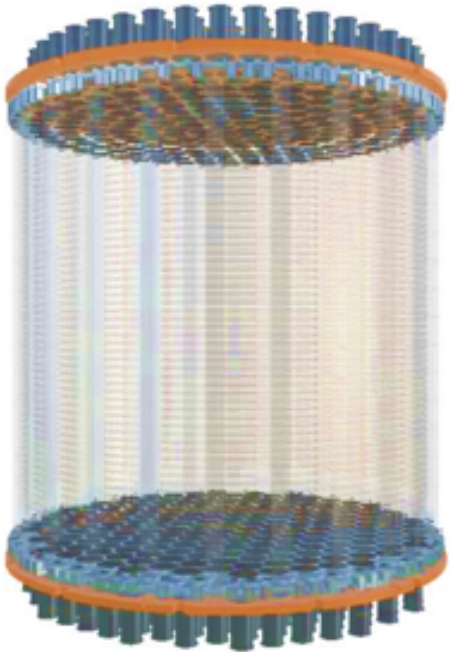


Search for Light Dark Matter in the PandaX-4T Experiment

Yue Meng

Shanghai Jiao Tong University

mengyue@sjtu.edu.cn



4/7/23



PANDA X
PARTICLE AND ASTROPHYSICAL XENON TPC



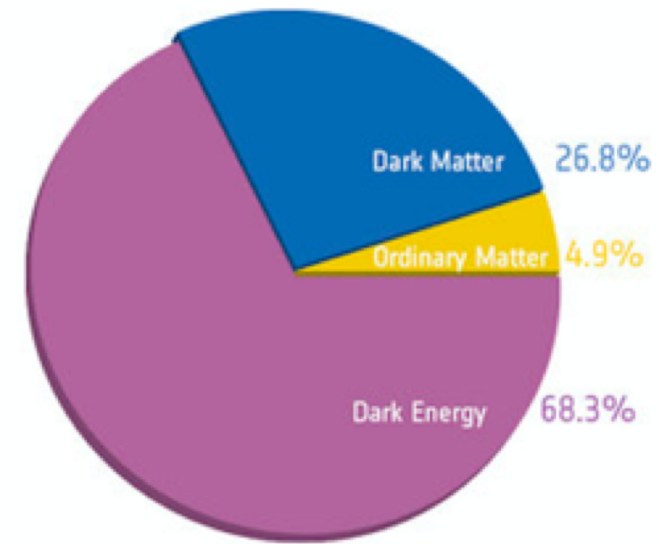
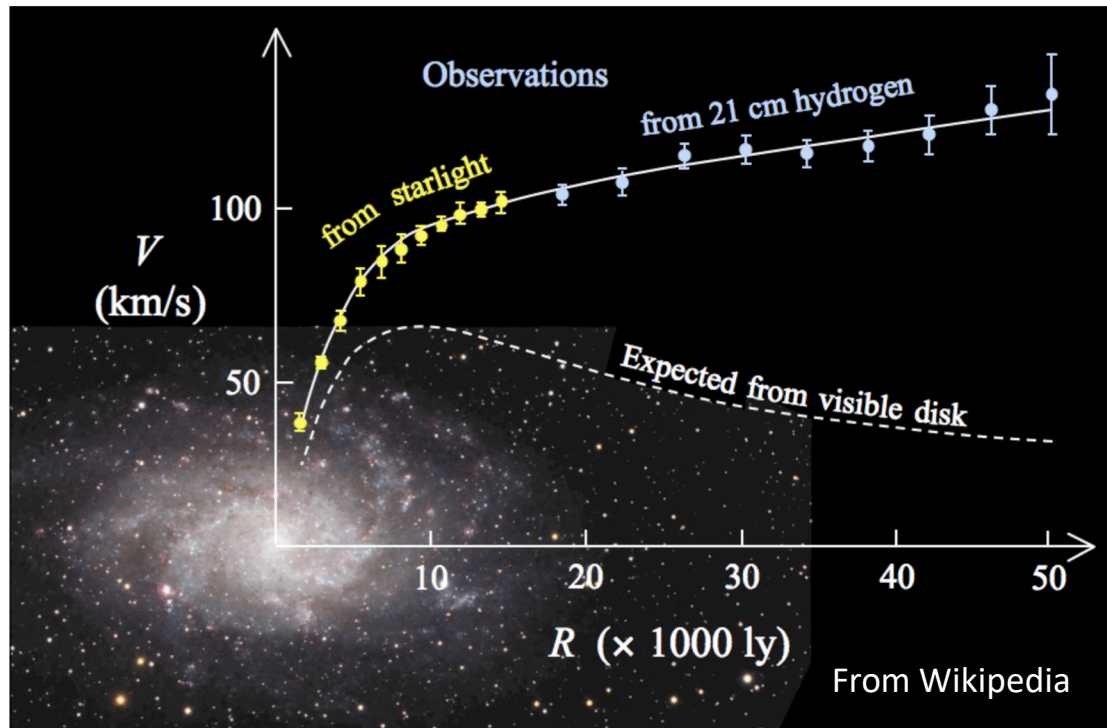


- Dark matter introduction and detection technologies
- PandaX-4T dark matter experiment
- Light dark matter search method with PandaX-4T
- Summary and outlook

Dark matter evidence

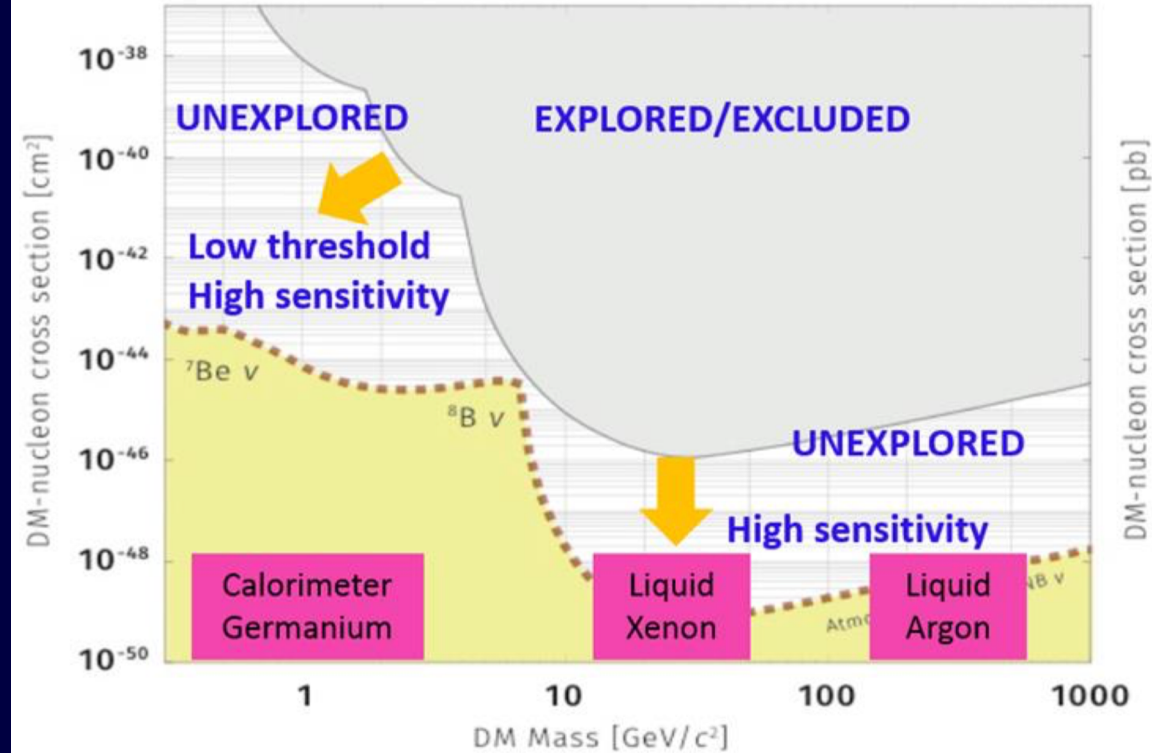
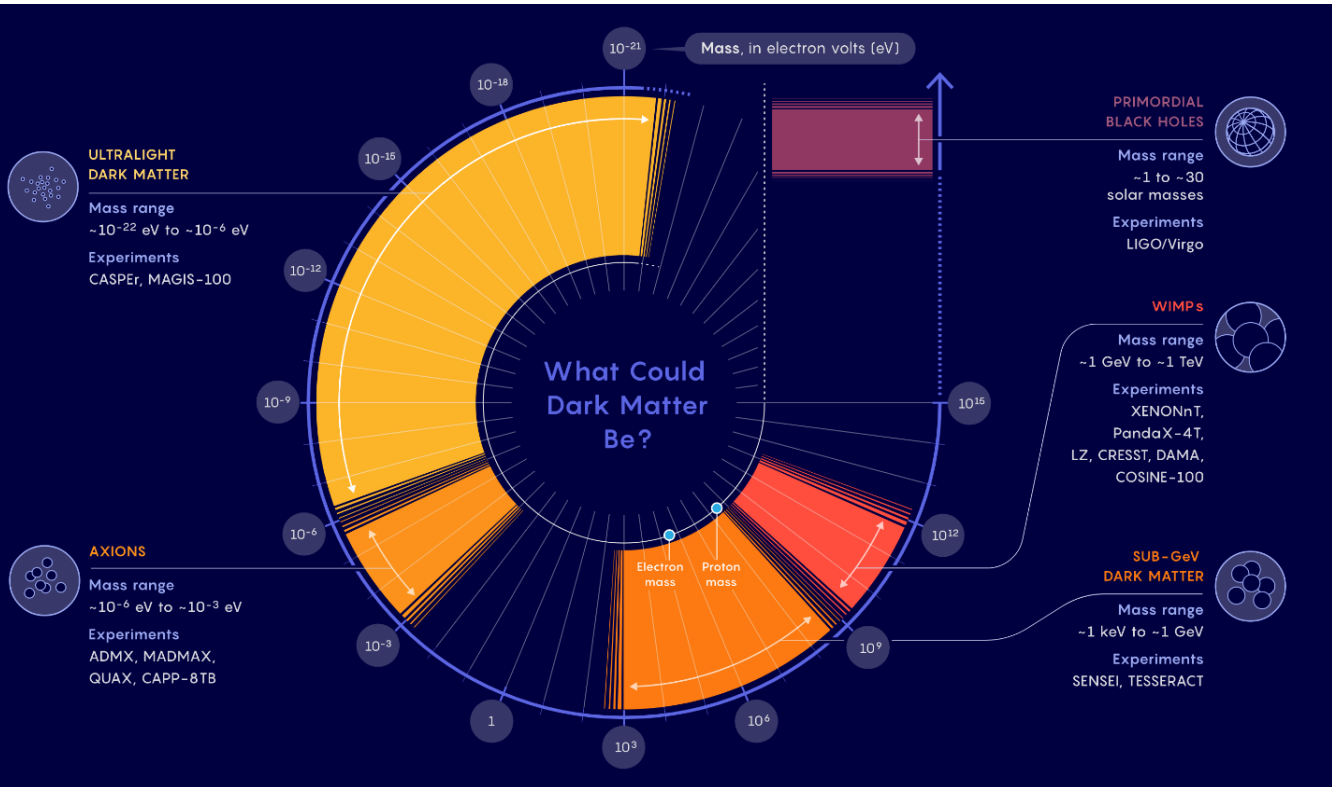


Rotation curve of spiral galaxy M33



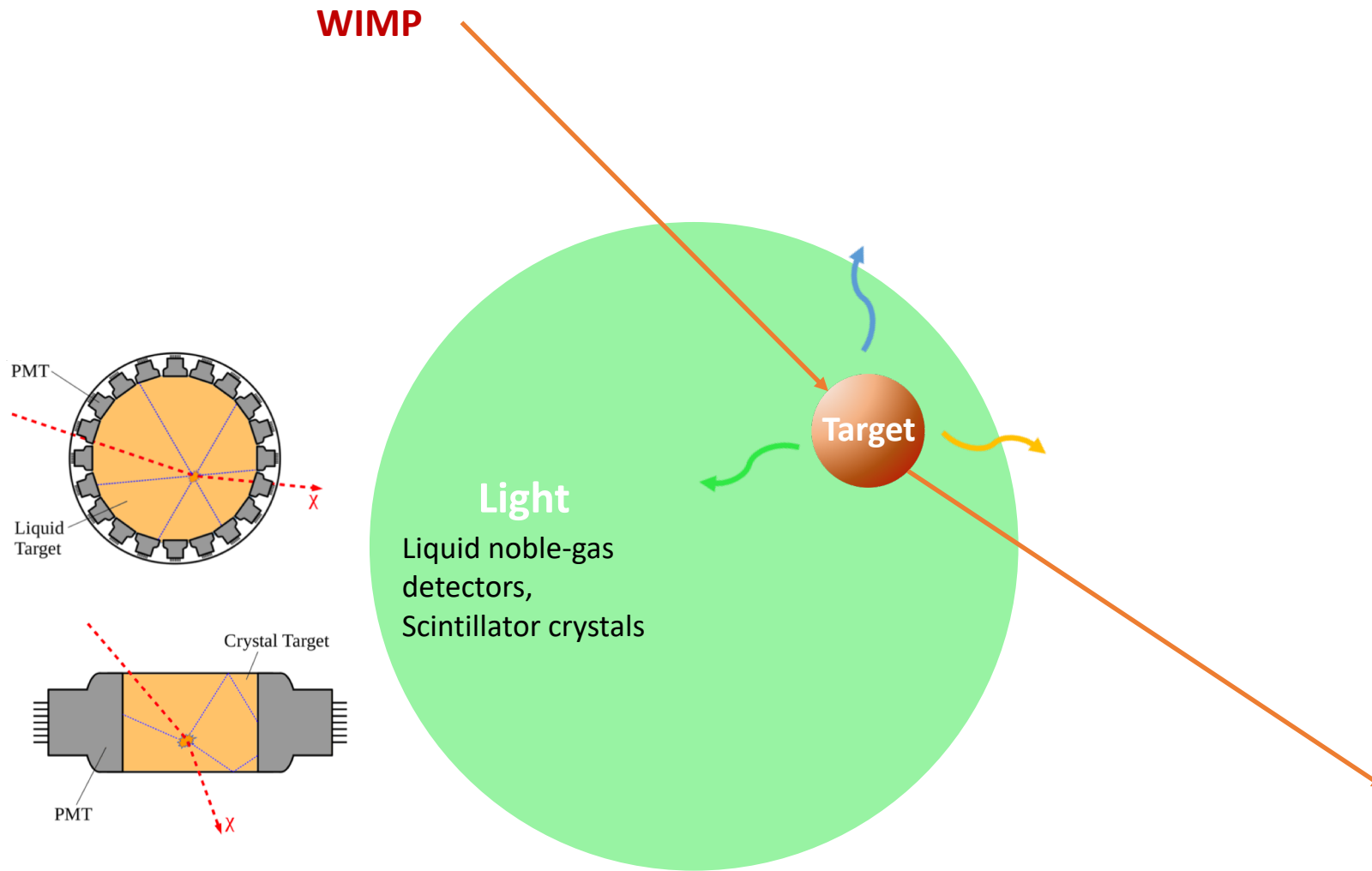
Gravitational evidences suggest dark matter is the dominant form of matter in Universe!

The dark matter landscape

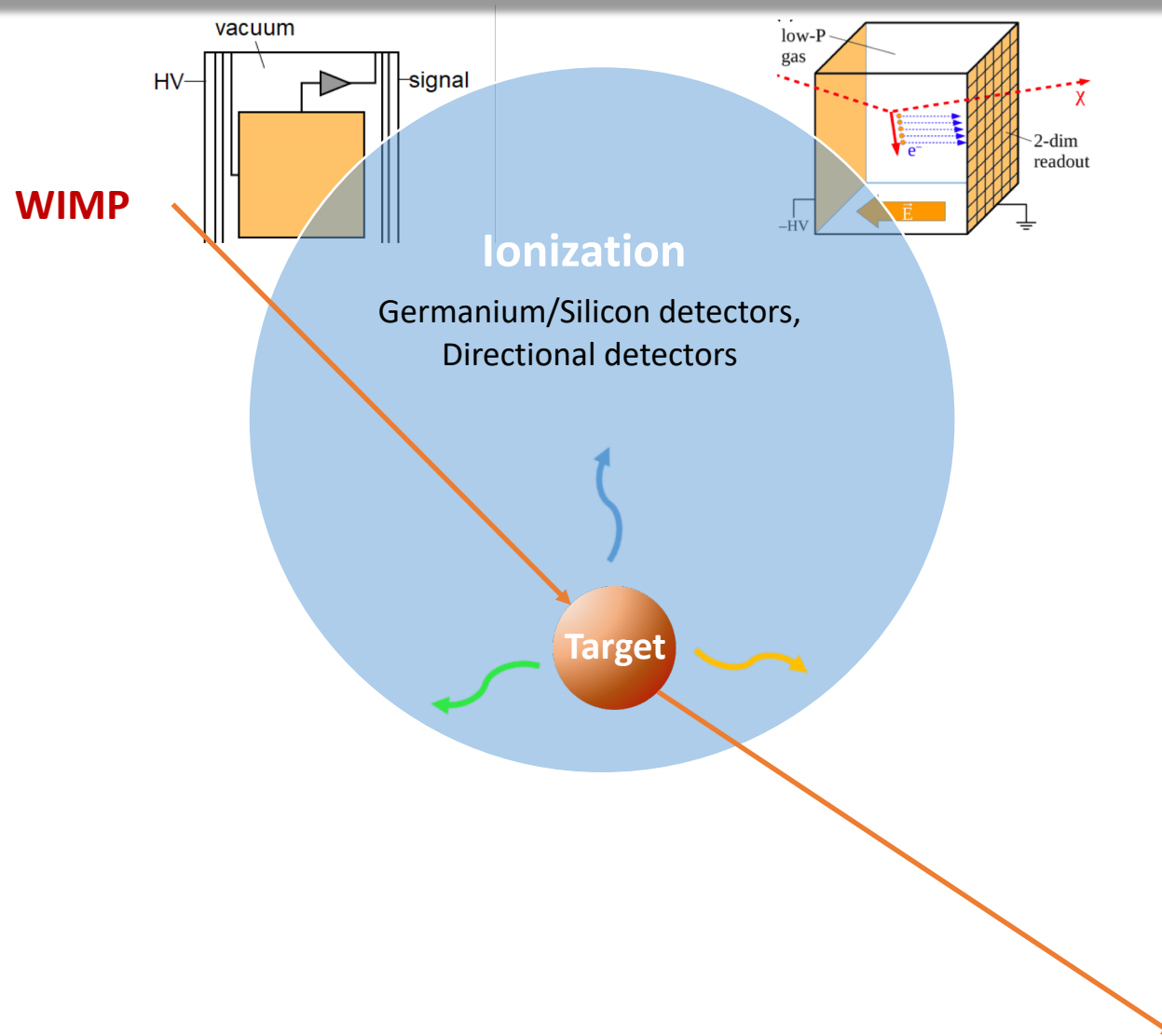


Samuel Velasco/Quanta Magazine

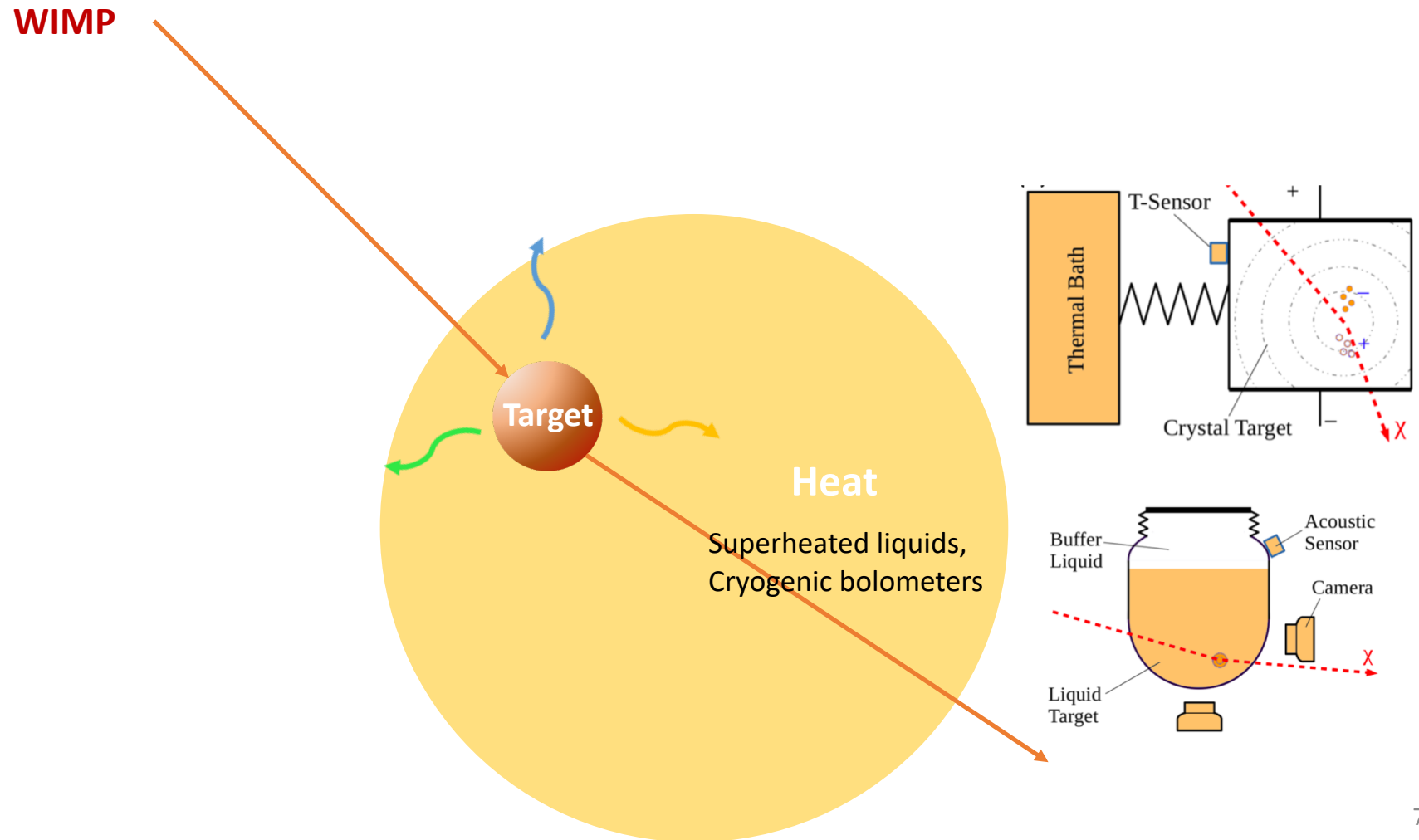
Dark matter detection technologies



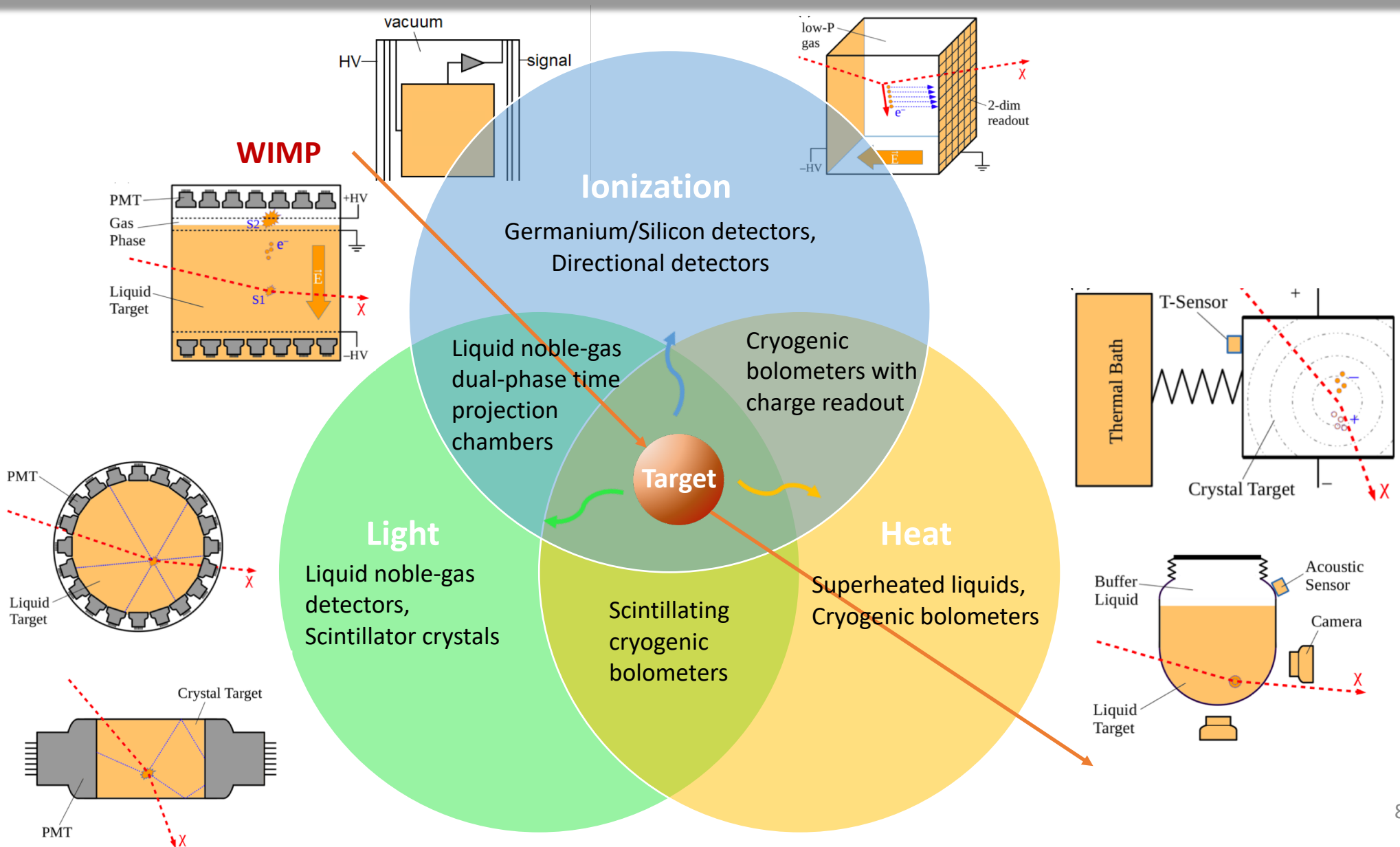
Dark matter detection technologies



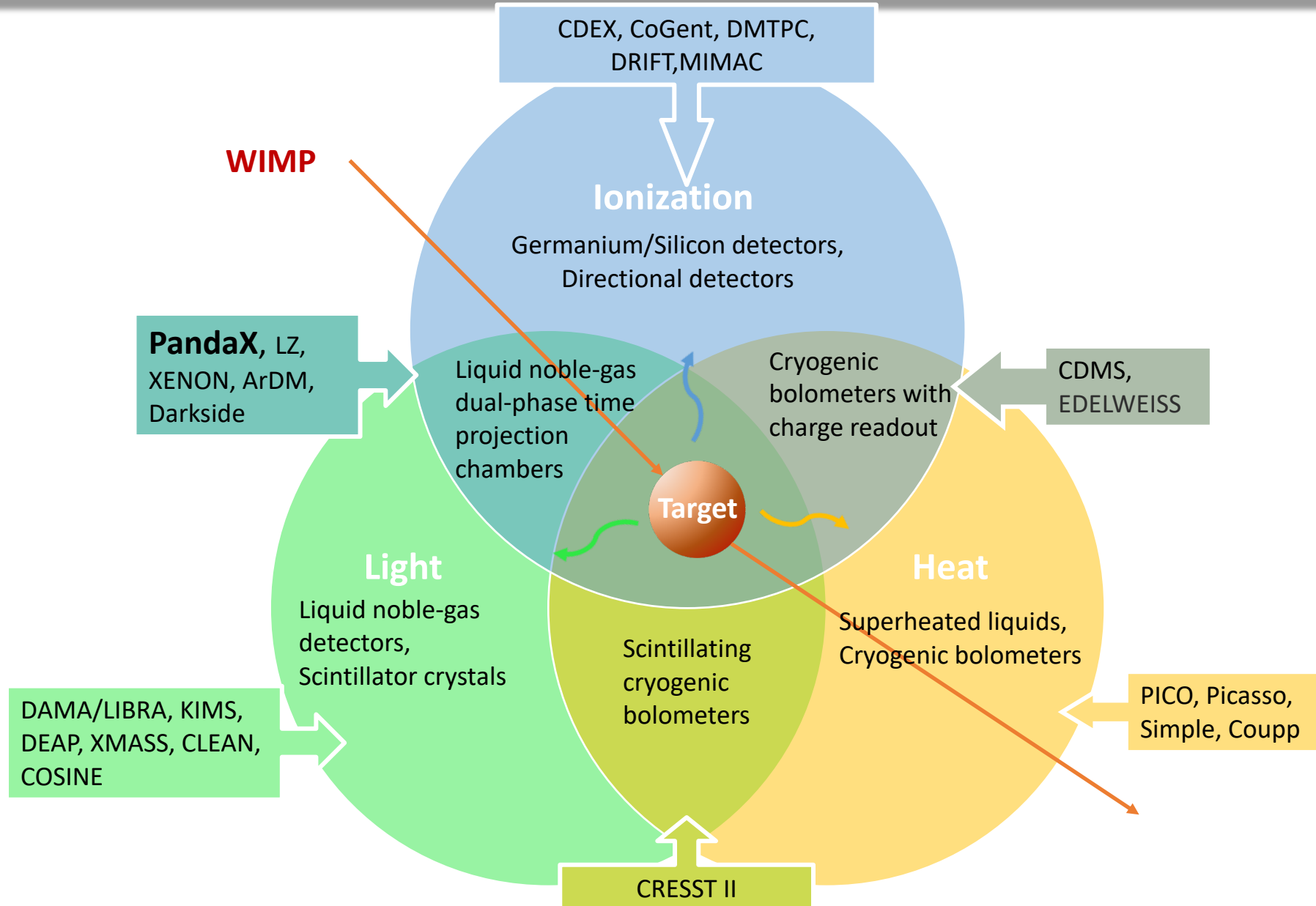
Dark matter detection technologies



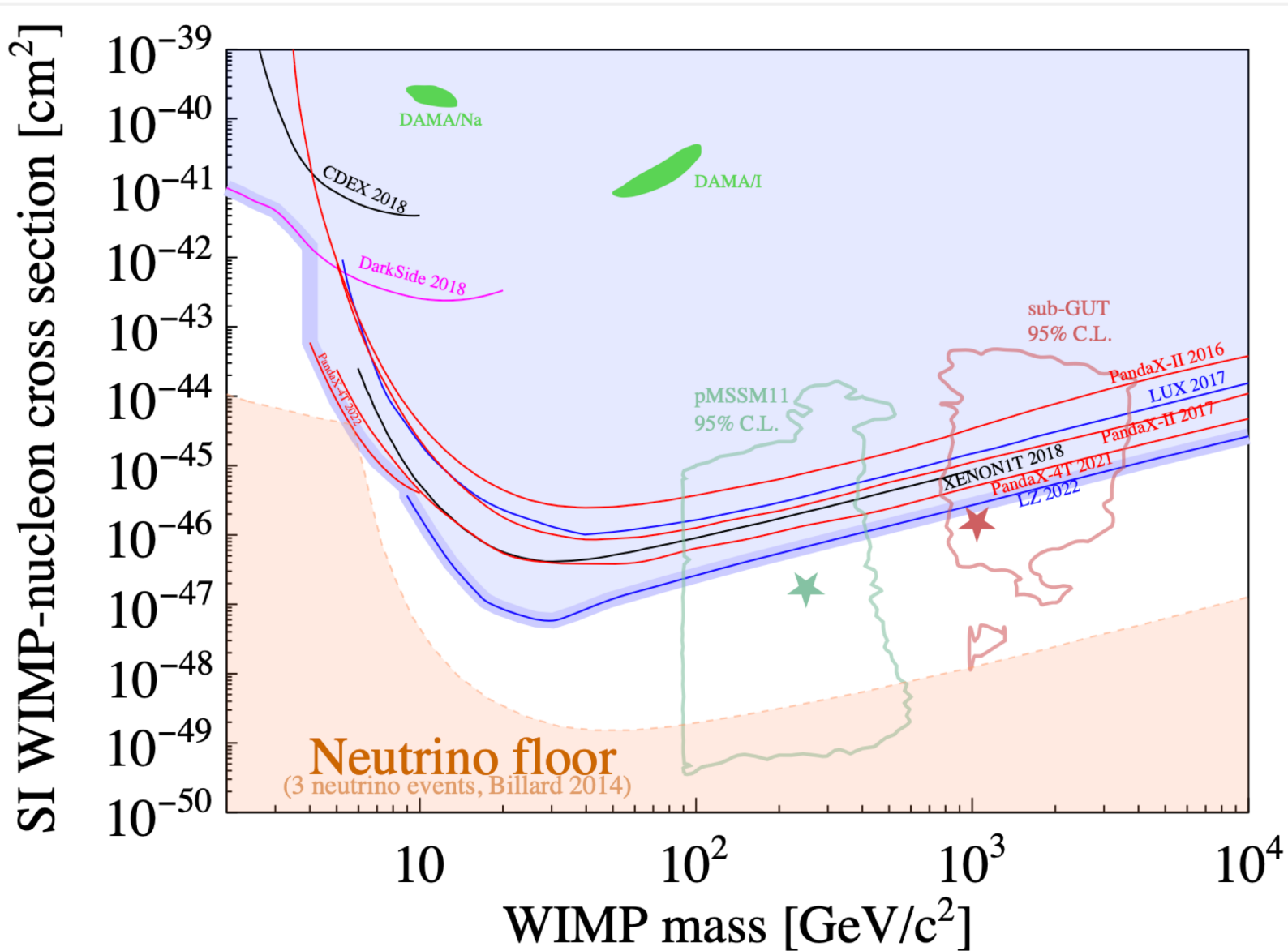
Dark matter detection technologies



Dark matter detection technologies



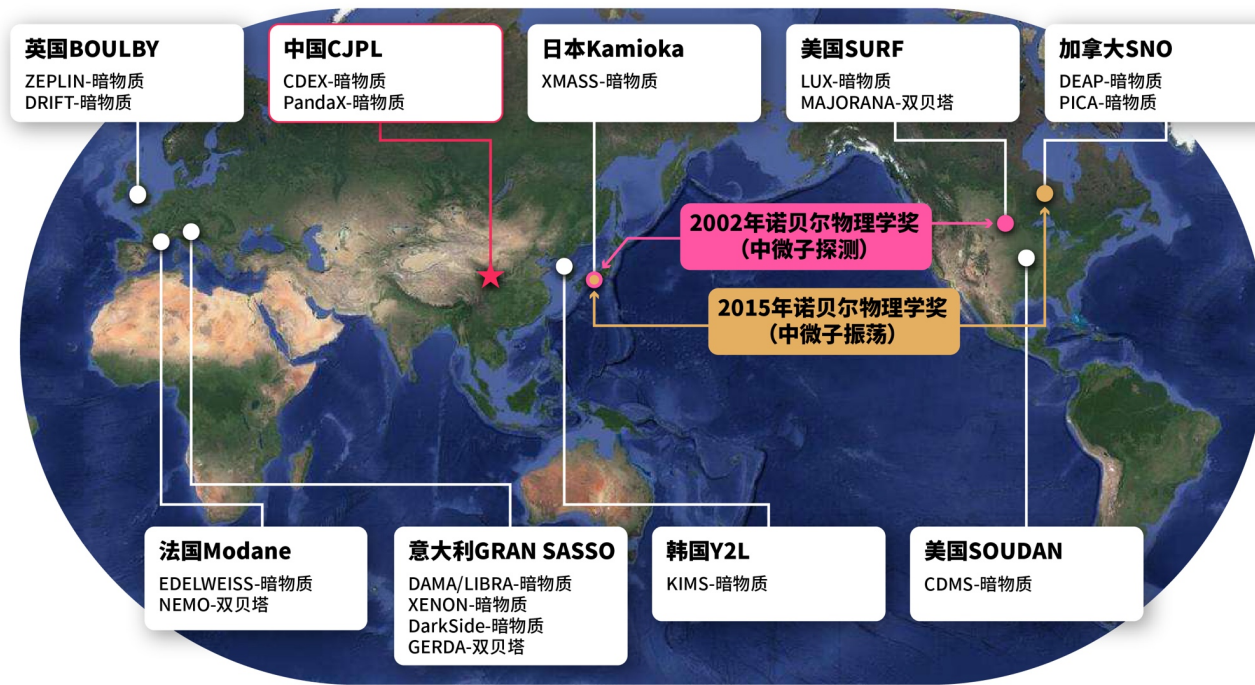
WIMP: hide and seek



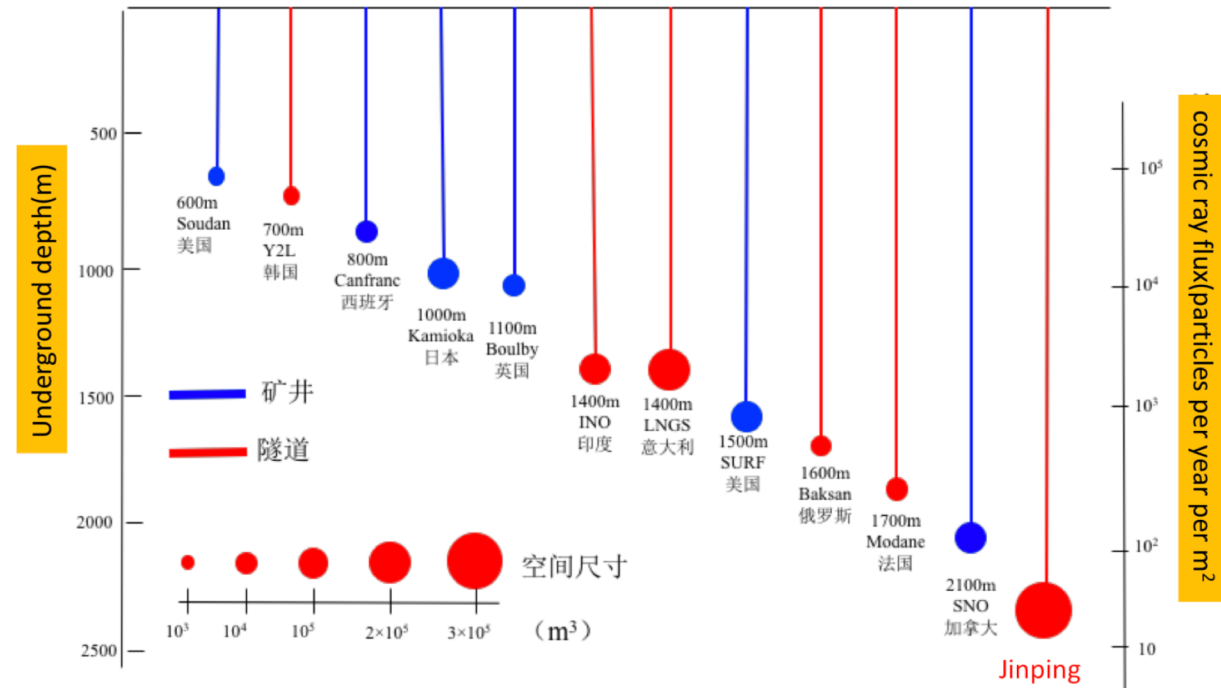
Worldwide underground laboratories

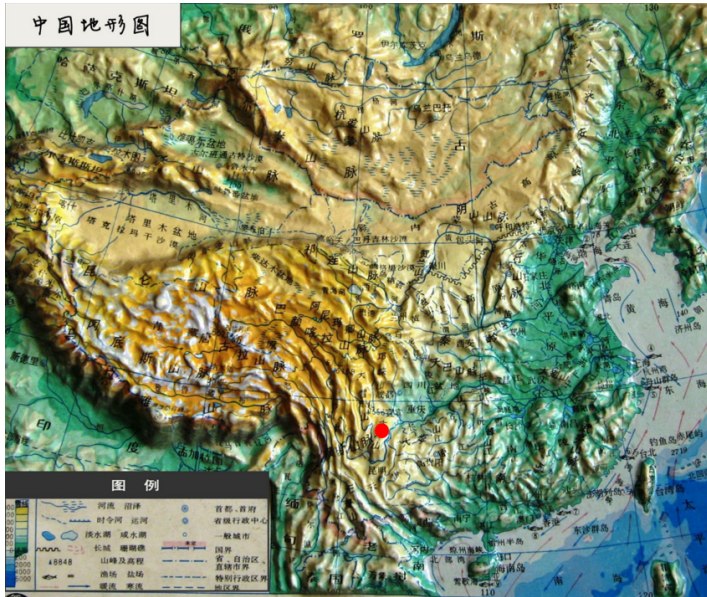


PANDA X
PARTICLE AND ASTROPHYSICAL XENON TPC



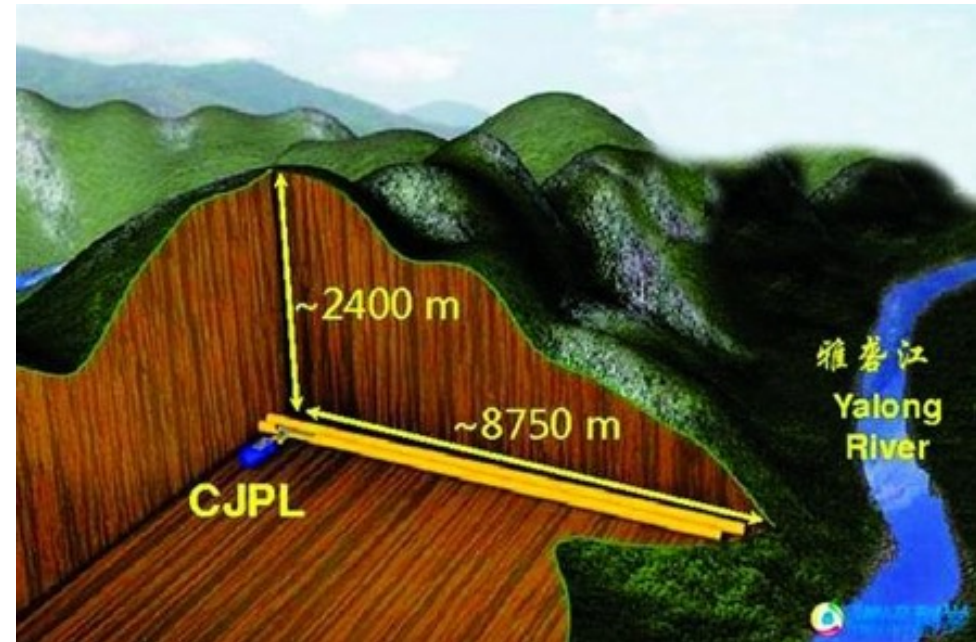
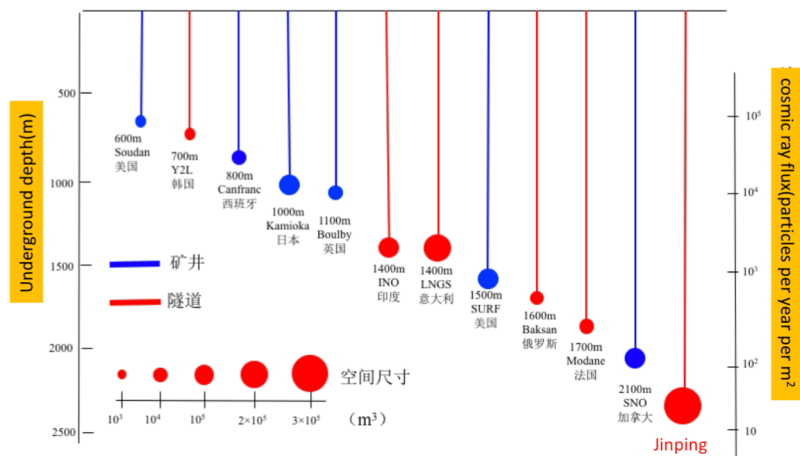
From Hao Ma's slides in China-LRT 2019

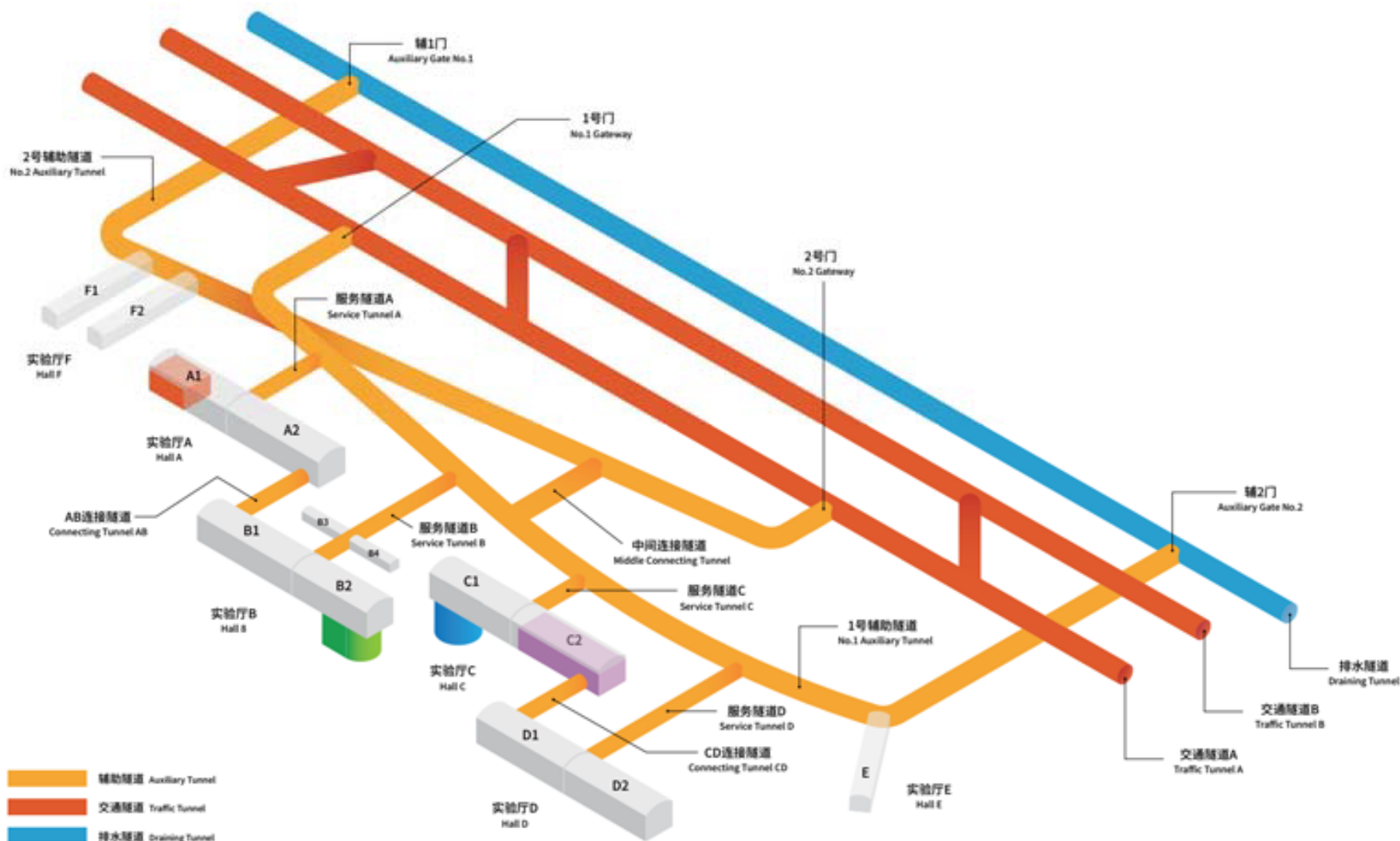




CJPL

- Deepest (6800 m.w.e)
- Horizontal access
- **Muon rate: ~ 1 count/week/m²**





PandaX Collaboration



PANDA X
PARTICLE AND ASTROPHYSICAL XENON TPC

Particle and Astrophysical Xenon Experiments



PandaX experiment

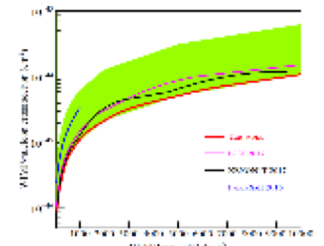
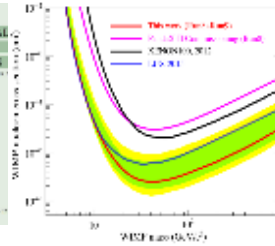
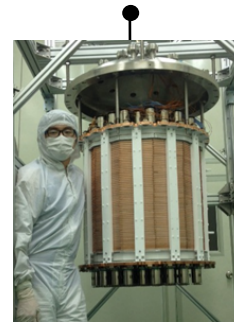
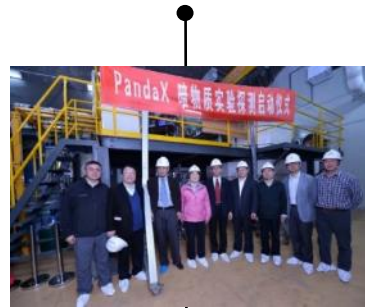


PANDA X
PARTICLE AND ASTROPHYSICAL XENON TPC

Collaboration formed

PandaX-I started

PandaX-II, 580 kg operation



2012.7

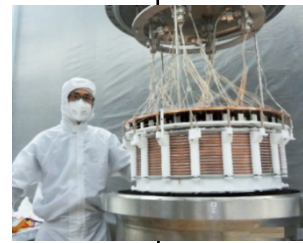
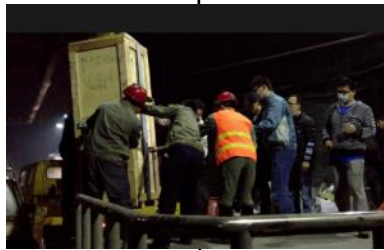
2014.5-10

2019.8-

2009.3

2014.3

2016.7-2019.7



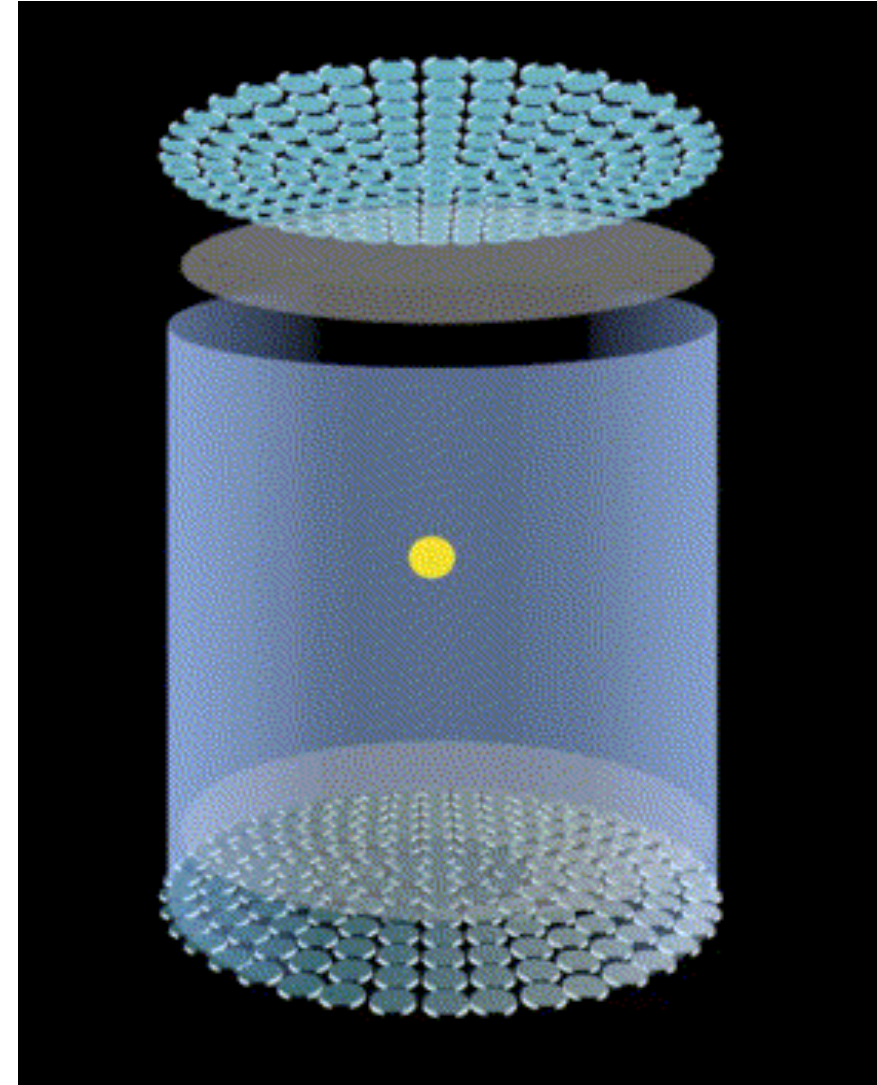
PandaX-I apparatus moved to Jinping

PandaX-I, 120 kg operation

**PandaX-4T moved to CJPL-II
Commissioning was completed**

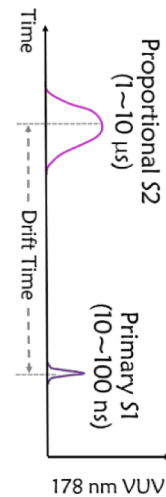
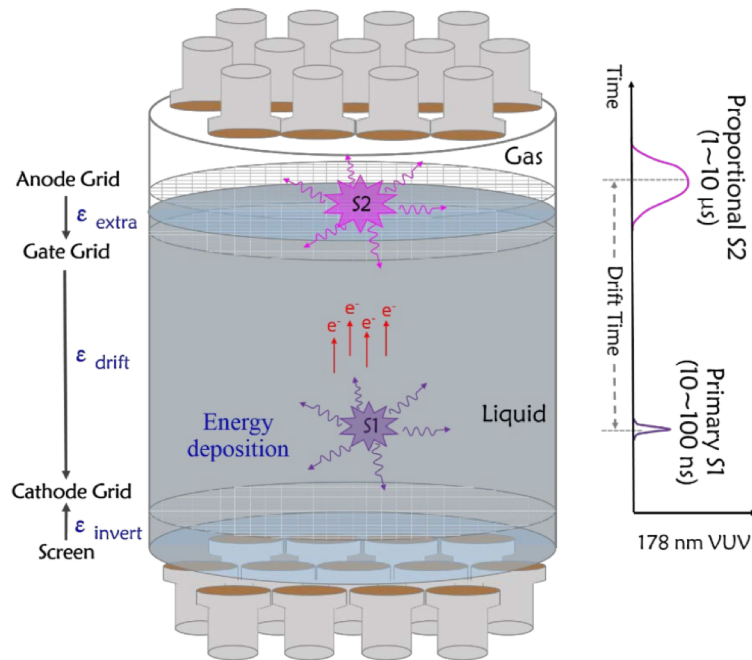


- **Dual-phase xenon time projection chamber**
- **High purity Xe target**
- **Self-shielding**
- **S1: prompt scintillation signal**
 - High light yield
- **S2: delayed ionization signal**
 - Electroluminescence in vapor phase
 - Sensitive to single ionization electrons

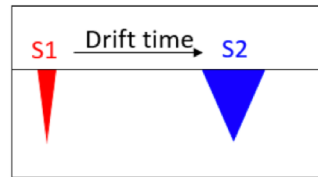


Dual-phase xenon TPC

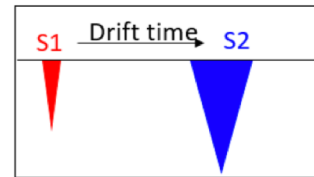
- **S1 + S2 event by event**
 - Electron recoil background rejection by ratio of charge(S2)/light(S1)
- **3D event reconstructions**
 - Z position from S1-S2 drift time
 - X-Y positions from S2 light pattern
 - reject external background



Dark matter: nuclear recoil (NR)

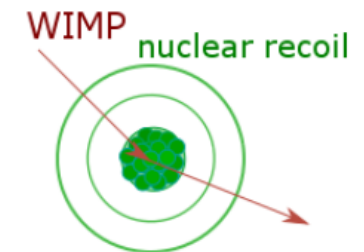
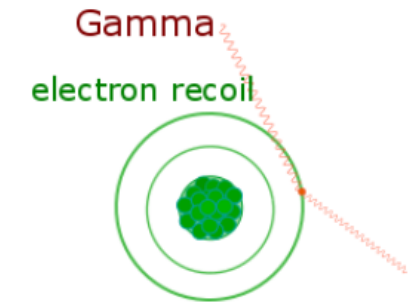
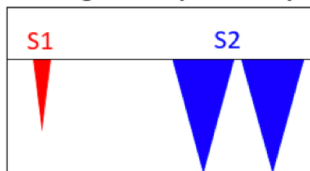


γ background: electron recoil (ER)



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

Multi-site scattering background (ER or NR)



PandaX-4T experiment layout



PANDA X
PARTICLE AND ASTROPHYSICAL XENON TPC

精馏塔

- 在线去除氙杂质
- 更低的TPC内部本底

电子学

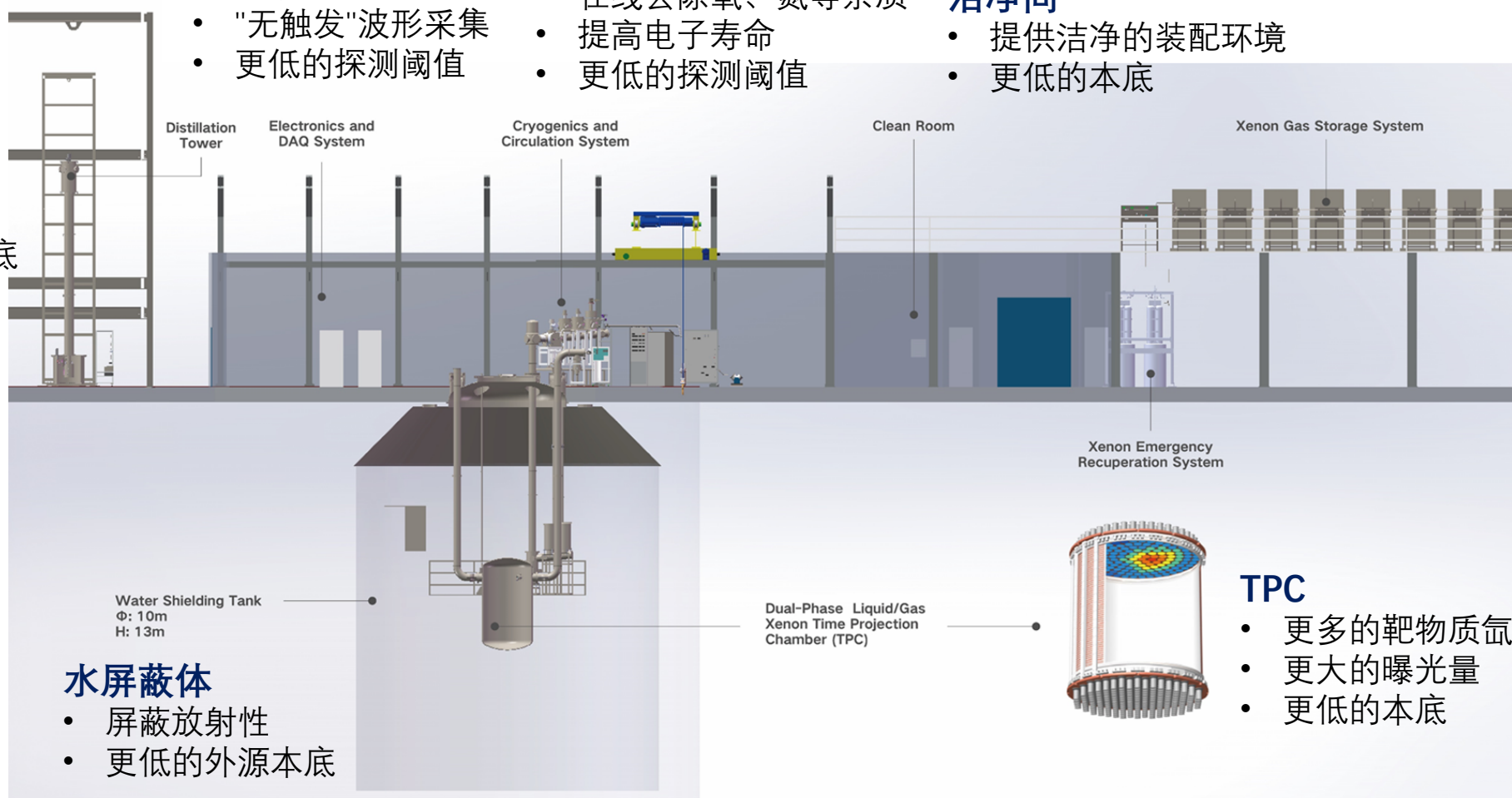
- "无触发"波形采集
- 更低的探测阈值

循环系统

- 在线去除氧、氮等杂质
- 提高电子寿命
- 更低的探测阈值

洁净间

- 提供洁净的装配环境
- 更低的本底



水屏蔽体

- 屏蔽放射性
- 更低的外源本底

TPC

- 更多的靶物质氙
- 更大的曝光量
- 更低的本底



Framework



Water tank



Purified water system



Class 10000 cleanroom



Class 1000 cleanroom



Radon removal system



Gas storage system

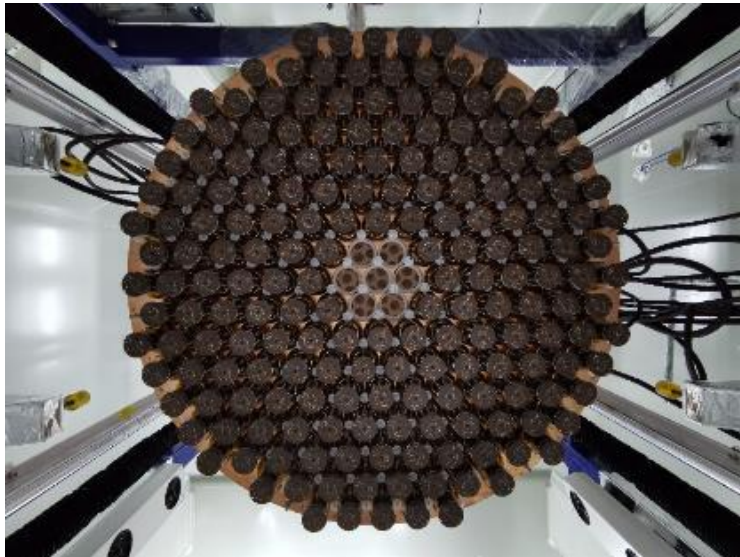
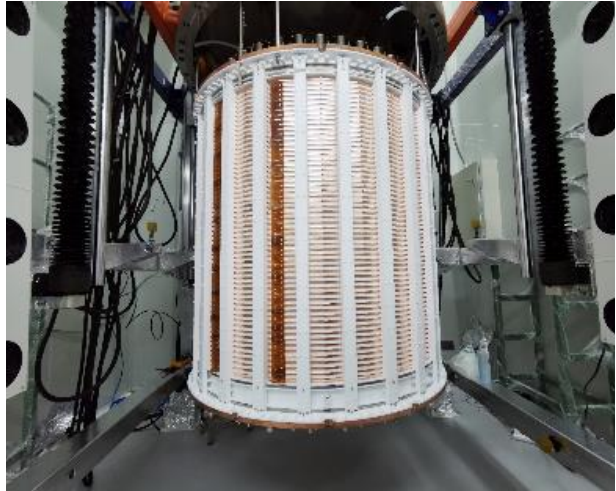


Cryogenics system



Kr distillation tower

TPC installation





Instrumented clean room



PANDA X
PARTICLE AND ASTROPHYSICAL XENON TPC



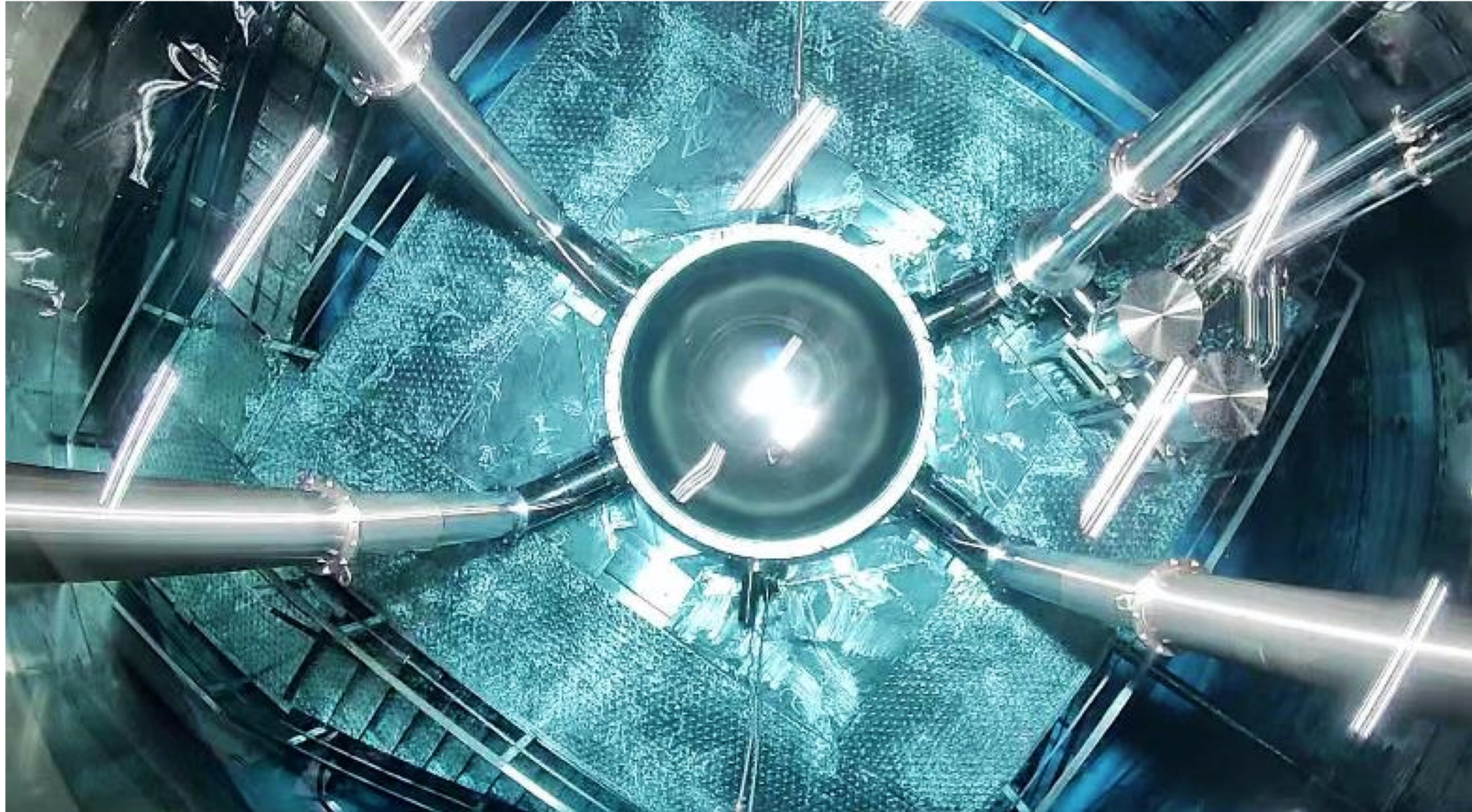
4/7/23

24

Ultrapure water filling



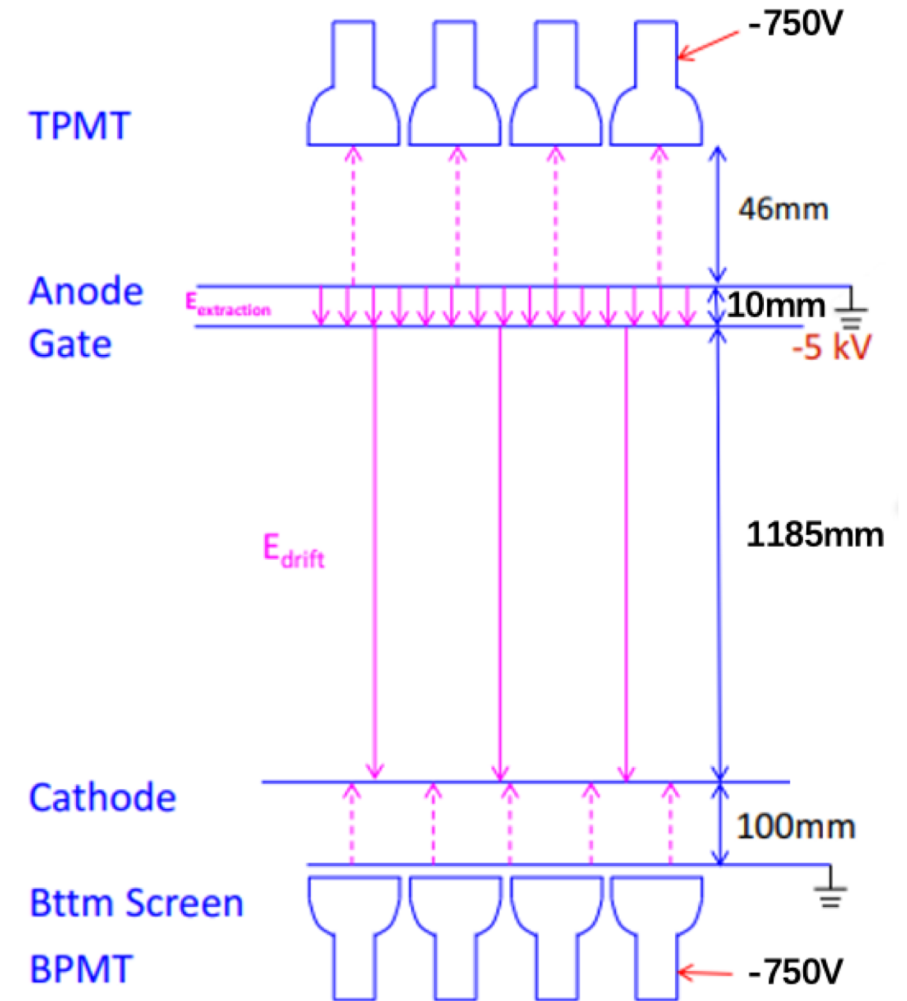
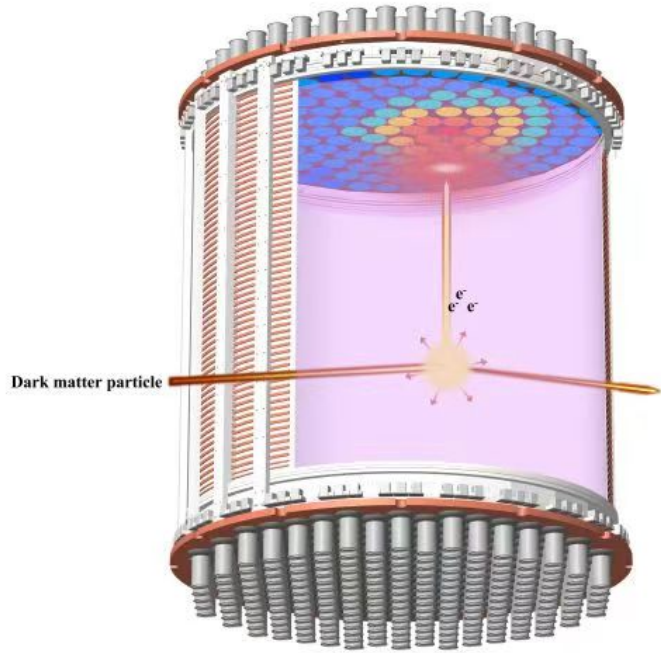
PANDA X
PARTICLE AND ASTROPHYSICAL XENON TPC



4/7/23

25

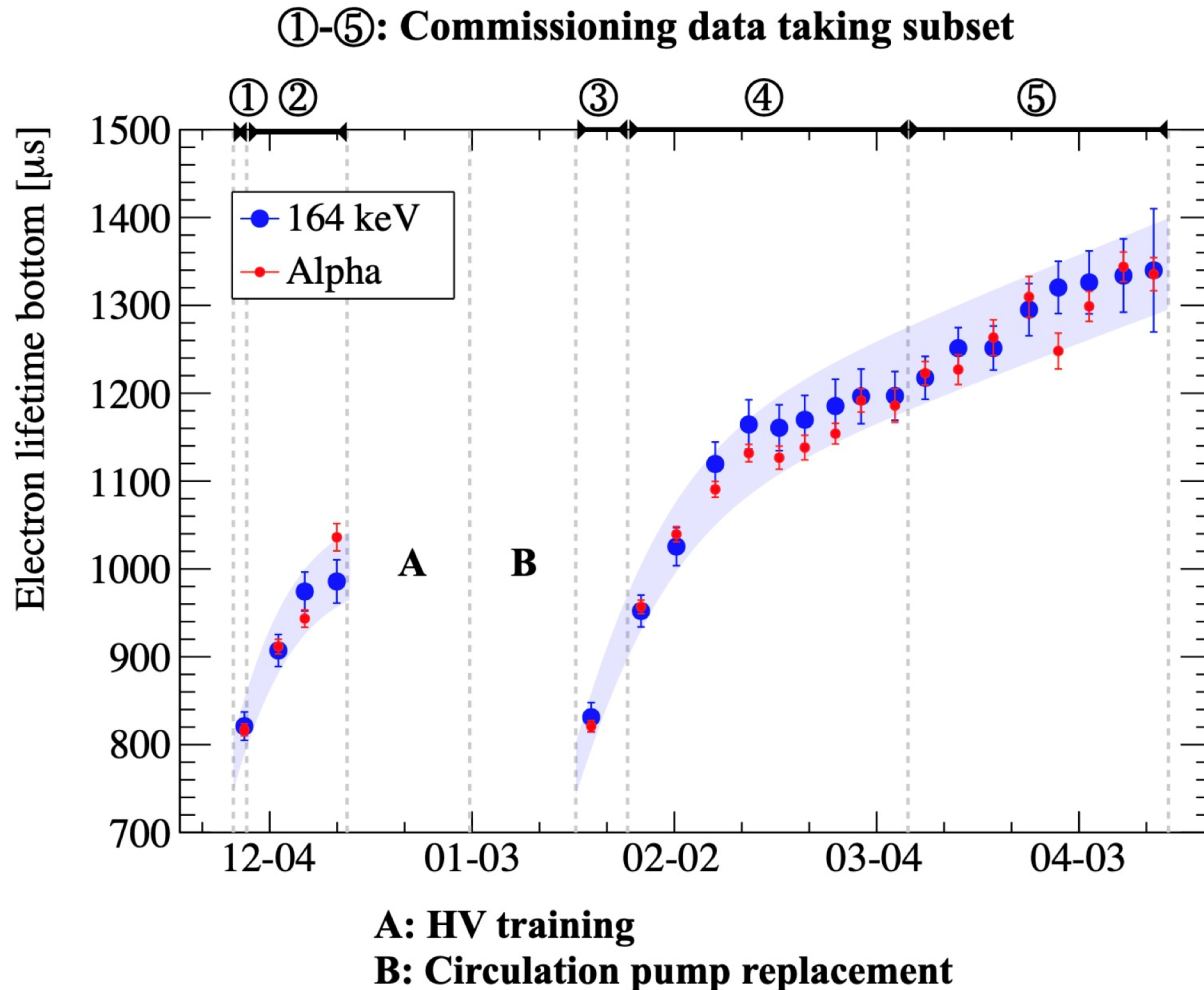
TPC operation conditions



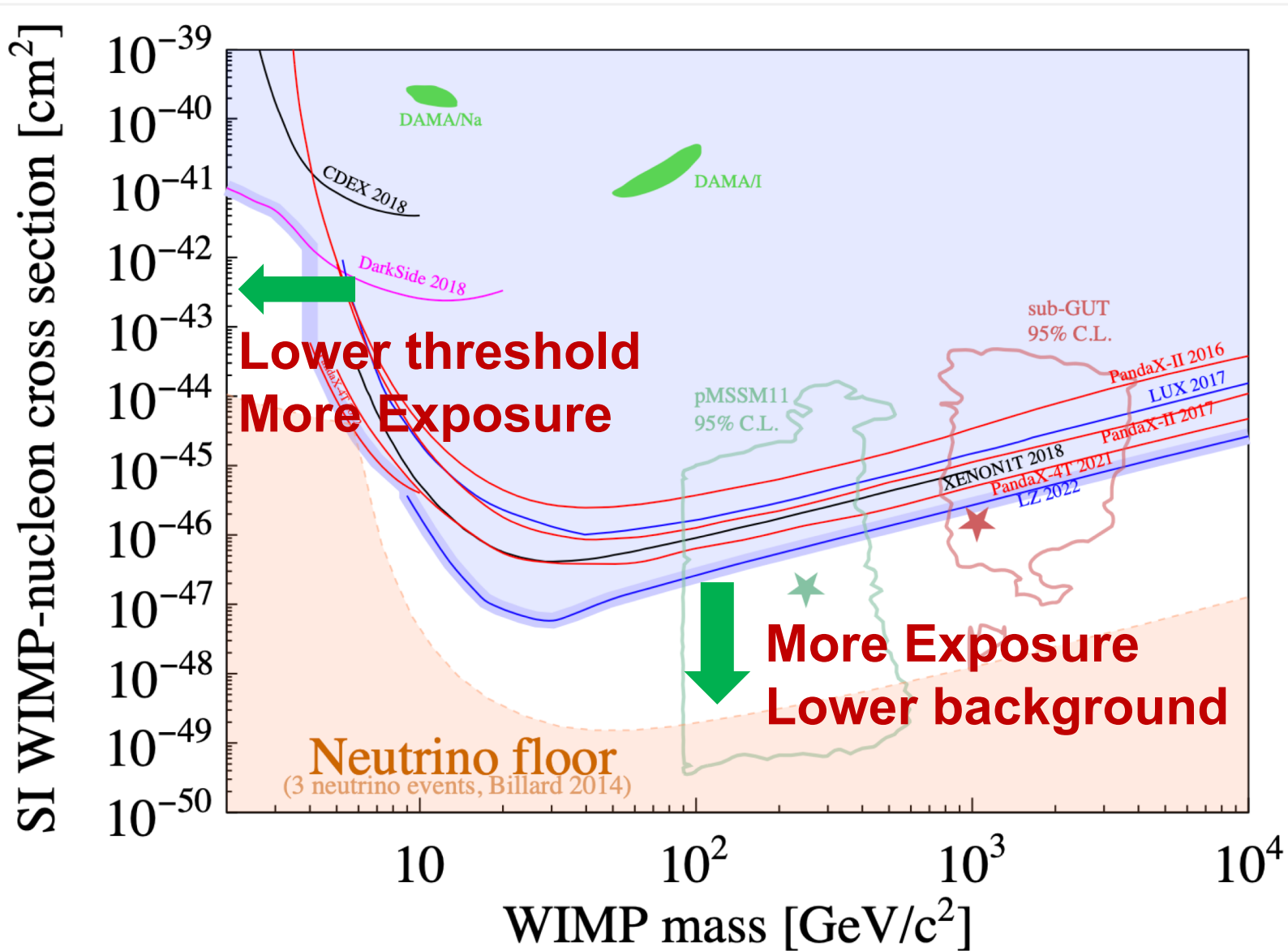
	Set1	Set2	Set3	Set4	Set5
Gate(kV)	-4.9	-5	-5	-5	-5
Cathode (kV)	-20	-18.6	-18	-16	-16

During the run, HV set at a few different values to avoid excessive discharges.

Data Taking History – 5 Subsets



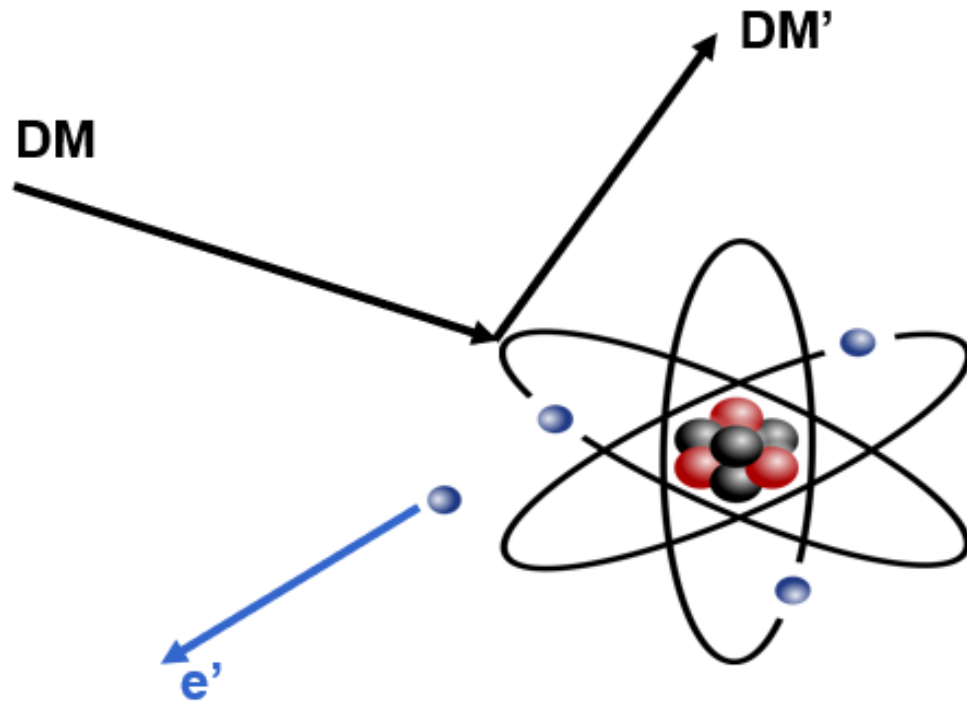
WIMP: hide and seek



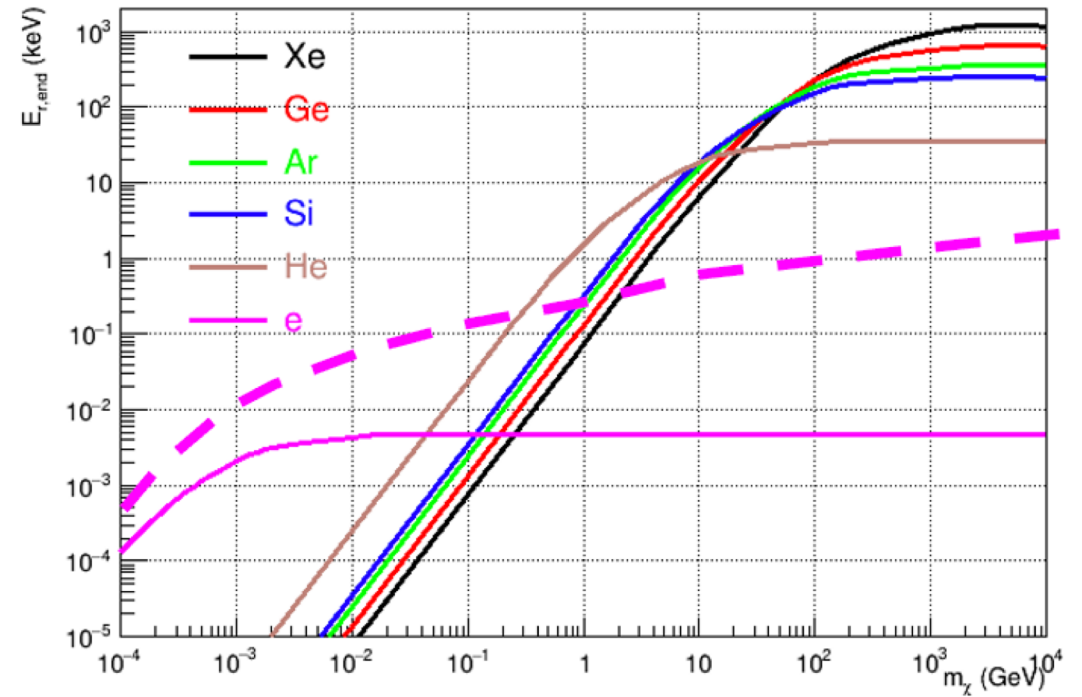


Light DM search

Light DM and shell electron interaction



DM and shell electrons interaction



Recoil energy for different targets

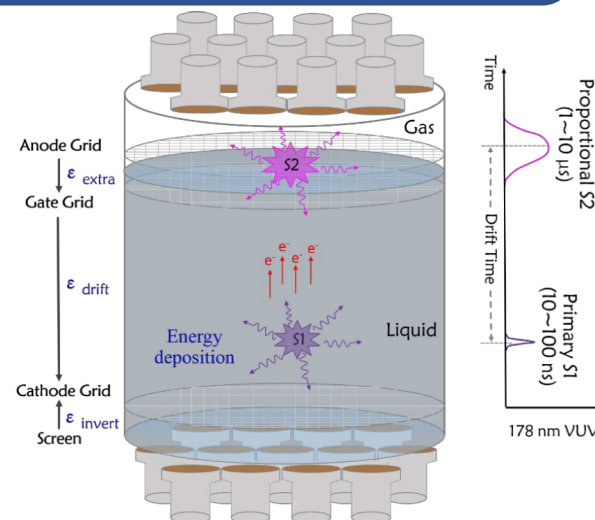


Conventional DM search

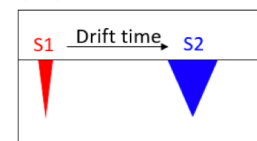
- **S1 + S2 paired event analysis**
 - Electron recoil background rejection by ratio of charge(S2)/light(S1)
 - Z position from S1-S2 drift time
 - X-Y positions from S2 light pattern

Light DM search

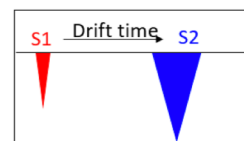
- **Un-paired S2 (US2) analysis**
 - Lower energy threshold ~ 70 eV, comparing energy threshold ~ 1 keV with S1 + S2 paired analysis
 - Sensitive to light DM (sub-GeV) interaction



Dark matter: nuclear recoil (NR)

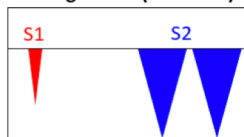


γ background: electron recoil (ER)

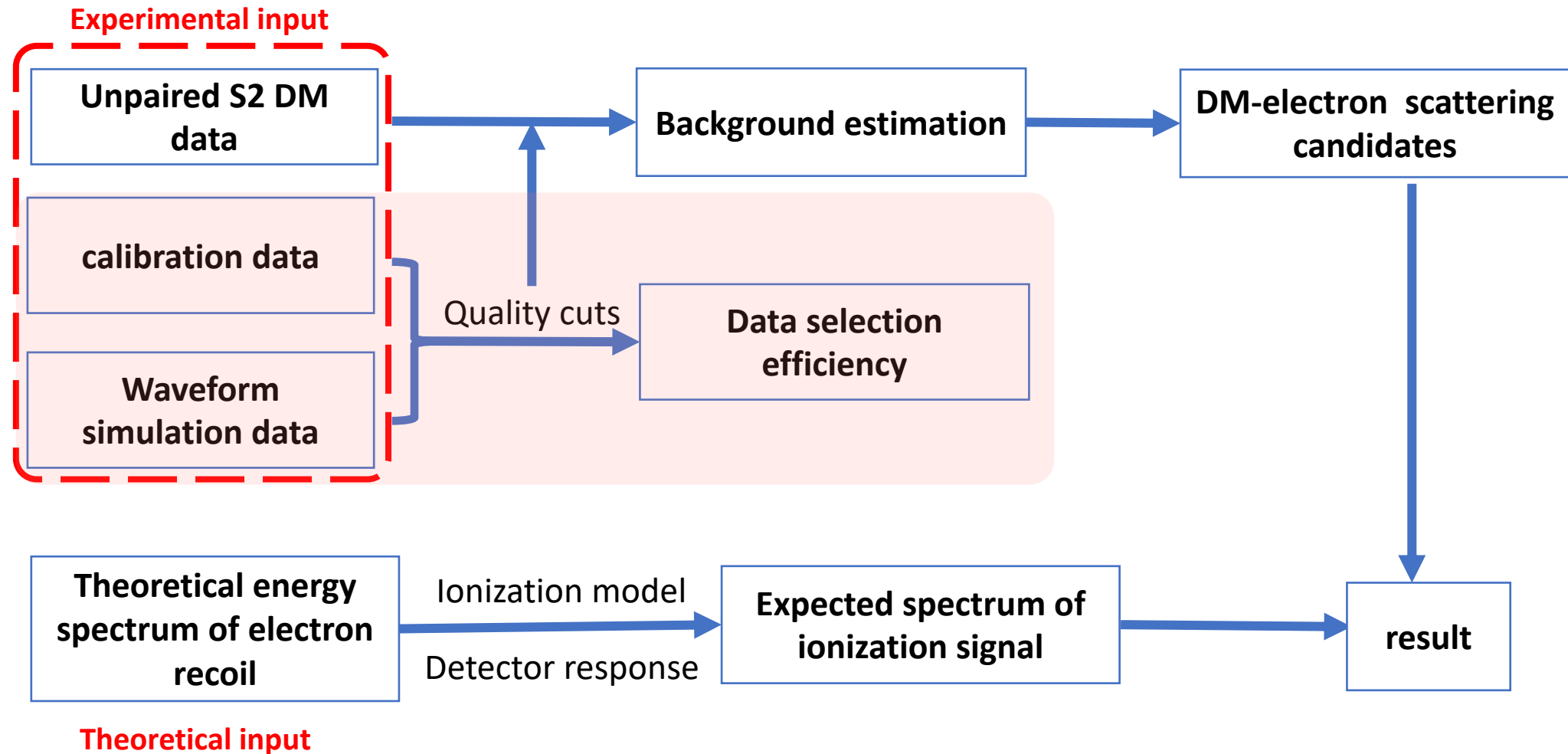


$$(S2/S1)_{NR} \ll (S2/S1)_{ER}$$

Multi-site scattering background (ER or NR)



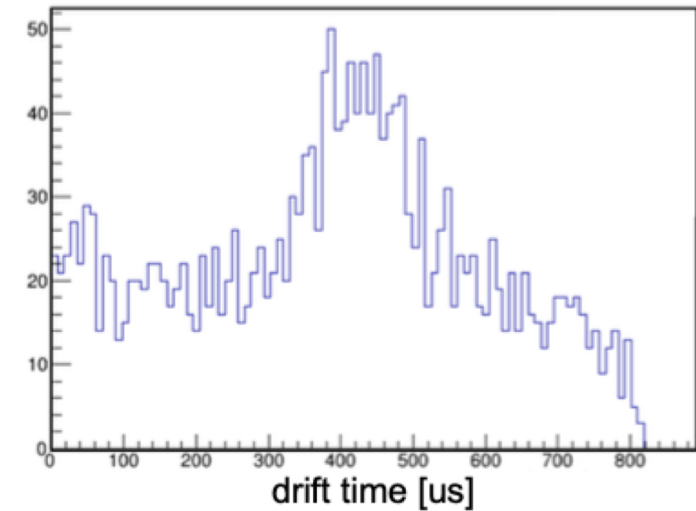
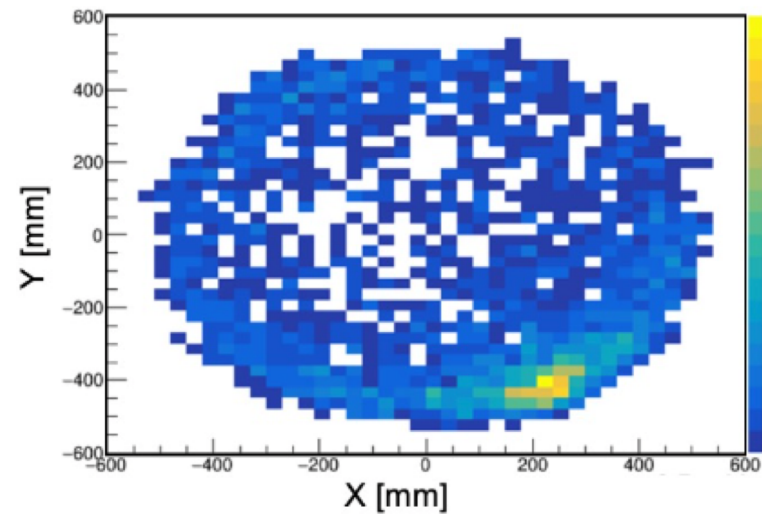
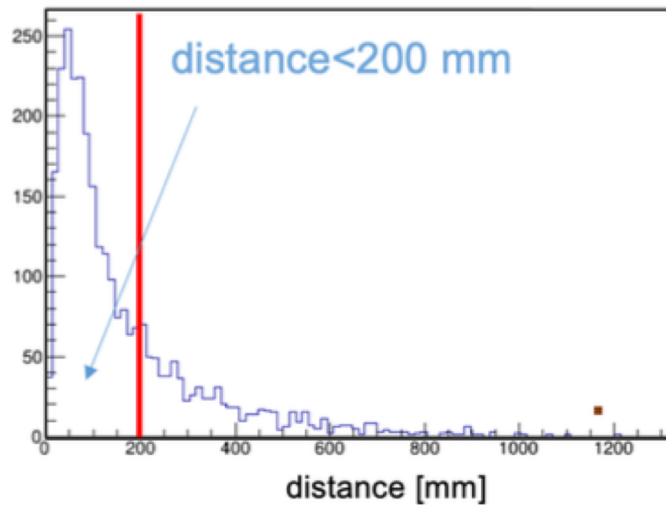
Analysis flow





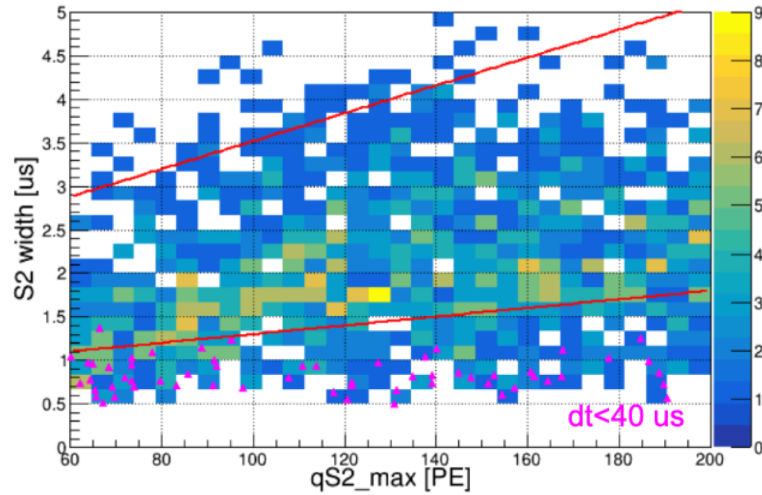
Data sets:

1. Double scattering events from neutron calibration data from AmBe and DD
2. Waveform simulation data

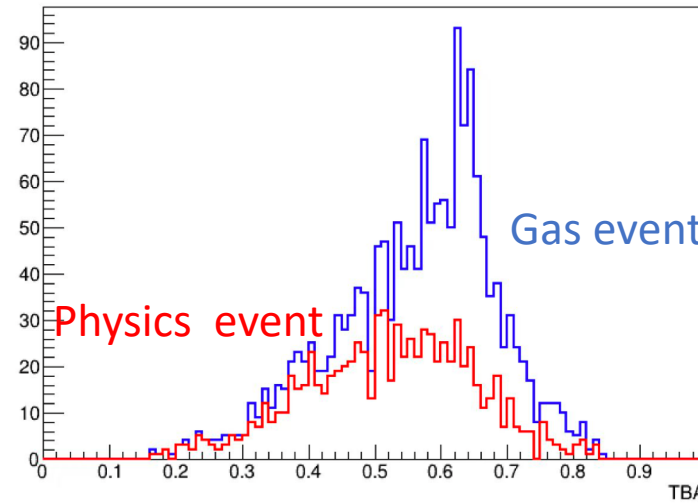




Cathode event and gas event

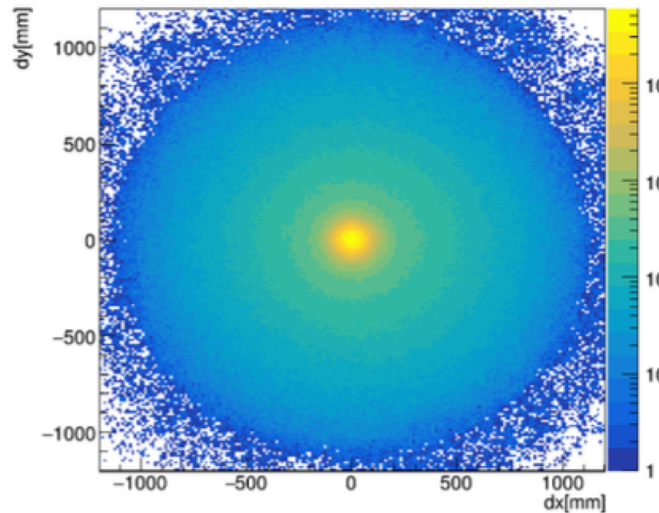


Gas event

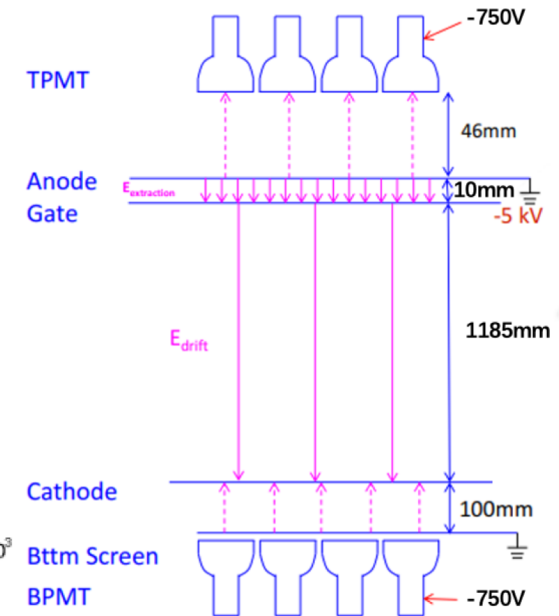
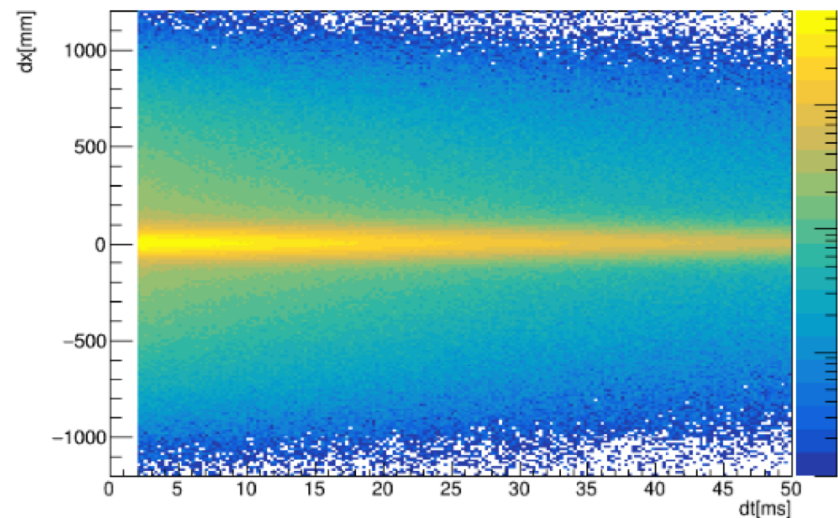


Electron burst event

Relative position distribution

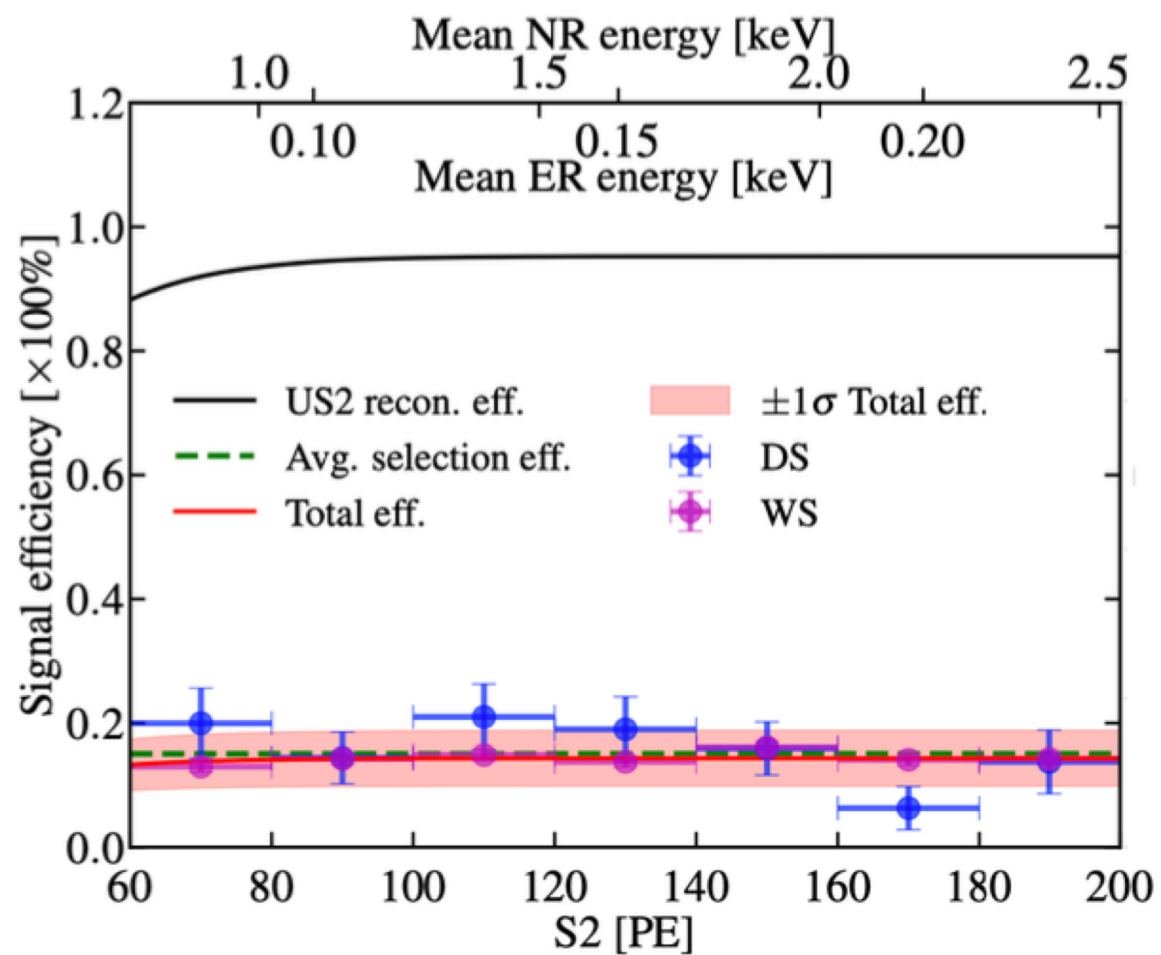


dx time distribution

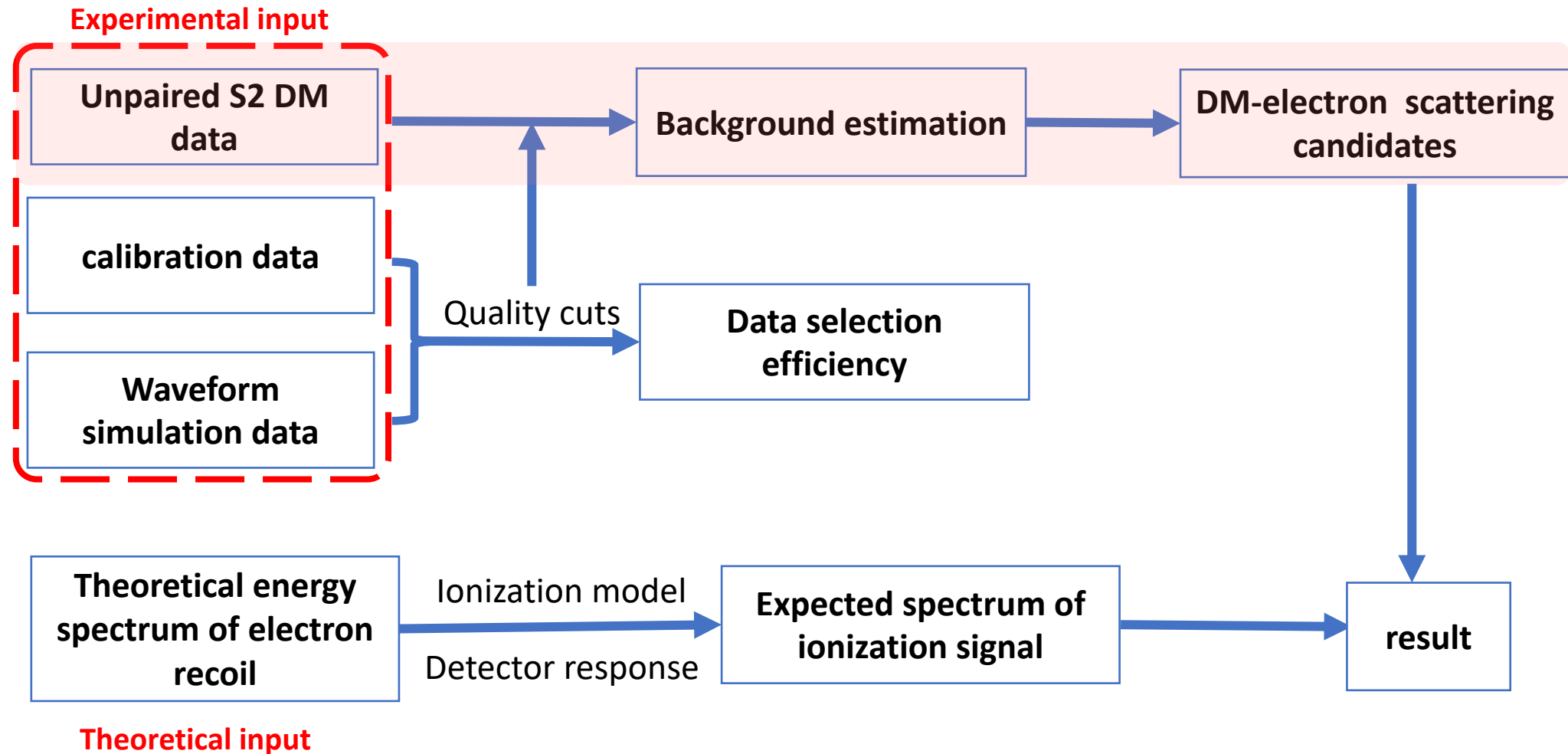




Data selection efficiency

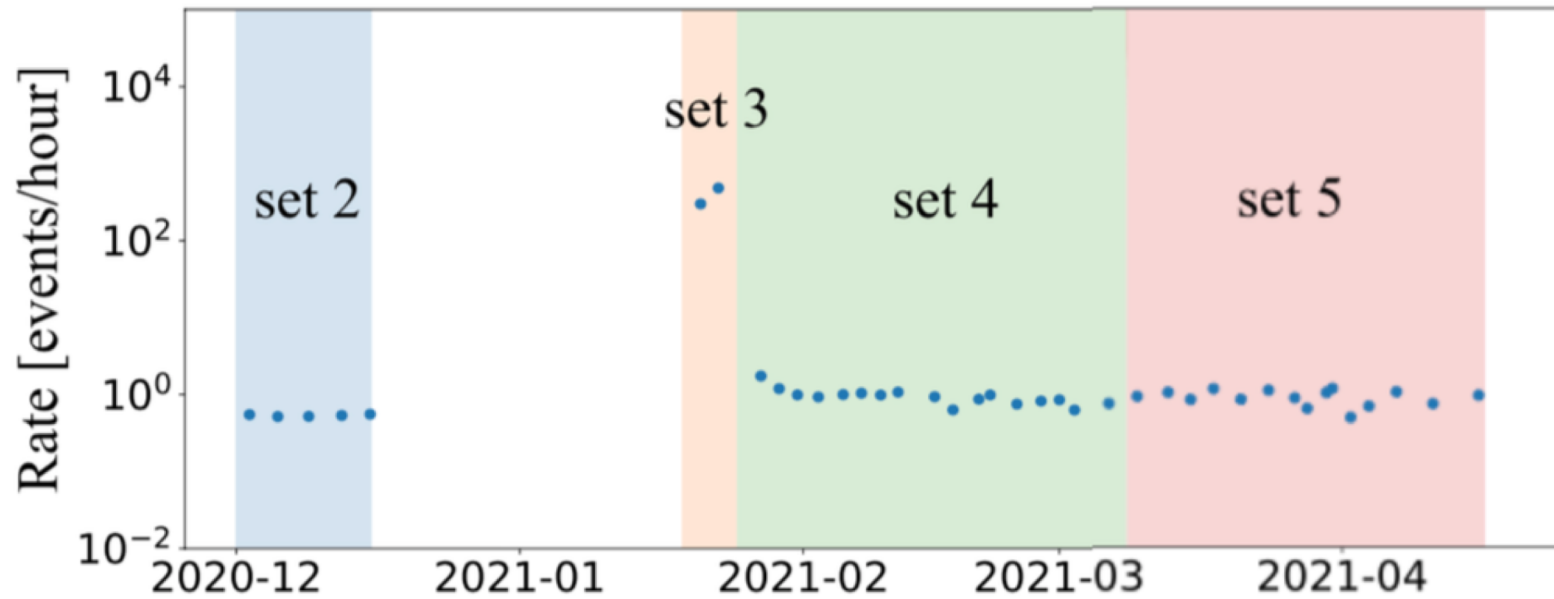


Analysis flow

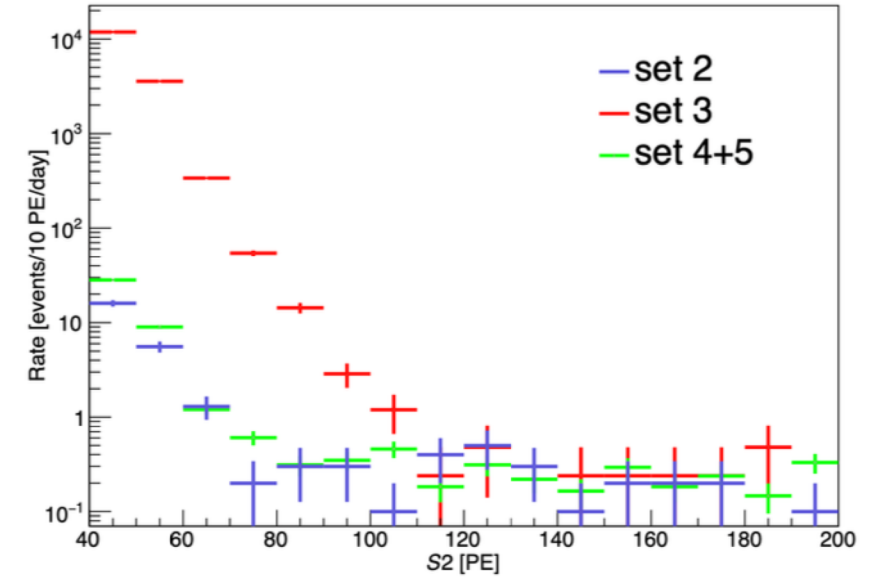




- Micro-discharging background



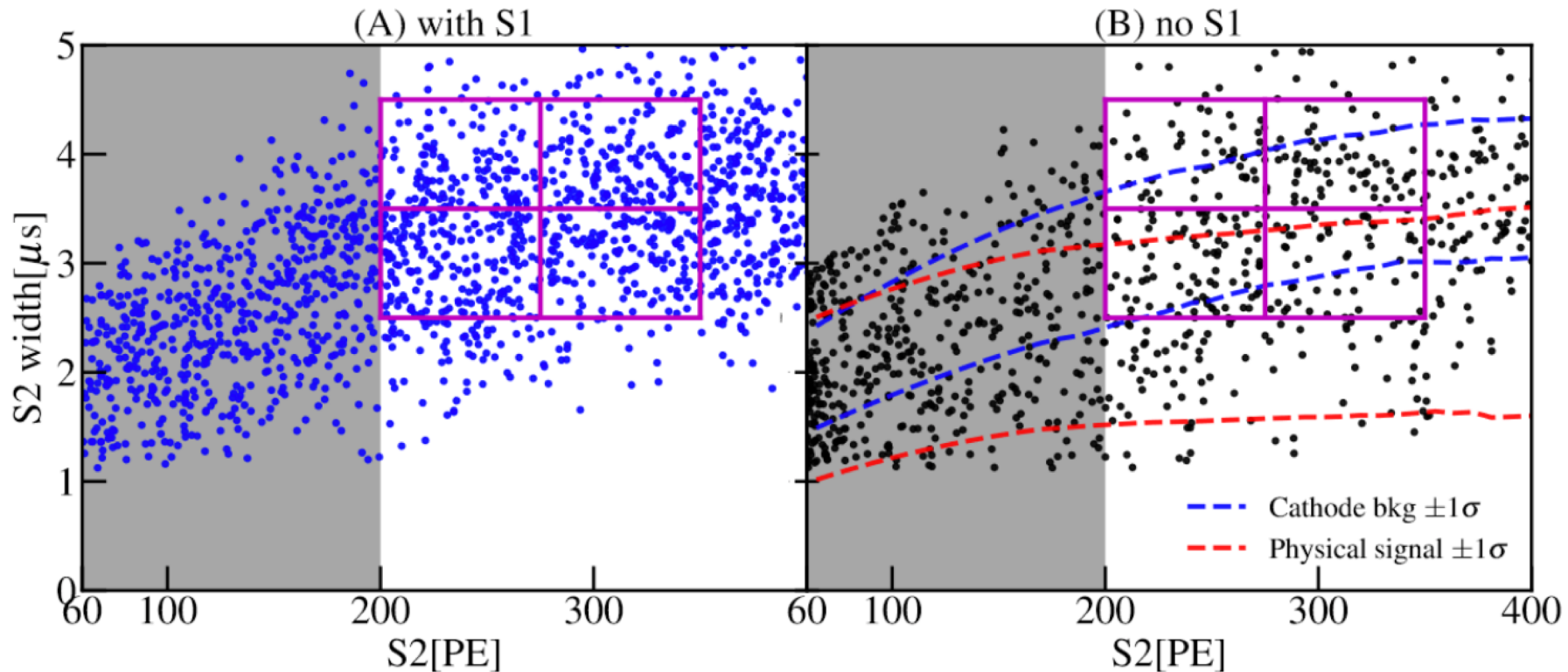
Time evolution



MD S2 shape



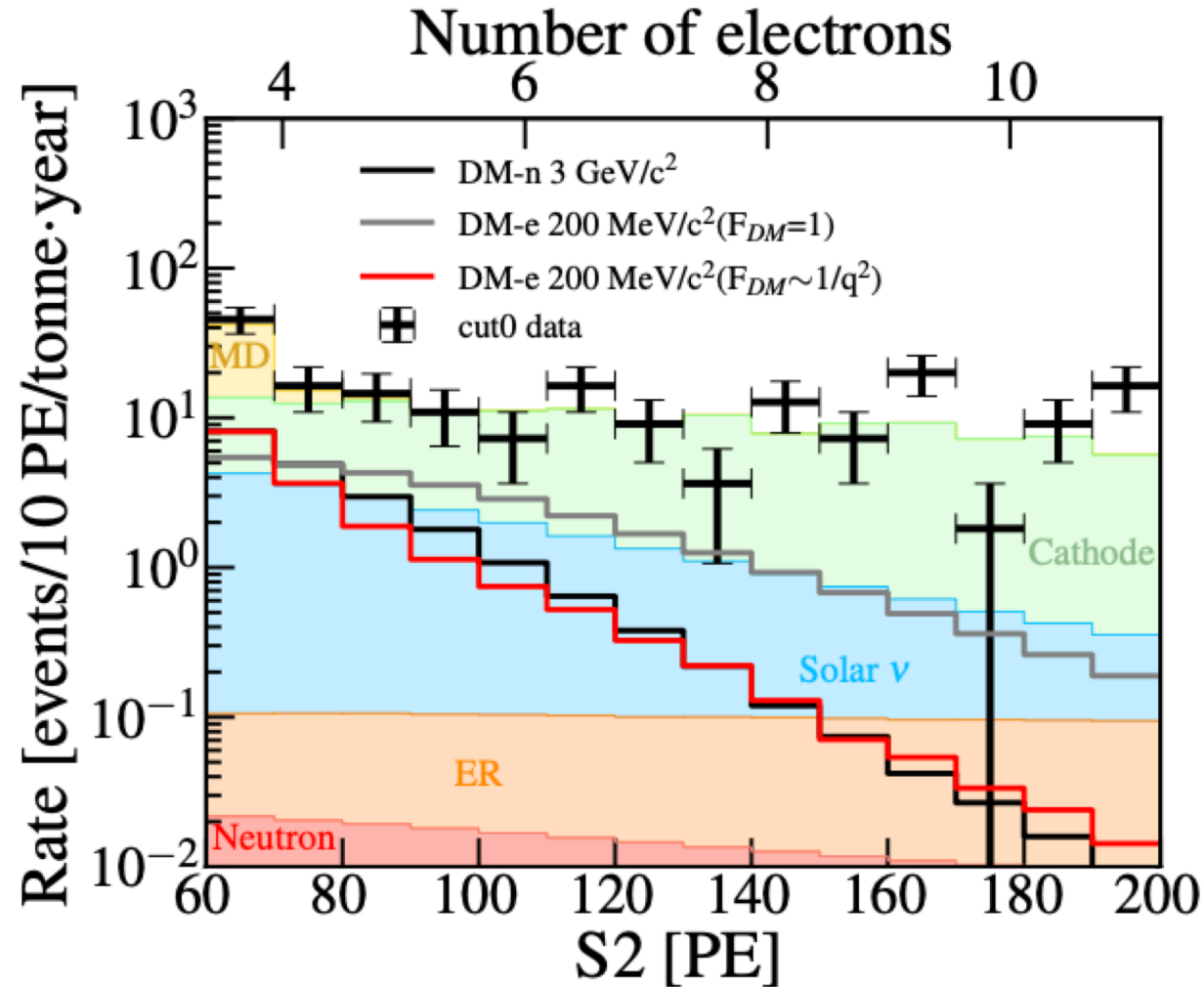
- Cathode background



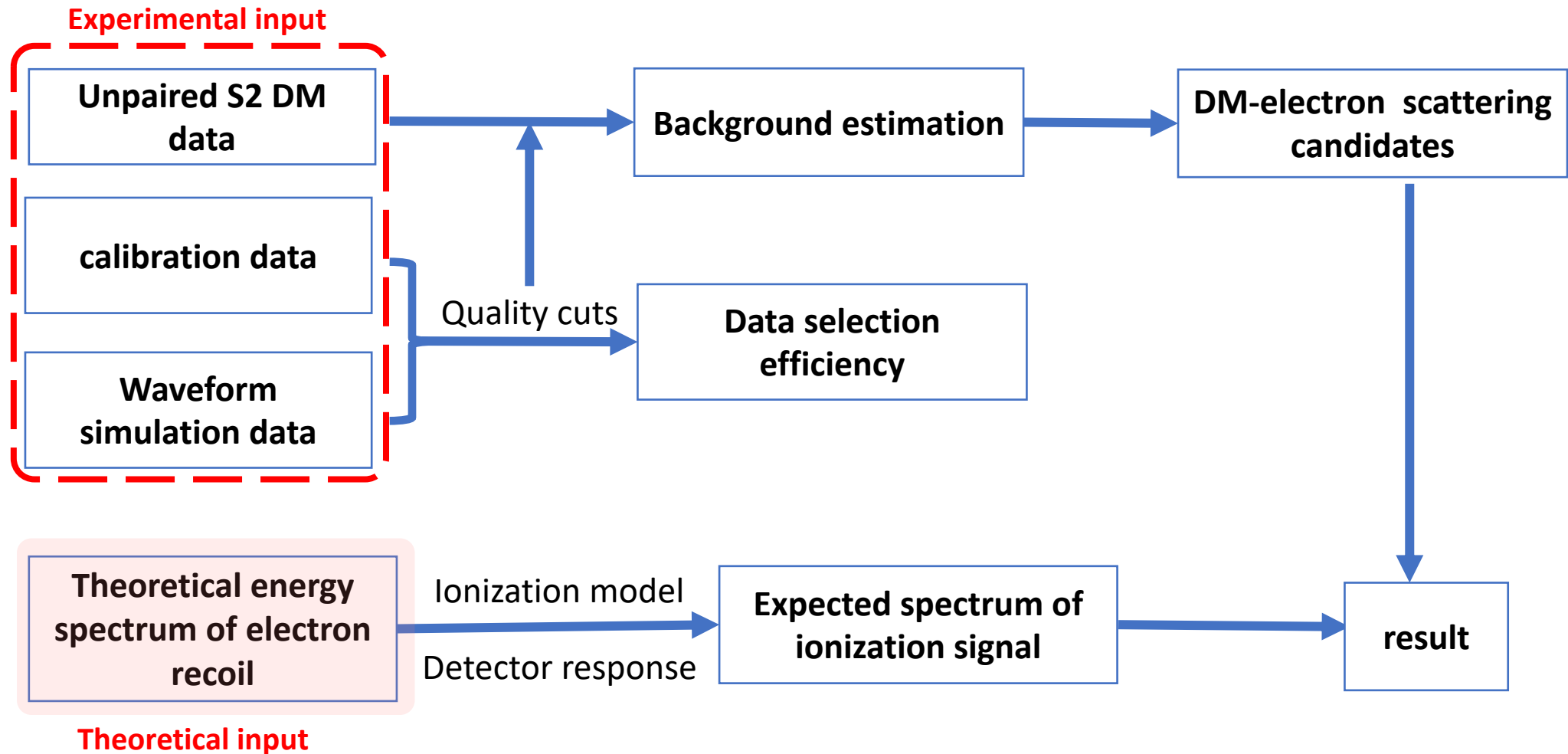
The ratio of cathode background in the control region is used to extrapolate the ratio in the ROI.



- Background contribution



Analysis flow



Theoretical energy spectrum of electron recoil



- Ionization in atoms scenario: DM may scatter with an electron bound in energy level i , ionizing it to an un-bounded state with positive energy

- Differential event rate

$$\frac{dR_{\text{ion}}}{dE_e} = N_T \frac{\rho_\chi}{m_\chi} \sum_{nl} \frac{\bar{\sigma}_e}{8\mu_{\chi e}^2 E_e} \int dq |F_{\text{DM}}(q)|^2 |f_{\text{ion}}^{nl}(k, q)|^2 \eta(v_{\text{min}}(q, E_e))$$

N_T : atomic number of Xe

q : transfer momentum

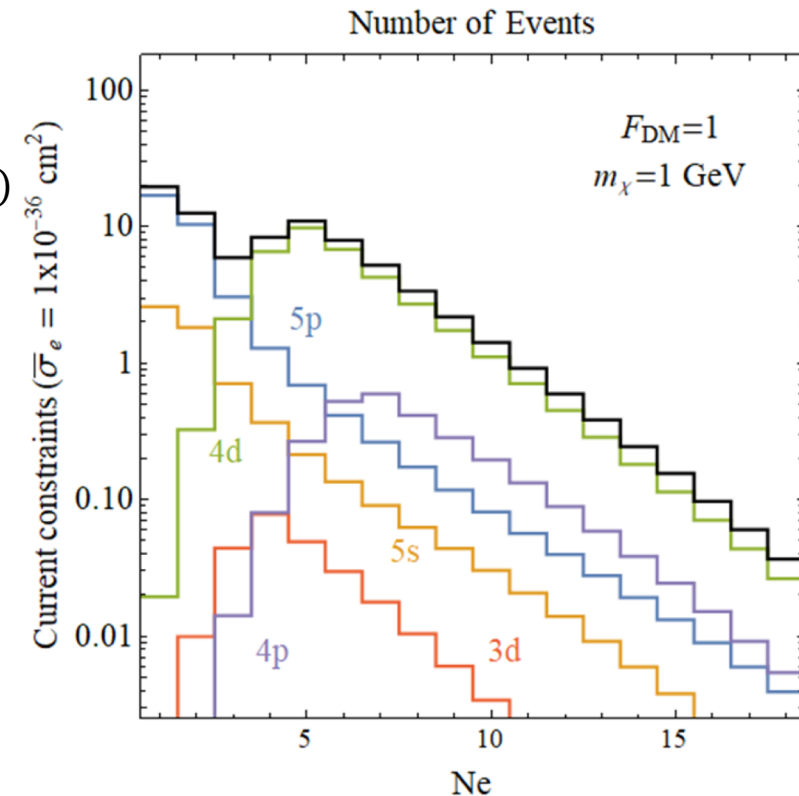
k : final momentum of electrons

$\mu_{\chi e}$: electron-WIMP scattering mass

$F_{\text{DM}}(q)$: DM Form Factor

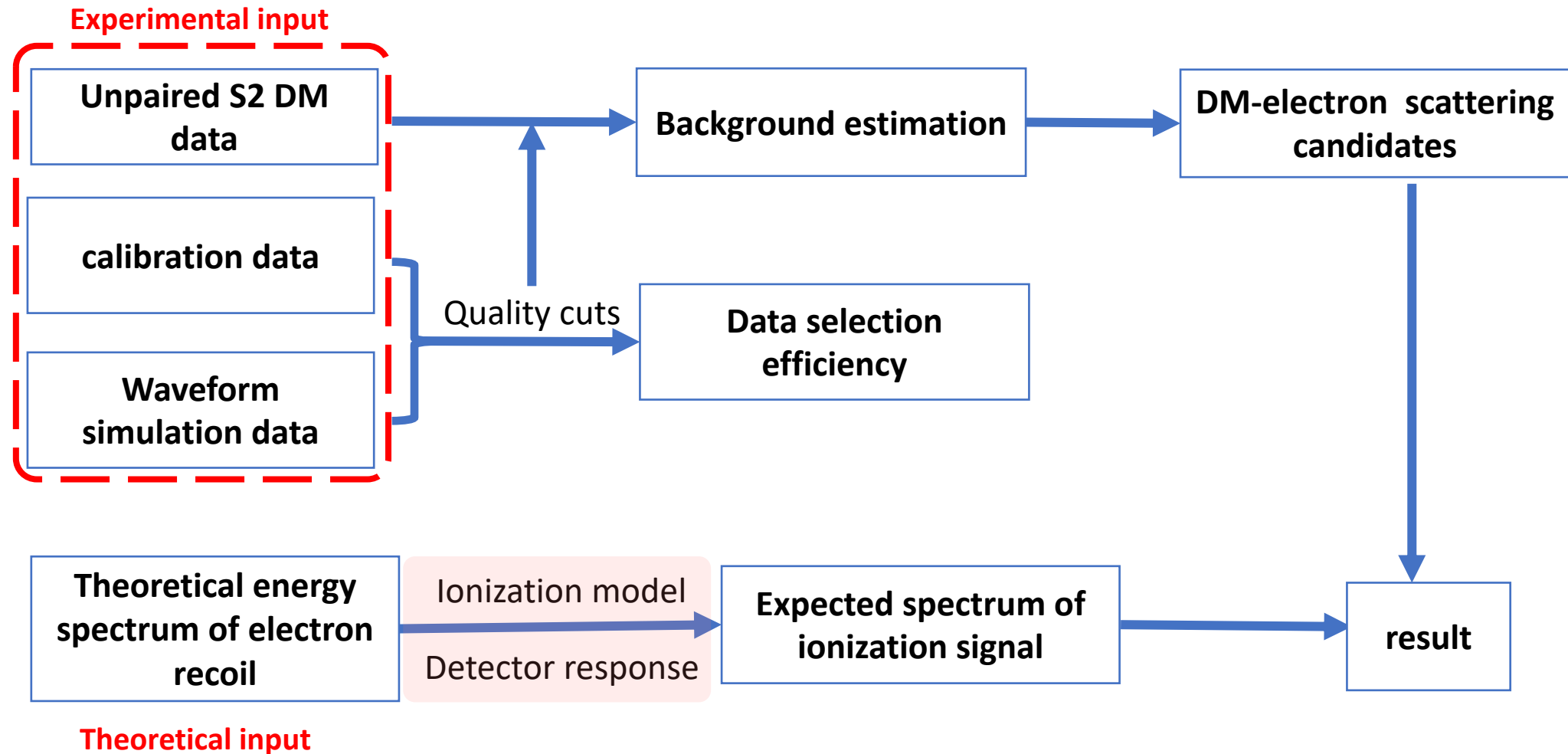
$f_{\text{ion}}^{nl}(k, q)$: Ionization Form Factor

PHYSICAL REVIEW D 85, 076007 (2012)



Electron-DM scattering ionization electron spectra in different shells (Assume $m_\chi=1 \text{ GeV}$, $\sigma = 10^{-36} \text{ cm}^2$)

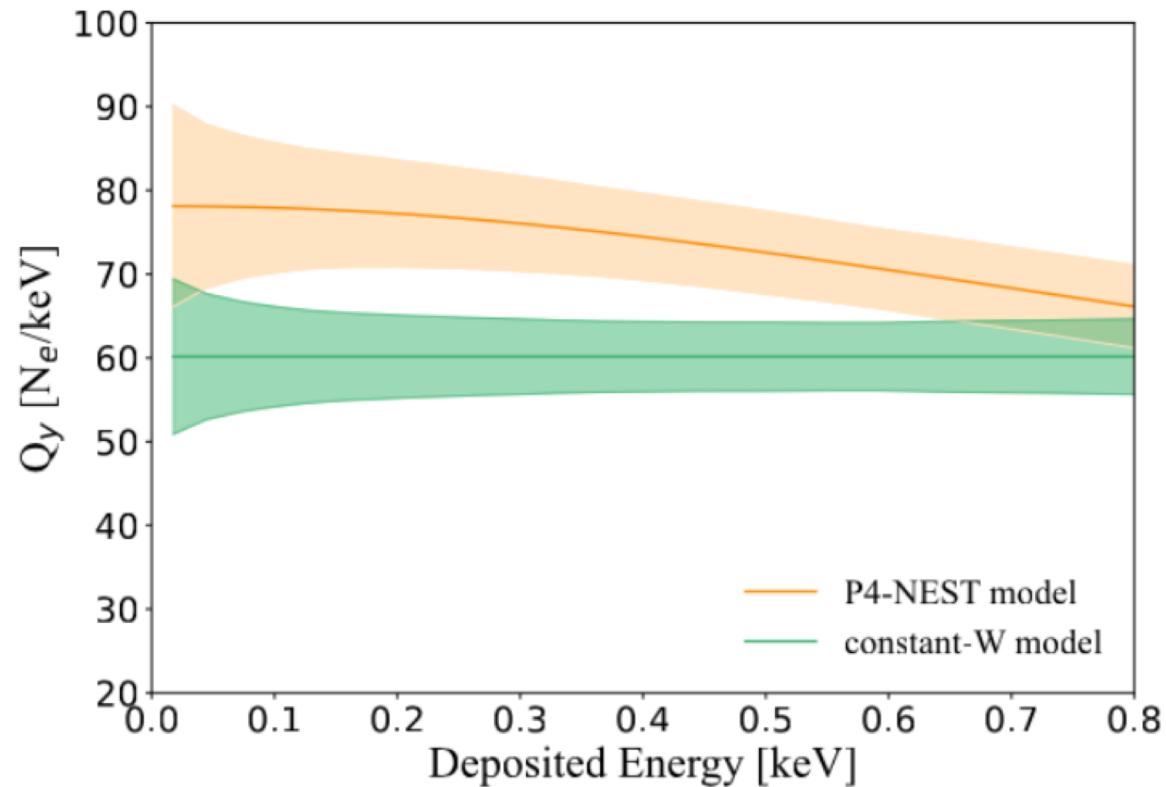
Analysis flow



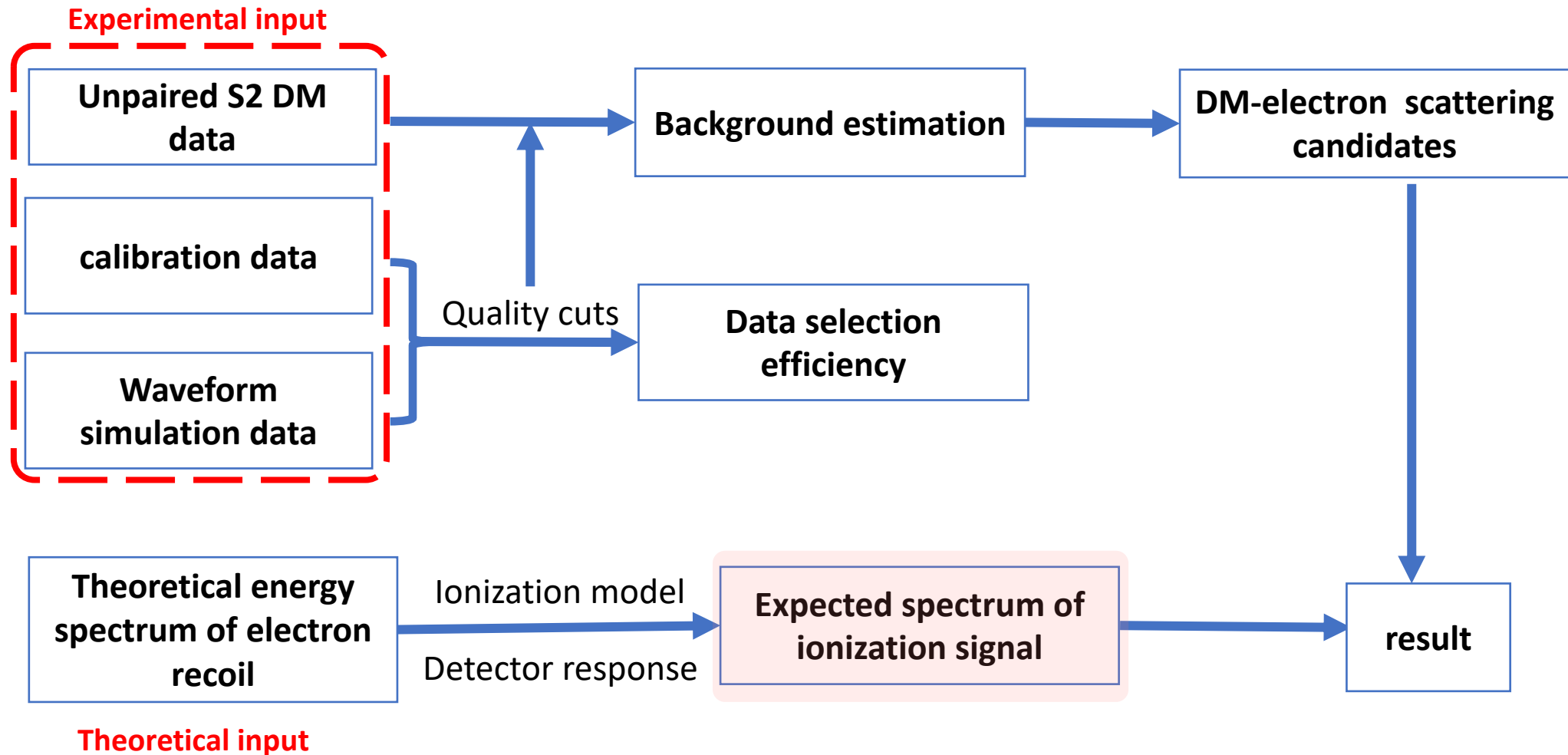
Ionization model and detector response



- Two models (P4-NEST model and constant) to describe produced ionized electrons are compared.
- Constant model is selected to conservative estimate the number of primary ionized electrons.
- Detector responses



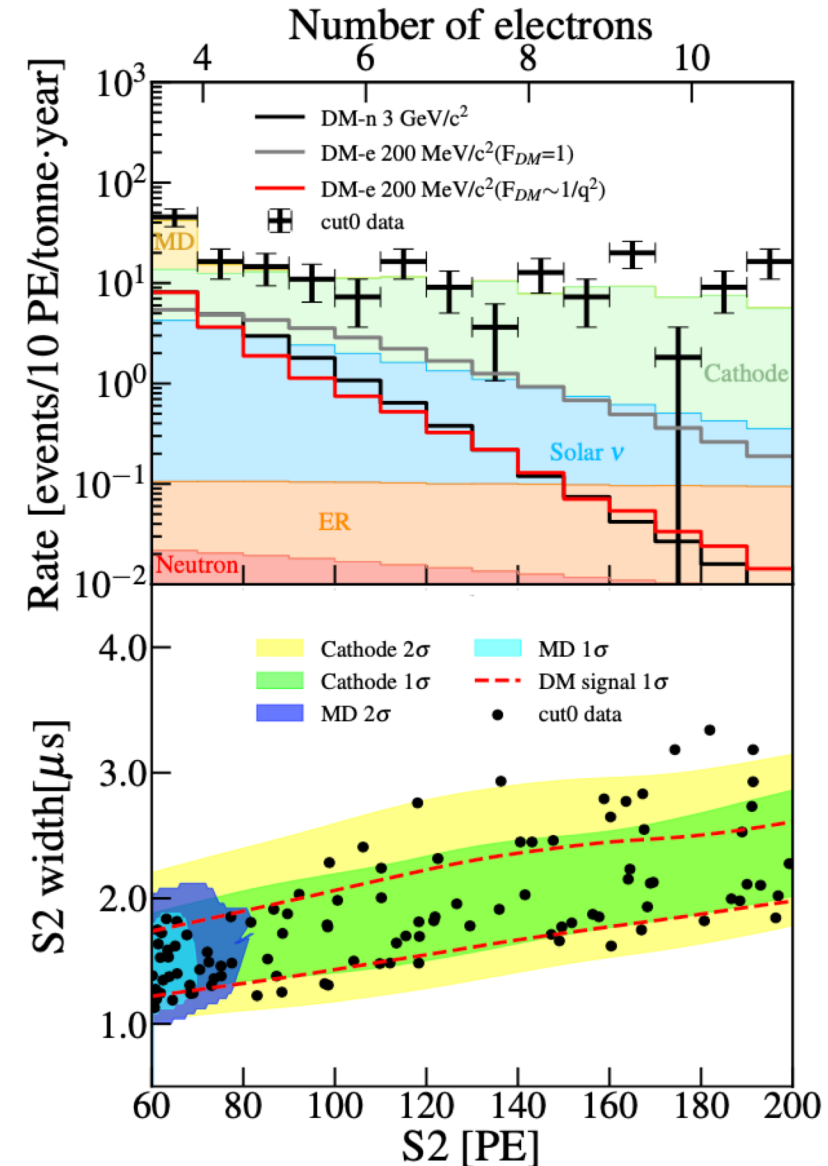
Analysis flow



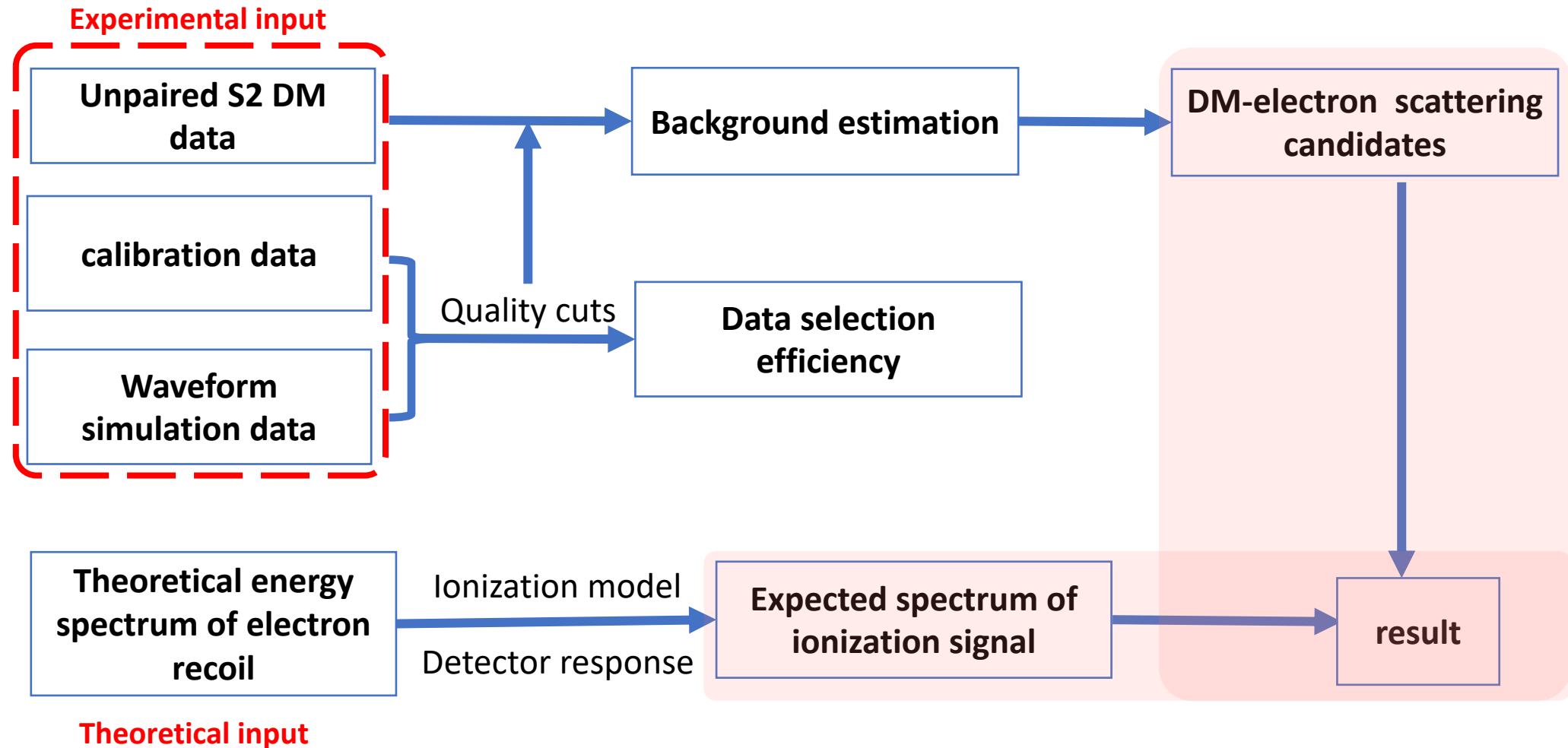
Expected spectrum of ionization signal



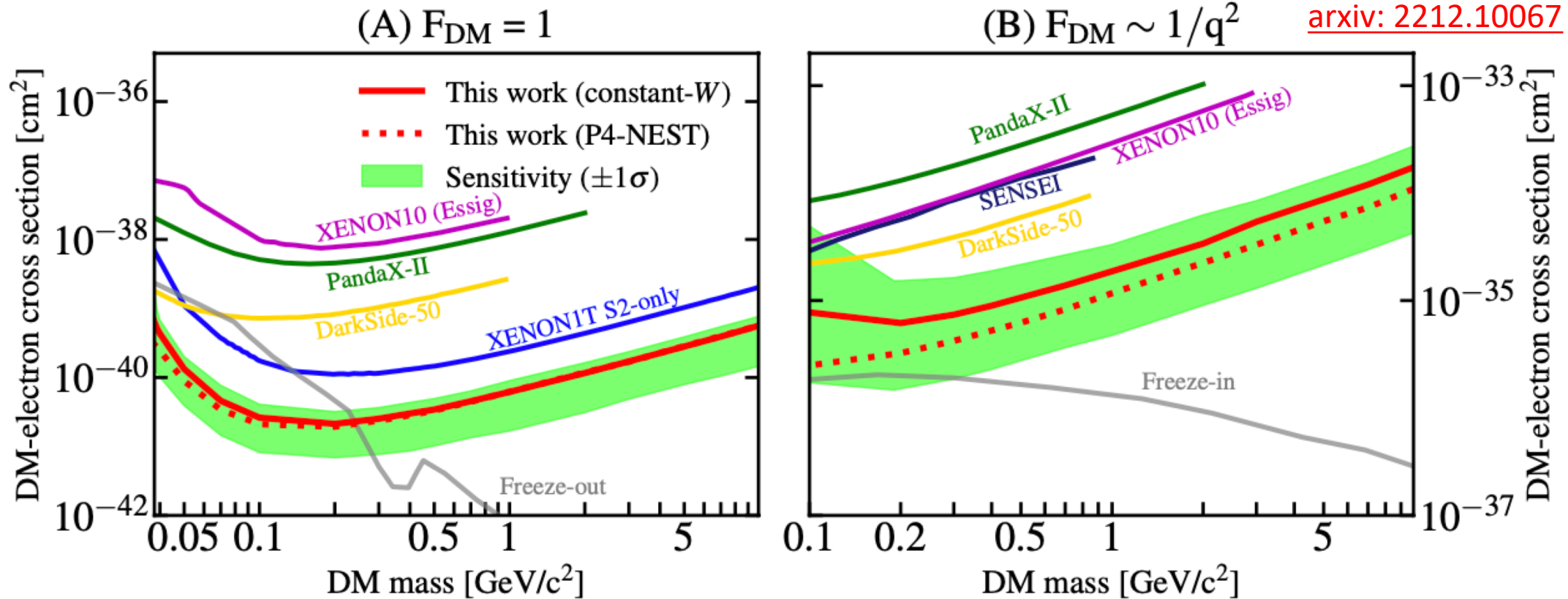
- For different DM masses and cross sections, the rates of electron-DM scatterings are generated.
- Compare the measured and expected number of candidates in ROI to constrain the cross section of interaction.



Analysis flow



DM-electron scattering constrain



- The most stringent constraints for the DM- electron interactions with mass in range of 40 MeV/c^2 to 10 GeV/c^2 with $F_{\text{DM}} = 1$, and 100 MeV/c^2 to 10 GeV/c^2 with $F_{\text{DM}} \sim 1/q^2$
- Our results challenge the freeze-out mechanism for DM mass range from 0.04 to 0.25 GeV/c^2 with $F_{\text{DM}} = 1$, and are closing in on the freeze-in prediction with $F_{\text{DM}} \sim 1/q^2$, assuming such light DM provides the entire DM abundance.

- PandaX-4T has completed its commissioning run
- The unpaired S2 analysis method lowers the PandaX-4T energy threshold to 0.07 keV to probe light DM.
- The most stringent constraints for the DM- electron interactions with mass in range of 40 MeV/c² to 10 GeV/c² with $F_{\text{DM}} = 1$, and 100 MeV/c² to 10 GeV/c² with $F_{\text{DM}} \sim 1/q^2$
- The PandaX-4T may provide more chances to detect light dark matter-electron scatterings with lower background and higher exposure.



Thank you

**Welcome to use our PandaX
data to test your novel models.**