

Development of Laser Isotope Separation (LIS) System for ^{48}Ca Toward the Study of Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay of CANDLES

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Research strategies and requirements

University of Fukui

Proof of principle

- Small scale chamber and single laser system
- TOF, deposition meter, fluorescence

Atomic beam system

- Small scale chamber
- Collimator effect
- Sheet-like atomic beam

Research Center for Nuclear Physics (RCNP)

Collection system

- Collection plate
- Recovery system

Production system of ^{48}Ca

- Large scale chamber
- 2W laser \times 6 ports
- High production rate (2 mol/year)
- Automation system

ICR, Kyoto Univ., LIE, and LIT

Laser system

- Single frequency laser
- Power-scalable laser
- InGaN tunable + Tapered SOA
- Long-term operation
- Stable laser system

RCNP, Osaka U + ICRR, Tokyo U.

Calcium fluoride for studies of
Neutrino and Dark matters by Low
Energy Spectrometer (**CANDLES**)



Future development

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- Increase the production rate by multiple 6 port units
- Ton scale production
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Calcium fluoride for studies of Neutrino and Dark matters by Low Energy Spectrometer (CANDLES)



Particle identical to its antiparticle
E. Majorana, 1937

Dirac

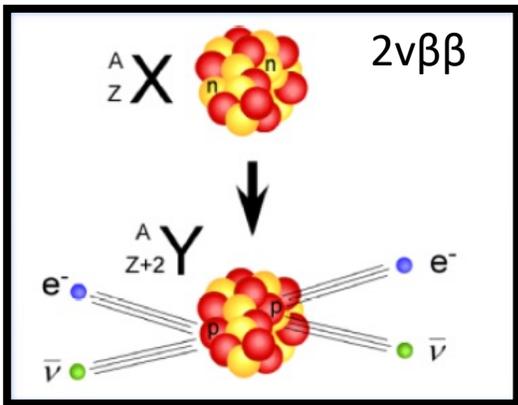
$$\mathcal{L}_D = -m_D \overline{\nu_R^0} \nu_L^0 + \text{h. c.}$$

Majorana

$$\mathcal{L}_{m_L} = -\frac{m_L}{2} \overline{(\nu_L^0)^c} \nu_L^0 + \text{h. c.}$$

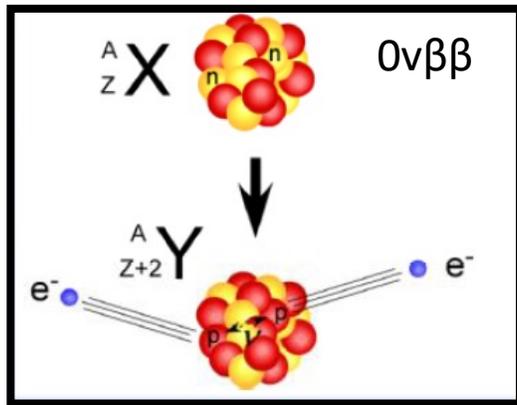
Majorana particle

- Violates the Lepton number conservation law
- Particle <-> Anti-particle
- Matter dominated universe



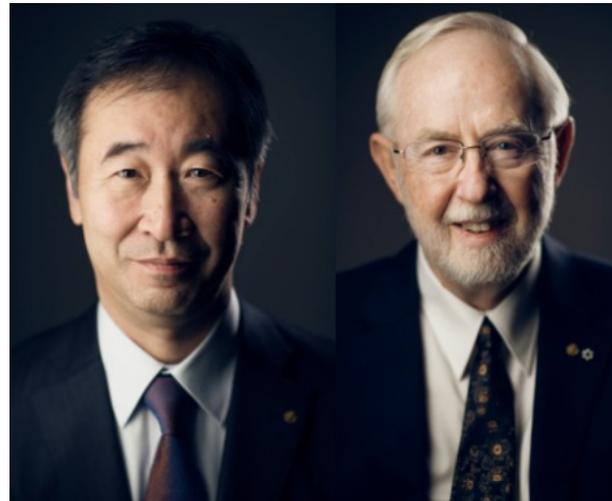
$2\nu\beta\beta$

Within standard model



$0\nu\beta\beta$

Beyond the standard model !!

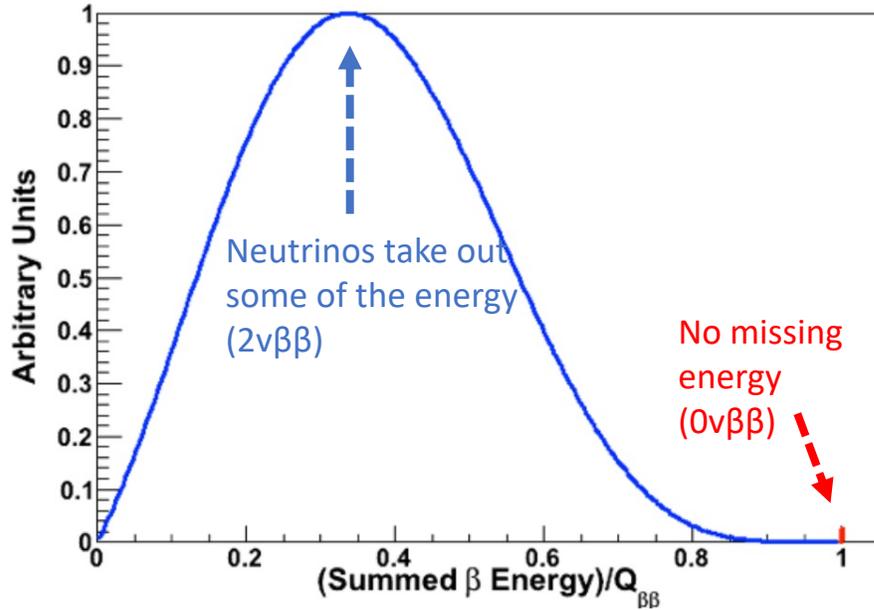


The 2015 Nobel Prize in Physics
Prof. Takaaki Kajita (ICRR)
Prof. Arthur B. McDonald (SNO)

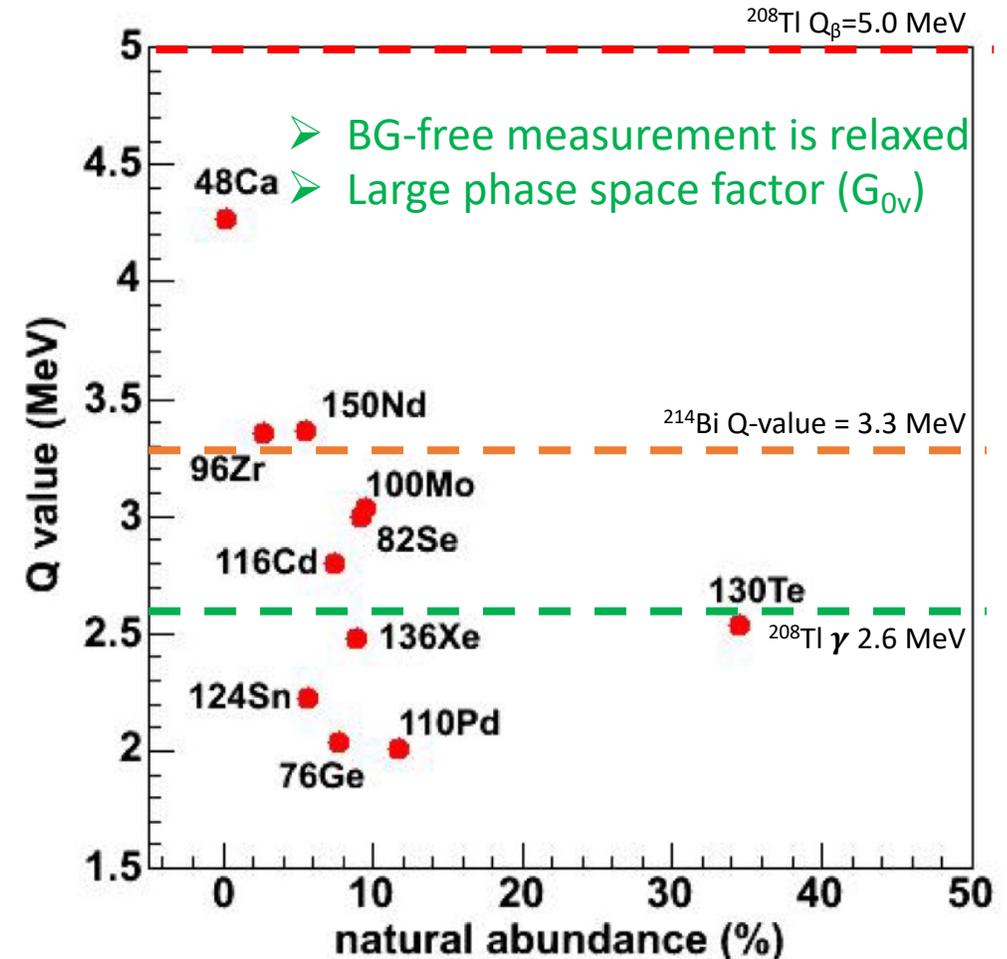
Neutrino oscillation

- Prove that neutrino has mass (m_ν)

Calcium fluoride for studies of Neutrino and Dark matters by Low Energy Spectrometer (CANDLES)



Why $^{48}\text{Ca}?? \Rightarrow 4.27 \text{ MeV}$



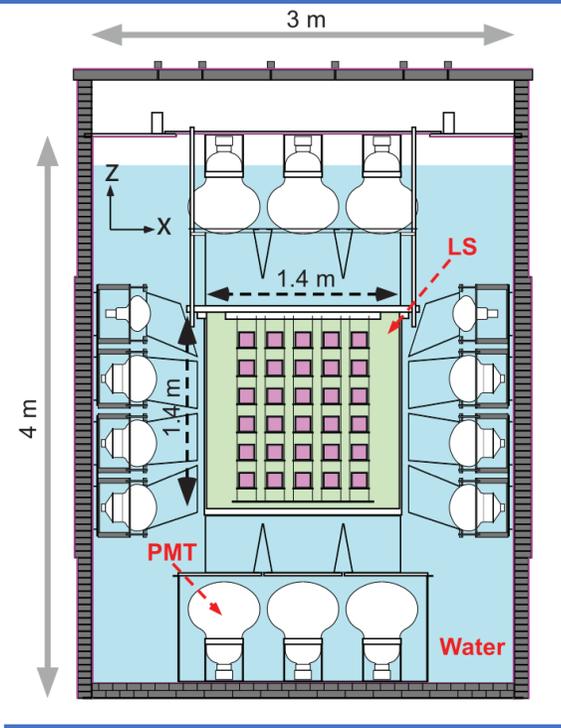
$$\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle^2 \propto \frac{1}{T_{1/2}^{0\nu\beta\beta} G_{0\nu} |M_{0\nu}|^2}$$

$\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle$: Majorana neutrino mass
 $T_{1/2}^{0\nu\beta\beta}$: Half-life
 $G_{0\nu}$: Phase space factor
 $M_{0\nu}$: Nuclear matrix element

Requirement for $0\nu\beta\beta$

- BG free measurement
- A large amount of double beta decay nuclide
- High energy resolution

Calcium fluoride for studies of Neutrino and Dark matters by Low Energy Spectrometer (CANDLES)



S. Ajimura, et al. *Physical Review D* 103.9 (2021): 092008.

- Liquid scintillator (LS)
 - 4π active shield (2 m³)
- 62 Large photomultiplier tube
- Shielding system
 - Pb : 10-12cm
 - B₄C sheet : 5mm

CANDLES III – 305 kg **CaF₂ Crystals** (3.2 kg × 96 pieces) ~ **0.35 kg ⁴⁸Ca**

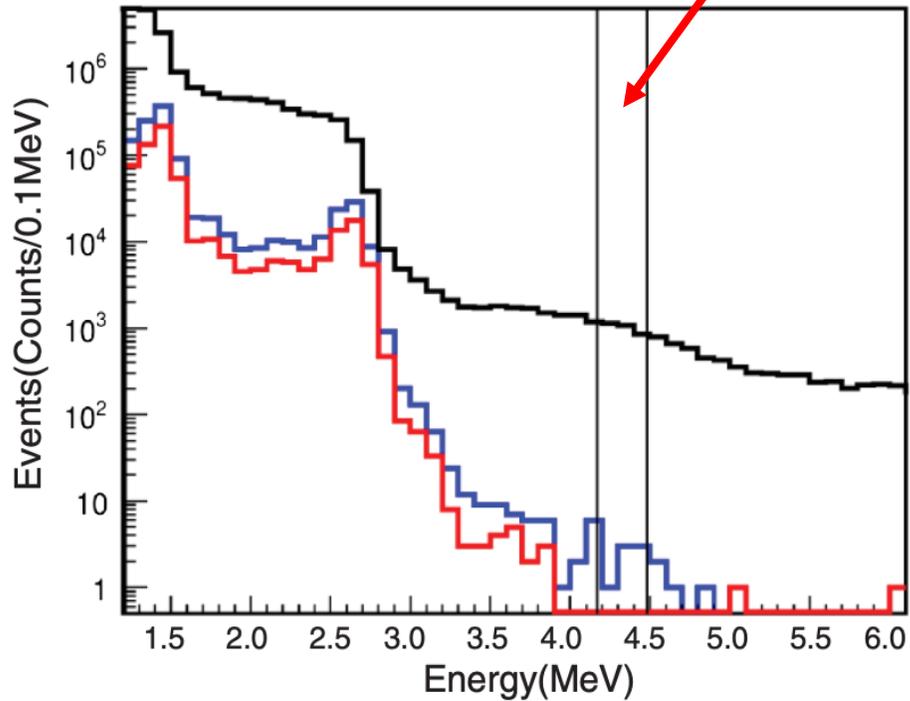
- Kamioka mine for zinc and lead
- Kamioka Lab for Underground Sciences
 - 1000 m.w.e. depth
 - 400 km away from Osaka



Calcium fluoride for studies of Neutrino and Dark matters by Low Energy Spectrometer (CANDLES)

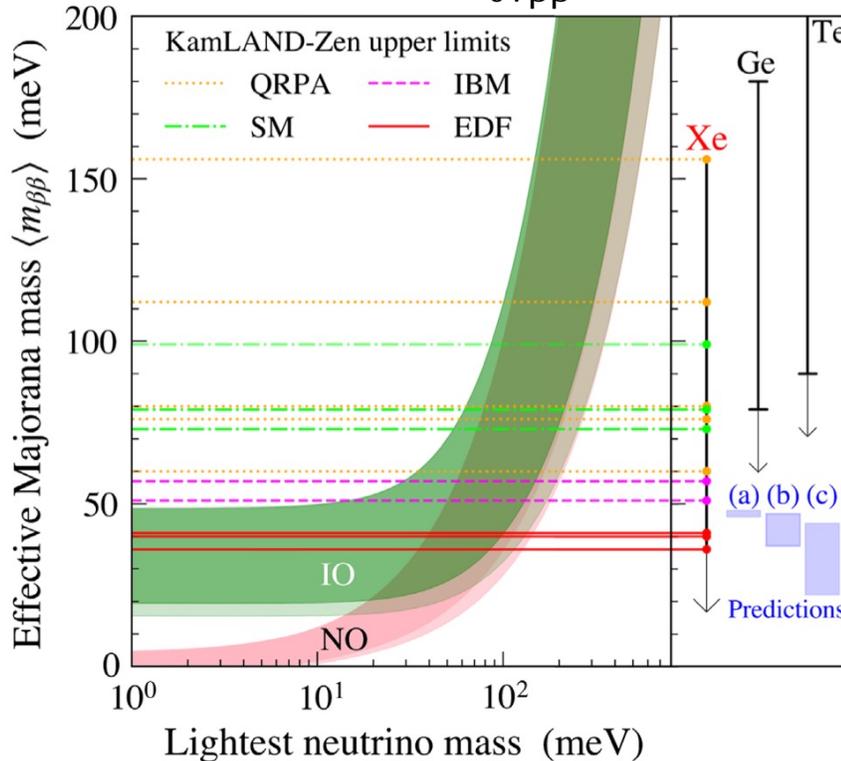


^{48}Ca ROI 4.17 – 4.48 MeV



KamLAND-Zen 400 & 800 (^{136}Xe)

36 – 156 meV, $T_{0\nu\beta\beta}^{1/2} > 10^{26}$ yr



Lightest neutrino mass (meV)
Phys. Rev. Lett. **130**, 051801

To explore the IH region

Target: Inverse Hierachy (IH)
At $\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle = 0.03$ eV

BG free measurement

10 years of exposure time

0.8 Detection efficiency

0.36 – 13 kmol of ^{48}Ca
 $\sim 1800 \times$ CANDLES III

CANDLES III – ^{nat}Ca

$$T_{0\nu\beta\beta}^{1/2} \text{ } ^{48}\text{Ca} = 5.6 \times 10^{22} \text{ years}$$

$$\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle \leq 2.9 - 16 \text{ eV}$$

S. Ajimura, et al. *Physical Review D* 103.9 (2021): 092008

^{48}Ca isotope enrichment is the key!!

Calcium fluoride for studies of Neutrino and Dark matters by Low Energy Spectrometer (CANDLES)

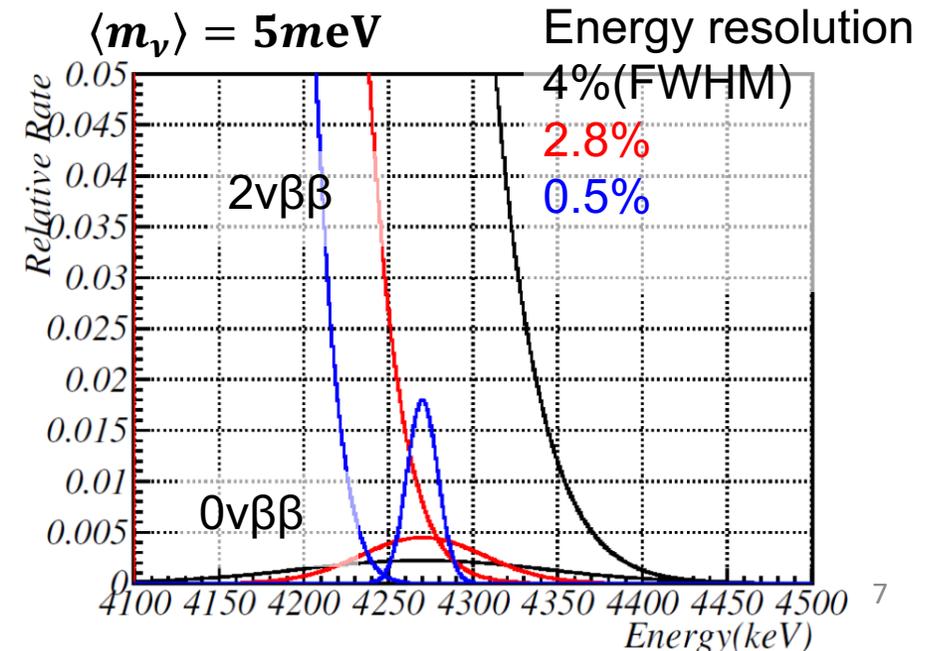


Future CANDLES

	CANDLES III	Next detector system
^{48}Ca Abundance	0.187%	50%
^{48}Ca Weight	0.35 kg	600 kg ~
Energy Resolution	6%	1.0% (required)
$\langle m_\nu \rangle$ sensitivity	500meV	~5 meV
Feature	Cooling CaF_2 Low BG	Enrichment of ^{48}Ca Scintillating bolometer

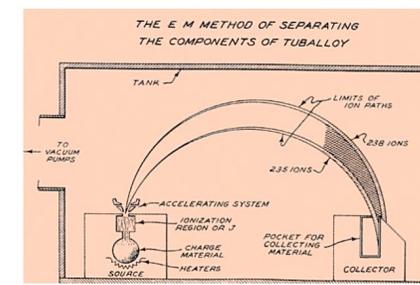
- Improvement of Analysis
 - $^{212}\text{Bi}/^{212}\text{Po}$ rejection by CNN
 - ^{208}Tl rejection by likelihood analysis
 - Position distribution of ^{208}Tl

- A large amount of ^{48}Ca
 - For high sensitivity :
 - Increase by enrichment
- Higher energy resolution
 - To reduce $2\nu\beta\beta$ events

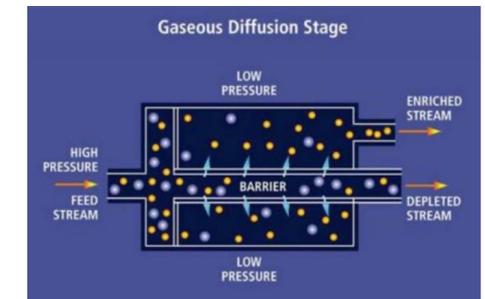


Calcium-48 [N.A. = 0.187%]

- **Ca has no gaseous compound.**
- ^{48}Ca 10 grams/year (By MS) -> 200,000 – 1,000,000 \$/g

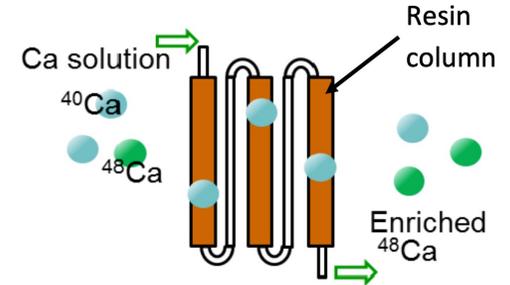


Electromagnetic

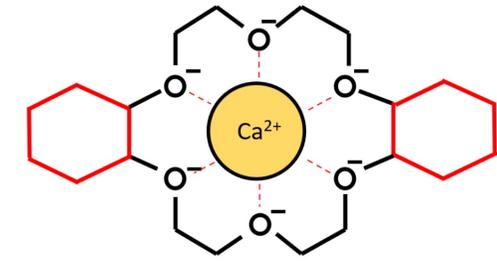


Gas diffusion

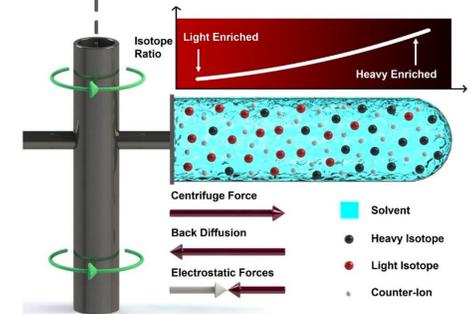
Isotope separation technique	Separation Coefficient	Production efficiency (γ^{-1})	Cost	Limitation
Electromagnetic separator	High	Ten of grams	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ High power consumption ○ Low productivity
Liquid centrifuge	Middle	Kilograms	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Concentration limit
Industrial isotope separation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gas Diffusion • Gas Centrifuge 	High	Thousands of tons	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Only the gas phase compound is possible ○ Compatible for U
Chemical isotope exchange	Small	Tons	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Extractant loss ○ Development of the cascade enrichment is required
Ion exchange chromatography	Small	Hundred of gram	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Time consumption ○ Low conversion
Laser isotope separation	High	Kilograms	Middle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Development of the high-power laser, irradiation unit, and collection system



Chromatography



Chemical exchange



Liquid centrifuge

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- SOA, multiple slave laser
- Long-term operation
- Stable laser system

RCNP, Osaka U + ICRR, Tokyo U.

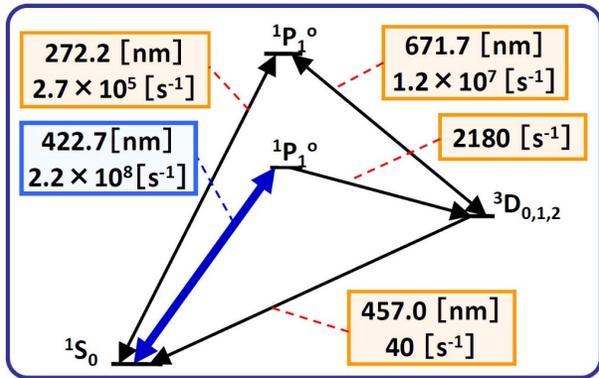
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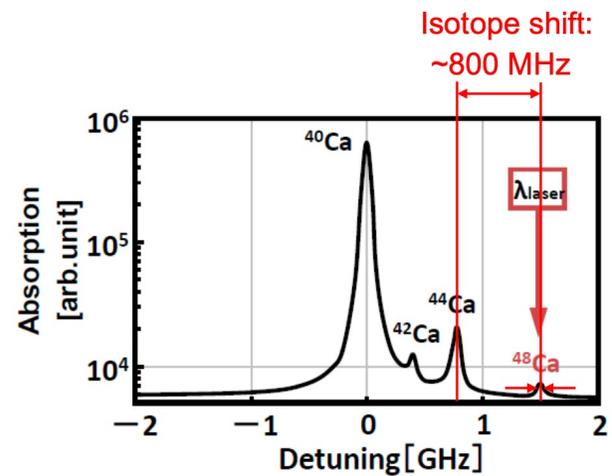
Future development

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- Ton scale production
- LISSE

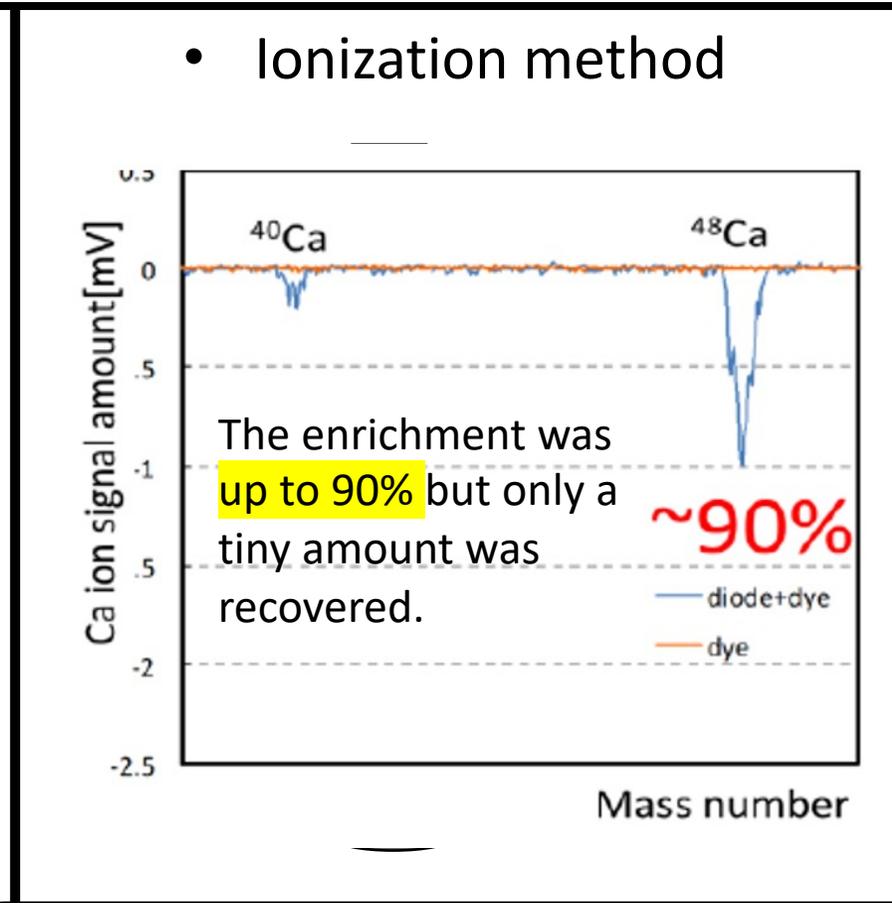
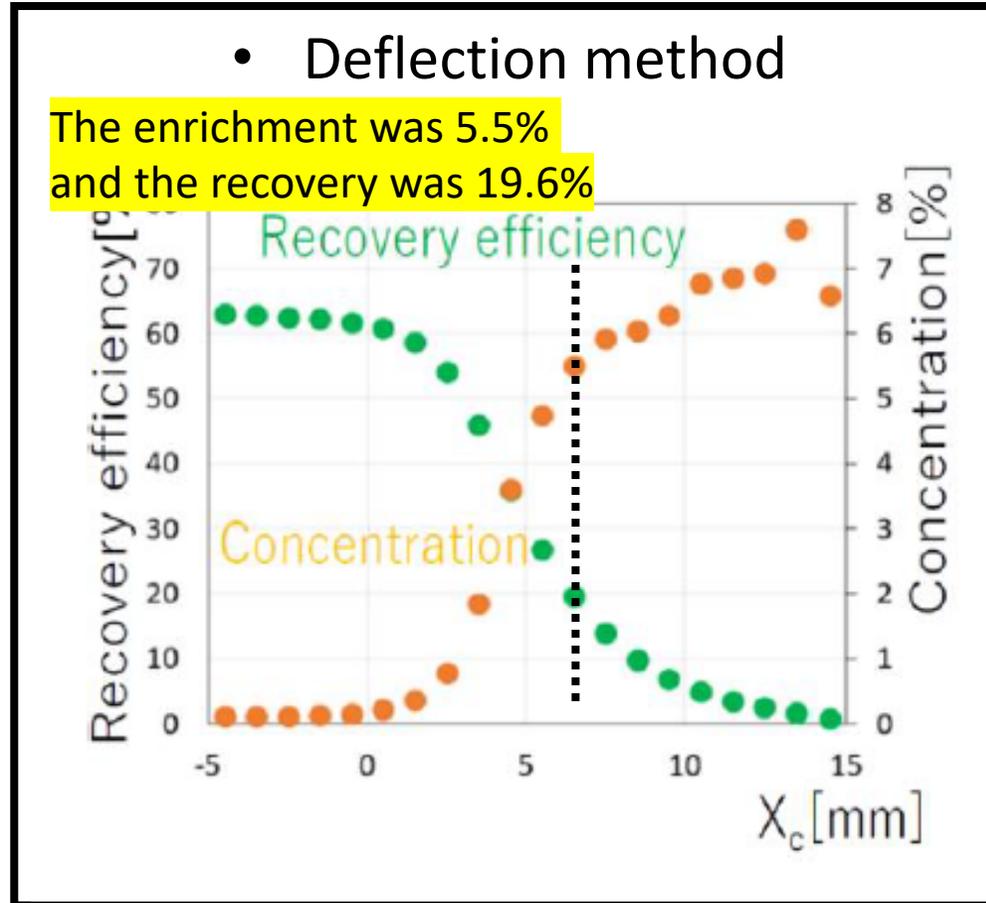
Proof of principle for LIS



Isotope shift of Ca at 422.7 nm



Absorption spectrum of Ca at 423nm



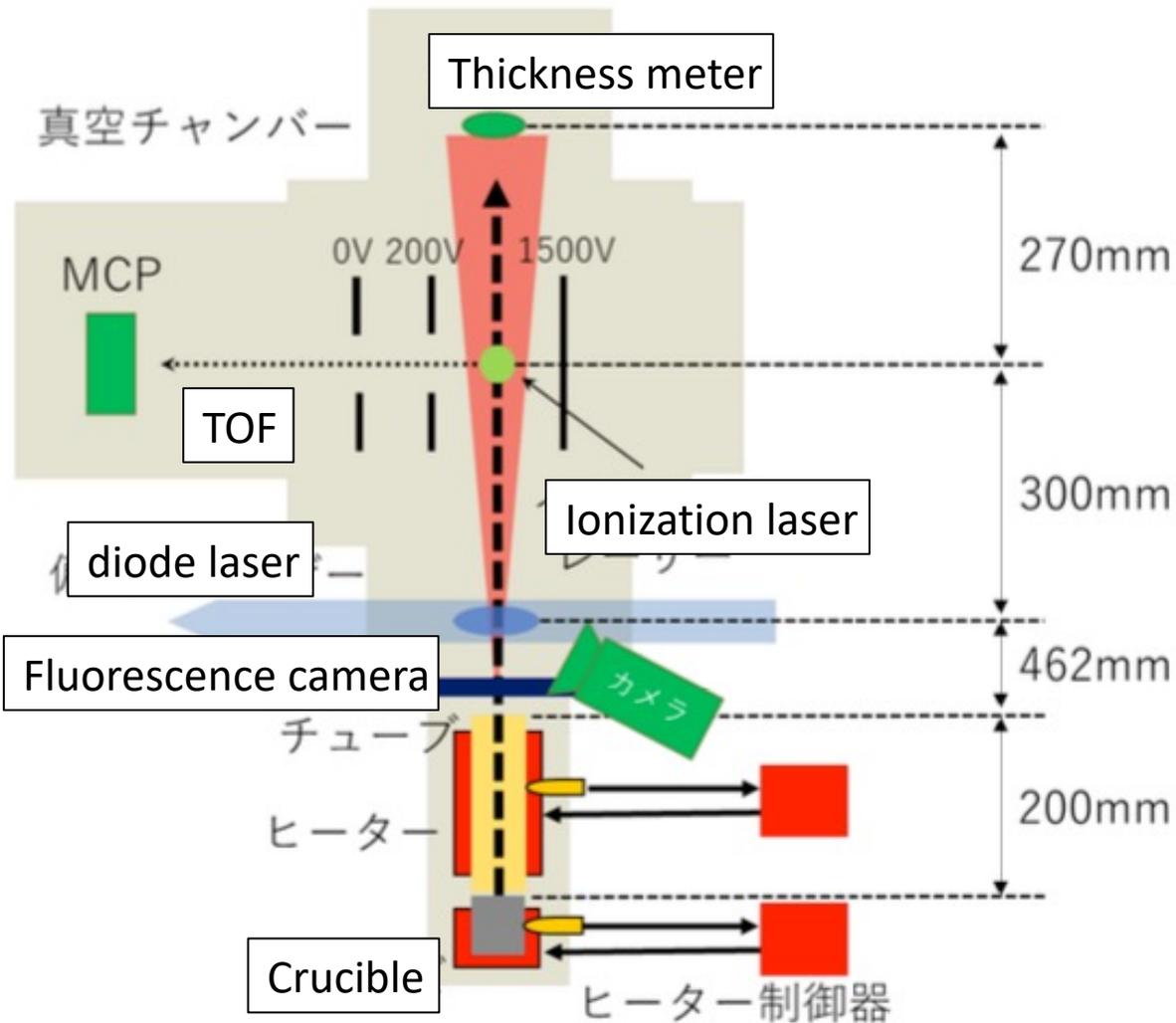
Ionization = high enrichment coefficient, low productivity
Deflection = moderate enrichment coefficient, high productivity



The DEFLECTION method was applicable for mass production

Development of atomic beam system

Atomic beam monitoring systems



How to treat the atomic beam

$$K_n = \frac{\lambda}{D}$$

Continue $K_n \sim 0$
 Intermediate $(0.01 < K_n < 1)$
 Molecular flow $K_n > 1$

∅5 mm, L 200 mm tube (Previous)

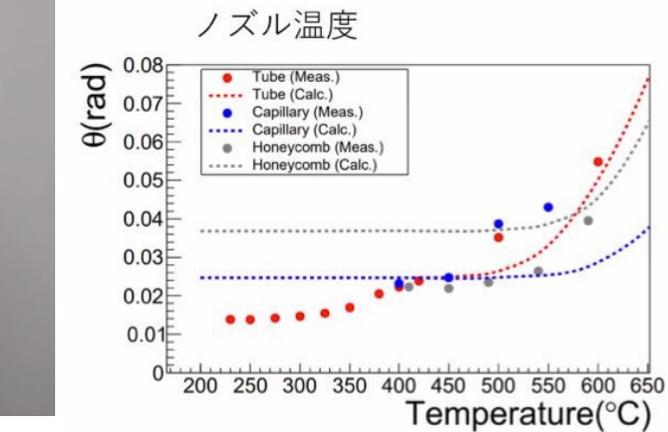
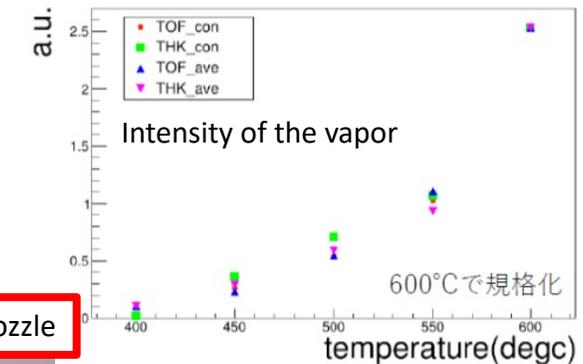
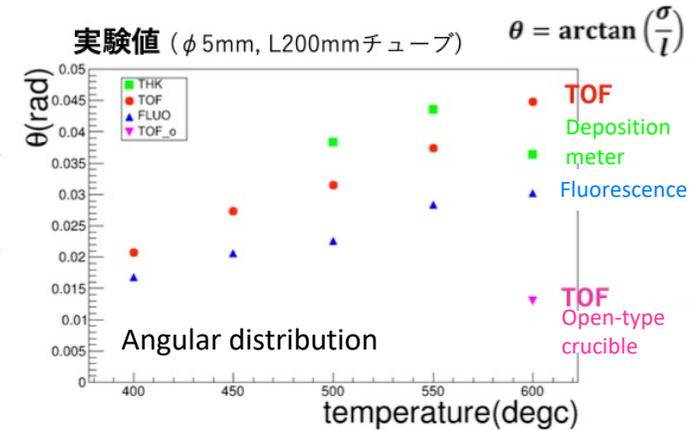
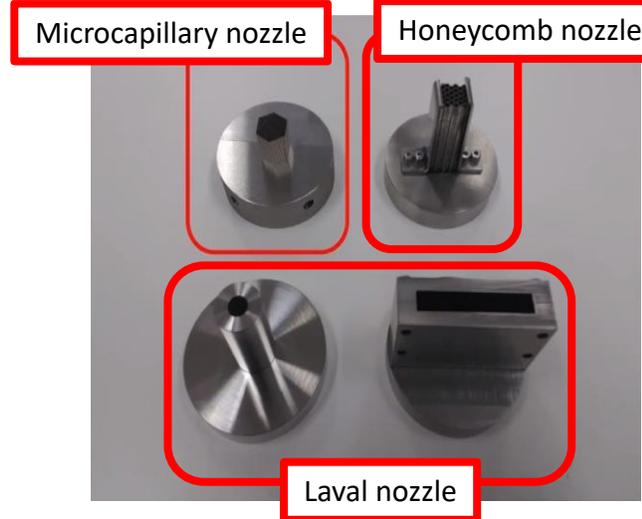
$$\phi \text{方向 } K_n = \frac{12.6 \text{ mm}}{5 \text{ mm}} = 2.52$$

$$L \text{方向 } K_n = \frac{12.6 \text{ mm}}{200 \text{ mm}} = 0.063$$

∅0.1 mm, L 20 mm tube (Future)

$$\phi \text{方向 } K_n = \frac{12.6 \text{ mm}}{0.1 \text{ mm}} = 126$$

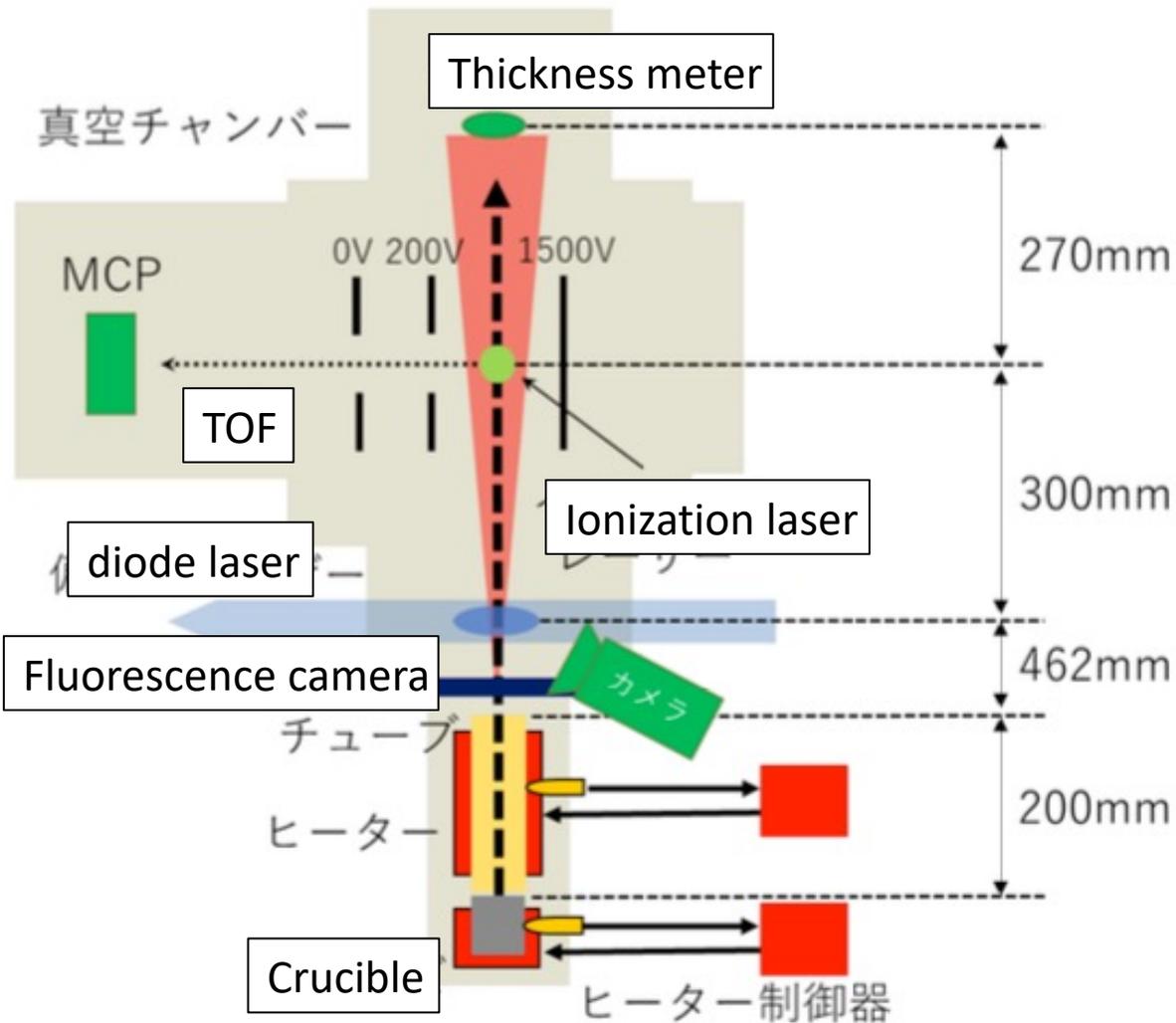
$$L \text{方向 } K_n = \frac{12.6 \text{ mm}}{20 \text{ mm}} = 0.63$$



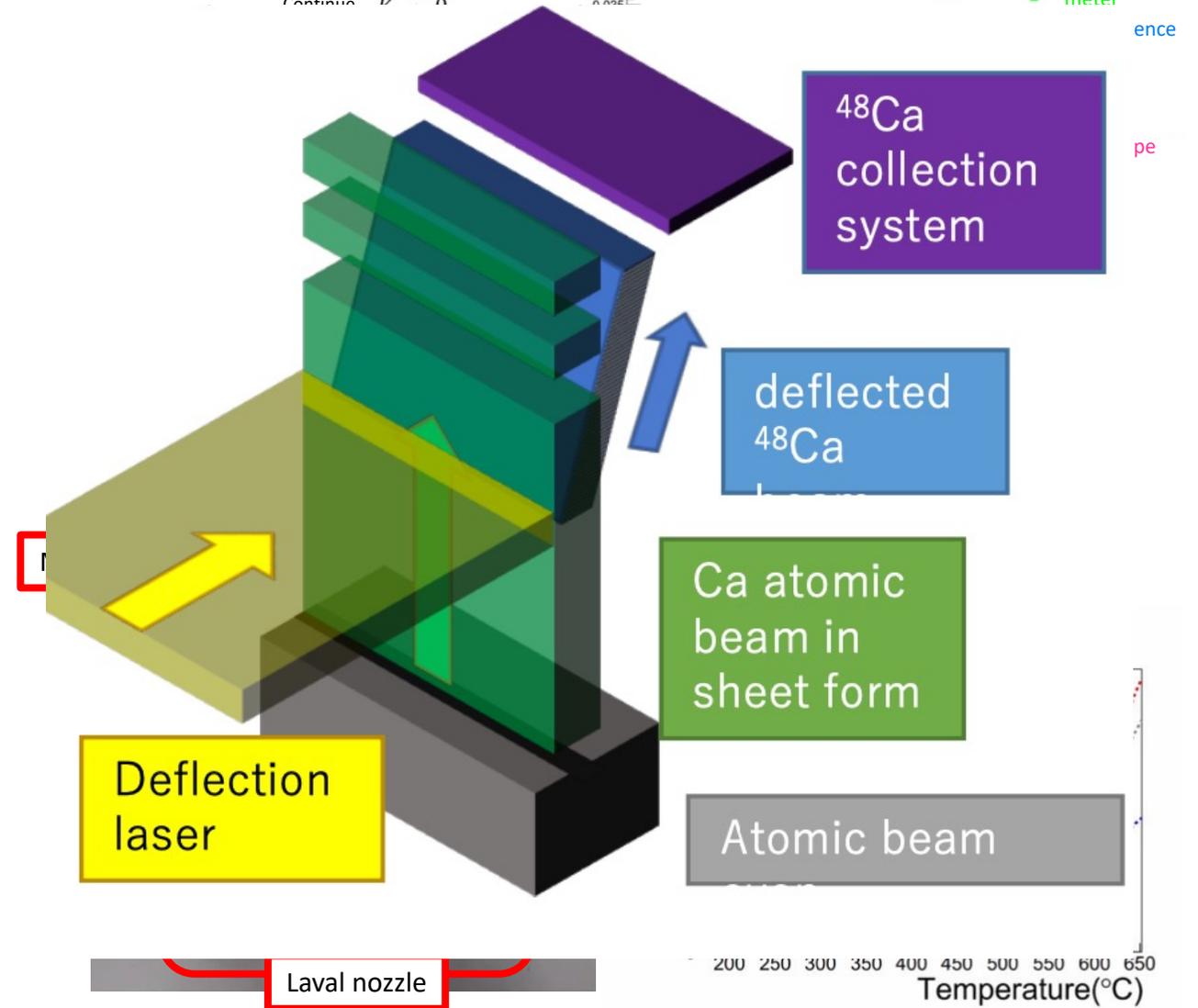
K_n increases → smaller angular distribution, high vapor intensity

Development of atomic beam system

Atomic beam monitoring systems



How to treat the atomic beam



K_n increases \rightarrow smaller angular distribution, high vapor intensity

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Candles

Future development

- Stable operation 1/6 port
- Increase the production rate by multiple 6 port units
- Ton scale production
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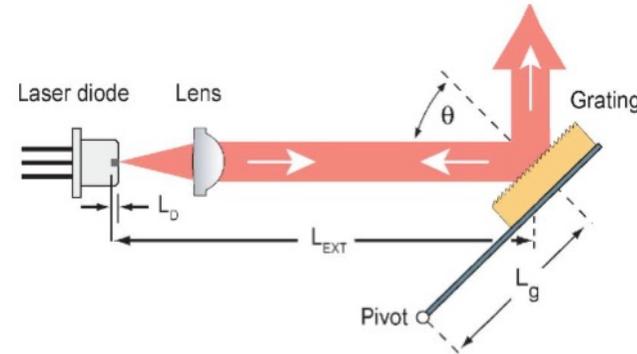
Development of the laser system

@ICR Kyoto Univ., ILE, and ILT

Laser performances required for isotope separation

- ✓ Wavelength: $\sim 422.792 \text{ nm}$
- ✓ Frequency stability: $< 2 \text{ MHz rms}$
- ✓ Power scalability: $> 100 \text{ W (1 unit)}$
- ✓ Long life time: $> 30,000 \text{ hours}$
- ✓ Continuous wave (CW)
- ✓ High efficiency
- ✓ Low cost

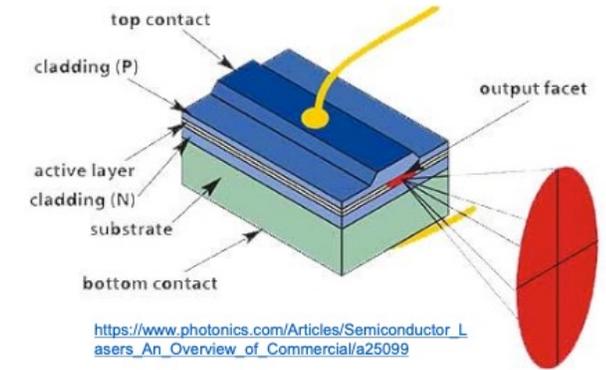
External cavity lasers



<https://doi.org/10.1364/AO.48.006692>

- Single longitudinal-mode (Line width: $< 1 \text{ MHz}$)
- Wavelength tunable

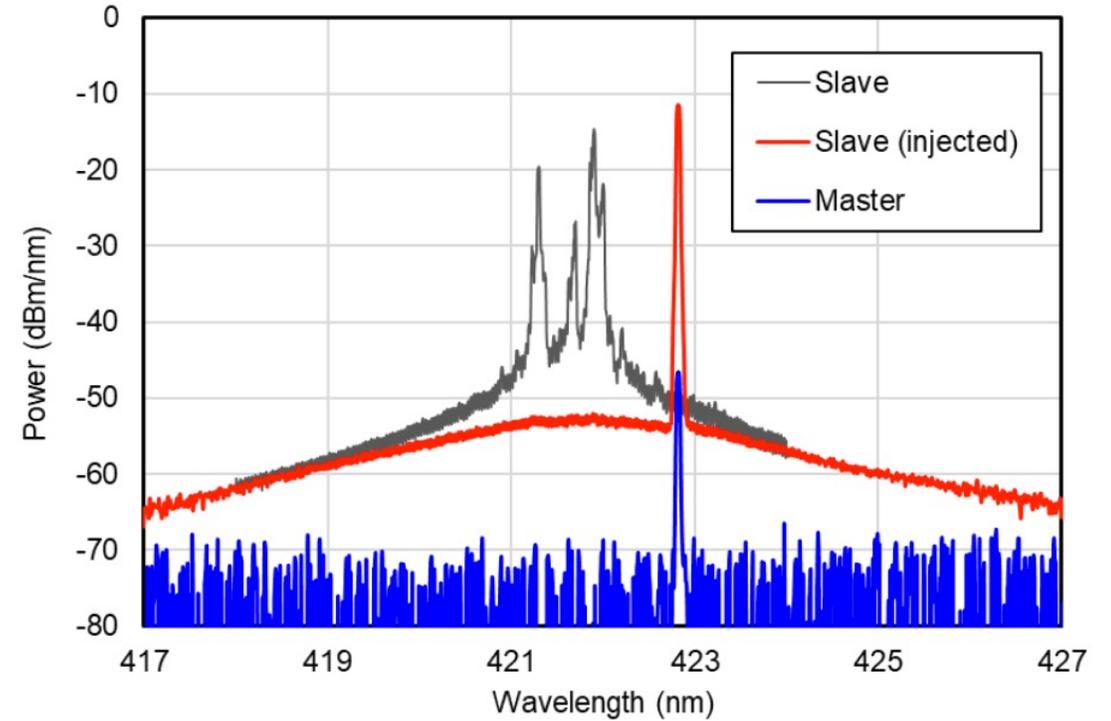
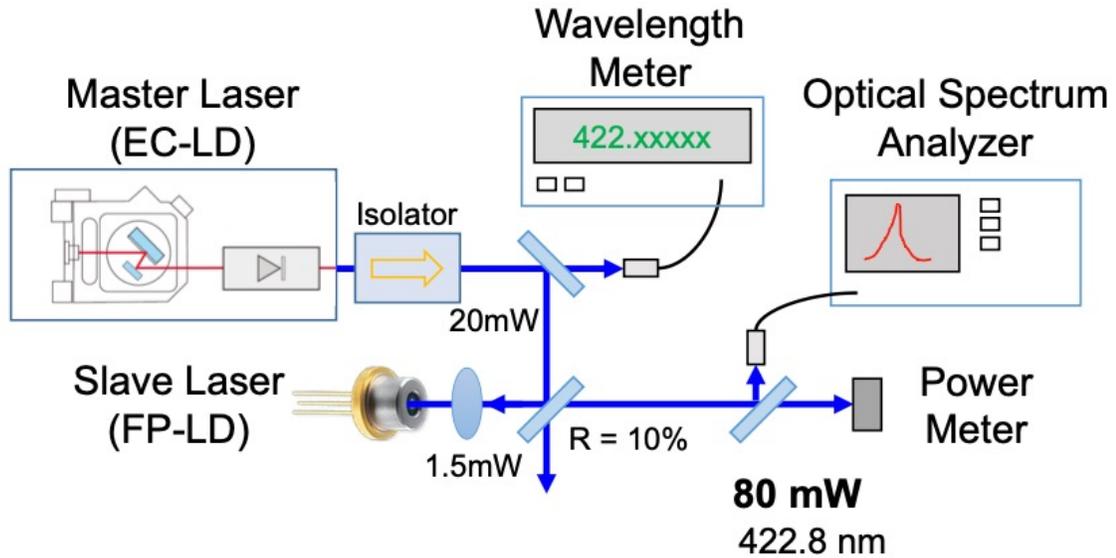
Fabry-Perot lasers



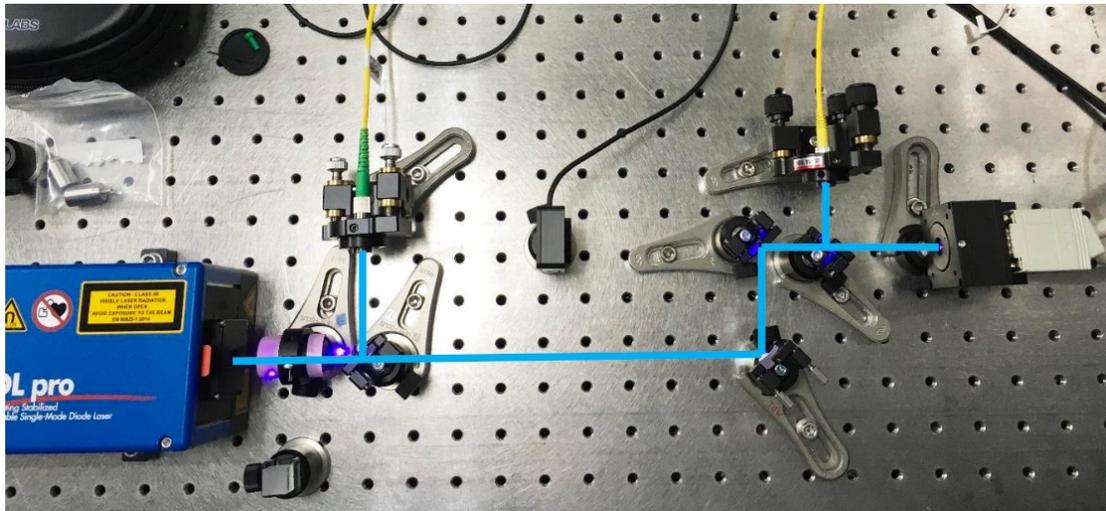
- Multi longitudinal-mode (Wide spectral width)
- Low cost
- Compact
- High efficiency

Development of the laser system

Experiment of injection locking



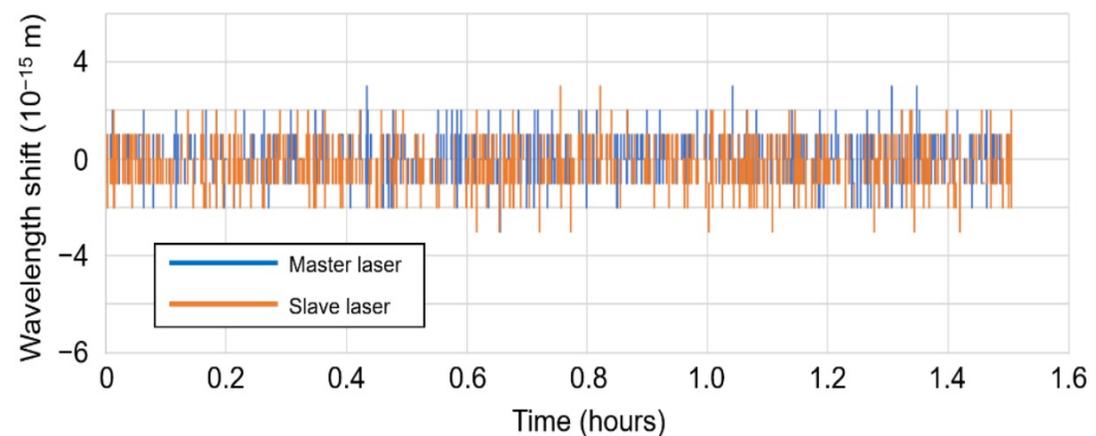
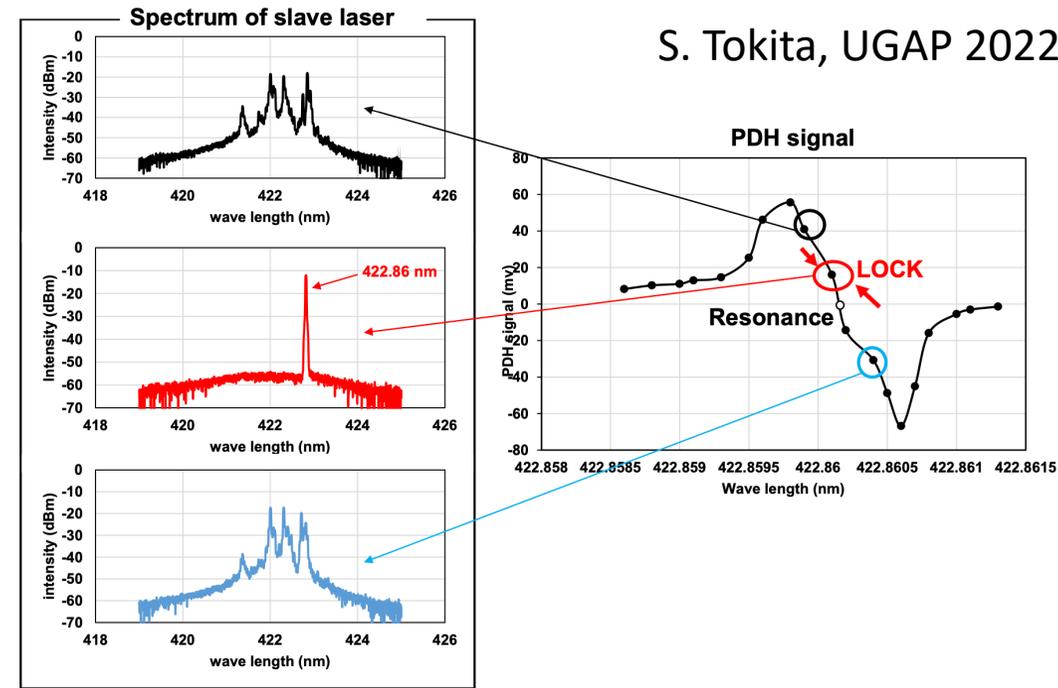
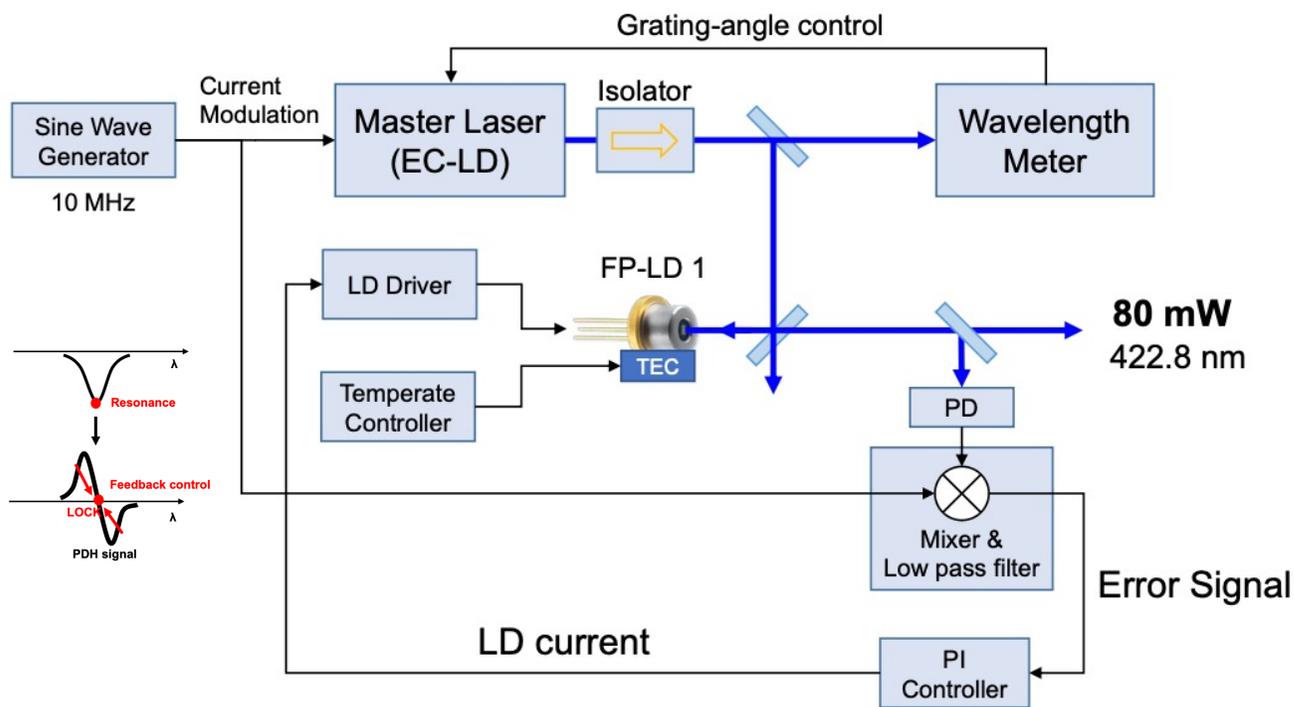
A single frequency of slave laser was obtained.



Development of the laser system Spectrum and PHD error signal

Experiment of wavelength stabilization by using PDH method

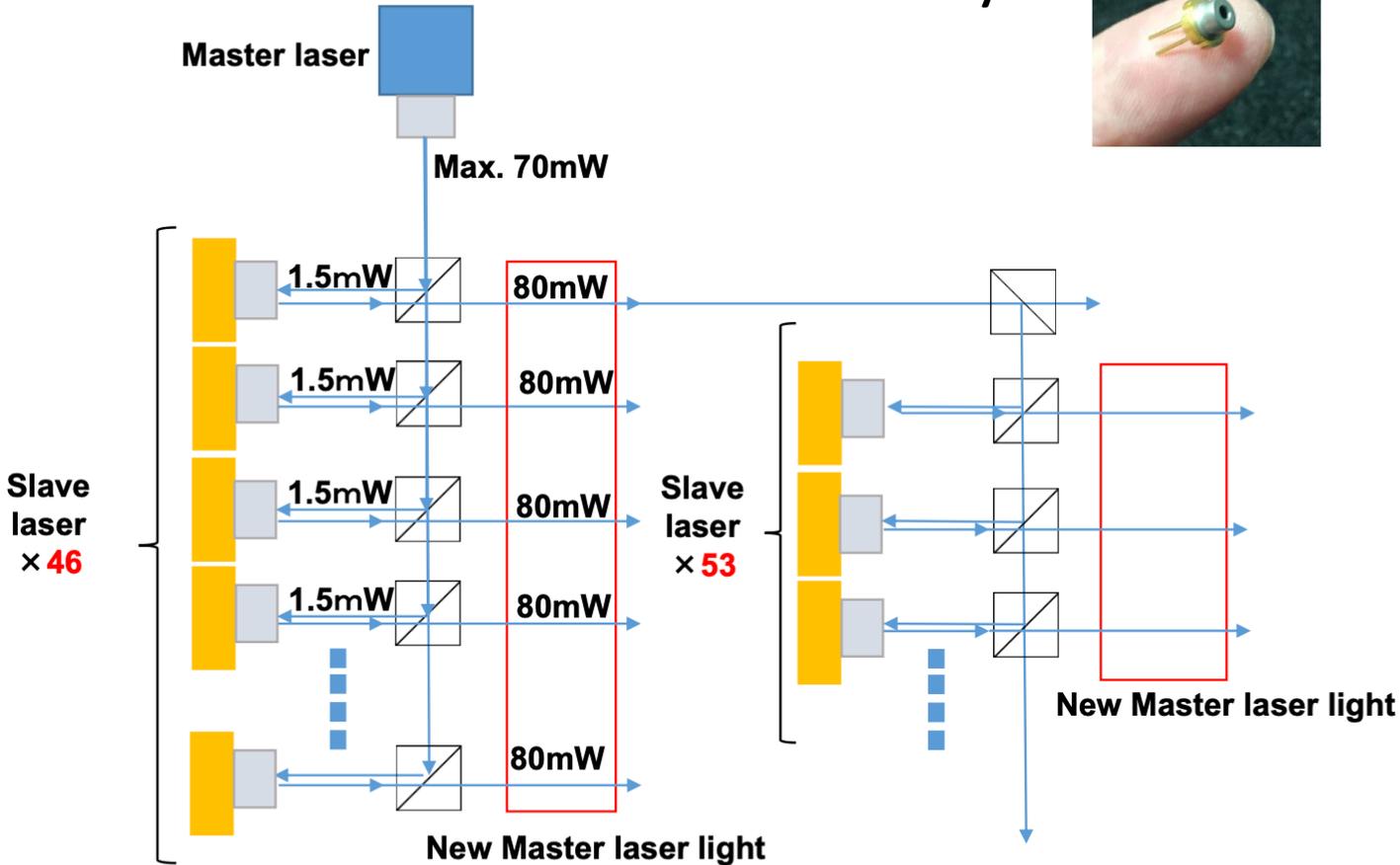
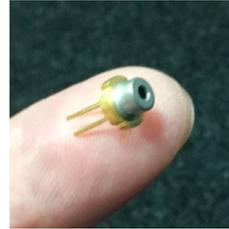
S. Tokita, UGAP 2022



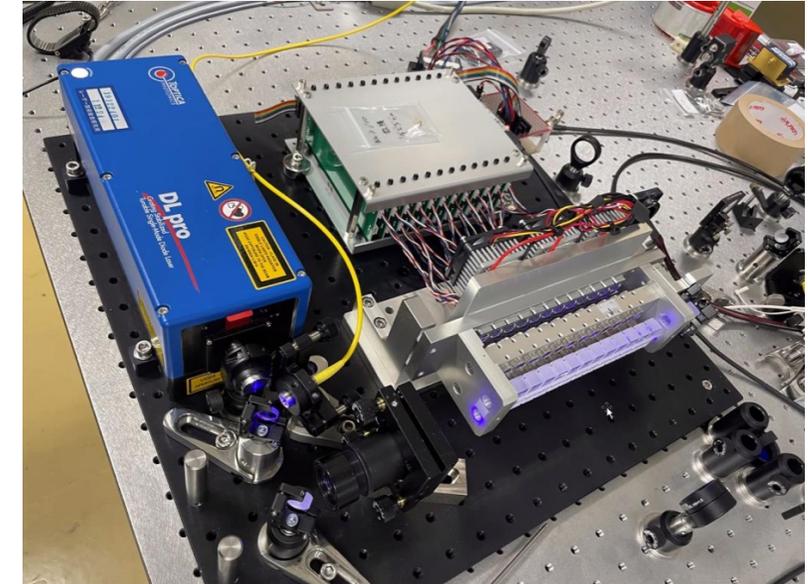
2 MHz rms → 422.792xxxxx ± 0.0000006 nm
< 2MHz rms and long term operation was obtained

Development of the laser system

Power scalability



200 W laser system can be realized using
~2,500 slave lasers and 1 master lasers.



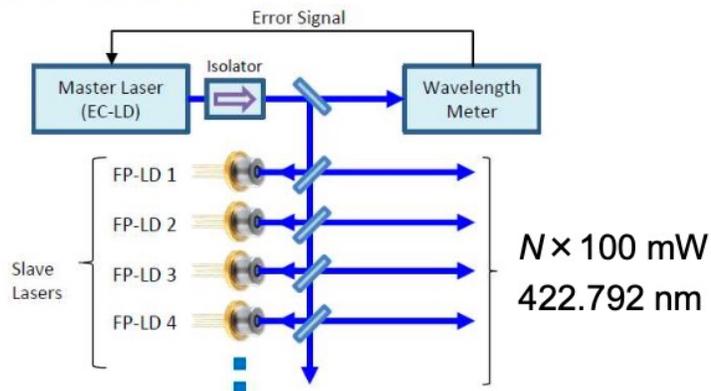
23 slave lasers for 2W laser power¹⁷

Development of the laser system

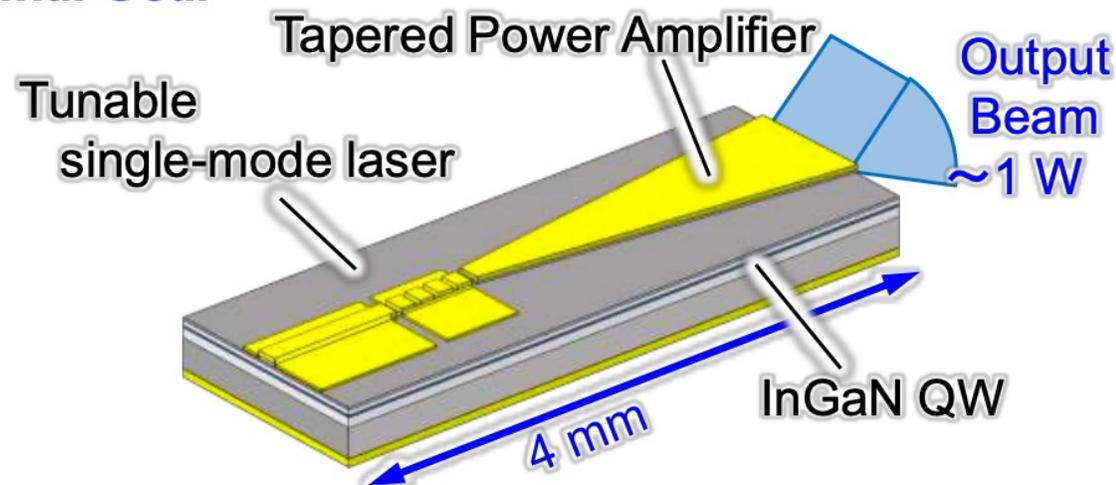
M. Uemukai, UGAP 2024

High Power InGaN Tunable Single-Mode Laser for Lase Isotope Separation

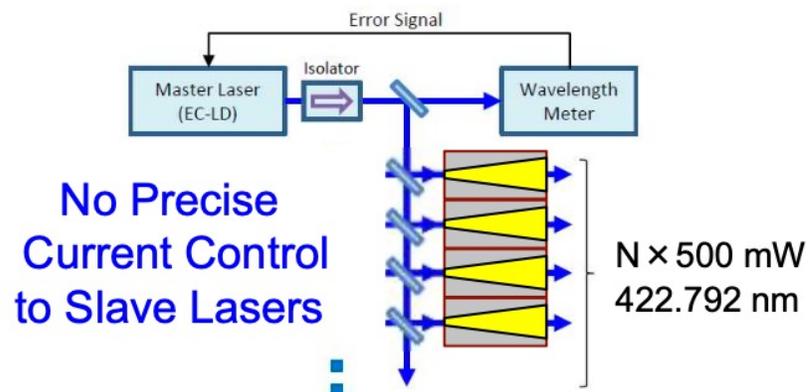
Current Work



Final Goal



Near Future



Monolithically Integrated MOPA Device

- No master laser
- No optical alignment
- No optical feedback noise (no isolator)
- No coupling loss
- Not so expensive

Single-frequency and high power laser could be realized.

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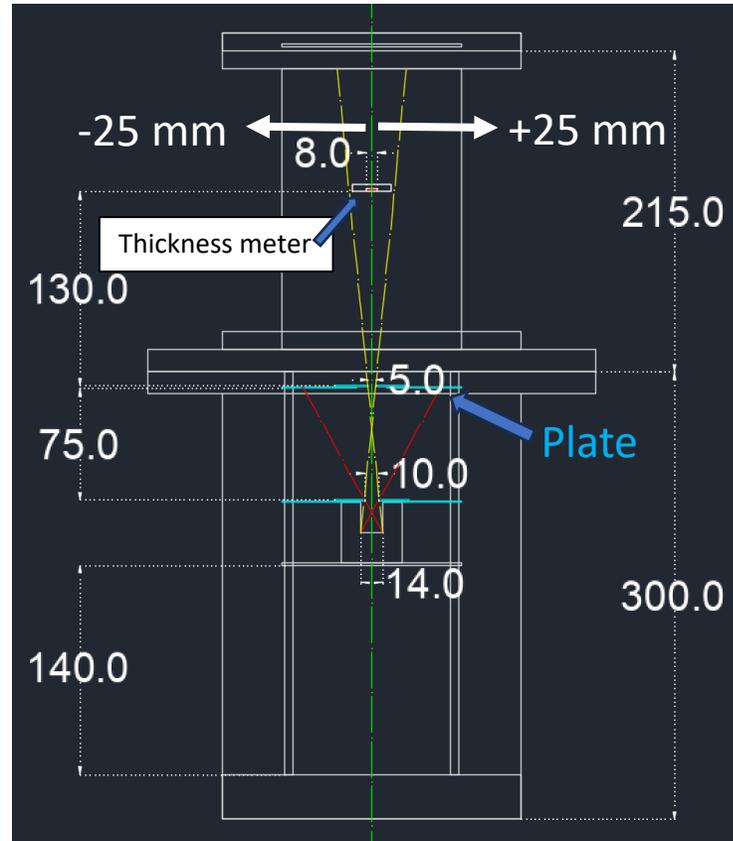
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Development of the collection system



Crucible, 0.7g Ca

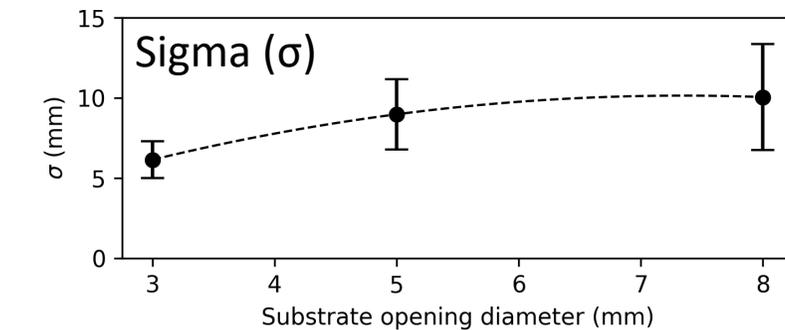
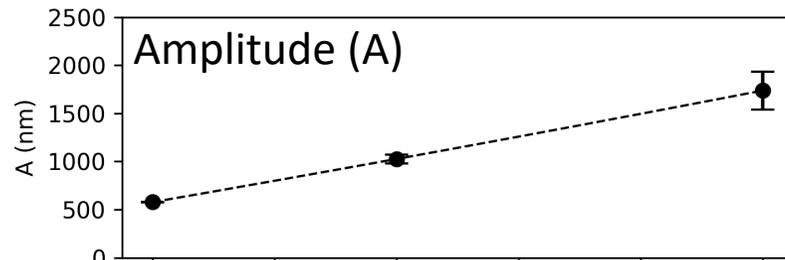
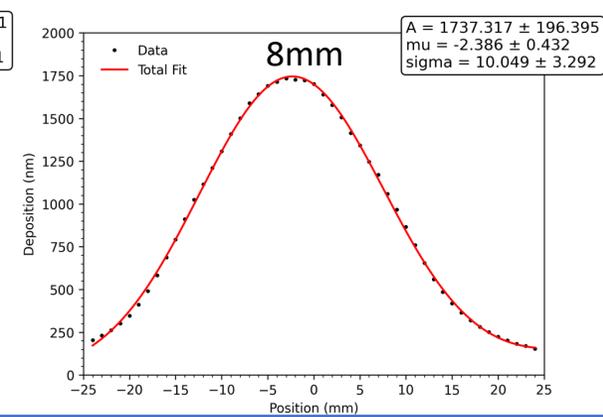
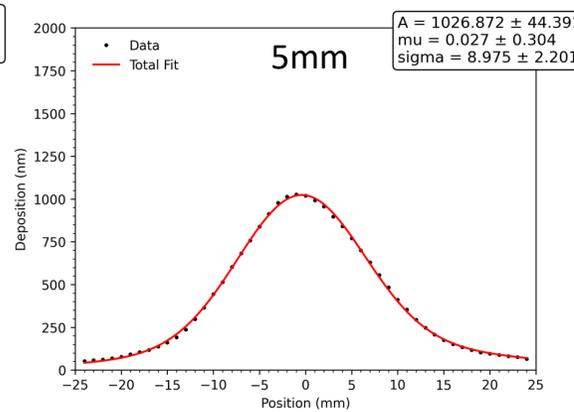
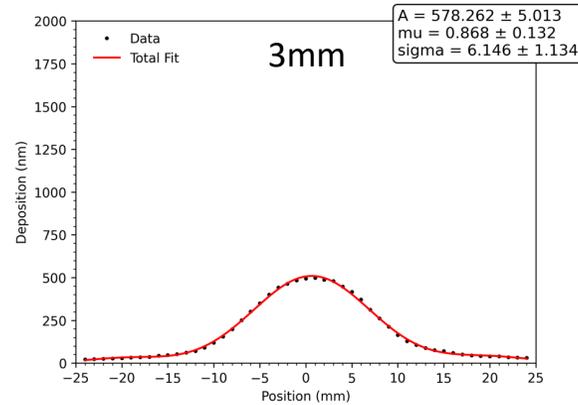


Plate slit

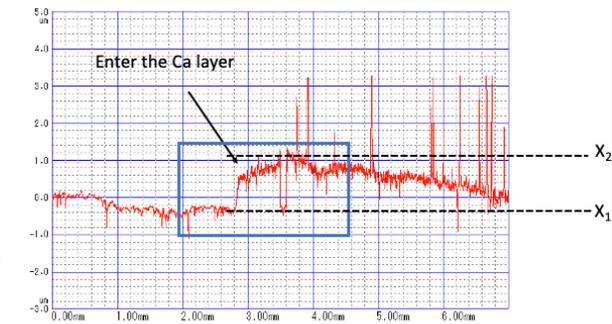
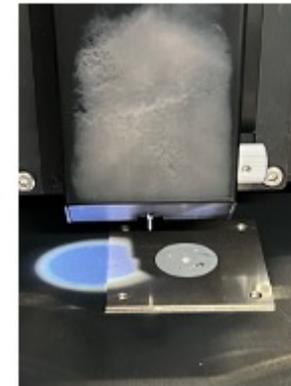


Deposition meter

3 RUNS with different slit collimators

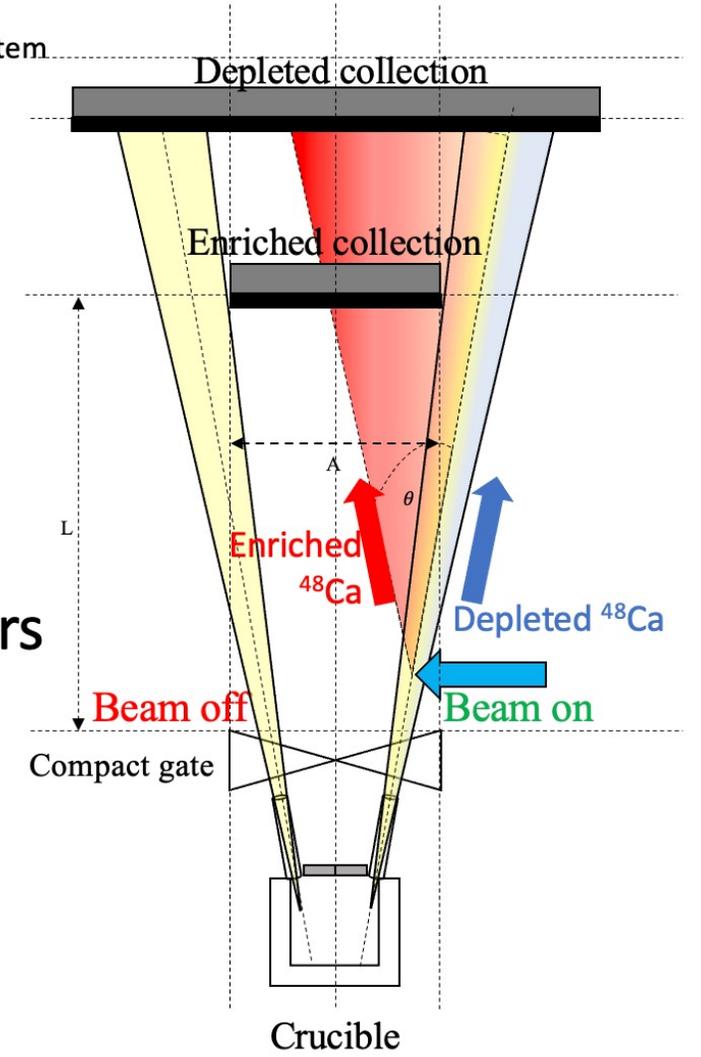
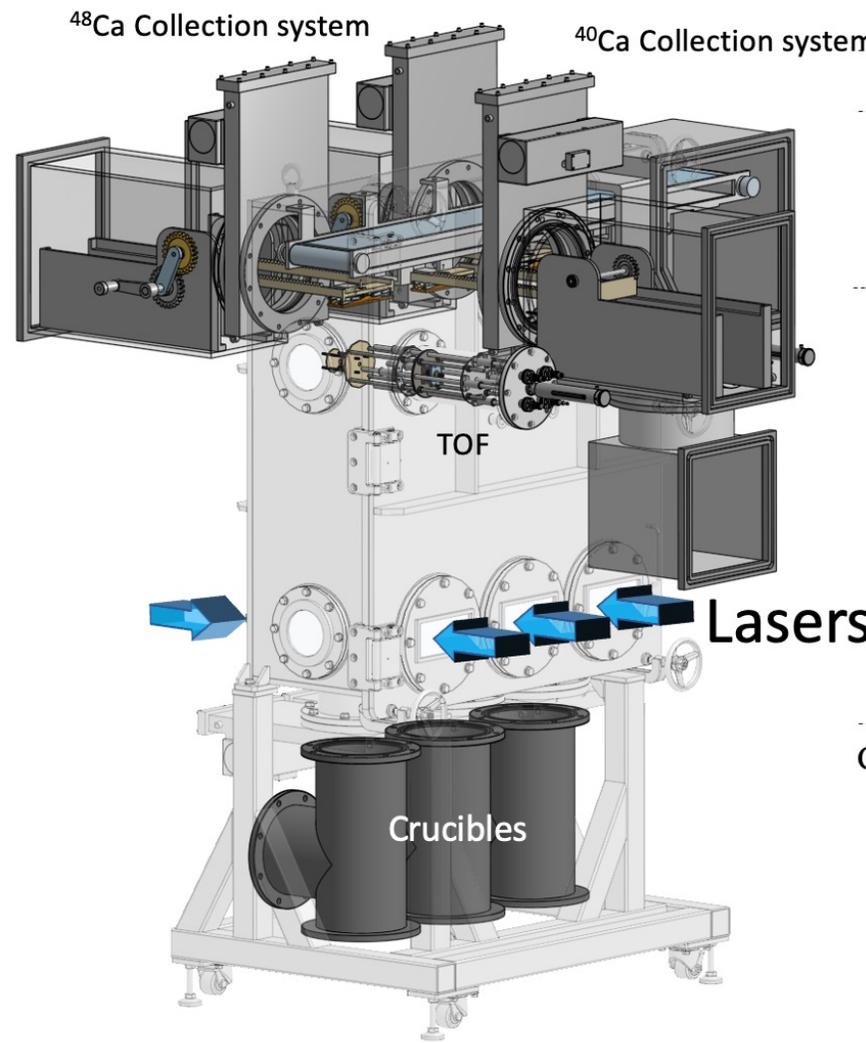
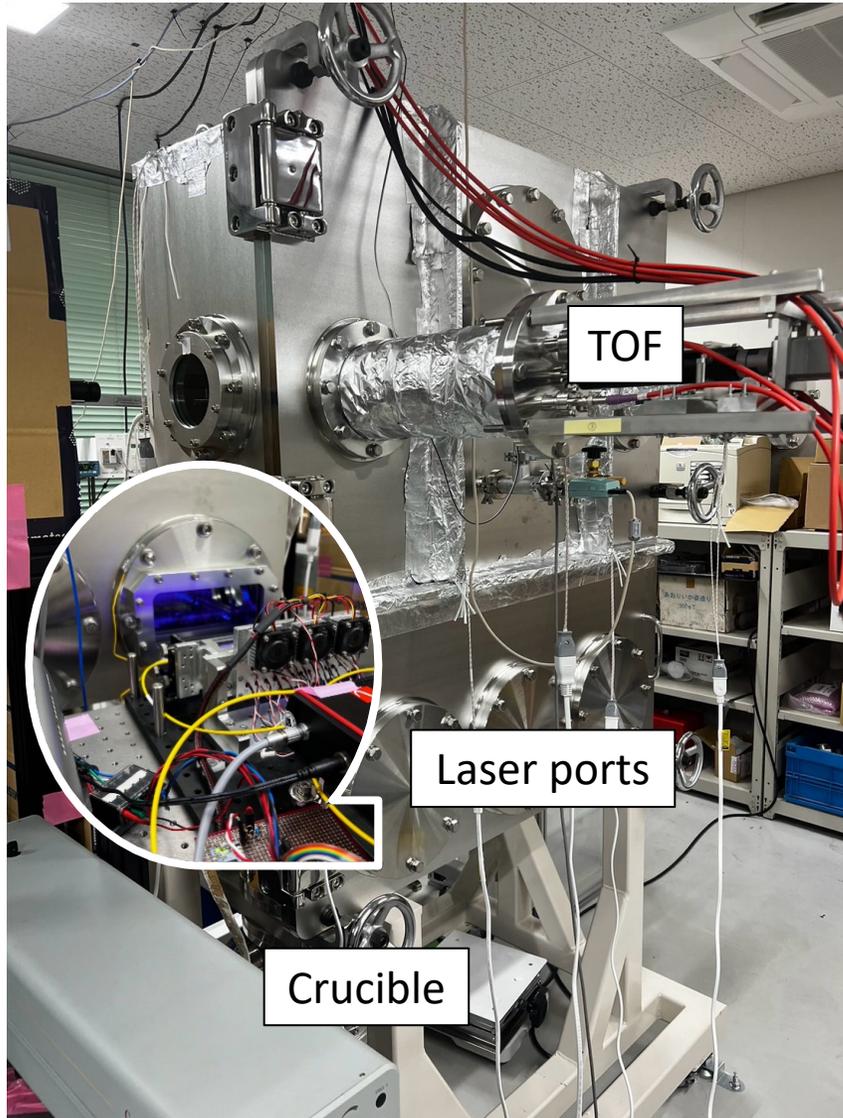


Thickness measurement will be performed by the stylus method.



A trial measurement of 1.3 μm thick

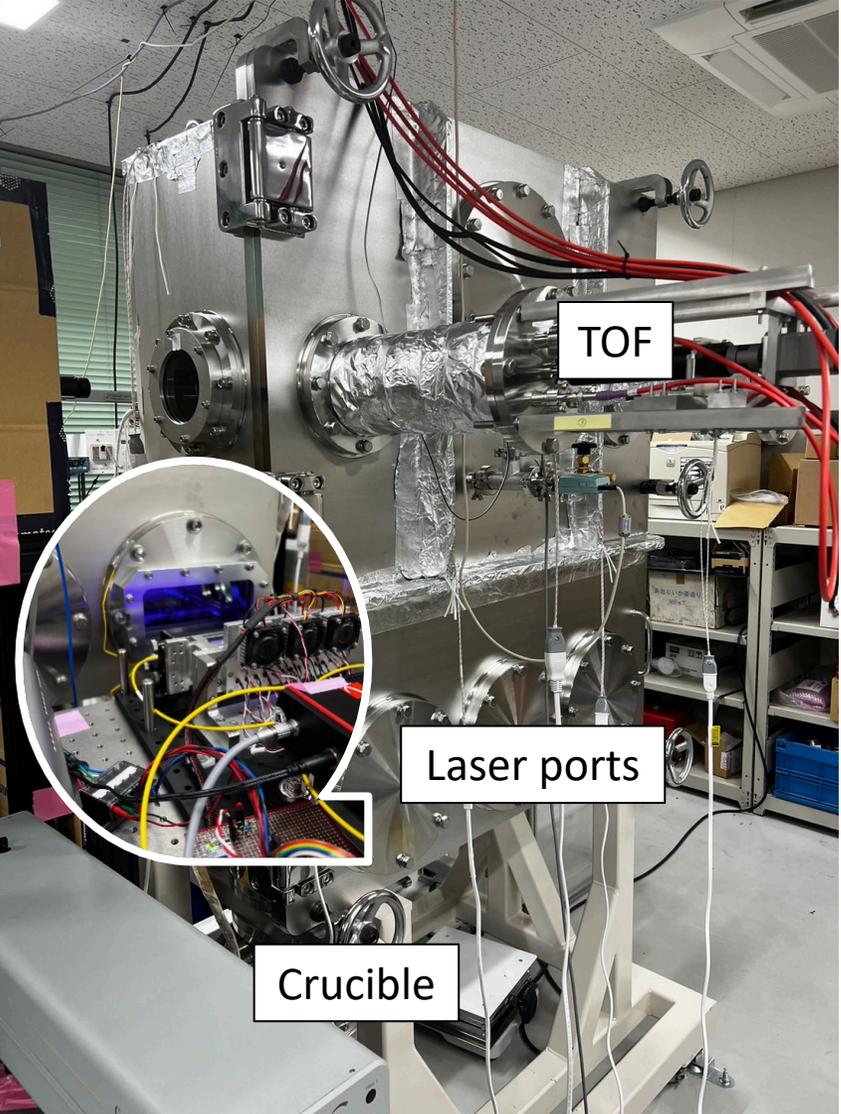
Production chamber



$80 \text{ mW} \times 23 \text{ lasers} = \sim 2\text{W}$

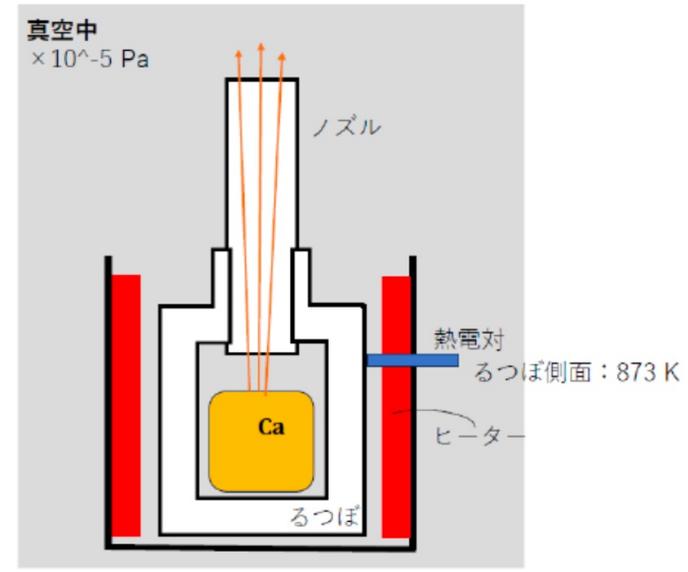
6 irradiation ports -> aim for 2 mol/yr

Production chamber

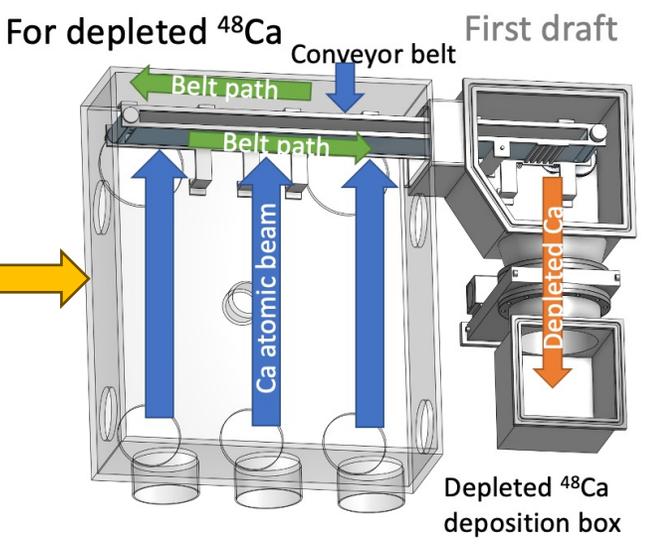


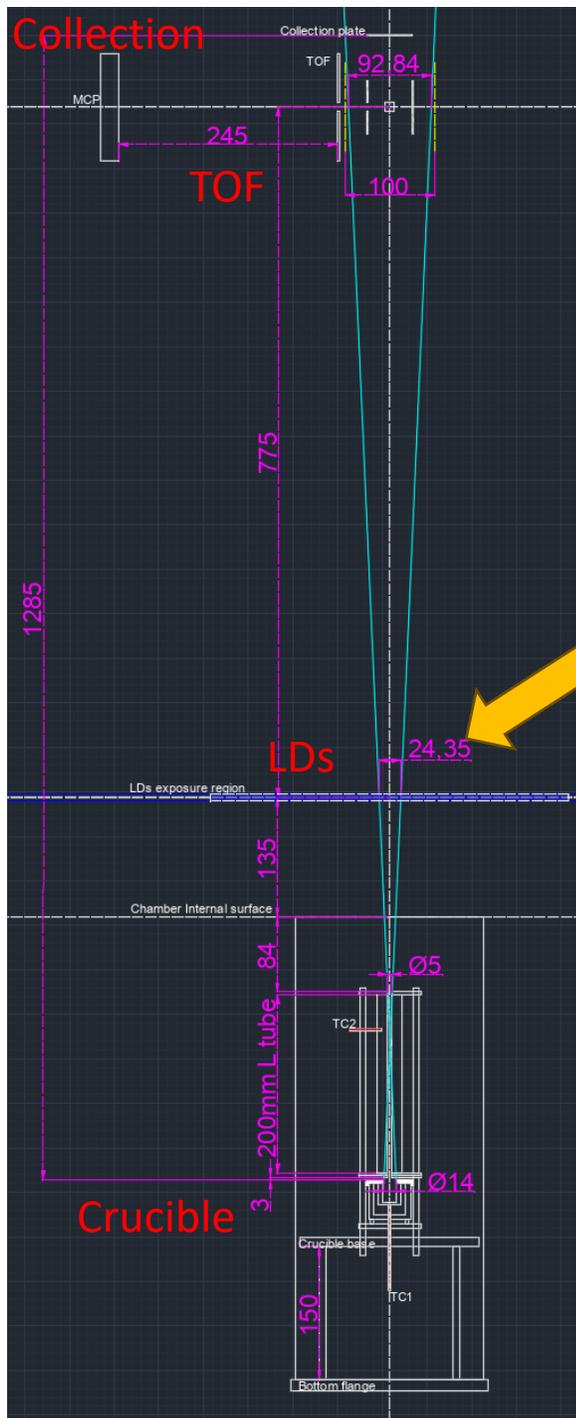
80 mW × 23 lasers = ~ 2W
 6 irradiation ports -> aim for 2 mol/yr

Atomic beam production system



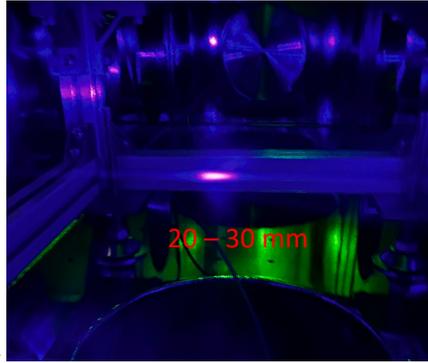
Collection system



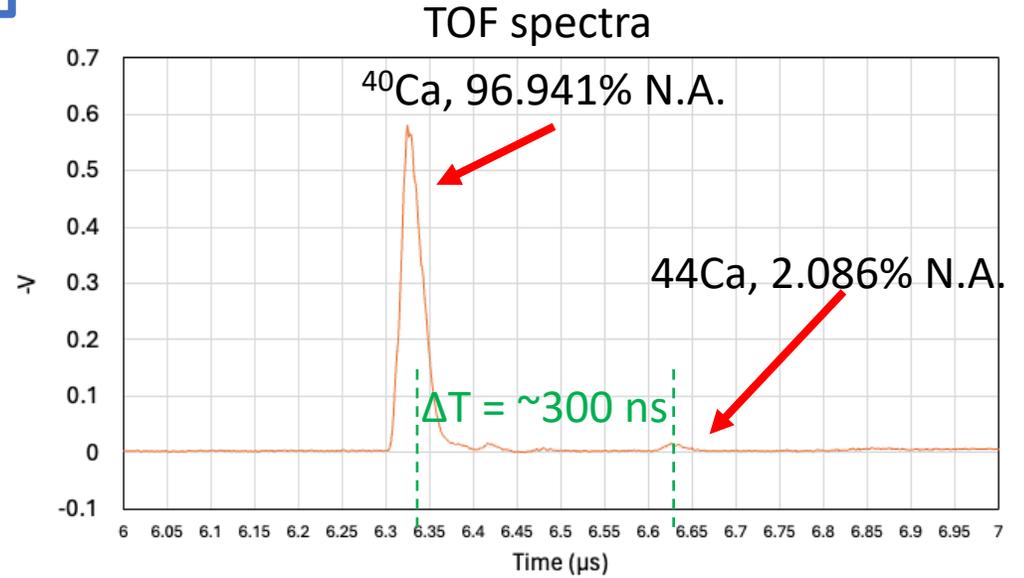


Atomic beam monitoring

Well-collimated



Fluorescence light by LDs



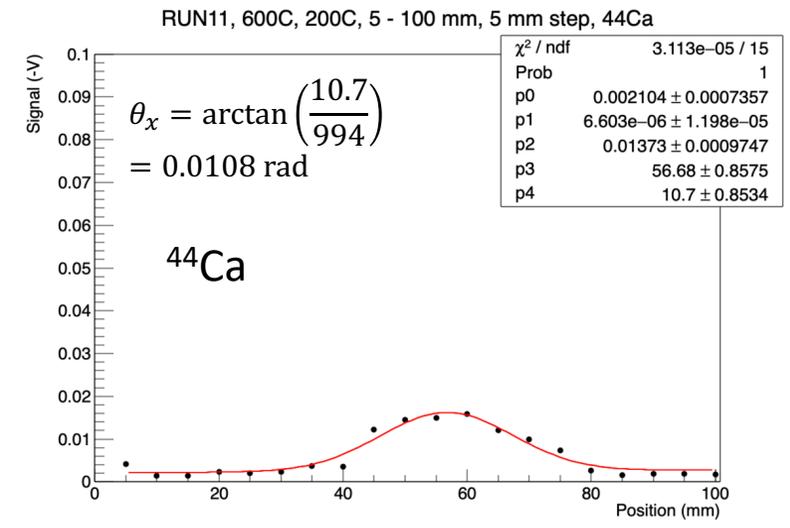
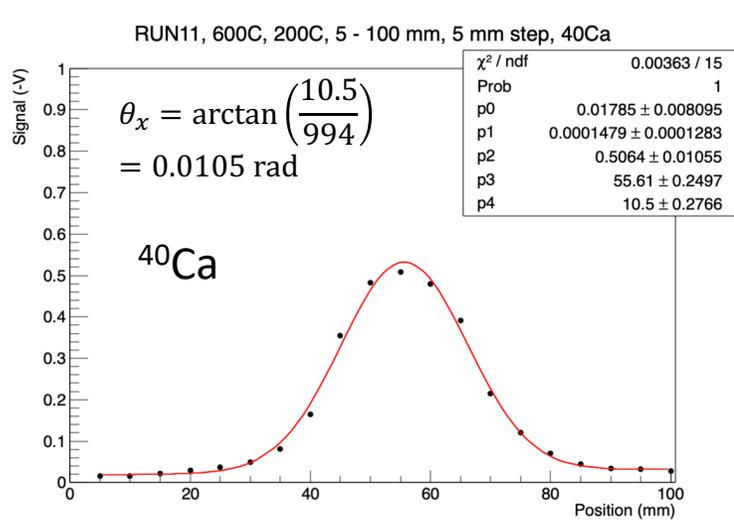
$^{40}\text{Ca}/^{44}\text{Ca}$ N.A. ratio = 46.5

Next, verify

$^{40}\text{Ca}/^{44}\text{Ca}$ peak ratio = 47.3

^{48}Ca , 0.187% N.A.

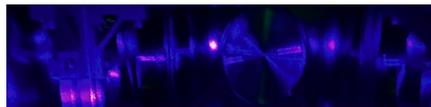
Spatial distribution



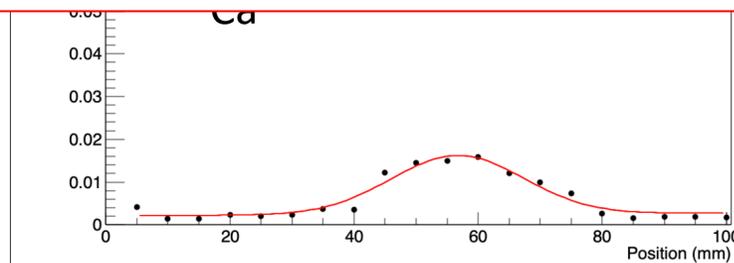
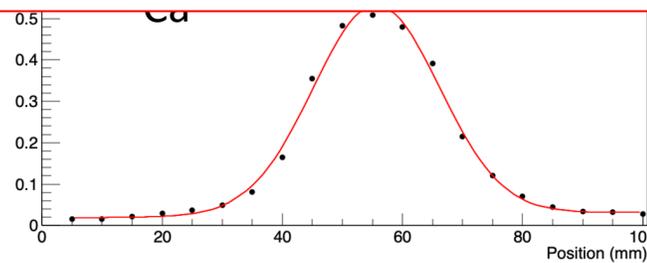
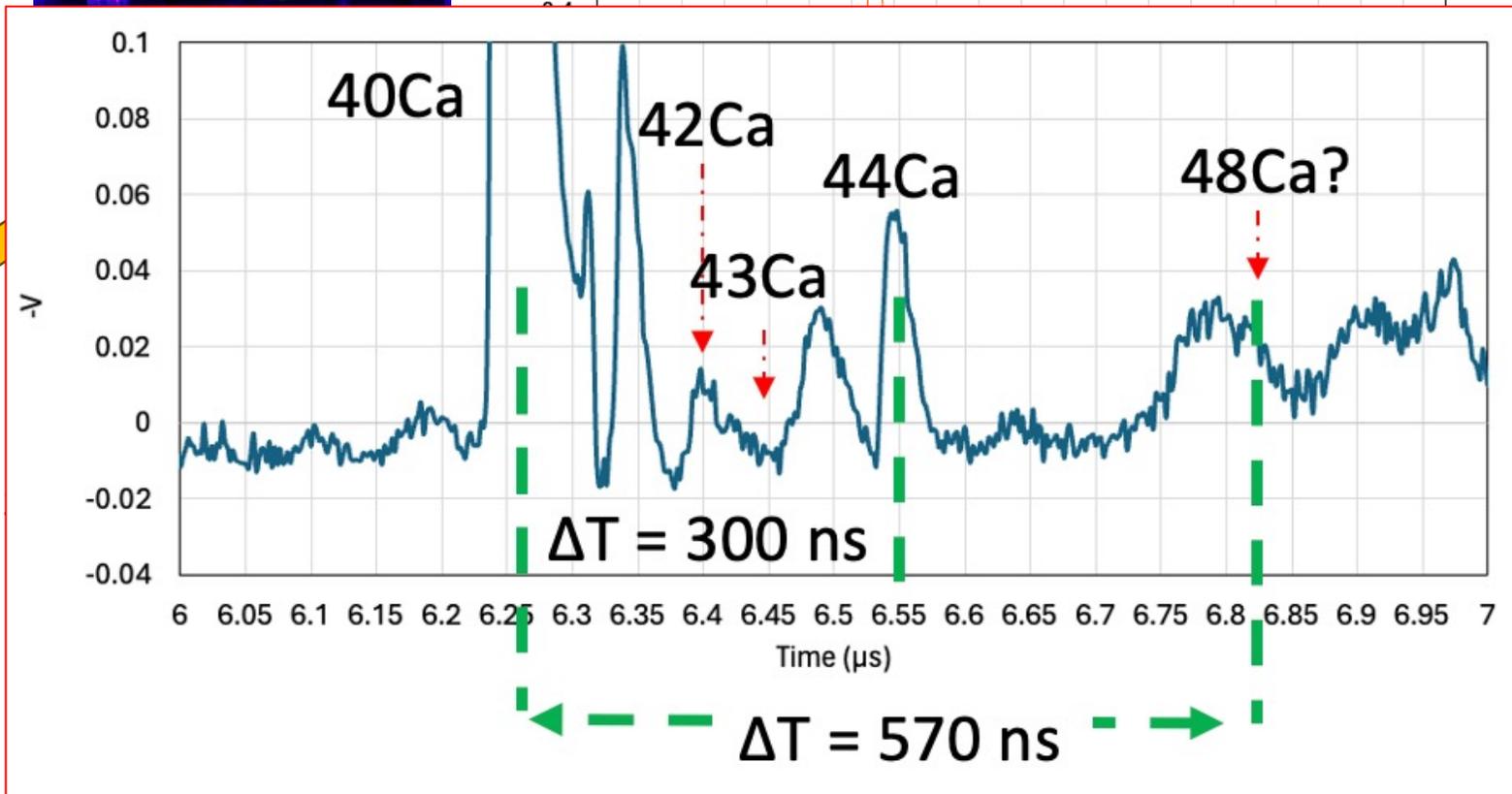
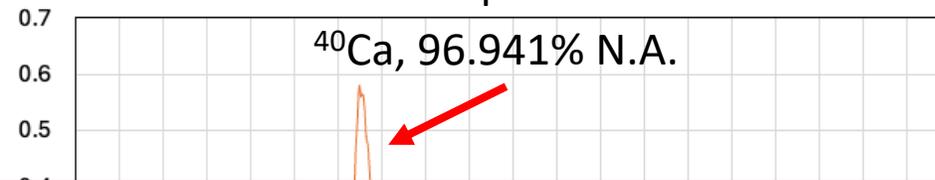


Atomic beam monitoring

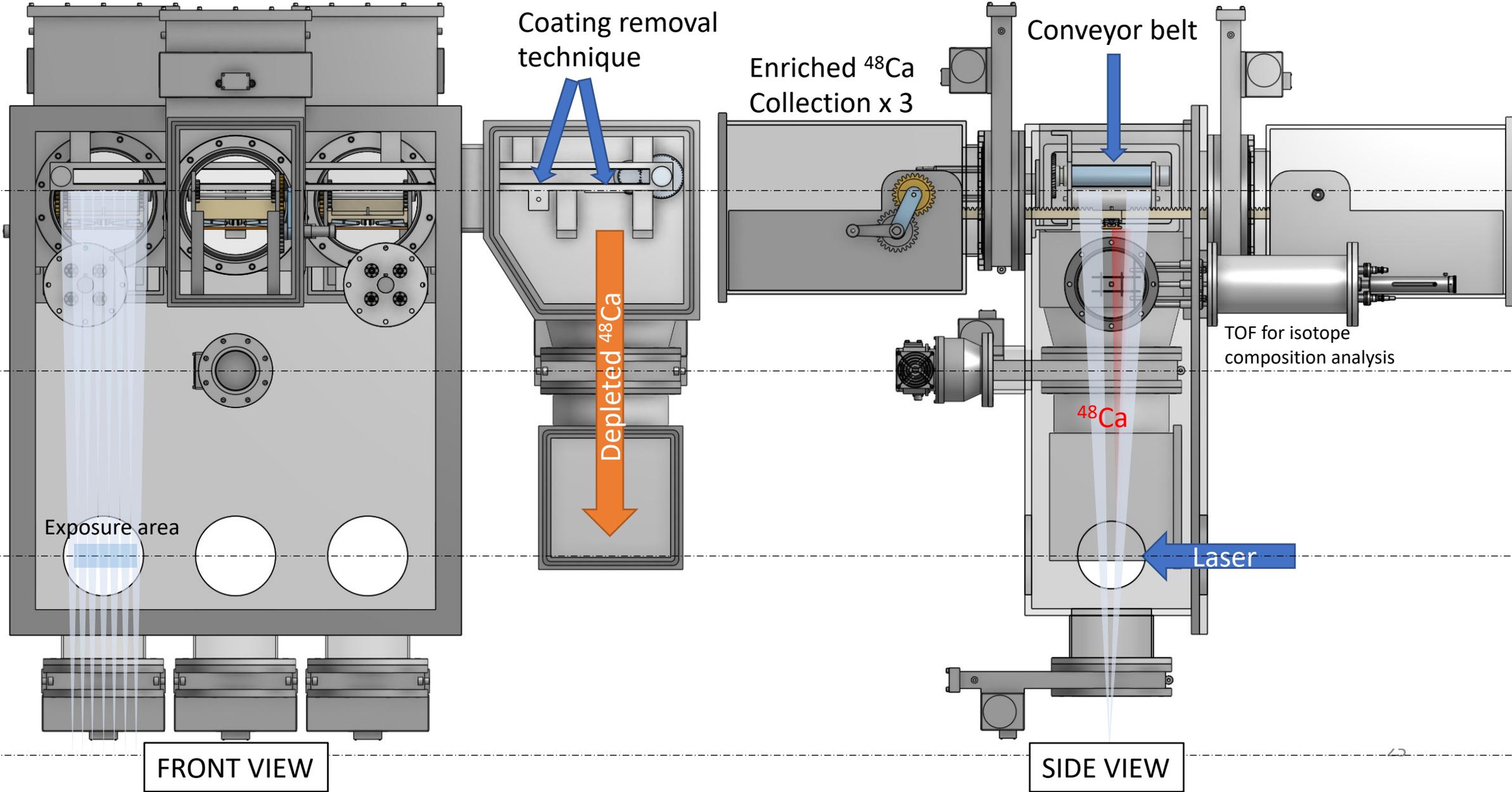
Well-collimated



TOF spectra



Strategies for mass production



Strategies for mass production

What is the required laser power?

Photon energy: $4.7 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J @ } 423 \text{ nm}$

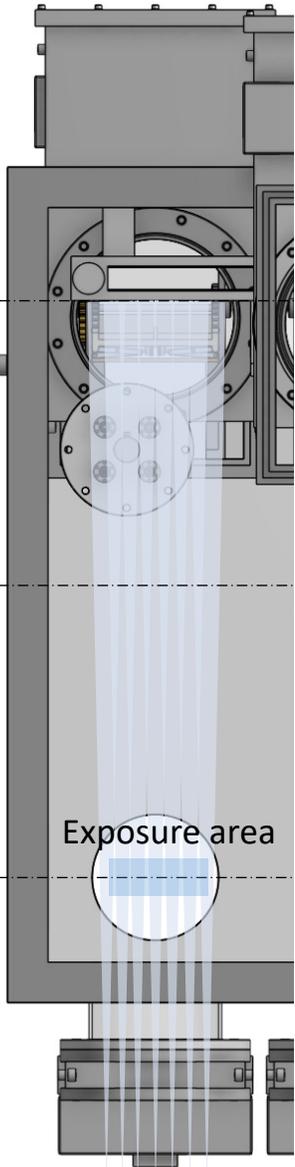
Number of photons absorbed by 1 atom: 1,000

→ Number of ^{48}Ca produced by 1 W laser: $2 \times 10^{15} \text{ sec}^{-1}$ → **~5 g/W/year**

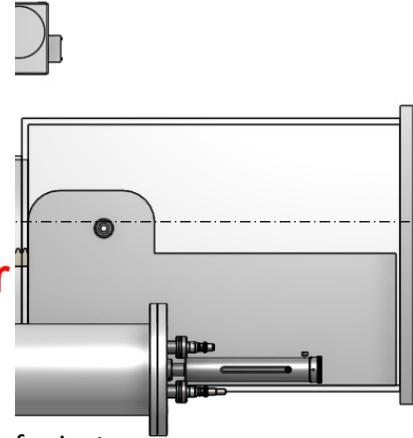


>200 W of laser power produces ^{48}Ca of **1 kg/year**.

Current	Soon	Near future	Future
100 mW	→ 2 W	→ 2 kW	→ 60 kW
	(~10 g / year)	(~10 kg / year)	(~300 kg / year)



FRONT VIEW



for isotope position analysis

SIDE VIEW

Strategies for mass production

300 kg/years production plan

FY2023, Installation, and investigation

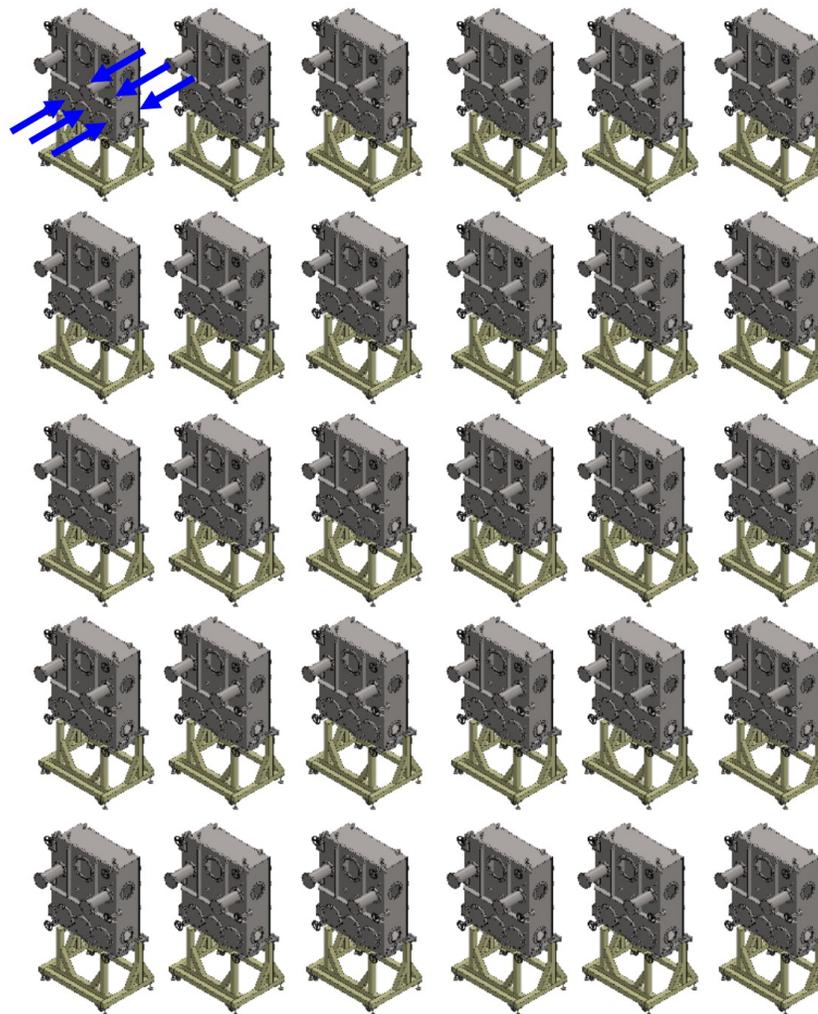
- Collection system installation ✓
- Crucible installation ✓
- Monitor and control system ✓
- Laser installation (SOON)
- 2W laser power (10 g/year)
- Isotopic composition analysis (TOF, ICP-MS)

FY2024, Production

- Stable operation of 1st port (10 grams/year)
- Full operation of six ports (2mol/year)

Future

- Automated collection system
- Scale up the mass production ~ 30 units



Vacuum chamber (30 units)
6 ports/unit
180 laser units

Power/LD => 1 W
Number of LDs/port = 1700
Optical power => 1.7 kW/unit
Total optical power:
~2 kW/unit -> ~60kW/30 units

Summary

- LIS for ^{48}Ca has been developed to find the cost-effective manner for large-scale production toward the study of $0\nu\beta\beta$ by CANDLES.
- Development of the LIS
 - Atomic beam system (University of Fukui)
 - Proof-of-principle for LIS
 - Collimator effect and atomic vapor production -> Sheet-like atomic beam
 - Power scalable laser system (ILE, ILT)
 - EC-LD + FP-LD + PD-LDs -> stable and high power laser
 - InGaN tunable + Tapered SOA
 - Collection system (RCNP)
 - Collection material study (SUS, Al, Cu, alloy, etc.)
 - Automated production system
 - Large-scale production system (RCNP)
 - 2mol/years (1st milestone)
 - [LISSE -> Shima-san's talk](#)
- We will soon launch the trial production for 10 grams/year (2W).

Collaborators



Candles



RCNP



大阪大学
OSAKA UNIVERSITY



UNIVERSITY OF
FUKUI

KYOTO UNIVERSITY
Institute for
Chemical Research



ICRR
Institute for Chemical Research



筑波大学
University of Tsukuba



Institute of Laser Engineering
Osaka University



大阪産業大学
OSAKA SANGYO UNIVERSITY



徳島大学
Tokushima University



The image shows a large, complex scientific instrument, likely a synchrotron beamline. It features a large, circular opening in the center, surrounded by a grid of components. The instrument is illuminated by a bright light source, creating a strong glow and highlighting the intricate details of the machinery. The overall scene is dark, with the instrument's components and the light source providing the primary illumination.

Thank you for your attention
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