

# The XENONnT Experiment: Dark Matter and Beyond

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On behalf of the XENON Collaboration

WIN2023

July 7th 2023



**XENON**



**RICE**

# XENON Collaboration

27 institutes

~170 members



# XENON Collaboration

29 institutes

~170 members



# XENON Collaboration

Collaboration meeting at L'Aquila, Italy  
February 1st-3rd 2023



# XENON dark matter project



Laboratori Nazionali  
del Gran Sasso



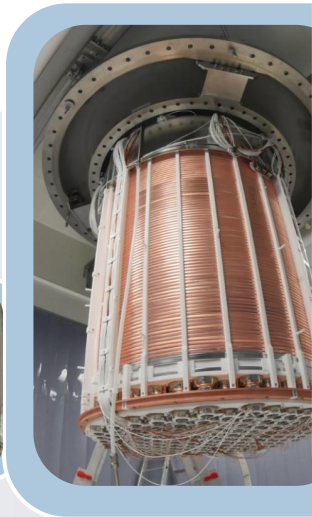
XENON10  
2005 - 2007

🏋️ 14 kg



XENON100  
2008 - 2016

🏋️ 62 kg



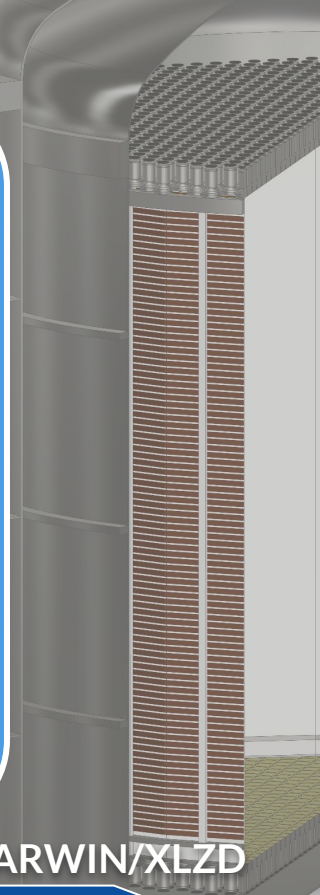
XENON1T  
2016 - 2019

🏋️ 2.0 t



XENONnT  
2020 - Now

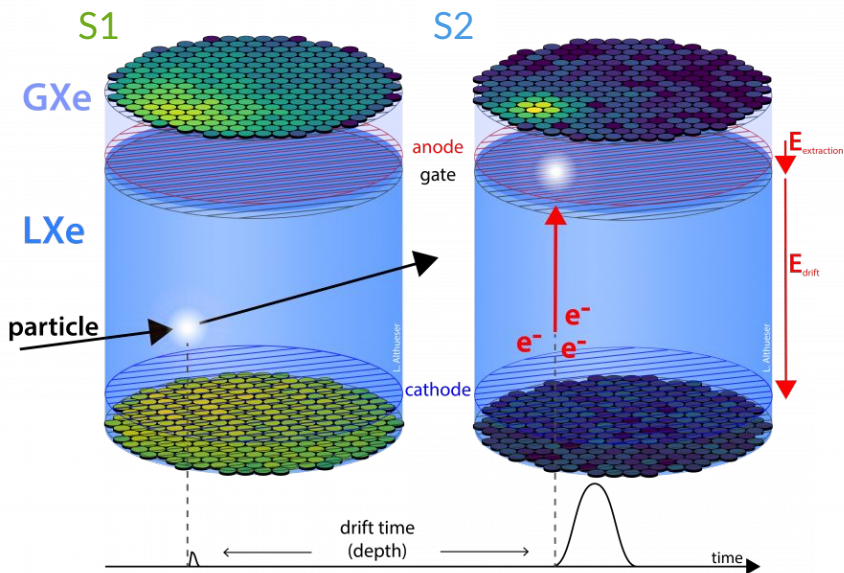
🏋️ 5.9 t



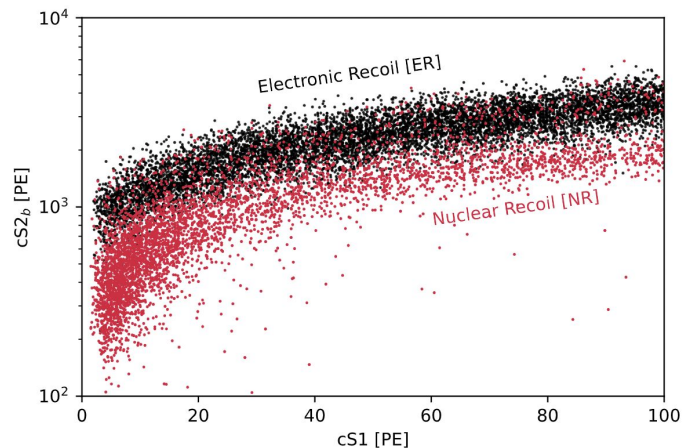
DARWIN/XLZD  
Future

🏋️ ~40 t

# Dual-phase Xenon Time Projection Chamber



- Initial scintillation light: S1
- Proportional scintillation signal: S2
- Energy: S1 area, S2 area
- Interaction type: S2/S1 ratio (ER/NR)
- Position: Z (drift time), X-Y (S2 signal)



# XENONnT Upgrades

Reusing XENON1T infrastructure

×3

Active Volume

1/6

Backgrounds

Carefully selected materials

*Eur. Phys. J. C* **82**, 599 (2022)

arXiv:2112.05629

straxen

Streaming analysis for XENON(nT)

<https://github.com/XENONnT/straxen>

Triggerless data acquisition

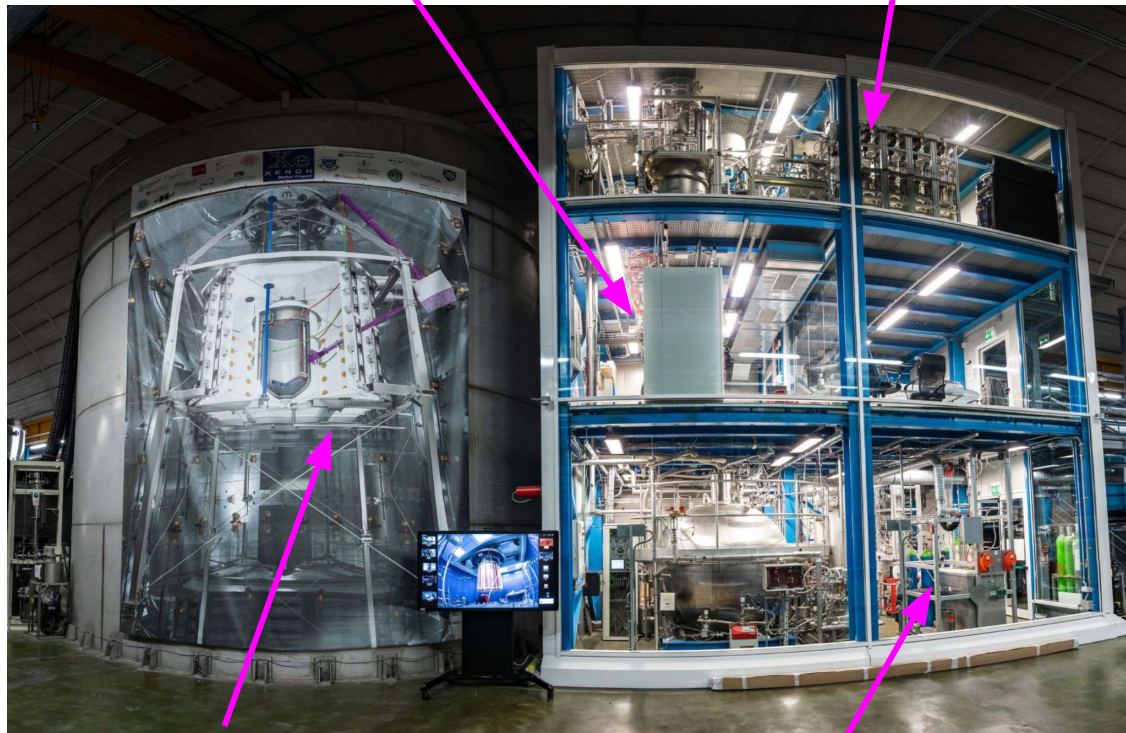
Accepted by *JINST*

arXiv:2212.11032

Radon distillation system

*Eur. Phys. J. C* **82**, 1104 (2022)

arXiv:2205.11492



Neutron veto

*JCAP* **11** (2020) 031

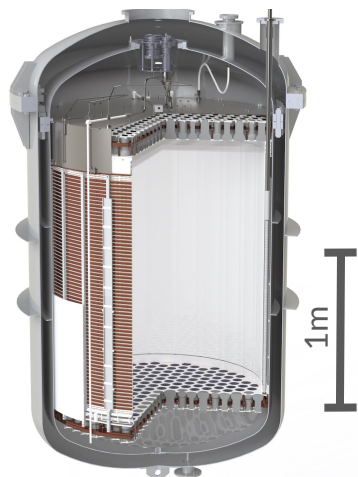
arXiv:2007.08796

Liquid xenon purification system

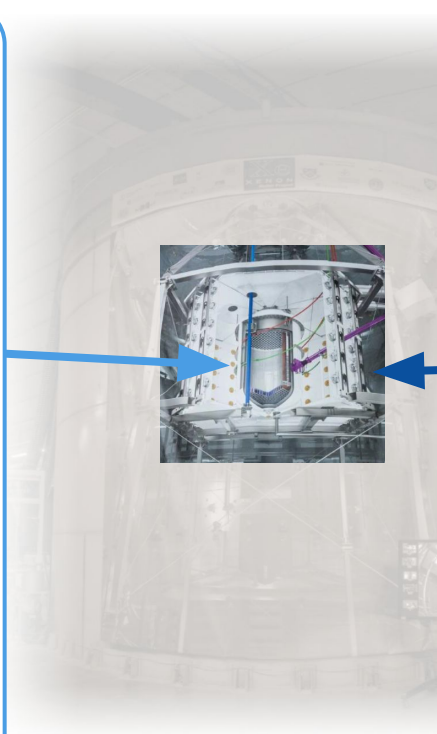
*Eur. Phys. J. C* **82**, 860 (2022) arXiv:2205.07336

# TPC & Neutron Veto

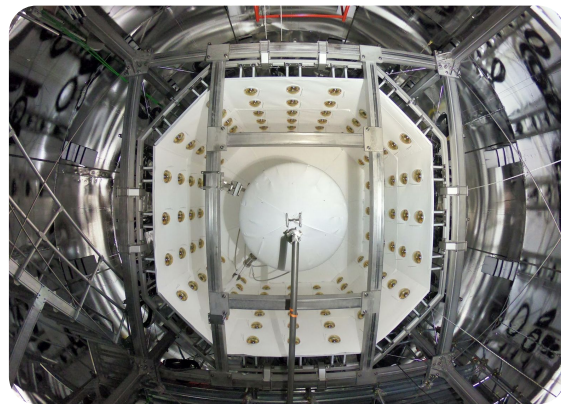
## XENONnT TPC



- 8.5 t of LXe in cryostat, 5.9 t in TPC
- 494 × 3" PMTs  
(253 top array, 241 bottom array)
- 1.5m long, 1.3m in diameter



## Neutron Veto



- Built inside Muon Veto
- 33 m<sup>3</sup> of volume, 120 × 8" PMTs
- 53% Neutron tagging efficiency in SR0 condition

JCAP 11 (2020) 031  
arXiv:2007.08796



# Xe Purification & Rn Removal

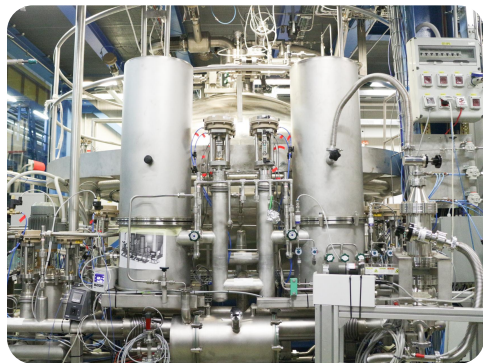
## Radon Removal



- $^{222}\text{Rn}$  mitigation - material selection & screening
- Radon removal via online cryogenic distillation
- Radon activity  $< 2 \mu\text{Bq/kg}$

*Eur. Phys. J. C* **82**, 1104 (2022)  
[arXiv:2205.11492](https://arxiv.org/abs/2205.11492)

## Liquid Xenon Purification

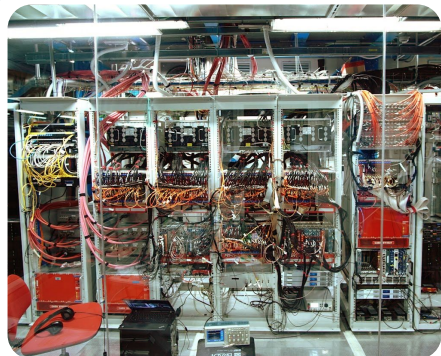


- Ultra-low radon emanation filters
- High LXe flow of 8.3 t / d
- Electron lifetime  $> 10 \text{ ms}$

*Eur. Phys. J. C* **82**, 860 (2022)  
[arXiv:2205.07336](https://arxiv.org/abs/2205.07336)



# DAQ & Softwares



## Data Acquisition System

- Triggerless data acquisition
- Dual gain digitization for top array
- Online processing & live monitoring

Accepted by JINST  
arXiv:2212.11032

## Softwares

straxen

Streaming analysis for XENON(nT)  
[github.com/XENONnT/straxen](https://github.com/XENONnT/straxen)

XeDocs

XENON metadata management tool  
[github.com/XENONnT/xedocs](https://github.com/XENONnT/xedocs)  
[zenodo.org/record/7945375](https://zenodo.org/record/7945375)

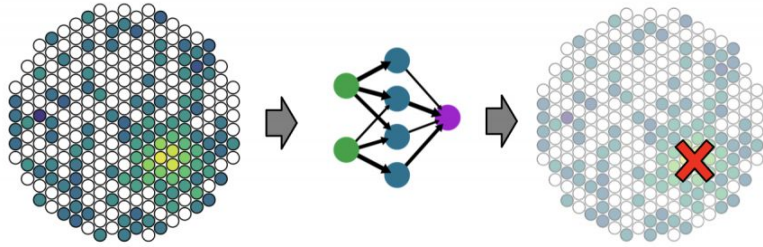
WFSim

The XENON waveform simulator  
[github.com/XENONnT/wfsim](https://github.com/XENONnT/wfsim)

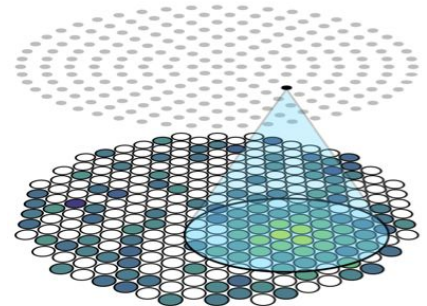
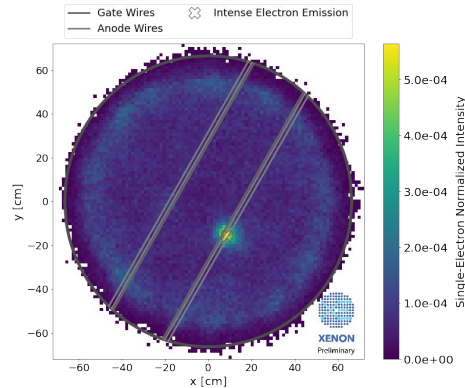
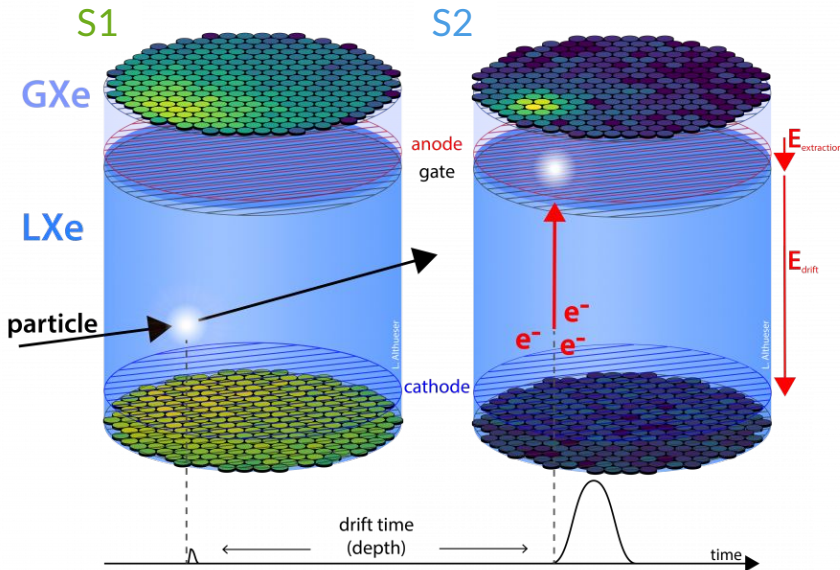
- Open source softwares
- Developed in Python
- No ROOT dependency



# Data Processing with Neural Networks



- Reconstruct X-Y positions of S2 signals
- 3 models: Multilayer Perceptron (MLP), Graph Constrained Network (GCN), Convolutional Neural Network (CNN)
- Trained on simulated S2 signals
- Optimized for speed & run in real time for monitoring
- GCN: architecture designed for S2 position reconstruction



Front. Artif. Intell. 5 (2022) 832909  
arXiv:2112.07995

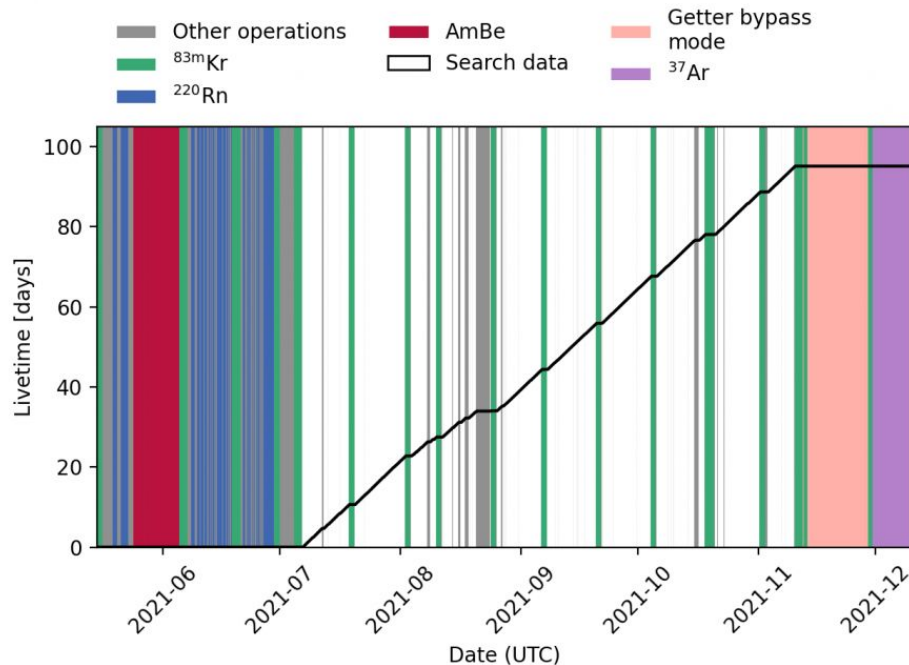
# XENONnT Science Run 0

## Data:

- 97.1 days of data taking:  
July 6th 2021 - Nov 10th 2021
- Low ER background  
 $15.8 \pm 1.3$  events / (keV  $\times$  t  $\times$  yr)
- Average electron lifetime > 10 ms

## Analysis:

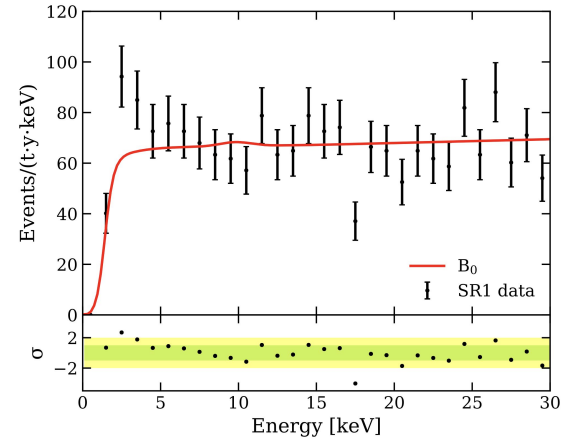
- Low energy electronic recoil
- WIMP dark matter search



# XENON1T Electronic Recoil Excess

Phys. Rev. D **102**, 072004  
arXiv:2006.09721

- Data excess background model in low energy electronic recoil region

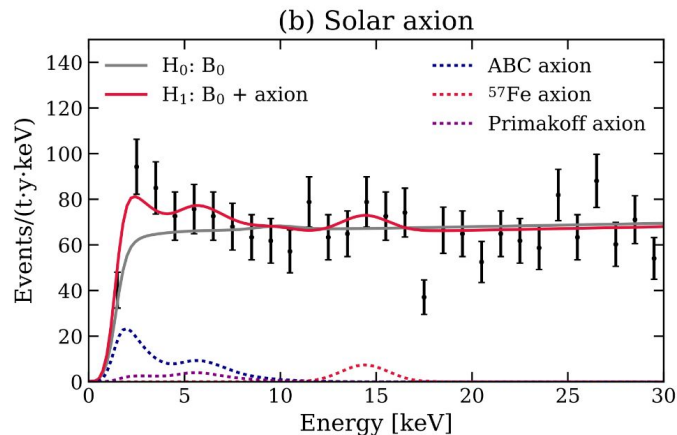
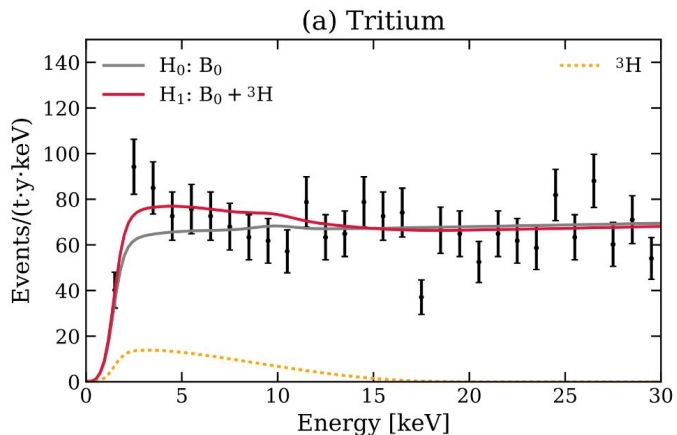
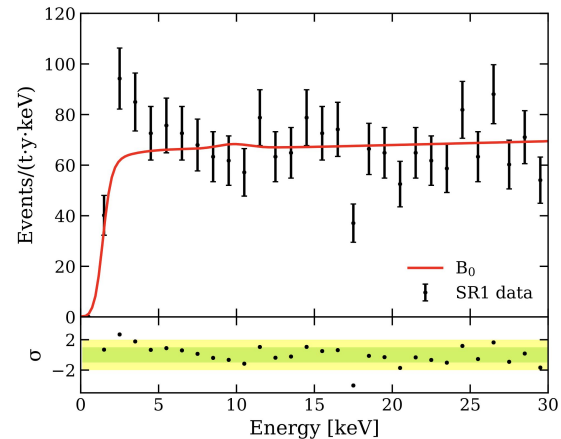


# XENON1T Electronic Recoil Excess

Phys. Rev. D **102**, 072004 (2020)

arXiv:2006.09721

- Data excess background model in low energy electronic recoil region
- Possible explanations:
  - tritium background
  - new physics



# XENONnT LowER Result

Phys. Rev. Lett **129**, 161805 (2022)

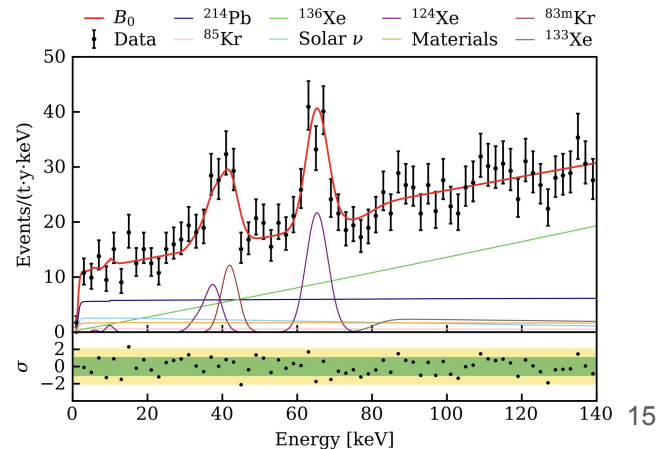
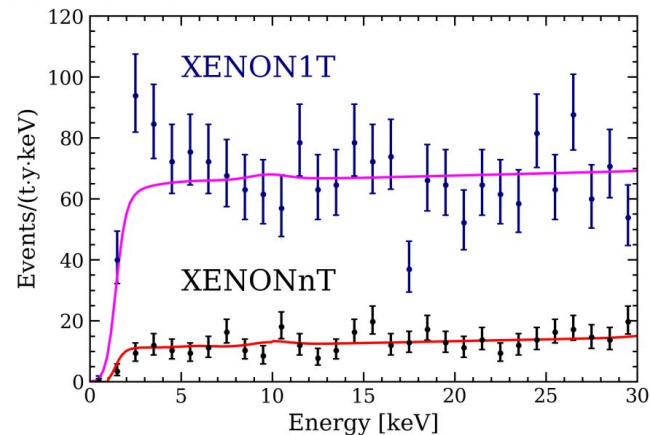
arXiv:2207.11330

## Data:

- 1.16 t × yr of exposure
- $\sim 1/6$  background level of XENON1T
- Spectrum shape dominated by double-weak decays

## Result:

- Data agree with background-only model
- No excess
- XENON1T excess excluded by  $4\sigma$

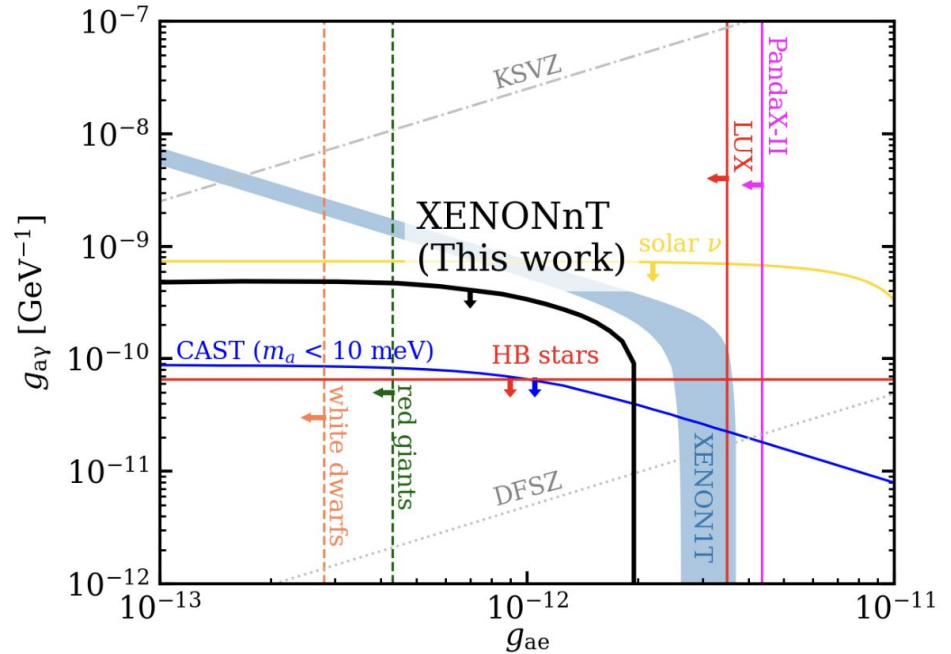


# XENONnT LowER Result

*Phys. Rev. Lett* **129**, 161805 (2022)  
arXiv:2207.11330

## Constraint on new physics

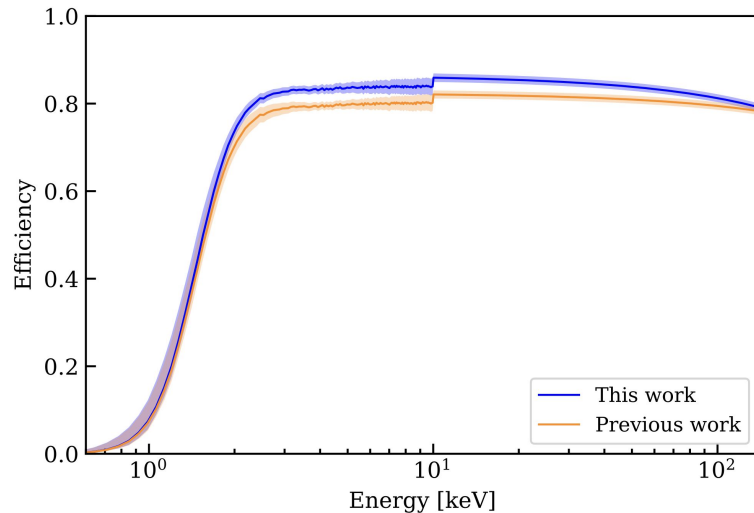
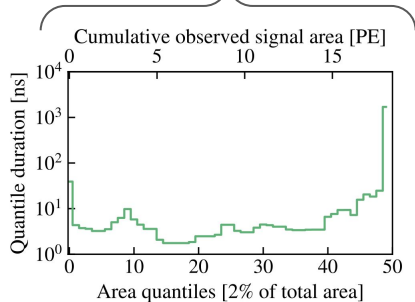
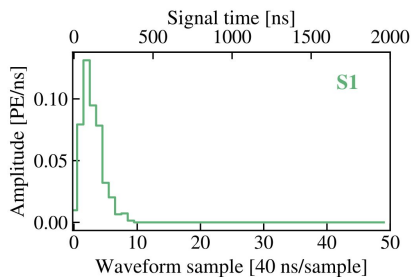
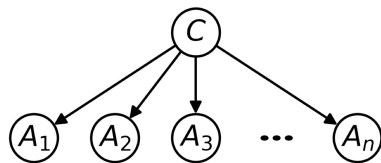
- Solar Axion
  - Best limit from dark matter direct detection experiment
- Other
  - Neutrino magnetic moment
  - Axion like particle dark matter
  - Dark photon dark matter





# Bayesian Network Analysis Accepted by Phys. Rev. D arXiv:2304.05428

- Bayesian network trained on waveform attributes
- S1/S2 classification and event selection based on model output
- Effectiveness demonstrated using SRO low ER data
- 3% increase in ER event selection efficiency
- Corroborates result of low ER analysis



# Calibration & Efficiency

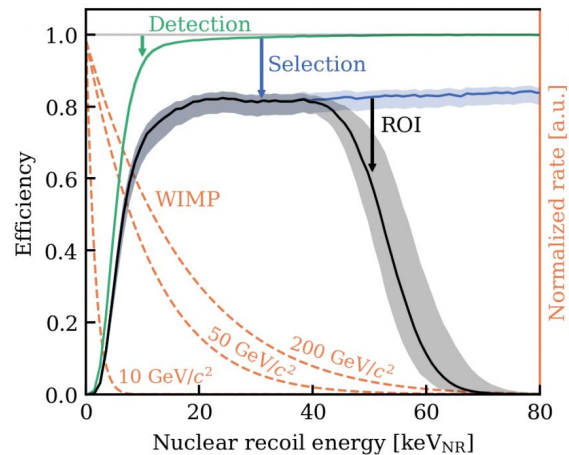
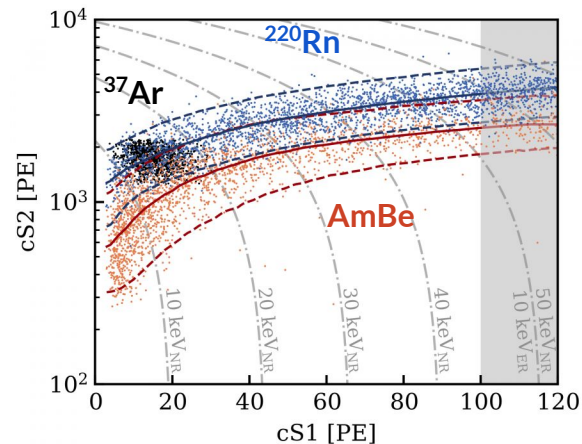
Accepted by *Phys. Rev. Lett*  
arXiv:2303.14729

## ER Calibration

- $^{220}\text{Rn}$ 
  - Approximately flat energy spectrum  $< 200 \text{ keV}_{\text{ER}}$
  - Used to validate cut acceptance
- $^{37}\text{Ar}$  ( $2.8 \text{ keV}_{\text{ER}}$  line)
  - Validate detector performance at low energies

## NR Calibration

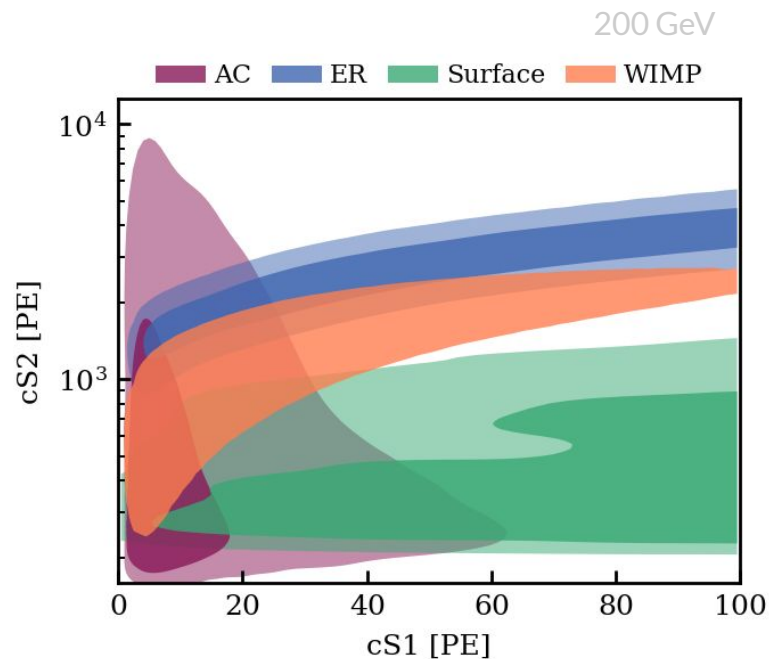
- external AmBe neutron source



# WIMP search backgrounds

Accepted by *Phys. Rev. Lett*  
arXiv:2303.14729

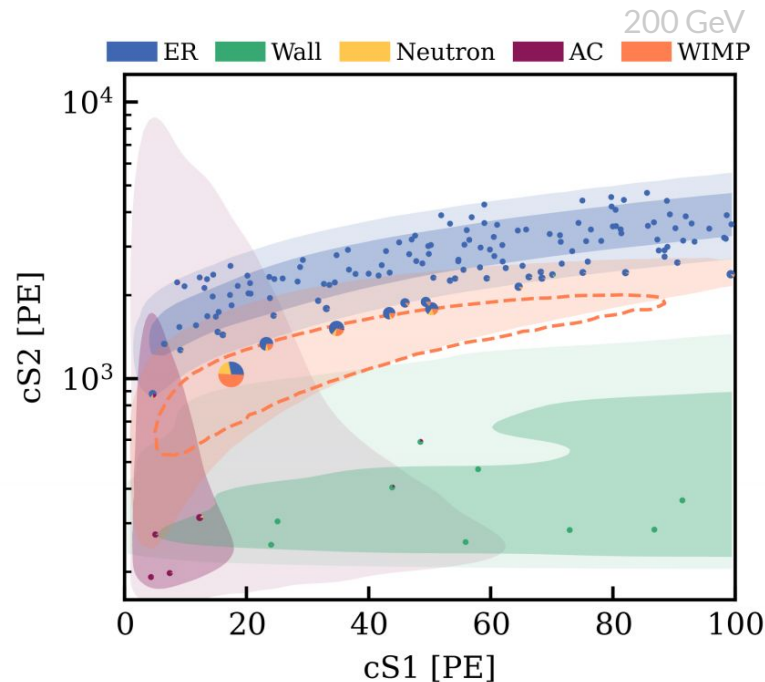
- **Electronic Recoil (ER):**
  - Dominated by beta decay of  $^{214}\text{Pb}$  (daughter of  $^{222}\text{Rn}$ )
  - $^{85}\text{Kr}$  background sub-dominant
- **Accidental Coincidences (AC):**
  - Random pairing of S1 & S2 signals
- **Surface:**
  - $^{210}\text{Pb}$  plate-out on PTFE walls of the TPC
- **Nuclear Recoil (NR):**
  - Radiogenic neutron rate prediction from Neutron Veto tagging
  - $^8\text{B}$  CEvNS constrained by flux



# WIMP search result Accepted by *Phys. Rev. Lett* arXiv:2303.14729

	Expected	Best Fit
	ROI	
ER	134	135 (+12) (-11)
Neutrons	1.1 (+0.6) (-0.5)	1.1 ± 0.4
CEvNS	0.23 ± 0.06	0.23 ± 0.06
AC	4.3 ± 0.2	4.32 ± 0.15
Surface	14 ± 3	12 (+0) (-4)
Total	<b>154</b>	<b>152 ± 12</b>
WIMP (200 GeV)	-	2.6
Observed	-	<b>152</b>

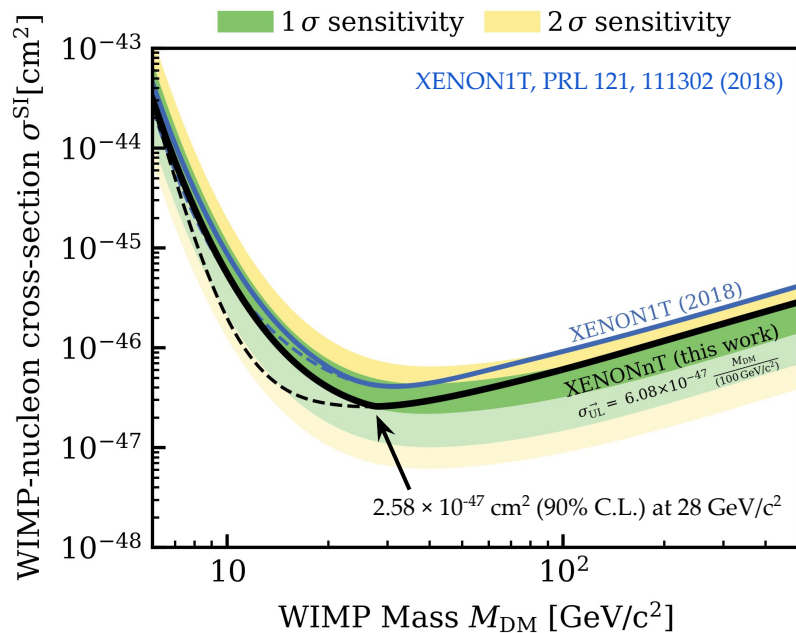
- 1.1 t × yr of exposure
- 152 events in ROI, 16 in blinded region
- **No significant excess**



# Spin-independent limit

Accepted by *Phys. Rev. Lett*  
arXiv:2303.14729

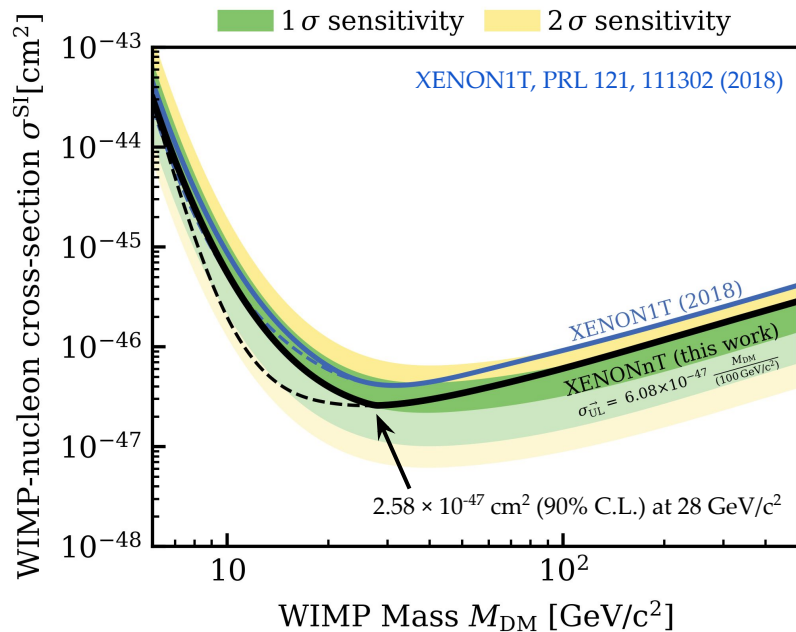
- XENONnT 90% C.L. Power-Constrained Limit (PCL)\*
- **Minimum upper limit:**  $2.58 \times 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2$  (90% C.L.) at  $28 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
- 1.6× improvement from XENON1T with shorter life time



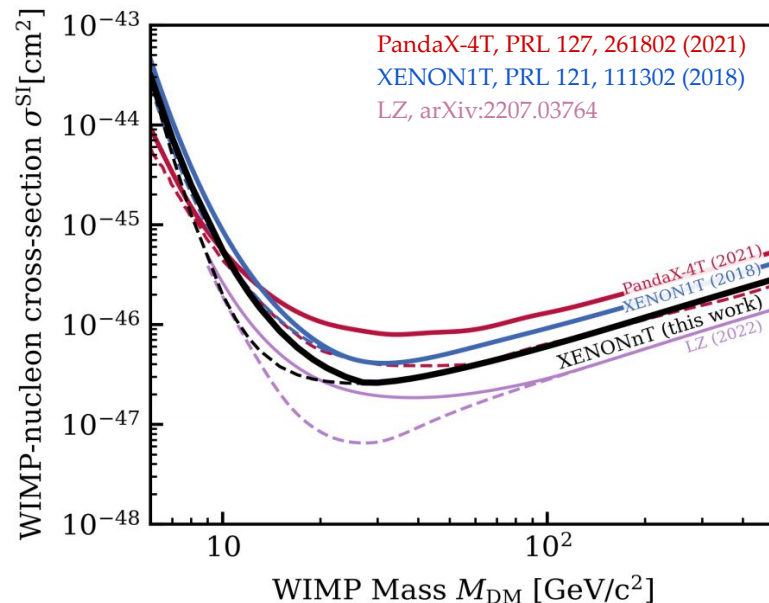
\* arXiv:1105.3166, arXiv:2105.00599 with 50% [median] rejection power

# Spin-independent limit Accepted by *Phys. Rev. Lett* arXiv:2303.14729

- XENONnT 90% C.L. Power-Constrained Limit (PCL)\*
- **Minimum upper limit:  $2.58 \times 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2$  (90% C.L.) at 28 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>**
- 1.6× improvement from XENON1T with shorter life time



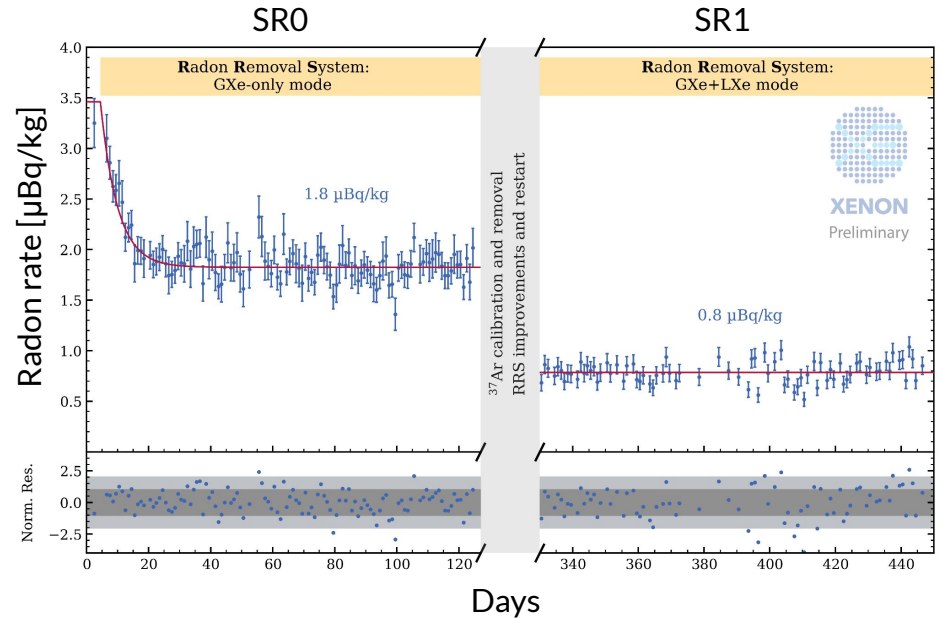
- Same PCL applied to results of other recent LXe experiments







\* arXiv:1105.3166, arXiv:2105.00599 with 50% [median] rejection power

# Summary

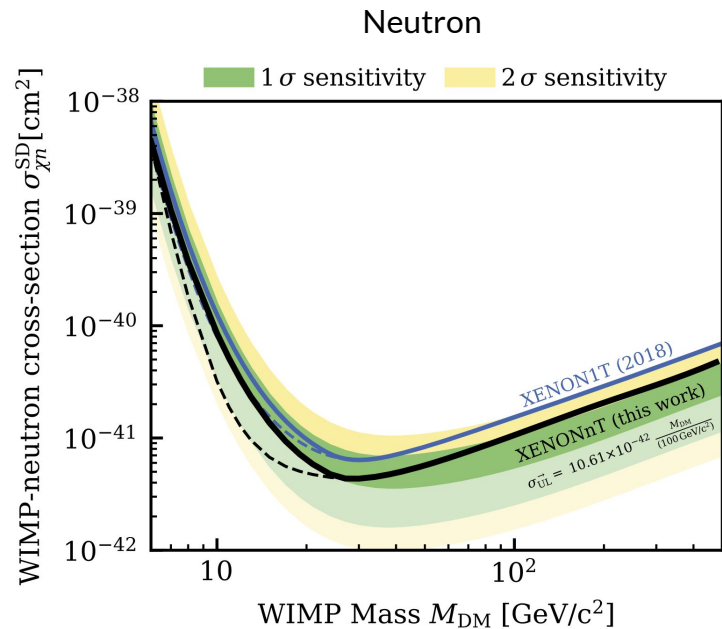
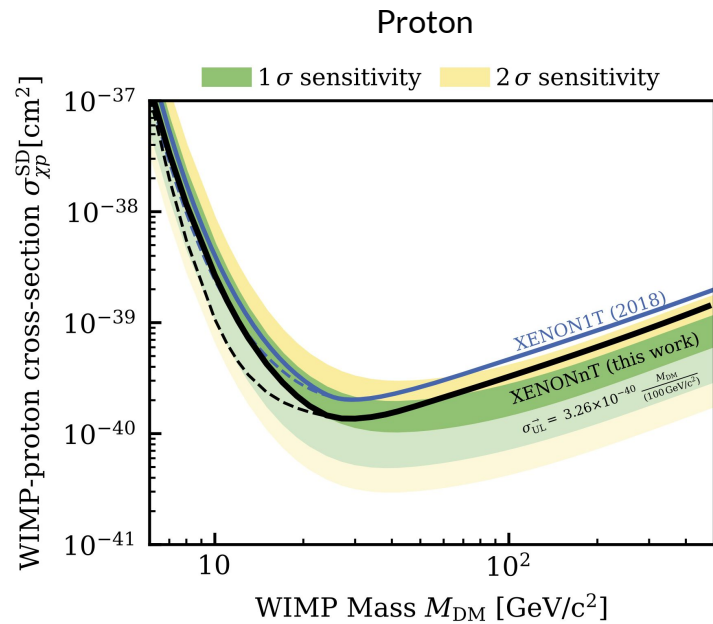
- **SR0** - 1.1 t × yr exposure in 2021
- **Low-energy ER background**  
15.8 ± 1.3 events / (keV × t × yr)
- **Low ER result** [arXiv:2304.05428](https://arxiv.org/abs/2304.05428) PRL  
Excluded XENON1T result, limit on new physics
- **WIMP result** [arXiv:2303.14729](https://arxiv.org/abs/2303.14729) PRL  
SI limit of  $2.58 \times 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2$  (90% C.L.) at 28 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>
- **SR1** - data taking ongoing, further reduction of <sup>222</sup>Rn
- Upcoming works:  
Papers on detector design, LXe purification...  
Solar neutrino analyses: pp, <sup>8</sup>B CEvNS  
s2-only studies  
...



 [xenonexperiment.org](https://xenonexperiment.org)  
 [xenon\\_experiment](https://www.instagram.com/xenon_experiment)

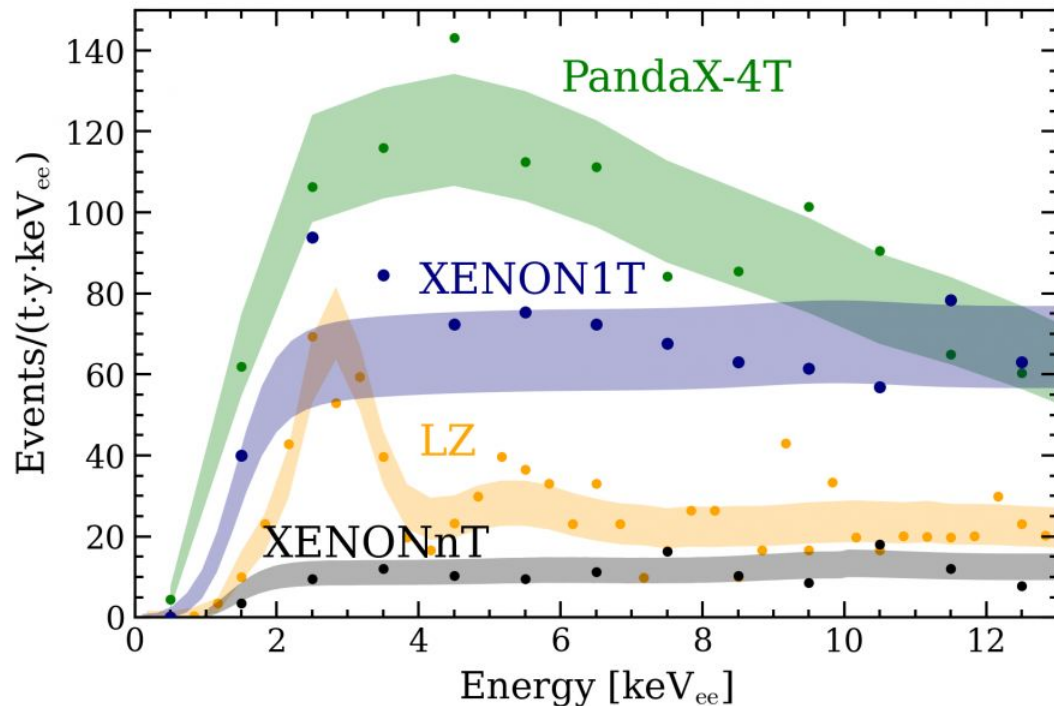
 [@XENONexperiment](https://twitter.com/XENONexperiment)  
 [@XENONexperiment](https://www.facebook.com/XENONexperiment)

# Backup - SD limit





# Backup - Low ER background



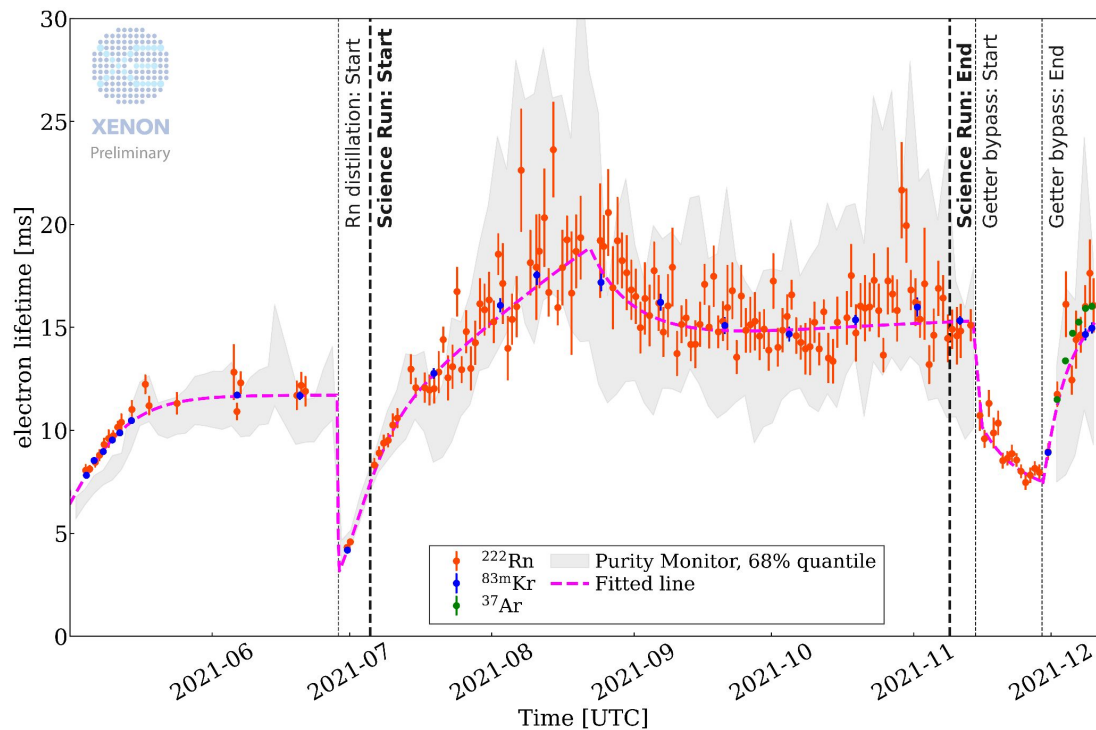
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[arXiv:2006.09721](https://arxiv.org/abs/2006.09721)

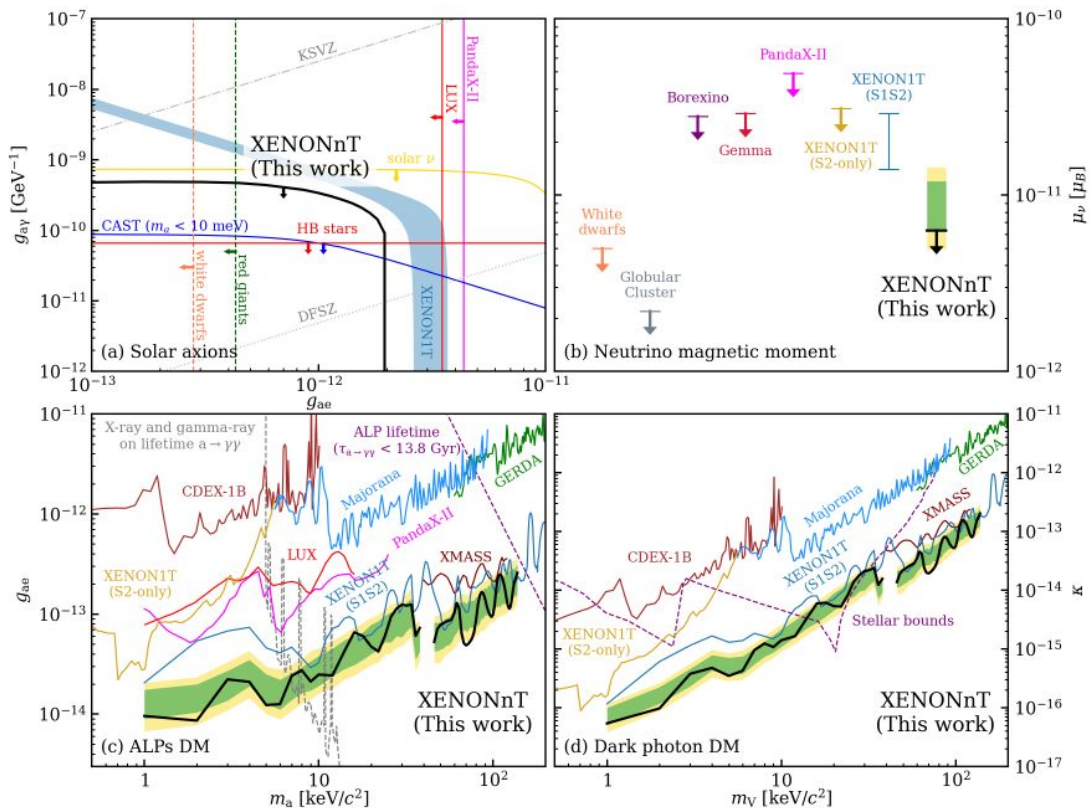
[arXiv:2207.03764](https://arxiv.org/abs/2207.03764)

[arXiv:2207.11330](https://arxiv.org/abs/2207.11330)

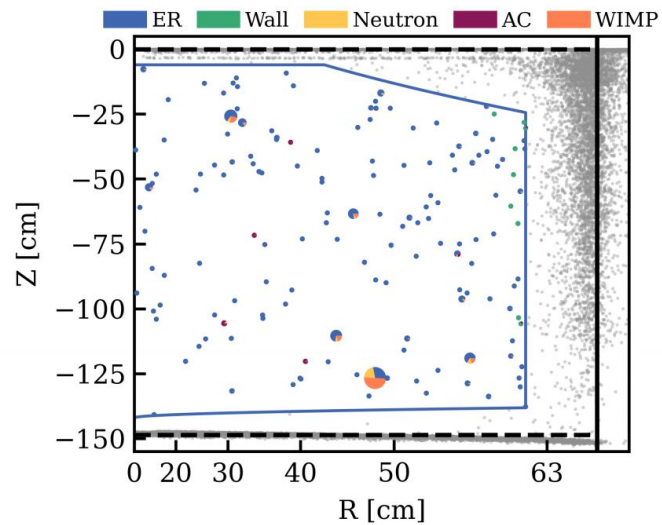
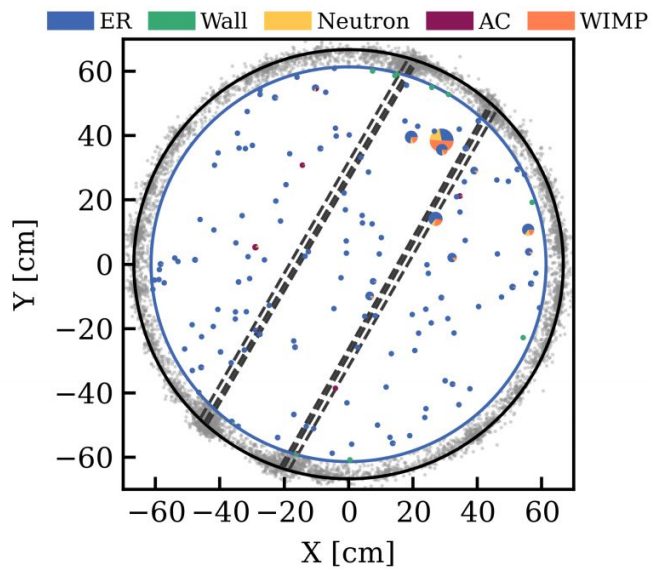
# Backup - electron lifetime



# Backup - low ER new physics constraint



# Backup - Event positions



# Backup - peak classification

