

# TRIUMF at the precision frontier

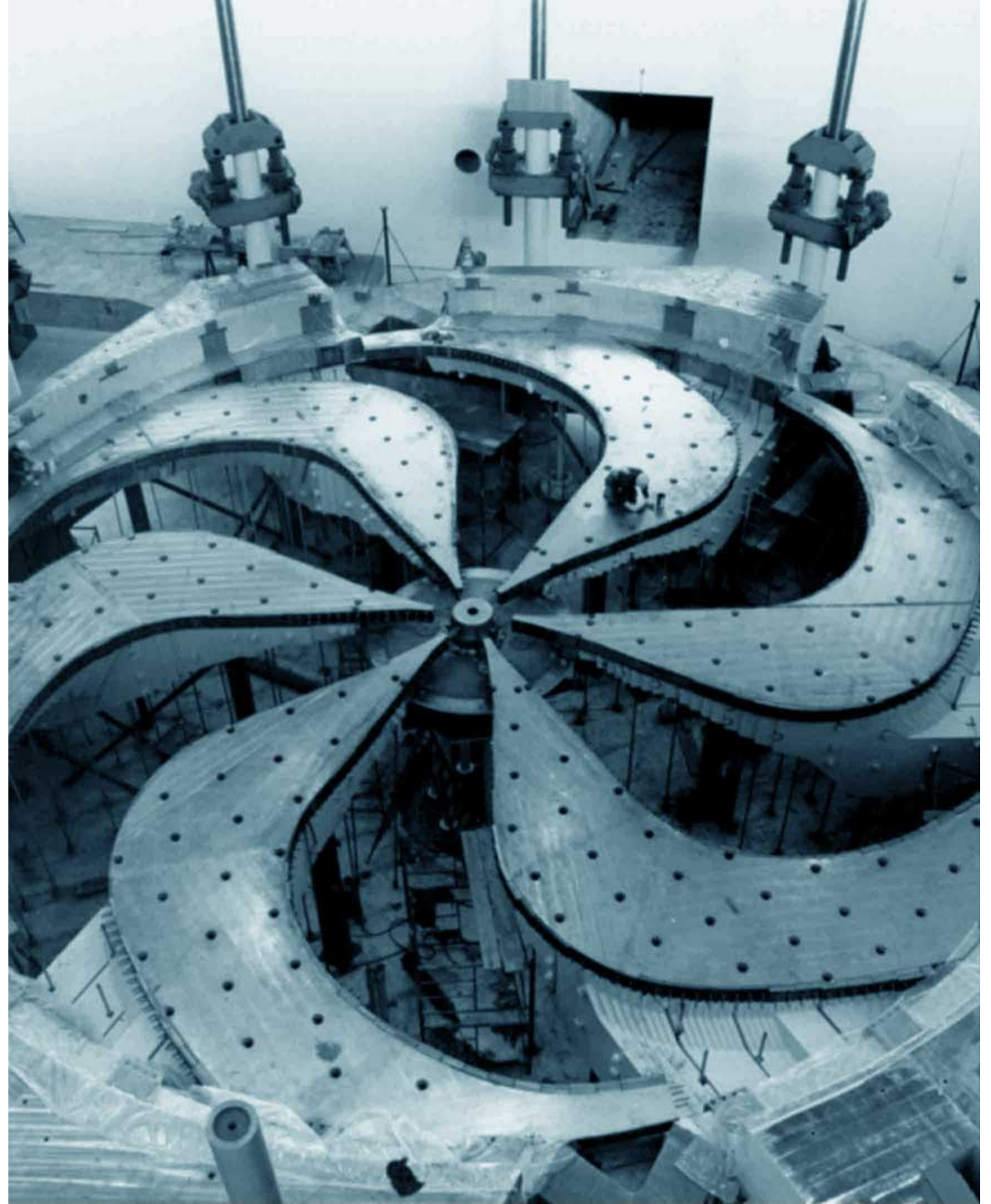
Beatrice Franke

Research Scientist, Ultracold Neutron Group

TRIUMF Science Week

August 17th, 2020

2020-08-17



# Outer Space

# Inner Space

Cosmology & Dark Matter

Nuclear Astrophysics

Particle Physics

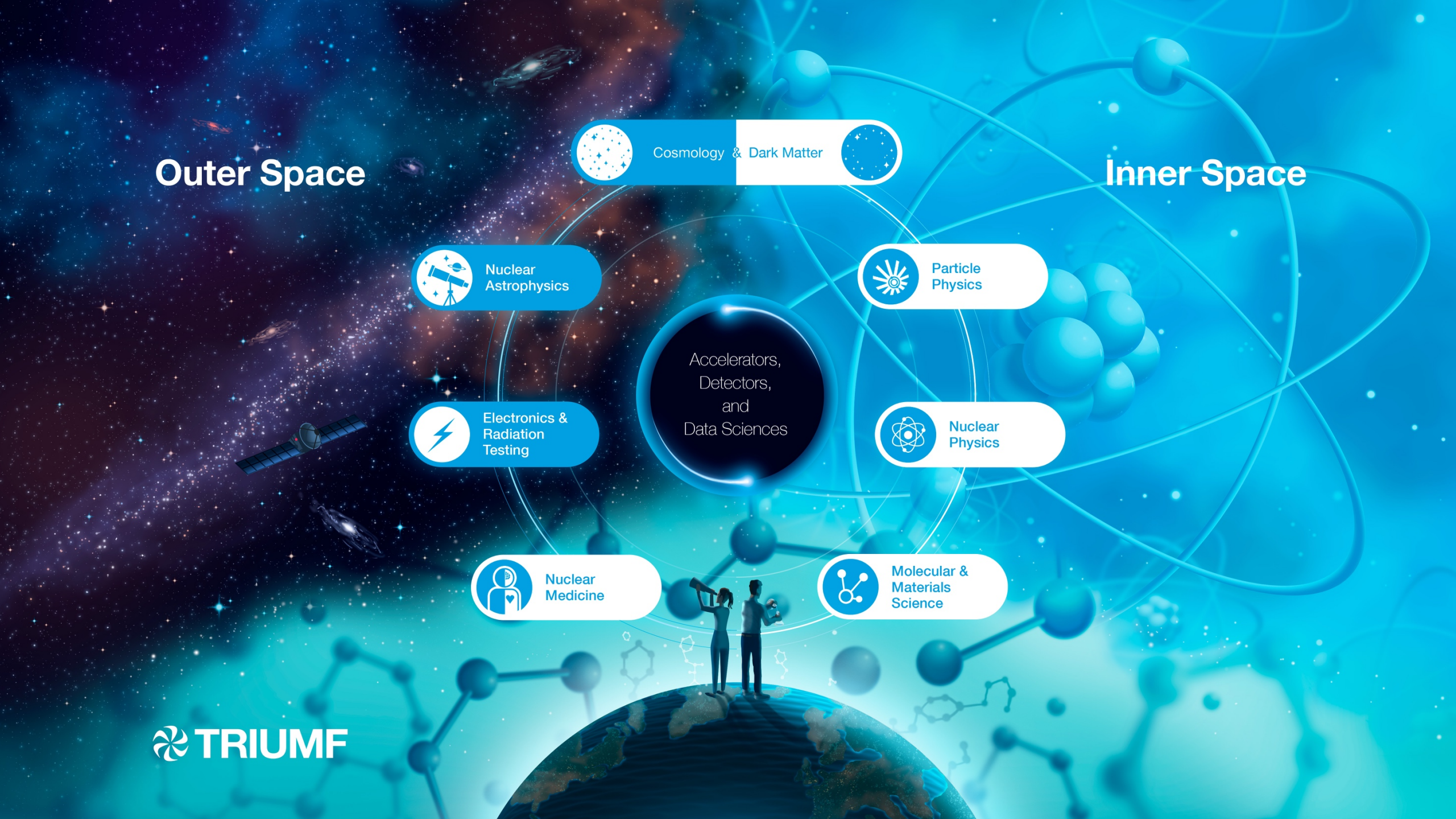
Electronics & Radiation Testing

Accelerators, Detectors, and Data Sciences

Nuclear Physics

Nuclear Medicine

Molecular & Materials Science



# There is still a lot that we don't understand:

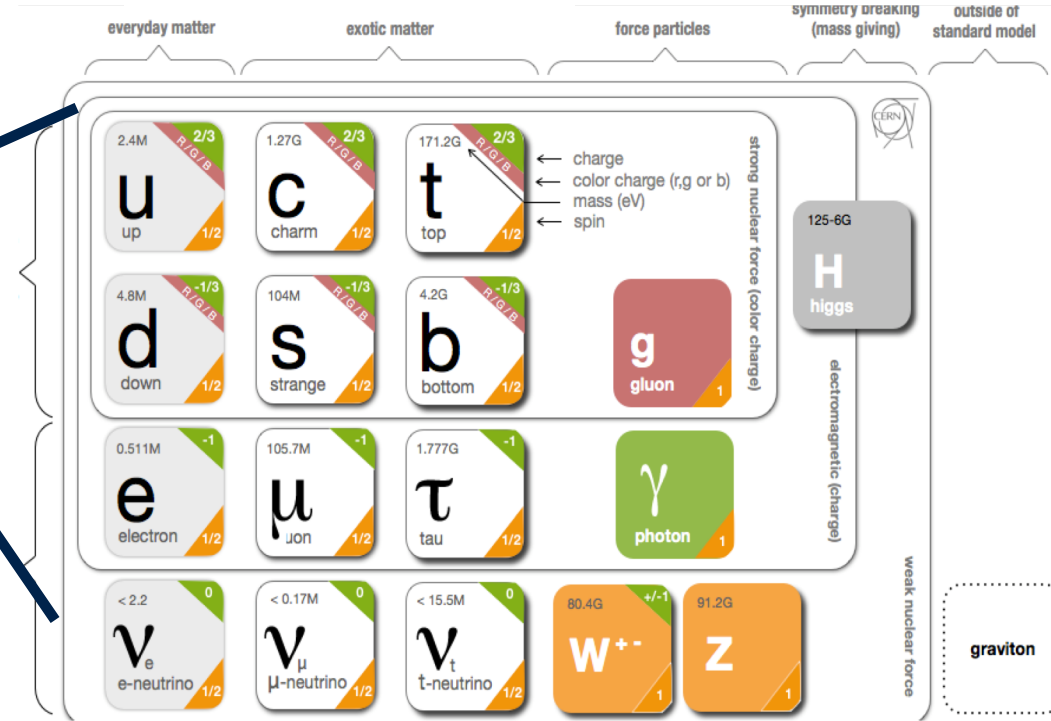
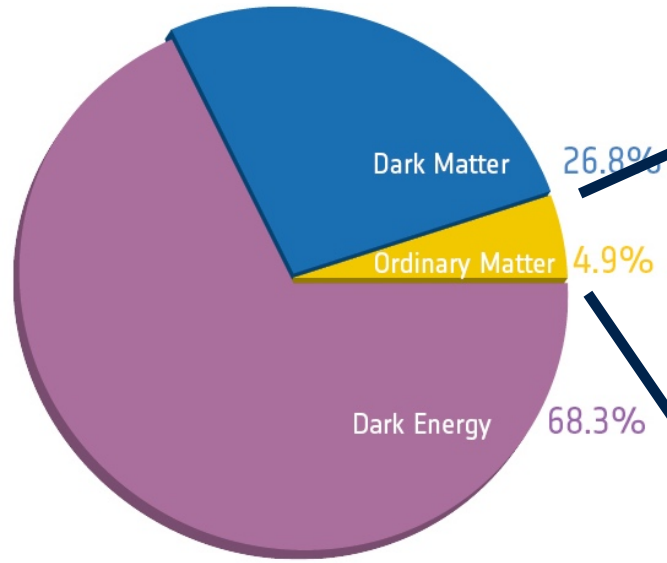
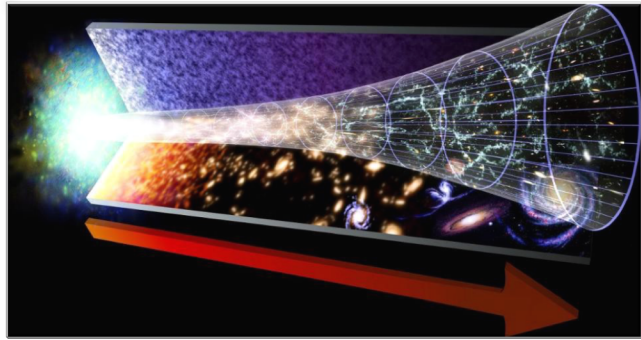


Image credit: NASA / GSFC



- What is the origin of neutrino masses?
- Why is there so much more matter than antimatter?
- What is dark matter?
- How to solve the hierarchy problem?
- Why does time have a direction?



Image credit: O. Shmahalo, Quanta Magazine

Discovery, accelerated

## Outline

Particle Physics at TRIUMF participates in the following research topics:

- High Energy Frontier
- Neutrinos and Dark Matter
- Precision Tests of Fundamental Interactions
  
- Overlap with Nuclear Physics at the Fundamental Symmetries front

## Status update of our activities during current 5YP

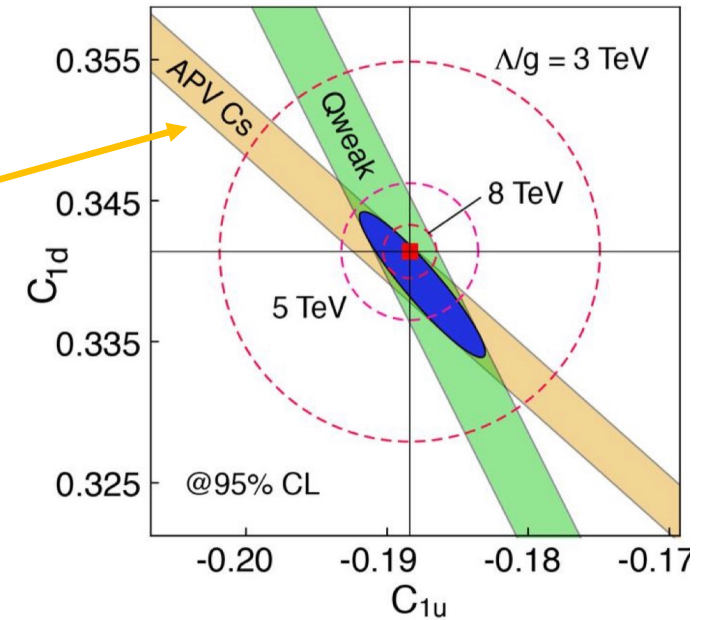
- This talk will cover the Precision Frontier, while the talks in the next session will cover projects in astro-particle physics, as well as accelerator based particle physics

# FrPNC

## Atomic parity violation (APV) test with laser trapped francium

- Z-boson exchange between atomic  $e^-$  and quarks
- Previously measured in Cs, effect in Fr 18 x larger
- $^{211}\text{Fr}$  isotopes from TRIUMF's ISAC, 3min half-life
- Sensitive to beyond standard model physics such as: leptoquarks; extra heavy bosons (eg.  $Z'$ ); light, dark bosons

from: Carlini (Qweak presentation), PANIC 2017



Parity violating (PV)  $e^-$  – quark coupling constants  $C_{1u}$  and  $C_{1d}$   
 Important parameter of weak interaction (Weinberg angle  $\theta_W$ )  
 Strongly improved constraint on C1 parameter space!

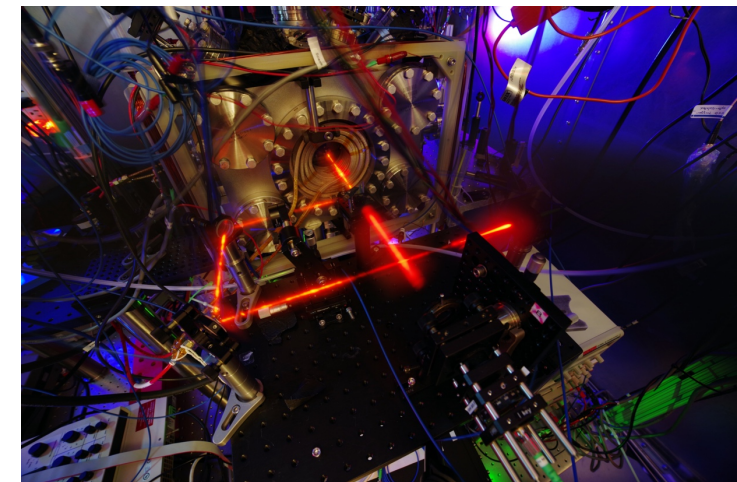
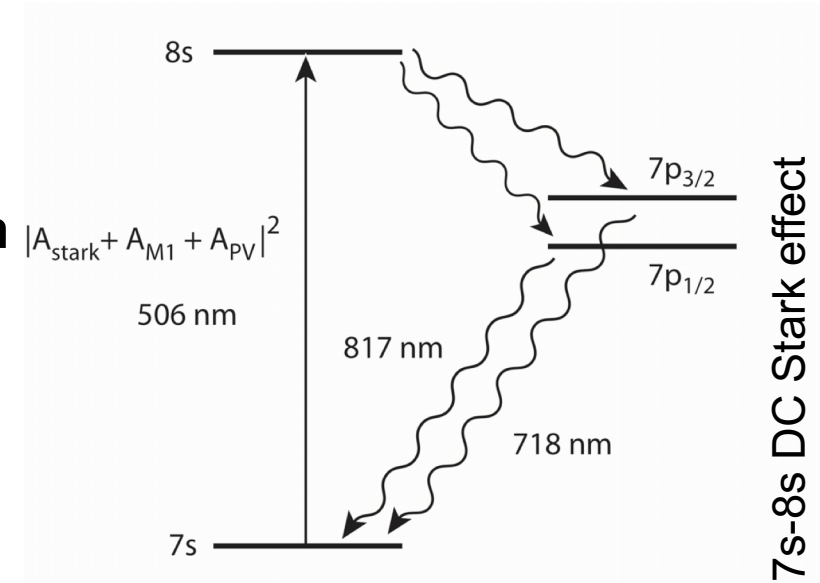
$$q_{\text{up}}: \quad 2 C_{1u} = +1 - 8/3 \sin^2\theta_W$$

$$q_{\text{dn}}: \quad -2 C_{1d} = -1 + 4/3 \sin^2\theta_W$$

# FrPNC

## Atomic parity violation (APV) test with laser trapped francium

- $\langle n's' | H_{PV} | np \rangle \propto Z^3$  (Bouchiat, 74)
- PV (parity-violating) interaction mixes electronic s & p states
- Previous work (Wieman @ NIST Boulder) relies on Cs atomic beam; high flux needed ( $10^{13} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ ), each atom used once
- Re-using atoms in trap:  
APV is possible with  $10^6 - 10^7$  atoms  $\rightarrow$   $10^6$  fewer atoms
- Signature: drive strictly forbidden  $s \rightarrow s$  E1 transition
- Laser trapping in a MOT, trap lifetime  $\sim 20$  s



Francium trap facility

Discovery,  
accelerated

# TRINAT

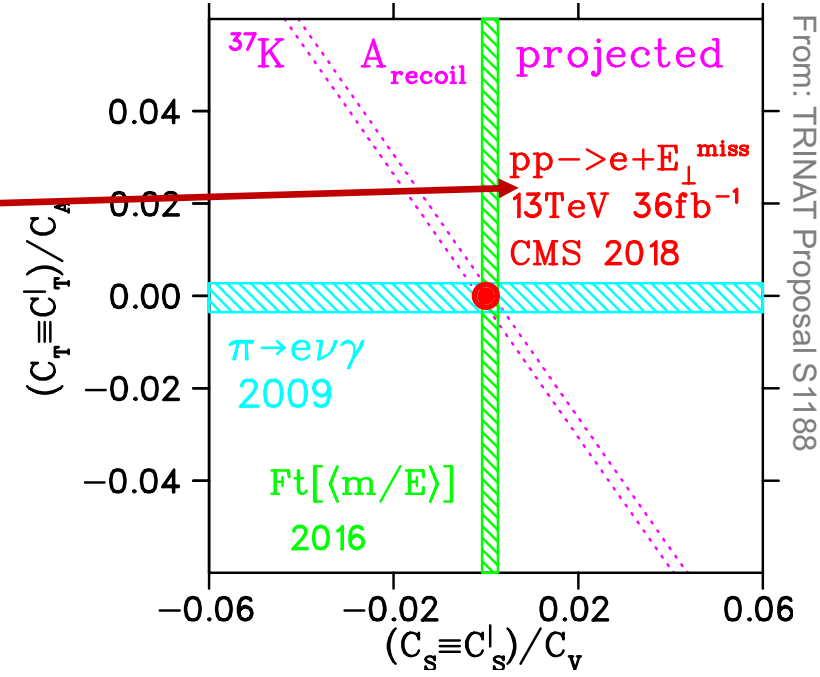
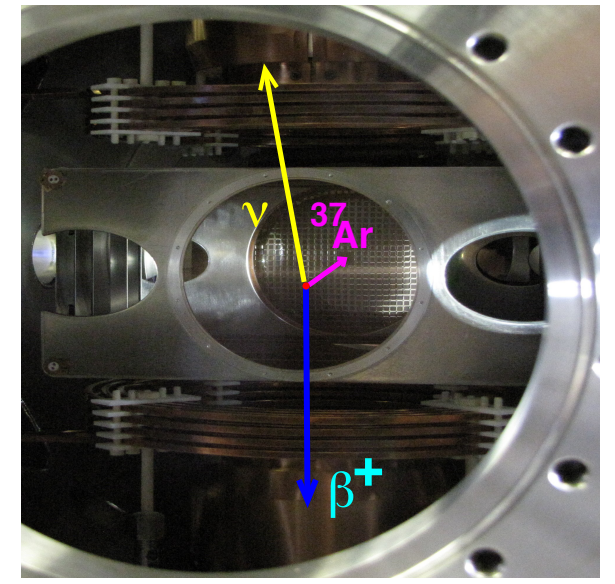
## Neutral atom trap for measuring $\beta$ -decay and recoil asymmetries

### Highlights:

- Most accurate nuclear  $\beta$  asymmetry using polarized  $^{37}\text{K}$  (Fenker PRL 120 062503)
- Constraints on interactions making right-handed  $\nu$ 's (complementary to eg. muon decay and  $W'$  searches)

### Next:

- Asymmetry of nuclear recoils from  $^{37}\text{K}$
- Similar sensitivity to 4-fermion contact interpretation as LHC  $p+p \rightarrow e^- + E_{\perp}^{\text{miss}}$
- Relative scalar and tensor couplings  $C_T$  and  $C_S$  will shift away from zero for beyond standard model interactions



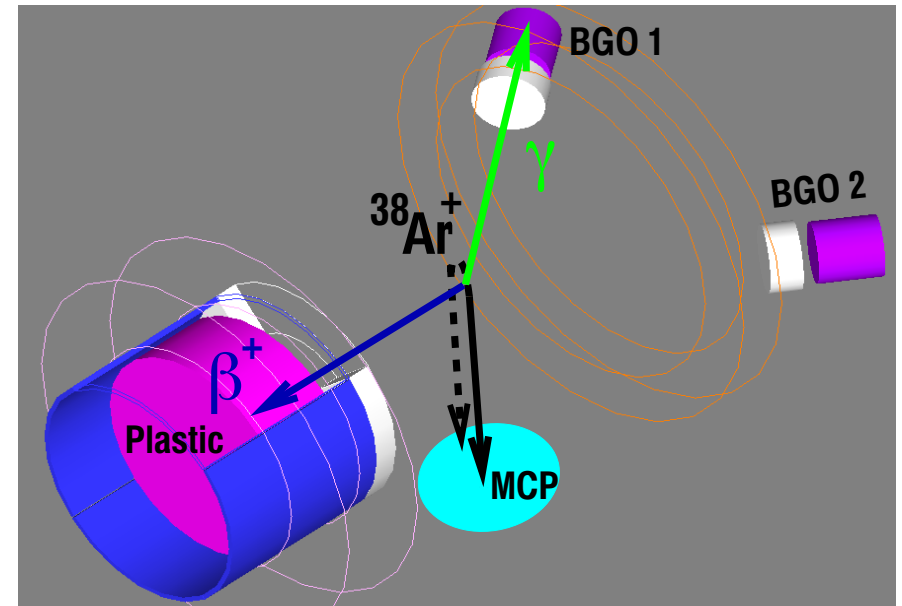
From: TRINAT Proposal S1188

Discovery, accelerated

# TRINAT

## Neutral atom trap for measuring $\beta$ -decay and recoil asymmetries

- Test T-reversal  $^{38m}\text{K} \rightarrow ^{38}\text{Ar} + \beta + \nu + \gamma$
- $\vec{p}_\nu \cdot \vec{p}_\beta \times \vec{p}_\gamma \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow -t} -\vec{p}_\nu \cdot \vec{p}_\beta \times \vec{p}_\gamma$
- Unique possibility for this process (involving first generation)
- Potential future opportunity
- We consider  $D\hat{J} \cdot \frac{\vec{p}_\beta}{E_\beta} \times \frac{\vec{p}_\nu}{E_\beta}$  in  $^{45}\text{K}$
- ‘isospin-forbidden mirror’ decay:
- T-reversal violation enhanced by a factor 4...100  
(must measure first the ratio strength TRV over Coulomb interaction)  
→ complementary to neutron EDM

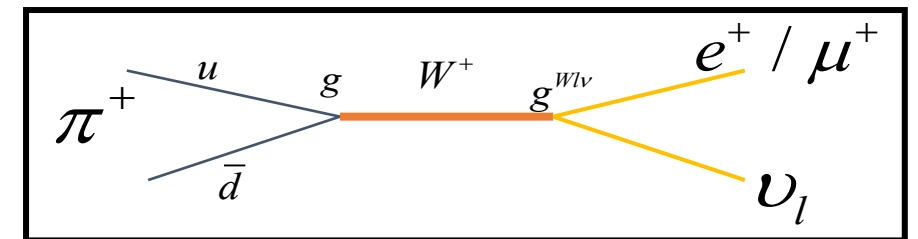




# PIENU

## Measurement of the pion decay branching ratio

- Most Accurate Test of Charged Current Lepton Flavor Universality (Current best result on electron/muon universality)
- Theoretical expectation  $R_{e/\mu} = 1.2353(02) \cdot 10^{-4}$
- Initial PIENU result  $R_{e/\mu} = 1.2344(30) \cdot 10^{-4}$
- Results in  $g_e / g_\mu = 0.9996 \pm 0.0012$



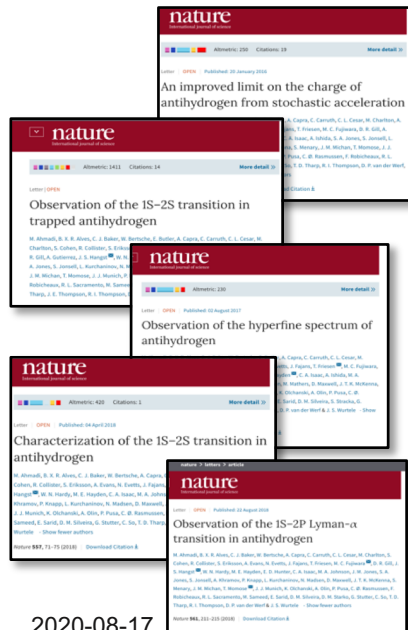
- Full data set  $10^7 \pi^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu$  events
- Precision goal  $\pm 0.1 \%$

$$\frac{\pi^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu(\gamma)}{\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu(\gamma)}$$

- New results on rare and exotic decays – improvements by one order of magnitude:
  - Massive sterile neutrinos  $\pi^+ \rightarrow e^+/\mu^+ \nu_4$
  - Exotic muon decay  $\mu \rightarrow e X$
  - Dark sector decays  $\pi^+ \rightarrow e^+/\mu^+ \nu X$

# ALPHA

- Apparatus to synthesize antimatter and study it
- Located at CERN's antiproton decelerator (AD)
- Combine atomic physics and particle physics techniques to perform tests of fundamental symmetries with antihydrogen



2013 NSERC Polanyi Award

2020-08-17

Material courtesy of M. Fujiwara

# ALPHA

## Testing symmetry between matter & antimatter

- Ground-breaking technology developments to synthesize, confine, manipulate and characterize antihydrogen atoms
- Spectroscopic test of CPT symmetry in antihydrogen
  - $2 \times 10^{-12}$  precision in 1s-2s laser spectroscopy (most precise measurement on antimatter to date)
  - Lyman-alpha, Lamb shift, and hyperfine spectroscopy of antihydrogen
  - Laser cooling of antihydrogen
  - Microwave spectroscopy of antihydrogen
- Gravitational free fall of antimatter
  - First measurements were taken before CERN shutdown
  - Top priority when beam comes back in 2021

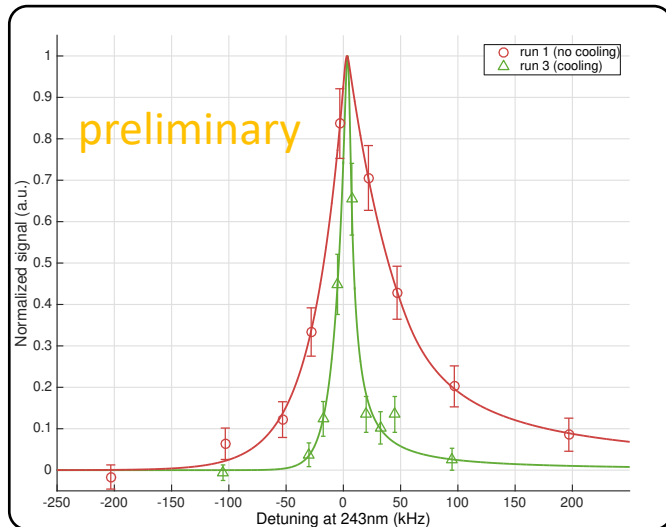
ALPHA-g detector and TRIUMF people



# ALPHA

## Laser cooling of antihydrogen: a major breakthrough and game changer

- Laser at 121 nm (VUV) is extremely challenging
- Two further papers submitted to Nature:
  - Demonstration of cooling
  - First application



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Radial-drift TPC built at TRIUMF



CERN



12

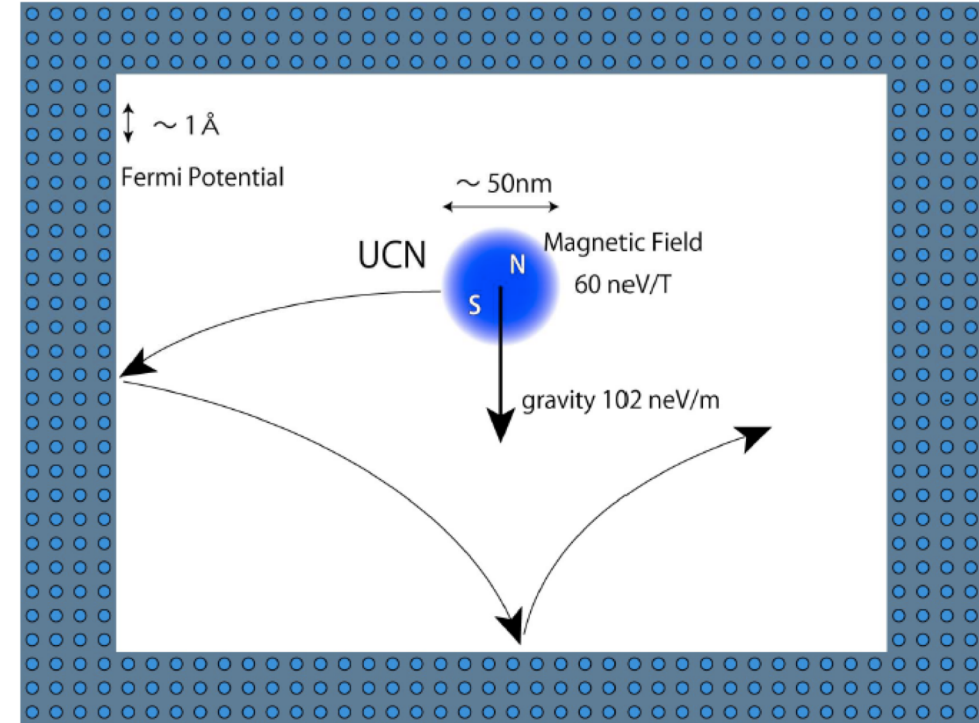


Future ideas in ALPHA: quantum sensing

Material courtesy of M. Fujiwara

# TUCAN

- Ultracold neutrons (UCN): very low energy neutrons, behave like a gas, can be stored and allow long observation times
- Advantageous over neutron beam experiments due to reduced systematics
- UCN enable high precision measurements of neutron properties and interactions
- Currently, most flagship UCN experiments are statistics limited!



UCN confined in a material box

# TUCAN

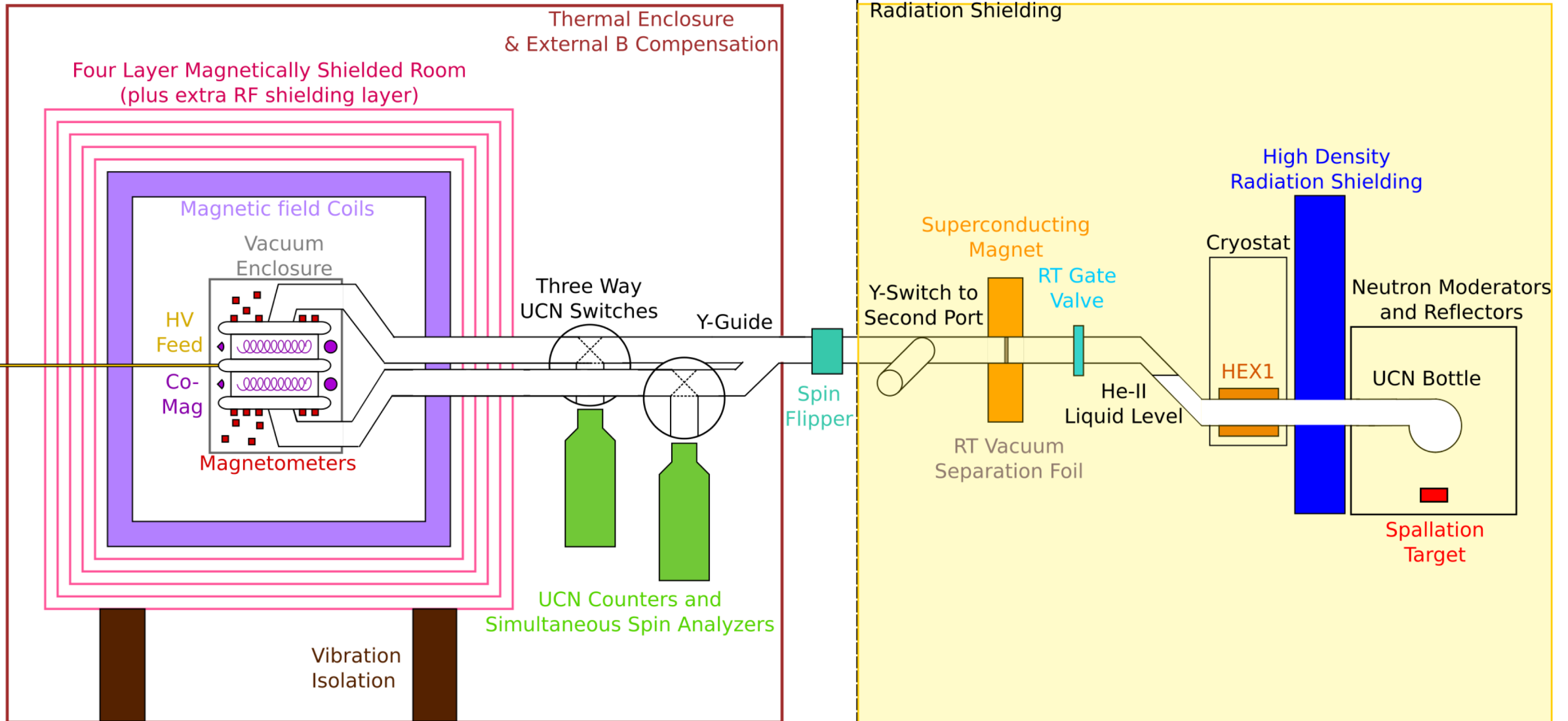
## Creating Ultracold Neutrons (UCN) for the Neutron electric dipole moment search (nEDM) & future UCN user facility

- Spallation neutron source & superfluid Helium converter
- New proton beamline BL1U built 2013 – 2017, branching off of BL1A
- UCN beamtimes at TRIUMF with Japanese prototype source cryostat in 2017, 2018, and 2019
- Next generation world class UCN source, currently at technical design stage aiming at competitive densities
- Developing next generation nEDM spectrometer, currently at conceptual stage

UCN beamline and counter

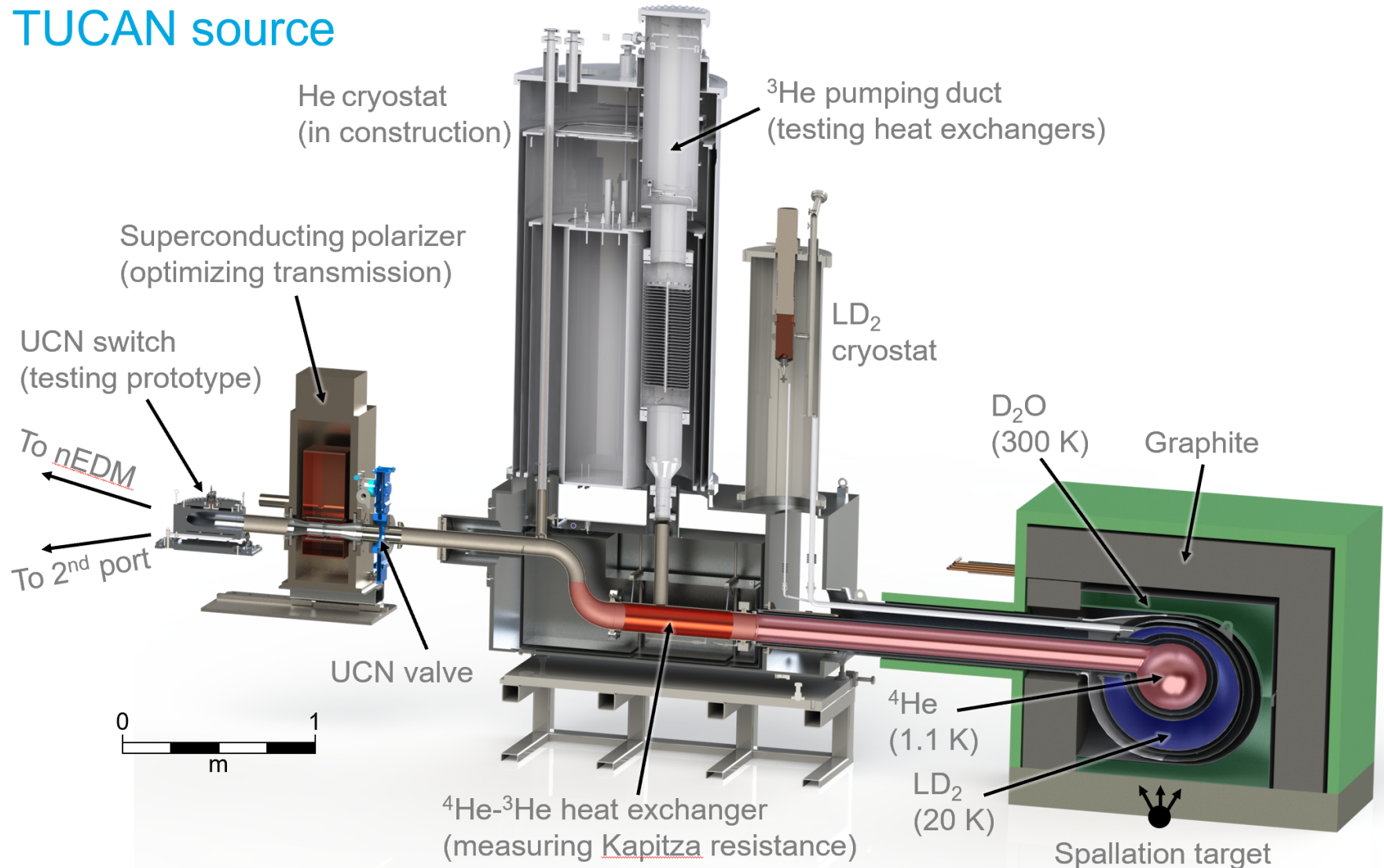


# The TUCAN facility – a sketch:



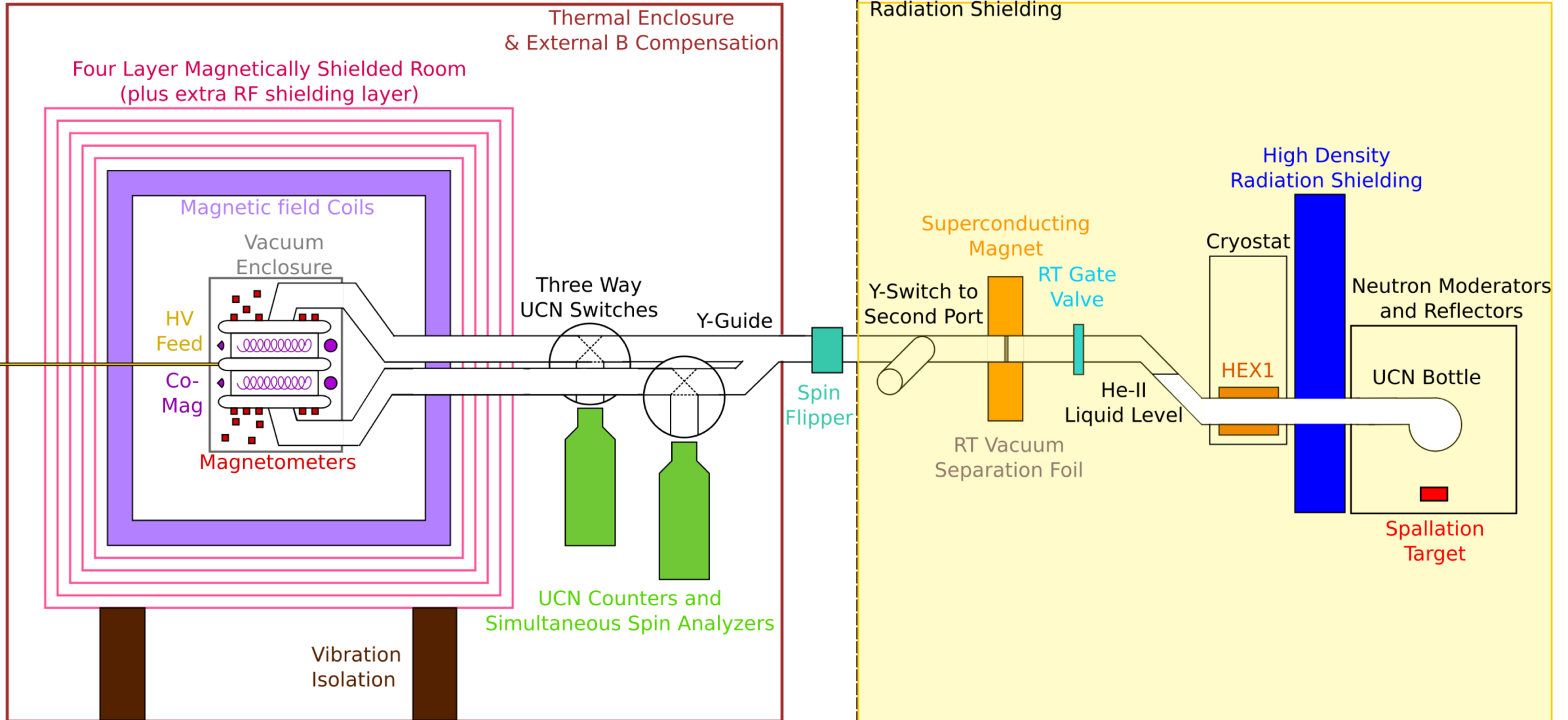
# The new cryostat for UCN at TRIUMF

## TUCAN source

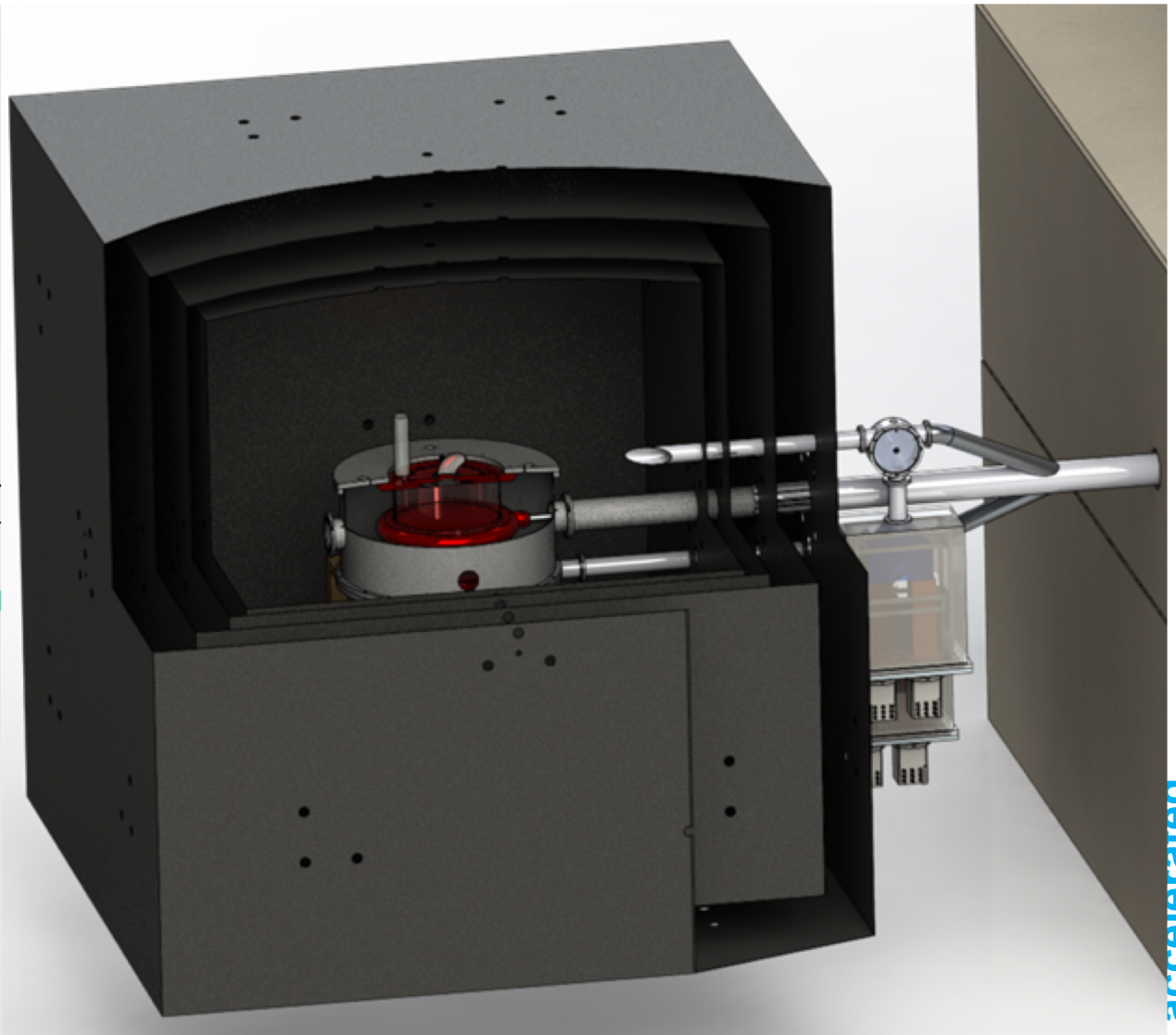
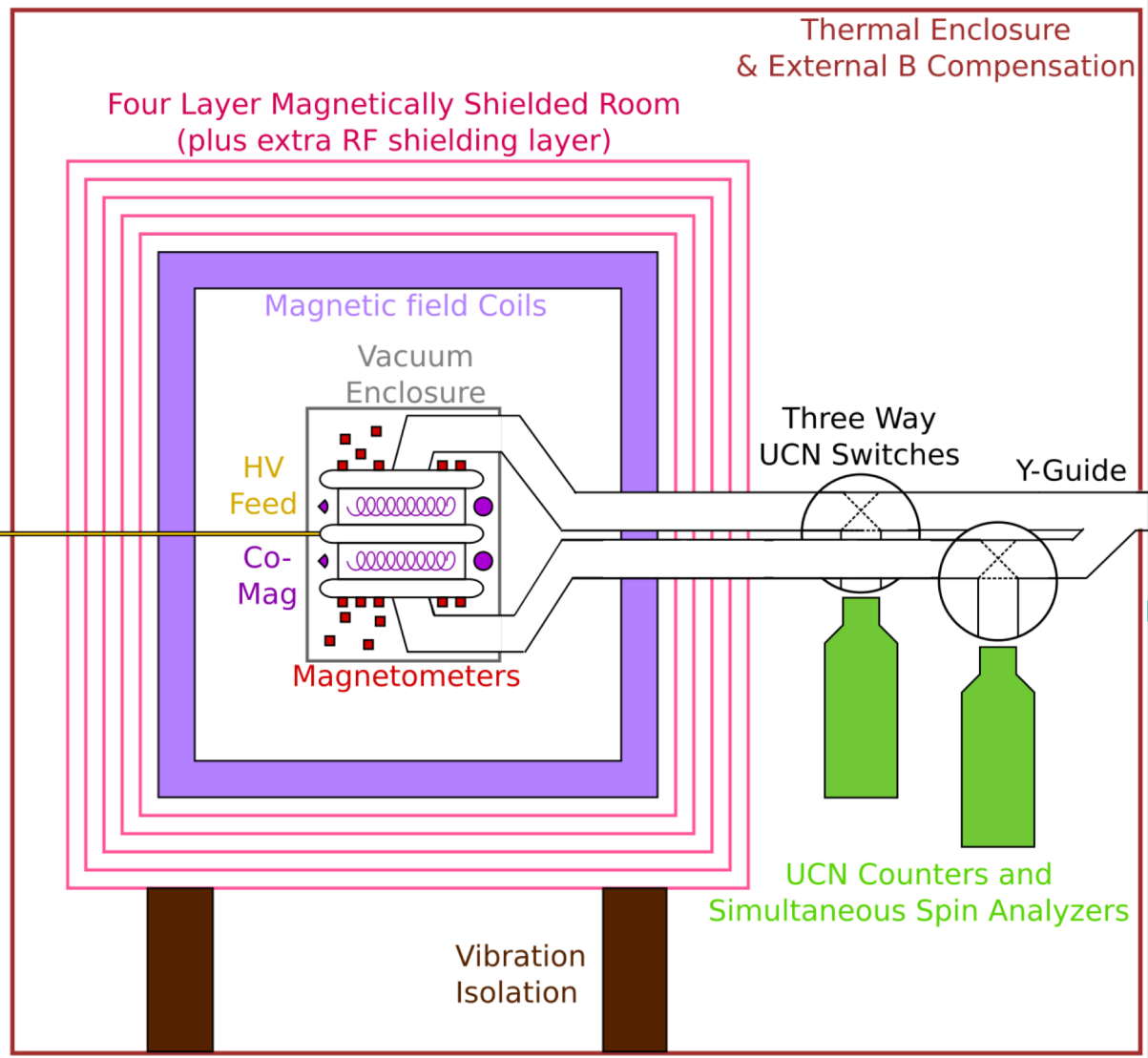




# The TUCAN facility – a sketch:



# The TUCAN facility – a sketch:



# Summary

- TRIUMF's current 5YP (2020 – 2025) ensures the continued relevance and success of Canadian and TRIUMF's particle (and nuclear) physics at the fundamental symmetries front
- Exciting times ahead, based on our current activities & future plans
- Stay tuned for astro-particle physics and accelerator based particle physics

**Enjoy Science Week and be inspired!**

Thank you  
Merci

[www.triumf.ca](http://www.triumf.ca)

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