

# “New” result of KamLAND-Zen

Kunio Inoue  
for the KamLAND-Zen collaboration

Revealing the history of the universe with underground particle and  
nuclear research 2016, Koshiba Hall, 11 May 2016

# “New”

## Search for Majorana Neutrinos near the Inverted Mass Hierarchy region with KamLAND-Zen

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(KamLAND-Zen Collaboration)

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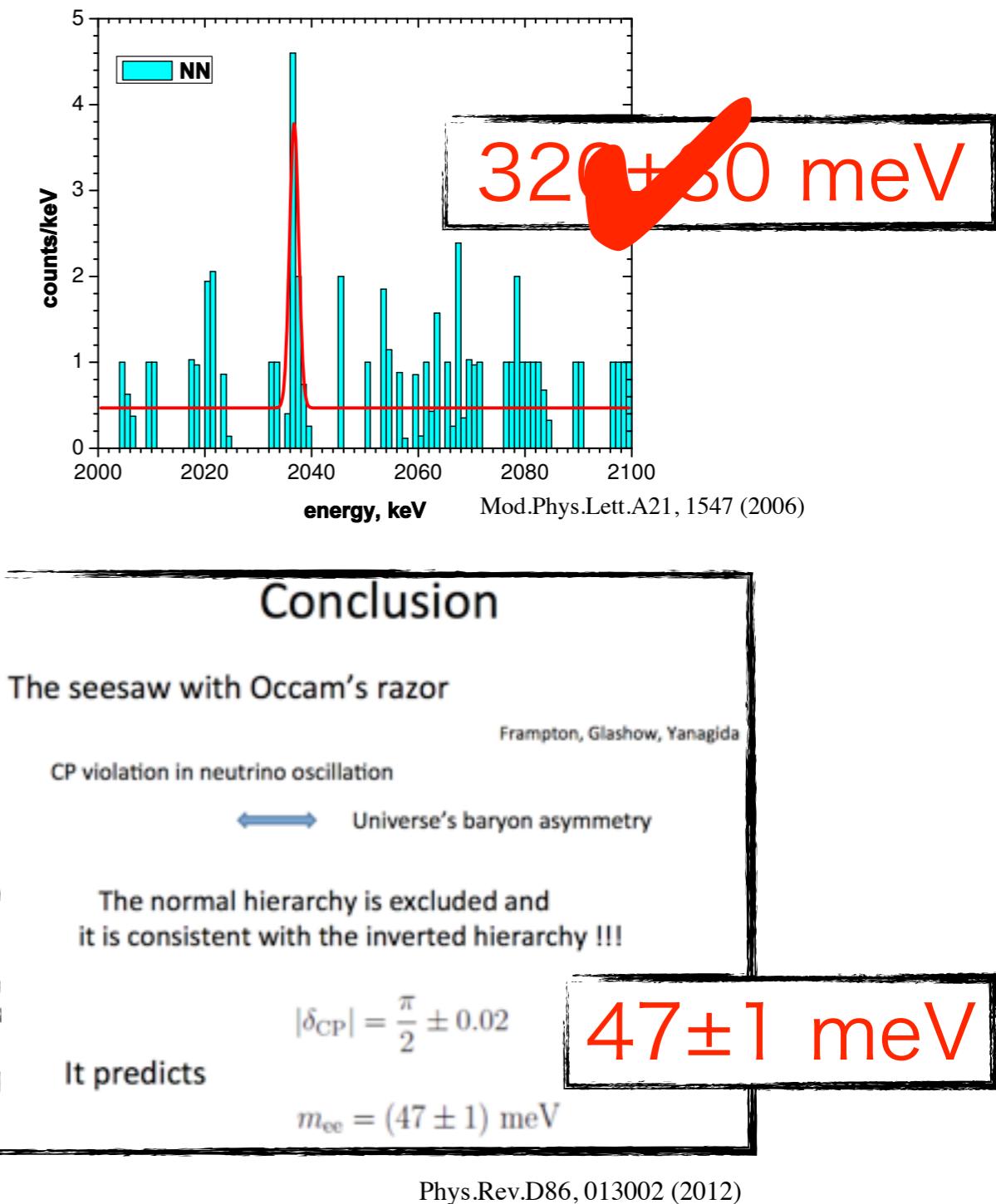
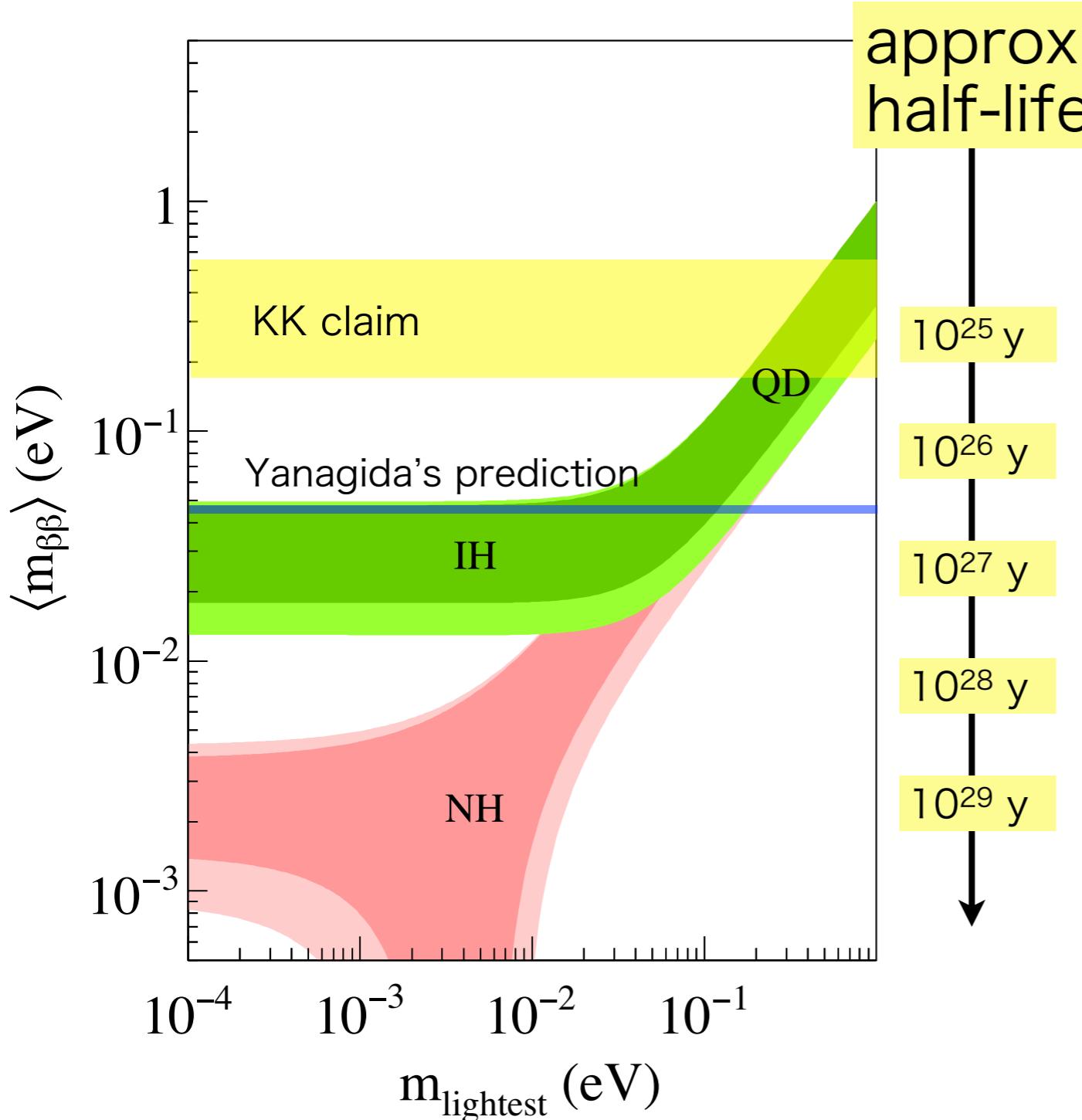
<sup>9</sup>*Center for Experimental Nuclear Physics and Astrophysics, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington 98195, USA*

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(Dated: May 11, 2016)

The latest paper has been submitted to  
PRL and posted on arXiv, yesterday.

# Milestone

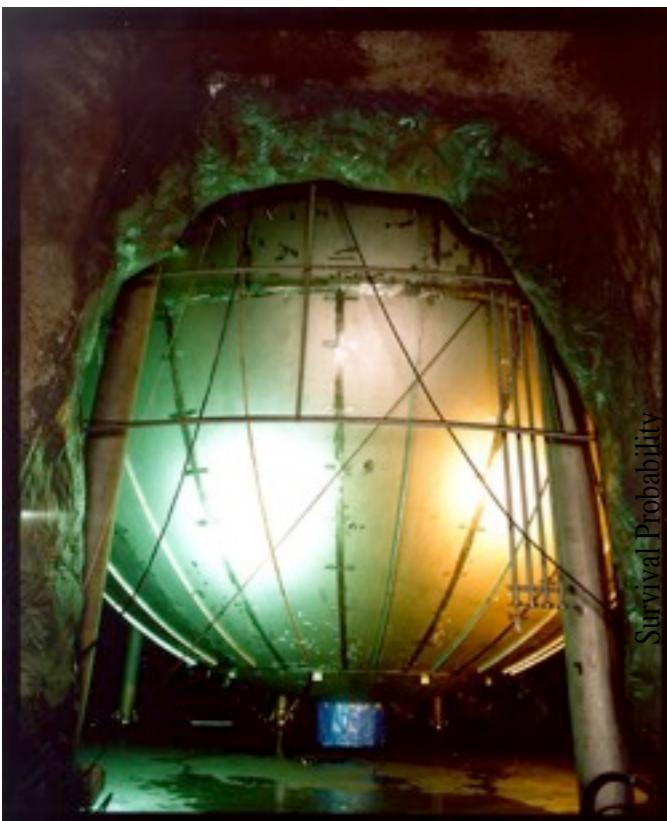


full coverage of Quasi Degenerate  
full coverage of Inverted Hierarchy  
full coverage of  $m_{\text{lightest}} \sim 0$

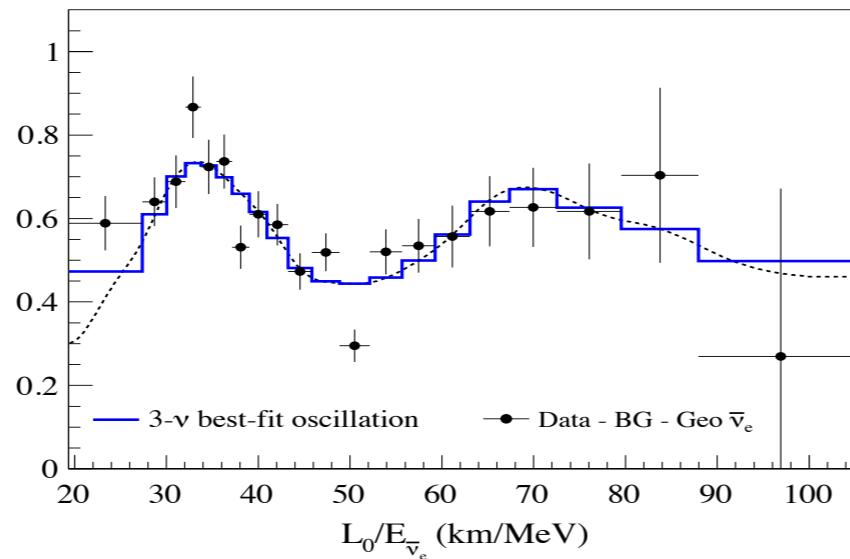
→ next milestone  
→ next gen. exp.  
→ very difficult

# Ultra-low BG underground (& huge) experiment is necessary

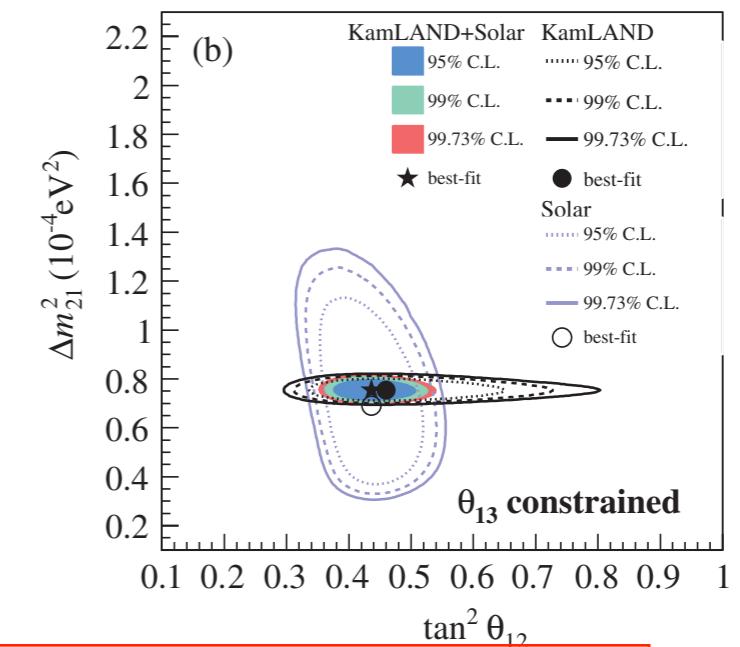
## It is KamLAND !!



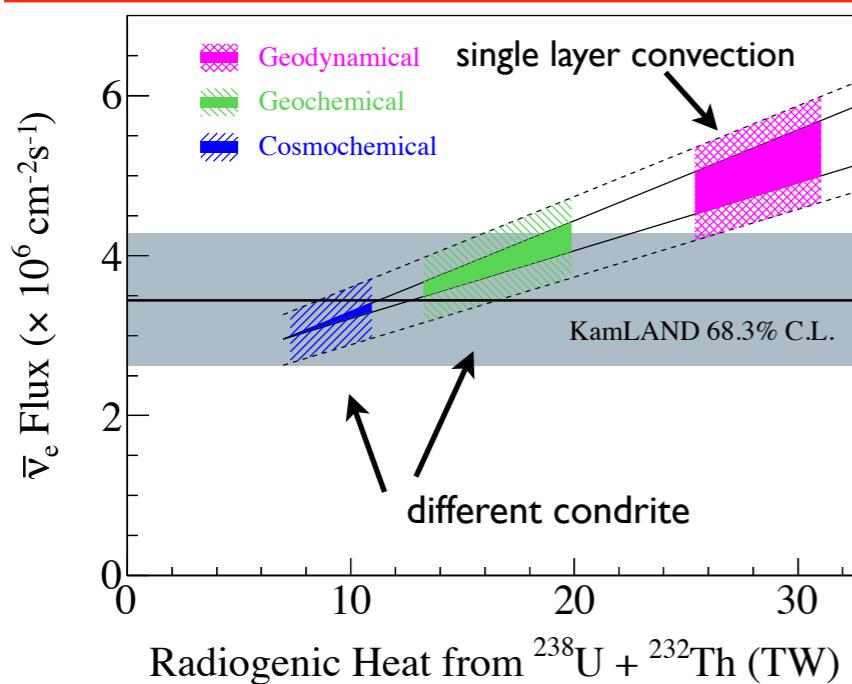
2 cycles of oscillations



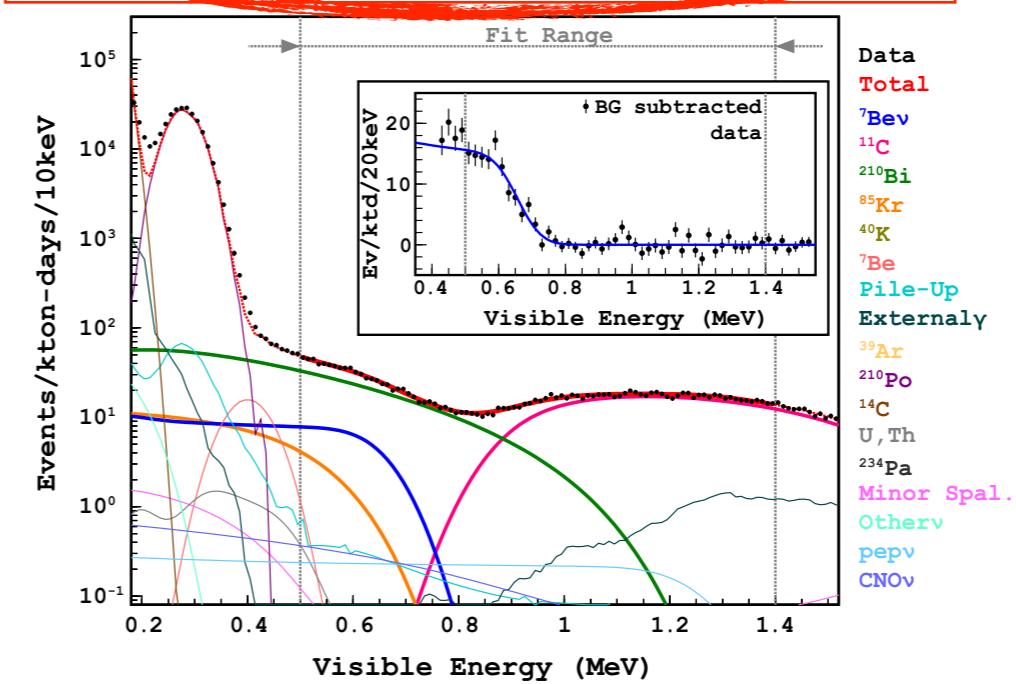
Precision measurement



Radiogenic heat measured,  
Model discrimination started

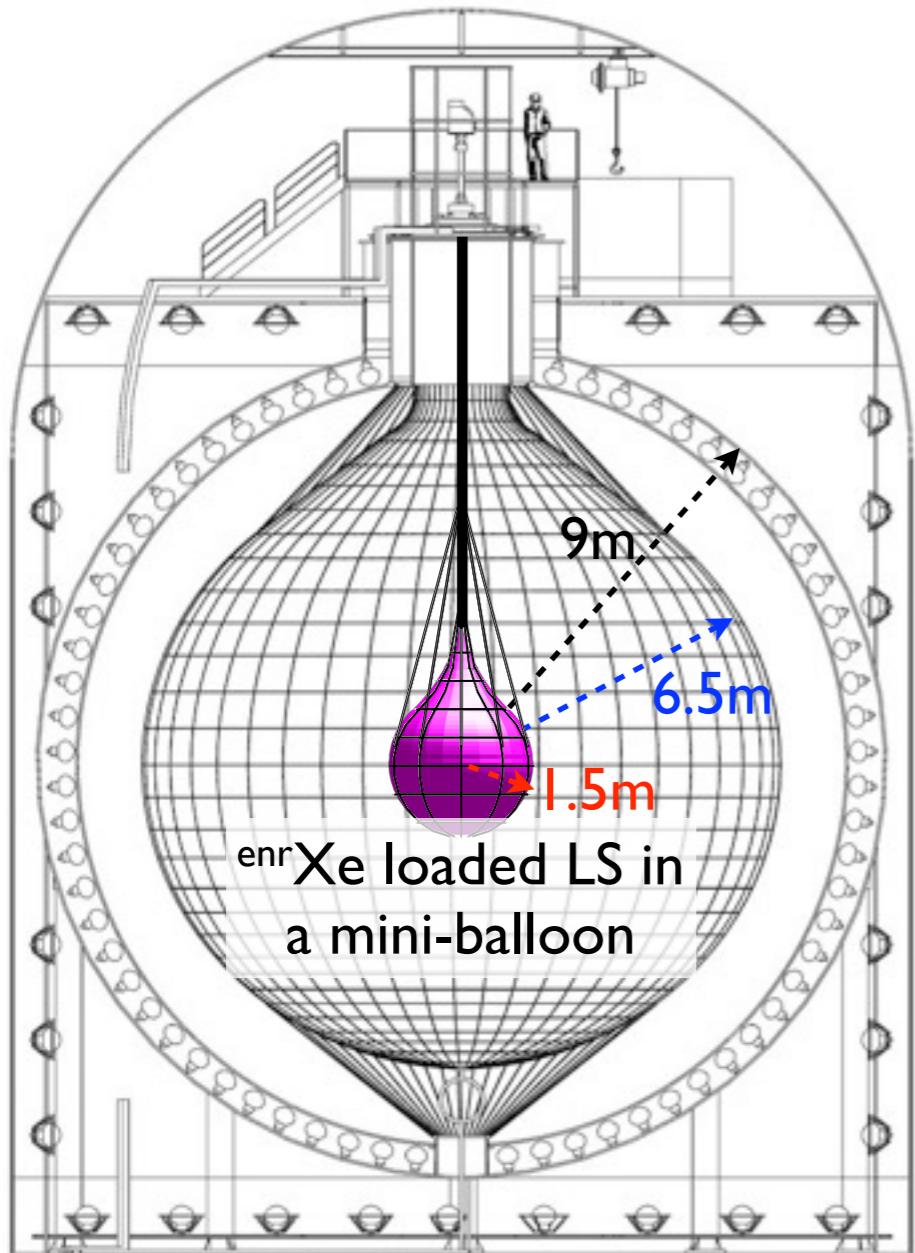


<sup>7</sup>Be solar ν measured,  
BG well-understood



# KamLAND-Zen

Zero Neutrino  
double beta decay search



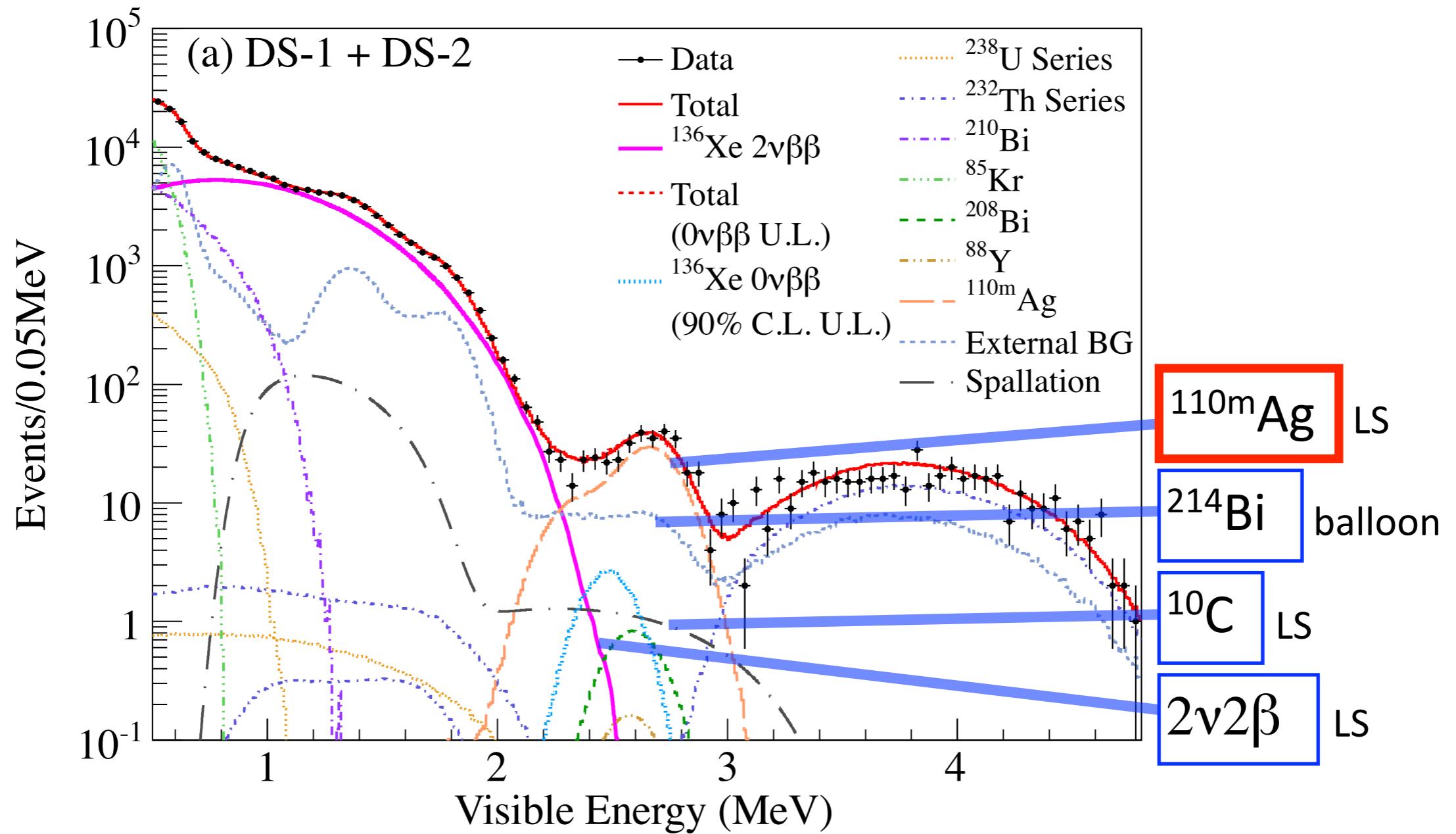
## Advantages of using KamLAND

- **running detector**  
→ relatively **low cost and quick start**
- **huge and clean** ( $1200\text{m}^3$ , U:  $3.5 \times 10^{-18}\text{ g/g}$ , Th:  $5.2 \times 10^{-17}$ )  
→ negligible external gamma  
(Xe and mini-balloon need to be clean)
- **Xe-LS can be purified, mini-balloon replaceable**  
if necessary, with relatively low cost  
→ **highly scalable** (up to several tons of Xe)
- **No escape or invisible energy from  $\beta, \gamma$**   
→ BG identification relatively easy
- **anti-neutrino observation continues**  
→ geo-neutrino w/o Japanese reactors

320kg 90% enriched  $^{136}\text{Xe}$  installed for phase-I  
and 380kg for phase-2

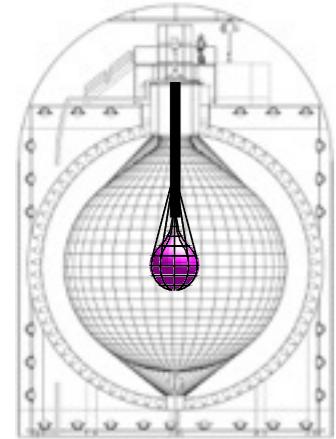
# KamLAND-Zen started in 2011

only 2 years from initial funding

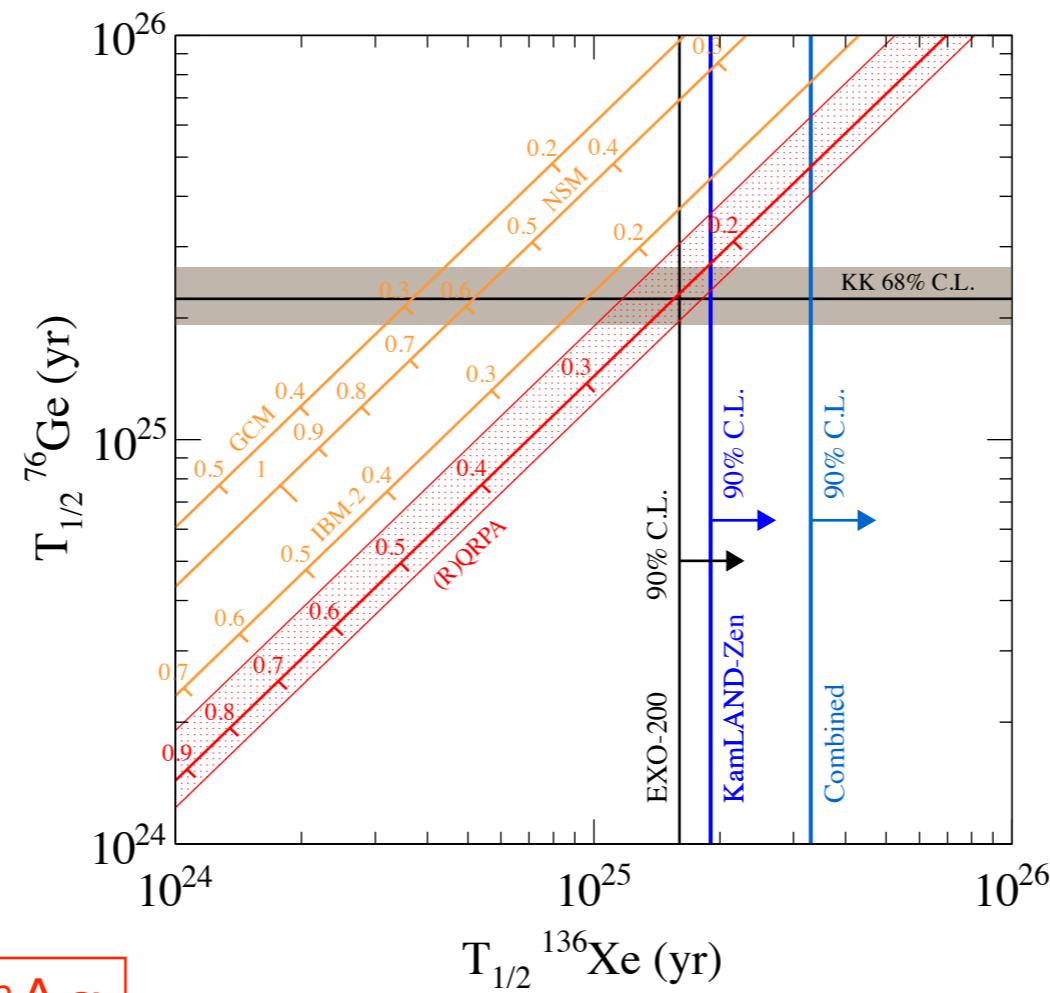


Unexpected BG has found

# published result w/ high silver rate (phase-1)



~320kg 90% enriched  $^{136}\text{Xe}$  installed initially

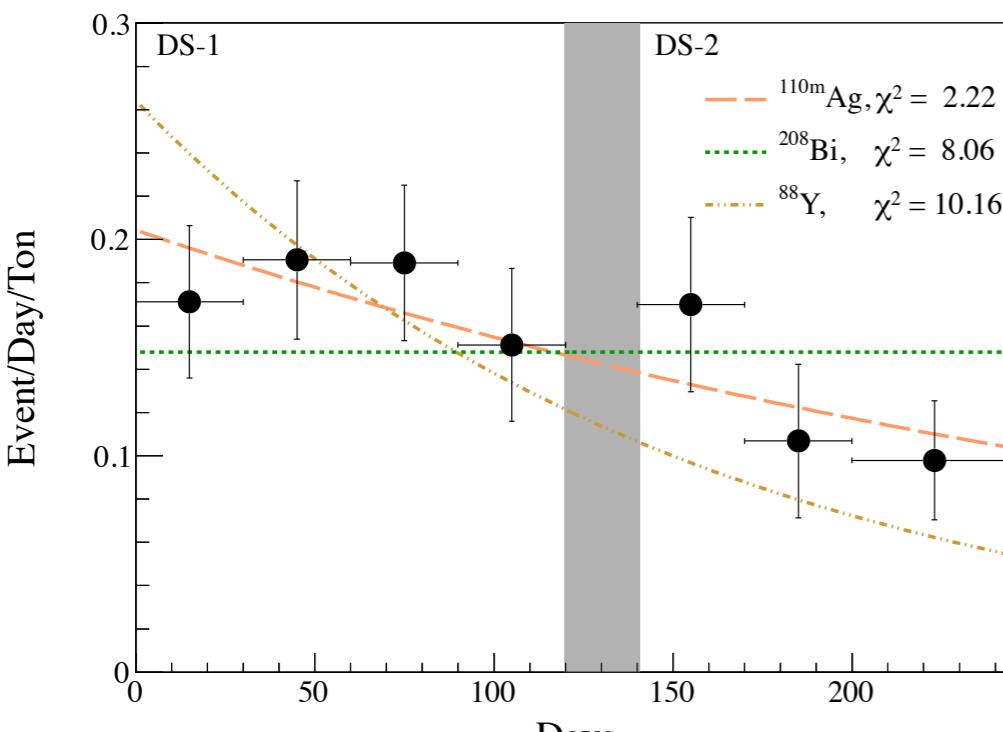


Phys.Rev.Lett, 110, 062502 (2013)

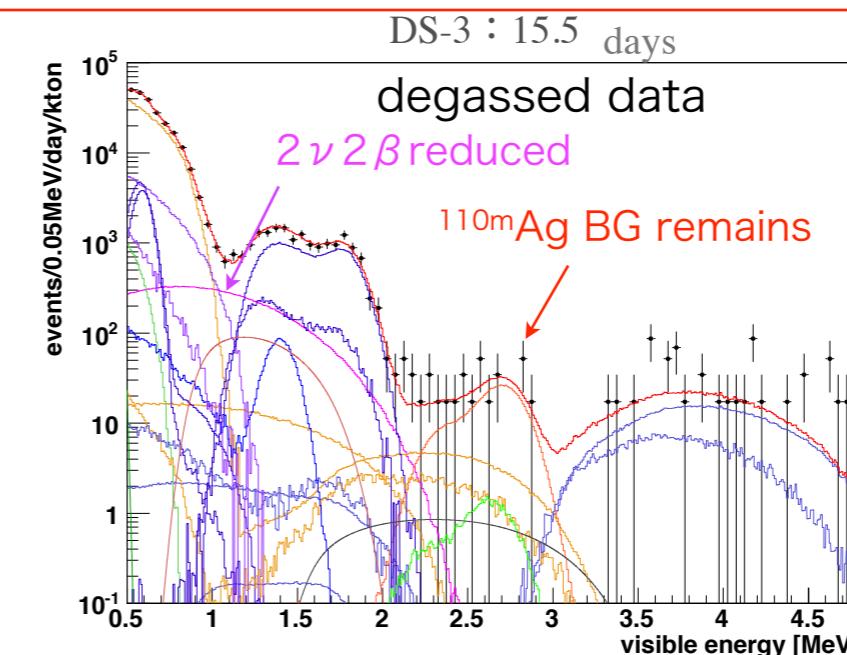
so far the world best limit  
 $T_{1/2} > 1.9 \times 10^{25}$  yrs (KL-Zen)  
 $> 3.4 \times 10^{25}$  yrs (combined)  
 $\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle < 120 \sim 250$  meV

KK-claim refuted at  
 97.5% CL

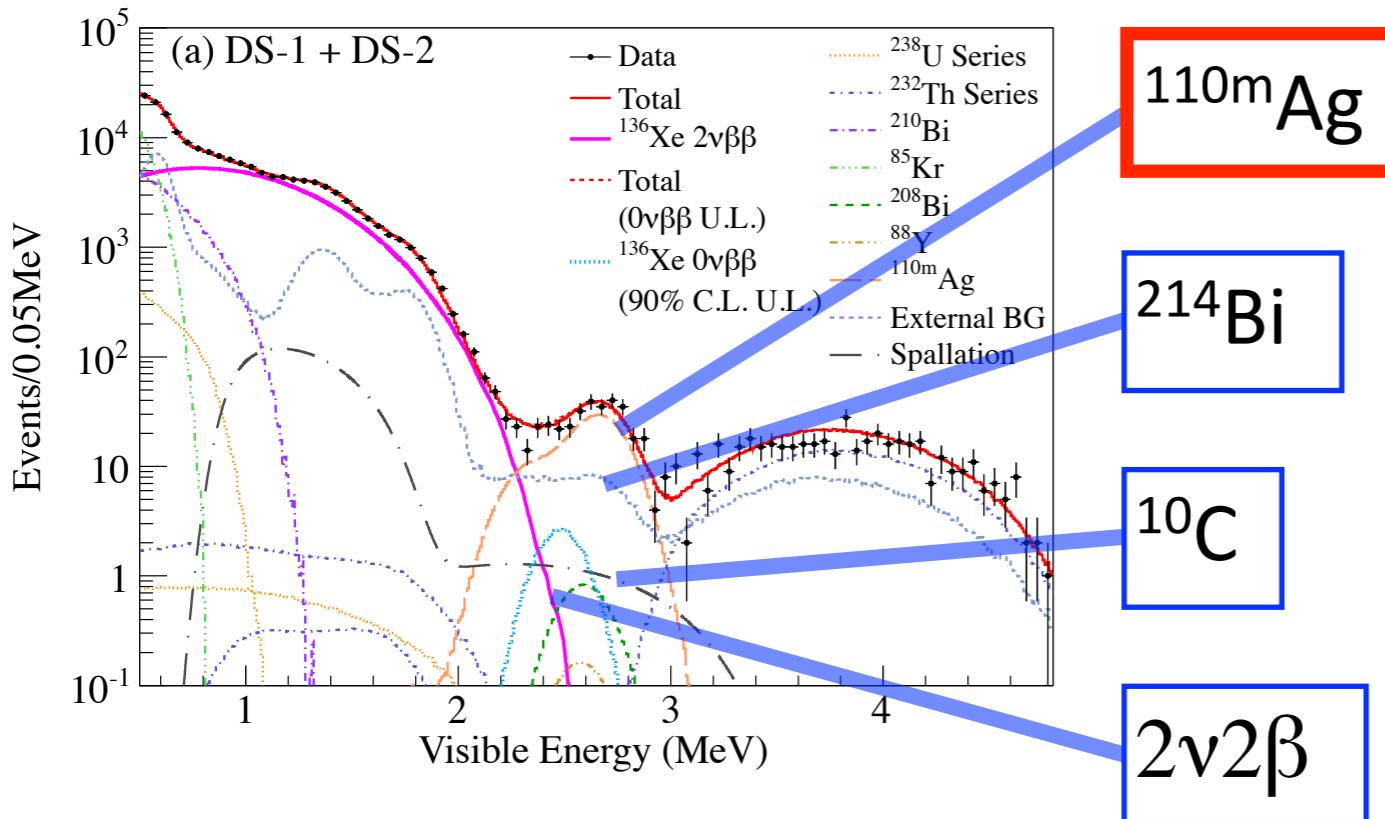
BG identified as  $^{110m}\text{Ag}$



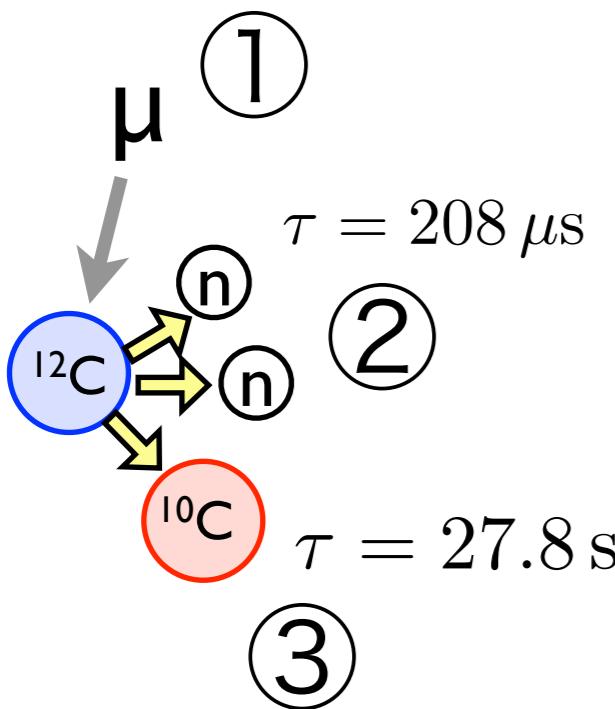
Xe on-off measurement demonstrated



# What can we do?



tripe fold coincidence  
for  $^{10}\text{C}$  rejection



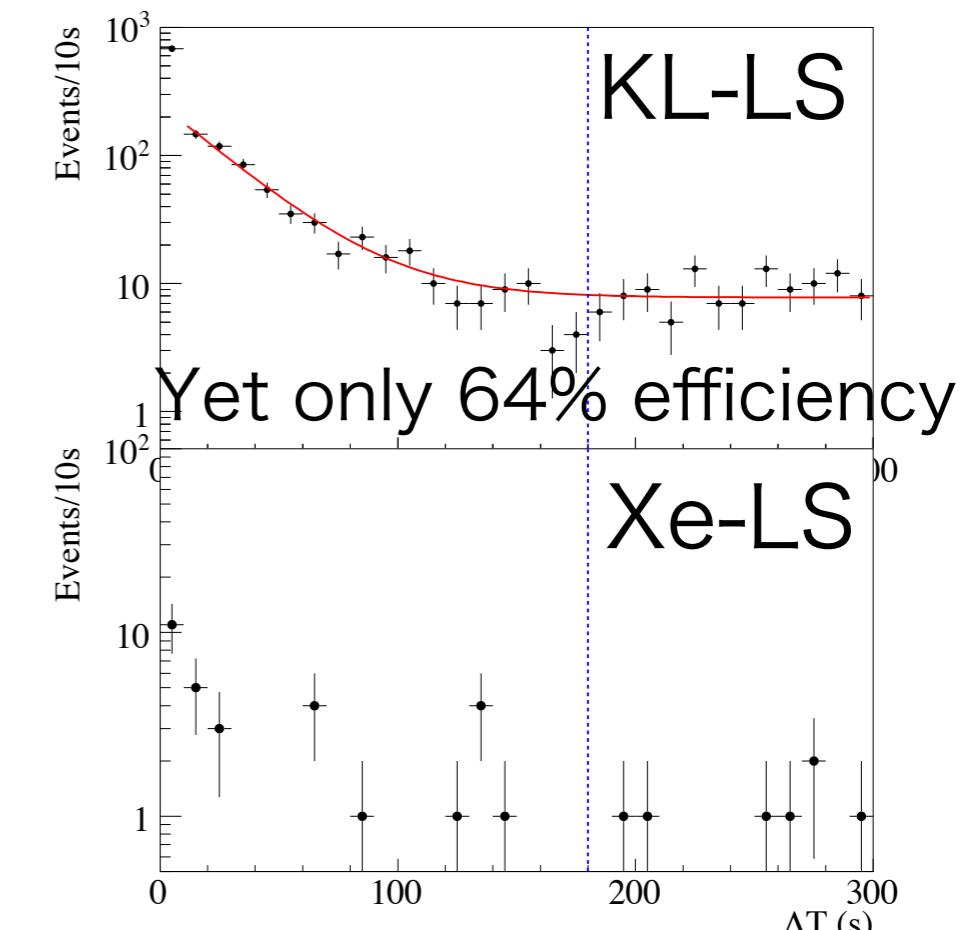
dead time  
free  
electronics  
MoGURA

purification !!

fine binning of volume

triple fold coincidence

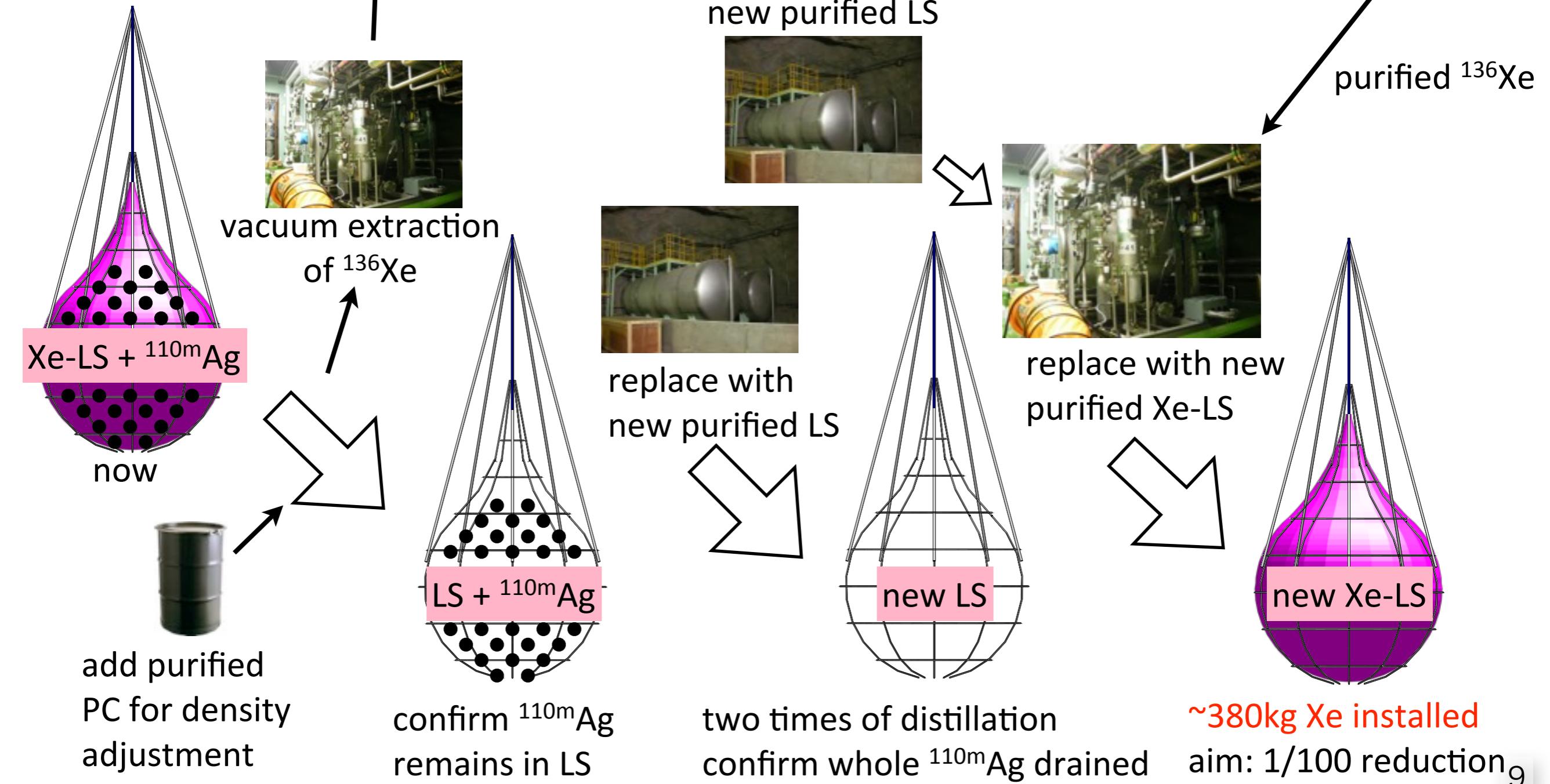
future task



# Purification Campaign

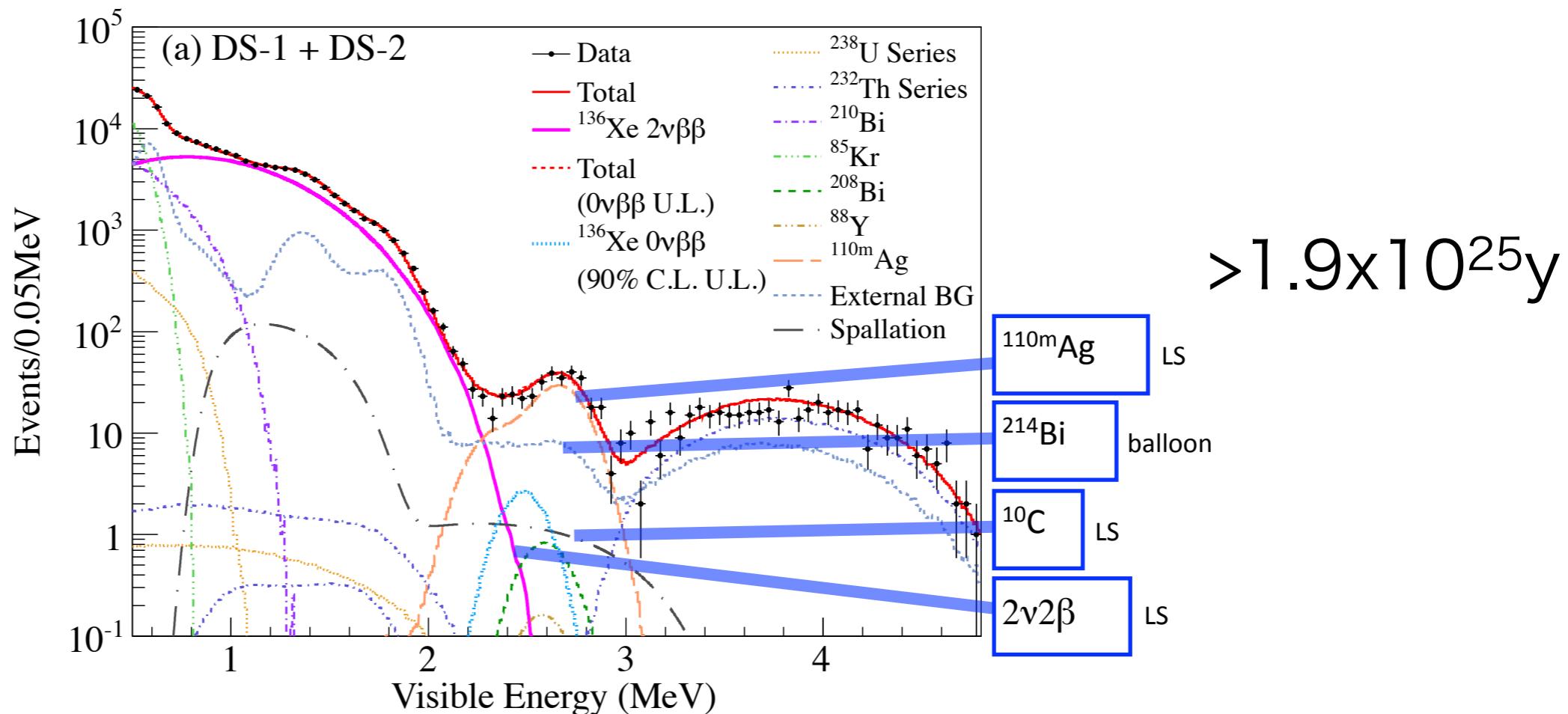
June 2012~

November 2013



Phase-1 320kg

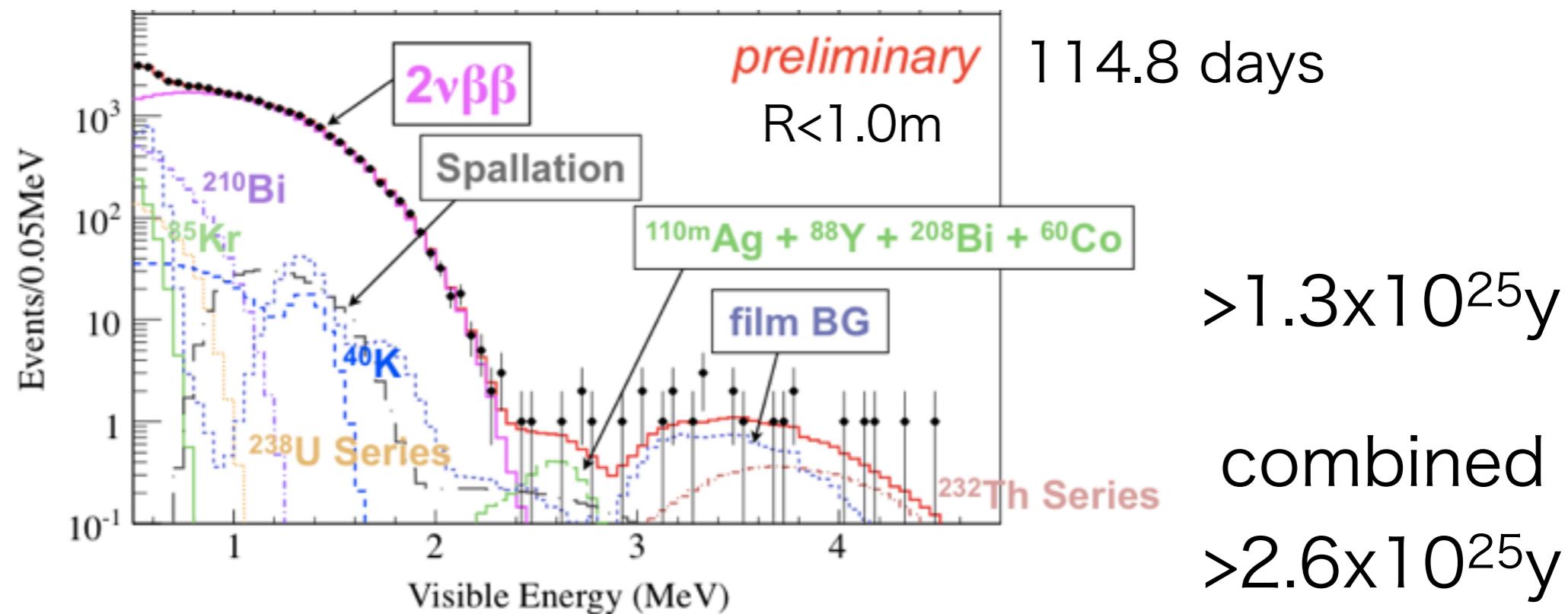
before  
purification



Phase-2 380kg

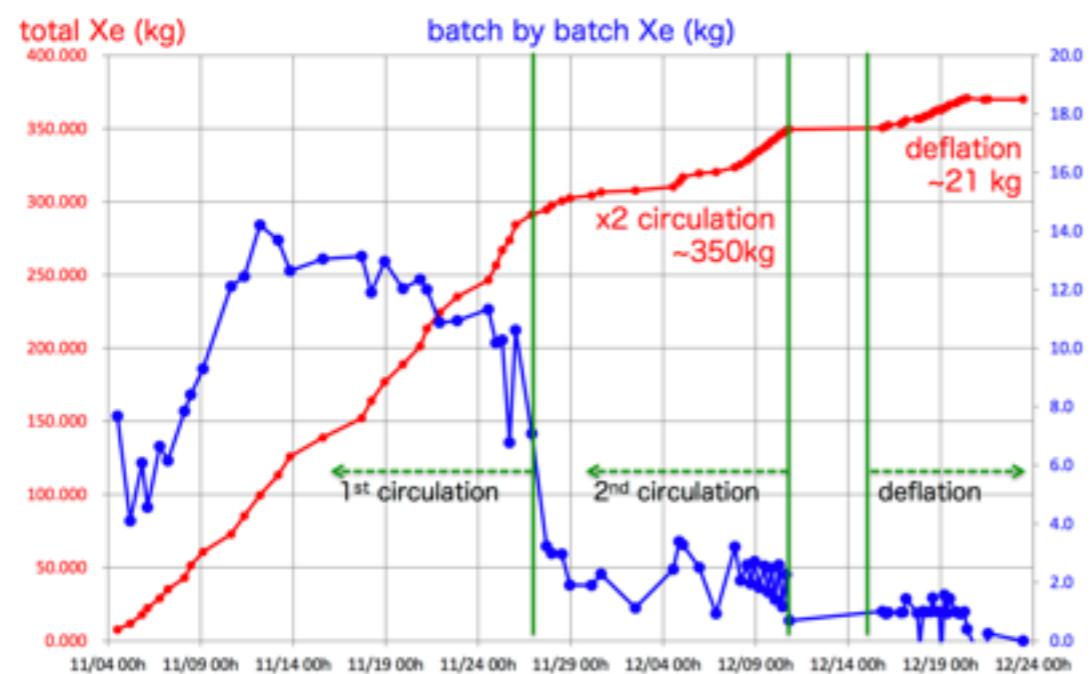
after  
purification

$^{110\text{m}}\text{Ag}$   
reduction  
 $<1/10$



# Now, the mini-balloon is extracted. (Dec. 2015)

for tank investigation required by law



Xenon has been recovered during recirculation and deflation of the mini-balloon.

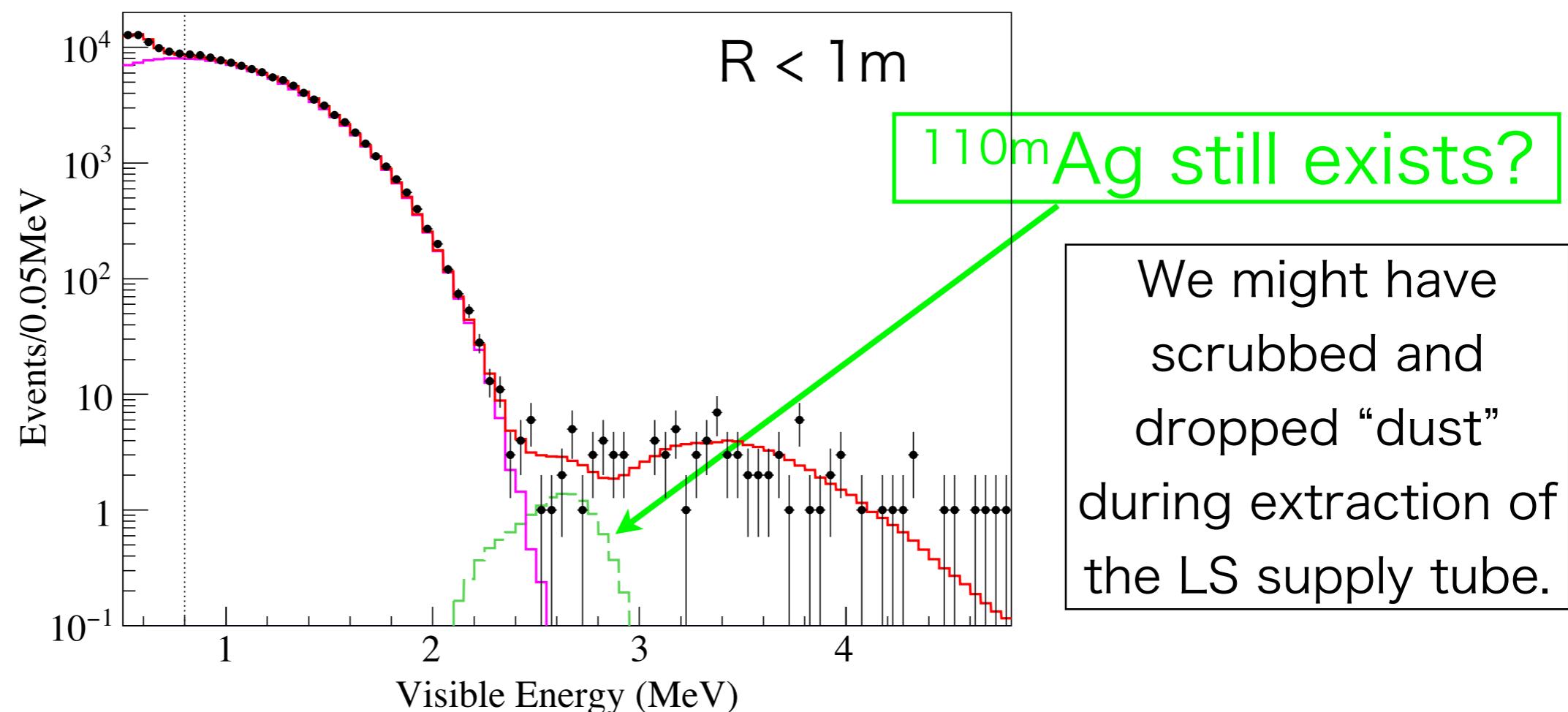
mini-balloon extraction



deflation  
→



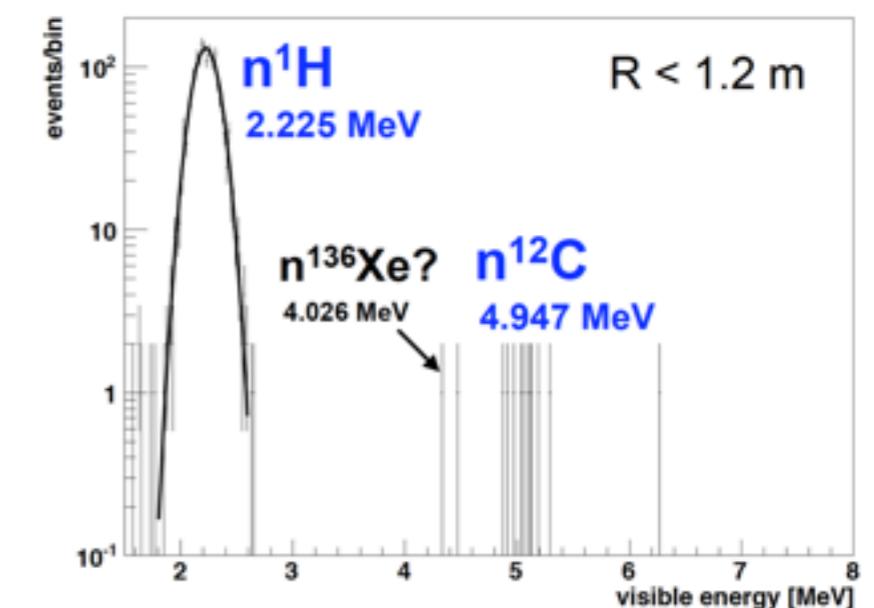
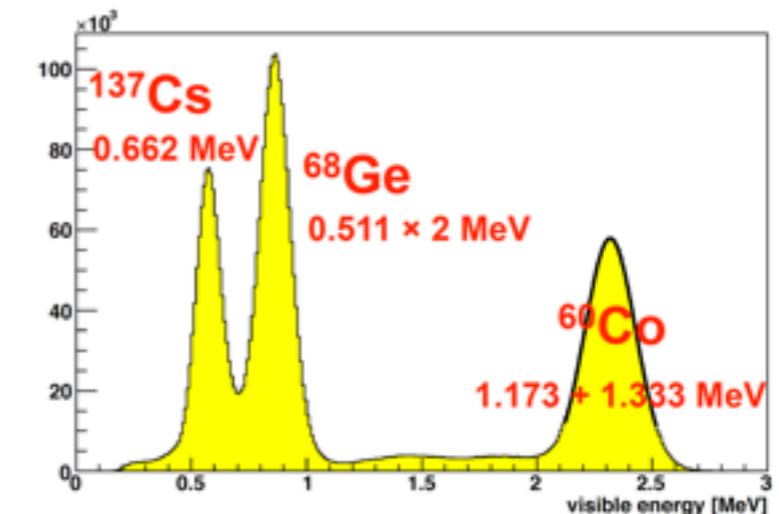
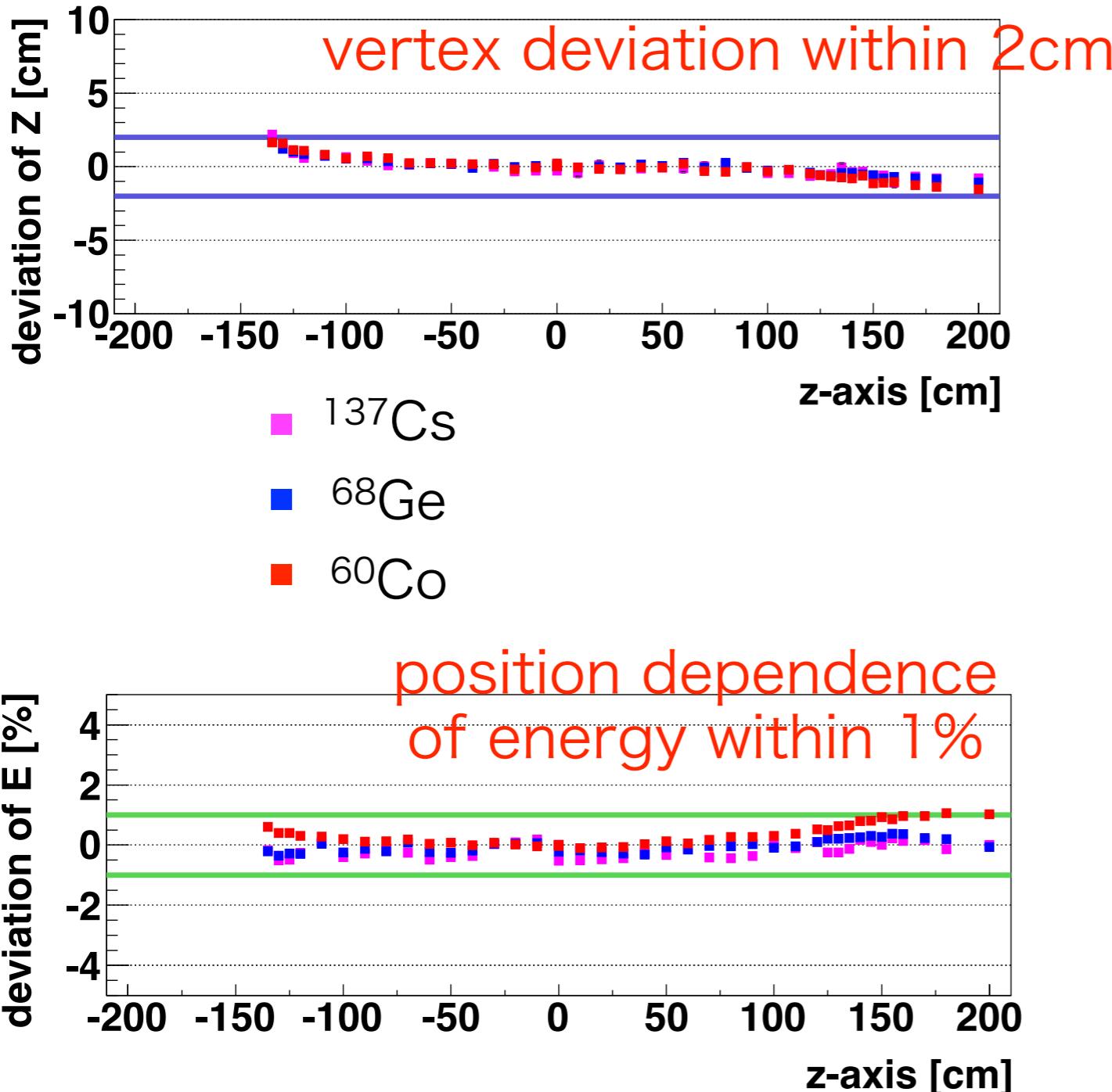
We have acquired phase-2 data (after purification) from December 11 2013 to October 27, 2015; total livetime of 534.5 days (cf.  $T_{1/2}(^{110m}\text{Ag})=250$  days) and exposure of 504 kg-yr.



In order to improve the sensitivity, we have performed all volume and time-binned analysis.

# Source calibration

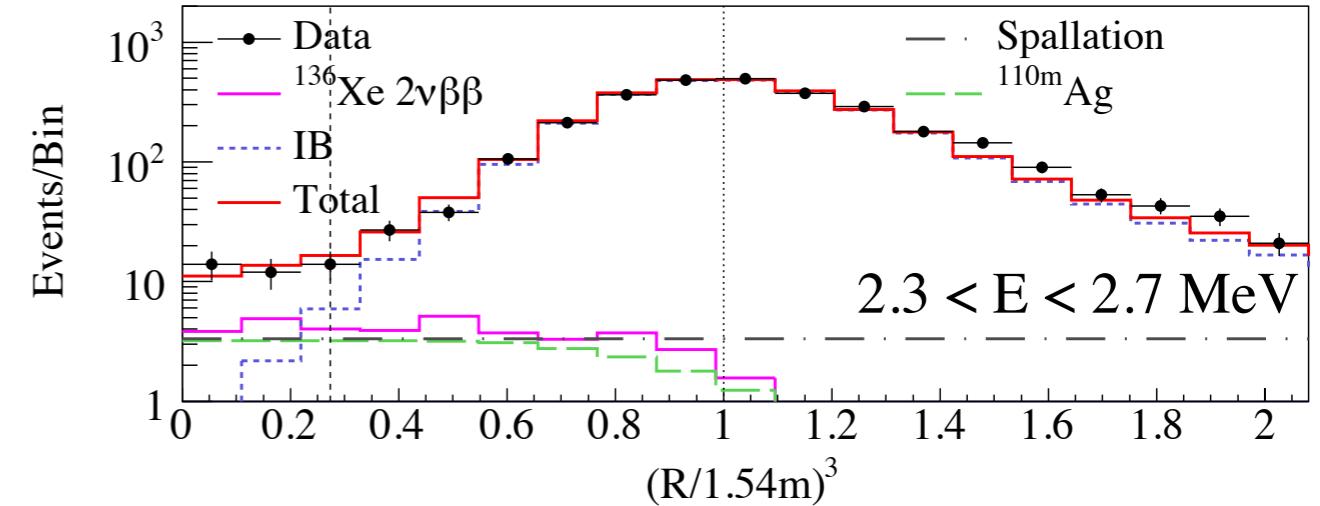
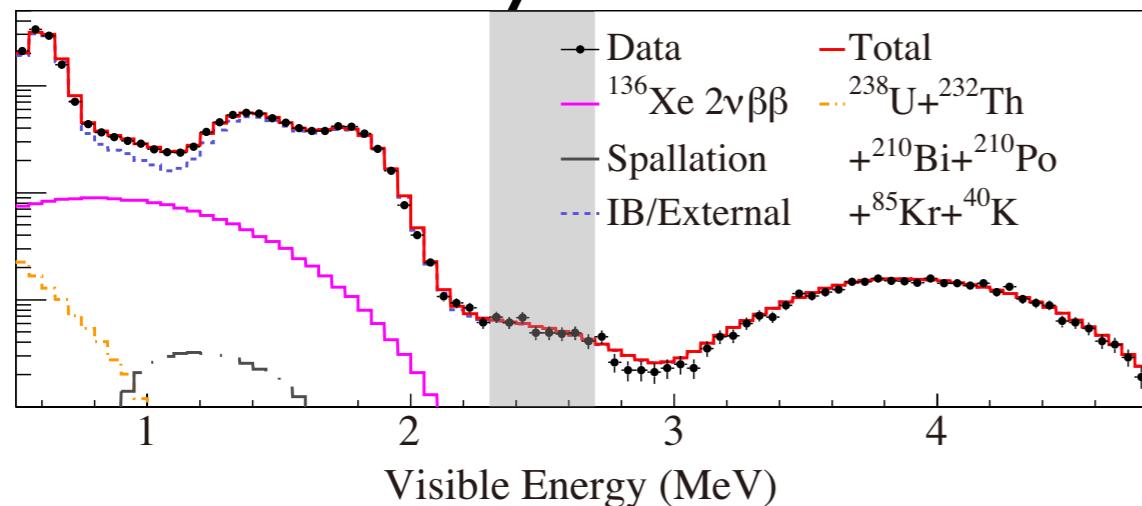
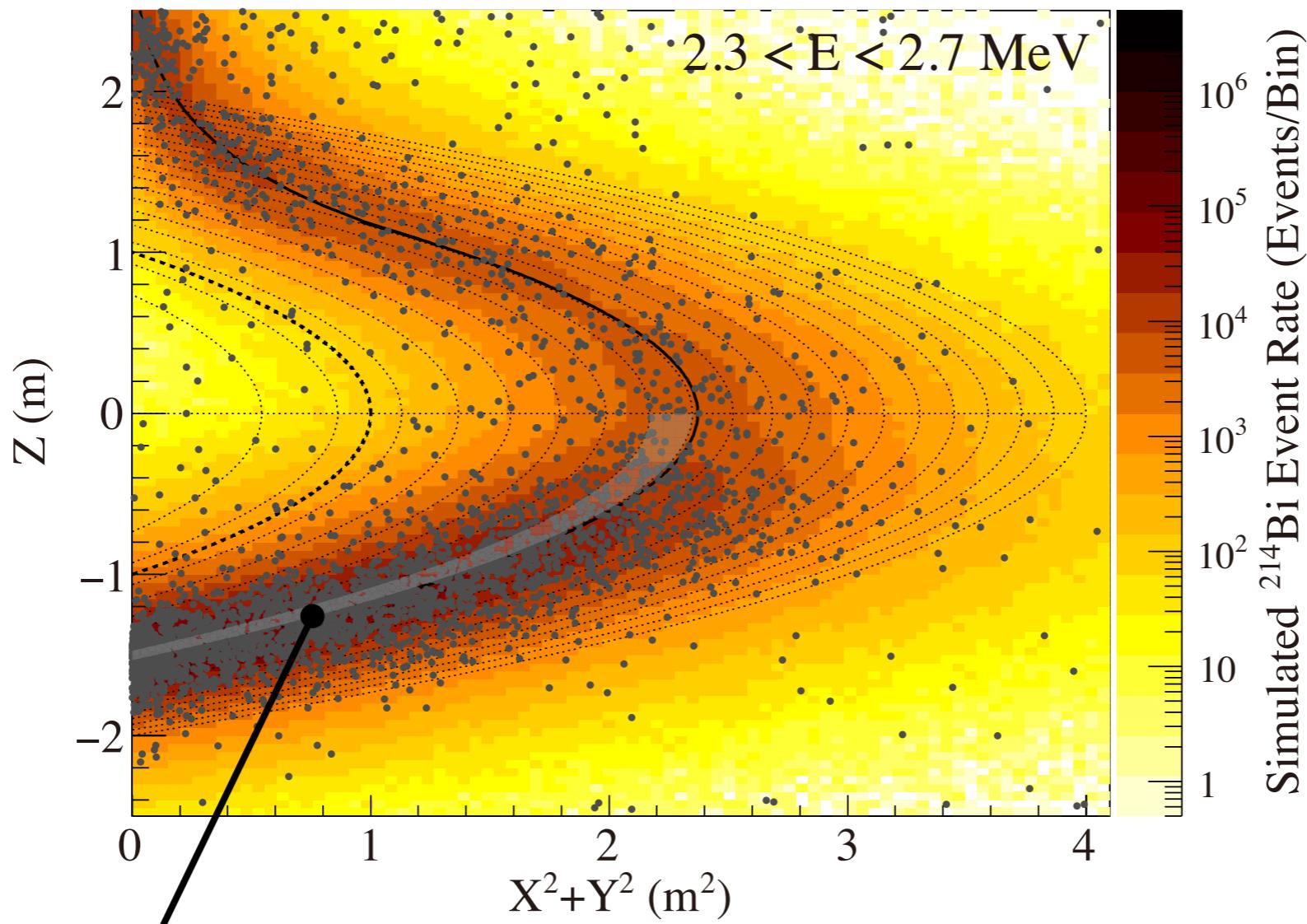
(Oct. 2015)



also in-situ calibration with n-capture on  $^1\text{H}/^{12}\text{C}$  and  $^{214}\text{Bi}$

Energy resolution in phase-2:  $\sim 7.3\%/\sqrt{E}$

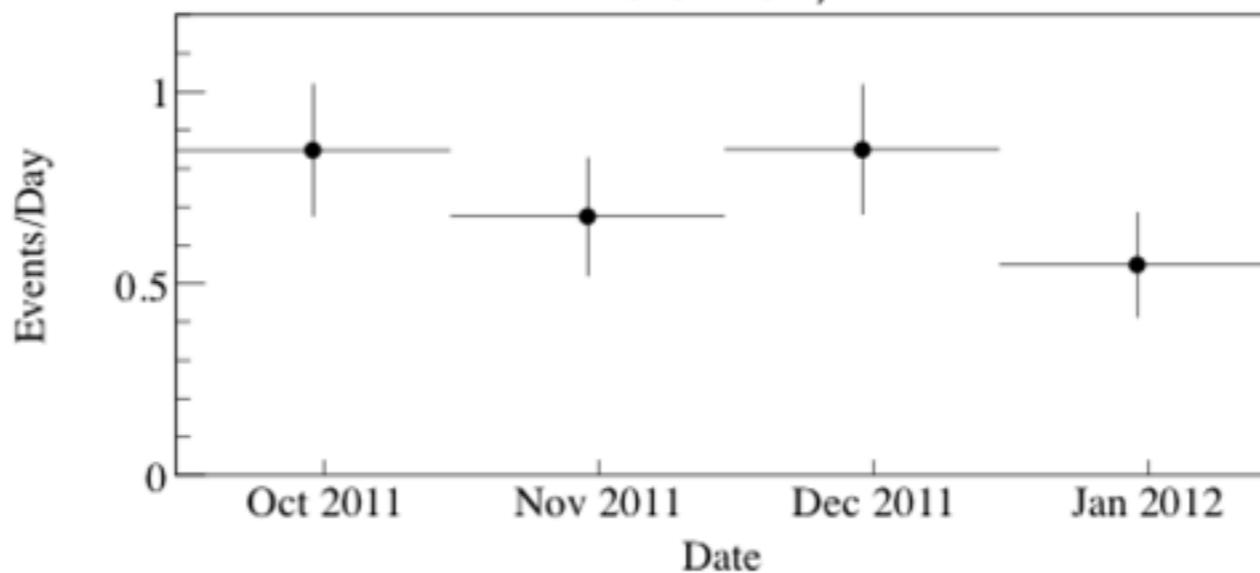
# 40 equal-volume bins



Energy and radial distributions are well-reproduced by known BGs. 14

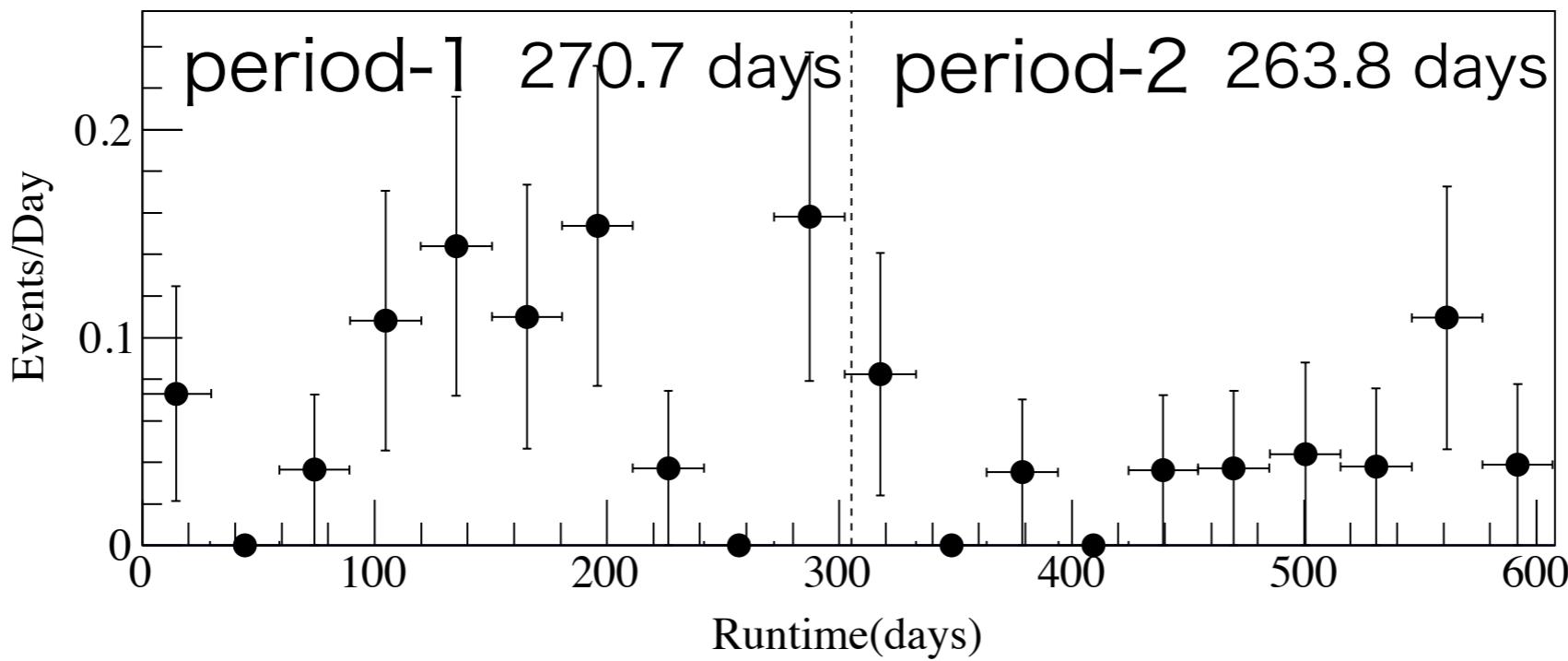
## Phase 1 (first 112.3 days)

$2.2 < E < 3.0 \text{ MeV}, R < 1 \text{ m}$



## Phase 2 534.5 days

$2.3 < E < 2.7 \text{ MeV}, R < 1 \text{ m}$



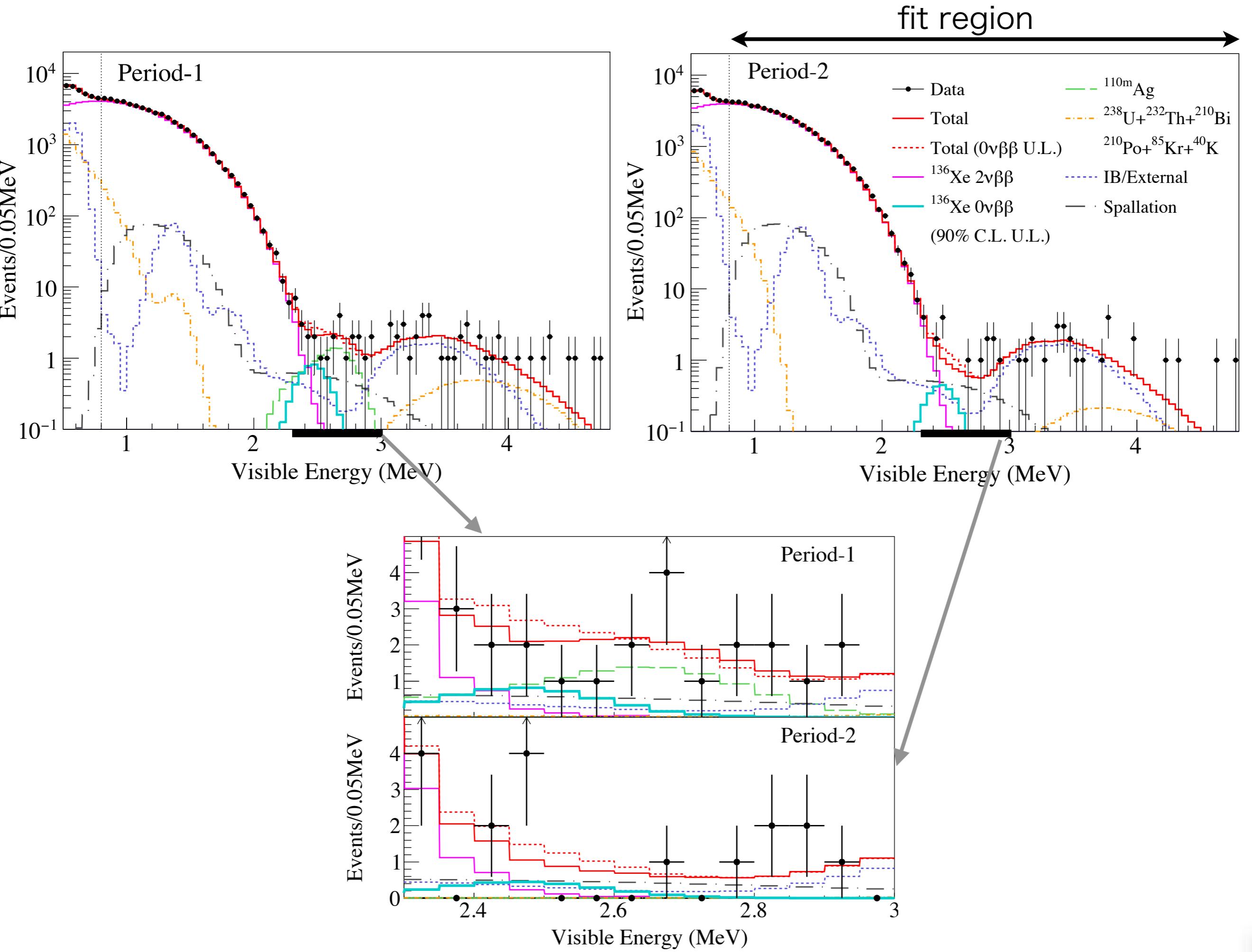
22 events

11 events

known BG other than  $^{110m}\text{Ag}$  ~11 events

A hypothesis:  
“Dust” sank !?

Yet only  $\sim 2\sigma$   
discrepancy  
from the  
simple decay



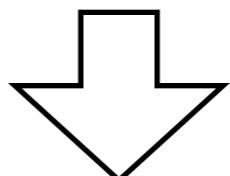
# Event summary $2.3 < E < 2.7 \text{ MeV}$ , $R < 1 \text{ m}$

	Period-1 (270.7 days)		Period-2 (263.8 days)	
Observed events	22		11	
Background	Estimated	Best-fit	Estimated	Best-fit
$^{136}\text{Xe} 2\nu\beta\beta$	-	5.48	-	5.29
Residual radioactivity in Xe-LS				
$^{214}\text{Bi}$ ( $^{238}\text{U}$ series)	$0.23 \pm 0.04$	0.25	$0.028 \pm 0.005$	0.03
$^{208}\text{Tl}$ ( $^{232}\text{Th}$ series)	-	0.001	-	0.001
$^{110m}\text{Ag}$	-	8.0	-	0.002
External (Radioactivity in IB)				
$^{214}\text{Bi}$ ( $^{238}\text{U}$ series)	-	2.55	-	2.45
$^{208}\text{Tl}$ ( $^{232}\text{Th}$ series)	-	0.02	-	0.03
$^{110m}\text{Ag}$	-	0.002	-	0.001
Spallation products				
$^{10}\text{C}$	$2.7 \pm 0.7$	3.2	$2.6 \pm 0.7$	2.7
$^6\text{He}$	$0.07 \pm 0.18$	0.08	$0.07 \pm 0.18$	0.08
$^{12}\text{B}$	$0.15 \pm 0.04$	0.16	$0.14 \pm 0.04$	0.15
$^{137}\text{Xe}$	$0.9 \pm 0.5$	1.1	$0.9 \pm 0.5$	0.8

# Results on $0\nu 2\beta$

	period-1	period-2
livetime	270.7 days	263.8 days
$^{136}\text{Xe}$ $0\nu 2\beta$ decay rate	< 5.6 /kton/day	< 3.2 /kton/day

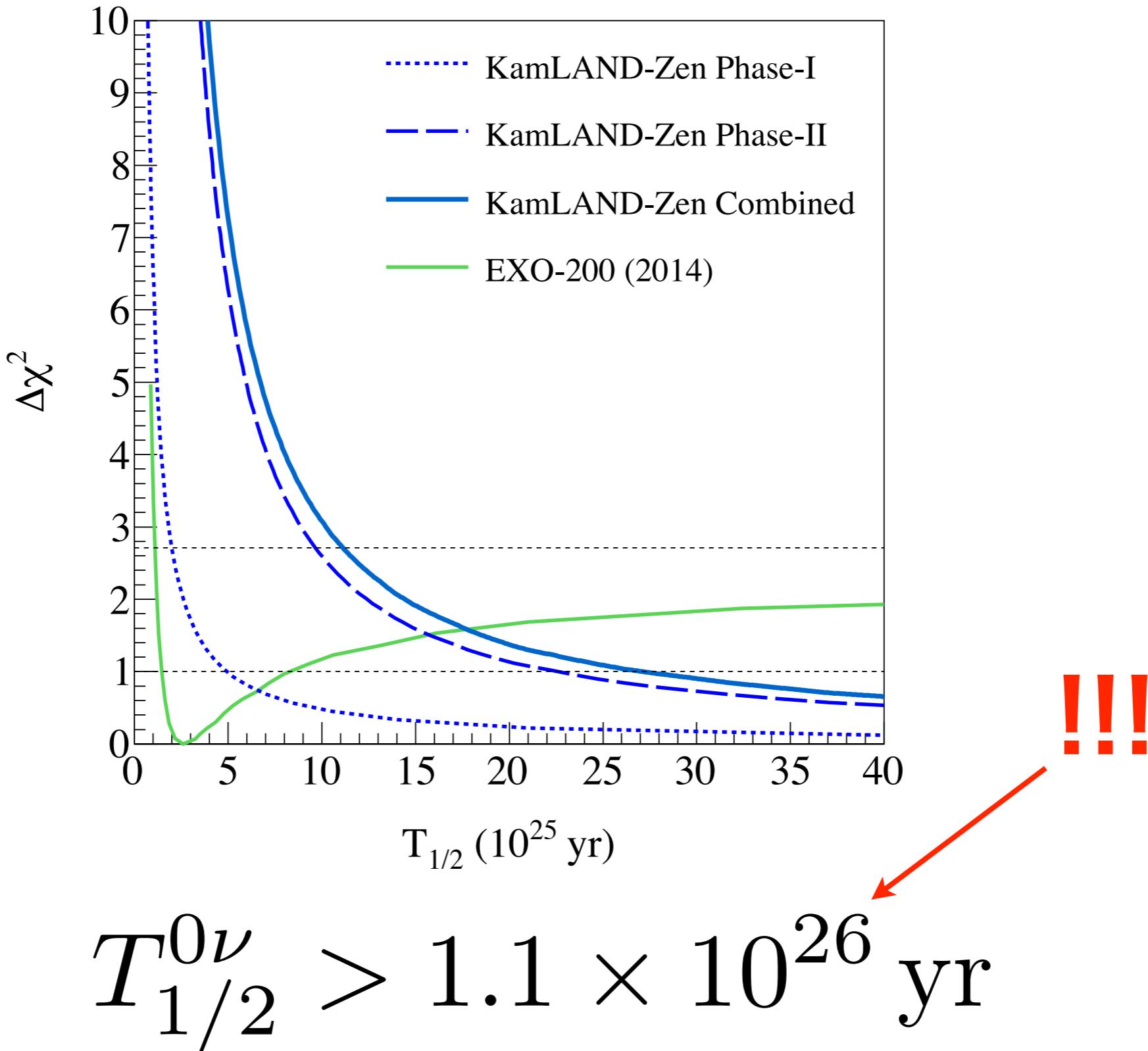
combined      < 2.4 /kton/day (90% C.L.)



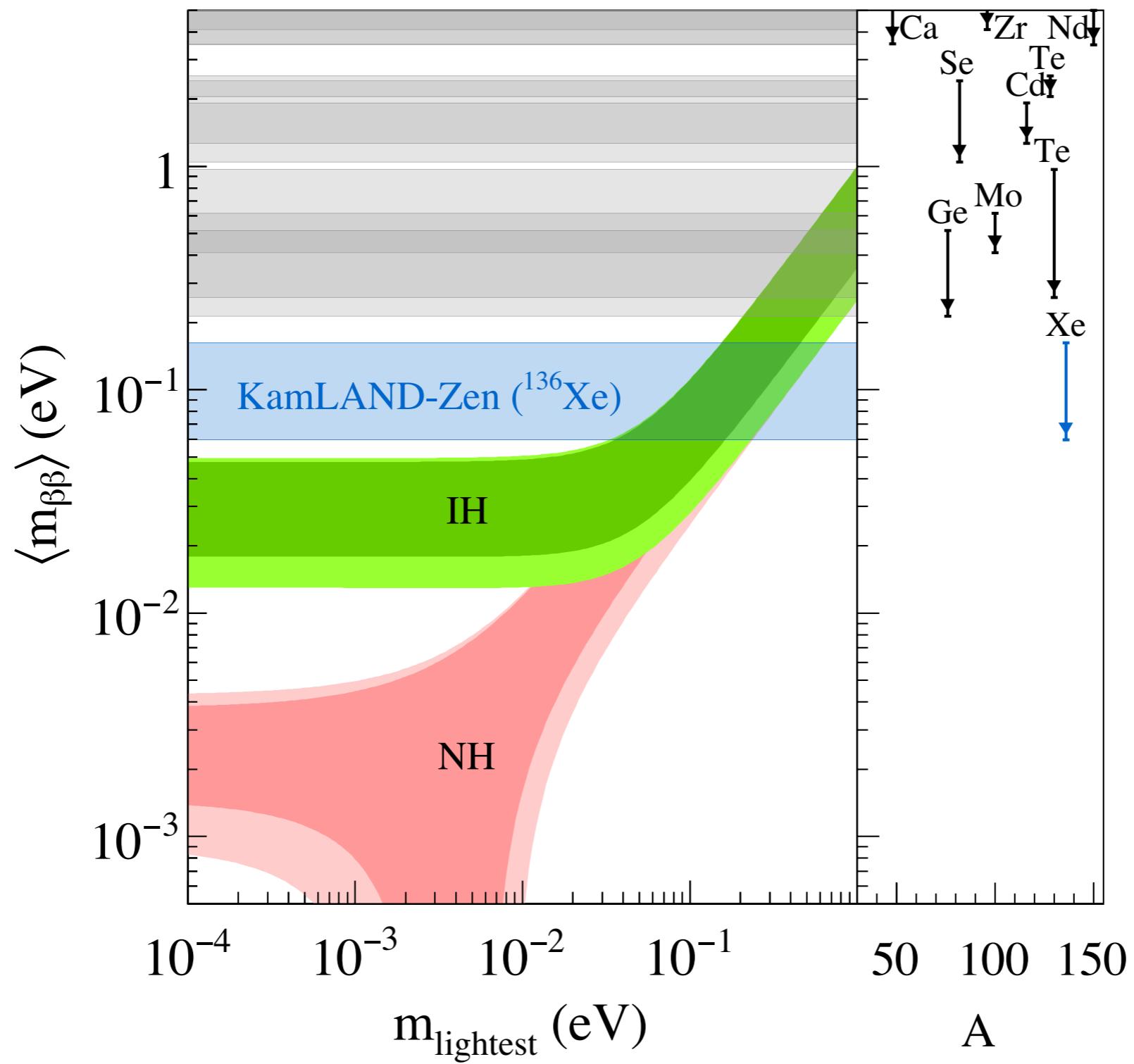
$^{136}\text{Xe}$   $0\nu 2\beta$   
half-life       $> 9.6 \times 10^{25}$  yr (90% C.L.)

sensitivity       $> 4.9 \times 10^{25}$  yr  
(11% probability)

# Phase-1 & 2 combined limit



$$\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle < (60 - 161) \text{ meV}$$



Big leap toward IH !!

# Our challenge continues!

Three dominant BGs;  $2\nu$ , “ $^{214}\text{Bi}$  on the film” and  $^{10}\text{C}$ .

next target

further optimization of  
triple-fold coincidence

We have purchased 800 kg of enriched xenon in total.

We have fabricated a larger mini-balloon with better measures against dusts.

We will resume the search with 750 kg of xenon in this fall. To be called as “KamLAND-Zen 800”.

(Expected sensitivity is below 50 meV hoping to cover Yanagida’s prediction.)

# Mini-balloon fabrication



cleaning, cleaning and  
cleaning as usual



# Example of improvements

before



after



clean  
underwear



changing  
room in a  
clean room



cover  
sheets



keep staying away  
goggle  
welding machine  
cover sheet .  
glove on glove  
laundry twice a day .  
clean underwear .

changing room in a clean room .  
dust visualization  
more neutralizer  
. . .

laundry  
twice a day



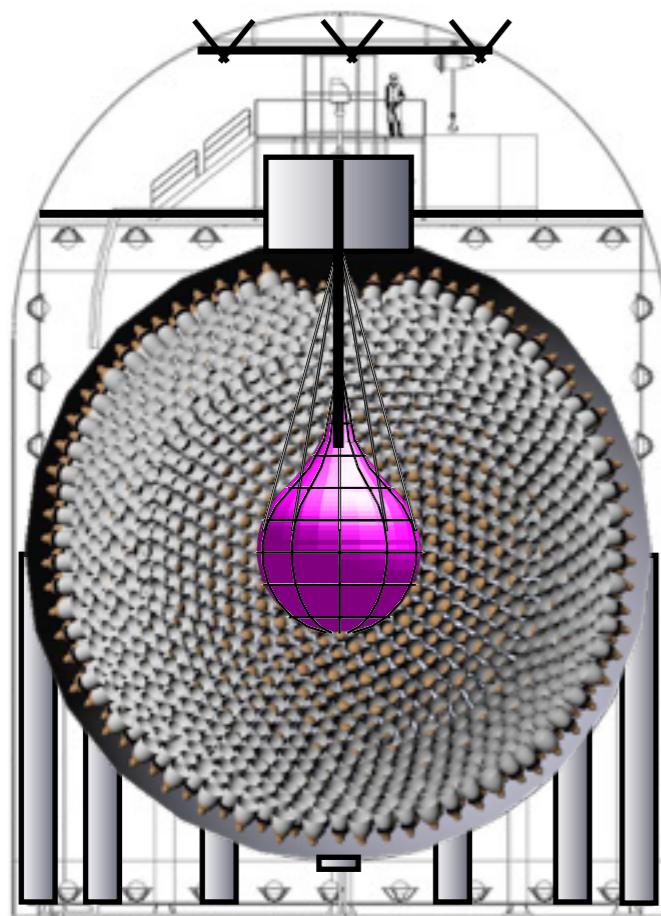


Well done!

Leak check and repair in high humidity  
will start soon.

# And more future plans!

Higher energy resolution for reducing  $2\nu$  BG



1000+ kg xenon



Winston cone

light collection  $\times 1.8$

high q.e. PMT  
 $17''\phi \rightarrow 20''\phi$   $\varepsilon = 22 \rightarrow 30+\%$

New LAB LS  
(better transparency)

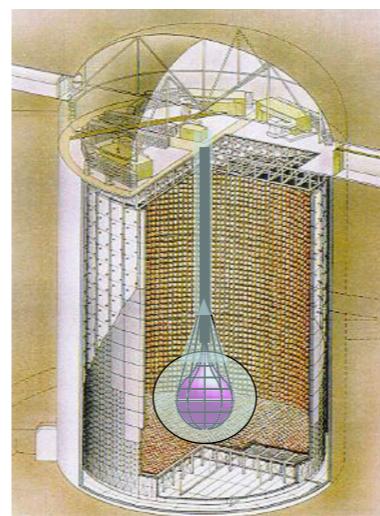
light collection  $\times 1.9$

light collection  $\times 1.4$

expected  $\sigma(2.6\text{MeV}) = 4\% \rightarrow \sim 2\%$

target sensitivity 20 meV

And more?



Super-KamLAND-Zen  
in connection with Hyper-Kamiokande

target sensitivity 8 meV

# R&D for KamLAND2-Zen and future

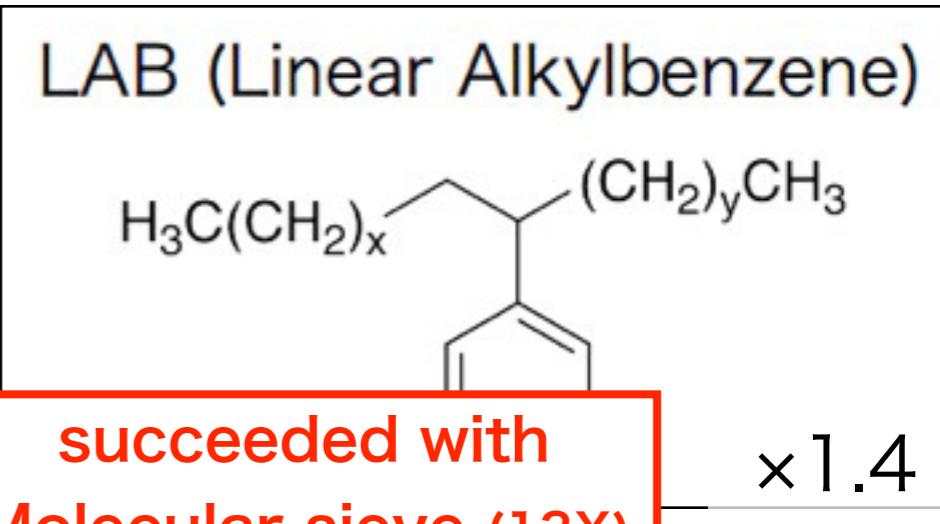
○ winston cone



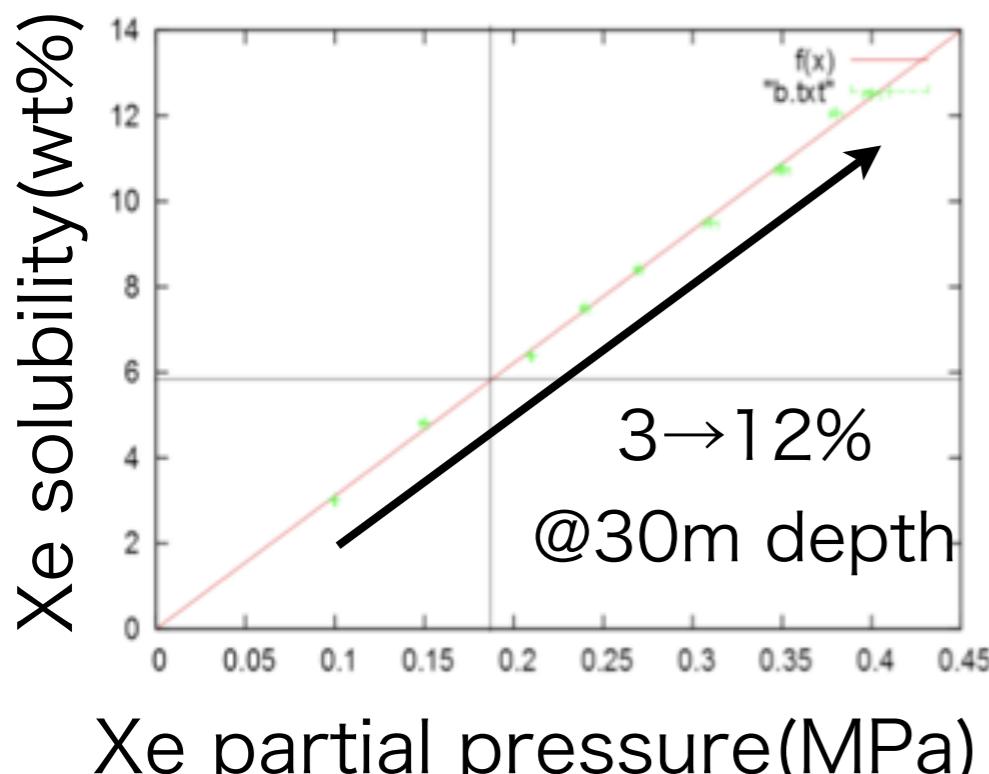
○ HQE-PMT



○ New LAB-LS

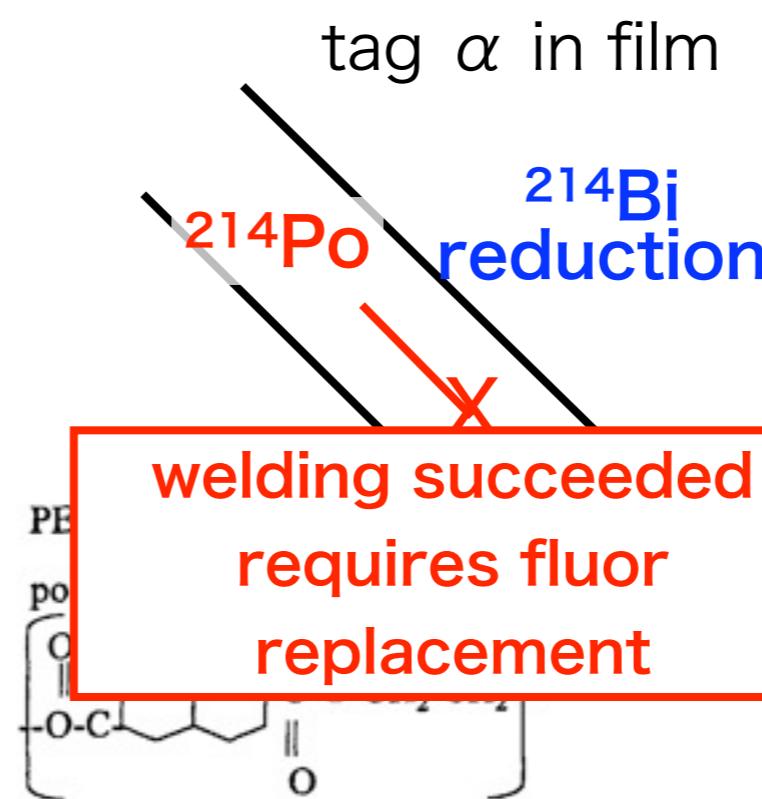


○ denser xenon

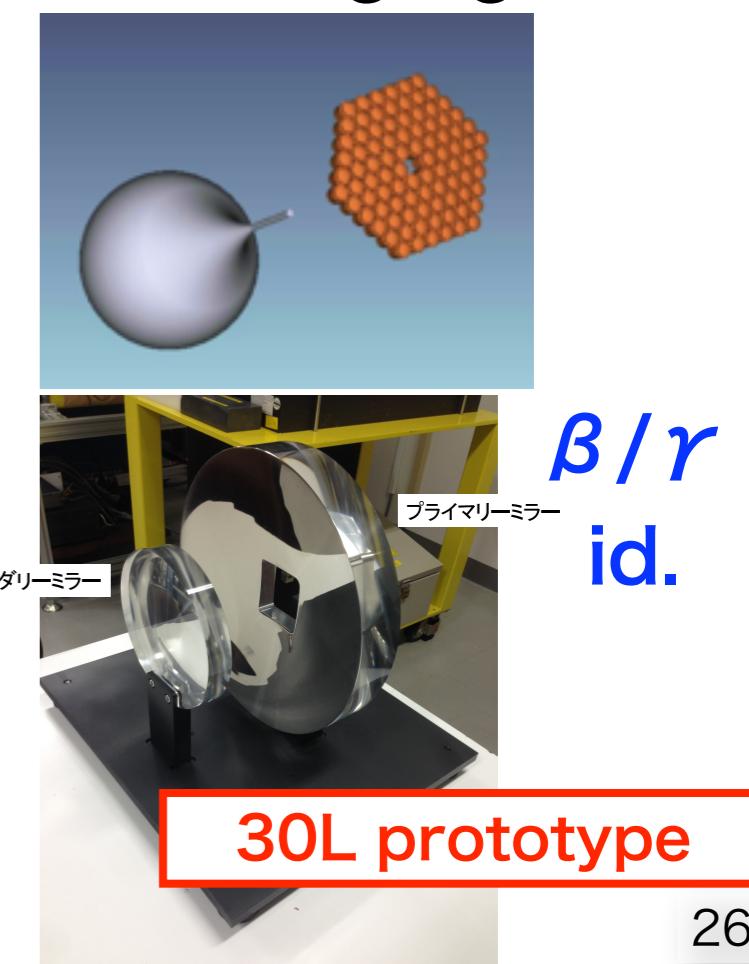


principle confirmed

○ scintillator film



○ imaging



# Summary

- New results from Phase-2 (534.5 days, 380 kg) presented  
 $^{110m}\text{Ag}$  has been successfully reduced.  
improved analysis: 40 equal bins for volume, 2 time bins
- Phase-1 & 2 combined result for  $0\nu 2\beta$  of  $^{136}\text{Xe}$   
$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 1.1 \times 10^{26} \text{ yr}$$
$$\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle < (60 - 161) \text{ meV}$$
- KamLAND-Zen 800 planned to start in this fall.  
750kg of enriched xenon will be installed.  
Target sensitivity is below 50 meV.
- R&D for KamLAND2-Zen is going well.  
Target sensitivity is below 20 meV.

Thank you!