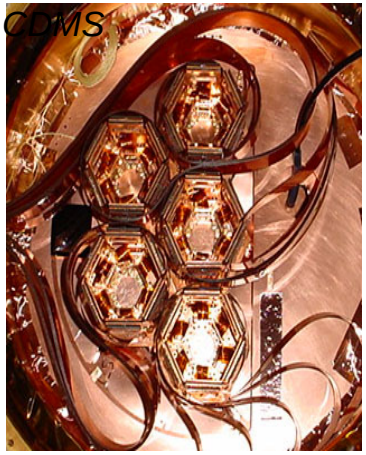
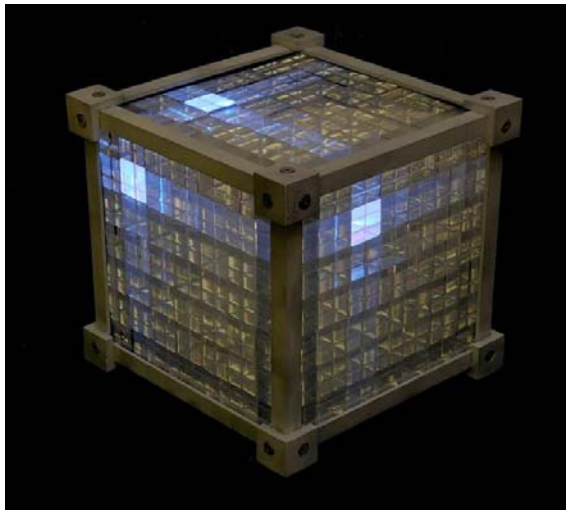
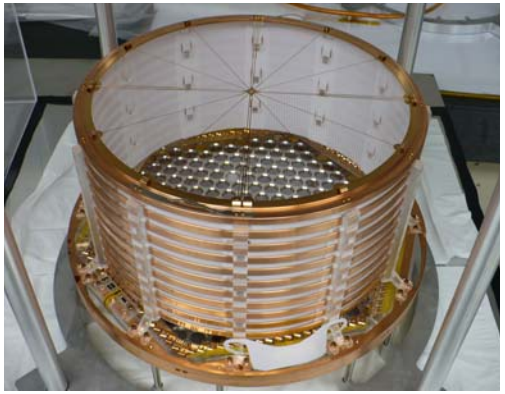


Non-accelerator Experiments: Physics Goals and Challenges

Carter Hall,
University of Maryland





Detecting galactic WIMP dark matter

Dark matter "Halo" surrounds all galaxies, including ours.

Density at Earth:

$\rho \sim 300\ m_{\text{proton}}/\text{liter}$

$m_{wimp} \sim 100\ m_{proton}.$

3 WIMPS/liter!

Typical orbital velocity:

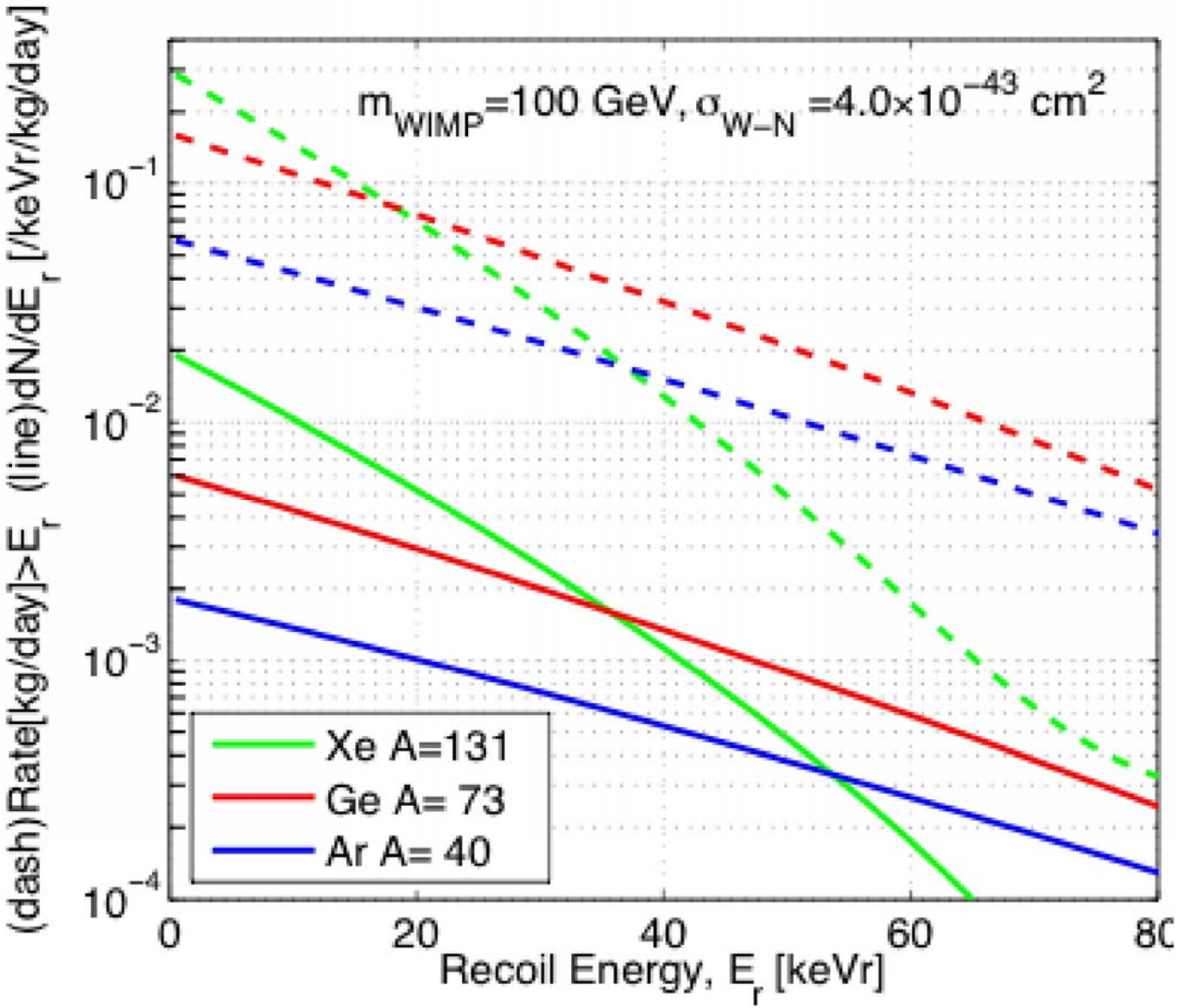
$v \approx 230$ km/s

$\sim 1/1000$ speed of light

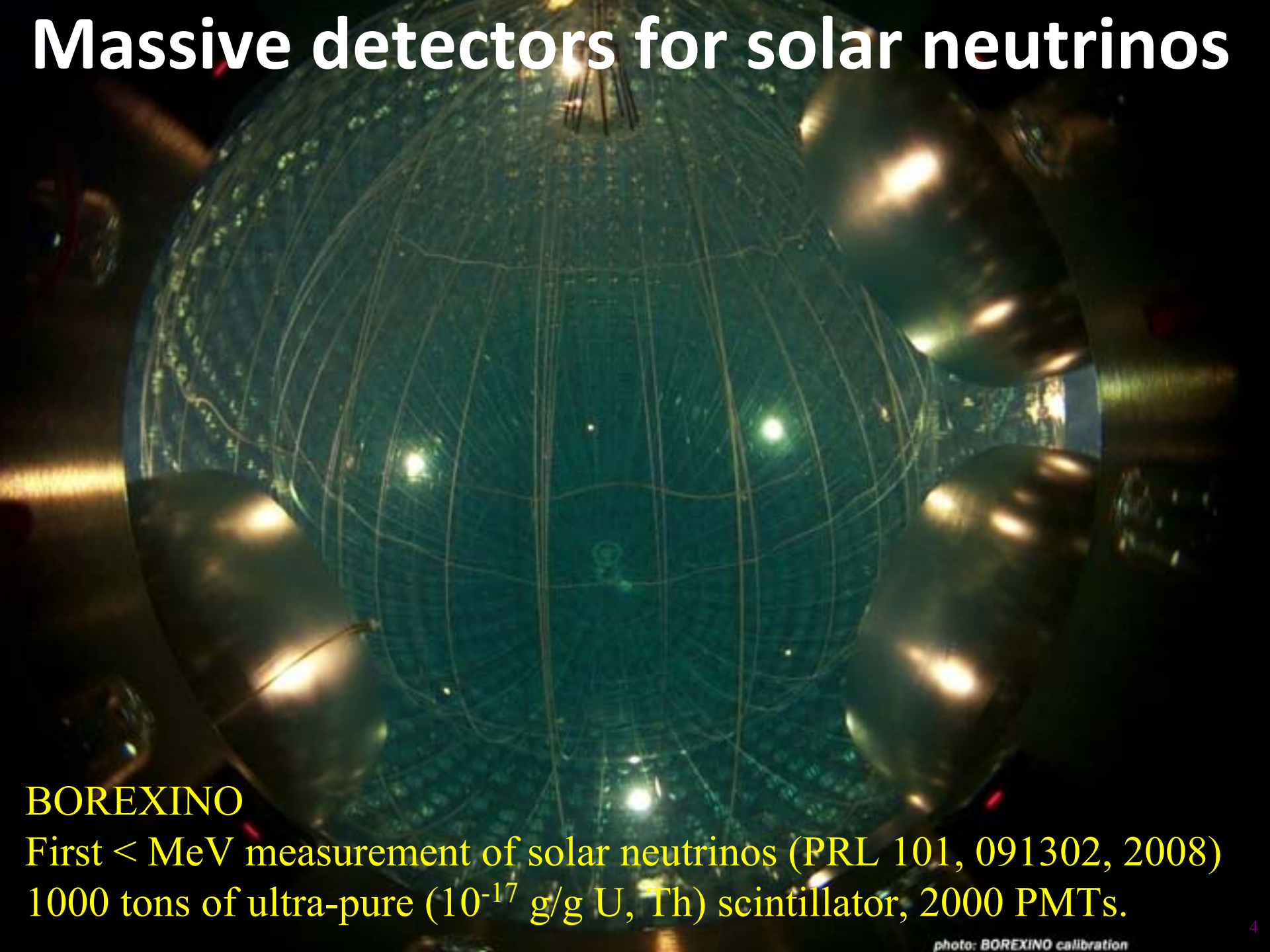
Coherent scalar interactions: A^2

Rate: < 1 event/kg/100day, or much lower

Nuclear Recoil Spectra from WIMP scattering



Massive detectors for solar neutrinos

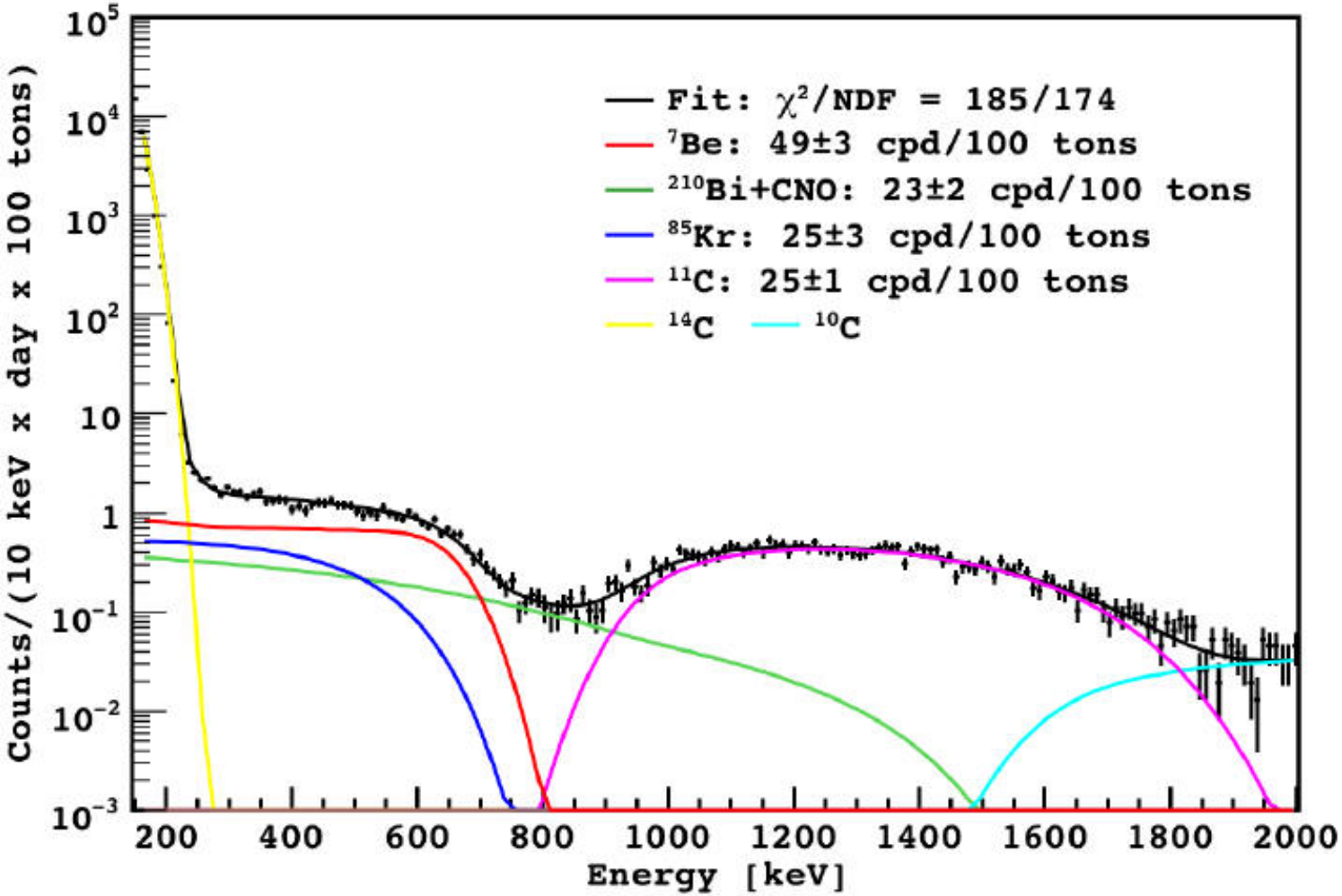


BOREXINO

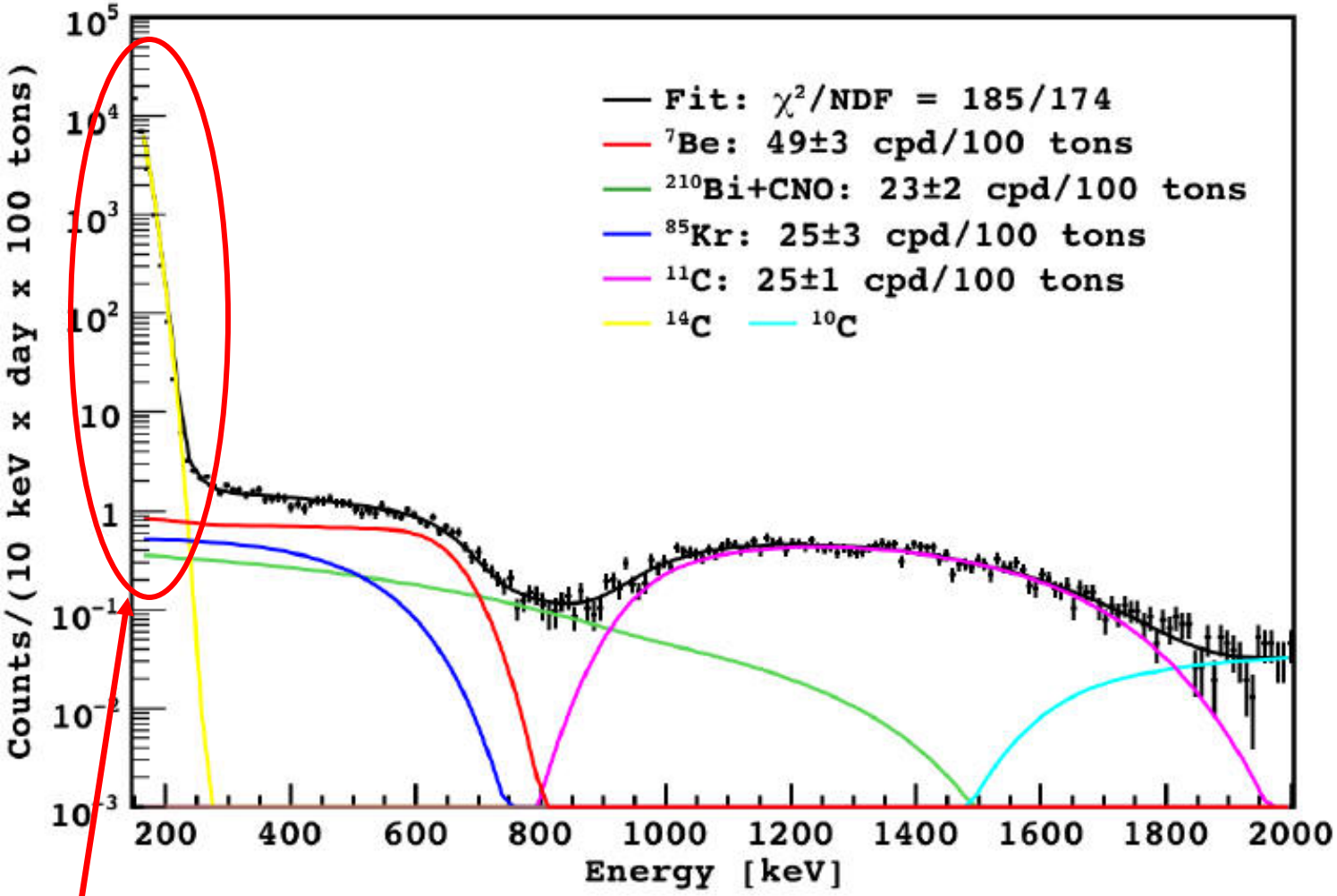
First < MeV measurement of solar neutrinos (PRL 101, 091302, 2008)

1000 tons of ultra-pure (10^{-17} g/g U, Th) scintillator, 2000 PMTs.

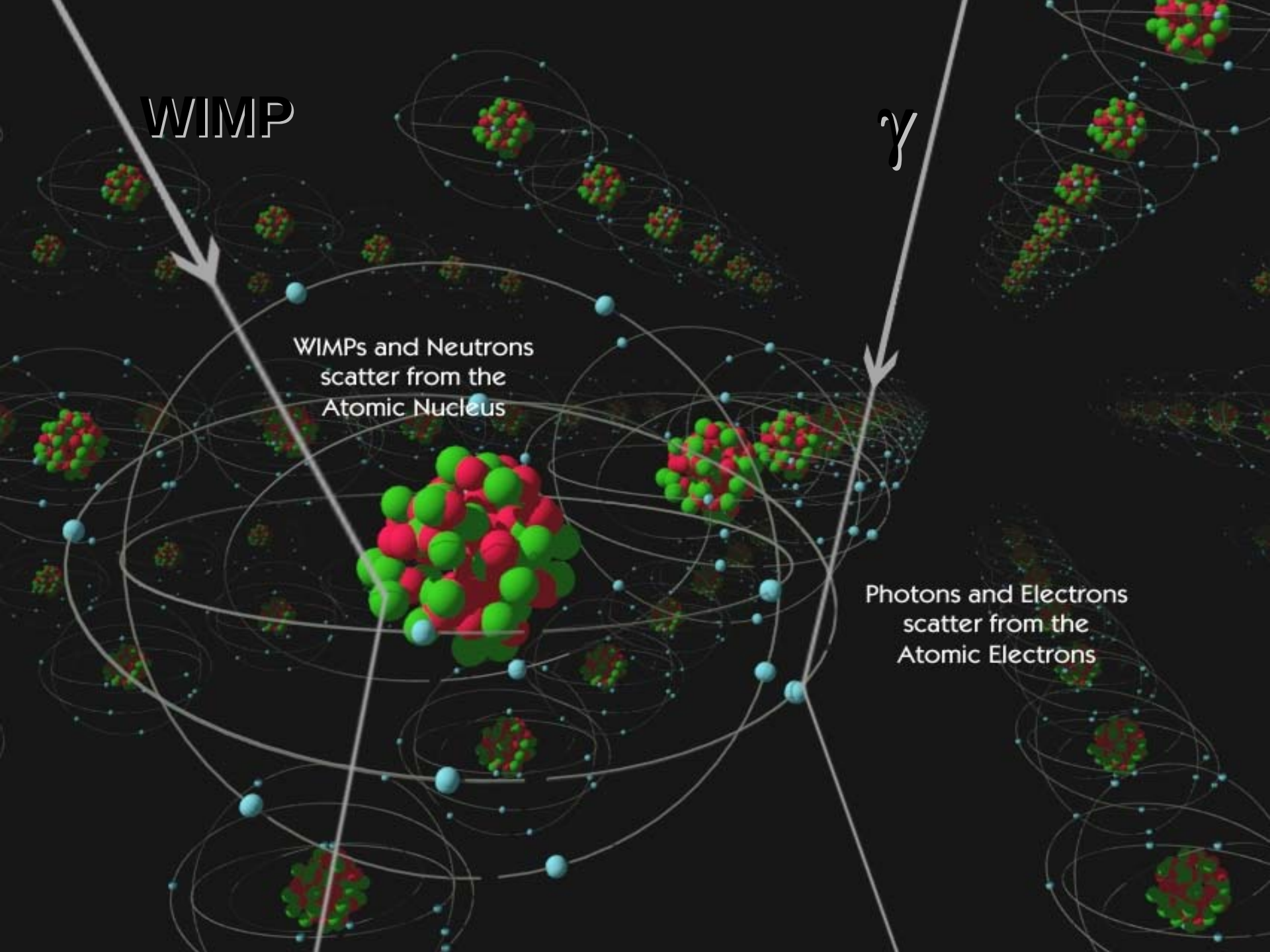
Borexino Solar Neutrino Spectrum – 192 days of exposure



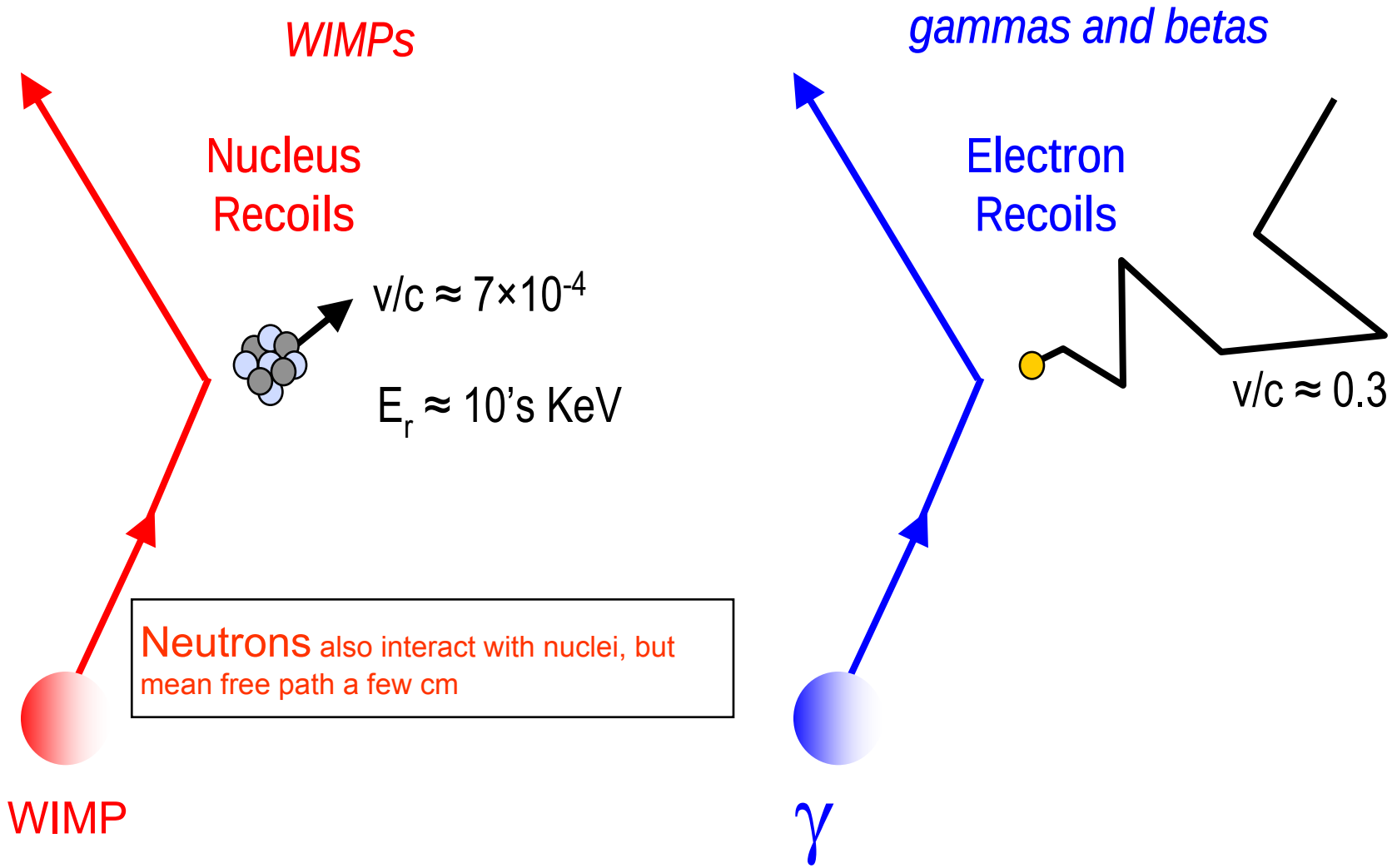
Borexino Solar Neutrino Spectrum – 192 days of exposure



^{14}C overwhelms dark matter in organic scintillator

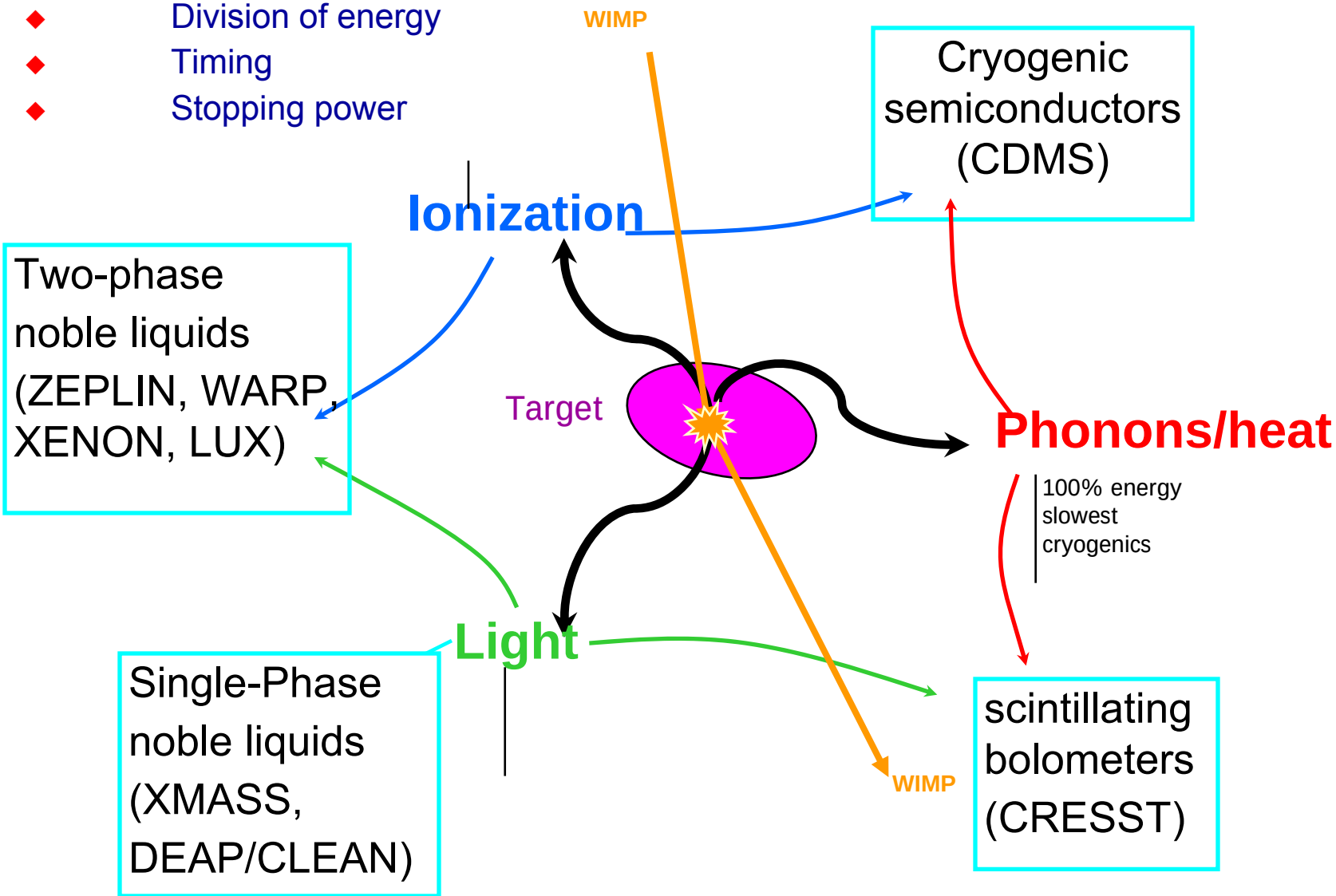

WIMP
γ
WIMPs and Neutrons
scatter from the
Atomic Nucleus
Photons and Electrons
scatter from the
Atomic Electrons

The Signal ... and Backgrounds

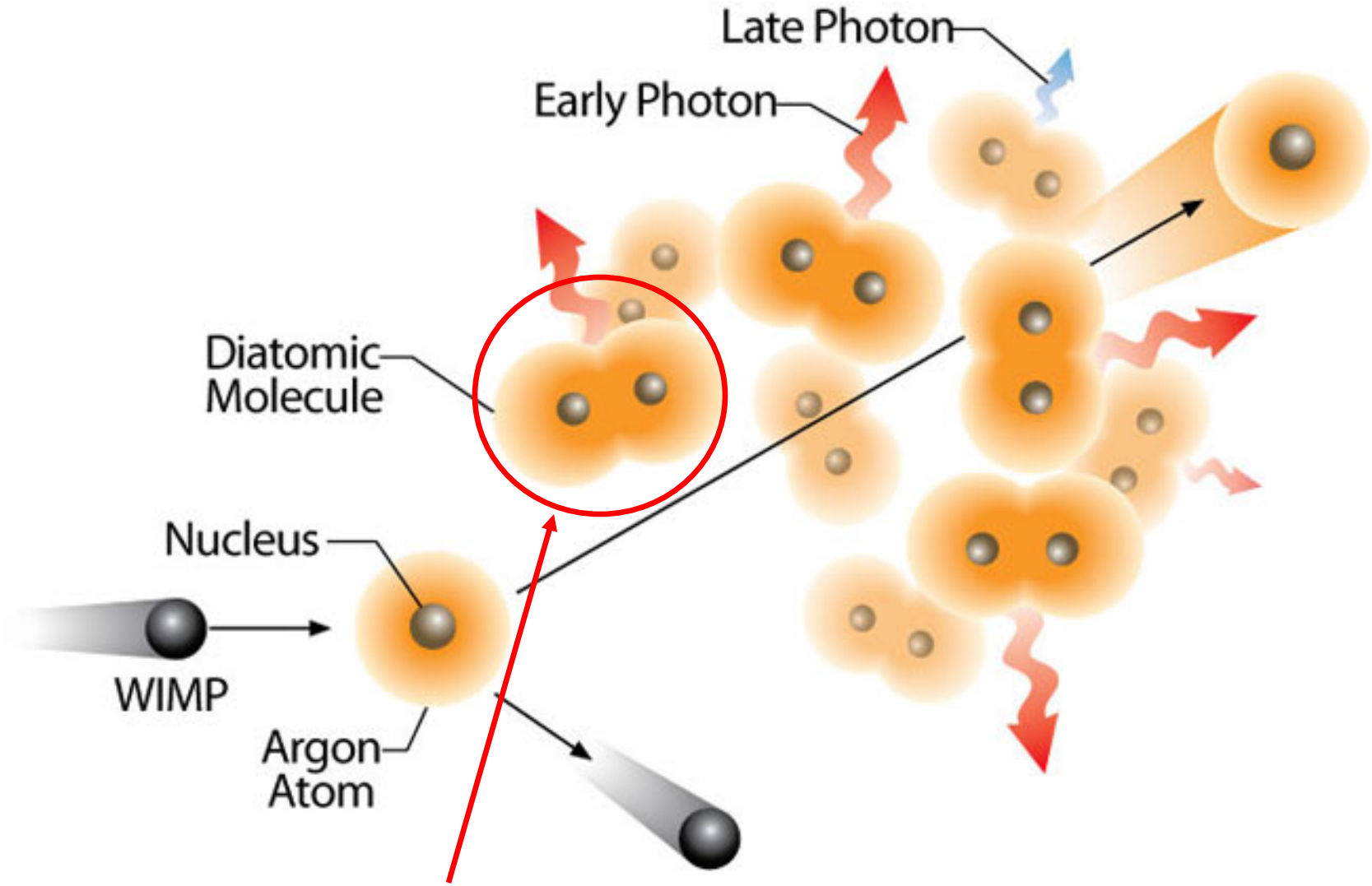


Background rejection through Particle ID

- Nuclear recoils vs. electron recoils
  - Division of energy
  - Timing
  - Stopping power

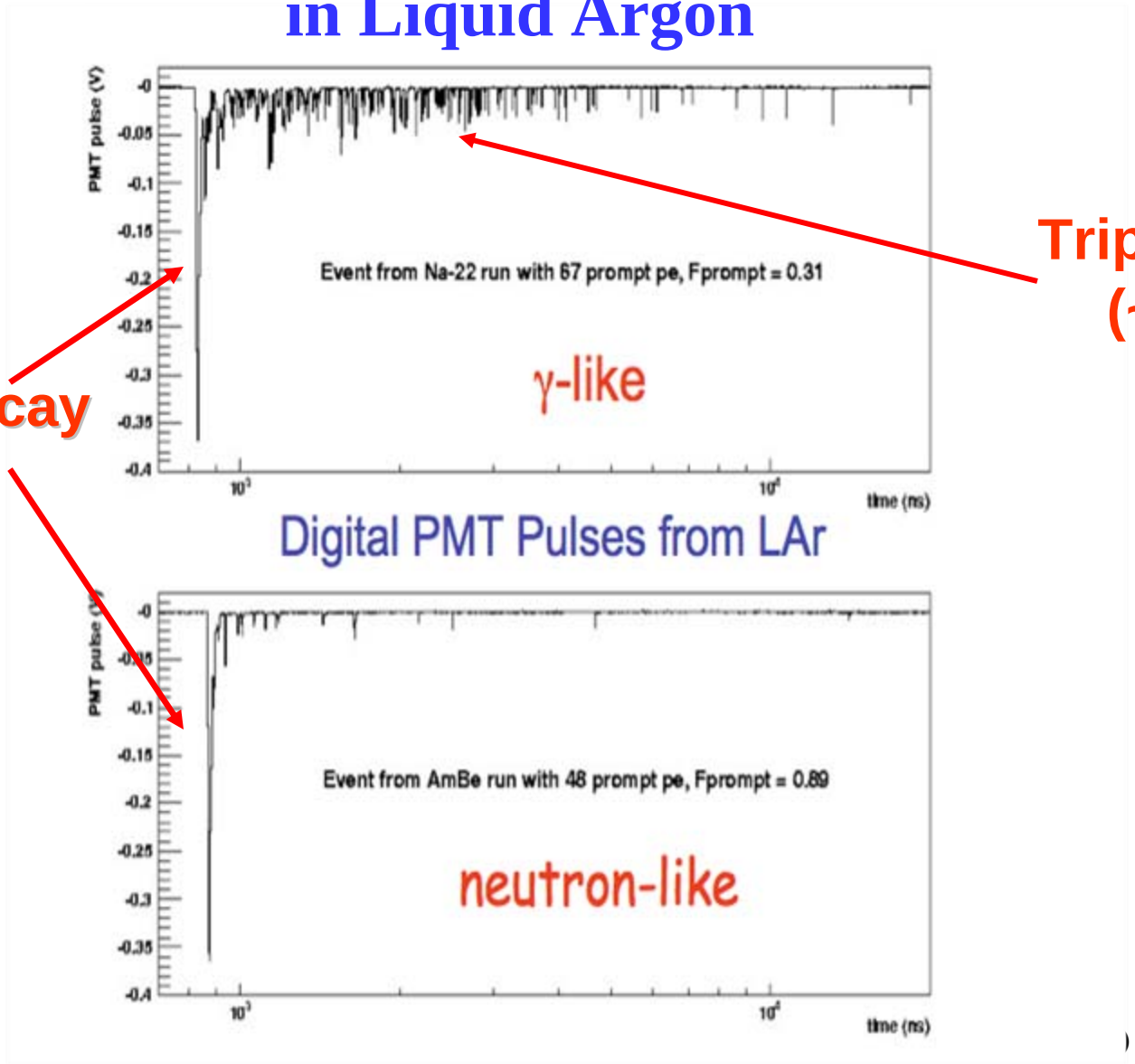


Scintillation pulse shape as particle ID



Excimer Molecules – (Ar)(Ar)* molecule has triplet and singlet states.

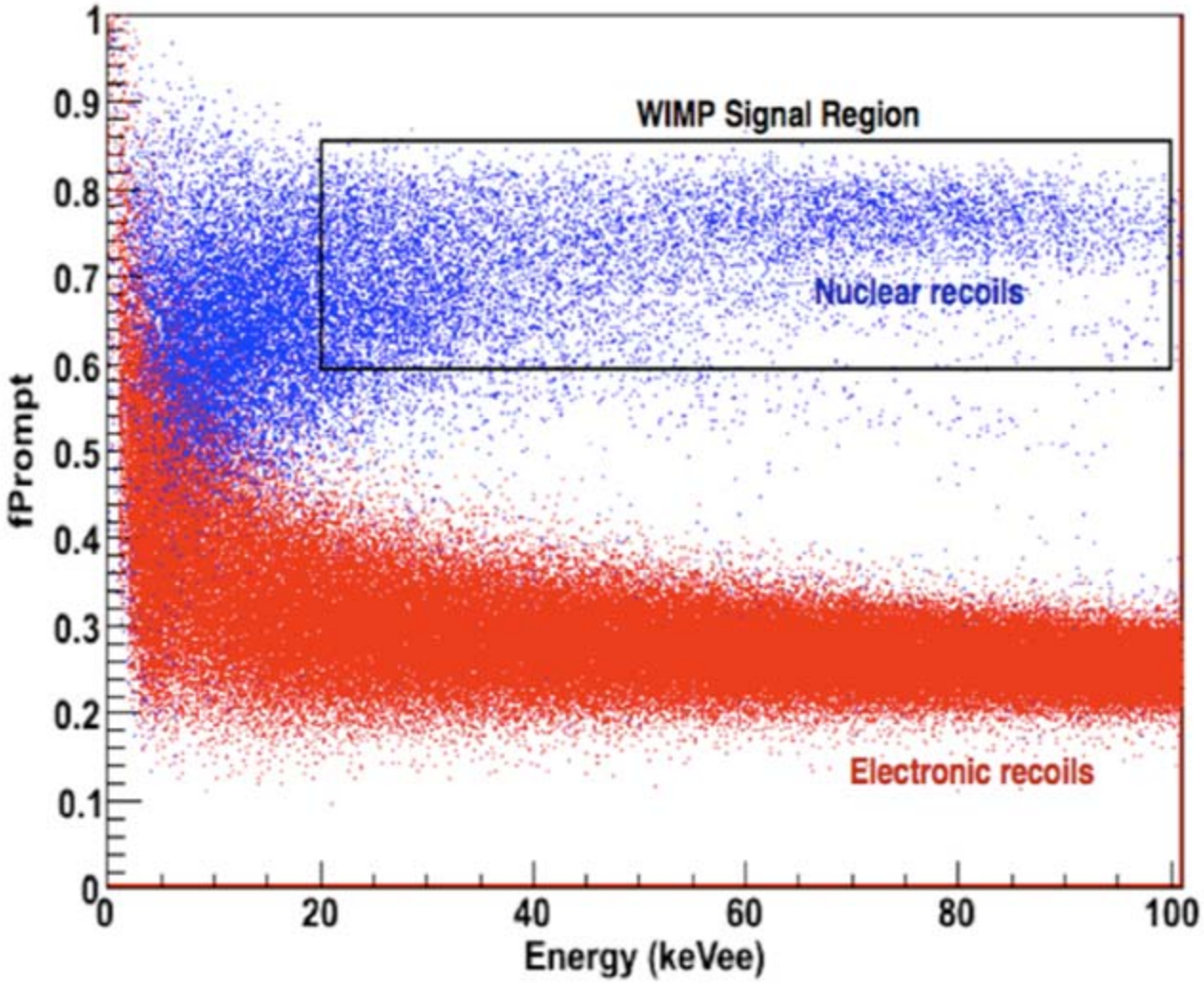
Scintillation pulse-shape-discrimination (PSD) in Liquid Argon



Triplet decay (~1.6 μs)

Singlet decay (~7 ns)

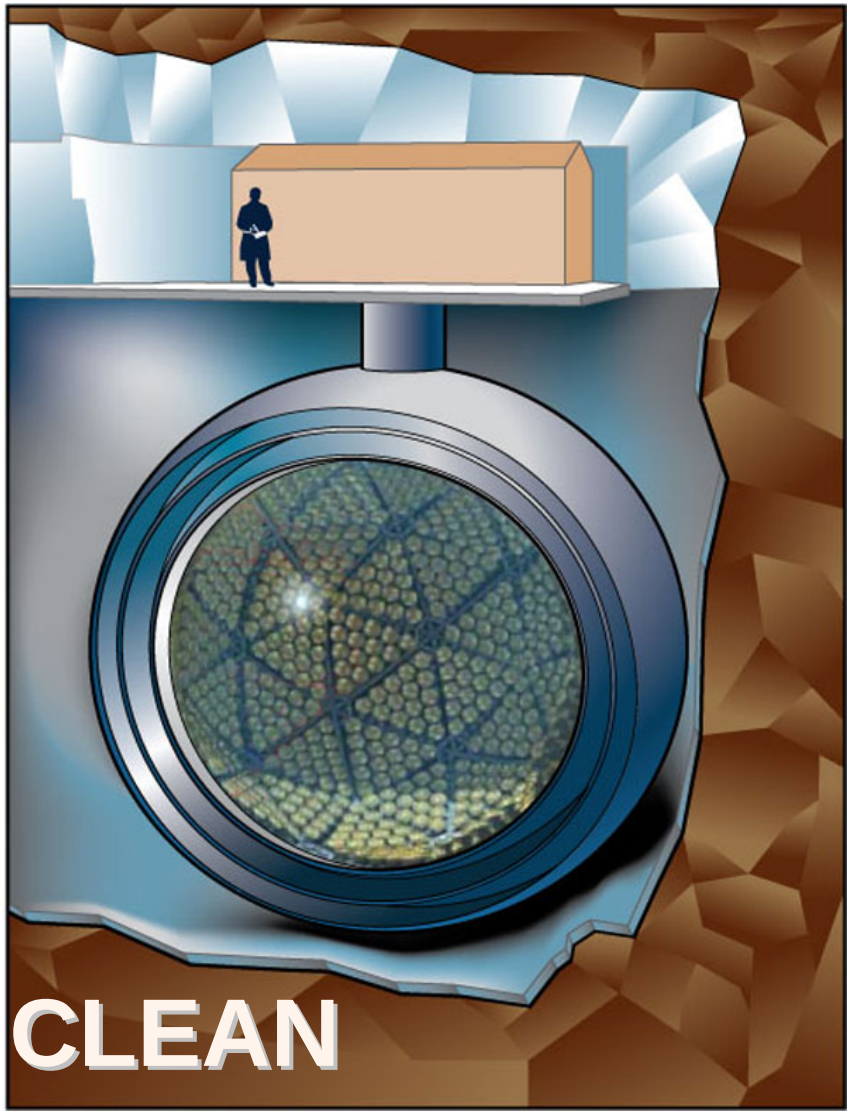
Scintillation pulse shape discrimination (PSD) in Argon



Data: Mini-Clean (McKinsey/Yale)

Discrimination is very powerful..... >10^6

CLEAN proposal:
Liquid Argon and Neon dark matter search

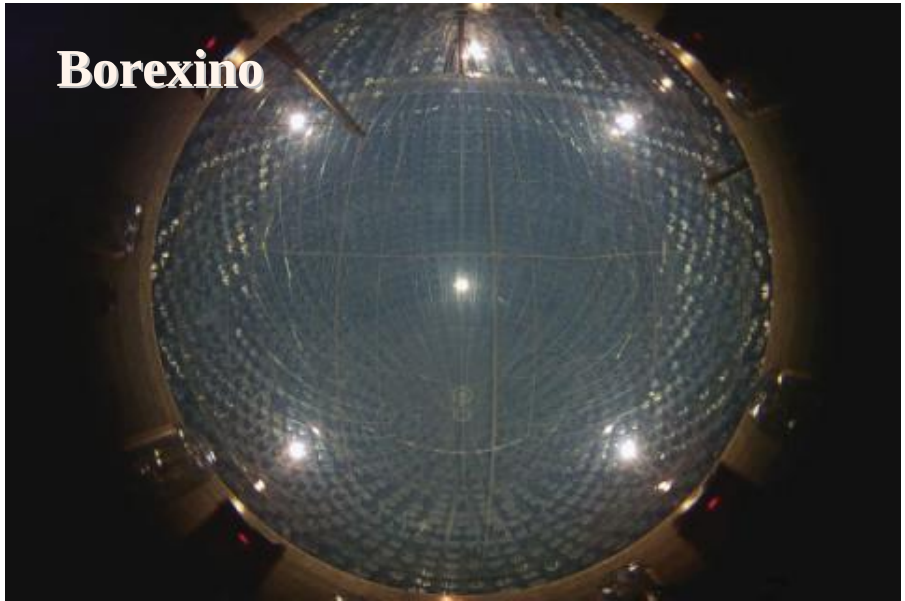


artist rendition courtest of LANL

- No ^{14}C background (Borexino)

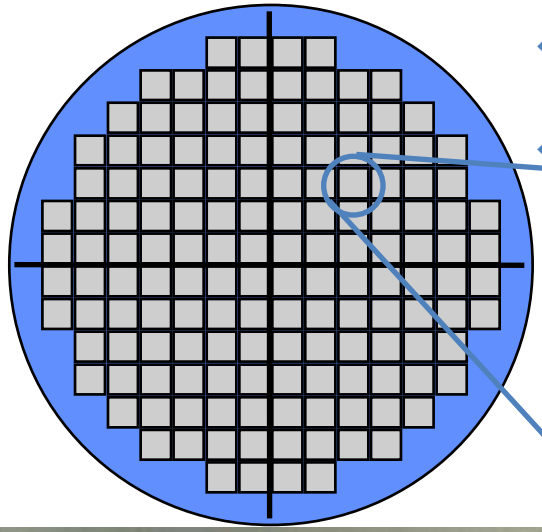
- Exquisite pulse shape rejection of common b & g backgrounds

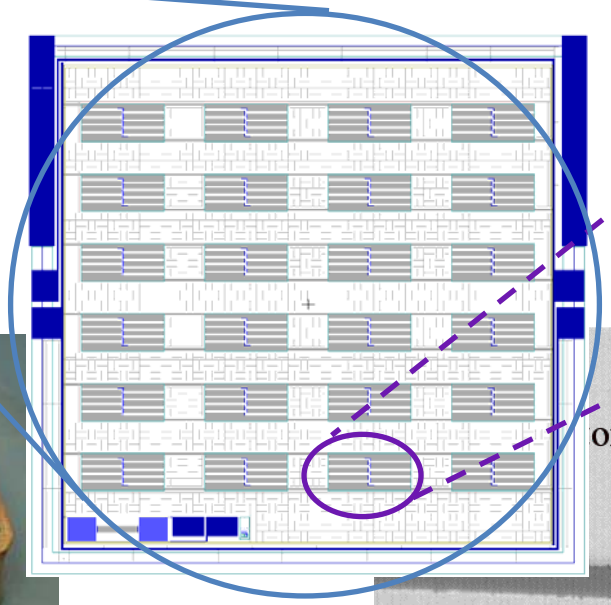
- BUT.....natural argon has its own problem – 39Ar (use depleted Argon instead)

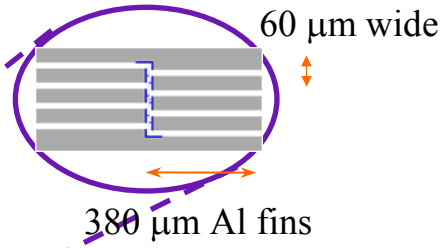


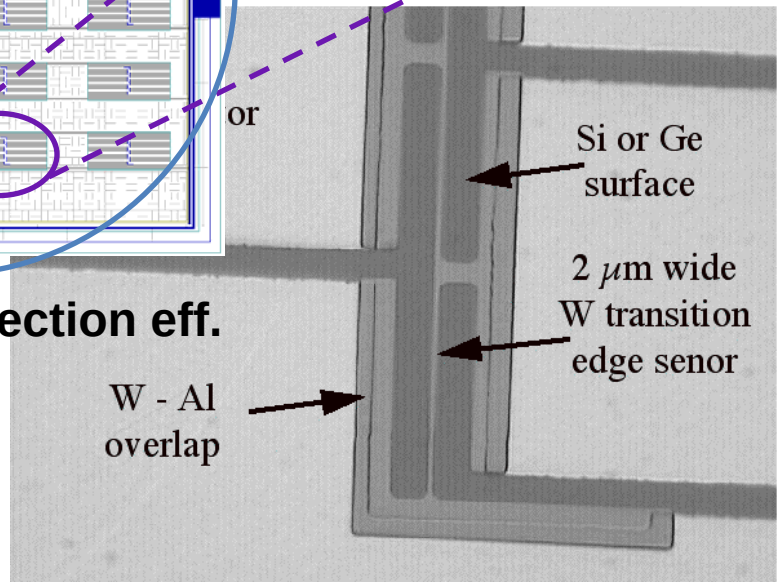
CDMS - ZIP detector phonon sensor technology

- TES's patterned on the surface measure the full recoil energy of the interaction
- Phonon pulse shape allows for rejection of surface recoils (with suppressed charge)
- 4 phonon channels allow for event position reconstruction





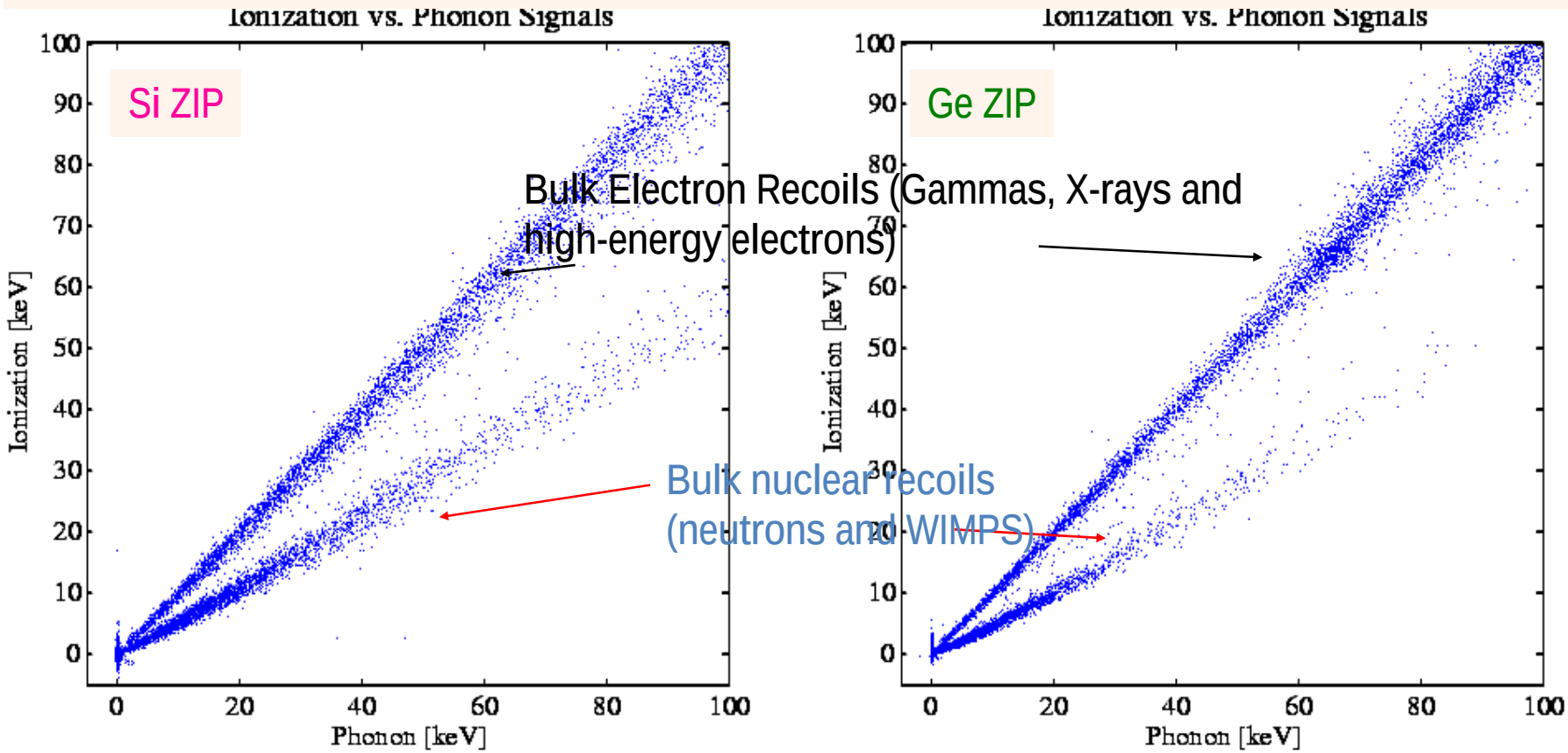




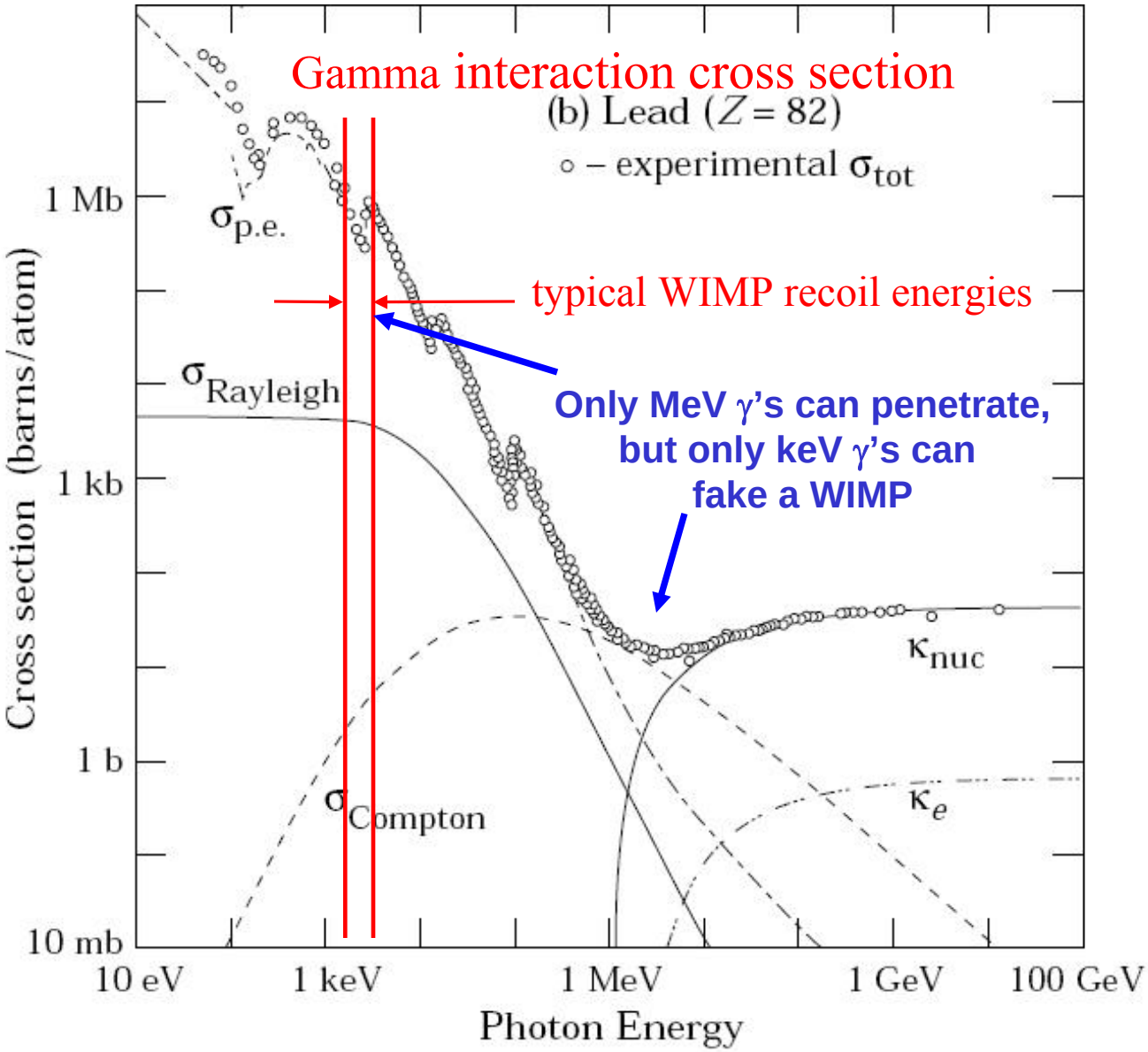
~25% QP collection eff.

Photon and Neutron Calibration

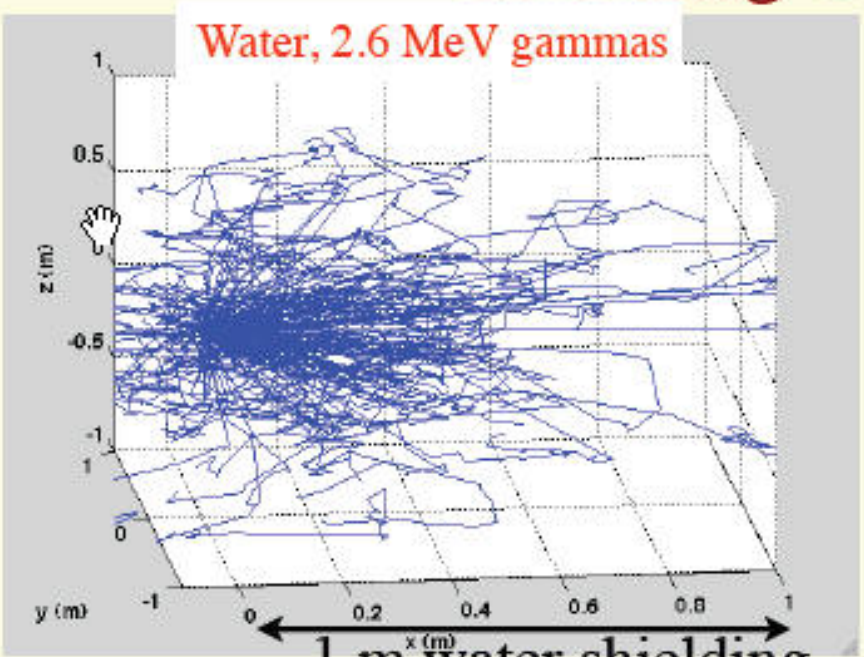
- The response of the detectors is best demonstrated with in-situ calibration photon and neutron sources.
- Complete charge collection (after crystal neutralization) at 3V/cm.



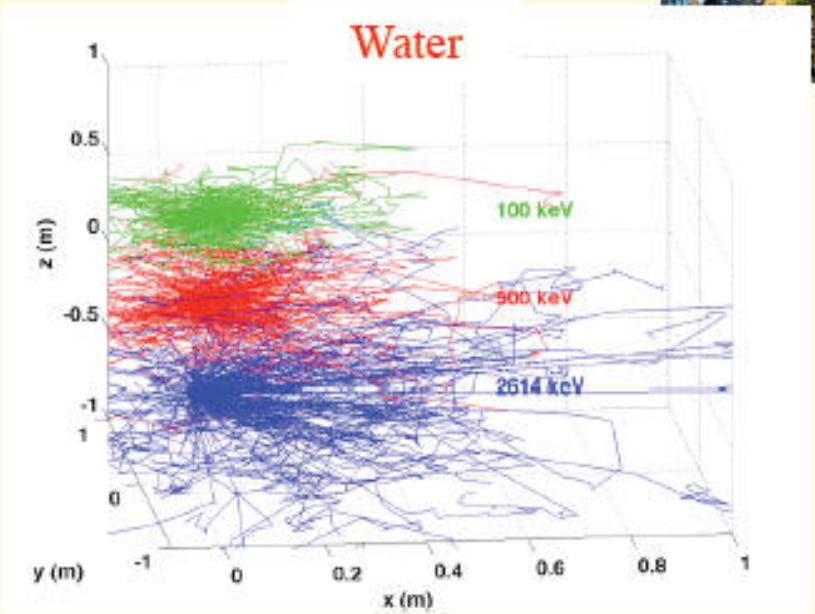
Shielding is not so difficult @ 10 keV

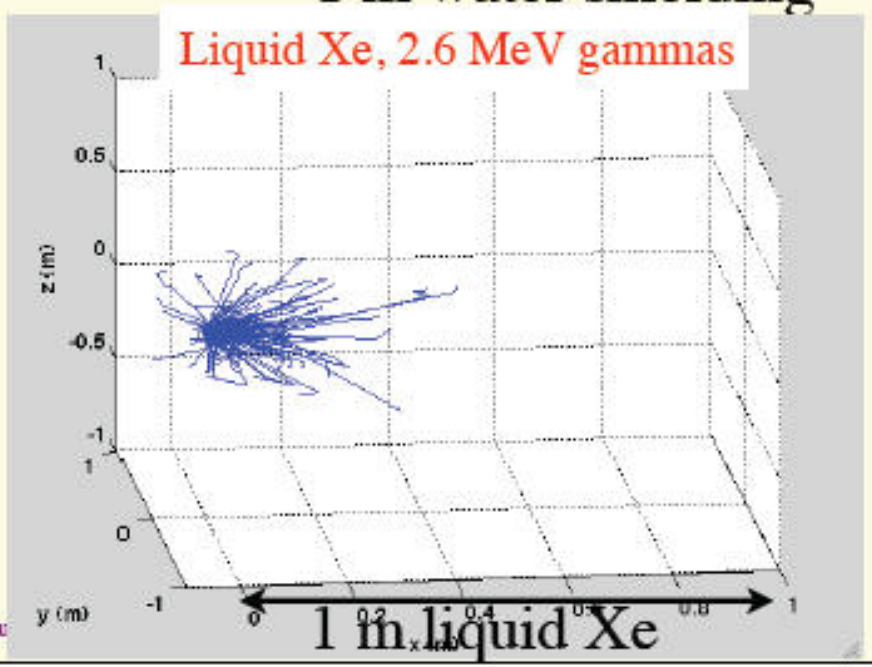


Shielding Gamma Rays

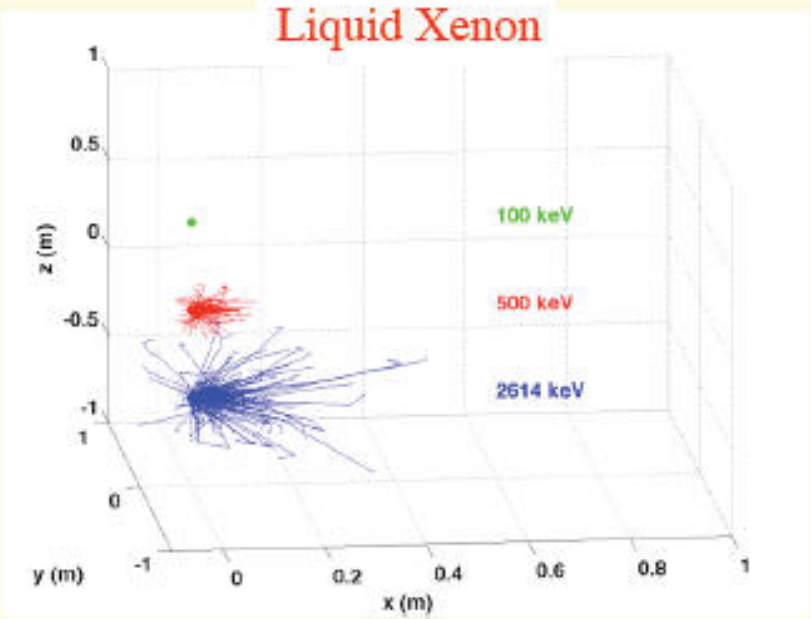


1 m water shielding



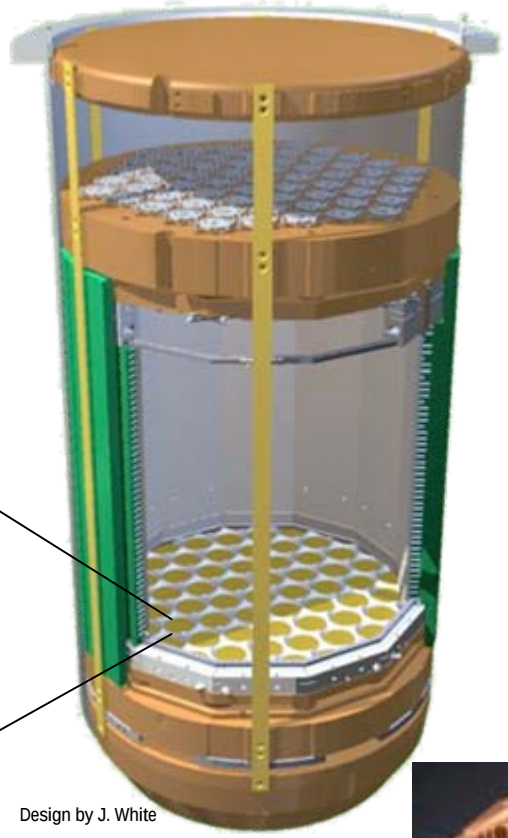


1 m liquid Xe



LUX Design – Active Volume

- 350 kg of liquid Xe
  - Active volume: h=59cm, d=49cm
- Light collection ~2.0 phe/keVr
  - 2x better than Xe10
  - Analysis threshold down to < 3 keVr



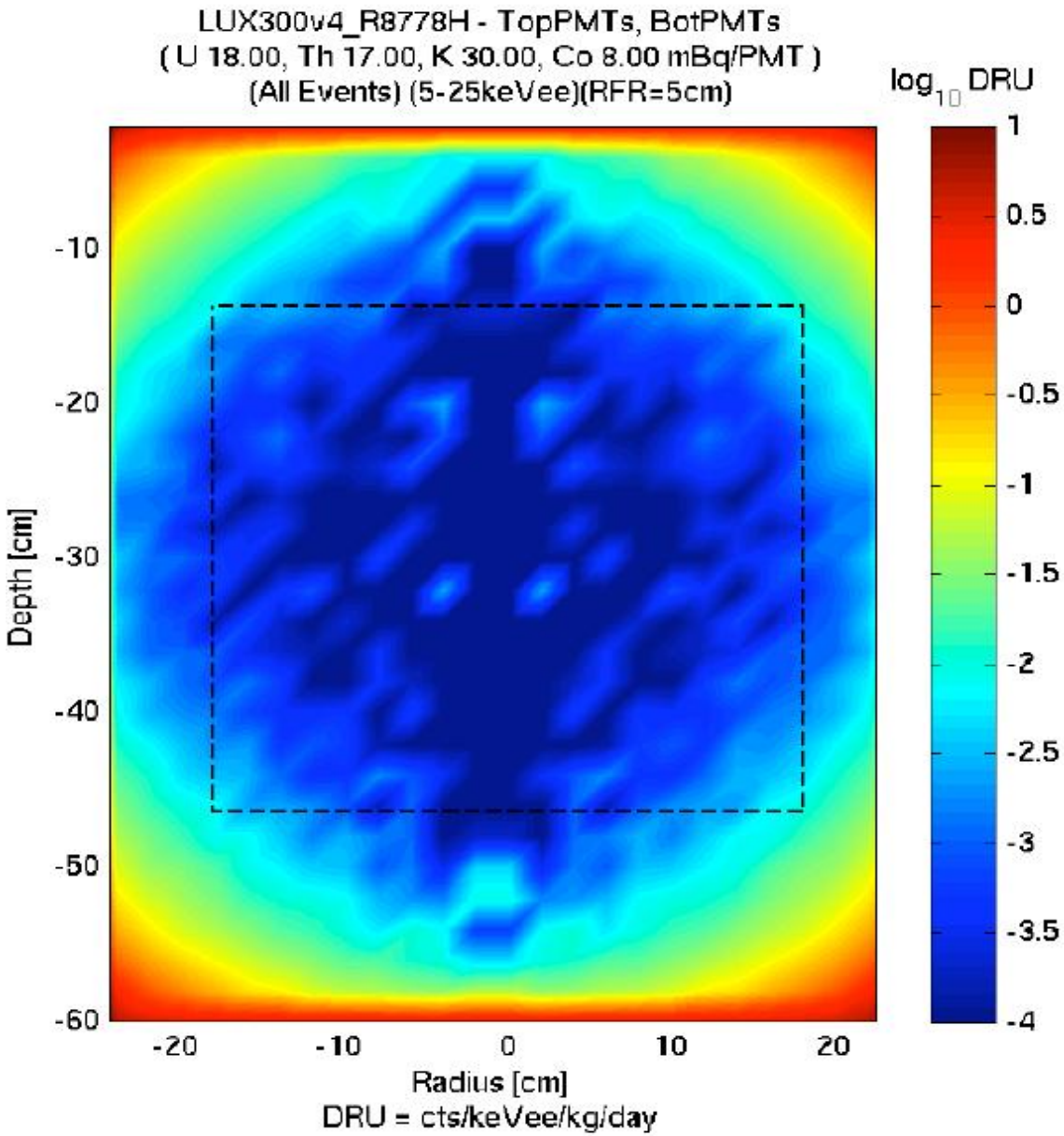
Design by J. White

- Dodecagonal field cage + PTFE reflectors

- 122 PMT R8778
  - 2" diameter
  - 175 nm, QE > ~30%
  - U/Th ~9/3 mBq/PMT

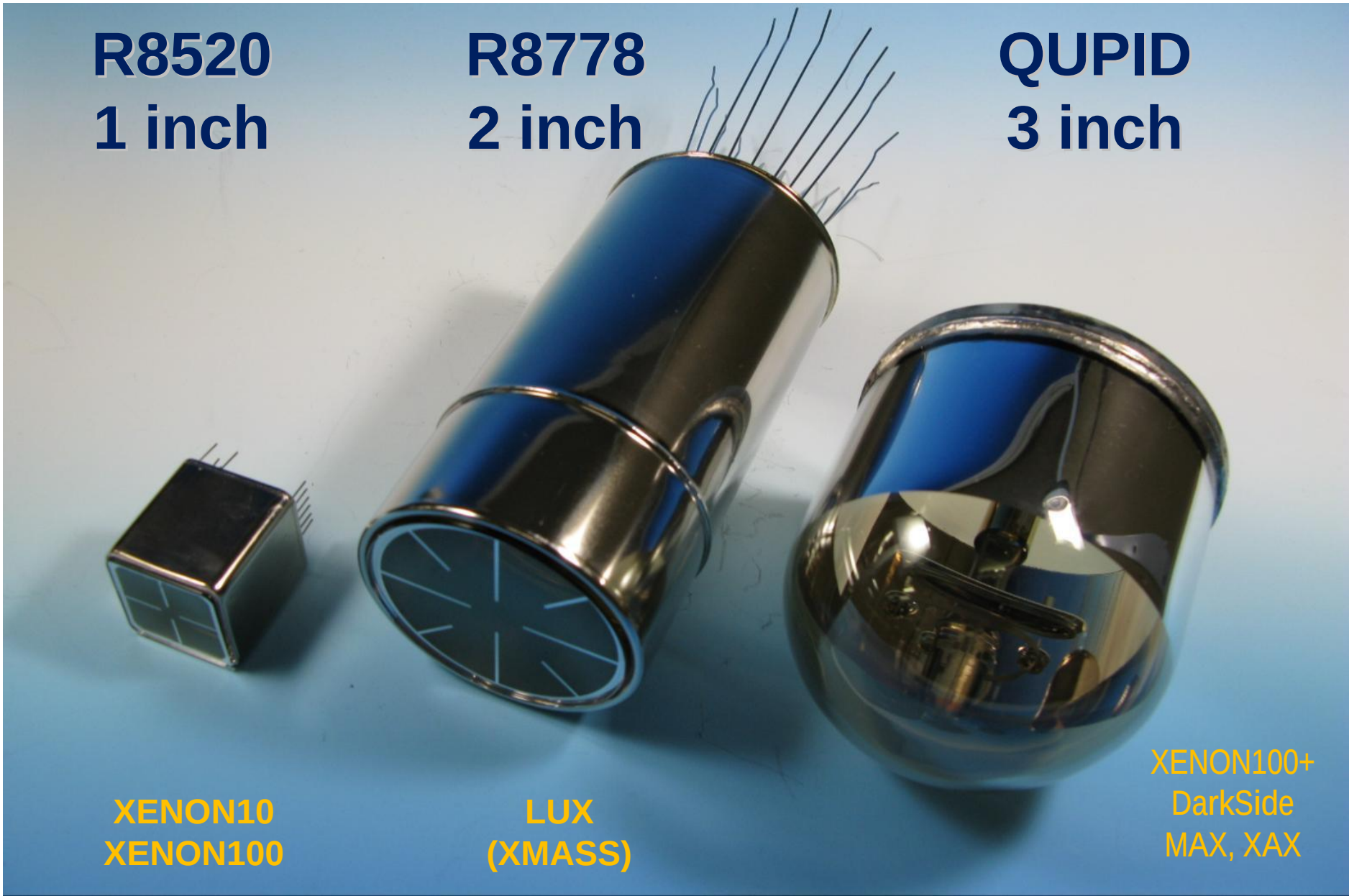
- Cu PMT holding plate

Detector self-shielding – absorption of naturally occurring radioactivity

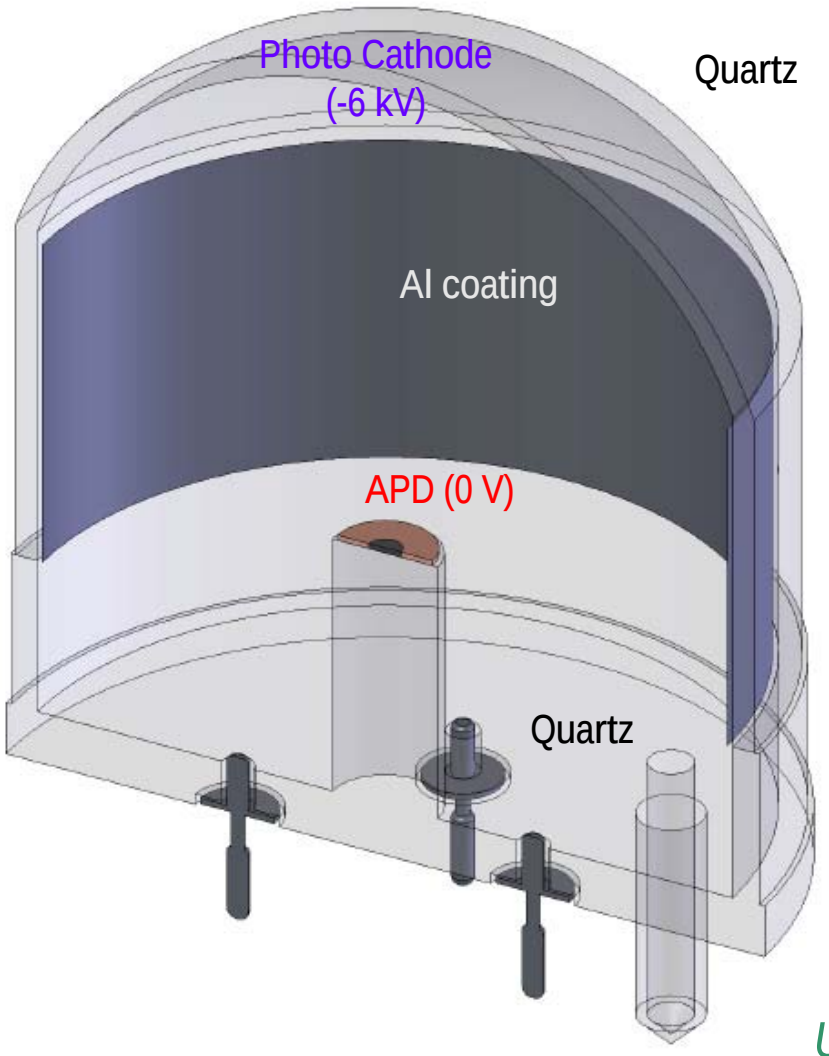


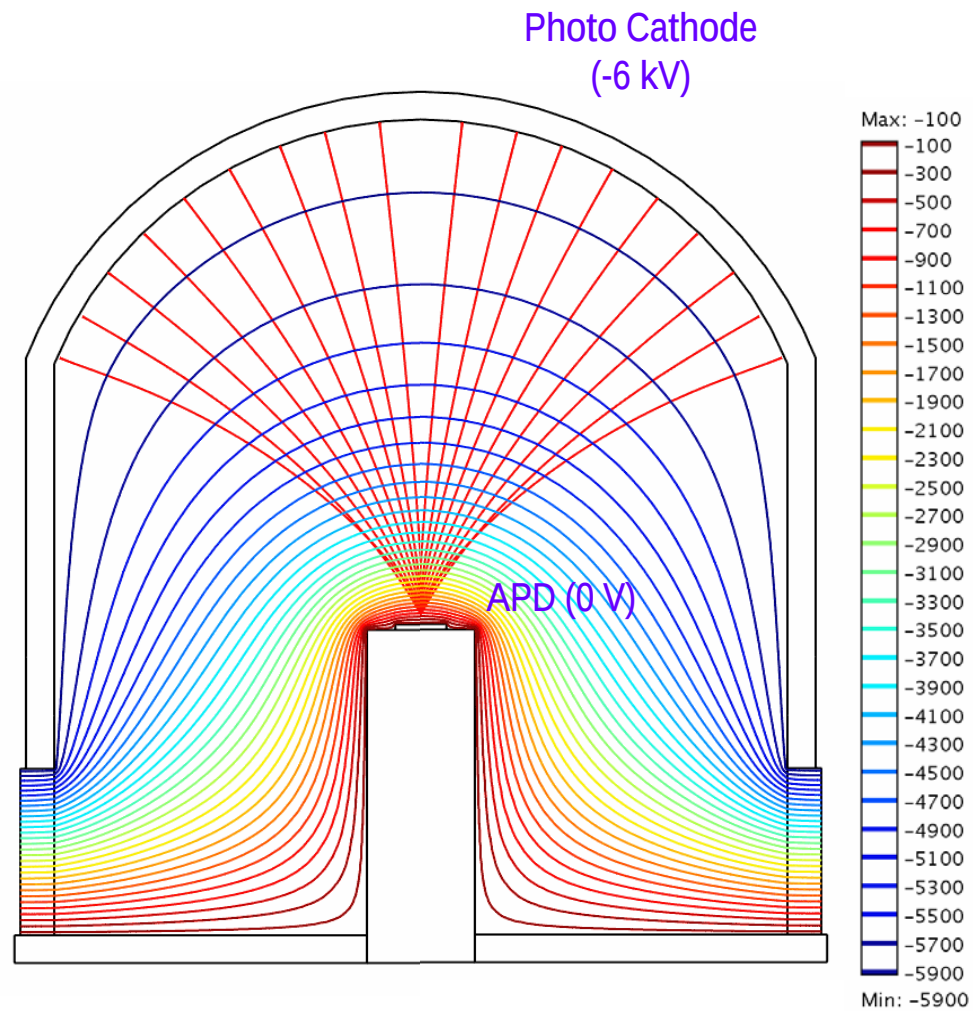
PMT radioactivity dominates

Comparison of Low-radioactive Photon Detectors from Hamamatsu



QUPID (QUartz Photon Intensifying Detector)

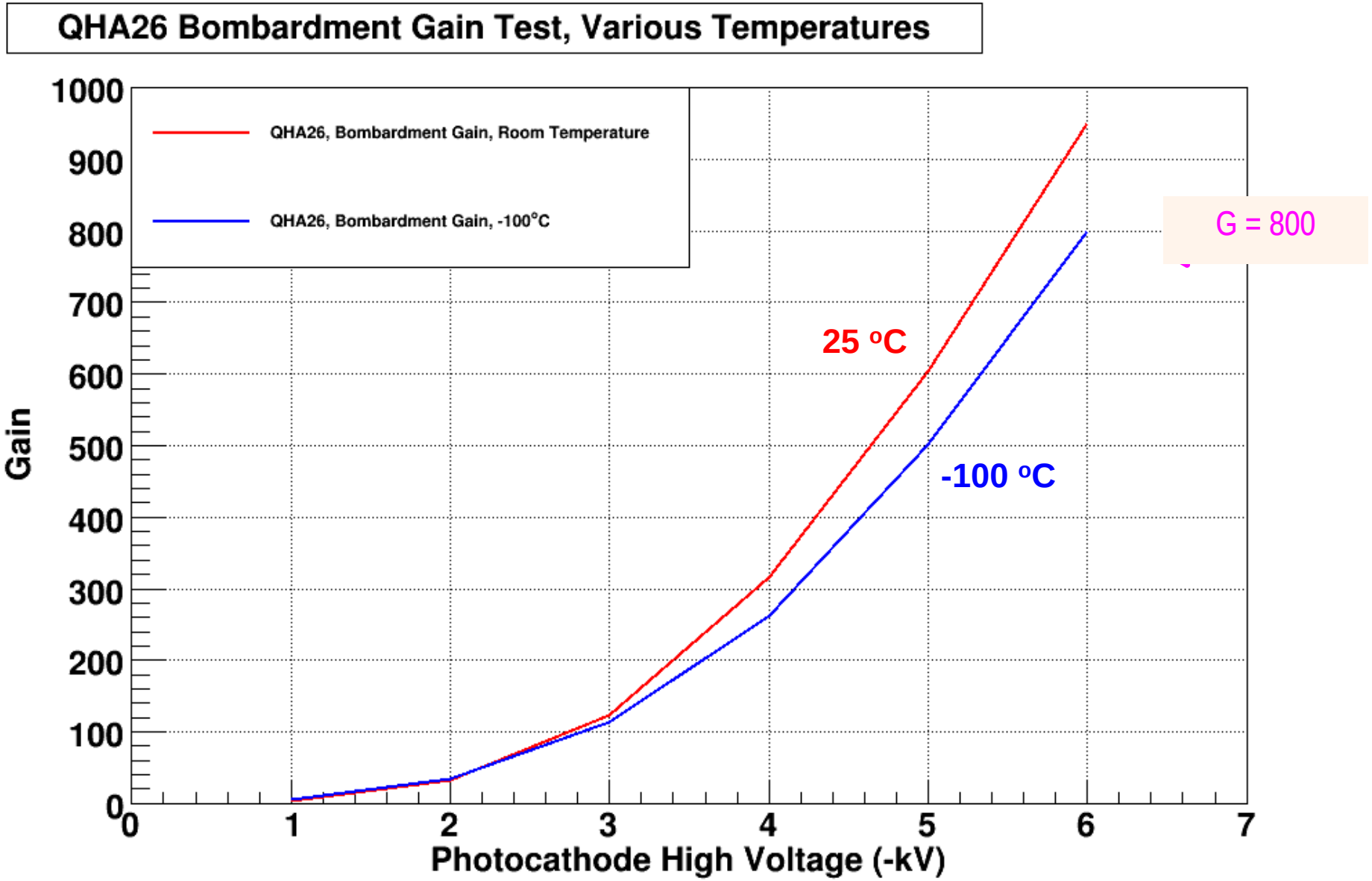




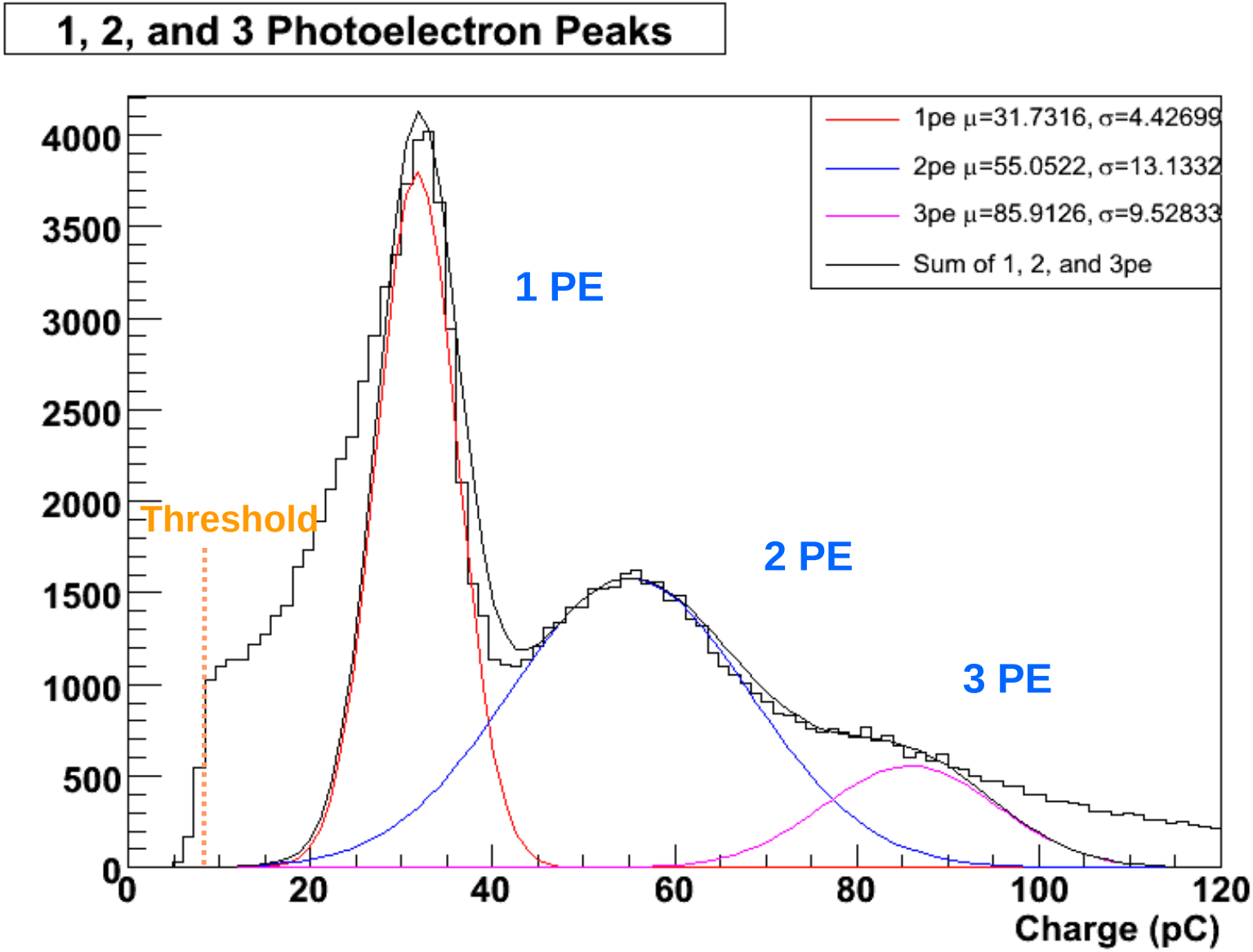
Made by Synthetic Silica only.
US Patent (No. 5374826) pending.

New 3” QUPID (Production Version)

Electron Bombardment Gain (QHA26)



The first Scintillating lights detected by QUPID from ^{57}Co in Liquid Xenon

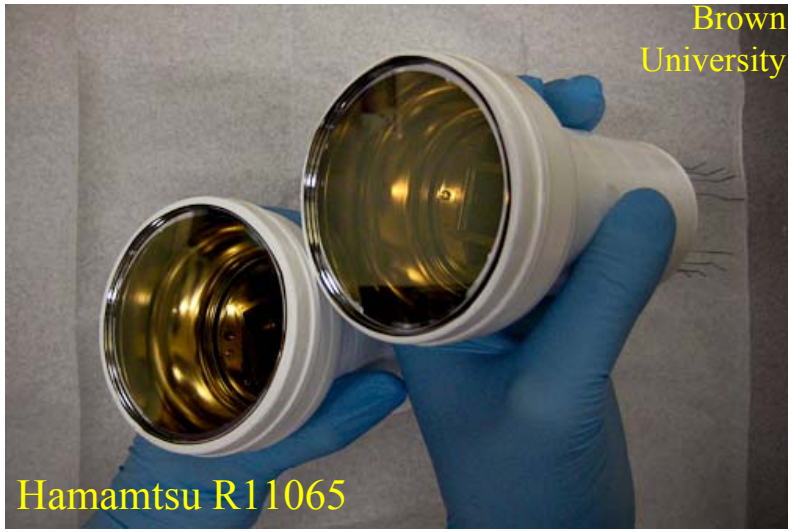


PMTs (LZS and LZD 20 tonne LXe)

- Current LUX 350 Experiment: Using 122 x 2” R8778 Hamamatsu
  - Production yields high/very stable - long track record with technology
  - U/Th 10/2 mBq/PMT
    - There has been tremendous progress in reducing PMT backgrounds
    - The level of radioactivity already achieved in these PMTs would be an acceptable baseline for the LZS and LZD experiments
  - Demonstrated QE: average=33%, max 39% at 175 nm
    - Permits factor 3 better phe/keV response in LUX than in XENON100

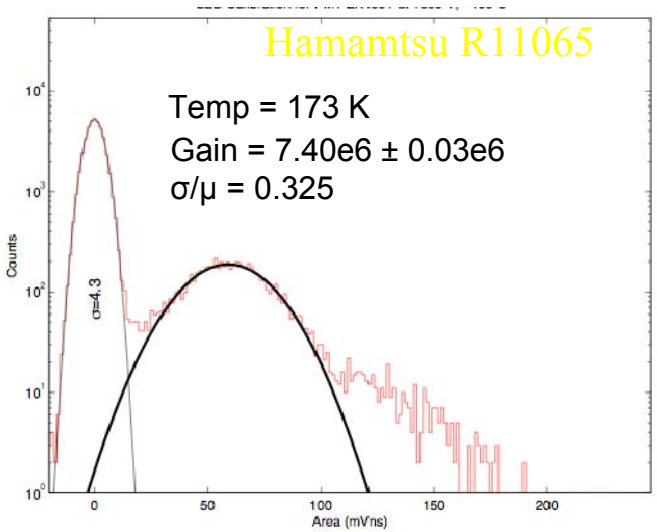
PMTs (LZS and LZD 20 tonne LXe)

3” Diameter PMT for LXe



3” Testing in LXe

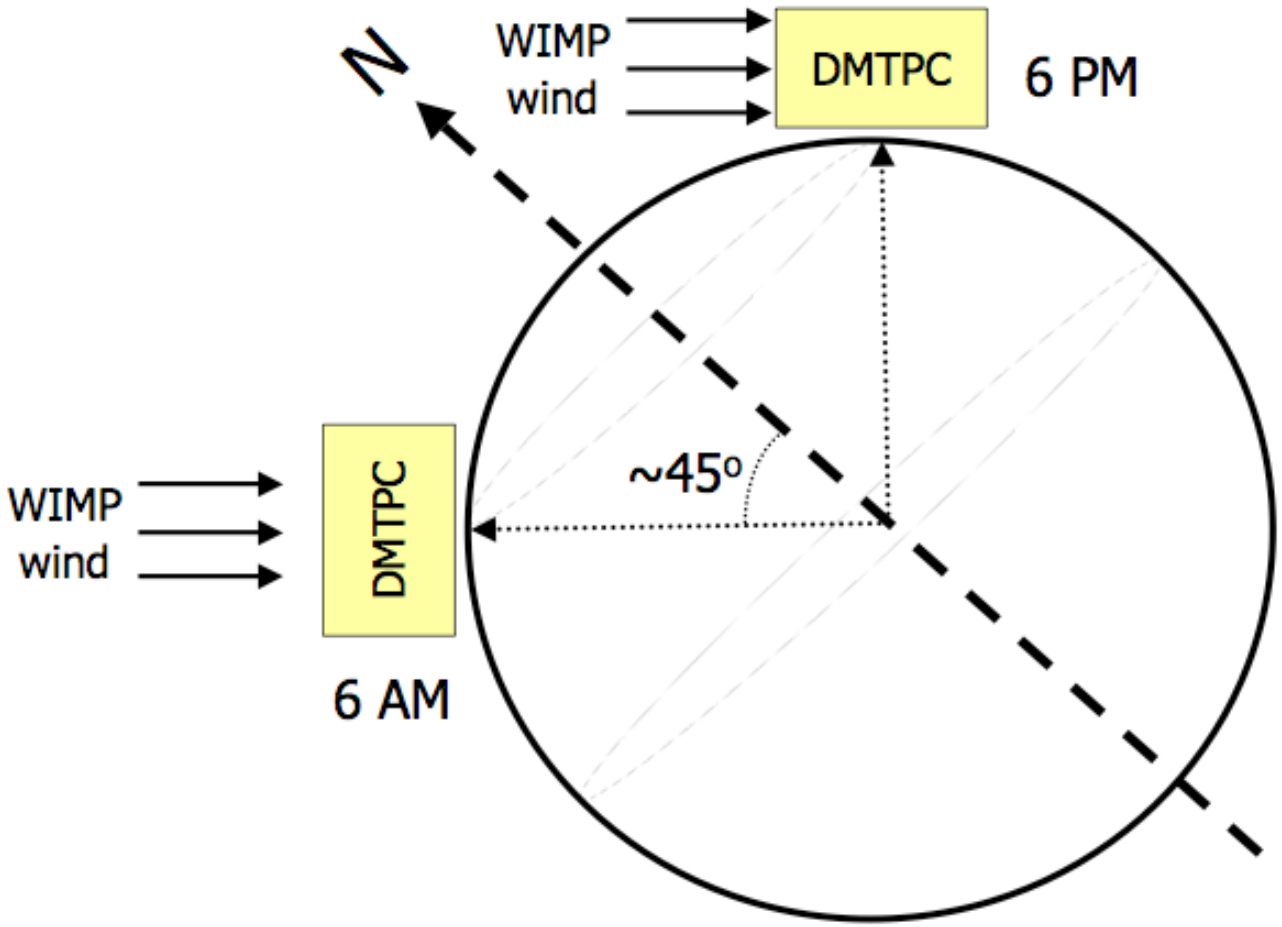
Single phe calibration, -100 C, -1500 V



- Under LZ S4 development program: DUSEL R&D
  - Larger diameter - twice collection area. Radioactivity further reduced.
  - In 2009 initially fab of and tested Hamamatsu 3” R11065 in LXe
    - Tested QE/LXe operation - all PMTs performed identically to those of same as R8778
    - Well understood performance. Stable performance.
    - High gains >5x10^6 mean that no additional amplifiers required. Electronics within cryostat are limited to passive components with very low/well understood radioactive backgrounds
  - Developed new ultra low background 3” PMTs for LXe: R11410mod
    - Background measured U/Th <1/1 mBq/PMT (90% CL) - No U/Th signal seen
    - This comfortably exceeds background requirements for LZD detector
    - Upgraded Hamamatsu Super bialkali photocathodes will also be available to move QE above 40%
- Requirement is for 1000x3” PMT for LZD (20 tonne)
  - Production yields and cost well understood

DM wind signature #2: daily modulation

Spergel PRD 37,1353 (1988)



Only directional detection can correlate with Cygnus:
unambiguous positive observation of Dark Matter in presence of backgrounds

DMTPC: detector concept

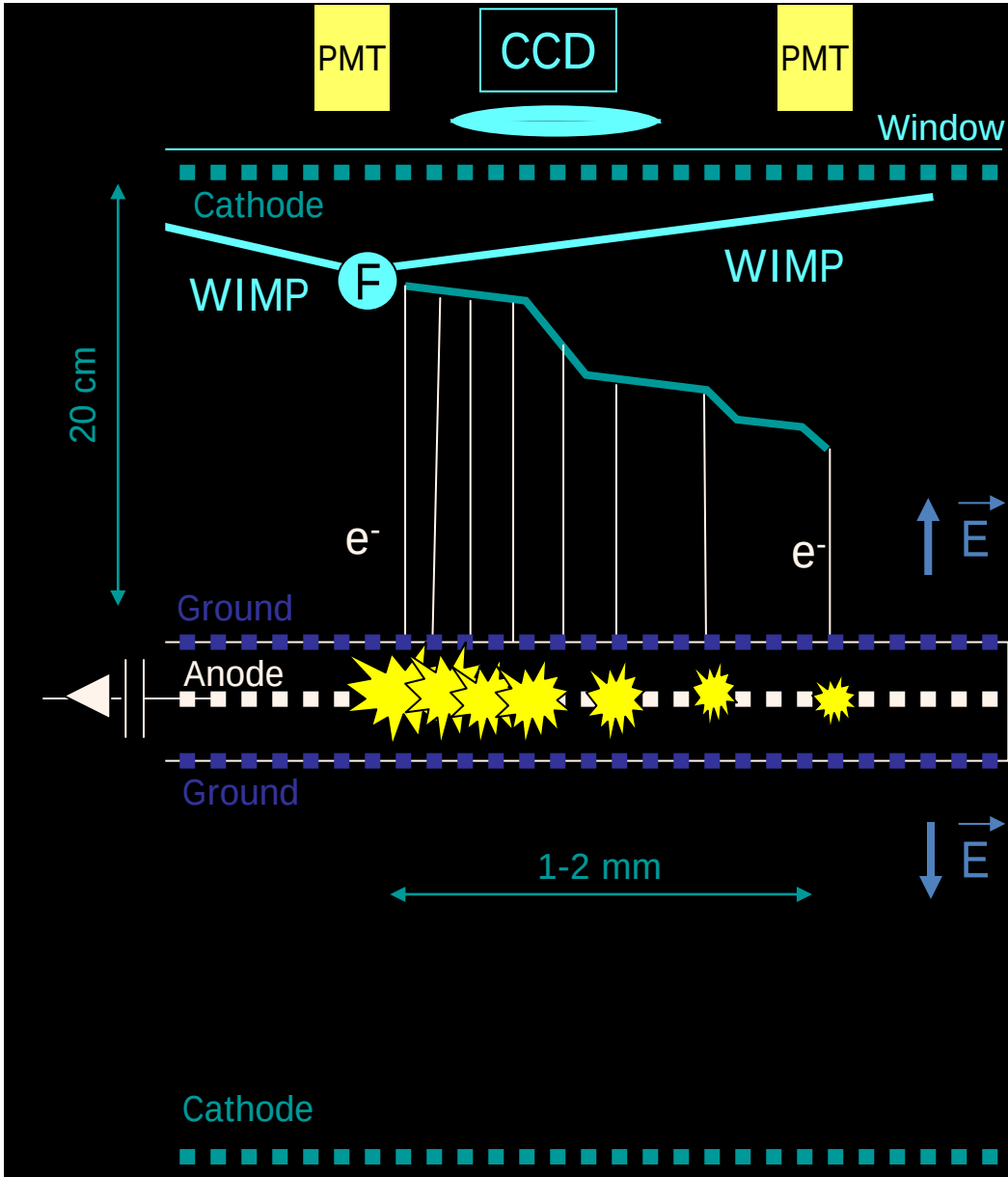
Low-pressure CF_4 TPC
- 50 torr: 40 keV F recoil ~2mm

Optical readout (CCD)
- Image scintillation photons in amplification region
- 2D, $, proven technology, clean

PMT and charge readout
- Trigger and E measurement

Amplification region
- Woven mesh 250 μ m pitch

CF_4 is ideal gas
- F: spin-dependent interactions
- Good scintillation efficiency
- Low transverse diffusion
- Non flammable, non toxic

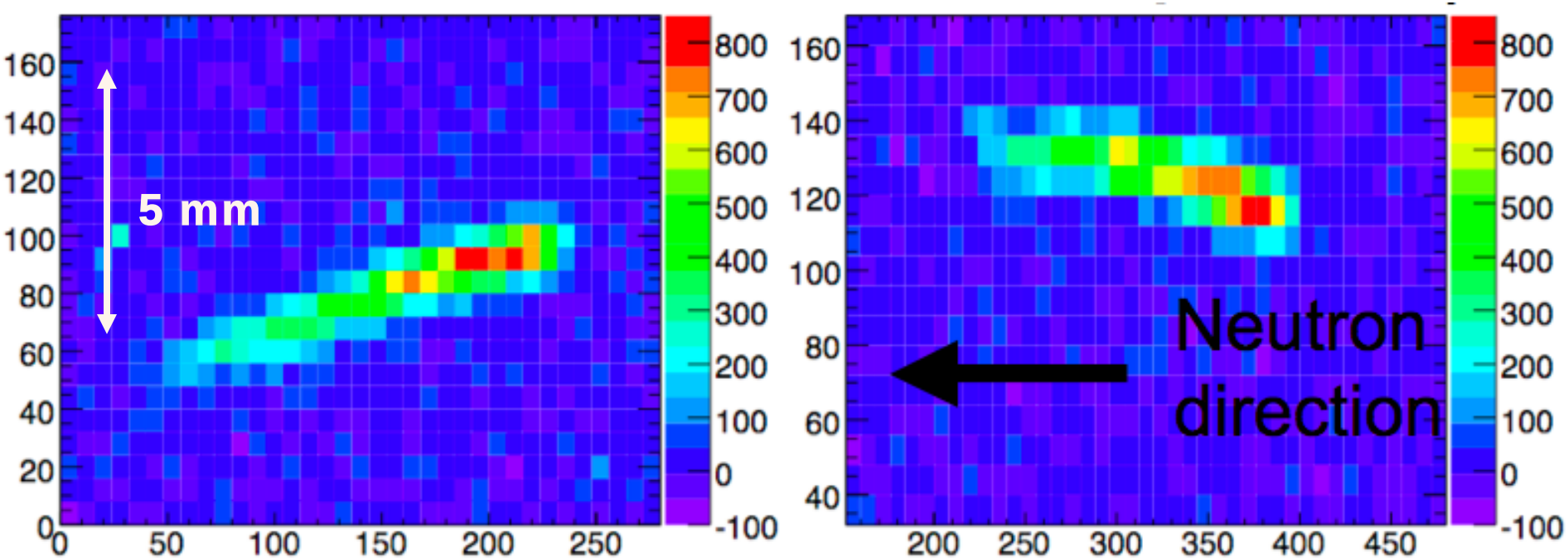


Astropart. Phys. 30 (2008) 58-64

Calibration with low-energy neutrons:

^{252}Cf run with mesh detector

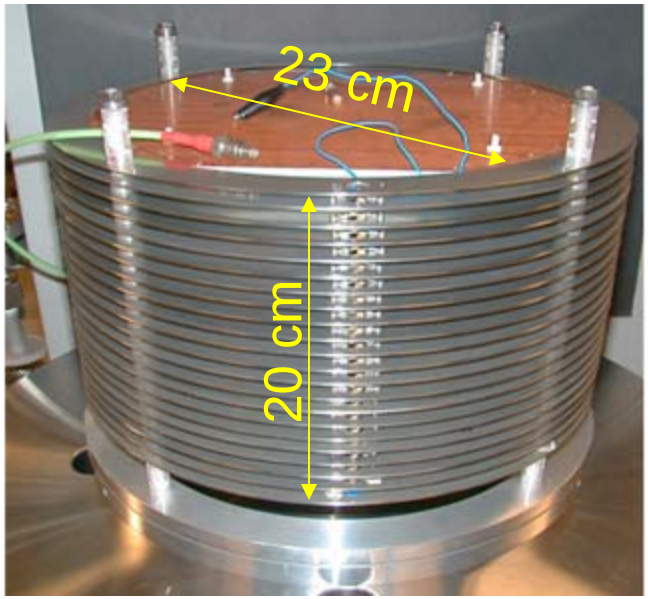
- Mesh-based detector: 1D → 2D projection of recoil
- Stable data-taking at 75 torr
  - "Head-tail" effect demonstrated down ~ 100 keV
- Excellent data-MC agreement
- Angular resolution: 15° at 100 keV

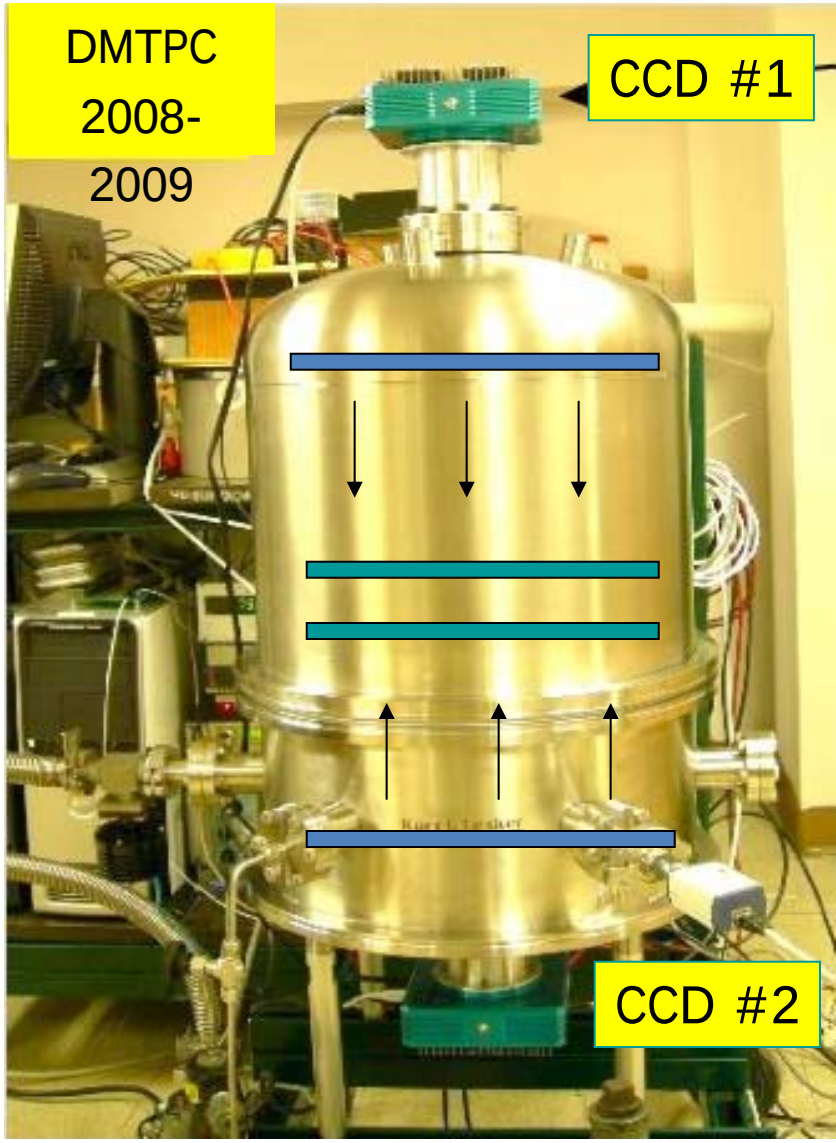


10-liter DMTPC detector

Second generation - DMTPC 10-ℓ

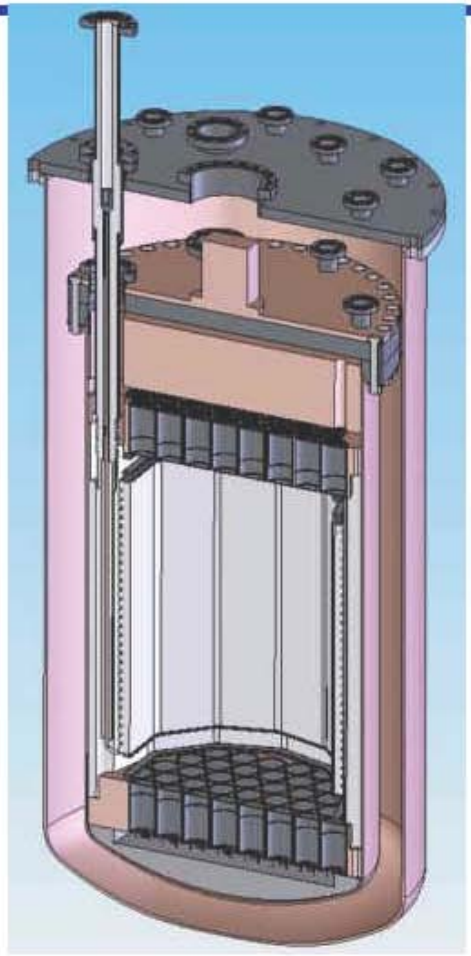
- Mesh-based amplification planes
- 23cm Ø and 20 cm drift/TPC
- 3.3g @75 torr
- 2 CCD cameras (top and bottom)





Evolution

XENON10
22 kg / Fiducial 5.4 kg

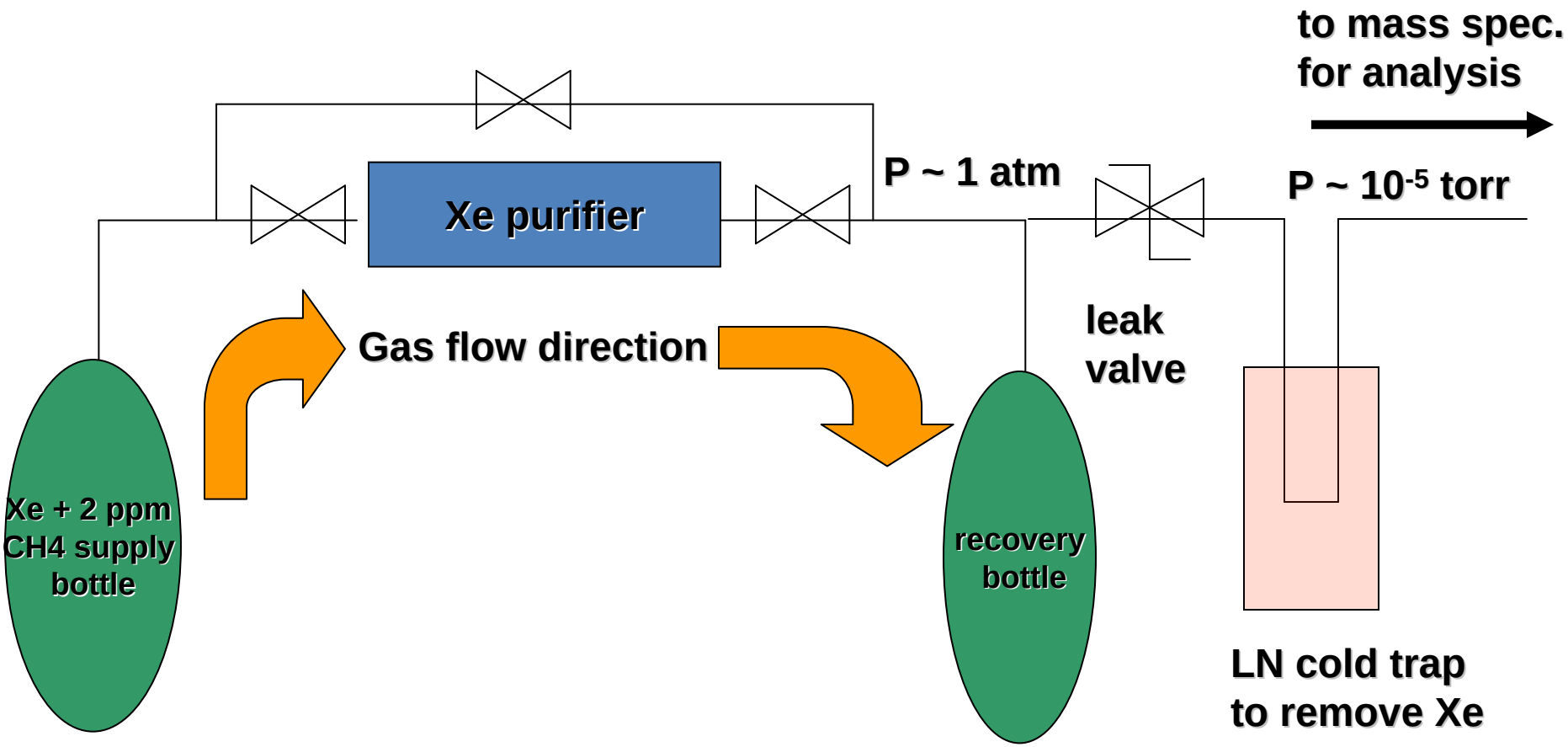


LUX
350 kg / Fiducial 100 kg

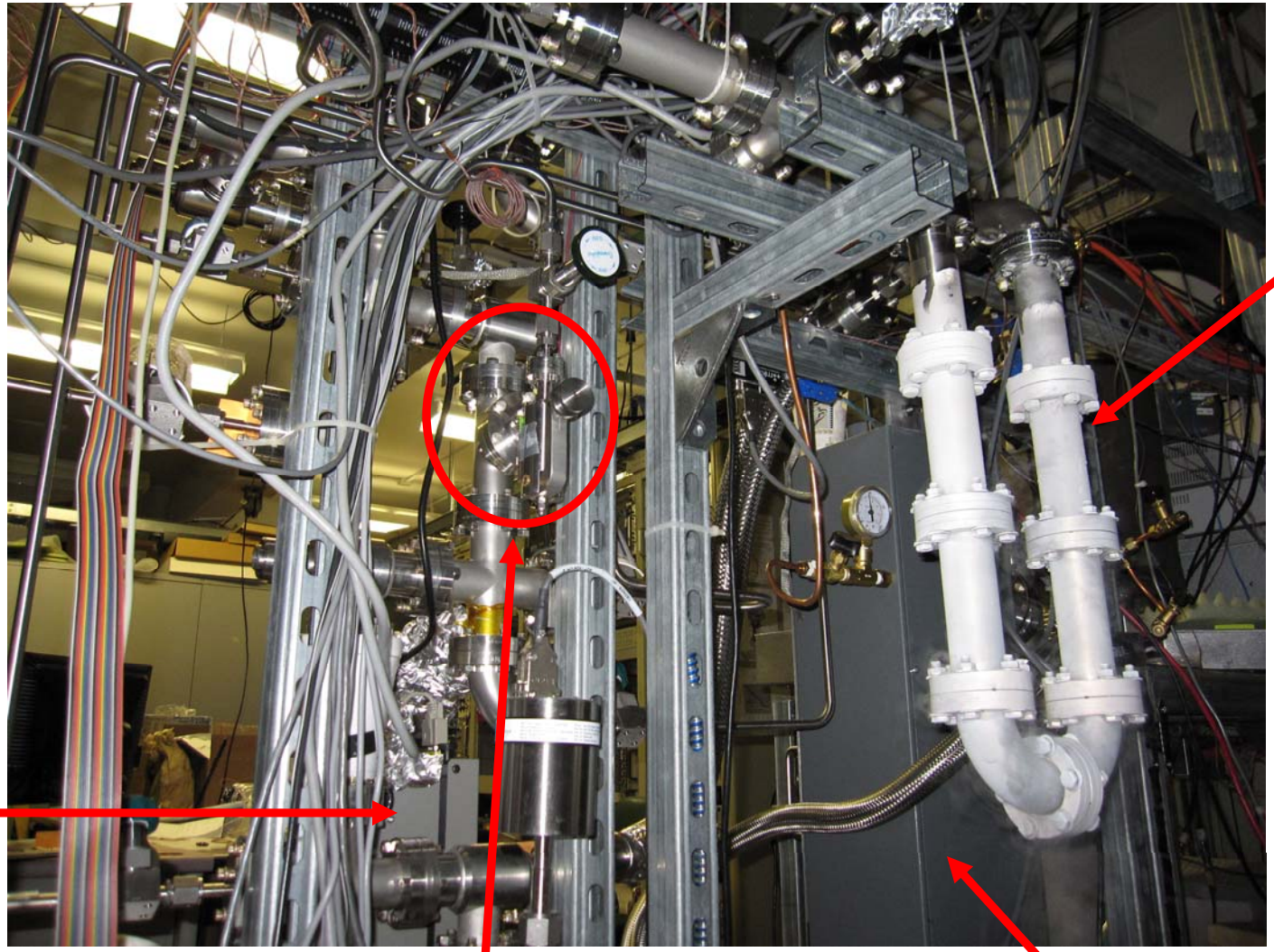
LZ20
20000 kg / Fiducial 16000 kg

Carter Hall,
Univ. of Maryland

Analytical technique for xenon purity



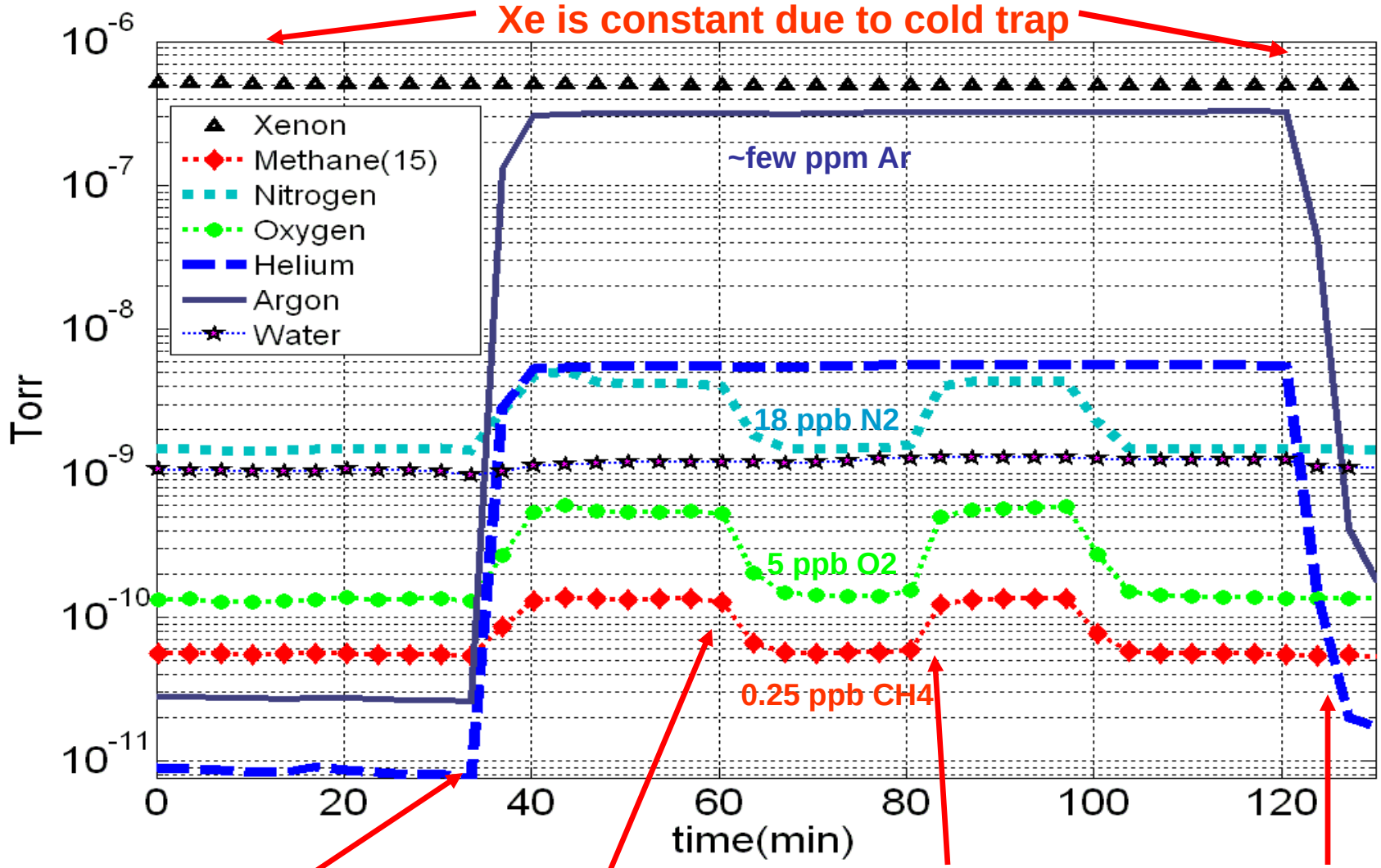
Prototype device @ Univ. of Maryland



Data from prototype coldtrap

D.S. Leonard, et. al., arXiv: 1002:2742

Carter Hall,
Univ. of Maryland



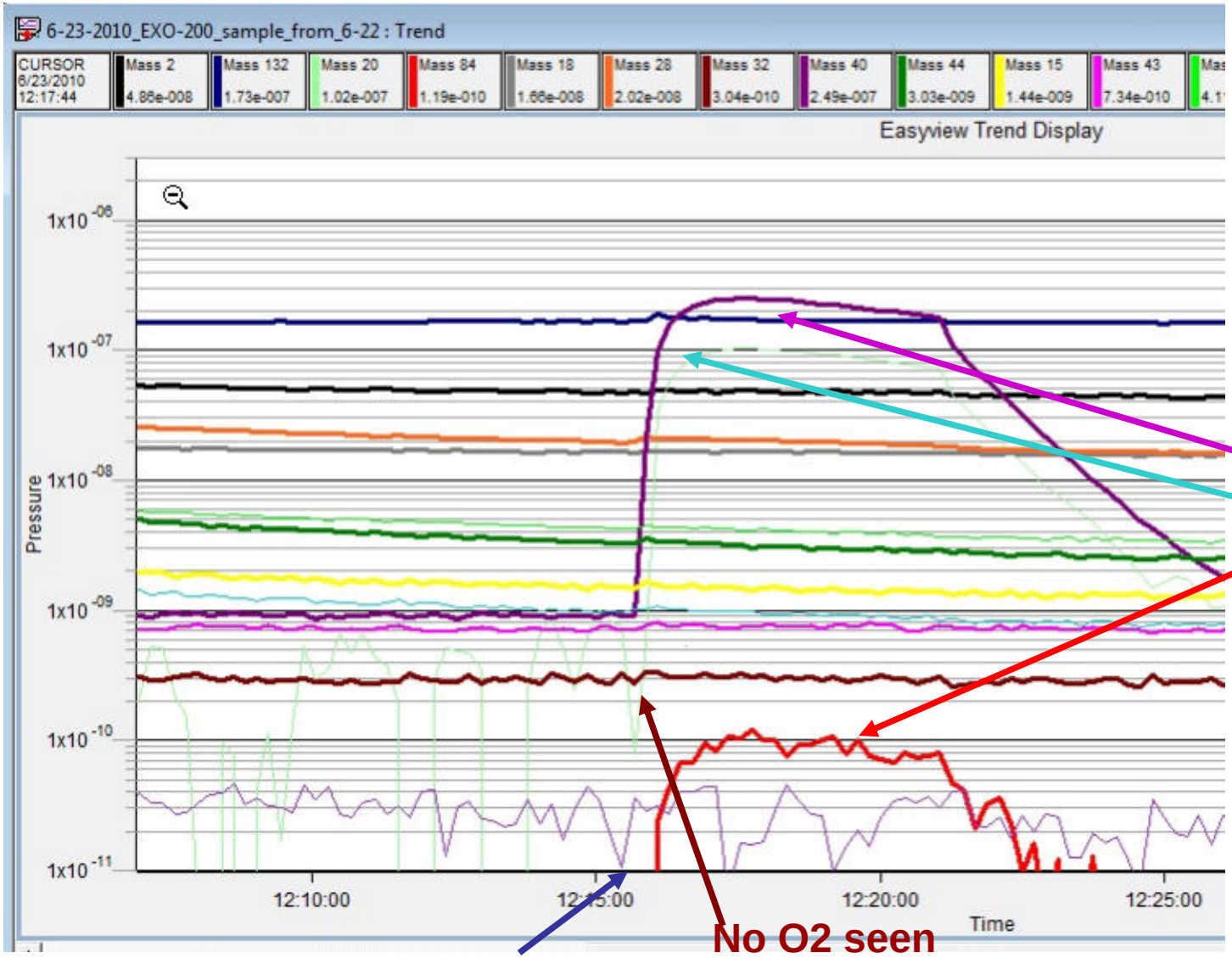
open leak valve, bypass gas purifier

flow through gas purifier

bypass gas purifier

close leak valve to measure backgrounds

Xenon purity analysis from EXO-200 double beta decay experiment

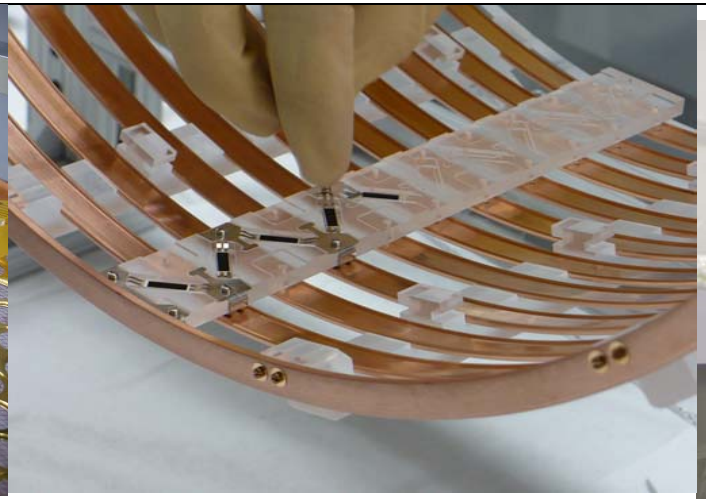


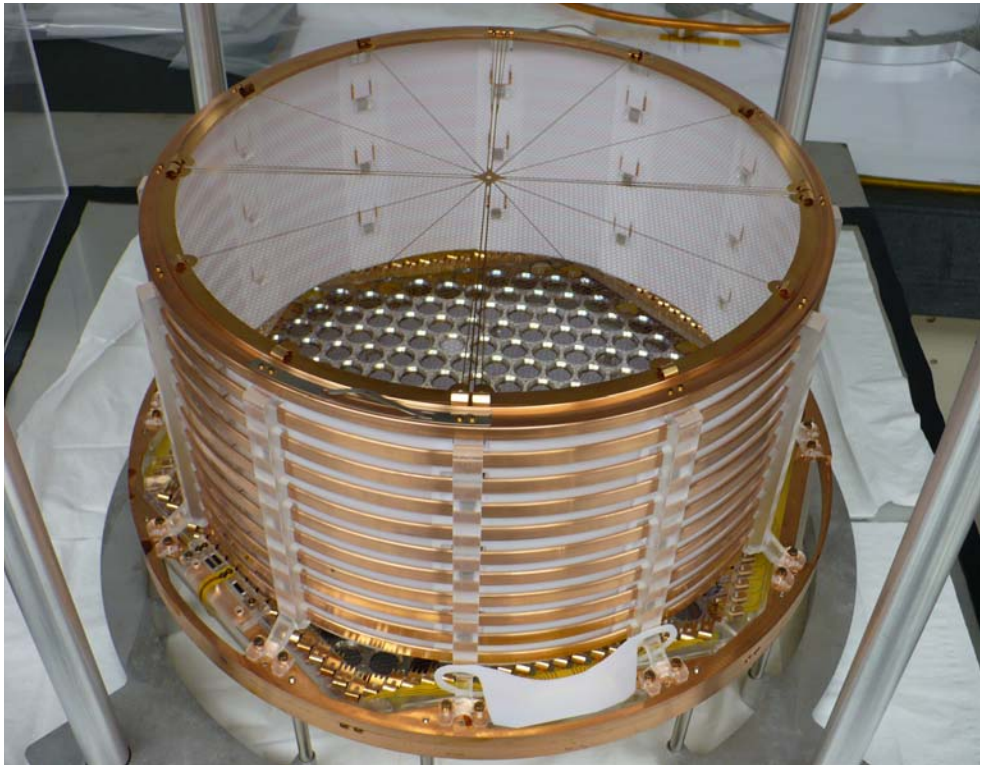
Ar, Ne, & Kr clearly observed

open leak valve

No O2 seen (< 0.5 ppb)

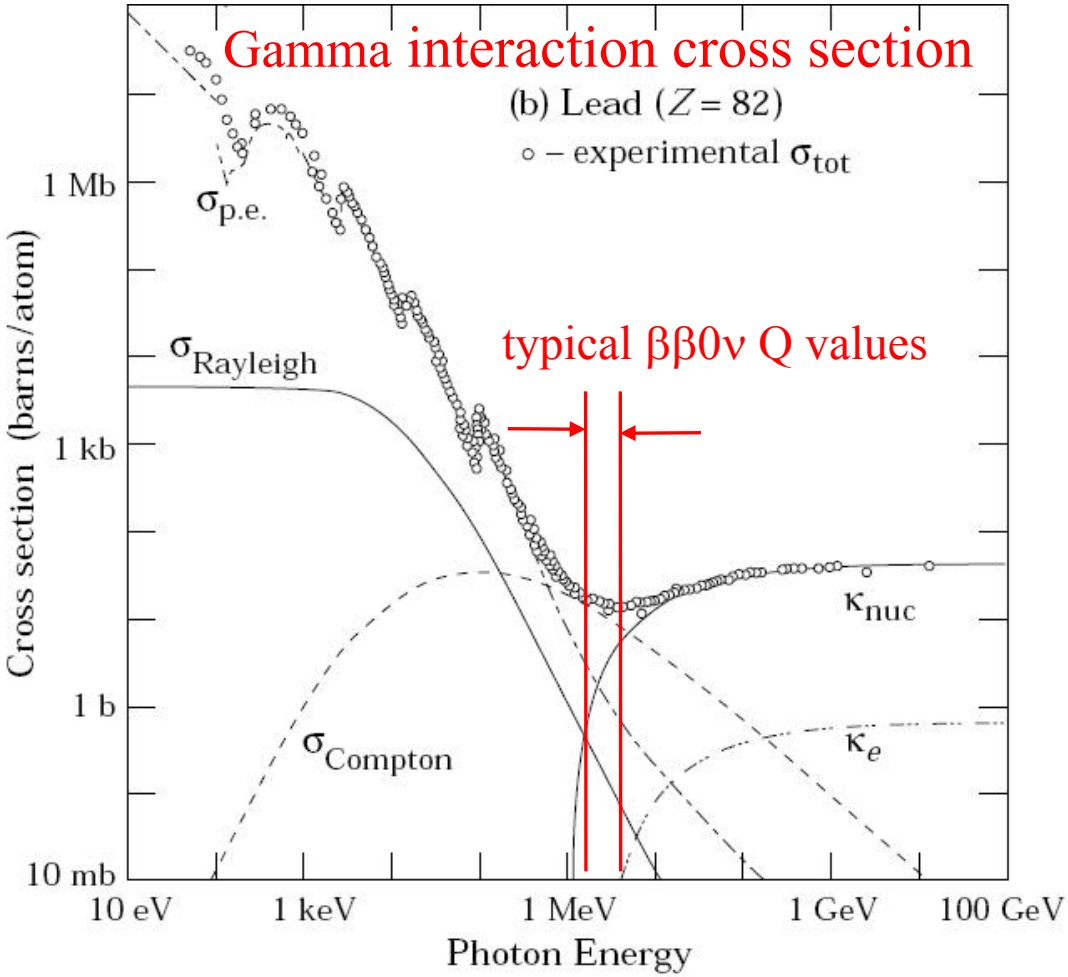
EXO-200: TPC Construction in 2009





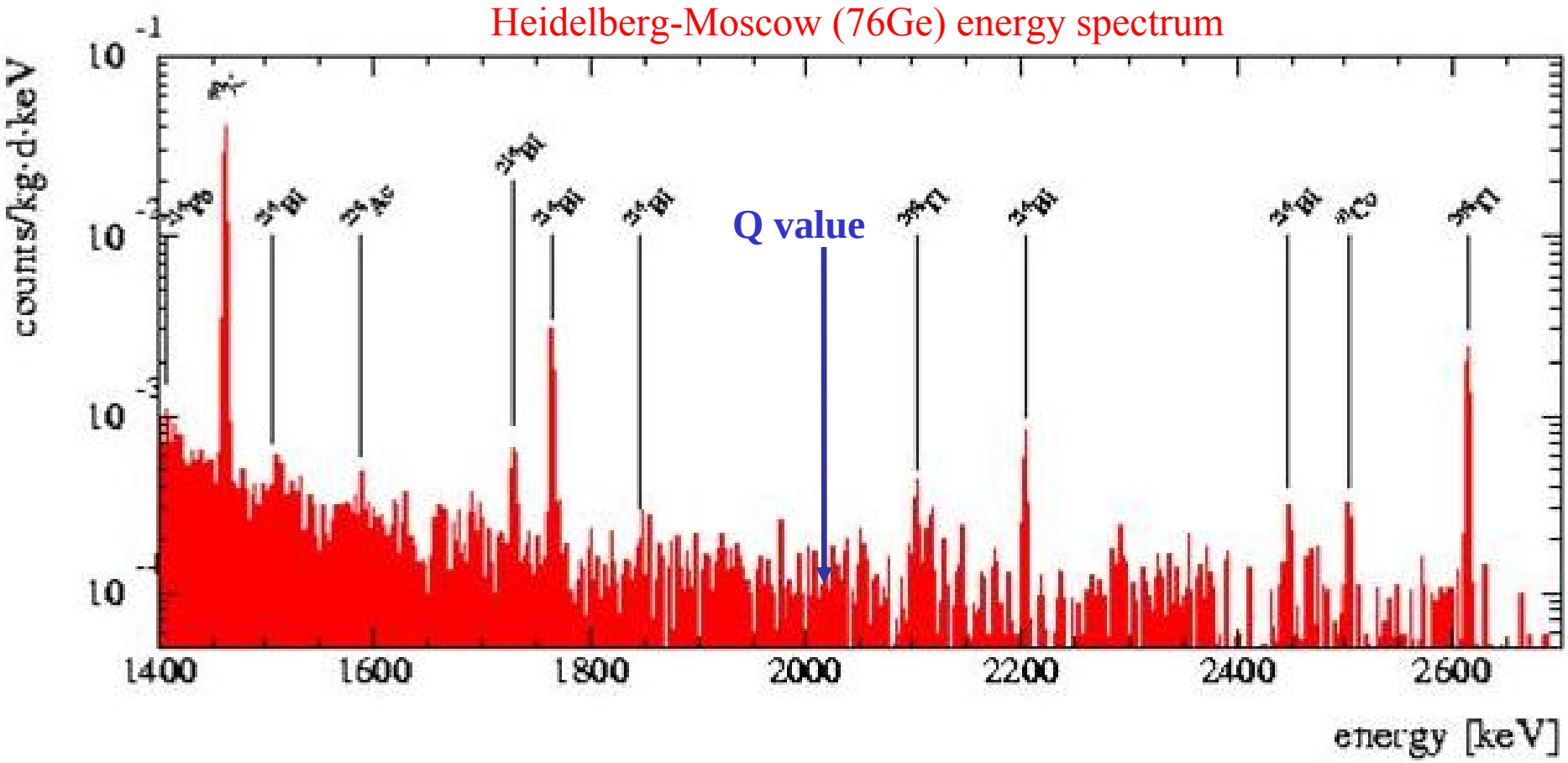
Left: Building one half of the inner detector.
Above: Potting kapton flex cables.

Shielding a double beta decay experiment is difficult!



Example: γ interaction length in liquid xenon is 8.9 cm,
EXO200 detector radius is 20 cm.

Energy spectrum from the Heidelberg-Moscow double beta decay experiment



Half-life limit:
1.9×10^{25} years (H-M and IGEX)
Majorana neutrinos ruled out
for masses greater than ~0.35-1.0 eV

Get smarter: Single Ba^+ ion detection

$^{136}Xe \rightarrow {}^{136}Ba^{++}\ e^-e^-$

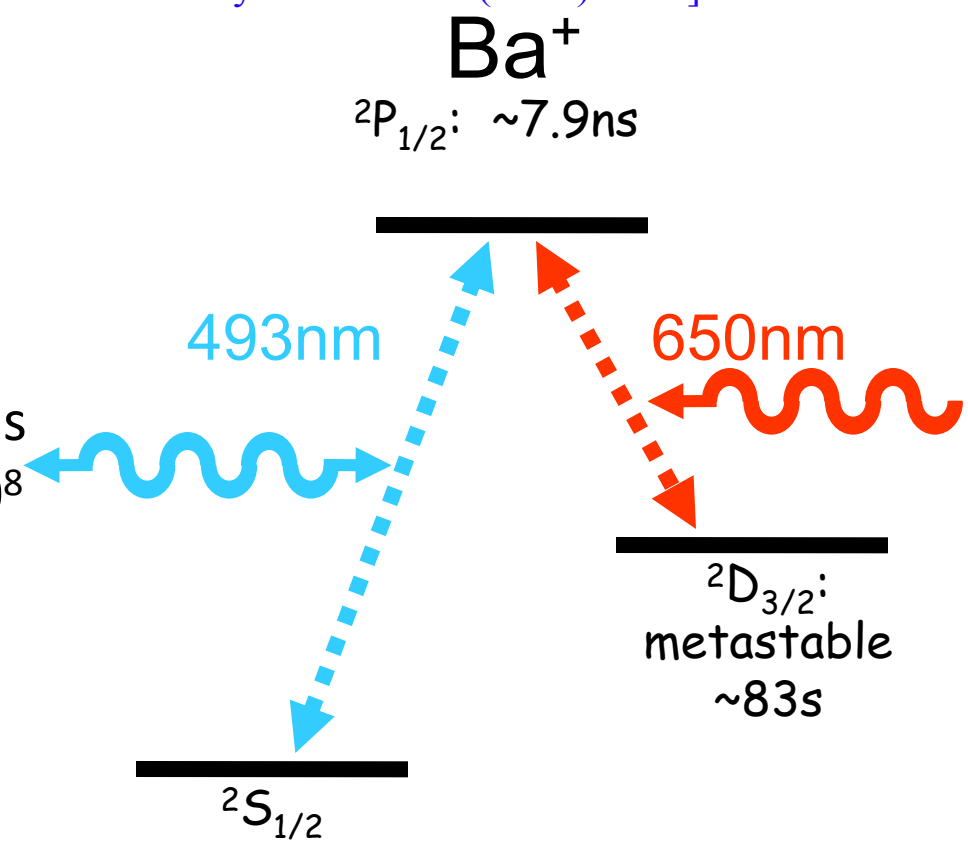
Daughter identified by optical spectroscopy of Ba^+, well studied in ion traps for more than 25 years

[Neuhauser, Hohenstatt, Toshek, Dehmelt, Phys. Rev. A 22 (1980) 1137]

- very specific signature ("Λ" shelving)

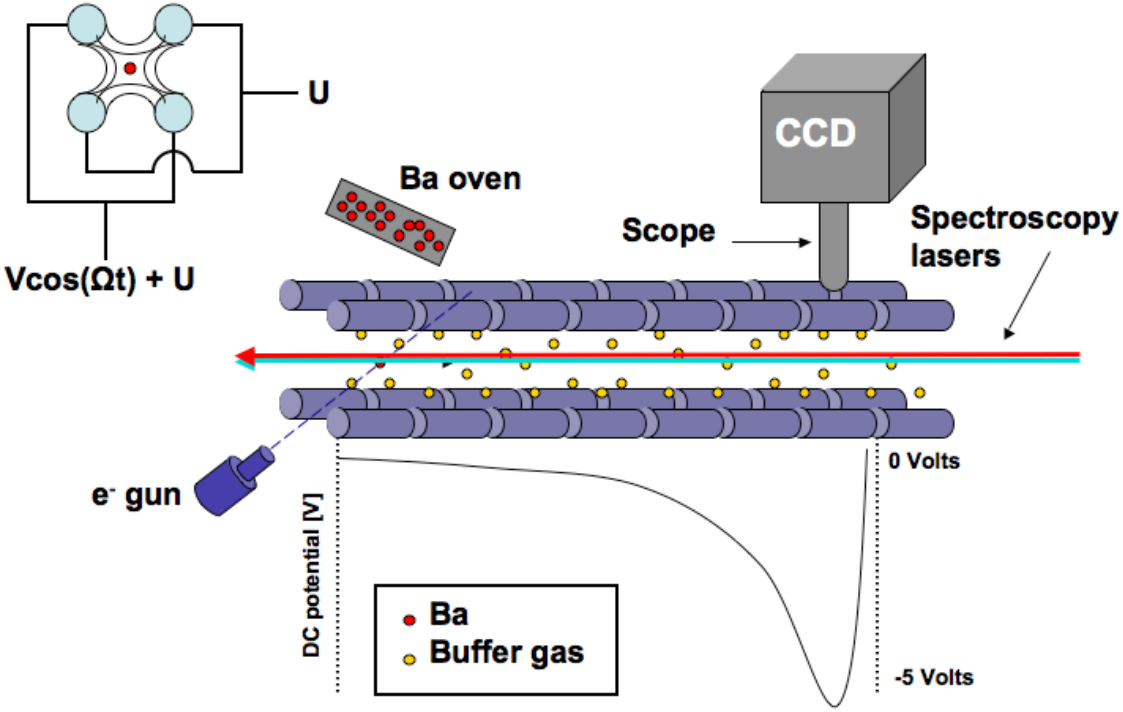
- cycling 493/650 nm transitions gives a fluorescence rate of ~10^8 Hz (in vacuum)

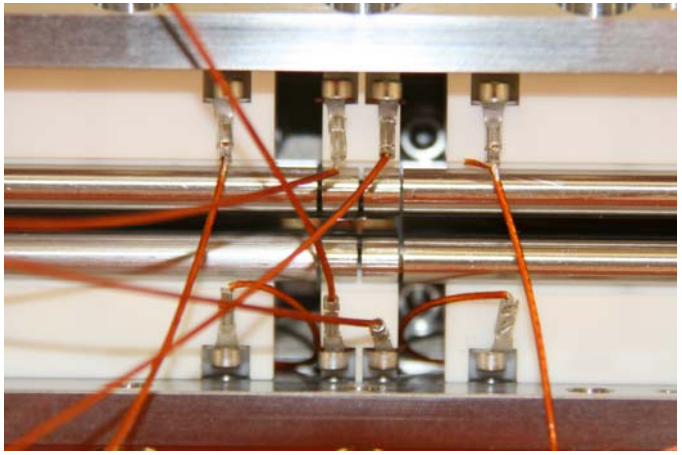
plenty of light!

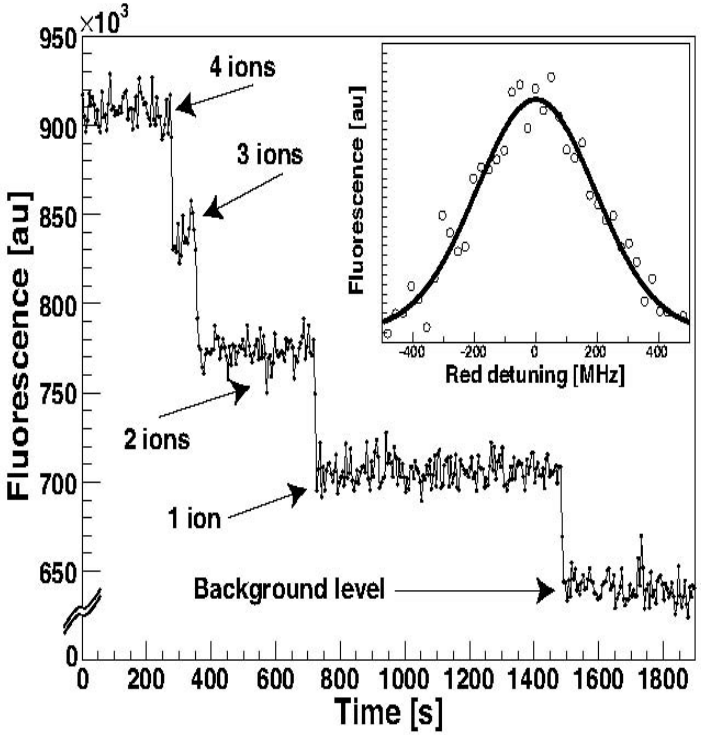


Ba^+ Tagging: Ion Trap + fluorescence

QuickTime™ and a decompressor are needed to see this picture.







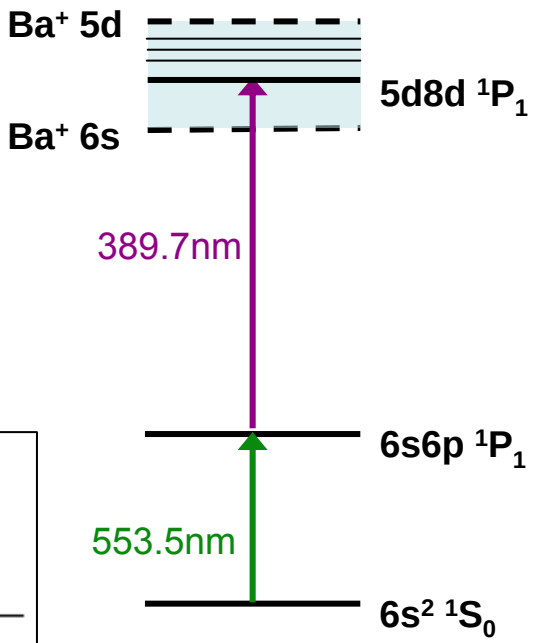
~9σ discrimination in 5s integration

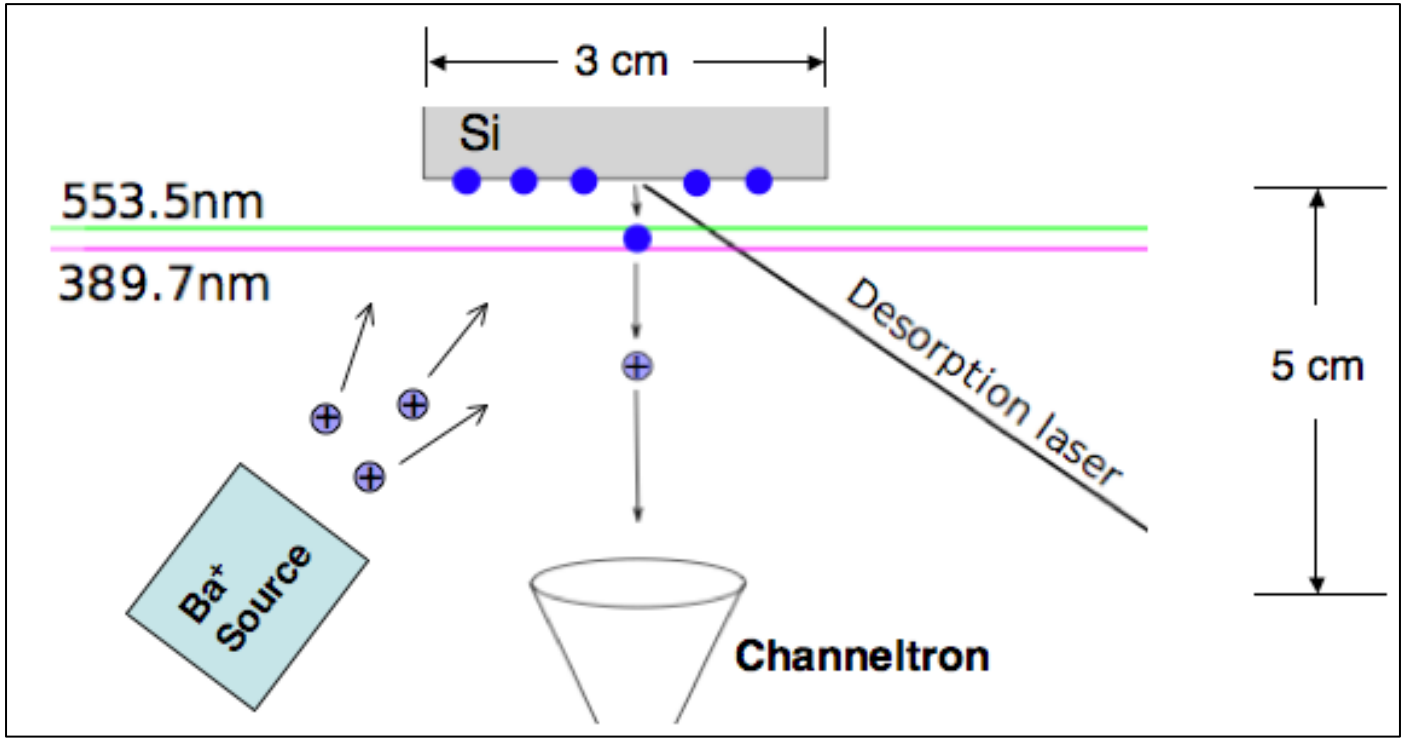
M.Green et al., *Phys Rev* A**76** (2007) 023404
B.Flatt et al., *NIM* A**578** (2007) 409

Ba^+ Tagging: RIS

QuickTime™ and a decompressor are needed to see this picture.

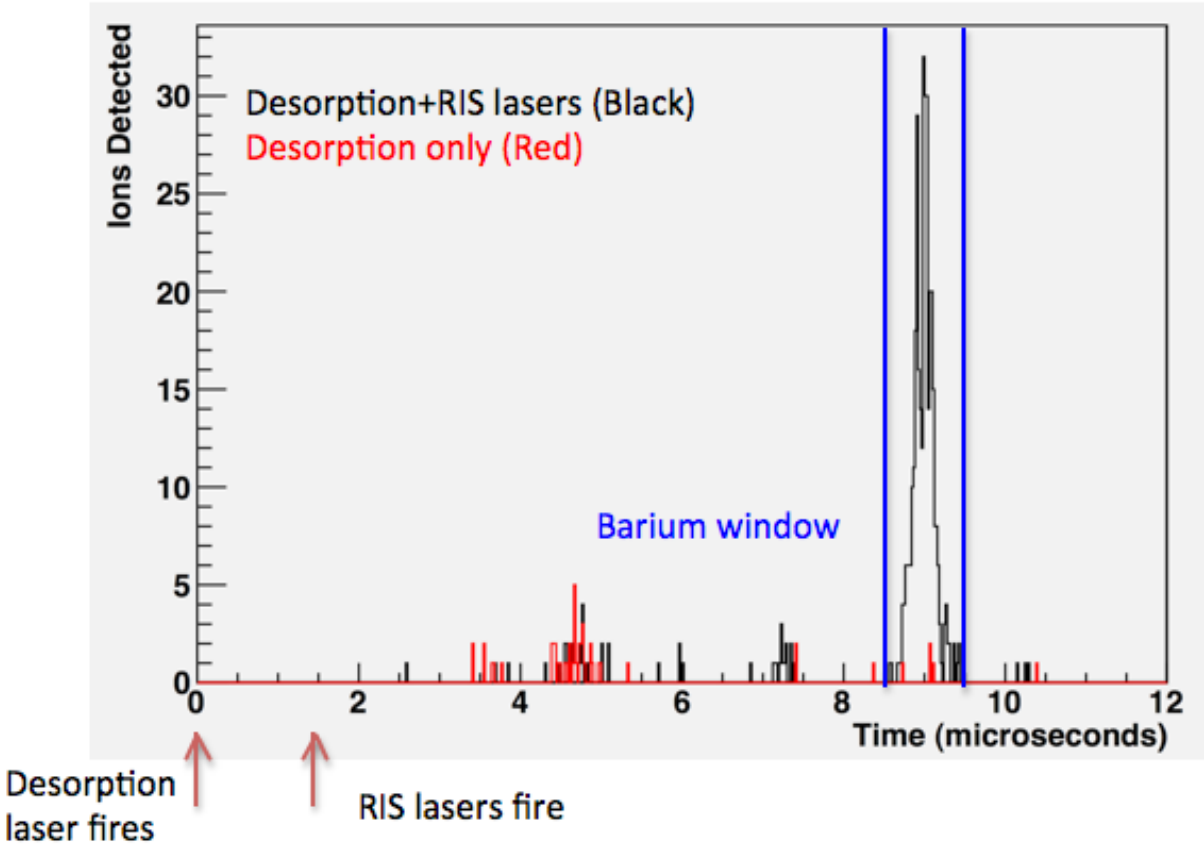
- Resonant Ionization Spectroscopy uses lasers tuned to atomic resonances to first *excite* and then *ionize* specific atoms.
- We use pulsed dye lasers at 553.5 nm and 389.7 nm.
- Autoionization: The 5d8d $^1P_1$ state decays to a lower energy ionized state, allowing use of the high cross section of the resonance to achieve ionization.

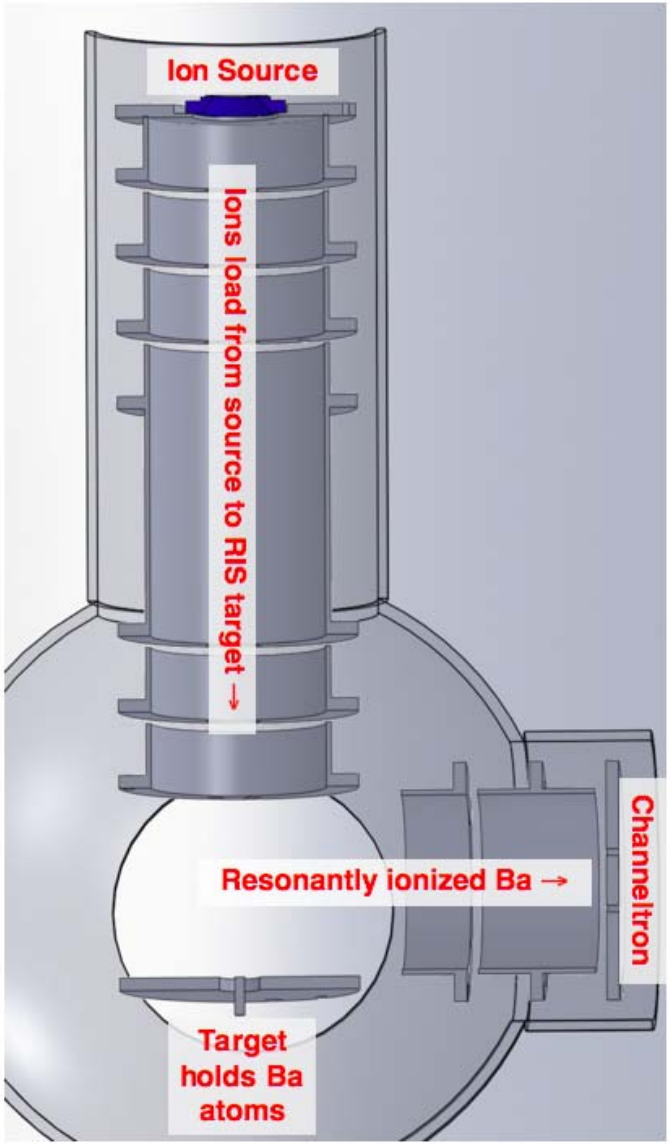




Ba^+ Tagging: RIS

QuickTime™ and a decompressor are needed to see this picture.

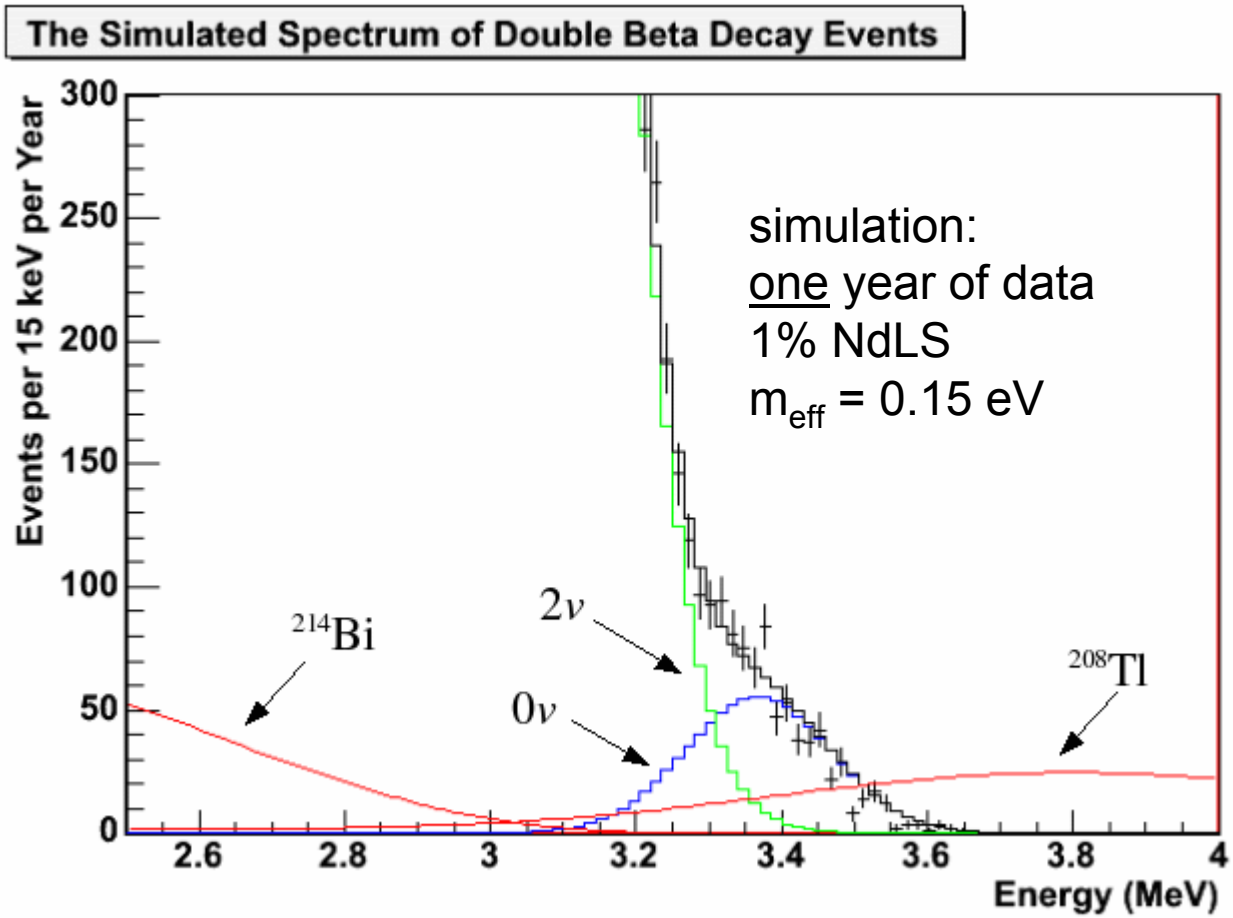




Efficiency of ~10^{-3} in "bulk mode" setup. New "single ion mode" setup about to start taking data.

SNO+: ^{150}Nd Double Beta Decay Concept

- energy resolution in a liquid scintillator is relatively poor
- search for endpoint shape distortion at high Q-value above the gamma lines from natural radioactivity
- ^{150}Nd has highest phase space factor and NME, thus highest predicted rate



Nd Liquid Scintillator Synthesis

- the organometallic form is a carboxylate
- similar to Gd-loaded scintillator for Daya Bay
- solvent-solvent extraction method to transfer to the organic phase
- this method was used to make NdLS at both BNL and Queen's University

linear alkylbenzene (LAB)

(organic phase) **$Nd(RCOO)_3$**

(aqueous phase)

$$Nd^{3+}(Cl^-)_3 + 3RCOO^- \rightarrow Nd(RCOO)_3$$

$$NH_3 + RCOOH \rightarrow NH^{4+} + RCOO^-$$

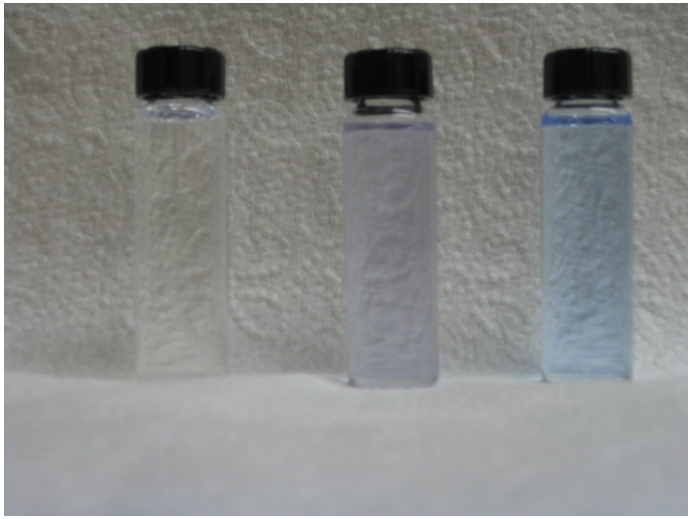
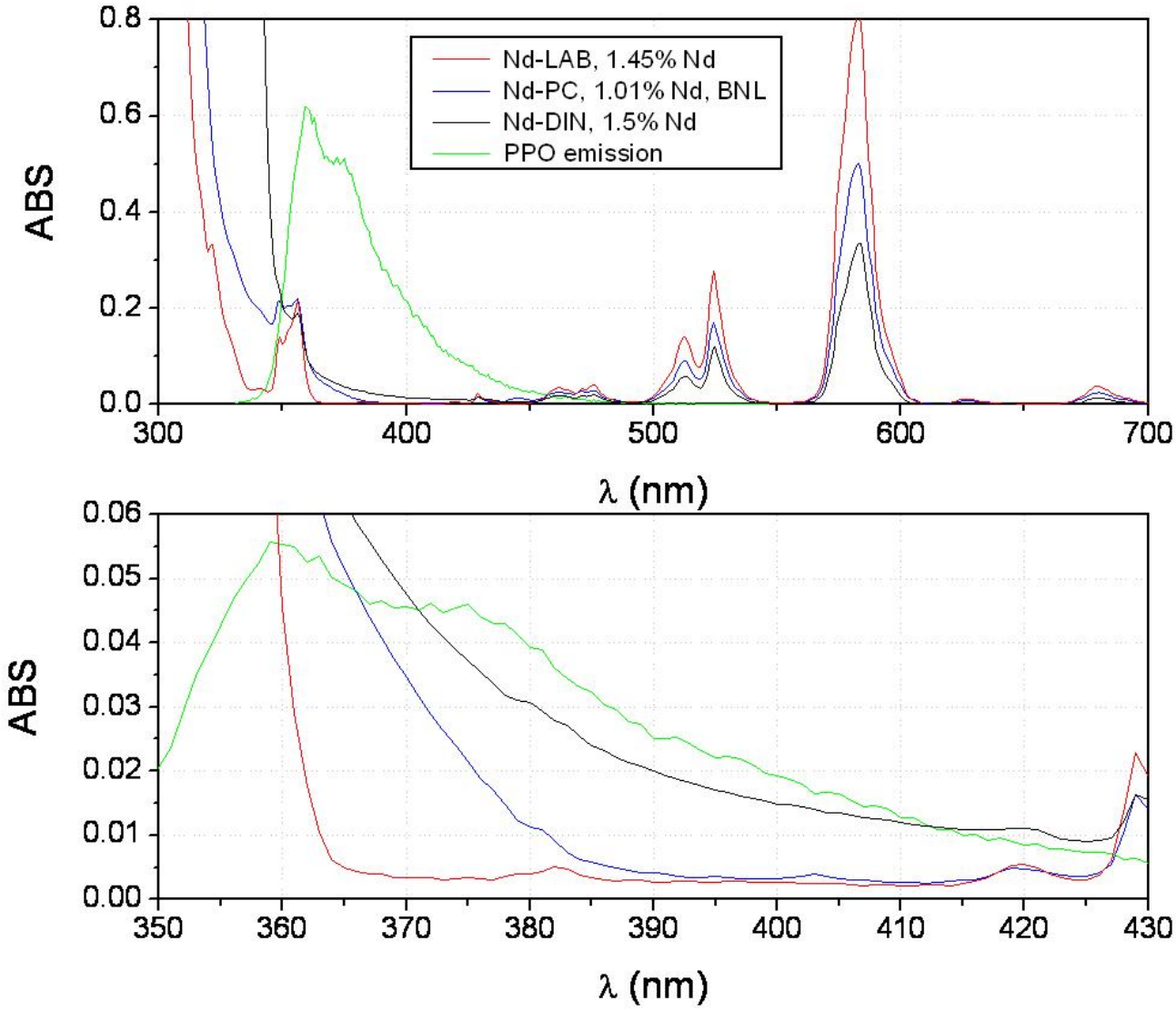
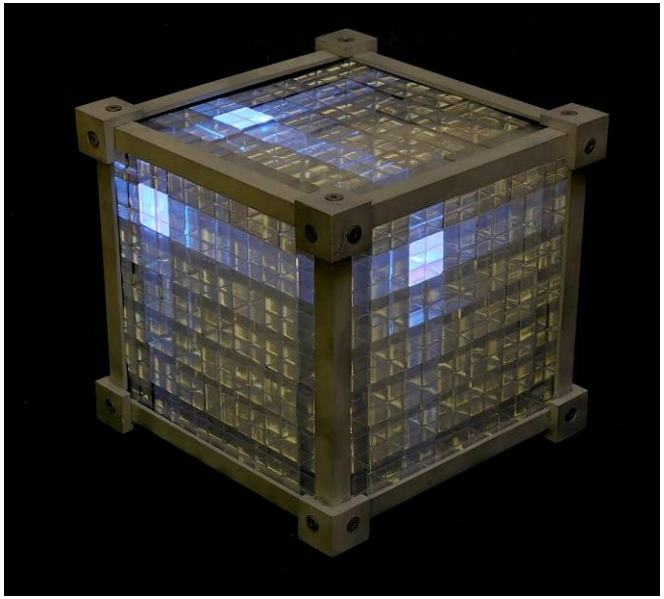


photo depicts NdLS in two different solvents and unloaded scintillator

Nd in Various Scintillation Solvents



Measuring the complete Solar neutrino spectrum

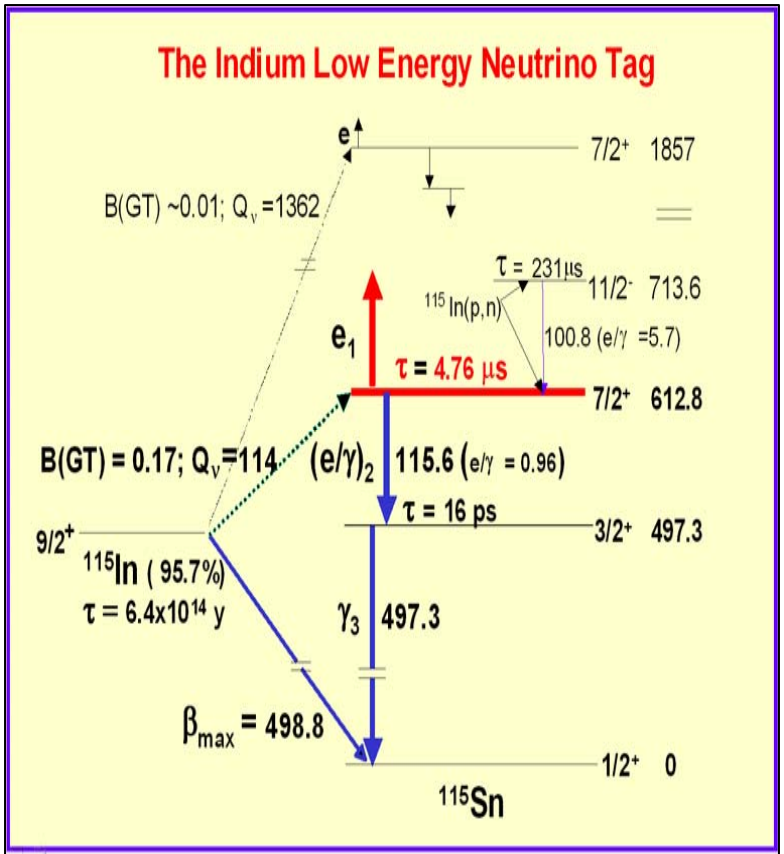


LENS

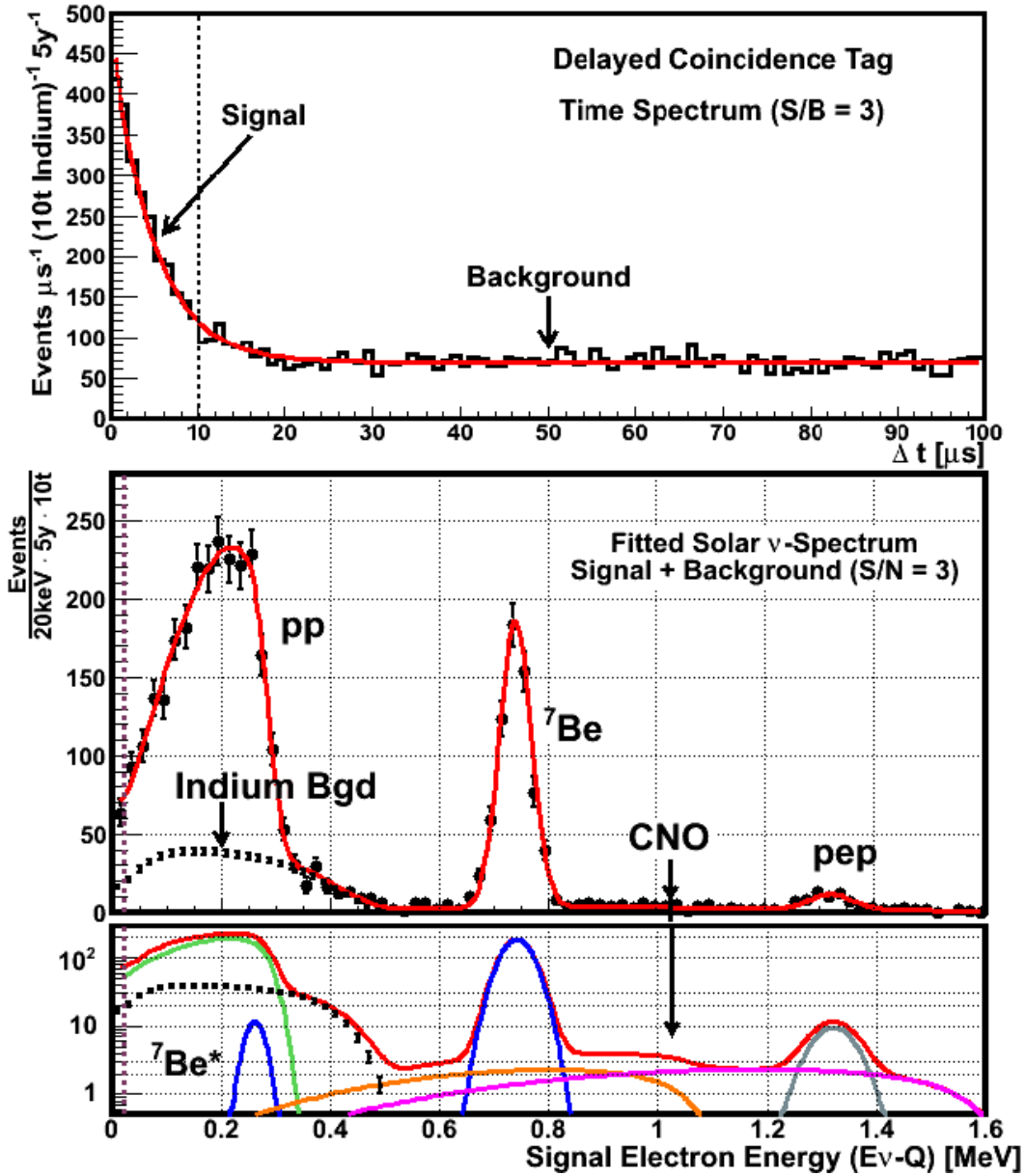
complementary use: sterile neutrinos

$$\nu_e + {}^{115}In \rightarrow \underbrace{e^-}_{\text{solar signal}} + \underbrace{\gamma + (\gamma / e^-)}_{\text{delayed tag } (\tau = 4.76\,\mu s)} + {}^{115}Sn$$

- E_{th}=114 keV (95% of pp spectrum)
- Measure pp-ν flux @ 3%
- Determine CNO-fraction
- Measure T_{sun} by change in mean energy of ^{7}Be line – maybe (hep-ph/9309292)
- needs separate calibration experiment –"LENS Sterile"

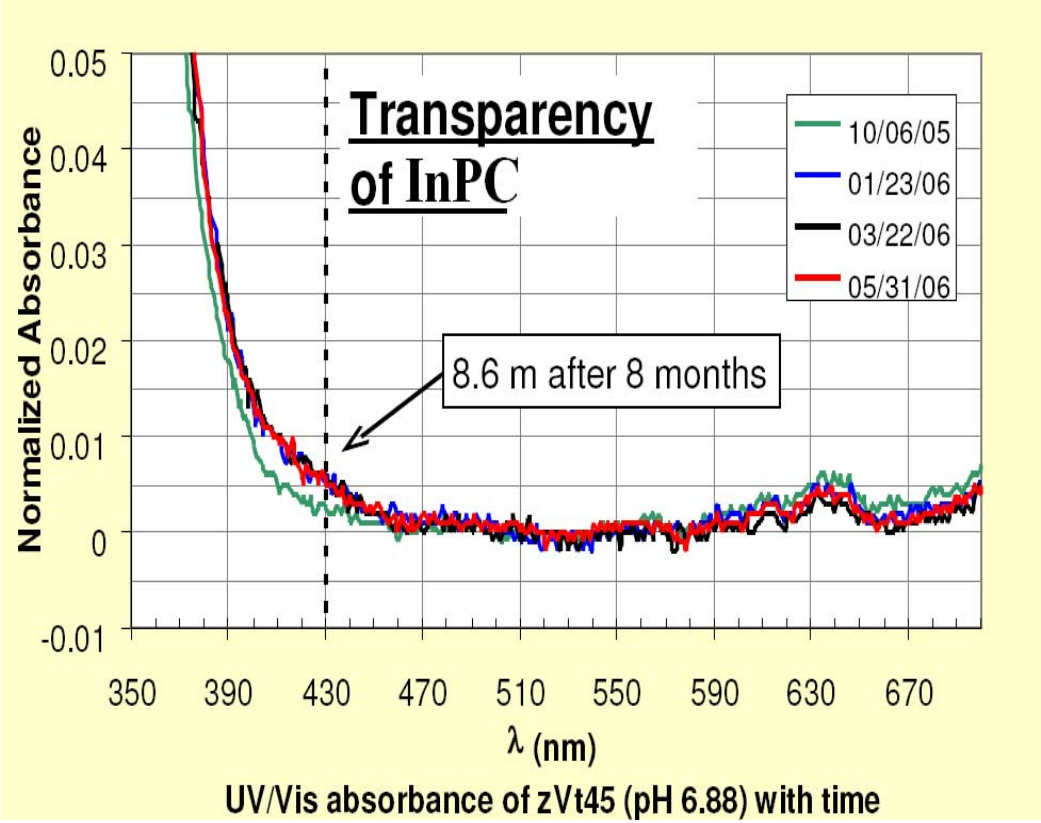


LENS proposal: real-time solar neutrino spectral measurement



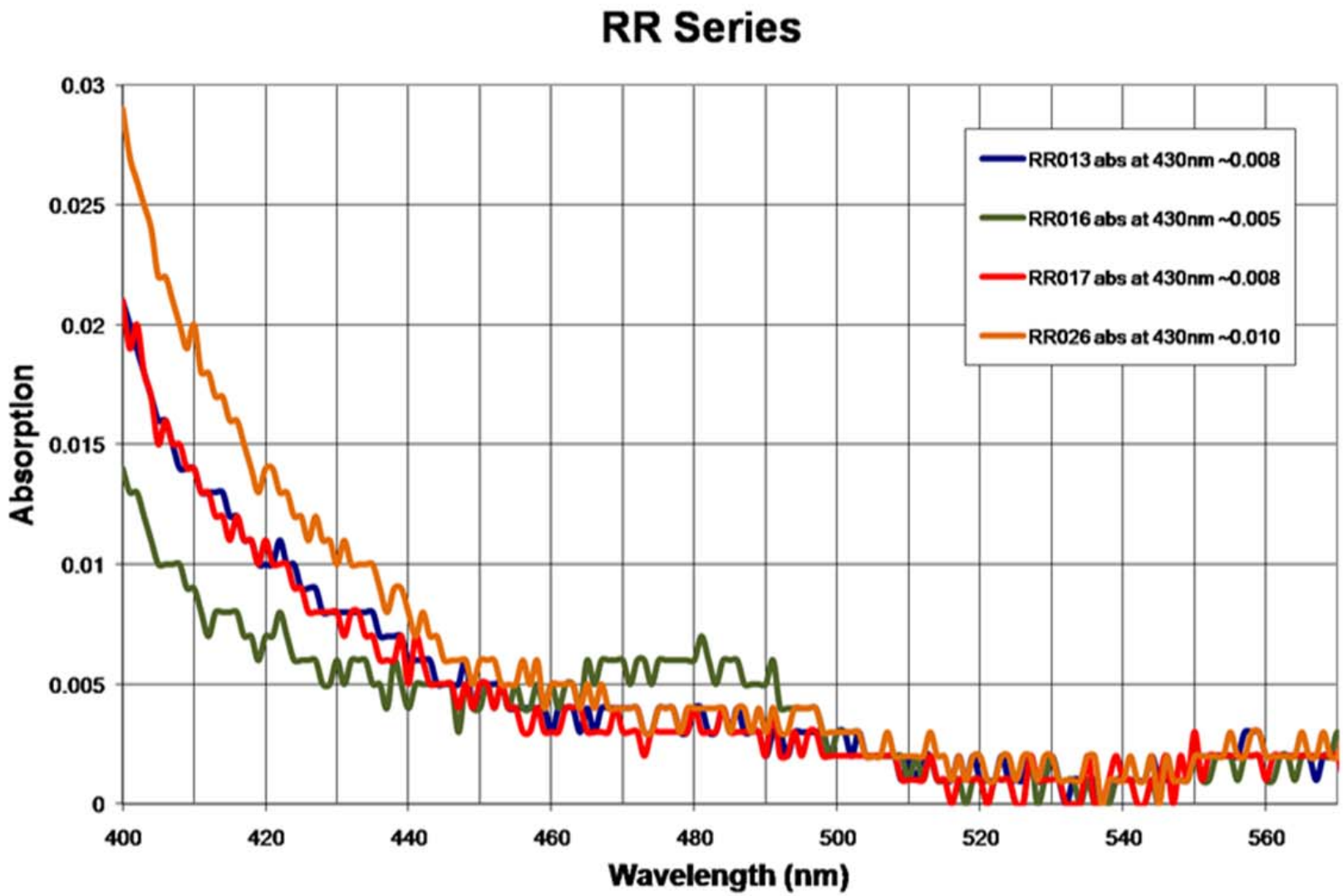
Indium Loaded Pseudocumene (PC) Scintillator Performance

Metal loaded LS status	InPC
1. Indium concentration	8%
2. Scintillation signal efficiency	~7000 hν/MeV
3. Transparency at 430 nm: L(1/e) (working value):	8m (long term)
4. Light yield (Y%pc) (working value):	55-60%
5. Chemical and Optical Stability:	Stable >1.5 yr with L(1/e)>8m
6. InLS Chemistry	Robust

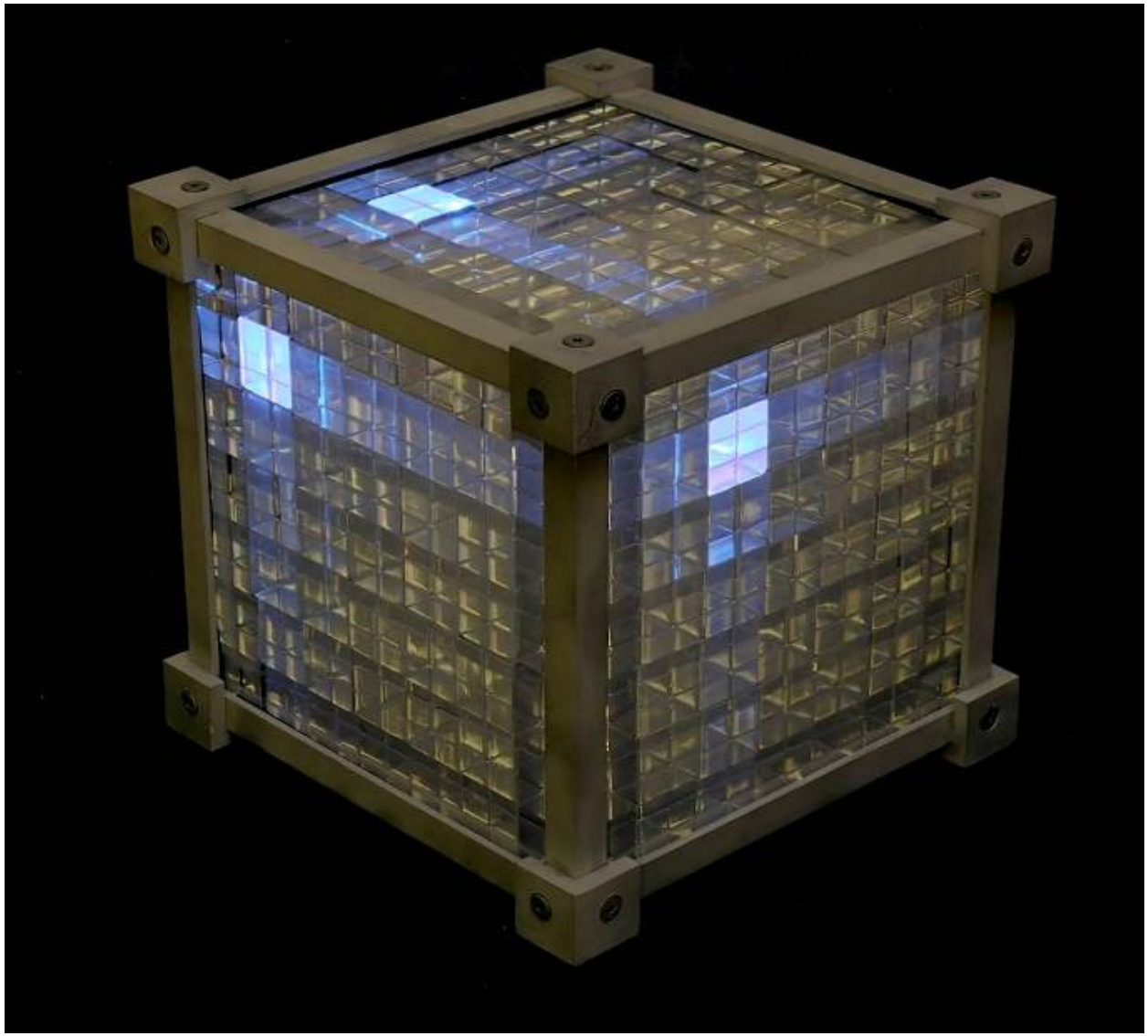


UV/Vis absorbance of zVt45 (pH 6.88) with time

Linear Alkyl Benzene as a alternative to Pseudocumene: Promising Absorbance Results for in InLAB

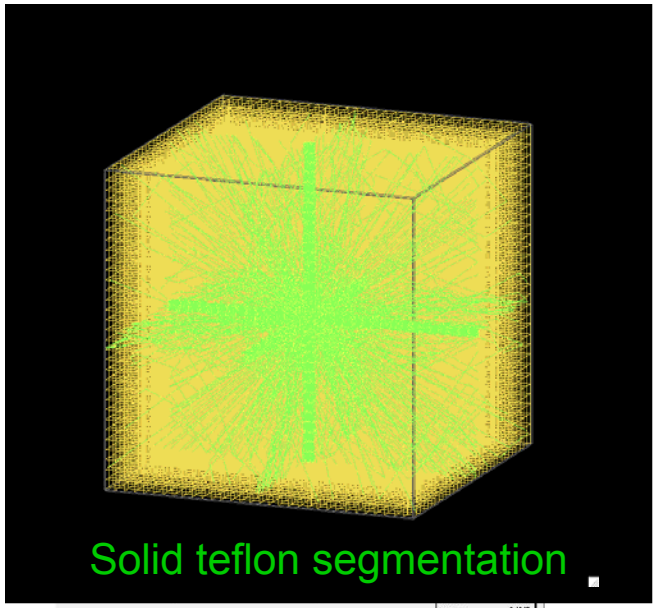


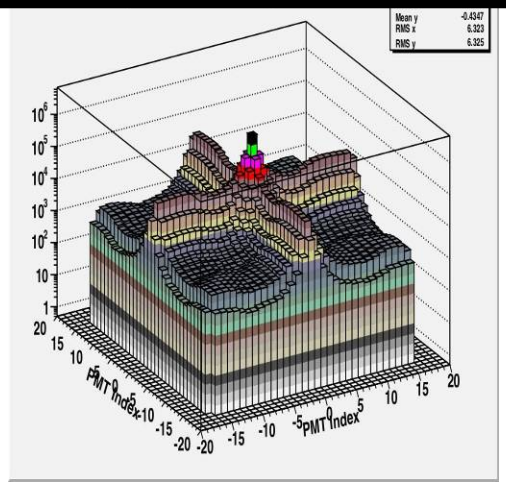
LENS: optical lattice for improved pattern recognition and background rejection



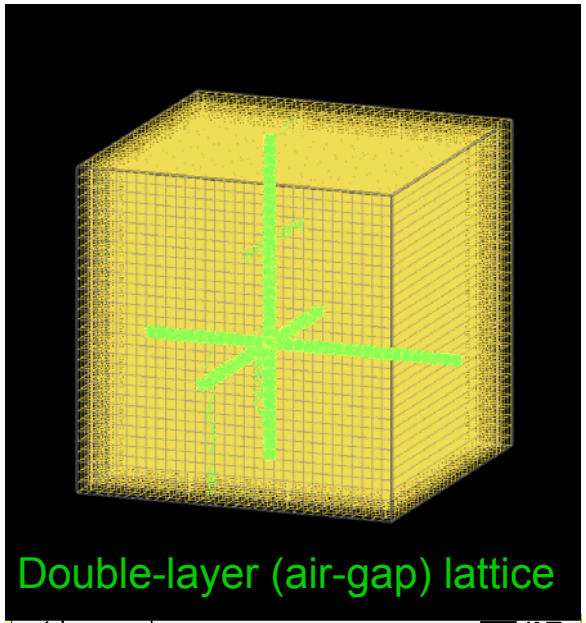
Lattice Structure

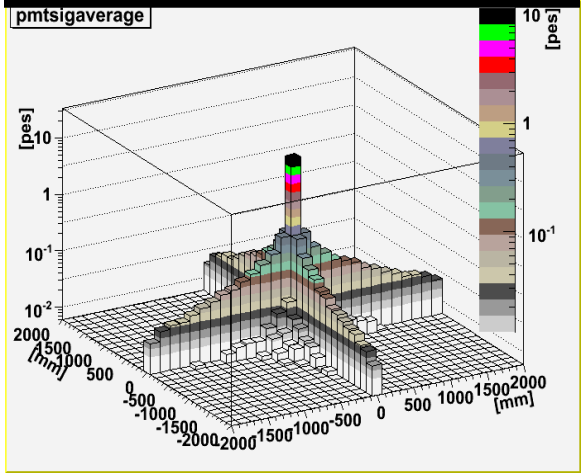
Single Foil





Double Foil

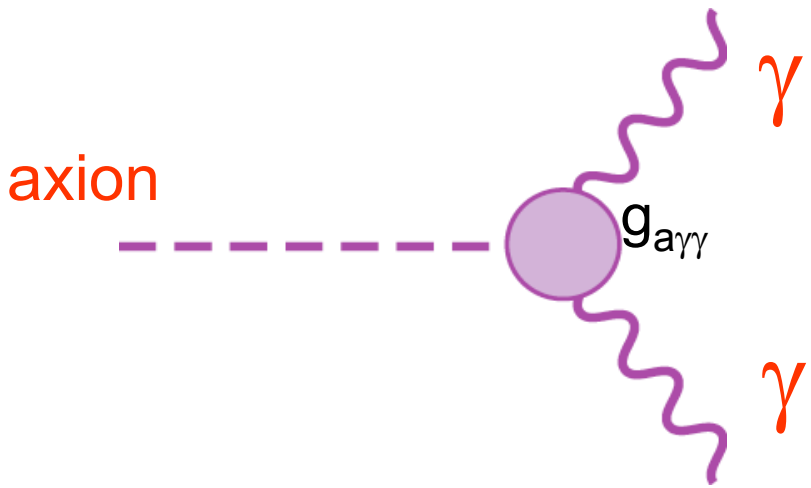




RF cavity experiments for axion detection

The axion couples (very weakly, indeed) to normal particles.

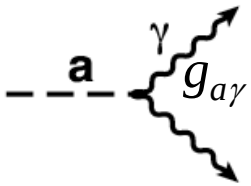
But it happens that the axion 2γ coupling has relatively little axion-model dependence



Axions constituting our local galactic halo would have huge number density ~10^{14} cm^{-3}

Pierre Sikivie's RF-cavity idea (1983): Axion and electromagnetic fields exchange energy

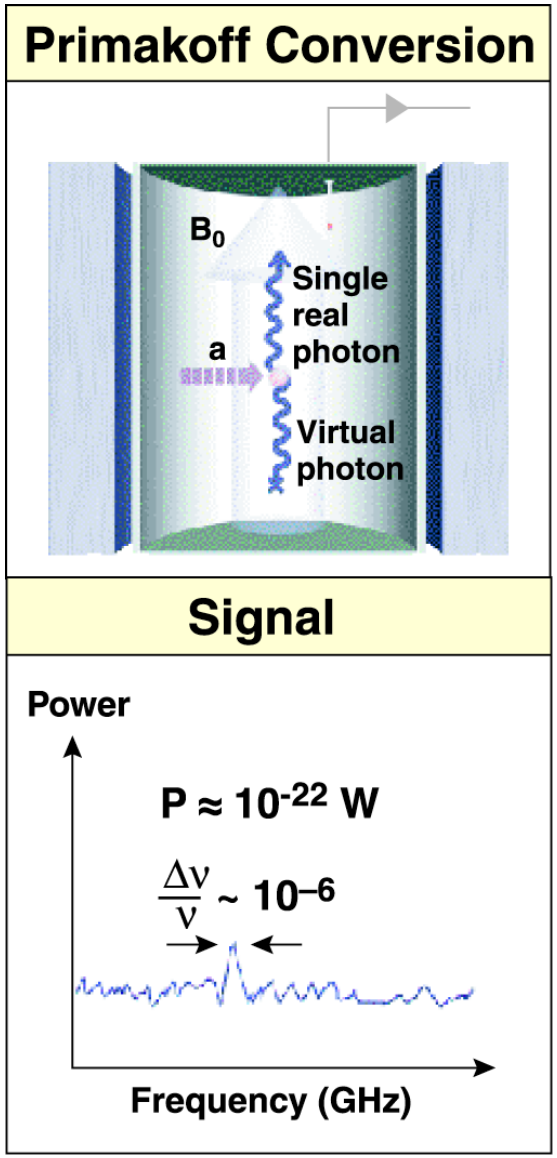
The axion-photon coupling…



…is a source term in Maxwell's Equations

$$\frac{\partial(\mathbf{E}^2/2)}{\partial t} - \mathbf{E}\cdot(\nabla\times\mathbf{B}) = g_{a\gamma}\frac{\partial a}{\partial t}(\mathbf{E}\cdot\mathbf{B})$$

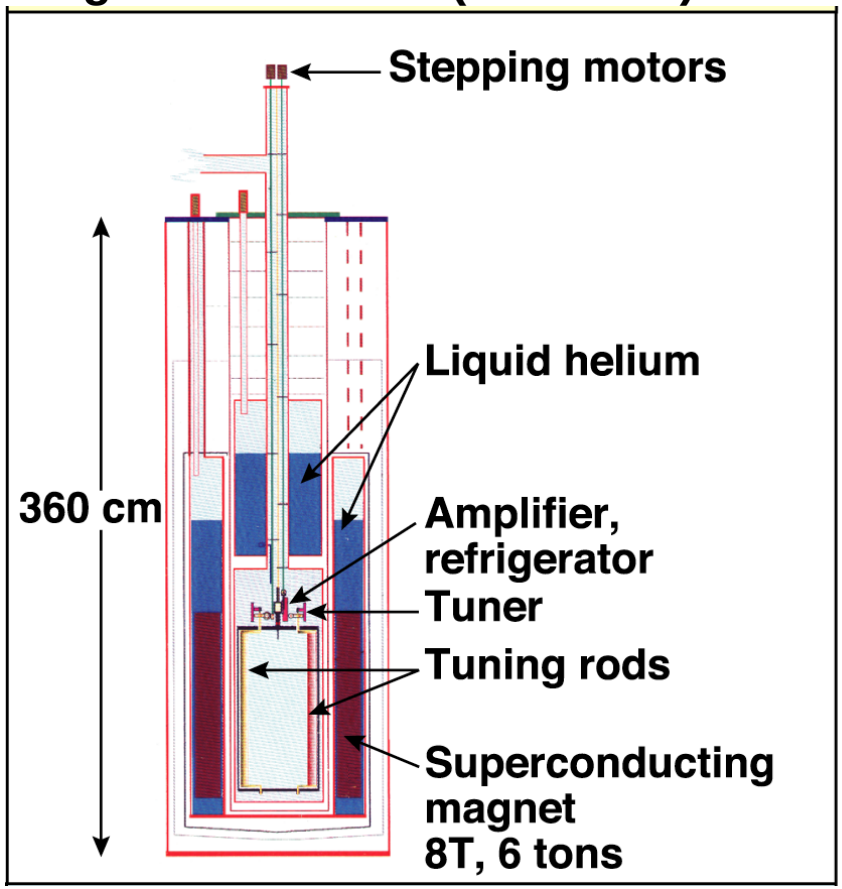
So imposing a strong external magnetic field B transfers axion field energy into cavity electromagnetic energy.



ADMX: Axion Dark-Matter eXperiment

U of Washington, LLNL, University of Florida, UC Berkeley, National Radio Astronomy Observatory, Sheffield University

Magnet with insert (side view)

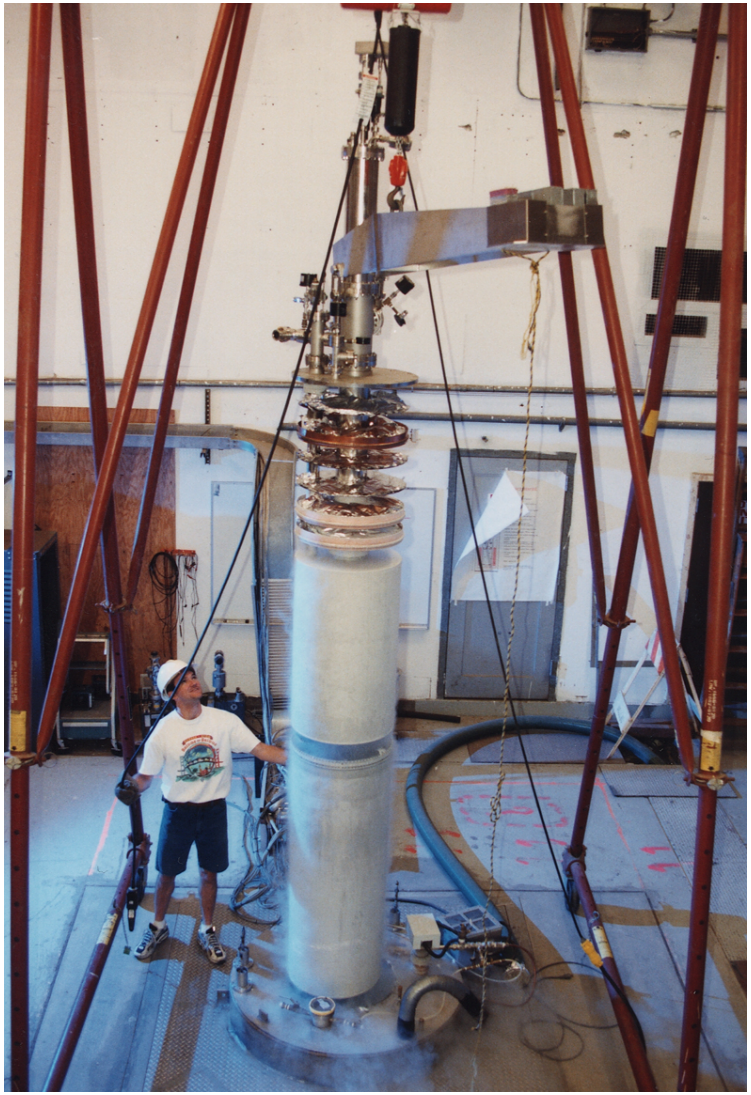


Magnet cryostat

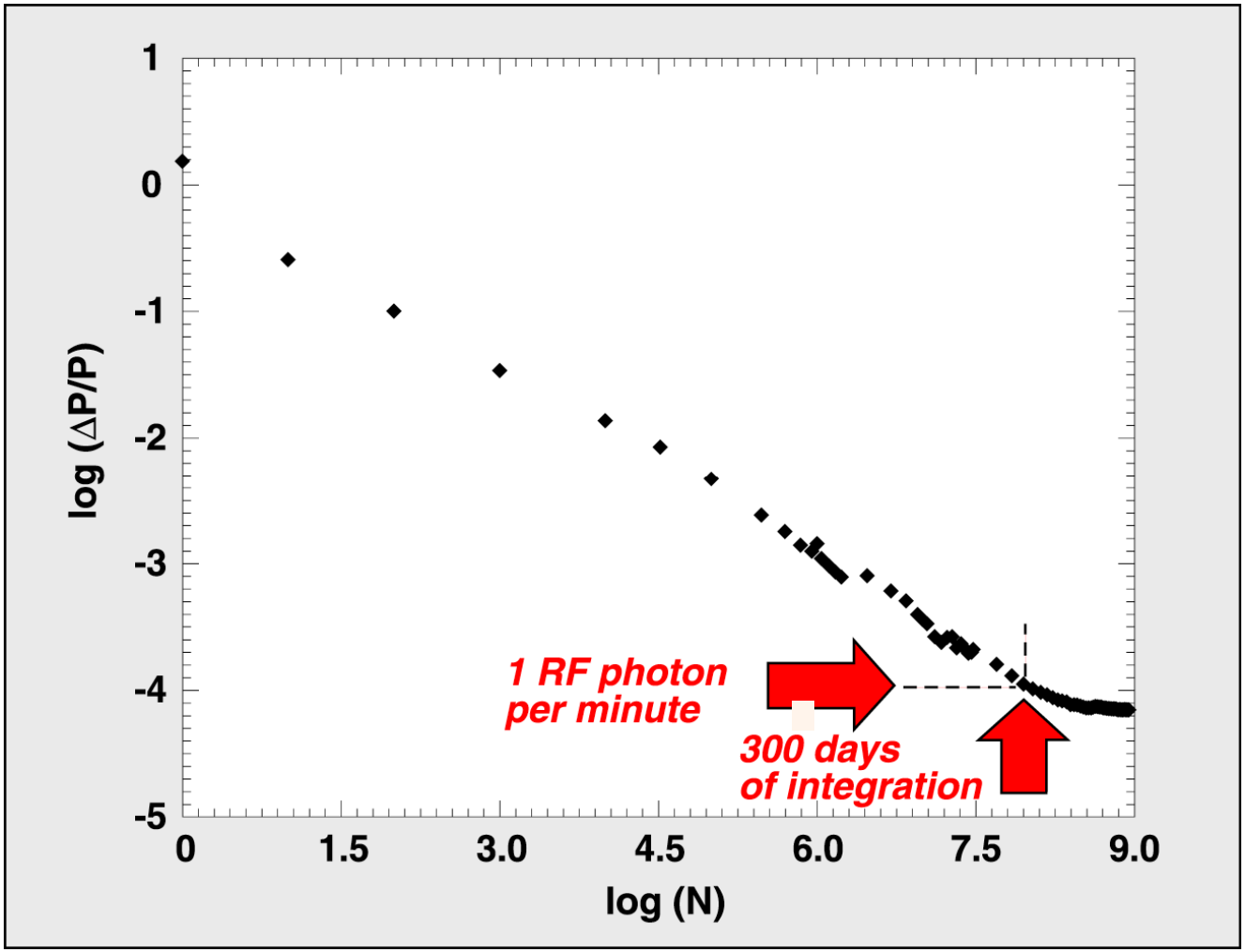
ADMX hardware

high-Q cavity

experiment insert

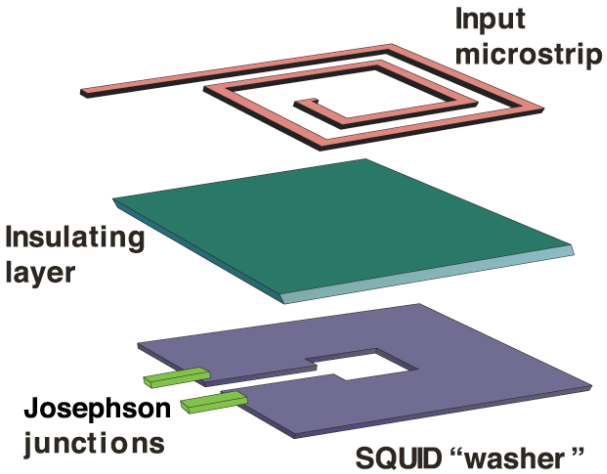


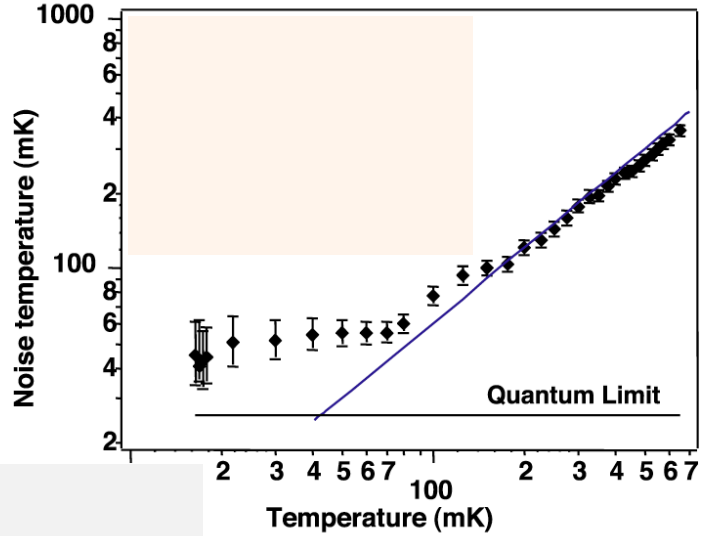
Converted microwave photons are detected by the world's quietest radio receiver

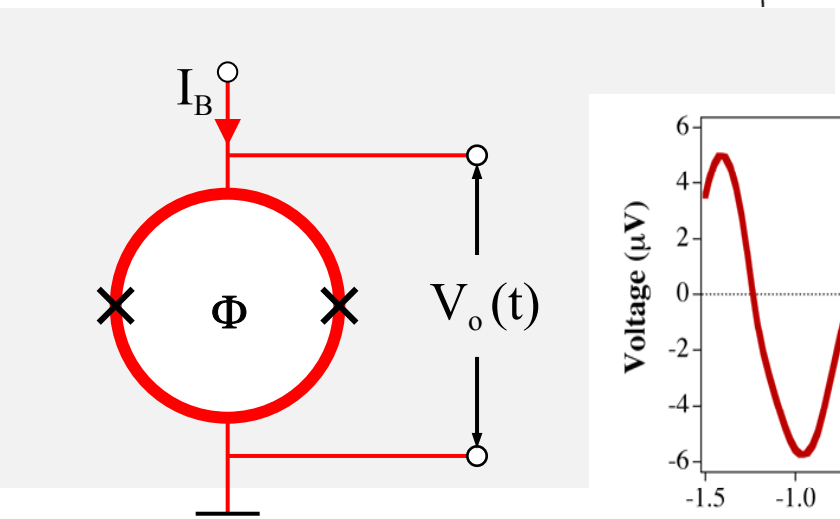


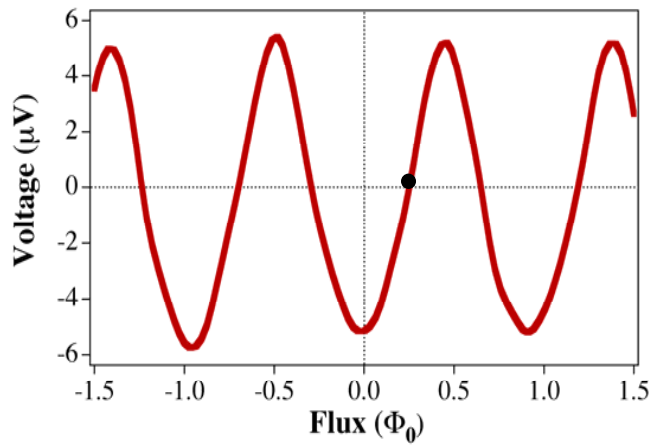
Systematics-limited for signals of 10^{-26} W
~10^{-3} of "DFSZ" axion power (1/100 yoctoWatt).

Phase I & II Upgrade path: Quantum-limited SQUID-based amplification









- **SQUIDs have been measured with T_N ~50 mK**
- **Near quantum–limited noise**
- **This provides an enormous increase in ADMX sensitivity**

RF Phototube: Rydberg-atom microwave-photon detection

Rydberg atoms are alkali metals in high states of excitation

Small energy difference between n and n+1 levels

$\Delta W_n \sim 1/n^3$

$\Delta W_{100} \approx 7$ GHz

Large E1 transition between n and n+1 levels

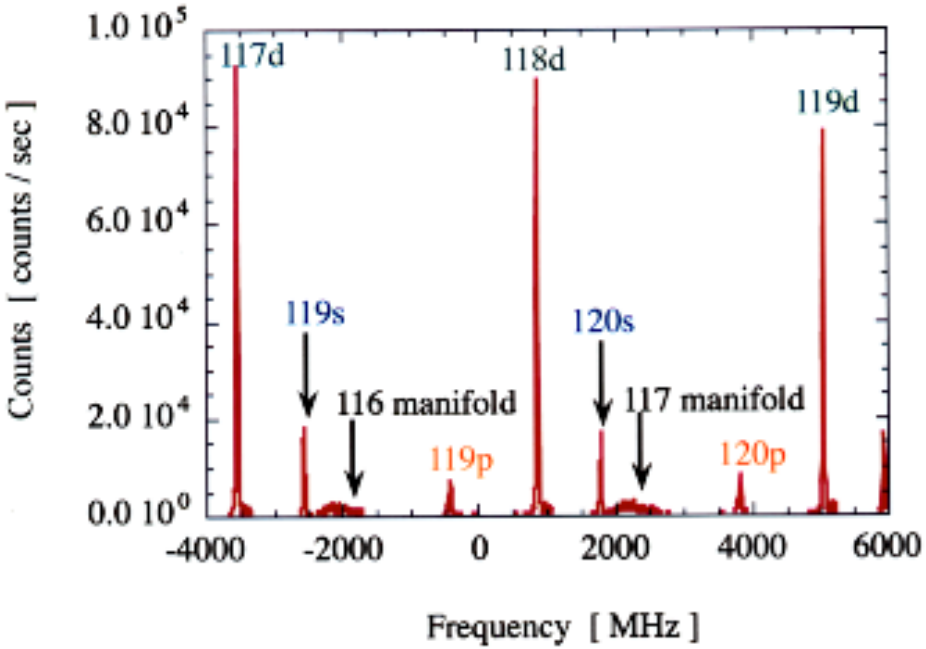
$\langle n+1 | er | n \rangle \sim n^2$, $\Gamma_n \sim n^4$

$\Gamma_{100} \approx 3\times10^4$/sec

Long life time

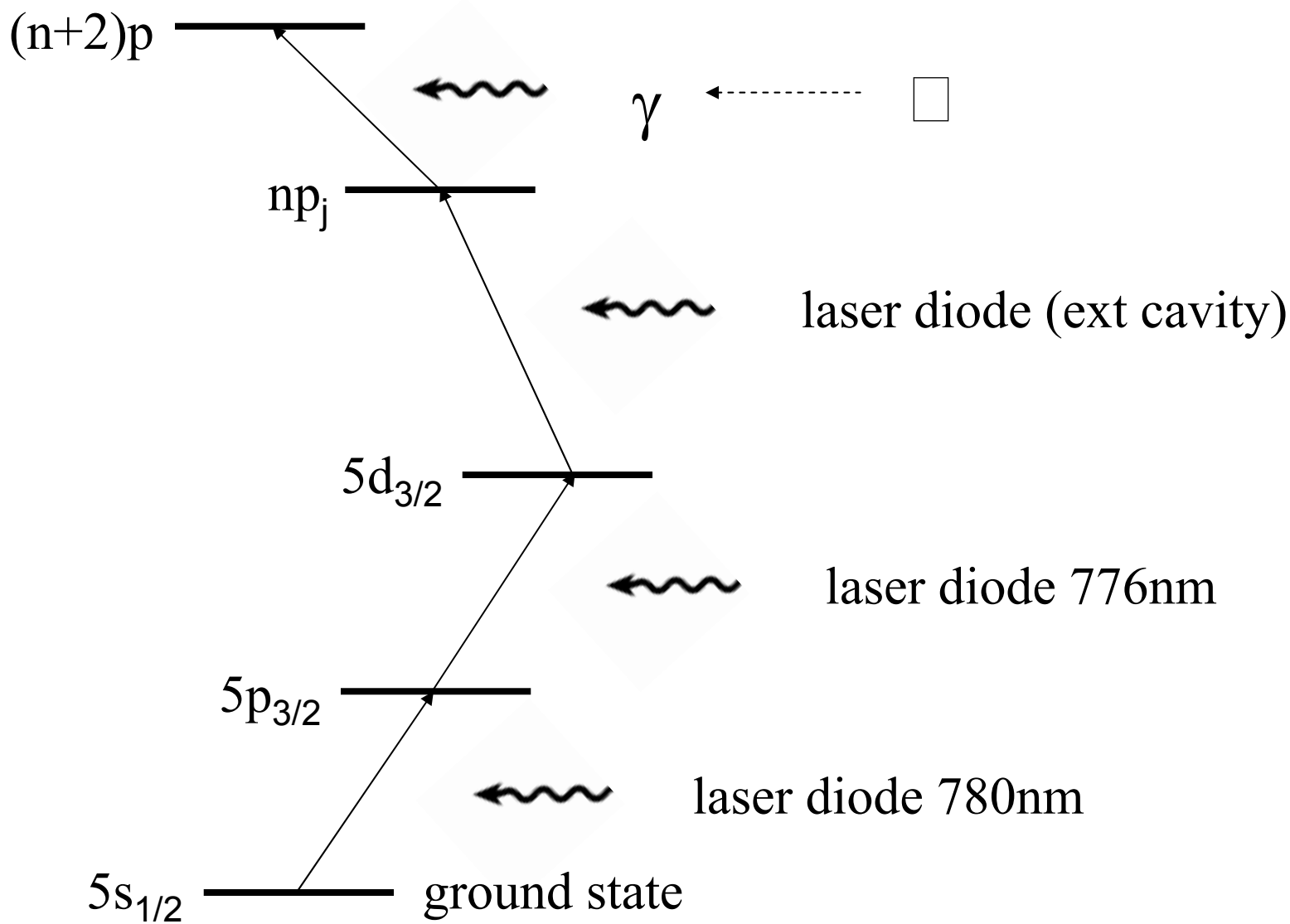
$\tau_n \sim n^3$

$\tau_{100} \approx 1$ msec

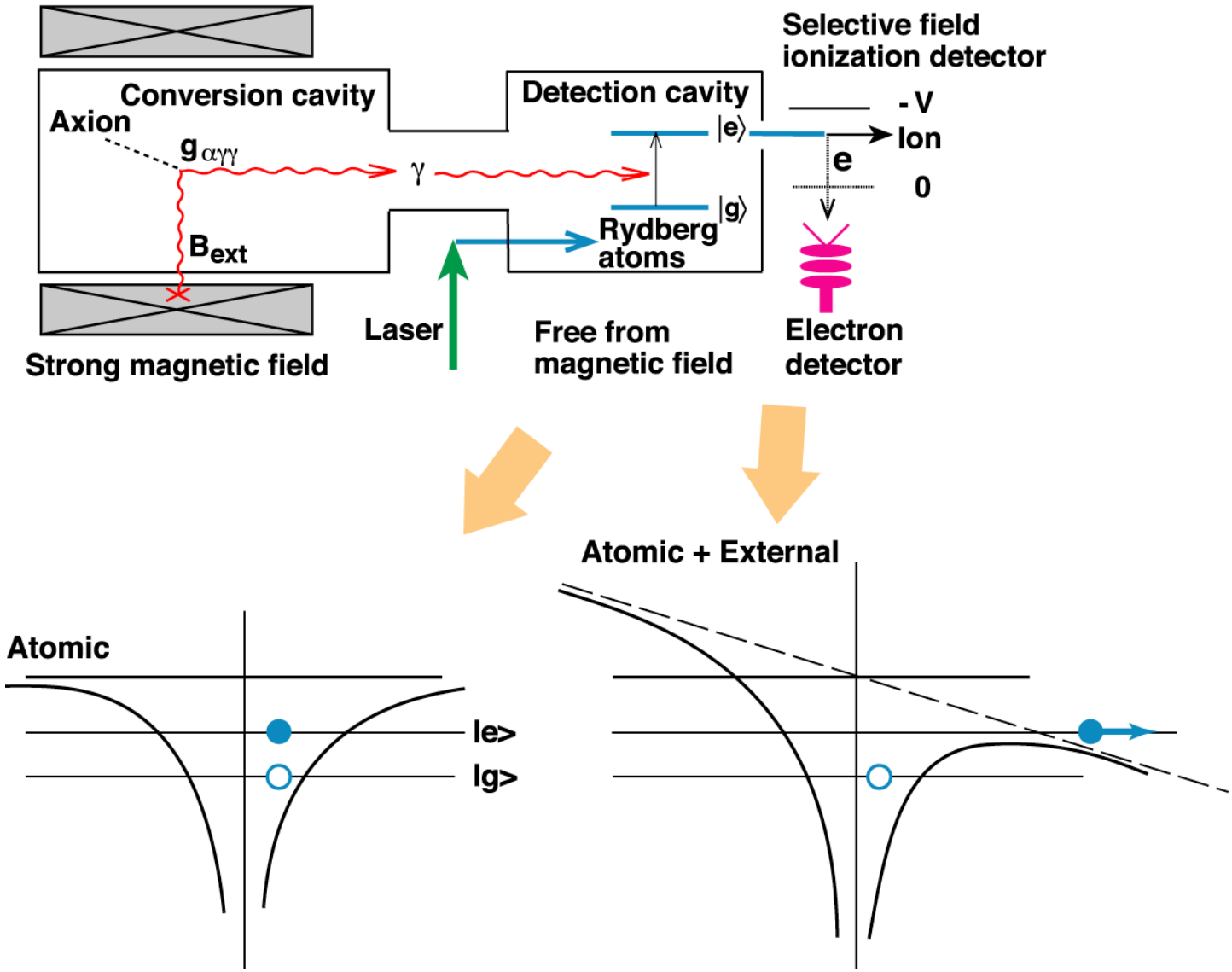


Preparing the Rydberg state

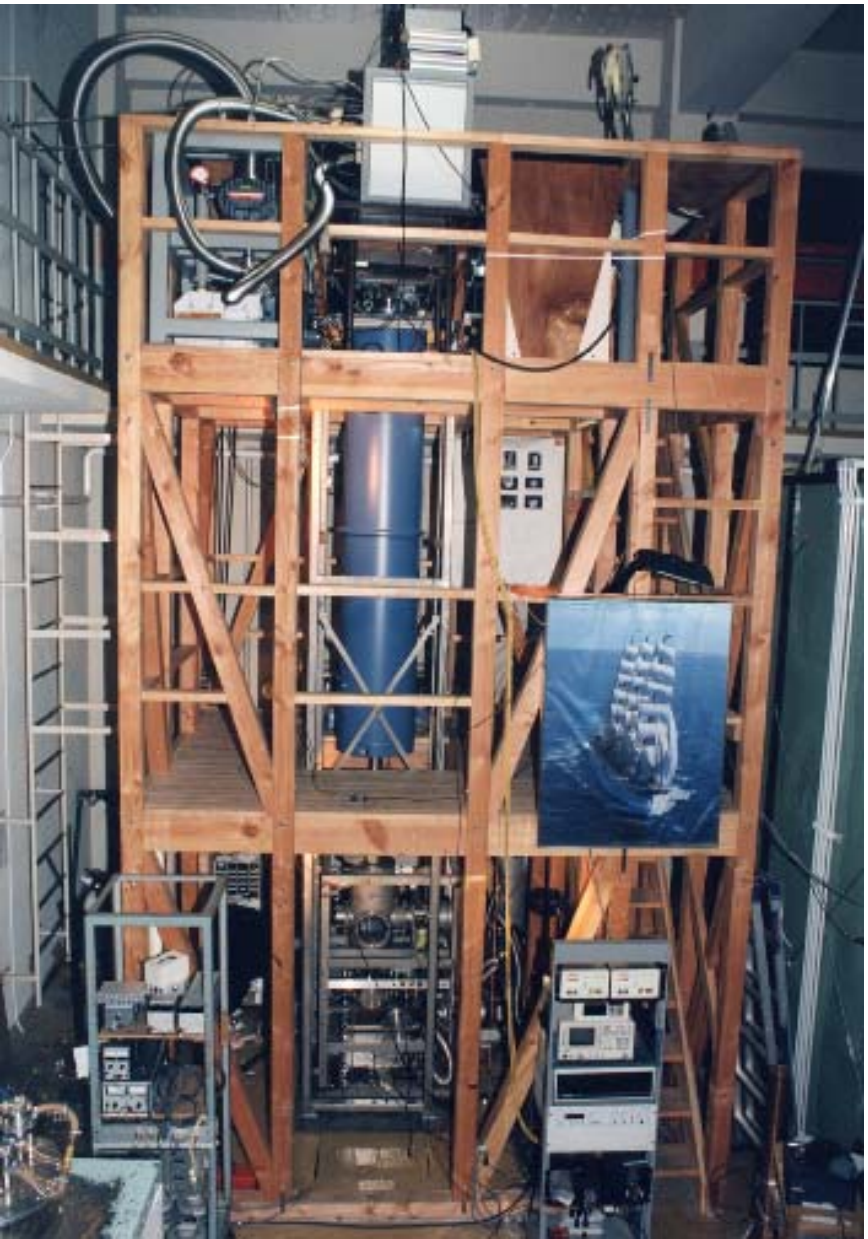
Laser diodes make this semi-practical

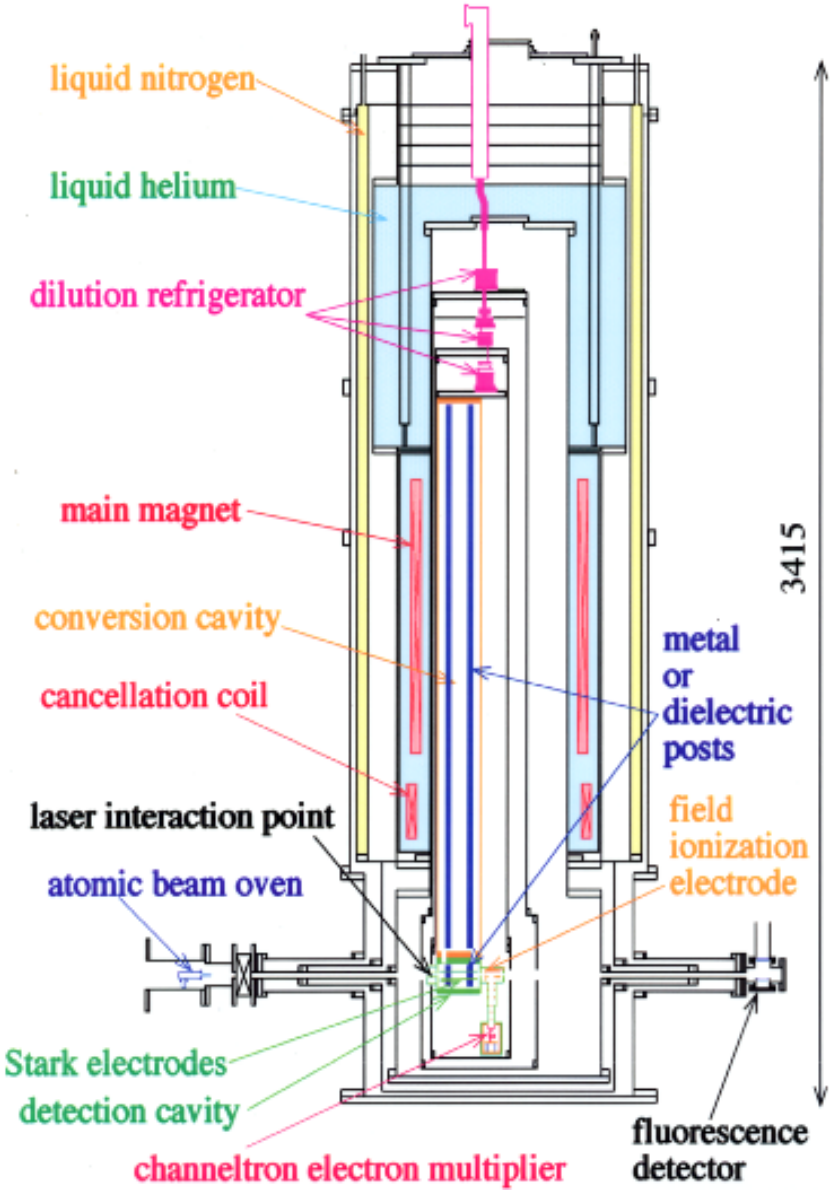


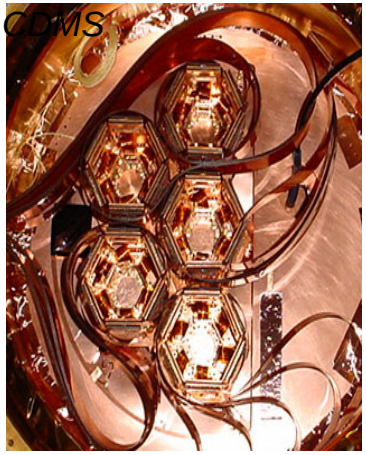
Principle of Rydberg-atom-based axion detector



CARRACK: Cosmic Axion Research with Rydberg Atoms in resonant Cavities in Kyoto







Thanks to: Paul Brink, Derek Roundtree, Mark Chen, Katsushi Arisaka, Rick Gaitskell, Leslie Rosenberg, Gabriella Sciolla