



Queen's  
UNIVERSITY



# New Experiments With Spheres -Gas Light Dark Matter search

## NEWS-G LSM results and NEWS-G SNOlab project

Principles of gaseous spherical detector  
Light Dark Matter search with SEDINE at LSM  
NEWS-SNO project, future ideas  
Outlook

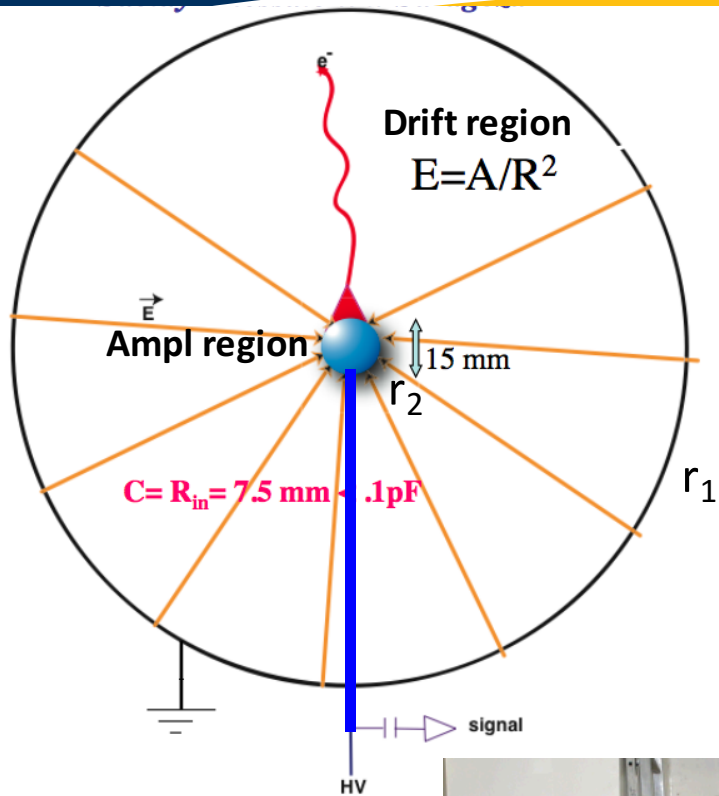
Gilles Gerbier  
Queen's University  
Cosmic Vision workshop  
Washington– Mar 24<sup>th</sup> 2017



Canada Excellence  
Research Chairs  
Chaires d'excellence  
en recherche du Canada

# Spherical gas detectors

## New Experiments With Spheres



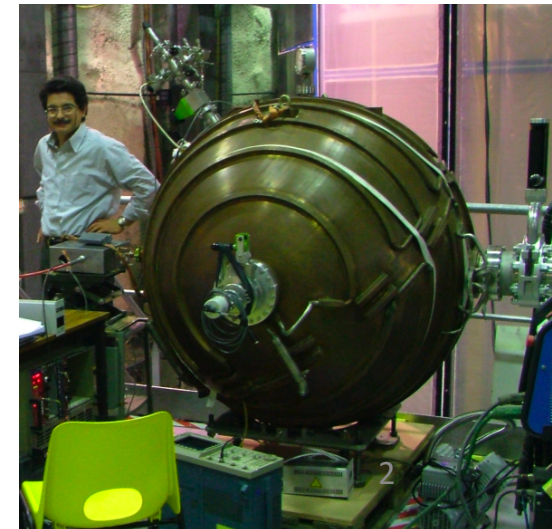
- Sphere cavity + spherical sensor + HT
- => Low threshold (low C), does not depend on size
- Fiducial volume selection by risetime
- Flexible (P, gaz)
- Large mass / large volume (30 kg) with single channel
- Simple, sealed mode
- 2 LEP cavity 130 cm Ø tested
- 1 low activity 60 cm Ø in operation @ LSM

$$C = 4\pi\epsilon\rho$$

$$1/\rho = 1/r_2 - 1/r_1$$

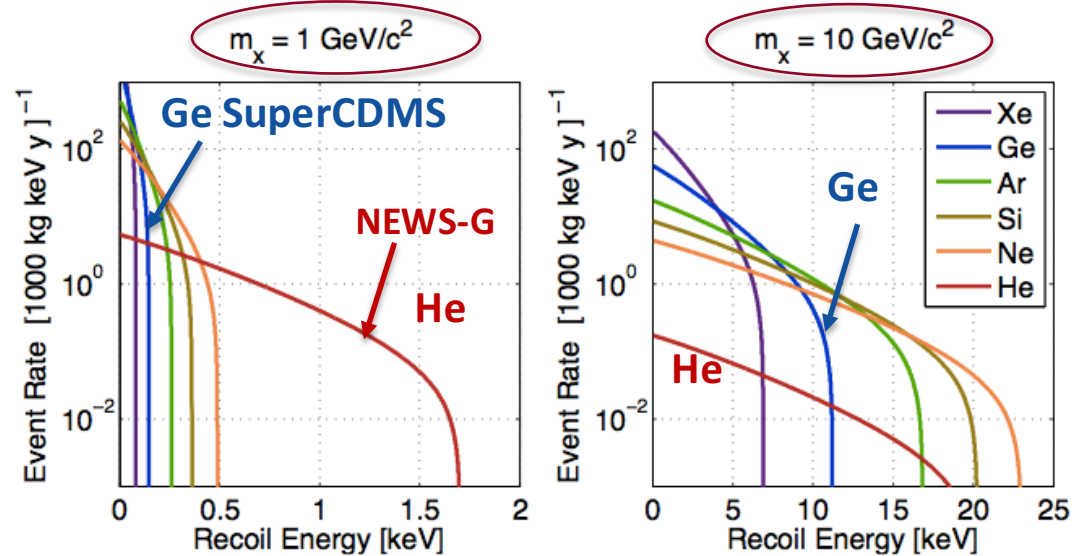
$$\rho \approx r_2$$

$$E(r) = \frac{V_0}{r^2} \rho$$



# Detection of “low mass” flying particle

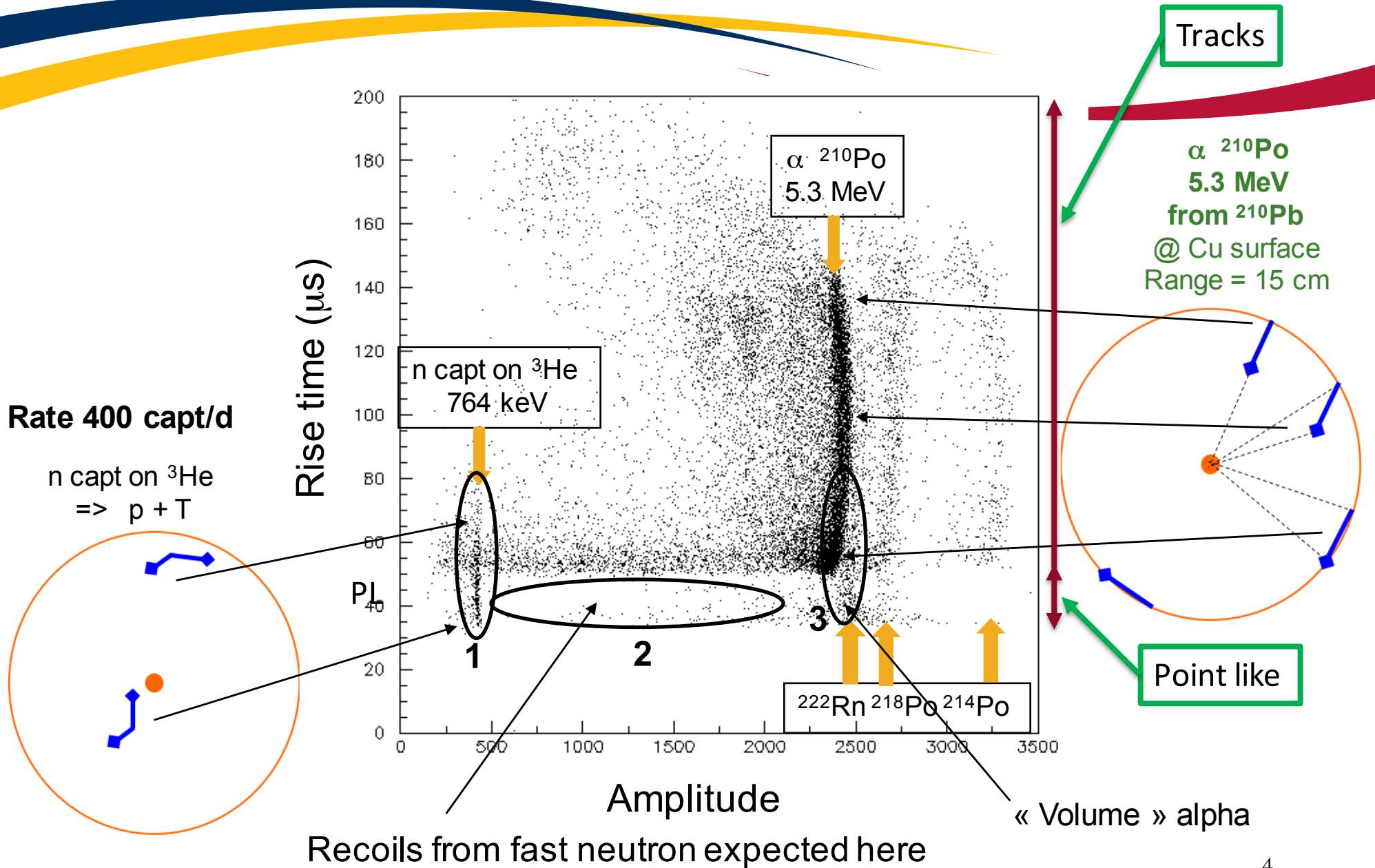
- Kinematical match
- To detect **flying ping pong balls** is it better to have as **target** :
  - lead “petanque” balls
  - or **ping pong** balls ?
- => use light nuclei to detect light WIMPs
- H, He, Ne lightest among noble gas



Recoil distributions with various targets

# Illustration of particle identification at MeV energy

Ar/CH<sub>4</sub> + 3g <sup>3</sup>He @ 200 mb SPC 130cm Ø @ LSM

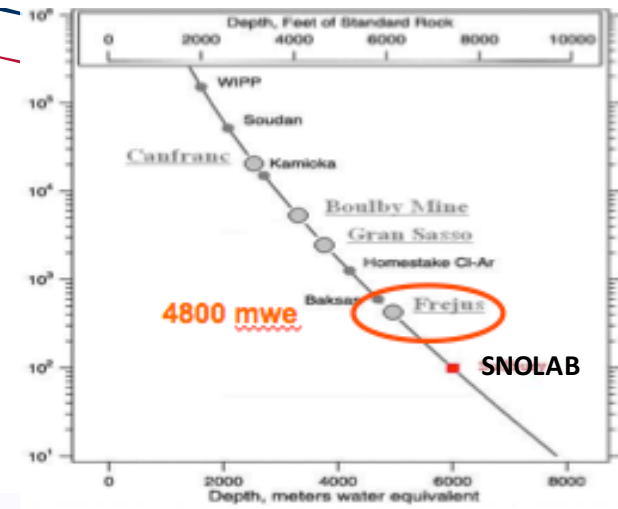


# Light WIMP search NEWS-G @LSM

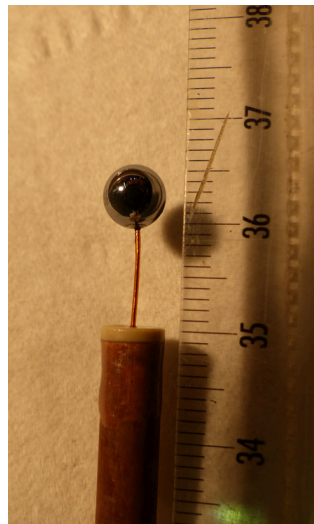
## Low activity 60 cm $\varnothing$ prototype : SeDiNe

Laboratoire Souterrain de Modane

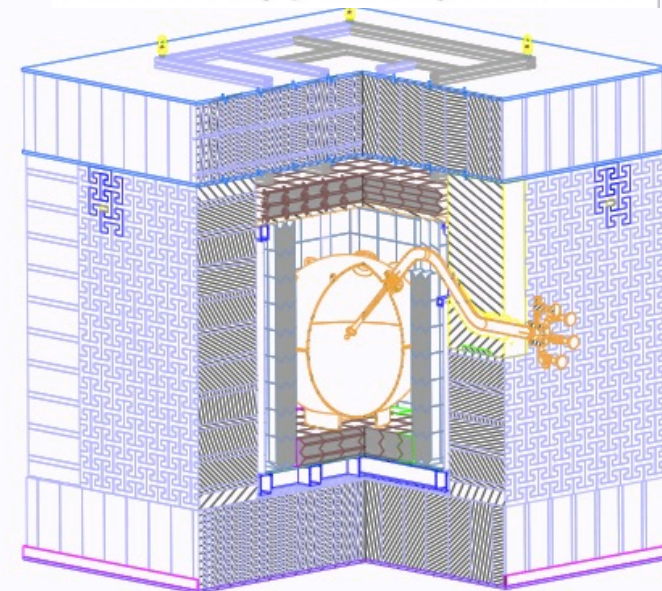
- Copper vessel equipped with 6 mm  $\varnothing$  sensor
- Runs with **Neon+0.7%CH<sub>4</sub>** @ 3.1 bars
- => 310 g sensitive mass
- Several internal cleanings for radon deposit removal
- 42 days run for WIMP search



60 cm NOSV copper vessel



6.3 mm sensor

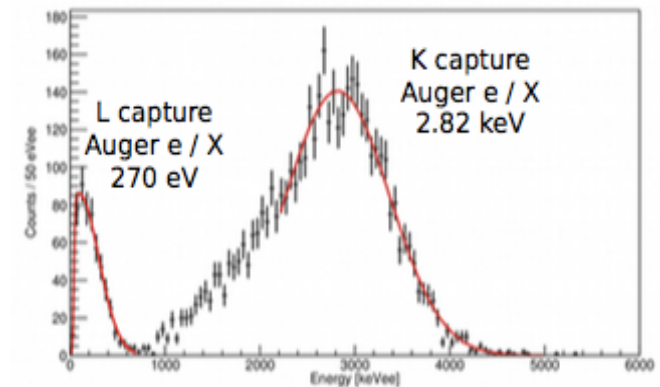


Shields 4 to 7 cm Cu, 10 cm Pb, 30 cm PE

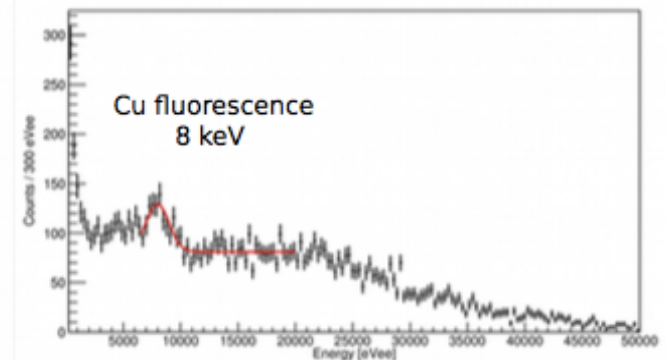
# Operation and data taking conditions

- Use of 3100 mb Ne/CH<sub>4</sub> mixture with 0.7 % CH<sub>4</sub> (penning effect expected)
- 6N Ne, 5.5 N CH<sub>4</sub>
- Energy to ionize a single electron in Neon  $w = 36$  eV
- High Voltage on sensor set to 2520 V, no sparks
- Gain around 3000
- Sealed mode, no recirculation
- Amplifier Canberra 2006 with 50  $\mu$ s RC decay constant
- Analog signal digitized at 2 MHz, stream fed into DAQ which operates soft trigger after filtering
- Data taking continuously during 42 days => 9.7 kg.d
- Acquisition threshold
  - set at 30 ADU, around 50 eV
  - set not to keep any noise in stable conditions
- Loss of gain 3 % along 42 days monitored with <sup>210</sup>Po line + variation on days scale of +/- 4%
- Calibrations in energy with <sup>37</sup>Ar gaseous source (from n, $\alpha$  reaction on <sup>40</sup>Ca) and with 8 keV line from Cu fluorescence during data taking

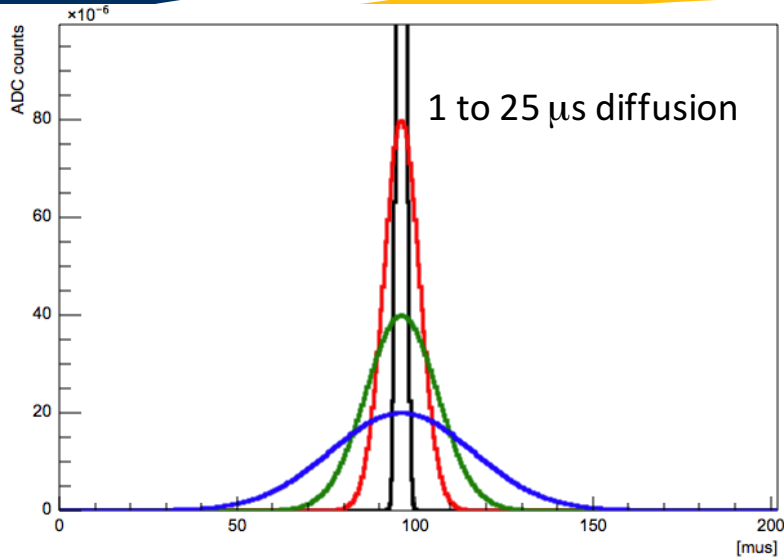
<sup>37</sup>Ar X rays calibration



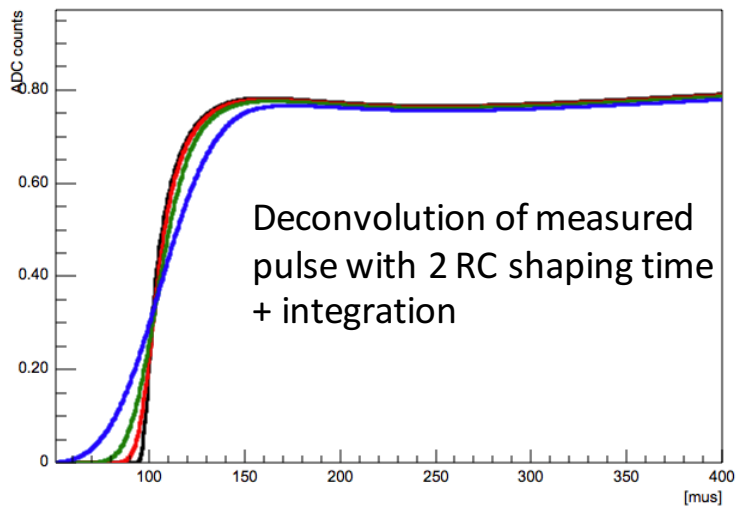
WIMP search data



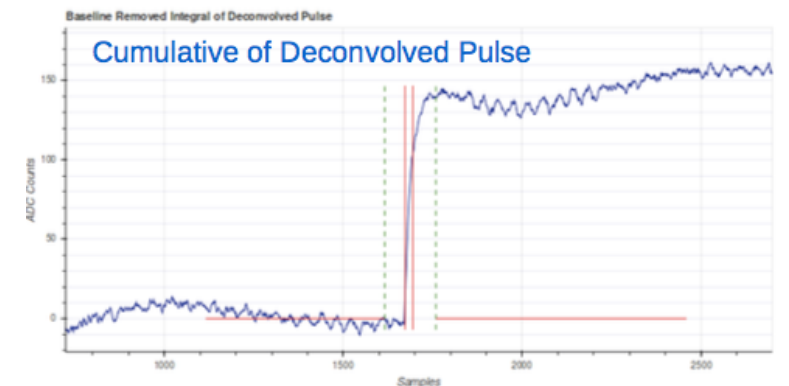
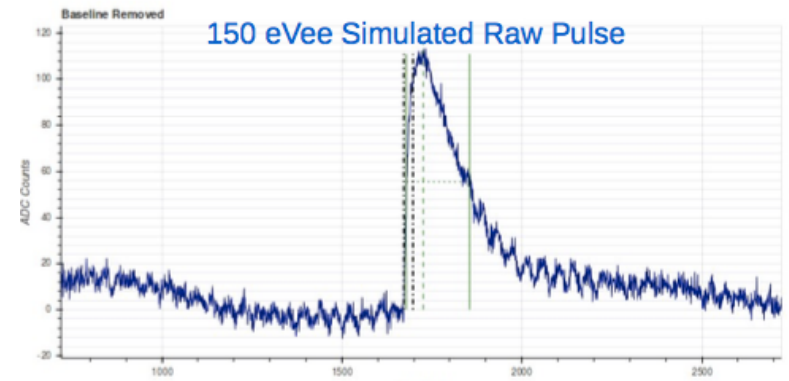
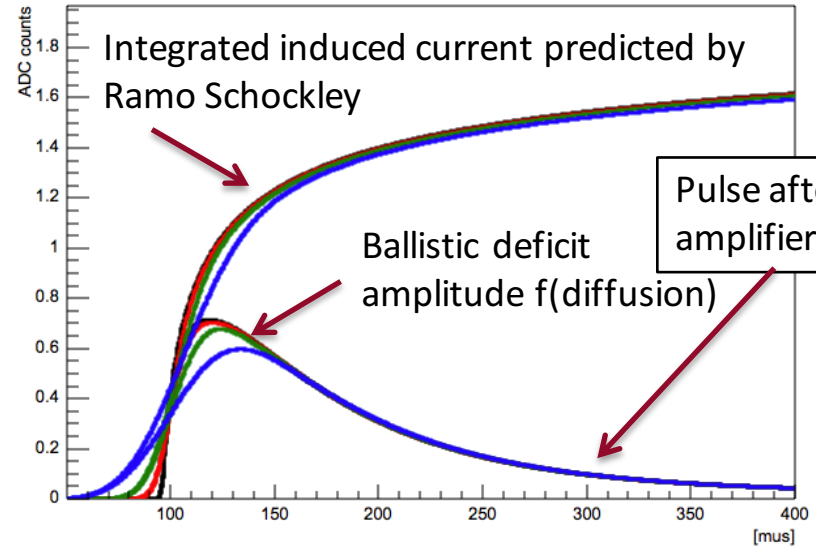
# Pulse formation and simulation



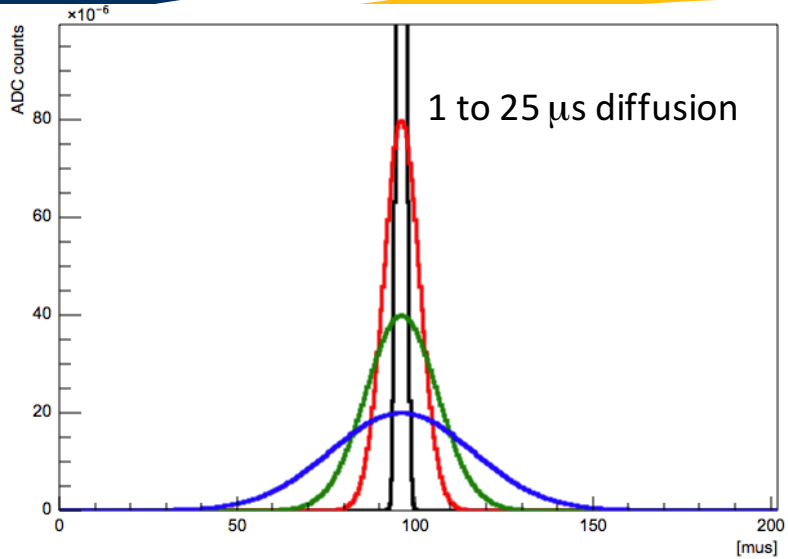
Primary pulse : arrival times of primary electrons



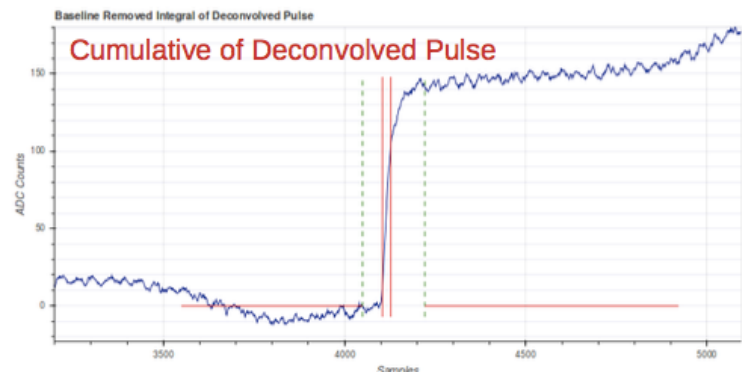
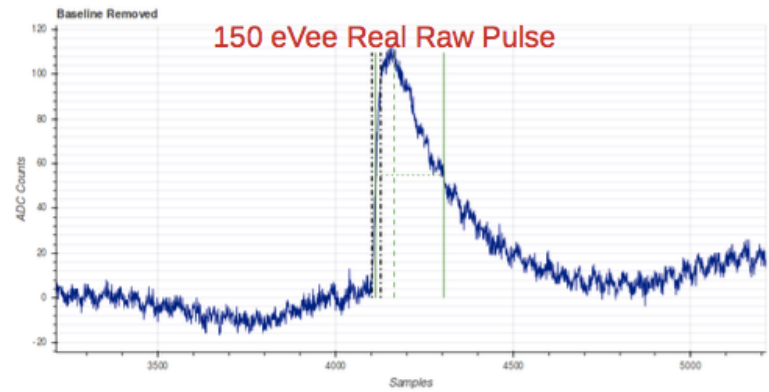
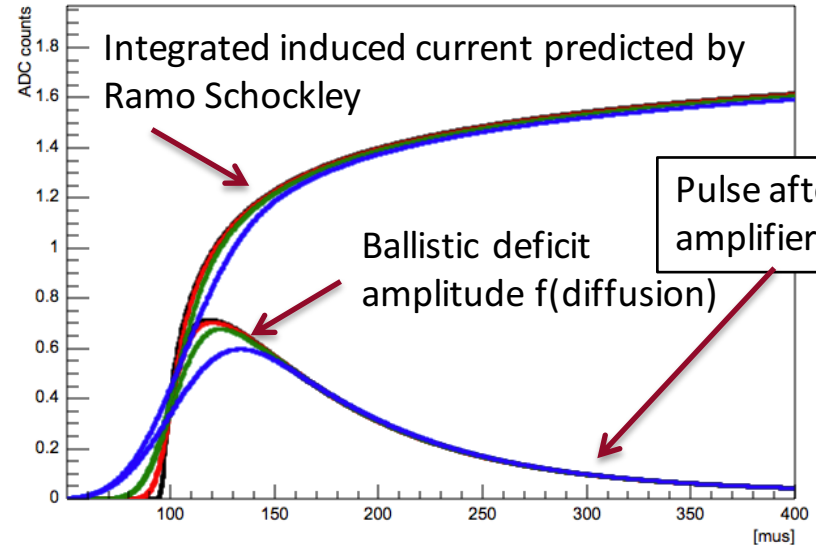
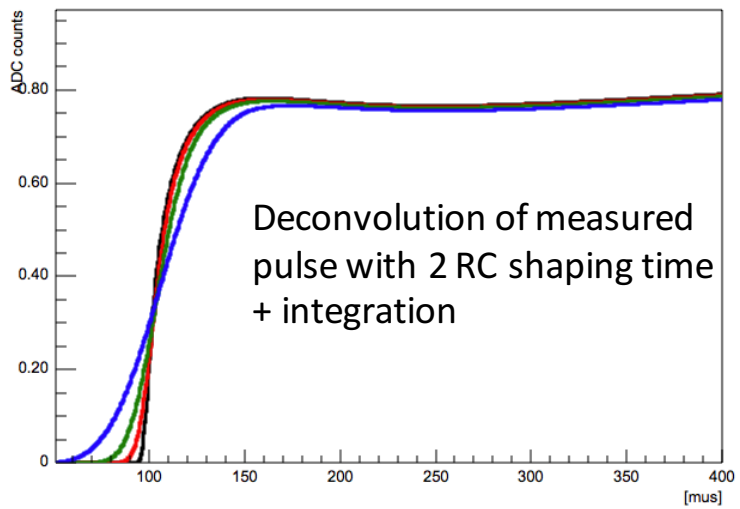
Paco Vasquez de Sola PhD



# Pulse formation and simulation

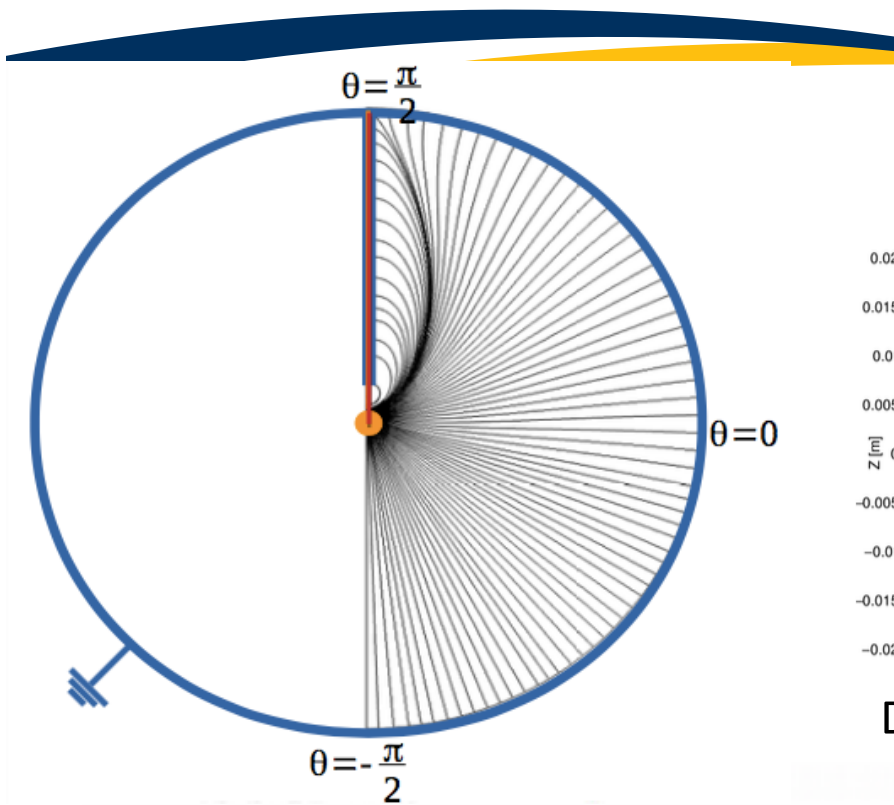


Primary pulse : arrival times of primary electrons





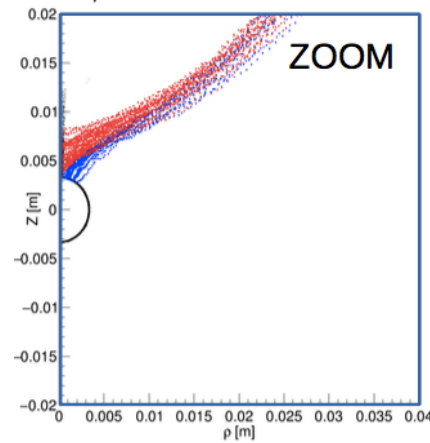
# Detailed simulation of electric field and transport



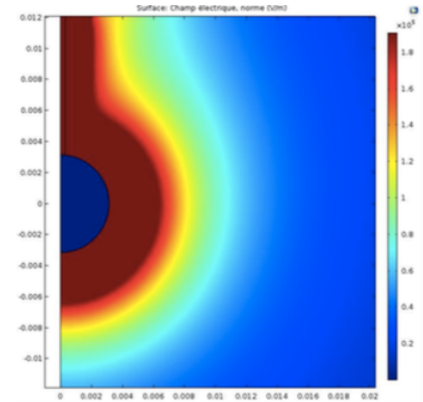
Non fully radial field => dependance on teta of

- drift velocities / diffusion
- avalanche gain

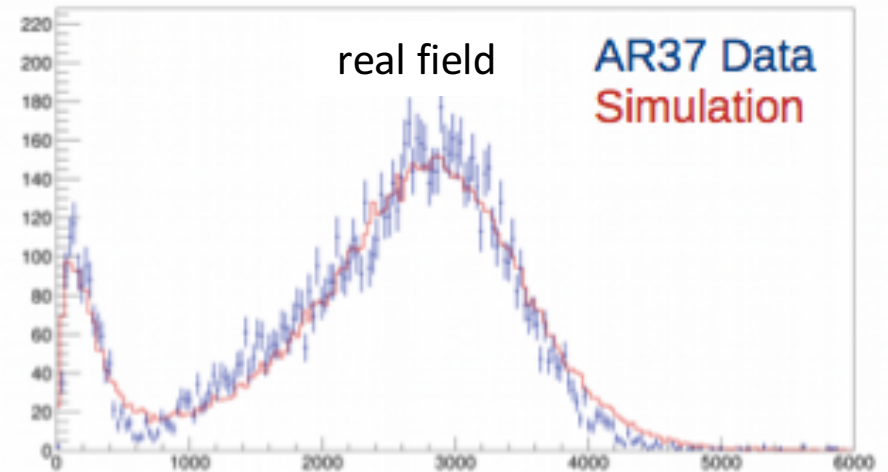
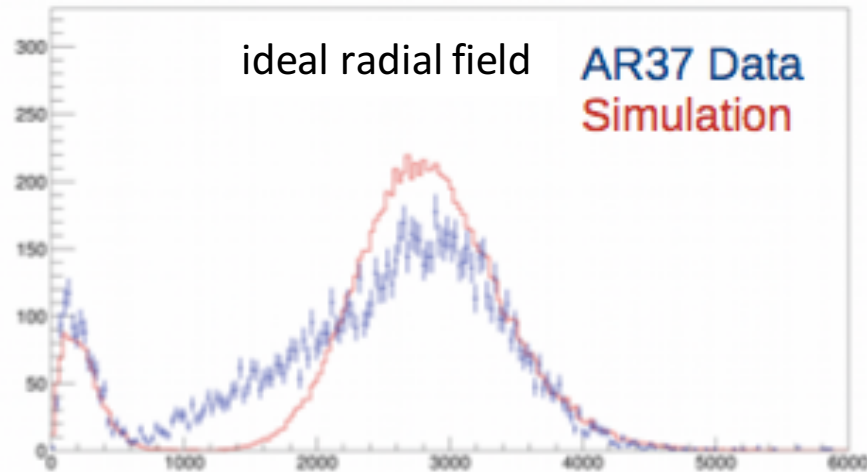
Simulated/parametrised through Comsol/Magboltz



Drift at high teta



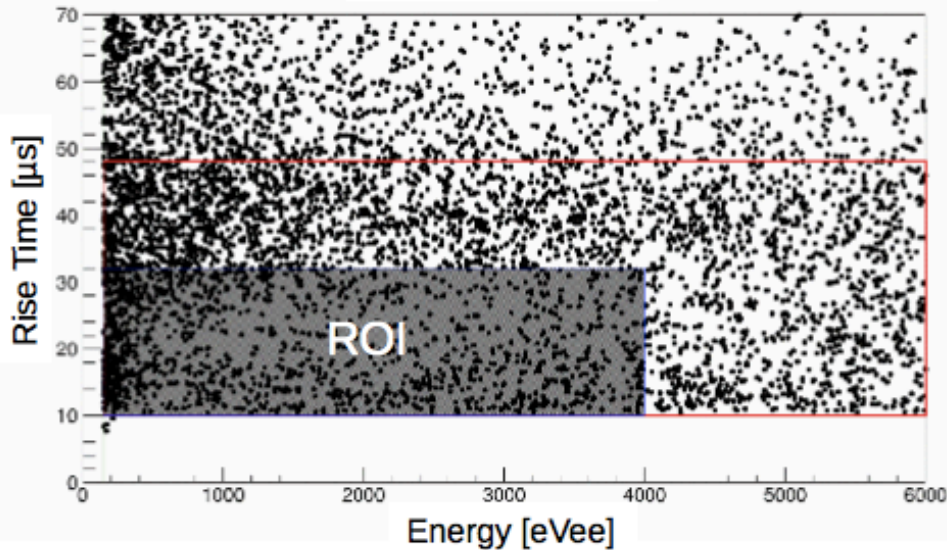
Field near sensor



# Data and simulations of two main expected populations

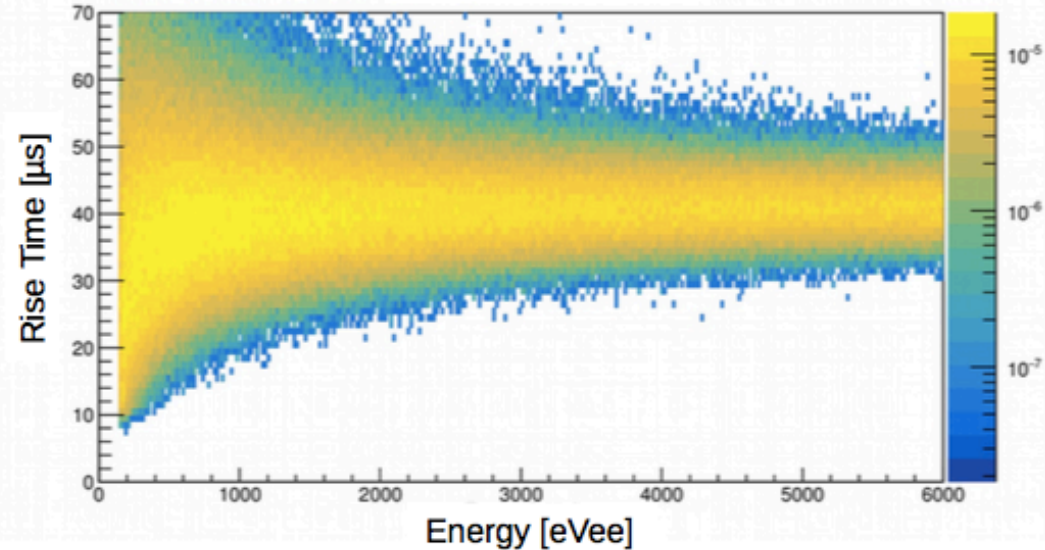
## Sedine data

WIMP search run



## Background PDFs

Surface events



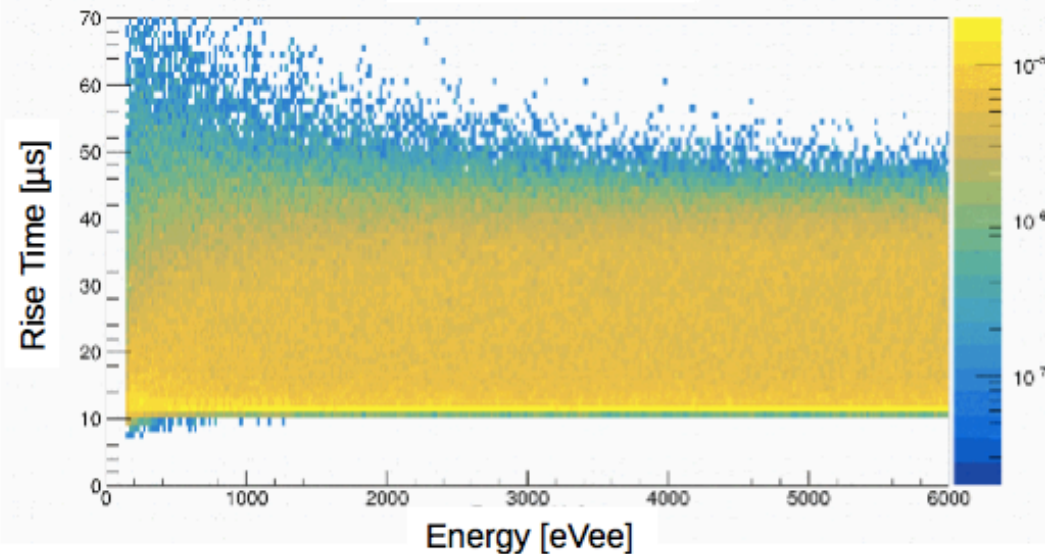
**Analysis threshold** set at **150 eVee**  
(100% trigger efficiency)

**Side Band region** used to determine  
The number of background events  
expected in the **ROI**

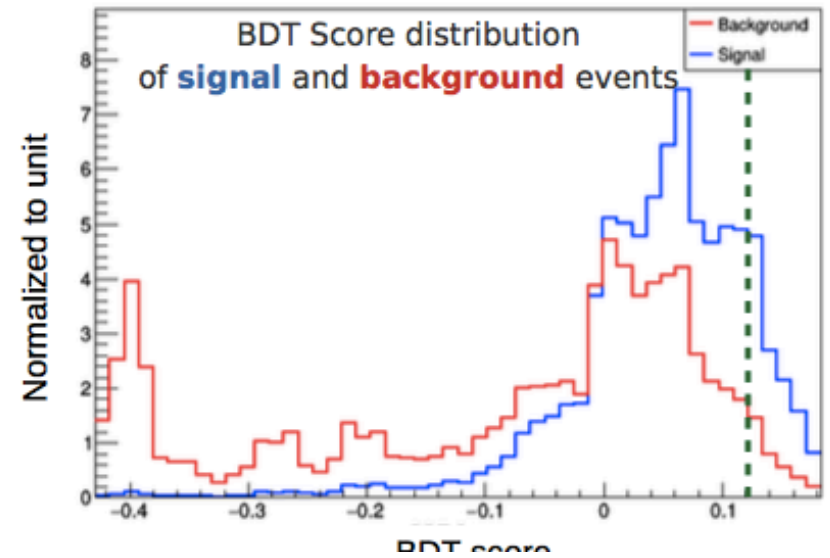
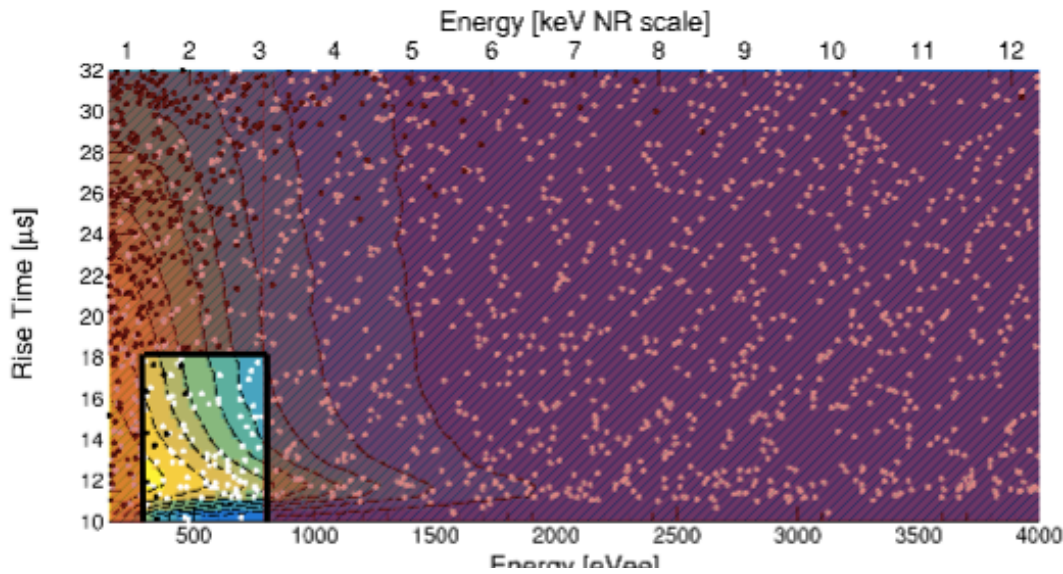
**~1600 events expected in the ROI ...**

**Need to determine a fine-tuned ROI  
optimized for signal/background  
discrimination**

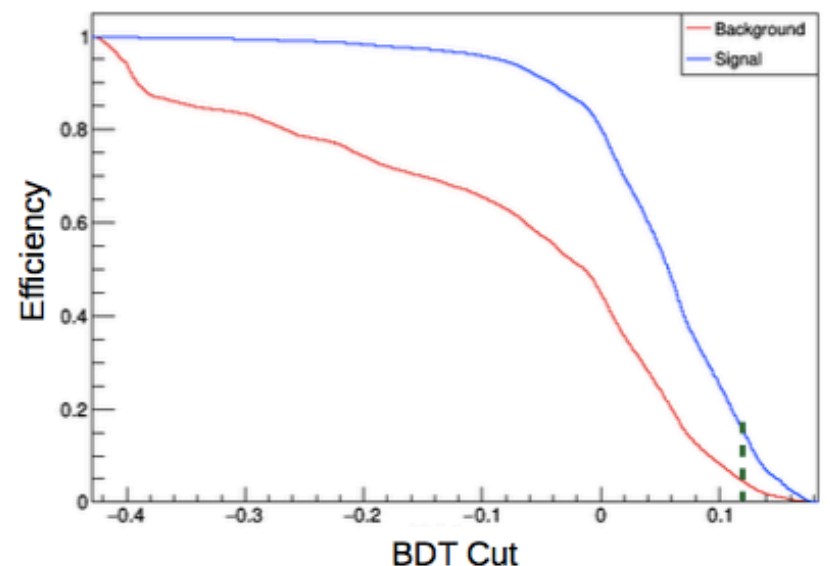
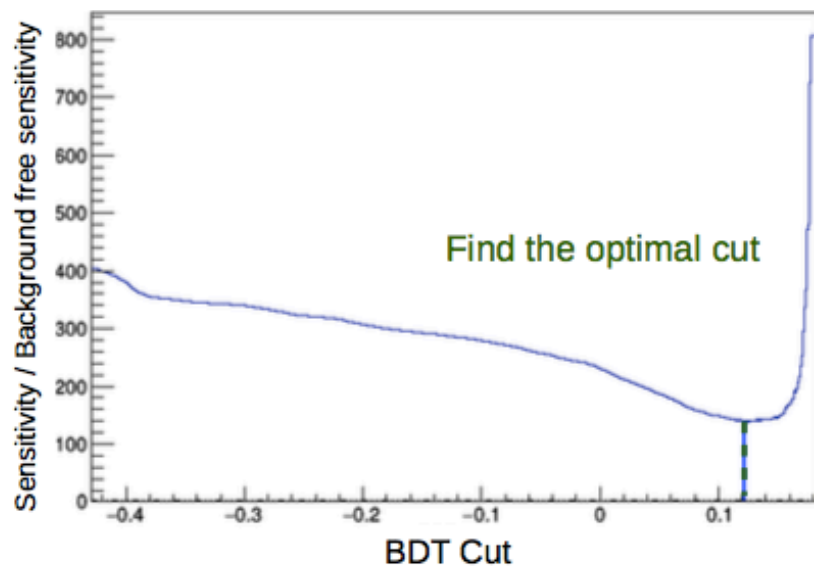
Volume events



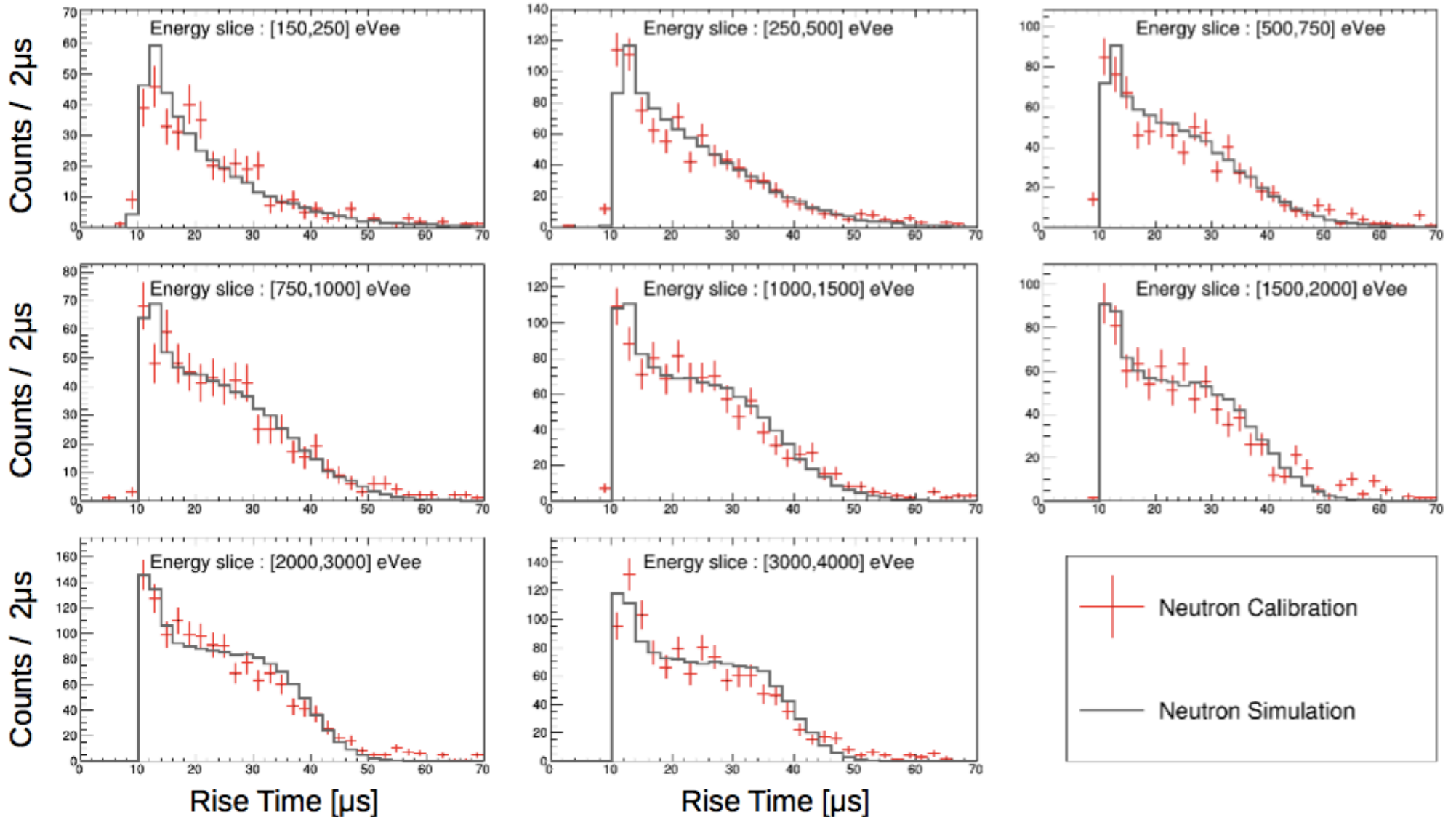
# Boosted Decision Tree method



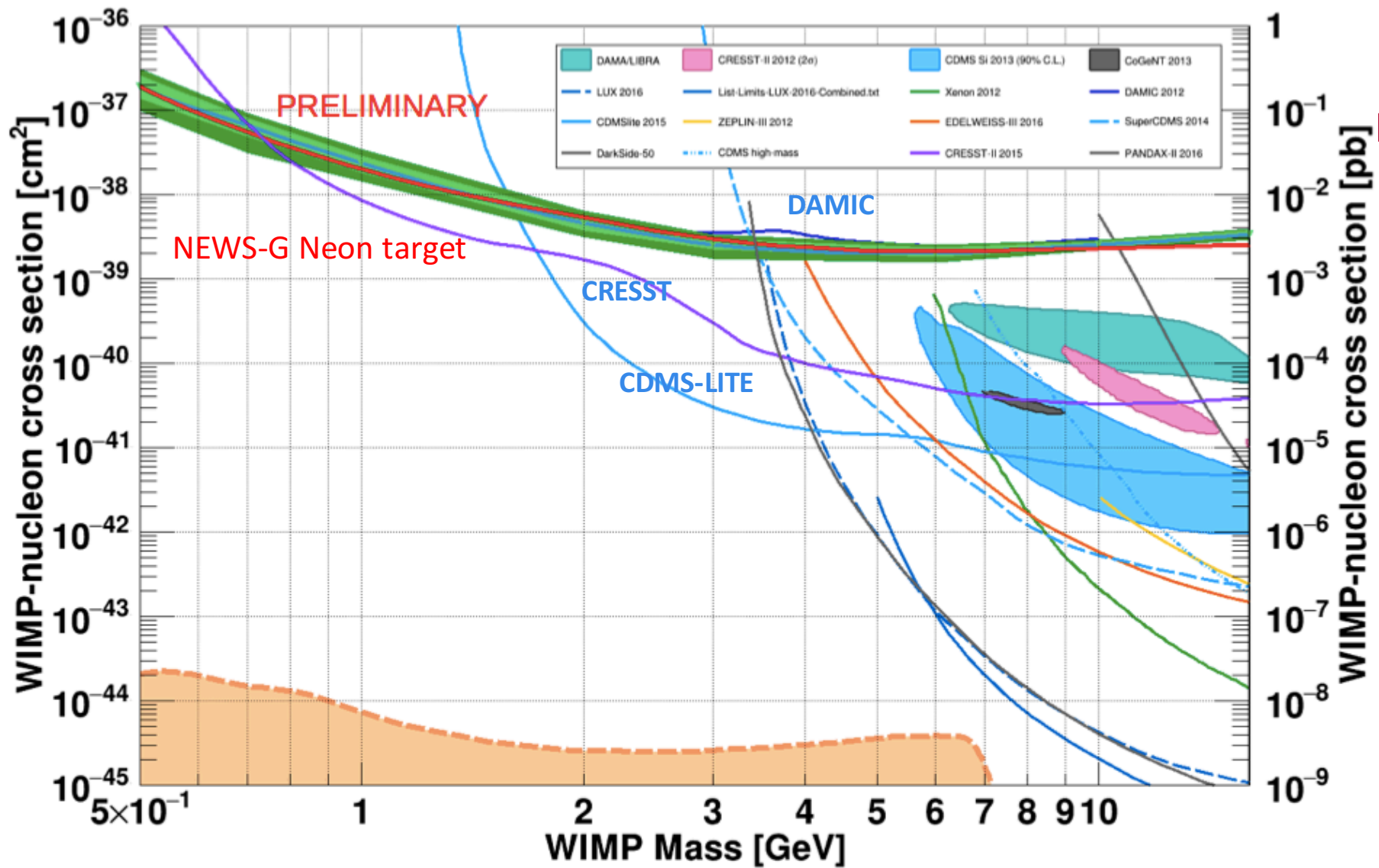
While this method gives conservative limits if inaccurate background models were to be used for the training of the BDT, it assumes we know very well the response to signal (volume/compton/NR recoil), ie behaviour of RiseTime vs Energy for WIMP's



# Volume events : comparison of simulation with neutron calibration data with Am-Be source



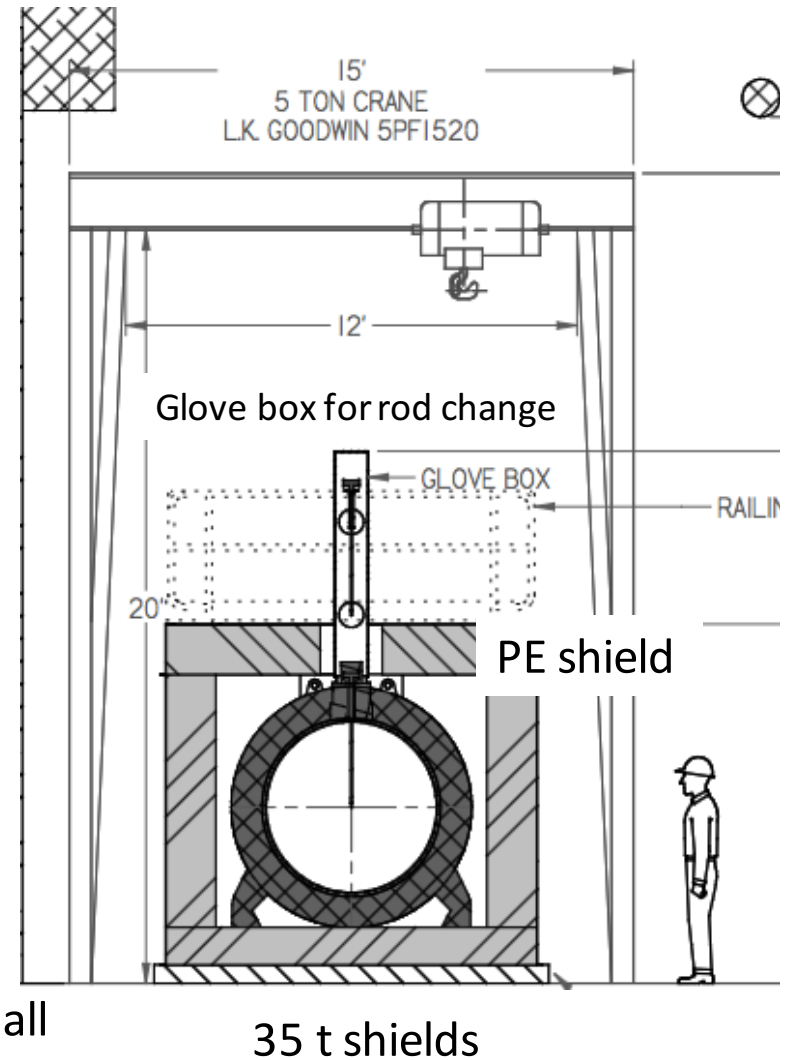
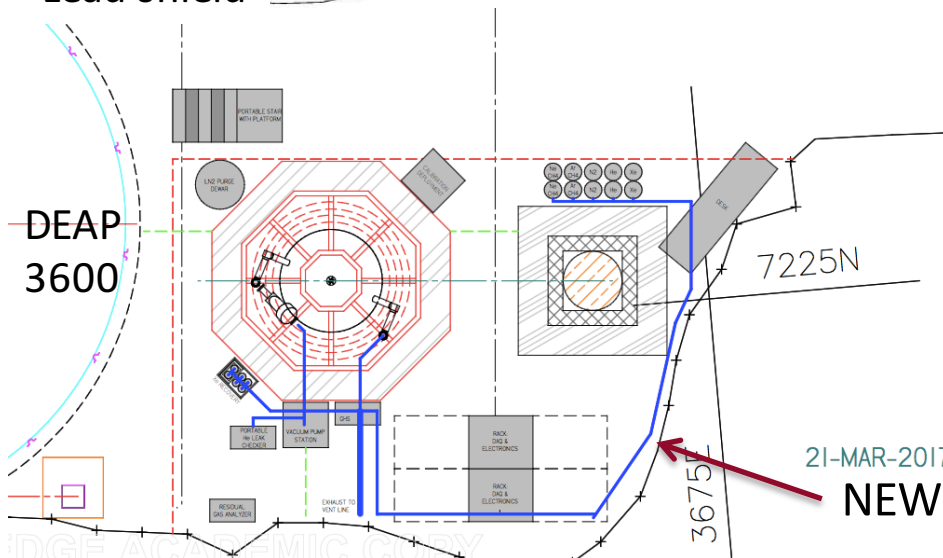
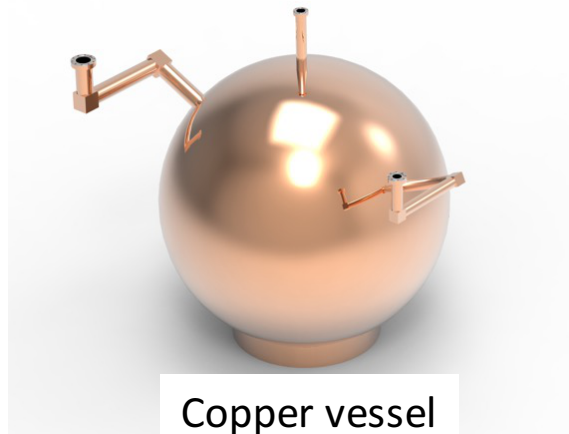
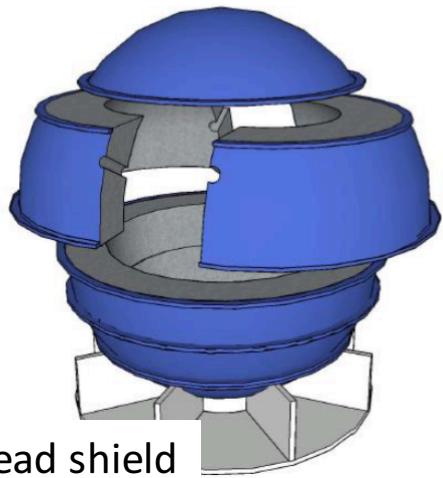
# Sensitivity of NEWS-G -LSM to Spin Independent couplings WIMPS



Limit set on spin independent coupling WIMPs with standard assumptions on WIMP velocities, escape velocity and with quenching factor of Neon nuclear recoils in Neon calculated from SRIM  
 Systematics on energy calibration / quenching factor / polya parameter / fiducial mass <30 % at lowest energy

# 140 cm diameter project with compact shield option implementation at SNOLAB by 2018

- 140 cm  $\varnothing$  detector, 10 bars, Ne, He, CH<sub>4</sub>
- 25 cm compact lead – 3cm ancient - LSM
- 40 cm PE + Boron sheet



# Hemisphere spinning test and clean up

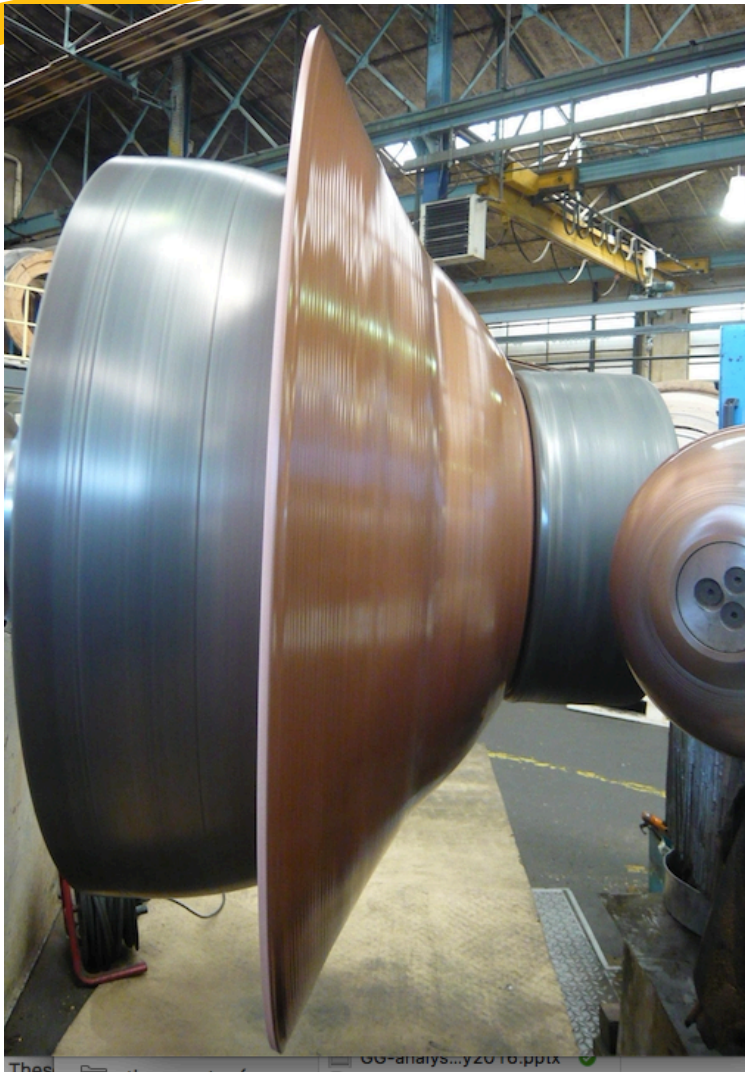
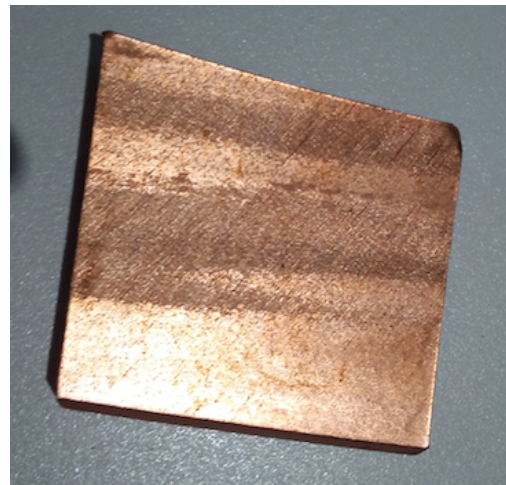


Plate of C10100 15 mm thick was spun  
Samples from spun hemisphere

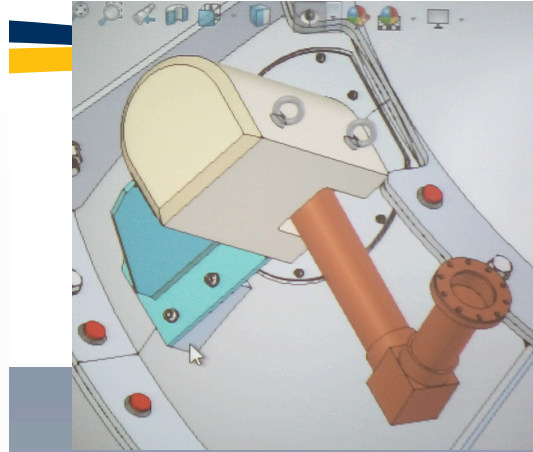
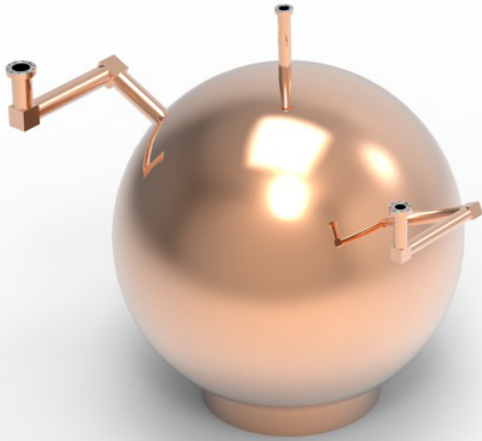
- PNNL measurements of bulk and surface  
⇒ 7 to 25  $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$  of Th  
⇒ 1 to 5  $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$  of U  
Ok for goals fixed of first expt

- Test of surface cleaning with HP water jet tests
  - 3000b water jet => 30  $\mu$  removal
  - Possible but -too- expensive

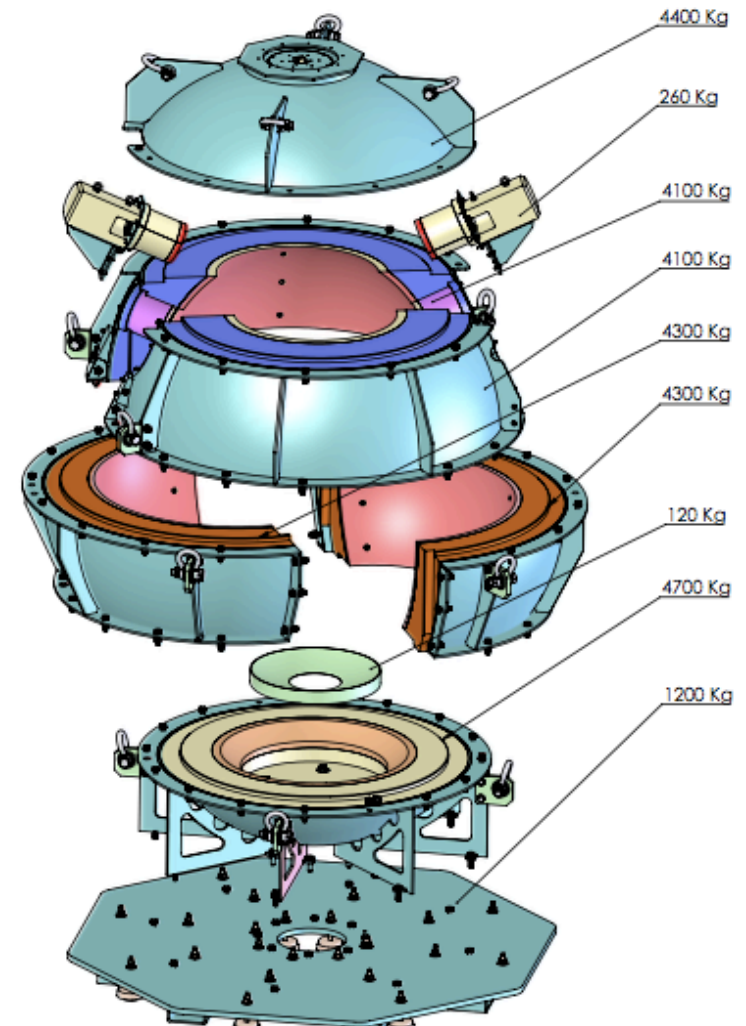


- Electron welding of hemispheres and piping

# TDR – construction phase



Optimised part splitting for transport/mount at SNOLAB





# Background budget (simulation)

Simulation done with 12mm thick 140cm diam copper sphere full with 99% Ne 1%CH4, 11.43 kg of gas

Source Position	Mass (kg) or Surface (cm <sup>2</sup> )	Source	contamination units	evts/kg/day	evts/kg/day < 1ke
CopperSphere	627.83 kg	Co60	30 μBq/kg	0.0018	0.054
CopperSphere	627.83 kg	U238	3 μBq/kg	0.0036	0.011
CopperSphere	627.83 kg	Th232	12.9 μBq/kg	0.0049	0.063
InnerSurface	57255 cm <sup>2</sup>	Pb210	0.16 nBq/cm2	0.012	0.002
ArchLead	2108.95 kg	U238	61.8 μBq/kg	0.001	0.062
ArchLead	2108.95 kg	Th232	9.13 μBq/kg	0.0011	0.010
Rod	0.0931721 kg	Co60	30 μBq/kg	2.95E-007	0.000
Rod	0.0931721 kg	U238	3 μBq/kg	1.81E-006	0.000
Rod	0.0931721 kg	Th232	12.9 μBq/kg	2.11E-006	0.000
Wire	2.66005e-05 kg	Co60	31000 μBq/kg	1.48E-010	0.000
Wire	2.66005e-05 kg	U238	300000 μBq/kg	2.12E-009	0.001
Wire	2.66005e-05 kg	Th232	50000 μBq/kg	1.42E-009	0.000
Wire	2.66005e-05 kg	K40	1660000 μBq/kg	5.41E-010	0.001
LabArea		TI208/K40			0.076

Copper

Internal surface

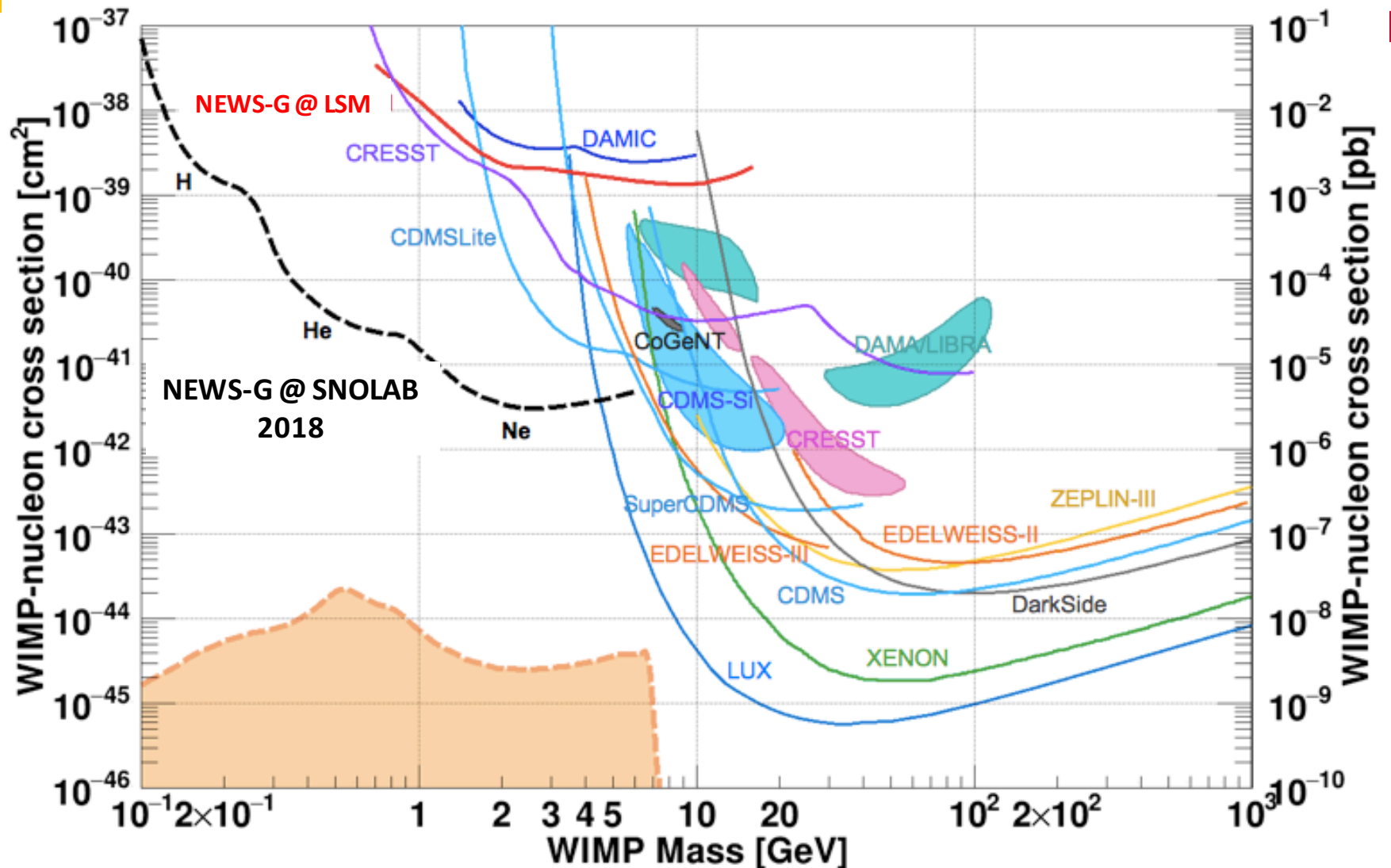
Lead shield

External bckg with  
SNOLAB flux

**Total 0.279**

Hypothesis for WIMP sensitivity limit calculation : 100 kg.d, 1 electron threshold

# Projections for NEWS-G wrt current situation



## Upgrades : copper electroformed sphere

### Electroforming the NEWS spheres

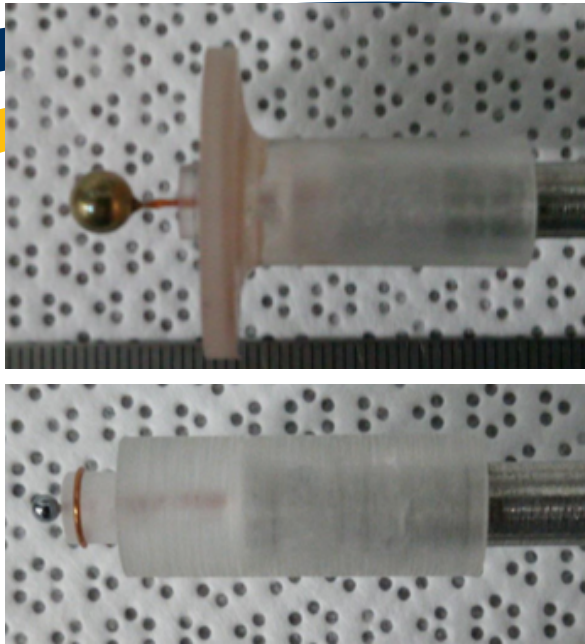


60 cm NEWS prototype

- Center ball and vessel spheres could be a wide range of diameters electroformed as single unit or hemispheres with flange
- 140 cm diameter sphere could be electroformed as a single unit
- Electroforming underground would eliminate cosmogenic  $^{60}\text{Co}$  ingrowth
- Plate onto a mandrel made of material which is dissolved when completed
- Growth rate  $\sim 1\text{mm/month}$
- Wall thickness of 1 cm grown in 10 months would significantly exceed engineering requirements for 10 atm pressure vessel
- Flanges could be electroformed into place
- Electroformed copper purity:
  - $<0.01\text{ pg/g }^{238}\text{U}$  and  $^{232}\text{Th}$ ,  $<1.0\text{ ng }^{39}\text{K/g Cu}$  approximately  $<0.1\text{ }\mu\text{Bq/kg Cu}$
  - $<10^{-4}\text{ alphas/cm}^2/\text{hr}$  after surface etching and passivation

$$10^{-4}\text{ alpha/cm}^2/\text{h} = 3 \cdot 10^{-8}\text{ decay/cm}^2/\text{s} = 30\text{ nBq/cm}^2 \Leftrightarrow \text{few nBq/cm}^2$$

## New sensor with resistive insulators and “achinos”



### Restoration of radial field

- with 2 electrodes
- conical resistive



### Decoupling of

- need for low sensor radius for high amplification
- need for large sensor radius for not too low field at high sphere radii

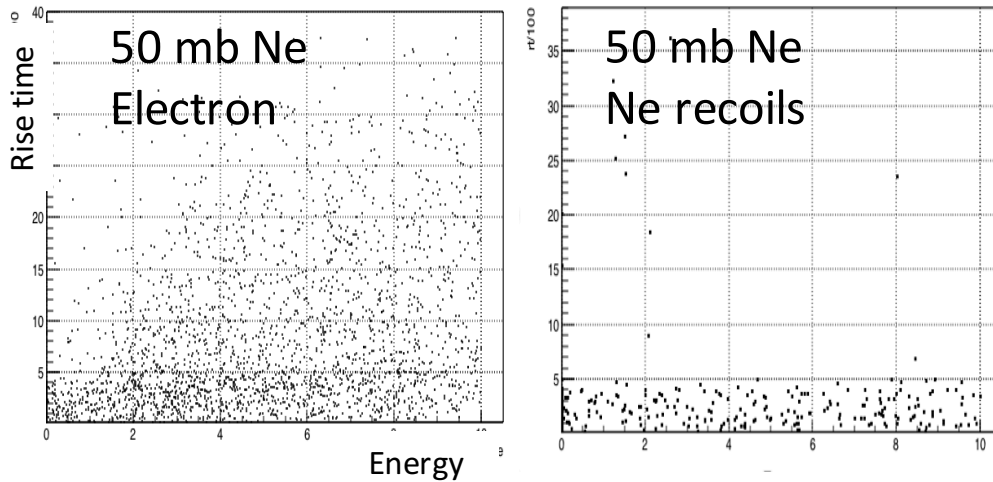
### Suited for

- very large sphere > 2m

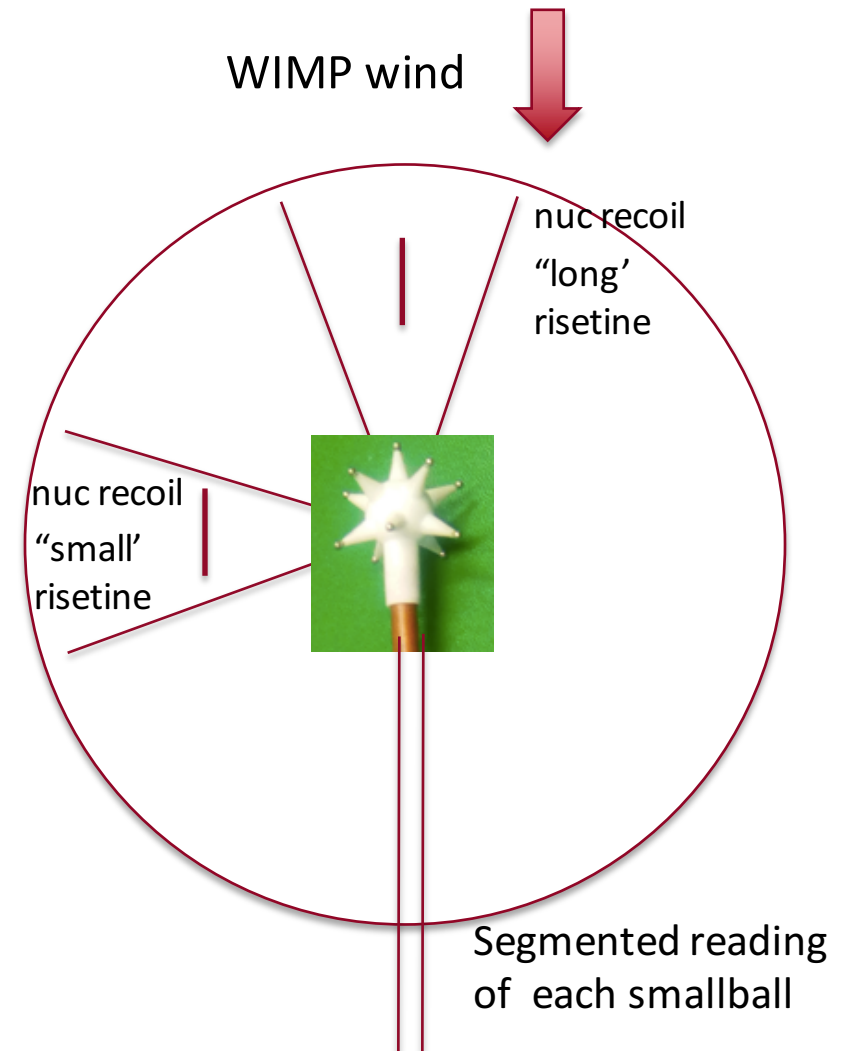
$$E \sim V r_s / r^2$$

# Operation at low pressure 50 mb

- e/Nr discrimination by range

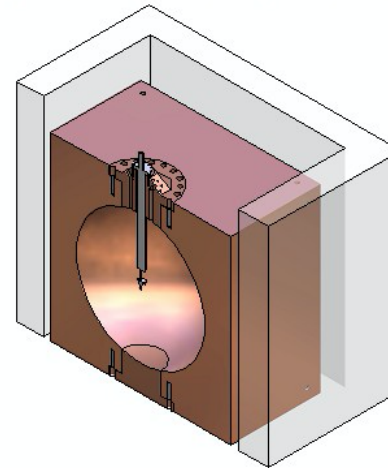


- Possible directionality with segmented sensor
  - Feasibility tbc



# Conclusion and outlook

- First competitive results with gas detector in DM search
- Planned runs with He and H nuclei in coming months @ LSM
- 60 cm SEDINE detector essential to optimise project @ SNOLAB
- NEWS-G @SNOLAB will have better shield /materials/procedure
- Project at TDR step, construction to start fall 2017, installation at SNOLAB by 2018
- R&D under way on cleaning methods,
  - underground electroformed sphere (PNNL)
  - “achinos” type sensor
  - multi channels sensor
  - low pressure operation,
  - cubic sphere ...
- + investigation of
  - Low mass spin independent coupling with H
  - KK solar axions through 2 photon decay
  - Dark photon (arXiv:1507.07531)
- Coherent Neutrino Scattering, SuperNovae...





- **Queen's University Kingston** – G Gerbier, P di Stefano, R Martin, T Noble, D Dunford  
A Brossard, A Kamaha, P Vasquez dS, Q Arnaud, K Dering, J Mc Donald, M Clark, M Chapellier
  - Copper vessel and gas set-up specifications, calibration, project management
  - Gas characterization, laser calibration, on smaller scale prototype
  - Simulations/Data analysis
- **IRFU (Institut de Recherches sur les Lois fondamentales de l'Univers)/CEA Saclay** - I Giomataris, M Gros, C Nones, I Katsioulas, T Papaevangelou, JP Bard, JP Mols, XF Navick,
  - Sensor/rod (low activity, optimization with 2 electrodes)
  - Electronics (low noise preamps, digitization, stream mode)
  - DAQ/soft
- **LSM (Laboratoire Souterrain de Modane), IN2P3, U of Chambéry** - F Piquemal, M Zampaolo, A DastgheibiFard
  - Low activity archeological lead
  - Coordination for lead/PE shielding and copper sphere
- **Thessaloniki University** – I Savvidis, A Leisos, S Tzamarias, C Elefteriadis, L Anastasios
  - Simulations, neutron calibration
  - Studies on sensor
- **LPSC (Laboratoire de Physique Subatomique et Cosmologie) Grenoble** - D Santos, JF Muraz, O Guillaudin
  - Quenching factor measurements at low energy with ion beams
- **Technical University Munich** – A Ulrich, T Dandl
  - Gas properties, ionization and scintillation process in gaz
- **Pacific National Northwest Lab**– E Hoppe, D Asner
  - Low activity measurements, Copper electroforming
- **RMCC (Royal Military College Canada) Kingston** – D Kelly, E Corcoran
  - 37 Ar source production, sample analysis
- **SNOLAB –Sudbury** – P Gorel
  - Calibration system/slow control
- **University of Birmingham**– Kostas Nicolopoulos
  - Simulations, analysis, R&D
- **Associated lab : TRIUMF** - F Retiere
  - Future R&D on light detection, sensor



March 2017



- **Queen's University Kingston** – G Gerbier, P di Stefano, R Martin, T Noble, D Dunrford  
A Brossard, A Kamaha, P Vasquez dS, Q Arnaud, K Dering, J Mc Donald, M Clark, M Chapellier



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*March 2017*