

Results and Prospects of KamLAND-Zen

The 2023 Fall Meeting of the Division of Nuclear Physics of the
American Physical Society and Physical Society of Japan
Neutrinoless Double-Beta Decay Workshop

December 1, 2023

Itaru Shimizu (Tohoku University)

KamLAND-Zen Collaboration

~50 physicists work on this project



Collaboration meeting in September, 2023



KamLAND-Zen

Zero Neutrino Double Beta

Kamioka underground
KamLAND detector

2-type of liquid scintillator

1000-ton pure
liquid scintillator

U, Th $< 10^{-17}$ g/g

745 kg Xe-loaded
liquid scintillator
(91% enrichment)

inner balloon (IB)

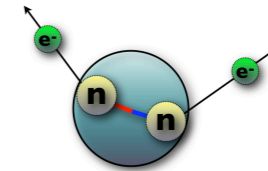
2002– KamLAND

reactor, geo, solar neutrino observation



2011– KamLAND-Zen

double beta decay measurement ($0\nu\beta\beta$ search)



2019– Xe increase, cleaner balloon

Advanced neutrino research utilizing
ultra-low background environment

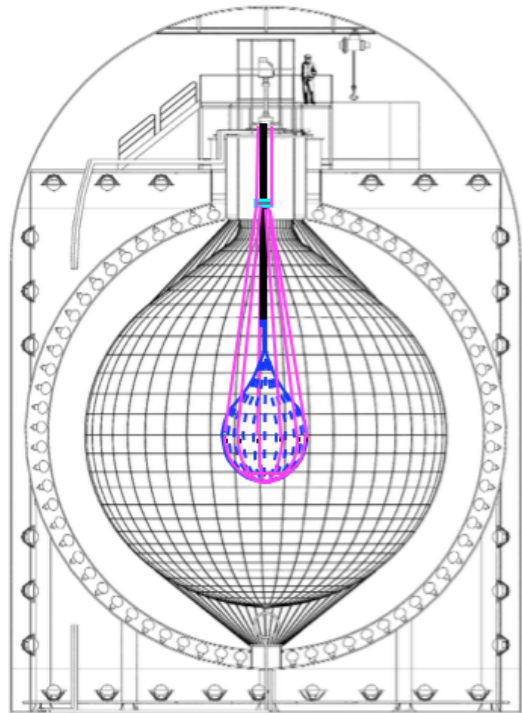
Why Xe?

- 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

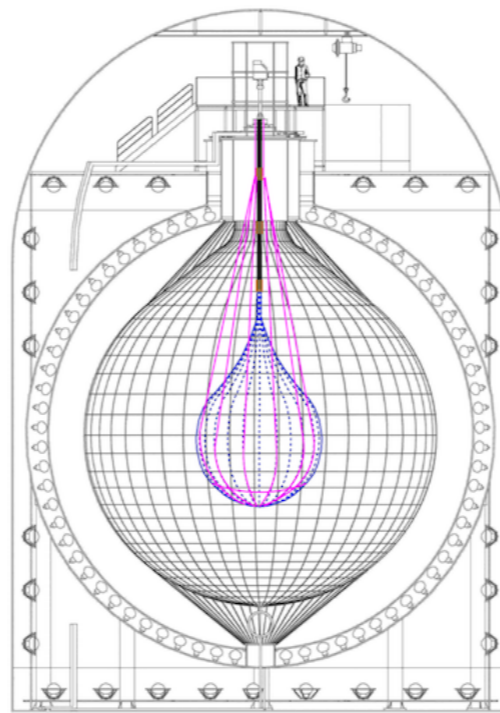
competing exp.	Xe
EXO-200	200 kg
KamLAND-Zen	745 kg
largest amount of ^{136}Xe !!	

Upgrade of KamLAND-Zen

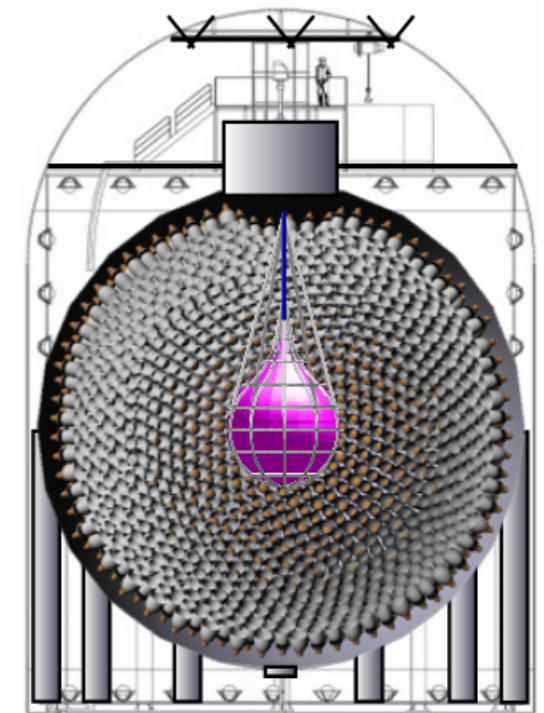
Past



Present



Future



KamLAND-Zen 400

Nylon balloon R 1.54 m

Xenon 320 – 380 kg

world top performance

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

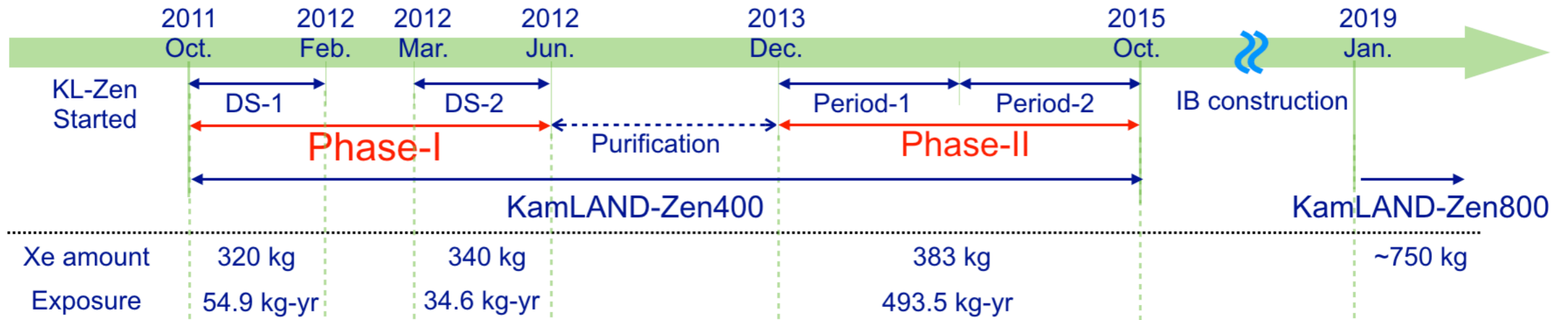
KamLAND2-Zen

Xenon 1 ton

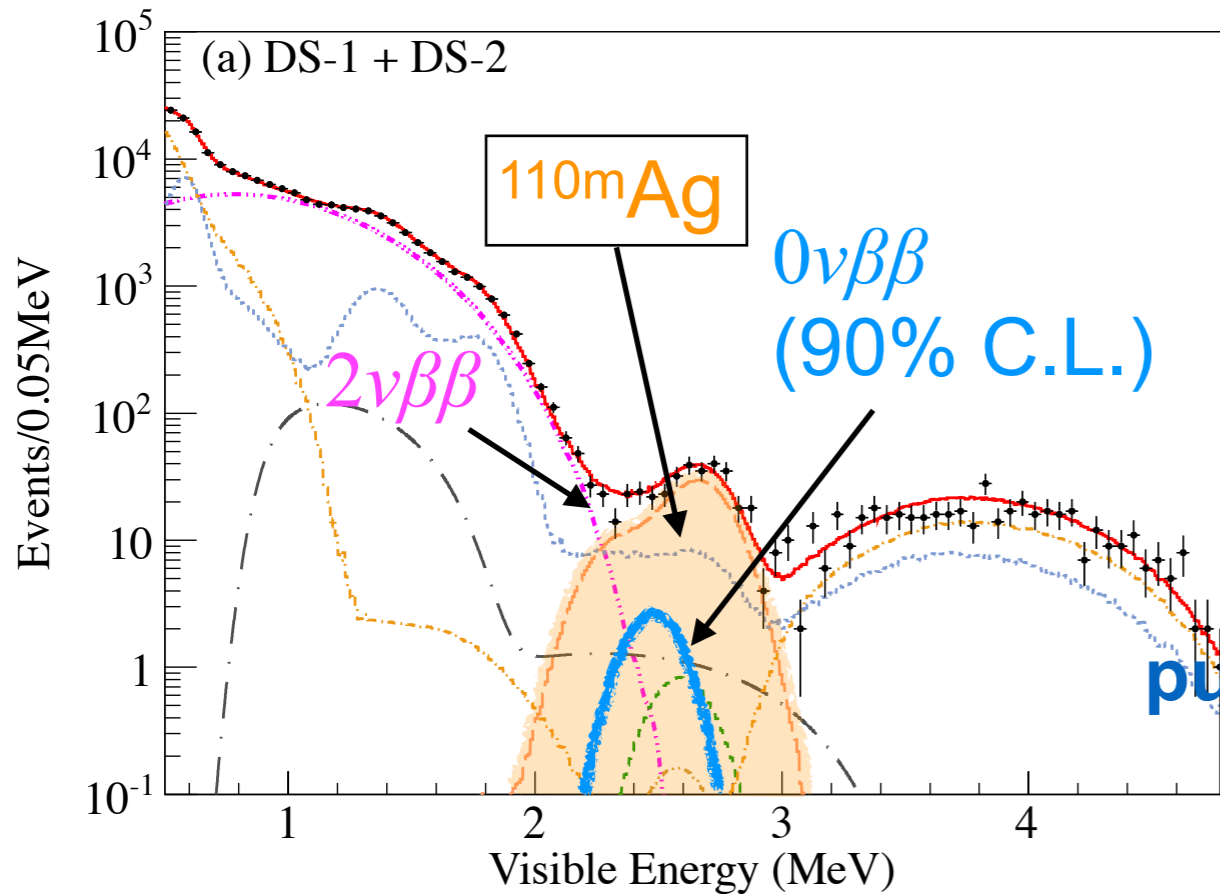
target $\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle \sim 20 \text{ meV}$

high light yield
better performance

KamLAND-Zen 400

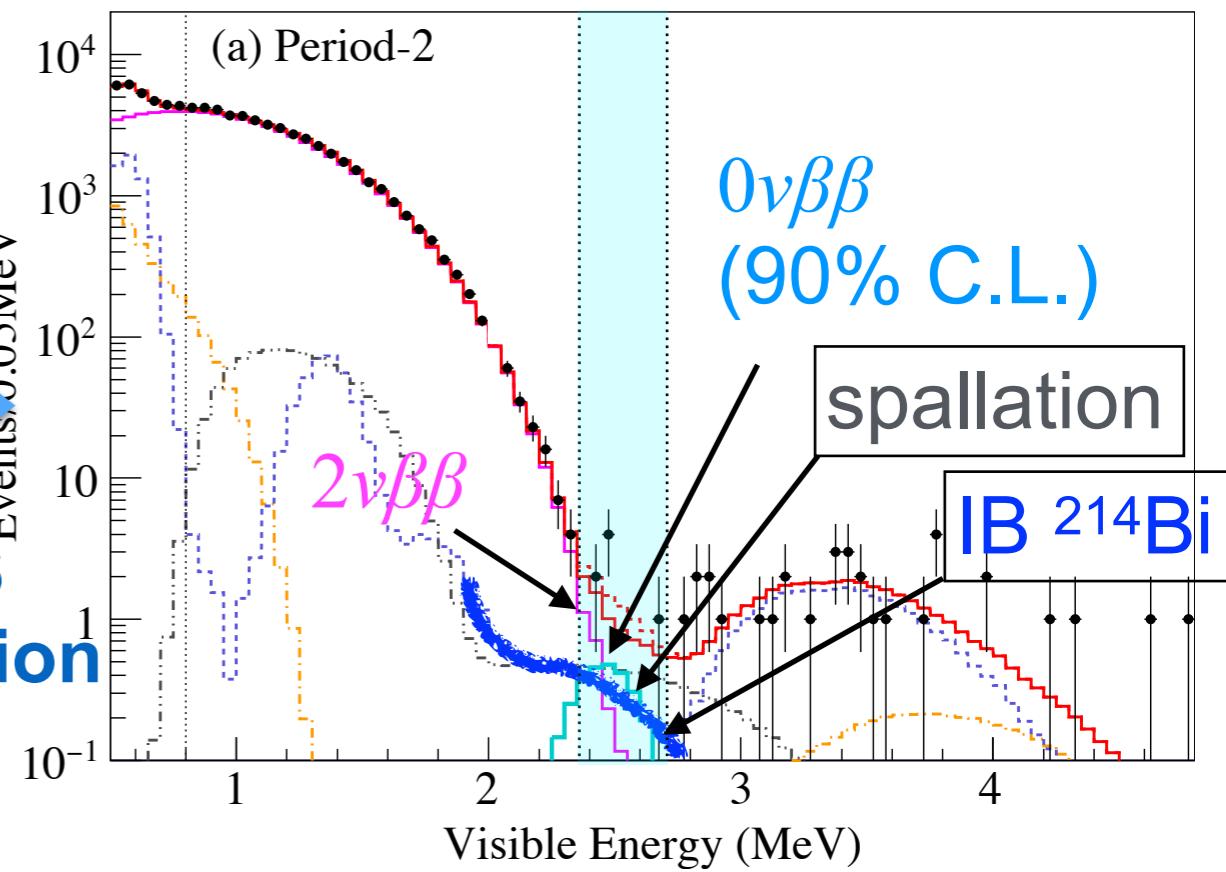


Phase-I (R < 1.35 m)



Xe-LS purification

Phase-II (R < 1 m)



→ need to reduce other BGs

Improved Production Method

KamLAND-Zen 400



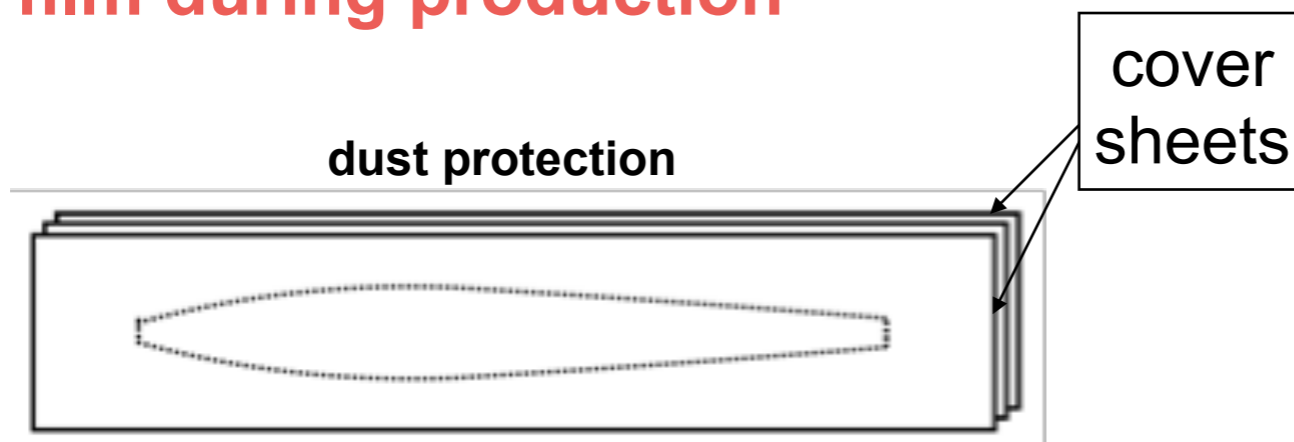
KamLAND-Zen 800



dust may be attached to the film during production

newly introduced

- goggle
- laundry twice a day
- welding machine
- more neutralizer
- cover sheet



...

Balloon Production Work



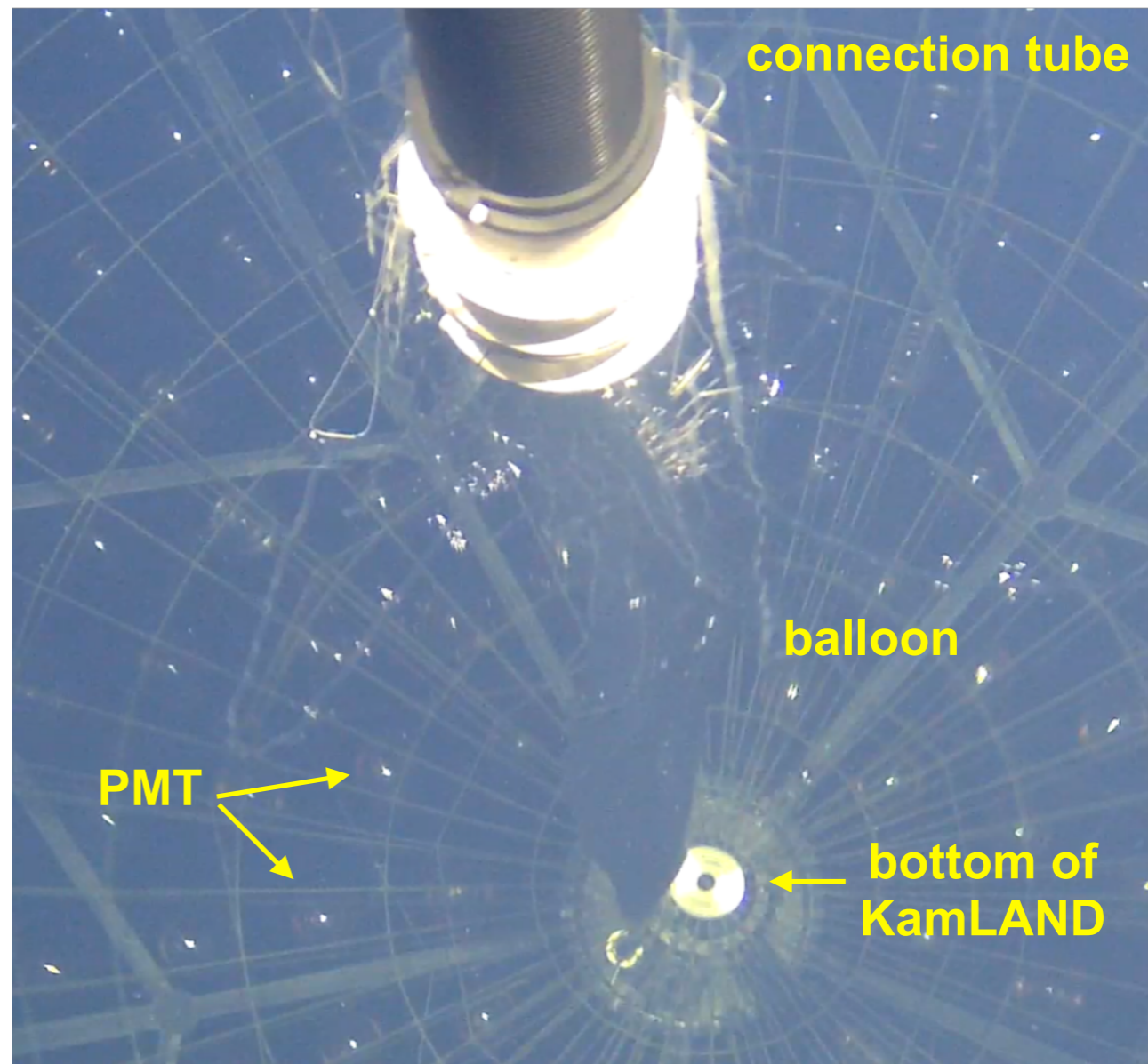
Balloon Installation

Balloon installation completed and started LS filling on May 10, 2018

top of the detector



detector inside view



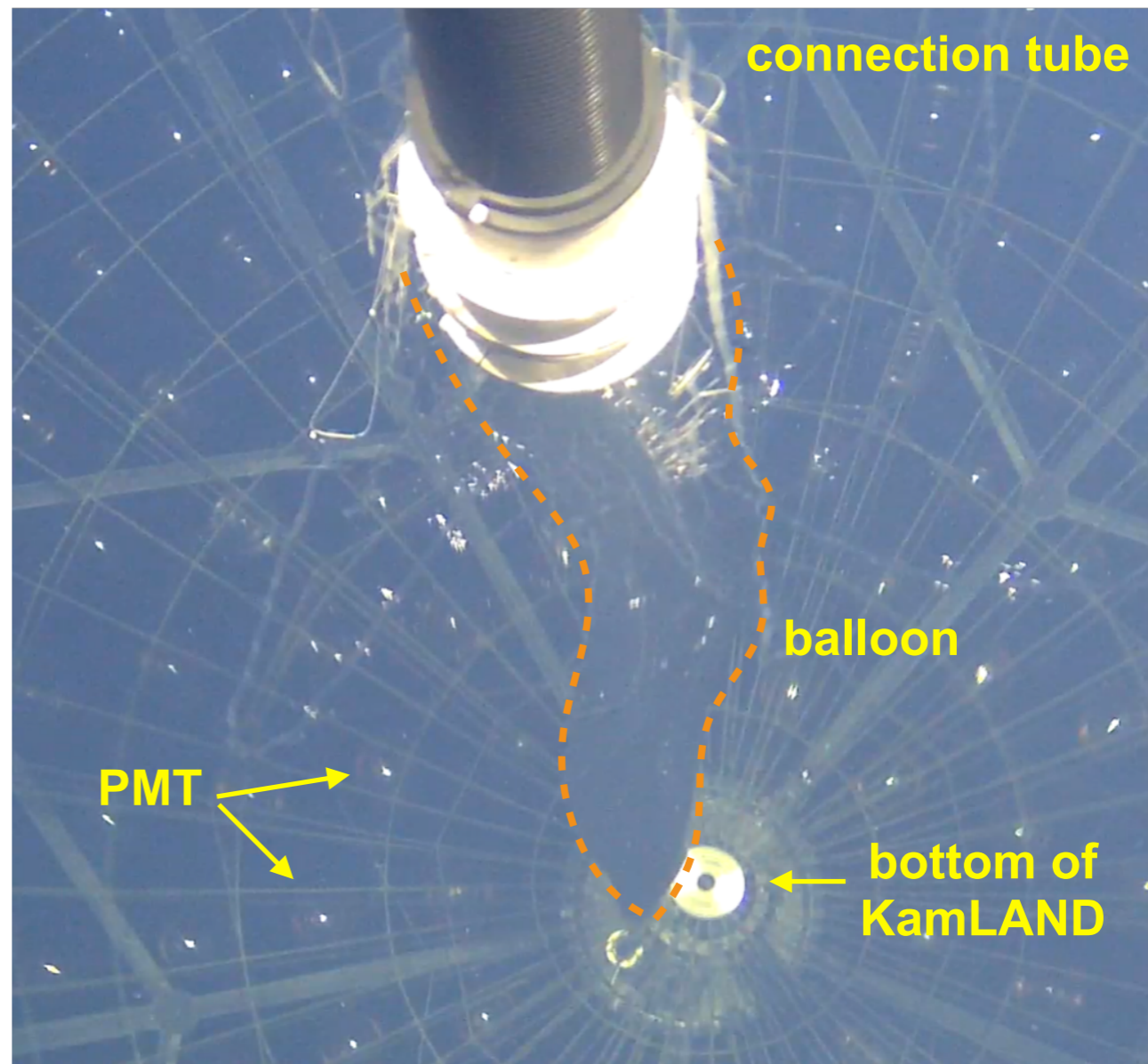
Balloon Installation

Balloon installation completed and started LS filling on May 10, 2018

top of the detector



detector inside view



Balloon Installation



Balloon was fully inflated on May 19, 2018

Balloon Installation



Balloon was fully inflated on May 19, 2018

Background from Inner Balloon (IB)

Zen 400 Phase-II

$$^{238}\text{U} : 5 \times 10^{-11} \text{ g/g}$$

$$^{232}\text{Th} : 3 \times 10^{-10} \text{ g/g}$$

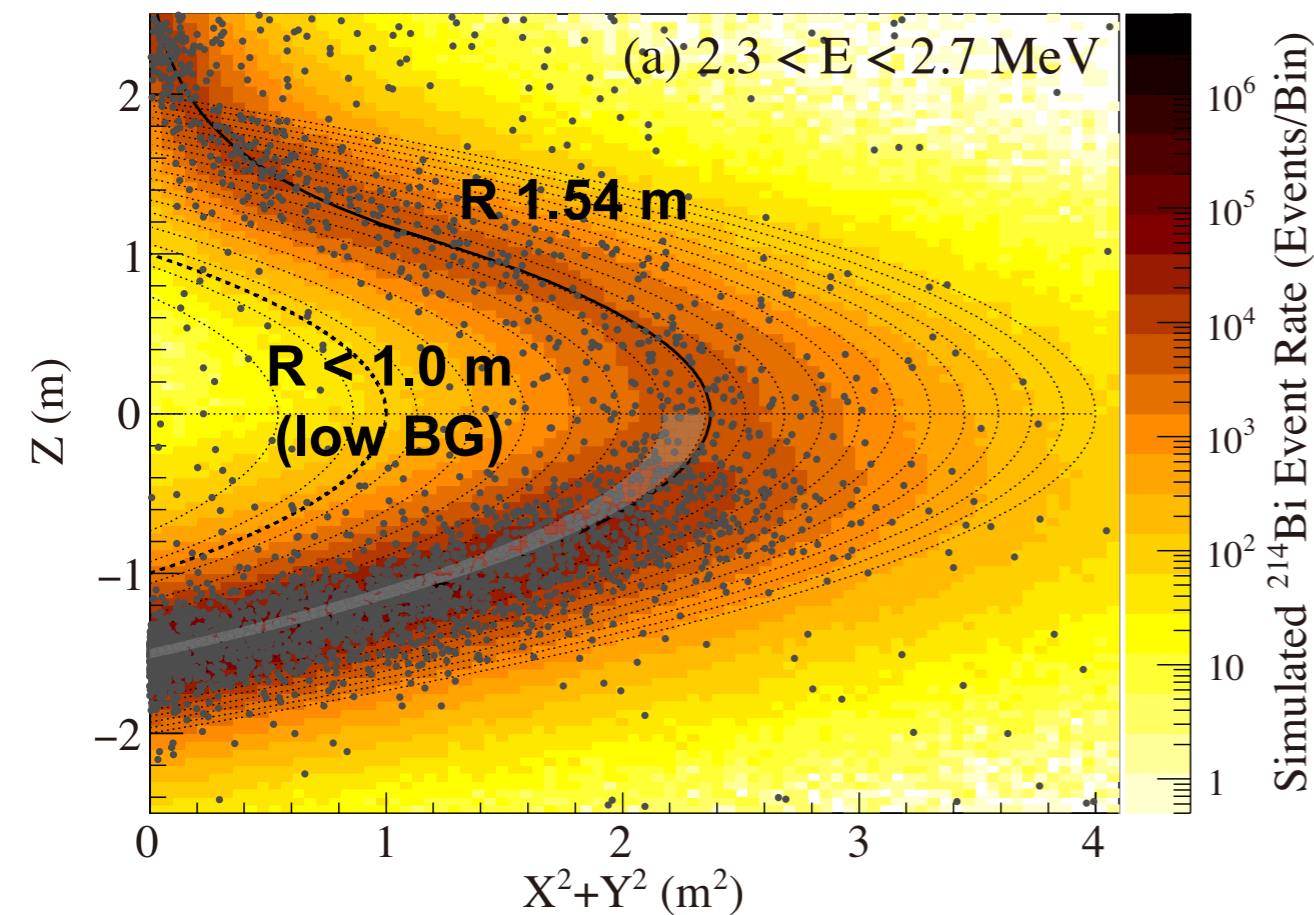


Zen 800

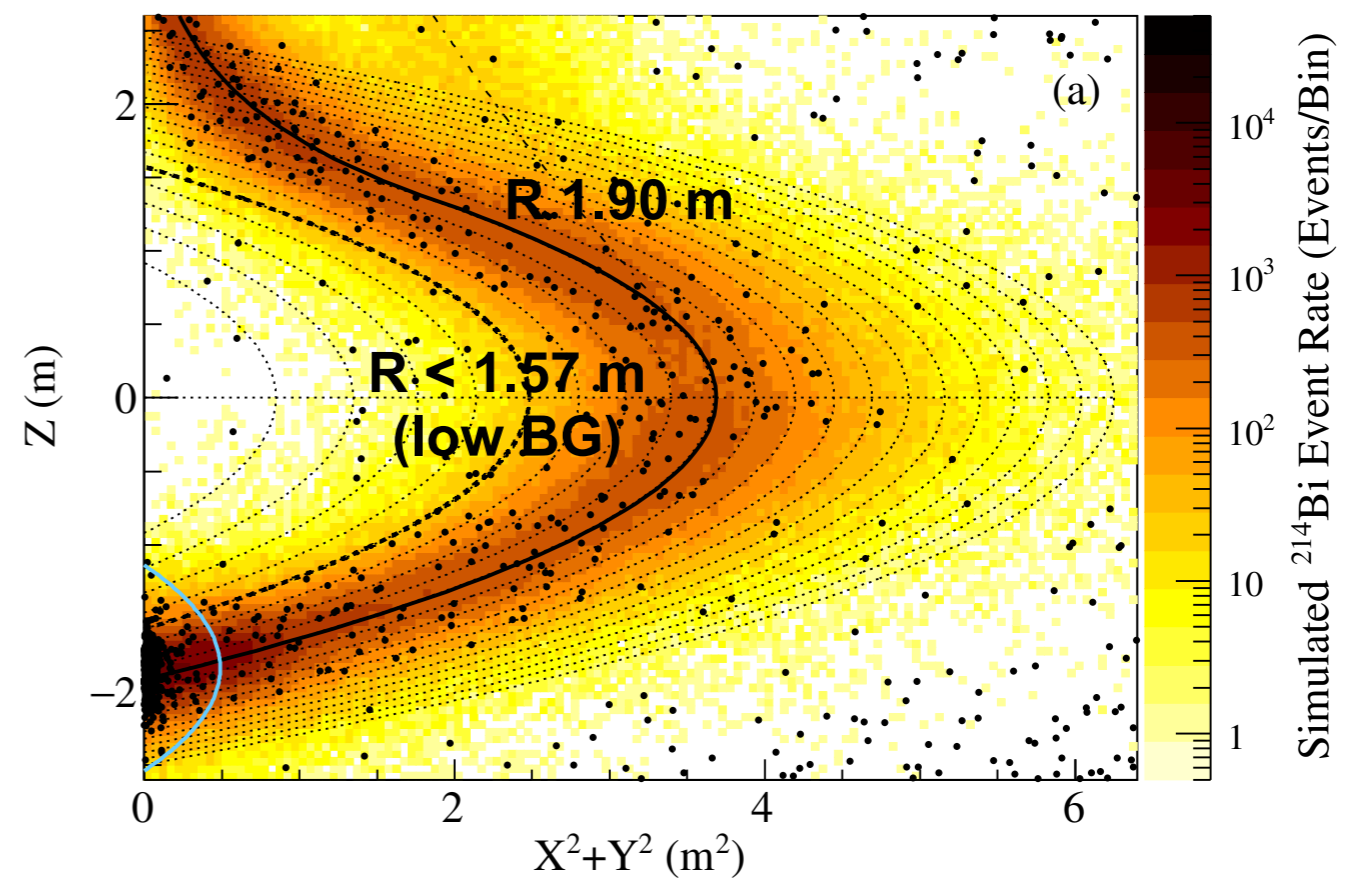
$$^{238}\text{U} : \sim 3 \times 10^{-12} \text{ g/g}$$

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

×10 reduction of IB ^{214}Bi



sensitive volume : $R < 1.0 \text{ m}$

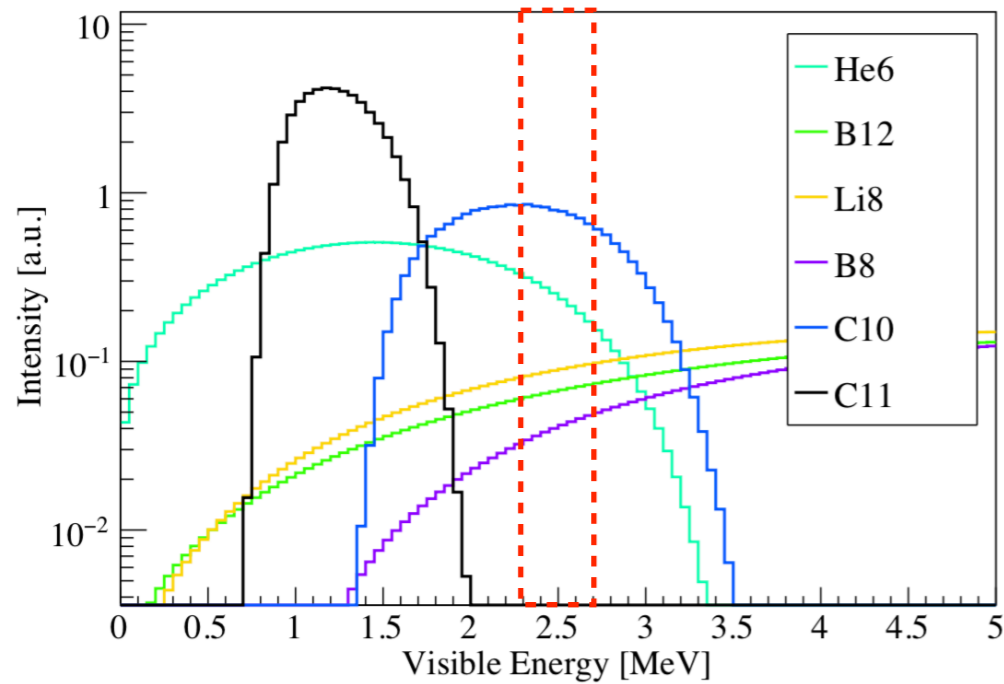


sensitive volume : $R < 1.57 \text{ m}$

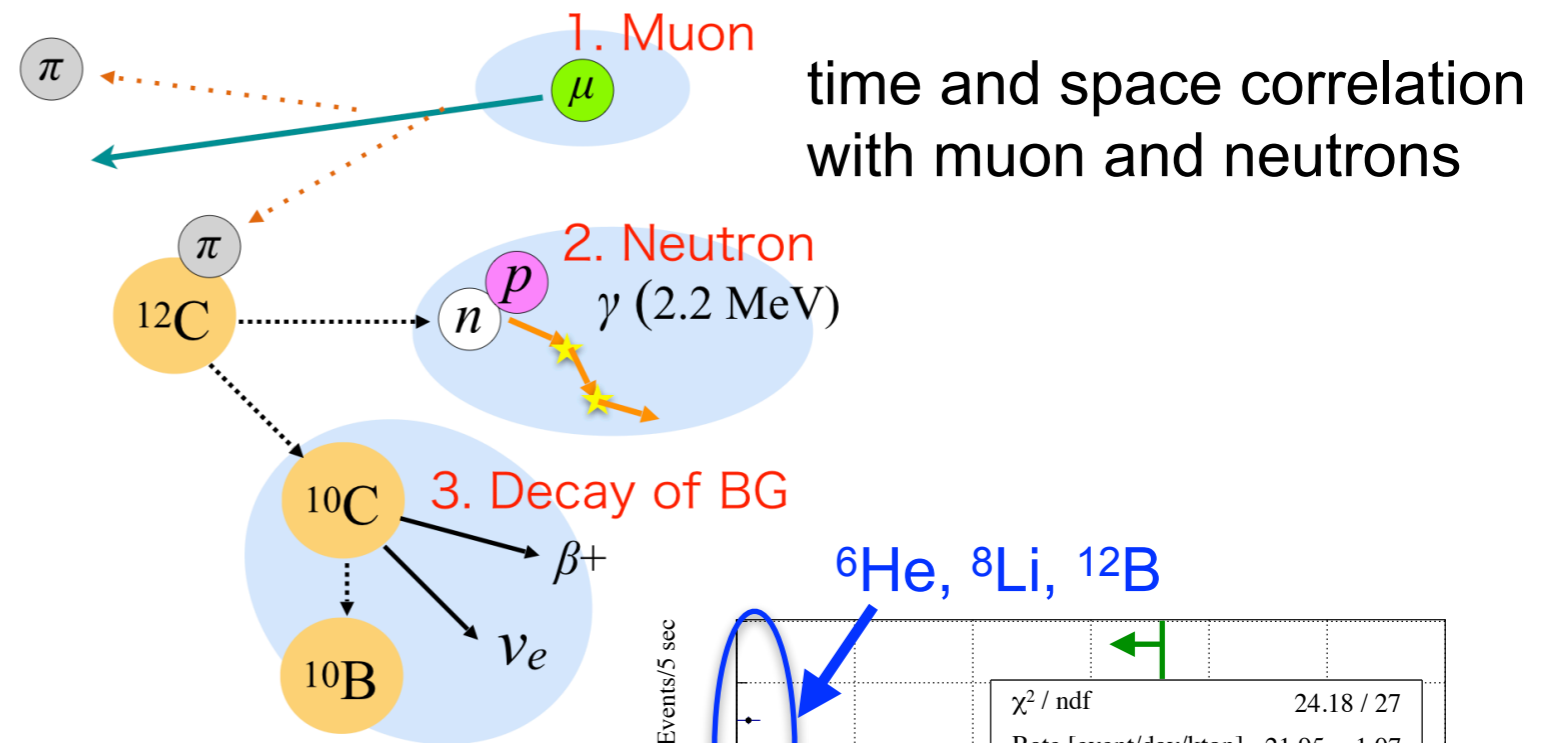
> ×3 sensitive volume !!

Short-lived Spallation Products

carbon spallation products

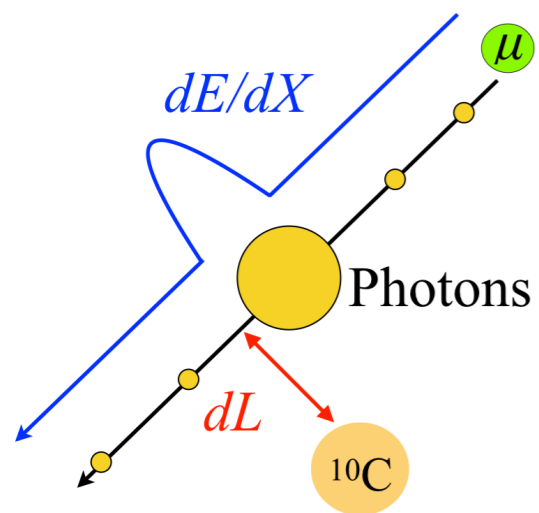


Triple coincidence tagging (dT , dR)

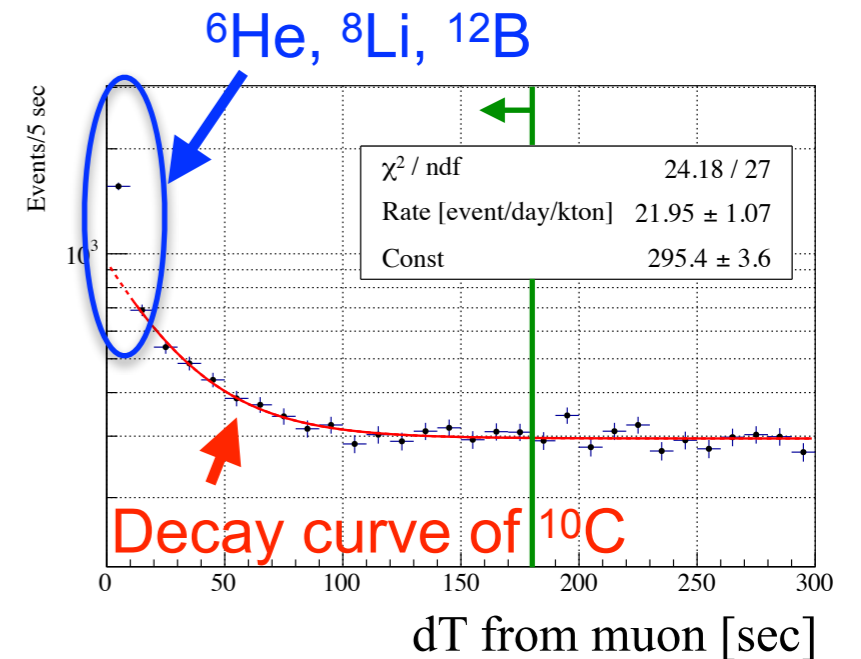
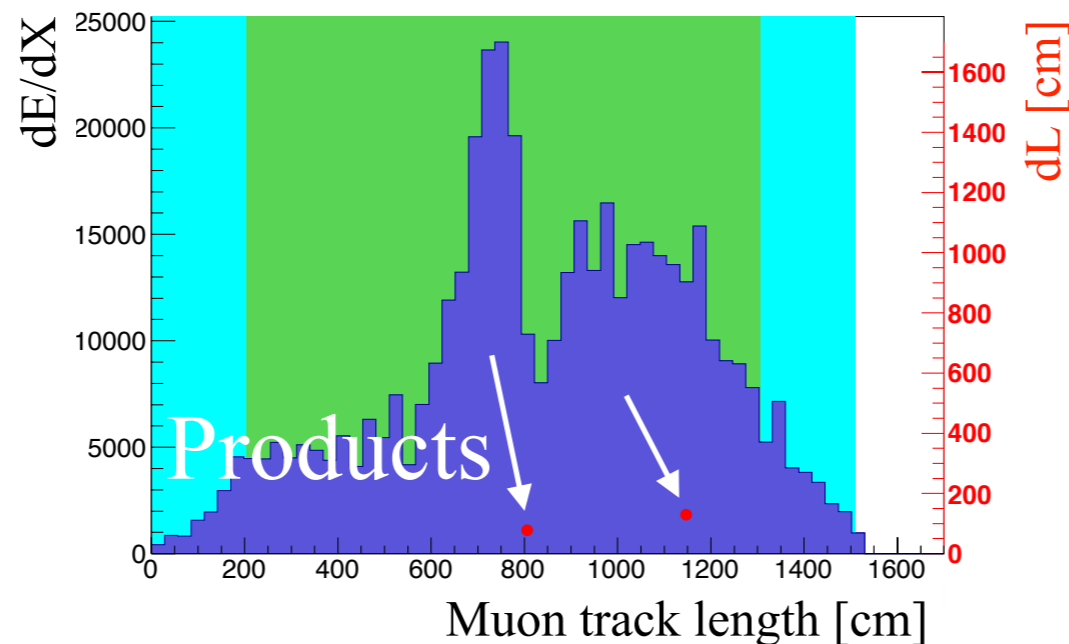


time and space correlation with muon and neutrons

Shower tagging (dE/dX , dL)



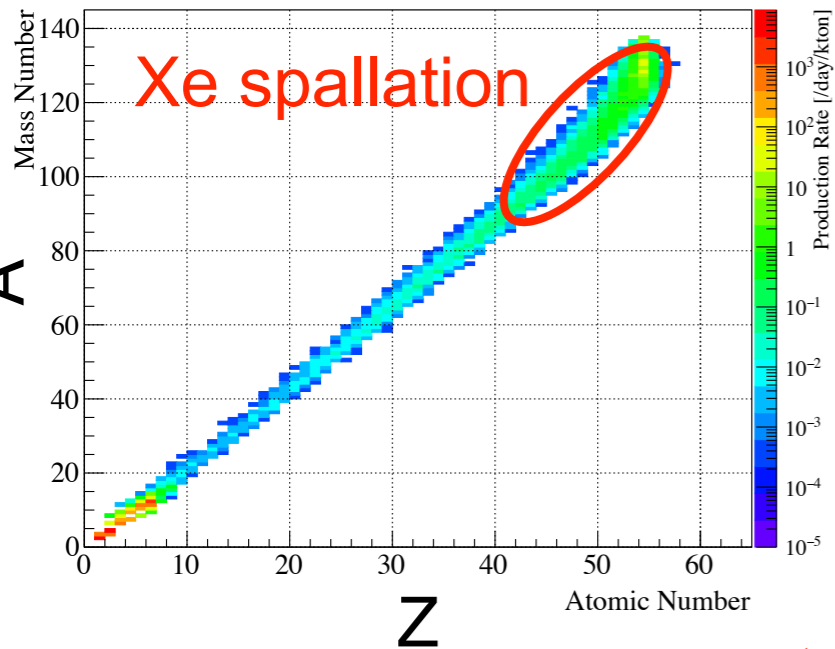
space correlation with muon shower



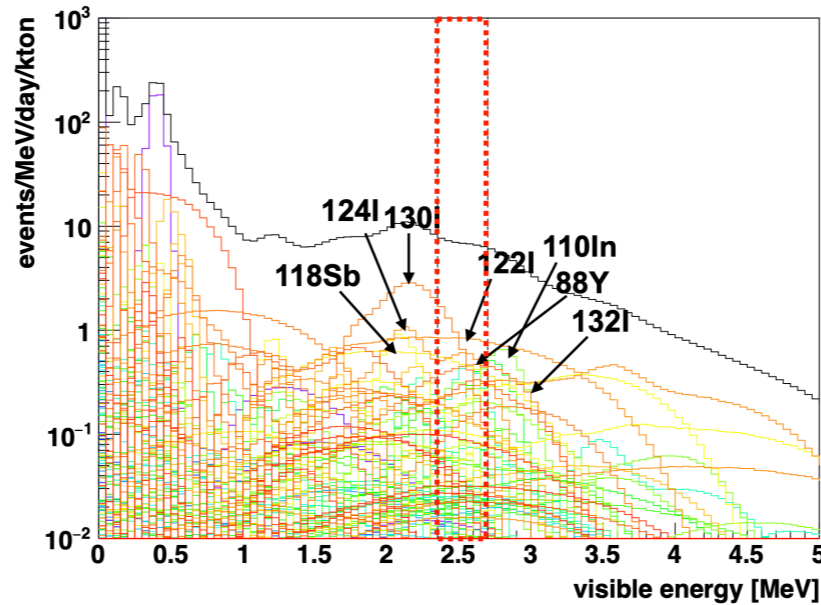
carbon spallation products
> 95% rejection efficiency

Long-lived Spallation Products

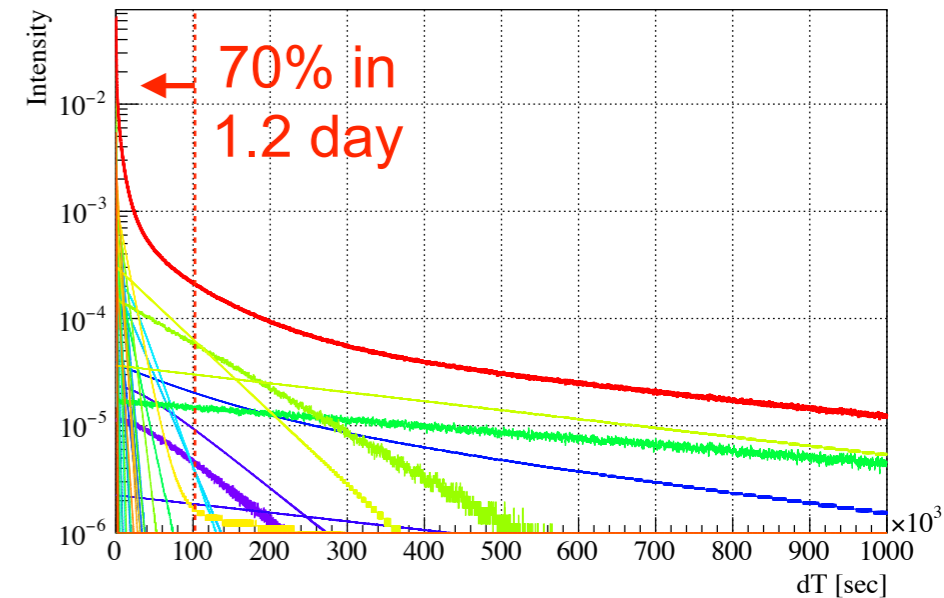
production yield



energy spectrum



time difference from muon

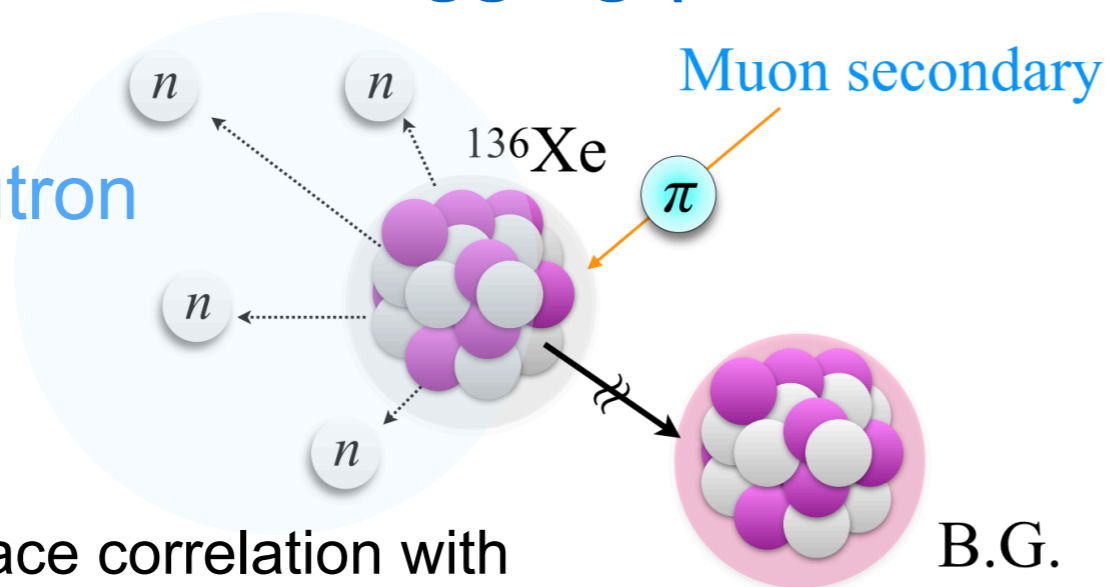


rate in ROI : 0.082 events/day/Xe-ton

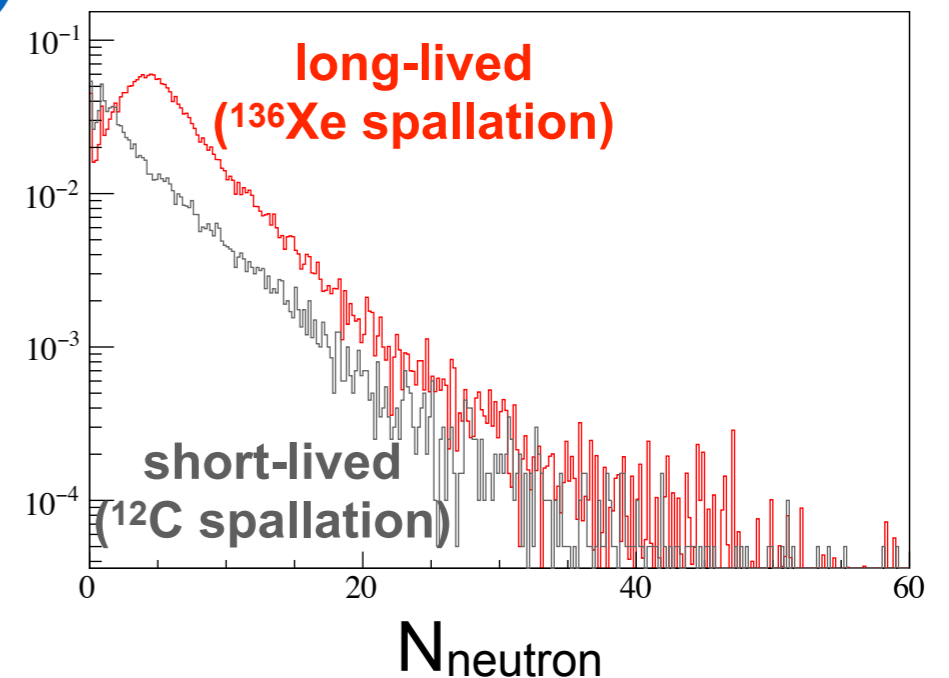
need long-time veto

Likelihood-based tagging ($N_{neutron}$, dR , dT)

dense neutron cluster



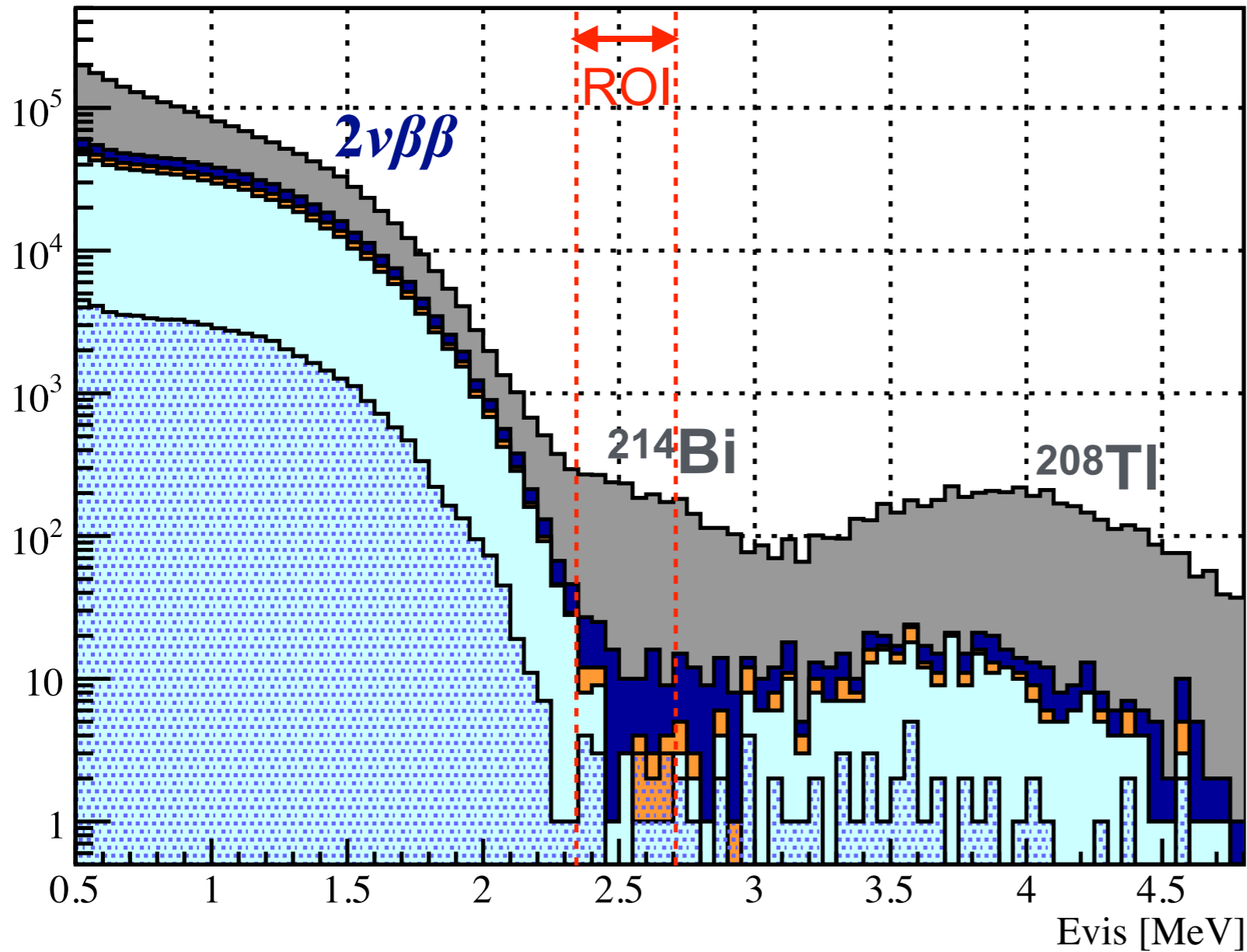
time and space correlation with muon and multiple neutrons



xenon spallation products ~40% rejection efficiency

Event Selection

$\beta\beta$ isotope ^{136}Xe **90.85% enriched** $Q_{\beta\beta} = 2458$ keV
745 kg Xe in all volume Feb. 5, 2019 - May 8, 2021



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

Feb. 5, 2019 - May. 8, 2021
around mini-balloon
($R < 2.5$ m)

volume cut
 $R < 1.57$ m
& Rn veto

short-lived
spallation cut

long-lived
spallation cut

untagged

tagged

523.4 days

49.3 days

$0\nu\beta\beta$
candidate

long-lived
candidate

Fit to Energy Spectra for $0\nu\beta\beta$

$0\nu\beta\beta$ candidate

(sensitive to $0\nu\beta\beta$ signal)

523.4 days livetime

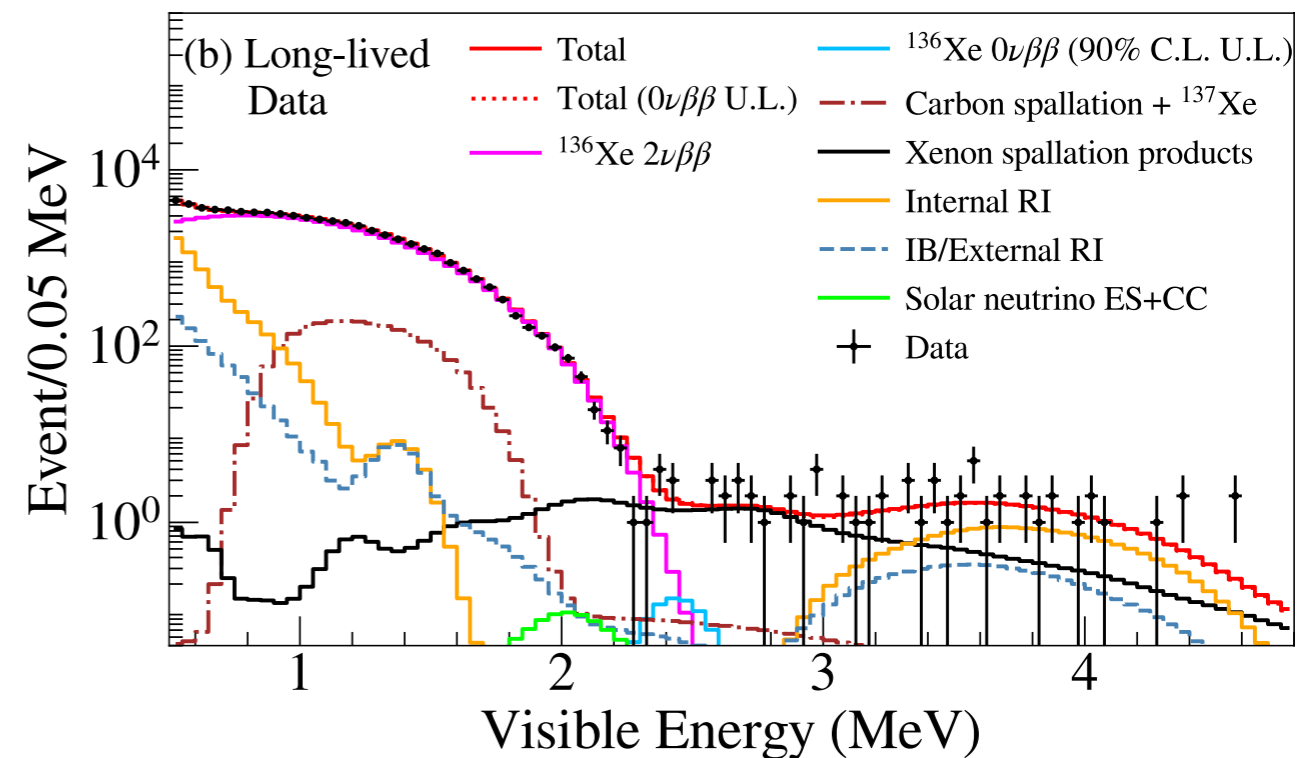
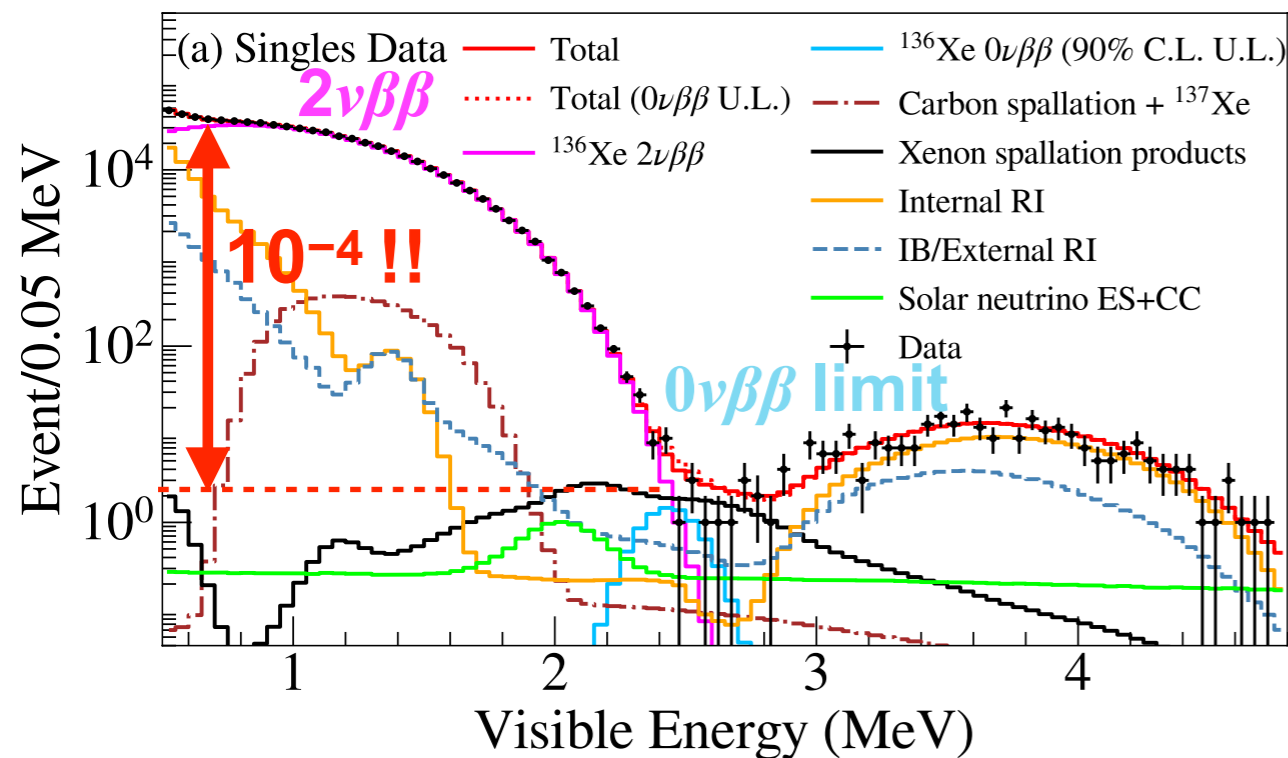
$R < 1.57$ m

long-lived candidate

(Long-lived BG constraint)

49.3 days livetime

$R < 1.57$ m



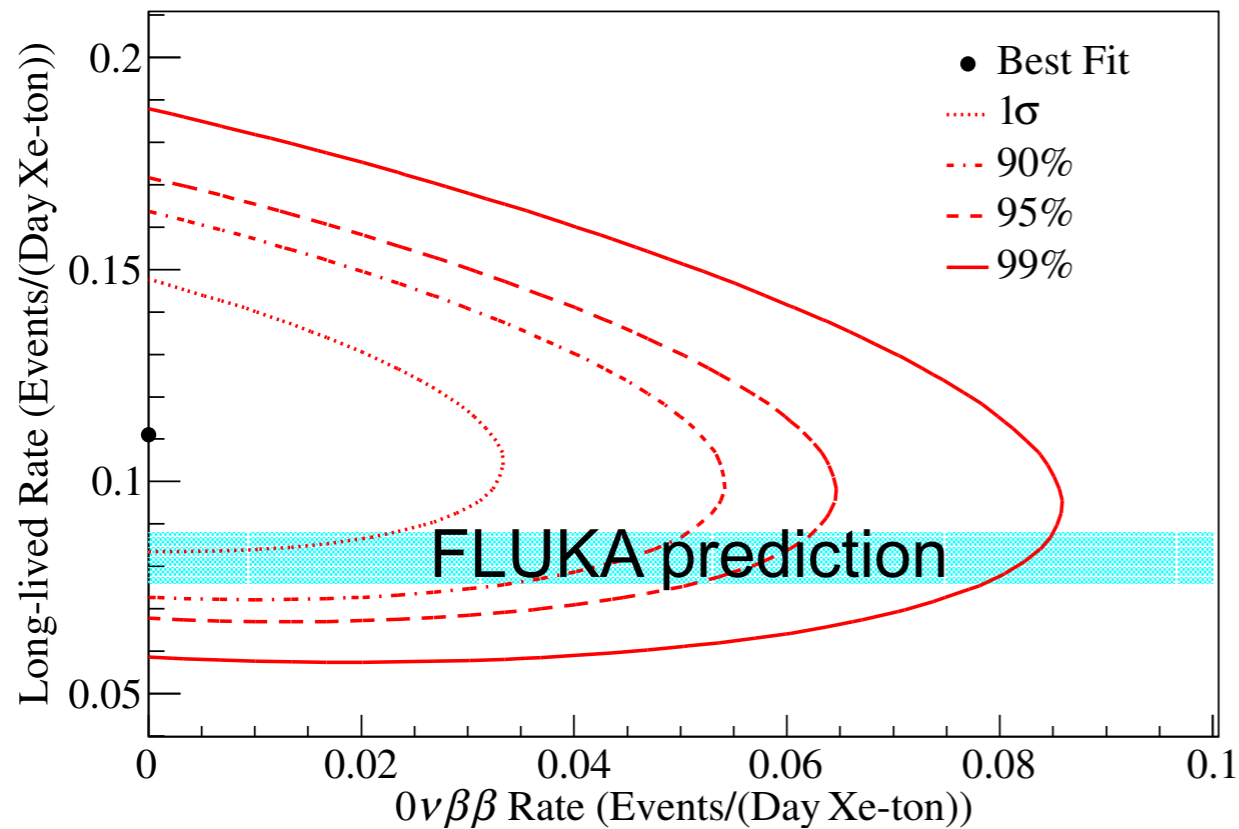
$0\nu\beta\beta$ best-fit : **0 event**

upper limit : **< 7.9 event** at 90% C.L.

No positive signal, but we obtained a stringent upper limit

^{136}Xe $0\nu\beta\beta$ Decay Half-life

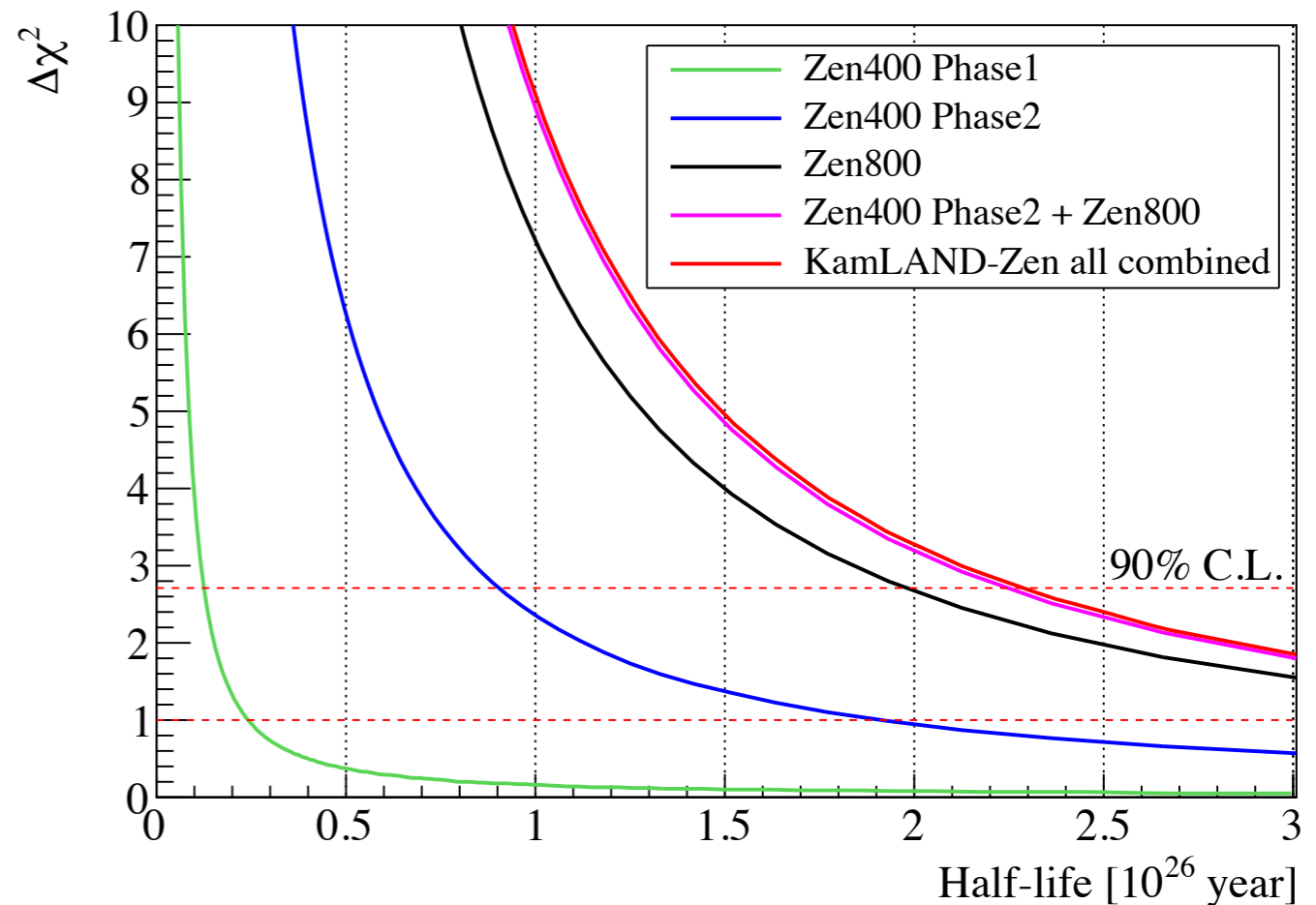
(0ν rate, Long-lived BG rate)



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

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

Long-lived BG rate was measured



Half-life limit at 90% C.L.

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

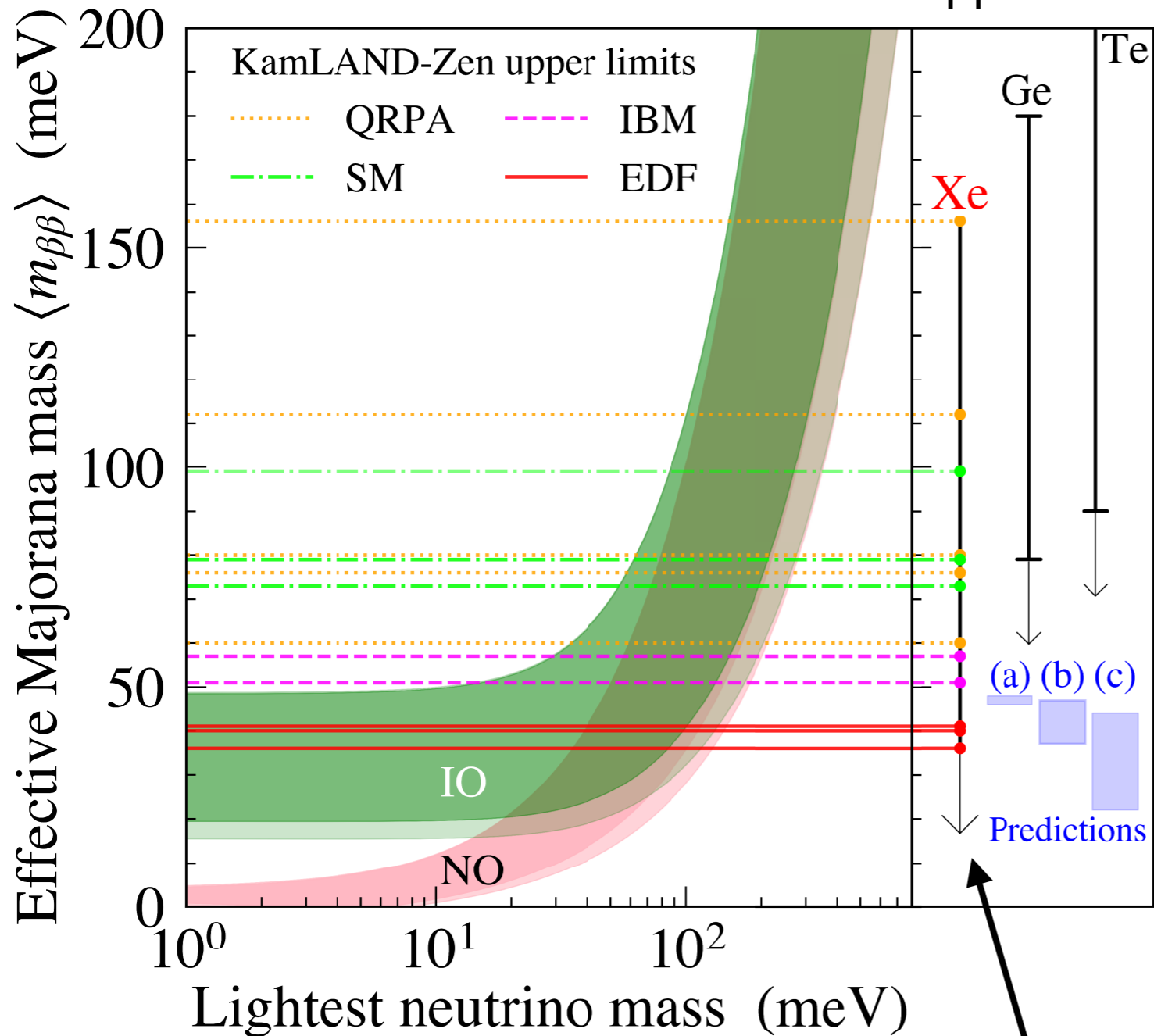
Zen 800 $T^{0\nu}_{1/2} > 2.0 \times 10^{26}$ yr

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

Limits on ^{136}Xe half-life are improved (~2 times better than previous)

Limits on Neutrino Mass

S. Abe et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 130, 051801 (2023) **90% C.L. upper limit**



KamLAND-Zen (^{136}Xe)

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

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. Šimkovic, 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. Šimkovic, 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).

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).

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).

Decay rate \rightarrow proportional to (neutrino mass)²

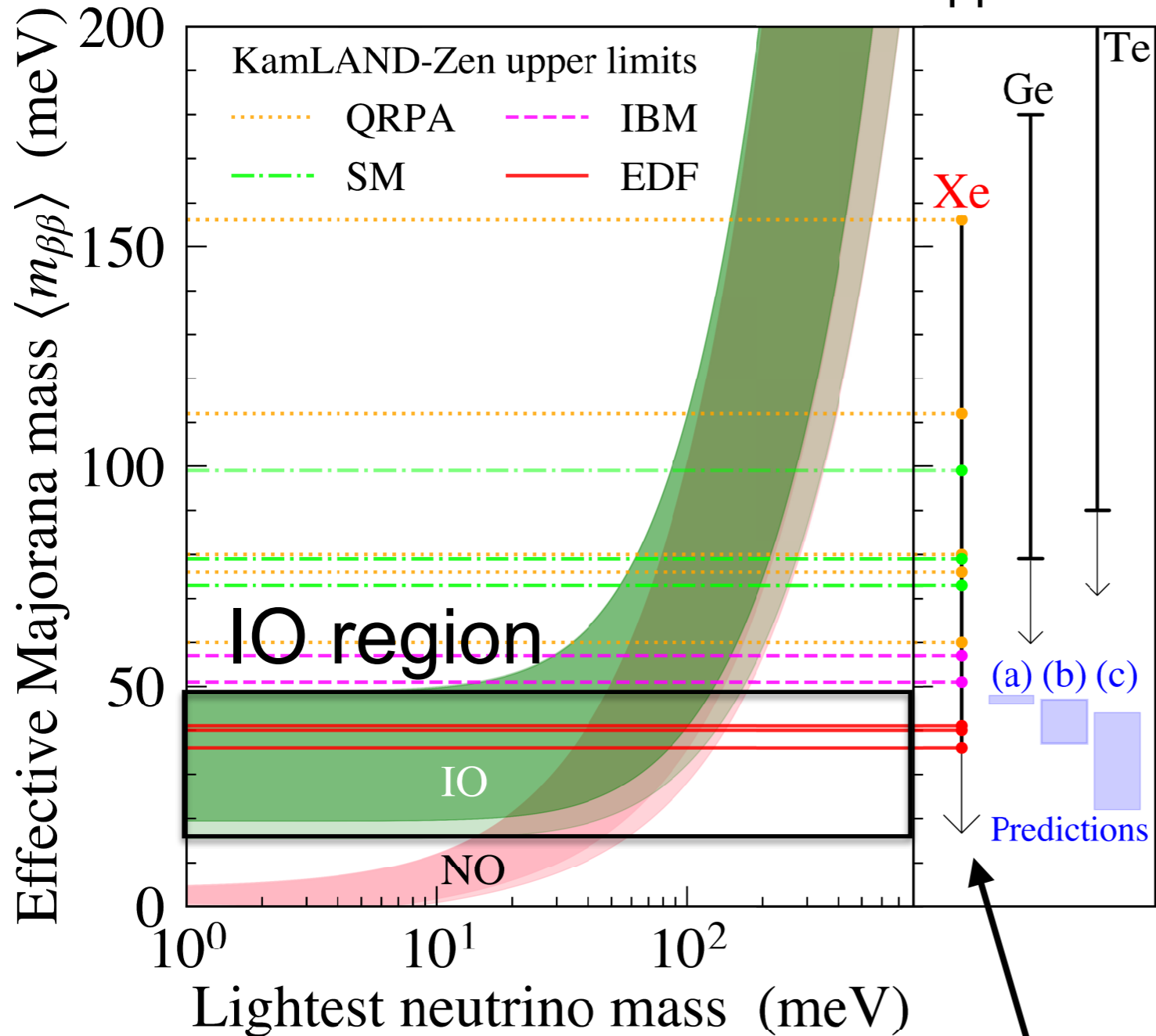
$$[T_{1/2}^{0\nu}]^{-1} = G^{0\nu}(Q_{\beta\beta}, Z) |M^{0\nu}|^2 \langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle^2$$

PSF NME

Xe (KamLAND-Zen) is the leading experiment !

Limits on Neutrino Mass

S. Abe et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **130**, 051801 (2023) **90% C.L. upper limit**



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- F. Šimkovic, 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. Šimkovic, Phys. Rev. C **97**, 045503 (2018).

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- J. Barea, J. Kotila, and F. Iachello, Phys. Rev. C **91**, 034304 (2015).

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- 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).

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- 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).

Decay rate \rightarrow proportional to (neutrino mass)²

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

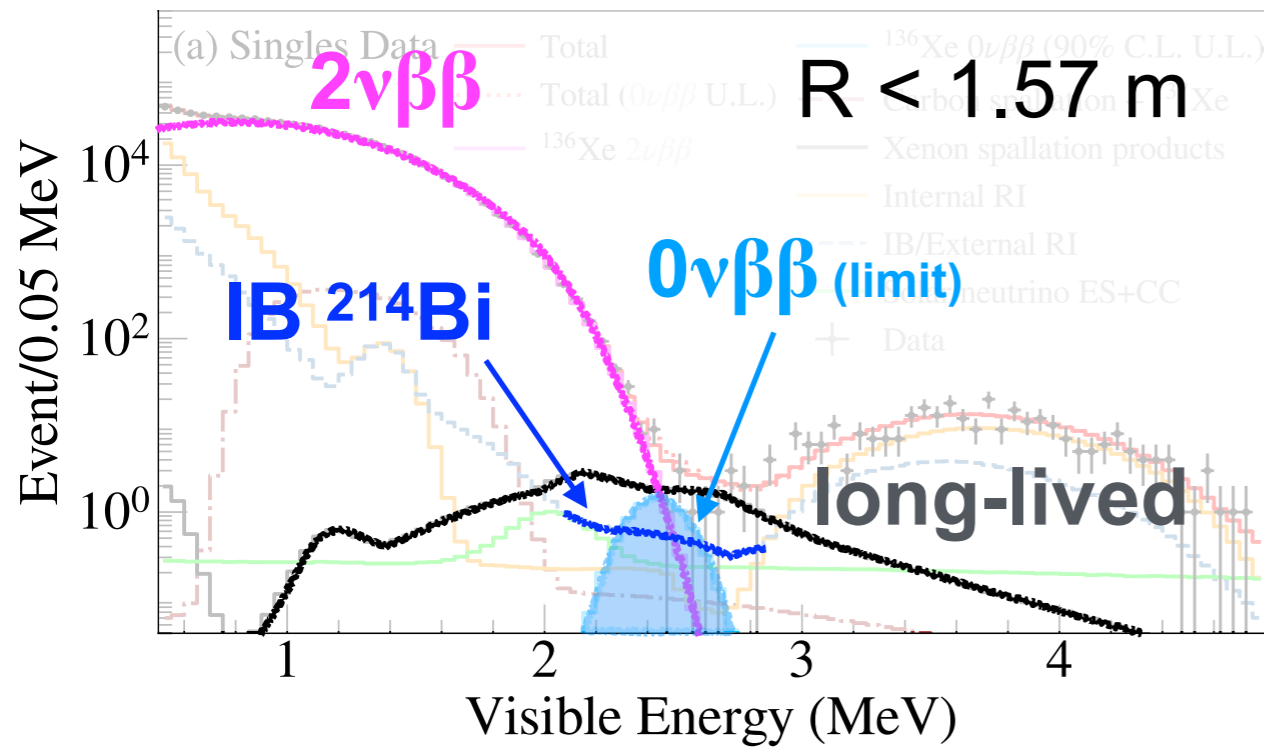
PSF NME

Xe (KamLAND-Zen) is the leading experiment !

First search in the inverted ordering (IO) region

Future Prospects

Background Measures in Future



current status

Search sensitivity will be limited by the backgrounds from $2\nu\beta\beta$ and long-lived spallation

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

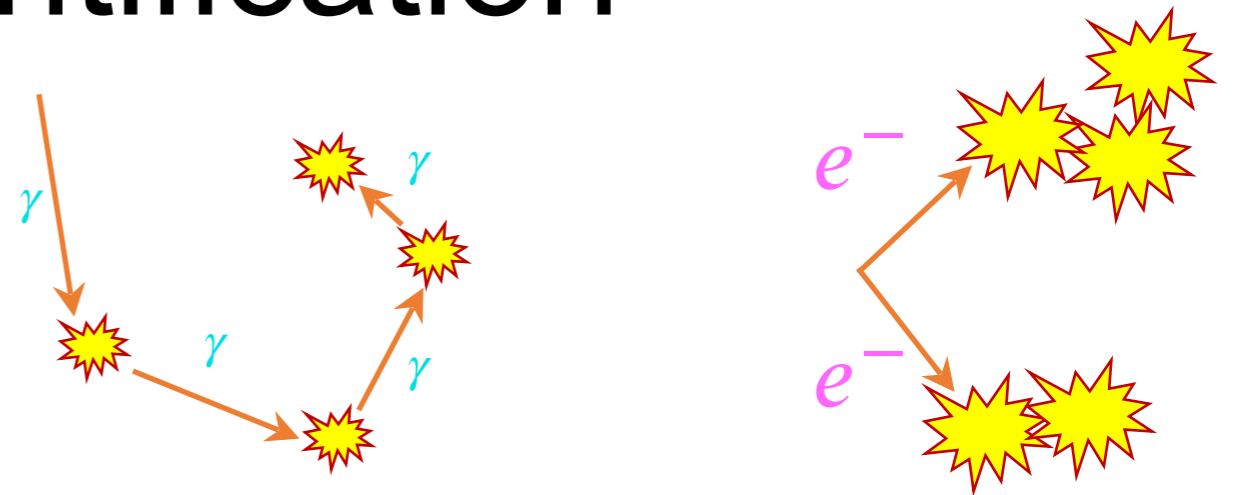
measures in future

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

Particle Identification

Most of long-lived background decays with \sim MeV gamma-rays

→ energy deposits spread over \sim 10 cm distances



BG like

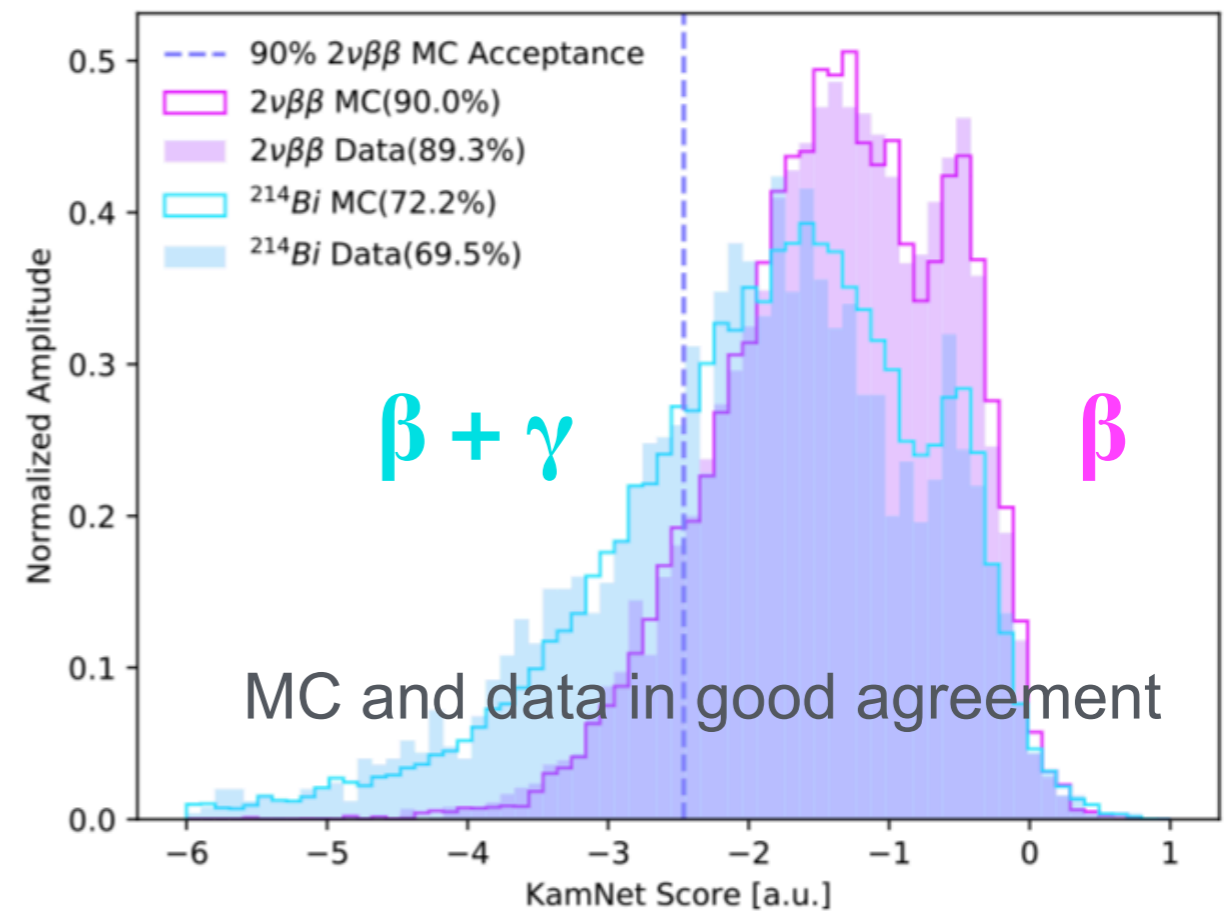
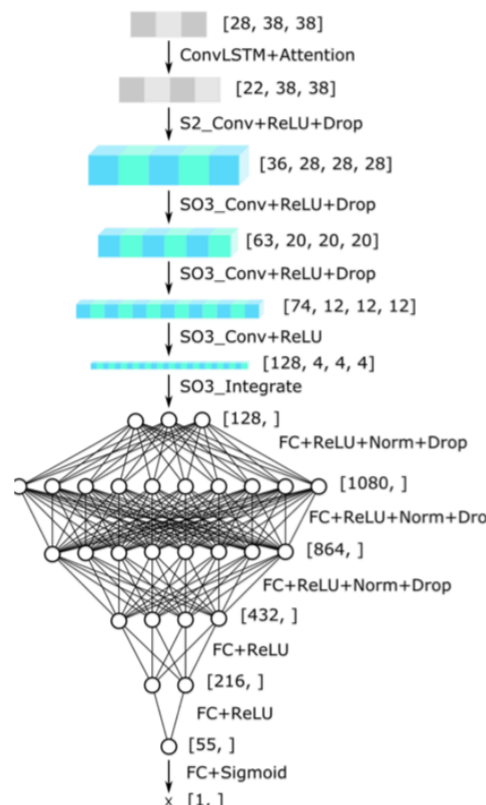
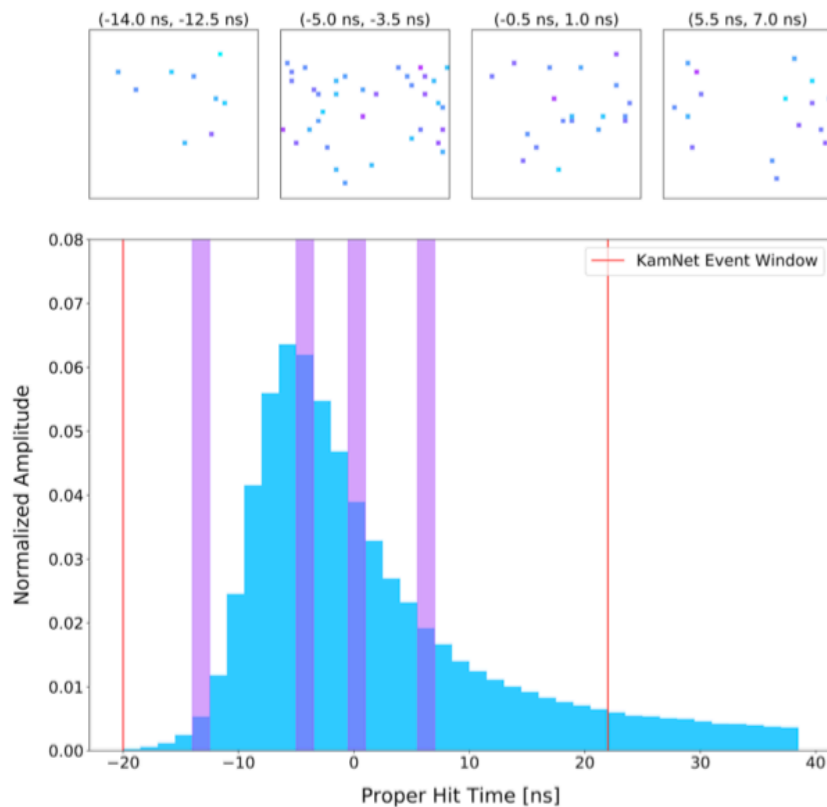
Signal like

KamNET

Deep neural network for KamLAND-Zen

Time series of theta-phi hit map

Spherical CNN

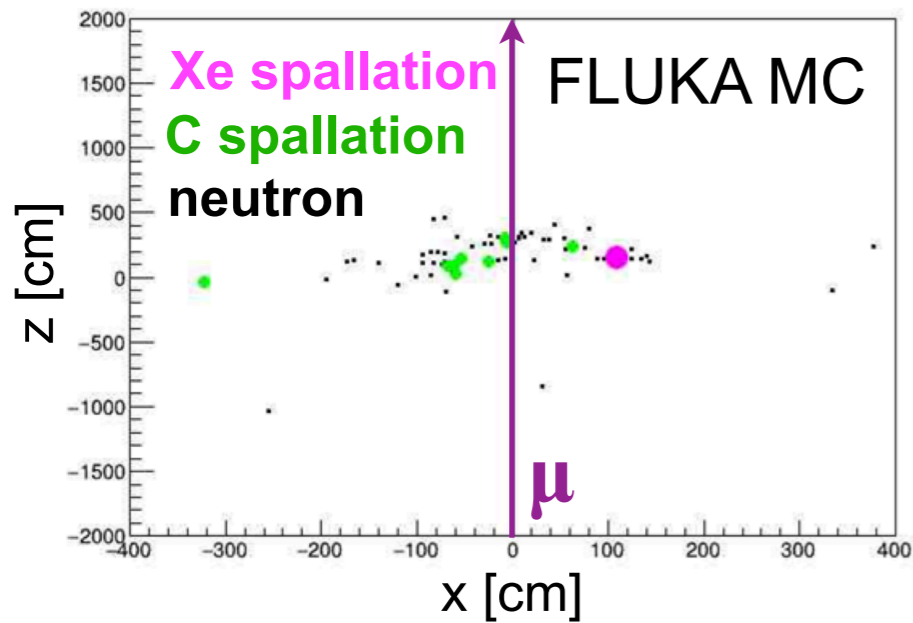


A. Li et al., Phys. Rev. C **107**, 014323 (2023)

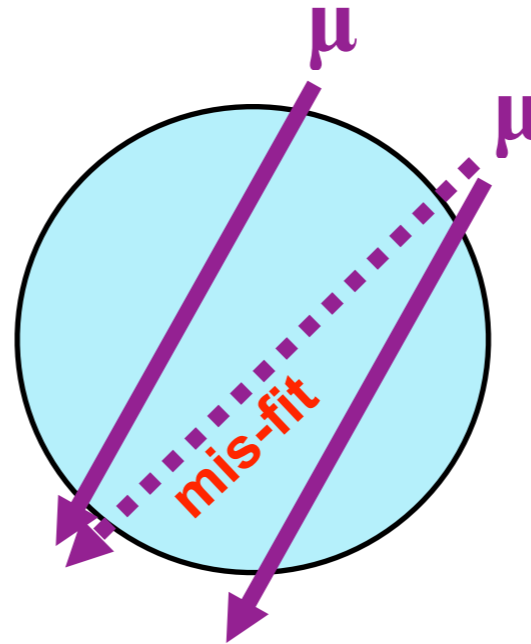
MC shows KamNET rejects \sim 27% of long-lived background

Tagging of Long-lived Spallation Products

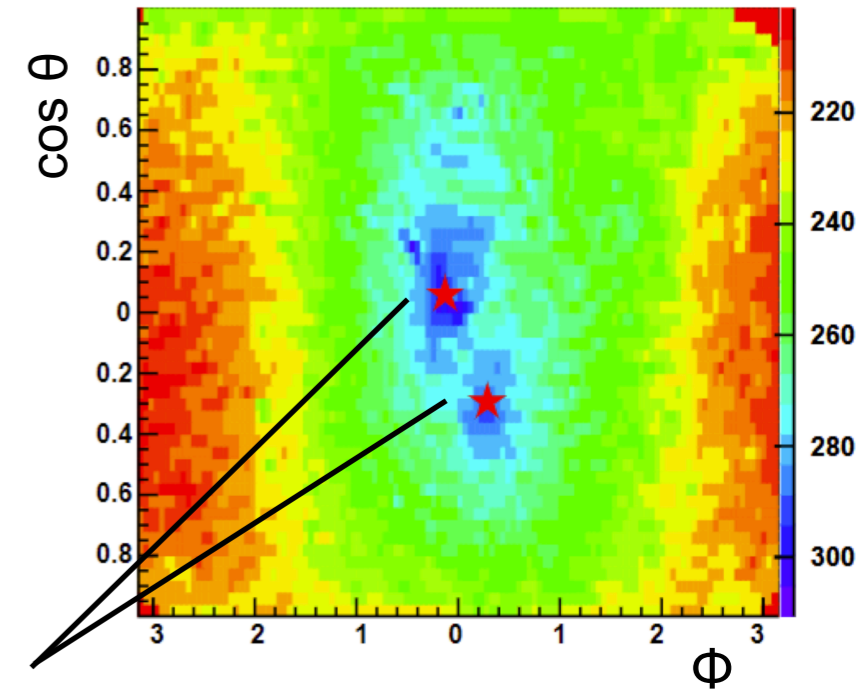
Machine learning



muon bundle fitter



T map of PMTs



find multi-tracks

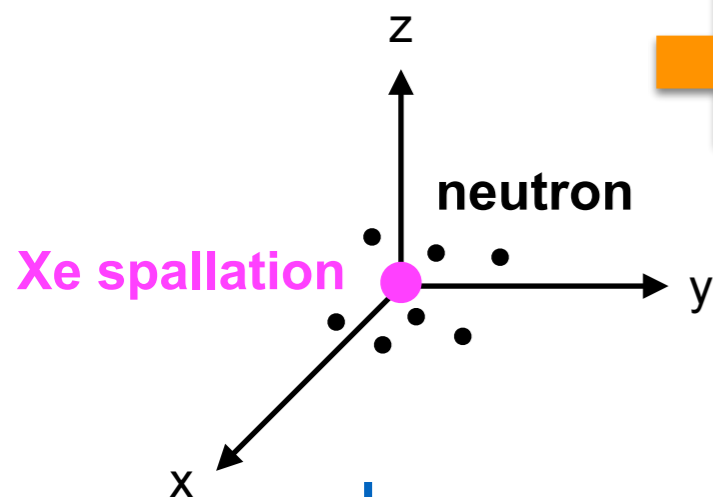
PointNet (neural network for point cloud)

<https://arxiv.org/pdf/1612.00593.pdf>

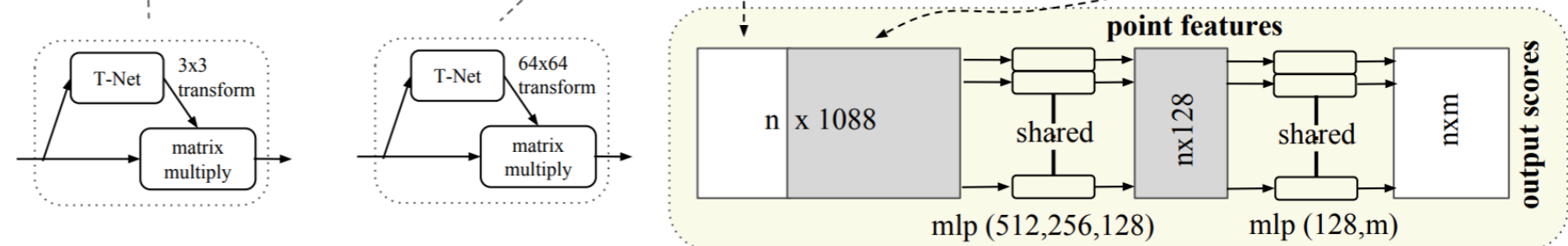
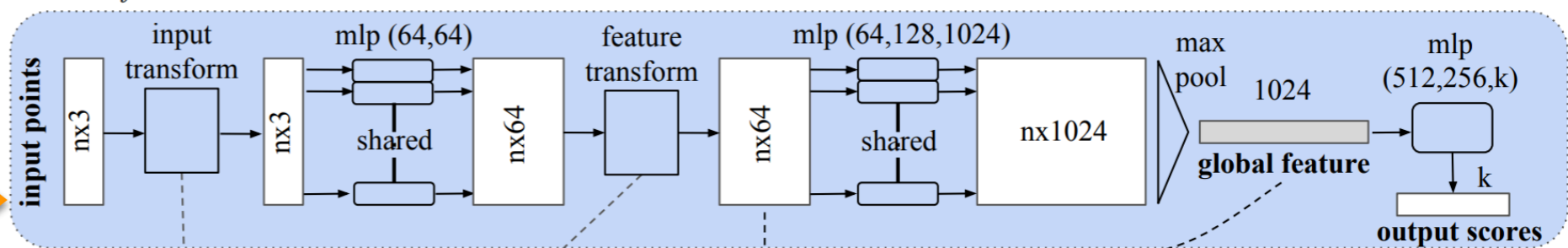
identification of neutrons by Xe spallation

input points

neutron vertices in $\Delta R < 160$ cm



Classification Network

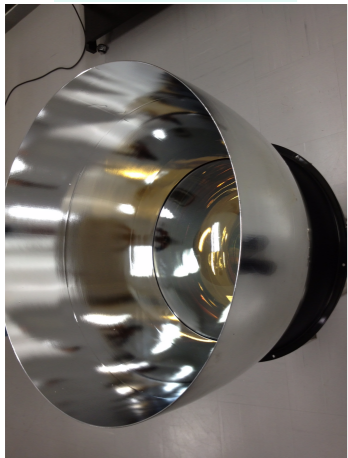


Segmentation Network

Improvement of long-lived spallation tagging is ongoing

R&D for KamLAND2-Zen

Mirror



Light Collection Eff.

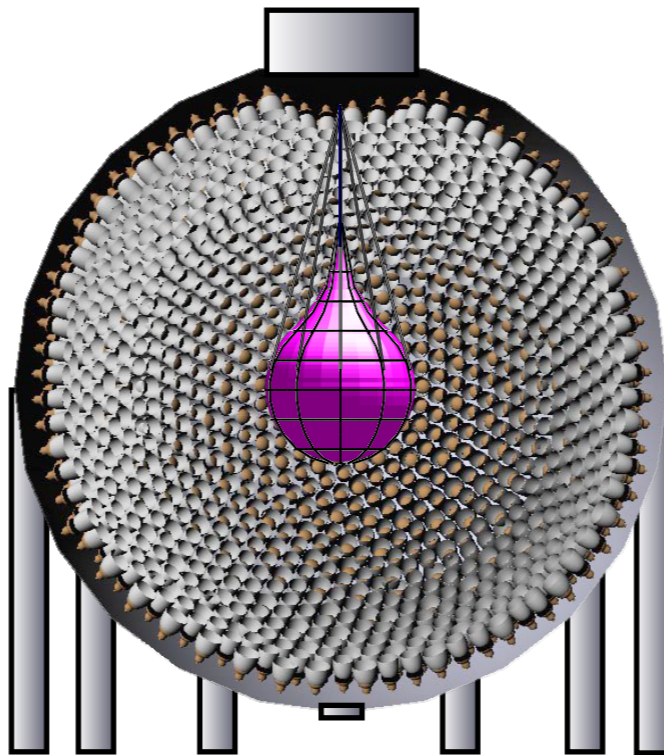
> **x1.8**

High Q.E. PMT



x1.9

1000 kg enriched Xe



State-of-the-art electronics



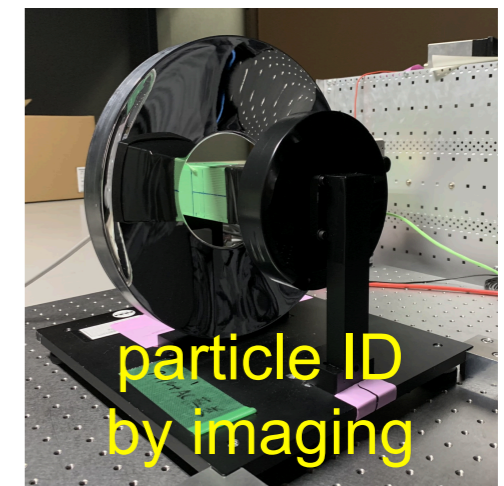
more neutron tagging efficiency
→ long-lived BG reduction

New liquid scintillator **x1.4**

σ_E @ Q-value = 4% → 2%

→ $2\nu\beta\beta$ BG reduction ~ 1/100 !

Imaging device



e^- / gamma identification
→ long-lived BG reduction

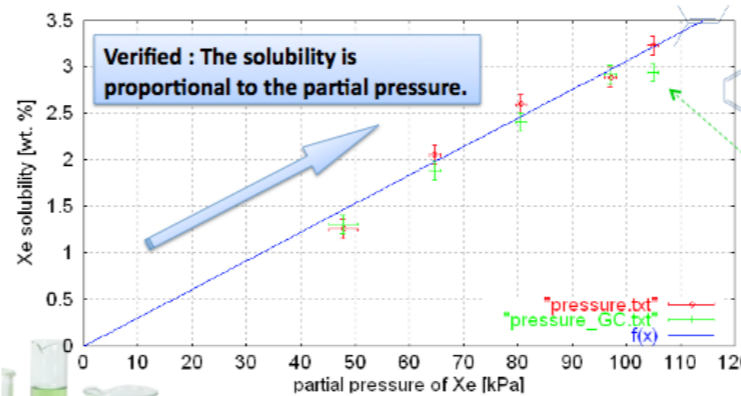
Scintillation balloon

(PEN film)

IB ^{214}Bi BG reduction
→ 100% fiducial volume

^{214}Bi rejection
by α tagging

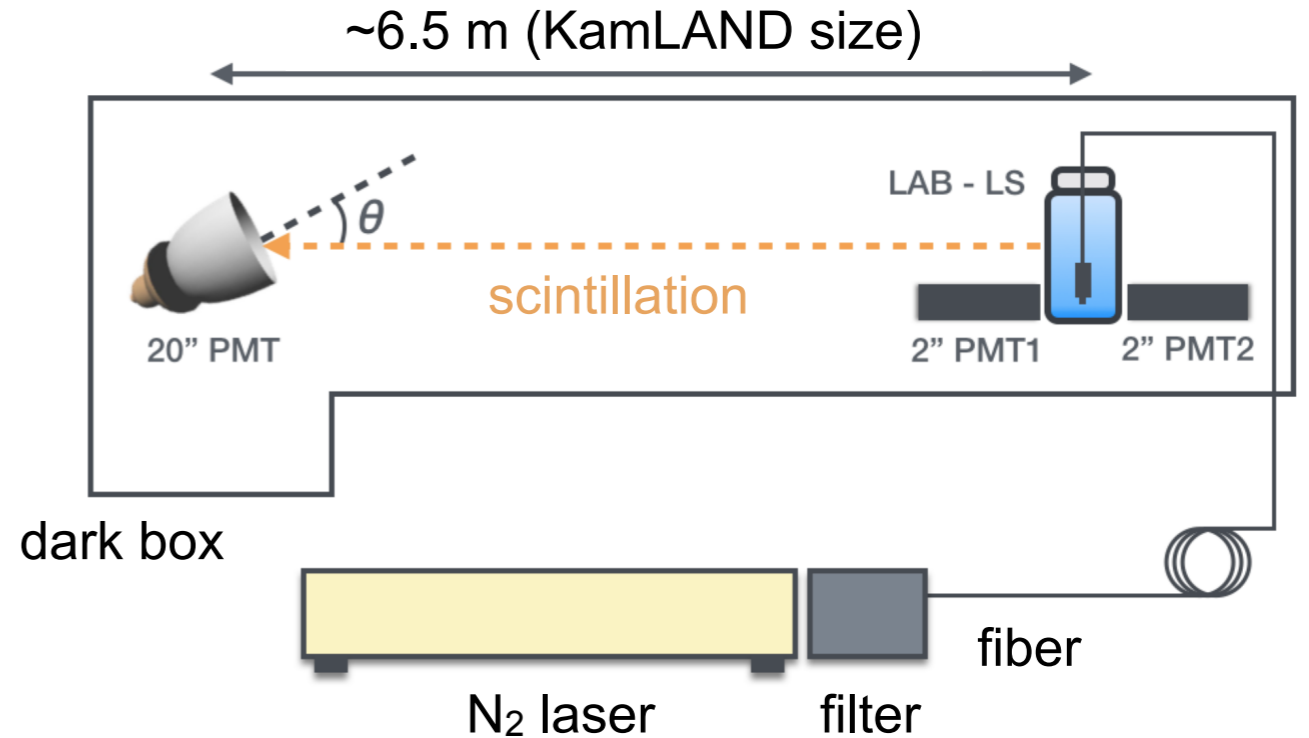
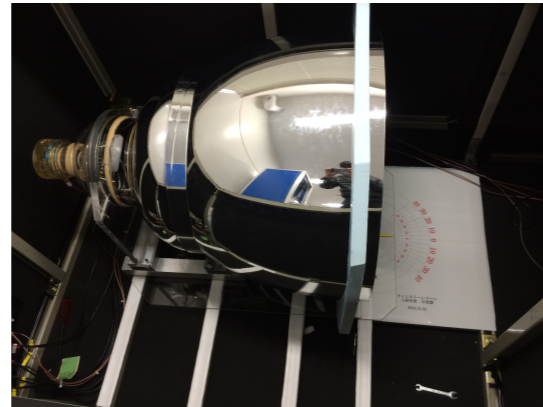
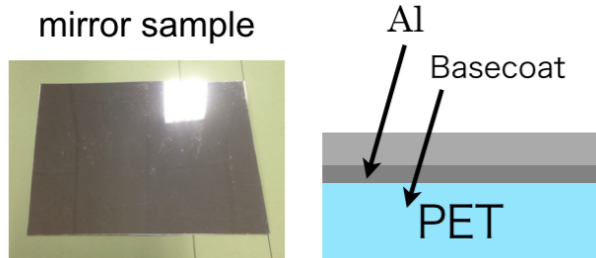
Pressurized Xe-LS



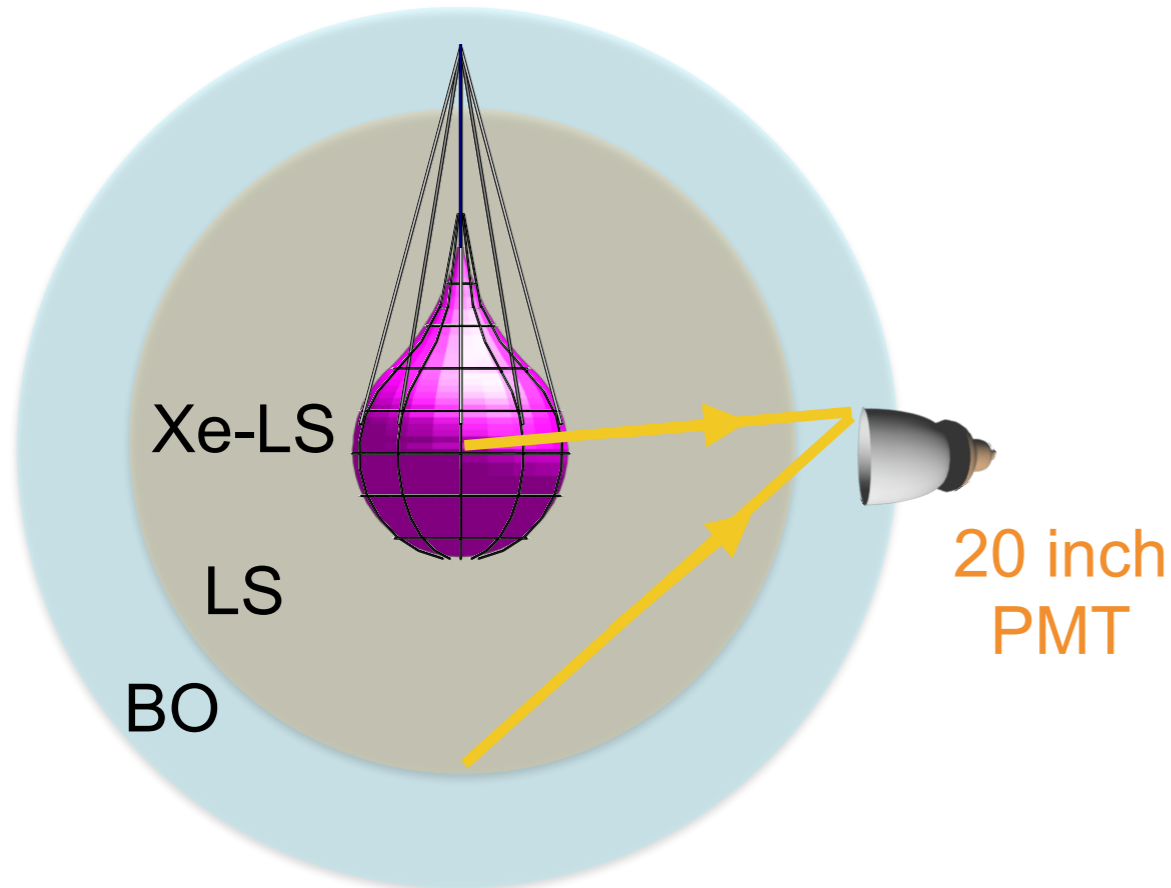
Xe / electron ratio increase
→ solar neutrino BG reduction

Light Yield Increase by Mirror

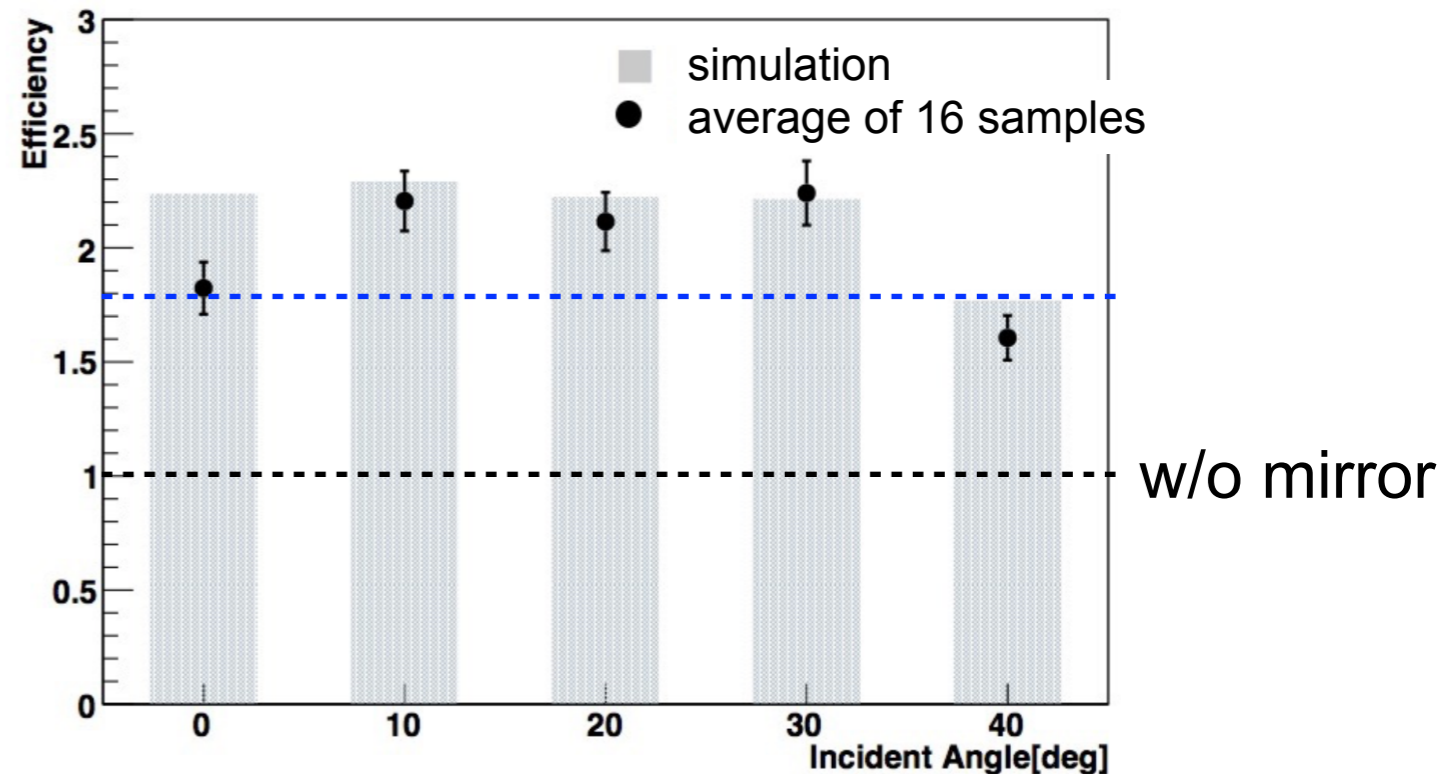
aluminum + PET mirror with high reflectivity



KamLAND2-Zen



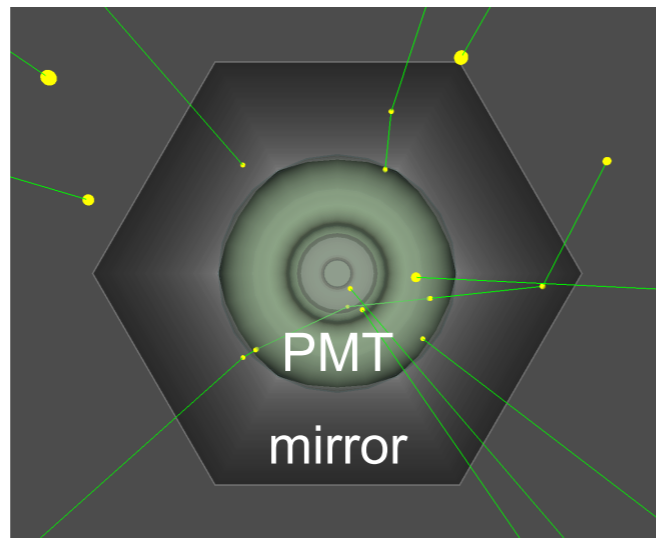
LS : 13 m diameter



~1.8 times increase of light yield

Mirror Shape Optimization

20 inch PMT
coverage 34%



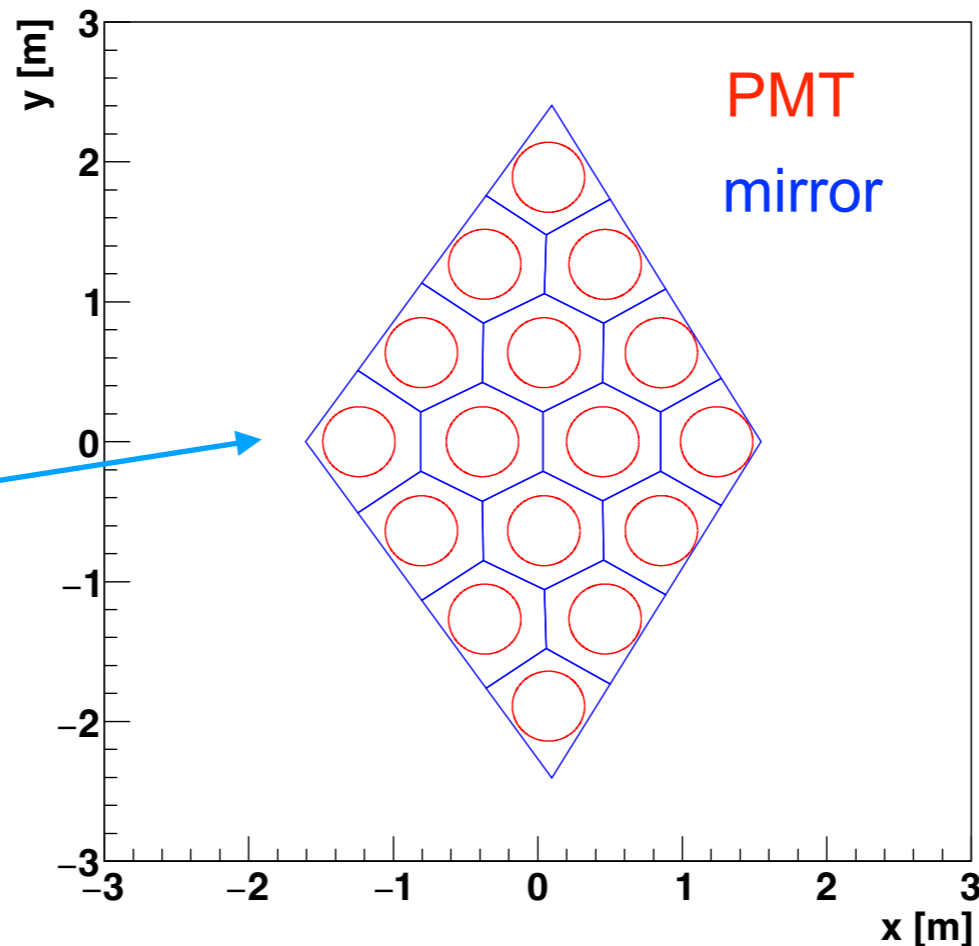
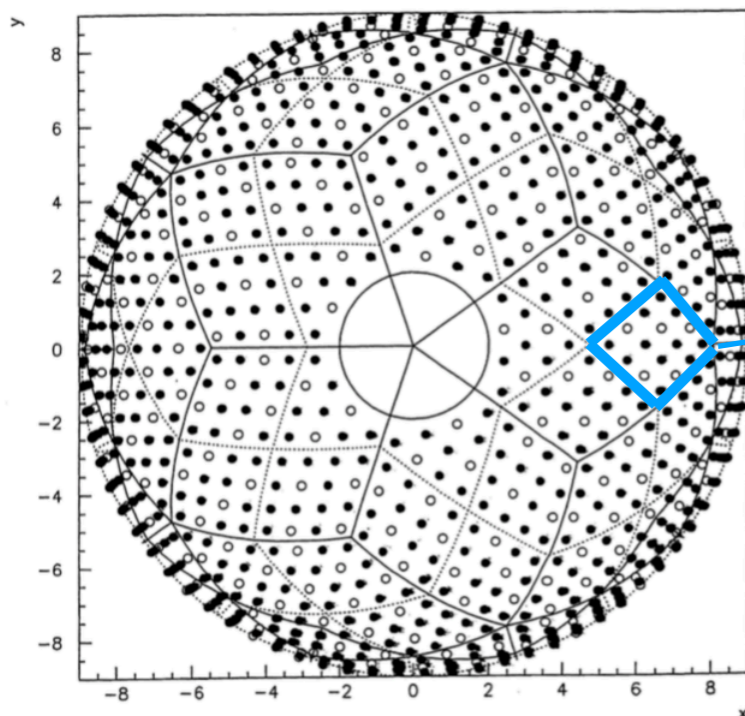
light yield \sim photo-coverage

polygon entrance \rightarrow circle exit

flexible shape construction was achieved by
G4TessellatedSolid method in Geant4

further reduction of gap between mirrors

top view of KamLAND



mirror shape
in 4×4 face

4 hexagons
10 pentagons
2 squares

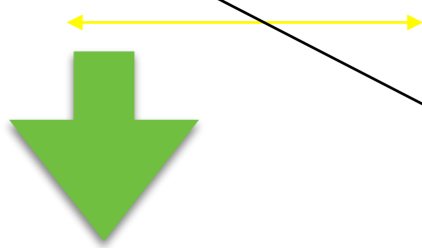
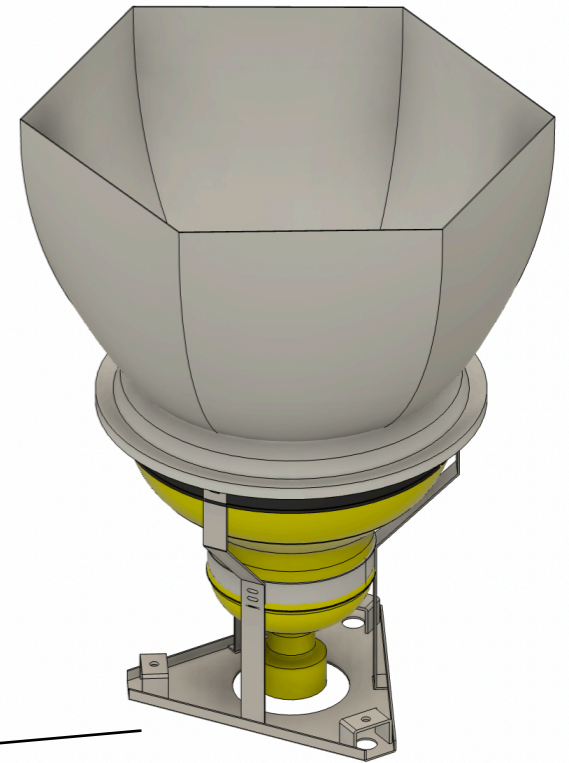
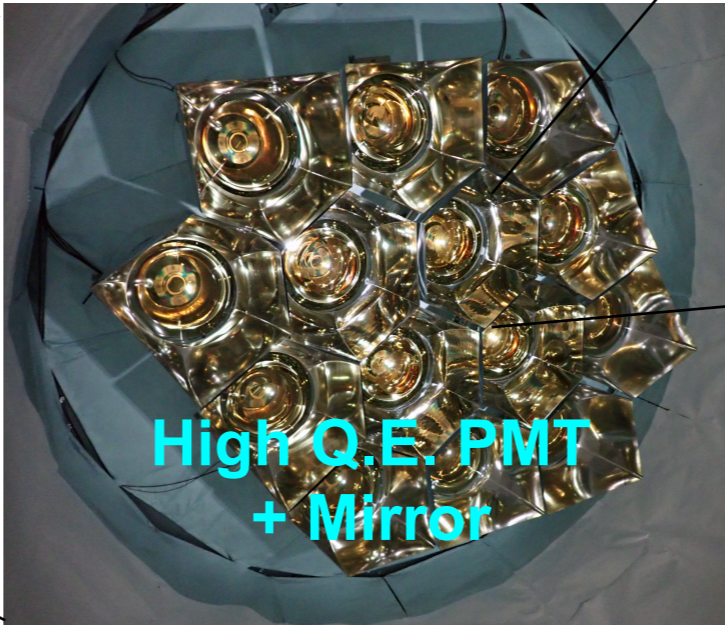
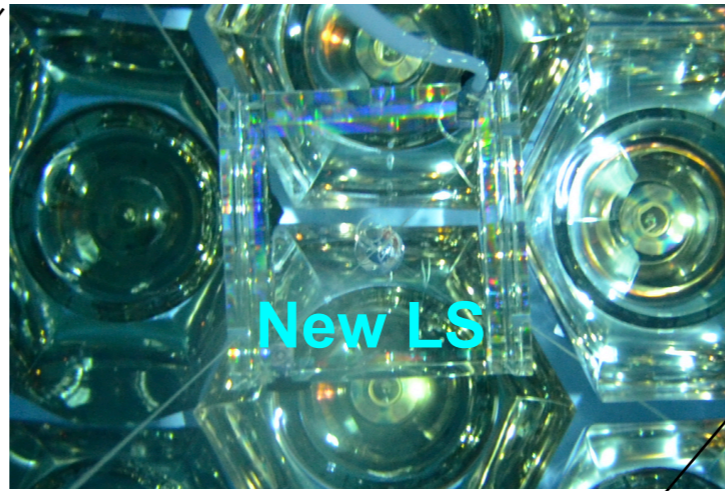
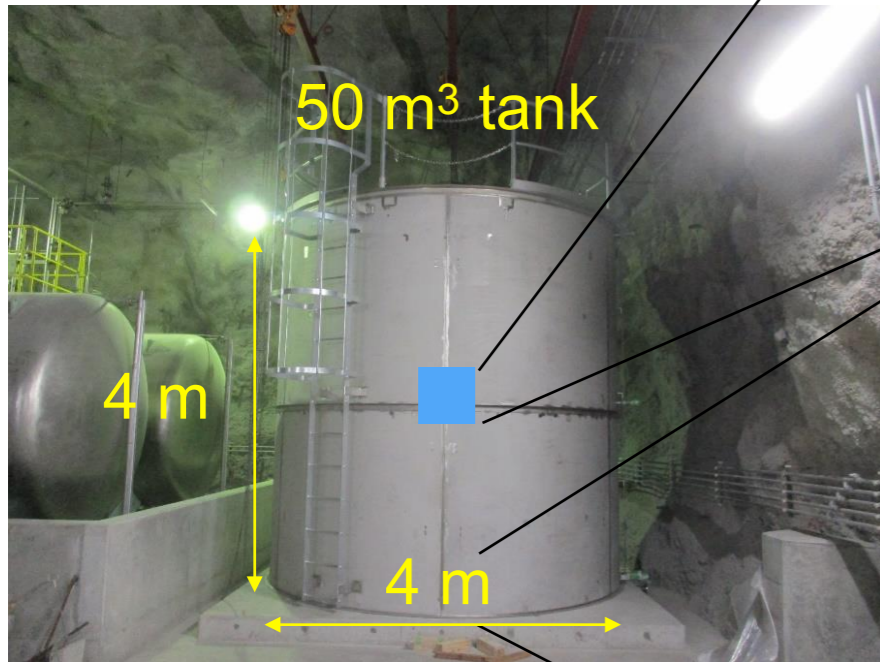
PMT with mirror



coverage \sim 100%

KamLAND2 Prototype

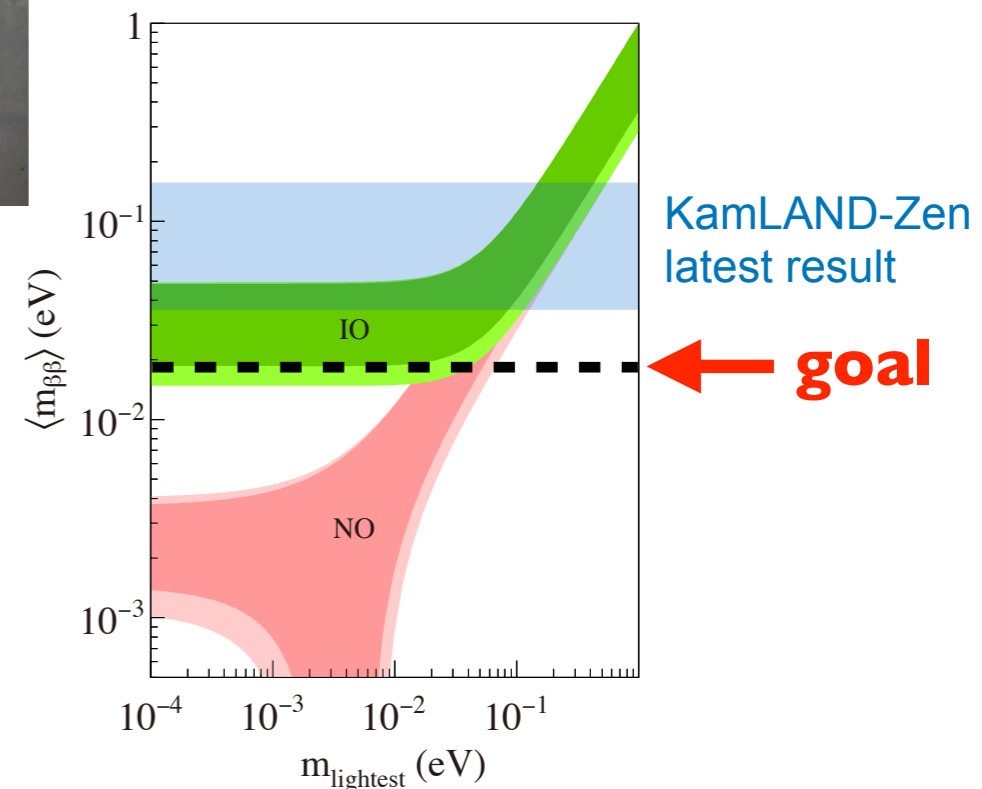
KamLAND2 prototype



High performance of KamLAND2 will be demonstrated with the prototype detector

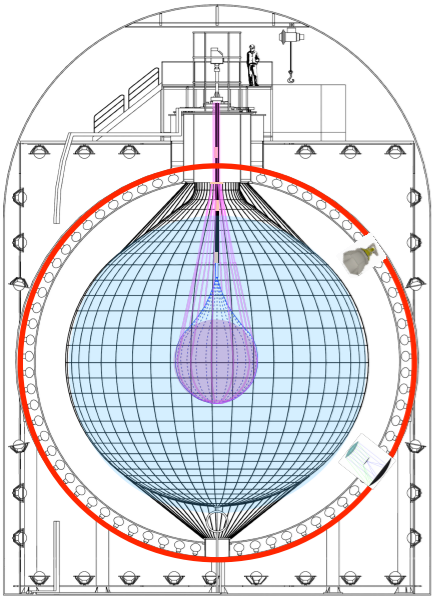
KamLAND2-Zen will cover the IO region

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



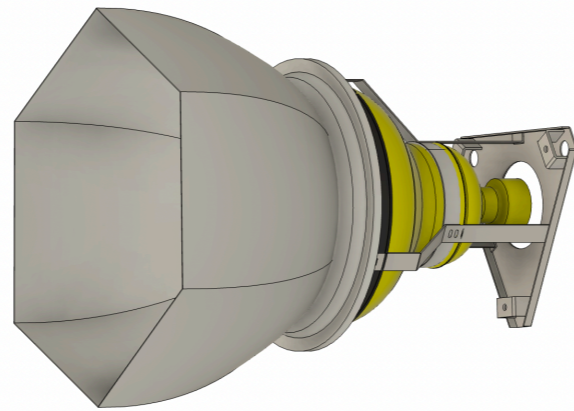
Imaging Device

KamLAND with imaging device



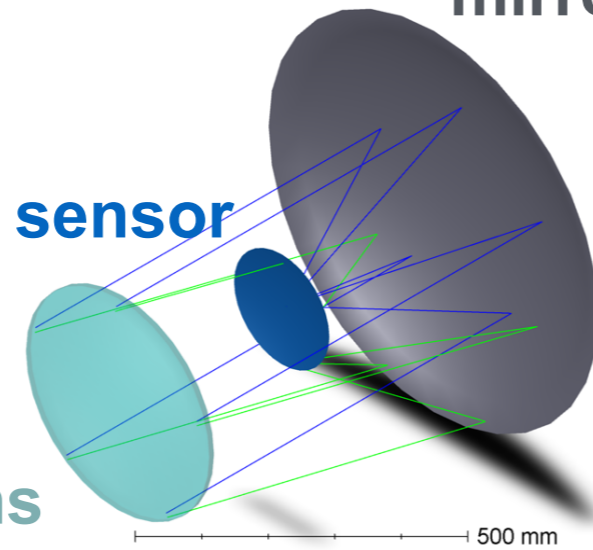
PMT
x ~1800

Imaging
device
x ~100



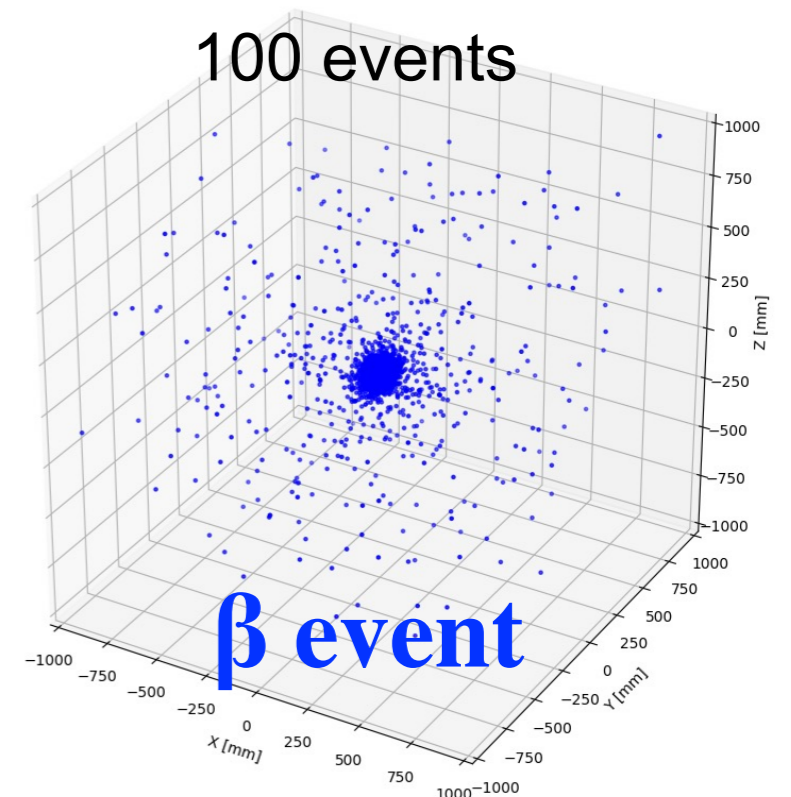
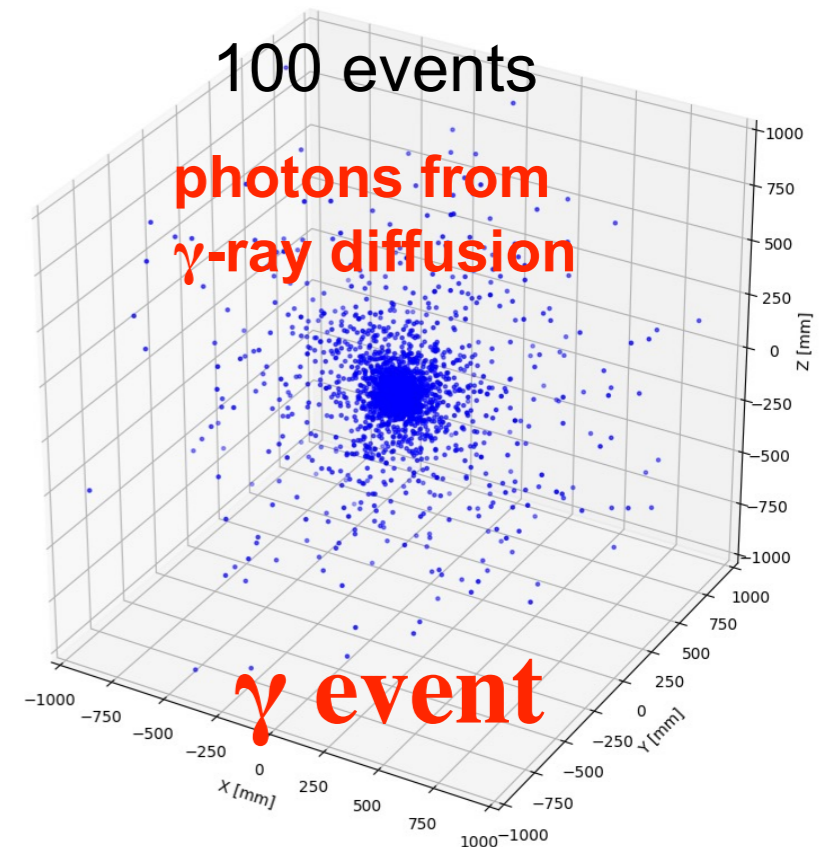
mirror

imaging

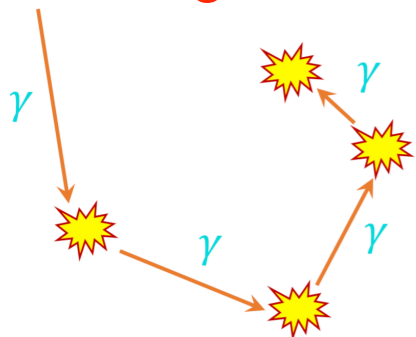


lens

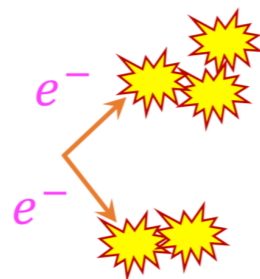
~0.3 p.e. / sensor



γ event
background



β event
signal ($0\nu\beta\beta$)



Large difference in
spread of photon emission

→ Particle identification

background rate **< 1/10**

Photo Sensor

Design of optical system

- large half angle of view : $> 20^\circ$
- large depth of field : $\pm 2\text{ m}$
- large photon collection efficiency
- resolution $< 3\text{ cm}$ (real image)
- lens and spherical mirror in oil

design optimized by Zemax

photo sensor size $\sim 20\text{ cm}$

with 1 mm position resolution

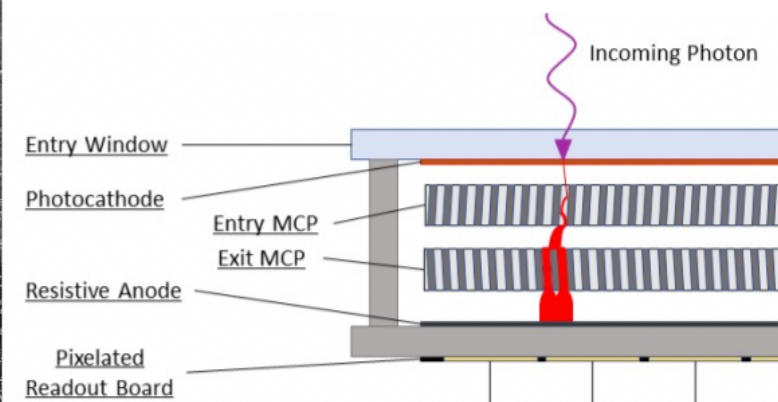
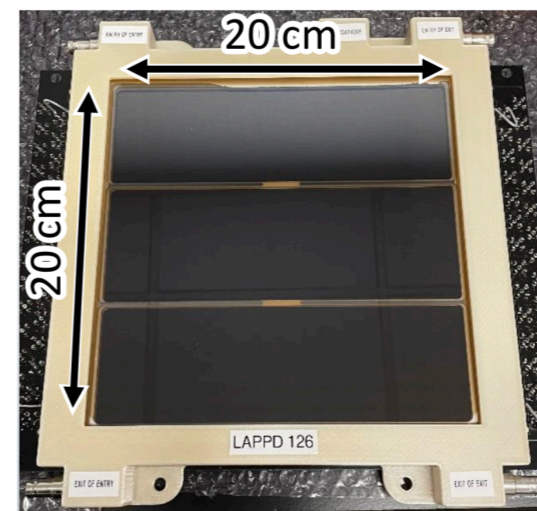
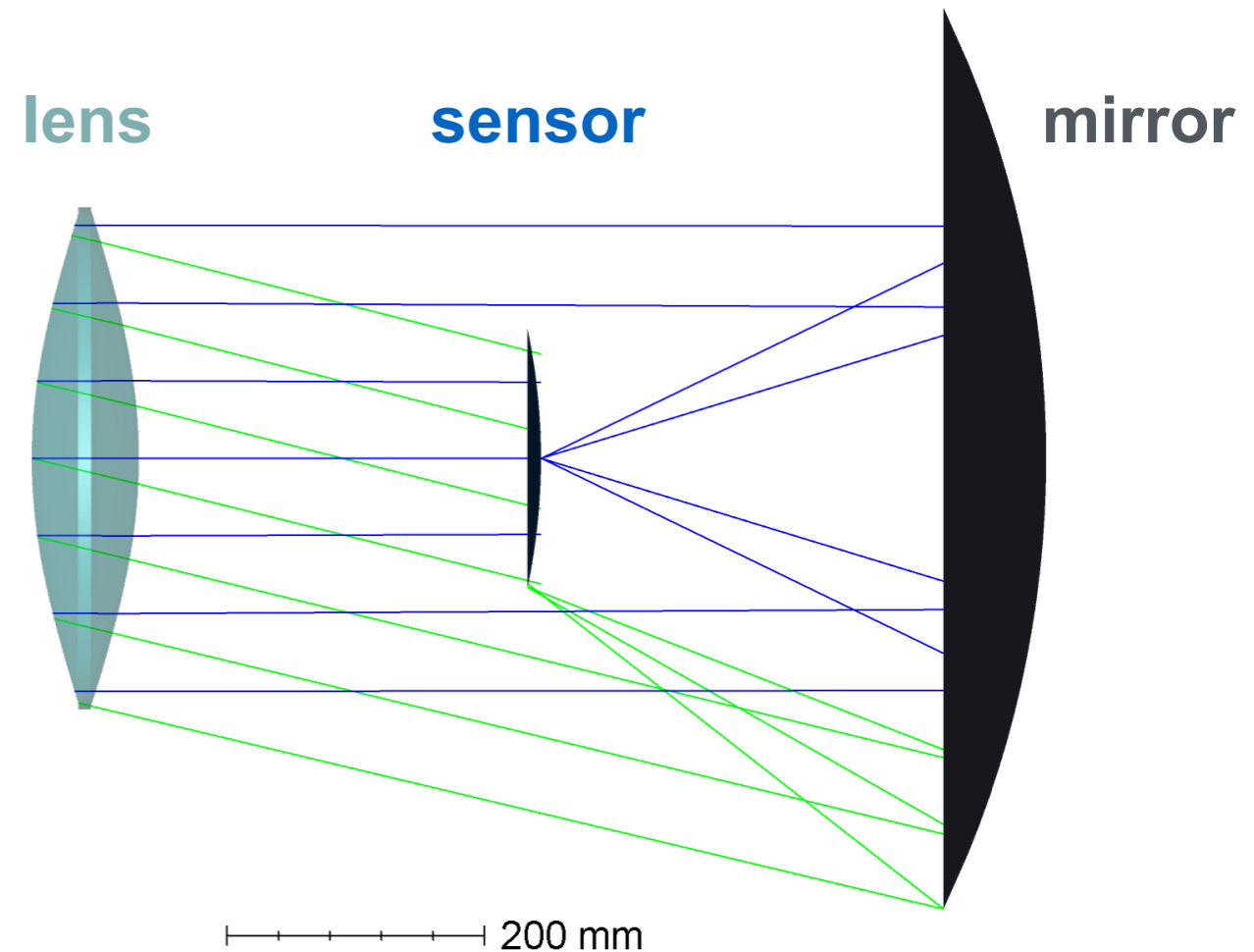
LAPPD is the best candidate

large sensitive area $20\text{ cm} \times 20\text{ cm}$

high quantum efficiency $\sim 30\%$ @ 365 nm

high position resolution $\sim 1.3\text{ mm}$

high time resolution for single p.e. $\sim 50\text{ ps}$



Test of photo sensor performance is ongoing

Summary

- Neutrinoless double-beta decays provide an important probe for physics beyond the Standard Model.
- Results from KamLAND-Zen were presented.

KamLAND-Zen limits on $0\nu\beta\beta$ at 90% C.L.

KamLAND-Zen 400

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

KamLAND-Zen 800

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

Combined

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

NME calculations assuming $g_A \sim 1.27$

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

First probe of the inverted mass ordering region!

- R&D for KamLAND2-Zen is ongoing aiming at a test of inverted neutrino mass ordering.