

ORNL and physics

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Physical Sciences Directorate

Exotic Beam Summer School
24 June 2019

ORNL is managed by UT-Battelle, LLC for the US Department of Energy

Outline

- ORNL in brief
- Exciting physics
- Q&A

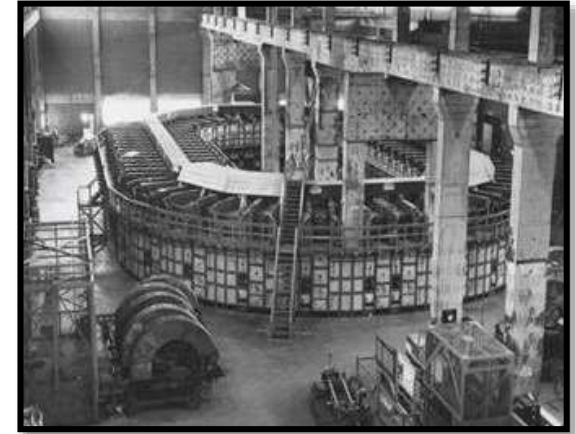
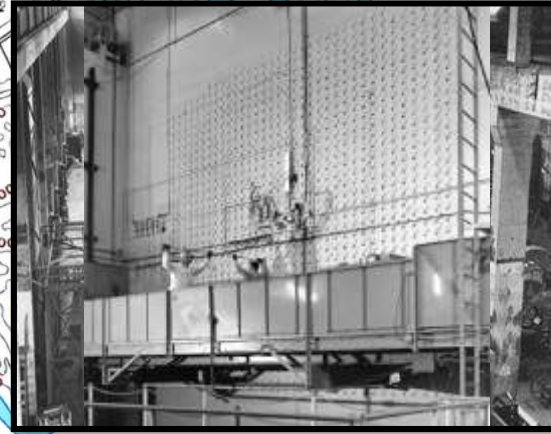
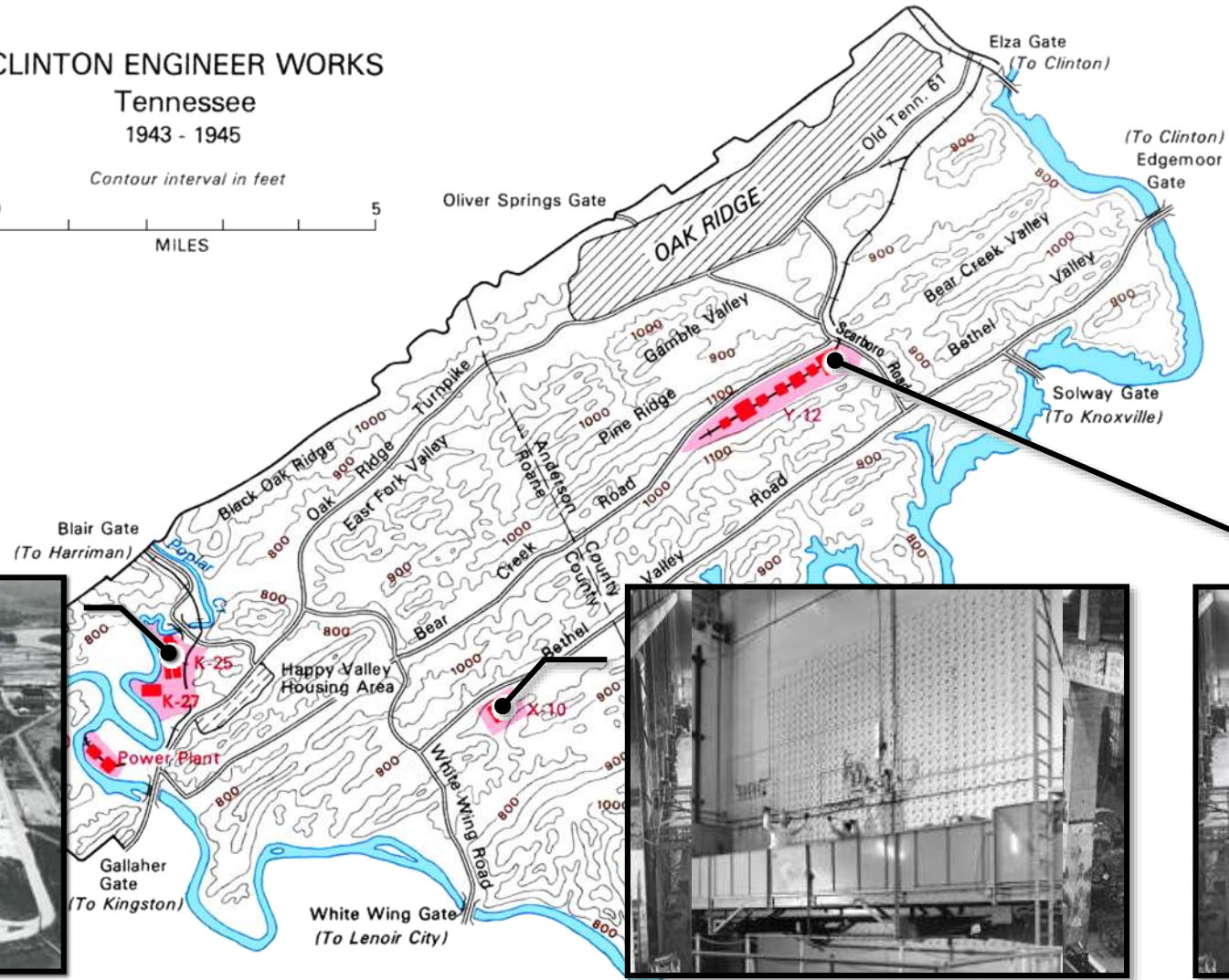


The Manhattan Project in East Tennessee

CLINTON ENGINEER WORKS

Tennessee
1943 - 1945

Contour interval in feet



The Manhattan Project facilities evolved into the national laboratories

- Capitalize on the extraordinary scientific and technical capabilities assembled for the war effort
- Continue nuclear R&D with a focus on peaceful use
- Conduct unclassified fundamental research on a scale beyond the reach of a single university or industry

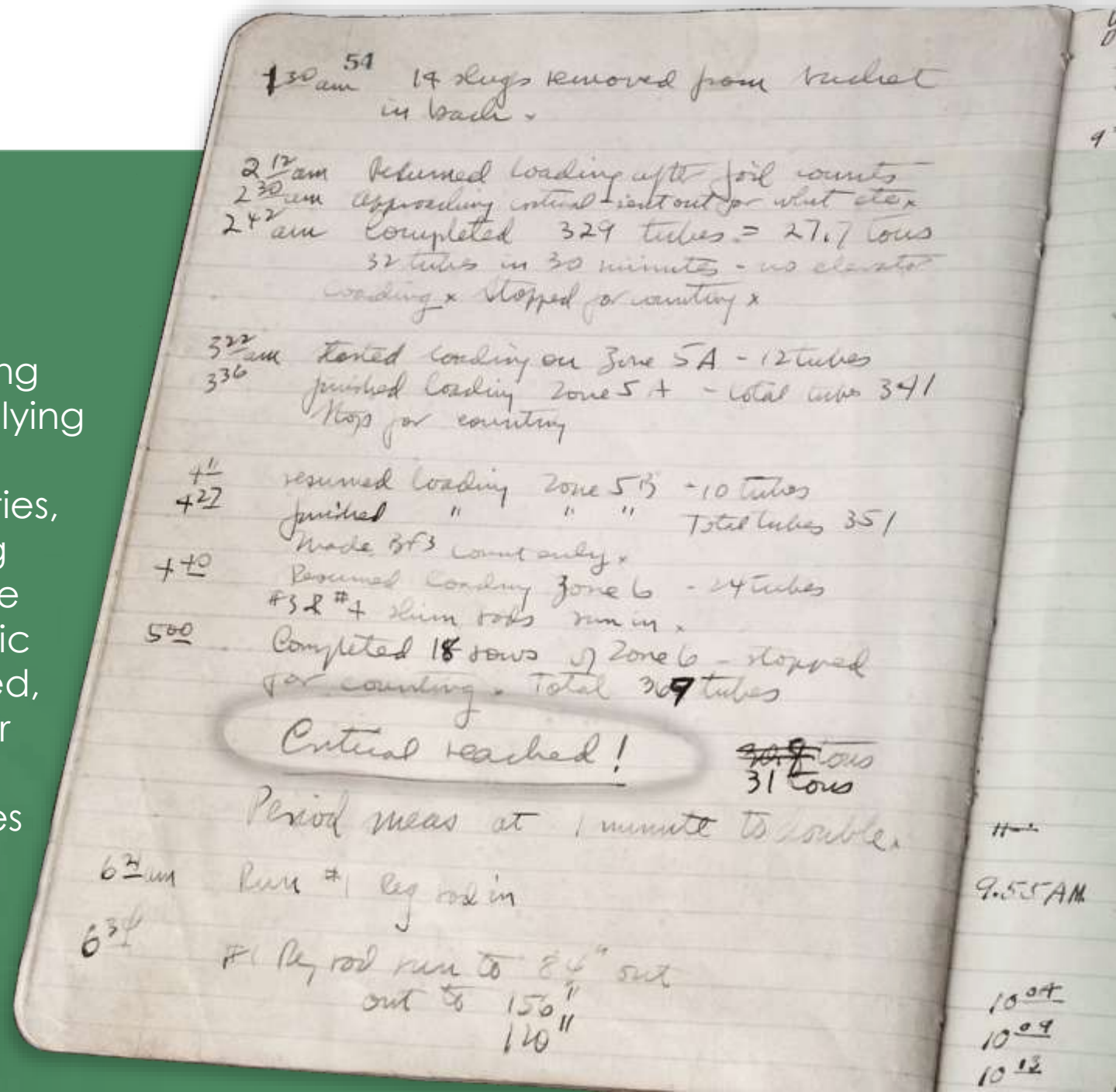
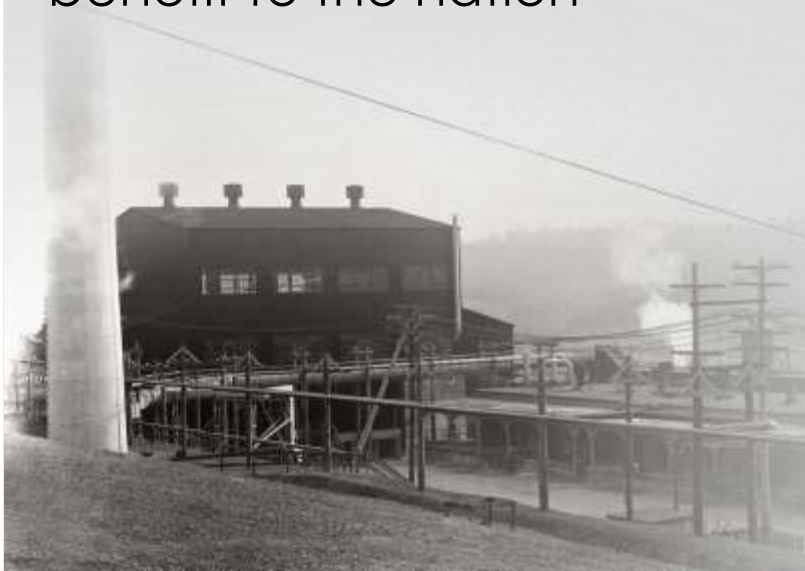


August 1, 1946:
President Truman
signs the Atomic
Energy Act

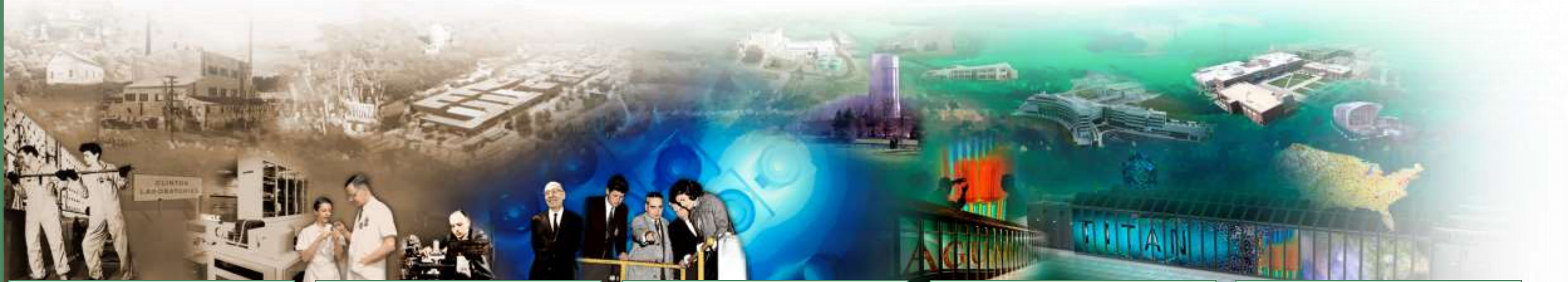
ORNL's mission

Deliver scientific discoveries and technical breakthroughs needed to realize solutions in energy and national security and provide economic benefit to the nation

Integrating and applying 23 core capabilities, spanning the range from basic to applied, to deliver mission outcomes



ORNL has a distinguished history of making groundbreaking discoveries and meeting national needs



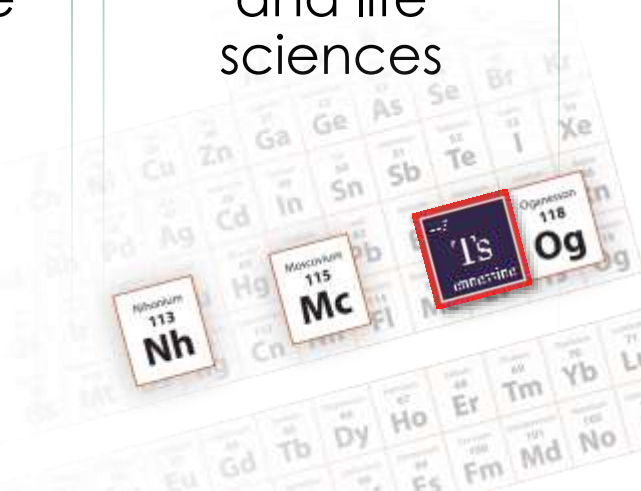
Development, production, and distribution of radioisotopes and stable isotopes

Science and engineering of the nuclear fuel cycle
Reactor technology
Materials and fuels
Separations chemistry

Development of neutron scattering, neutron activation analysis, and other innovative research tools

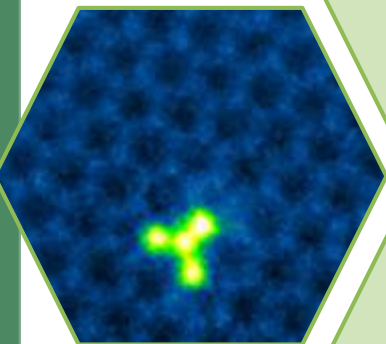
Development and application of high-performance computing resources

Delivering advances in physical and life sciences



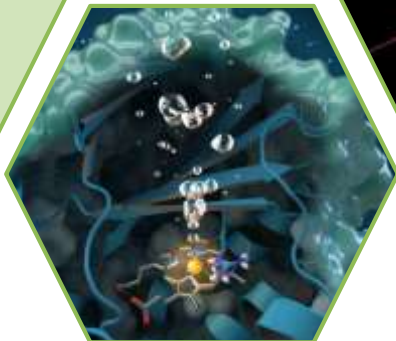
ORNL's major S&T initiatives

Advance ORNL's science and innovation culture

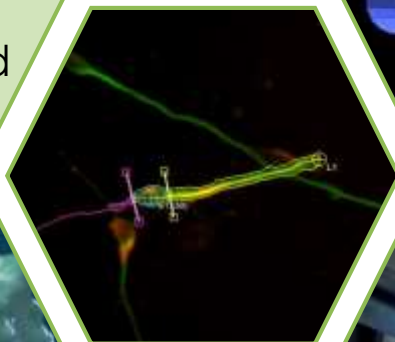


Accelerate the discovery and design of new materials for energy

Advance the science and impact of neutrons



Scale computing and data analytics to exascale and beyond



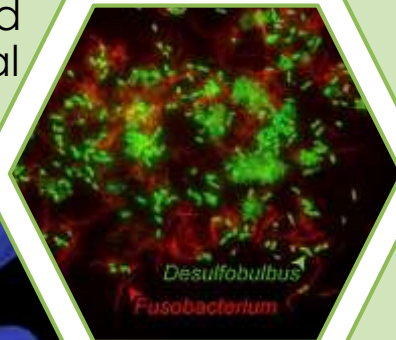
Advance scientific basis for breakthrough nuclear technologies and systems



Advance understanding of complexity in biological and environmental systems



Enhance strategic capabilities in isotopes



Accelerate R&D and manufacturing of integrated energy systems

Deliver S&T to address complex security challenges



Accelerate deployment of DOE IP and engagement with universities and industry

ORNL's distinctive facilities bring thousands of R&D partners to Tennessee each year



Building Technologies
Research and
Integration Center

Carbon Fiber
Technology Facility

Center for
Nanophase Materials
Sciences

High Flux Isotope
Reactor

Manufacturing
Demonstration Facility

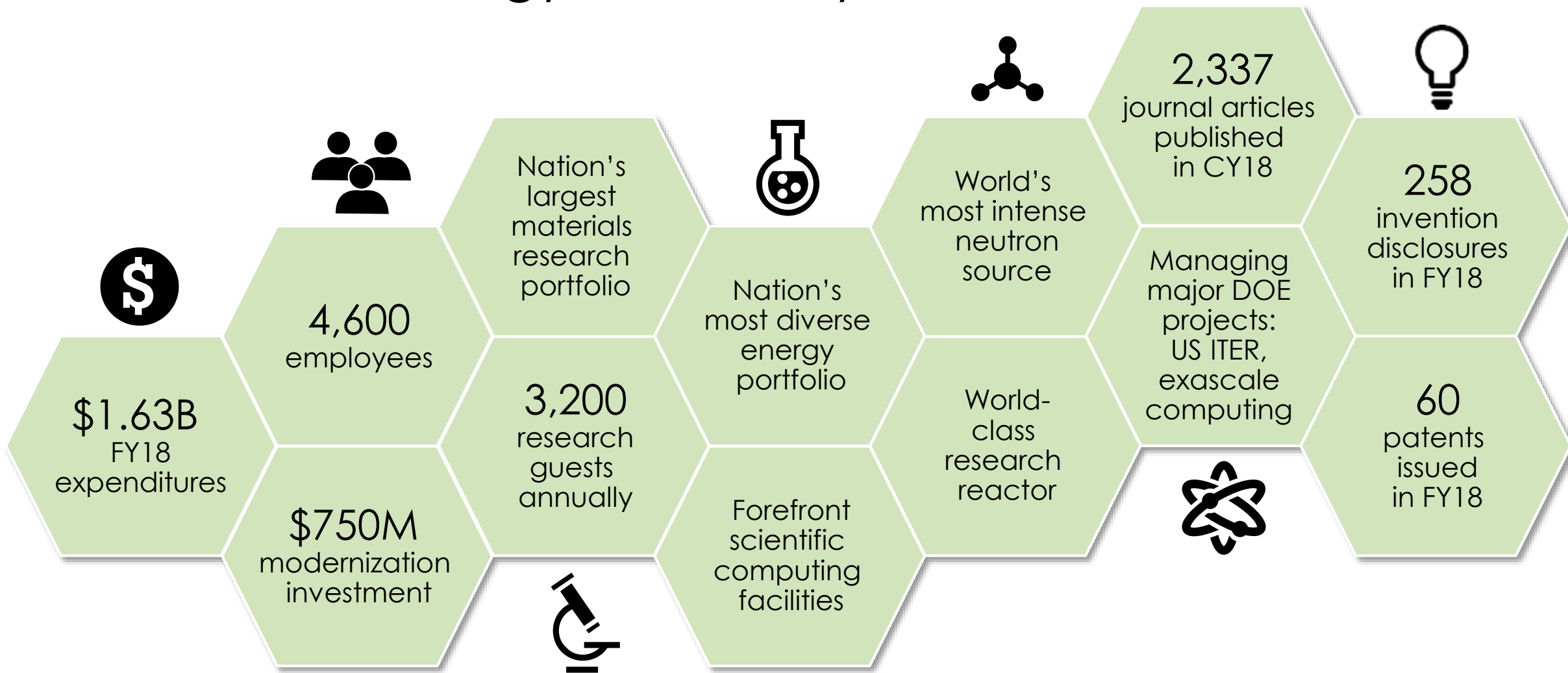
National
Transportation
Research Center

Oak Ridge Leadership
Computing Facility

Spallation Neutron
Source



Today, ORNL is a leading science and energy laboratory



Exciting Physics

- Super Heavy Elements
- Neutrinos
- Fundamental symmetries
- Quantum computing
- Isotopes



“Hot fusion” using ^{48}Ca beams on actinide targets: 6 super-heavy elements since 2000

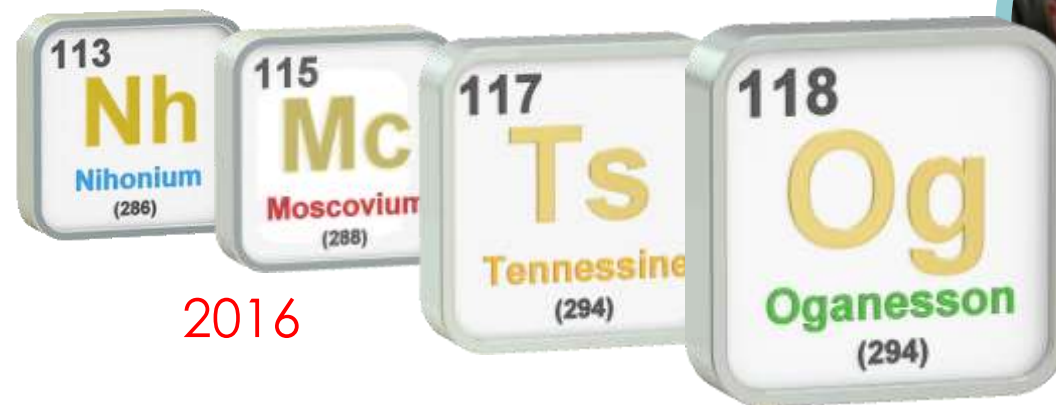
← ORNL actinides involved in all of these discoveries →

Element	Nihonium (113)	Flerovium (114)	Moscovium (115)	Livermorium (116)	Tennessine (117)	Oganesson (118)
Year produced	2004	2000	2004	2005	2010	2006
Target	^{243}Am (decay from 115)	^{244}Pu	^{243}Am	$^{245,248}\text{Cm}$	^{249}Bk	^{249}Cf
Beam	^{48}Ca	^{48}Ca	^{48}Ca	^{48}Ca	^{48}Ca	^{48}Ca
Nuclei produced to date	140	99	135	35	22	5



2012

- >50 new isotopes
- >200 decay chains
- Hot fusion increases SHE production rates for $Z \geq 113$ by one or more orders of magnitude

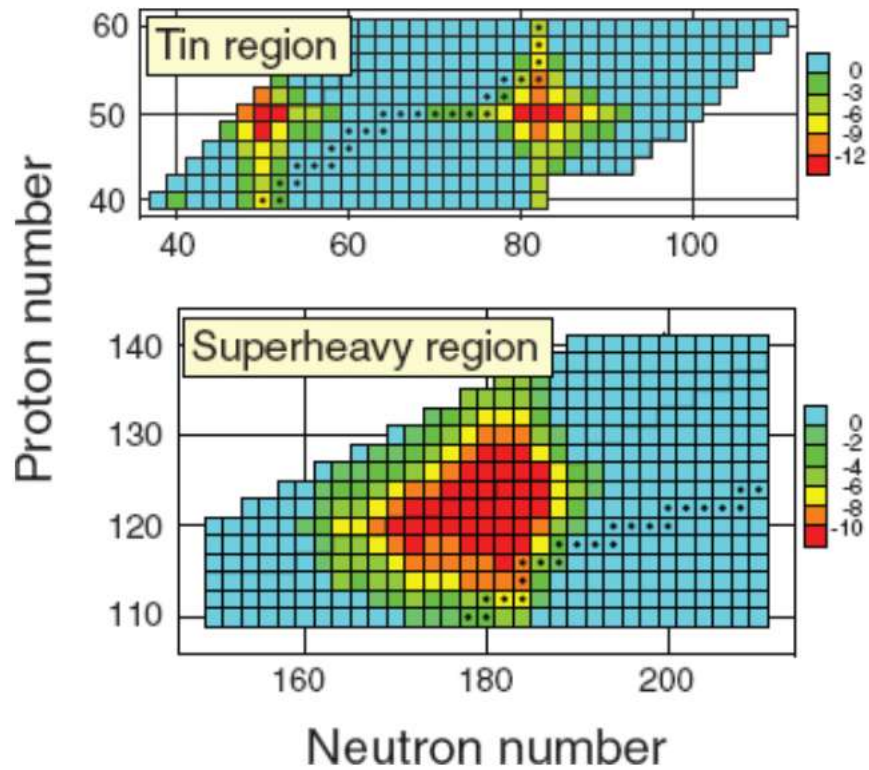


2016

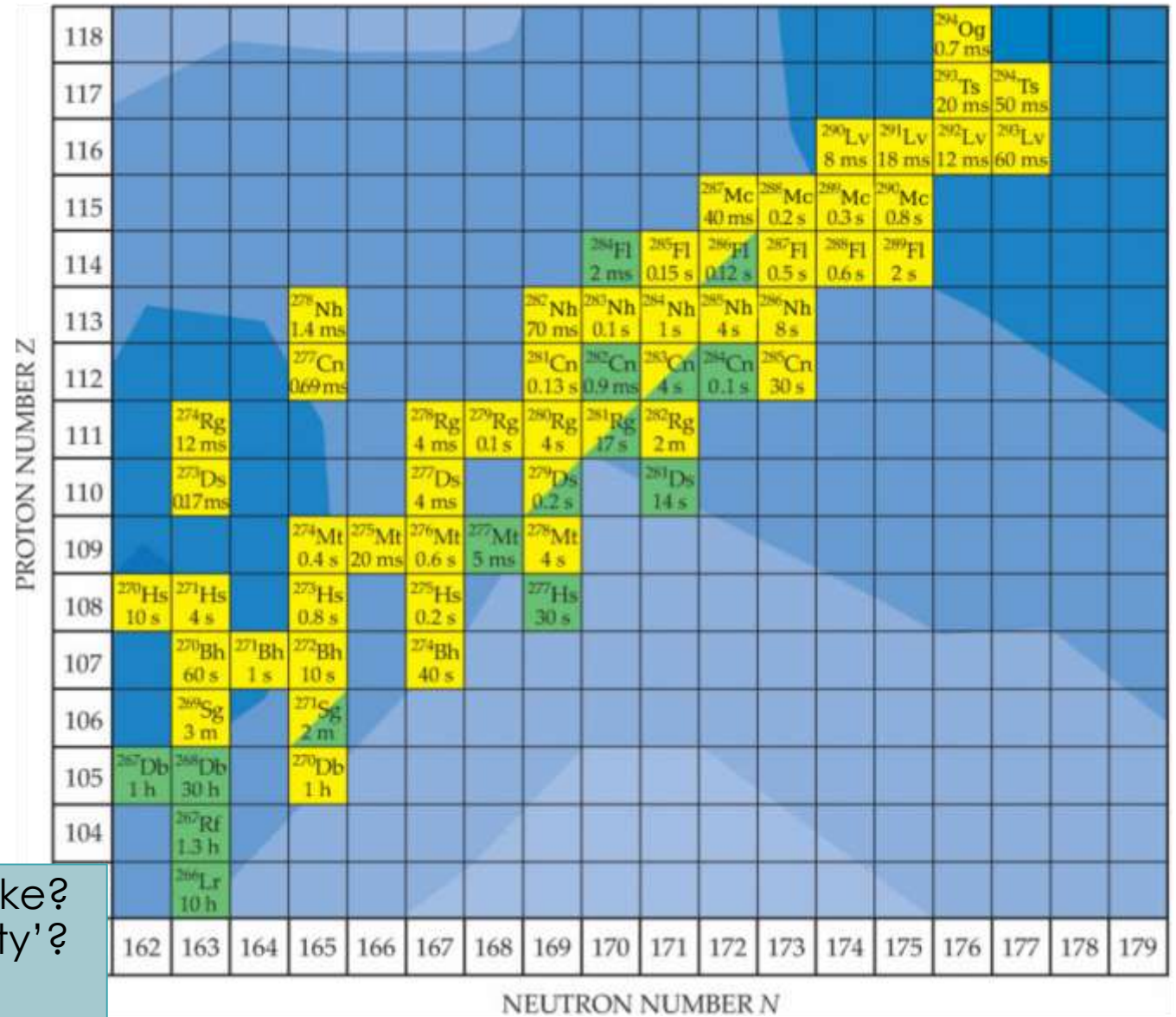


Yuri Oganessian

The physics of SHE



Binder et al., PLB 515, 42 (2001)



- What is the heaviest isotope we can make?
- What are the N, Z of the 'Island of Stability'?
 - N=184
 - Z=114, 120, 126?
- How do SHE lifetimes evolve?

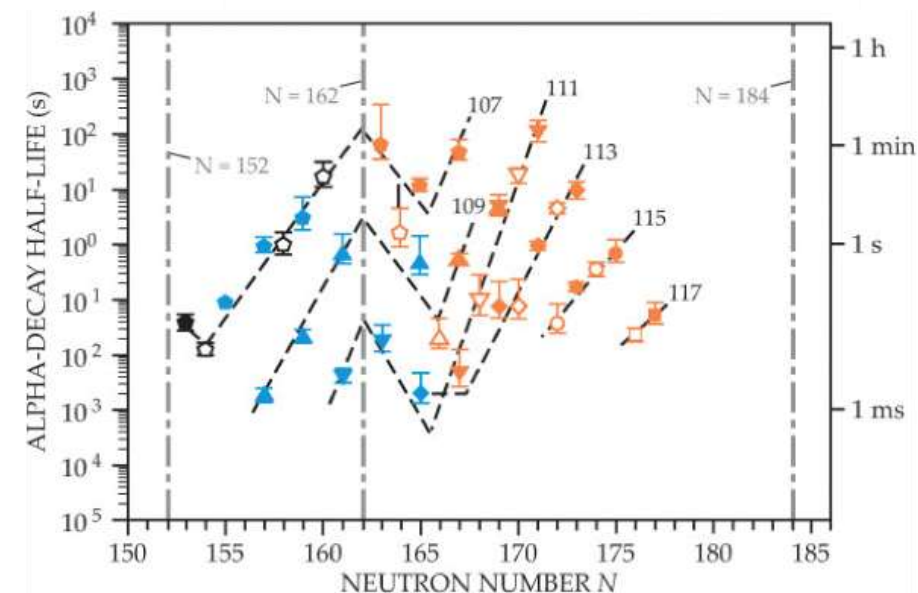
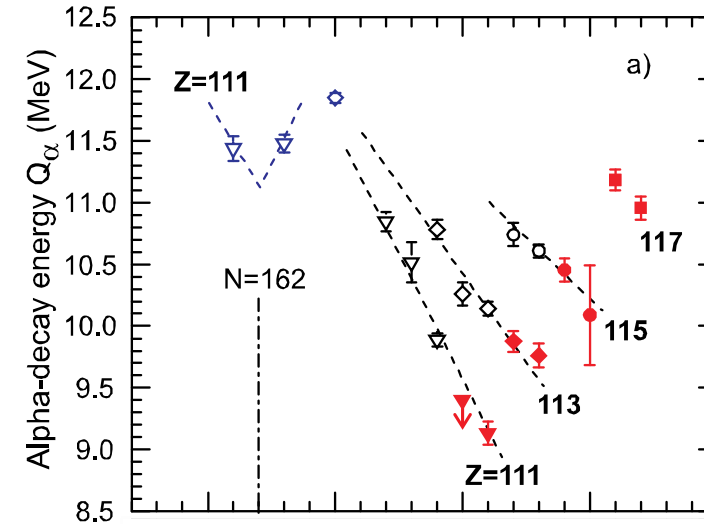
New isotopes from element 117 decay chains show consistent behavior across Z and N

Closer approach to closed shell at $N = 184$ results in decreased α -decay energy and increased lifetime

Continued trend toward increasing stability for higher neutron numbers

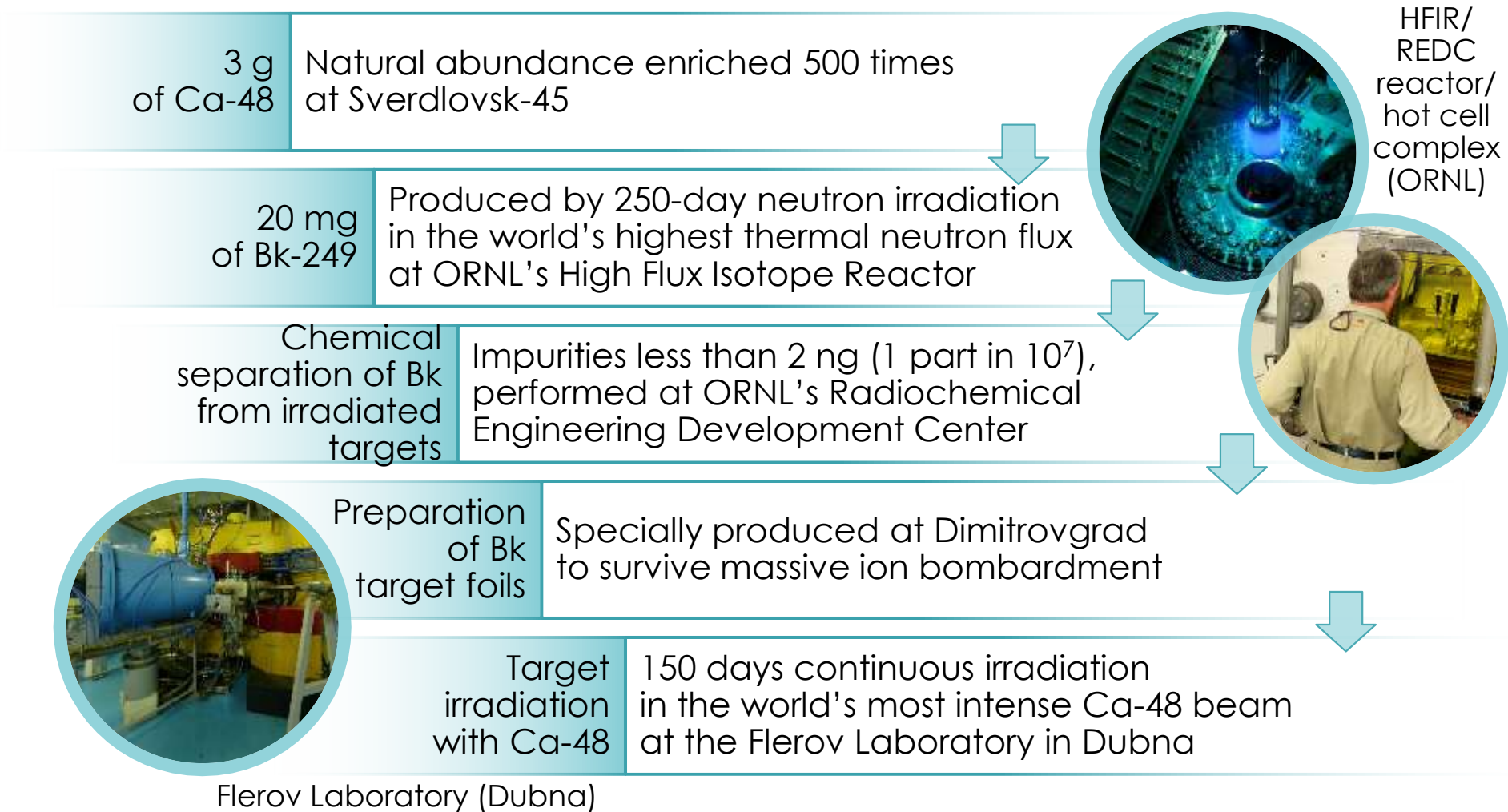
Strong evidence for the "Island of Stability"

A self-consistent picture of decay properties has emerged



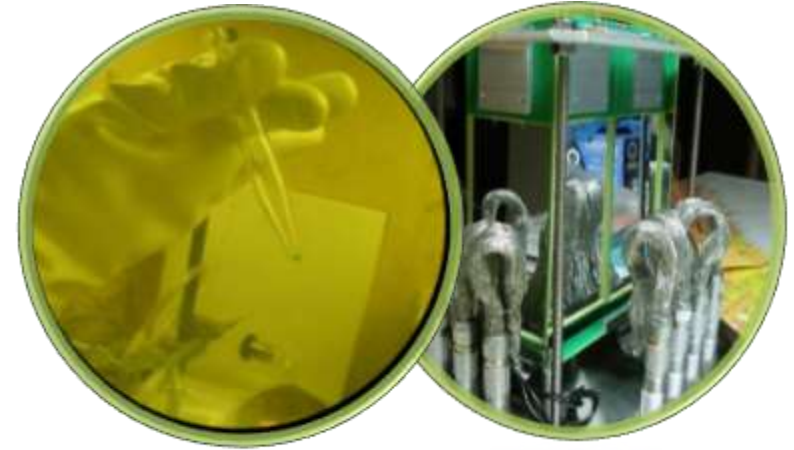
International collaboration was essential

What it took to produce a few atoms of Tennessine

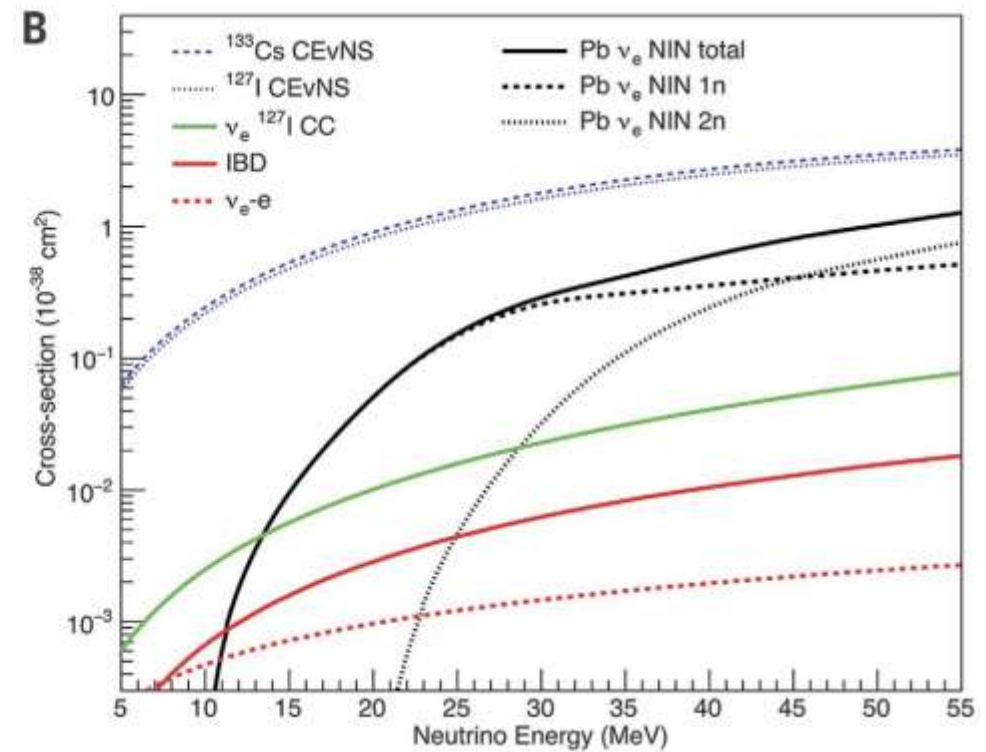
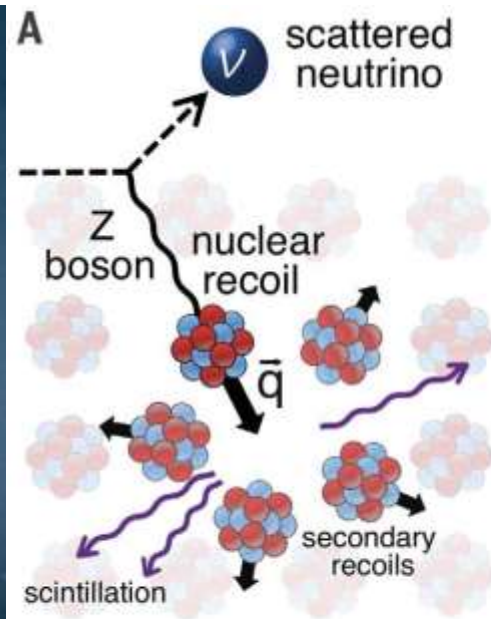


Towards new atomic elements 119 and 120: joint experiments US-Russia and US-Japan on super heavy elements and nuclei

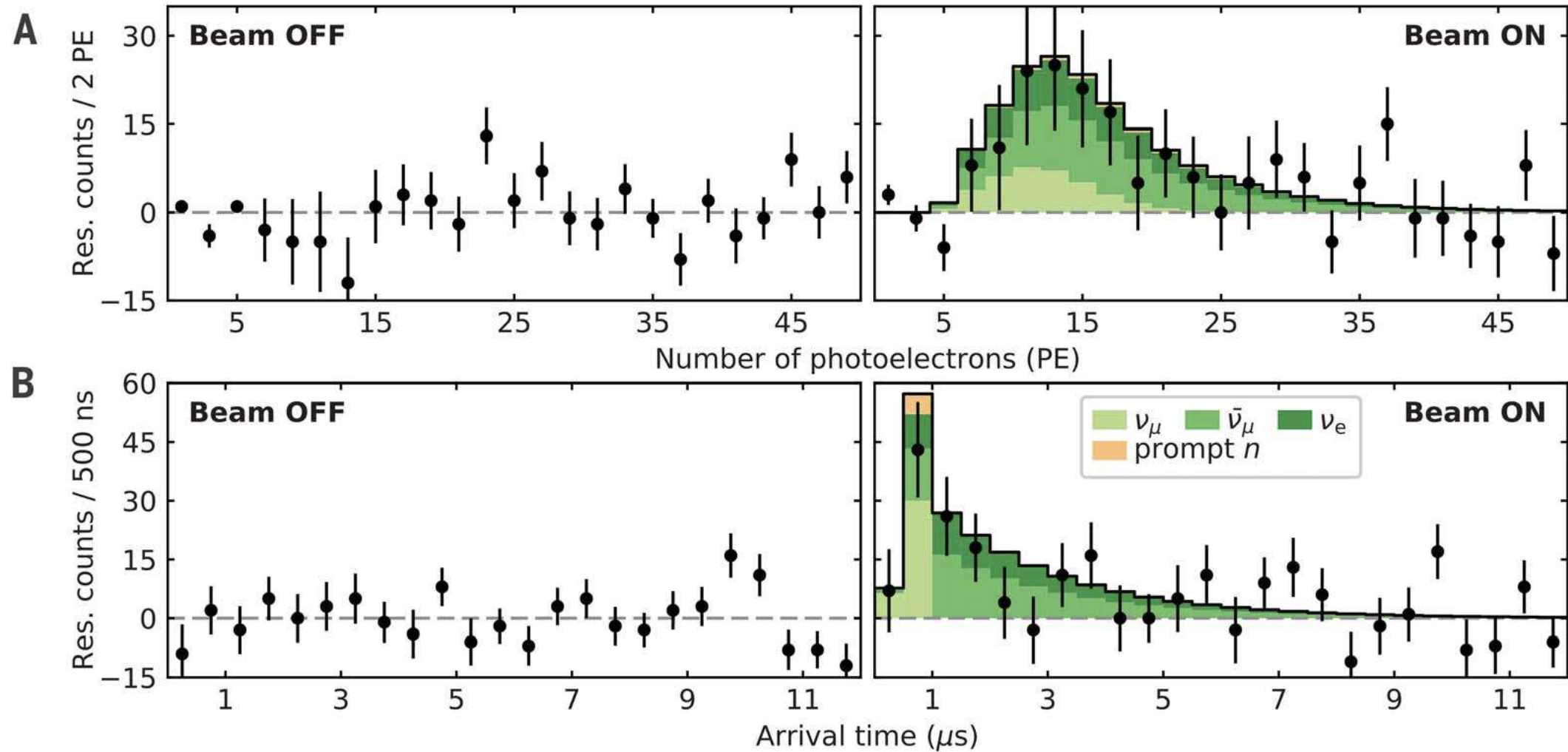
- There are several large scale investigations planned for years 2018-2022 involving US, Russia and Japan laboratories and aiming in the discoveries of new super heavy nuclei including isotopes of new elements 119 and 120.
- The elements 119 and 120 will start a new row in the Periodic Table and allow us to study the properties of atoms and nuclei affected by the strongest Coulomb fields.
- The US-Russia experiments employing $Z=22$ ^{50}Ti beams at the new SHE Factory require $Z=97$ ^{249}Bk and $Z=98$ mixed-Cf targets to reach $Z=119$ and $Z=120$, respectively.
- The US-Japan experiments will use $Z=96$ ^{248}Cm targets and beams of $Z=23$ ^{51}V and $Z=24$ ^{54}Cr , respectively, to synthesize elements $Z=119$ and $Z=120$ at two new SHE-dedicated accelerator-separator facilities at RIKEN.
- Both experiments employ heavy ions beams of high intensity requiring large target area to dissipate heat, about ~ 20 mg (RIKEN) and ~ 30 mg (SHE Factory) of respective actinide material deposited on target wheels rotating at high speed.



Coherent neutrino scattering

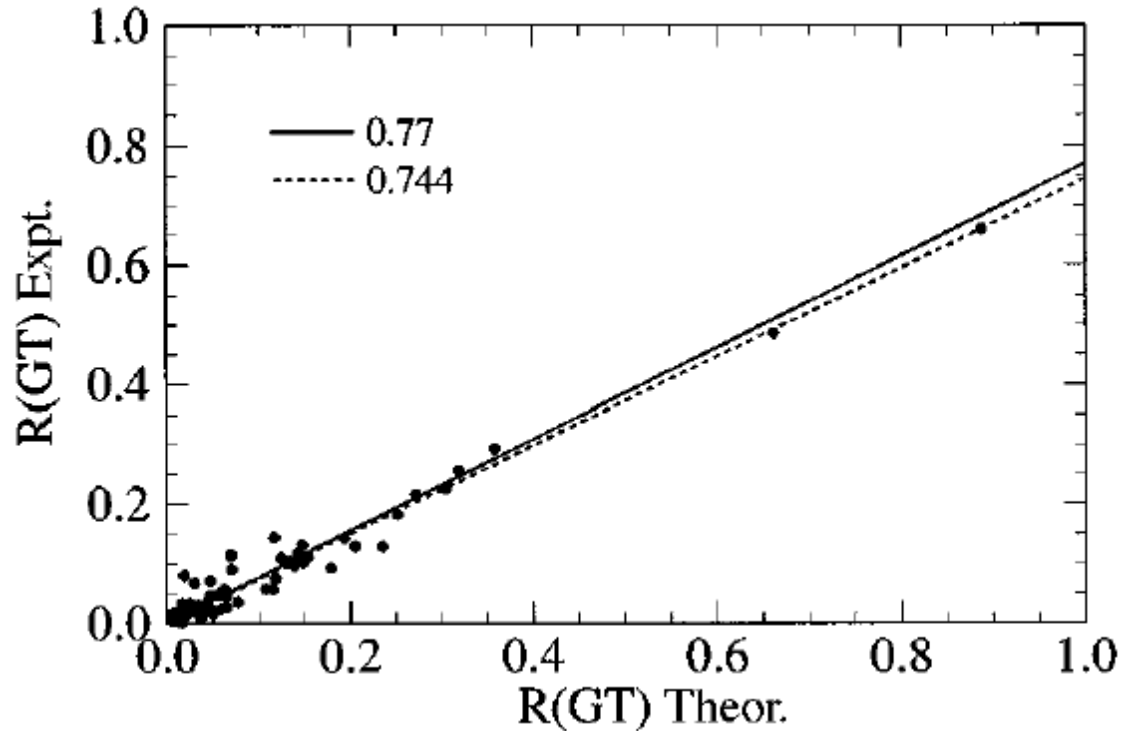


Coherent Neutrino Scattering



Akimov et al., Science 357, 1123 (2017)

Quenching of Gamow-Teller strength in nuclei



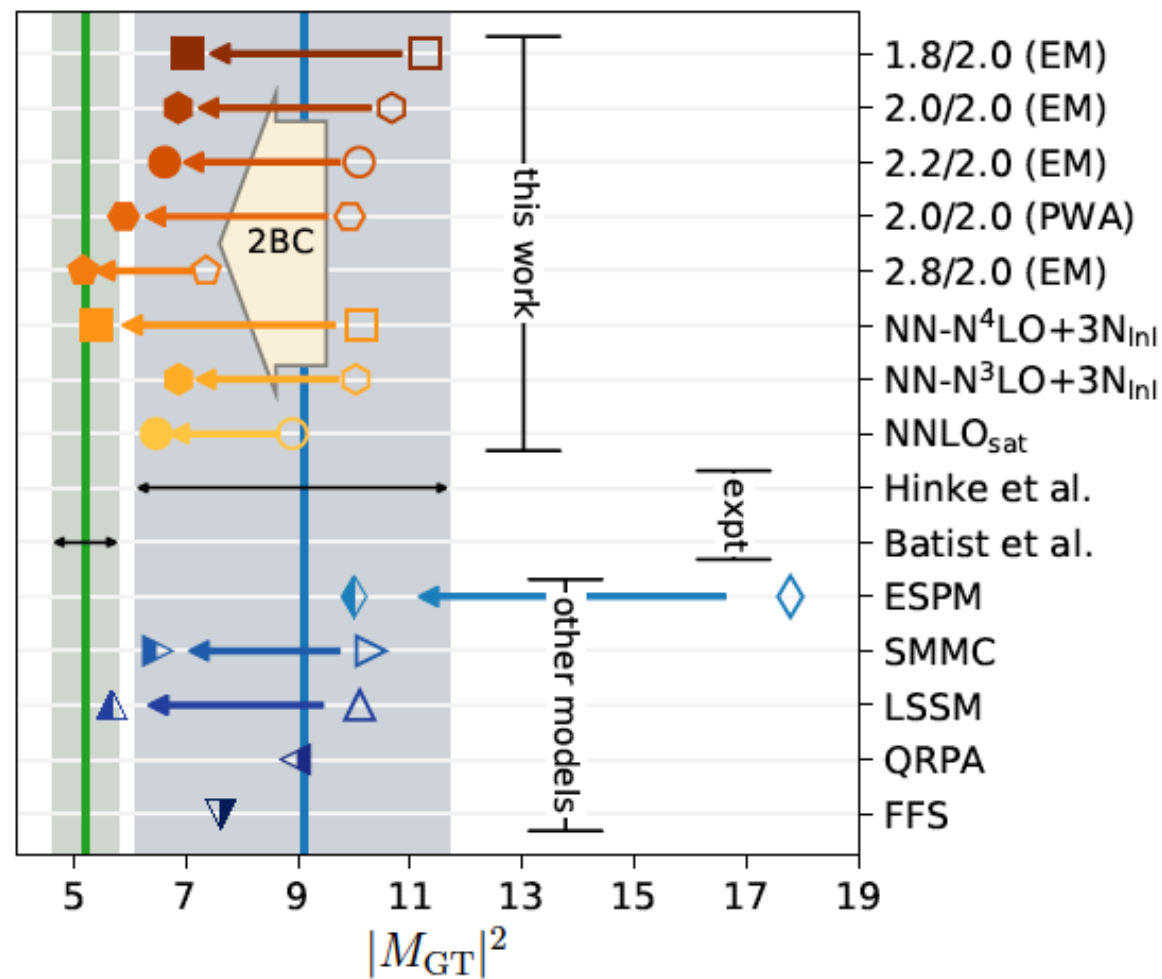
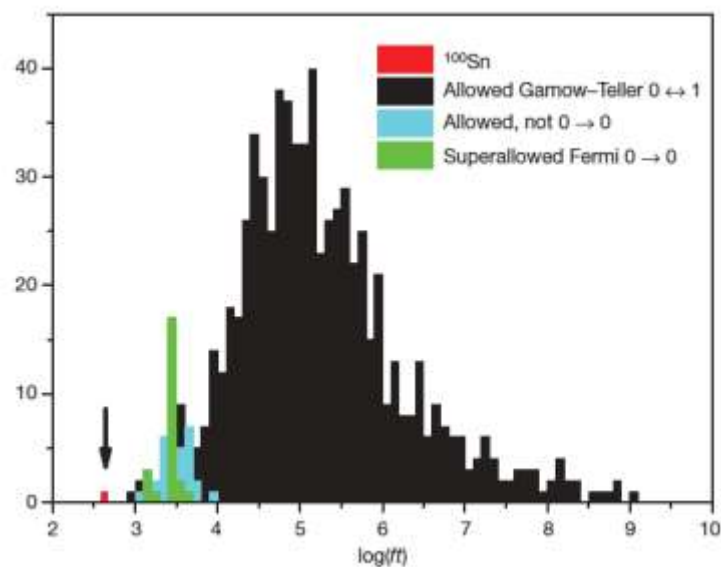
G. Martinez-Pinedo et al, PRC **53**, R2602 (1996)

Renormalizations of the Gamow-Teller operator?
Missing correlations in nuclear wave functions?
Model-space truncations?

-> Perform ab initio computations (Coupled cluster theory)

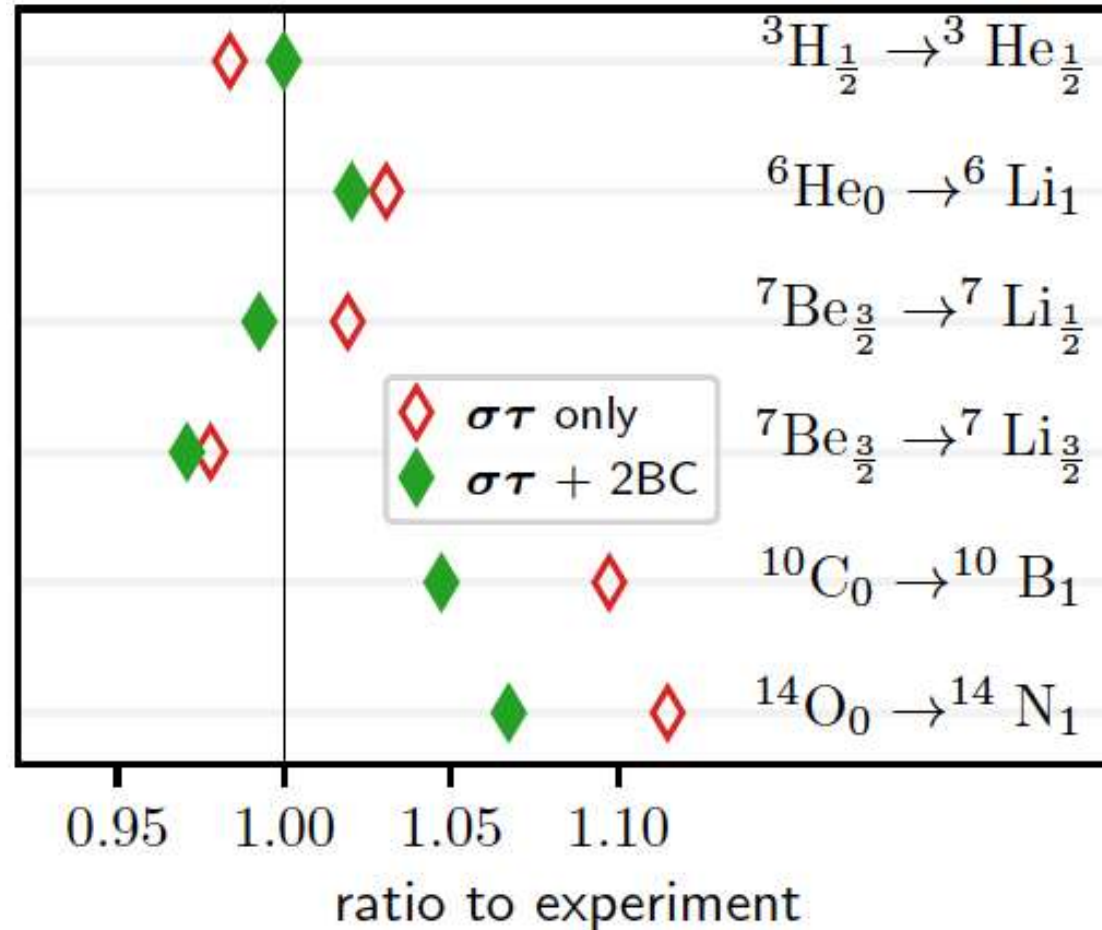
The quenching puzzle of β decays: ^{100}Sn

Hinke et al, Nature (2012):
 ^{100}Sn has strongest beta
 decay GT matrix element



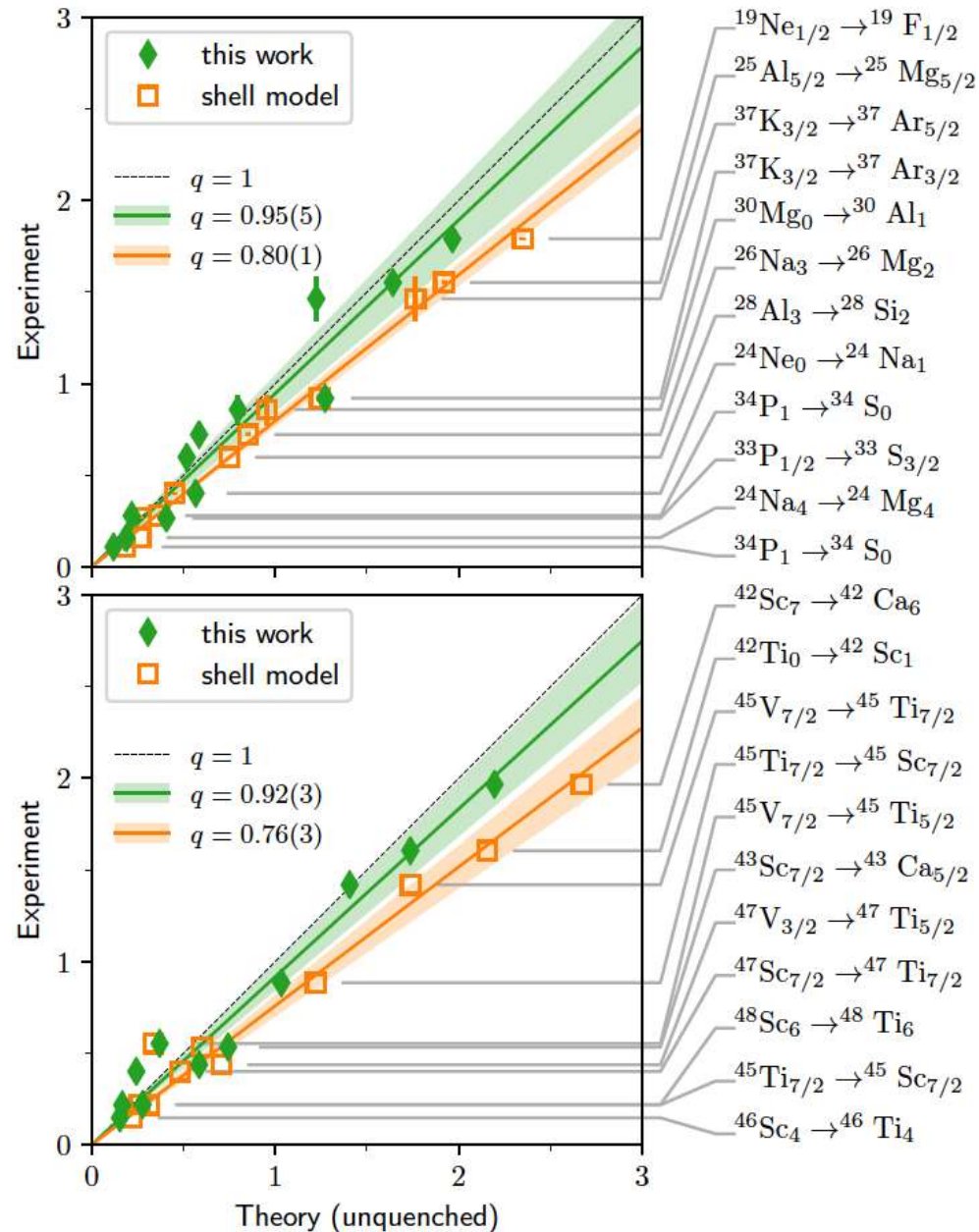
P. Gysbers, G. Hagen, J. D. Holt, G. R. Jansen, T. D. Morris, P. Navrátil, T. Papenbrock, S. Quaglioni, A. Schwenk, S. R. Stroberg & K. A. Wendt, Nature Physics (2019)

The quenching puzzle of β decays: light nuclei



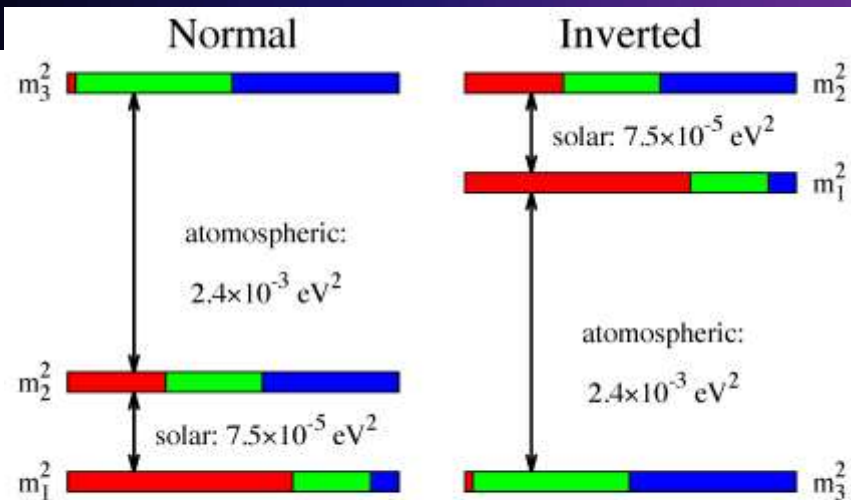
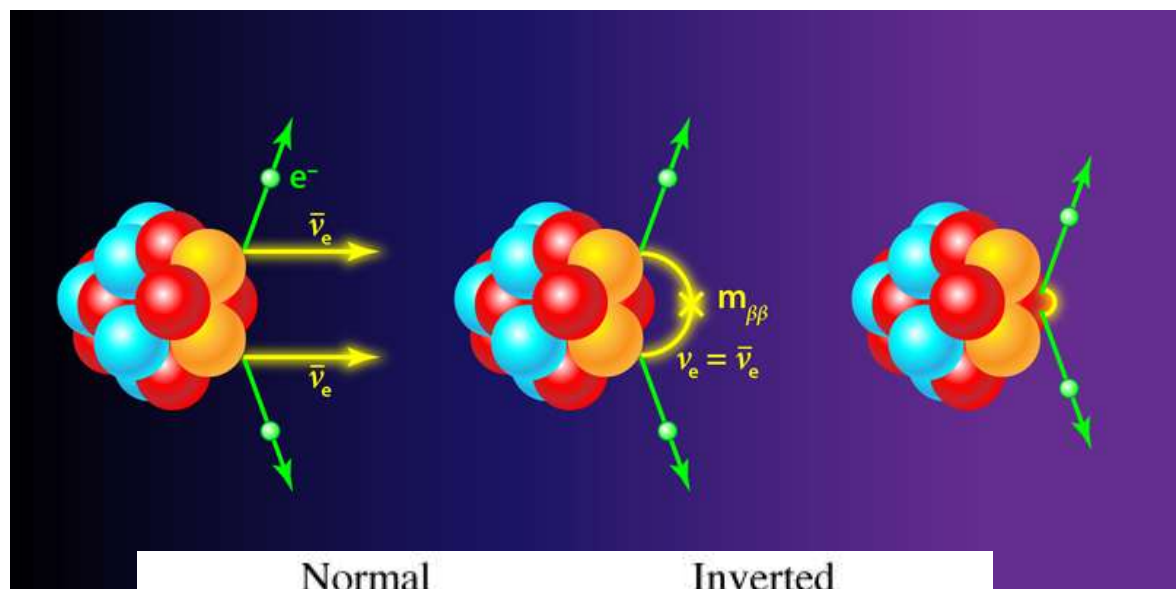
In light nuclei, two-body currents slightly improve agreement with data

The quenching puzzle of β decays: sd and pf shell

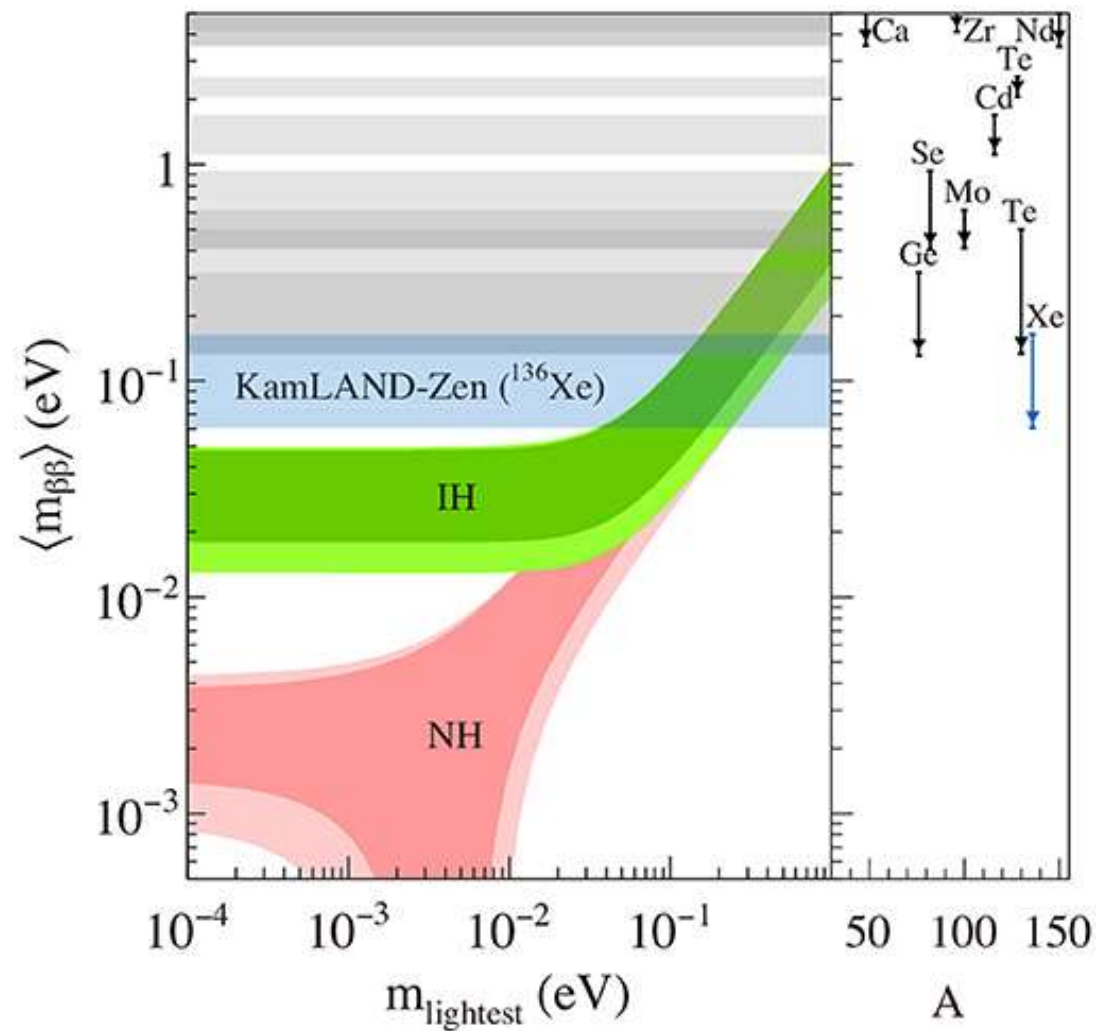


Improved description of sd shell and pf shell nuclei.

Neutrinoless double beta decay



■ ν_e
 ■ ν_μ
 ■ ν_τ



A. Gando et al., PRL 117, 082503 (2016)

Majorana Demonstrator



Scientific achievement

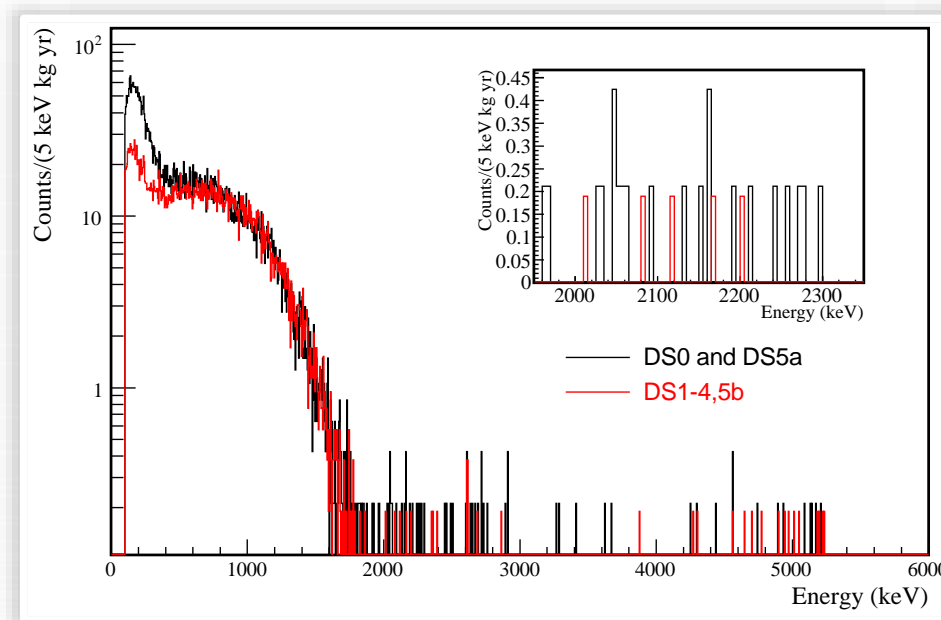
- Analysis of first Majorana Demonstrator (MJD) data (taken during construction, commissioning, and start of full operations) yields **a lower limit on the half-life of 1.9×10^{25} year (90% CL)**
- This result constrains the effective Majorana neutrino mass to <250 meV to 550 meV, depending on the matrix elements used
 - C. E. Aalseth et al. (Majorana Collaboration), *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **120**, 132502 (2018)

Significance and impact

- Results are consistent with MJD goal of achieving background of 2.5 counts/(FWHM \times year), which would justify a large $0\nu\beta\beta$ experiment using ^{76}Ge

Research details

- Operating since 2016 in Sanford Underground Research Facility, MJD is searching for $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay in ^{76}Ge using 29.7 kg of detectors made from germanium enriched to 88% in that isotope



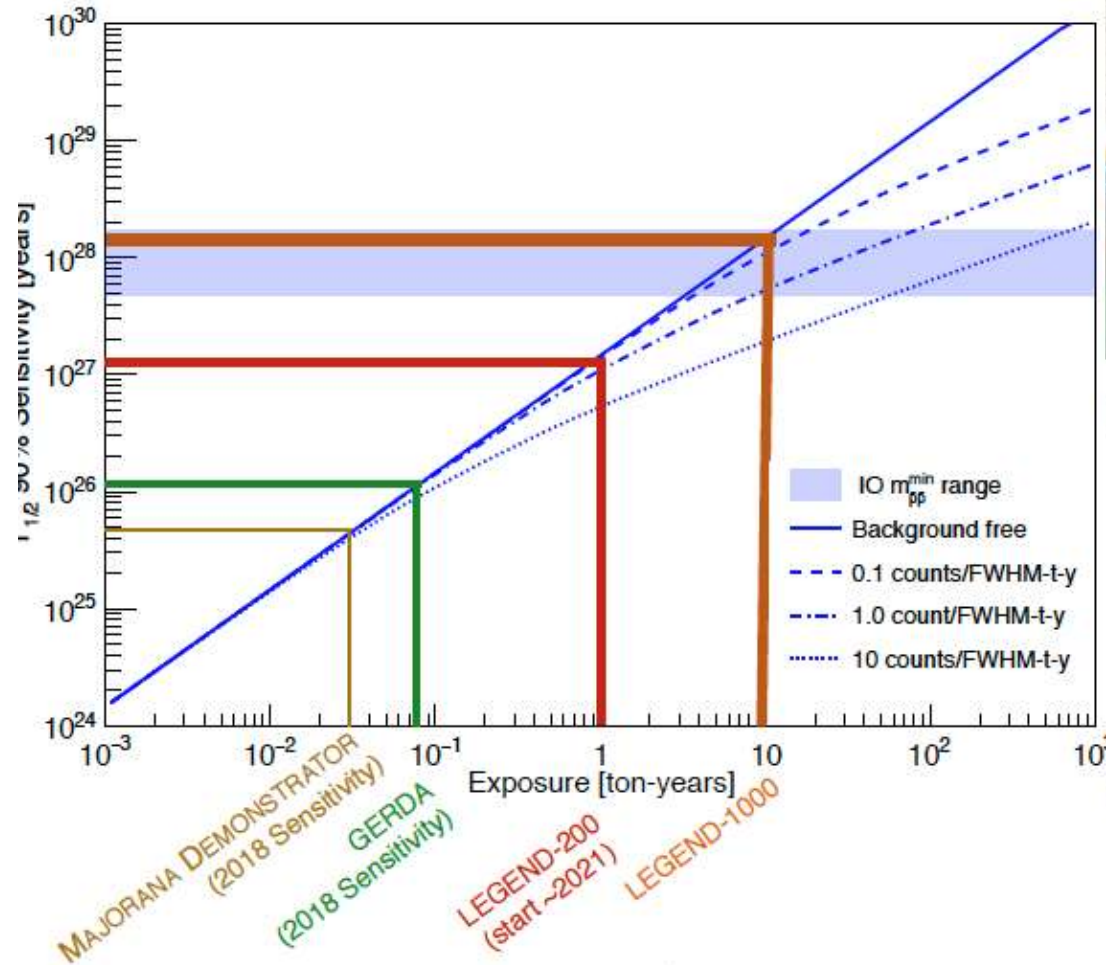
MJD spectrum above 100 keV after all cuts, from data sets with higher expected backgrounds (black) compared to data sets with lower background (red)

Future Sensitivity: LEGEND



Next Generation ^{76}Ge : LEGEND — Large Enriched Germanium Experiment for Neutrinoless $\beta\beta$ Decay (52 Institutions, ~250 Members)

^{76}Ge (87% enr.)



First Stage:

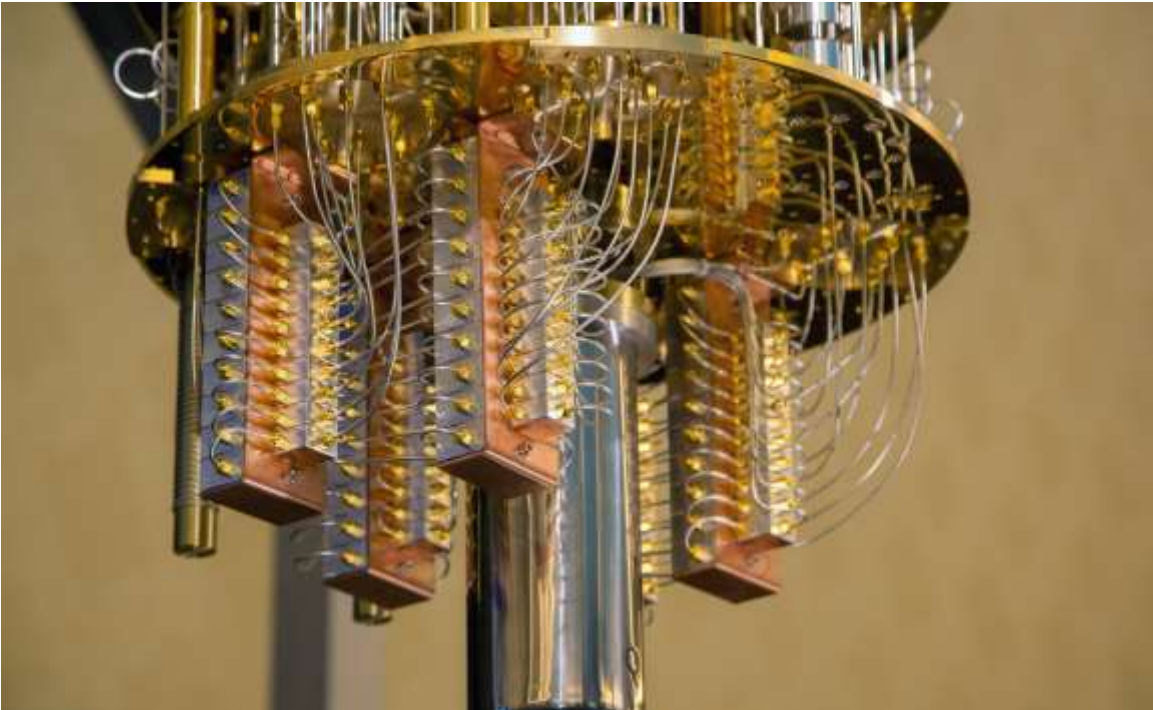
- (up to) 200 kg ^{76}Ge in upgrade of existing infrastructure at LNGS
- BG goal 0.6 cts/(FWHM t yr)
- Data start ~2021
- Will use existing MAJORANA & GERDA detectors (65 kg), plus new detectors (135 kg)

Subsequent Stages:

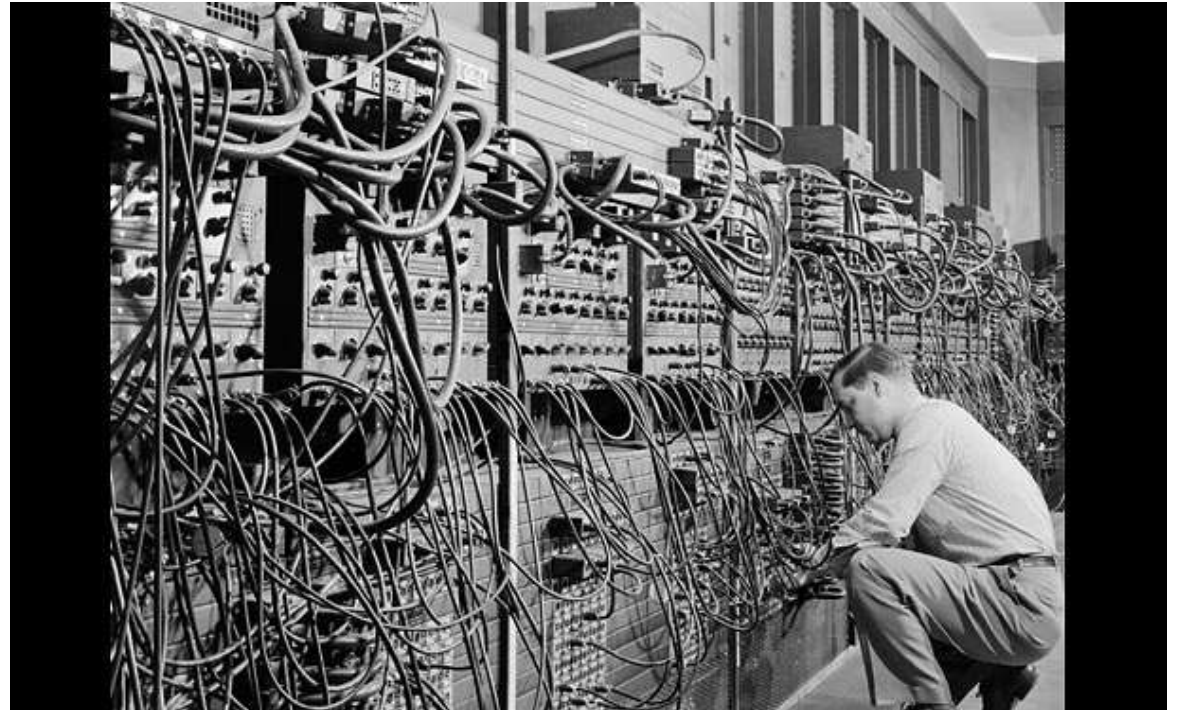
- 1000 kg ^{76}Ge (staged)
- BG goal: 0.1 cts/(FWHM t yr)
- Location: TBD

A brief quantum walk...

Quantum computer today



Vacuum tube computer

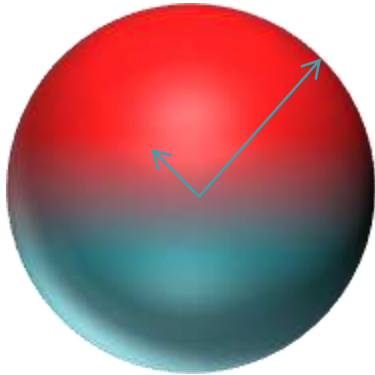


Quantum computing and its algorithms

● 1 = on

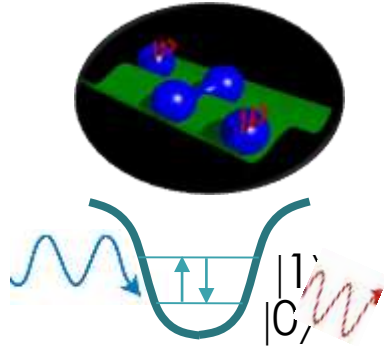
● 0 = off

Classical:
Definite state



$|Y\rangle = a|0\rangle + b|1\rangle$
 $|a|^2 + |b|^2 = 1$

Quantum: State superposition




Must prepare
and probe with external fields

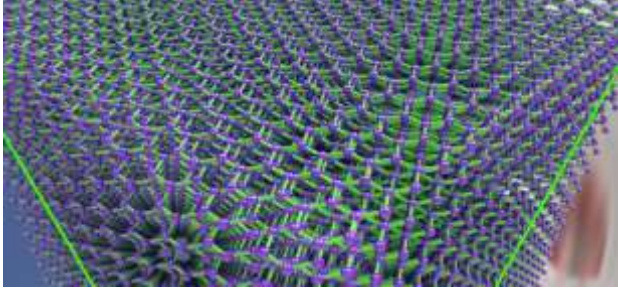
$21 = 7 * 3$

Shor's
algorithm

Structured Data Unstructured Data



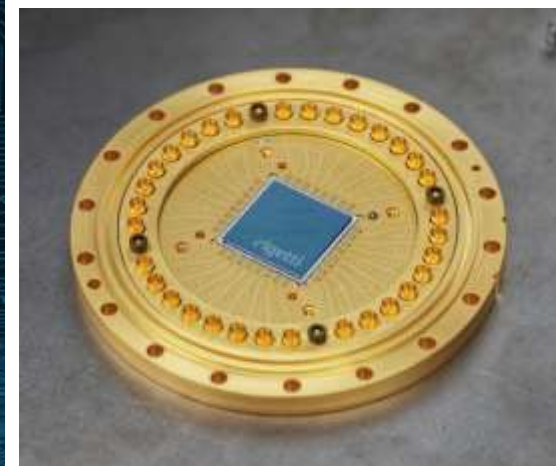
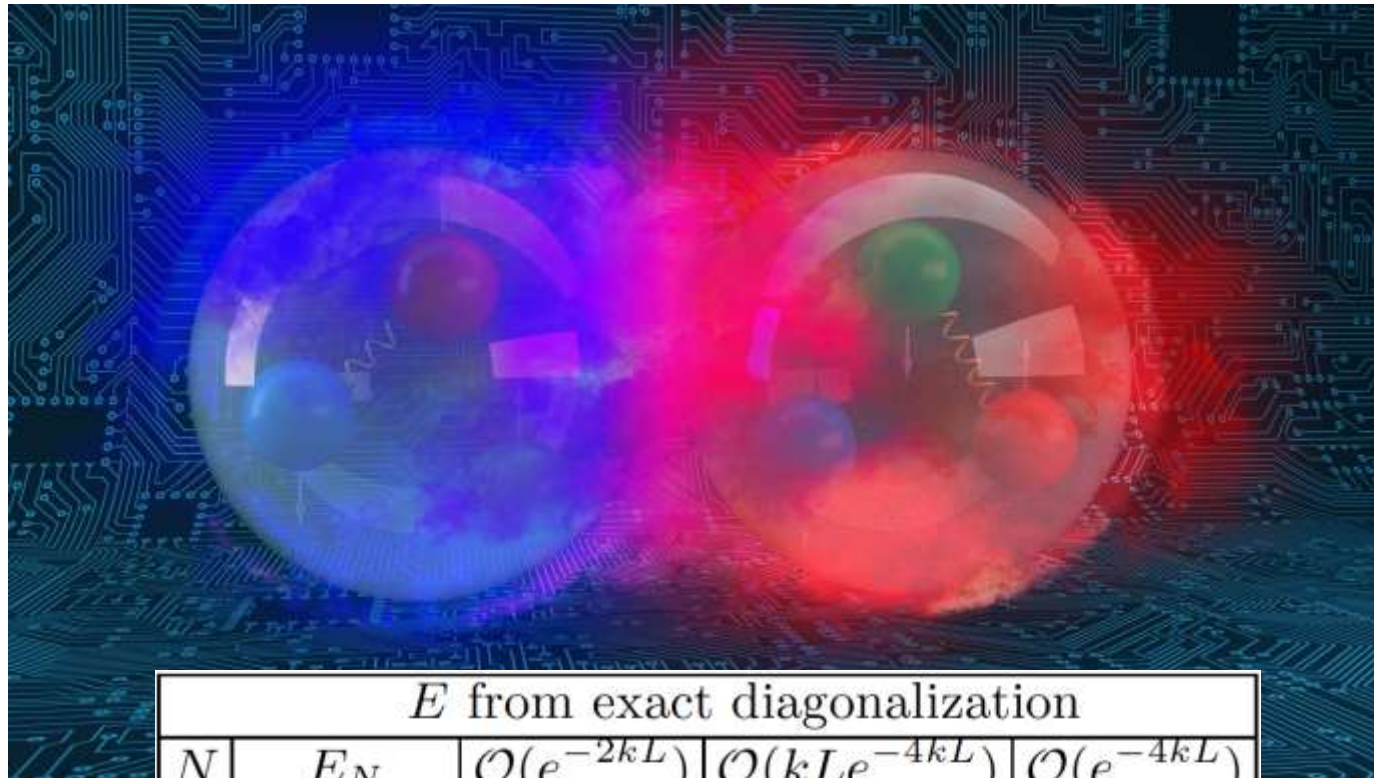
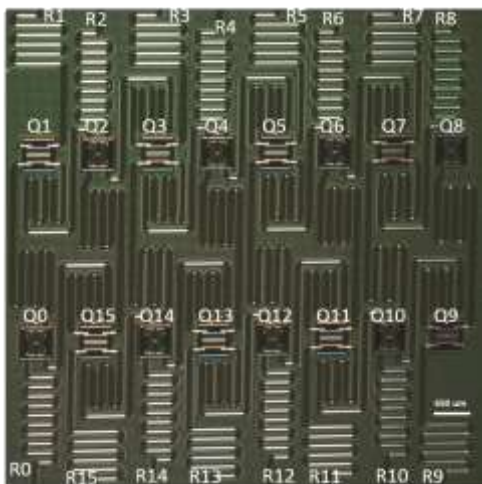
Grover's algorithm (or inversion)



Quantum many-body
simulation: Feynman, Lloyd

~15 algorithms exist; others can be expected as QC develops

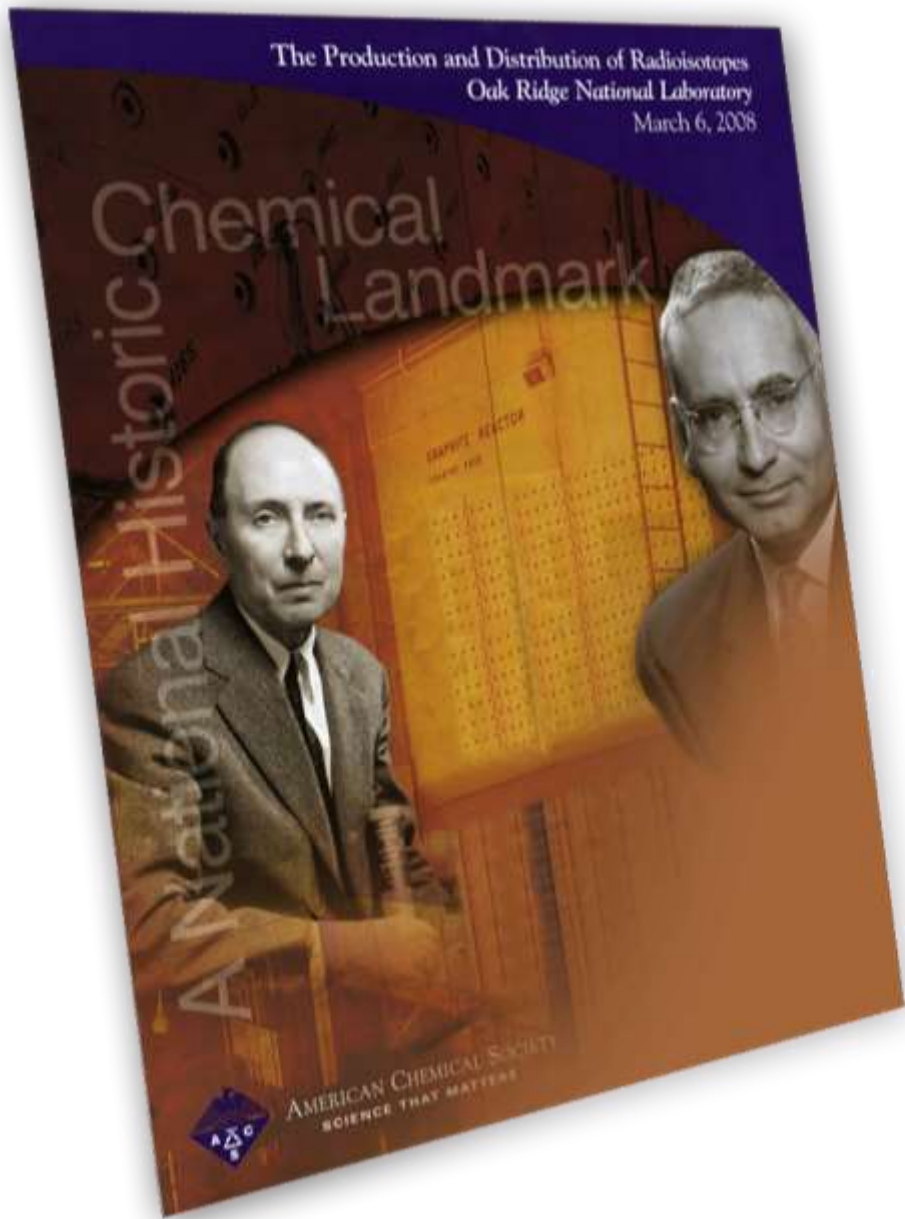
Quantum computing in the cloud



E from exact diagonalization				
N	E_N	$\mathcal{O}(e^{-2kL})$	$\mathcal{O}(kLe^{-4kL})$	$\mathcal{O}(e^{-4kL})$
2	-1.749	-2.39	-2.19	
3	-2.046	-2.33	-2.20	-2.21
E from quantum computing				
N	E_N	$\mathcal{O}(e^{-2kL})$	$\mathcal{O}(kLe^{-4kL})$	$\mathcal{O}(e^{-4kL})$
2	-1.74(3)	-2.38(4)	-2.18(3)	
3	-2.08(3)	-2.35(2)	-2.21(3)	-2.28(3)

Altmetric

E.F. Dumitrescu et al.,
PRL 120, 21501 (2018)



“If at some time a heavenly angel should ask what the Laboratory in the hills of East Tennessee did to enlarge man’s life and make it better, I daresay the production of radioisotopes for scientific research and medical treatment will surely rate as a candidate for first place.”

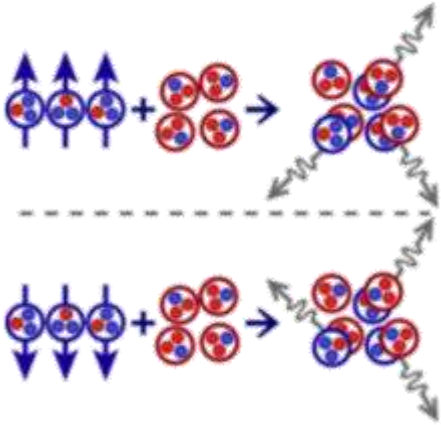
Alvin Weinberg, ORNL Director (1955–1973)

Hadronic Weak Interaction ($npd\gamma$ and $n^3\text{He}$)

Editors' Suggestion

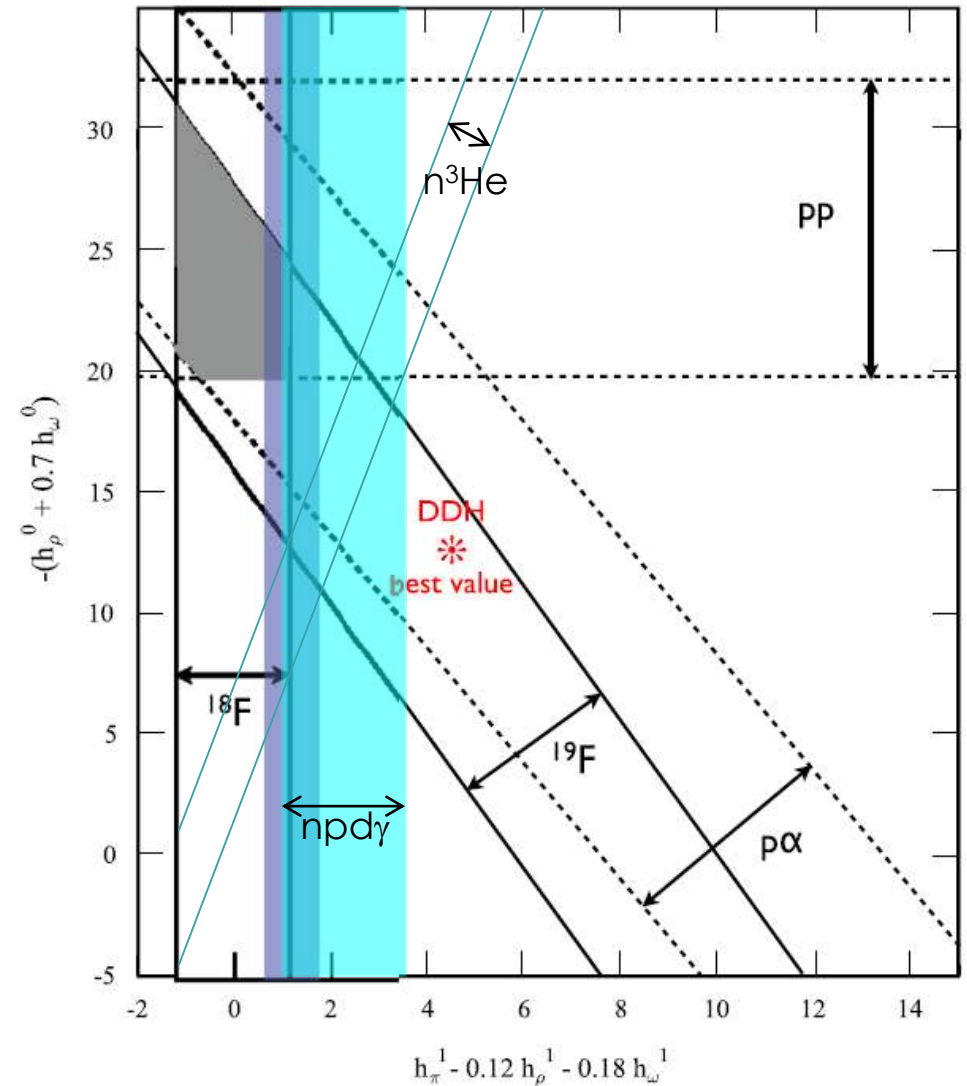
First Observation of P -odd γ Asymmetry in Polarized Neutron Capture on Hydrogen

D. Blyth *et al.* (NPDGamma Collaboration)
 Phys. Rev. Lett. **121**, 242002 – Published 13 December 2018



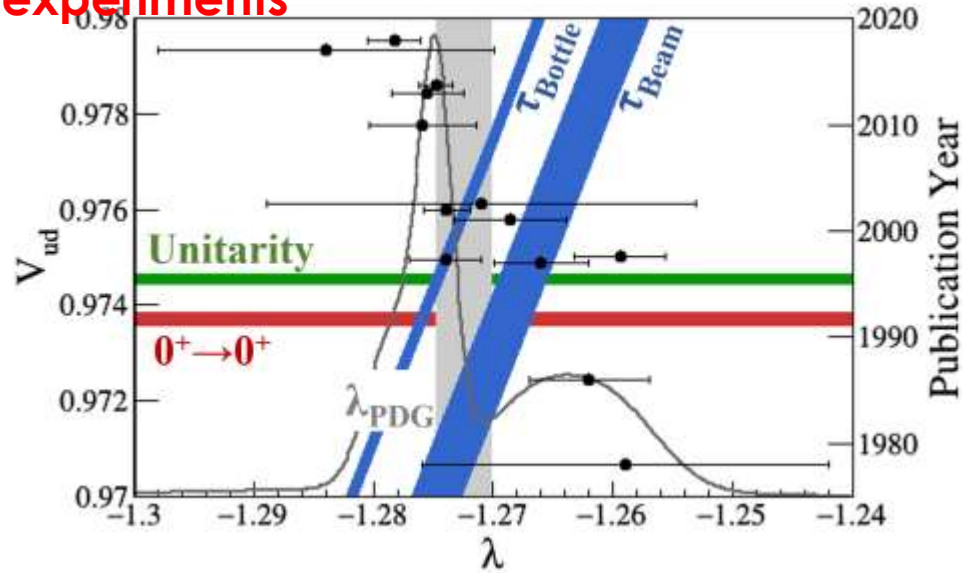
Measurement of a parity-odd asymmetry in the photons emitted from the capture of polarized neutrons on protons provided a first measurement of a weak-interaction term in the nucleon-nucleon potential.

Adapted from Haxton and Holstein, Prog. Nucl. Part. Phys., **71** 185 (2013)



The Nab Experiment

Tension in “unitarity test” of quark mixing in the weak interaction between **theory predictions** and **nuclear beta decay experiments**



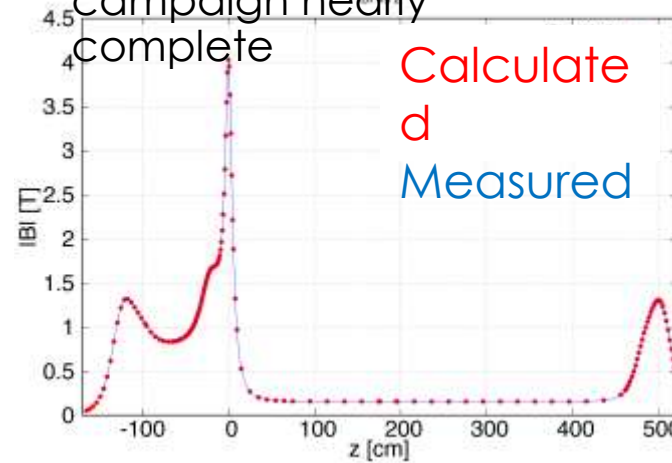
Neutron **lifetime** and **decay correlations** (λ) measurements can reveal source of discrepancy

Nab will extract λ with superior precision using completely independent approach, as well as search for exotic scalar and tensor currents

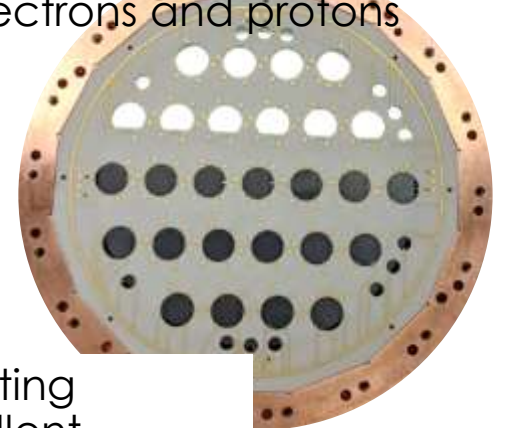
The Nab spectrometer, now installed at FNPB, will study kinematics of neutron decay particles: protons and electrons

Excellent agreement demonstrated in magnetic field

Precision magnetic mapping campaign nearly complete



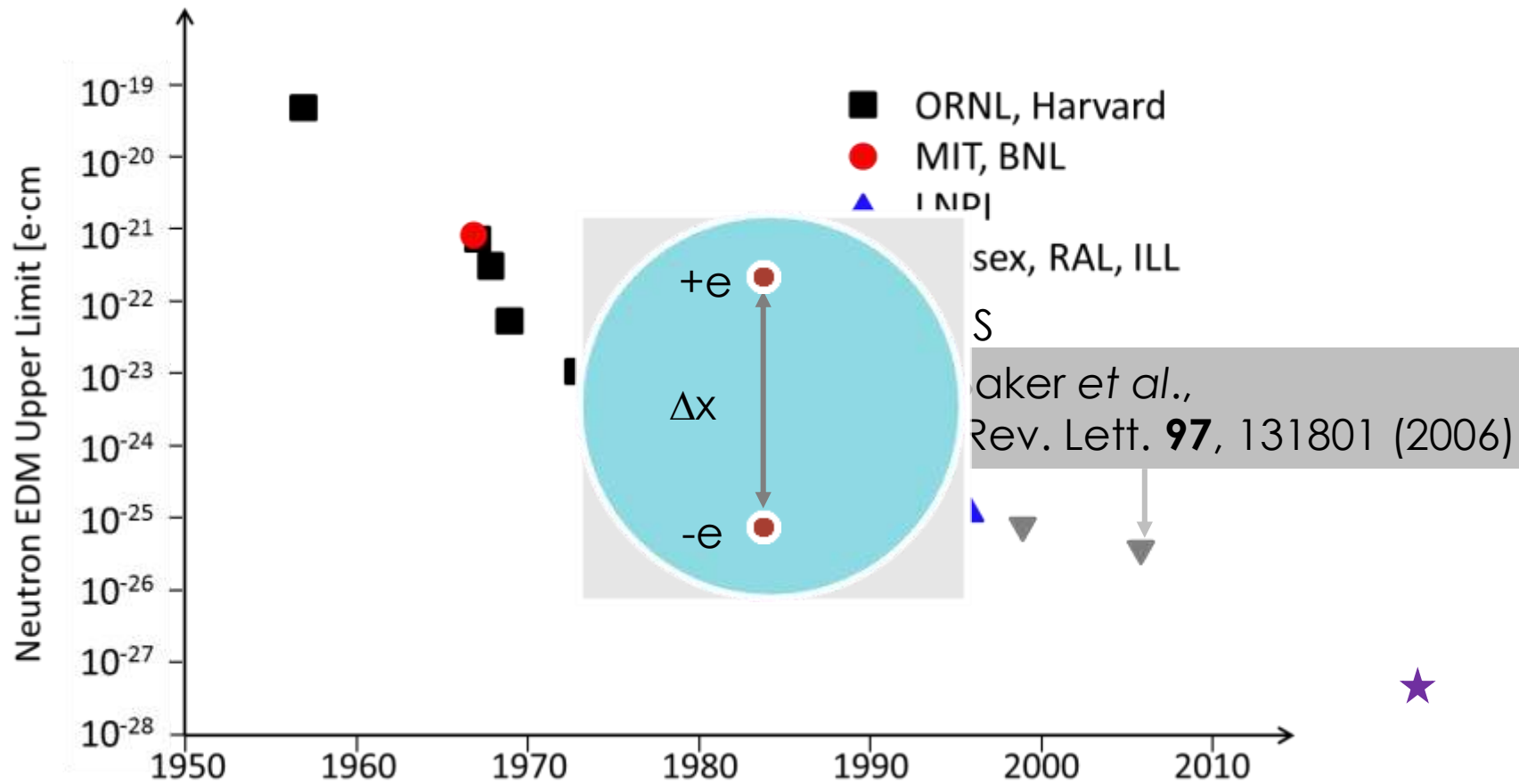
State of the art silicon detectors detect both electrons and protons



Acceptance testing underway: excellent performance so far!



Is The Neutron Round?



Current best limit: $|\mu_E| < 3 \times 10^{-26} \text{ e}\cdot\text{cm}$

Our goal: $|\mu_E| < 2 \times 10^{-28} \text{ e}\cdot\text{cm}$

SM prediction: $\sim 10^{-32} \text{ e}\cdot\text{cm}$ (clean signature for new physics)

nEDM@SNS Status

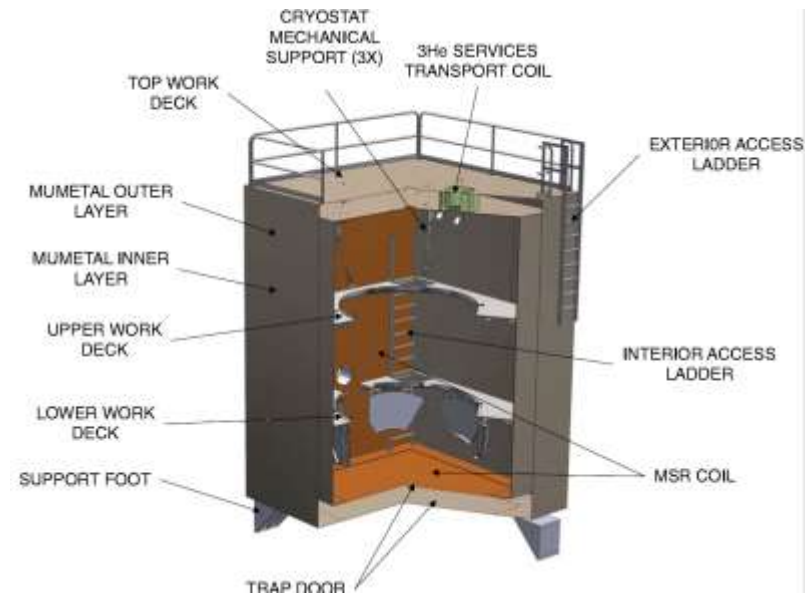


HV Electrode Test Apparatus



Spin Dressing Test Apparatus

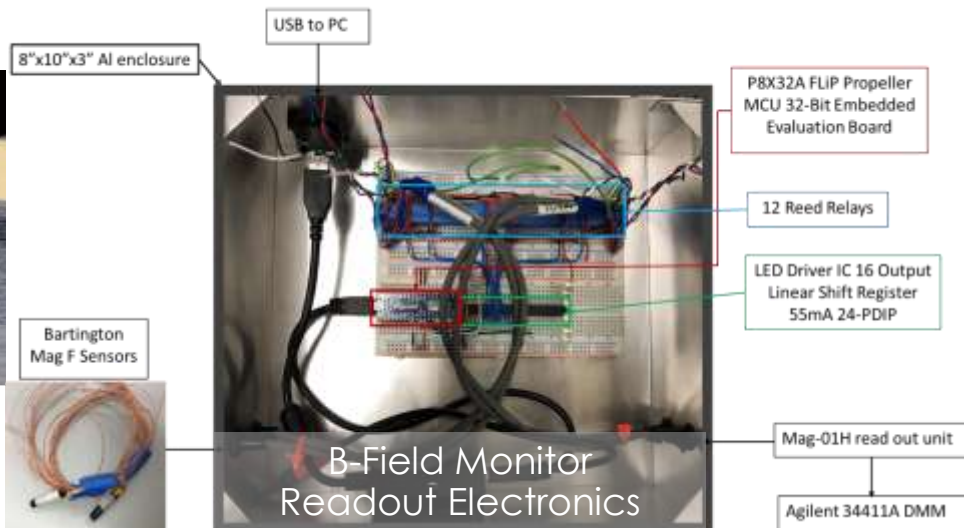
Magnet Shield Room Out For Bid



Magnet Coil Package



Half-scale Acrylic Electrode



B-Field Monitor Readout Electronics

We have established a major Laboratory initiative in isotope R&D and production

Vision

- Lead the nation in isotope R&D, reactor-based production of radioisotopes, and enrichment of stable isotopes



Strategy

- Take advantage of expertise and unique capabilities to advance isotope science and deliver radioisotopes and stable isotopes
- Ensure continuing availability of isotopes to meet national needs



Science priorities

- Production of ^{252}Cf and other radioisotopes for industry and research, including superheavy element (SHE) discovery
- Development and production of medical isotopes
- Production of ^{238}Pu for space power applications
- Production of a variety of stable isotopes, using both electromagnetic separation and gas centrifuge technologies, at a new Stable Isotope Production Facility

Recent achievements

- Production of ^{96}Ru for RHIC experiments
- Development of ^{133}Ba production capability
- Chemical separation of high-purity ^{229}Th from ^{233}U
- Modified Building 4501 hot cells to support accelerator-based production of ^{225}Ac
- Delivering ^{227}Ac to Bayer
- Supporting international SHE discovery efforts

ORNL is now producing actinium-227 for Bayer

- Recovery and purification of radium-226 from legacy medical devices
- Irradiation of radium-226 feedstock in HFIR to produce actinium-227
- Chemical separation and purification of actinium-227
- Packaging and shipment to Bayer for extraction of radium-223 for cancer therapy



Scientific motivation

- Beam Energy Scan program at the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC) identified a need for ^{96}Ru to explore the chiral magnetic effect in quark-gluon matter
 - Amount of ^{96}Ru remaining in DOE Stable Isotope inventory (~131 mg) was not sufficient to meet requirements

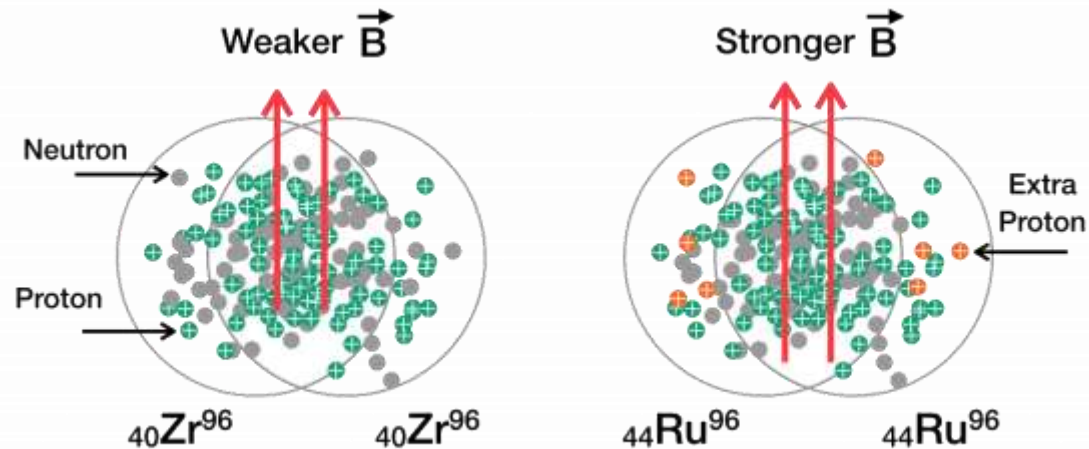
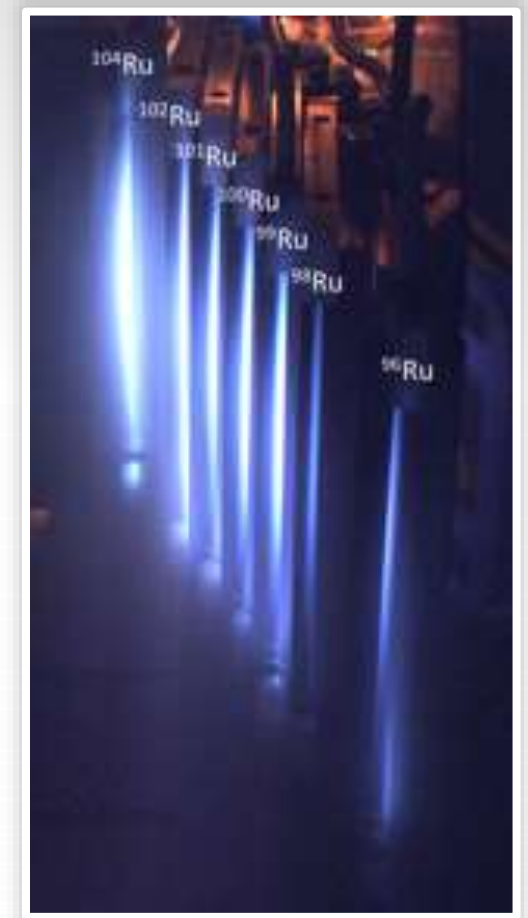


Image: Brookhaven National Laboratory

Our contribution

- The electromagnetic isotope separator (EMIS) at ORNL's Enriched Stable Isotope Prototype Plant was used **to produce ^{96}Ru** , enabling the shipment of 500 mg of this rare stable isotope to Brookhaven National Laboratory



Discussion

