

# Optimizing WIMP Directional Detectors

**Ben Morgan**

*University of Warwick*

**Anne Green**

*University of Nottingham*



# 1: The Smoking Gun

- Directional dependence of the recoil rate is a potentially powerful way to identify a WIMP signal.

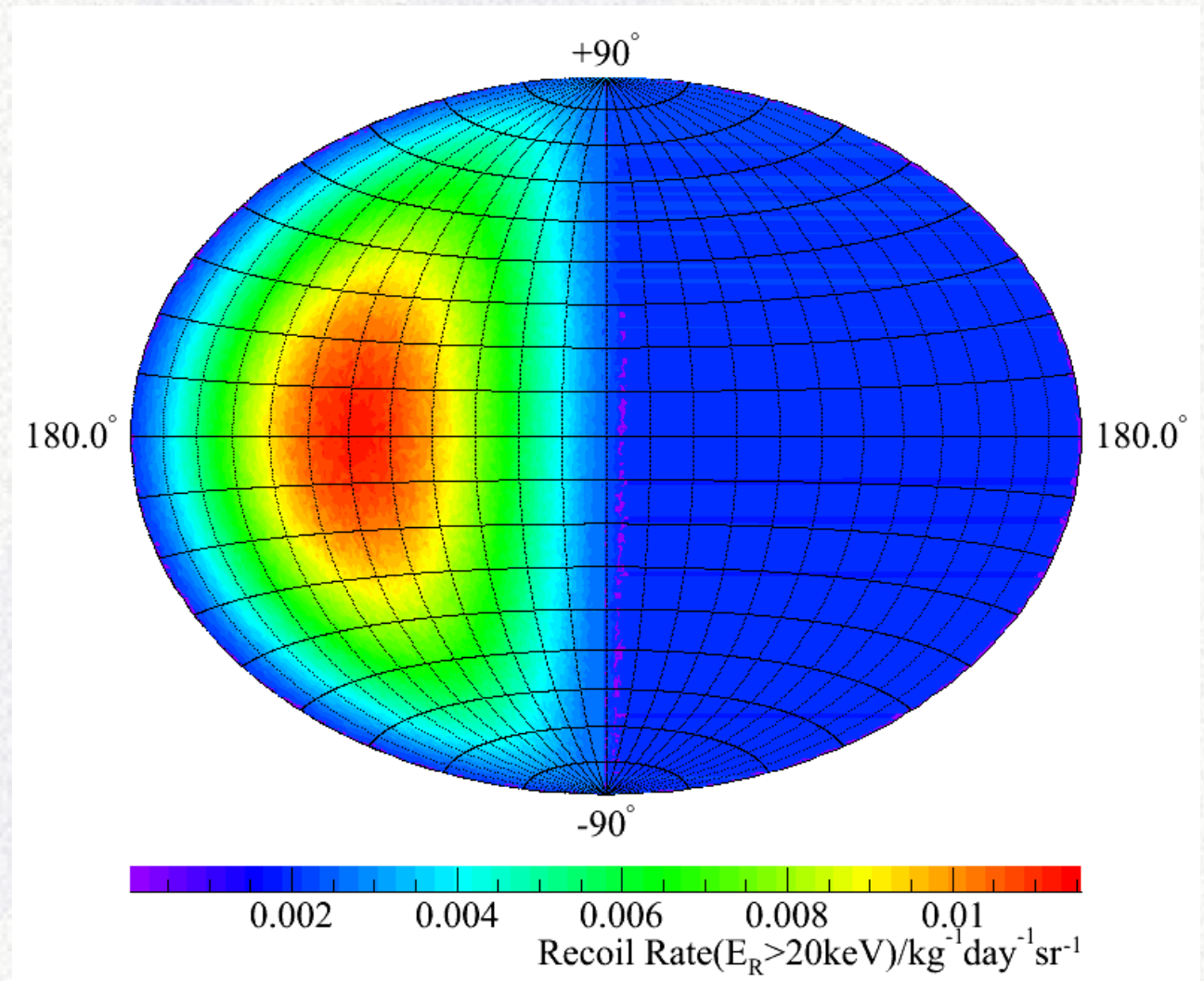
## *Example:*

Recoil arrival directions  
in a Maxwell-Boltzmann  
halo:

100GeV WIMPs

$^{32}\text{S}$  target

***O(5) ratio forward to  
backward event rate.  
Backgrounds would  
be isotropic...***



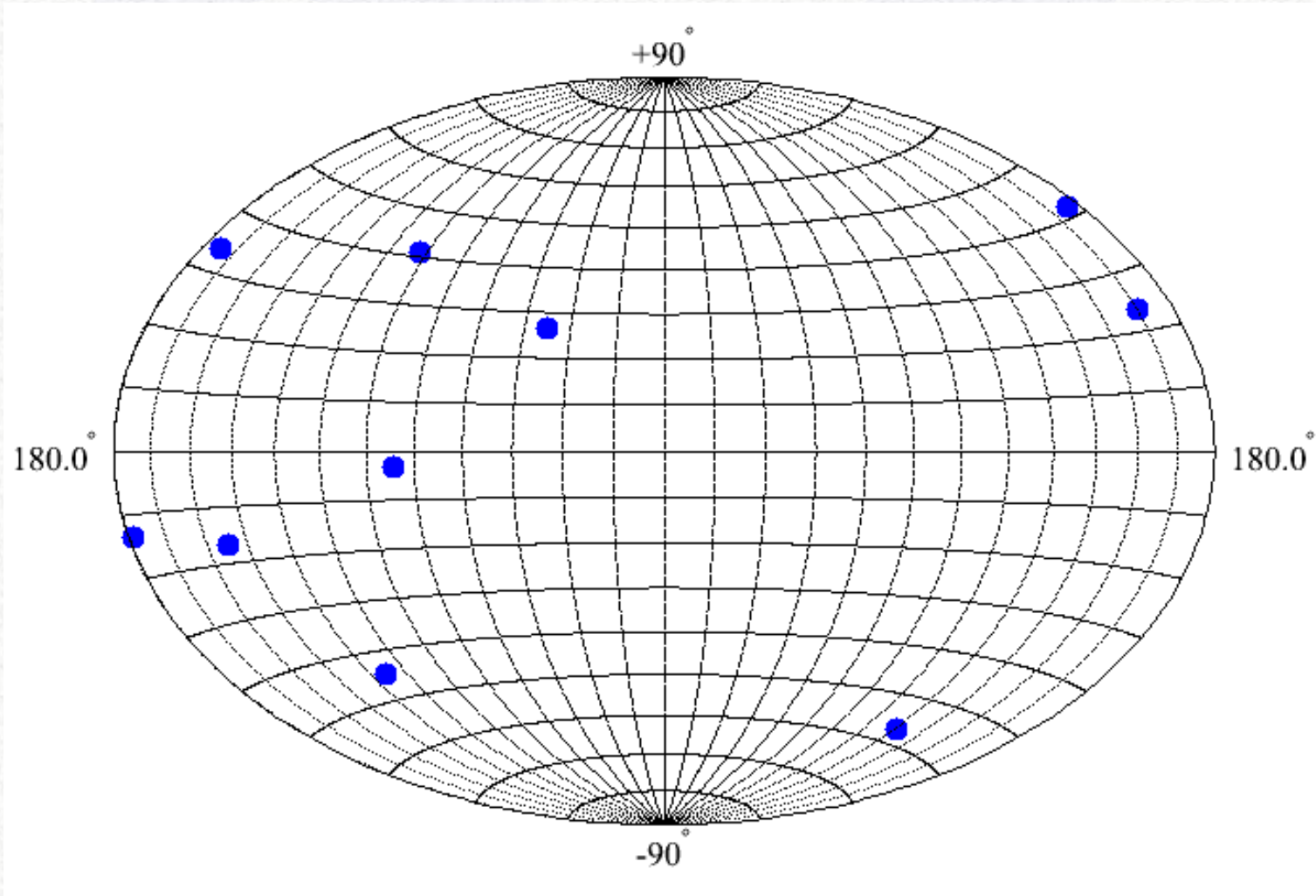


## 2: Posing the Question

---

- We expect any background to be isotropic in galactic coordinates\*.
- So, the question posed by a directional detector observing an anomalous recoil signal is:
  - ***“Is the distribution of observed recoil directions consistent with an isotropic distribution”***
- But event rate is very low, so sampling is poor...
- ***How many events are needed to reject isotropy?***

## 2: Posing the Question



- But event rate is very low, so sampling is poor...
- ***How many events are needed to reject isotropy?***



# 3: Challenges for Anisotropy Detection

- Several factors may influence the number of events required to detect anisotropy in recoil signal:
- Detector:
  - *Angular resolution (smearing of anisotropy)?*
  - *Measure 2 or 3 components of recoil momentum?*
  - *Can sense of momentum ( $+p$  or  $-p$ ) be measured?*
  - *Is there expected background?*
- *How do these effects influence the number of events needed?*

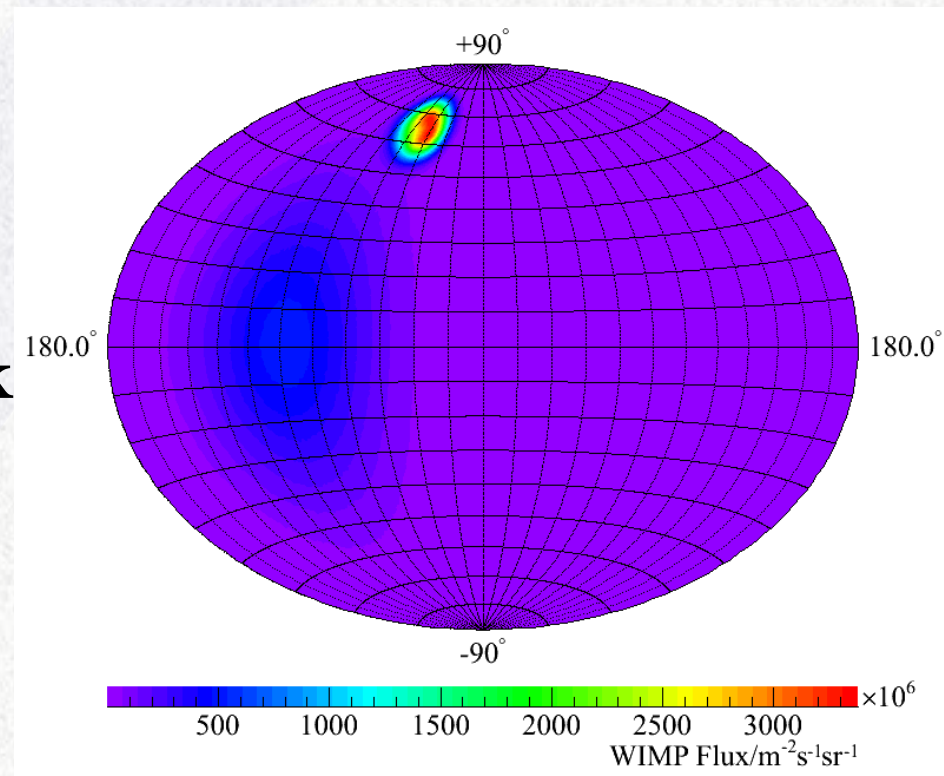


# 4: Astrophysics Inputs

- Assume the simplest isothermal sphere model for the local WIMP velocity distribution.
- Number of events only varies by  $\sim 10\%$  for observationally motivated **smooth** halo models.

Morgan, Green, Spooner  
*Phys. Rev. D*71/103507

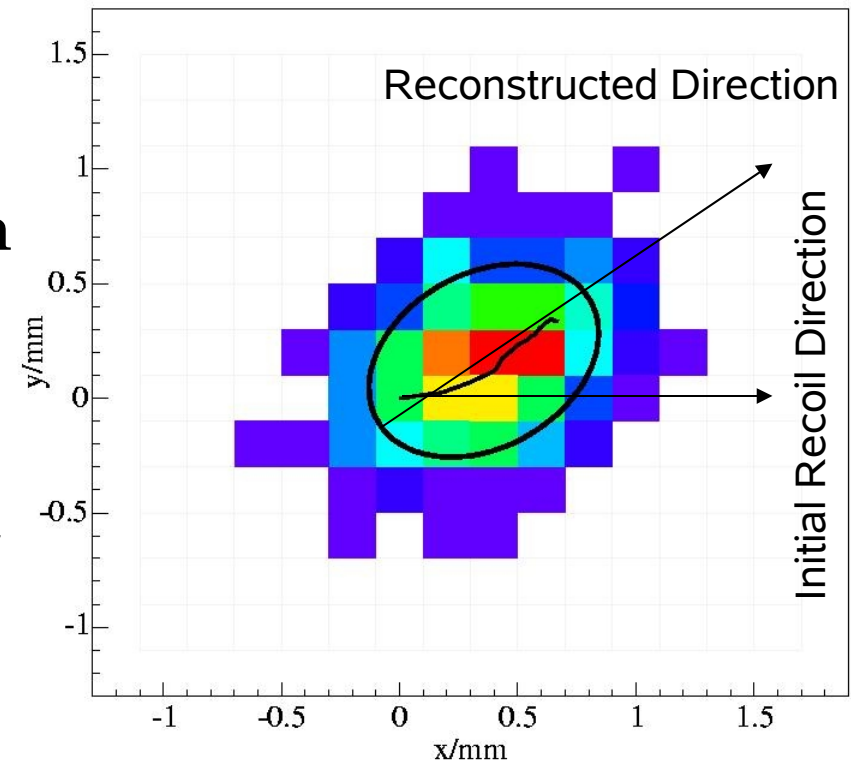
- Open question whether there are dark matter streams.





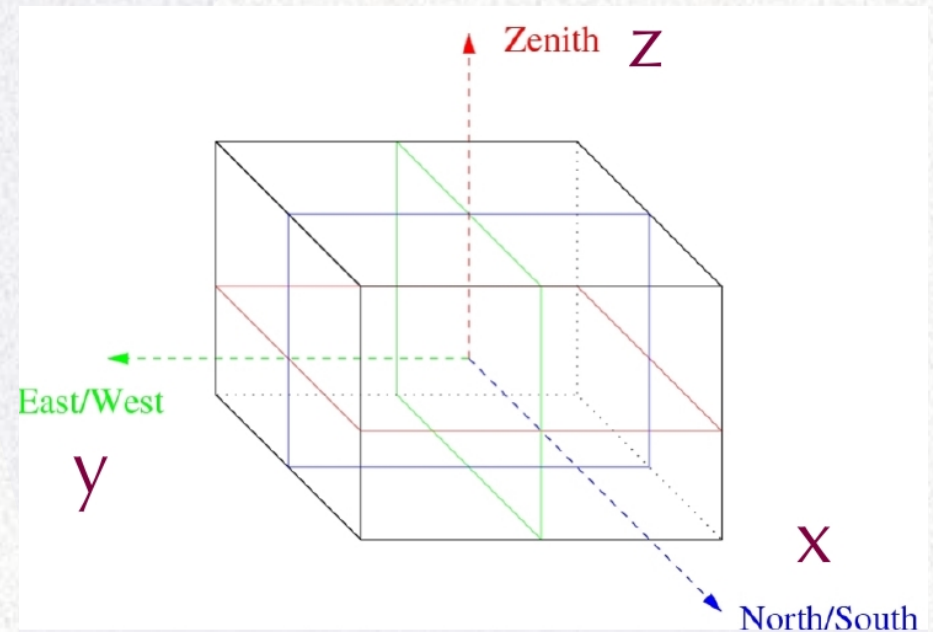
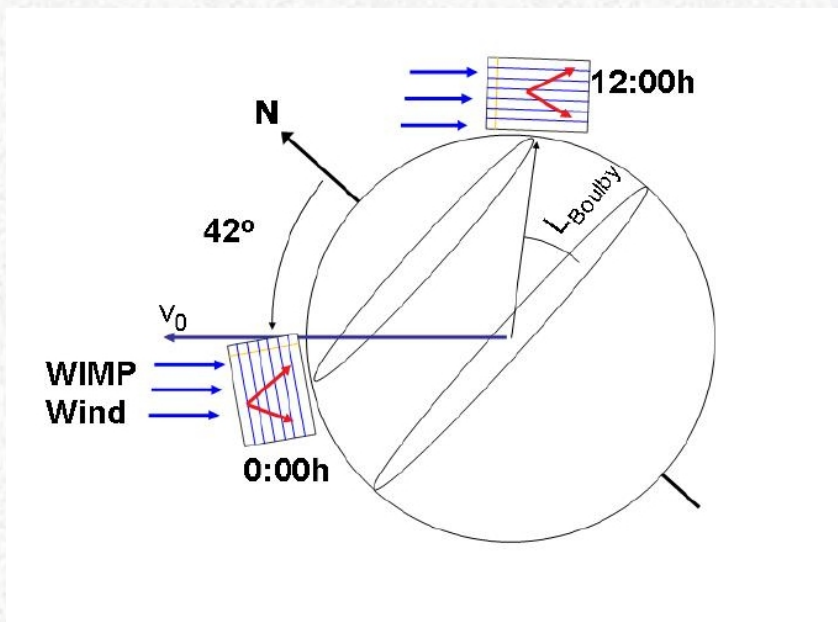
# 5: TPC Detector Inputs

- Model a 0.05bar CS<sub>2</sub> TPC, 10cm drift, 1kV/cm drift field, 200 $\mu$ m 3d pixel readout, 5-200keV SRIM recoils
- Direction/sense reconstructed from PCA of pixel signals.
- 10-20 $^\circ$  RMS angular resolution (multiple scattering and diffusion limited).
- Smooth ionization distribution so no  $+\mathbf{p}/-\mathbf{p}$  measurement.
- **More experiments needed!**
- Below 20keV tracks are too short (<3-4pixels) to be reconstructed.



# 6: Detectors with 2d Readout

- If  $\mathbf{p}$  is measured in 2d, output is **angles** (rel. to arbitrary dirn.) of  $\mathbf{p}$  projected into readout plane.
- Anisotropy of angle distribution depends of orientation of readout plane.



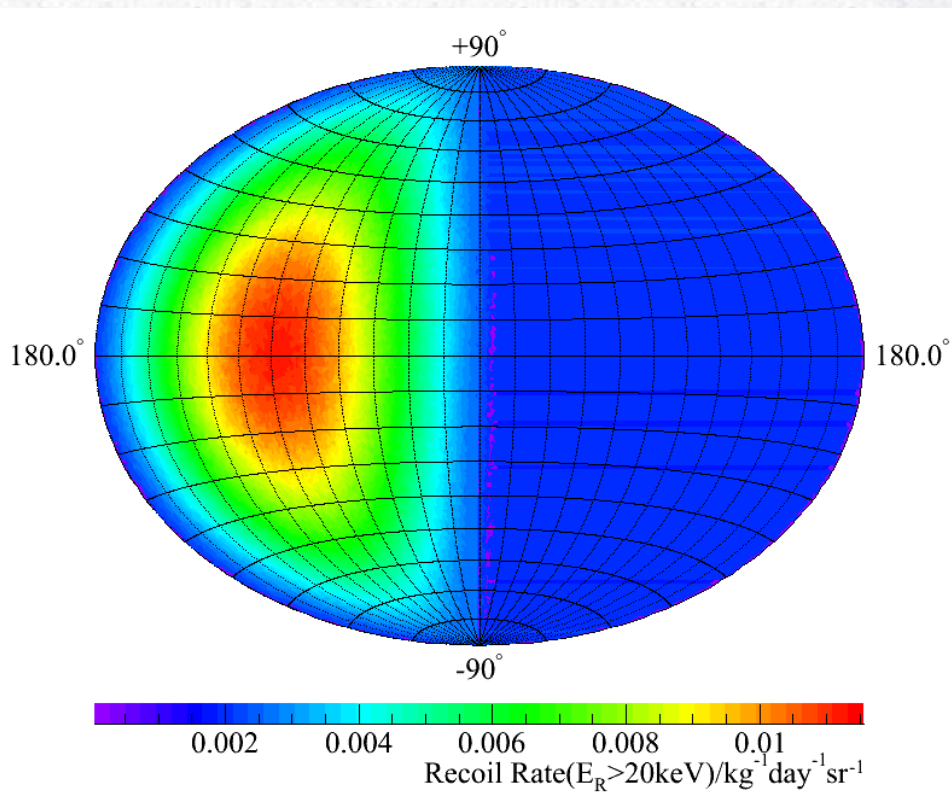
- Readout plane perpendicular to spin axis is optimal.
- No detector effects – energy AND direction dependent!



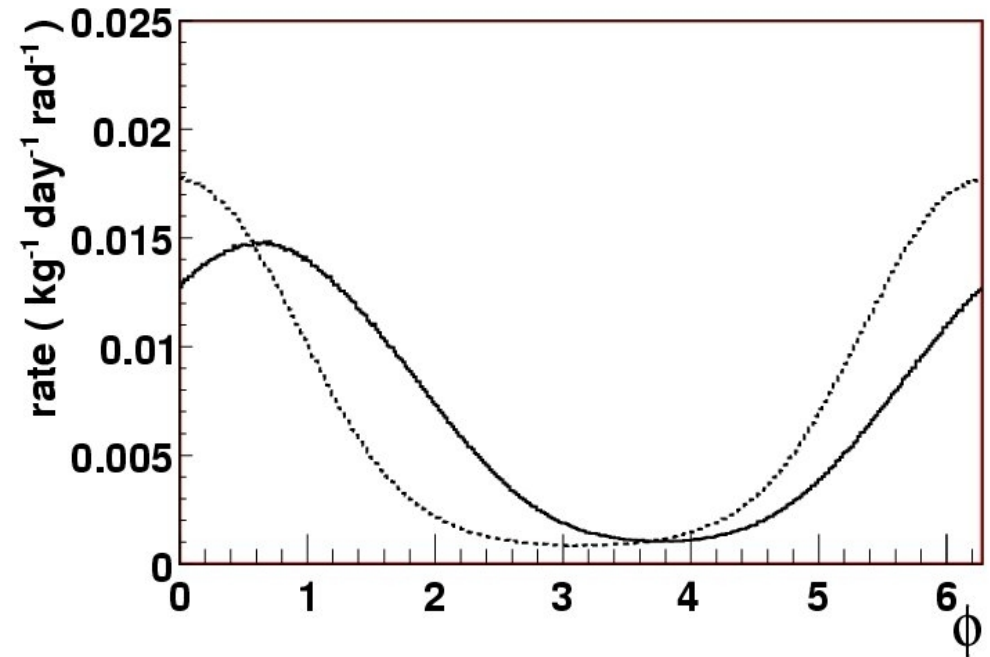
# 7: Recoil Angle Distributions

- Baseline configuration: ***3d vector readout, 20keV threshold, detector effects, no background.***

– Assume  $\rho_0 = 0.3 \text{ GeV cm}^{-3}$ ,  $m_\chi = 100 \text{ GeV}$ .



3d



2d (optimal readout plane)

— raw angles

..... reduced angles (relative to solar motion)



# 8.1: Statistical Analysis Strategy

- Use non-parametric spherical (3d) and circular (2d) tests of isotropy (used in geology, biology).
  - **No assumptions about (unknown) WIMP distribution**
- For 3d readout, most powerful statistic is mean dot product of recoils and direction of solar motion:

$$\langle \cos \theta \rangle = \frac{1}{N} \sum_i \hat{\vec{r}}_i \cdot \hat{\vec{v}}_{sun}$$

vector data

$$\langle |\cos \theta| \rangle = \frac{1}{N} \sum_i |\hat{\vec{r}}_i \cdot \hat{\vec{v}}_{sun}|$$

axial data

- For 2d readout, it's the Rayleigh statistic, which measures deviation of mean resultant from zero.

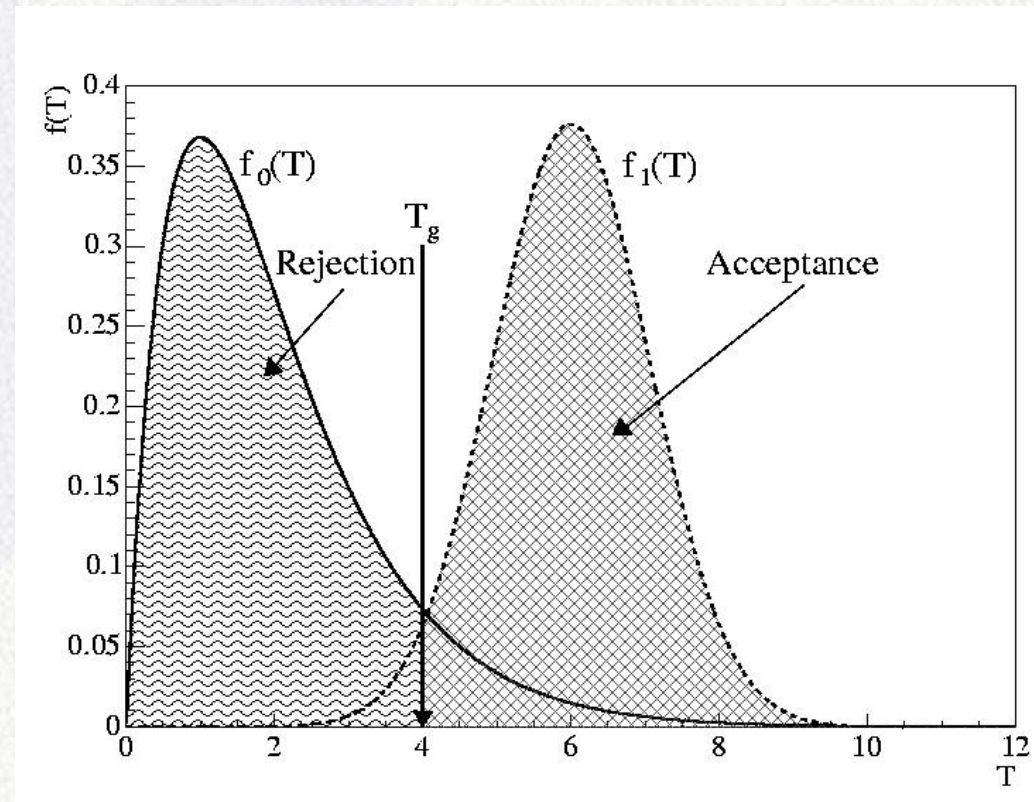


## 8.2: Statistical Analysis Strategy

- For given number of events,  $N$ , generate distribution of statistic for isotropic and WIMP halo hypotheses.

- Calculate Acceptance and Rejection factors:

- Find  $N$  such that  $A=R=0.9(0.95)$



- ***Gives  $N$  for 90%(95%) confidence detection of anisotropy in 90%(95%) of experiments.***



# 9: Baseline Results

- Baseline numbers of events for 90/95% confidence detection of anisotropy in 90/95% of experiments:

difference from baseline configuration	$N_{90}$	$N_{95}$
none	7	11
$E_T = 0$ keV	13	21
no recoil reconstruction uncertainty	5	9
$E_T = 50$ keV	5	7
$E_T = 100$ keV	3	5
$S/N = 10$	8	14
$S/N = 1$	17	27
$S/N = 0.1$	99	170
3-d axial read-out	81	130
2-d vector read-out in optimal plane, raw angles	18	26
2-d axial read-out in optimal plane, raw angles	1100	1600
2-d vector read-out in optimal plane, reduced angles	12	18
2-d axial read-out in optimal plane, reduced angles	190	270

Baseline Detector

Upgraded, and unrealistic, detector

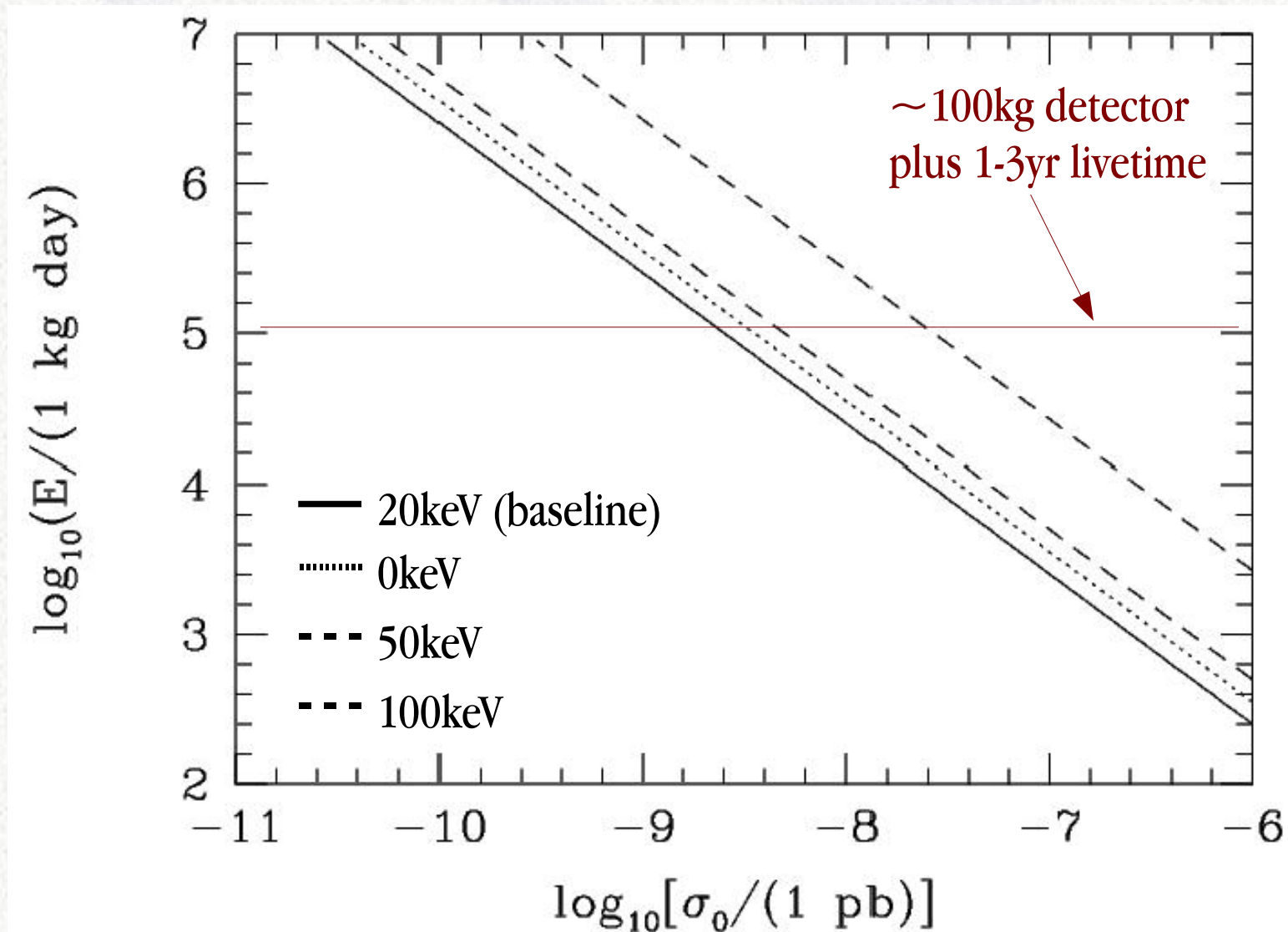
Note that all 2d numbers assume perfect angular resolution

*See Green & Morgan, Astropart. Phys., 27, 142-149*



# 10: Directional Energy Threshold

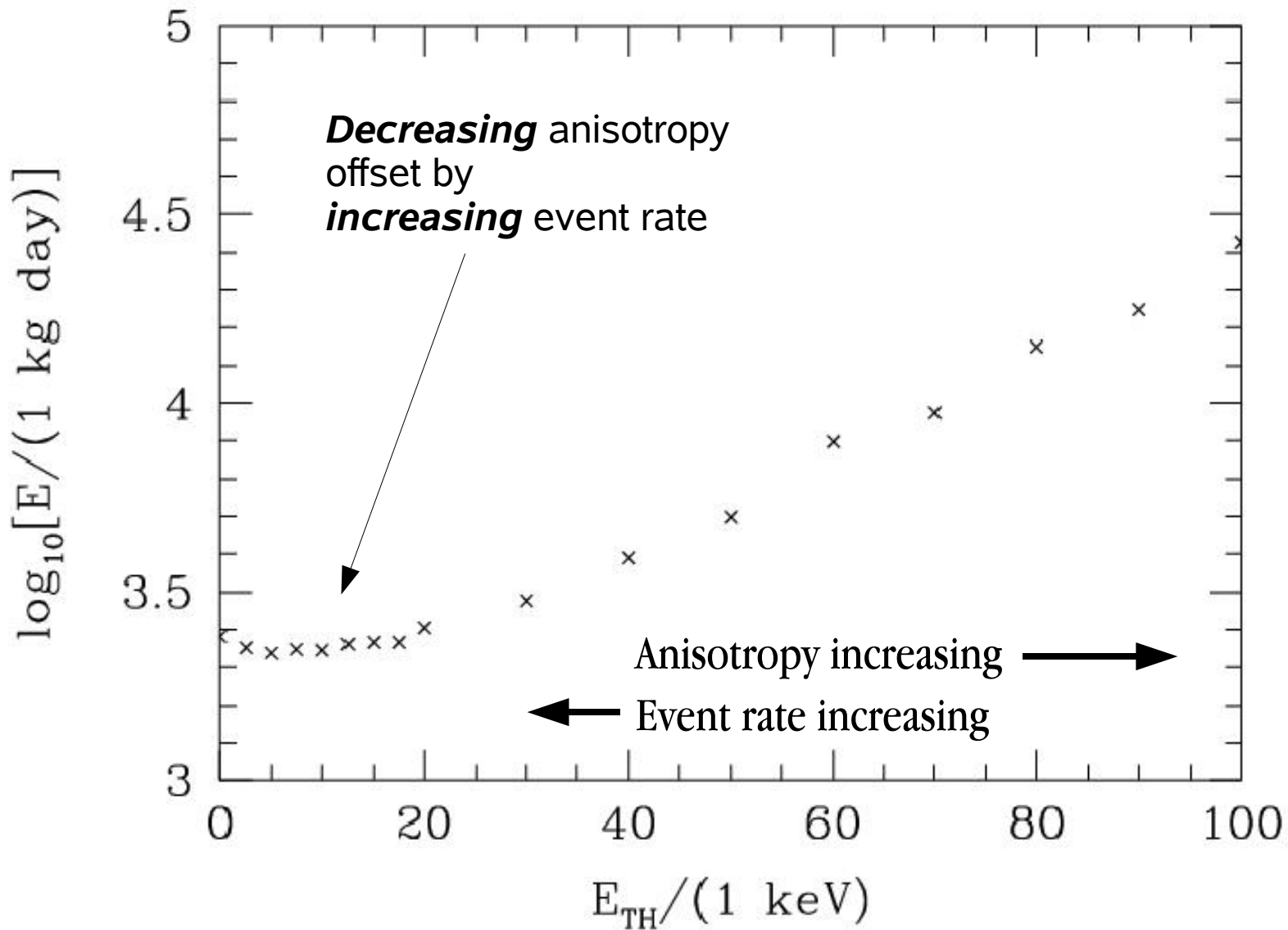
- There is an optimum energy threshold for directionality!





# 10.1: Why an Optimum Threshold?

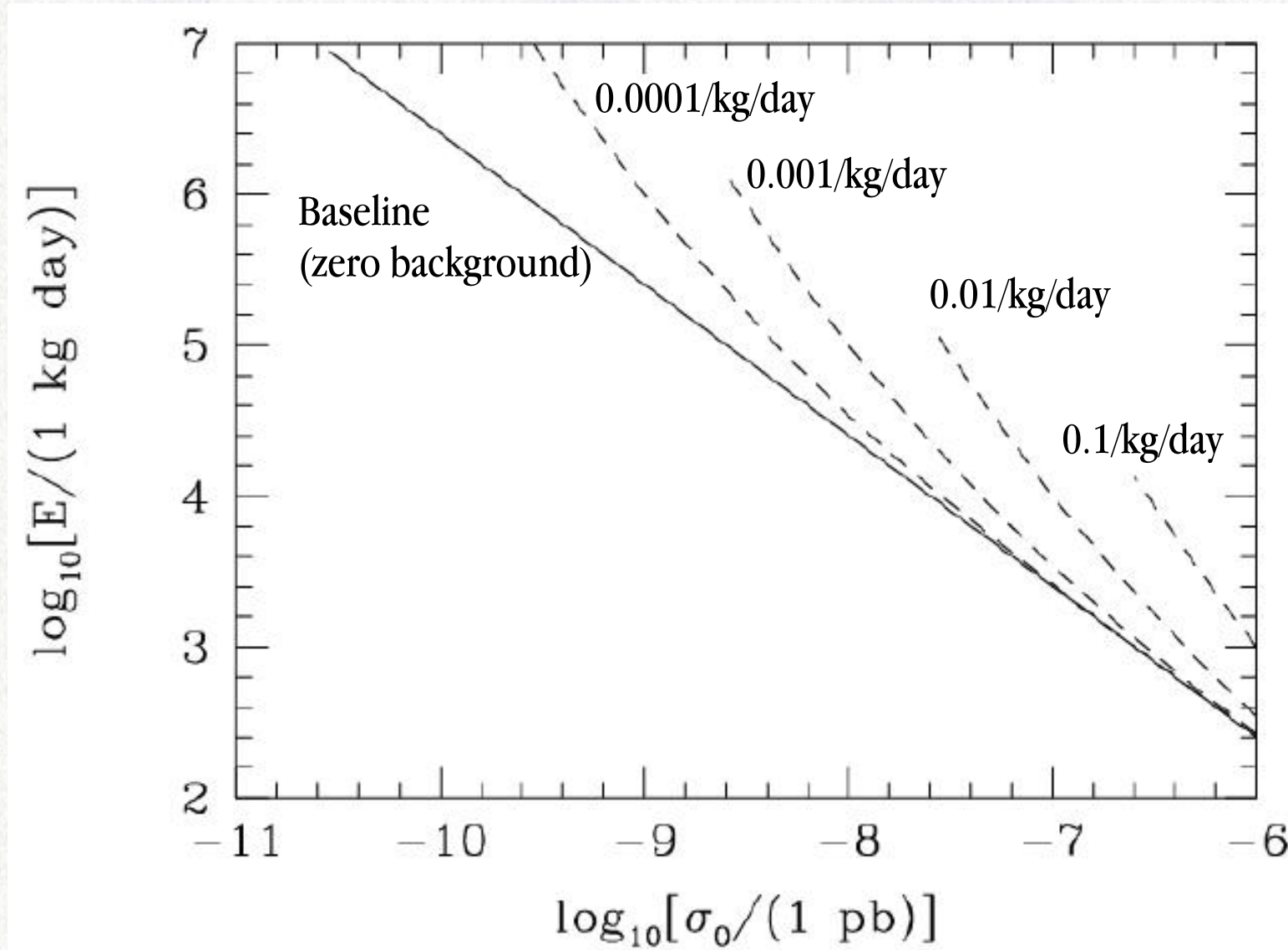
- Plot exposure as function of threshold at  $\sigma=10^{-7}$  pb:





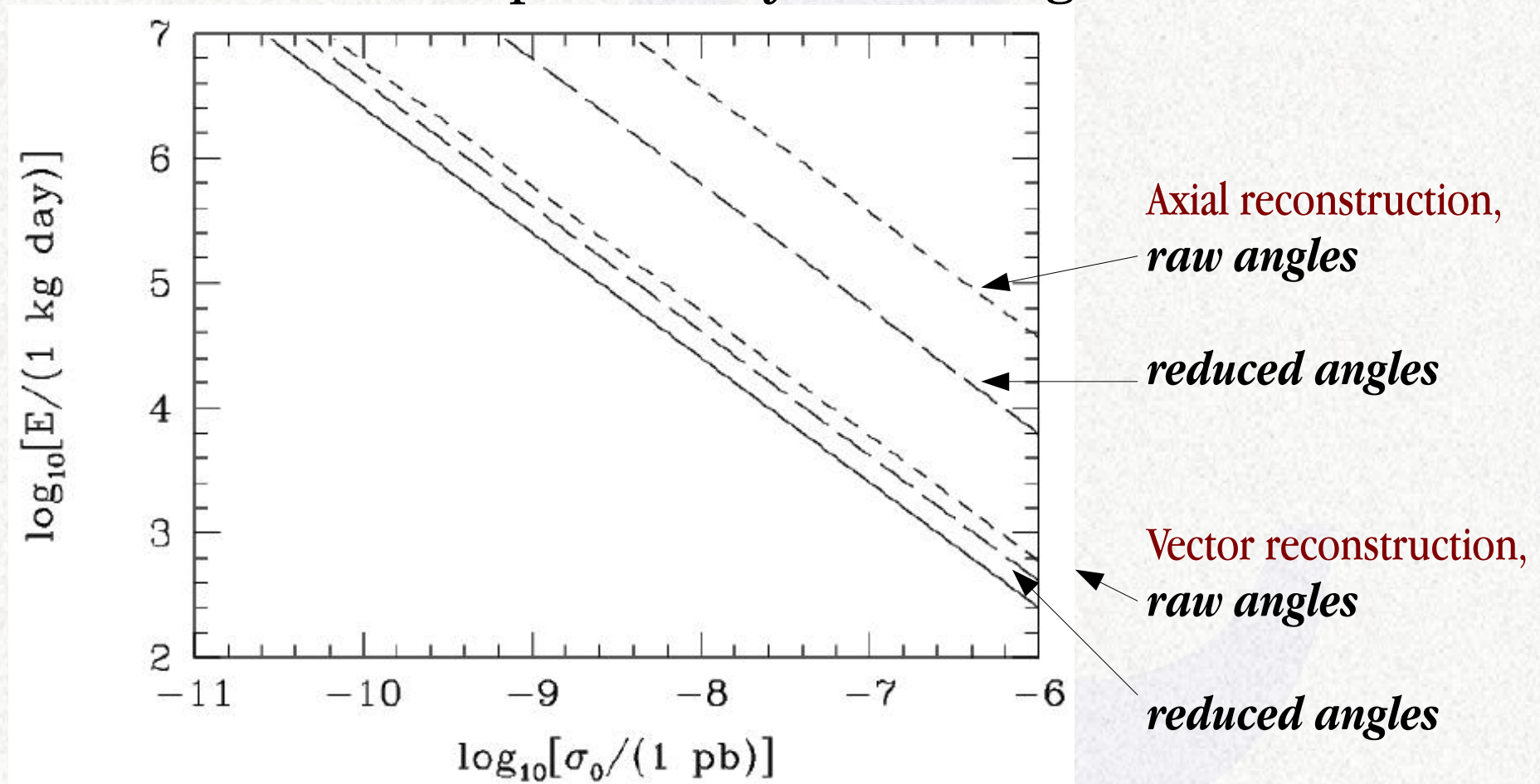
# 11: Background rate

- If there is an isotropic background, anisotropy decreases



# 12: 3d vs 2d Readout

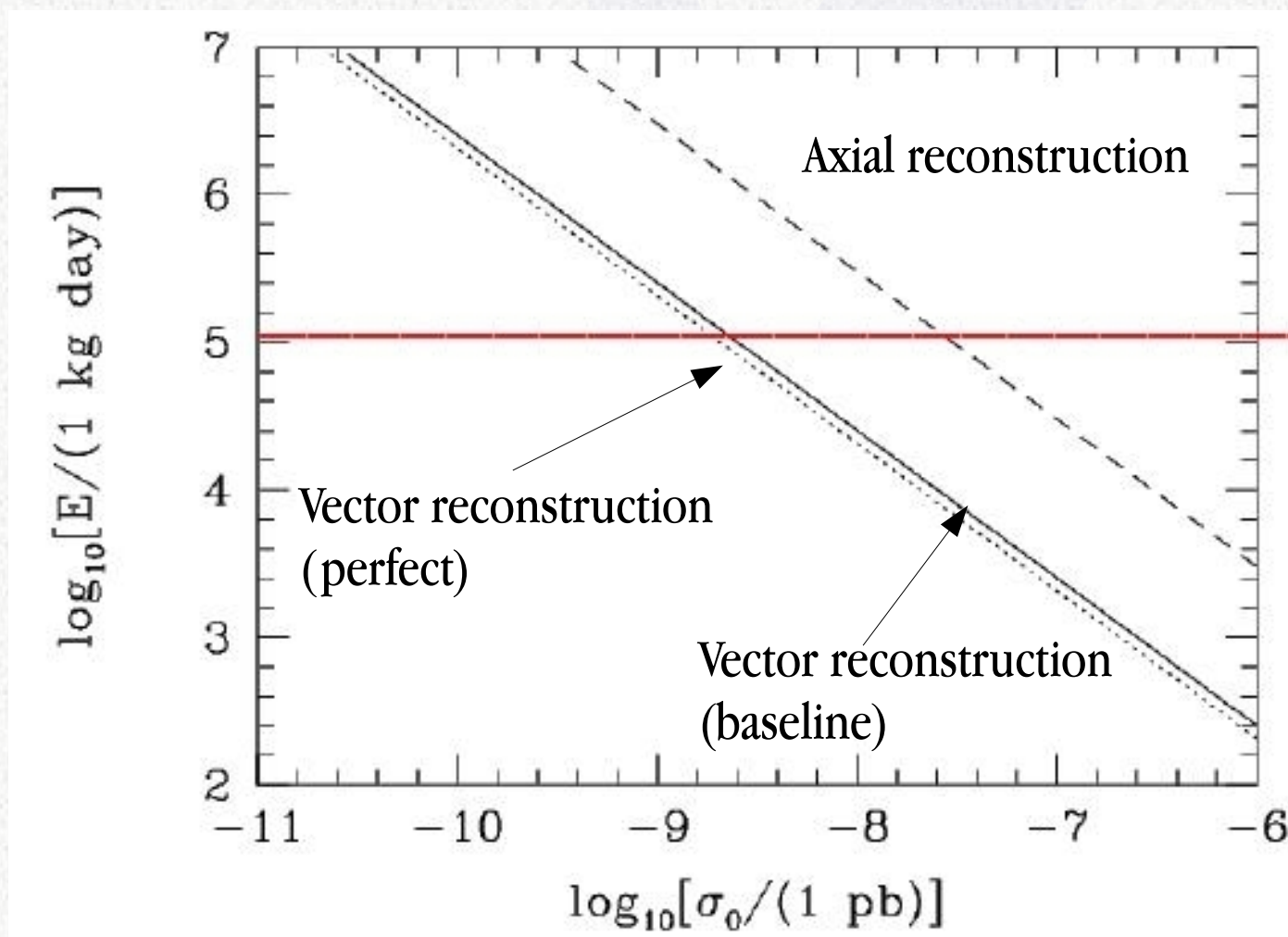
- 2d readout requires 2-100 times more events than 3d.
- Does not include detector resolution effects – so real numbers will be (potentially much) higher.





# 13: Sense or No Sense?

- If we cannot measure  $+\mathbf{p}/-\mathbf{p}$ , then for 3d readout, number of events increased by 1 order or magnitude.



*~100kg detector,  
1-3yr livetime*

# 14: Partial Sense Reconstruction

---

- Experiments now indicate that  $+\underline{\mathbf{p}}/-\underline{\mathbf{p}}$  *may* be measurable at energies  $<100\text{keV}$ .
- What happens if the sense is only reconstructed correctly with a recoil energy dependent probability?
  - *Indicated for  $E>100\text{keV}$  in Dujmic et. al., arxiv:0708.2370*
- We consider two cases:
  - $P(\text{correct sense} \mid E)=k, k=0.55-1.0$
  - $P(\text{c.s.} \mid E)=mE+c, P(20\text{keV})=0.55, 0.75, P(100\text{keV})=0.55, 1.0$
  - **See Green & Morgan, arxiv:0711.2234**



# 15: Partial Sense in 3d

$$p_{100} = P(\text{c.s.} \mid 100\text{keV})$$

**circles:**  $P(E) = k = p_{100}$

**triangles:**  $P(E) = mE + c,$   
 $P(20\text{keV}) = 0.75$

$$p_{100} = 0.75 - 1.0$$

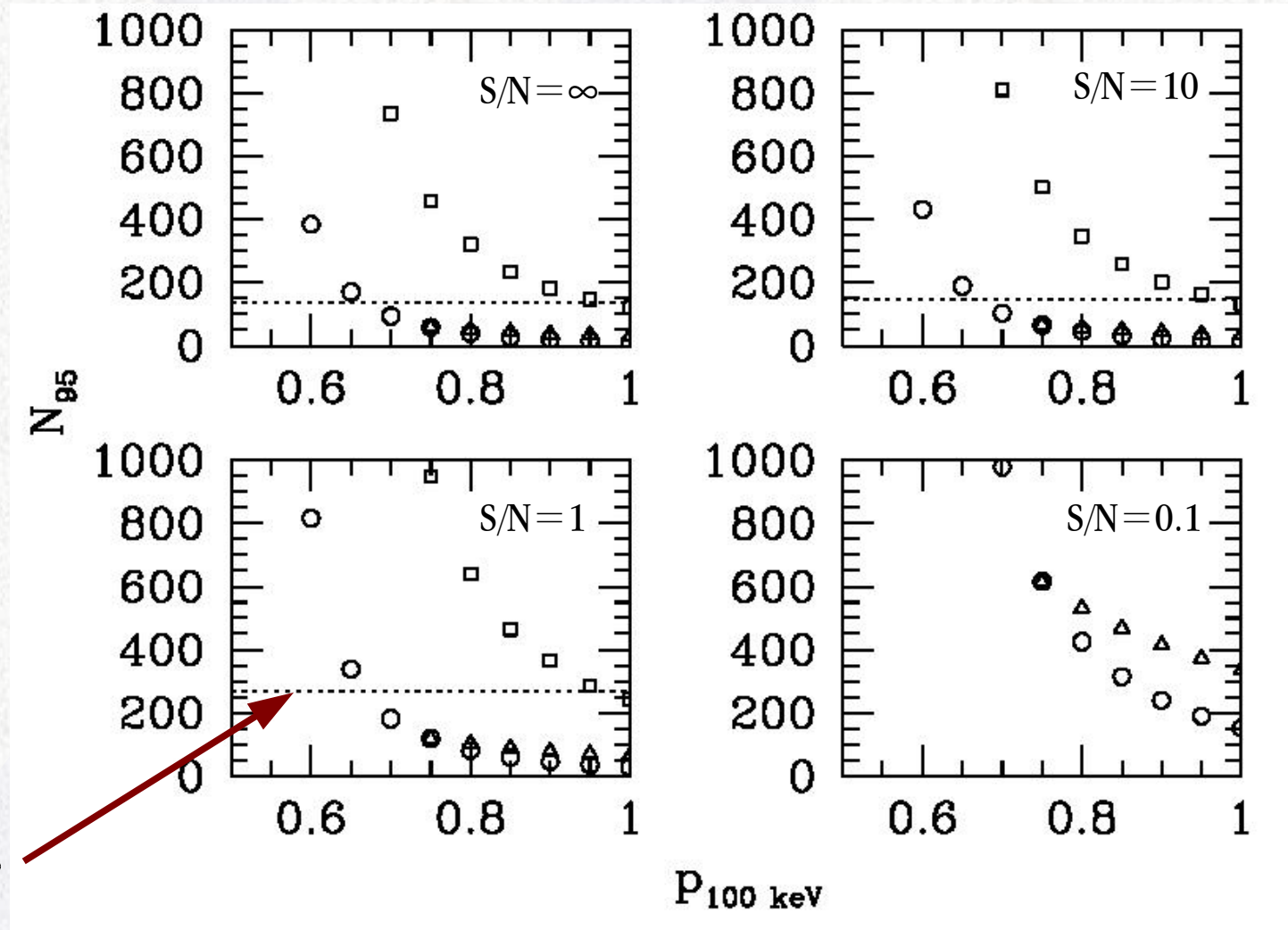
**squares:**  $P(E) = mE + c,$   
 $P(20\text{keV}) = 0.55$

$$p_{100} = 0.55 - 1.0$$

$$\langle |\cos \theta| \rangle$$



Gives comparison with pure axial (no sense) reconstruction





# 16: Vectors vs Axes

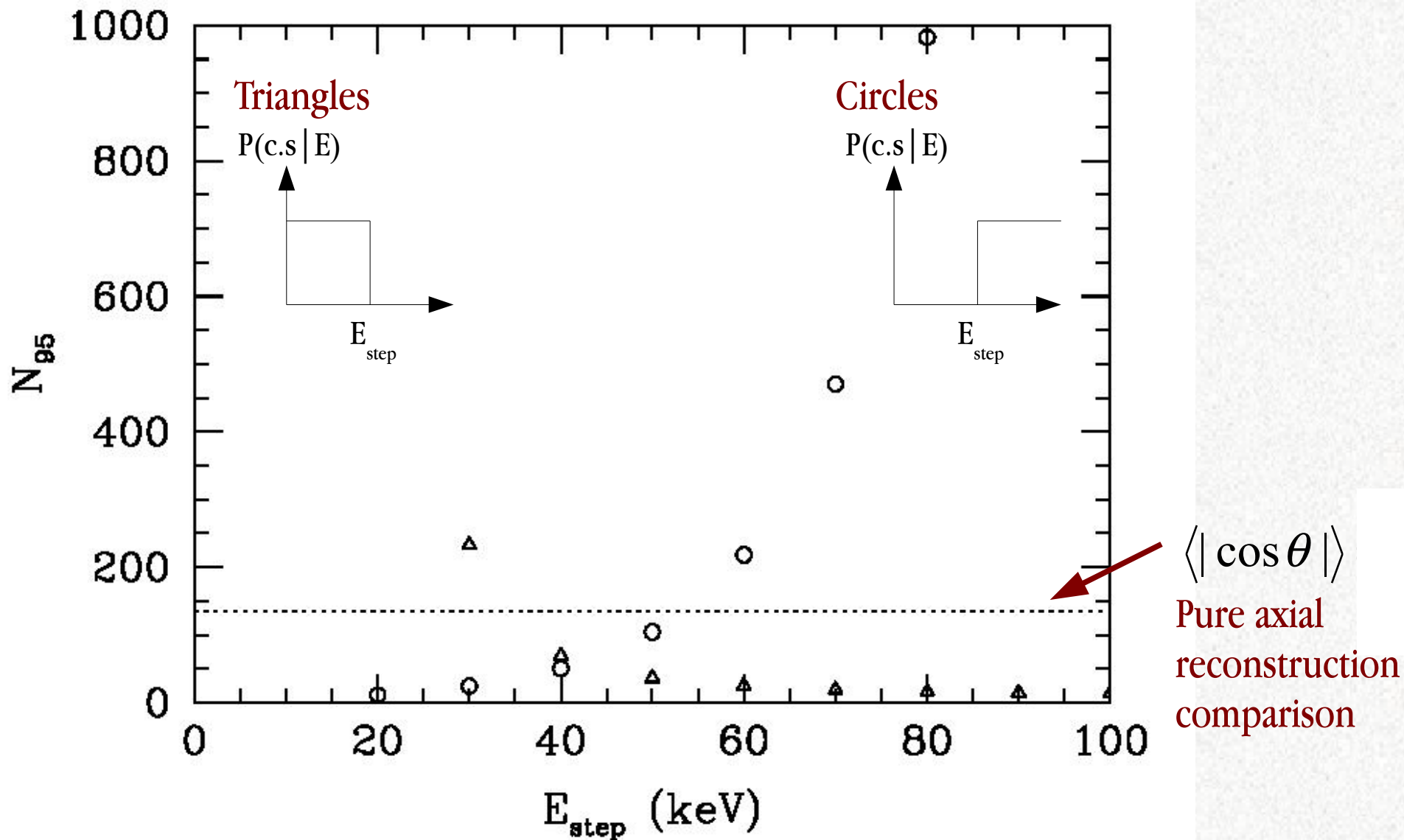
---

- Main conclusion of partial sense reconstruction:
  - *If  $<100\text{keV}$  recoils have sense correctly measured  $<70\%$  of the time, more efficient to throw away sense info and just use axial statistics!*
- This is due to the compromise between recoil rate and anisotropy (as with the energy threshold).
- We considered step functions for  $P(\text{c.s.} | E)$  with:
  - $P(\text{c.s.} | E < E_{\text{step}}) = 0.5, P(\text{c.s.} | E > E_{\text{step}}) = 1.0$
  - $P(\text{c.s.} | E < E_{\text{step}}) = 1.0, P(\text{c.s.} | E > E_{\text{step}}) = 0.5$



# 16.1: What Energies for Sense Measure?

- Partial sense has the biggest effect at low recoil energy:



# 14: Conclusions

---

- 'Baseline' detector with 20keV threshold, realistic angular resolution, 3d readout with sense:
  - ***O(10) events to detect anisotropy***
- **Energy threshold** – *may not need to be that low.*
- **Background** – *minimize to optimize directional 'reach'.*
- **3d vs 2d** – *3d at least an order of magnitude better.*
- **Sense reconstruction** – **the main effect...**
  - *1. perfect sense reconstruction gives an order of magnitude reduction in number of events.*
  - ***2. BUT, sense reconstruction must work well at low (<50-100keV) energy or no better than axial readout.***