

Charge signal measurement by scintillation in liquid xenon

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Astroparticle Physics

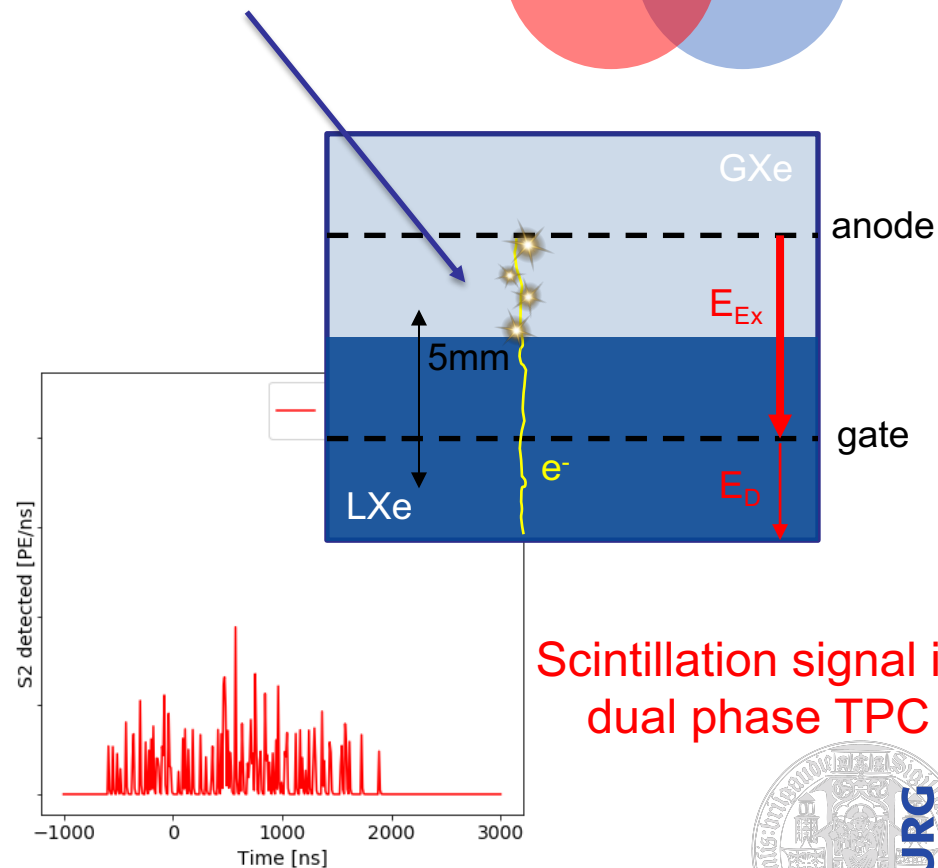
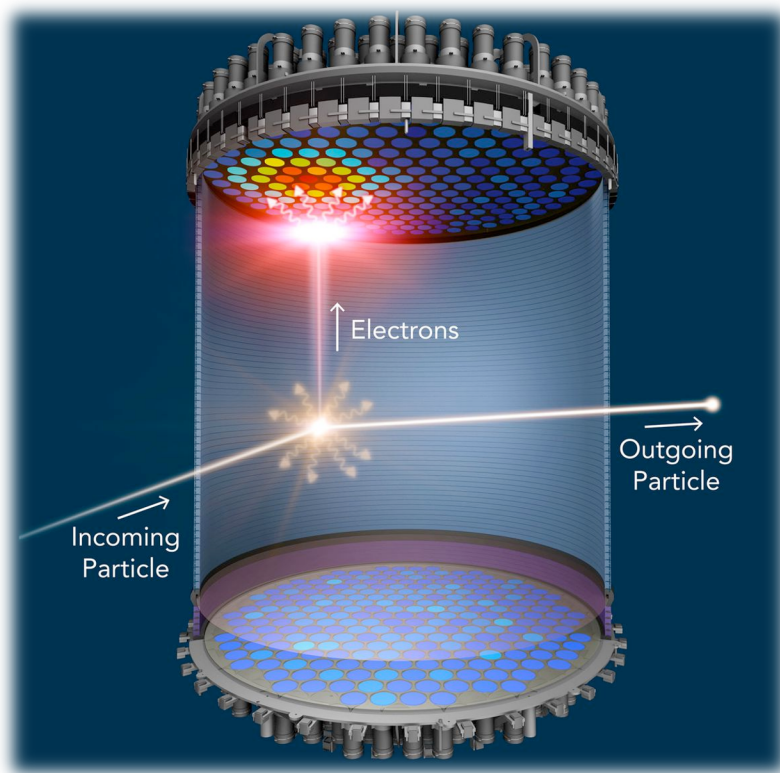
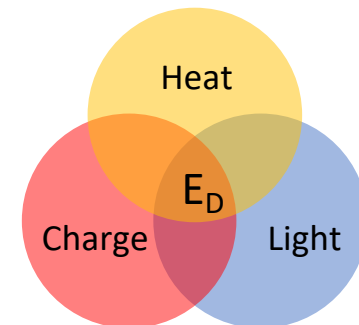
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Charge measurement in liquid xenon target TPCs

Liquid xenon target TPCs (XENON, LZ, nEXO) measure

- prompt **light** signal directly and
- delayed **charge** signal by scintillation in a gas gap



Scintillation signal in dual phase TPC

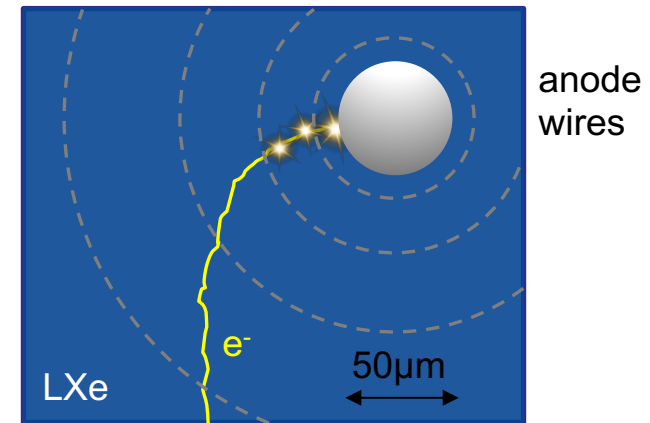
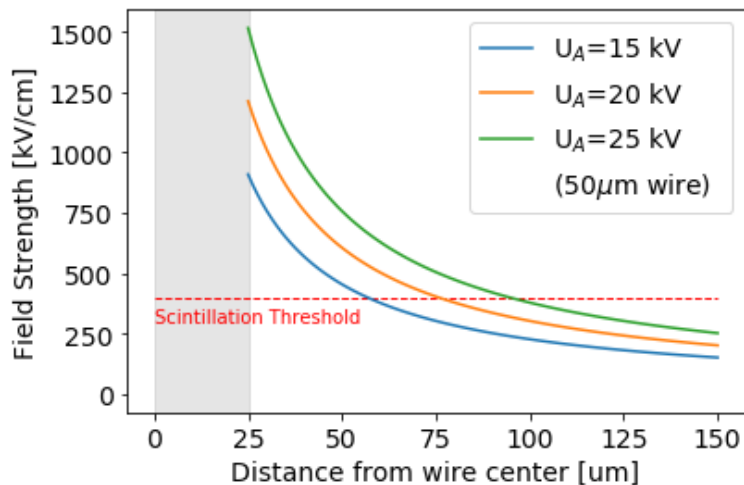
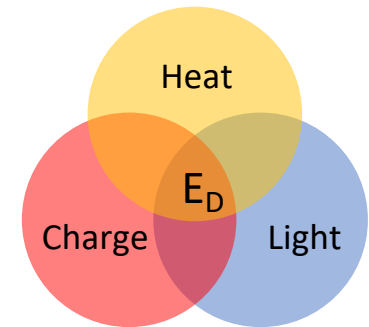


Charge signal enhancement with in-liquid-xenon scintillation

Liquid xenon target TPCs (XENON, LZ, nEXO) measure

- prompt **light** signal directly and
- delayed **charge** signal by scintillation in **liquid xenon**

fill with liquid --- use **thin wires** --- apply **high voltage**



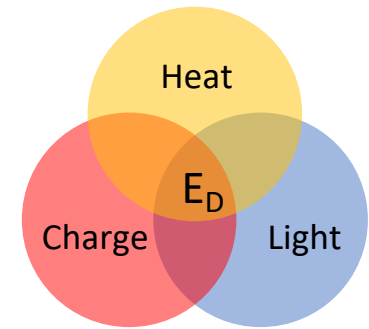
Scintillation signal in single phase TPC



Charge signal enhancement with in-liquid-xenon scintillation

Liquid xenon target TPCs (XENON, LZ, nEXO) measure

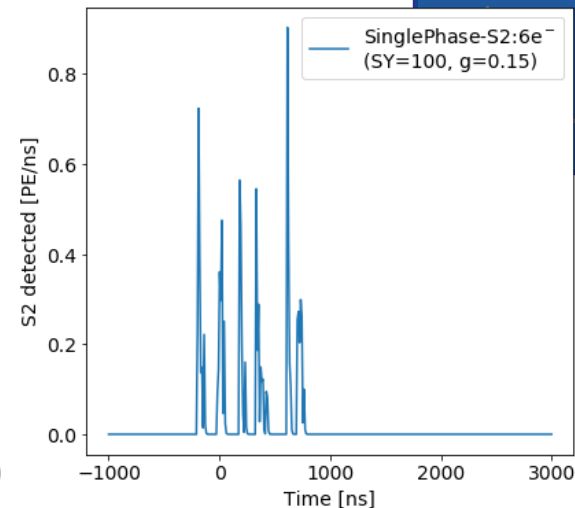
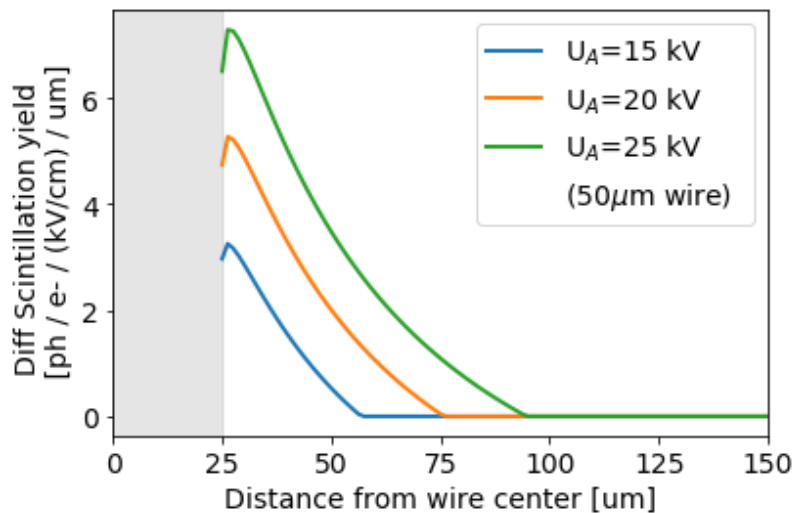
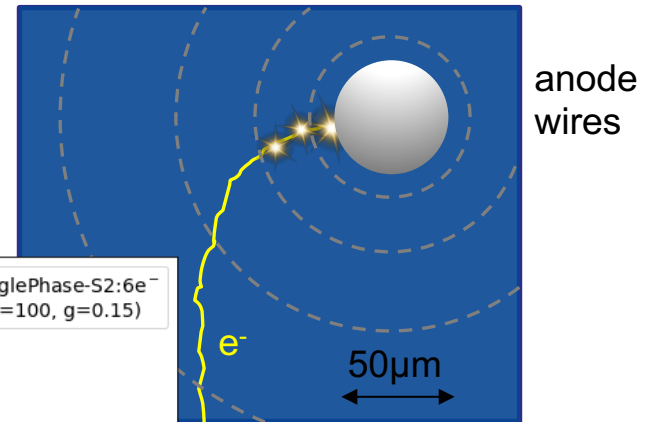
- prompt **light** signal directly and
- delayed **charge** signal by scintillation in a gas gap



fill with liquid --- use thin wires --- apply high voltage

➔ **Fast scintillation very close to the wire**

> 100 photons / e^- (50 μ m wire, 20kV)

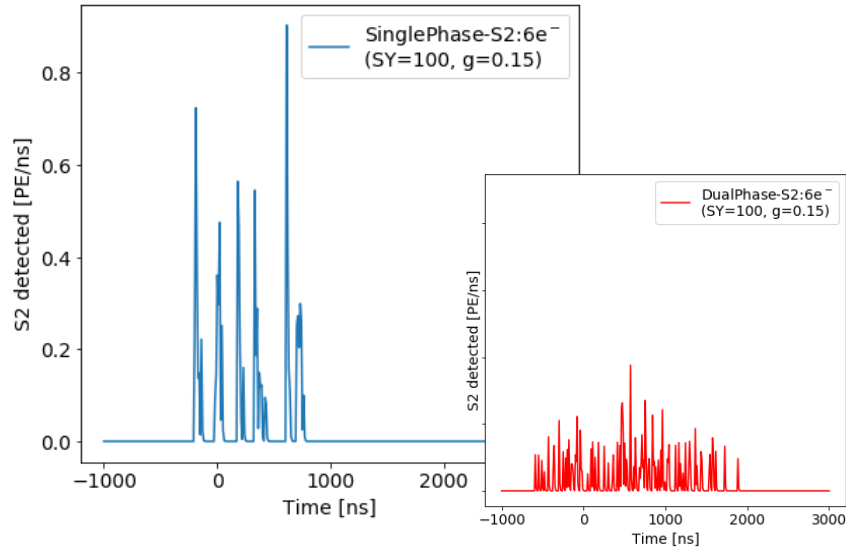


Scintillation signal in single phase TPC



Advantages of in-liquid-xenon scintillation + single phase TPCs

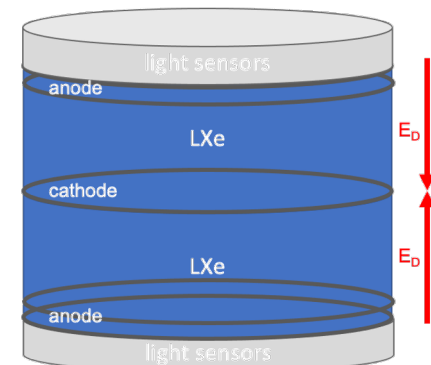
fast scintillation per e^-



- single electron counting
→ improved resolution for small signals
- electron arrival time measurement
→ z-reconstruction by diffusion
(fiducialization, background rejection)

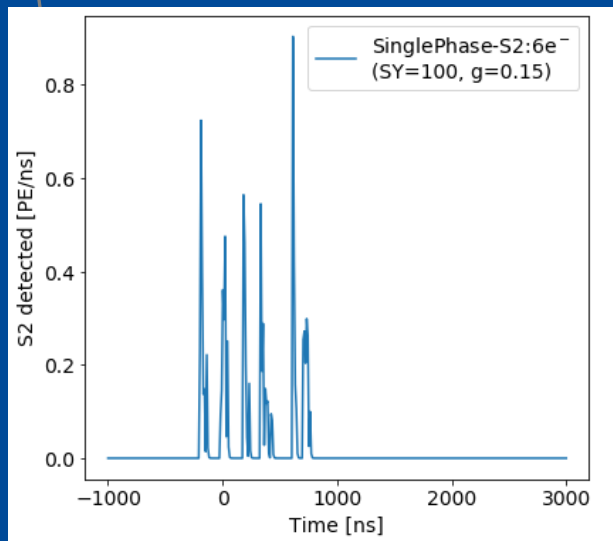
no gas gap

- no liquid/gas interface
 - no total reflection
 - no delayed electron extraction
- uniform scintillation in xy -plane
- LXe self shielding from top
- simplified operation
- segmented TPC
→ lower voltage / higher drift fields
- free orientation towards gravity
- ...



Charge signal measurement by scintillation in liquid xenon

- maintains the successful principle of LXe TPCs
- obsoletes the gas phase + corresponding limitations
- exploits the fast signal generation per electron



➤ Potential to improve future LXe TPCs and expand their science reach

R&D Outline (Backup)

Small scale R&D

- Existing Detector: XeBRA at UniFr
- Proof full TPC functionality
- Optimize scintillation yield / resolution by wire and voltage selection

Large Scale Demonstration

- large wire grids (Pancake - UniFr):
 - scintillation uniformity (xy-plane)
 - mechanical proof-of-principle
- long drift (Xenoscope - UZH)
 - S2 signal: electron counting & z-position inference

Process Modelling

- Scrutinize empirical, data driven models for scintillation & ionization
- Validate wire-shadowing model
- Establish microscopic process model

Science impact

MC studies for DARWIN / G3 DM TPC

- WIMP Dark Matter
- solar neutrinos
- solar axions
- $0\nu\beta\beta$
- Sterile neutrinos via $2\nu\beta\beta$

