



**PANDA X**  
PARTICLE AND ASTROPHYSICAL XENON TPC

# Latest results of the PandaX-4T experiment

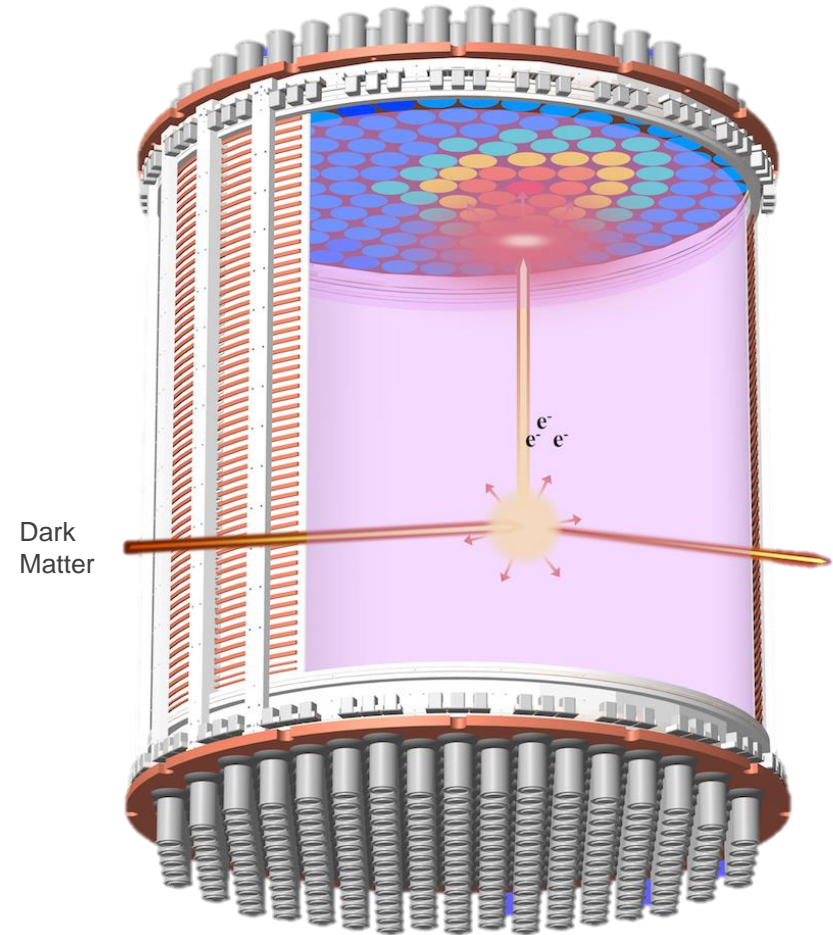
Zhicheng Qian  
Shanghai Jiao Tong University

On behalf of PandaX Collaboration  
May 15th, 2024

# Outline



- Brief introduction of PandaX
- Current status of PandaX-4T
- Luminance of dark matter
- Towards to sub-GeV dark matter
  - lower threshold (S2-only)
  - Migdal effect
- Multi-physics targets
  - $^8\text{B}$  CEvNS
  - $^{136}\text{Xe}$   $2\nu\beta\beta$
  - $^{134}\text{Xe}$   $2\nu\beta\beta$  and  $0\nu\beta\beta$

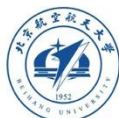


# Brief introduction of PandaX



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## PandaX: Particle and Astrophysical Xenon



# Brief introduction of PandaX

- Increasing the detector sensitive target volume
- Lowering radioactive background

PandaX start



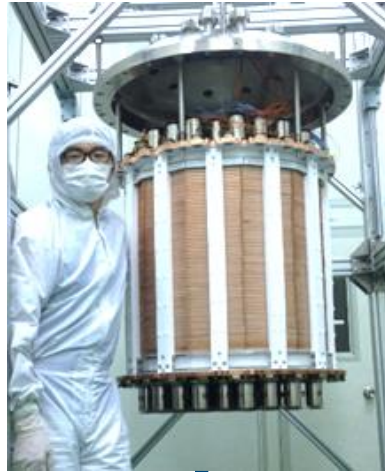
2009

PandaX-I  
120kg



2010-2014

PandaX-II  
580kg



2015-2019

PandaX-4T  
(3.7 tonne)



2020-now

# Outline

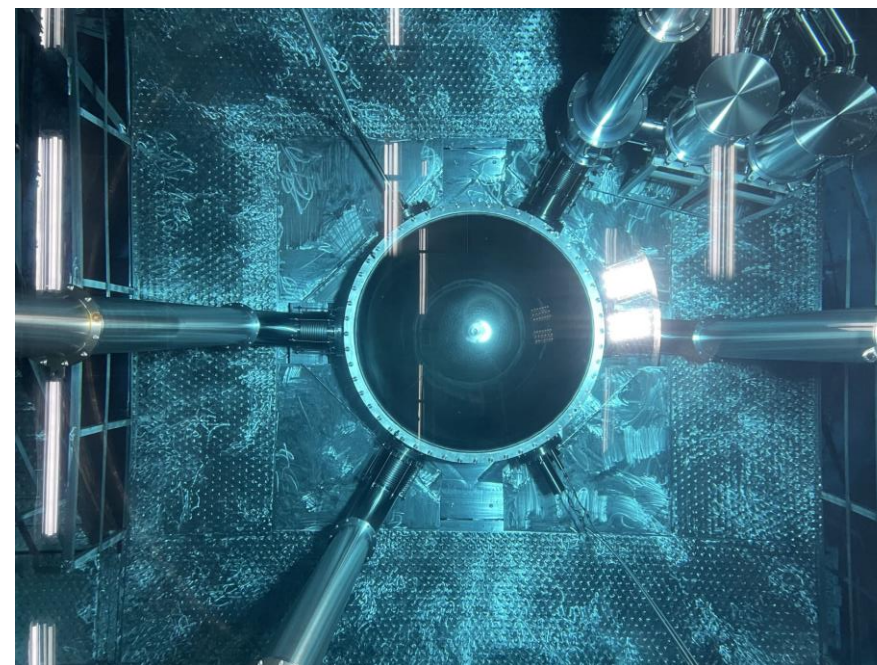


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Status of PandaX-4T detector

Status of Run 1 WIMP analysis



# Current status of PandaX-4T



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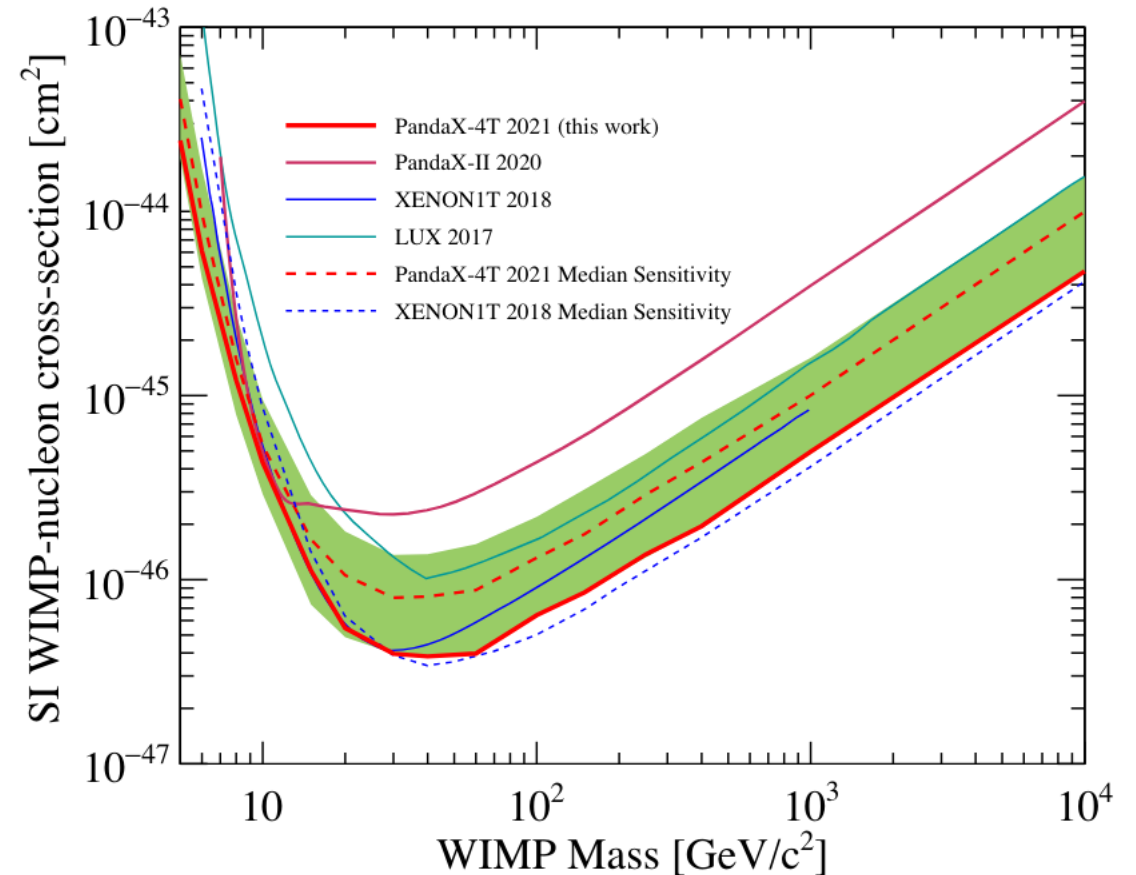
2020/11 – 2021/04	<b>Commissioning (Run 0)</b> 95 days
2021/07 – 2021/10	<b>Tritium removal</b> xenon distillation, gas flushing, etc
2021/11 – 2022/05	<b>Physics run (Run 1)</b> 164 days
2022/09 – 2023/12	<b>CJPL B2 hall renovation</b> xenon recuperation, detector upgrade
Current Status	<b>Resuming physics data-taking</b>



# Current status of PandaX-4T data analysis



- Result of commissioning run (Run 0) has been published in 2021
- Run1 data is currently under analysis
- A combined analysis of run0 and run1

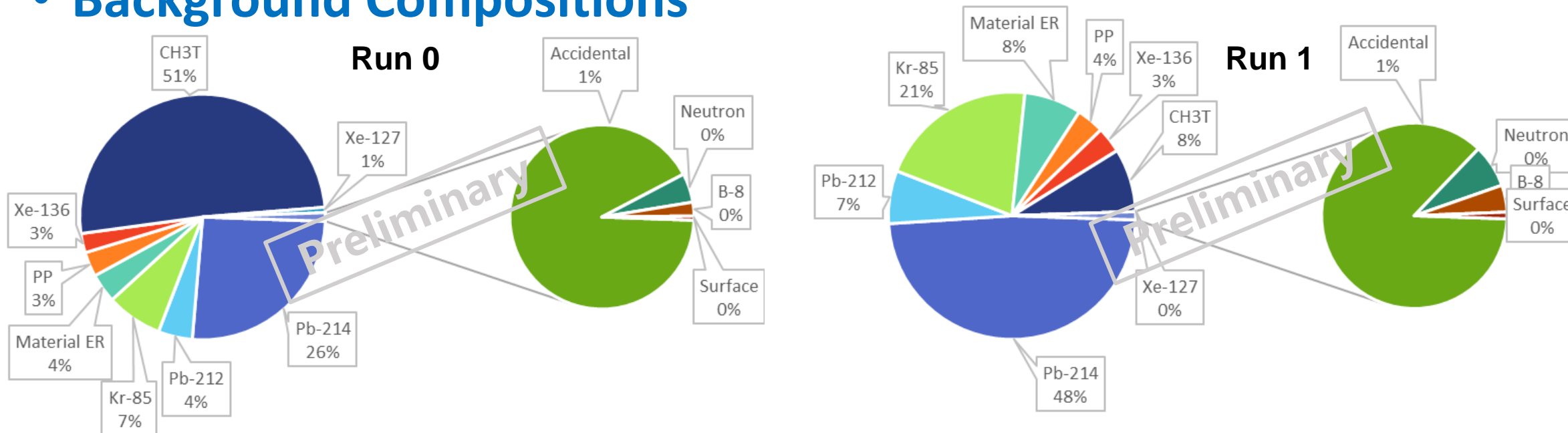


PhysRevLett.127.261802

# Current status: Run-1 Data Analysis



## Background Compositions



- Tritium, Pb-214, and Kr-85 are the major compositions





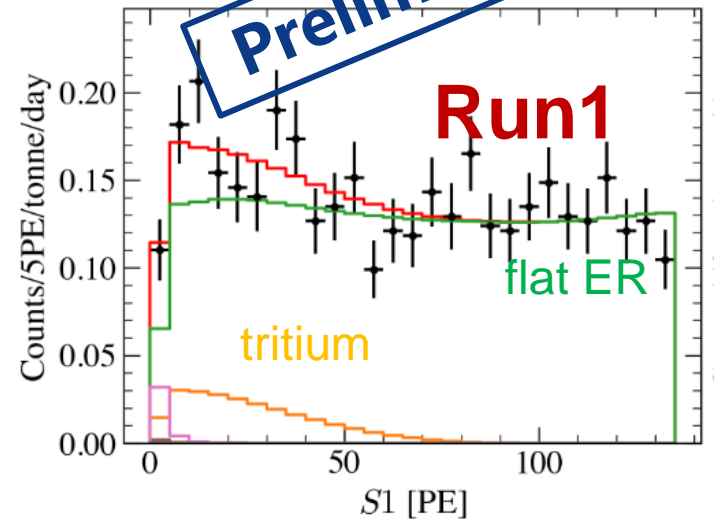
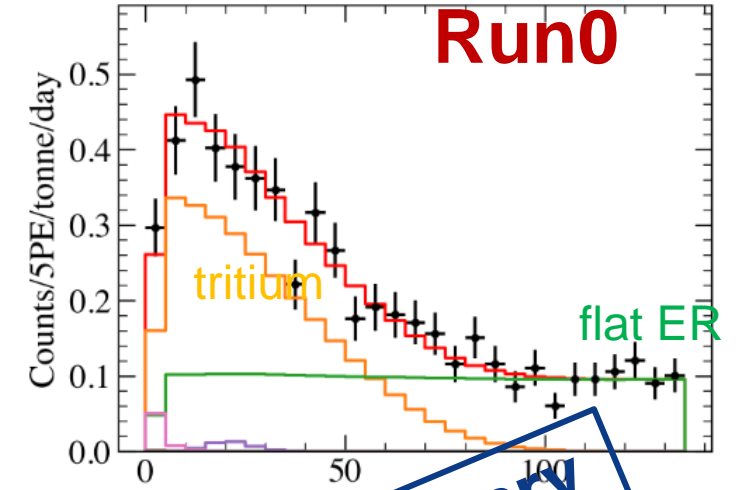
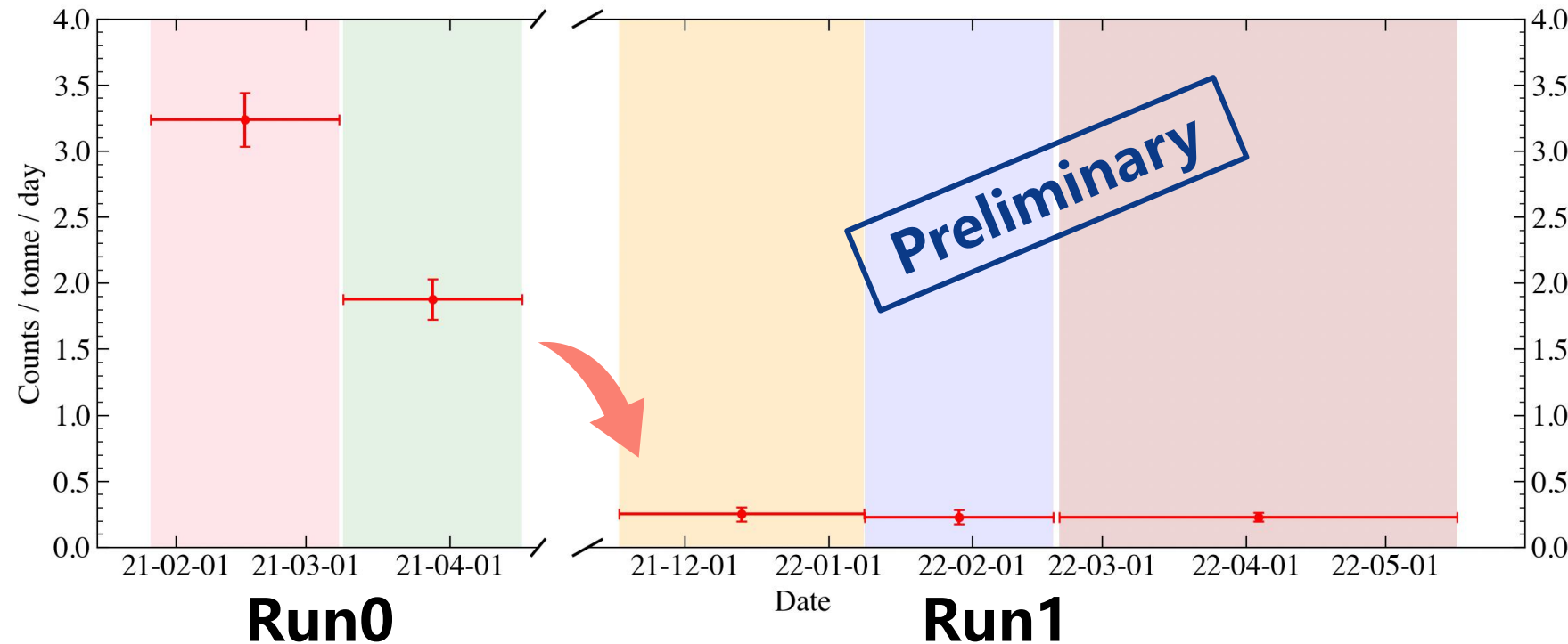


# Current status: Run-1 Data Analysis

## • Tritium background

- excess of low electron-recoil energy
- S1 fitting (keep S2 blind)

## • Significant reduction from Run0 to Run1



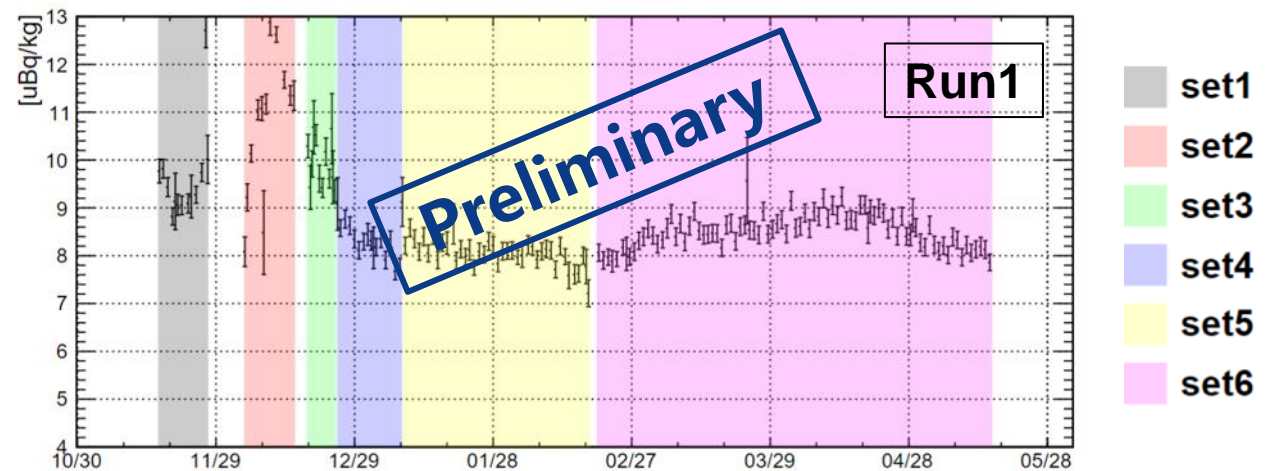
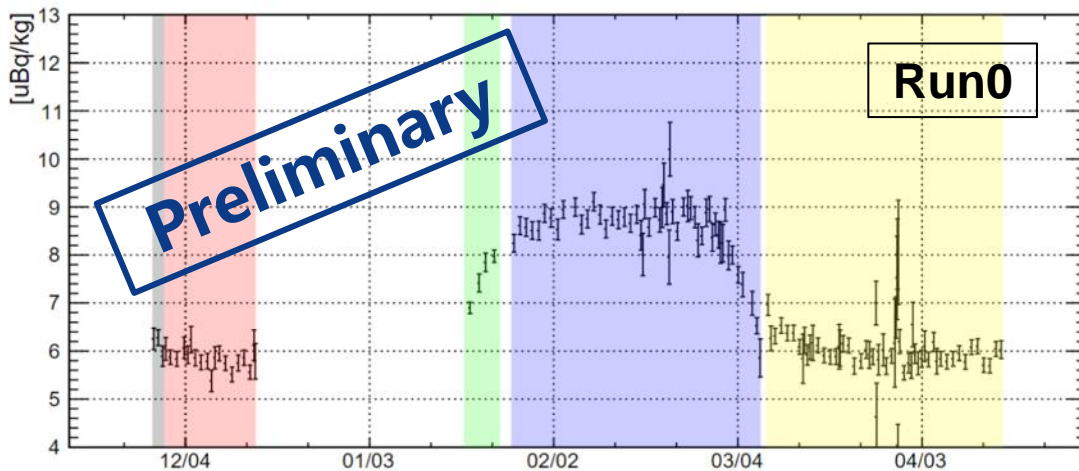
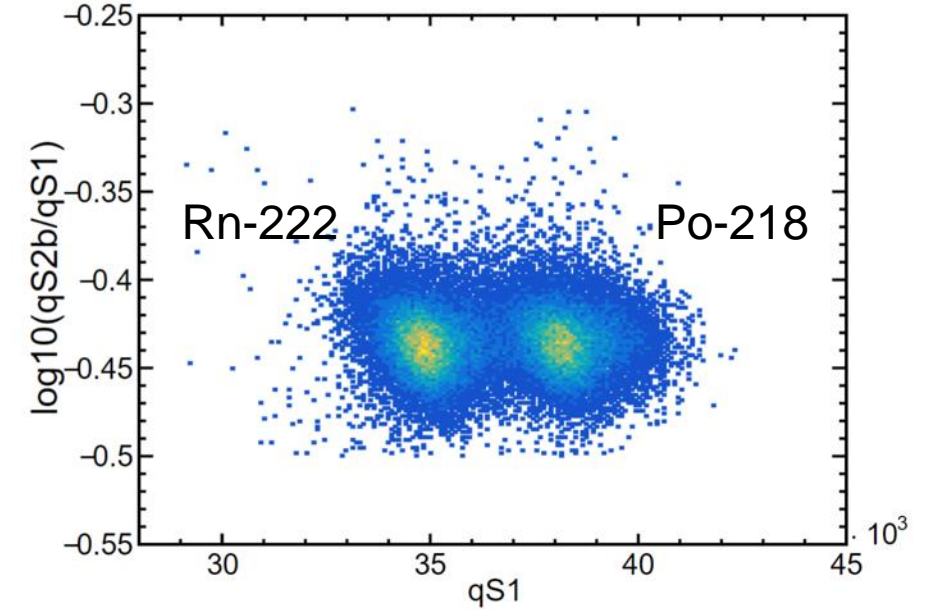


# Current status: Run-1 Data Analysis

## • Pb-214 background

- Pb-214 is a daughter nuclei of Rn-222
- Select Rn-222 alpha events
- Rn-222 level varies with running condition

Rn-222 level	[ $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$ ]
Run 0	$7.07 \pm 0.02(\text{stat.}) \pm 0.23(\text{sys.})$
Run 1	$8.67 \pm 0.01(\text{stat.}) \pm 0.27(\text{sys.})$

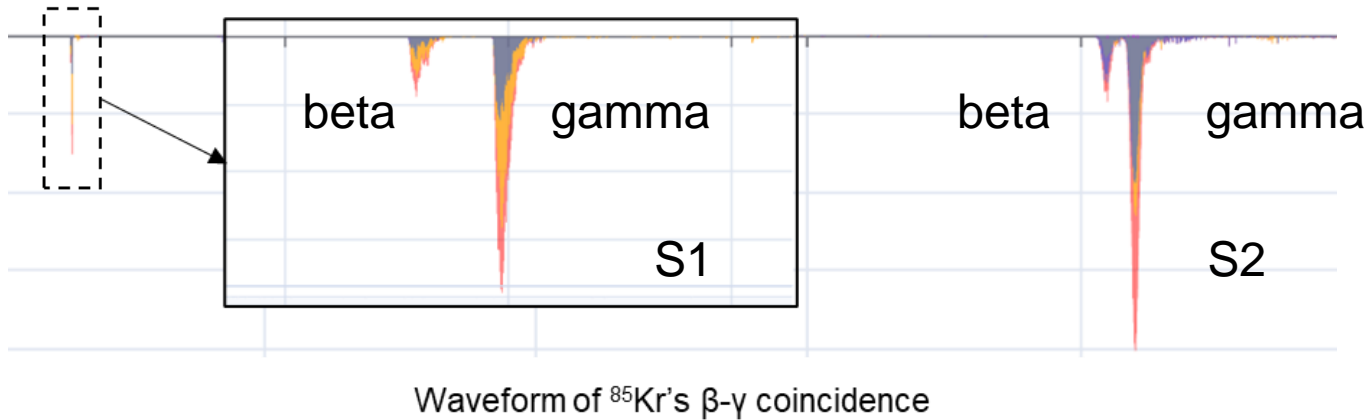
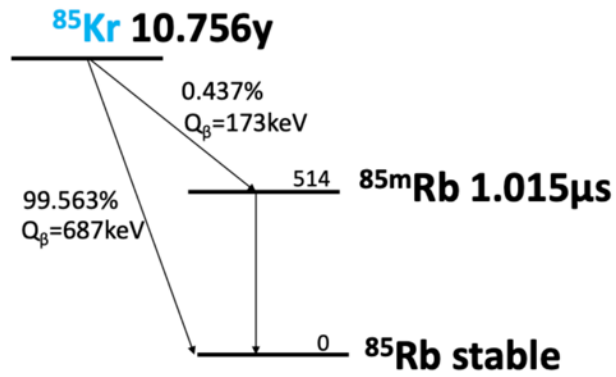




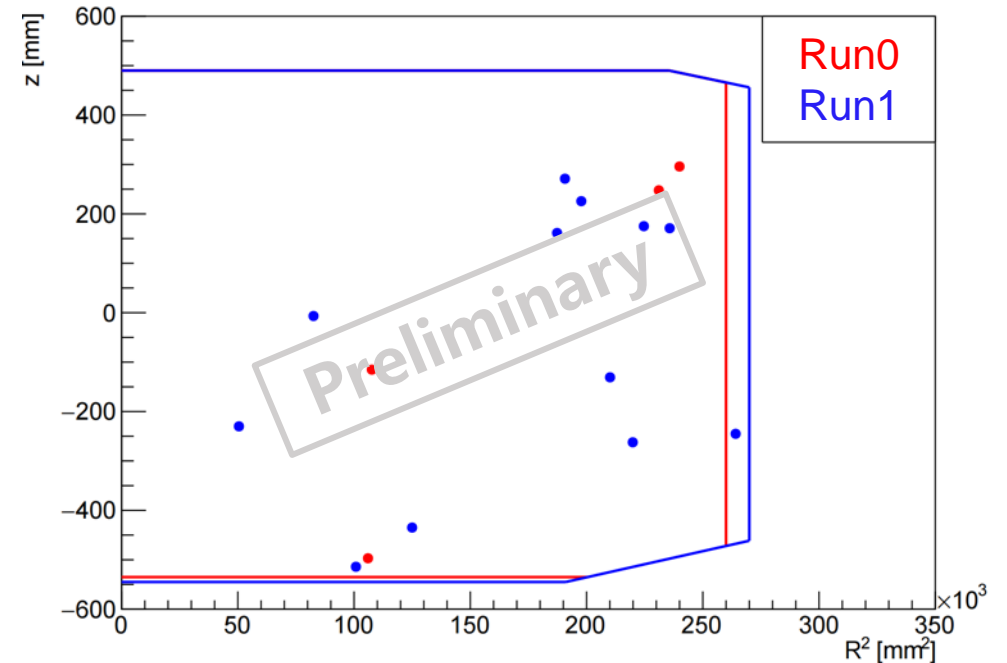
# Current status: Run-1 Data Analysis

## • Kr-85 background

- beta-gamma coincidence selection



Kr/Xe	[ppt]
Run 0	$0.5 \pm 0.3$
Run 1	$0.9 \pm 0.3$



# Current status: Run-1 Data Analysis

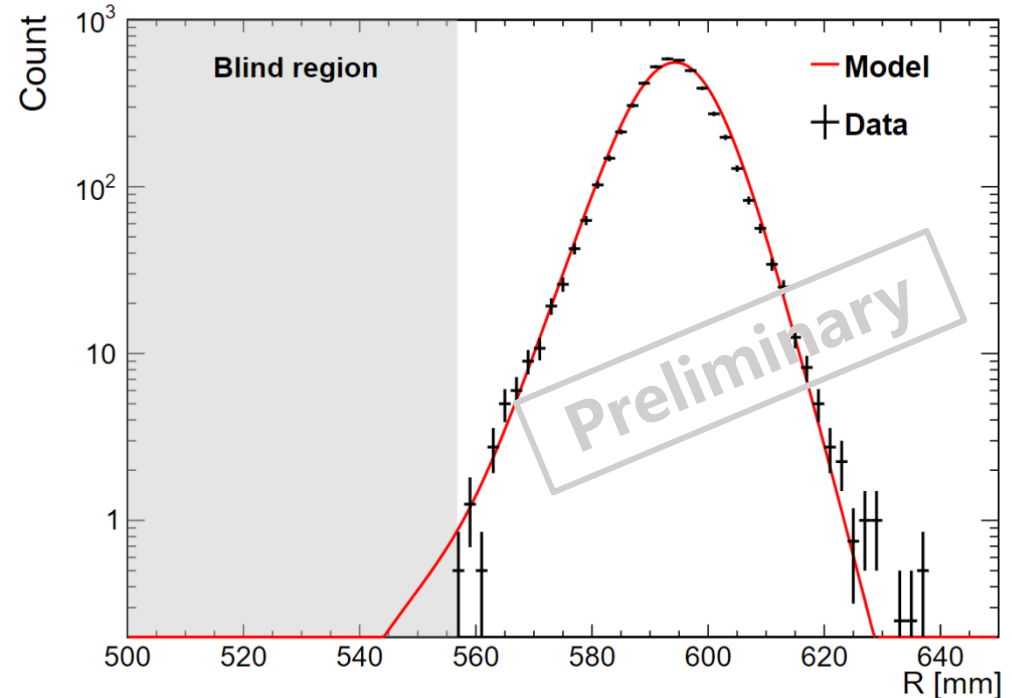
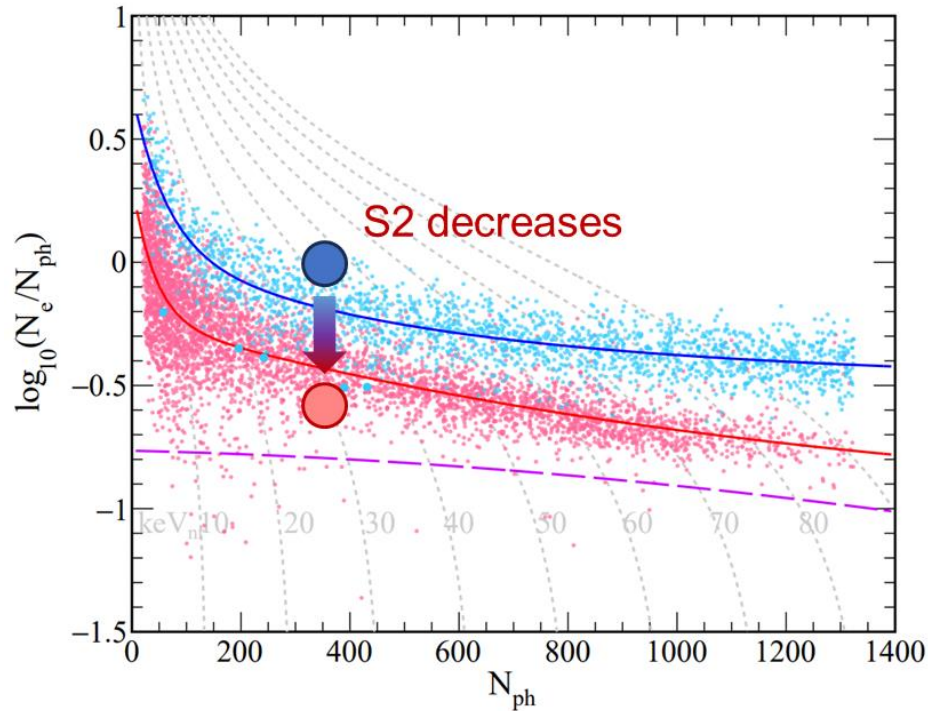


## • Surface background

- ER events, whose S2 is “eaten” by the surface
- Estimate the radial distribution by  $^{210}\text{Po}$  events
- Good consistency with data outside blind region

### Surface events in fiducial volume

Run0	$0.10 \pm 0.06$
Run1	$0.17 \pm 0.10$



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- Towards to sub-GeV dark matter
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  - Migdal effect
- **Multi-physics targets**
  - ${}^8\text{B}$  CEvNS
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# How dark is dark matter?

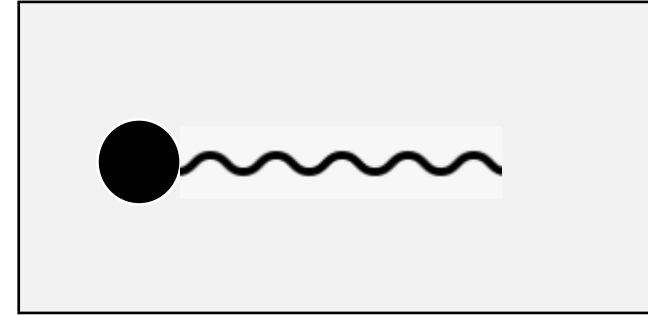
- Electromagnetic effect



# Luminance of Dark Matter



- Possible residual weak EM properties
- Coupling with photons

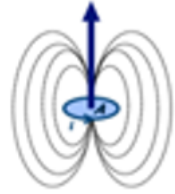


$$\mathcal{L} = Qe\bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\chi A_\mu + \frac{\mu_\chi}{2}\bar{\chi}\sigma^{\mu\nu}\chi F_{\mu\nu} + i\frac{d_\chi}{2}\bar{\chi}\sigma^{\mu\nu}\gamma^5\chi F_{\mu\nu} + b_\chi\bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\chi\partial^\nu F_{\mu\nu} + a_\chi\bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\gamma^5\chi\partial^\nu F_{\mu\nu}$$

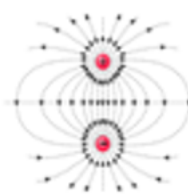
millicharge



magnetic dipole



electric dipole



charge radius



anapole



EFT

tree-level

higher-order loop-level

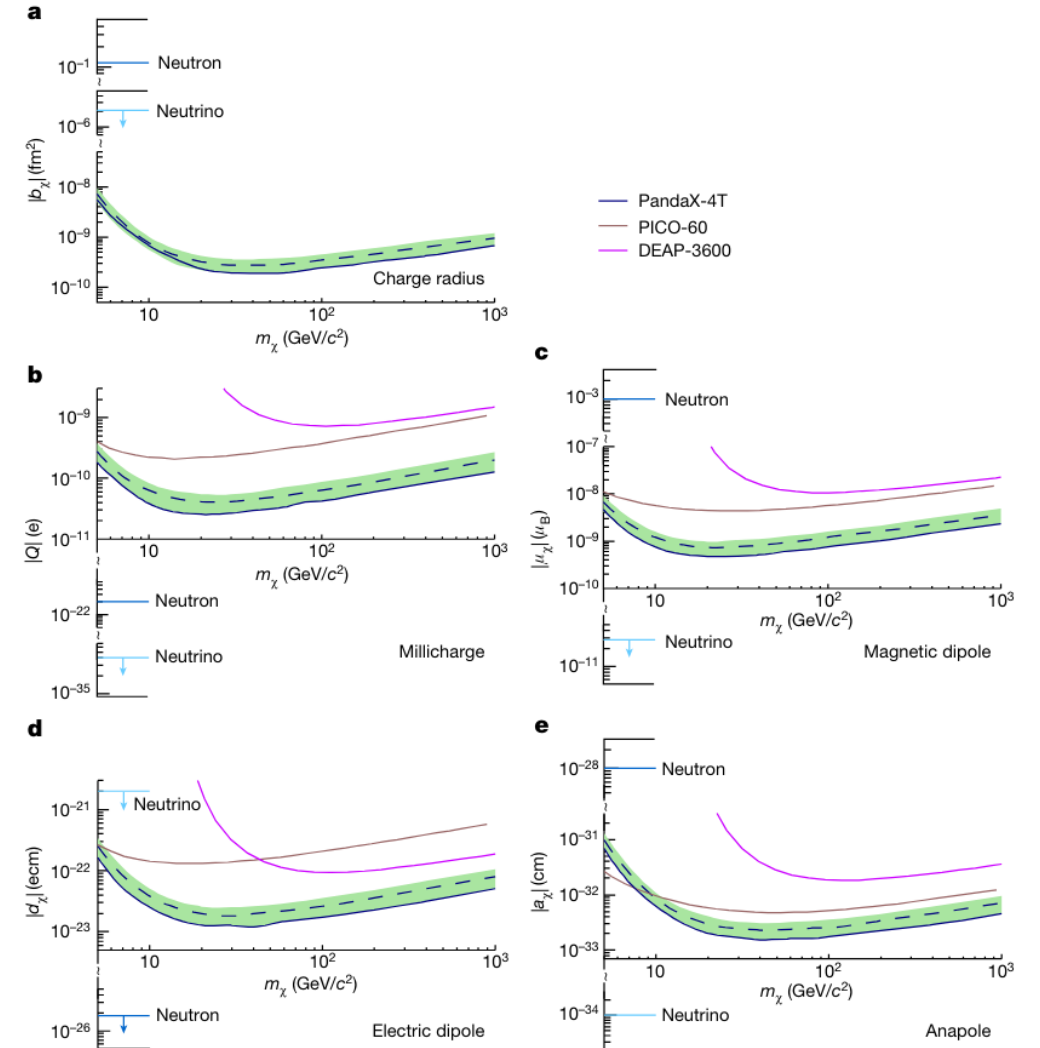
# Luminance of Dark Matter

- **First experimental constraint on DM charge radius**
  - 4 orders of magnitude smaller than neutrino
- **Other EM properties**
  - Up to 3 – 10 times improvement

**Table 1 | Comparison of electromagnetic properties**

	Dark matter	Neutrino	Neutron
Charge radius (fm <sup>2</sup> )	$<1.9 \times 10^{-10}$	$(-2.1, 3.3) \times 10^{-6}$ <sup>a</sup>	$-0.1155$ <sup>a</sup>
Millicharge (e)	$<2.6 \times 10^{-11}$	$<4 \times 10^{-35}$ <sup>a</sup>	$(-2 \pm 8) \times 10^{-22}$ <sup>a</sup>
Magnetic dipole ( $\mu_B$ )	$<4.8 \times 10^{-10}$	$<2.8 \times 10^{-11}$ <sup>a</sup>	$-1 \times 10^{-3}$ <sup>a</sup>
Electric dipole (ecm)	$<1.2 \times 10^{-23}$	$<2 \times 10^{-21}$ <sup>b</sup>	$<1.8 \times 10^{-26}$ <sup>a</sup>
Anapole (cm <sup>2</sup> )	$<1.6 \times 10^{-33}$	roughly $10^{-34}$ <sup>c</sup>	roughly $10^{-28}$ <sup>d</sup>

X. Ning et al. **Nature** 618 (2023)

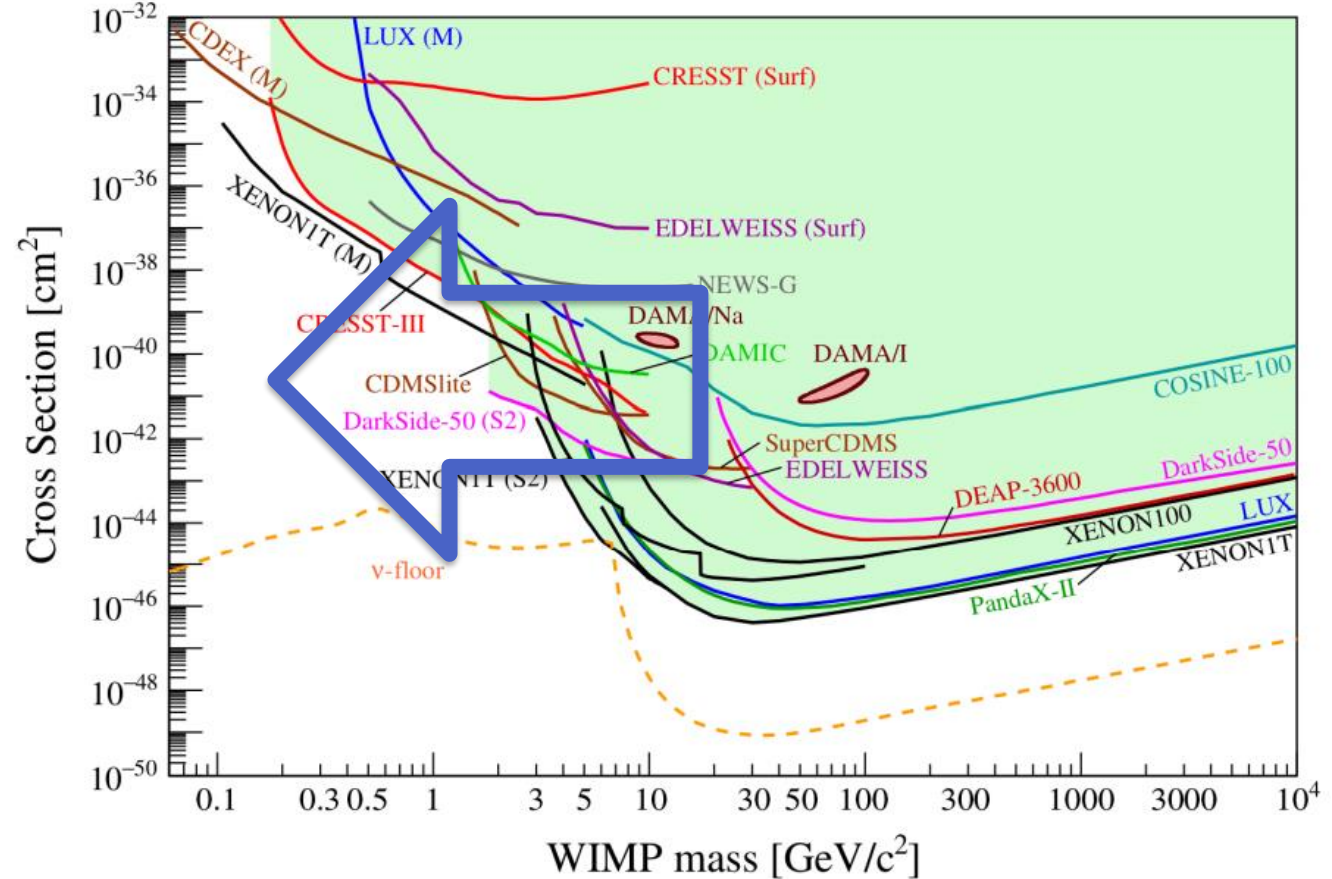


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## Generally very weak signals from sub-GeV DM

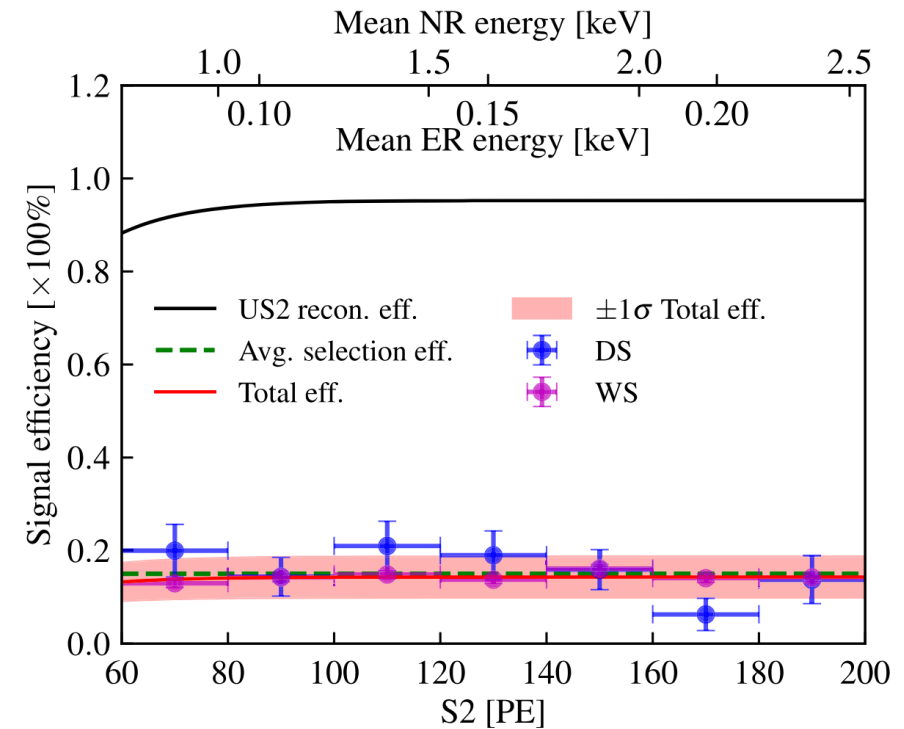
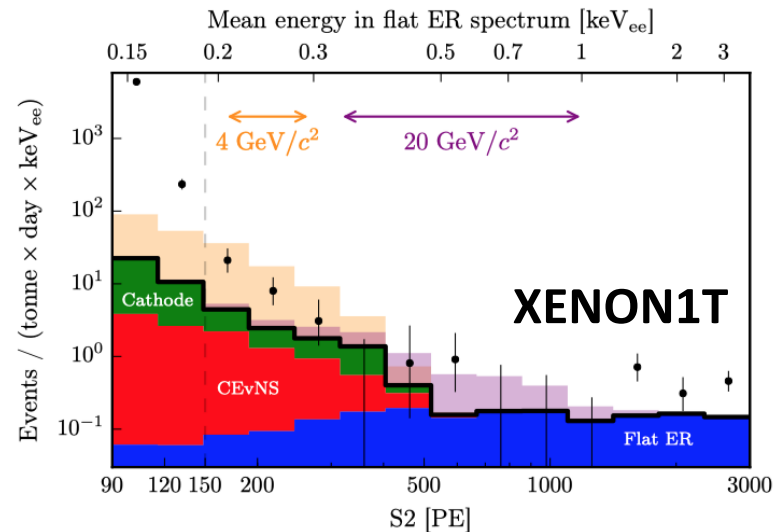
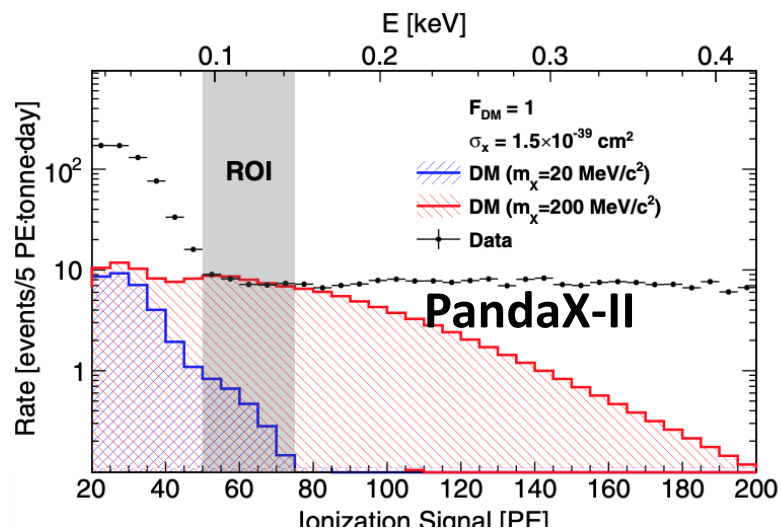




# Sub-GeV DM: Lower threshold (Ionization-only)



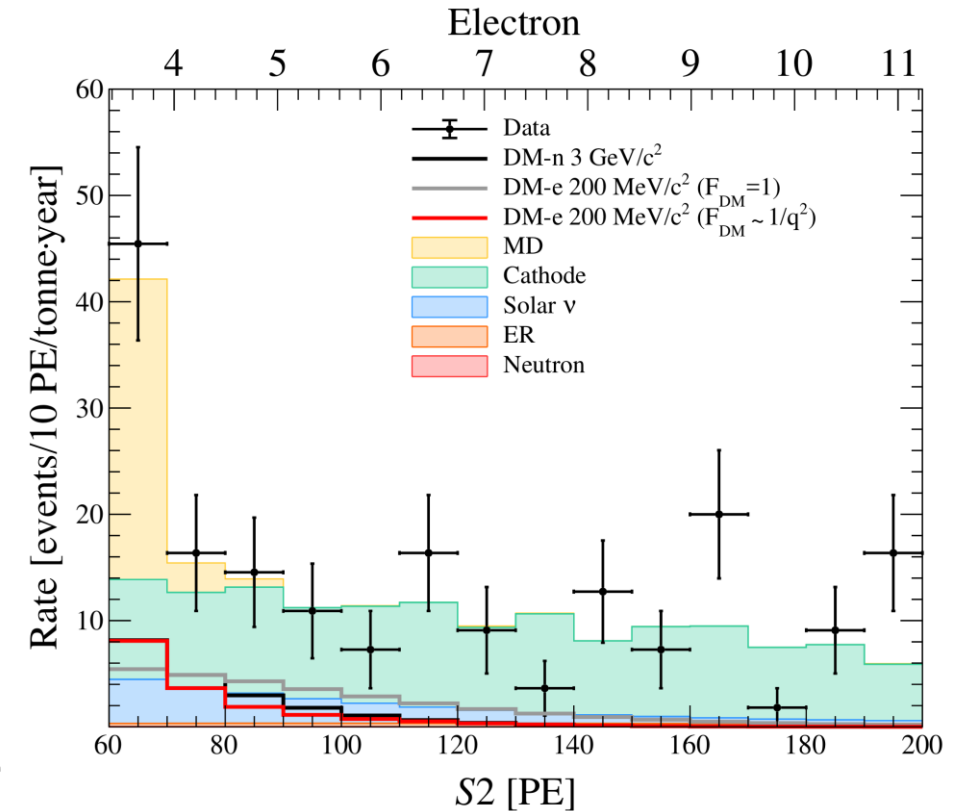
- **Ionization-only: no scintillation signal requirement**
  - ROI S2 [60, 200]PE: threshold down to **~100 eV** (from ~1 keV)
  - Tight quality cuts on the ionization signal
- **Key challenge: background components**
  - No full picture in previous xenon-based experiments
  - Conservative results only





## Ionization-only Data of PandaX-4T

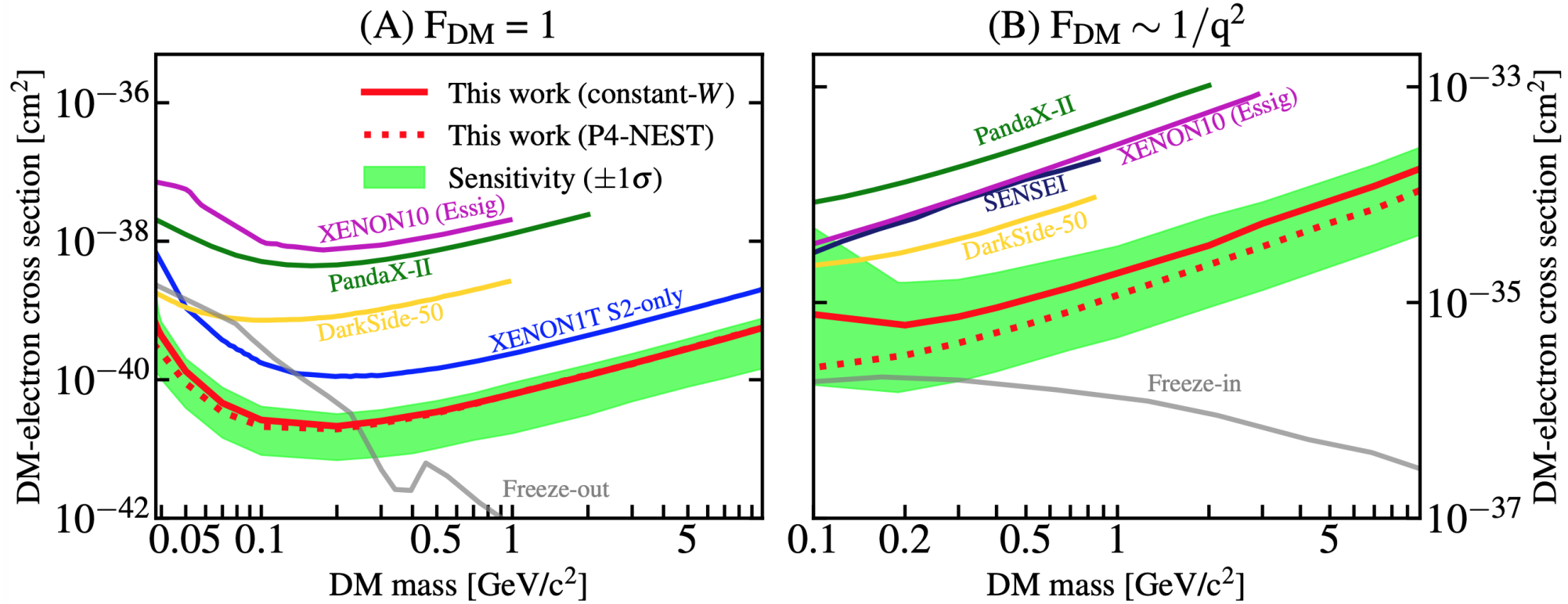
- **First complete understanding of all the main background**
  - Micro-discharging (MD)
    - Small charge, strong run-condition dependence
  - Cathode activity
    - Large charge, large pulse-shape width
- **Blind analysis of 0.55 tonne-year exposure**
  - 105 events
  - Best-fit background:  $95.8 \pm 11.3$  events



# Sub-GeV DM: Lower threshold (ionization-only)



- Most stringent constraints of **DM- $e^-$  scattering** are derived
  - DM-electron interaction with heavy mediator,  $2 \times 10^{-41} \text{ cm}^2$

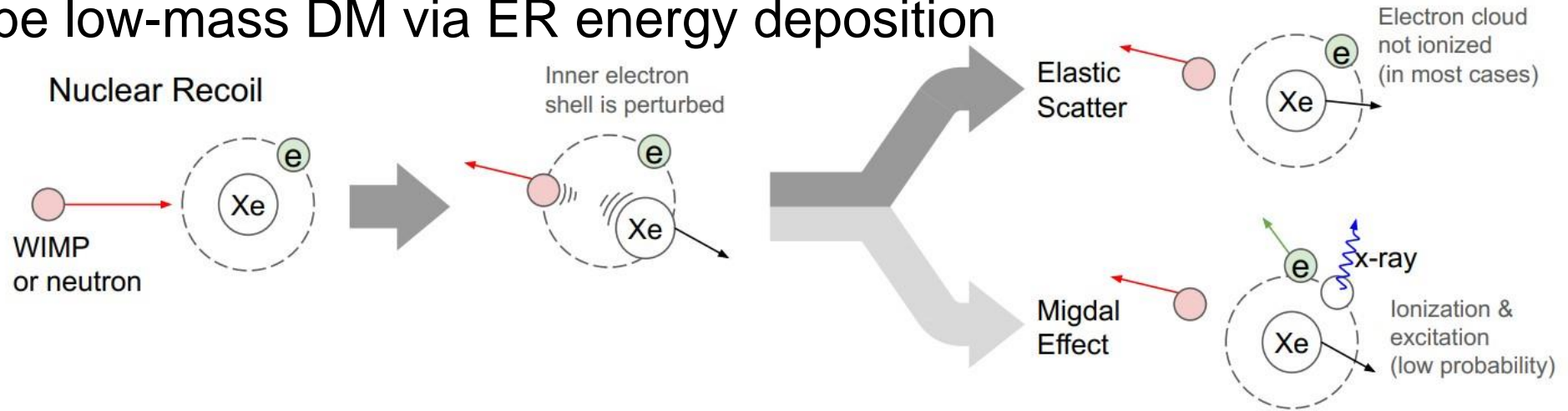


S. Li et al. PRL 130, 261001 (2023)  
Editors' Suggestion

# Sub-GeV DM: Migdal Effect

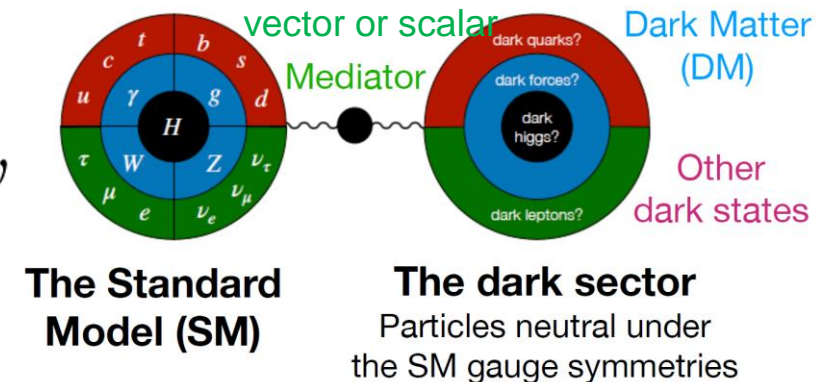


- NR-induced ER signals by the Migdal effect
  - Probe low-mass DM via ER energy deposition



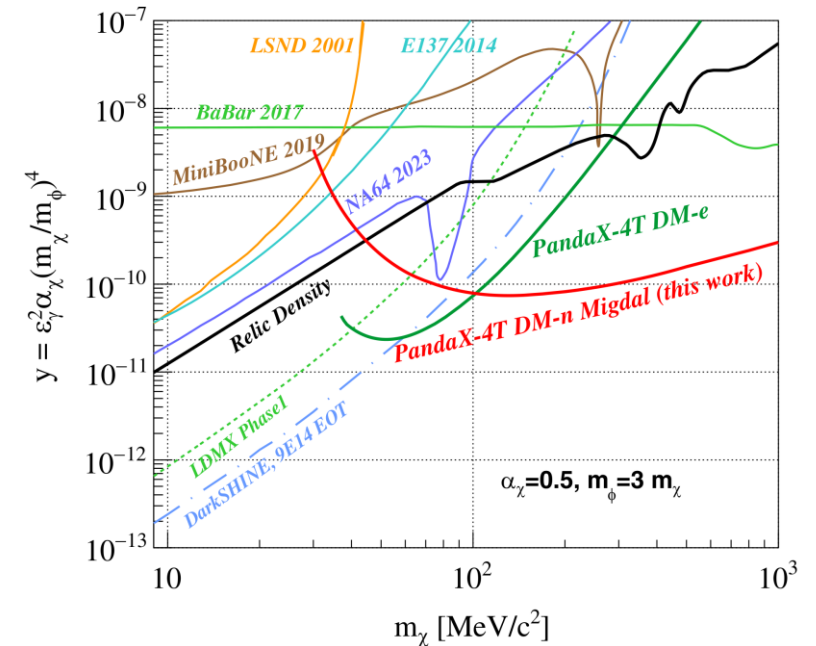
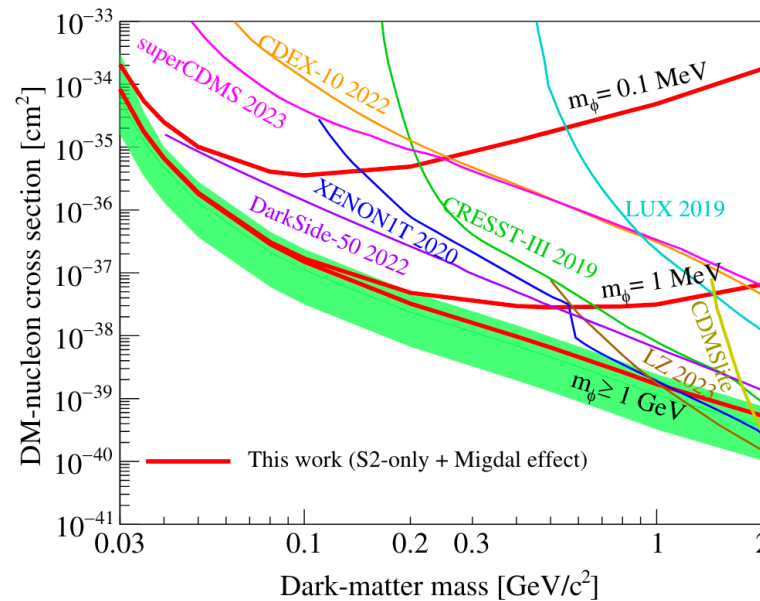
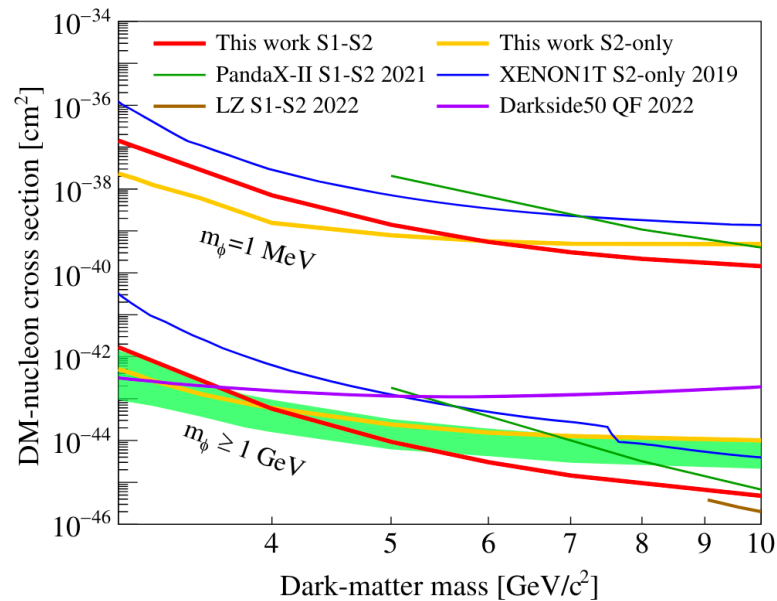
- DM-nucleon interaction with a dark mediator

$$\frac{dR}{dE_{NR}} = \sigma|_{q^2=0} \frac{A^2}{\mu_p^2} \frac{m_\phi^4}{(m_\phi^2 + q^2)^2} F^2(q^2) \times \frac{\rho}{2m_\chi} \int_{v \geq v_{min}} \frac{f(v)}{v} d^3v$$



# Sub-GeV DM: Migdal Effect

- **With ionization-only data + Migdal effect, set most stringent constraints**
  - DM-nucleon interaction with dark mediator, for DM mass [30 MeV, 2 GeV]
  - enhancing the potential for low-mass DM detection
- **Assume dark mediator is a dark photon**
  - Rule out significant parameter space of such thermal relic dark-matter model
  - Complementary with future experiment (like DarkSHINE)

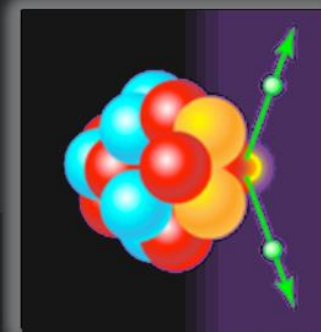


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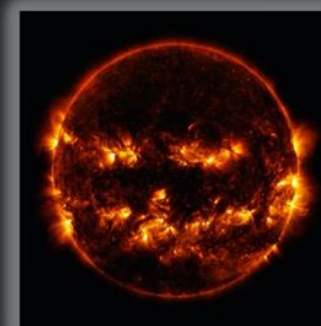
**Majorana Neutrino**  
**> 2 MeV**



**Dark Matter**  
**1 keV – 10 keV**



**Astrophysical Neutrino**  
**< 300 keV**



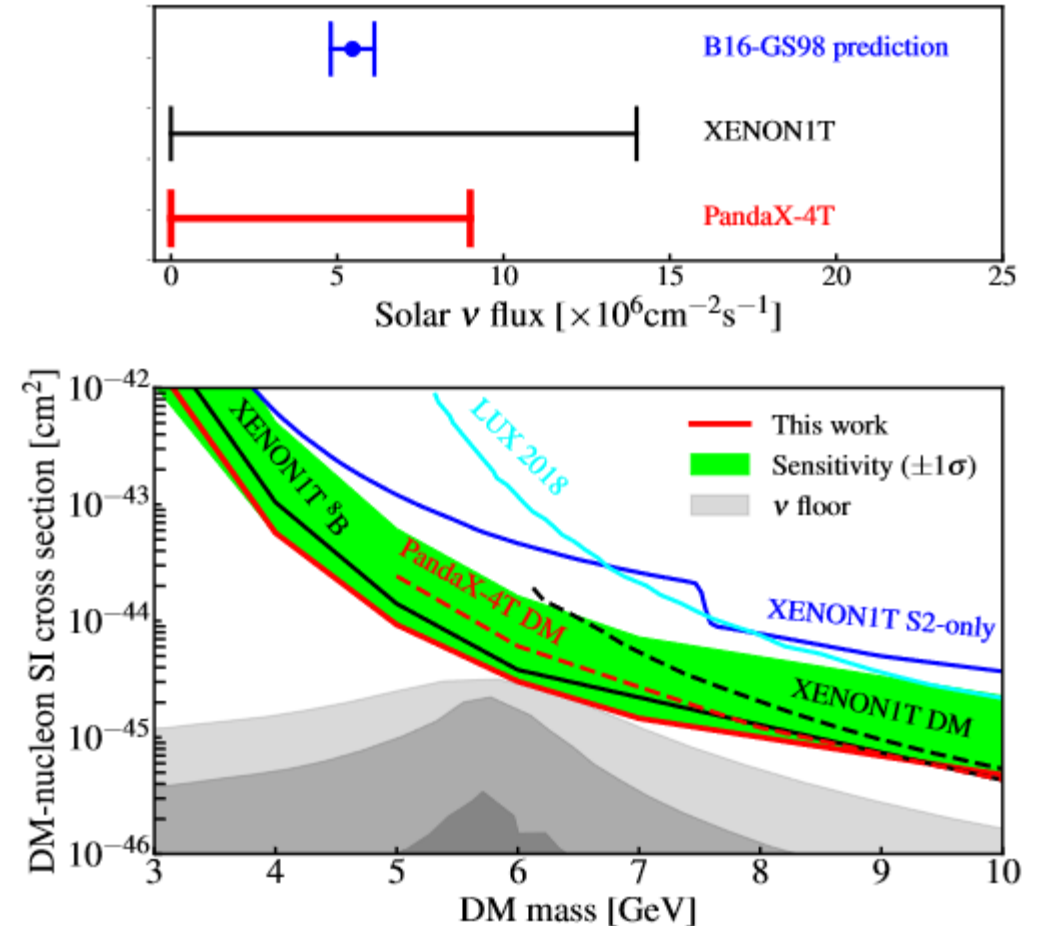
Dark Matter



# $^8\text{B}$ CEvNS



- Blind analysis: 0.48 ton-year data
- Major challenge: Accidental background
- A multi-variate (BDT) algorithm trained to suppress AC background
- Leading constraint on  $^8\text{B}$  neutrino flux through CEvNS
- Assuming a nominal  $^8\text{B}$  background, set strongest constraints on light WIMP of 3 -9 GeV

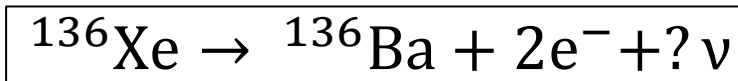
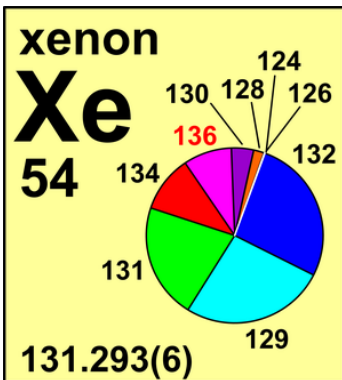
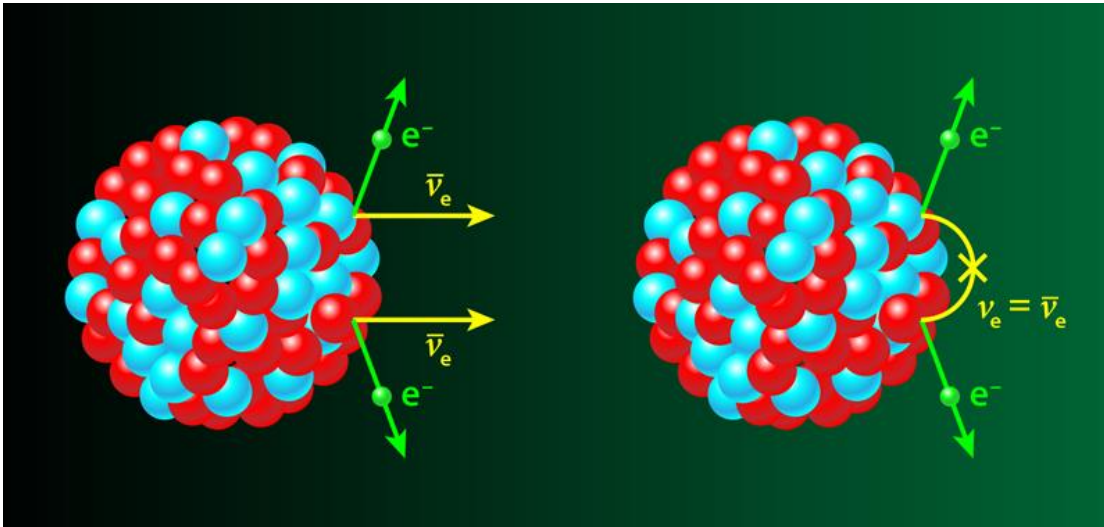


W. Ma et al. PRL 130, 021802 (2023)

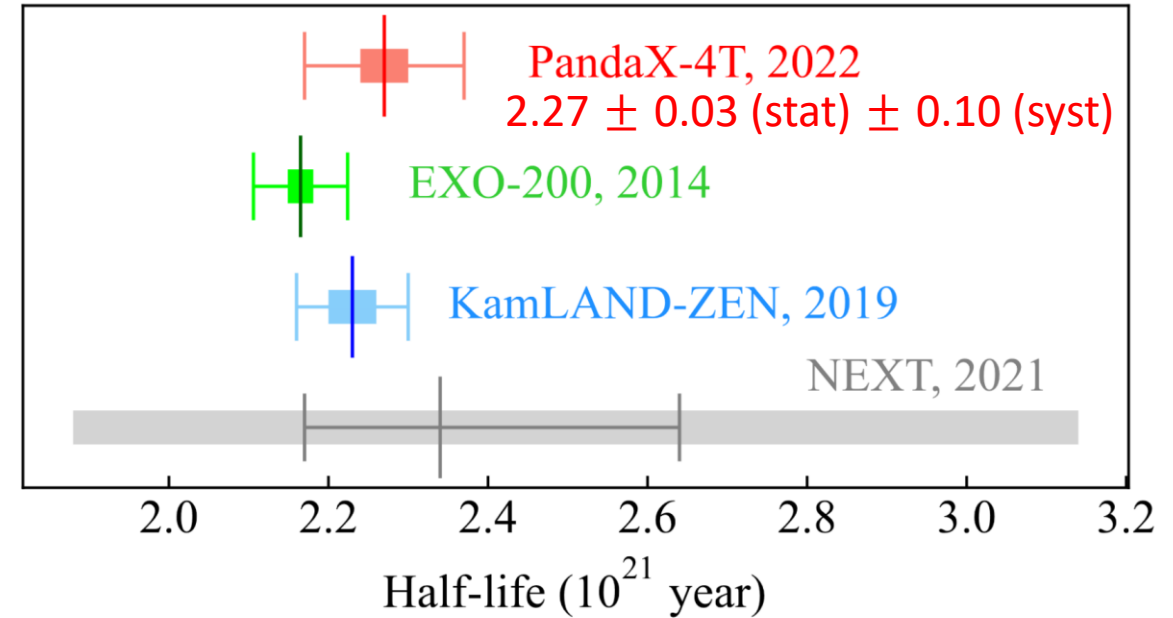


# $^{136}\text{Xe}$ double-beta decay

- **Neutrinoless double-beta decay ( $0\nu\beta\beta$ )** Golden channel for Majorana neutrino searches



- PandaX-4T: **First** natural xenon measurement with a dark matter detector ( $2\nu\beta\beta$  measurement)
- Consistent with  $^{136}\text{Xe}$ -enriched experiments.



Research Vol 2022, 9798721 (2022)



# $^{134}\text{Xe}$ double-beta decay



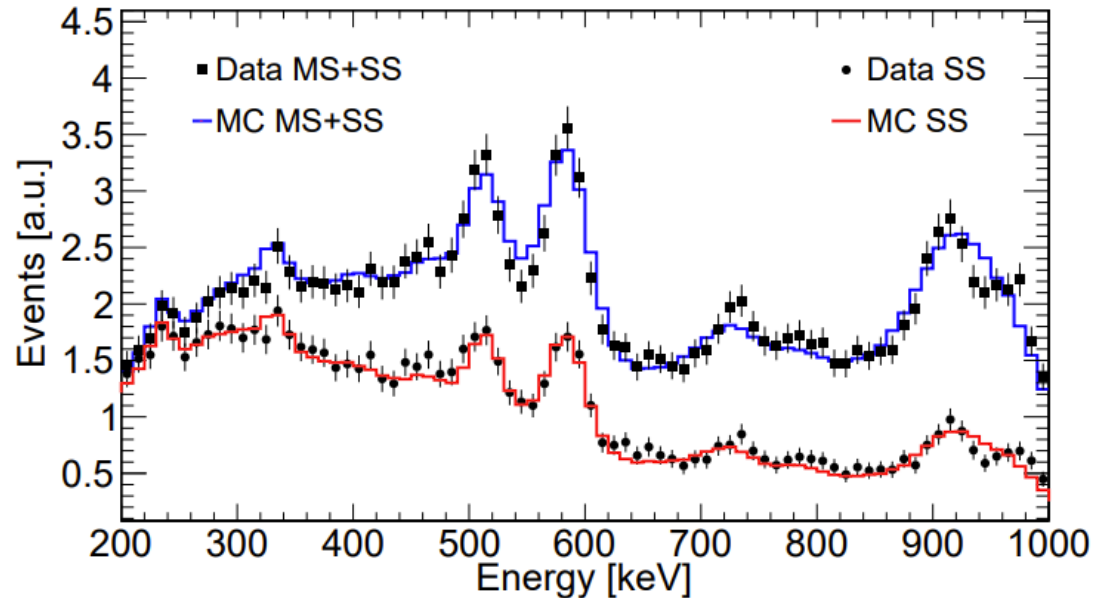
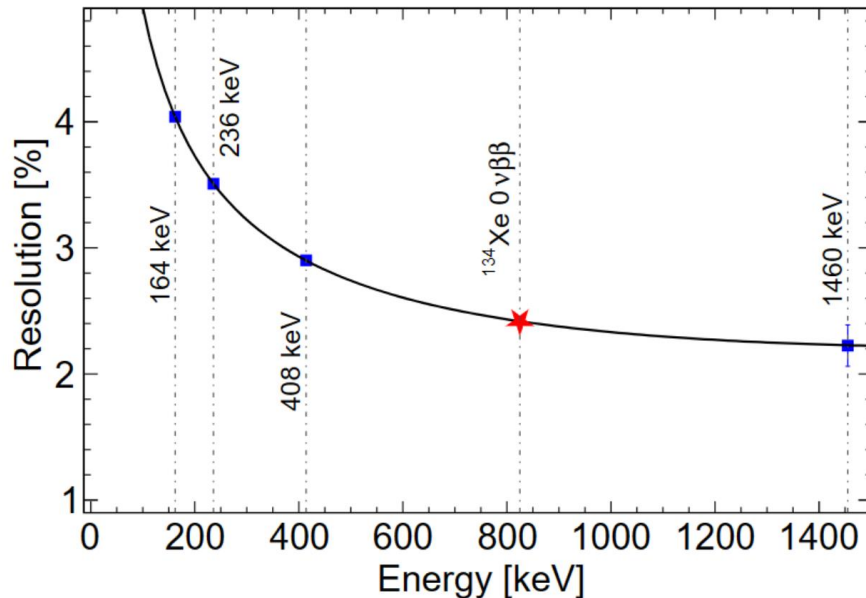
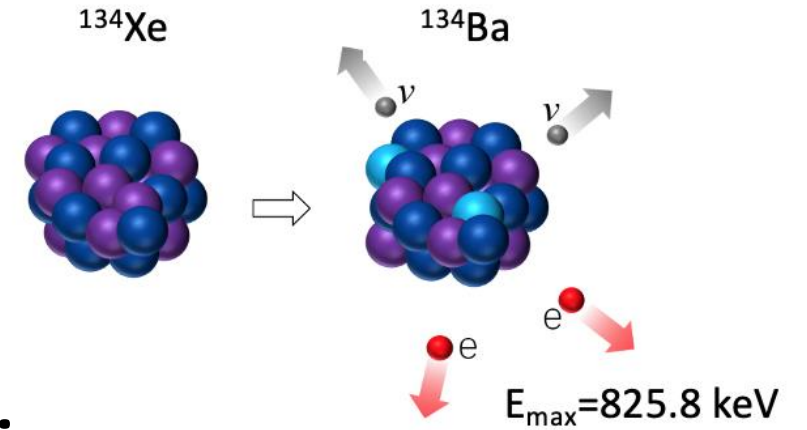
- **Next promising discovery of  $2\nu\beta\beta$  decay**

- natural abundance 10.4%
- $2\nu\beta\beta$   $T_{1/2} \sim 10^{24}$  years,  $Q_{bb}$  0.83 MeV

- **Extended range: 200-1000 keV**

- **Energy resolution @ Q-value :  $\sigma/E=2.4\%$**

- **Single-site (SS) and multi-site (MS) discrimination**



# $^{134}\text{Xe}$ DBD measurements

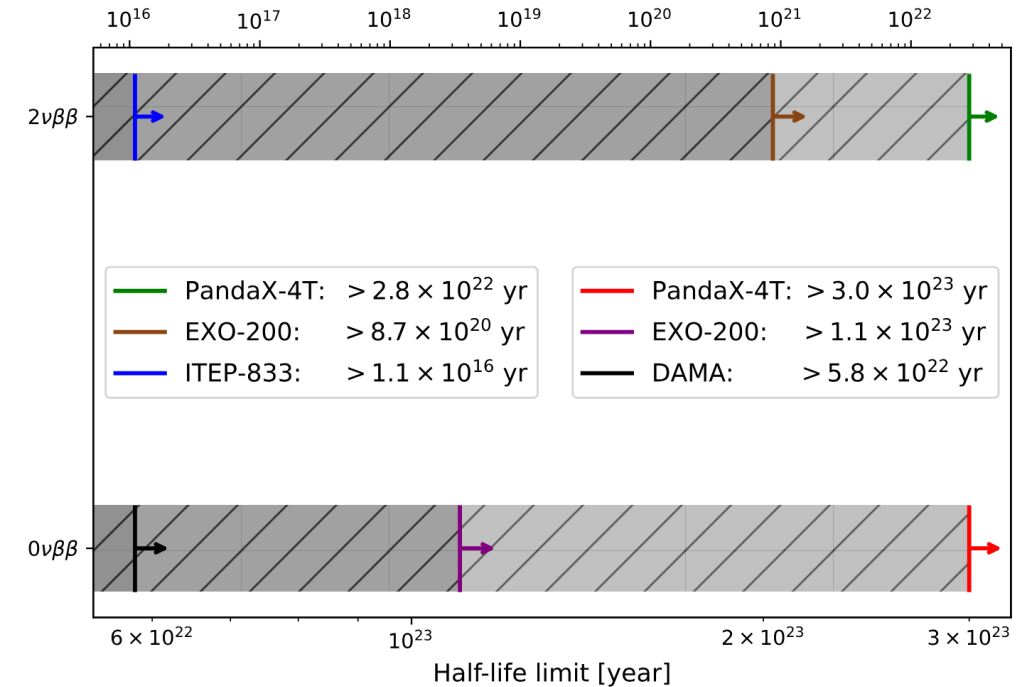
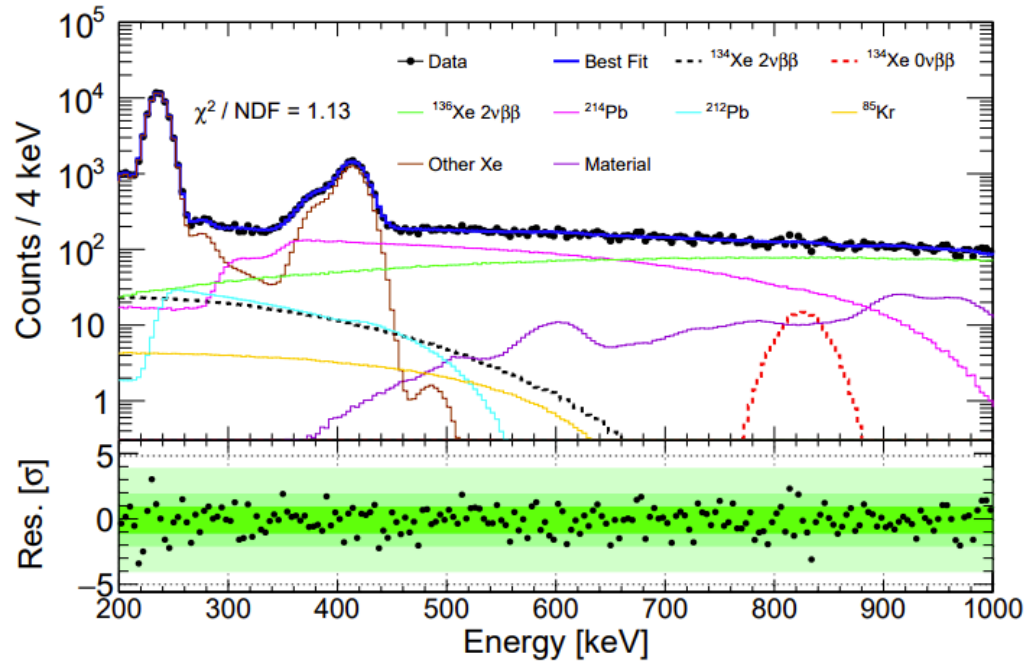


- **95 live-days with 656 kg natural xenon**

- $2\nu\beta\beta$ :  $10 \pm 269(\text{stat.}) \pm 680(\text{syst.})$
- $0\nu\beta\beta$ :  $105 \pm 48(\text{stat.}) \pm 38(\text{syst.})$

- **90%CL limits on half-life**

- $2\nu\beta\beta$ : surpasses the existing limit by a factor of **32**
- $0\nu\beta\beta$ : **2.7** times stronger than the previous best result



# Summary

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- PandaX-4T is one of the new generation multi-tonne xenon experiments
- Run 1 data is under analysis
- Run 2 data-taking will start soon
- Intense searches for various types of physics, including DMs and neutrinos



**PANDA X**  
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**Thanks**



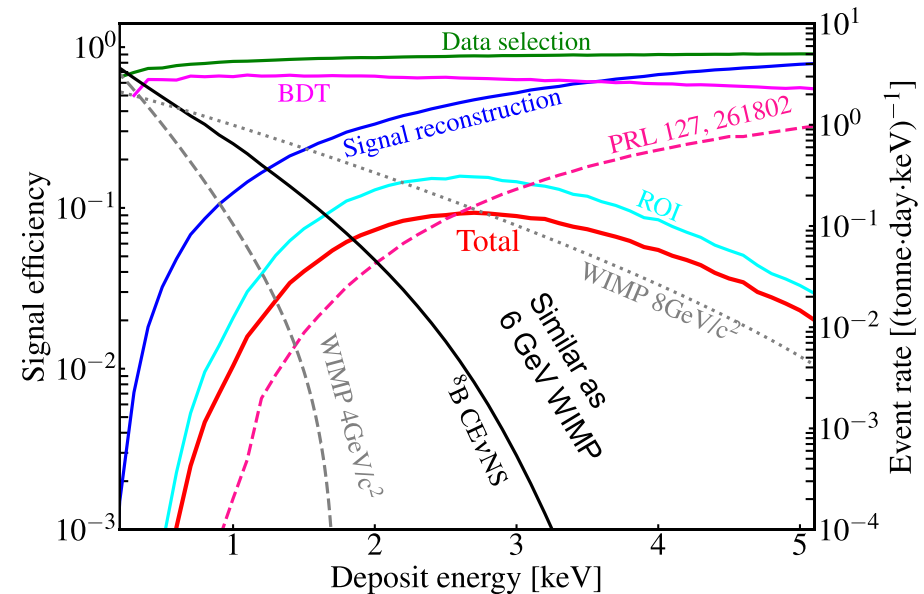
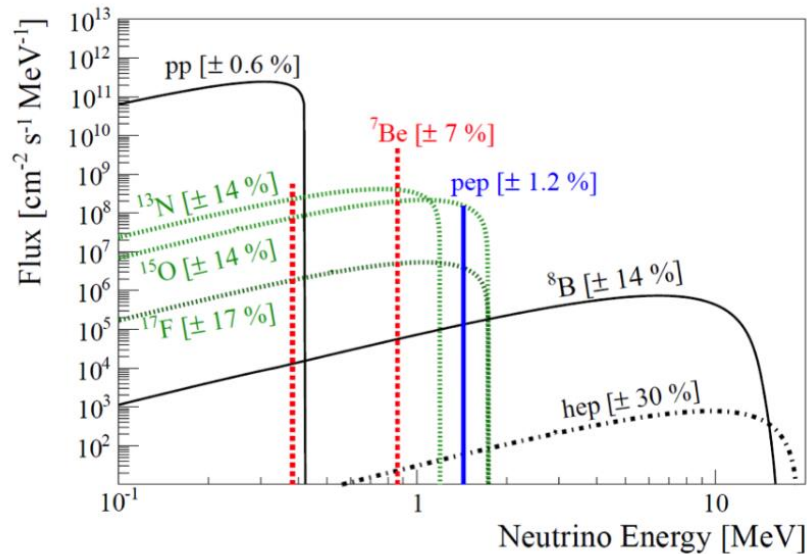
# Backup



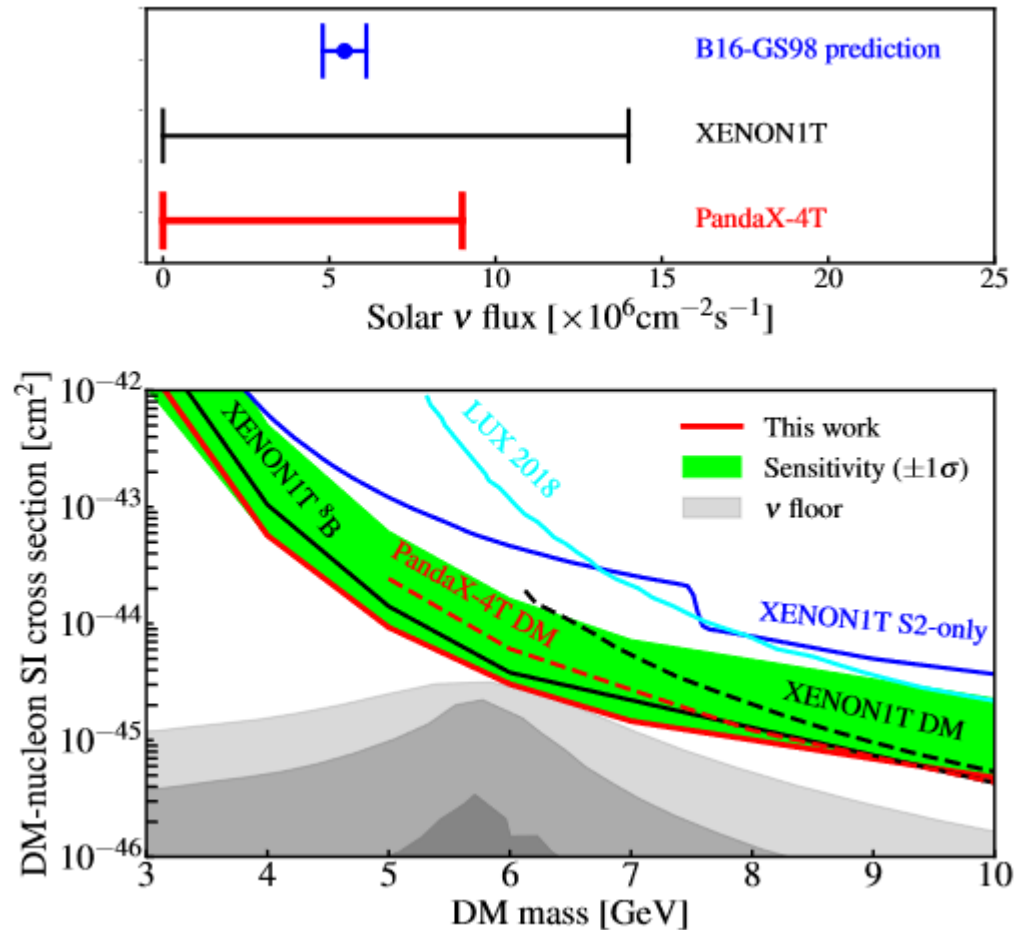
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# PandaX-4T Search for $^8\text{B}$ CEvNS

- To enhance sensitivity on  $^8\text{B}$  (like a 6 GeV WIMP), need to lower the selection threshold (S1↓, S2 ↓)
- Major challenge: **Accidental background** (AC, non-physical S1 and S2 randomly paired)
- **Blind analysis**: 0.48 ton-year data, excluding data with an increase in noise rate (micro-discharge)



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



W. Ma et al. PRL 130, 021802 (2023)

- A multi-variate (BDT) algorithm trained to suppress AC background
  - Some downward fluctuation

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>

- Leading constraint on  $^8\text{B}$  neutrino flux through CEvNS
- Assuming a nominal  $^8\text{B}$  background, set strongest constraints on light WIMP of 3 -10 GeV