

Low-Background Searches for Rare Events:

The MAJORANA Neutrinoless Double-Beta
Decay Experiment, and the CLEAN/DEAP
Dark Matter Search

Victor M. Gehman

LA-UR: 10-00050



Low-Background Searches for Rare Events:

The Low-Intensity, Low-Energy Frontier..

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Outline

- Low-background searches and physics beyond the Standard Model
 - Neutrinoless double-beta decay
 - Direct dark matter detection
- MAJORANA and CLEAN/DEAP
 - Overview and strategy
 - Detector design
 - Recent R&D progress
- Conclusions

Rare Events and Physics BSM

- Departures from the standard model generally revolve around searches for small effects on top of a “sea of backgrounds”



The “Needle in a Haystack” Problem

Rare Events and Physics BSM

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- What to do?
 - Make the signal as big as you can...
 - Make the backgrounds as small as you can...
 - Find a special signature for the events you care about...



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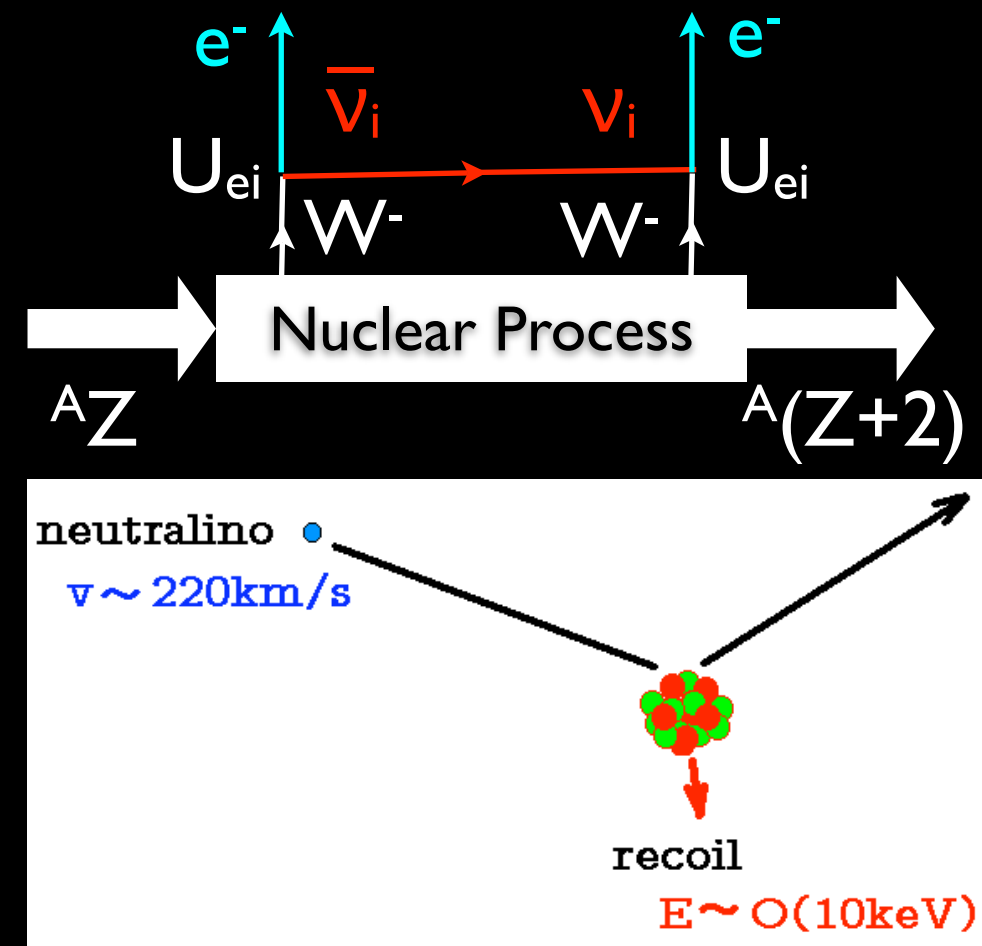
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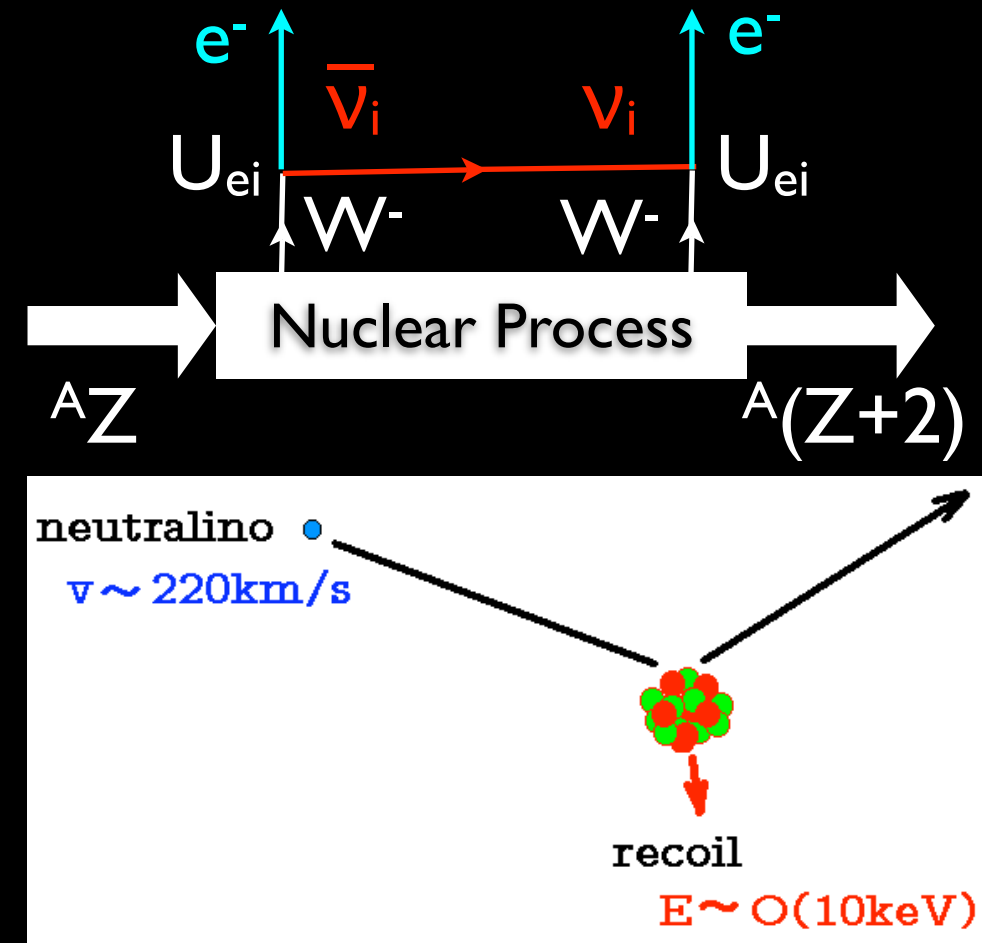
The “Low-Background Frontier”

- We will focus on two types of rare event searches
- Neutrinoless double-beta decay
- Direct dark matter detection



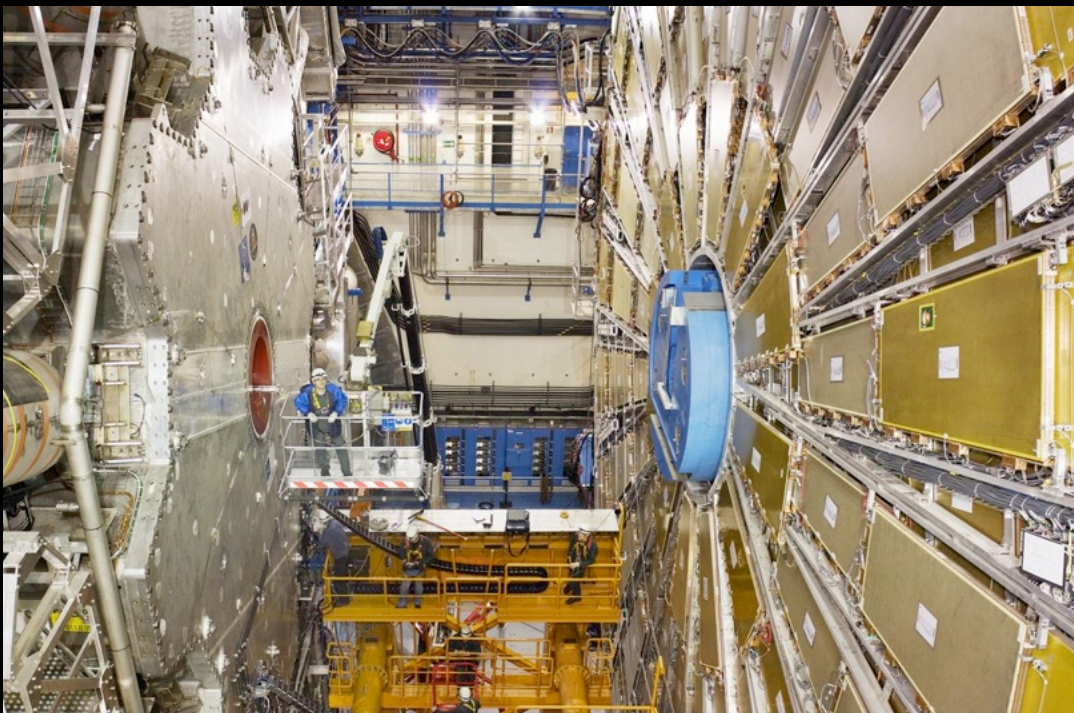
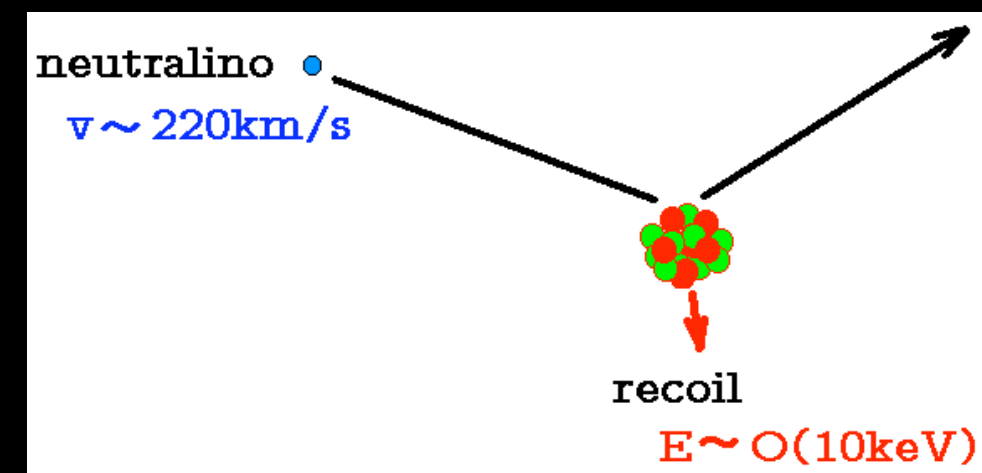
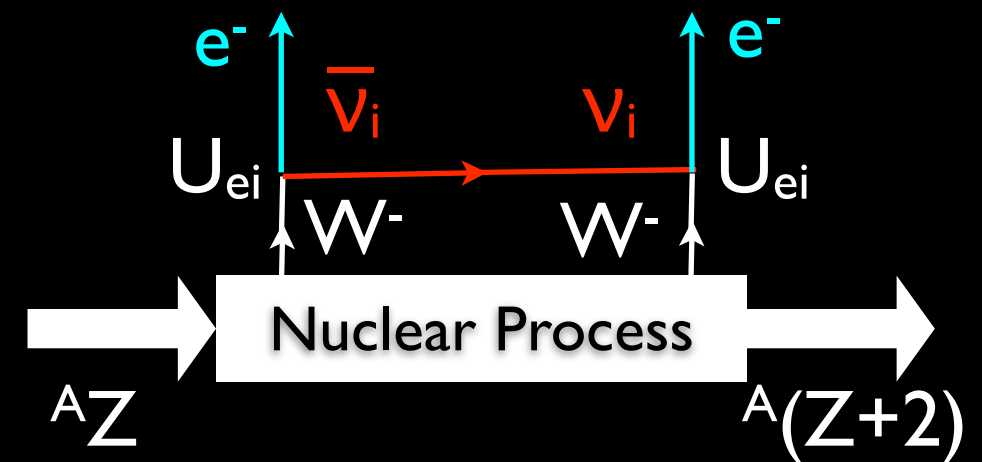
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- Neutrinoless double-beta decay
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- ...but there are A LOT more sub-fields of rare event searches



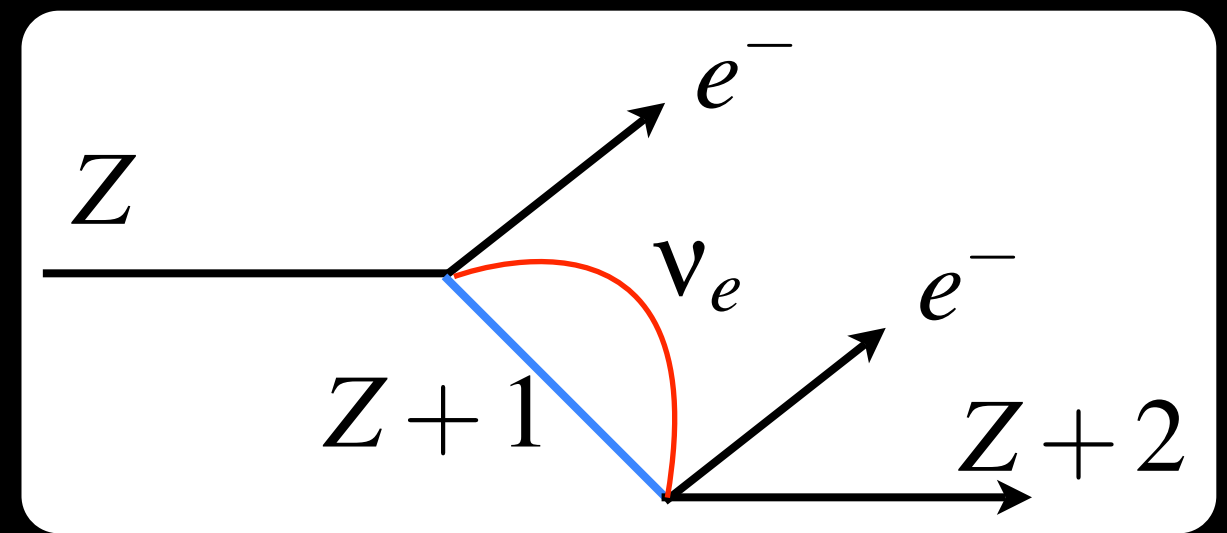
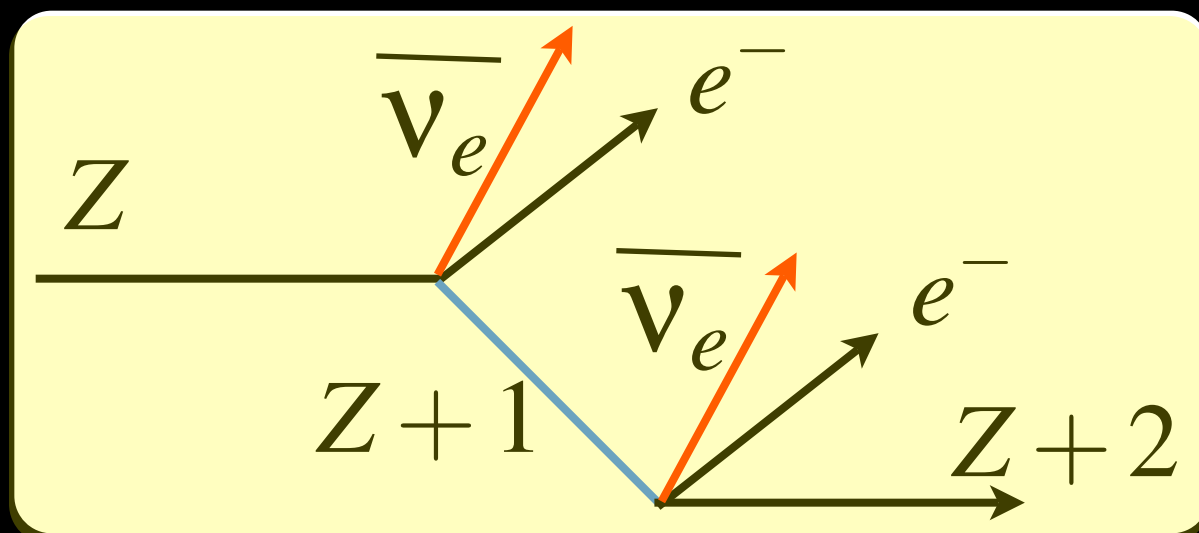
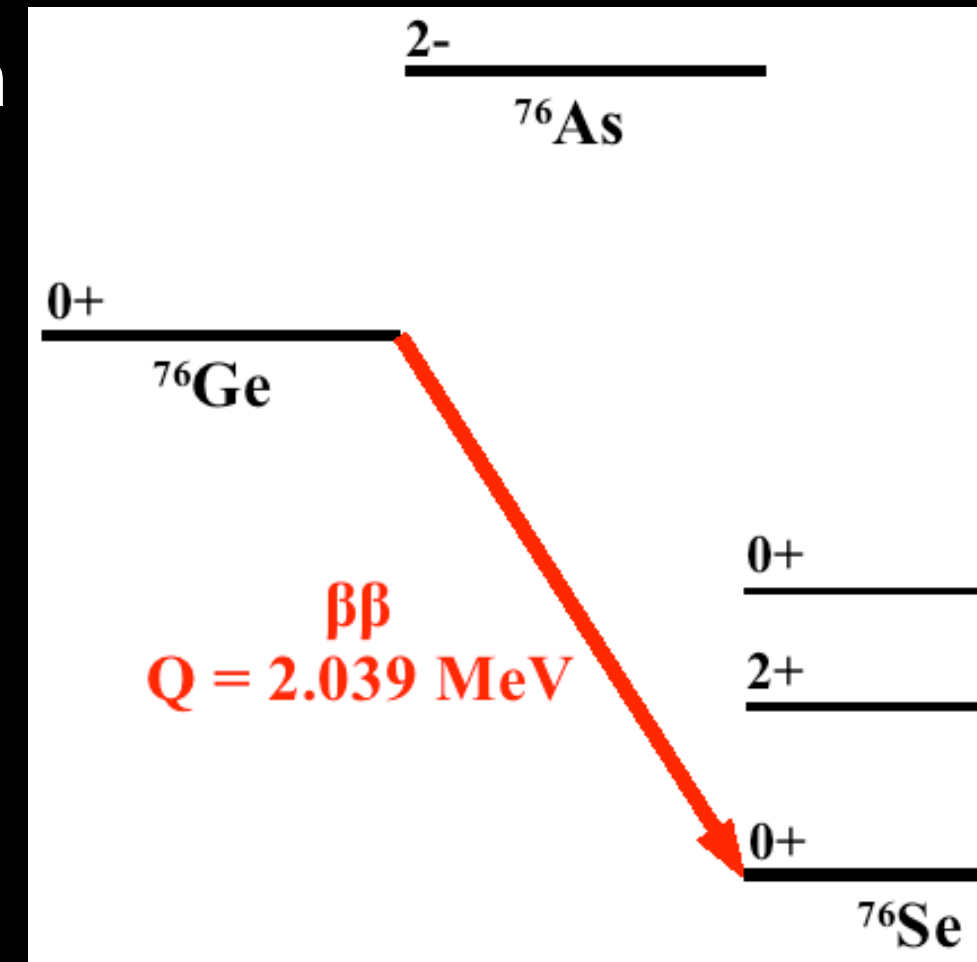
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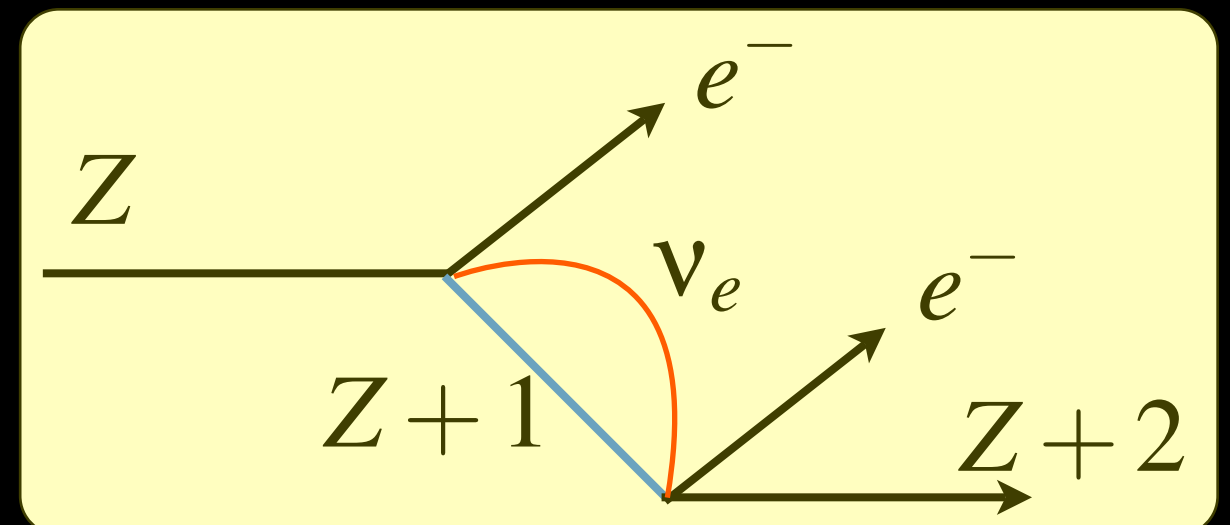
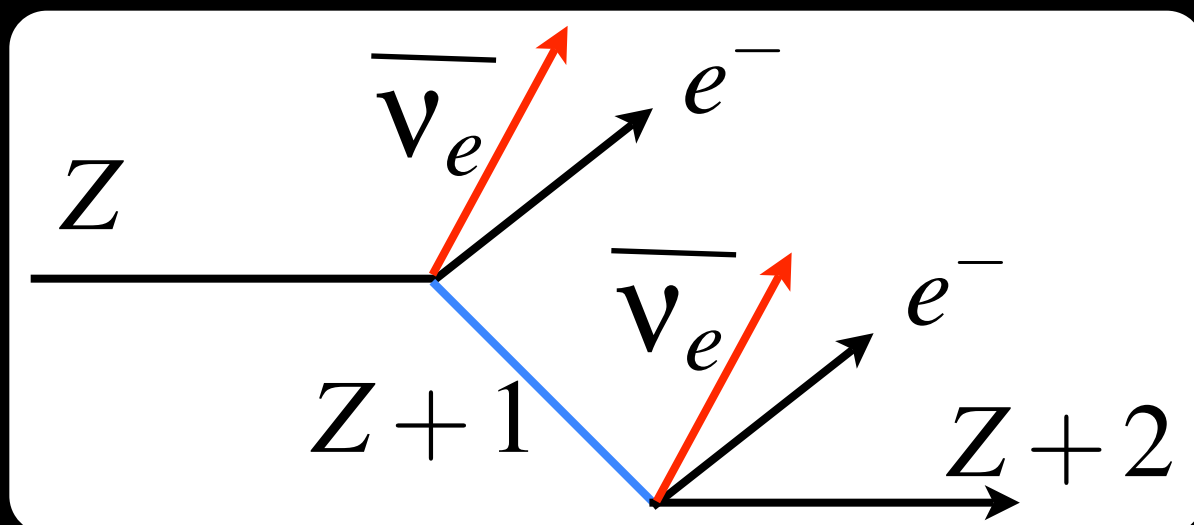
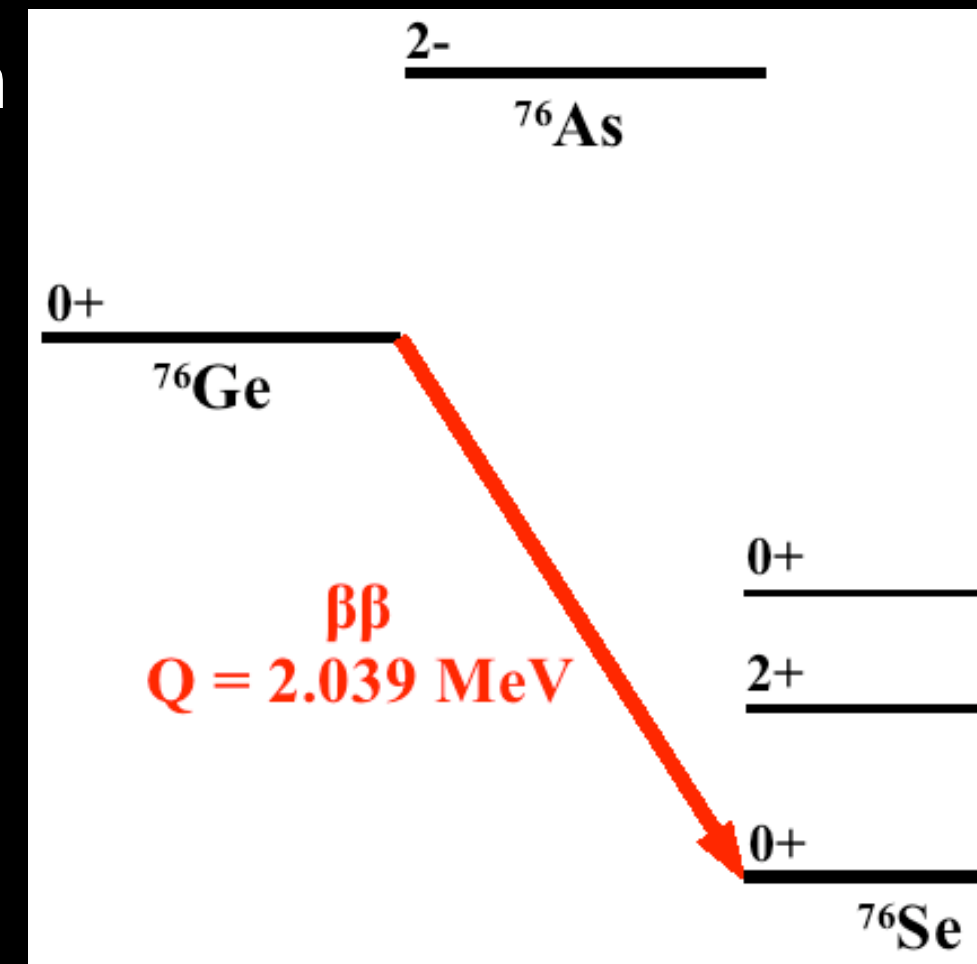
Neutrinoless Double-Beta Decay

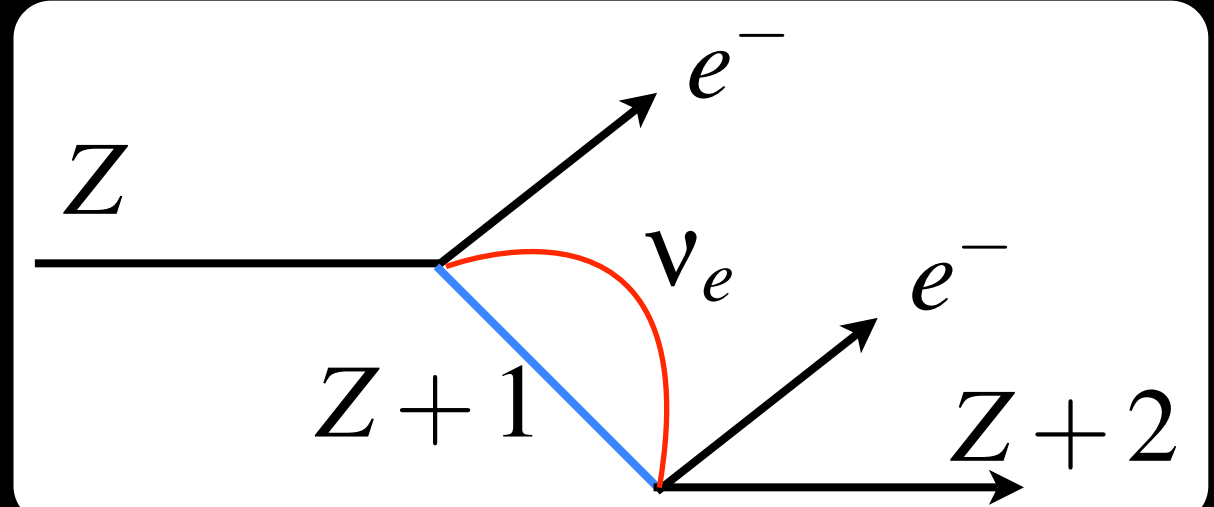
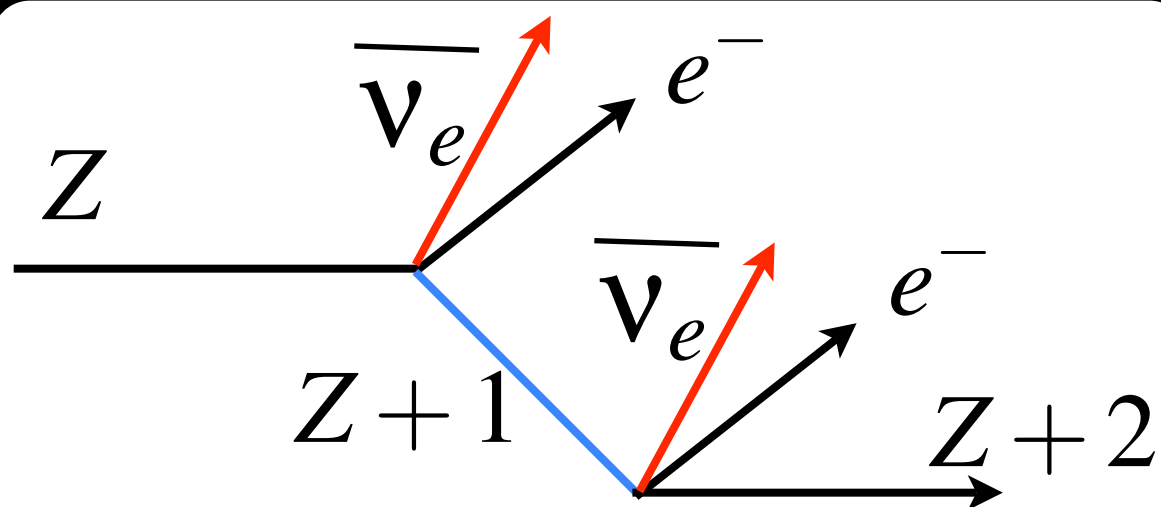
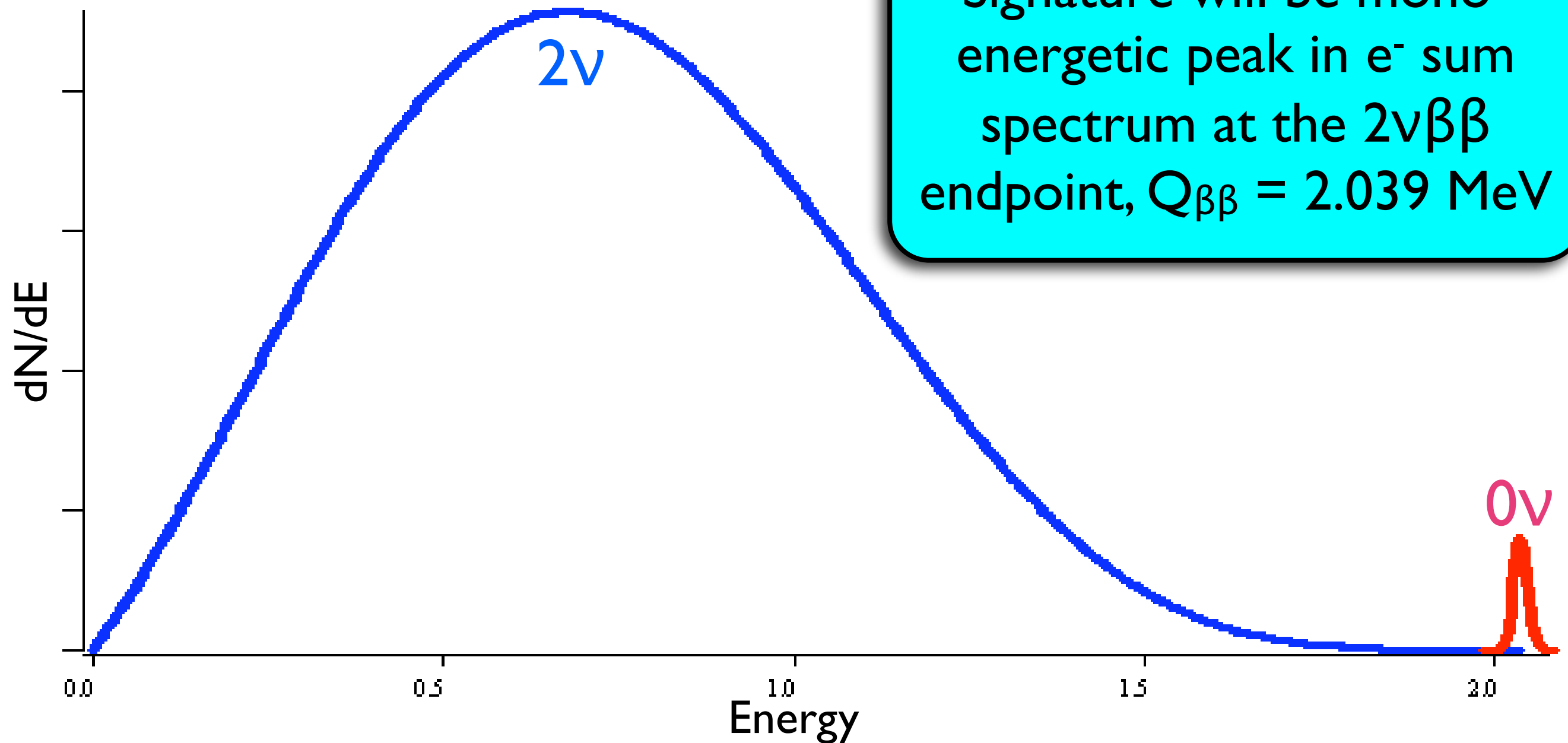
- $2\nu\beta\beta$:
 - Slowest nuclear process allowed in SM
 - Observable when β decay forbidden
 - Observed in ≈ 10 isotopes



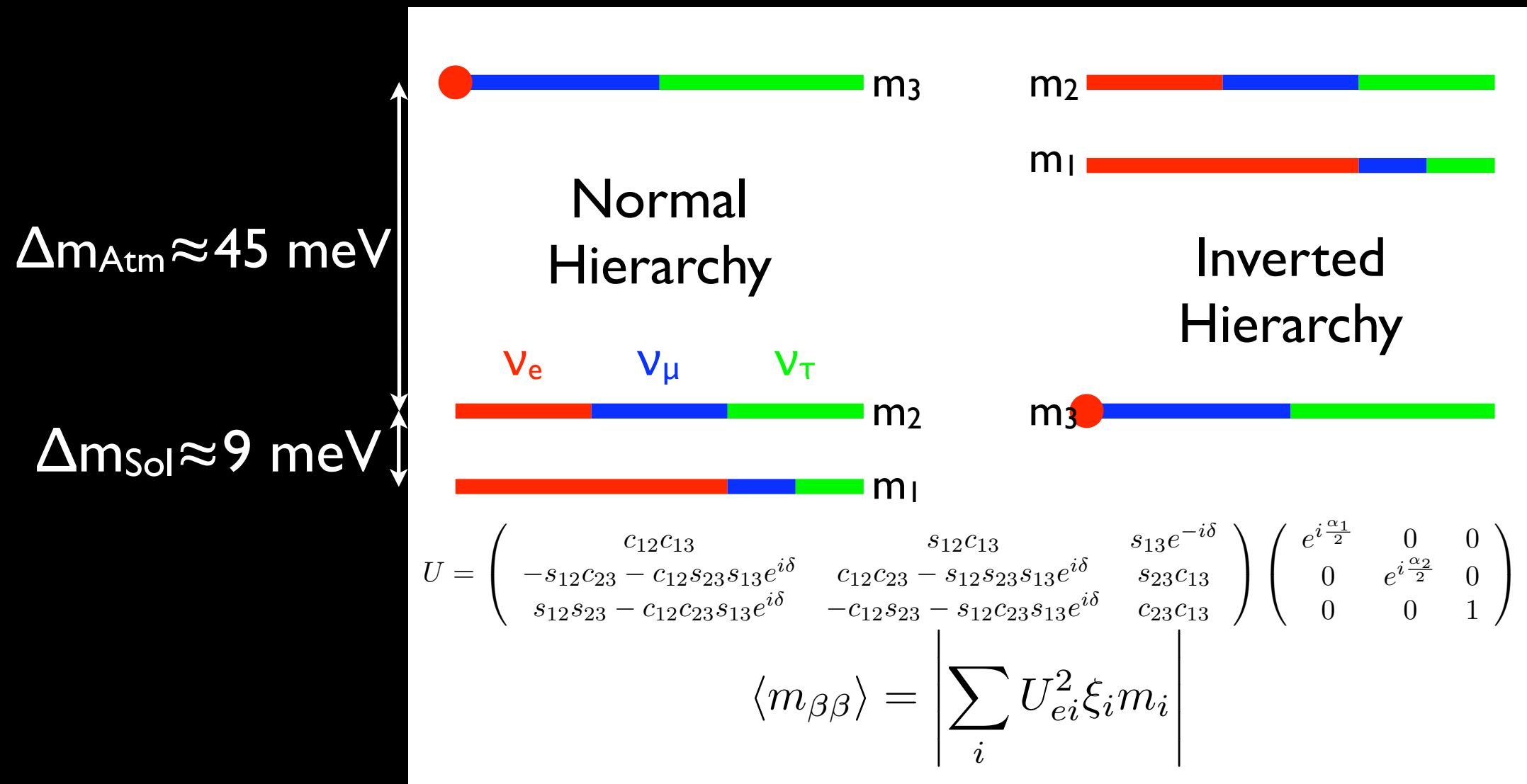
Neutrinoless Double-Beta Decay

- $2\nu\beta\beta$:
 - Slowest nuclear process allowed in SM
 - Observable when β decay forbidden
 - Observed in ≈ 10 isotopes
- $0\nu\beta\beta$:
 - No emitted neutrinos!
 - Demands:
 - Majorana Neutrino
 - Lepton number non-conservation
 - Non-zero neutrino mass



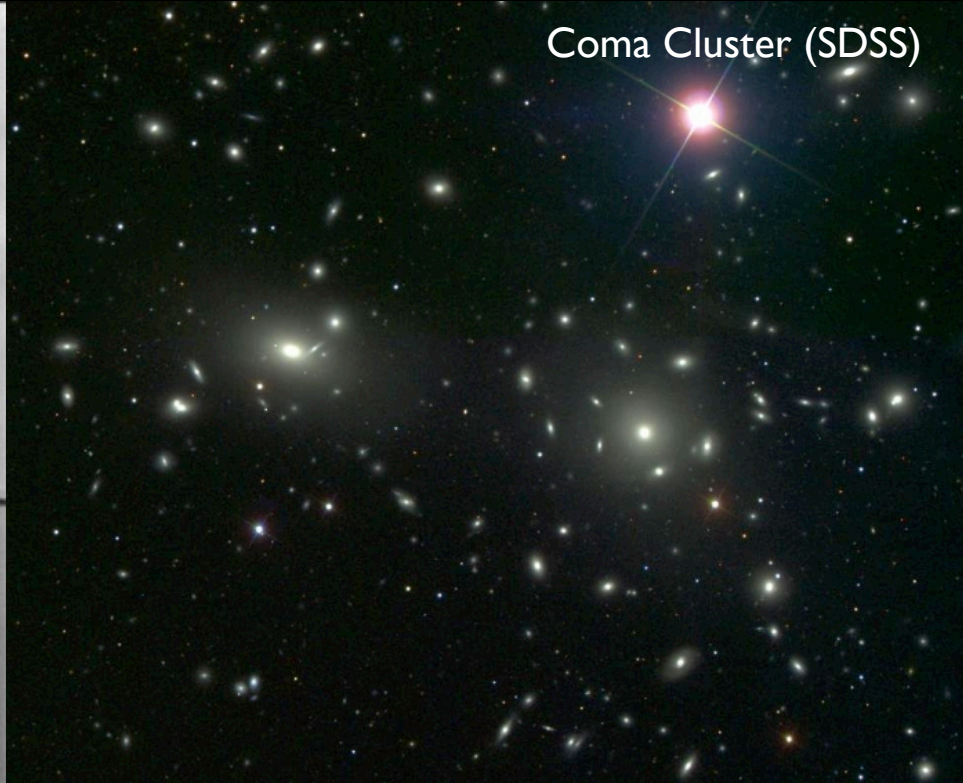


Double-Beta Decay and Neutrino Mass



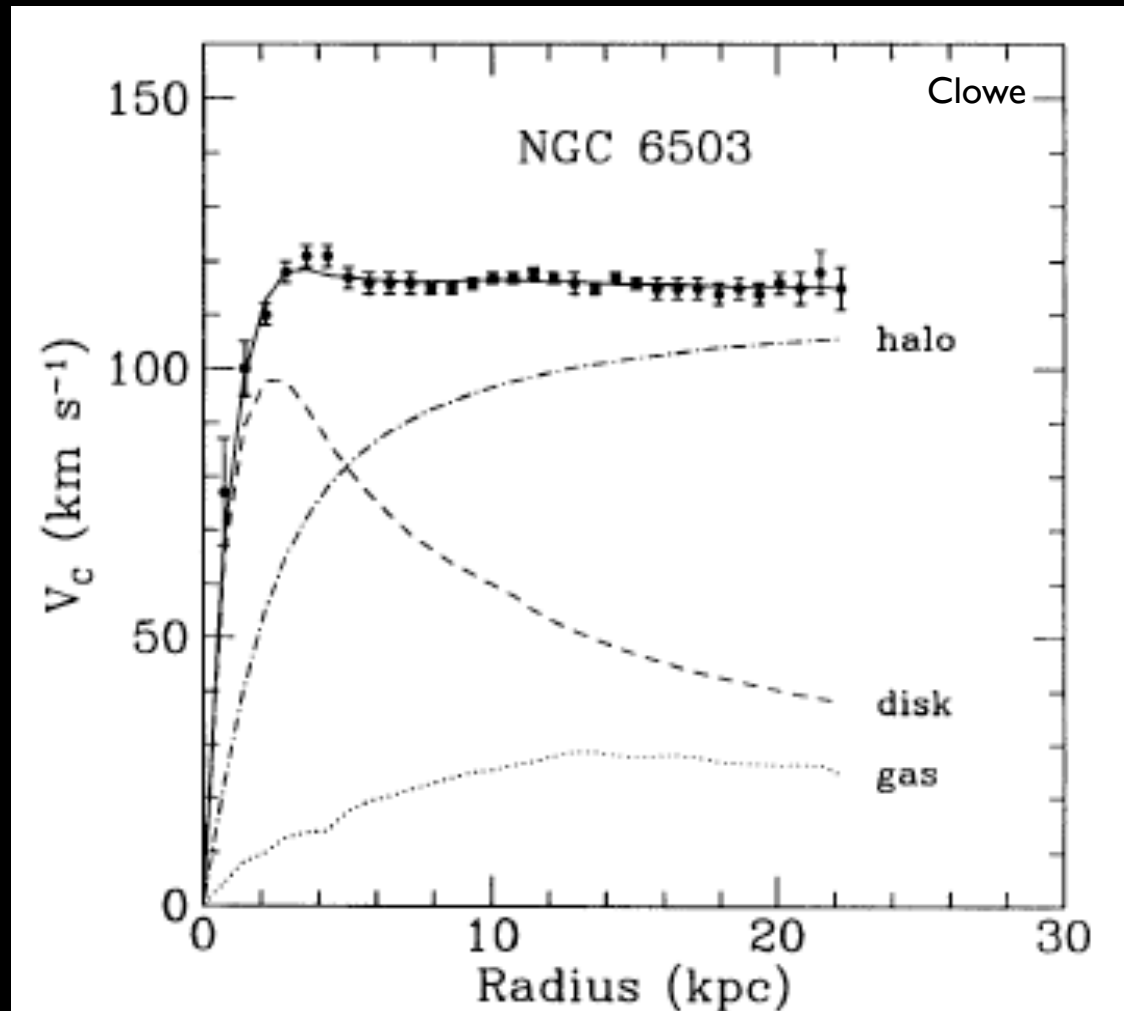
$0\nu\beta\beta$ is sensitive to $\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle$, and therefore
the absolute masses, mixings and CP phases

Dark Matter



- Fritz Zwicky's missing mass

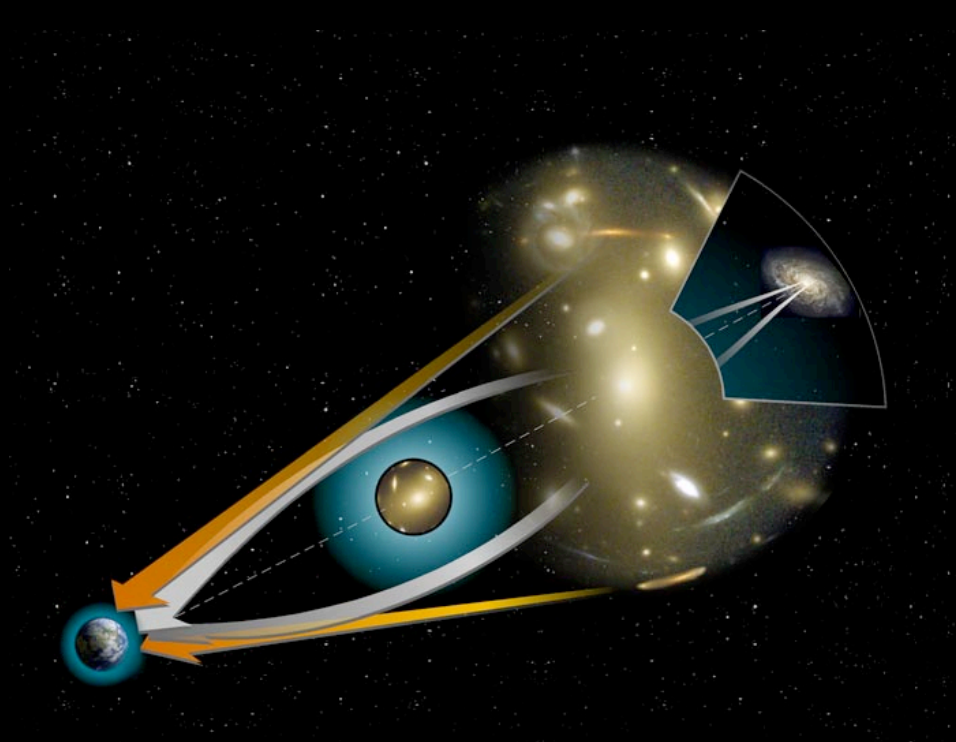
Dark Matter



- Fritz Zwicky's missing mass
- Galaxy rotation curves



Dark Matter



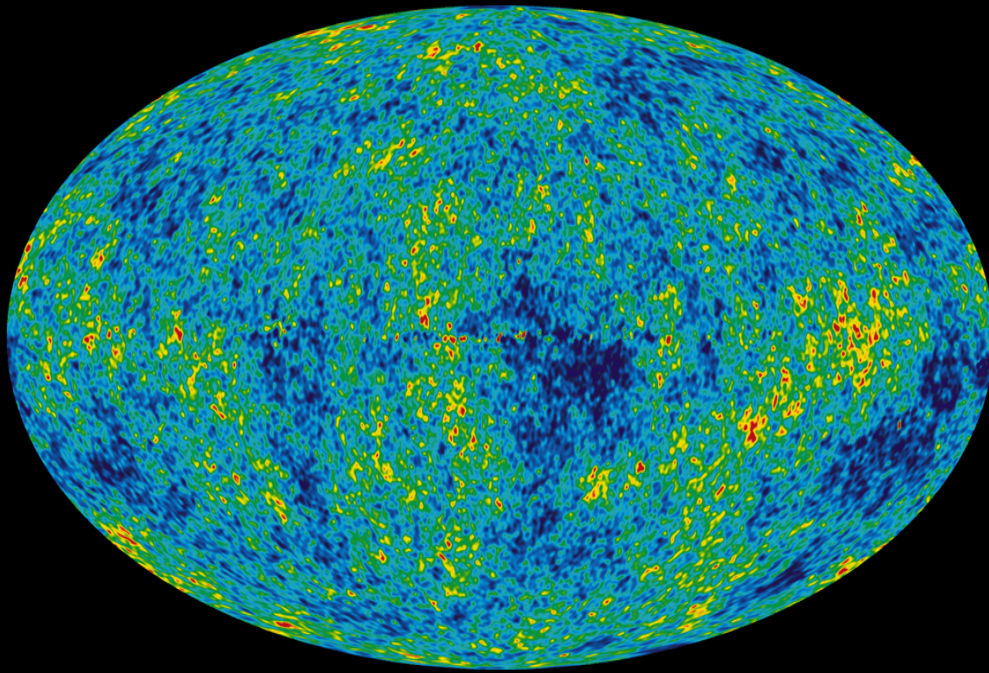
Distant Galaxy Lensed by Cluster Abell 2218 HST • WFPC2 • ACS



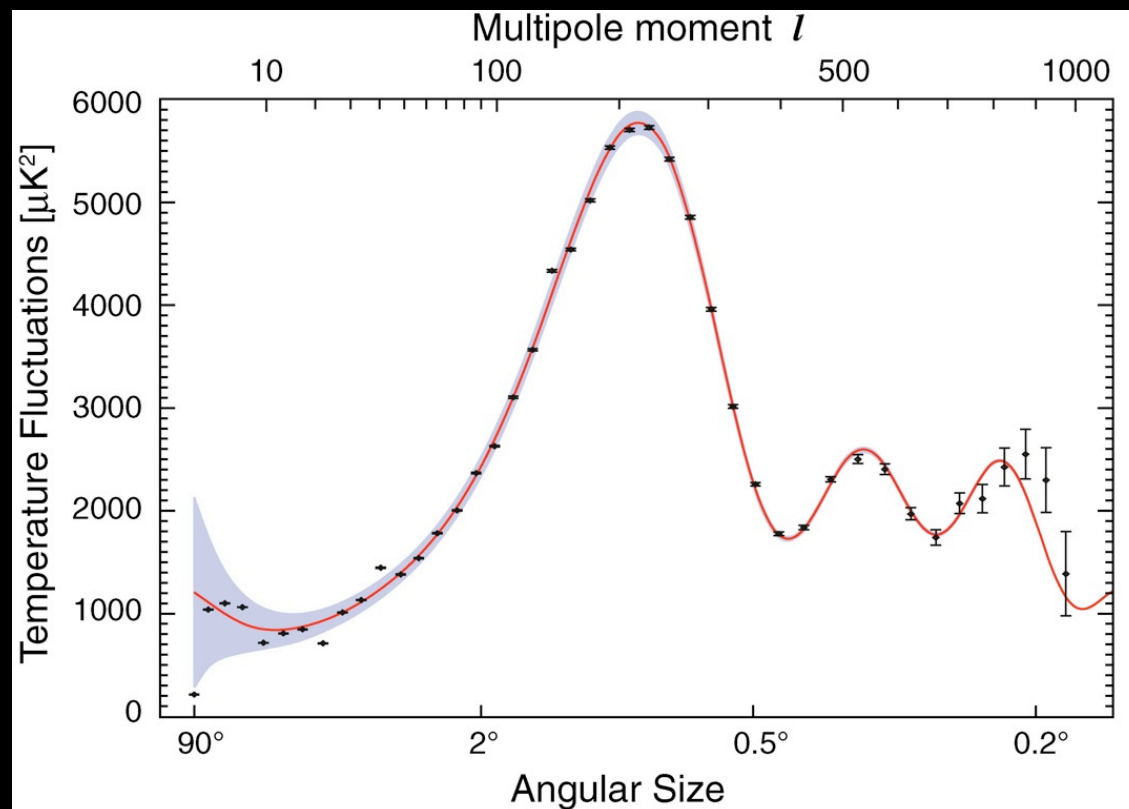
ESA, NASA, J.-P. Kneib (Caltech/Observatoire Midi-Pyrénées) and R. Ellis (Caltech)) STScI-PRC04-08

- Fritz Zwicky's missing mass
- Galaxy rotation curves
- Gravitational Lensing

Dark Matter

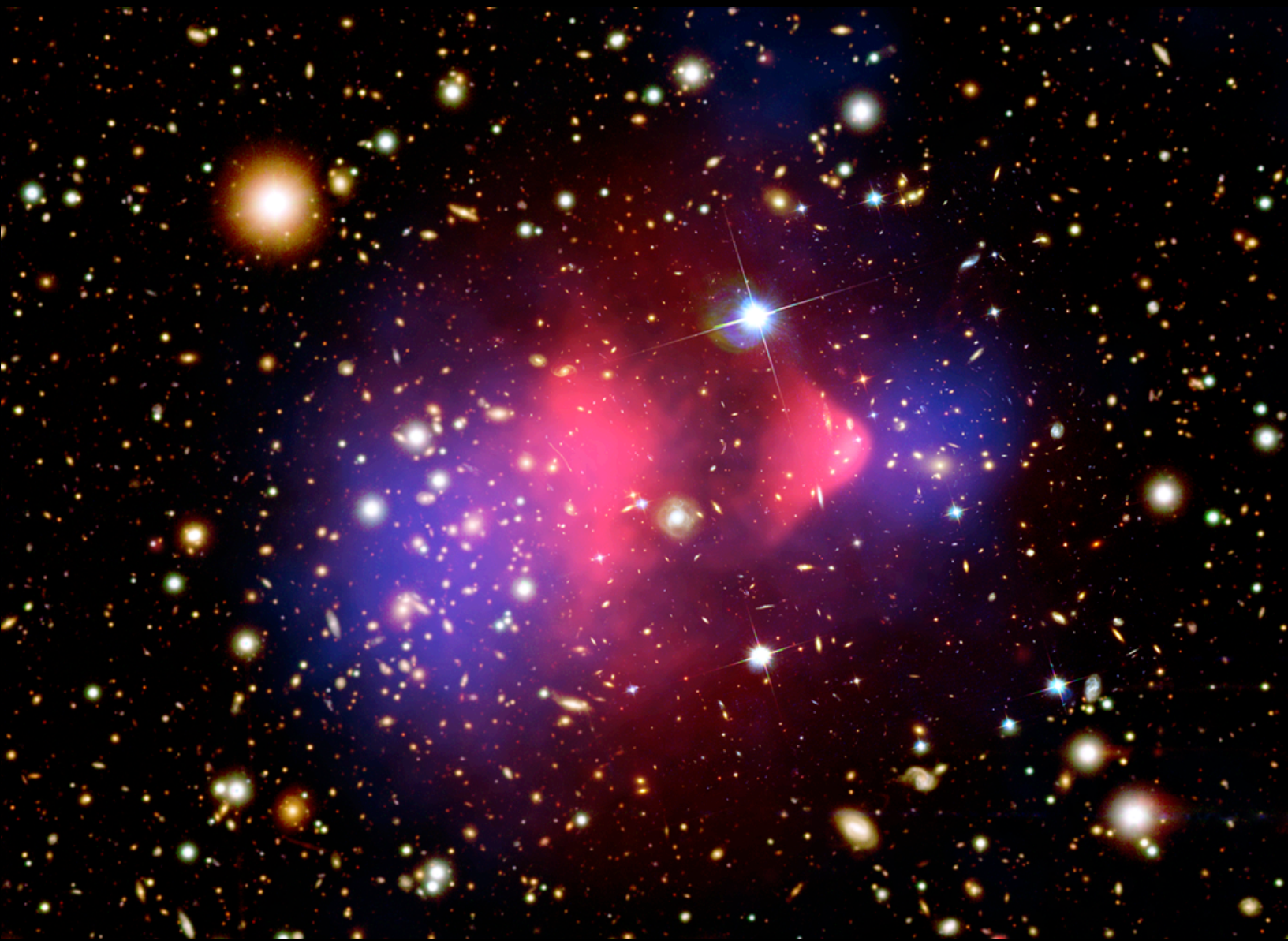


- Fritz Zwicky's missing mass
- Galaxy rotation curves
- Gravitational Lensing
- Cosmic microwave background

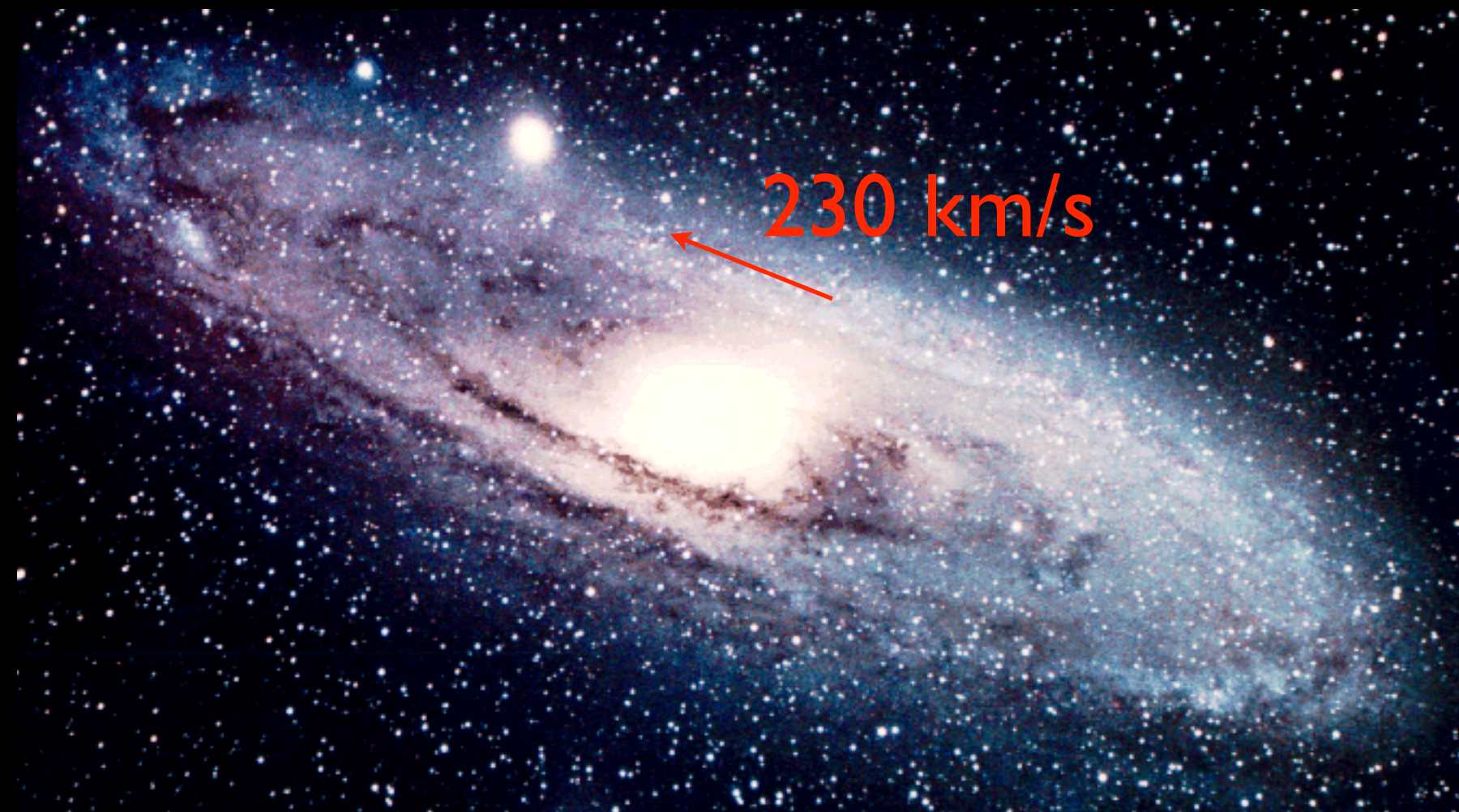


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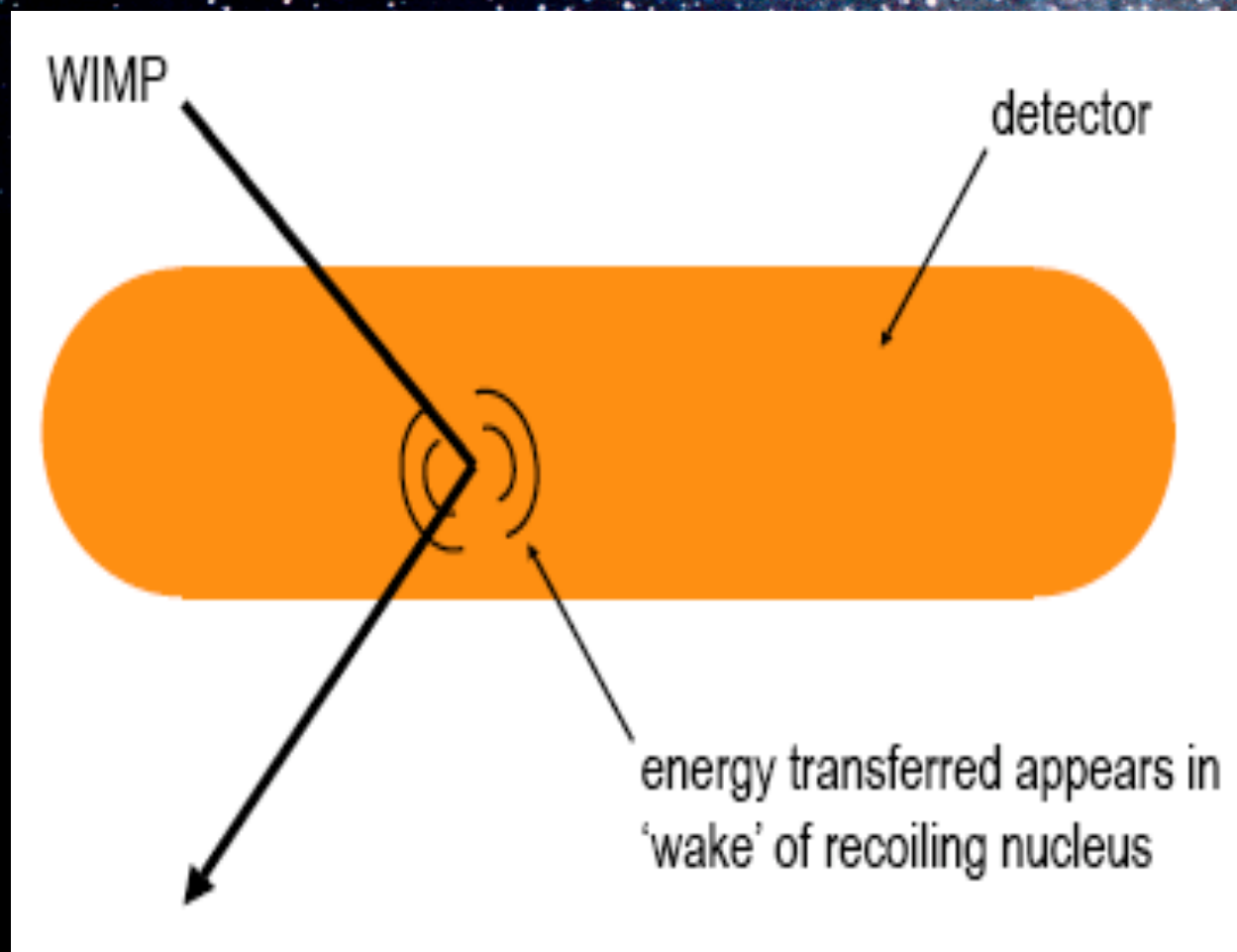
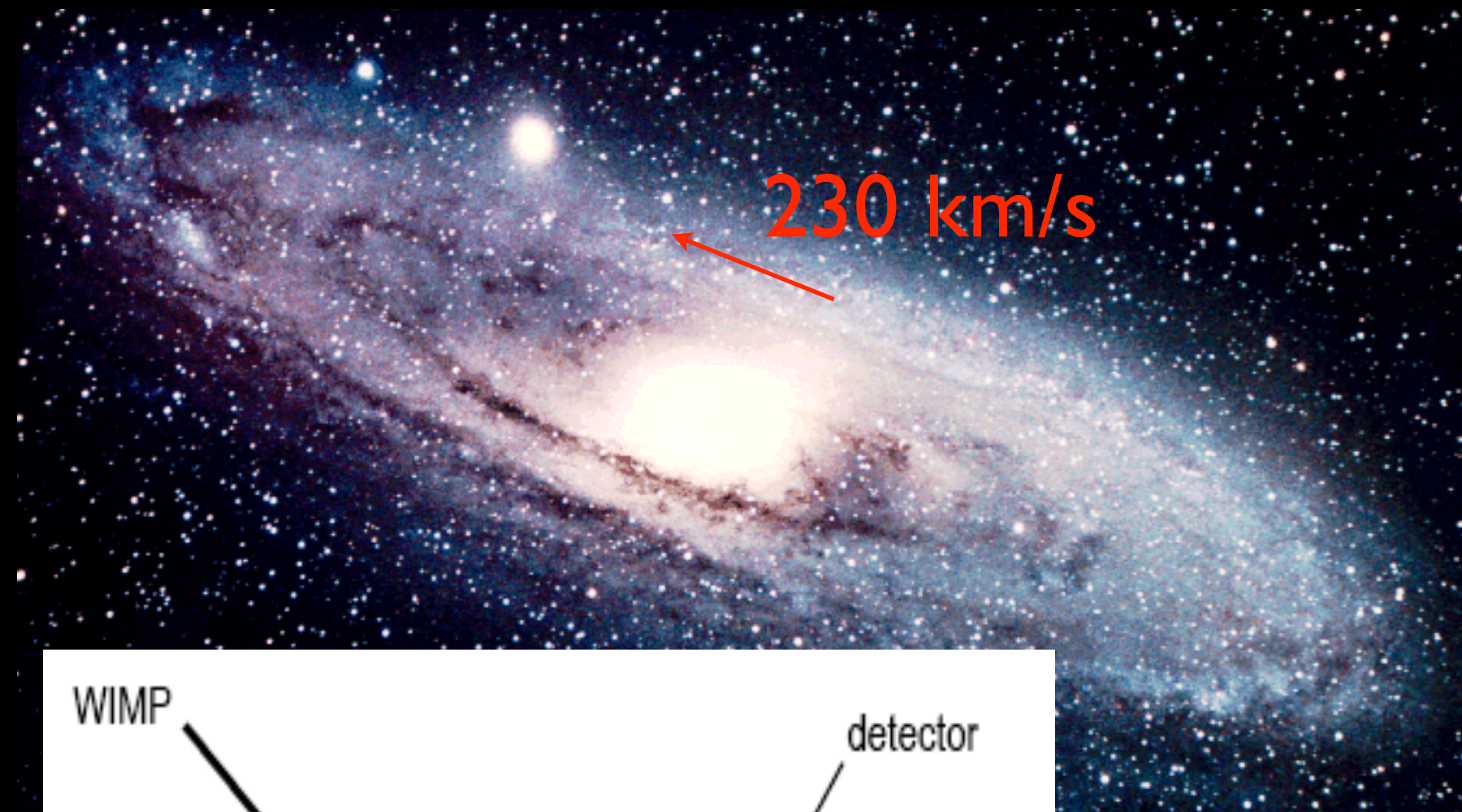
- Fritz Zwicky's missing mass
- Galaxy rotation curves
- Gravitational Lensing
- Cosmic microwave background
- The Bullet Cluster



Challenges and Goals



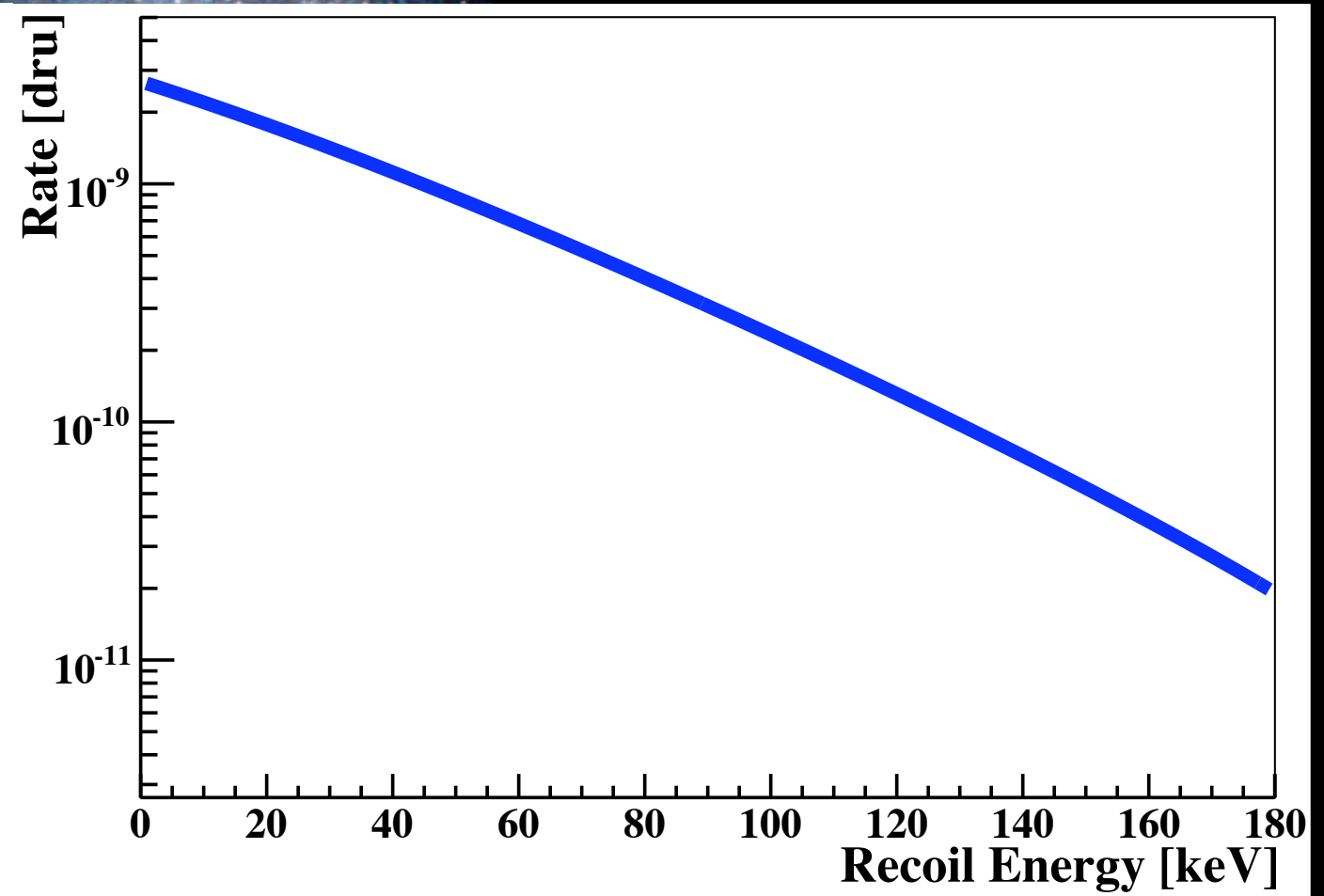
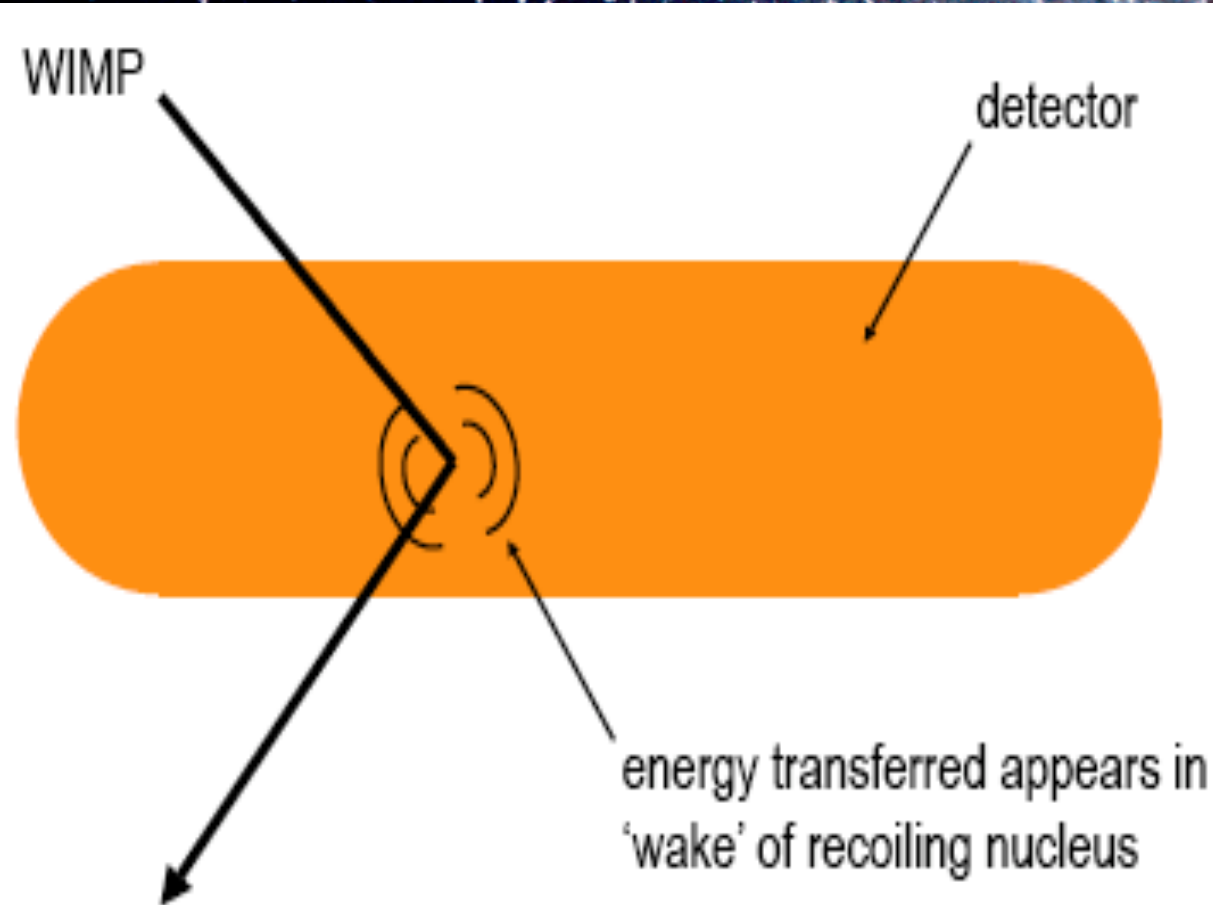
Challenges and Goals



Challenges and Goals



- Low rates
- Low energies
- Background rejection



MAJORANA and

CLEAN/DEAP

Overview and Strategy

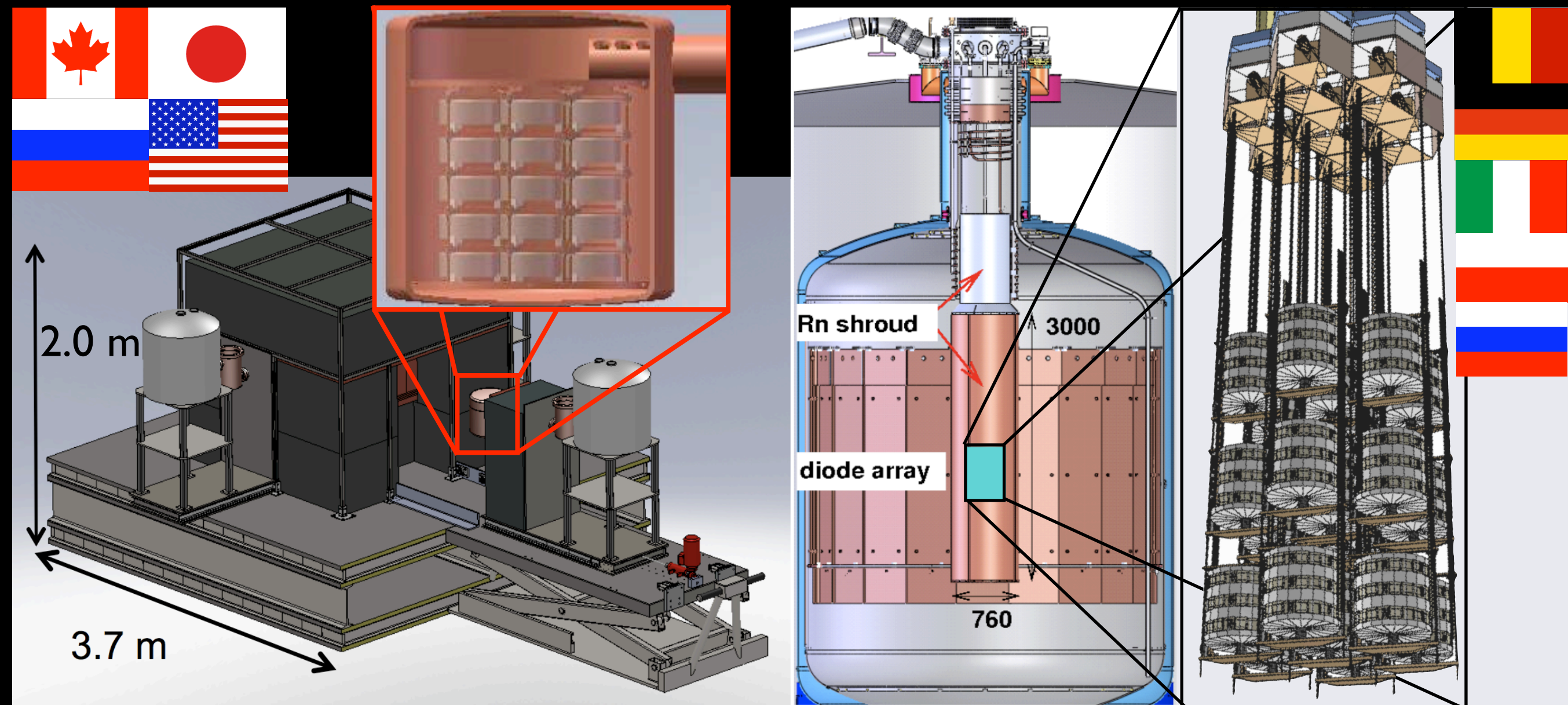
Why $0\nu\beta\beta$ ^{76}Ge ?

- Intrinsic HPGe detectors are also the source
- Excellent energy resolution: 0.16% at 2039 keV (4 keV Region of Interest)
- Powerful background rejection: segmentation, timing, pulse-shape discrimination
- Demonstrated enrichment: 7.44% to $\geq 86\%$
- Matrix elements better understood than most
- ^{76}Ge has the current best limit:

$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 1.9 \times 10^{25} \text{ y (90\% CL)}$$

H.V. Klapdor-Kleingrothaus et al., Eur. Phys. J.A 12, 147, (2001)

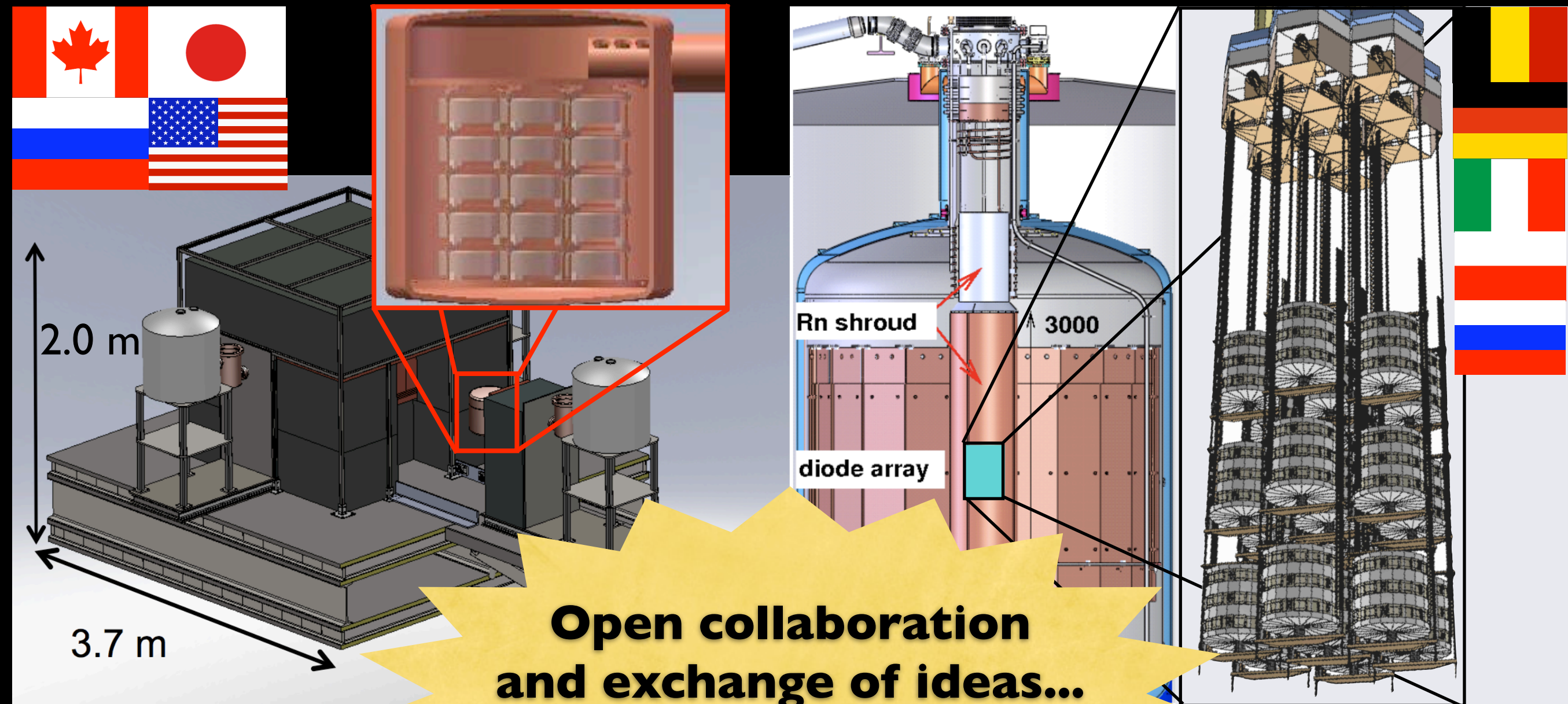
MAJORANA and GERDA



- Modular $^{\text{enr}}\text{Ge}$ arrays in electro-formed Cu Cryostats
- E-formed Cu/Pb passive shielding
- 4π plastic scintillator μ veto

- $^{\text{enr}}\text{Ge}$ in LAr
- Water cherenkov μ veto
- Phase I: ~ 18 kg (H-M/IGEX xtals)
- Phase II: +20 kg segmented xtals

MAJORANA and GERDA

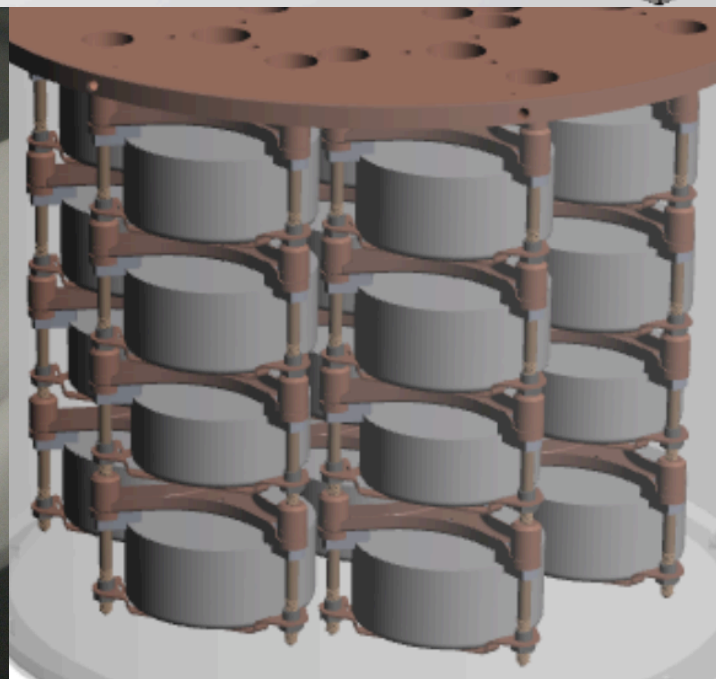
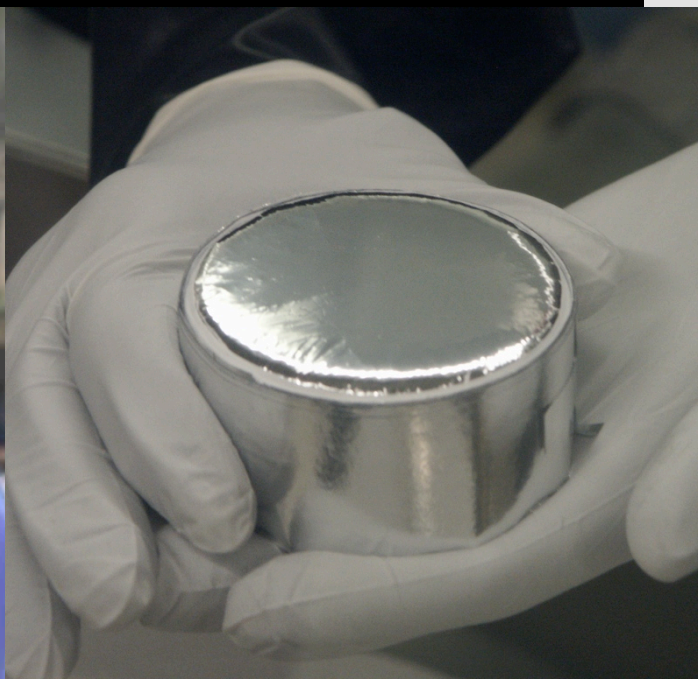
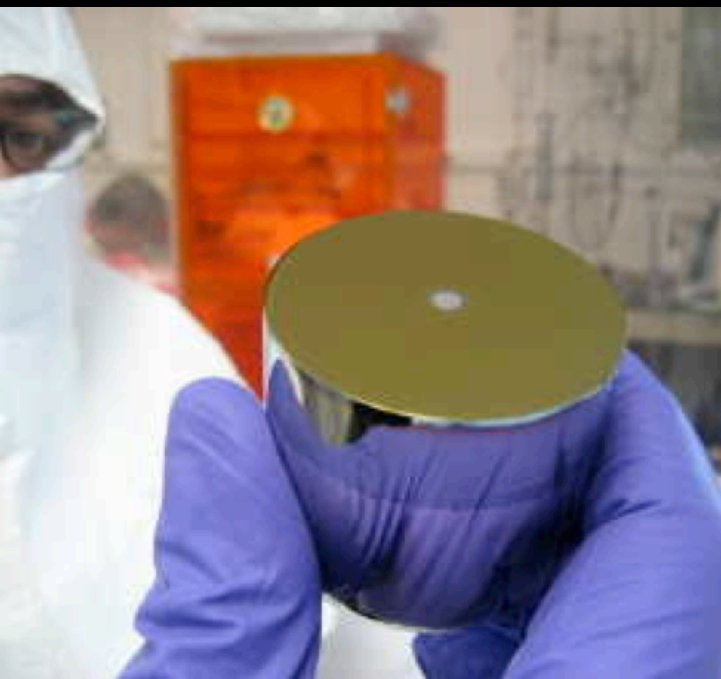
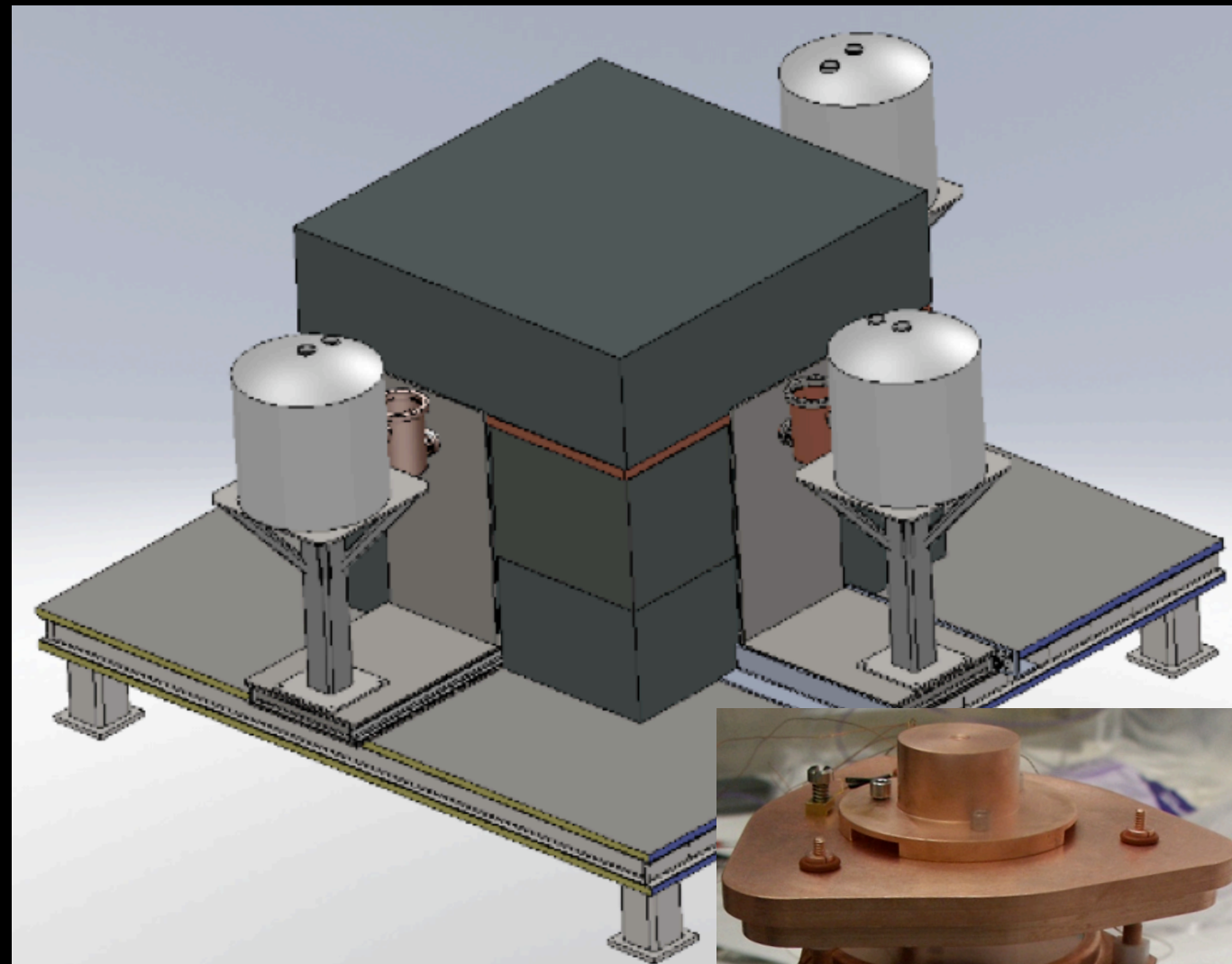


**Open collaboration
and exchange of ideas...
Plans to merge for ton-
scale experiment!!!**

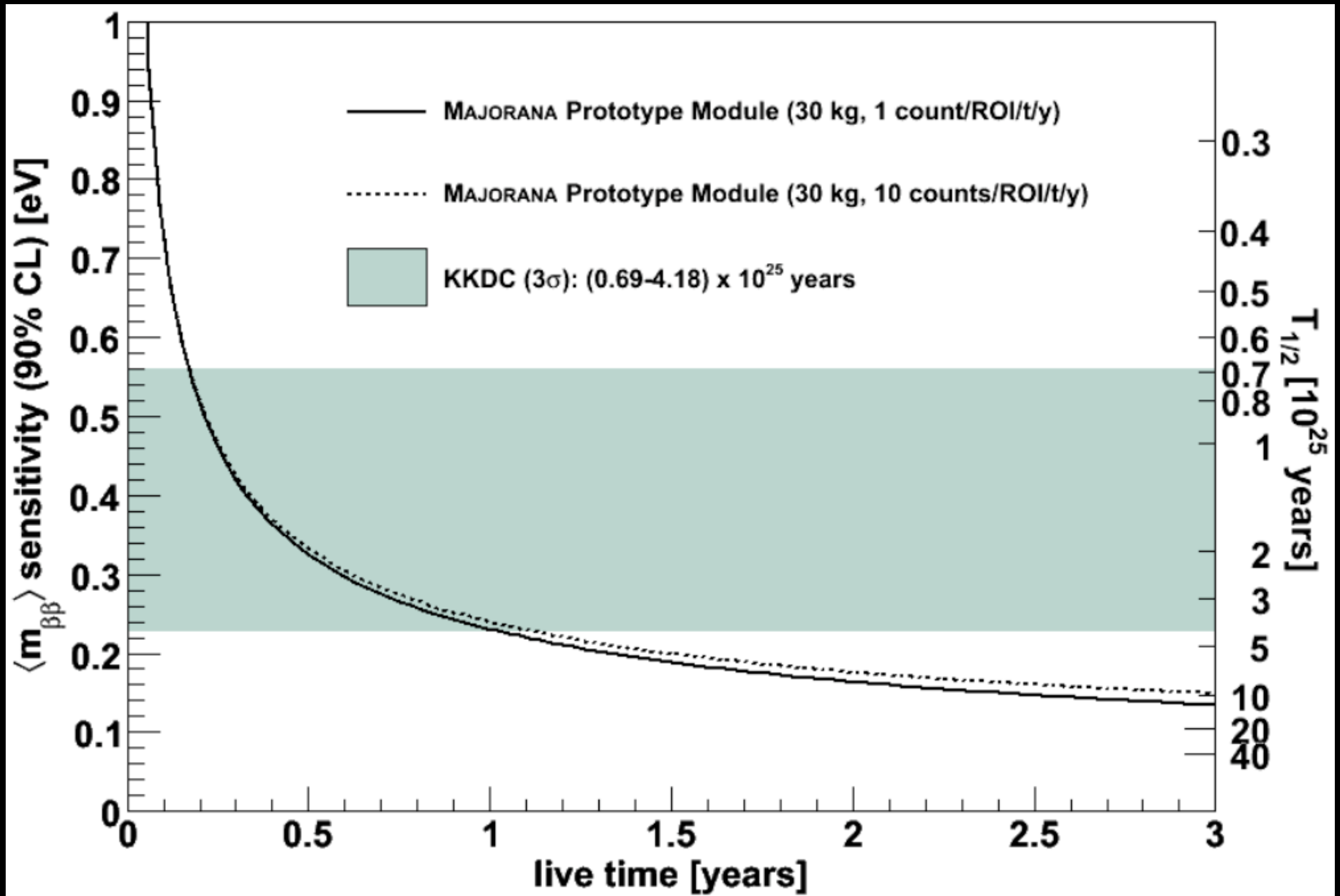
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MAJORANA DEMONSTRATOR

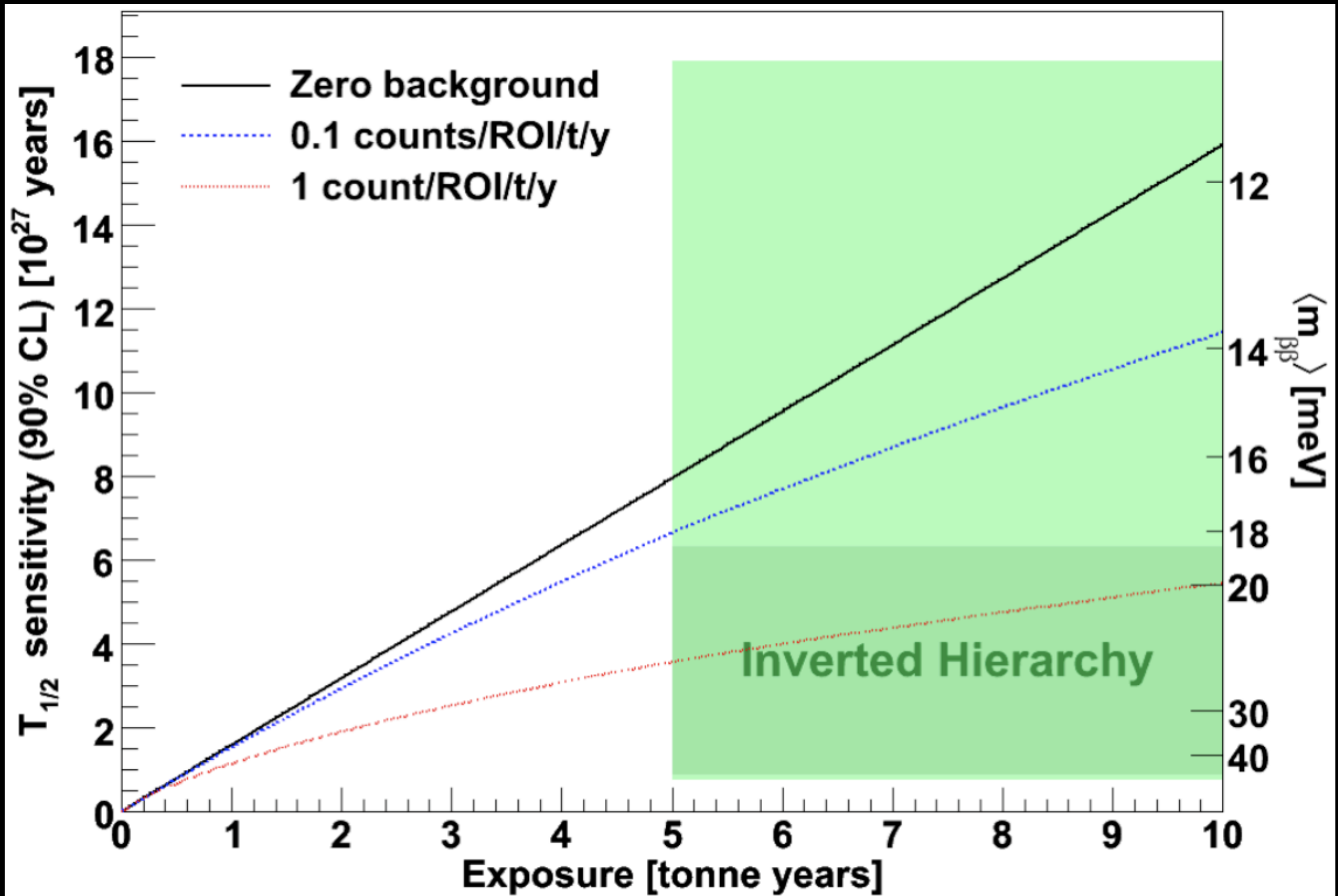
- Primary goal: show background levels for ton-scale MAJORANA
- 60-kg HPGe detectors (~half enriched)
- Focus on p-type point-contact detectors
- Located at Sanford Lab (4850 level of Homestake mine)



MAJORANA Sensitivity



MAJORANA Sensitivity



Different Models!

- What do I mean by “Models???”
- A particular combination of M and η for a set of $\beta\beta$ isotopes that predict a rate $\Gamma^{0\nu}$

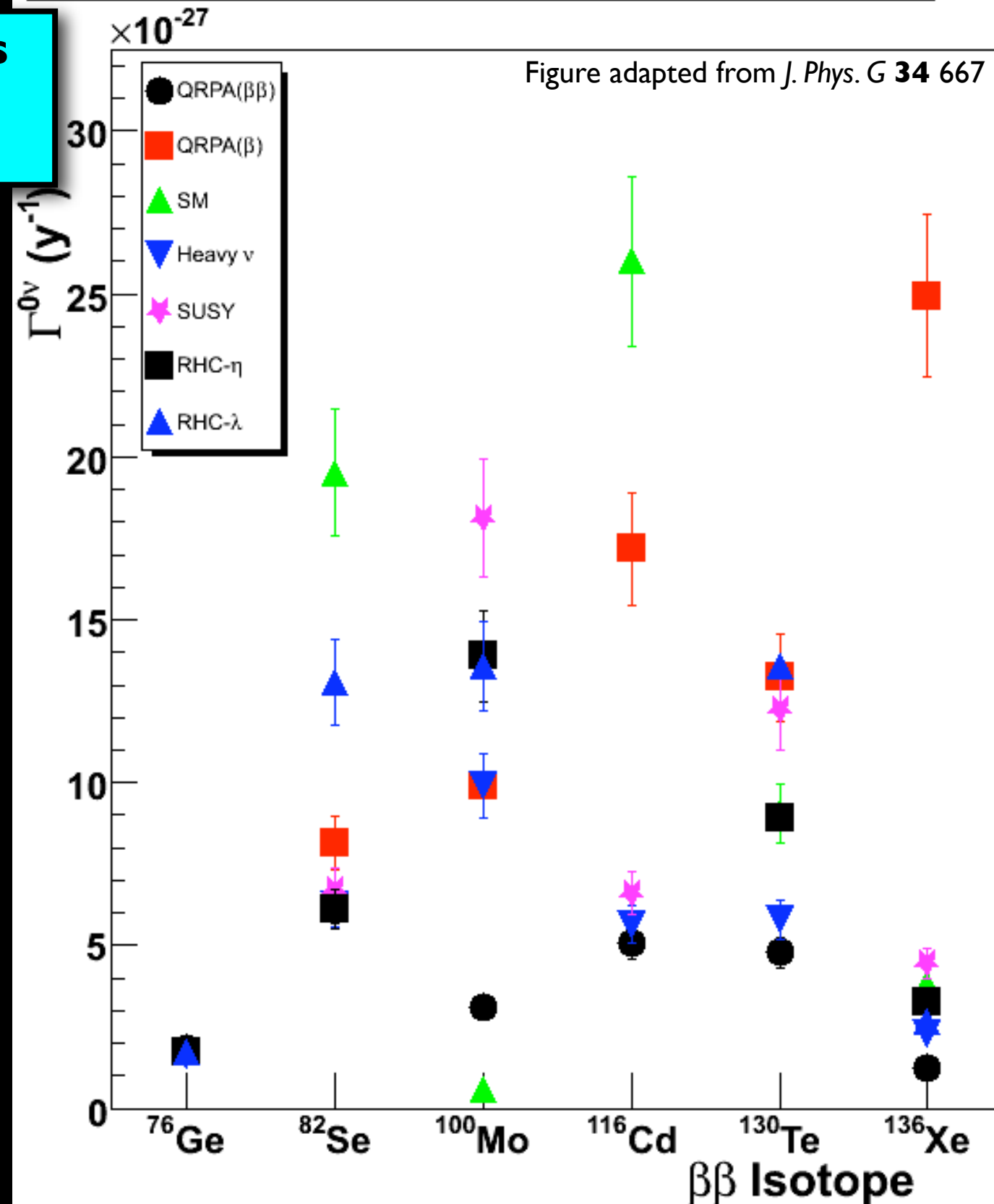
Different Models!

- What do I mean by “Models???”

If the uncertainty on these predictions is good enough, we can tell these models apart!

- This work focused on seven models...
- Light neutrino exchange, matrix elements from Nucl. Phys. A, **766**, 107
- Light neutrino exchange, matrix elements from Nucl. Phys A, **729**, 867
- Light neutrino exchange, matrix elements calculated from in shell model (various references)
- Heavy neutrino exchange, matrix elements from Phys. Rev. C, **60**, 055502
- SUSY, matrix elements from Phys. Rev. D, 58, 115004
- Two right-handed current models from Z. Phys. 334, 187

Model Predictions for Different Double Beta Decay Mechanisms

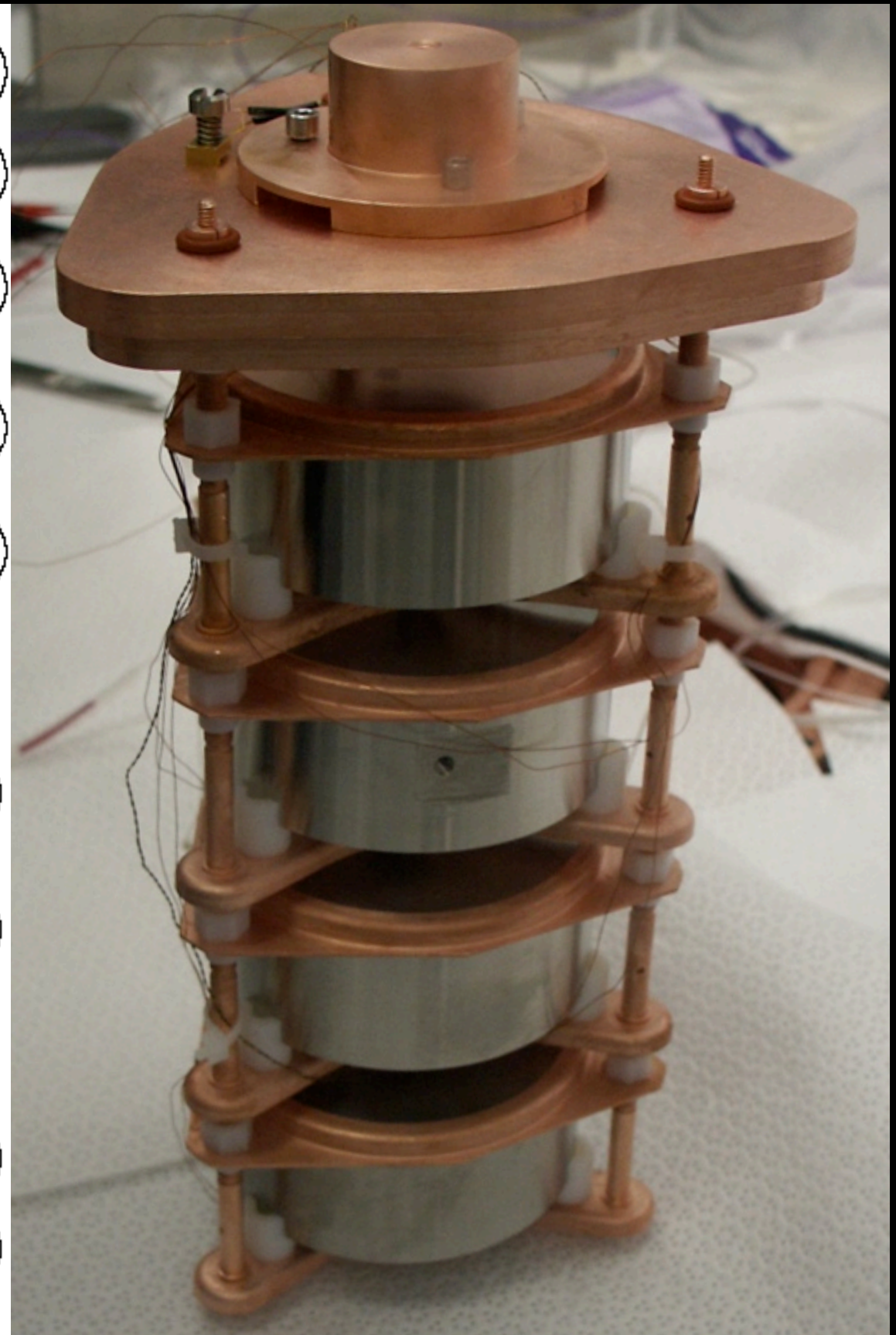
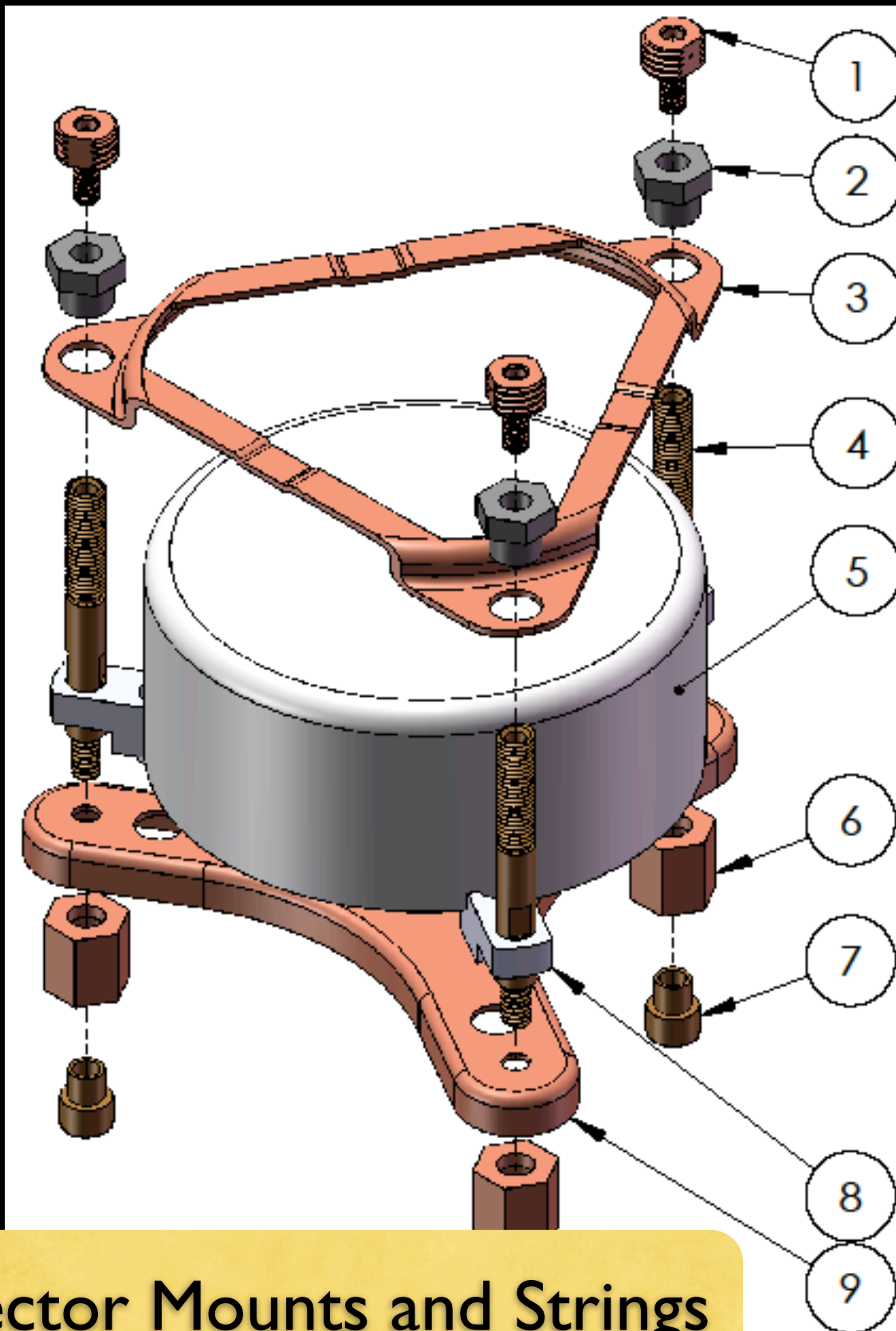


MAJORANA and

CLEAN/DEAP

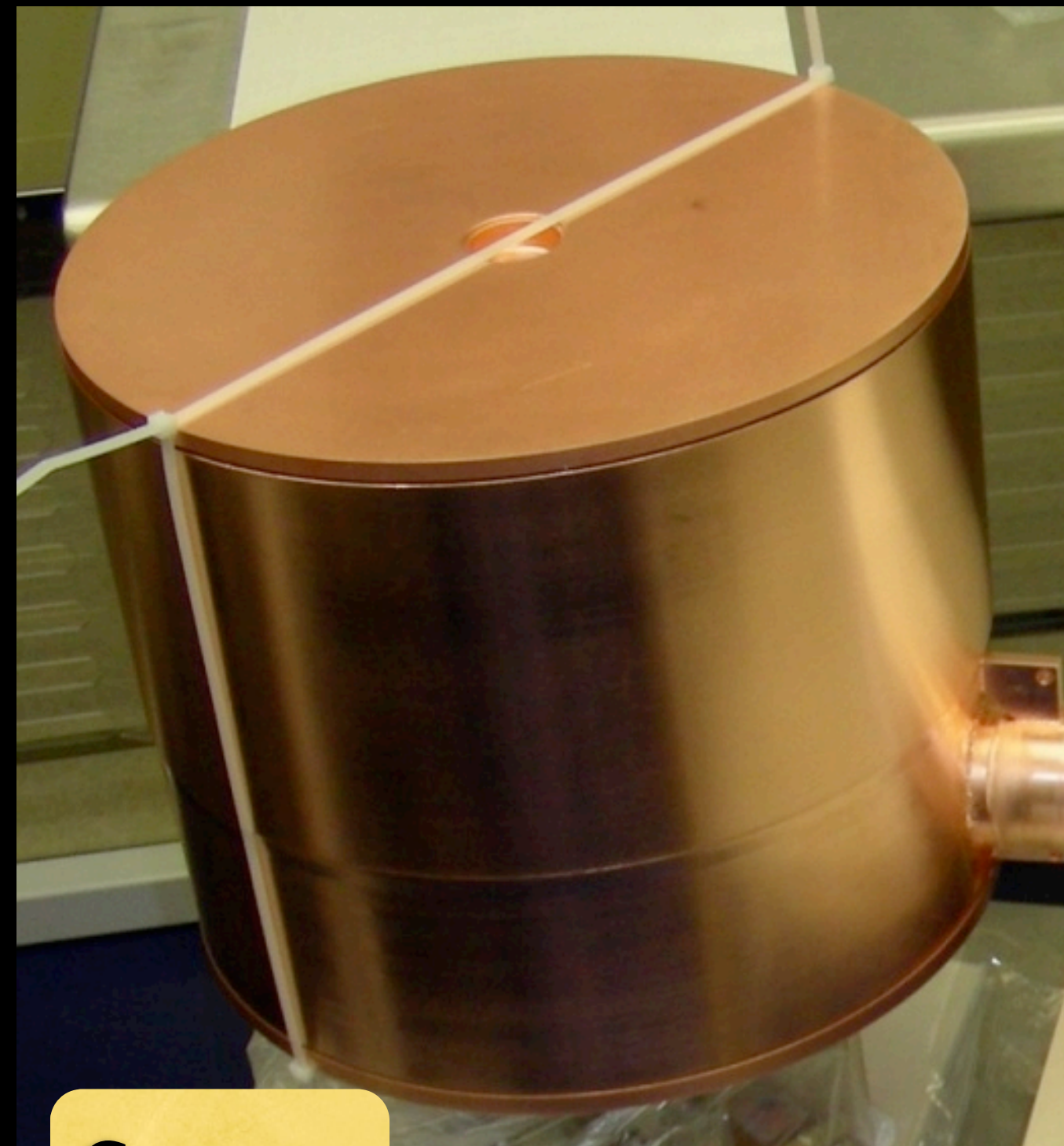
Detector design

MAJORANA Design



Detector Mounts and Strings

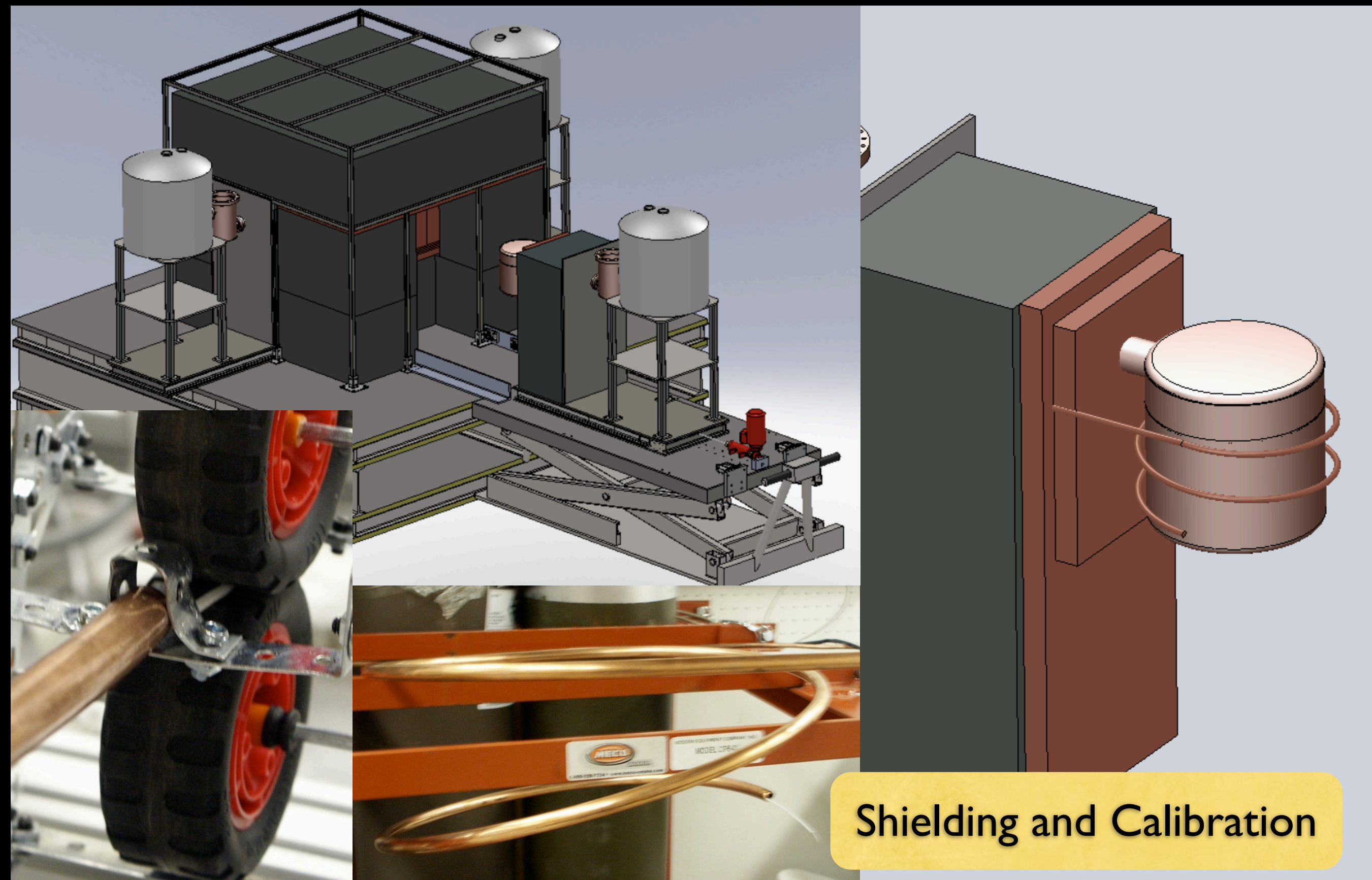
MAJORANA Design



Cryostats



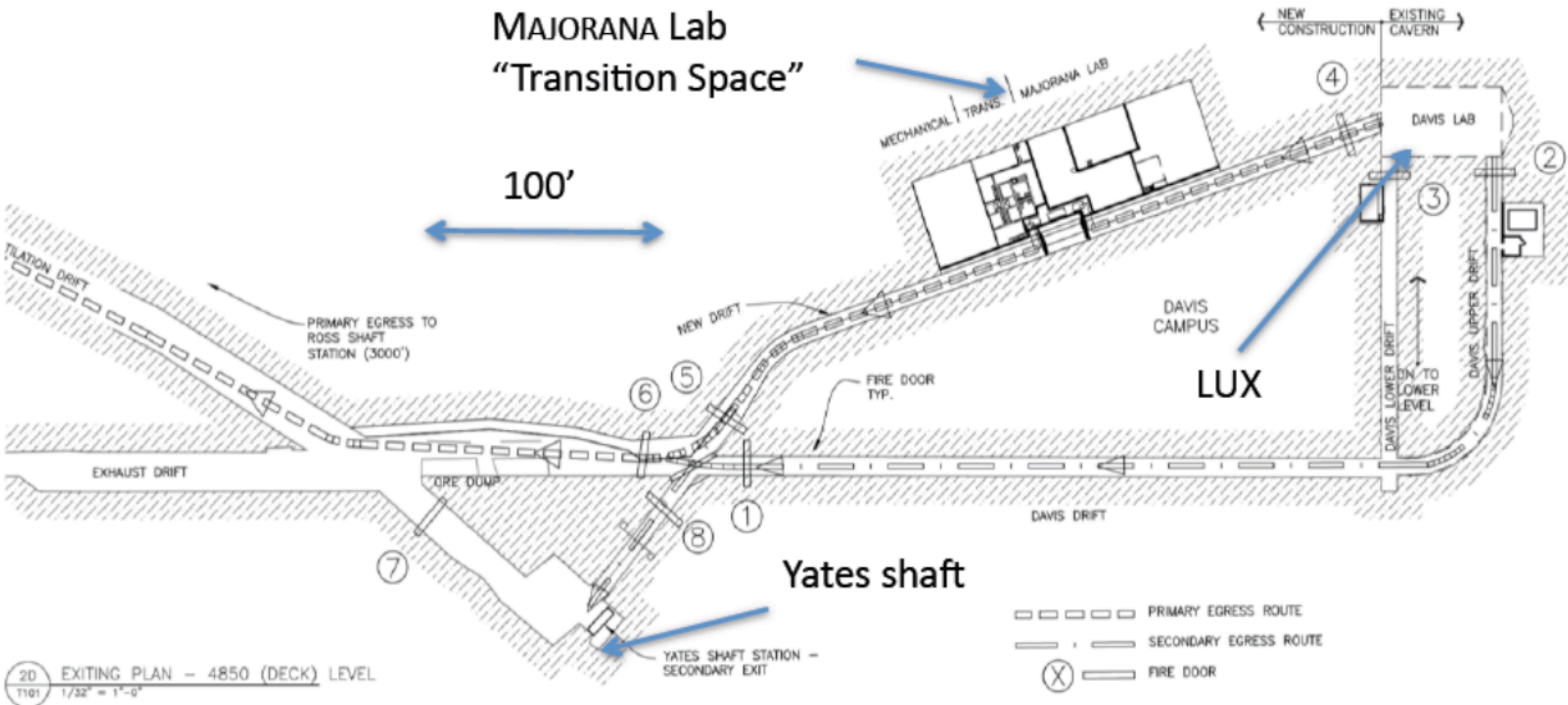
MAJORANA Design



Shielding and Calibration

MAJORANA Site Facilities

- Copper Electro-forming, detector facilities, and machine shop in one campus at 4850' level (new drift to Davis cavity for LUX)
- Excavation underway--beneficial occupancy soon!
- Temporary lab for Copper Electro-forming near Ross Shaft



The MAJORANA Collaboration



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Duke University and TUNL - Durham, North Carolina

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Jason Detwiler, Brian Fujikawa, Donna Hurley, Kevin Lesko, James Loach,
Paul Luke, Ryan Martin, Alan Poon, Gersende Prior, Jing Qian, Kai Vetter, Harold
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Vincente Guiseppe, Tina Keller, Dongming Mei, Keenan Thomas, Chao Zhang

University of Tennessee - Knoxville, Tennessee

William Bugg, Yuri Efremenko

University of Washington - Seattle, Washington

John Amsbaugh, Tom Burritt, Peter J. Doe,

Robert Johnson, **Michael Marino**, Michael Miller, R. G. Hamish Robertson, **Alexis
Schubert**, Tim Van Wechel

Note: Red text indicates students

MAJORANA and

CLEAN/DEAP

Overview and Strategy

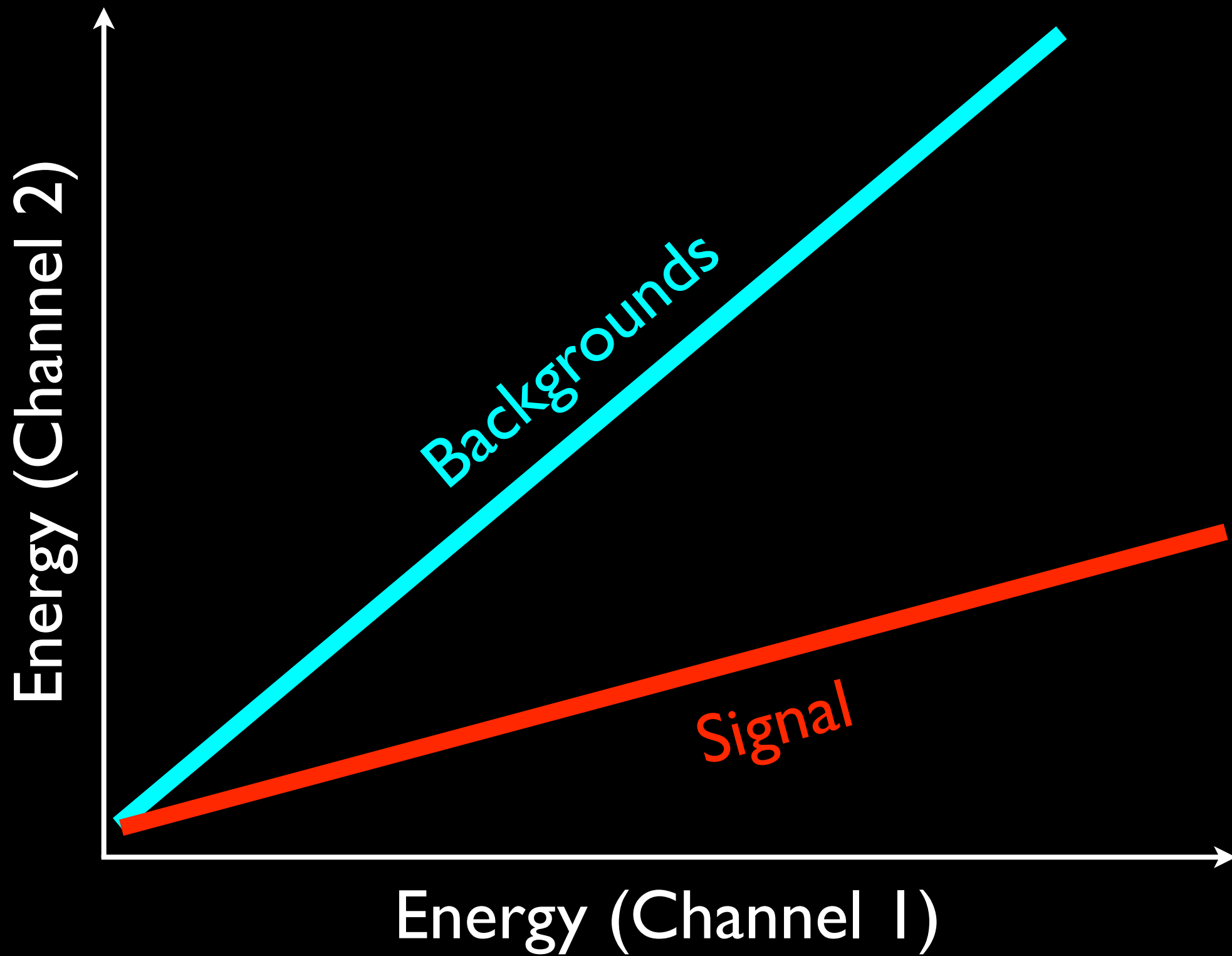
WIMP Dark Matter

- No particle in the Standard Model of Particle Physics explains dark matter
- Supersymmetric models predict a Lightest Supersymmetric Particle -- also known as a Weakly Interacting Massive Particle (WIMP)
- Could be a neutralino (mixture of the Z , γ and Higgs super-partners)
- Thermal relics, Mass $\sim 10 \text{ GeV} - 1 \text{ TeV}$
- $\sigma_A \sim \text{Electroweak scale}$

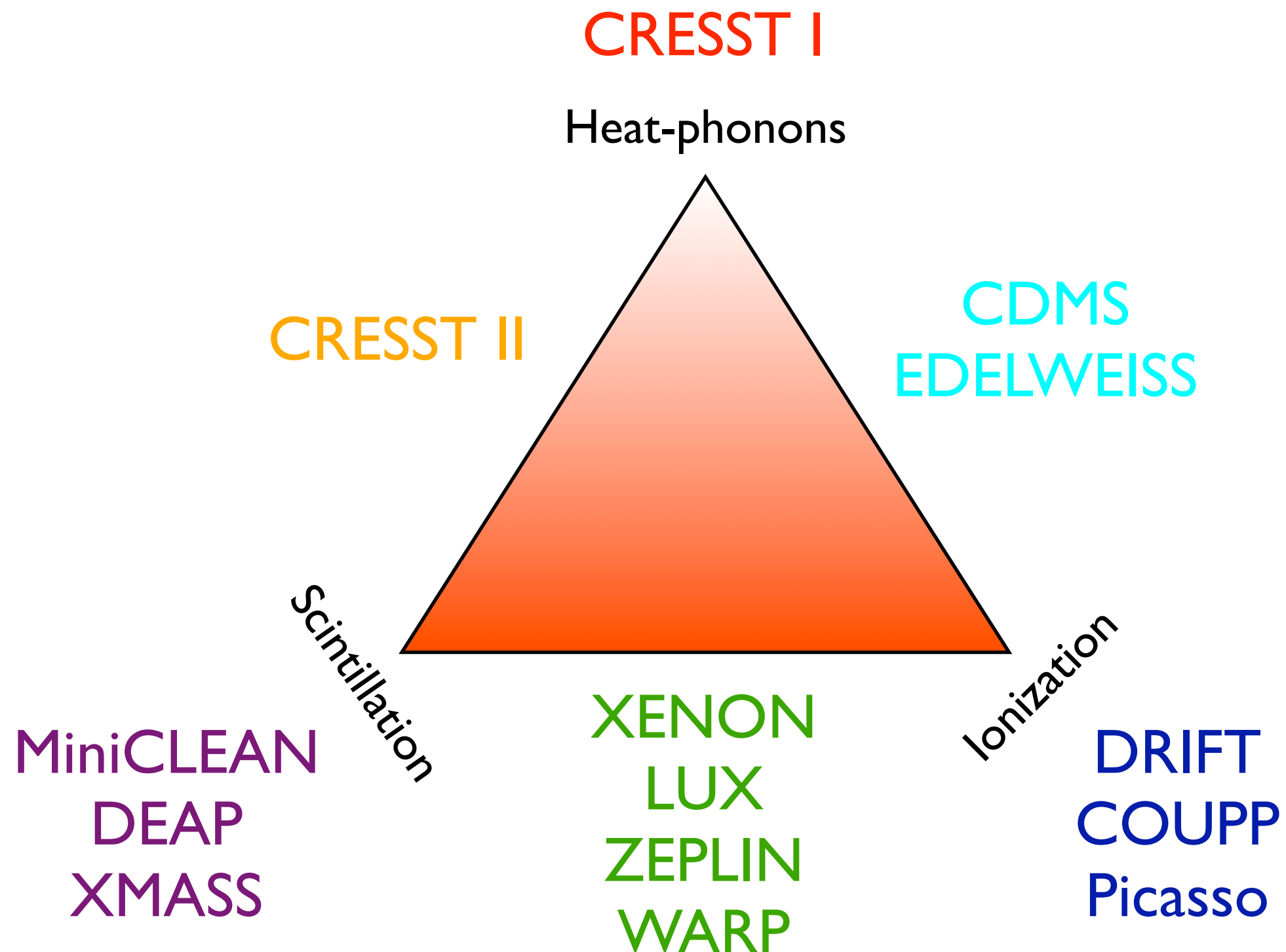
WIMP Dark Matter

We have realized a novel approach for the direct detection of dark matter using scintillation light from single phase detectors of LAr and LNe. We have developed a conceptually simple and economic means to achieve the multi-ton scale necessary to detect and study WIMP dark matter.

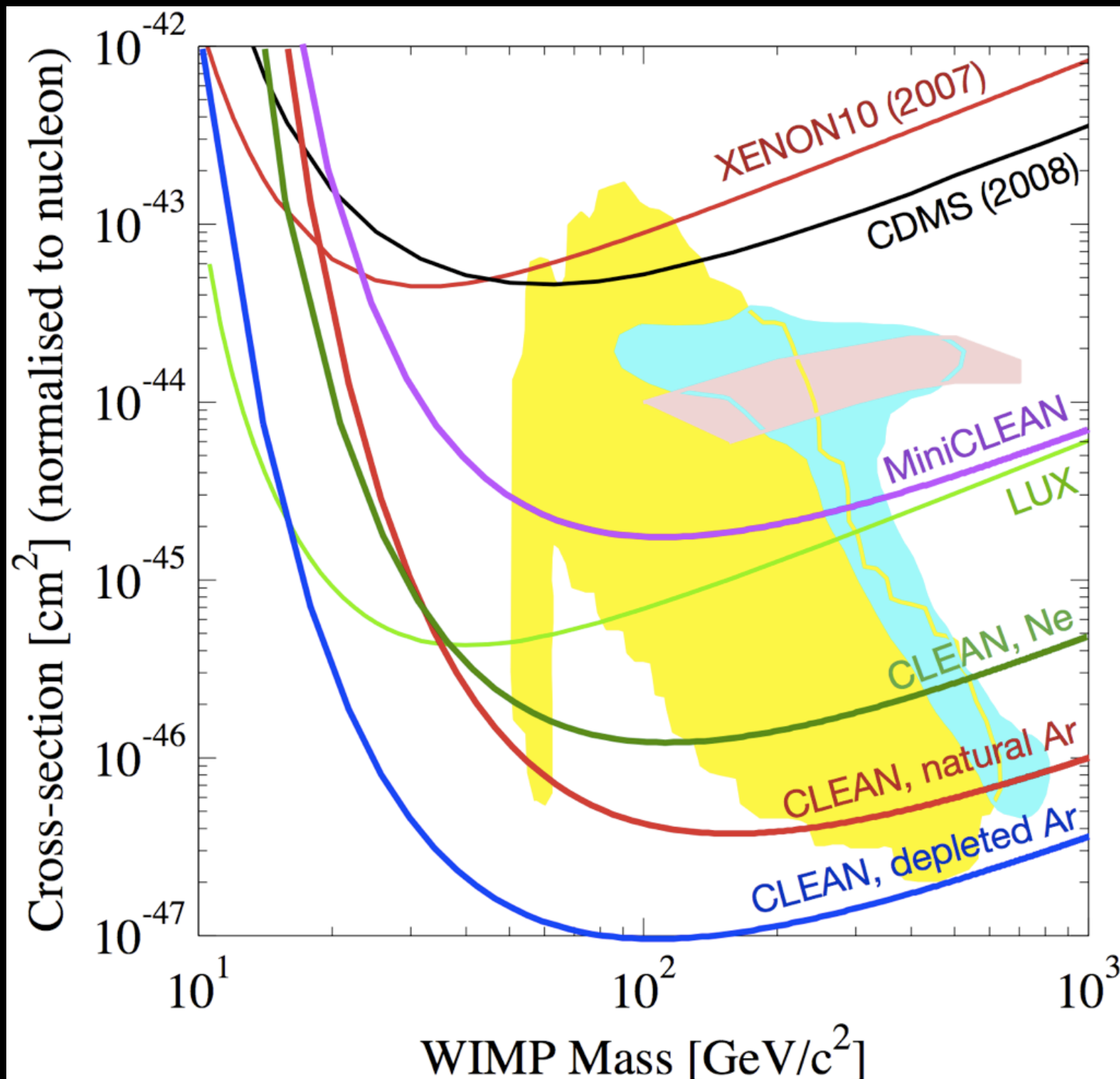
What to do?



What to do?



Progress Requires Scalable, “Background-Free” Detectors

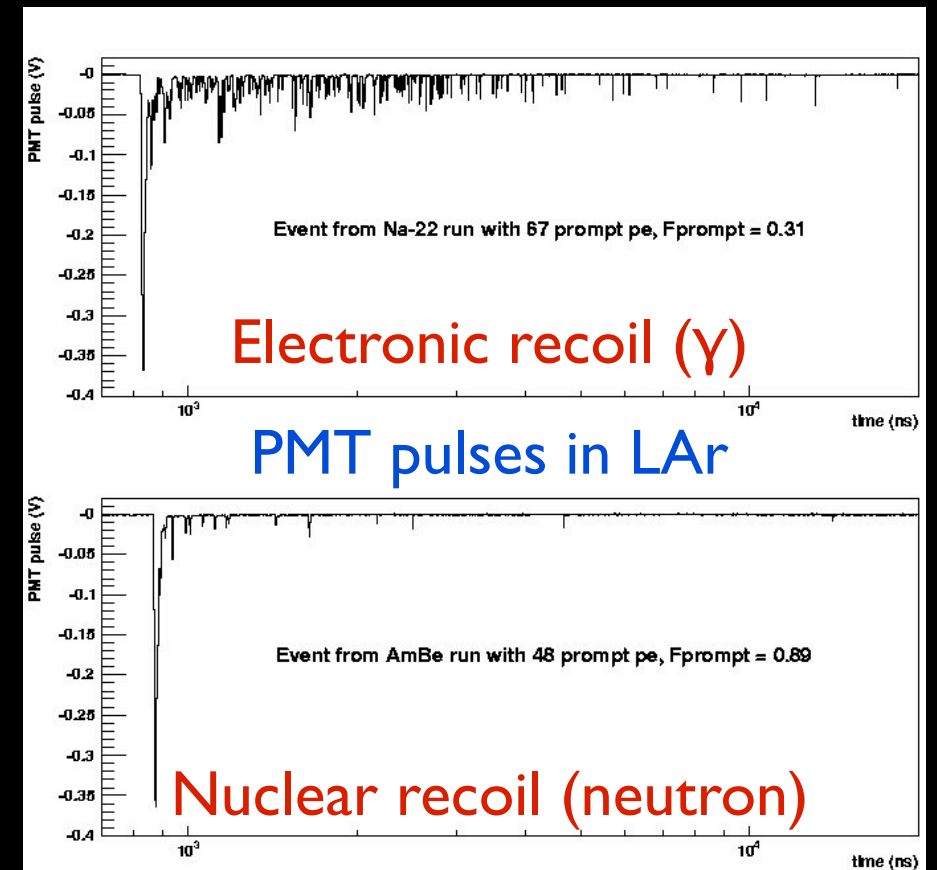
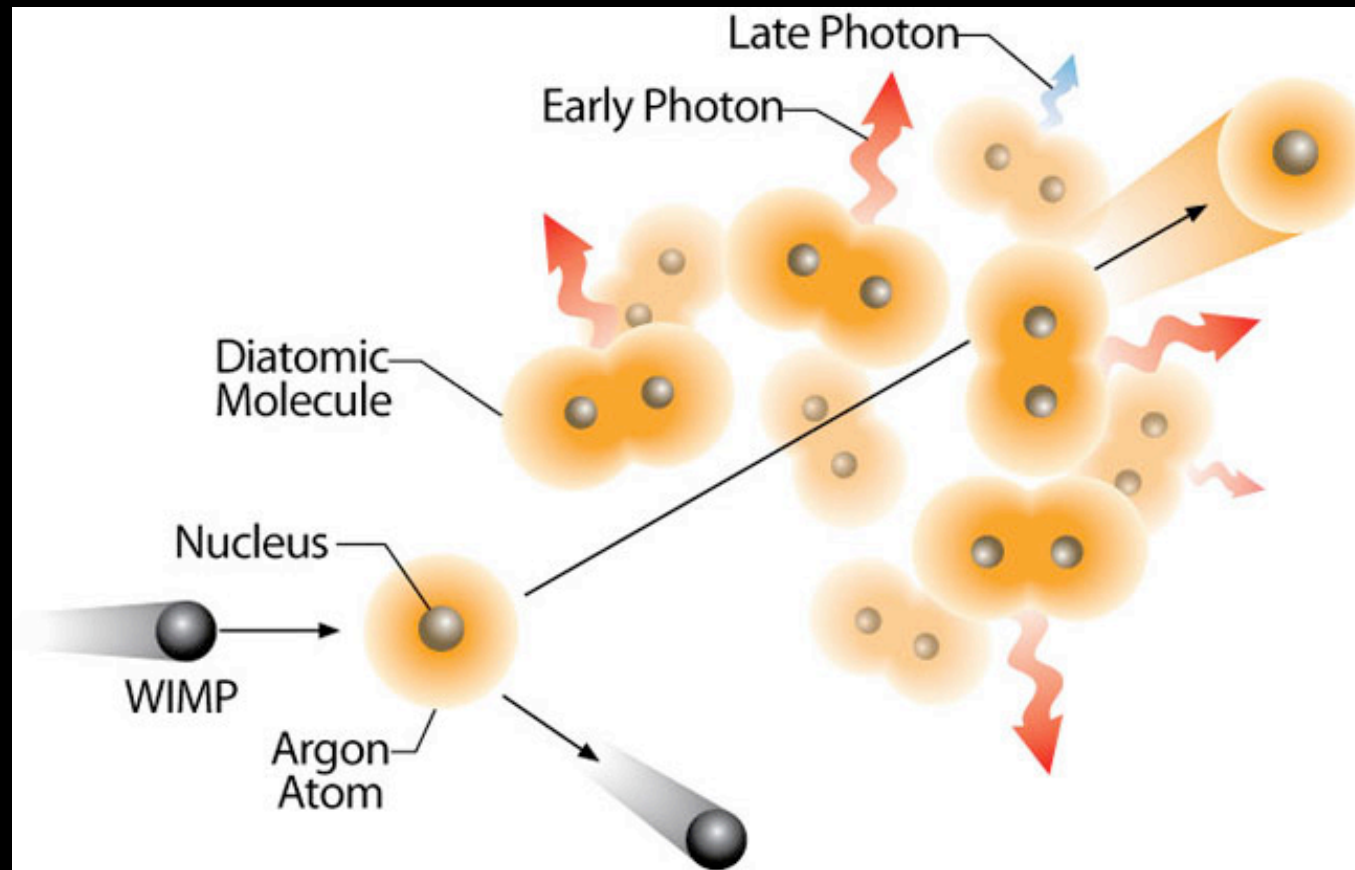


Events / 10 kg year

Events / 100 kg year

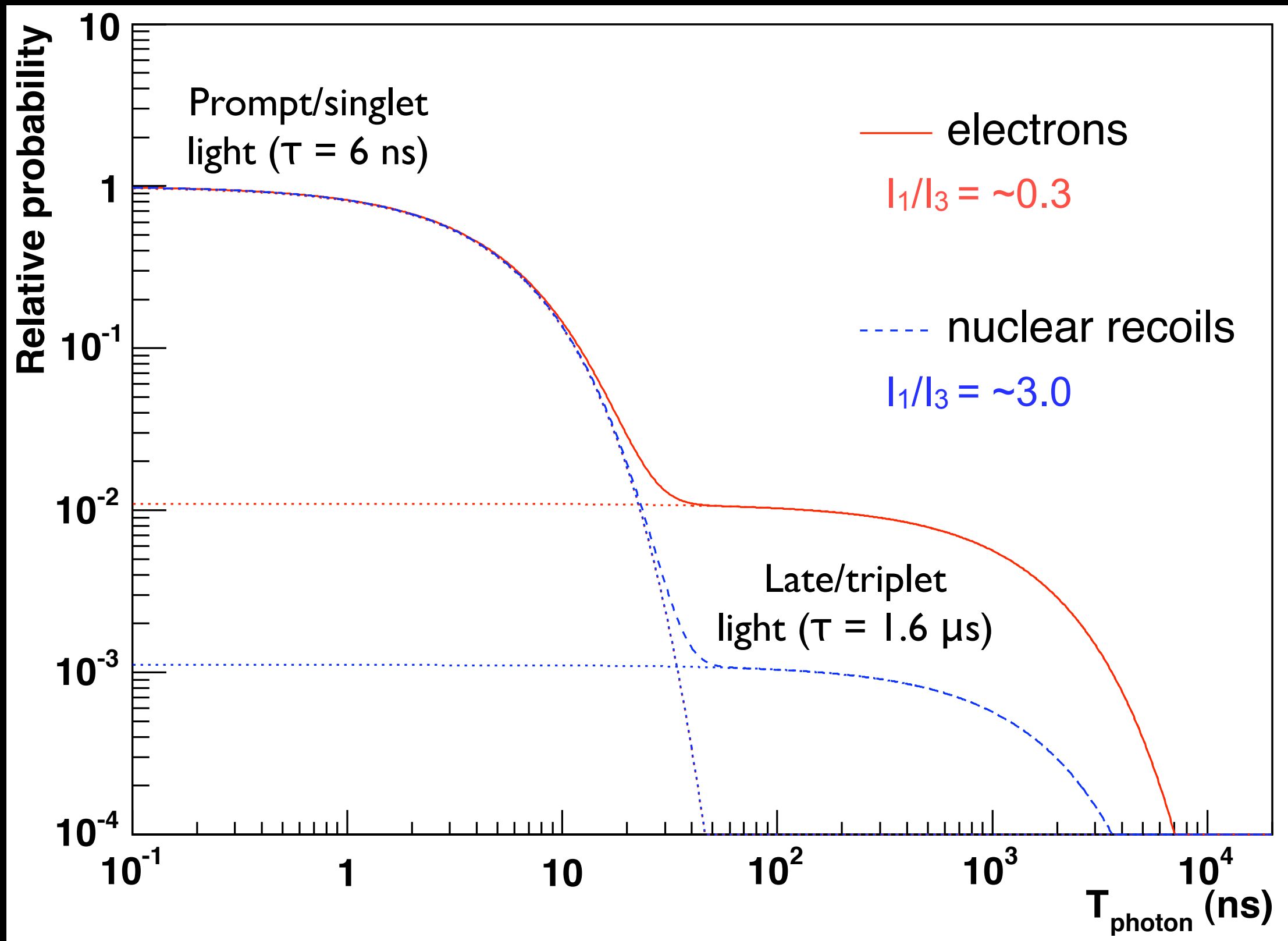
Events / 1000 kg year

Single-Phase Noble Liquid

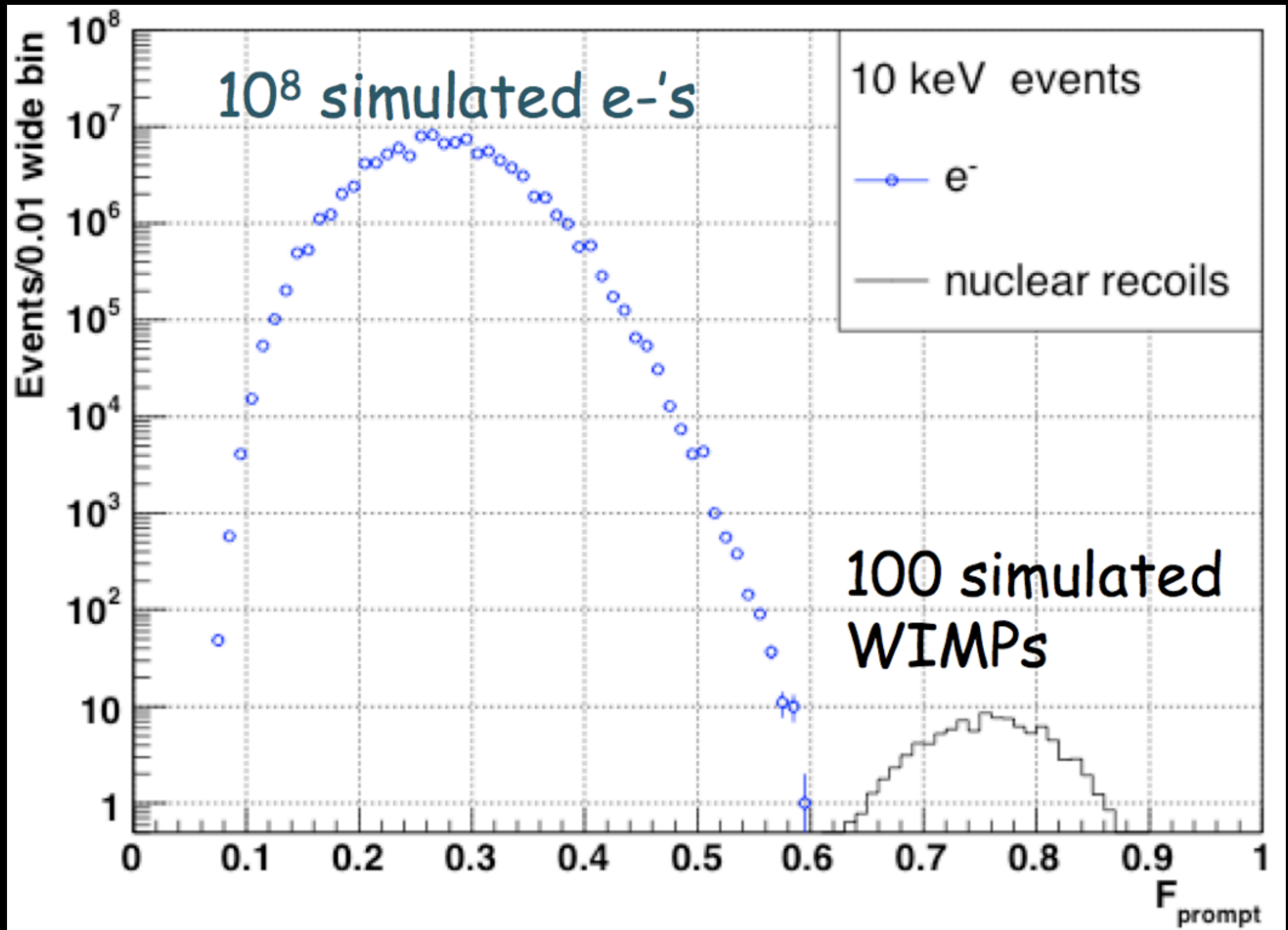


- Noble liquids have singlet and triplet excited states
- For argon and neon, decay times for these states are different and long enough to provide discrimination between electronic and nuclear recoils
- Electronic recoils result in more triplet states so more late light

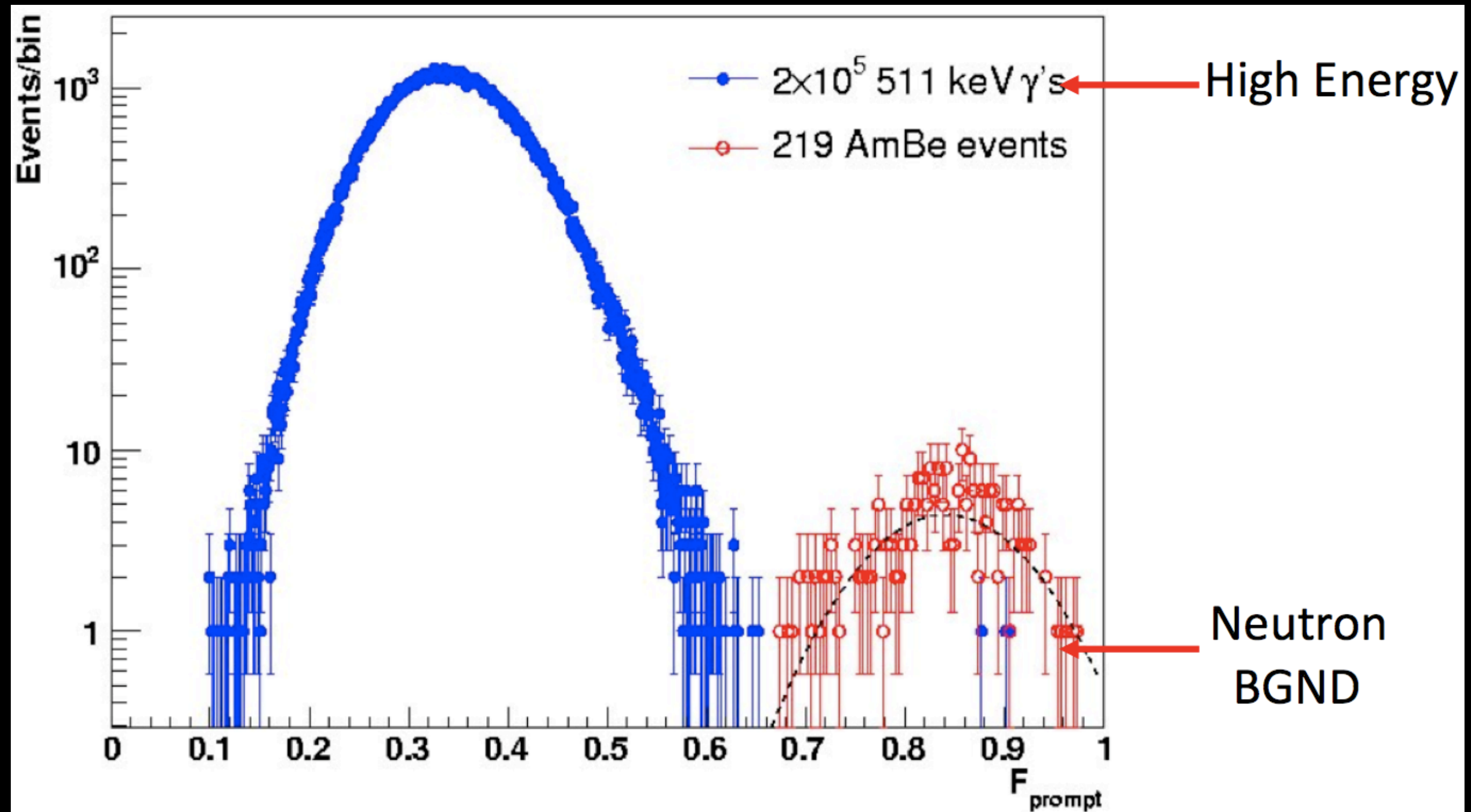
Background Discrimination



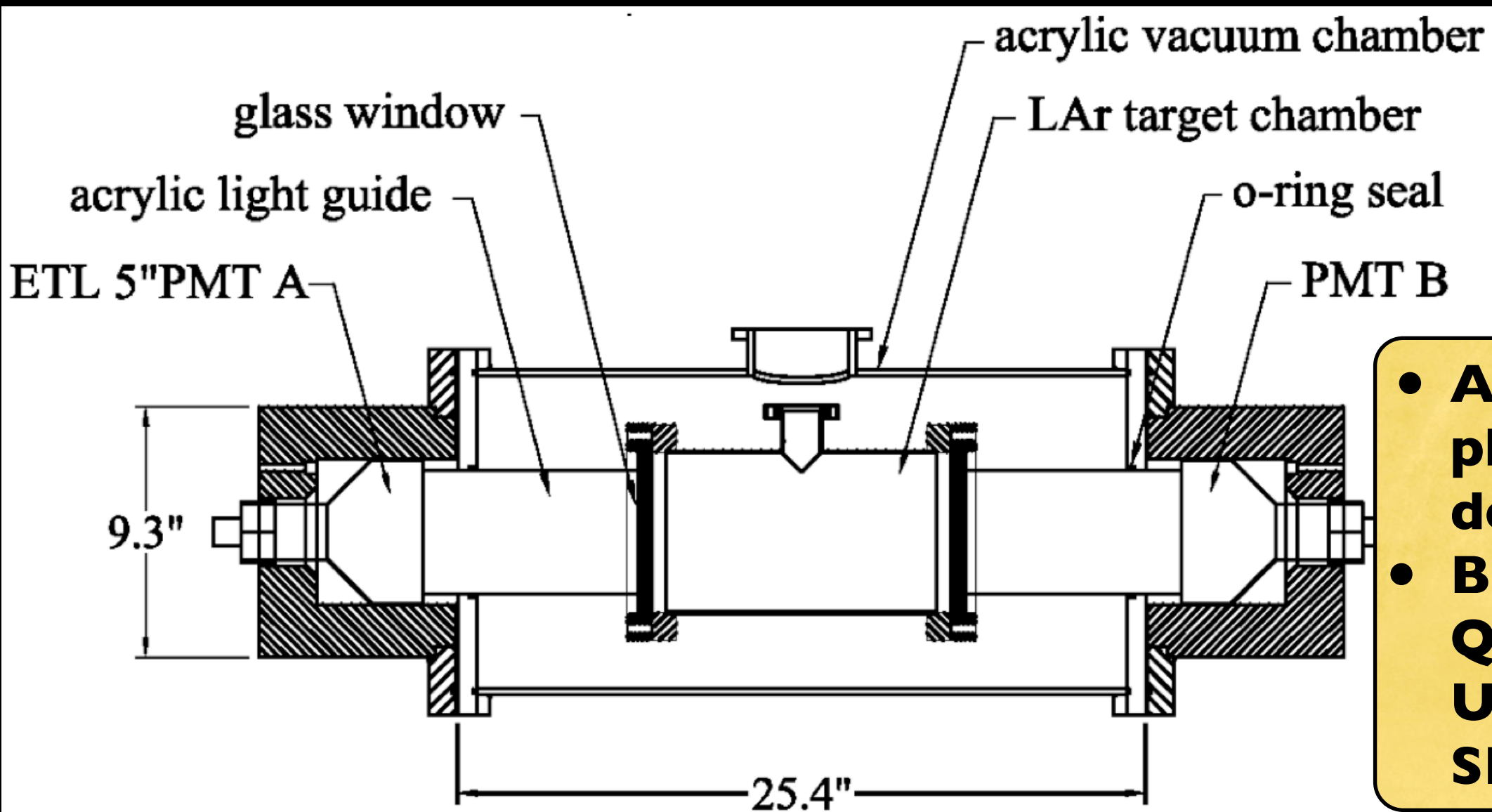
Background Discrimination



Background Discrimination



So we built DEAP-I...



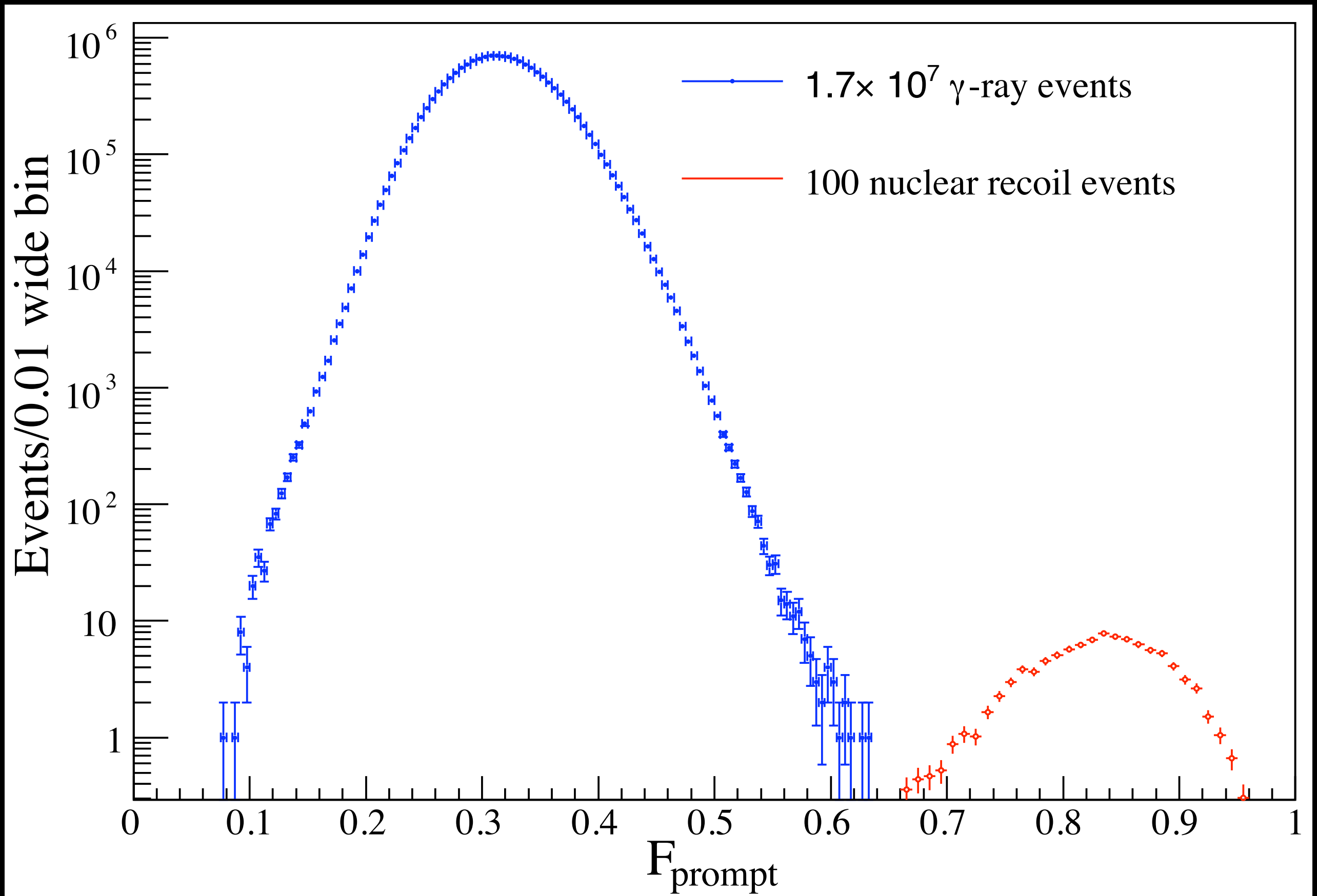
- **A 7-kg, single-phase LAr detector**
- **Built and run at Queen's University then SNO Lab**

- Development of liquid Argon methods
- Demonstrate pulse shape discrimination experimentally
- Develop background reduction techniques
- Dark matter sensitivity to $\approx 10^{-44} \text{ cm}^2$ at 100 GeV





So we built DEAP-I...



MAJORANA and

CLEAN/DEAP

Detector design

The CLEAN and DEAP Family of Detectors

DEAP-0:

Initial R&D detector

DEAP-1:

7 kg LAr
2 warm PMTs
At SNOLab 2008

pico-CLEAN:

Initial R&D detector

Micro-CLEAN:

4 kg LAr or LNe
2 cold PMTs
surface tests at Yale

Mini-CLEAN:

400 kg LAr or LNe (150 kg fiducial mass)
92 cold PMTs
At SNOLab mid-2010

DEAP-3600:

3600 kg LAr (1000 kg fiducial mass)
266 cold PMTs
At SNOLab late 2010

50-tonne LNe/LAr Detector:

pp-solar ν , supernova ν , dark matter $<10^{-46} \text{ cm}^2$
At DUSEL ~2012

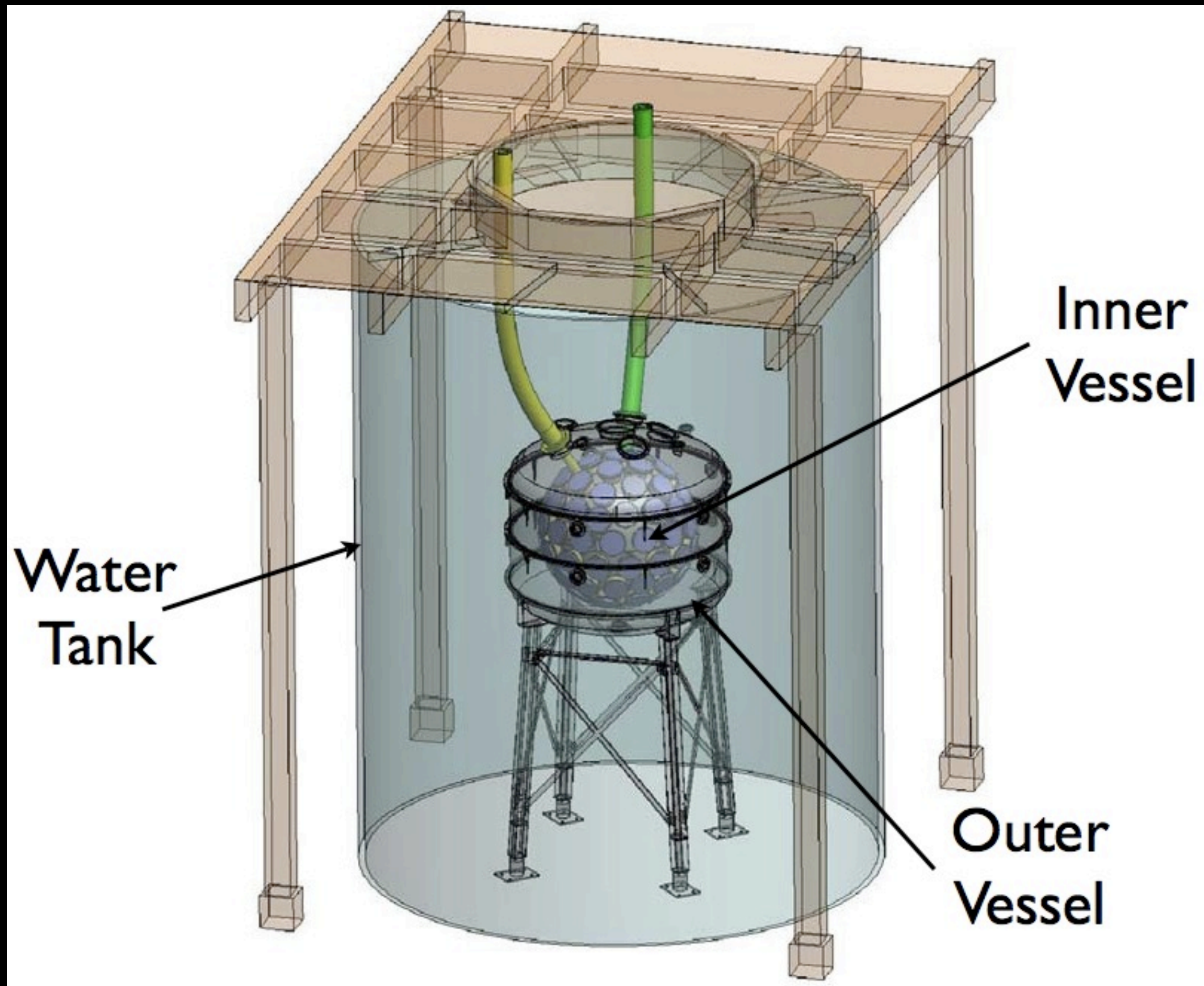
10^{-44} cm^2

10^{-45} cm^2

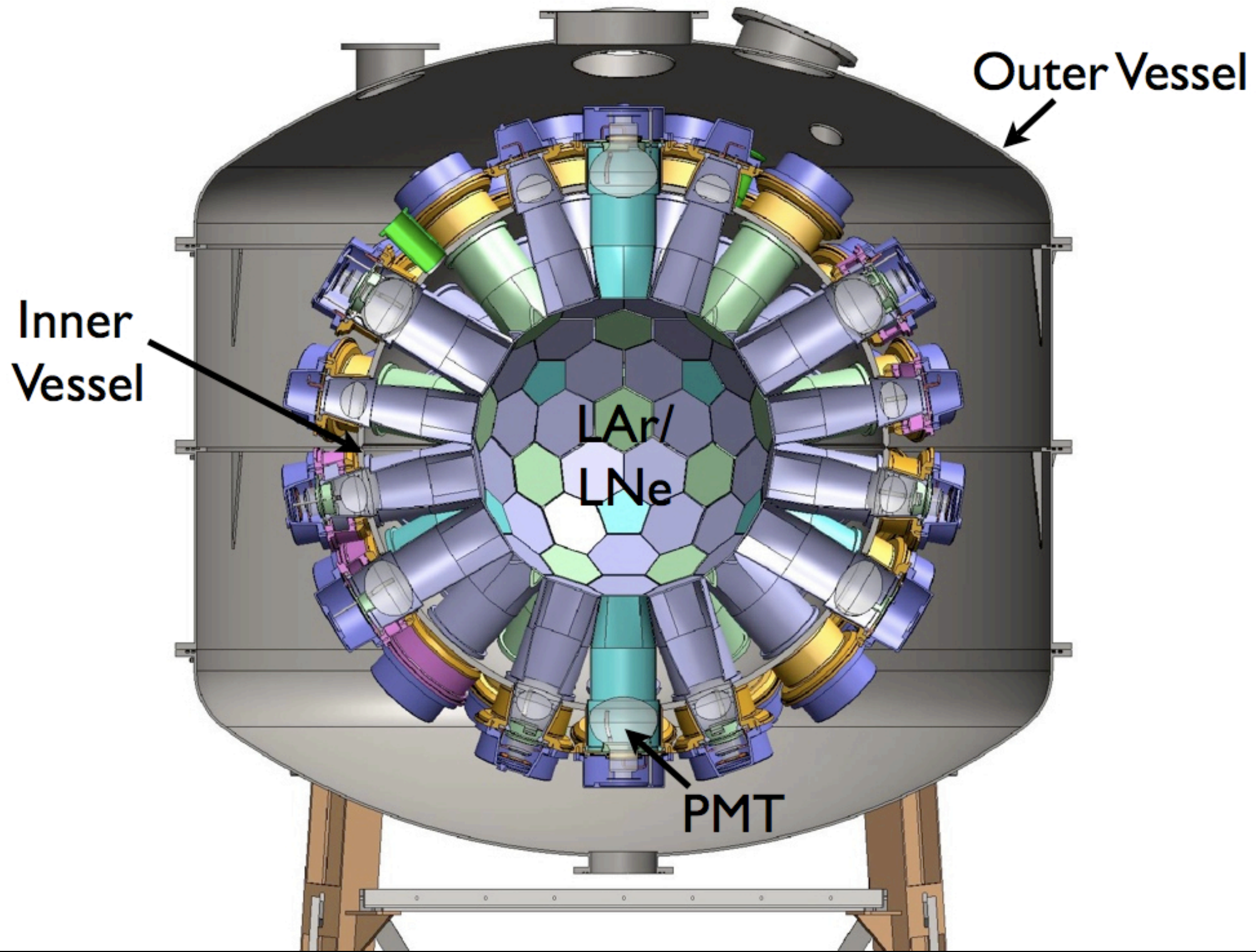
10^{-46} cm^2

WIMP σ
Sensitivity

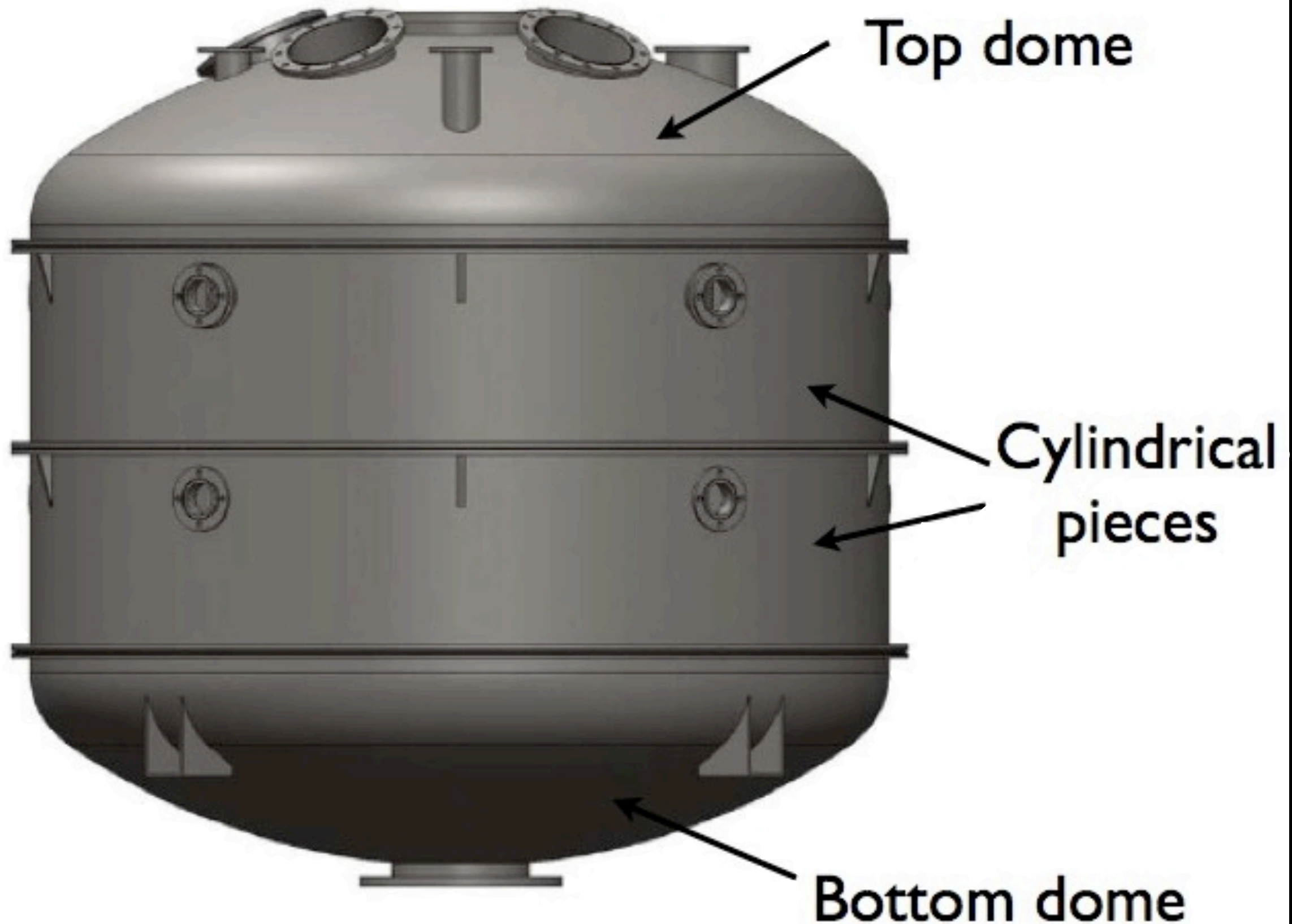
Building Mini-CLEAN



Building Mini-CLEAN



Building Mini-CLEAN



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Building Mini-CLEAN



Building Mini-CLEAN



Building Mini-CLEAN



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Building Mini-CLEAN

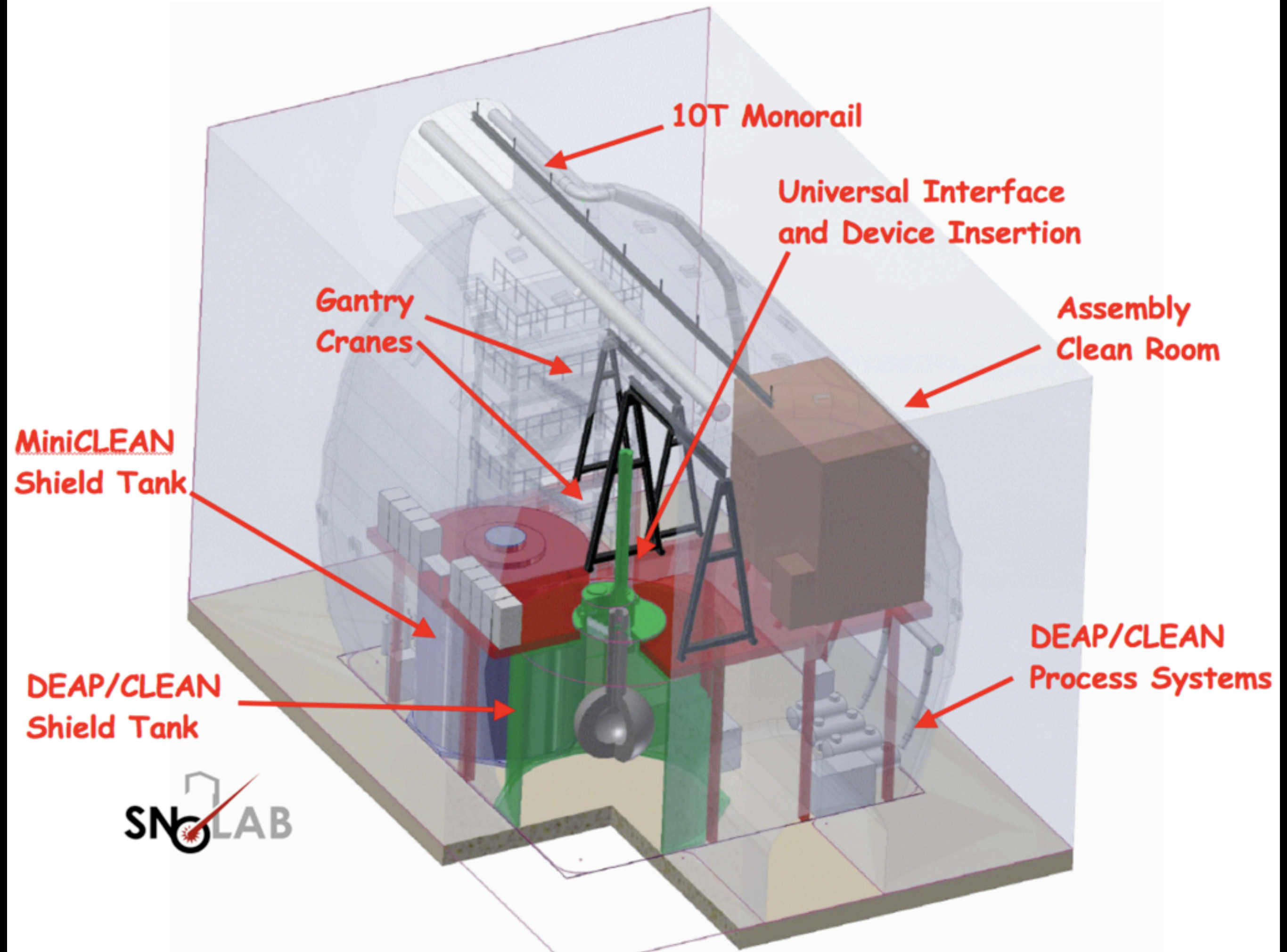


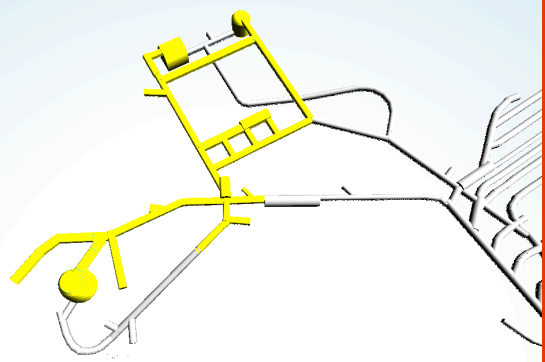
Building Mini-CLEAN



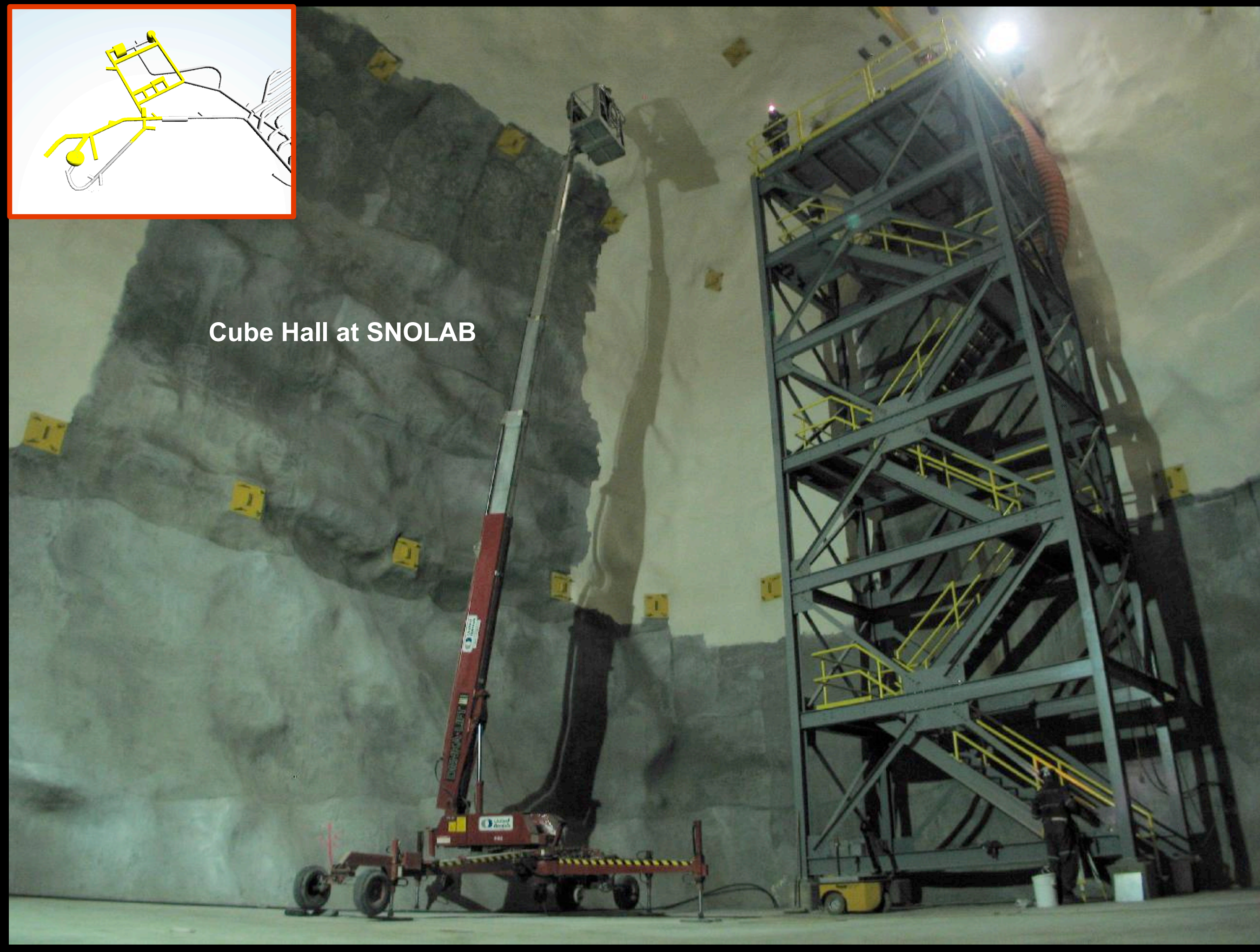
Building Mini-CLEAN







Cube Hall at SNOLAB





10T gantry crane

DEAP-3600
top access

MiniCLEAN
top access

MiniCLEAN
anchors

SNOLAB Cube Hall



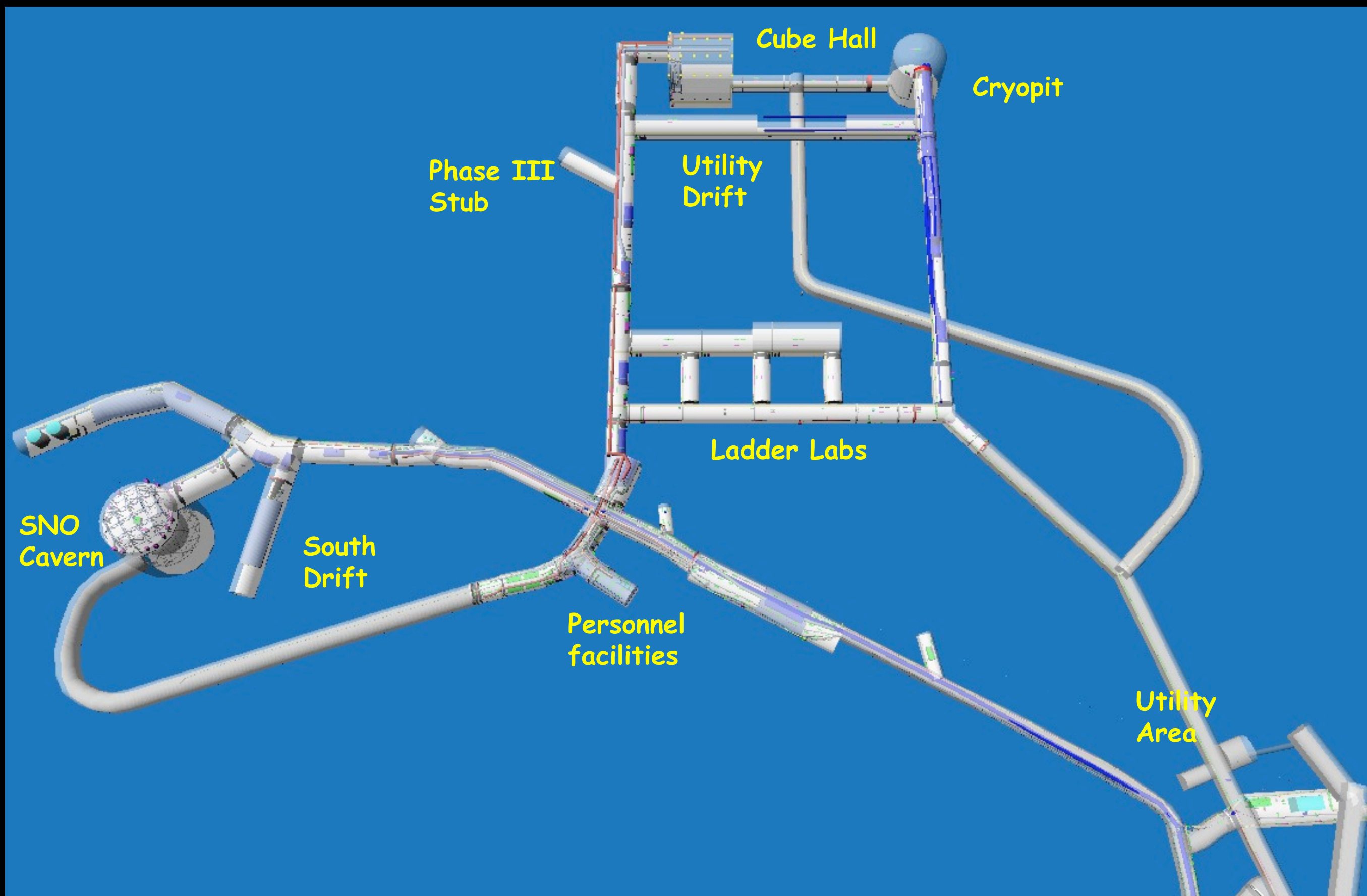
10T gantry crane

Insert Detector Here

MiniCLEAN
top access

MiniCLEAN
anchors

SNOLAB Cube Hall



CLEAN/DEAP Collaboration

University of Alberta

Aksel Hallin

Boston University

Ed Kearns

Carleton University

Kevin Graham

Harvard University

John Doyle

Los Alamos National Laboratory

Andrew Hime

MIT

Joe Formaggio and Jocelyn Monroe

NIST - Boulder

Kevin Coakley

University of New Mexico

Dinesh Loomba

University of North Carolina

Reyco Henning

University of Pennsylvania

Josh Klein

Queens University

Mark Boulay and Art McDonald

University of South Dakota

Dongming Mei

SNOLab

Fraser Duncan

Syracuse University

Richard Schnee

TRIUMF

Fabrice Retrieve

Yale University

Dan McKinsey

16 Institutions with ~80 Participants

Institutional Representatives, Scientists (Postdocs and Students), Engineers and Technicians

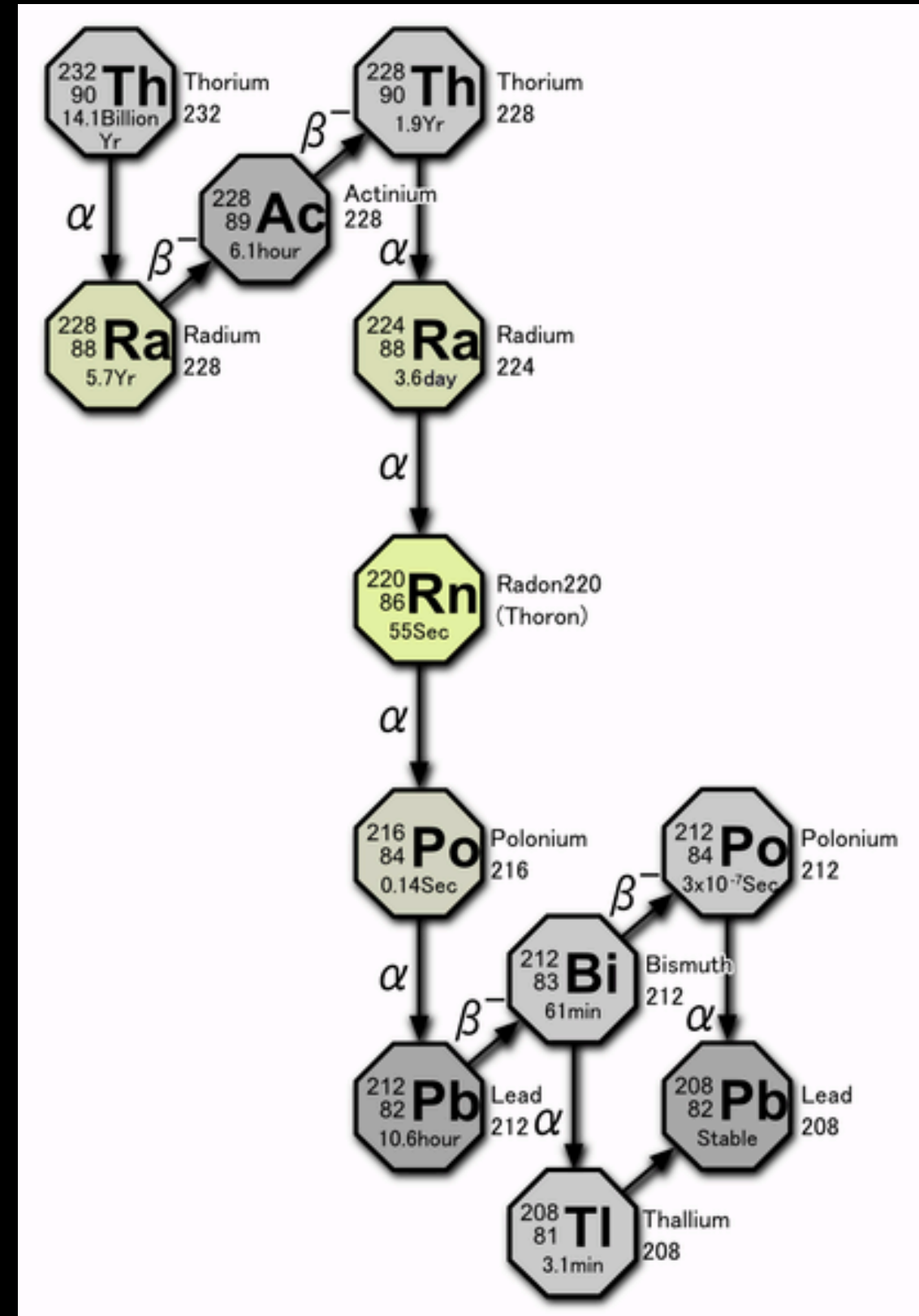


MAJORANA and CLEAN/DEAP

Recent R&D Progress

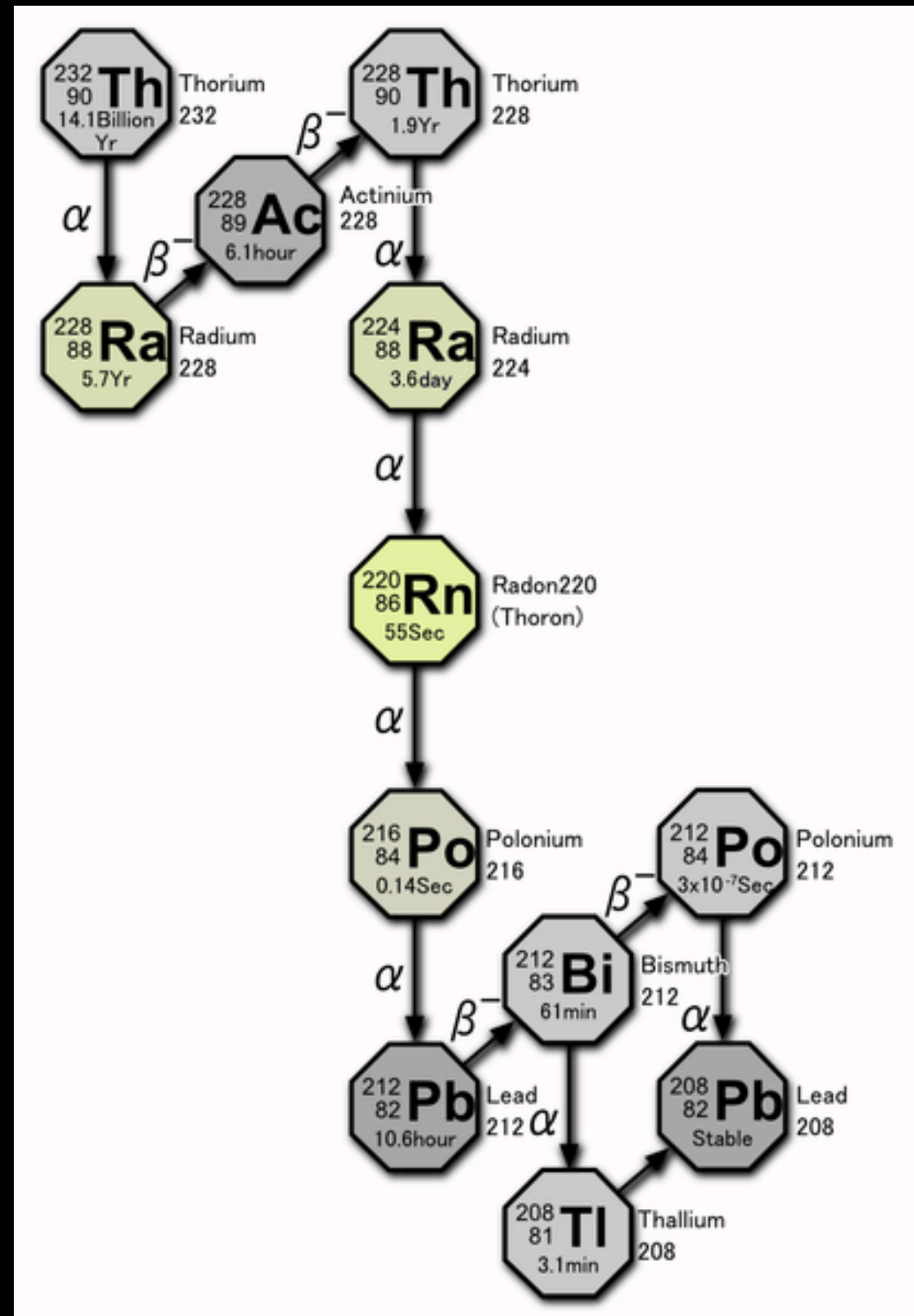
MAJORANA R&D

- Background Modeling: Alexis Schubert (B8.00003)
- Inelastic Neutron Scattering: Melissa Boswell (B8.00008)
- Enriched Germanium Activation: Vince Guiseppe (B8.00009)
- Internal Conversions in GEANT4: Chao Zhang (B8.00010)
- Data Acquisition: Graham Giovanetti (G8.00010)
- Low-Energy Science Program: Michael Miller (P10.00003)
- Custom Low-Background BEGe: Padraic Finnerty (Y10.00004)



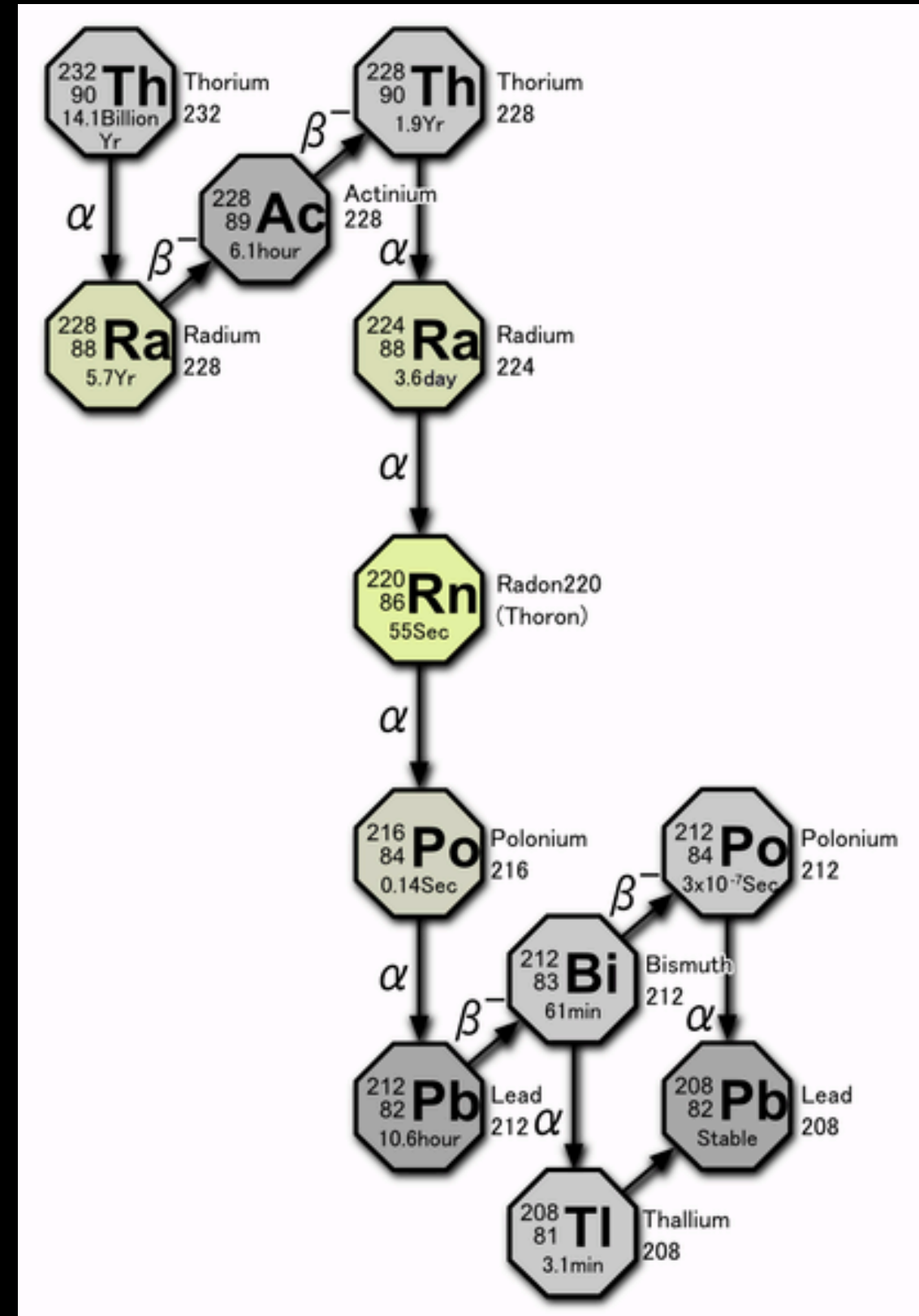
From my APS talk ~2 weeks ago...

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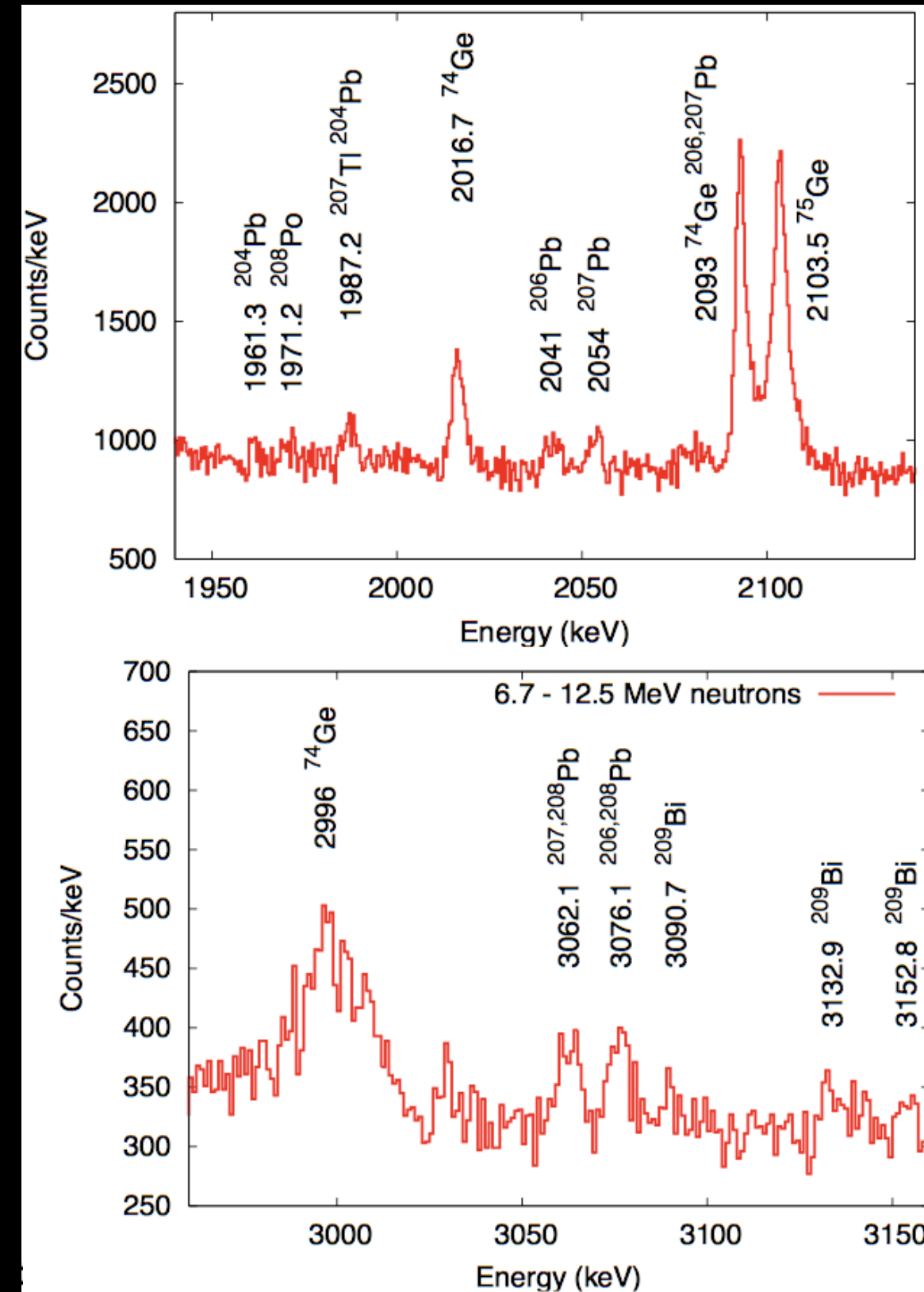
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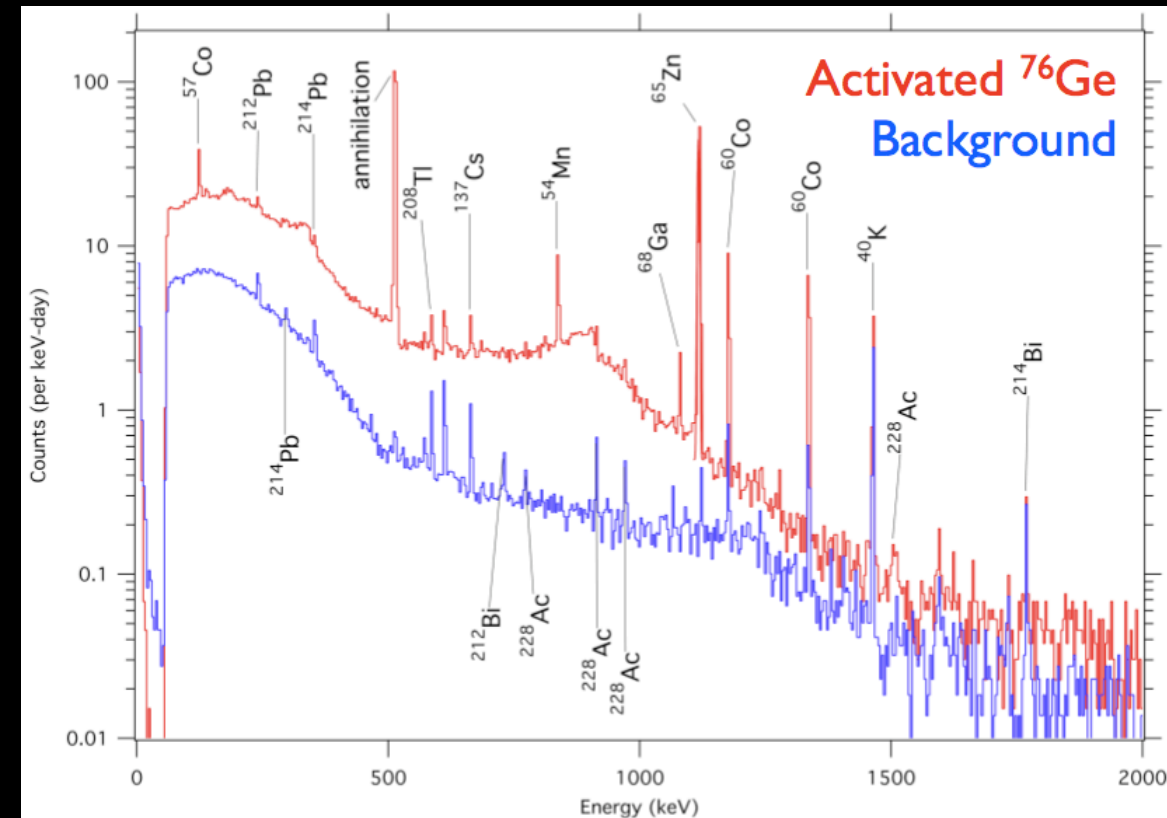
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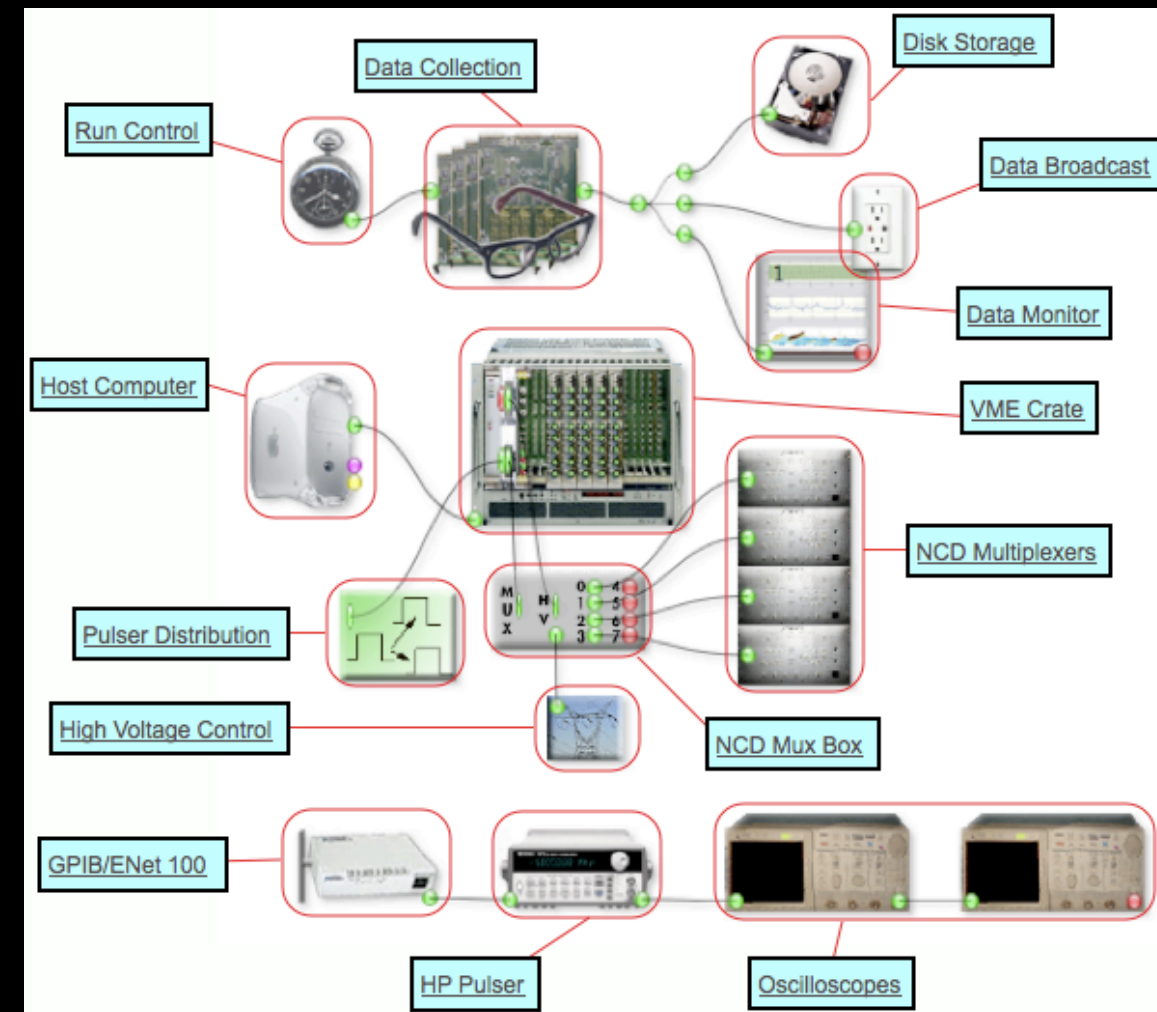
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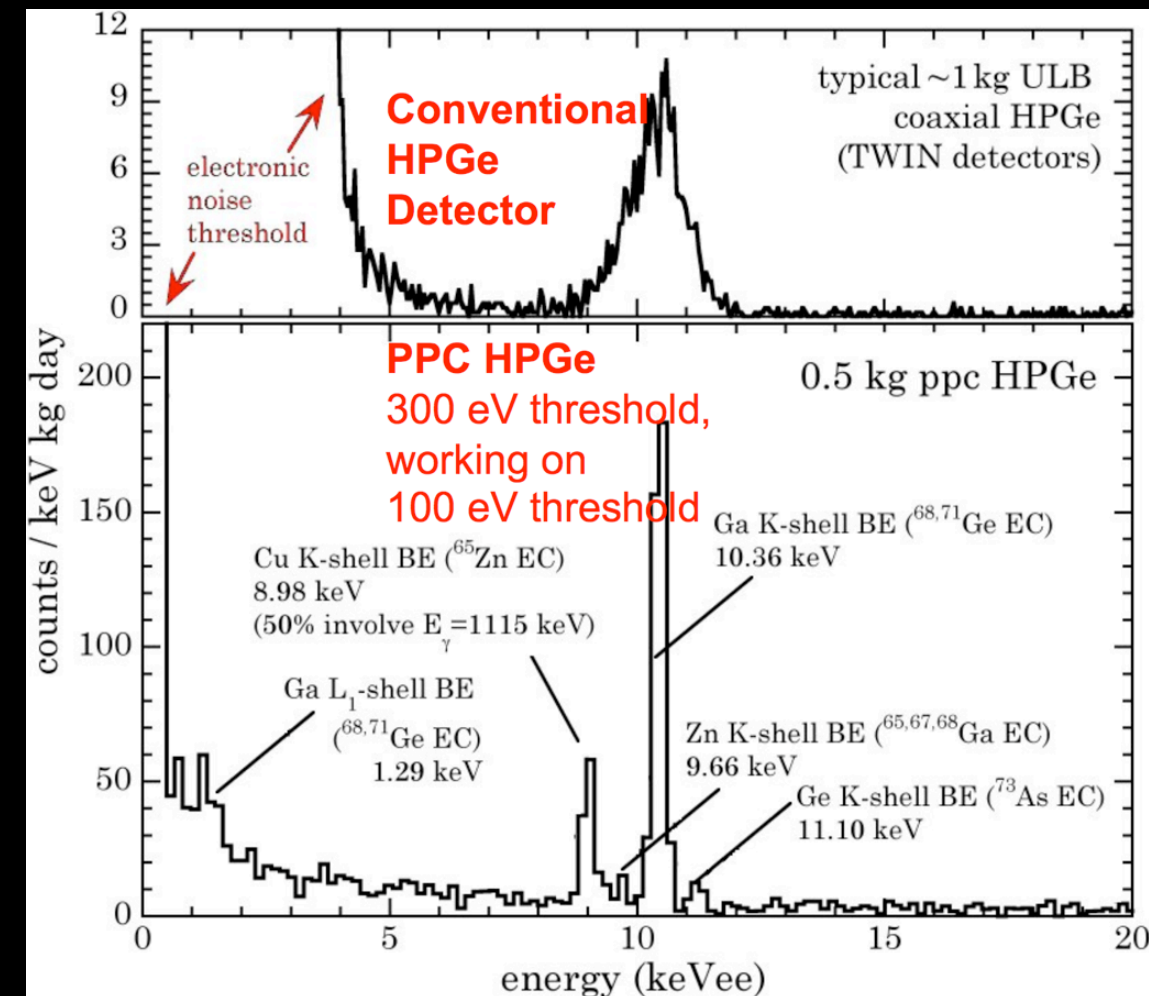
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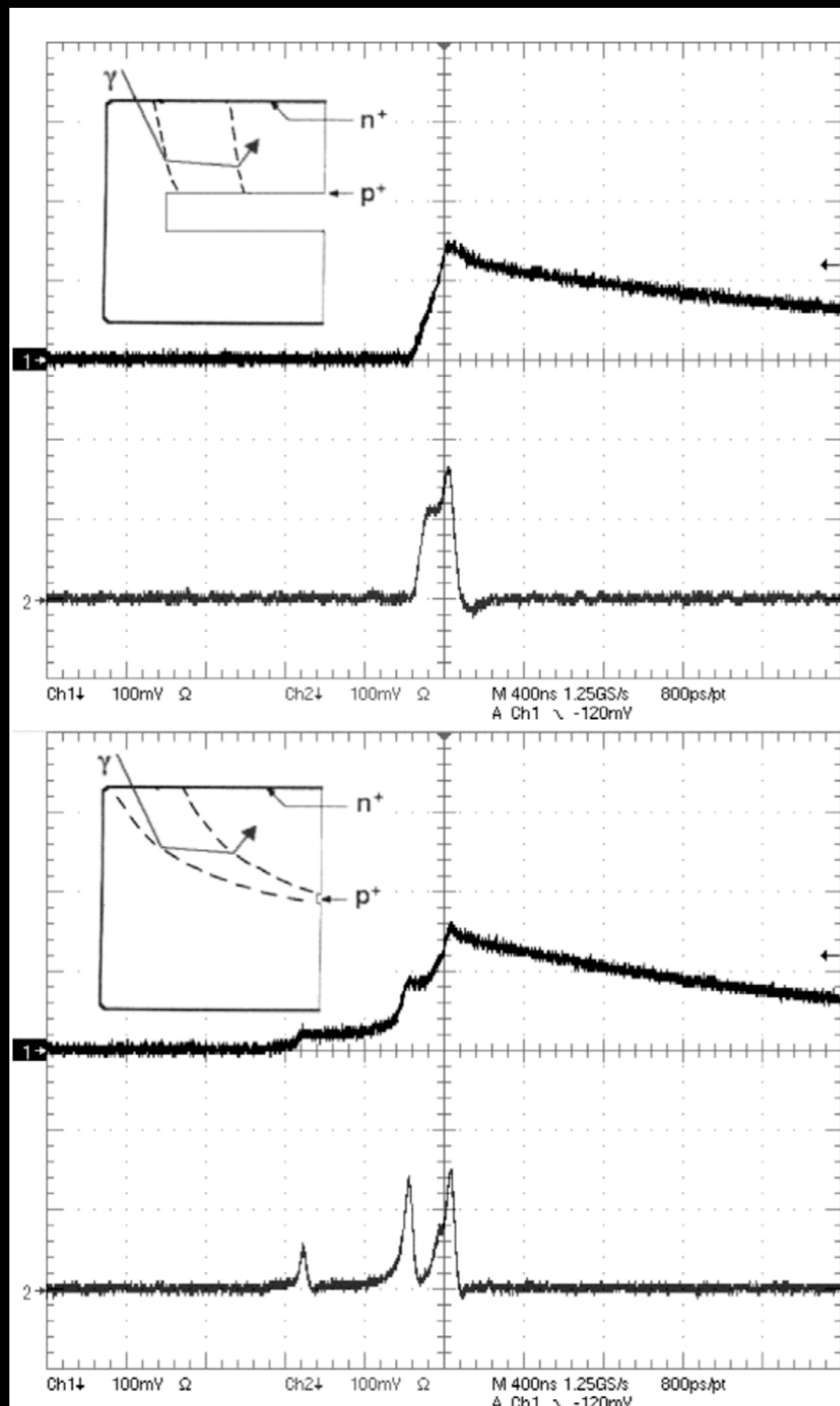
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MAJORANA Detectors: PPC

- P-type = simpler to fabricate/handle/instrument
- Compact electrode geometry increases drift times--clearly indicates multiple-site events

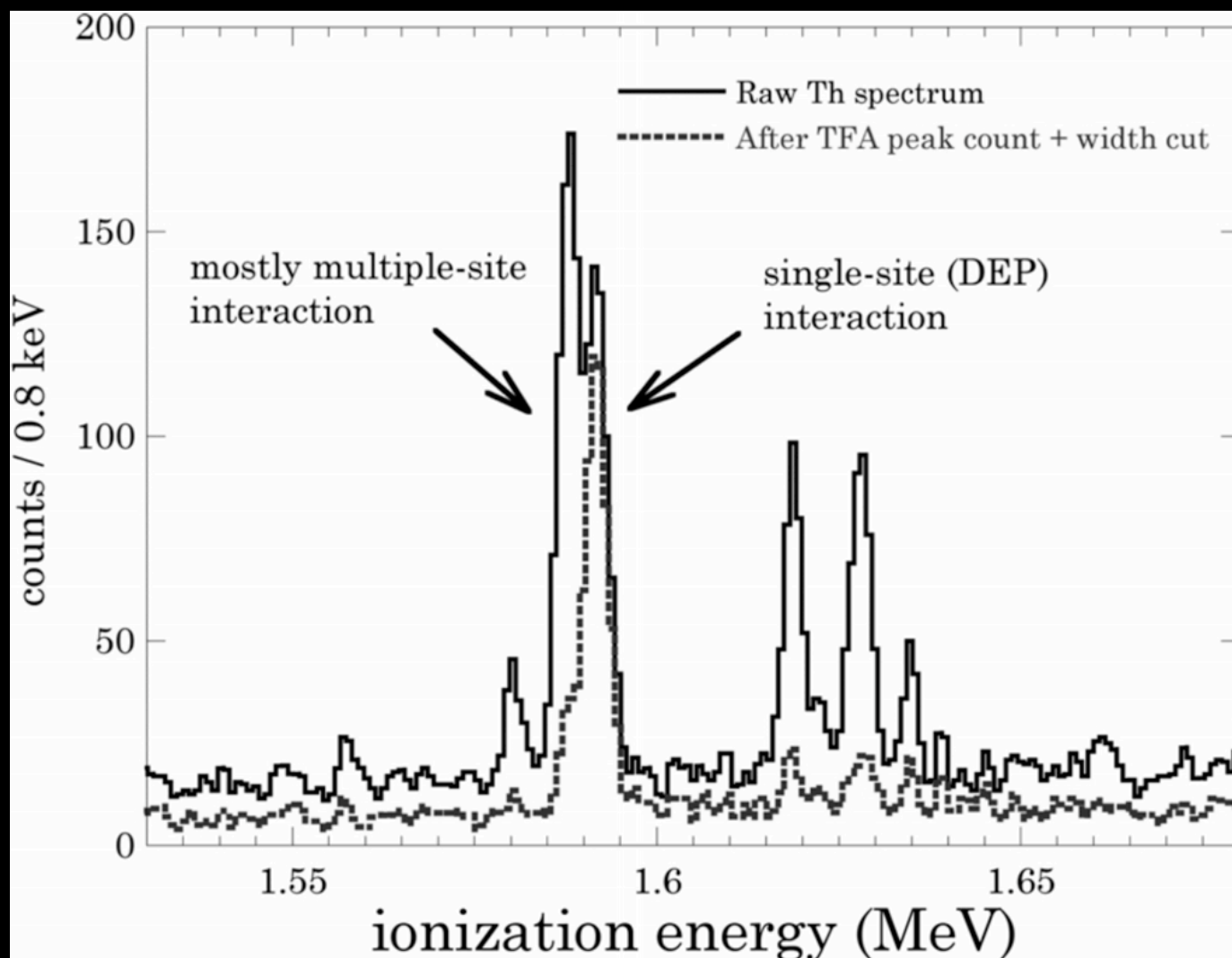


MAJORANA Detectors: PPC

Barbeau et al., JCAP
09 (2007) 009

Luke et al., IEEE trans.
Nucl. Sci. **36**, 926 (1989)

- P-type = simpler to fabricate/handle/instrument
- Compact electrode geometry increases drift times--clearly indicates multiple-site events
- Similar background rejection to highly-segmented detectors without added complexity/backgrounds

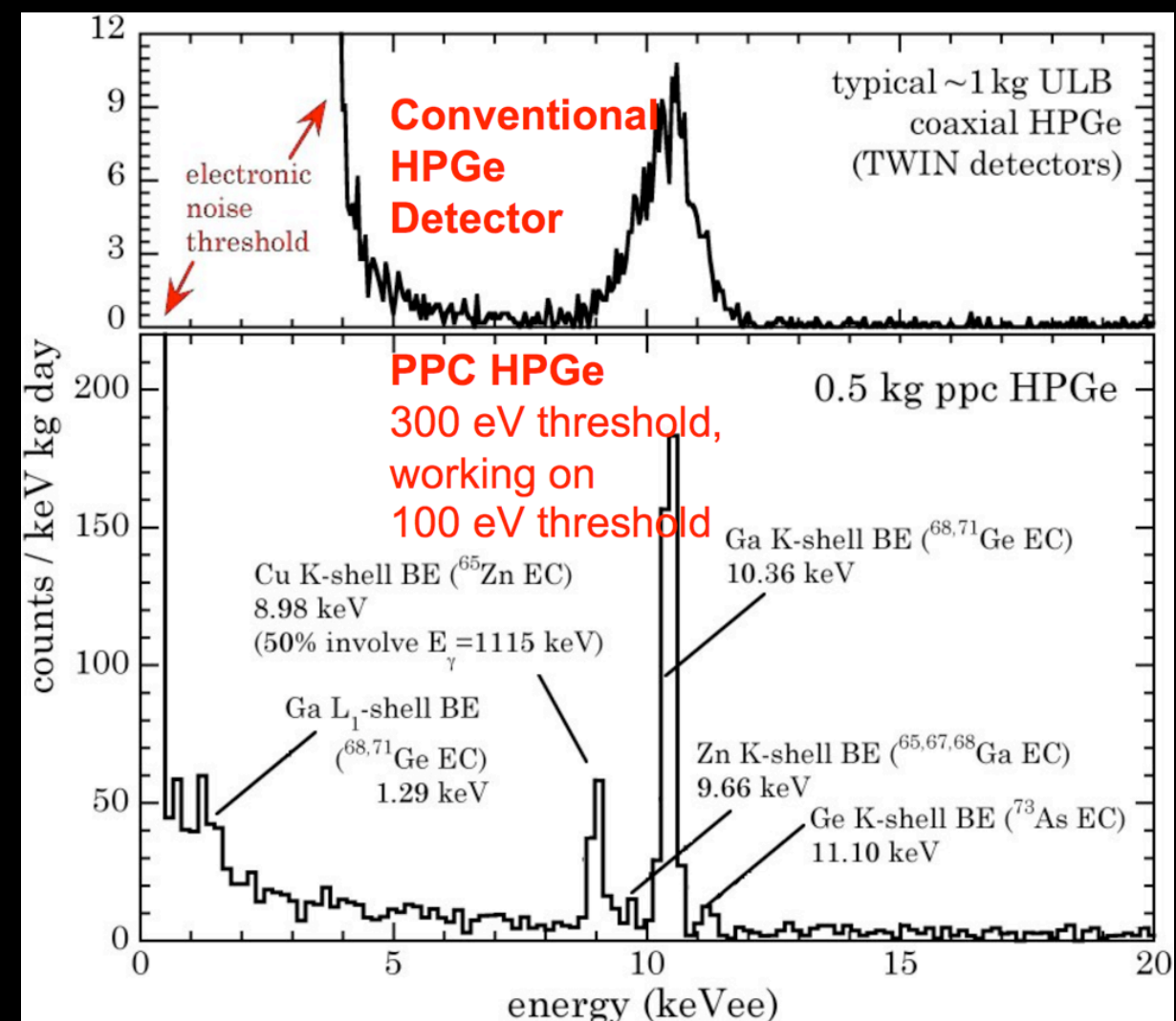
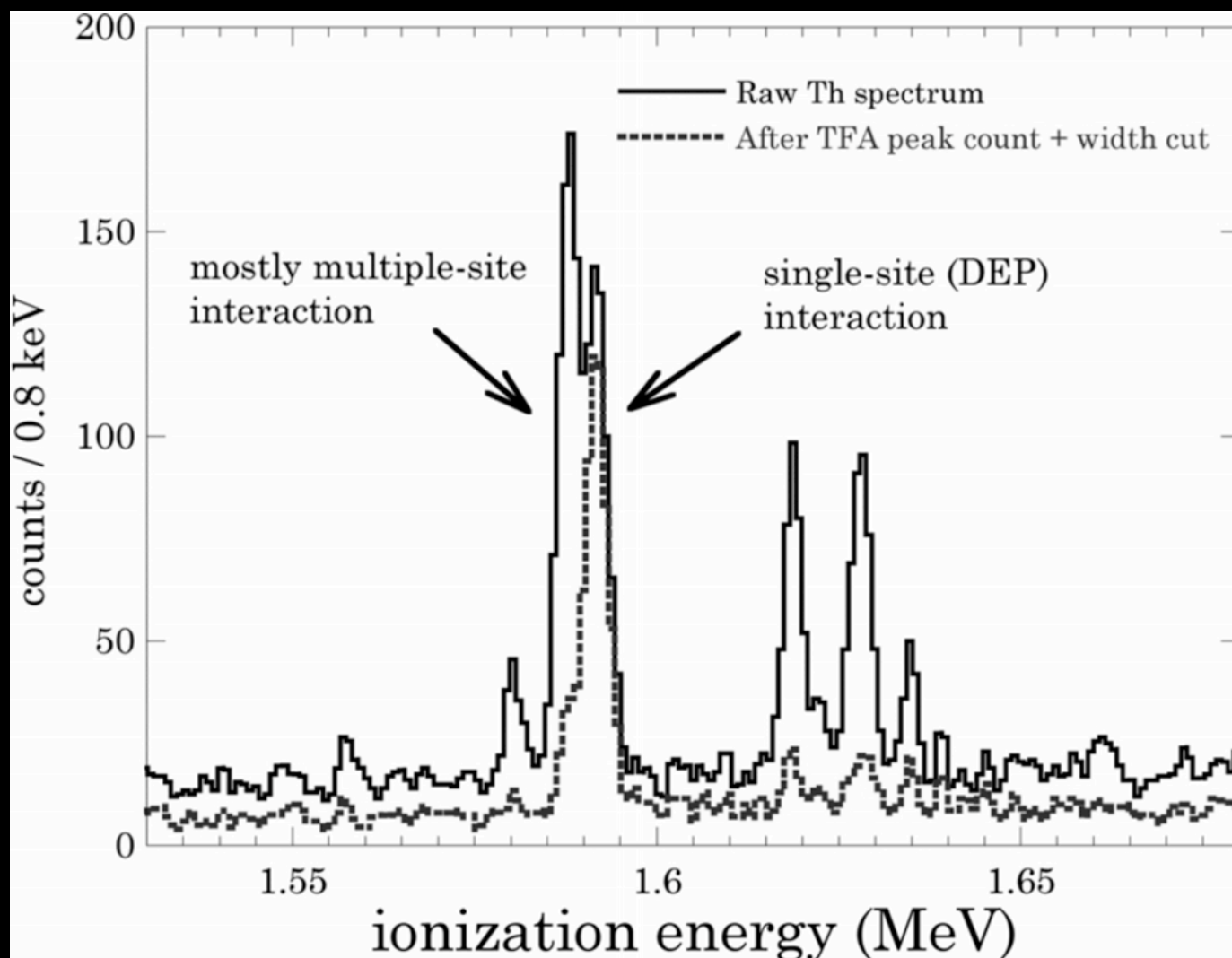


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- P-type = simpler to fabricate/handle/instrument
- Compact electrode geometry increases drift times--clearly indicates multiple-site events
- Similar background rejection to highly-segmented detectors without added complexity/backgrounds
- Very low energy threshold (sub keV) allows for additional physics reach (e.g. dark matter, axions)



The BEGe's

- Broad Energy Ge (BEGe) detectors
- PPC-like detectors, 7 cm (dia.) x 3 cm
- Our BEGes have some modifications from standard

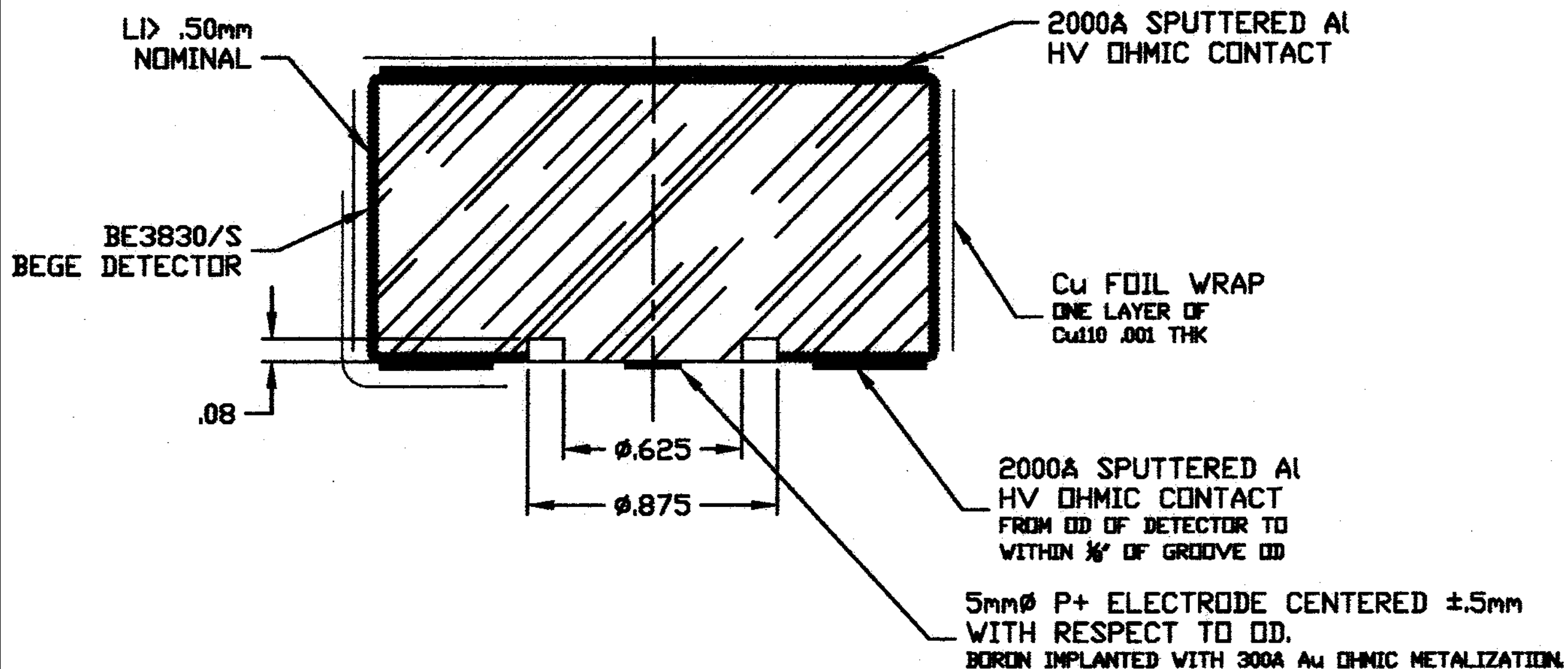
The BEGe's

- Broad Energy Ge (BEGe) detectors



The BEGe's

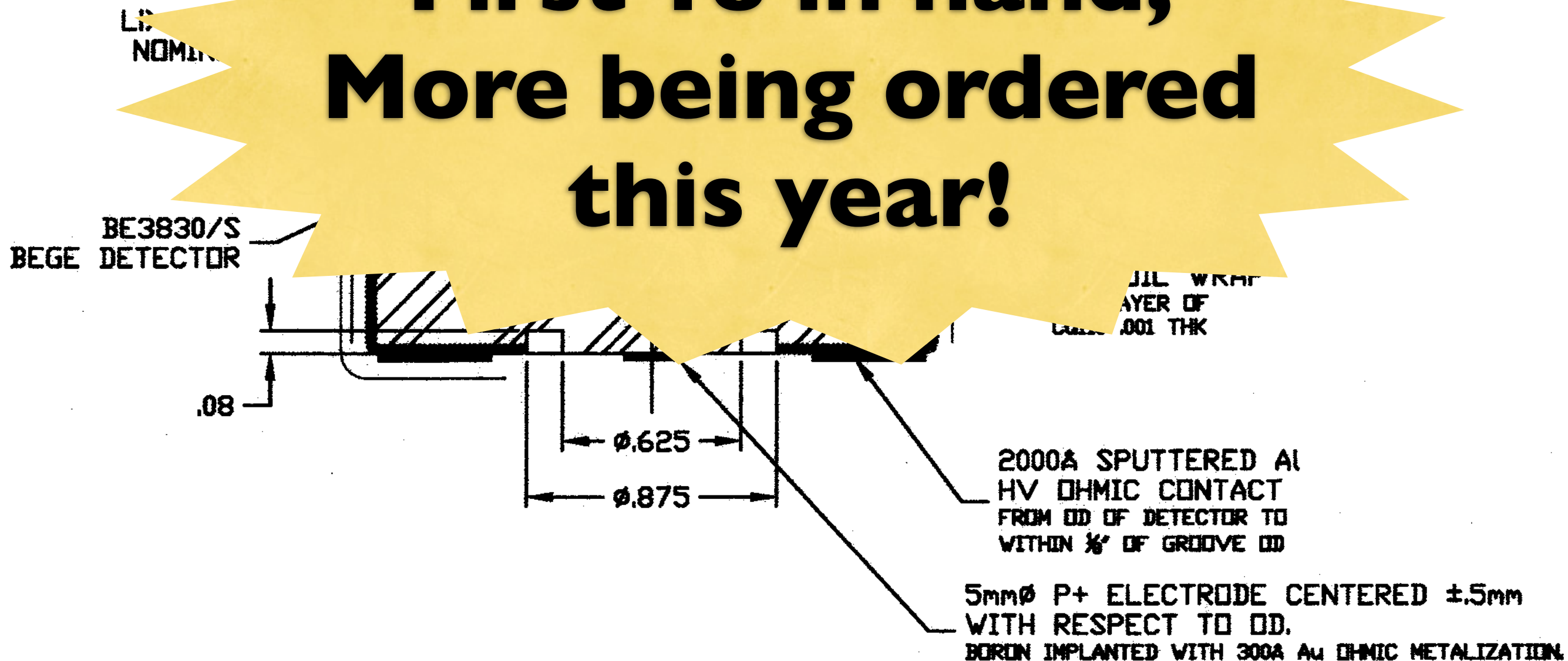
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- PPC-like detectors, 7 cm (dia.) x 3 cm
- Our BEGes have some modifications from standard



The BEGe's

- Broad Energy Ge (BEGe) detectors
- PPC-like detectors, 7 cm (dia) x 3 cm
- Our BEGes are hard

**First 18 in hand,
More being ordered
this year!**



Good Results

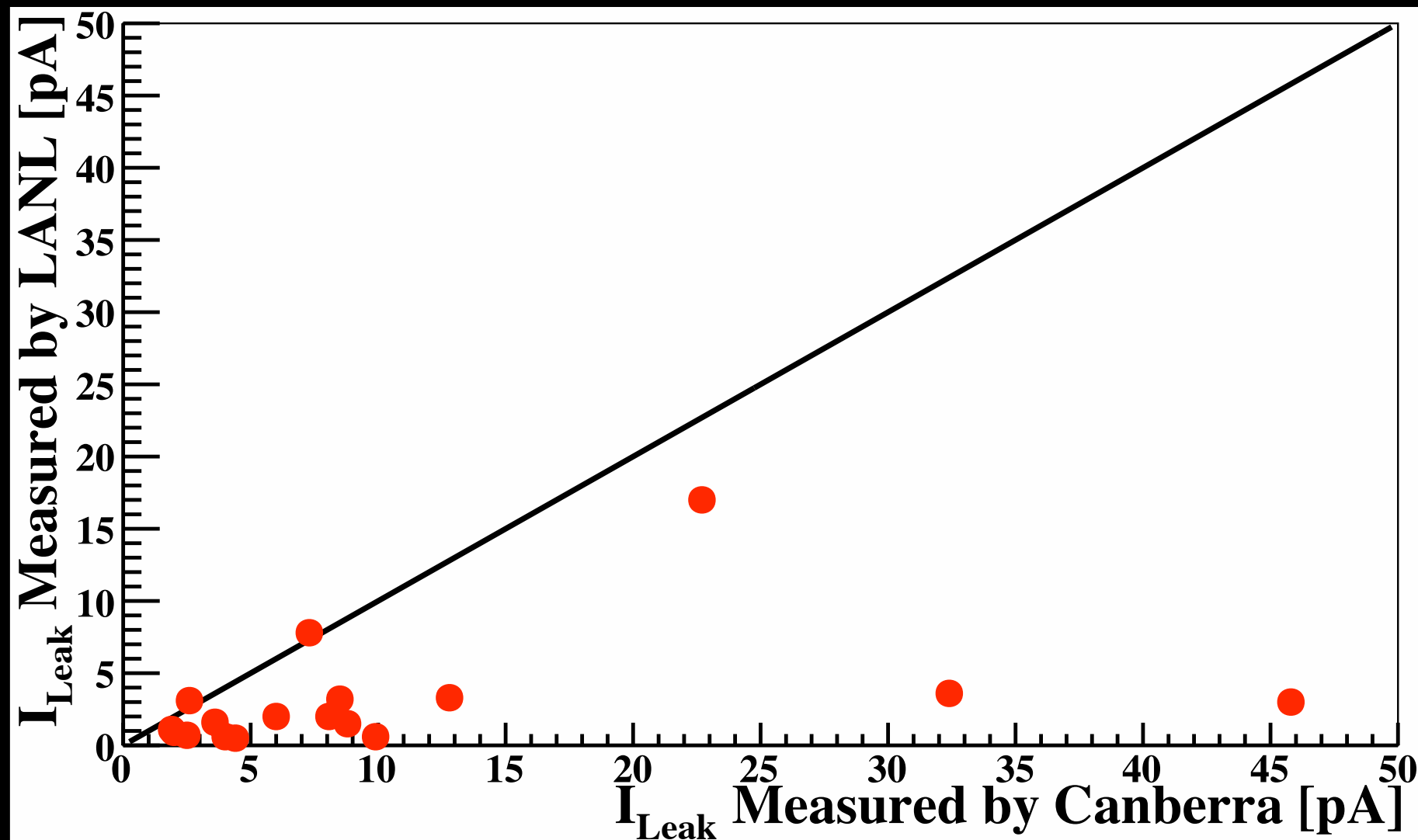
**All detectors are
in hand and have been
examined for
acceptance!**

Good Results

- Leakage currents vary from: 0.5 - 17.0 pA
- Capacitances from: 1.0 - 1.8 pF
- FWHM at 1332.5 keV from: 1.6 - 2.5 keV
- First nine detectors out of their cryostats in storage

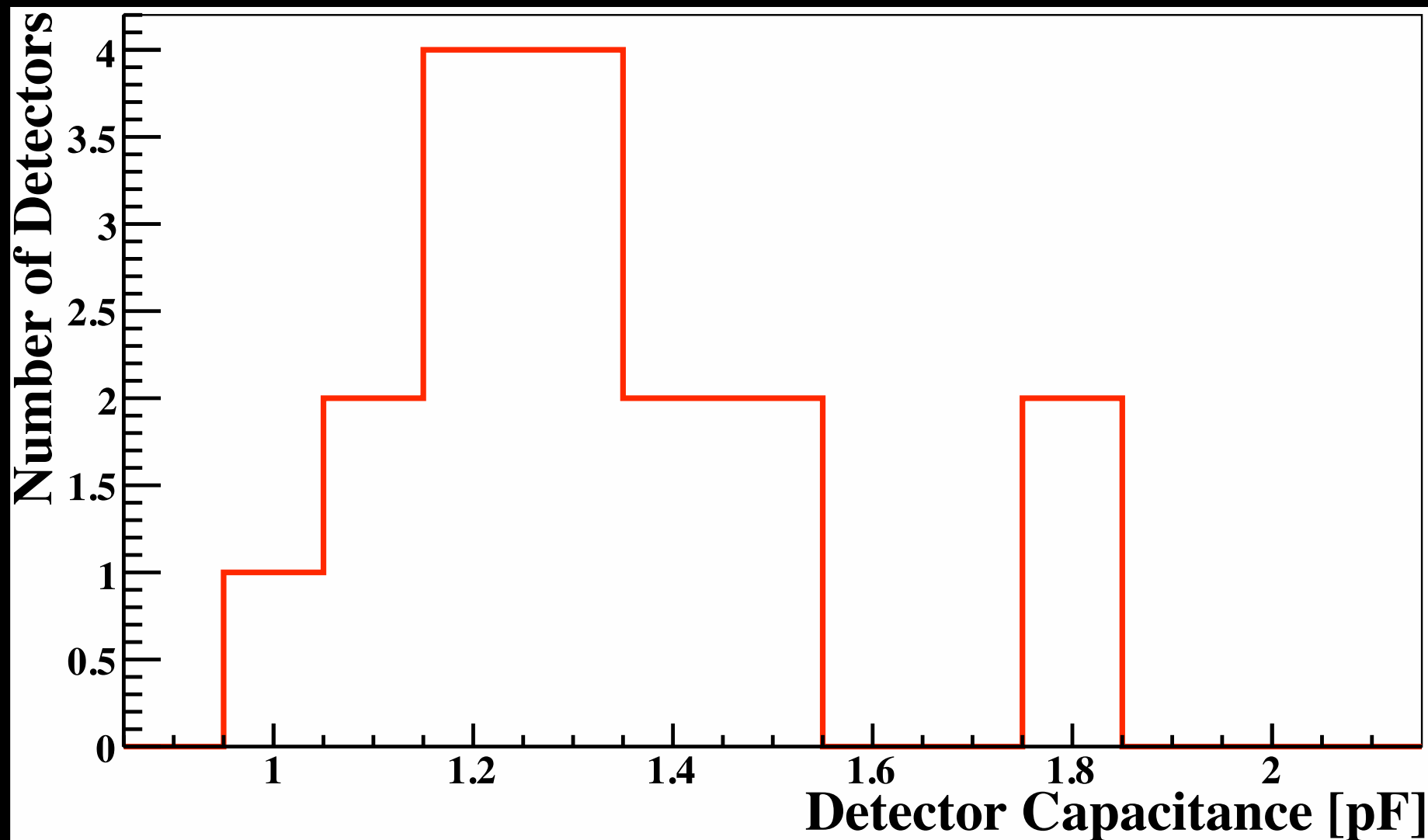
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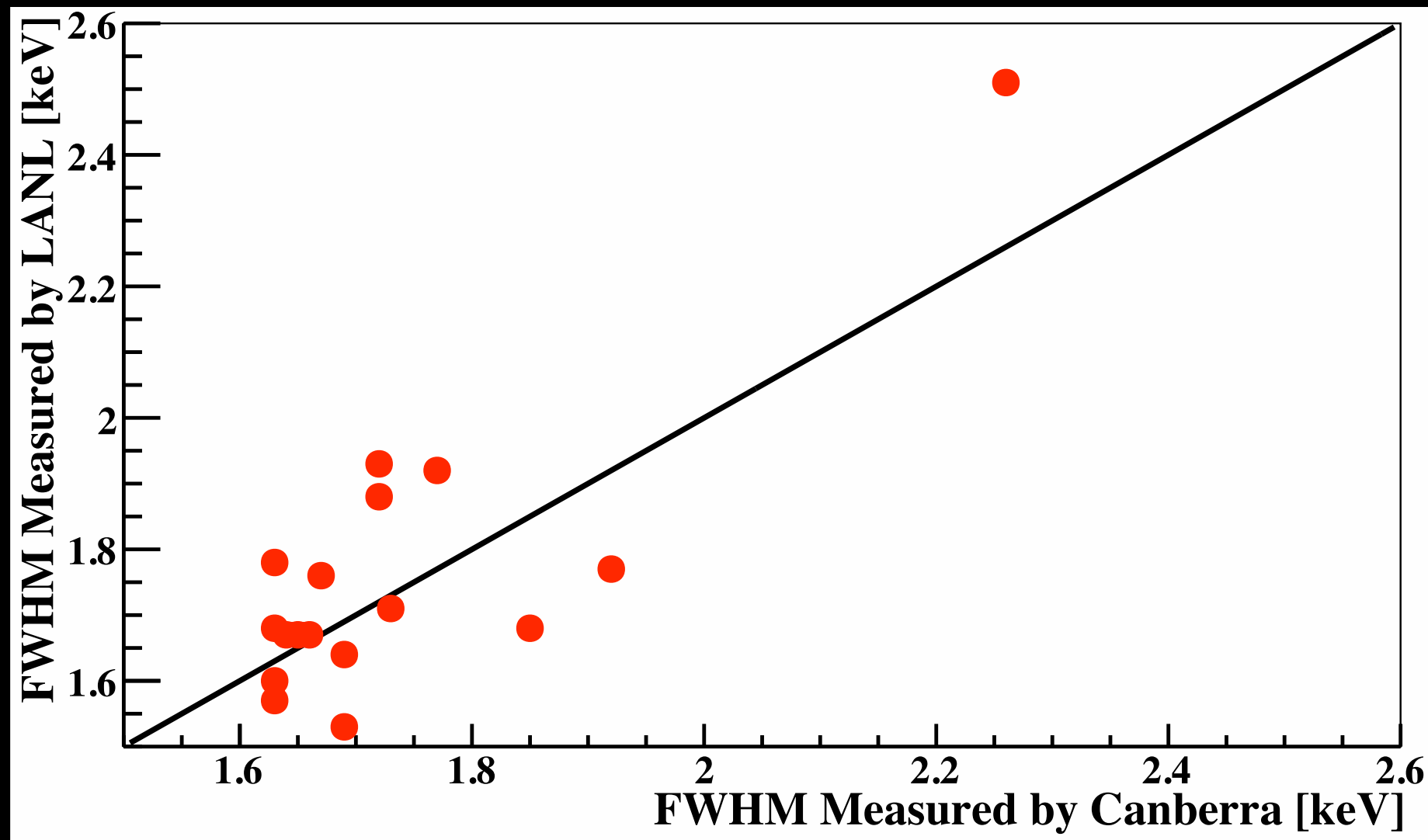
Good Results

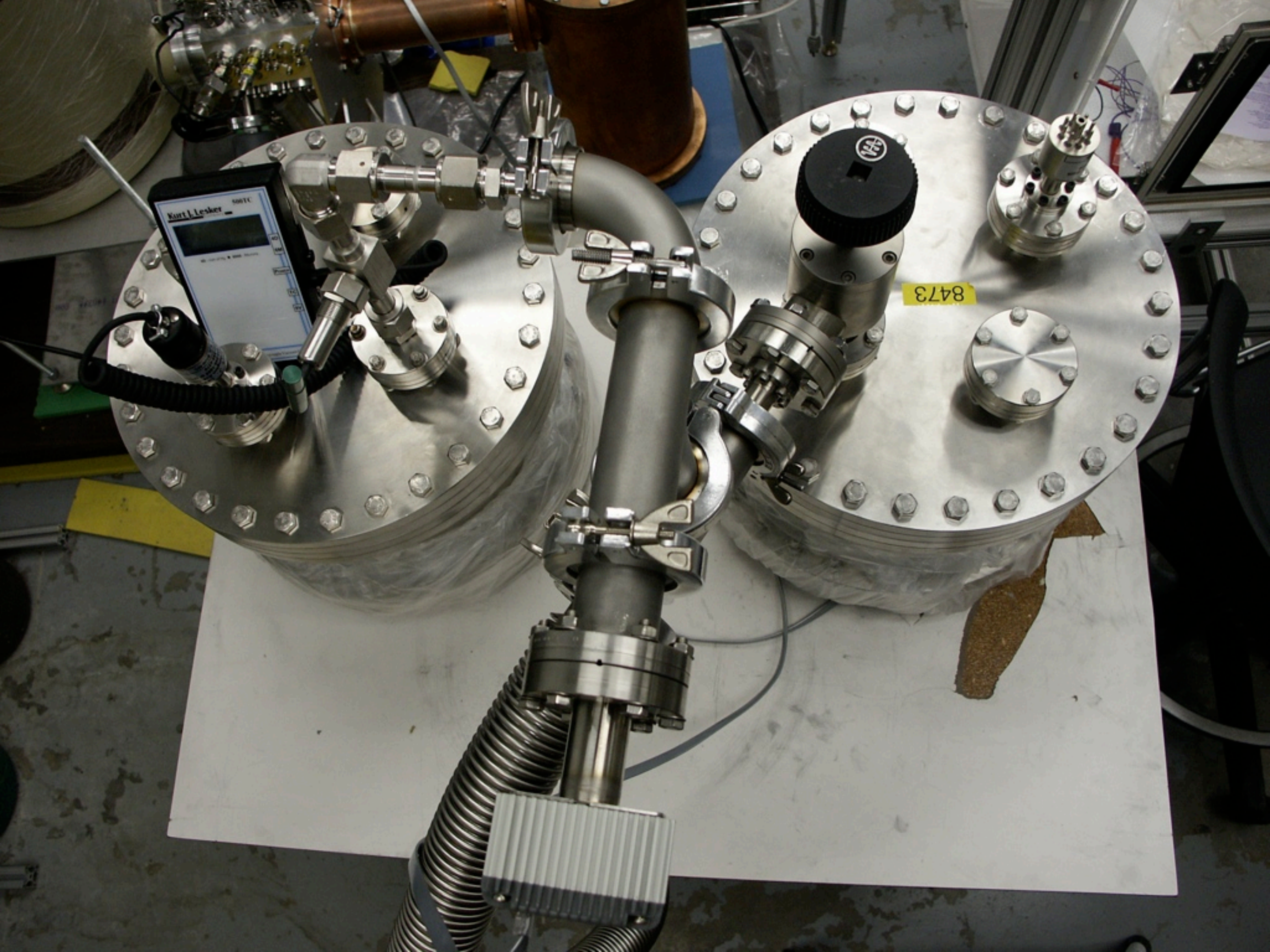
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Good Results

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8455

8463

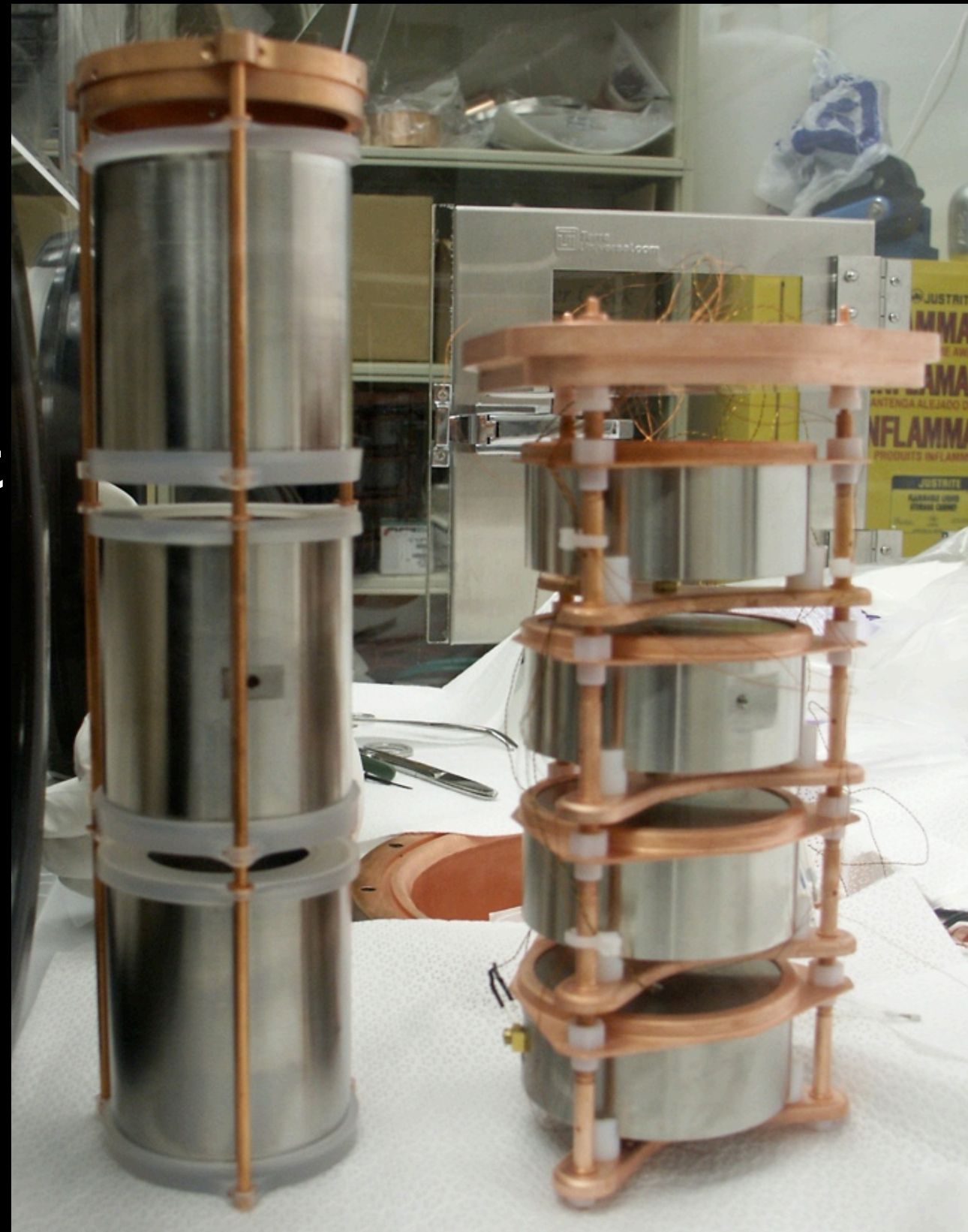
JUSTRITE
FLAMMABLE
KEEP FIRE AWAY
INFLAMMABLE
MANTENGA ALEJADO DEL
INFLAMMABLE
PRODUITS INFLAMMABLES

JUSTRITE
FLAMMABLE LIQUID
STORAGE CABINET



Cryostat R&D

- We came into some older detectors and use them frequently in test stands
- Built a MAJORANA test cryostat for mechanical and electrical tests: **The Canary Cage**
- Using it to test detector string designs...



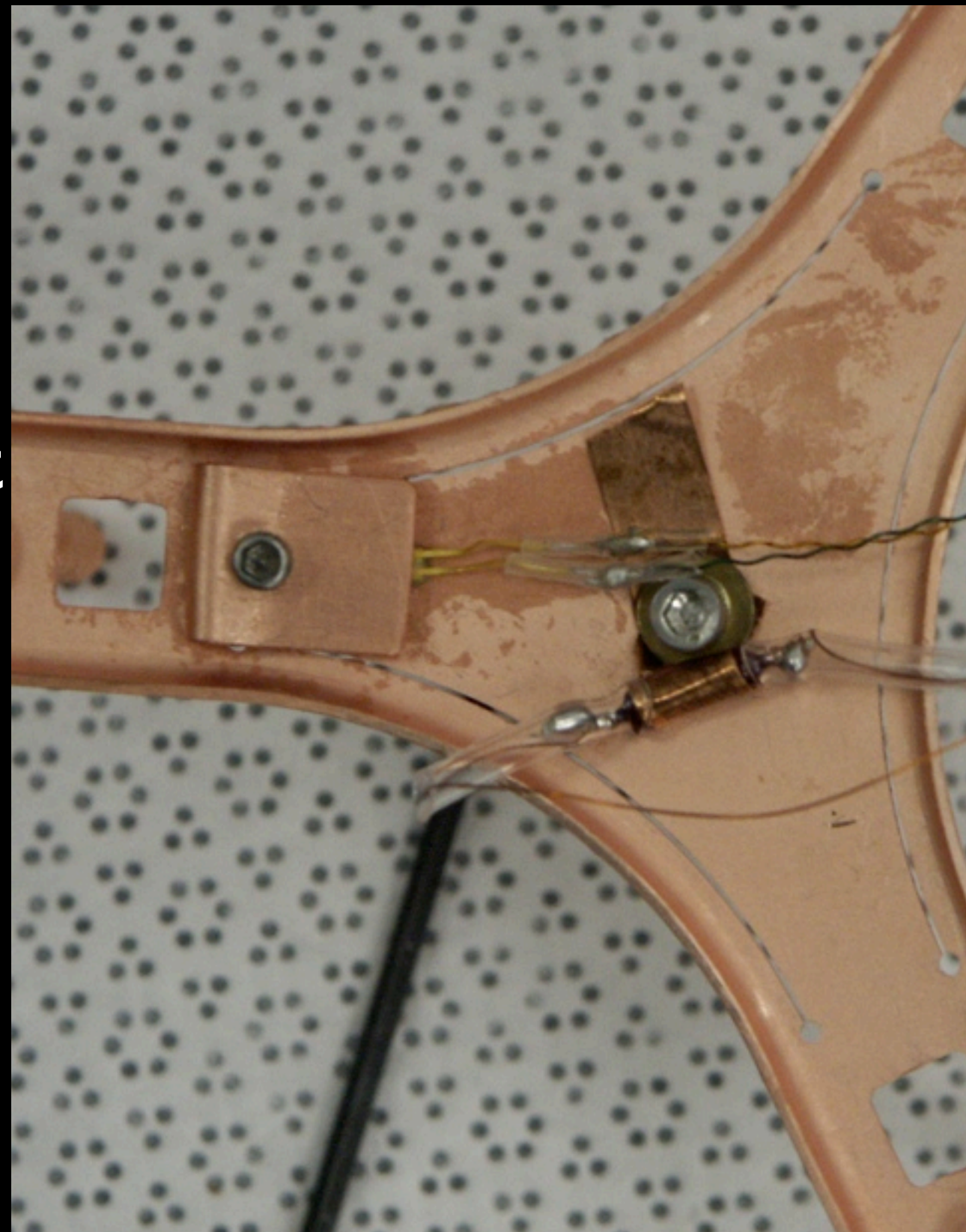
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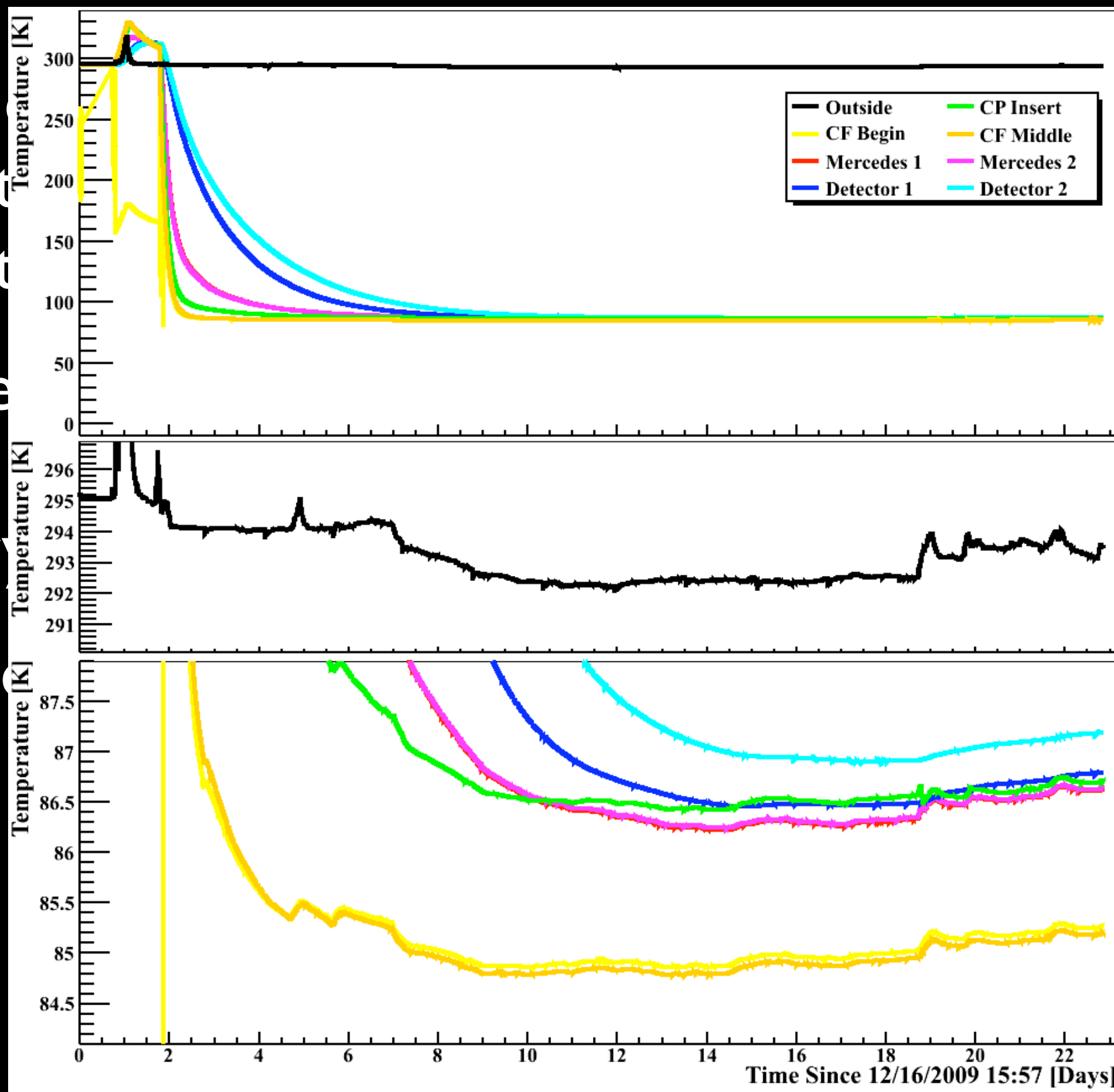
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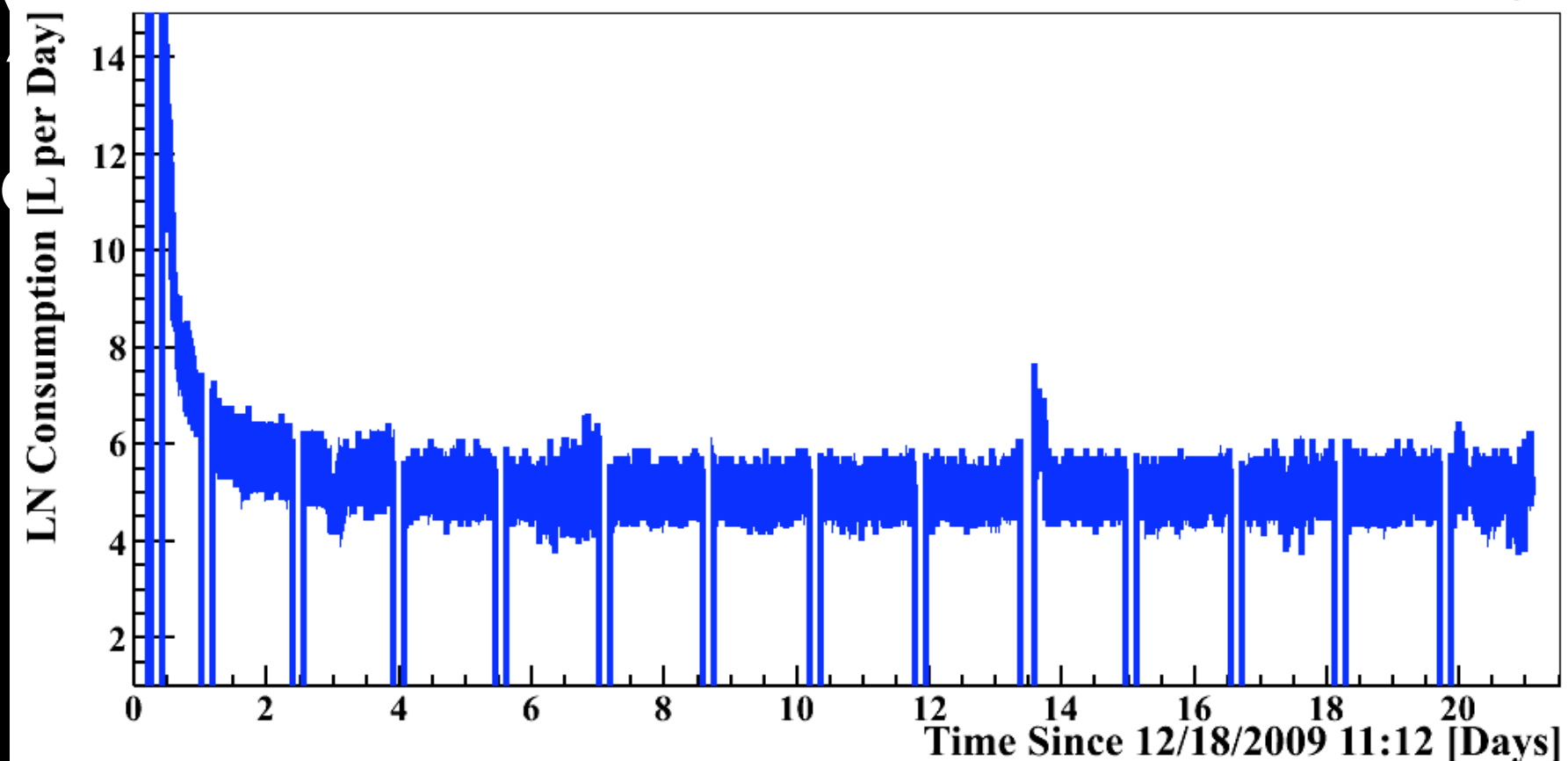
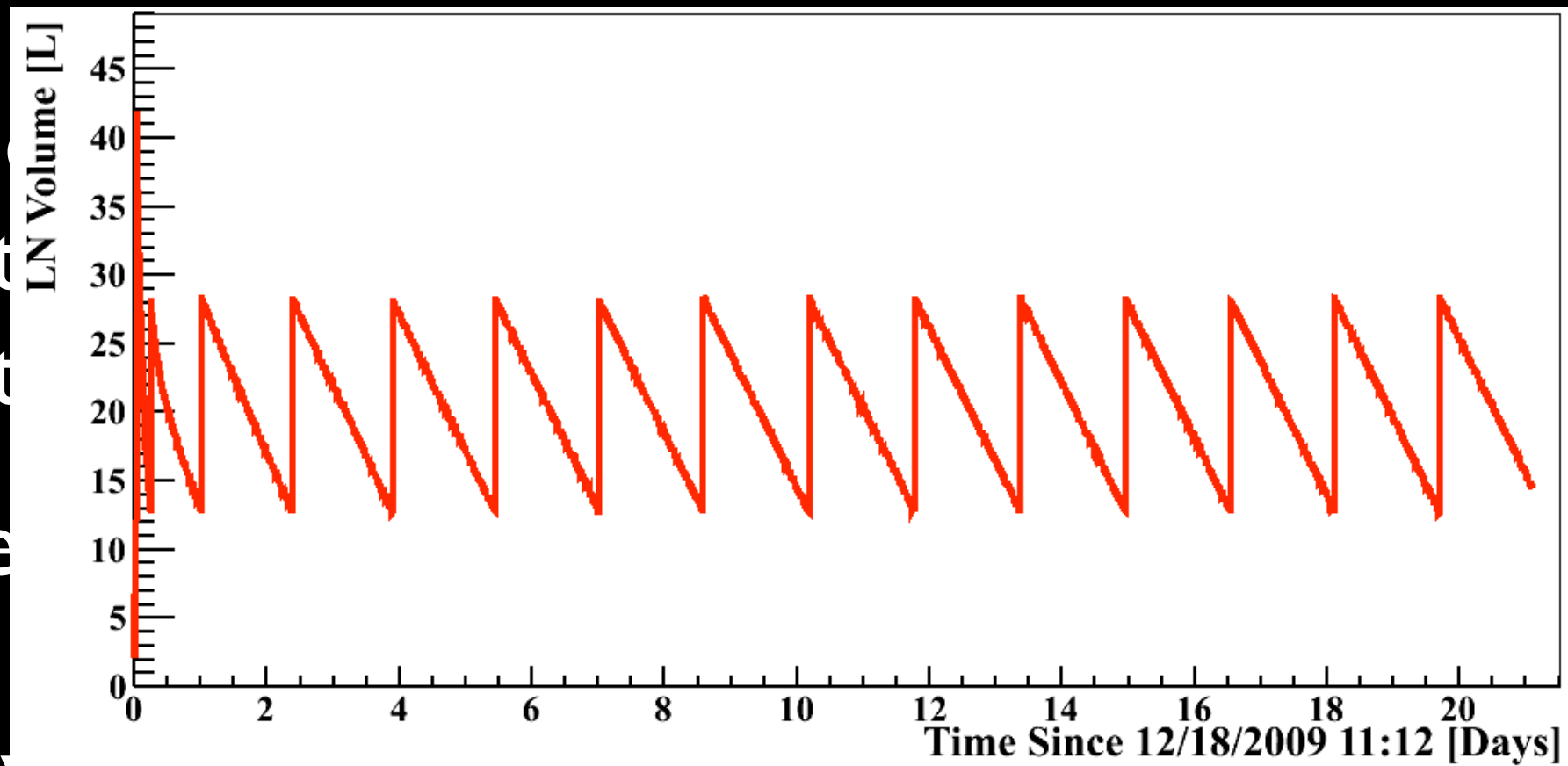
Cryostat R&D

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Cryostat R&D

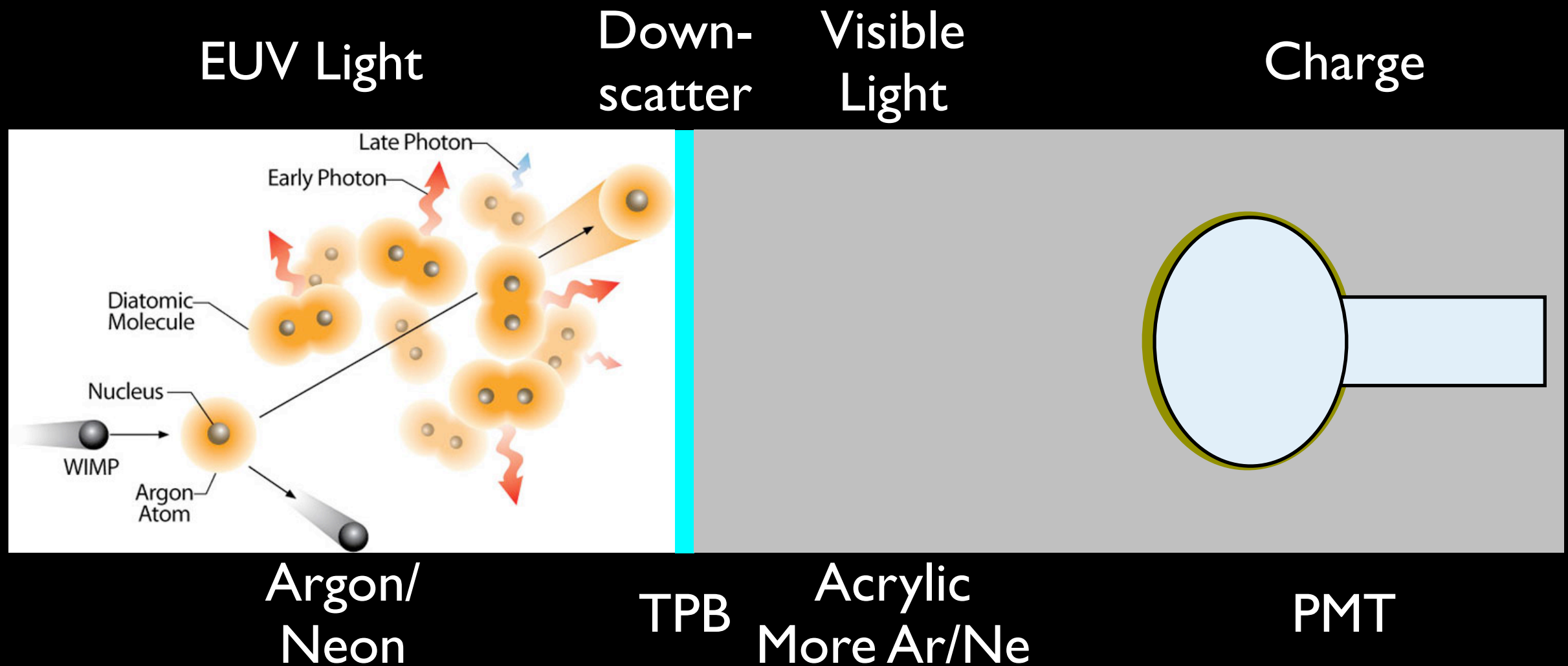
- We came into some detectors and use them frequently in test stand
- Built a MAJORANA test stand for mechanical and electrical tests: **The Canary**
- Using it to test detector string designs...



MAJORANA and **CLEAN/DEAP**

Recent R&D Progress

Detector Response R&D



- PMT tests: dark current, gain, QE vs. Temperature
- TPB tests: fluorescence efficiency, emission spectrum vs. EUV wavelength
- Optical Module Tests: mechanical and integration

Cold PMT Tests

- These tubes have already been tested down to 29K...

Journal of Instrumentation,
2 (2007), P11004

doi: 10.1088/1748-0221/2/11/P11004

Cold PMT Tests

Control! Control! You must learn control!!!

- These tubes have been tested down to 29K...
- We will be able to carefully control the temperature of the PMT!



Cold PMT Tests

- These tubes have already been tested down to 29K...
- We will be able to carefully control the temperature of the PMT!
- This will allow us to do an extensive gain and efficiency vs. bias curve for several temperatures



Cold PMT Tests

You should probably test
your PMTs cold too...

- These tubes have been tested down to 29K...
- We will be able to carefully control the temperature of the PMT!
- This will allow us to do an extensive gain and efficiency vs. bias curve for several temperatures



Cold PMT Tests

You should probably test
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- These tubes have been tested down to 29K...
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- We plan to test many of the MiniCLEAN PMTs with this apparatus



Cold PMT Tests

You should probably test
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- These tubes have been tested down to 29K...
- We will be able to carefully control the temperature of the PMT!
- This will allow us to do an extensive gain and efficiency vs. bias curve for several temperatures
- We plan to test many of the MiniCLEAN PMTs with this apparatus
- Will test roughly 10% of PMTs at 4-5 temperatures



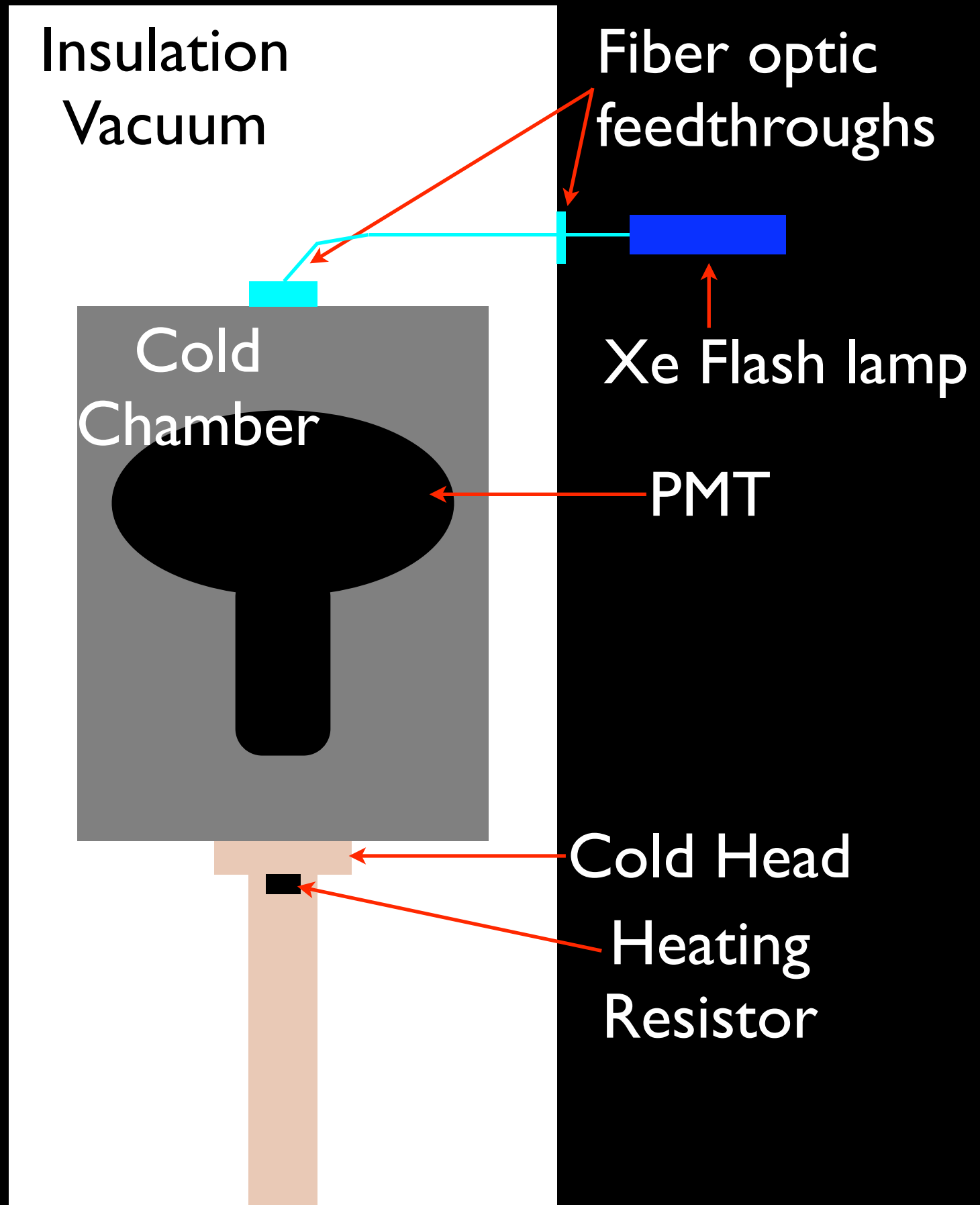
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You should probably test
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- These tubes have been tested down to 29K...
- We will be able to carefully control the temperature of the PMT!
- This will allow us to do an extensive gain and efficiency vs. bias curve for several temperatures
- We plan to test many of the MiniCLEAN PMTs with this apparatus
 - Will test roughly 10% of PMTs at 4-5 temperatures
 - One or two every ~ 10 -20 K from 50-300 K

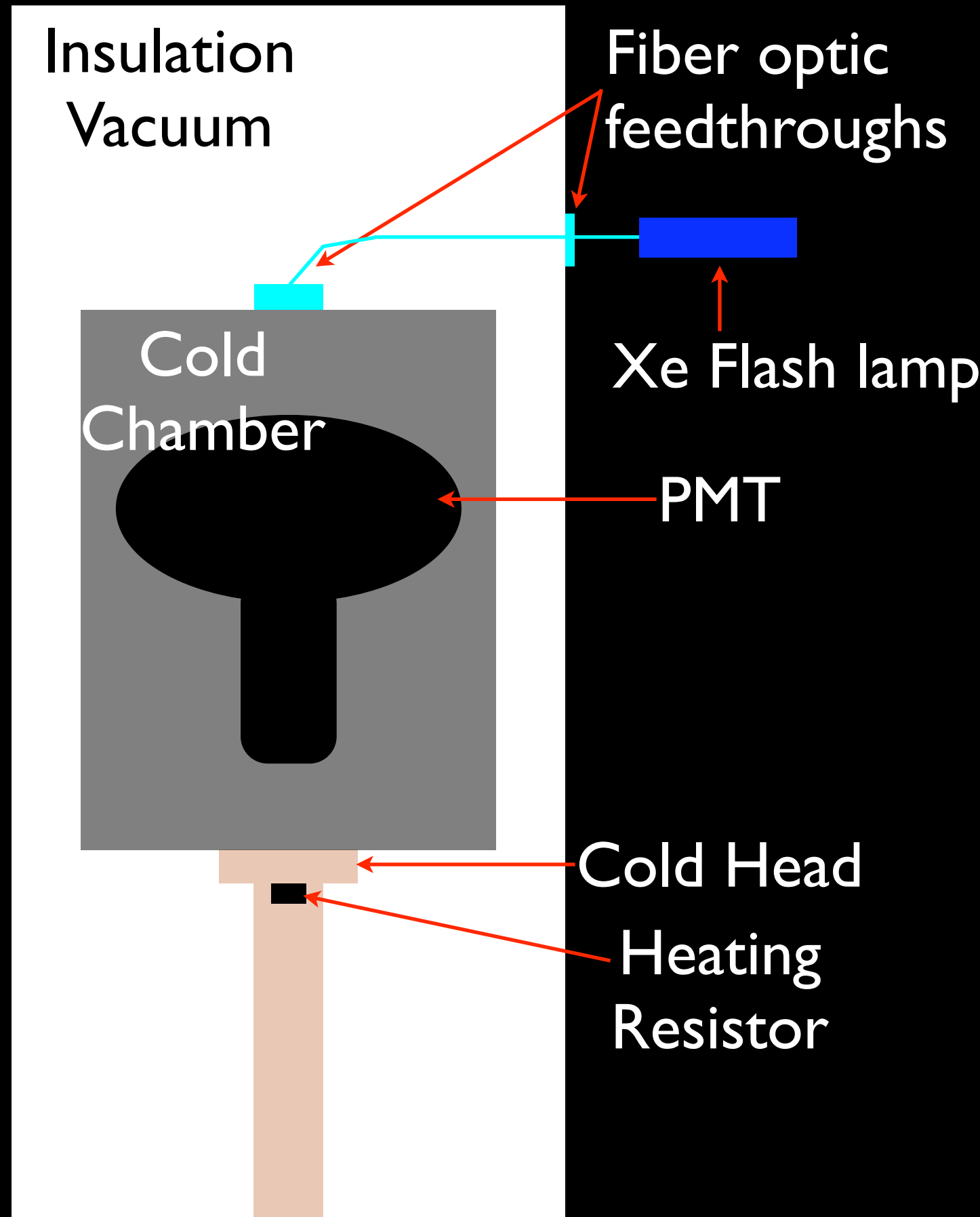


The Plan...



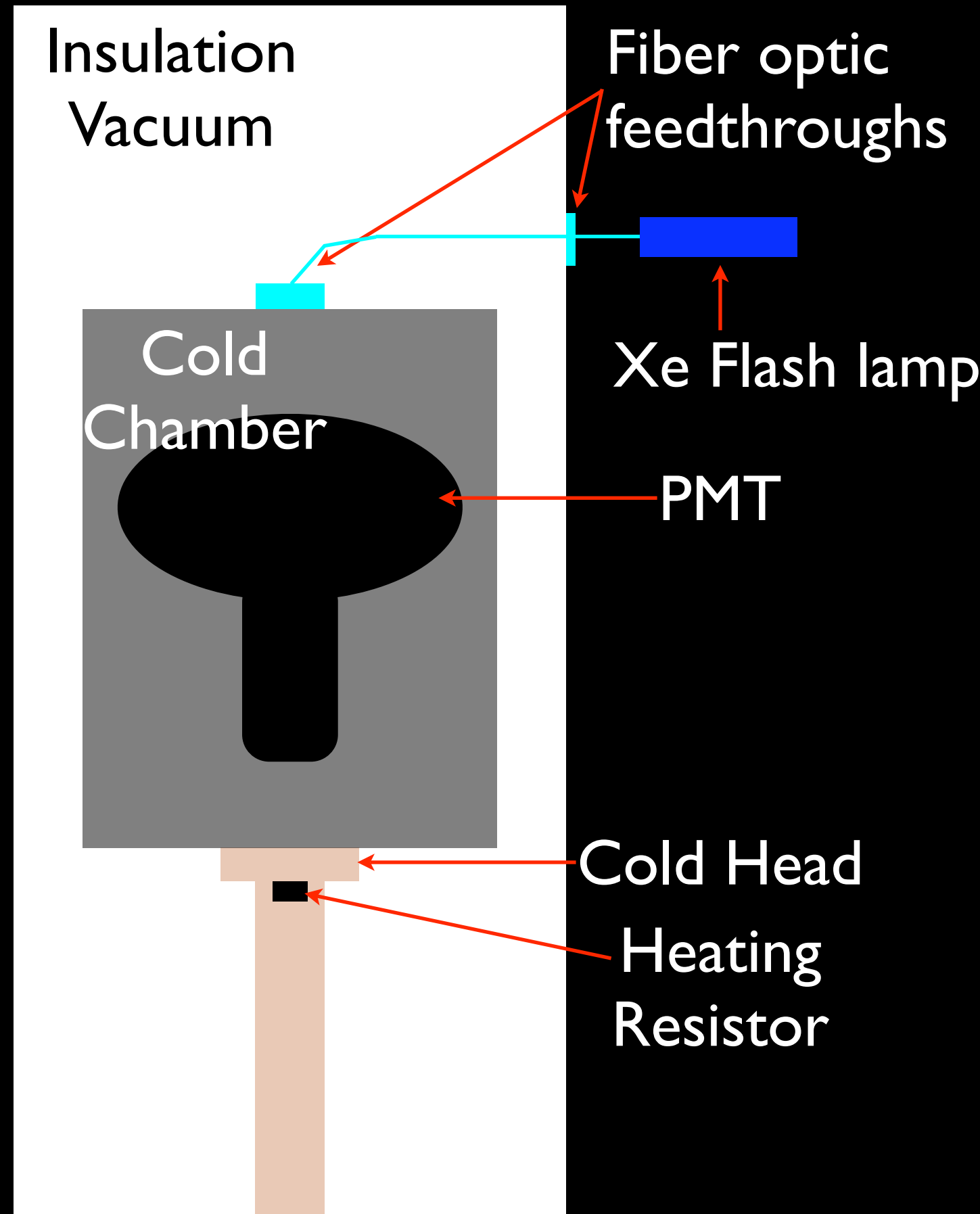
The Plan...

I. Pump out insulation vacuum and cold chamber



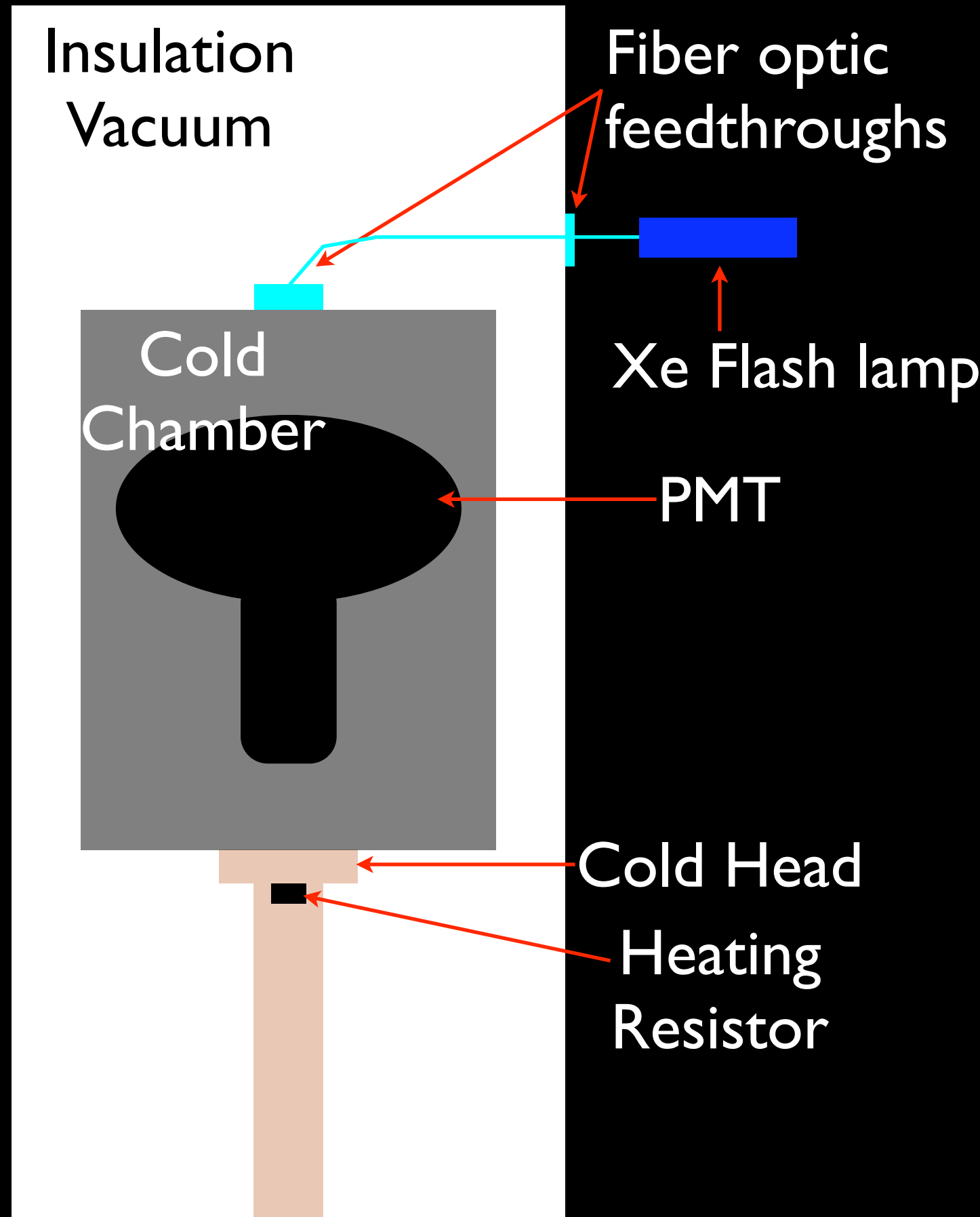
The Plan...

1. Pump out insulation vacuum and cold chamber
2. Fill cold chamber with cover gas



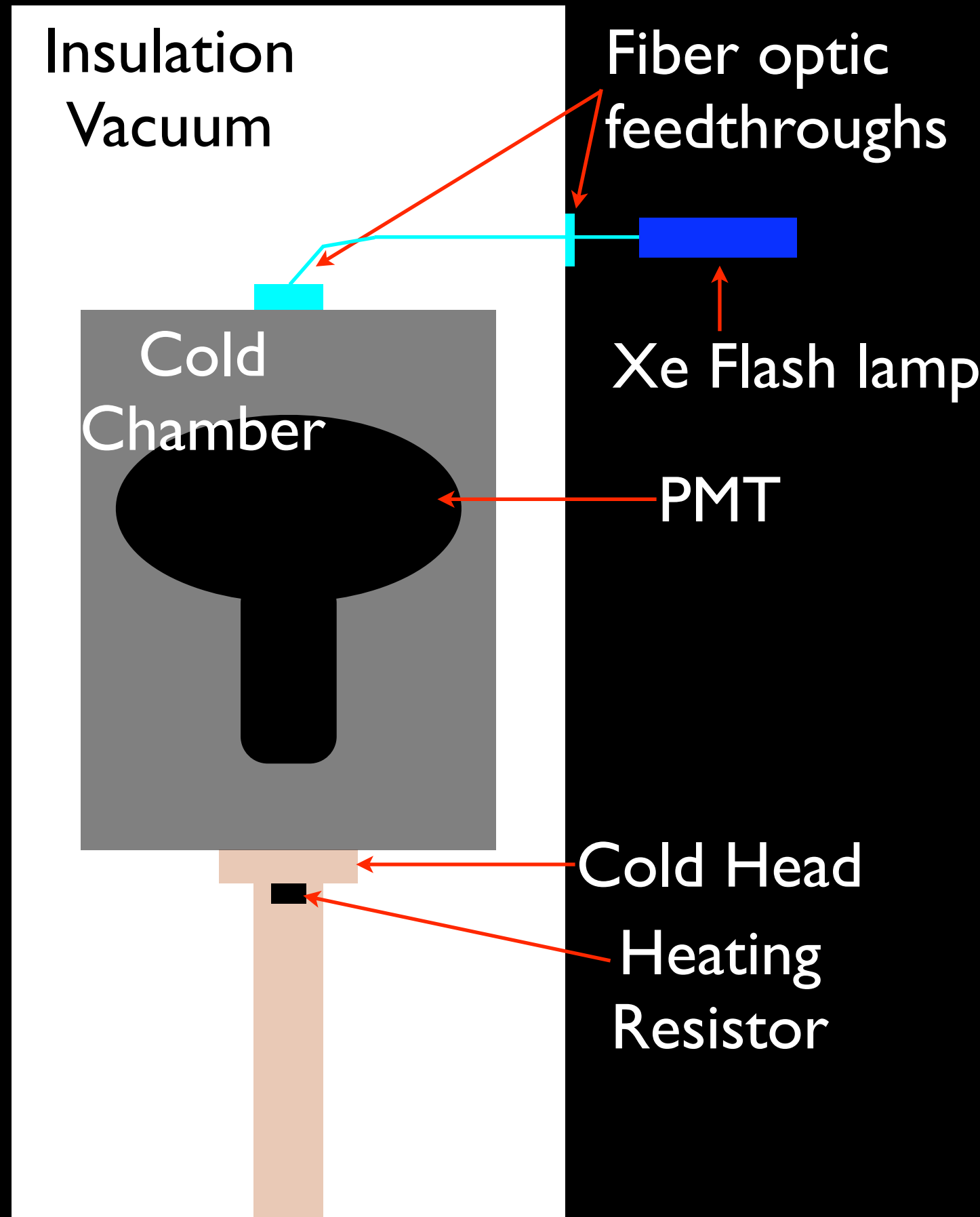
The Plan...

1. Pump out insulation vacuum and cold chamber
2. Fill cold chamber with cover gas
3. Cool down cold chamber with cold head



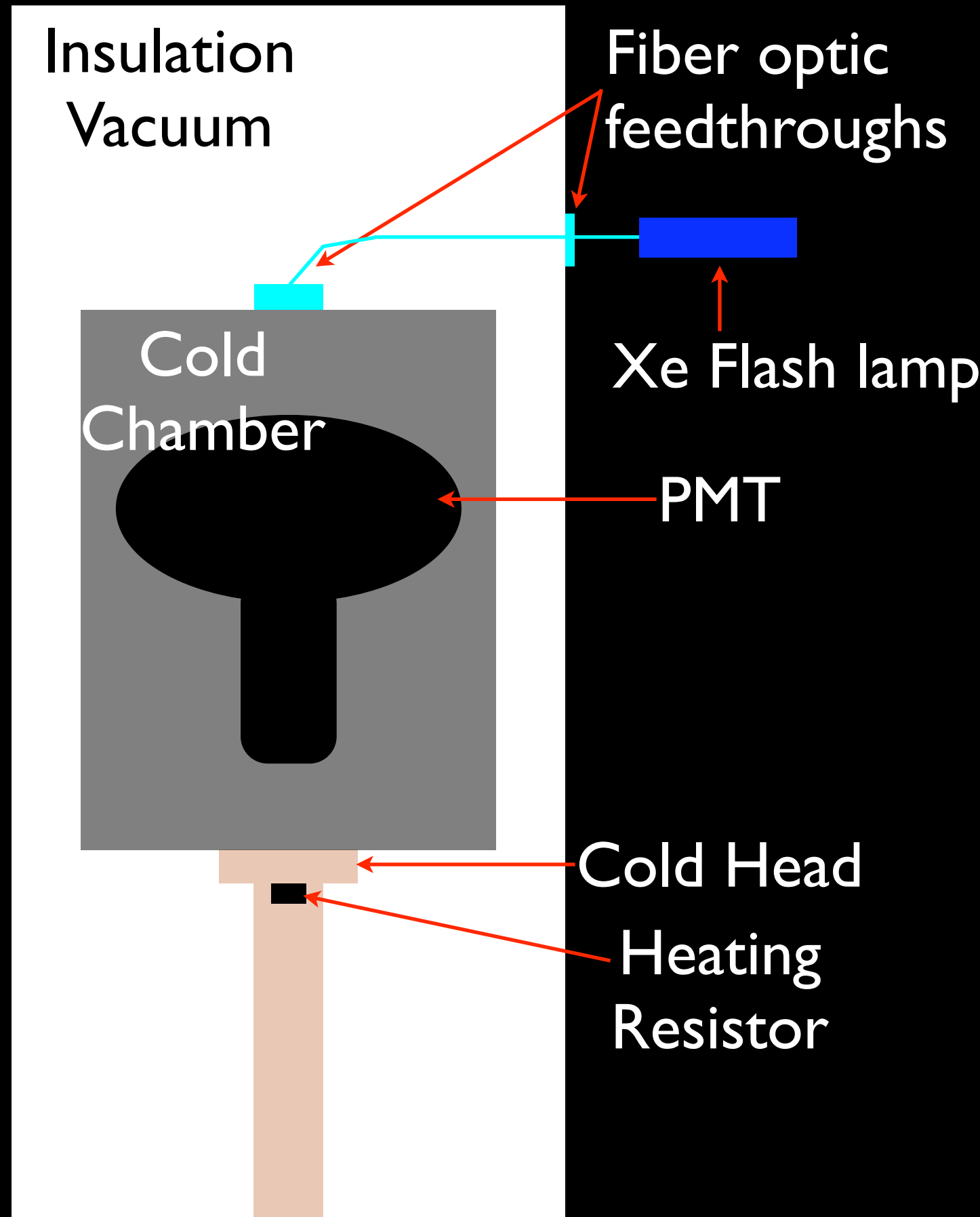
The Plan...

1. Pump out insulation vacuum and cold chamber
2. Fill cold chamber with cover gas
3. Cool down cold chamber with cold head
4. Adjust heating resistor to set temperature



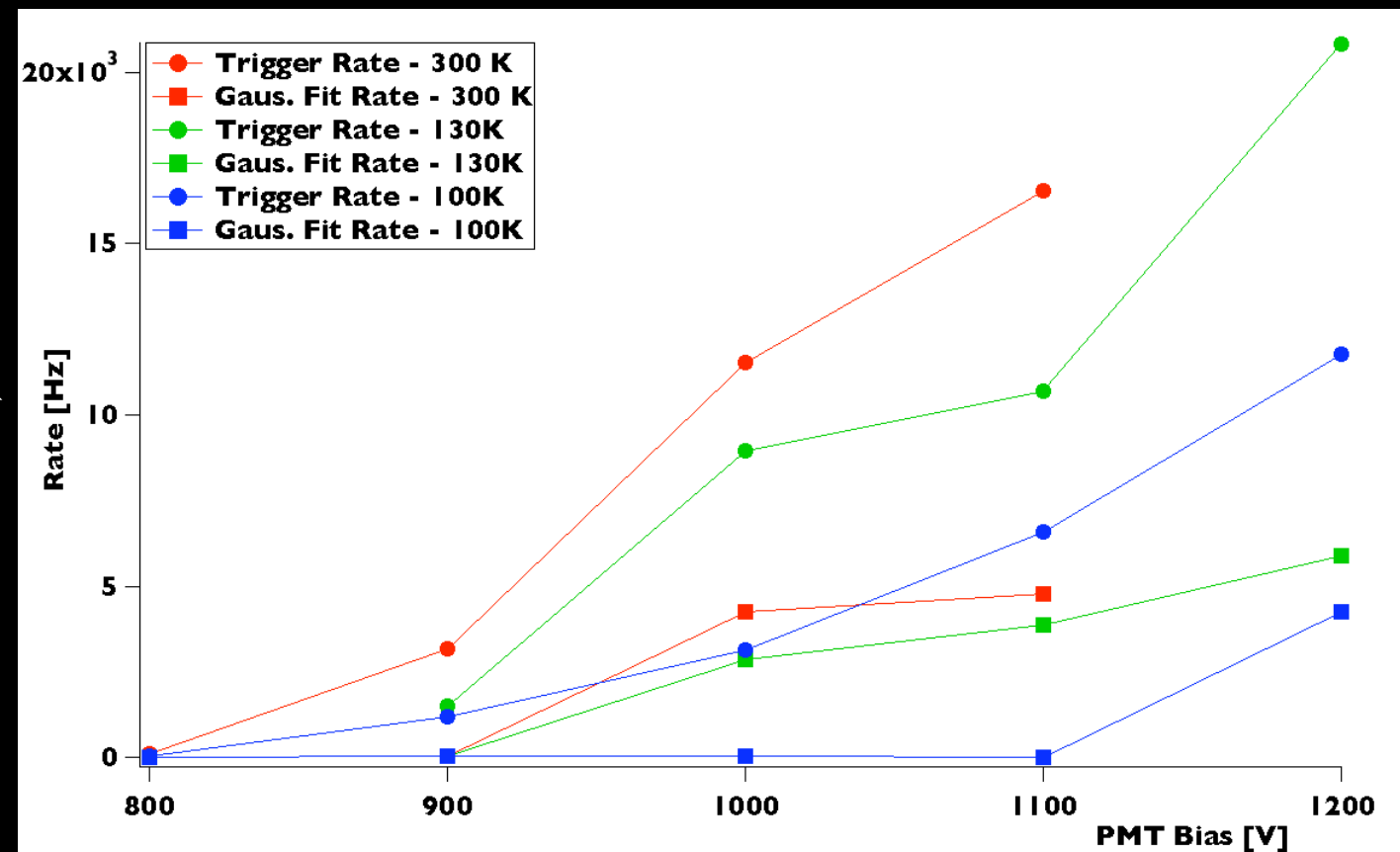
The Plan...

1. Pump out insulation vacuum and cold chamber
2. Fill cold chamber with cover gas
3. Cool down cold chamber with cold head
4. Adjust heating resistor to set temperature
5. Bias PMT and take data



Initial Dark Current Measurements

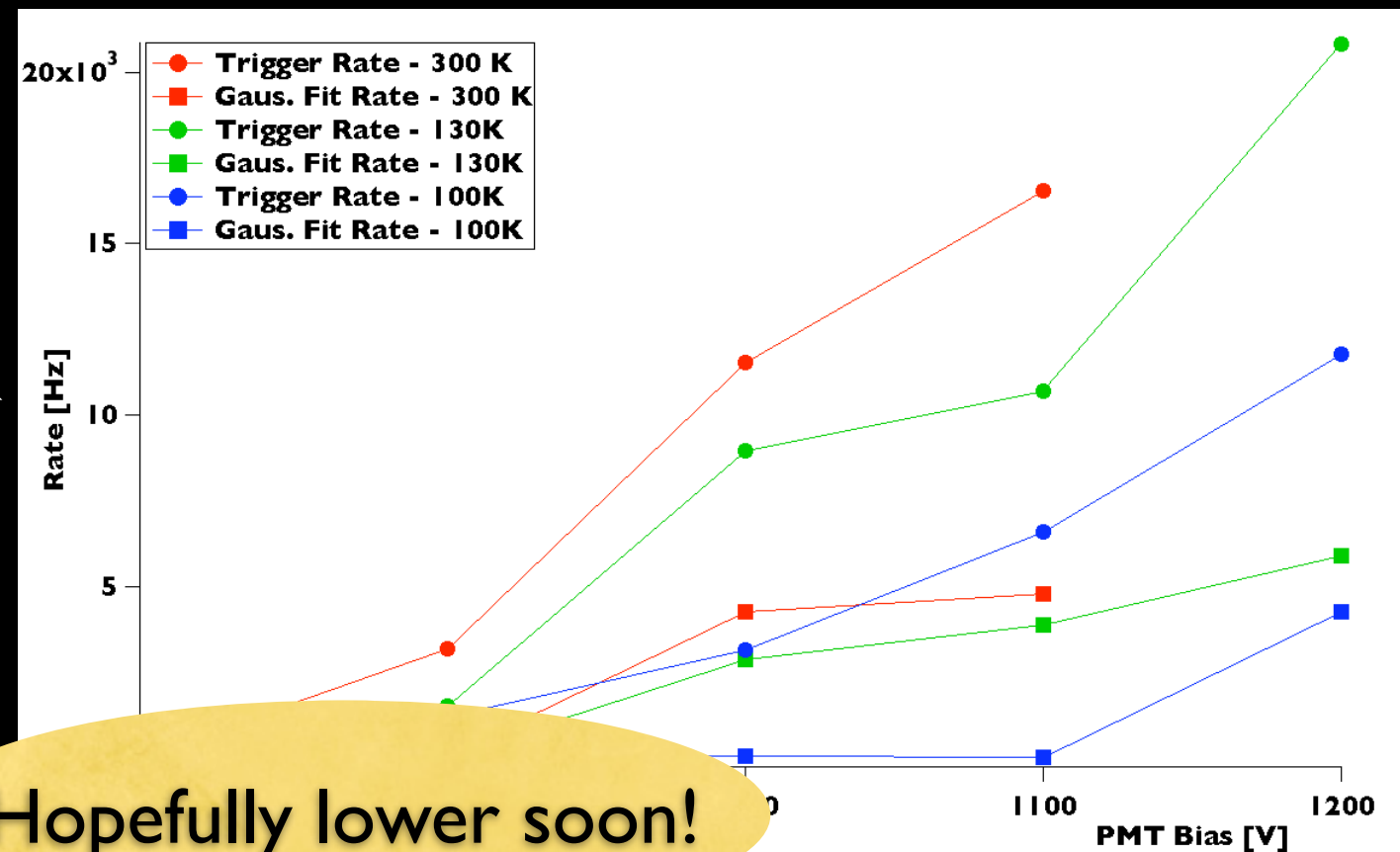
- Can cool down to ~ 100 K with ~ 1 Atm. N_2 cover gas, bias PMT's take data--
DARK CURRENT!



- Neon cover gas to 75 K, having breakdown problems, so cannot run PMTs, no dark current anyway...
- MiniCLEAN PMTs showed up September 23!!!

Initial Dark Current Measurements

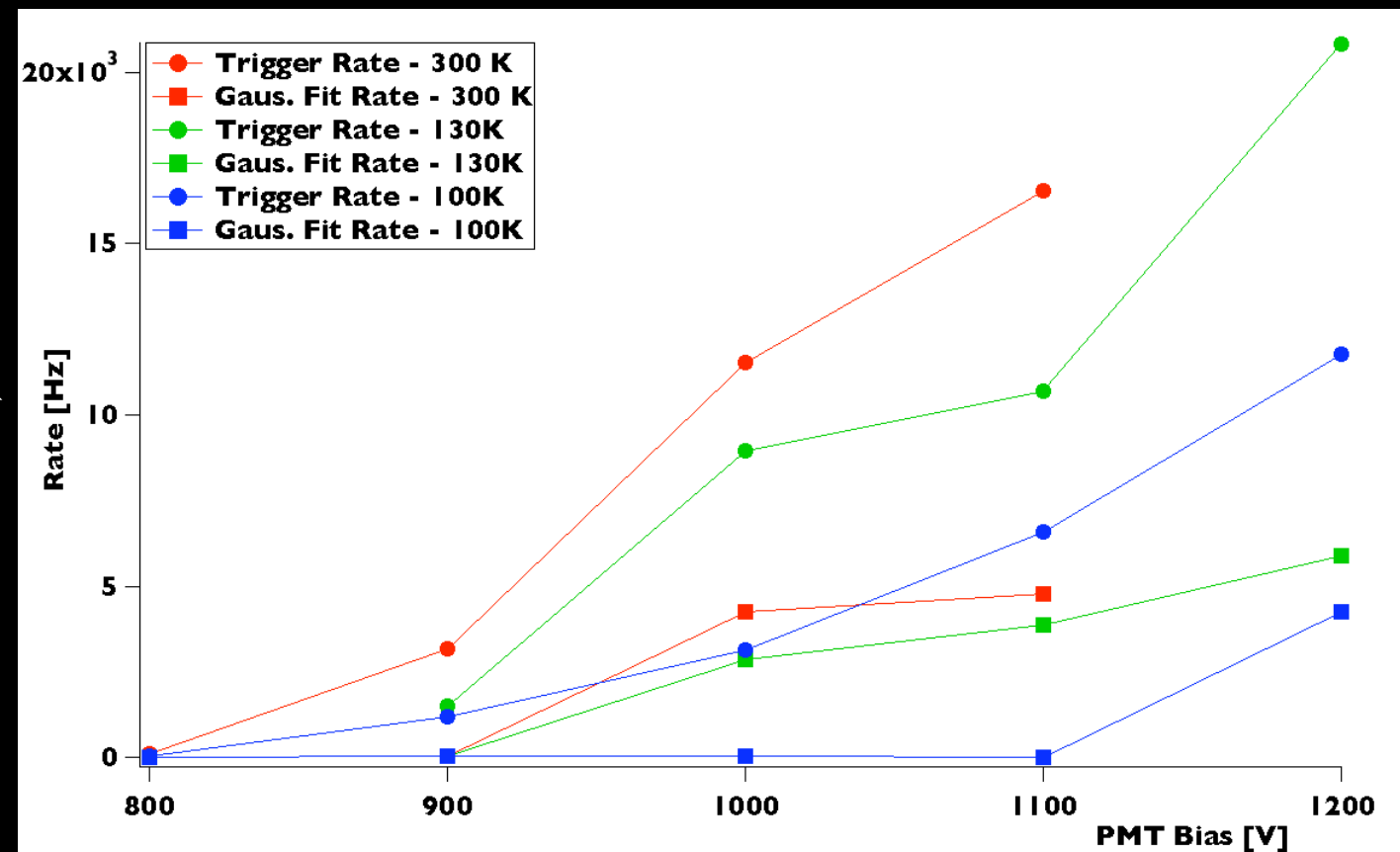
- Can cool down to ~ 100 K with ~ 1 Atm. N₂ cover gas, bias PMT's take data--
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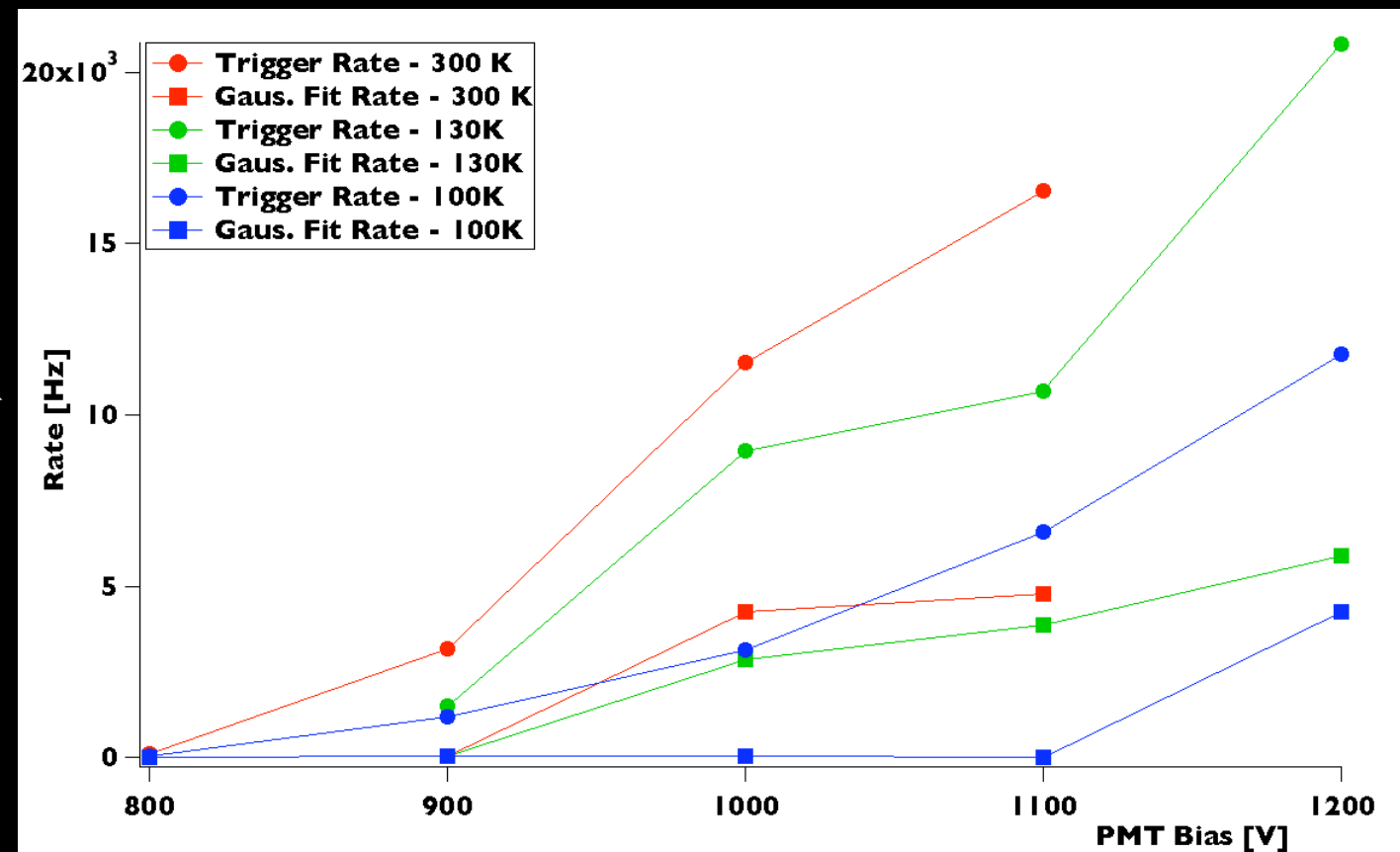
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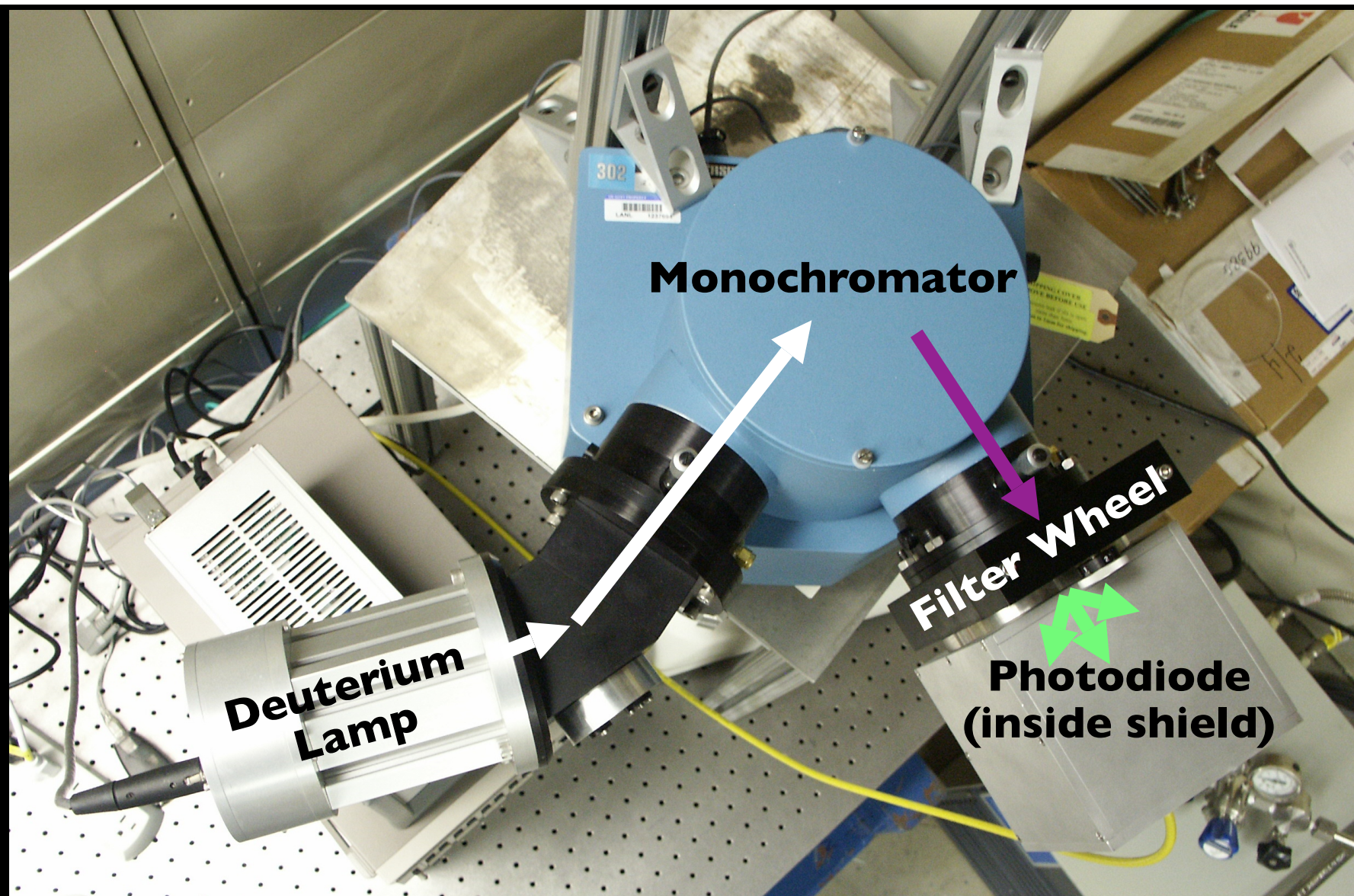


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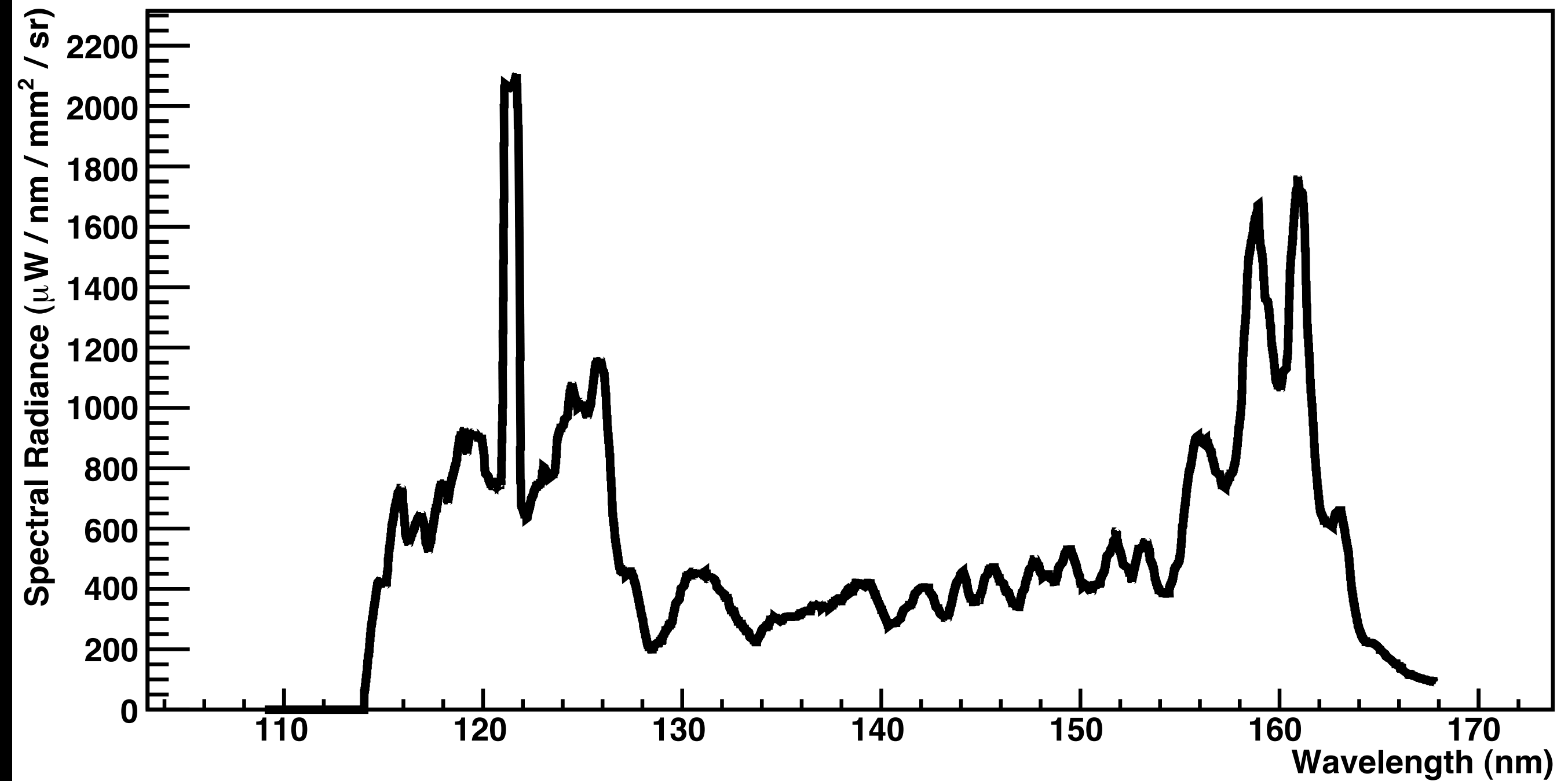
TPB Fluorescence

Since we are observing individual photons, we care about the efficiency as a ratio of photon rates.

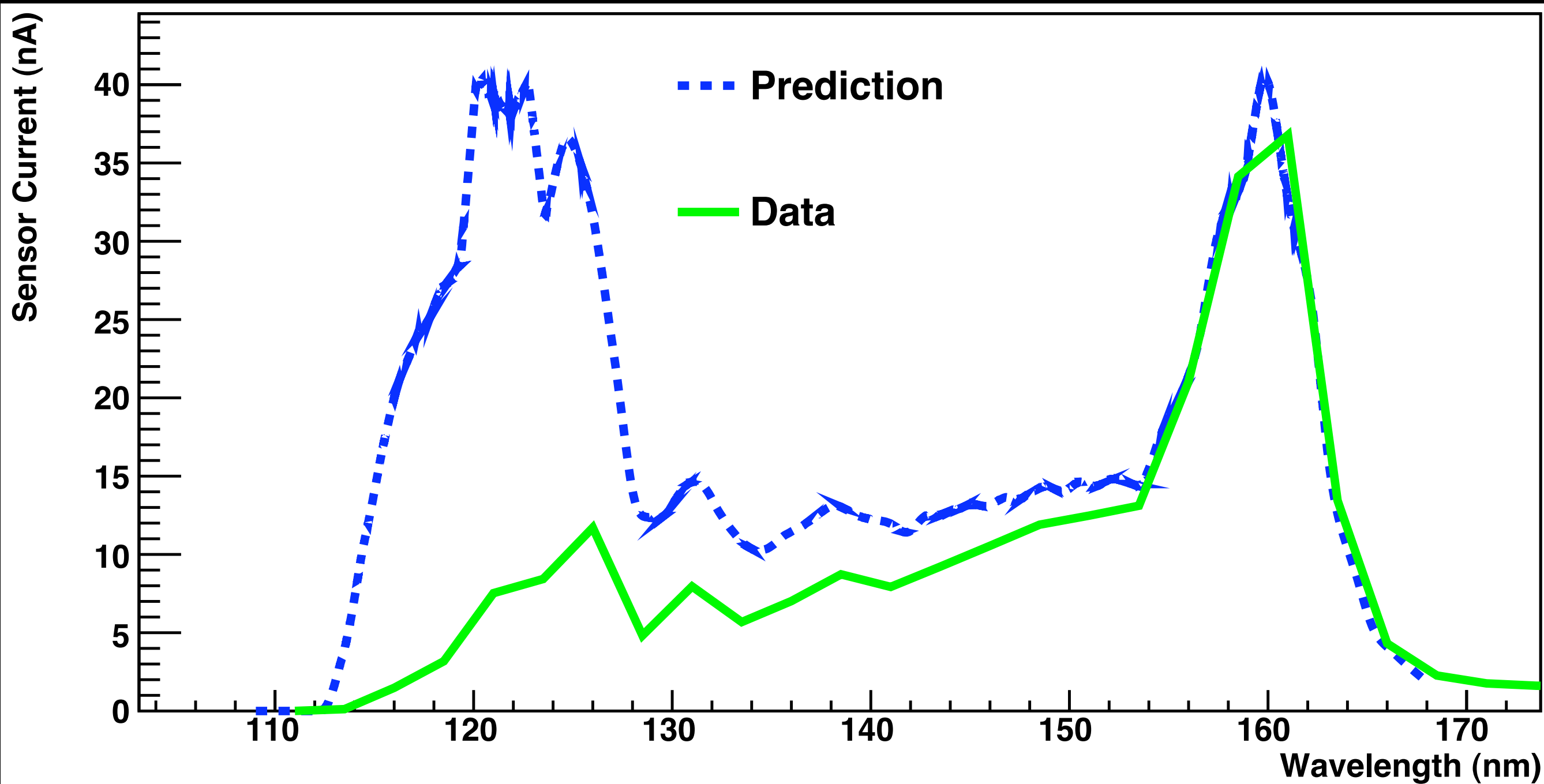
$$\epsilon(\lambda_{UV}) = \frac{R_{vis}}{R_{UV}} = \frac{I_{vis}(\lambda_{UV}) \frac{4\pi}{\Omega_{vis}} \int d\lambda_{vis} S_{TPB} \frac{1}{C(\lambda_{vis})hc/\lambda_{vis}}}{I_{UV}(\lambda_{UV}) \frac{4\pi}{\Omega_{UV}} \frac{1}{C(\lambda_{UV})hc/\lambda_{UV}}}$$



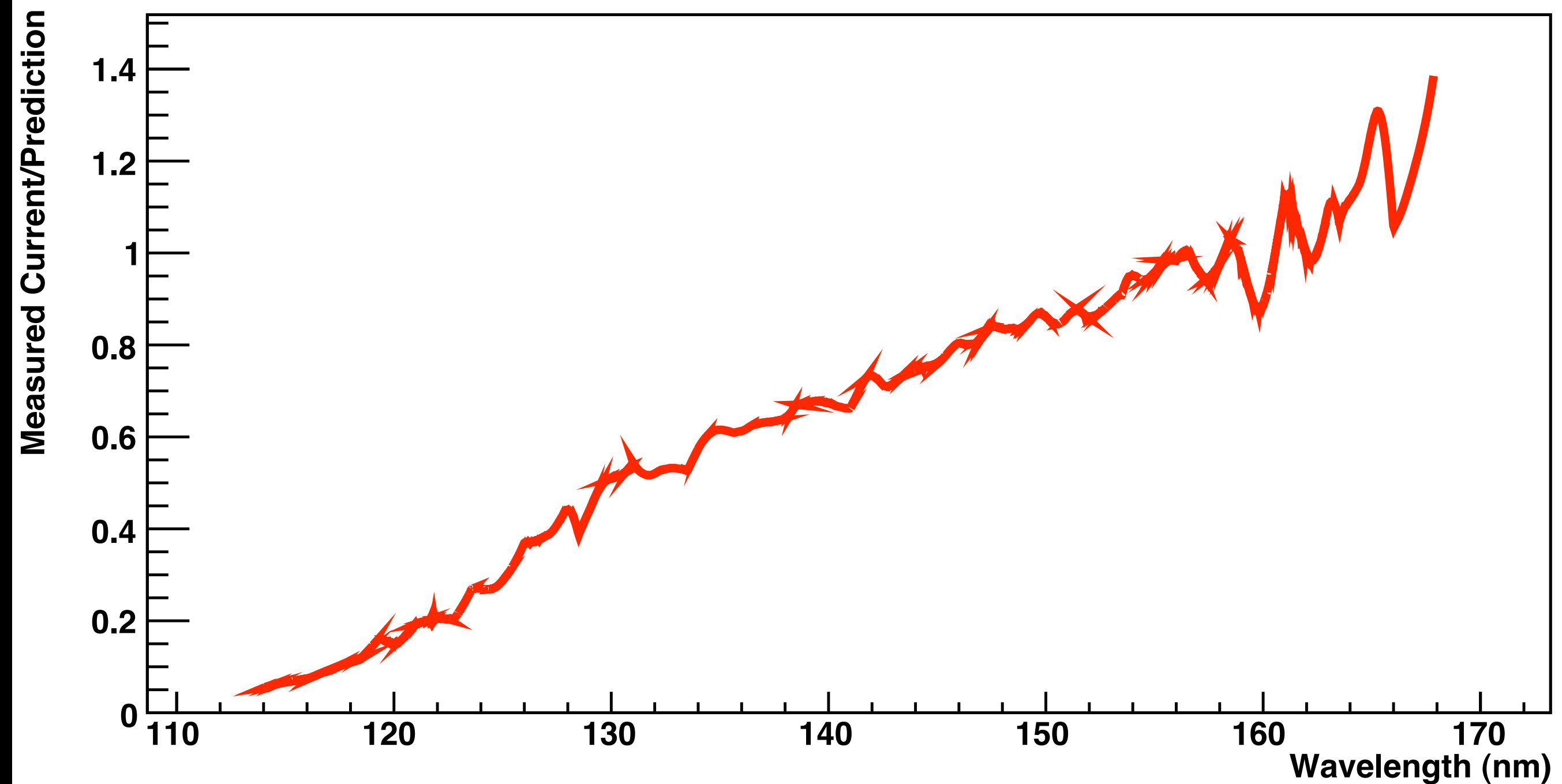
Raw Lamp Spectrum



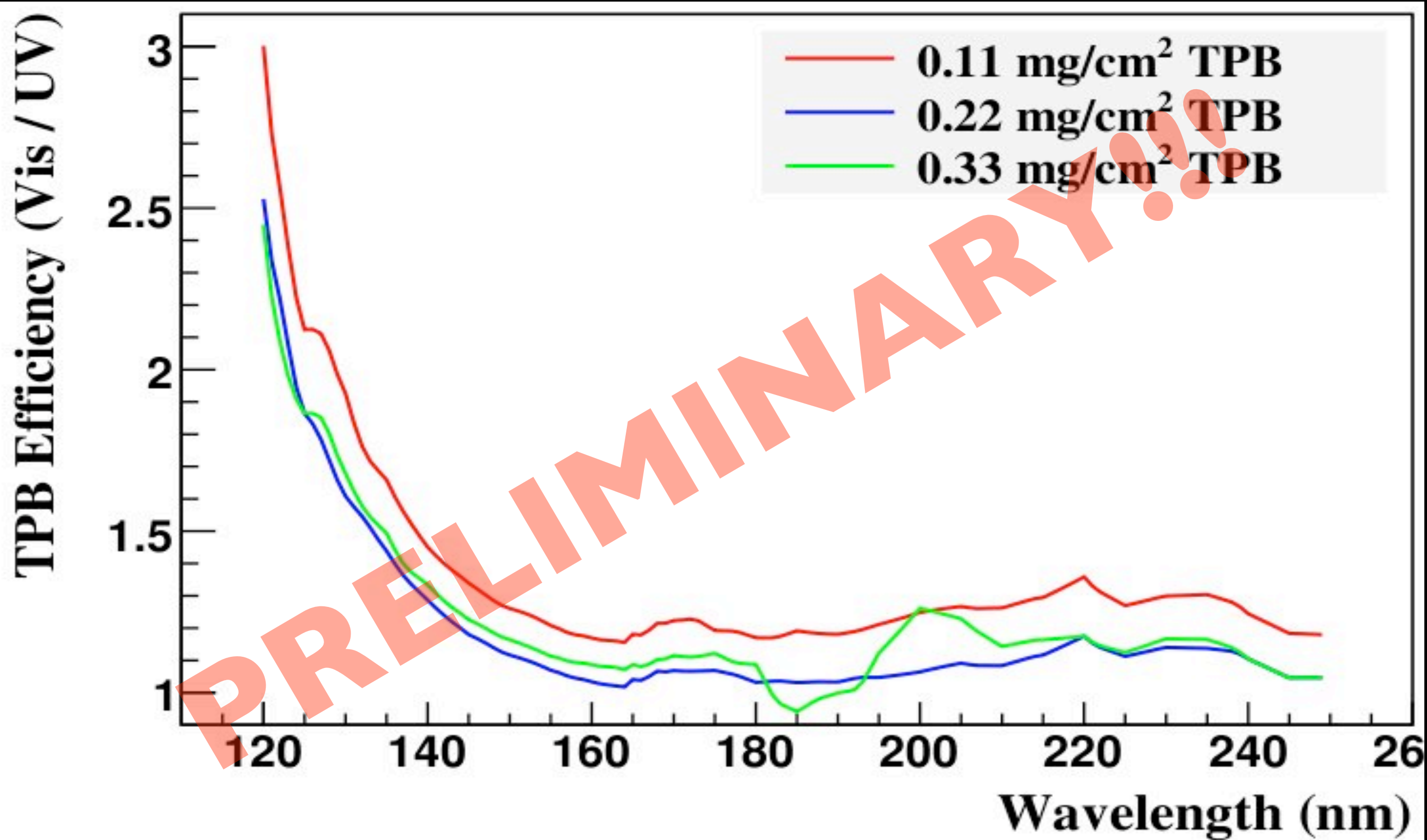
Sensor Current



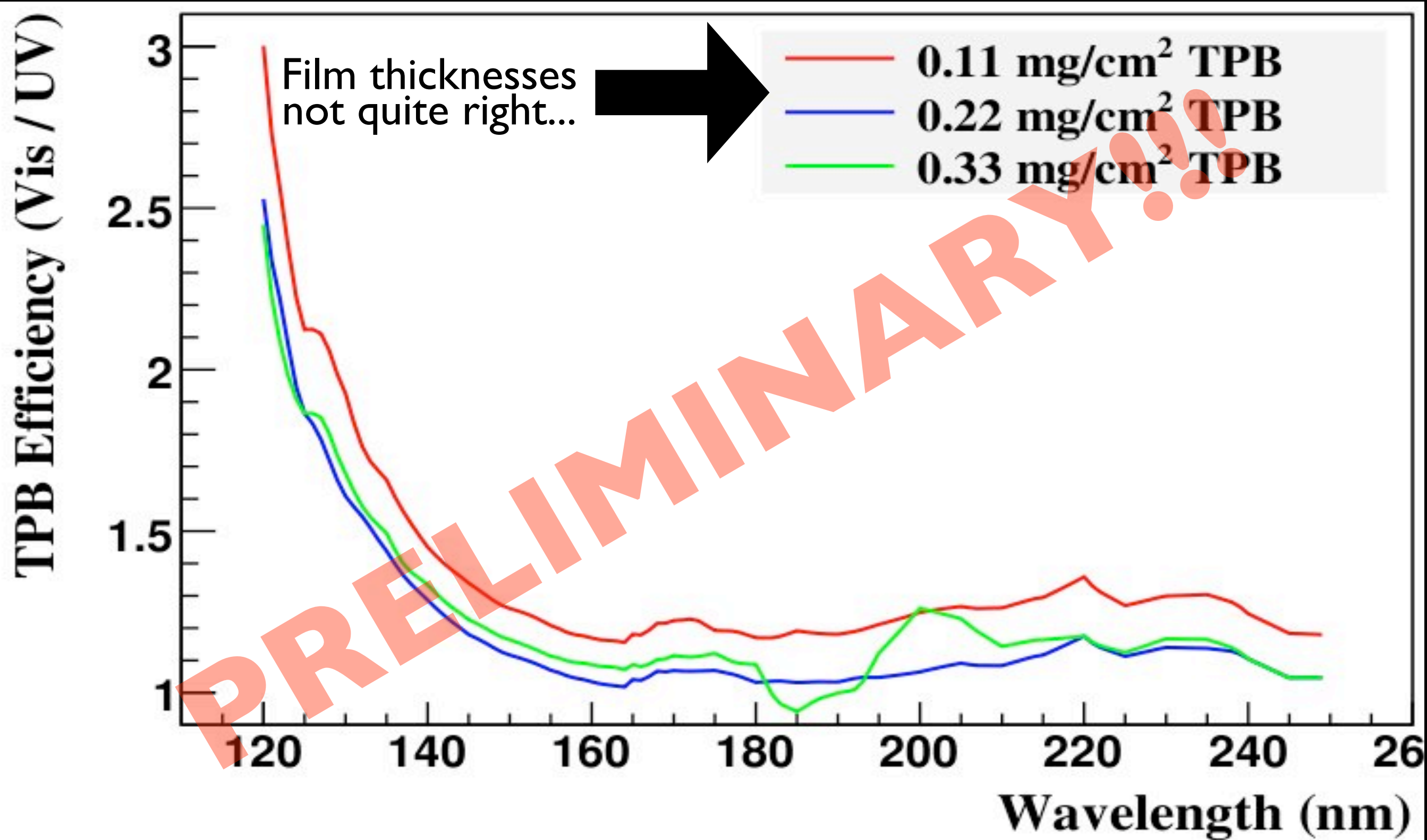
Lost UV



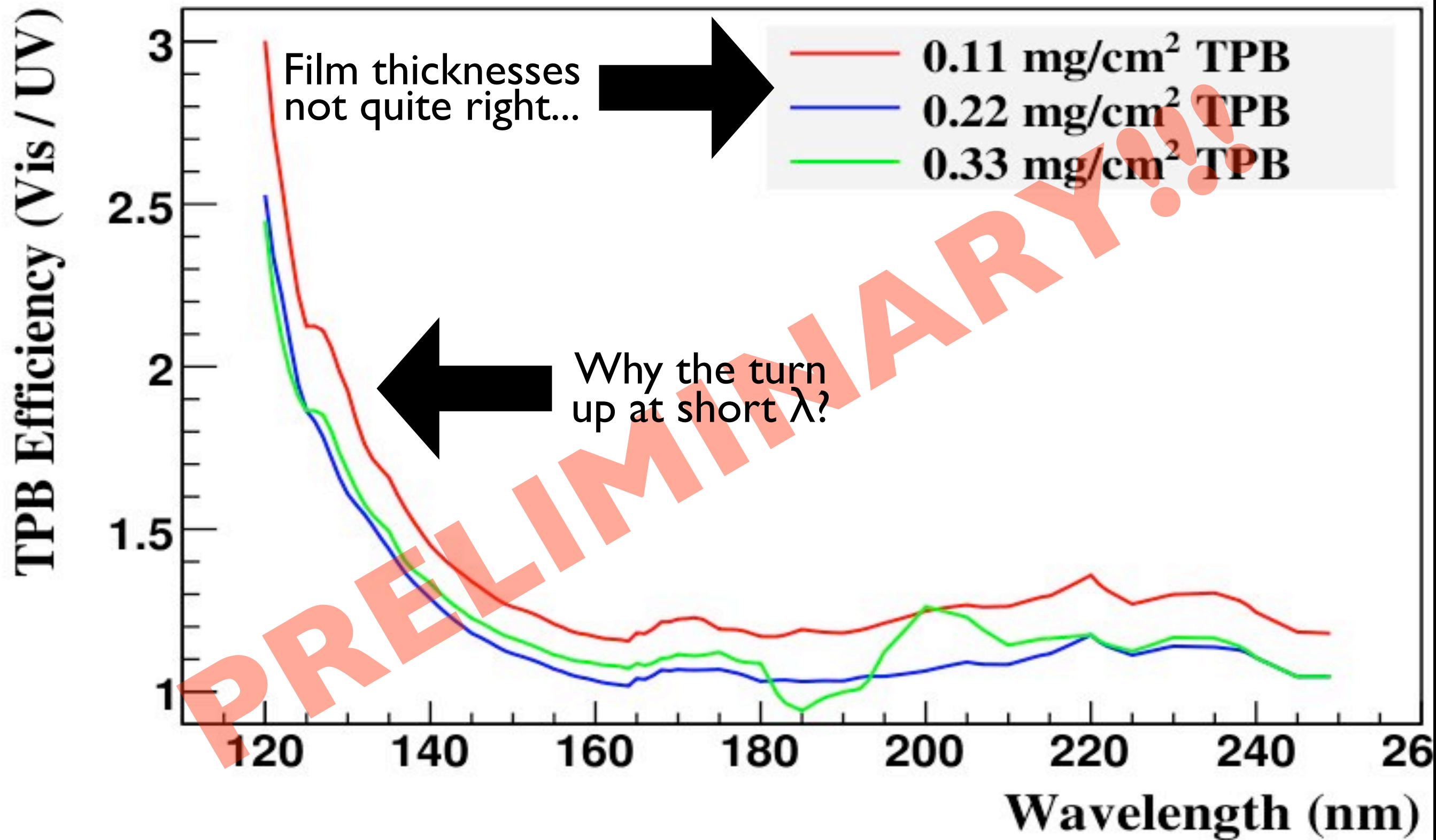
Fluorescence Efficiency



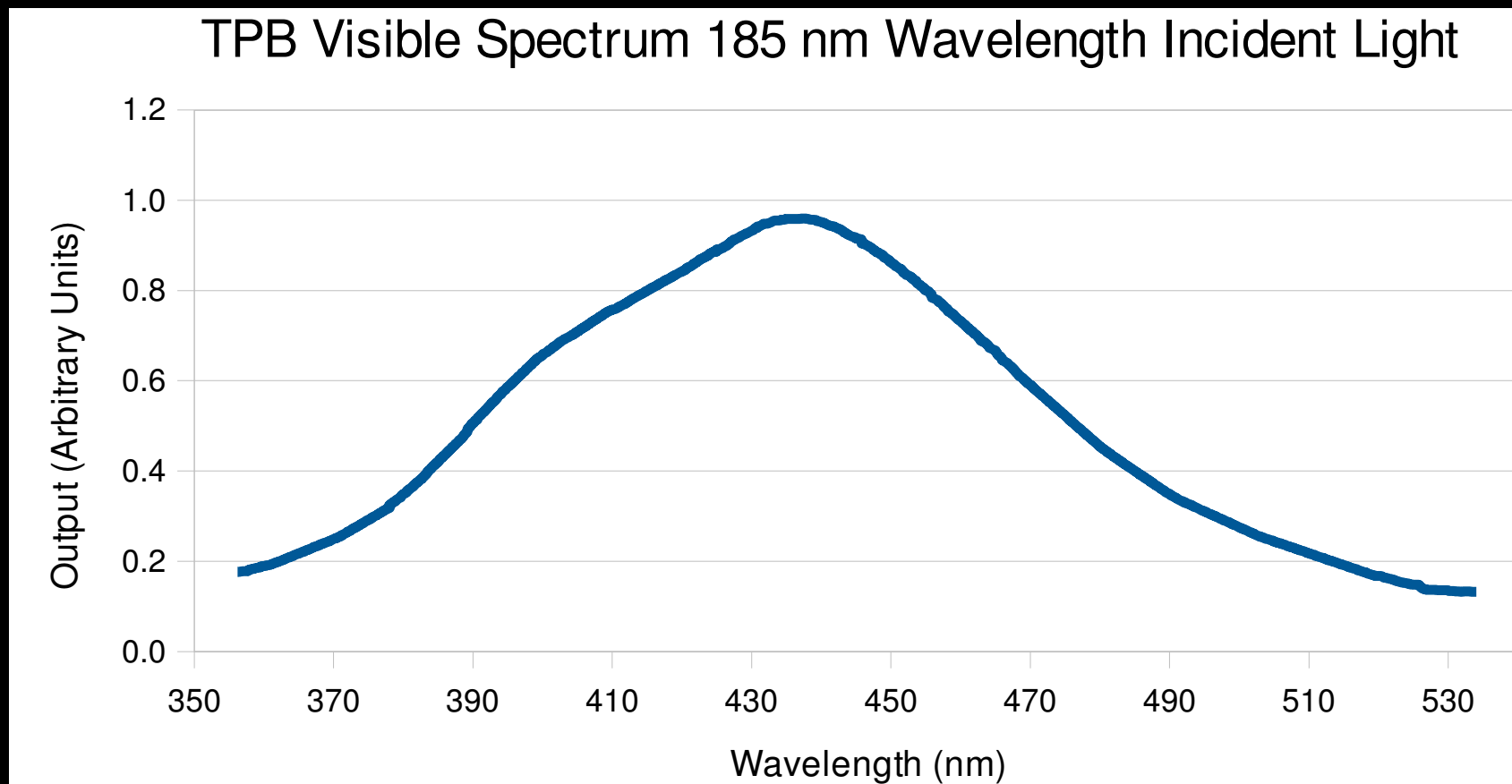
Fluorescence Efficiency



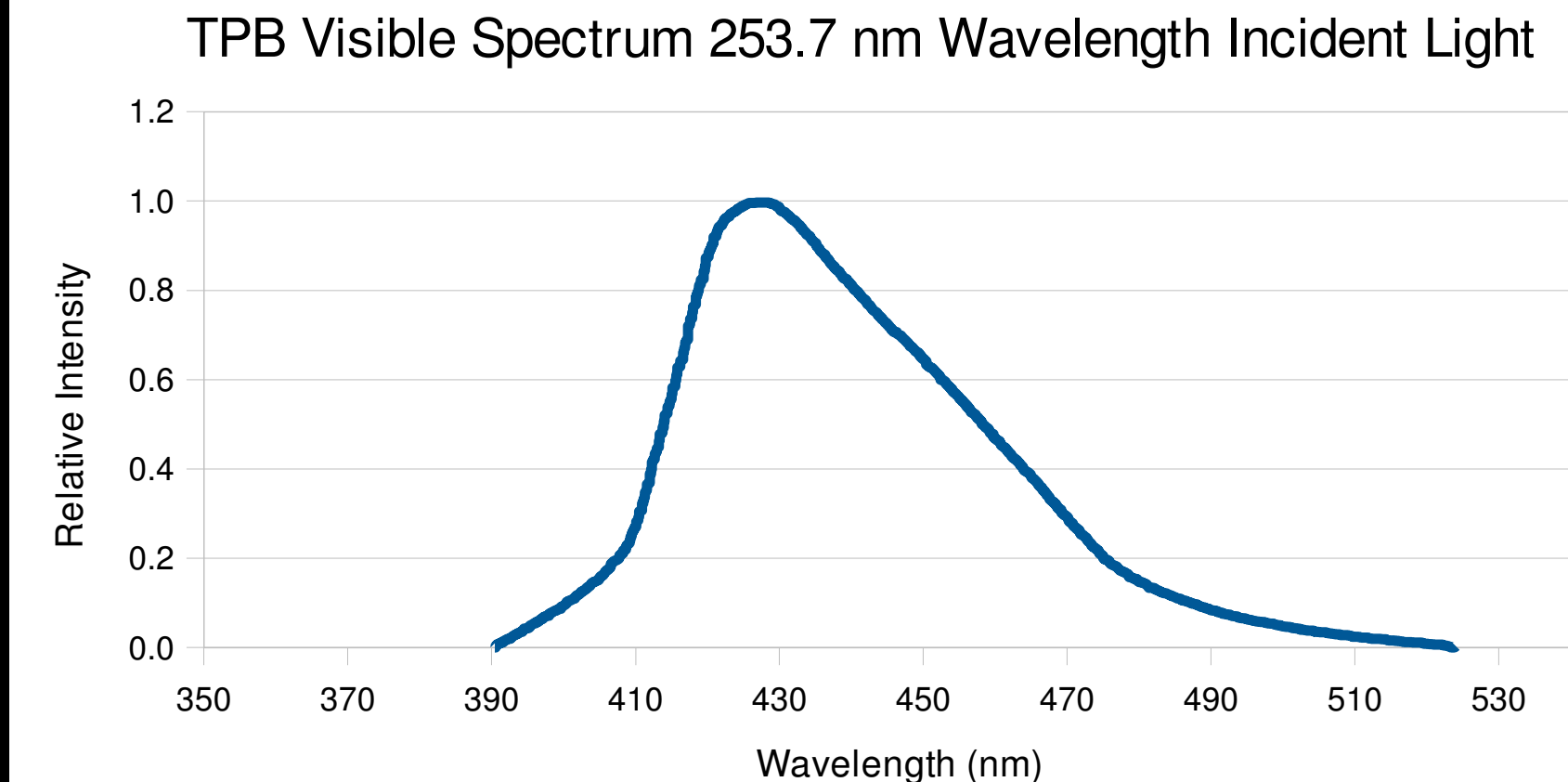
Fluorescence Efficiency



TPB Emission Spectrum

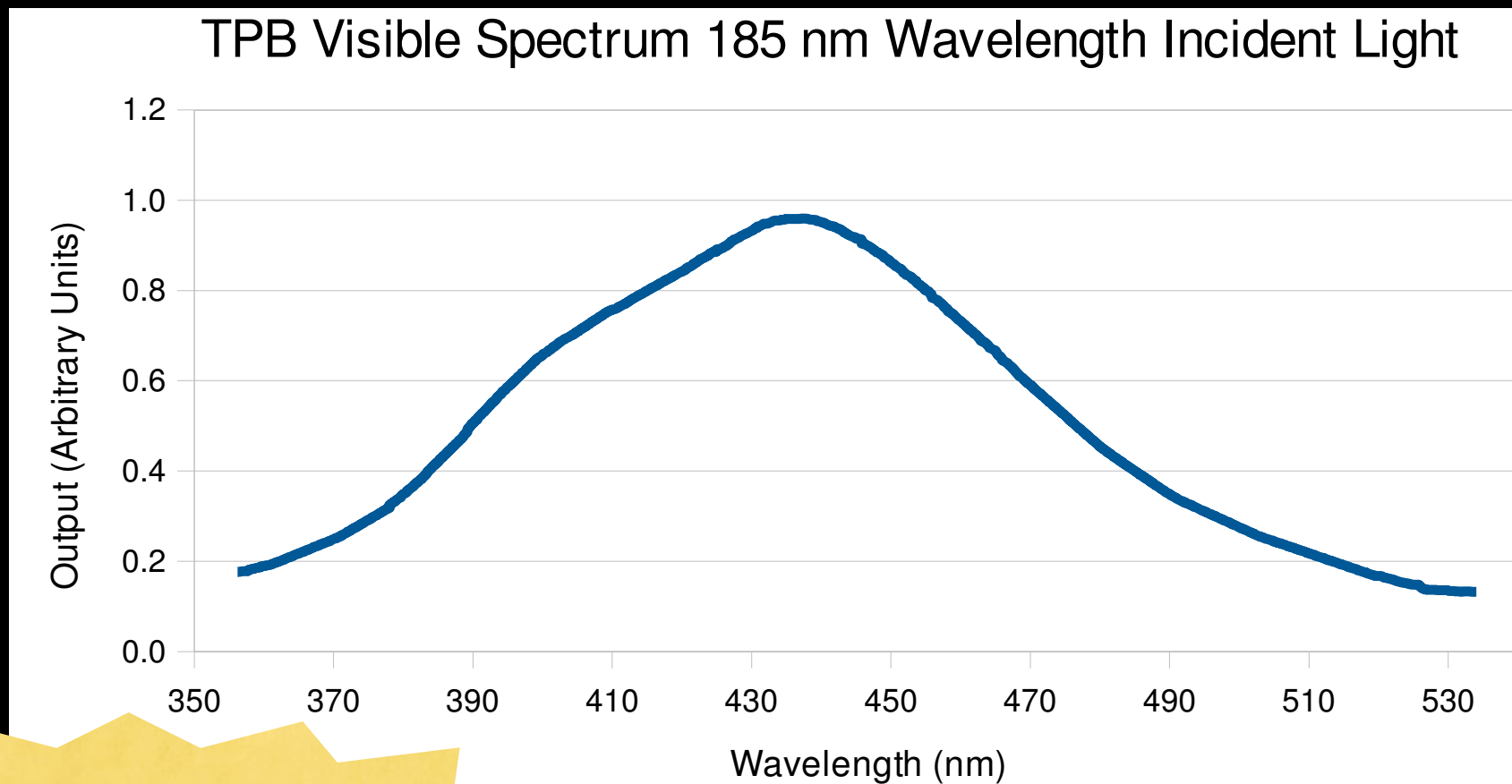


Applied Optics
12, 87 (1973)



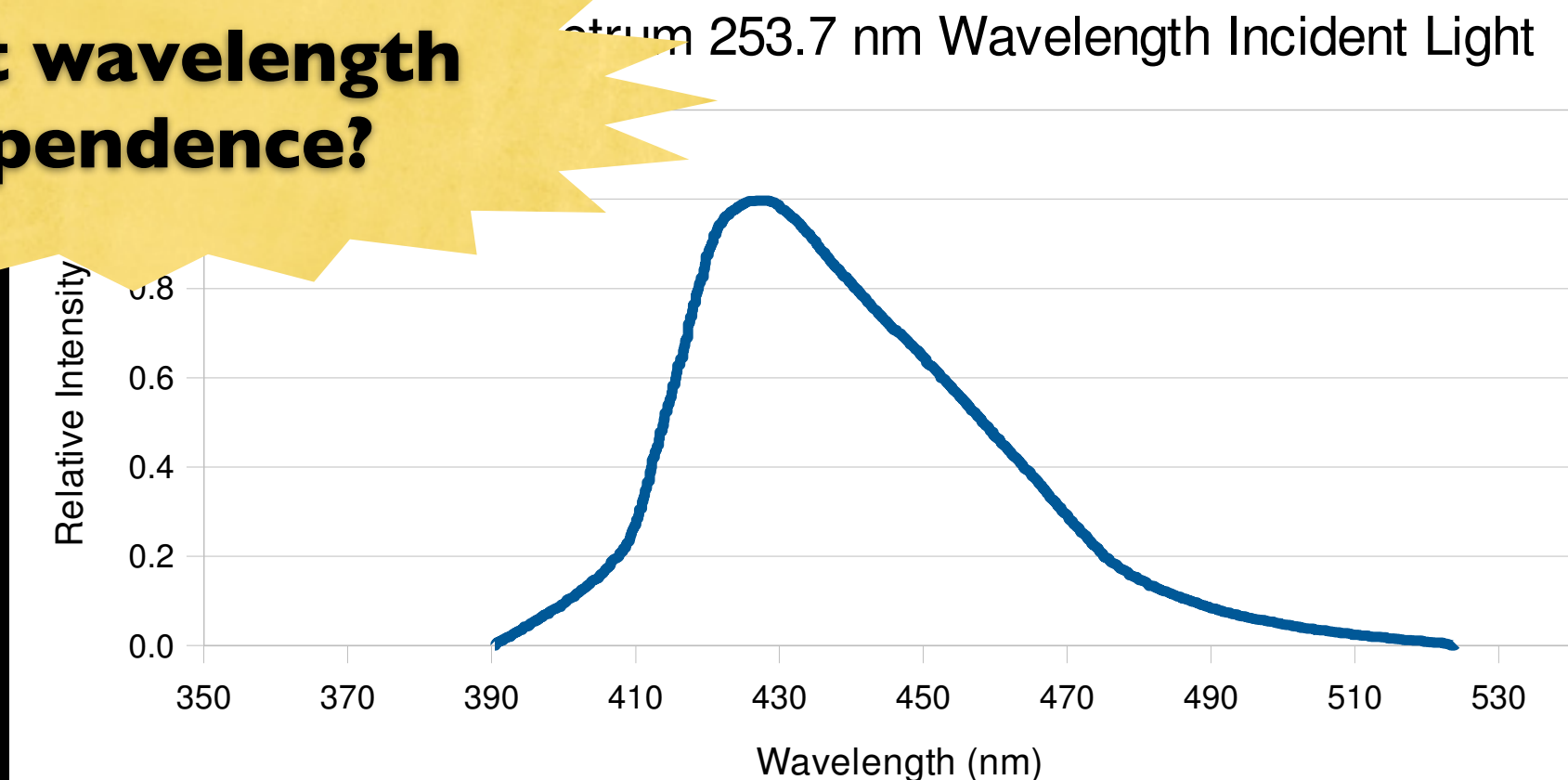
NIM-B 117,
421 (1996)

TPB Emission Spectrum



Applied Optics
12, 87 (1973)

**Input wavelength
dependence?**



NIM-B **117,**
421 (1996)

Conclusions

- There are LOTS of frontiers in particle physics!
- We've talked about a comparatively rare and quiet one today...
- MAJORANA and CLEAN are world-leading low-background experiments, with far-reaching physics implications
- This is a very exciting time for low-background physics





**Thank you
for your attention!**