

# DOE HEP and Quantum Sensing Research at Los Alamos National Laboratory

# Malcolm Boshier Physics Division Los Alamos National Laboratory



Operated by Los Alamos National Security, LLC for the U.S. Department of Energy's NNSA

# Short Baseline Neutrino (SBN) Program

PI: Bill Louis





ICARUS-T600 M. Toups 476 tons



MicroBooNE

First Results From MicroBooNE

89 tons

Short Baseline Near Detector (SBND) 112 tons

## SBND LAr TPC (4x4x5m<sup>3</sup>)





## LANL Is Building SBND Photon Detection System





"Regarding detectors, our research would really benefit from photon detectors that are cheaper or better than the 8" phototubes that we are currently using. Our 8" phototubes have a time resolution of ~1.5 ns, but it would be very helpful to have inexpensive photon detectors with time resolutions of <1 ns."



July 2015

### High Altitude Water Cherenkov (HAWC) Gamma Ray Observatory PI: Brenda Dingus

#### **Physics:** Sky survey 100 GeV to > 100 TeV $\gamma$ -rays

- Indirect dark matter search from  $\gamma\text{-ray}$  annihilation & decay
- Quantum gravity effects on propagation of  $\boldsymbol{\gamma}\text{-rays}$
- Particle acceleration in extreme magnetic and gravitational fields: gammaray bursts, supermassive black holes, neutron stars, supernova remnants
   Description: Air Shower Detector with 300 Water Cherenkov Detector tanks
   covering 20,000 m<sup>2</sup> at 4100 m on Sierra Negra Volcano, Mexico. Field of view
   is 2 sr with exposure to 2/3 of the sky each day. Operations managed by LANL.
   Status: Construction completed March 2015; HEP plans 5 years of operations
   Partnership: DOE, NSF (lead), Mexico (CONACyT), Germany (Max Planck Inst. Heidelberg)
   Collaboration: ~100 scientists from US (LANL + 15 universities), Mexico, and Germany
   HEP funding: LANL (HEP lead), Univ. New Mexico, Rochester
   Recent Highlights: (March 2016)
- Publication of new TeV sources with data from 1/3 of HAWC for < 1yr (Astrophysical Journal, 2016)</li>
- Current Preliminary map from the full detector is > 5 times more sensitive than this publication with the Crab at >100  $\sigma$
- Limits on dark matter annihilation in 14
  -2
  -1
  0
  1
  2
  3
  4
  5
  6
  nearby dwarf spheroidals were presented at 34<sup>th</sup> International Cosmic Ray Conference

"We too are interested in cheaper, large area photodetectors."





### **Atomtronics**

The Painted Potential technique allows us to create arbitrary and dynamic potentials for ultracold Bose-Einstein condensates (BECs).

Recently we have used it to propagate coherent matter waves from a BEC around painted waveguides that form the first atomtronic circuits.

Atomtronics may enable new approaches to sensing and signal processing.





Image sequences showing a BEC propagating around a square loop (top) and through a Y-junction (right). The leftmost panel shows the light distribution for the painted Y-junction.



### Fieldable Atomic Magnetometer



#### Performance

Shielded: 5 fT/Hz<sup>1/2</sup> at 50 Hz and 22 kHz

Unshielded: 30 fT/Hz<sup>1/2</sup> (so far)



