



TOHOKU
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International Symposium on
Neutrino Physics and Beyond
Feb, 19-21, 2024, Hong Kong

KamLAND-Zen / Geoneutrino

Hiroko Watanabe,
Research Center for Neutrino Science,
Tohoku University, Japan

KamLAND-Zen Collaboration

1/19

* Institutions :
5 from Japan
8 from US
1 from Europe
* ~50 collaborators



UNIVERSITY of HAWAII



TOKUSHIMA UNIVERSITY

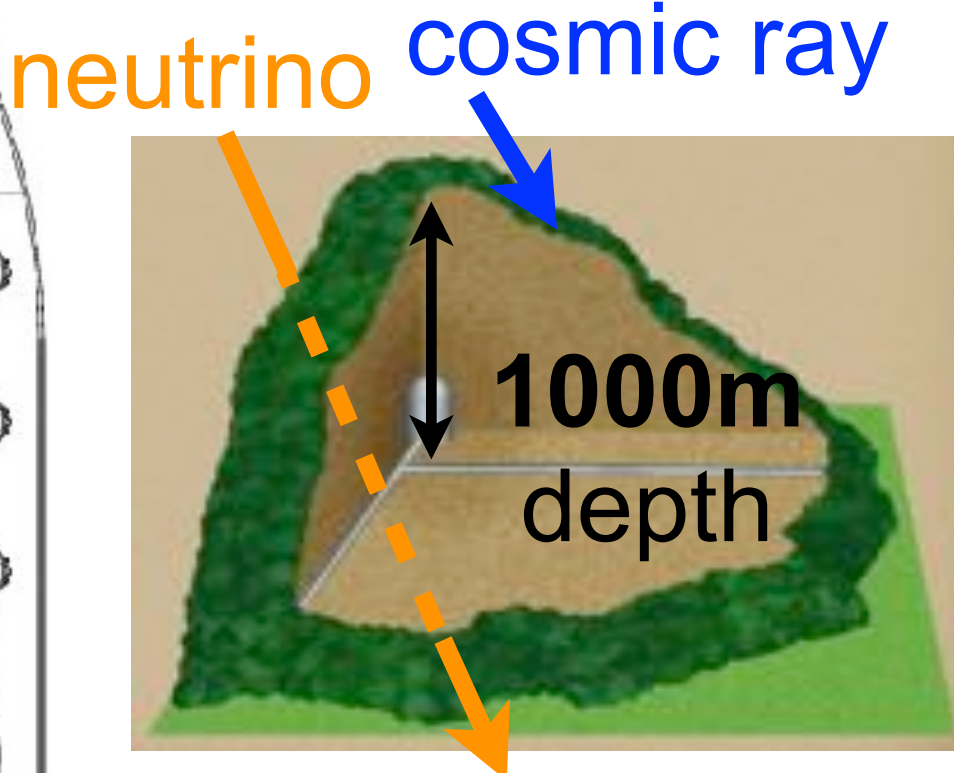
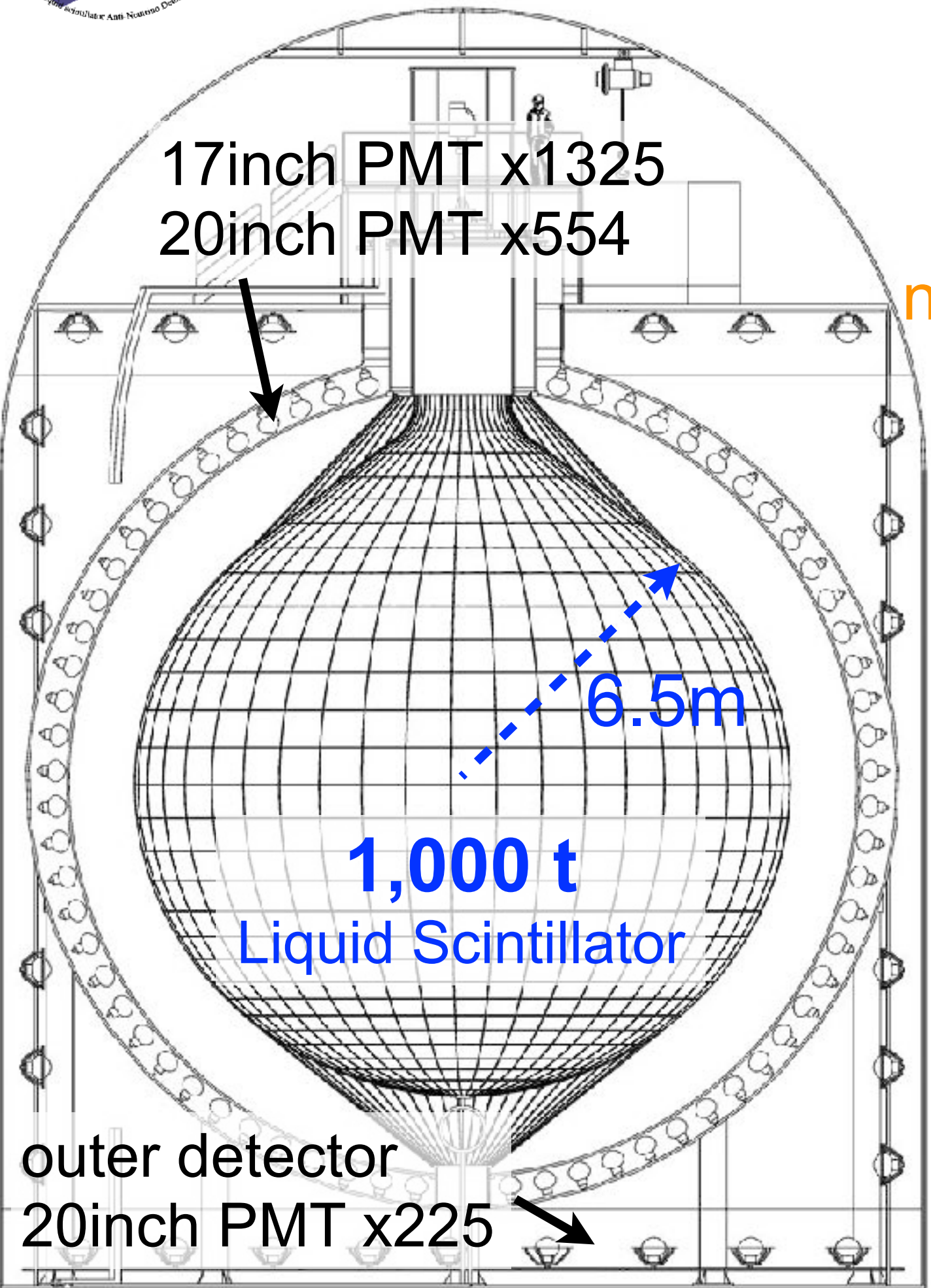
Sep 2023 @Obihiro (Hokkaido) + Online



@Kamioka, Japan
2002~



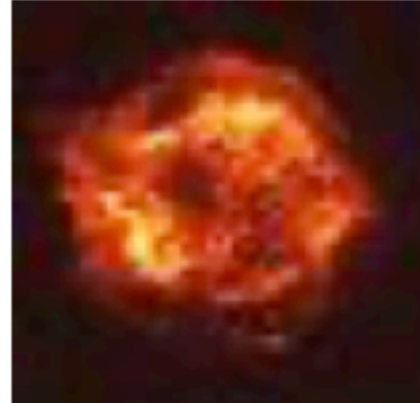
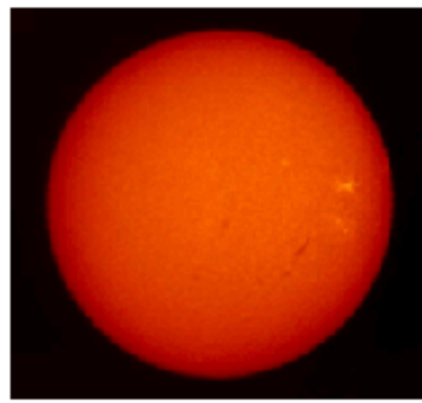
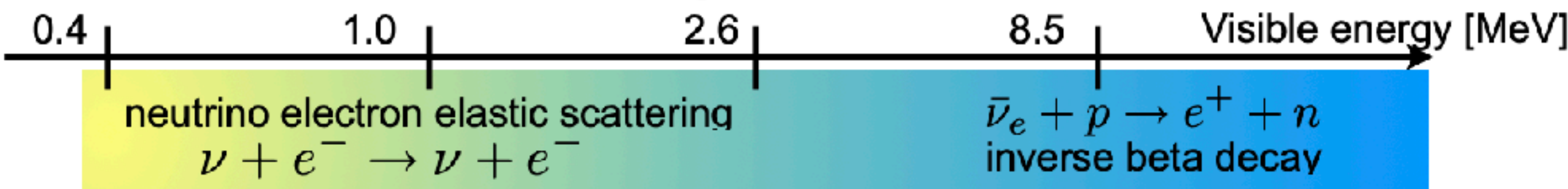
Kamioka Mine



* 1,000t ultra-pure liquid scintillator (LS)

^{232}U : 3.5×10^{-18} g/g, ^{238}Th : 5.2×10^{-17} g/g

* well-known detector response



Different neutrino physics in a wide energy range



KamLAND-Zen

2011~

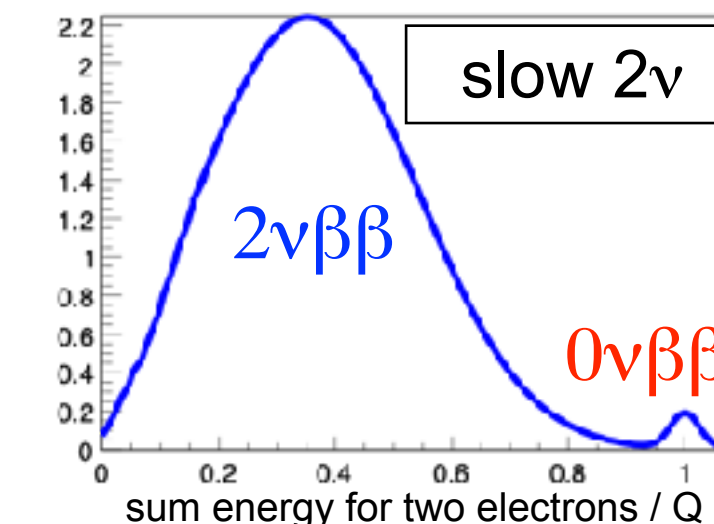
Zero Neutrino
double beta decay search

* ^{136}Xe loaded LS into KamLAND center with inner mini-balloon

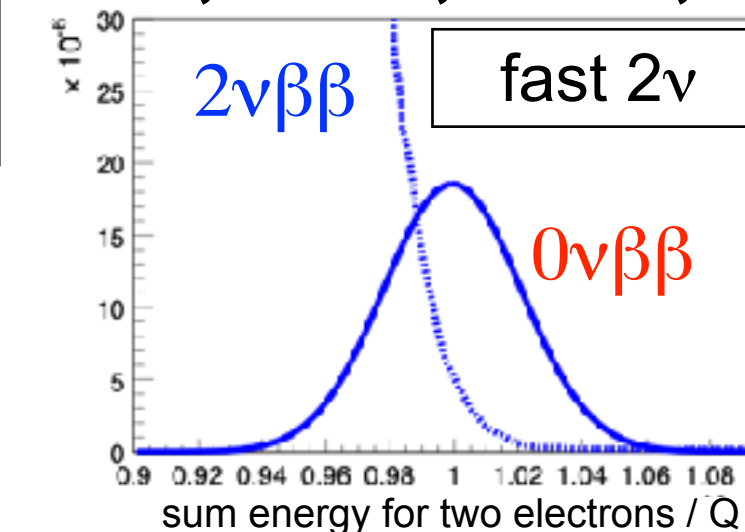
Why Xe? Q-value 2.458 MeV, $2\nu\beta\beta$ $T_{1/2} \sim 10^{21}$ yr

- Isotopic **enrichment** (centrifugal) established
- Gas purification is possible
- Soluble to LS more than **3 wt%**, easily extracted
- Slow $2\nu\beta\beta$ requires modest energy resolution

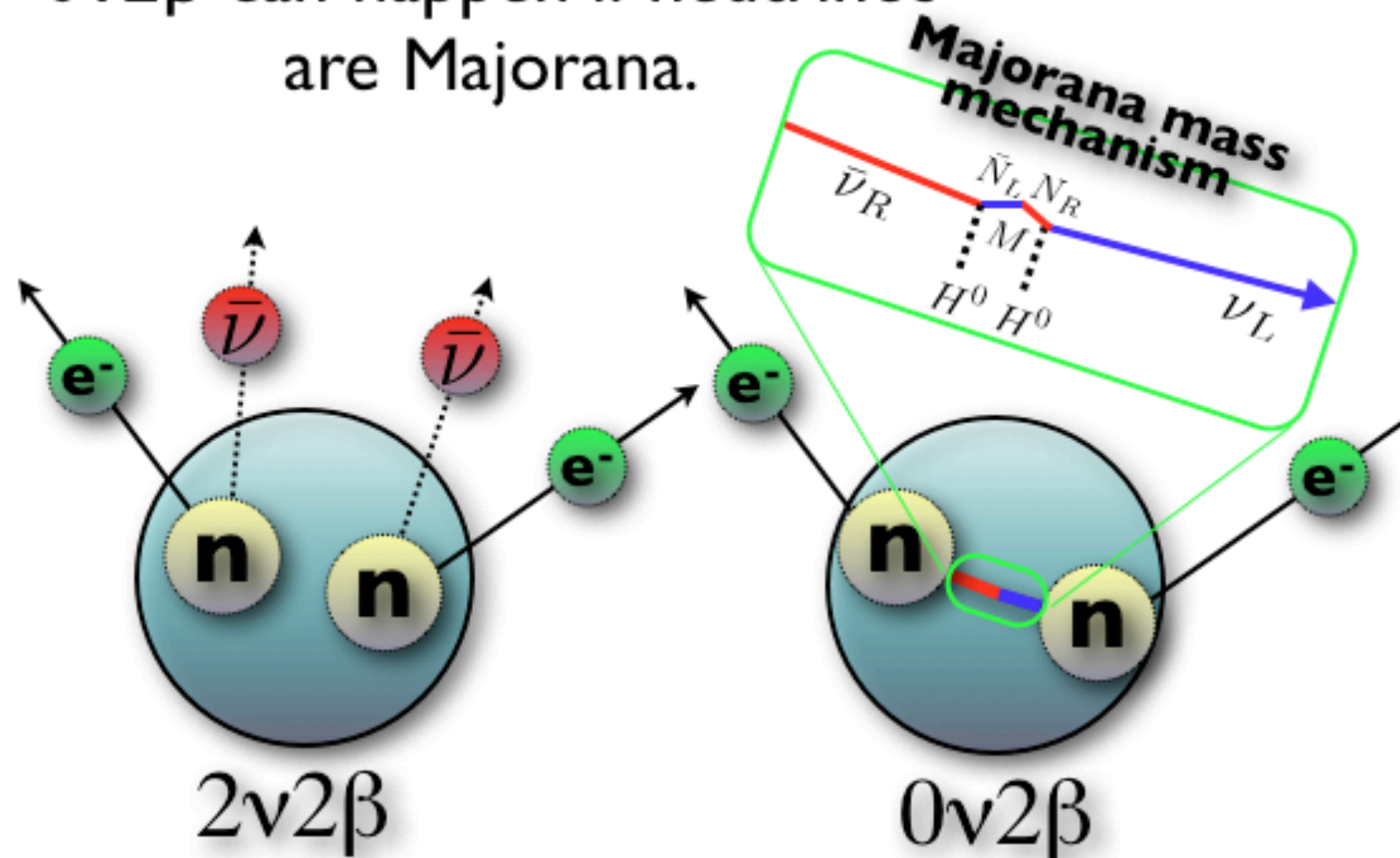
^{130}Te , ^{136}Xe , etc.



^{48}Ca , ^{116}Cd , ^{150}Nd , etc.

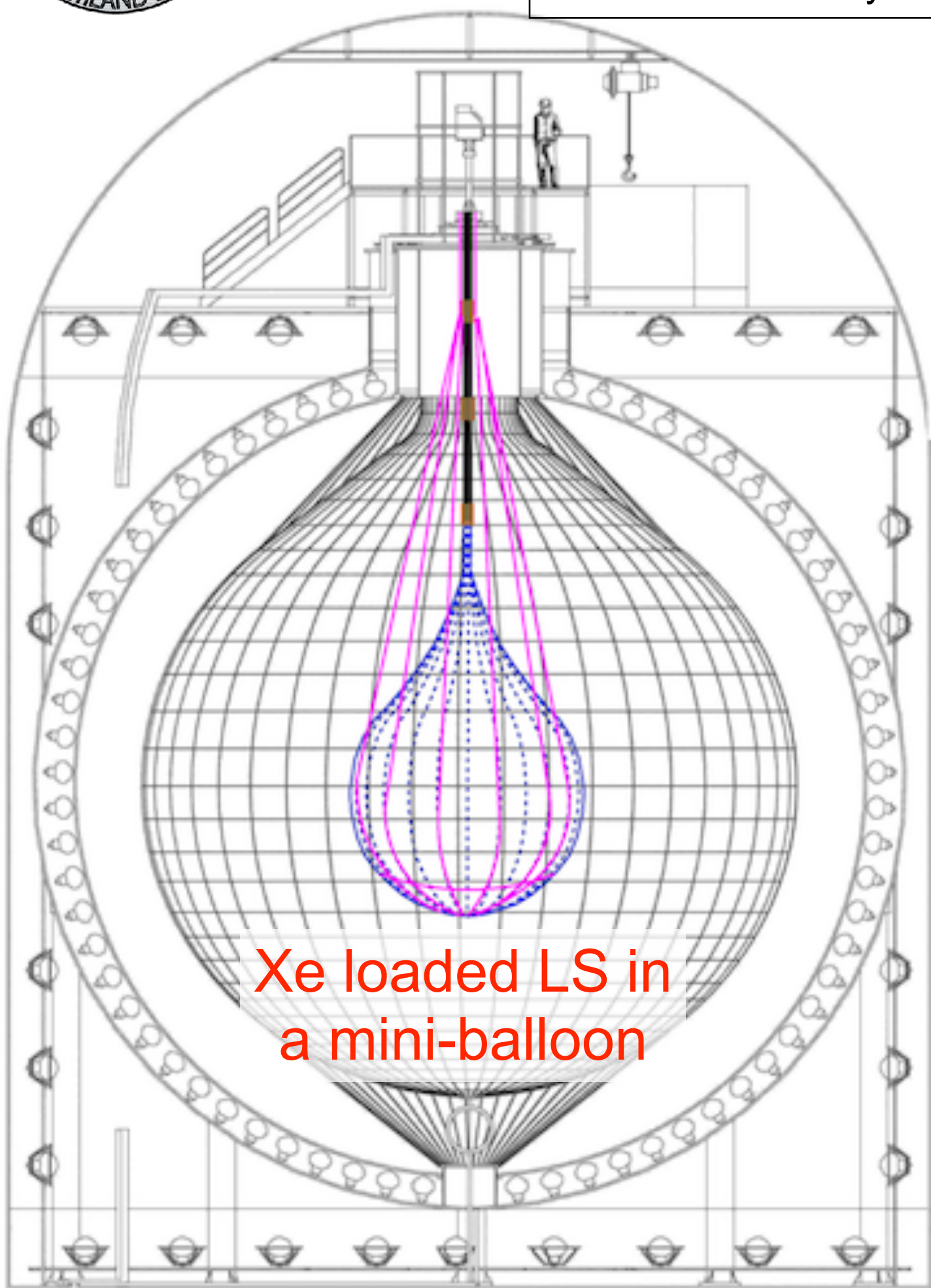


$0\nu 2\beta$ can happen if neutrinos are Majorana.



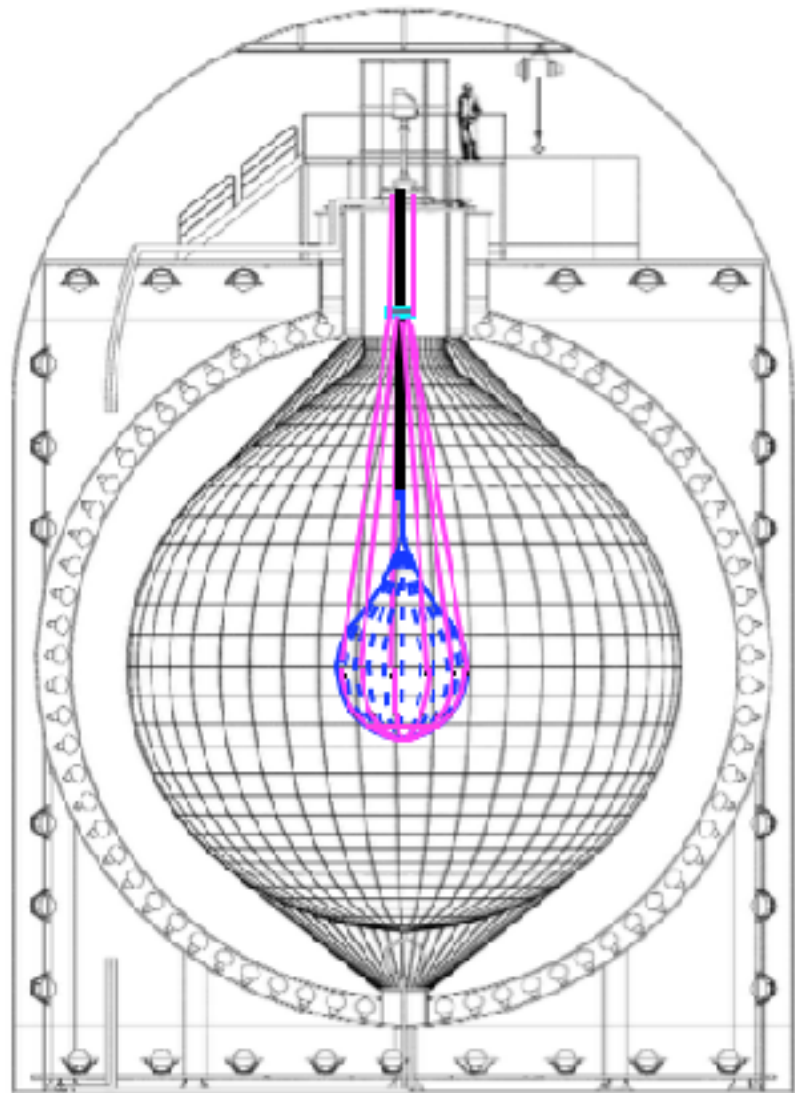
neutrino-less double beta decay

Continue to measure neutrinos with KamLAND LS volume outside of mini-balloon



Xe loaded LS in a mini-balloon

Past 2011-2015



KamLAND-Zen 400

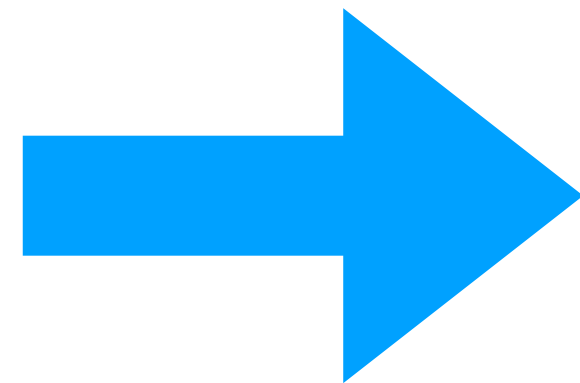
Nylon balloon R 1.54 m

Xenon 320 – 380 kg

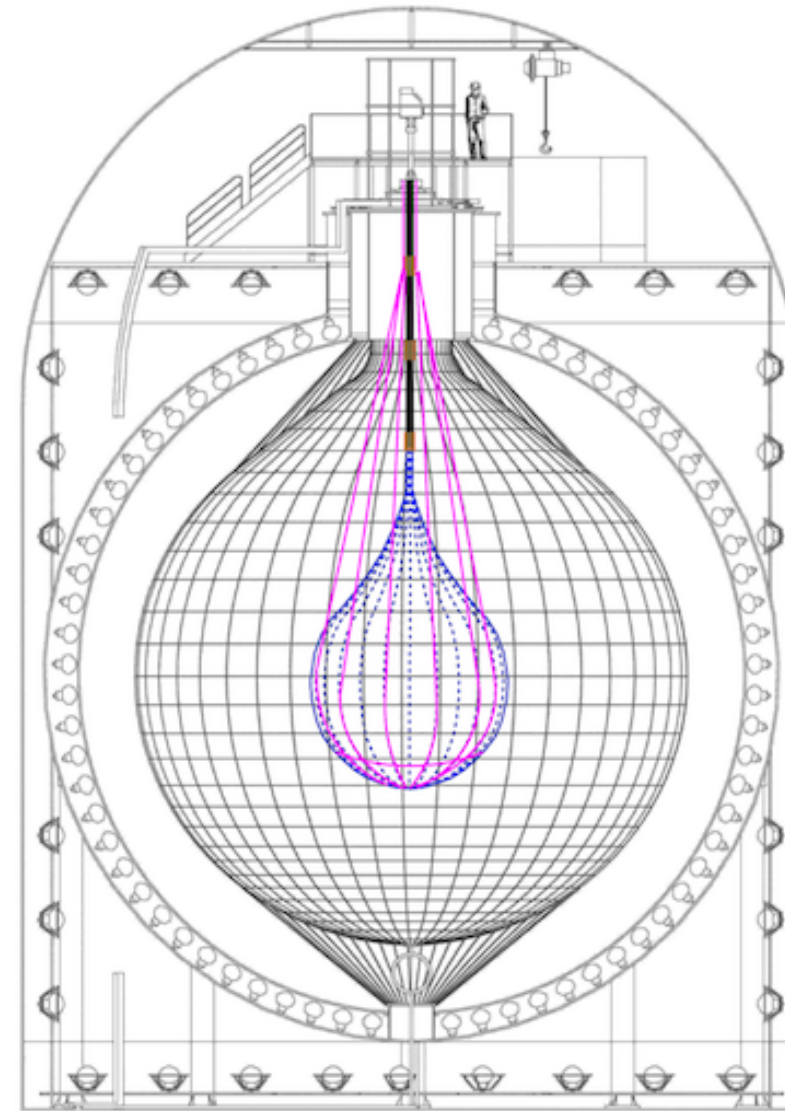
world top performance

$$\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle < 61-165 \text{ meV}$$

Phys. Rev. Lett. 117, 082503 (2016)



Present 2019-2024



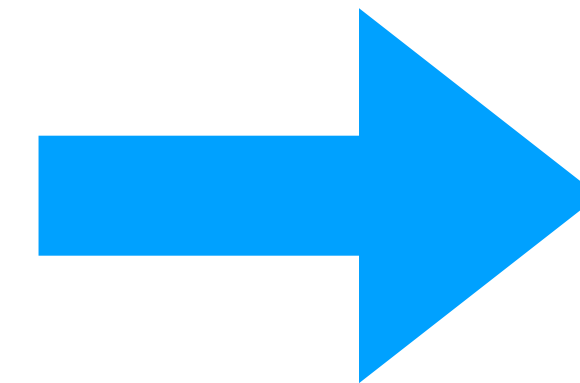
KamLAND-Zen 800

Nylon balloon R 1.90 m

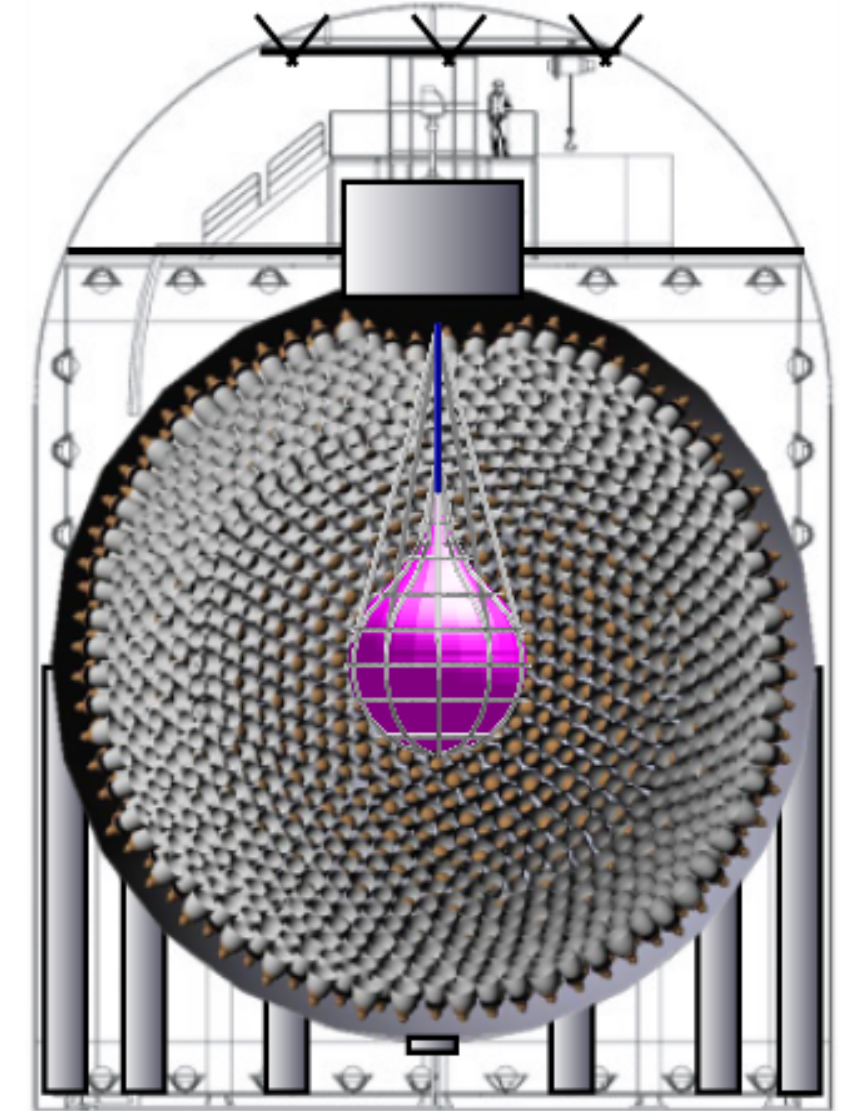
Xenon 745 kg

target $\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle \sim 40 \text{ meV}$

reduced radioactive BG
demonstration of scalability



“Near” Future



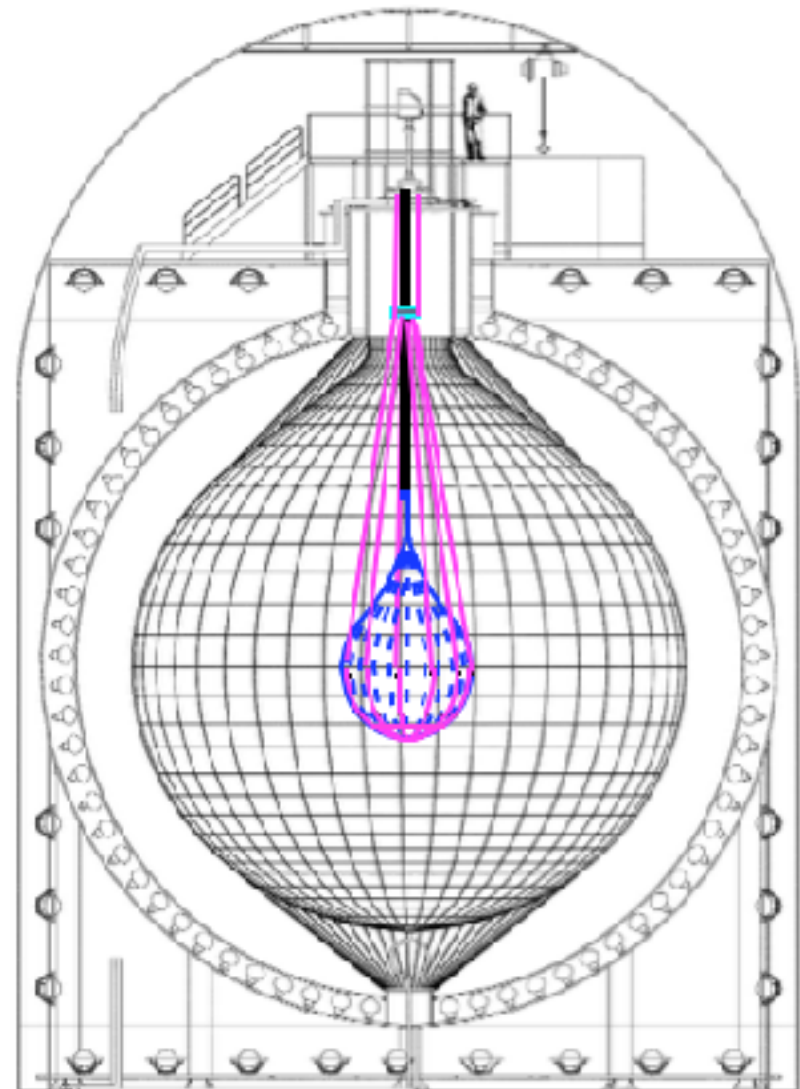
KamLAND2-Zen

Xenon 1 ton

target $\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle \sim 20 \text{ meV}$

high light yield
better performance

Past 2011-2015



KamLAND-Zen 400

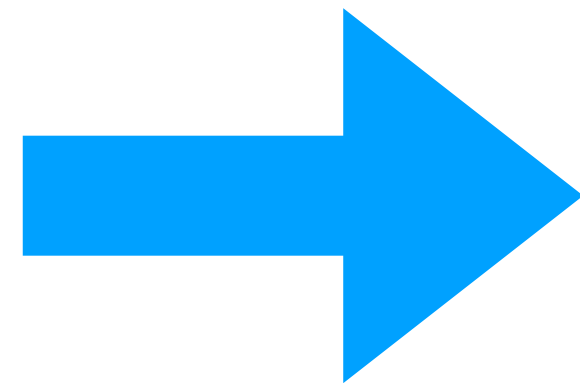
Nylon balloon R 1.54 m

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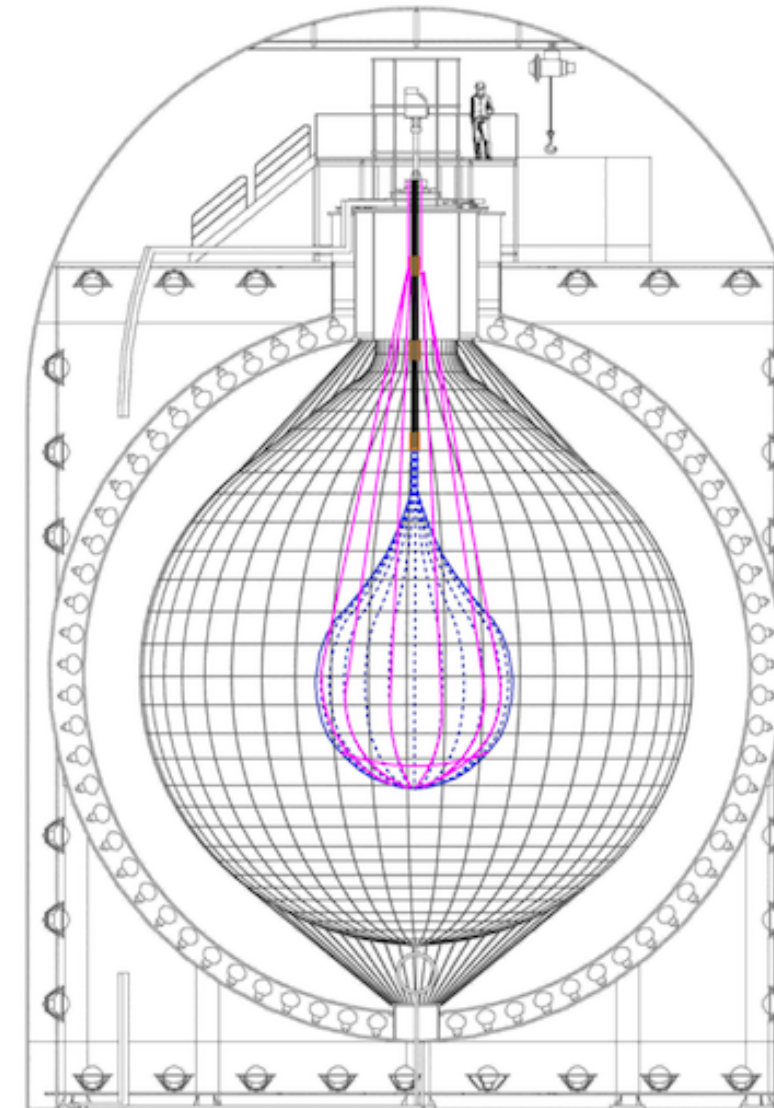
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Phys. Rev. Lett. 117, 082503 (2016)



Present 2019-2024



KamLAND-Zen 800

Nylon balloon R 1.90 m

Xenon 745 kg

target $\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle \sim 40 \text{ meV}$

reduced radioactive background
demonstration of scalability

Jan, 2024
completed operation!

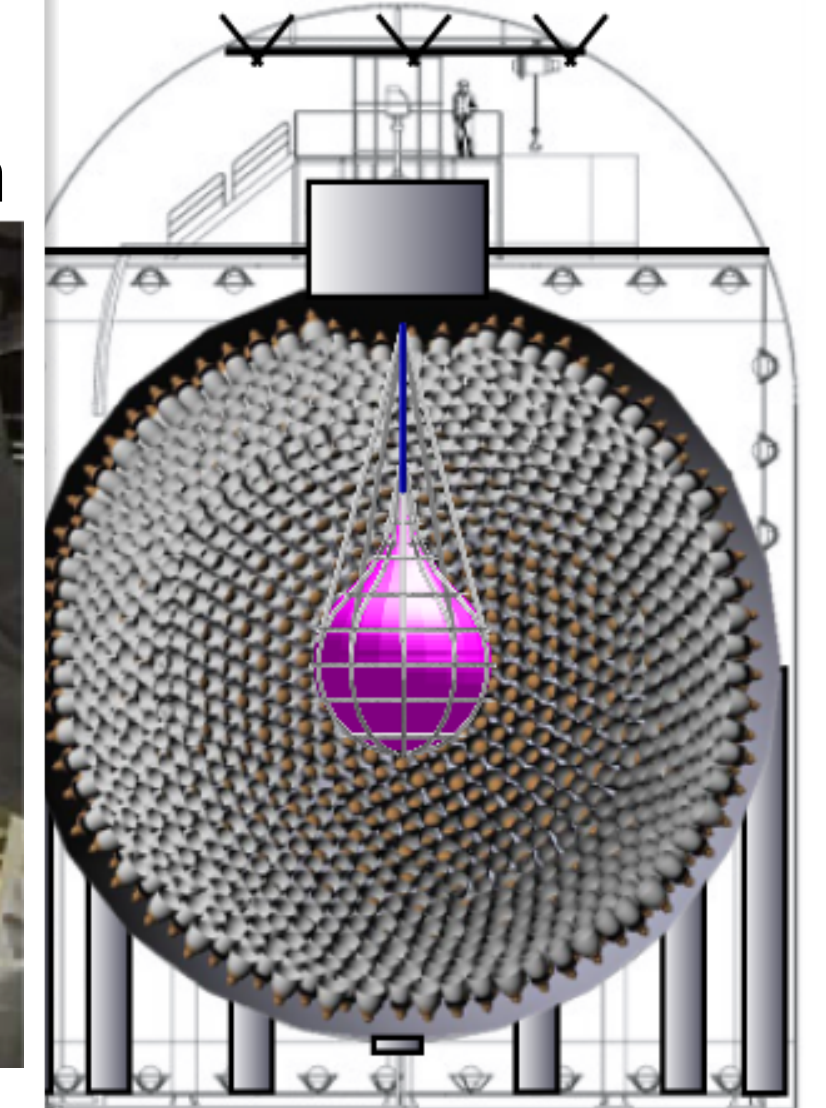
preparation for Xe LS extraction



Xe extraction started



“Near” Future



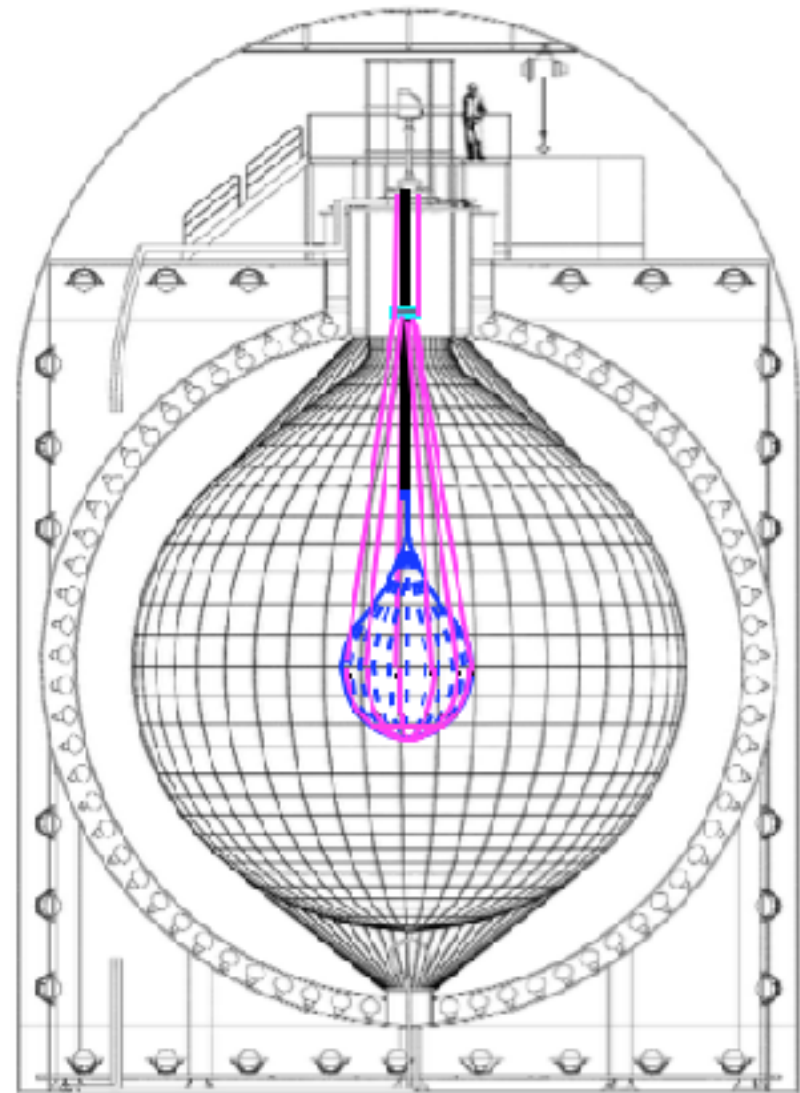
KamLAND2-Zen

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KamLAND-Zen 400

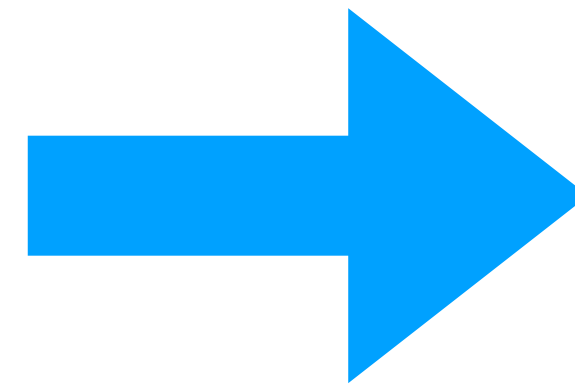
Nylon balloon R 1.54 m

Xenon 320 – 380 kg

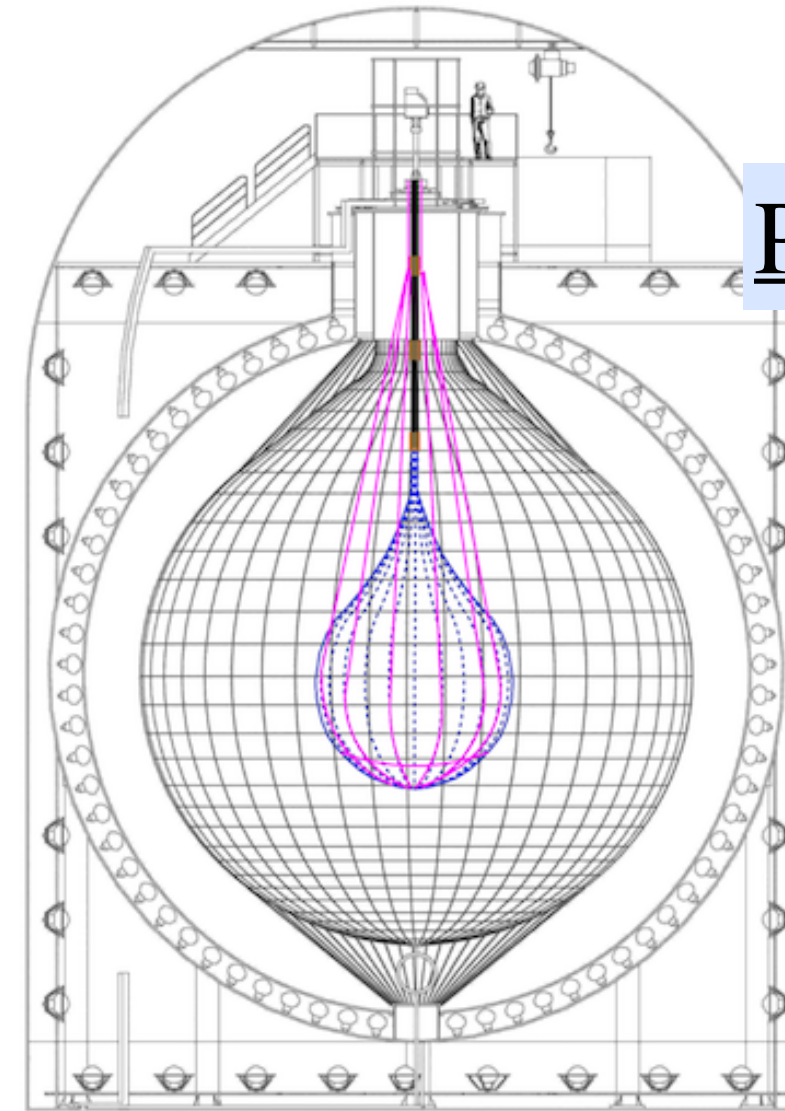
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Present 2019-2024



KamLAND-Zen 800

Nylon balloon R 1.90 m

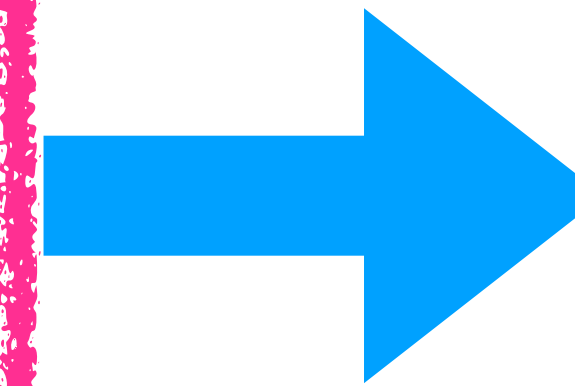
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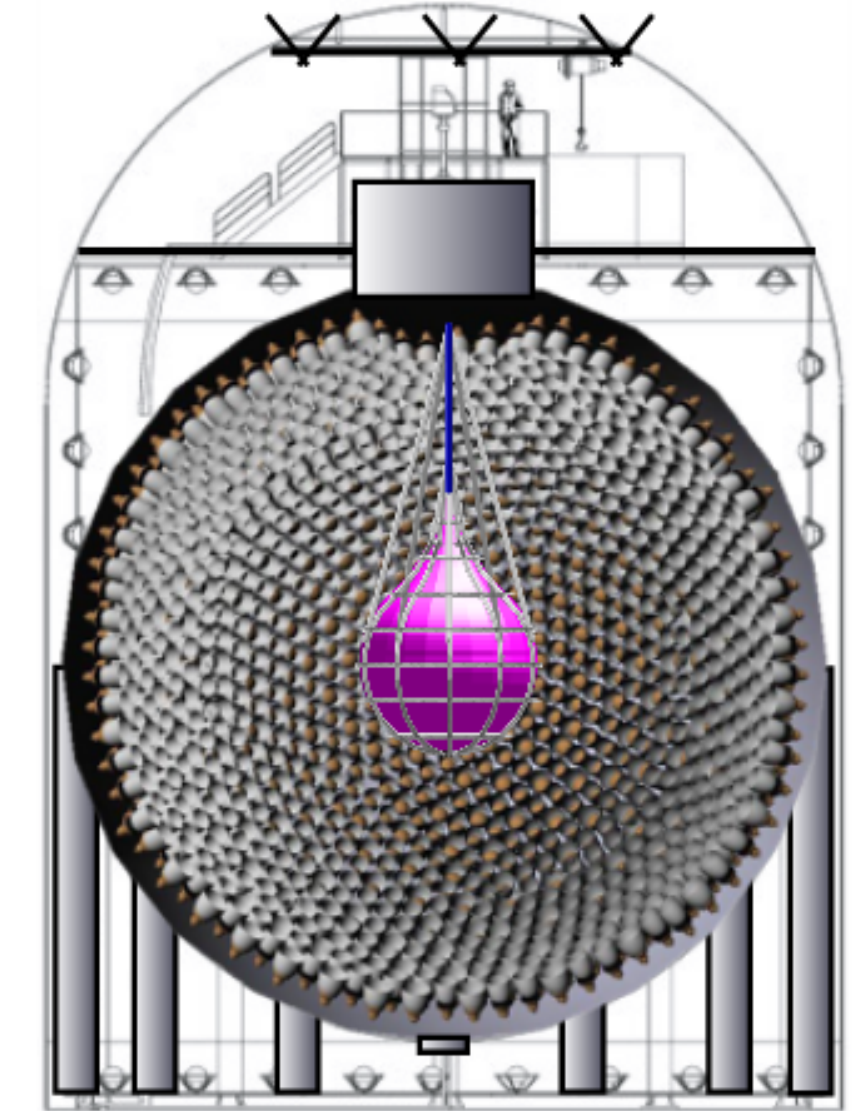
reduced radioactive BG

demonstration of scalability

This talk
based on
[PRL 130, 051801 \(2023\)](#)



“Near” Future



KamLAND2-Zen

Xenon 1 ton

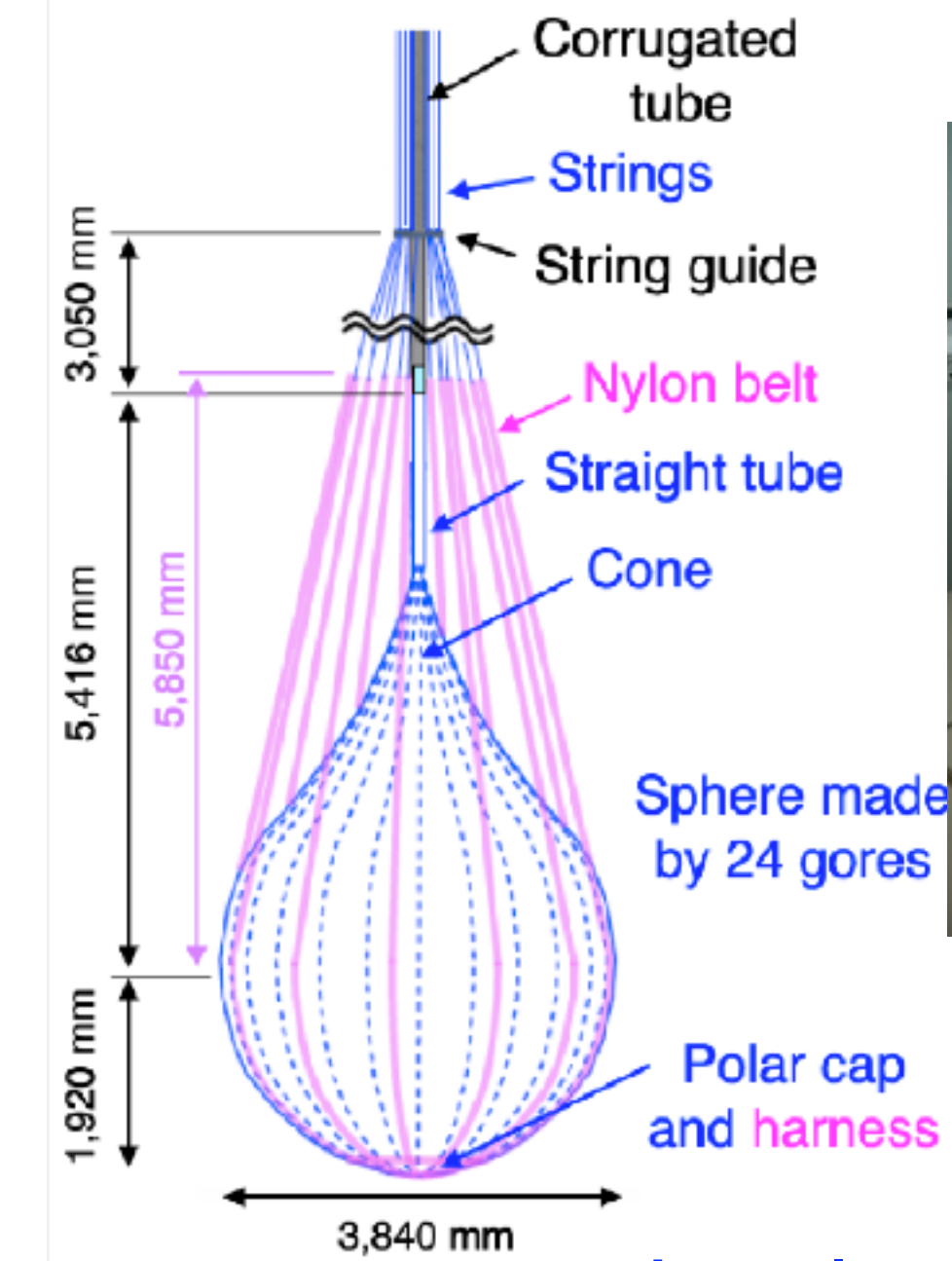
target $\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle \sim 20 \text{ meV}$

high light yield

better performance

* Hand-made mini-balloon production at class-1 clean room (>1.5 yr, >20 researchers)

JINST 16, P08023 (2021)

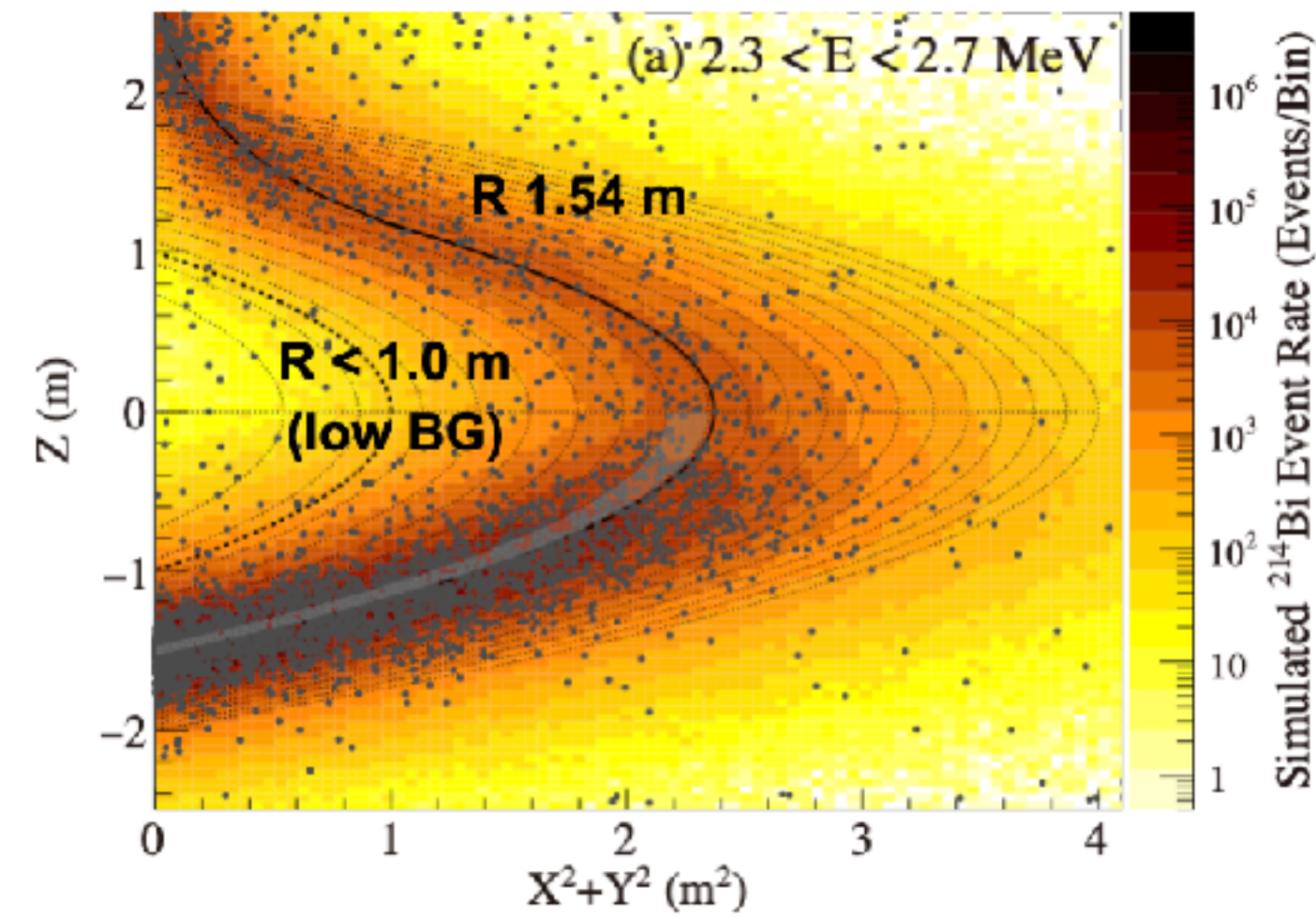


25 μ m nylon

dust level was carefully controlled (e.g.: goggle, laundry twice a day, welding machine, more neutralizer, cover sheet...)

- * $\times 10$ reduction of Inner Balloon ^{214}Bi
- * $> \times 3$ sensitive volume

* Background reduction & sensitive volume increase

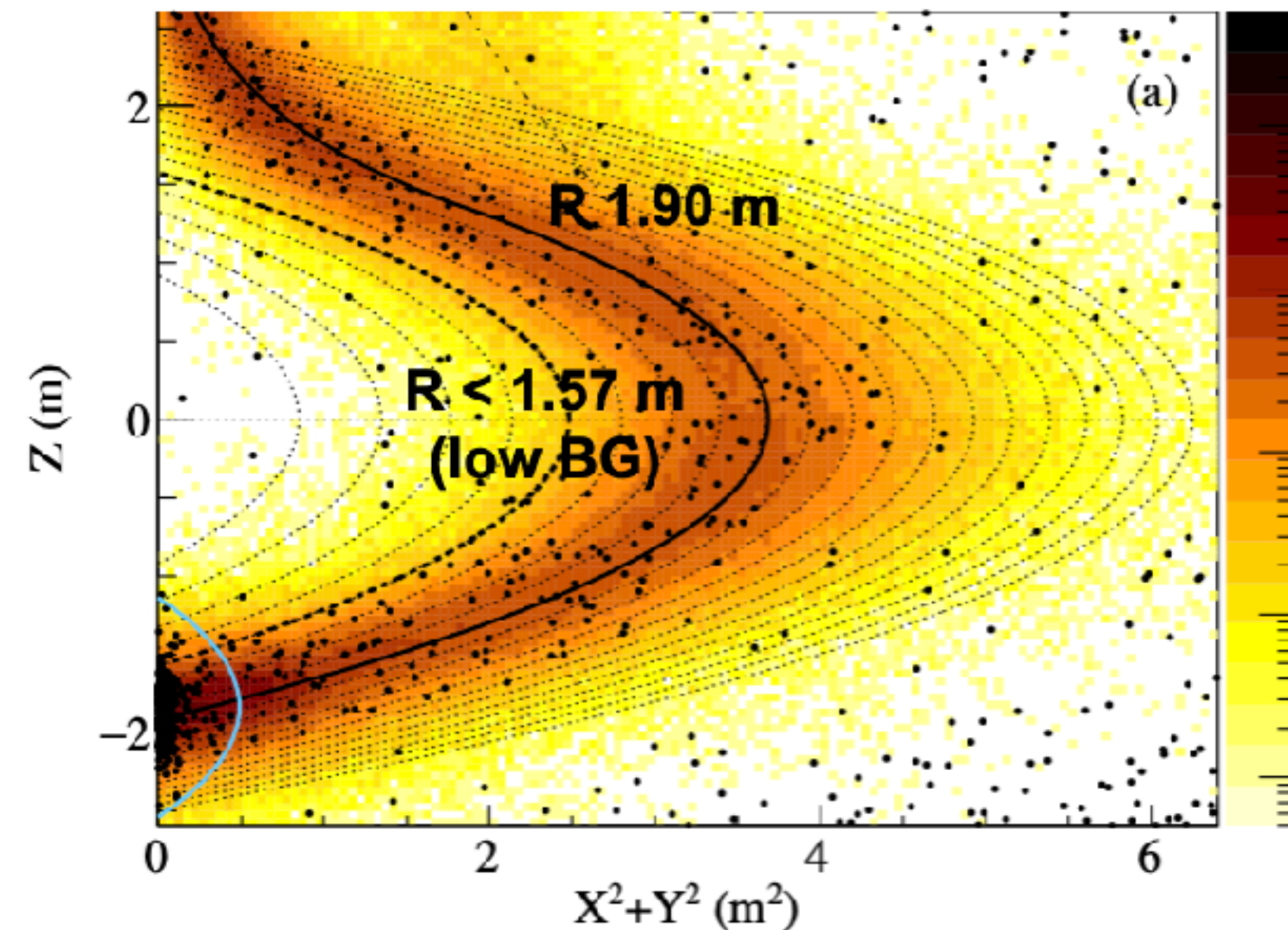
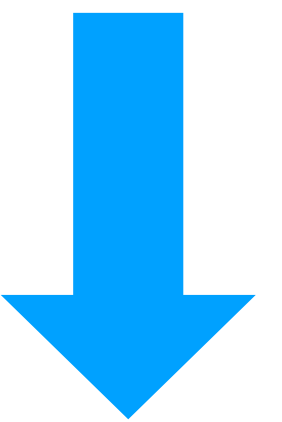


Zen 400 Phase-II

^{238}U : 5×10^{-11} g/g

^{232}Th : 3×10^{-10} g/g

sensitive volume :
R < 1.0 m



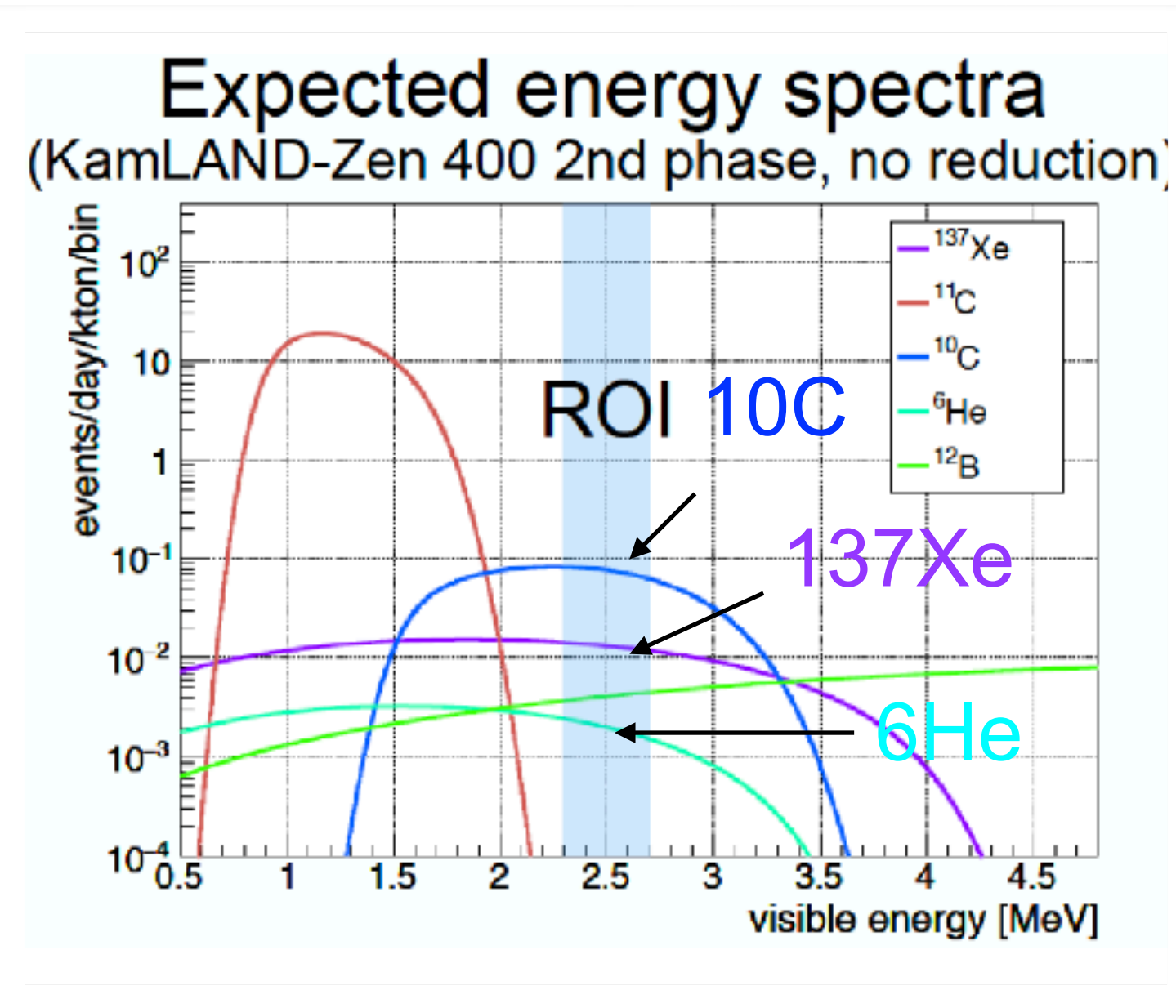
Zen 800

^{238}U : $\sim 3 \times 10^{-12}$ g/g

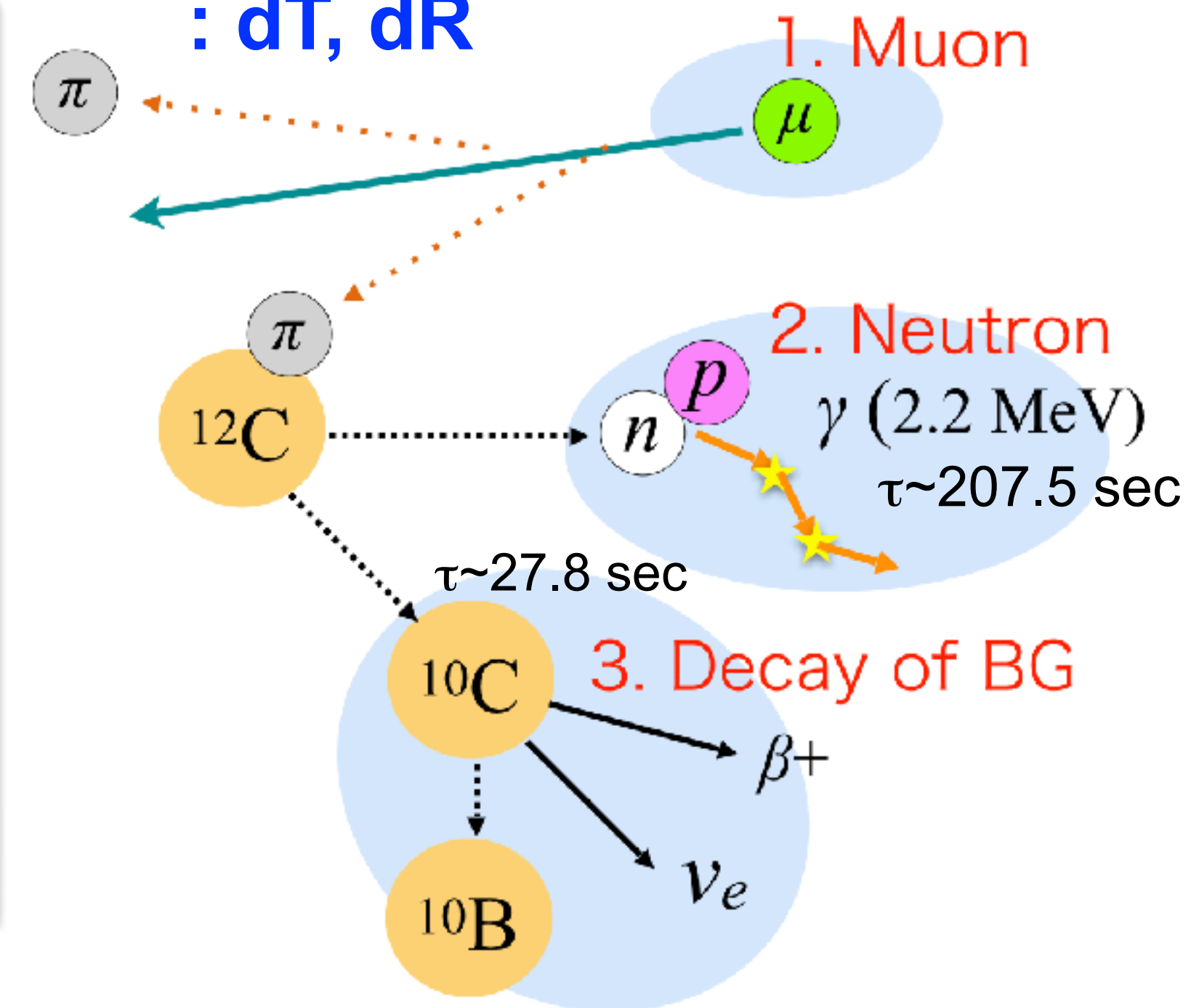
^{232}Th : $\sim 4 \times 10^{-11}$ g/g

sensitive volume :
R < 1.57 m

Improvements: short-lived spallation backgrounds 6/19

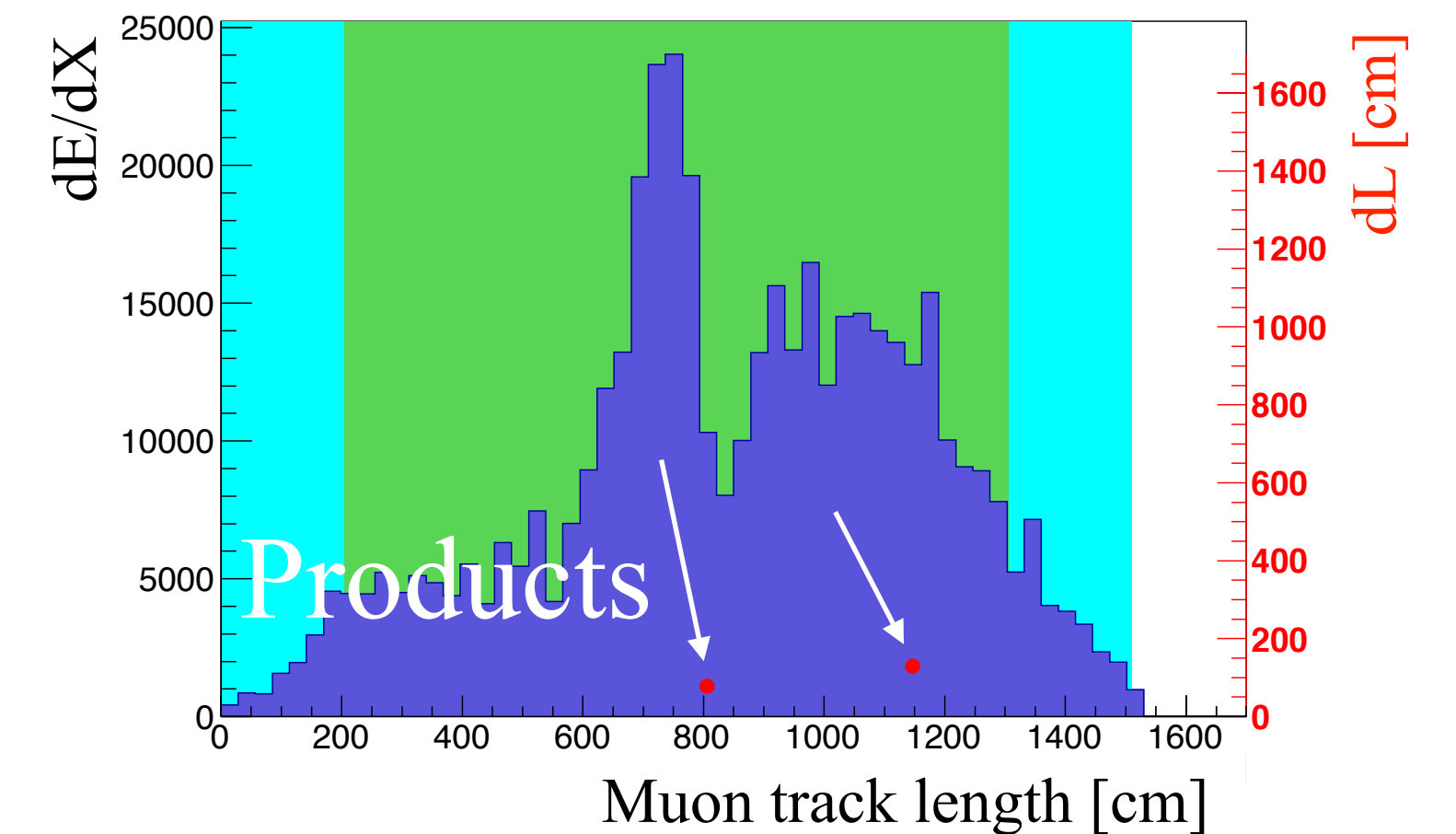
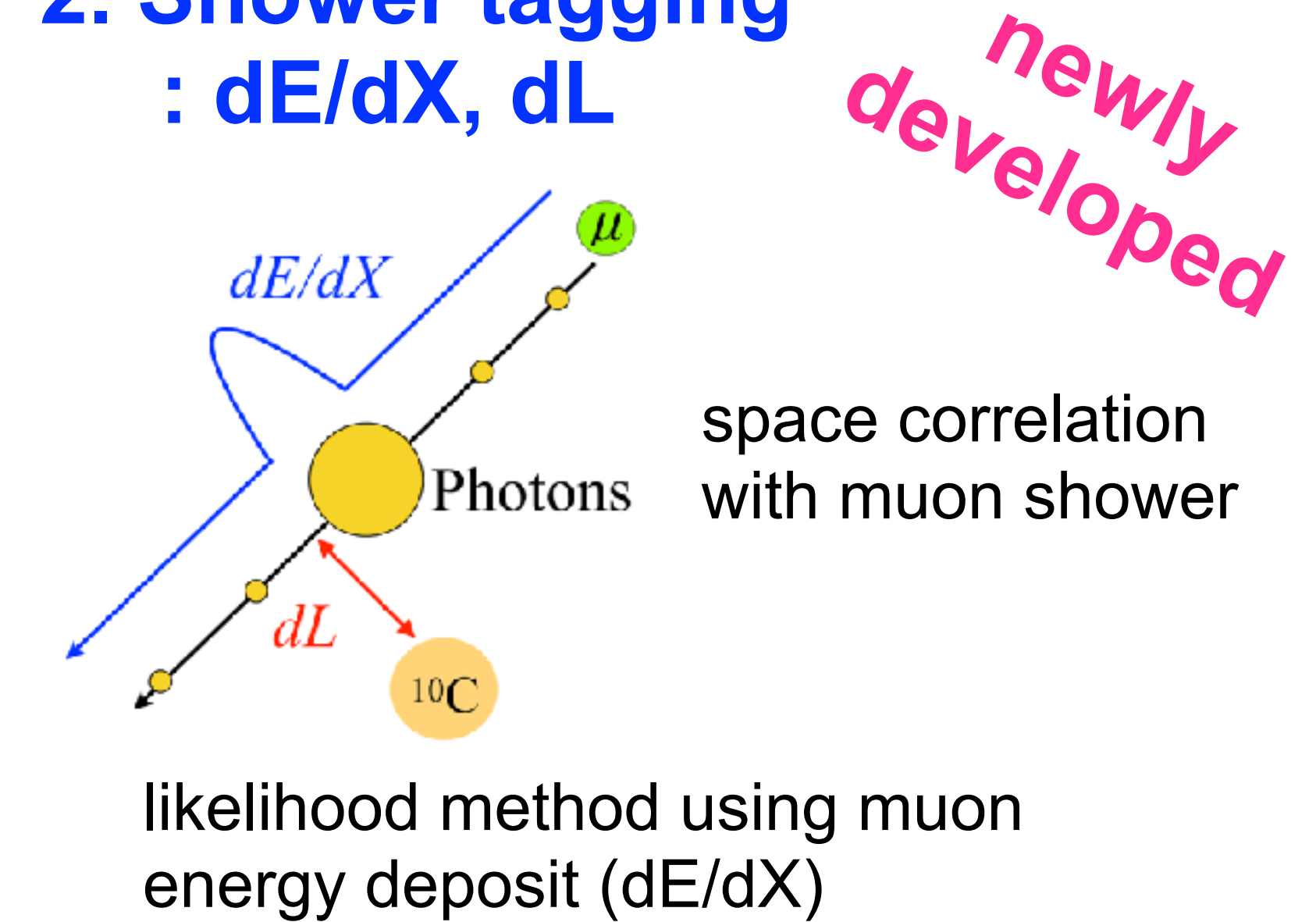


1. Triple coincidence tagging : dT, dR



time and space correlation with muon and neutrons

2. Shower tagging : dE/dX, dL



Rejection efficiency: $^{10}\text{C} > 99.3$ %, $^6\text{He} 97.6 \pm 1.7$ %, $^{137}\text{Xe} 74 \pm 7$ %

Improvements: long-lived spallation backgrounds 7/19

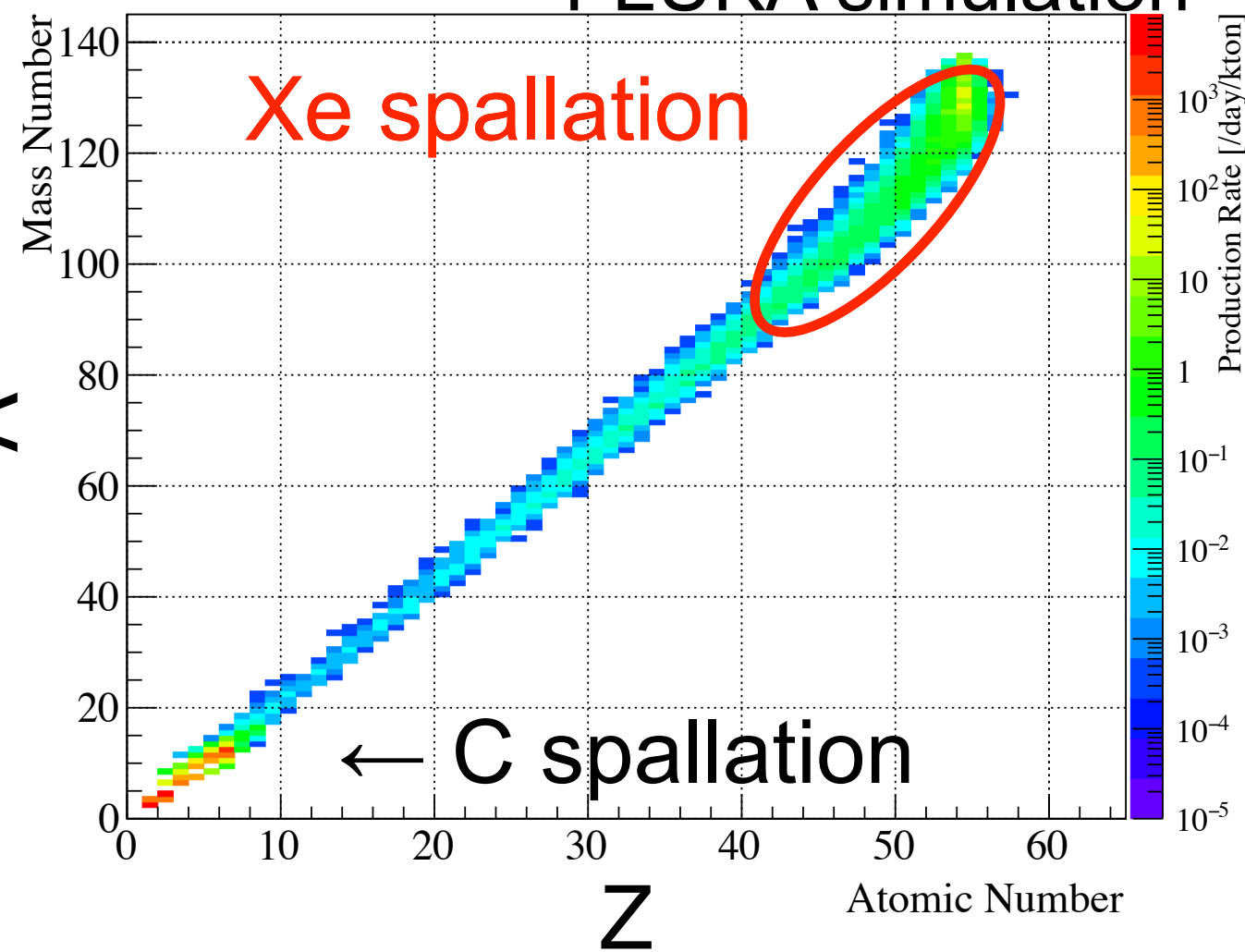
- * Each isotopes yields are small, but **many candidates** are produced
- * Total yield becomes one of the **main background**

- * **long half-life** (~hours to ~days)
- * **neutrino multiplicity** is higher than carbon's

rate in ROI : 0.082 events/day/Xe-ton

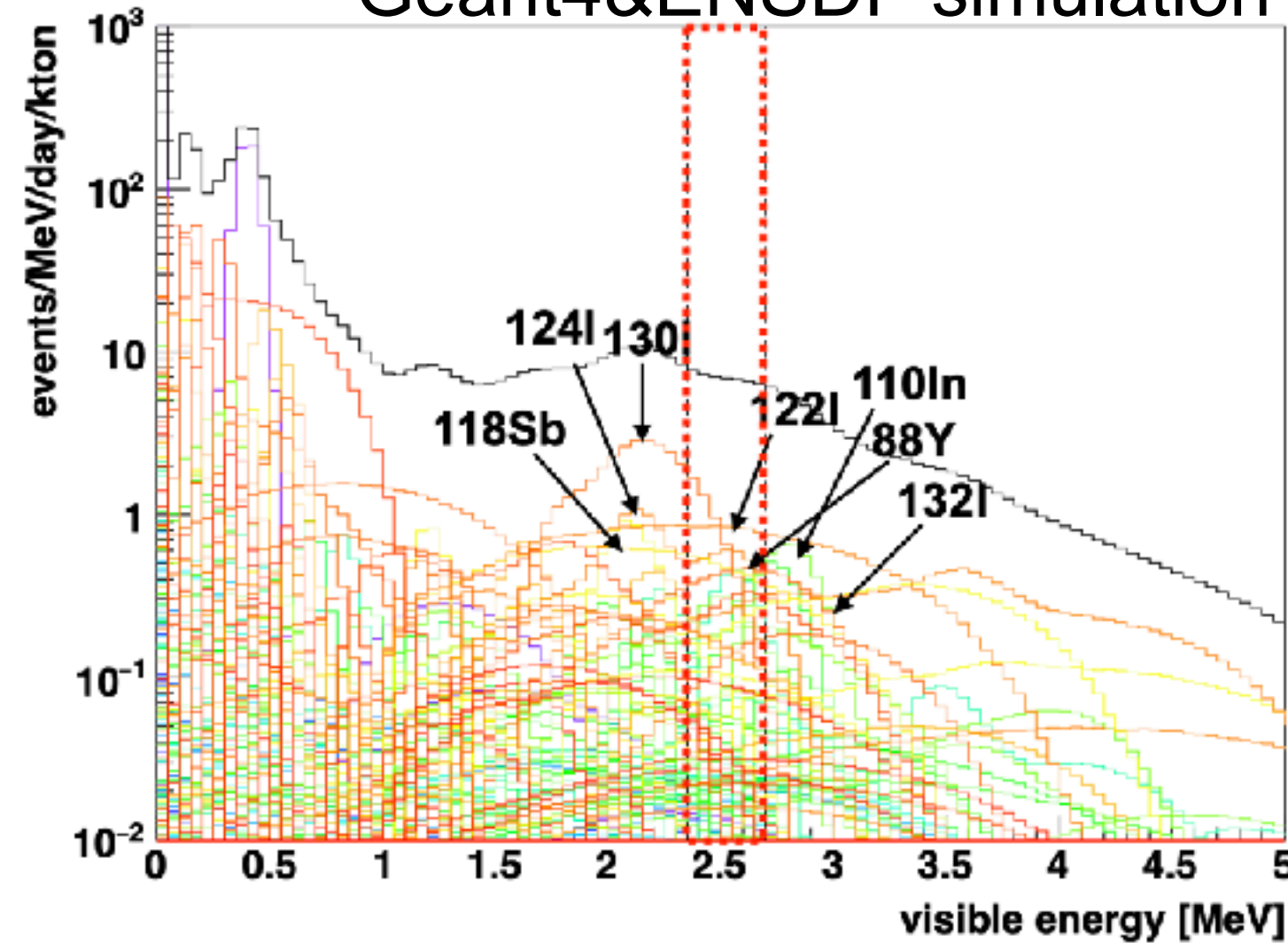
production yield

FLUKA simulation

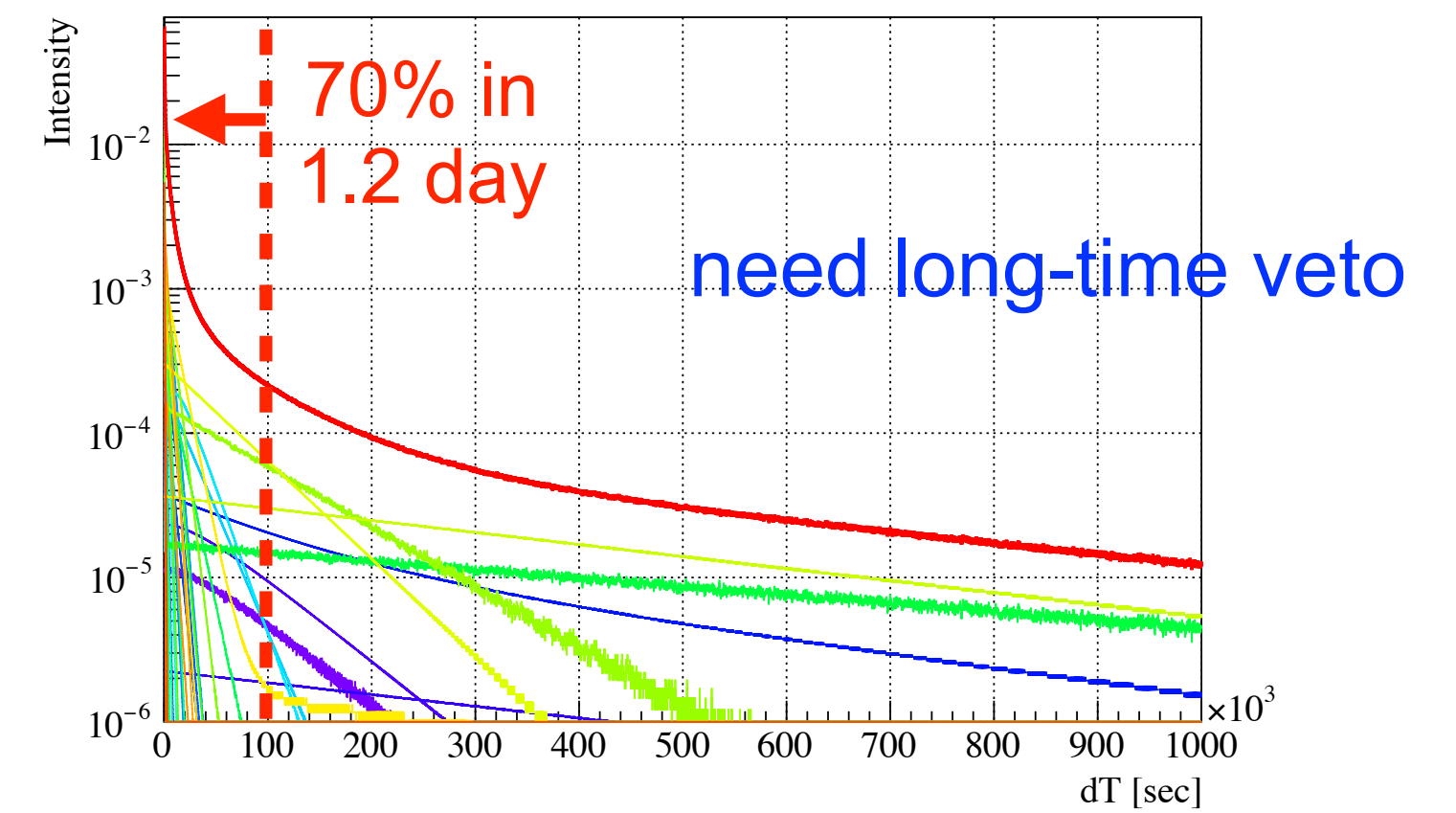


energy spectrum

Geant4&ENSDF simulation

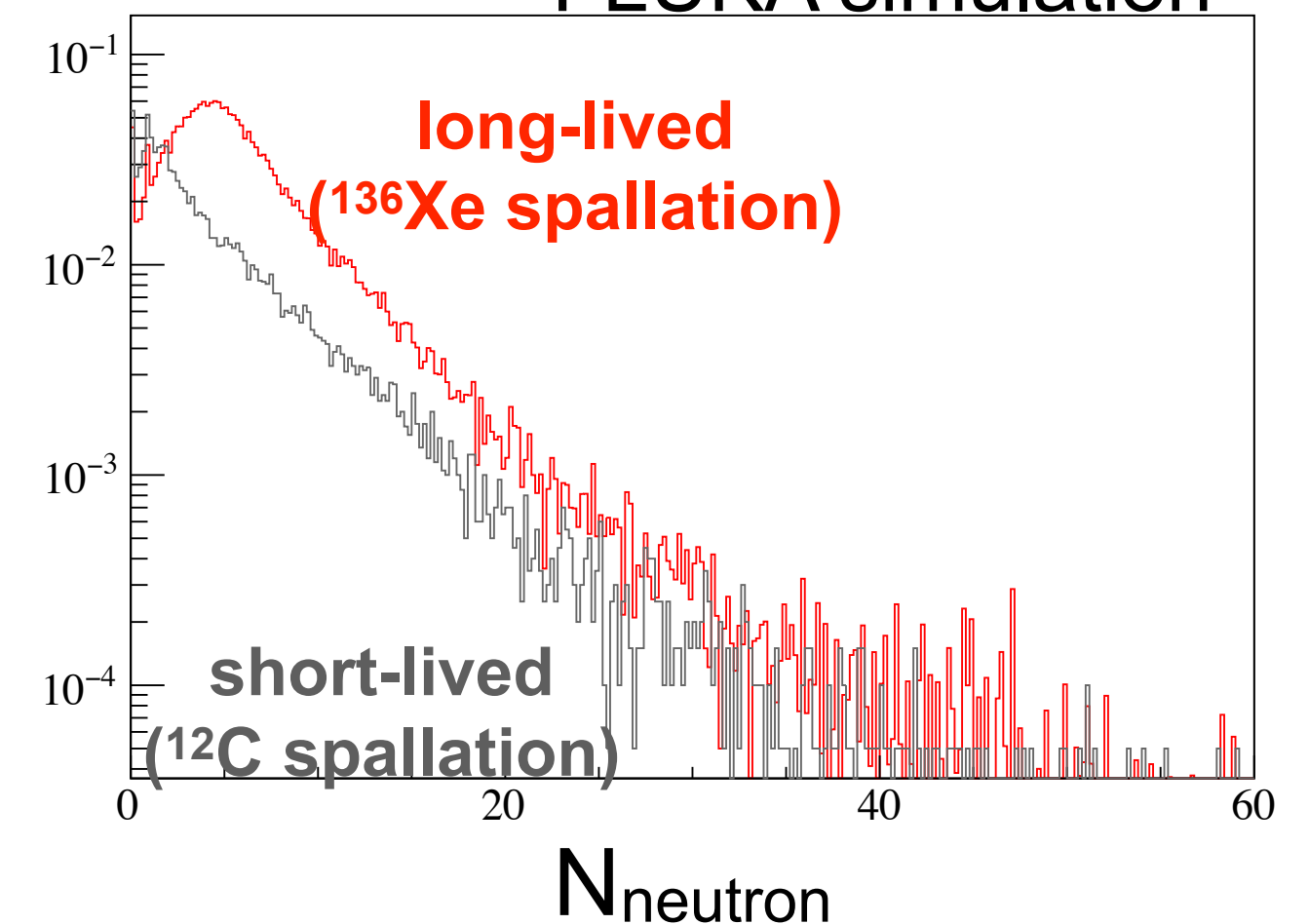


time difference from muon



neutron multiplicity

FLUKA simulation



Likelihood-based tagging

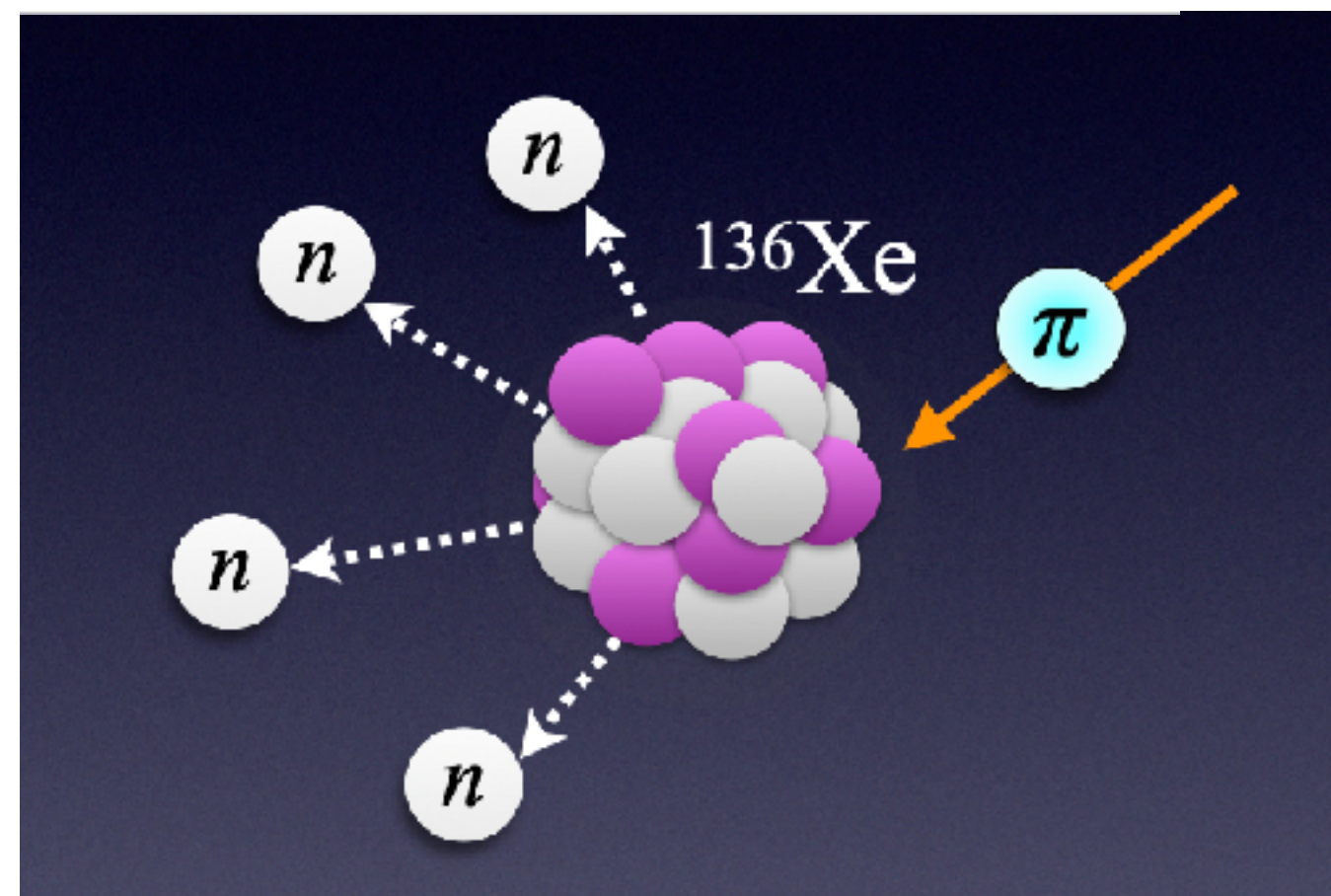
: N_{neutron} , dR , dT

N : effective number of neutron

dR : distance between Xe-spallation and neutron capture gamma

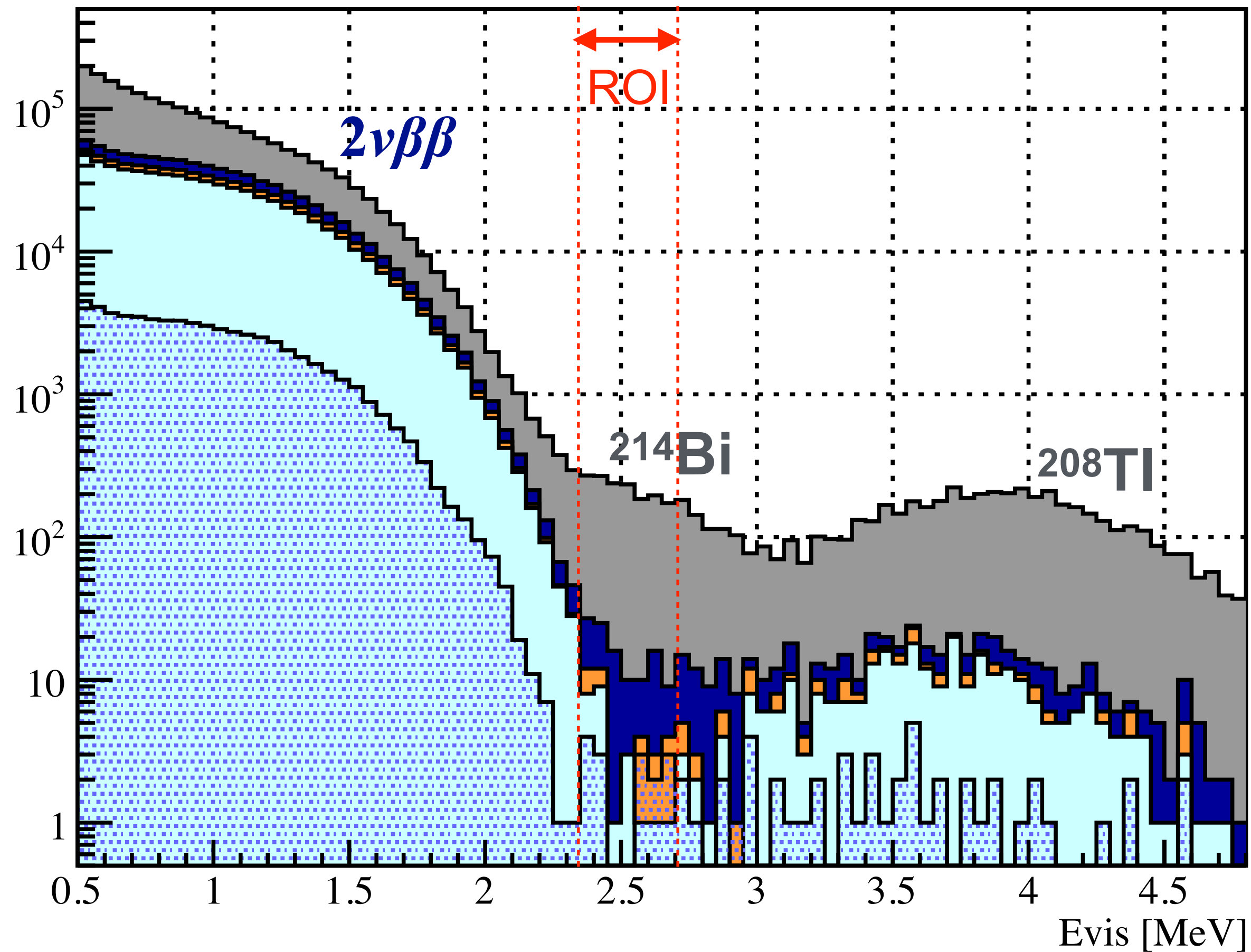
dT : Time difference from muon

Rejection efficiency: ~40 %



Data set: Feb. 5, 2019 - May 8, 2021
 Exposure: 970 kg · yr

Data divided into “ $0\nu\beta\beta$ candidate” and “long-lived candidate”



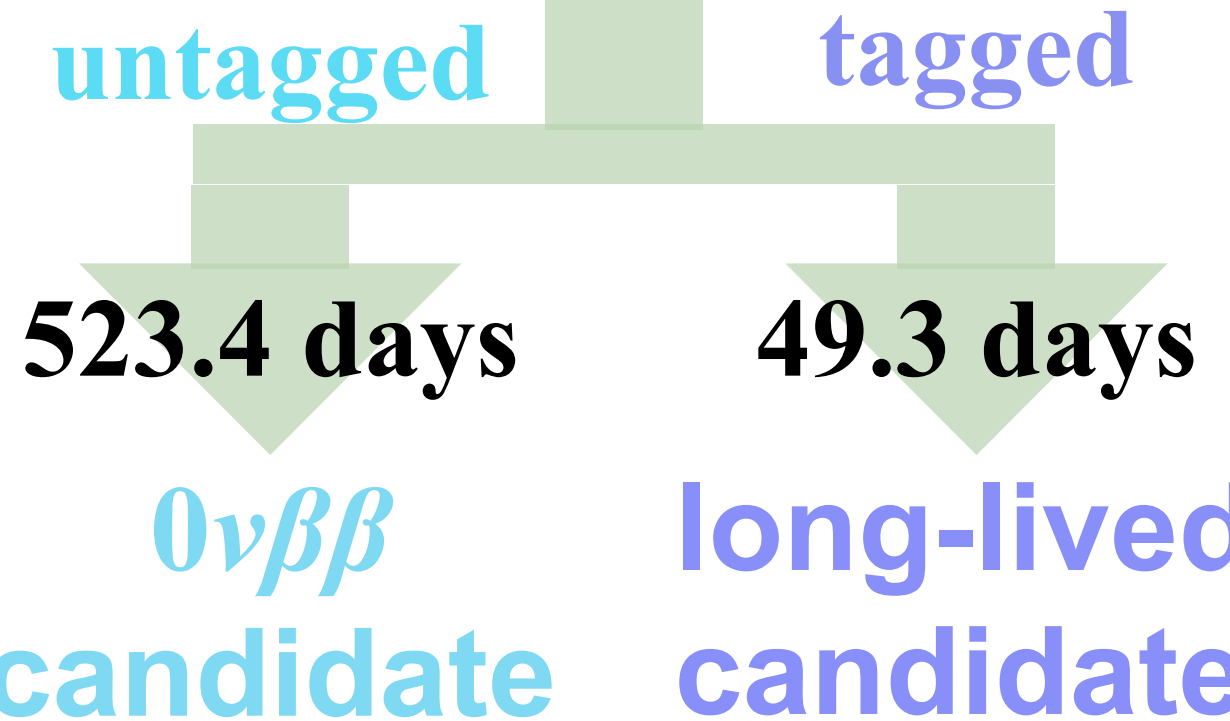
Two energy spectra ($0\nu\beta\beta$, long-lived) are fitted simultaneously

around mini-balloon (R < 2.5 m) & hot spot veto (>0.7m)

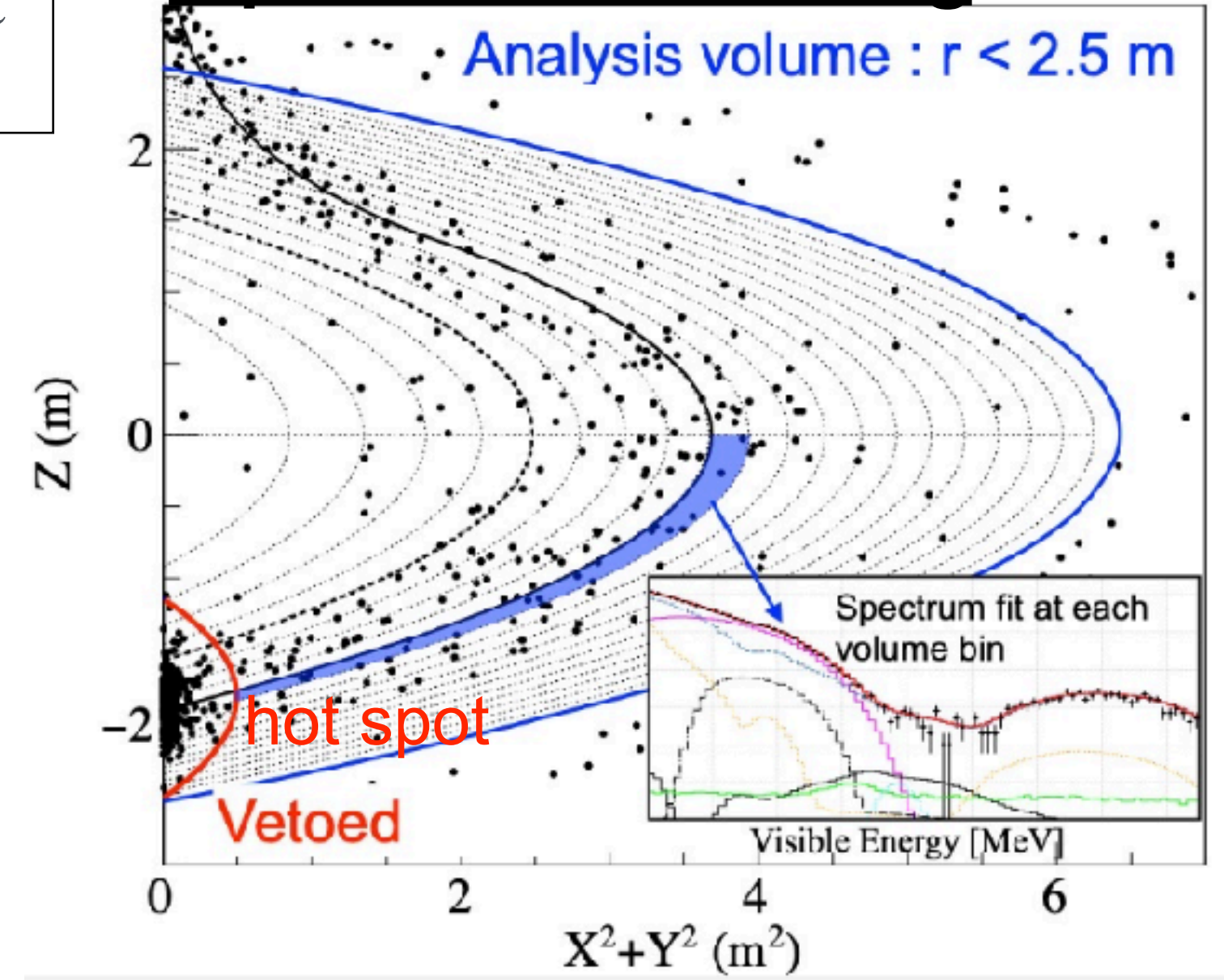
volume cut R < 1.57 m & Rn veto

short-lived spallation cut

long-lived spallation cut

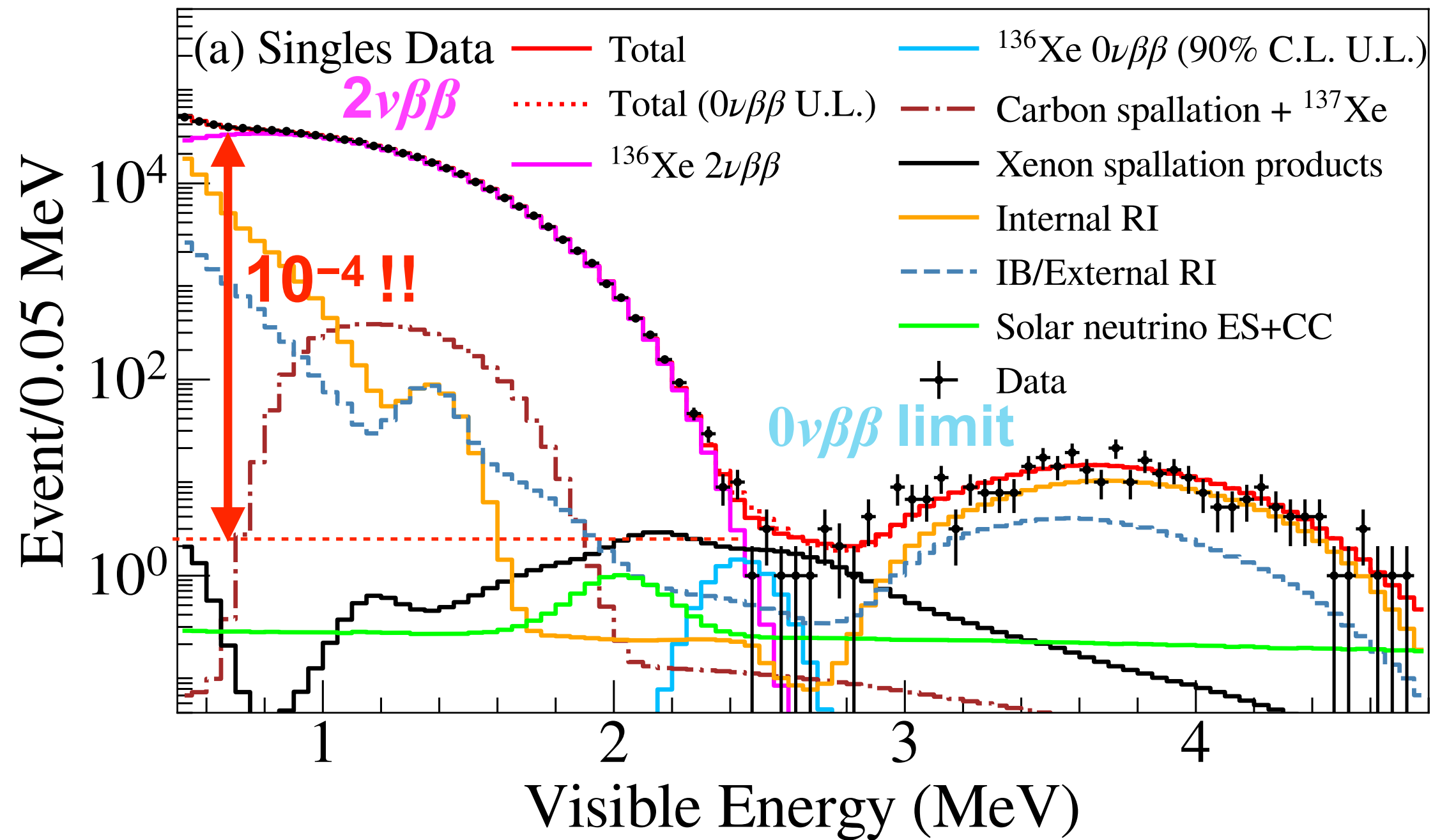


volume cut & equal-volume binning

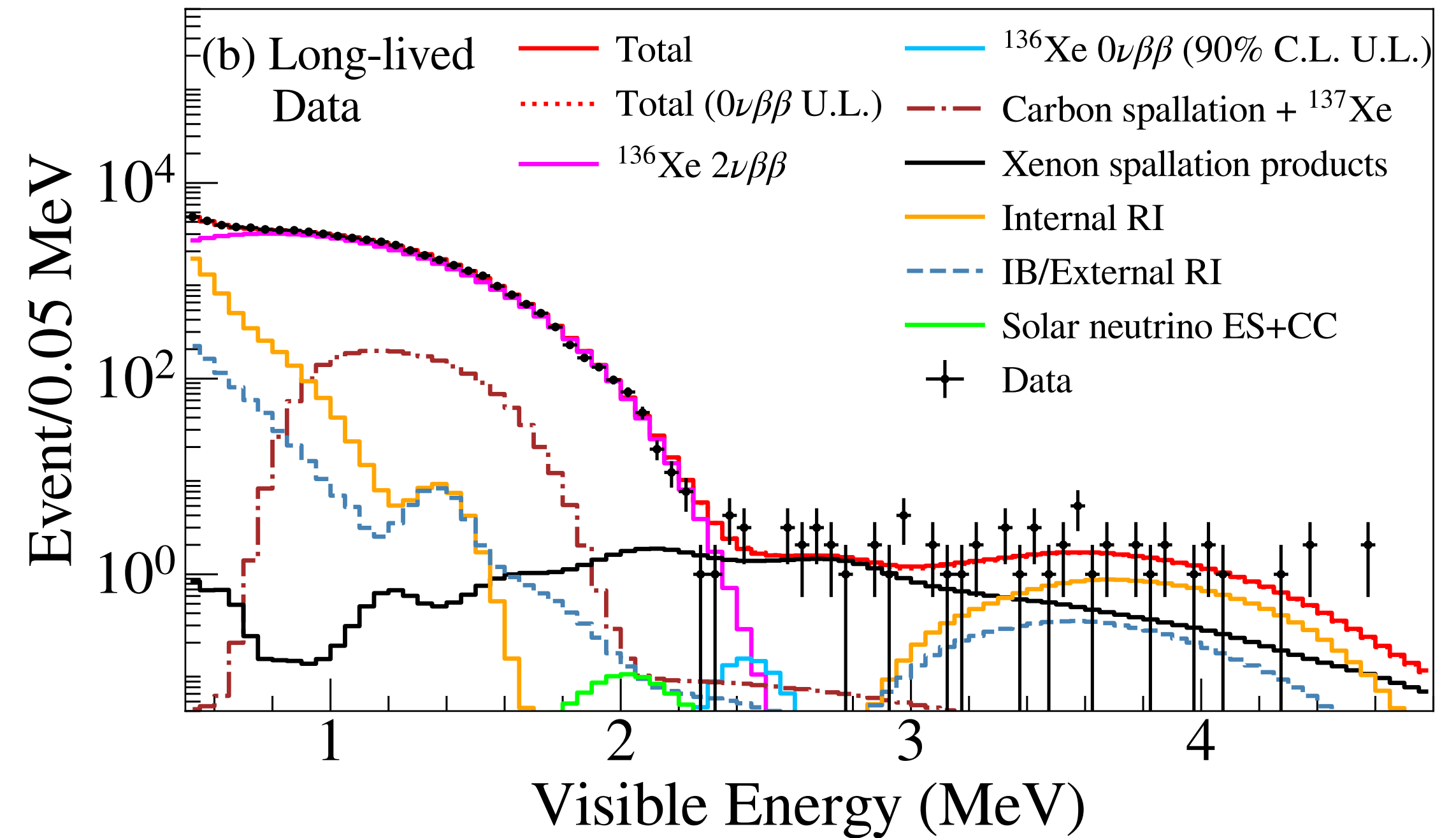


- * 86 energy bins
- * 40 equal-volume bins
- * 3 time-period bins for two datasets

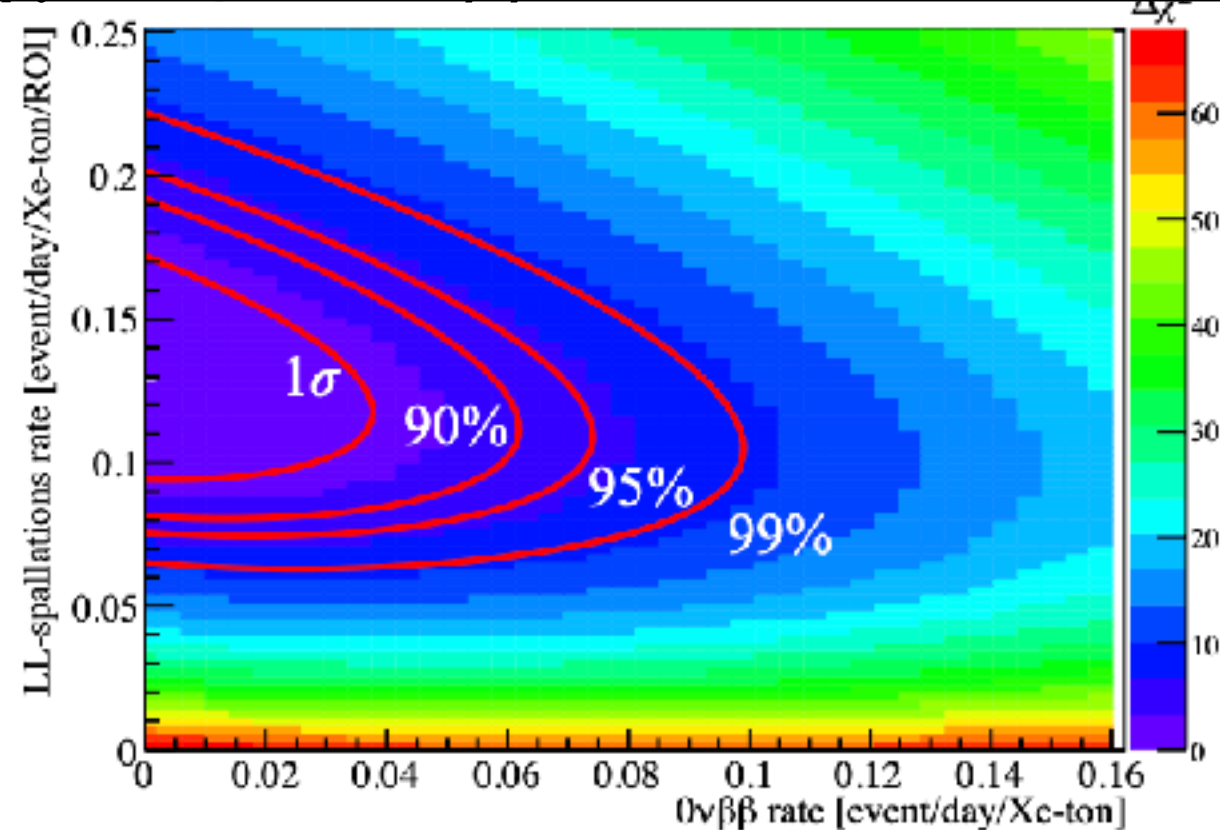
$0\nu\beta\beta$ candidate (sensitive to $0\nu\beta\beta$ signal)
 523.4 days livetime R < 1.57 m



long-lived candidate (Long-lived BG constraint)
 49.3 days livetime R < 1.57 m



$\Delta\chi^2$ map of $0\nu\beta\beta$ rate and LL rate in ROI



- * Dominant background: $2\nu\beta\beta$ and long-lived spallation
- * $0\nu\beta\beta$
 - * Best-fit $0\nu\beta\beta$ rate : 0
 - * Upper limit (90% C.L.) : <7.9 events/Xe-LS (30.5m³)

$T^{0\nu}_{1/2} > 2.0 \times 10^{26}$ yr (90% C.L.)

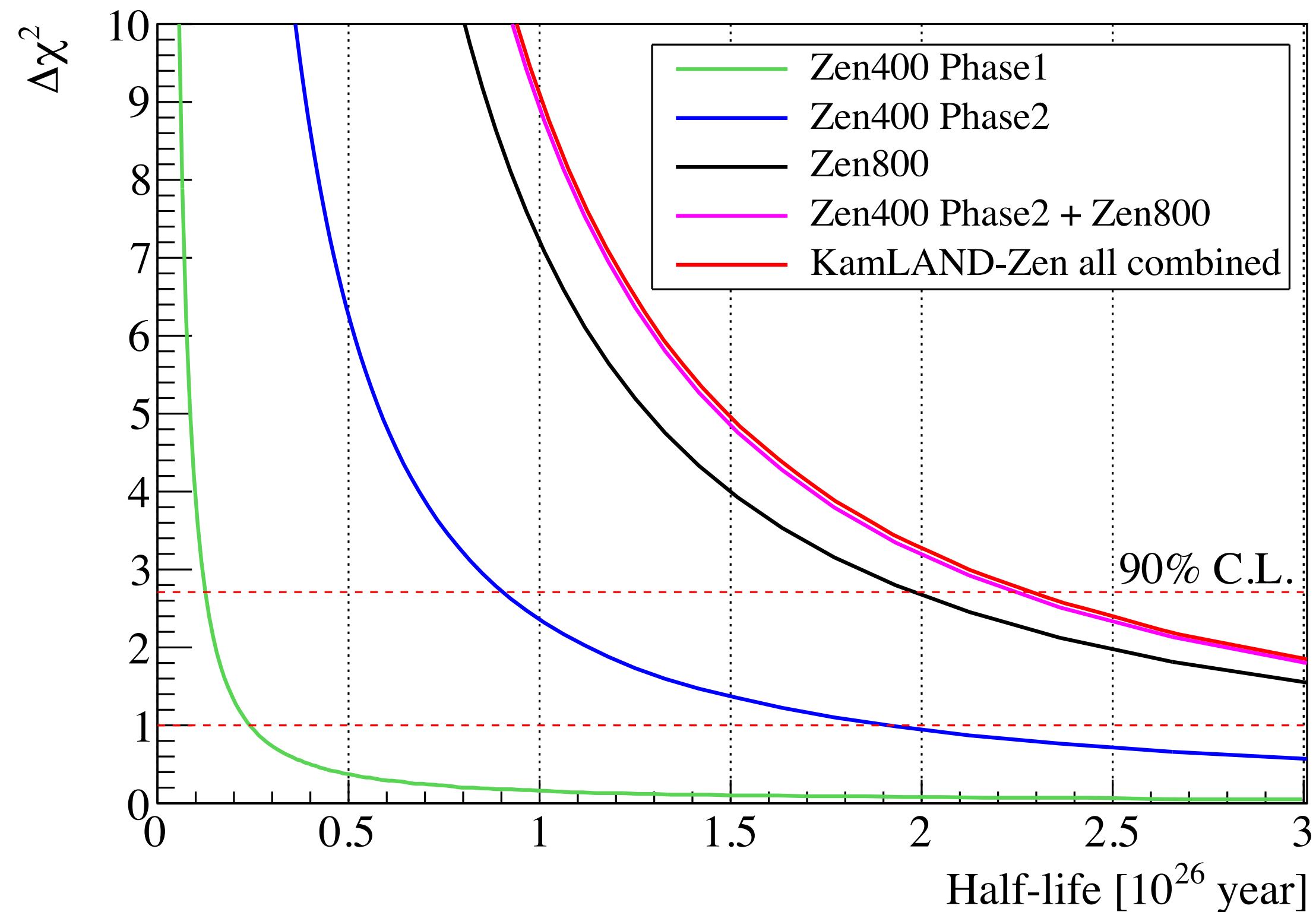
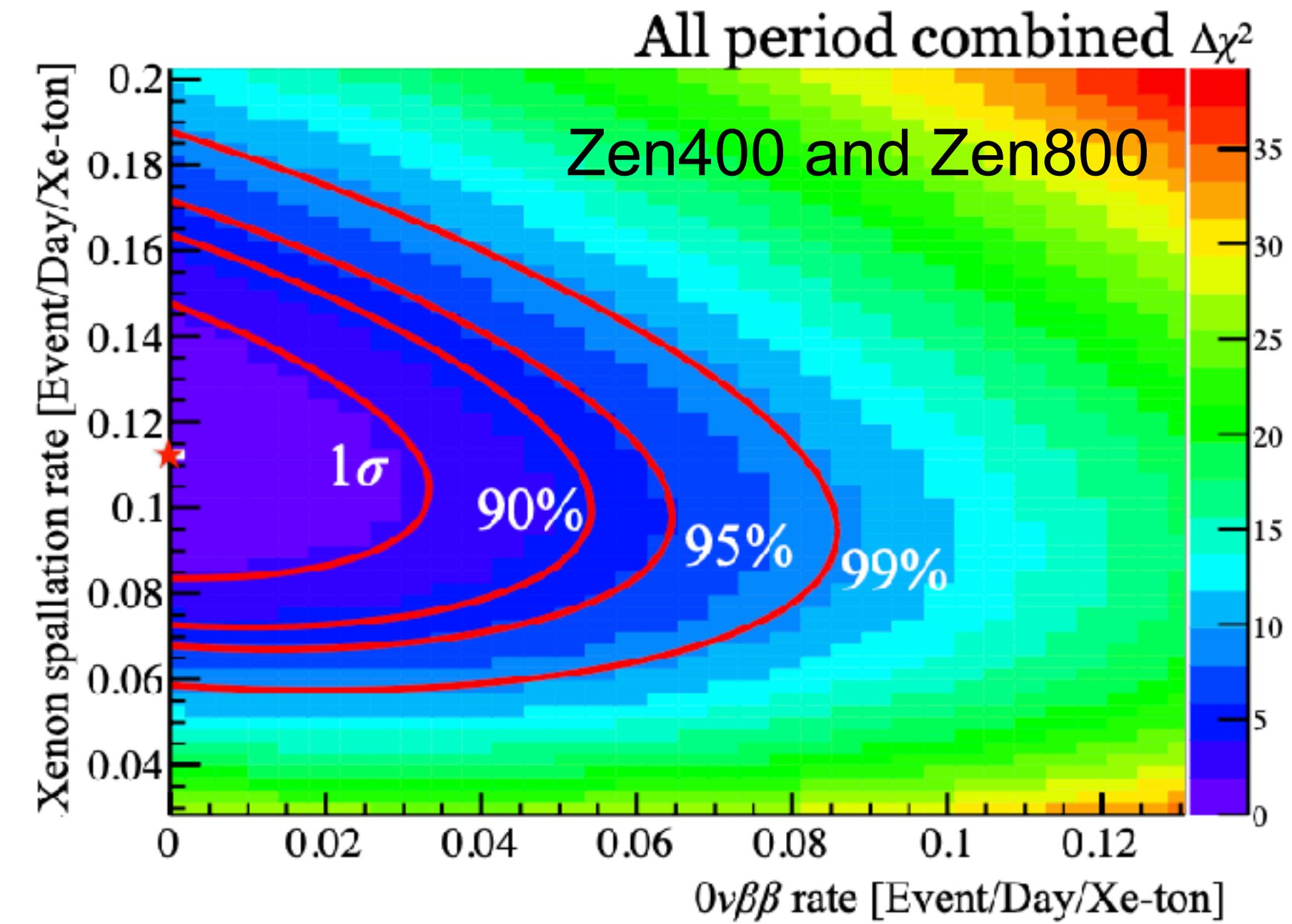
^{136}Xe $0\nu\beta\beta$ Decay Half Life (KamLAND-Zen 400+800) 10/19

- * KamLAND-Zen 400 dataset was **reanalyzed** with updated background rejection techniques and long-lived spallation consideration.
- * Zen400 and Zen800 dataset were **combined** in $\Delta\chi^2$ map.

Long-lived BG rate in 2.35-2.70 MeV
 = 0.111 ± 0.019 events/day/Xe-ton

Long-lived BG rate
 was measured

(FLUKA = 0.082 ± 0.006 events/day/Xe-ton)



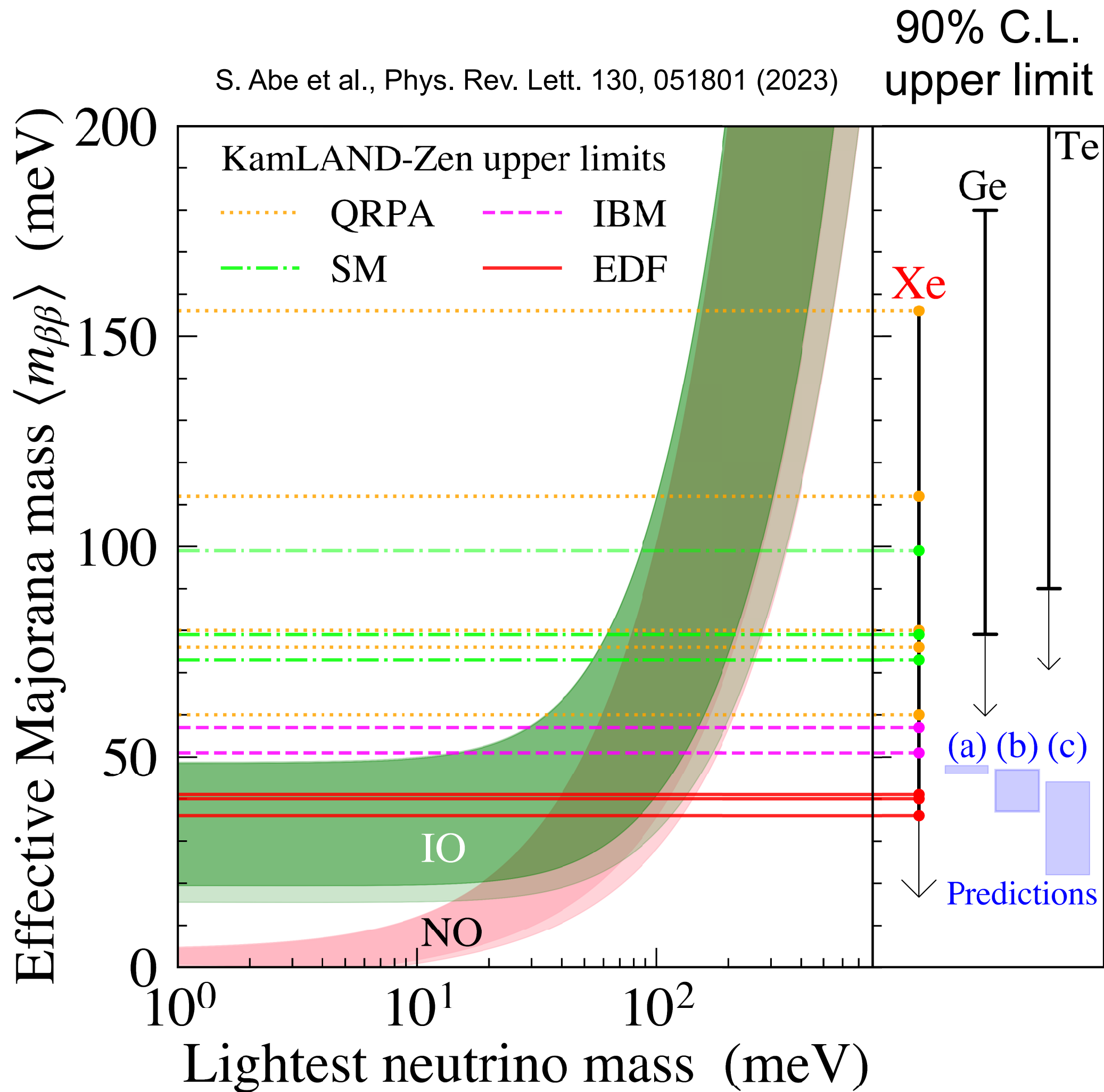
Half-life limit at 90% C.L.

Zen 400 $T^{0\nu}_{1/2} > 0.9 \times 10^{26}$ yr

Zen 800 $T^{0\nu}_{1/2} > 2.0 \times 10^{26}$ yr

Combined $T^{0\nu}_{1/2} > 2.3 \times 10^{26}$ yr

2 times better!



* Decay rate \rightarrow proportional to (neutrino mass)²

$$[T_{1/2}^{0\nu}]^{-1} = G^{0\nu}(Q_{\beta\beta}, Z) |M^{0\nu}|^2 \langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle^2$$

PSF NME

NME calculations assuming $g_A \sim 1.27$

QRPA

- J. Terasaki, Phys. Rev. C **102**, 044303 (2020).
- J. Hyvärinen and J. Suhonen, Phys. Rev. C **91**, 024613 (2015).
- F. Šimković, V. Rodin, A. Faessler, and P. Vogel, Phys. Rev. C **87**, 045501 (2013).
- M. T. Mustonen and J. Engel, Phys. Rev. C **87**, 064302 (2013).
- D.-L. Fang, A. Faessler, and F. Šimković, Phys. Rev. C **97**, 045503 (2018).

IBM

- F. F. Deppisch, L. Graf, F. Iachello, and J. Kotila, Phys. Rev. D **102**, 095016 (2020).
- J. Barea, J. Kotila, and F. Iachello, Phys. Rev. C **91**, 034304 (2015).

EDF

- N. L. Vaquero, T. R. Rodríguez, and J. L. Egido, Phys. Rev. Lett. **111**, 142501 (2013).
- J. M. Yao, L. S. Song, K. Hagino, P. Ring, and J. Meng, Phys. Rev. C **91**, 024316 (2015).
- T. R. Rodríguez and G. Martínez-Pinedo, Phys. Rev. Lett. **105**, 252503 (2010).

SM

- L. Coraggio, A. Gargano, N. Itaco, R. Mancino, and F. Nowacki, Phys. Rev. C **101**, 044315 (2020).
- A. Neacsu and M. Horoi, Phys. Rev. C **91**, 024309 (2015).
- J. Menendez, A. Poves, E. Caurier, and F. Nowacki, Nucl. Phys. A **818**, 139 (2009).

KamLAND-Zen (¹³⁶Xe)

$\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle < 36-156 \text{ meV}$

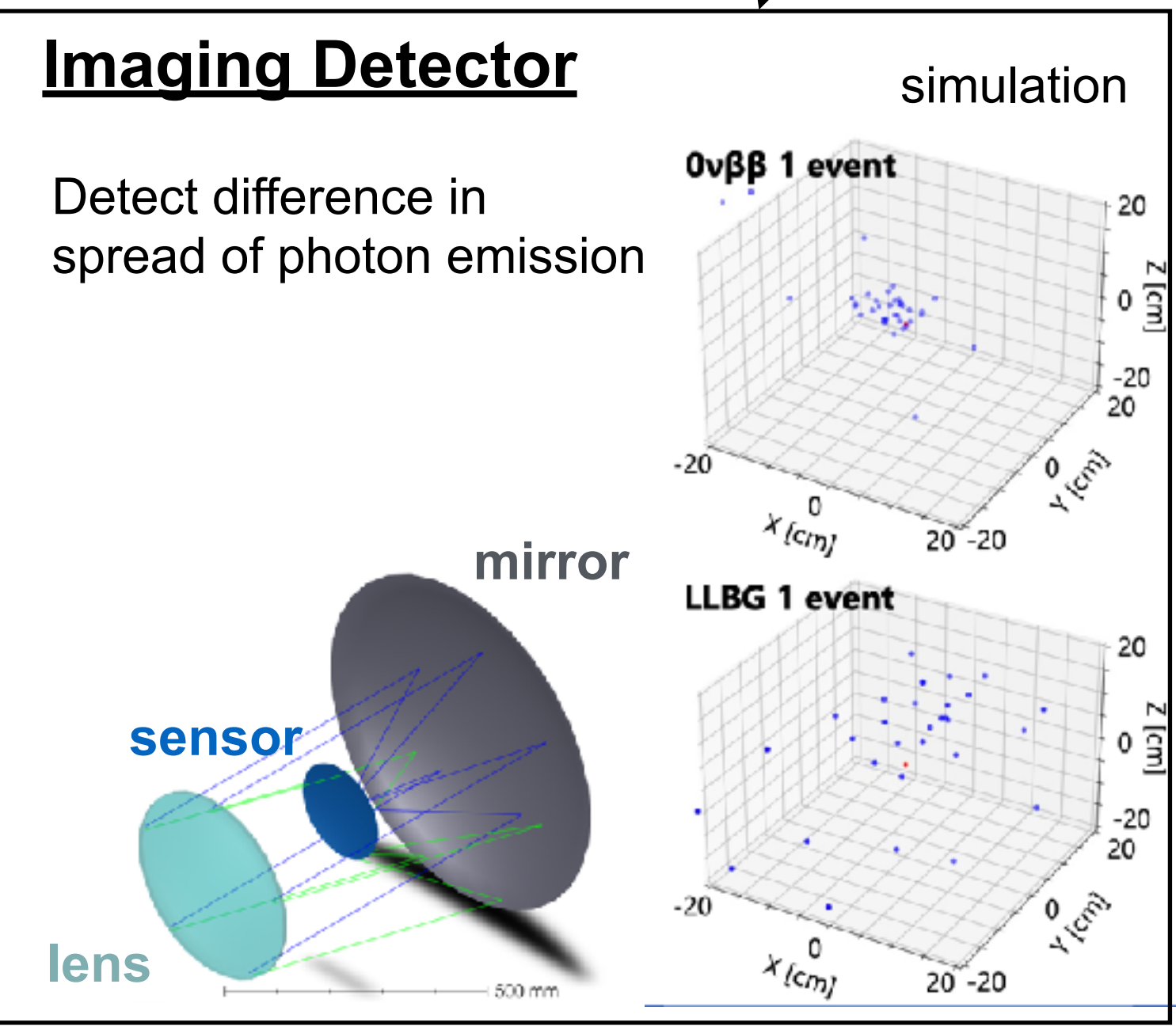
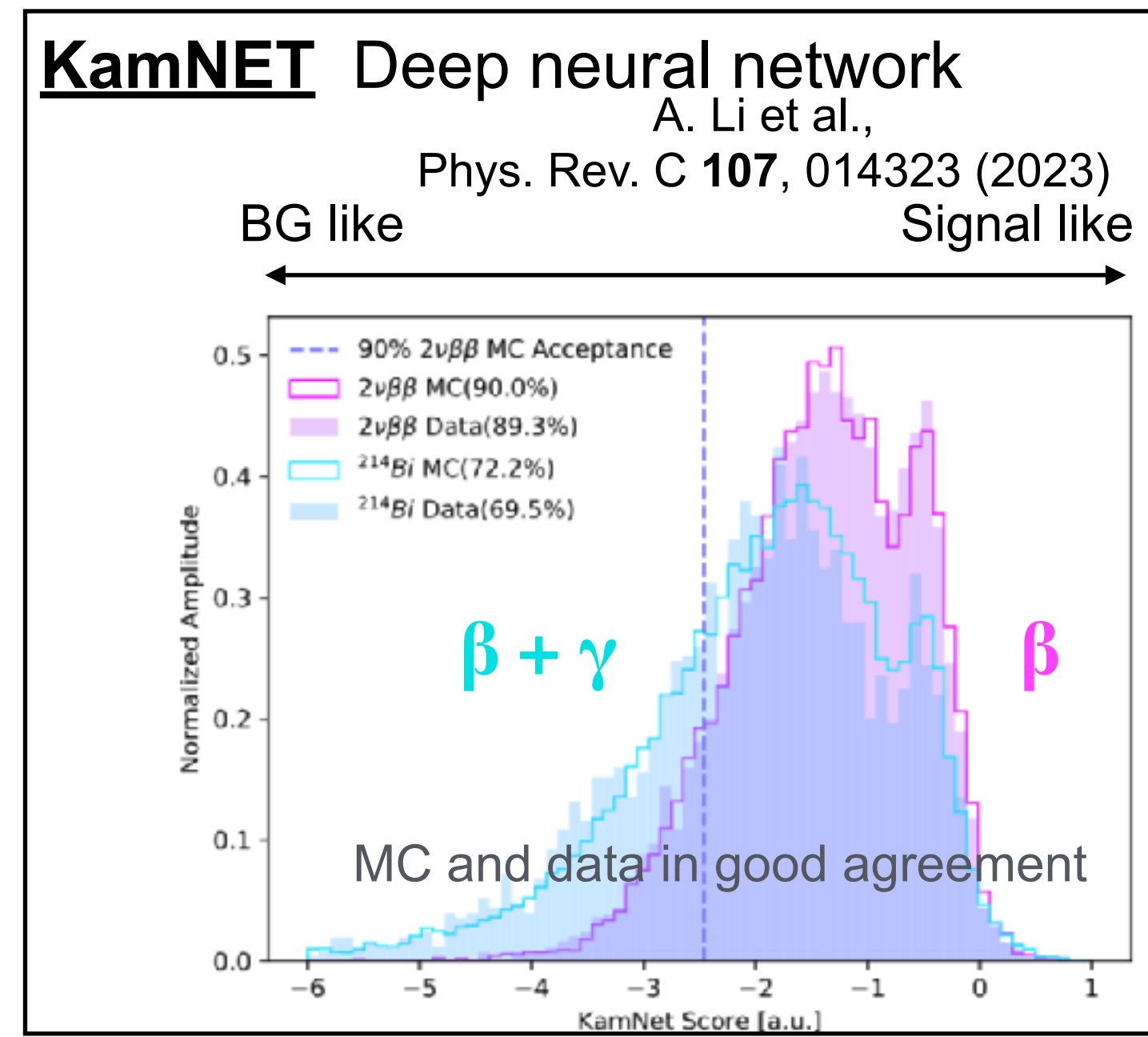
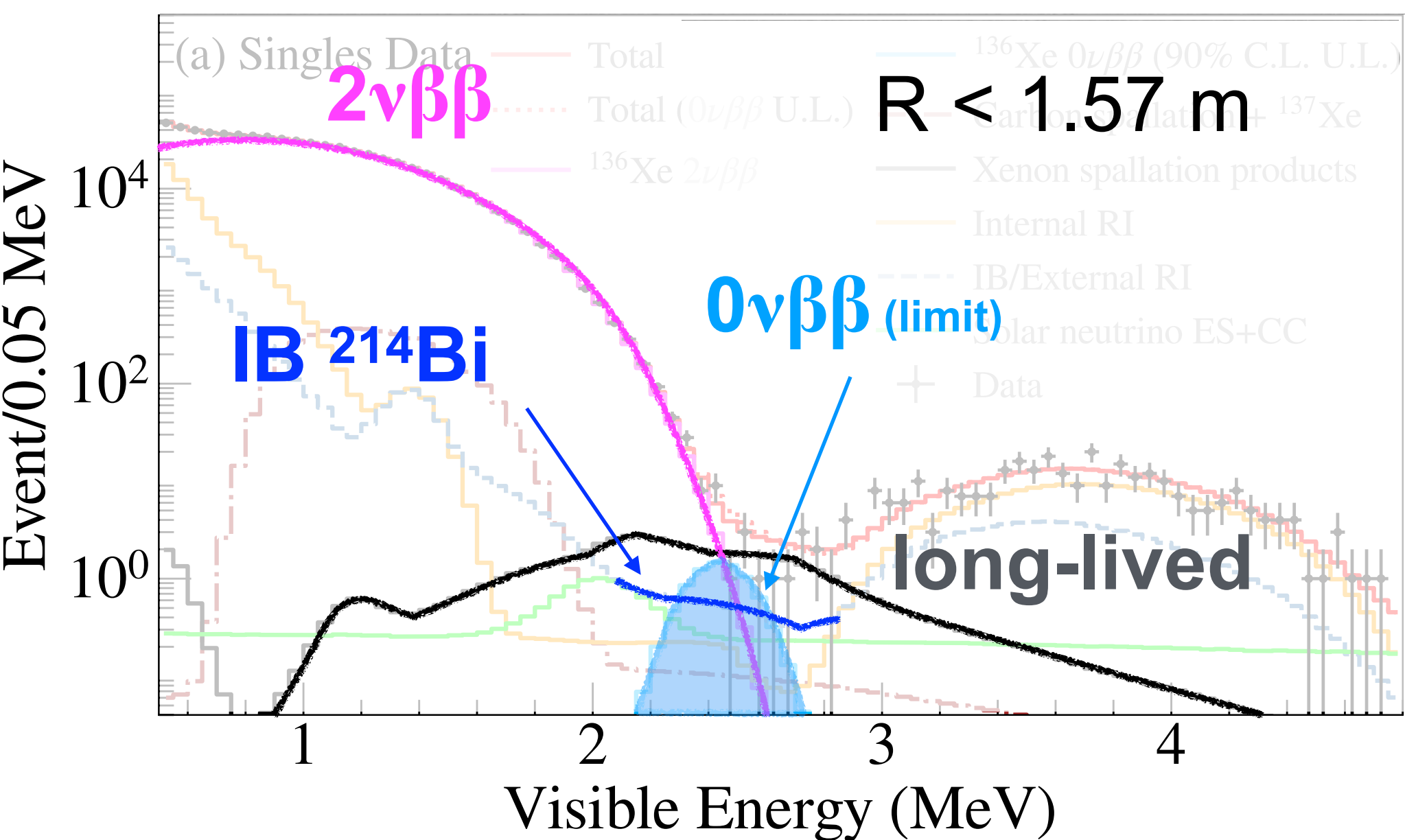
- * KamLAND-Zen started to enter the “Inverted-Ordering” region search.
- * Xe is the leading experiment

Current status

Improvement

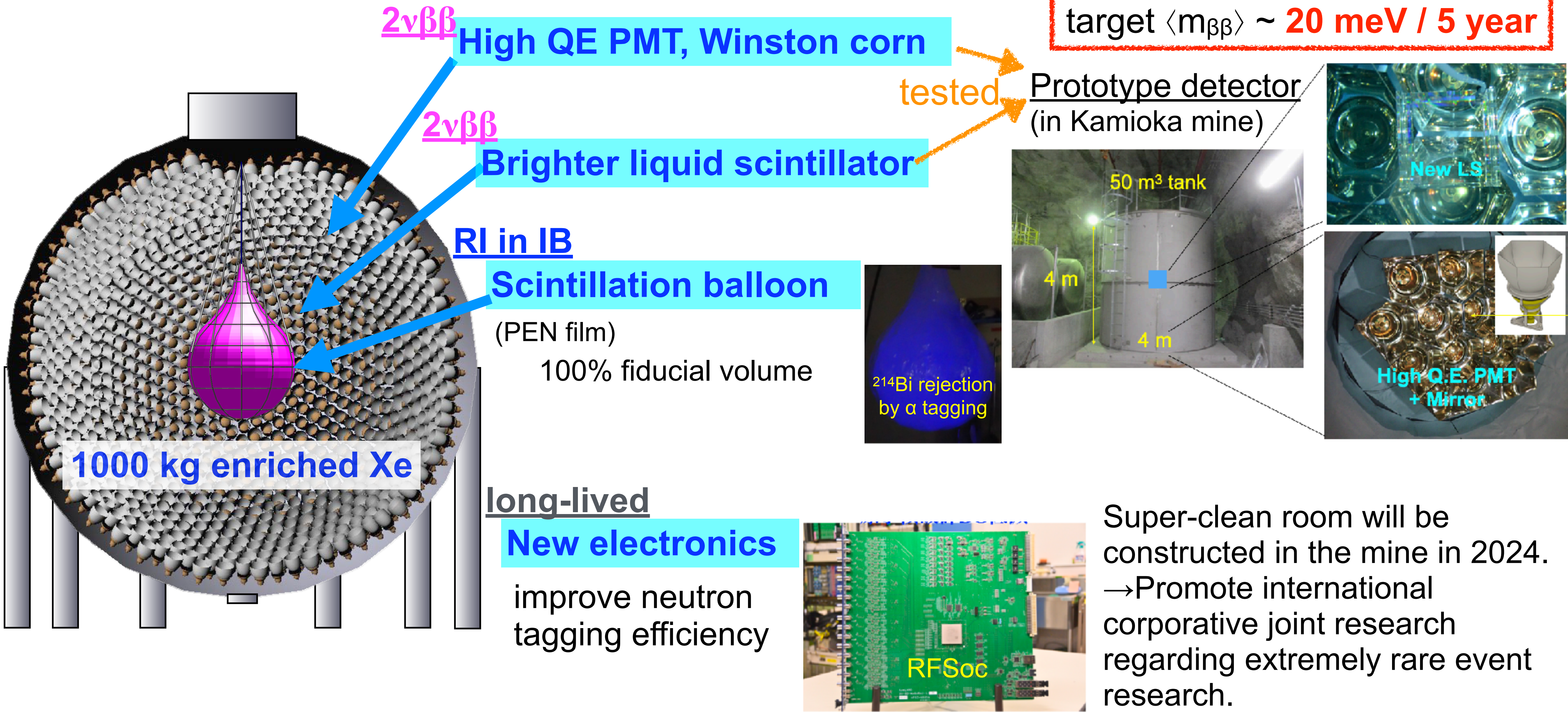
ROI event ($2.35 < E < 2.70$ MeV)

$2\nu\beta\beta$	11.98	energy resolution tail → light yield increase
RI in Xe-LS	0.98	detector upgrade : KamLAND2-Zen
RI in IB	3.06	
solar ν	1.65	gamma or positron background → particle identification
long-lived	12.52	spallation tagging with neutrons → new electronics



more light, higher resolution, more Xe → **covering** inverted neutrino mass ordering!

target $\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle \sim 20 \text{ meV} / 5 \text{ year}$



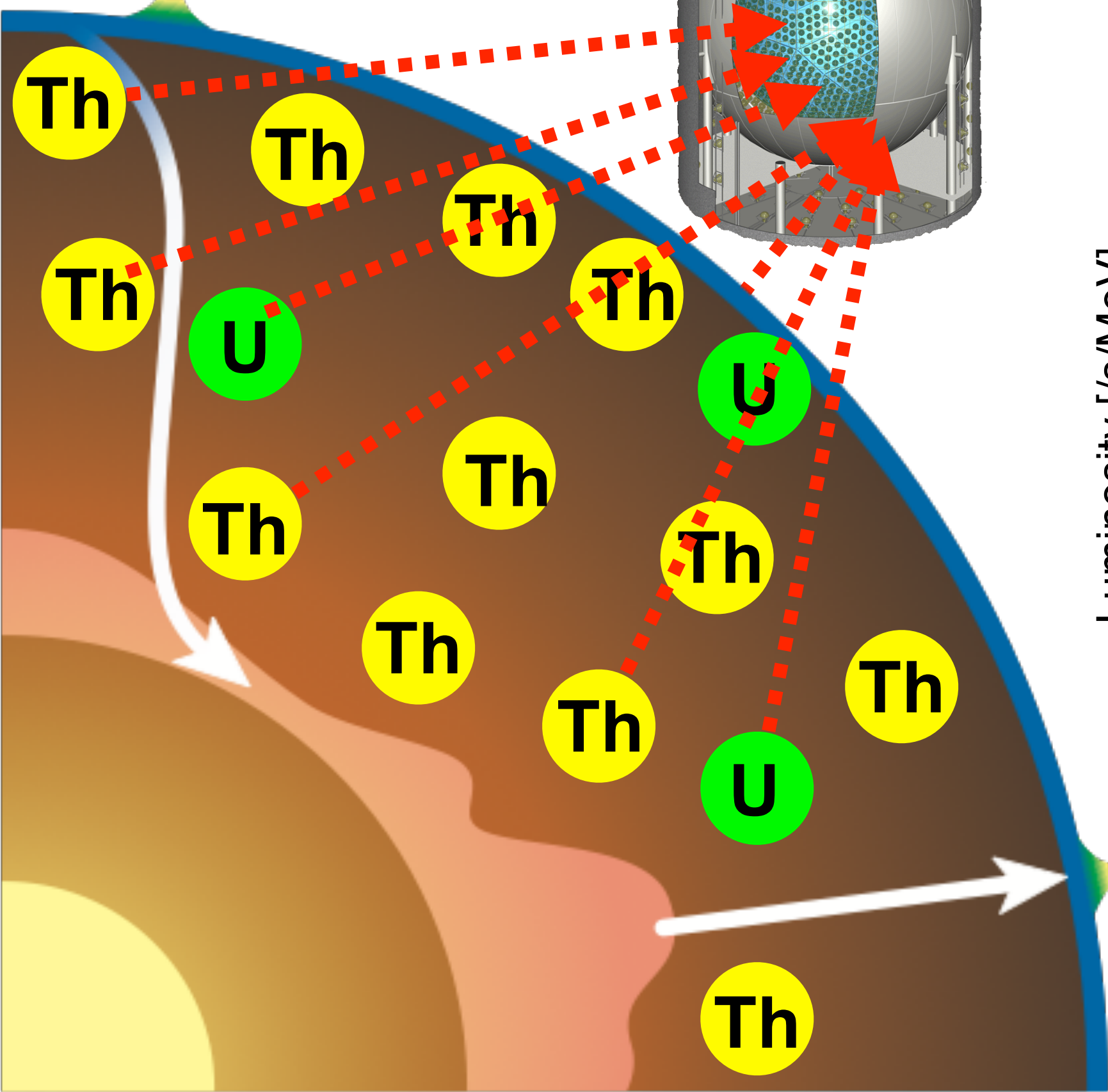
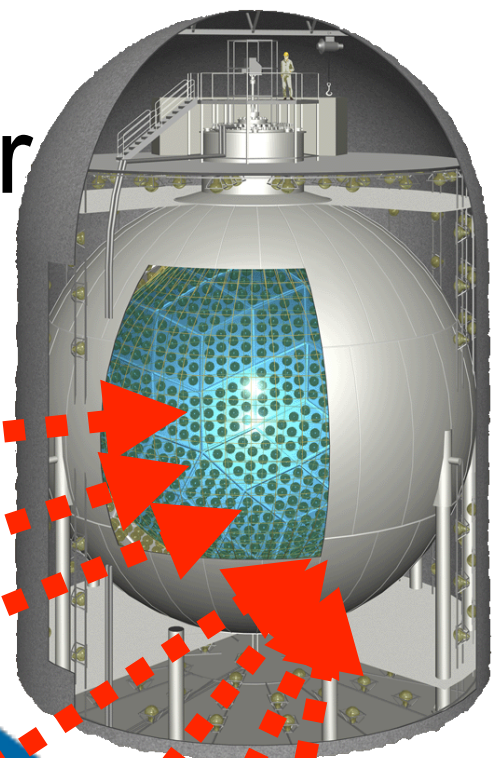
A satellite view of Earth showing the Americas and surrounding oceans, with the word "Geoneutrinos" overlaid in blue text.

Geoneutrinos

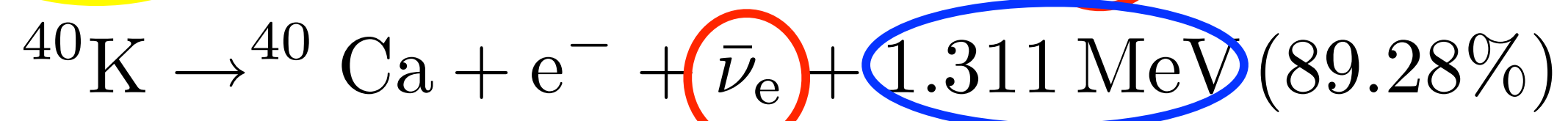
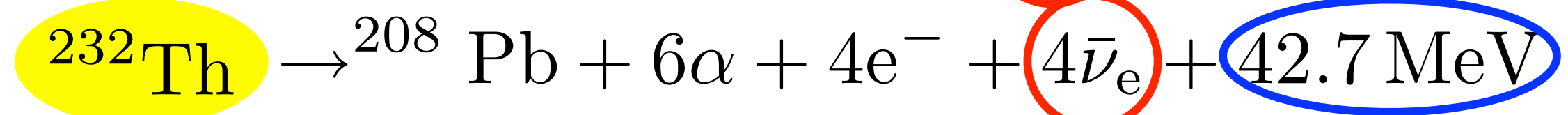
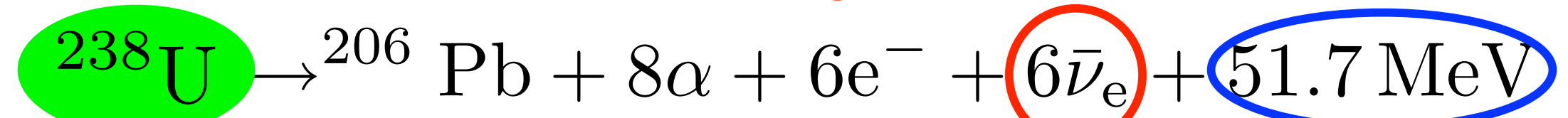
Electron-antineutrinos from natural radioactive decays

$$\bar{\nu}_e \ 4.1 \times 10^6 / \text{cm}^2 / \text{sec}$$

Anti-neutrino Detector
(e.g. KamLAND)

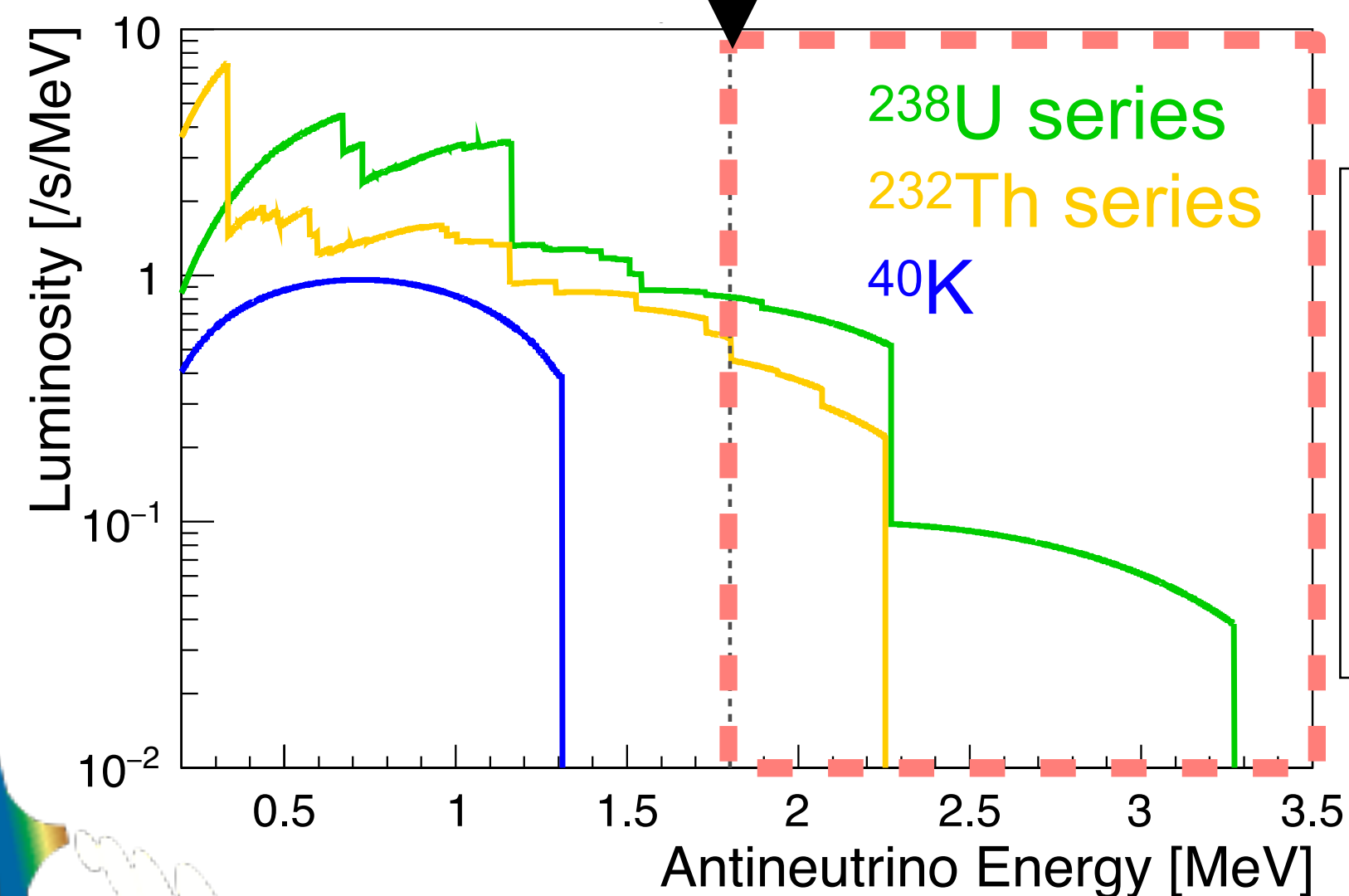


β -decay

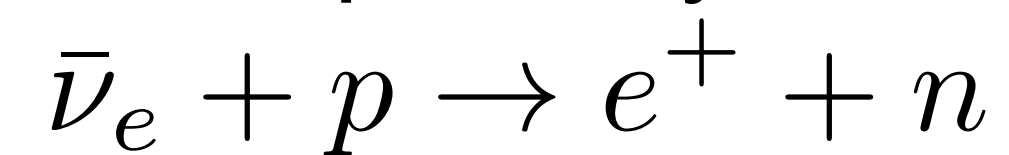


geo-neutrinos

Energy threshold, 1.8 MeV



inverse β -decay



* Only geo-neutrinos from **U** and **Th** are detectable right now

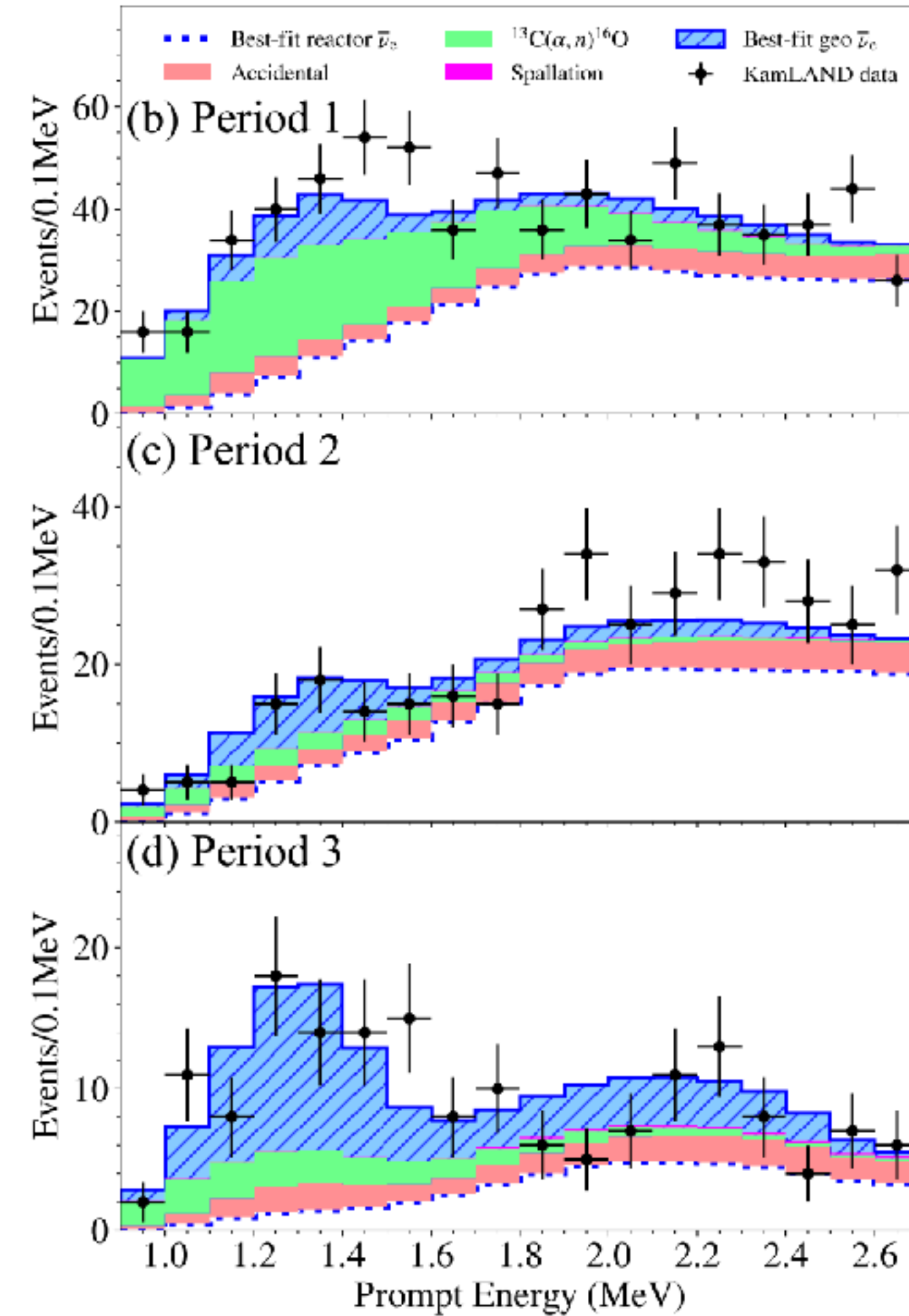
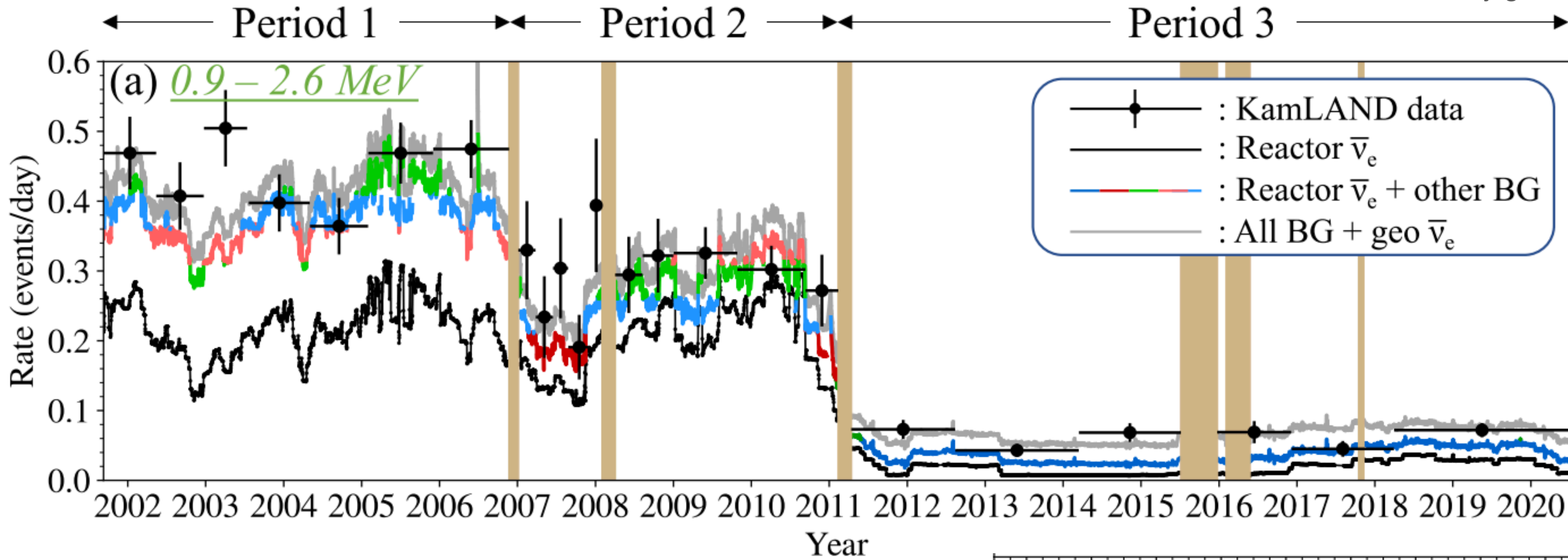
* ^{40}K geo-neutrino detection needs another technology.

2 experiments (KamLAND and Borexino) have observed so far.

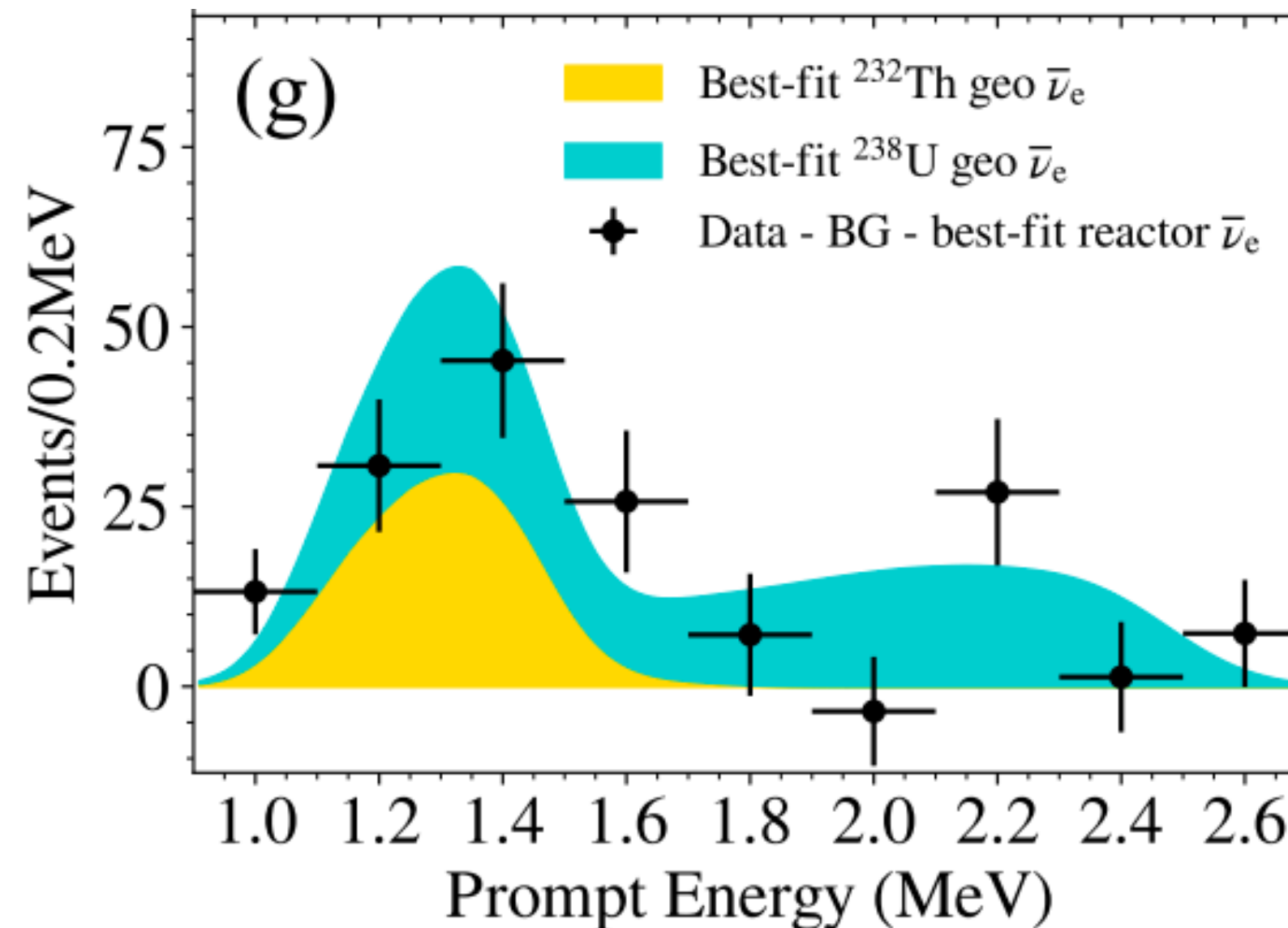
Number of geo $\bar{\nu}_e \propto$ amount of **U** **Th**, radiogenic heat

KamLAND Latest Results

S. Abe et al, "Abundances of uranium and thorium elements in Earth estimated by geoneutrino spectroscopy", GRL, 49, e2022GL099566

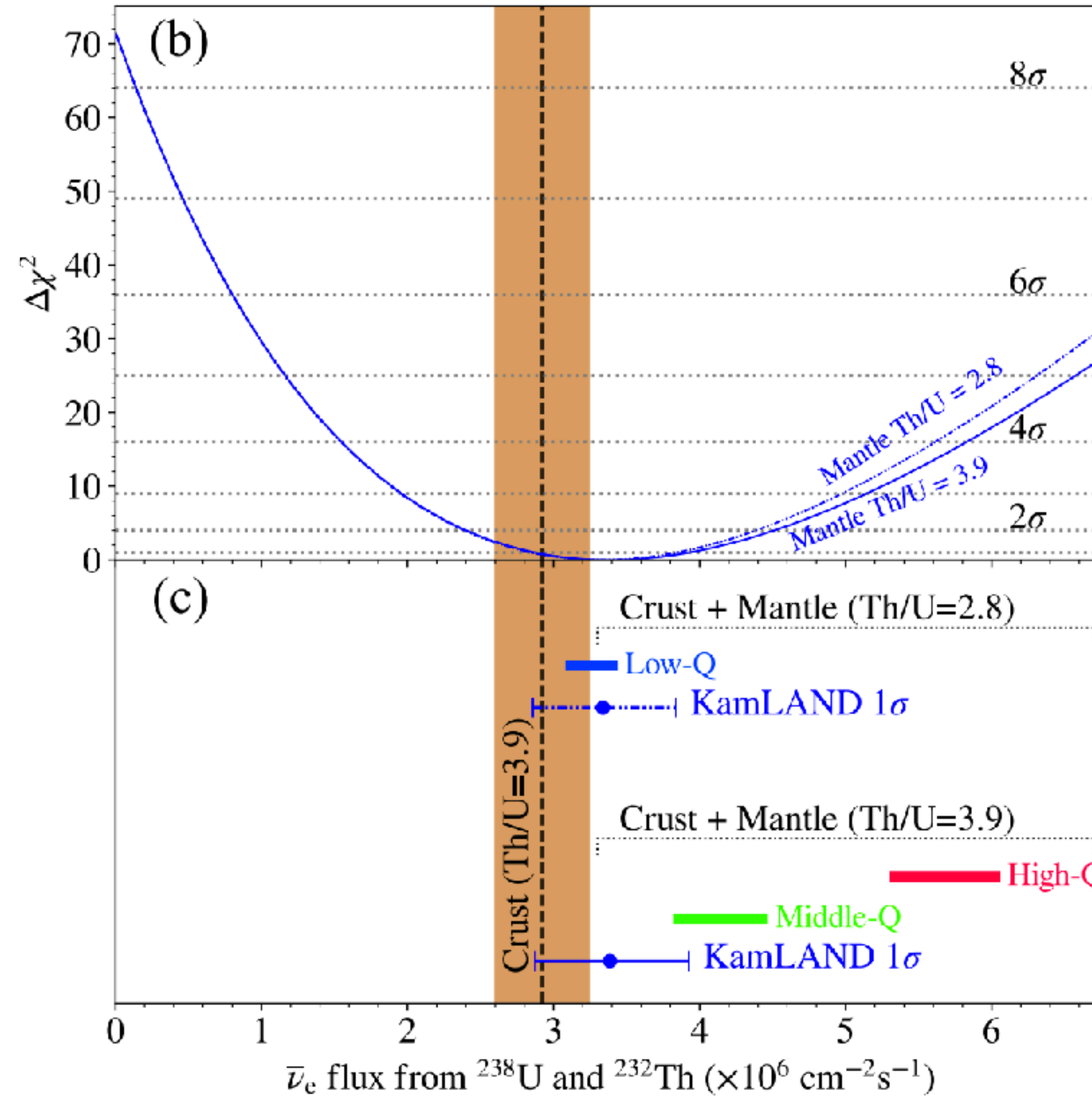
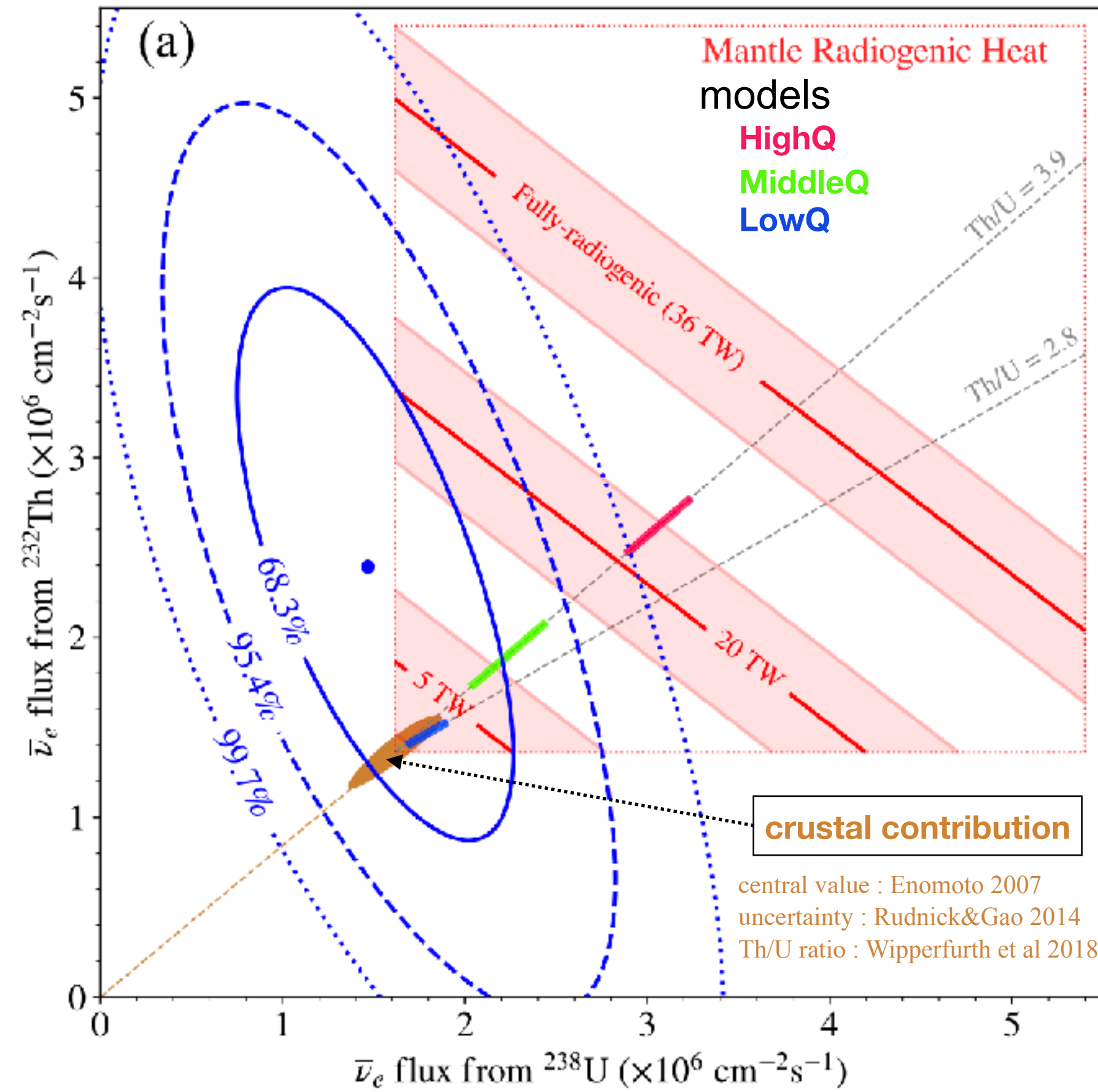


Dataset : Mar, 2002-Dec, 2021
 Livetime : 5227 days
 (low-reactor phase : 2590 days)



massive dataset of low-reactor period
 → precise measurement of **U** and **Th** contributions

S. Abe et al, "Abundances of uranium and thorium elements in Earth estimated by geoneutrino spectroscopy", GRL, 49, e2022GL099566



Radiogenic Heat
Th/U free

Adding heat estimate from crust,
 $^{238}\text{U} : 3.4 \text{ TW}, ^{232}\text{Th} : 3.6 \text{ TW}$

$$Q^{\text{U}} = 3.3_{-0.8}^{+3.2} \text{ TW}$$

$$Q^{\text{Th}} = 12.1_{-8.6}^{+8.3} \text{ TW}$$

$$Q^{\text{U}} + Q^{\text{Th}} = 15.4_{-7.9}^{+8.3} \text{ TW}$$

Model Rejection

High-Q model is rejected at
99.76 % C.L. (homogeneous mantle)
97.9% C.L. (concentrated at CMB)

best-fit

Th/U free

	N of event	0signal rejection
U	117^{+41}_{-39}	3.3σ
Th	58^{+25}_{-24}	2.4σ
U+Th	174^{+29}_{-28}	8.3σ

Achieved the accuracy level can further geoscientific discussion
Improve the distinct spectroscopic contributions of U and Th

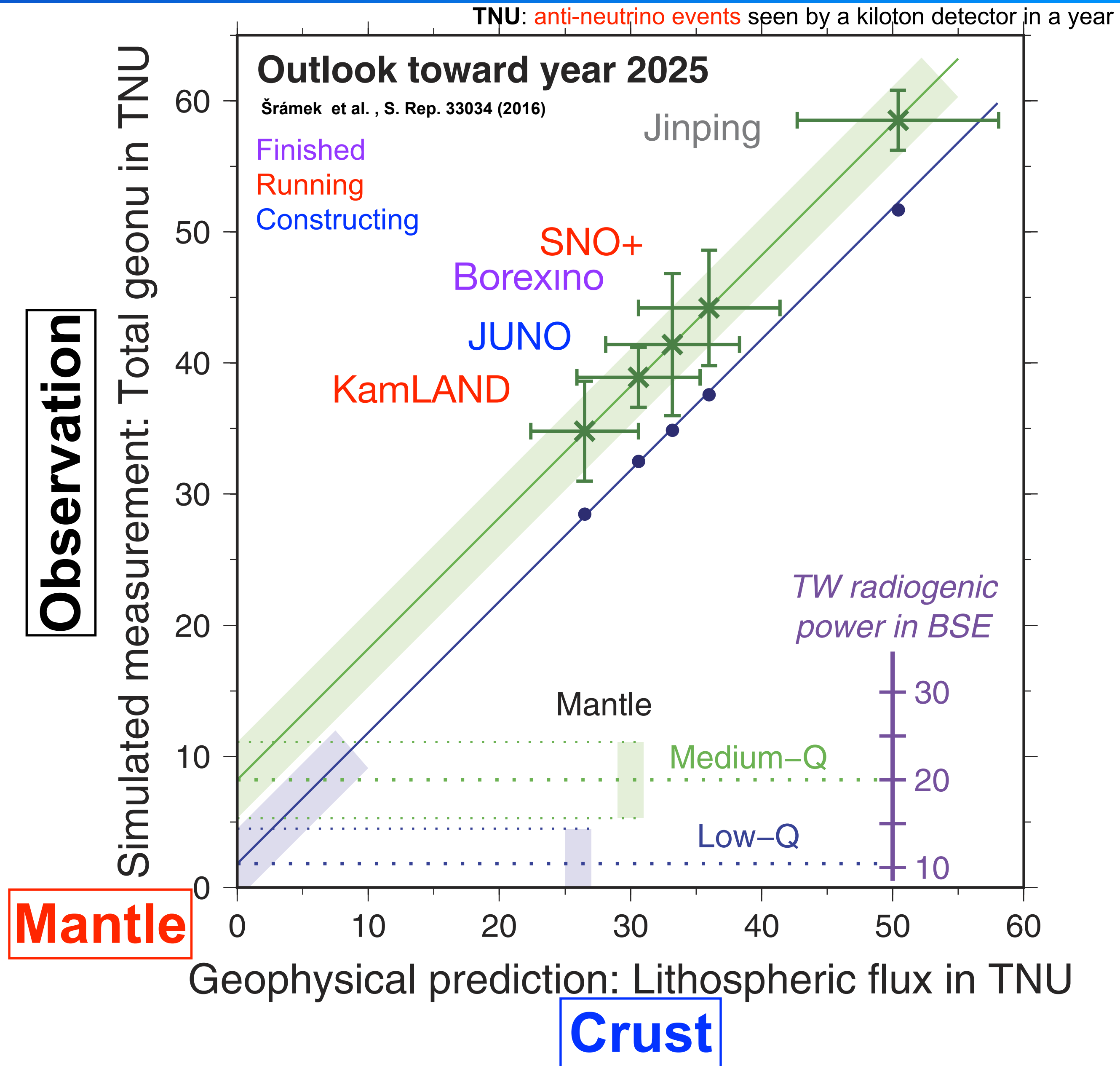
$$\text{Observation} = \text{Crust} + \text{Mantle}$$

$$(y = x + b)$$

Near Future...

4 multi-site measurements can constrain mantle contribution.

- * KamLAND, Borexino, SNO+, JUNO
- * Crust estimation needs to be accurate.



Observation = **Crust** + **Mantle**

(y = x + b)

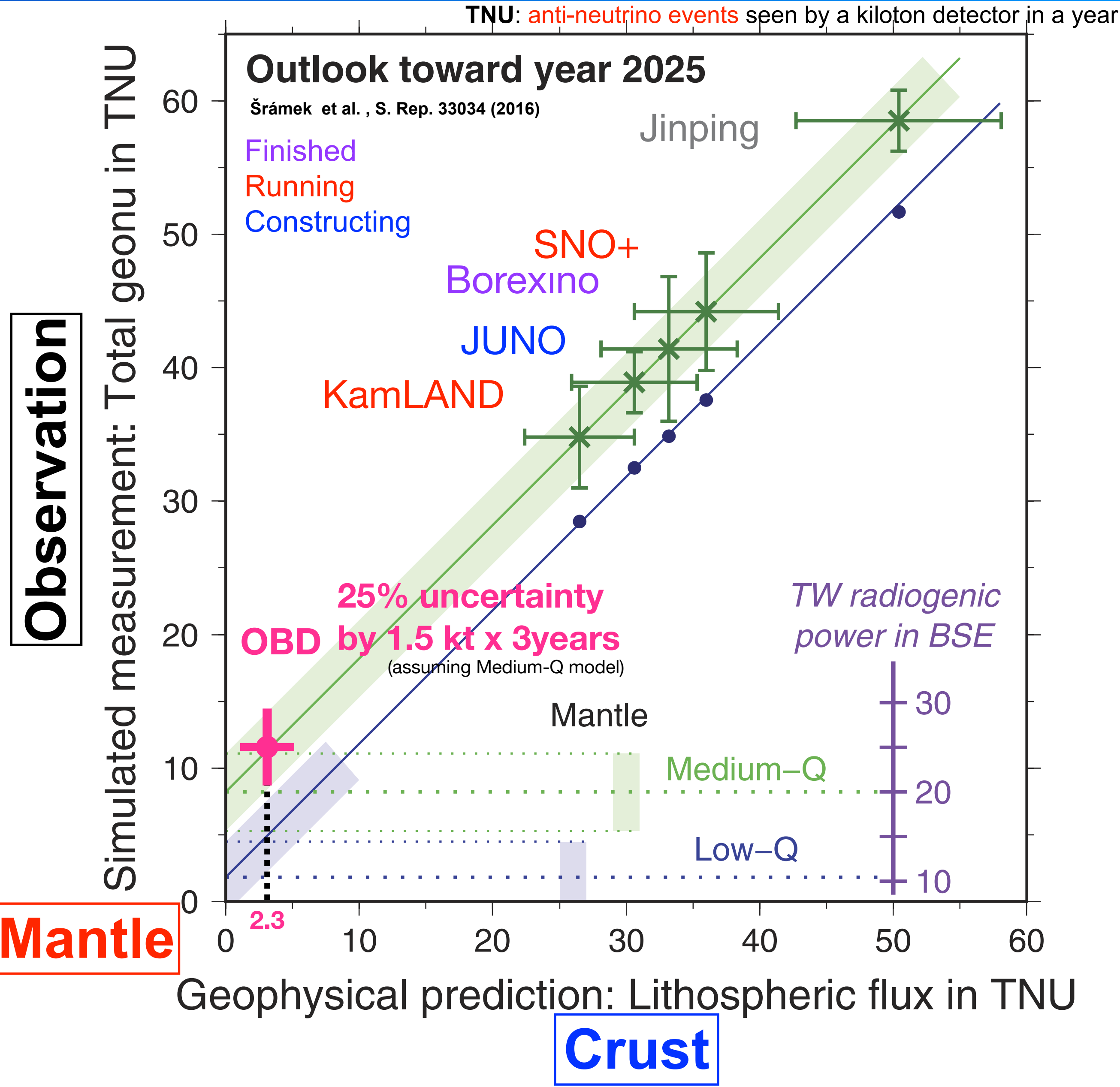
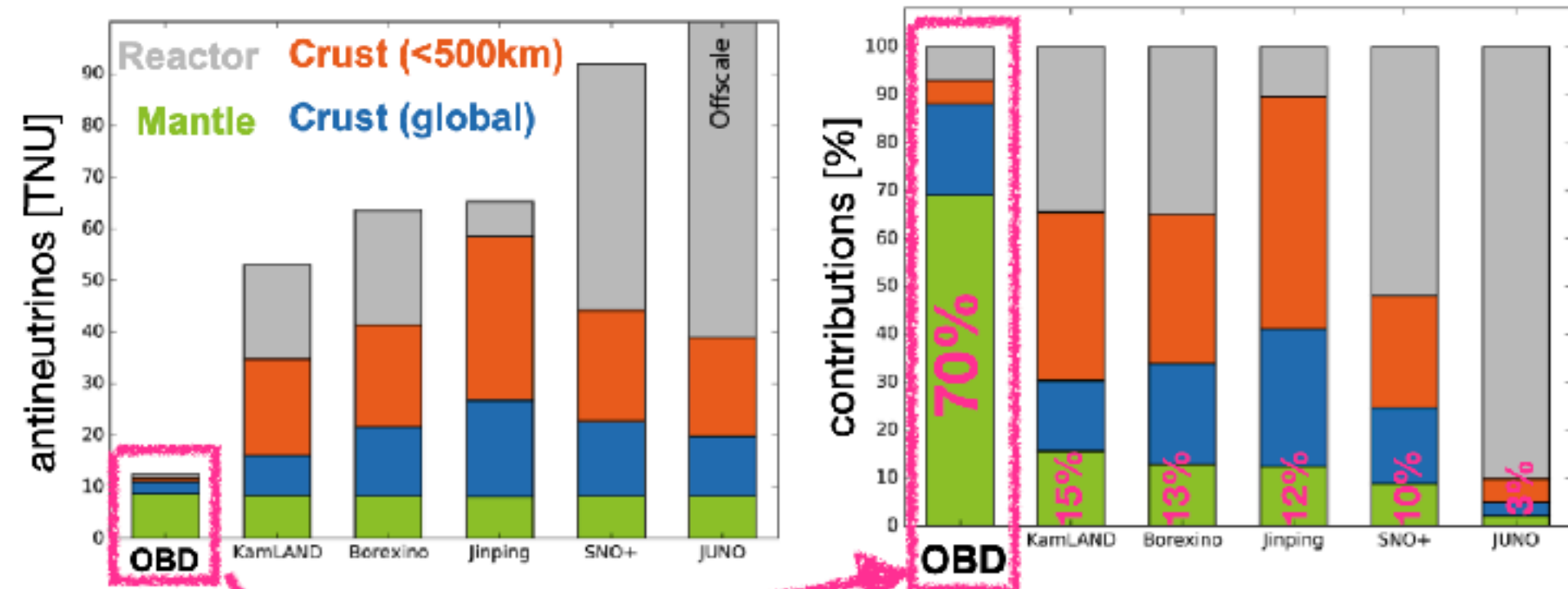
Near Future...

4 multi-site measurements can constrain mantle contribution.

- * KamLAND, Borexino, SNO+, JUNO
- * Crust estimation needs to be accurate.

+ Ocean Bottom Detector

directly measure mantle contribution.



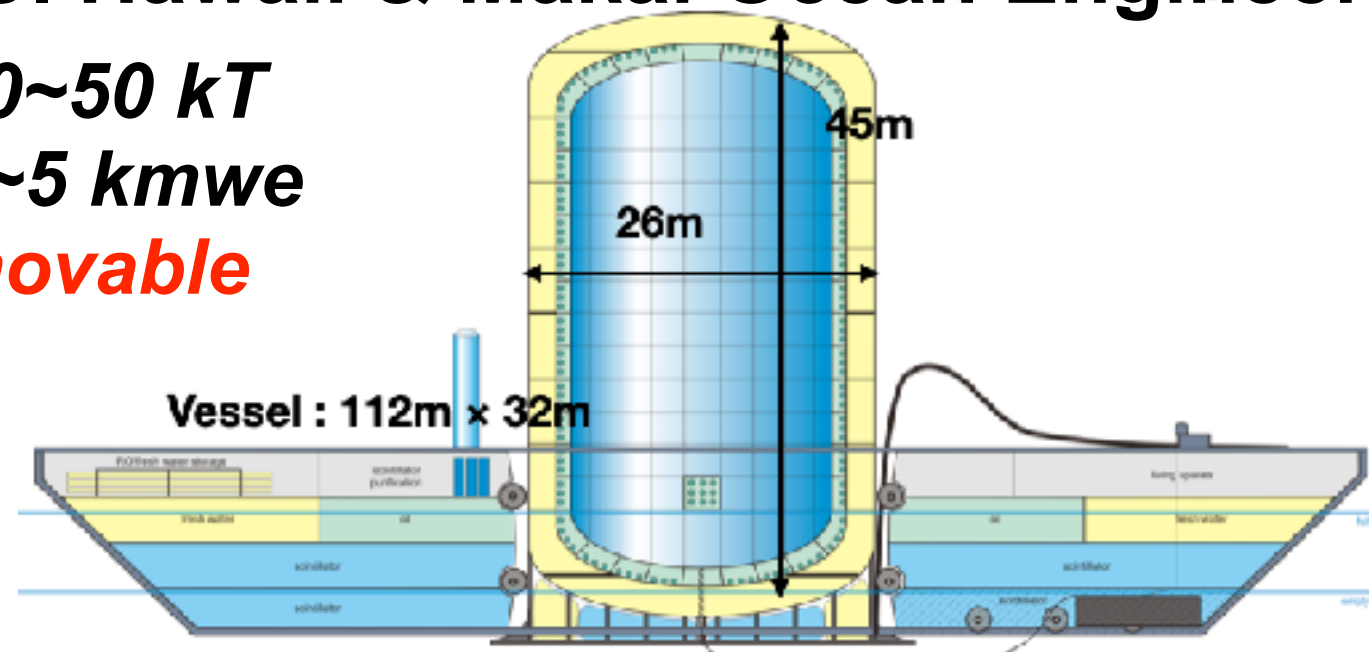
TNU: anti-neutrino events seen by a kiloton detector in a year

Original idea (2005)

“Hanohano”

U. Hawaii & Makai Ocean Engineering

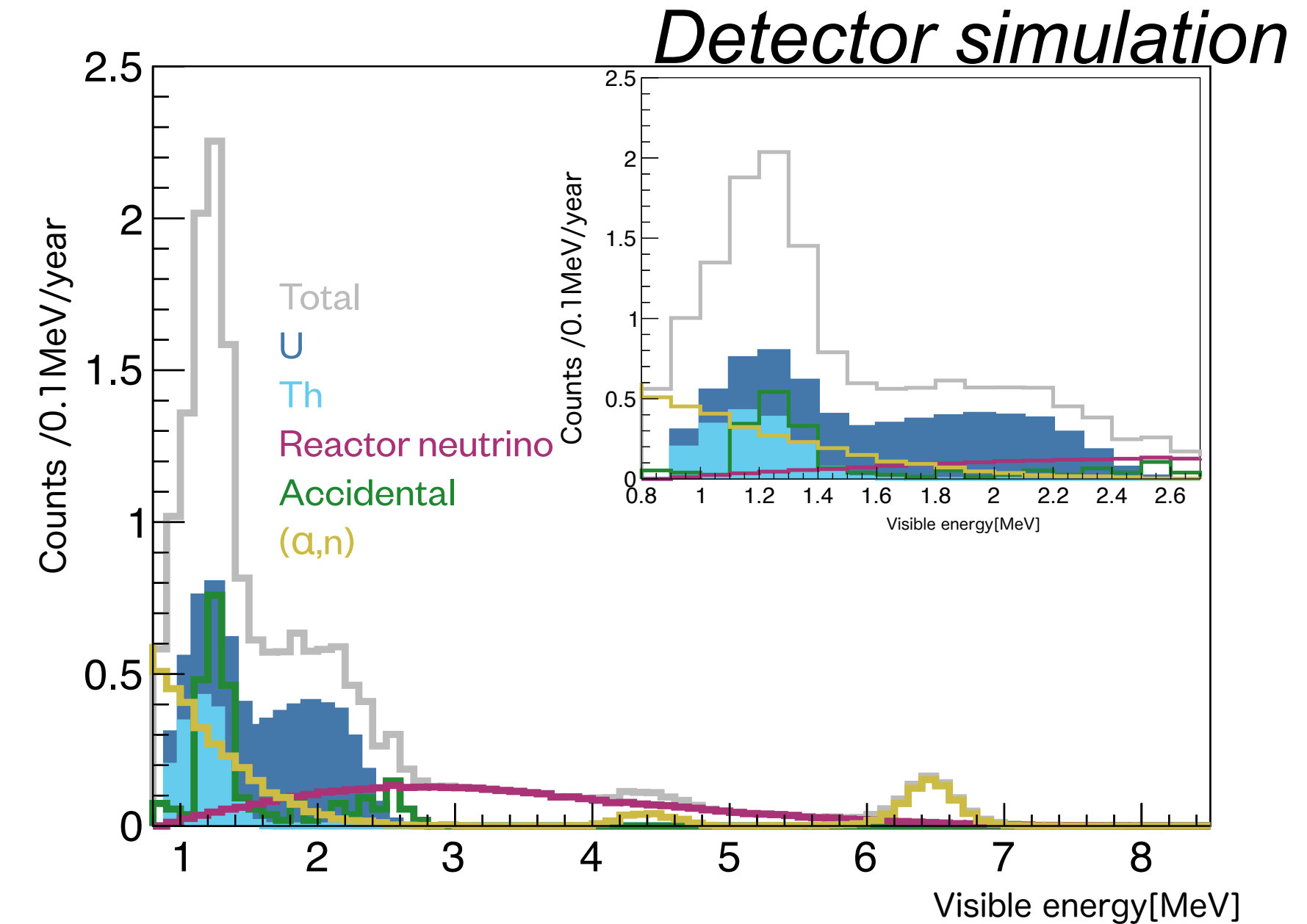
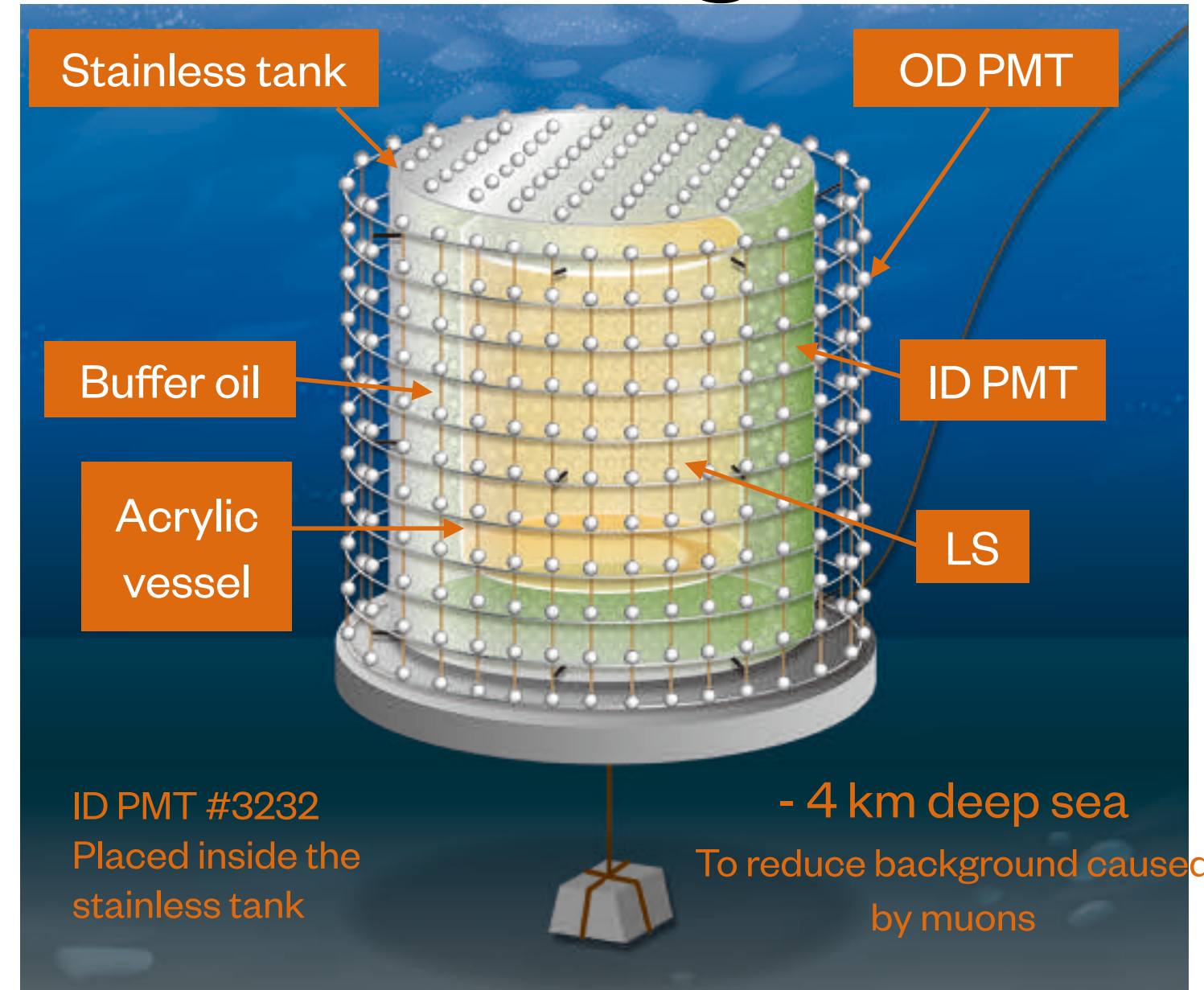
10~50 kT
1~5 kmwe
movable



Technical tests and detector design

Ocean Bottom Detector project (2019~)

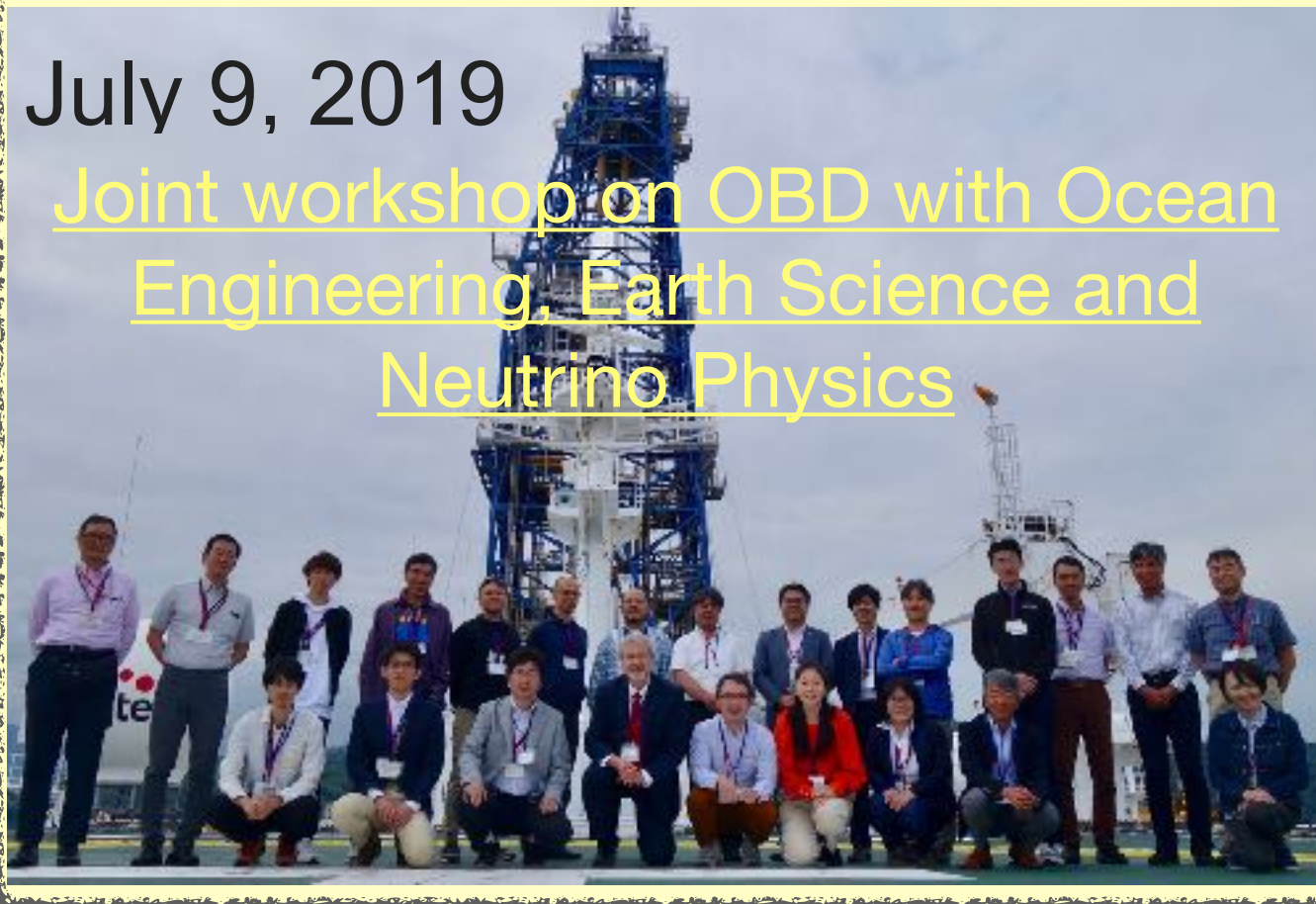
1.5 kt LS detector @4km seafloor



started with JAMSTEC* & Tohoku U.!

July 9, 2019

Joint workshop on OBD with Ocean Engineering, Earth Science and Neutrino Physics



* Mantle geoneutrino sensitivity

highQ model: 1year → 3.7σ
middleQ model: 3year → 3.5σ
lowQ model: 10year → 2.5σ

Unique detector which can have sea water and LS as neutrino targets !

- ◆ Working on development of detector components (workable @40 MPa, 2-4 °C)
- ◆ **Prototype detector** is under construction to be installed into **1km depth**
- ◆ Collaboration and community supports are being enhanced.
(U. Hawaii, Chiba U., LLNL)

KamLAND-Zen

- * KamLAND-Zen 800 achieved to enter the **inverted ordering region**. $\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle < 36-156 \text{ meV}$
- * **hardware and analysis improvements** from KamLAND-Zen 400 were clearly effective to enhance the sensitivity
- * **KamLAND-Zen 800 was completed in January 2024.**
- * **KamLAND2-Zen** is planned to search deeper into inverted ordering region.

Geoneutrinos

- * Geoneutrinos are unique tool to **measure the Earth's radiogenic engine**.
- * To date, physics experiments have shown the **usefulness of geoneutrinos**.
 - ▶ Interdisciplinary community has furthered its connection over these past 15 years.
- * **“Neutrino Geoscience”**
 - * Now it's exciting generation for **4 multi-site measurements**
 - * **OBD** has strong power to measure **mantle contribution directly**