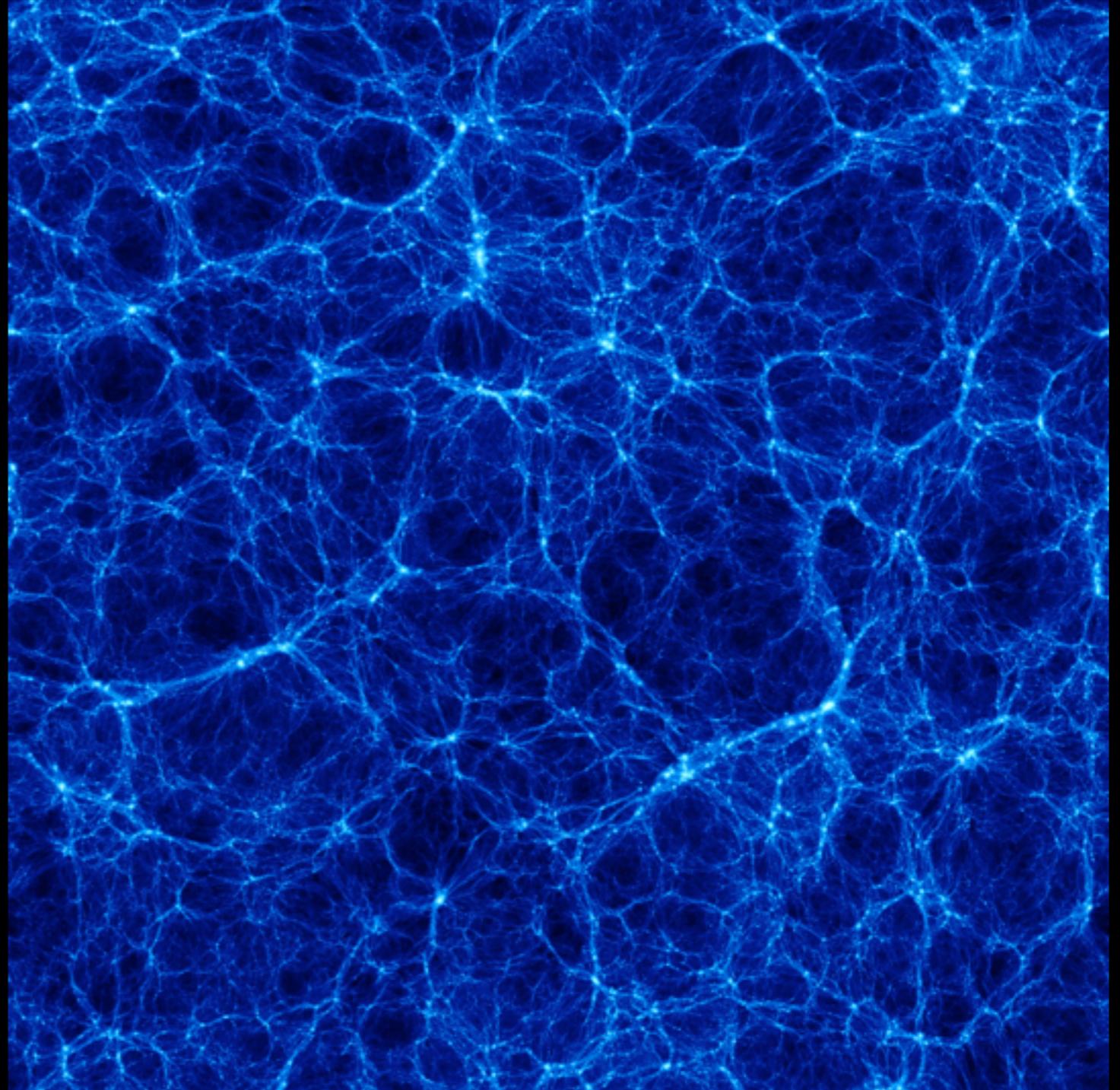
- Galaxy rotation curves
- Galaxy clusters



Fritz Zwicky, 1930

# Dark matter - evidence?

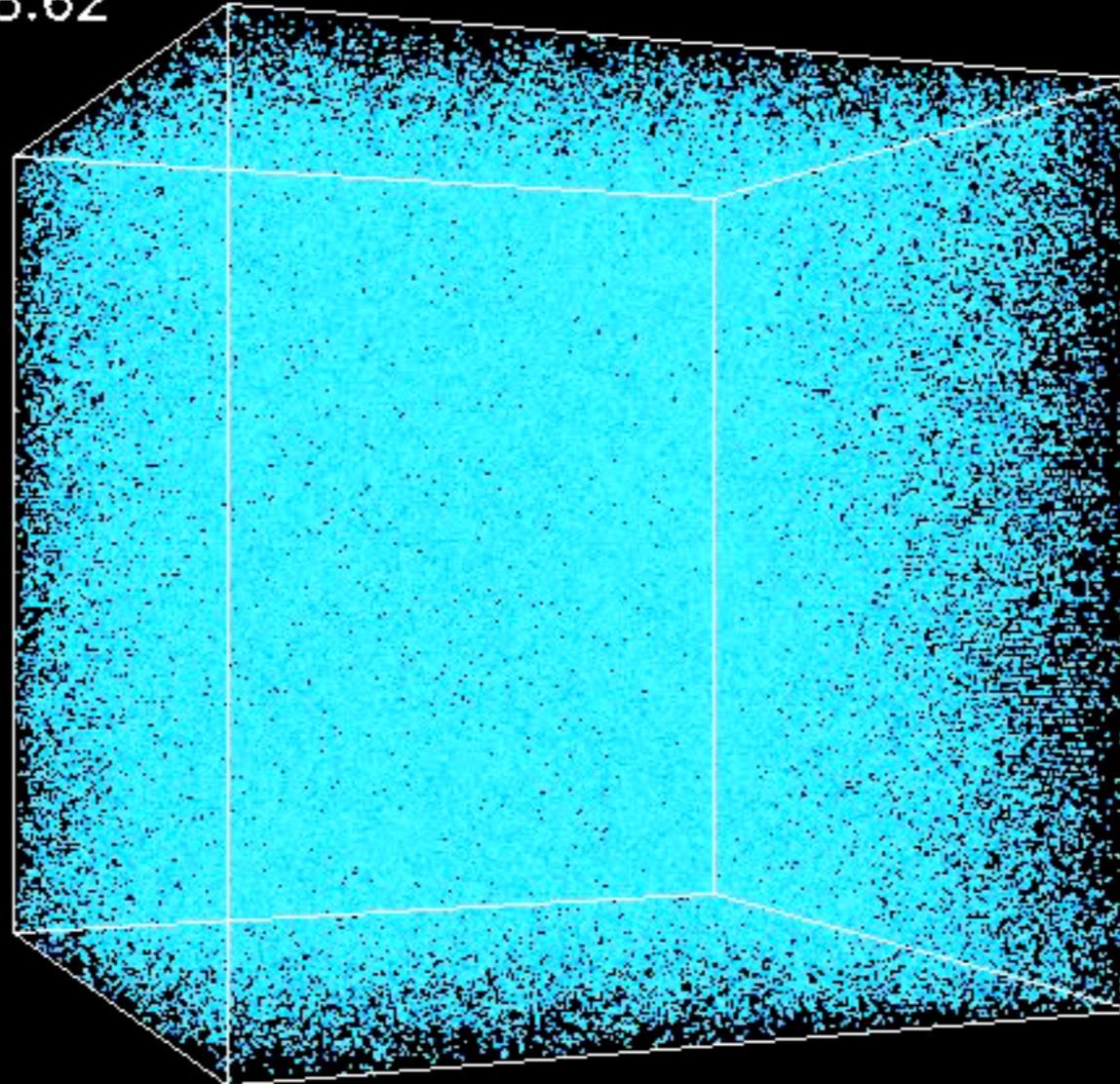
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# Dark matter - evidence?

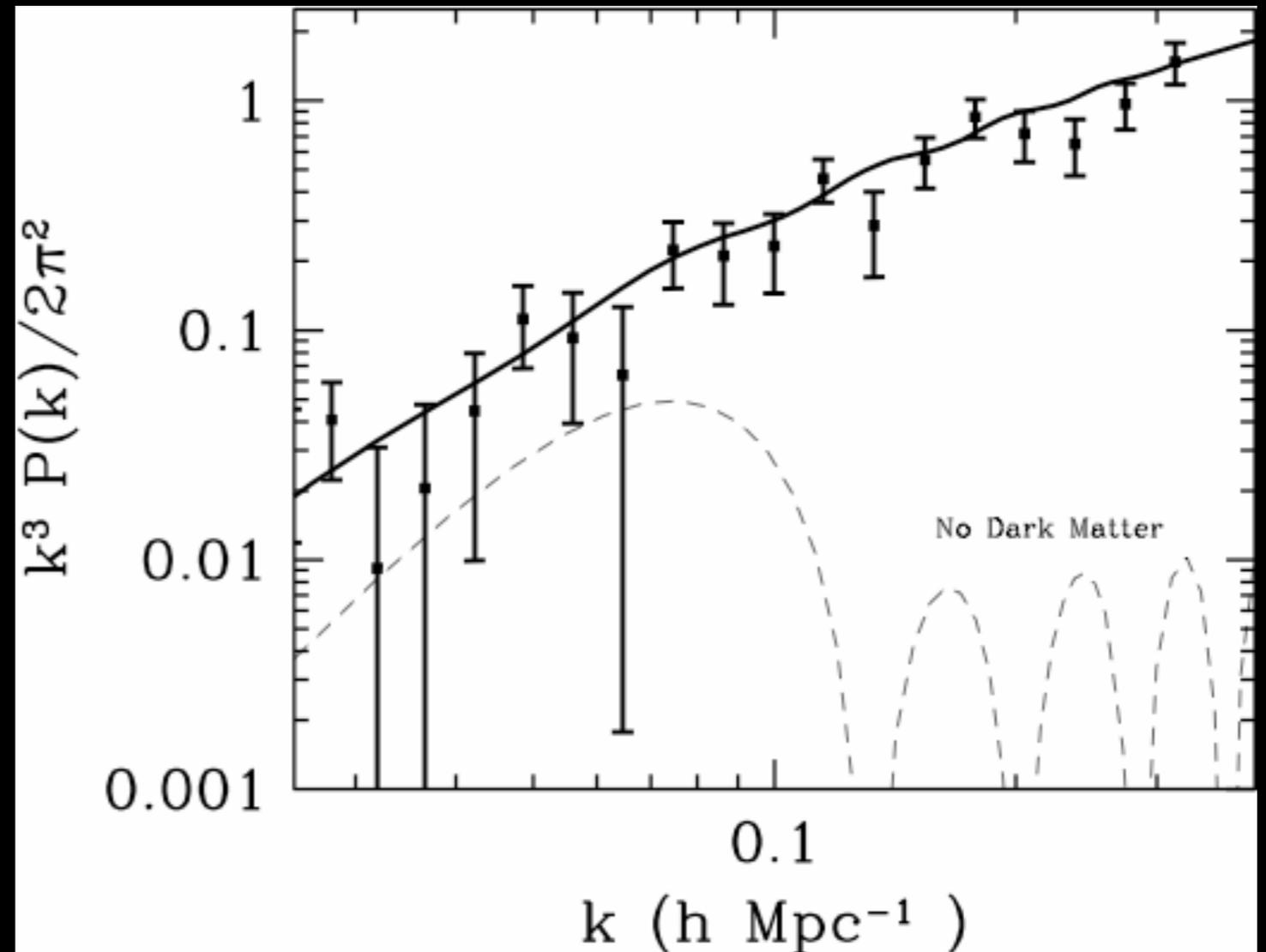
- Galaxy
- Galaxy

$z=28.62$



# Dark matter - evidence?

- Galaxy rotation curves
- Galaxy clusters



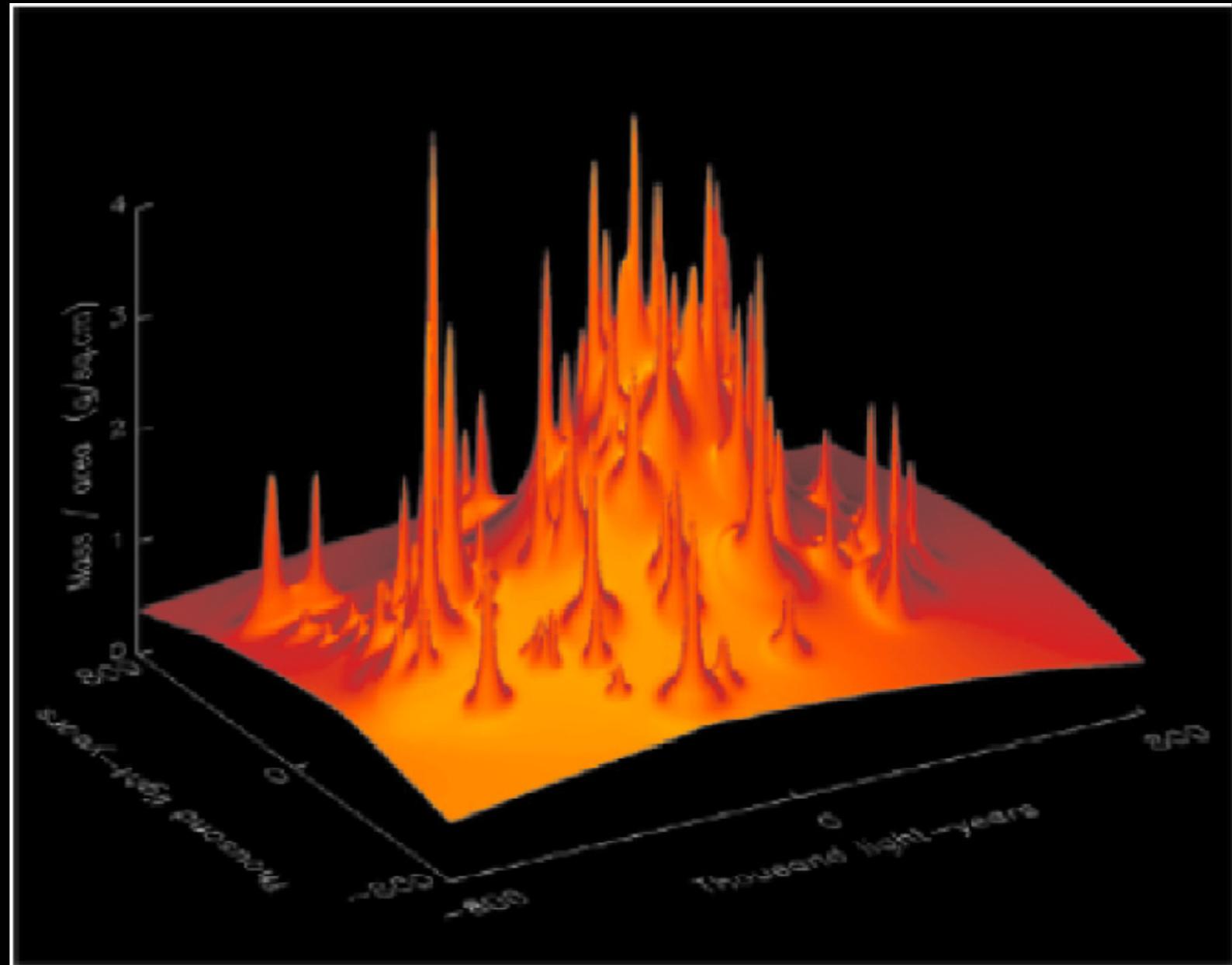
# Dark matter - evidence?

- Galaxy rotation curves
- Galaxy clusters
- Gravitational lensing



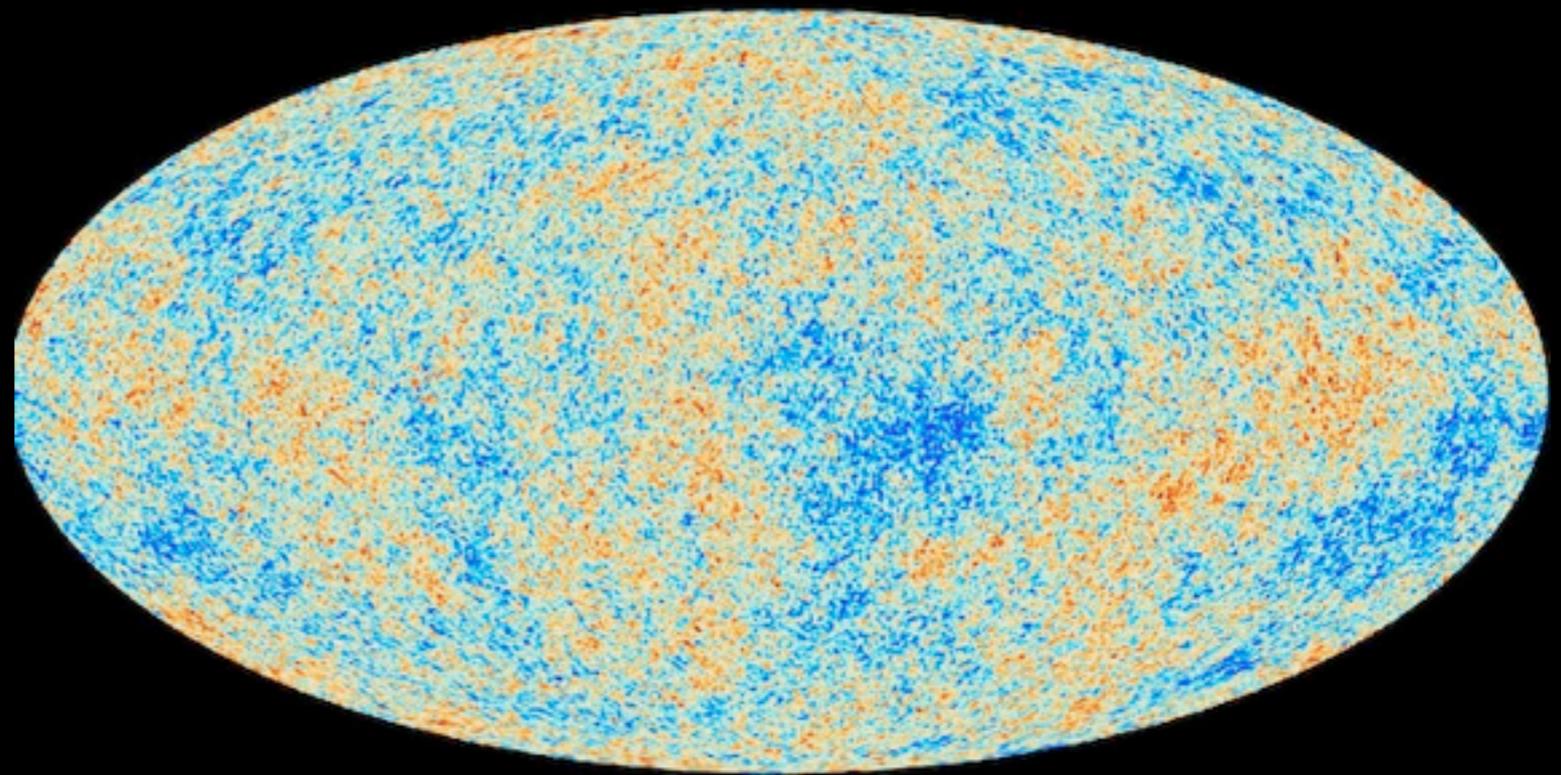
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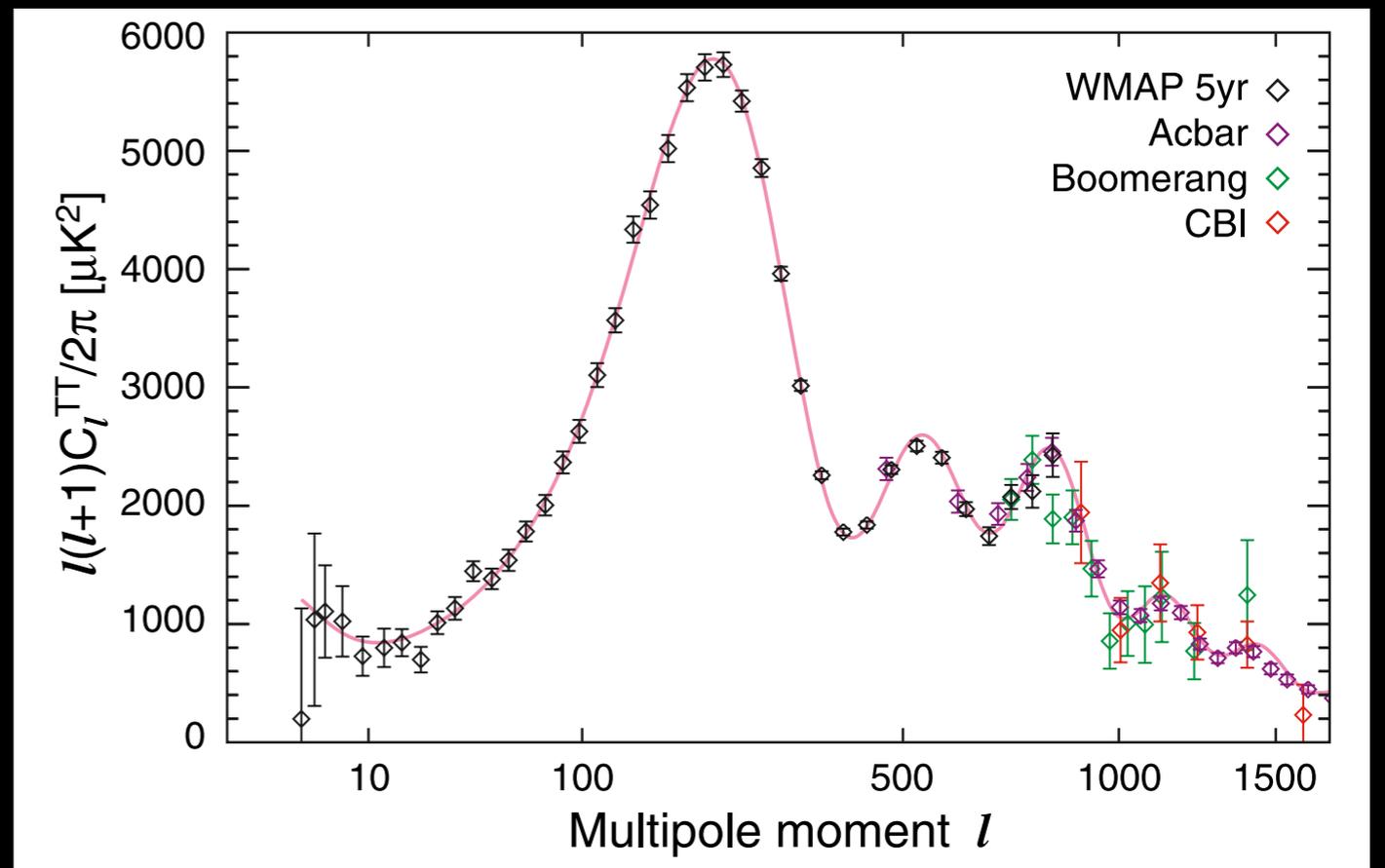
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- Galaxy rotation curves
- Galaxy clusters
- Gravitational lensing
- Cosmic microwave background



# Dark matter - evidence?

- Galaxy rotation curves
- Galaxy clusters
- Gravitational lensing
- Cosmic microwave background



# So what is it?

- We know it interacts gravitationally
- It is “dark” - should not interact with light or electromagnetism
- Nearly collisionless
- Slow

Axions

Champs

Kaluza-Klein particles

Many more

WIMPs, WIMPzillas,  
Light WIMPS

MACHOs



# So what is it?

- We know it interacts gravitationally
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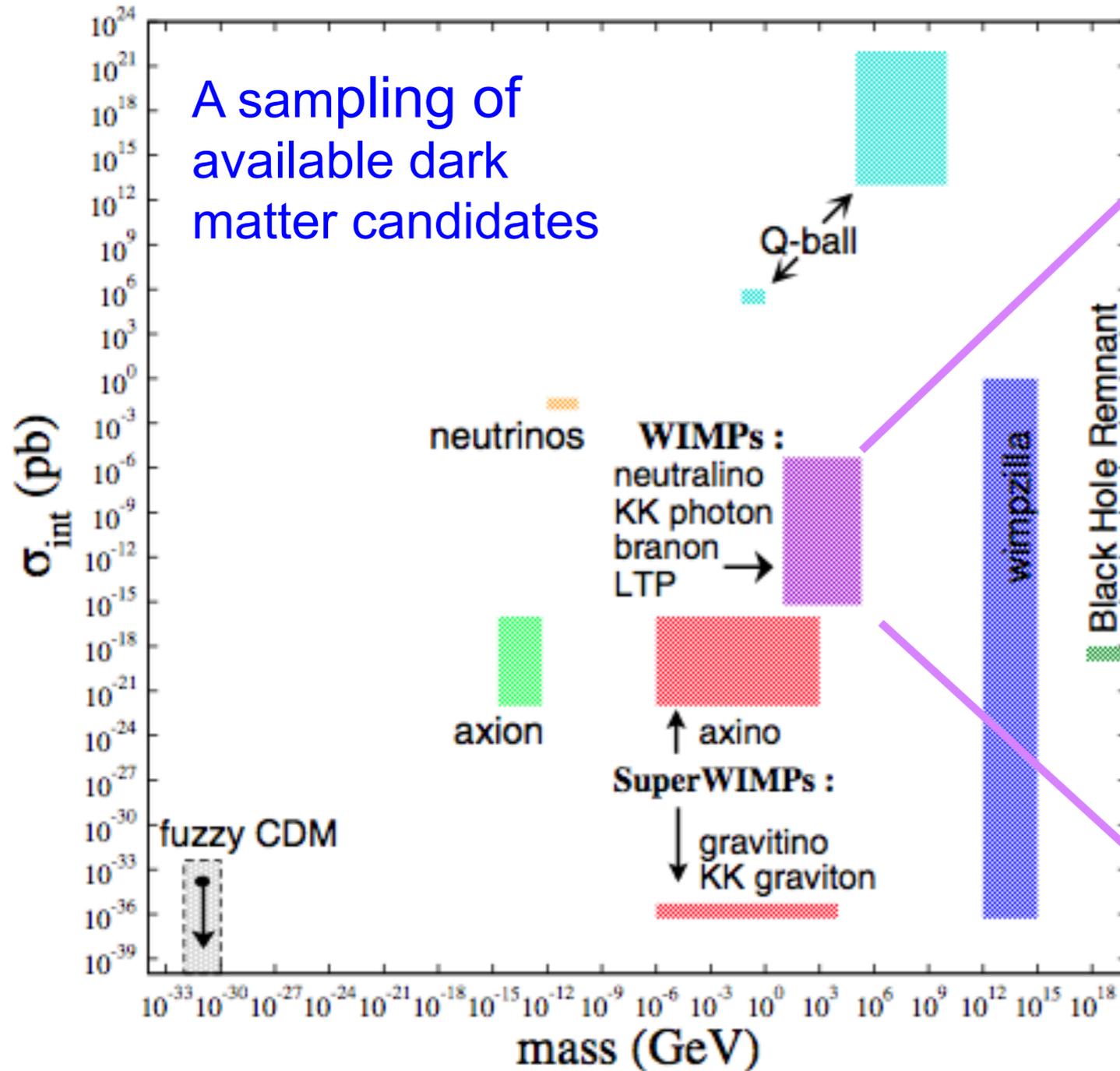
Beyond the Standard Model!



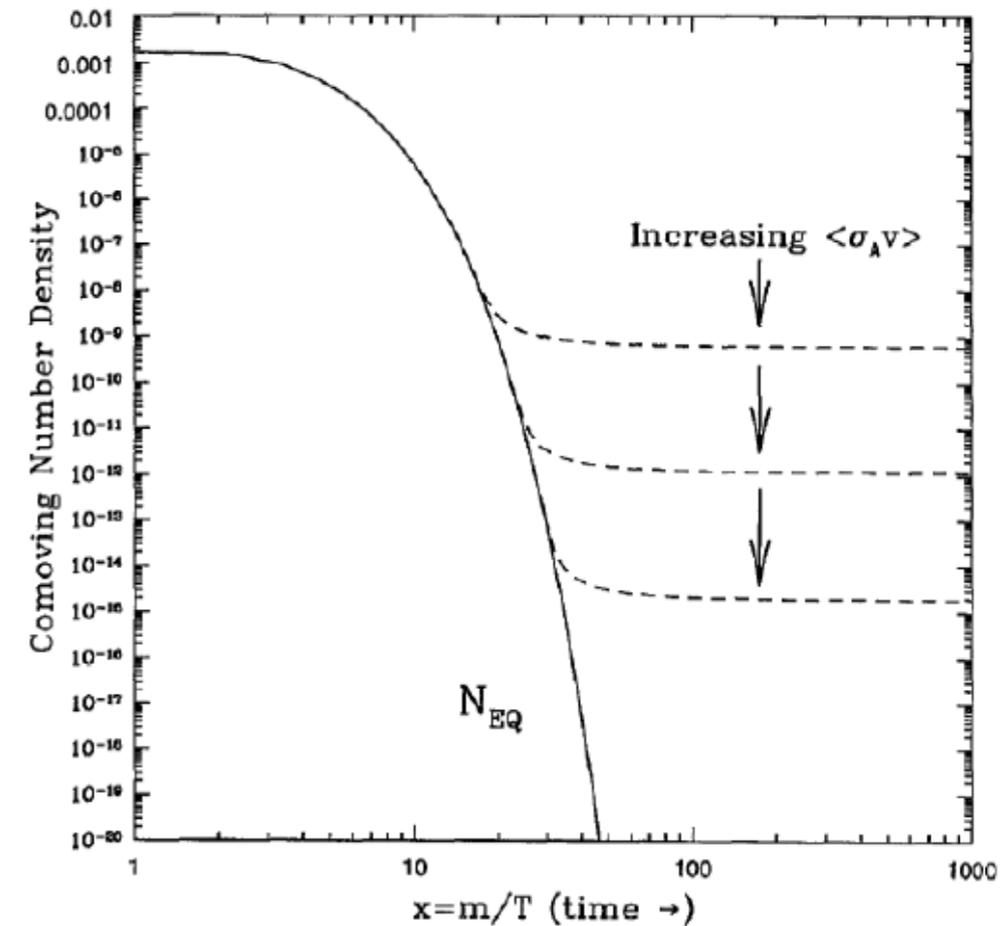
# Why Weakly Interacting Massive Particles (WIMPs)?

## Particle Physics

A sampling of available dark matter candidates



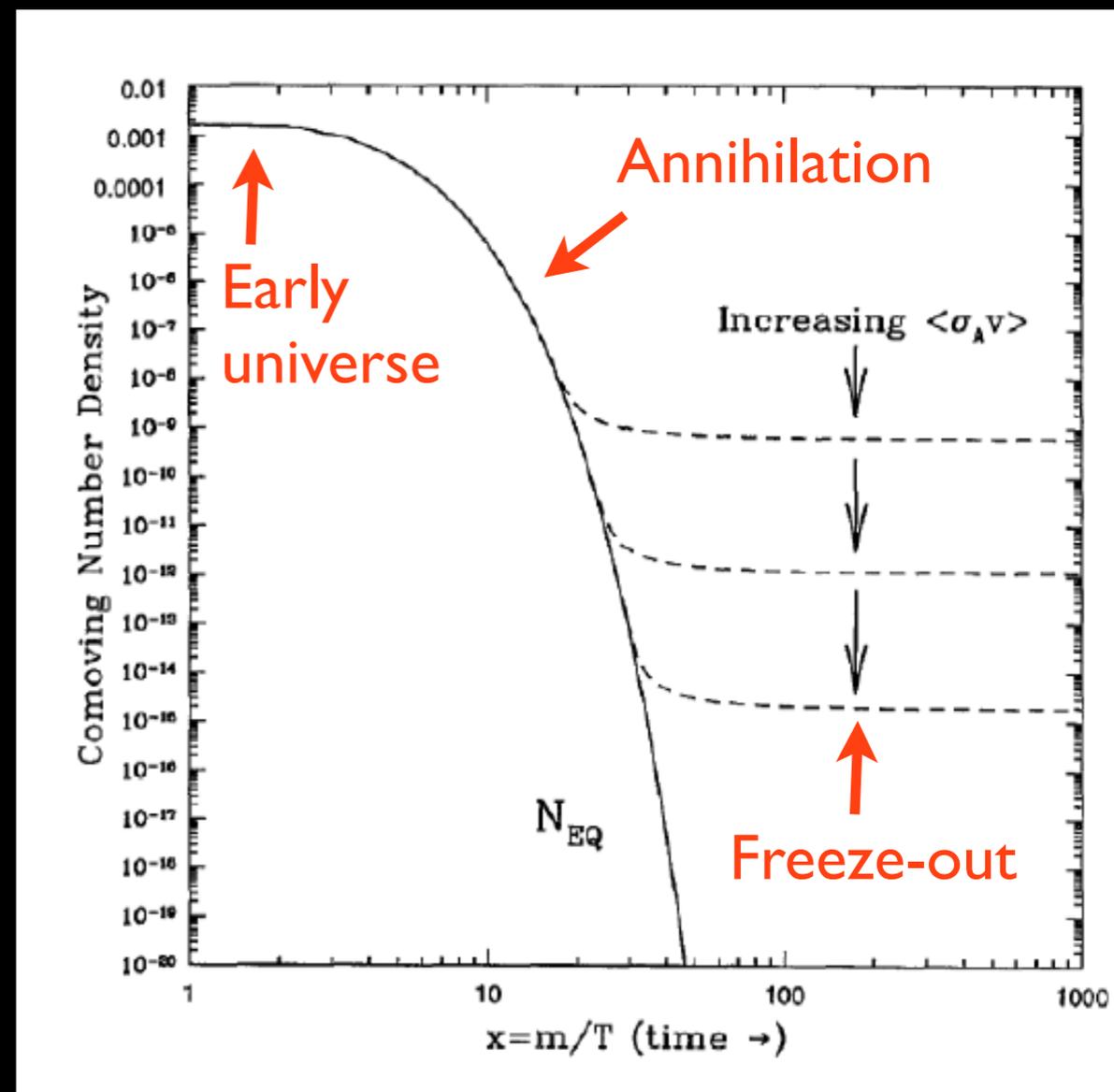
The “WIMP Miracle”



# WIMPs

- Produced during big bang
- Decouples from ordinary matter as the universe expands and cools
- From cosmology we can calculate the relic abundance of a non-relativistic species

$$\Omega_\chi h^2 = m_\chi n_\chi / \rho_c \approx \frac{3 \times 10^{-27} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}}{\langle \sigma_A v \rangle}.$$

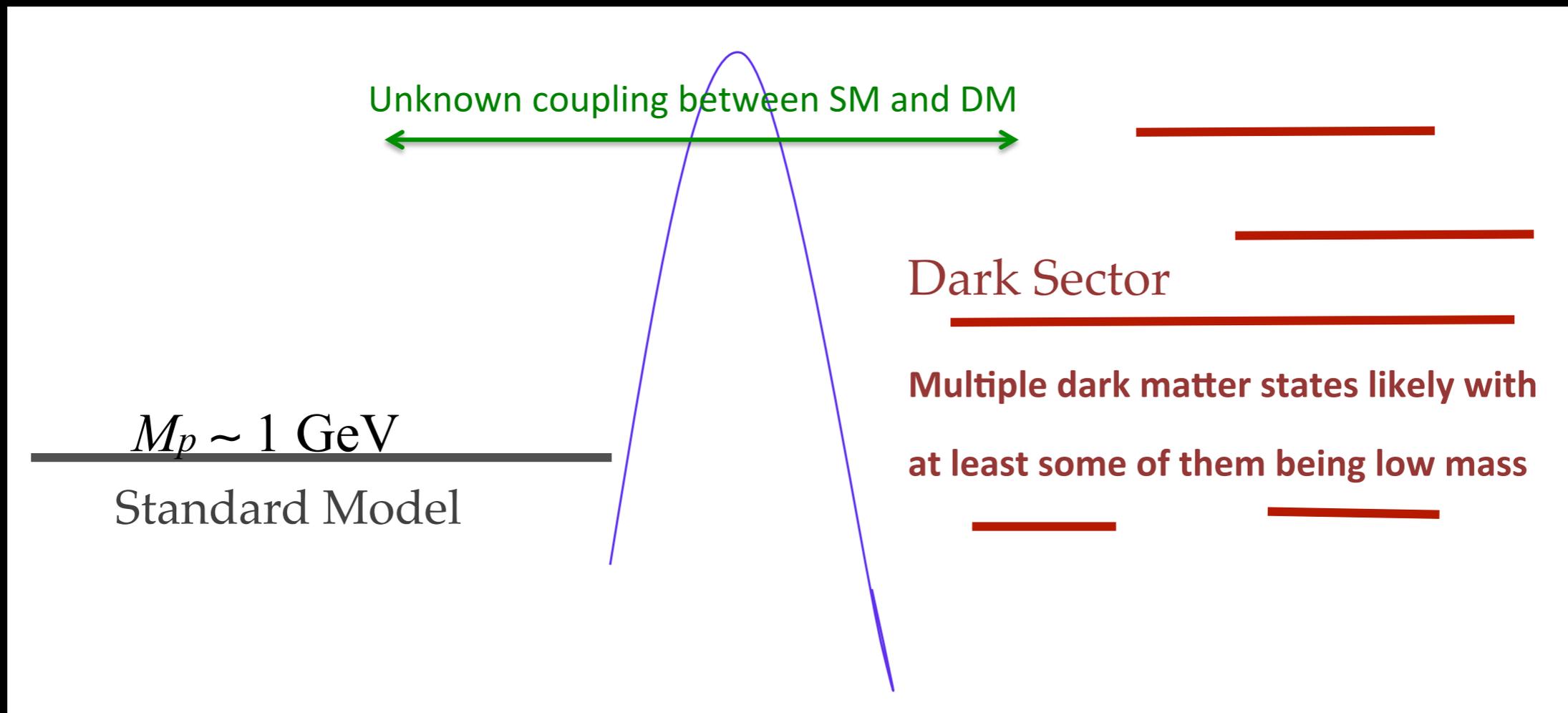


- A particle with weak scale interactions has annihilation cross section

$$\langle \sigma_A v \rangle \sim \alpha^2 (100 \text{ GeV}^{-2}) \sim 10^{-25} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}.$$

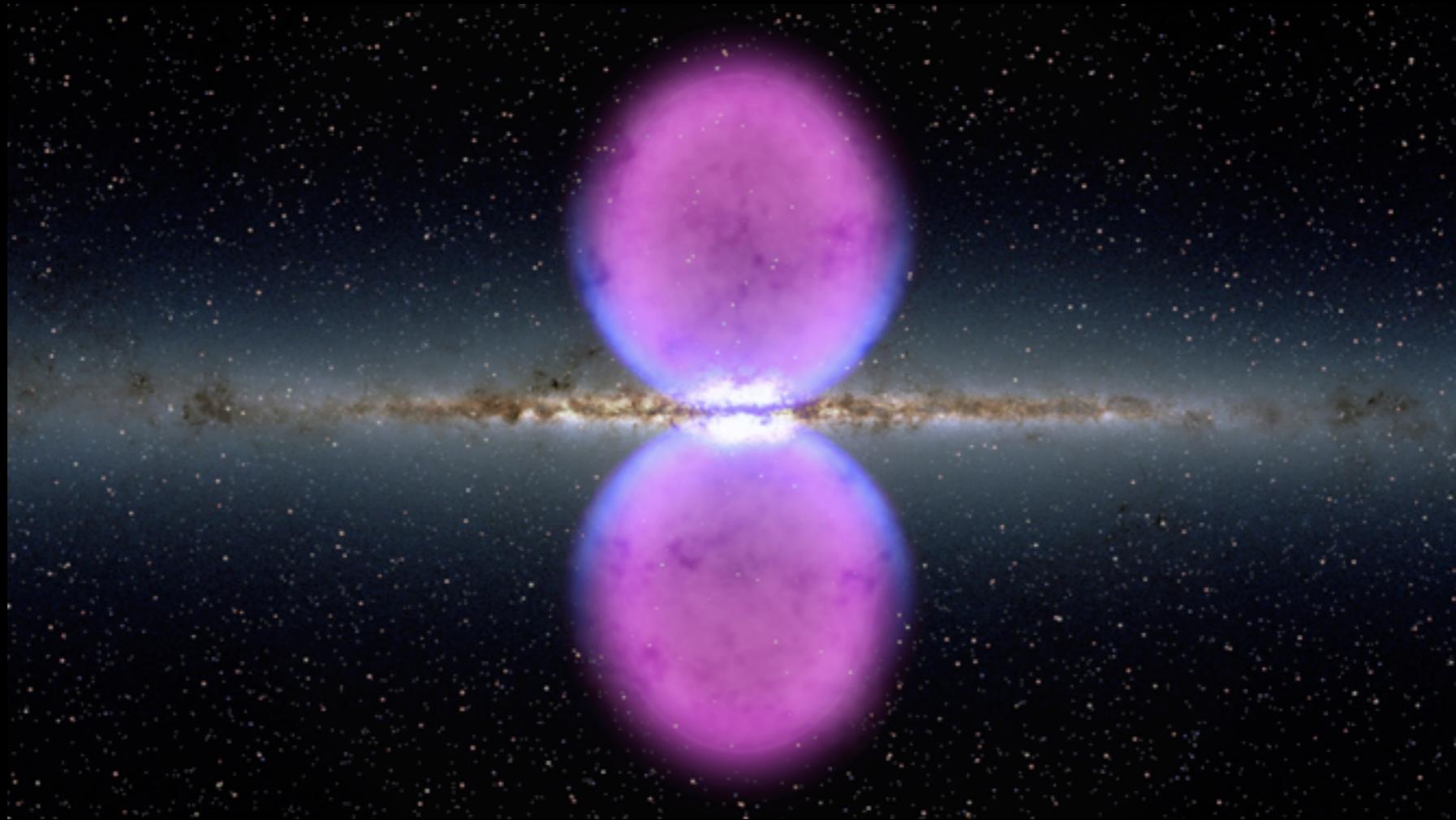
# WIMPs not necessarily related to supersymmetry

- Dark sector could be as complicated as standard model
- Searches not limited by expectations from SUSY models



# How do we find it?

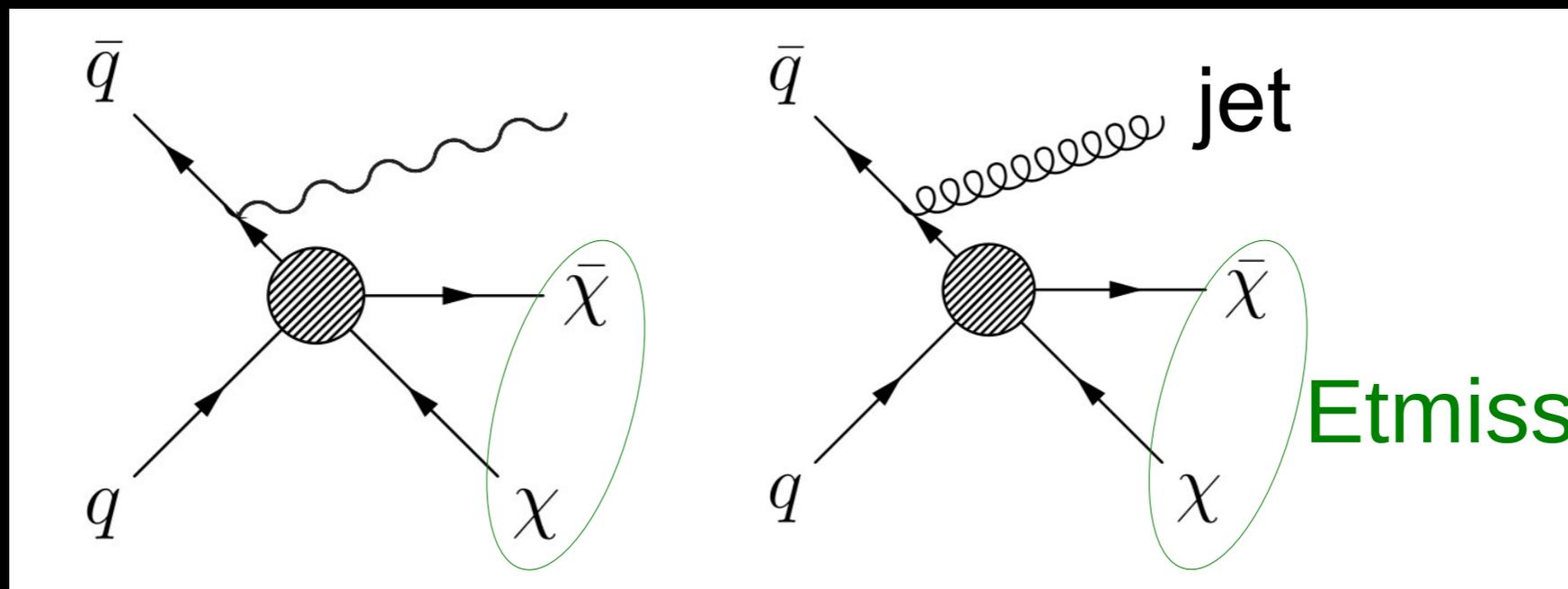
- Indirect - detect annihilation products from regions of high density like the sun or the center of the galaxy



Fermi bubbles, courtesy of NASA

# How do we find it?

- Indirect - detect annihilation products from regions of high density like the sun or the center of the galaxy
- Accelerators - create a WIMP at the LHC
- Missing ET and monojet searches



# How do we find it?

- Indirect - detect annihilation products from regions of high density like the sun or the center of the galaxy
- Accelerators - create a WIMP at the LHC
  - Missing ET and monojet searches
- Direct detection - WIMPs can scatter elastically with nuclei and the recoil can be detected

# Direct Detection

- Can calculate an interaction rate from first principles and some assumptions about the dark matter distribution and interaction
- Two main interactions are considered (other terms tend to be suppressed)
  - Spin independent (SI) - couples to all nucleons
    - In low momentum transfer, this is coherent across the nucleus, providing an enhancement for large nuclei
  - Spin dependent (SD) - couples to the spin of the nucleon (requires unpaired spin in the nucleus)
    - Interactions with individual nucleons, no enhancement factor

# Rate calculation

- ▶ The differential cross section (for spin-independent interactions) in events/kg/keV mass per unit recoil energy is

$$\frac{dR}{dQ} = \frac{\rho_0}{m_\chi} \times \frac{\sigma_0 A^2}{2\mu_p^2} \times F^2(Q) \times \int_{v_m} \frac{f(v)}{v} dv \quad (3)$$

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- ▶ The unknown particle physics component  $\sigma_0$  (where  $\mu_p = m_p m_\chi / (m_p + m_\chi)$  is the reduced mass of the proton)
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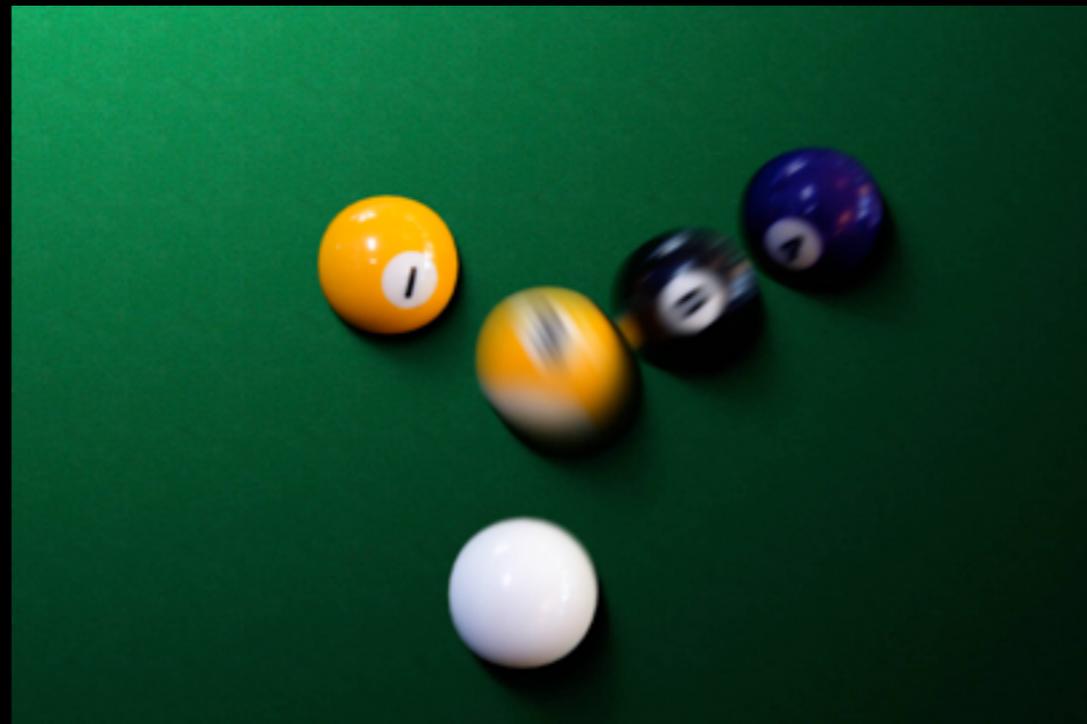
$$\frac{dR}{dQ} = \frac{\rho_0}{m_\chi} \times \frac{\sigma_0 A^2}{2\mu_p^2} \times F^2(Q) \times \int_{v_m} \frac{f(v)}{v} dv \quad (3)$$

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- ▶ The velocity distribution of dark matter in the galaxy - of order 30% uncertainty (not-statistical), and  $v_m = \sqrt{Qm_N/2m_r^2}$  (here  $m_r = m_N m_\chi / (m_N + m_\chi)$  is the reduced mass of the nucleus)

# The energy scale

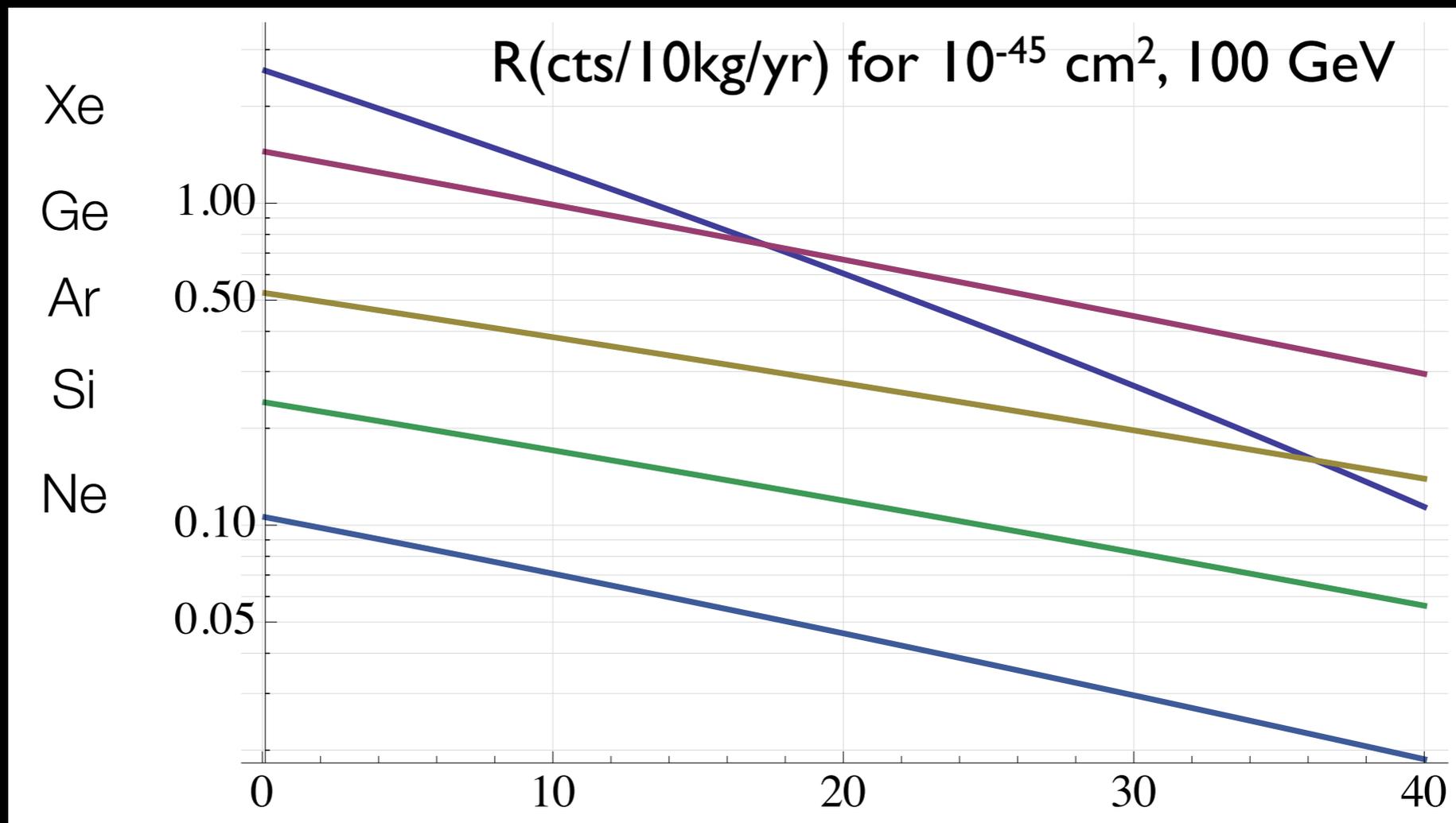
- Energy of recoils is tens of keV
- Entirely driven by kinematics, elastic scattering of things with approximately similar masses (100 GeV) and  $v \sim 0.001c$

$$\frac{1}{2}m_N v_N^2 = \frac{1}{2} \times 100 \text{ GeV} \times 10^{-6} = 50 \text{ keV}$$



# How do we find it?

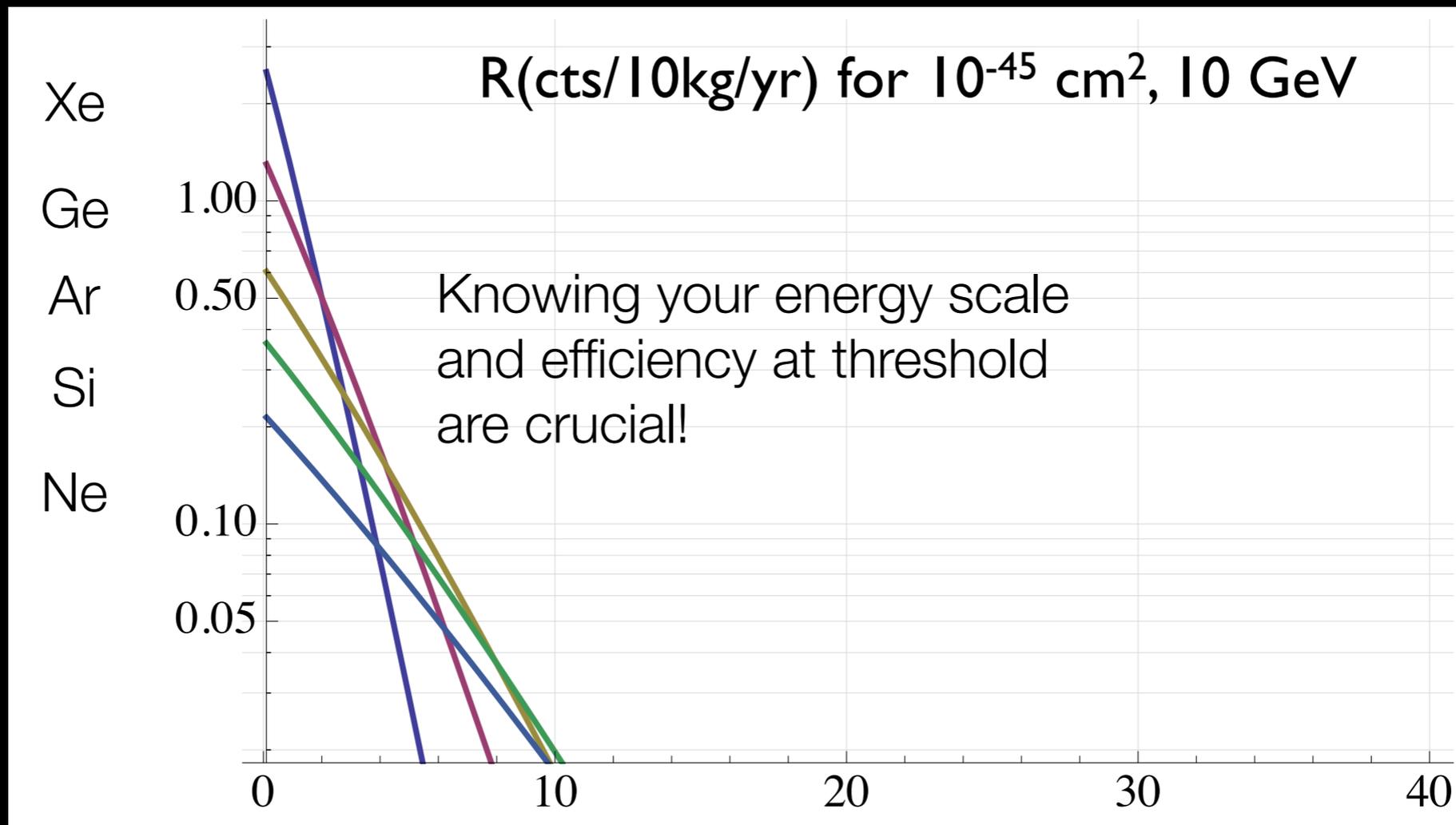
- Very low rate process ( $\sim$ events/year)



- Rate depends crucially on WIMP mass and threshold

# How do we find it?

- Very low rate process ( $\sim$ events/year)

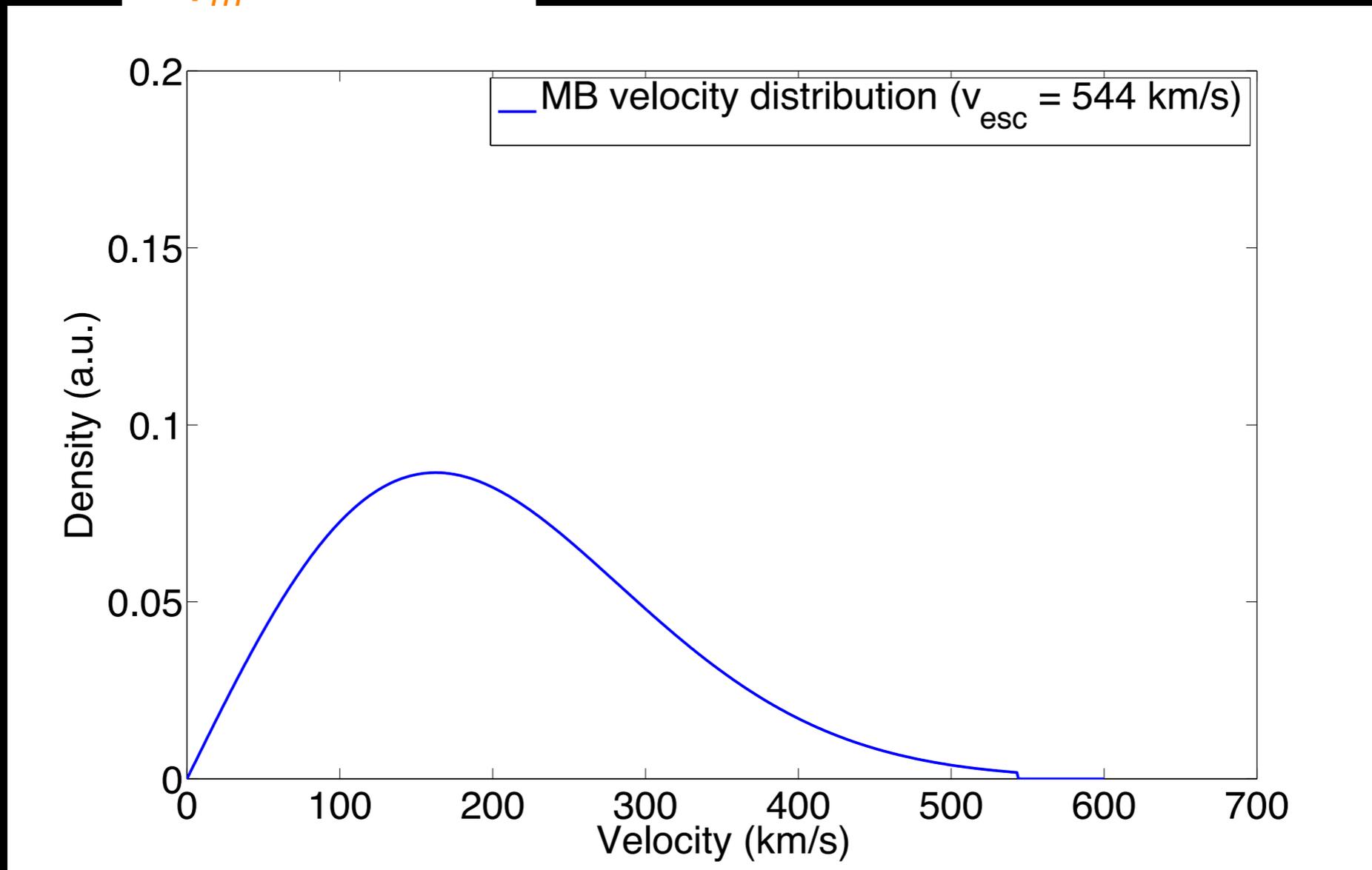


- Rate depends crucially on WIMP mass and threshold

# Much of that dependence comes through velocity distribution

$$\int_{v_m} \frac{f(v)}{v} dv$$

$$v_m = \sqrt{Qm_N/2m_r^2}$$

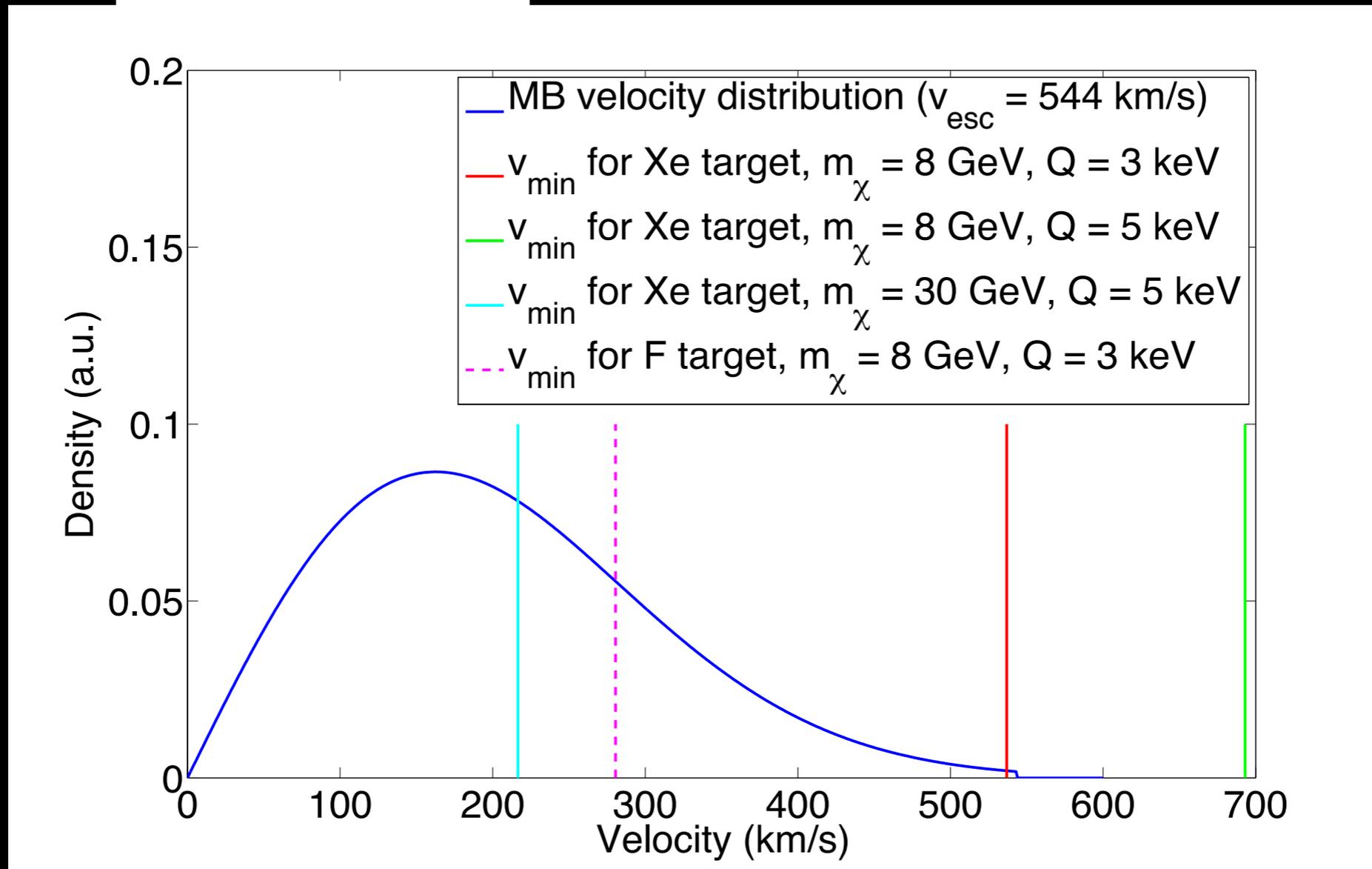


- $v_{\text{esc}}$  - speed above which WIMPs are no longer bound (currently taken to be 544 km/s)

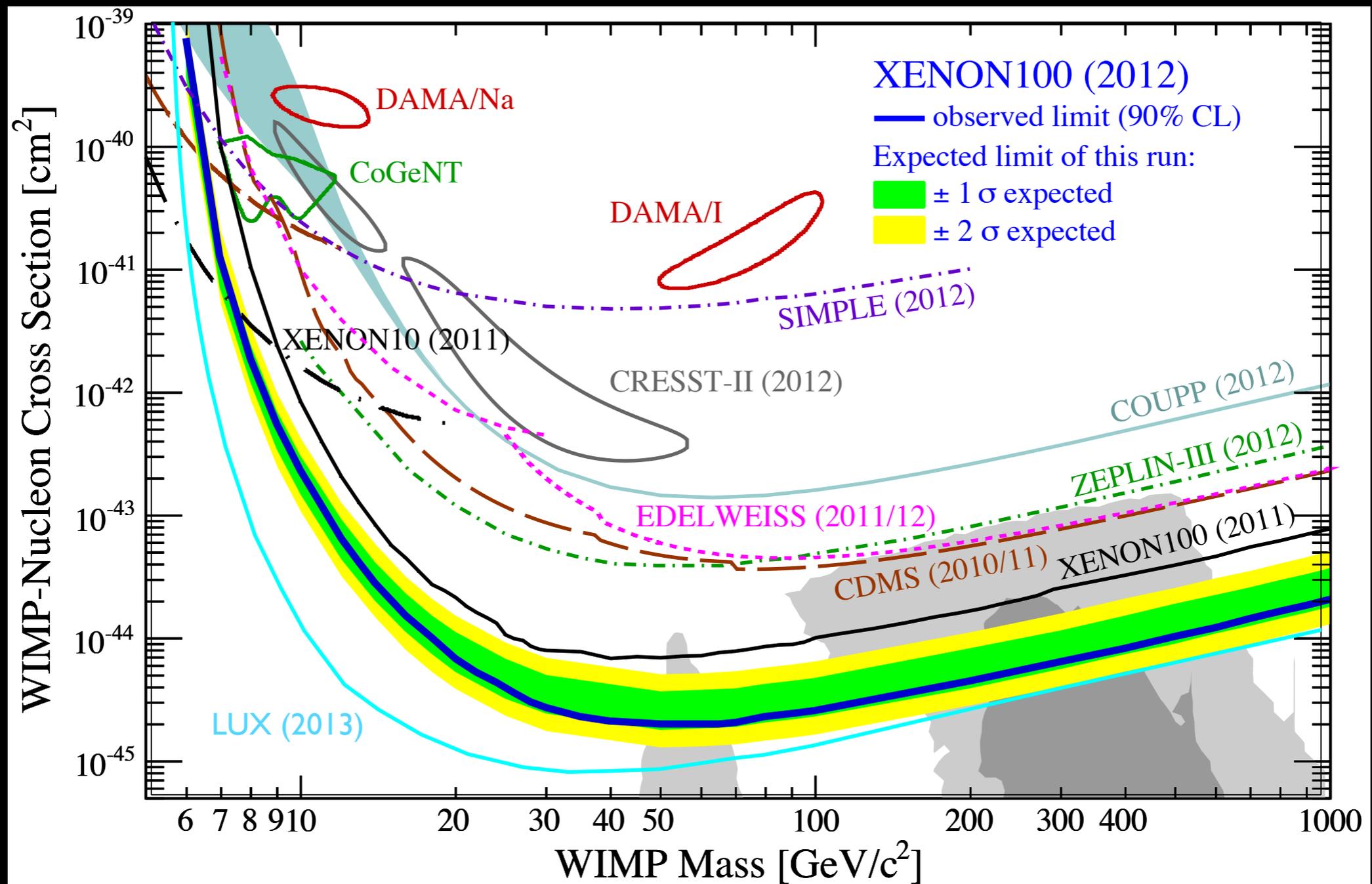
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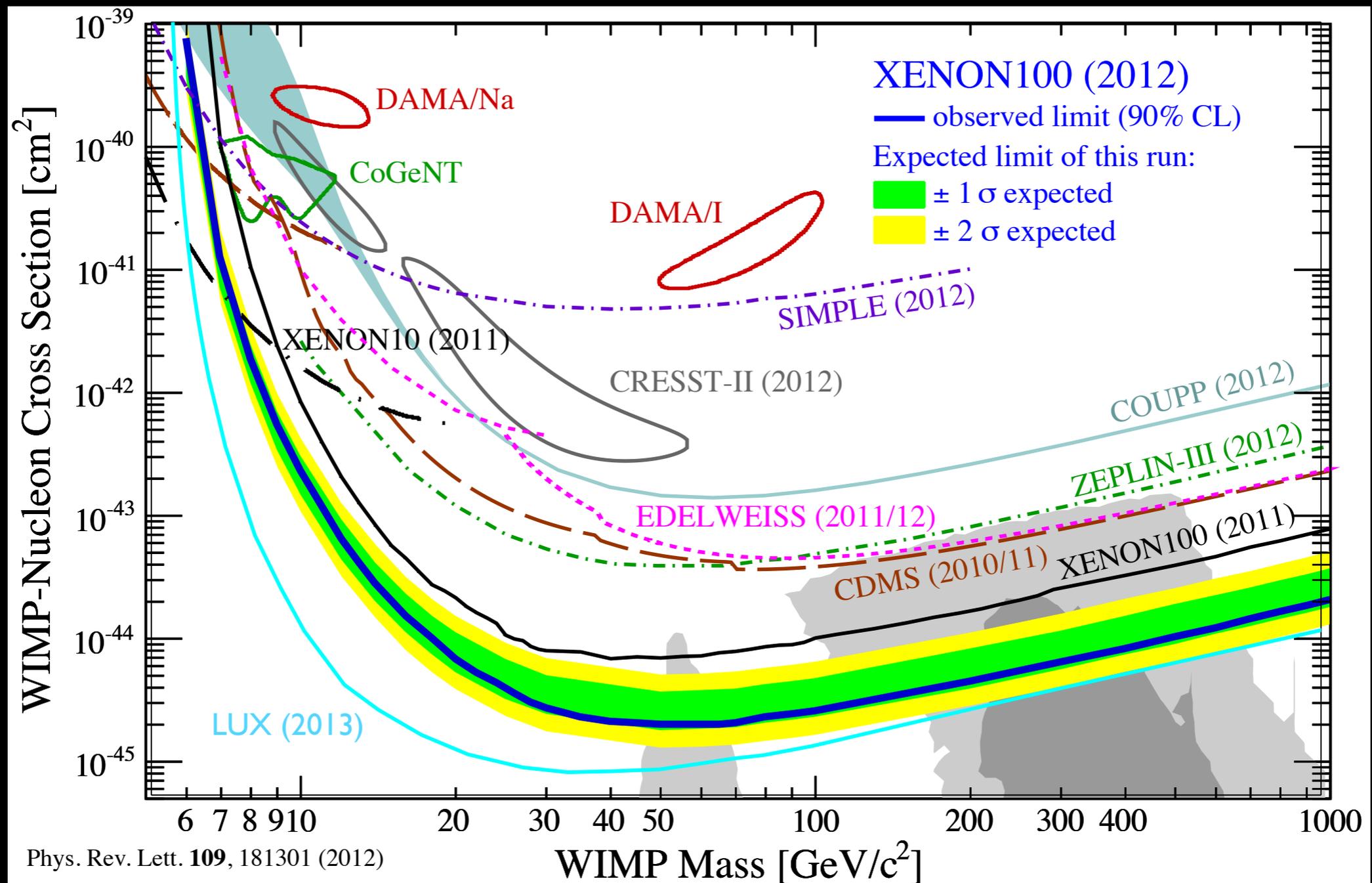


# The canonical plot



- Limited at low mass by detector threshold and kinematics
- Limited at high mass by density

# The canonical plot



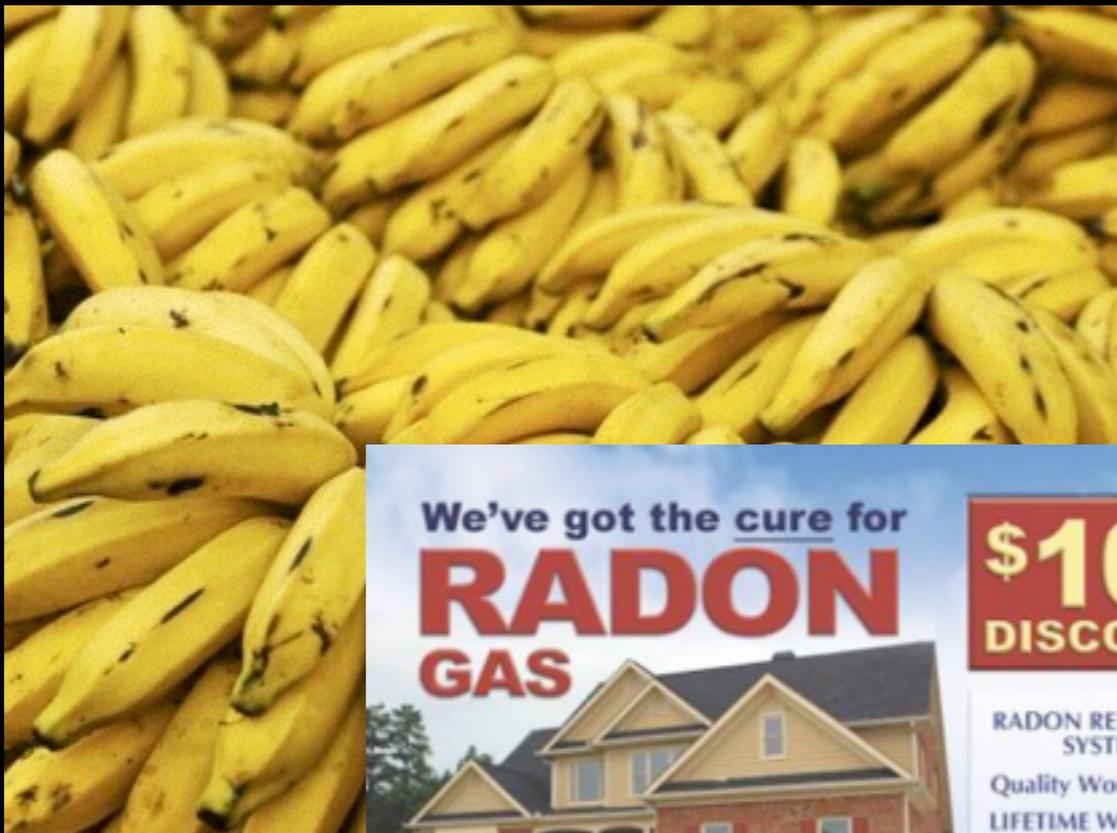
- What happened to “weakly” interacting?
- Mediation via Z was excluded long ago ( $\sim 10^{-39} \text{ cm}^2$ ), but only now are we probing Higgs exchange

# So we look for WIMPs

- A few hundred just passed through us, and we might expect a handful of counts in a detector per year

# So we look for WIMPs

- A few hundred just passed through us, and we might expect a handful of counts in a detector per year
- The problem is that background radioactivity is **everywhere!**



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**1-800-420-3881**



100 events/second/kg =  
3,000,000,000,000 events/year  
in a ton-scale experiment

# Backgrounds!



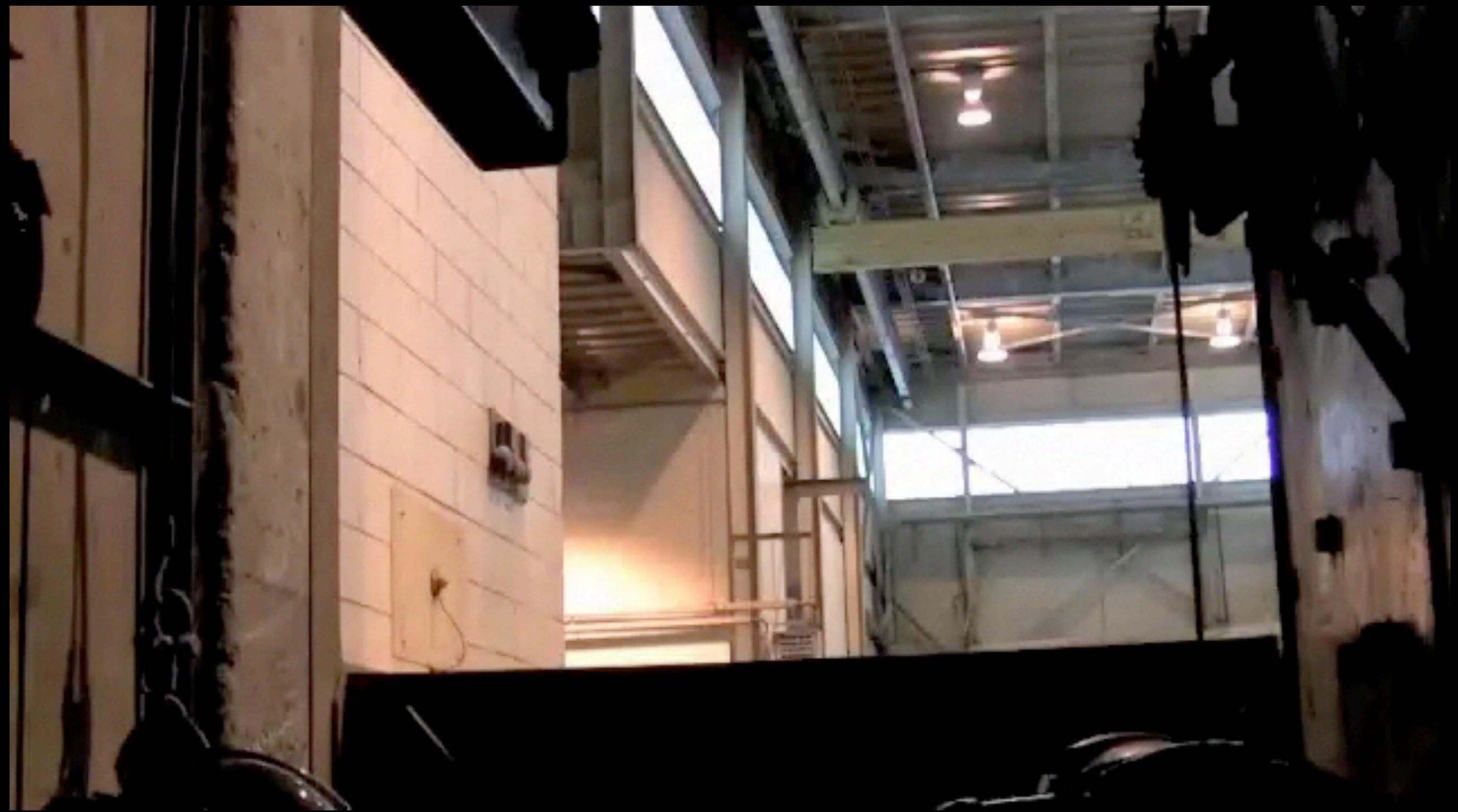
# Background sources

- Cosmic rays are constantly streaming through
- All experiments have to go underground to get away from cosmic rays



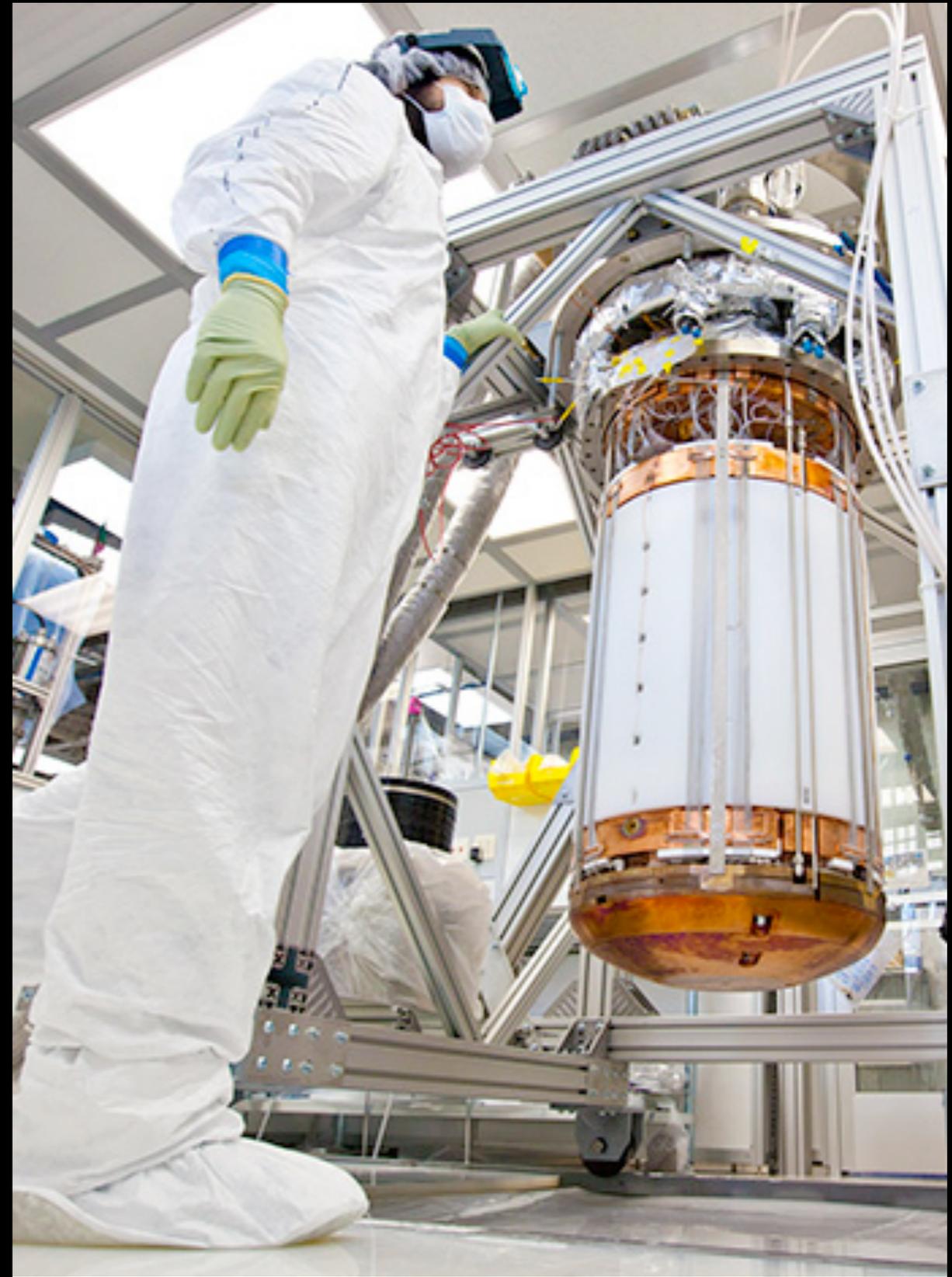
**SNOLAB**  
MINING FOR KNOWLEDGE  
CREUSER POUR PROUVER... L'EXCELLENCE





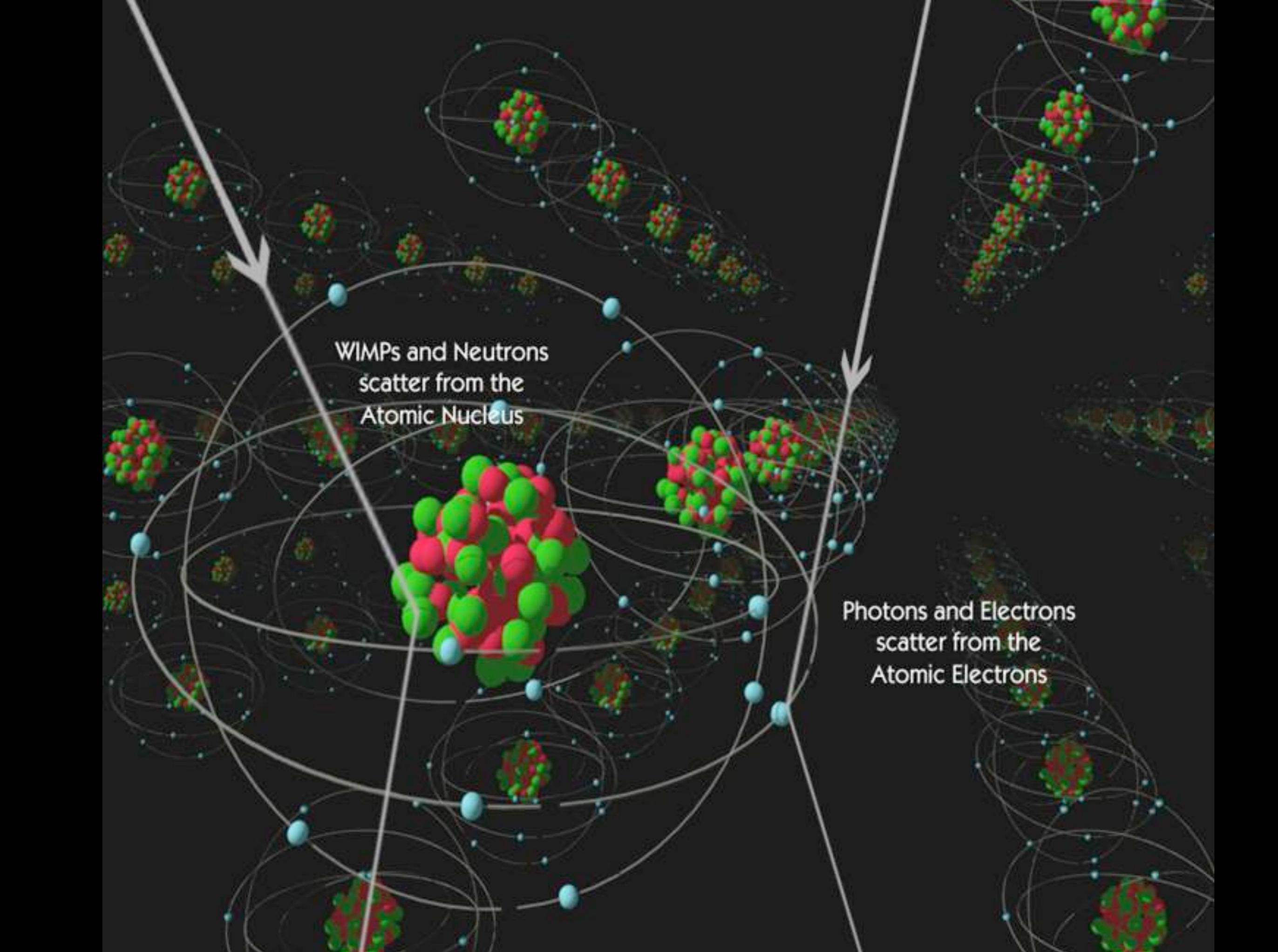
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# Background sources

- Cosmic rays are constantly streaming through
  - All experiments have to go underground to get away from cosmic rays
- Radioactive contaminants - rock, radon in air, impurities
  - Emphasis on purification and shielding
- The detector itself - steel, glass, detector components
  - Self-shielding to leave a clean inner region
  - Discrimination - can you tell signal from background (gamma rays, alphas, neutrons, etc)?

A diagram illustrating particle scattering in atoms. It features several atoms with central nuclei (red and green spheres) and orbiting electrons (blue spheres). Two white arrows point towards the atoms from the top. The left arrow is labeled 'WIMPs and Neutrons scatter from the Atomic Nucleus' and is deflected by the central nucleus. The right arrow is labeled 'Photons and Electrons scatter from the Atomic Electrons' and is deflected by the electron cloud. The background is dark grey.

WIMPs and Neutrons  
scatter from the  
Atomic Nucleus

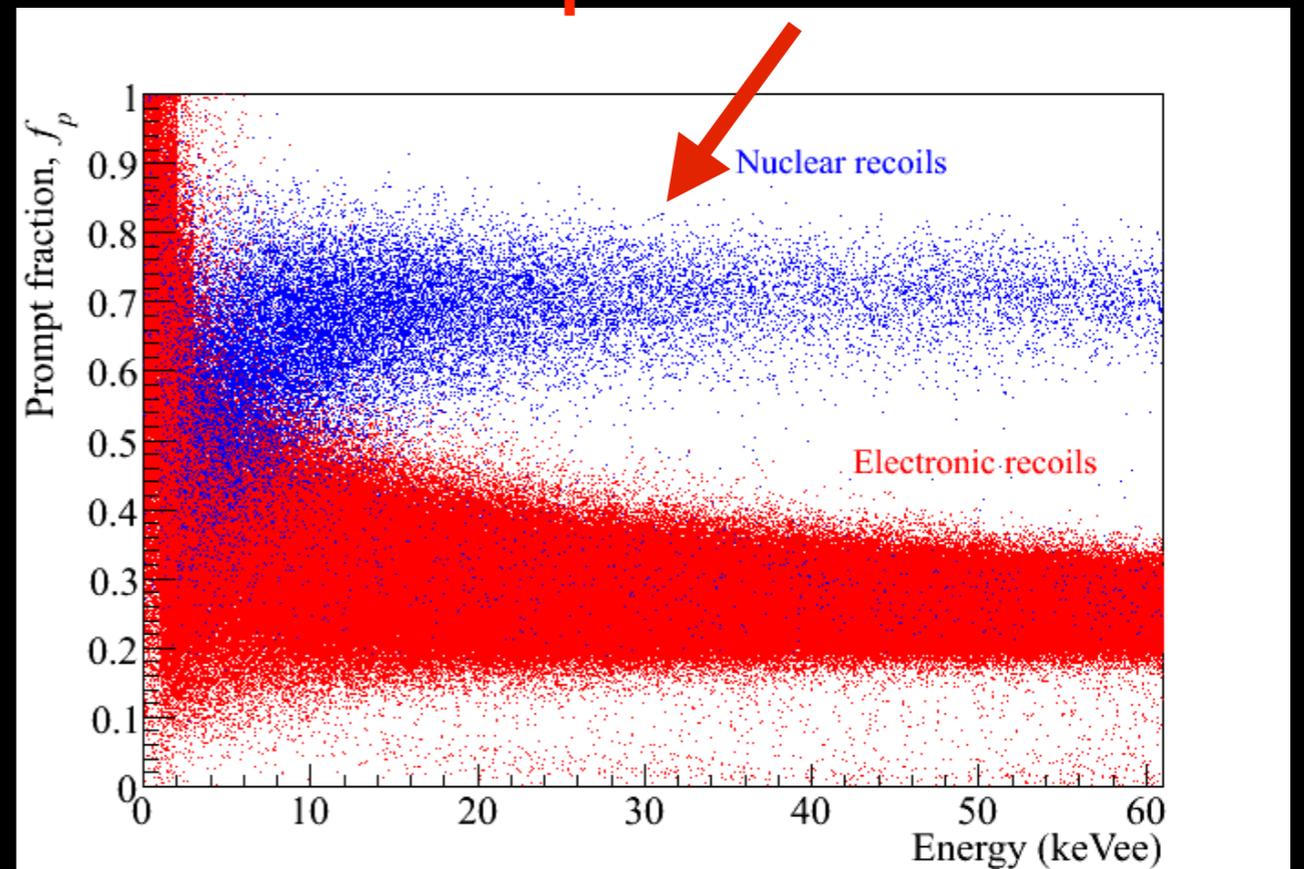
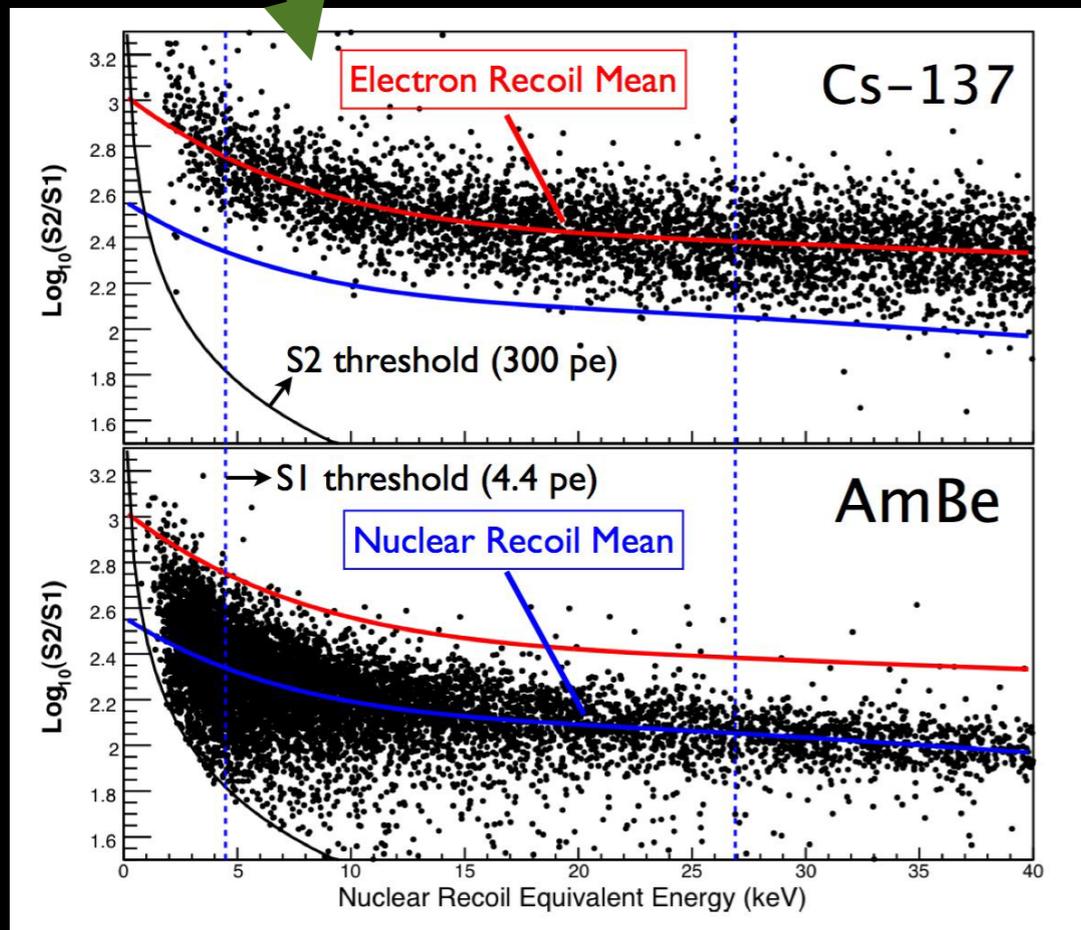
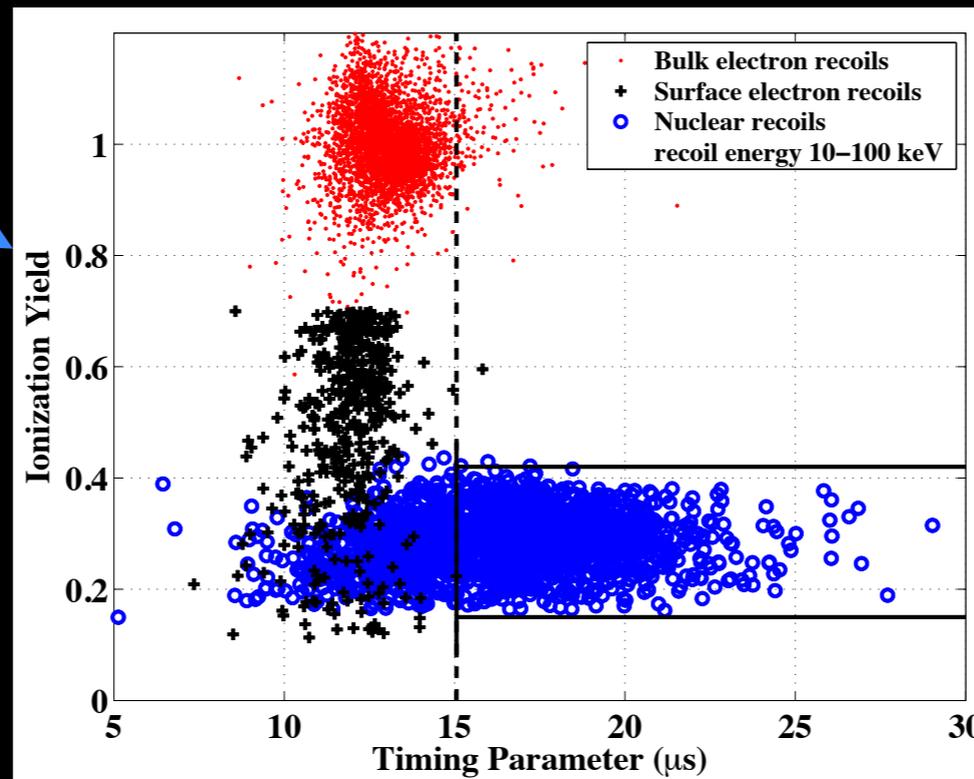
Photons and Electrons  
scatter from the  
Atomic Electrons

CDMS - Charge to heat

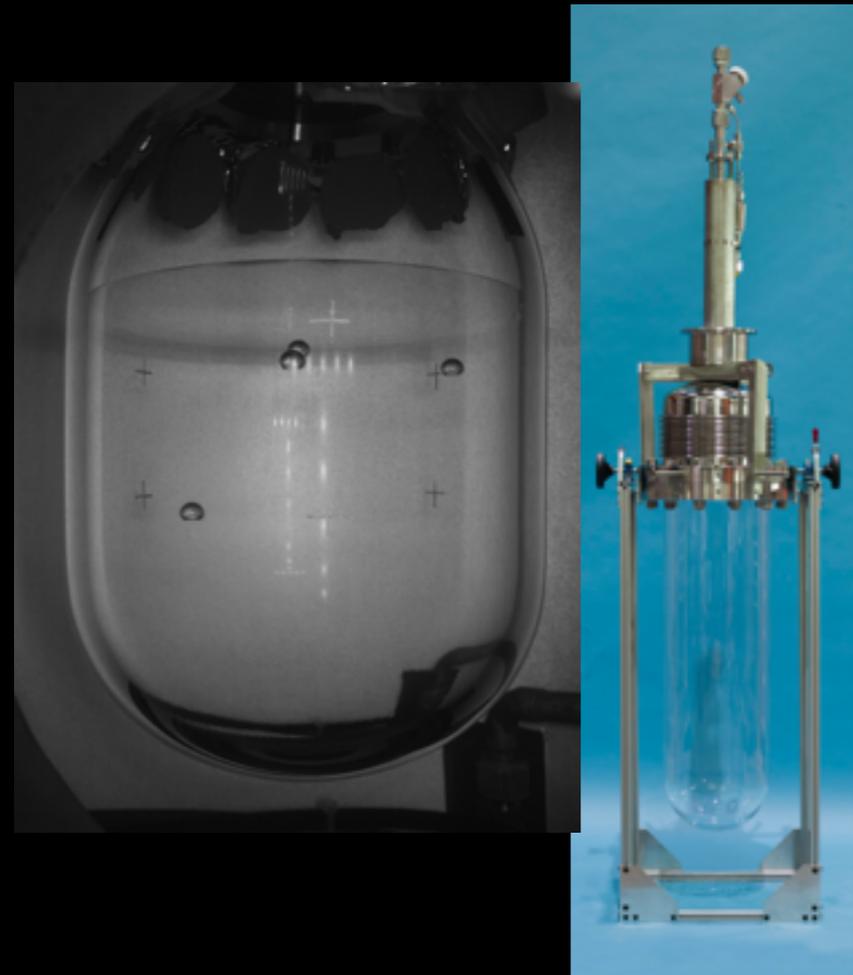
Xenon TPCs - Charge to light

Electronic recoils (gammas) vs. nuclear recoils (WIMPs)

Argon - Pulse shape discrimination



# Direct searches (non exhaustive)



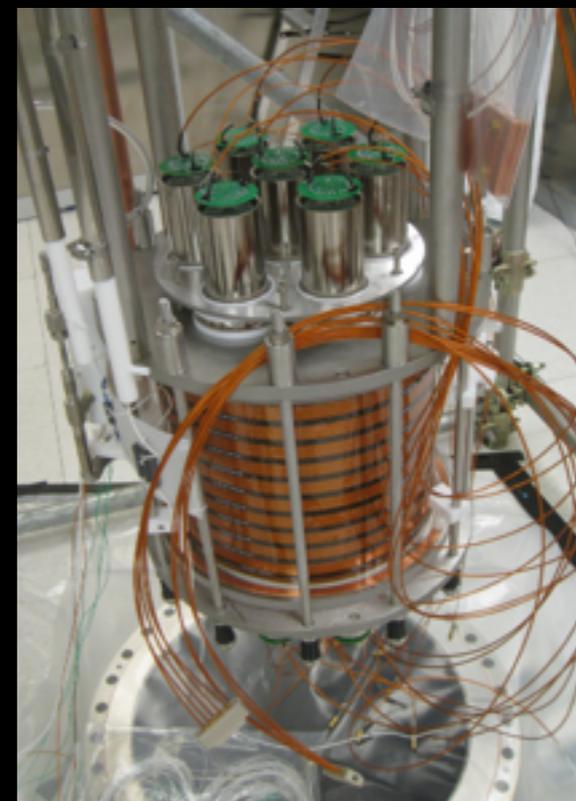
COUPP/PICO  
Bubble chambers



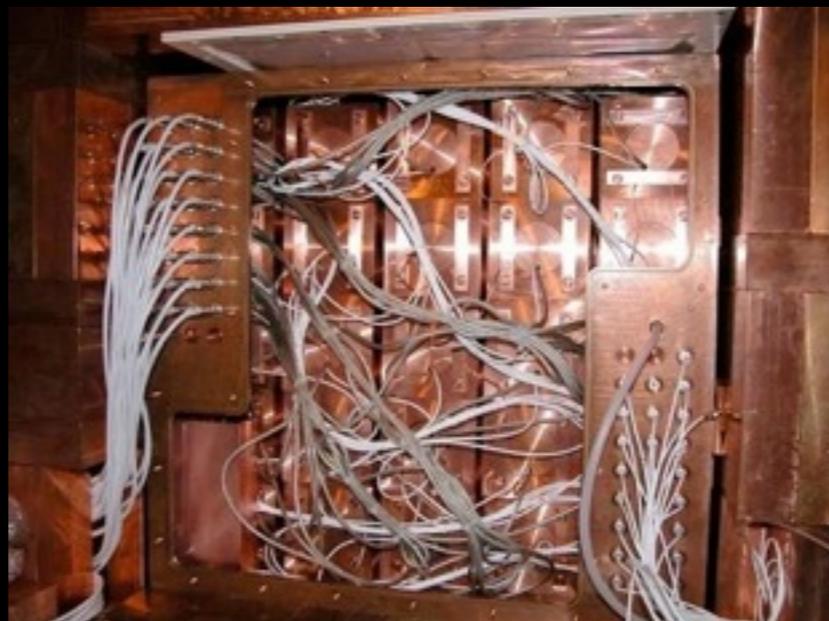
DAMIC  
CCDs (from DECcam)



LUX/Xenon  
Xenon TPC



DarkSide  
Argon TPC



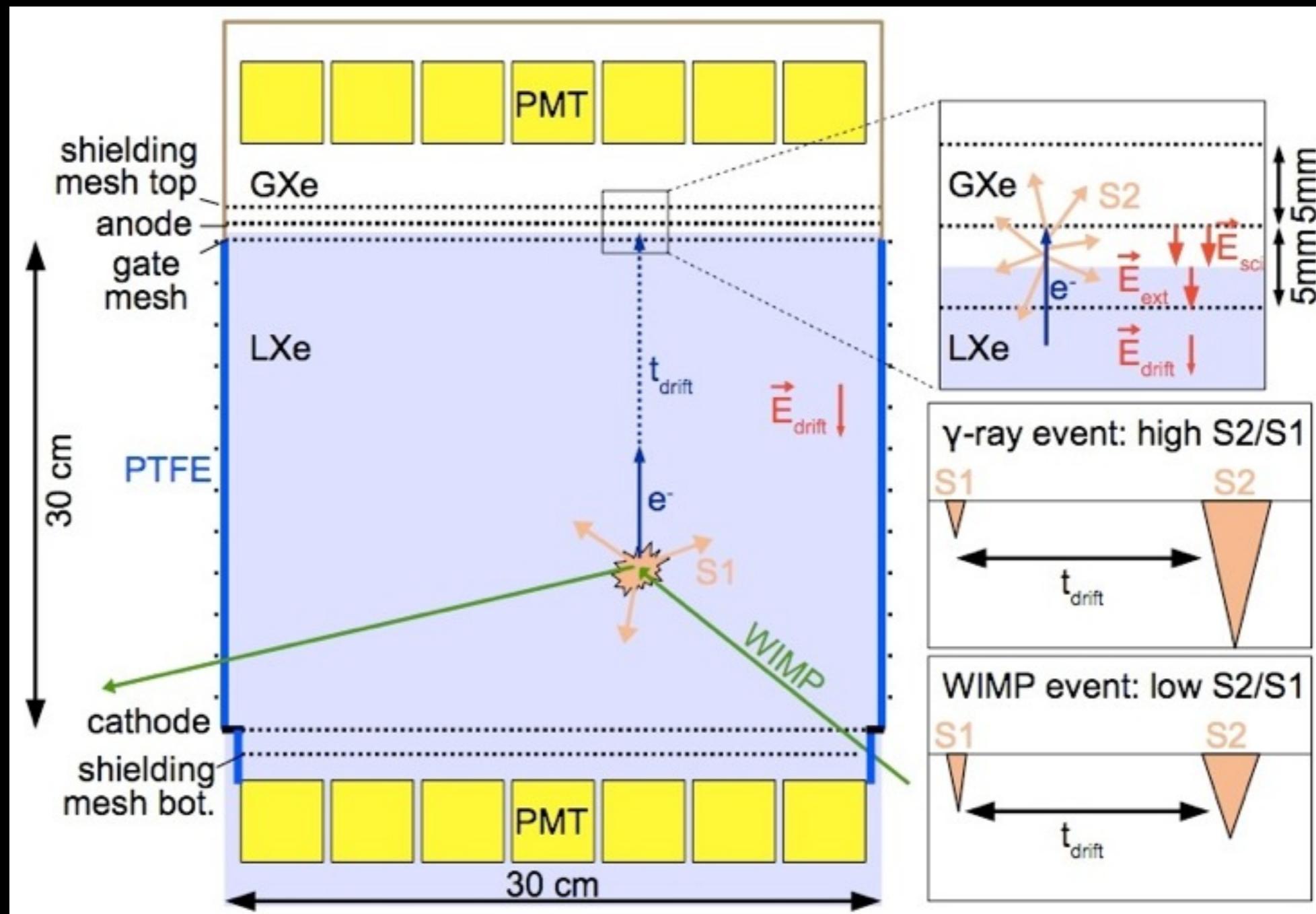
DAMA NaI



CDMS and CoGeNT  
Cryogenic Germanium

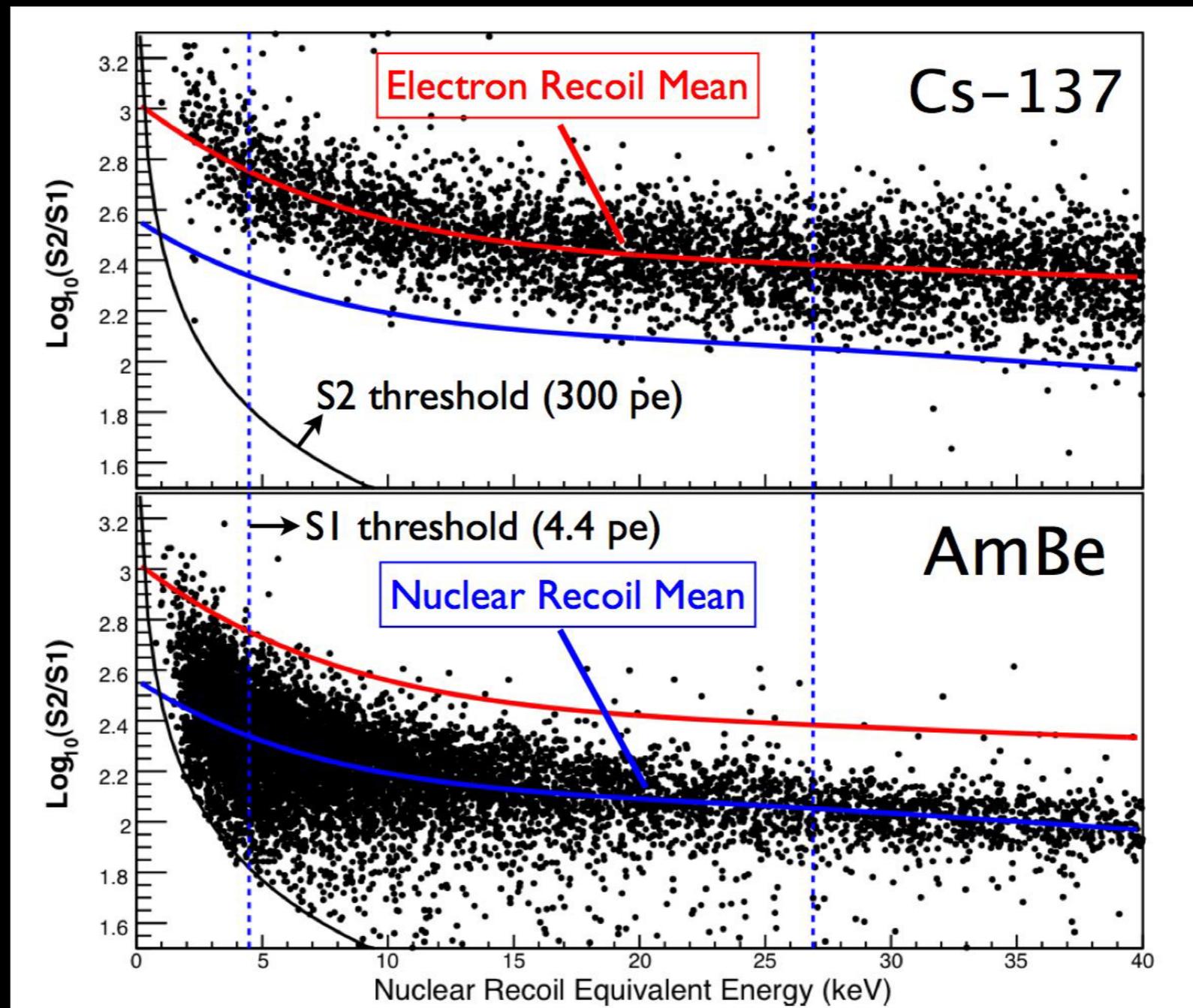
# Xenon and LUX/LZ

- Liquid xenon TPCs - collect light and scintillation light released by energy deposition in the liquid
- Fragments of Xenon10 - Xenon100/IT in Italy, LUX/LZ in South Dakota



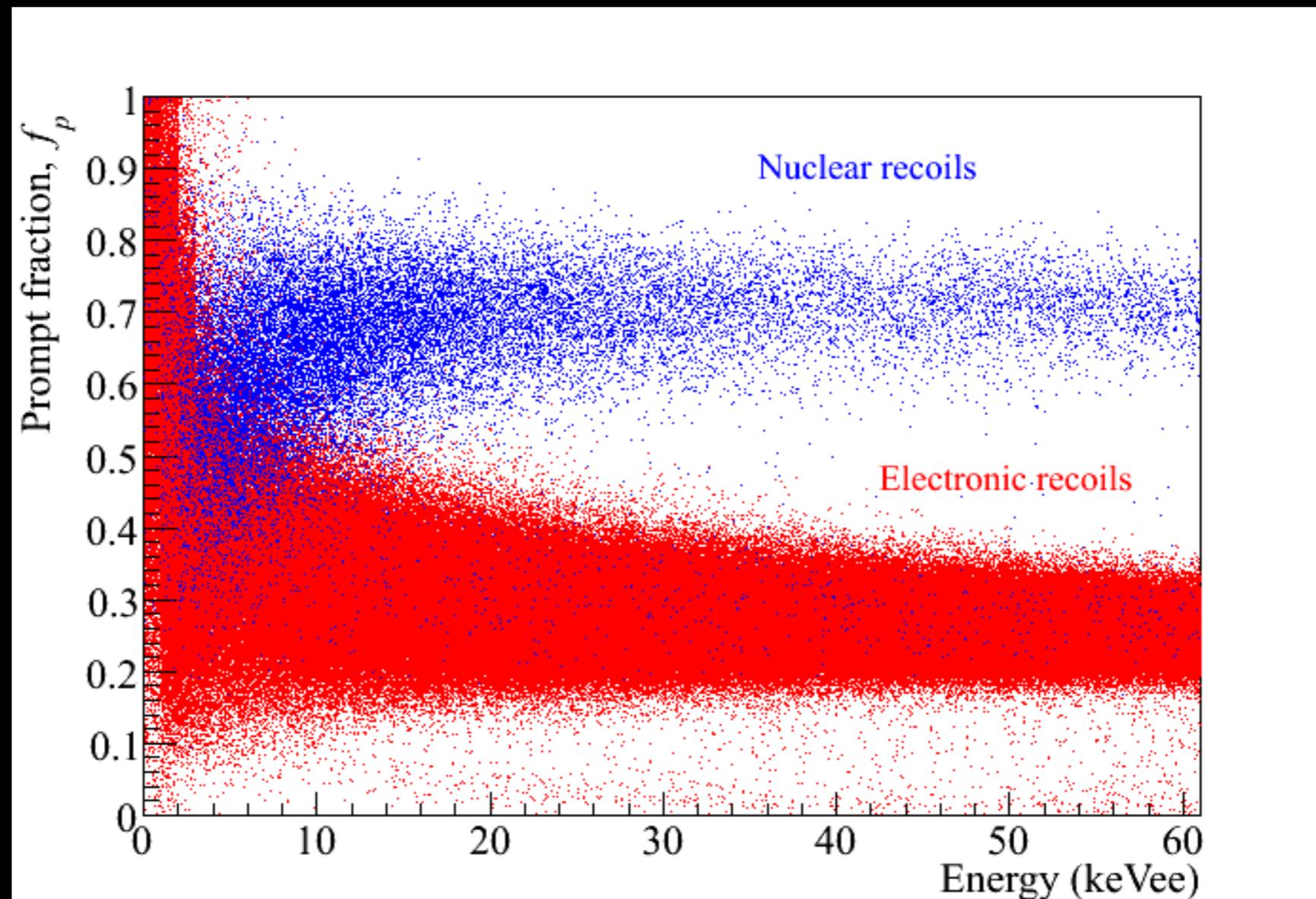
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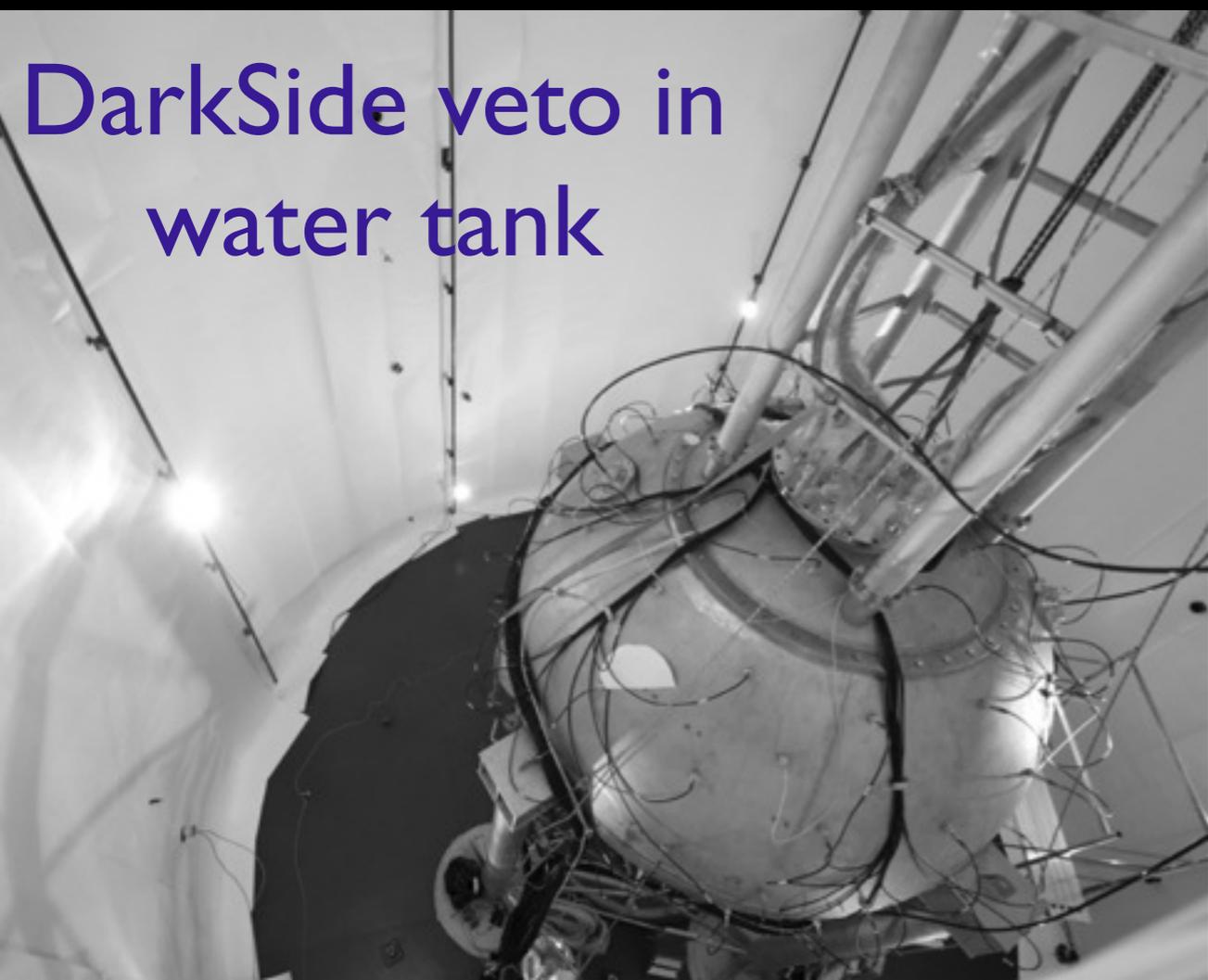
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# Argon detectors

- DarkSide, the dominant liquid argon experiment in the US - same idea as Xenon TPCs
- DEAP/CLEAN (DEAP3600, MiniCLEAN) - Single phase - just collect the light - American and Canadian versions in the same room at SNOLAB

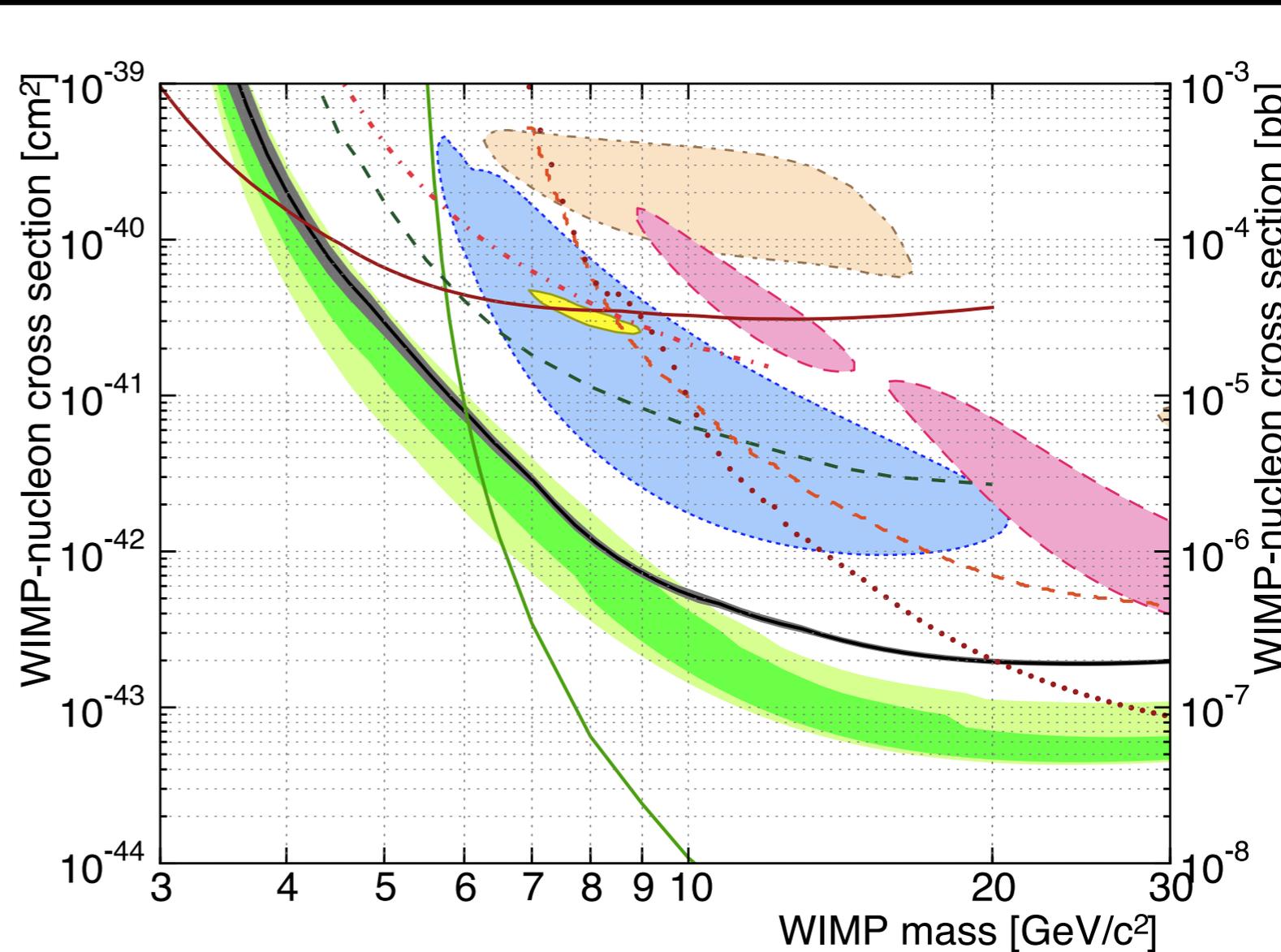
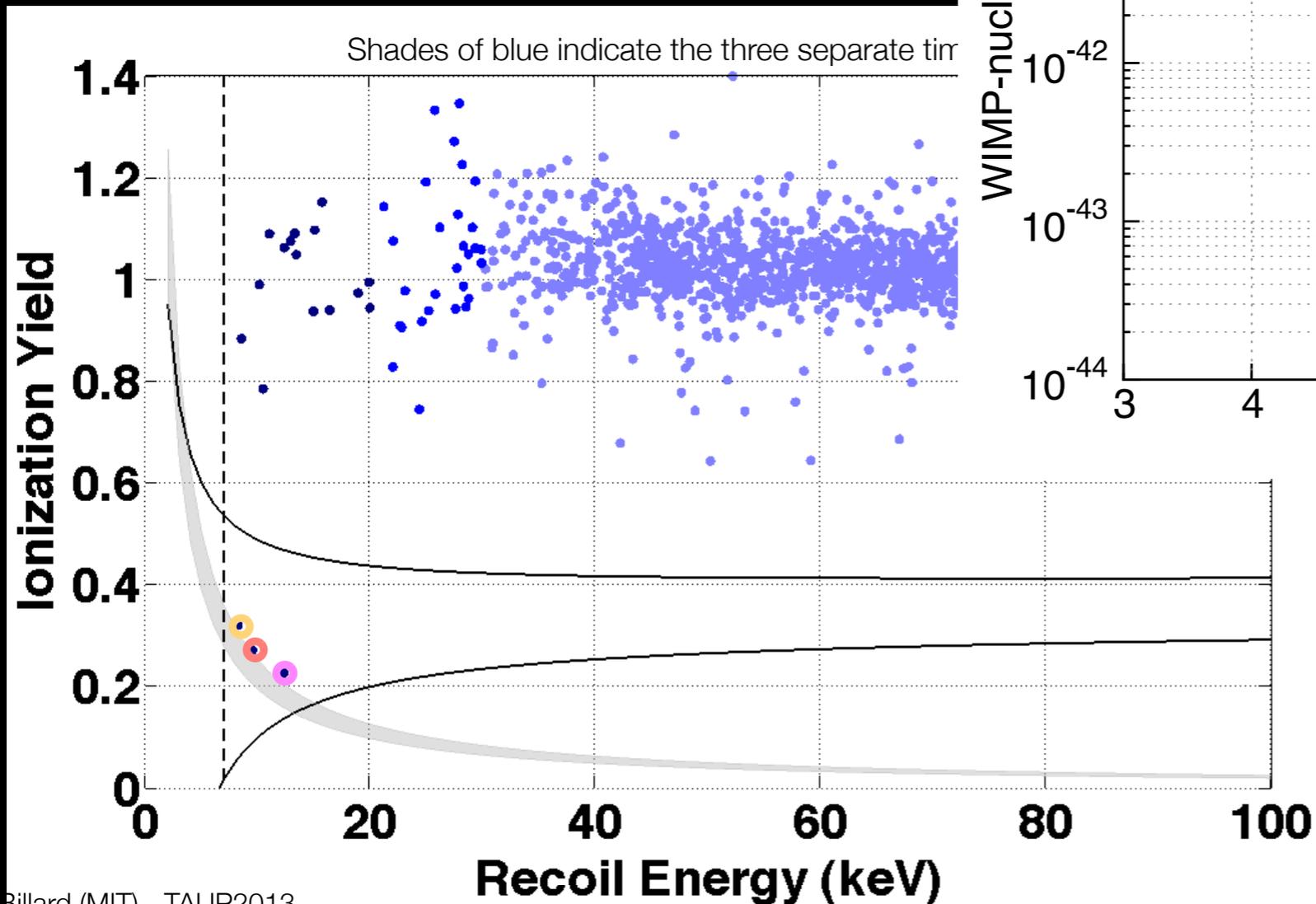






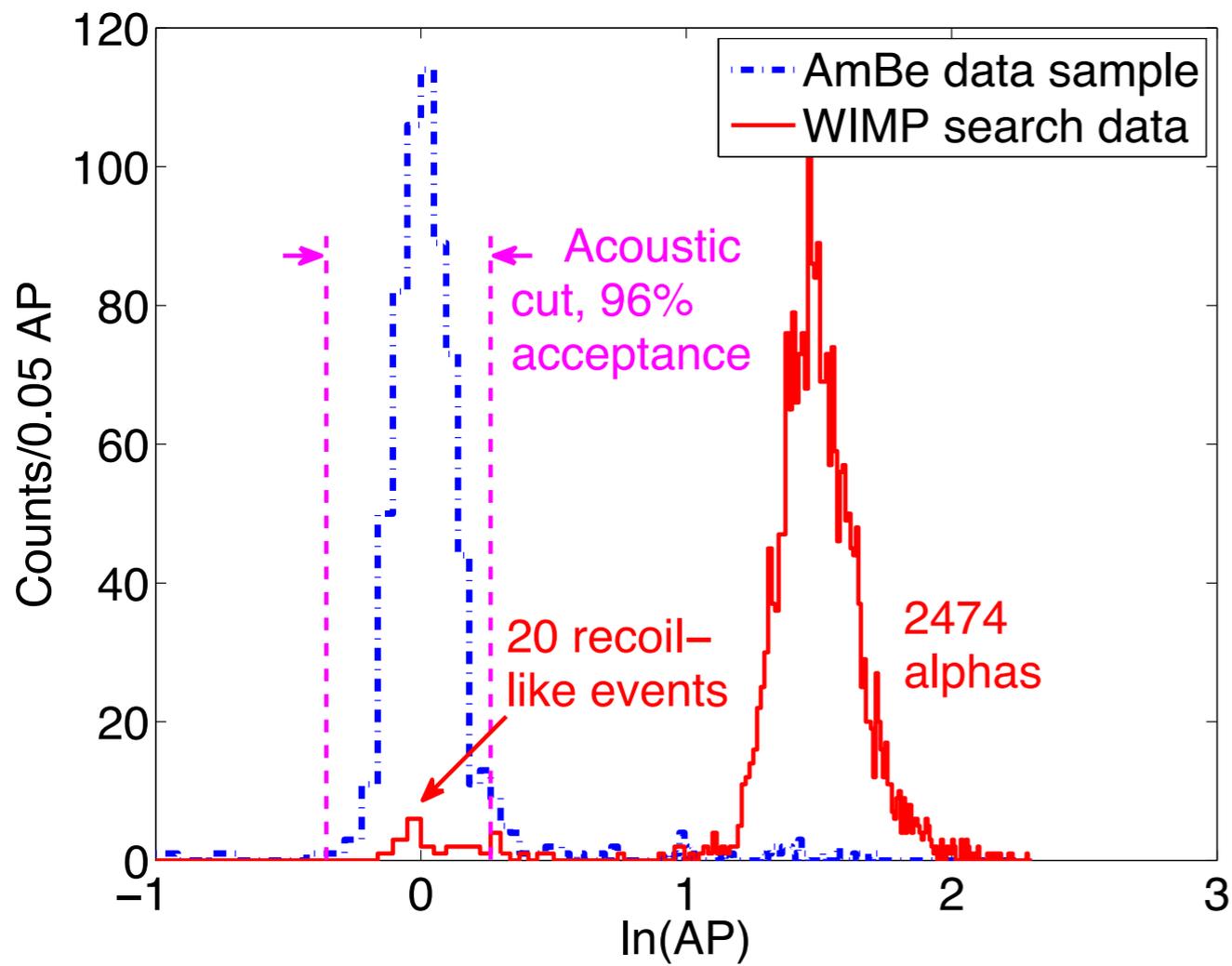
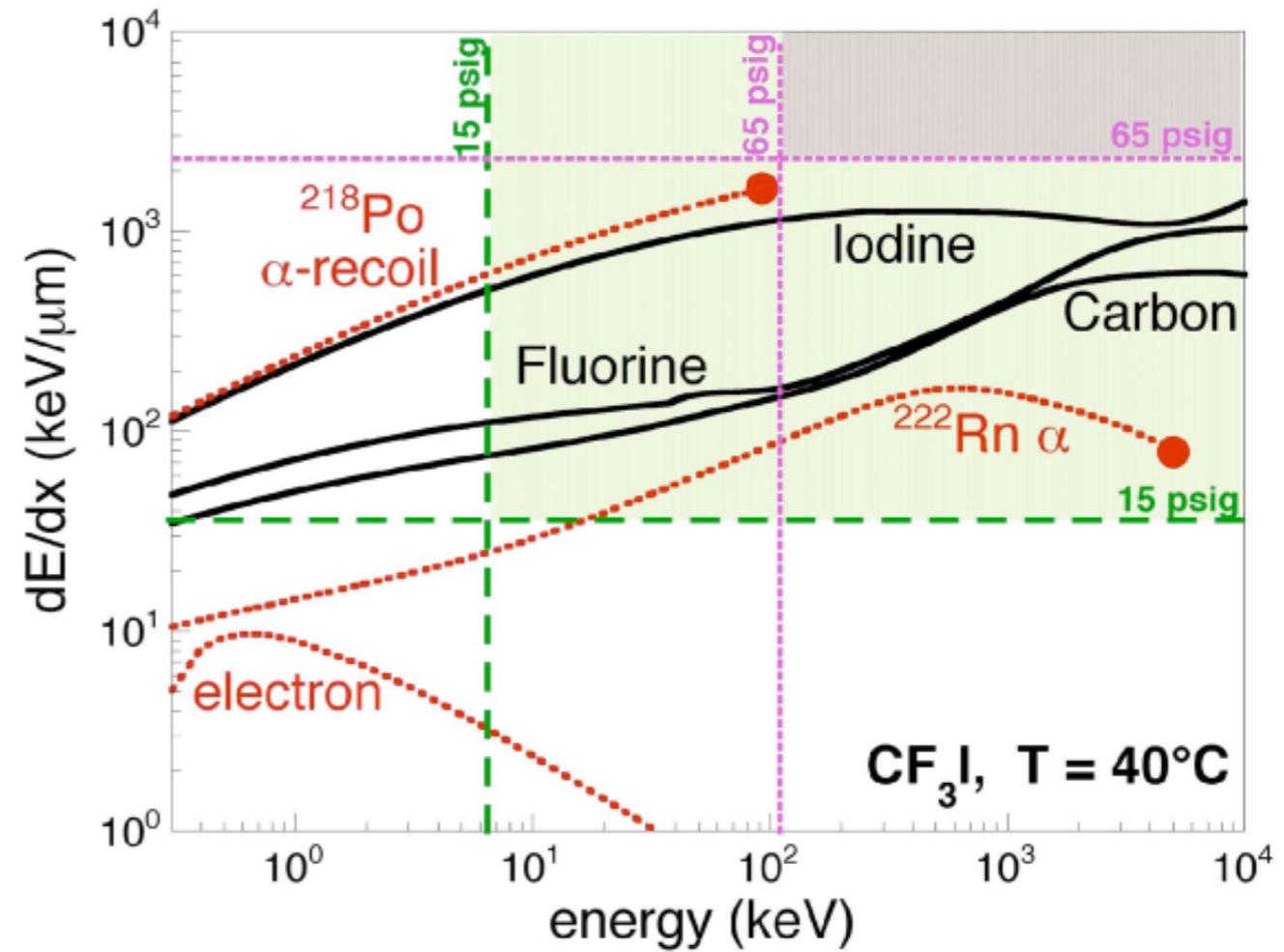
# CDMS/SuperCDMS

- In April of last year, they observed 3 candidate events
- In conflict with results from February



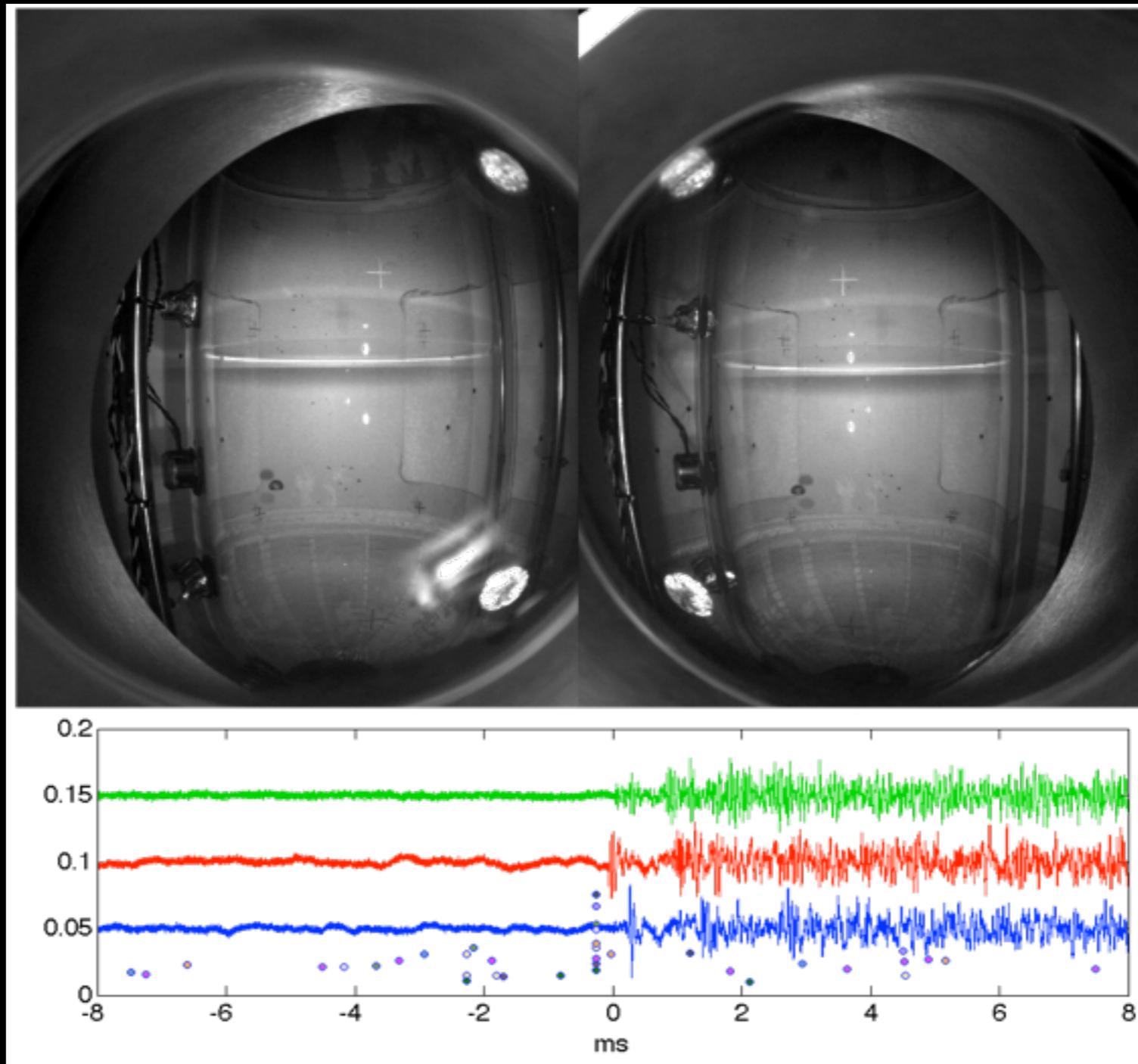
# COUPP/PICO

- Bubble chamber
- Electrons and gammas don't make bubbles

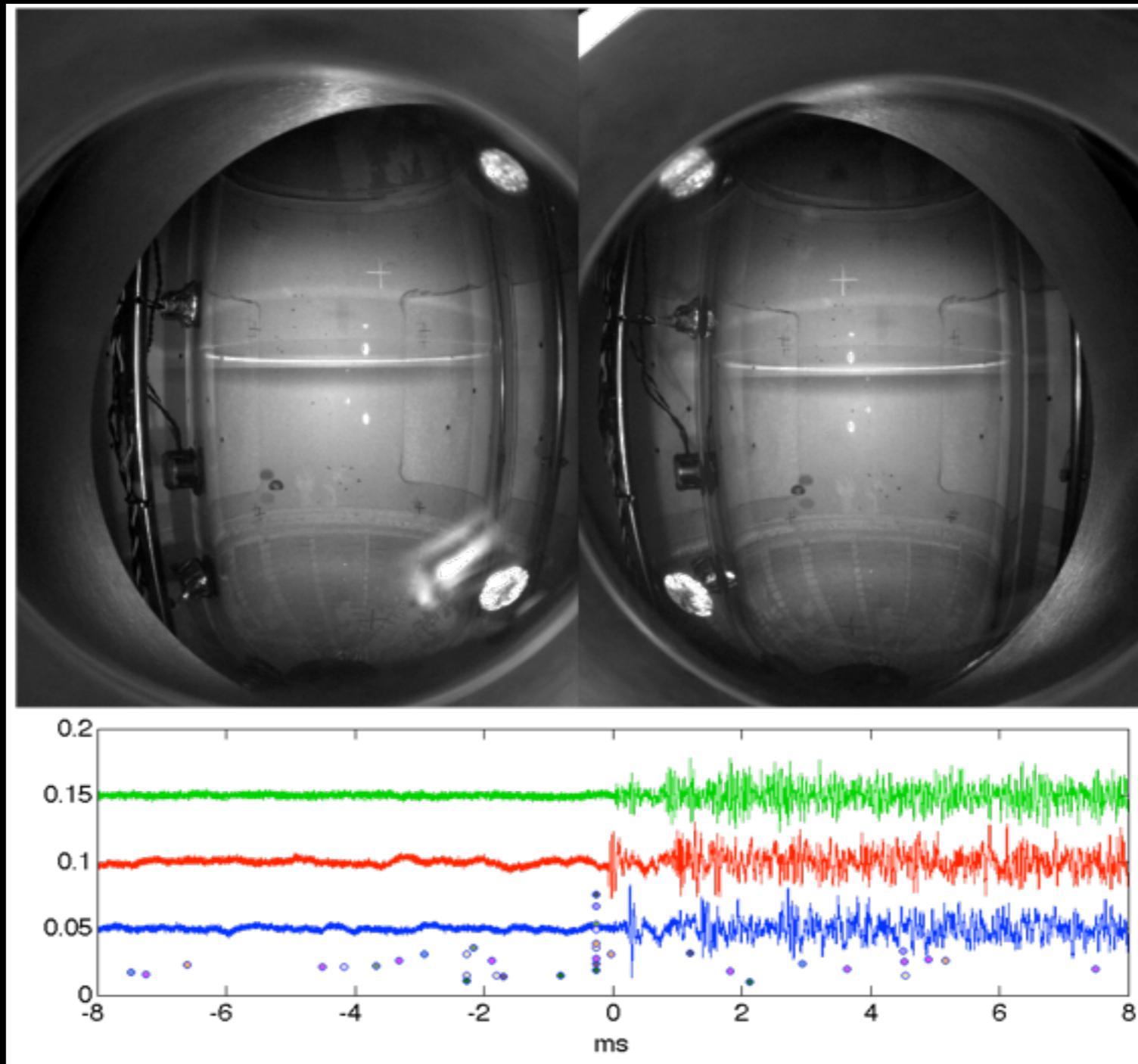


- Alphas are loud!

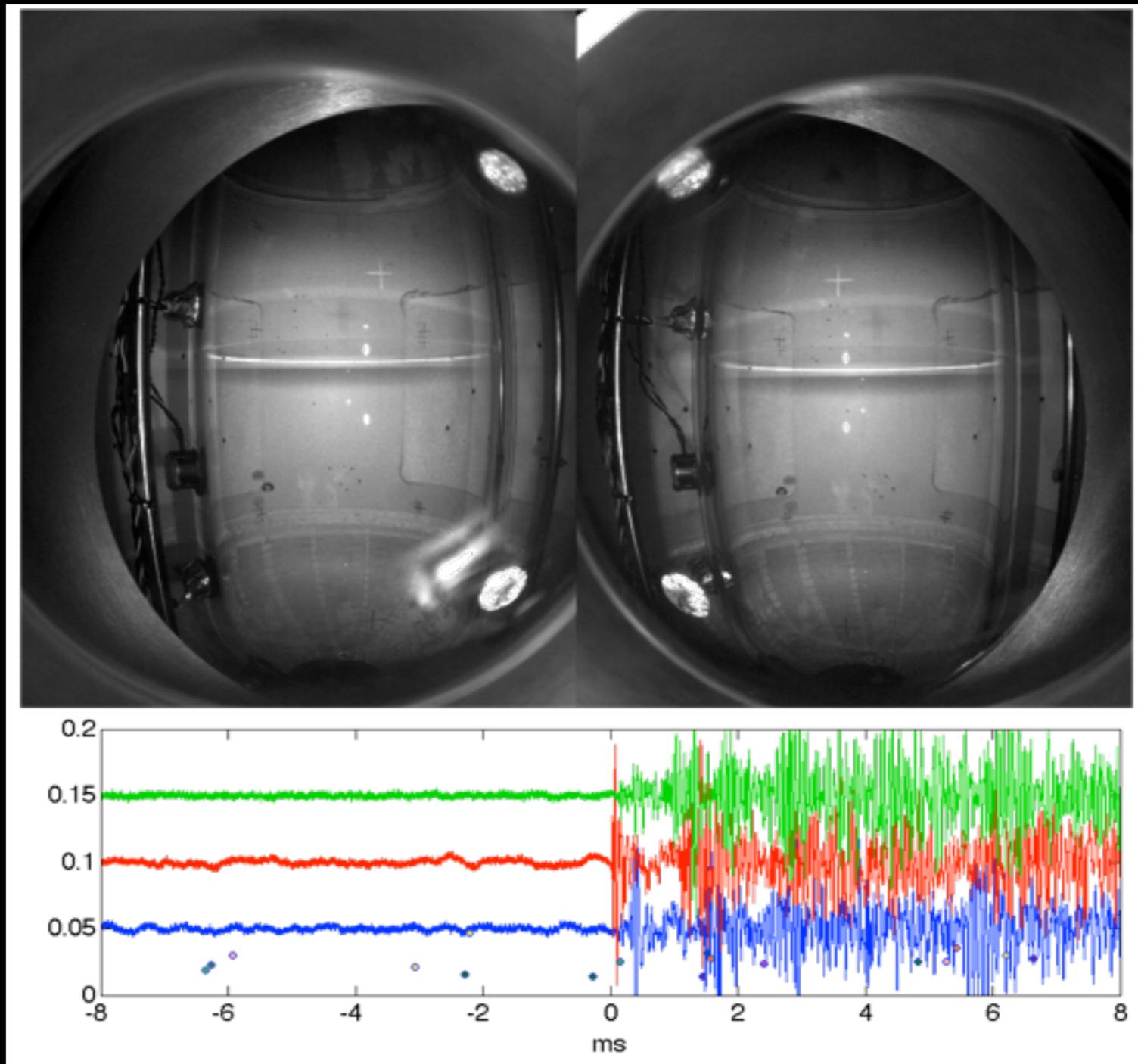
# This is what dark matter would sound like



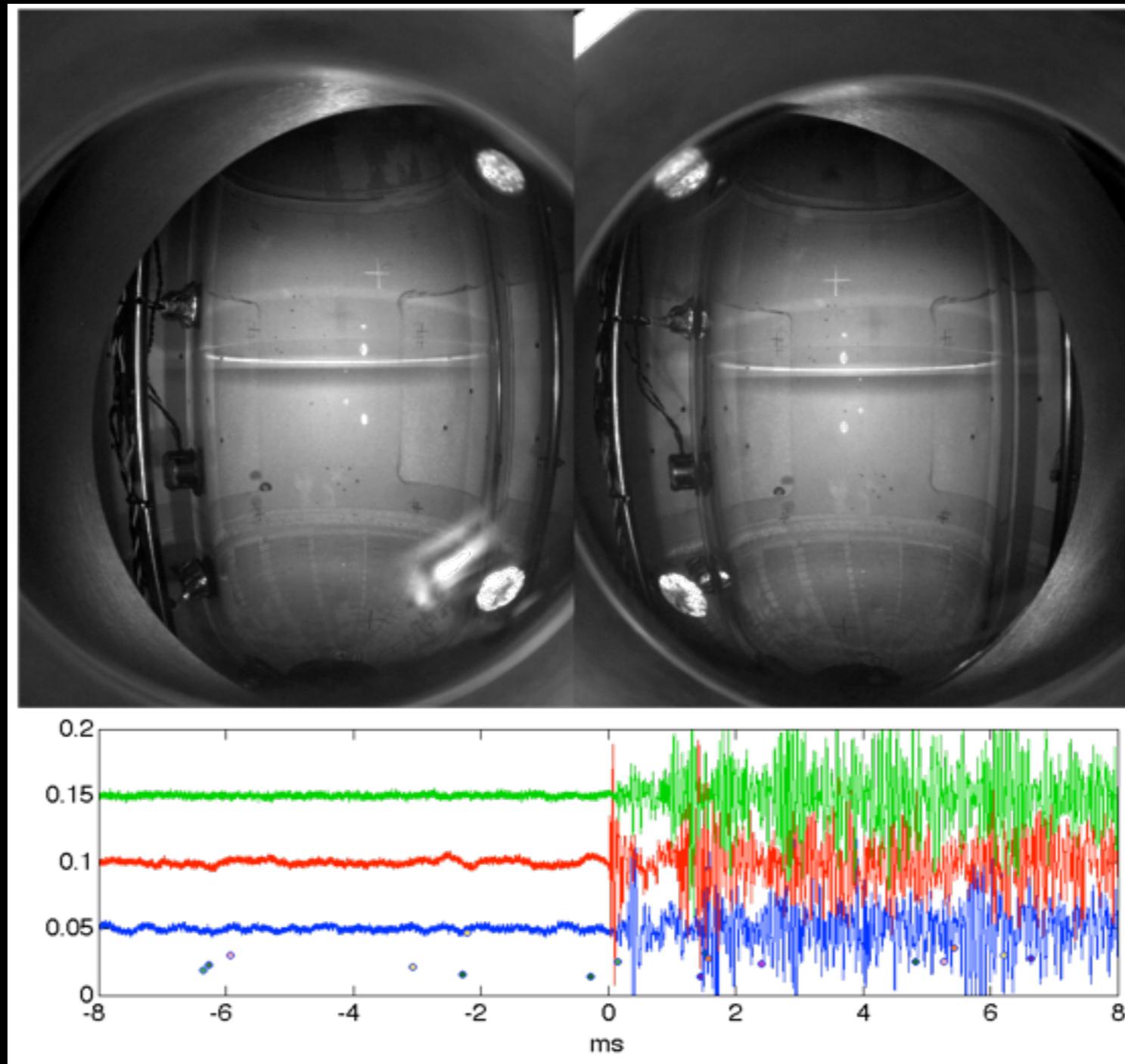
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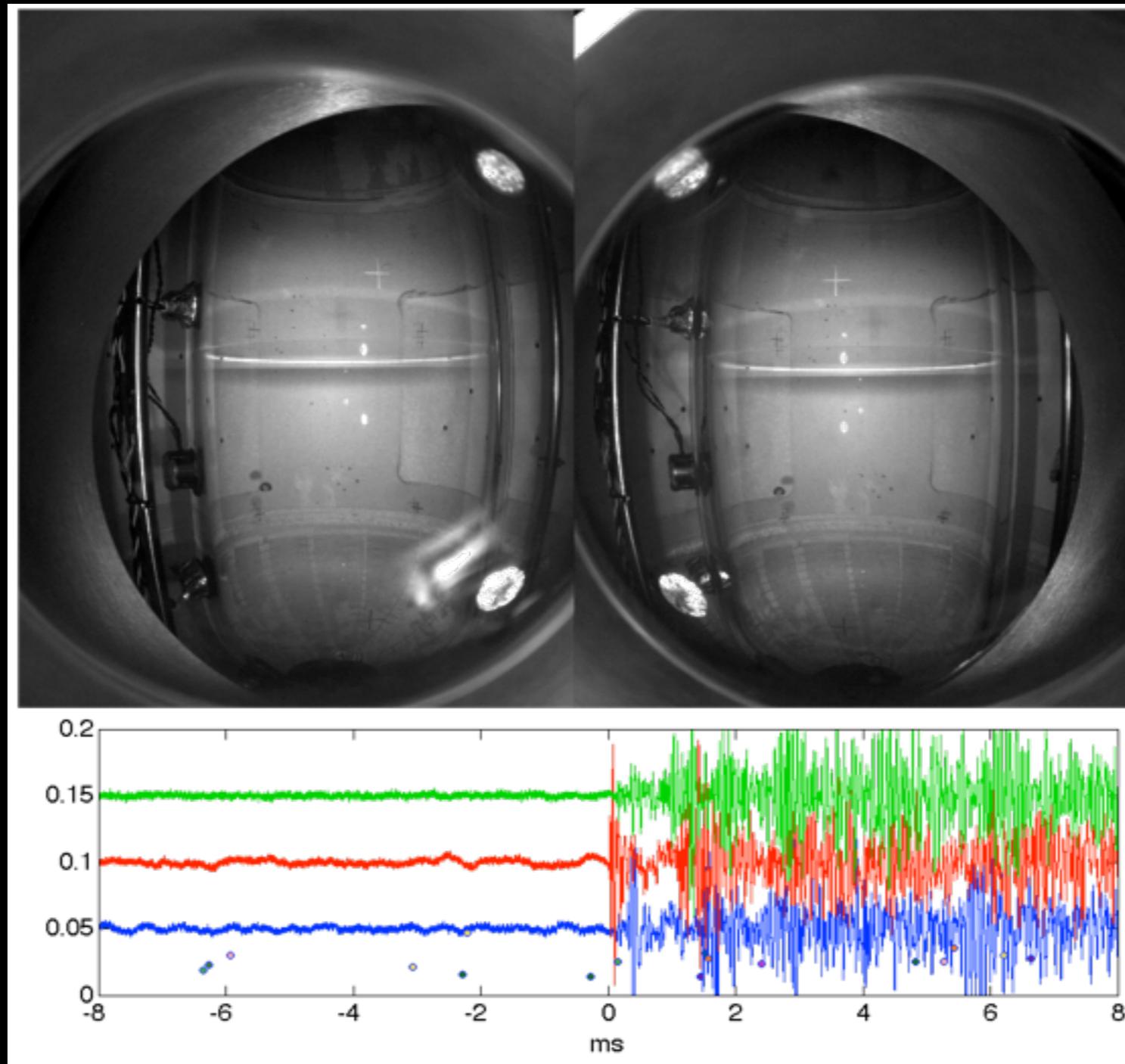
This is what background events  
(alpha radiation) sound like



This is what background events  
(alpha radiation) sound like



# Both together, just to hear the difference



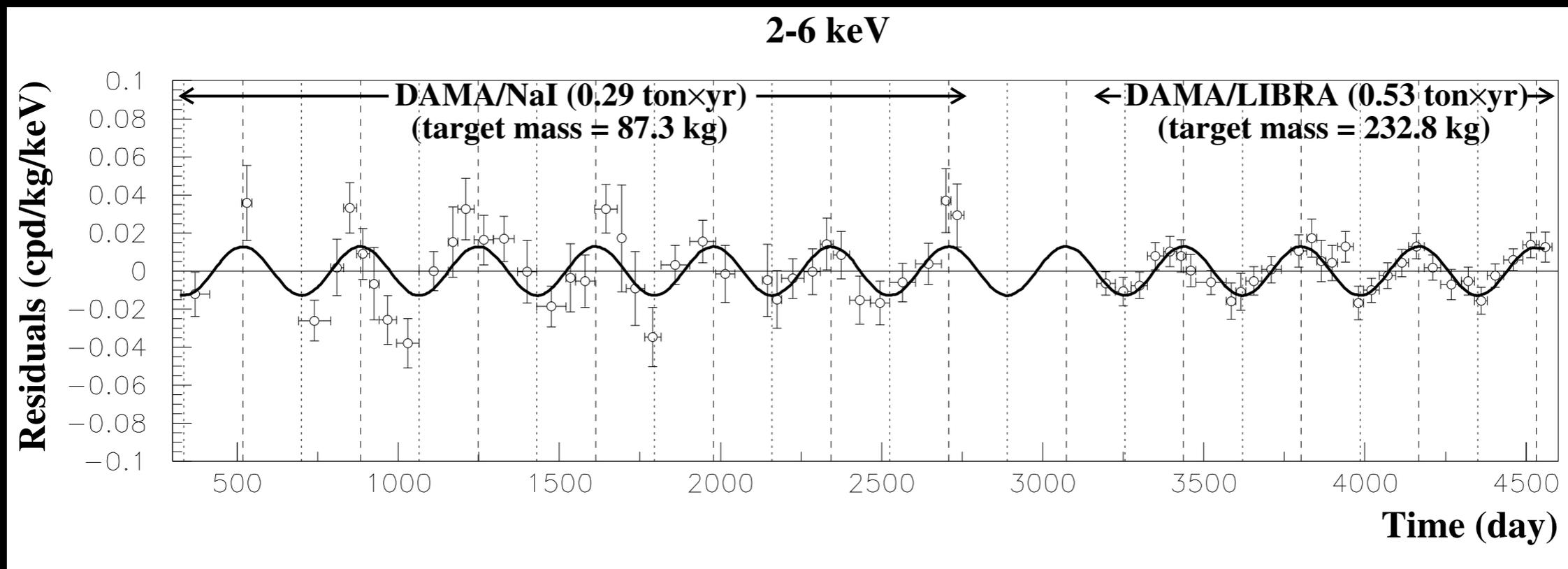






# DARk MATter (DAMA)

- Very radio-pure NaI (not replicated by anyone in 10 years)
- No discrimination
- Observed an annual modulation for a decade

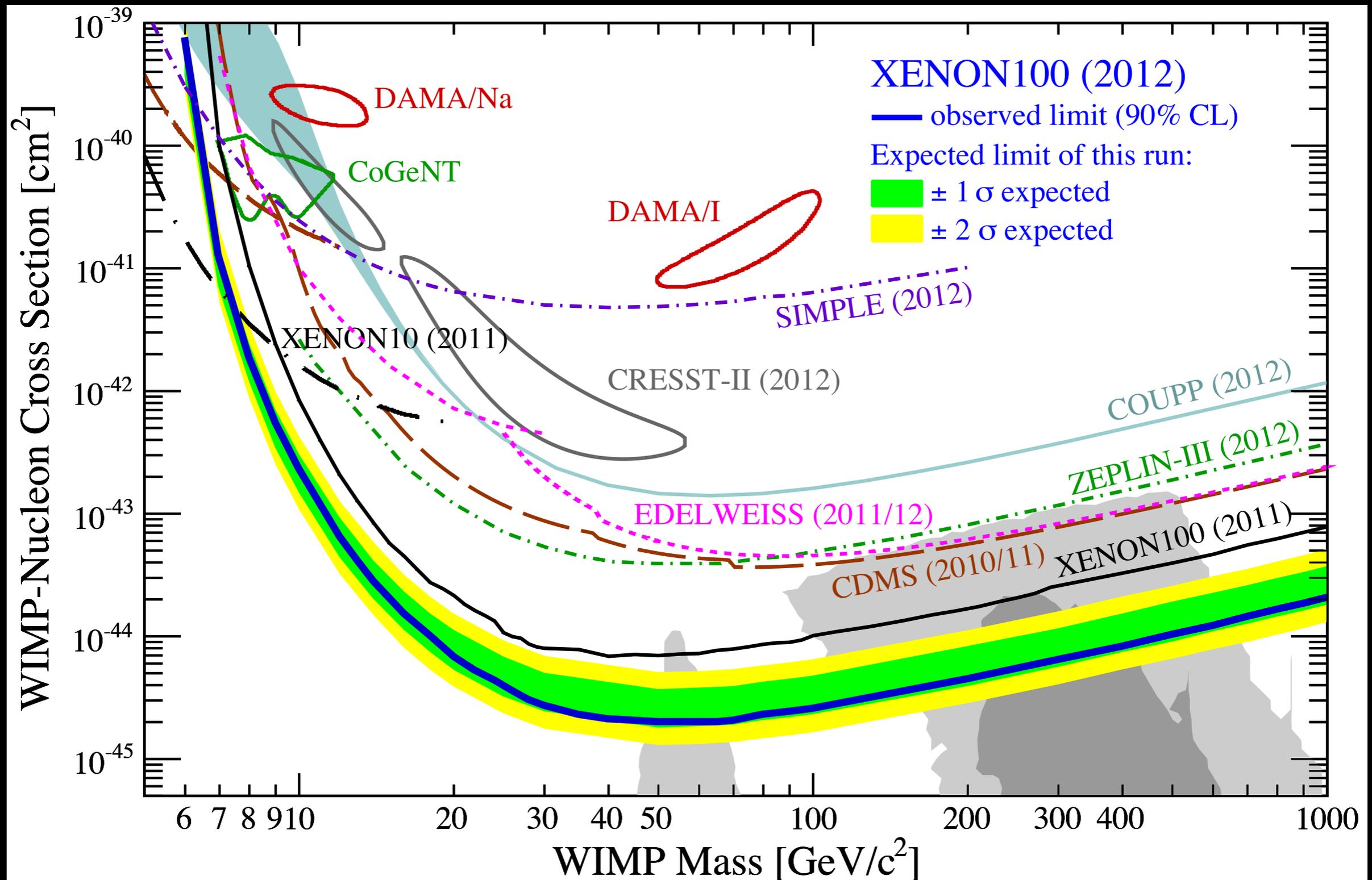


# Where are we?

- DAMA - A positive claim for 10 years that successfully does the following:
  - Low energy events (e.g. right spectrum)
  - Modulation with correct period and phase
  - Single hits (multiple hits associated with neutrons)
- No one accepts it

# Where are we?

- For a long time no one else saw anything



# Where are we?

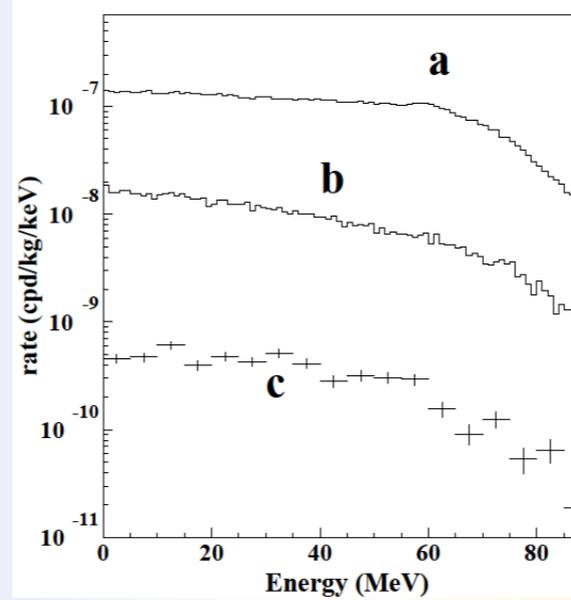
- For a long time no one else saw anything
- Also sociological
  - Proprietary agreement with NaI maker, so no one could replicate crystals
  - Defensive and dismissive of alternative explanations (e.g. response to DM-Ice)
  - Plan is to go bigger instead of change things up (no one doubts the significance of the modulation)
  - Their talks are terrible:

# The $\mu$ case

MonteCarlo simulation

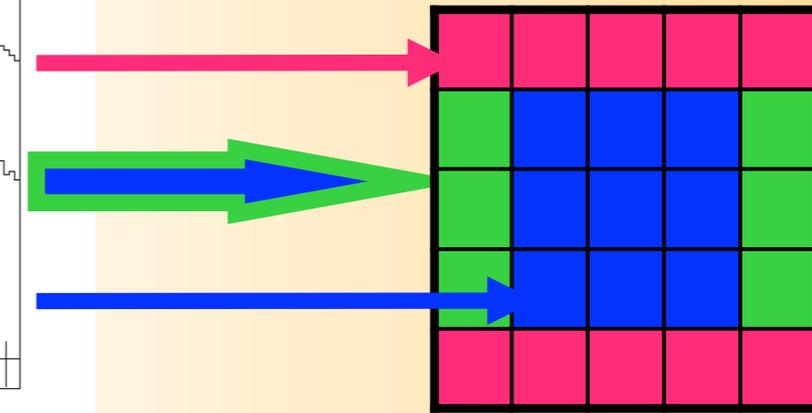
- muon intensity distribution
- Gran Sasso rock overburden map

events where just one detector fires



DAMA/LIBRA surface  $\approx 0.15 \text{ m}^2$   
 $\mu$  flux @ DAMA/LIBRA  $\approx 2.5 \mu/\text{day}$

1.



## Case of fast neutrons produced by $\mu$

$\Phi_\mu$  @ LNGS  $\approx 20 \mu \text{ m}^{-2}\text{d}^{-1}$  ( $\pm 2\%$  modulated)  
 Measured neutron Yield @ LNGS:  $\gamma = 1 \div 7 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ n}/\mu / (\text{g}/\text{cm}^2)$   
 $R_n = (\text{fast n by } \mu) / (\text{time unit}) = \Phi_\mu \cdot \gamma \cdot M_{\text{eff}}$

Annual modulation amplitude at low energy due to  $\mu$  modulation:

$$S_m^{(\mu)} = R_n \cdot g \cdot \epsilon \cdot f_{\Delta E} \cdot f_{\text{single}} \cdot 2\% / (M_{\text{setup}} \Delta E)$$

$g$  = geometrical factor;  $\epsilon$  = detection effic. by elastic scattering  
 $f_{\Delta E}$  = energy window ( $E > 2\text{keV}$ ) effic.;  $f_{\text{single}}$  = single hit effic.

Hyp.:  $M_{\text{eff}} = 15 \text{ tons}$ ;  $g \approx \epsilon \approx f_{\Delta E} \approx f_{\text{single}} \approx 0.5$  (cautiously)  
 Knowing that:  $M_{\text{setup}} \approx 250 \text{ kg}$  and  $\Delta E = 4\text{keV}$

→  $S_m^{(\mu)} < (0.4 \div 3) \times 10^{-5} \text{ cpd}/\text{kg}/\text{keV}$

Moreover, this modulation also induces a variation in other parts of the energy spectrum and in the *multi-hits* events

**It cannot mimic the signature: already excluded also by  $R_{90}$ , by *multi-hits* analysis + different phase, etc.**

Can (whatever) hypothetical cosmogenic products be considered as side effects, assuming that they might produce:

- only events at low energy,
- only *single-hit* events,
- no sizable effect in the *multiple-hit* counting rate
- pulses with time structure as scintillation light

?

But, its phase should be (much) larger than  $\mu$  phase,  $t_\mu$ :

- if  $\tau \ll T/2\pi$ :  $t_{\text{side}} = t_\mu + \tau$
- if  $\tau \gg T/2\pi$ :  $t_{\text{side}} = t_\mu + T/4$

**It cannot mimic the signature: different phase**

The phase of the muon flux at LNGS is roughly around middle of July and largely variable from year to year. Last meas. by LVD and BOREXINO partially overlapped with DAMA/NaI and fully with DAMA/LIBRA: 1.5% modulation and phase LVD = July 5<sup>th</sup>  $\pm$  15 d, BOREXINO = July 6<sup>th</sup>  $\pm$  6 d

DAMA/NaI + DAMA/LIBRA measured a stable phase: May, 26<sup>th</sup>  $\pm$  7 days

This phase is 7.1  $\sigma$  far from July 15<sup>th</sup> and is 5.7  $\sigma$  far from July 6<sup>th</sup>

$R_{90}$ , multi-hits, phase, and other analyses

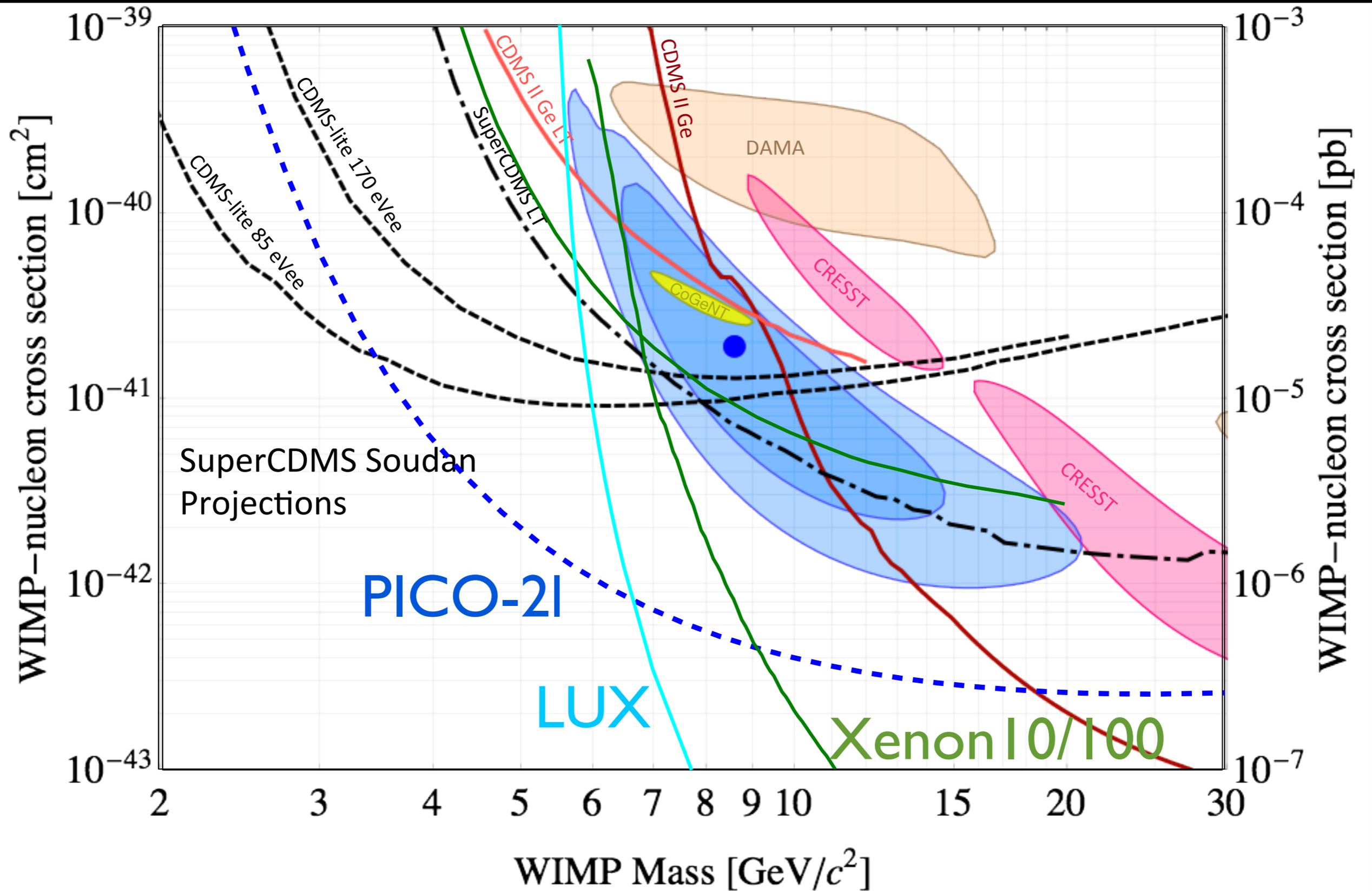


**NO**

# Other signals

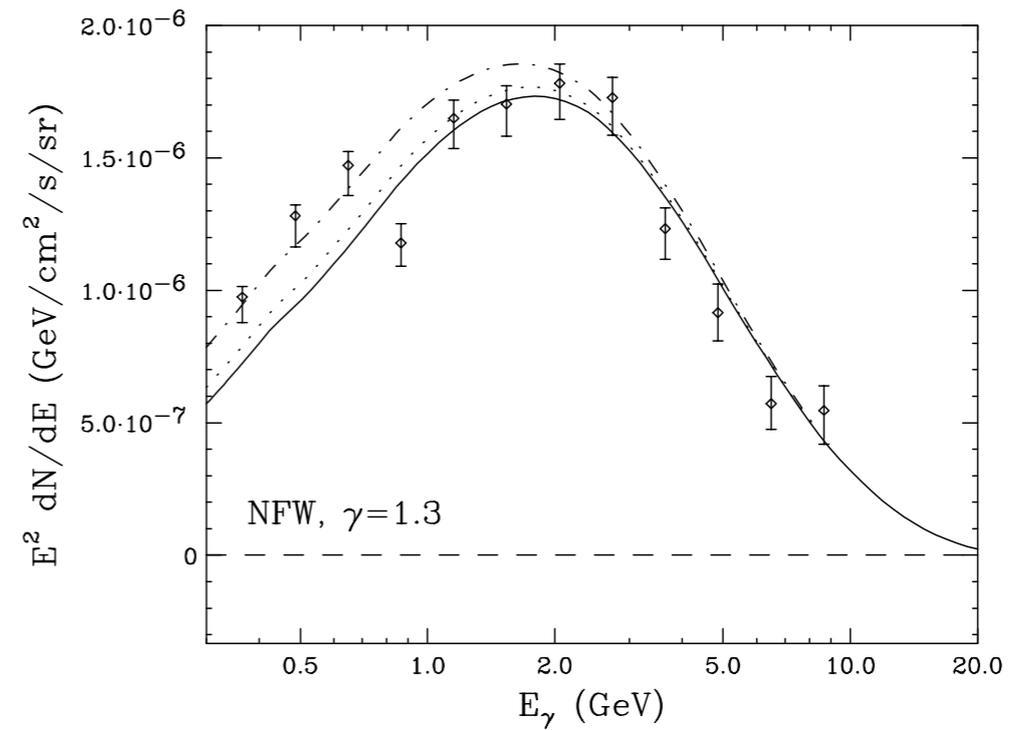
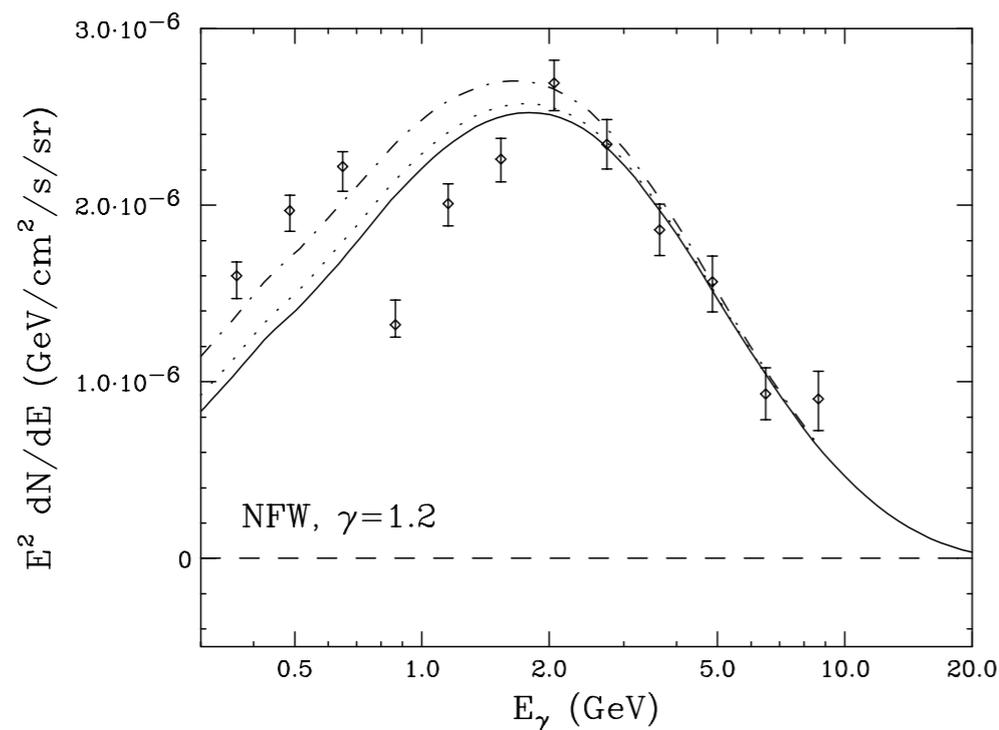
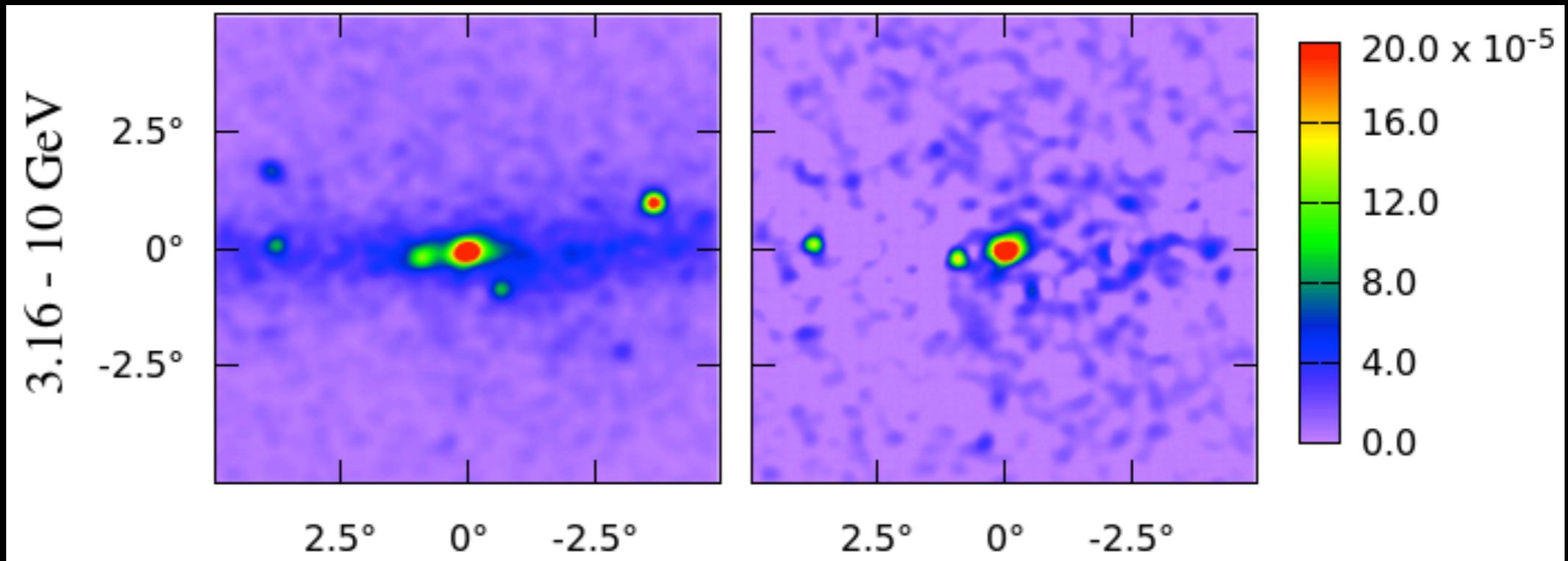
- Many hints in past few years (CoGeNT, Cresst, CDMS)
- Most are going away but DAMA remains
- All signals are in conflict with limits from xenon detectors

# All signals are in conflict with limits from xenon detectors



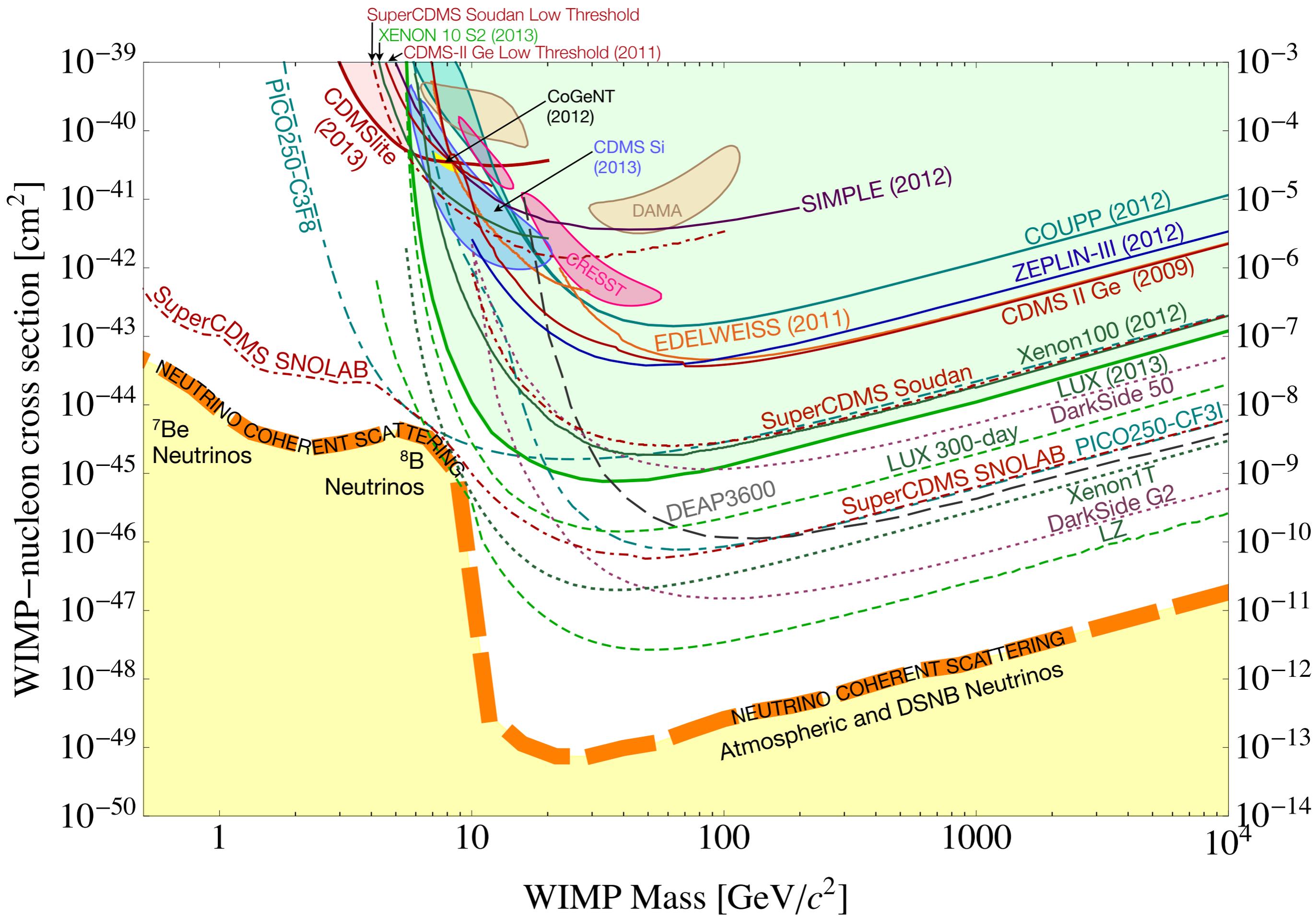
# Other signals

- Analysis of Fermi-LAT data (“indirect detection”) show an excess in the galactic center



# Money and politics





# Dark Matter Searches: Past, Present & Future

