

# Search for Charged Excited States of Dark Matter with KamLAND-Zen

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Kazumi Hata for KamLAND-Zen collaboration

Research Center for Neutrino Science Tohoku University

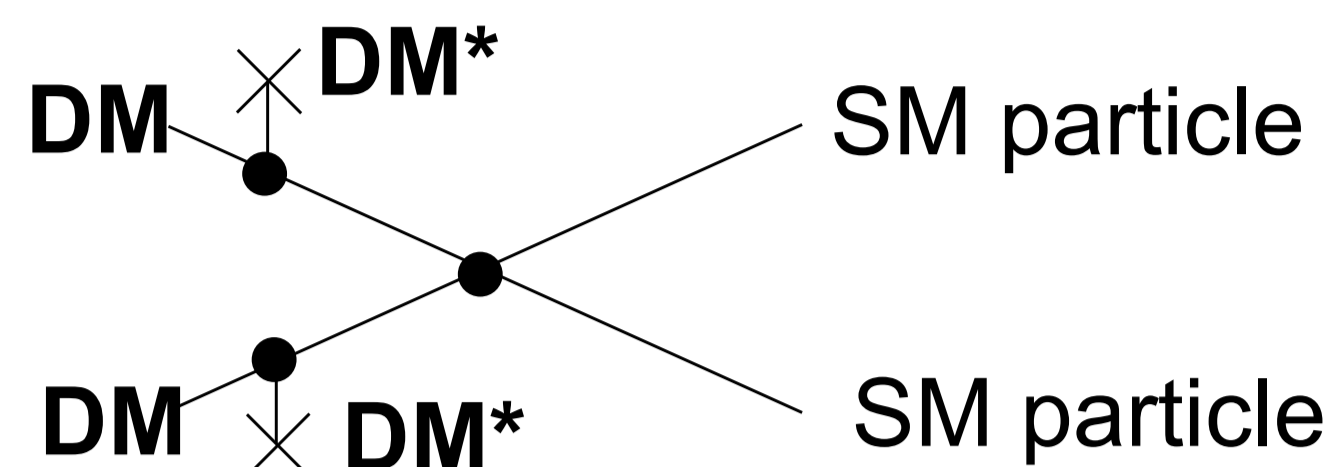


## WIMPs and co-annihilation

The standard WIMP scenario assumes thermal equilibrium between DM and SM particles in the early stages of the Universe.

→  $\langle\sigma v\rangle$ , explaining the current dark matter abundance is  $3\times 10^{-26}\text{cm}^3/\text{s}$ .

If the co-annihilation cross section is large,  $\langle\sigma v\rangle < 3\times 10^{-26}\text{cm}^3/\text{s}$  can still explain the current DM abundance.



Co-annihilation: the masses of dark matter particles are degenerate

Mass  $\Delta m$ : Less than 10% of DM mass<sup>[1]</sup>

## Charged excited states of Dark Matter

If the mass difference between the WIMP and the excited state  $\Delta m(=m_{\chi^-} - m_{\chi^0}) < 20\text{ MeV}$ , the negatively charged excitation of the WIMP can form a stable bound state with nuclei.

### Case A: positron is emitted

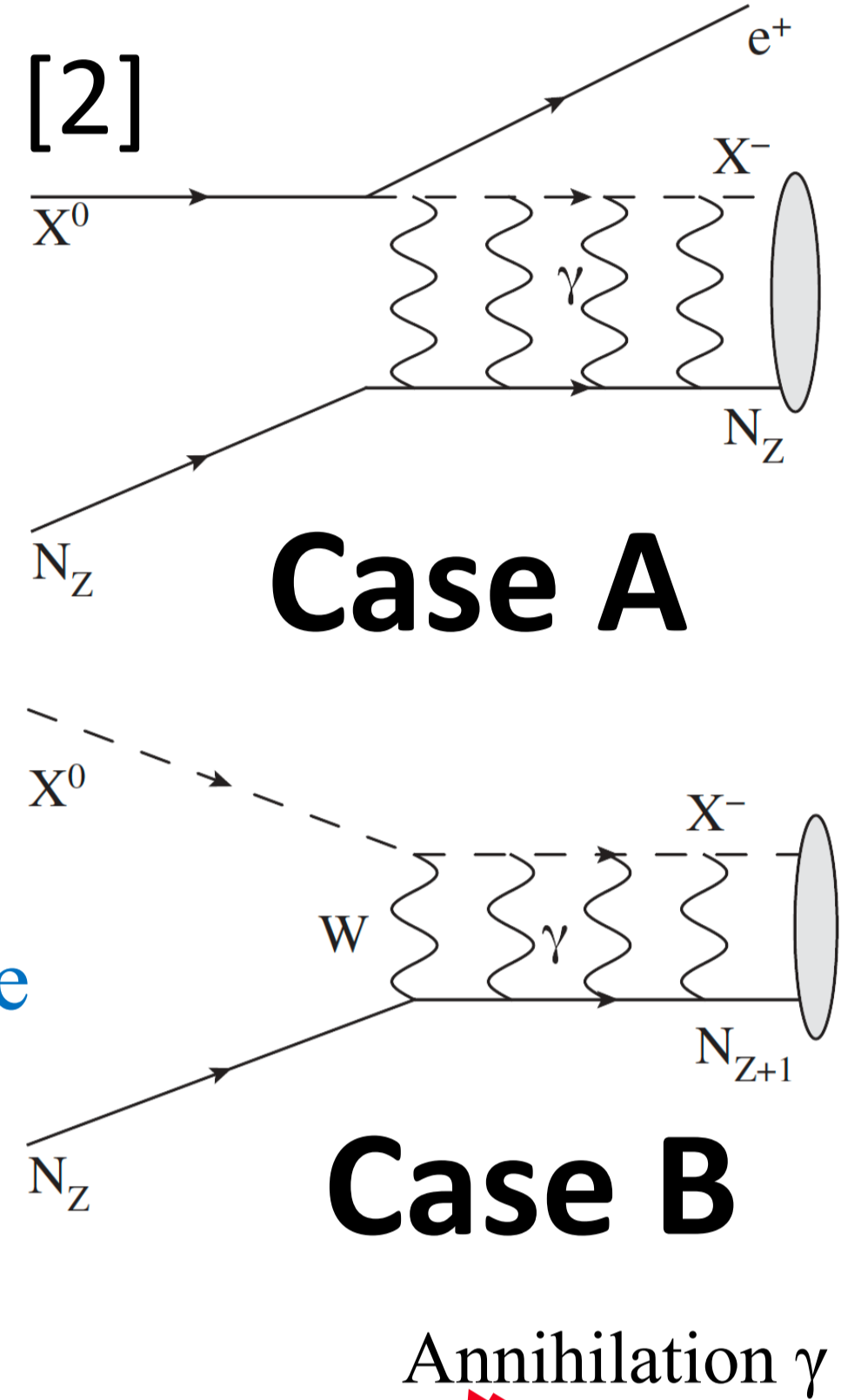
$$N_Z + X^0 \rightarrow (N_Z X^-) + e^+$$

### Case B: neutron is converted to a proton

$$N_Z + X^0 \rightarrow (N_{Z+1} X^-)$$

$N_Z$ : the target nucleus with atomic number Z  
 $X^0(X^-)$ : the WIMP ground (excited) state

$NX^-$  is formed in an excited state and will de-excite by emitting  $\gamma$ -rays.



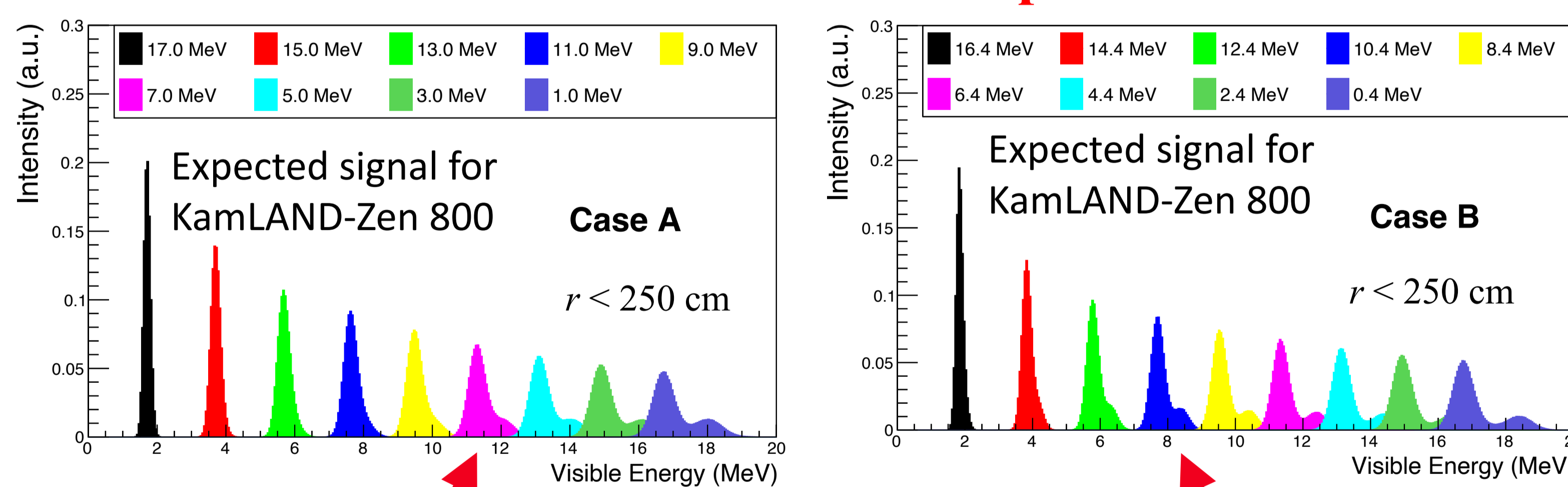
## Expected signal

$$E_{tot} = \begin{cases} E_b^{(0)} - \Delta m + m_e \text{ (Case A)} (= E_{e^+} + E_\gamma + 2m_e) \\ E_b^{(0)} - \Delta m + m_Z - m_{Z+1} \text{ (Case B)} (= E_\gamma) \end{cases}$$

$E_b^{(0)}$ : the binding energy of the ground state of the bound states with the nucleus (depends on the target nucleus:  $O(1-10\text{ MeV})$ , 18.4 MeV for Xenon)

Exps.	EXO-200/ KamLAND-Zen/ Xe100	DAMA NaI(Tl)	SNO NaCl	Borexino
Nucleus	Xe	I	Cl	C
$E_b^{(0)}$ (MeV)	18.4	18.2	6.3	2.7
$MT$ (kg yr)	40/30/0.9	7.5	1274	$1.3 \times 10^5$

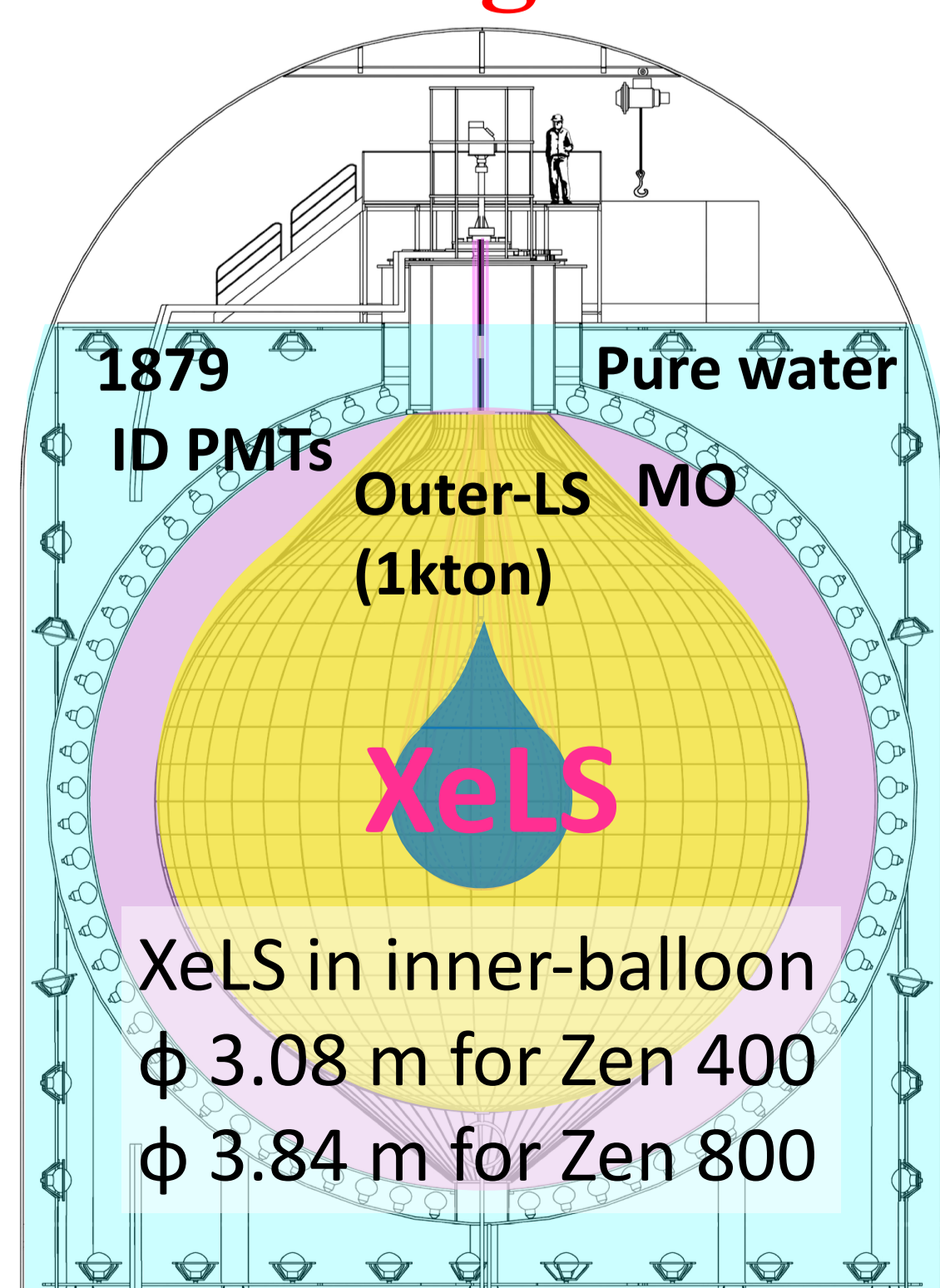
Xenon nuclei are good targets that increases the  $E_b^{(0)}$  value and expand the  $\Delta m$  region that can be explored !!



The non-Gaussian distributions are due to the light yield difference in XeLS and outer-LS.

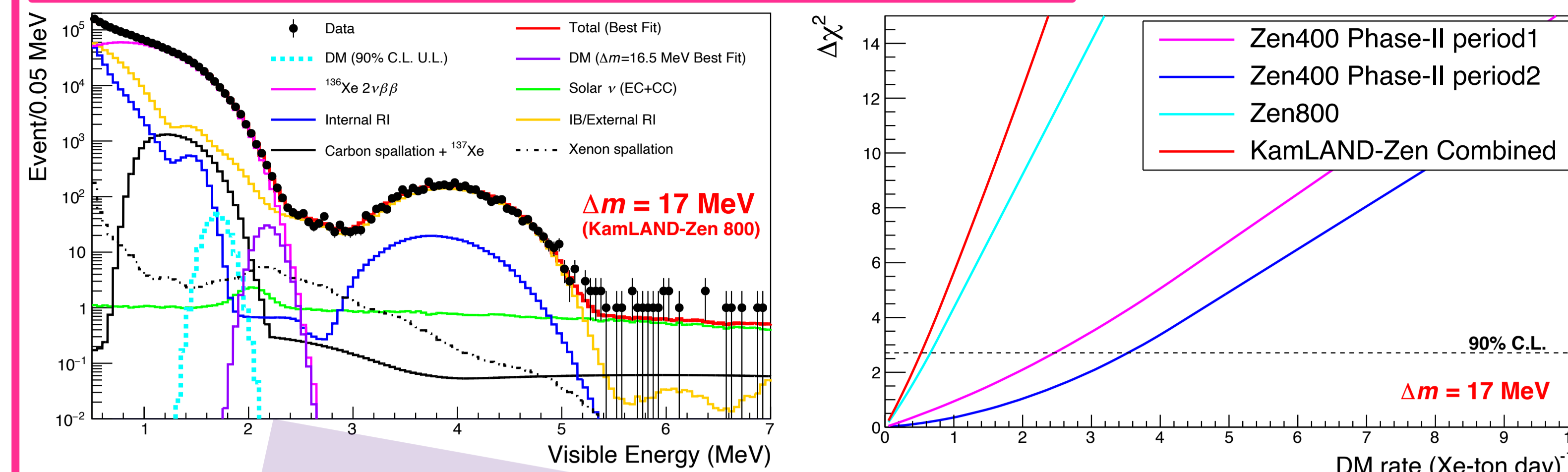
## KamLAND-Zen Experiment

KamLAND-Zen is the suitable detector to search the charged excited state of DM



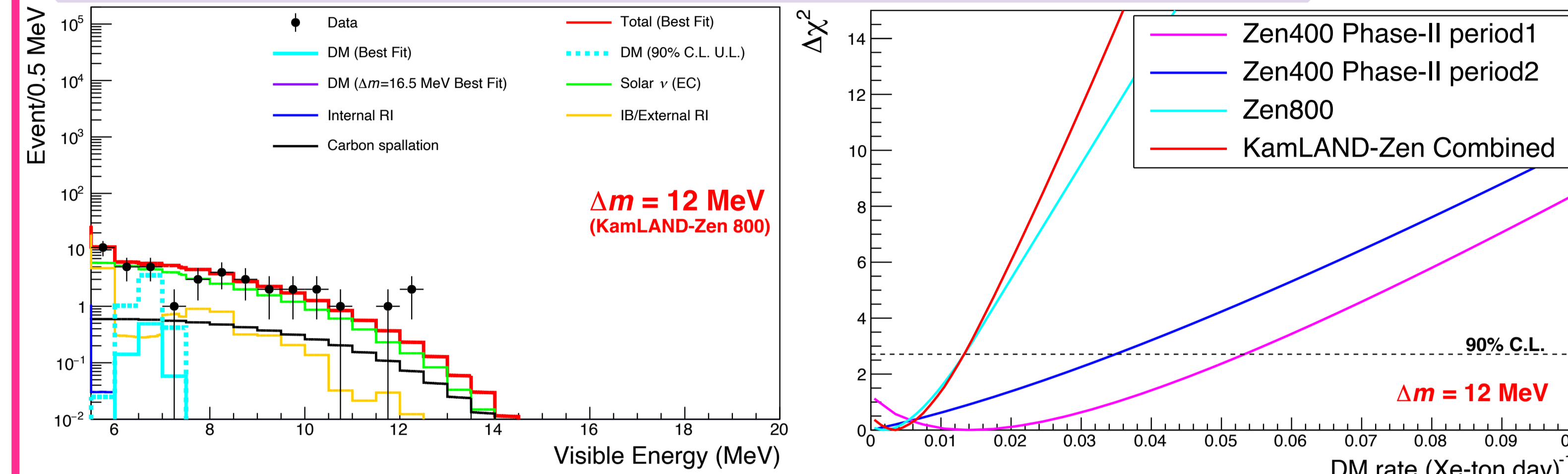
- ✓ Sensitive to  $O(1-10)\text{ MeV}$  energy range
- ✓ Low-BG environment
- ✓ Large volume liquid scintillator detector with Xenon nuclei
  - 383 kg in KamLAND-Zen 400 Phase-II
  - 745 kg in KamLAND-Zen 800

## Search with KamLAND-Zen



3.4 $\sigma$  local significance for  $\Delta m = 16.5\text{ MeV}$

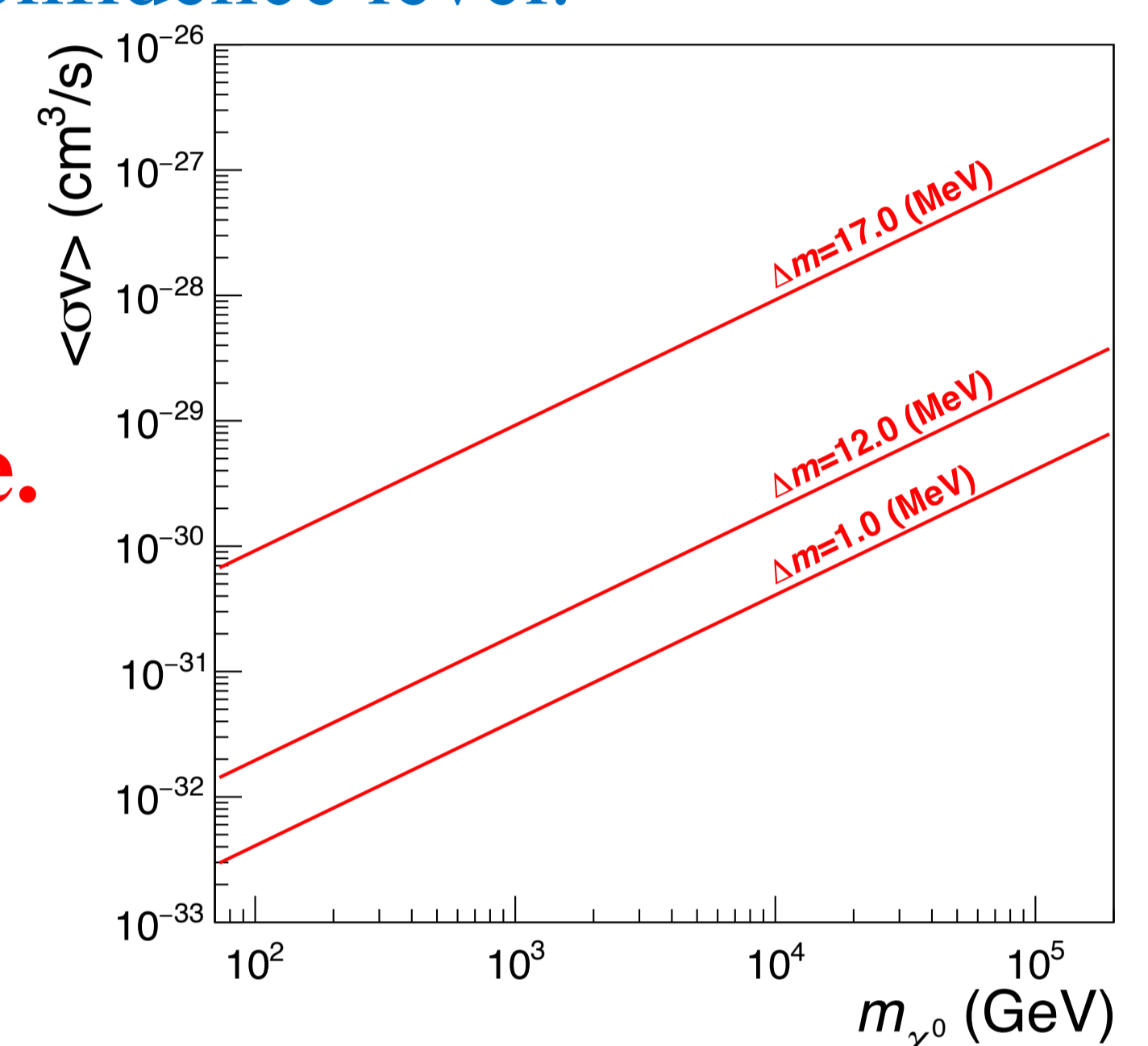
→ 2.2 $\sigma$  global significance when accounting for the look elsewhere effect



No significant excess of events attributable to DM were found. The upper limits was set at 90% confidence level.

The limit for WIMP-nucleus recombination cross section  $\langle\sigma v\rangle$  was set by DM event rate.

$$N_{tot} = \frac{MT N_T \rho_{DM} \langle\sigma v\rangle}{2m_{\chi^0}} \epsilon_{det}$$



$\langle\sigma v\rangle$  can be converted to other physical parameters.

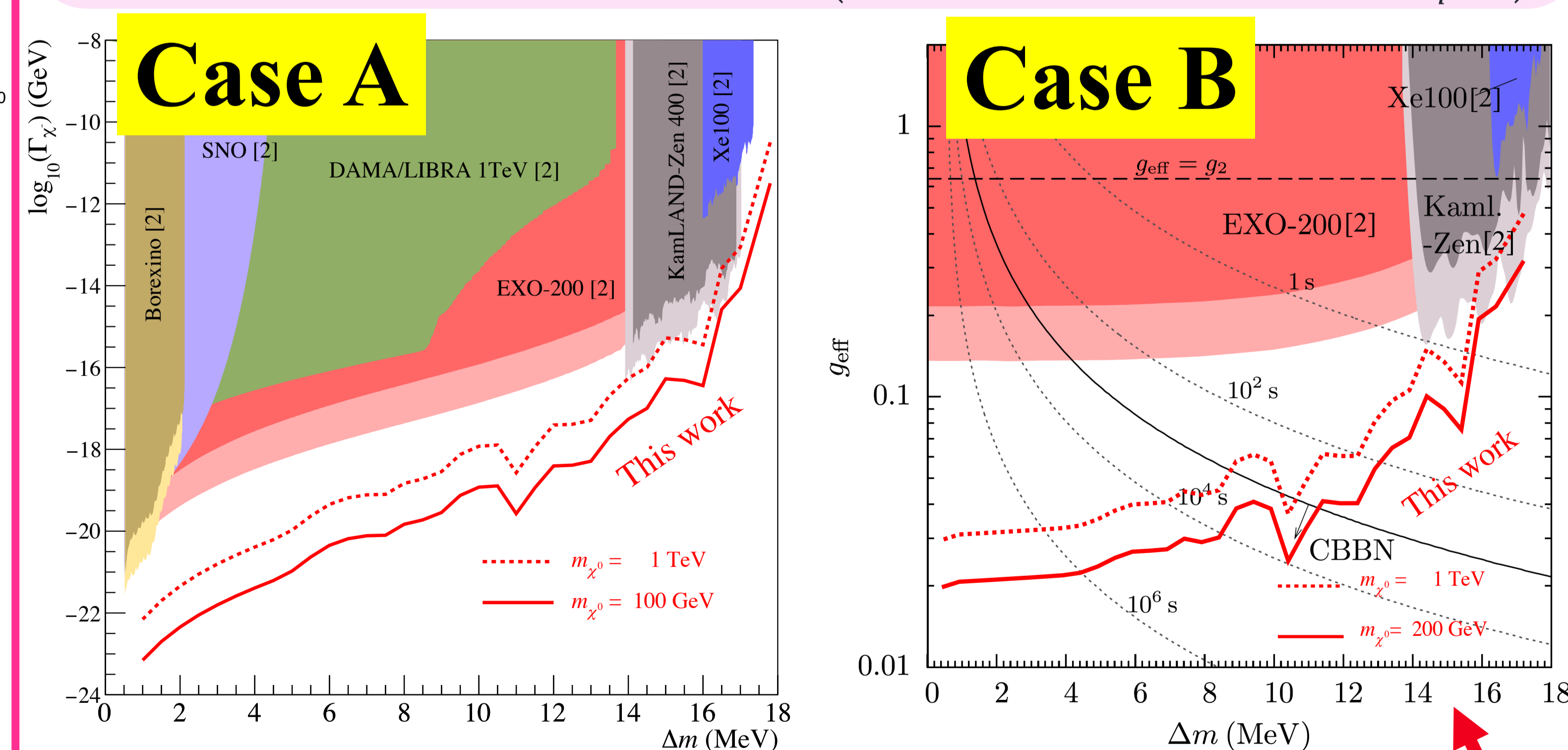
Case A: a decay width of a new particle  $\Gamma_{\chi^-}$  Contribution from capture into state (n,l)

$$\langle\sigma v\rangle \approx \frac{(|g_{eL}|^2 + |g_{eR}|^2)}{8\pi m_{\chi^0}} \sum_{n,l} B_{n,l}$$

$$\Gamma_{\chi^-} = \tau_{\chi^-}^{-1} \approx \frac{\sqrt{\Delta m^2 - m_e^2}}{4\pi m_{\chi^0}} (\Delta m + m_e) (|g_{eL}|^2 + |g_{eR}|^2)$$

Case B: the effective coupling  $g_{eff}$

$$\langle\sigma v\rangle \approx \frac{g_{eff}^4 m_p^2}{8M_w^4} \int d^3r \rho_n(\vec{r}) \int_{m_n}^{m_n + \frac{p_n^2}{2m_n}} \frac{dp_n^0}{3} \pi p_{pf}^3 \sqrt{(-V(r) - \Delta m + p_n^0)^2 - m_p^2} \sqrt{p_n^0^2 - m_n^2} \times \theta\left(-V(r) - \Delta m + p_n^0 - m_p - \frac{p_{pF}^2(N_{Z+1})}{2m_p}\right)$$



The most stringent limits on the charged excited states of DM!! \* Filled regions are expected sensitivity [2].

## Summary

- KamLAND-Zen performed searches for the bound state formation of a xenon nucleus and the electrically charged WIMP state.
- The most stringent limits were obtained.

Ref: [1] K. Griest, D. Seckel, PRD 43 (1991) 3191, [2] H. An, et al., PRL 109 (2012) 251302.