

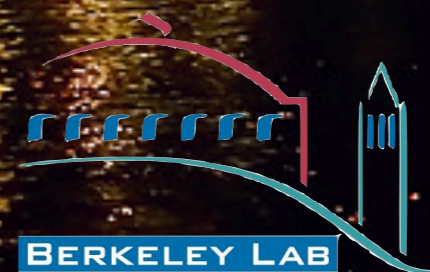
# Theia



*International Workshop on Next-Generation  
Nucleon Decay and Neutrino Detectors  
3rd November, 2018*



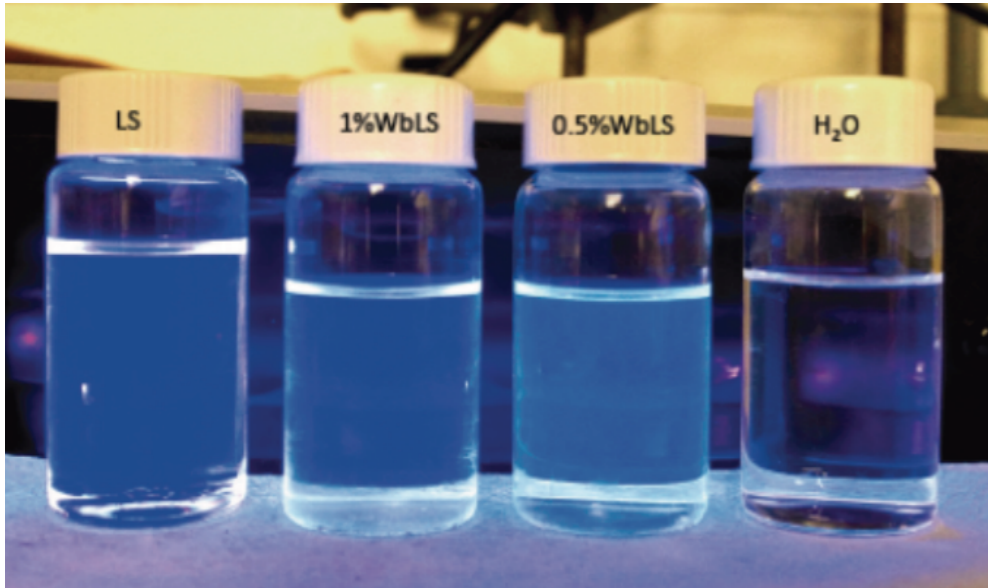
Gabriel D. Orebi Gann  
UC Berkeley & LBNL



# Transformational Opportunity

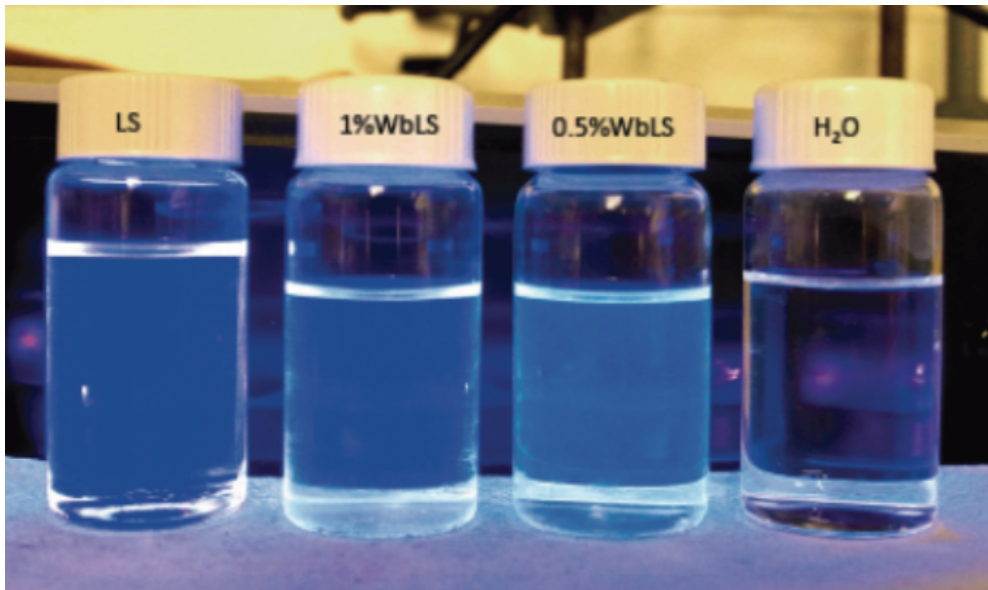
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# Transformational Opportunity



Development of new  
scintillators e.g. WbLS

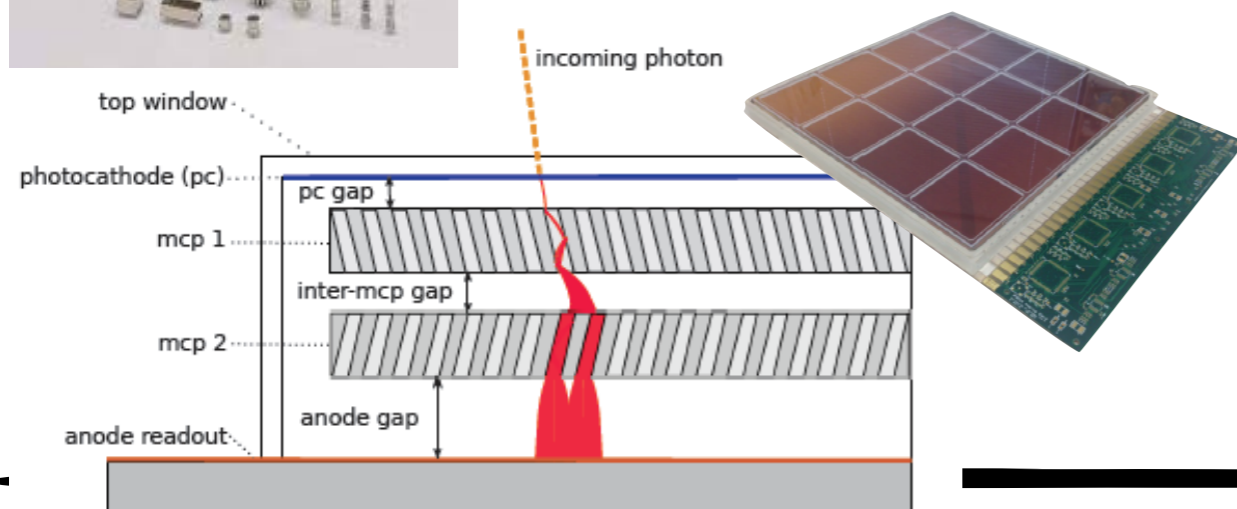
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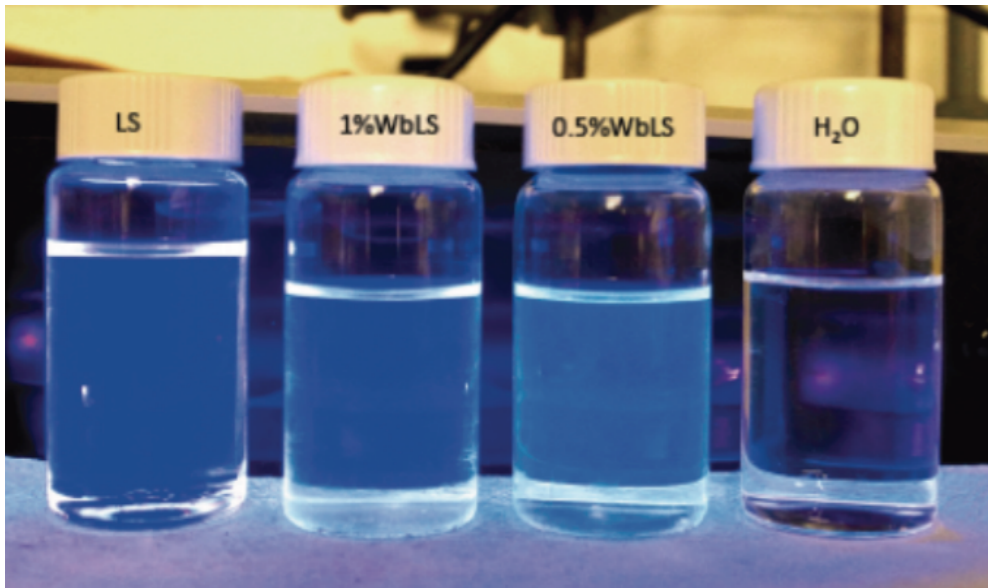
Development of new scintillators e.g. WbLS



Fast, efficient photodetectors



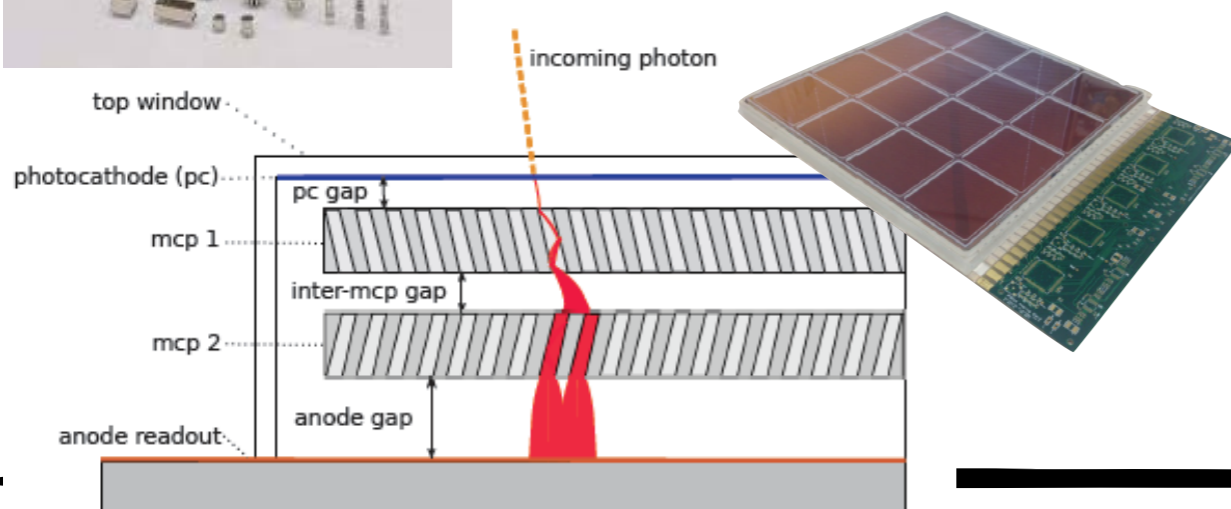
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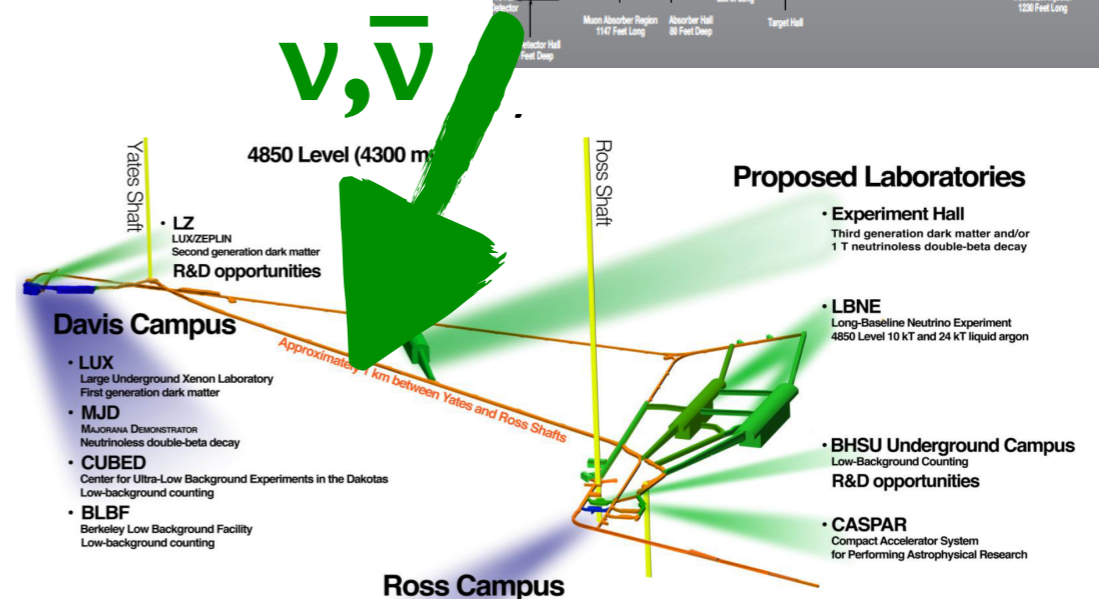
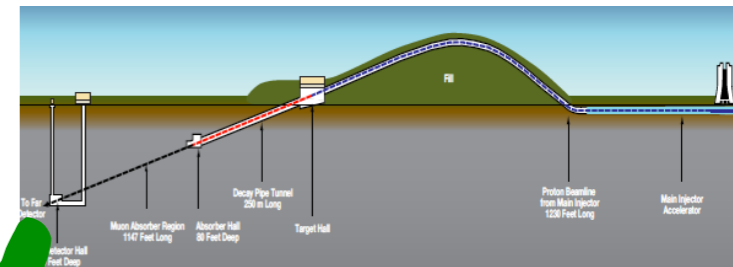
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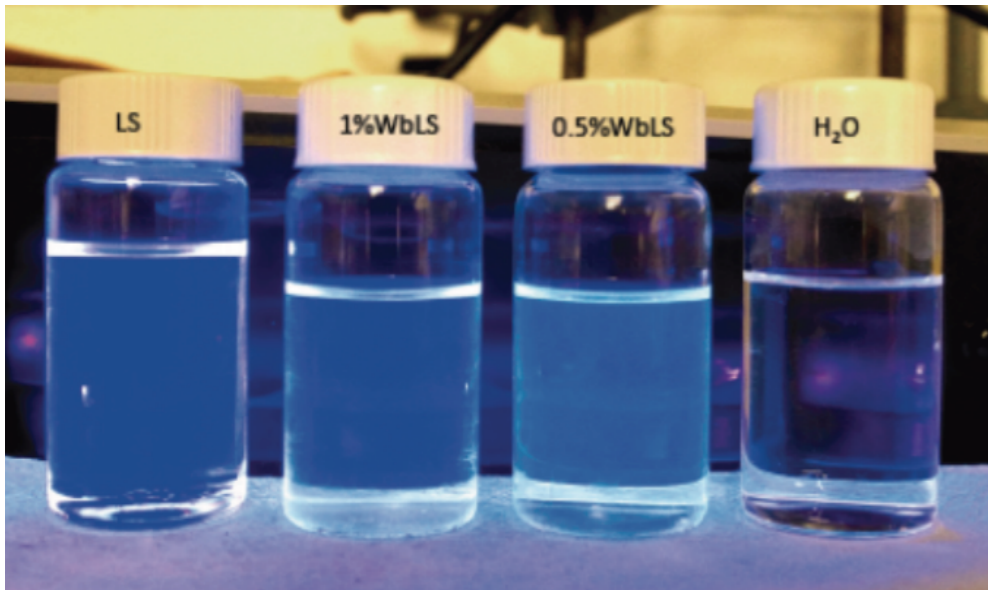
Fast, efficient photodetectors



Fully-equipped, deep underground labs (+ beam)



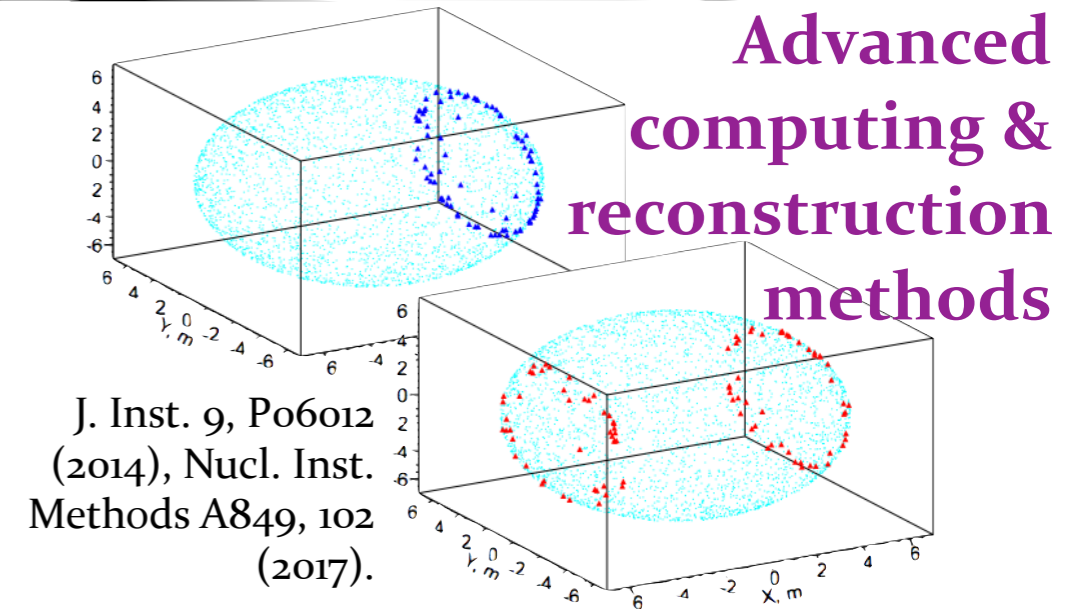
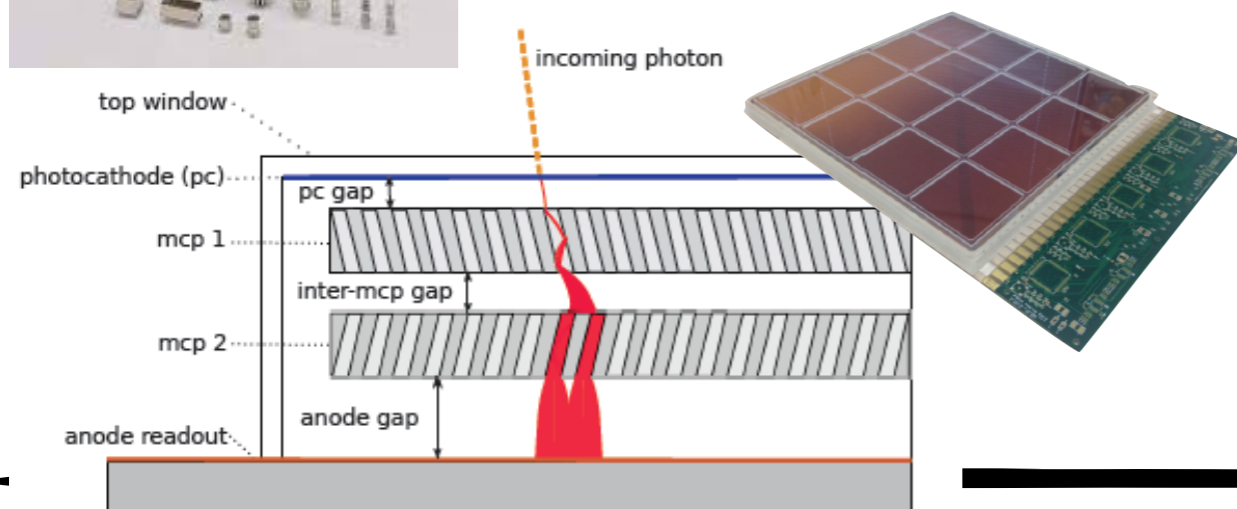
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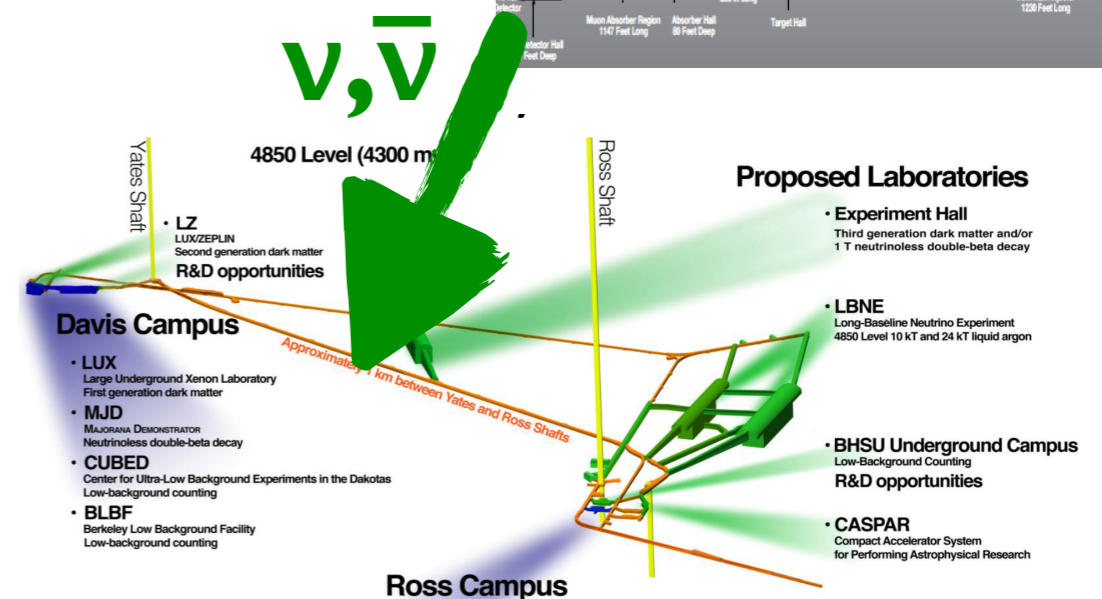
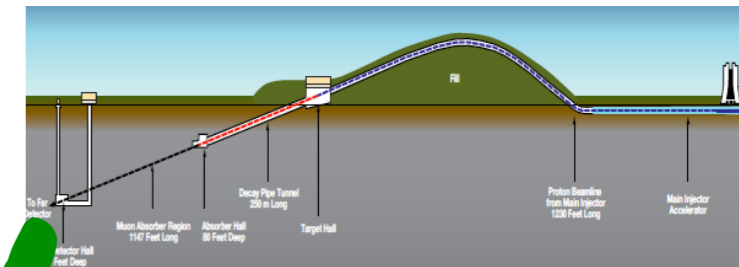
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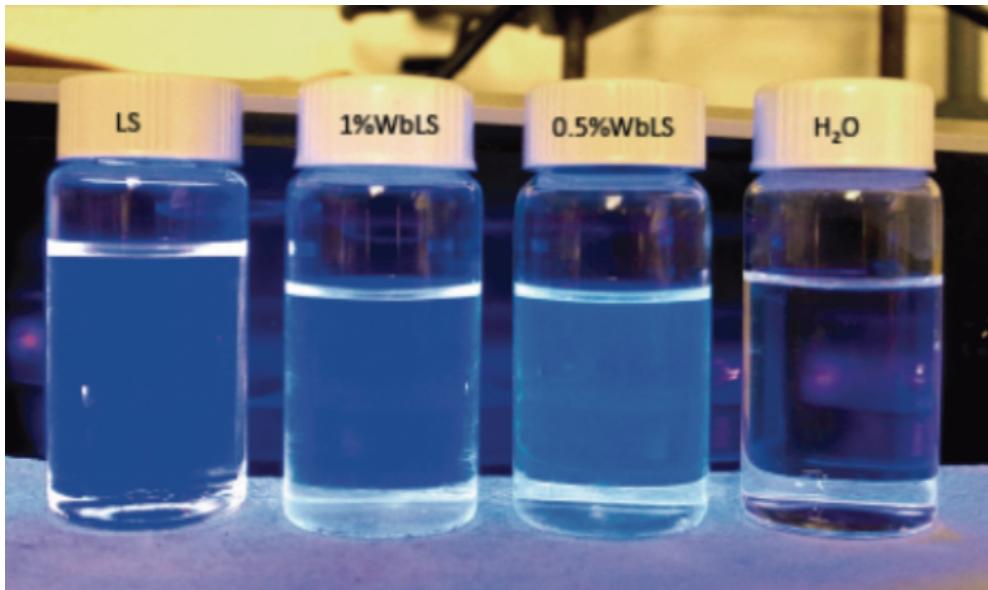
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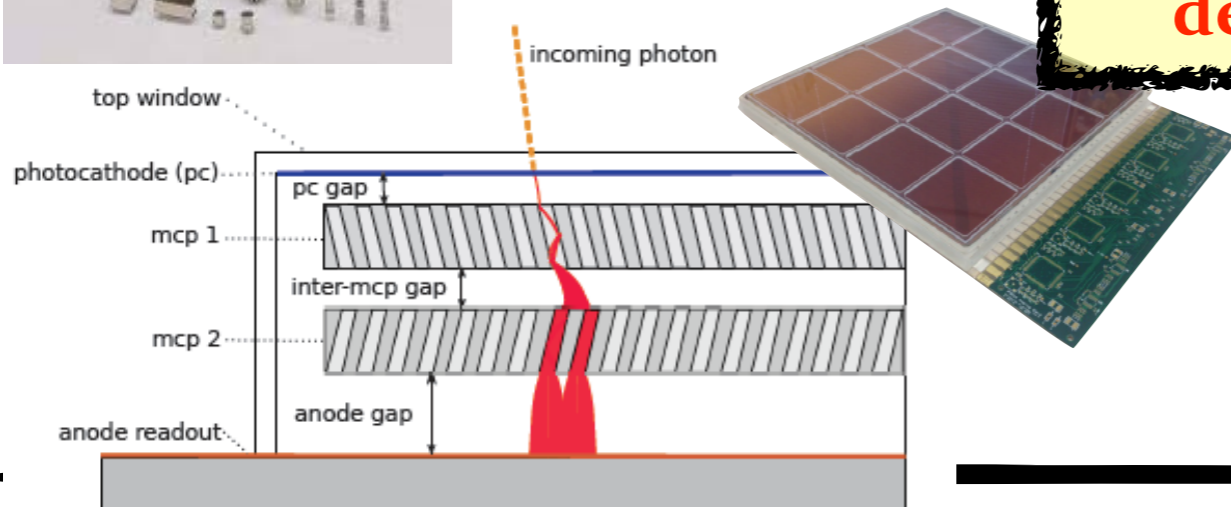
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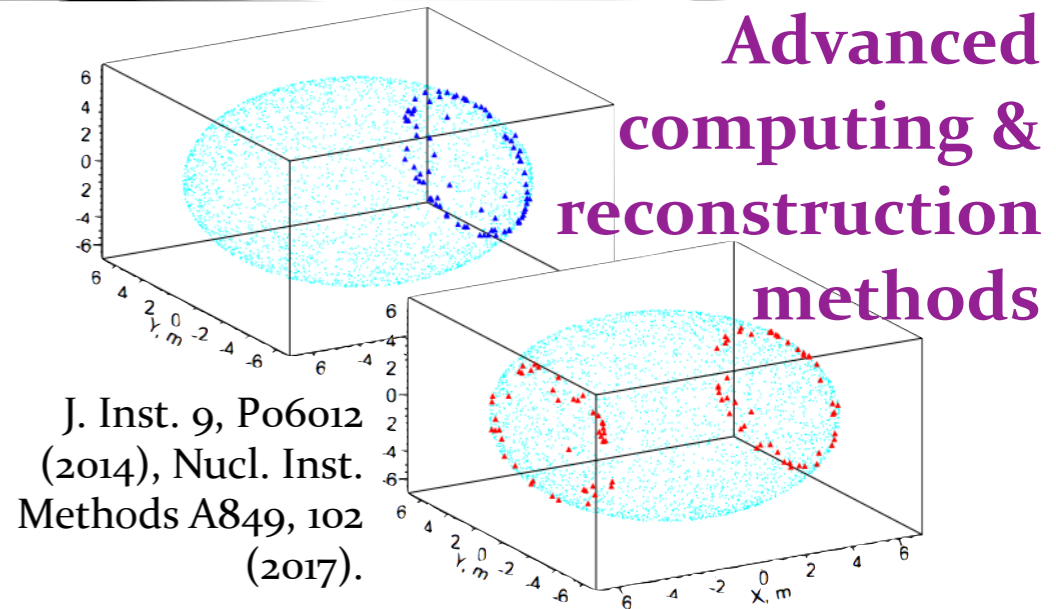
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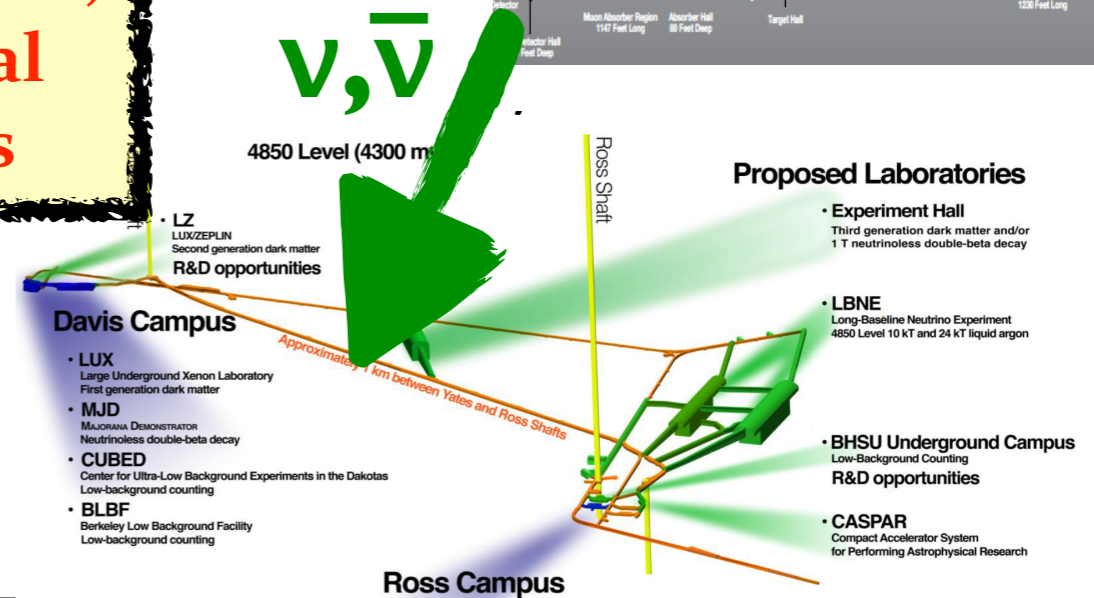
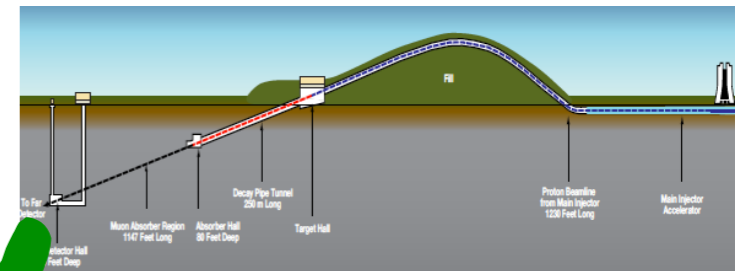
Fast, efficient photodetectors



New-generation of large-scale, low-threshold, directional detectors



Fully-equipped, deep underground labs (+ beam)



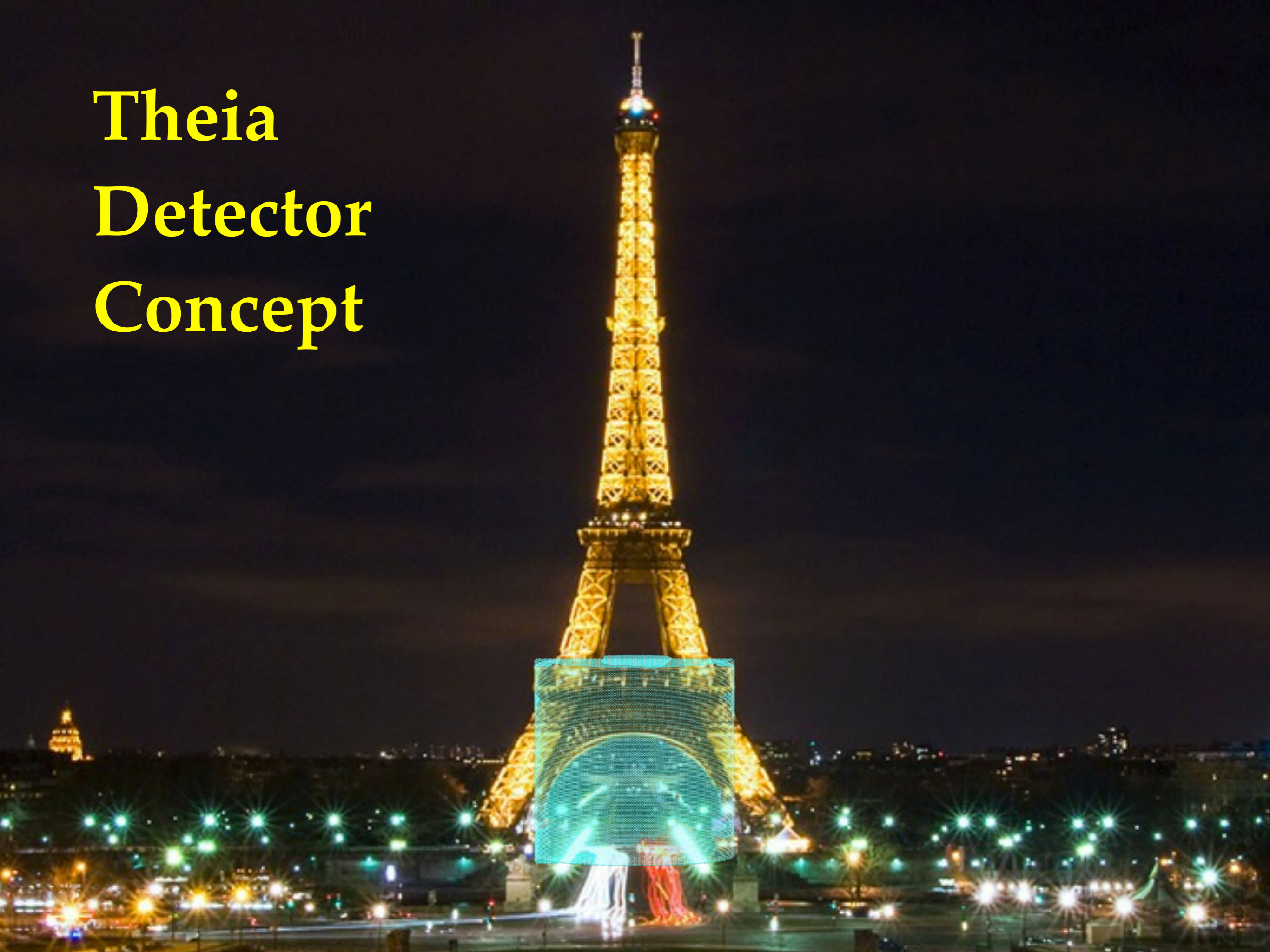
# Overview

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- Detector concept
- Physics Program
- Development of Detector Capabilities



# Theia Detector Concept

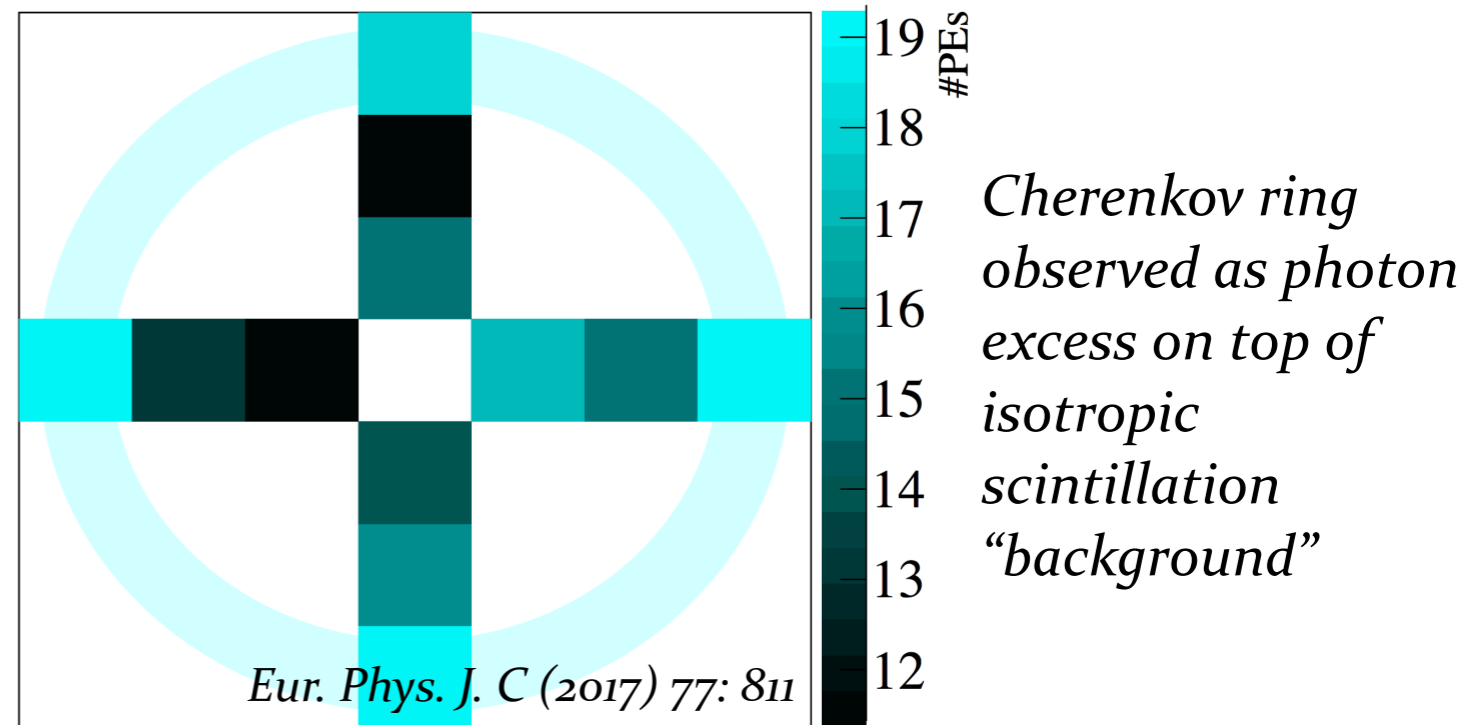


# Cherenkov / Scintillation Separation

Separation in **charge**, time, wavelength

Methods to enhance separation:

- Ultra-fast photon detection (LAPPDs)
- Delay scintillation light
- Optimize cocktail: scintillation fraction & spectrum (fluor)
- Readout sensitivity

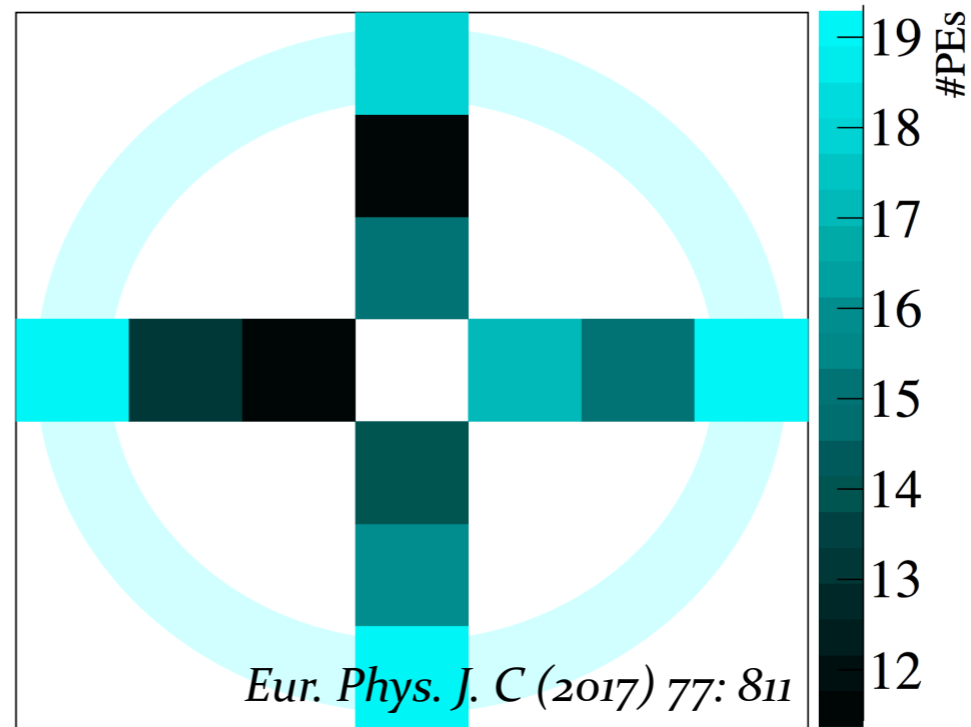


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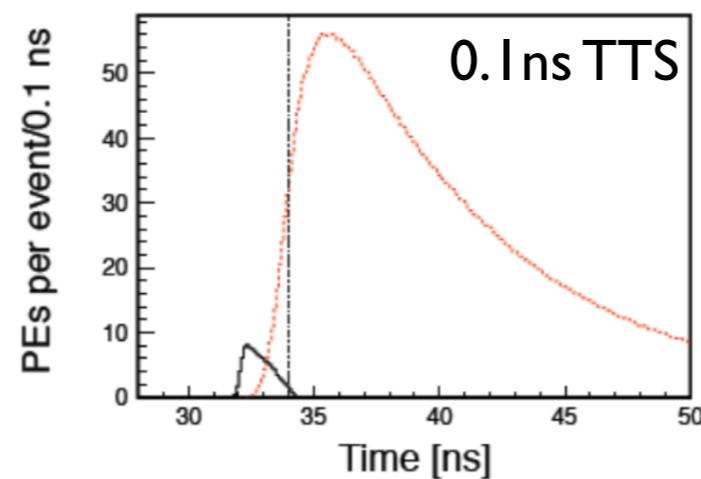
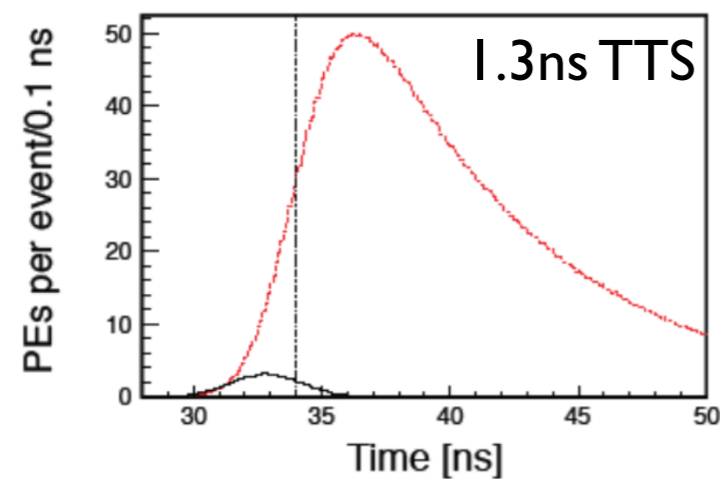
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*Cherenkov ring  
observed as photon  
excess on top of  
isotropic  
scintillation  
“background”*



C. Aberle et al, JINST 9 P06012 (2014)

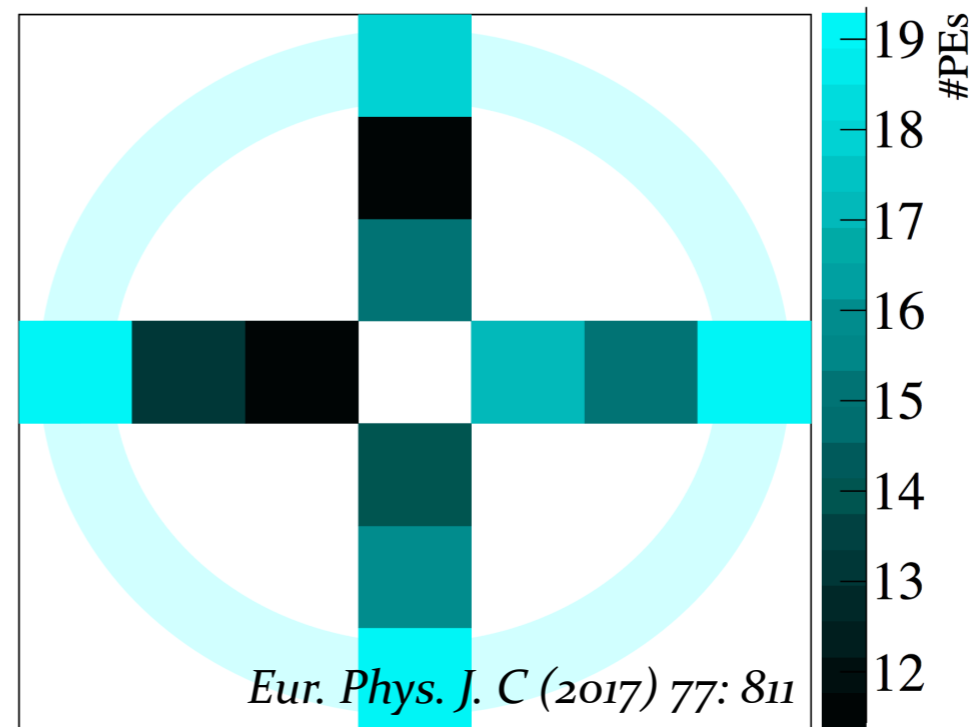
— Cherenkov (prompt, scarce)  
— Scintillation (delayed, abundant)

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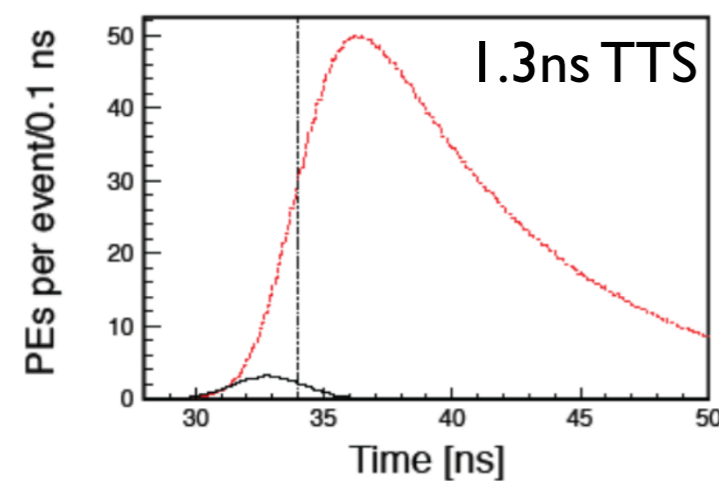
Separation in charge, time, **wavelength**

Methods to enhance separation:

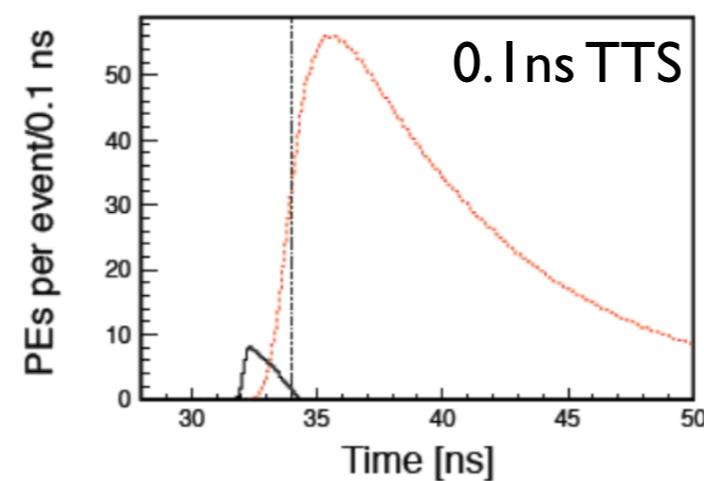
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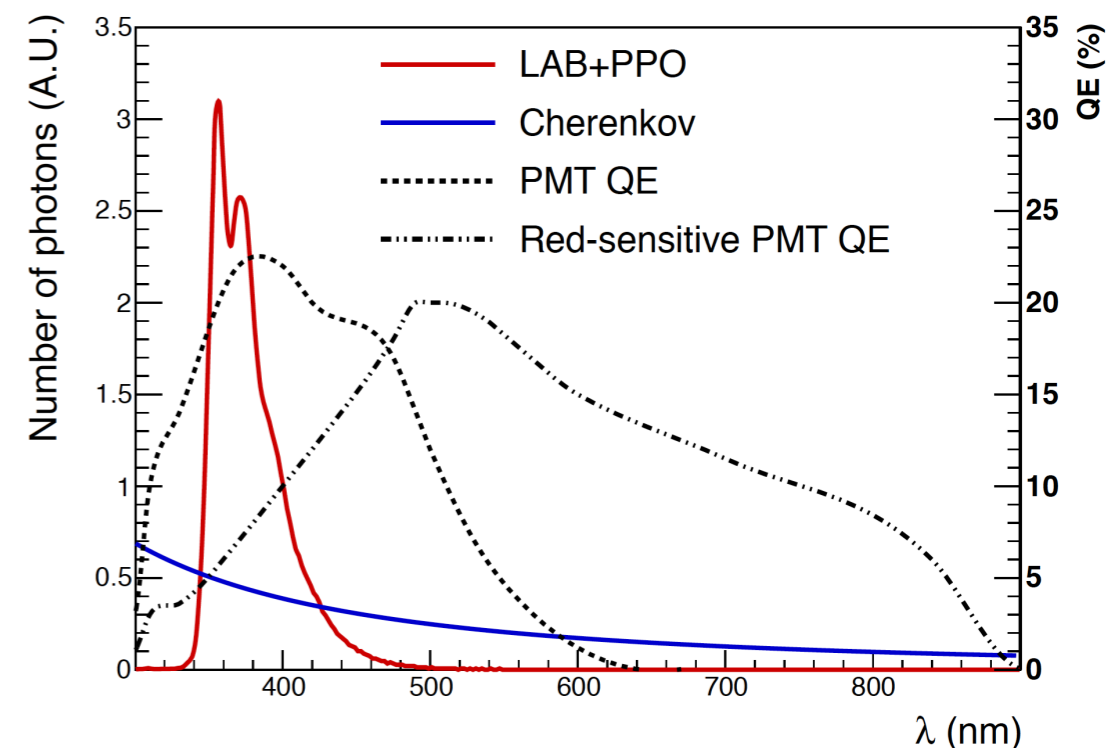
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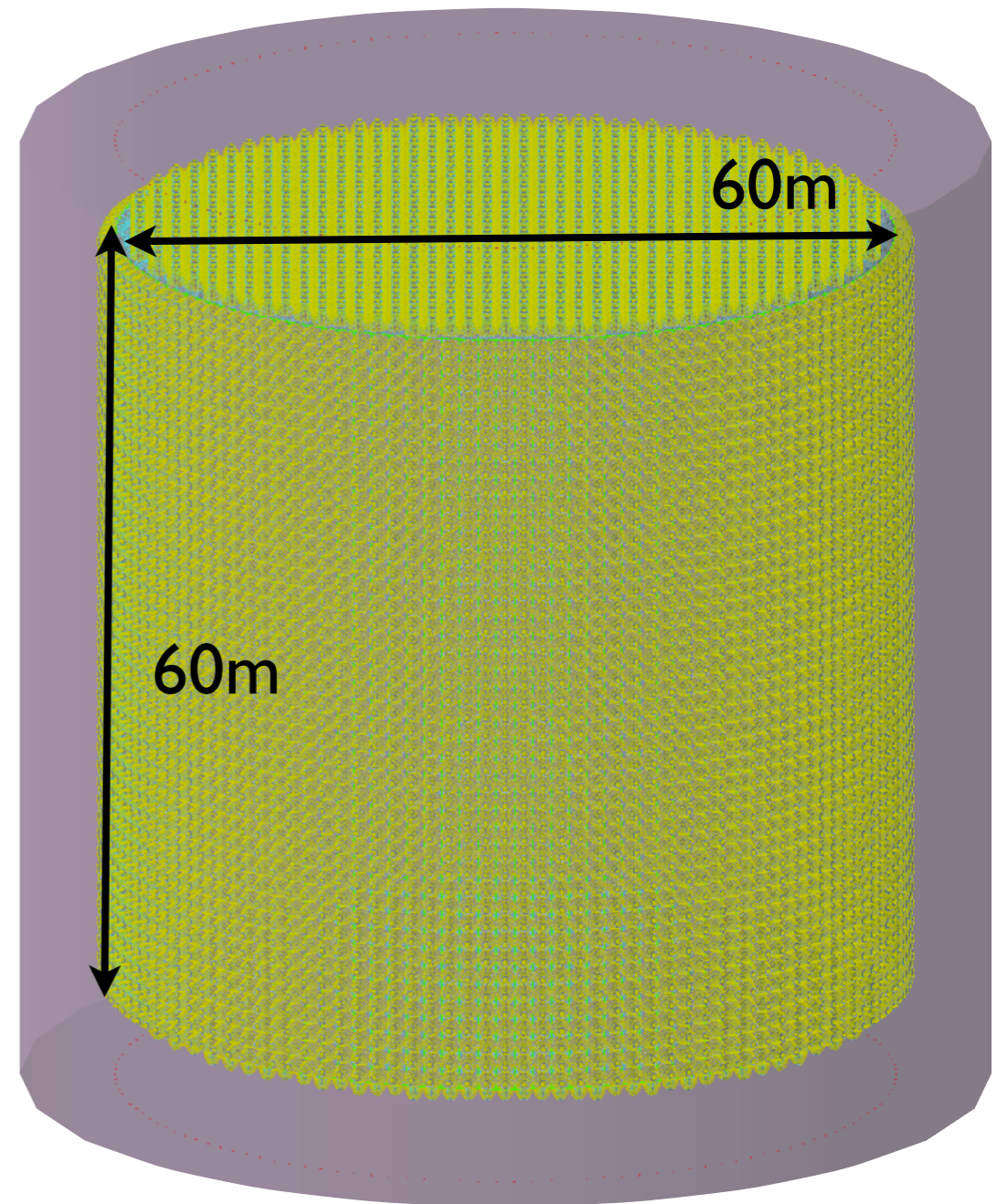
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# Theia

- Large-scale detector (50-100 kton)
- Water-based LS target
- Fast, high-efficiency photon detection with high coverage
- Deep underground (e.g. Homestake)
- Isotope loading (Gd, Te, Li...)
- *Flexible!* Target, loading, configuration

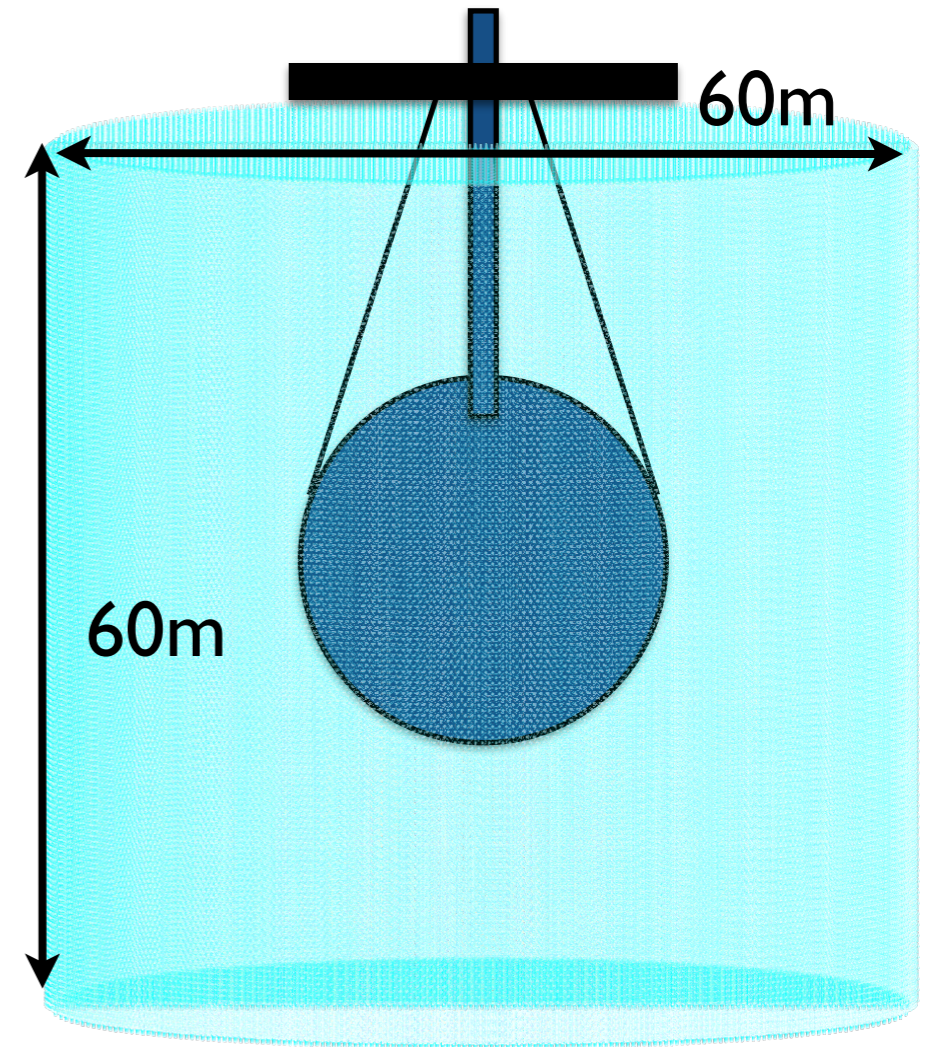
➔ **Broad physics program!**



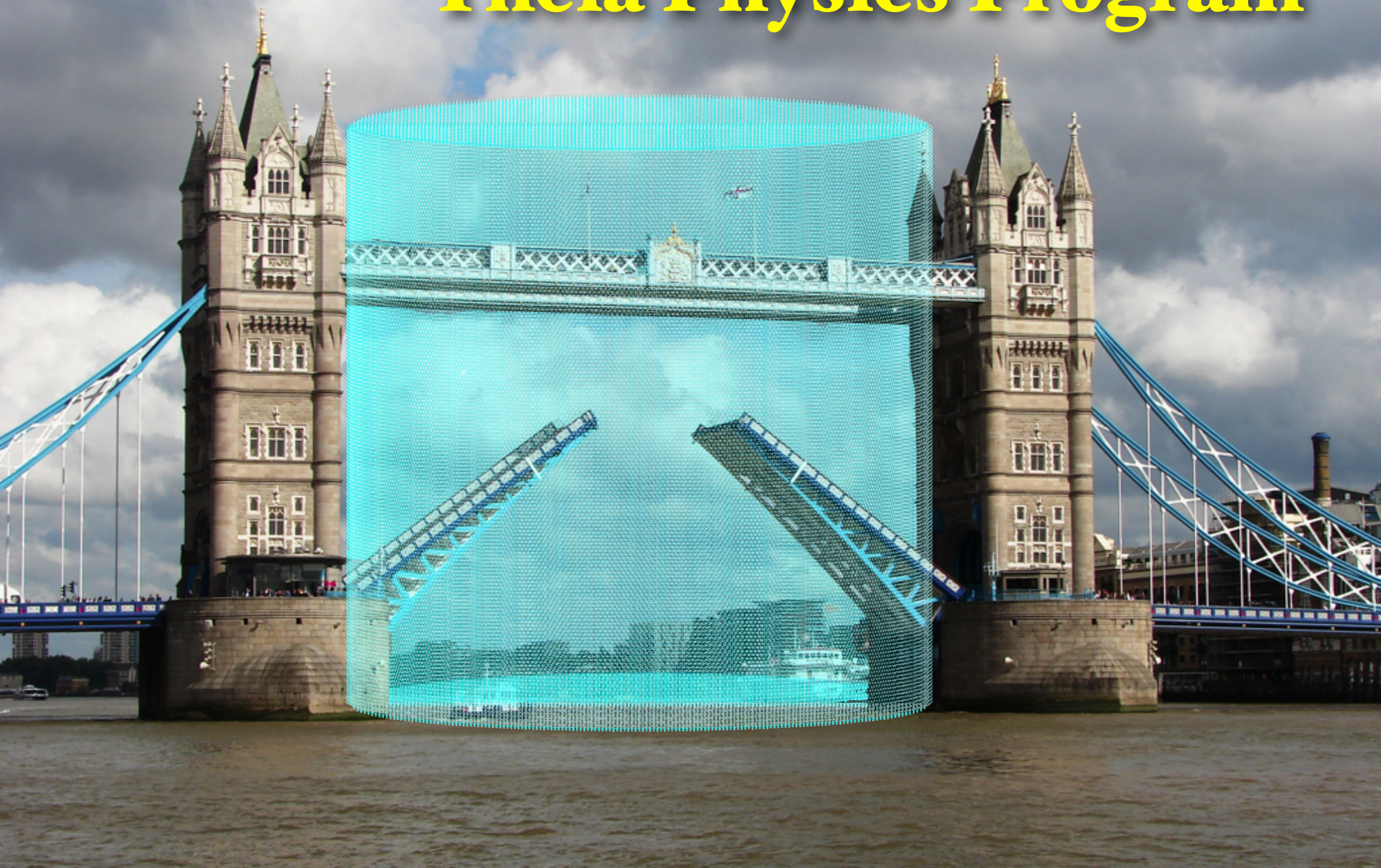
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# Theia Physics Program



# Physics Program

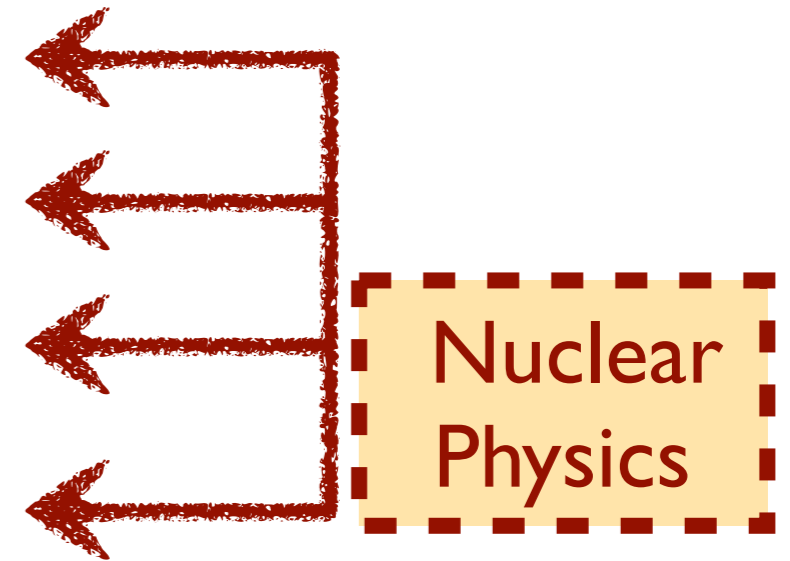
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1. Neutrinoless double beta decay
2. Solar neutrinos (solar metallicity, luminosity)
3. Geo-neutrinos
4. Supernova burst neutrinos & DSNB
5. Source-based sterile searches
6. Nucleon decay
7. Long-baseline physics (mass hierarchy, CP violation)



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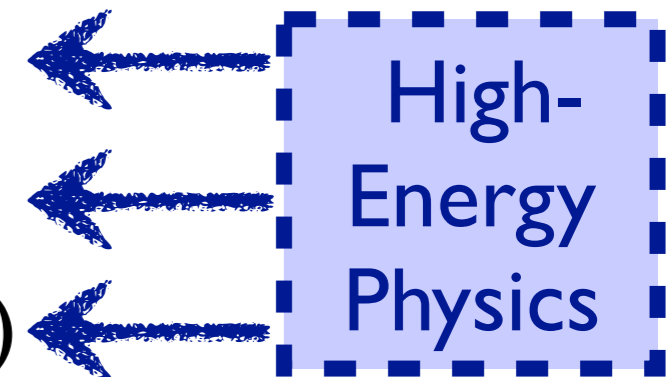
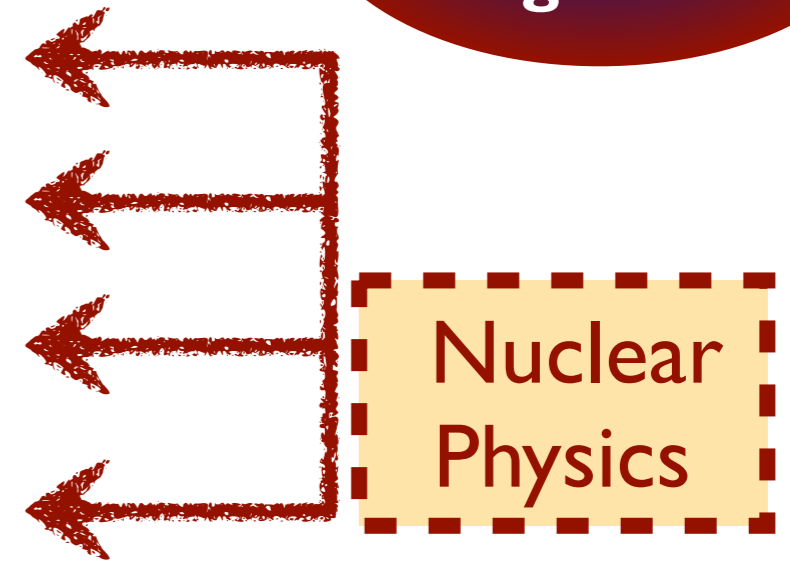
# Physics Program

1. Neutrinoless double beta decay
  2. Solar neutrinos (solar metallicity, luminosity)
  3. Geo-neutrinos
  4. Supernova burst neutrinos & DSNB
  5. Source-based sterile searches
  6. Nucleon decay
  7. Long-baseline physics (mass hierarchy, CP violation)
- 
- The diagram consists of two boxes on the right side. The top box is yellow with a dashed border and contains the text 'Nuclear Physics'. Four red arrows point from this box to the first four items of the list: 'Neutrinoless double beta decay', 'Solar neutrinos (solar metallicity, luminosity)', 'Geo-neutrinos', and 'Supernova burst neutrinos & DSNB'. The bottom box is blue with a dashed border and contains the text 'High-Energy Physics'. Three blue arrows point from this box to the last three items of the list: 'Source-based sterile searches', 'Nucleon decay', and 'Long-baseline physics (mass hierarchy, CP violation)'.

# Physics Program

Physics over  
5 orders of  
magnitude

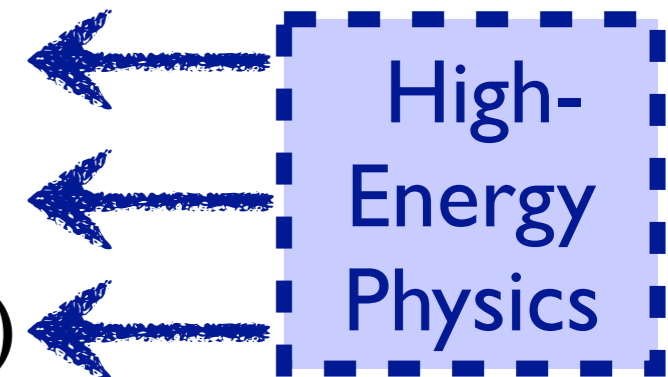
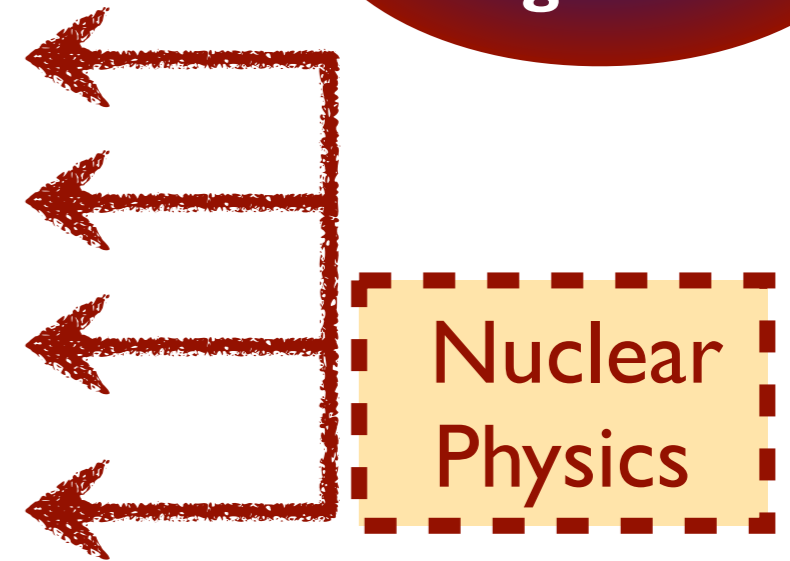
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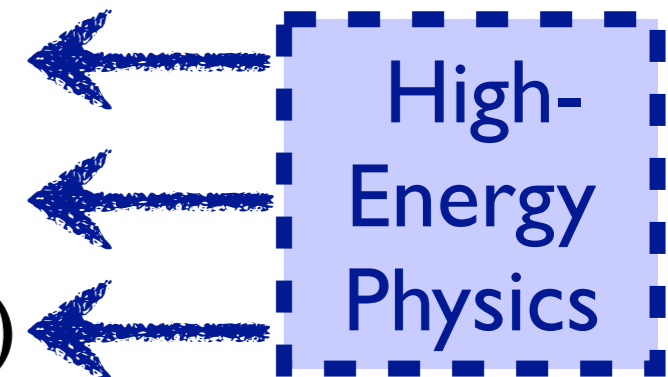
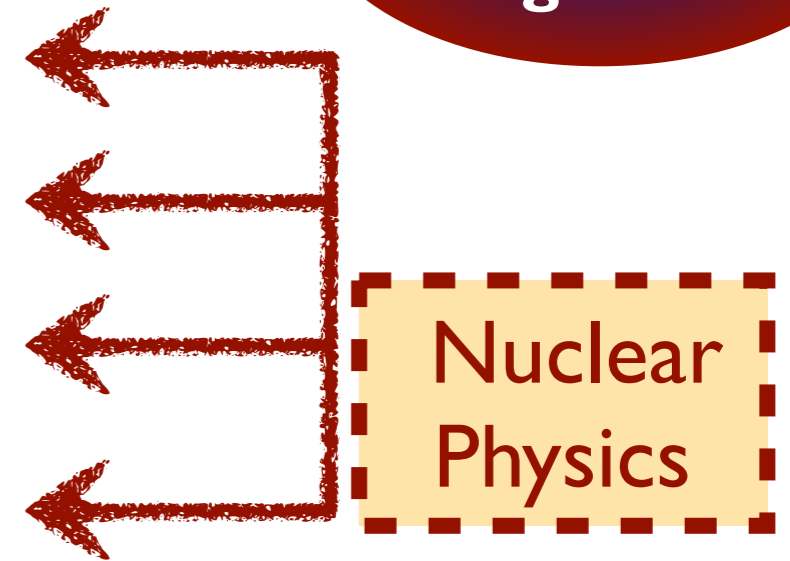


Remarkably, the same detector could show that neutrinos and antineutrinos are the same, **and** that “neutrinos” and “antineutrinos” oscillate differently

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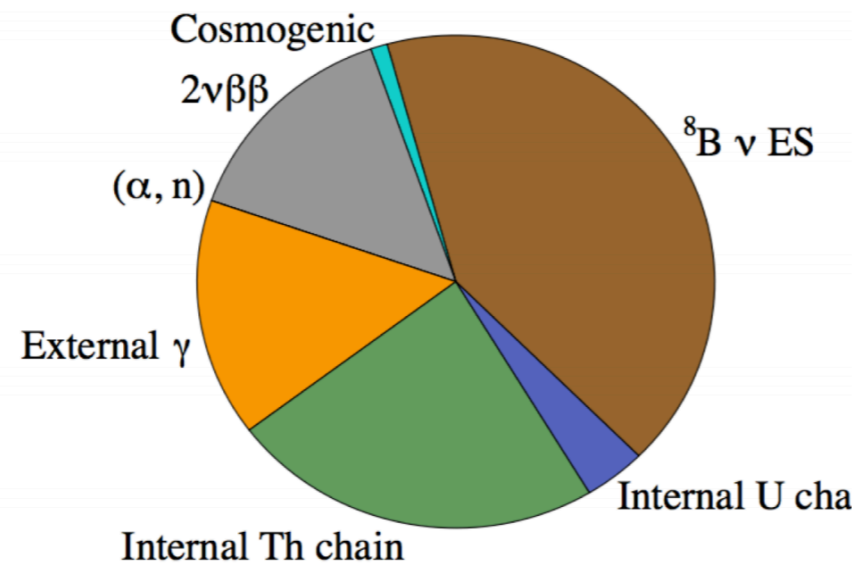
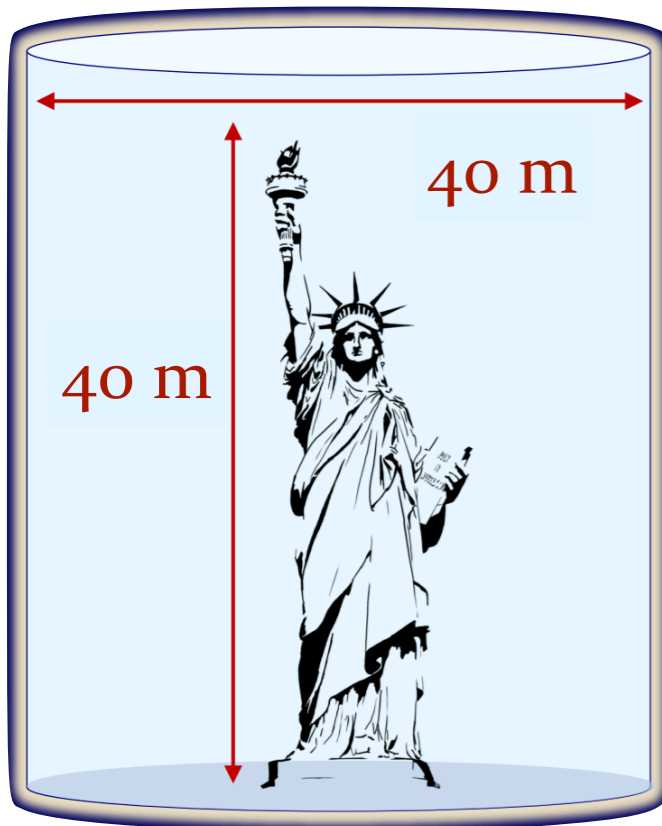
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**Leptogenesis**

# NLDBD with Theia

50 kton water-based liquid scintillator detector  
 High coverage with fast photon detectors  
 Deep underground  
 8-m radius balloon with high-LY LS and isotope  
 7-m fiducial, 3%  $^{nat}\text{Te}$  or  $^{enr}\text{Xe}$ , 10 years

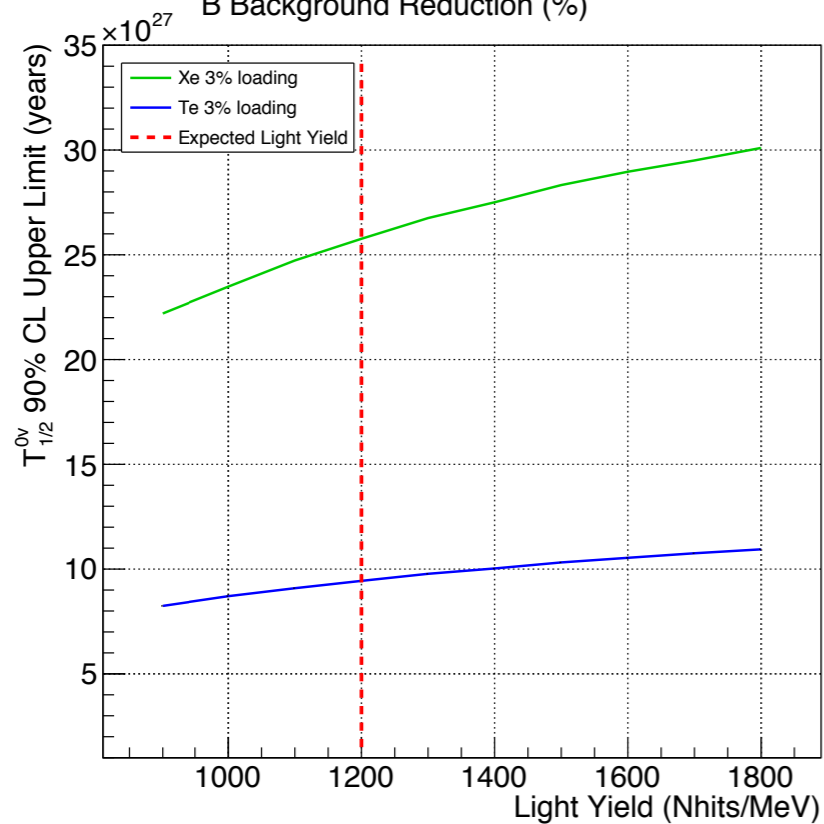
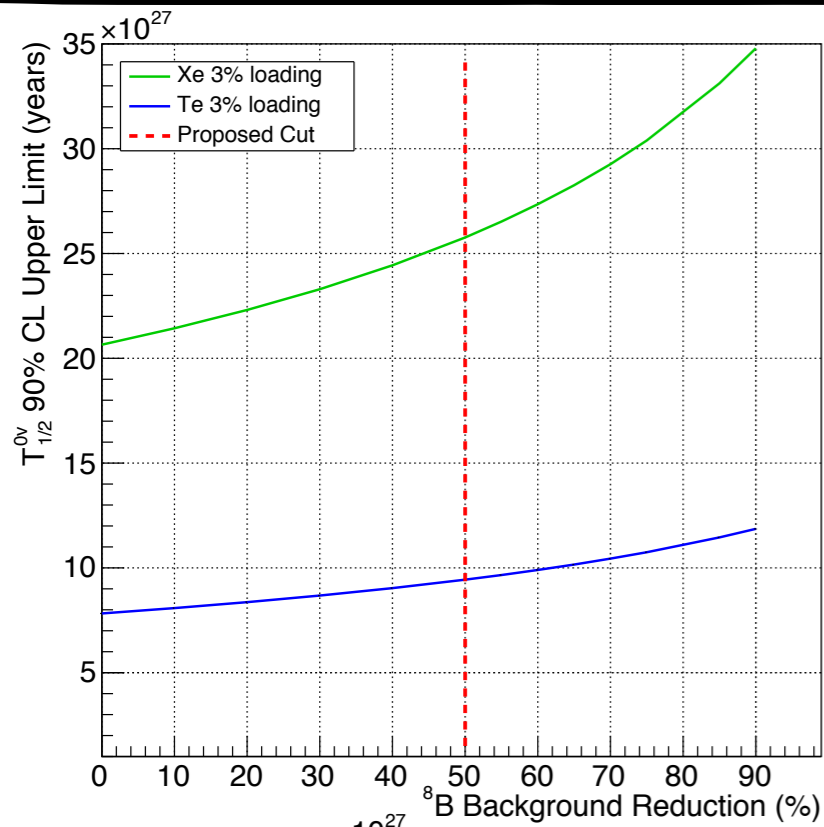
*Builds on critical developments by  
 KLZ & SNO+ collaborations*



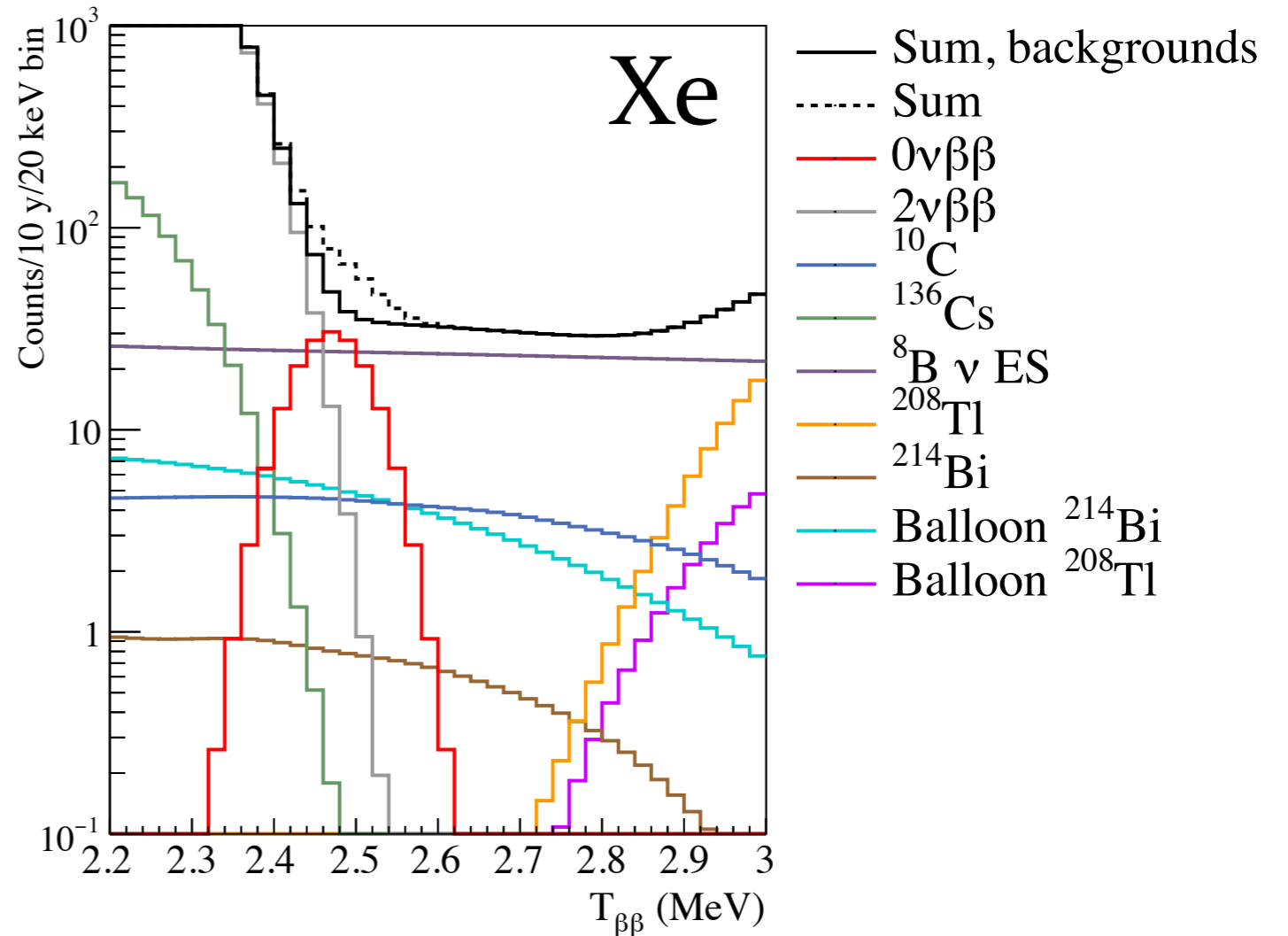
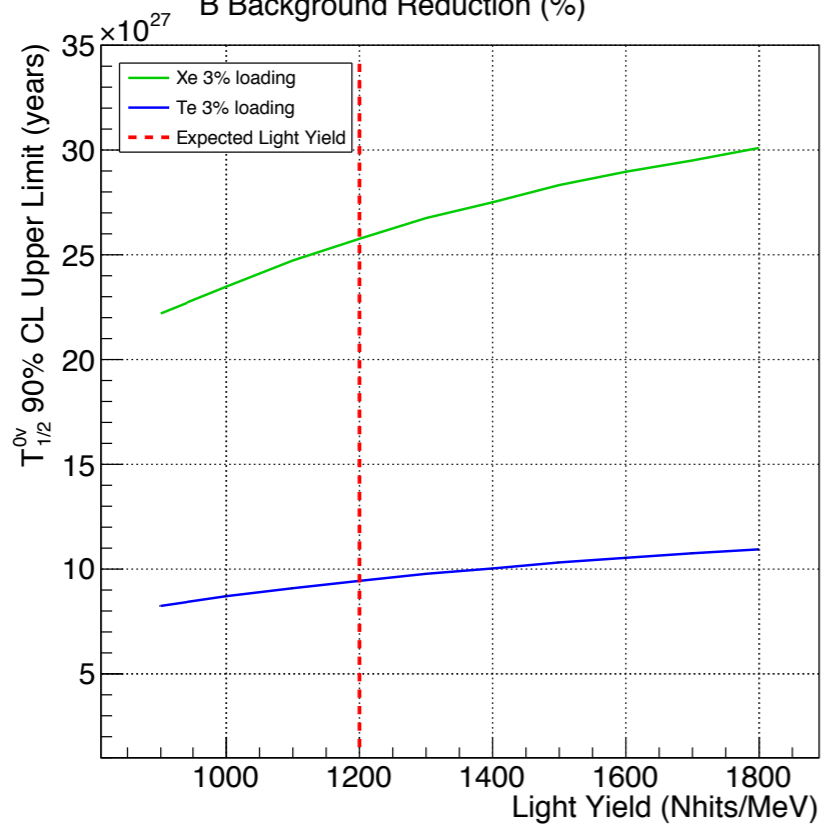
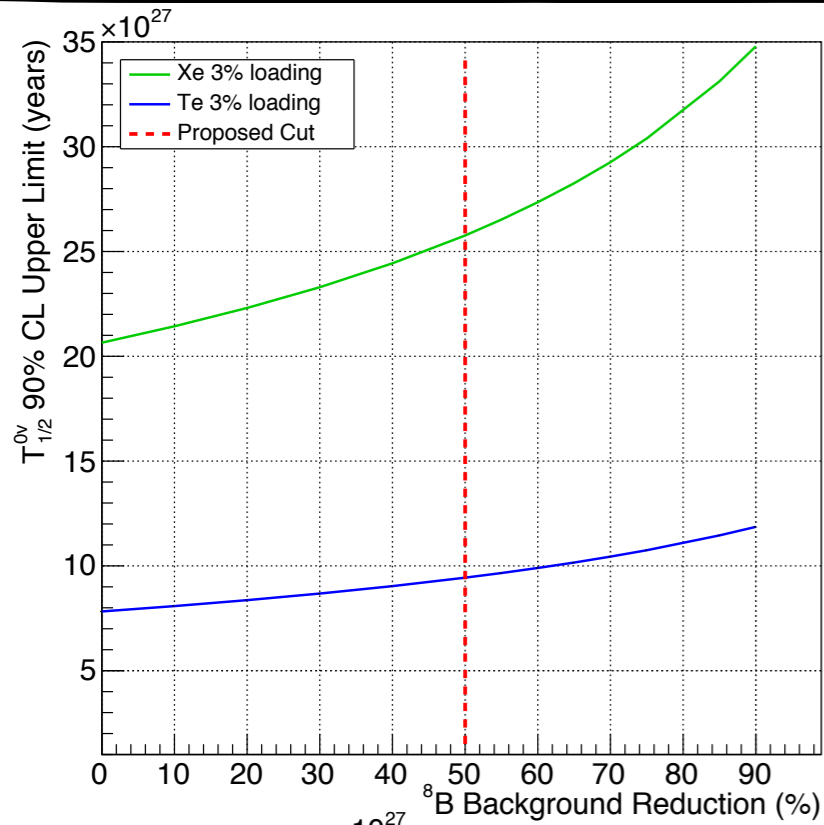
SNO+ Collaboration

Signal	Events/ROI.y	
	Te Loading	$^{enr}\text{Xe}$ Loading
$0\nu\beta\beta$ (10 meV)	65.4	116.4
$2\nu\beta\beta$	48.0	38.2
$^8\text{B}$ Solar ES (50%)	138.5	138.4
$^{10}\text{C}$ (92.5%)	24.6	25.4
$^{130}\text{I}$	48.3	—
$^{130m}\text{I}$	1.7	—
$^{136}\text{Cs}$	—	0.57
$^{208}\text{Tl}$	0.02	0.002
$^{214}\text{Bi}$ (99.9%)	4.0	4.4
Balloon $^{214}\text{Bi}$ (50%)	24.0	27.4
Balloon $^{208}\text{Tl}$ (50%)	0.25	0.14
<b>Total</b>	<b>289.5</b>	<b>234.5</b>

# NLDBD with Theia

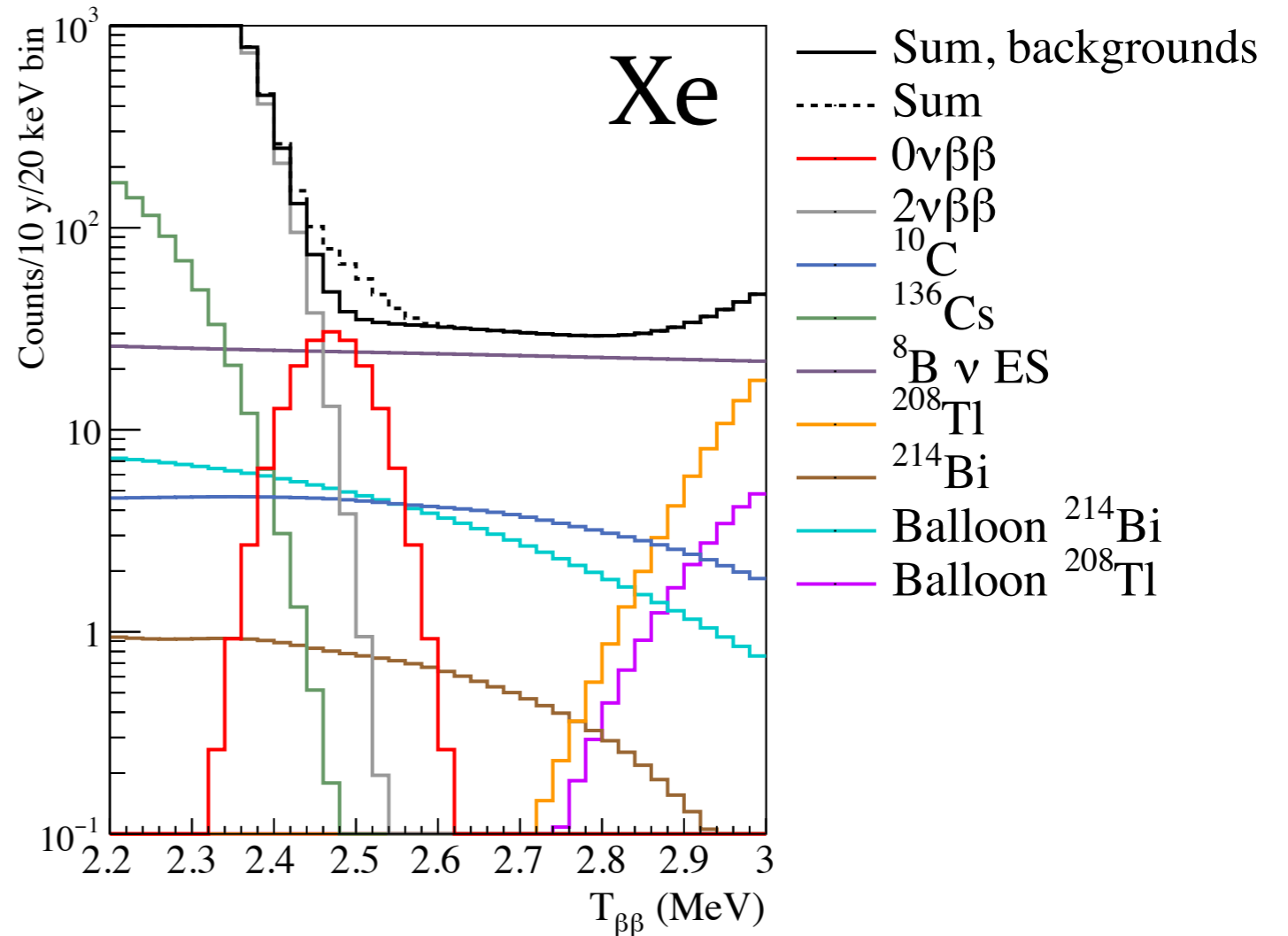
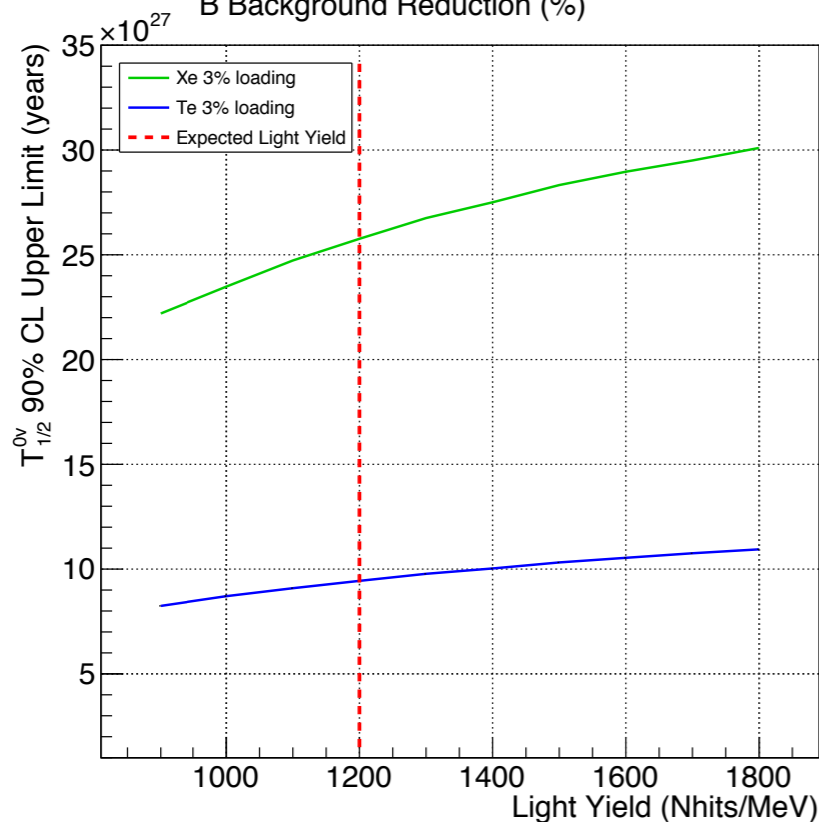
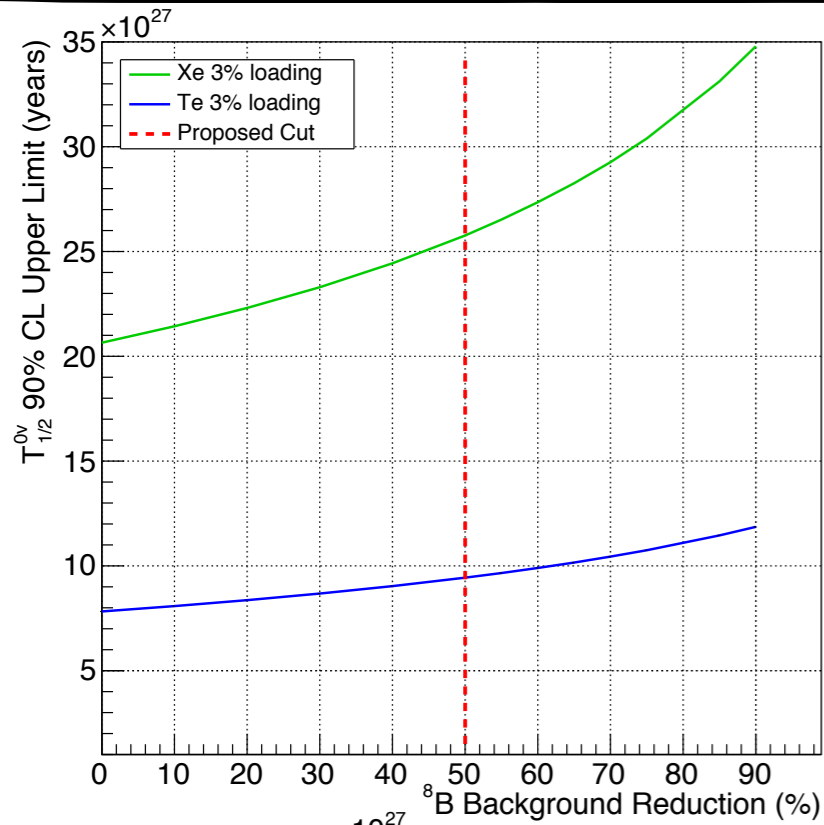


# NLDBD with Theia





# NLDBD with Theia

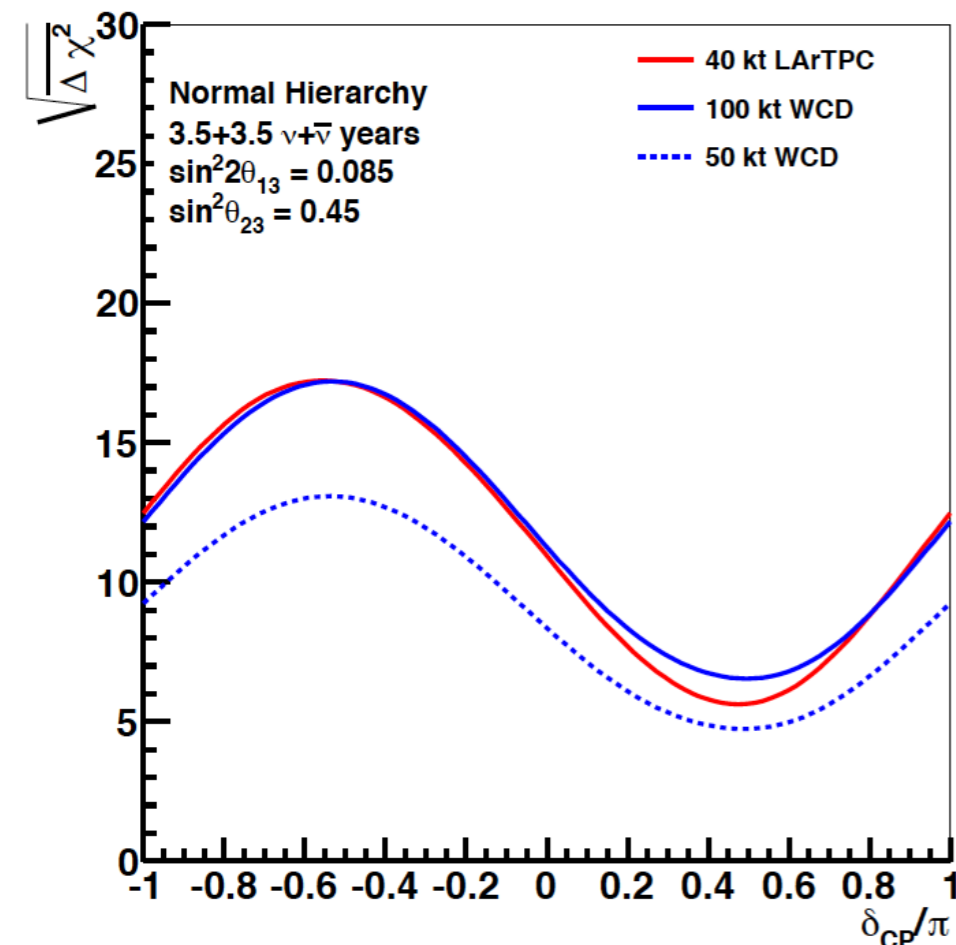


**$T_{1/2} > 2.6$  (0.97)  $\times 10^{28}$  yrs**  
**90% CL for Xe (Te)**  
 **$m_{\beta\beta} < 4.9$  (6.7) meV**

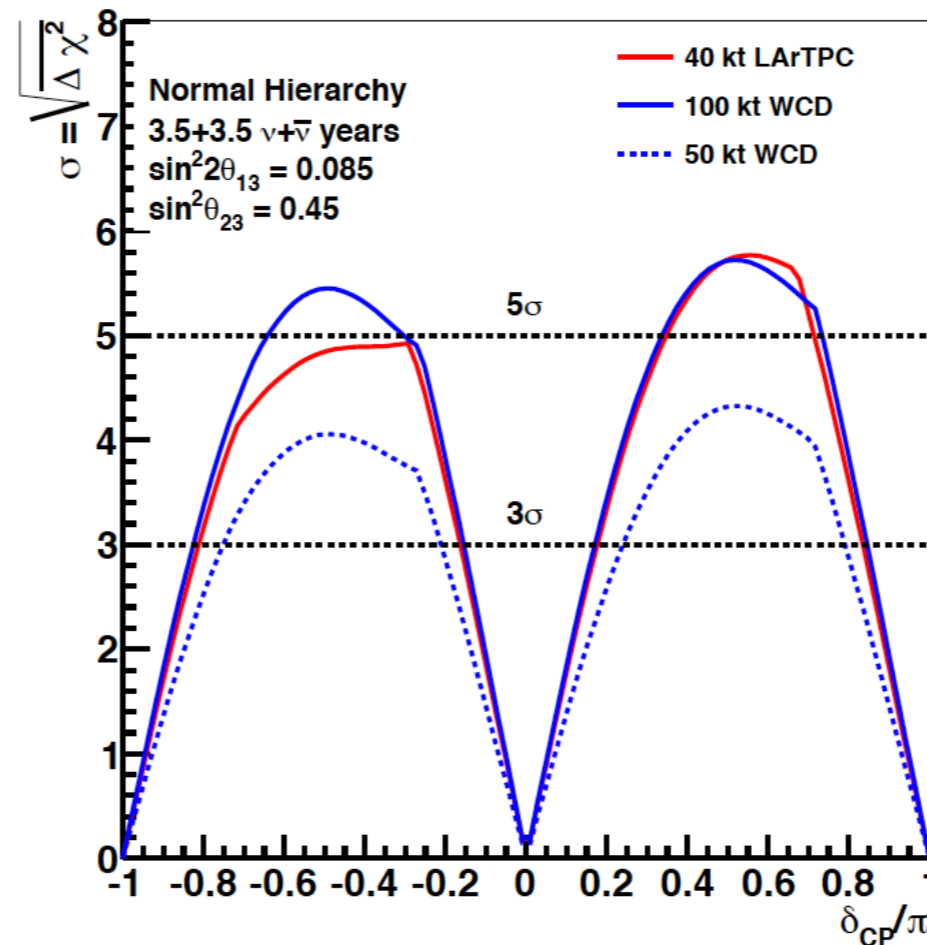
# Long-Baseline Program

- Large-scale detector at Homestake, in the LBNF beam
- Complementary program to LArTPC (DUNE)
- Build on WCD studies (arXiv:1204.2295)
- Plus advantages from low-threshold scintillation
- Assumes 75% reduction in NC background relative to SK-I
- Uses only single-ring samples

Mass Hierarchy Sensitivity



CP Violation Sensitivity



**MH**  
sensitivity for  
50kt WbLS  
alone  $> 5\sigma$

*More sophisticated analysis nearly complete with modern SK-style analysis and reconstruction tools + multi-ring samples*

# Nucleon Decay

---

Testing the existence of GUTs with THEIA:

- Large size (statistics), deep location, very clean
- n tagging (low threshold plus potential isotope loading)
- Sub-Cherenkov threshold detection

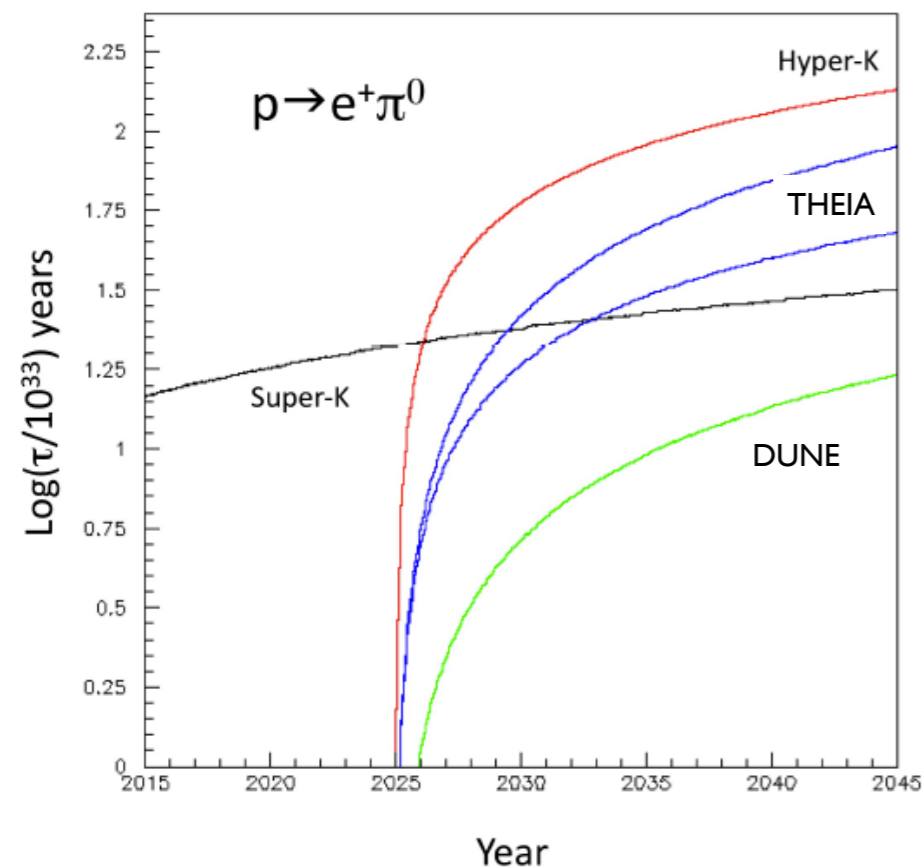
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*Figs from arXiv:1409.5864, assume  
100t FV; studies based on Phys. Rev. D  
72, 075014 (2005); LAr from JHEP  
0704:041,2007*

Heavy X boson exchange



Enhanced n tag  
Reduced atmos.  $\nu$  bkg

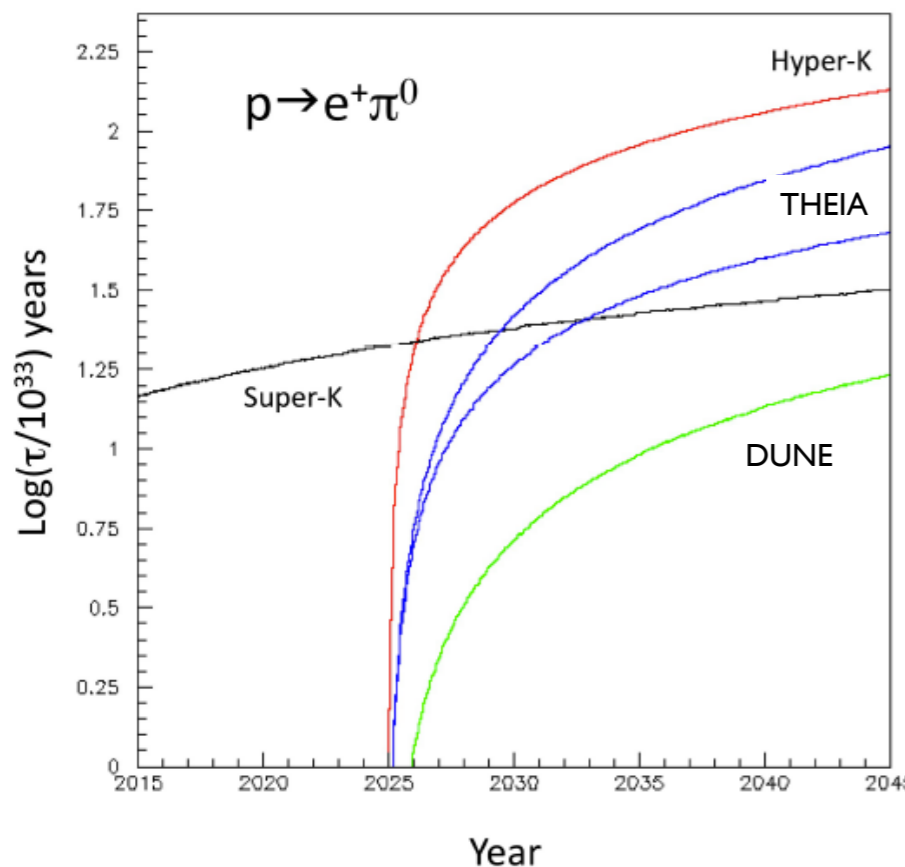
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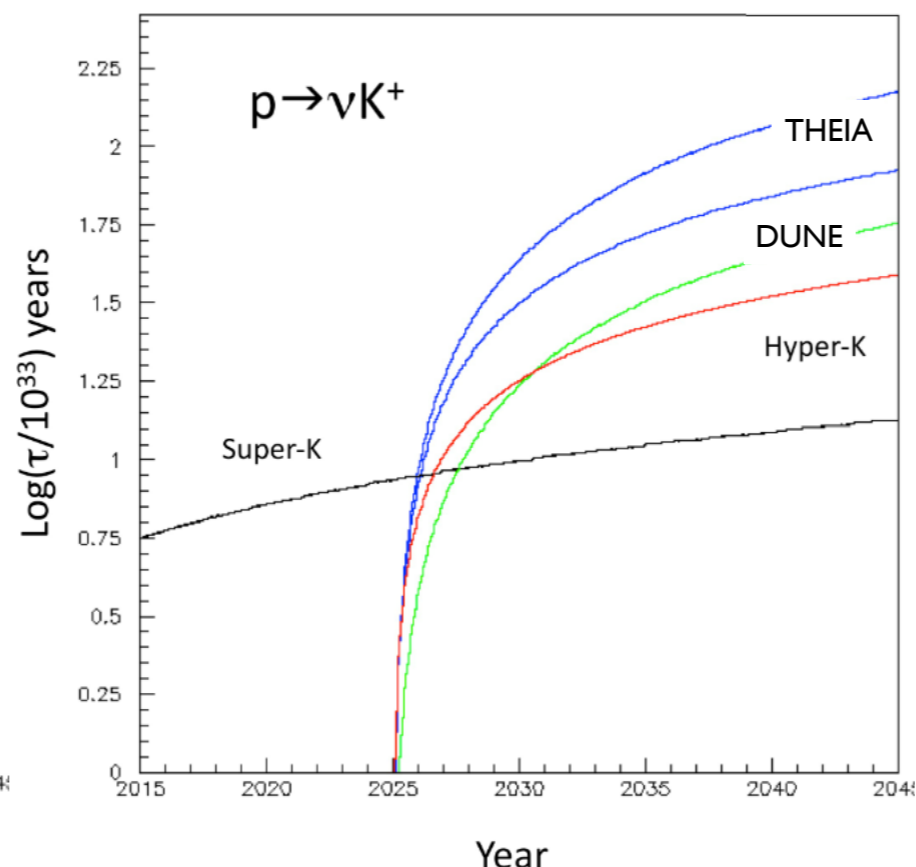
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2nd order processes



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Reduced atmos.  $\nu$  bkg

Sub-Chr t/h detection  
 $\Rightarrow$  Directly visible  $K^+$

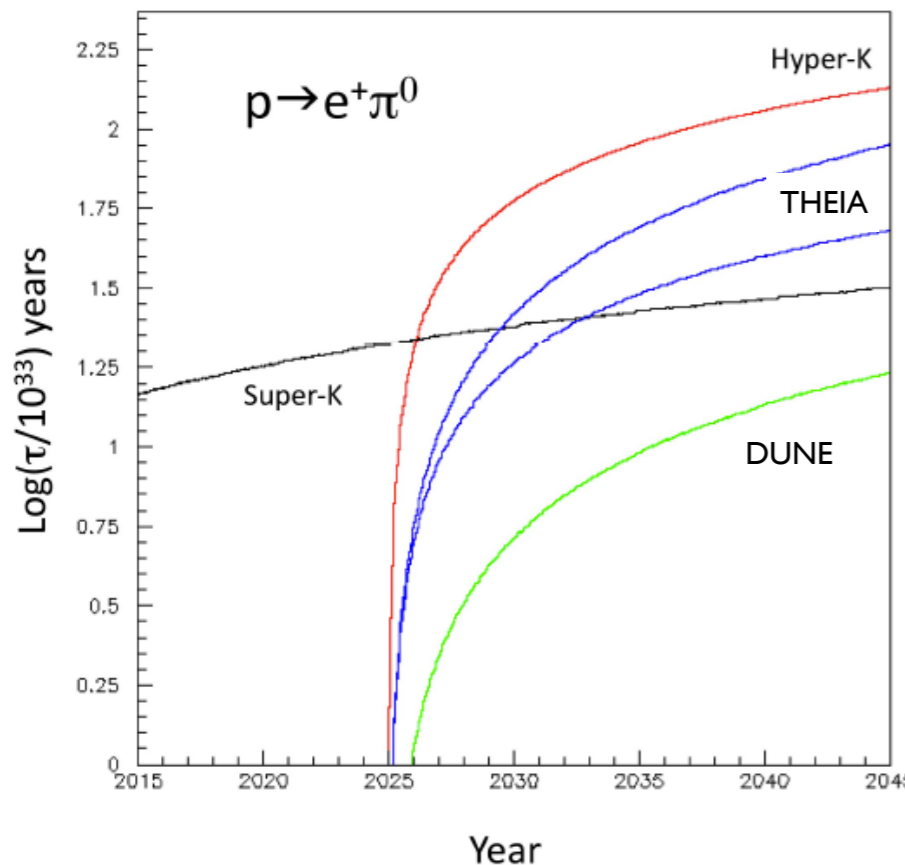
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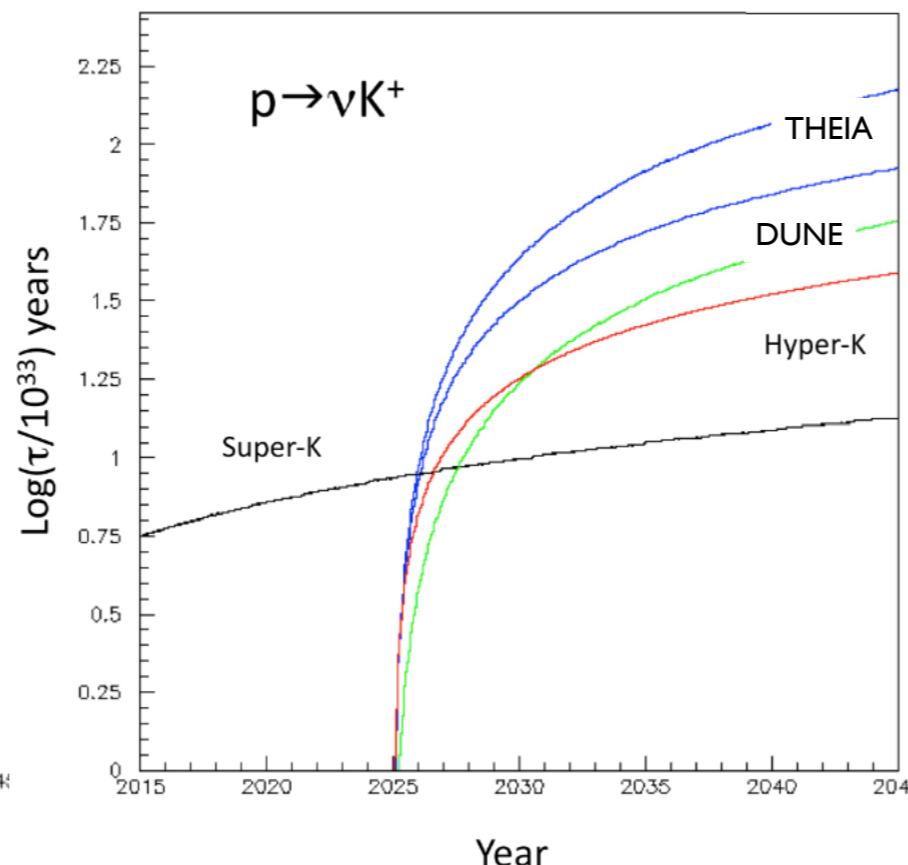
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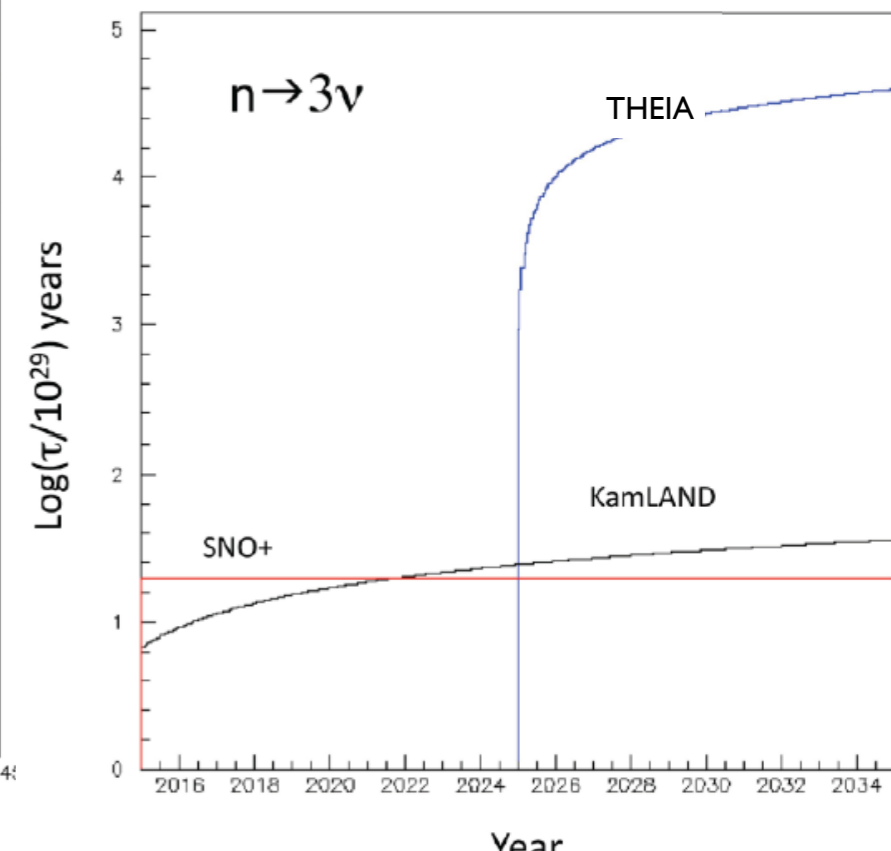
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2nd order processes



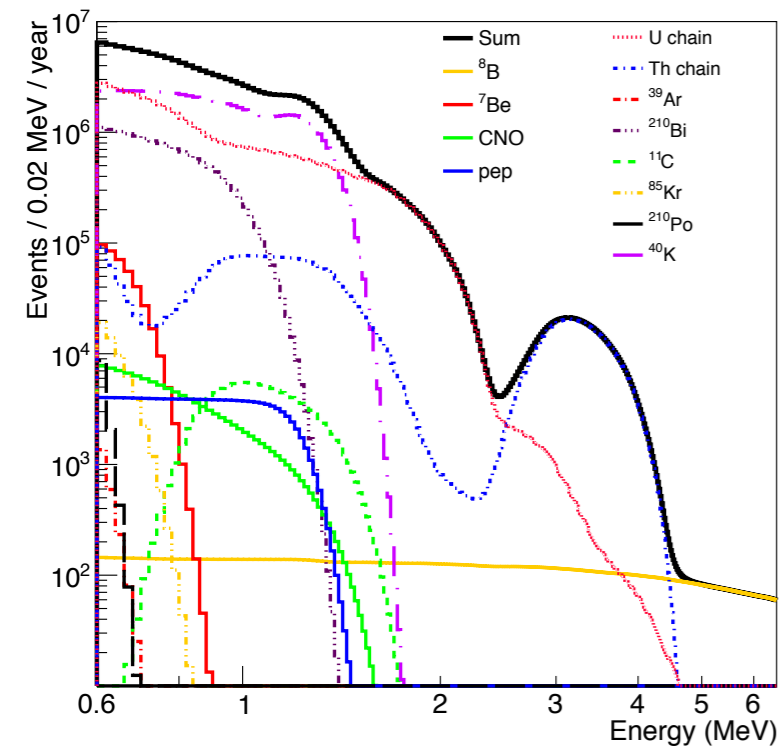
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Extra dimensions

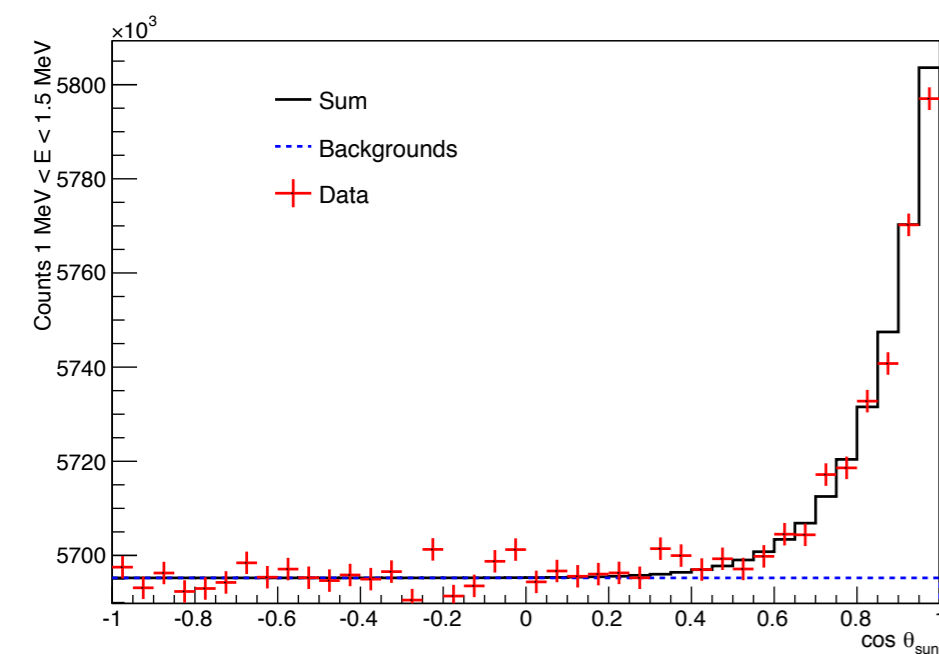


Deep, low threshold  
Directionality + n tag

# Solar Neutrinos with Theia



- Dominant background to CNO  $\nu$  measurement: <sup>210</sup>Bi
- Theia offers unique low-threshold, directional detection



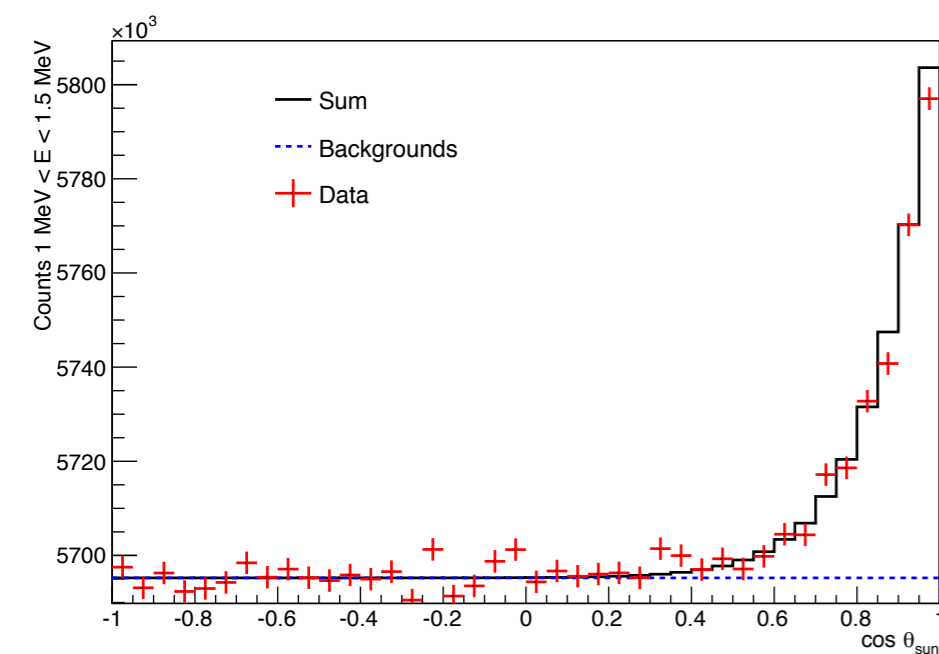
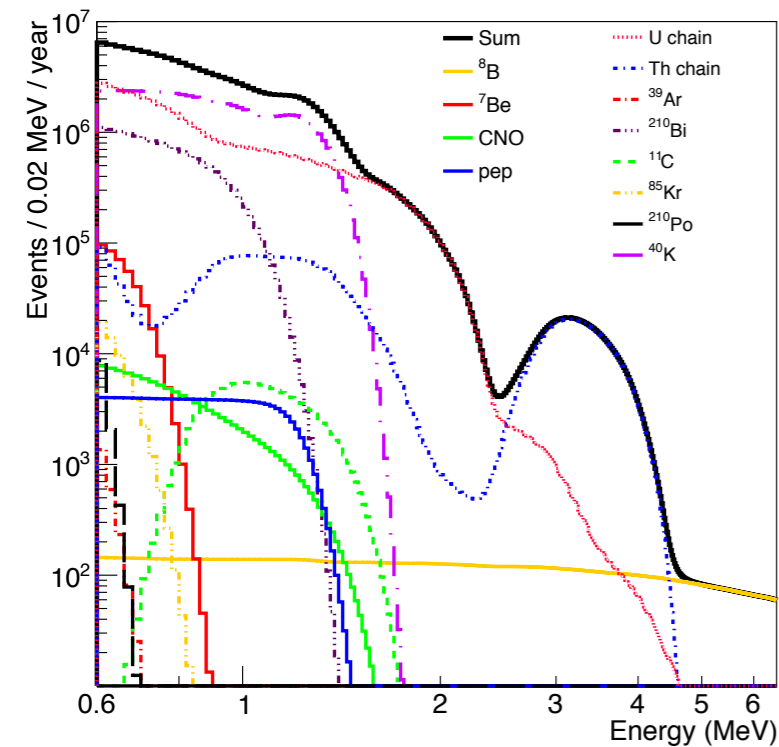
2D fit in energy and  $\cos(\theta_{\text{sun}})$

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Signal	Normalization sensitivity (%)
$^8\text{B } \nu$	0.4
$^7\text{Be } \nu$	0.4
pep $\nu$	3.8
CNO $\nu$	5.3
$^{210}\text{Bi}$	0.1
$^{11}\text{C}$	11.5
$^{85}\text{Kr}$	10.5
$^{40}\text{K}$	0.04
$^{39}\text{Ar}/^{210}\text{Po}$	21.9
$^{238}\text{U}$ chain	0.02
$^{232}\text{Th}$ chain	0.05

*Eur. Phys. J. C (2018) 78: 435*

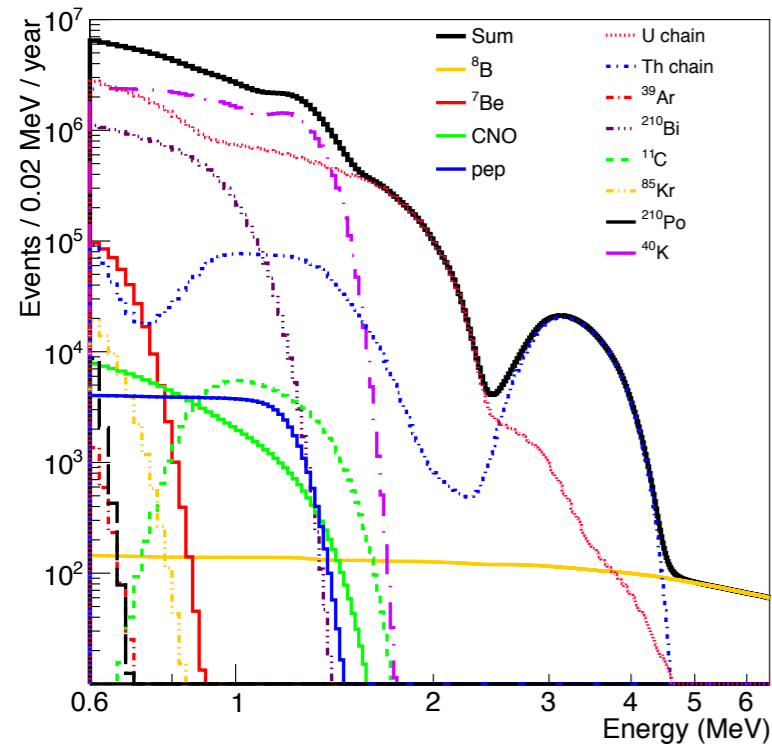


2D fit in energy and  $\cos(\theta_{\text{sun}})$



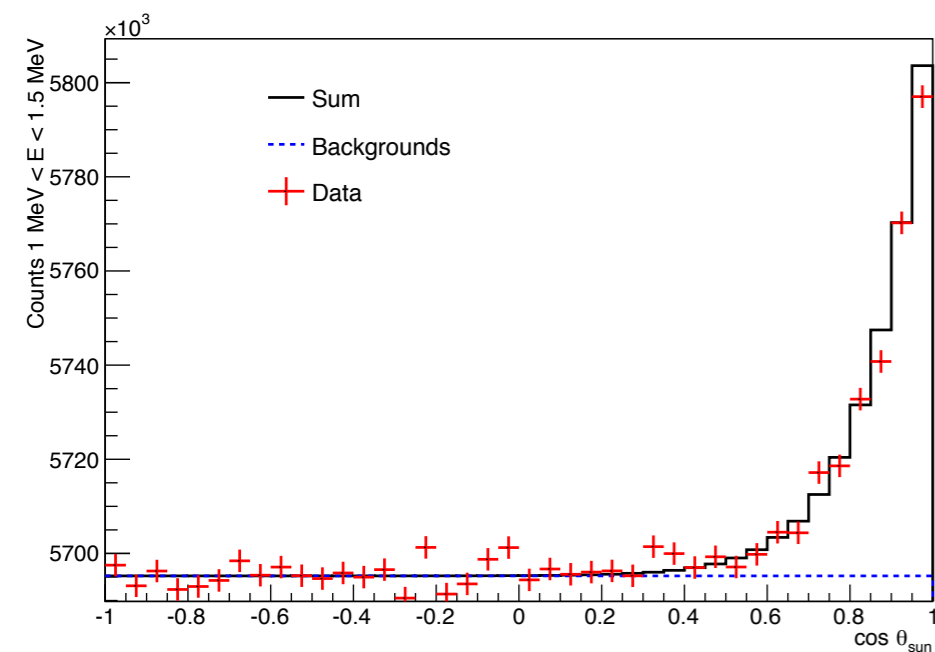
# Solar Neutrinos with Theia

- Dominant background to CNO  $\nu$  measurement:  $^{210}\text{Bi}$
- Theia offers unique low-threshold, directional detection

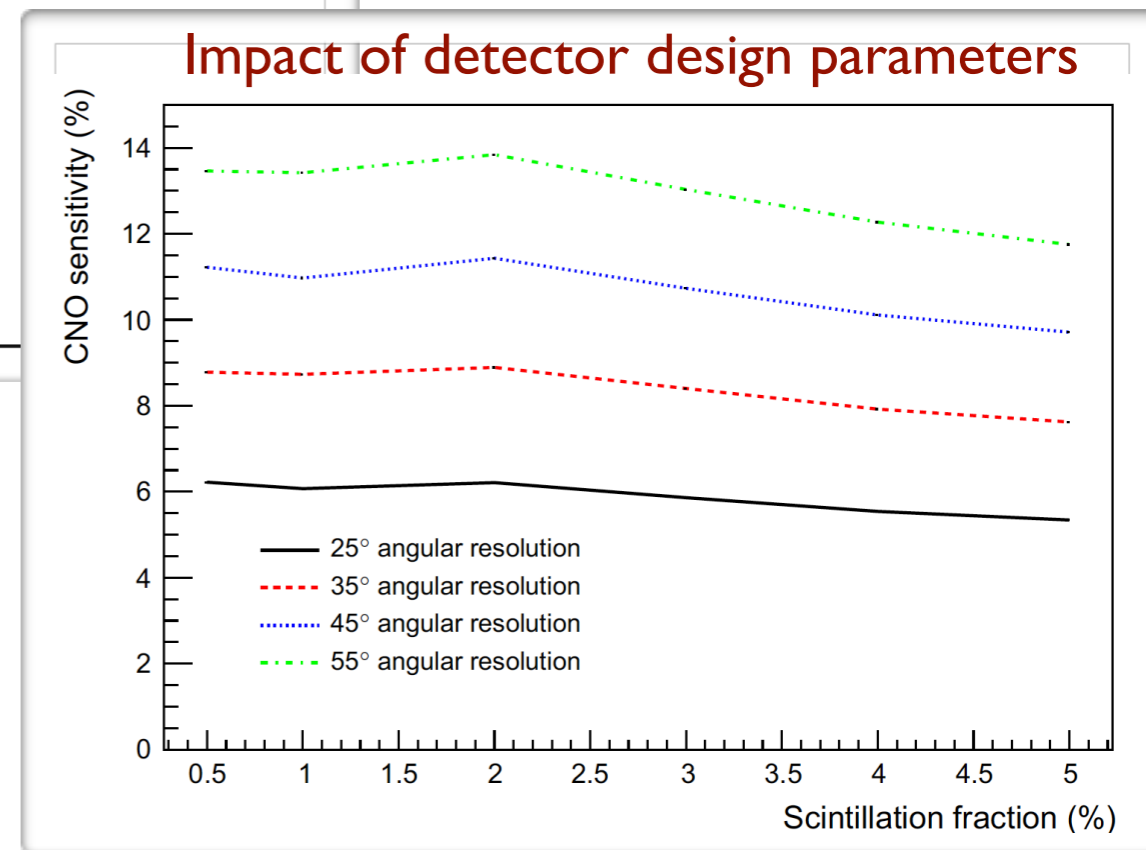


Signal	Normalization sensitivity (%)
$^8\text{B } \nu$	0.4
$^7\text{Be } \nu$	0.4
pep $\nu$	3.8
CNO $\nu$	5.3
$^{210}\text{Bi}$	0.1
$^{11}\text{C}$	11.5
$^{85}\text{Kr}$	10.5
$^{40}\text{K}$	0.04
$^{39}\text{Ar}/^{210}\text{Po}$	21.9
$^{238}\text{U}$ chain	0.02
$^{232}\text{Th}$ chain	0.05

*Eur. Phys. J. C (2018) 78: 435*



2D fit in energy and  $\cos(\theta_{\text{sun}})$



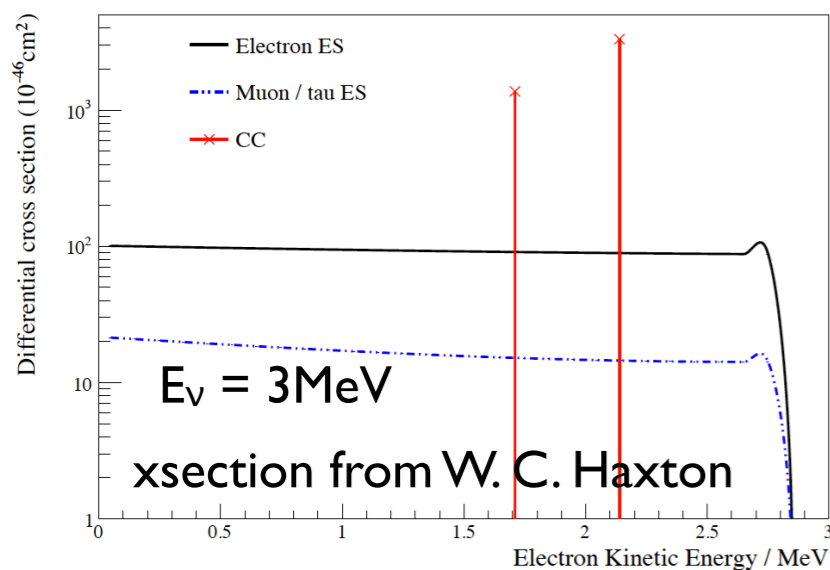
# Theia Spectral Sensitivity

1996, W.C. Haxton: isotope loading for CC interaction (water)

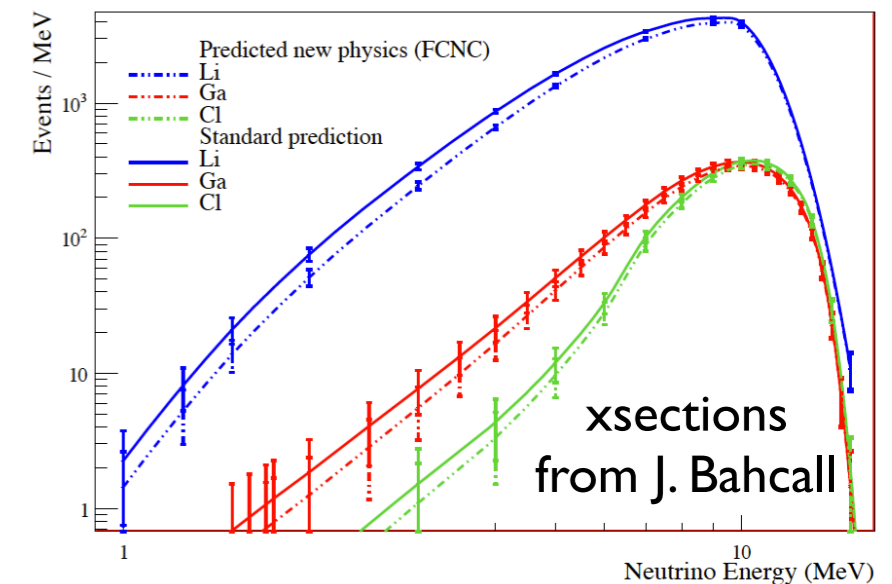
“Salty water Cherenkov detectors” W.C. Haxton PRL 76 (1996) 10

CC detection in WbLS: high-precision spectral measurement to low energy

⇒ search for new physics, solar metallicity, MSW effect



Detector:  
 30kt fiducial  
 1%  $^7\text{Li}$  by mass  
 Conservative 100 pe/MeV



arXiv:1409.5864

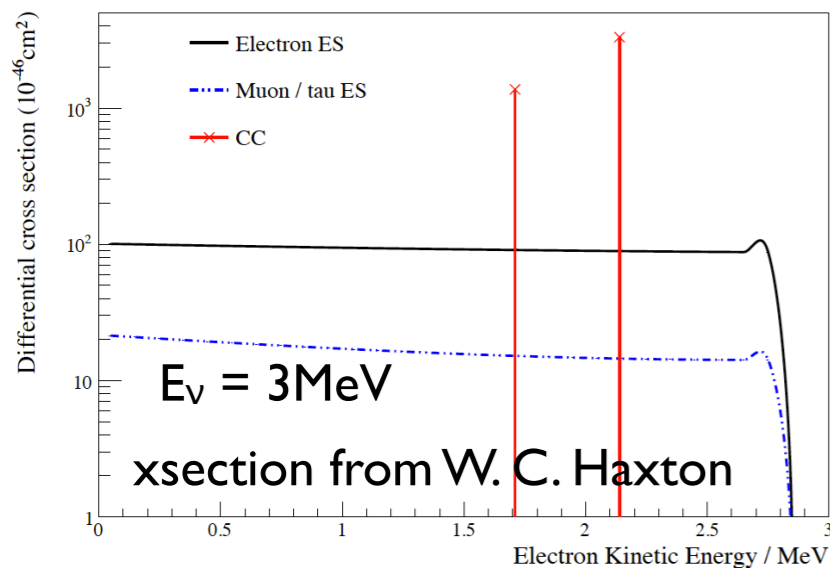
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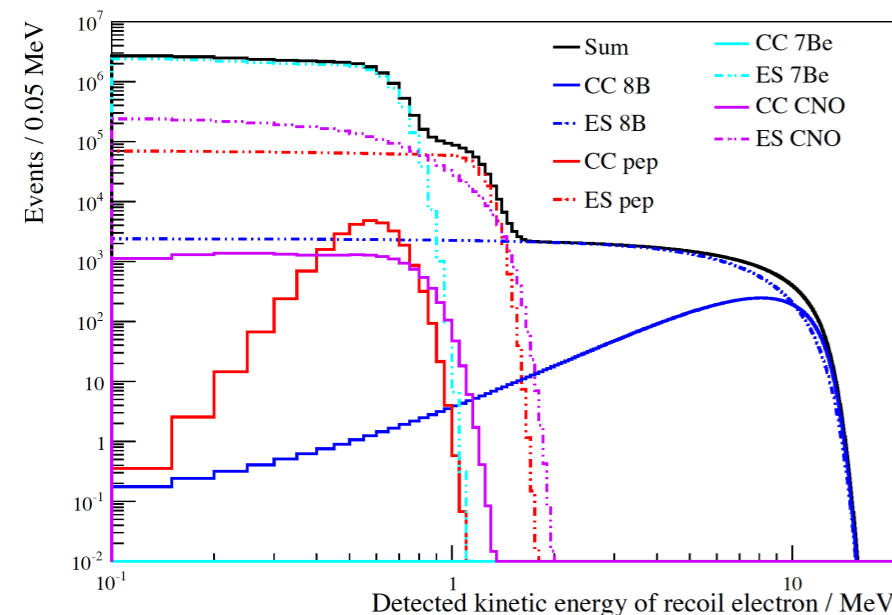
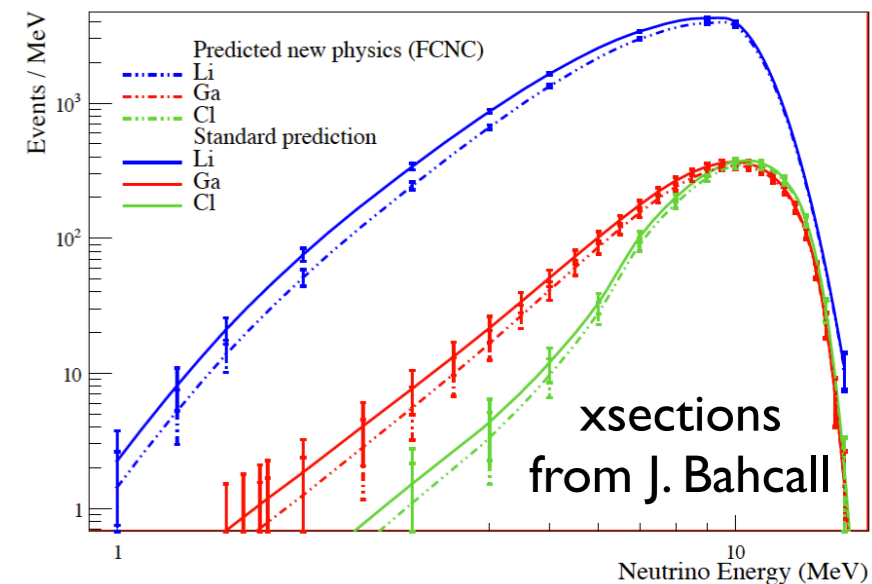
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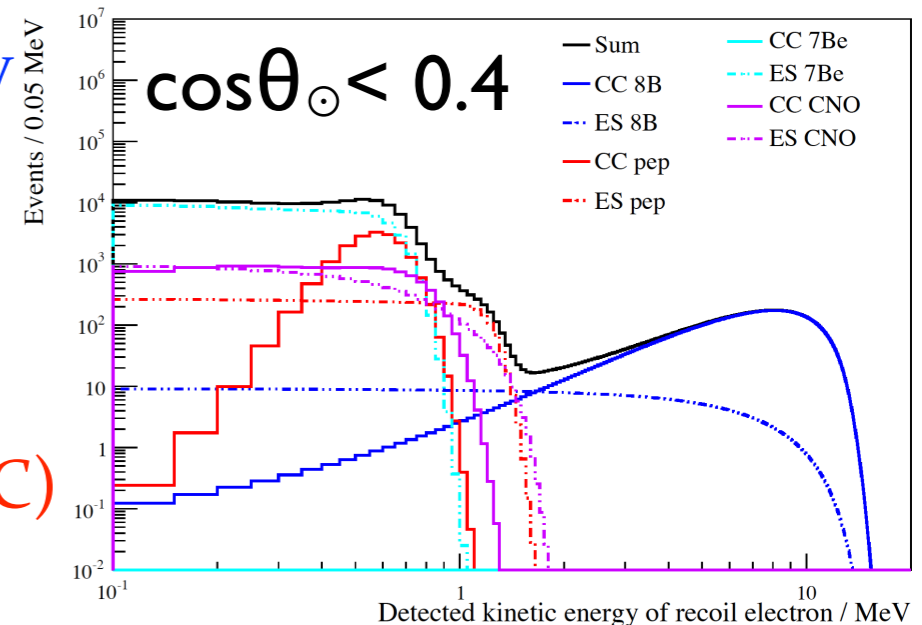


Unprecedented low-energy statistics (ES)

Similar to LENA —  
Astropart. Phys. 35 (2011) 685-732  
+ directionality from Cherenkov

Plus Spectral Sensitivity (CC)

arXiv:1409.5864



# Antineutrino Detection

---

- Detect via IBD
- High light yield allows enhanced n tag : 2.2 MeV  $\gamma$  from  $^1\text{H}$ 
  - ▶ Suppress single-event background that limits water Cherenkov
- Higher detection efficiency than Gd- $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  due to high scint. yield
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- **THEIA**: large statistics in a  
complementary geographical  
location



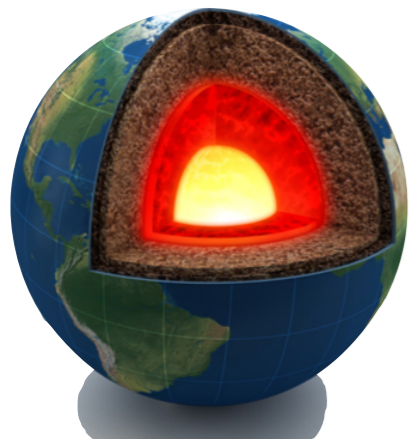
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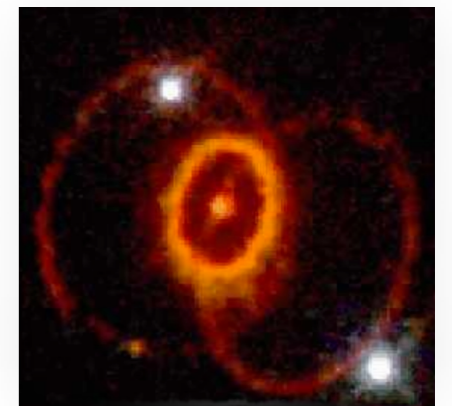
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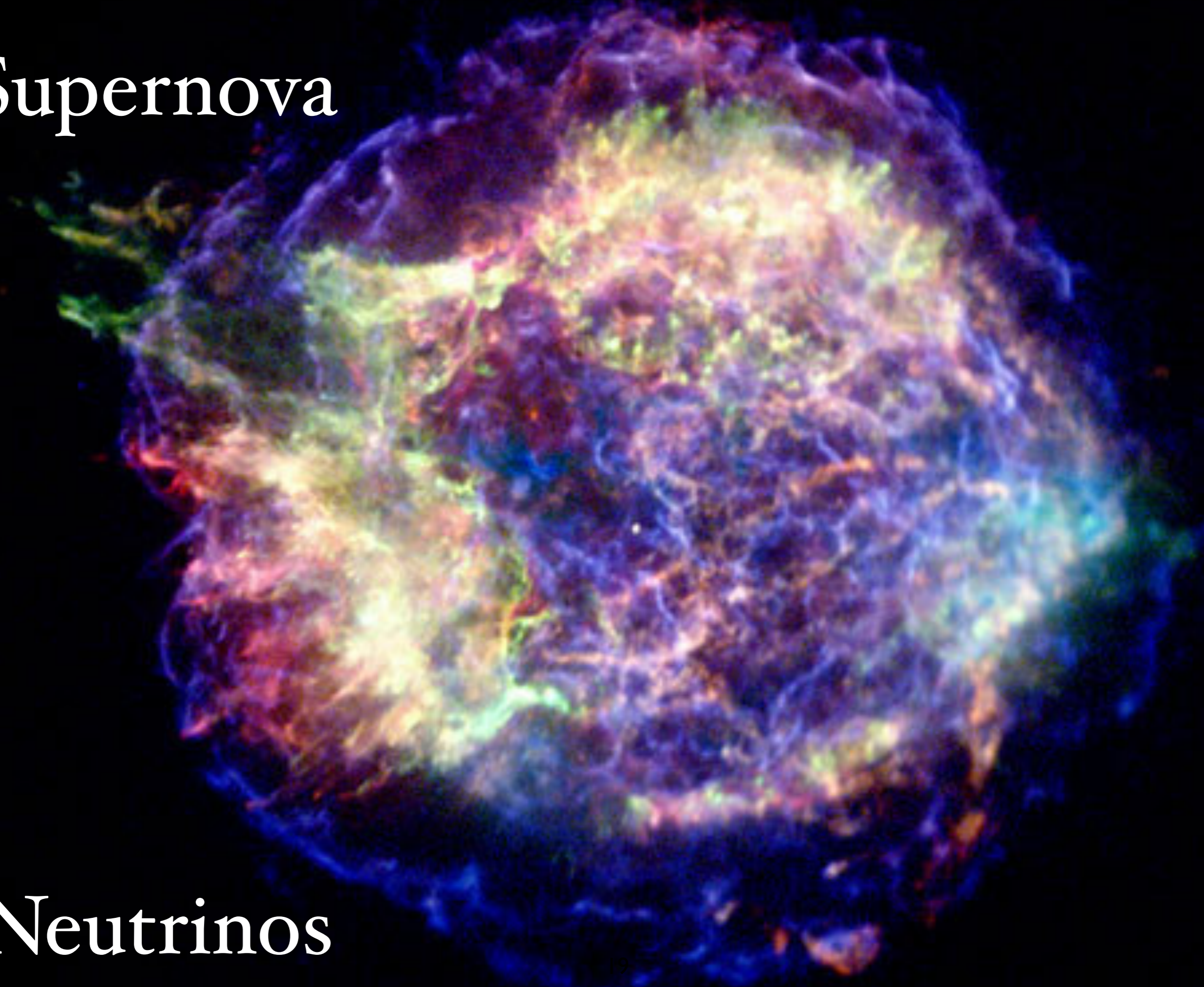
## DSNB

- Enhanced n tag
- Reduced NC background
- Most sensitive search to-date
- Plus NaCl for  $\nu$  signal



Supernova

Neutrinos



# Supernova Detection

Neutrino Reaction	Percentage of Total Events	Type of Interaction
$\bar{\nu}_e + p \rightarrow n + e^+$	88%	Inverse Beta
$\nu_e + e^- \rightarrow \nu_e + e^-$	1.5%	Elastic Scattering
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- ~15k events for SN at 10 kpc (50 kt volume)
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**Early warning (PR value)**



**Ongoing R&D**

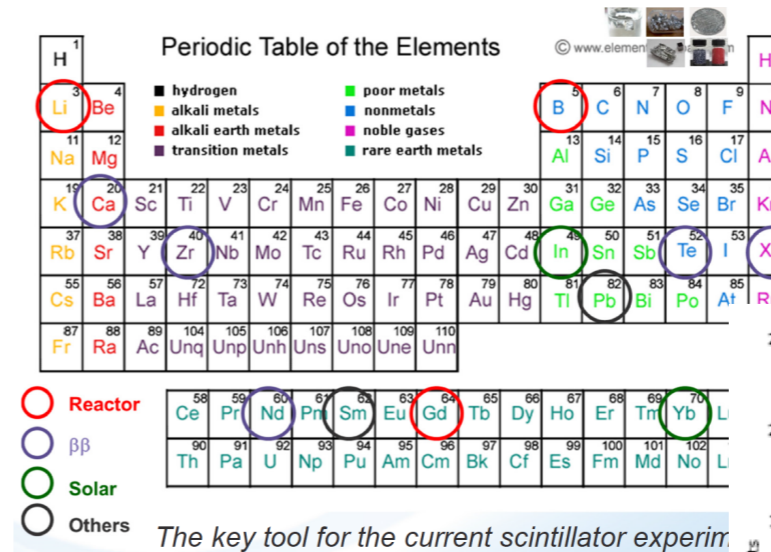
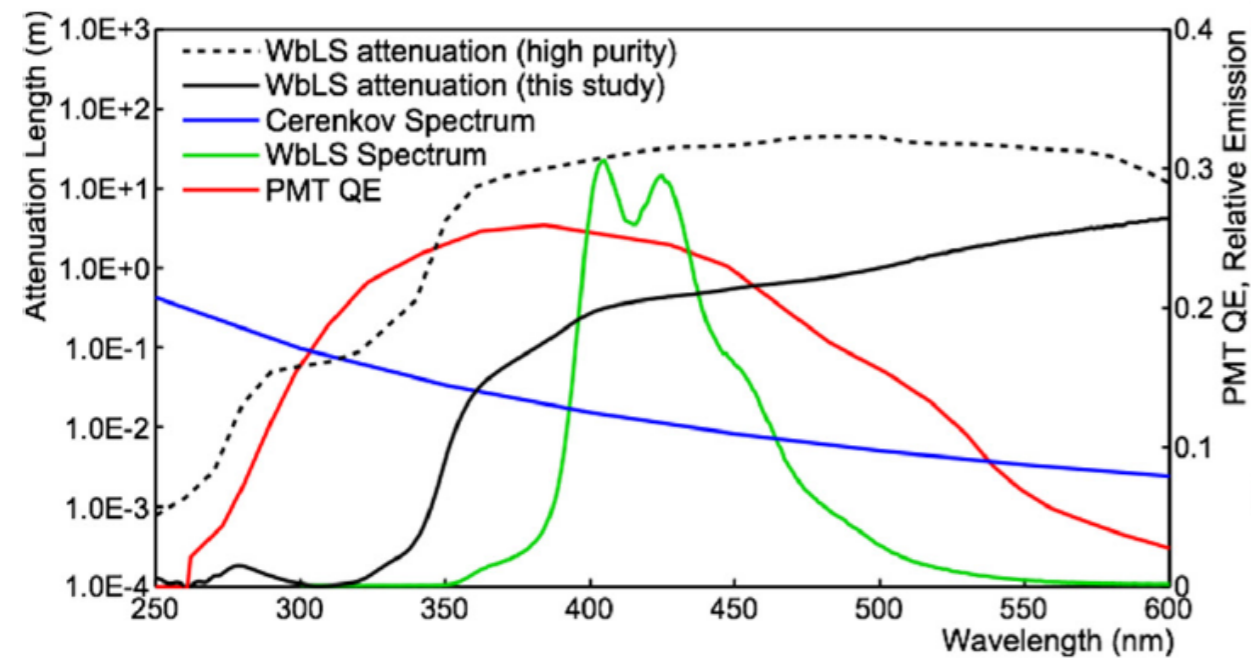


# WbLS Development

Talk by M.Yeh [Thurs pm]

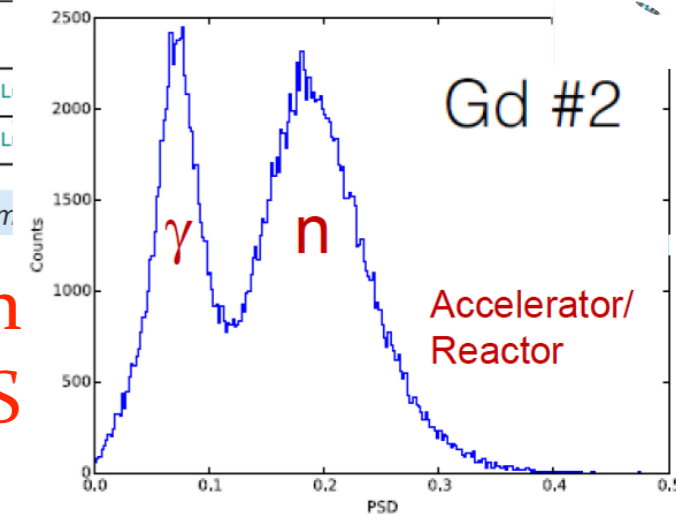
Poster by V. Fishcer

## Emission and attenuation [BNL]



Metal loading for broad program [BNL]

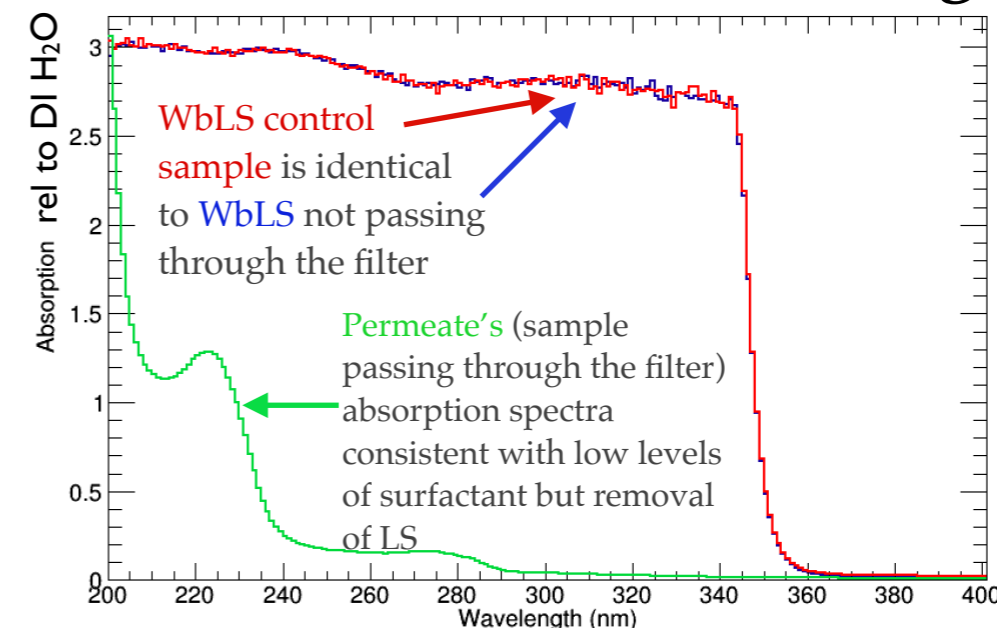
e.g. n/γ separation in Gd-LS



## Ton-scale demonstrator & production [BNL]

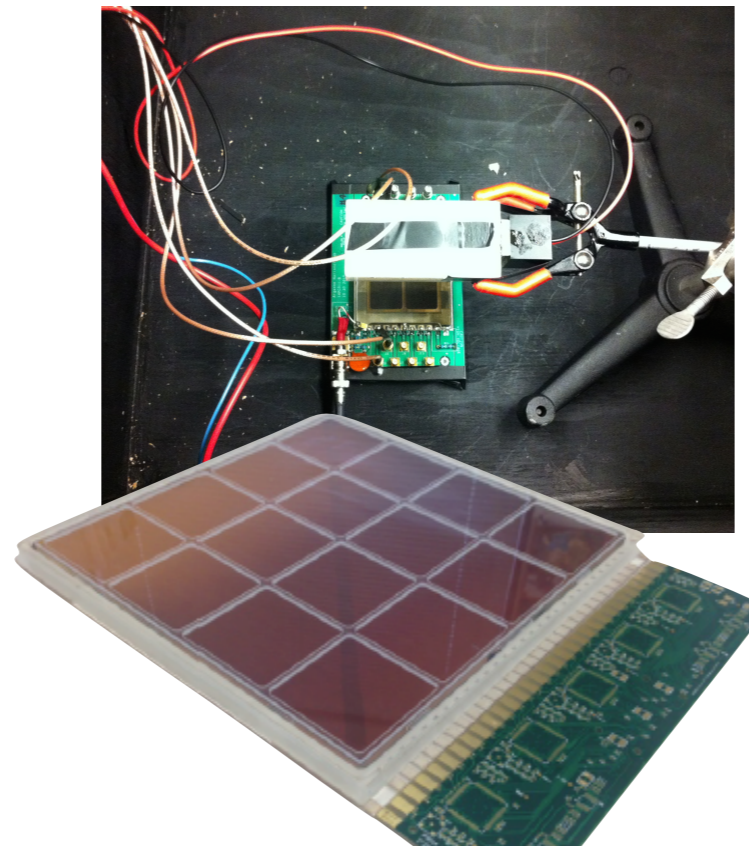


## Nanofiltration & materials testing [UC Davis]

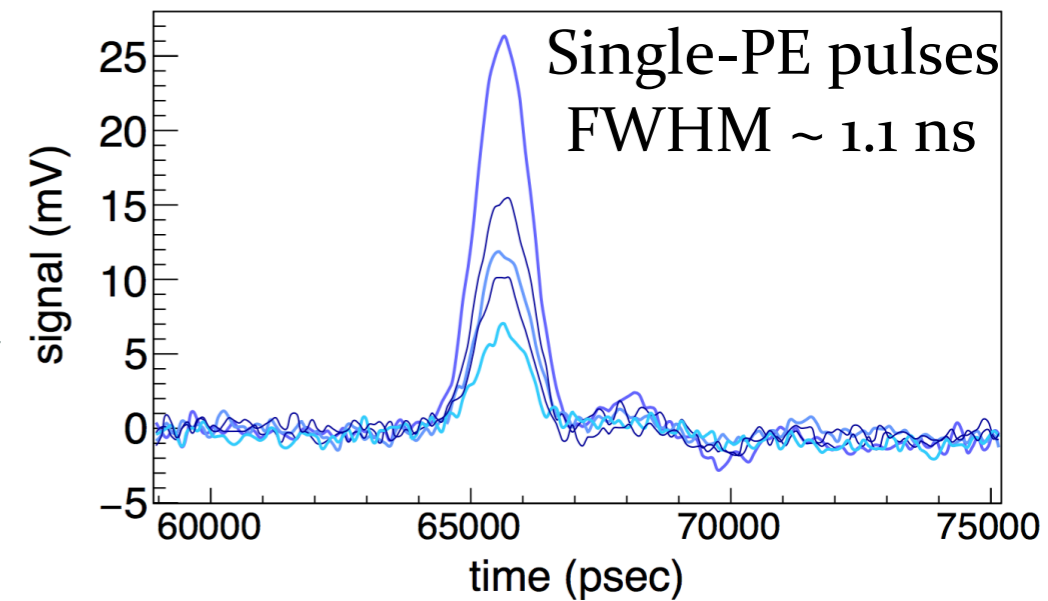


# Photon Sensor Development

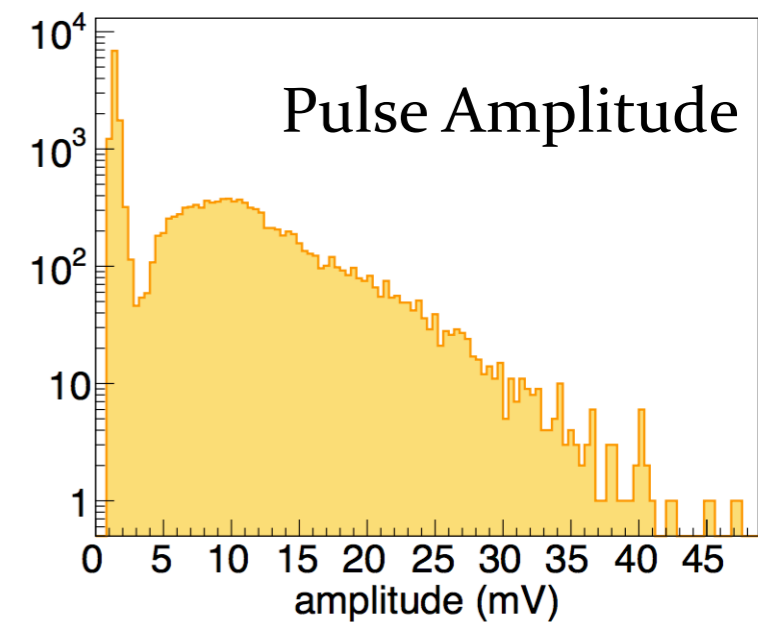
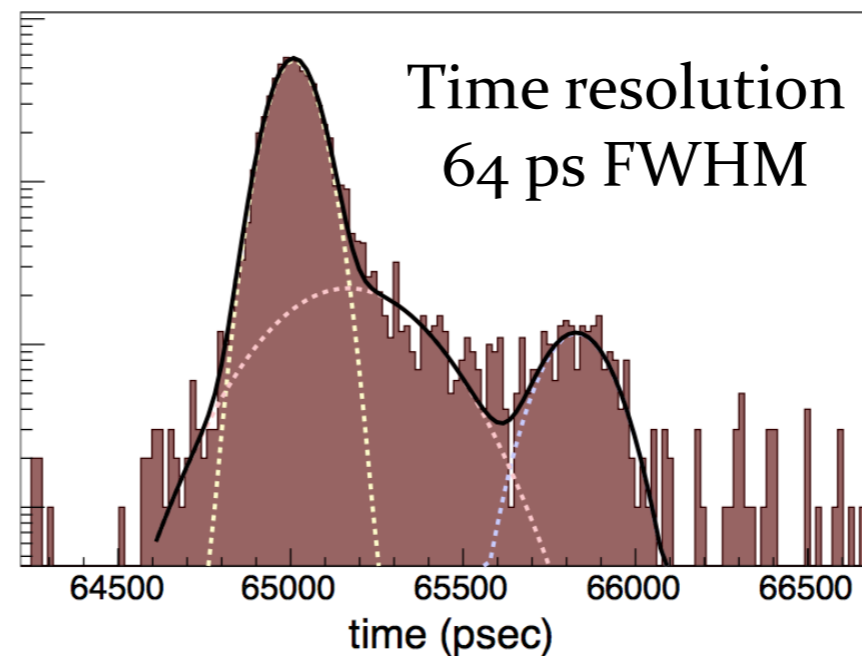
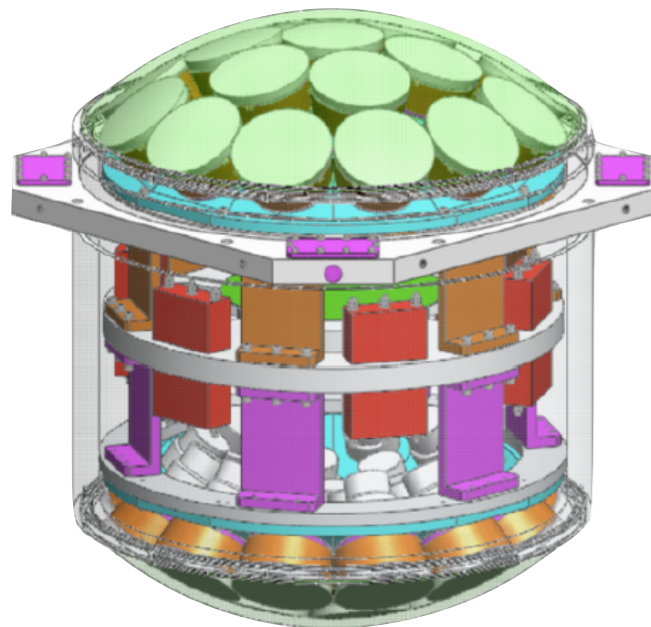
“Standard” PMTs



MCP-based photosensors  
[ANL, Chicago, INCOM]



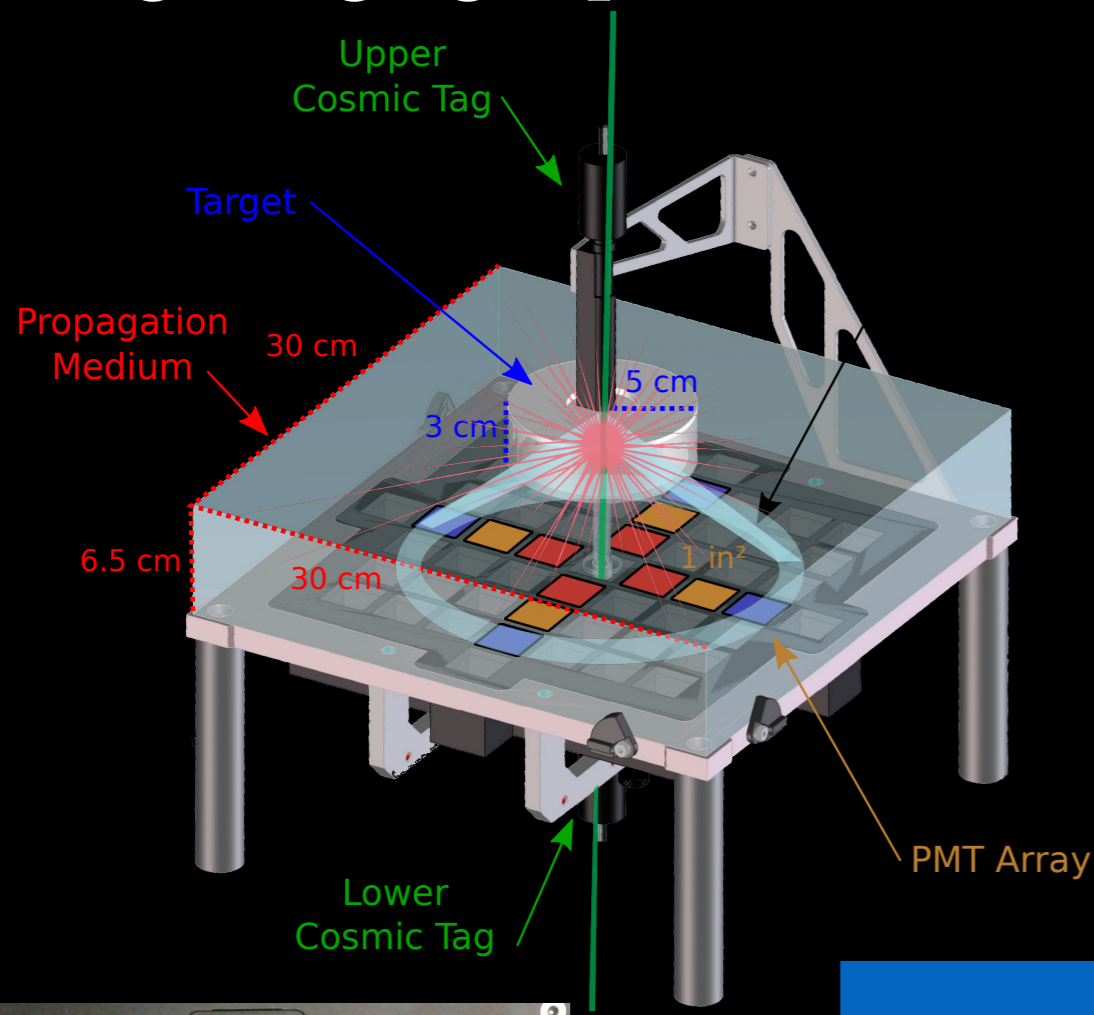
Modular PMTs



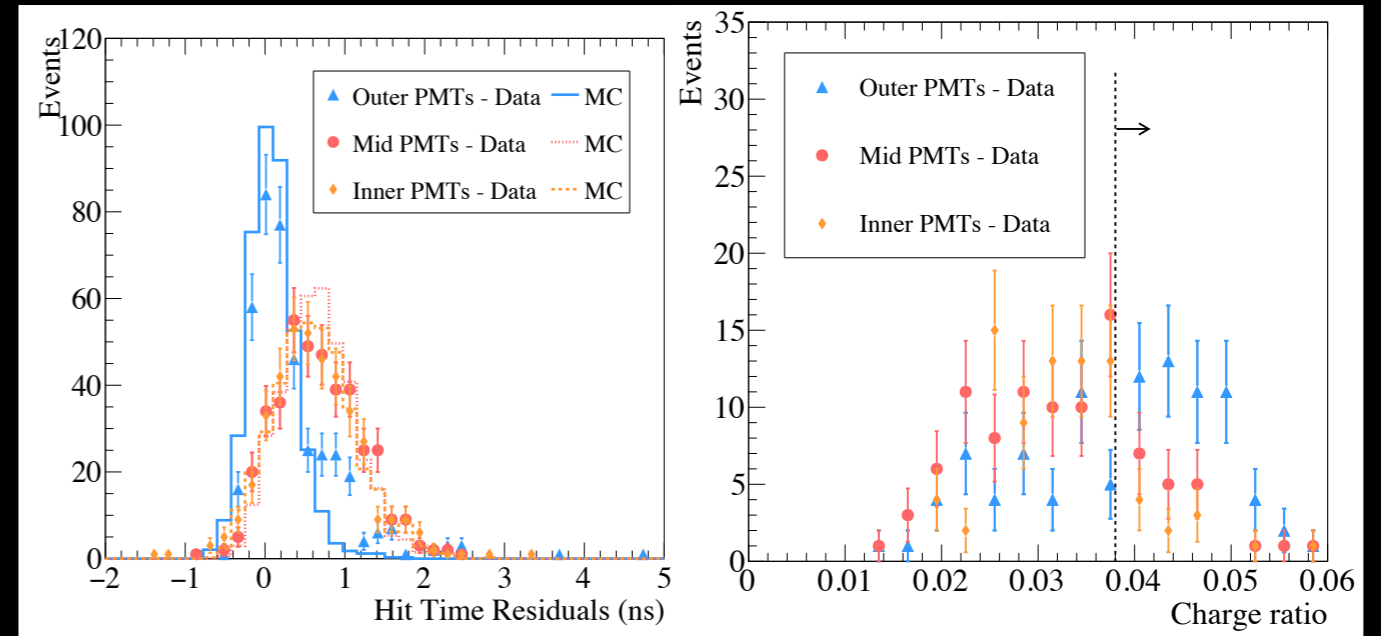
*Nucl. Inst. Meth. Phys. Res. A. Volume 814, 19-32, (April 2016); Nucl. Inst. Meth. Phys. Res. A. (Oct. 2016)*

# CHESS: CHERenkov-Scintillation Separation

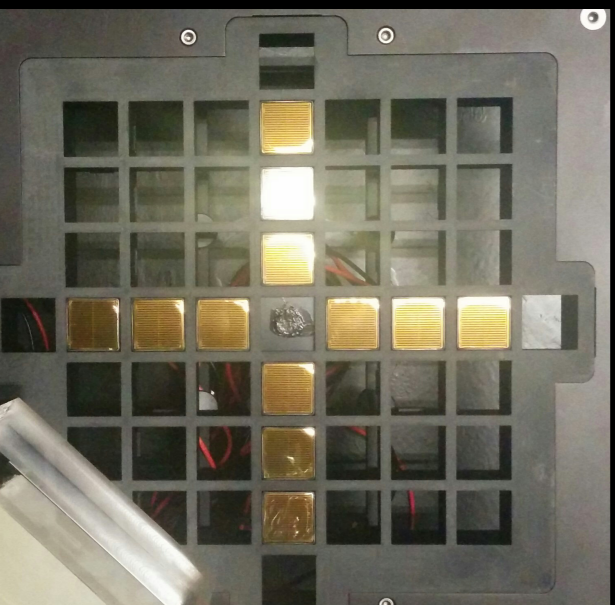
## Ring-imaging experiment



## Time- and charge-based separation in LAB/PPO



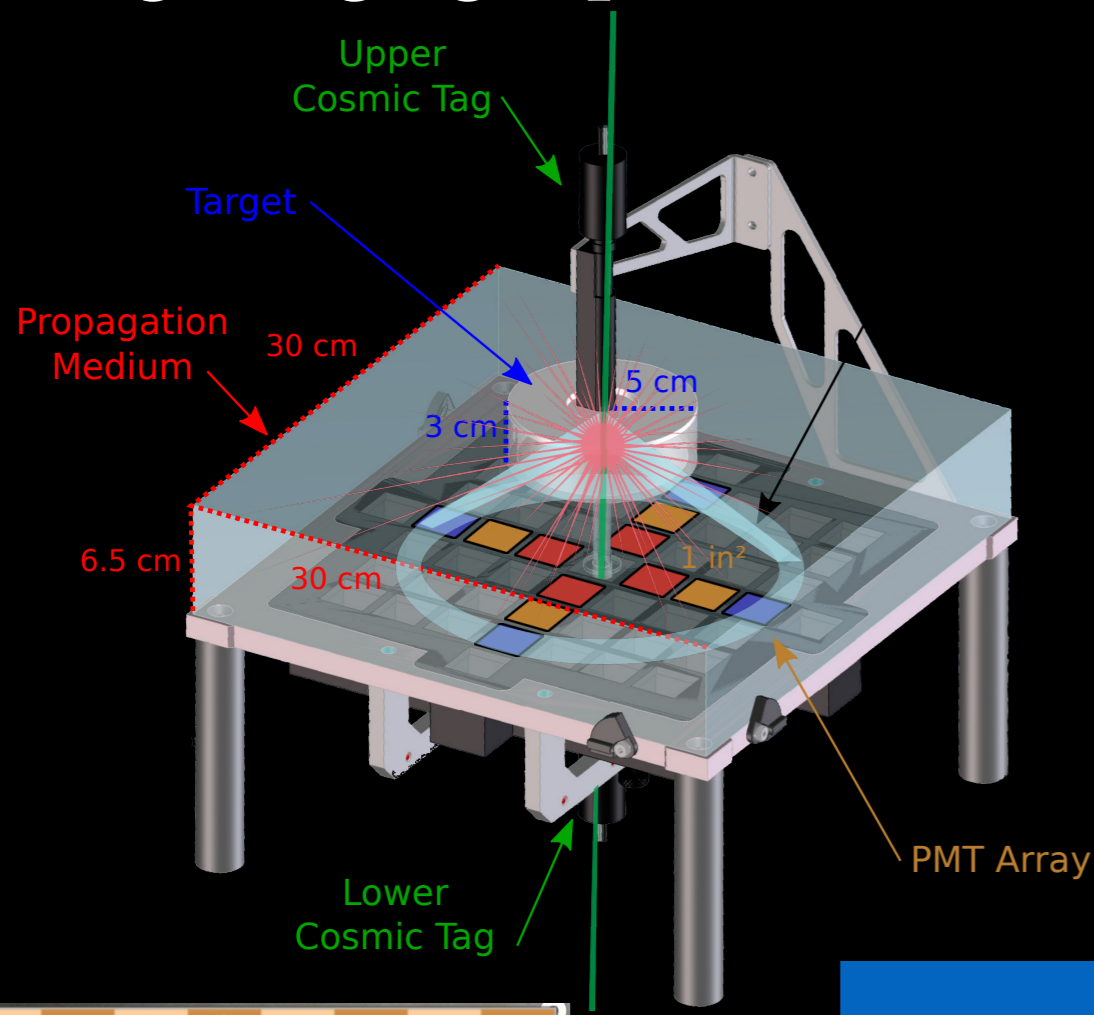
*Eur. Phys. J. C (2017) 77:811*



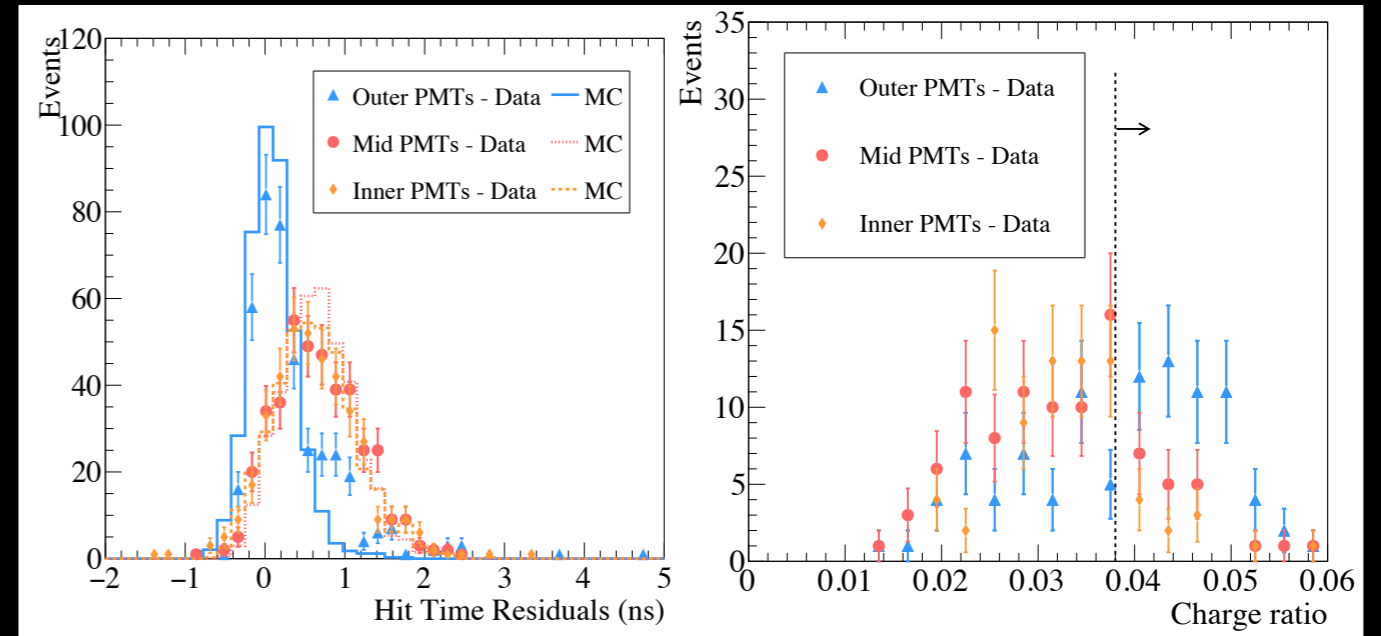
	LAB (time)	LAB (charge)	LAB/PPO (time)	LAB/PPO (charge)
Cherenkov detection efficiency	83 ± 3 %	96 ± 2 %	70 ± 3 %	63 ± 8 %
Scintillation contamination	11 ± 1 %	6 ± 3 %	36 ± 5 %	38 ± 4 %

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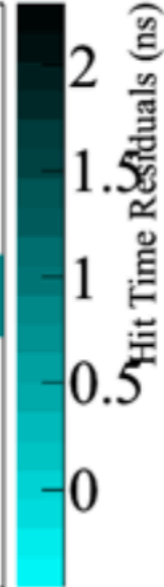
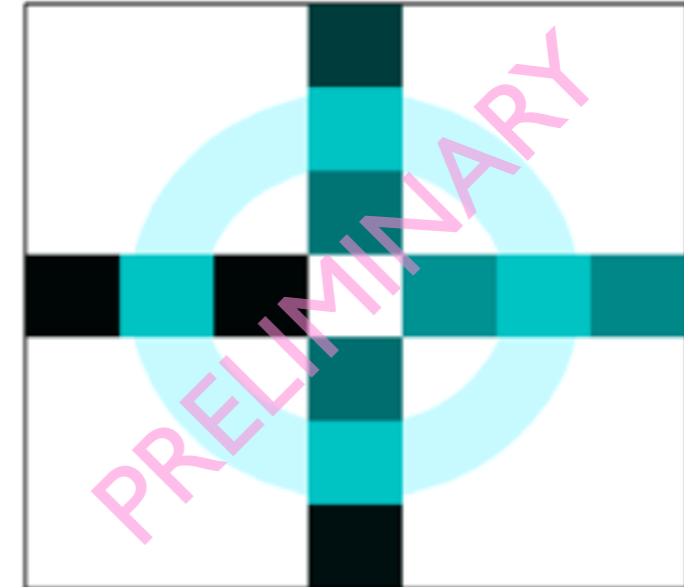
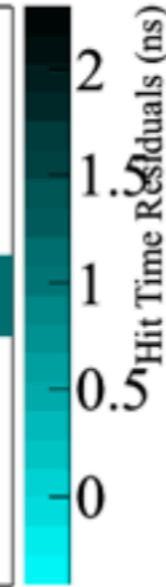
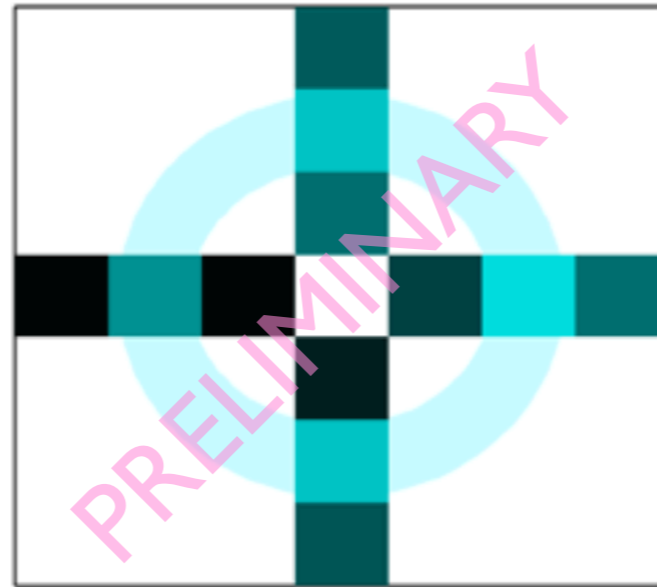
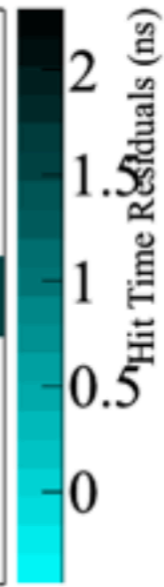
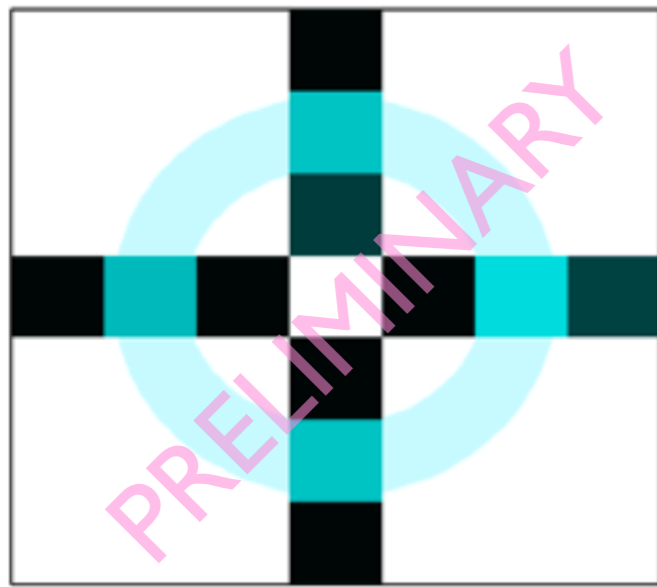
# CHES Results: WbLS

PRELIMINARY

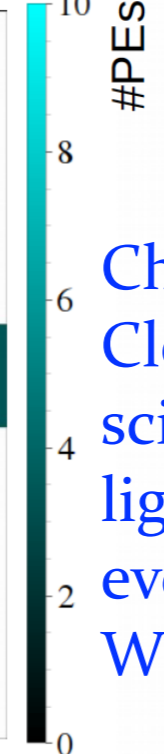
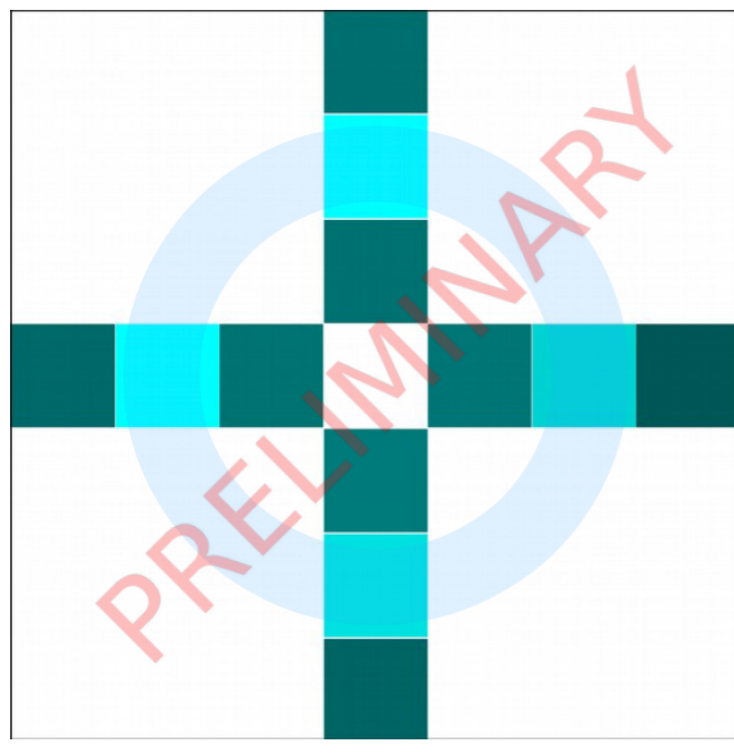
WbLS 1%

WbLS 5%

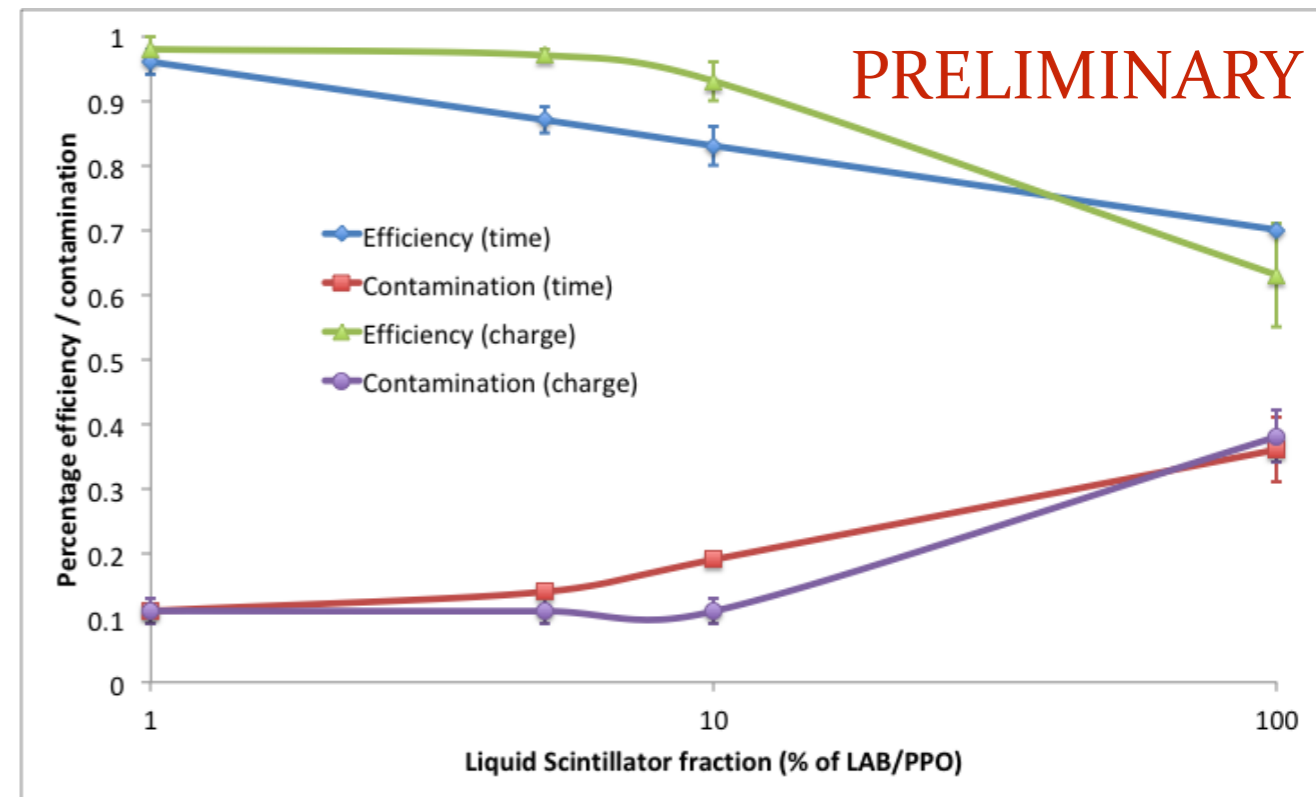
WbLS 10%



Average of WbLS data set



Charge rings:  
Clearly seeing  
scintillation  
light  
even in 1%  
WbLS



# Time Profile

Extract microphysical parameters by fitting to MC model

$^{90}\text{Sr}$  source, single pe regime, detailed MC

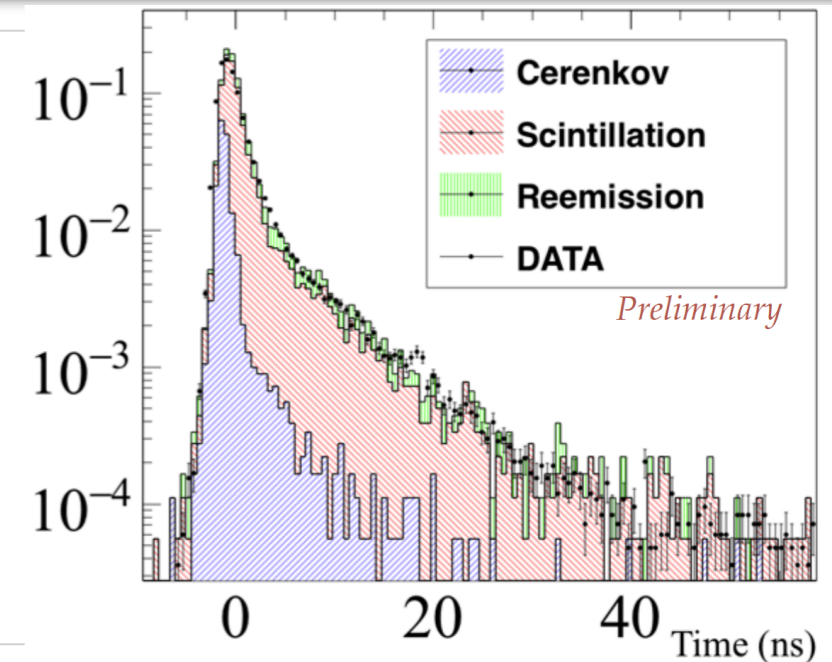
Calibrate method using well-understood LAB/PPO target

Time profile model: 3 exp. decay + rise time

$$\rho(t) \propto (1 - e^{-t/\tau_r}) \times \sum_i^3 A_i e^{-t/\tau_i} \begin{cases} \tau_r = 0.7 \text{ ns} \\ \tau_1 = 4.3 \text{ ns} \\ \tau_2 = 16 \text{ ns} \\ \tau_3 = 166 \text{ ns} \end{cases}$$

*H. M. O'Keeffe et al.*  
*Nucl. Instrum. Methods*  
*A640, 119 (2011)*

*Good agreement between data and model “out of the box”*



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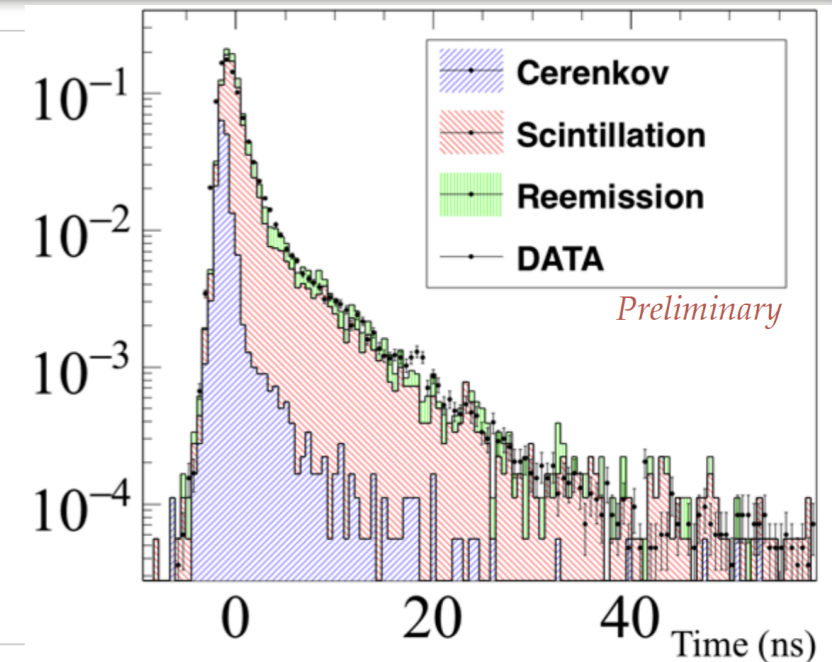
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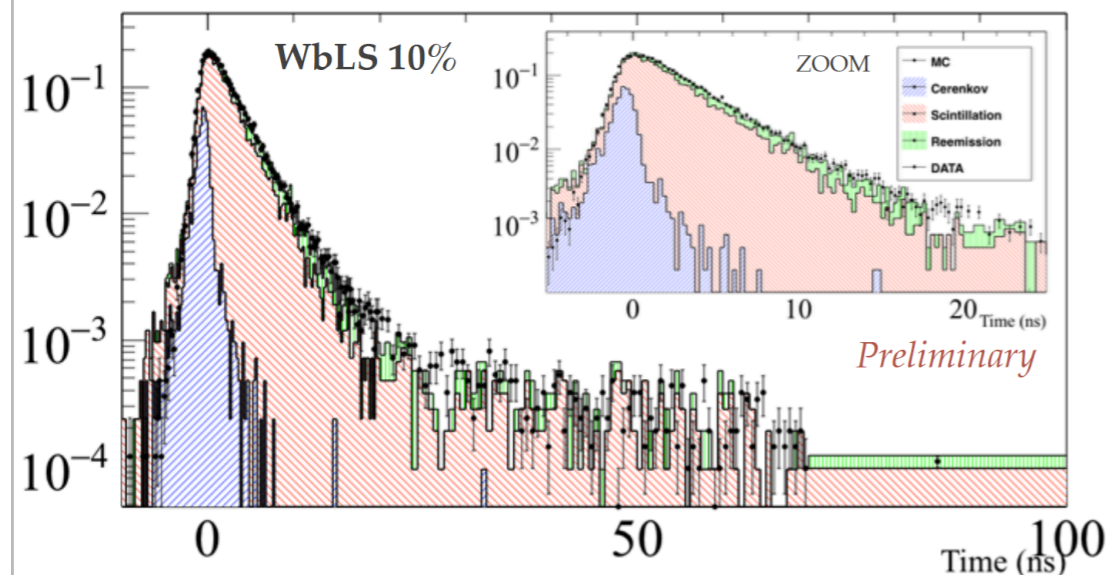


Fit for scintillation time profile of WbLS

*Result of fit (10% WbLS)*

**Fit results:**

- $\tau_r = 0.39$
- $\tau_1 = -2.77$
- $\tau_2 = -21.40$
- $R_1 = 0.94$



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90Sr source, single pe regime, detailed MC

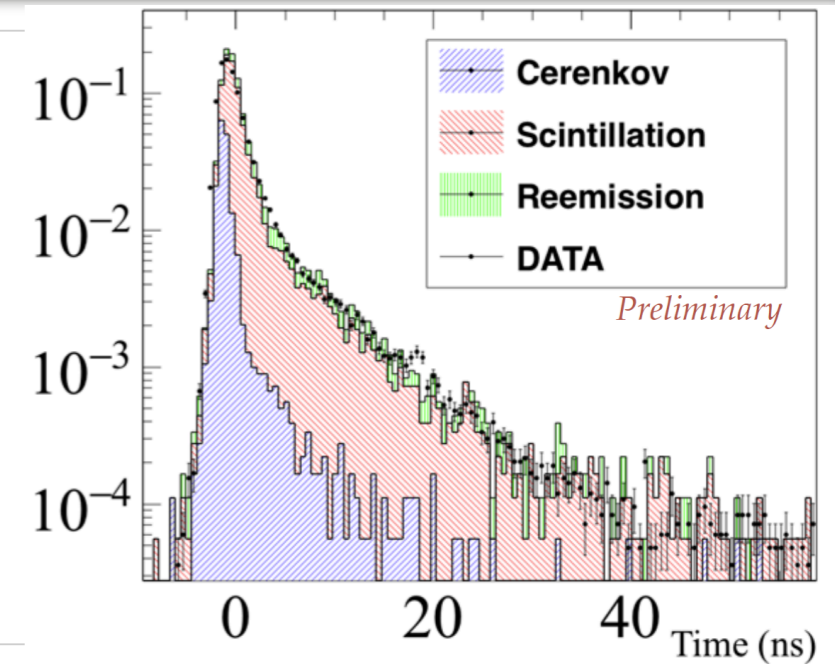
Calibrate method using well-understood LAB/PPO target

Time profile model: 3 exp. decay + rise time

$$\rho(t) \propto (1 - e^{-t/\tau_r}) \times \sum_i^3 A_i e^{-t/\tau_i} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \tau_r = 0.7 \text{ ns} \\ \tau_1 = 4.3 \text{ ns} \\ \tau_2 = 16 \text{ ns} \\ \tau_3 = 166 \text{ ns} \end{array} \right.$$

*H. M. O'Keefe et al.  
Nucl. Instrum. Methods  
A640, 119 (2011)*

*Good agreement between data and model "out of the box"*



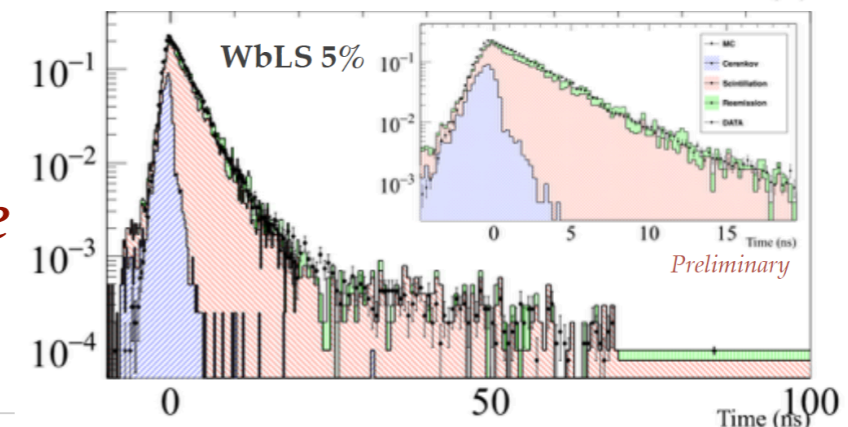
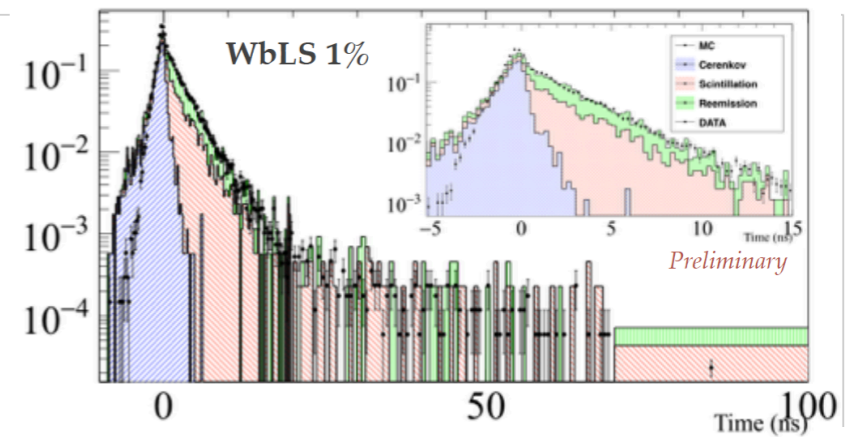
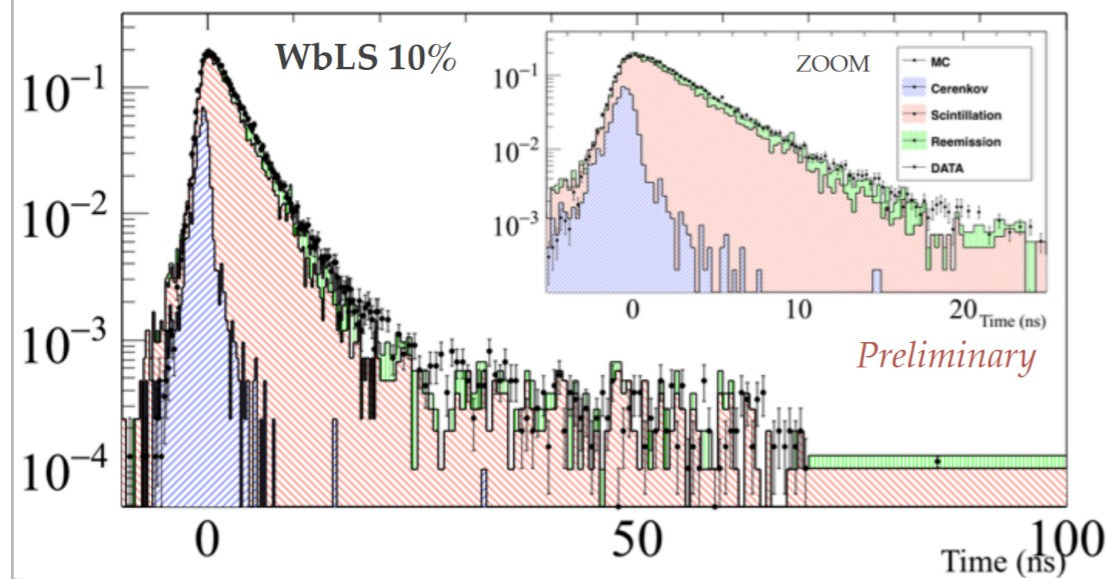
Fit for scintillation time profile of WbLS

*Result of fit (10% WbLS)*

**Fit results:**

- $\tau_r = 0.39$
- $\tau_1 = -2.77$
- $\tau_2 = -21.40$
- $R_1 = 0.94$

*1%, 5% WbLS seem consistent with time profile*





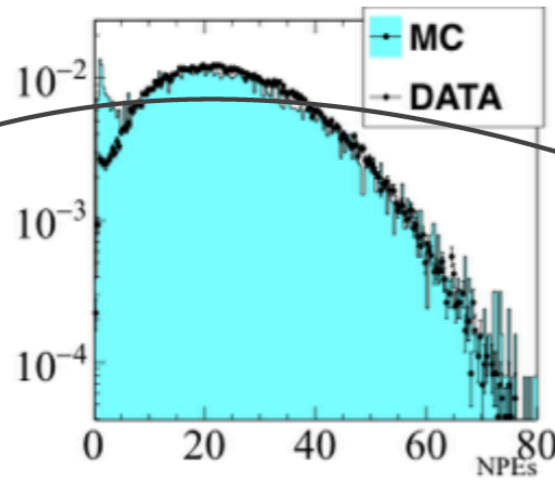
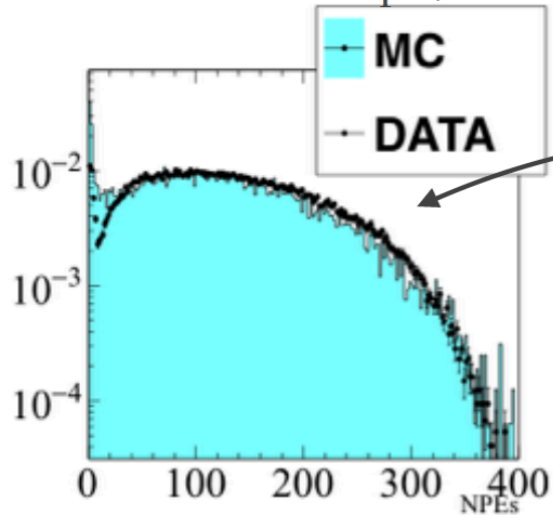
# Preliminary light yield

Note: assumes LAB/PPO wvl emission profile

Fit for WbLS time profile

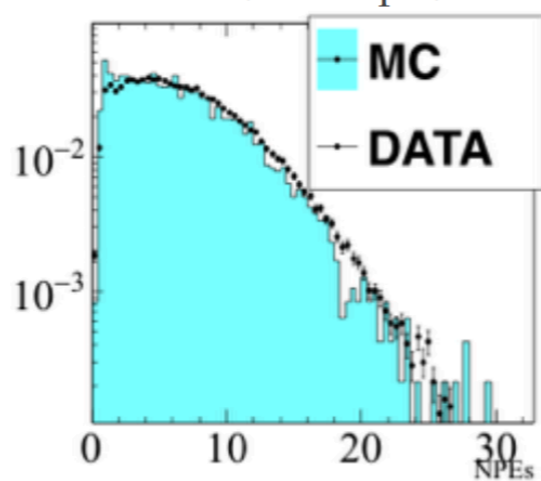
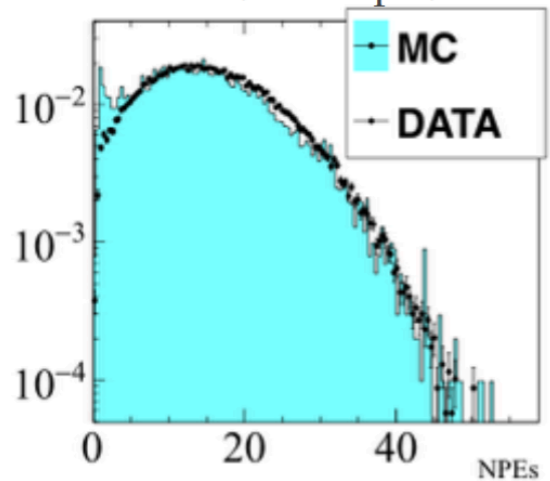
LABPPO: 10800 ph/MeV

WbLS 10%: 1500 ph/MeV



WbLS 5%: 750 ph/MeV

WbLS 1%: 150 ph/MeV

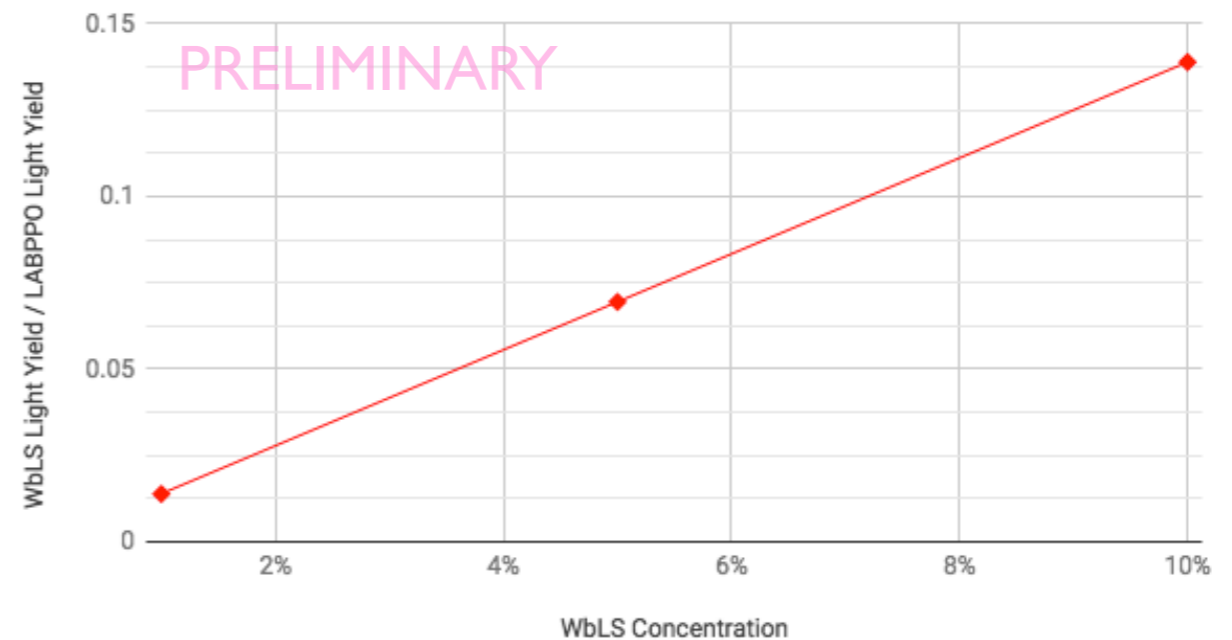


Method: define LAB/PPO LY

Calibrate setup to LAB/PPO charge collection

Determine LY of WbLS cocktail (data/MC fit)

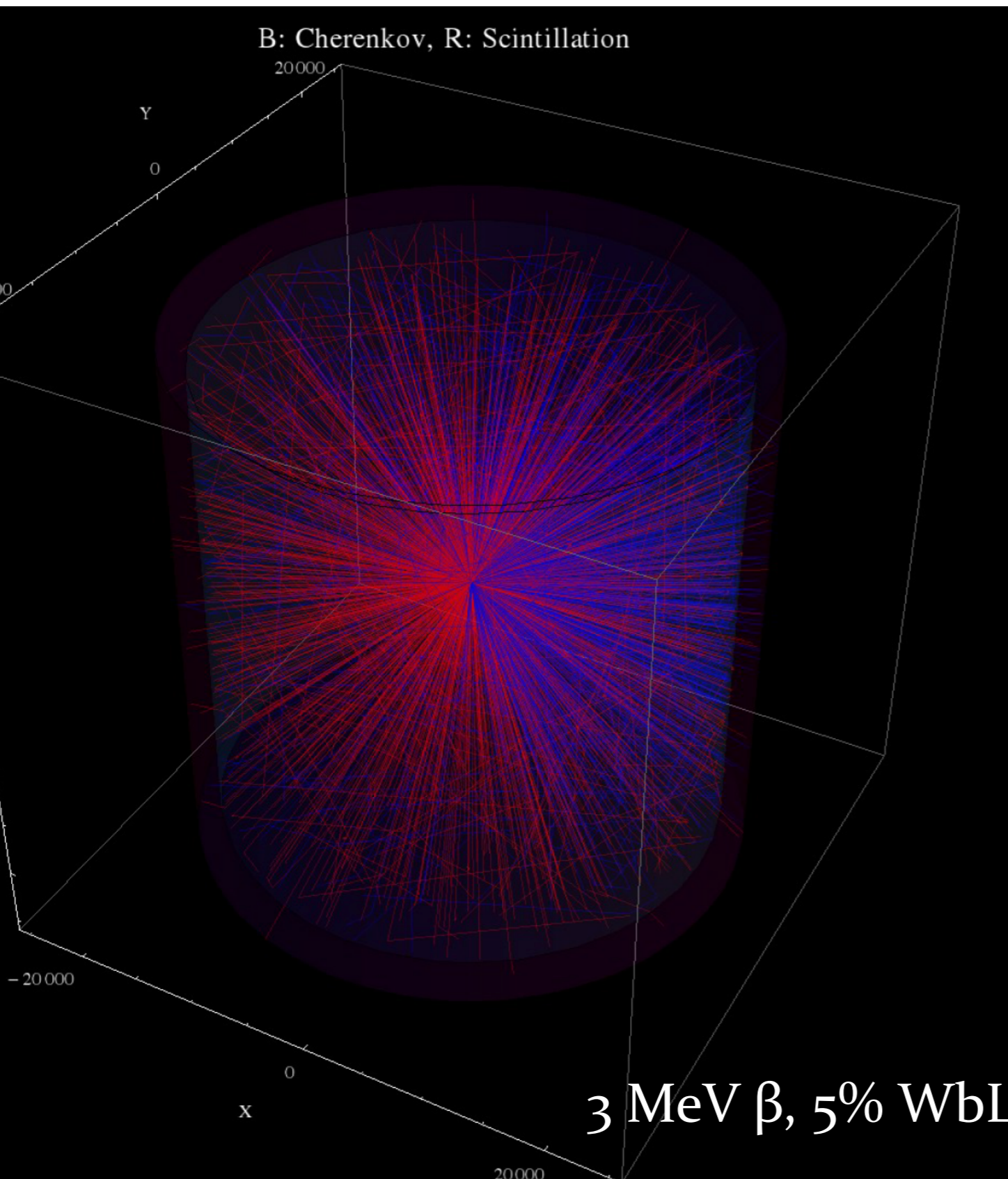
WbLS Ligth Yield wrt LABPPO



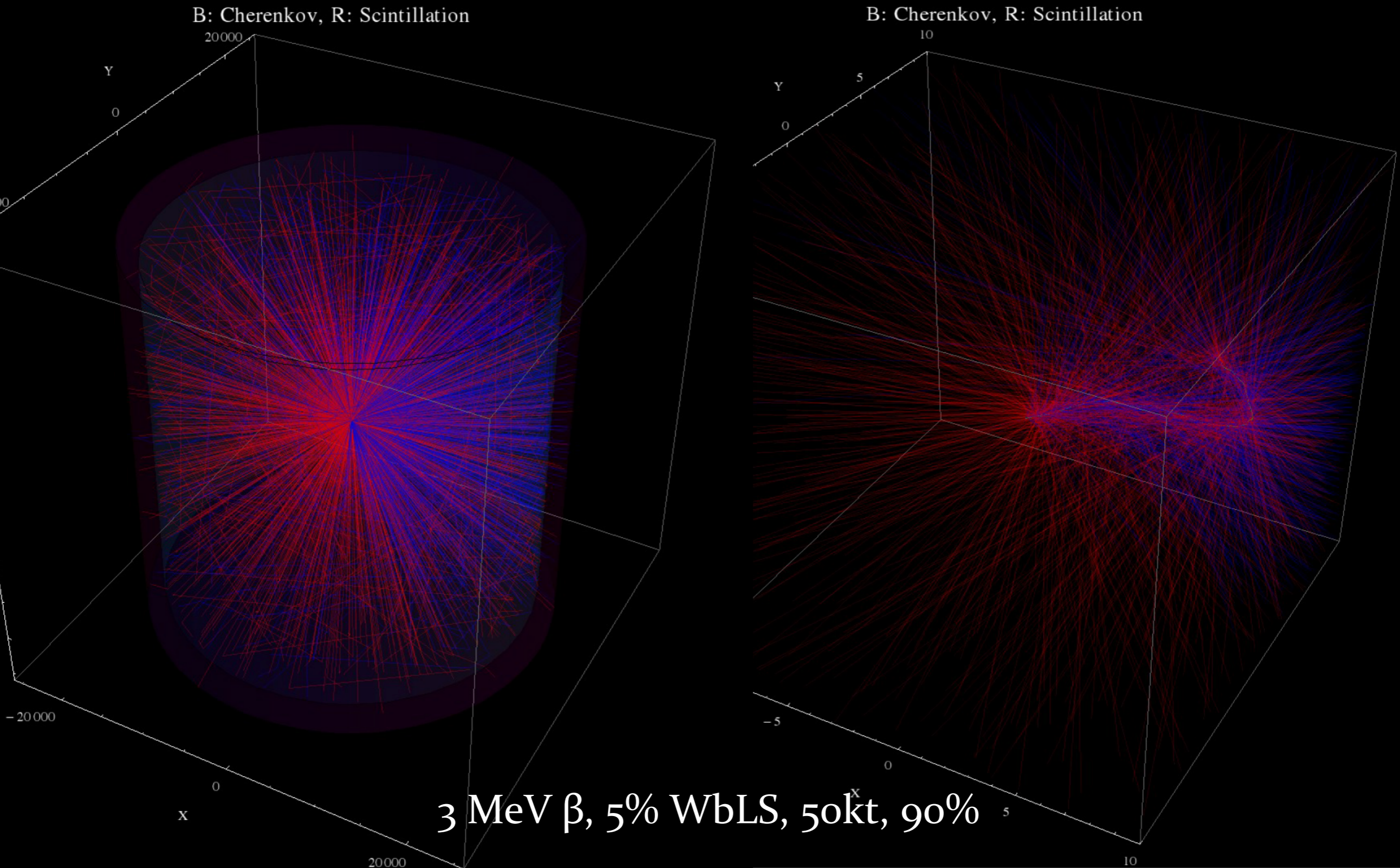
# Signal Separation in Theia

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# Signal Separation in Theia



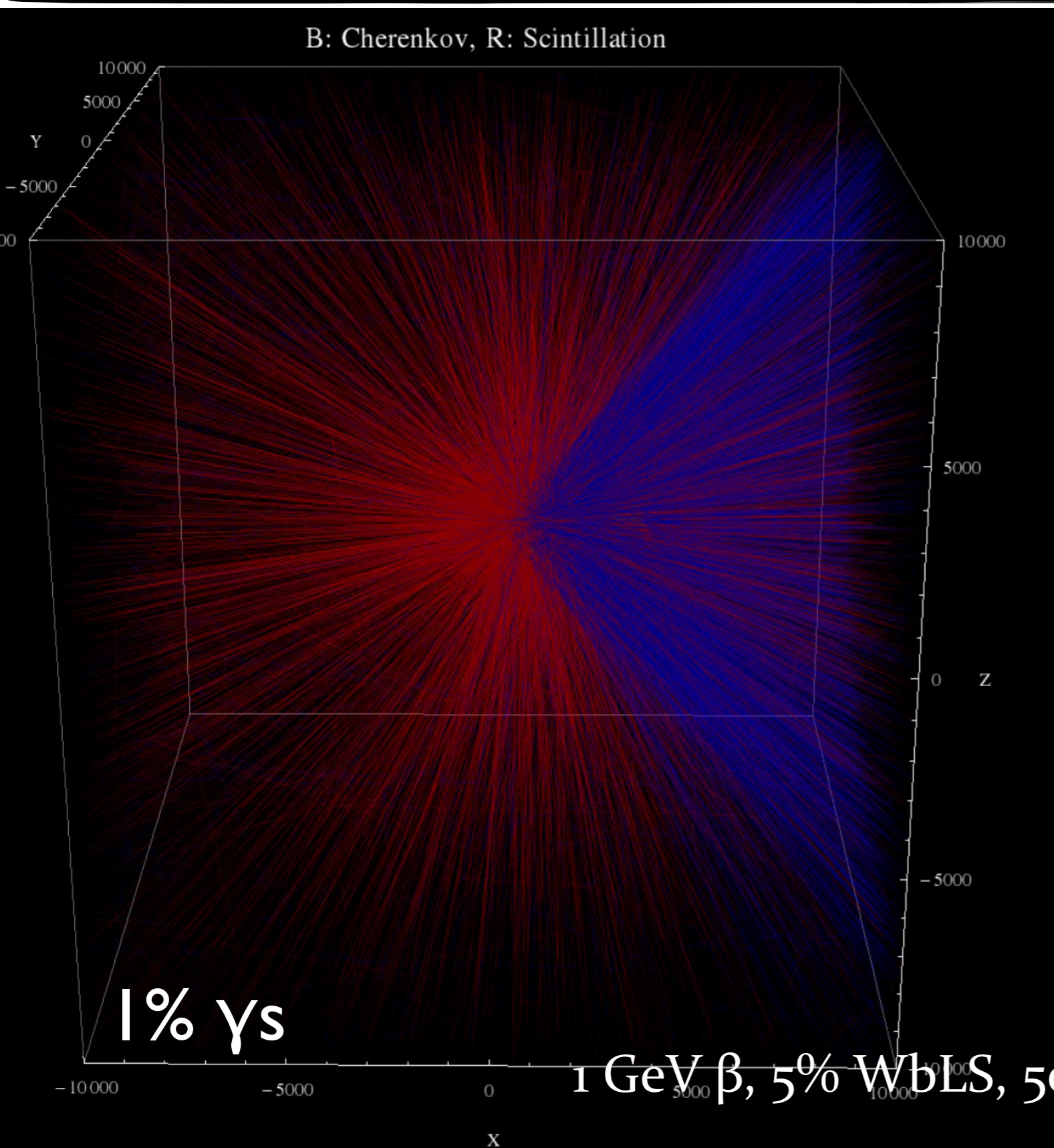
# Signal Separation in Theia



# Ring Imaging

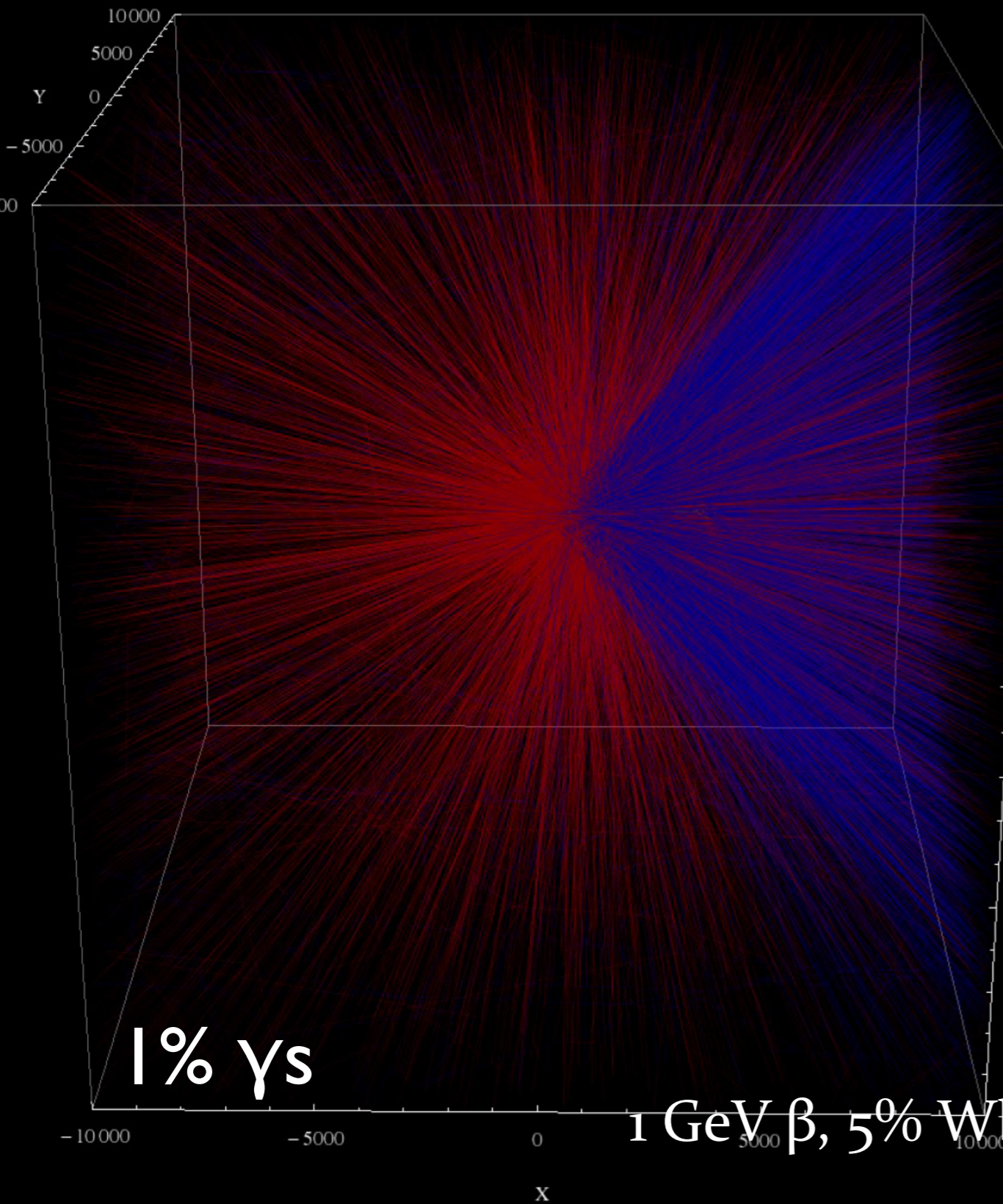
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# Ring Imaging

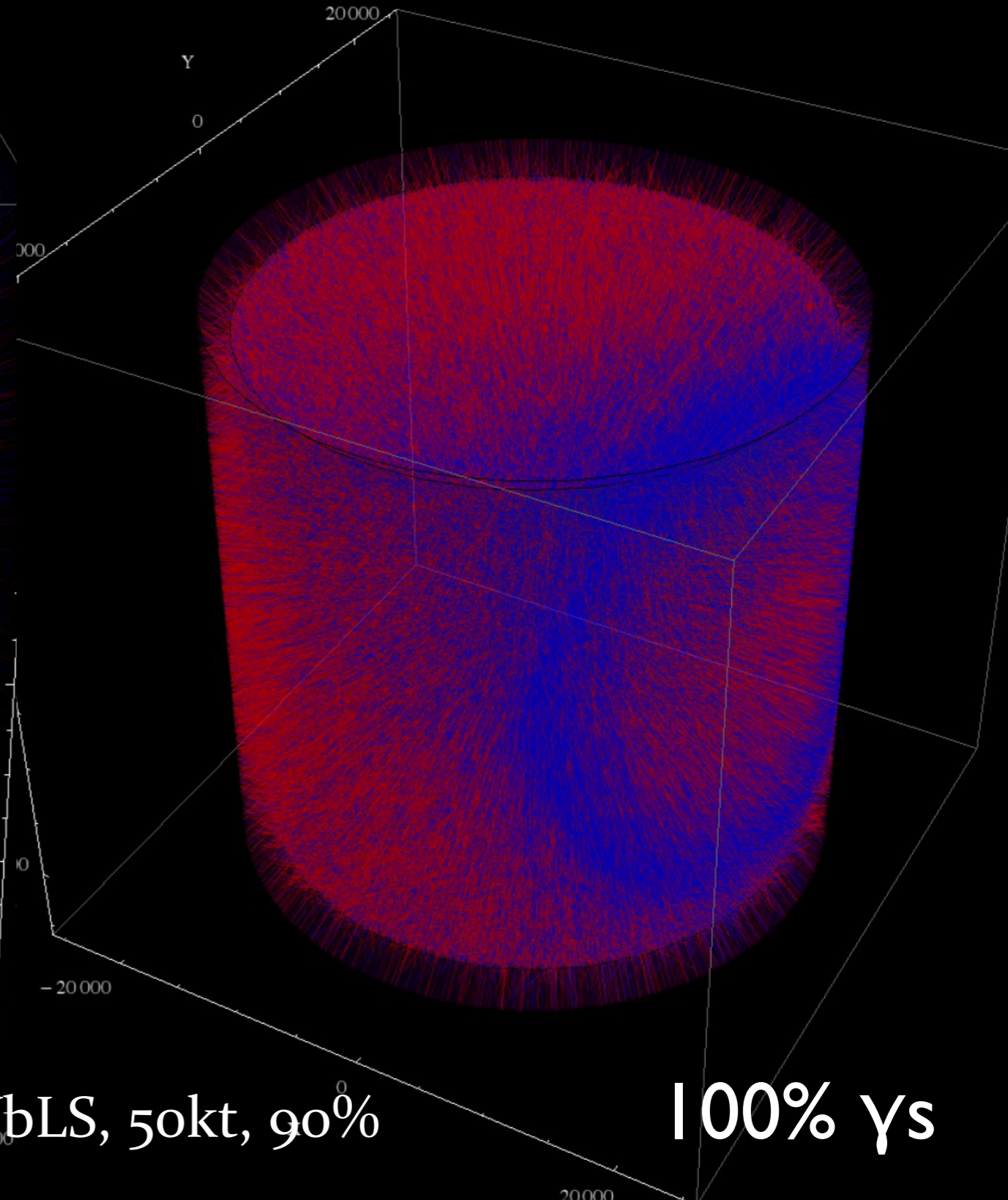


# Ring Imaging

B: Cherenkov, R: Scintillation



B: Cherenkov, R: Scintillation

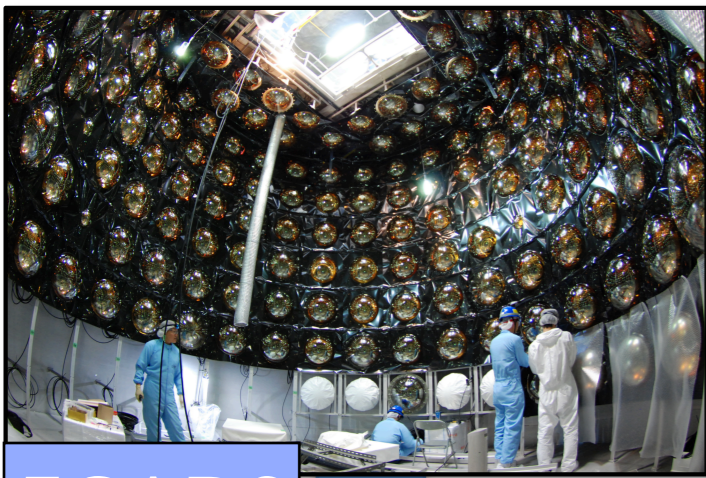


1 GeV  $\beta$ , 5% WbLS, 50kt, 90%

# Community Interest

Site	Scale	Target	Measurements	Timescale
UChicago	bench top	H <sub>2</sub> O	fast photodetectors	Exists
CHIPS	10 kton		electronics, readout, mechanical infrastructure	2019
EGADS	200 ton			Exists
ANNIE	30 ton	H <sub>2</sub> O+Gd	isotope loading, fast photodetectors	Exists
WATCHMAN	1 kton			2020
NuDot	1 ton	LS	directionality	2018
Penn	30 L	(Wb)LS	light yield, timing, loading	Exists
SNO+	780 ton			2018
CHES (LBNL)	bench top	WbLS	signal separation, tracking, reconstruction / light yield, loading, attenuation	Exists
BNL	1 ton			Exists





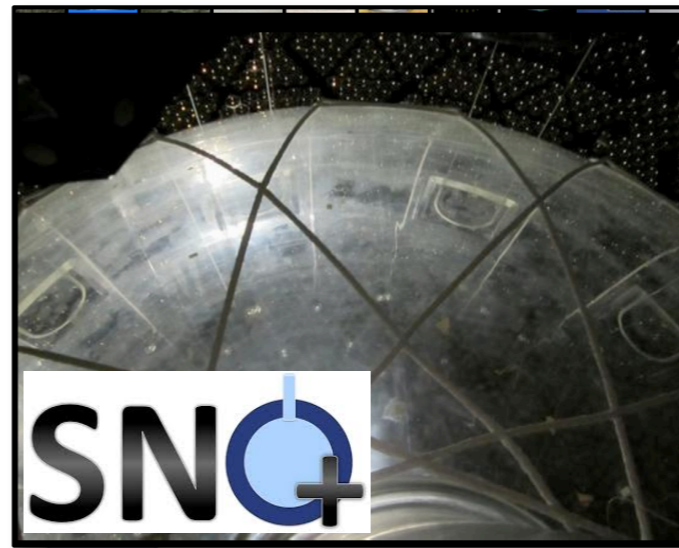
**EGADS**

Gd loading and purification



**BNL 1-t**

Water-based liquid scintillator

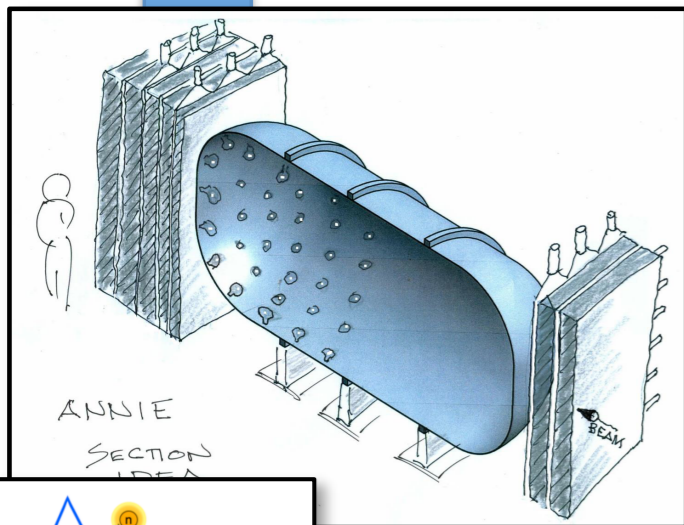


**SNO+**

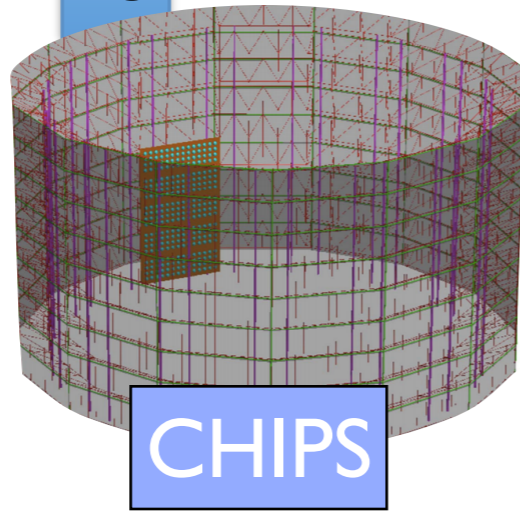
Te loading



Neutron yield, LAPPD deployment

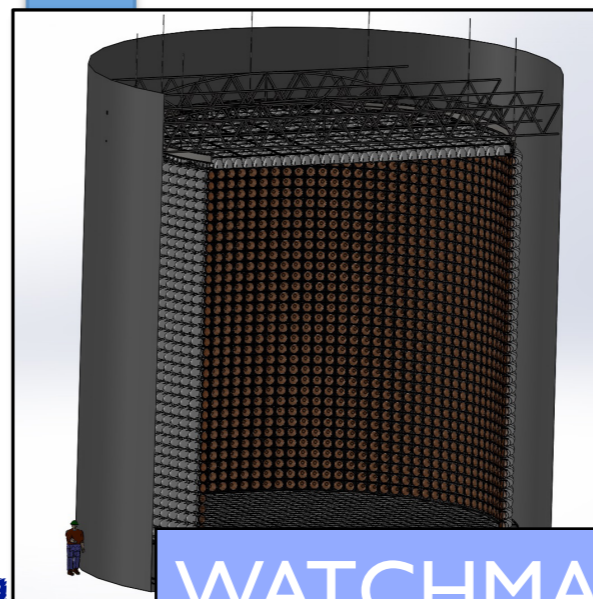


Infrastructure, underwater integration



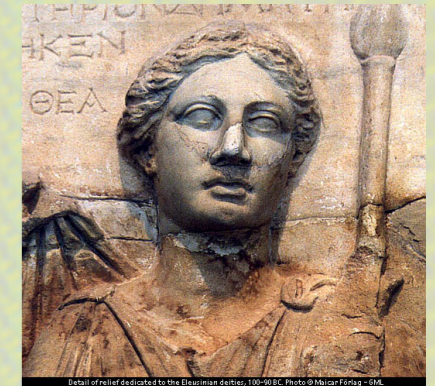
**CHIPS**

WbLS, Gd, LAPPD, HQE PMT, full integration prototype



**WATCHMAN**

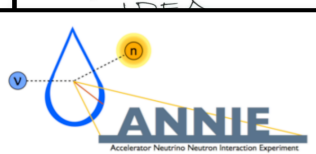
**THEIA**



60m

Theia at NNN, G. D. Orebi Gann

**Note: not an exhaustive list!**



# THEIA Collaboration



Concept paper - [arXiv:1409.5864](https://arxiv.org/abs/1409.5864)



## Canada

Alberta  
Laurentian  
Queens  
Toronto

## China

Tsinghua

## Finland

Jyvaskyla  
Oulu

## Germany

Aachen  
Dresden

## Juelich

Mainz  
TU Munich  
U. Hamburg

## Portugal

LIP

## UK

Sheffield

## US

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Boston U.  
U. Chicago  
Colorado U.

## Cornell U.

U. Hawaii  
Iowa State  
Lawrence  
Berkeley NL  
LSU  
MIT

## U. Penn

Stony Brook  
SURF  
Temple  
UC Berkeley  
UC Davis

# Summary

- **THEIA: broad program of compelling science**
- **Flexibility to adapt to new directions in the scientific program as the field evolves**
- **Powerful instrument of discovery**
- **Rich, exciting program of ongoing R&D**

