

# NEUTRINO SCIENCE 5

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1. Neutrinos in the Standard Model.
2. Neutrino interactions, detectors. Solar and atmospheric neutrino problems.
3. Neutrino oscillations in 2 flavors. SNO and SK.
4. Neutrino oscillations in 3 flavors. Future experiments.
5. Theory and search for neutrino masses. Neutrinoless double-beta decay. Neutrinos in Cosmology and Astrophysics.

- Theory and experiment will be strongly mingled.
- Every lecture will have some of both.

- Theory of neutrino masses
  - Lagrangians in Quantum Field Theory
  - Electroweak symmetry breaking - the Higgs mechanism
  - Yukawa interactions and fermion masses
  - Charge conjugation of Dirac and Weyl fields
  - Types of possible neutrino mass terms
  - See-saw mechanism
- Experimental searches for Dirac and Majorana neutrino masses
  - From cosmology
  - Single beta decay: Katrin
  - Neutrinoless double-beta decay

THEORY OF NEUTRINO  
MASSES

- Conservative forces are the gradient of a scalar potential

$$\vec{F} = -\vec{\nabla} U$$

- So Newton's law  $\vec{F} = m\vec{a}$  is also

$$m \frac{d\vec{v}}{dt} = -\vec{\nabla} U$$

- Define the Lagrangian

$$L = T - U$$

- T is the kinetic (e.g.  $T = 1/2mv^2$ ) and U the potential energy
- L is a function of coordinates  $q_i$  and their time derivatives  $\dot{q}_i$

- Laws of motion given by the Euler - Lagrange equation

$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_i} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial q_i}$$

Example

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_i} = \frac{\partial T}{\partial v_x} = mv_x$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial q_i} = -\frac{\partial U}{\partial x} = F_x$$

- In order to respect Lorentz-invariance, need spatial and time coordinates to be in equal footing
- Replace  $q_i$  and  $\dot{q}_i$  by fields  $\Phi_i(t, x, y, z)$  and field derivatives  $\partial_\mu \Phi_i = \frac{\partial \Phi_i}{\partial x^\mu}$
- Replace L by lagrangian density  $\mathcal{L}$  such that  $L = \int \mathcal{L} d^3x$
- Replace the Euler-Lagrange equation by 
$$\partial_\mu \left( \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial_\mu \Phi_i)} \right) - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \Phi_i} = 0$$

# EXAMPLES



Field	Lagrangian	Equation of motion	
Scalar	$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu\phi)(\partial^\mu\phi) - \frac{1}{2}m^2\phi^2$	$\partial_\mu\phi\partial^\mu\phi + m^2\phi = 0$	Klein-Gordon
Spinor	$\mathcal{L} = i\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\partial_\mu\psi - m\bar{\psi}\psi$	$i\gamma^\mu(\partial_\mu\psi) - m\psi = 0$	Dirac
Vector	$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}F^{\mu\nu}F_{\mu\nu} - j^\mu A_\mu$	$\partial_\mu F^{\mu\nu} = j^\nu$	Maxwell (w/ source)
Vector	$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}F^{\mu\nu}F_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2}m^2 A^\mu A_\mu$	$\partial_\mu F^{\mu\nu} + m^2 A^\nu = 0$	Proca (massive boson)

charge density and current

$$j^\mu = (\rho, \vec{J}) = e\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\psi$$

$$A^\mu = (\phi, \vec{A})$$

EM potential and vector potential

$$F^{\mu\nu} = \partial^\mu A^\nu - \partial^\nu A^\mu$$

# FULL QED LAGRANGIAN



Fermions:

dynamic term

mass term

Interaction term

$$\mathcal{L} = i\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\partial_\mu\psi - \frac{1}{4}F^{\mu\nu}F_{\mu\nu} - m_f\bar{\psi}\psi - e\bar{\psi}Q_f\gamma^\mu\psi A_\mu$$

Photons:

dynamic term

$m_f, Q_f$ : mass and charge of fermion

- Interaction term comes from requiring lagrangian to be invariant to  $U(1)_Q$  symmetry
- Example of mass term:

$$m_e\bar{\psi}\psi = m_e(\bar{e}_R e_L + \bar{e}_L e_R)$$

- But this violates the weak interaction gauge invariance!



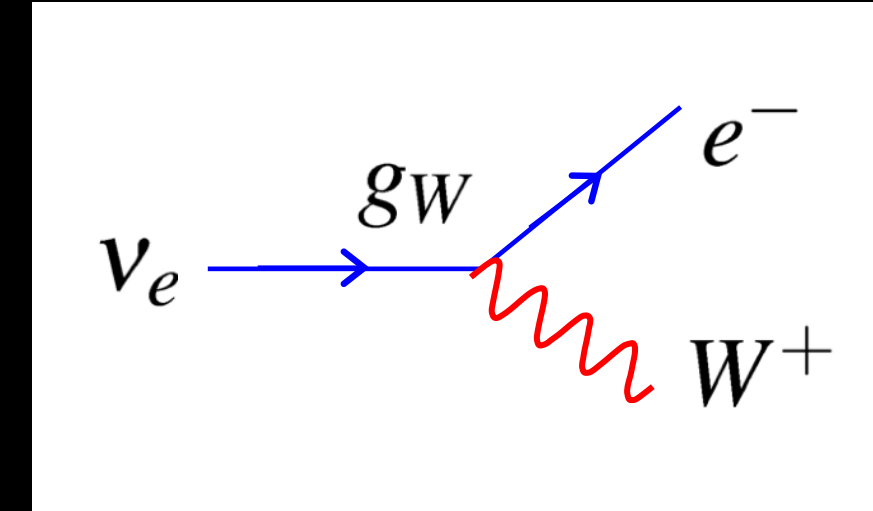
- Mixing between Weak Isospin  $SU(2)_L$  and Hypercharge  $U(1)_Y$ .
- Isospin follows a typical spin algebra. Total isospin  $I_W$ , projection  $I_3^W$ .
- Why “L”? L fields are doublets ( $I_W = \frac{1}{2}$ ), while R fields are singlets ( $I_W = 0$ )
- Hypercharge a function of charge and weak isospin  $Y = 2Q - 2I_3^W$

Fermion ( $f$ )	$I$	$I_3$	$Q$	$Y$
$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_{eL} \\ e_L \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \nu_{\mu L} \\ \mu_L \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \nu_{\tau L} \\ \tau_L \end{pmatrix}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$+\frac{1}{2}$ $-\frac{1}{2}$	0 -1	-1
$\nu_{eR}, \nu_{\mu R}, \nu_{\tau R}$	0	0	0	0
$e_R, \mu_R, \tau_R$	0	0	-1	-2

Fermion ( $f$ )	$I$	$I_3$	$Q$	$Y$
$\begin{pmatrix} u_L \\ d'_L \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} c_L \\ s'_L \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} t_L \\ b'_L \end{pmatrix}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$+\frac{1}{2}$ $-\frac{1}{2}$	$+\frac{2}{3}$ $-\frac{1}{3}$	$+\frac{1}{3}$ $+\frac{1}{3}$
$u_R, c_R, t_R$	0	0	$+\frac{2}{3}$	$+\frac{4}{3}$
$d_R, s_R, b_R$	0	0	$-\frac{1}{3}$	$-\frac{2}{3}$

- So,  $m_e (\bar{e}_R e_L + \bar{e}_L e_R)$  is clearly not an isospin singlet

- Example: lepton interaction with  $W^+$
- L fermions are doublets, but whole current is singlet  $\rightarrow$  gauge invariant in  $SU(2)$  !
- Equivalent to the familiar formulation:



$$\chi_L = \begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ e^- \end{pmatrix}_L$$

$$j_+^\mu = \frac{g_W}{\sqrt{2}} \bar{\chi}_L \gamma^\mu \sigma_+ \chi_L$$

$$j_+^\mu = \frac{g_W}{\sqrt{2}} \bar{\chi}_L \gamma^\mu \sigma_+ \chi_L = \frac{g_W}{\sqrt{2}} (\bar{\nu}_L, \bar{e}_L) \gamma^\mu \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu \\ e \end{pmatrix}_L = \frac{g_W}{\sqrt{2}} \bar{\nu}_L \gamma^\mu e_L = \frac{g_W}{\sqrt{2}} \bar{\nu} \gamma^\mu \frac{1}{2} (1 - \gamma^5) e$$

- Higgs is introduced as an isospin doublet too.
- Conjugate  $\phi_C$  for the up-quarks
- Yukawa terms (Higgs-fermion interaction) then become gauge invariant as well!

$$\phi = \begin{pmatrix} \phi^+ \\ \phi^0 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} \phi_1 + i\phi_2 \\ \phi_3 + i\phi_4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\phi_C = -i\sigma_2 \phi^* = \begin{pmatrix} -\phi^{0*} \\ \phi^- \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} -\phi_3 + i\phi_4 \\ \phi_1 - i\phi_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_e = -g_e \left[ (\bar{\nu}_e \ \bar{e})_L \begin{pmatrix} \phi^+ \\ \phi^0 \end{pmatrix} e_R + \bar{e}_R \begin{pmatrix} \phi^{+*} & \phi^{0*} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ e \end{pmatrix}_L \right]$$

$$\mathcal{L}_u = g_u (\bar{u} \ \bar{d})_L \begin{pmatrix} -\phi^{0*} \\ \phi^- \end{pmatrix} u_R + \text{Hermitian conjugate,}$$

# DIRAC MASS TERMS



- After “gauging-away” 3 Goldstone fields, after symmetry-breaking and expressing fields around the vacuum expectation value

$$v=246 \text{ GeV}$$

$$\langle 0|\phi|0\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\phi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v + h(x) \end{pmatrix}$$

MASS TERM

$$\mathcal{L}_e = -\frac{g_e}{\sqrt{2}}v(\bar{e}_{LeR} + \bar{e}_{ReL}) - \frac{g_e}{\sqrt{2}}h(\bar{e}_{LeR} + \bar{e}_{ReL})$$

INTERACTION WITH HIGGS

$$g_e = \sqrt{2} \frac{m_e}{v}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_e = -m_e\bar{e}e - \frac{m_e}{v}\bar{e}eh$$

- Can we do something similar for neutrinos?
- Introduce new  $\nu_R$  fields
- $I_3^W(\nu_L) = +1/2$ , so mass terms involve Higgs conjugate field  $\phi_C$  (like up-quarks)
- Mass terms and Higgs coupling just like for any other fermion
- Physical neutrino is  $\nu_1 = \nu_L + \nu_R$ , then
- Problems:  $\nu_R$  appears nowhere else; does not explain small neutrino masses

$$\mathcal{L}_D = g_D (\bar{\nu}_L \quad \bar{e}_L) \begin{pmatrix} -\phi^{0*} \\ \phi^- \end{pmatrix} \nu_R + h.c.$$

$$\mathcal{L}_D = -m_D (\bar{\nu}_R \nu_L + \bar{\nu}_L \nu_R)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_D = -m_D \bar{\nu}_1 \nu_1$$

- Can we build mass terms without  $\nu_R$ ? Yes, for Majorana particles.
- Charge conjugation is the discrete operation that turns particles into antiparticles
- for fermion fields
 
$$\psi^C = C\psi^* = i\gamma_2\gamma^0\psi^* = i\gamma_2\gamma^0\bar{\psi}^T$$
- A Majorana field is  $\phi = \psi + \psi^C$ , so that  $\phi = \phi^C$ , i.e. particle = antiparticle!
- As neutral particles, neutrinos can be Majorana
- Mass terms can be built only with  $\psi_L$  and  $\psi_L^C$ , not involving any R fields

$$\mathcal{L}_L^M = -\frac{1}{2}m_L\bar{\nu}_L^C\nu_L$$

- Problem... and solution
- Since  $I_3(\bar{\nu}_L^C) = I_3(\nu_L) = 1/2$ , the term with Higgs doublet not gauge-invariant (need  $I_3 = -1$ )
- So, let's try having both  $\psi_L^C$  and new  $N_R$  fields
- Two Majorana fields  $\nu_L + \nu_L^C$  and  $N_R^C + N_R$
- Four possible mass terms
 
$$m_D\bar{N}_R\nu_L \quad m_D\bar{\nu}_L^C N_R^C \quad m_L\bar{\nu}_L^C\nu_L \quad m_R\bar{N}_R N_R^C$$

# SEE-SAW MECHANISM



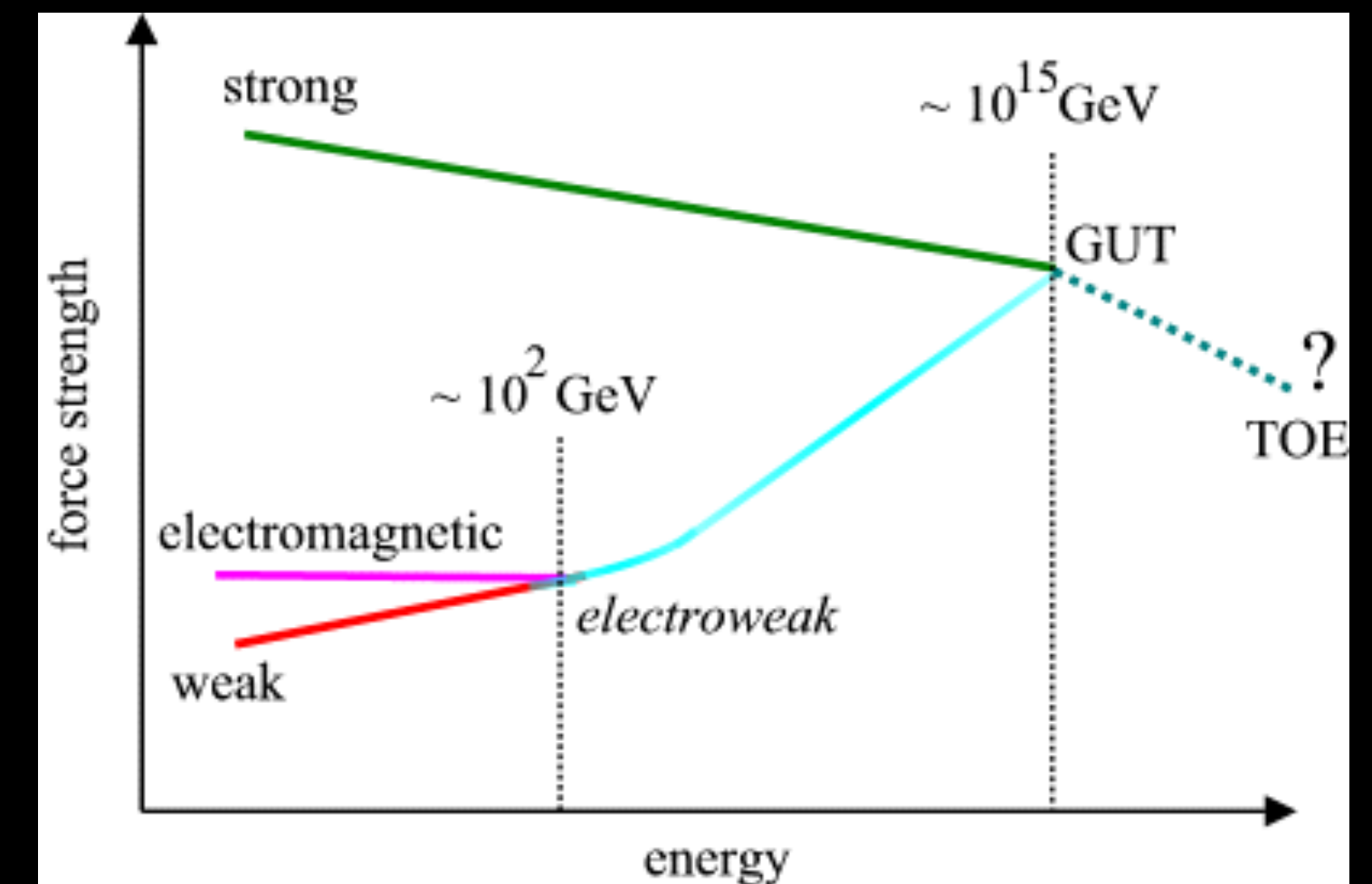
- The general mass term, involving Dirac and Majorana fields, is:
- We can diagonalise the matrix
- Interesting special case:
  - $m_L = 0$  (eliminates gauge-breaking term) and  $m_R \gg m_D$

$$\mathcal{L}^{mass} = \begin{bmatrix} \overline{\nu_L^C} & \overline{N_R} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} m_L & m_D \\ m_D & m_R \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \nu_L \\ N_R^C \end{bmatrix} + h.c.$$

$$m_{1,2} = \frac{1}{2} \left[ (m_L + m_R) \pm \sqrt{(m_L - m_R)^2 + 4m_D^2} \right]$$

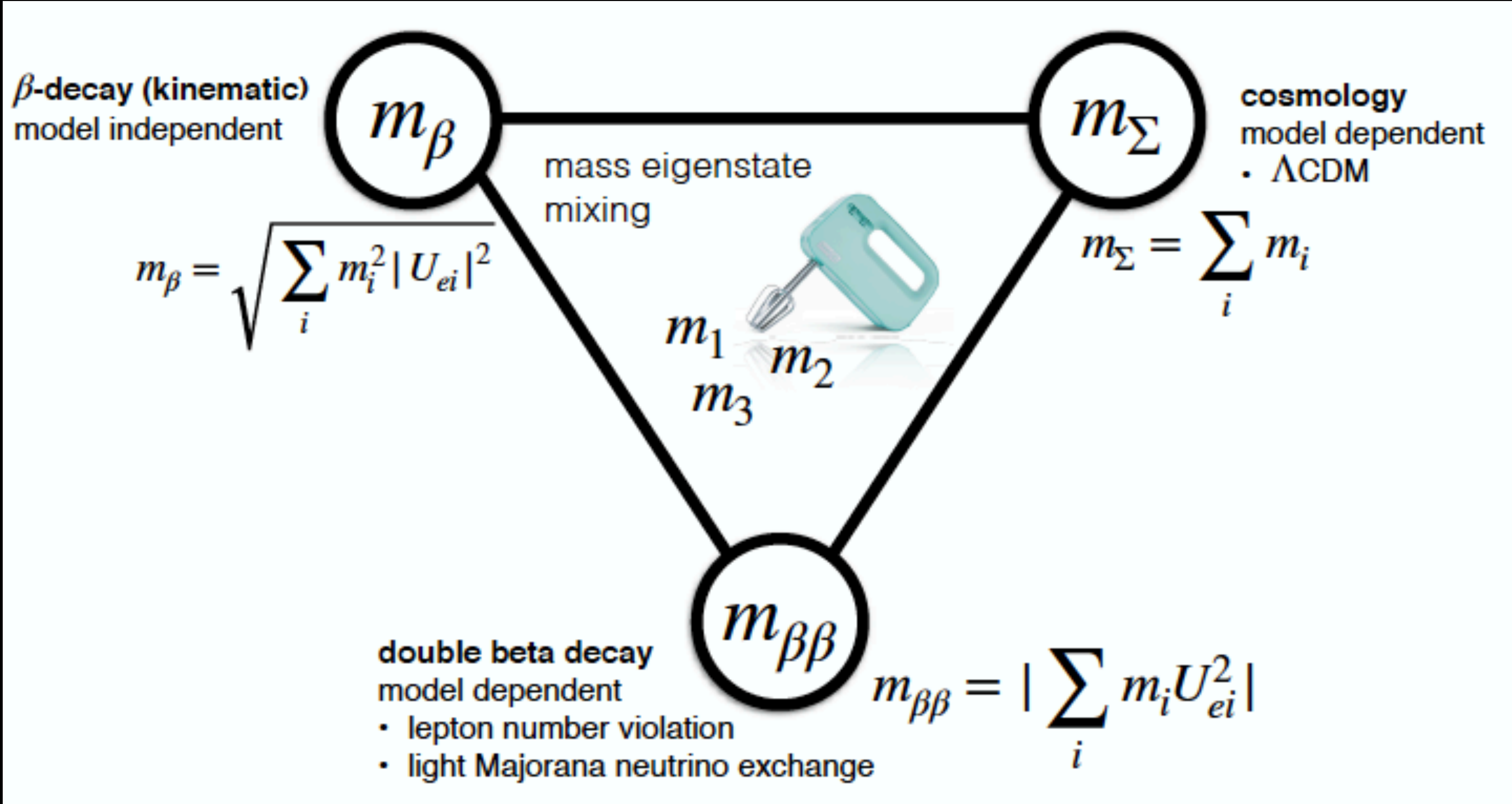
$$m_1 = -\frac{m_D^2}{m_R} \quad m_2 = m_R \left( 1 + \frac{m_D^2}{m_R^2} \right) \approx m_R$$

- If  $m_D \approx 10^2 GeV$  (electroweak scale) and  $m_R \approx 10^{15} GeV$  (GUT scale), then  $m_1 \approx 10 meV$  (scale of  $\nu$  masses)
- Mass eigenstates (both Majorana, i.e.  $\phi = \phi^C$ )
  - Light:  $\nu_1 \approx \nu_L + \nu_L^C$ , is the weak interaction active one
  - Heavy:  $\nu_2 \approx N_R^C + N_R$ , is the weakly inactive one



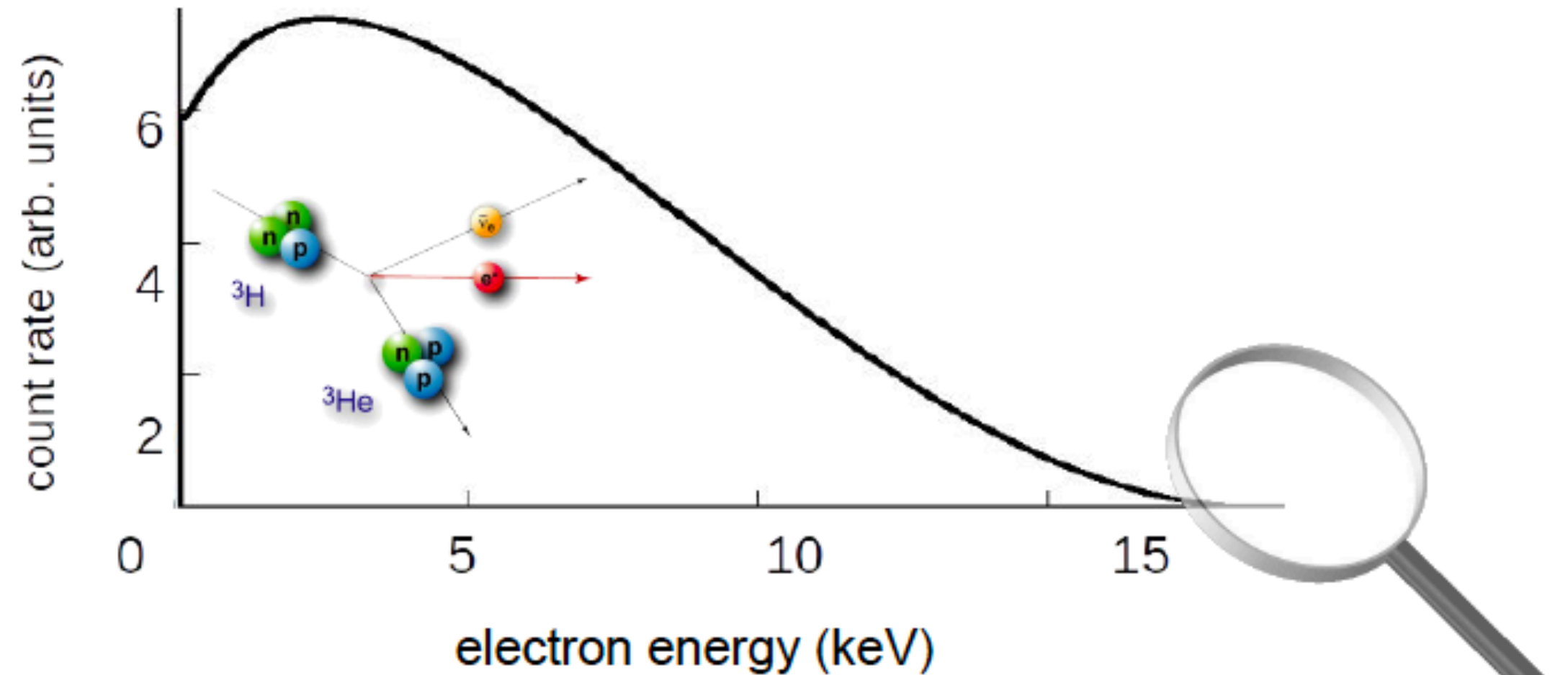
**SMALLNESS OF NEUTRINO MASSES EXPLAINED BY EXISTENCE OF VERY HEAVY NEUTRINOS**

# NEUTRINO MASS OBSERVABLES

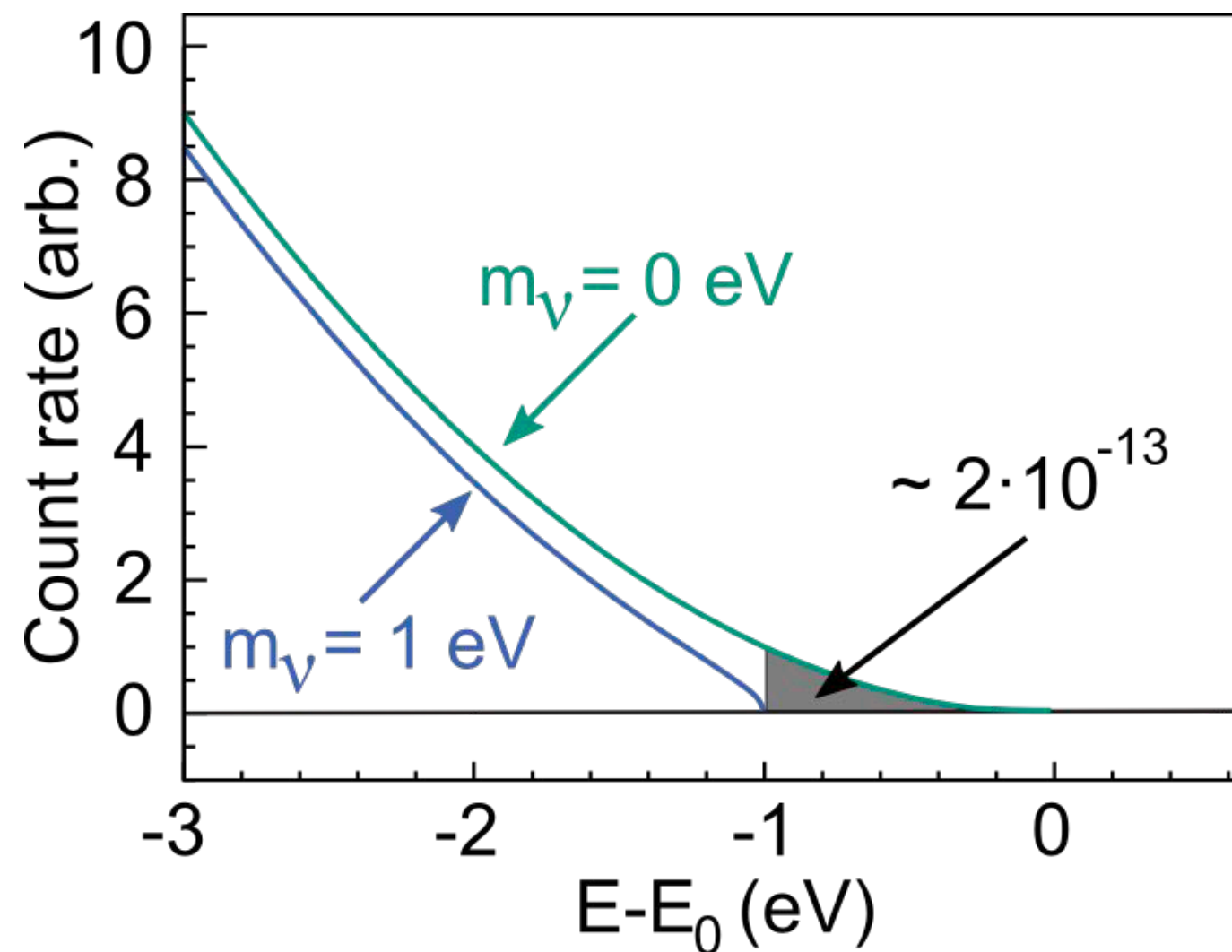


SEARCH FOR NEUTRINO  
MASS IN BETA DECAY

# TRITIUM BETA DECAY



- With massive neutrinos, the endpoint of beta decay should be slightly distorted with respect to the decay's Q value
- Most sensitive search for those distortions are with tritium decay
- $E = 18.6 \text{ keV}$ ,  $T_{1/2} = 12 \text{ yr}$



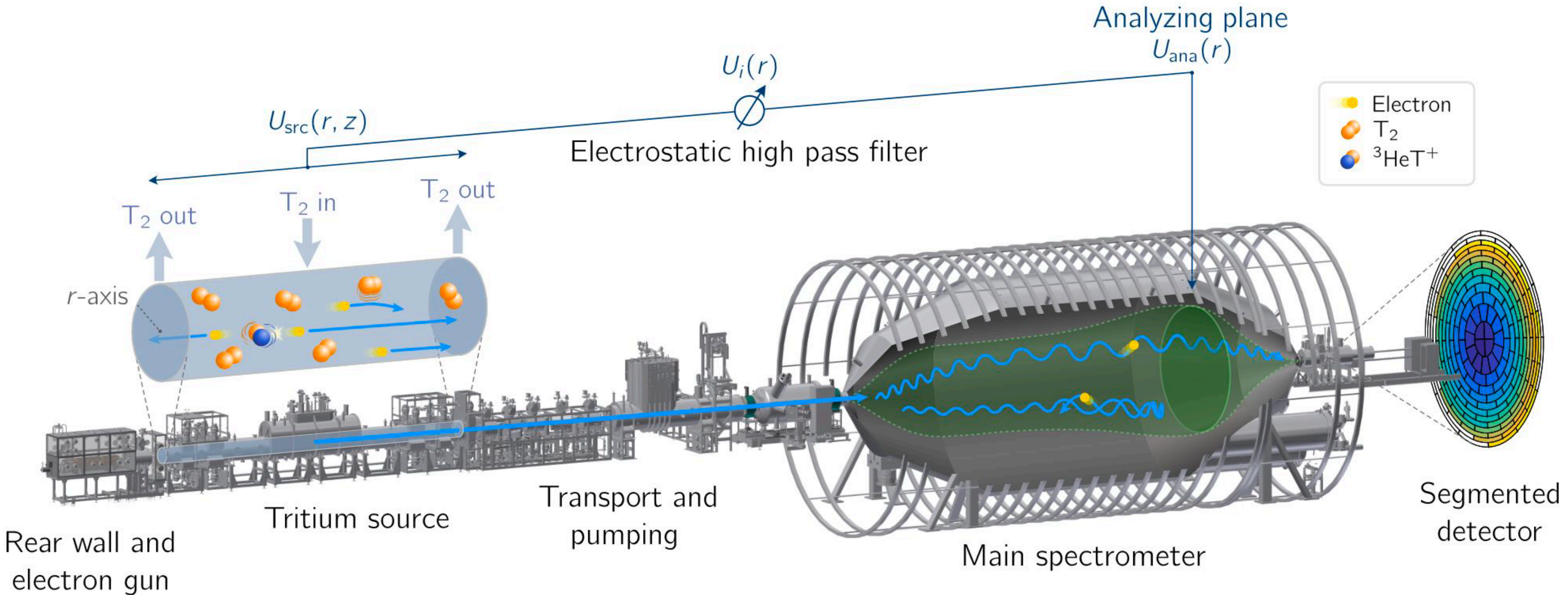
- Effective “electron” neutrino mass

$$m_\nu \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^3 |U_{ei}|^2 \cdot m_i^2}$$

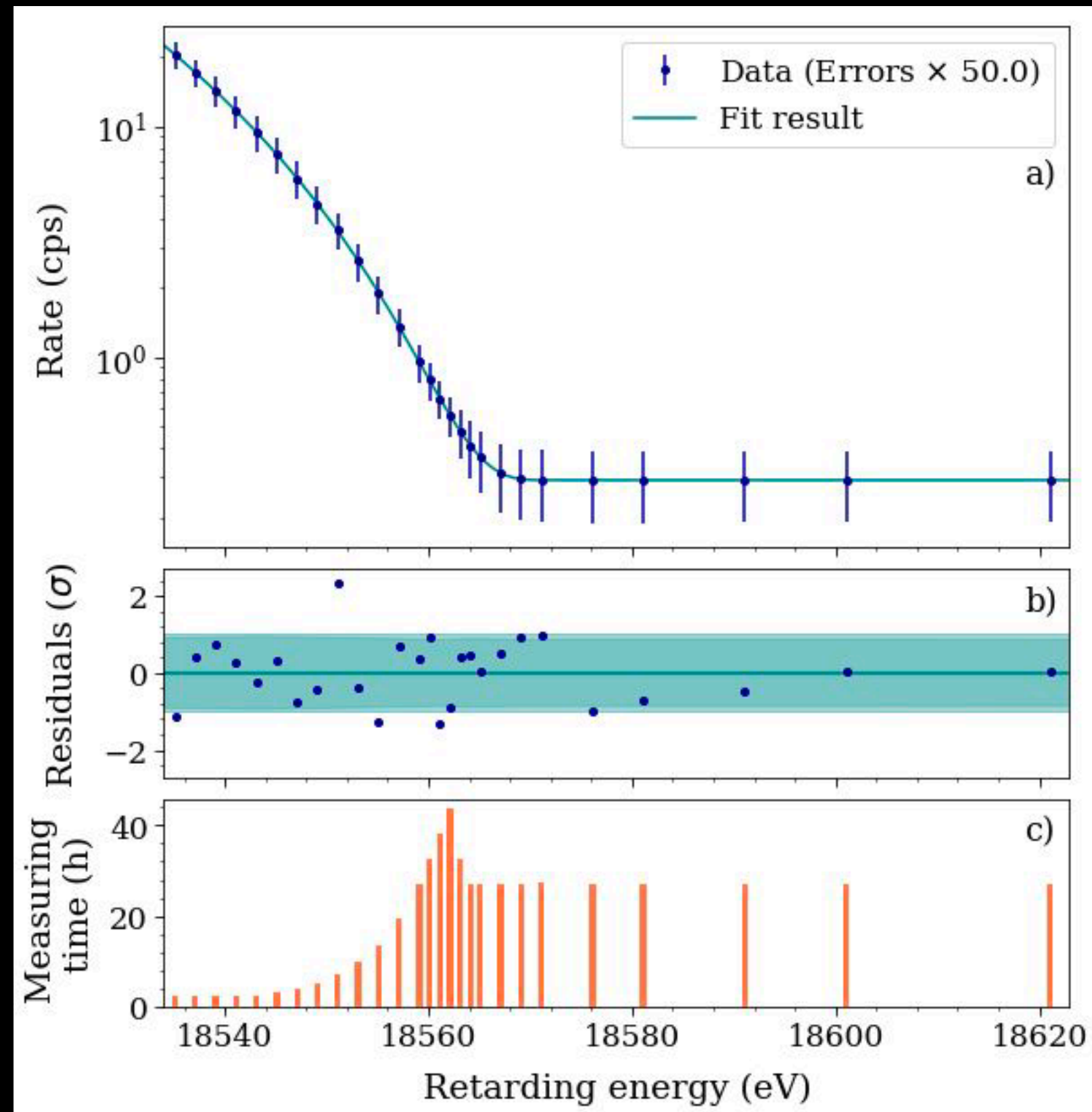




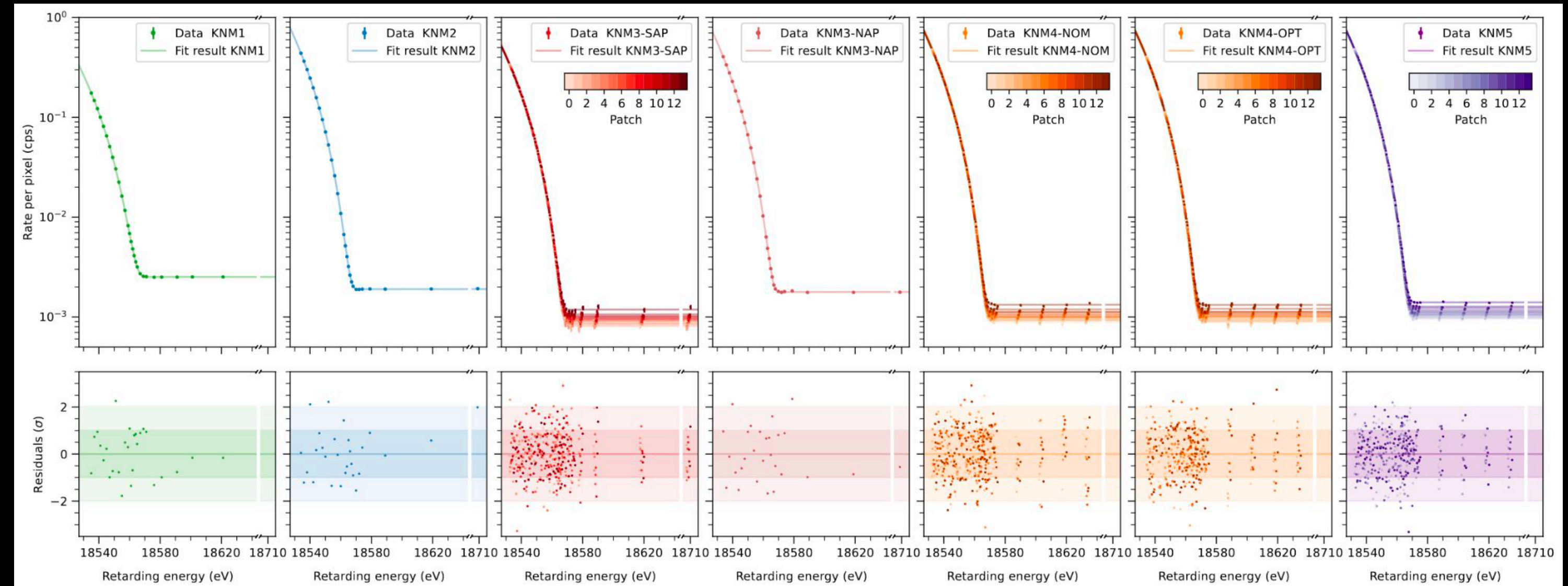
# KATRIN EXPERIMENT



# KATRIN RESULTS



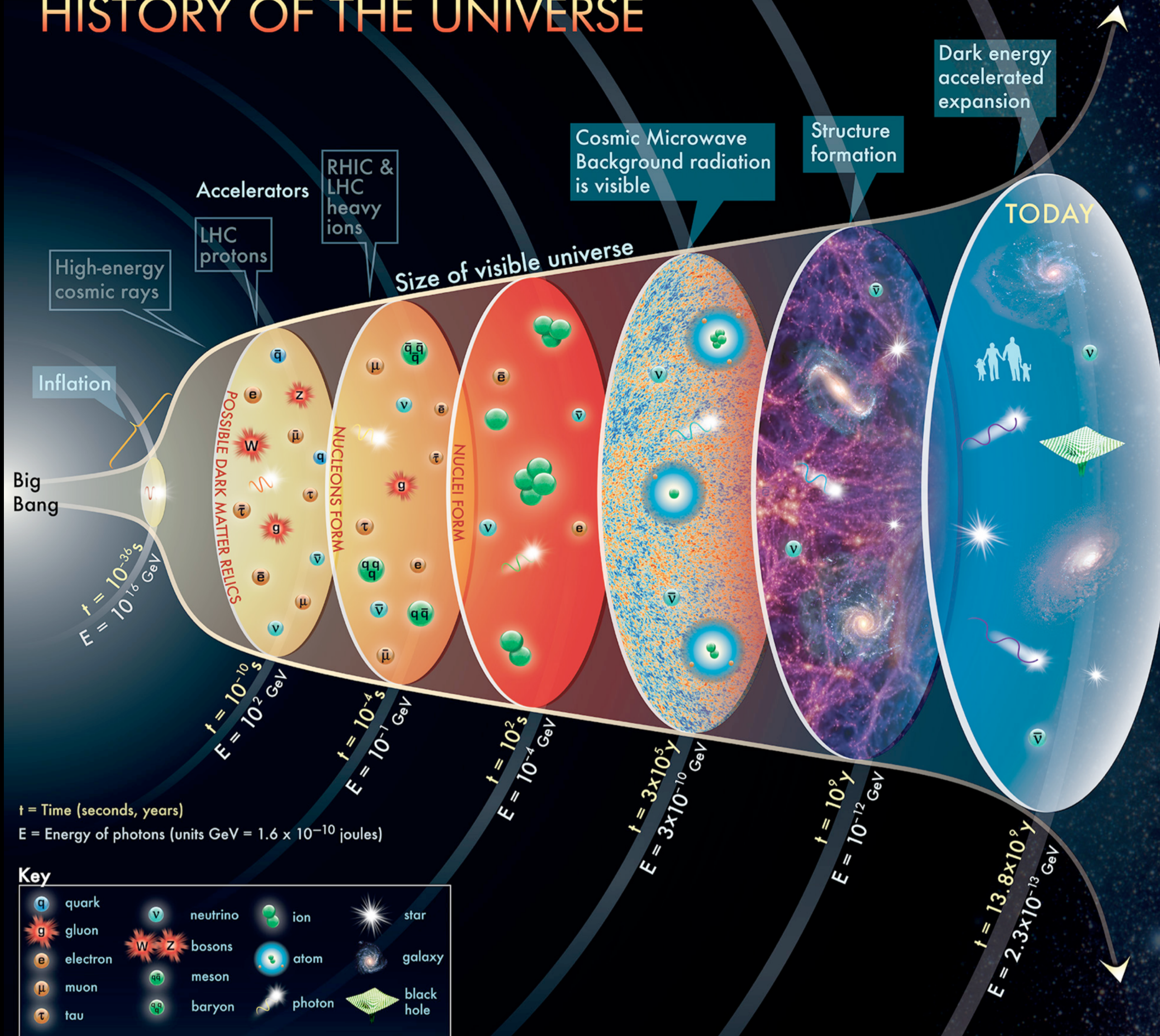
- Data is collected at various retarding energies to describe the endpoint



$$m_\nu < 0.45 \text{ eV (90 \% CL)}$$

NEUTRINOS IN  
COSMOLOGY

# HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSE



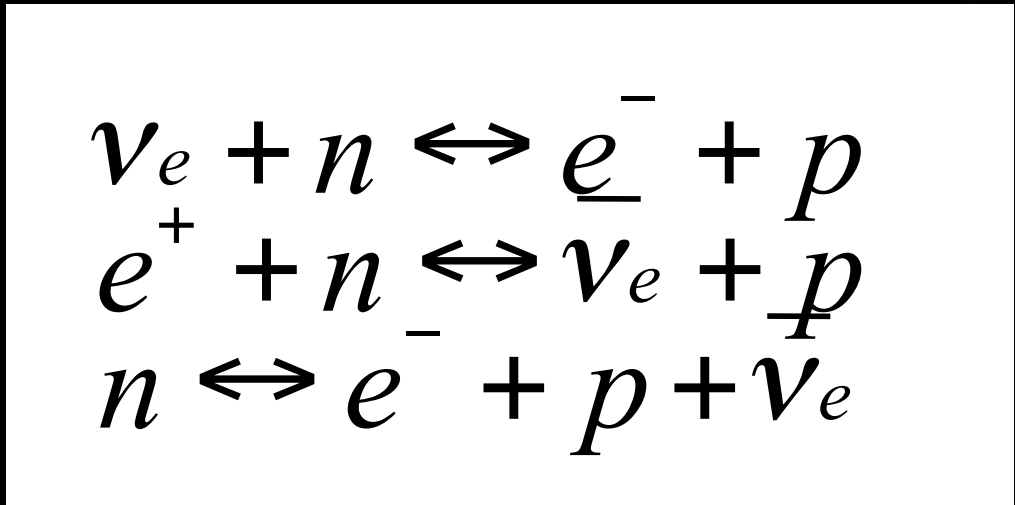
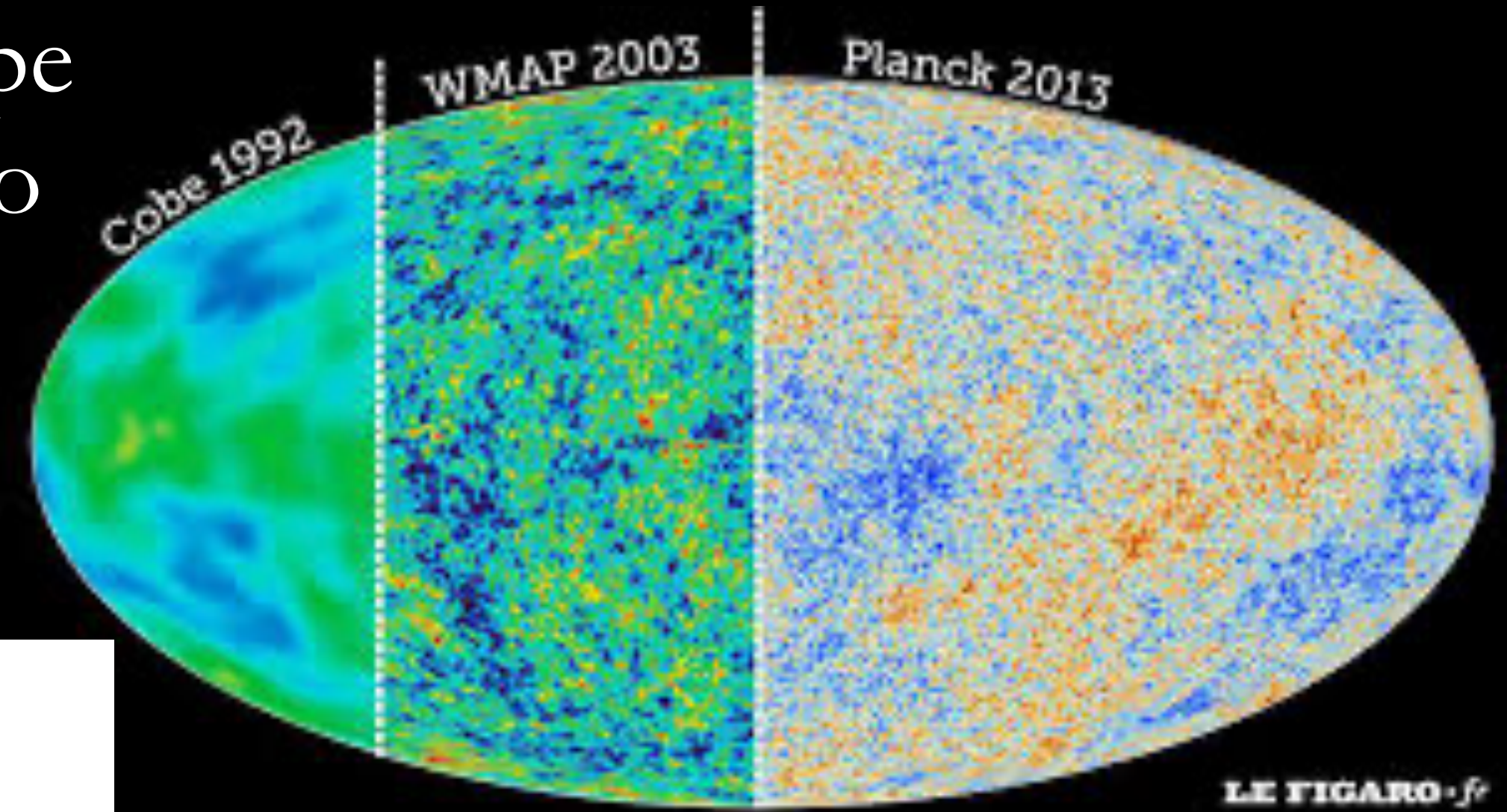
t = Time (seconds, years)  
E = Energy of photons (units GeV = 1.6 x 10<sup>-10</sup> joules)

**Key**

quark	neutrino	ion	star
gluon	W Z bosons	atom	galaxy
electron	meson	photon	black hole
muon	baryon		
tau			

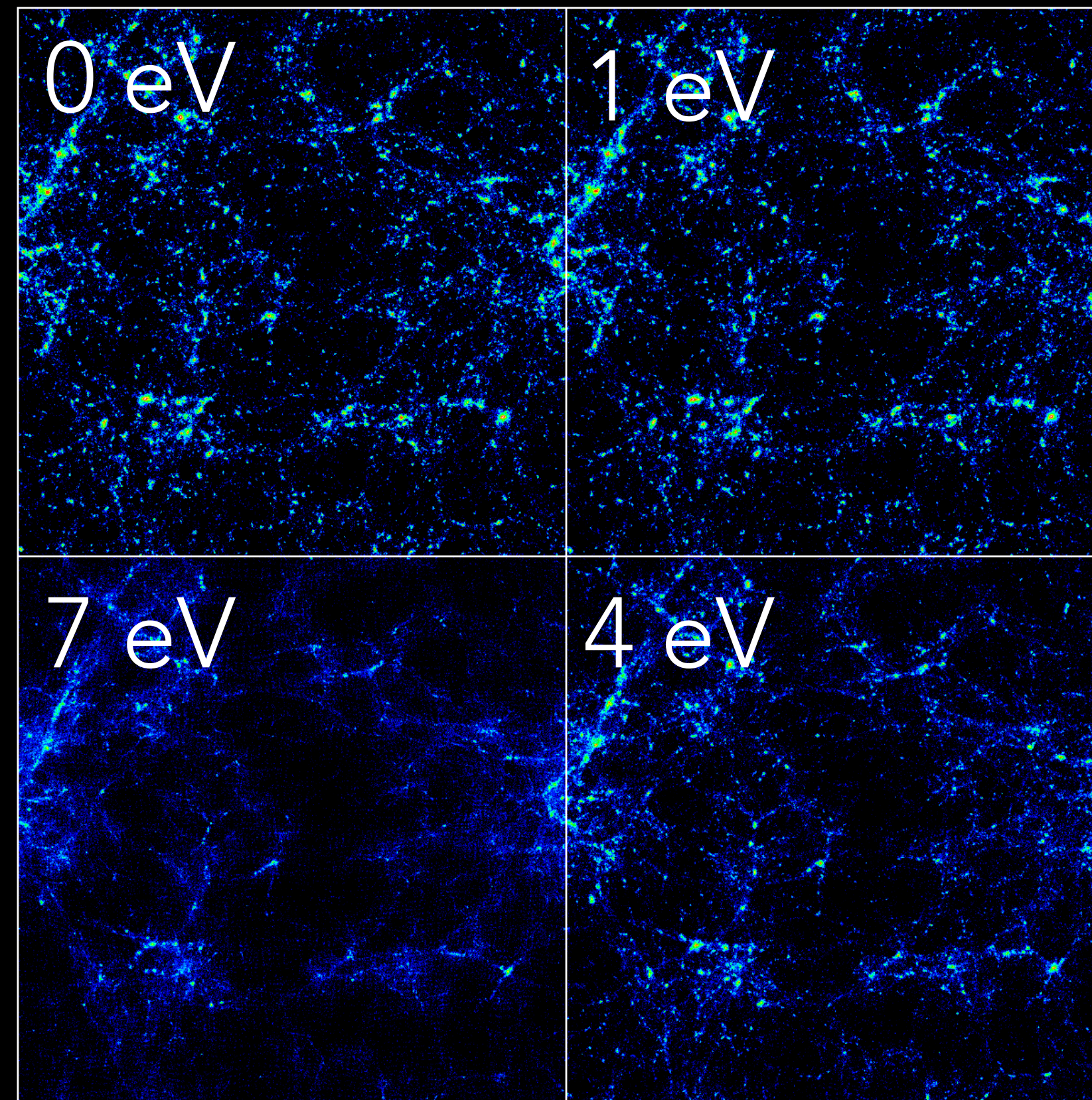
The concept for the above figure originated in a 1986 paper by Michael Turner.

- Primordial Universe: temperature so high that there were no neutral atoms, but a soup of particles that light could not cross or escape
- Only after 300,000 years it cools enough for light to escape: the cosmic background radiation (CMB)
- Very uniform, local differences about  $10^{-5}$ . A lot of information in those fluctuations!

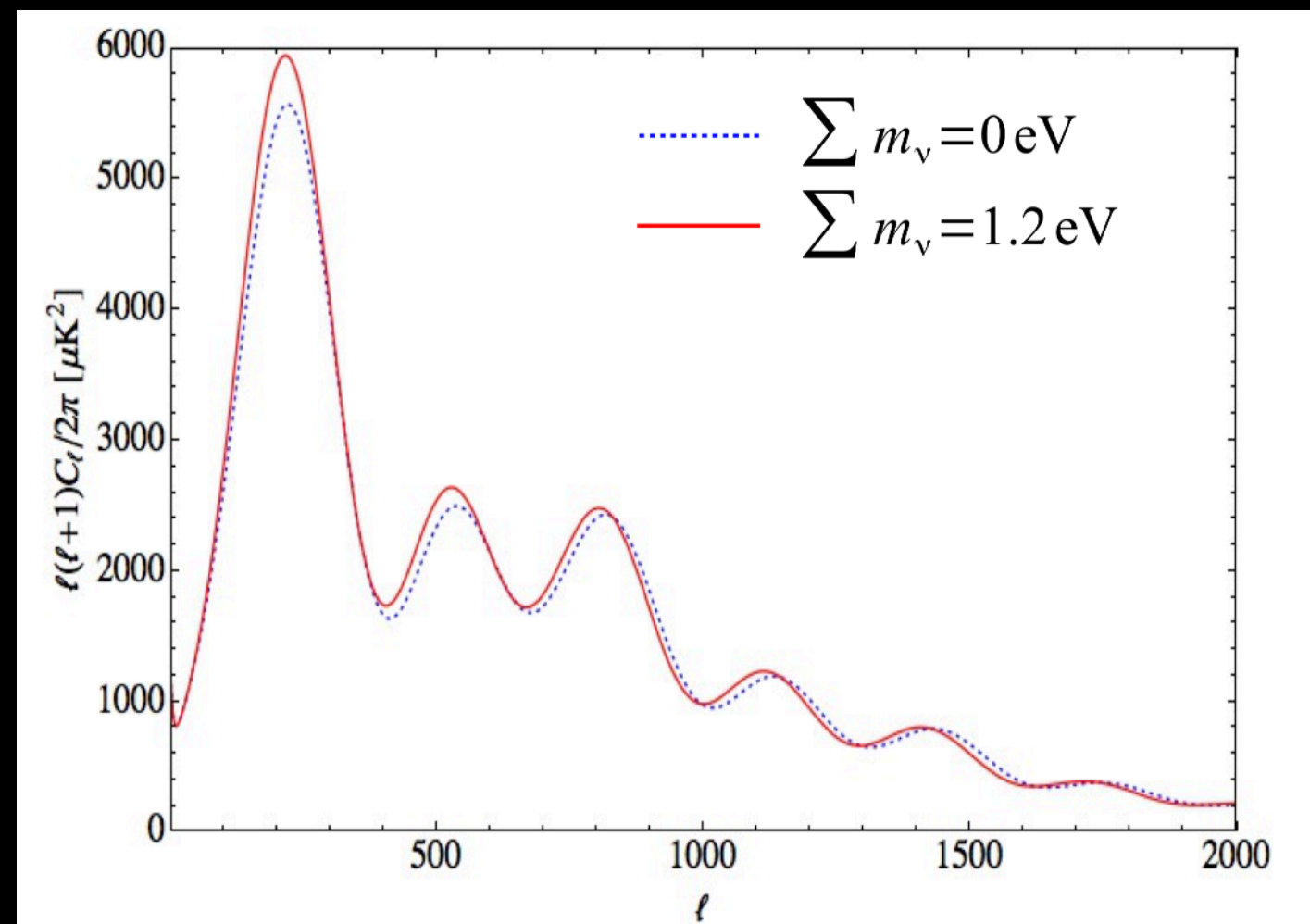


- Something similar with neutrinos
- Example of reactions cycle
- But their interaction is much weaker, they decouple much earlier: only one second after the Big Bang
- Very high number density of neutrinos, similar to photons
- Numerous enough influence the large scale structure of the Universe

- Large scale structure simulations for different neutrino masses

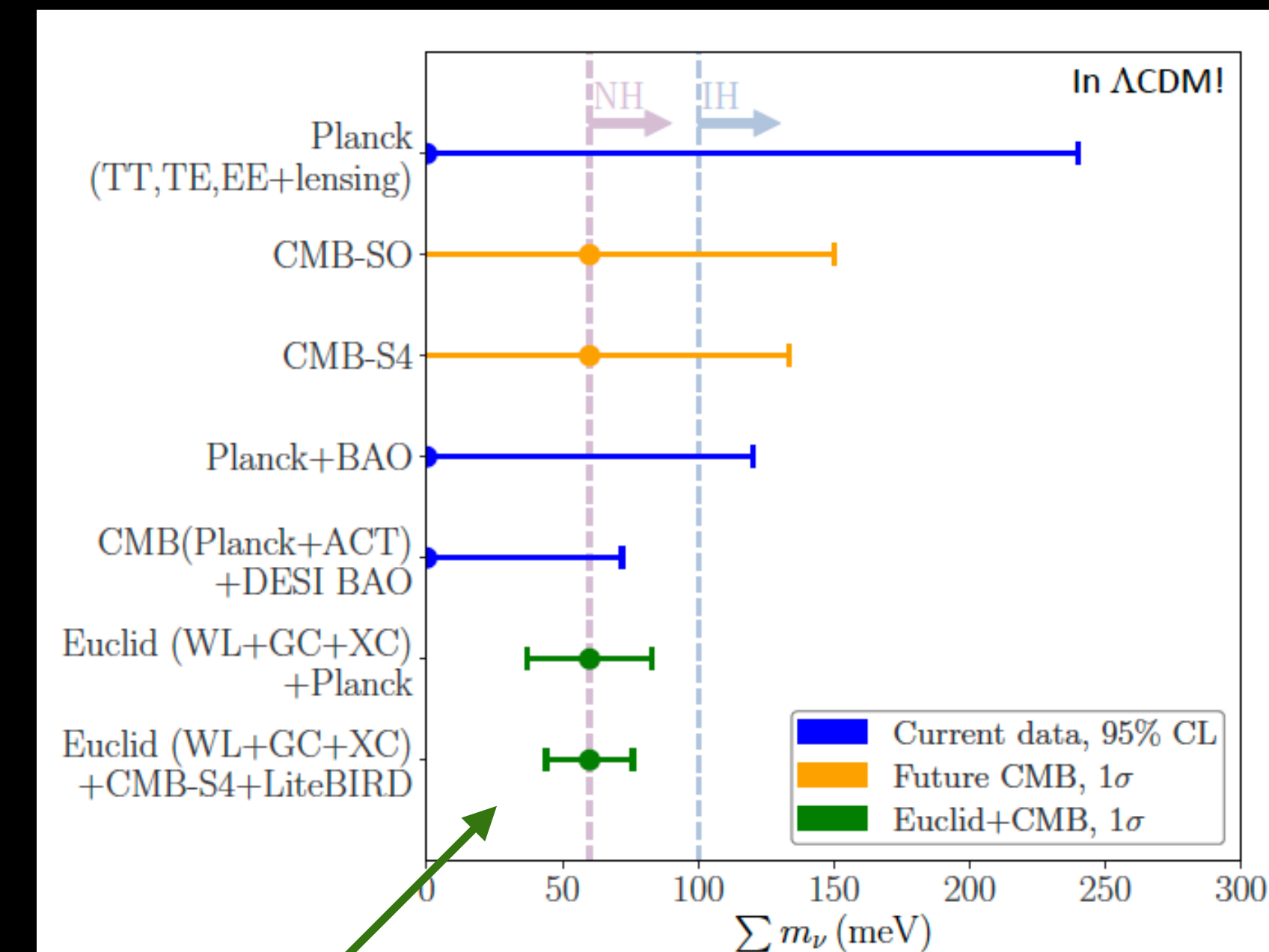


- CMB fluctuations sensitive to  $\nu$  mass



- Current best limit from cosmology

$$\sum m_{\nu_i} < 72 \text{ meV!}$$

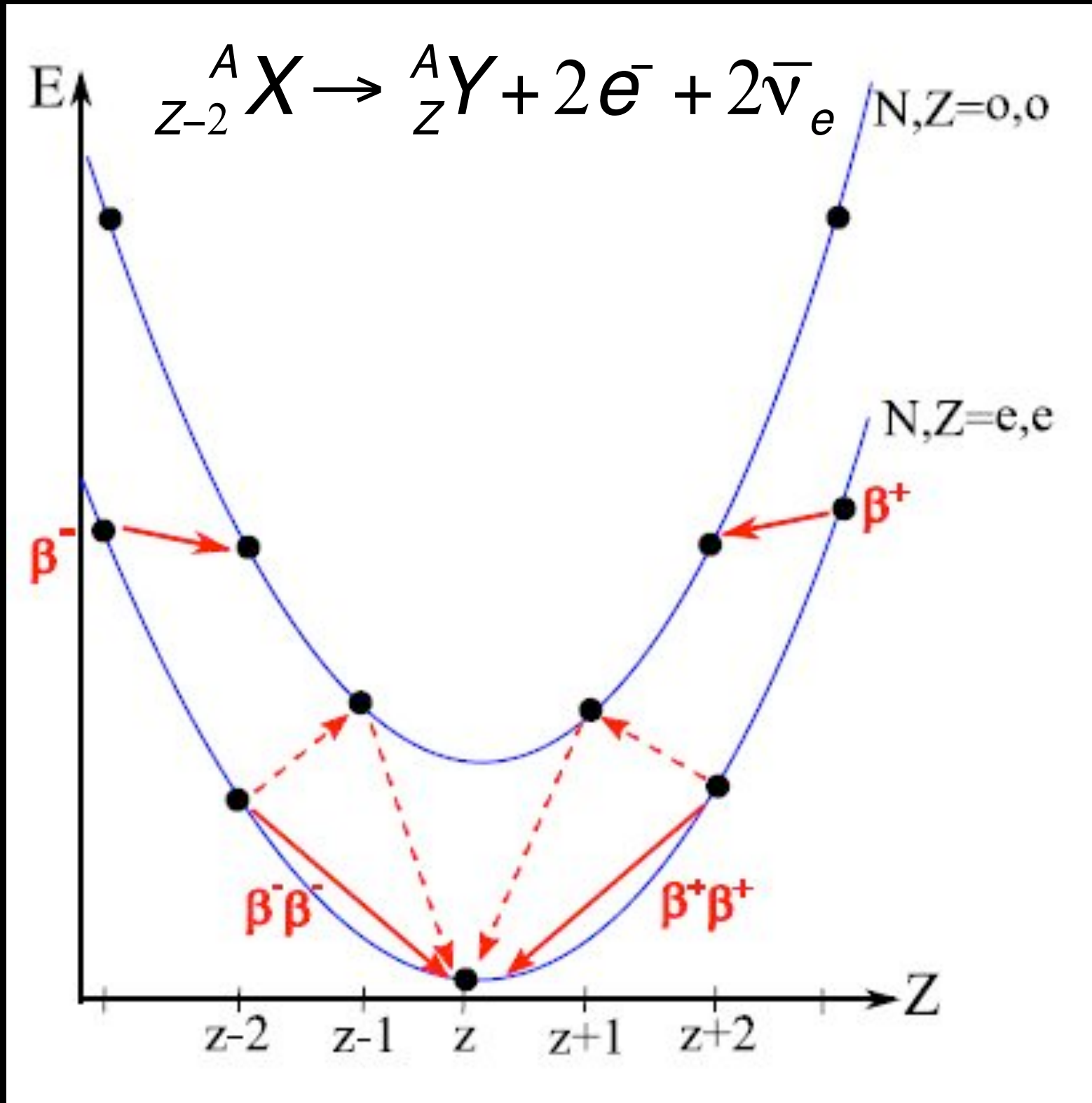


Future missions may give actual measurement

NEUTRINOLESS  
DOUBLE BETA DECAY



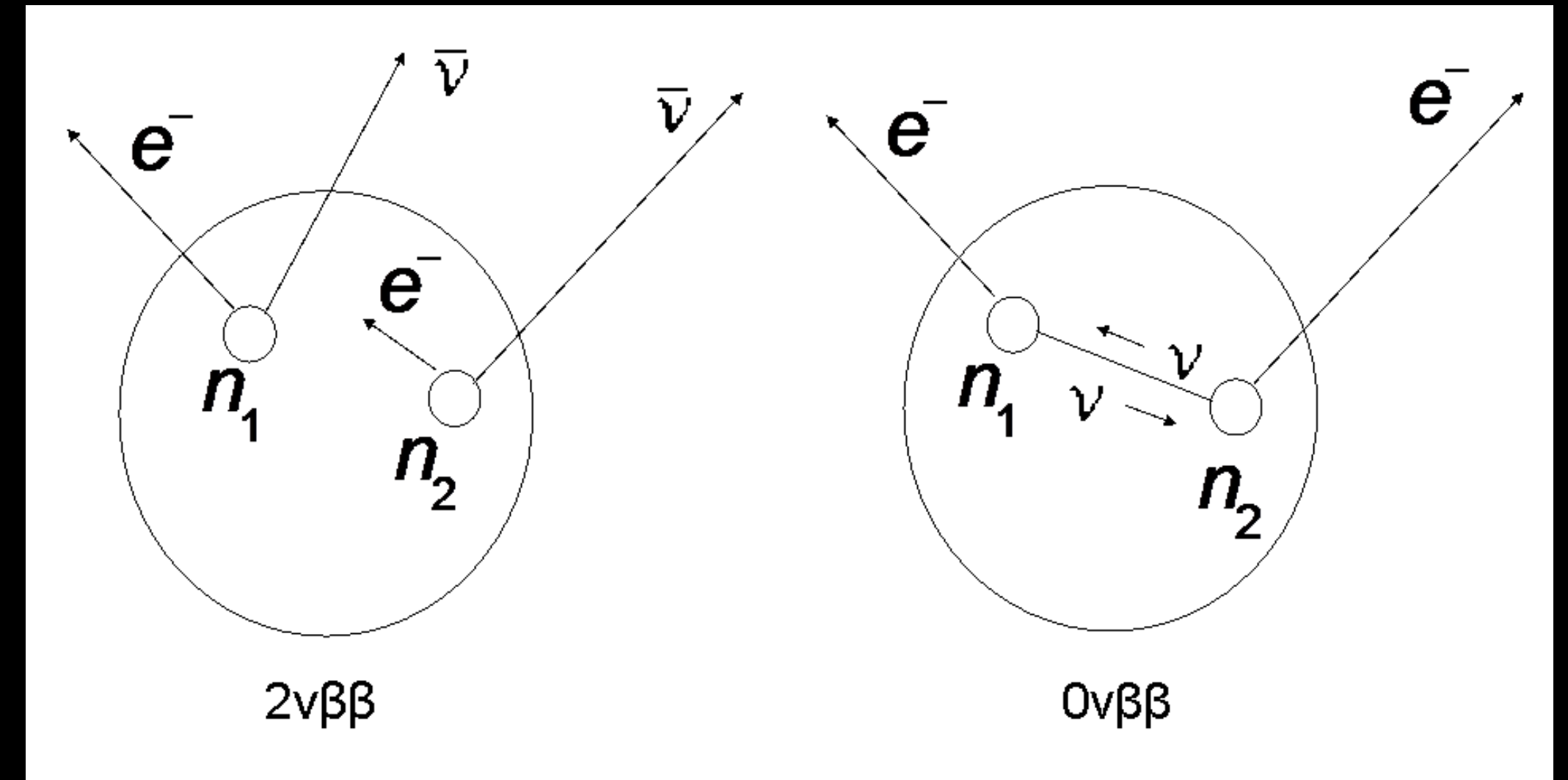
# DOUBLE BETA DECAY

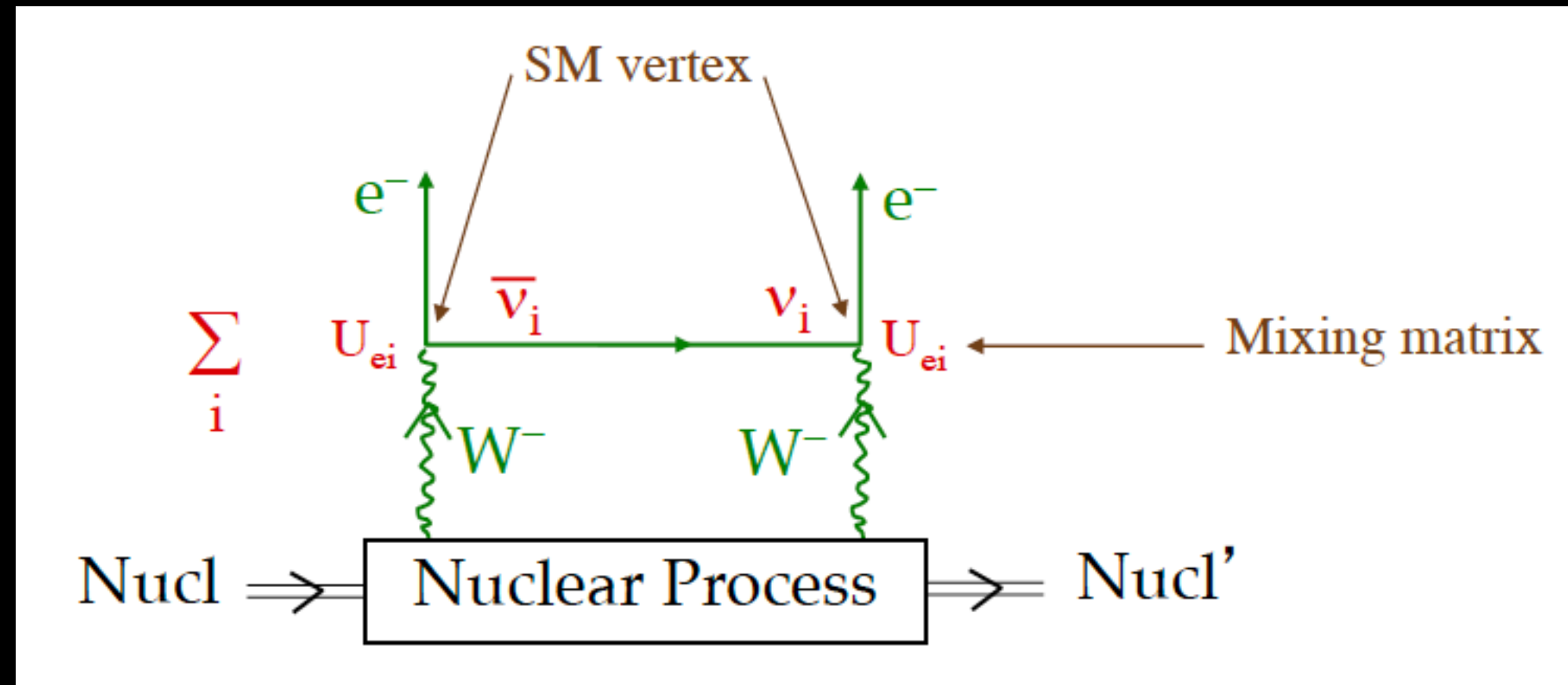


- Double beta decay (DBD) may occur in some even-even nuclei with when beta decay not energetically possible
- 35 natural isotopes (observed in 11)
- Very rare process: Typical  $T^{1/2} \sim 10^{18} - 10^{21}$  yr
- Neutrinoless double decay involves “internal” neutrino annihilation and lepton number violation, possible only if there is a Majorana mass term

$$2\nu\beta\beta \text{ mode: } {}_Z^A X_N \rightarrow {}_{Z+2}^A X_{N-2} + 2e^- + 2\bar{\nu}_e$$

$$0\nu\beta\beta \text{ mode: } {}_Z^A X_N \rightarrow {}_{Z+2}^A X_{N-2} + 2e^-$$



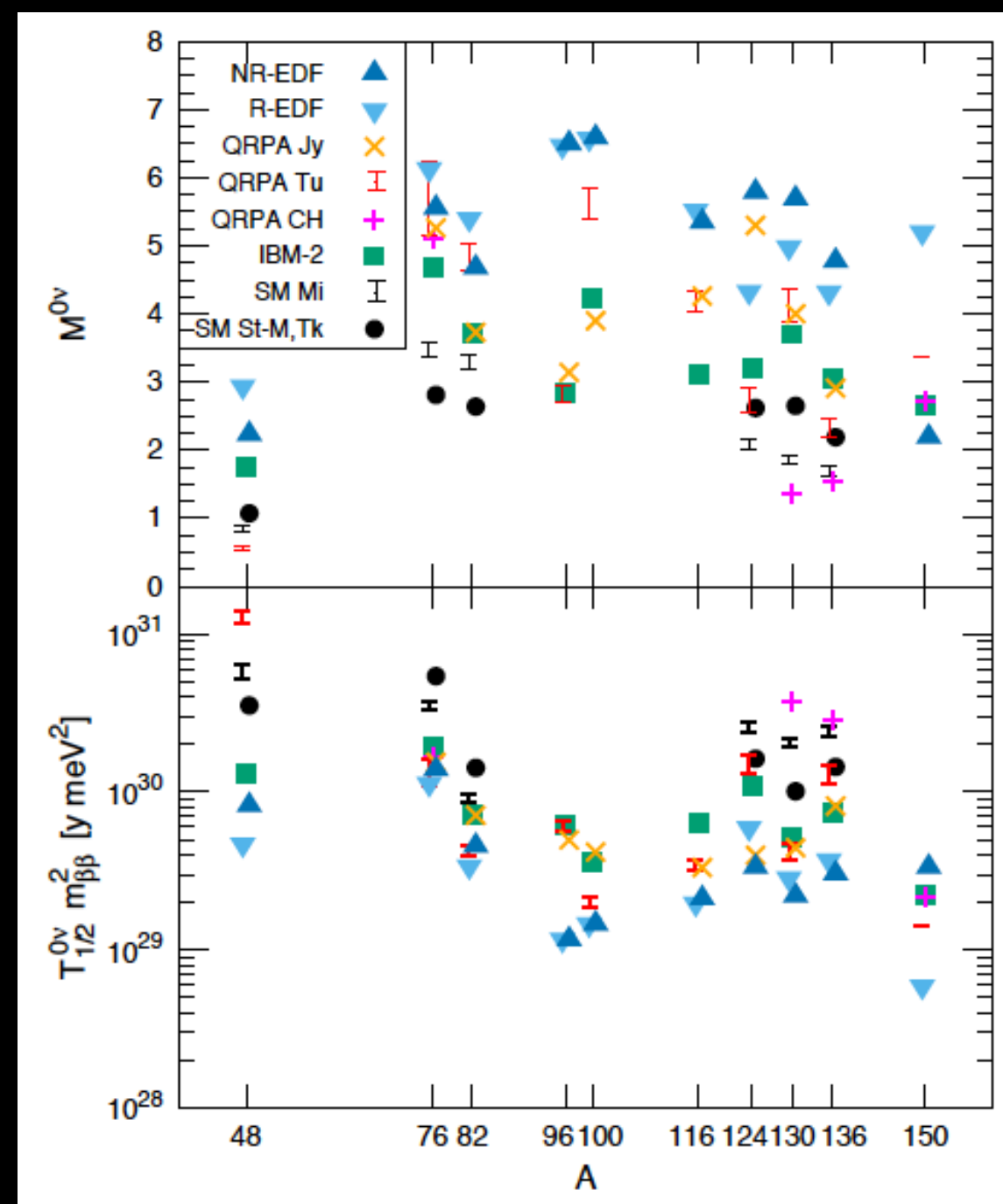


Phase space

Nuclear matrix element

Particle Physics term

$$\frac{1}{T_{1/2}^{0\nu}} = G^{0\nu} |M^{0\nu}|^2 \left( \frac{m_{\beta\beta}}{m_e} \right)^2$$



- Phase space depends on Q-value, the higher the better
- Nuclear matrix element calculations are very hard because of the high number of nucleons
  - discrepancies of factors of 3 between models are common
  - more recent ab-initio models are considered more reliable
- Measurement of NLDBD with various isotopes is essential!

Phase space

Nuclear matrix element

Particle Physics term

Effective Majorana mass

Depends on masses  $m_1, m_2, m_3$   
also on neutrino mixing parameters

$$\frac{1}{T_{1/2}^{0\nu}} = G^{0\nu} |M^{0\nu}|^2 \left(\frac{m_{\beta\beta}}{m_e}\right)^2$$

$$m_{\beta\beta} = \left| \sum_{k=1}^3 m_k U_{ek}^2 \right| = \left| m_1 c_{12}^2 c_{13}^2 + m_2 s_{12}^2 c_{13}^2 e^{i(\alpha_2 - \alpha_1)} + m_3 s_{13}^2 e^{i(\alpha_1 - 2\delta_{CP})} \right|$$

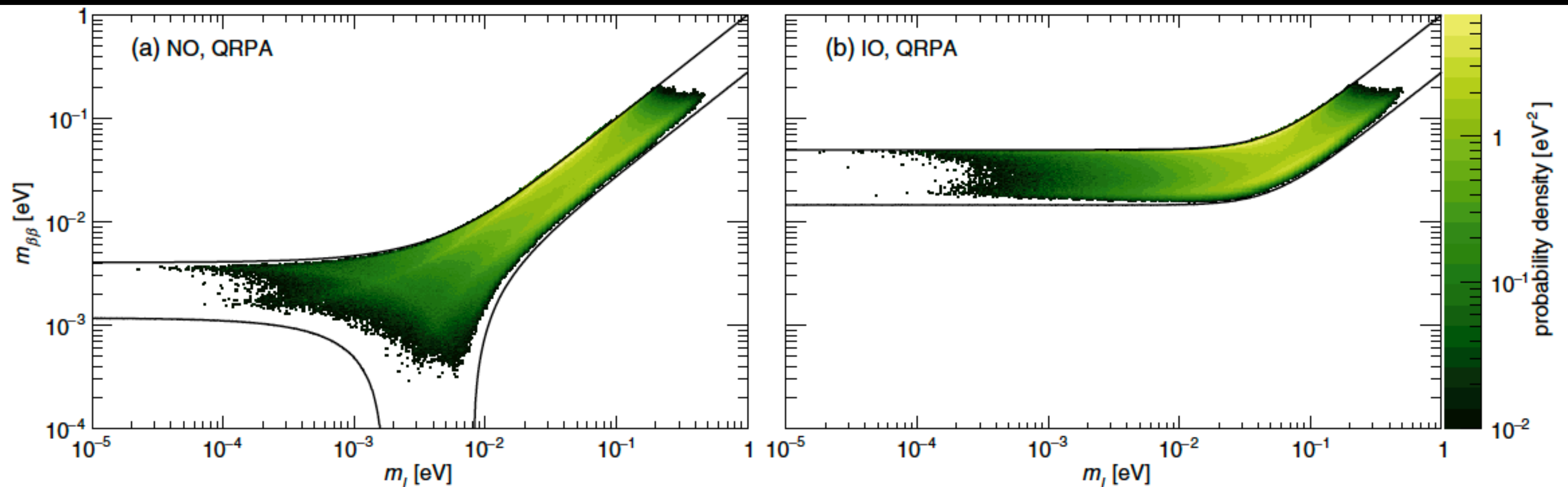
- Many non-SM physics processes can cause NLDBD, we focus here on the simplest possibility, the exchange of light Majorana neutrinos
- Requires a flip of the neutrino's chirality. Possible because for massive neutrinos, chirality is not a good quantum number
- Recall from lecture 1:

$$u_{\uparrow} \propto \frac{1}{2}(1+k)u_R + \frac{1}{2}(1-k)u_L$$

# MAJORANA MASS GOALS

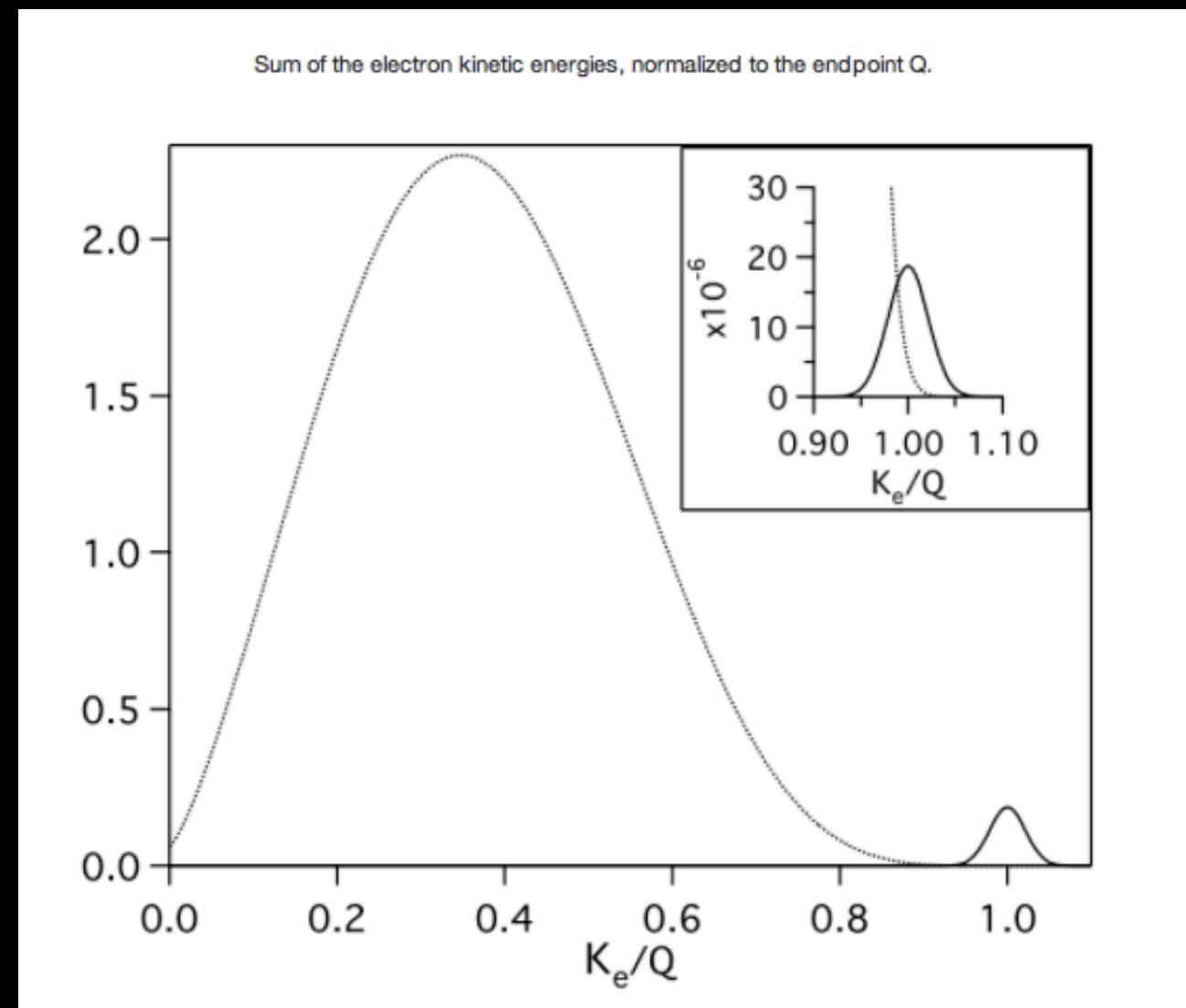
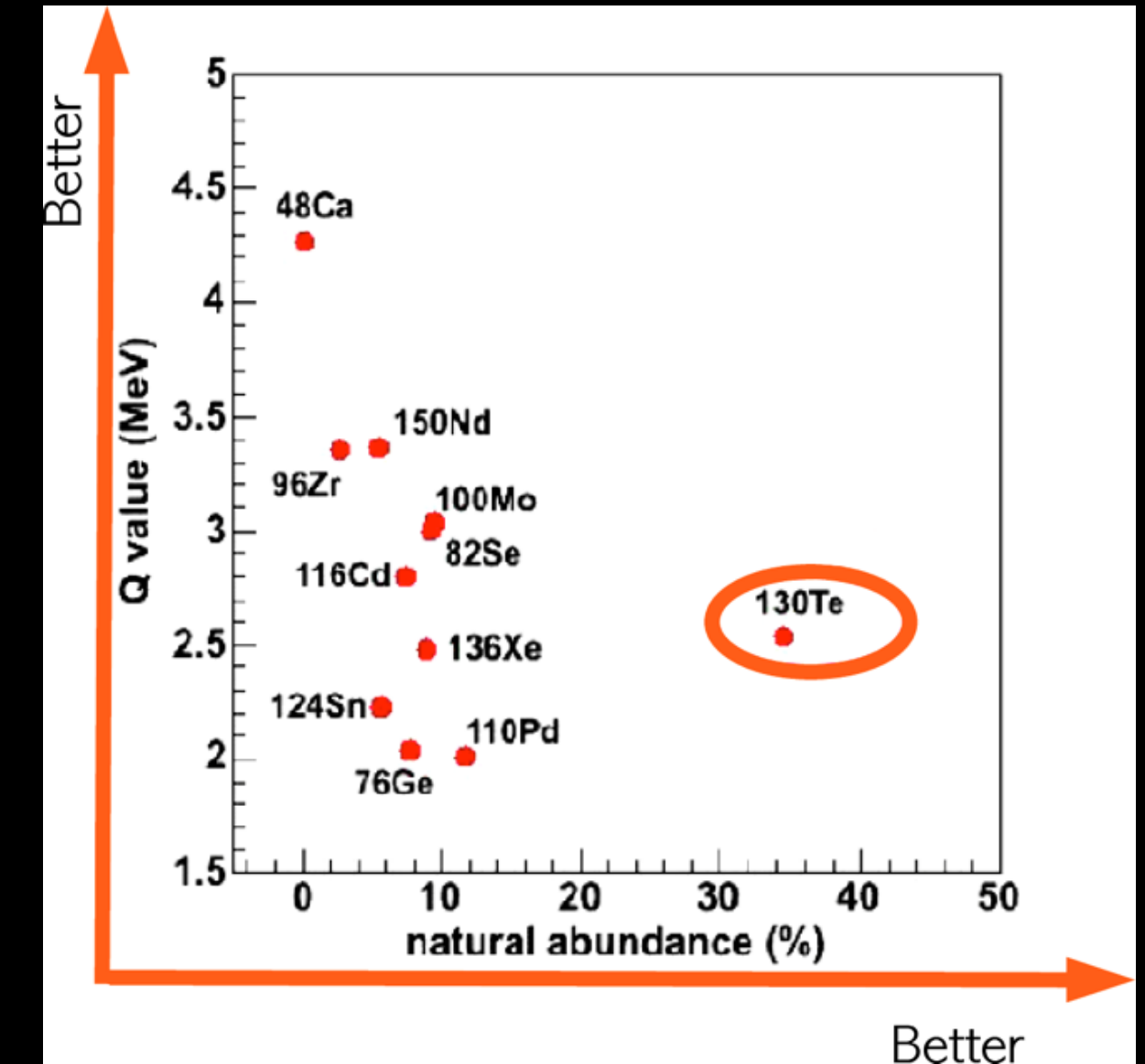
$$m_{\beta\beta} = \left| \sum_{k=1}^3 m_k U_{ek}^2 \right| = \left| m_1 c_{12}^2 c_{13}^2 + m_2 s_{12}^2 c_{13}^2 e^{i(\alpha_2 - \alpha_1)} + m_3 s_{13}^2 e^{i(\alpha_1 - 2\delta_{CP})} \right|$$

- Existing neutrino oscillation measurements put constraints on  $m_{\beta\beta}$ 
  - But in addition, depends on Majorana phases
  - Inverted ordering  $m_{\beta\beta} > 20$  meV, normal ordering  $m_{\beta\beta} > \sim 1$  meV



# EXPERIMENTAL SEARCH

- Choose a suitable isotope
  - High energy, high isotopic abundance (or enrich)
- Observe large quantities for a long time
- Detect electron energy sum, reject backgrounds
- Look for a peak, in addition to the continuum for DBD



$$S^{0\nu} = \frac{\ln 2}{n_\sigma} T \cdot n \cdot \epsilon \frac{1}{\sqrt{B}}$$

- Often an optimization of a given parameter leads to a compromise in others
  - Example: large mass, low backgrounds typically means low energy resolution (needed to reject backgrounds)

# MAIN TYPES OF EXPERIMENTS



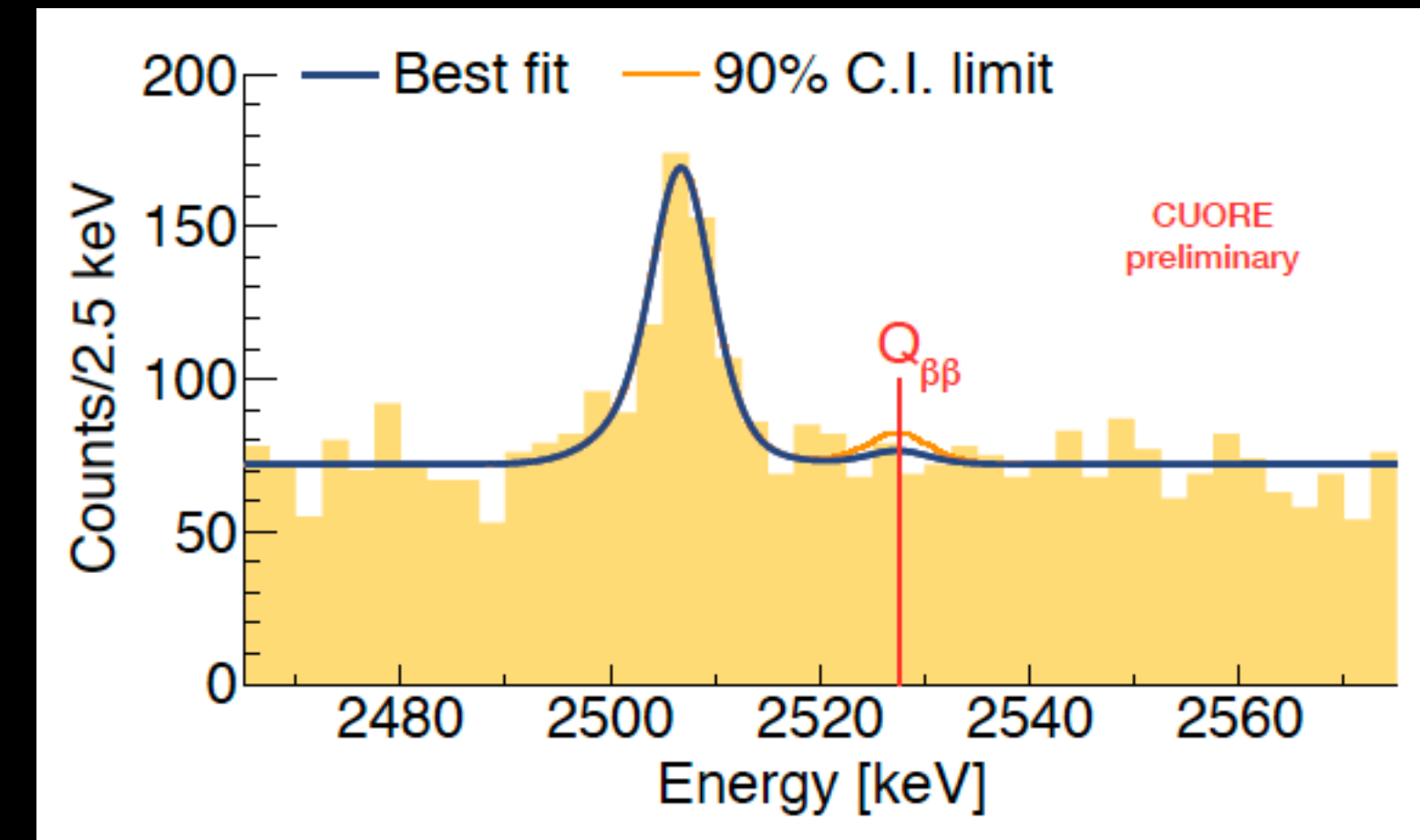
1. **Calorimeters with high energy resolution and low mass:** Germanium semiconductor experiments, like GERDA, or tellurium cryogenic bolometers, like CUORE;
2. **Calorimeters with high mass and low energy resolution:** Large isotope-loaded liquid scintillator detectors, like KamLAND-Zen or SNO+;
3. **Detectors with tracking or topology capabilities:** Gas or liquid-phase time projection chambers (TPCs) with some degree of tracking or topology measurement to complement the calorimetry.

- Leading sensitivity: type 1 and 2

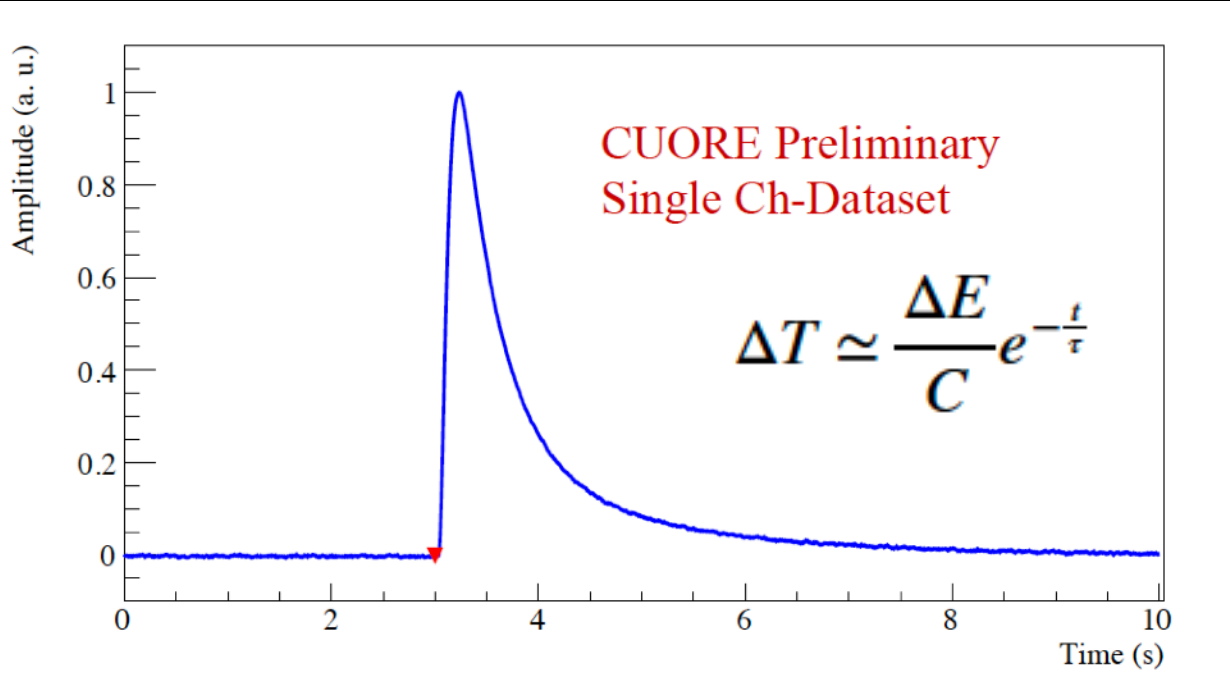
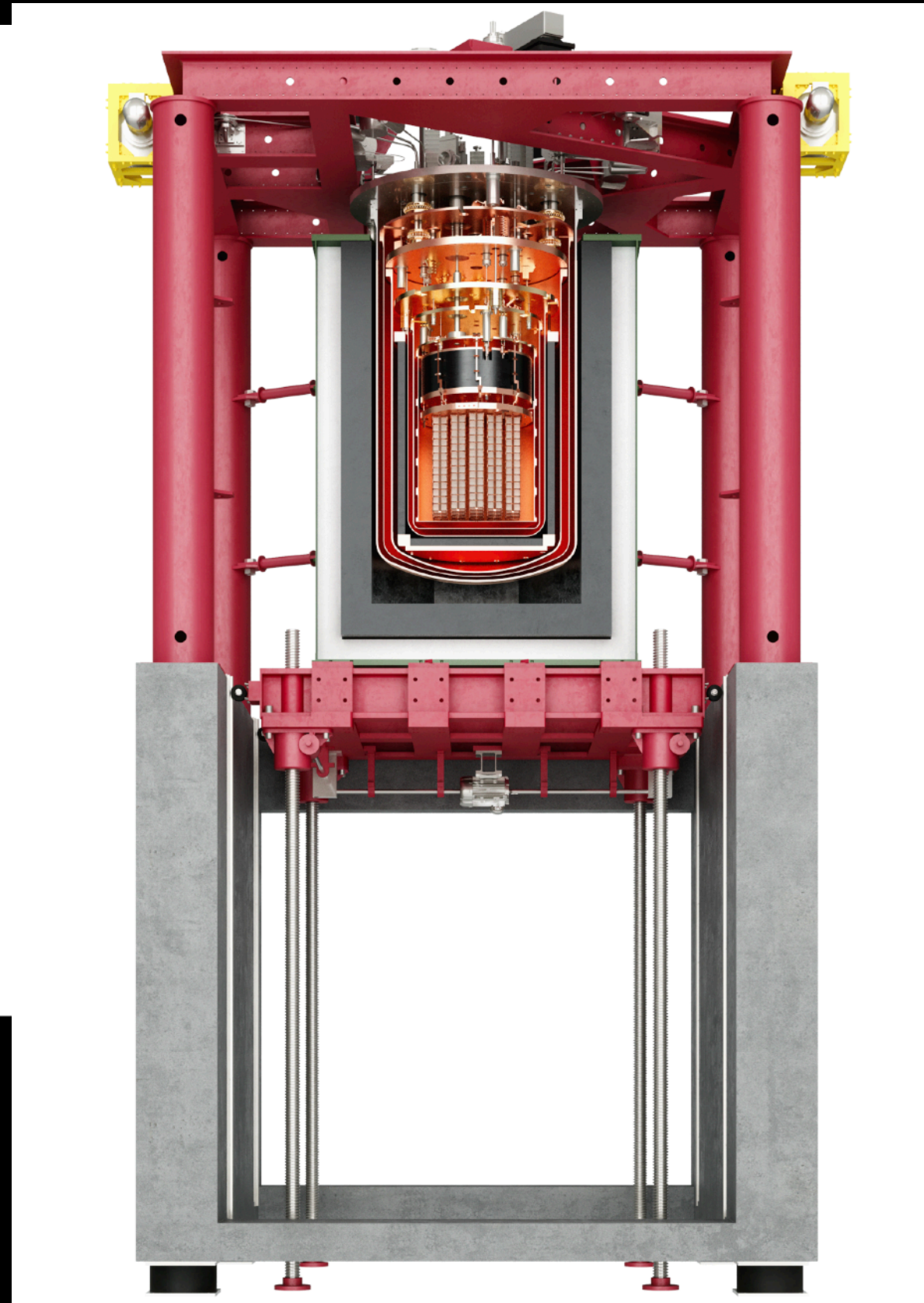
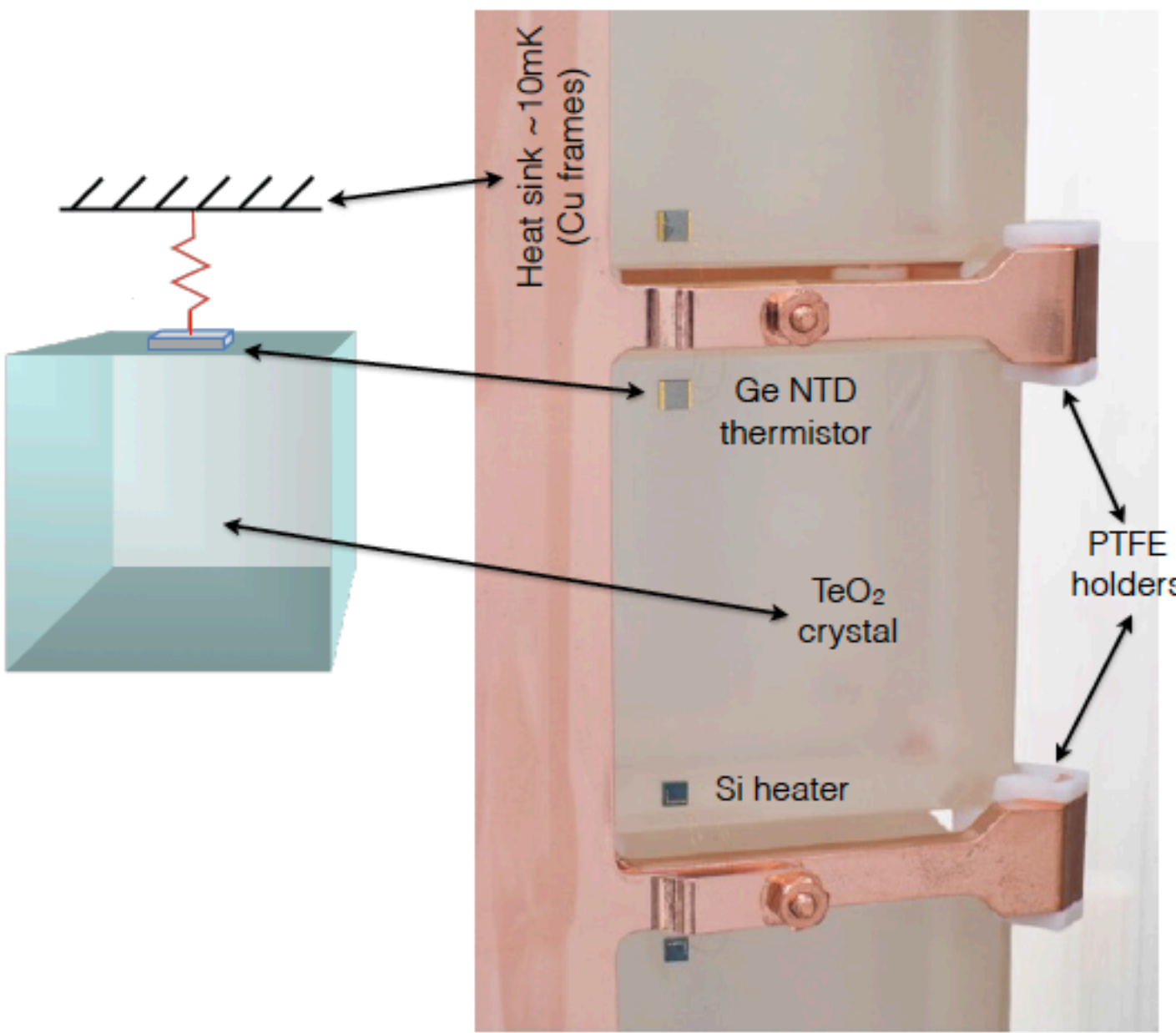
Experiment	Isotope	Resolution keV	Exposure kg.yr	Bg. Idx. $(keV.kg.yr)^{-1}$	$T_{1/2}$ , yr (90% C.L.)	$m_{\beta\beta}$ meV
CUORE	$^{130}\text{Te}$	7.8	289	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.2 \times 10^{25}$	90-305
GERDA	$^{76}\text{Ge}$	2.6–4.9	98	$5.2 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.8 \times 10^{26}$	79-180
KLZ	$^{136}\text{Xe}$	247	510	$1.3 \times 10^{-4}$	$2.3 \times 10^{26}$	36-156

# NLDBD CURRENT EXPERIMENTS

- Cryogenic bolometers,  $\text{TeO}_2$
- Temperature: 10 mK
- $\sim 206$  kg of  $^{130}\text{Te}$



- External backgrounds prevent reaching a better sensitivity

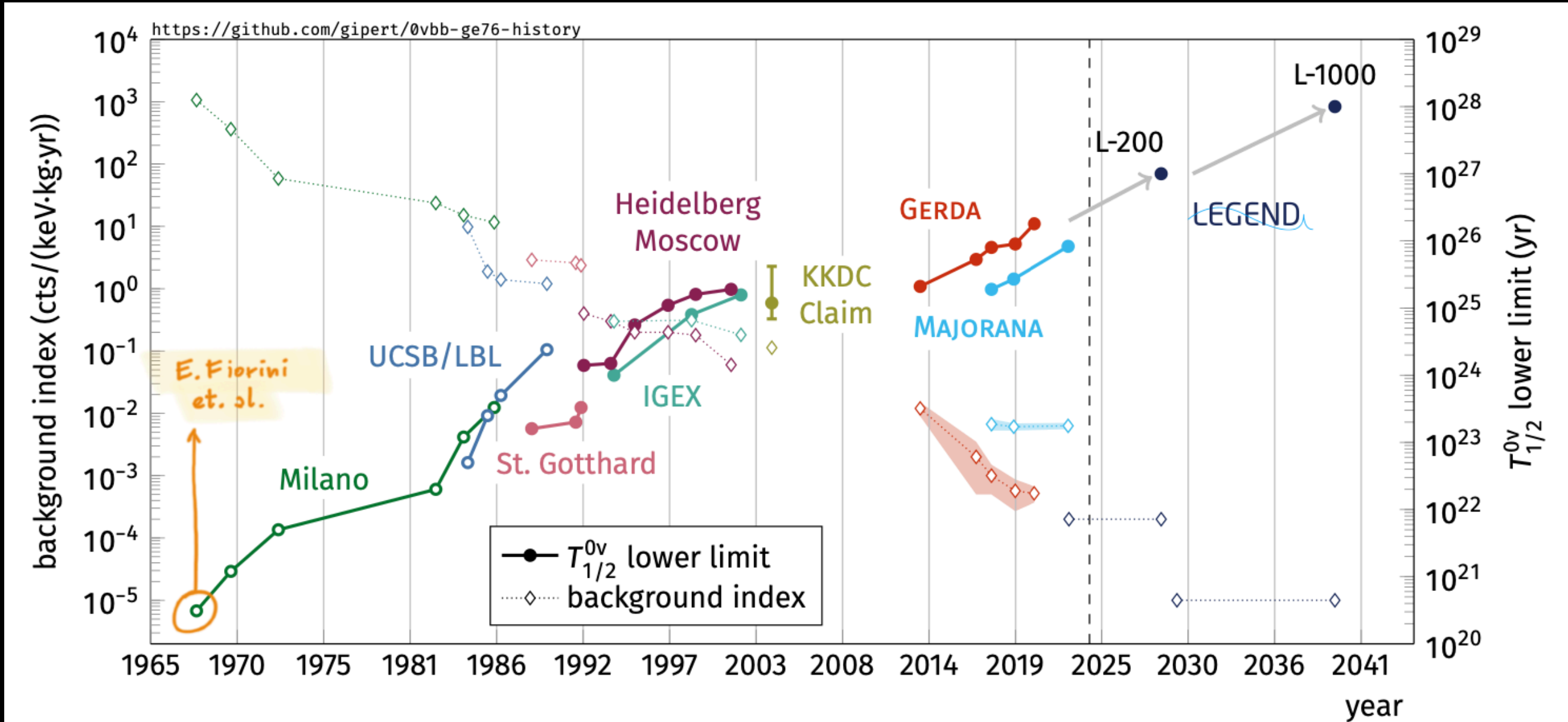
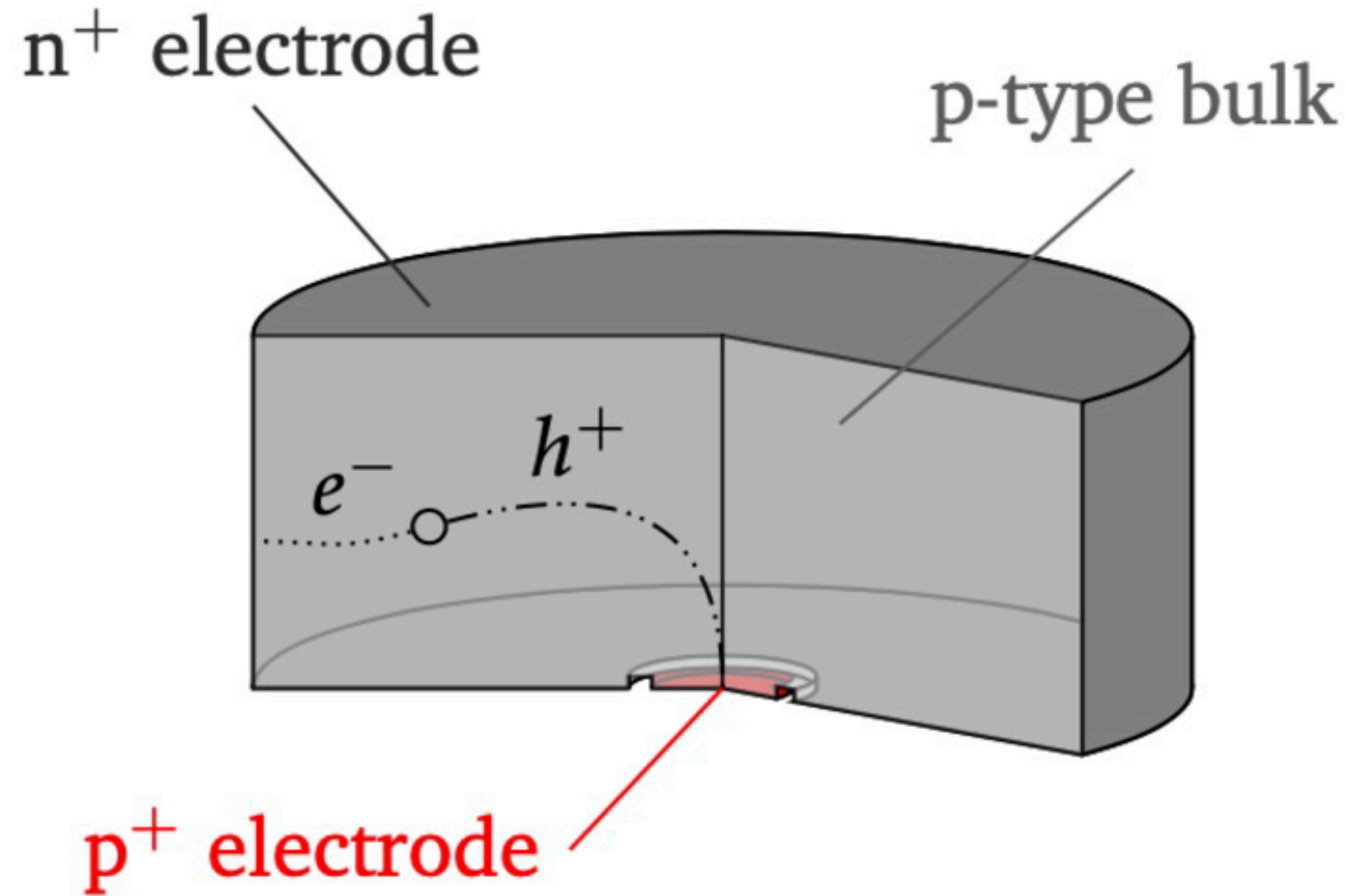


Half-life limit:  $T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 3.8 \times 10^{25}$  yr (90% C.I.)

$m_{\beta\beta} < 70 - 240$  meV

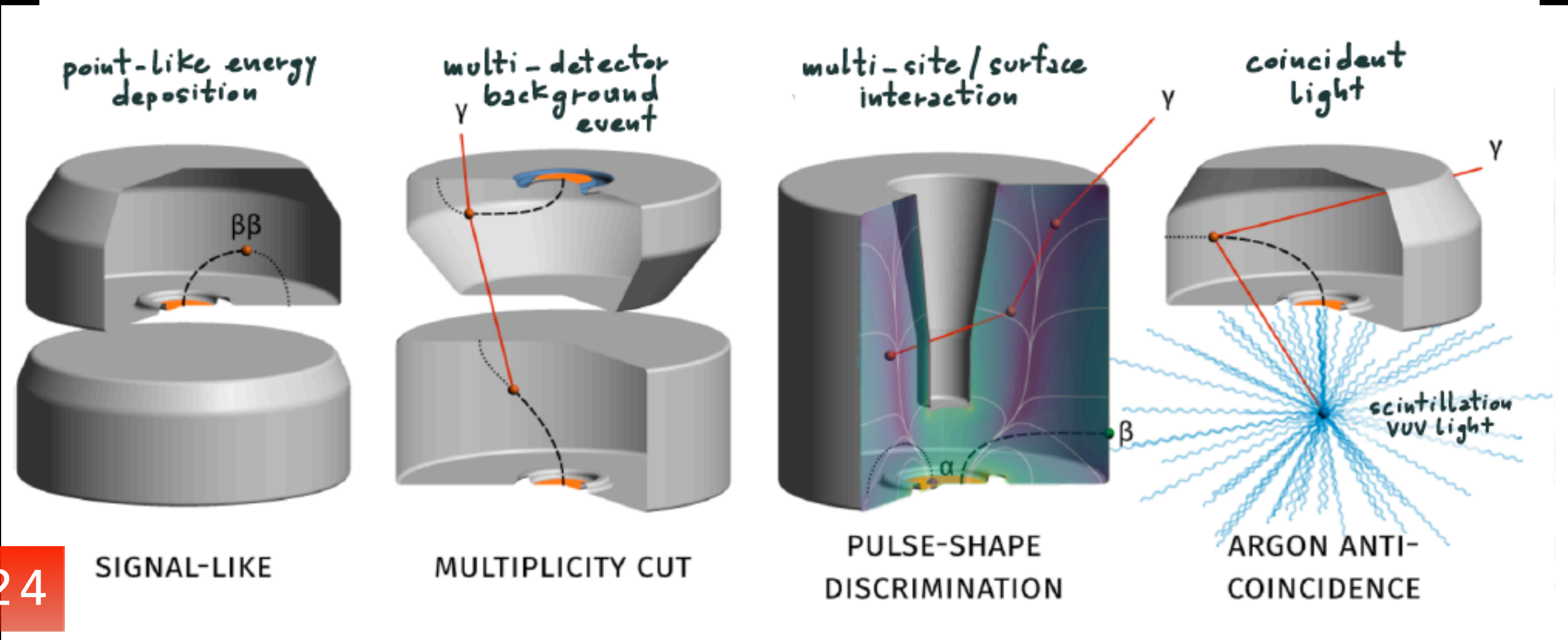


# GERMANIUM DETECTORS

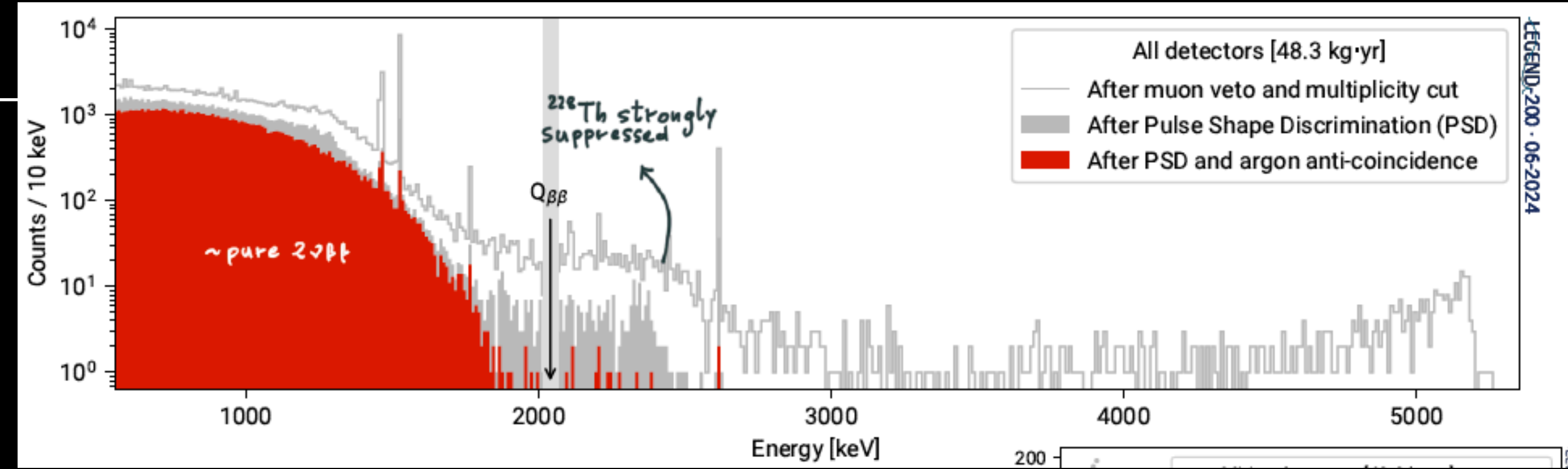
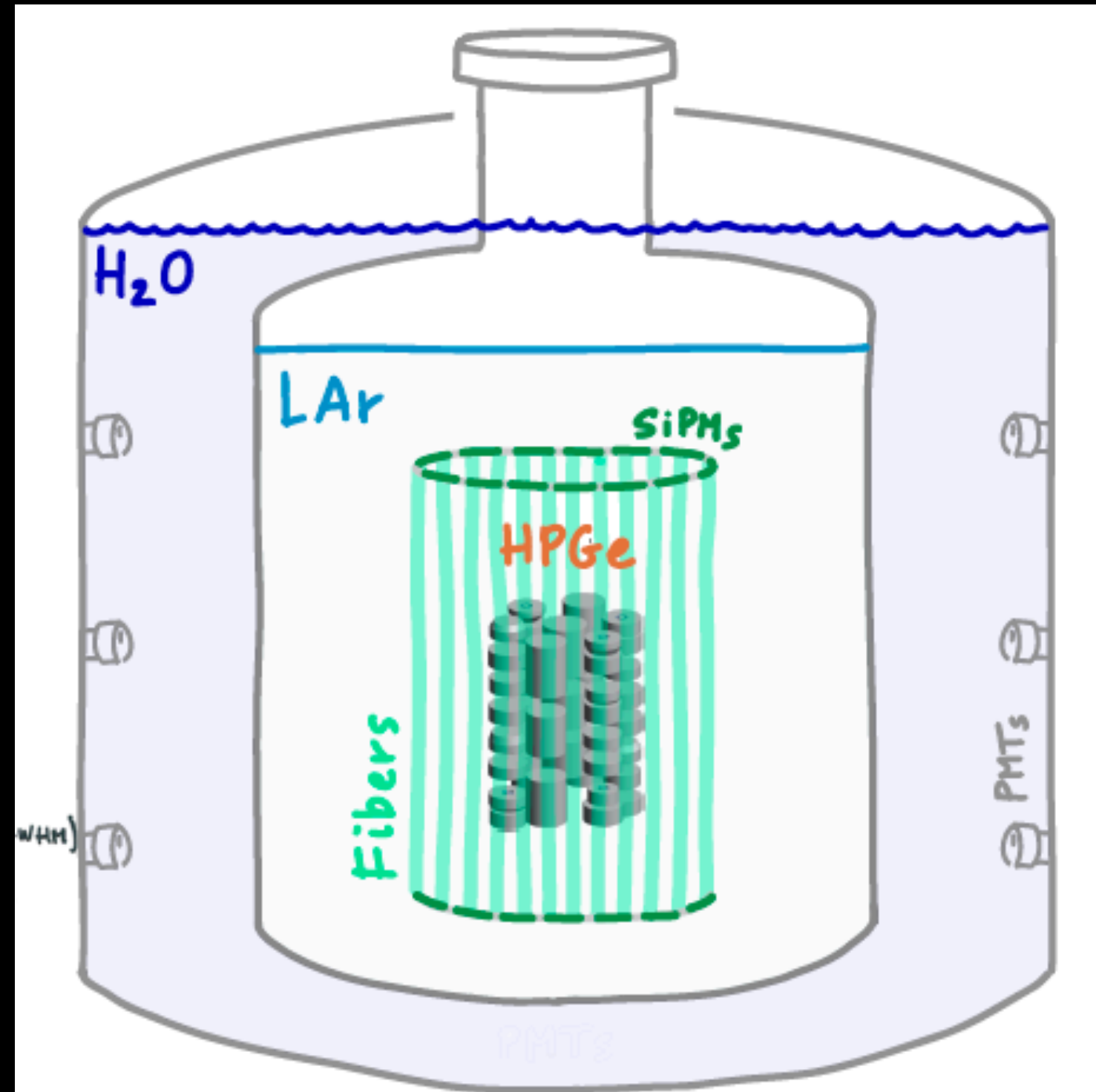


- long history of developments
- capable of reducing multiple types of backgrounds
- leading energy resolution 0.1% (FWHM)

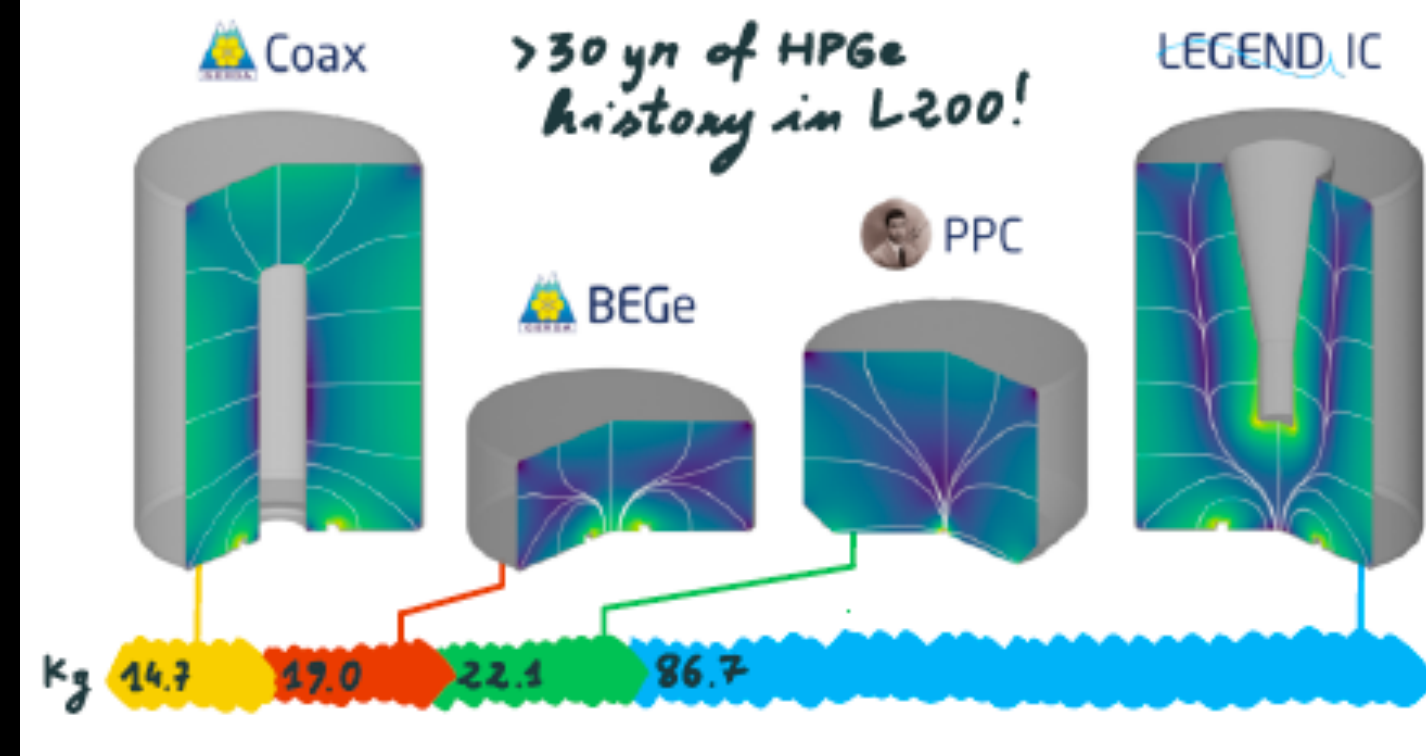
L. PERTOLDI, NEUTRINO 2024



# LEGEND



- LEGEND-200 uses 142 kg of enriched Ge crystals
- Preliminary data combined with other Ge experiments (GERDA, MAJORANA) yields limit of  $1.9 \times 10^{26} \text{ yr}$
- LEGEND-1000 aims for  $10^{28} \text{ yr}$  (next decade)

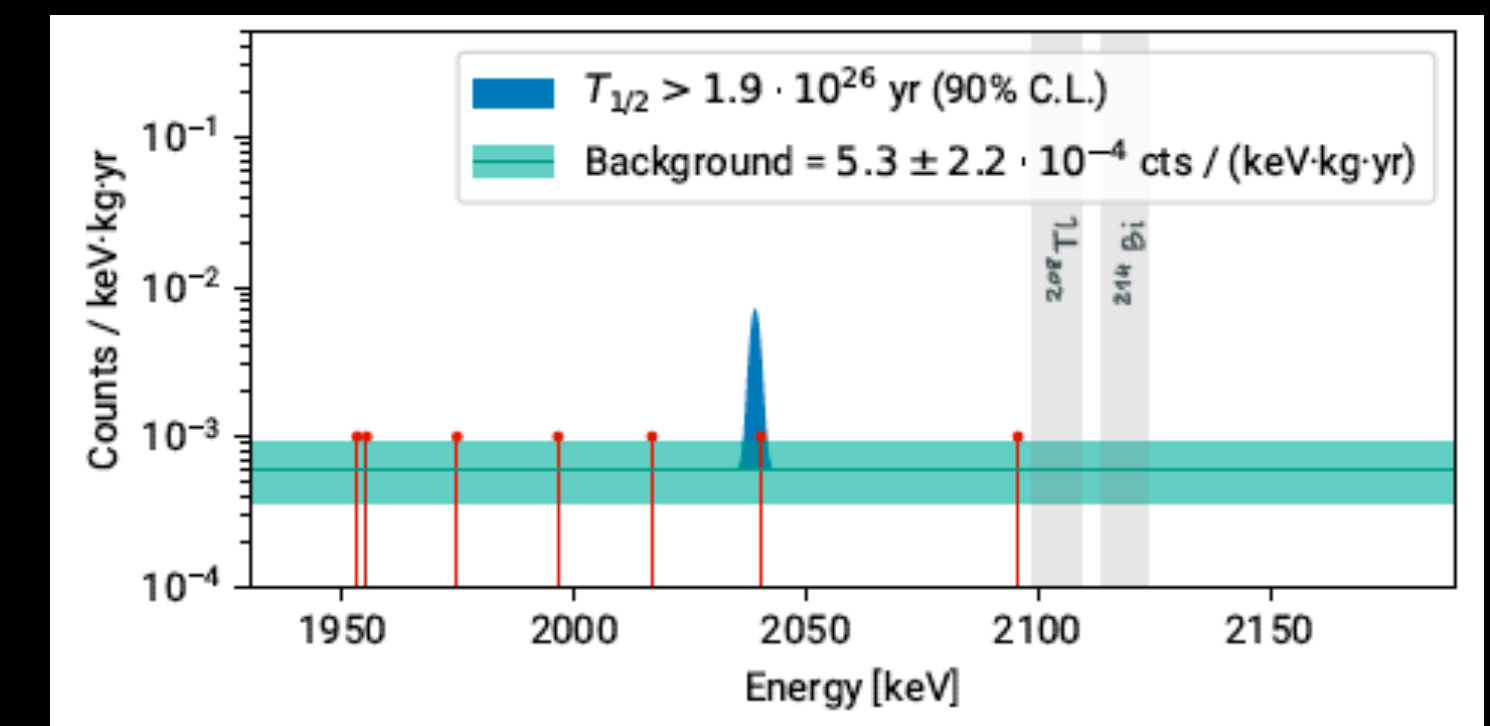


• 7 events surviving. Background index  
 $BI = 5.3 \pm 2.2 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ cts / (keV kg yr)}$   
**PRELIMINARY!**

**GERDA, MAJORANA and LEGEND combined fit**

- $p$ -value of background-only = 26%
- $T_{1/2}^{0\nu}$  lower limits (90% frequentist C.L.)

Observed	Sensitivity
$> 1.9 \cdot 10^{26} \text{ yr}$	$2.8 \cdot 10^{26} \text{ yr}$



L. PERTOLDI, NEUTRINO 2024

## KamLAND-Zen

### Zero Neutrino Double Beta

Kamioka underground  
KamLAND detector

2-type of liquid scintillator

1000-ton pure  
liquid scintillator

U, Th <  $10^{-17}$  g/g

745 kg Xe-loaded  
liquid scintillator  
(91% enrichment)

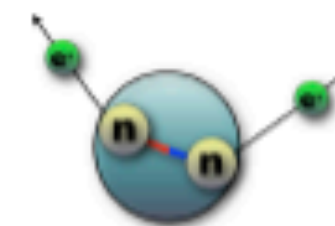
inner balloon (IB)

2002- KamLAND



reactor, geo, solar neutrino observation

2011- KamLAND-Zen



double beta decay measurement ( $0\nu\beta\beta$  search)

2019- Xe increase, cleaner balloon

nylon balloon was produced in class 1 clean room



Film washing



Cut & Weld



He leak check & repairing

Zen 400 (R 1.54 m)

$^{238}\text{U}$  :  $5 \times 10^{-11}$  g/g

$^{232}\text{Th}$  :  $3 \times 10^{-10}$  g/g



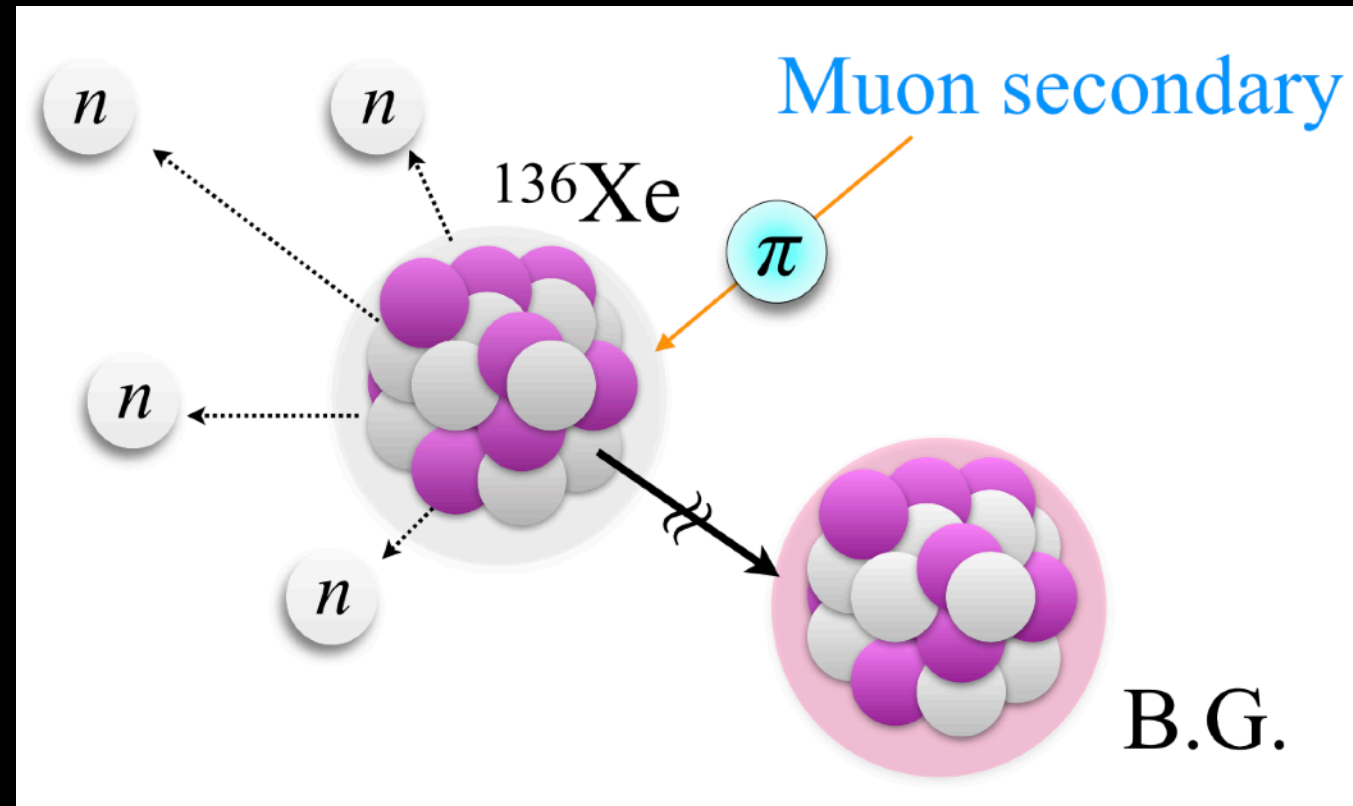
Zen 800 (R 1.90 m)

$^{238}\text{U}$  :  $\sim 4 \times 10^{-12}$  g/g

$^{232}\text{Th}$  :  $\sim 2 \times 10^{-11}$  g/g

Xenon is a gas, it's soluble in liquid scintillator!  
KamLAND-ZEN has 745 kg of enriched Xe dissolved in the LS  
Highest mass of isotope of any experiment!

# KAMLAND-ZEN RESULTS

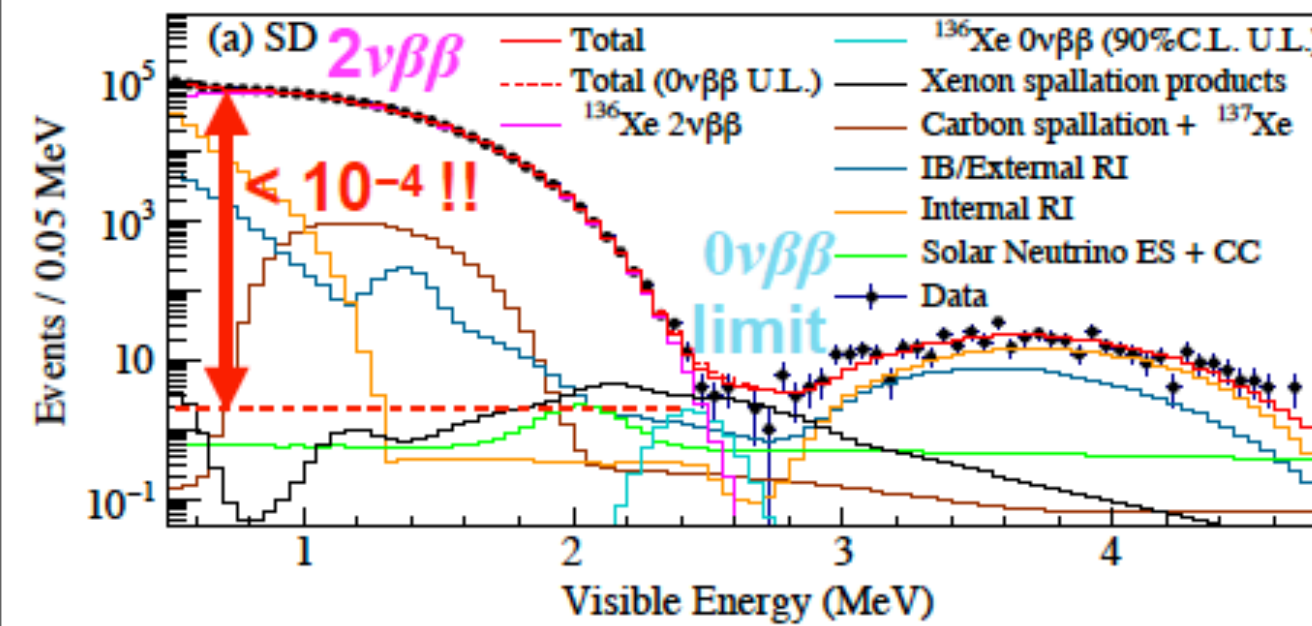


- Kamioka not so deep, very large backgrounds from cosmic muon activation of Xenon nuclei
- Cosmigenic tagging not perfect: fit both tagged and untagged spectra

rate in ROI : 30.0 events/Xe-ton/yr

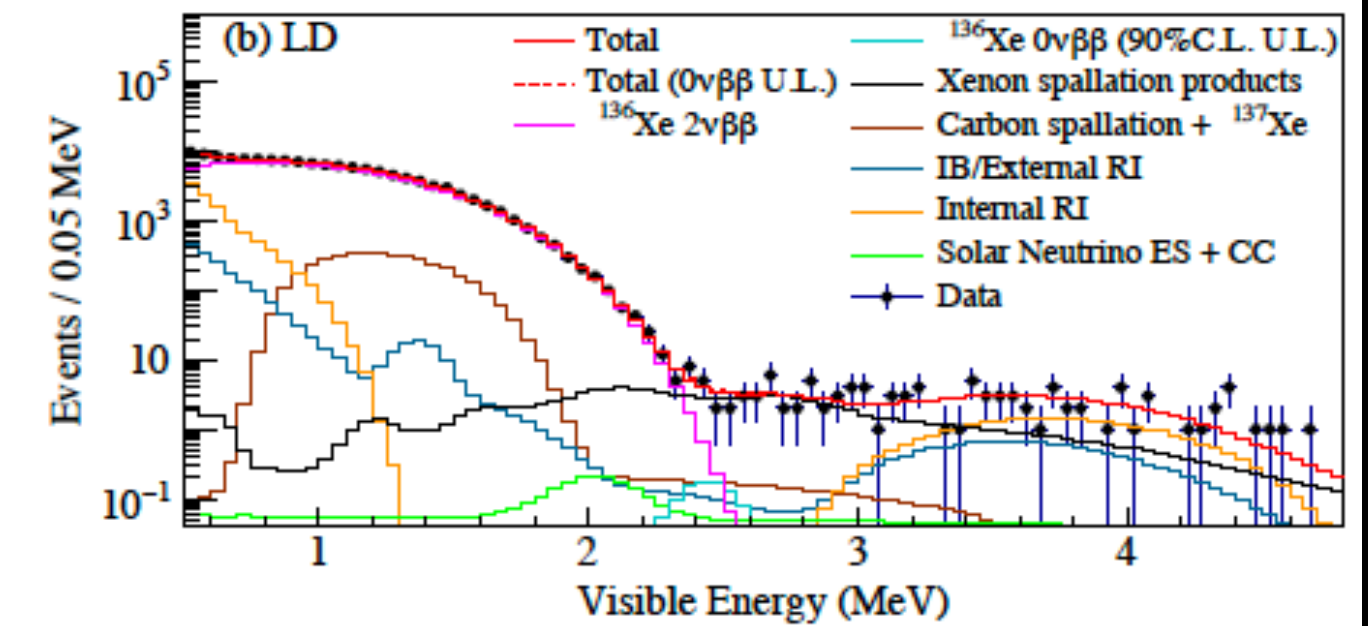
**$0\nu\beta\beta$  candidate**  
(sensitive to  $0\nu\beta\beta$  signal)

1131 days livetime  
 $R < 1.57$  m

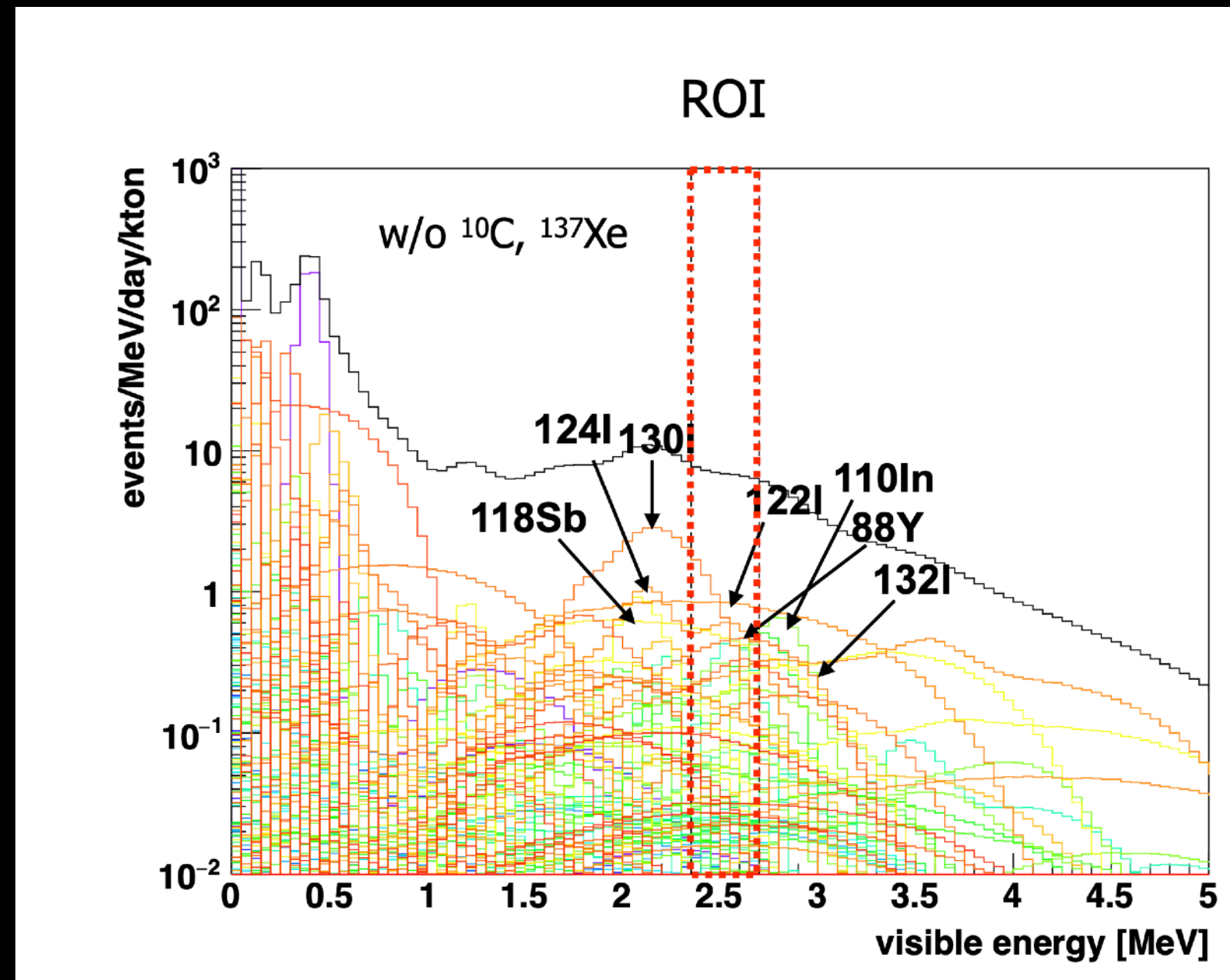


**long-lived candidate**  
(Long-lived BG constraint)

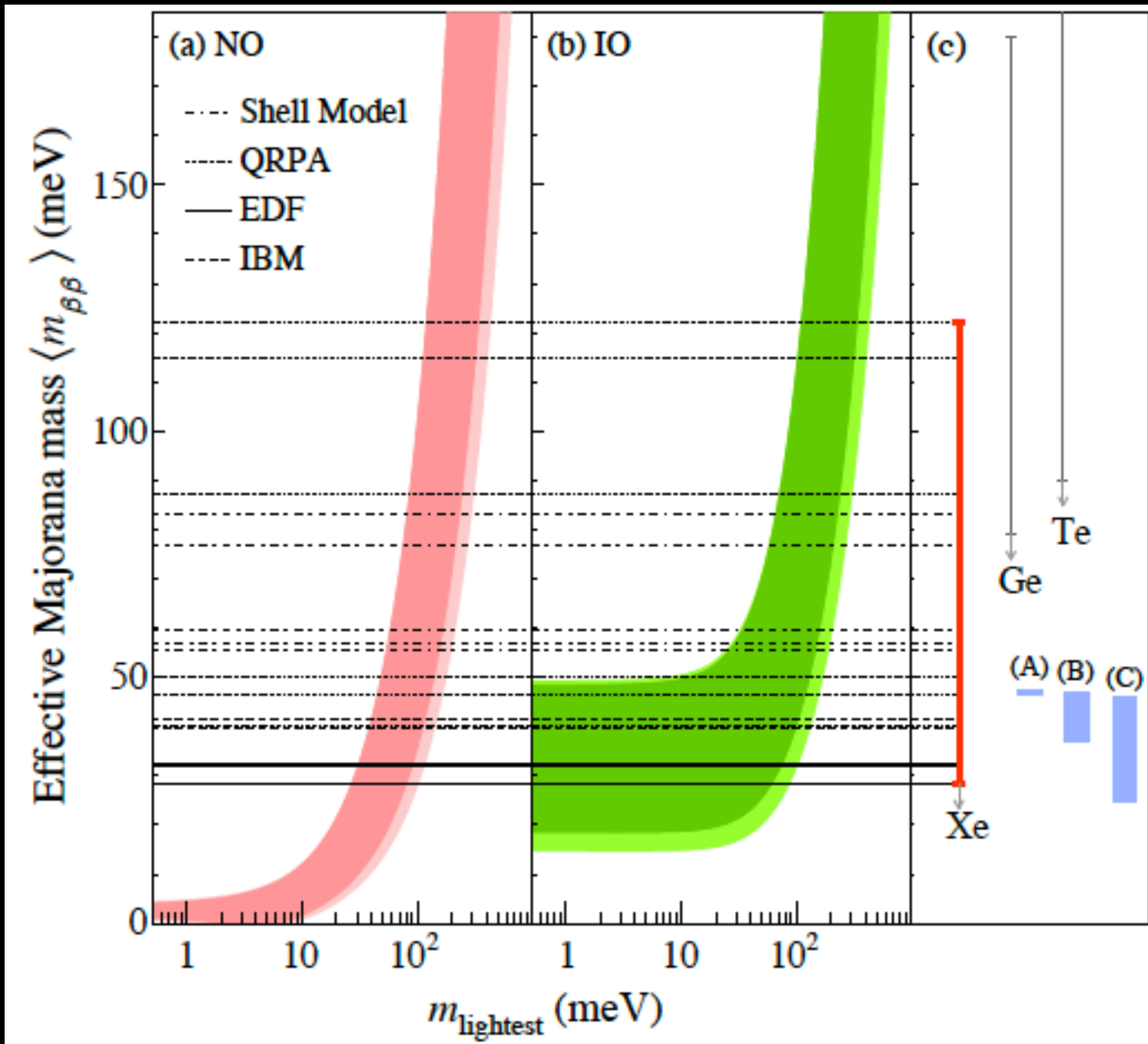
111 days livetime  
 $R < 1.57$  m



$0\nu\beta\beta$  best-fit : 0 event  
upper limit :  **$< 10.0$  event at 90% C.L.**  
in  $R < 1.57$  m



# KAMLAND-ZEN RESULTS



Combined  $T^{0\nu}_{1/2} > 3.8 \times 10^{26} \text{ yr}$

KamLAND-Zen ( $^{136}\text{Xe}$ )

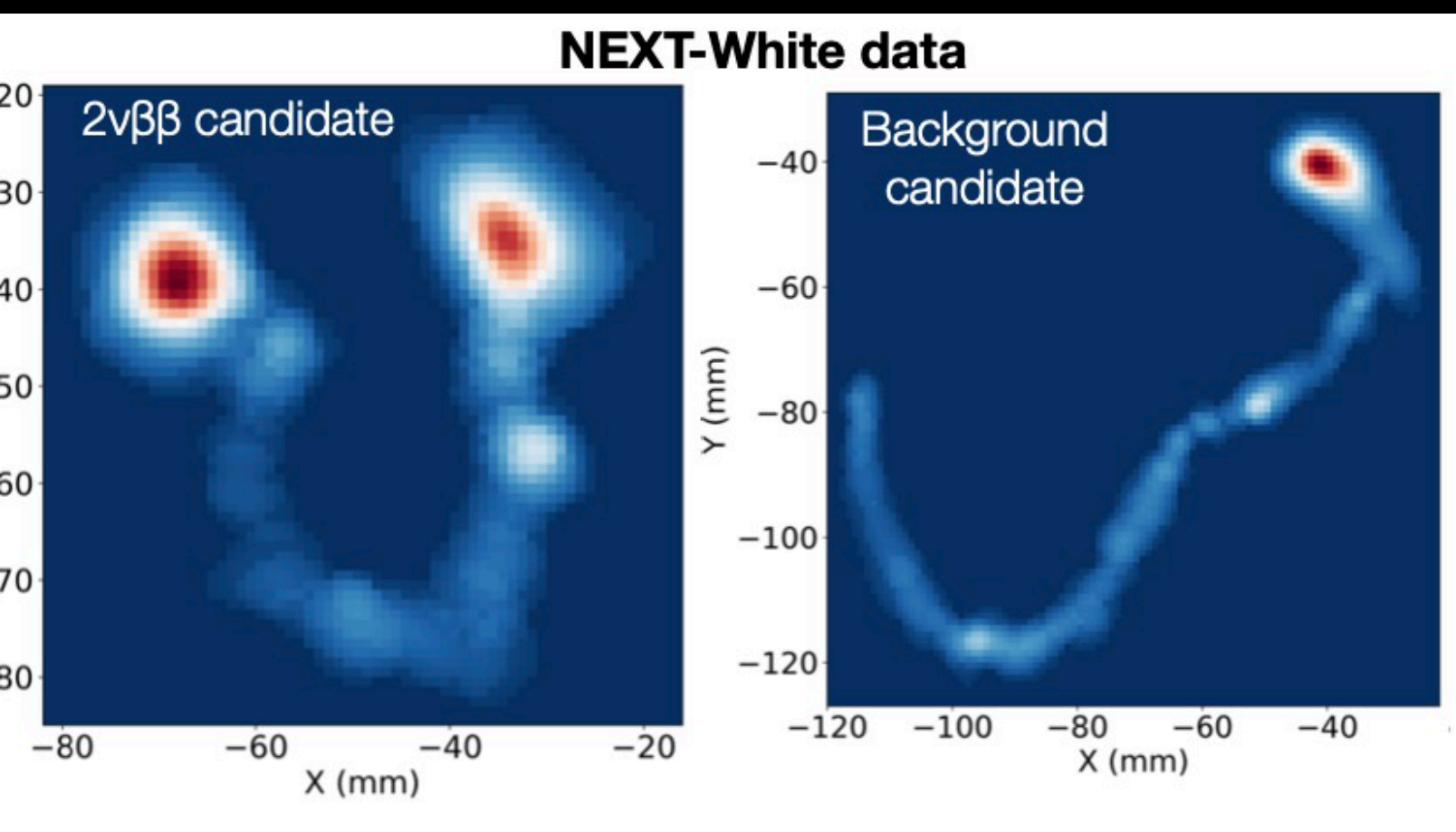
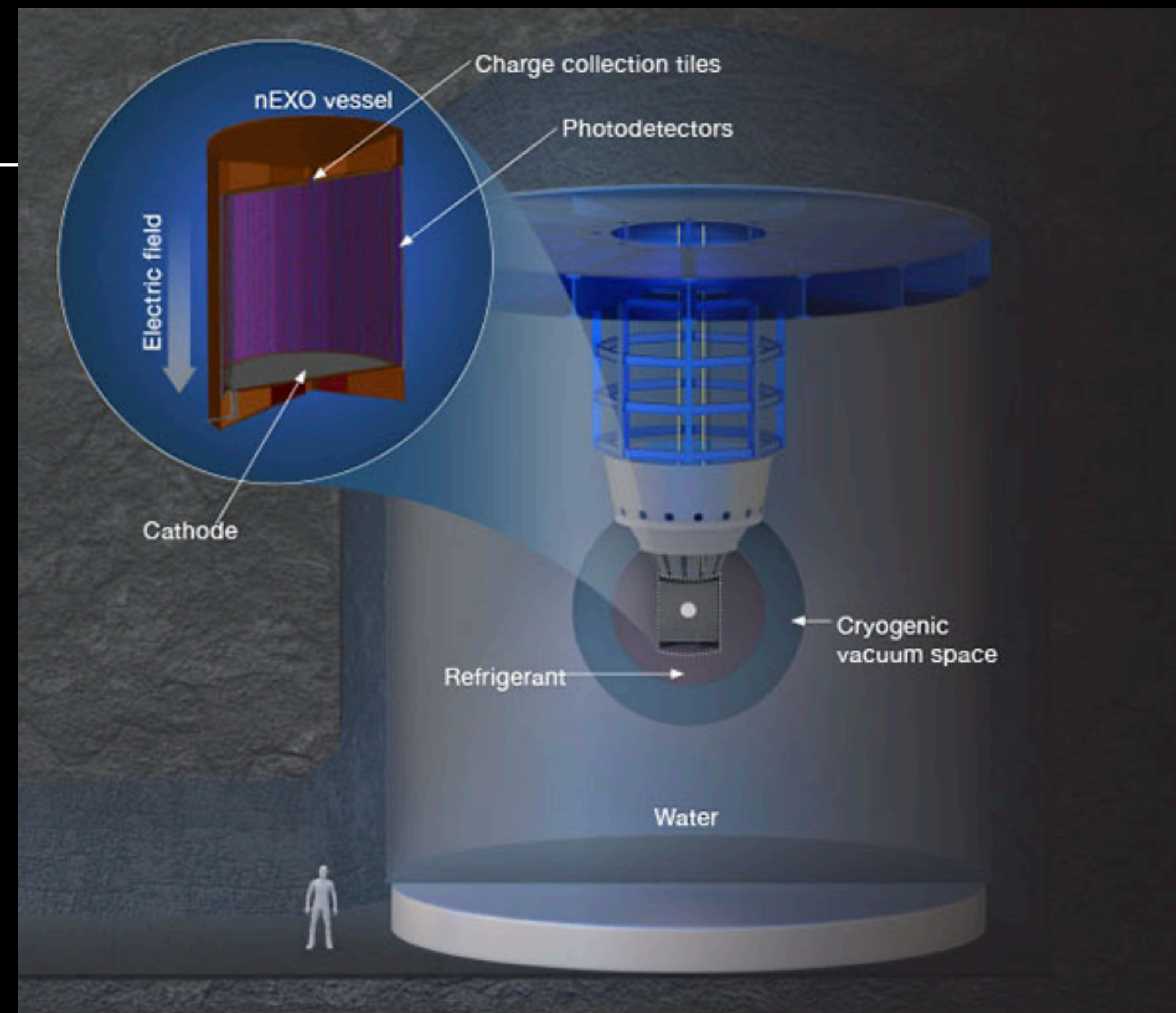
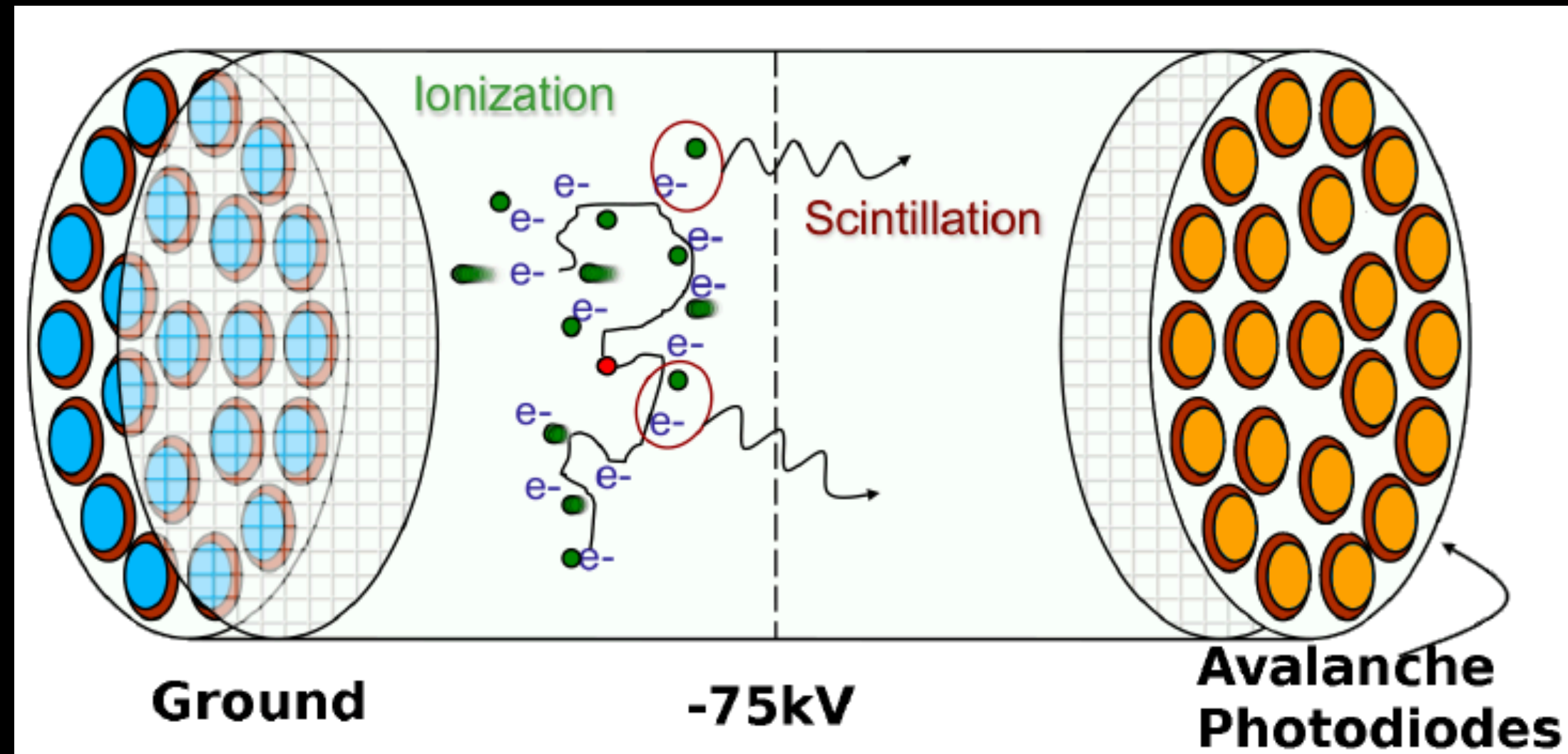
$\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle < 28\text{--}122 \text{ meV}$

$m_{\text{lightest}} < 84\text{--}353 \text{ meV}$

- Leading result from KamLAND-Zen due to high mass
- Probing well into the IO region, depending on nuclear matrix elements

NLDBD FUTURE EXPERIMENTS

# XENON TPCs



- Future projects
  - Nexo: 5 tons liquid Xenon, enriched based on EXO-200 design (200 kg, 80% enriched).  $T_{1/2} > 3.5 \times 10^{25}$  y (90% C.L.)
  - Next: High Pressure gas TPC
  - topological separation

# THE SNO+ EXPERIMENT



Repurposing the Sudbury Neutrino Observatory (SNO) detector

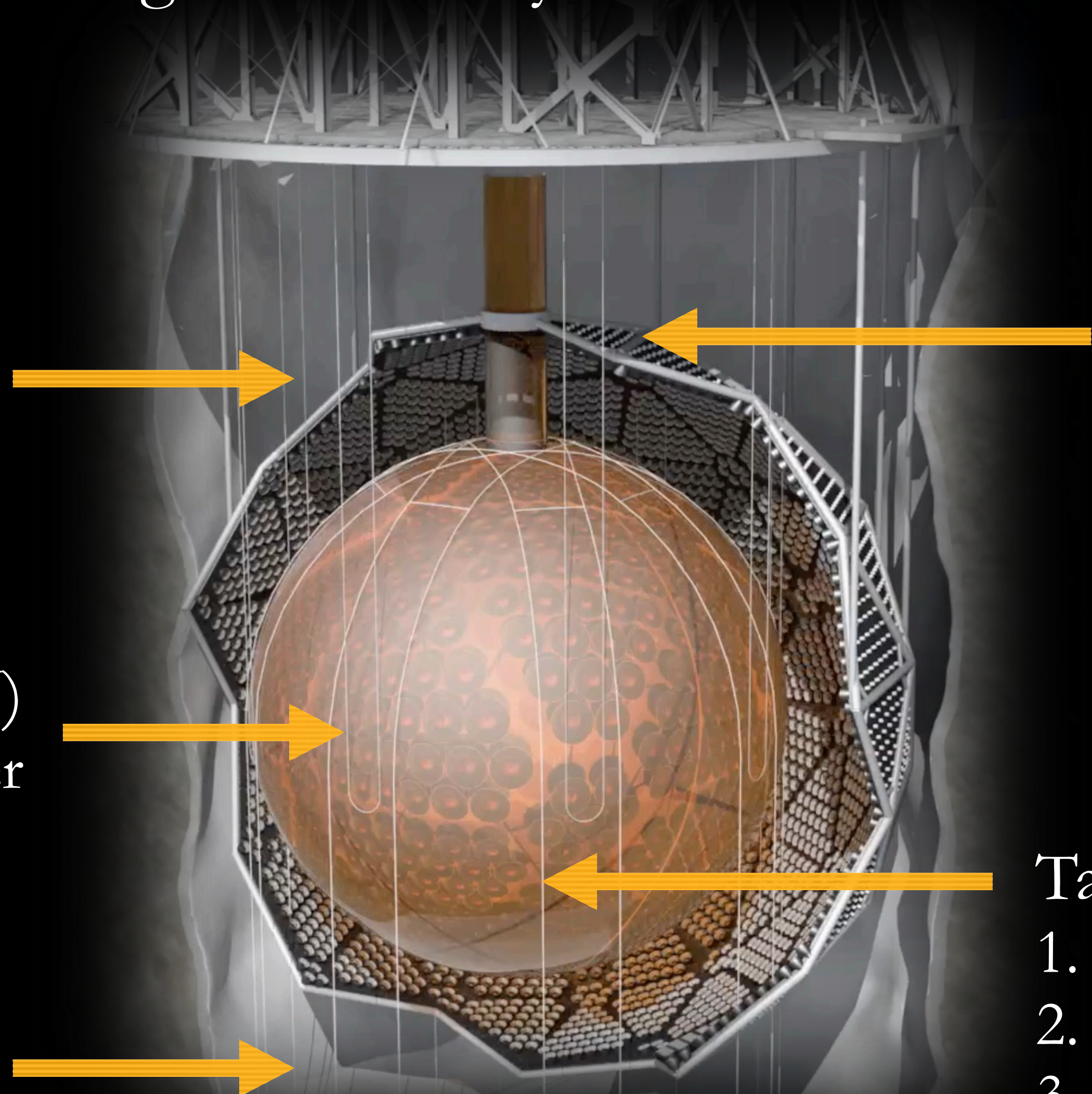
2 km underground  
~70 muons/day



Rope system  
Hold-up and -down  
Low Radioactivity

Acrylic Vessel (AV)  
12 m diameter

Ultra-Pure  
Water



~9300 PMTs

Target Material

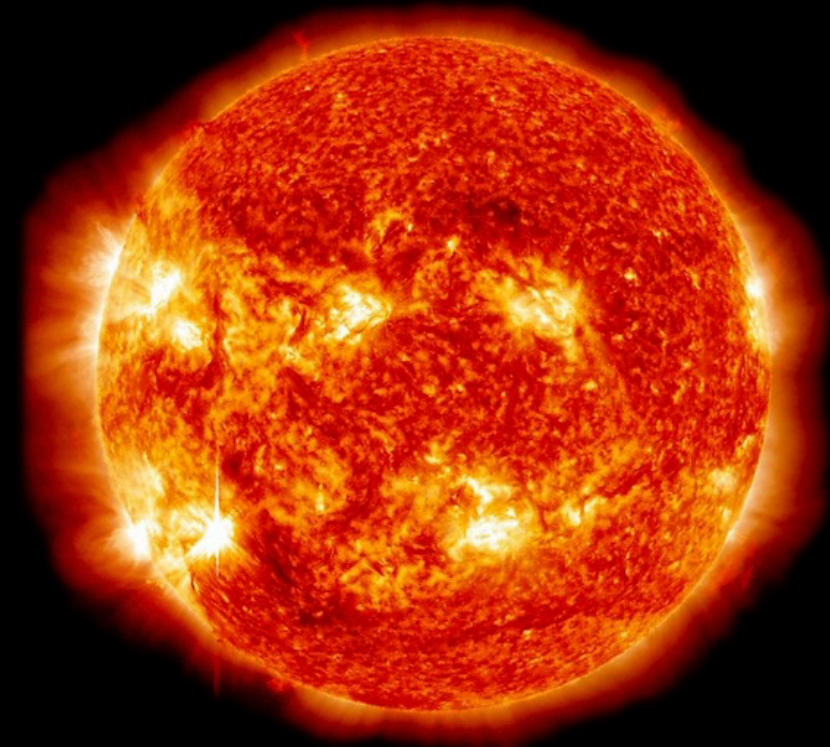
1. Water: 905 tonnes
2. LAB Scintillator: 780 tonnes
3. Tellurium loading: +3.9 tonnes



Purification plant

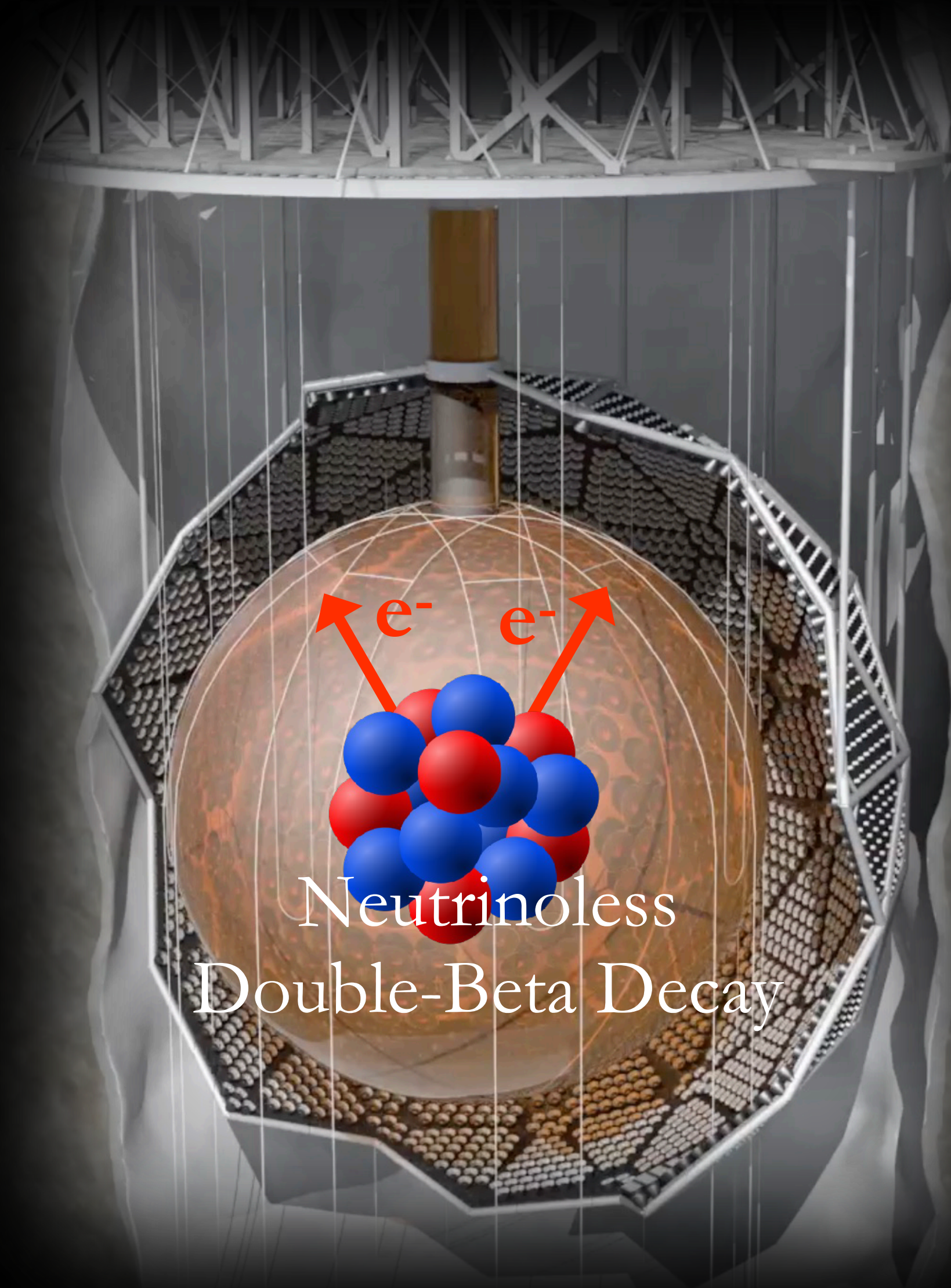


# THE SNO+ EXPERIMENT



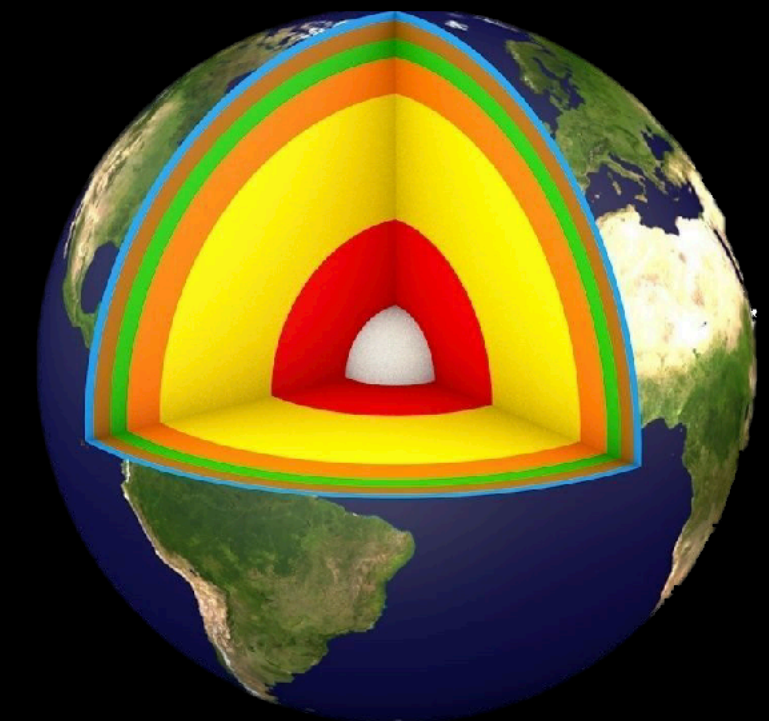
Solar Neutrinos

Reactor Neutrinos

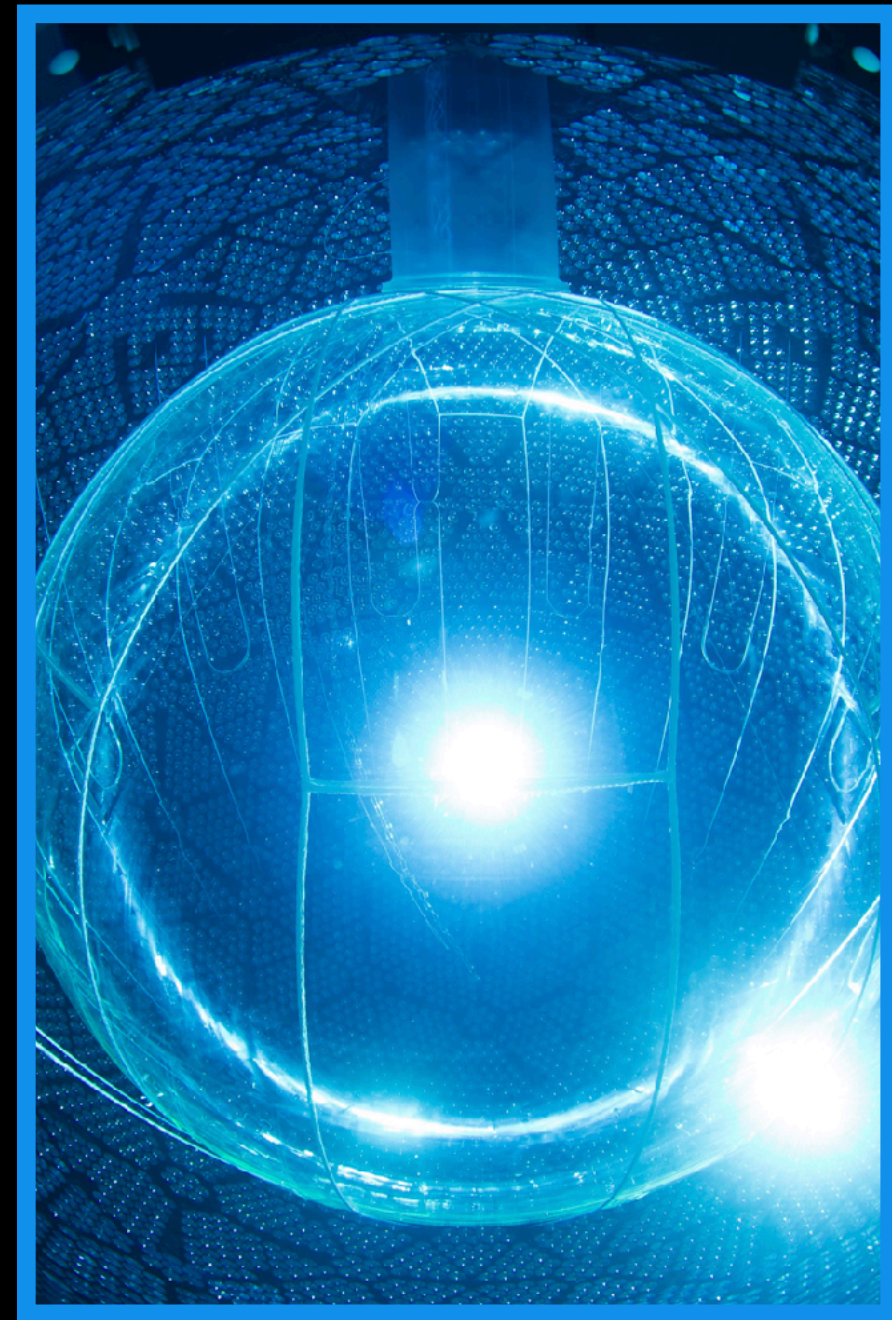


Supernova Neutrinos  
+ exotics

Geo-Neutrinos



# SNO+ TIMELINE



## Water phase

- High Rn
- Low Rn



## Partial fill phase

Scintillator over water.  
Stop in fill due to Covid.



## Scintillator phase

- Low PPO
- Nominal PPO
- Added bis-MSB

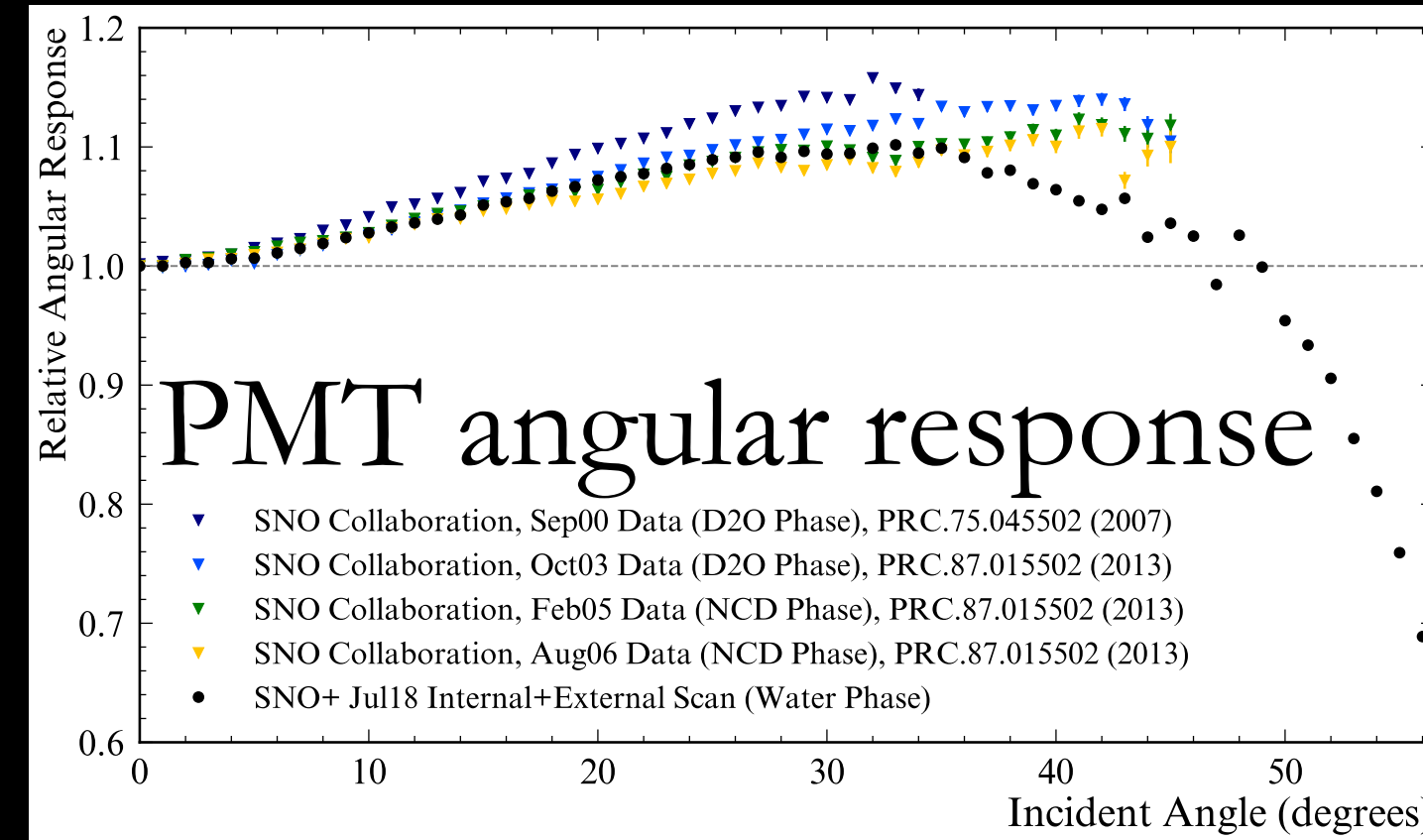


Next:  
Tellurium-  
loaded phase

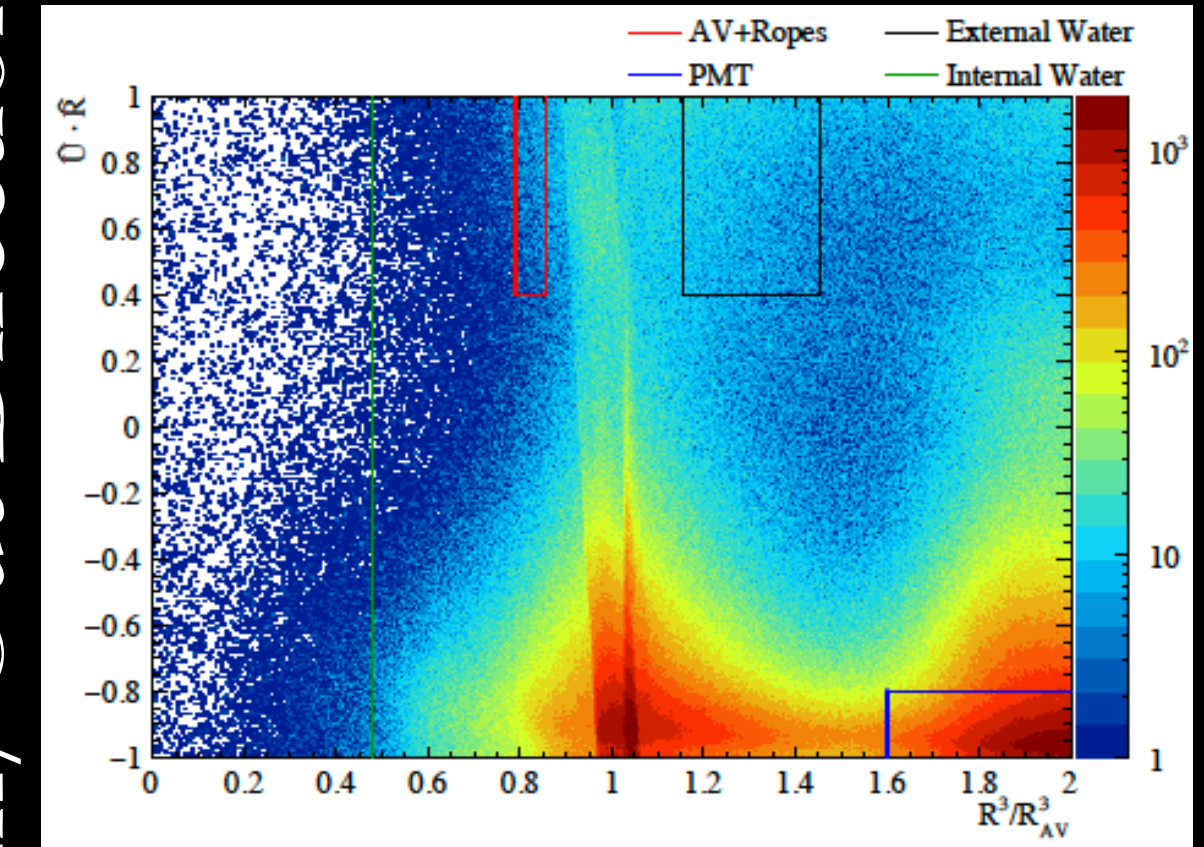
# SNO+ PERFORMANCE



- Water Phase
  - Extensive calibrations: well-tuned detector model
  - Constraints on external backgrounds: smaller than nominal

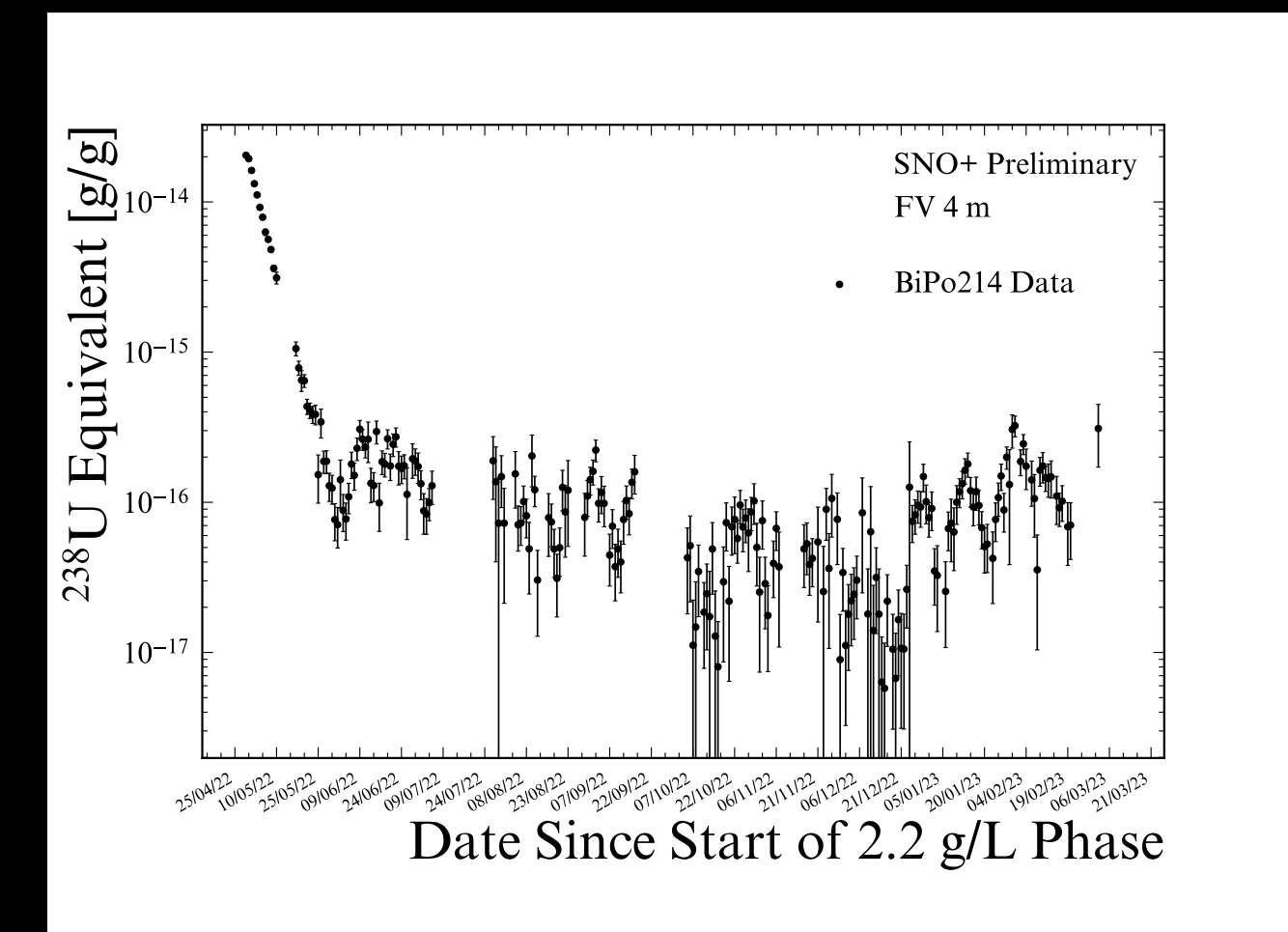
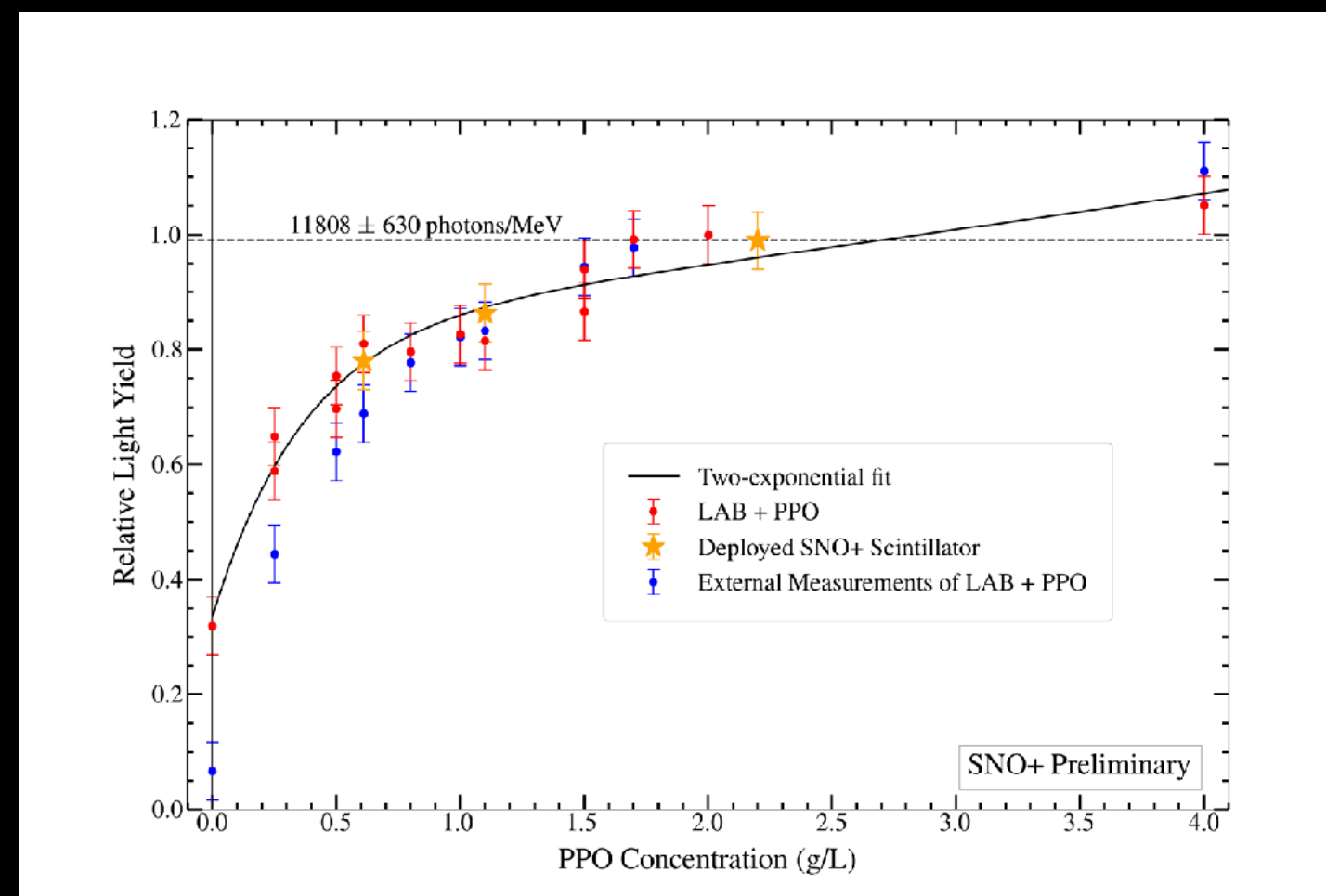


In/Out Direction



Radial Position

- Scintillator Phase
  - Tracking background and light levels throughout operations
  - High but decreasing level of Po210
  - BiPo214/212 segments of Uranium and Thorium chains at low level:

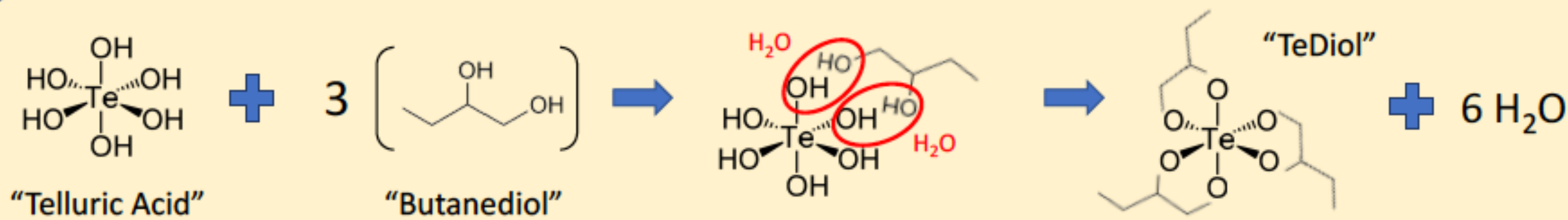


- Eq.  $^{238}\text{U} \sim 4.3 \times 10^{-17} \text{ g/g}$
- Eq.  $^{232}\text{Th} \sim 5.3 \times 10^{-17} \text{ g/g}$

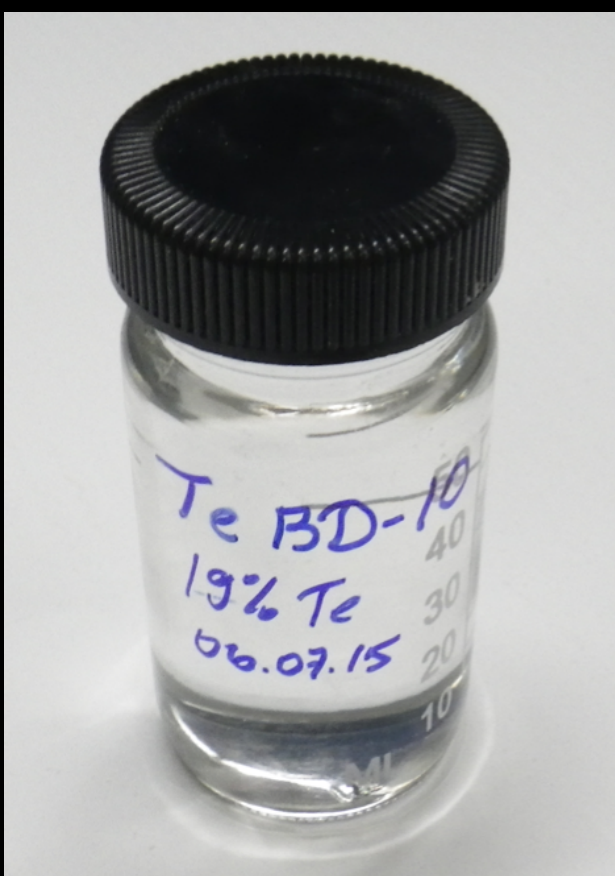
# SNO+ WITH TELLURIUM



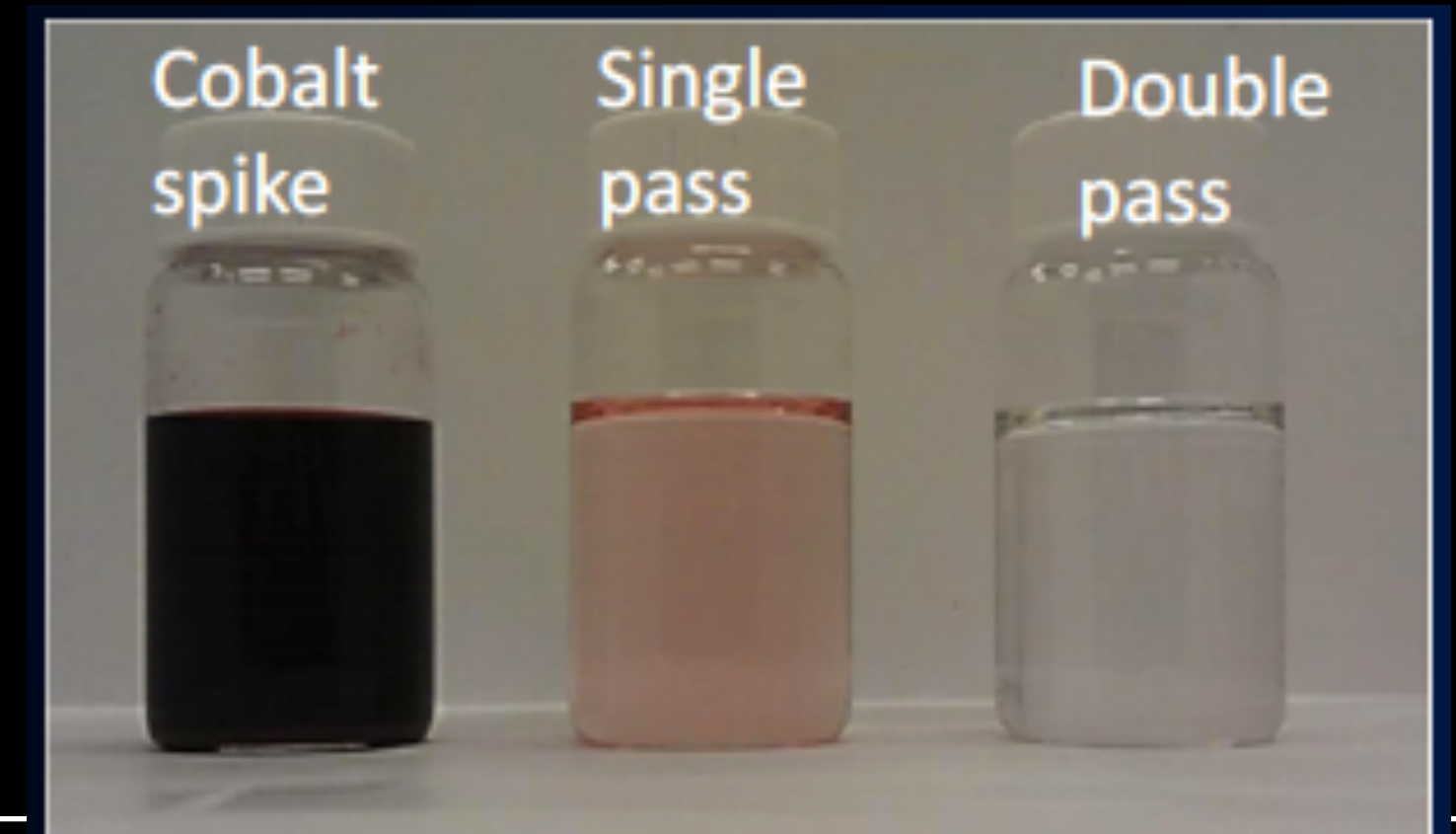
- Overall approach
  - Develop a way to load Tellurium in a large liquid scintillator detector
  - Highest abundance isotope -> high mass (1333kg of  $^{130}\text{Te}$  at 0.5% loading)
  - Scintillator purifiable, detector is large and can use fiducial volume -> low backgrounds!
- Chemical methods for purification and loading developed by SNO+



Tellurium-butenediol complex (TeBD) + water (evaporate after synthesis)



- TeBD very transparent and soluble in liquid scintillator. Expect 400 p.e./MeV
- Purification by dissolving Te acid in water and force recrystallization. Impurities stay in water.

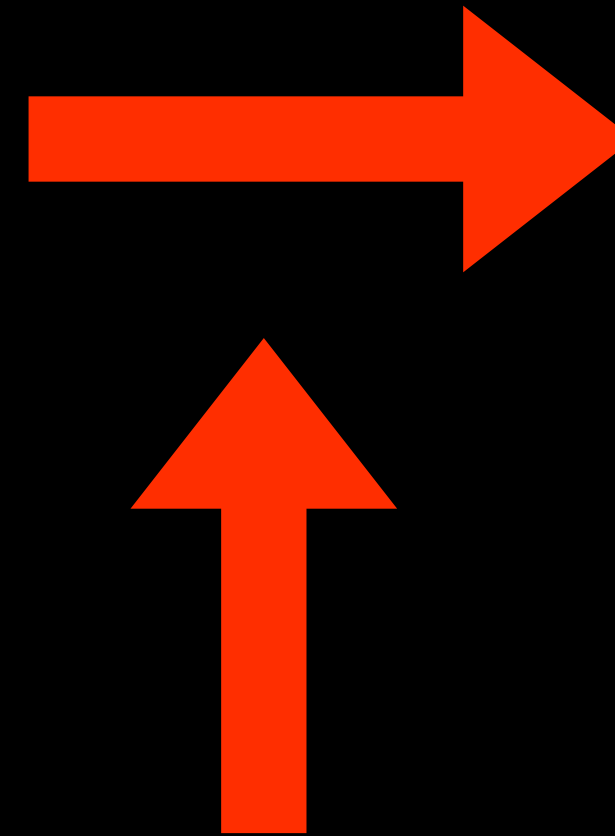
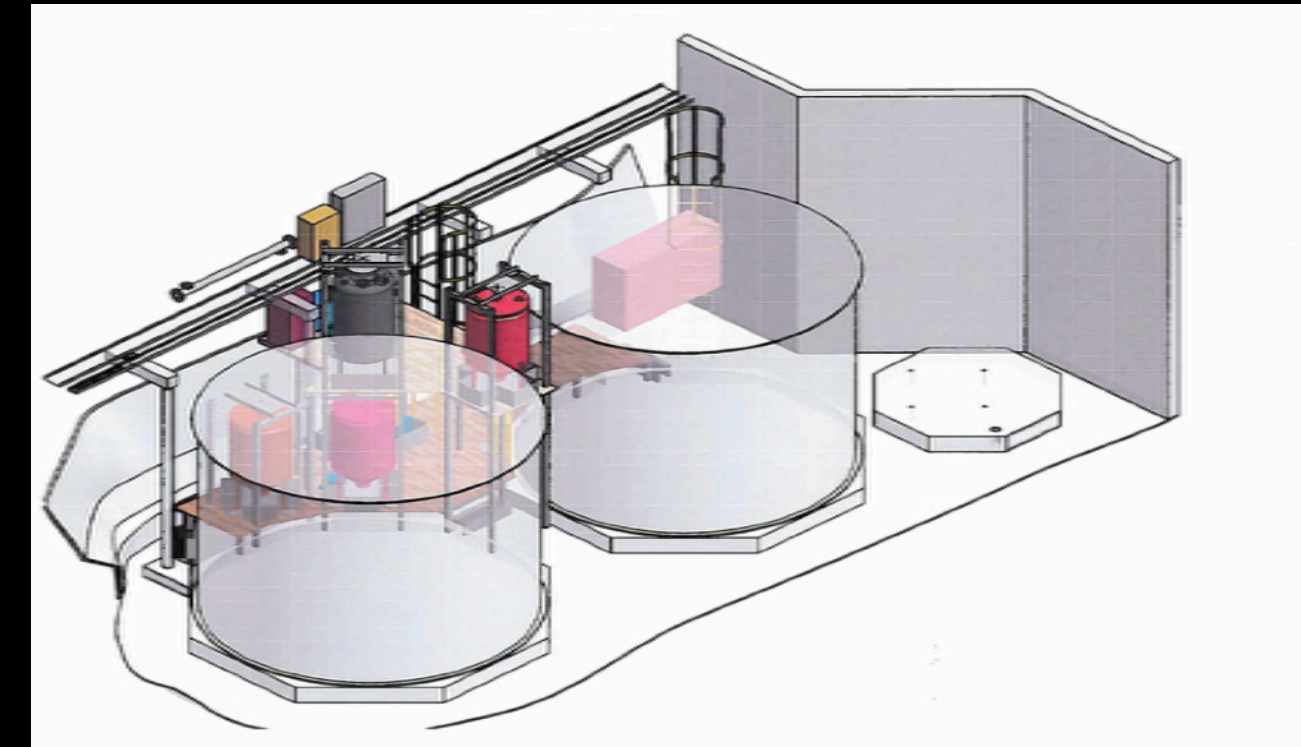
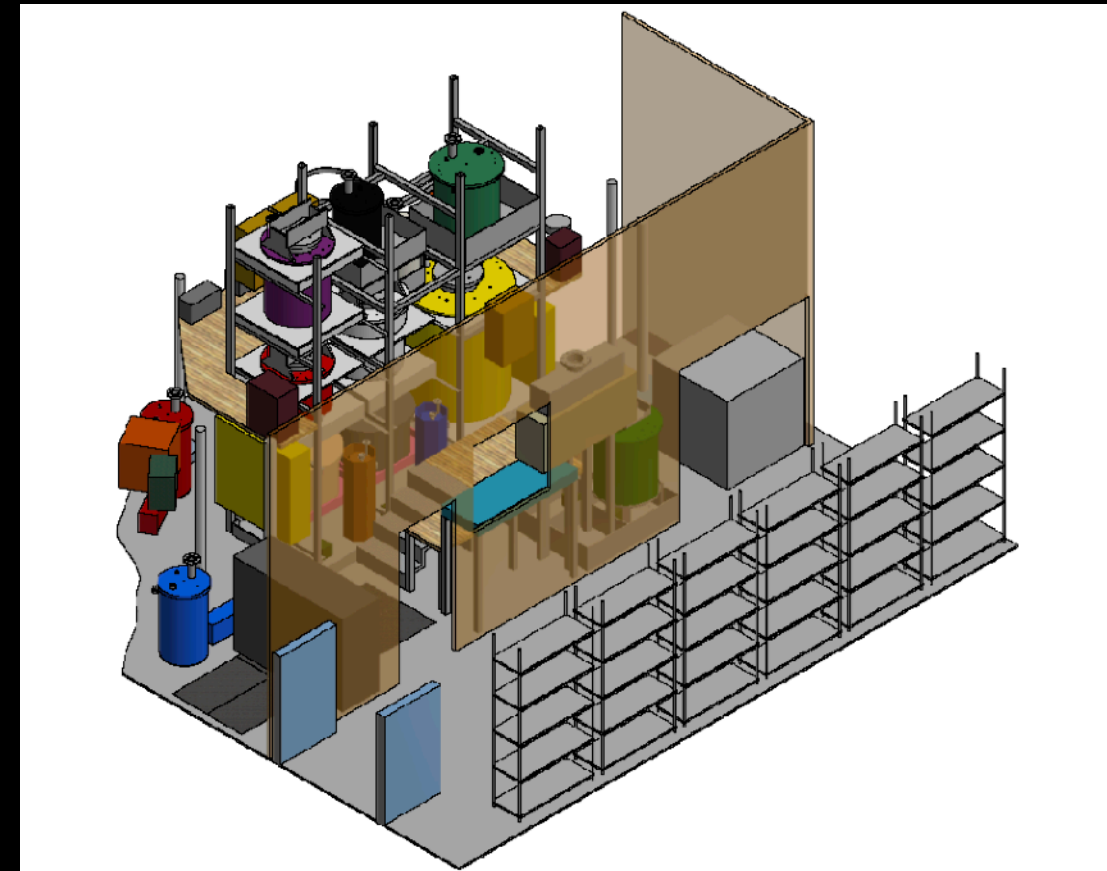


# TELLURIUM SYSTEMS



## Te acid purification (UG)

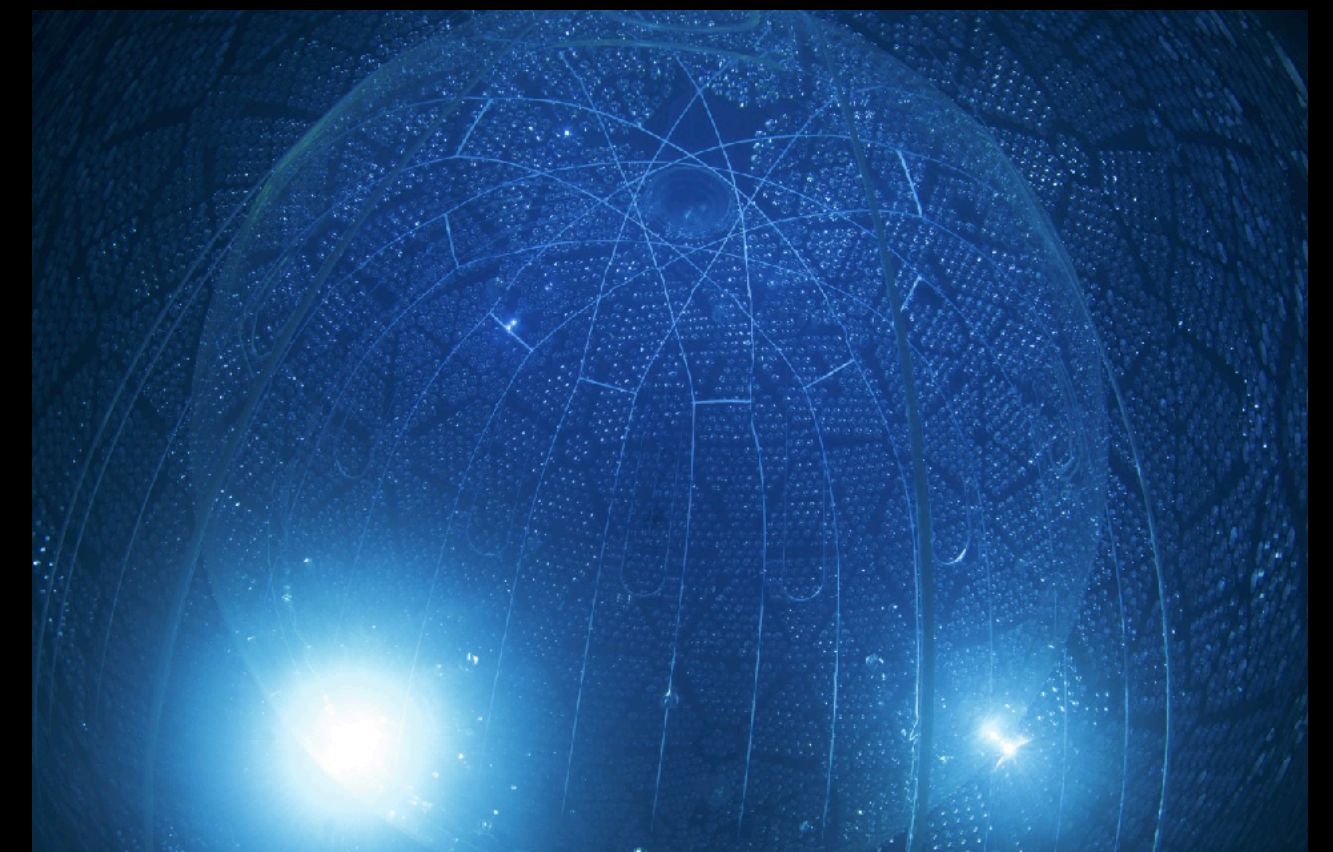
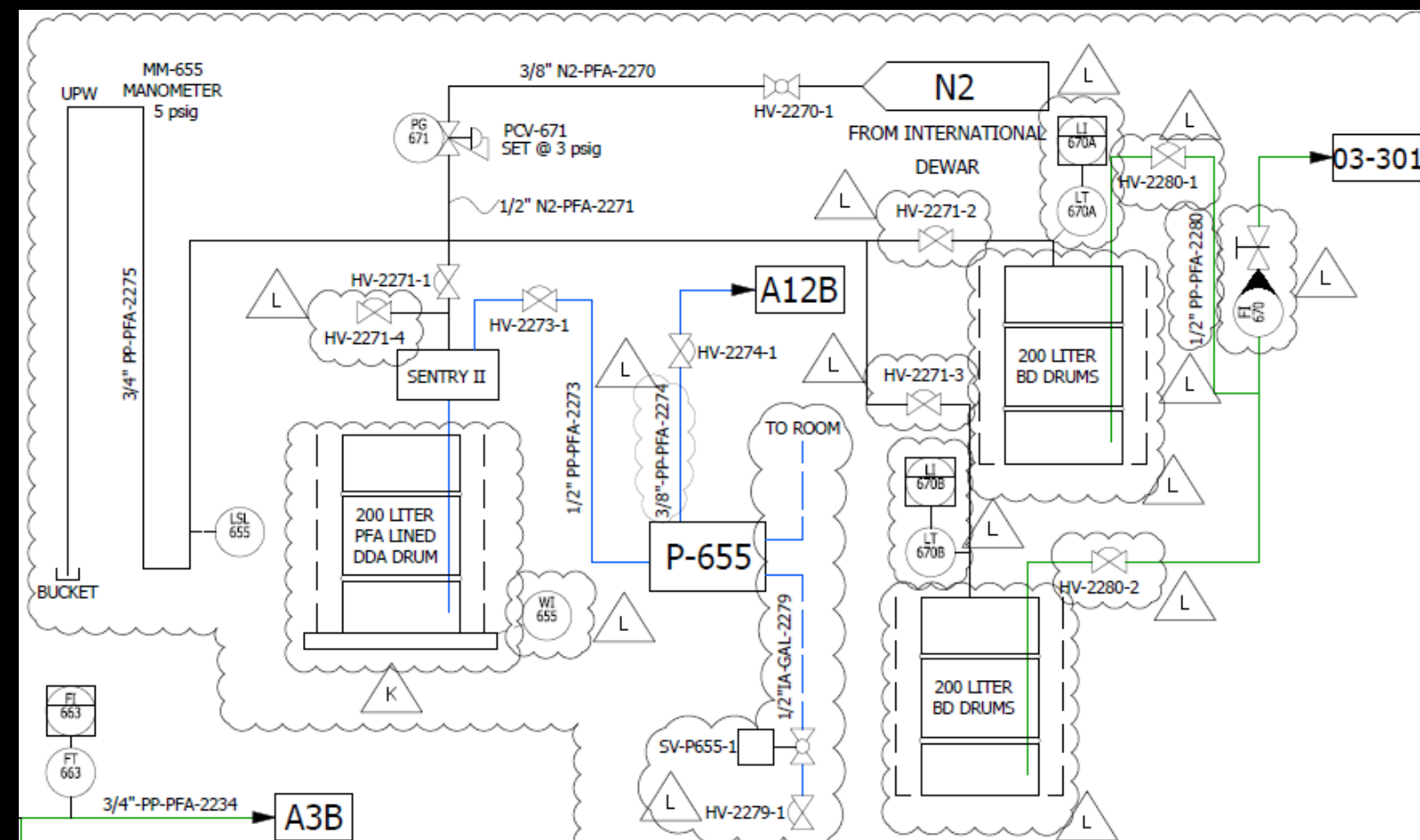
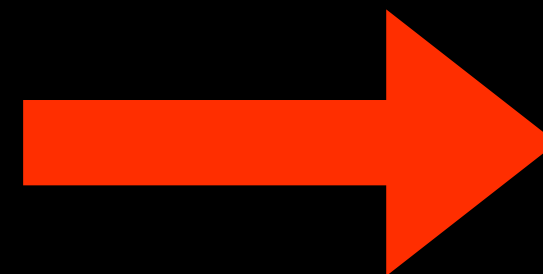
## Te diol synthesis (UG)



## DDA distillation (surface)

## DDA surface to UG transfer

AV



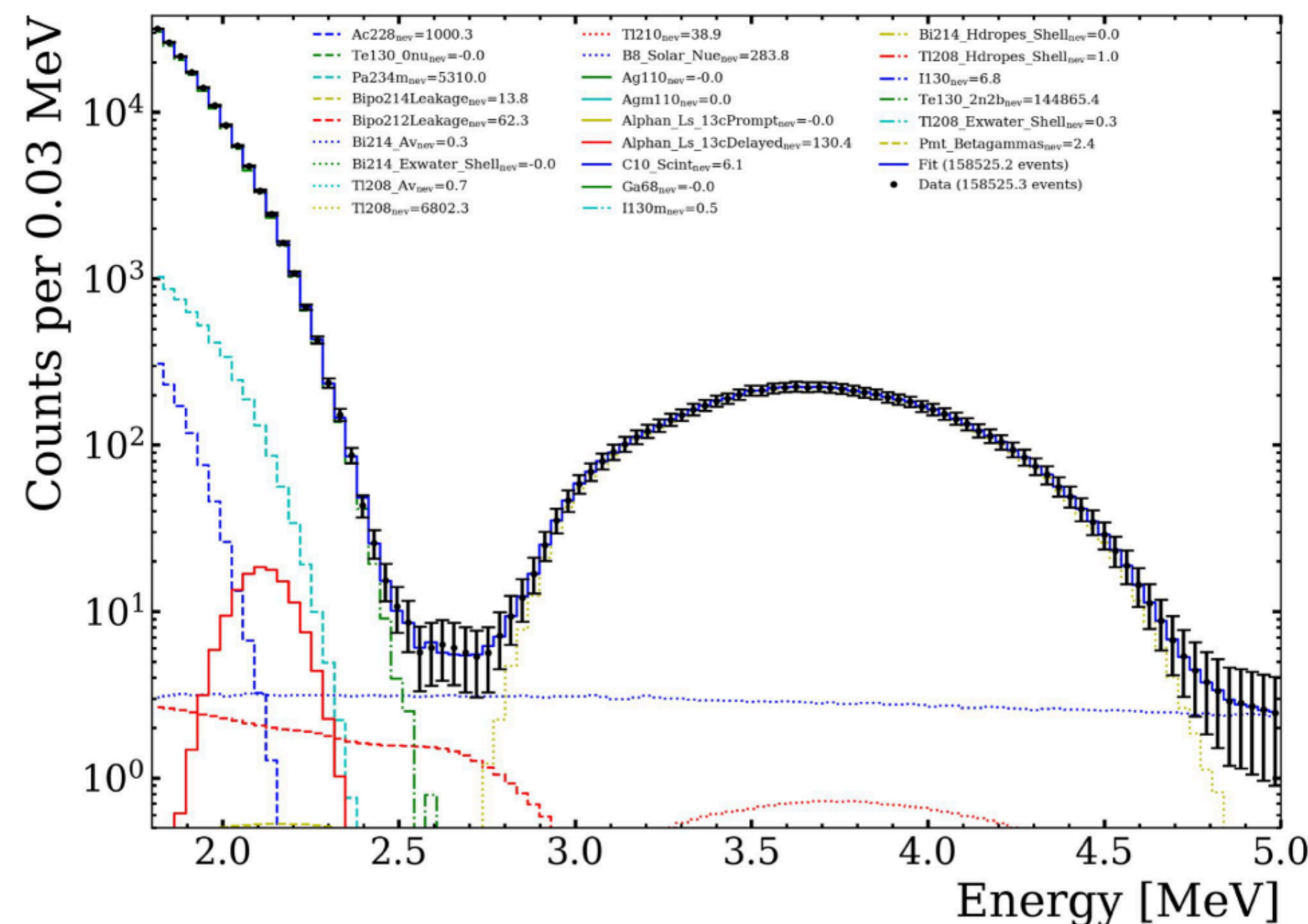
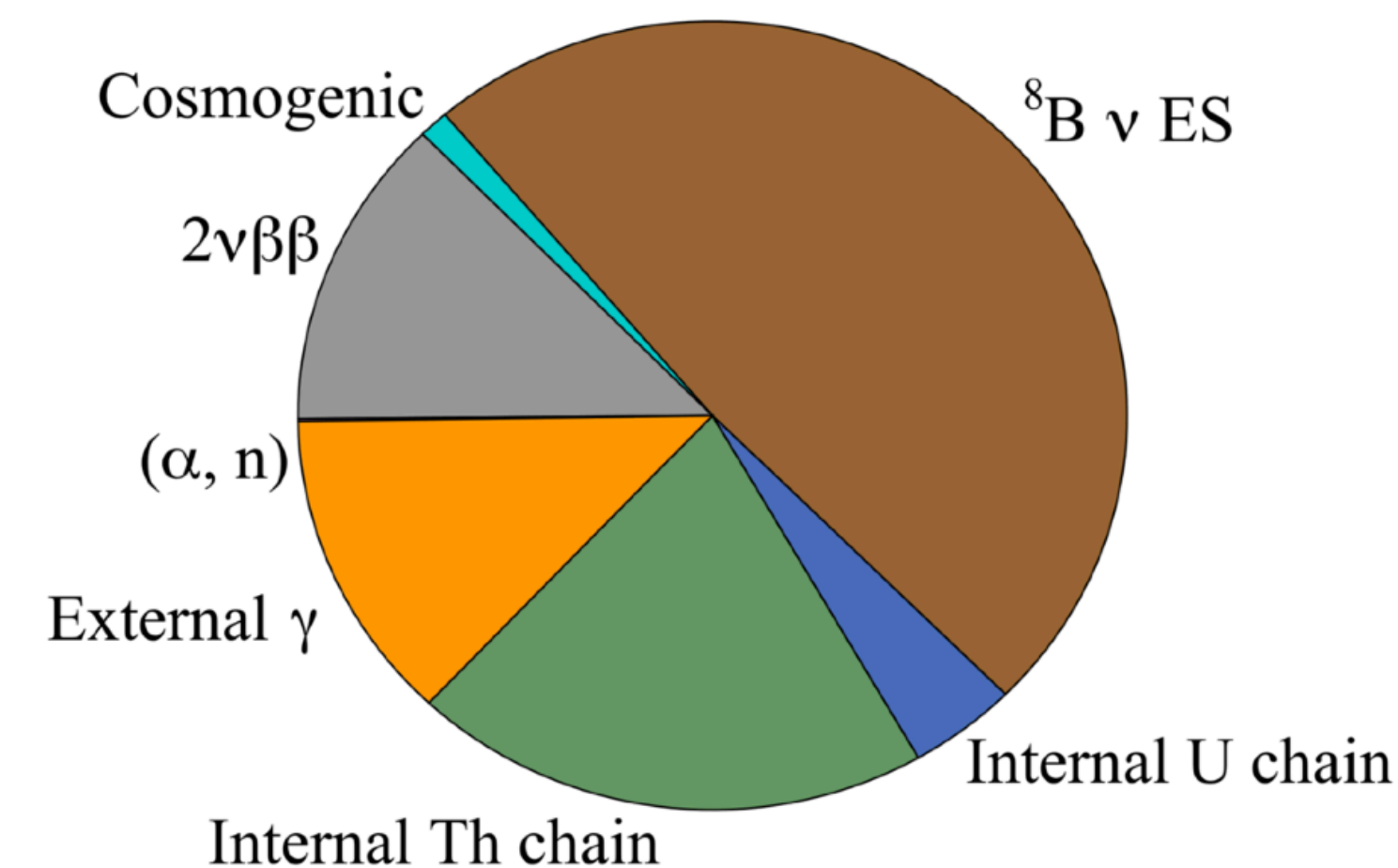
# SNO+ DBD SENSITIVITY



- Water phase constrained external backgrounds
- Scintillator phase constrained several internal backgrounds
- Other expectations based **conservatively** on raw purity and purification factors

initial 0.5% loading

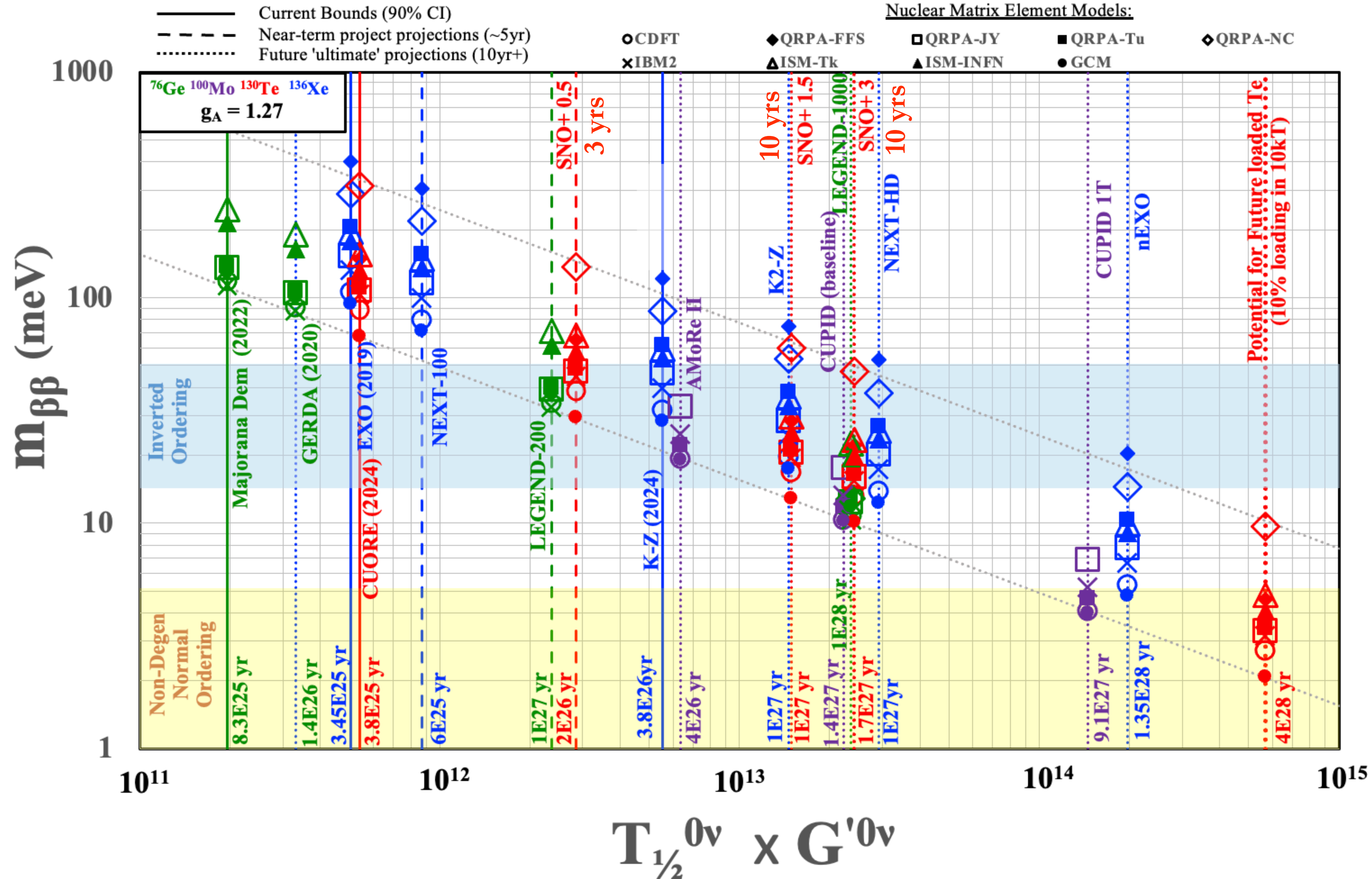
1.5% loading



$T_{1/2} > 2 \cdot 10^{26}$  yrs, 90% C.L. 3 yrs

$T_{1/2} > 5 \cdot 10^{26}$  yrs, 90% C.L., 5 yrs

# SNO+ IN CONTEXT



NEUTRINOS IN  
ASTROPHYSICS

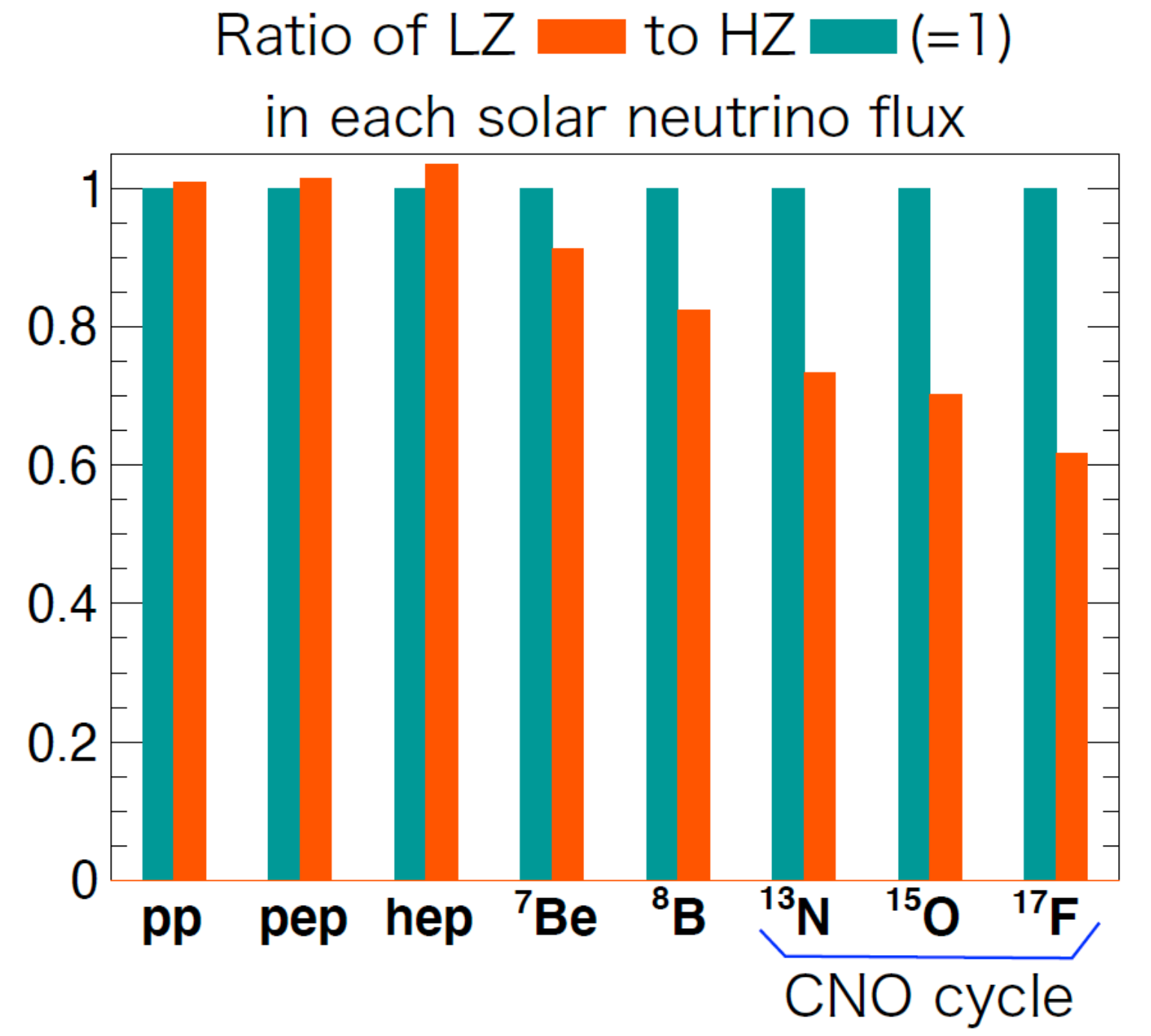
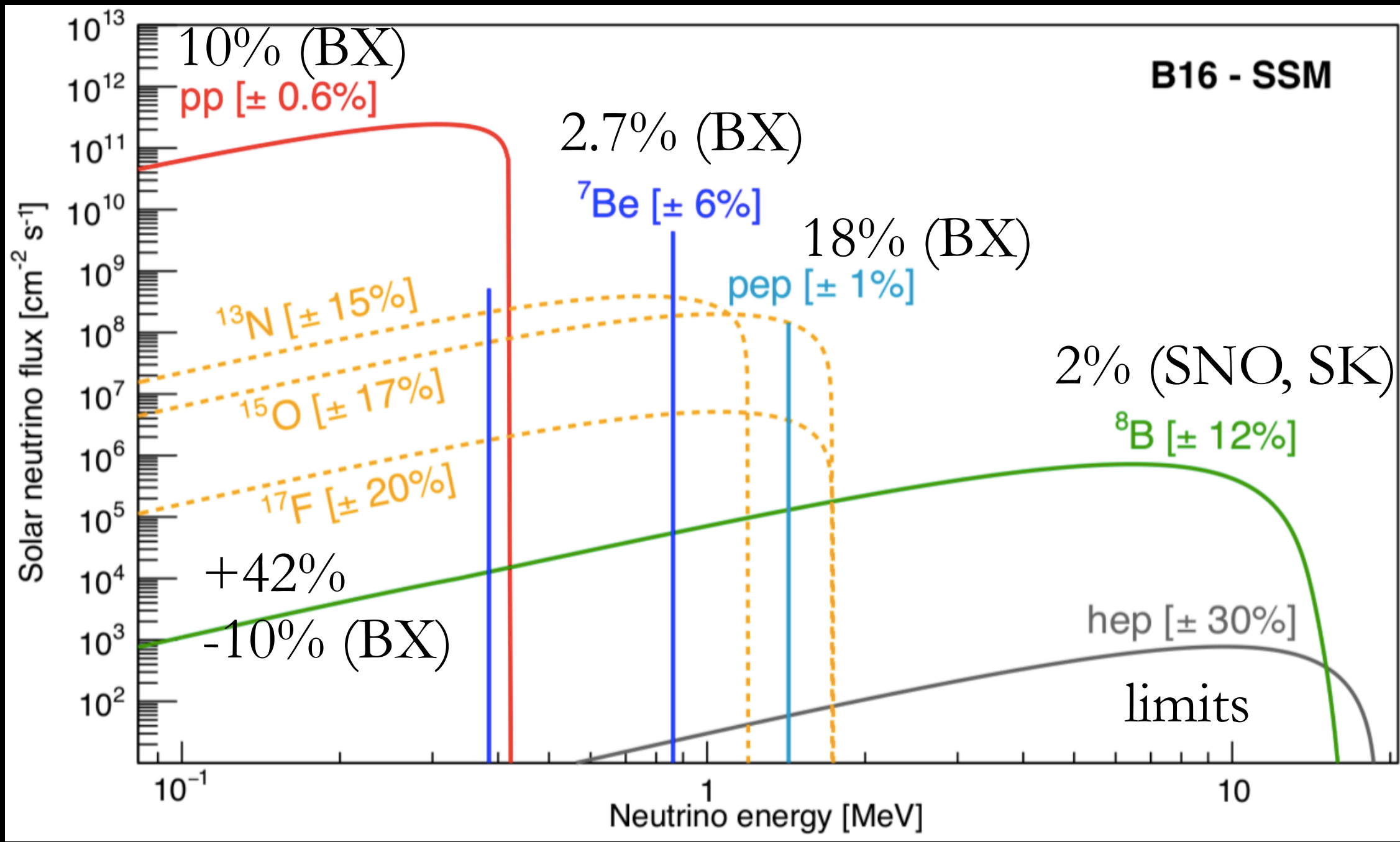
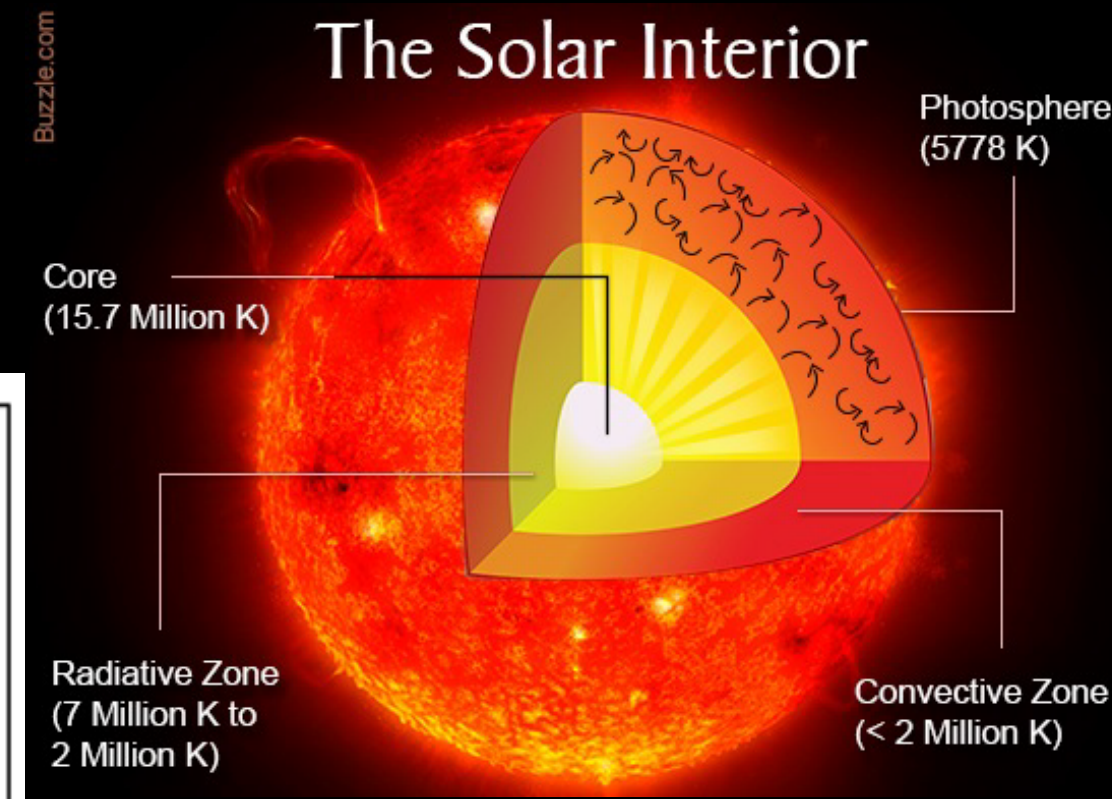
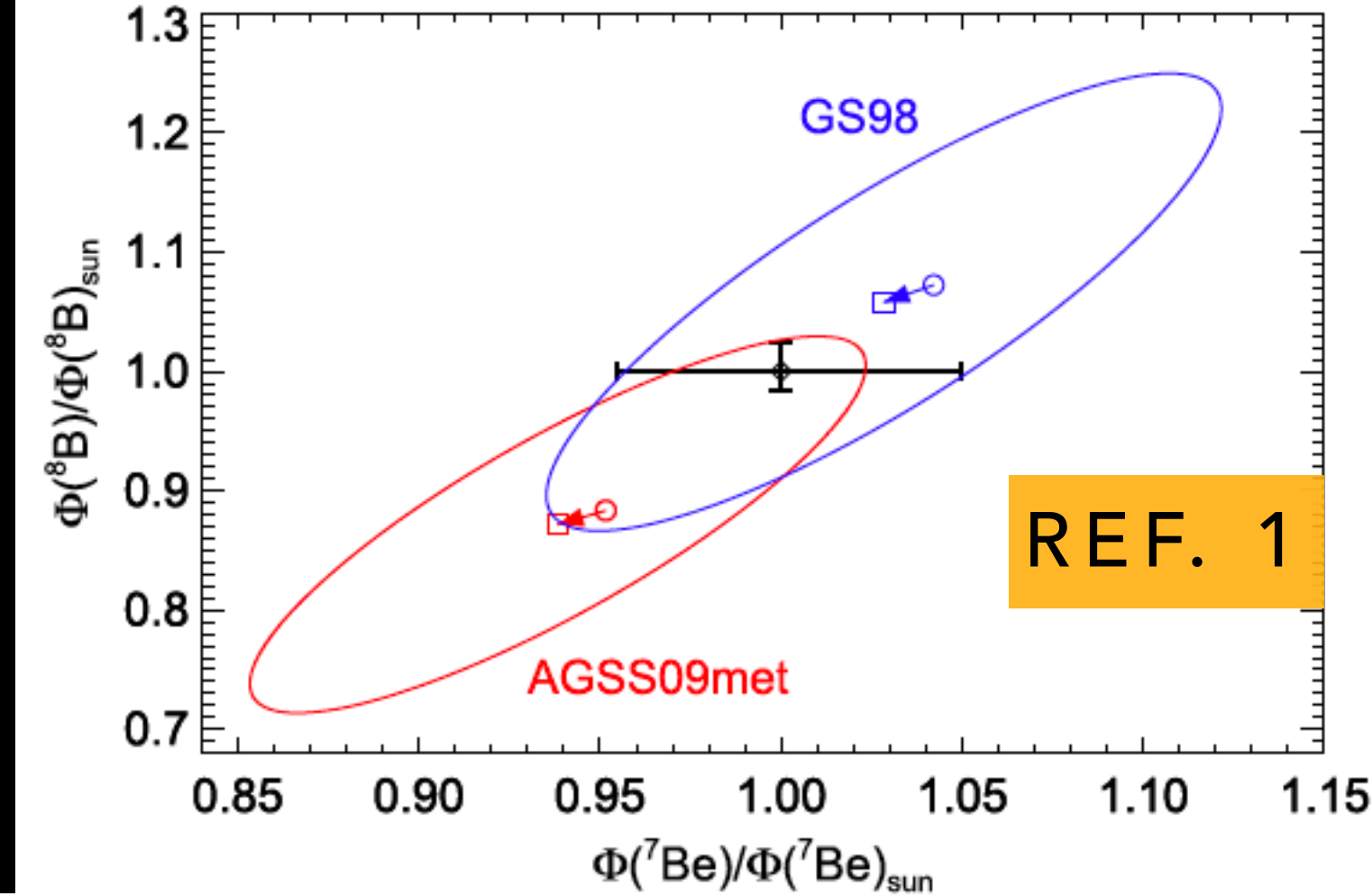


# SOLAR NEUTRINOS

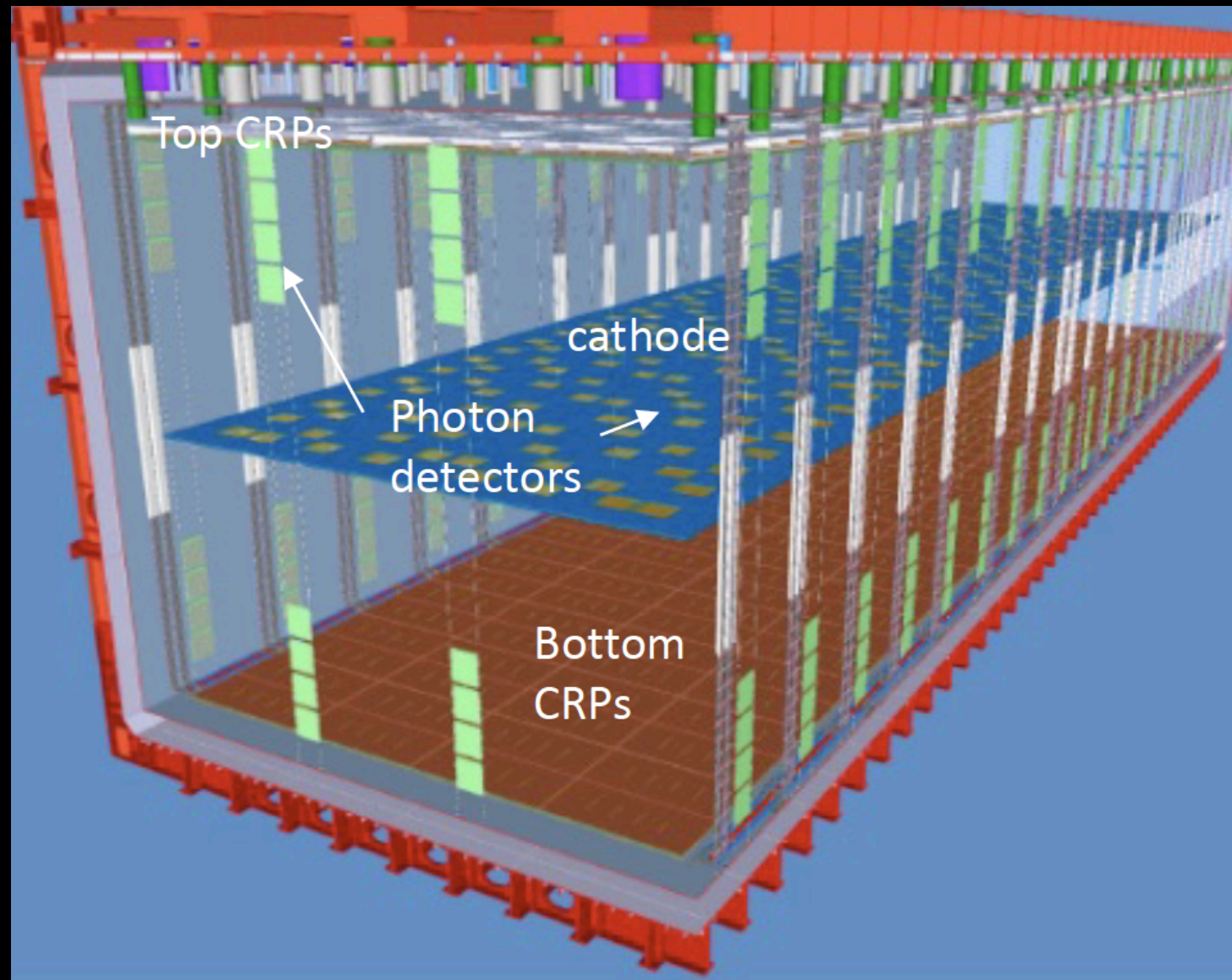
# NEUTRINOS AS A PROBE OF THE SUN



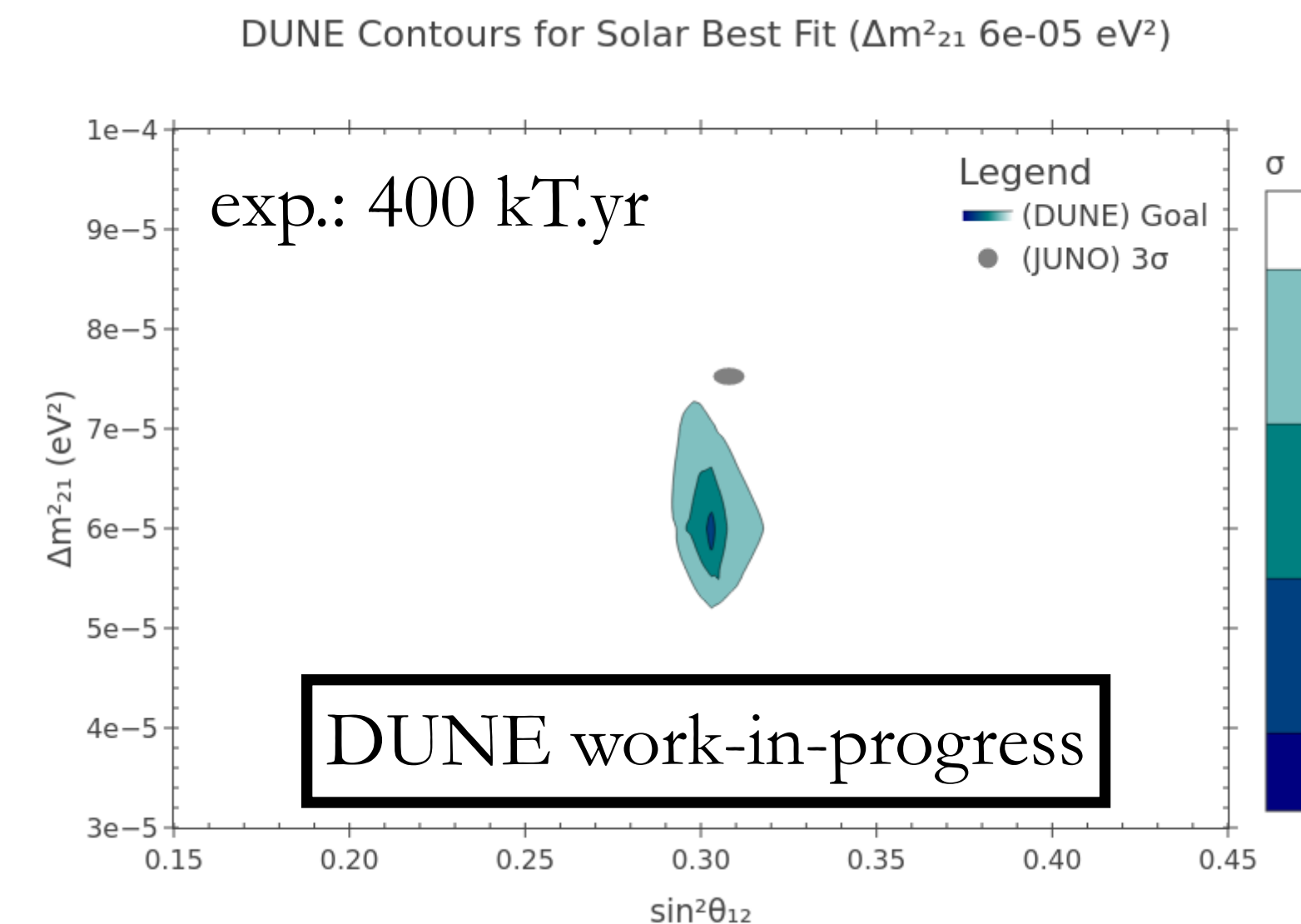
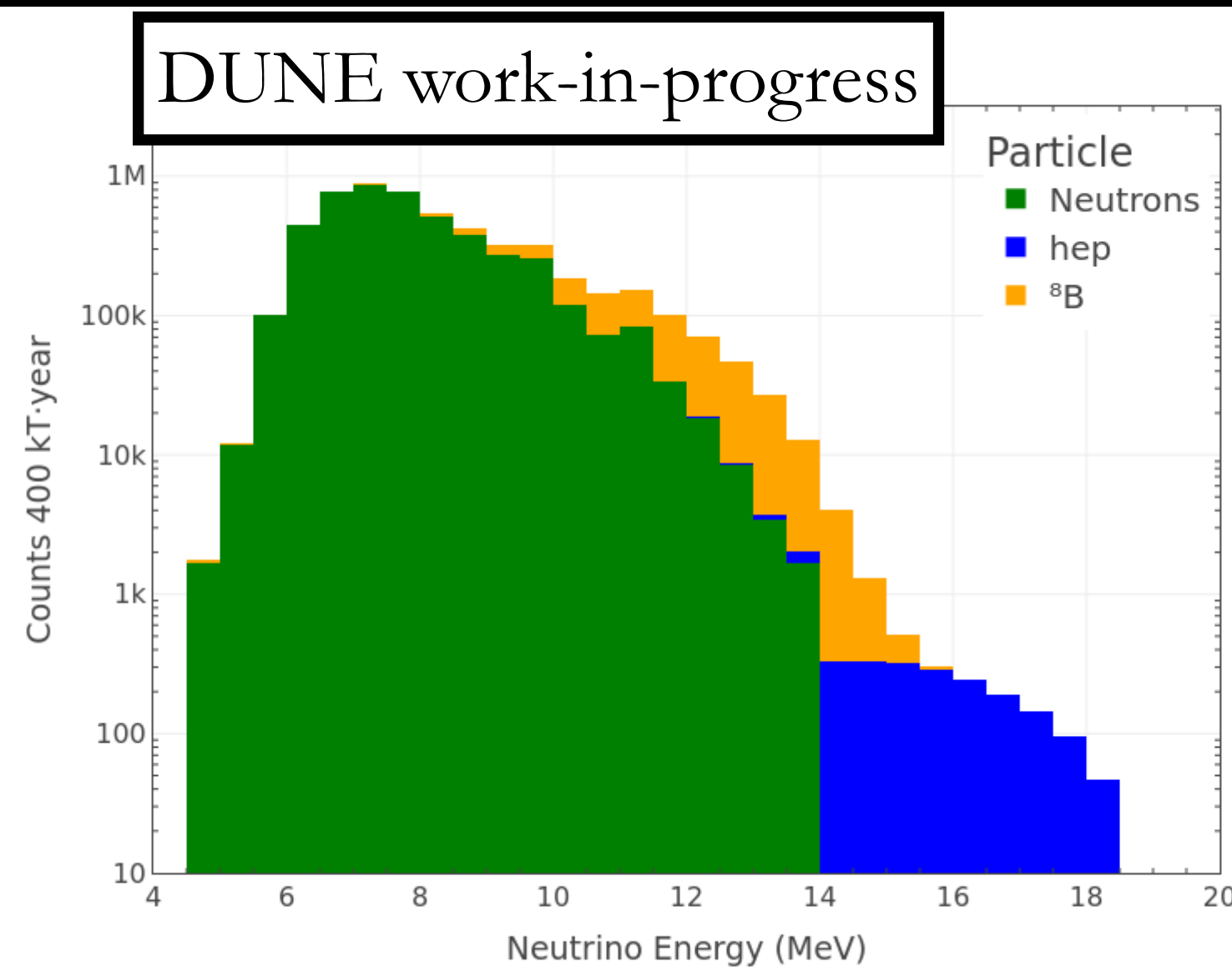
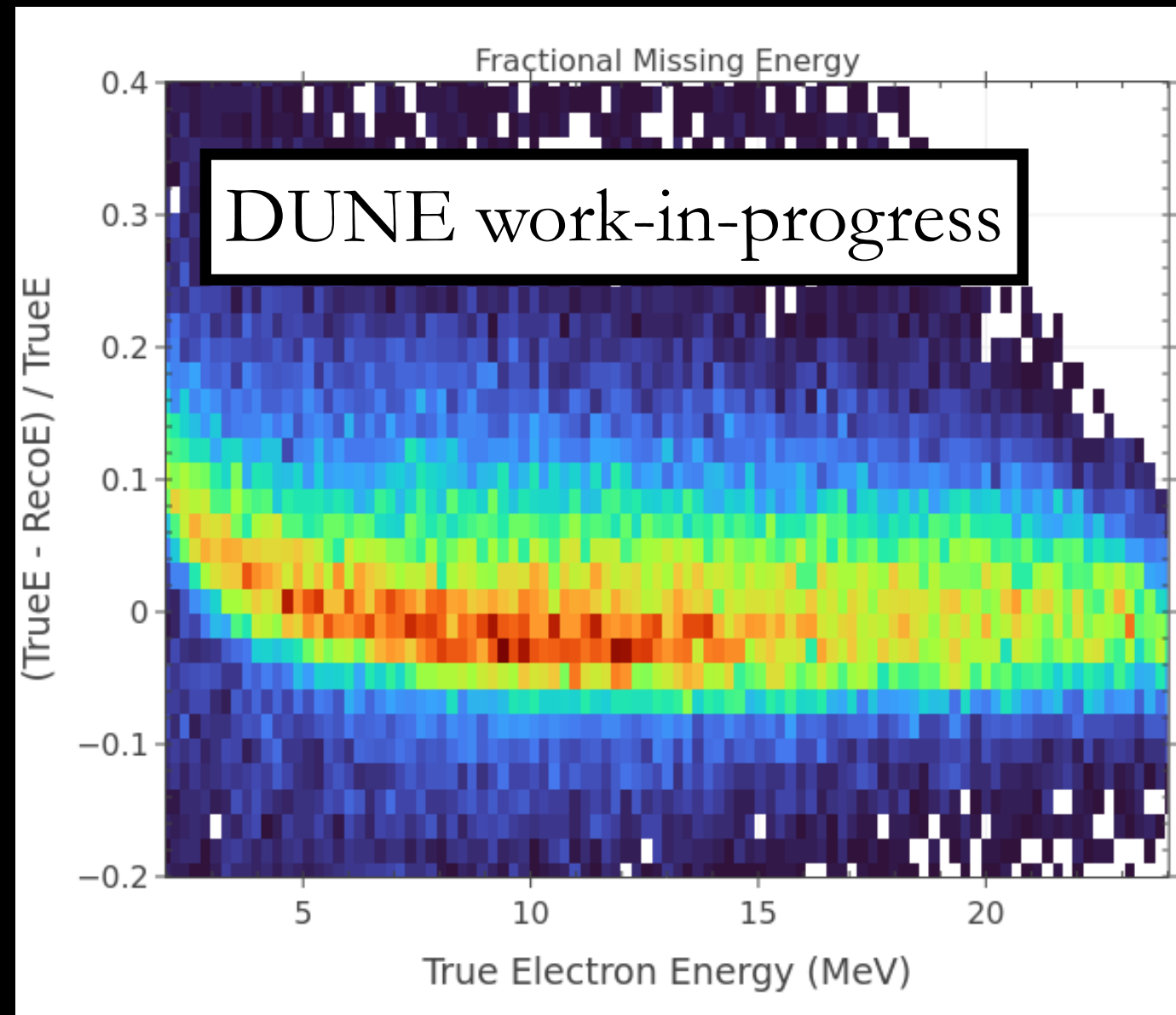
- Solar neutrino observations
  - Sun burns via pp chain (99%), CNO cycle (1%) ✓
  - Sun's composition still uncertain. Two classes of solar models high or low metallicity Z [abundances X: H, Y: He, Z: Li, ...]
  - High Z favored by helioseismology



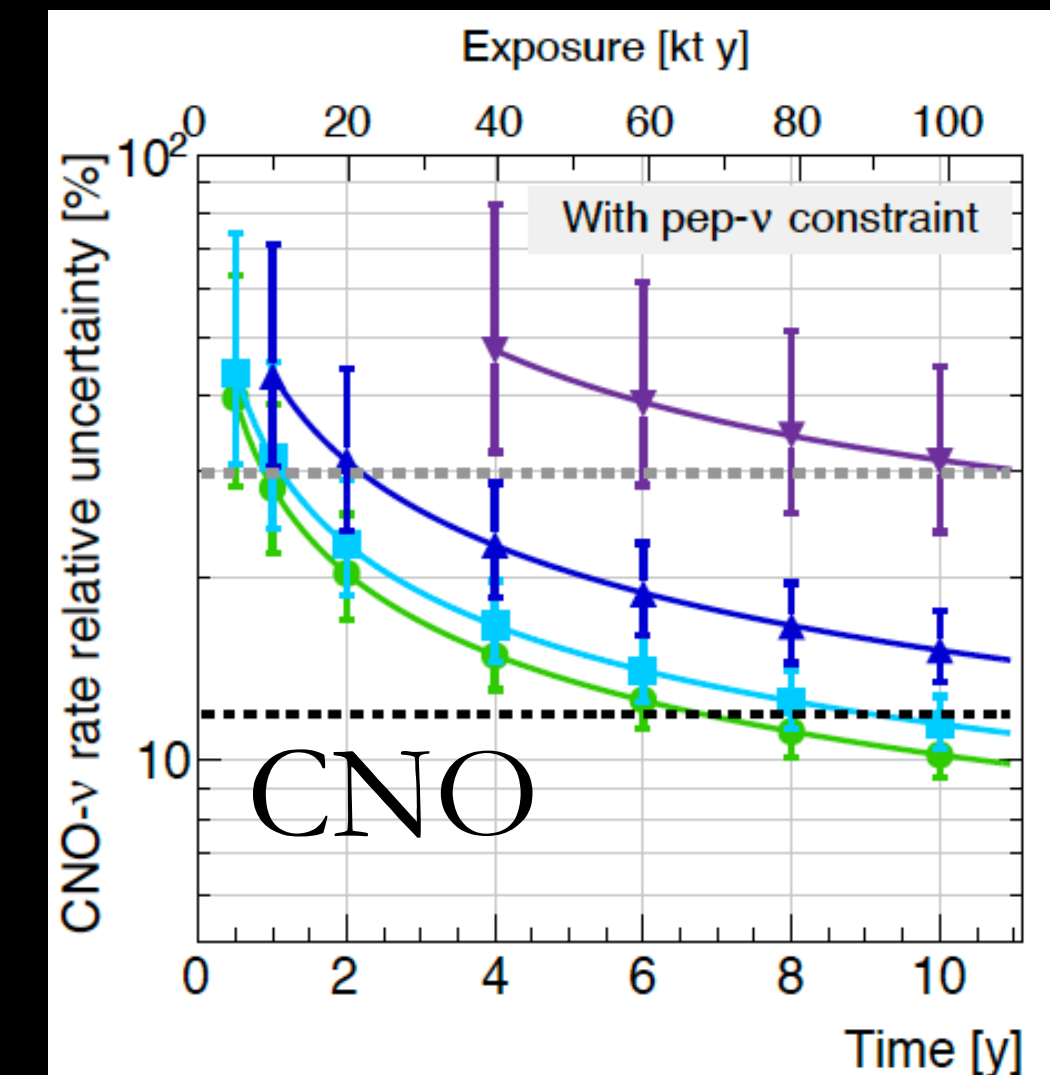
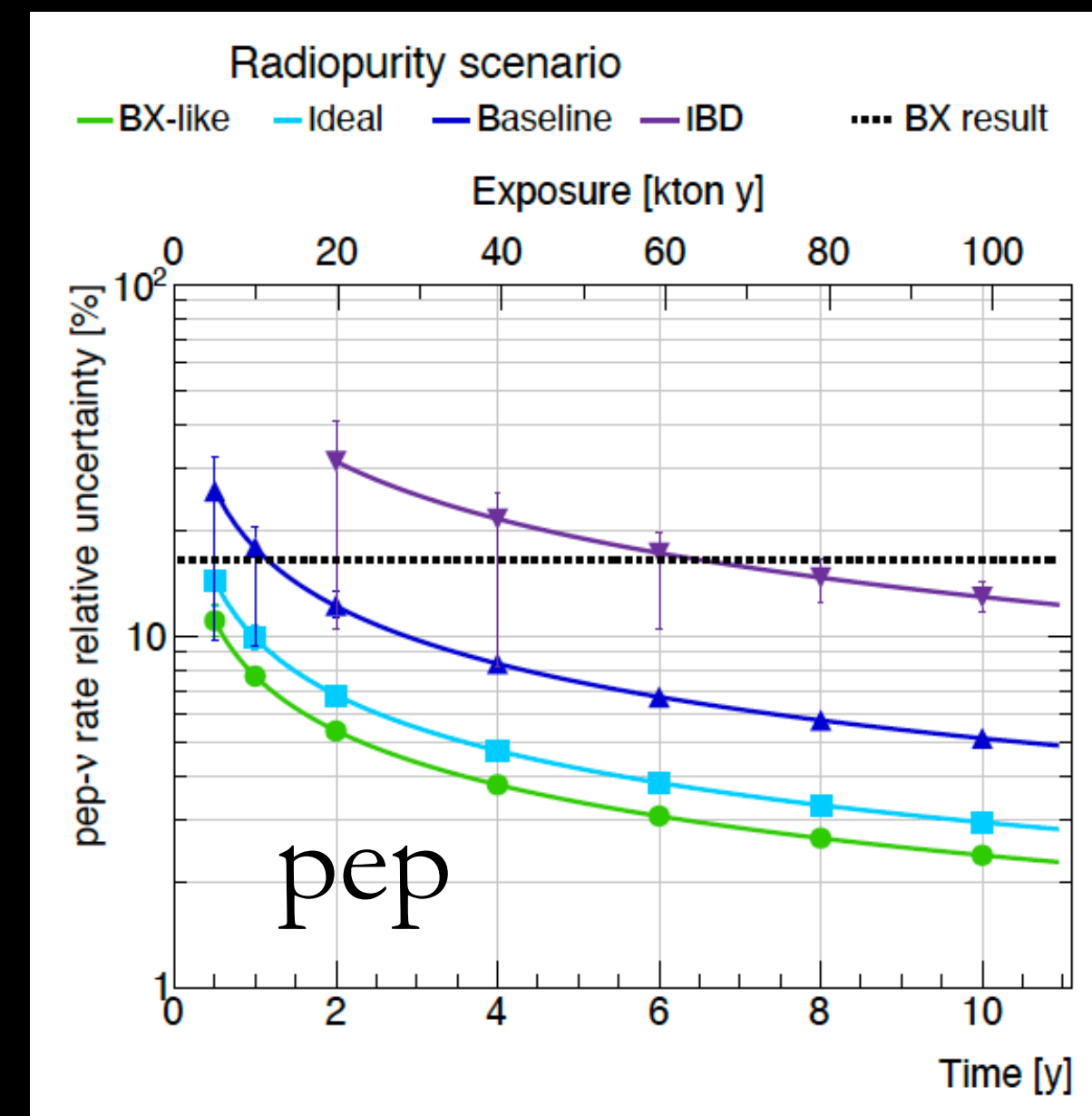
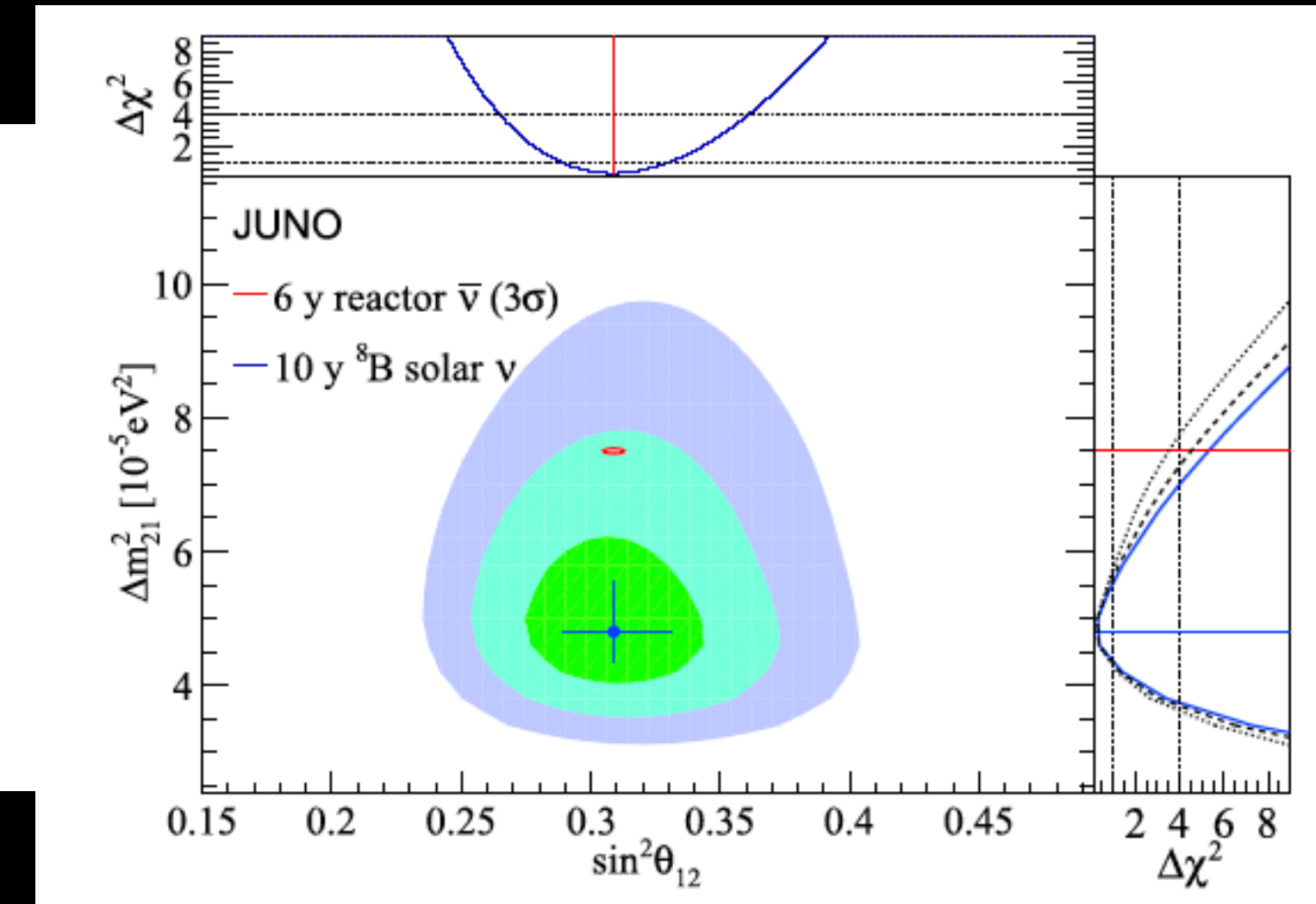
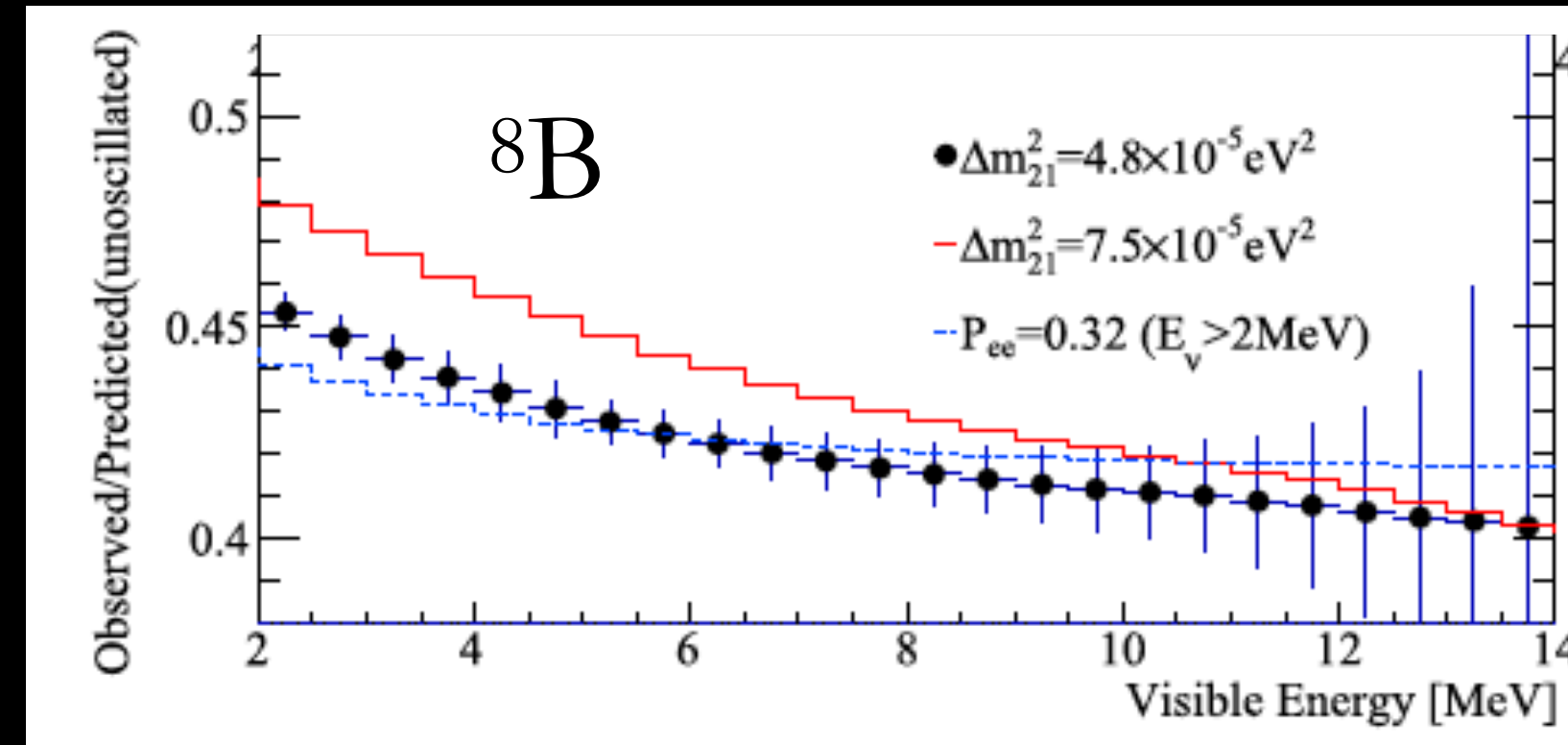
- Questions ?
- HZ or LZ ?
  - time variations/ correlations with solar events ?
  - still missing hep flux



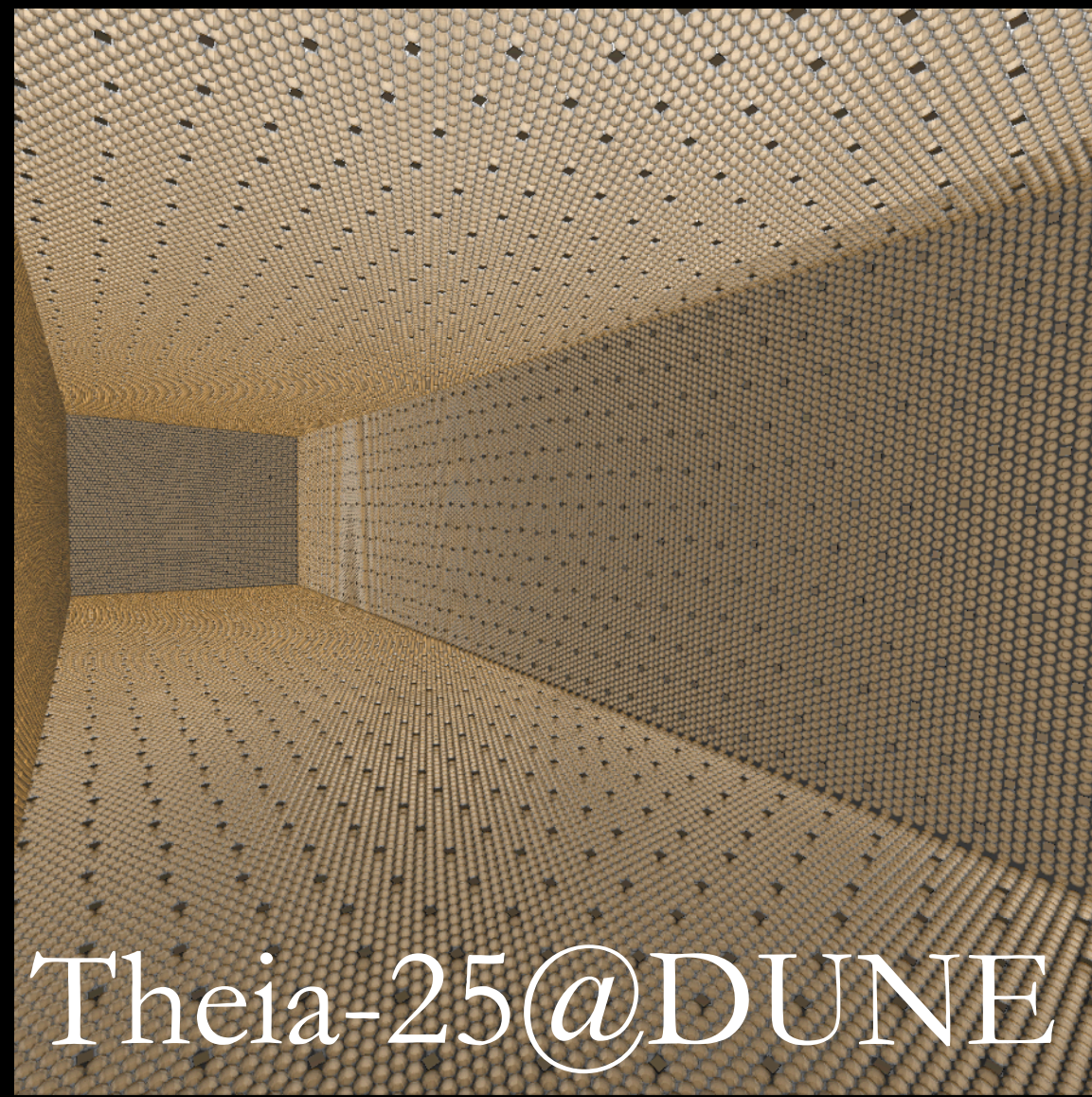
- Phase-I, starting 2029
  - Two largest LAr TPCs ever built:  $\sim 27$  kton active vol. (comb.)
  - Recent progress in low energy reconstruction:  $\sim 16\%$  resolution
  - High  ${}^8\text{B}$  stats  $\rightarrow 3\sigma$  solar/reactor  $\Delta m_{21}^2$  discrimination
  - High x-section on Ar, kinematics favorable for **hep discovery**
- Phase-II
  - very active R&D to improve LE performance



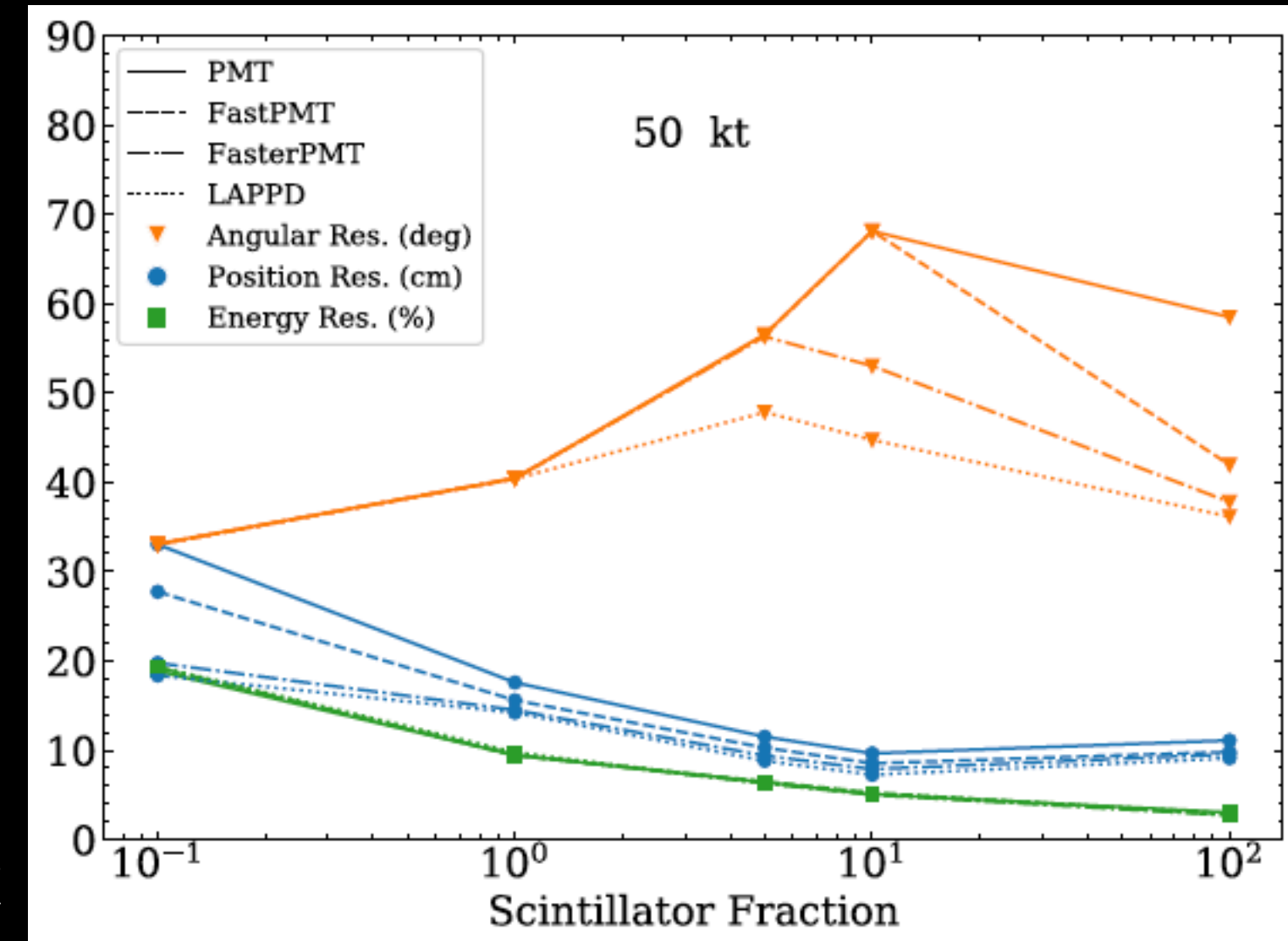
- Low energy  $^8\text{B}$  spectral measurement (+ day-night), constraining upturn and oscillation parameters
- $^7\text{Be}$  rate  $< 1\%$
- pep rate  $< 10\%$
- CNO similar to Borexino (not accurate enough for metallicity)



# THEIA

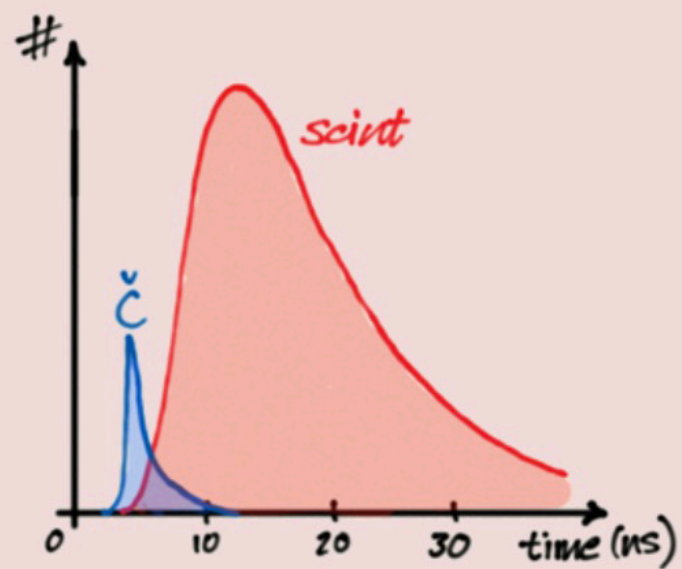


- Hybrid Cherenkov+scintillation detection combines high light yield and directionality
- R&D on Cherenkov/scintillation separation: fast sensors, slow scintillator, dichroicon (ANNIE, EOS, BUTTON)
- Targeting precision CNO and sensitive probe of vacuum/matter transition region.  
Directionality provides powerful discriminant



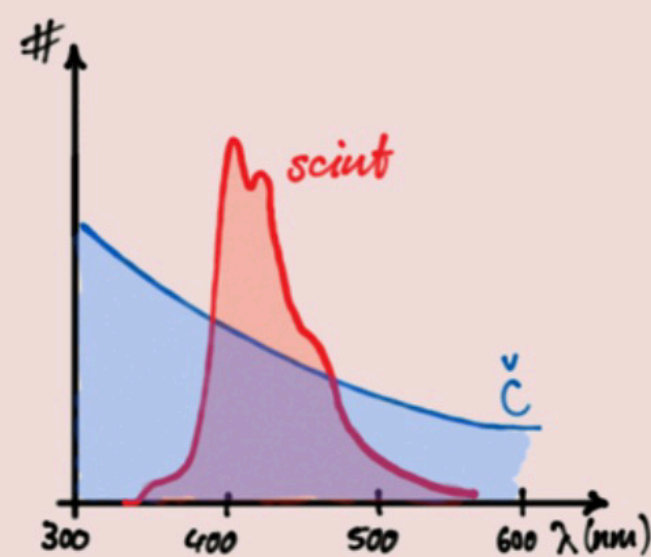
## Timing

“instantaneous chertons” vs. delayed “scintons”  
→ ns resolution or better



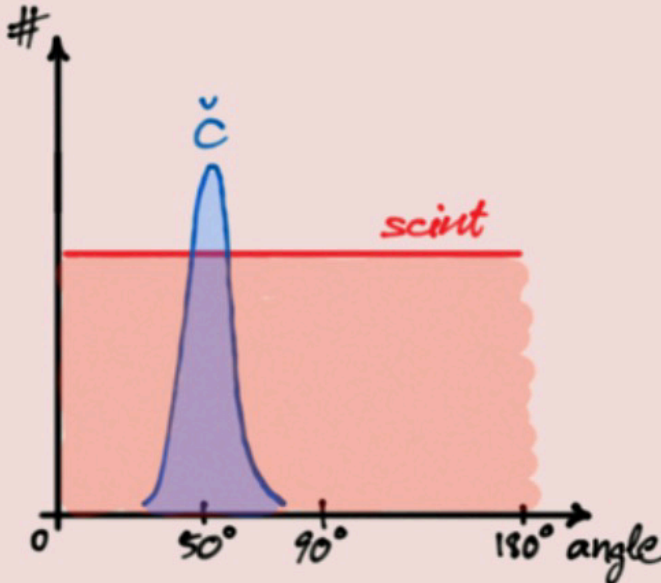
## Spectrum

UV/blue scintillation vs. blue/green Cherenkov  
→ wavelength-sensitivity

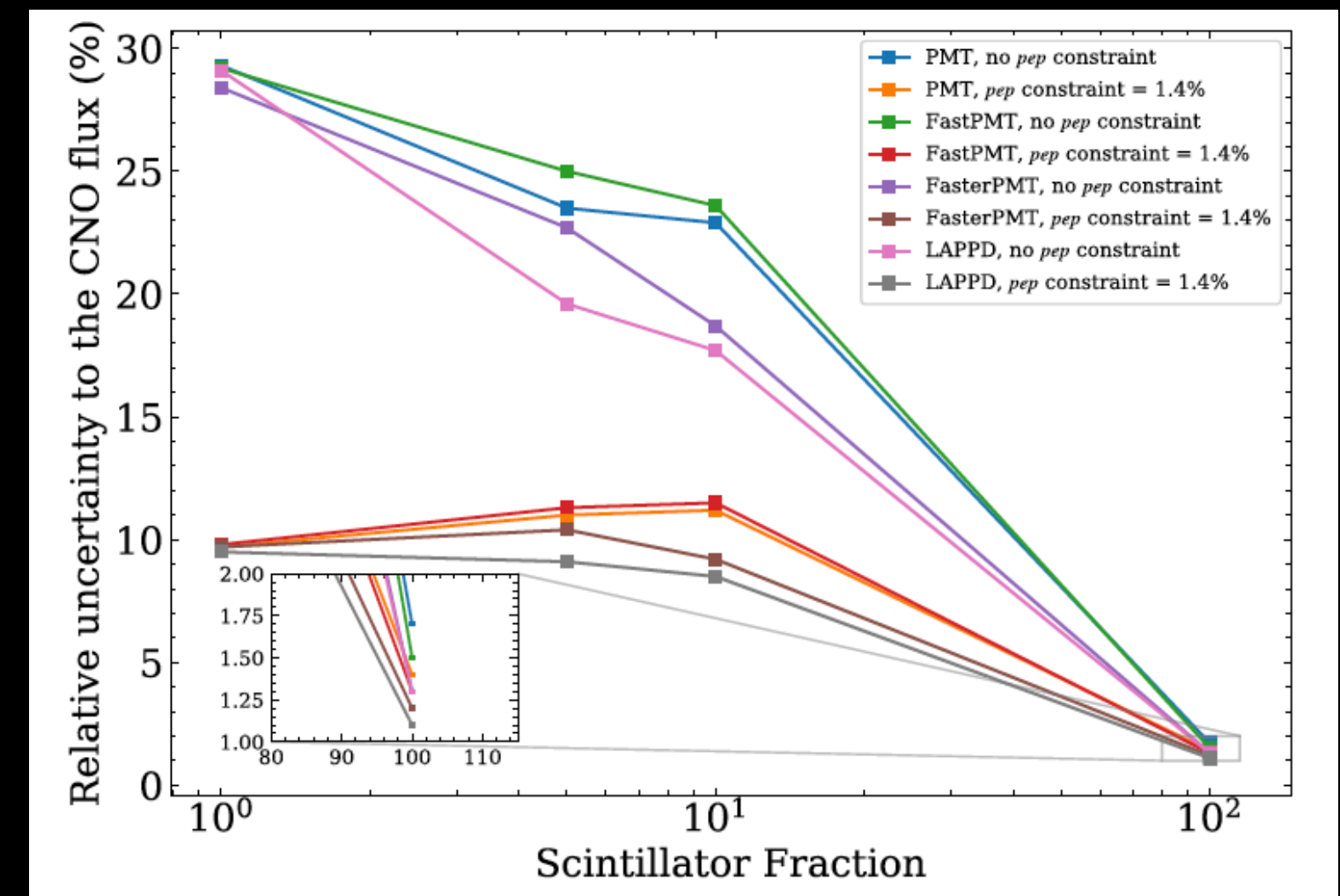


## Angular distribution

increased PMT hit density under Cherenkov angle  
→ sufficient granularity

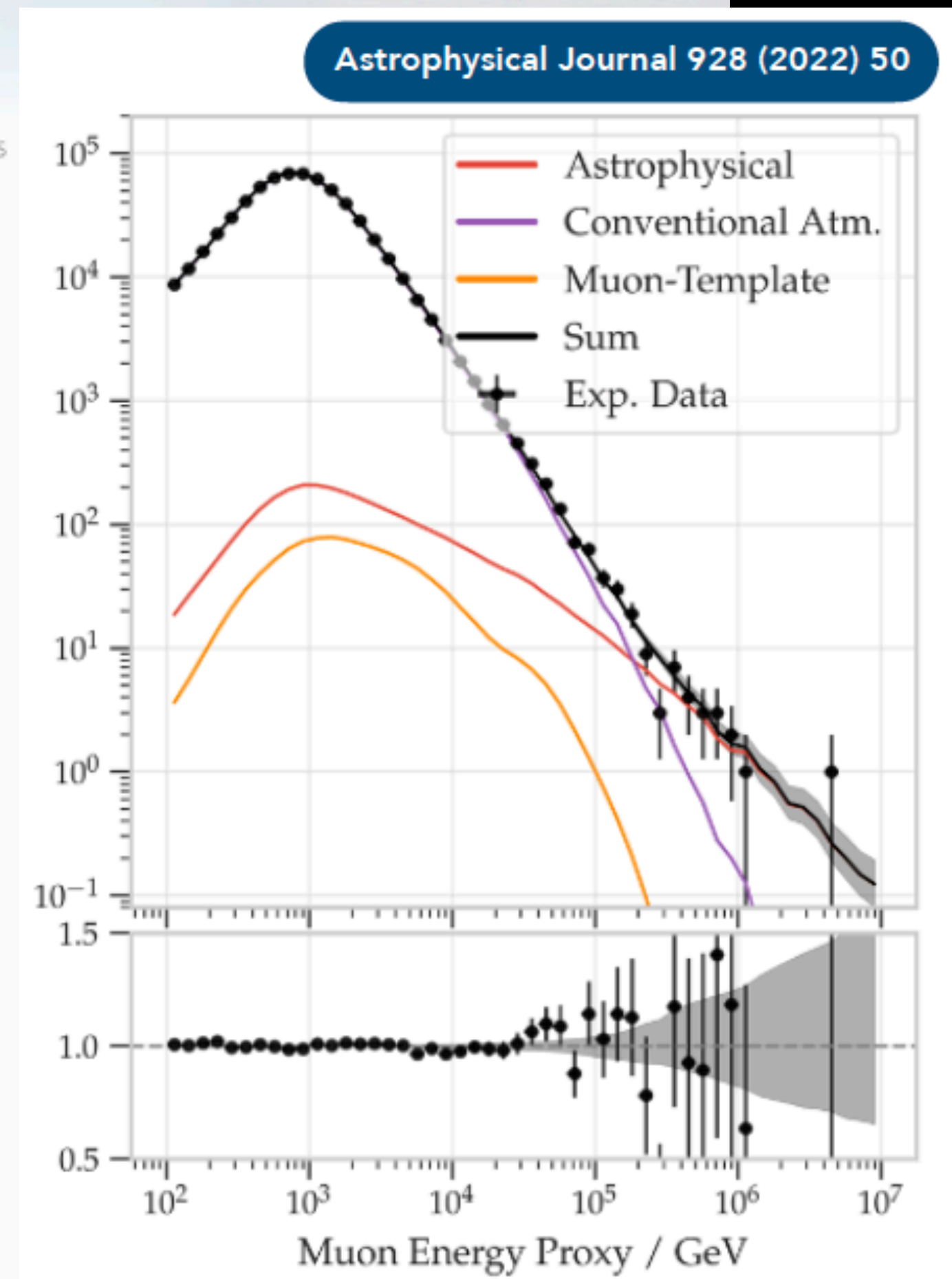
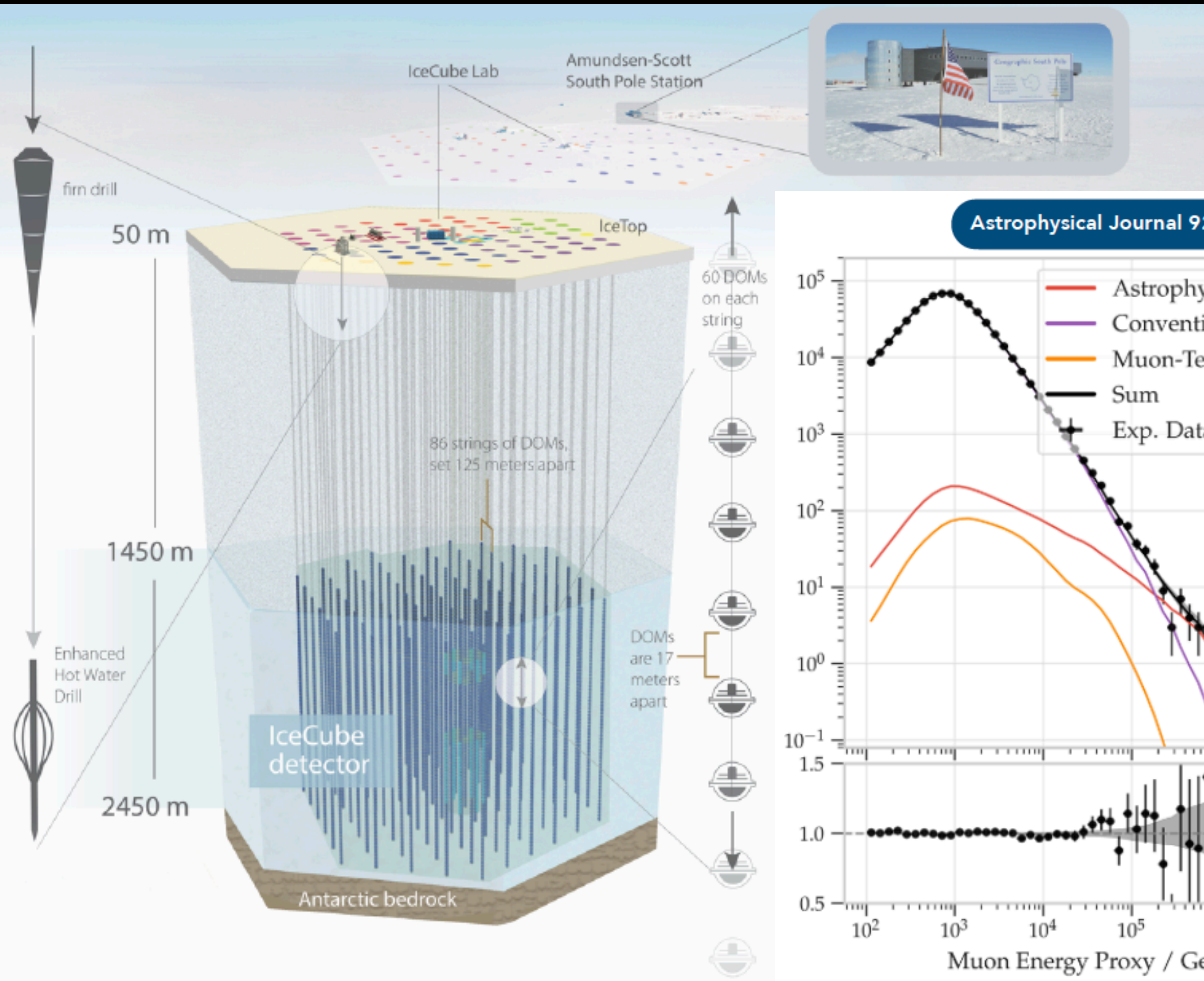


CNO precision well below 10%

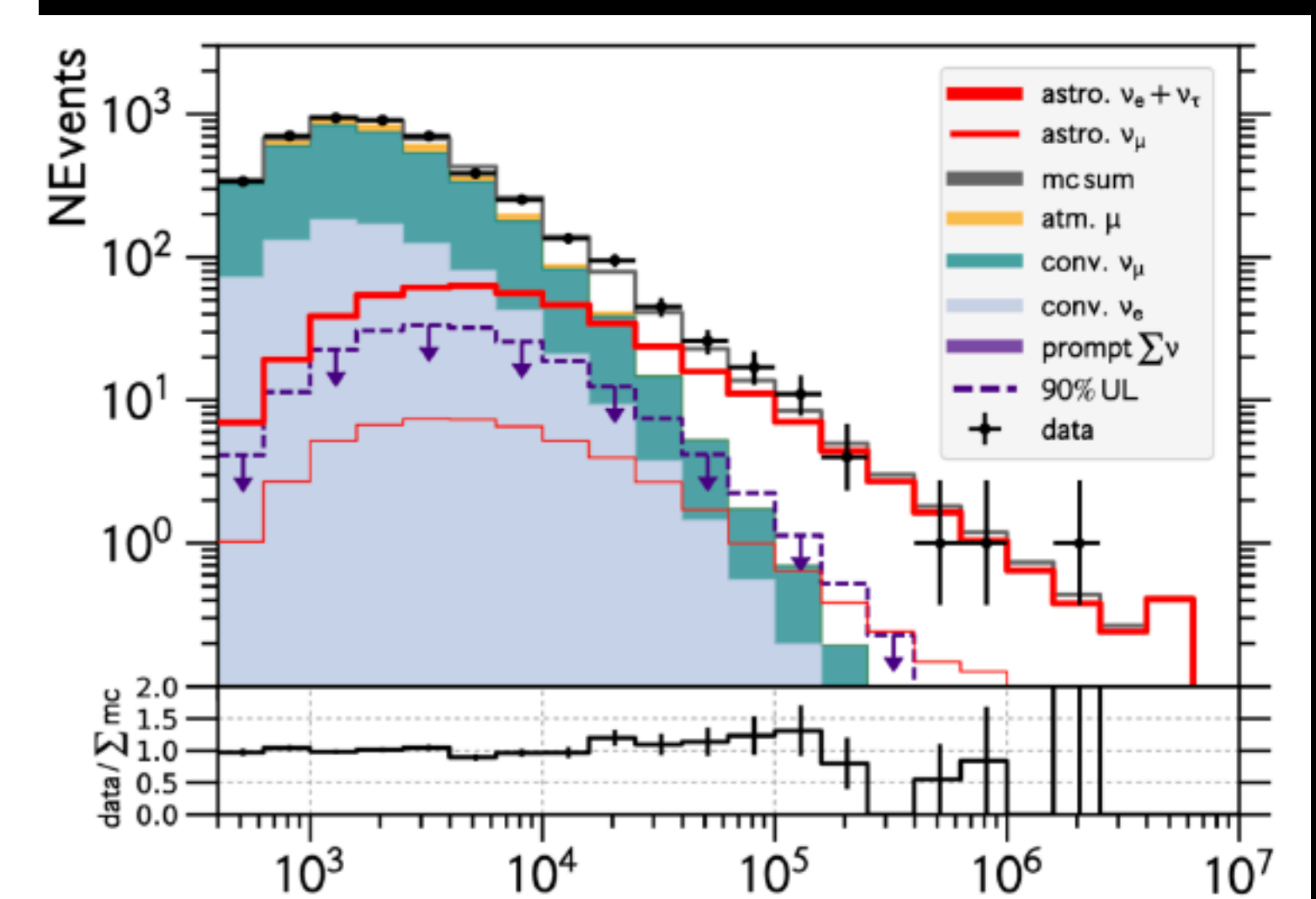


HIGH ENERGY  
NEUTRINOS

# ICECUBE AND HIGH ENERGY NEUTRINOS

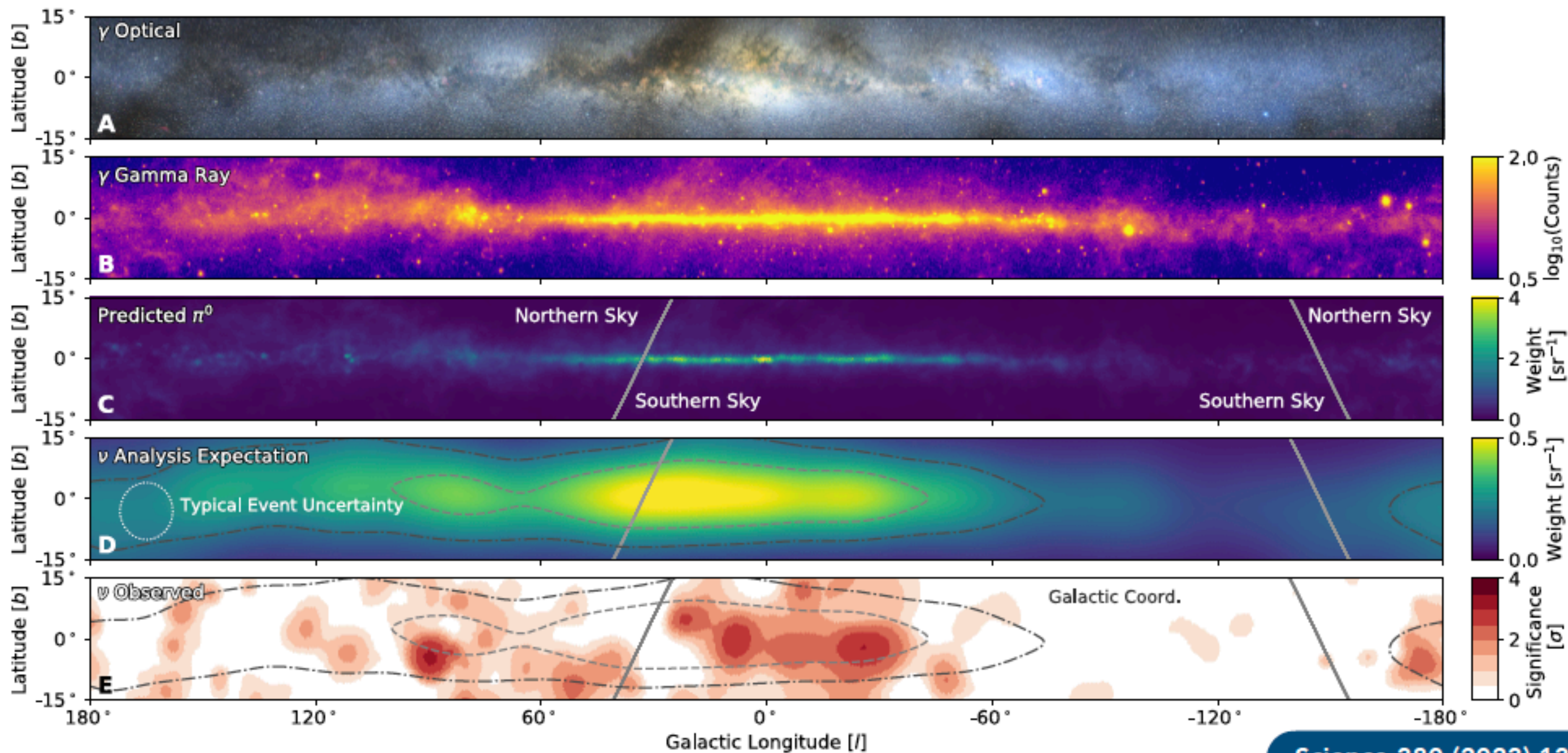


- Ice Cherenkov detector in the South Pole!  $\text{km}^3$
- Highest energy neutrinos observed
- Astrophysical origin proven



J.A. AGUILAR, NEUTRINO 2024

# The Galaxy with Neutrinos

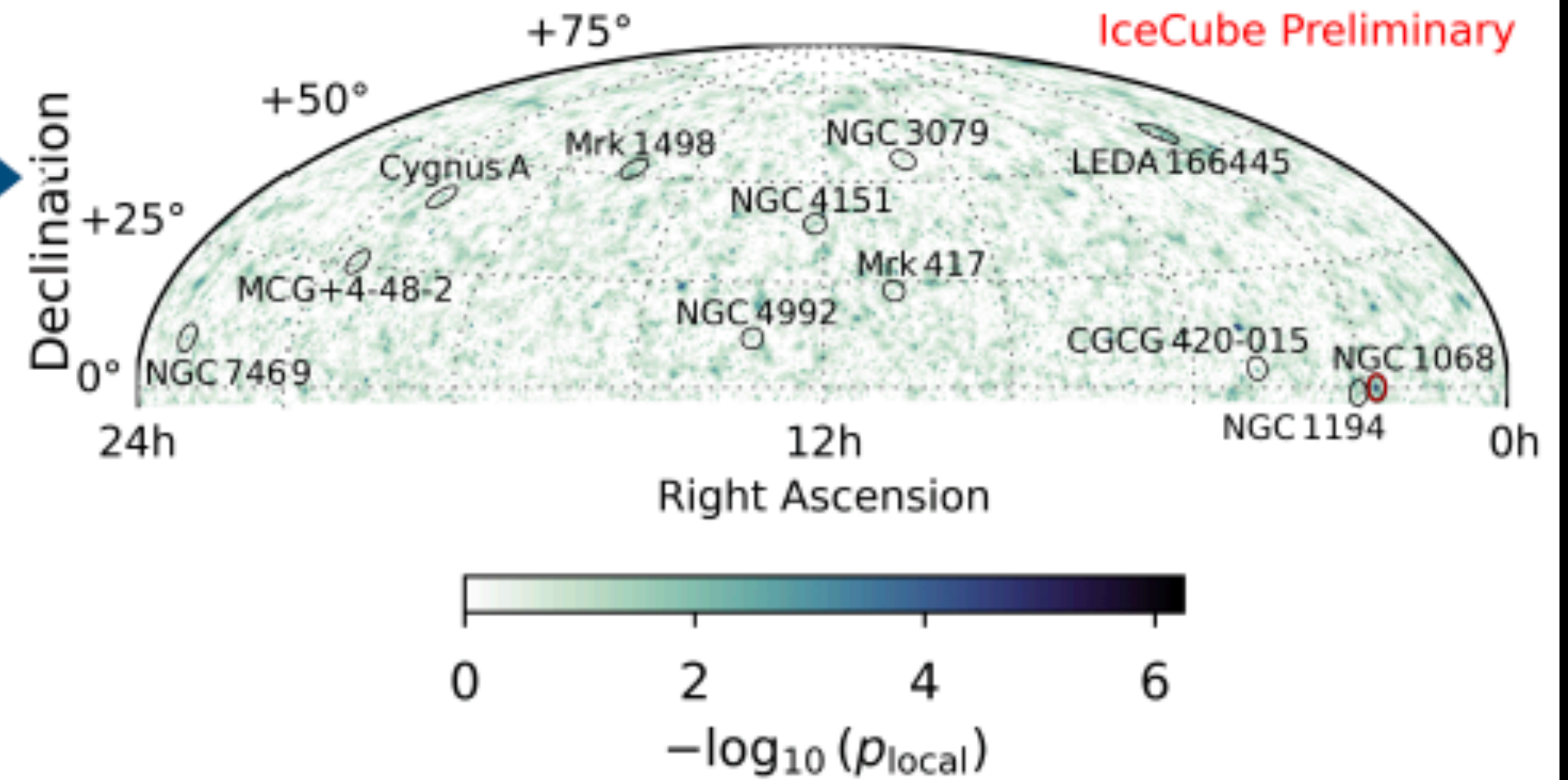
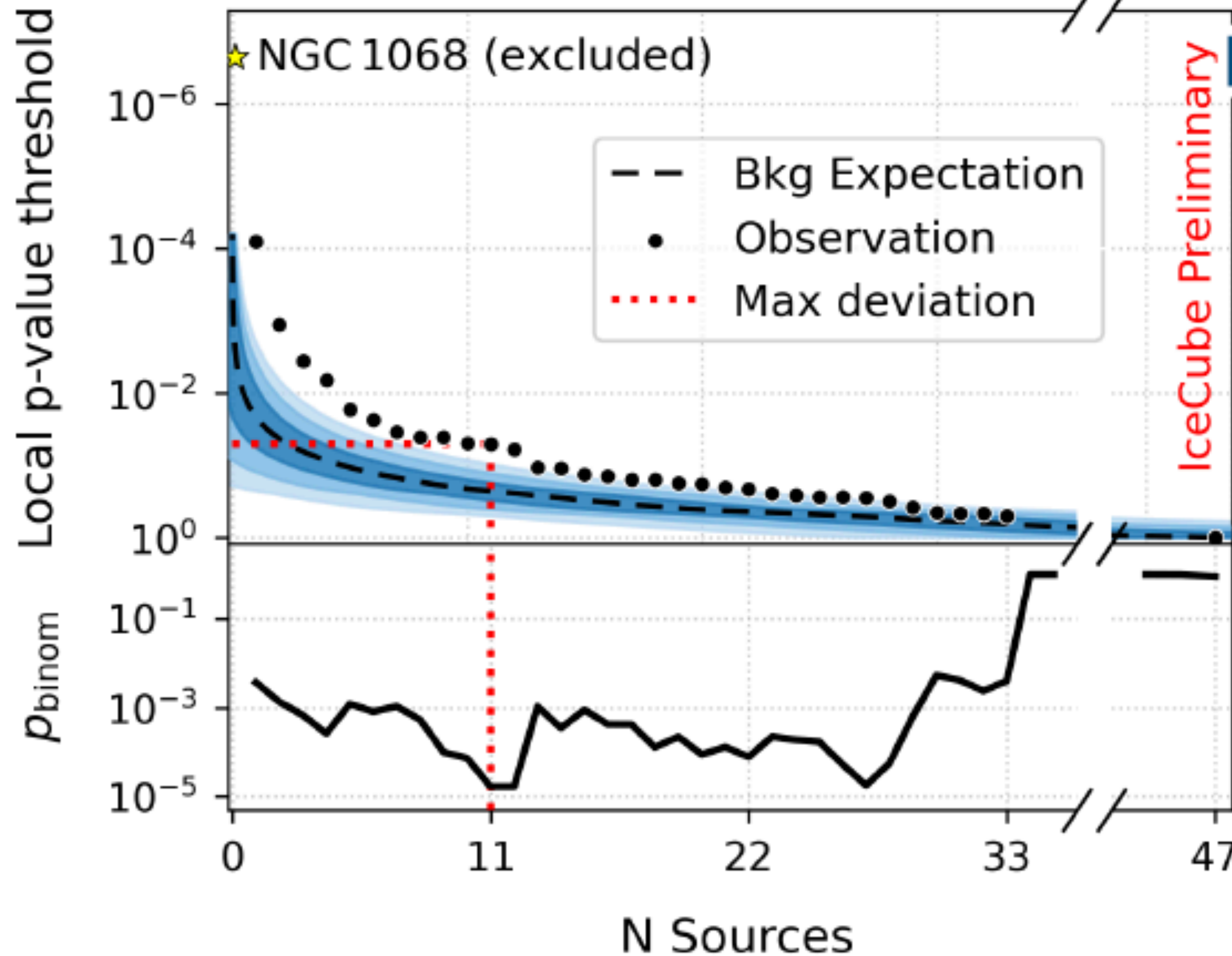


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# Searches for Neutrinos from Seyfert Galaxies

## Binomial Test



- Binomial Test: Probability of finding a signal from 47 AGNs too weak to be identified individually
- Result:  $3.3\sigma$  excess for 11 sources (excluding NGC1068)

# SUPERNOVA NEUTRINOS

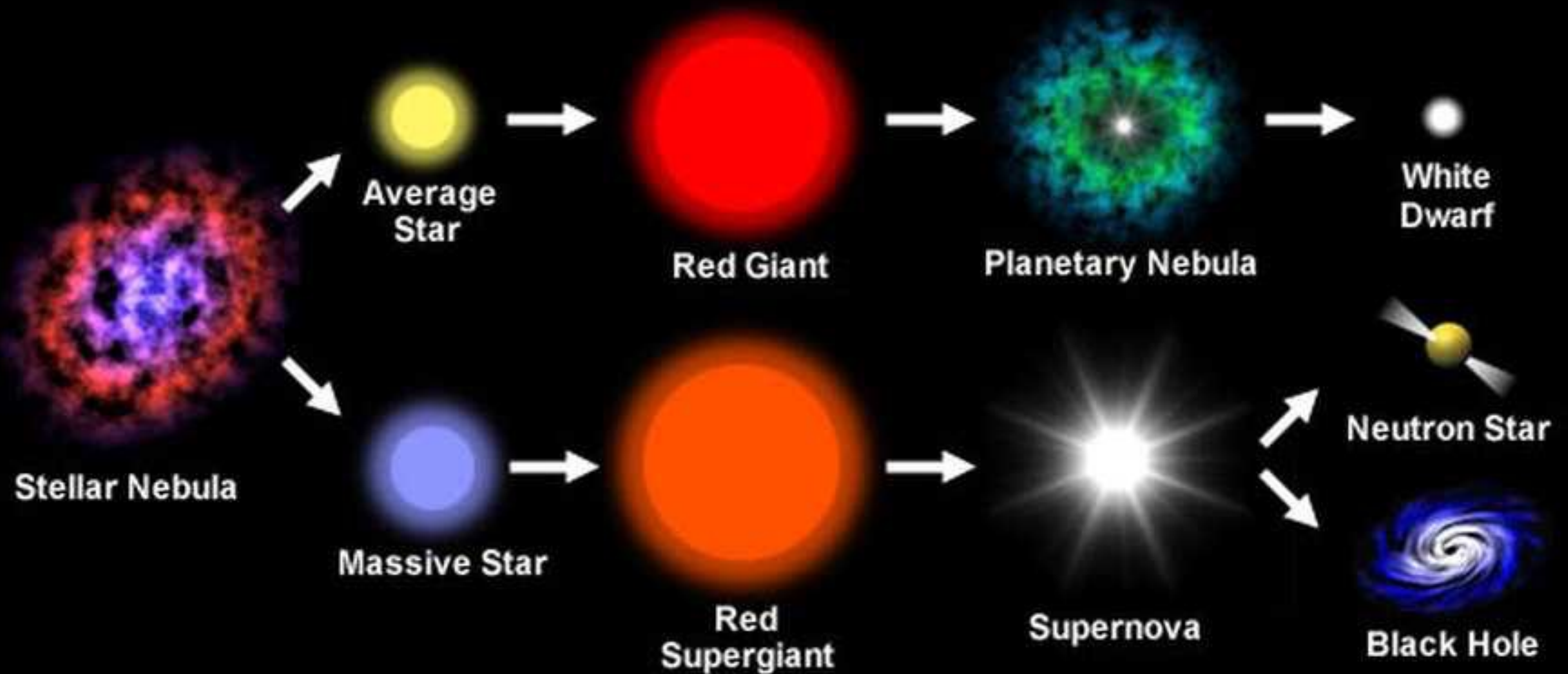


and yet, they are much brighter in neutrinos!

# THE LIFE AND DEATH OF STARS



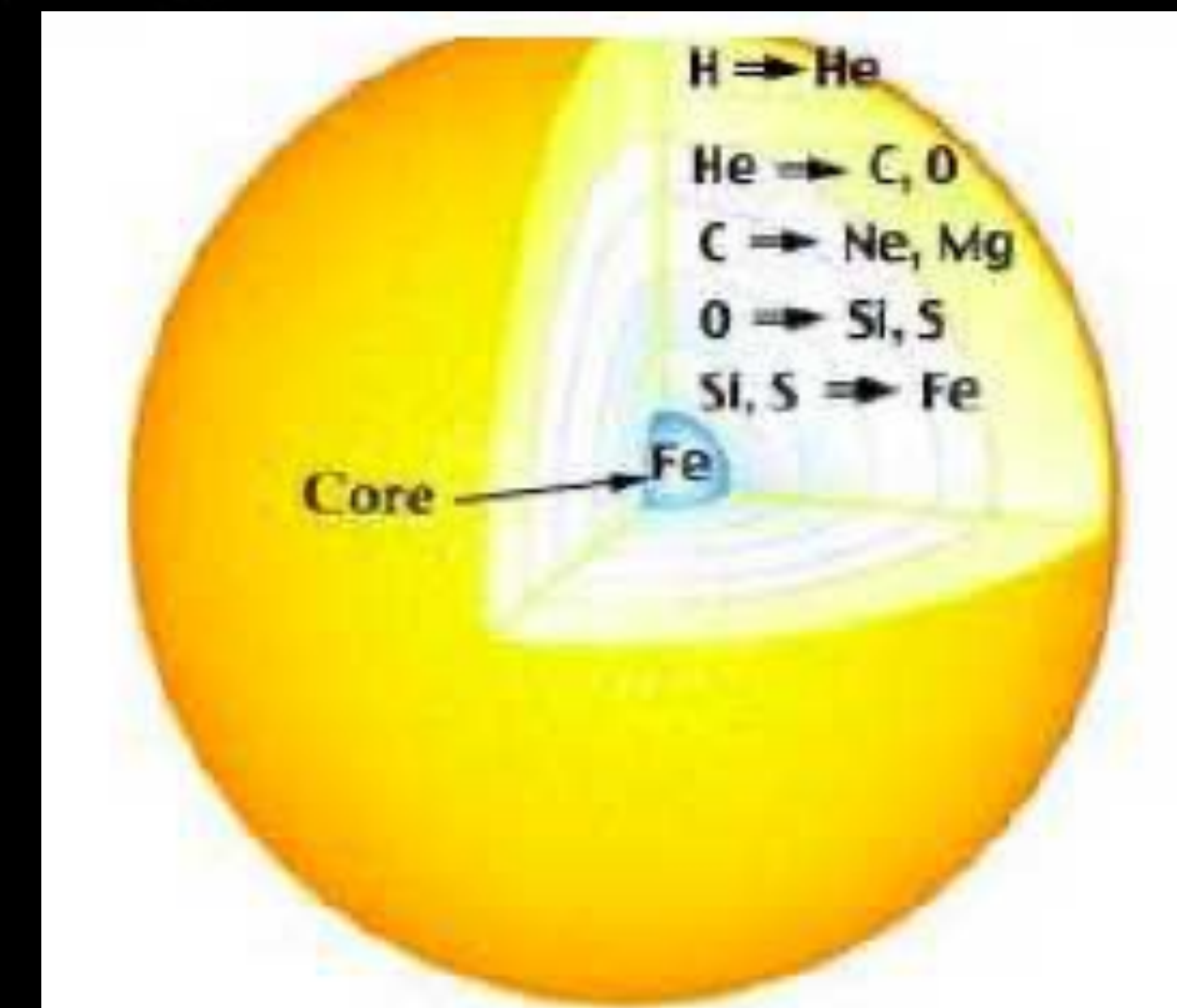
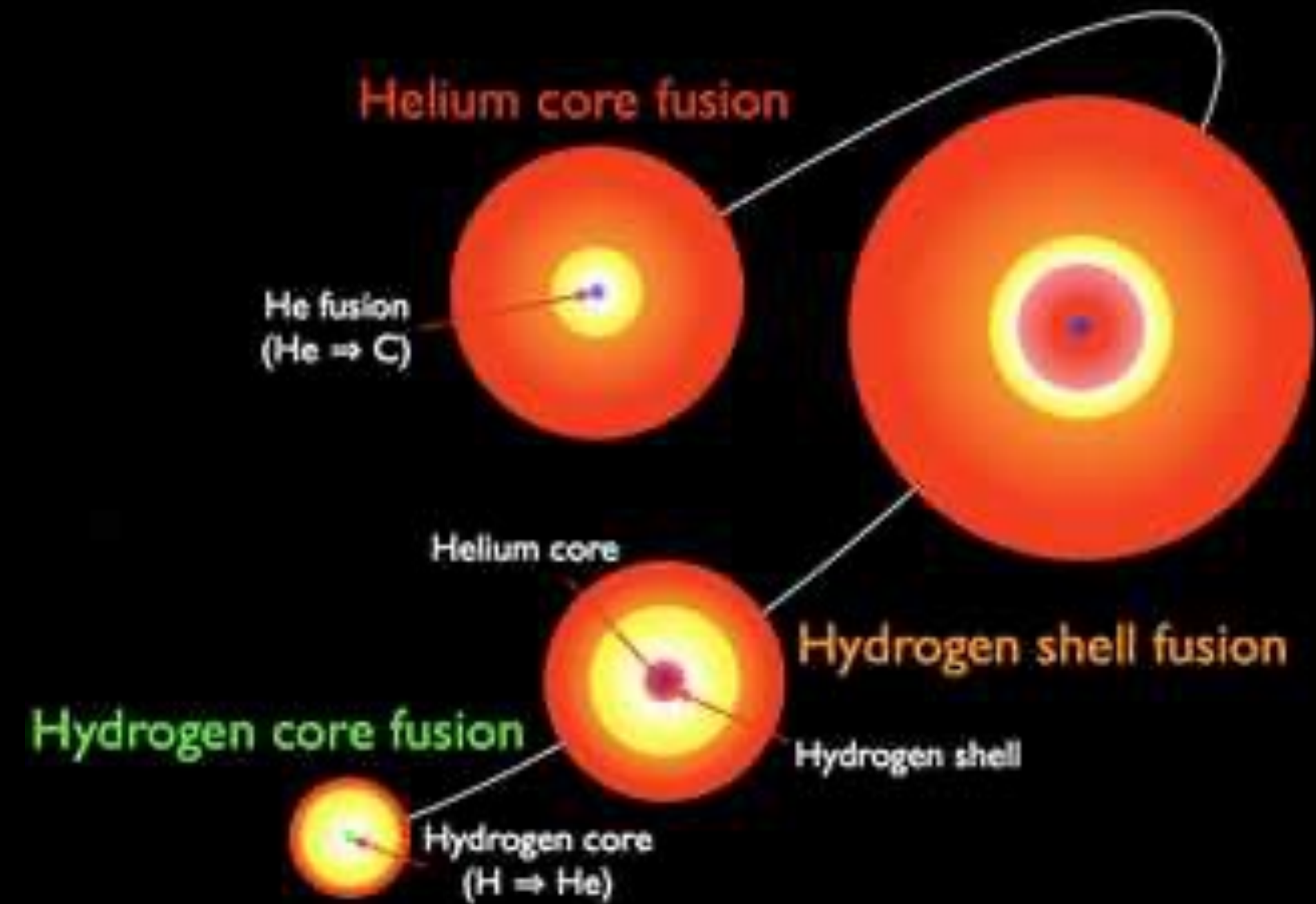
## Life Cycle of a Star



# PHASES OF STELLAR EVOLUTION



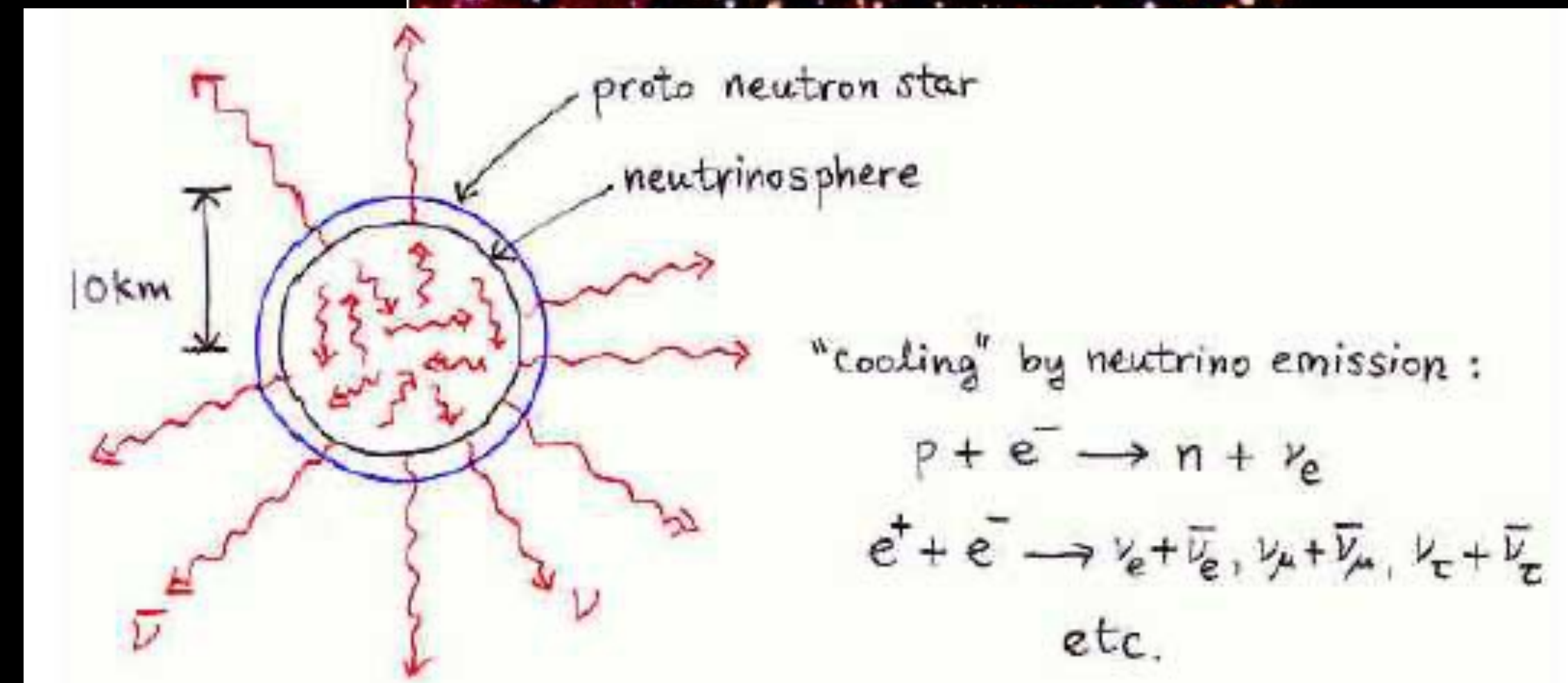
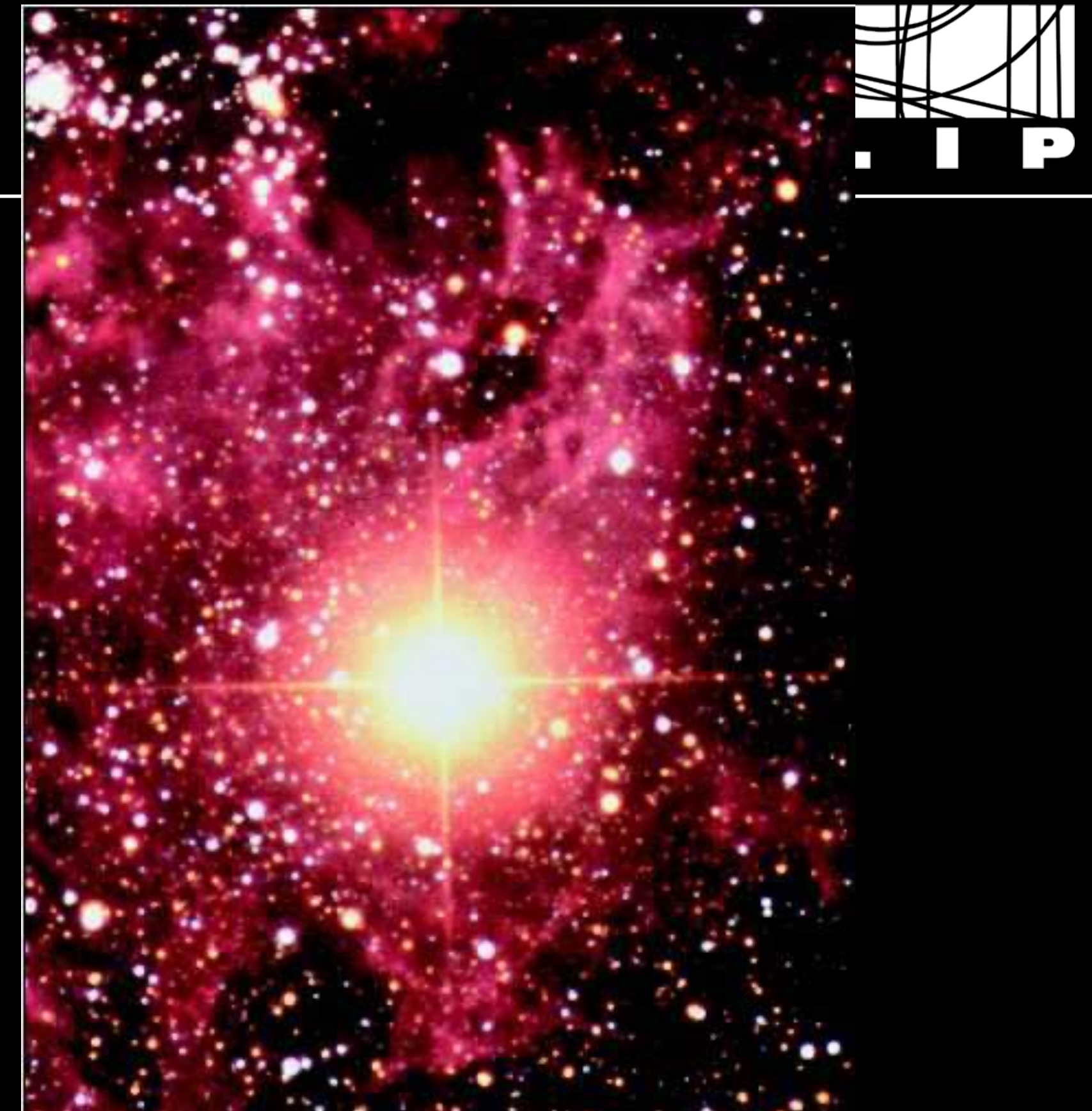
- Main sequence
  - Hydrogen burning in core
- Red Giant
  - Hydrogen burning in shell
  - Helium burning in core
- Supergiant
  - Helium burning in shell
  - ... and so on up to iron
  - $M=1.5 M_{\text{sun}}$  in  $R=8000\text{km}$
  - ...burning stops
  - gravity not balanced  $\rightarrow$  Collapse!
  - core becomes a neutron star  $\rho = 3 \times 10^{14} \text{gcm}^{-3}$ ,  $R= 50\text{km}$



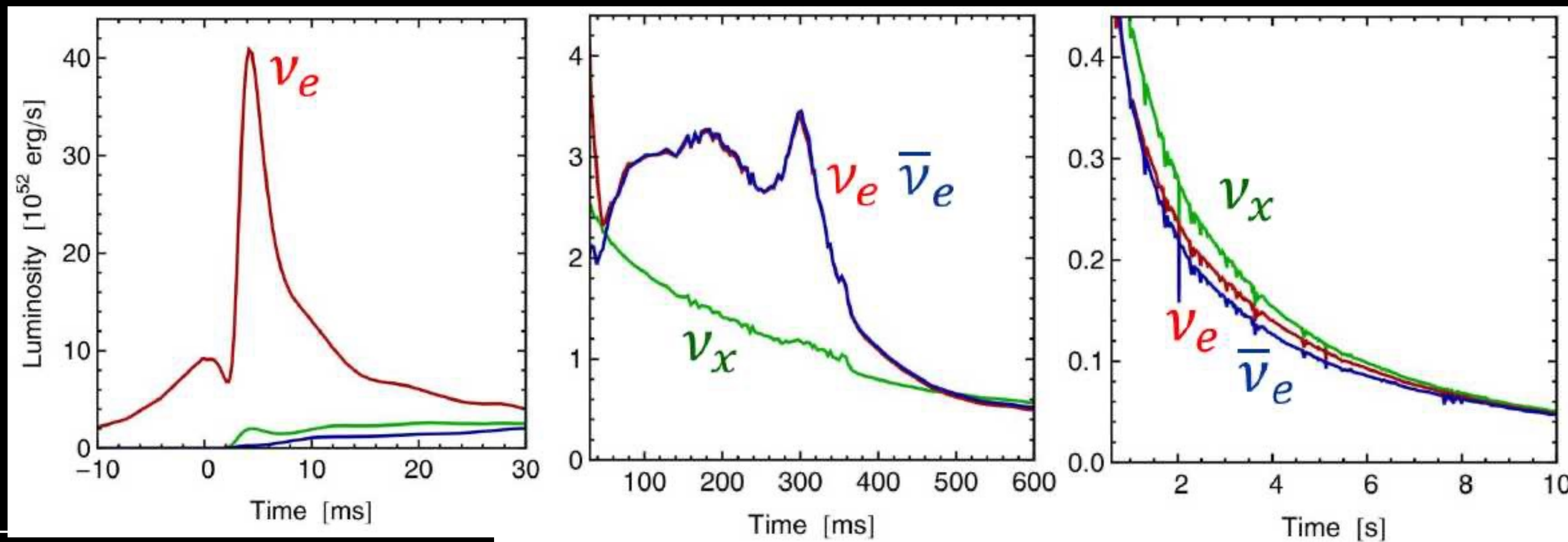
# SUPERNOVA EXPLOSION



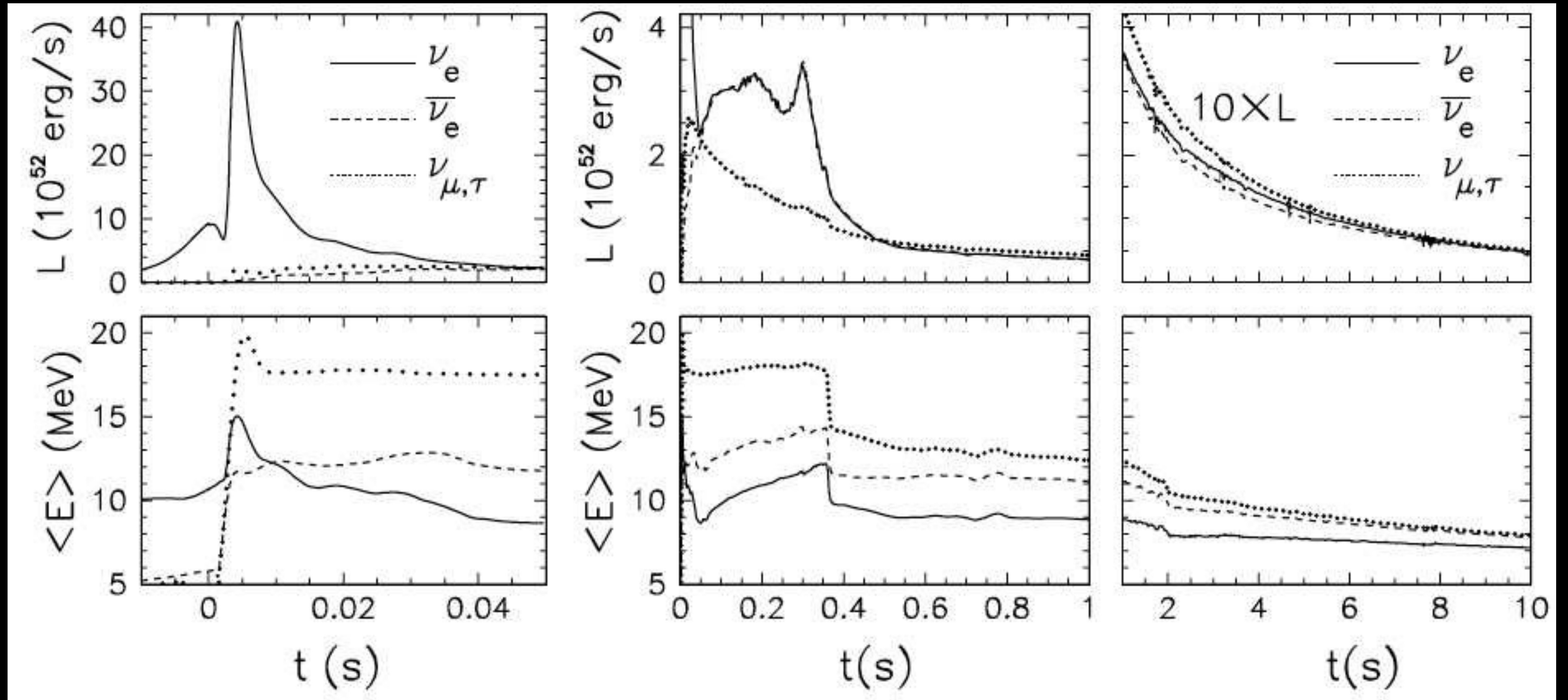
- Explosion from release of gravitational binding energy
  - $E = 3 \times 10^{53} \text{ erg} \sim 17\% M_{\text{sun}} c^2$
  - 99% neutrinos
  - 1% kinetic energy of ejecta
  - only 0.01% as photons
- Neutrino production
  - in formation of neutron star
  - Neutronization:  $p + e^- \leftrightarrow n + \nu$
  - reaction in equilibrium within “neutrinosphere”
  - when shock wave reaches it, intense electron neutrino burst



- Prompt  $\nu_e$  burst
  - neutronization
  - when shock wave reaches zone with density of  $10^{11} \text{ gcm}^{-3}$
  - intense, but very short
- Accretion
  - delayed explosion fueled by neutrino heating of infalling matter
  - all-flavors reaction
- Cooling
  - neutrino diffusion

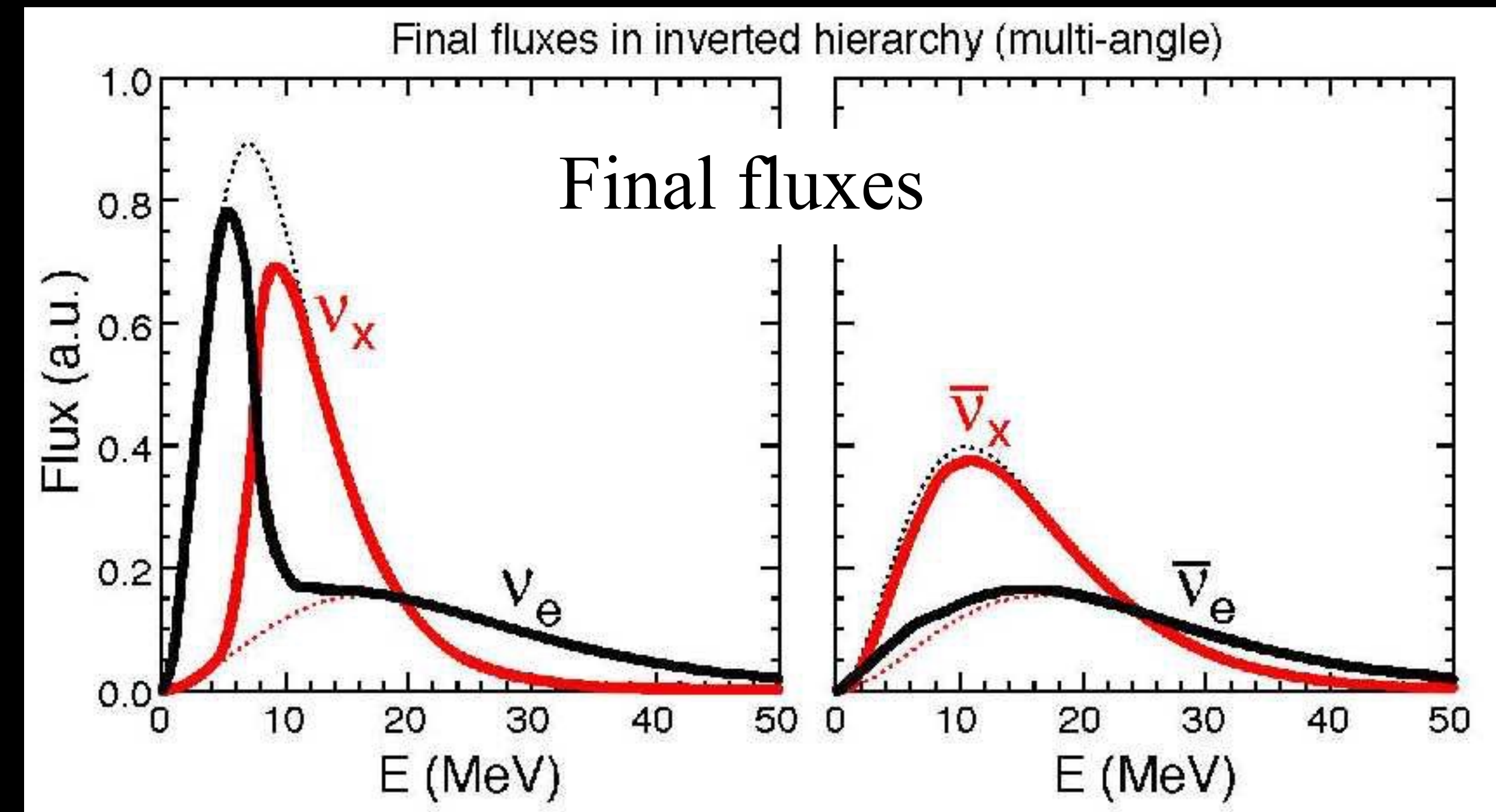
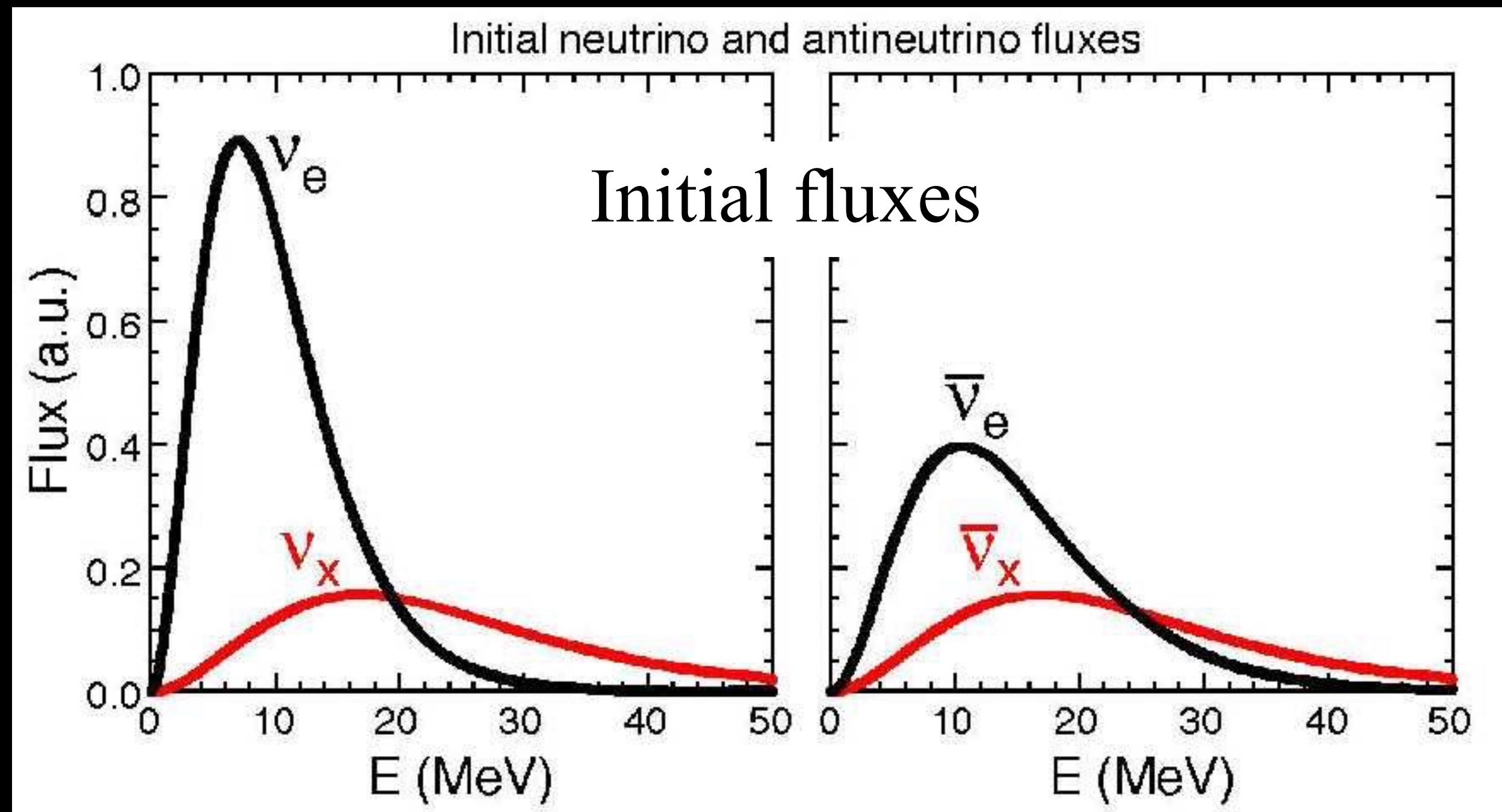


# FLUX AND ENERGY VS TIME



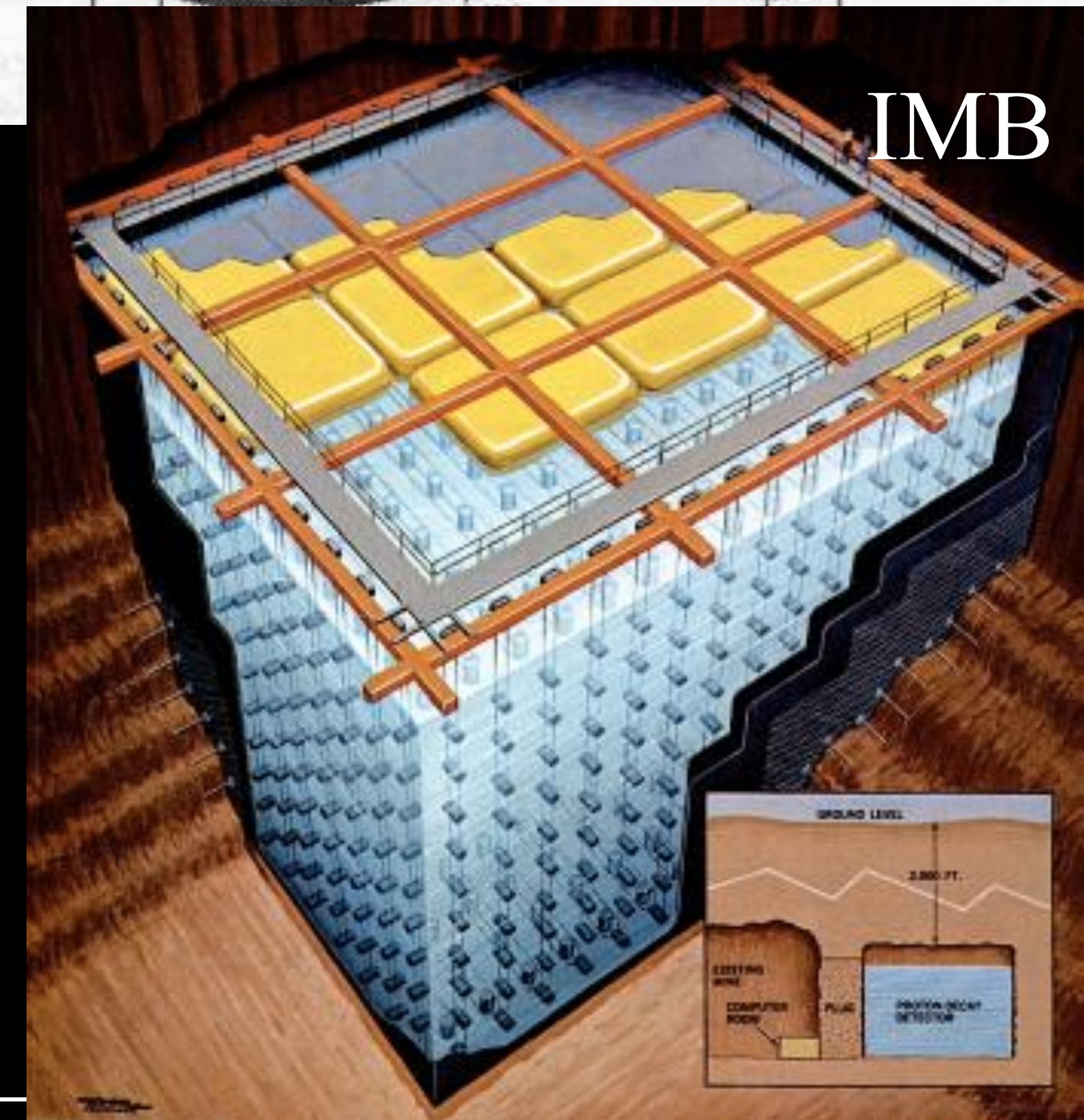
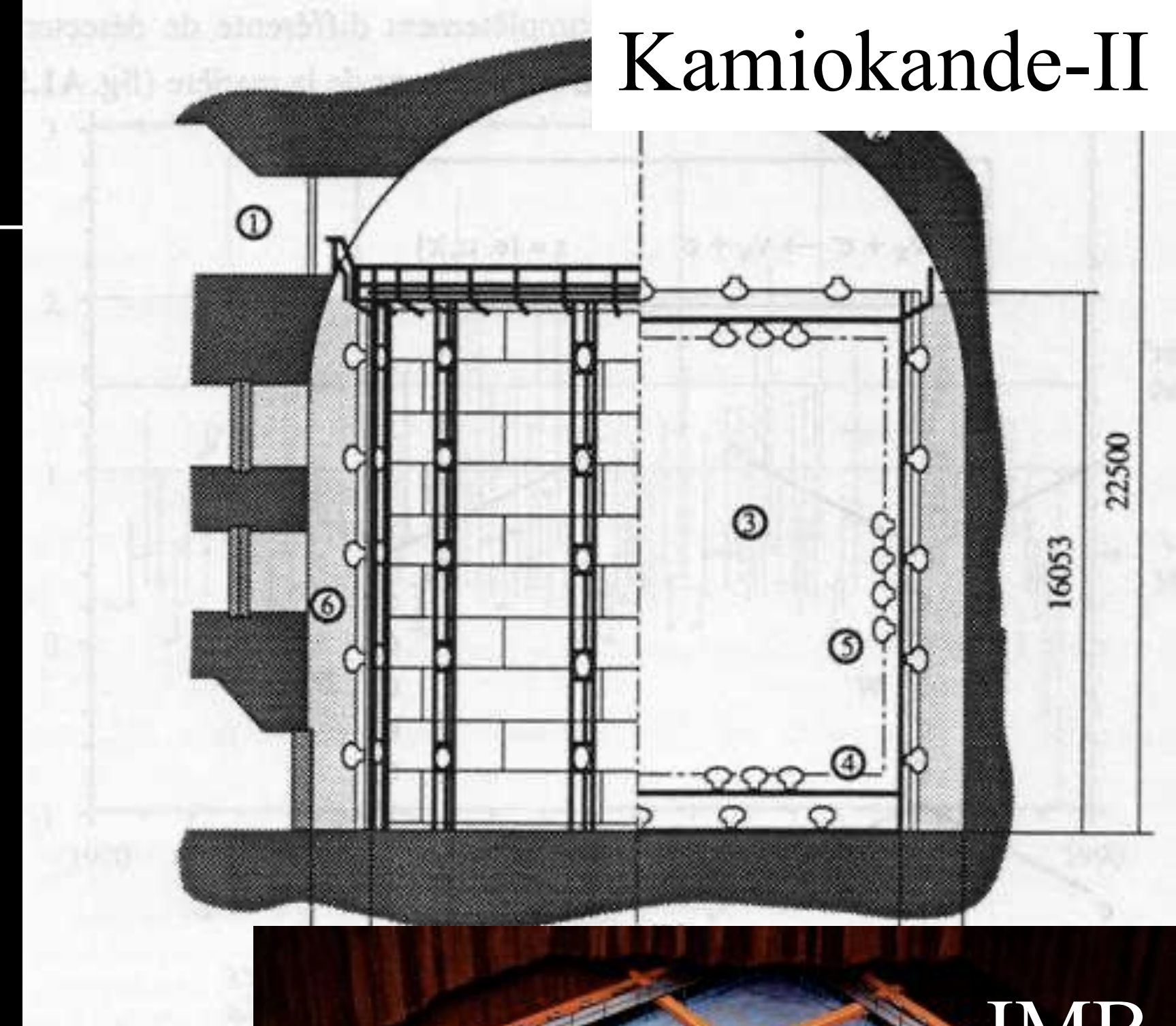
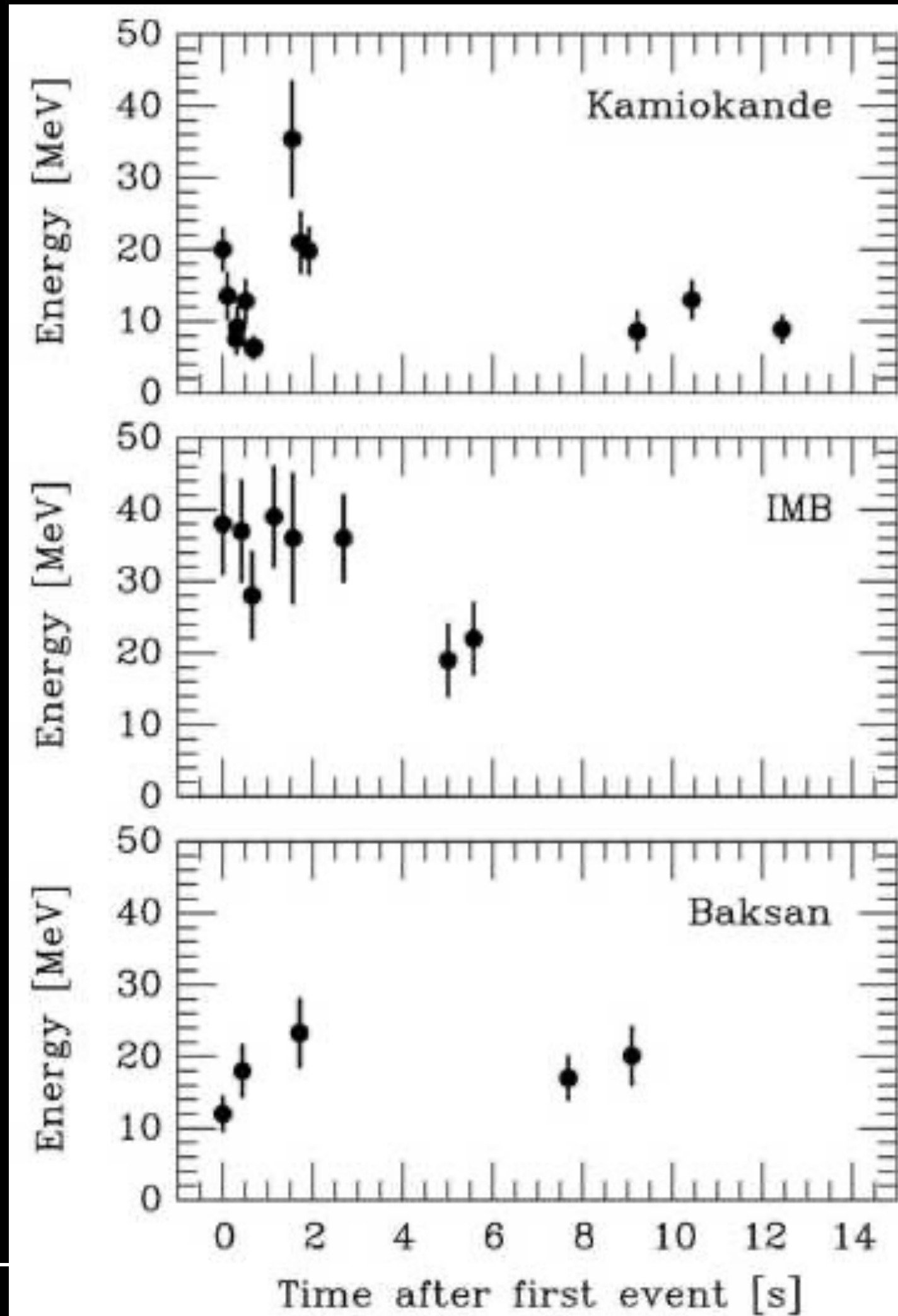


- Oscillations affect flavor composition
- Depend on:
  - density profile
  - mass ordering



# SUPERNOVA 1987A

- 160 light-years (close-by...)
- $10^{58}$  neutrinos emitted!! **24** were detected



THANK YOU !