

**XENONNT:  
THE NEXT STEP IN XENON DARK MATTER SEARCH**

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**DBD18@HAWAII, OCTOBER 22 2018**



# THE XENON PROGRAM

170 scientists  
27 institutions  
11 countries



A world map with lines radiating from a central point in Europe to various locations across the globe, representing the international collaboration of the Xenon program. The lines connect to logos and names of 27 institutions from 11 countries.

|  |  |  |   |  |  |   |   |  |  |  |   |   |  |   |  |  |
|--|--|--|---|--|--|---|---|--|--|--|---|---|--|---|--|--|
| <br>Columbia | <br>RPI | <br>Nikhef      | <br>Muenster | <br>Stockholm | <br>Mainz   | <br>MPIK, Heidelberg | <br>Freiburg   | <br>Zurich  |  |  |   |   |  |   |  |  |
| <br>Chicago  | <br>UCLA  | <br>UC San Diego | <br>UCSD       | <br>Rice       | <br>Purdue | <br>Coimbra        | <br>Subatech | <br>LPNHE | <br>LAL | <br>Bologna | <br>LNGS Torino Napoli | <br>Weizmann | <br>Tokyo | <br>Nagoya | <br>Kobe | <br>NYU   ABU DHABI |



Collaboration meeting@Coimbra, Sep 2018



# THE XENON (AND DARWIN) PROGRAM

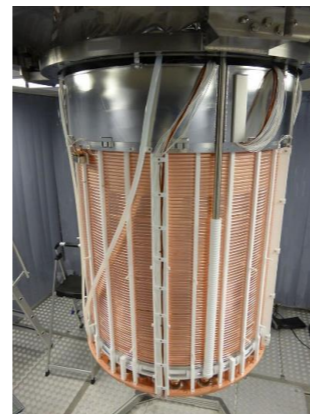
- ▶ LXe target: excellent for DM WIMPs scattering
- ▶ Detector: two-phase LXeTPC: 3D position sensitive calorimeter.
- ▶ Background discrimination:
  - simultaneous light (S1) & charge (S2) detection
  - single site interactions, fiducialization, and self shielding
- ▶ High light yield (S1) + proportional scintillation (S2)
  - low energy threshold for nuclear recoils (~ 5 keV, lower for ionization only)



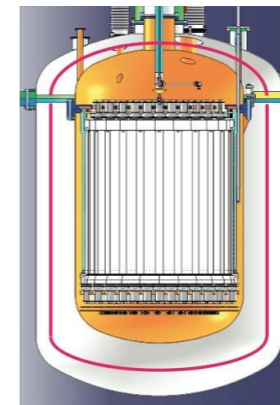
**XENON10**  
Total Xe: 25 kg  
Target: 14 kg  
Fiducial: 5.4 kg  
Limit:  $\sim 10^{-43}$



**XENON100**  
Total Xe: 162 kg  
Target: 62 kg  
Fiducial: 34/48 kg  
Limit:  $\sim 10^{-45}$



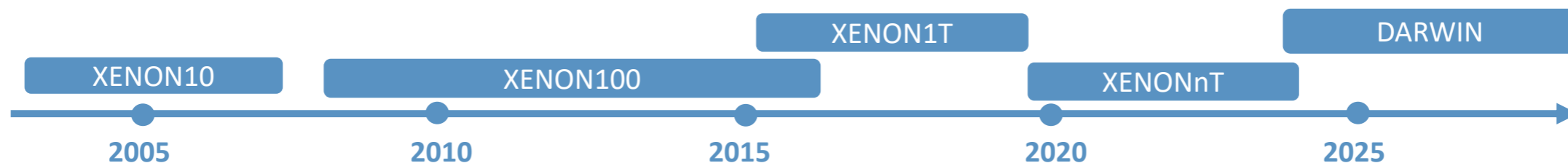
**XENON1T**  
Total Xe: 3.2 ton  
Target: 2 ton  
Fiducial: 1 ton  
Limit:  $\sim 10^{-47}$



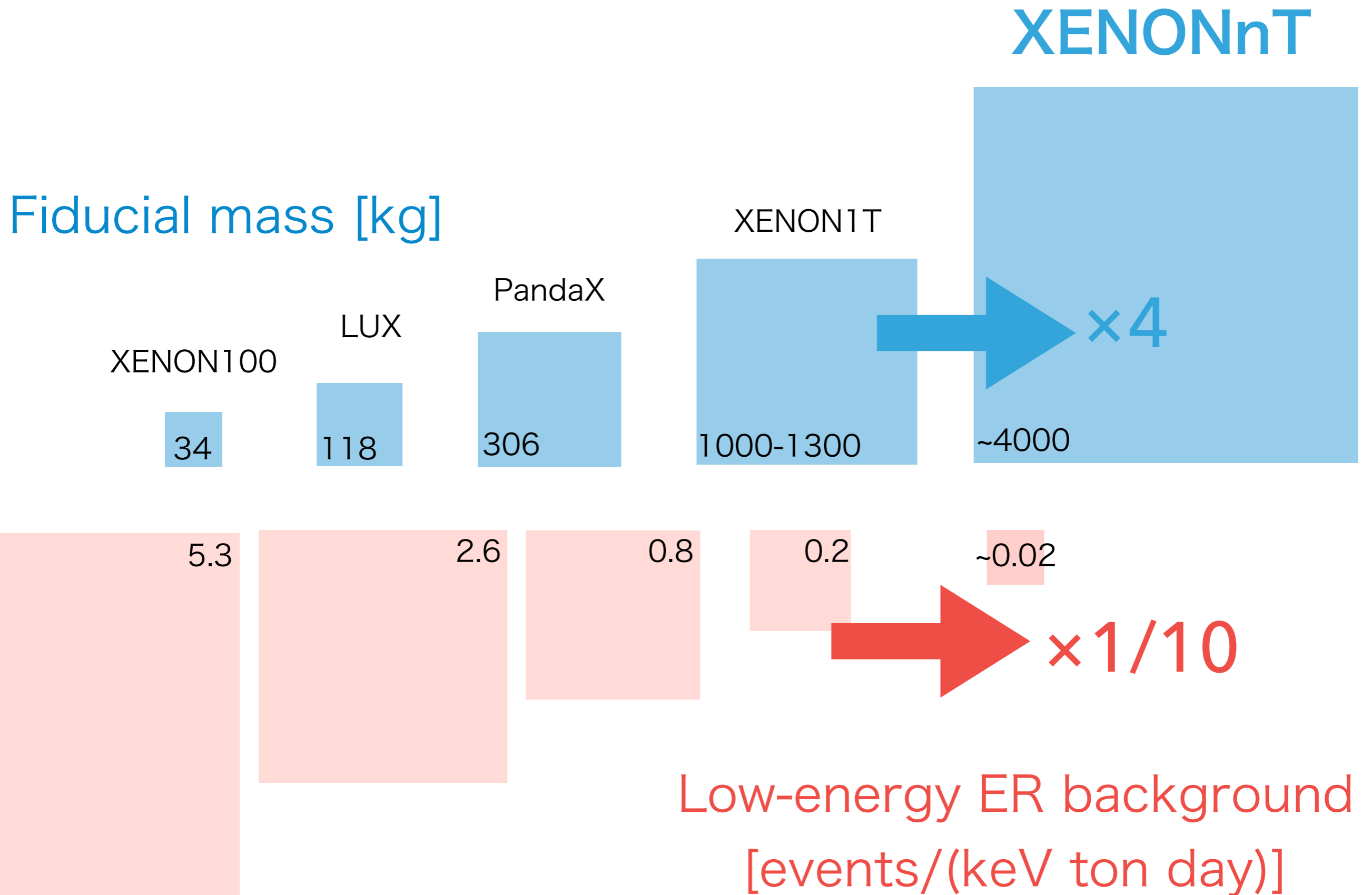
**XENONnT**  
Total Xe: ~8.4ton  
Target: 5.9ton  
Fiducial: ~4ton  
Limit:  $\sim 10^{-48}$



**DARWIN**  
Total Xe: 50 ton  
Target: 40 ton  
Fiducial: 30 ton  
Limit:  $\sim 10^{-49}$











## Minimal Upgrade

The XENON1T infrastructure and sub-systems were originally designed to **accommodate a larger LXe TPC.**



## Fiducial Xe Target

**XENONnT TPC:**  
total Xe mass = ~8.4 t  
target mass = 5.9t  
**fiducial mass = ~4 t**  
**Total # of PMTs x2:**  
**494 PMTs**  
**(253 top, 241 bottom)**



## Background

Record low-back levels in XENON1T dominated by  $^{222}\text{Rn}$ -daughters.  
Identified strategies to effectively **reduce  $^{222}\text{Rn}$  by ~ a factor of 10.**



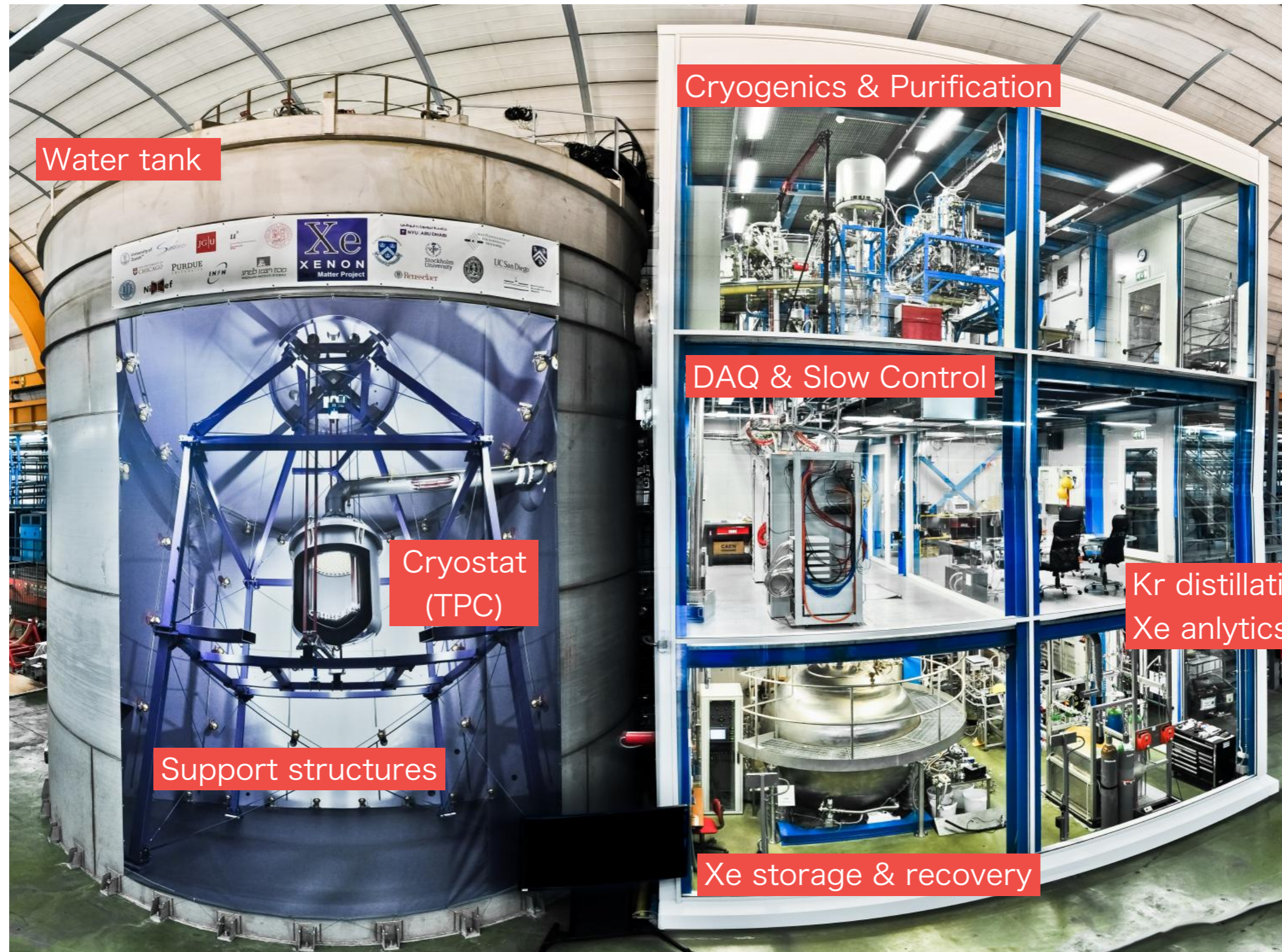
## Fast Turnaround

Use **XENON1T sub-systems**, already tested  
Fast pace:  
**Installation starts in 2018**  
**commissioning in 2019 Summer**



# WATER TANK, SUPPORT STRUCTURES, EXPERIMENT BUILDING

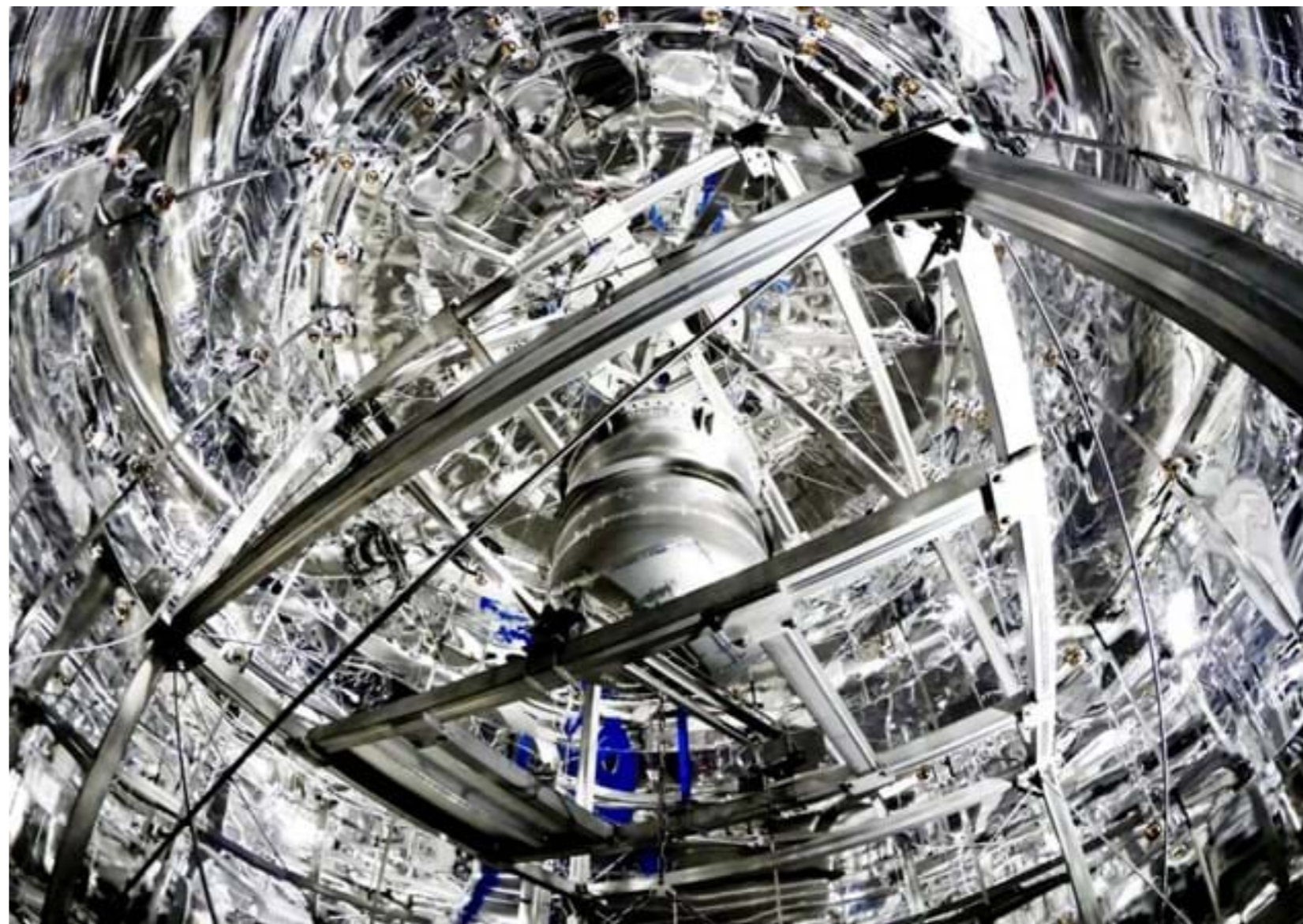
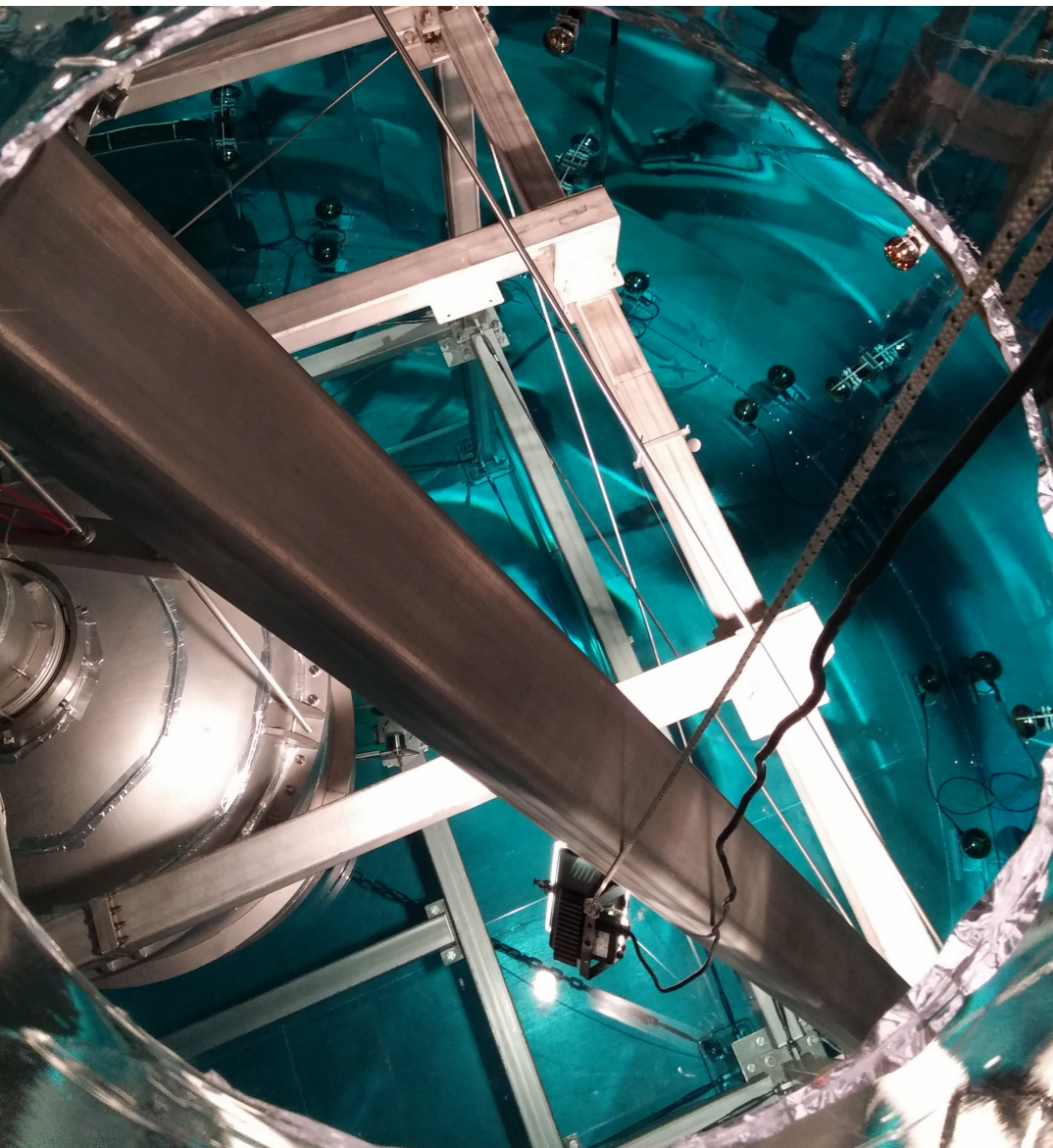
- ▶ Reuse large investment in money and time for design, safety review, approval by authorities, construction + commissioning



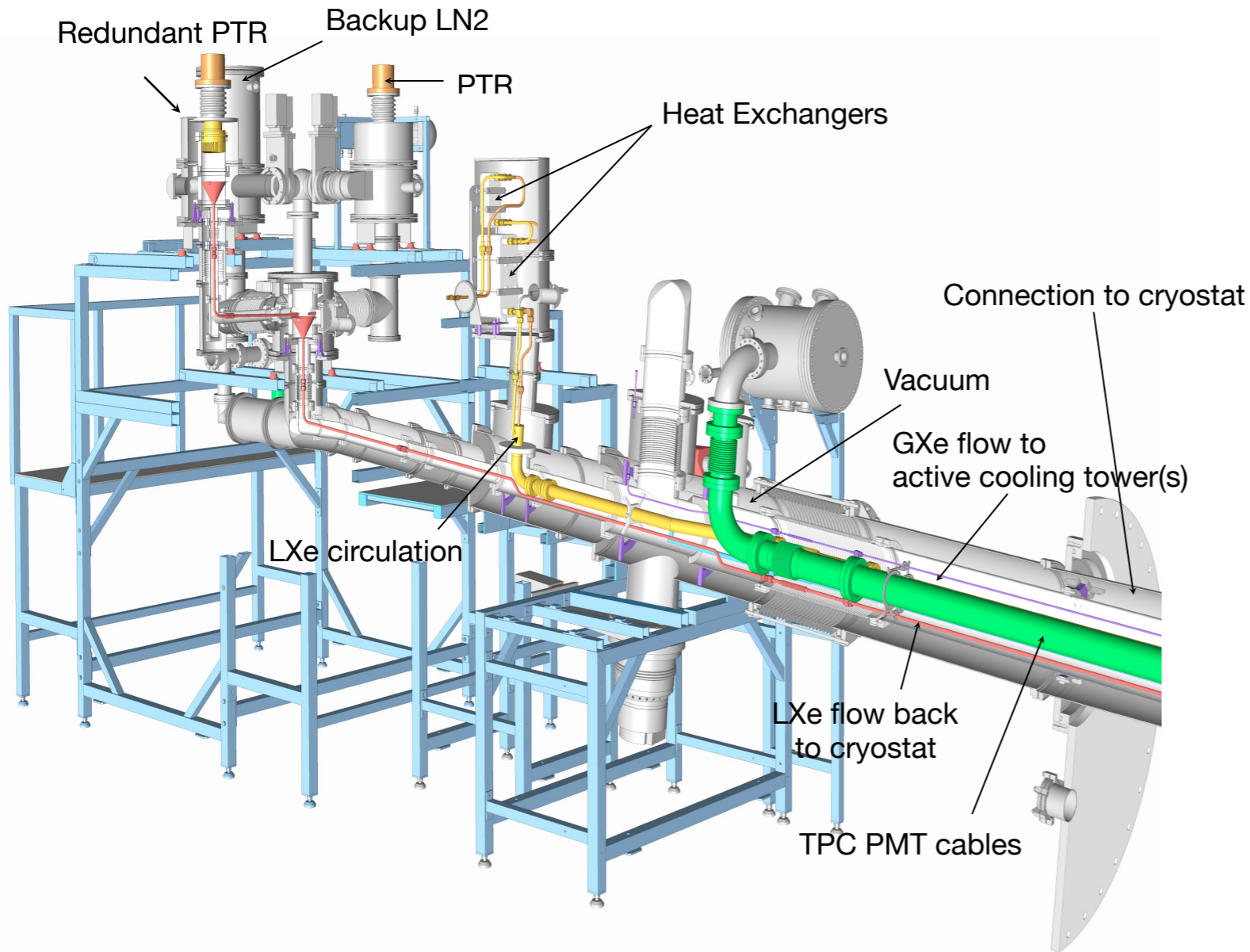


# SYSTEMS REUSED: WATER CHERENKOV MUON DETECTOR

- ▶ Passive shield against external radioactivity
- ▶ 700 t of continuously purified water
- ▶ tank clad with high-reflectivity polymer foil
- ▶ instrumented with 84 high-QE 8" PMTs (R5912) to tag muon-induced background
- ▶ Trigger efficiency for muons (MC): > 99.5% JINST 9 P11006 (2014)







## XENON1T:

- ▶ 2 Pulse Tube Refrigerators (cooling power 240W), one in use, one as backup for maintenance
- ▶ 1 LN cold head (cooling power >300W) as emergency cooler
- ▶ Total heat load = 150W

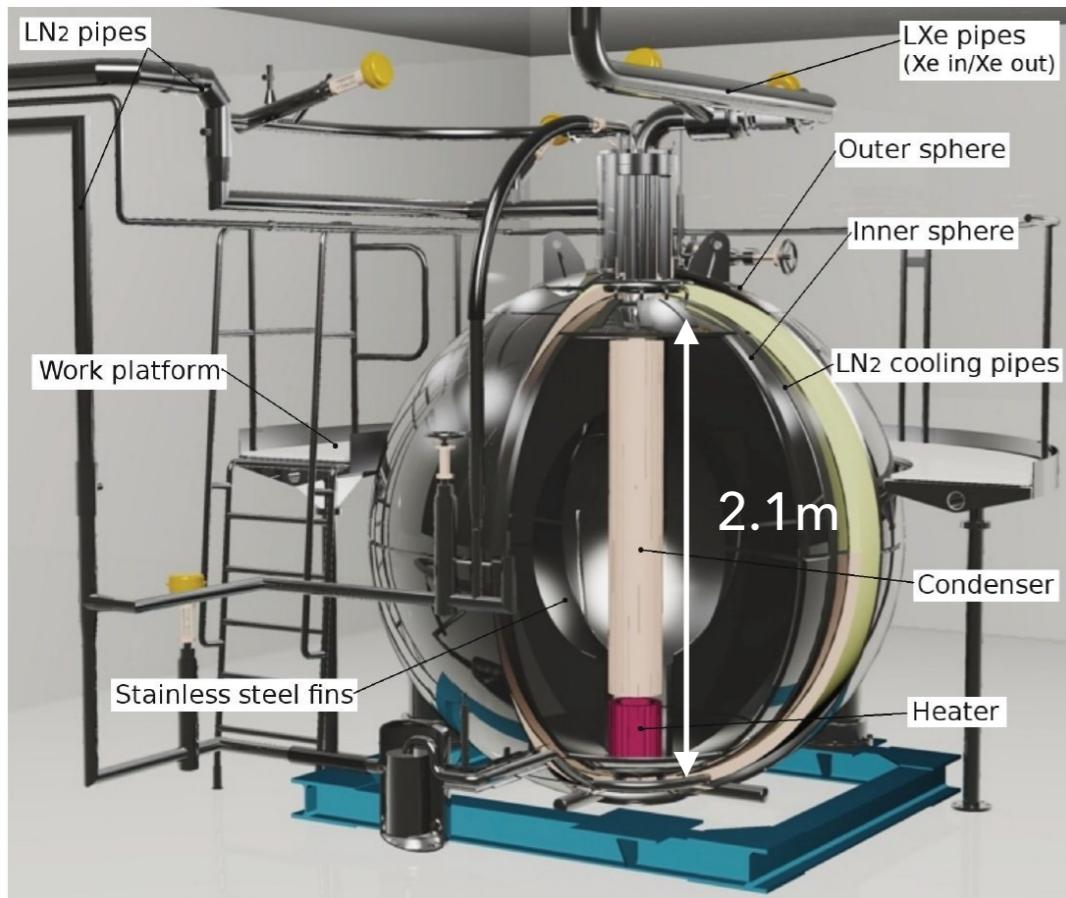
## XENONnT:

- ▶ Use the same cryogenic system:  
Expected total heat load: 275W
- ▶ Operated with a single PTR (~150W) + continuous cooling with LN2 cold heat
- ▶ Tested the stability of combined PTR/LN2 cooling in XENON1T last May

|                            | XENON1T       | XENONnT<br>Getter+Cryo |
|----------------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| Total heat load            | 150 W         | <b>~275 W</b>          |
| Vessel (static)            | ~20 W         | ~40 W                  |
| GXe/LXe purification       | ~40 W@55 SLPM | ~70 W@100 SLPM         |
| Cryogenic LXe purification | NA            | ~70 W@5000 SLPM        |
| Heat pipe loss (dynamic)   | ~85 W         | ~85 W                  |
| PMT arrays                 | 5 W           | ~10 W                  |

## ReUse XENON1T ReStoX

- ▶ Vacuum-insulated storage system with capacity of 7.6 t of Xe (gaseous, liquid or solid)
- ▶ LN2 based cooling system (35 kg / d)
- ▶ Fast recovery in case of accident/ maintenance (~50kg/h)
- ▶ Maximum pressure: 73 bar
- ▶ Fully controlled by SCS



## Additional ReStoX2

- ▶ Foam-insulated storage system with capacity of 10 t of Xe (gaseous, liquid or solid)
- ▶ Very fast recovery with Xe freezing (1t / hour)
- ▶ Maximum pressure: 71.5 bar
- ▶ LN2 consumption for recovery: ~ 8000 kg
- ▶ Construction completed
- ▶ **Already delivered to LNGS, commissioning and tests are ongoing!**





## Electronics / DAQ:

- ▶ Scale-up of DAQ frontend & trigger:  
→ only minor modifications required
- ▶ further parallelization to read out more than double number of channels
- ▶ expand online waveform analysis to reduce data amount
- ▶ **New custom-made PMT amplifiers allow for a (low gain) second readout of the bottom PMT array for  $0\nu\beta\beta$  of  $^{136}\text{Xe}$**
- ▶ all hardware in place, ordered or under construction (amps)

## Computing:

- ▶ Same computing/processing framework as XENON1T <https://github.com/XENON1T>
- ▶ Scalable: based on OSG/EGI resources and LHC-developed data management
- ▶ Improvements in structures and procedures
- ▶ Extra storage under procurement

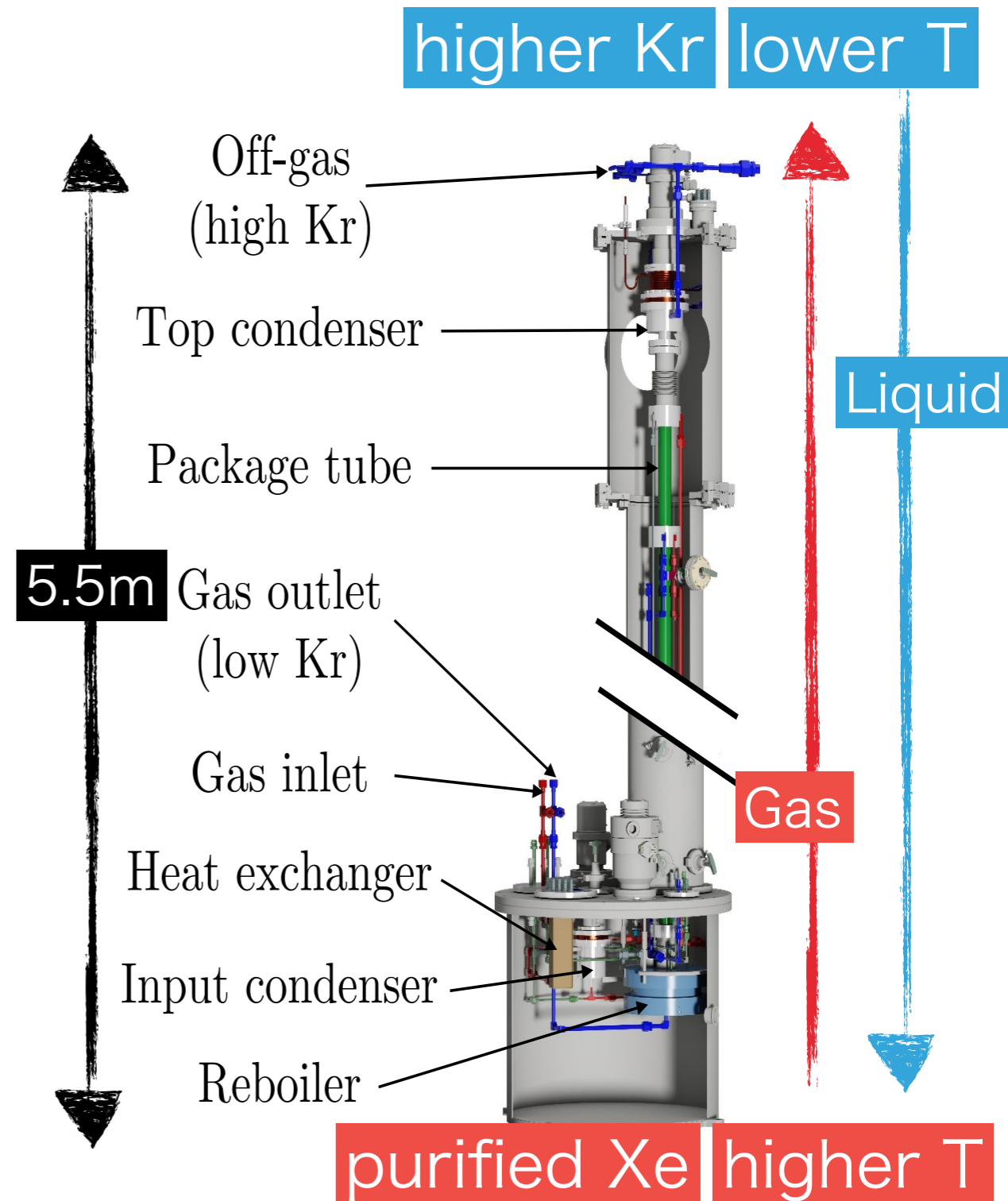
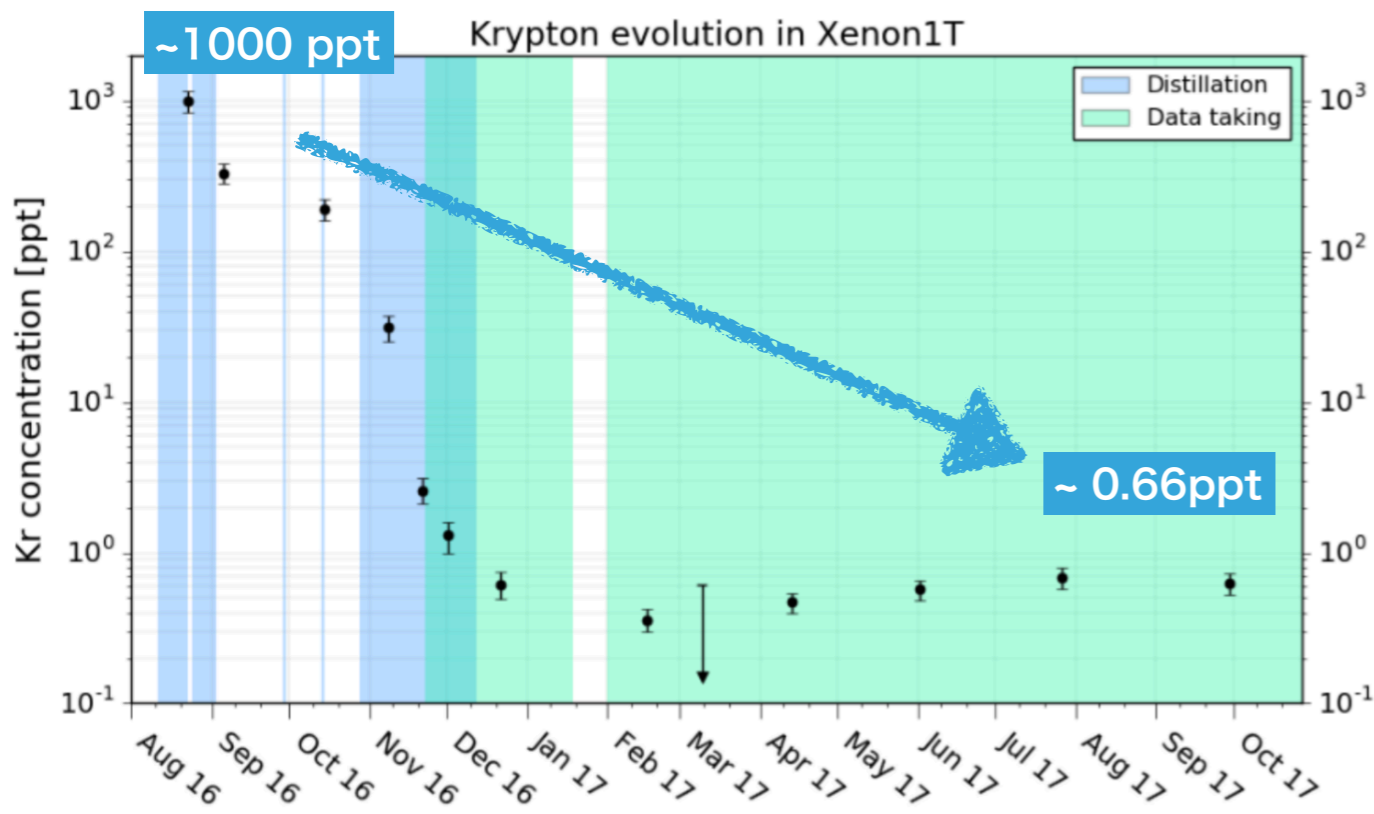
## Slow Control:

- ▶ Same GE/SCADA -based framework as extensively tested with XENON1T
- ▶ Extend to new systems (RESTOX2, LXePUR, Neutron Veto, etc.)

# SYSTEMS REUSED: KR DISTILLATION COLUMN

## XENON1T

- ▶ Commercial Xe: 1 ppm - 10 ppb <sup>nat</sup>Kr,
- ▶ <sup>85</sup>Kr is unstable ( $T_{1/2} = 10.8$  y, Q-value = 687 keV)
- ▶ Solution: 5.5 m cryogenic distillation column
- ▶ Utilizes different vapor pressure:
  - Kr: 20900 mbar@178K, Xe: 2010 mbar@178K
- ▶ Feeding flow rate: 8.3 SLPM (3kg/h)
  - Thermodynamically stable up to 18 SLPM (6.5 kg/h)
- ▶ Measured separation:  $6.4 \times 10^5$  @8.3 SLPM, < 48 ppq (RGMS)

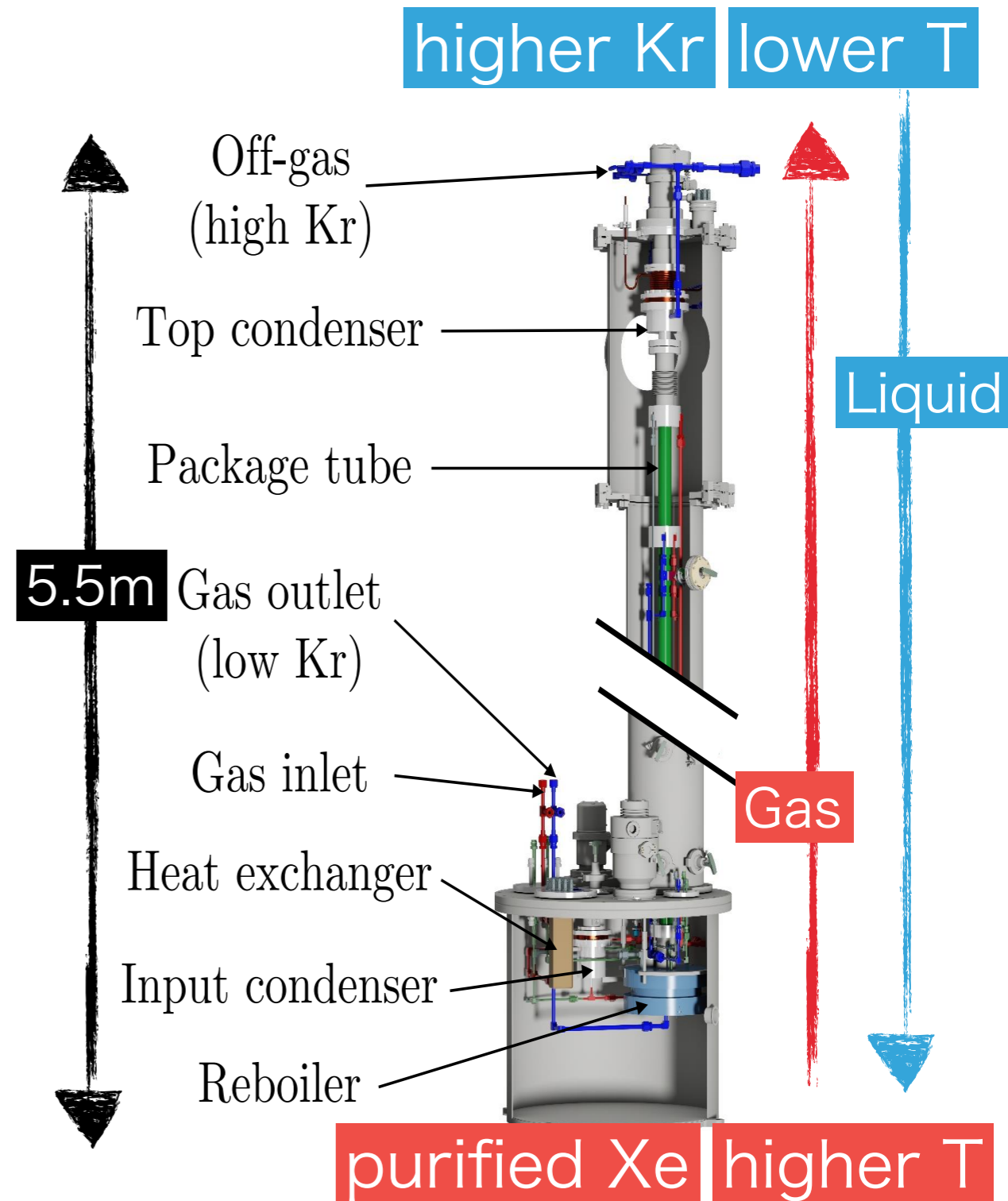




# SYSTEMS REUSED: KR DISTILLATION COLUMN

## XENONnT

- ▶ use the same column
- ▶ pre-distilled 8 t of gas. Distillation campaign will start at Jan. 2019
- ▶ will start run with ~ 0.2ppt (XENON1T: 0.66ppt)
- ▶ improve only by a factor 10 (small!), down to 20 ppq.
- ▶ Column has been shown to reach  $\text{natKr/Xe} < 26 \text{ ppq}$  (90% CL)



## Type I sources

- ▶ Emanation of Rn inside the TPC + Cryostat: ~19% (1)
- ▶ can only be diluted by fast recirculation with pass through Rn removal system

## Type II sources

- ▶ Emanation of Rn outside the TPC
- ▶ can be fully removed by extraction of GXe and pass through efficient Rn removal system

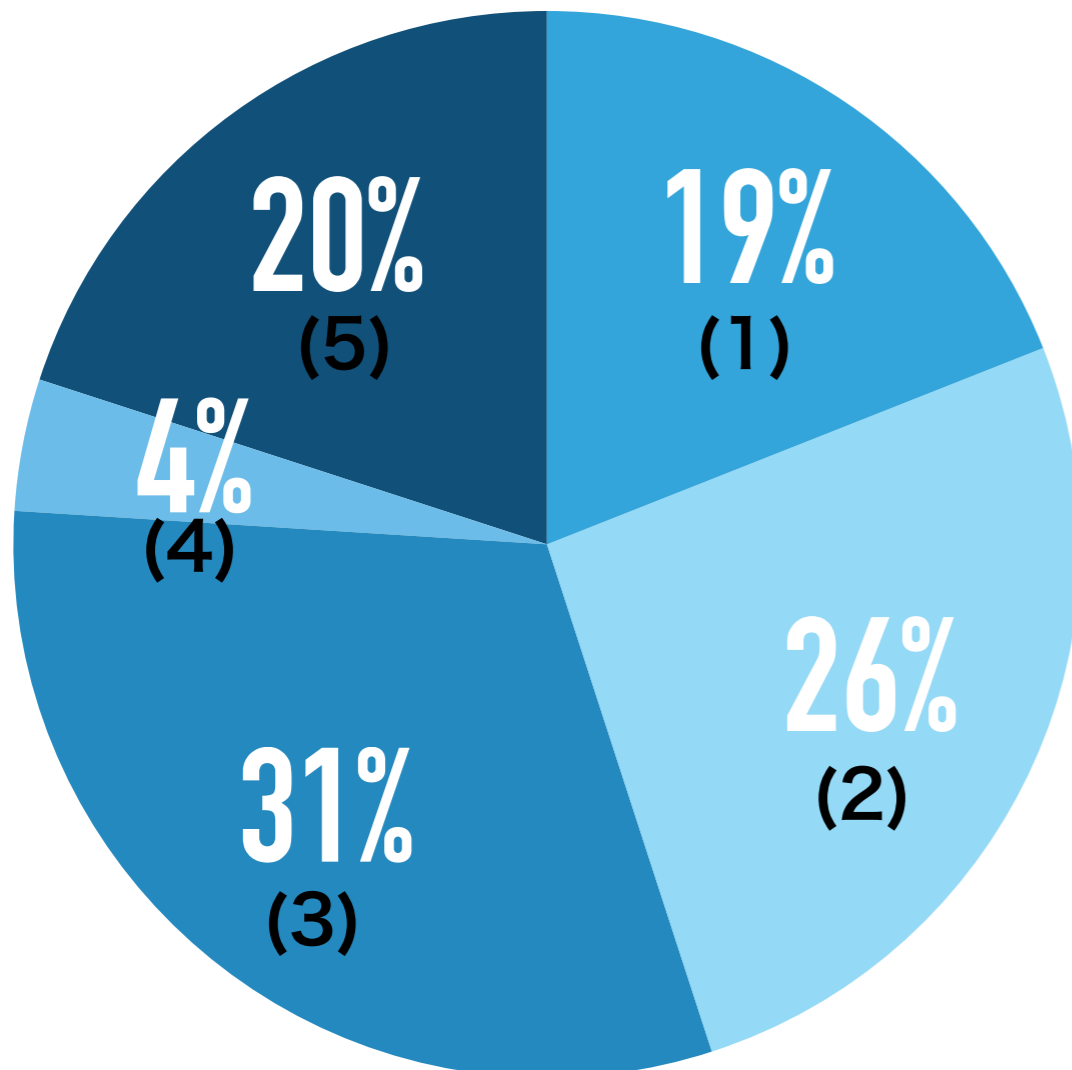
(2) Cryopipe (LXe transfer line)

(3) QDrive pump

(4) Hot getter

(5) Pipes + Cables

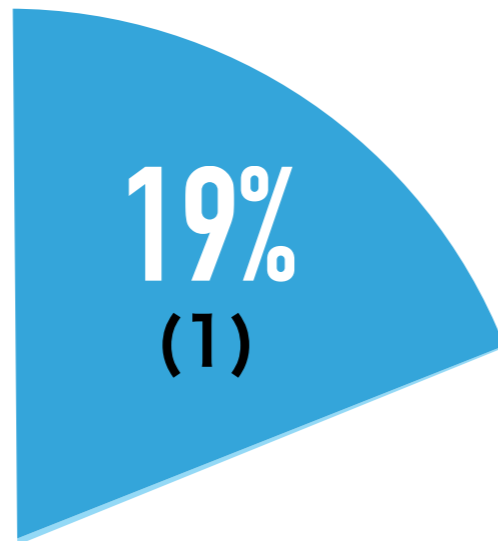
- ▶ Total Type I+II: ~10  $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$





## Type I sources

- ▶ Emanation of Rn inside the TPC & inner cryostat: ~19% (1)
- ▶ **Dilution factor:** Rn lifetime (5.5 d) / recirculation time
- ▶ Factor 2 reduction requires flow of 170 slpm in 5.5d (= 8 t / 5.5d = 60 kg/h = 170 SLPM)



## Type II sources

- ▶ Emanation of Rn outside the TPC
- ▶ can be fully removed by extraction of GXe and pass through efficient Rn removal system (See details later)

(2) Cryopipe (LXe transfer line)

(3) QDrive pump ← **Can be removed by pump exchange**

(4) Hot getter

(5) Pipes + Cables

- ▶ **Total Type I+II: ~1  $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$**

**Plus:** aiming at additional reduction of Rn background by material screening / selection and surface treatments.

## Goals

- ▶ Increase mass flow to 120 slpm (12 g/s) to
  - improve electron lifetime
  - reduce Rn background from type I sources with Rn removal column

## Improvements

- ▶ Replace QDrive by new magnetic piston pump
- ▶ Enlarge tube diameter
- ▶ Use higher flow getter filters
- ▶ Tested on 1T:
  - Flow: 75 slpm (54 slpm with 3 Q-drive)
  - Inlet pressure: 1.6 bar, compression: 1.5 bar
  - Could remove type II Rn source from QDrive circulation pump
- ▶ nT: Increase flow to 120 slpm with pre-charging of magnetic piston pump using QDrive

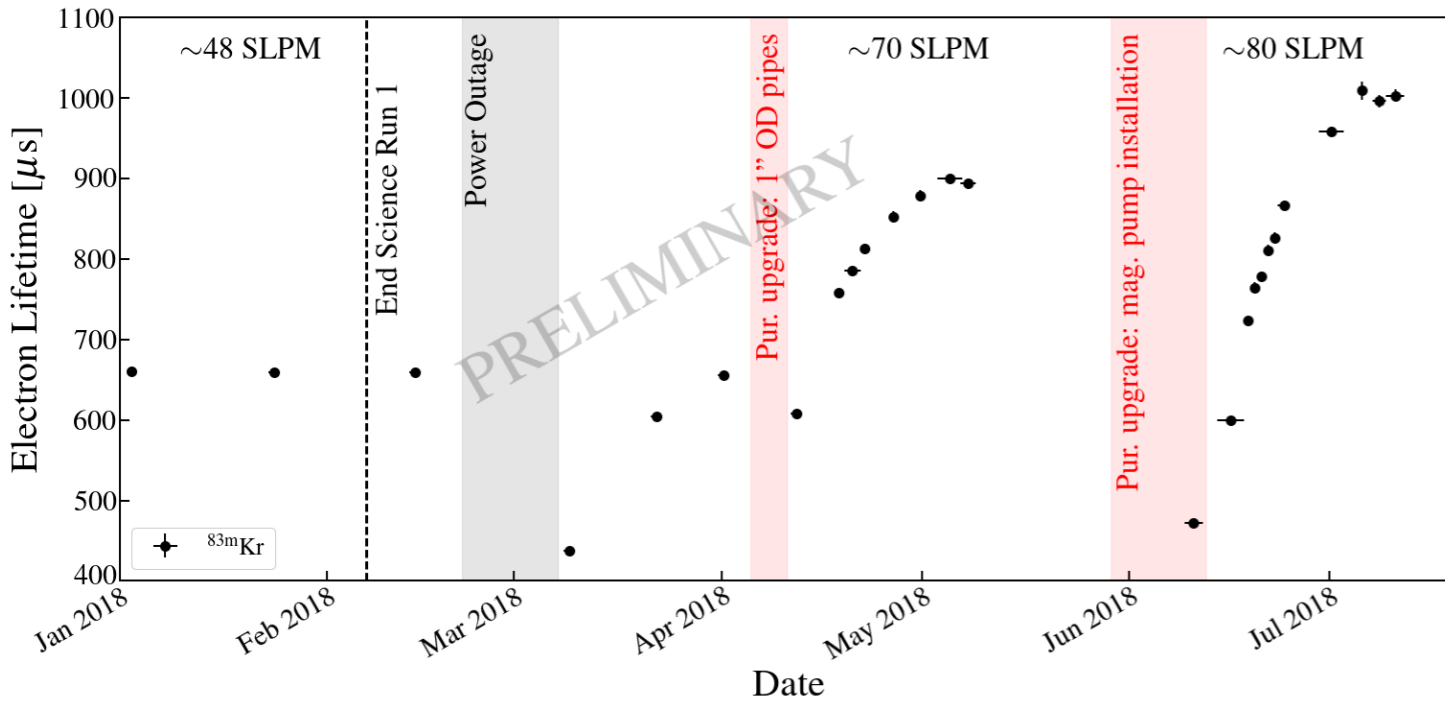
QDrive



Magnetic Piston Pump



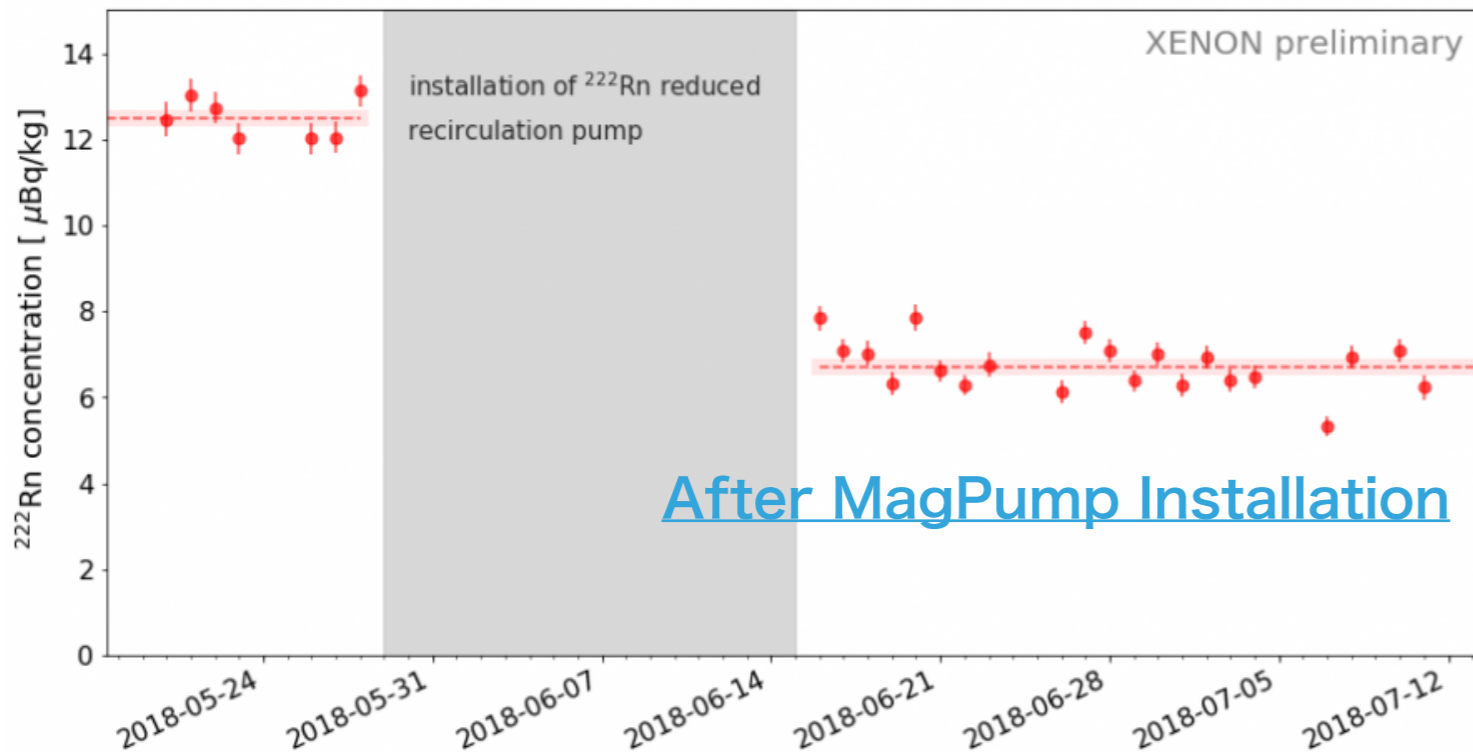
## Electron lifetime



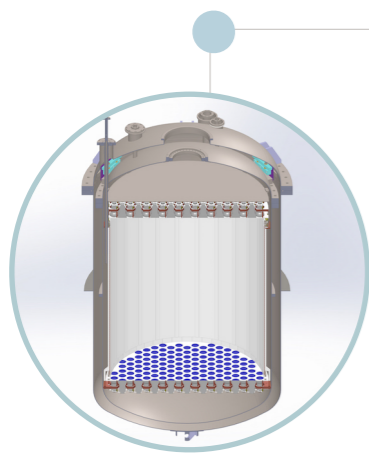
- ▶ Now electron lifetime reaches  $\sim 1$  ms
- ▶ Magnetically-coupled piston pump reduces 45% of Radon BG w.r.t SR1

| Period    | Conc. [ $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$ ] |
|-----------|-----------------------------|
| SR1       | $11.8 \pm 0.2$              |
| + MagPump | $6.3 \pm 0.1$               |

## $^{222}\text{Rn}$ concentration

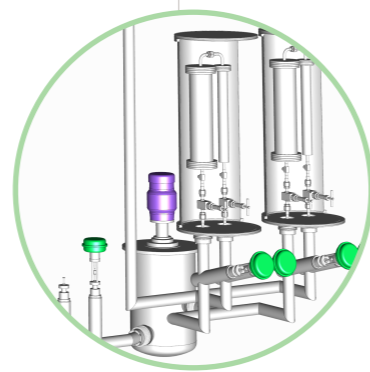






## New TPC

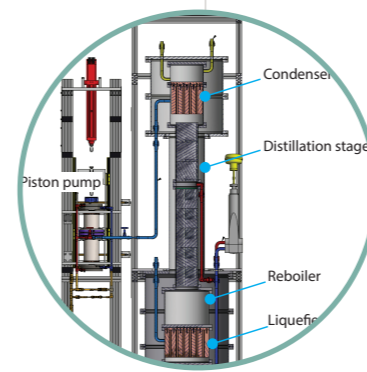
5.9-ton Time Projection Chamber



## LXe Purification

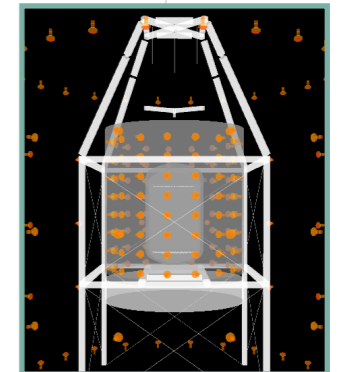
To achieve fast cleaning of the large LXe volume (> 5L/min LXe, 2500 SLPM)

↕  
GXe purification (120 SLPM)



## Radon Distillation

To online remove the  $^{222}\text{Rn}$  emanated inside the detector



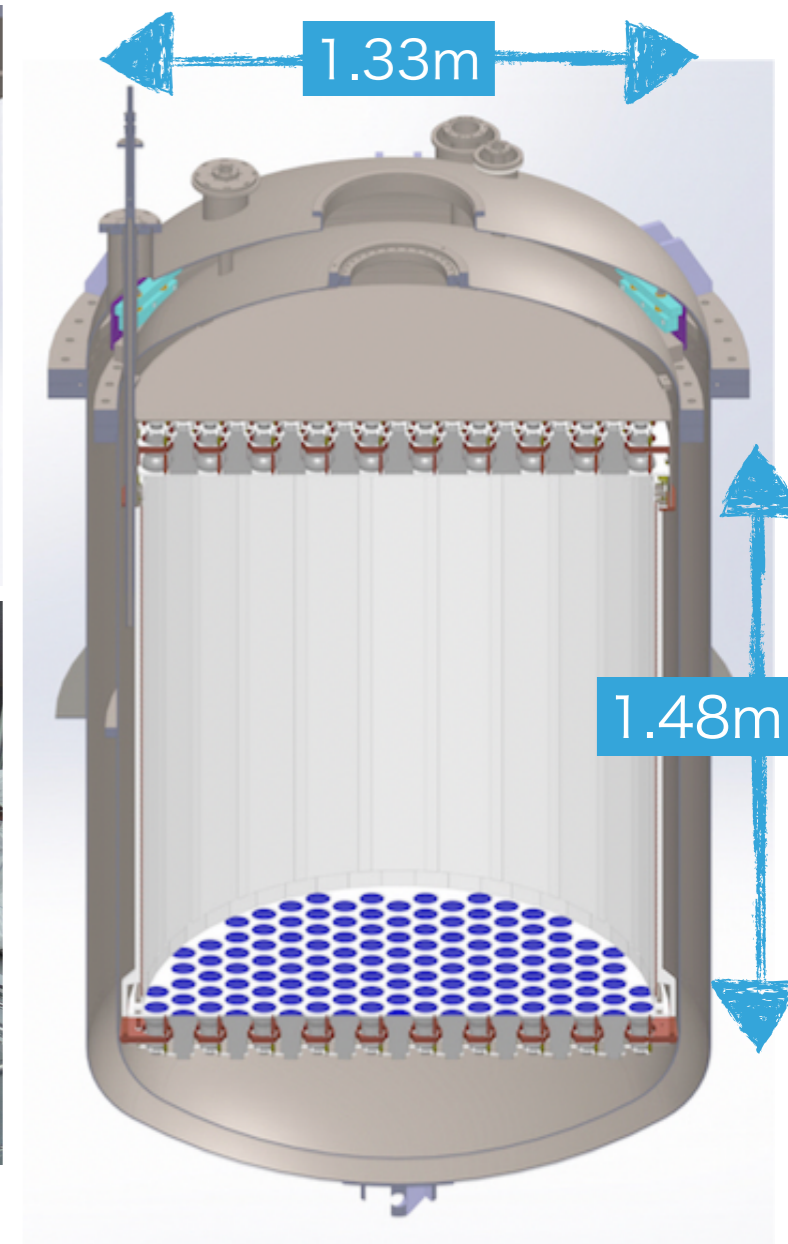
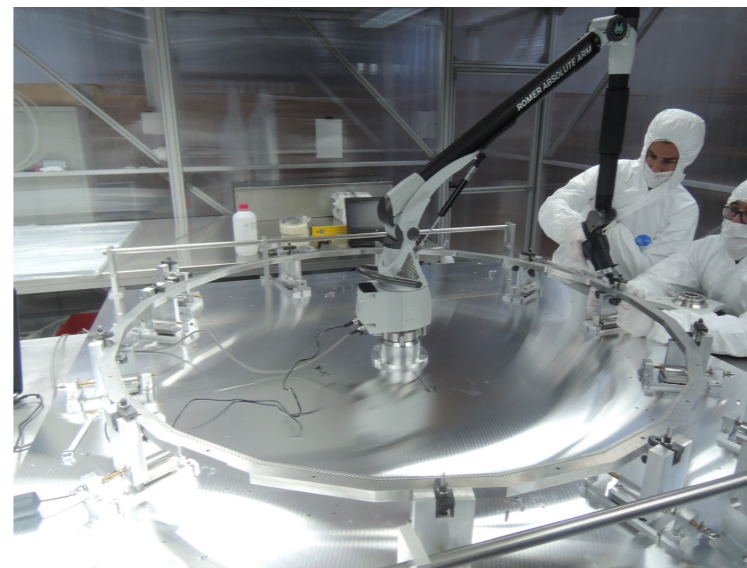
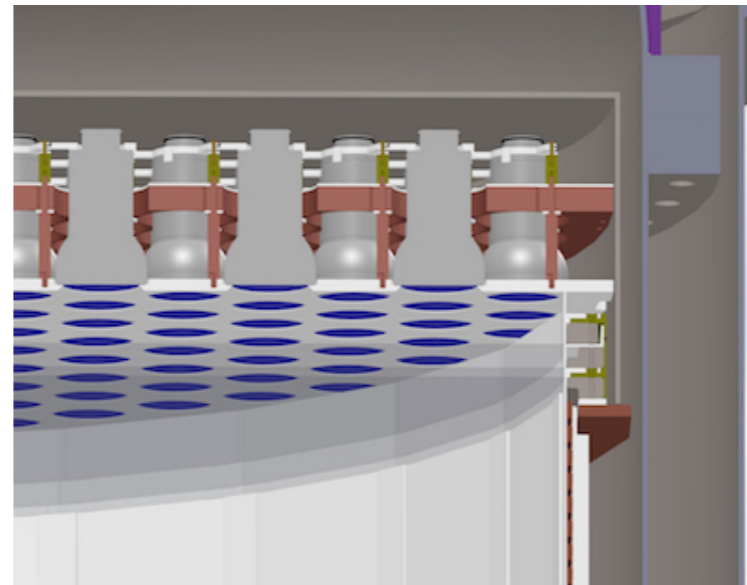
## Neutron Veto

To tag and measure in situ neutron-induced background

Gd-loaded Water Cherenkov detector

# NEW SYSTEM: TPC

- ▶ TPC size maximized to fit XENON1T outer cryostat
- ▶ same holding structure and leveling mechanism as 1T TPC
- ▶ technical design and FEM largely completed → mockup components being tested (electrodes, TPC structure, PMT support, ...)
- ▶ optimized for low material budget (PTFE thickness minimized) and reduction of wall charge-up.
- ▶ Design drift field strength reduced to more moderate values, requiring only 30kV on cathode
- ▶ All TPC electrodes made from single wires



|                         |             |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| Target Mass             | 5.9t (cold) |
| # of PMTs in top        | 253         |
| # of PMTs in bottom     | 241         |
| Design drift field      | 200V/cm     |
| Design extraction field | 8kV/cm      |



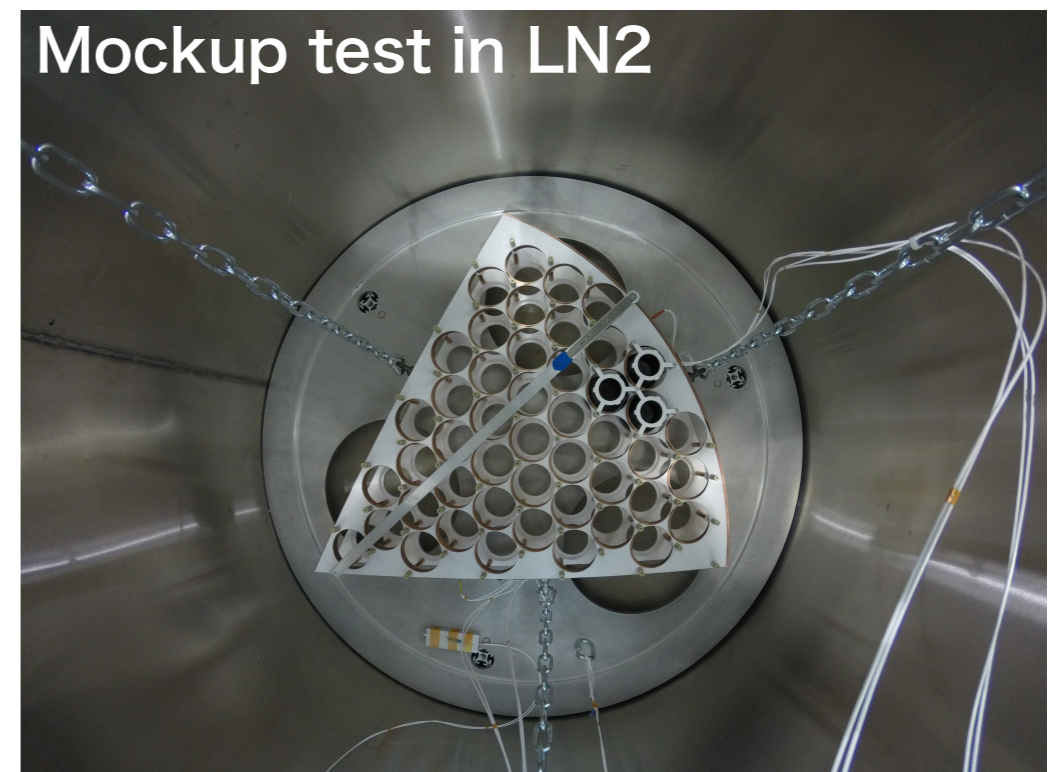
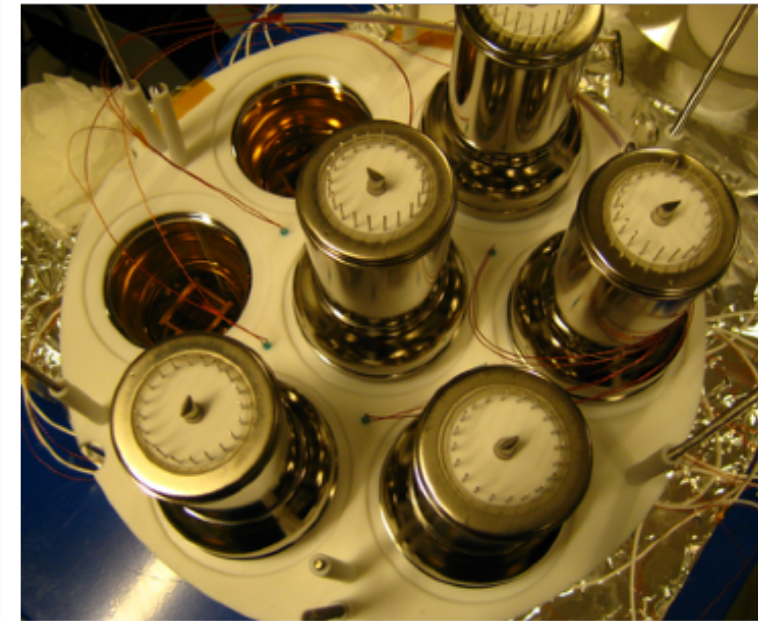
## PMT(R11410-21):

- ▶ Each array contains 253 PMTs (top) and 241 (bottom), ~90% of XENON1T PMTs reused
- ▶ Initial problems of some 1T PMT production batches (vacuum leak) now under control
- ▶ All PMTs are under test in LXe facilities.

## PMT Arrays:

- ▶ accommodate a thermal shrinkage of ~1cm at the edges of the array;
- ▶ allow maximum photo-cathodic area; minimize the PTFE wrt XENON1T design;
- ▶ not exert direct force on PMT quartz-cover sealing;
- ▶ ensure flatness of the PMT arrays (below 0.7mm deflection) under any circumstances (both during assembly and with the strong buoyancy from LXe)
- ▶ Design successfully tested with a slice mockup
  - Behaved as expected through full thermal cycle down to -95C.

## LXe test facilities

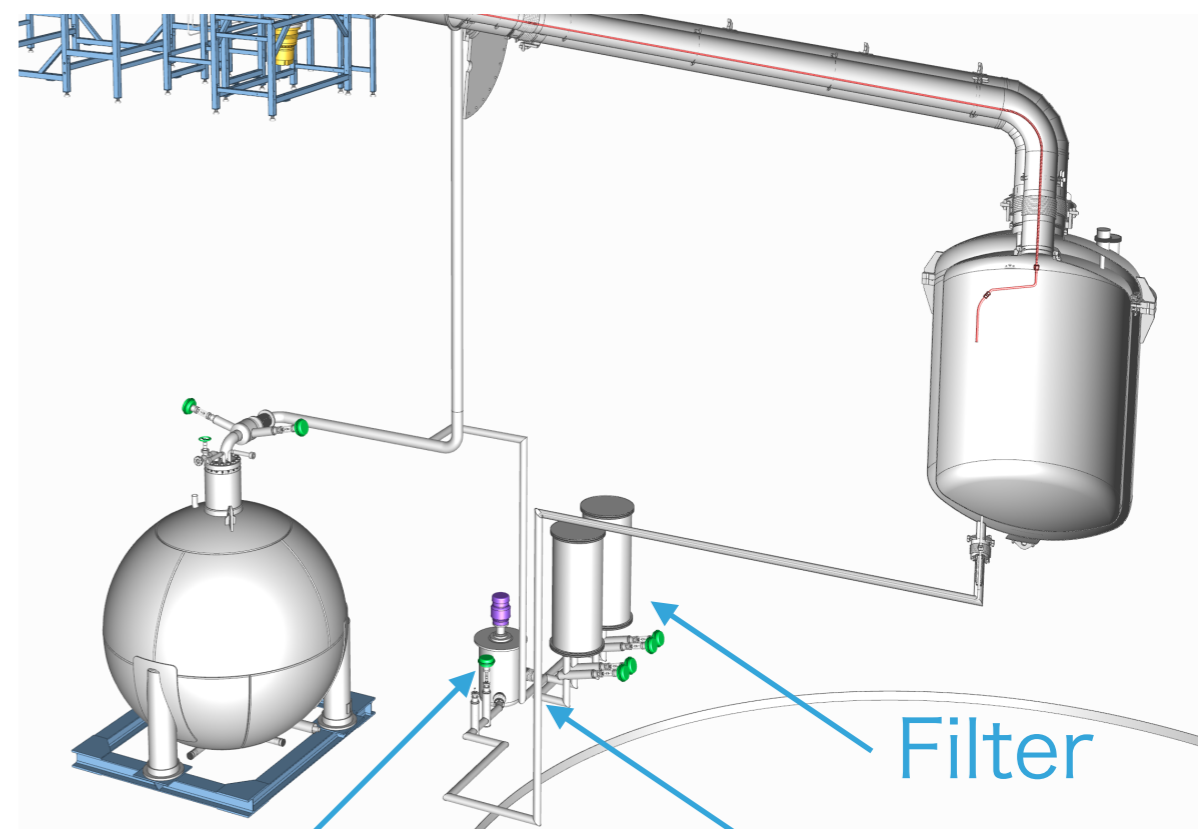




# NEW SYSTEM: LIQUID XENON PURIFICATION

20

- ▶ Planned recirculation flow
  - >5 L/min (LXe) (> 2500 slpm GXe)
- ▶ Capability to reduce  $O_2 \ll 1$  ppb
- ▶ 2 redundant commercially-available cryogenic liquid pumps (Barber- Nichols)
- ▶ Two custom-developed, regenerable, cryogenic filters ( $2Cu + O_2 \rightarrow 2CuO$ )
- ▶ Installed inside independent vacuum-insulated enclosures for maintenance
- ▶ Capability to rapidly measure electron lifetime (tens of seconds) with purity monitor
- ▶ Optimization of filter material and measurements of LXe purity ongoing
- ▶ Installation will start at 2019 Feb



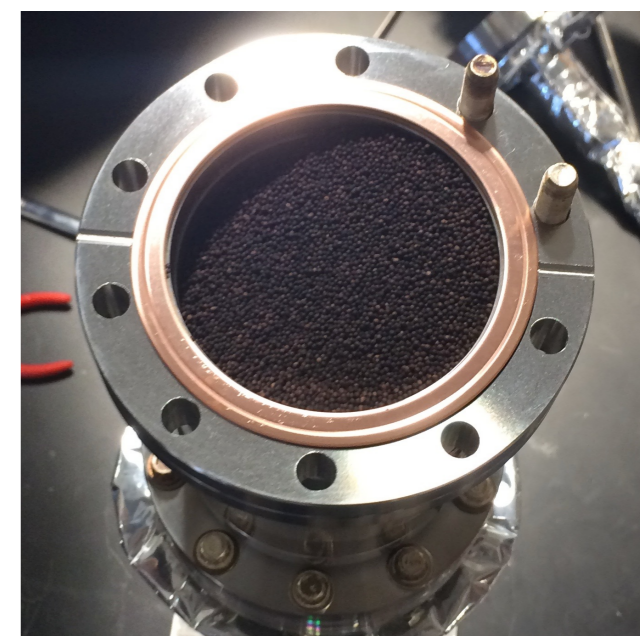
Liquid pump

Purity monitor

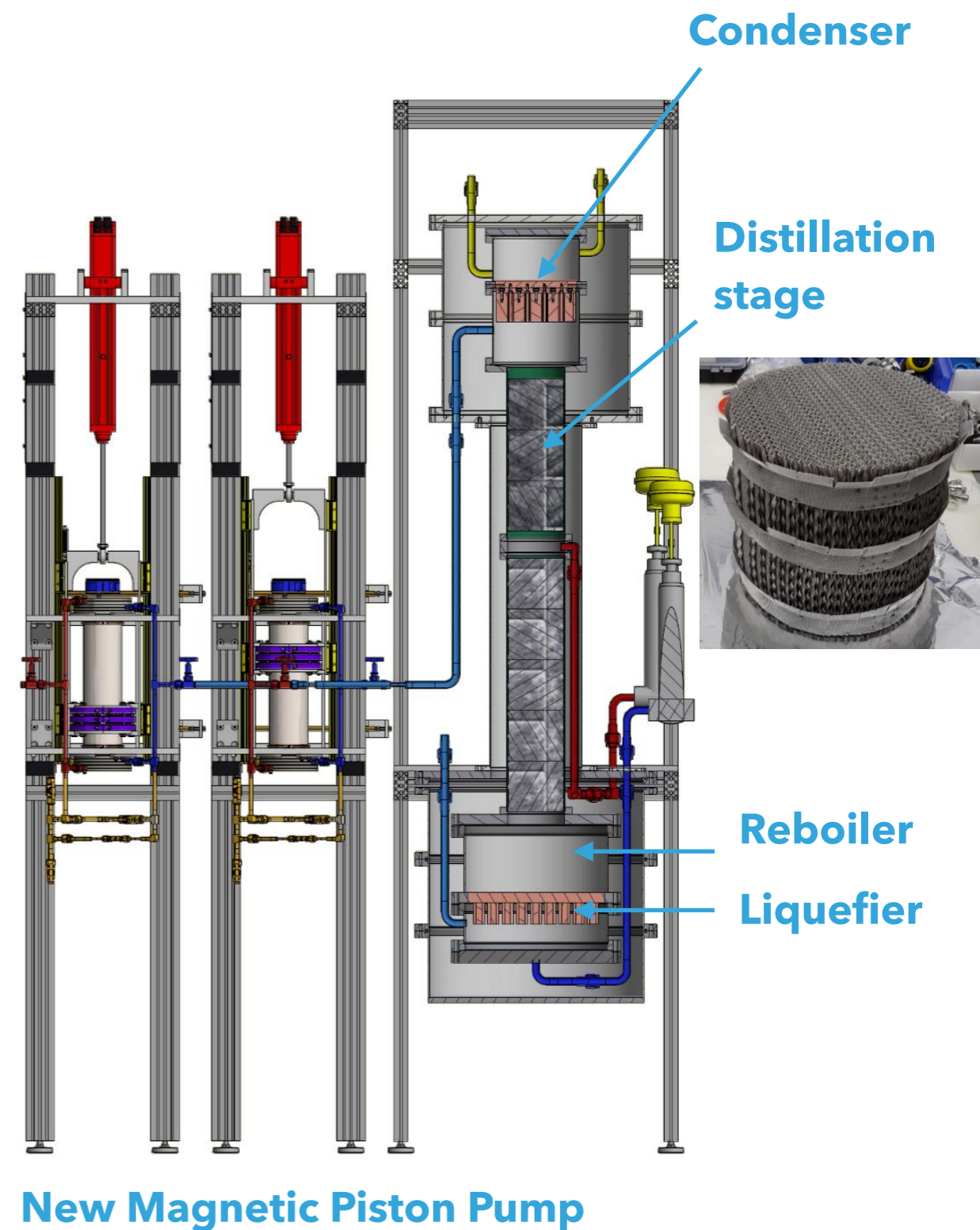
Purity monitor



Alumina pellets with Cu



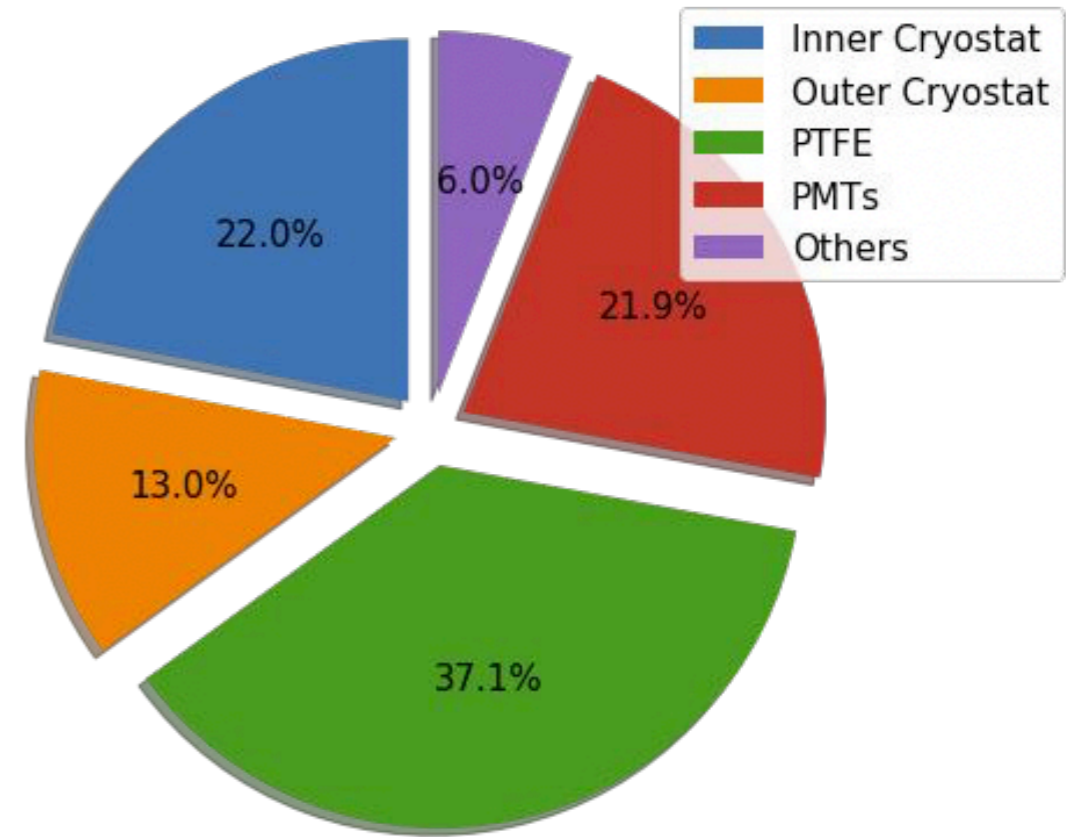
- ▶ Cryogenic distillation: remove  $^{222}\text{Rn}$  from Xe “off-gas” (fed to TPC) and store in liquefier Rn-enriched Xe.
  - most Rn emanated from the gas system and pipes (type II sources) can be stored away long enough for it to decay (5.5 d lifetime).
- ▶ Need enrichment factor of at least  $\sim 100$  not to remove too much Xe from the TPC.
- ▶ Tested Kr-column in reverse mode with XENON100 and XENON1T (3 slpm, not optimized):
  - Rn concentration@XENON1T  $\sim 4 \mu\text{Bq/kg}$
  - Reduction by 65 % w.r.t SR1 (factor 2.7) together with magnetic piston pump
- ▶ Built optimized Rn column for high throughput ( $> 200$  slpm).
- ▶ Upgradable to 400 – 600 slpm (for type I Rn dilution of factors 3-4).





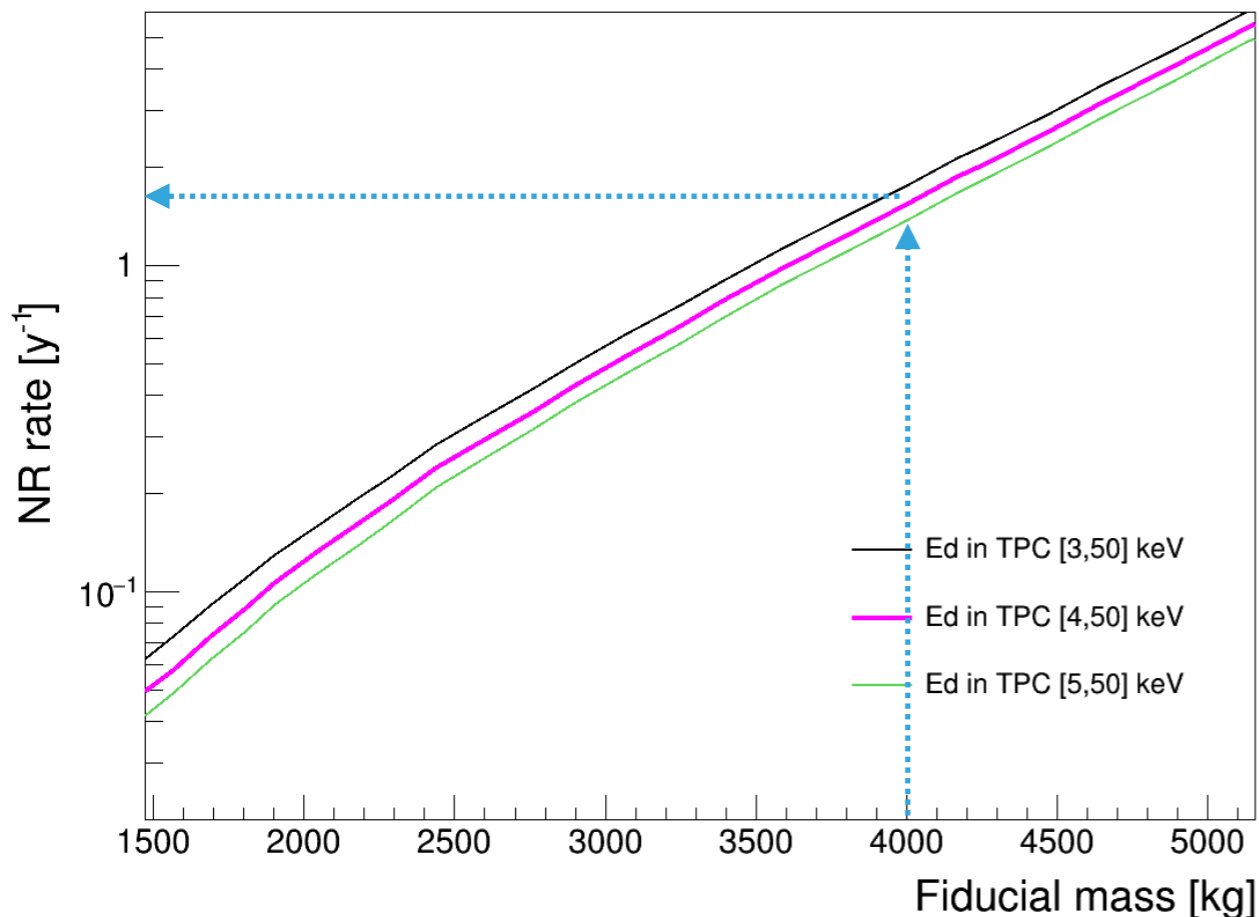
# NEW SYSTEM: NEUTRON VETO

- ▶ NR becomes dominant background once Rn is removed as planned:
- ▶ Raw materials under procurement and screening ongoing
- ▶ PRELIMINARY estimate:
  - $1.8 \pm 0.4$  NR events / yr in [4-50] keVr in 4 t FV without neutron veto, dominated by PTFE



## Active neutron veto

- ▶ For best DM discovery potential, aim at neutron tagging efficiency > 80%
- ▶ Helps modeling neutron background
- ▶ Check efficiency with neutron generator/<sup>241</sup>AmBe



# NEW SYSTEM: NEUTRON VETO

We have investigated different options:

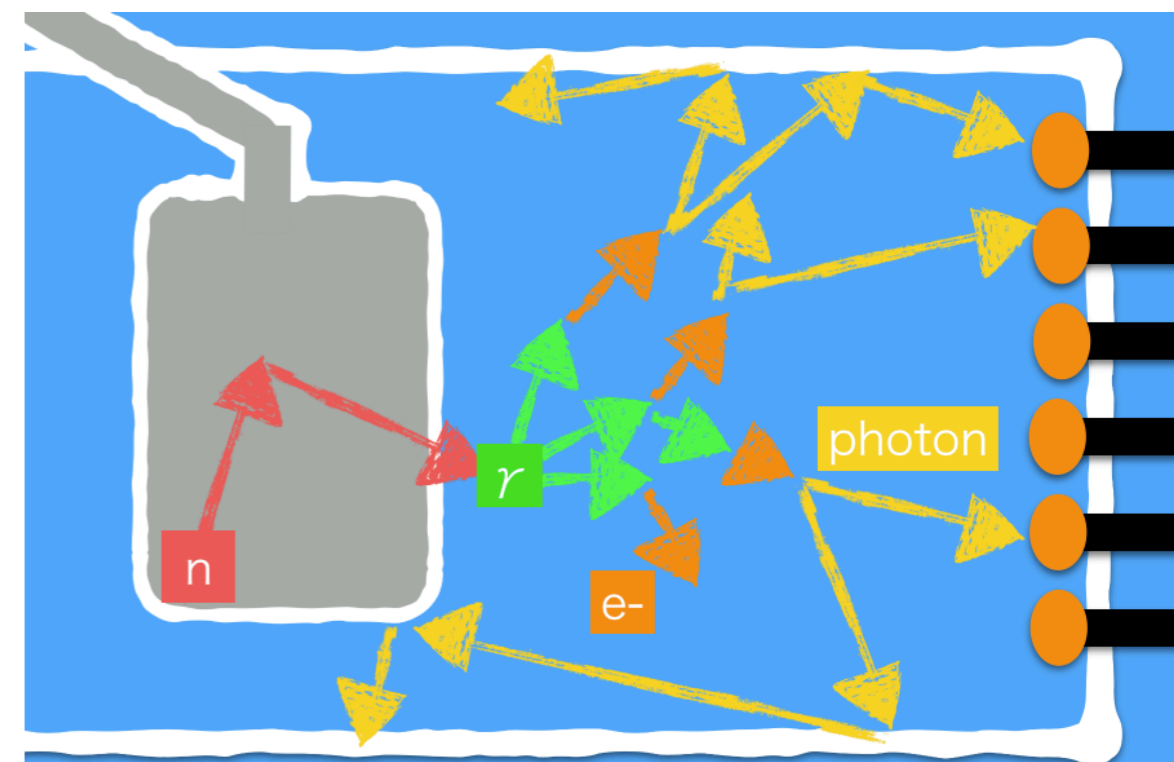
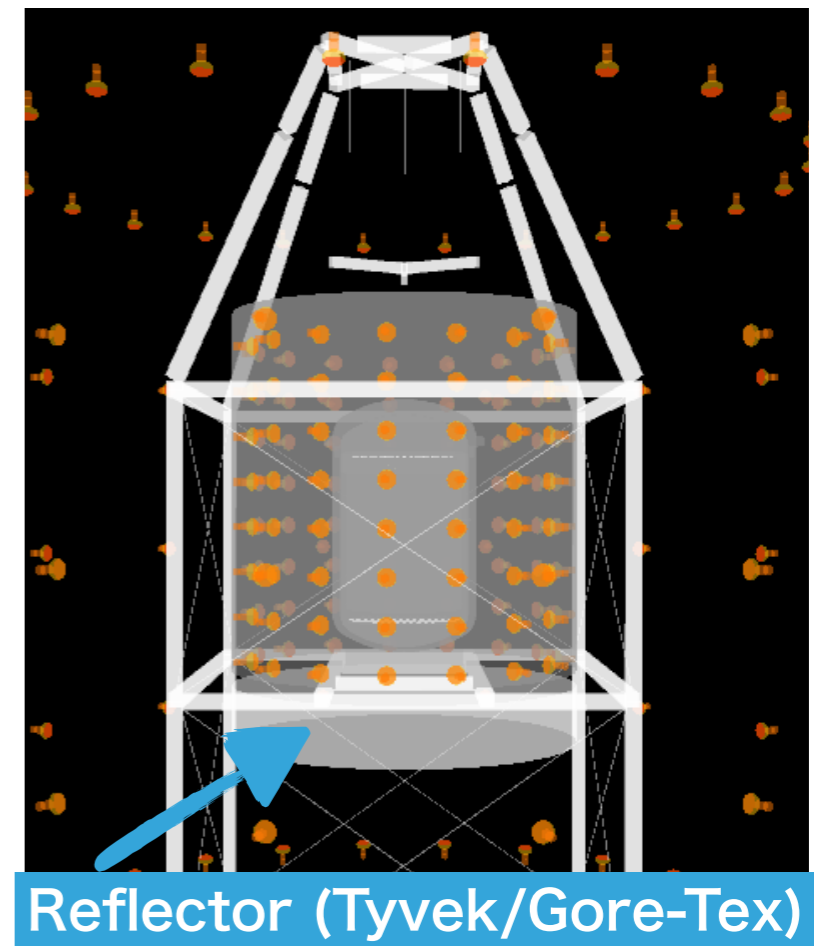
- ▶ Gd loaded LS (STEREO, DC, Daya-Bay, ...)
- ▶ Gd Loaded plastic scintillator
- ▶ Gd loaded water (EGADS, SuperK-Gd,...)

Feasible, mature, safe, affordable, schedule,

→ We chose Gd loaded water!

Cherenkov light from Compton electrons of gamma-rays (8MeV) cascade from n-Capture

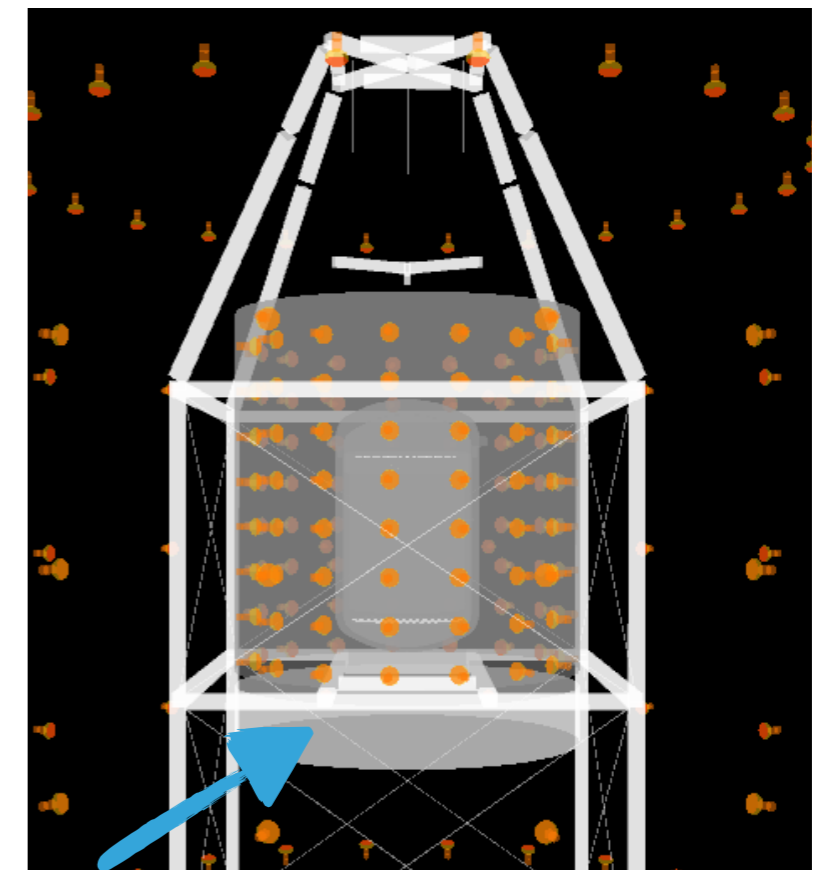
- ▶ Add 0.5% of  $Gd_2(SO_4)_3 \cdot 8H_2O$  in XENON water tank
  - > 90% of neutrons captured in Gd
- ▶ 120 extra PMTs (8-inch R5912, same as for XENON1T muon veto)
- ▶ Add inner high light-yield volume, optically separated from MV (Tyveck/Gore-Tex reflector)
  - Shielded from external radioactivity



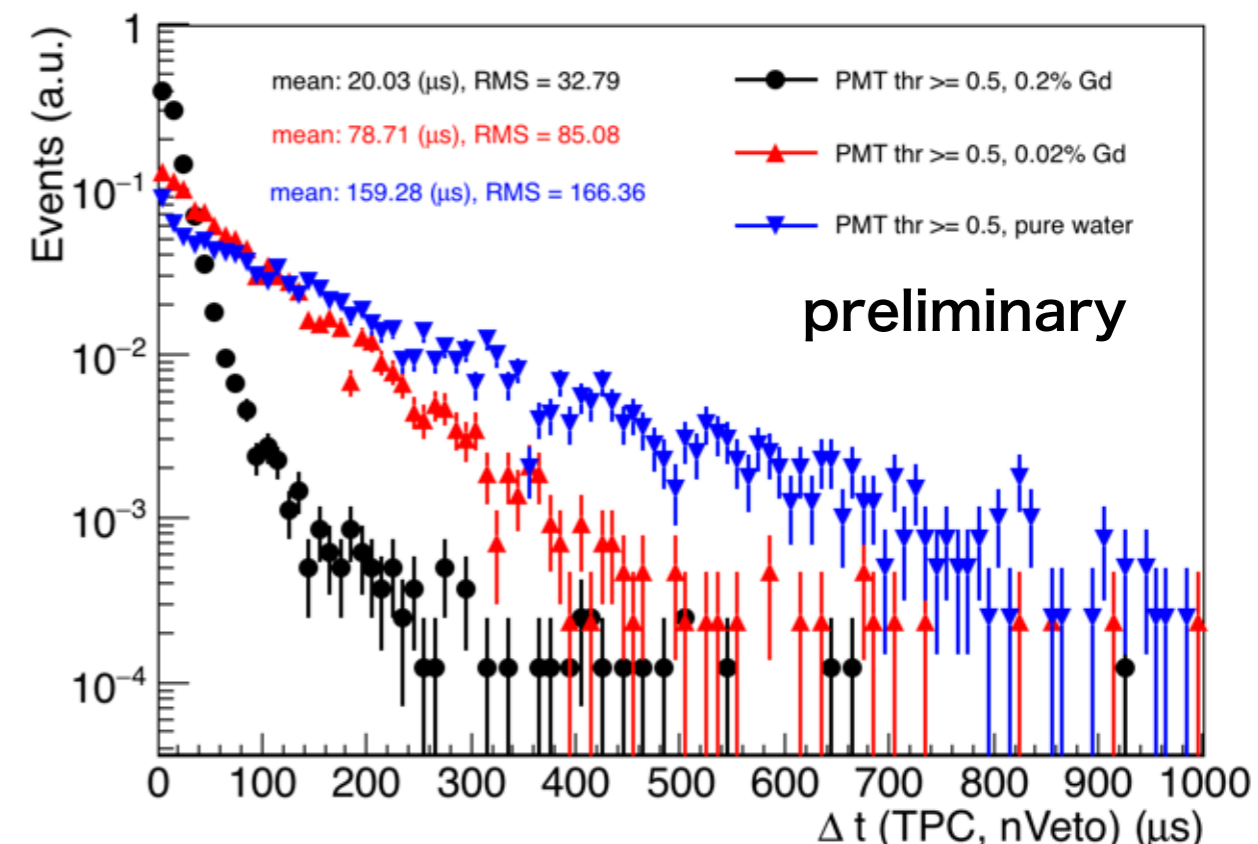
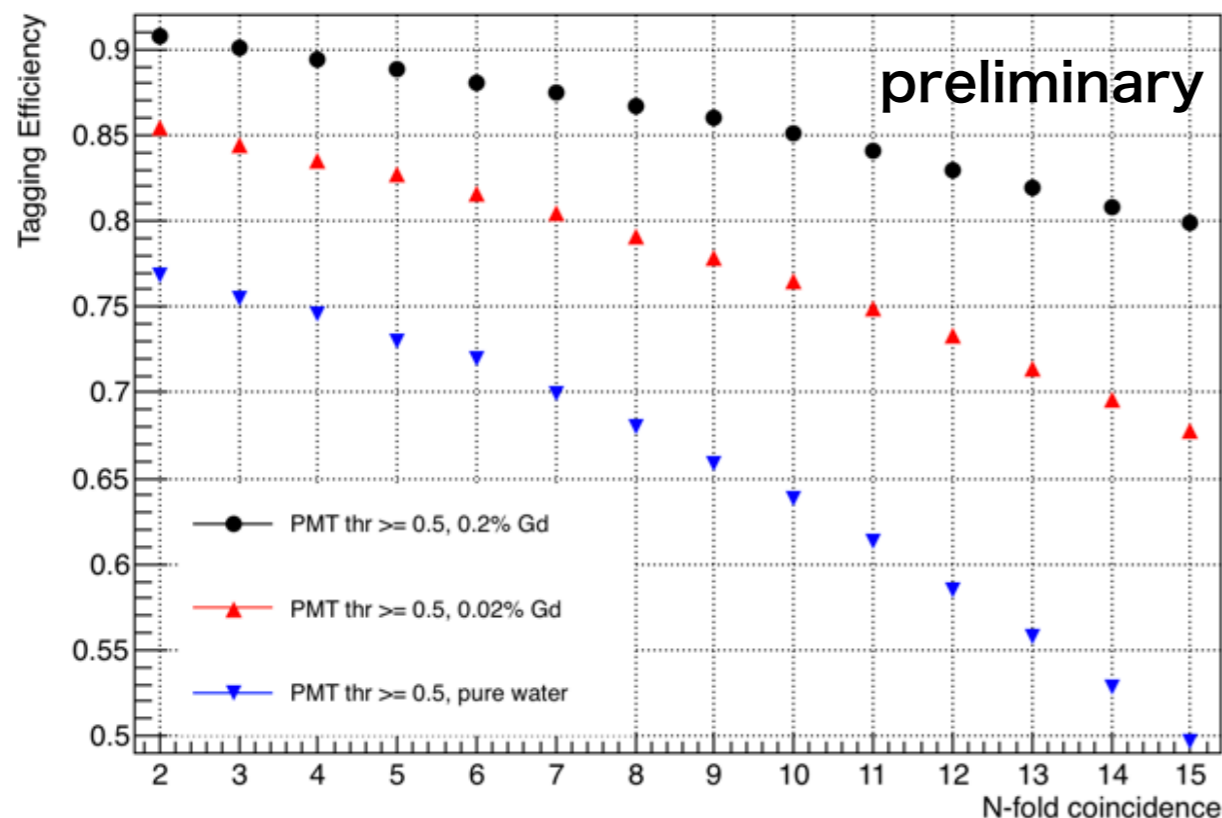


# NEW SYSTEM: NEUTRON VETO

- ▶ Established technology @ EGADS (= Test facility for SK-Gd)
- ▶ Veto efficiency comparable to the LS-Gd (~80%) achievable with highly reflective reflector (Tyvek/Gore-Tex)
- ▶ All Gd relevant components are external to tank
- ▶ XENONnT will start with pure water
  - check TPC performance, cryostat leakage, ...
  - does not delay the overall XENONnT schedule
- ▶ minimal obstruction for calibration sources
- ▶ no gap in azimuthal coverage of the n-veto



Reflector (Tyvek/Gore-Tex)



## XENONnT schedule:

- ▶ Construction already started in 2018
- ▶ XENON1T still running well with improved background
  - keep operational throughout 2018 for science data and testing
  - Rn concentration@XENON1T of  $\sim 4 \mu\text{Bq/kg}$  has been achieved
  - Achieved energy resolution of  $\sim 1\%$  ( $\sigma$ ) at Q-value of  $0\nu\beta\beta$  of  $^{136}\text{Xe}$
  - Will test  $^{37}\text{Ar}$  source for low-energy ER calibration
- ▶ Commissioning of XENONnT will start at 2019 Summer

