# First Results from LUX Dark Matter Experiment

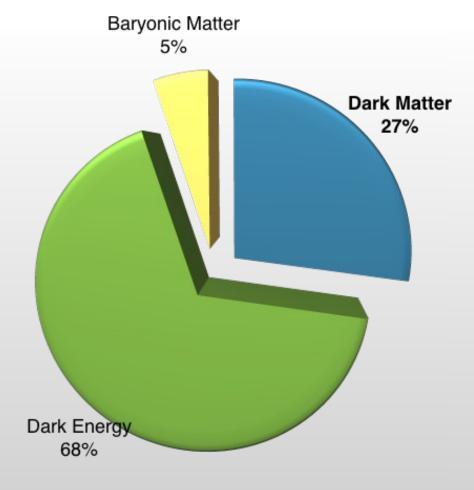


V. Solovov – *LIP Coimbra, Portugal* on behalf of the LUX Collaboration



XXX-th International Workshop on High Energy Physics

### **Dark Matter**



### **Evidence:**

- Galaxy cluster dynamics
- Galaxy rotation curves
- Gravitational lensing
- Cosmological evidence
  - CMB
  - Supernovae
  - LS structure formation

# Far away, we can see it

### Through the "weak lensing" effect

Galaxy cluster CL0024+17

**Bullet cluster** 



### Dark matter candidates

### **MOND** (Modified Newtonian Dynamics)

- explains galaxy rotation curves,
- but does not explain gravitational lensing

### Hot dark matter - neutrinos

- too light to explain the dark matter density
- HDM disfavoured in scenarios of large scale structure formation

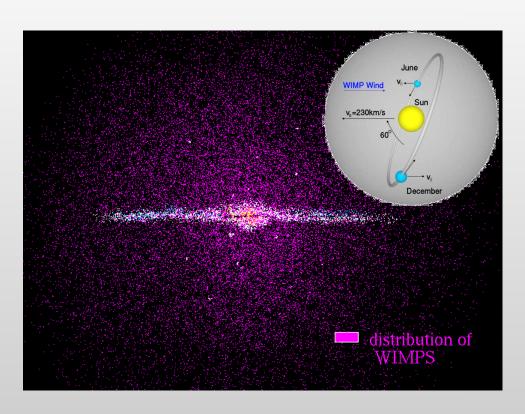
### Cold dark matter

- Axions: have an (upper) experimental mass constraint.
- WIMPs: Weakly Interacting Massive Particles (also predicted by SUSY: neutralinos)

### **WIMPs**

### **WIMP** properties (educated guess):

- Not affected neither by strong nor electromagnetic forces
- •Mass scale: 10 GeV ... 1 TeV (assuming it is neutralino)
- •Moves with the Galaxy => average velocity of ~300 km/s is expected



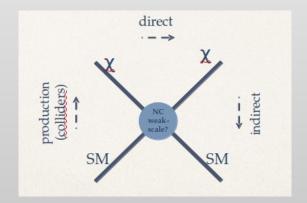
### **Interaction with nucleus:**

•Spin-independent : σ~A²

•Spin-dependent: σ~J(J+1)

### How to search:

- •Production collider experiments
- •Indirecty e.g. looking for highenergy neutrinos from WIMP annihilation
- •Directly looking for nuclear recoils from WIMPs



### Direct DM search

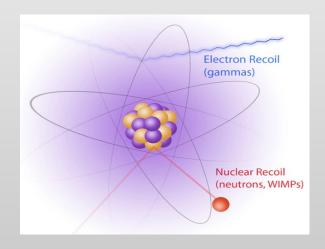


### **Challenges:**

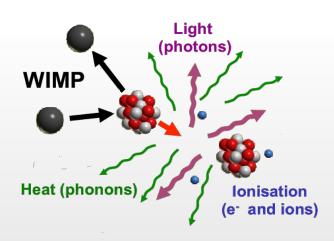
- Very low event rate: less than 10<sup>-3</sup> ev/kg/day
- High background from natural radioactivity and cosmic rays
- Low energy nuclear recoils (<100 keV)</li>

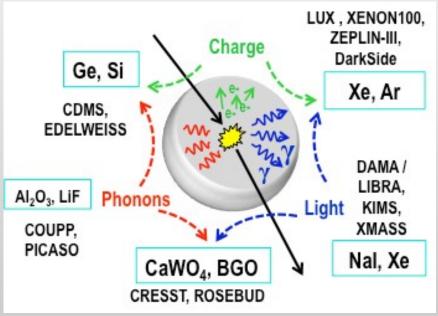
### **Solutions:**

- Reduce background
  - Low-background materials
  - Passive shielding
  - Active shielding
- Reject background
  - Discriminate between electron and nuclear recoils



### How discrimination works

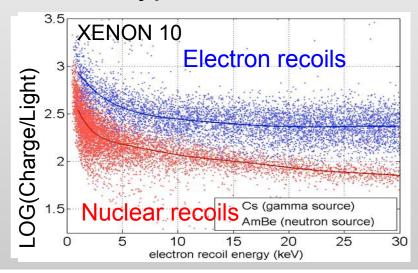




Recoil energy dissipates through three channels:

- Ionisation
- Scintillation
- Phonons

The ratio between these channels strongly depends on recoil type



# Why we love liquid Xe

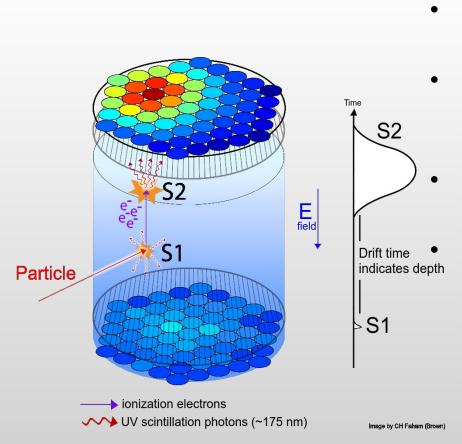
- Relatively high density (2.9 g/cm3)
- High atomic mass (A=131 g/mol)
- Spin-dependent sensitive isotopes
- High light output and fast response
- Long electron drift lengths (~1 m)
- No intrinsic backgrounds
- Self-shielding capability
- Two channel (light+charge) output
- Scalable to multi-ton size



### **Used** in

- ZEPLIN I
- ZEPLIN II
- XENON 10
- ZEPLIN III
- XENON 100
- LUX
- X-MASS
- XENON 1T
- PANDA-X
- LZ

# LXe Time Projection Chamber

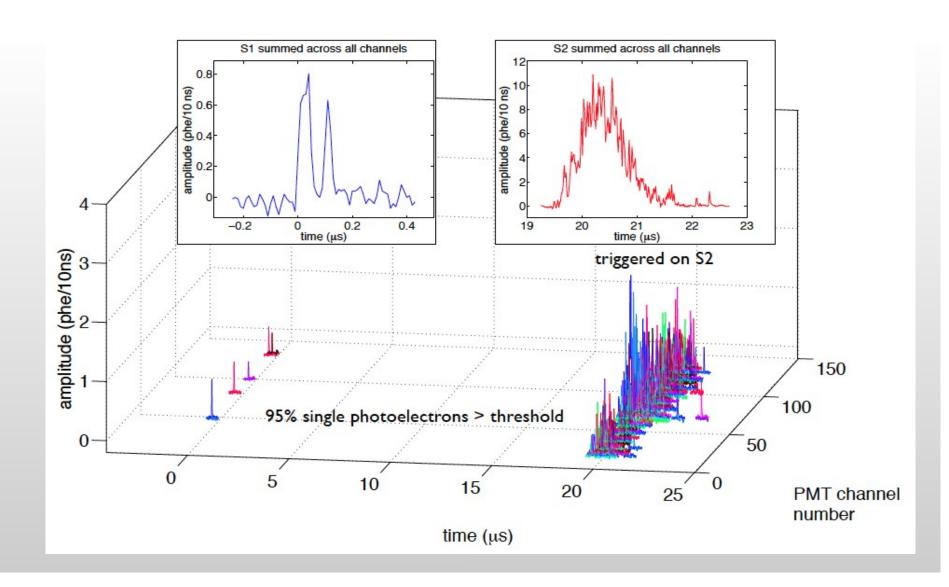


- Prompt scintillation (**S1**): energy scale (keVee)
- Proportional scintillation (**S2**): measurement of the e- charge extracted from the liquid to the gas
- **S2/S1** ratio depends on the recoil type

### Position sensitivity:

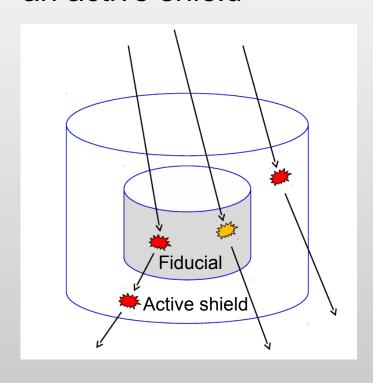
- X and Y from the S2 light distribution across the PMT array
- Z from drift time (delay between S1 and S2)

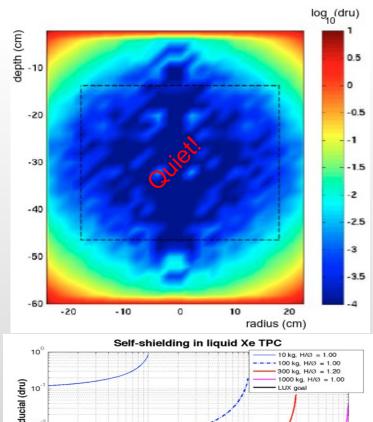
### 1.5 keV electron recoil in LUX

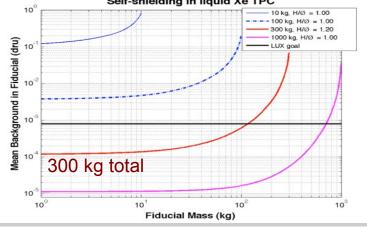


# Self-shielding

- Look for events only in the inner (fiducial) volume
- Use the outer volume as an active shield







### The LUX Collaboration



#### Brown

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#### Imperial College London

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#### awrence Berkeley + UC Berkeley

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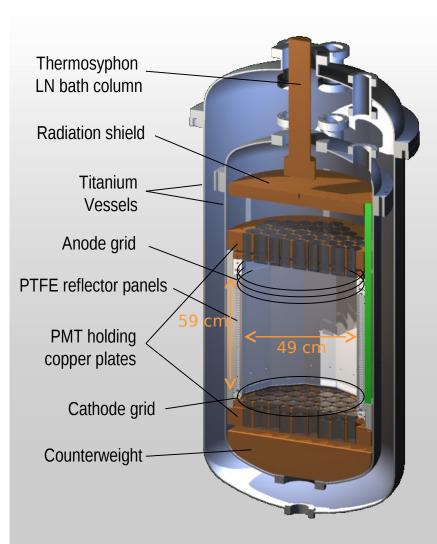
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Collaboration Meeting, Sanford Lab, April 2013



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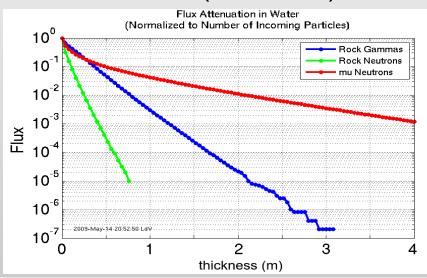
### LUX detector

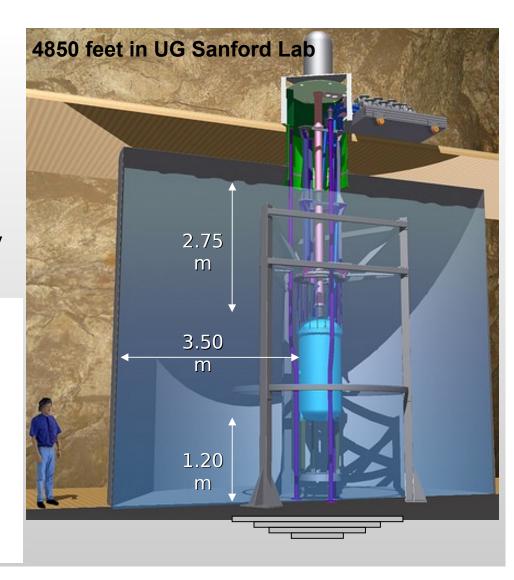


- •350 kg of xenon (300 kg active, expected ~100 kg fiducial);
- 122 Ultra low background PMTs (12 mBq/PMT);
- Radio-pure titanium cryostat (<0.2 mBq/kg);</li>
- Internal copper shield;
- Active region defined by PTFE slabs (high reflectivity for xenon scintillation light);
- Maximum drift length: 49 cm;
- High flow plumbing and heat exchanger for rapid (~25 SLPM) circulation through external purifier;

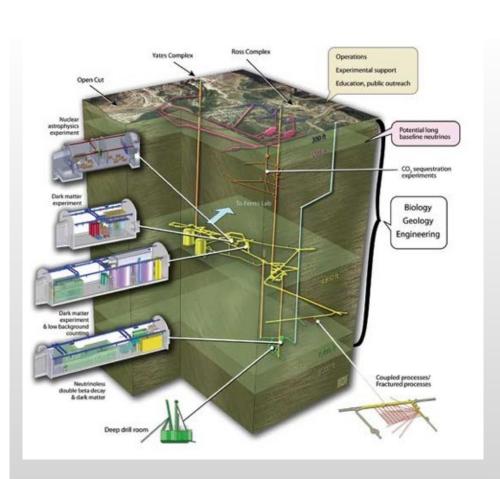
# Shielding: Water tank

- 8m diameter, 6m high
- 300 tonnes of purified water
- Background suppression:
  - 10<sup>9</sup> for gammas
  - 10<sup>3</sup> for neutrons
- Instrumented with Cherenkov muon veto (20 PMTs)

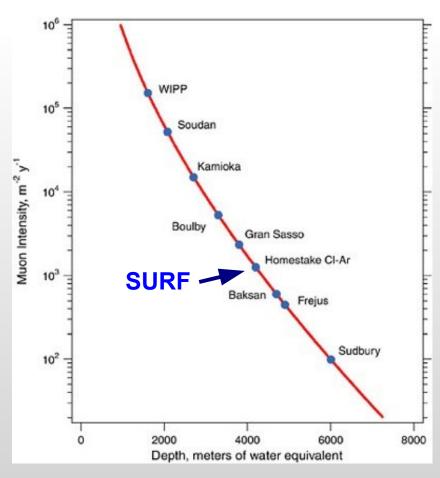




# Shielding: Underground facility



SURF – Sanford Underground Research Facility, South Dakota, USA

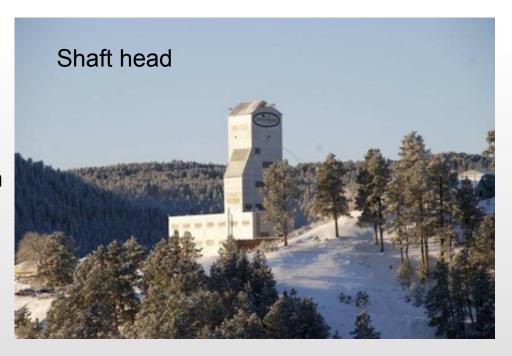


Muon flux is reduced by ~10<sup>7</sup> compared to surface

## Sanford Lab at Homestake mine

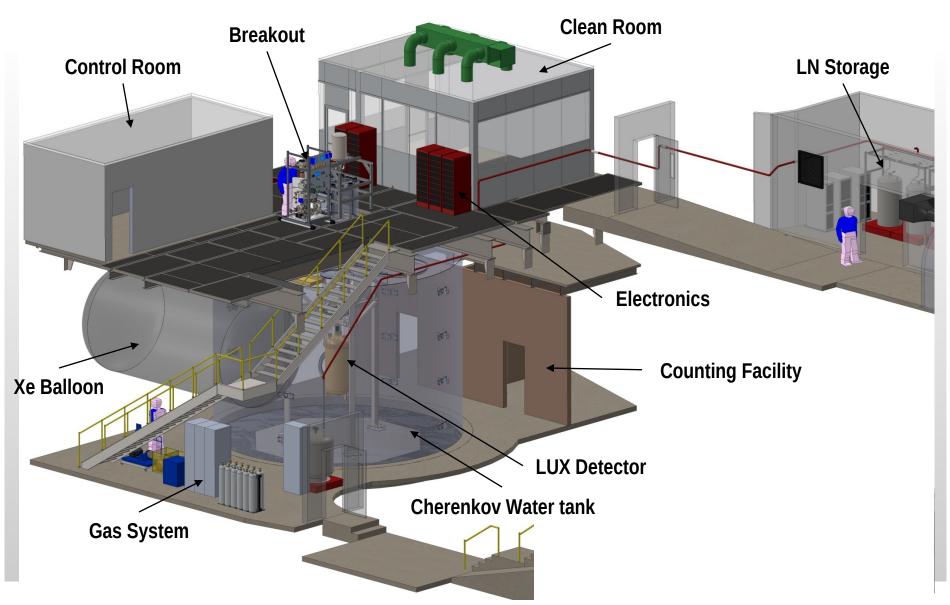


- Was the deepest gold mine in North America
- 1970-1994 home of Davis solar neutrino experiment
- Located in a spectacular Black Hills region





## **Davis Lab**



# Underground deployment







# Detector in place



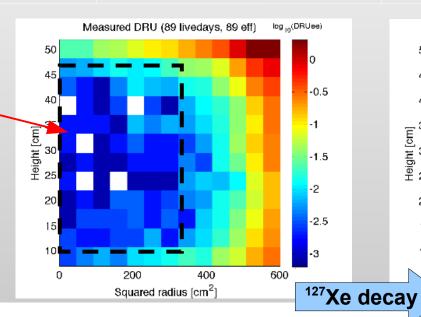
# Backgrounds in LUX

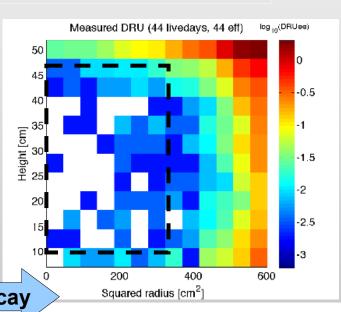
Background	Source	10 <sup>-3</sup> x evts/keVee/kg/day
γ-rays	Internal Components	1.8±0.2 <sub>stat</sub> ±0.3 <sub>sys</sub>
$^{127}$ Xe ( $\lambda_{1/2}$ =36.4d)	Cosmogenic 0.87 -> 0.28	0.5±0.02 <sub>stat</sub> ±0.1 <sub>sys</sub>
<sup>214</sup> Pb	<sup>222</sup> Rn chain	0.11-0.22(90% CL)
<sup>85</sup> Kr	130 ppb -> 3.5±1 ppt	0.13±0.07 <sub>sys</sub>
	Total Predicted:	2.6±0.2 <sub>stat</sub> ±0.4 <sub>sys</sub>
	Total Observed:	3.1±0.2 <sub>stat</sub>



•r < 18 cm

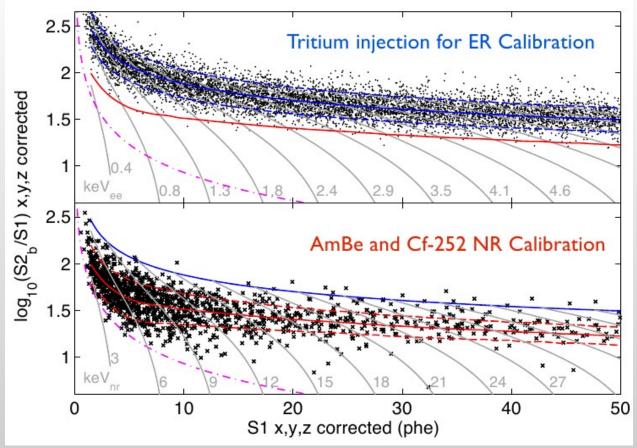
 $\bullet 7 < z < 47$  cm  $3.1 \pm 0.2 \, \text{mdru}$ 





### Calibration

- •Tritium provides very high statistics electron recoil calibration (200 events/phe)
- Neutron calibration is consistent with NEST + simulations
- •ER discrimination at 50% NR acceptance is 99.6%

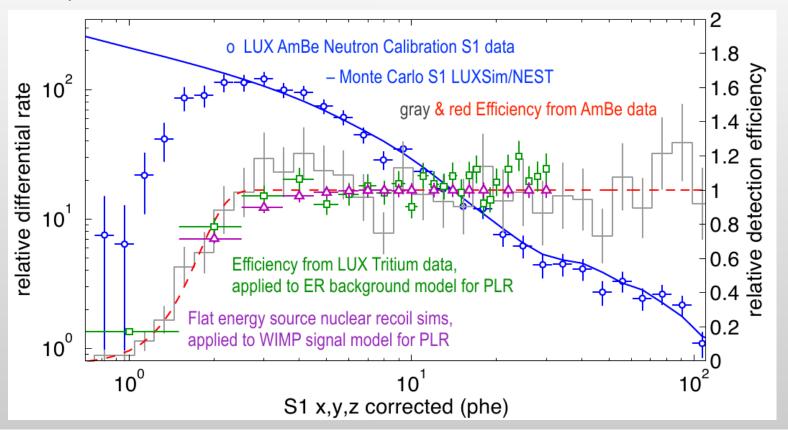


Gray contours indicate constant energies using a S1-S2 combined energy scale

# Golden efficiency

Cumulative efficiency of: finding the S2 pulse, finding the S1 pulse, and finding (only) one of each in a given event

Measured independently using AmBe, Tritium, LED data and full NR simulations using a flat spectrum



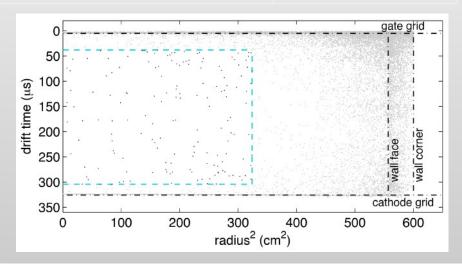
### WIMP search

### Timeline:

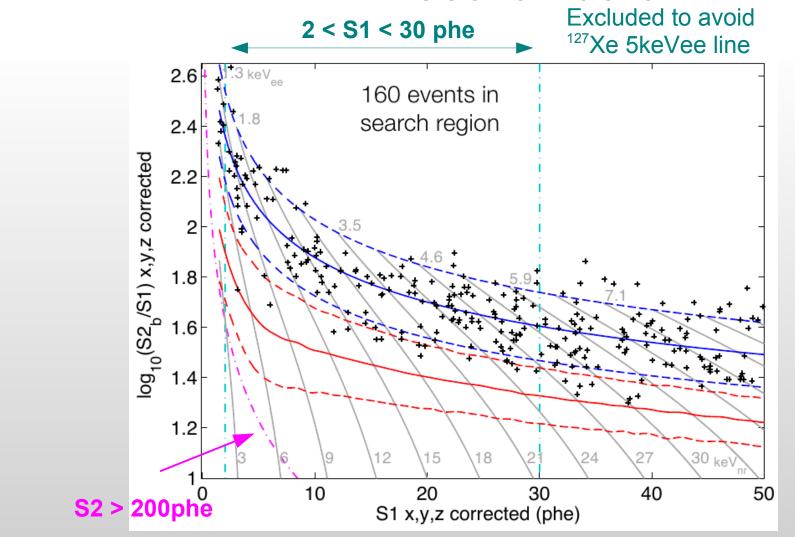
- July 2012: Detector transported underground
- July 2012 January 2013: Underground deployment and commissioning
- January 2013 detector cooldown
- February 2013 Xe condensed
- March April 2013 finalizing run parameters
- April August 2013 WIMP search
  - •85.3 live days•118 kg fiducial mass

### **Event Selection**

Cut	Events Remaining
All Triggers	83673413
Detector Stability	82918901
Single Scatter Events	6585686
S1 energy (Accept 2-30 phe)	26824
S2 energy	20989
S2 Single Electron Quiet Cut	19796
Drift Time Cut away from grids	8731
Fiducial Volume Cut	160

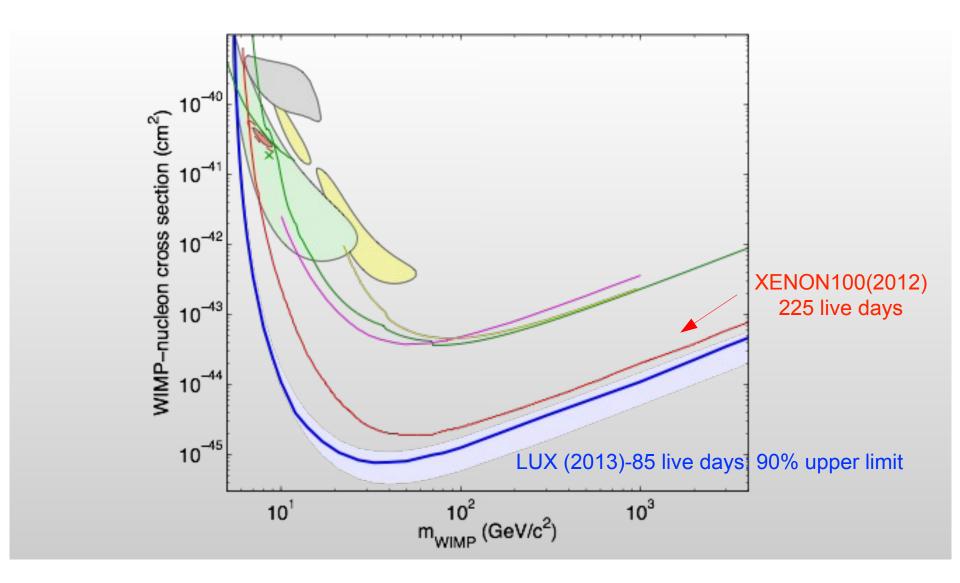


## WIMP search data

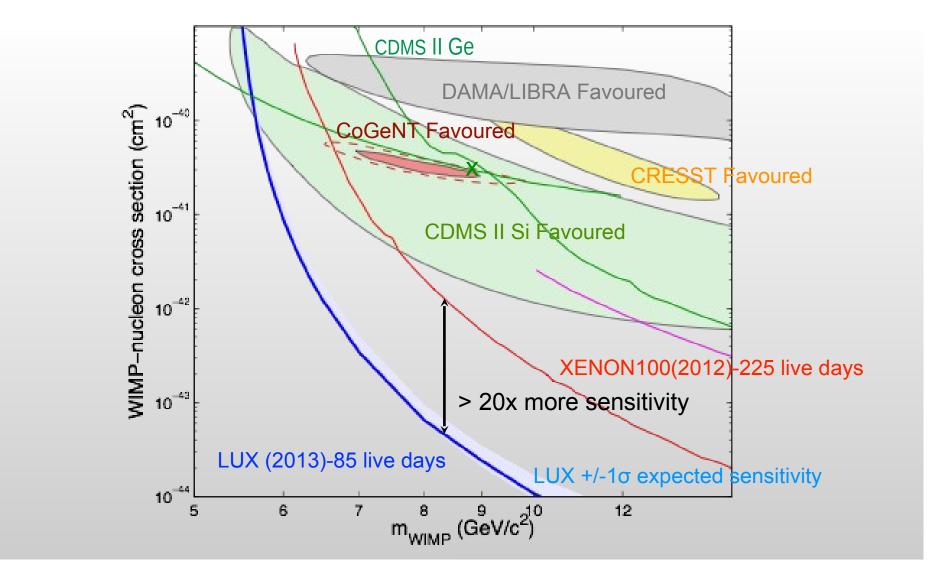


**Profile likelihood analysis:** P-value of **0.35** consistent with ER background and **no WIMP signal** 

# Spin-independent limit

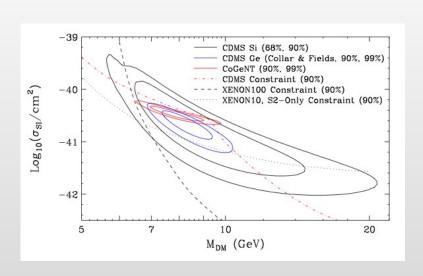


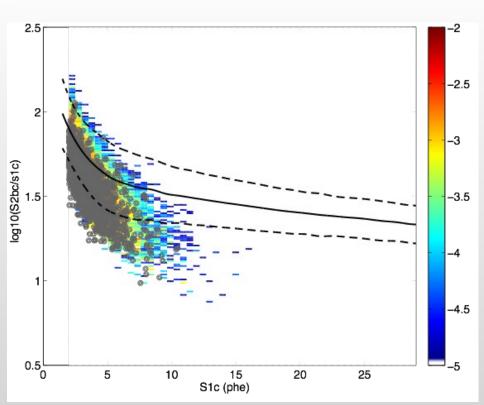
### Low-mass WIMPs excluded



# Simulated response to light WIMPs

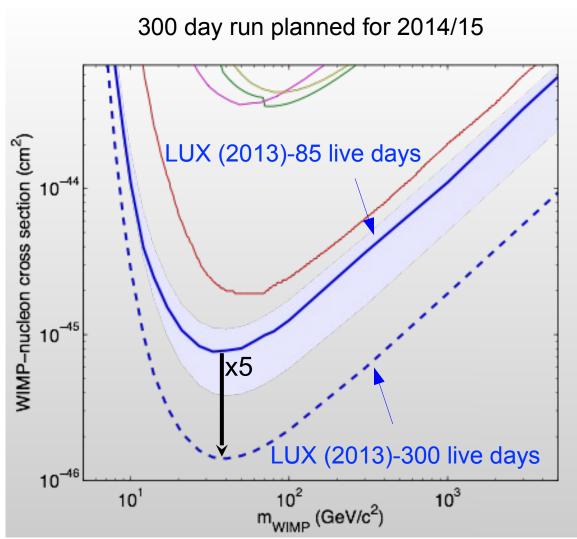
For 8.6 GeV WIMP compatible with 3 events in CDMS-II Si





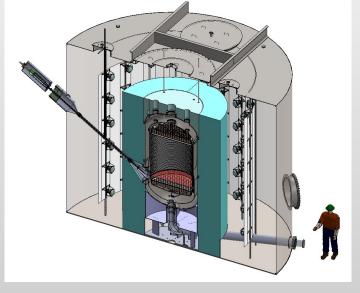
expect 1550 WIMPs in this run!

### What's next?



LZ = LUX & ZEPLIN

- More Xe: 7t total, 5t fiducial
- ~500 3" PMTs at ~1 mBq radioactivity level
- Construction planned 2015-17



# Thank you!

