

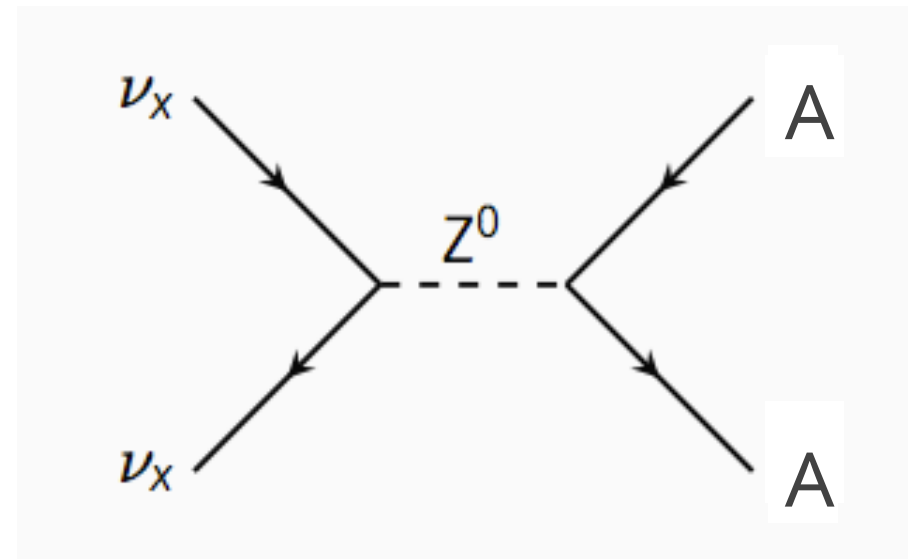
# Overview of current status and prospects on CEvNS

Carla Bonifazi  
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CONICET

[cbonifazi@unsam.edu.ar](mailto:cbonifazi@unsam.edu.ar)



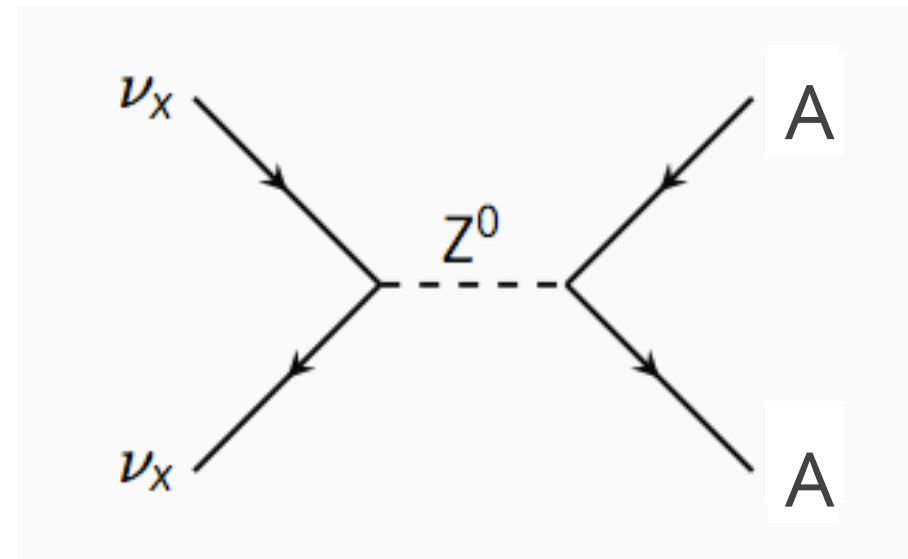
# What is CE $\nu$ NS?



Coherent Elastic  
Neutrino-Nucleus Scattering

is a process in which neutrinos scatter off a nucleus  
acting as a single particle

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D. Freedman, *Phys.Rev. D* 9 1389 (1974)

PHYSICAL REVIEW D

VOLUME 9, NUMBER 5

1 MARCH 1974

### Coherent effects of a weak neutral current

Daniel Z. Freedman†

*National Accelerator Laboratory, Batavia, Illinois 60510*

*and Institute for Theoretical Physics, State University of New York, Stony Brook, New York 11790*

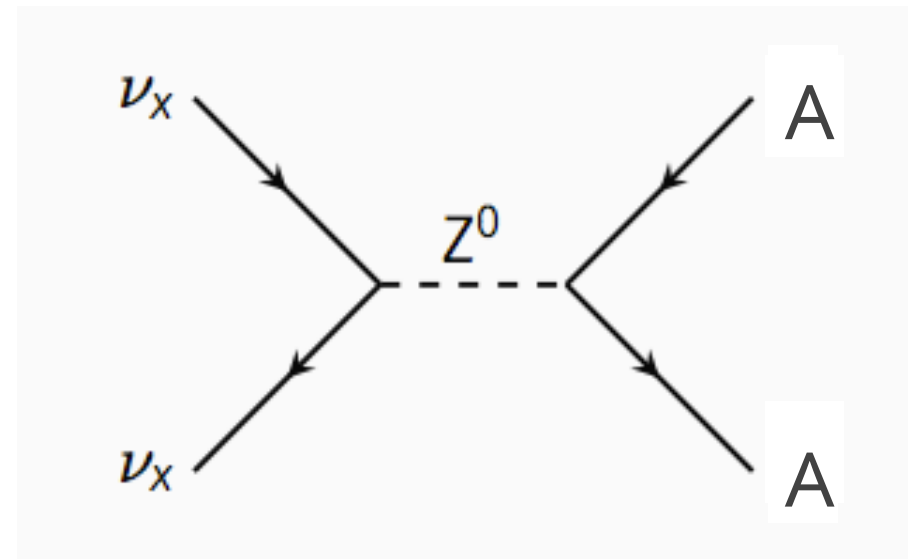
(Received 15 October 1973; revised manuscript received 19 November 1973)

If there is a weak neutral current, then the elastic scattering process  $\nu + A \rightarrow \nu + A$  should have a sharp coherent forward peak just as  $e + A \rightarrow e + A$  does. Experiments to observe this peak can give important information on the isospin structure of the neutral current. The experiments are very difficult, although the estimated cross sections (about  $10^{-38}$  cm<sup>2</sup> on carbon) are favorable. The coherent cross sections (in contrast to incoherent) are almost energy-independent. Therefore, energies as low as 100 MeV may be suitable. Quasi-coherent nuclear excitation processes  $\nu + A \rightarrow \nu + A^*$  provide possible tests of the conservation of the weak neutral current. Because of strong coherent effects at very low energies, the nuclear elastic scattering process may be important in inhibiting cooling by neutrino emission in stellar collapse and neutron stars.

There is recent experimental evidence<sup>1</sup> from CERN and NAL which suggests the presence of a neutral current in neutrino-induced interactions. A primary goal of future neutrino experiments is

important to interpret experimental results in a very broad theoretical framework.<sup>4</sup> We assume a general current-current effective Lagrangian

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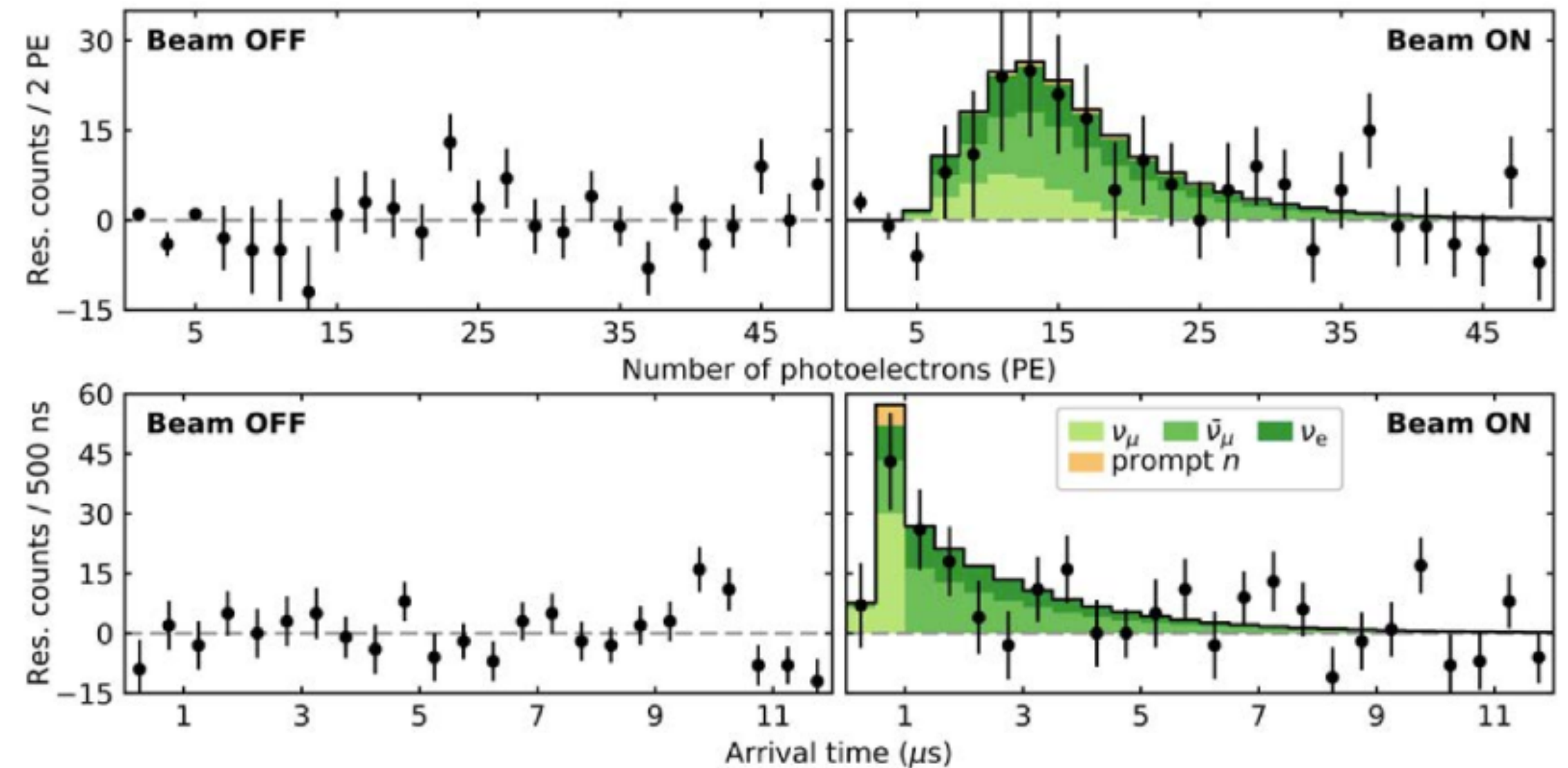
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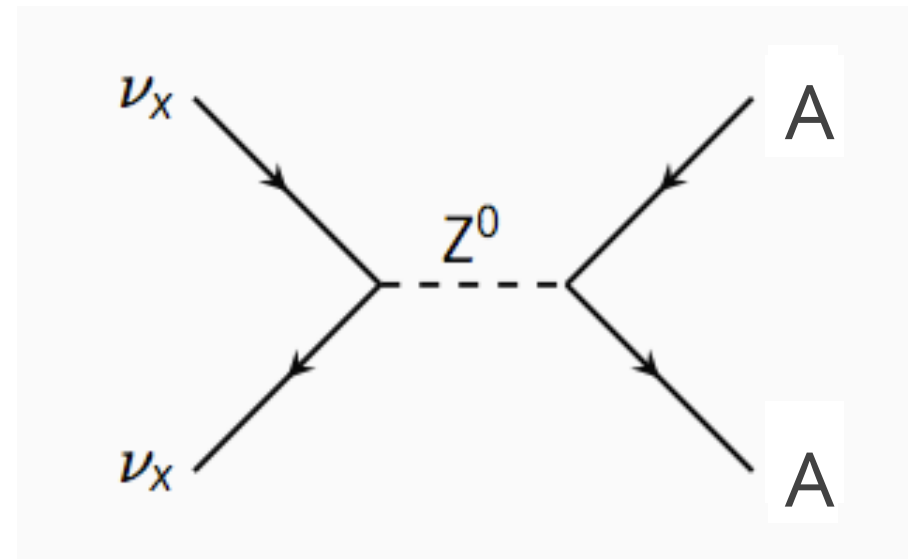
[D. Freedman, Phys.Rev. D 9 1389 \(1974\)](#)

- ◆ Measured for the first time in 2017 by COHERENT

[D. Akimov et al, Science 357 \(2017\)](#)



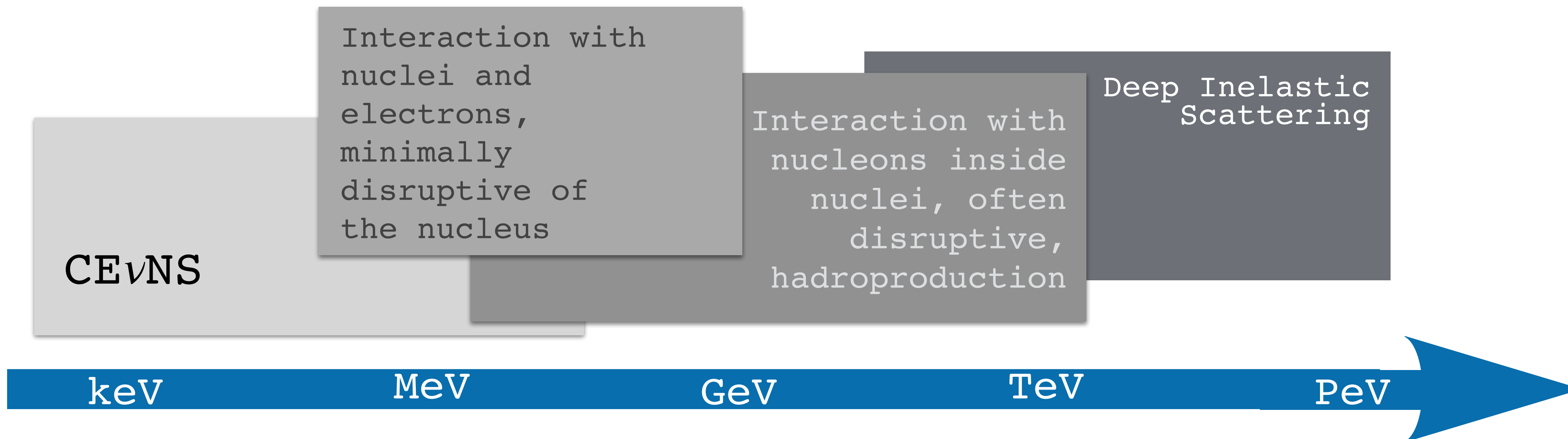
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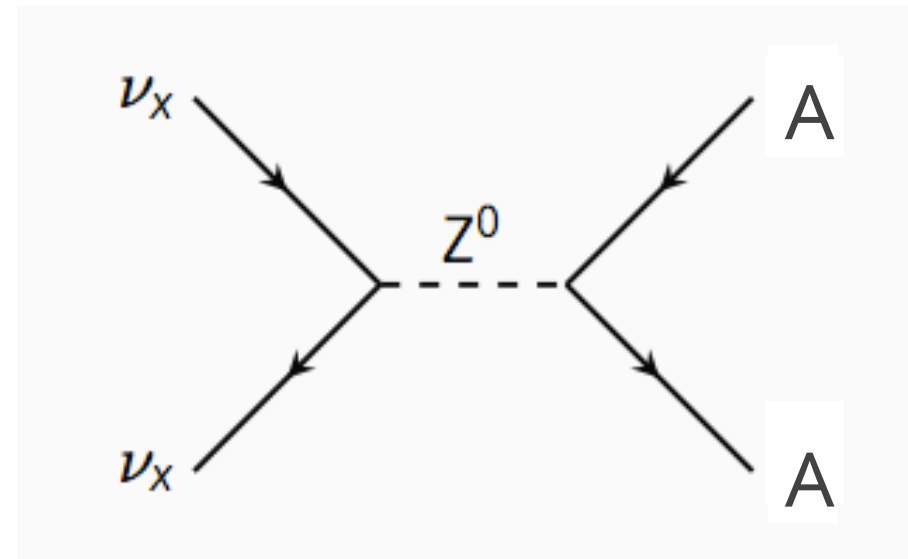
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- ◆ Dominant process for  $E_\nu \lesssim 50$  MeV

- ◆ Cross section increases as  $N^2$

For:

$$q \cdot R \ll 1$$

$q$  = three-momentum transfer

$R$  = nuclear radius

$$q = \sqrt{2ME_r}$$

$$\frac{d\sigma_{SM}}{dE_R}(E_{\bar{\nu}_e}) = \frac{G_F^2}{8\pi} Q_W^2 \left[ 2 - \frac{2E_R}{E_{\bar{\nu}_e}} + \left( \frac{E_R}{E_{\bar{\nu}_e}} \right)^2 - \frac{ME_R}{E_{\bar{\nu}_e}^2} \right] M |F(q)|^2$$

$$Q_W = N - (1 - 4 \sin^2 \theta_W) Z$$

$$\text{for: } \sin^2 \theta_W \sim \frac{1}{4} (\approx 0.22)$$

$G_F$  = Fermi coupling constant

$Z$  = atomic number of the nucleus

$N$  = neutron number of the nucleus

$E_\nu$  = neutrino energy

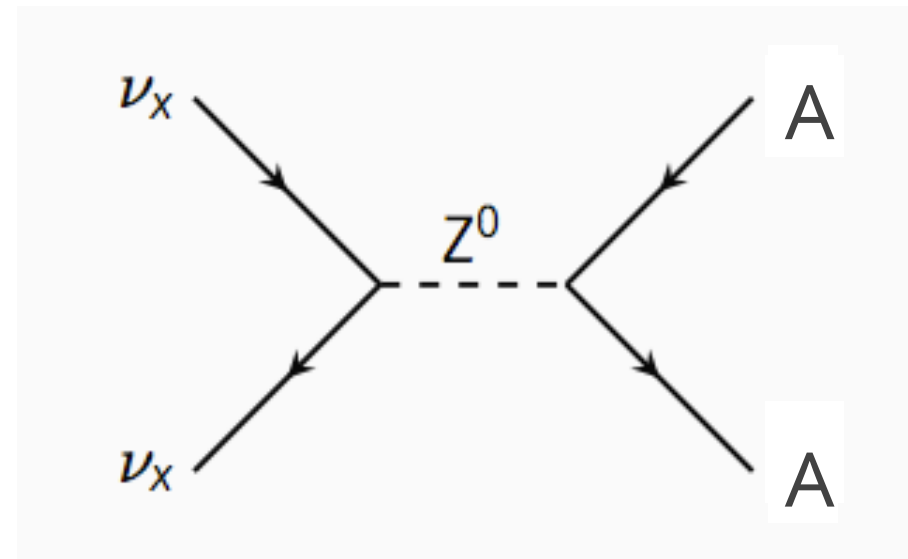
$\theta_W$  = weak mixing angle

$Q_W$  = weak charge

$F(q)$  = form factor

$M$  = mass of the nucleus

# What is CEvNS?



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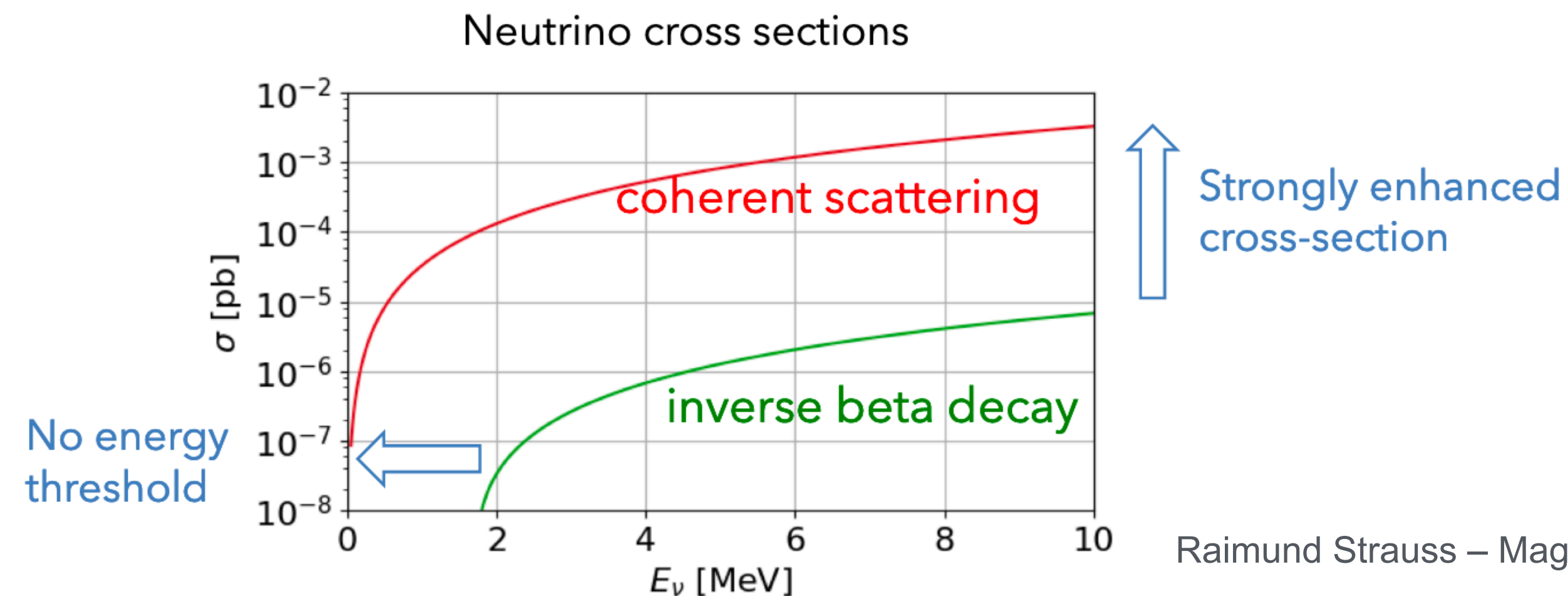
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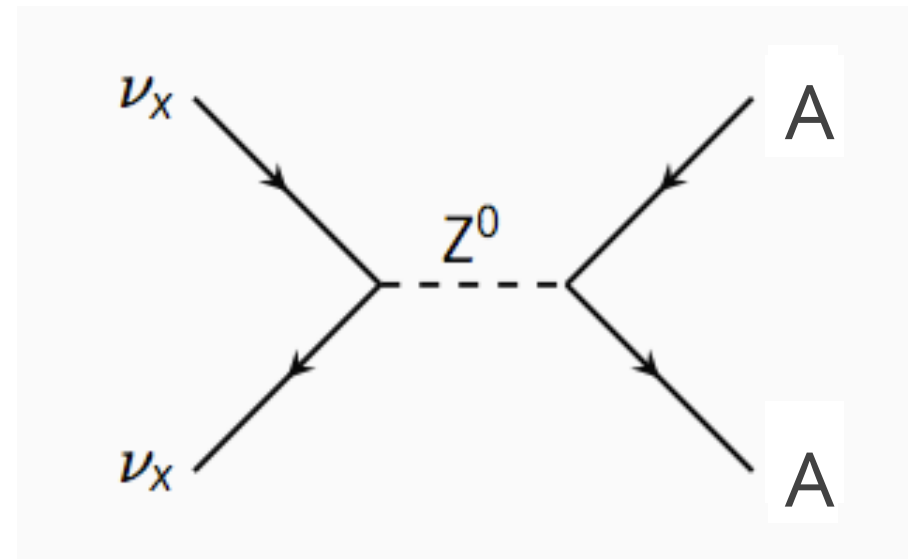
- ◆ Dominant process for  $E_\nu \lesssim 50$  MeV

- ◆ Cross section increases as  $N^2$

$$\sigma_{SM} \sim \frac{G_F^2}{4\pi} N^2 E_\nu^2$$



# What is CEνNS?

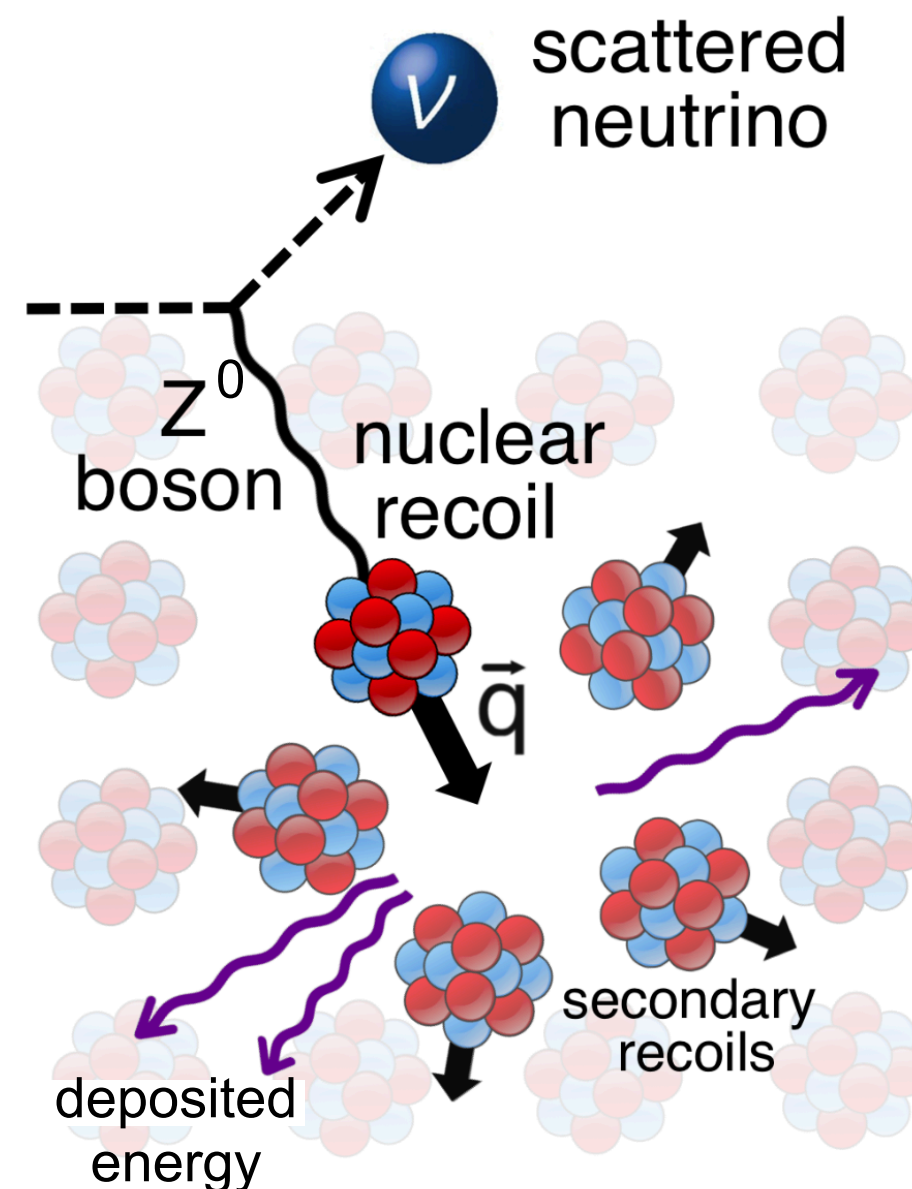


## Coherent Elastic Neutrino-Nucleus Scattering

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Large cross section...

...but hard to observe due to tiny nuclear recoil energies:



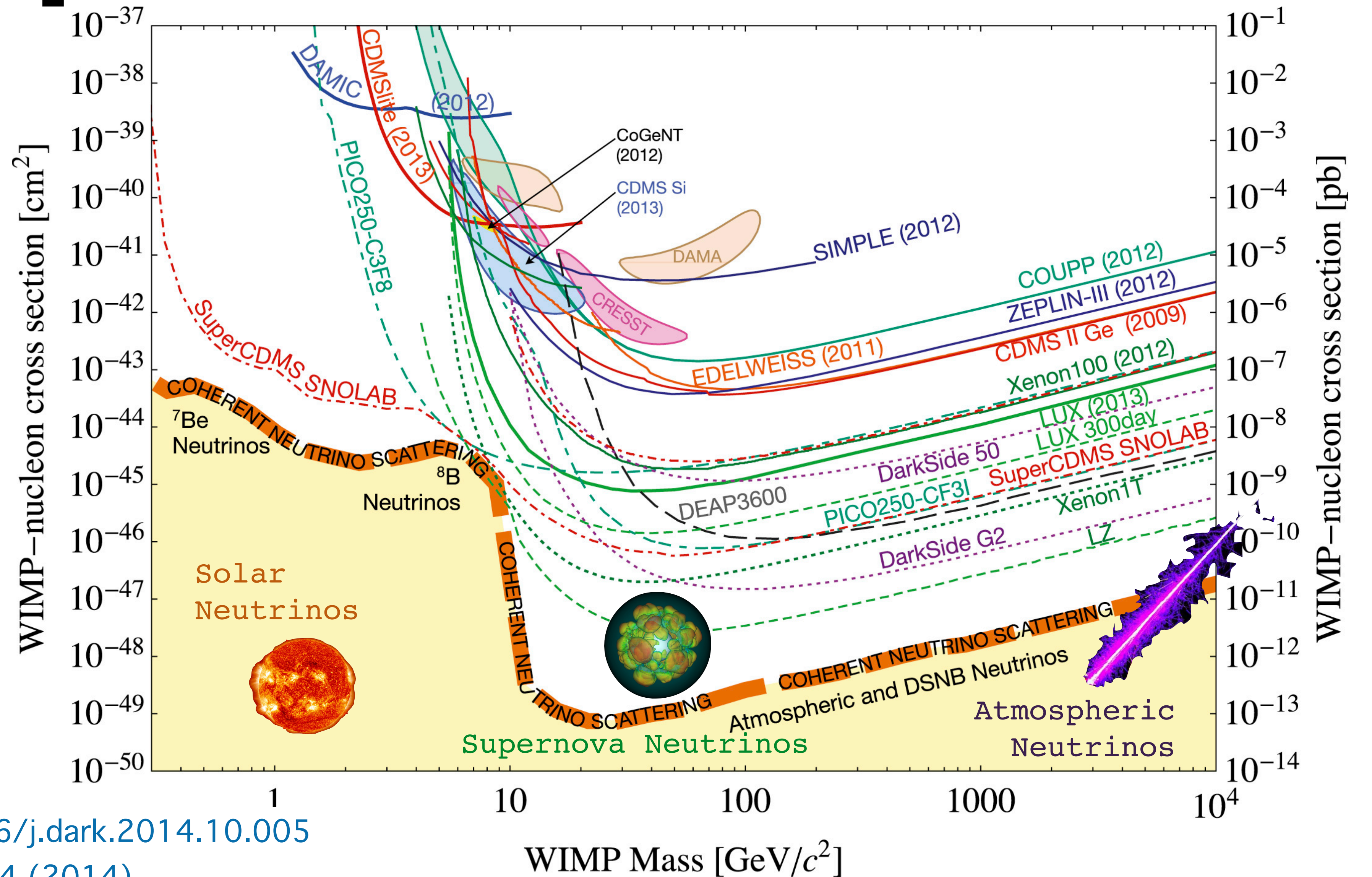
$$\langle E_r \rangle = \frac{2}{3} \frac{(E_\nu/\text{MeV})^2}{A} \text{keV}$$

- ◆ Energies below the typical detection threshold of conventional neutrino experiments
- ◆ Now low threshold and background detectors available thanks to the efforts done for dark matter experiments.



# Why CEVNS?

## Background for DM experiments



What is  
CE $\nu$ NS  
good for?

Fundamental neutrino interactions

- ◆ Precision test of SM
- ◆ Beyond SM physics

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Nuclear physics

- ◆ Nuclear form factor
- ◆ Neutron distribution radius ( $R_n$ )

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## Fundamental neutrino interactions

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## Supernova neutrinos

- ◆ Energy transport in supernovae: all neutrino flavors with  $E \sim$  tens-of-MeV
- ◆ To detect SN neutrinos (tonne-scale DM detectors)

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## Reactor physics

- ◆ Reactor fluxes & monitoring (below IBD threshold)
- ◆ Application for non-proliferation

# Neutrino Sources

for CE $\nu$ NS

Requirements:

- ◆ High flux
- ◆ Neutrino production well understood
- ◆ Low background rates
- ◆ Multiple flavors
- ◆ etc

# Neutrino Sources

for CEνNS

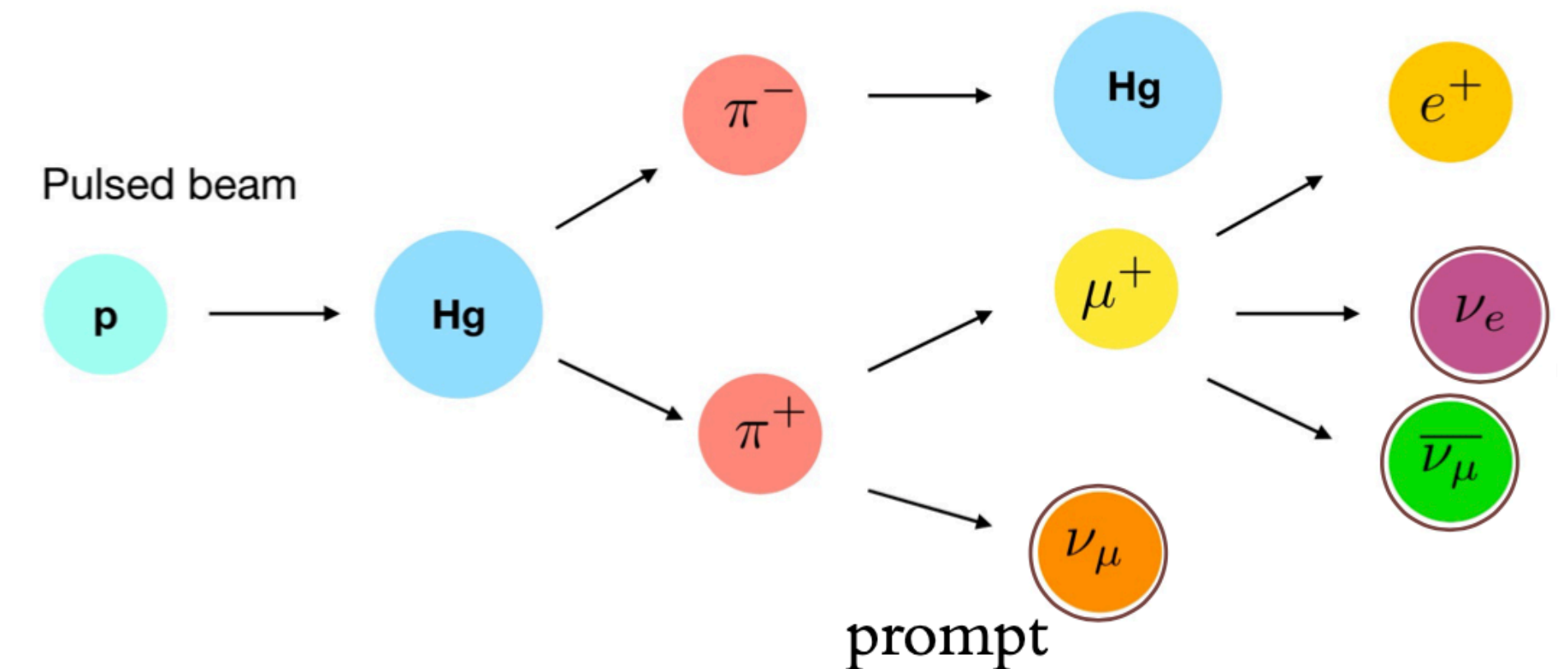
Requirements:

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## ▶ Stopped-pion beams

Pion-decay-at-rest neutrino source:  
neutrinos are produced from the decay of pions  
and muons

- ◆ intermediate neutrino energies ( $\sim 30$  MeV)
- ◆ slightly incoherent
- ◆ pulsed beam for background rejection



# Neutrino Sources

for CE $\nu$ NS

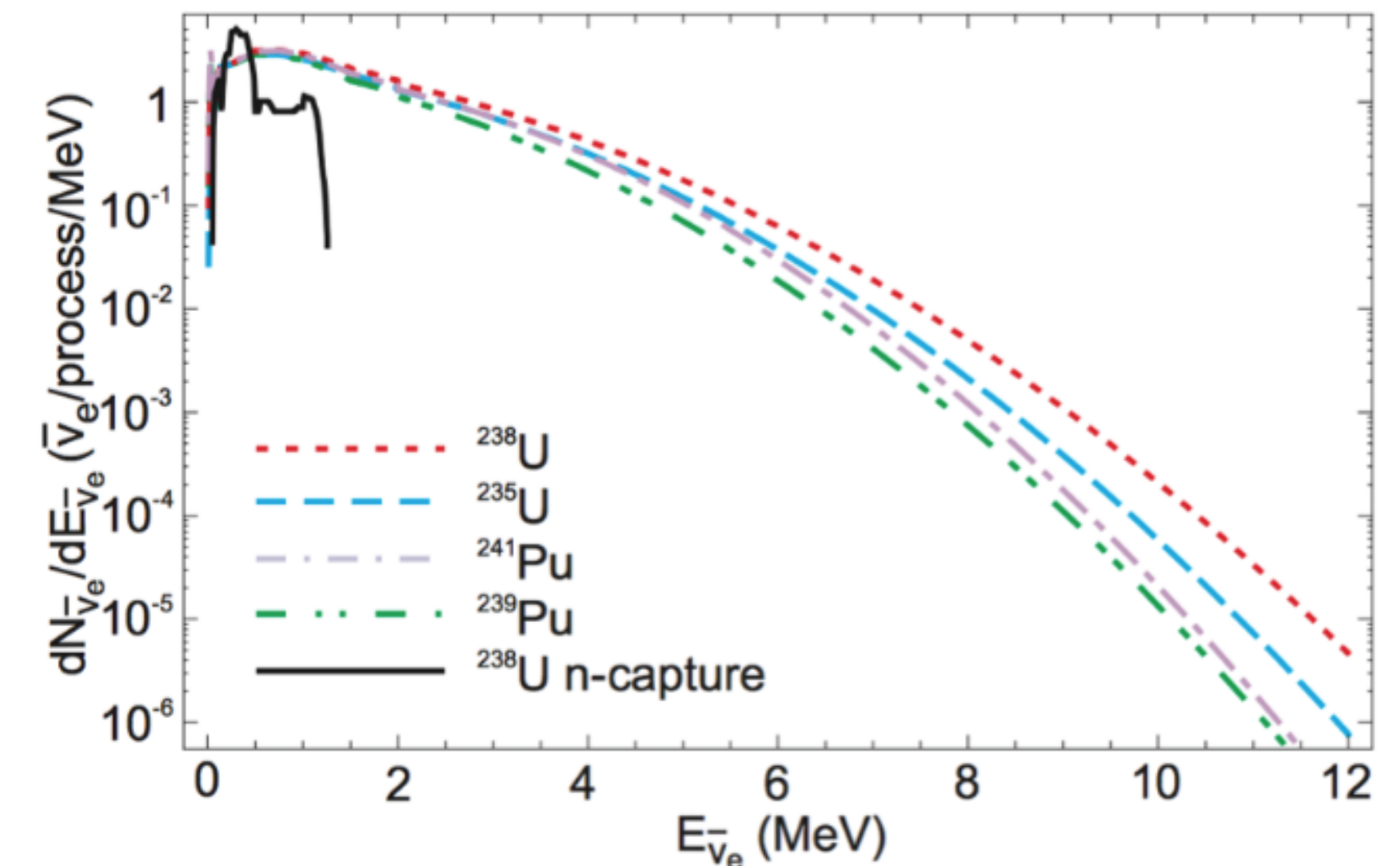
Requirements:

- ◆ High flux
- ◆ Neutrino production well understood
- ◆ Low background rates
- ◆ Multiple flavors
- ◆ etc

## ► Nuclear reactors

Neutrinos are produced in beta decays of fission fragments

- ◆ high flux  $\sim 10^{20}$   $\nu$ /s (power reactors)
- ◆ Intense @ MeV energies (up to 10 MeV)
- ◆ Clean in background, active and passive shielding





# Experiments

- Stopped-pion beams
- Nuclear reactors



- Future/Planned

# Stopped-pion beam experiments

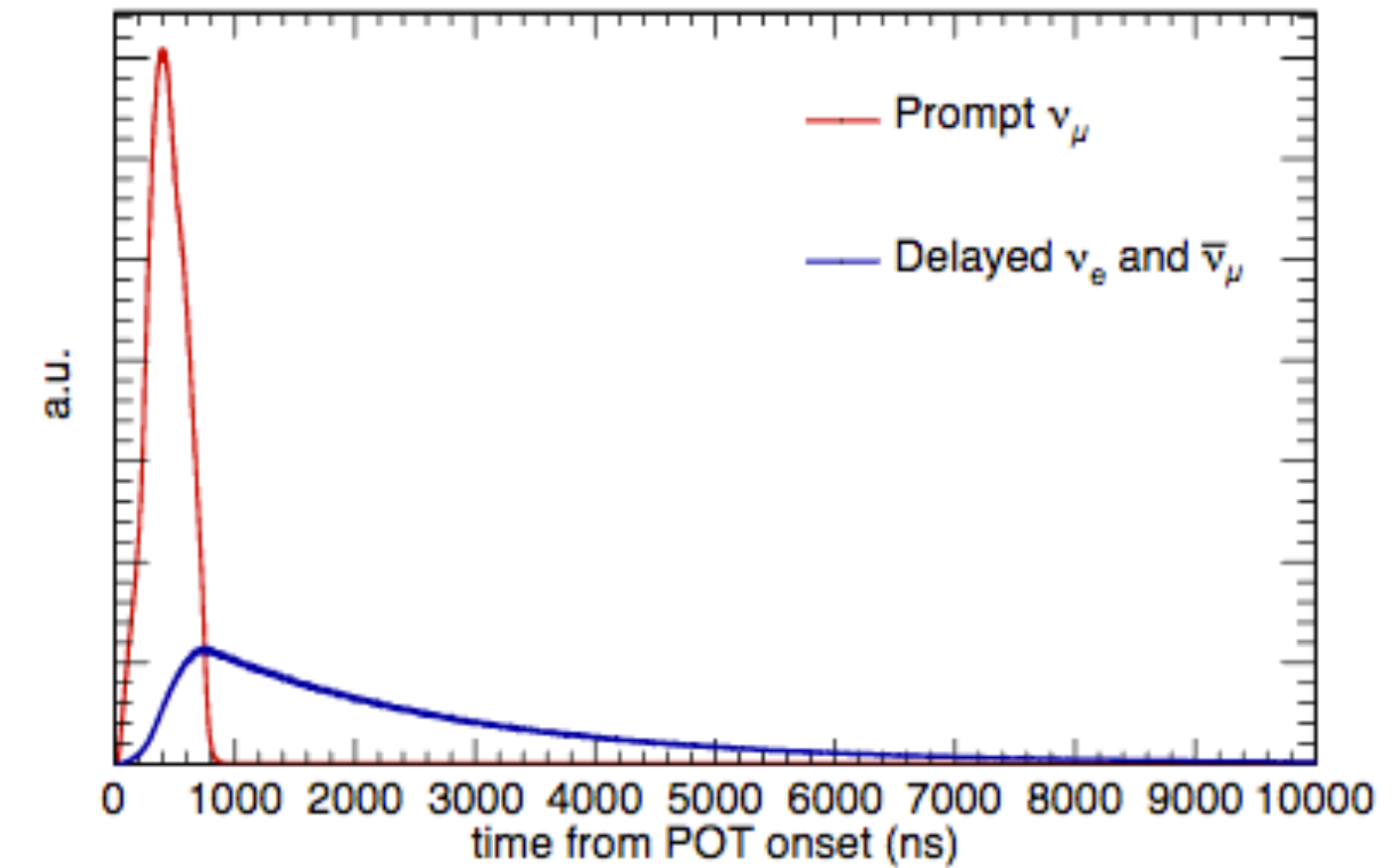
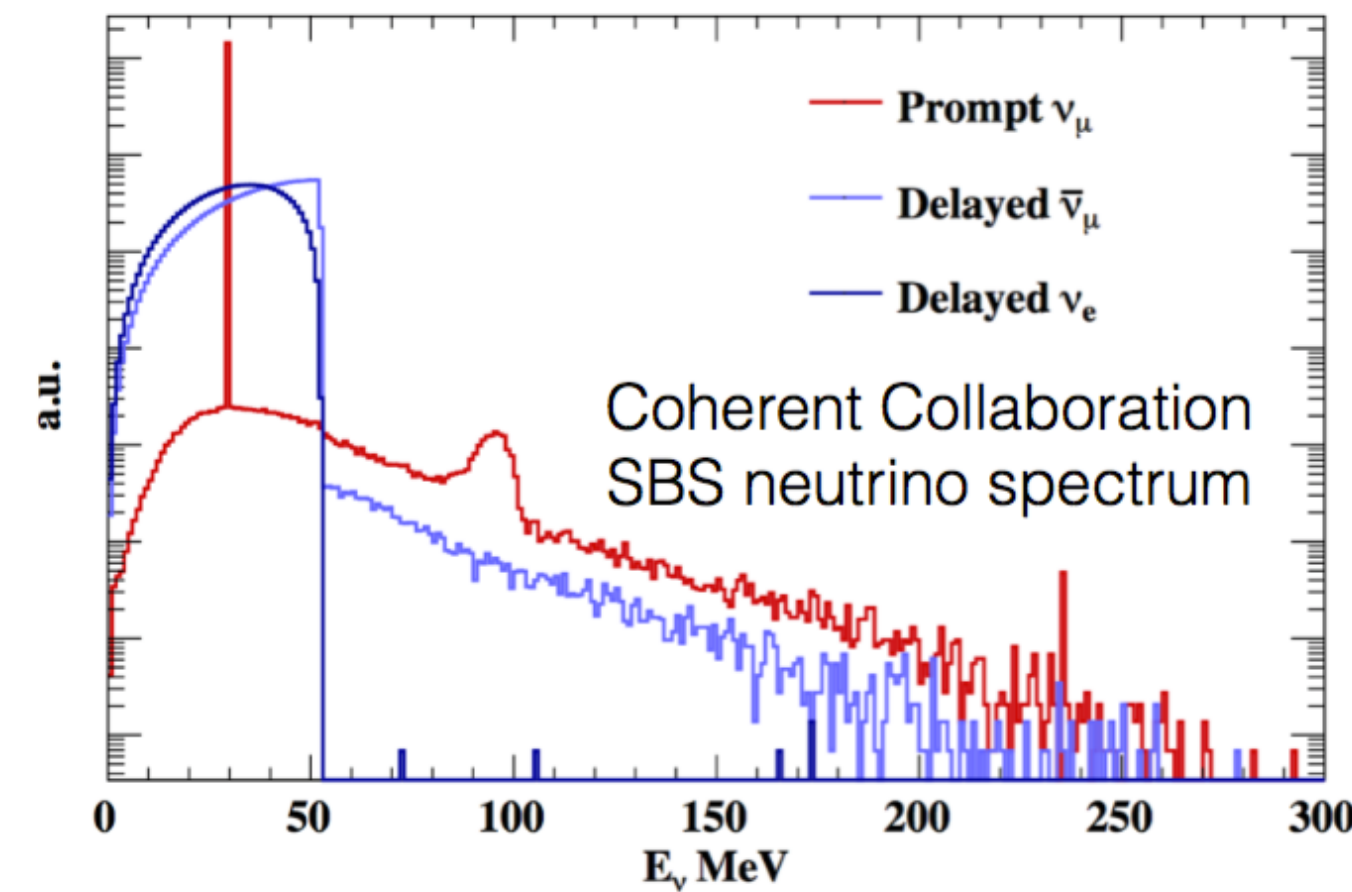
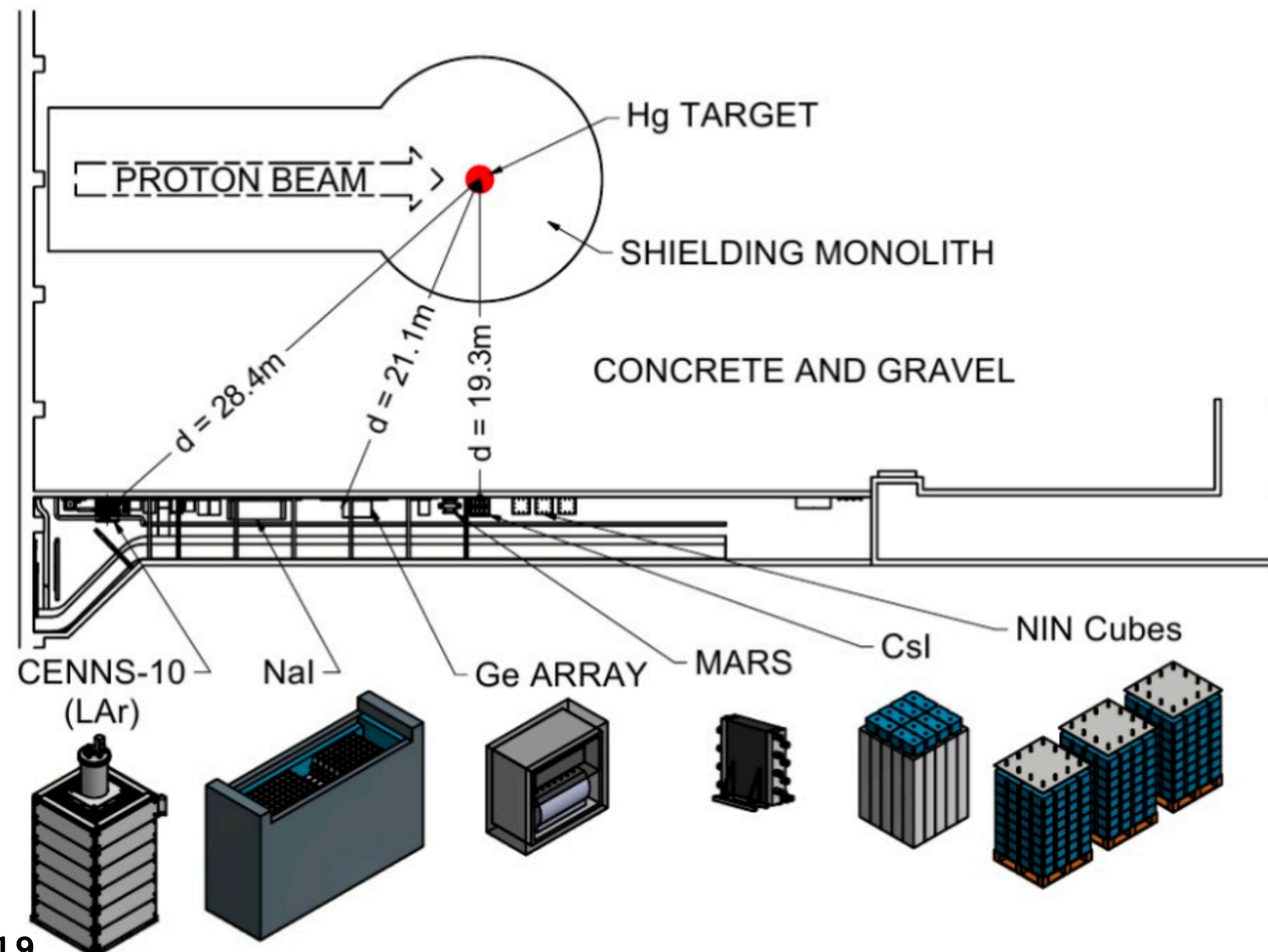


# Stopped-pion beam experiments

## COHERENT Experiment – SNS



- ◆ Spallation Neutron Source – 1 GeV proton beam
- ◆ Pion-decay-at-rest neutrino source
  - ◆ prompt monochromatic  $\sim 30$  MeV
- ◆ Pulsed beam @ 60Hz for background rejection (factor  $\sim 10^4$ )
- ◆ Multi-target program to measure  $N^2$  dependence

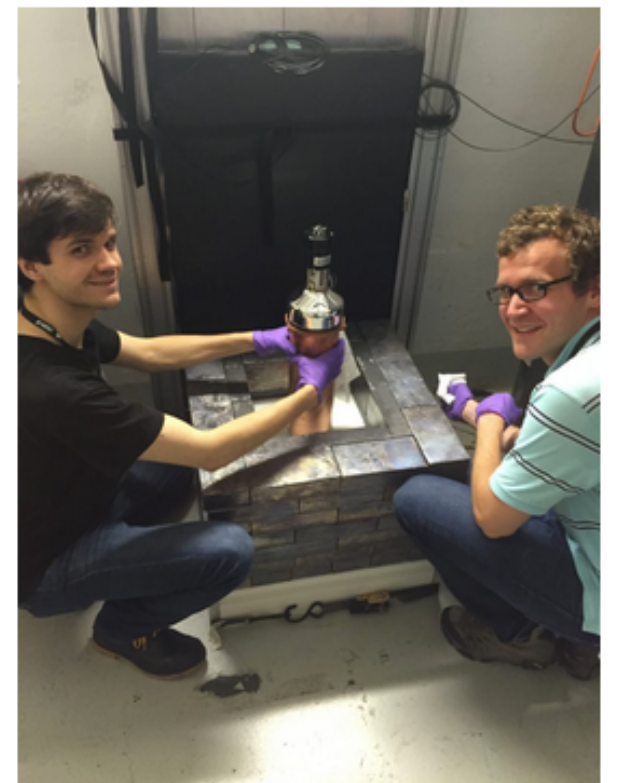
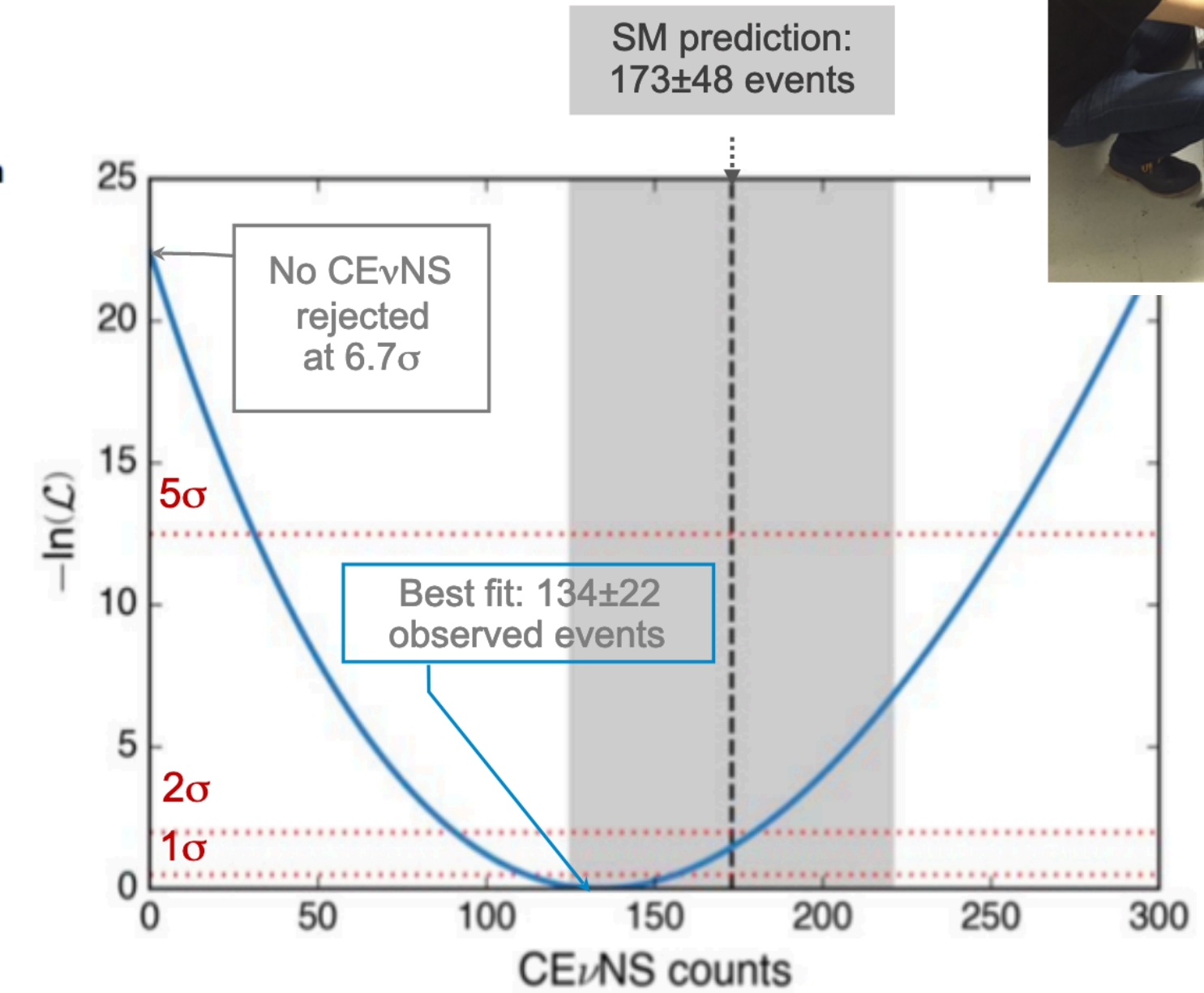
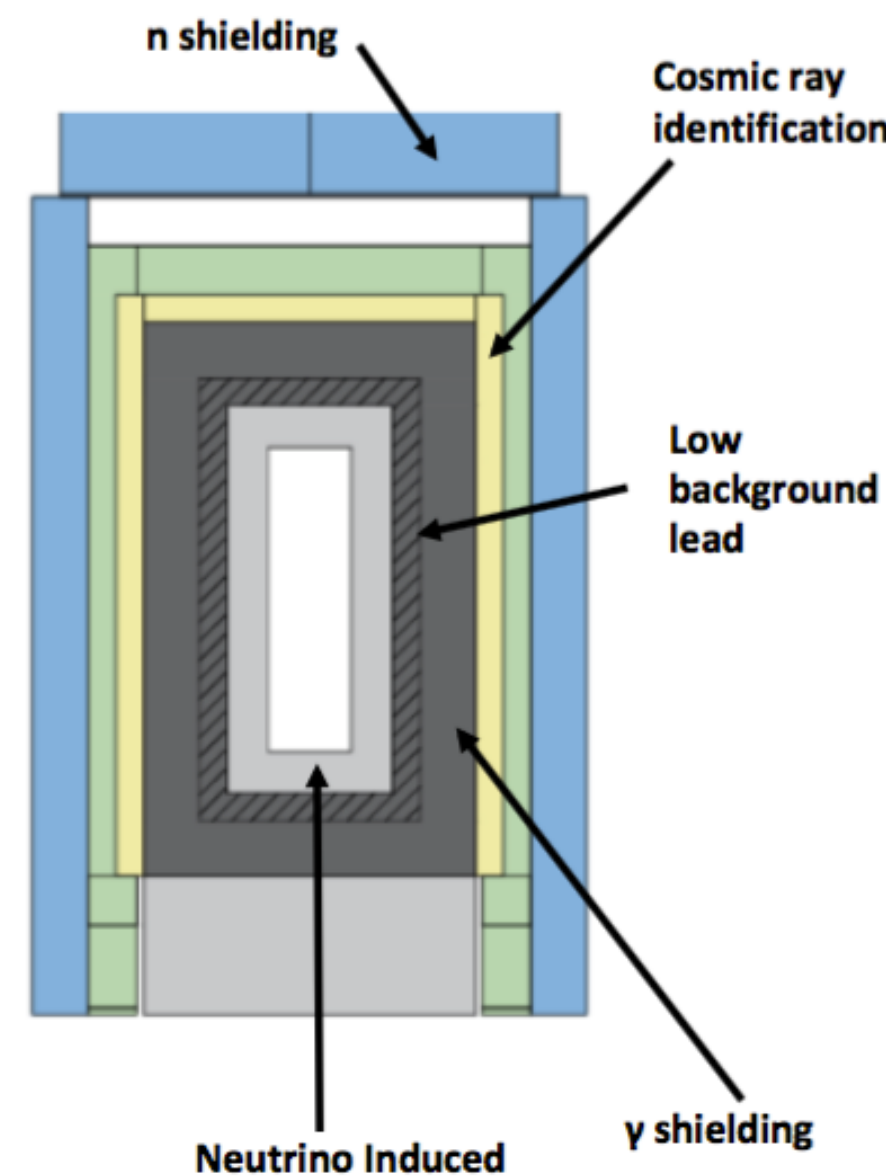
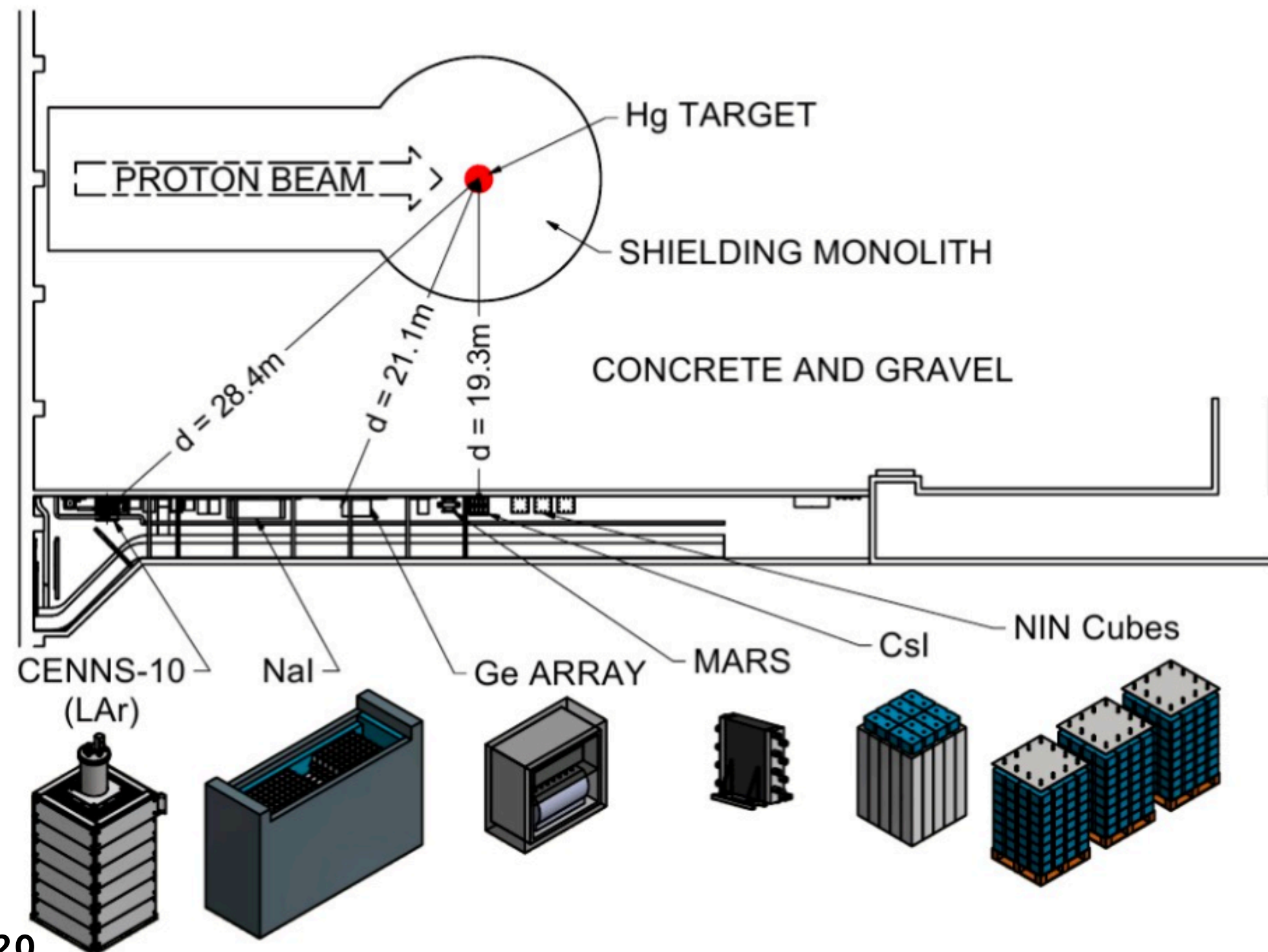


# Stopped-pion beam experiments

## COHERENT CsI



- ◆ 2017 First CE $\nu$ NS detection
- ◆ 14.6 kg CsI scintillating cristal
- ◆ 19.3 m from the source
- ◆  $134 \pm 22$  events observed ( $173 \pm 48$  predicted)
- ◆  $6.7\sigma$  significance



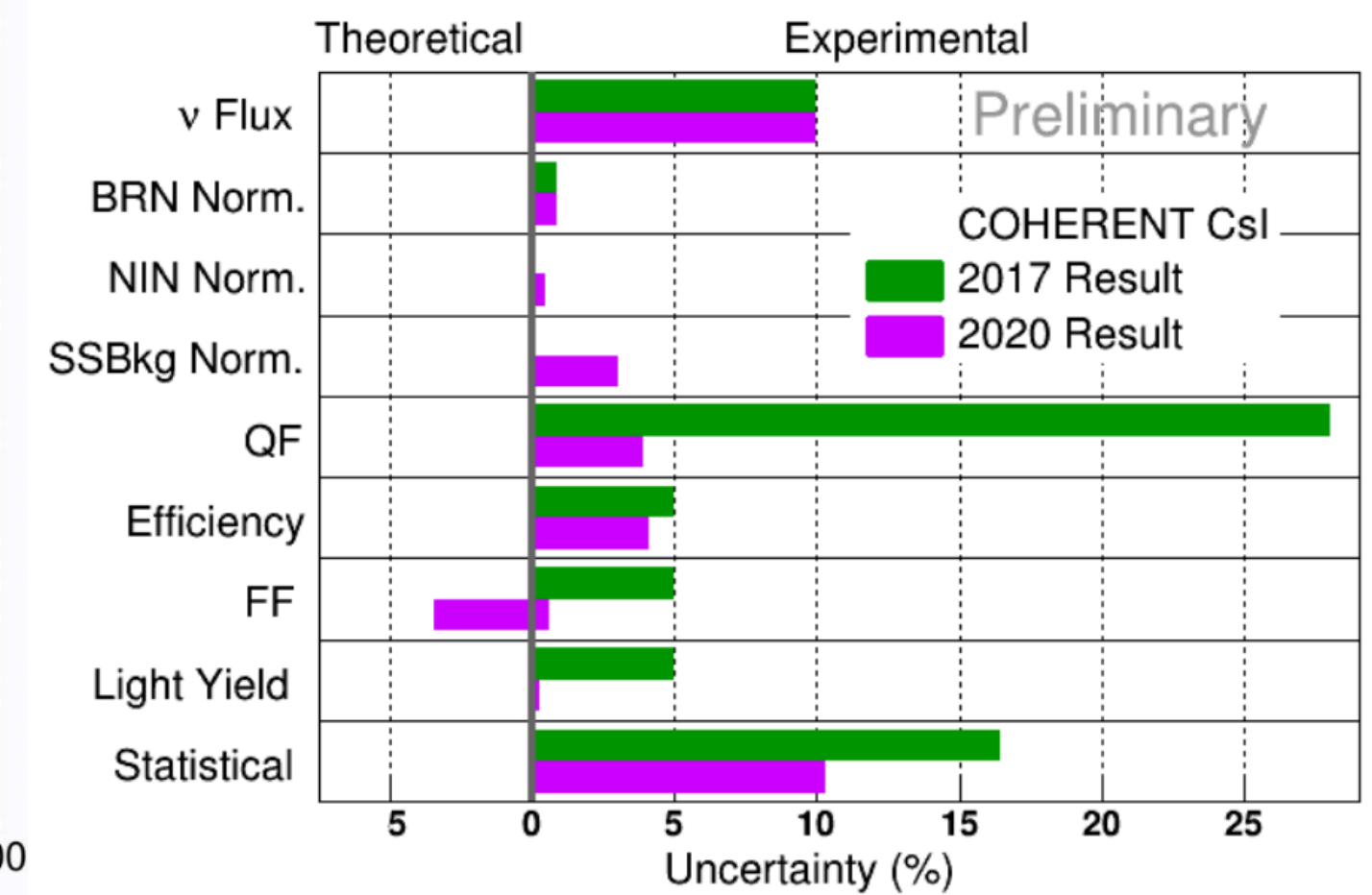
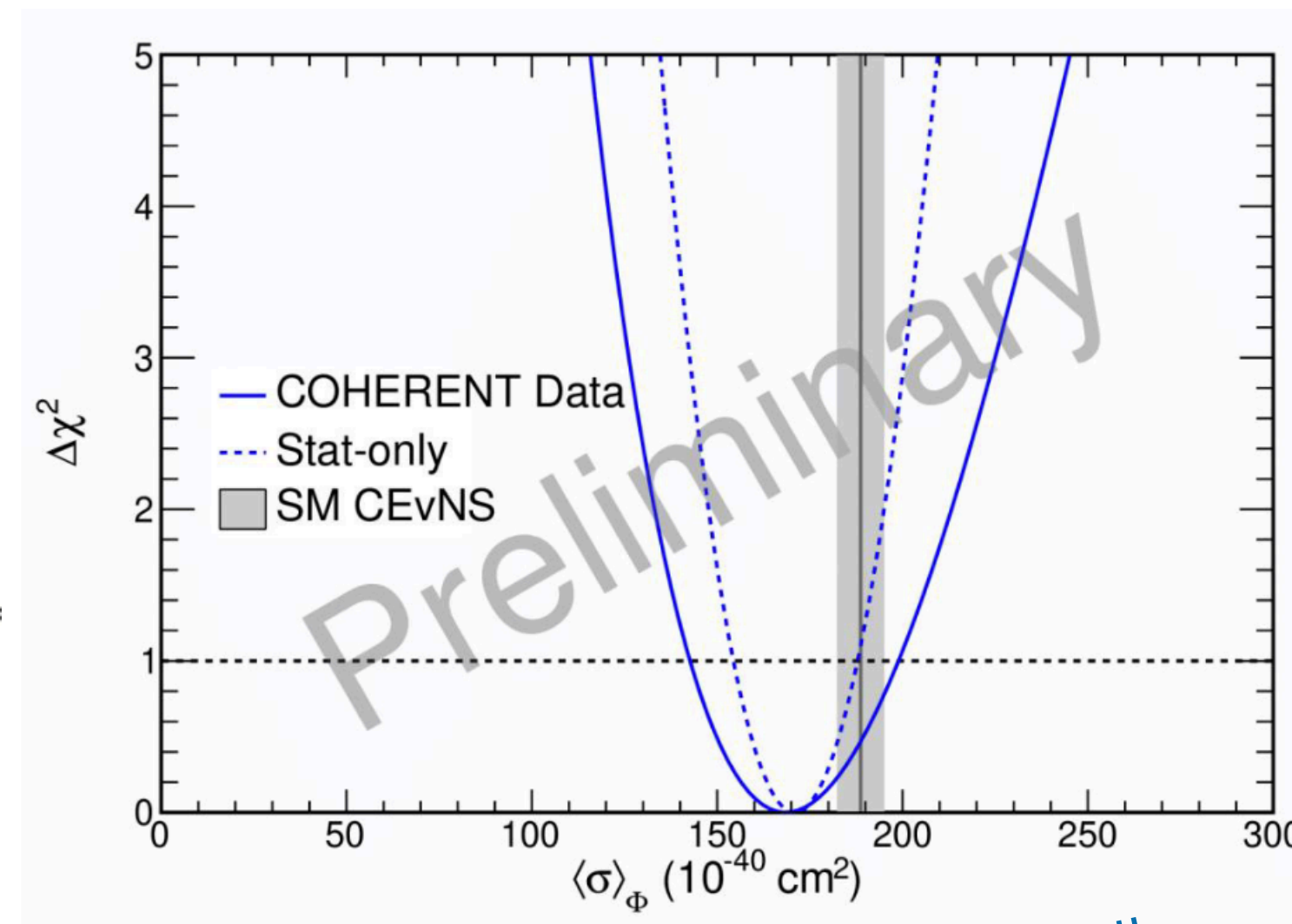
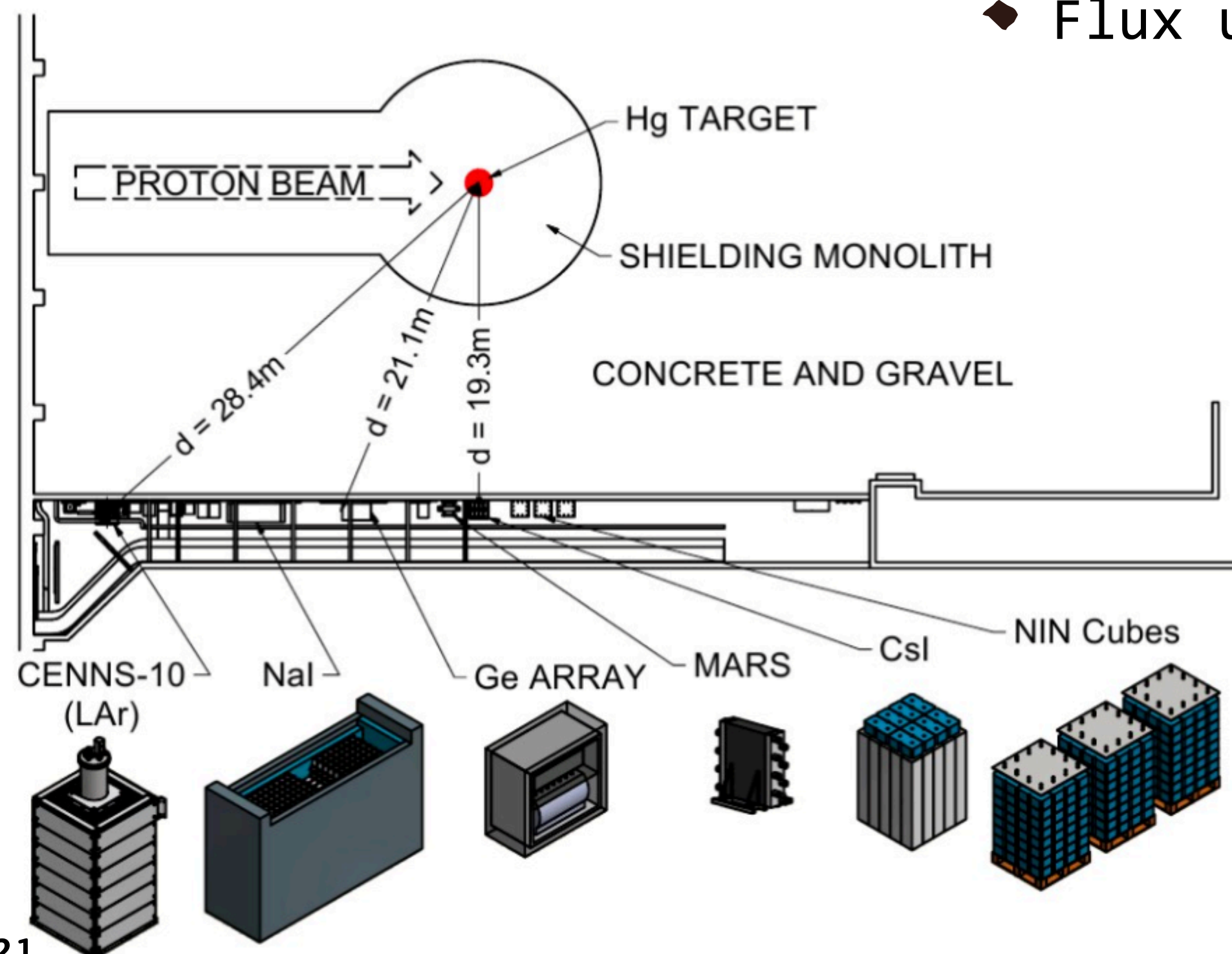
M. Green @ Magnificent CE $\nu$ NS 2019

# Stopped-pion beam experiments



## COHERENT CsI 2020

- ◆ 2020 More statistics! +2x
- ◆ Better signal reconstruction
- ◆  $306 \pm 20$  events observed ( $333 \pm 11$  (th)  $\pm 42$  (ex) predicted)
- ◆ No CEvNS rejection:  $11.6\sigma$
- ◆ Result consistent with SM prediction at  $1\sigma$
- ◆ Flux uncertainty dominates the systematic uncertainties (13%)



See Daniel Pershey's talk  
New results from COHERENT

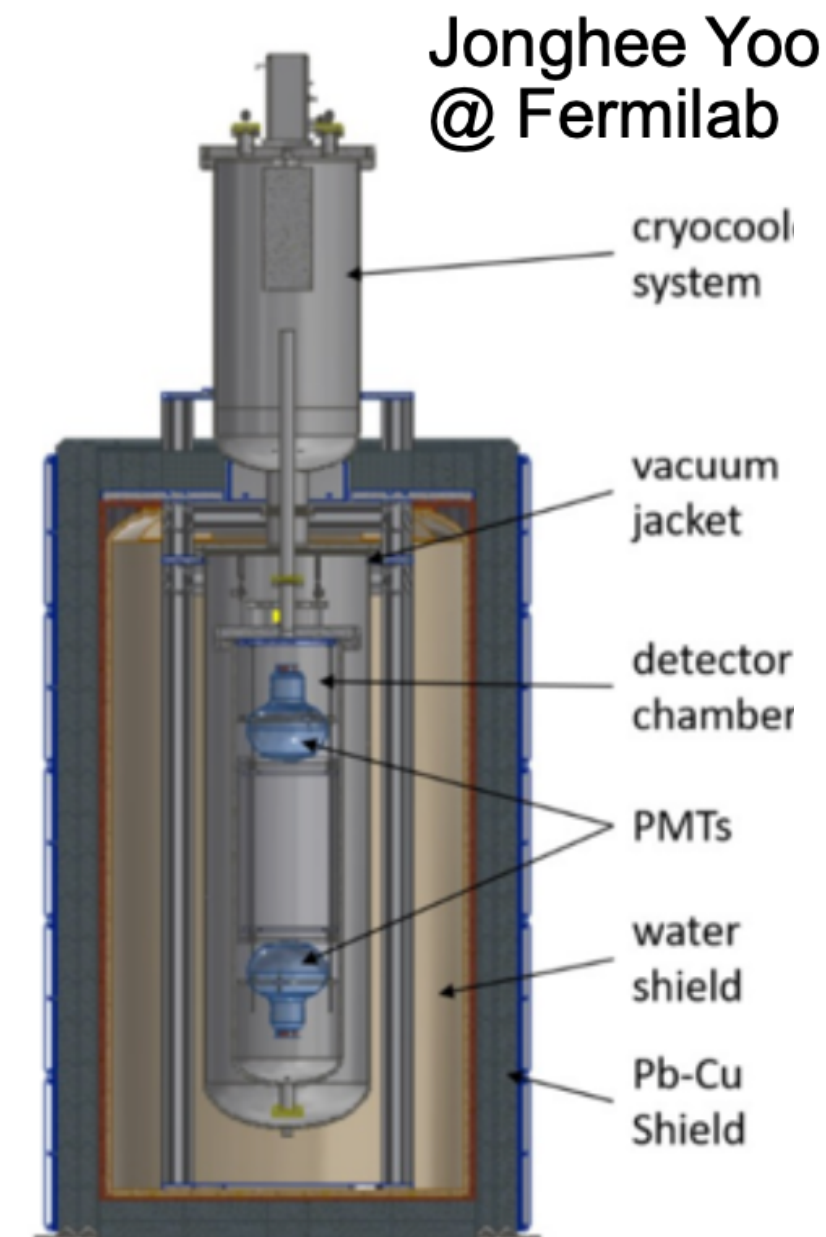
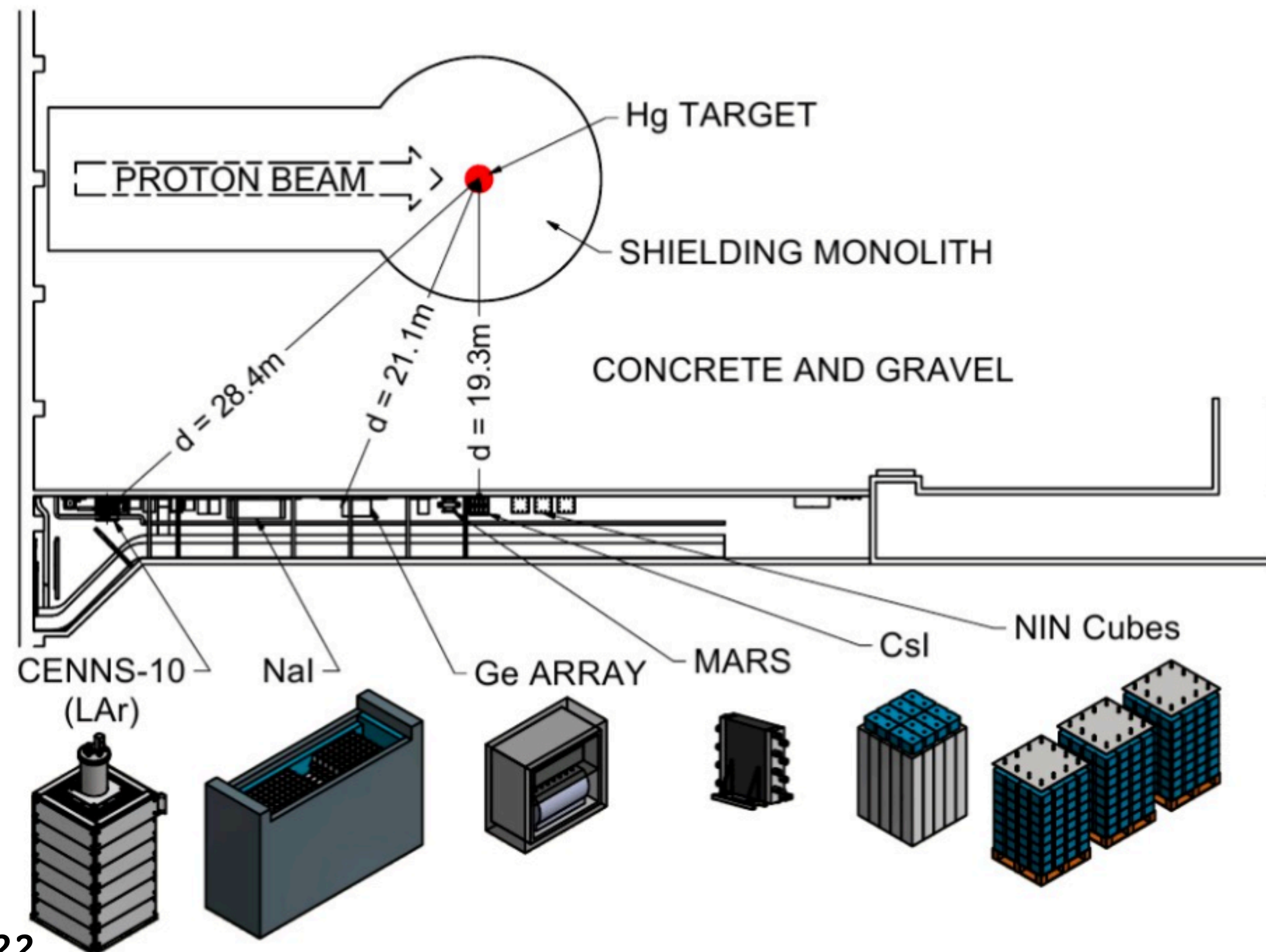
D. Pershey @ Magnificent CEvNS 2020

# Stopped-pion beam experiments

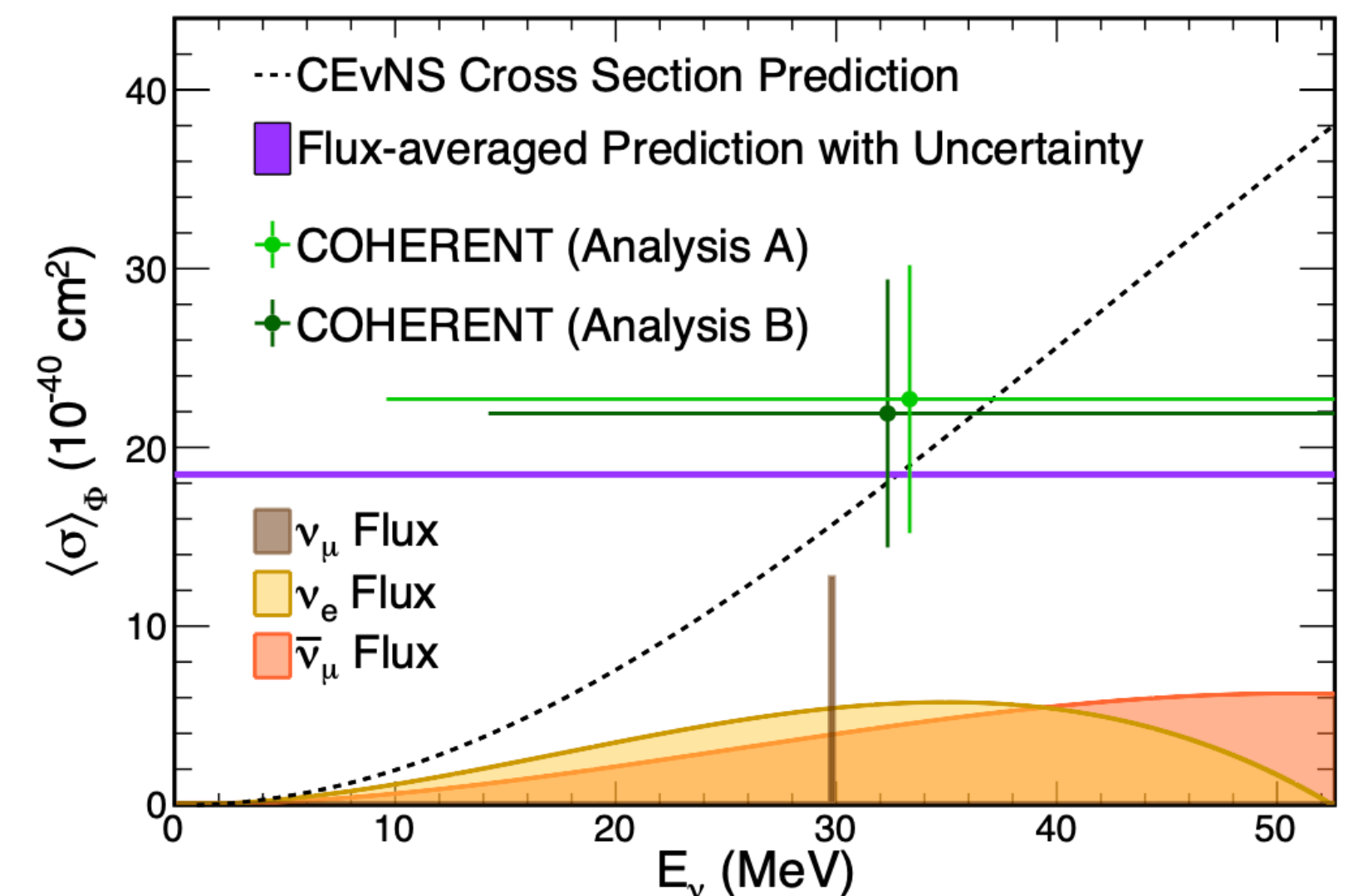
## COHERENT in Argon



- ◆ 2020 first results with the CENNS-10 detector
- ◆ Active mass 24 kg at 27.5 m from the source
- ◆ Single phase only (scintillation) with a threshold at 20 keV<sub>nr</sub>
- ◆ 2 independent blind analyses
- ◆ 3σ CEνNS detection significance



Cross section =  $(2.3 \pm 0.7) \cdot 10^{-39} \text{ cm}^2$



COHERENT, Phys. Rev. Lett. 126, 012002 (2021)

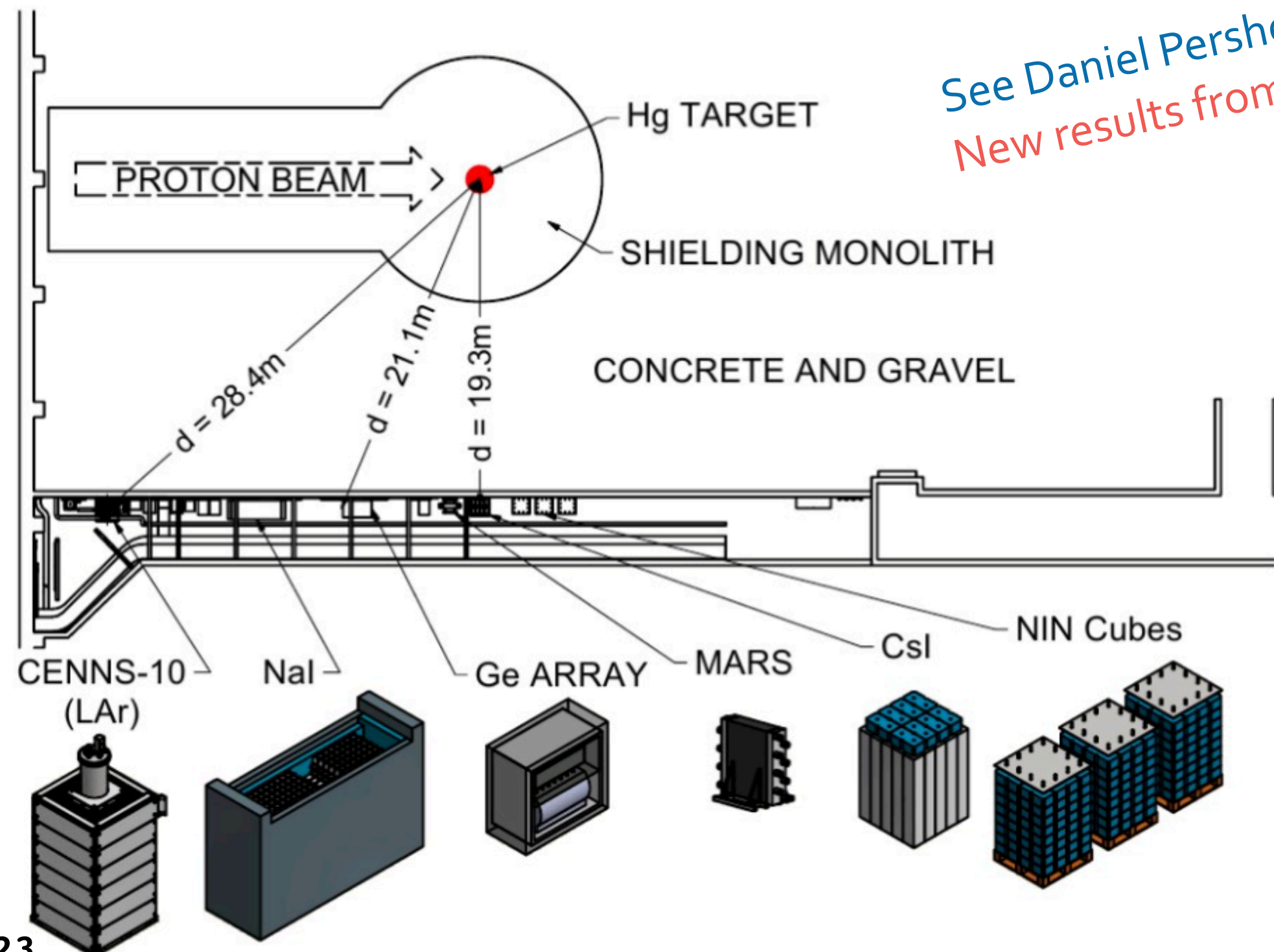
# Stopped-pion beam experiments

## COHERENT in Argon

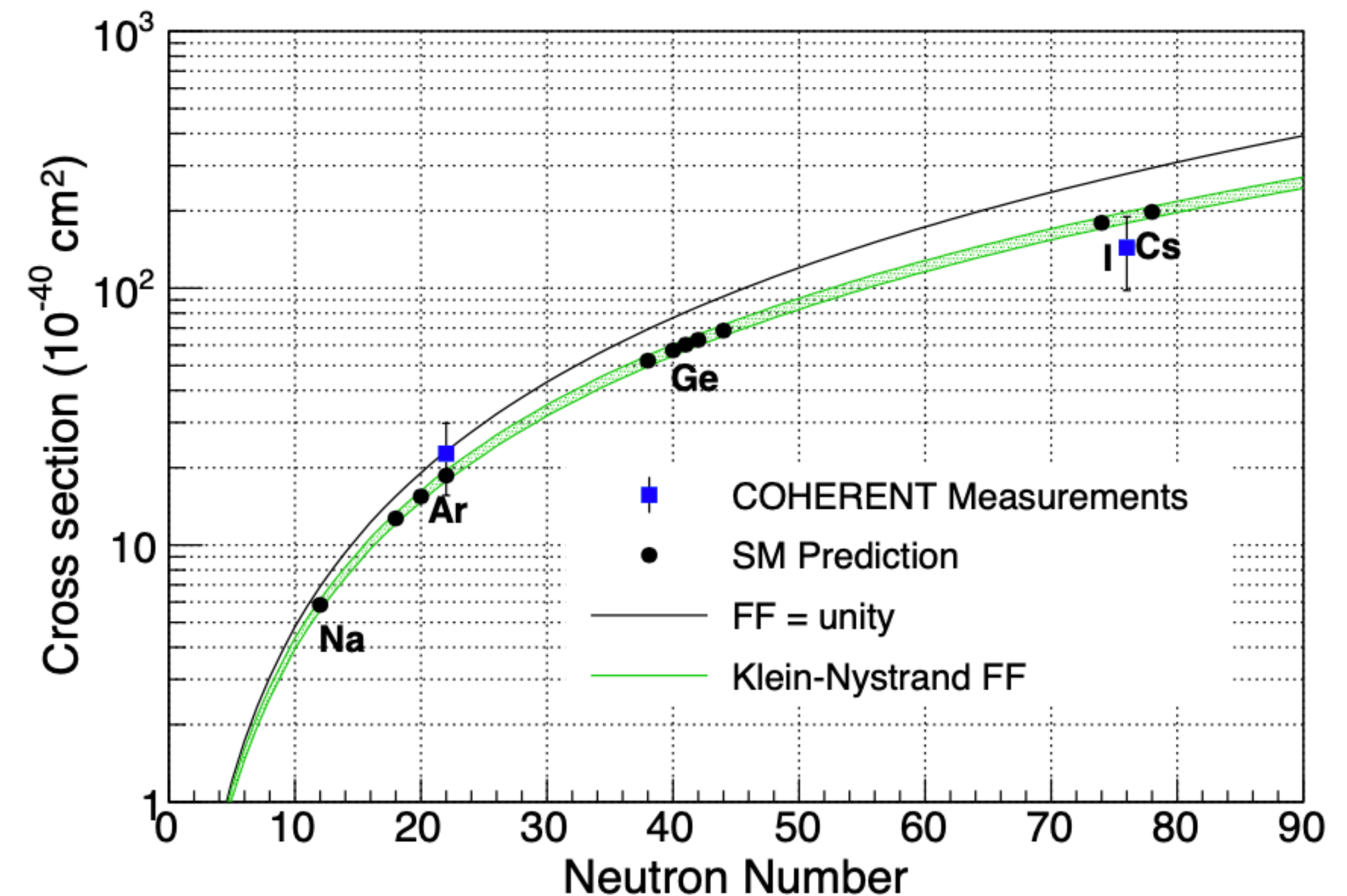


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See Daniel Pershey's talk  
New results from COHERENT



First confirmation of SM prediction of  $N^2$  dependence !



# Stopped-pion beam experiments

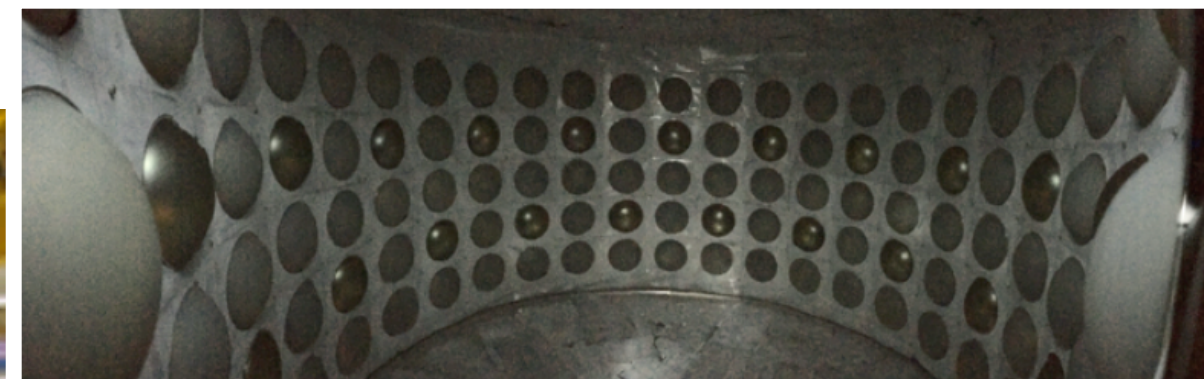
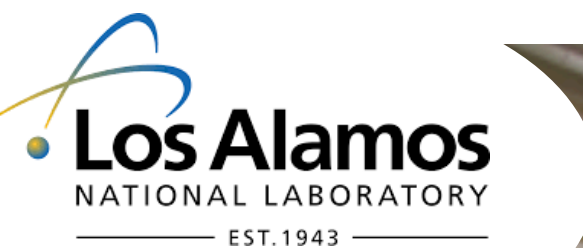
## Ongoing and new experiments



### European Spallation Source

- ◆ Gaseous detector for Neutrino physics at the ESS (GaNESS)
- ◆ Other proposed projects  
ex: JHEP 2020,123 (2020);  
arXiv:1911.00762

## Lujan Center @ LANSCE



### ◆ Coherent CAPTAIN-Mills (CCM)

- ▶ 10-ton liquid Argon detector
- ▶ Energy threshold ~ 50 keV
- ▶ To be improved to 20-30 keV by LAr purification
- ▶ Data taking since 2021

### Coherent Elastic Neutrino-Nucleus Scattering at the European Spallation Source

D. Baxter,<sup>1</sup> J.I. Collar,<sup>1,\*</sup> P. Coloma,<sup>2,†</sup> C.E. Dahl,<sup>3,4</sup> I. Esteban,<sup>5,‡</sup> P. Ferrario,<sup>6,7,8</sup> J.J. Gomez-Cadenas,<sup>6,7,9</sup> M. C. Gonzalez-Garcia,<sup>5,8,9,\*\*</sup> A.R.L. Kavner,<sup>1</sup> C.M. Lewis,<sup>1</sup> F. Monrabal,<sup>6,7,††</sup> J. Muñoz Vidal,<sup>6</sup> P. Privitera,<sup>1</sup> K. Ramanathan,<sup>1</sup> and J. Renner<sup>10</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Enrico Fermi Institute, Kavli Institute for Cosmological Physics, and Department of Physics University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois 60637, USA

<sup>2</sup>Instituto de Física Corpuscular, Universitat de València and CSIC, Edificio Institutos Investigación, Catedrático José Beltrán 2, 46980 Valencia, Spain

<sup>3</sup>Department of Physics and Astronomy, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois 60208, USA

<sup>4</sup>Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, Batavia, Illinois 60510, USA

<sup>5</sup>Departament de Física Quàntica i Astrofísica and Institut de Ciències del Cosmos, Universitat de Barcelona, Diagonal 647, E-08028 Barcelona, Spain

<sup>6</sup>Donostia International Physics Center (DIPC), Paseo Manuel Lardizabal, 4, Donostia-San Sebastián, E-20018, Spain

<sup>7</sup>Ikerbasque, Basque Foundation for Science, Bilbao, E-48013, Spain

<sup>8</sup>Institució Catalana de Recerca i Estudis Avançats (ICREA) Pg. Lluís Companys 23, 08010 Barcelona, Spain

<sup>9</sup>C.N. Yang Institute for Theoretical Physics, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook NY 11794-3849, USA

<sup>10</sup>Instituto Gallego de Física de Altas Energías, Univ. de Santiago de Compostela, Campus sur, Rúa Xosé María Suárez Núñez, s/n, Santiago de Compostela, E-15782, Spain

The European Spallation Source (ESS), presently well on its way to completion, will soon provide the most intense neutron beams for multi-disciplinary science. Fortuitously, it will also generate the largest pulsed neutrino flux suitable for the detection of Coherent Elastic Neutrino-Nucleus Scattering (CE $\nu$ NS), a process recently measured for the first time at ORNL's Spallation Neutron Source. We describe innovative detector technologies maximally able to profit from the order-of-magnitude increase in neutrino flux provided by the ESS, along with their sensitivity to a rich particle physics phenomenology accessible through high-statistics, precision CE $\nu$ NS measurements.

.ins-det] 3 Feb 2020



# Nuclear Reactor experiments

Charge Coupled Devices (CCDs)  
Silicon

# Nuclear reactors

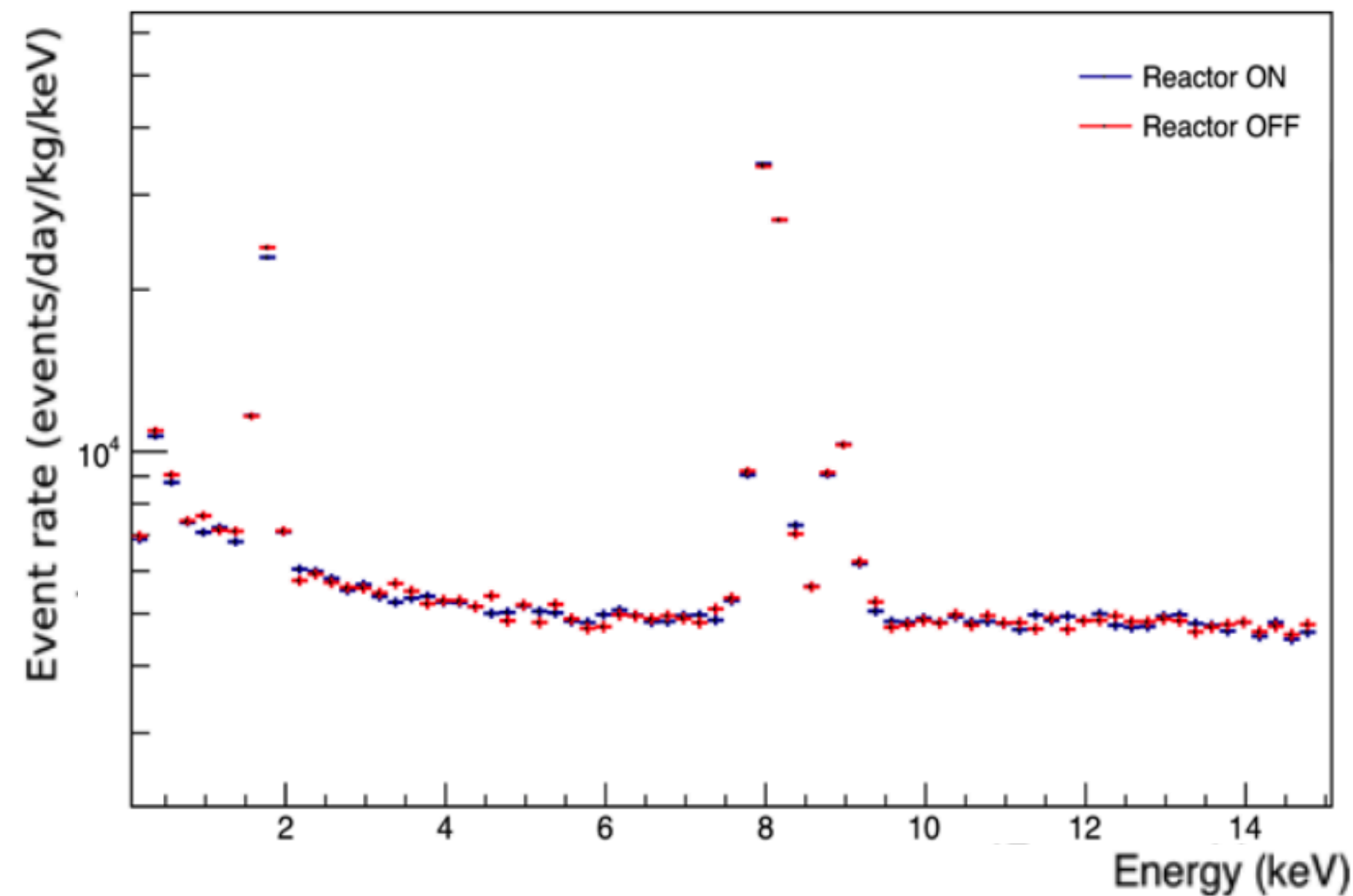
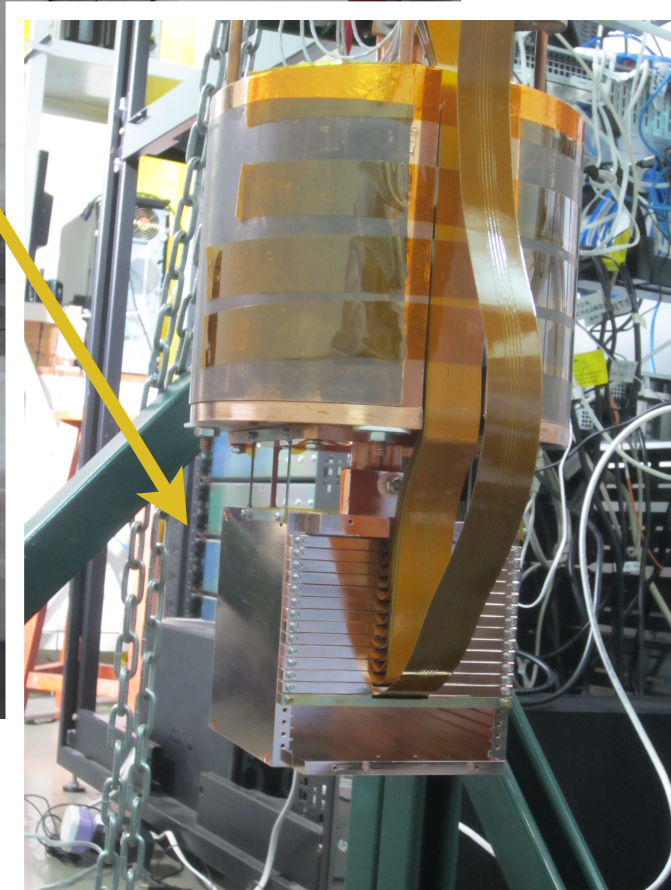
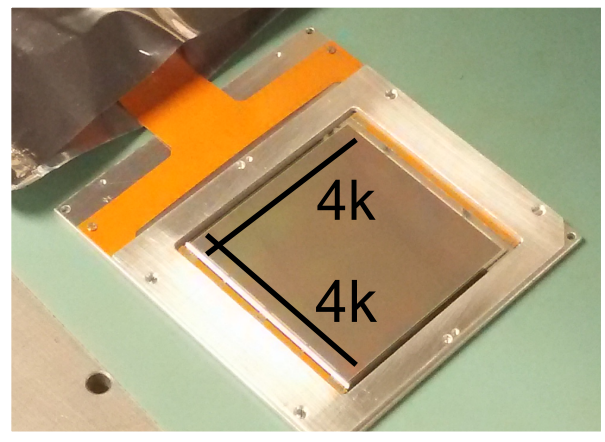
## COherent Neutrino-Nucleus Interaction Experiment CONNIE



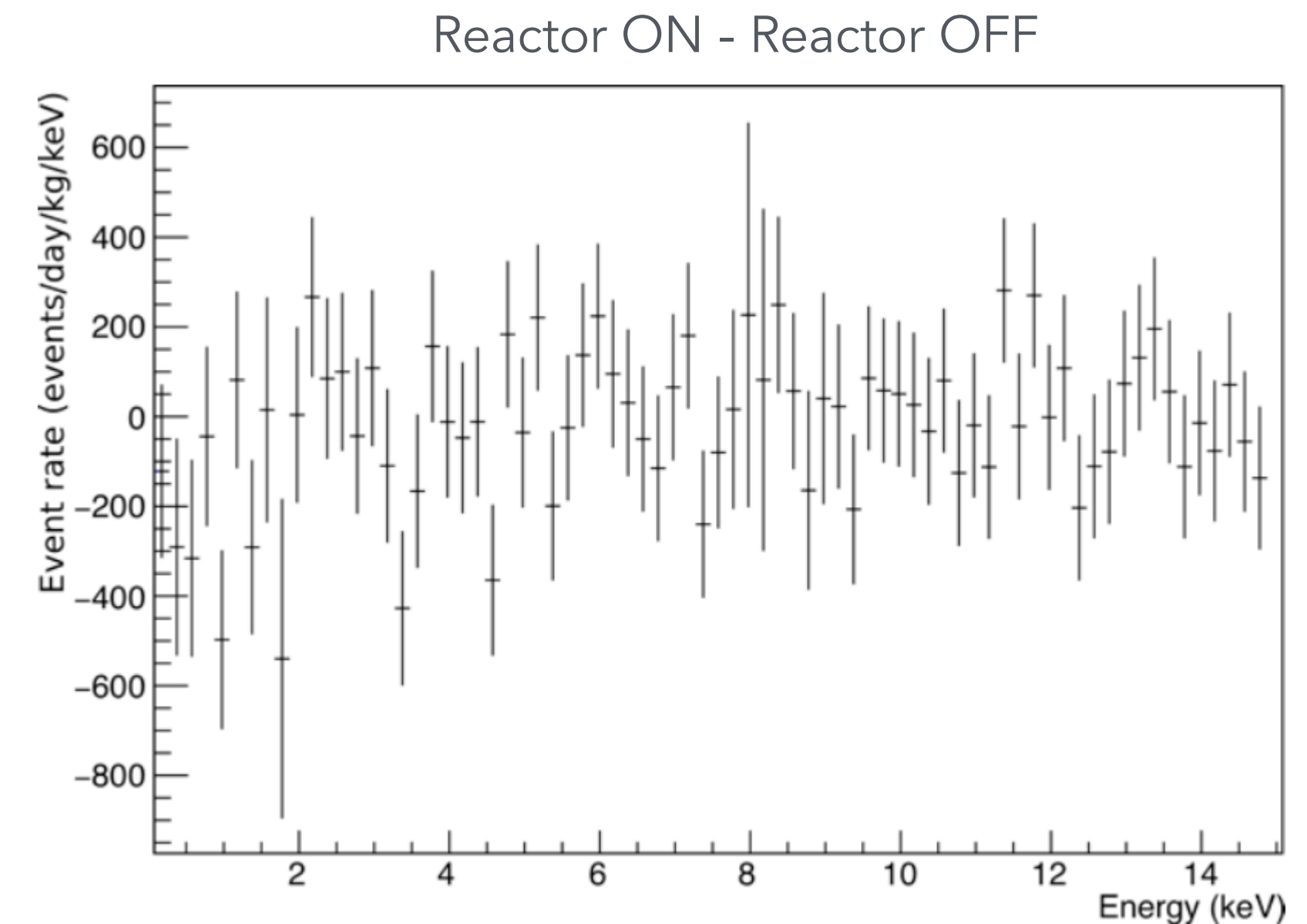
- ◆ Experiment @ 30 m from the 3.9 GW reactor core
- ◆ Reactor-OFF periods (~1/14 months) for background measurements
- ◆ Flux:  $\sim 10^{12} \bar{\nu}_e \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
- ◆ 14 CCDs of 6 g each
- ◆ Passive shield (Lead + polyethylene)
- ◆ Energy threshold  $\sim 50\text{-}70 \text{ eV}_{ee}$



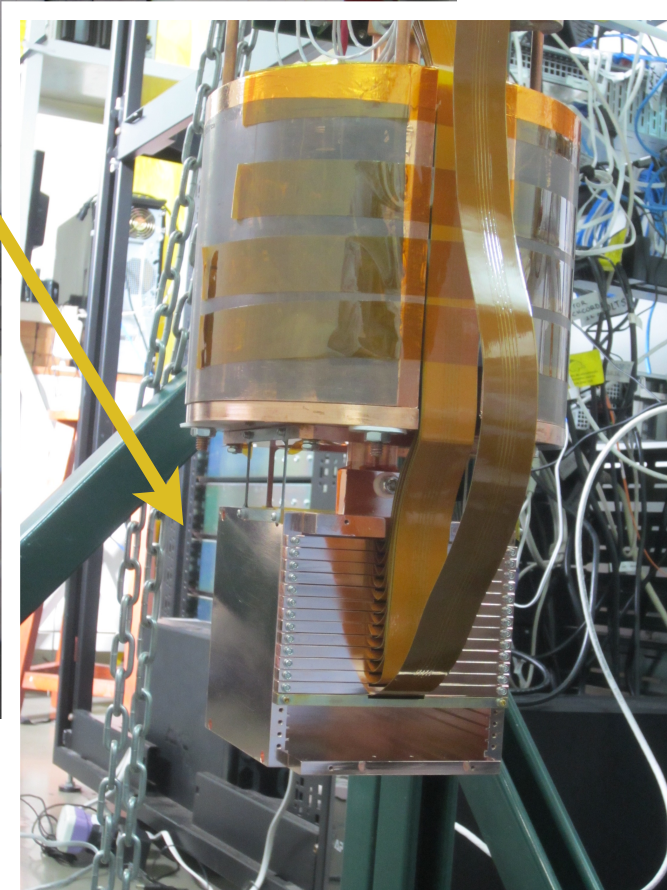
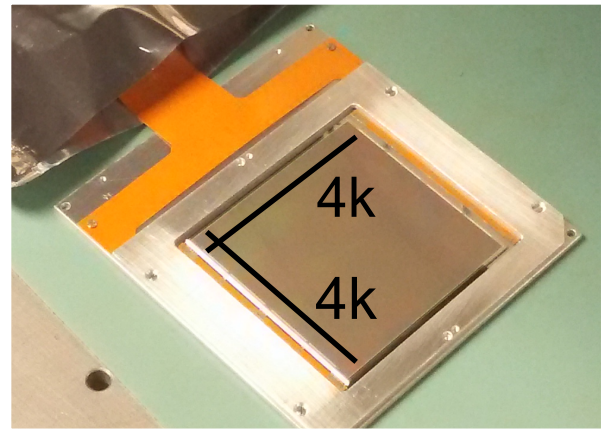
Angra 2 nuclear power plant in Brazil



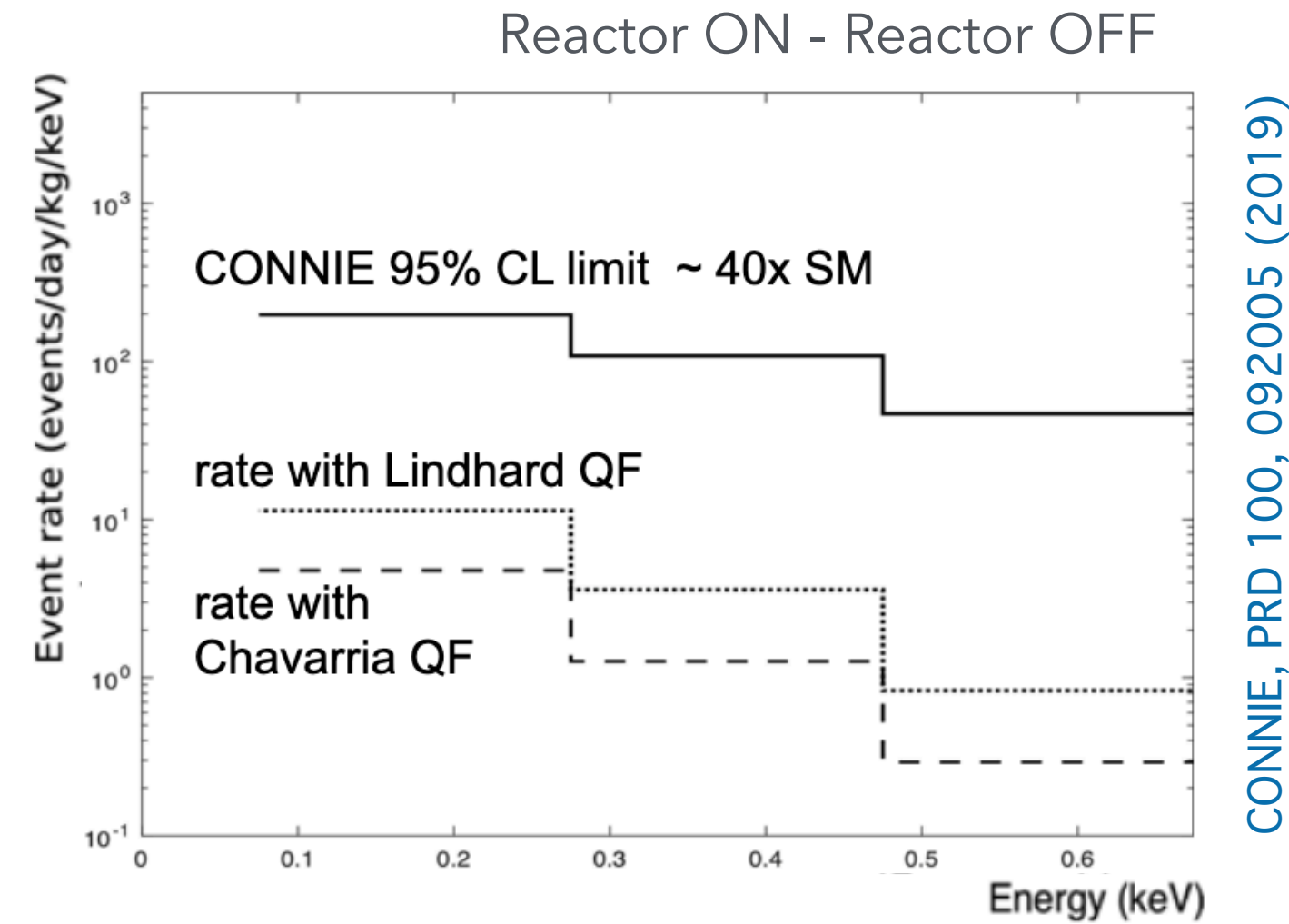
CONNIE, PRD 100, 092005 (2019)



# Nuclear reactors



## CONNIE – 2016–2018

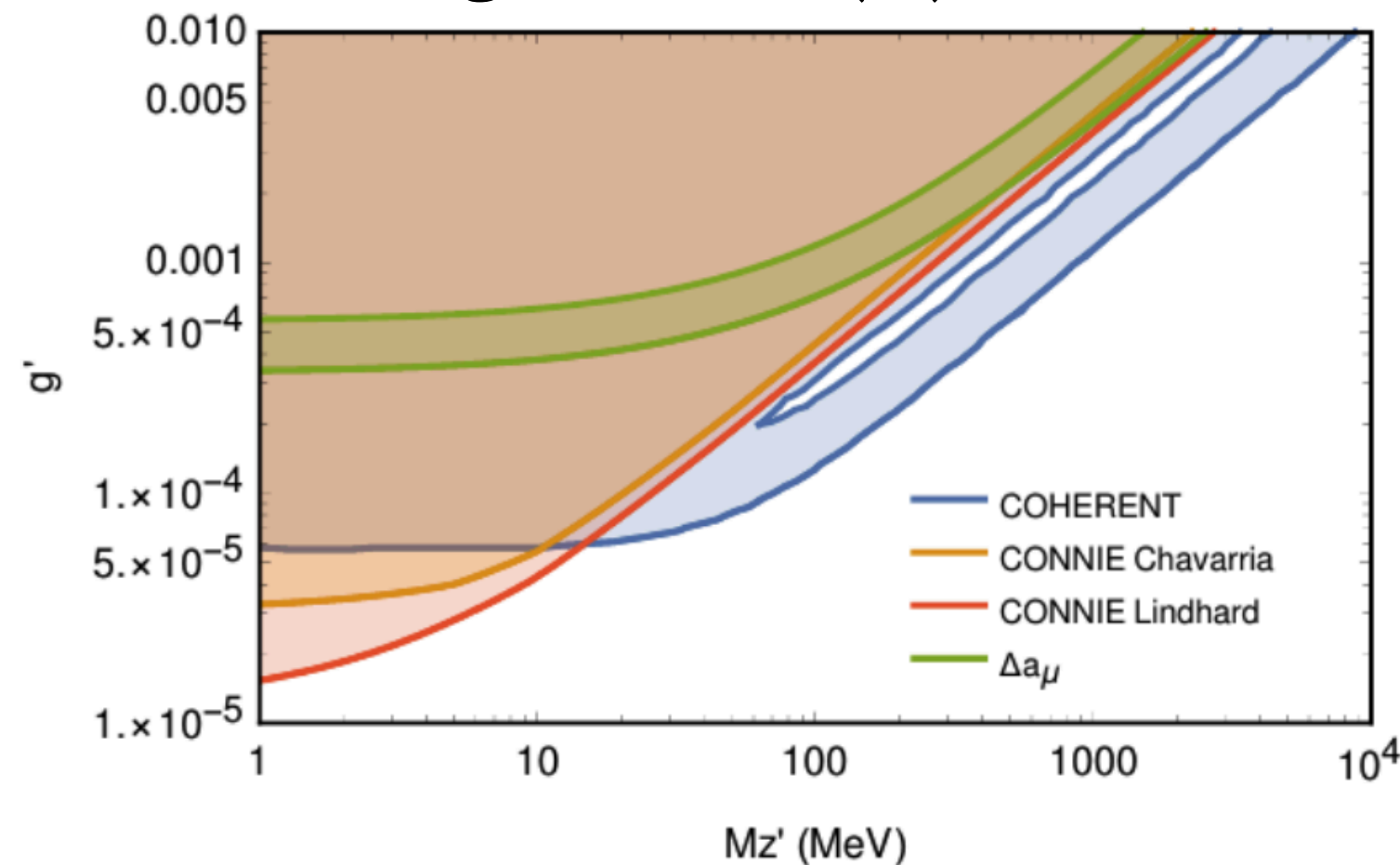


- ◆ Active mass 47.6 g.
- ◆ Reactor ON (2.1 kg-day) vs Reactor OFF (1.6 kg-day).
- ◆ Event rates in the lowest-energy bin yield limits on non-standard neutrino interactions

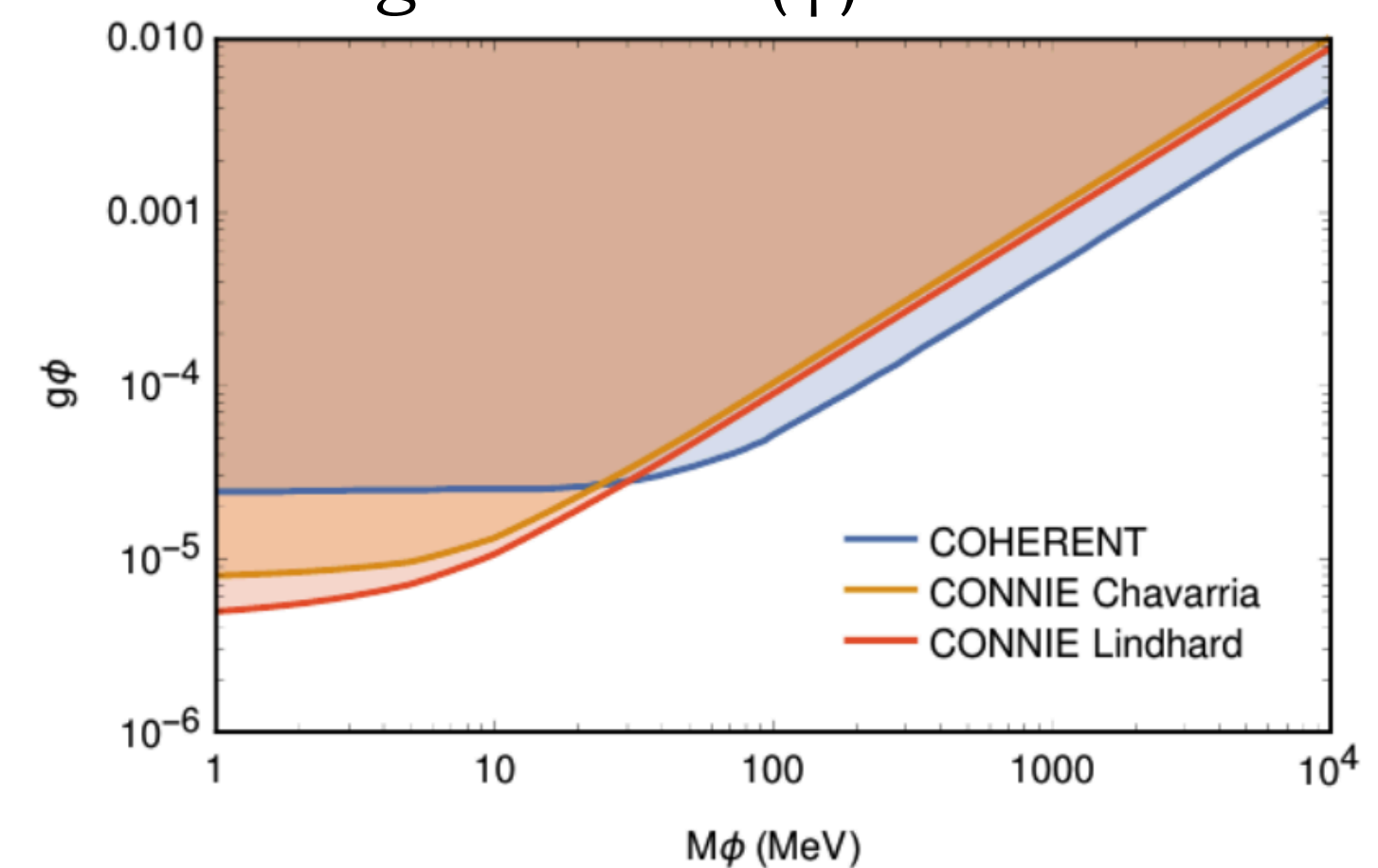
**NEUTRINO 2022**  
 XXX International Conference on Neutrino Physics and Astrophysics  
 May 30 - June 4, 2022  
 Virtual Seoul  
 6F Dirac, DT06-556

- ◆ First competitive BSM constraints from CEvNS at reactors

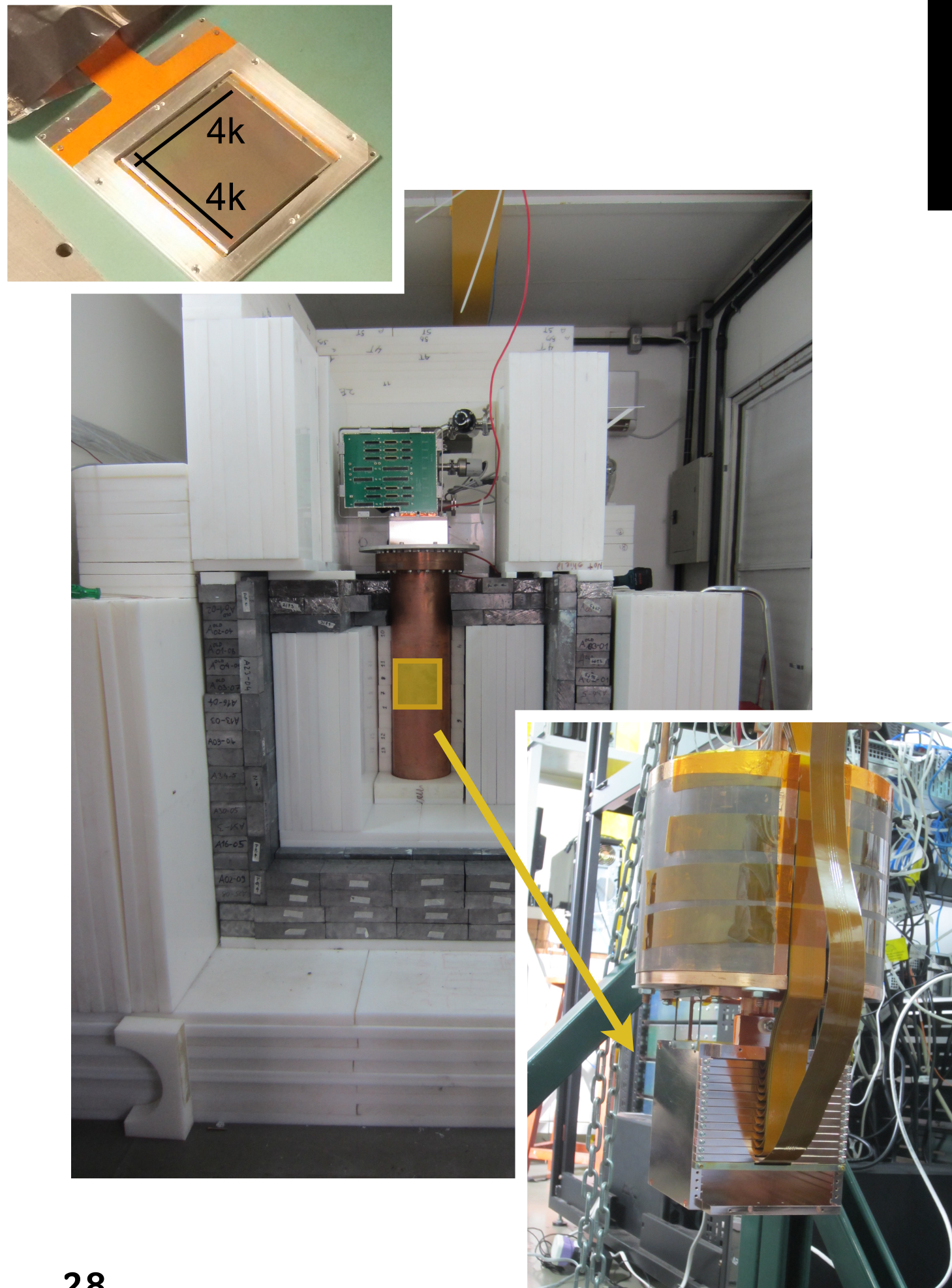
Light vector ( $Z'$ ) mediator



Light scalar ( $\phi$ ) mediator

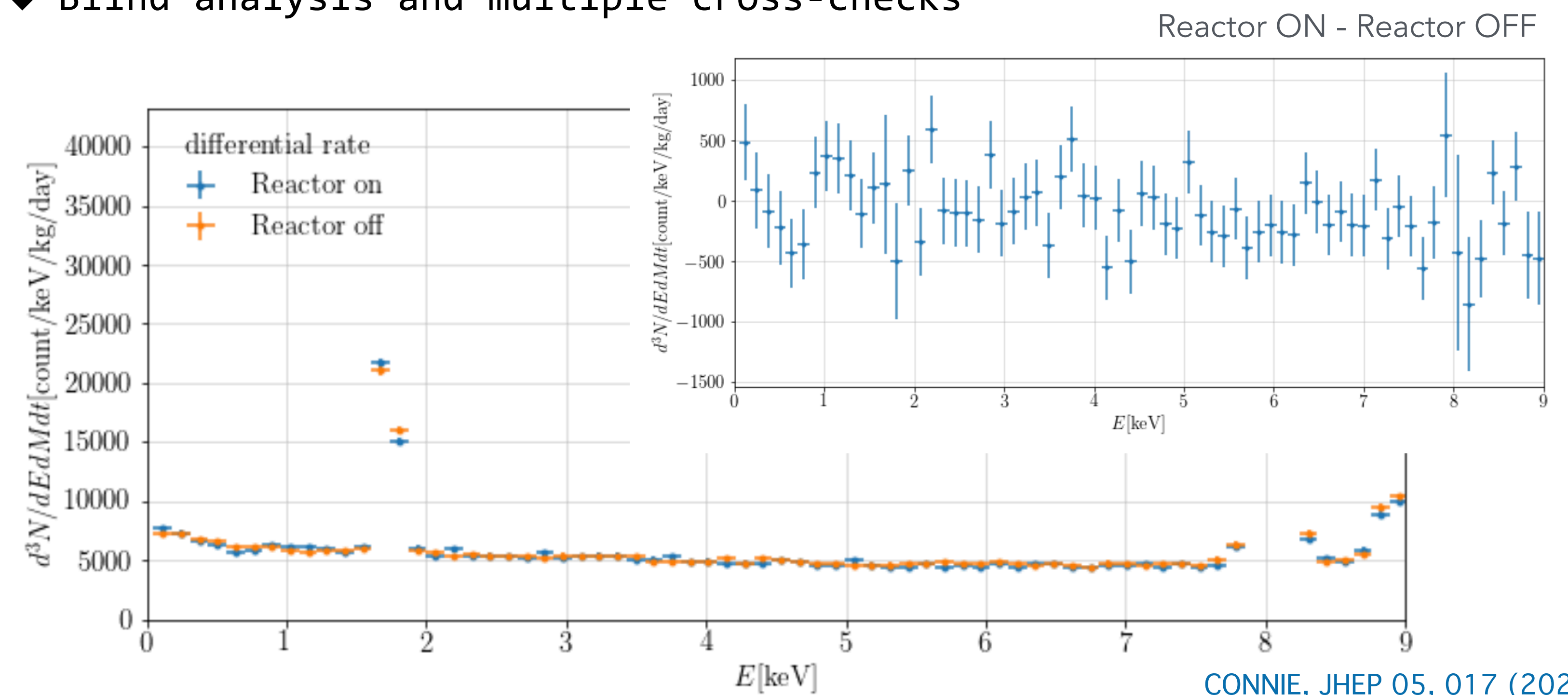


# Nuclear reactors



## CONNIE – 2019

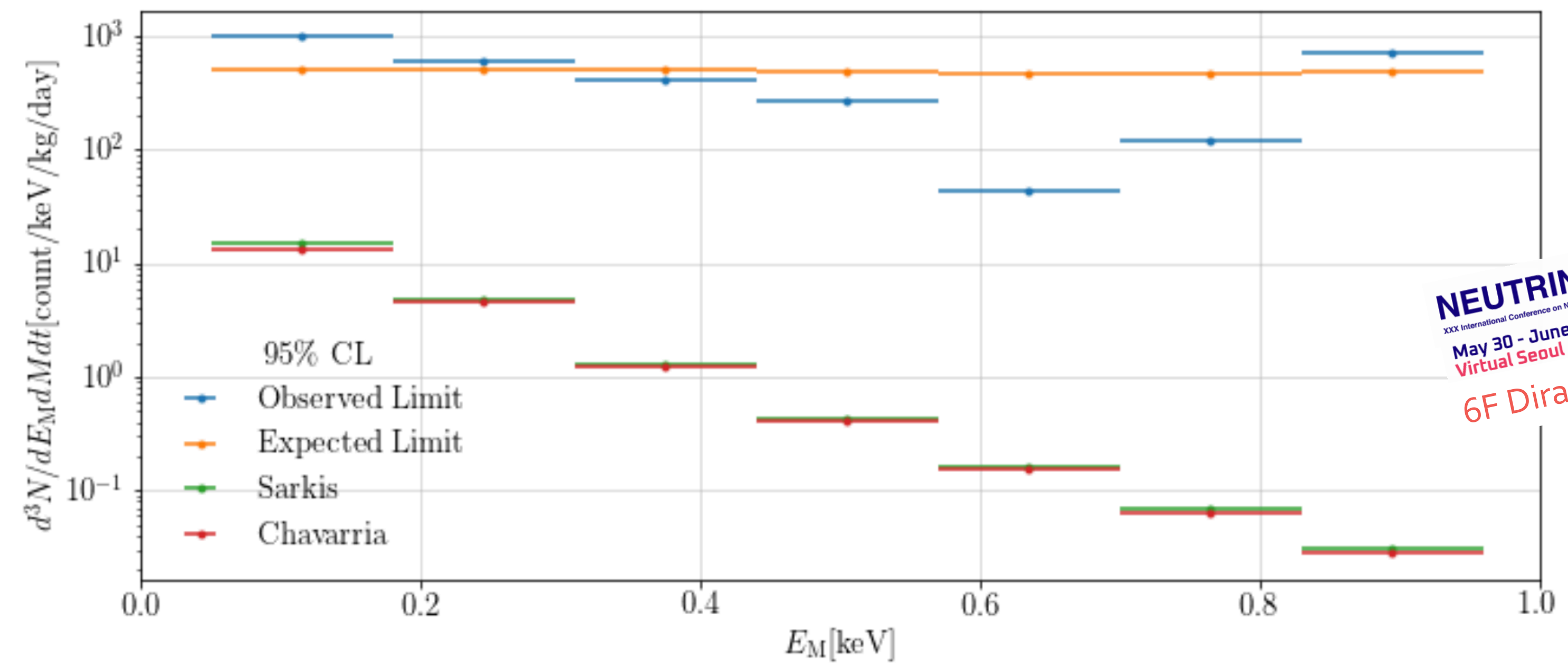
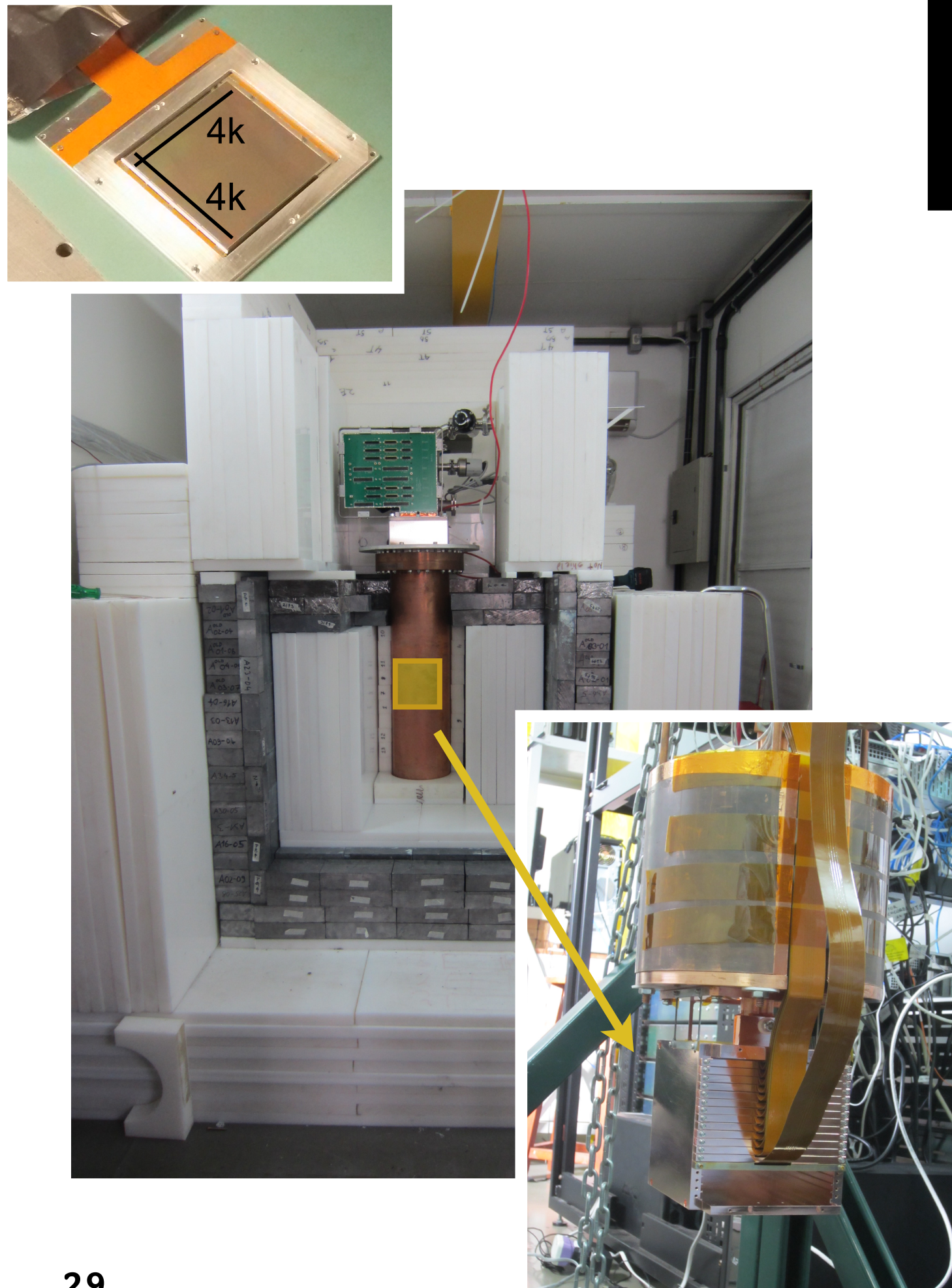
- ◆ 1x5 pixel hardware re-binning to improve acceptance and selection efficiency at low energy
  - ▶ Full efficiency reached at 100-150 eV
- ◆ Low-energy background reduction
  - ▶ 3 times lower image exposure to reduce the single electron rate
  - ▶ Improved size-depth calibration (Large low-energy events and partial-charge-collection layer)
- ◆ Blind analysis and multiple cross-checks



# Nuclear reactors

## CONNIE – 2019

- ◆ Rate difference at low energies yields upper limits at 95% CL on the measured neutrino rate



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CONNIE, JHEP 05, 017 (2020)

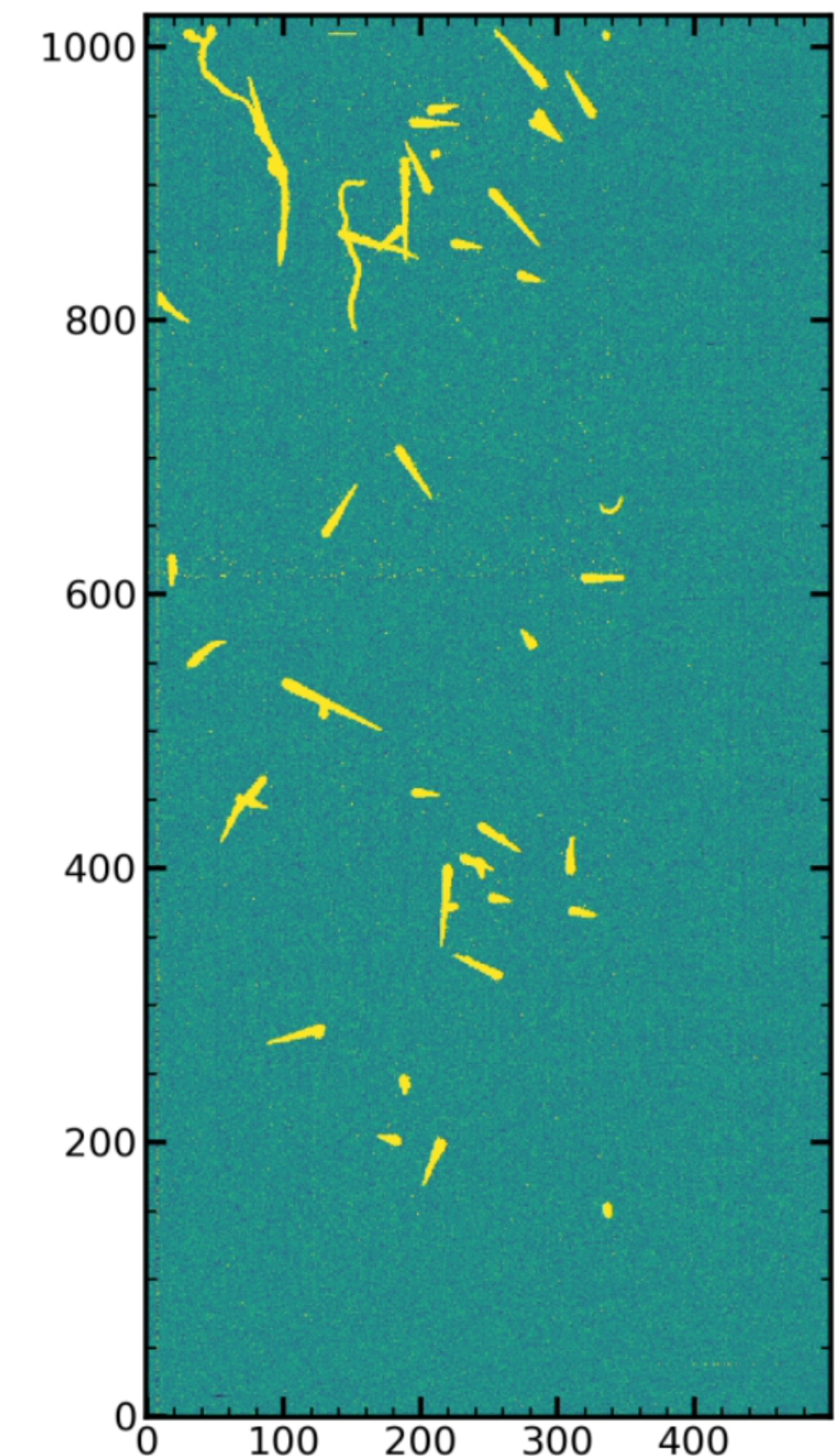
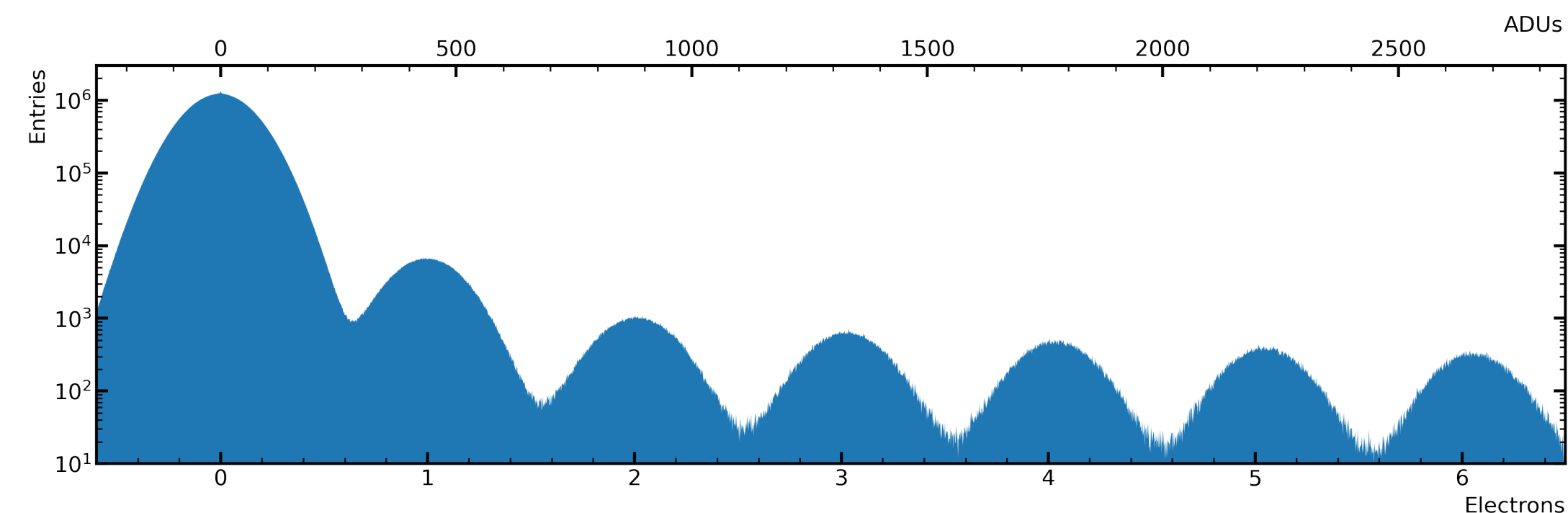
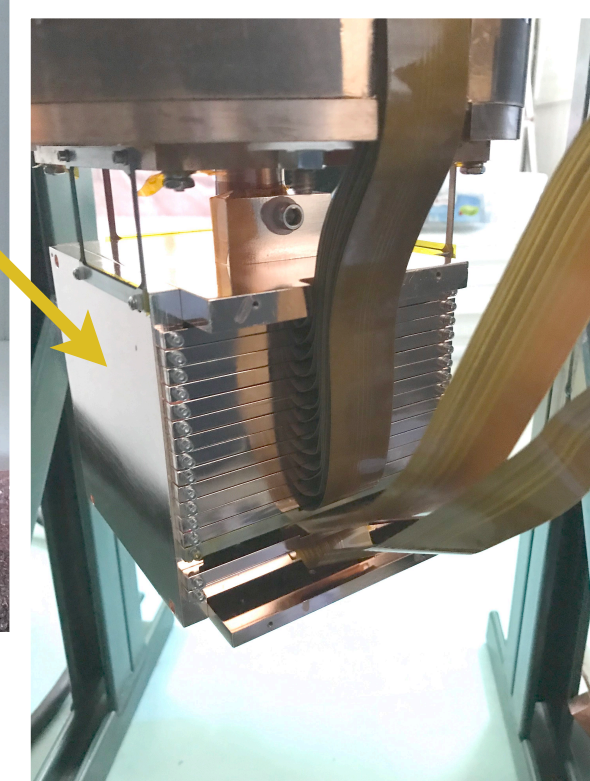
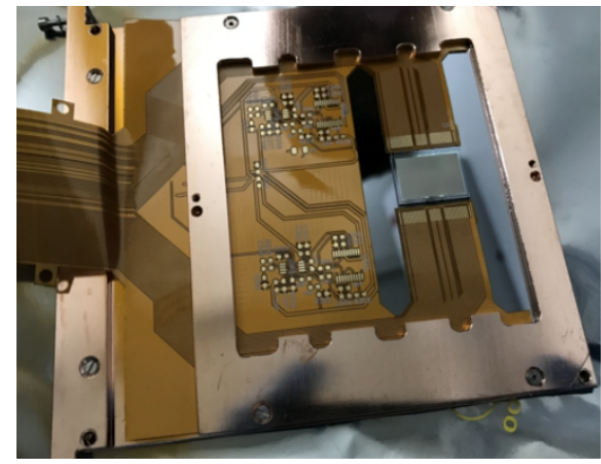
- ◆ Results compatible with previous analysis
  - ▶ Expected limit in in the lowest-energy bin ~35 times the SM prediction (agains ~ 65 times in previous analysis)

# Nuclear reactors

## CONNIE – Skipper-CCDs

- ◆ Skipper-CCD technology
  - ▶ Allow multiple non-destructive charge measurements of each pixel
  - ▶ Significant readout noise reduction reaching single-electron resolution!
    - Reduce detection threshold
    - Improve efficiency at low energy
- ◆ Skipper-CCDs @ CONNIE since July 2021
  - ▶ 2 skipper-CCDs (1022 x 682 pixel each)
  - ▶ new Low Threshold Acquisition (LTA) readout electronics
  - ▶ Data taking in ongoing
    - Readout noise:  $\sim 0.15e^-$  RMS
    - Single electron rate:  $\sim 0.05 e^-/\text{pix}/\text{day}$

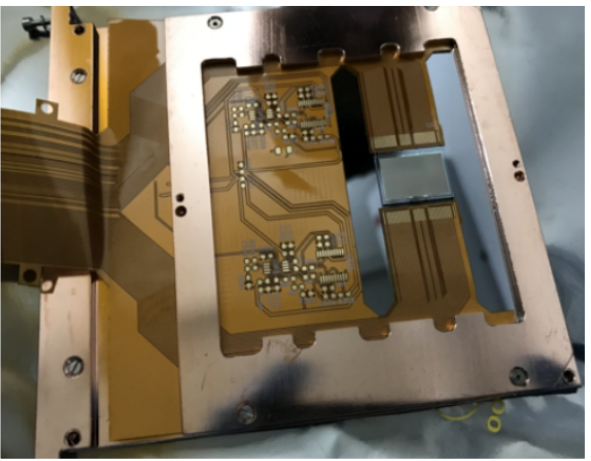
PRL 119 (2017)



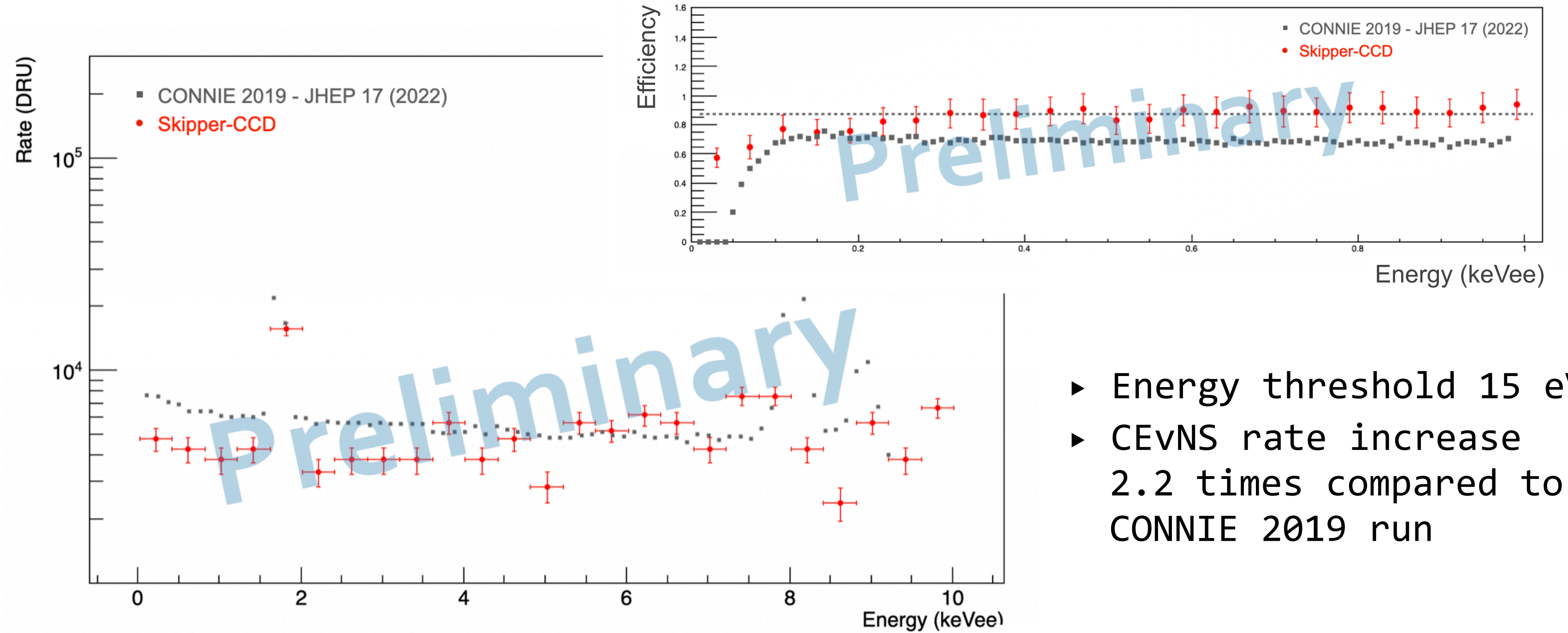
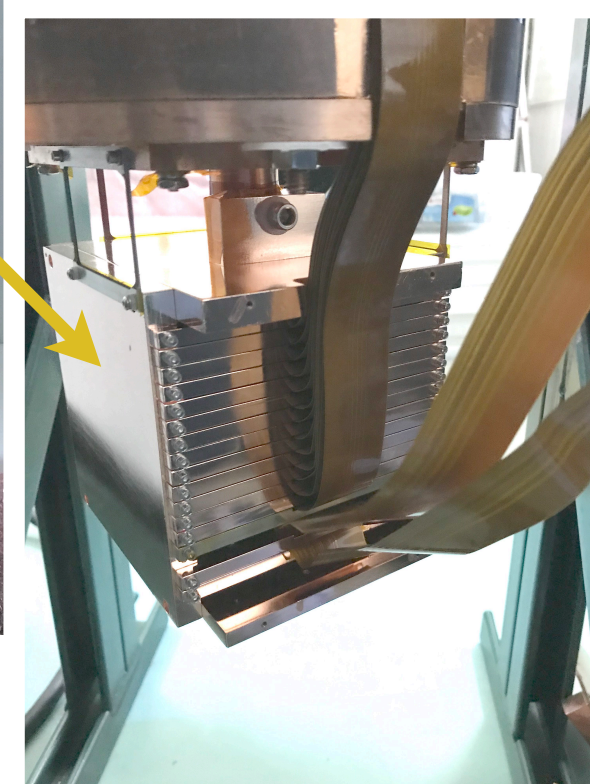
# Nuclear reactors

## CONNIE – Skipper-CCDs

### ◆ Background and efficiency

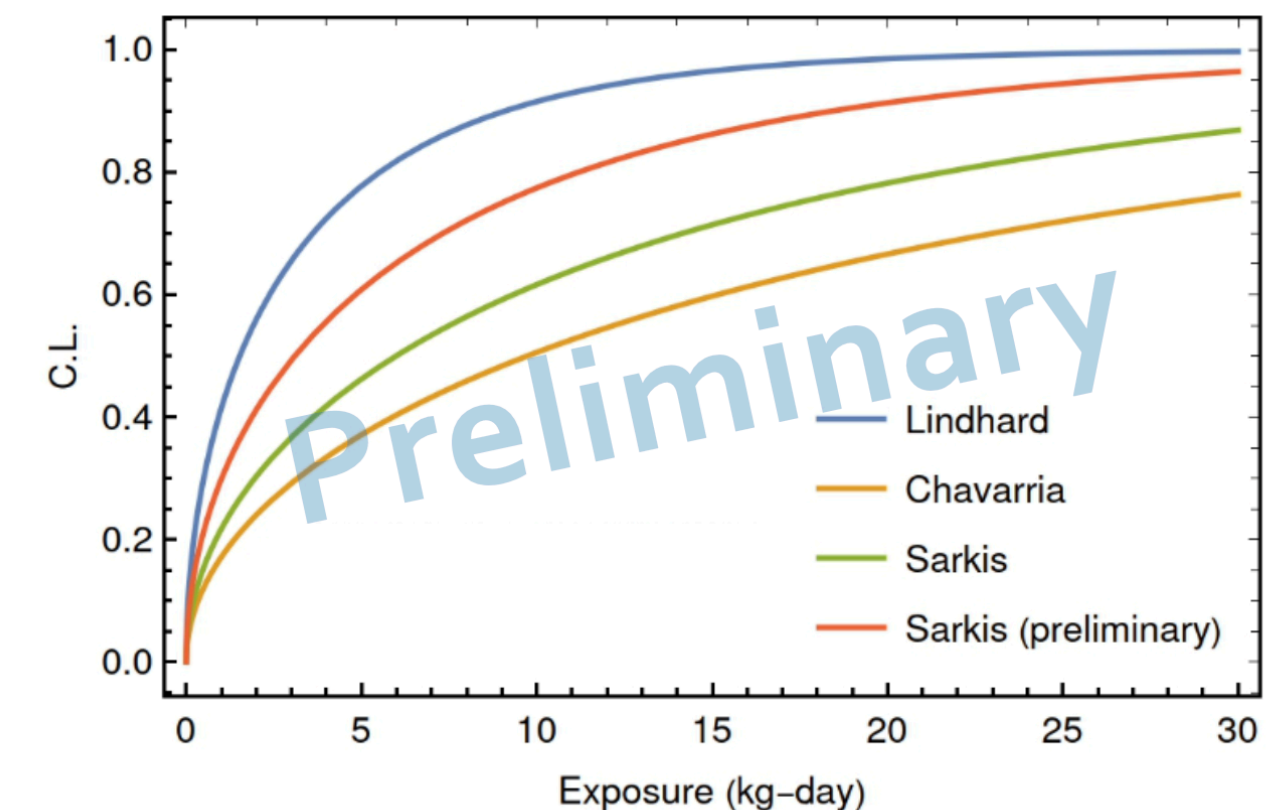


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- ▶ Energy threshold 15 eV
- ▶ CEvNS rate increase 2.2 times compared to CONNIE 2019 run

- ◆ Considering 4 kdru of background and a future detector of 1 kg at the CONNIE site, it should run for 9 days (if Lindhard) or 2 months (Chavarria) to observe CEvNS at 90% C.L.

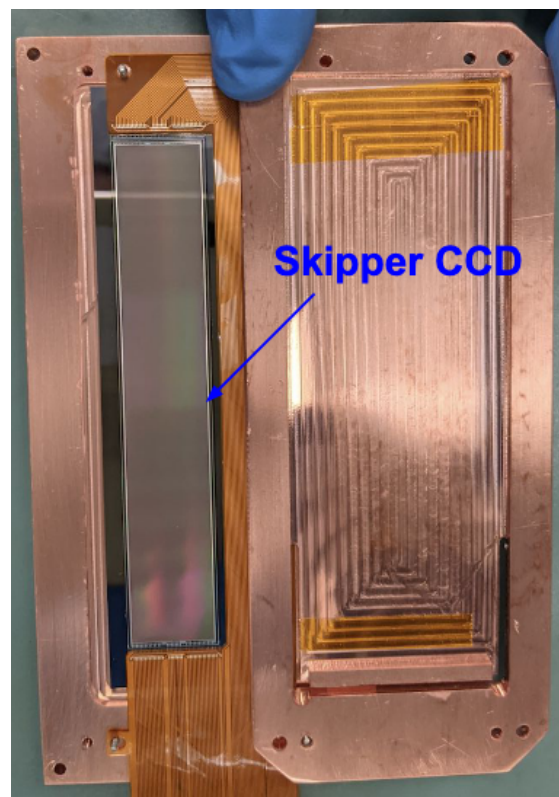
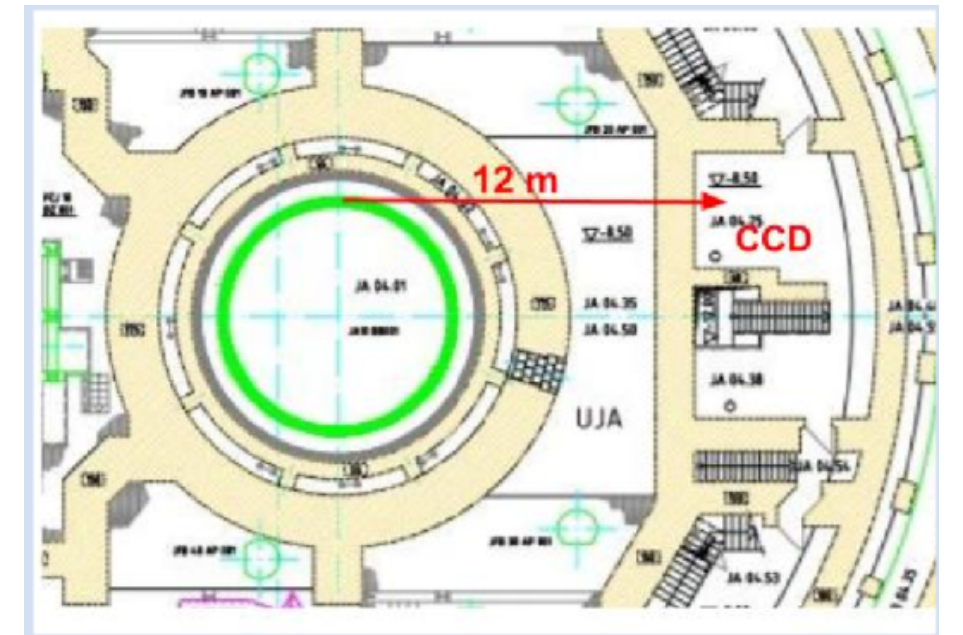


# Nuclear reactors

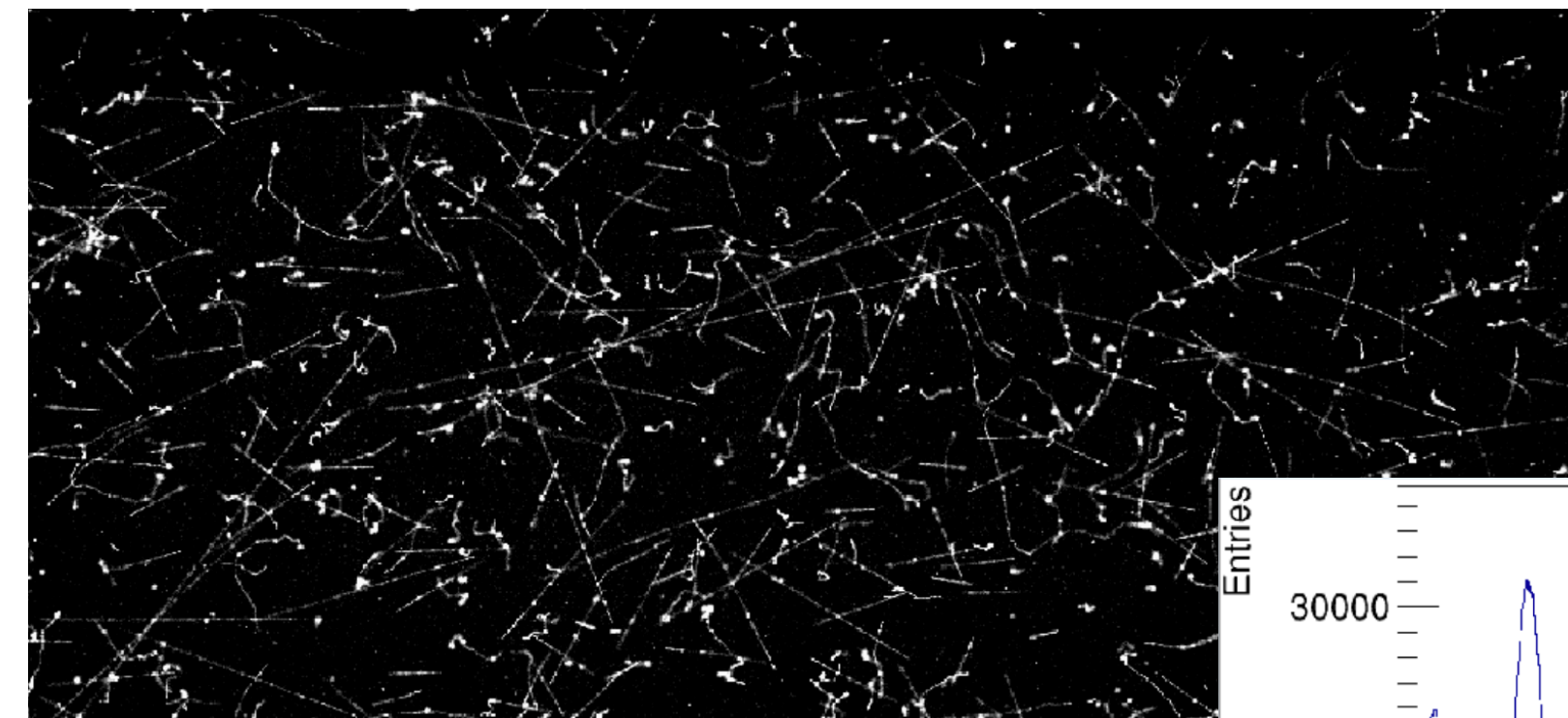
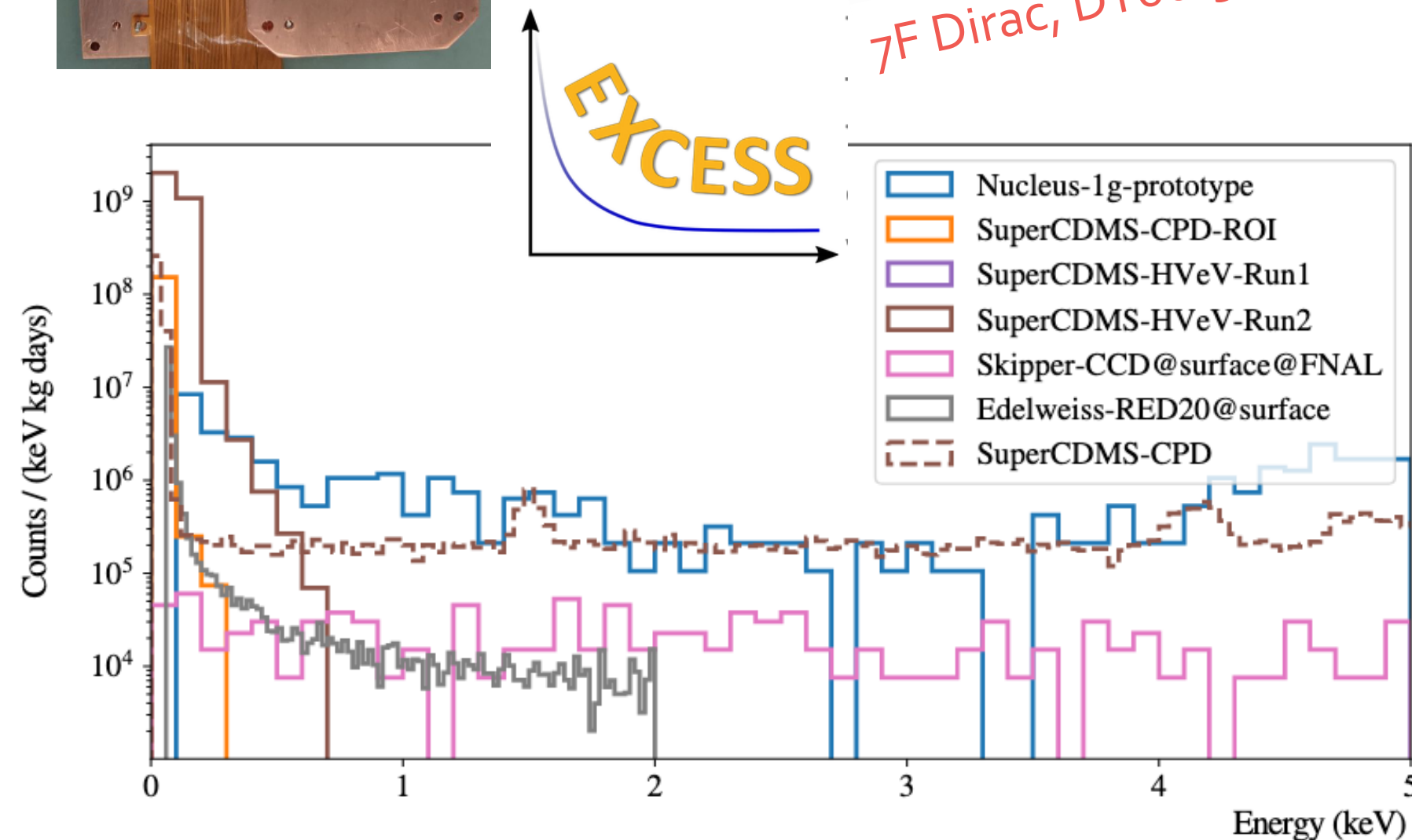
## Skipper-CCD @ Atucha

- ◆ 1 skipper-CCD ~ 0.68 g
  - ▶ 6144 x 1024 pixels of 15 μm size
  - ▶ 675 μm width
- ◆ Detector threshold ~15 eV
- ◆ Installed at 12 m of a 2GW nuclear reactors
- ◆ Flux:  $2 \cdot 10^{13} \bar{\nu}_e \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$

Atucha II plant in Argentina



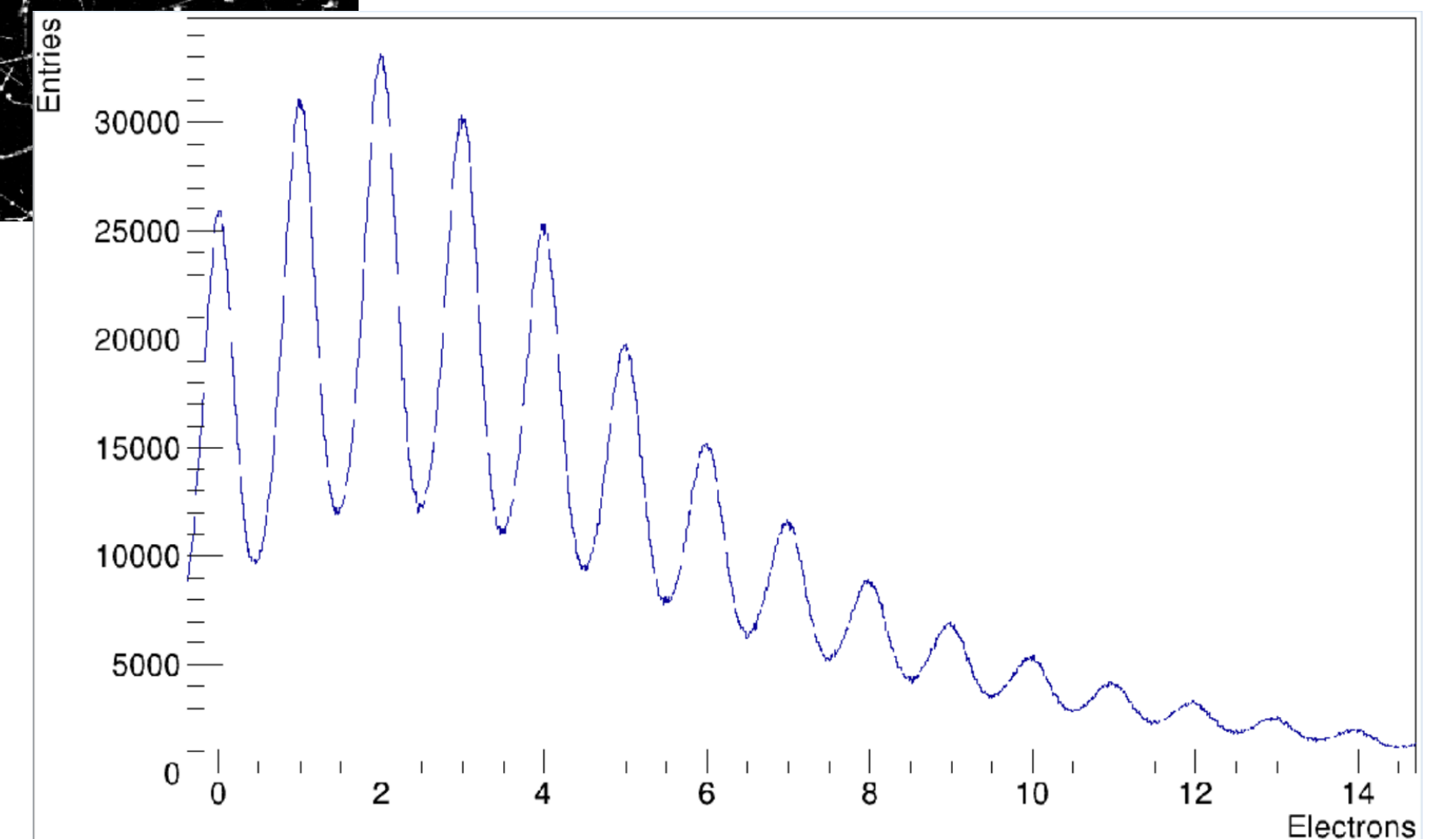
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Detector image @ Atucha

- ◆ Readout noise 0.17e-
- ◆ Horizontal binning of 10 columns

Single electron resolution



G. Fernandez-Moroni, et al, arXiv:2107.00168



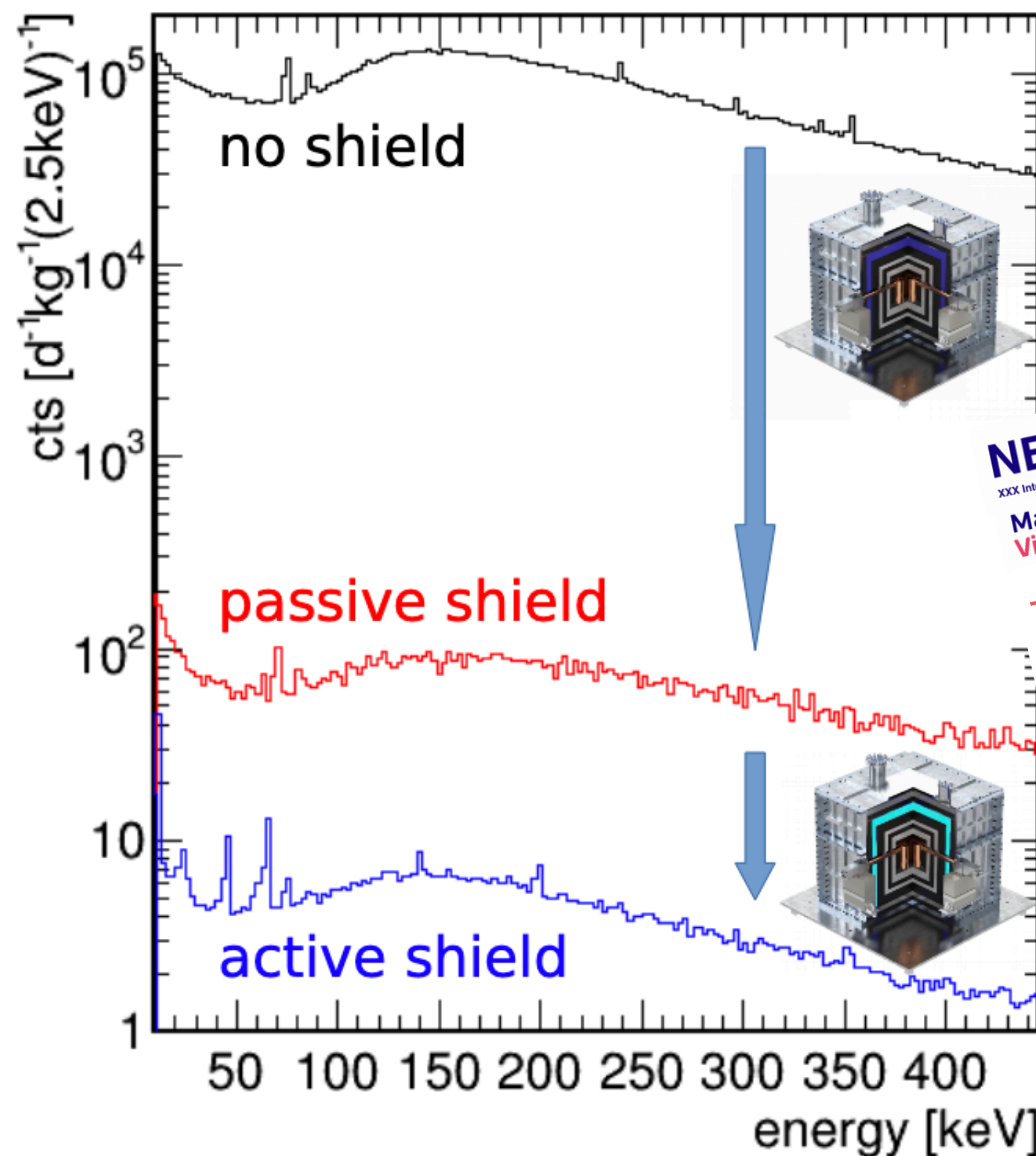
# Nuclear Reactor experiments

P-type High Purity Germanium

# Nuclear reactors

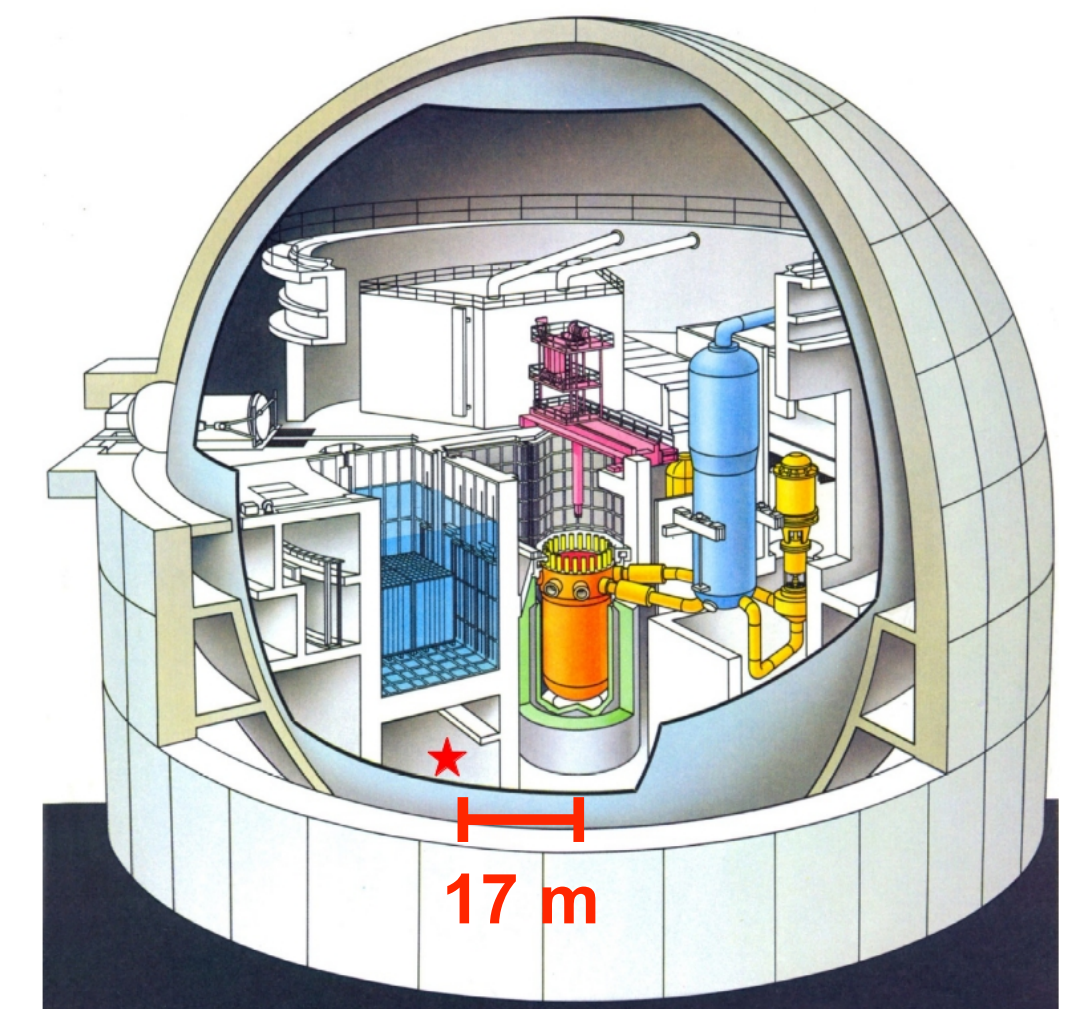
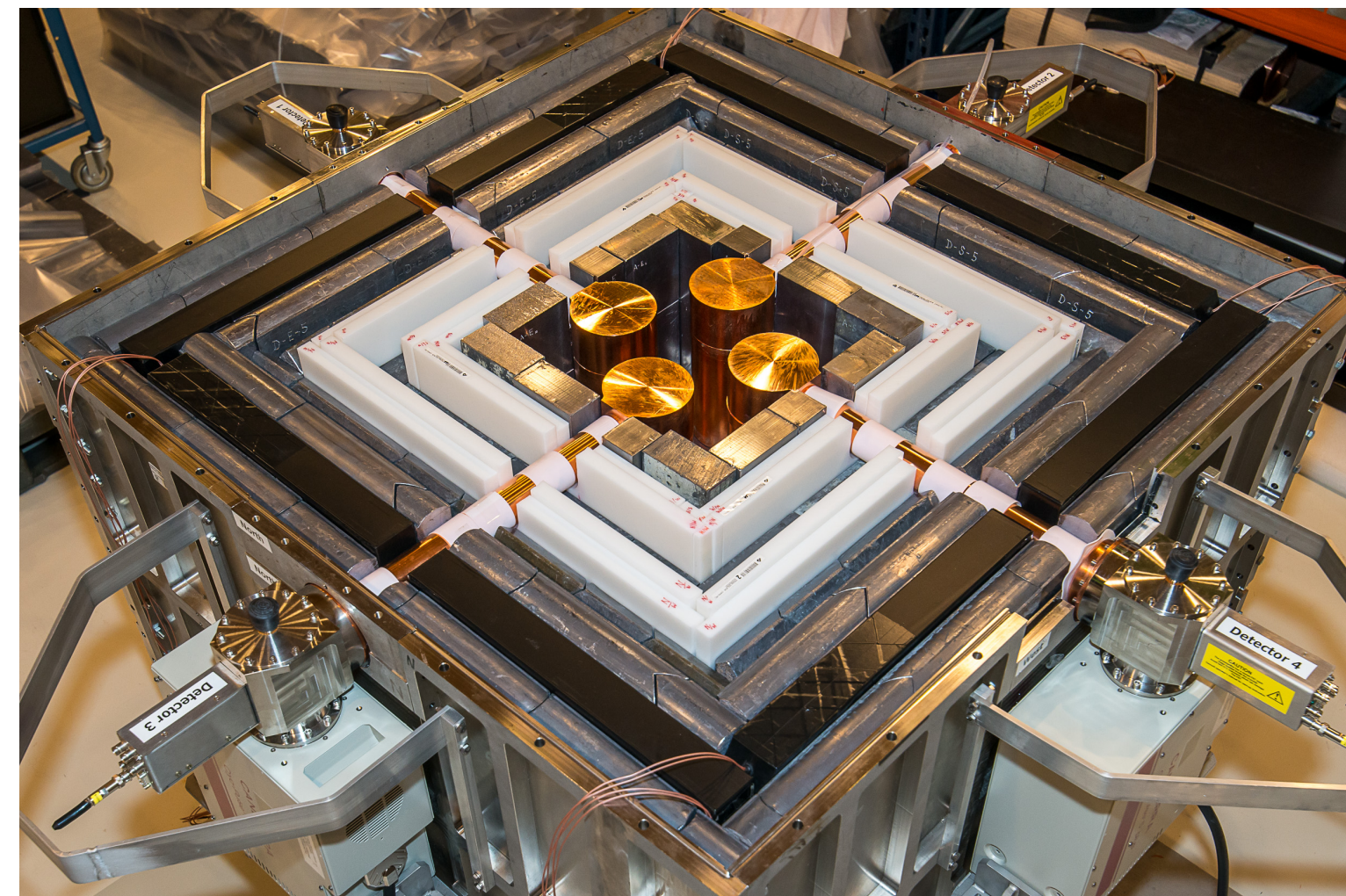
## CONUS

- ◆ Experiment @ 17 m from the 3.9 GW reactor core
- ◆ 24 m.w.e overburden, muon reduction ~ 3.5 times
- ◆ Flux:  $2 \cdot 10^{13} \bar{\nu}_e \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
- ◆ Four 1kg-HPGe detectors (low-background crystals)
- ◆ Passive and active shield ( $10^4$  fold suppression)
  - ◆ Lead + polyethylene
  - ◆ Active muon-veto (plastic scintillators)
  - ◆ Energy threshold  $\sim >200 \text{ eV}_{ee}$  (full efficiency)



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7F Majorana, MT05-206  
 7F Majorana, MT05-179  
 5F Dirac, DT15-345



Brokdorf nuclear power plant in Germany

# Nuclear reactors

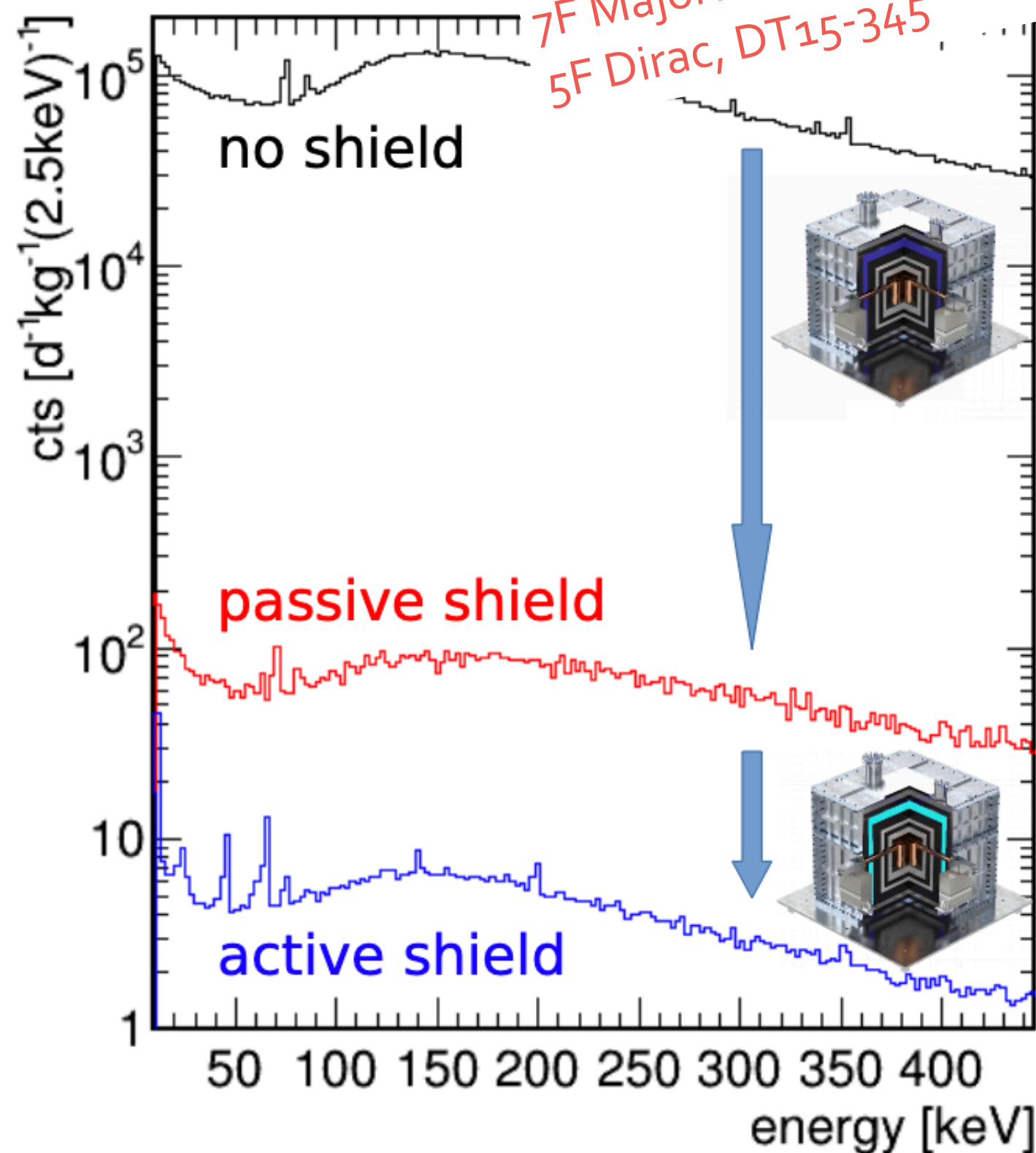


## CONUS

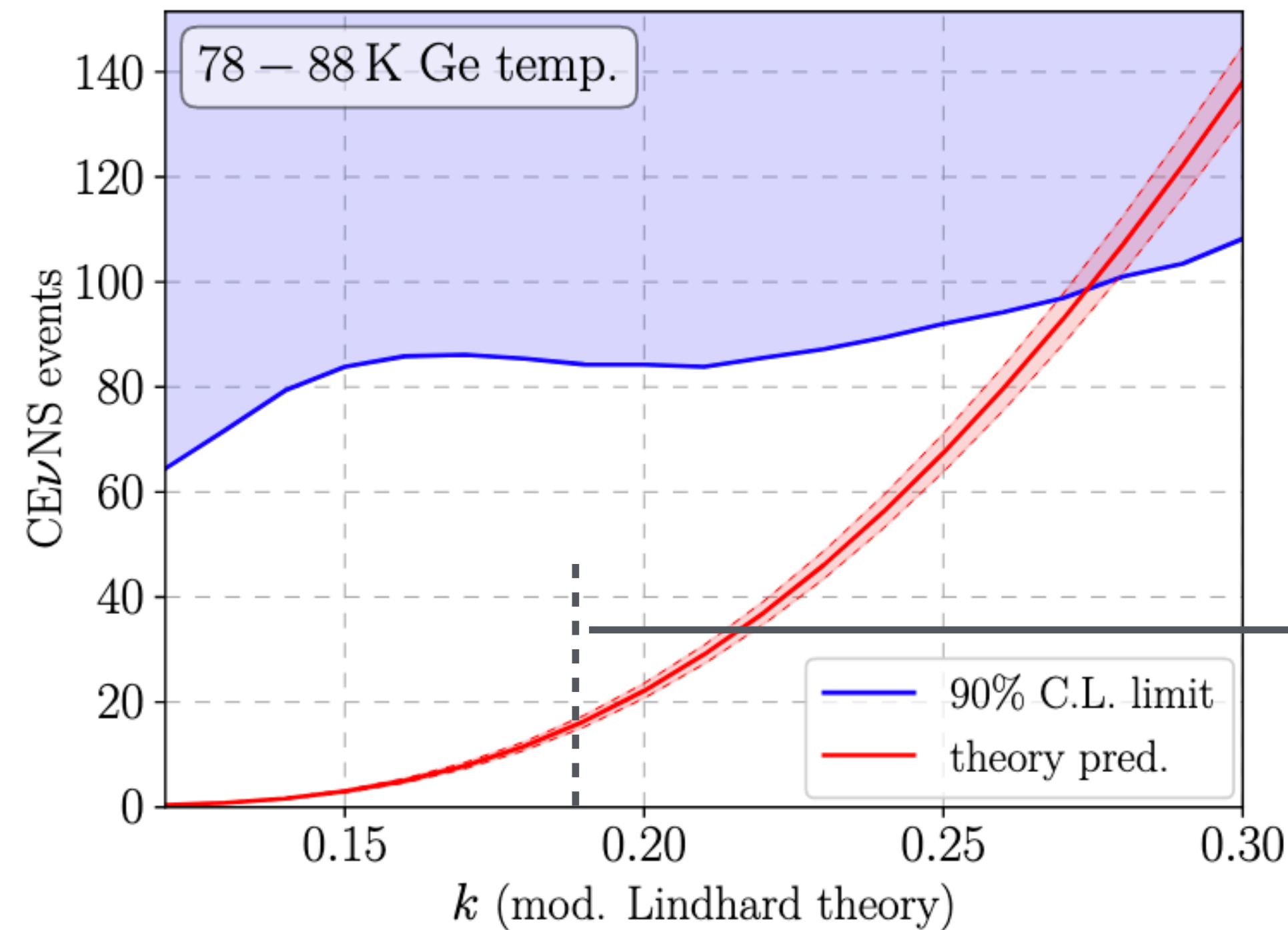
- ◆ Best limit on CEνNS in the fully coherent regime as a function of the quenching factor parameter  $k$
- ◆ Quenching factor:  $k = 0.162 \pm 0.004$

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7F Majorana, MT05-179  
5F Dirac, DT15-345

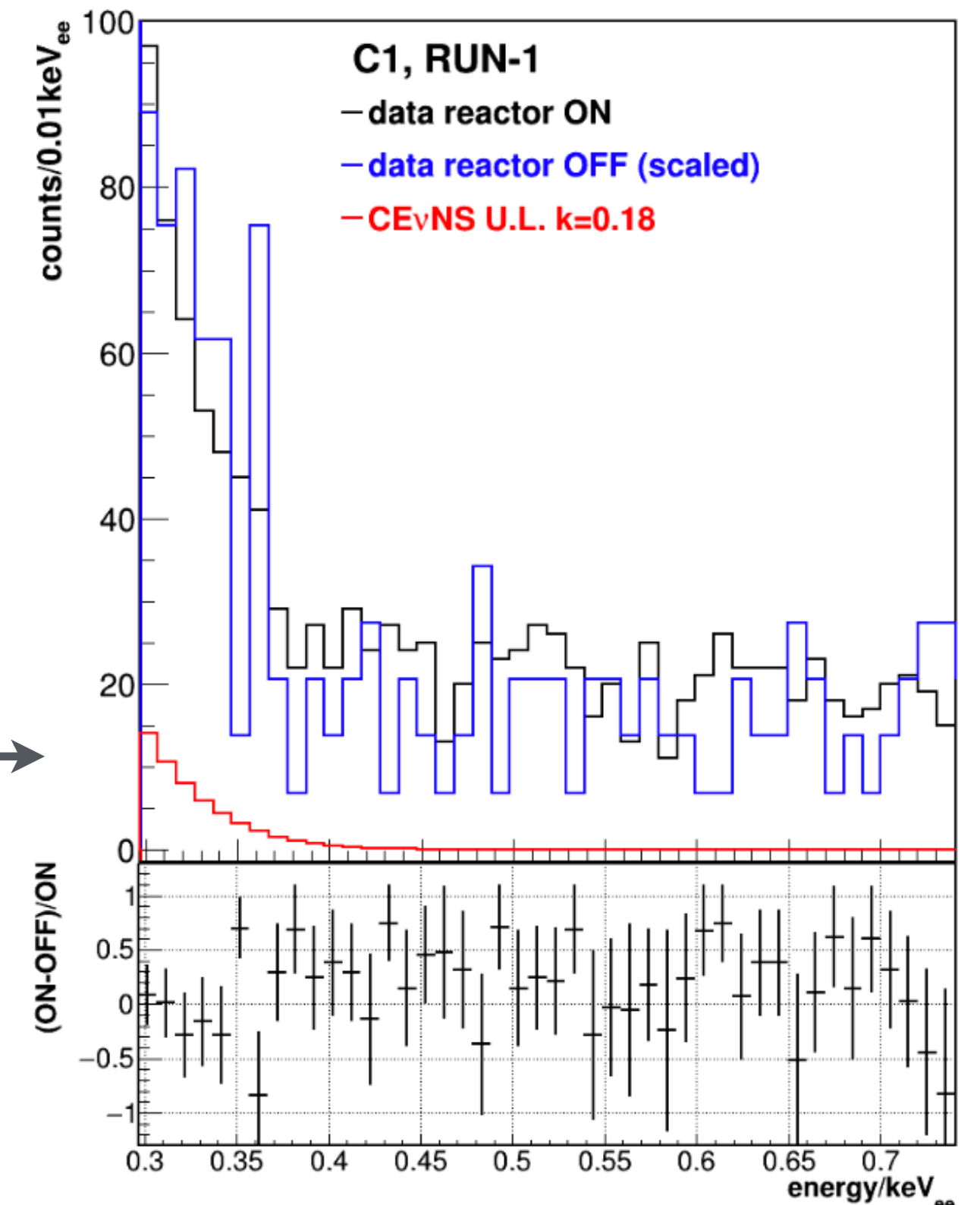


$k < 0.27$  disfavored by data



CONUS, PRL 126, 041804 (2021)

## Measurement spectra

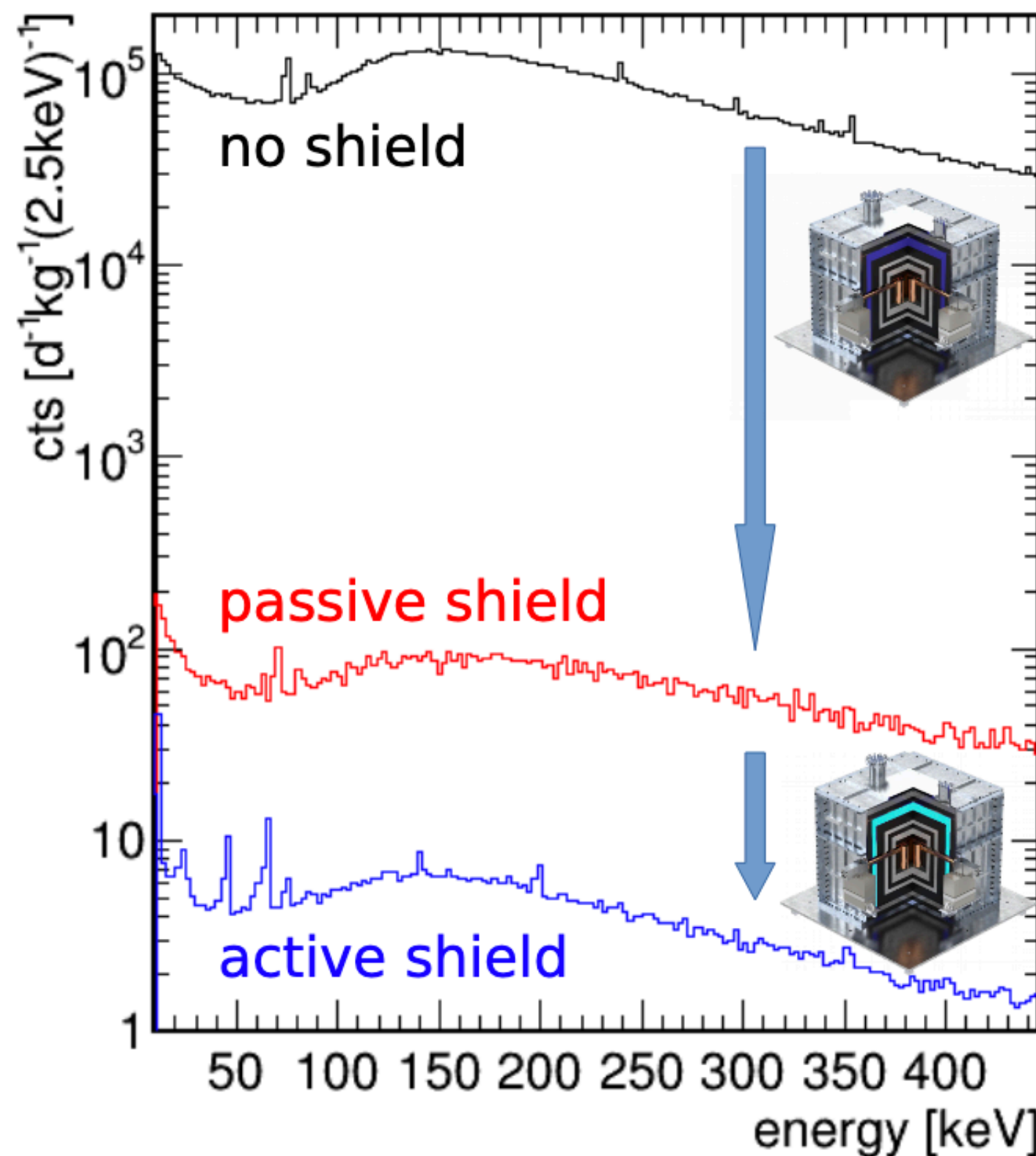


# Nuclear reactors

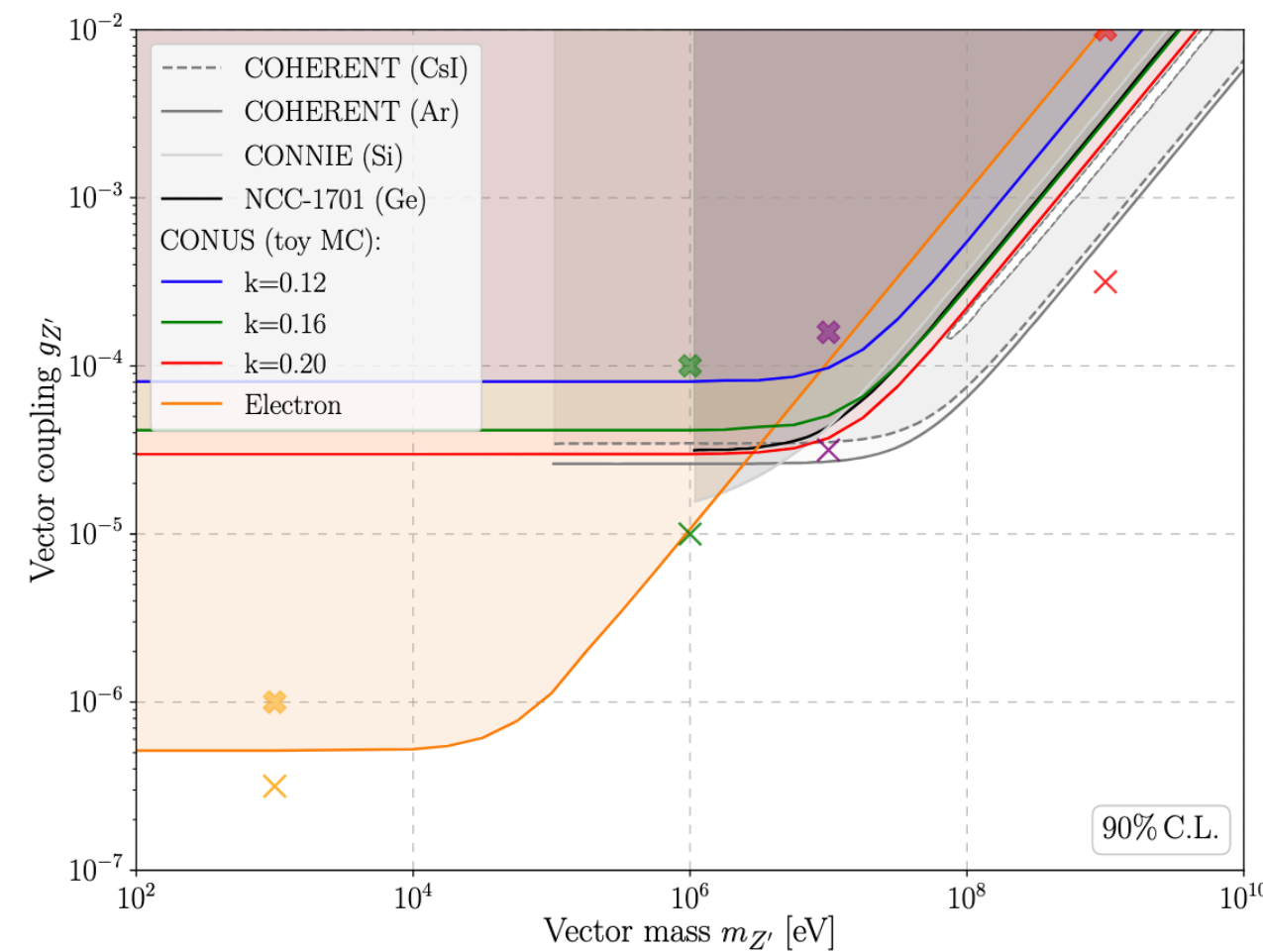
## CONUS



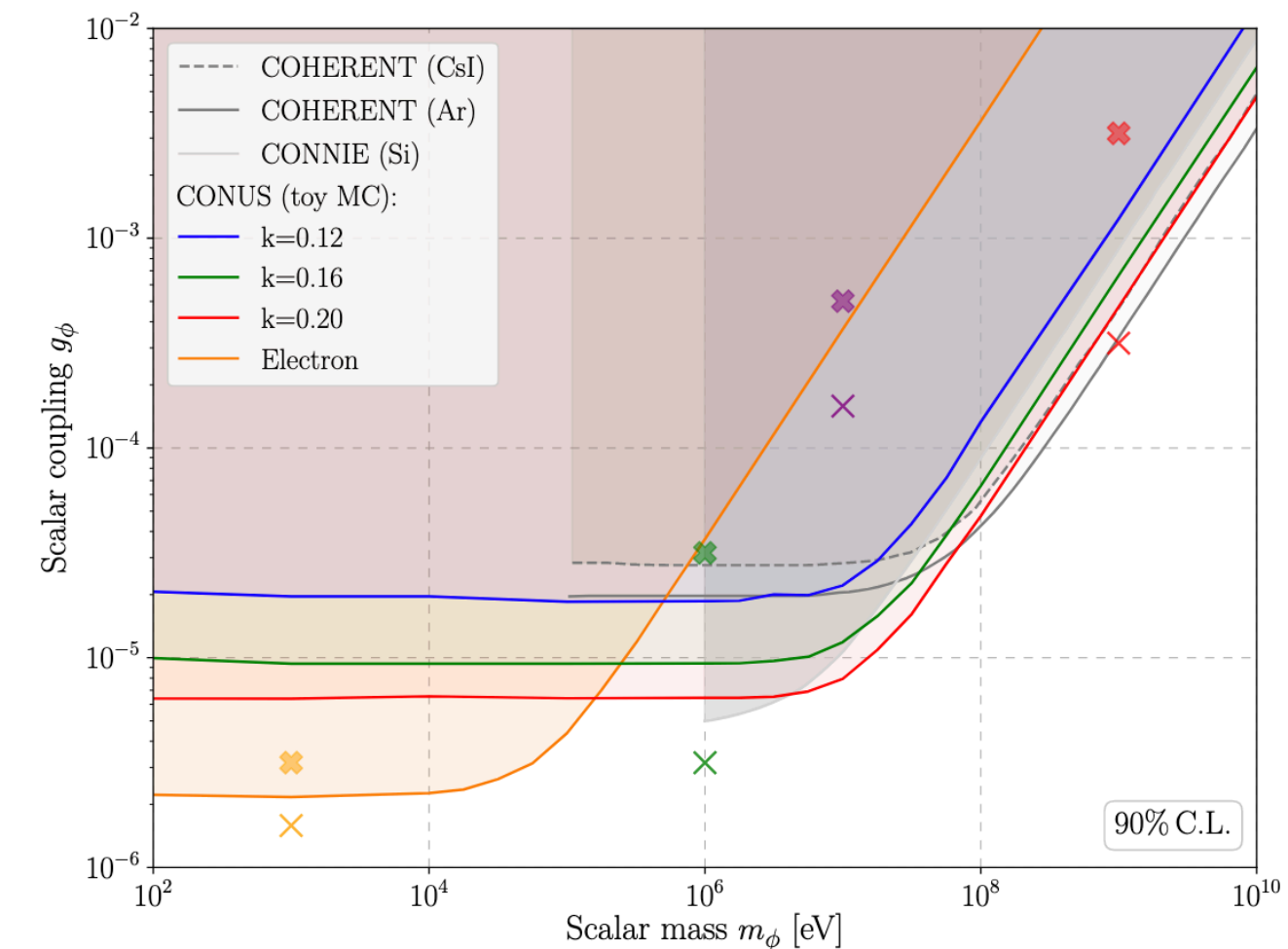
- ◆ Constrains on neutrino physics beyond SM



Light vector ( $Z'$ ) mediator



Light scalar ( $\phi$ ) mediator



CONUS, JHEP 05, 085 (2022)

- ◆ First limits on neutrino electromagnetic properties

- ◆ Background measurements (2022)

- ◆ 20% reduction of the background @ sub-keV

- ▶ PSD (pulse shape discrimination) that selects events via shape of readout pulse

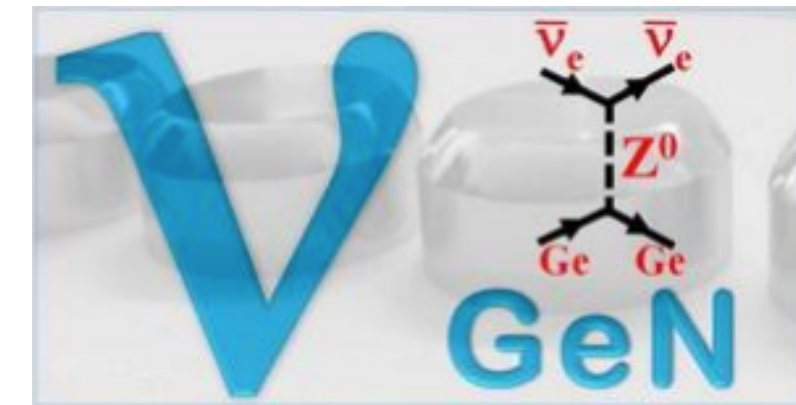
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7F Majorana, MT05-206  
7F Majorana, MT05-179  
5F Dirac, DT15-345

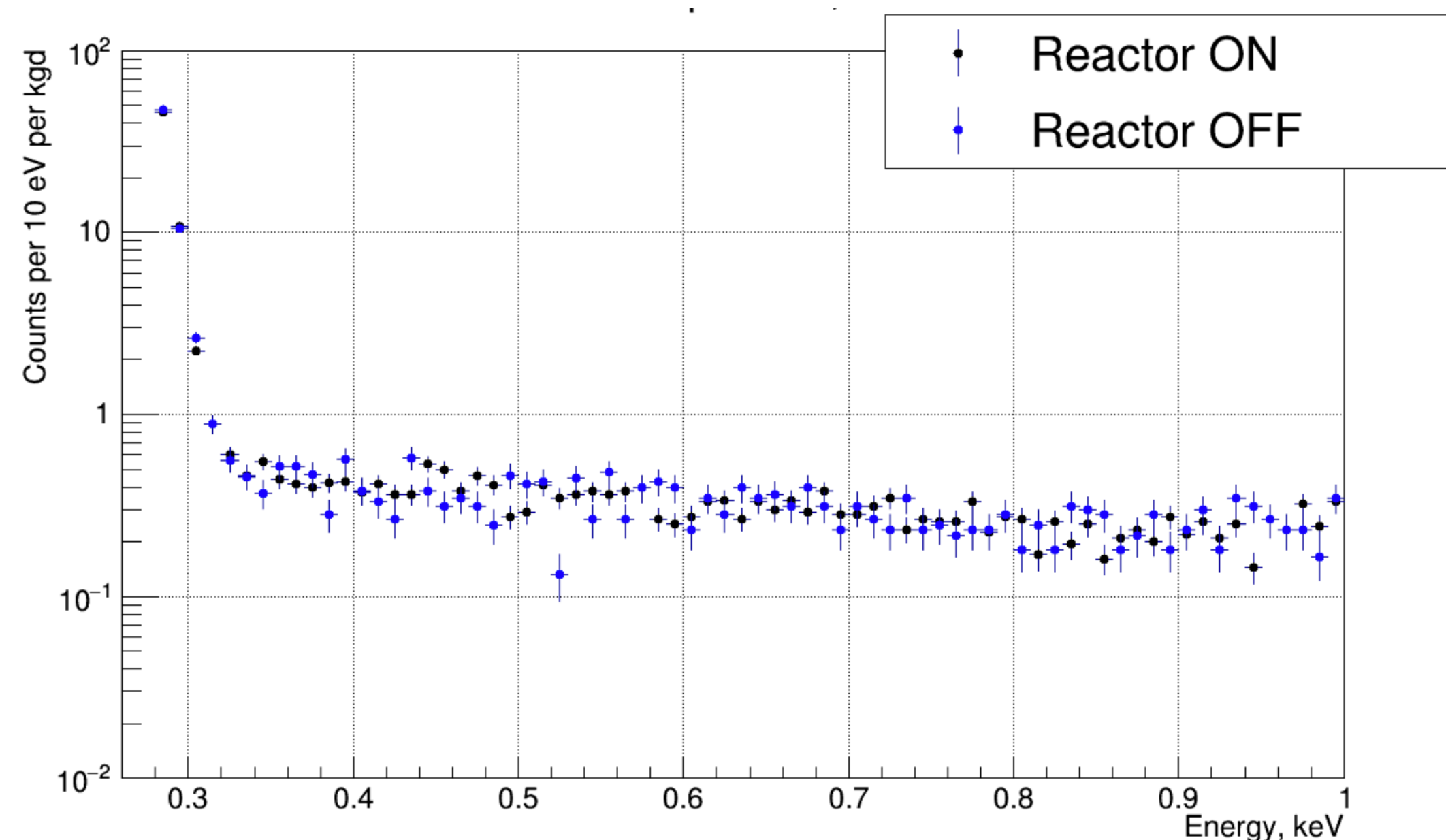
# Nuclear reactors

## nuGeN

- ◆ 1.5 kg HPGe detector
- ◆ ~ 10-11 m of the 3.1 GW reactor core (distance can change)
- ◆ Flux:  $5 \cdot 10^{13} \bar{\nu}_e \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
- ◆ Reactor-OFF periods (~2/18 months) for background measurements
- ◆ Overburden ~ 50 m.w.e
- ◆ Passive and active shield
  - ◆ Copper + B-polyethylene + lead + B-polyethylene
  - ◆ Active muon-veto



Kalinin Nuclear Power Plant in Russia



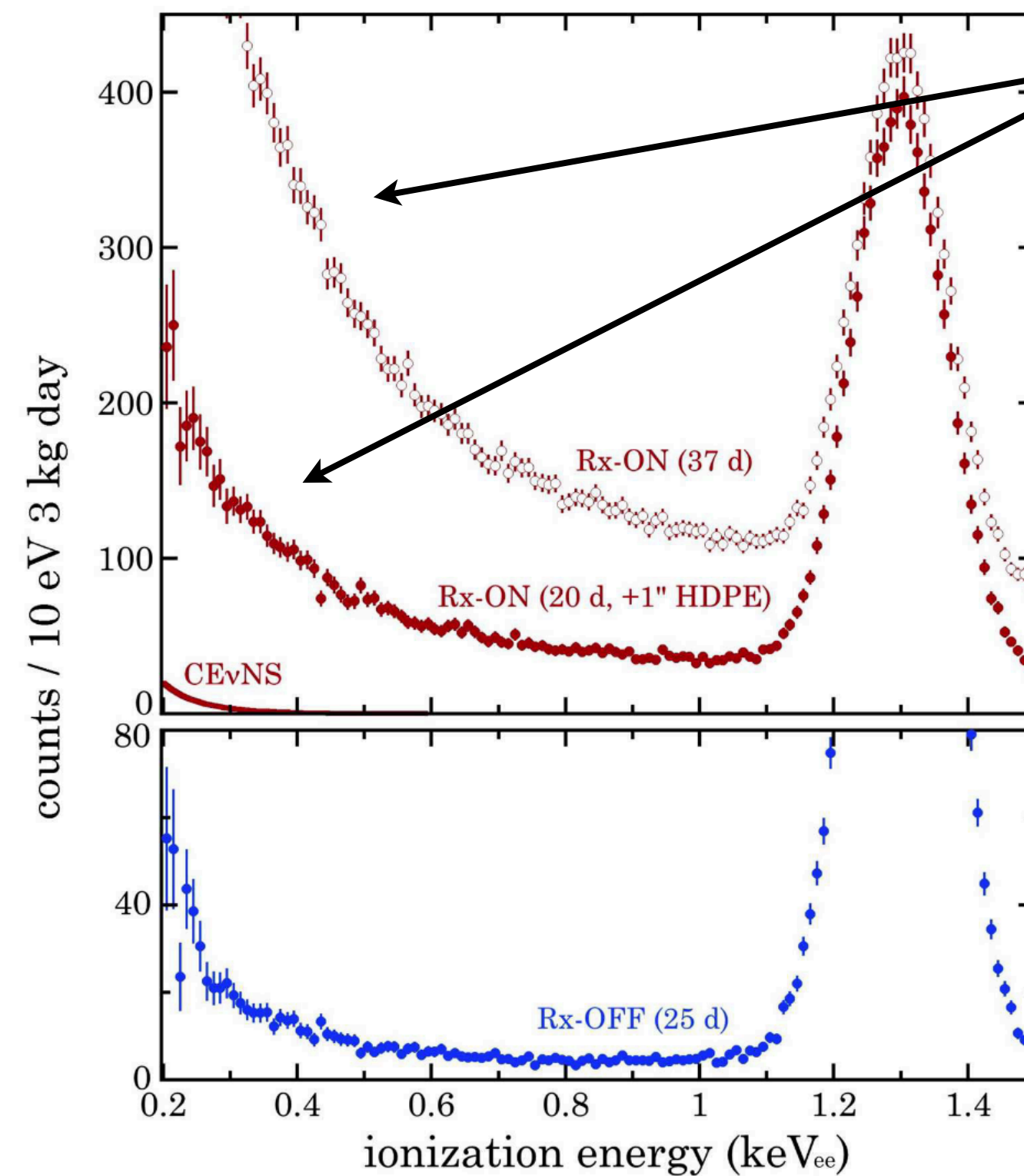
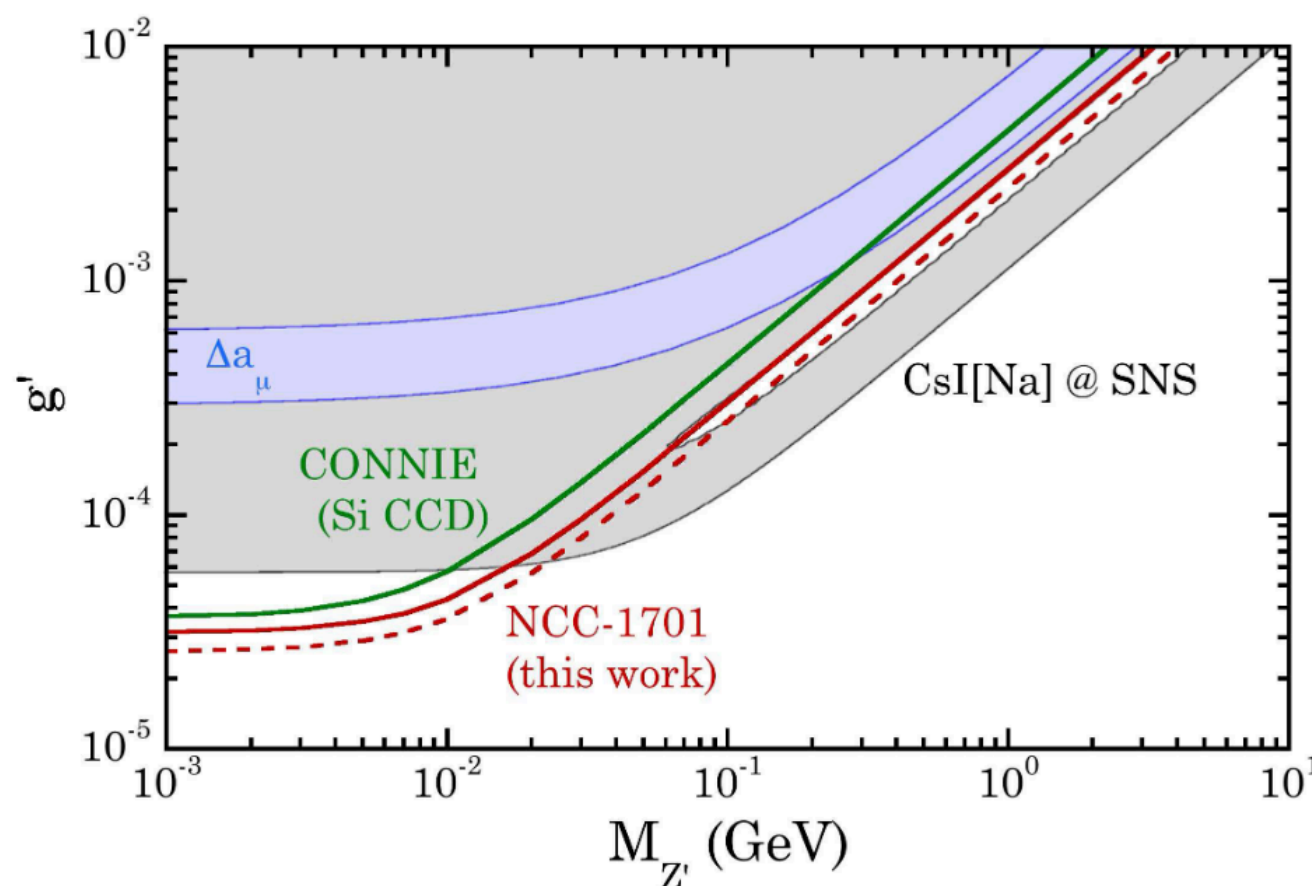
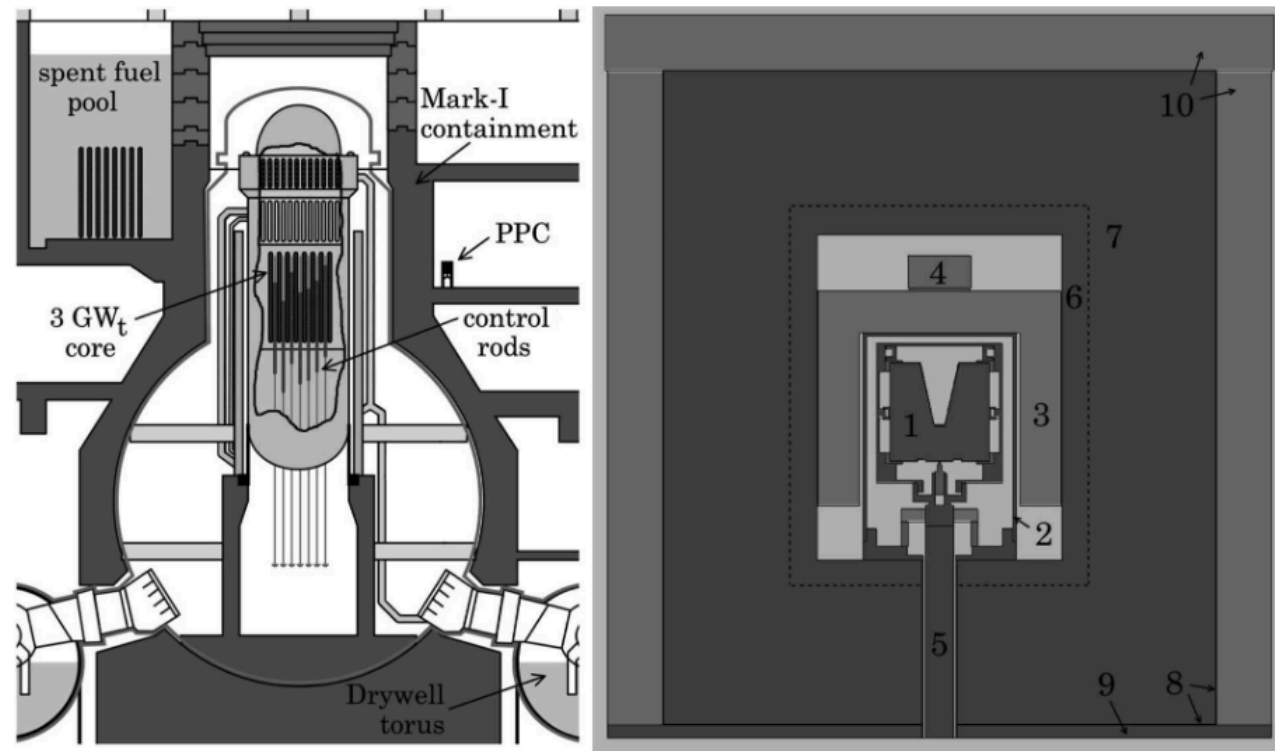
No signal excess observed



# Nuclear reactors

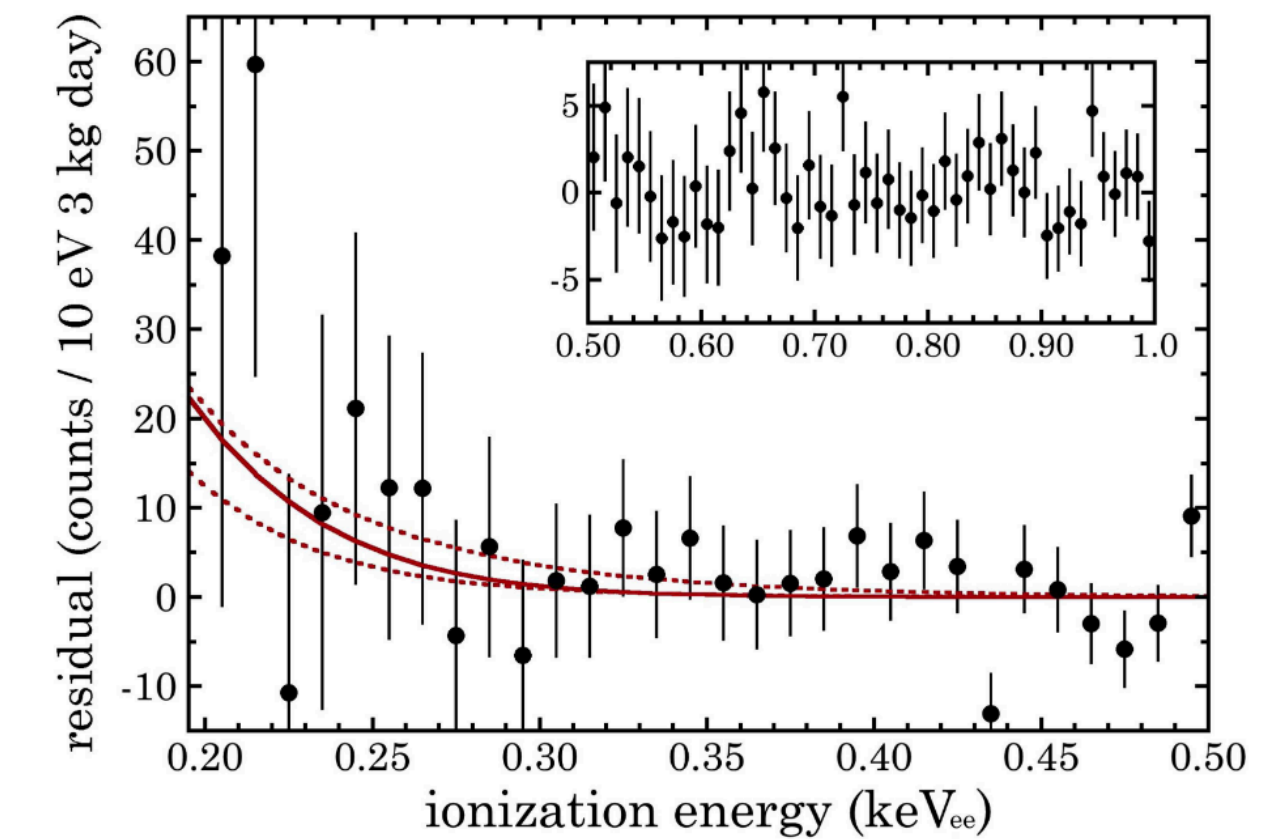
## CEvNS @ Dresden-II

- ◆ 3 kg of P-type point contact (PPC) Ge detector
- ◆ Located @ 8 m of 2.96 GW (BWR) boiling water reactor
- ◆ Flux:  $8.1 \cdot 10^{13} \bar{\nu}_e \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
- ◆ Detector threshold: 0.2 keV<sub>ee</sub>
- ◆ Passive (lead + cadmium sheet) and active (scintillator) shield



Dominant background: epithermal neutrons

Best-fit epithermal neutron background (model)

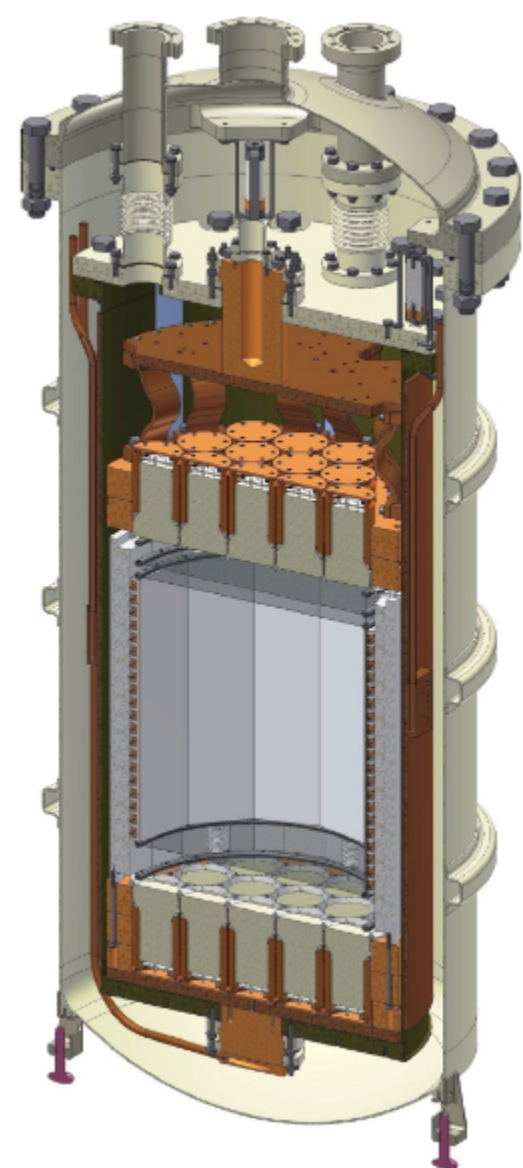


Lower background and threshold needed !!

# Nuclear Reactor experiments

Noble Element Detectors

# Nuclear reactors



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6F Dirac, DT06-231  
7F Dirac, DT06-619

## RED100

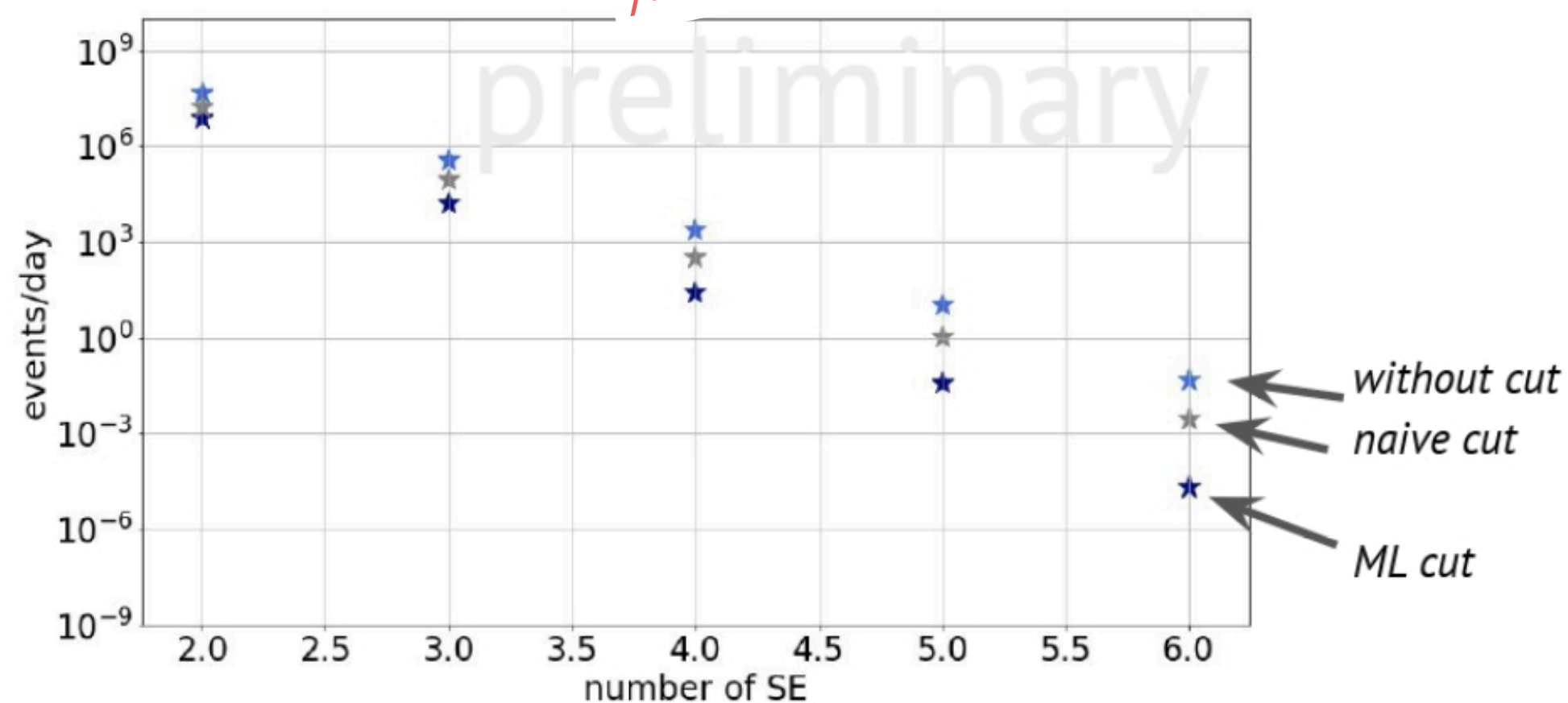
- ◆ Two-phase Xe emission detector  $\sim 100$  kg
  - sensitive to single ionization electrons (SE)
- ◆ 19 m of the 3.1 GW reactor core
- ◆ 160 kg detector with passive shield
  - building & infrastructure for muons
  - water tank for neutrons
  - 5 cm of Cu for gamma
- ◆ Veto after muon or gamma signal
- ◆ Multi-electron events (ME) are the main instrumental background of a two-phase emission detector



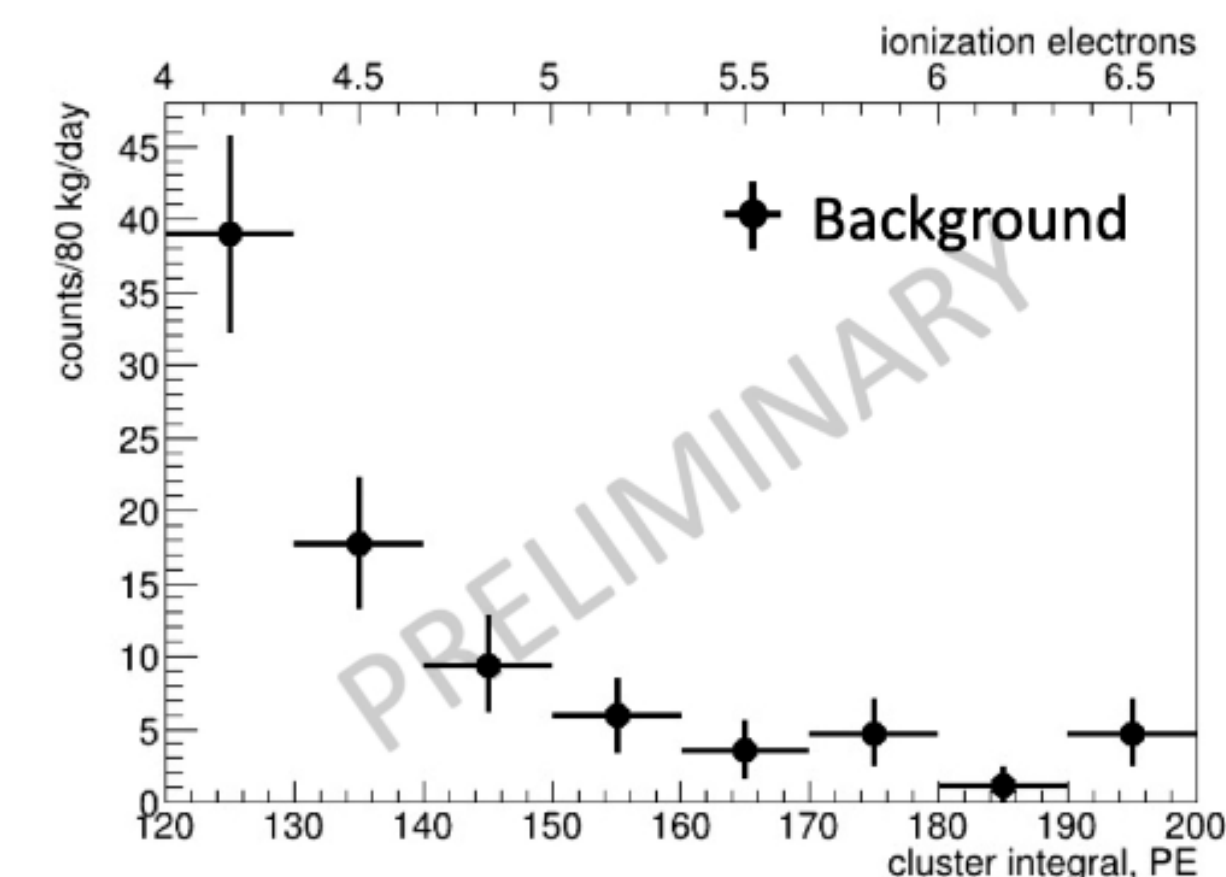
РОССИЙСКИЙ ЭМИССИОННЫЙ ДЕТЕКТОР



Kalinin Nuclear Power Plant in Russia



- ◆ Data until: March 2022
- ◆ CEvNS: 3-6 SE region
- ◆ Analysis in progress
- ◆ Preliminary: No reactor correlated background





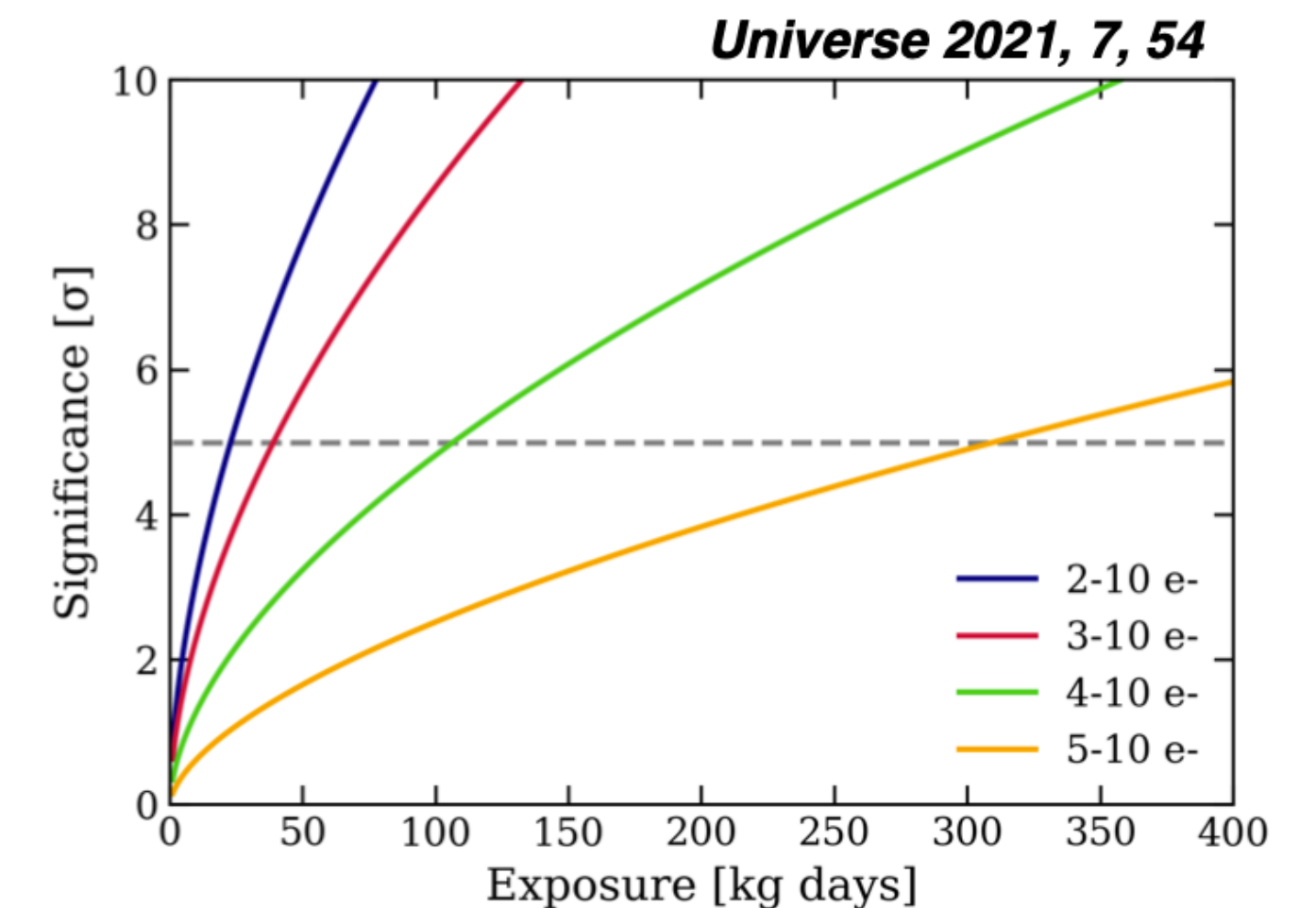
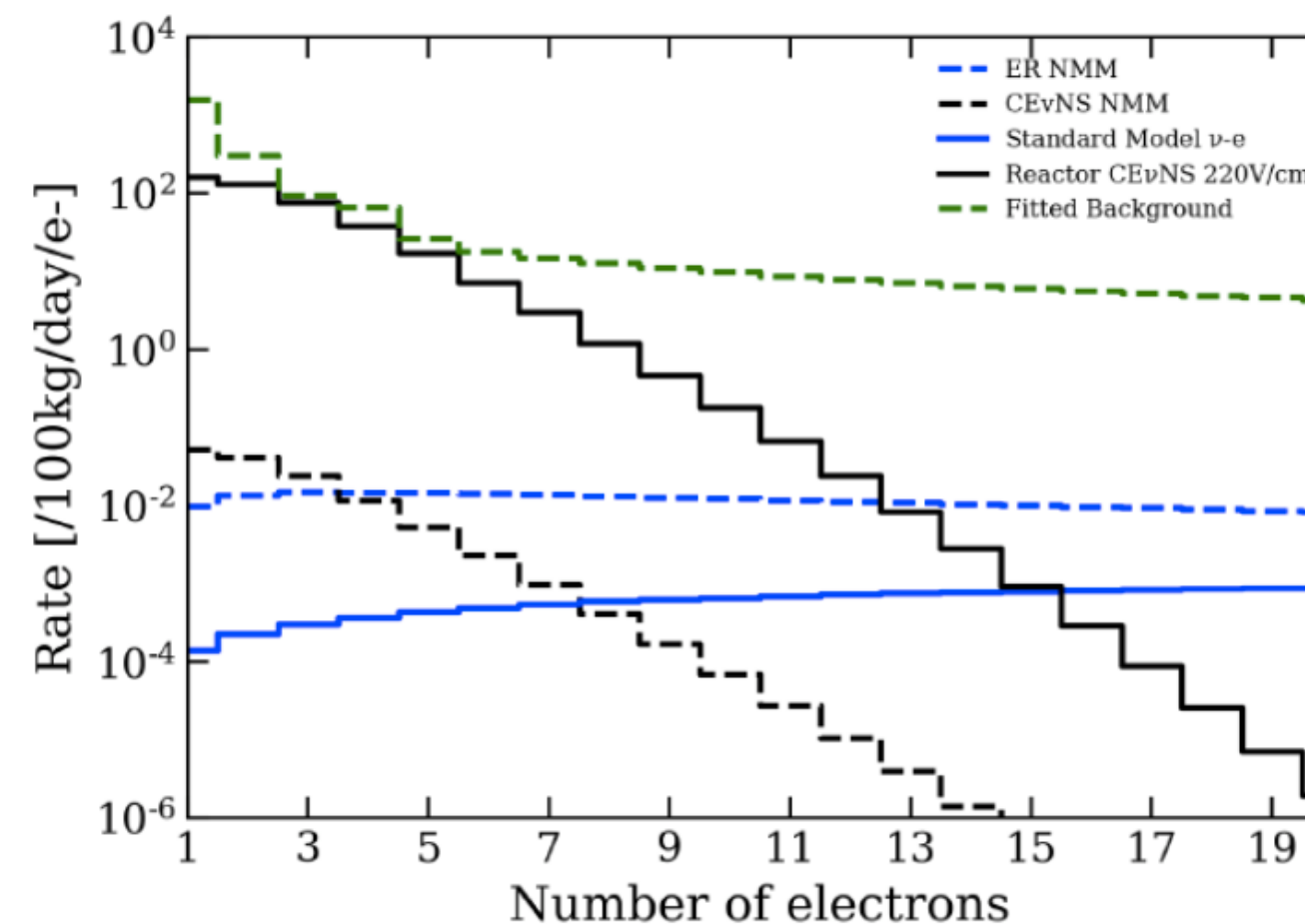
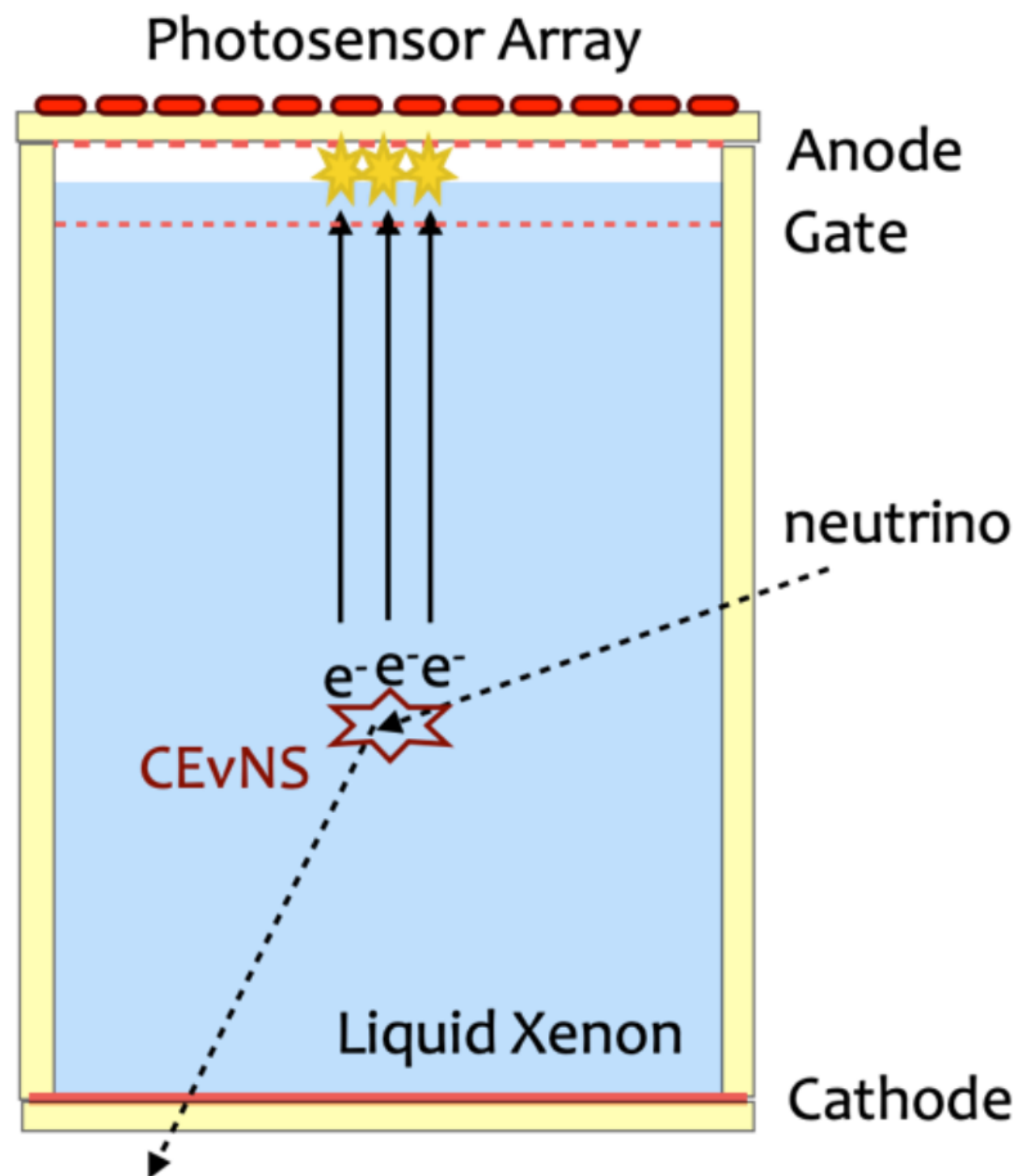
# Nuclear reactors

## Neutrino Detection with Xenon

### NUXE



- ◆ Single-Electron Sensitive Liquid Xenon Detector
  - ▶ Produce: prompt scintillation & delayed ionization
- ◆ Ionization-only: single electron sensitive
  - ▶ Nuclear recoil threshold  $\sim 300$  eV
- ◆ Detector system under construction at UCSD
  - ▶ R&D efforts to reduce the single-and-few electrons background
- ◆ Background estimation based on Xenon10/Xenon100
  - ▶ 10-kg active LXe detector is expected to achieve  $5\sigma$  CEvNS detector

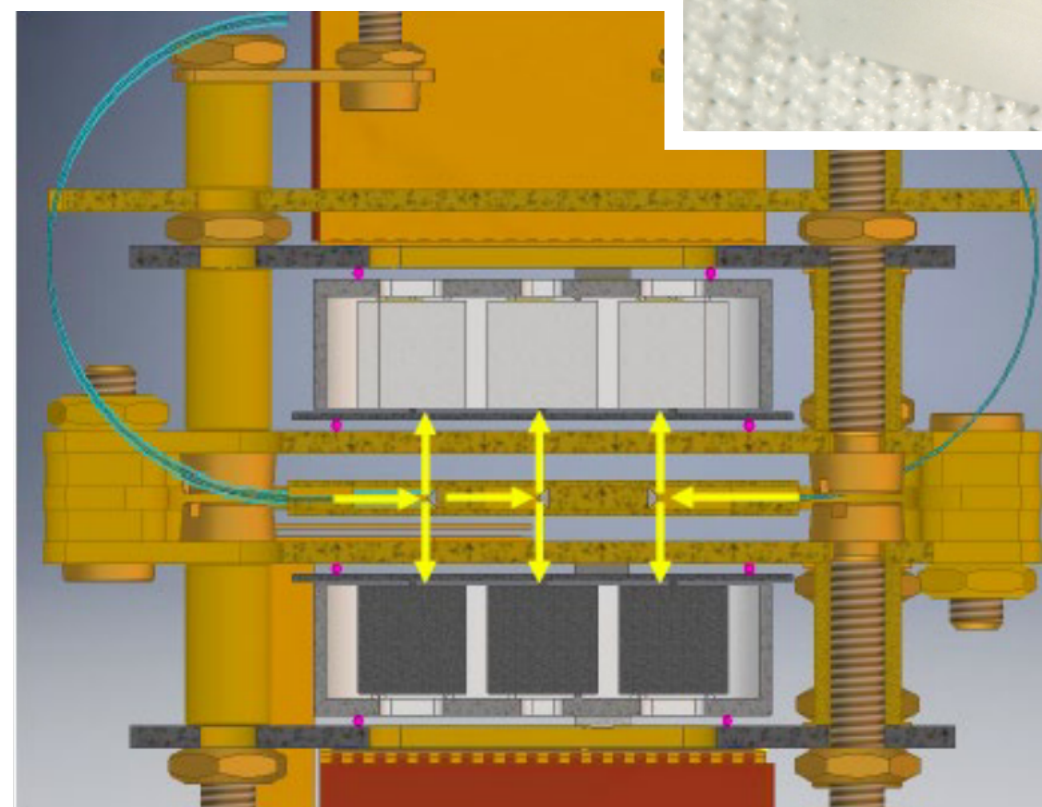
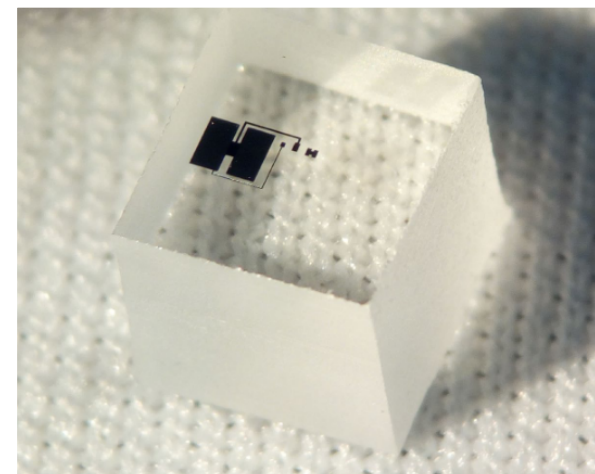


# Nuclear Reactor experiments

Bolometers



# Nuclear reactors



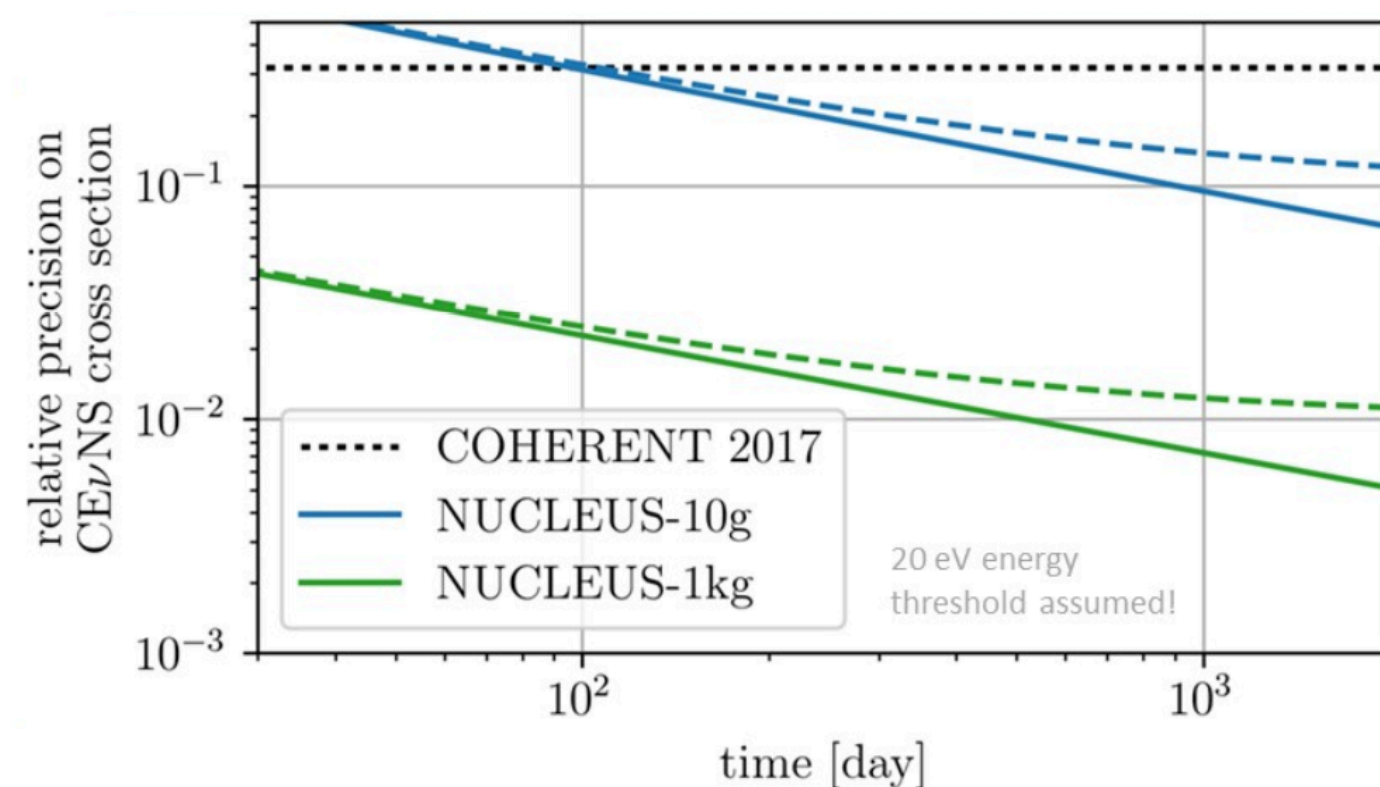
## NUCLEUS

- ◆ g-scale  $\text{CaWO}_4$  (CEvNS) and  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  (Bkg) crystals @ mK temperatures
  - ◆ 2 arrays of 3 x 3 cryogenic crystals (gram scale)
- ◆ Detector threshold  $\sim 20$  eV
- ◆ Target background 100 events/kg/day/keV
- ◆ 102 m & 72 m of 2 reactors of the Chooz-B plant of 4.25 GW each
- ◆ Flux:  $1.7 \cdot 10^{12} \bar{\nu}_e \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$

- ◆ Multi-layer passive shield + active vetos
  - ◆ Muon veto with plastic scintillators
  - ◆ 20 cm 5%-borated polyethylene
  - ◆ 4 cm boron carbide
  - ◆ Cryogenic outer veto (COV) - HPGe crystals (4 kg)



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 6F Dirac, DT06-166  
 7F Dirac, DT06-738



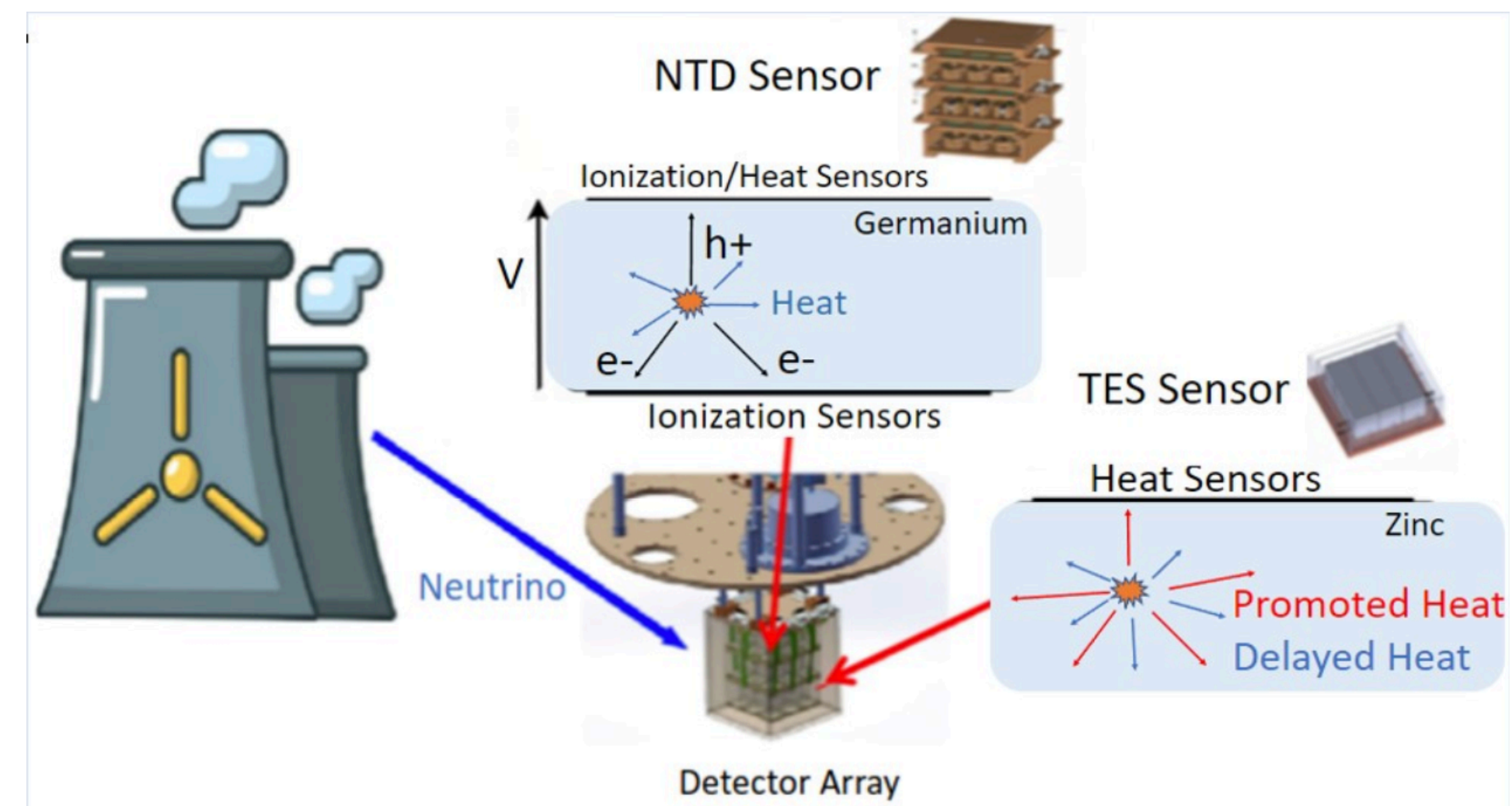
- ◆ NUCLEUS 10 g  $5\sigma$  observation of CEvNS in  $< 1$  year

| Background contribution  | CaWO <sub>4</sub> array |                |                | Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> array |                |                |
|--|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|  | 10-100 eV               | 100 eV – 1 keV | 1 keV – 10 keV | 10-100 eV                            | 100 eV – 1 keV | 1 keV – 10 keV |
| Rates in kg <sup>-1</sup> d <sup>-1</sup> ( <i>Preliminary</i> ) |                         |                |                |                                      |                |                |
| Ambient gammas   | 1.7 ± 0.2               | 5.3 ± 0.4      | ≈ 45           | 3.9 ± 0.4                            | 10.4 ± 0.6     | ≈ 90           |
| Atmospheric muons  | < 1.9                   | < 1.9          | < 1.9          | < 2.9                                | < 2.9          | 0.4 – 2.8      |
| Atmospheric neutrons<br>(with a factor 5 from VNS building)      | ≈ 7                     | ≈ 23           | ≈ 64           | ≈ 1.5                                | ≈ 15           | ≈ 44           |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>≈ 10</b>             | <b>≈ 30</b>    | <b>≈ 110</b>   | <b>≈ 6</b>                           | <b>≈ 30</b>    | <b>≈ 140</b>   |
| <b>CEvNS signal</b>  | <b>≈ 30</b>             | <b>≈ 9</b>     | -              | <b>≈ 2</b>                           | <b>≈ 4</b>     | -              |

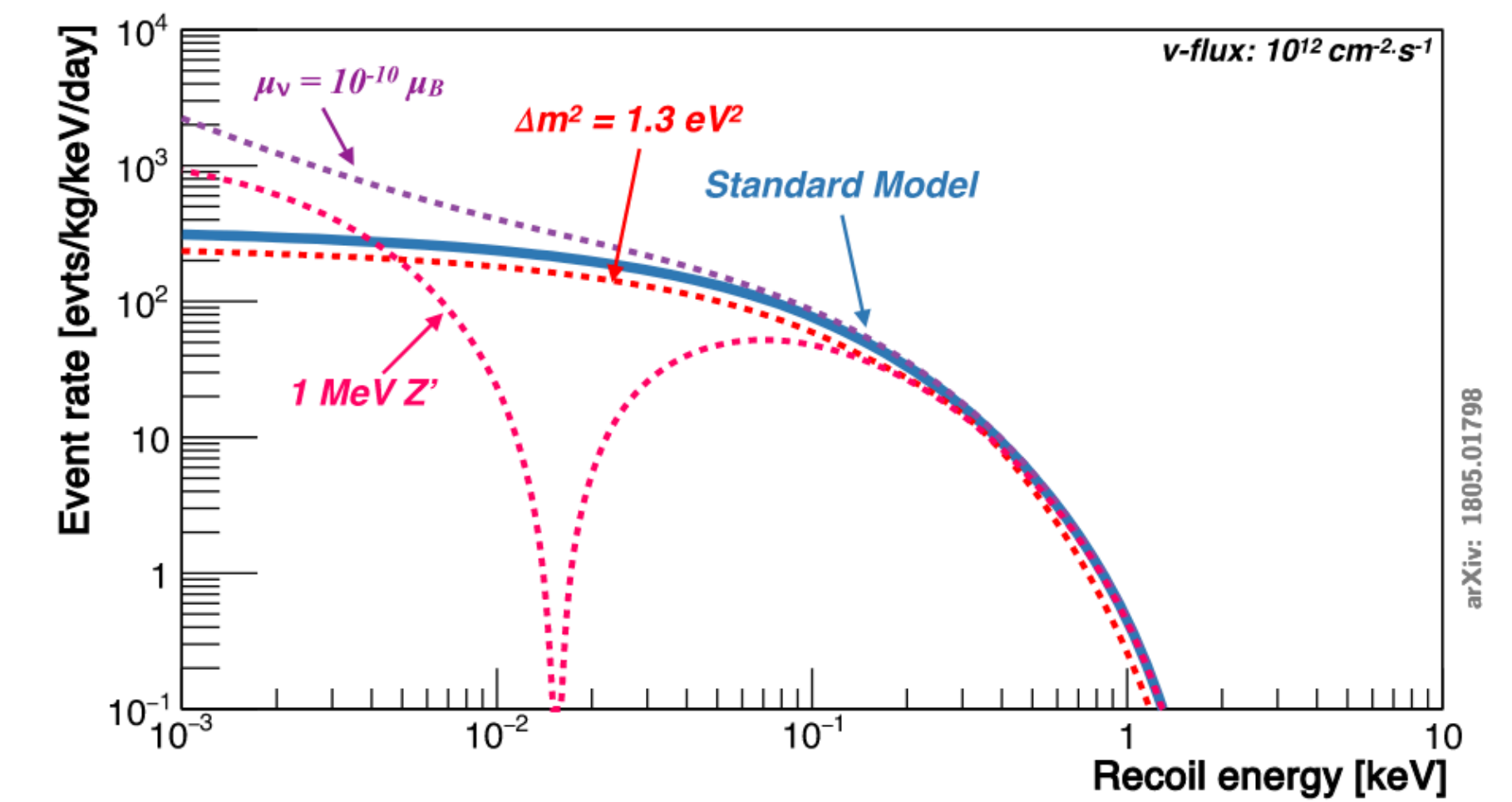
# Nuclear reactors

## Ricochet

- ◆ Cryogenic phonon detectors with an energy threshold < 100 eV
  - ◆ Neutron-Transmutation-Doped (NTD) thermistors
  - ◆ Transition-Edge Sensors (TES)
- ◆ 8 m of the 58.3 MW ILL reactor core @ Grenoble, France
- ◆ 15 m.w.e of overburden, muon reduction 2-3 times
- ◆ Flux:  $1.2 \times 10^{12} \bar{\nu}_e \text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$
- ◆ Cycles of 50 days with time for background characterization



Example: Nuclear recoil spectrum inside 1kg Ge target at ~ 8 m of the 58 MWth ILL reactor



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# Nuclear Reactor experiments

Crystal Scintillator Detectors

# Nuclear reactors

## NeON

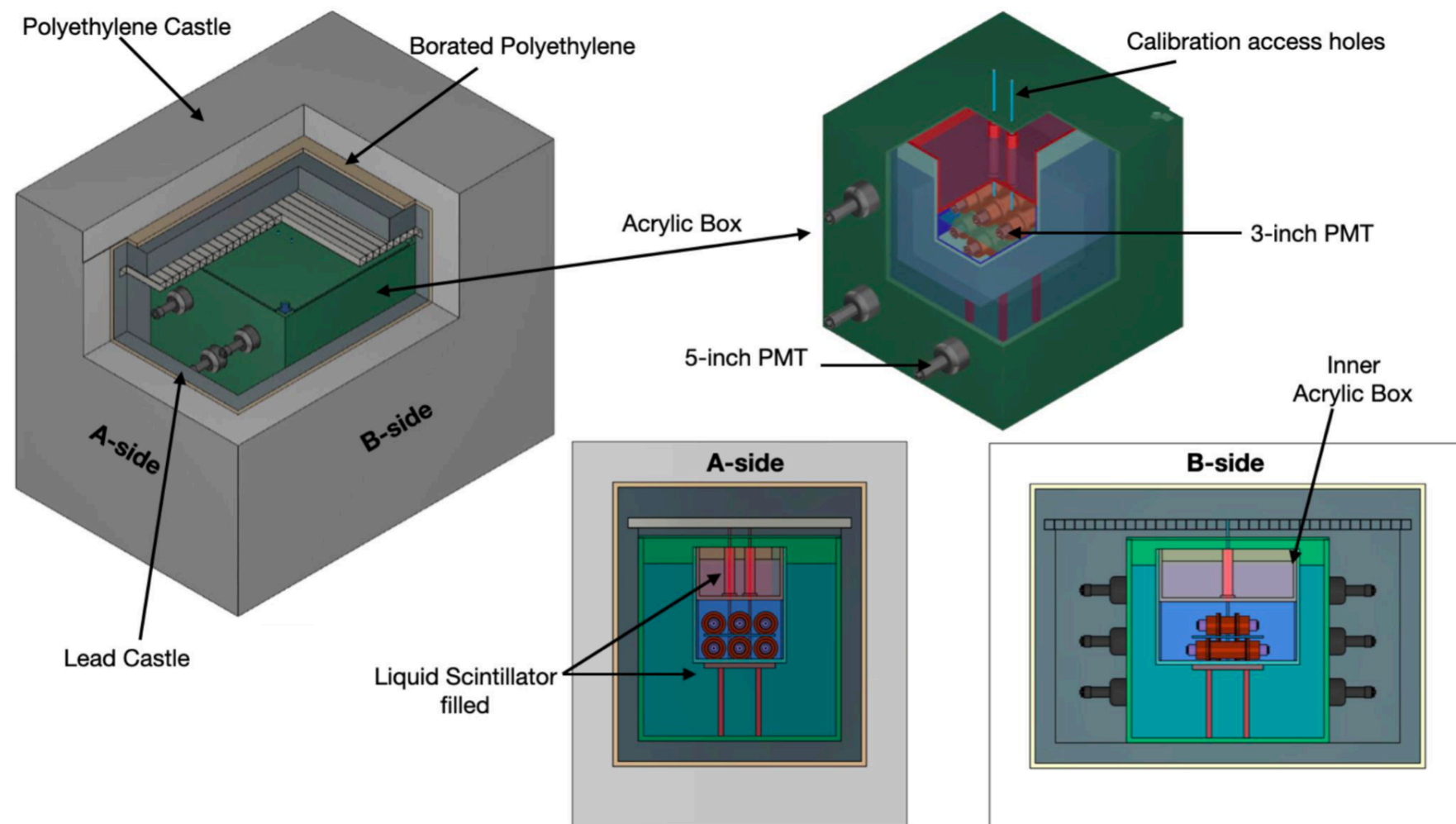
- ◆ Neutrino Elastic-scattering Observation with NaI
- ◆ Detector threshold < 0.3 keV
- ◆ 13.5 kg (comercial detectors: 3x 1.6 kg & 3x 3.4 kg)
- ◆ Located @ 23.7 m of a 2.8 GW nuclear reactor
- ◆ Flux:  $7.1 \cdot 10^{12} \bar{\nu}_e \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
- ◆ Passive shield (polyethylene, B-polyethylene and lead)
- ◆ Active shield (liquid scintillator)

### ◆ Sensitivity:

Background of ~ 7 dru (thanks to the veto)

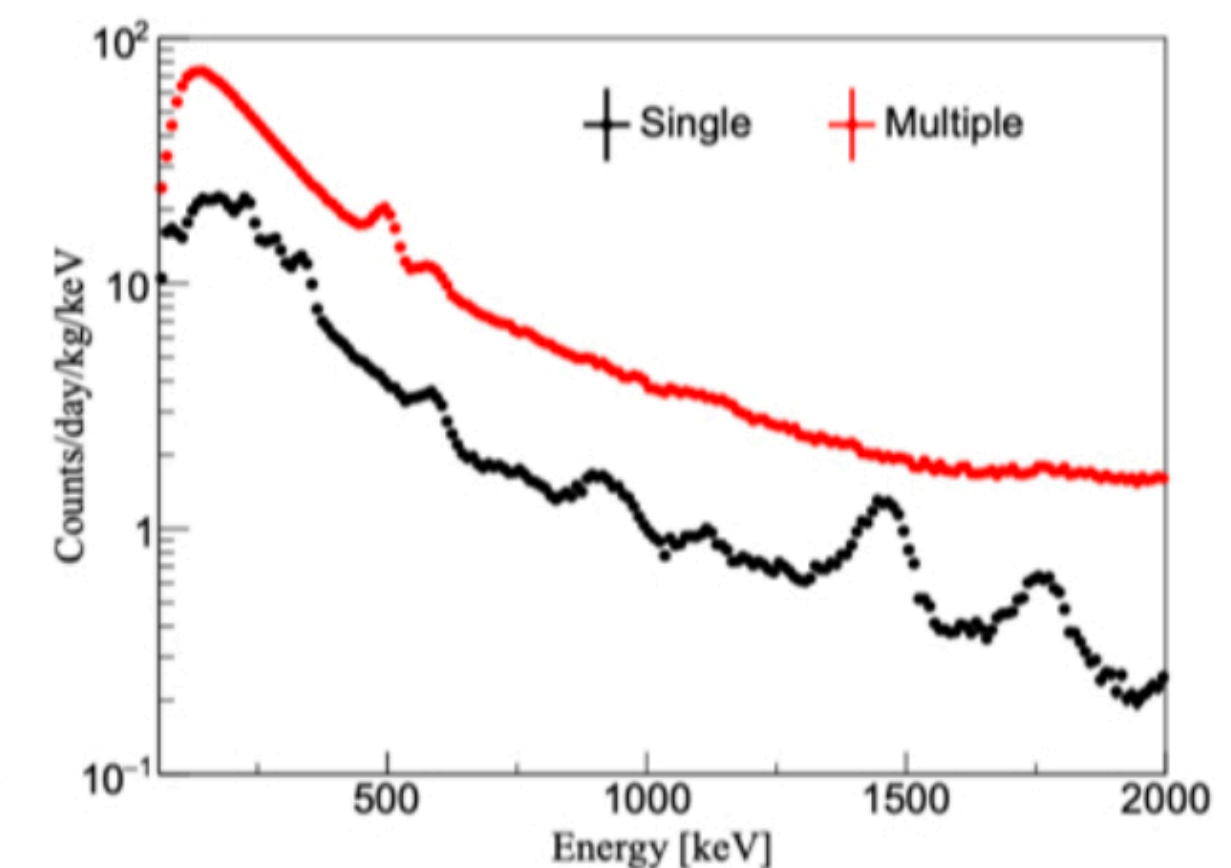
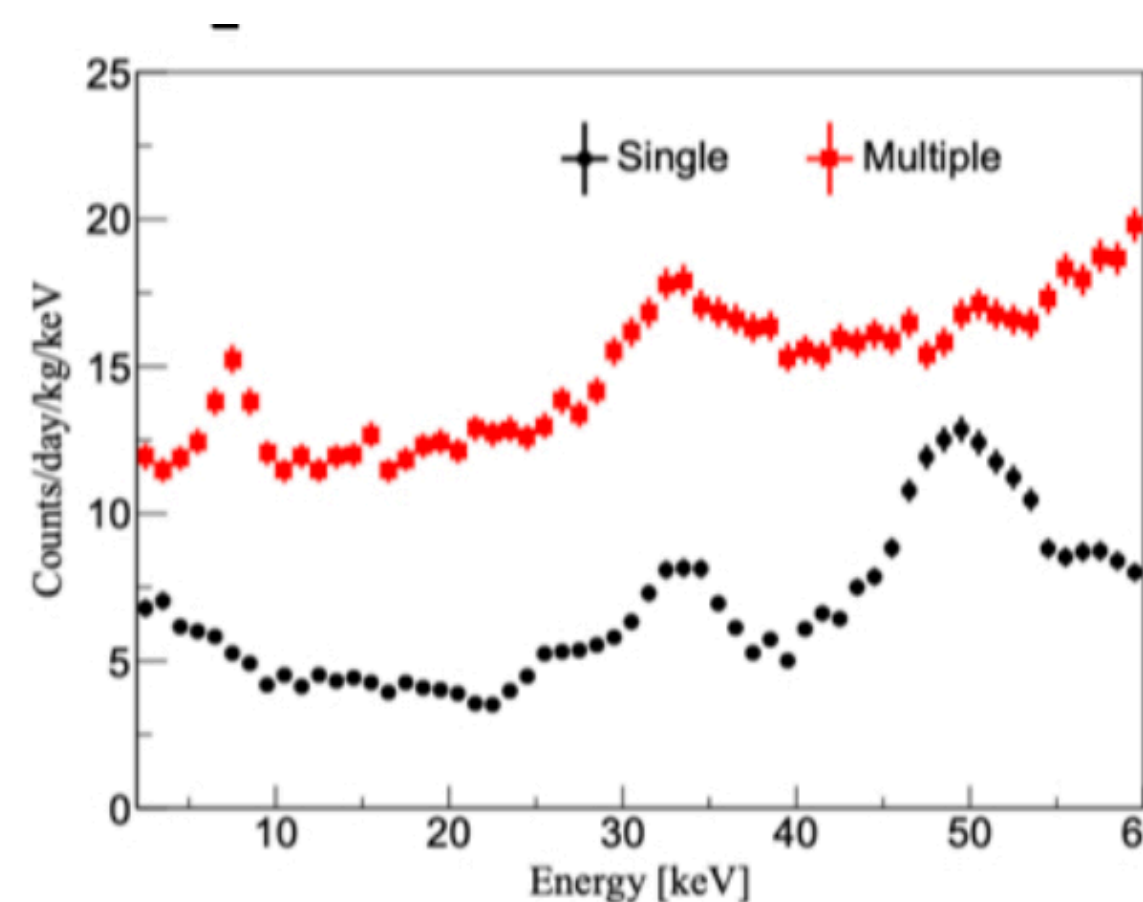
Light yield of 22 NPE/keV

Threshold 5 NPE (200 eV)



arXiv:2204.06318

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7F Dirac, DT06-789  
7F Dirac, DT06-630



# Nuclear reactors



arXiv:2204.06318

- ◆ CEvNS detection significance  $4 \pm 1 \sigma$ 
  - ▶ Background of  $\sim 7$  dru (thanks to the veto)
  - ▶ Light yield of 22 NPE/keV
  - ▶ Threshold 5 NPE (200 eV)
  - ▶ 1 year Reactor ON data
  - ▶ 100 days Reactor OFF data

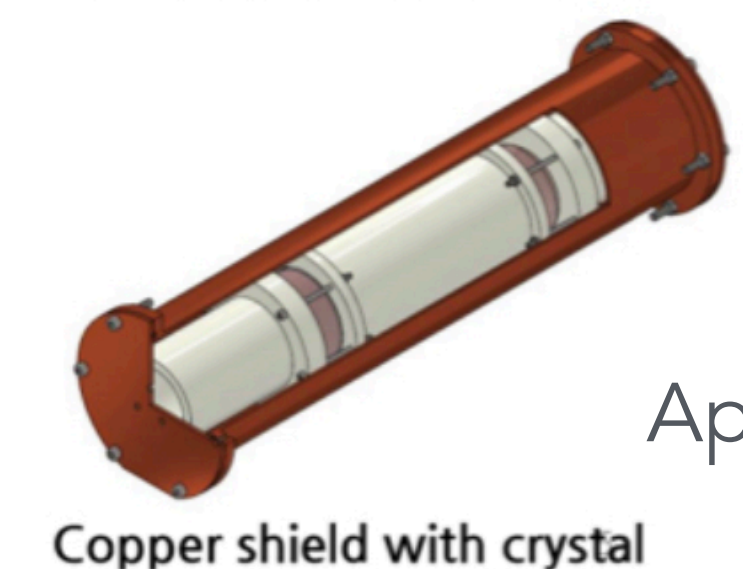
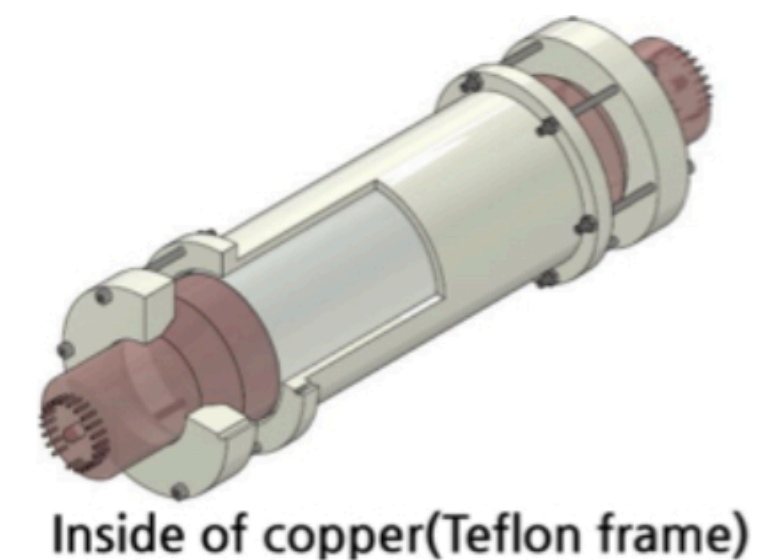
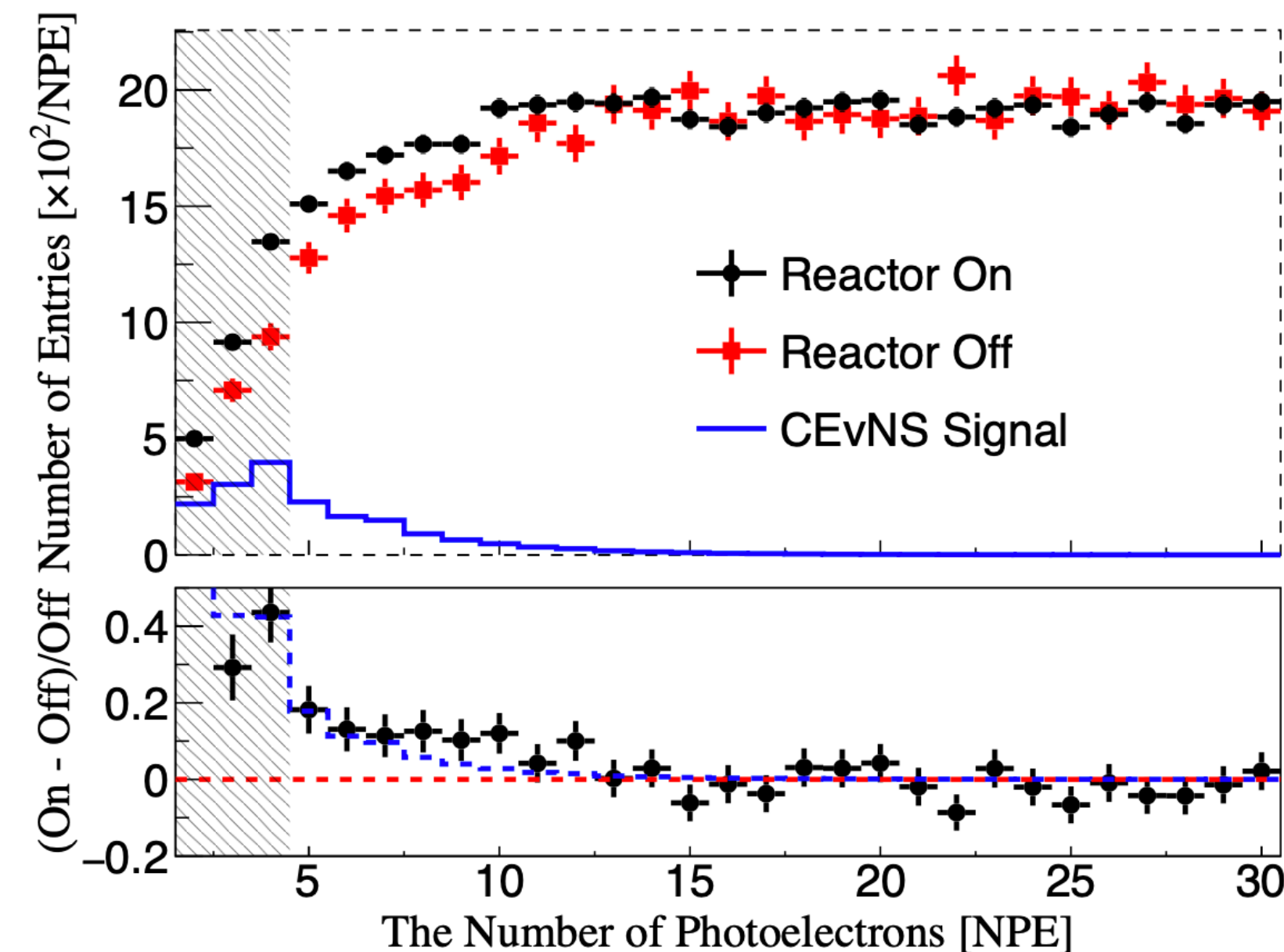
## NeON

- ◆ Neutrino Elastic-scattering Observation with NaI
- ◆ Detector threshold  $< 0.3$  keV
- ◆ 13.5 kg (comercial detectors: 3x 1.6 kg & 3x 3.4 kg)
- ◆ Located @ 23.7 m of a 2.8 GW nuclear reactor
- ◆ Flux:  $7.1 \cdot 10^{12} \bar{\nu}_e \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
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- ◆ Active shield (liquid scintillator)

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7F Dirac, DT06-630



April 2022

# Nuclear Reactor experiments

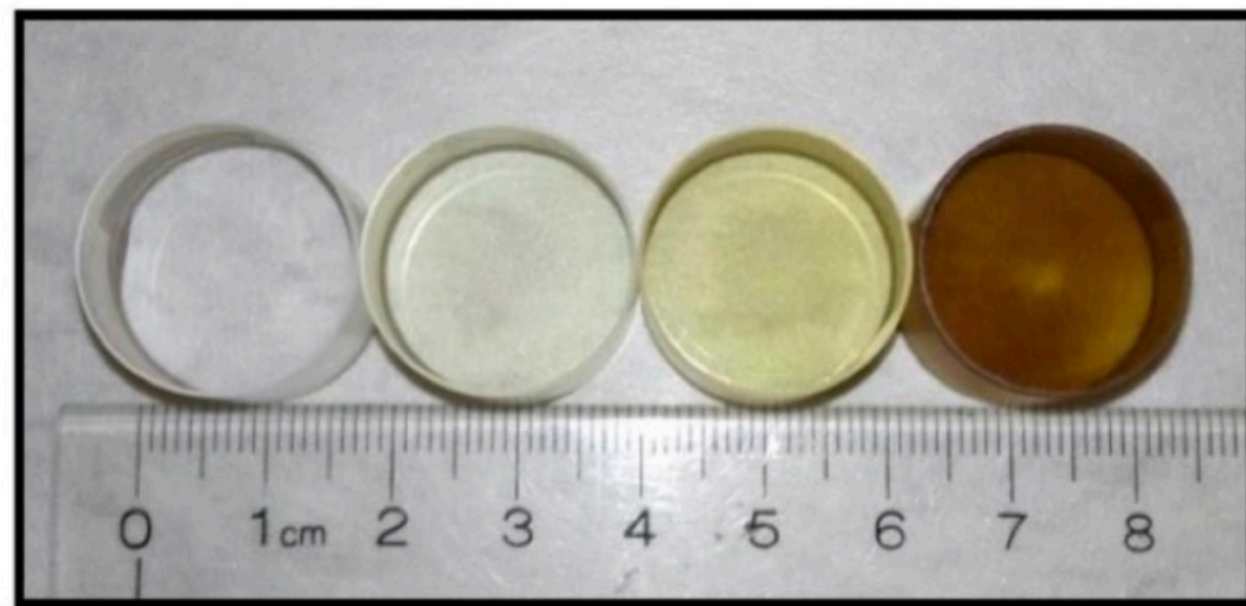
Color Center Passive Detectors





# Nuclear reactors

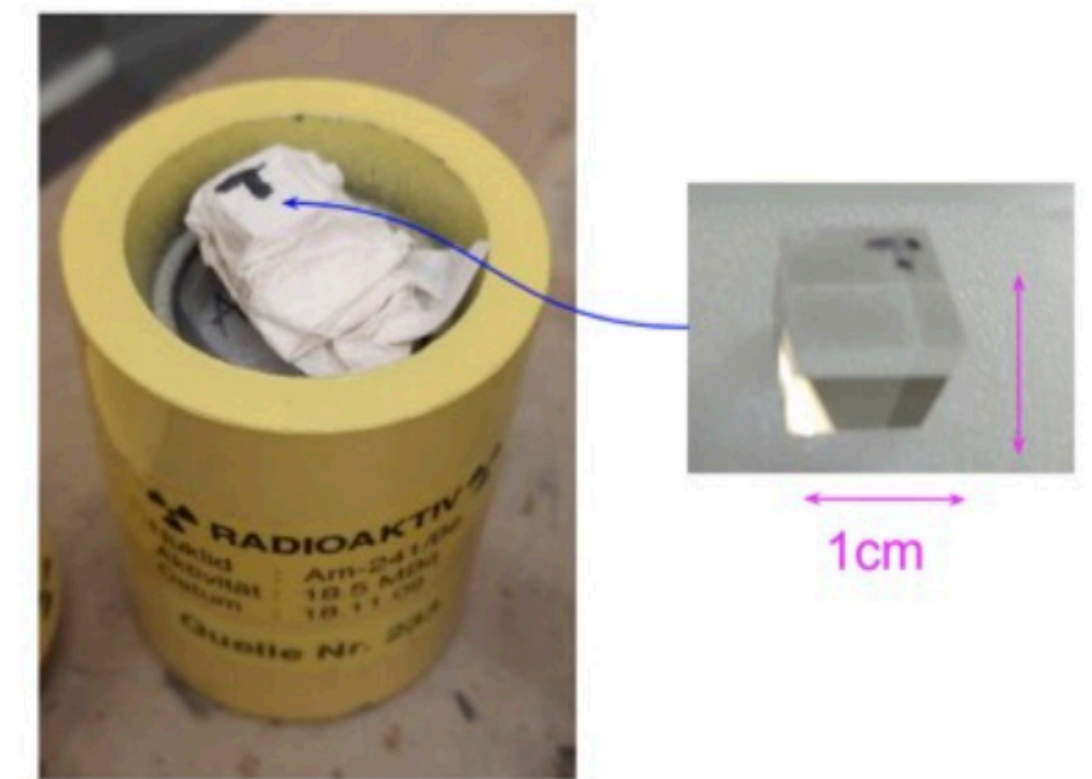
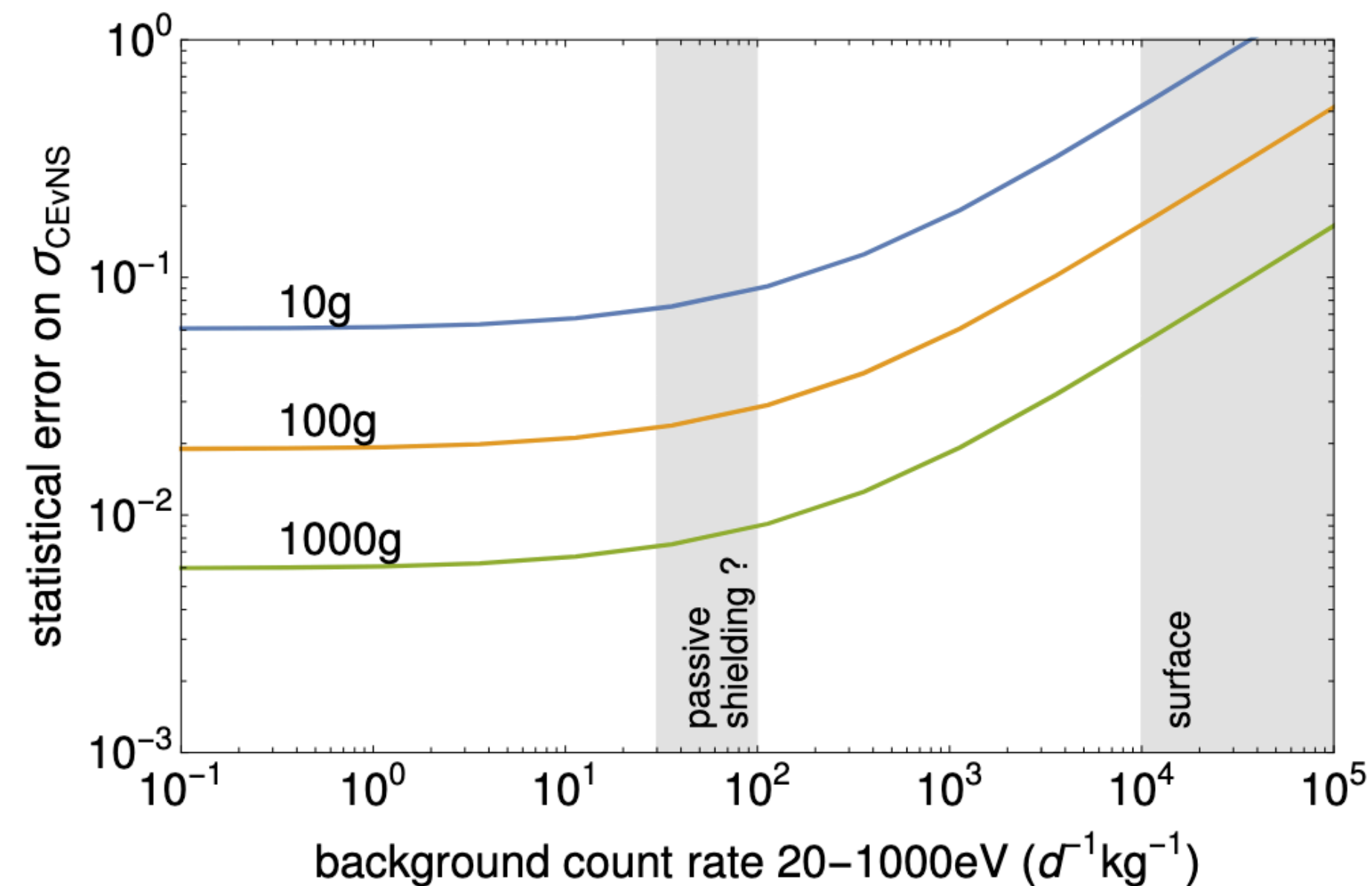
CaF<sub>2</sub> crystal with different radiation doses



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## Passive Low Energy Optical Color Center Nuclear Recoil PALEOCENE

- ◆ Room-temperature, passive and robust detectors
  - ▶ gram-kilogram range detectors
- ◆ Nuclear recoils result in damage to the crystal lattice and some of these damage sites can become optically active
  - ▶ Few tens of eV
  - ▶ Optical detection of the fluorescence of single color centers
- ◆ R&D efforts to investigate the feasibility of this concept
- ◆ CEvNS detection at 30 of a 3 GW nuclear reactor during 1 year



CaF<sub>2</sub> crystal irradiated by AmBe source

# Experiments

- Stopped-pion beams
- Nuclear reactors



- Future/Planned

# Summary

- ◆ CEvNS: very active field
- ◆ Exciting moment: new results from different experiments and new techniques expected soon
- ◆ New facilities and next generation experiments being designed
- ◆ Synergy between experiments and theory

More in Carlo Giunti's talk  
New physics search w/ CEvNS

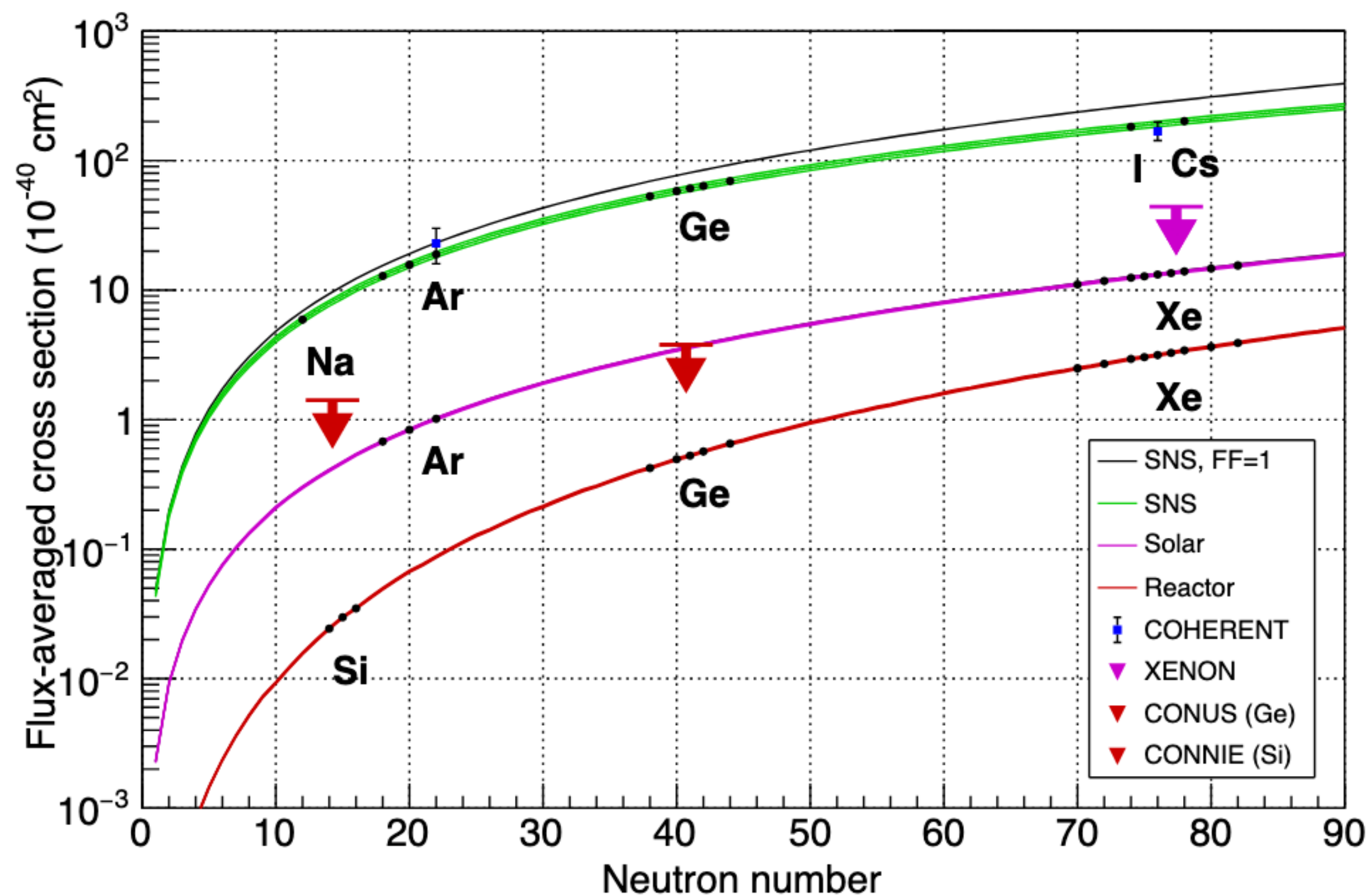


Figure: Kate Scholberg

It's just the beginning....

Thank you !!