

The SuperNEMO project, and final results from NEMO-3

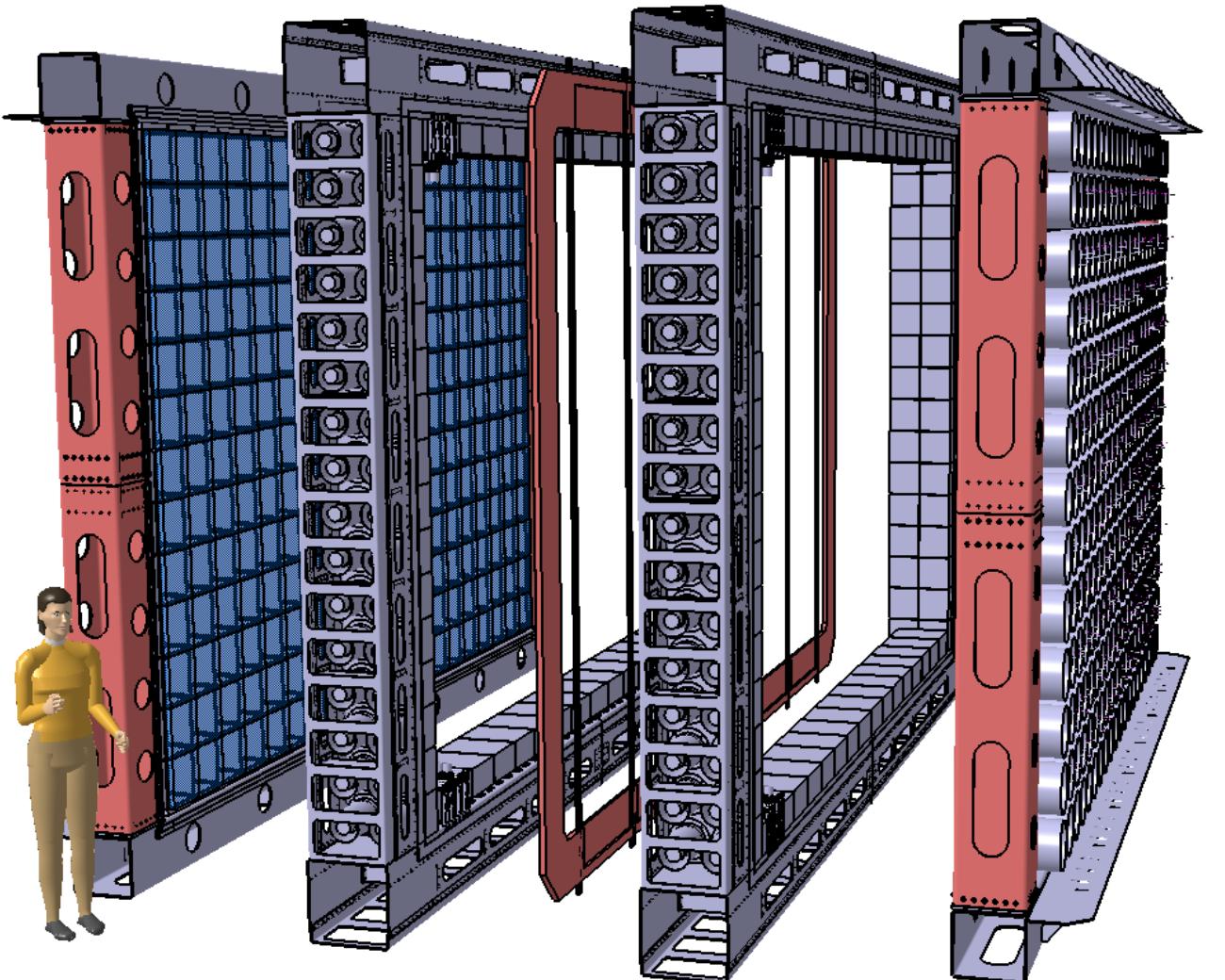
DBD-18, Hawai'i, October 21-23, 2018

Cheryl Patrick, University College London, for the SuperNEMO collaboration

<http://supernemo.org>

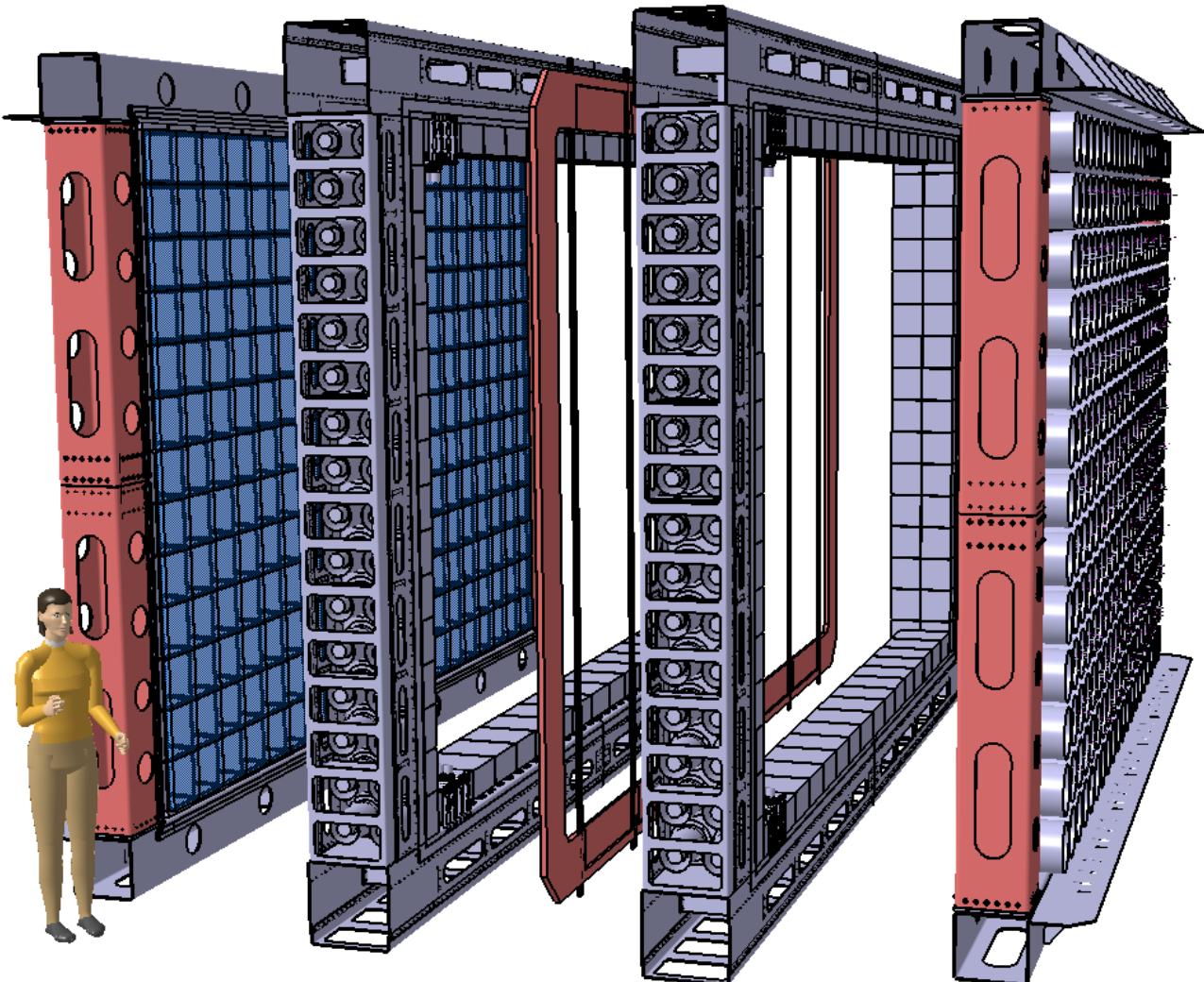
SuperNEMO in one slide

The SuperNEMO demonstrator...



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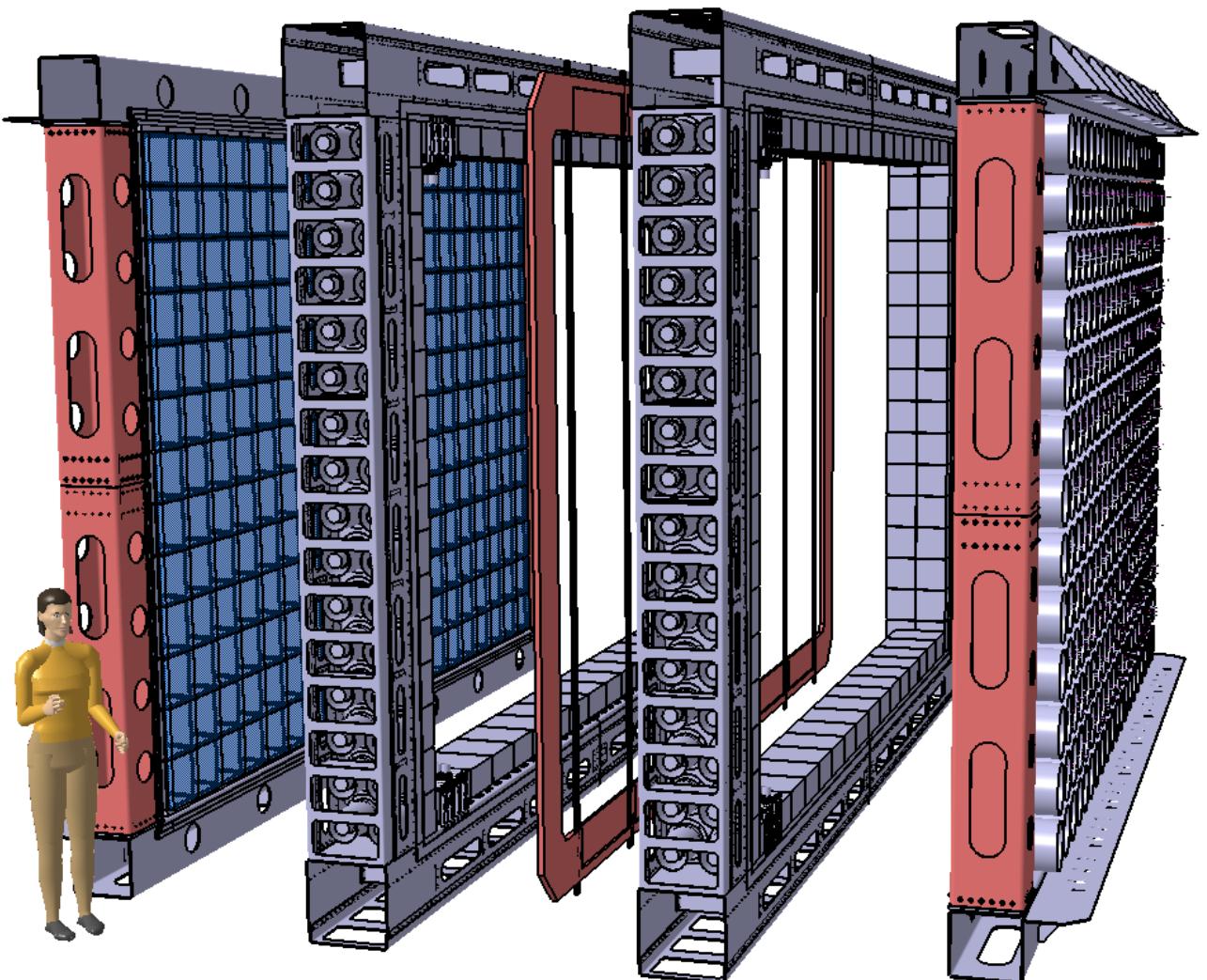
The SuperNEMO demonstrator...



...at the LSM underground lab in France...

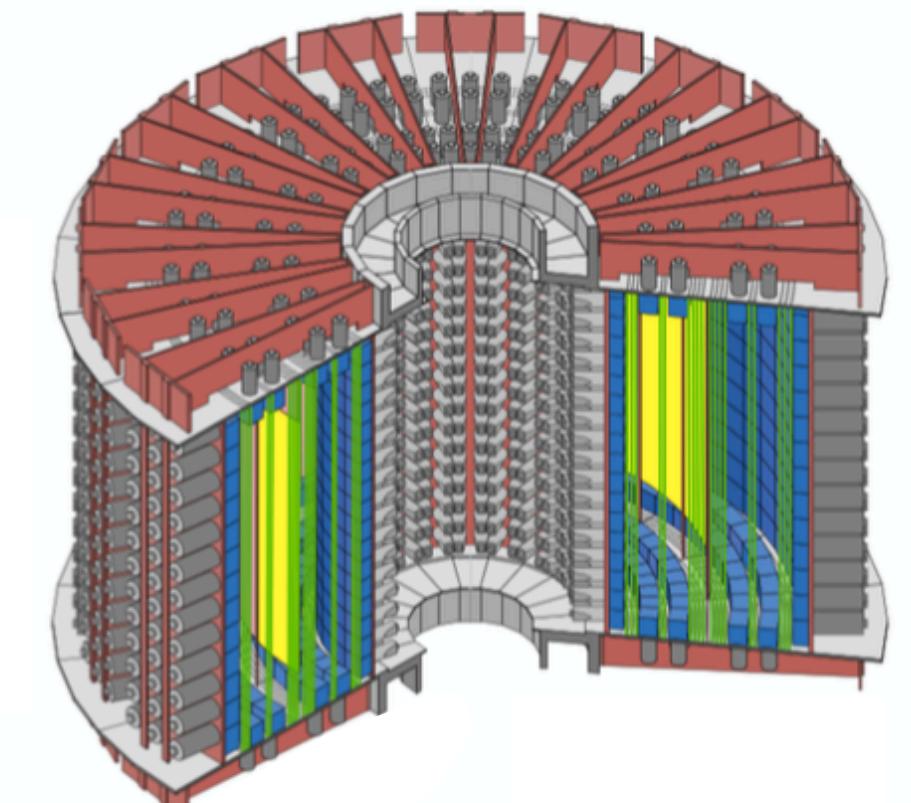
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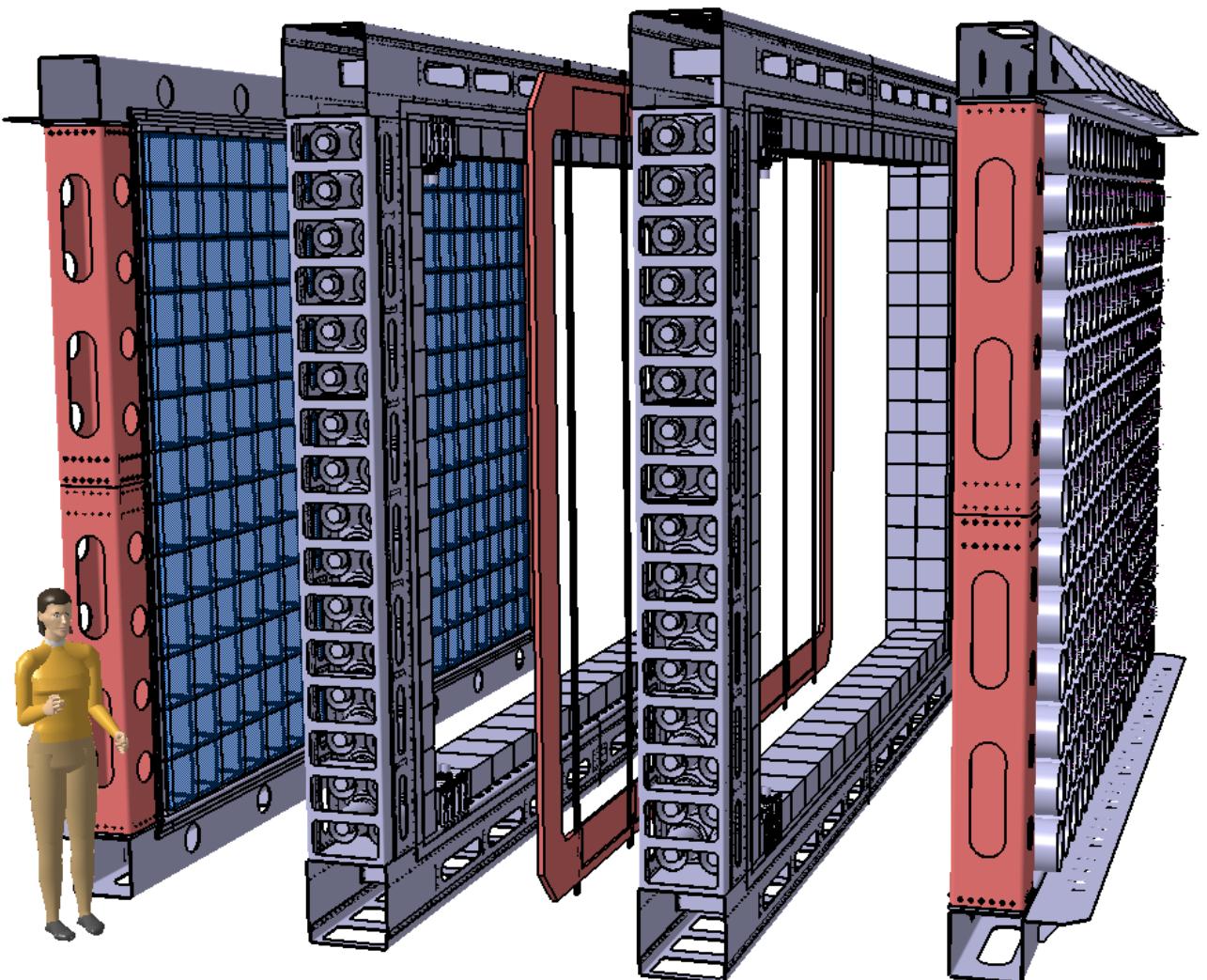
...at the LSM underground lab in France...

...builds on the successful NEMO-3 tracker-calorimeter architecture...

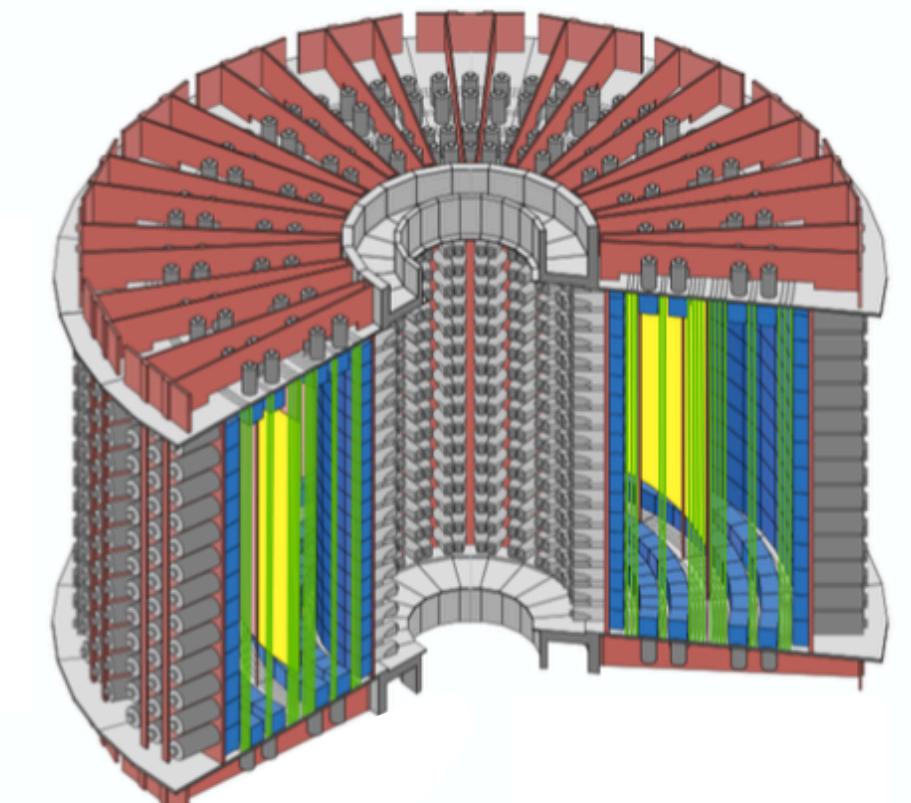


SuperNEMO in one slide

The SuperNEMO demonstrator...

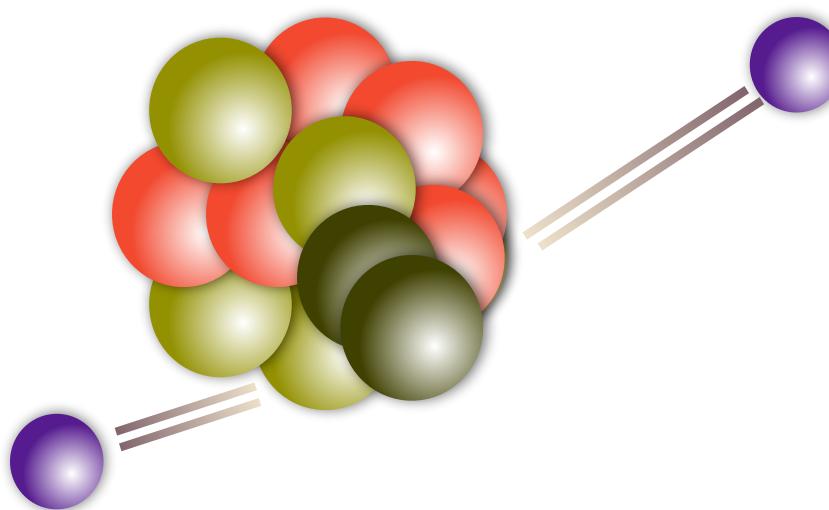


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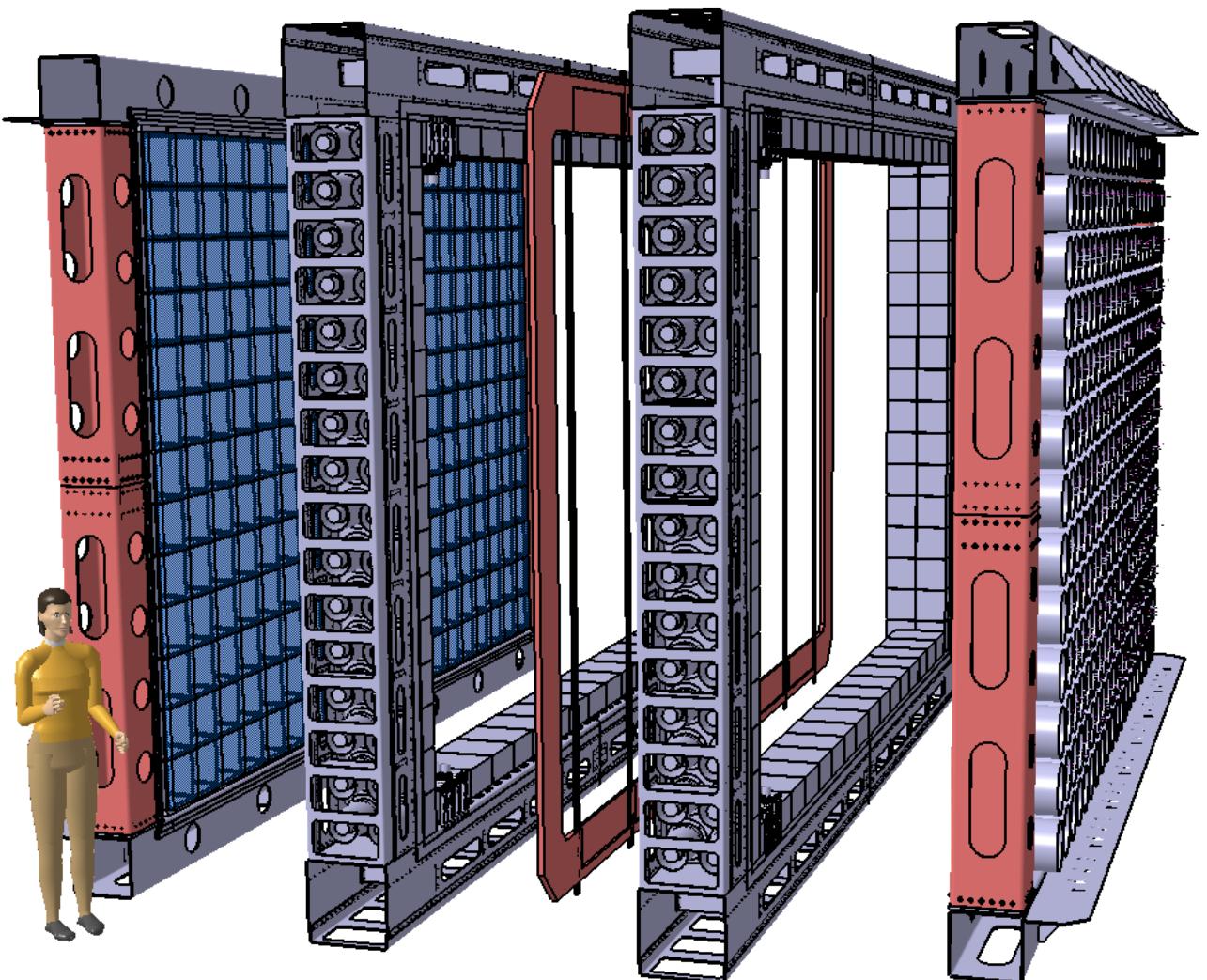
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... to probe the underlying mechanisms of $\beta\beta$ decay.

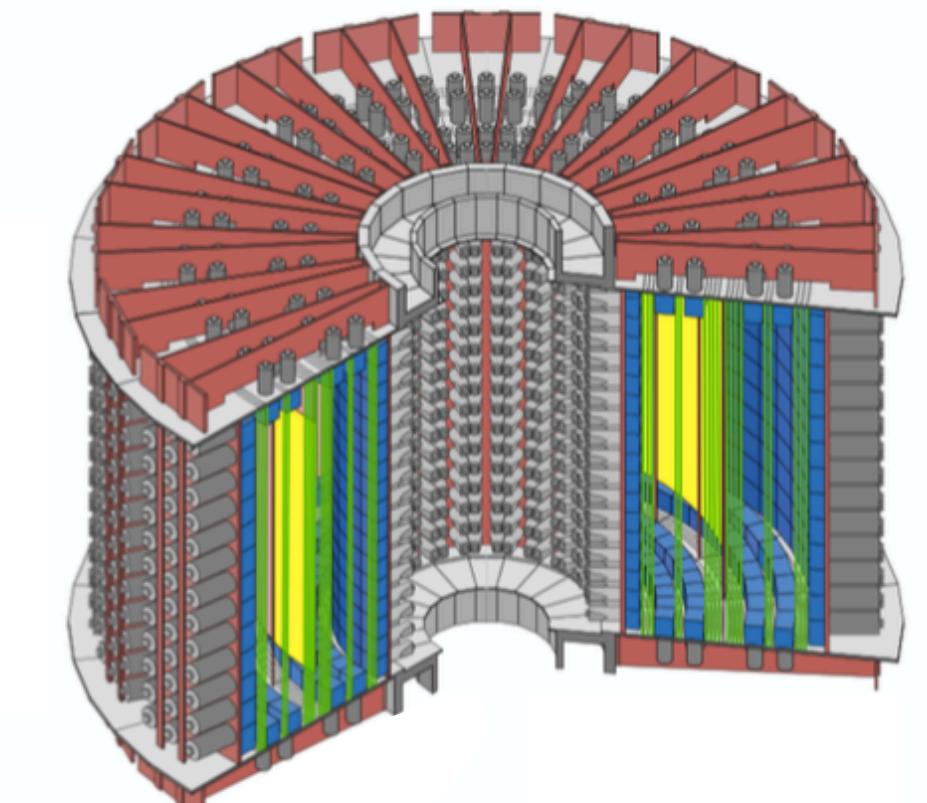


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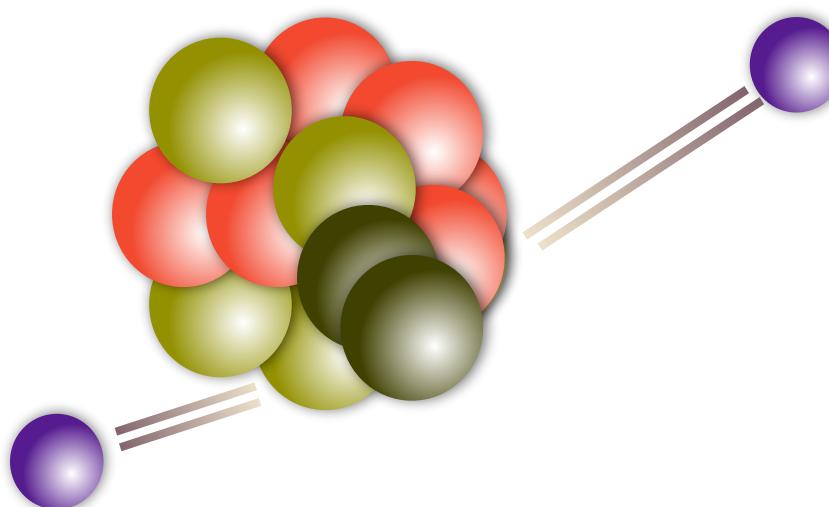


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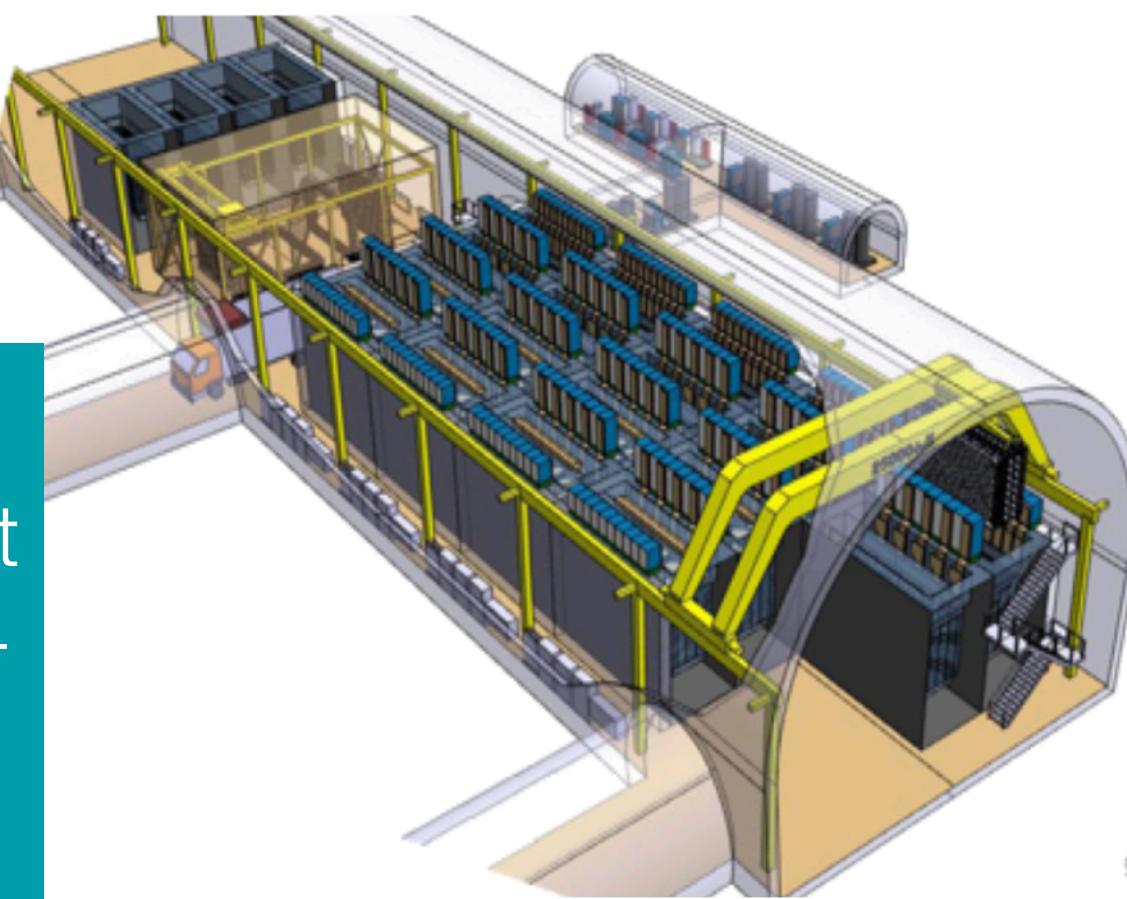


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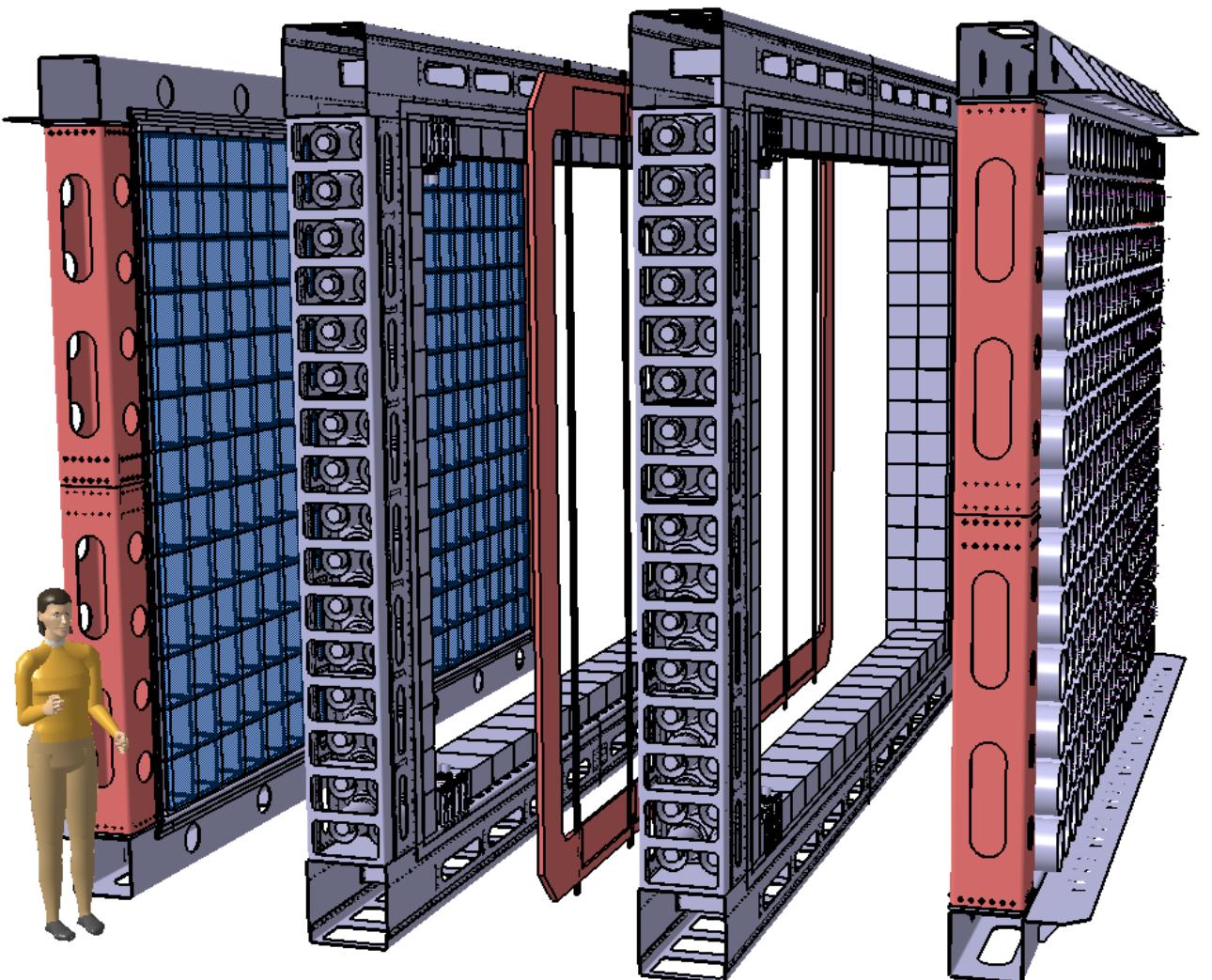


It serves as a proof of concept for future world-class isotope-agnostic detectors

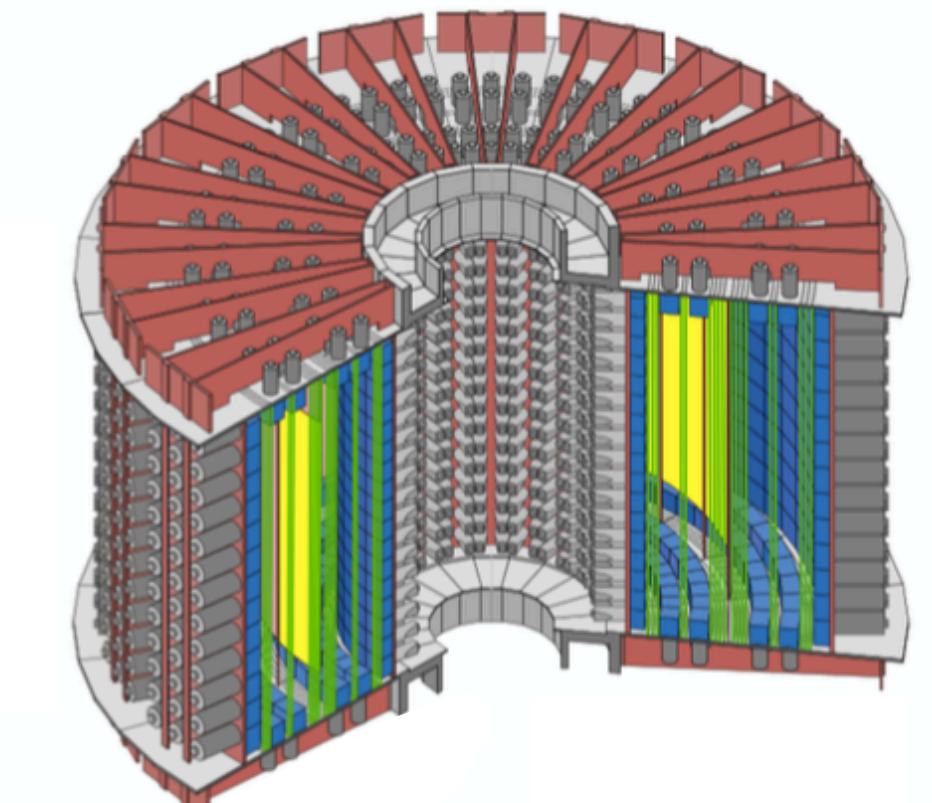


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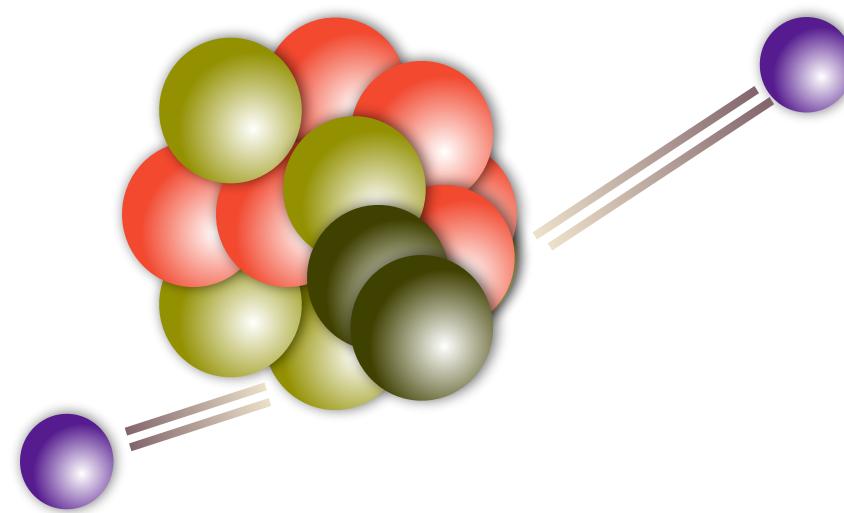
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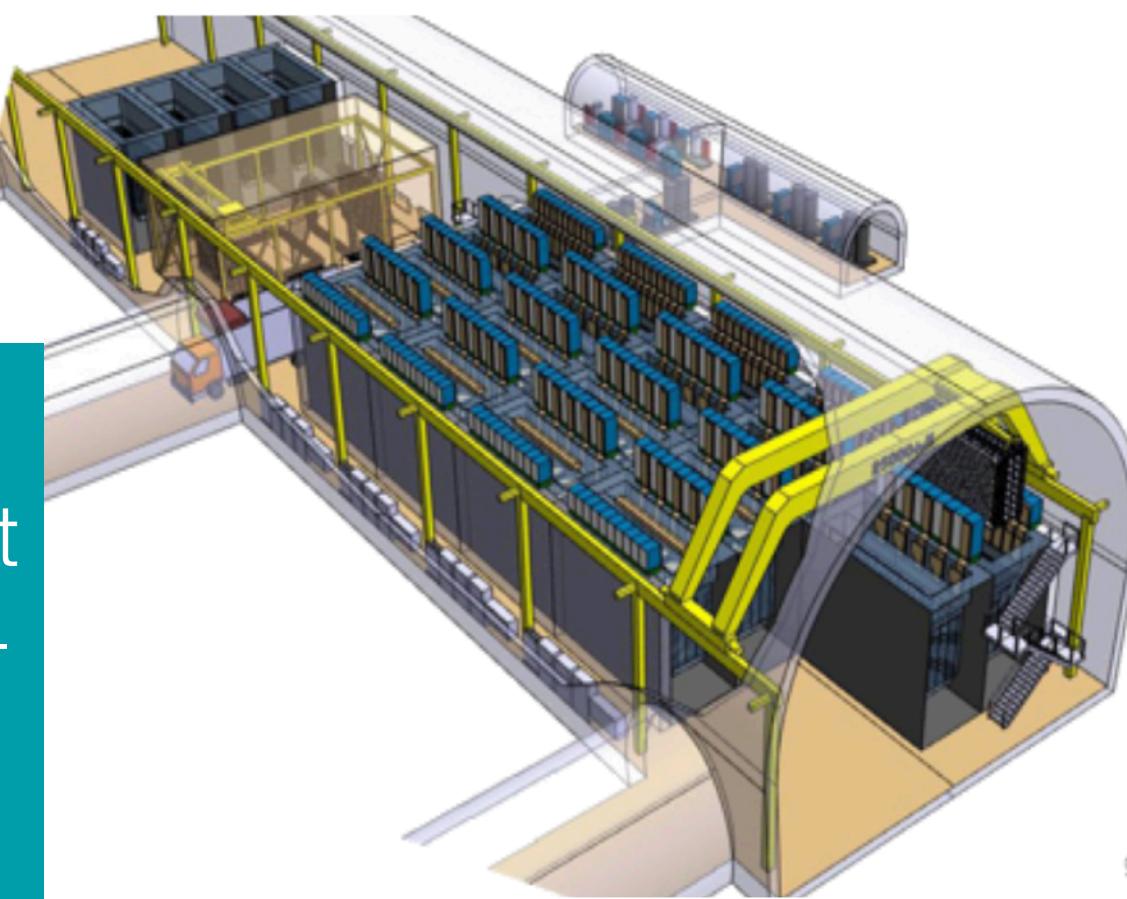
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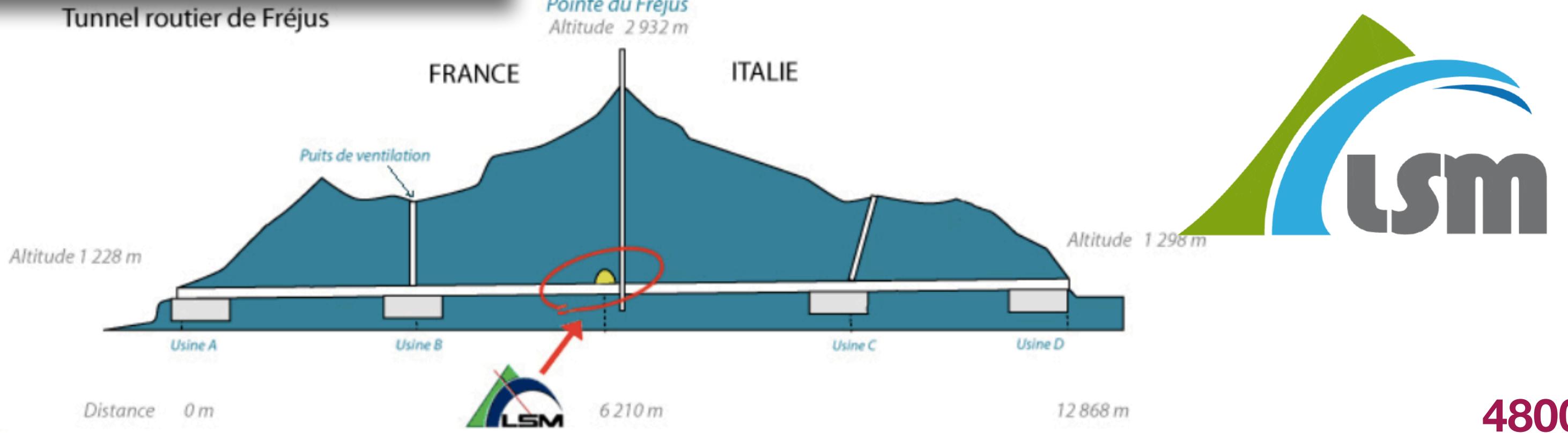


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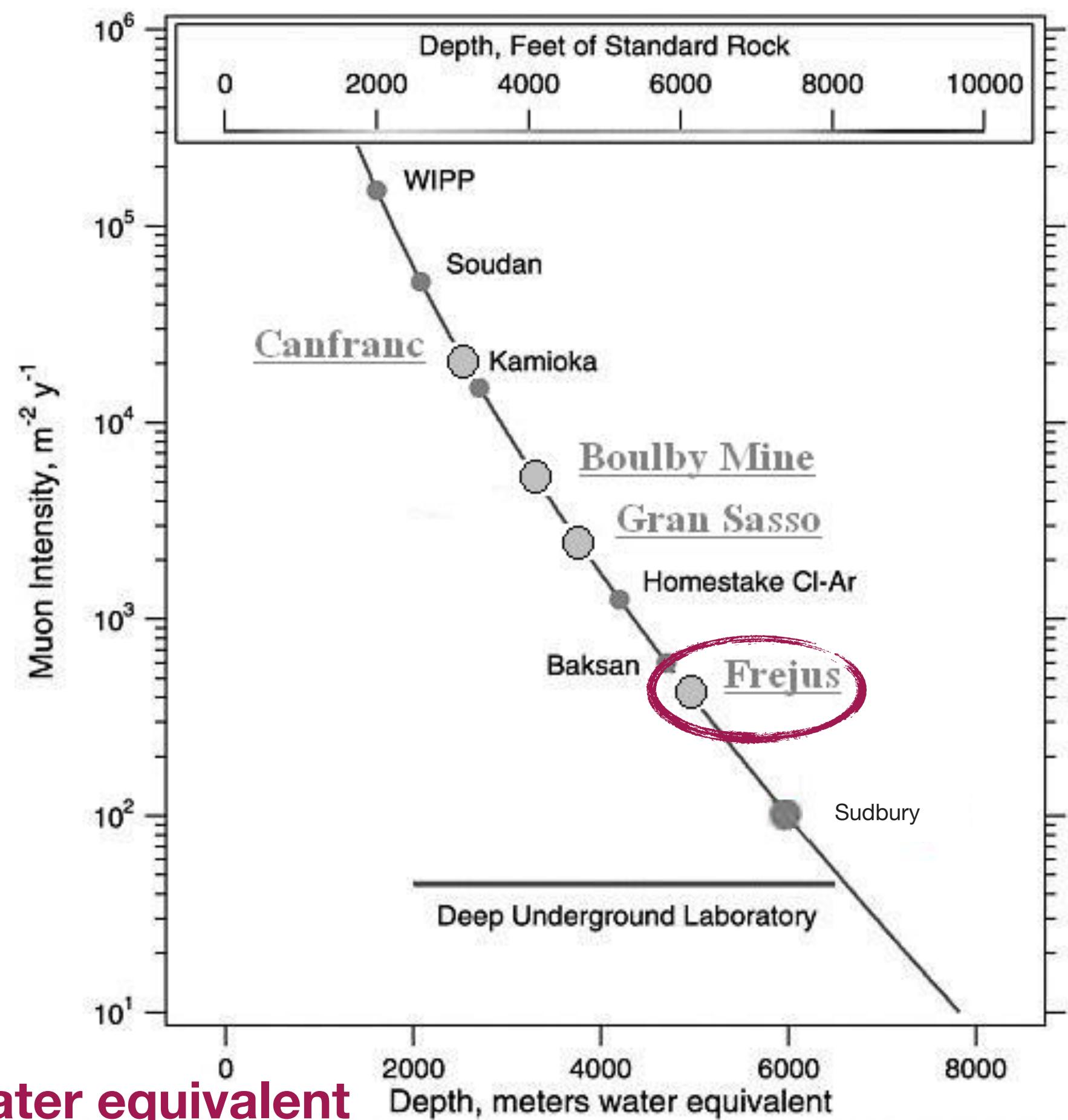


...and expects first data in the next few months!

LSM - the home of SuperNEMO



Laboratoire Souterrain de Modane
in the Fréjus tunnel connecting France and Italy

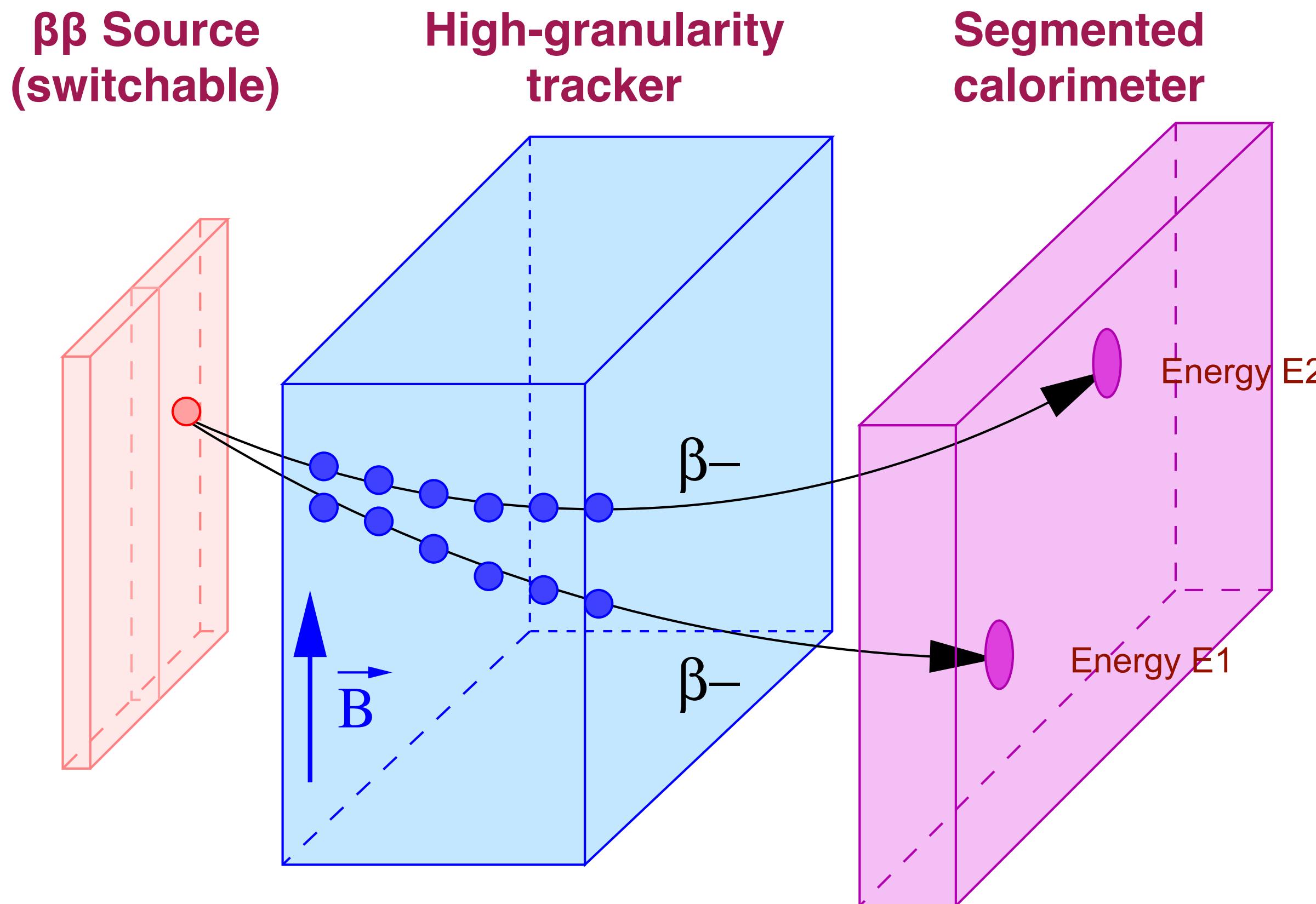


4800m water equivalent

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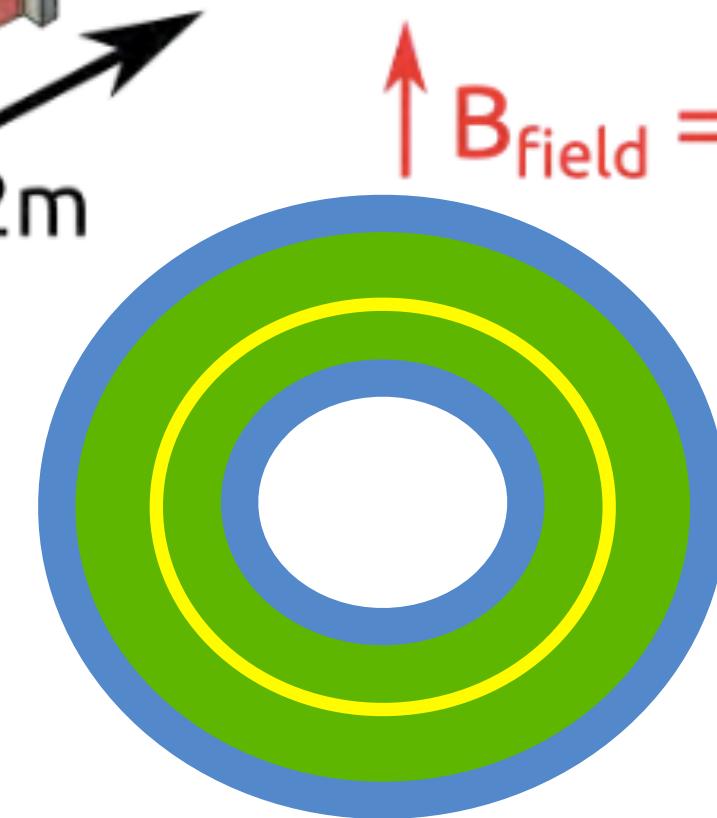
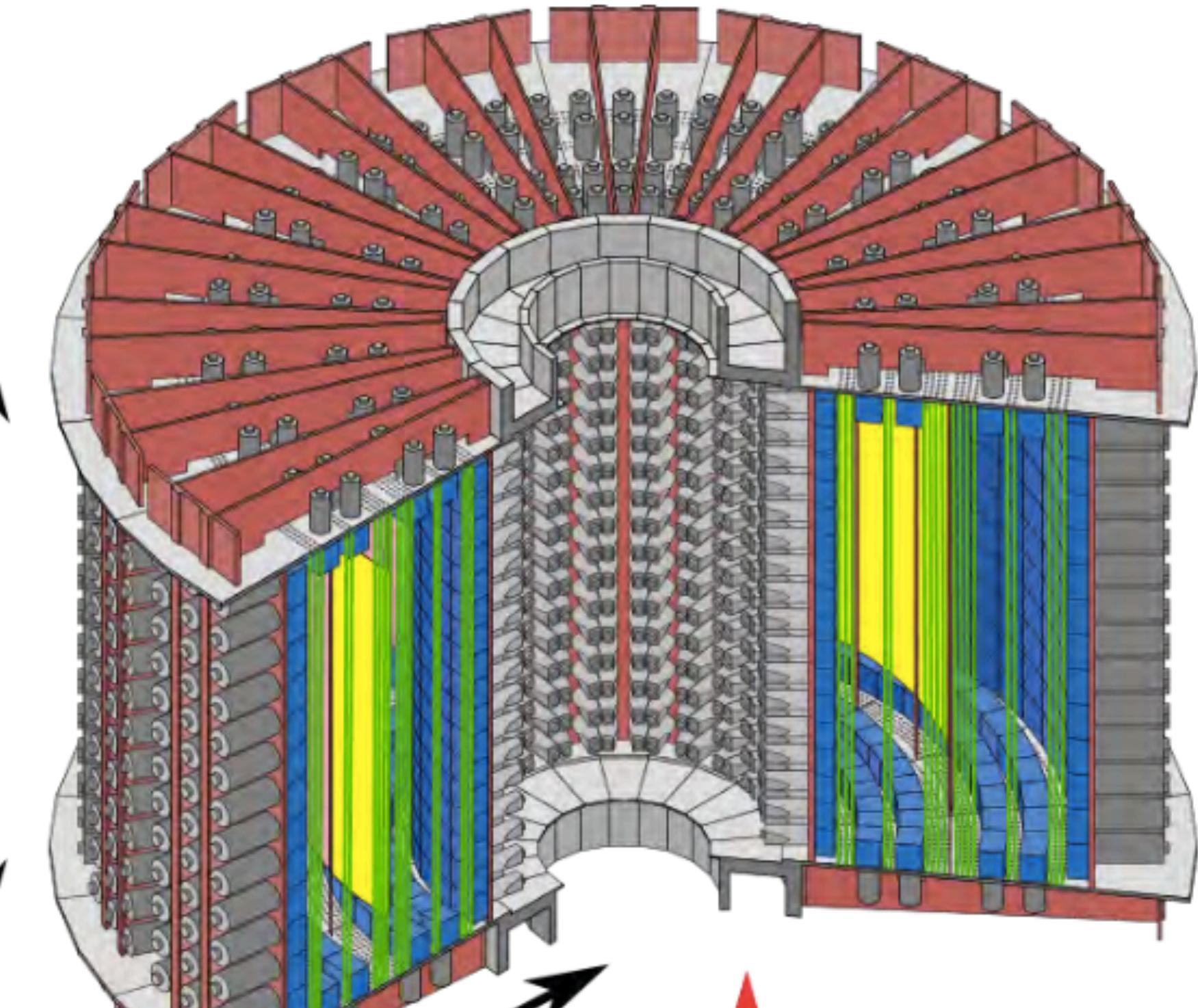


Strengths

- Source decoupled from detector - use **any solid $\beta\beta$ source isotope**
- Track reconstruction gives **particle identification**
- Combine with timings to identify topologies for ultra-high **background rejection**
- Tracking info (angle between tracks) & individual energy distributions can distinguish between **$\beta\beta$ mechanisms**
- **Scalable** with multiple modules

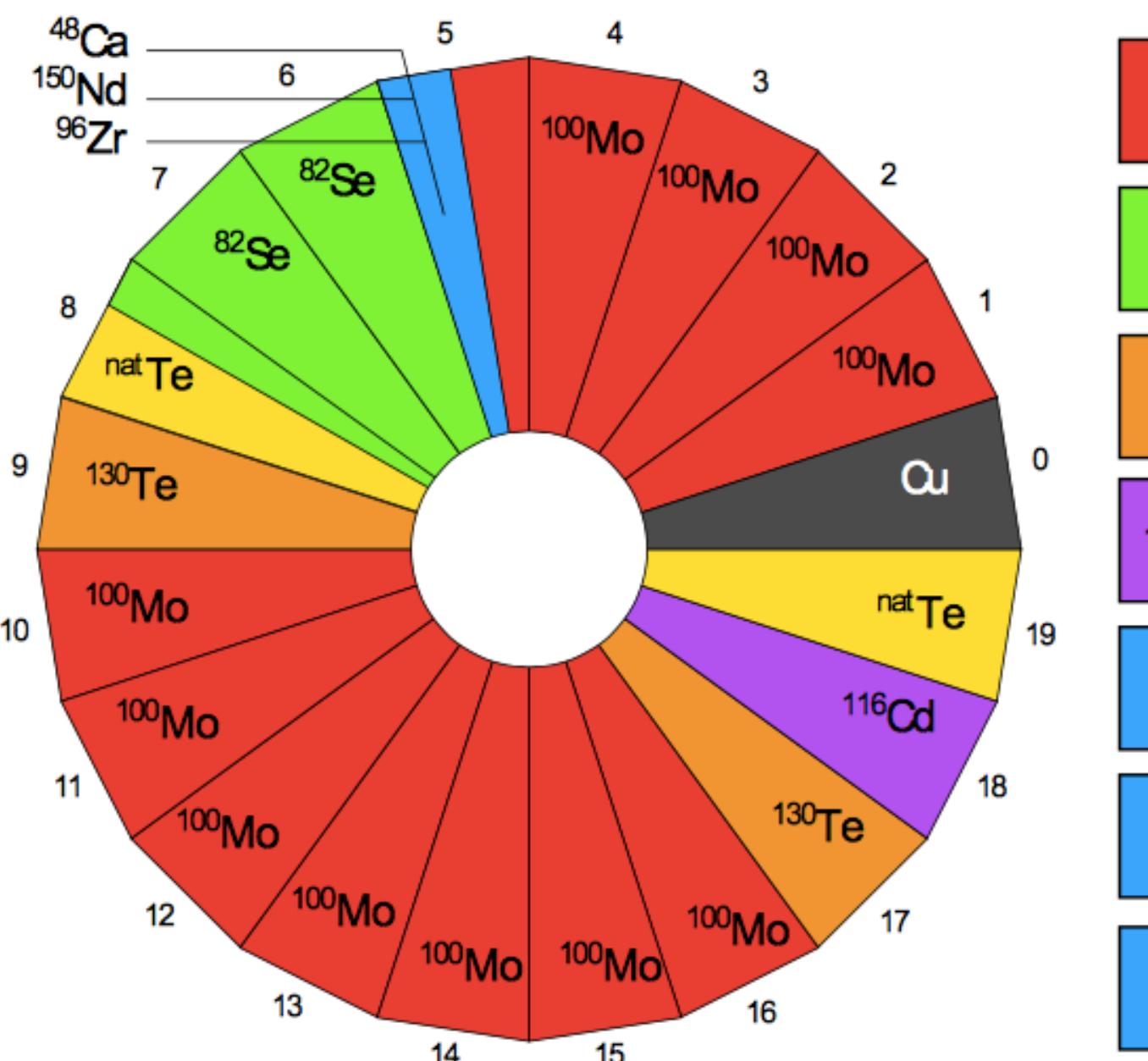
Weaknesses

- **Energy resolution** poorer than for most homogenous detectors
- Harder to achieve world-leading **$0\nu\beta\beta$ half-life sensitivity** than with some other designs



calorimeter
1940 optical modules :
polystyren scintillators
+ 3" and 5" PMTs
 $\text{FWHM}_E \sim 15\% / \sqrt{\text{E}_{\text{MeV}}}$
 $\sigma_t \sim 250 \text{ ps}$

NEMO-3 "camembert" (source top view)



^{100}Mo	6,9 kg
^{82}Se	0,93 kg
^{130}Te	0,45 kg
^{116}Cd	0,40 kg
^{150}Nd	36,5 g
^{96}Zr	9,43 g
^{48}Ca	6,99 g

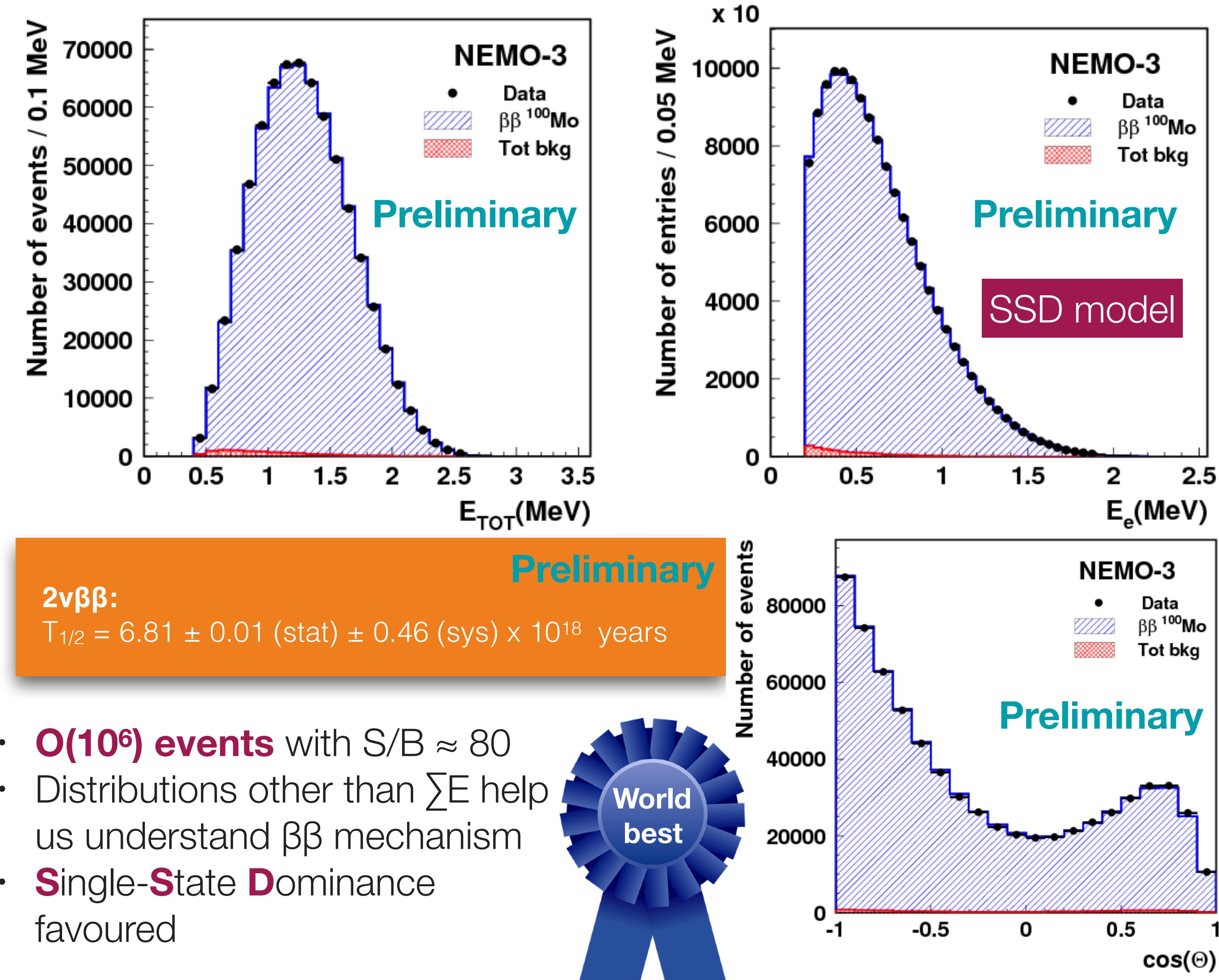
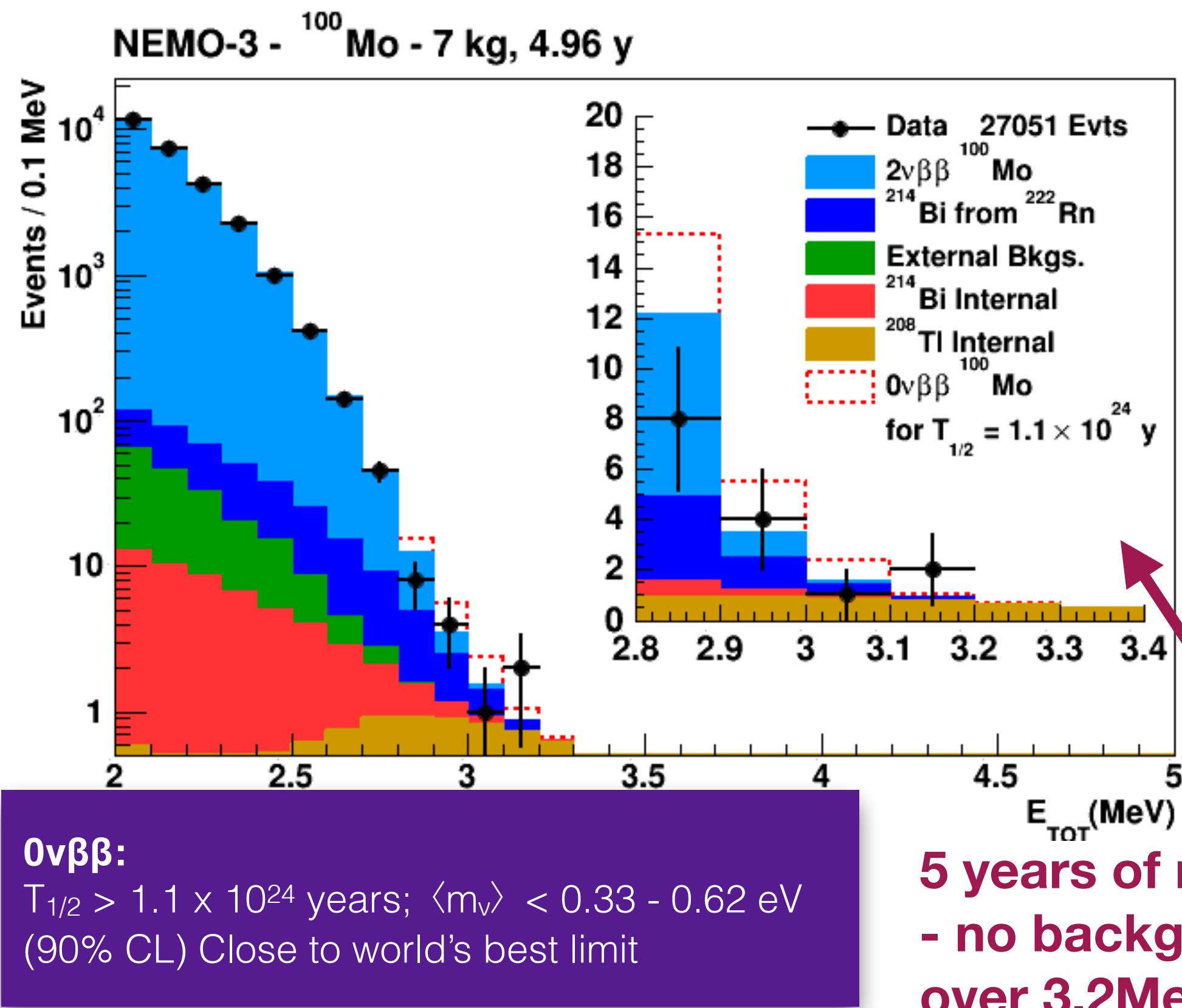


tracker
6180 Geiger cells
vertex resolution :
 $\sigma_{xy} \sim 3 \text{ mm}$ $\sigma_z \sim 10 \text{ mm}$

sources
60 mg/cm² Foils
10 kg of $\beta\beta$ isotopes

NEMO-3 flagship analysis: ^{100}Mo $\beta\beta$ decay

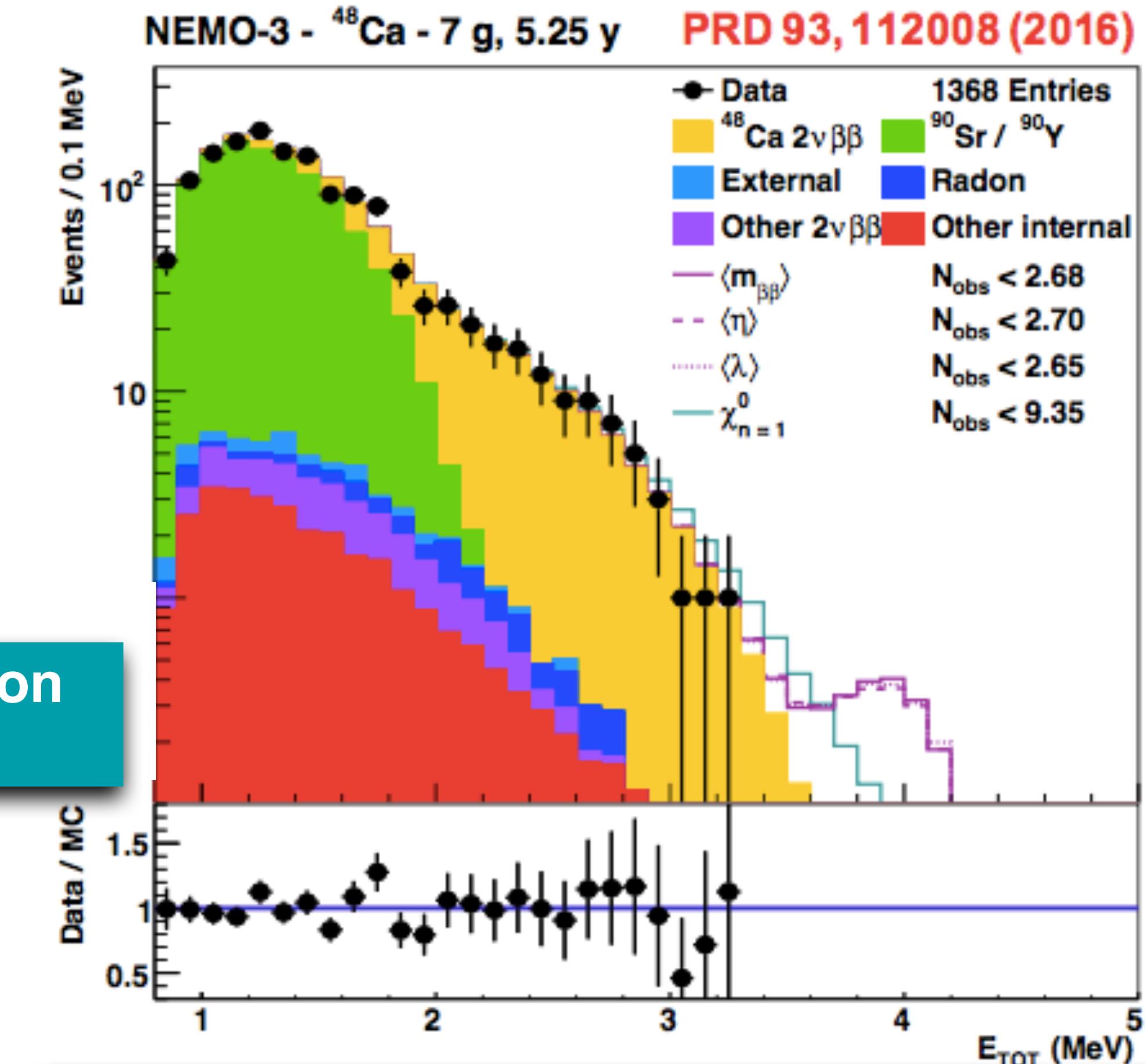
- 2v $\beta\beta$ measurements and 0v $\beta\beta$ limits for several isotopes
 - ^{100}Mo (Phys. Rev. Lett. 95, 182302)
(Phys. Rev. D 89, 111101)
(Nucl. Phys. A 925 (2014) 25)
(Nucl.Phys.A781 (2007) 209-226,)



NEMO-3 analyses

- 2v $\beta\beta$ measurements and 0v $\beta\beta$ limits for several isotopes
 - **^{100}Mo** (Phys. Rev. Lett. 95, 182302)
 - **^{48}Ca** (Phys. Rev. D 93, 112008)

Background-free in 0v $\beta\beta$ region
for high-Q $_{\beta\beta}$ isotopes

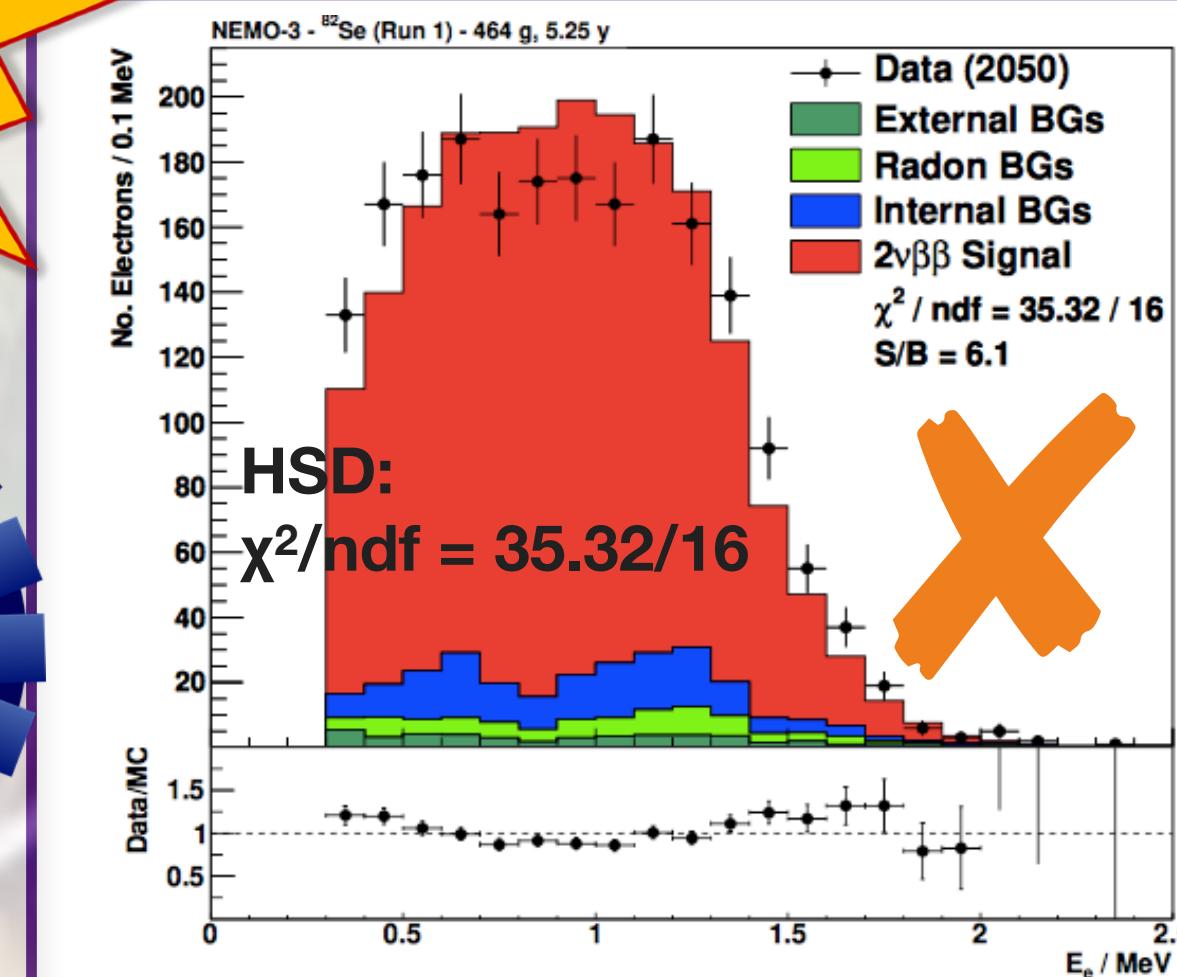
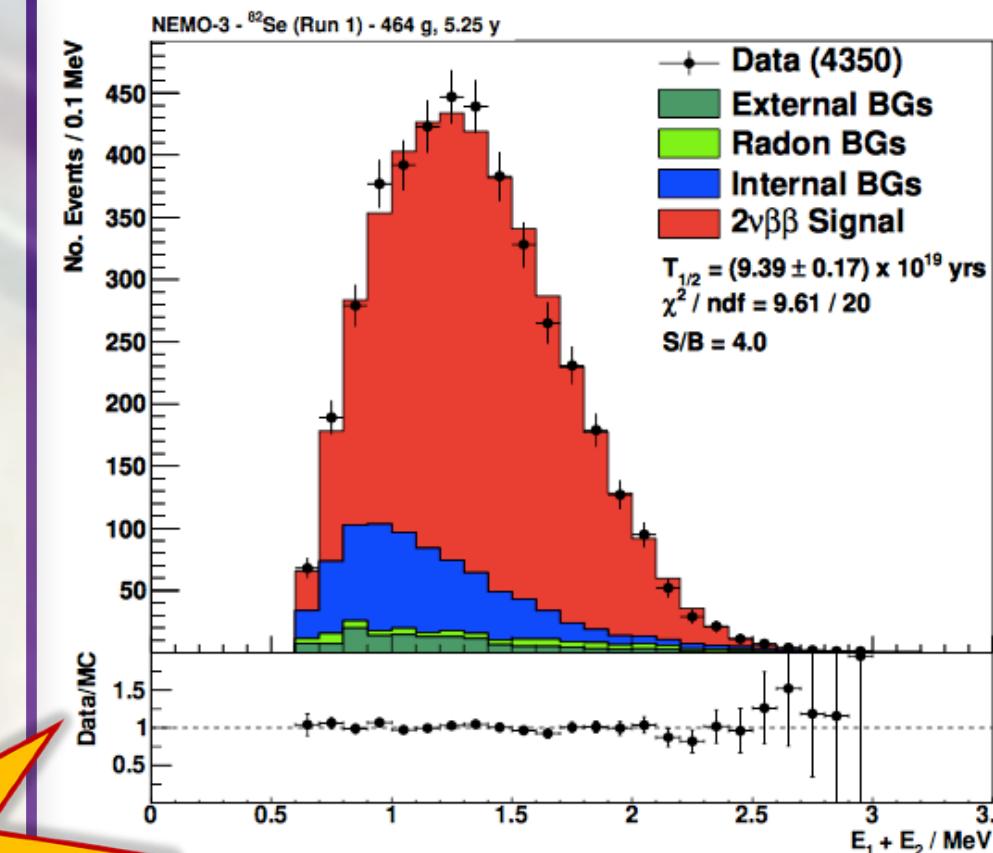


7g of
 ^{48}Ca
(9 CaF_2
disks)

$$2\nu\beta\beta: T_{1/2} = 6.4 + 0.7 / -0.6 \text{ (stat)} + 1.2 / -0.9 \text{ (sys)} \times 10^{19} \text{ yr}$$

NEMO-3 analyses: ^{82}Se

- 2v $\beta\beta$ measurements and 0v $\beta\beta$ limits for several isotopes
 - **^{100}Mo** (Phys. Rev. Lett. 95, 182302)
 - **^{48}Ca** (Phys. Rev. D 93, 112008)
 - **^{82}Se** (Eur. Phys. J. C (2018) 78: 821)



Higher state dominated - many excited states

Individual electron spectrum helps identify intermediate states in $\beta\beta$ transition

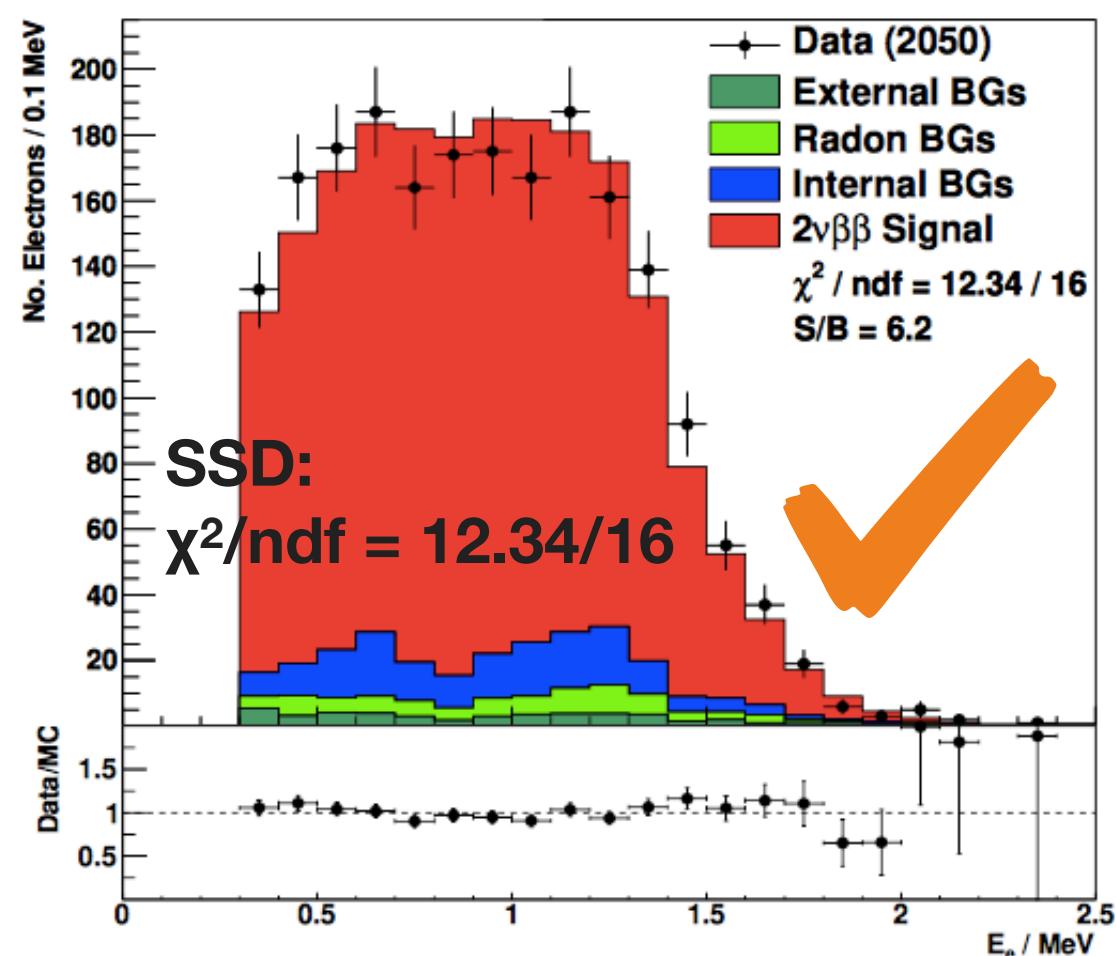
Summed 2-electron spectrum

2v $\beta\beta$:

$T_{1/2} = 9.39 \pm 0.17 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.58 \text{ (sys)} \times 10^{19} \text{ years}$
(SSD hypothesis)

0v $\beta\beta$:

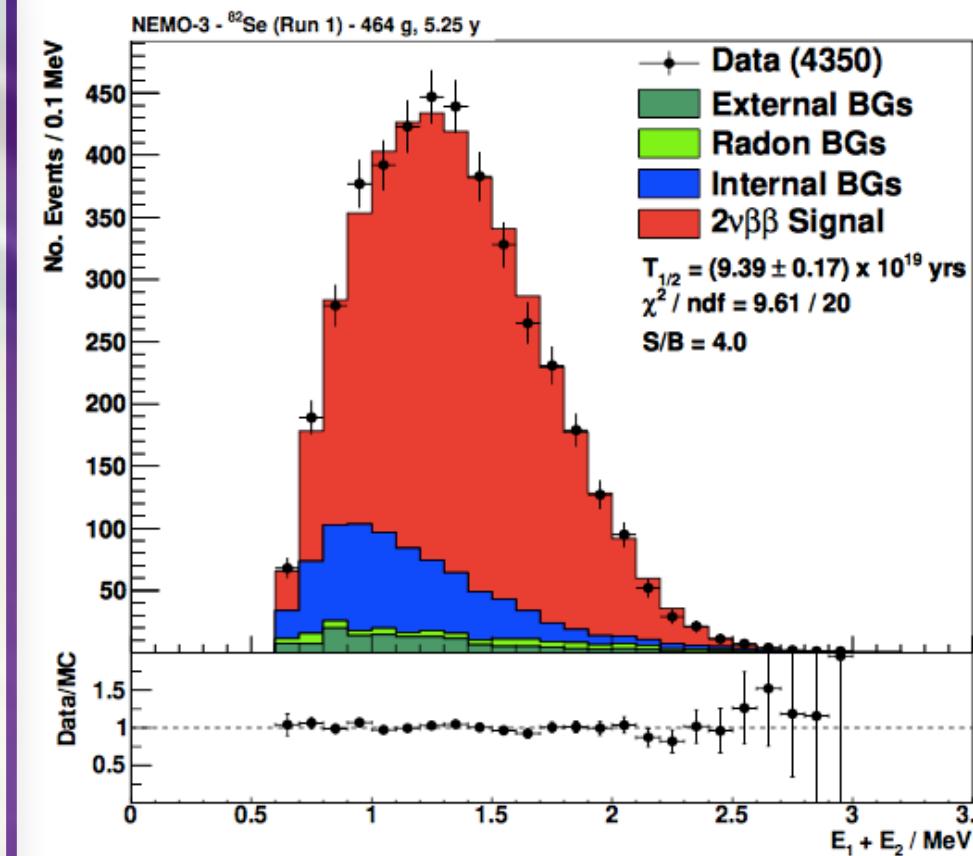
$T_{1/2} > 2.5 \times 10^{23} \text{ years}$ (90% C.L.)



Single state dominated - mostly one intermediate state

NEMO-3 analyses: ^{82}Se

- 2v $\beta\beta$ measurements and 0v $\beta\beta$ limits for several isotopes
 - **100Mo** (Phys. Rev. Lett. 95, 182302) 
 - **48Ca** (Phys. Rev. D 93, 112008) 
 - **82Se** (Eur. Phys. J. C (2018) 78: 821) 
 - **150Nd** (Phys. Rev. D 94, 072003) 
 - **116Cd** (Phys. Rev. D 95, 012007) 
 - **130Te** (Phys. Rev. Lett. 107, 062504)
 - **96Zr** (Nucl.Phys.A847:168-179) 



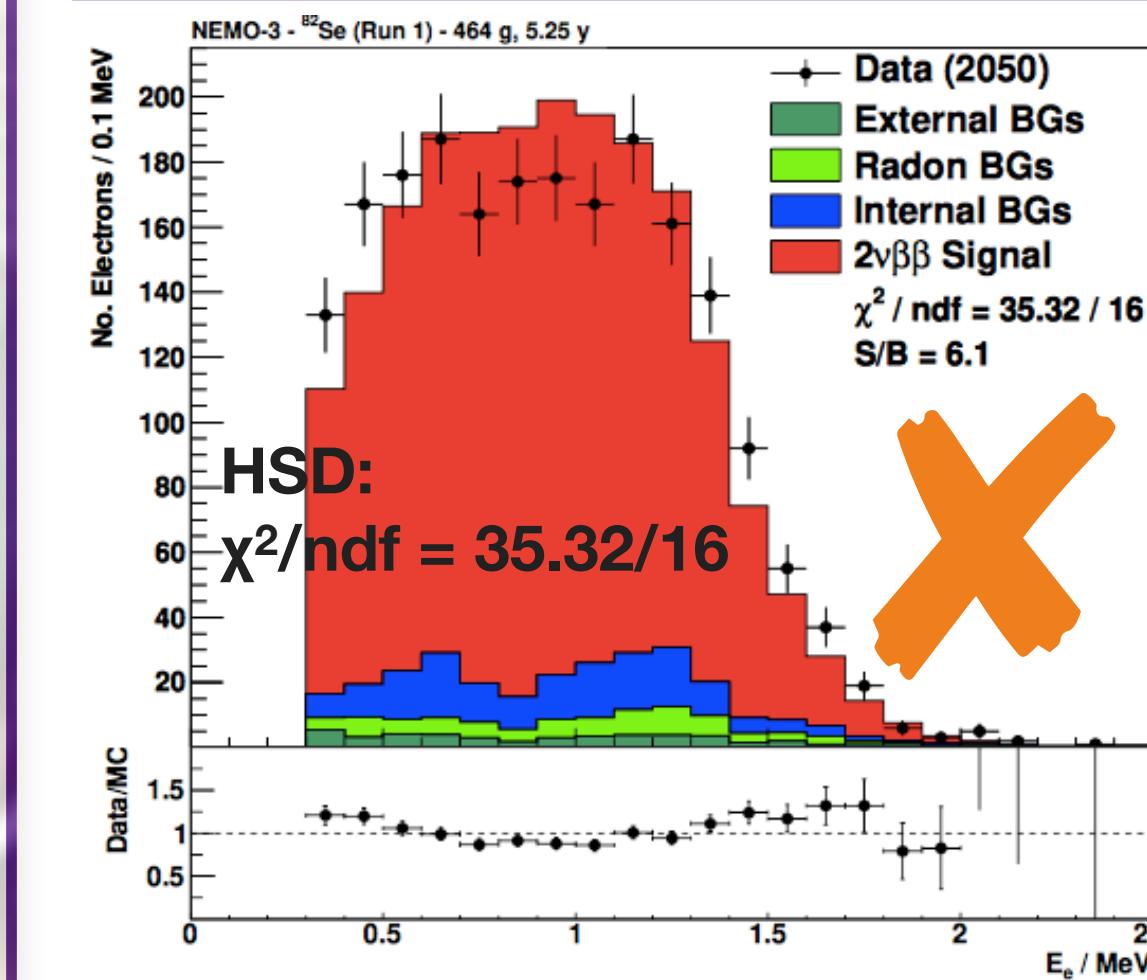
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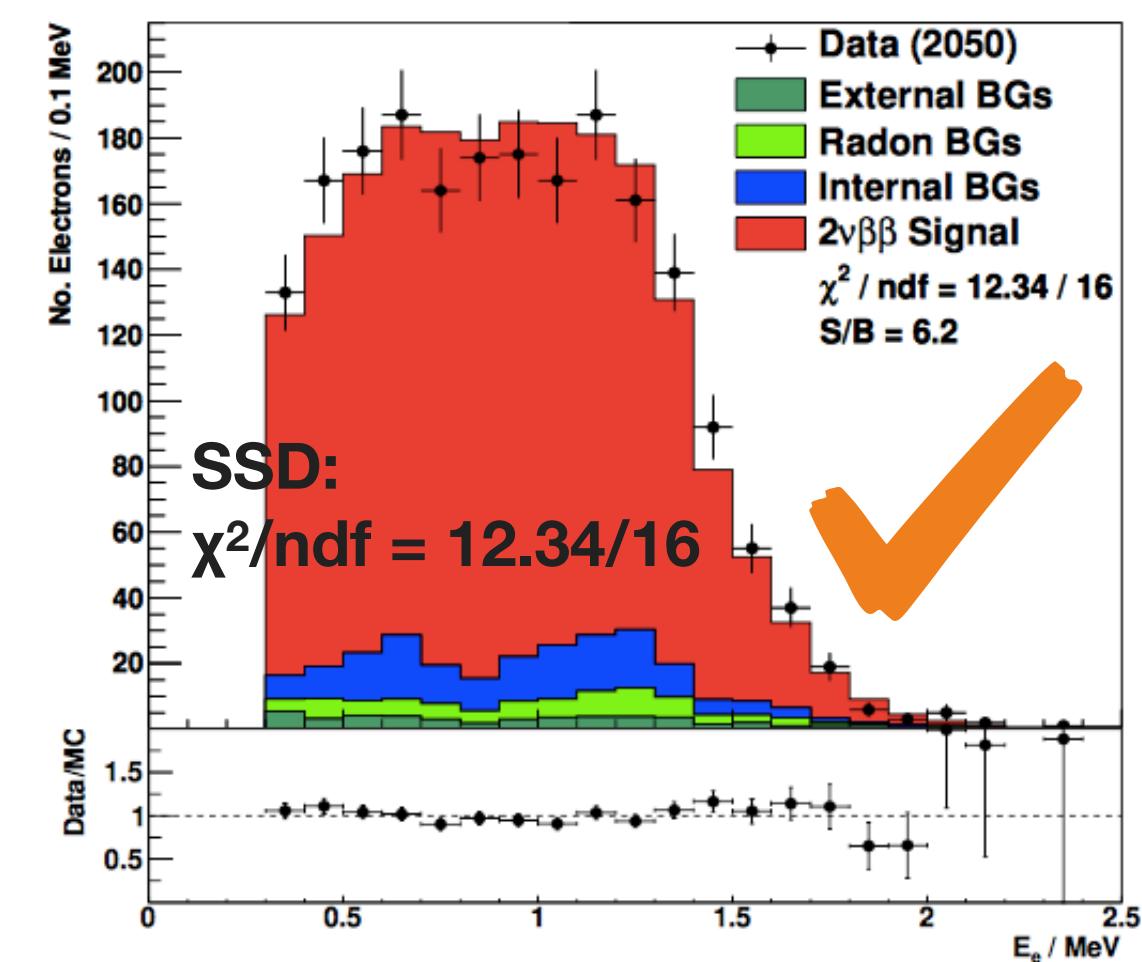
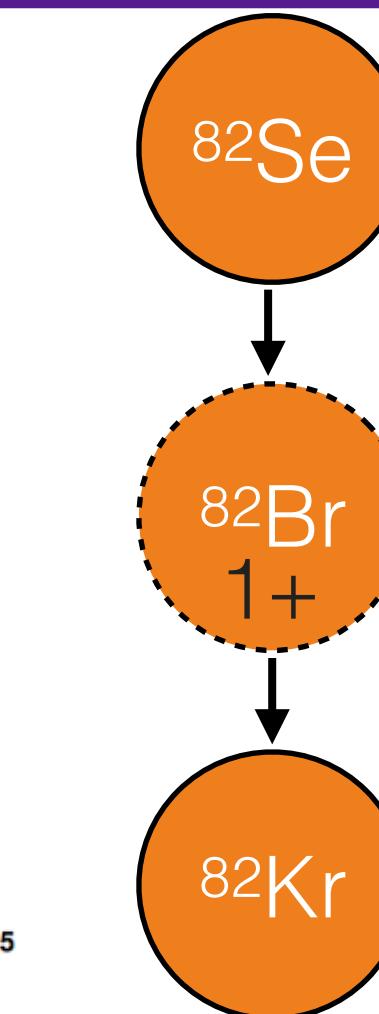
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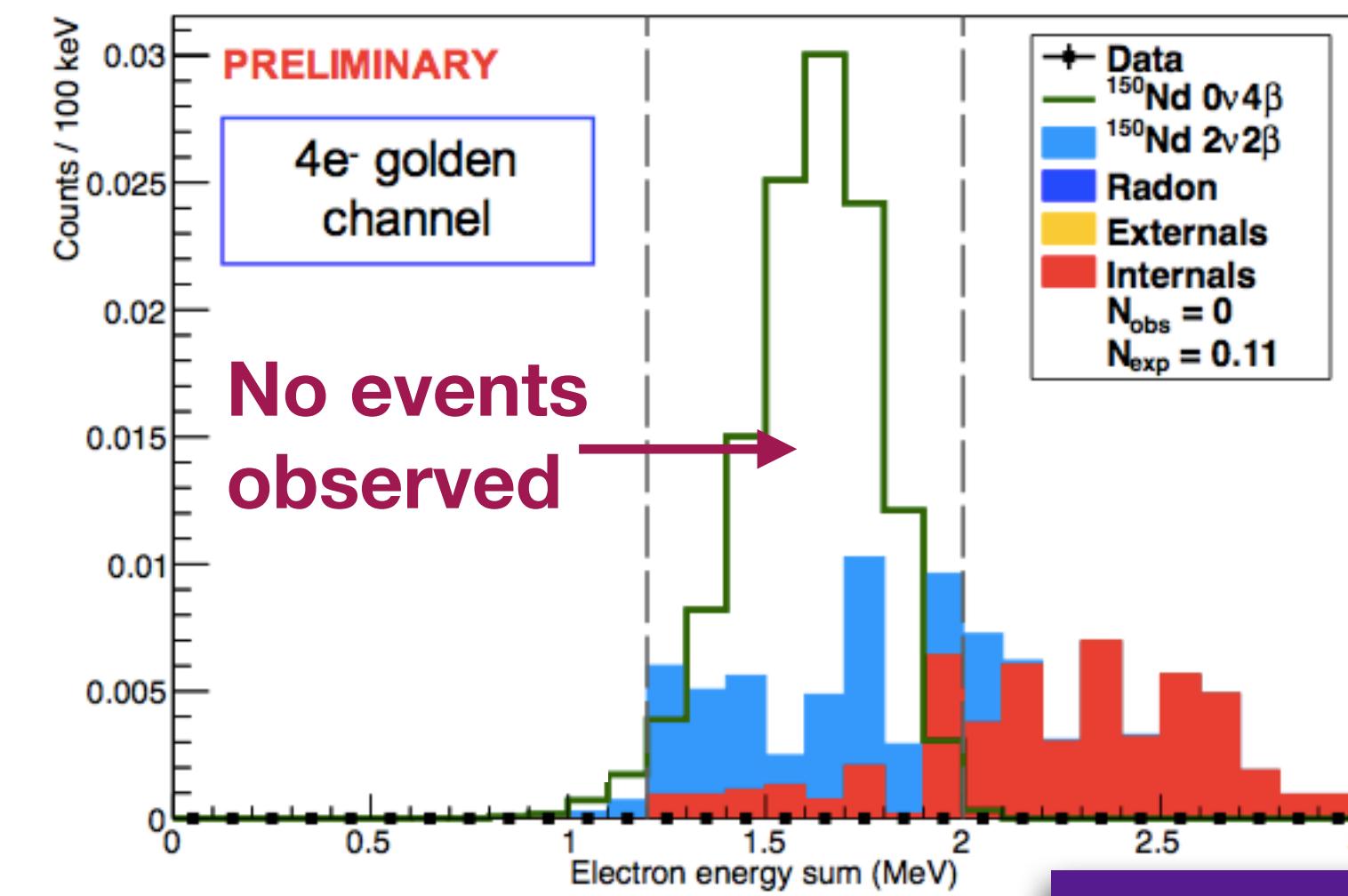
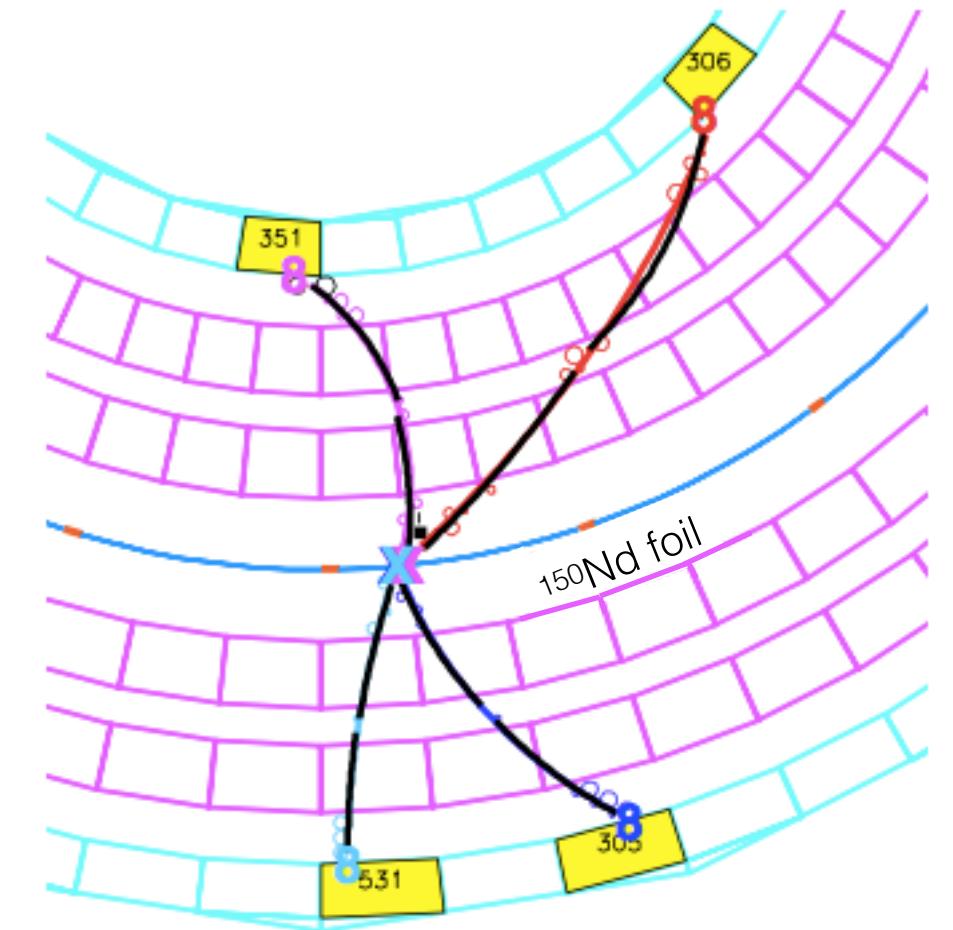


Single state dominated - mostly one intermediate state

Individual electron spectrum helps identify intermediate states in $\beta\beta$ transition

NEMO-3 - quadruple beta decay

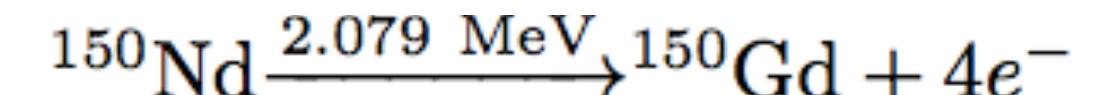
- $2\nu\beta\beta$ measurements and $0\nu\beta\beta$ limits for several isotopes
 - **^{100}Mo** (Phys. Rev. Lett. 95, 182302)
 - **^{48}Ca** (Phys. Rev. D 93, 112008)
 - **^{82}Se** (Eur. Phys. J. C (2018) 78: 821)
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 - **^{130}Te** (Phys. Rev. Lett. 107, 062504)
 - **^{96}Zr** (Nucl.Phys.A847:168-179)
- **Quadruple β decay** (Phys. Rev. Lett. 119, 041801)



$0\nu 4\beta$ decays would violate lepton number, but could occur even if neutrinos are **Dirac** fermions

Heeck and Rodejohann 2013

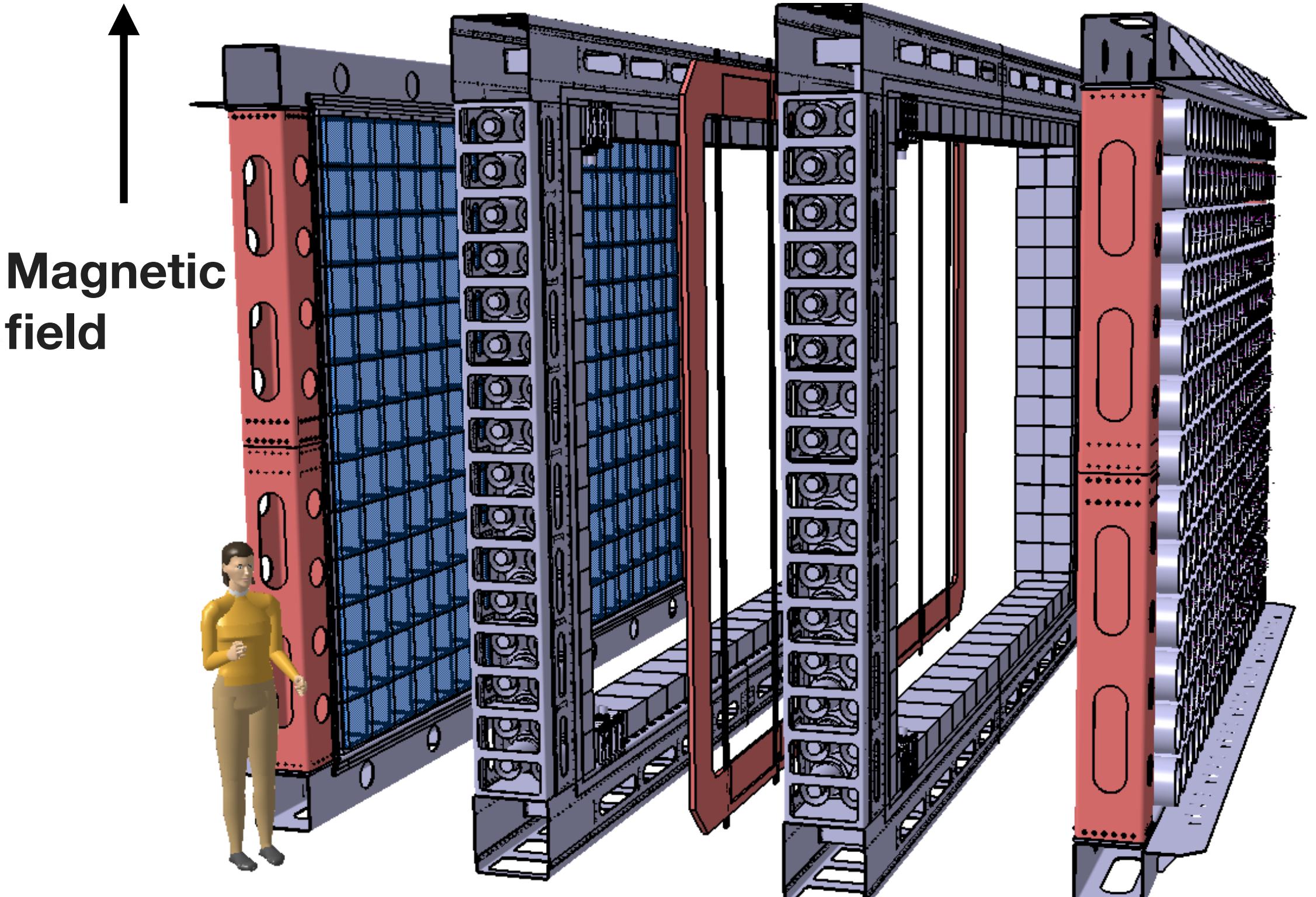
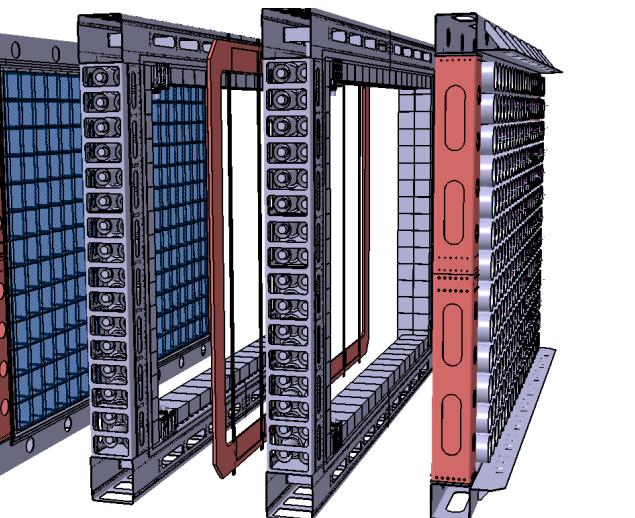
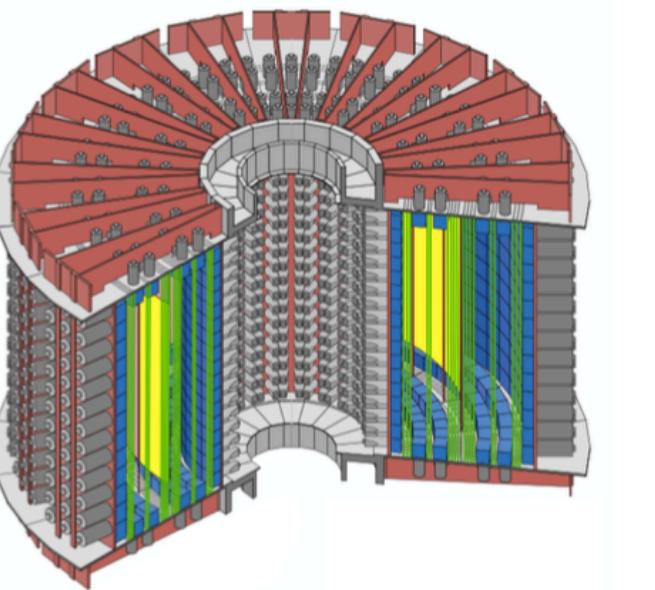
Allowed for 3 isotopes, including



NEMO architecture helps us identify these topologies

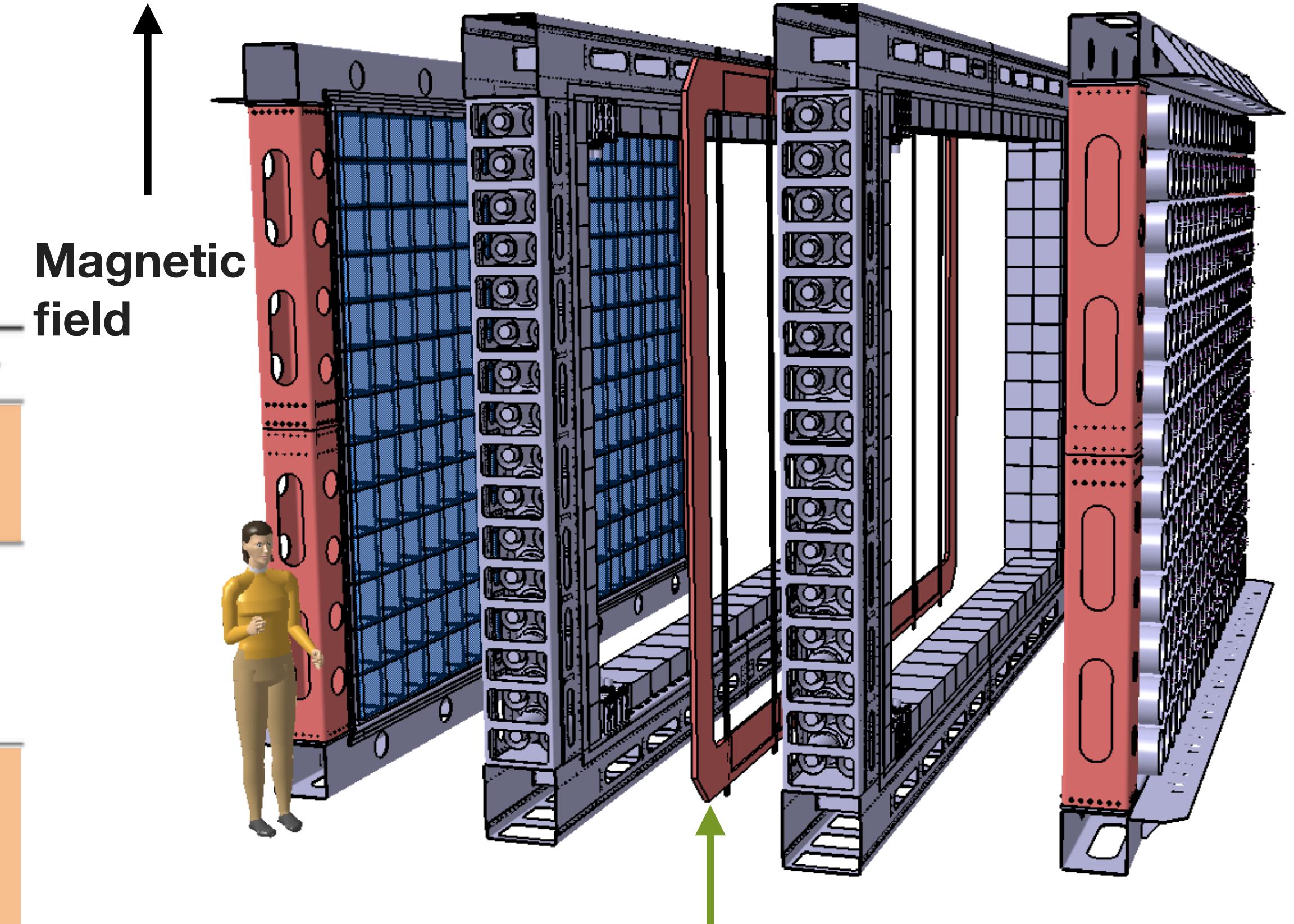
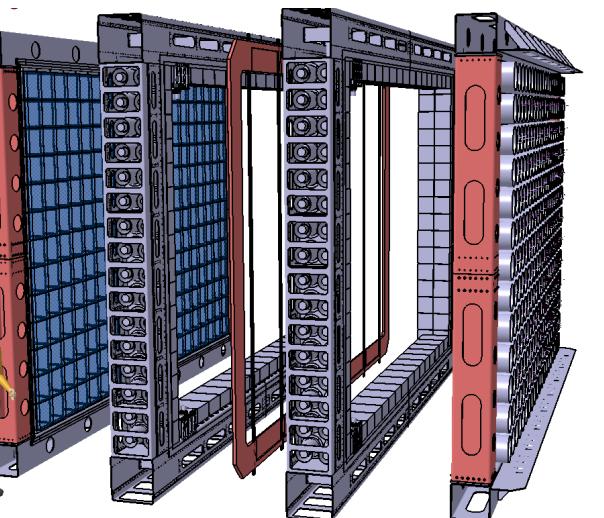
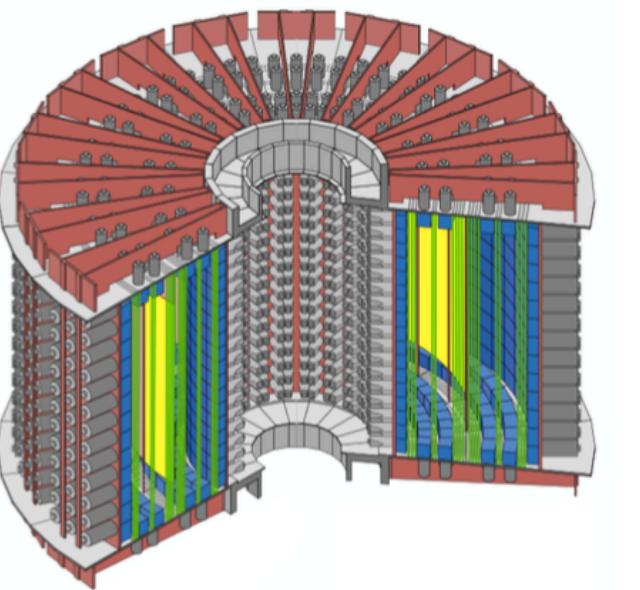
$T_{1/2} > 2.6 \times 10^{21} \text{ yr}$ (90%CL)

Next stop: SuperNEMO demonstrator



	NEMO-3	SuperNEMO demonstrator
Mass [kg] (main isotopes)	7 (^{100}Mo)	7 (^{82}Se)
$T_{1/2}^{2\nu}$ [y]	6.8×10^{18}	9.4×10^{19}
Energy resolution		
FWHM at 1 MeV	15 %	8 %
FWHM at 3 MeV	8 %	4 %
Source radiopurity		
A(^{208}Ti)	$\sim 100 \mu\text{Bq}/\text{kg}$	$< 2 \mu\text{Bq}/\text{kg}$
A(^{214}Bi)	$< 300 \mu\text{Bq}/\text{kg}$	$< 10 \mu\text{Bq}/\text{kg}$
Level of radon A(^{222}Rn)	$\sim 5.0 \text{ mBq}/\text{m}^3$	$< 0.15 \text{ mBq}/\text{m}^3$
Sensitivity after 5 (2.5) y data taking	$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 10^{24} \text{ y}$	$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 6 \times 10^{24} \text{ y}$

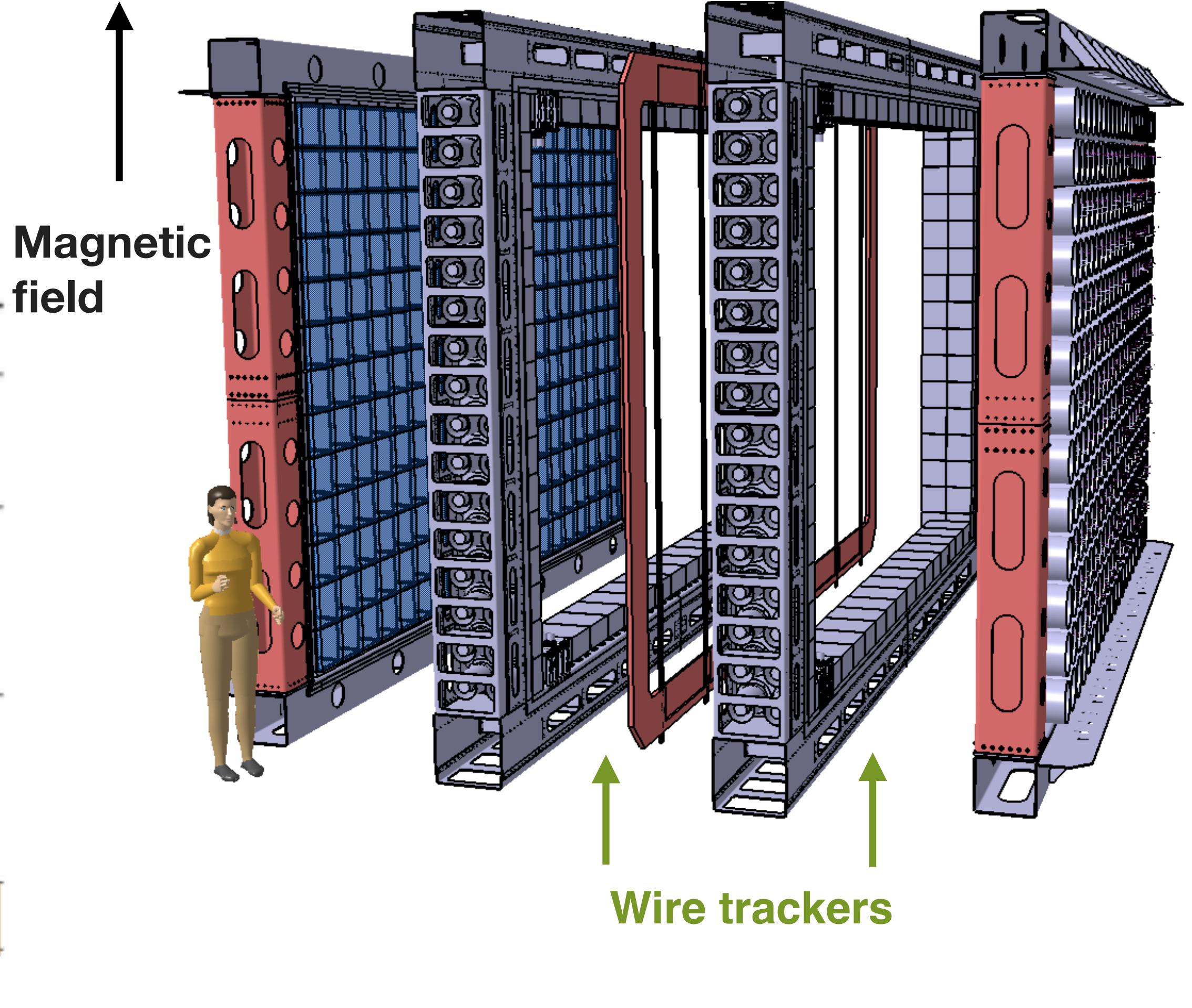
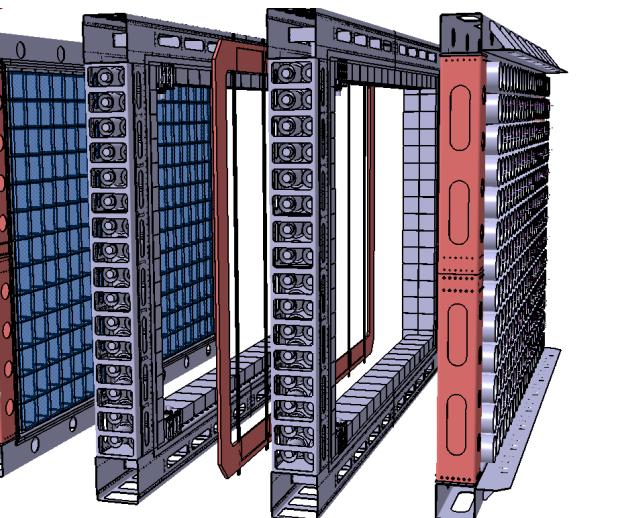
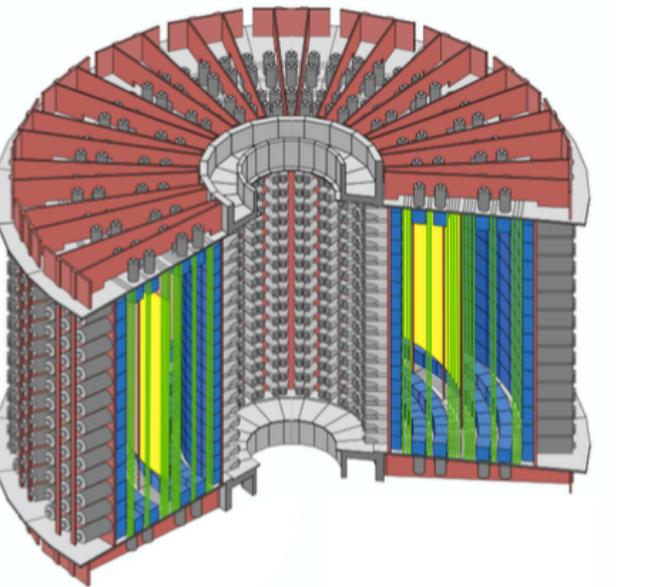
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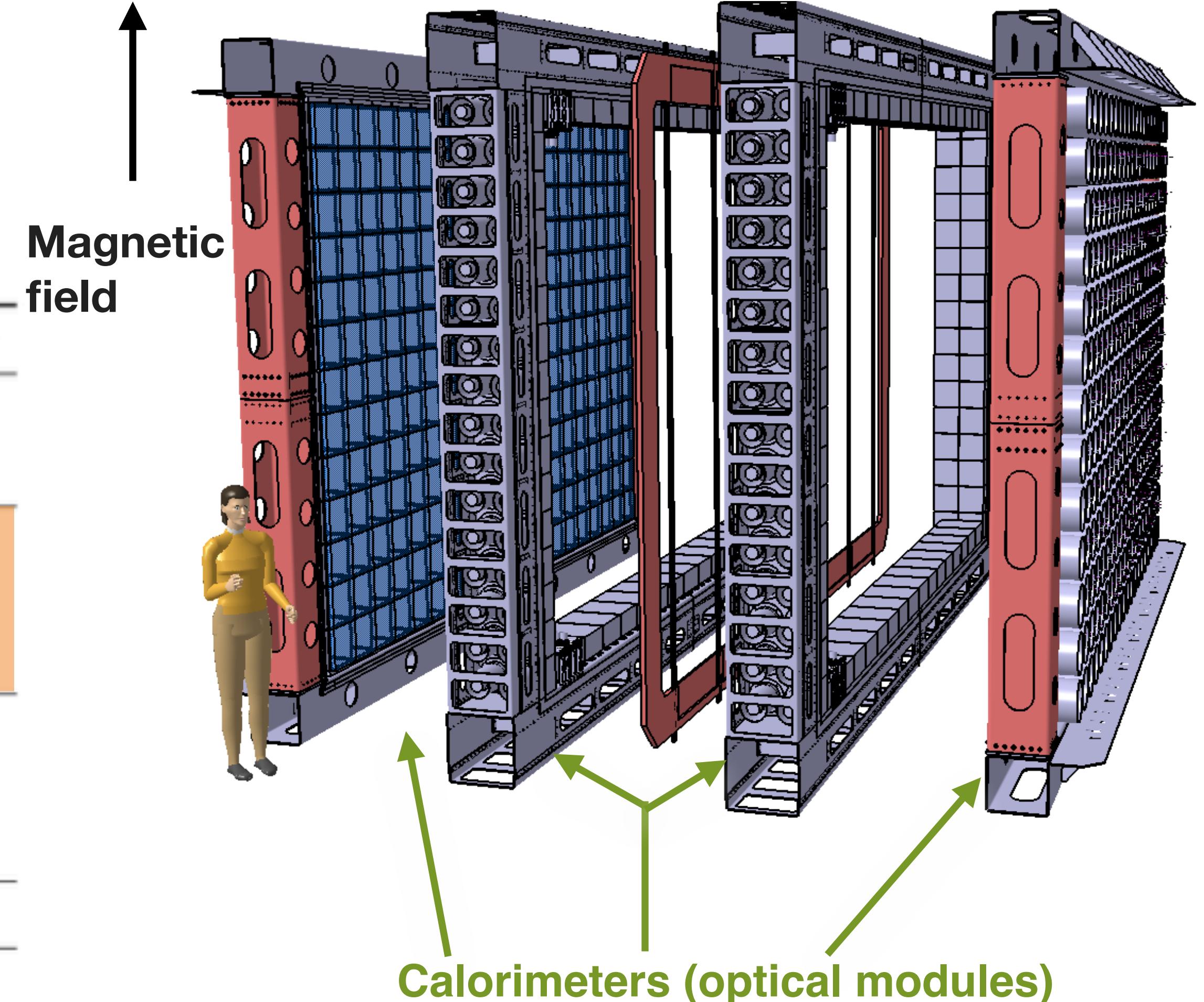
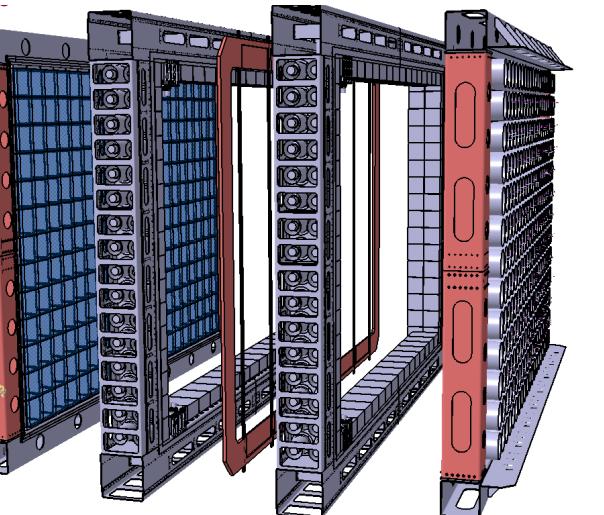
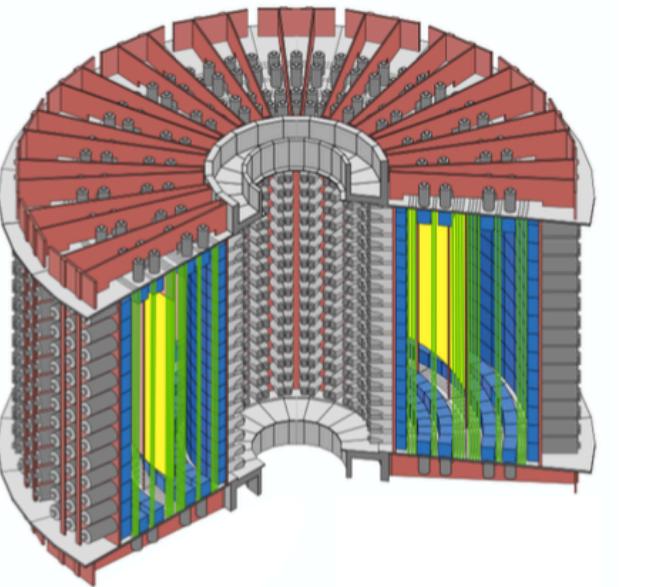
Source frame holding 7kg of
 $\beta\beta$ emitter (⁸²Se)

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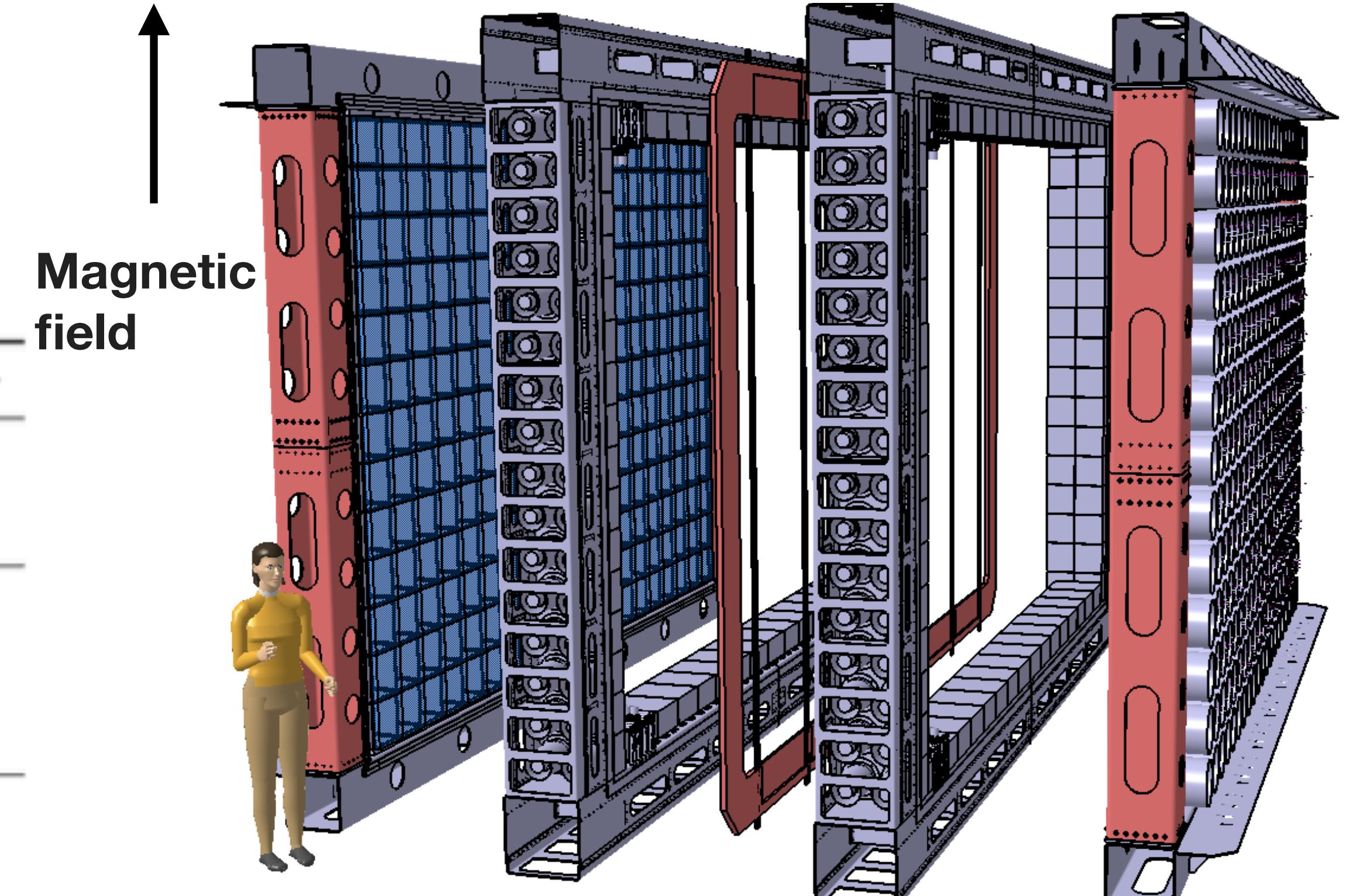
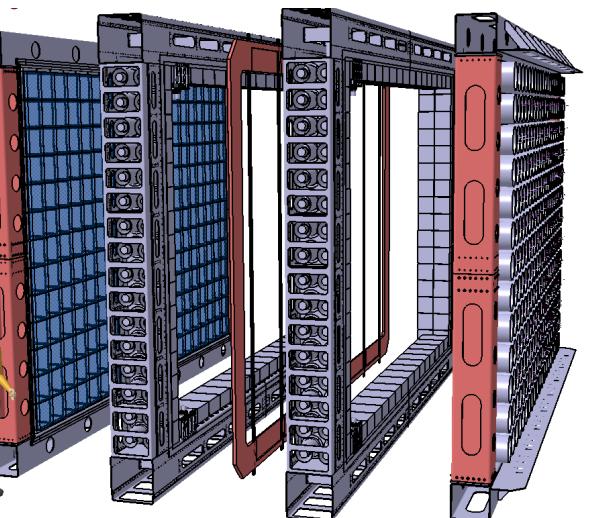
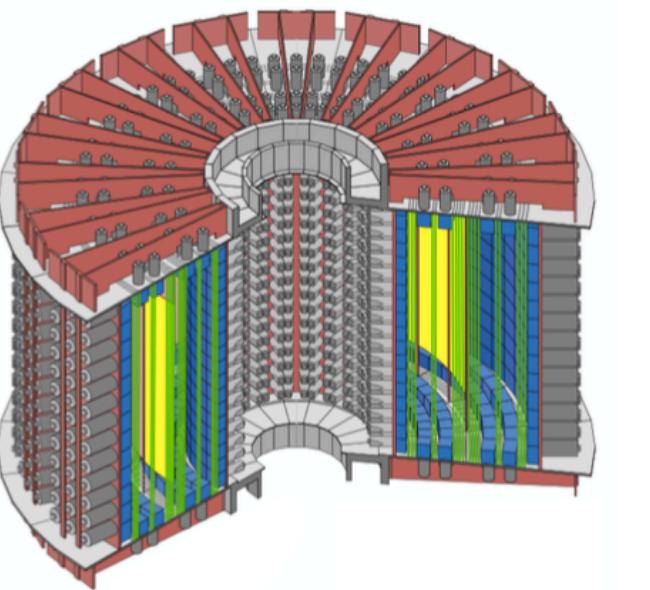
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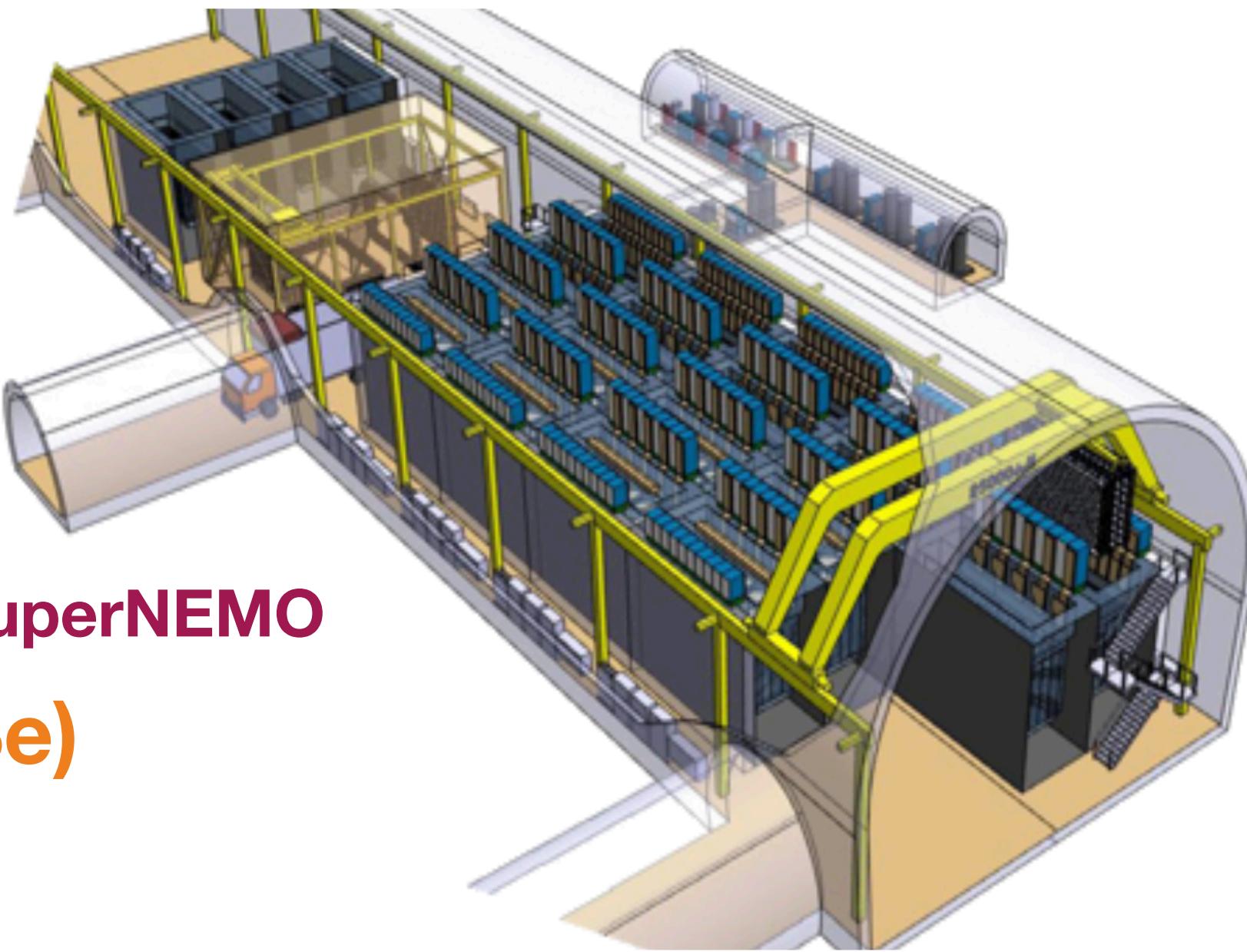
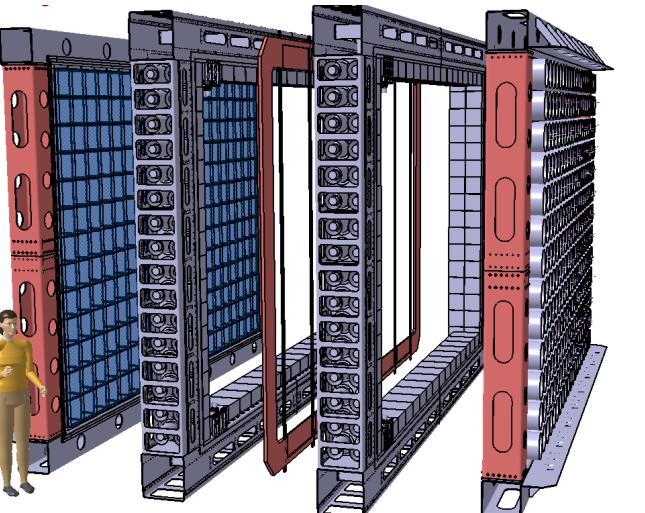
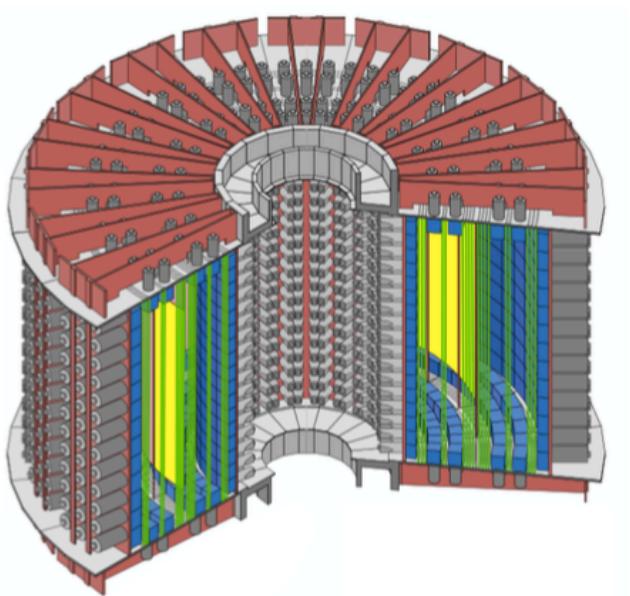
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A(^{208}Ti)	$\sim 100 \mu\text{Bq/kg}$	$< 2 \mu\text{Bq/kg}$
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Level of radon A(^{222}Rn)	$\sim 5.0 \text{ mBq/m}^3$	$< 0.15 \text{ mBq/m}^3$
Sensitivity after 5 (2.5) y data taking	$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 10^{24} \text{ y}$	$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 6 \times 10^{24} \text{ y}$

$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 6 \times 10^{24} \text{ years}$

Full SuperNEMO (15-20 demonstrator modules)

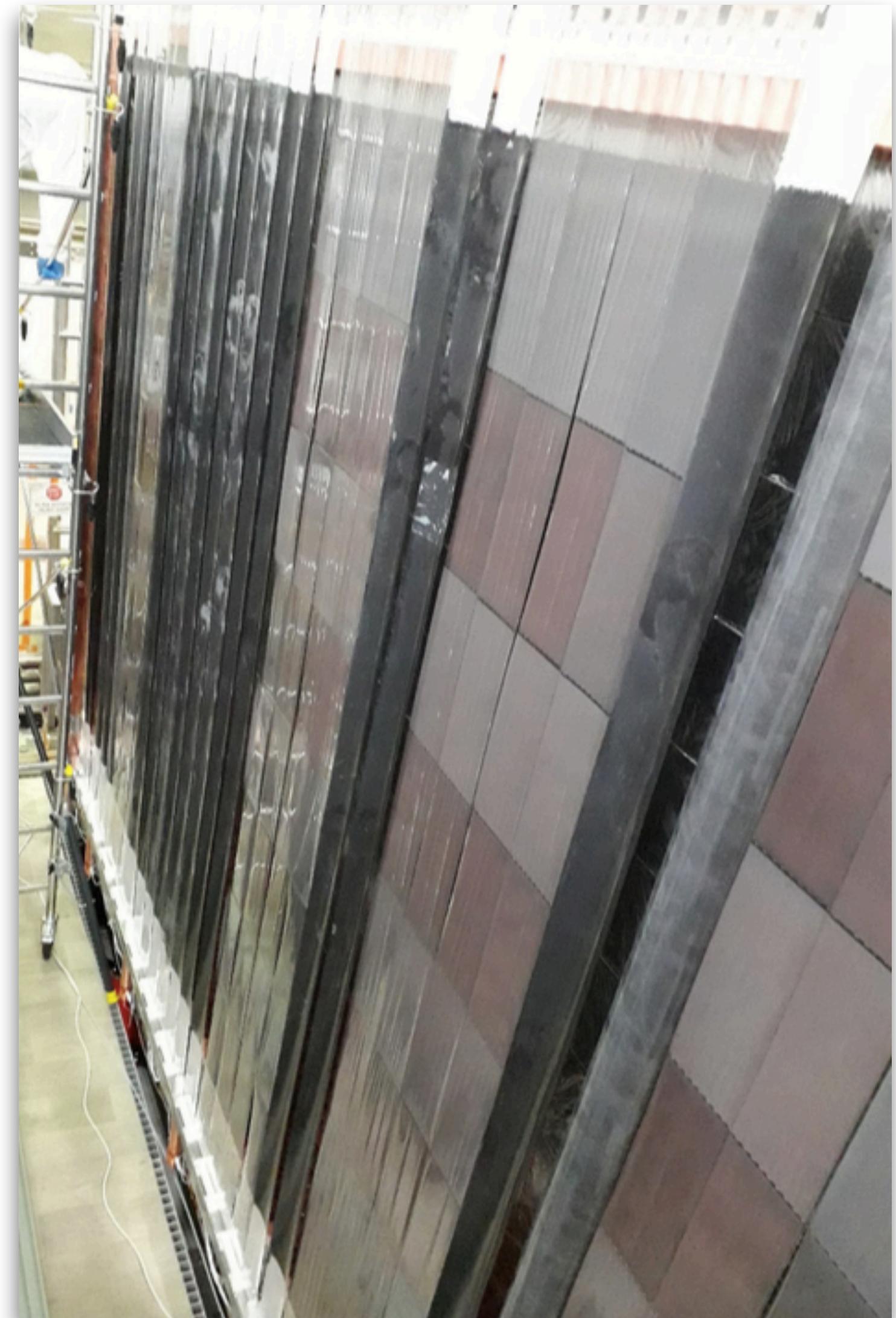
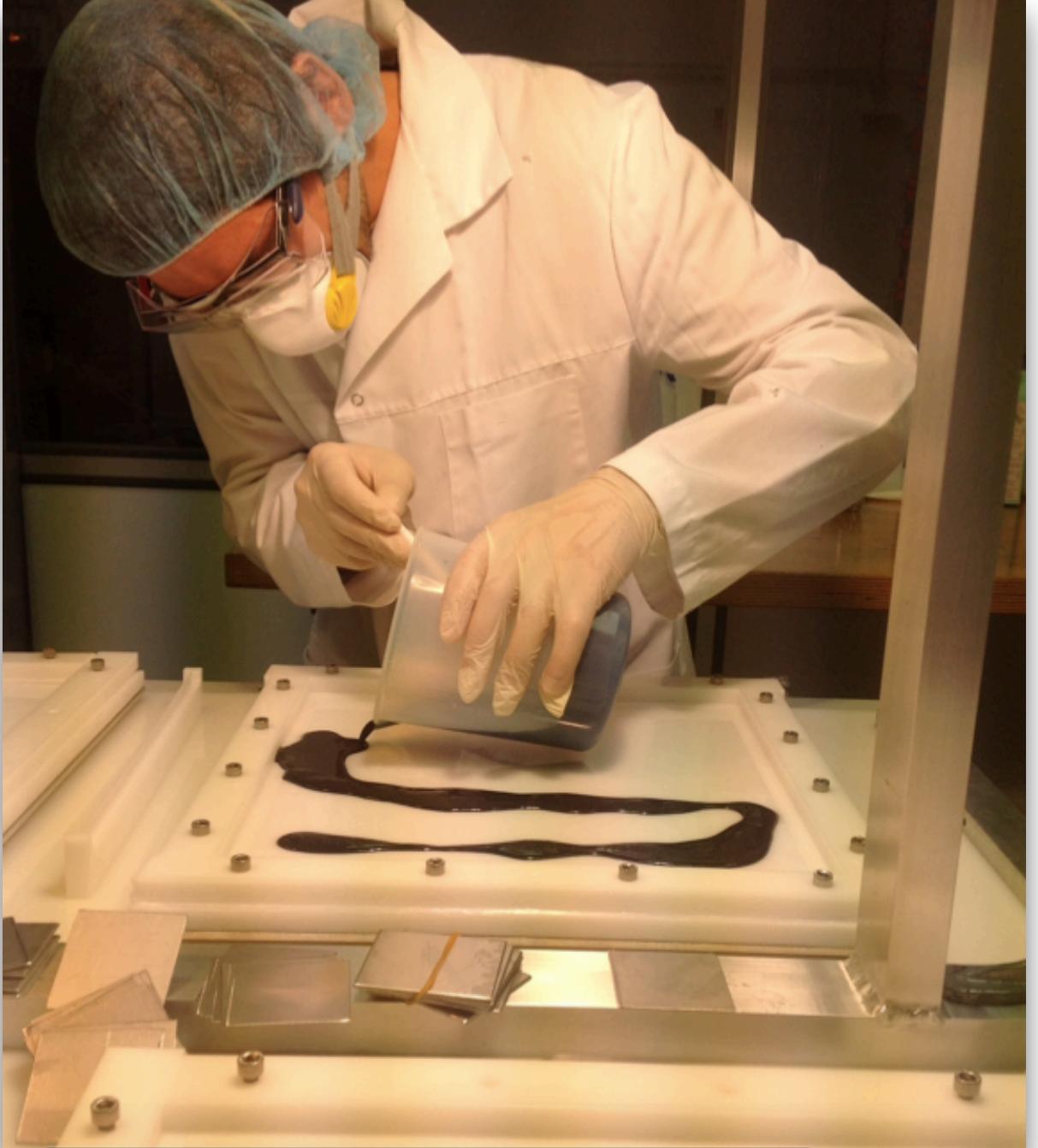


Proposed full SuperNEMO
100 kg (^{82}Se)

	NEMO-3	SuperNEMO demonstrator
Mass [kg] (main isotopes)	7 (^{100}Mo)	7 (^{82}Se)
$T_{1/2}^{2\nu}$ [y]	6.8×10^{18}	9.4×10^{19}
Energy resolution		
FWHM at 1 MeV	15 %	8 %
FWHM at 3 MeV	8 %	4 %
Source radiopurity		
A(^{208}TI)	$\sim 100 \mu\text{Bq/kg}$	$< 2 \mu\text{Bq/kg}$
A(^{214}Bi)	$< 300 \mu\text{Bq/kg}$	$< 10 \mu\text{Bq/kg}$
Level of radon A(^{222}Rn)	$\sim 5.0 \text{ mBq/m}^3$	$< 0.15 \text{ mBq/m}^3$
Sensitivity after 5 (2.5) y data taking	$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 10^{24} \text{ y}$	$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 6 \times 10^{24} \text{ y}$

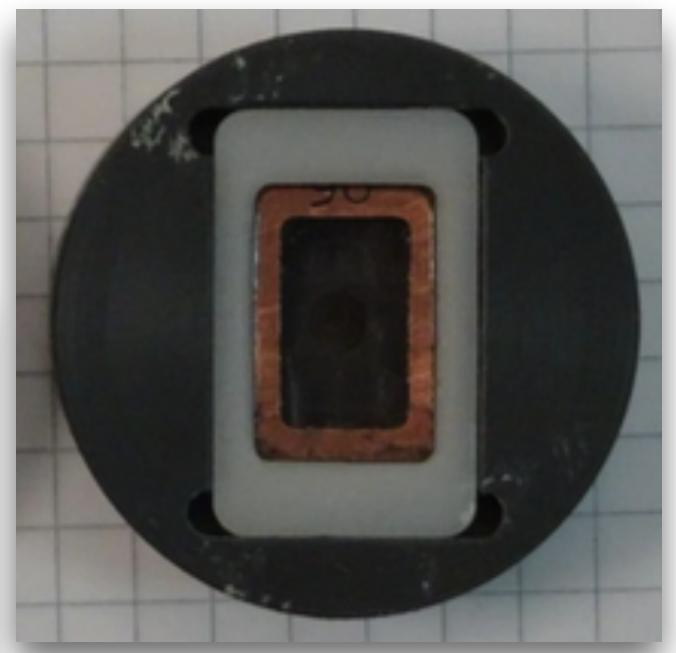
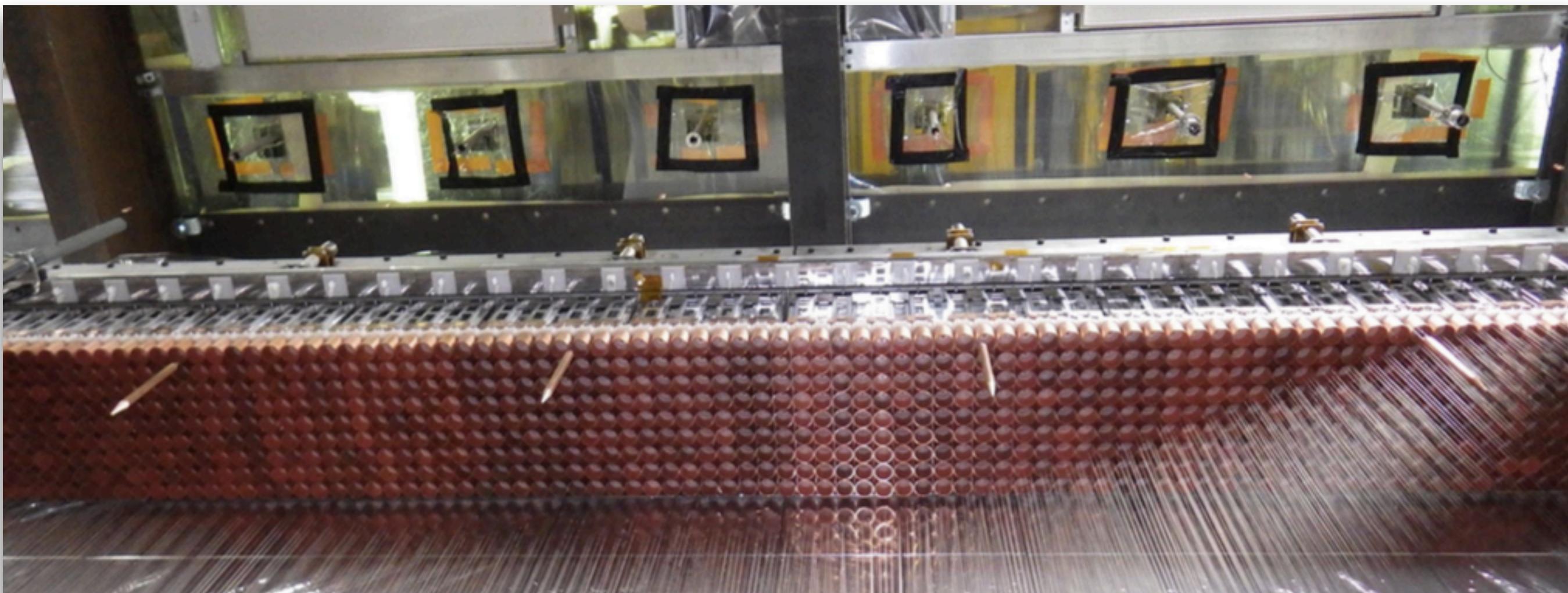
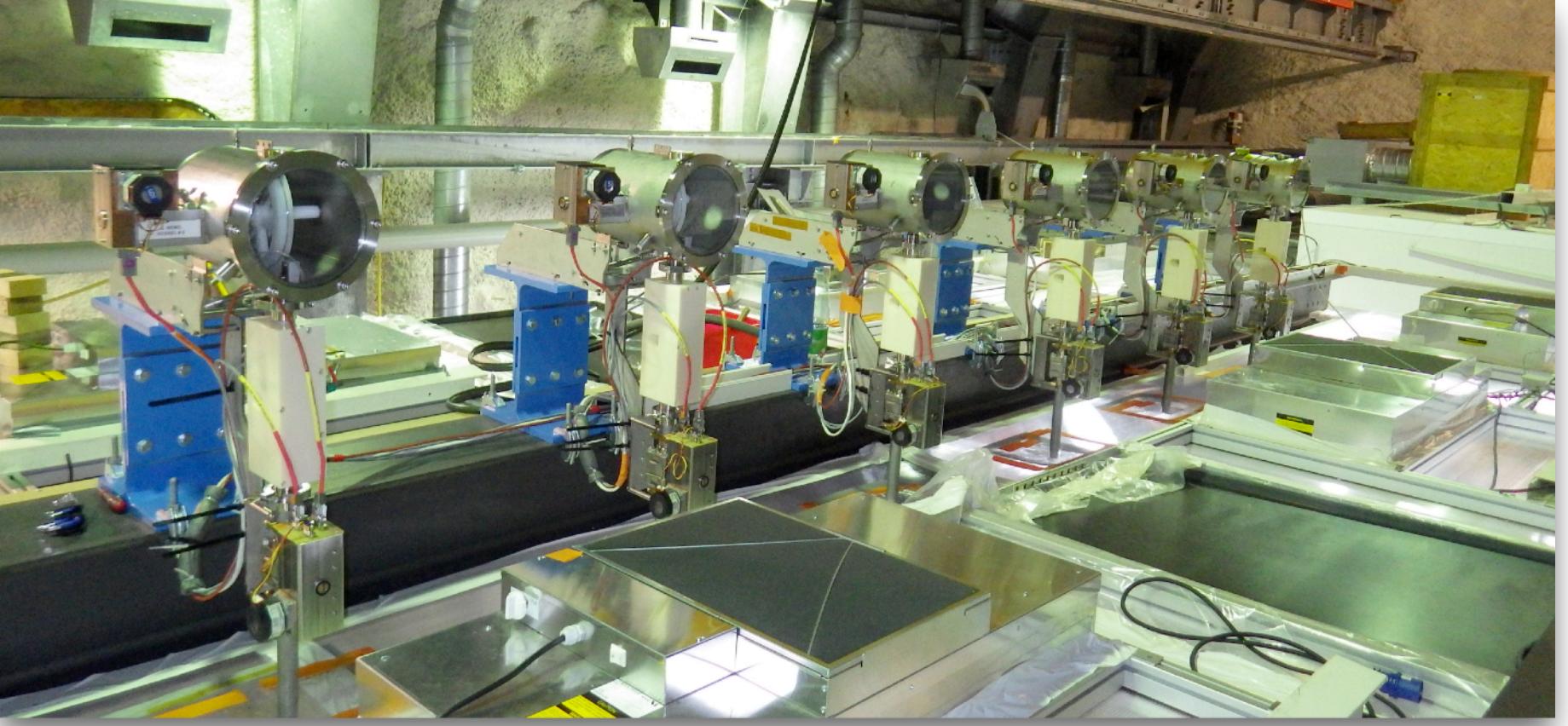
$T_{1/2} > 10^{26} \text{ years}; \langle m_\nu \rangle < 40\text{-}100 \text{ meV}$
(5 years of data taking)

^{82}Se source foils



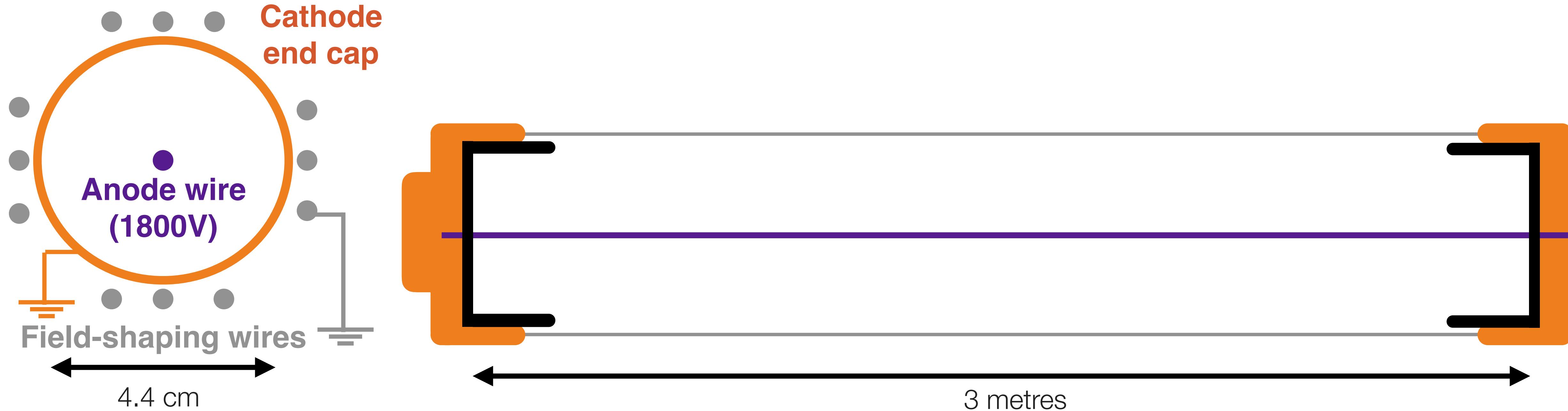
- **6.3 kg** of $\beta\beta$ emitter (^{82}Se) in 34 foils (plus 2 Cu foils)
- Enriched selenium powder mixed with PVA in Mylar wrapper
- Purified with distillation / chromatography / chemical precipitation
- **Now installed** at LSM
- **BiPo detector** measured ^{208}TI and ^{214}Bi contamination:
 - targets $10\mu\text{Bq}/\text{kg}$ ^{214}Bi , $2\mu\text{Bq}/\text{kg}$ ^{208}TI too low to confirm with current BiPo measurement
 - measure activities *in situ*

Source frame and calibration source deployment system

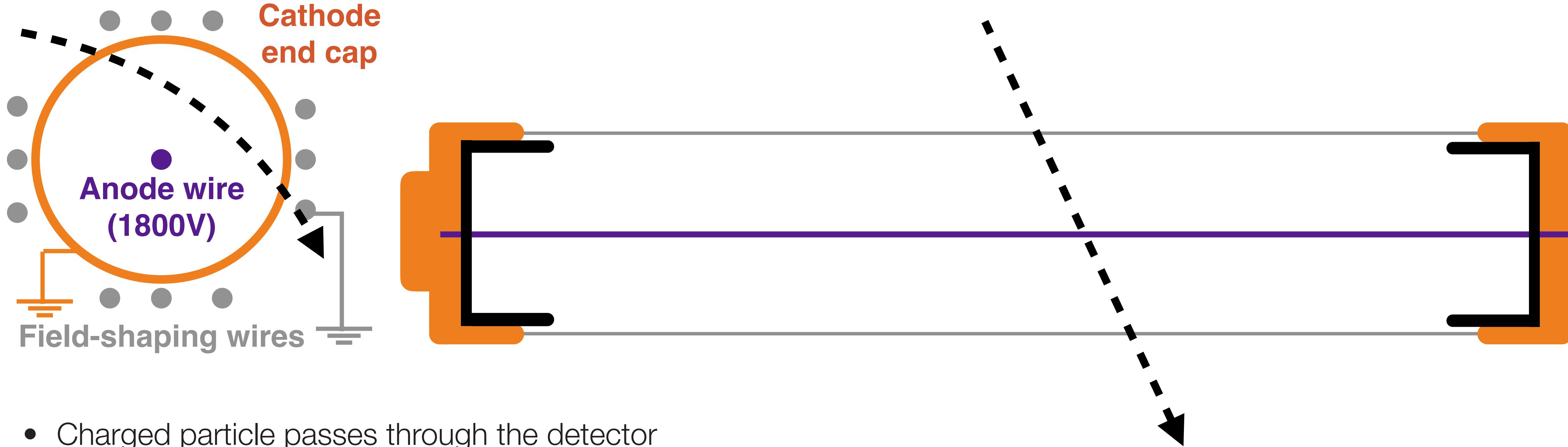


- 42 ^{207}Bi sources with known spectrum
- **Automatically deployed** ~ once a week for ~15 hours
- **Lowered** from top of detector (**between foils**) via copper wire with plumb bob
- Position controlled with lasers

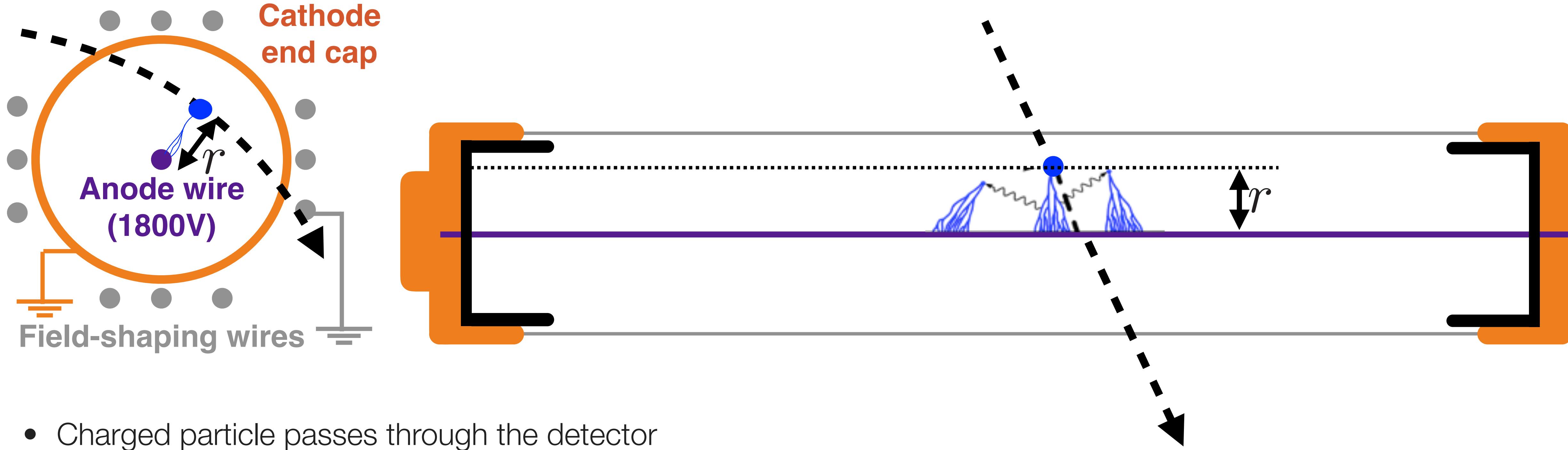
Wire trackers



Wire trackers

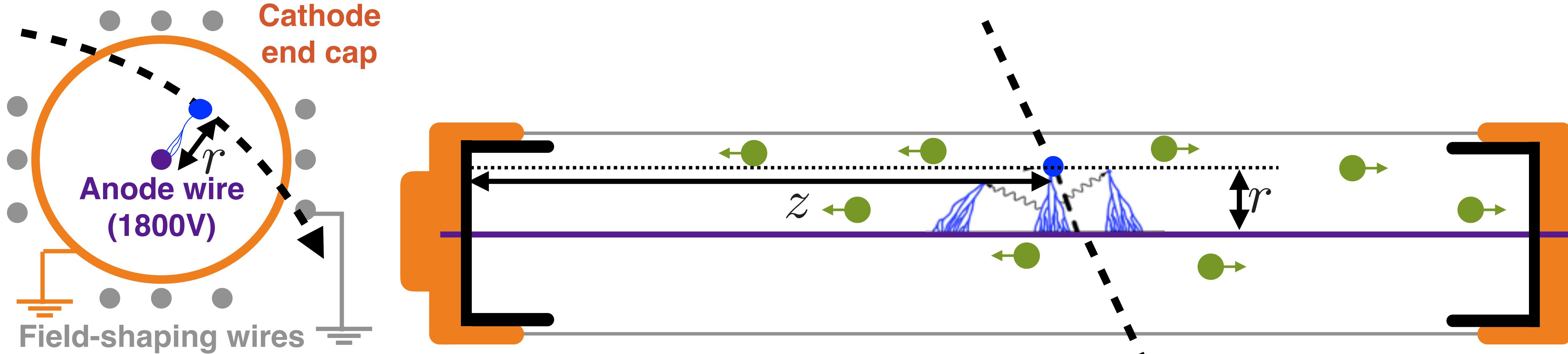


Wire trackers



- Charged particle passes through the detector
- Electron avalanche drifts to anode (Geiger mode)
- Drift time gives radius of closest approach r

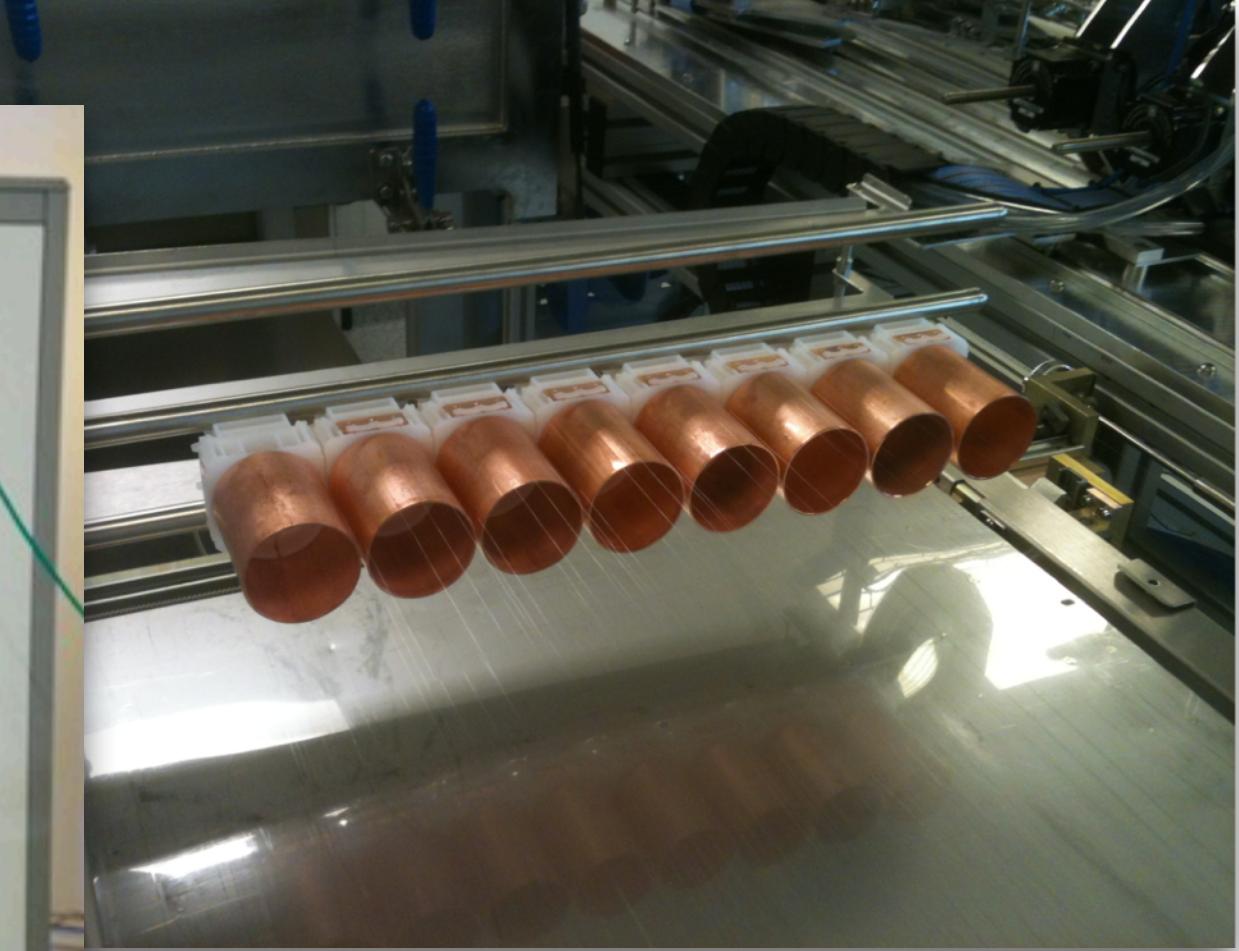
Wire trackers



- Charged particle passes through the detector
- Electron avalanche drifts to anode (Geiger mode)
 - Drift time gives radius of closest approach r
- Plasma propagates towards the two cathode end caps
 - Difference in drift times gives distance along wire z

Allows 3-d track reconstruction

Building the tracker



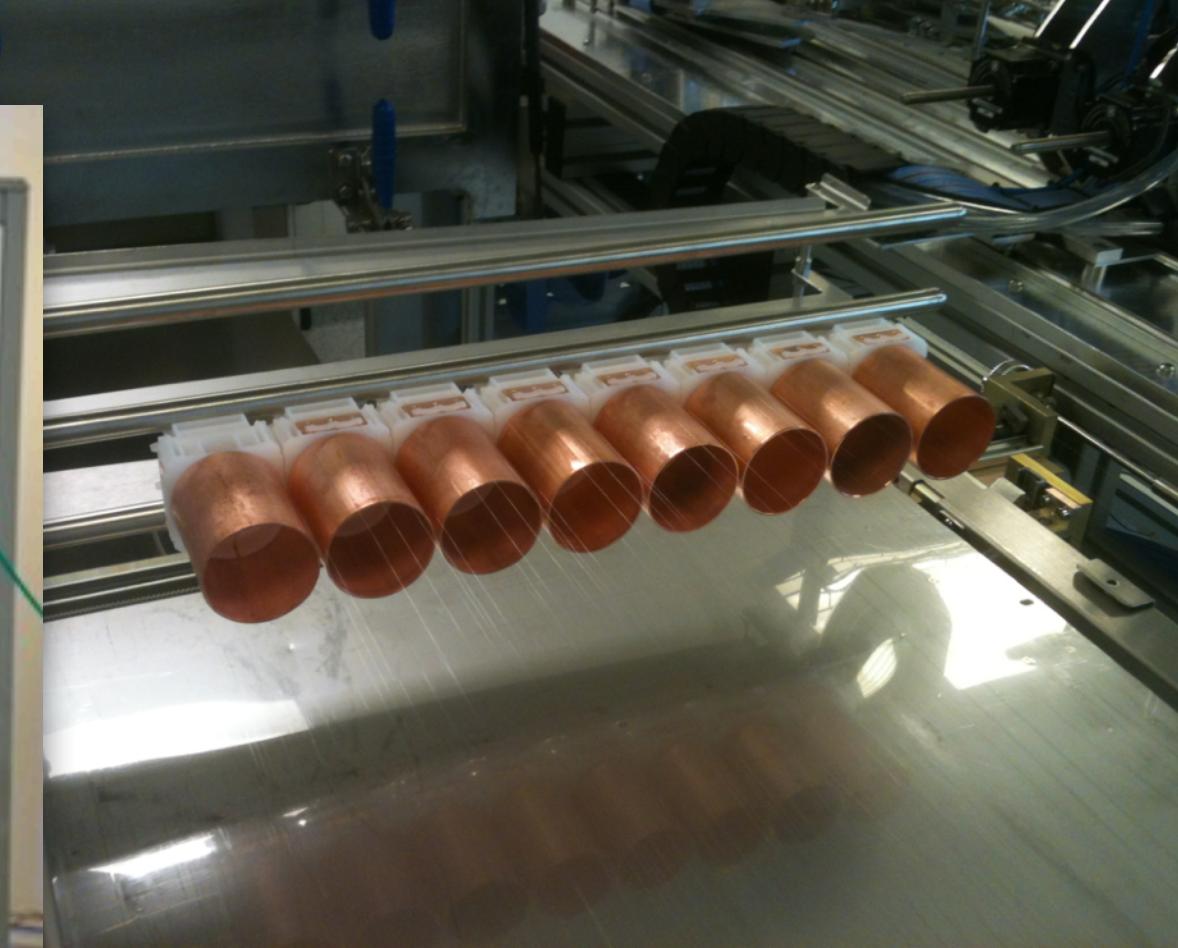
2034 drift cells (13,000 wires!)

Arranged in 113 rows of 9 cells
(from source to calorimeter wall)
on each side of $\beta\beta$ source

Building the tracker



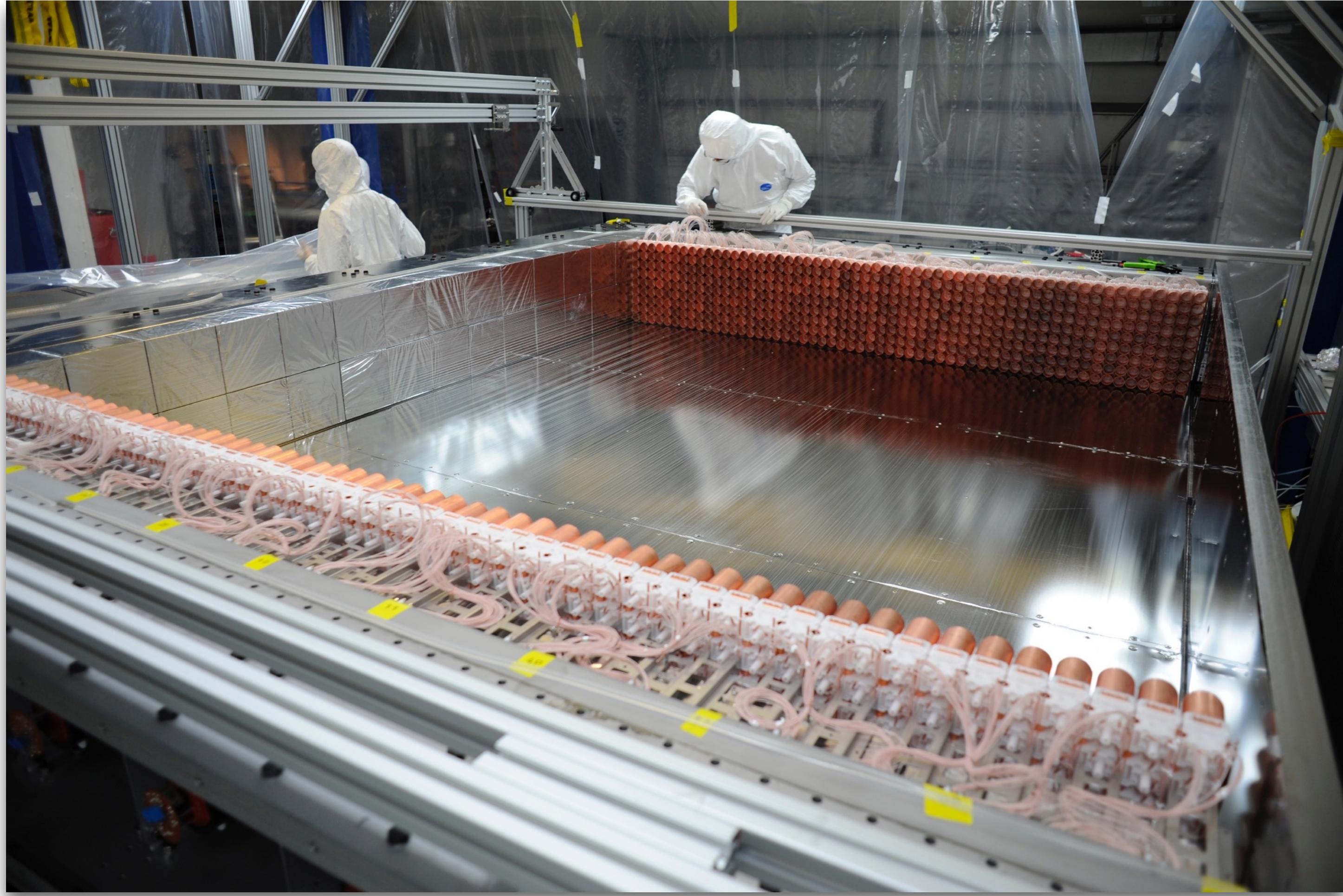
Installed into 4 C-shaped tracker sections



2034 drift cells (13,000 wires!)

Arranged in 113 rows of 9 cells
(from source to calorimeter wall)
on each side of $\beta\beta$ source

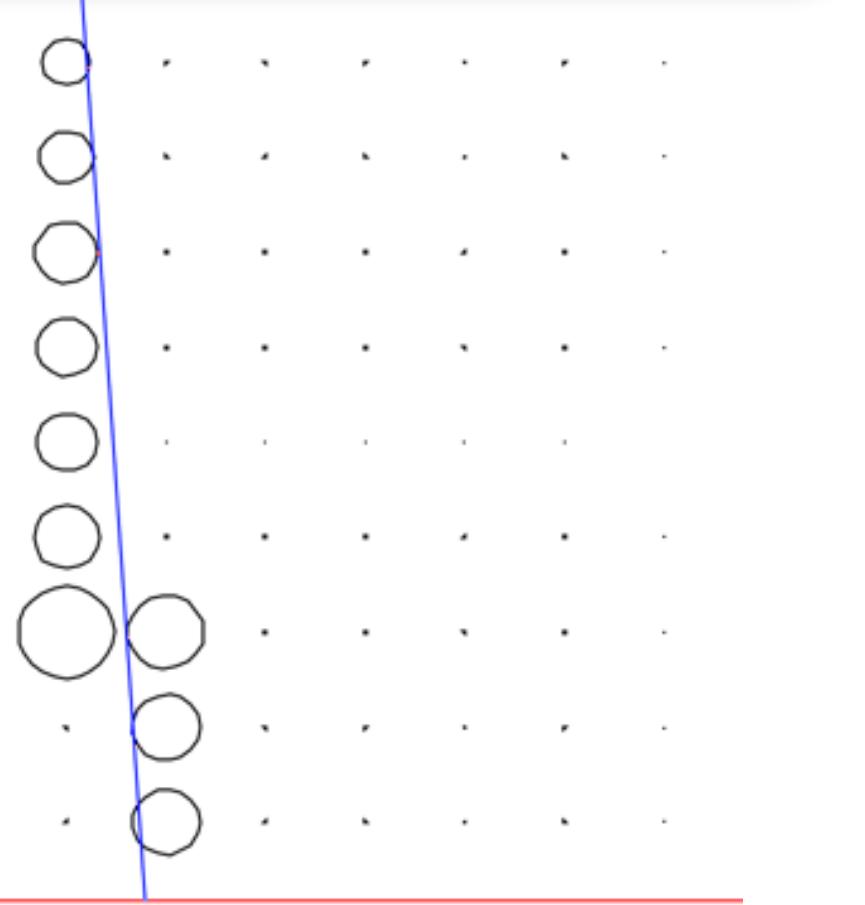
Tracker assembly and commissioning



Completed C-section

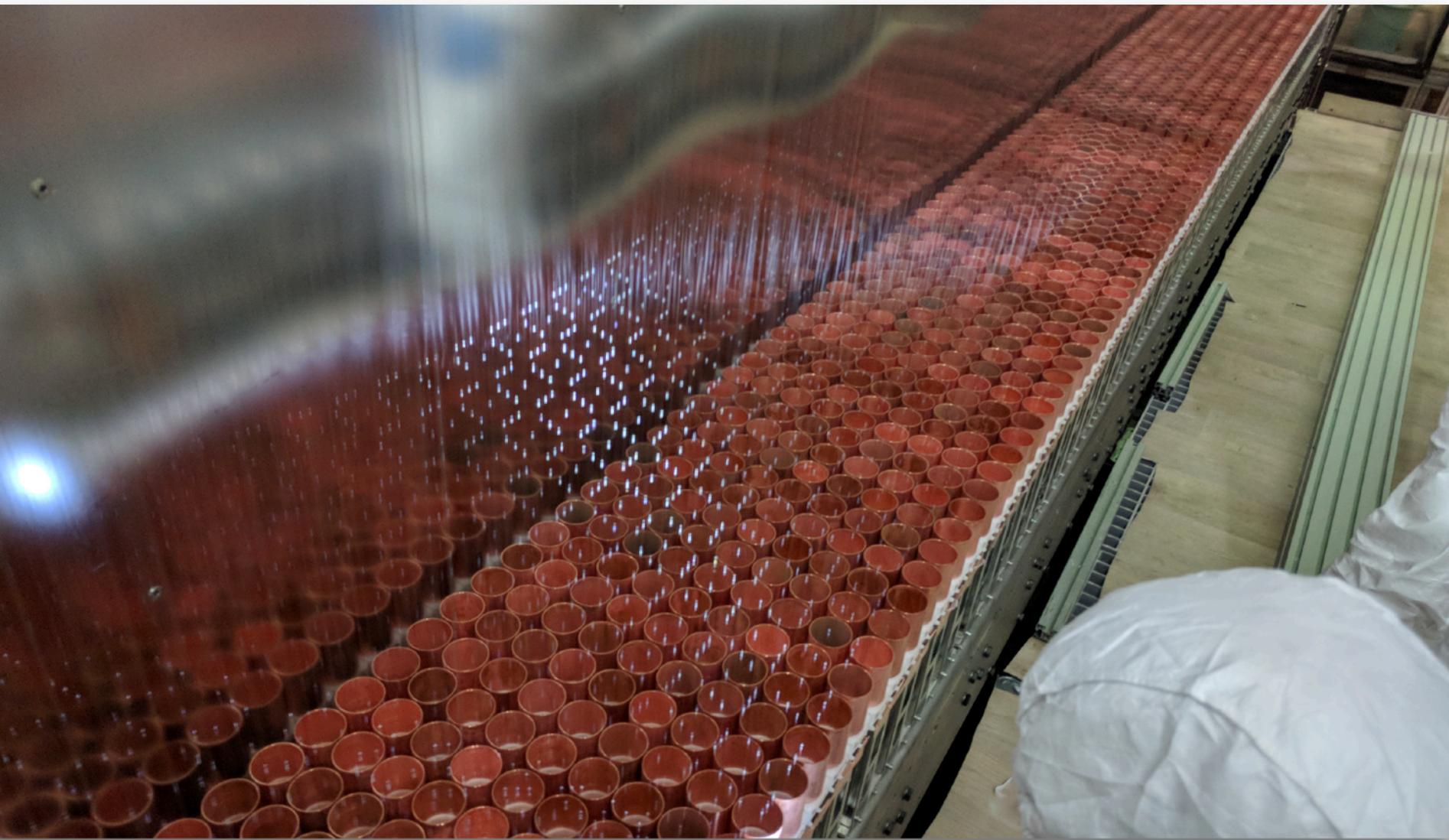


Checking for dust



Commissioning with cosmic rays

The tracker at LSM



Low background strategy: reduce, remove, reject

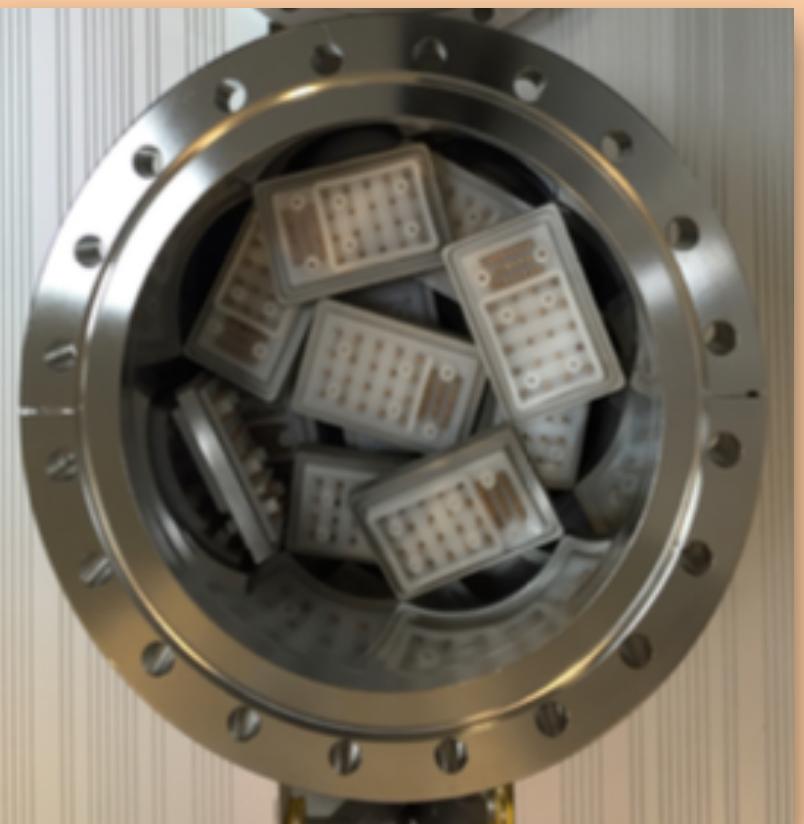
Radon 222 (from U decay chain): target activity **150 $\mu\text{Bq} / \text{m}^3$**

~ 30 times lower than NEMO-3

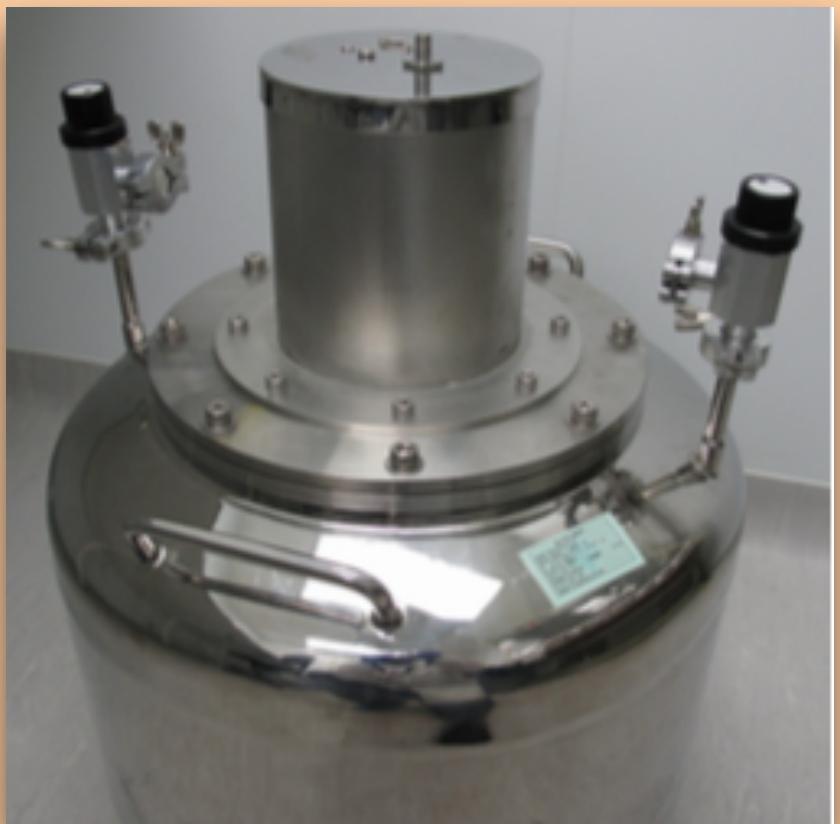
Low background strategy: reduce, remove, reject

Radon 222 (from U decay chain): target activity **150 $\mu\text{Bq} / \text{m}^3$**

Reduce radon contamination with
radio-pure components



Emanation chamber lets us measure activity of **tracker components** and materials: select only the most **radio-pure**



70 litre **electrostatic detector** sensitive down to 0.09mBq

Low background strategy: reduce, remove, reject

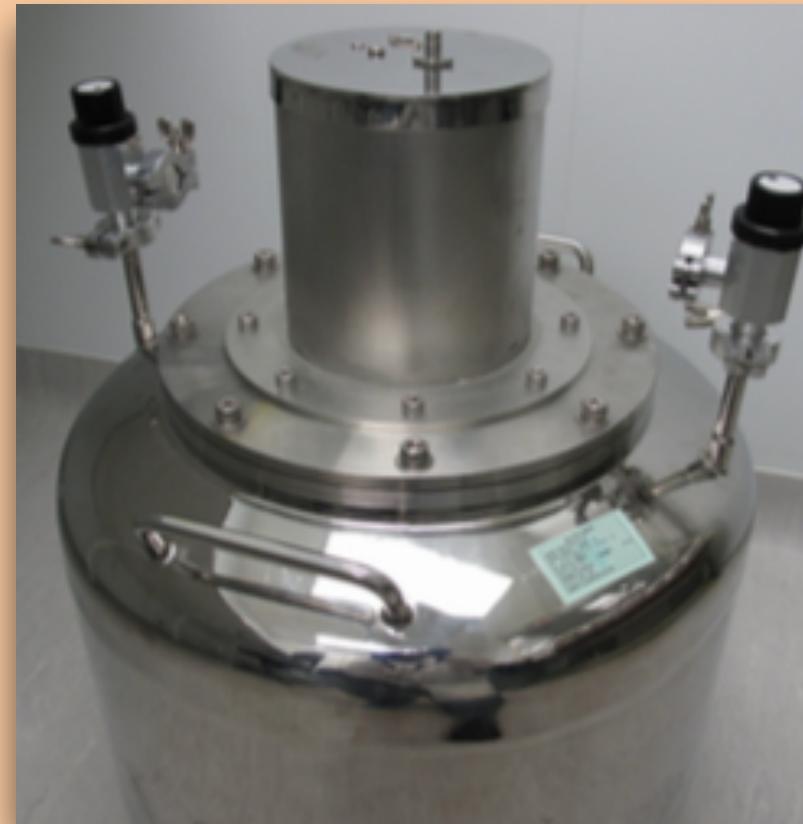
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70 litre **electrostatic detector** sensitive down to 0.09mBq



Remove radon from tracker gas
(95% helium, 1% argon, 4% ethanol)

Remove Rn with **cold carbon trap**

- **He:** 10^{10} x suppression - completely **clean**
- **N₂:** 20x purification - $20 \mu\text{Bq}/\text{m}^3$



Radon concentration line lets us measure the low activities in the tracker

Measured activity: $2.7 \pm 0.3 \text{ mBq} / \text{m}^3$

Flush with He: $2 \text{ m}^3 / \text{hour}$

Resulting activity: $0.15 \text{ mBq} / \text{m}^3$

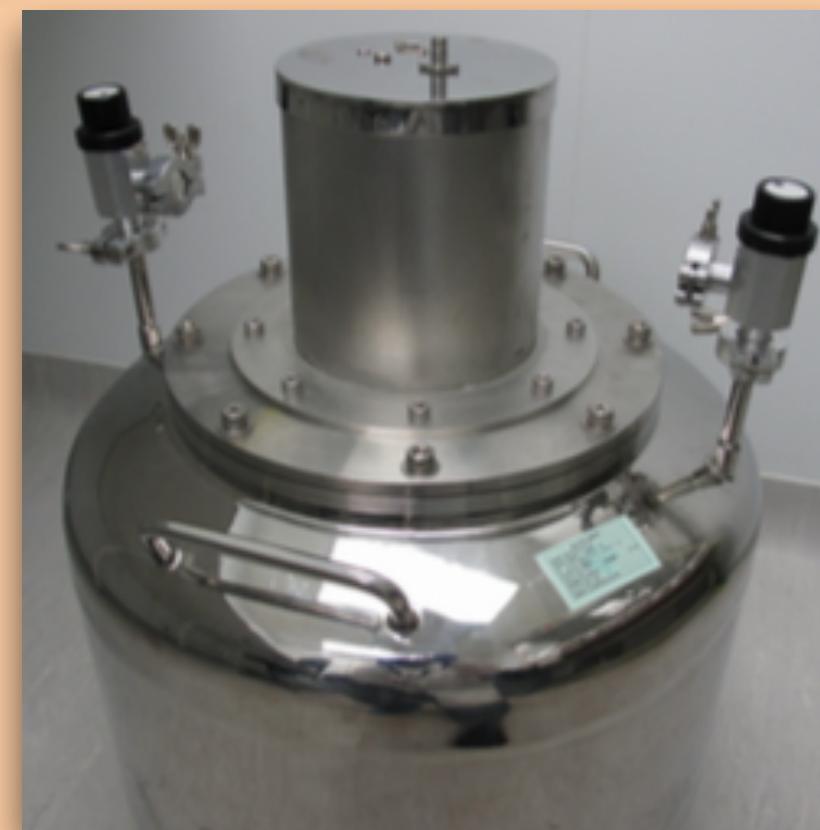
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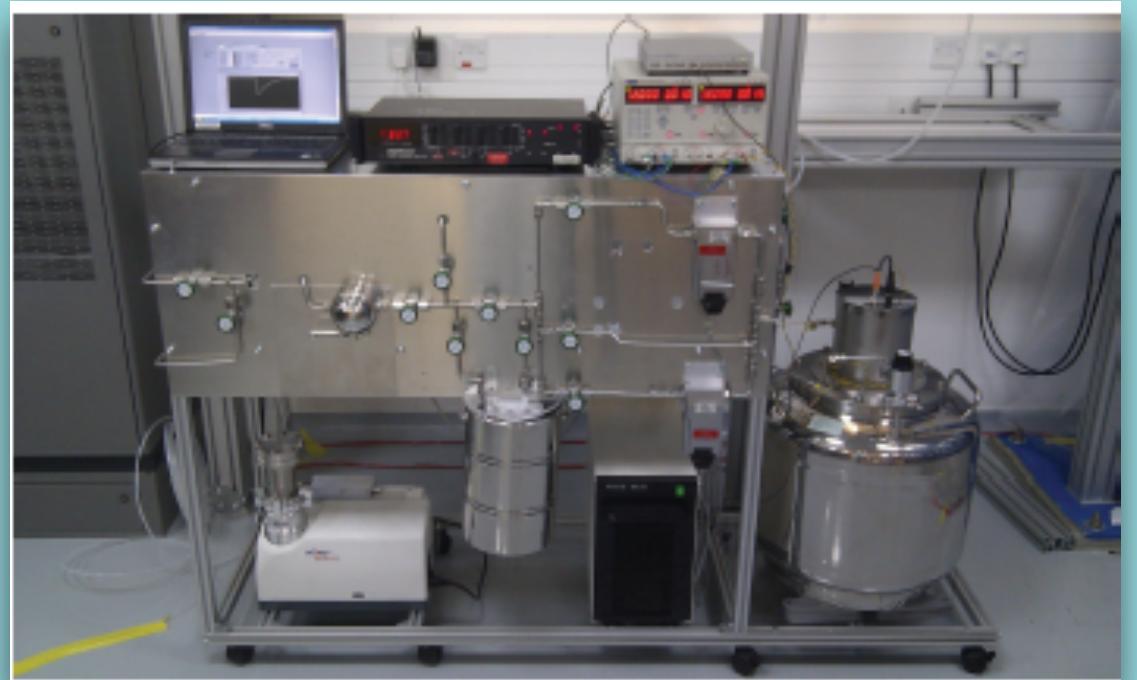


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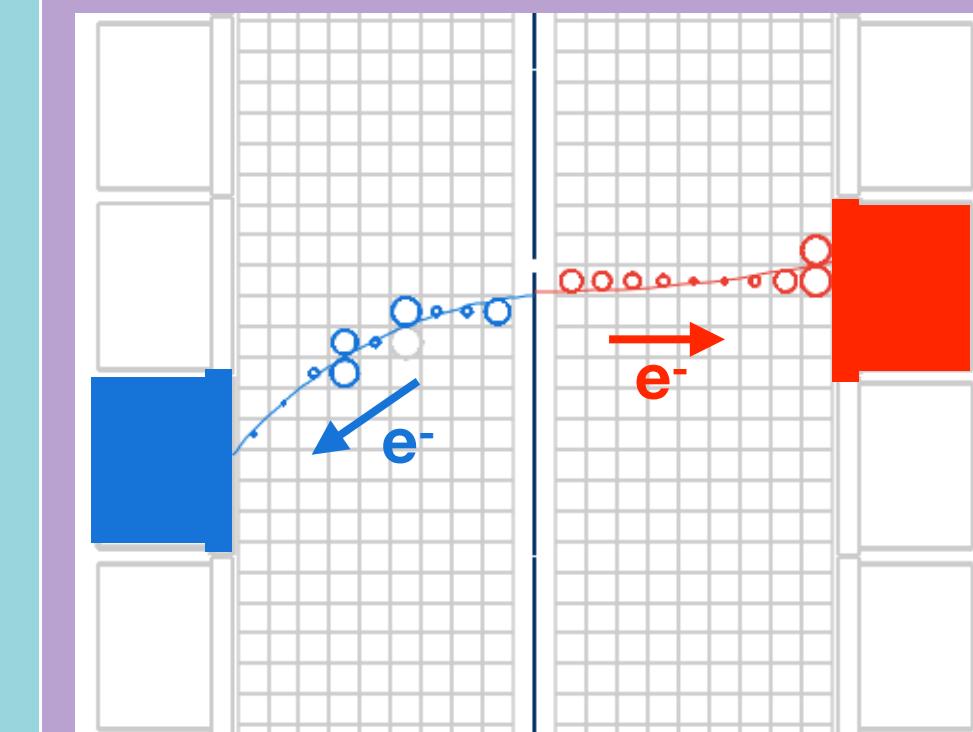
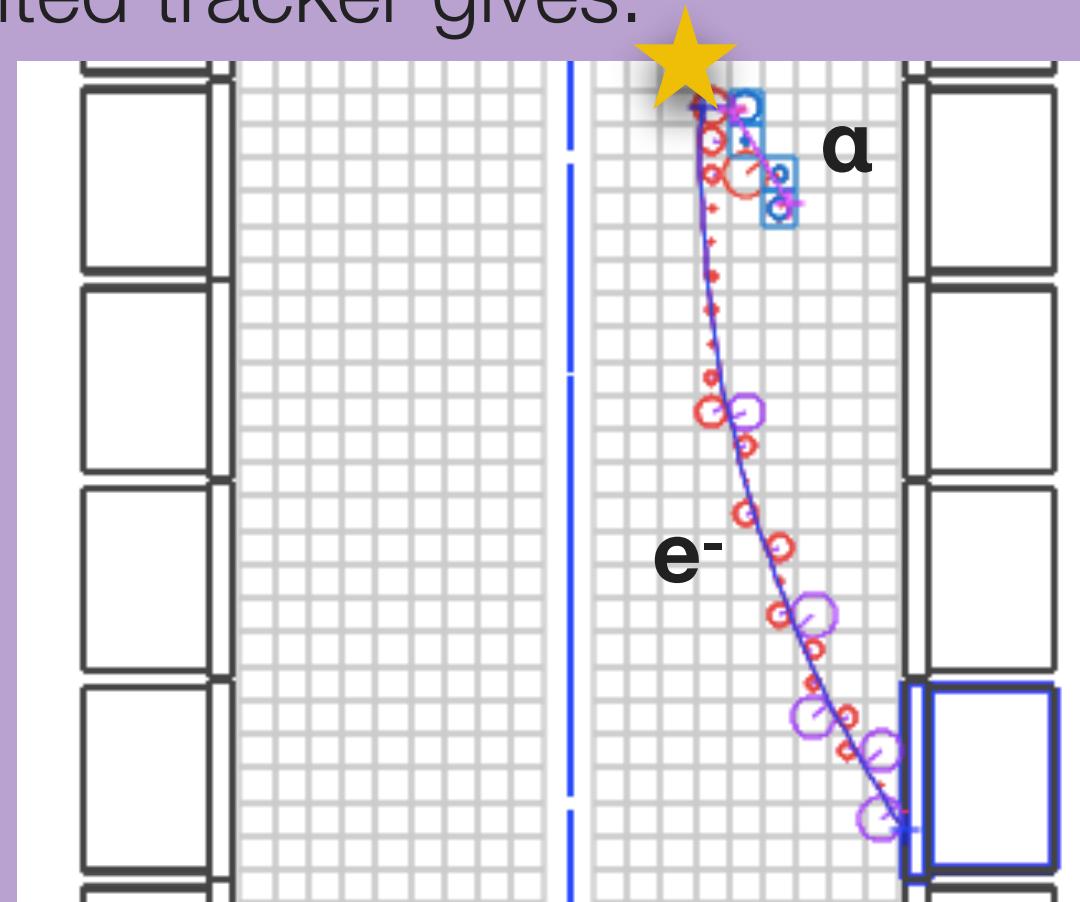
Flush with He: $2 \text{ m}^3 / \text{hour}$

Resulting activity: $0.15 \text{ mBq} / \text{m}^3$

Reject background events with topological and timing cuts

Fully-instrumented tracker gives:

- Event vertex
- Particle ID
- Timings → direction of travel

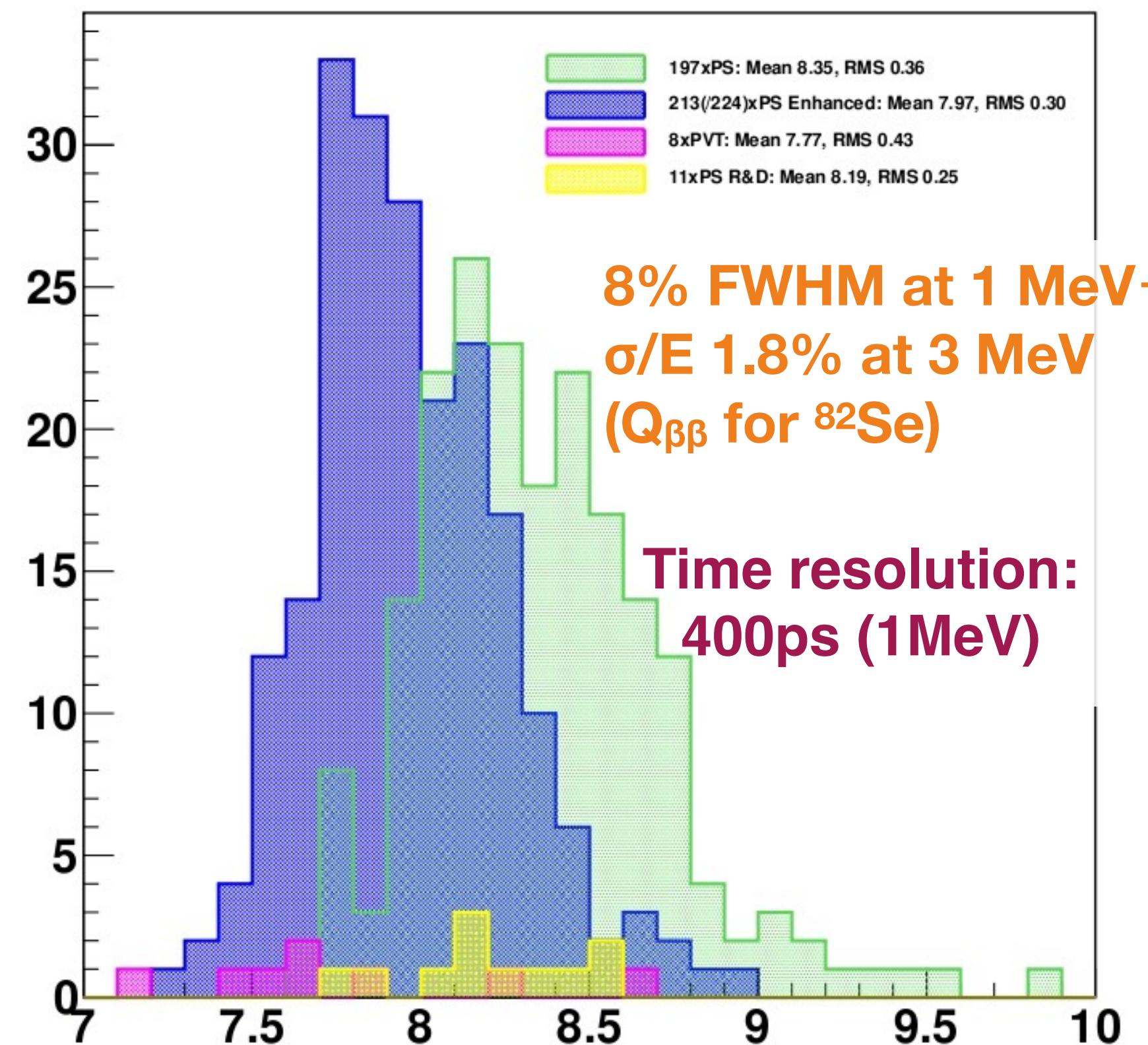


Reject non-ββ topologies at analysis time

Calorimeter development

Main calorimeter walls: 520 optical modules
With side, top and bottoms: 712 modules total

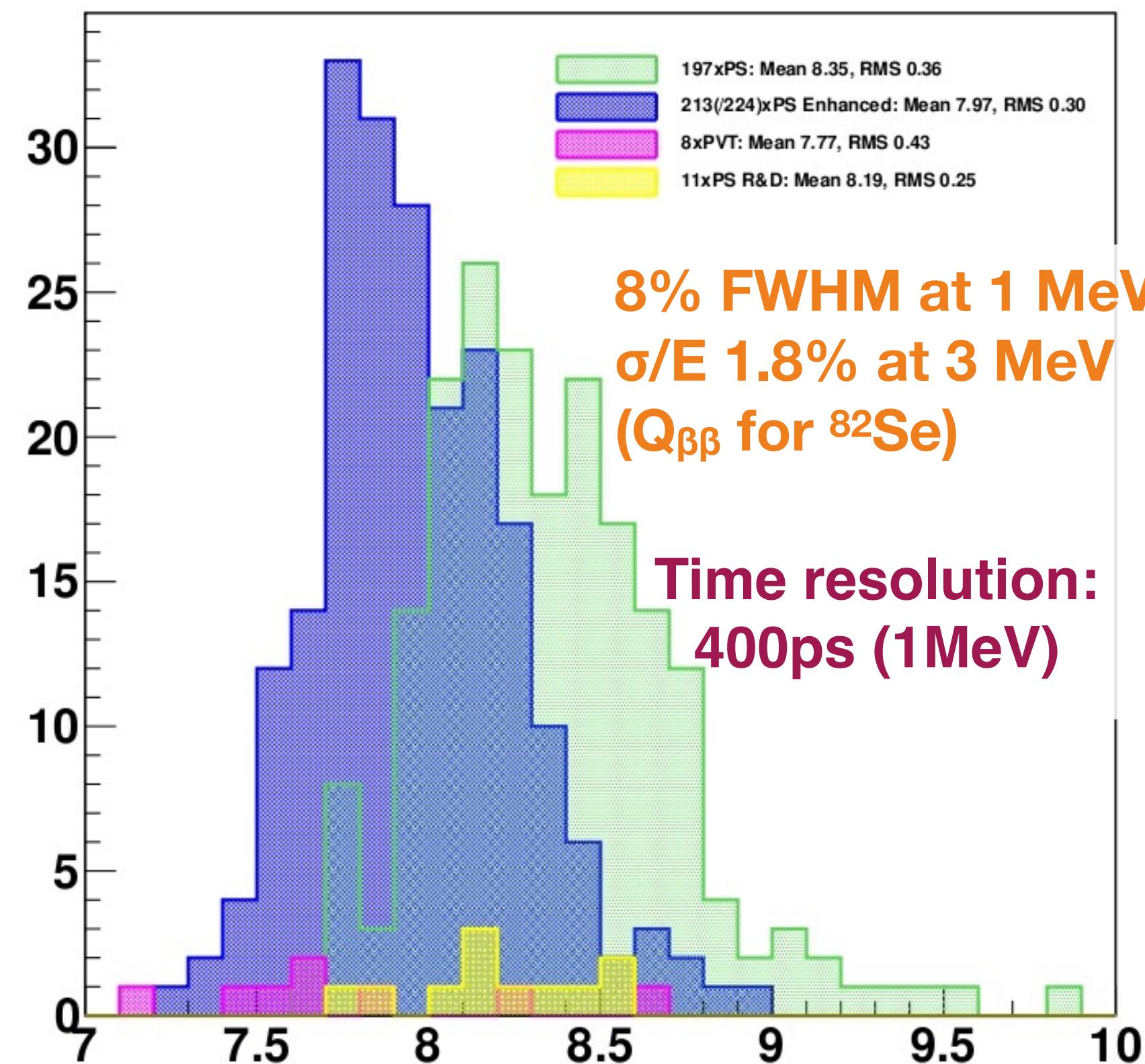
Nucl. Inst. Meth. A 868, 98-108 (2017)



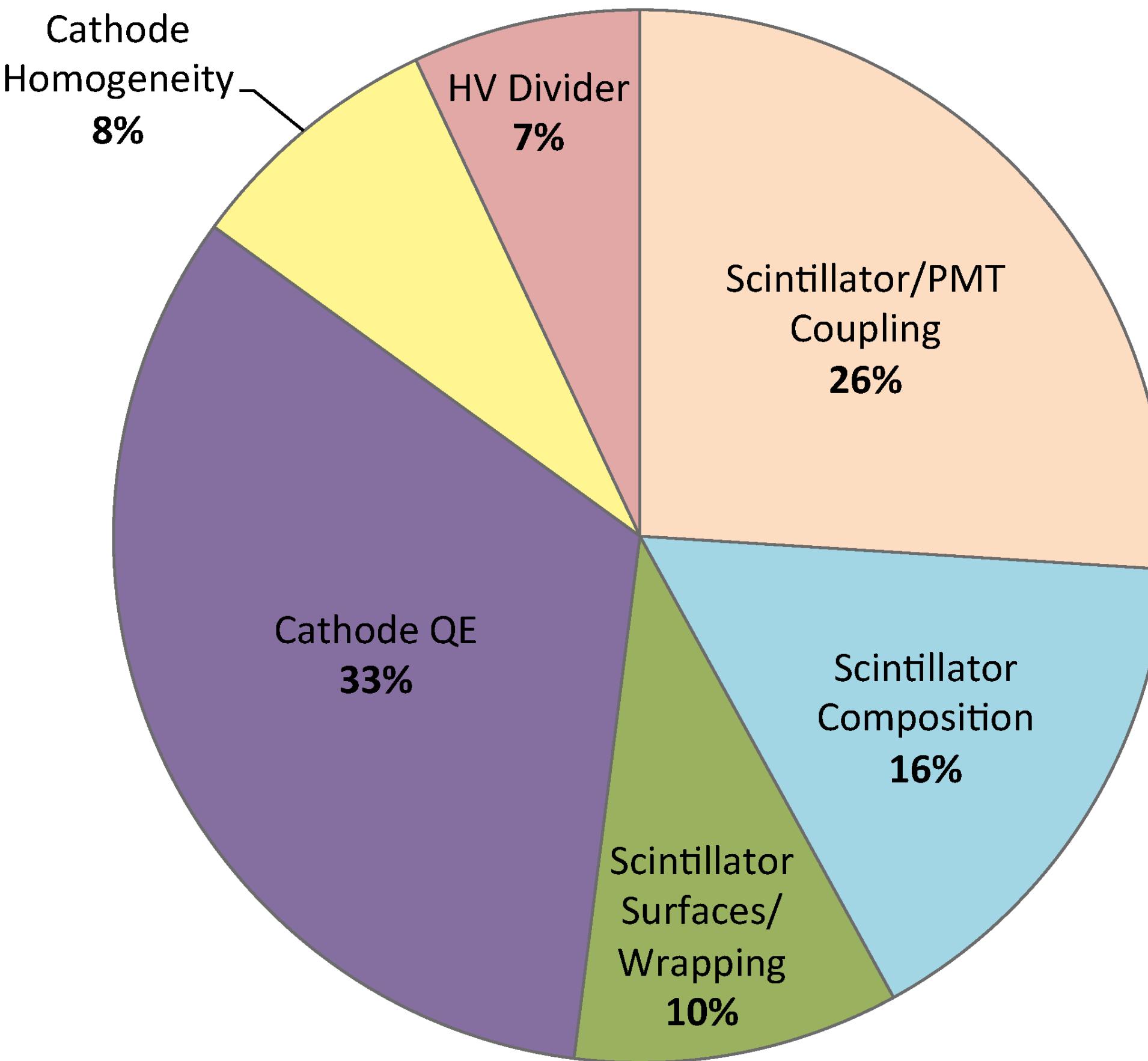
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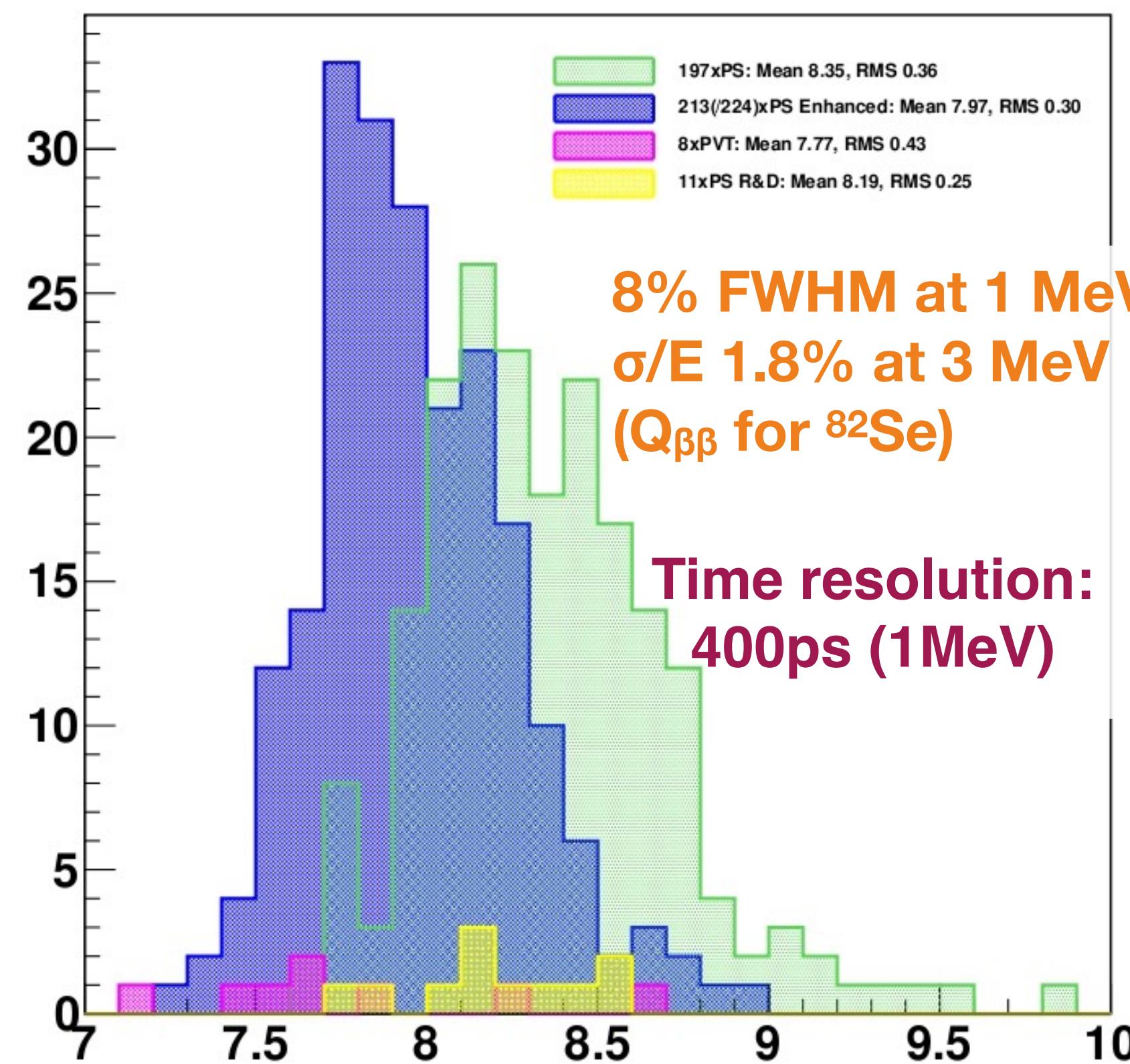
Contributions to improved resolution



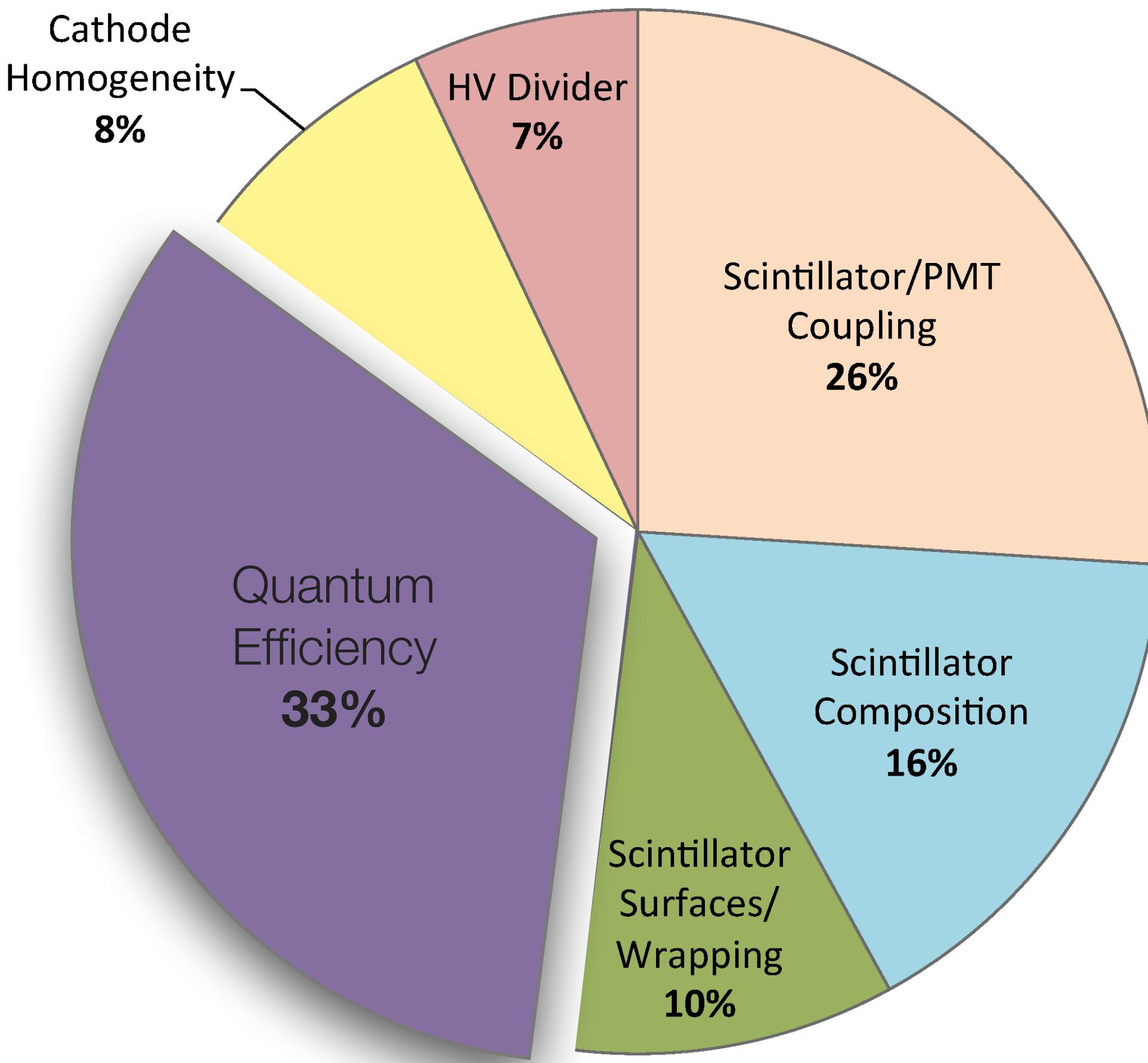
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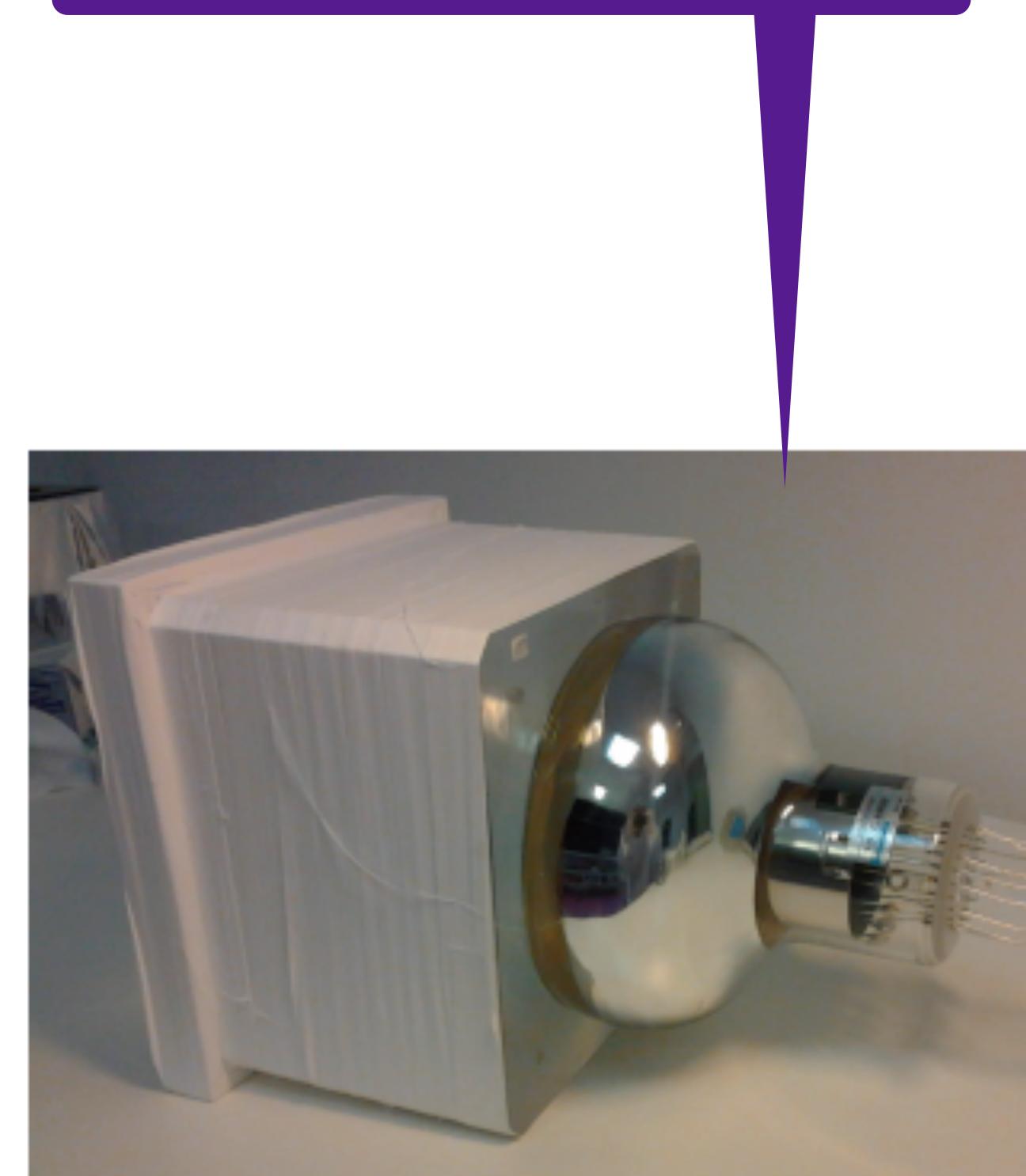
Nucl. Inst. Meth. A 868, 98-108 (2017)



Contributions to improved resolution



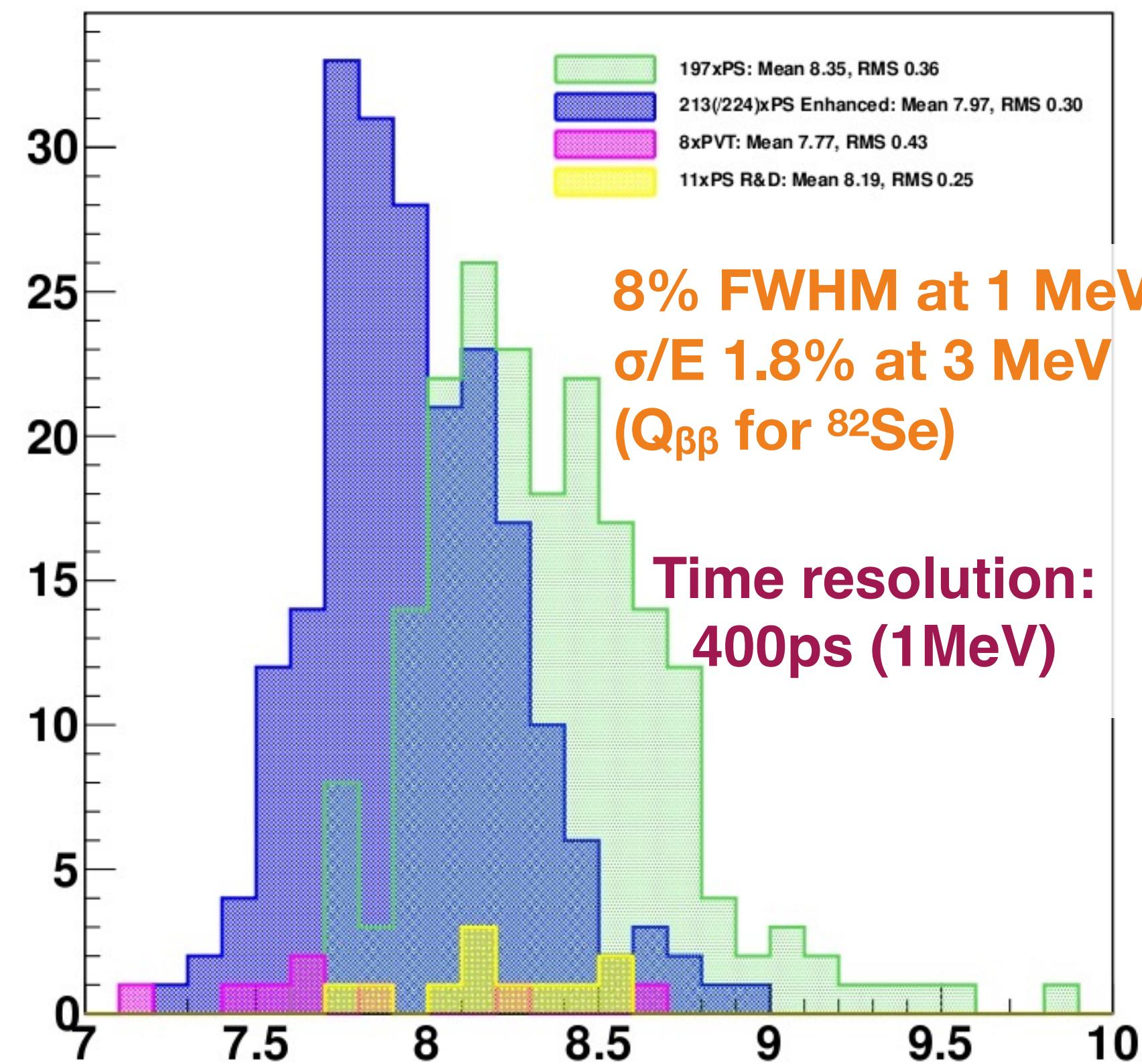
440 8" radiopure PMTs
with improved photocathode quantum efficiency
(5" PMTs for outer rows and columns. side, top and bottom)



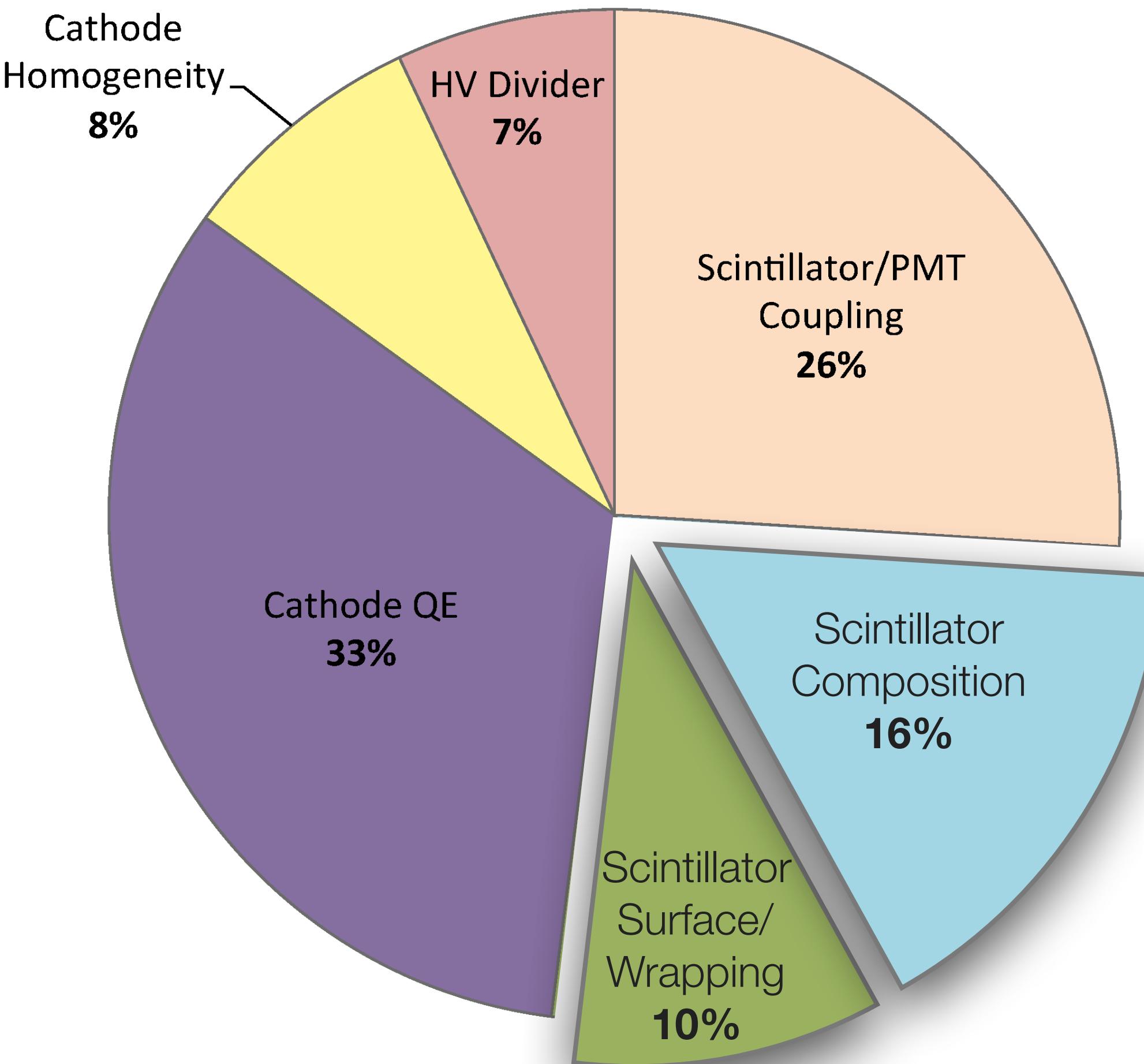
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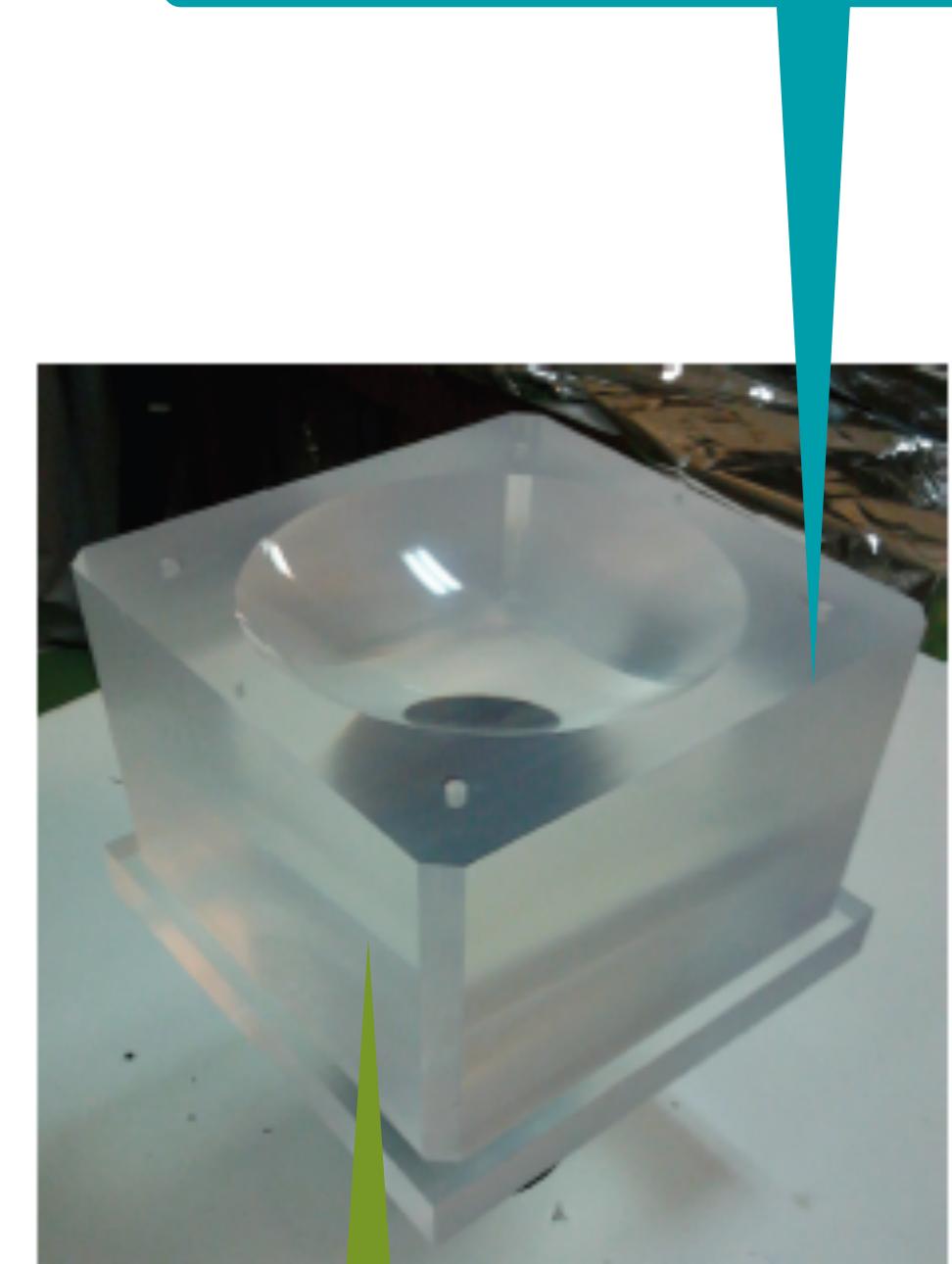
Nucl. Inst. Meth. A 868, 98-108 (2017)



Contributions to improved resolution



256 x 256 x 194 mm
Polystyrene scintillator block

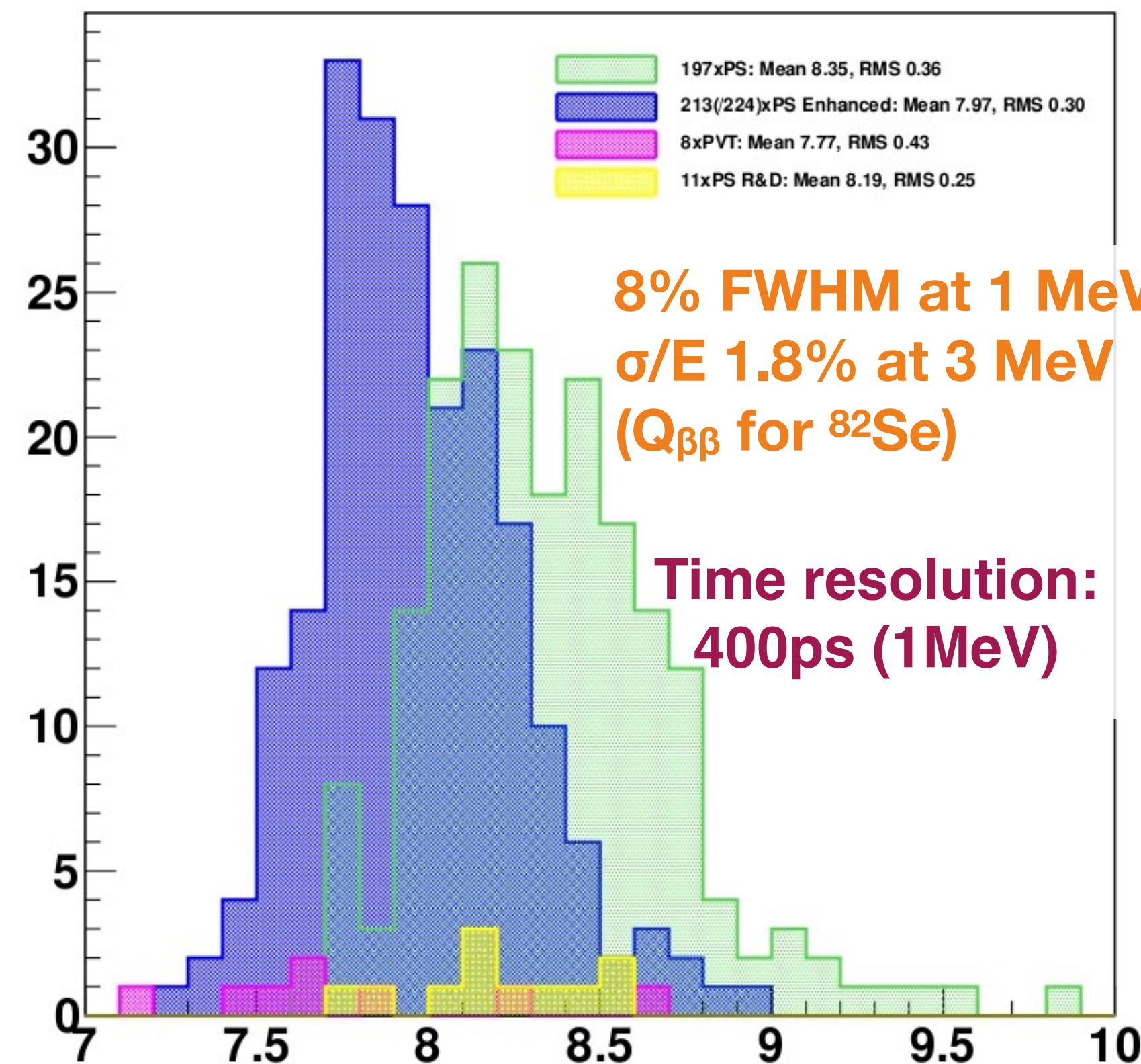


Optimised surface finish

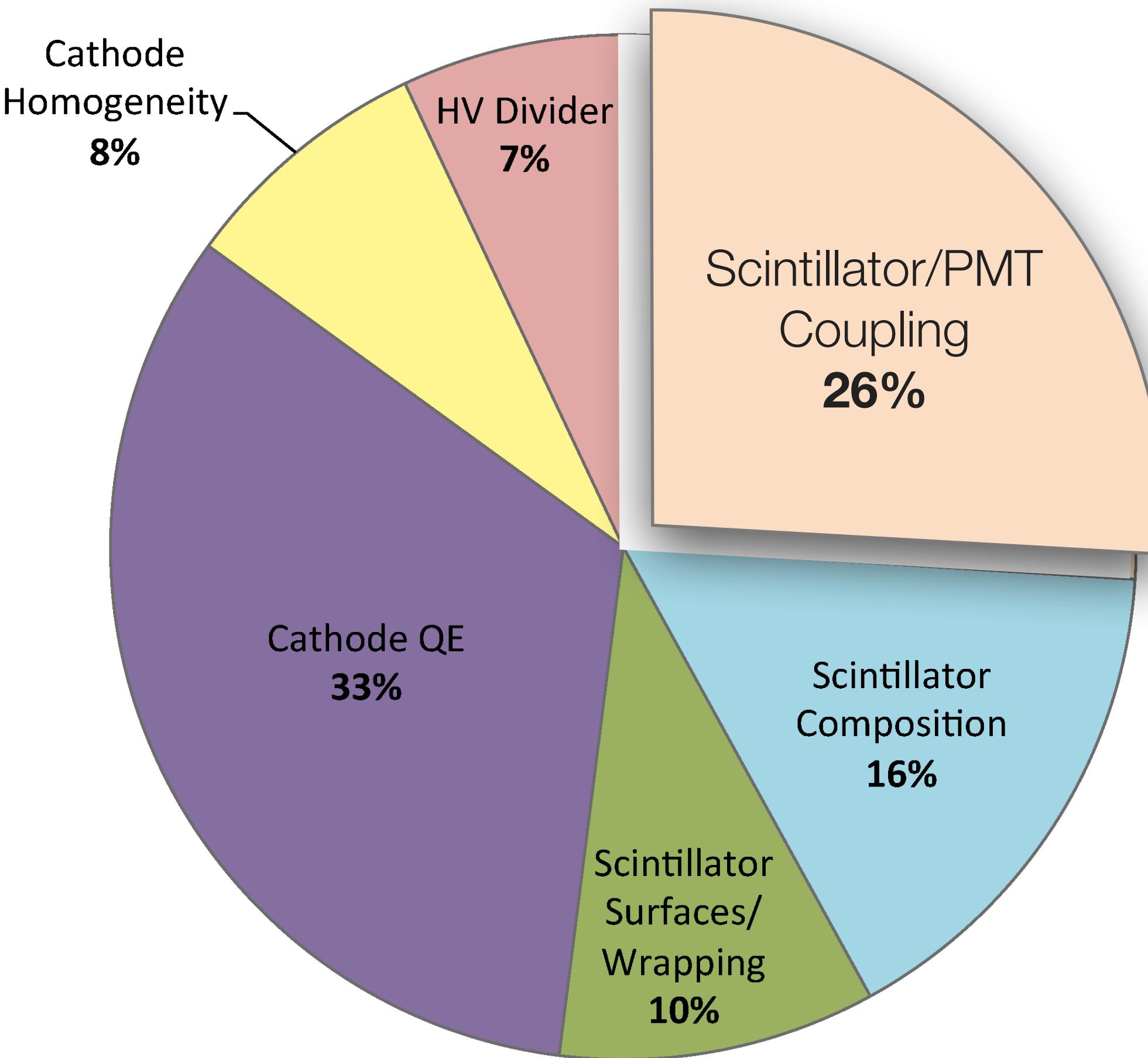
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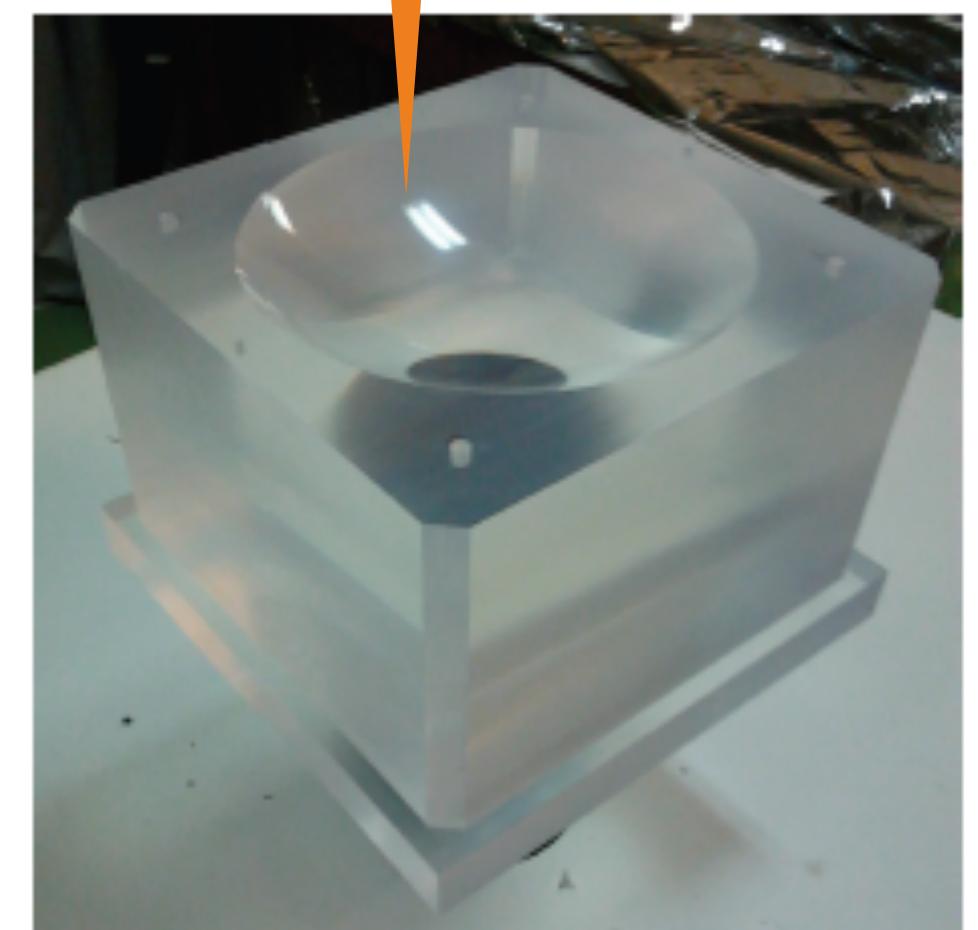
Nucl. Inst. Meth. A 868, 98-108 (2017)



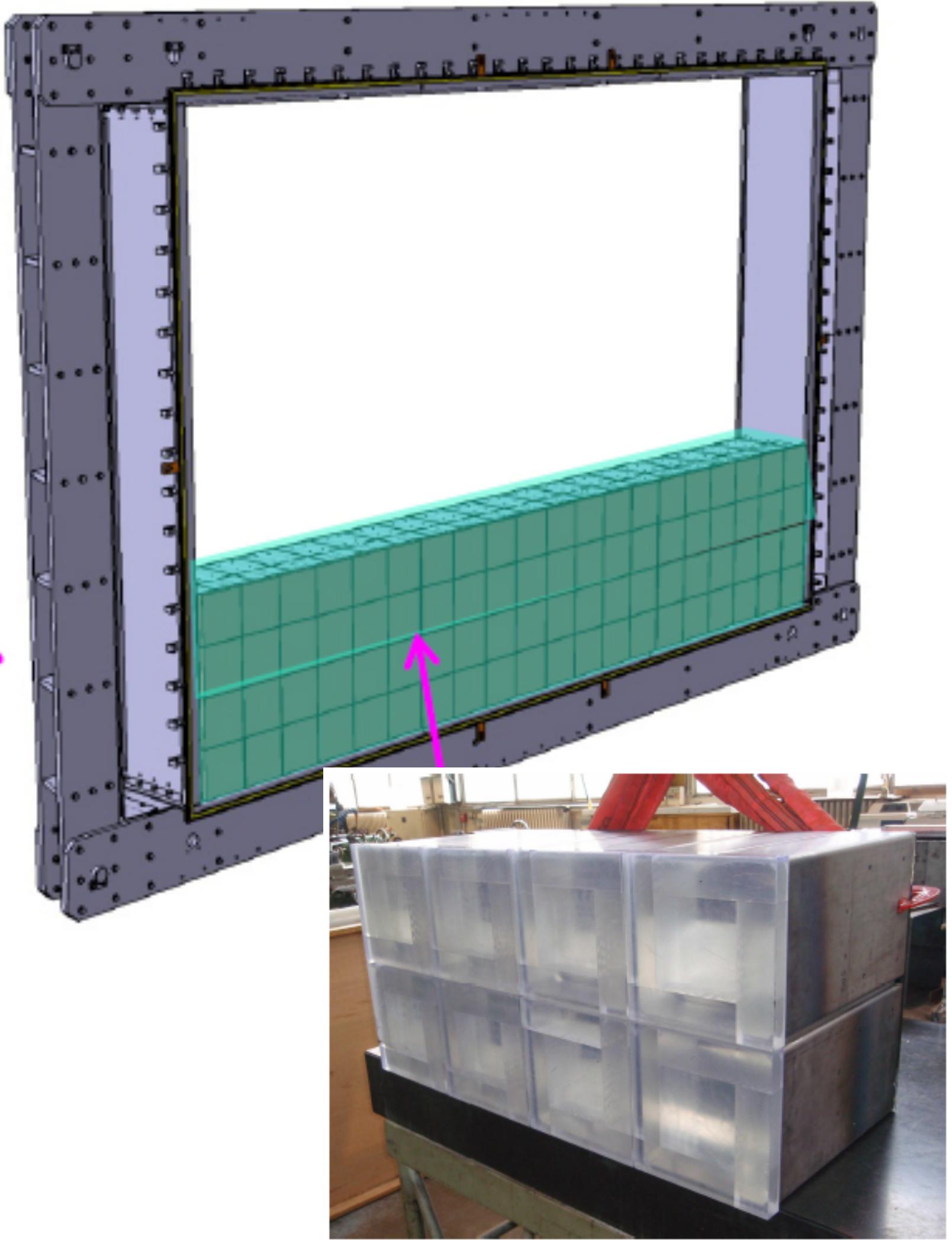
Contributions to improved resolution



Directly coupled - no light-guide

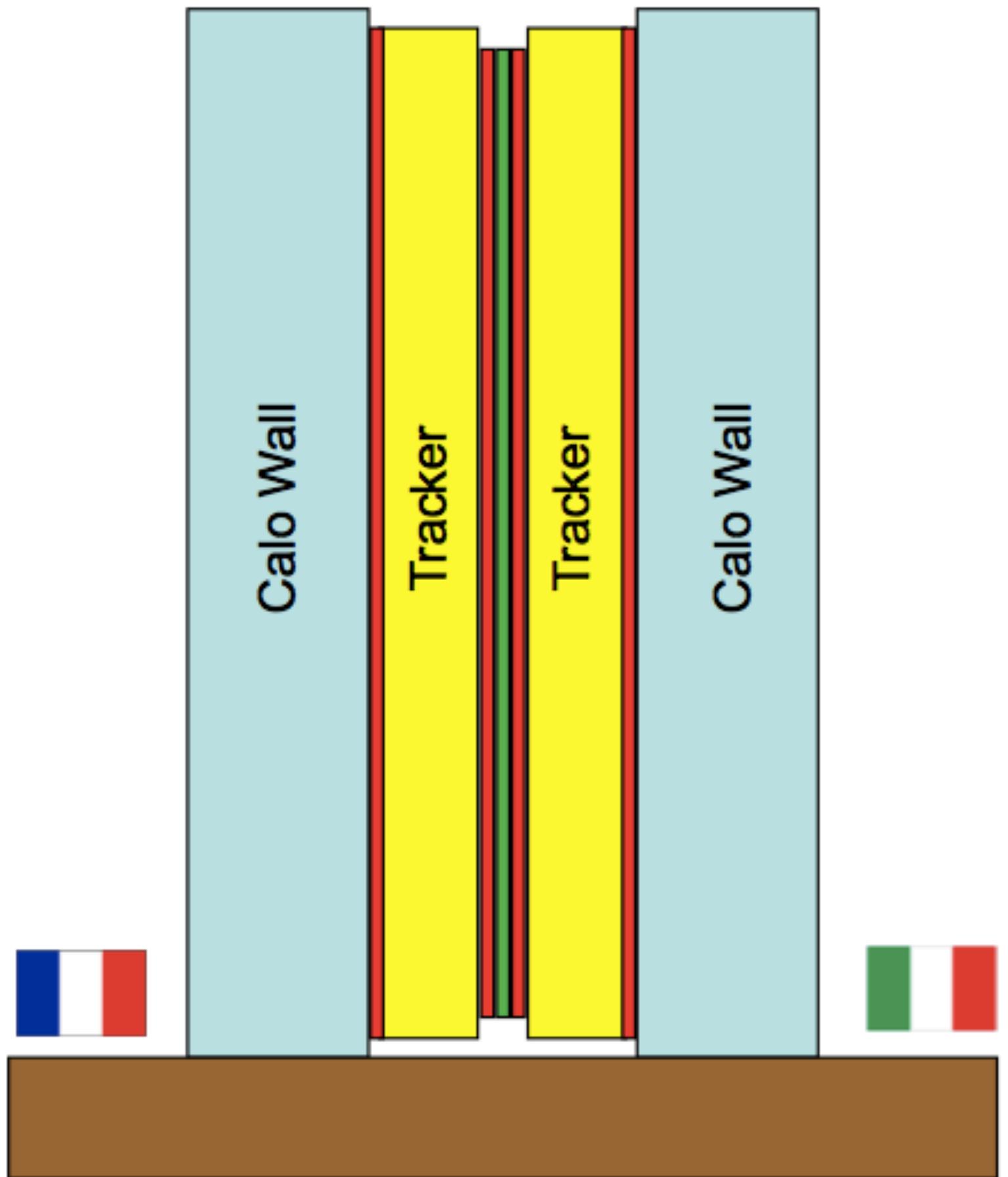


Calorimeters in place at LSM



- Both calorimeter walls in place at LSM
- Light Injection calibration system to monitor gain drift within 1%

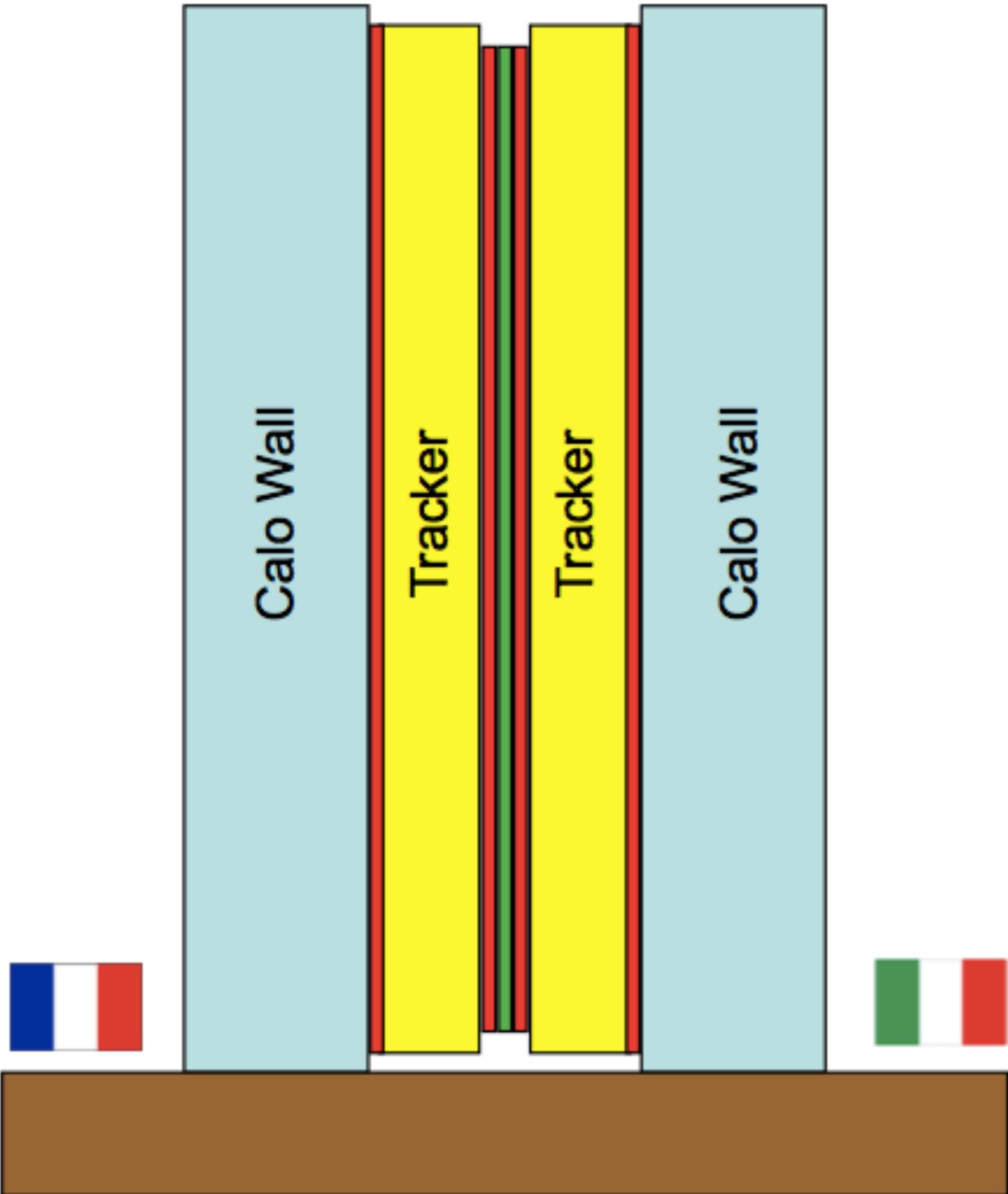
Installation status



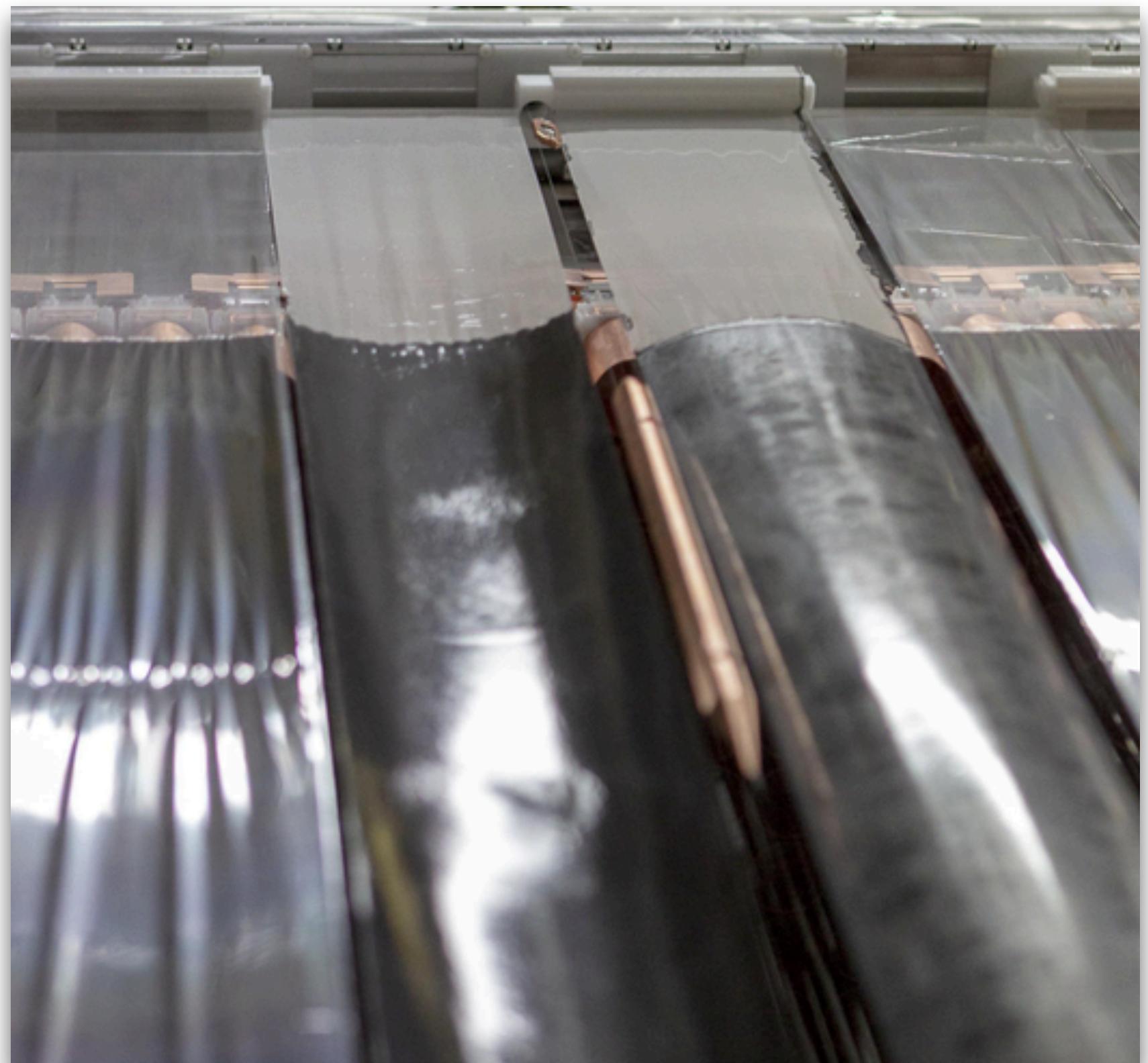


1. French-side tracker joined to calorimeter wall

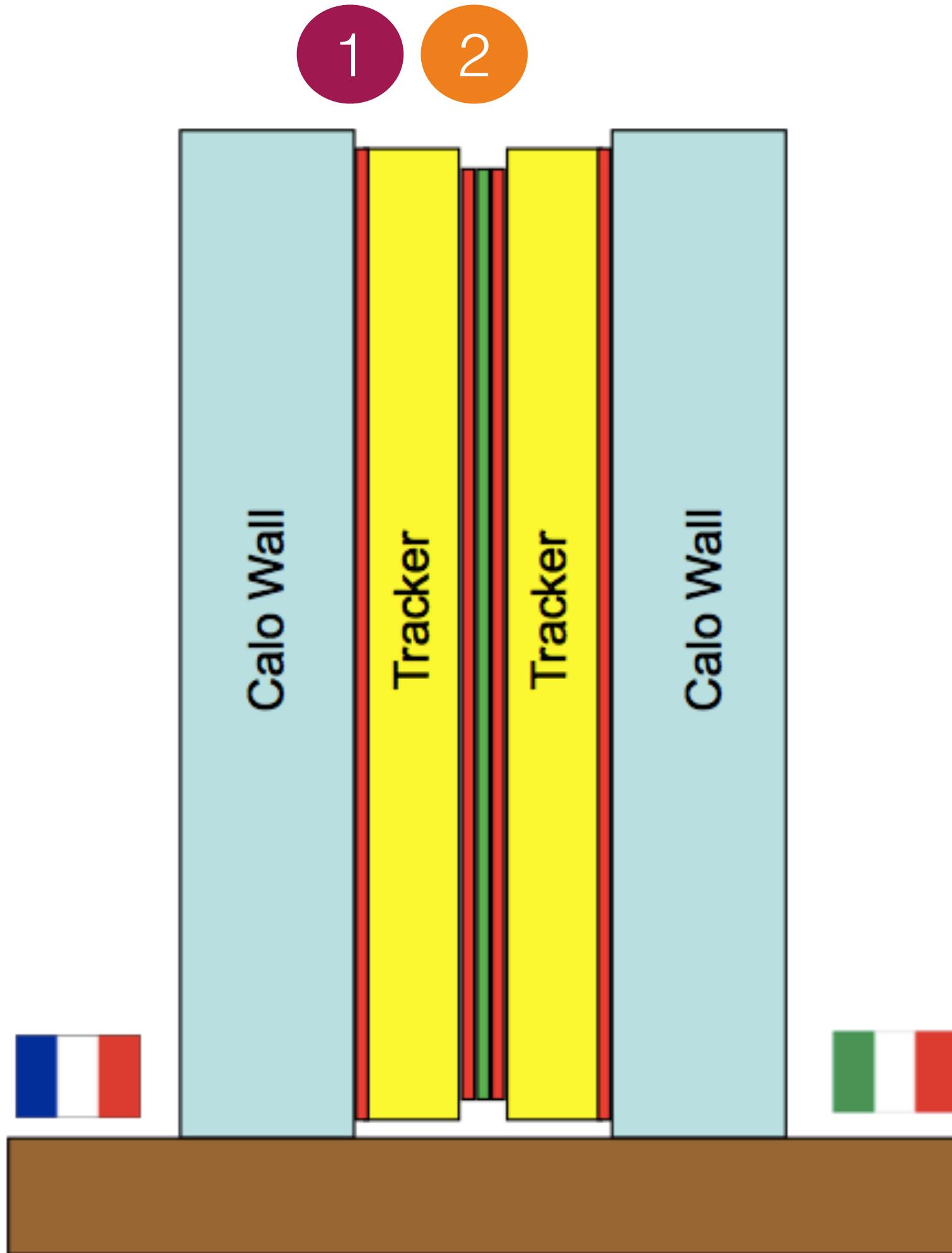
1



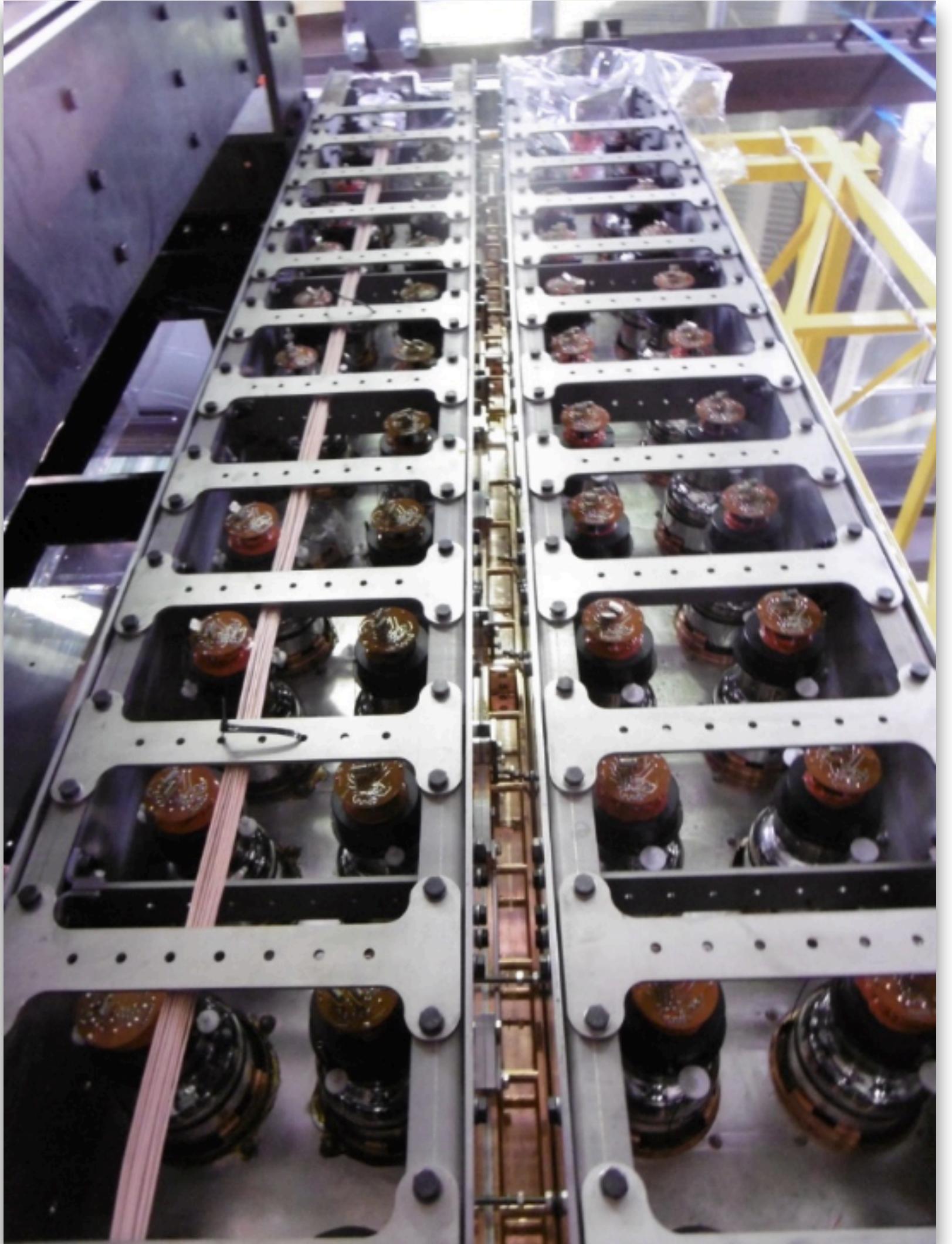
Installation status



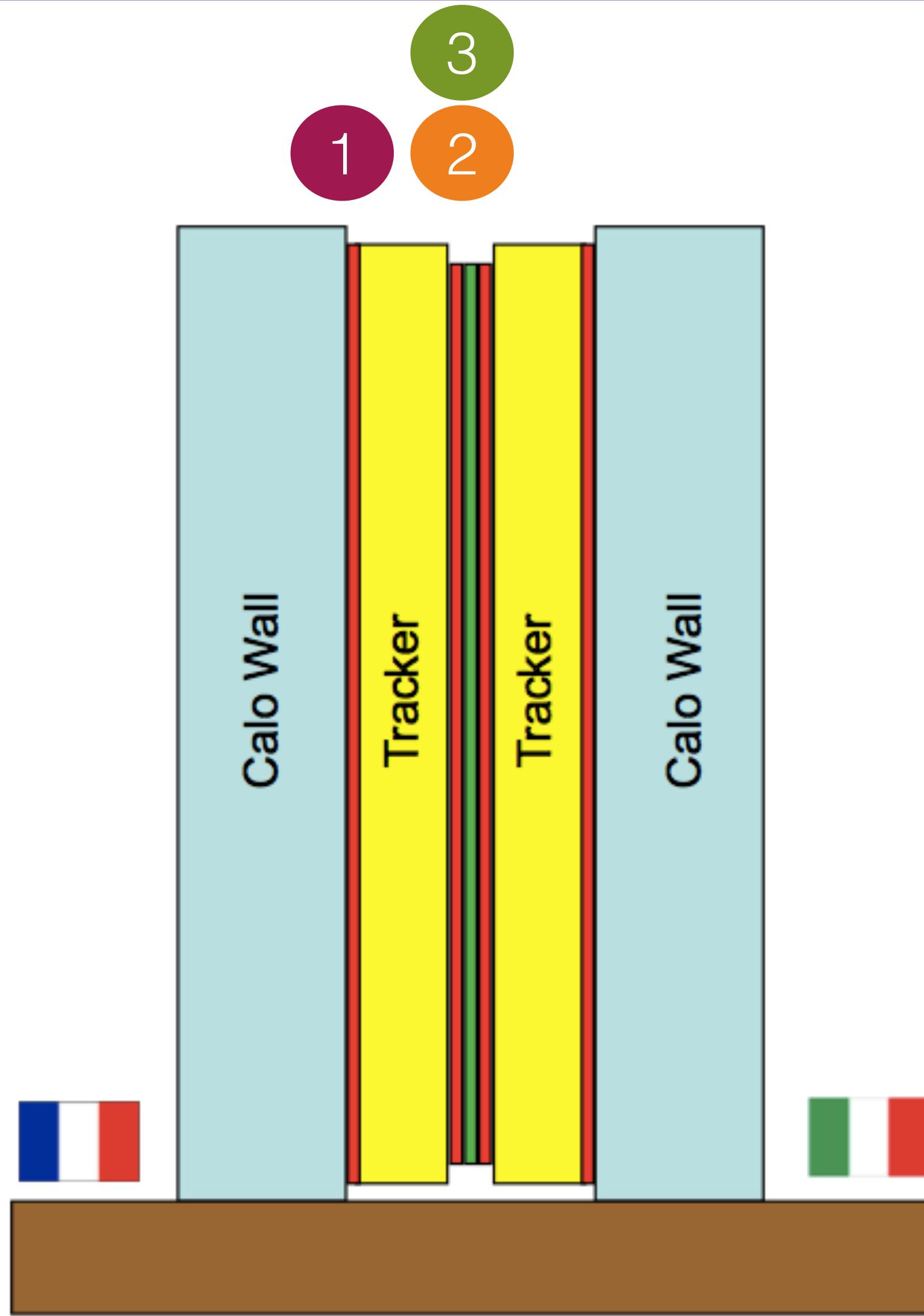
- 1. French-side tracker joined to calorimeter wall**
- 2. Source foils and calibration system installed**



Installation status



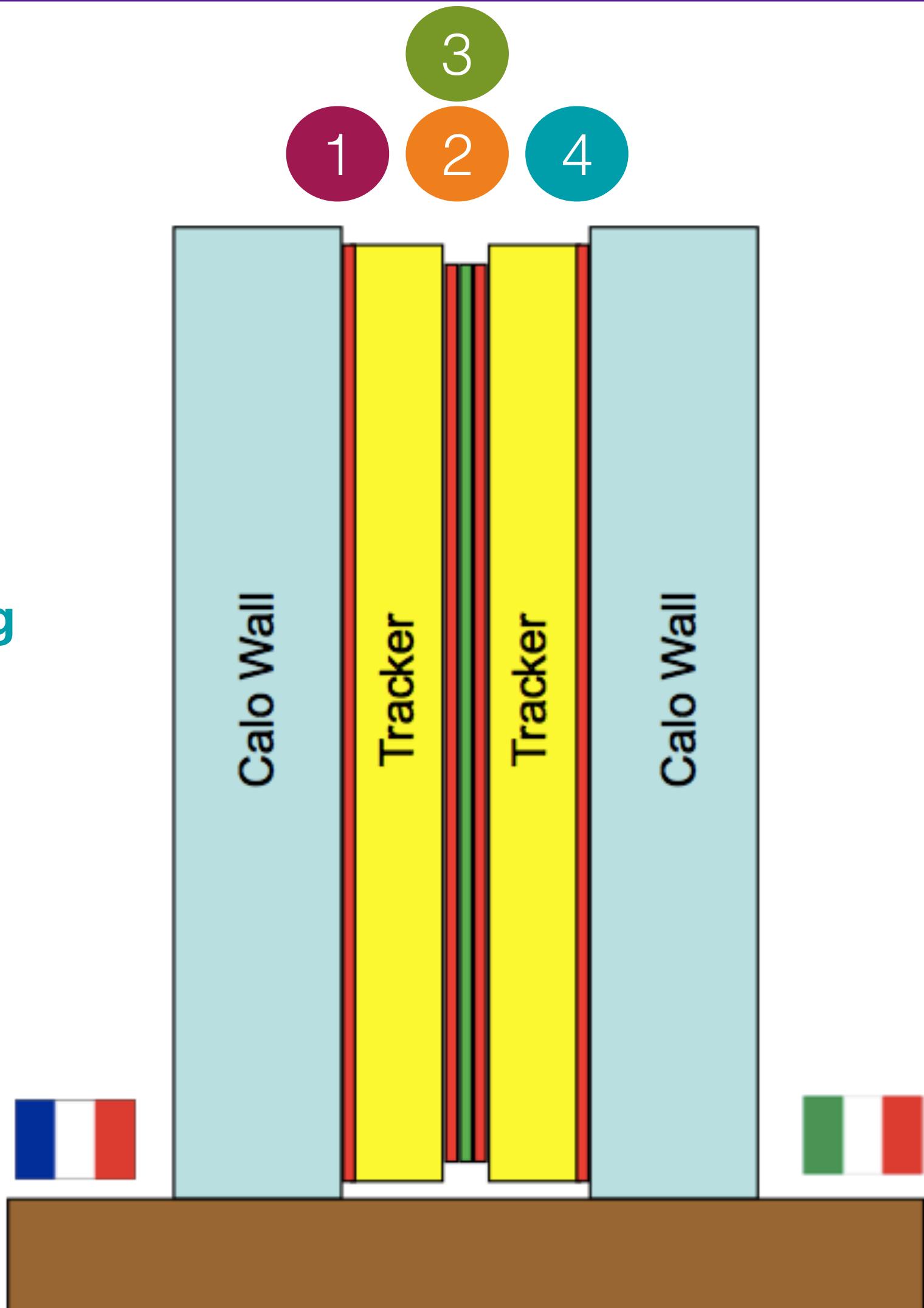
1. French-side tracker joined to calorimeter wall
2. Source foils and calibration system installed
3. Tracker closed



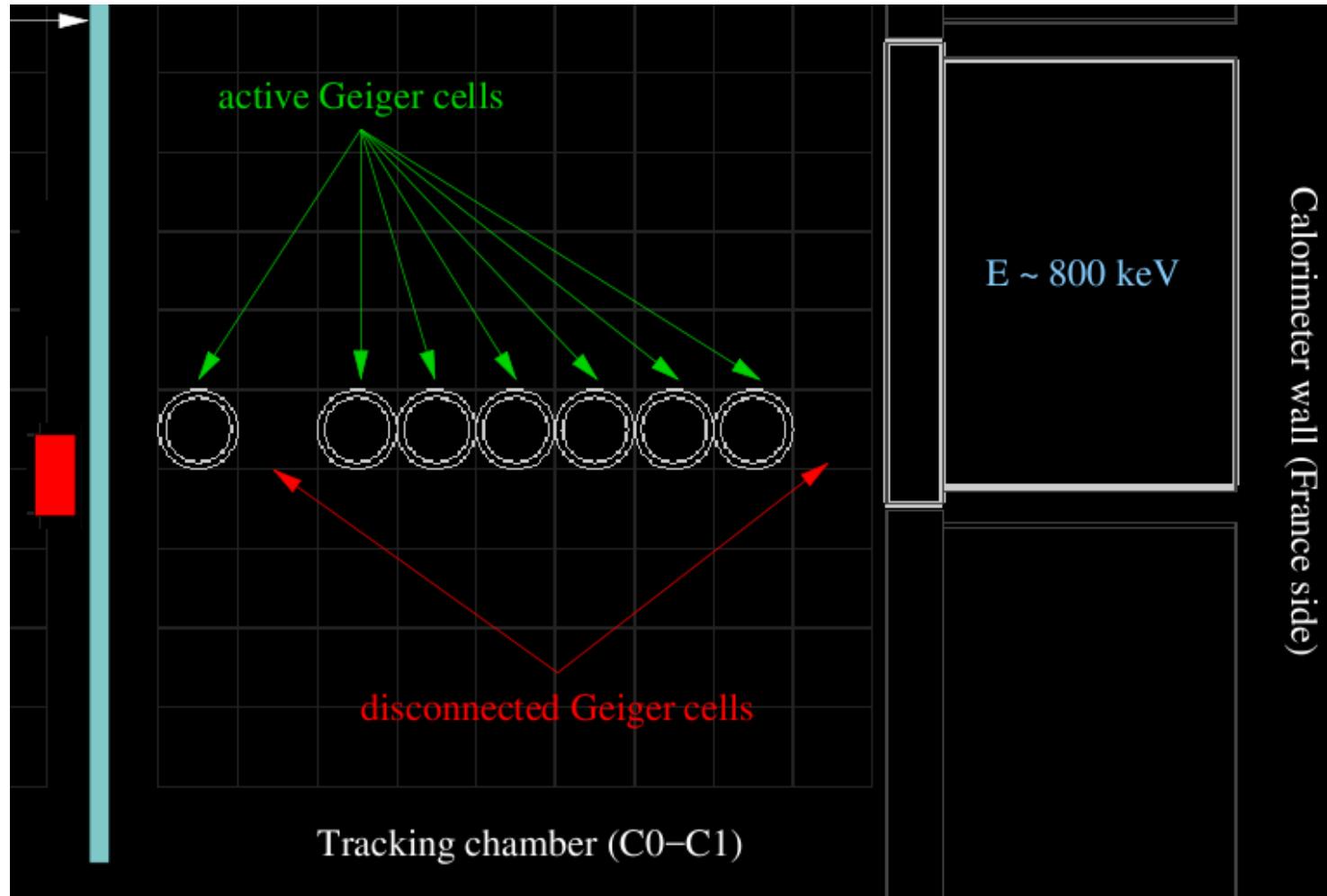
Installation status



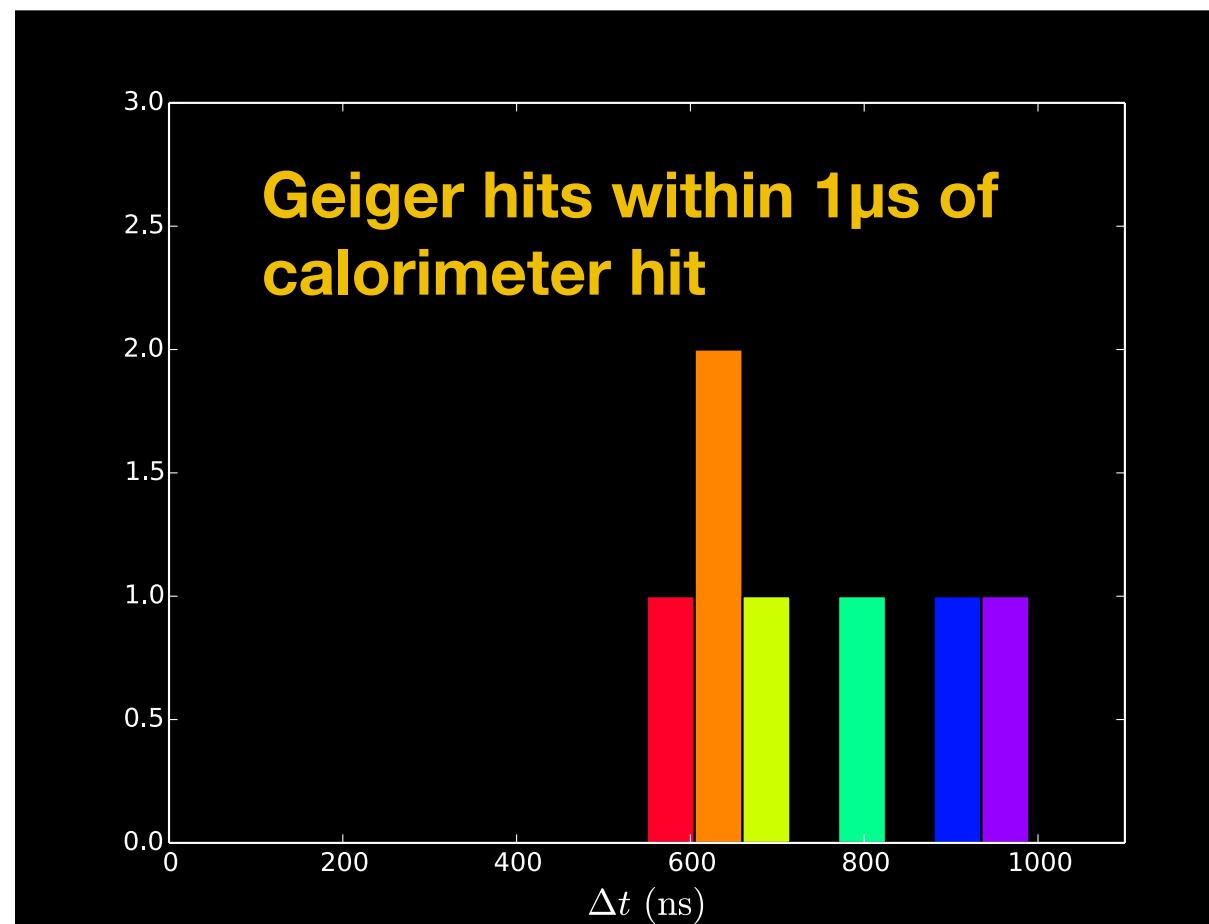
- 1. French-side tracker joined to calorimeter wall**
- 2. Source foils and calibration system installed**
- 3. Tracker closed**
- 4. Italian-side tracker transport frame removed ready for attaching calorimeter wall**



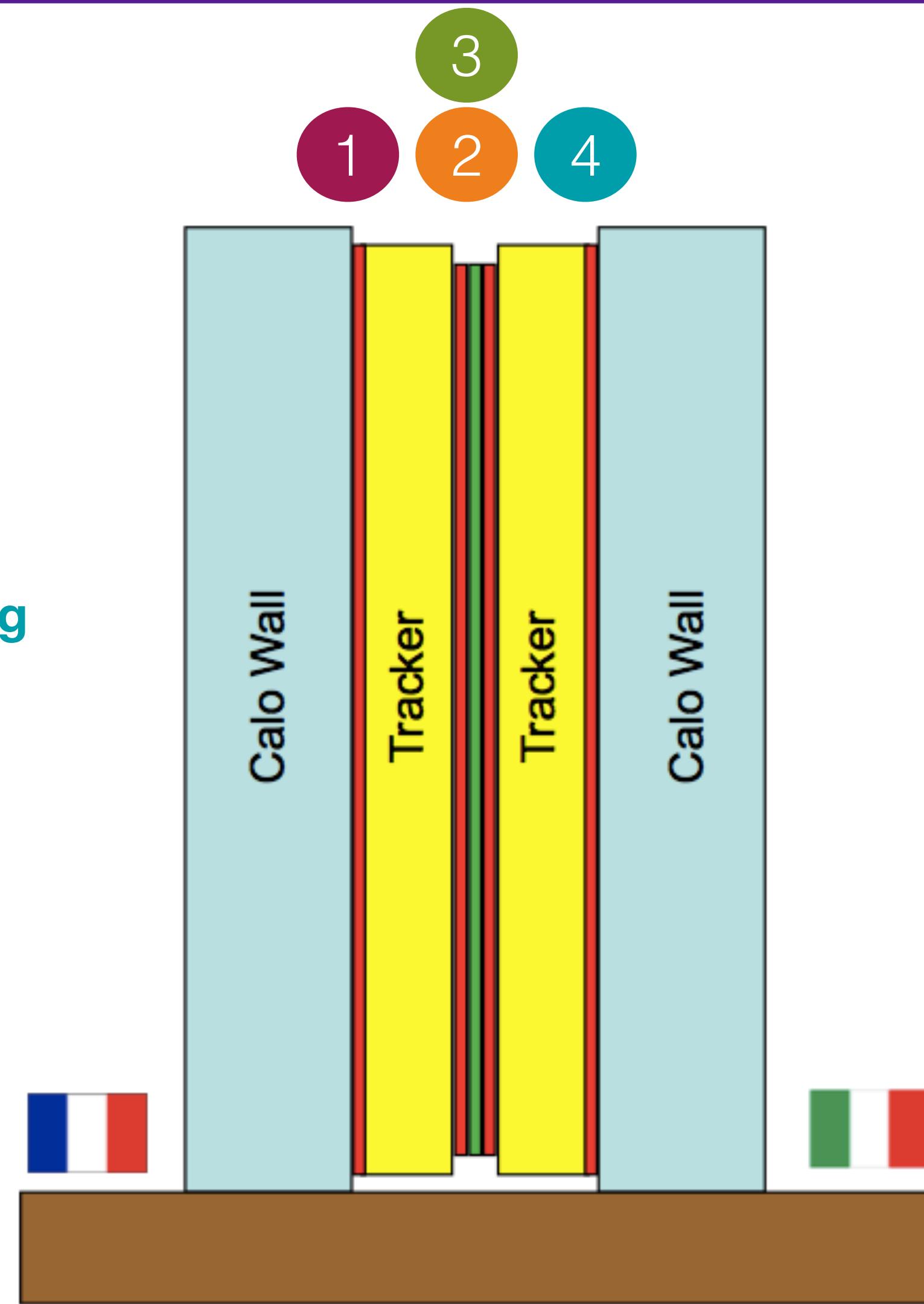
Installation status



- 1. French-side tracker joined to calorimeter wall**
- 2. Source foils and calibration system installed**
- 3. Tracker closed**
- 4. Italian-side tracker transport frame removed ready for attaching calorimeter wall**



Half-detector commissioning results

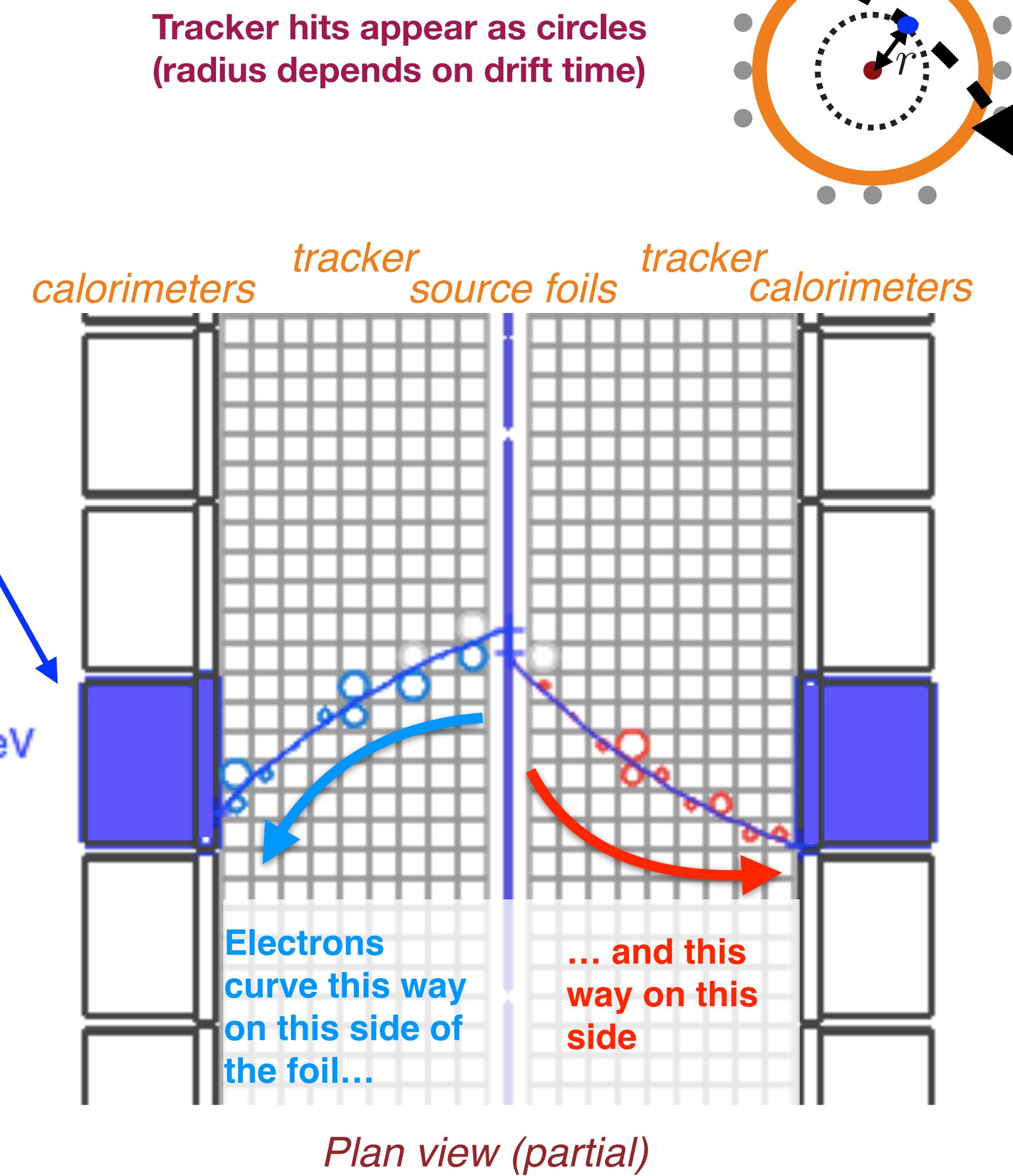


To do:

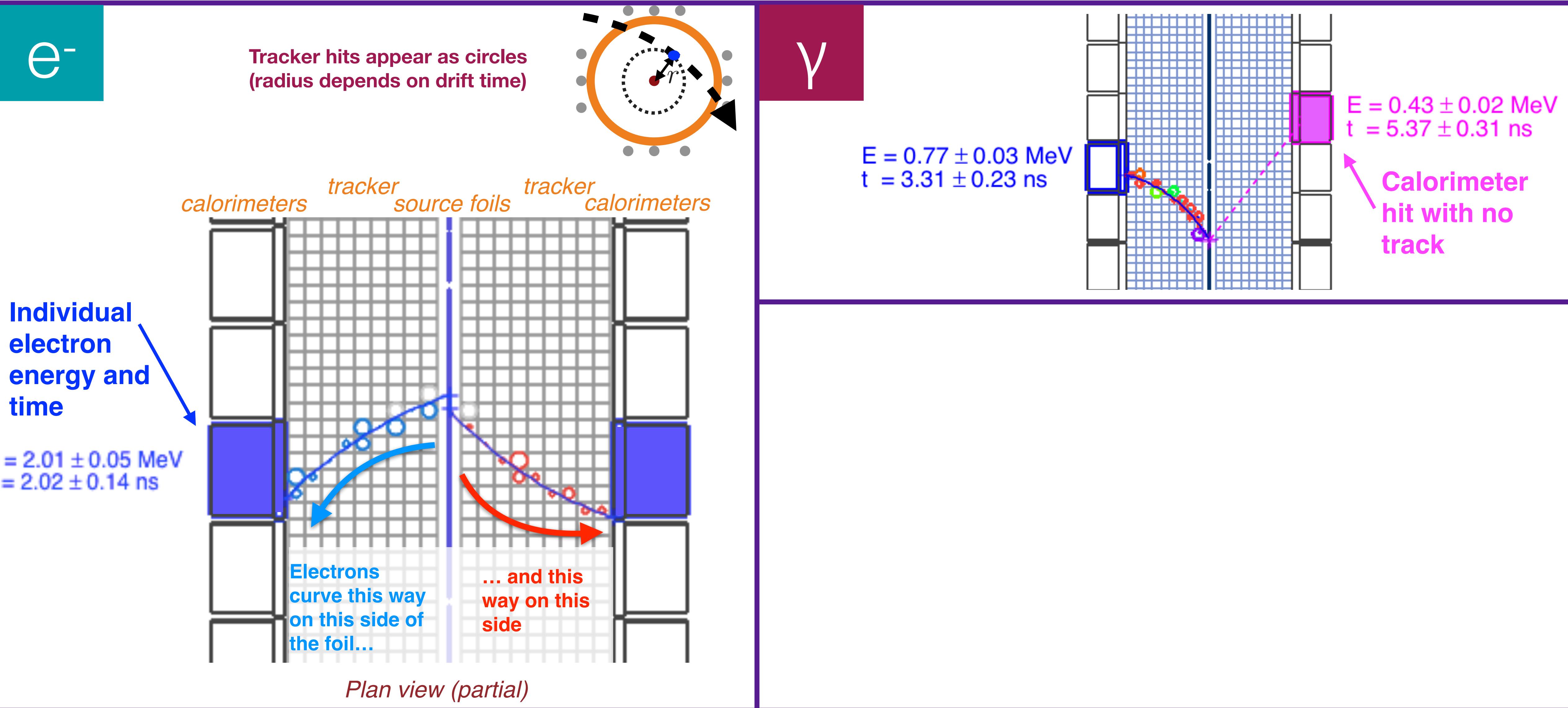
- Attach final calorimeter wall
- Install cabling and electronics
- Commissioning
- First data!

Particles in SuperNEMO

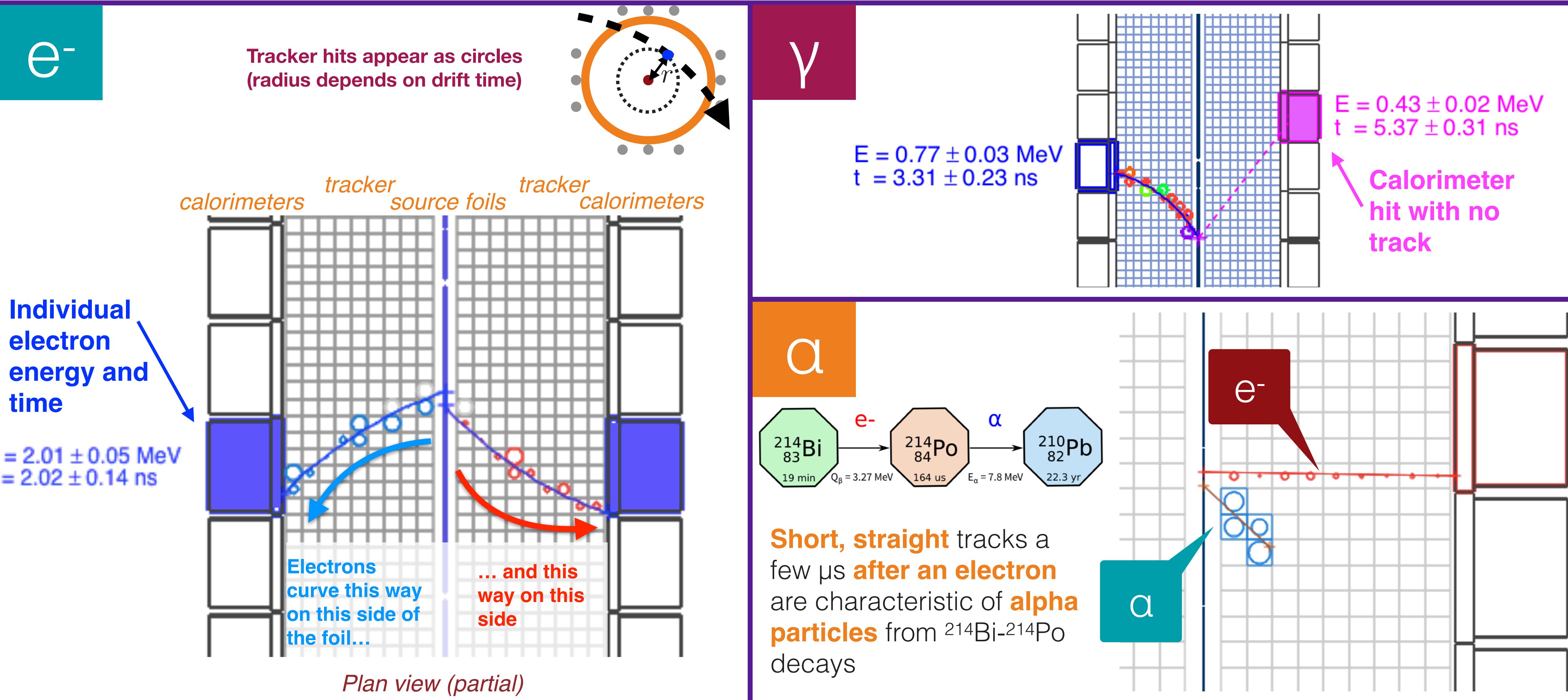
e⁻



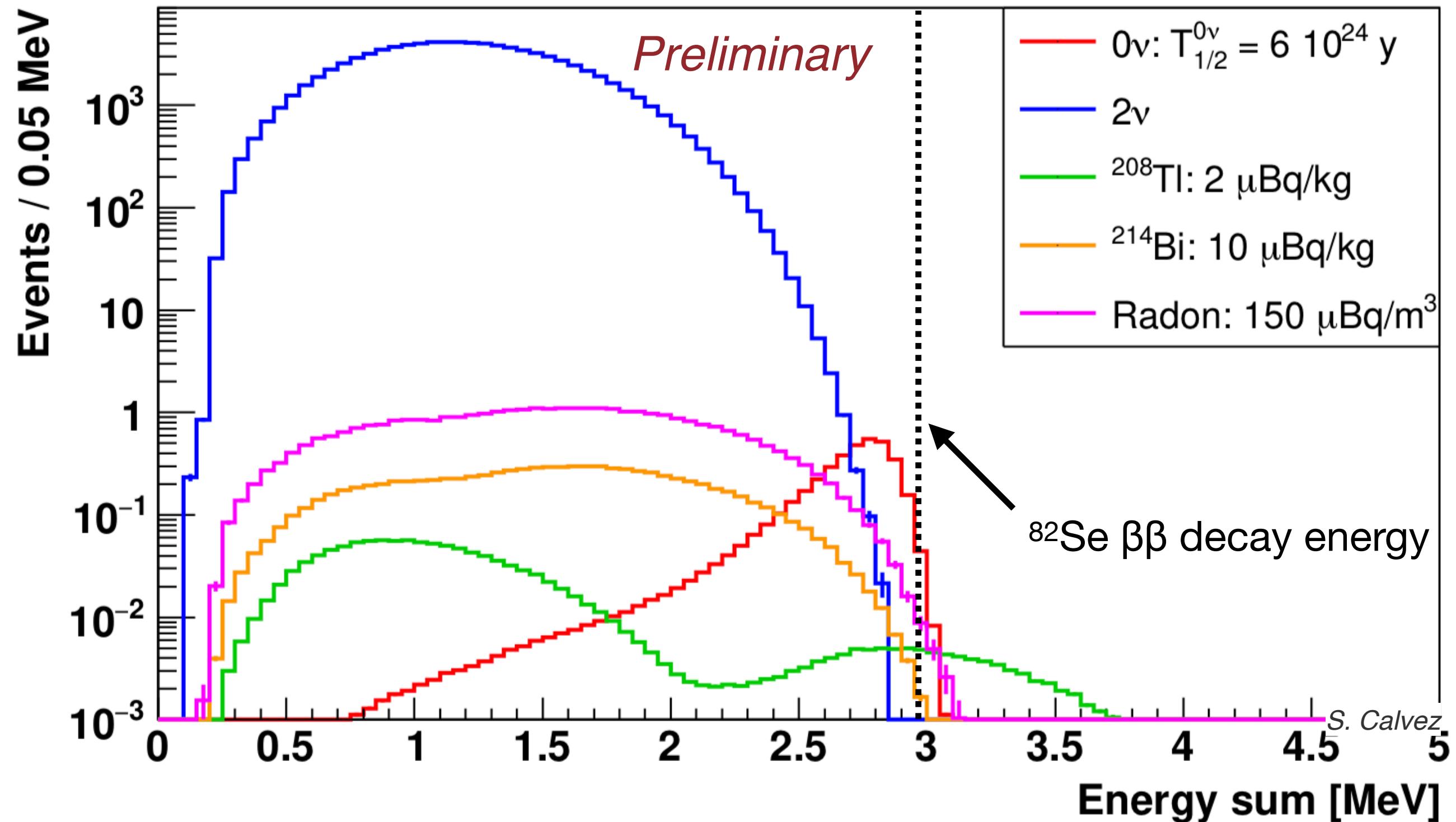
Particles in SuperNEMO



Particles in SuperNEMO

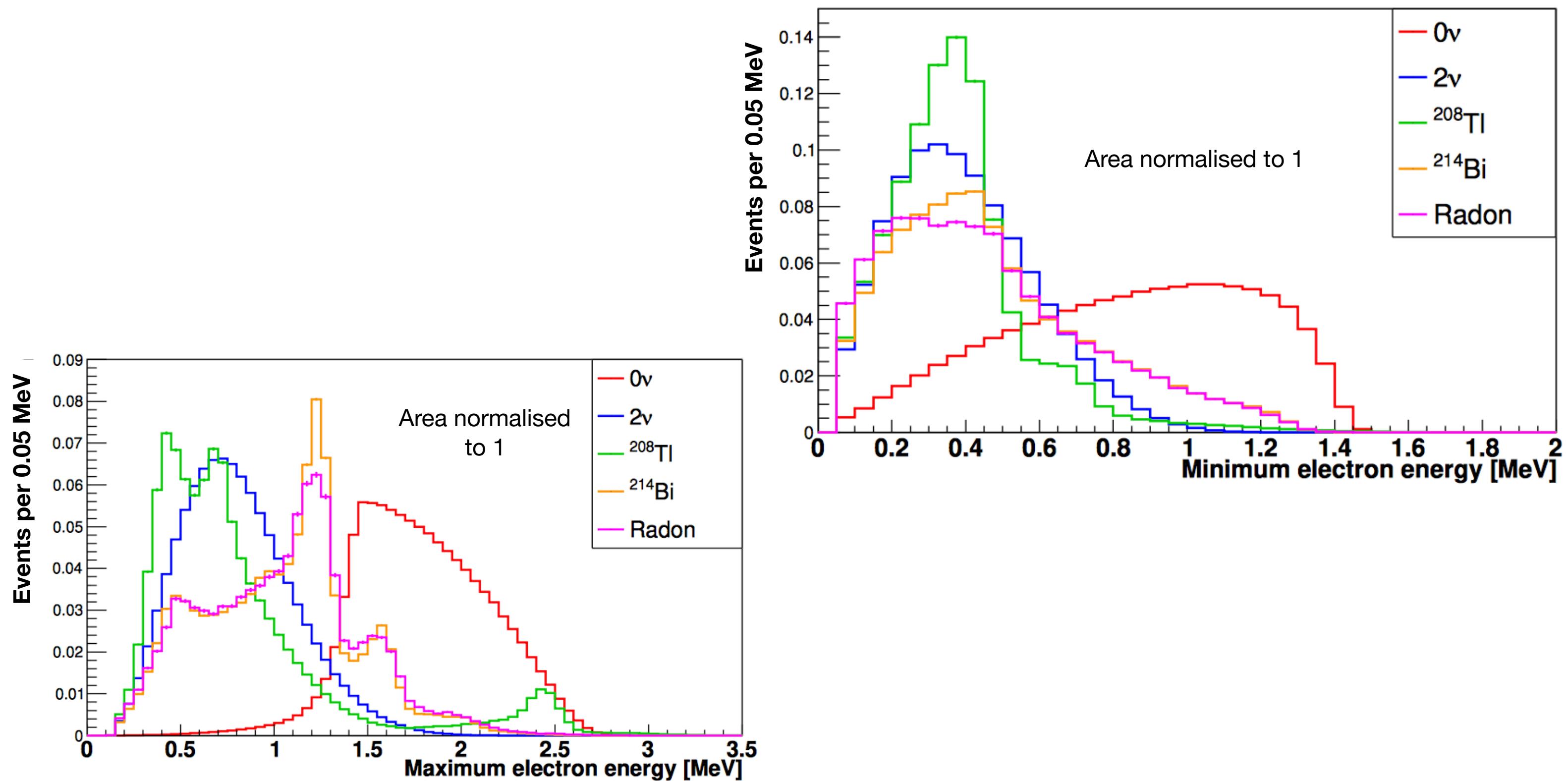


Sensitivity to $0\nu\beta\beta$



Summed 2-electron energy is best distribution to separate signal from background

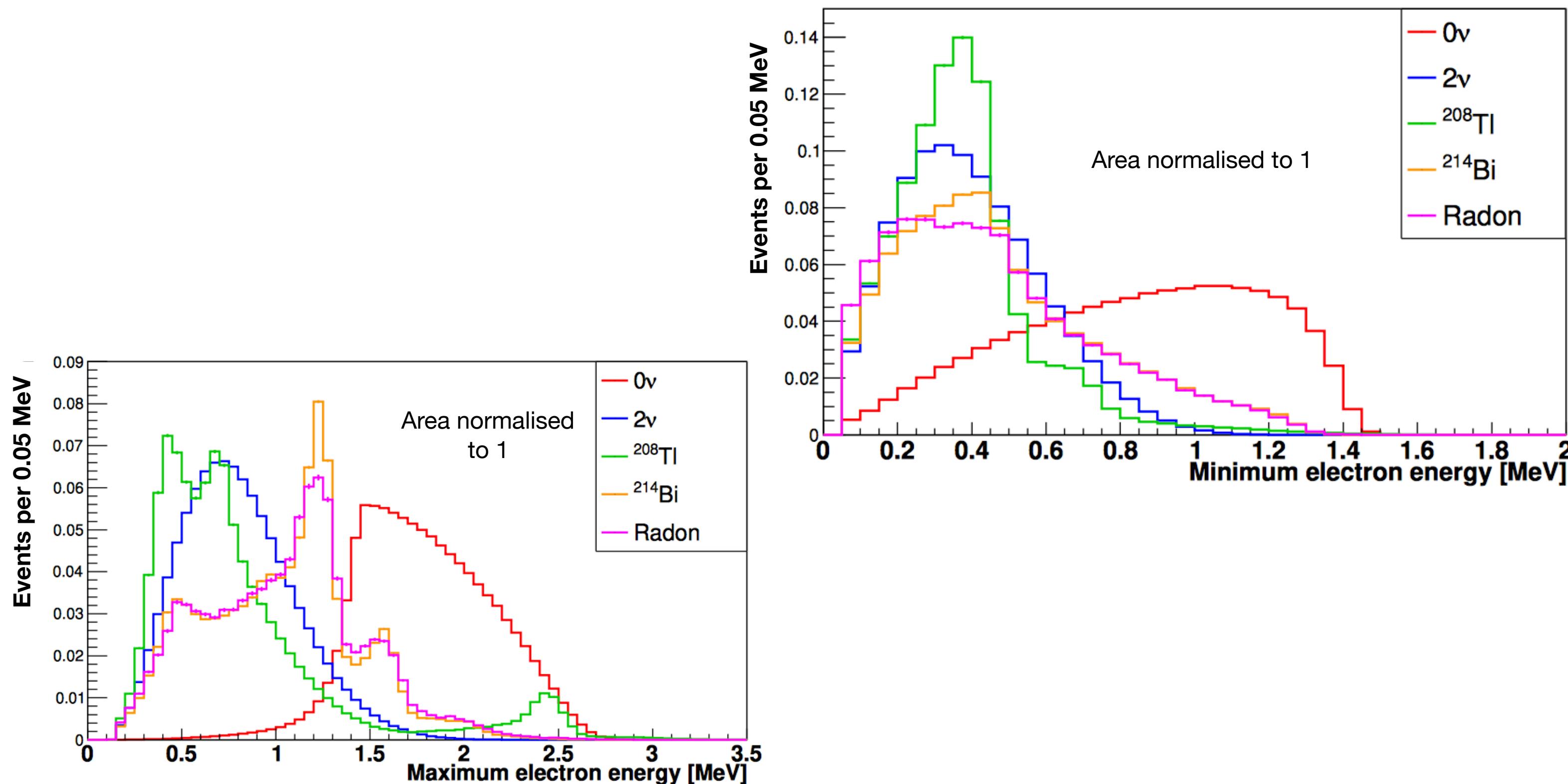
Sensitivity to $0\nu\beta\beta$



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Using a **boosted decision tree**, we can **improve sensitivity** by including **other variables** (angle between tracks, individual electron energies, internal/external probability, vertex separation...) (approx 10% improvement)

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Summed 2-electron energy is best distribution to separate signal from background

Using a **boosted decision tree**, we can **improve sensitivity** by including **other variables** (angle between tracks, individual electron energies, internal/external probability, vertex separation...) (approx 10% improvement)

$T_{1/2} > 5.85 \times 10^{24}$ years (90% C.L)
For 7kg of ^{82}Se (demonstrator) and 2.5 years' exposure

Demonstrator physics goals

$0\nu\beta\beta$: $T_{1/2} > 6 \times 10^{24}$ years; $\langle m_\nu \rangle < 160\text{-}400$ meV

$0\nu\beta\beta$: $T_{1/2} > 6 \times 10^{24}$ years; $\langle m_\nu \rangle < 160\text{-}400$ meV

Exotic $0\nu\beta\beta$ mechanisms

$0\nu\beta\beta$: $T_{1/2} > 6 \times 10^{24}$ years; $\langle m_\nu \rangle < 160\text{-}400$ meV

Exotic $0\nu\beta\beta$ mechanisms

$2\nu\beta\beta$: SSD/HSD discrimination at 5σ level

$0\nu\beta\beta$: $T_{1/2} > 6 \times 10^{24}$ years; $\langle m_\nu \rangle < 160\text{-}400$ meV

Exotic $0\nu\beta\beta$ mechanisms

$2\nu\beta\beta$: SSD/HSD discrimination at 5σ level

Probe nuclear physics by measuring g_A

$0\nu\beta\beta$: $T_{1/2} > 6 \times 10^{24}$ years; $\langle m_\nu \rangle < 160\text{-}400$ meV

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Probe nuclear physics by measuring g_A

Lorentz invariance violation test

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Probe nuclear physics by measuring g_A

Lorentz invariance violation test

Alternative isotopes: ^{150}Nd and ^{48}Ca , with high $Q_{\beta\beta}$

$0\nu\beta\beta$: $T_{1/2} > 6 \times 10^{24}$ years; $\langle m_\nu \rangle < 160\text{-}400$ meV

Exotic $0\nu\beta\beta$ mechanisms

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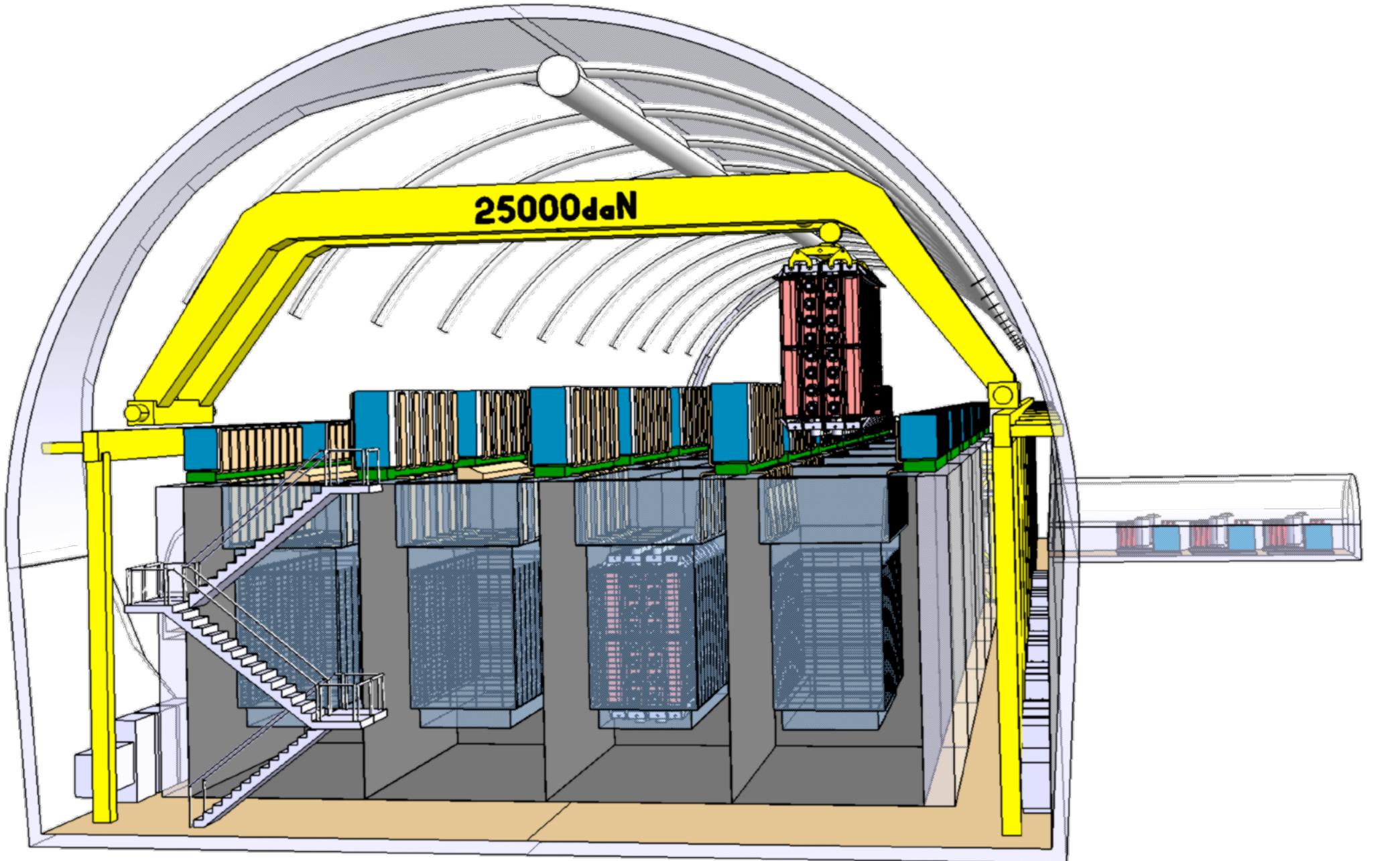
Probe nuclear physics by measuring g_A

Lorentz invariance violation test

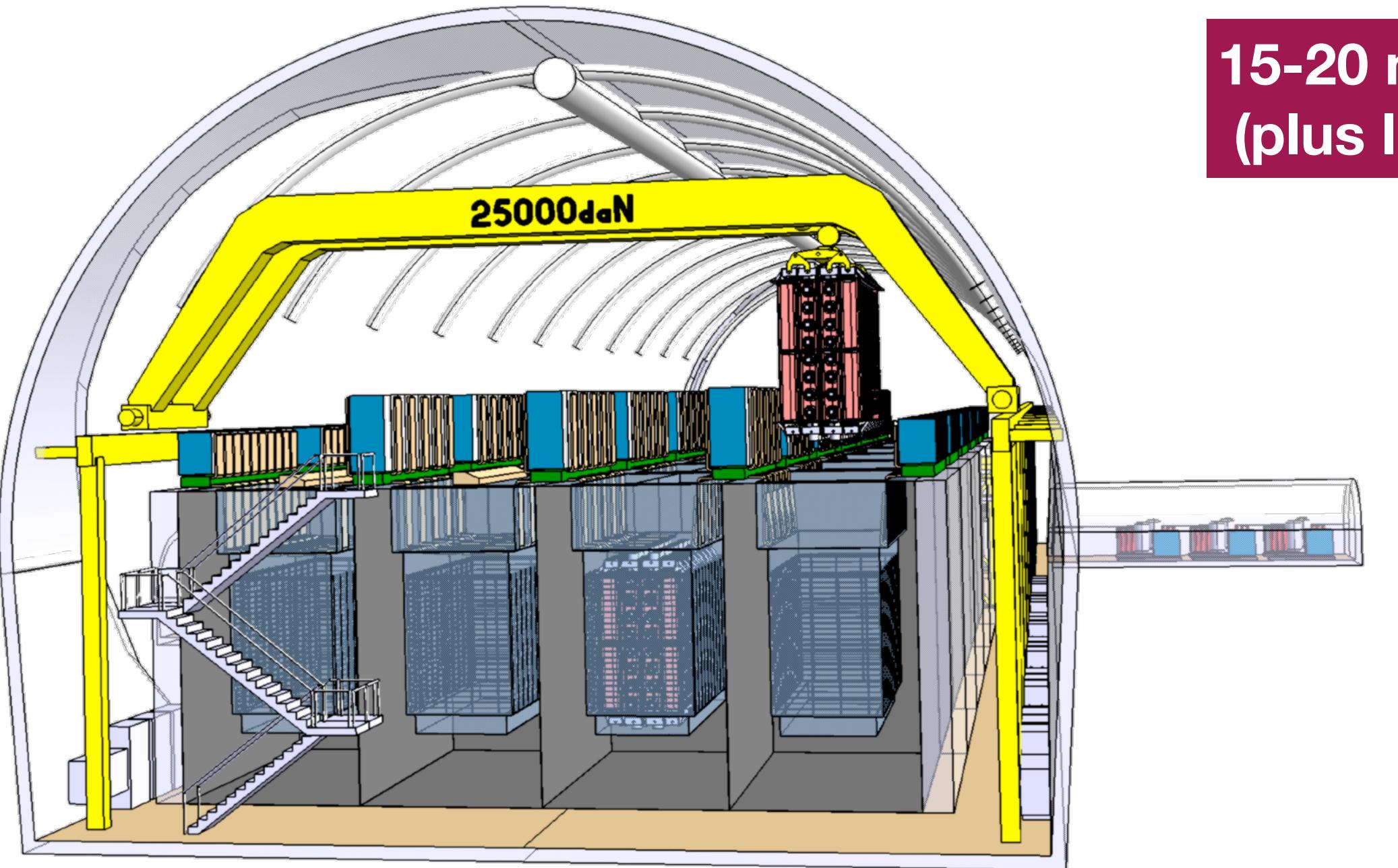
Alternative isotopes: ^{150}Nd and ^{48}Ca , with high $Q_{\beta\beta}$

$0\nu4\beta$: for ^{150}Nd

Full SuperNEMO prospects



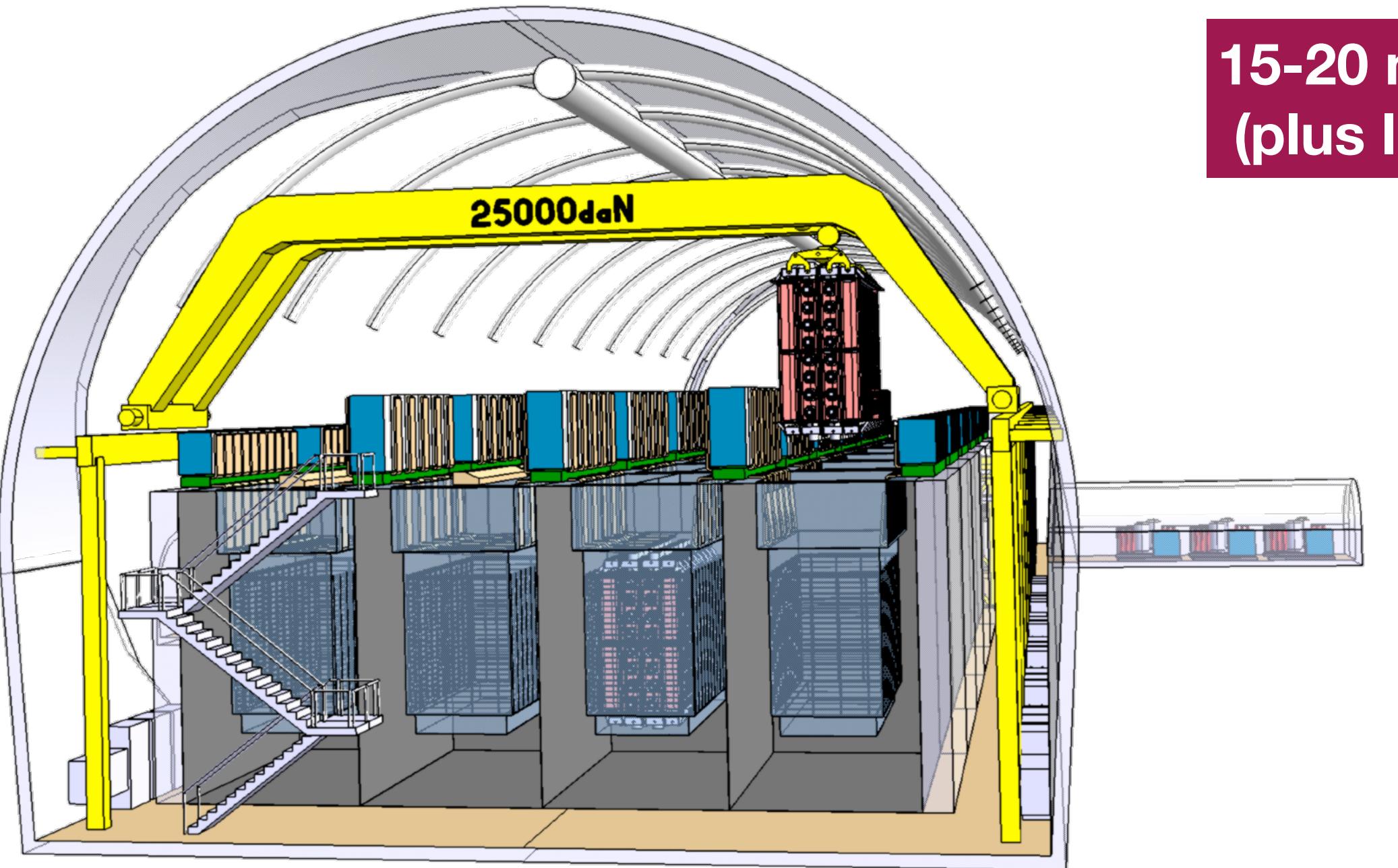
Full SuperNEMO prospects



15-20 modules @ ~ €2.5M each
(plus labour...)

100kg isotope - $T_{1/2} \sim 10^{26}$ years
 $\langle m_\nu \rangle < 40-100$ meV

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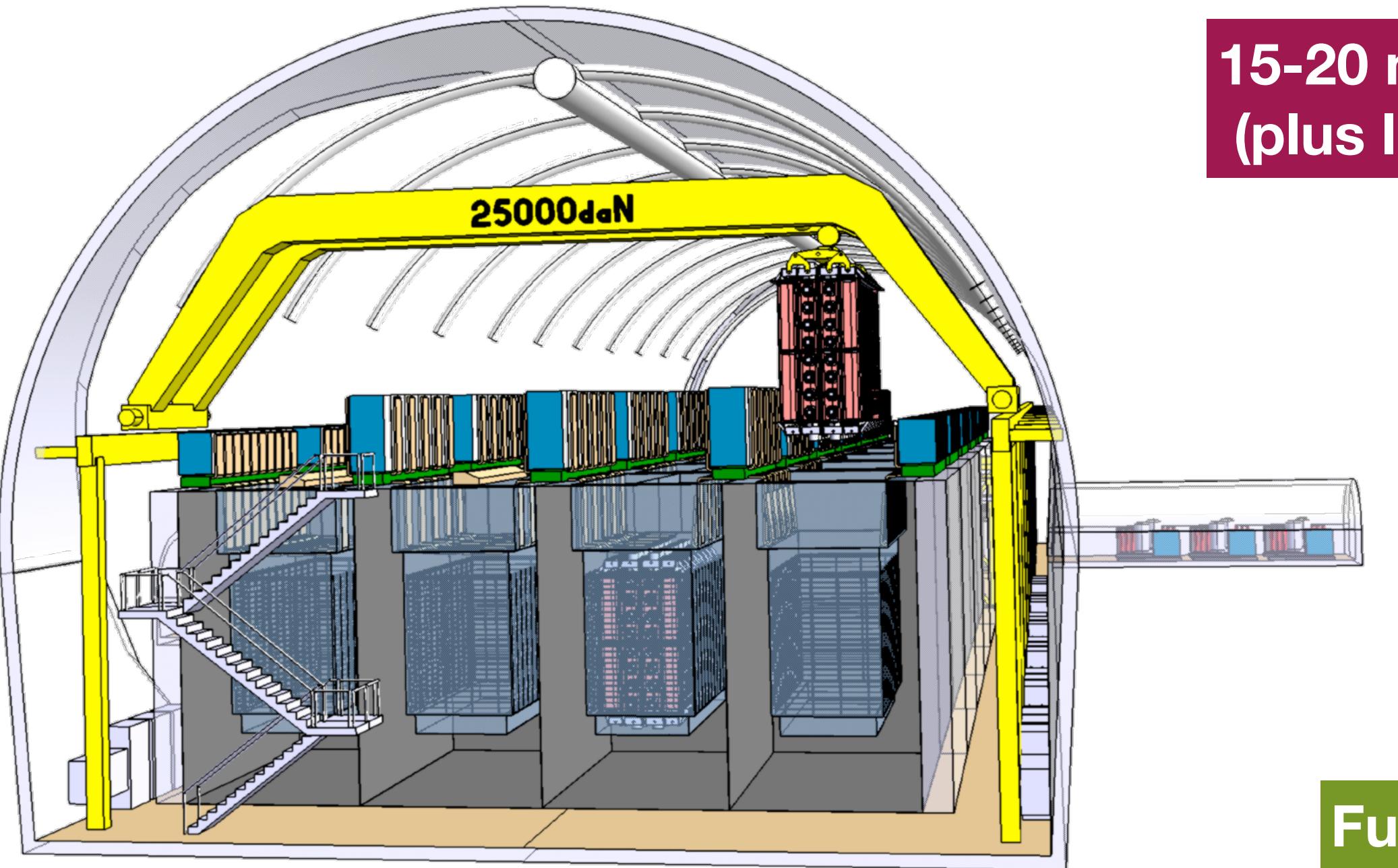
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High $Q_{\beta\beta}$ isotopes give better
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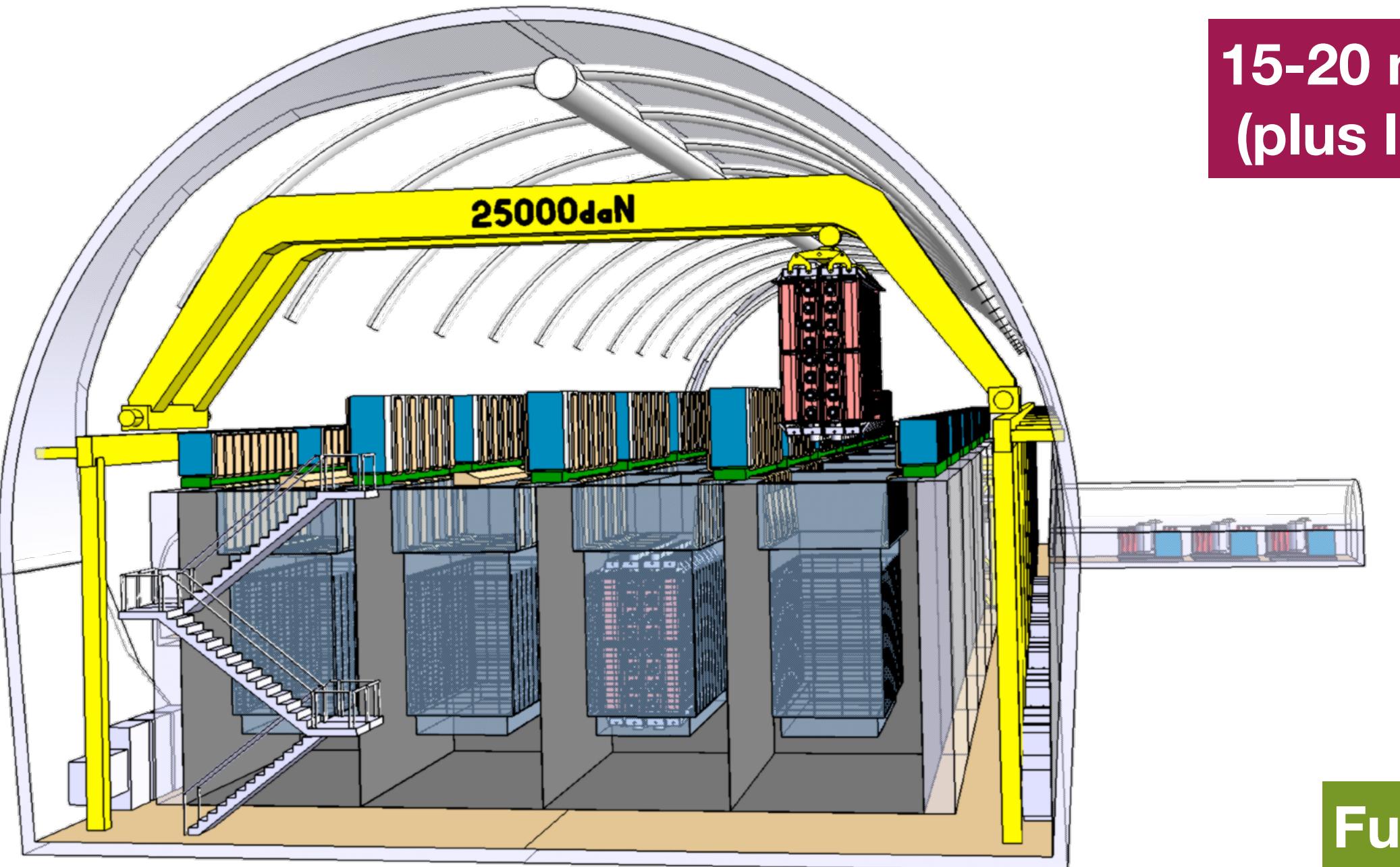
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Can we reduce cost (detector cheaper
than isotope) without harming
performance?

Tracker-calorimeter detectors for the next generation

Choosing an isotope

- **^{150}Nd , ^{48}Ca** have shorter $2\nu\beta\beta$ half-lives
- Currently too **expensive to enrich** large amounts...
but research is ongoing
- Current investigation - **how much** would we need to probe inverted hierarchy? ($O(10^3)$ kg.year)

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- What about other **tracker** or **calorimeter** technologies?
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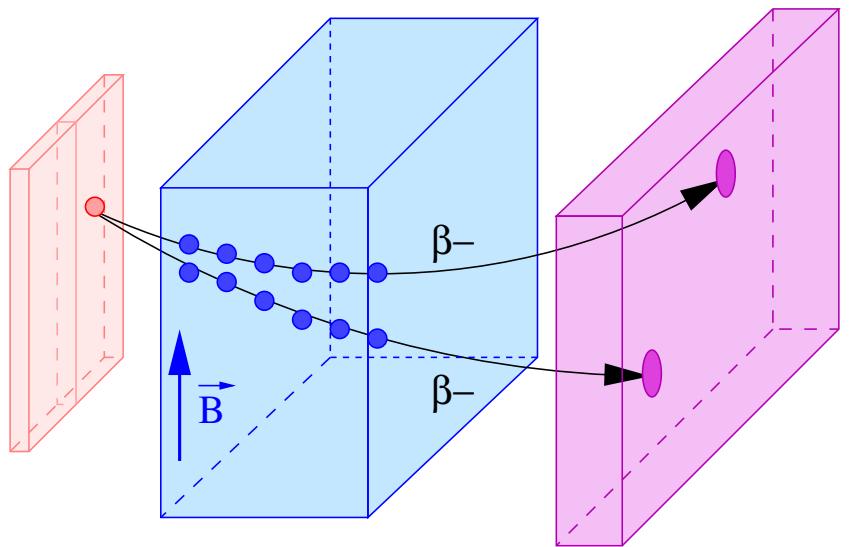
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Construction

- Apply what we learned from Demonstrator to make further modules more quickly / cheaply
- Are there **cheaper components / designs**?
- Can we **contract out** the construction?

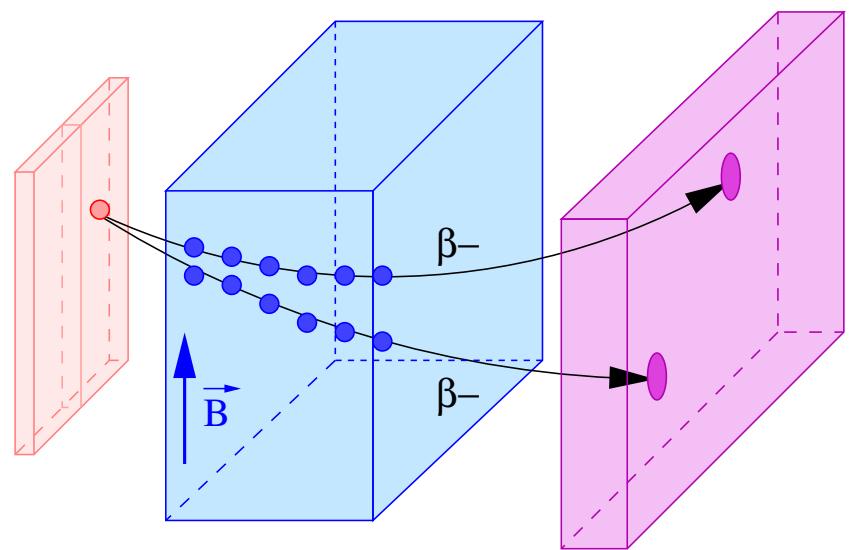
To summarise...



The NEMO tracker-calorimeter architecture

- **Topological information** lets us probe the **underlying physics** of double-beta decay
- **Particle ID** to reject backgrounds
- Can use any solid $\beta\beta$ isotope

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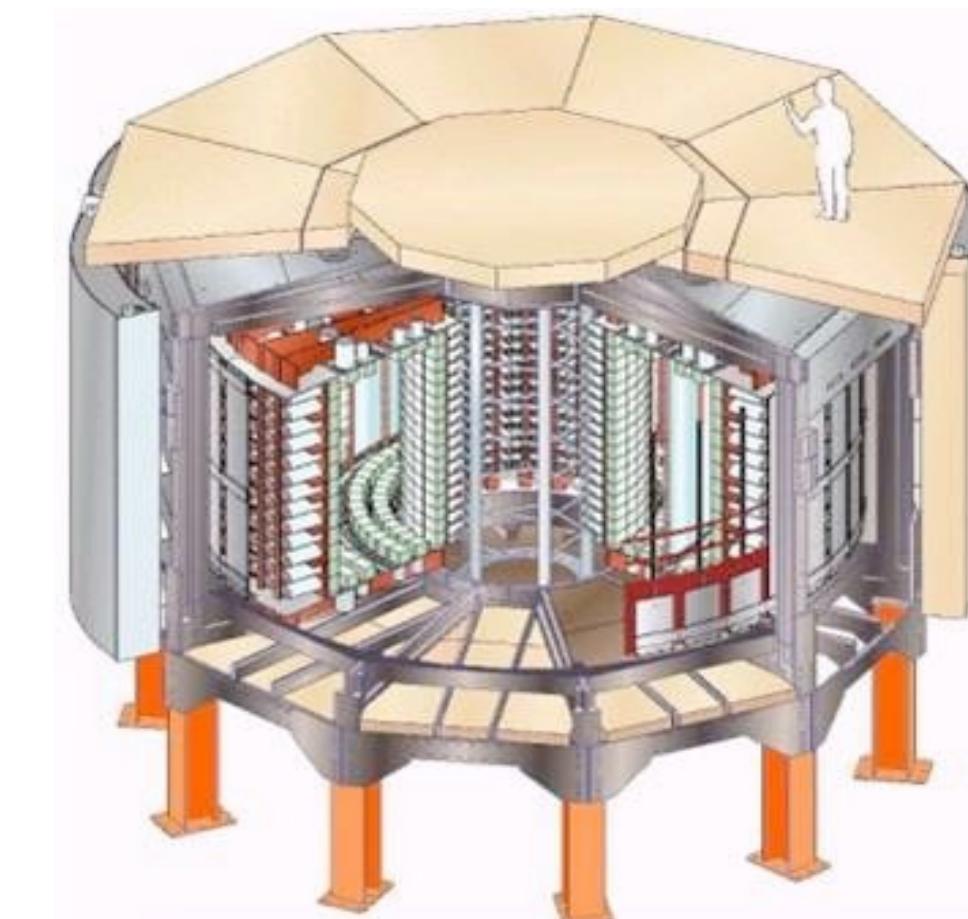


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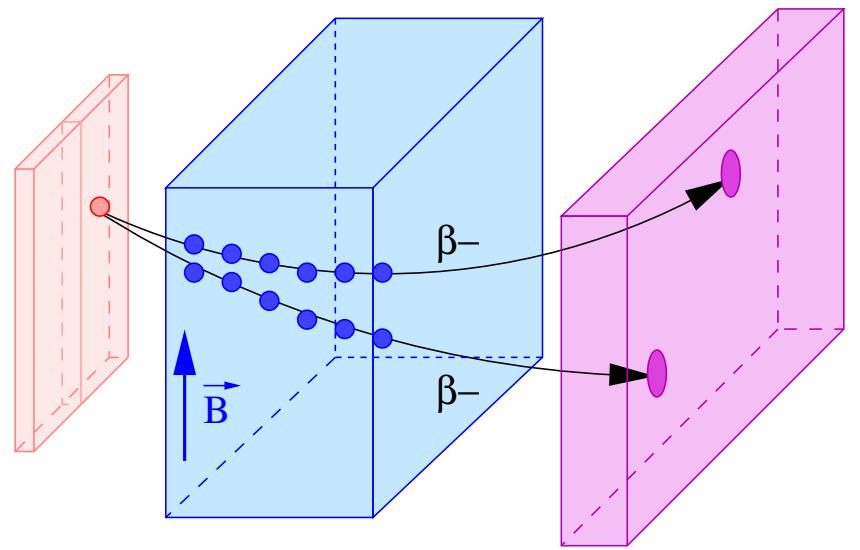
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NEMO-3

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- **World's best for 6** of these!
- ^{82}Se and ^{100}Mo favoured **SSD** decay mechanism



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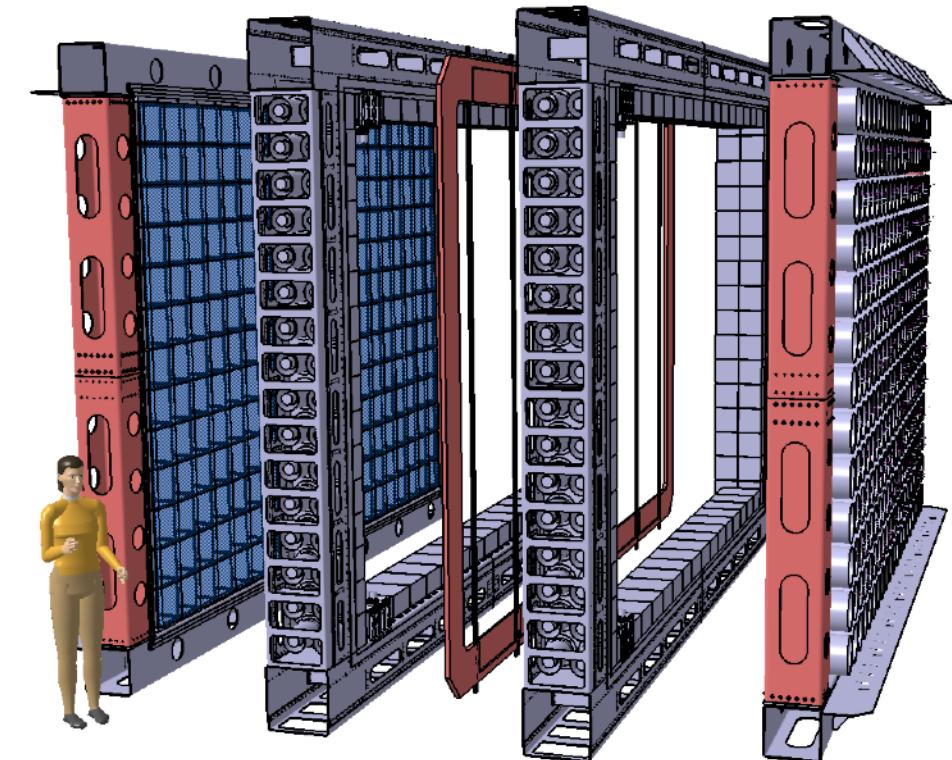
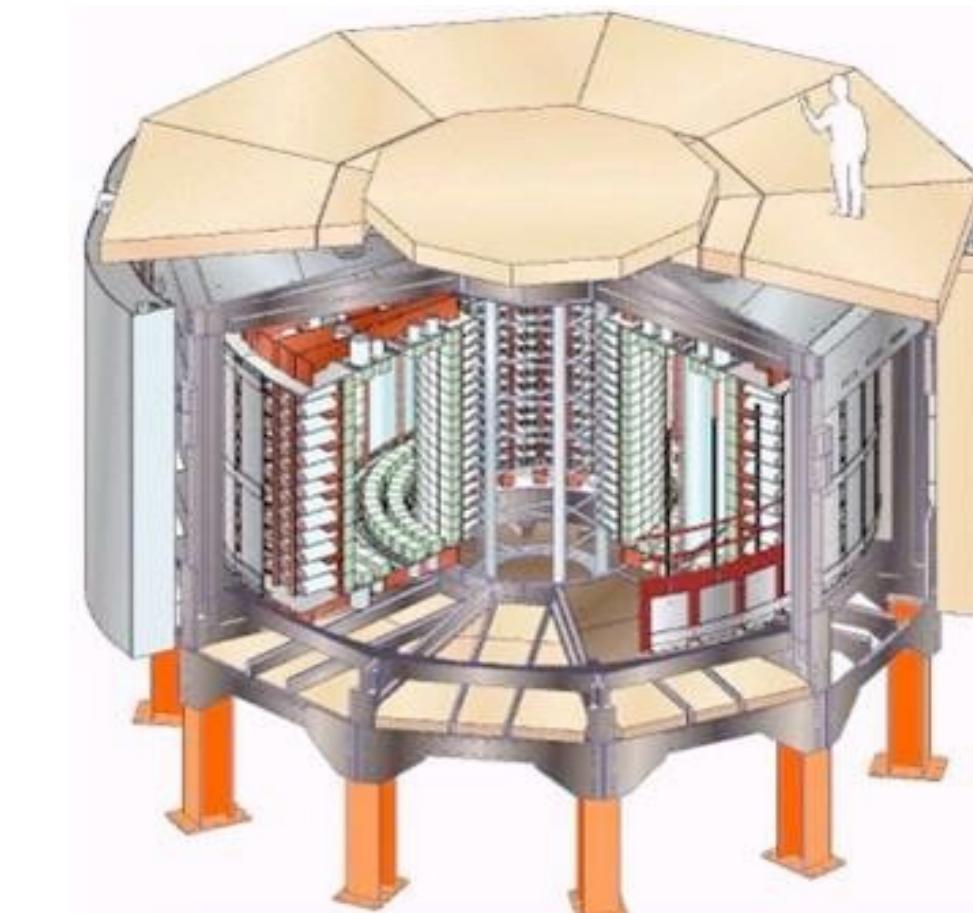


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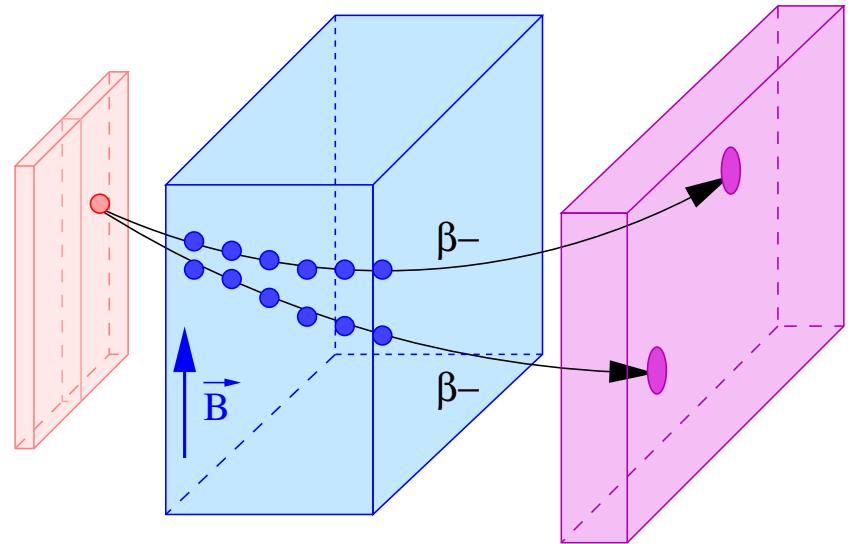
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SuperNEMO Demonstrator

- Extensible, modular design starting with ~7kg of ^{82}Se
- **Improved** calorimeter resolution, radon removal, source radio-purity...
- NEMO-3 sensitivity in **4.5 months**
- **First data** coming soon

To summarise...

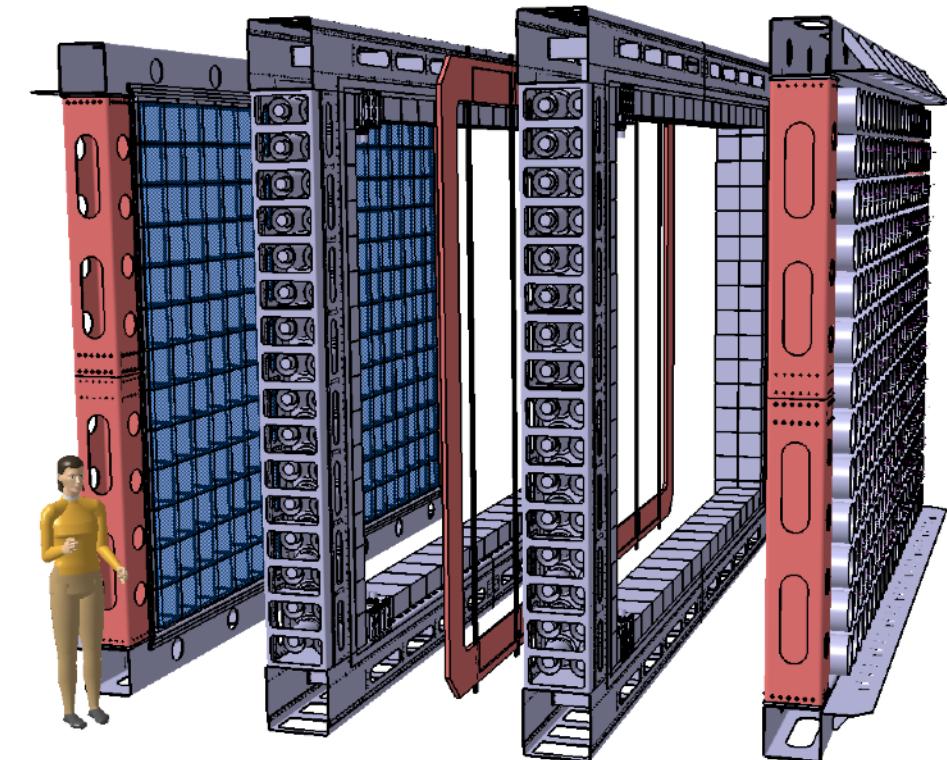


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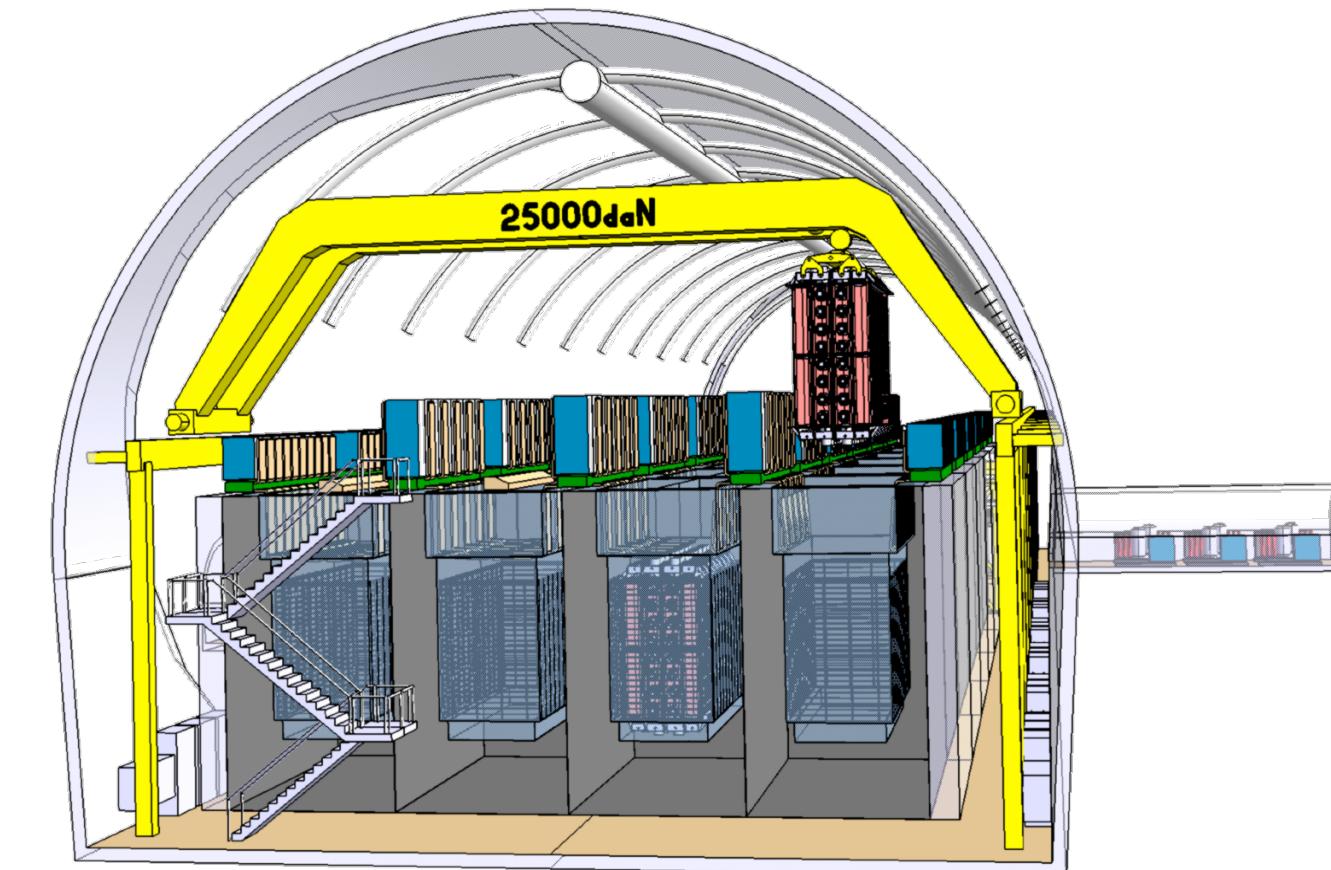
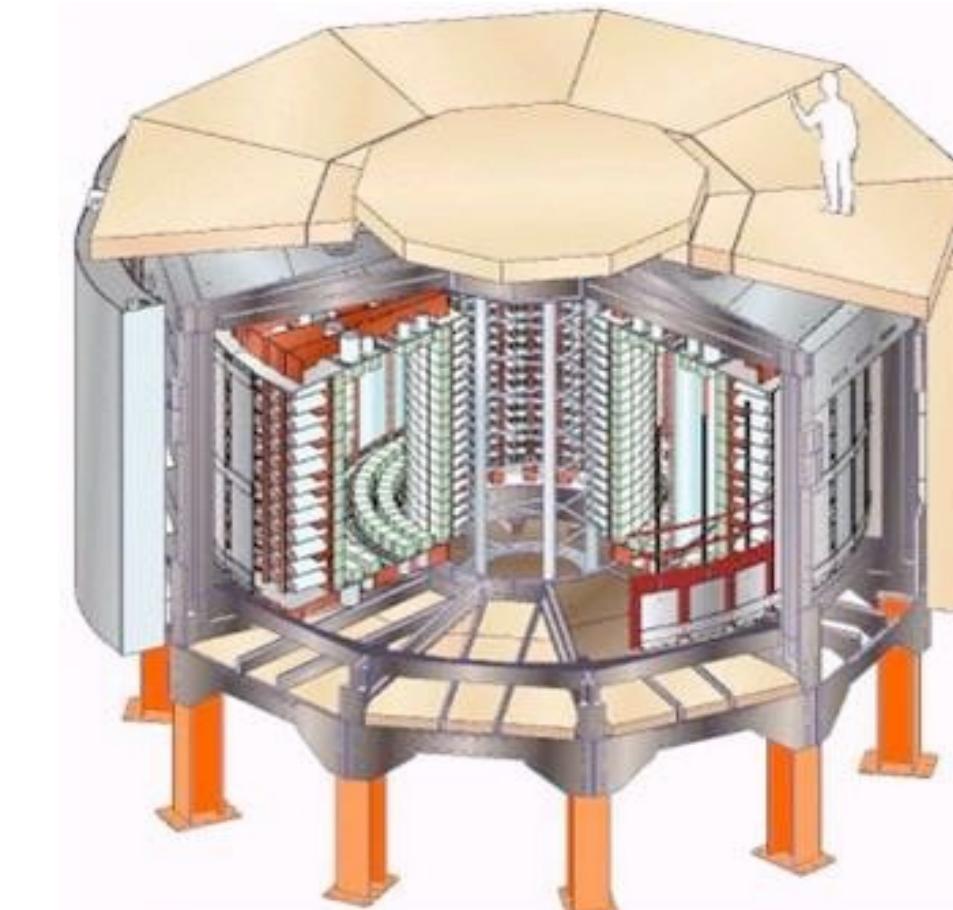


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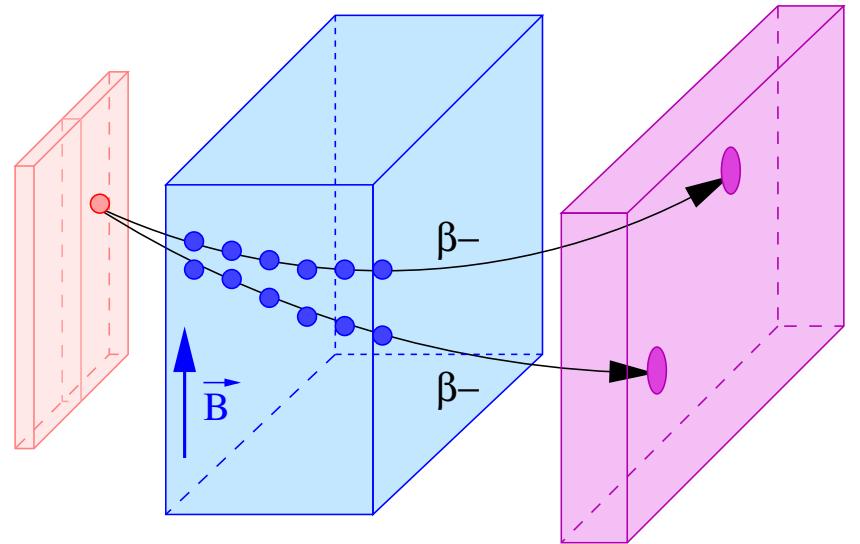
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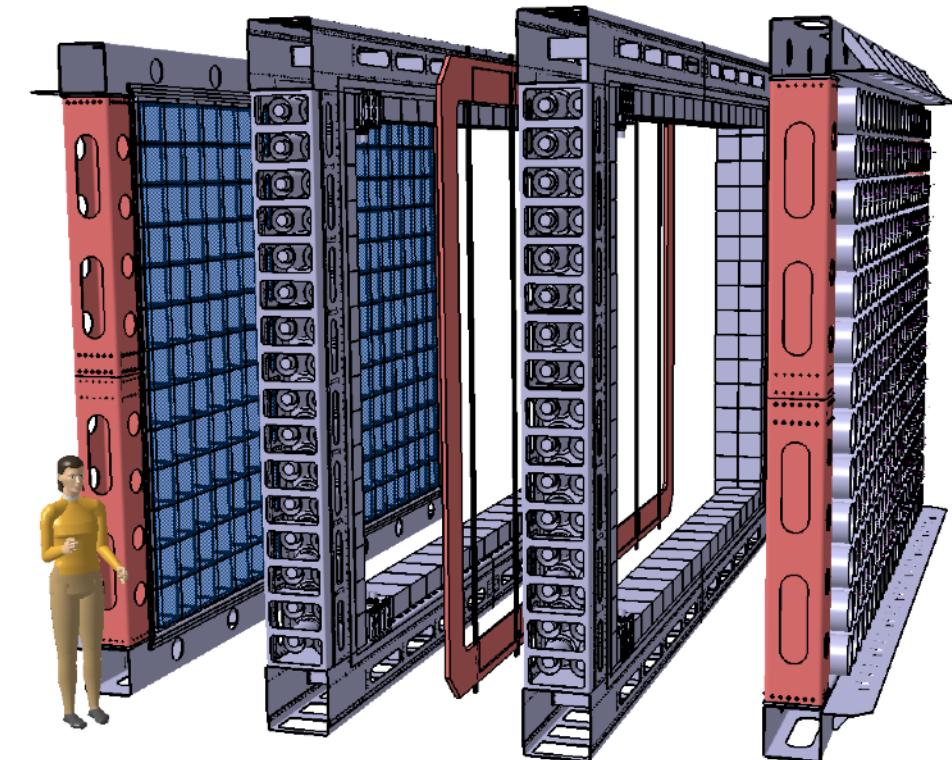


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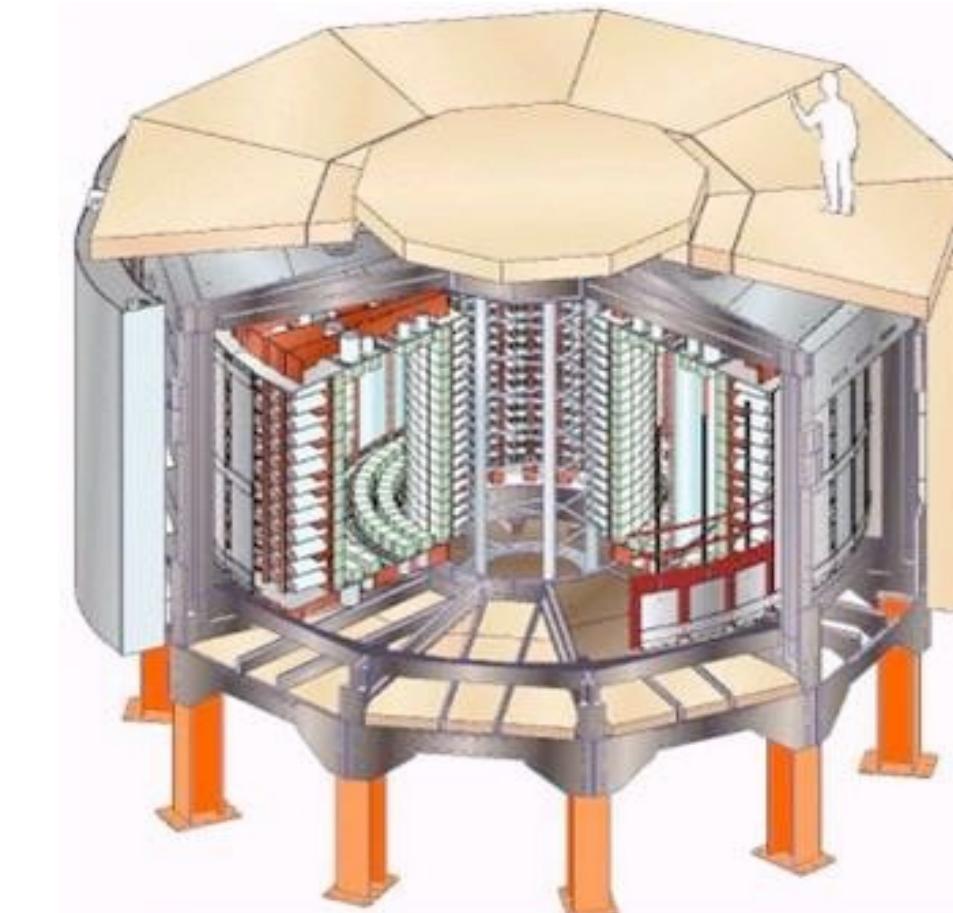


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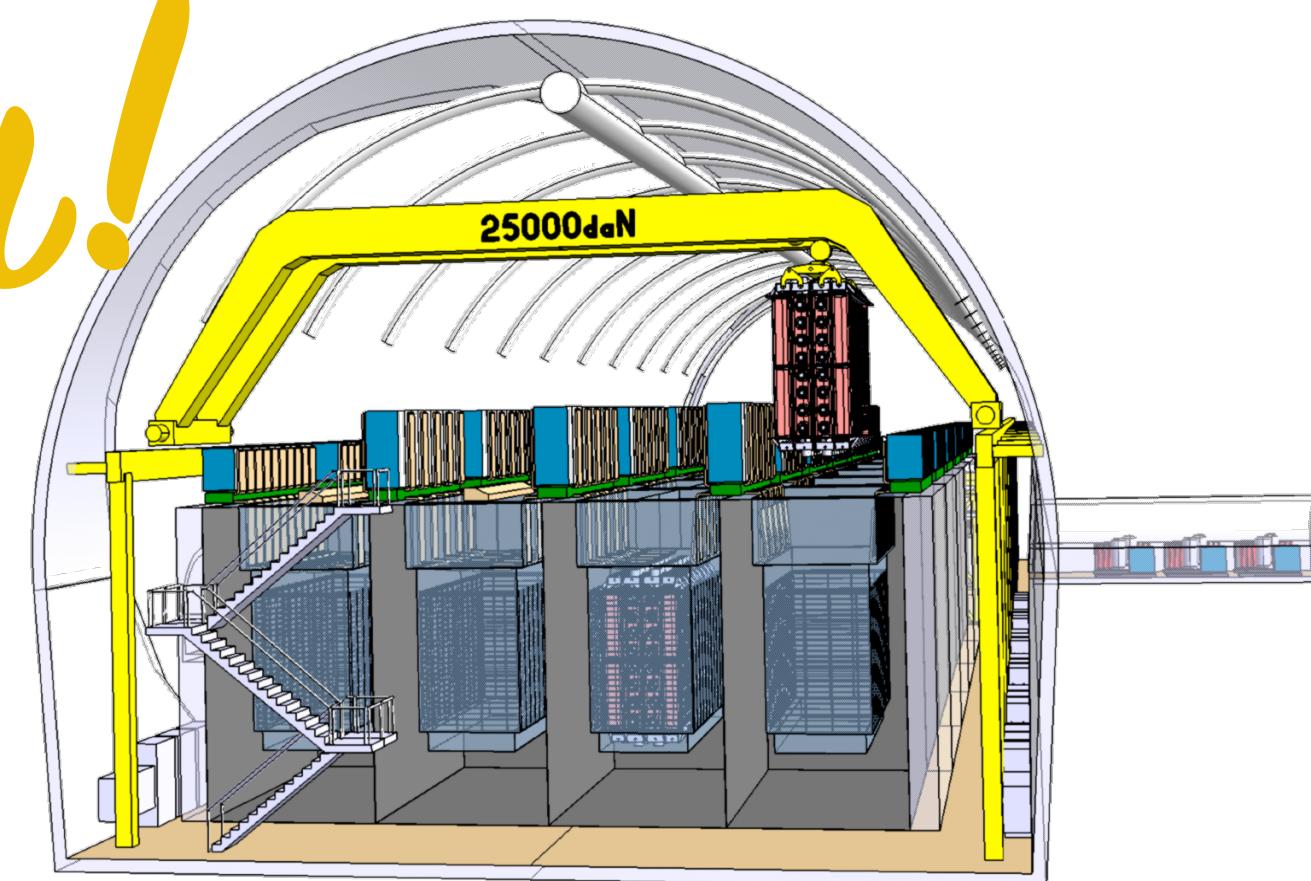
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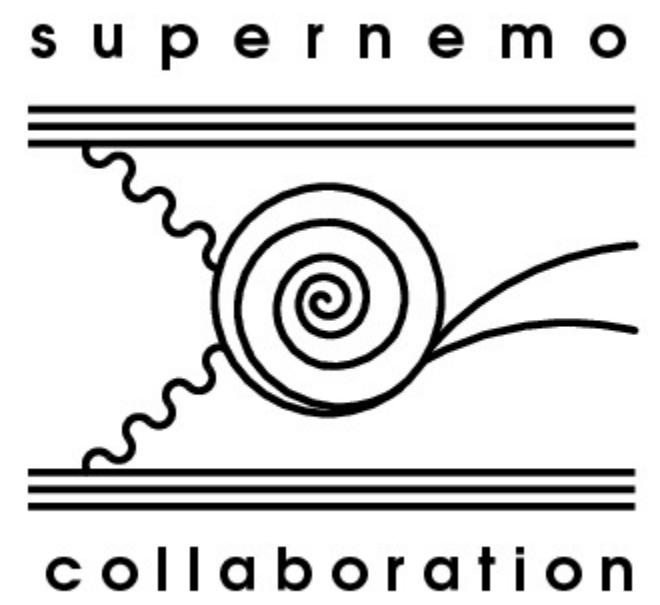
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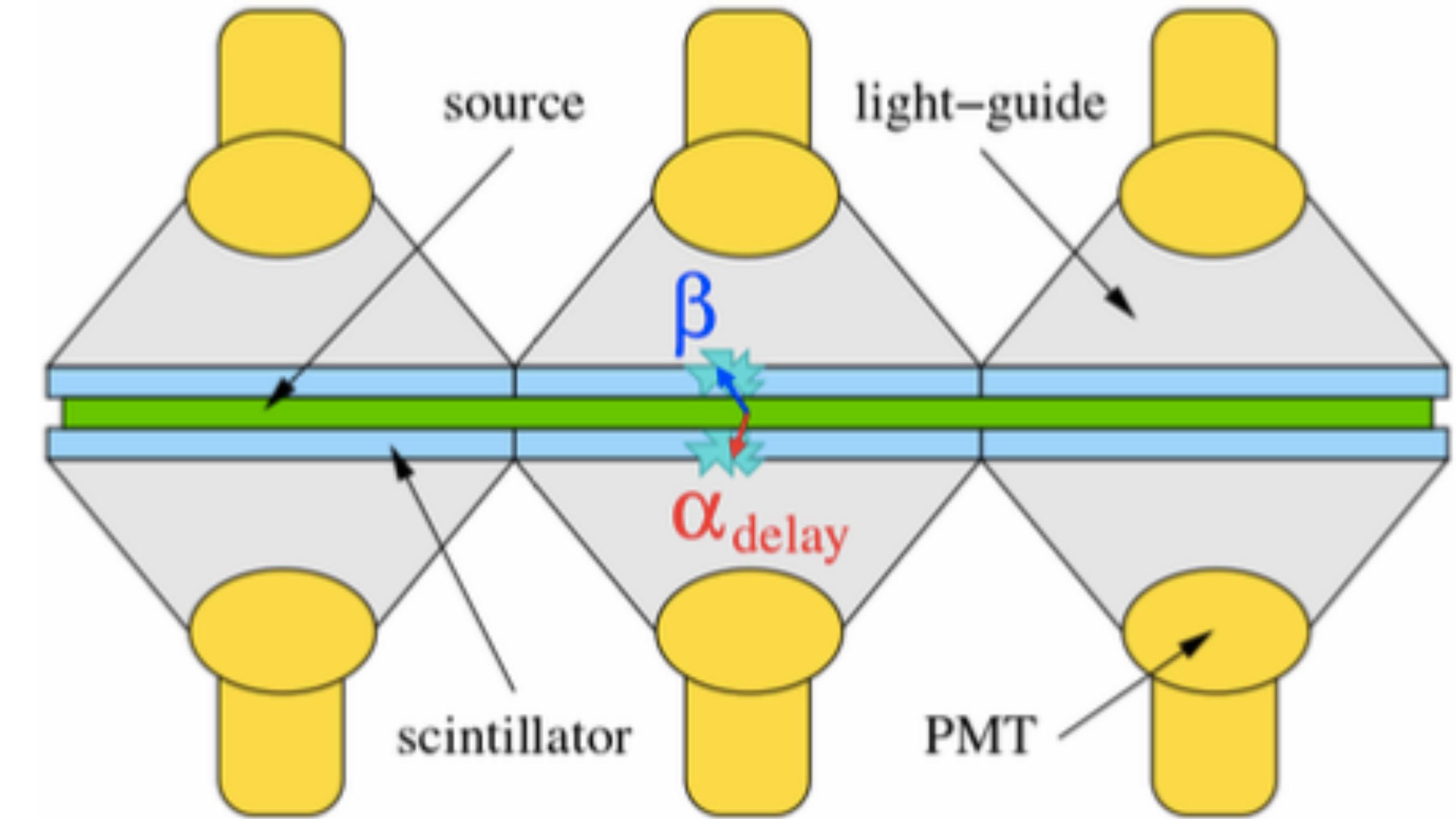


Backup Slides

Source foil contamination measured at the BiPo-3 detector



JINST 12 (2017) P06002



- Dedicated detector at Canfranc, Spain
- Designed to measure very **low activities**
- Looks for characteristic signature of Bi β decay followed by a decay of Po daughter (U and Th decay chains)
- Targets **10 μ Bq /kg (^{214}Bi)**, **2 μ Bq/kg (^{208}TI)**
- Not very sensitive to ^{214}Bi - final measurements will be taken *in situ*

Tracker gas system



95% Helium

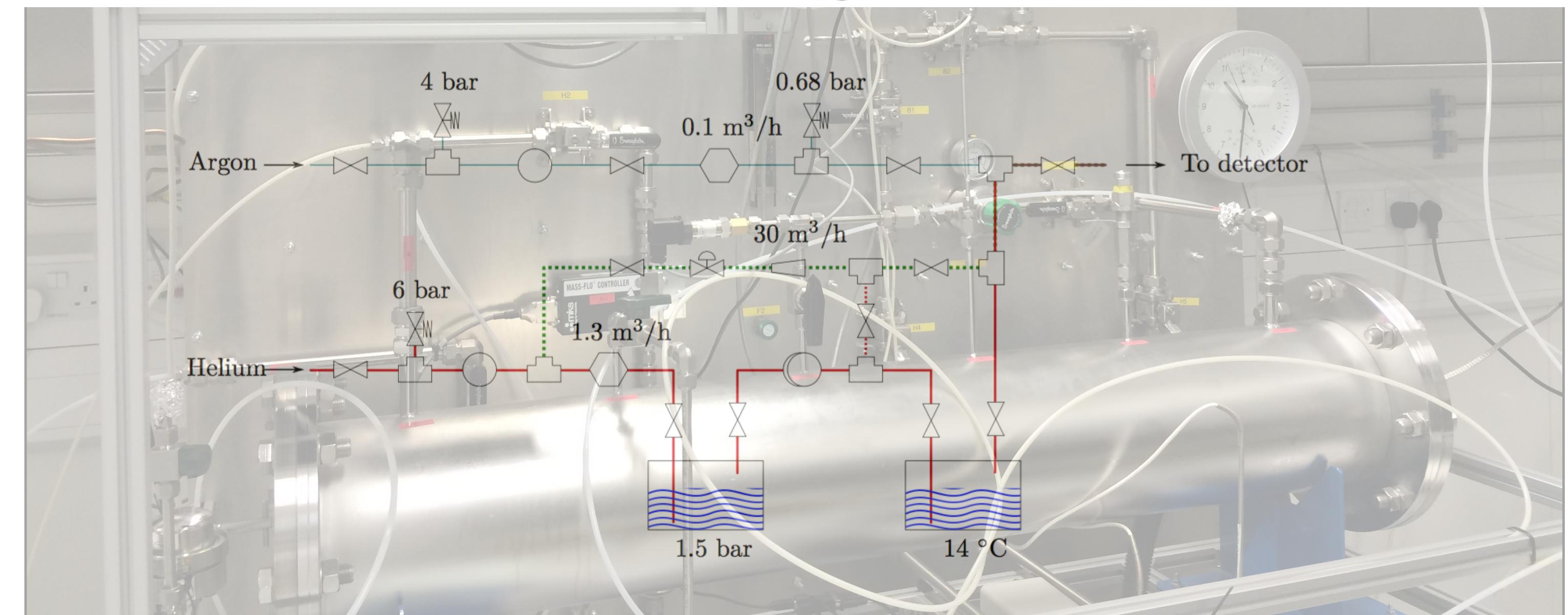
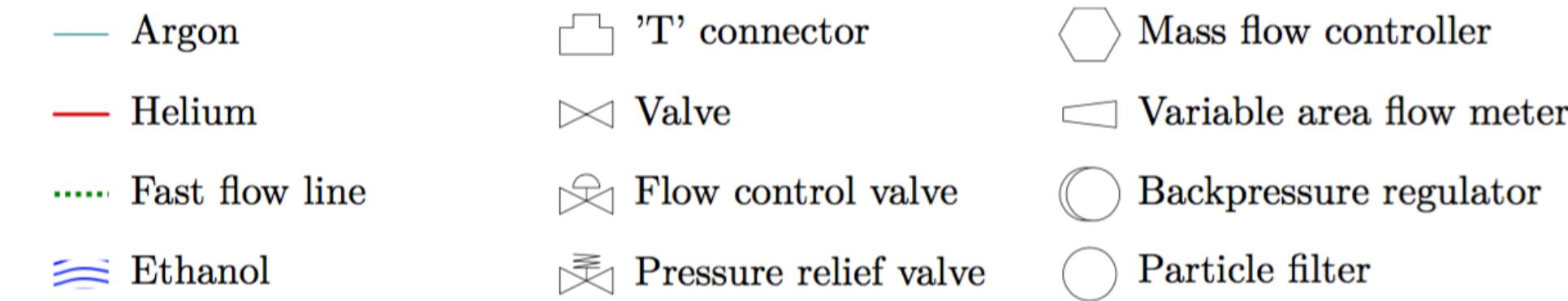
Low atomic mass;
prevents multiple
scattering and energy
loss

1% Argon

Low ionisation energy;
helps avalanche
propagate

4% Ethanol

Quenches avalanche;
prevents re-firing



Gas system controlled by Raspberry Pi to monitor and control temperature, pressure, flow rate
2°C temperature change → 0.5% change in ethanol fraction → tracker efficiency

Radon in the tracker

Target activity: 0.15 mBq / m³

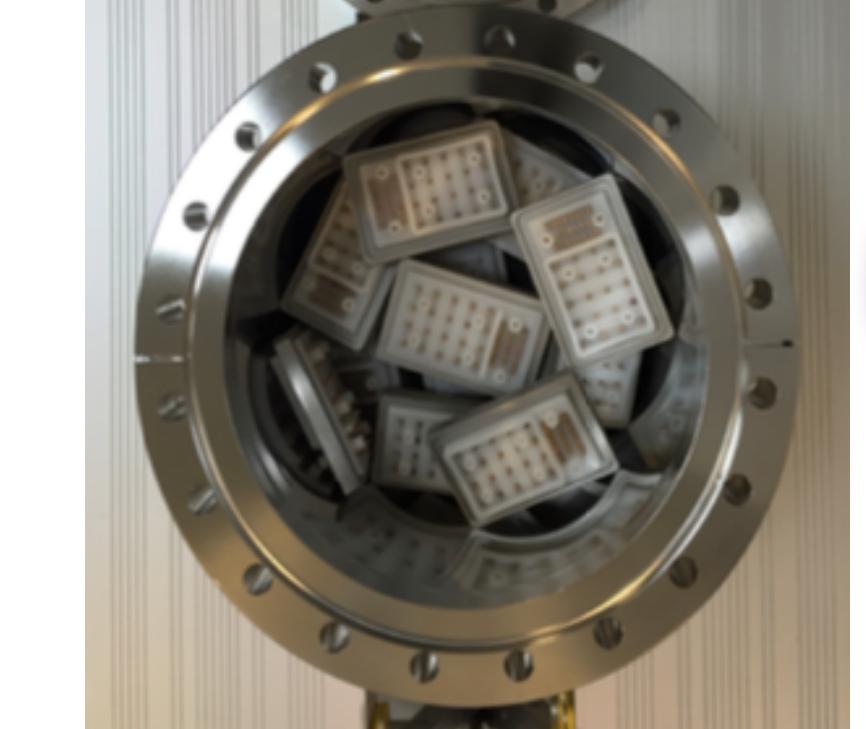
Two things to consider: tracker components and gas mixture

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Potential component emanates radon in chamber (10 days+)

Flush with helium



70-litre electrostatic detector can measure activities down to **0.09 mBq**

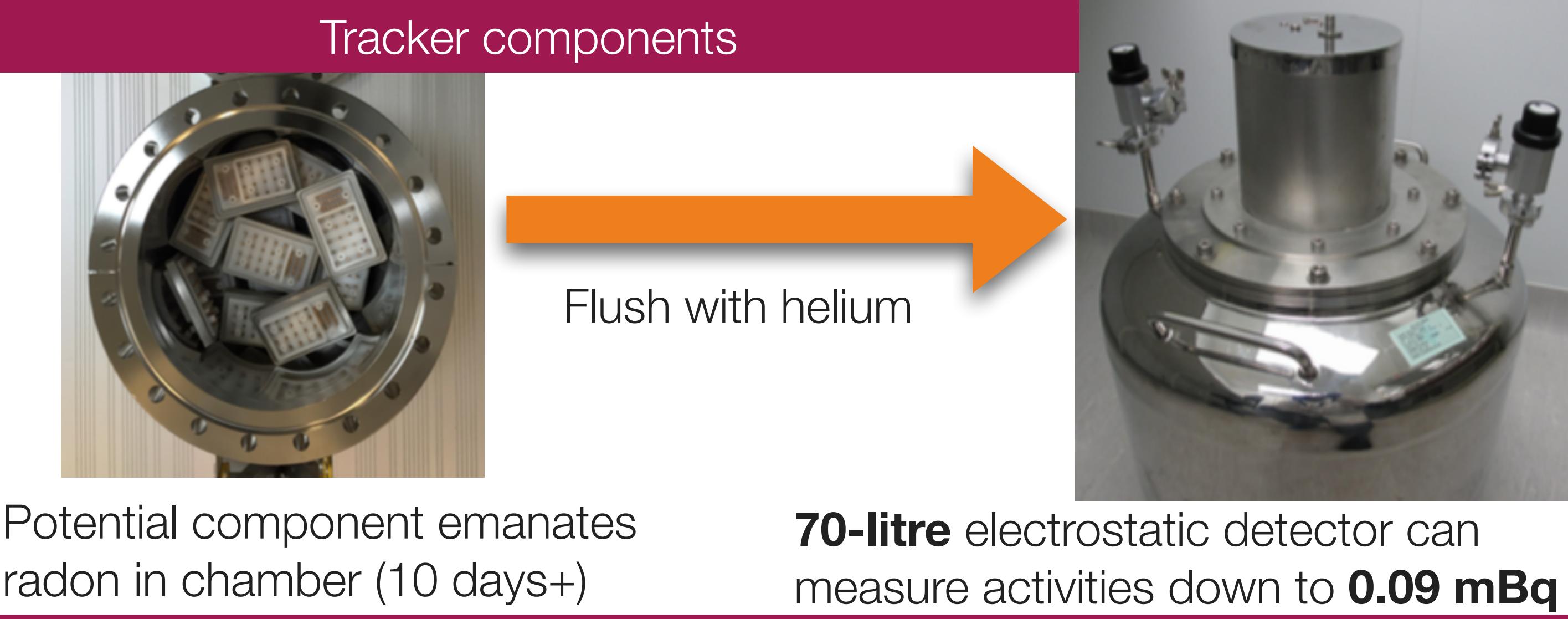
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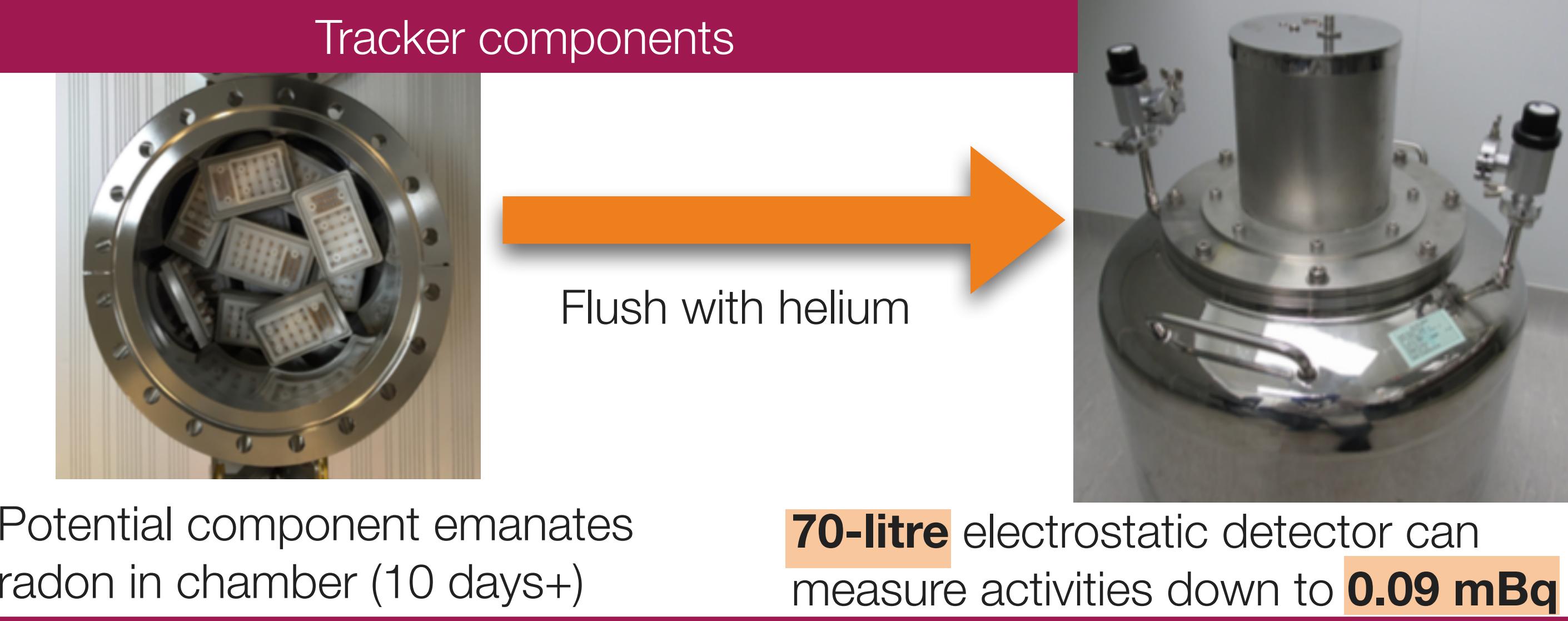
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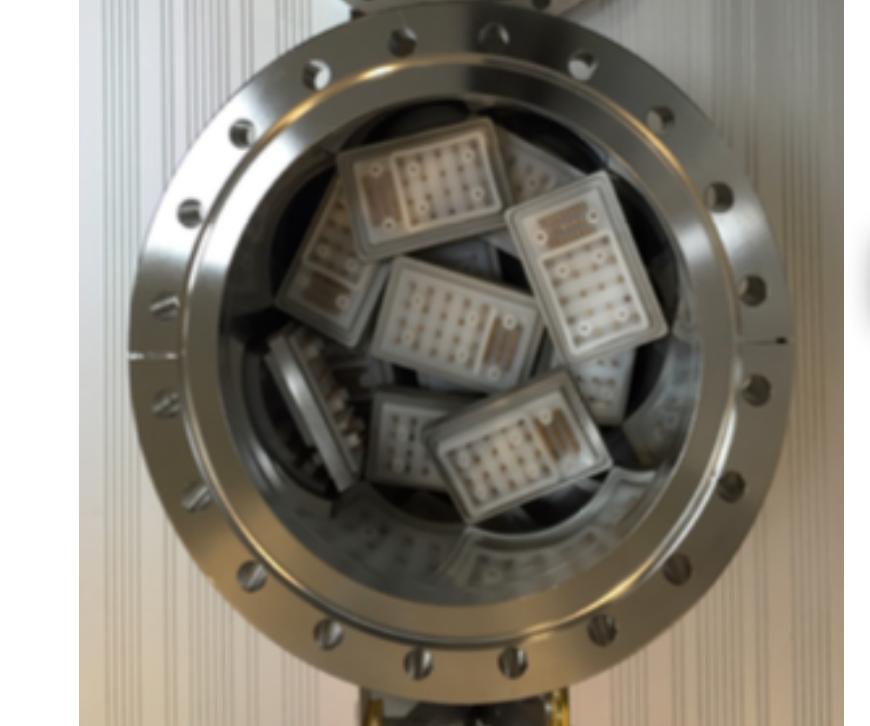
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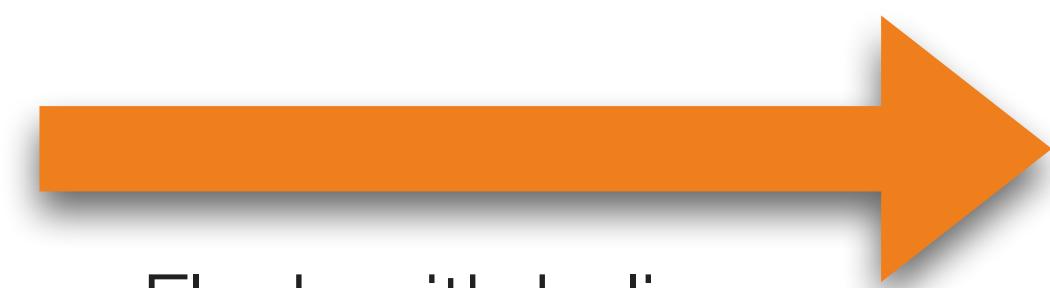
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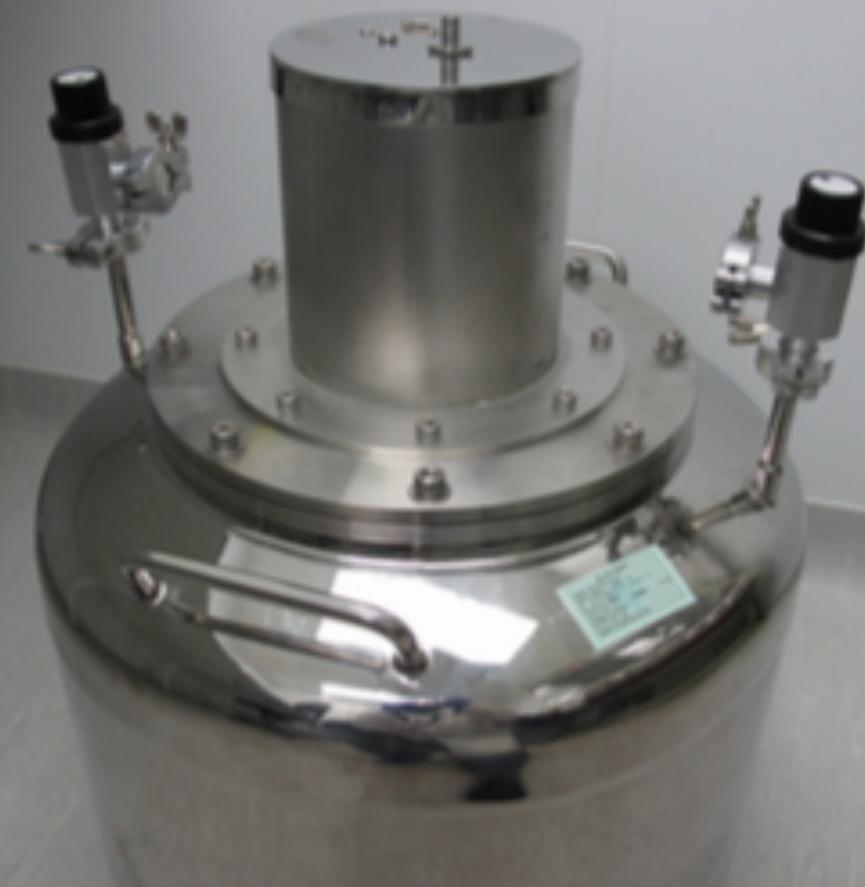
UCL developed the **radon concentration line (RnCL)**



Tracker components



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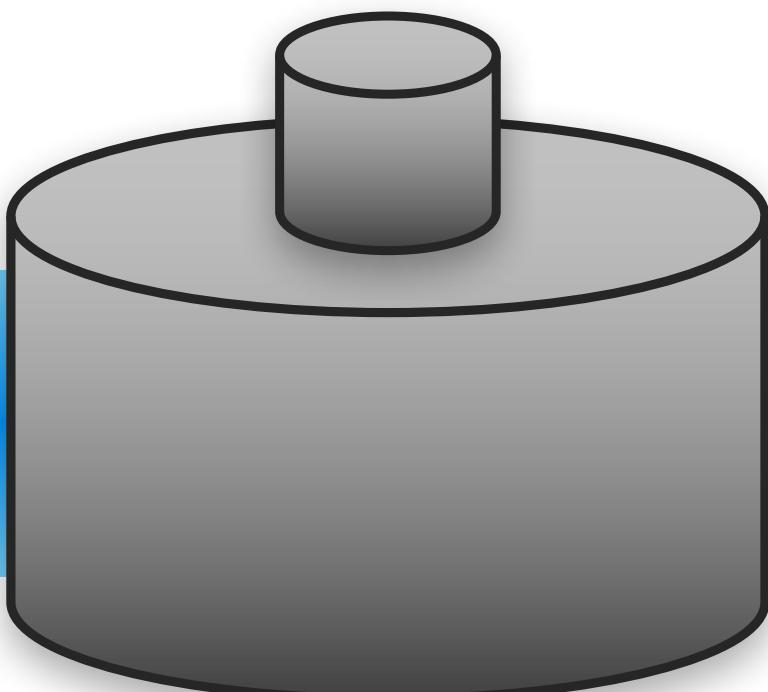
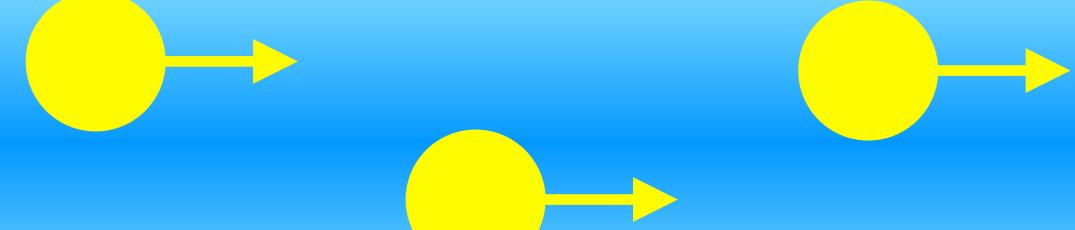
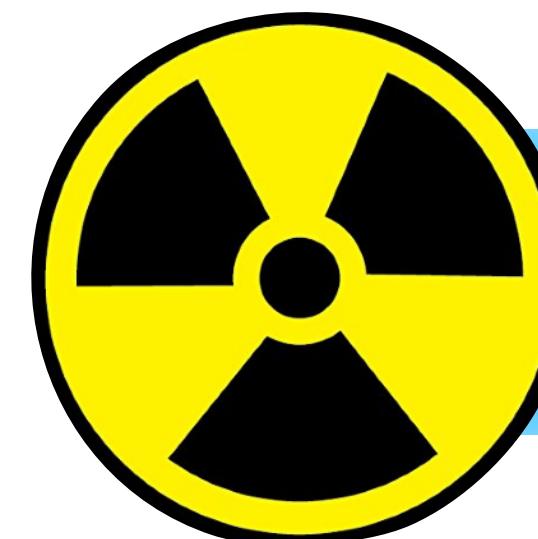


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Trap radon

Flush from source into carbon trap and cool - radon is trapped and cannot escape



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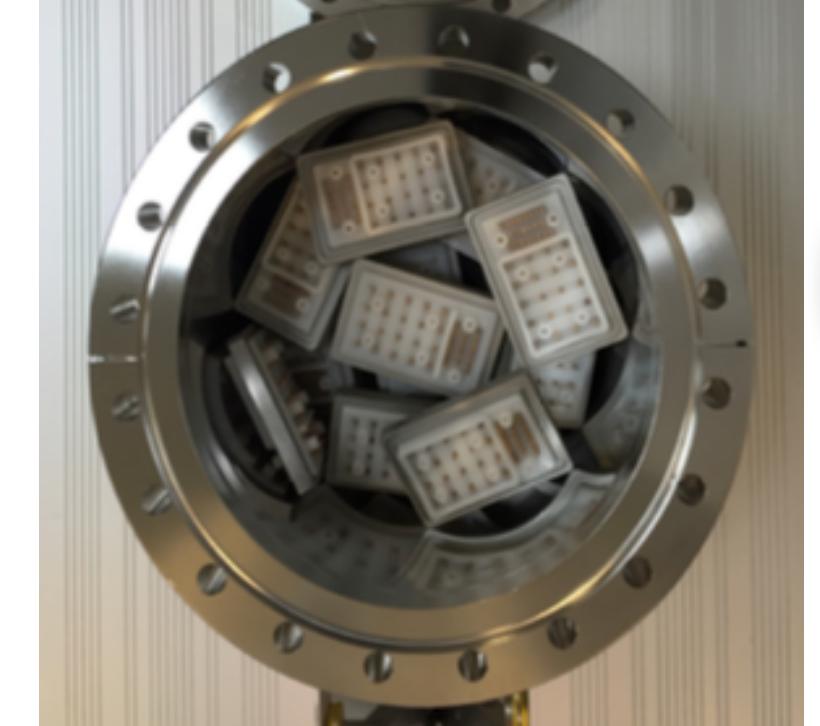
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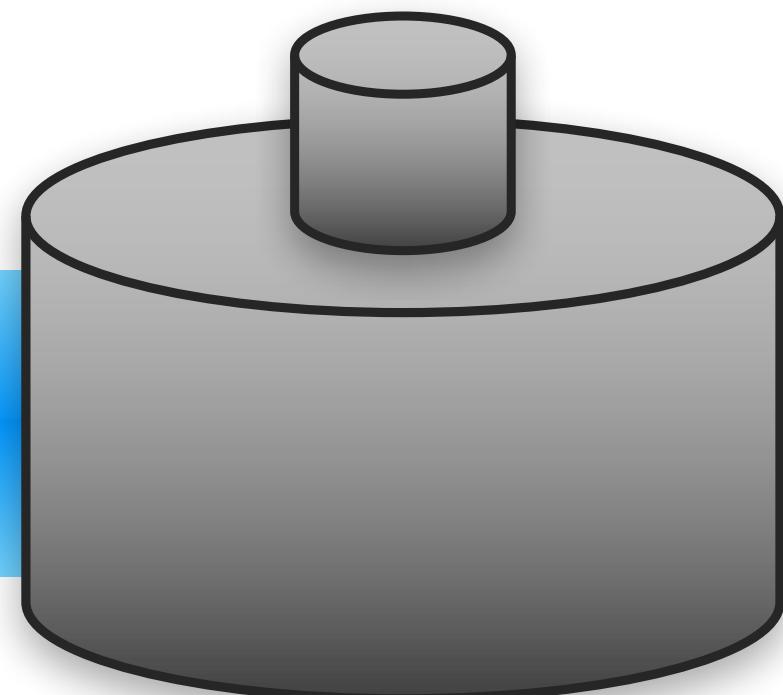
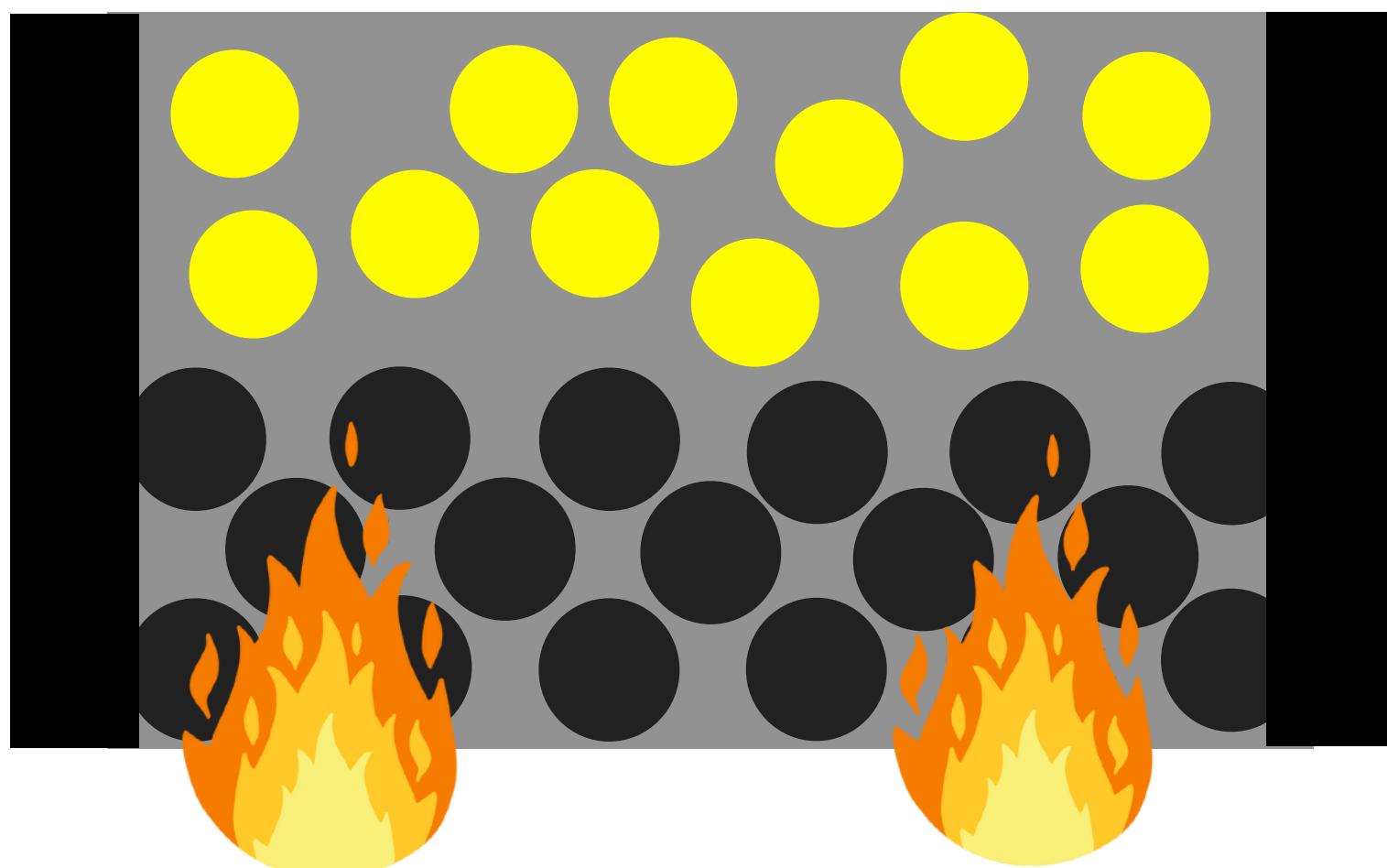


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Release the radon

Seal and heat trap to release the trapped radon



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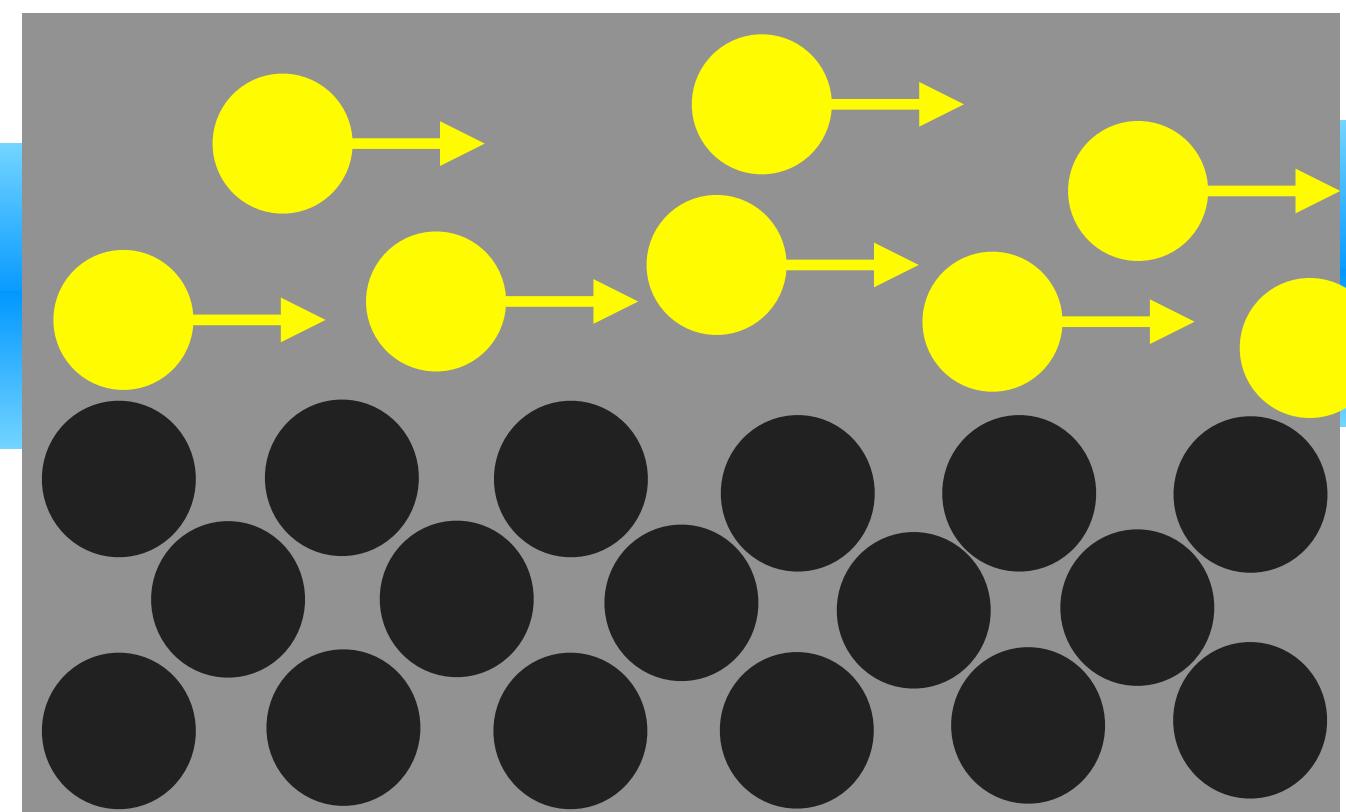
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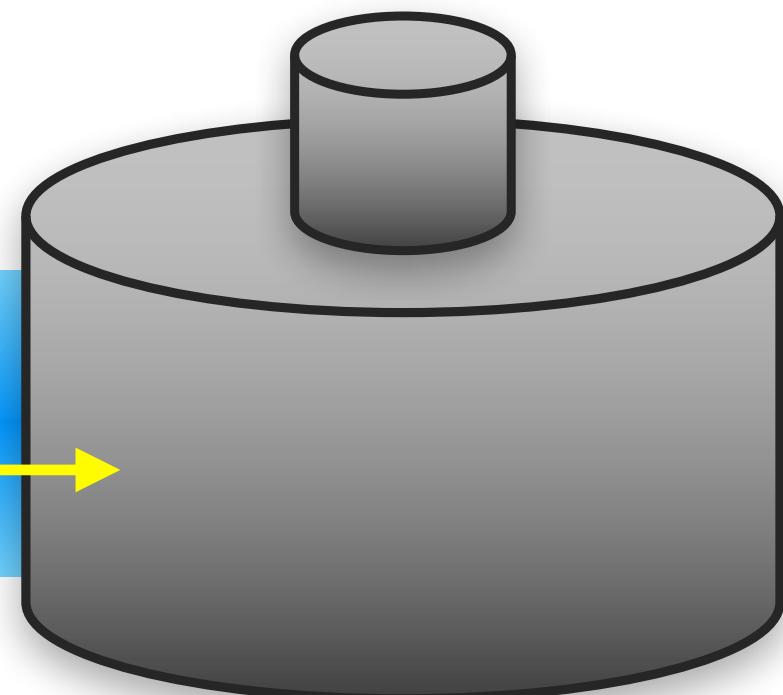
Flush helium through trap to detector

Radon is now concentrated enough that we can detect it.

Use trapping and detection efficiencies to get from measured activity to original activity.



Radon measurement system now being used by dark matter experiments



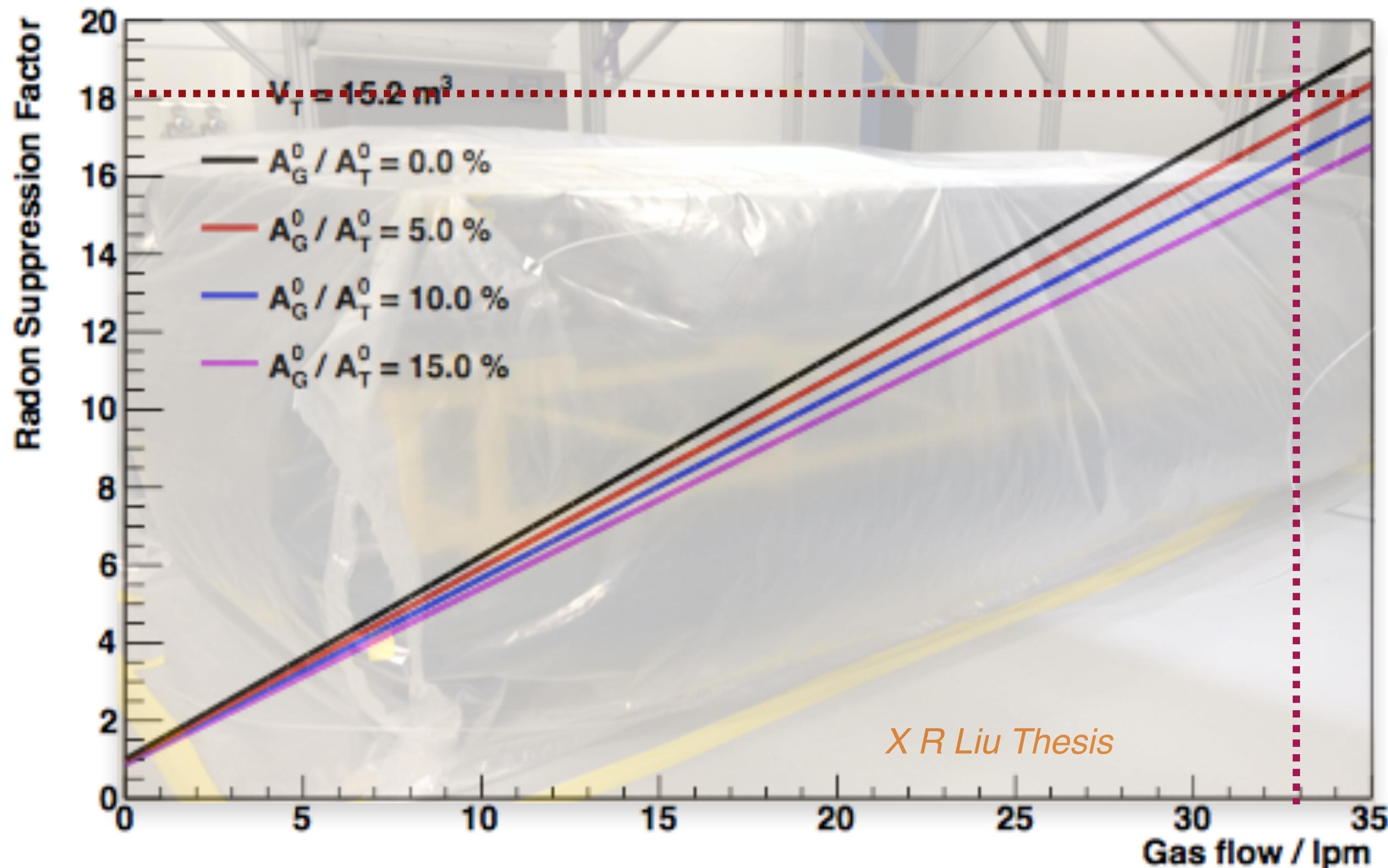
Radon concentration line and the tracker

Concentration line measures tracker activity $2.7 \pm 0.3 \text{ mBq / m}^3$

Requirement is 0.15 mBq / m^3

Activity **18** times too high

What to do? **Flow clean gas** (radio-pure He measured by UCL)



$$\text{Suppression factor} = \frac{1 + A_G^0 / A_T^0}{1 + f / V_T \lambda}$$

Gas and tracker activities

Radon half life

Flow rate

Tracker volume

For full tracker (15.2 m^3)
Required flow rate is **33 litres per minute = $2 \text{ m}^3 / \text{hour}$**

0.15 mBq / m³ achieved for fully-instrumented tracker!

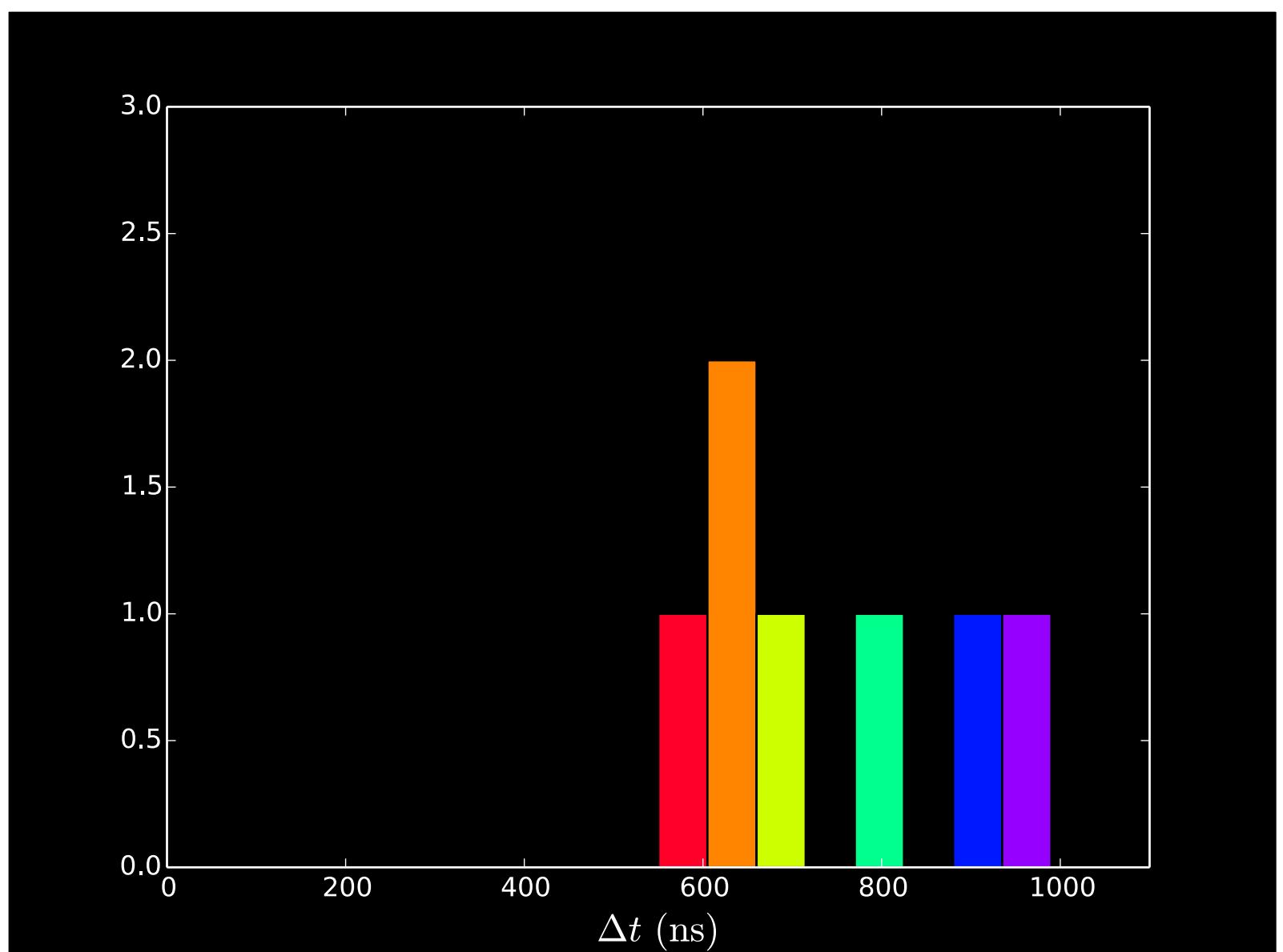
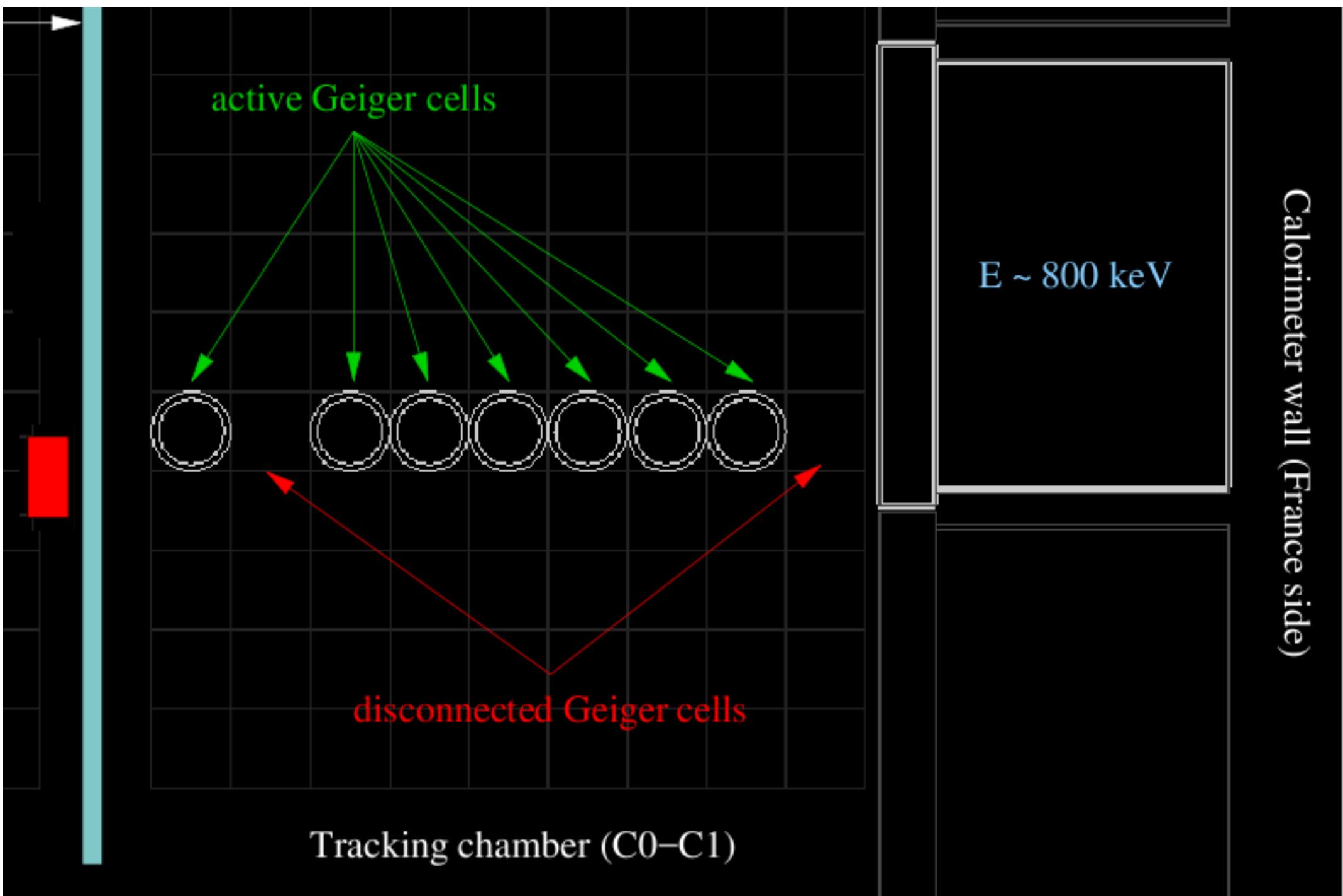
At LSM now: half-detector commissioning



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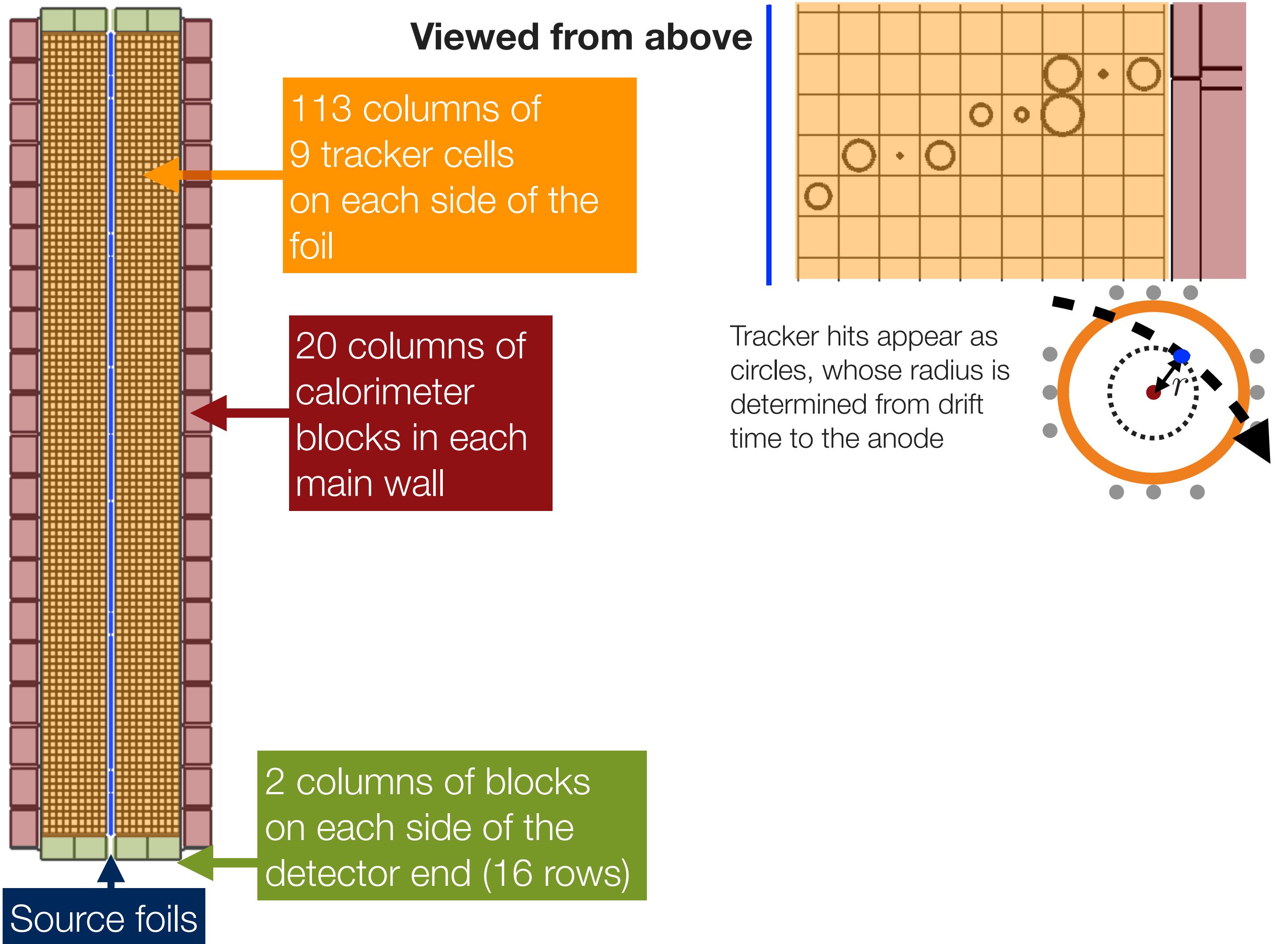


March 2017: **half-detector commissioning**

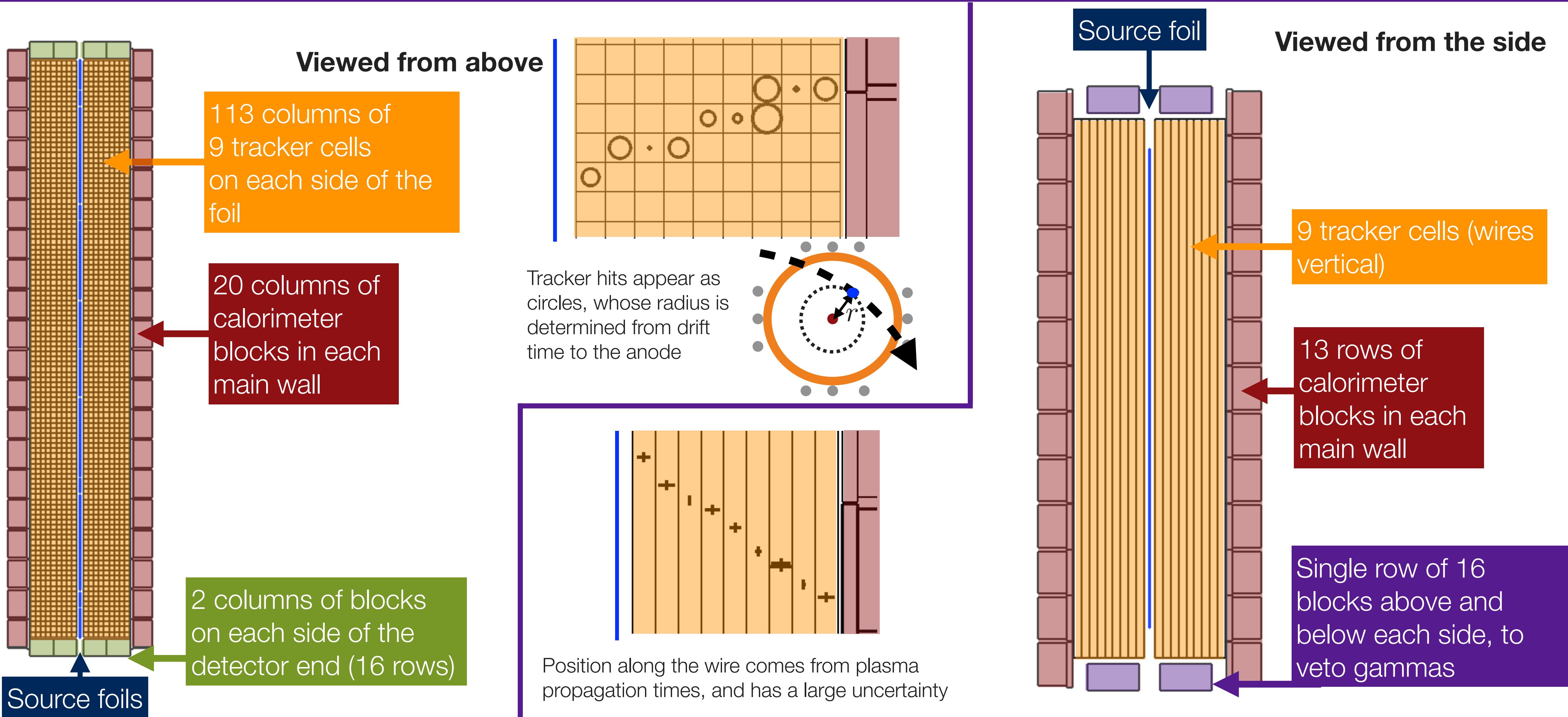


Geiger hits within $1\mu\text{s}$ of calorimeter hit

SuperNEMO event displays



SuperNEMO event displays



Aiming at zero background

Events in window $E_{\text{sum}} \in [2.8, 3.2] \text{ MeV}$	NEMO-3 Phase 2 (29 kg.yr)	Demonstrator Module (29 kg.yr)	Comments
External Bkgnd	<0.16	<0.16	(conservative)
Bi214 from Rn222	2.5 ± 0.2	0.07	radon reduction
Bi214 internal	0.80 ± 0.08	0.07	
Tl208 internal	2.7 ± 0.2	0.05	internal contamination reduction
$2\nu\beta\beta$	7.16 ± 0.05	0.20	Mo100 to Se82 8% to 4% resolution
Total expected	13.1 ± 0.3	0.39	
Data	12	N/A (yet)	

NEMO-3
sensitivity in
4.5 months !

NEMO-3 results summary

Isotope	Mass (g)	$Q_{\beta\beta}$ (keV)	$T^{(2\nu)}$ ($\times 10^{19}$ yrs)	S/B	Comment	Reference
Se82	932	2997.9	9.4 ± 0.6	4	World's best	Eur. Phys. J. C (2018) 78: 821
Cd116	405	2813.5	2.74 ± 0.18	10	World's best*	Phys. Rev. D 95 (2017) 012007
Nd150	37	3371.4	0.93 ± 0.06	2.7	World's best	Phys. Rev. D 94 (2016) 072003
Zr96	9.4	3355.8	2.35 ± 0.21	1	World's best	Nucl.Phys.A 847(2010) 168
Ca48	7	4268	6.4 ± 1.2	6.8 (h.e.)	World's best	Phys. Rev. D 93 (2016) 112008
Mo100	6914	3034	0.68 ± 0.05	80	World's best	Neutrino 2018
Te130	454	25227.5	70 ± 14	0.5	First direct detection	Phys. Rev. Lett. 107, 062504 (2011)

NEW!

UPDATED

* Together with Aurora

Crucial experimental input for

- 1) NME calculations
- 2) Ultimate background characterisation for 0ν
- 3) Sensitive to exotic BSM physics (e.g. Lorentz violation, G_f time dependence, bosonic neutrinos etc)

Taken from R Saakyan, NDM2018

38

Electrons and positrons

e⁻

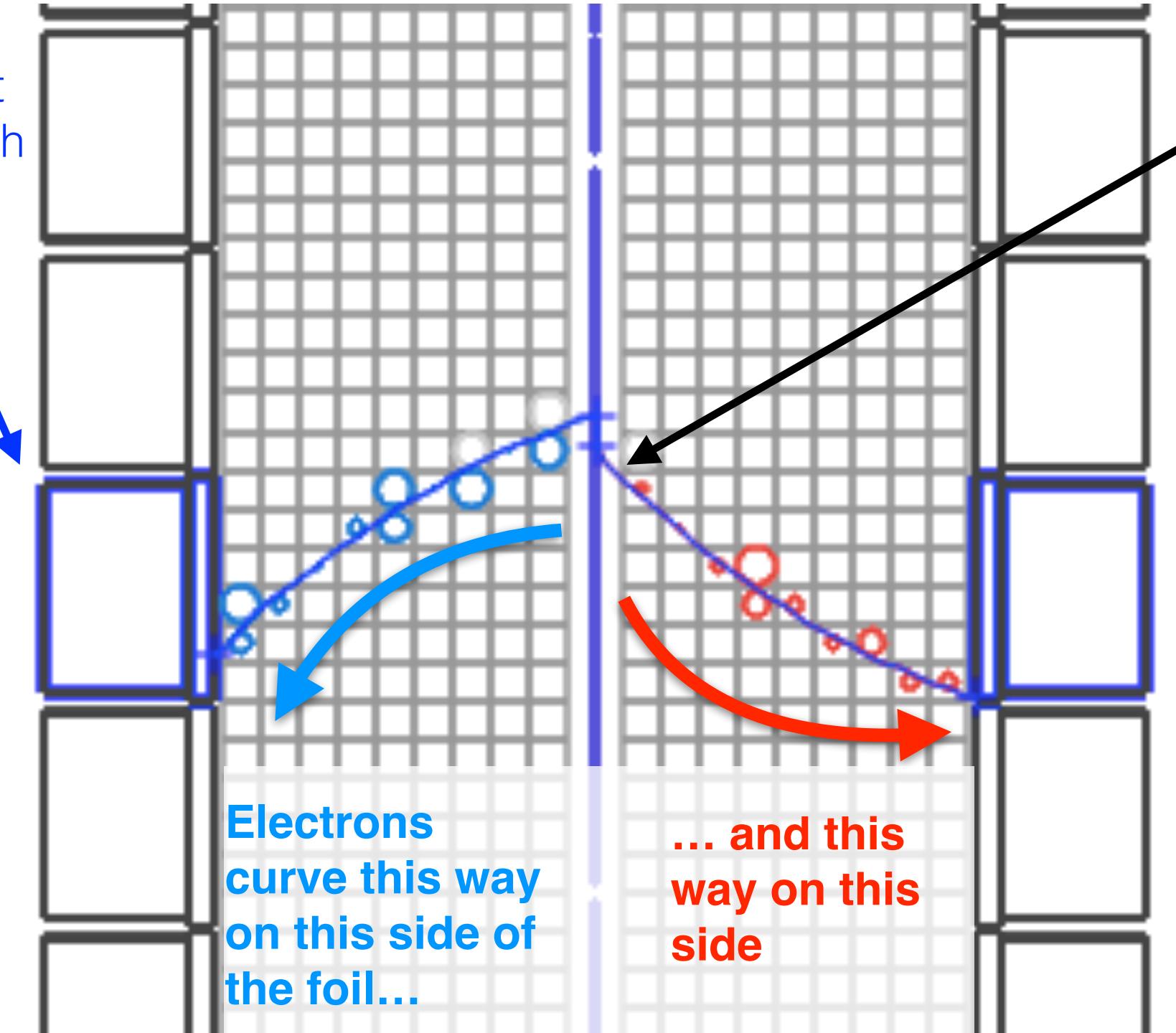
tracker tracker

calorimeters

source foils

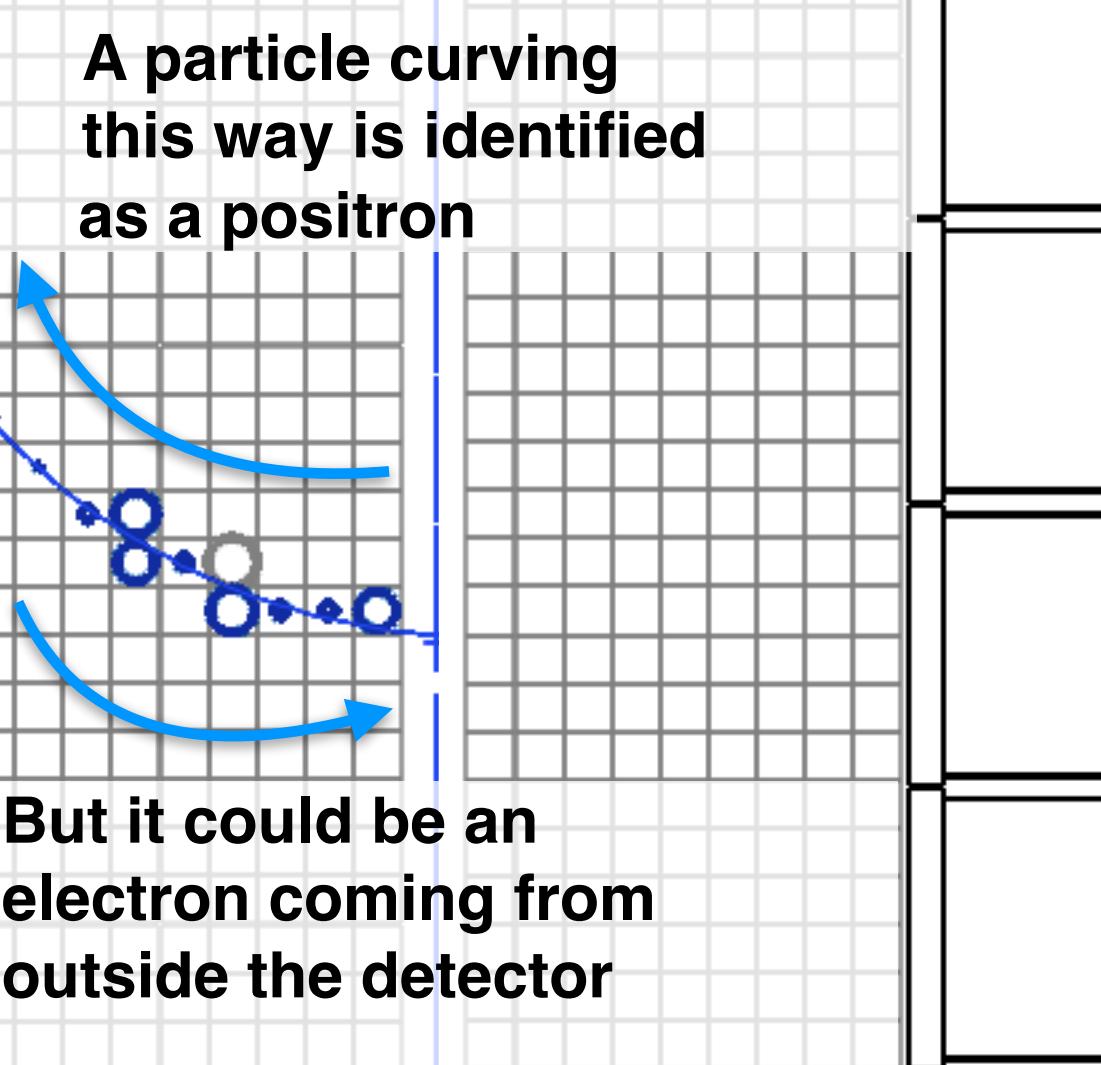
calorimeters

Calorimeter hit
associated with
track



Plan view (partial)

e⁺

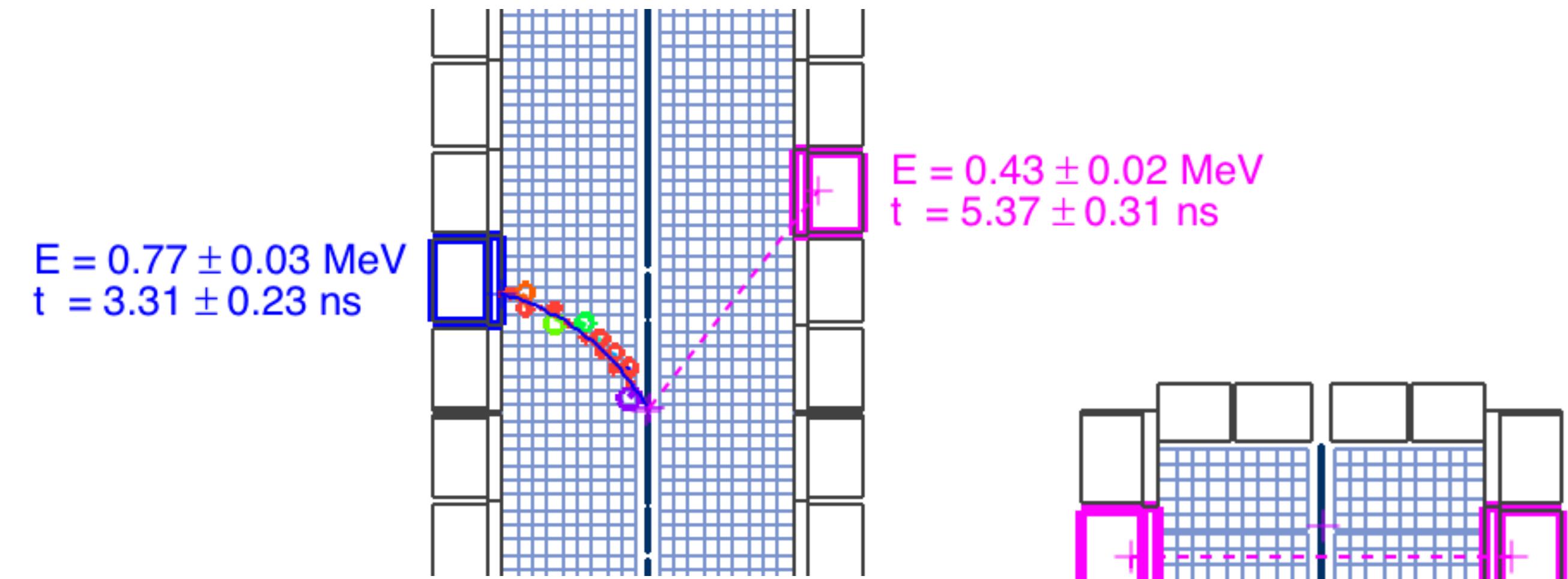


Electron tracks curve in the magnetic field. We get the electron's energy from an associated calorimeter hit.

Background topologies: gammas and alphas

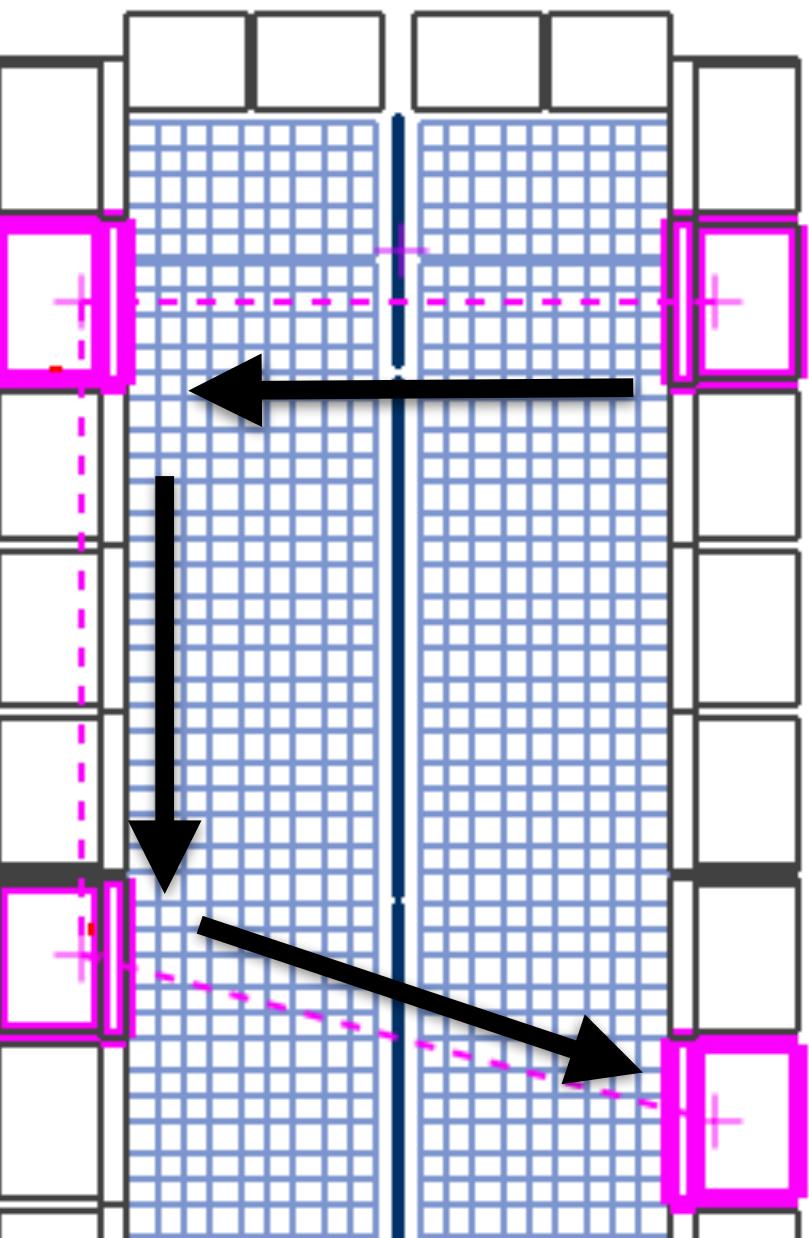
γ

The signature of a **gamma** is an isolated calorimeter hit, with no associated charged particle track



Use timing and energies to assess probability that

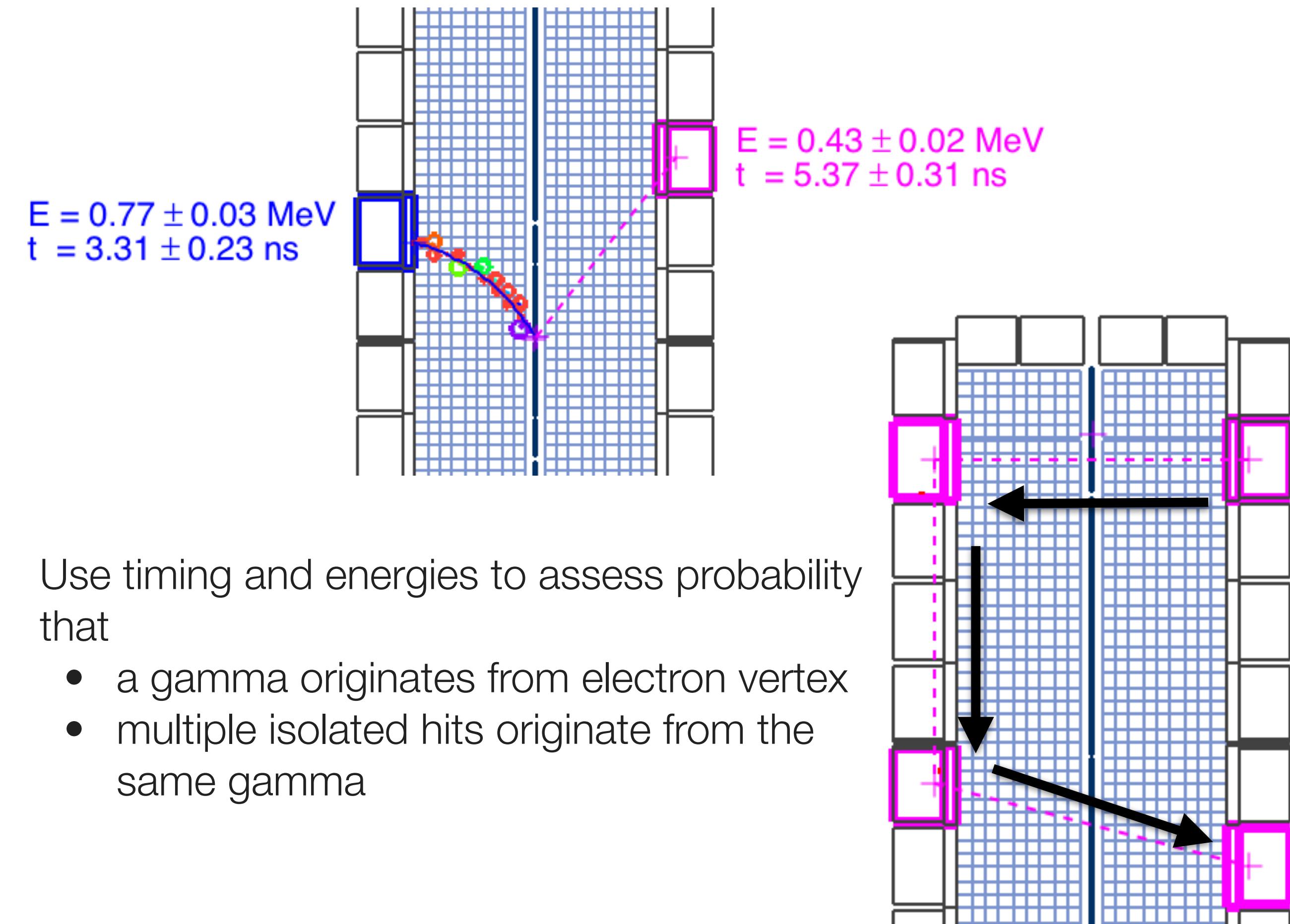
- a gamma originates from electron vertex
- multiple isolated hits originate from the same gamma



Background topologies: gammas and alphas

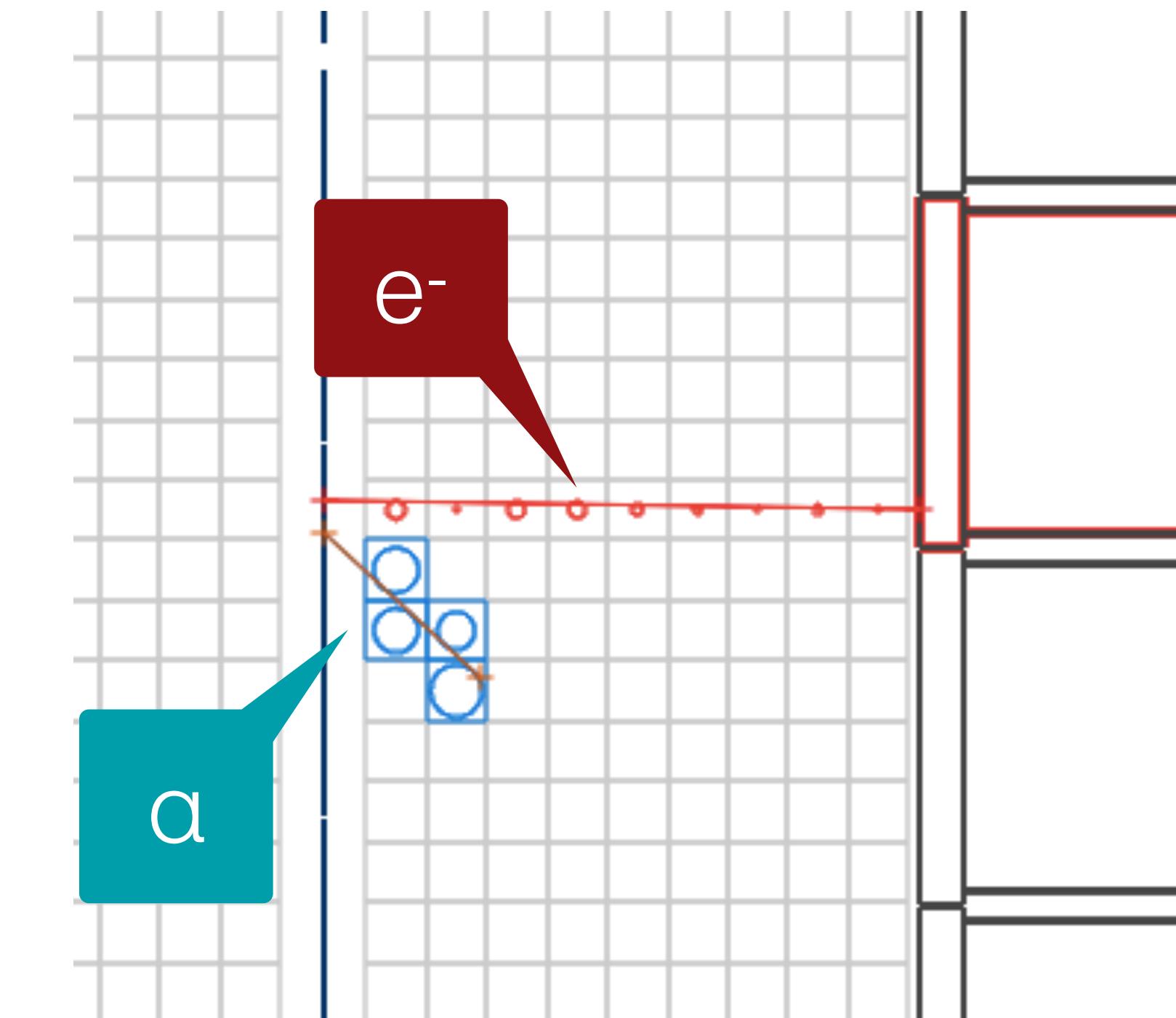
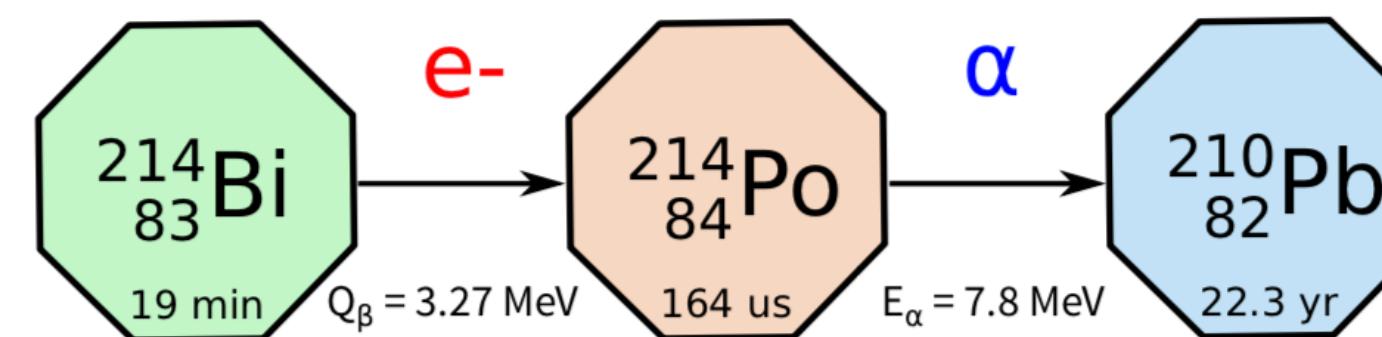
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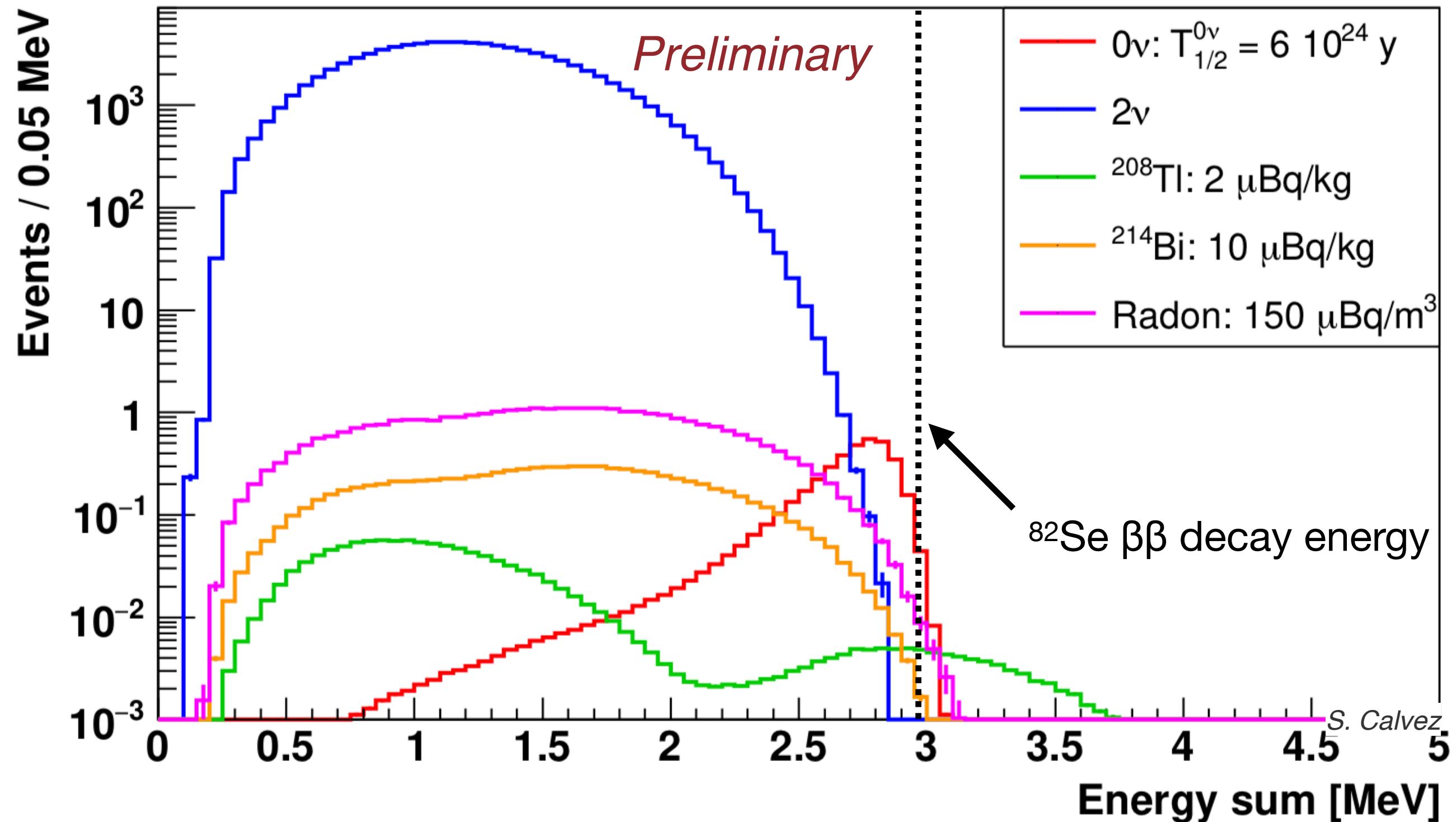


α

Short, straight tracks a few μs **after an electron** are characteristic of **alpha particles** from $^{214}\text{Bi}-^{214}\text{Po}$ decays

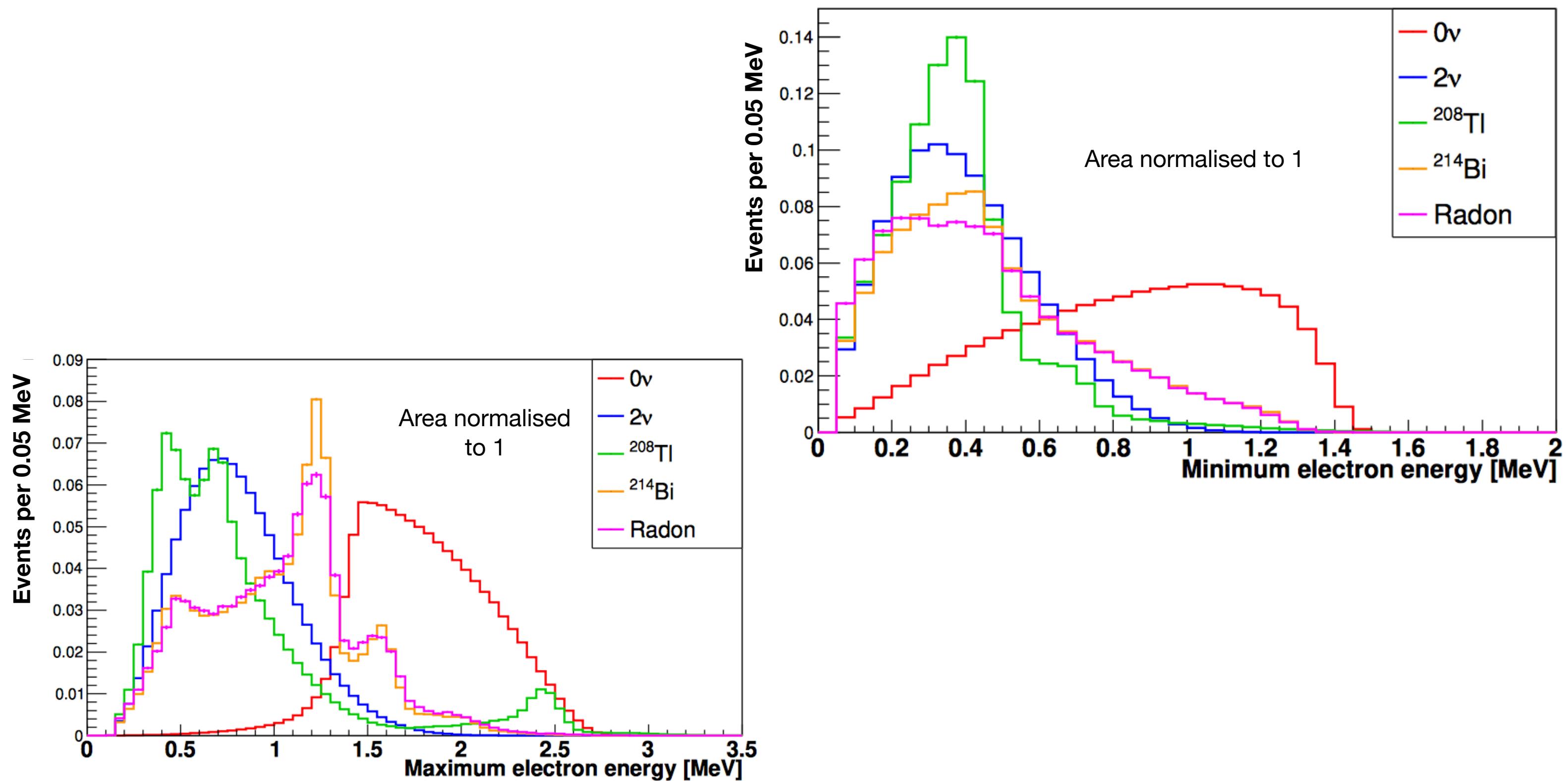


Sensitivity to $0\nu\beta\beta$



Summed 2-electron energy is best distribution to separate signal from background

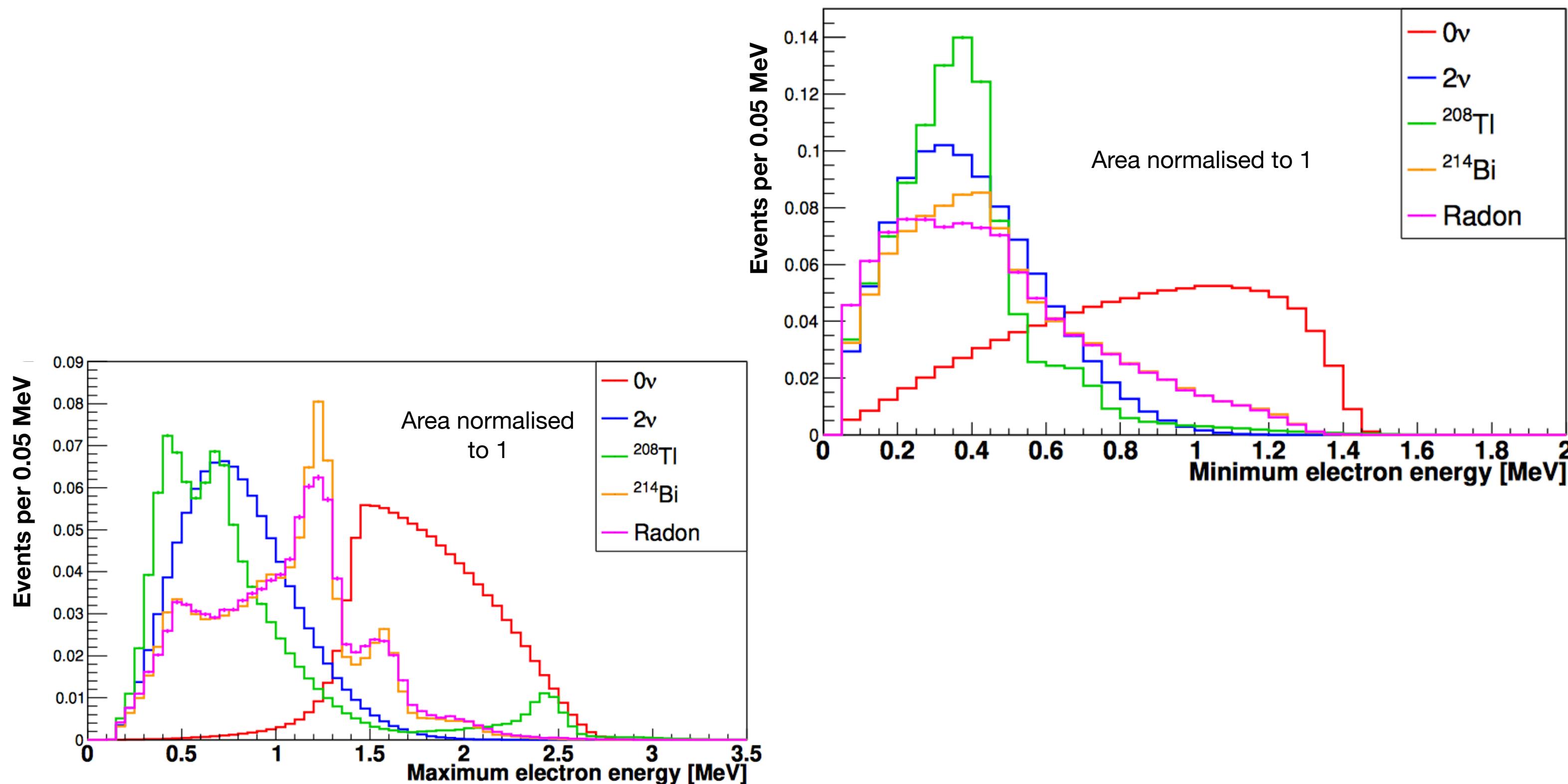
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Using a **boosted decision tree**, we can **improve sensitivity** by including **other variables** (angle between tracks, individual electron energies, internal/external probability, vertex separation...) (approx 10% improvement)

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$T_{1/2} > 5.85 \times 10^{24}$ years (90% C.L)
For 7kg of ^{82}Se (demonstrator) and 2.5 years' exposure

Schedule for the Demonstrator



Schedule for the Demonstrator



Detector
integration
complete in 2018

Schedule for the Demonstrator

2.5 years to reach target $0\nu\beta\beta$ sensitivity **6×10^{24} years**



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Schedule for the Demonstrator

2.5 years to reach target $0\nu\beta\beta$ sensitivity **6×10^{24} years**



2018

2019

2020

2021

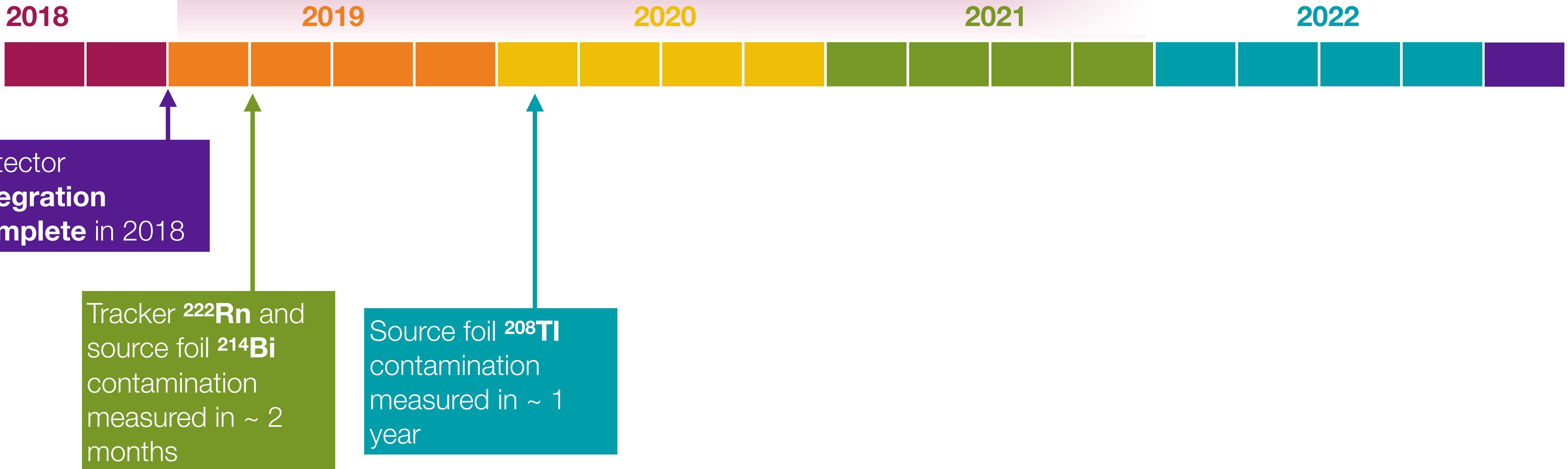
2022

Detector
integration
complete in 2018

Tracker **^{222}Rn** and
source foil **^{214}Bi**
contamination
measured in ~ 2
months

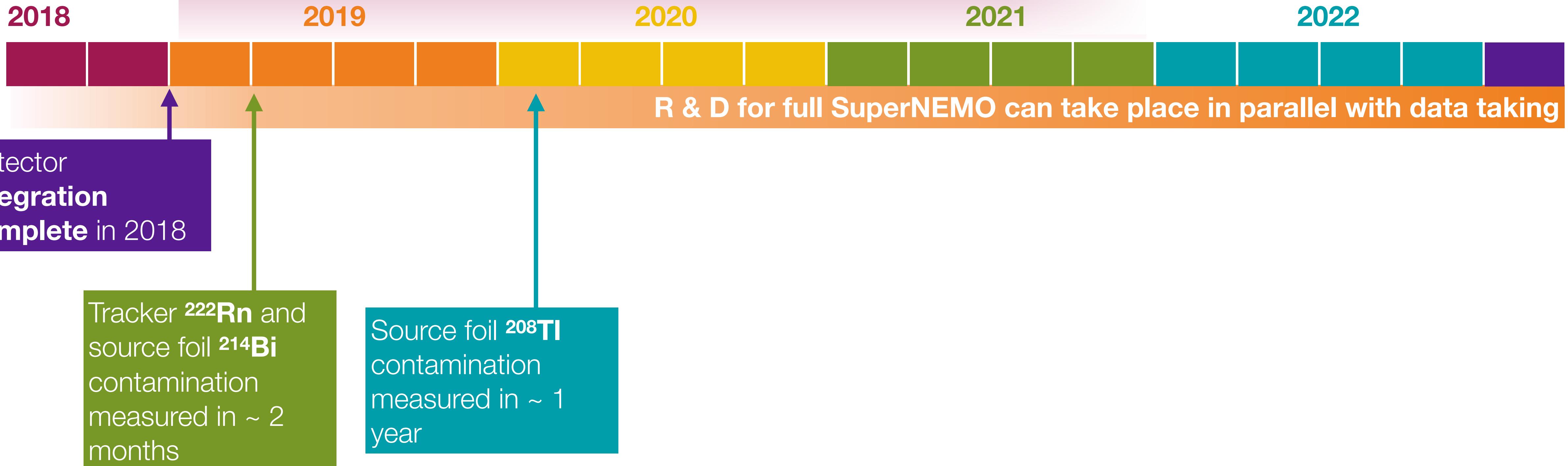
Schedule for the Demonstrator

2.5 years to reach target $0\nu\beta\beta$ sensitivity **6×10^{24} years**

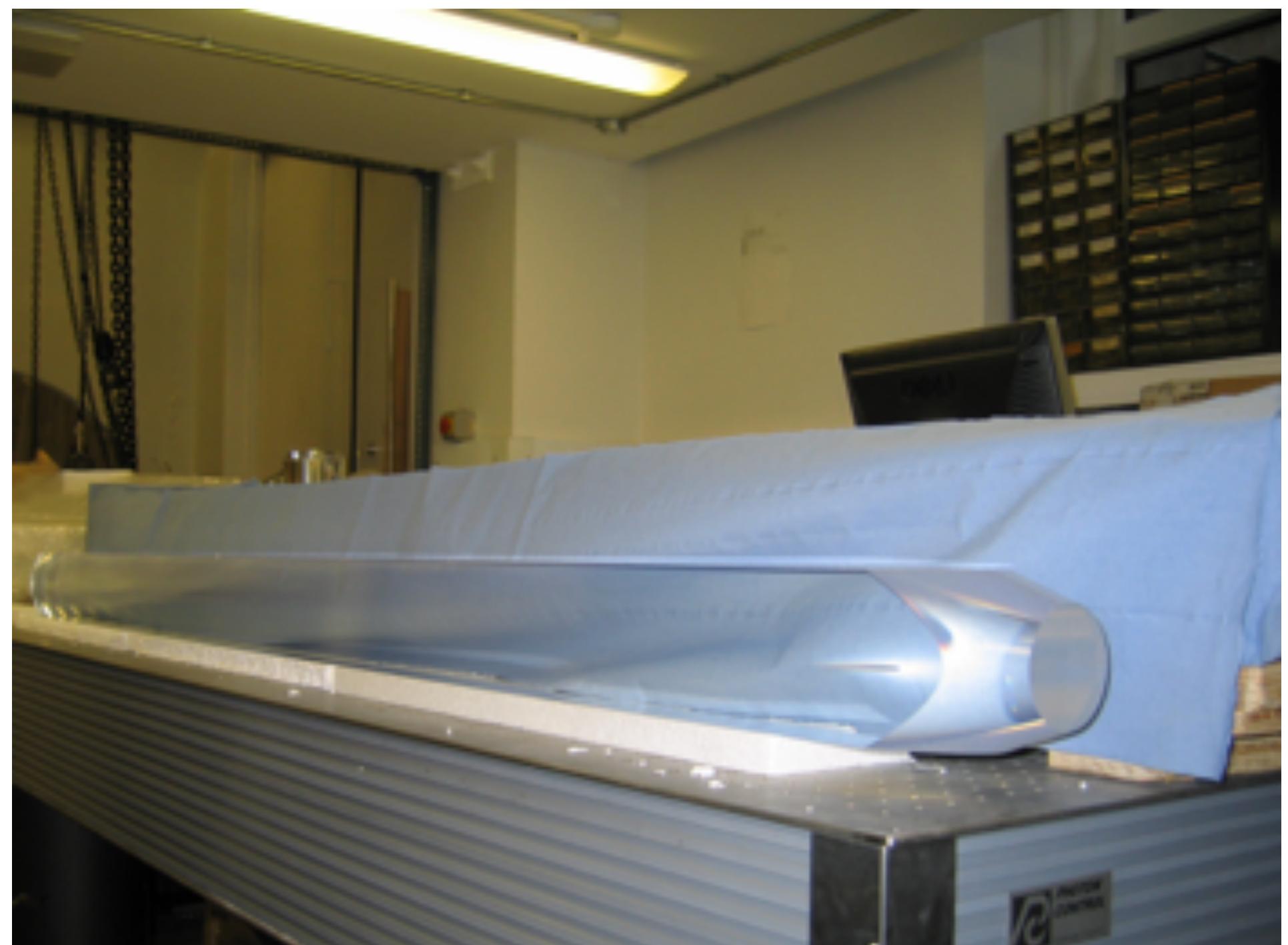


Schedule for the Demonstrator

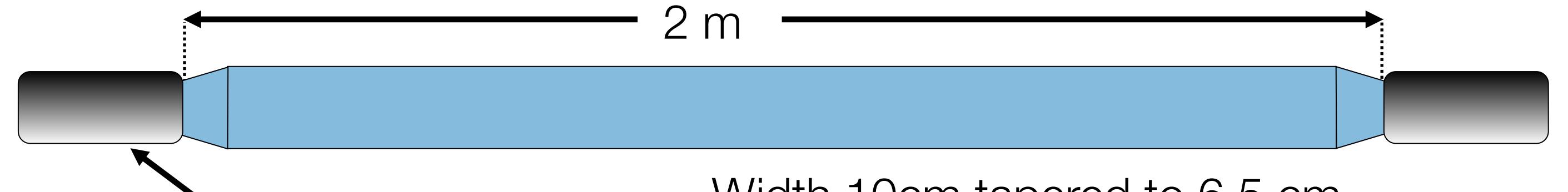
2.5 years to reach target $0\nu\beta\beta$ sensitivity 6×10^{24} years



R & D for SuperNEMO: scintillator bar proposal (possible alternative)

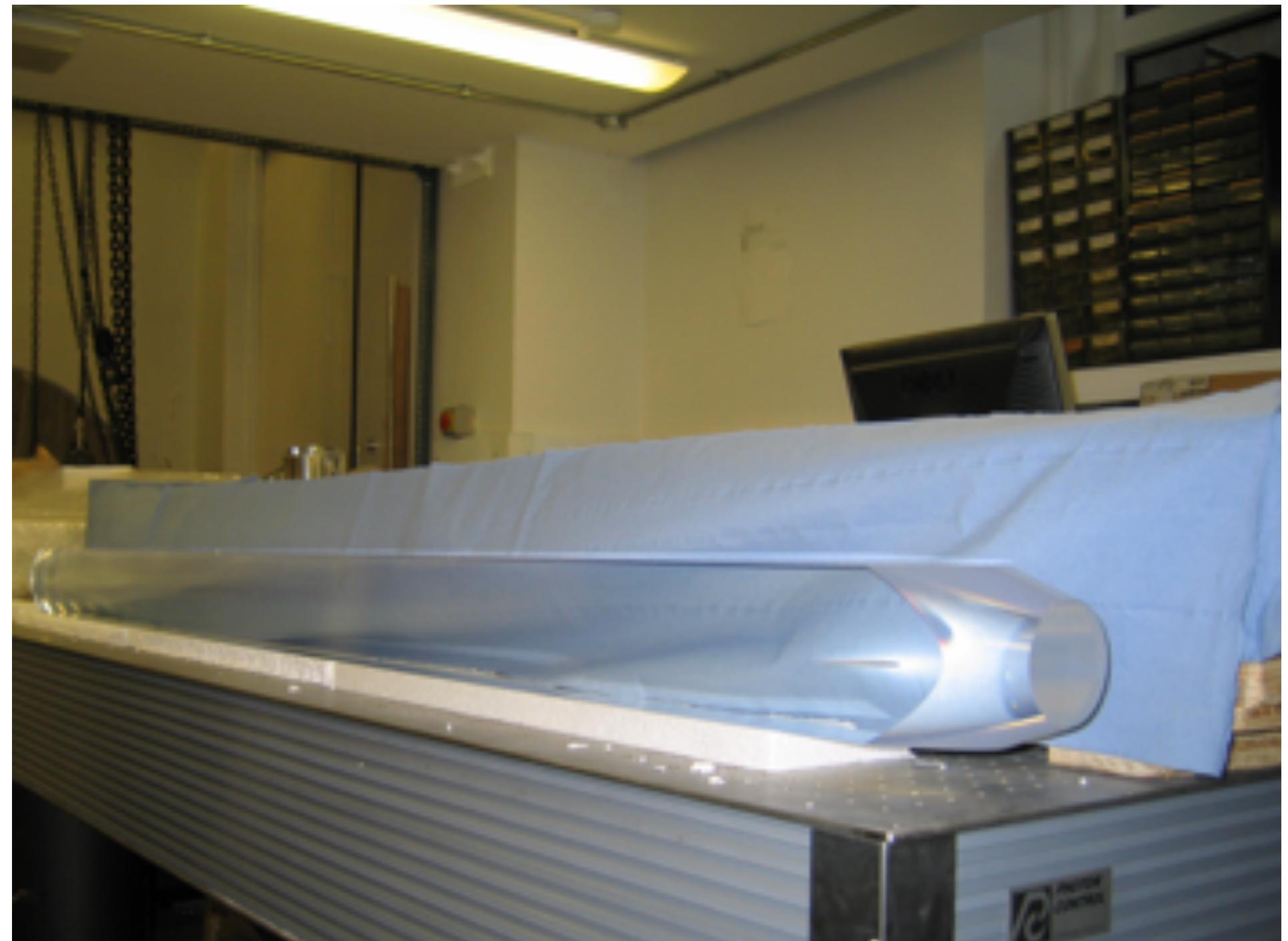
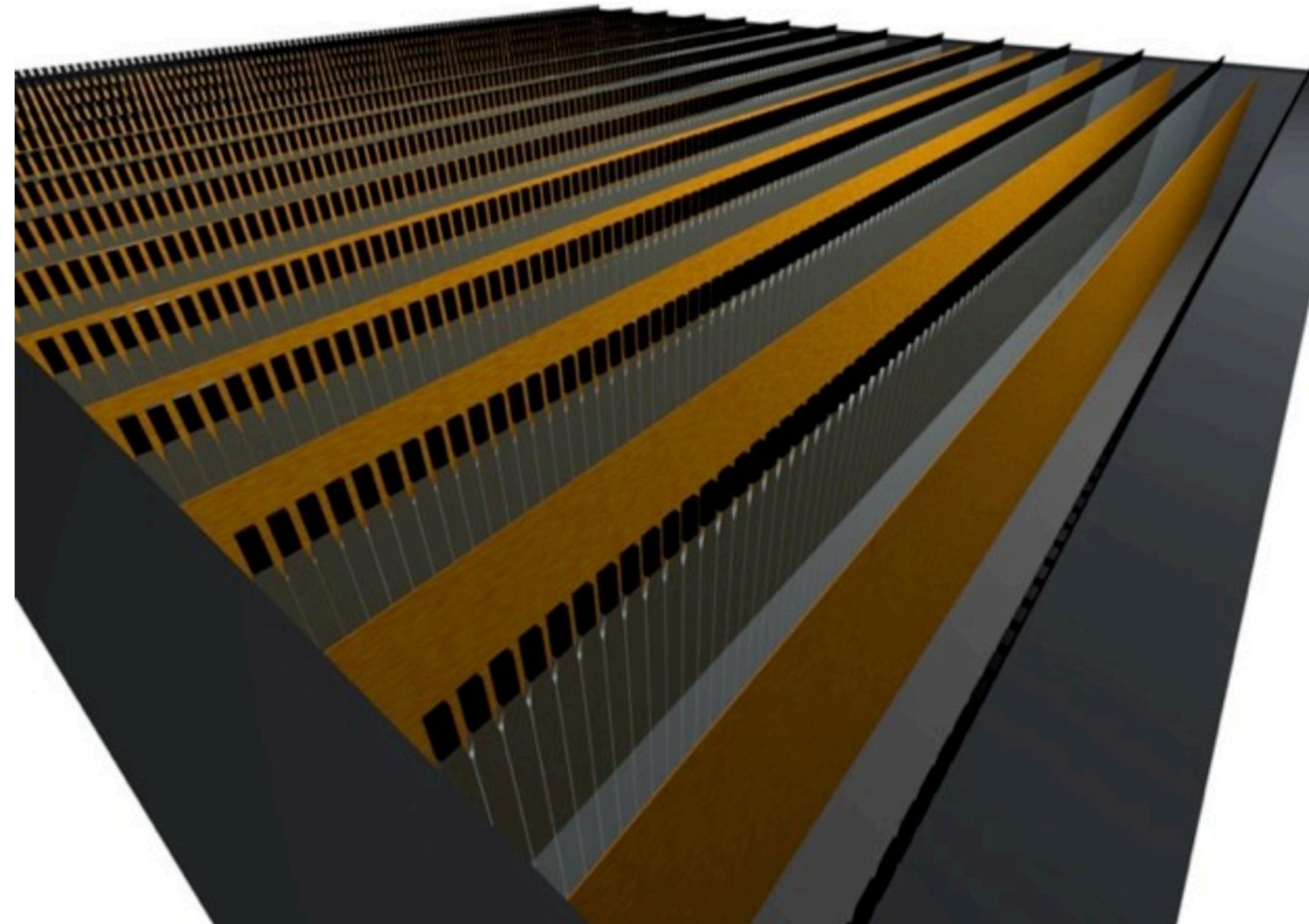


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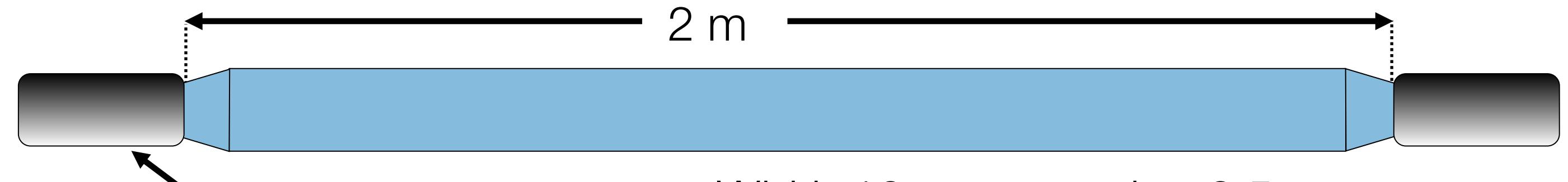


Width 10cm tapered to 6.5 cm
Thickness 2.5 cm

Alternating walls of bars
and source foils
sandwiched between
trackers



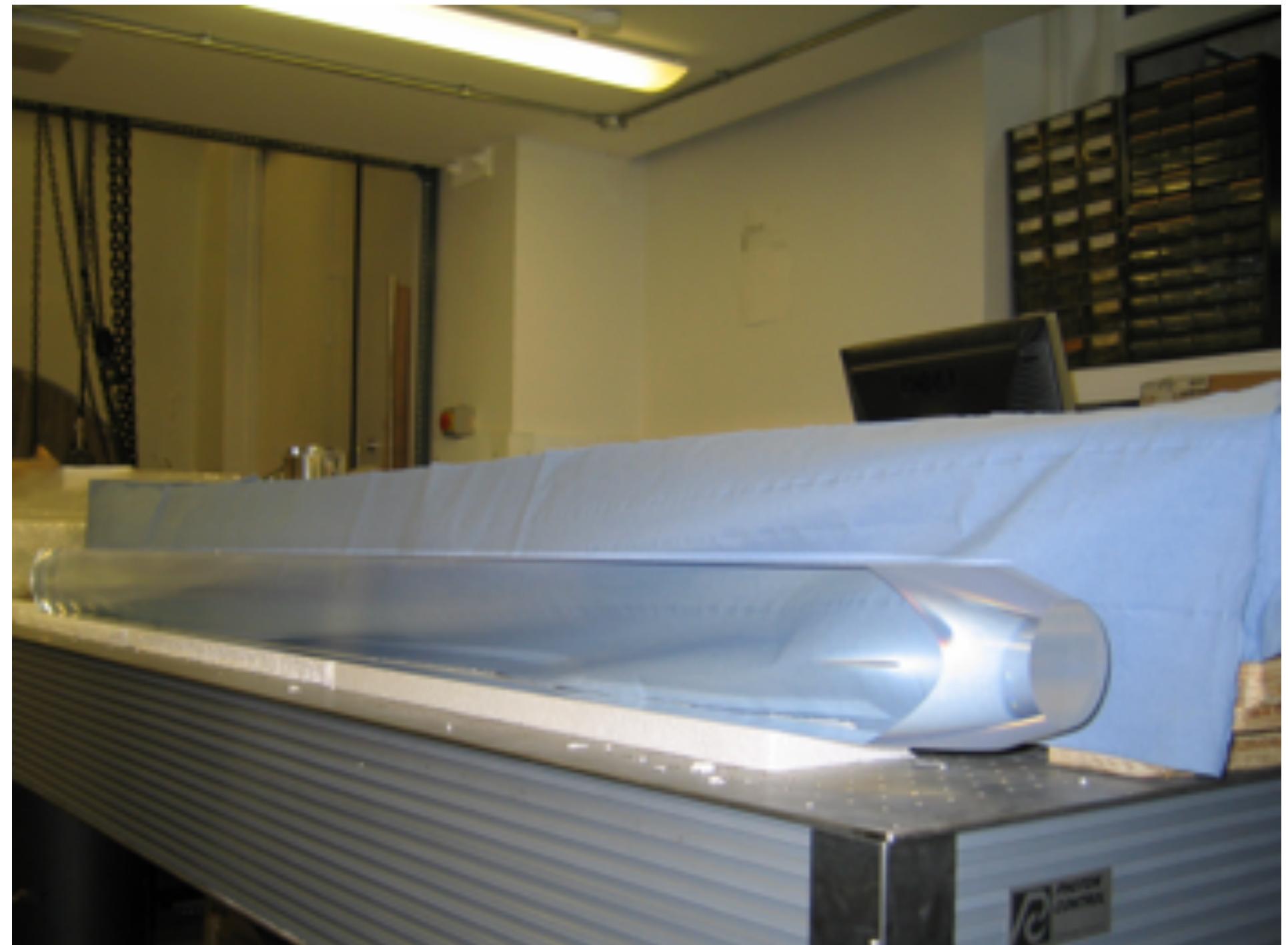
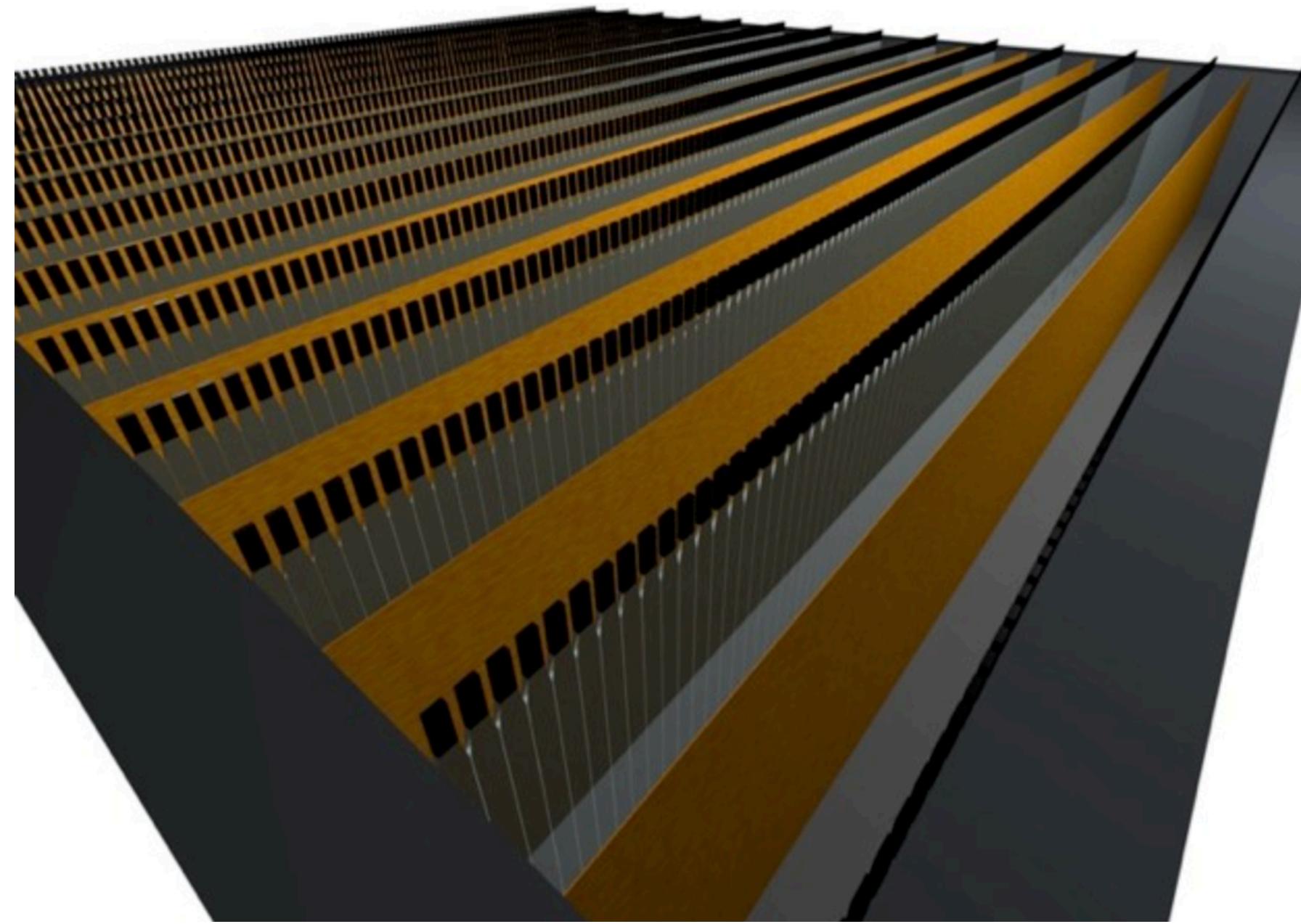
R & D for SuperNEMO: scintillator bar proposal (possible alternative)



Hamamatsu high-QE 3"
PMT (QE~40%)

Width 10cm tapered to 6.5 cm
Thickness 2.5 cm

Alternating walls of bars
and source foils
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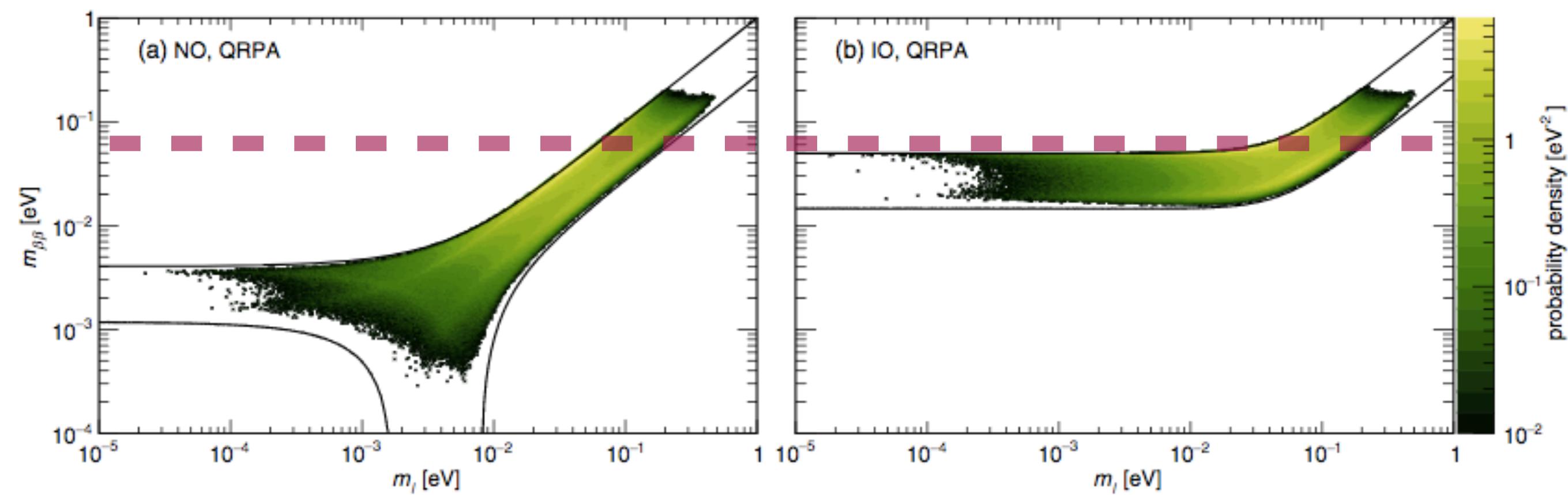
- Almost 100% γ rejection
- Fewer PMTs - save ££ and radioactivity
- Better efficiency
- Easier to build
- Smaller footprint
- No magnetic field needed



- Loses modular design
- Currently σ/E worse than for Demonstrator (2.3 vs 1.8% at 3MeV)

The future for SuperNEMO & tracker-calorimeter experiments

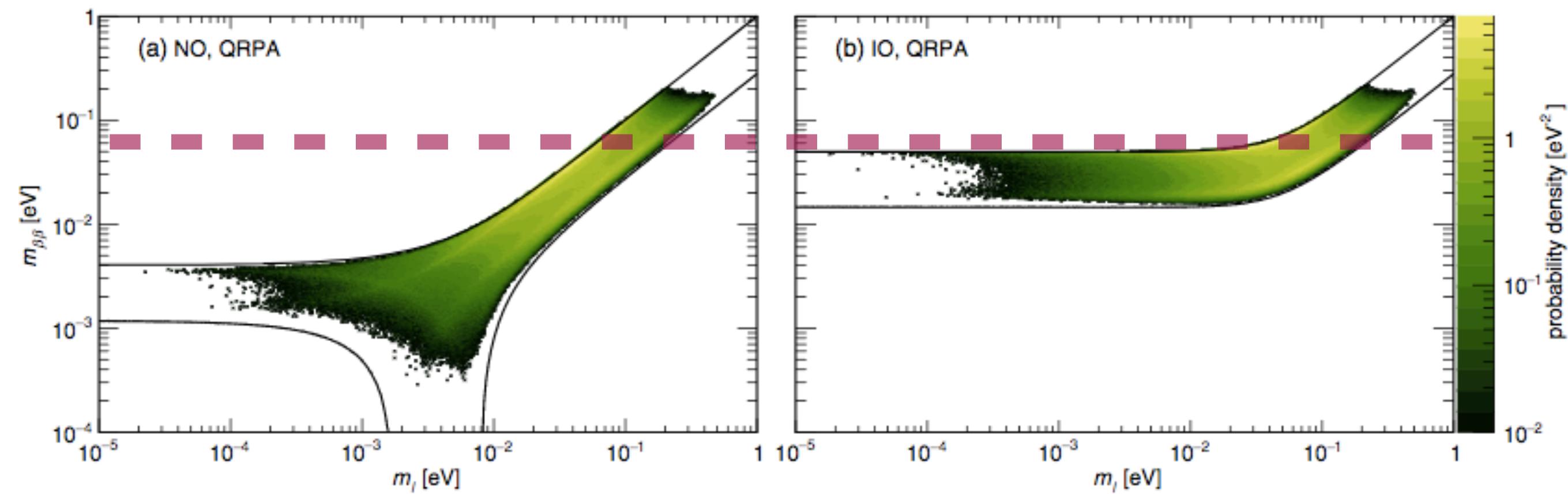
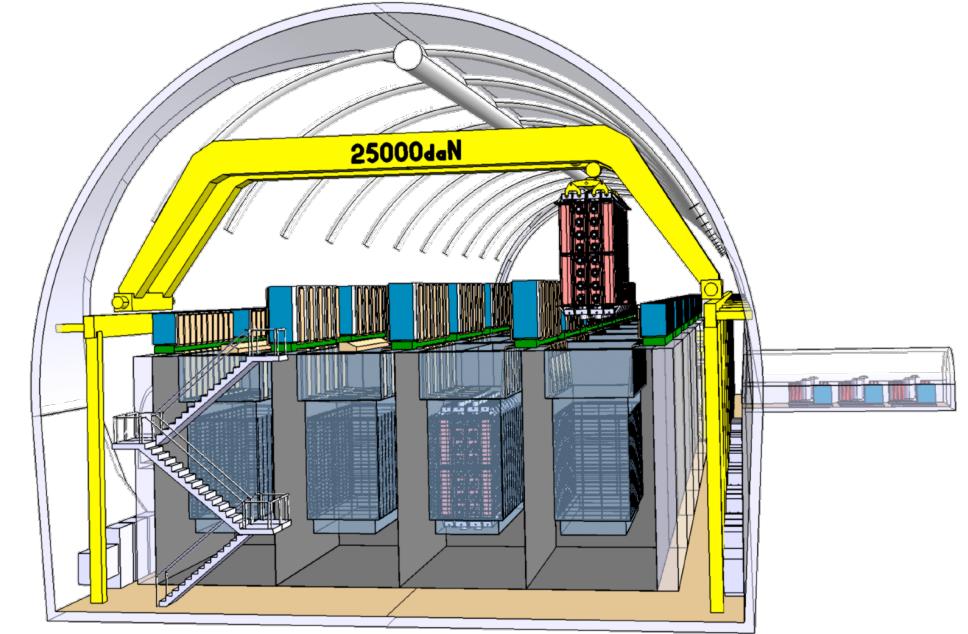
If current experiments (KamLAND-Zen, GERDA...) see $0\nu\beta\beta$ ($T_{1/2} \sim 10^{26}$ years)



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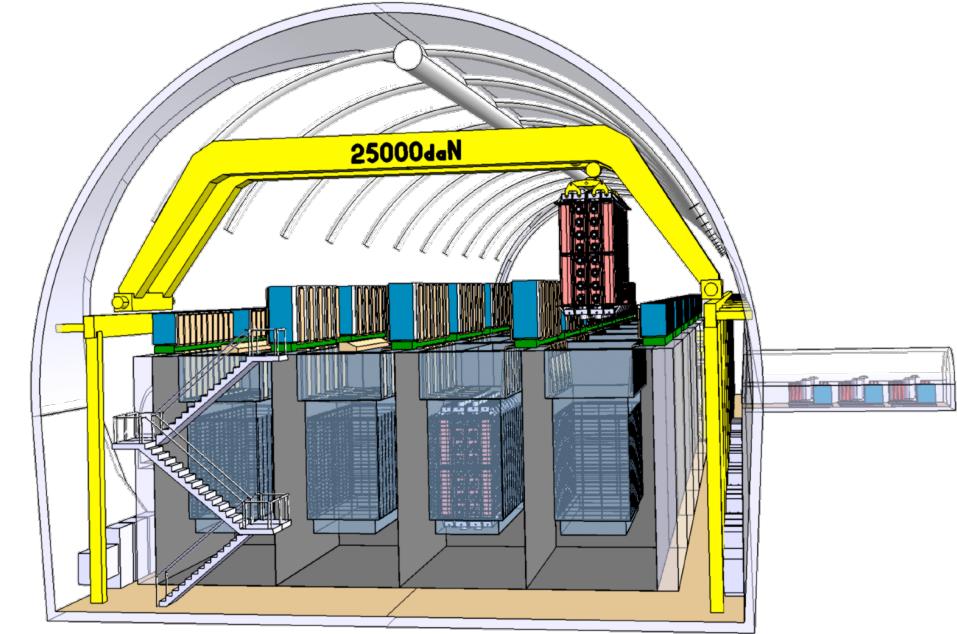
- SuperNEMO's unique **tracker-calorimeter technology** is the best way to characterise the **$0\nu\beta\beta$ mechanism**
- Full SuperNEMO proposal has similar **half-life sensitivity** to current world-leading experiments
- **Mass sensitivity** could be even better by choosing high-Q $_{\beta\beta}$ isotopes with **shorter half-life**
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The future for SuperNEMO & tracker-calorimeter experiments

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If next-generation experiments (NEXO, LEGEND...) see $0\nu\beta\beta$ ($T_{1/2} \sim 10^{28}$ years)

- Next-gen experiments will cover full **inverted hierarchy**
- Prohibitively **expensive** to increase to **tonne scale** (price scales linearly with size)
- Can we make an **affordable tracker-calorimeter detector** that can probe this mass range?

