

Fundamental Symmetries through the lens of a neutron

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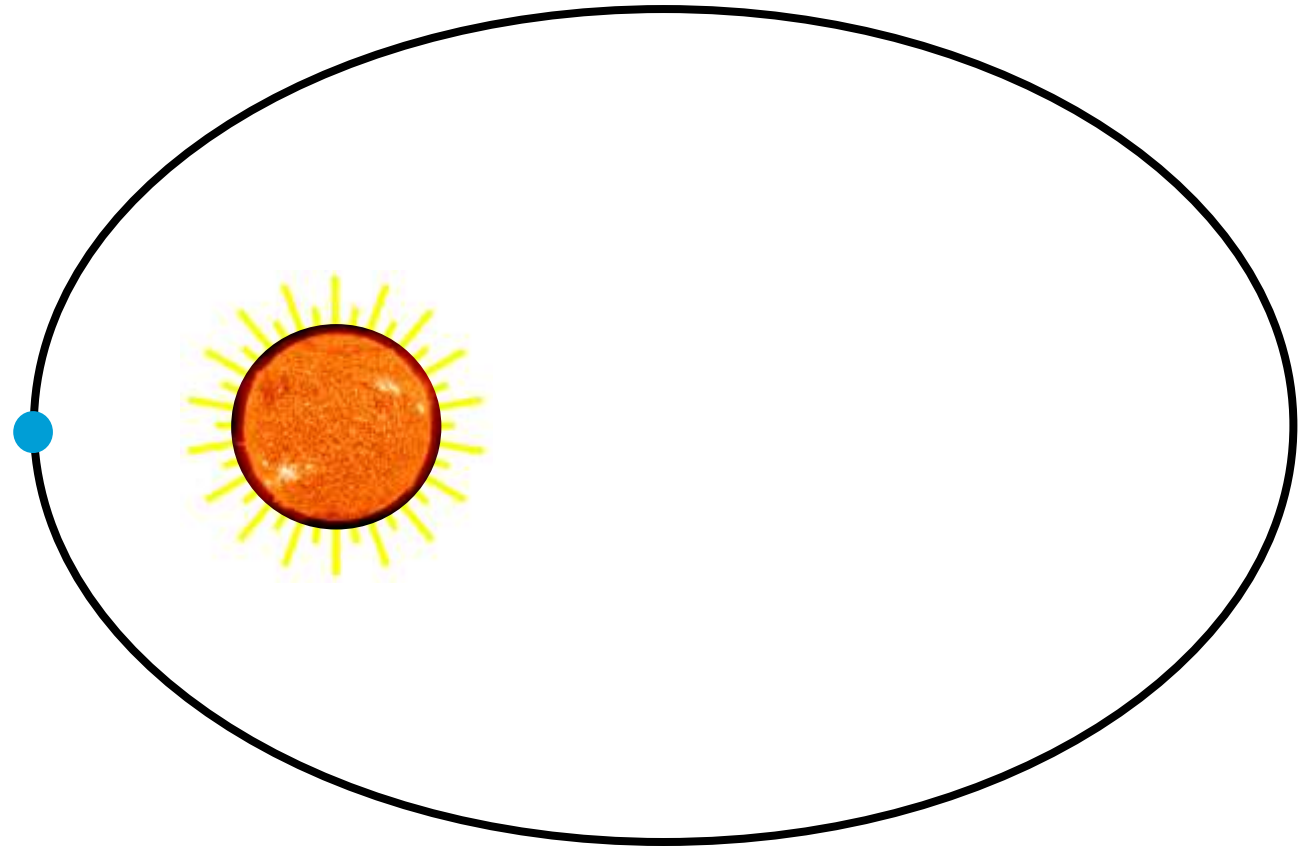
Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Exotic Beams Summer School

June 24, 2019

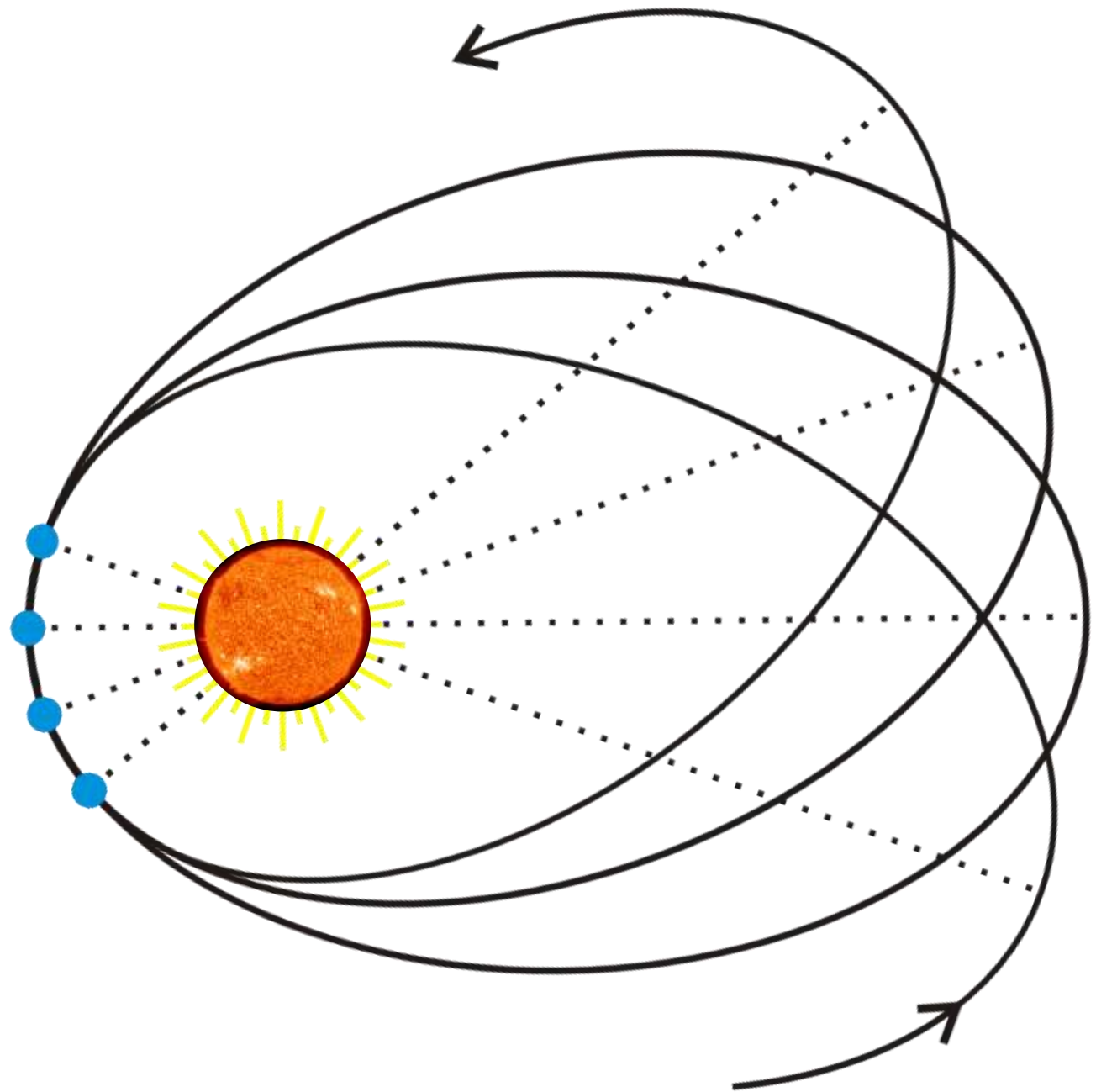
Planetary orbits

- Kepler's first law of planetary motion: the orbit is an ellipse with the sun at one focus
- Symmetry: the long axis can point in any direction
- Broken symmetry: at any given time, the long axis points in a specific direction
- Sensitive to perturbations...

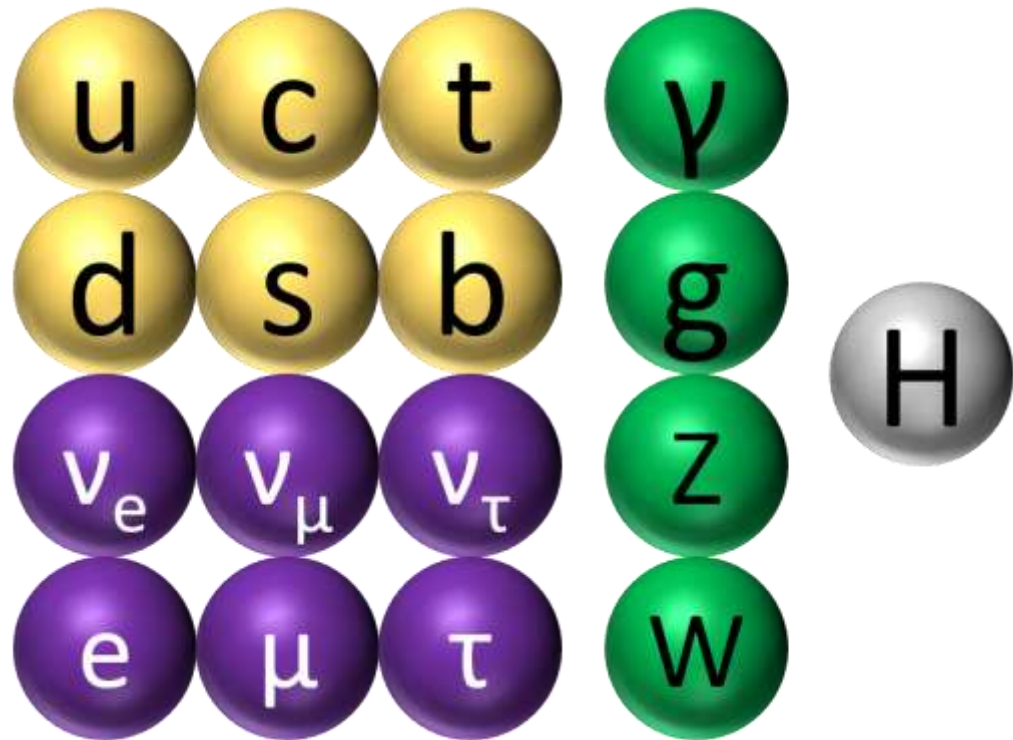


Planetary orbits

- Precession of Mercury's orbit
 - 565'' per earth century observed
 - Outer planets explained 527'' per earth century
- New particle? Planet Vulcan?
- New model? **General relativity**
- Use symmetry to find new physics!



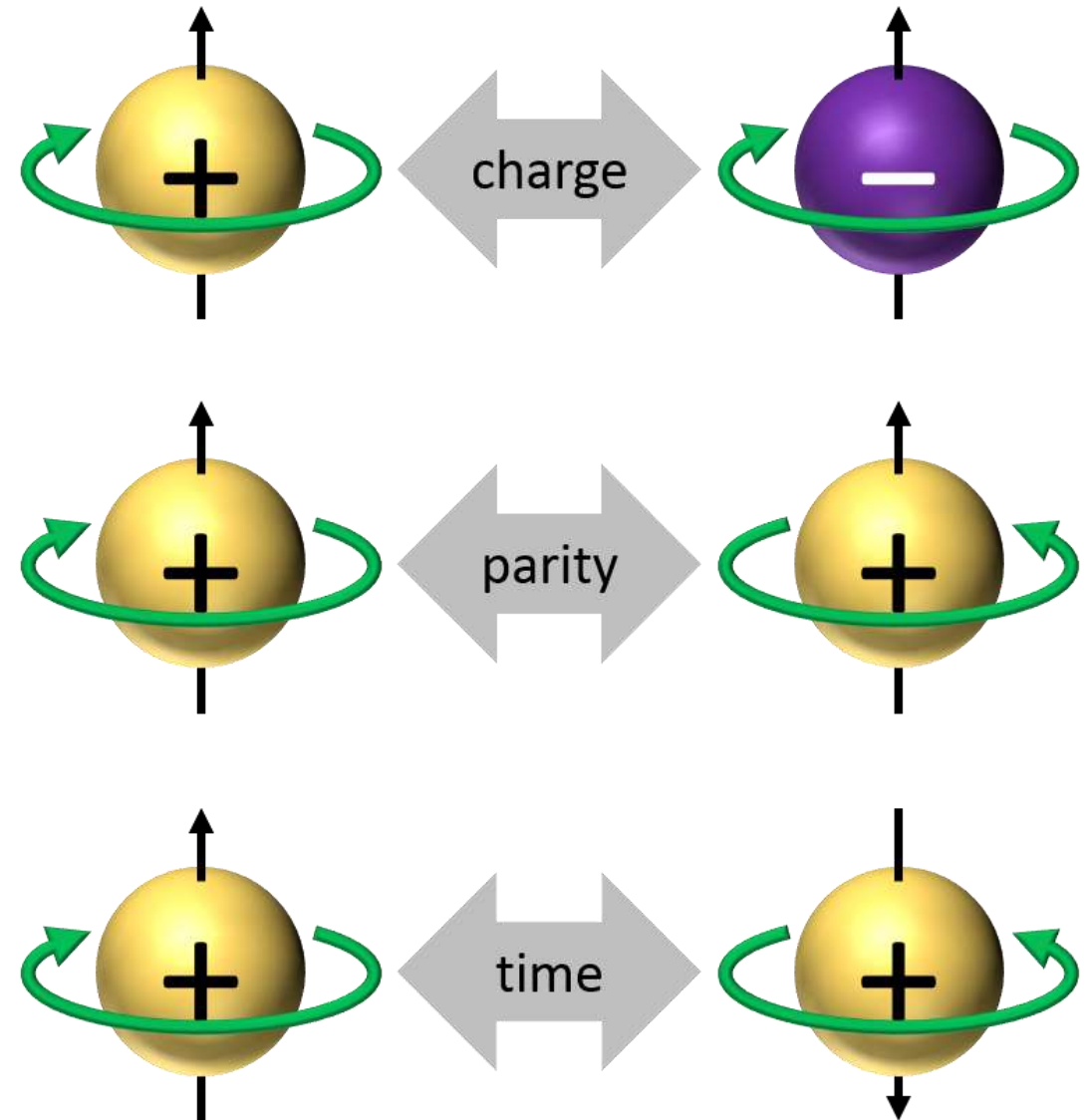
Standard Model of Particle Physics



- Many questions: gravity? dark matter? missing antimatter? fine-tuning? 26 free parameters?
- We haven't seen new particles at the LHC (yet)...
- Is there an underlying framework?
- Is there an underlying symmetry?

Symmetries in nature

- Spacetime symmetries
 - Time, Space, Rotations
- Permutation symmetries
 - Fermi-Dirac/Bose-Einstein statistics
- Internal symmetries
 - Charge, Lepton #, Baryon #, ...
- Discrete symmetries
 - Charge, Parity, Time

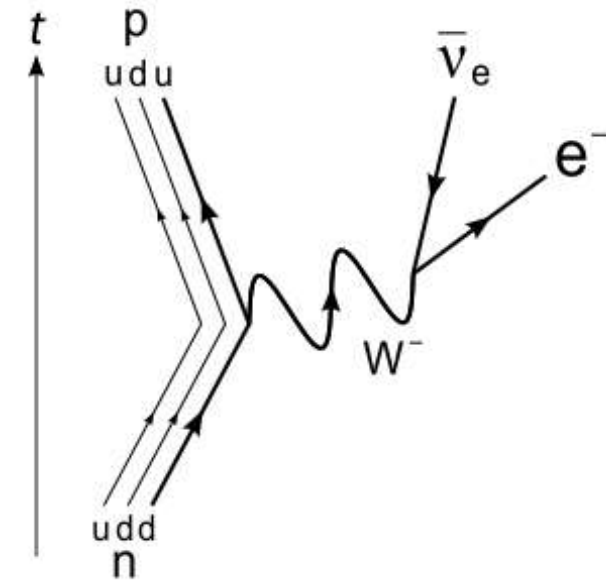


Outline

- P-violation and the weak interaction
- CP-violation and the electric dipole moment
- B-violation and oscillations

Neutron beta decay

- Weak interaction mixes quarks
 - “beta” = electron/positron emitted to conserve charge, along with (anti-)neutrino
- Neutron is simplest “nucleus” to beta decay
- CKM Unitarity test
 - If you rotate, and unrotate, you should get back where you started
 - As you rotate, your yardstick shouldn't change length



$$\begin{pmatrix} d' \\ s' \\ b' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} V_{ud} & V_{us} & V_{ub} \\ V_{cd} & V_{cs} & V_{cb} \\ V_{td} & V_{ts} & V_{tb} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} d \\ s \\ b \end{pmatrix}$$

$$|V_{ud}|^2 + |V_{us}|^2 + |V_{ub}|^2 = 1$$

Failure means some new physics is missing...

The electroweak interaction

- General interaction vertex

Scalar	$\bar{\psi}\phi$
Pseudoscalar	$\bar{\psi}\phi$
Vector	$\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\phi$
Axial Vector	$\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\gamma^5\phi$
Tensor	$\bar{\psi}(\gamma^\mu\gamma^\nu - \gamma^\nu\gamma^\mu)\phi$

- Could other currents be participating?

- Weak interaction has experimentally observed form:

$$J_{had}^\mu = V_{ud}\bar{u}(\gamma^\mu - \gamma^\mu\gamma^5)d$$

$$J_{lep}^\mu = \bar{e}(\gamma^\mu - \gamma^\mu\gamma^5)\nu_e$$

- Helicity operator $1 - \gamma^5$ projects out left-handed particles/right-handed antiparticles
- Weak interaction **V-A** is **maximally parity-violating**

Nuclear beta decay

- $0^+ \rightarrow 0^+$ Fermi decays:

$$ft =$$

K
nuclear
 $0^+ \rightarrow 0^+$

neutron

π^+
nuclear
mirrors

K
pion

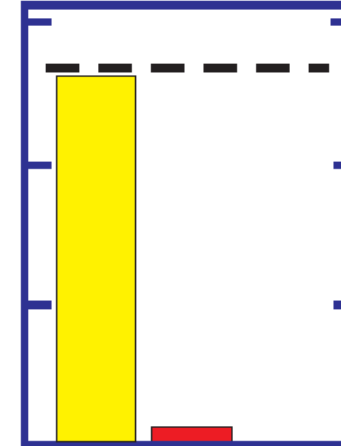
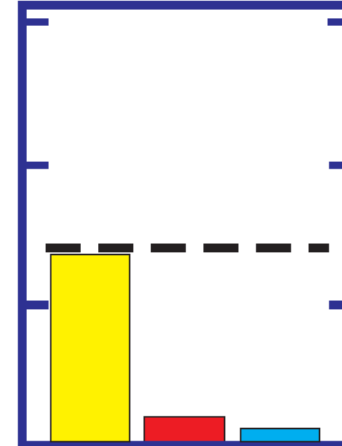
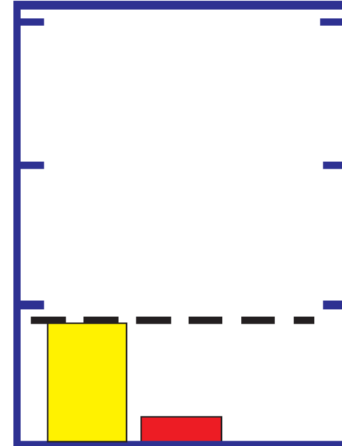
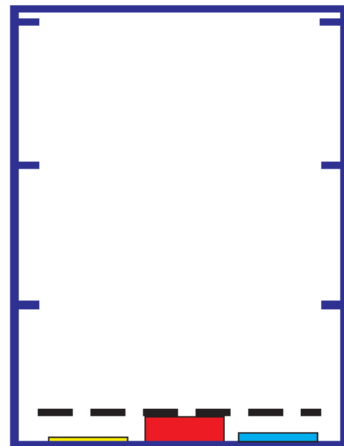
- Define
removed

$$\mathcal{F}t =$$

$$= \frac{1}{(G_1$$

Uncertainty

.003
.002
.001



Experiment

Radiative correction

Nuclear correction

Hardy, ACFI 1st Row CKM 2019

- Nuclear mirror decays:

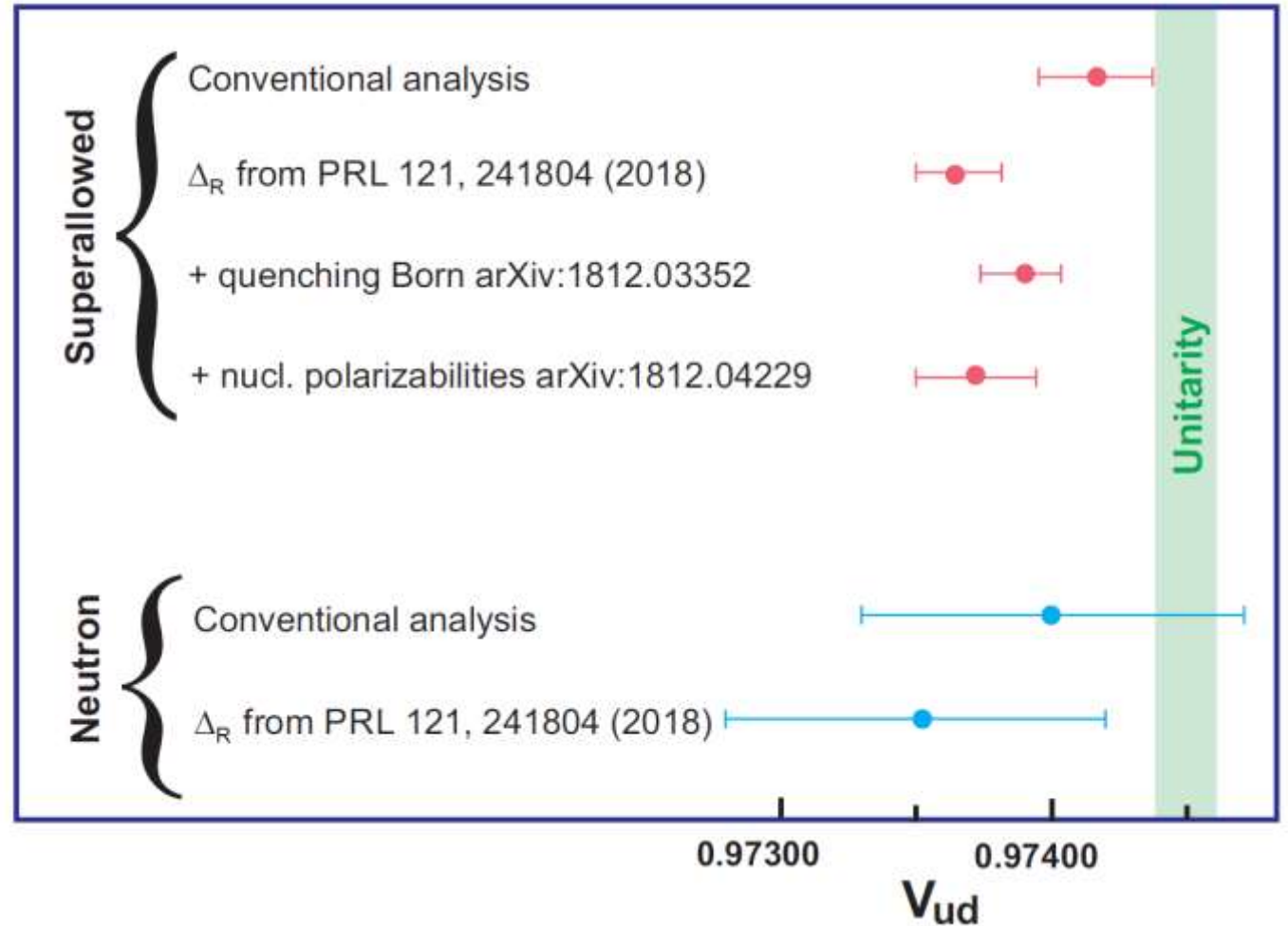
$\overline{|T|^2}$

with:

$$\frac{g_A^2 |M_{GT}^0|^2}{g_V^2 |M_F^0|^2 + \left(\frac{f_A}{f_V}\right) \rho^2}$$

Unitarity status

- CKM unitarity appeared valid until 2018
- Reanalysis of Δ_R^V : improved uncertainty and dramatically shifted value of V_{ud} from 0^+ \rightarrow 0^+ superallowed decays
 - 3σ violation!
- Strong motivation for new complementary measurements



C.-Y. Seng et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 121 241804 (2018)

C.-Y. Seng et al, arXiv:1812.03352 (2019)

M. Gorchtein et al, arXiv:1812.04229

Hardy, ACFI 1st Row CKM 2019

Measurables in neutron decay

- Angular correlations

$$dW \propto 1 + \mathbf{a} \frac{\vec{p}_e \cdot \vec{p}_\nu}{E_e E_\nu} + \mathbf{b} \frac{m_e}{E_e} + \langle \vec{\sigma}_n \rangle \cdot \left(\mathbf{A} \frac{\vec{p}_e}{E_e} + \mathbf{B} \frac{\vec{p}_\nu}{E_\nu} + \mathbf{D} \frac{\vec{p}_e \times \vec{p}_\nu}{E_e E_\nu} \right)$$

- \mathbf{A} , \mathbf{a} sensitive to \mathbf{A} , \mathbf{V} interactions

- $\mathbf{A} = -2 \frac{\lambda^2 + \lambda}{1 + 3\lambda^2}$ $\mathbf{a} = \frac{1 - \lambda^2}{1 + 3\lambda^2}$ $\lambda = \frac{g_A}{g_V}$

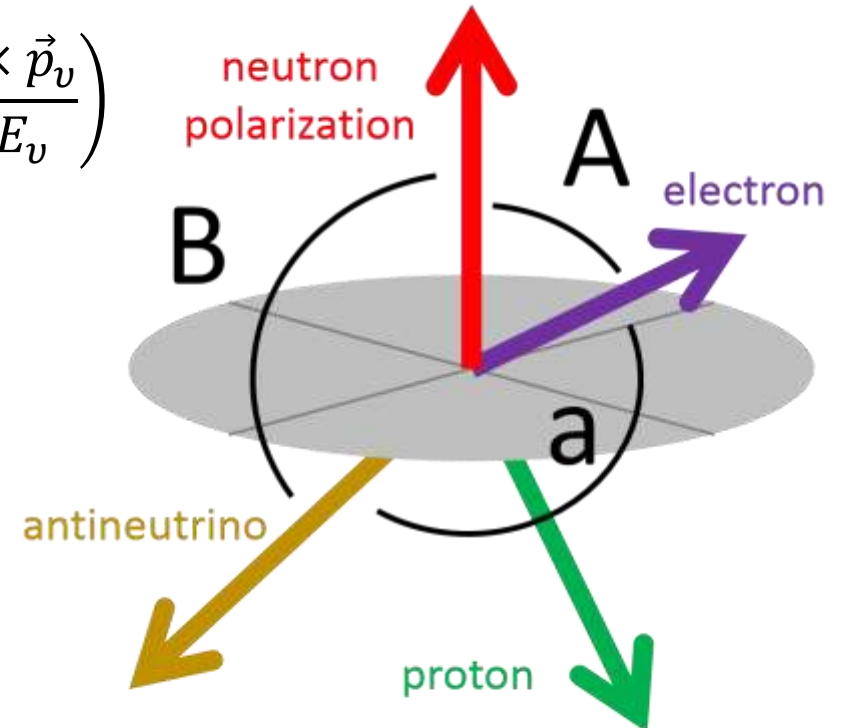
- \mathbf{B} , \mathbf{b} sensitive to \mathbf{S} , \mathbf{T}

- Decay lifetime

$$\tau^{-1} = W \propto (V_{ud})^2 (1 + 3(\lambda)^2)$$

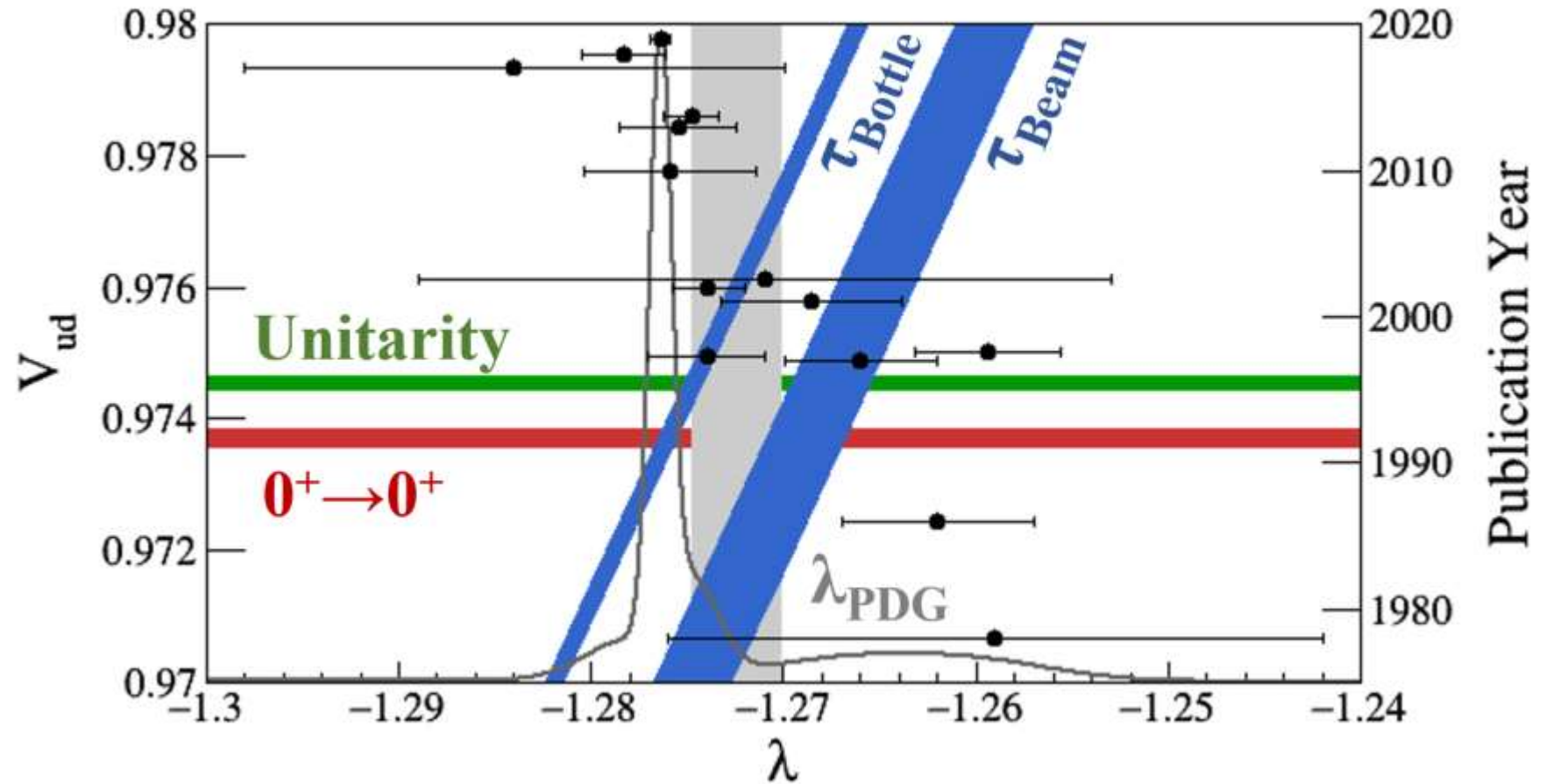
- 2 **unknowns** = 2 **observables**

- Improved LQCD calcs of g_A , g_S , g_T



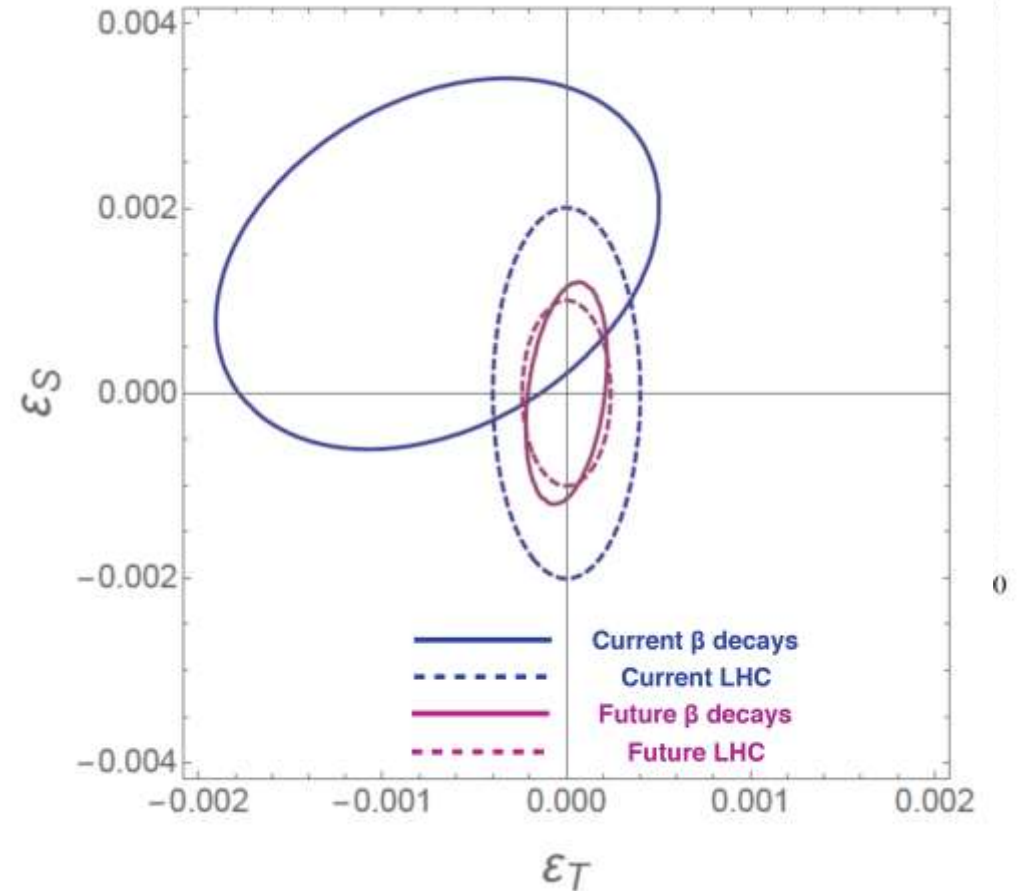
V_{ud} from neutron decay

New goals:
neutron decay
 dA/A or da/a
 $\sim 0.05\%$ and
 $d\tau \sim 0.13$ s



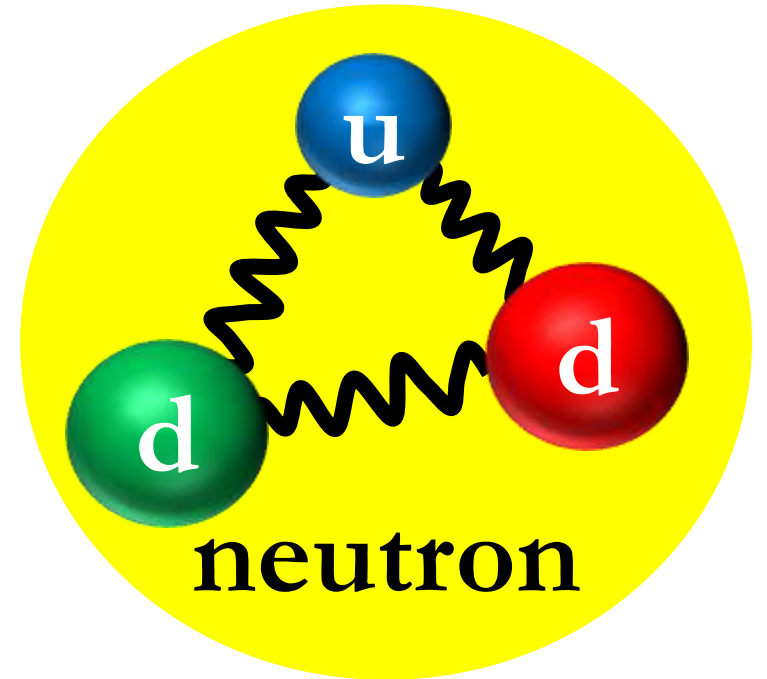
Sensitivity to Scalars and Tensors currents

- Asymmetries: $\alpha_{\text{meas}}(E_e) = \frac{\alpha(E_e)}{1 + \mathbf{b} m_e / E_e}$
- Spectral measurement: $1 + \mathbf{b} m_e / E_e$ distortion to decay rate
- \mathbf{B} (b_ν), \mathbf{b} linear sensitivity to BSM \mathbf{S}, \mathbf{T} :
 - $b^{BSM} = \frac{2}{1+3\lambda^2} [g_S \epsilon_S - 12\lambda g_T \epsilon_T]$
 - $b_\nu^{BSM} = \frac{2}{1+3\lambda^2} [\lambda g_S \epsilon_S - 4g_T \epsilon_T (1 + 2\lambda)]$



The neutron

- **Source:** Freed from atoms
- **Mass:** 1.0087 a.m.u. (Proton: 1.0073 a.m.u)
- **Spin:** $\frac{1}{2}$
- **Gravity:** 100 neV per m
- **Electromagnetism:** Electric charge: 0
Magnetic dipole moment: 60 neV per 1 T
Electric dipole moment: 0 e-cm (?)
- **Weak:** beta decay lifetime of about 15 minutes
- **Strong:** neutrons can interact with matter

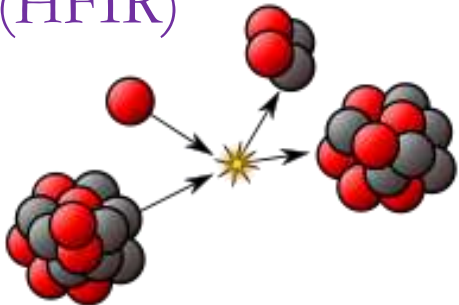


Making free neutrons

- Lots of energy required (MeV scale) to free neutrons from atom

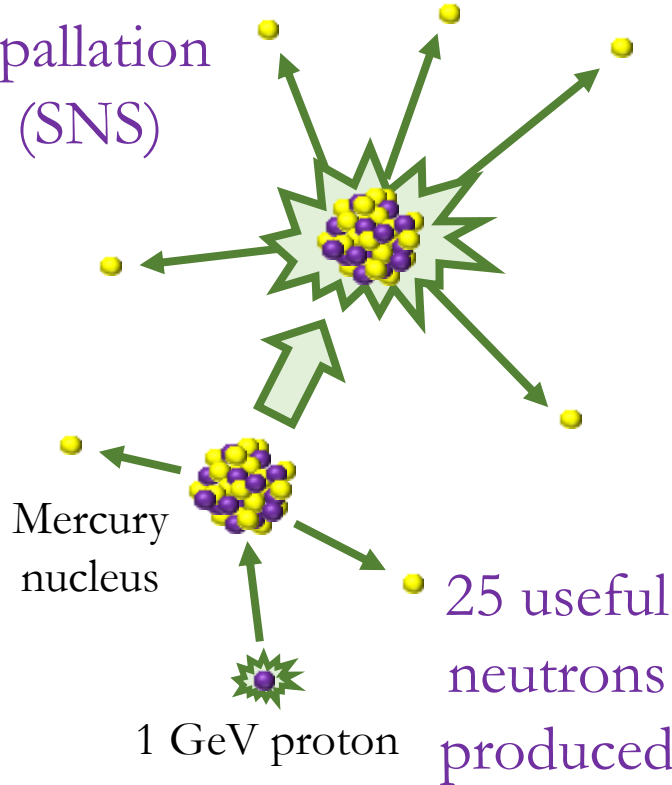
- Experiments need slow neutrons
 - Longer wavelengths = easier to guide
 - Slower = more decays in your experiment

Nuclear fission
(HFIR)



2-3 useful
neutrons
produced

Spallation
(SNS)



25 useful
neutrons
produced

Class	Energy	Source
Fast	> 1 MeV	Fission / spallation
Slow	eV – keV	Moderation
Thermal	0.025 eV	Thermal equilibrium
Cold	μeV – meV	Cold moderation
Ultracold	< 300 neV	Superthermal process

Neutrons and matter

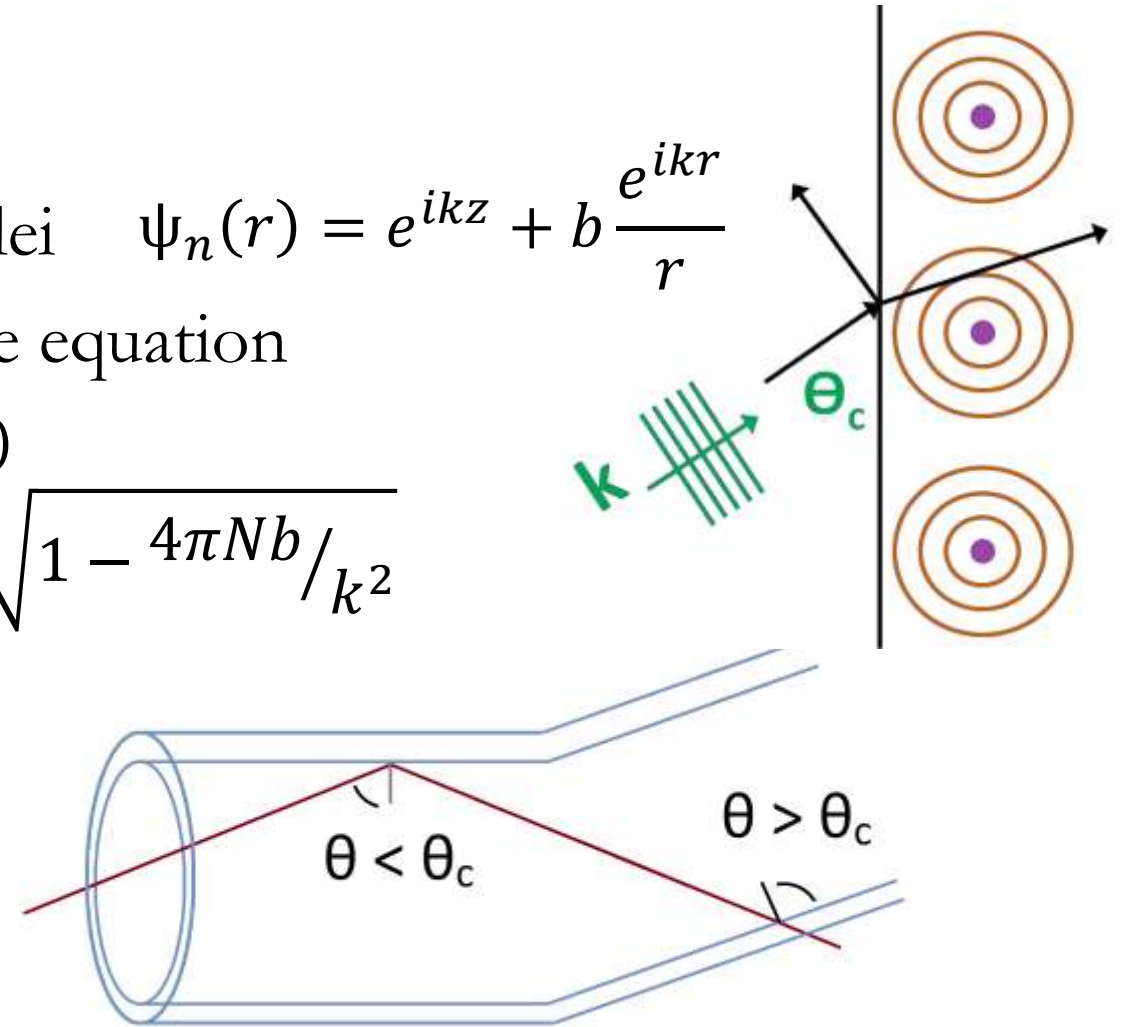
- Coherent scattering from many nuclei $\psi_n(r) = e^{ikz} + b \frac{e^{ikr}}{r}$
- Neutron wavefunction satisfies wave equation

$$(\nabla^2 + k^2)\psi_n(r) = 4\pi N b(r) \psi_n(r)$$
- Snell's Law = neutron guides $n = \sqrt{1 - 4\pi N b / k^2}$

$$n_1 \sin \theta_1 = n_2 \sin \theta_2$$

$$\theta_c = \lambda \sqrt{Nb / \pi}$$

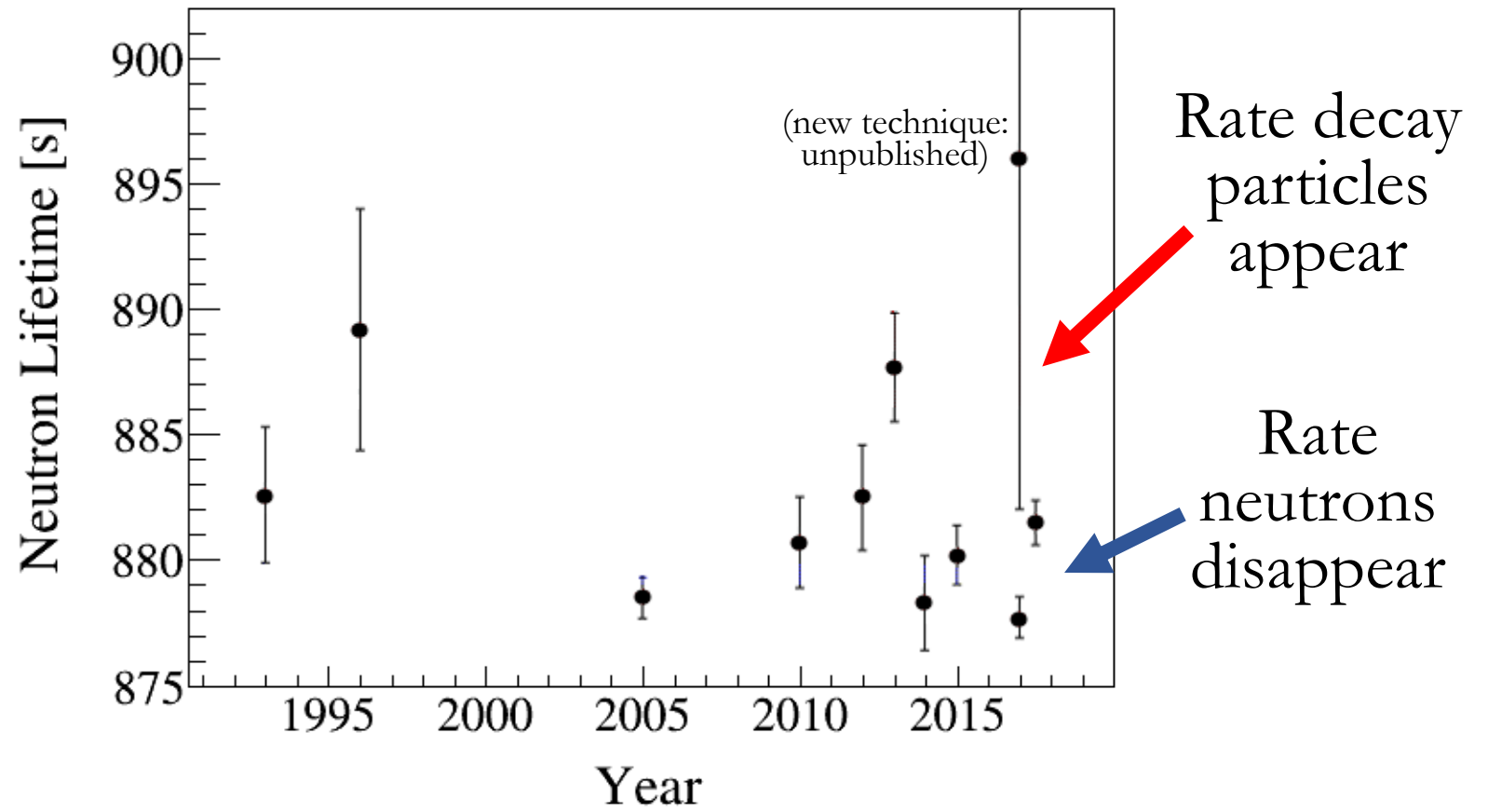
$$\lambda_c = \sqrt{\pi / Nb} > 500 \text{ \AA}$$
- Ultracold neutrons have $\theta_c = 90^\circ$





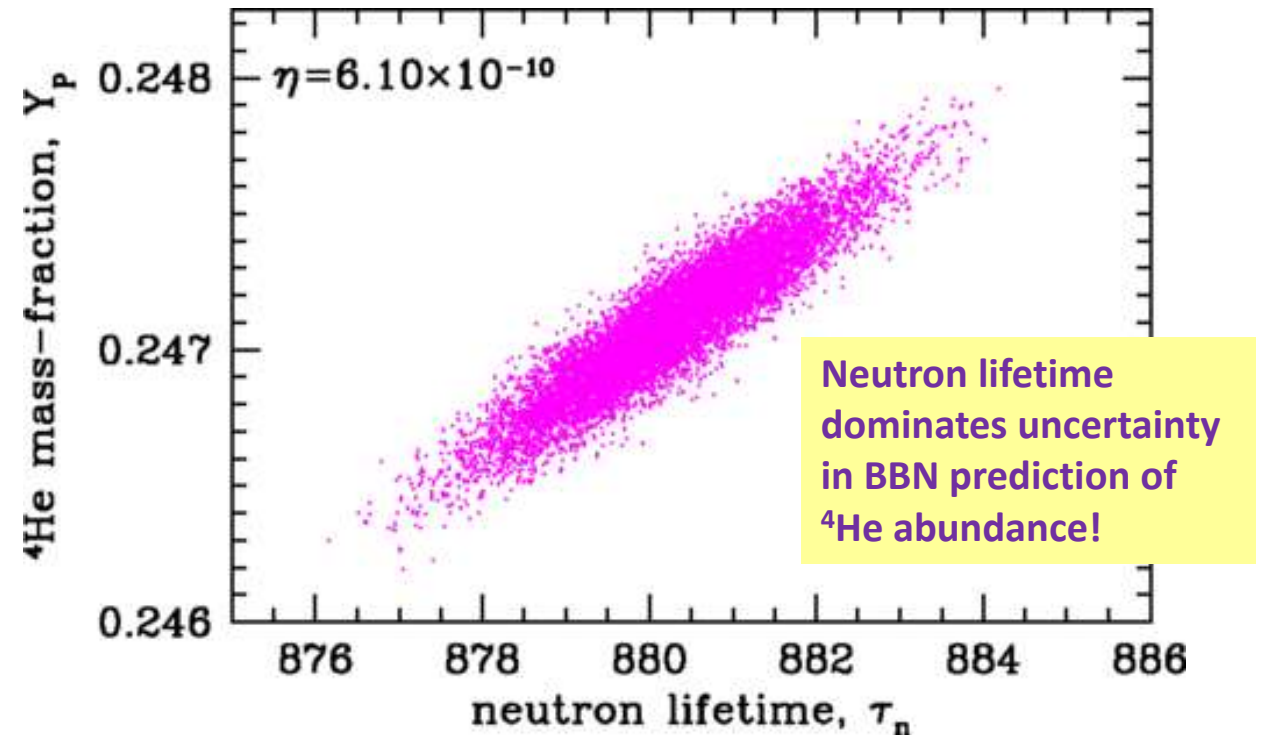
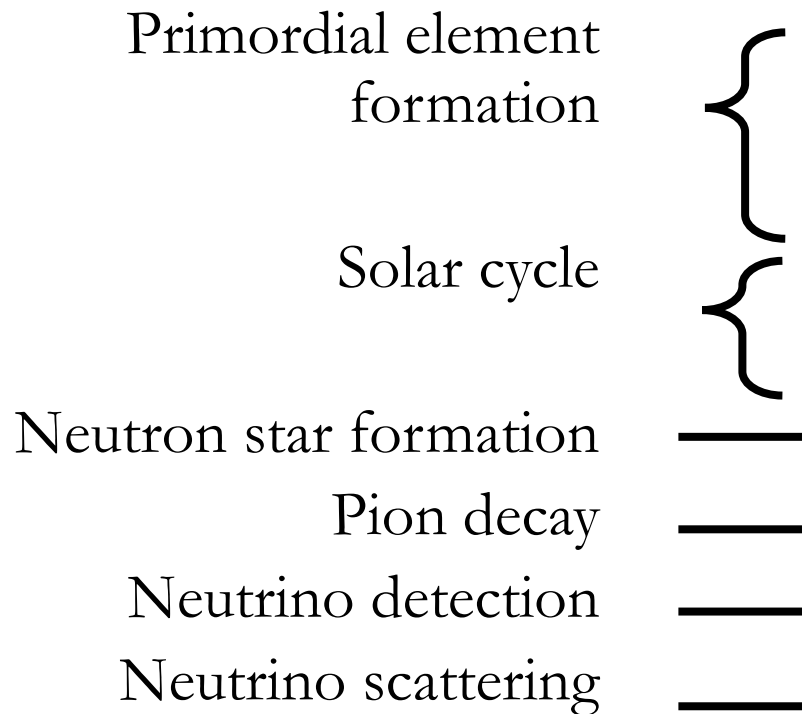
Neutron Lifetime

- “Beam” technique: count the dying
- “Bottle” technique: count the survivors
- 8.6 s ($\sim 4 \sigma$) discrepancy between methods!



Neutron beta decay

- Understanding this process is critical to many other applications:



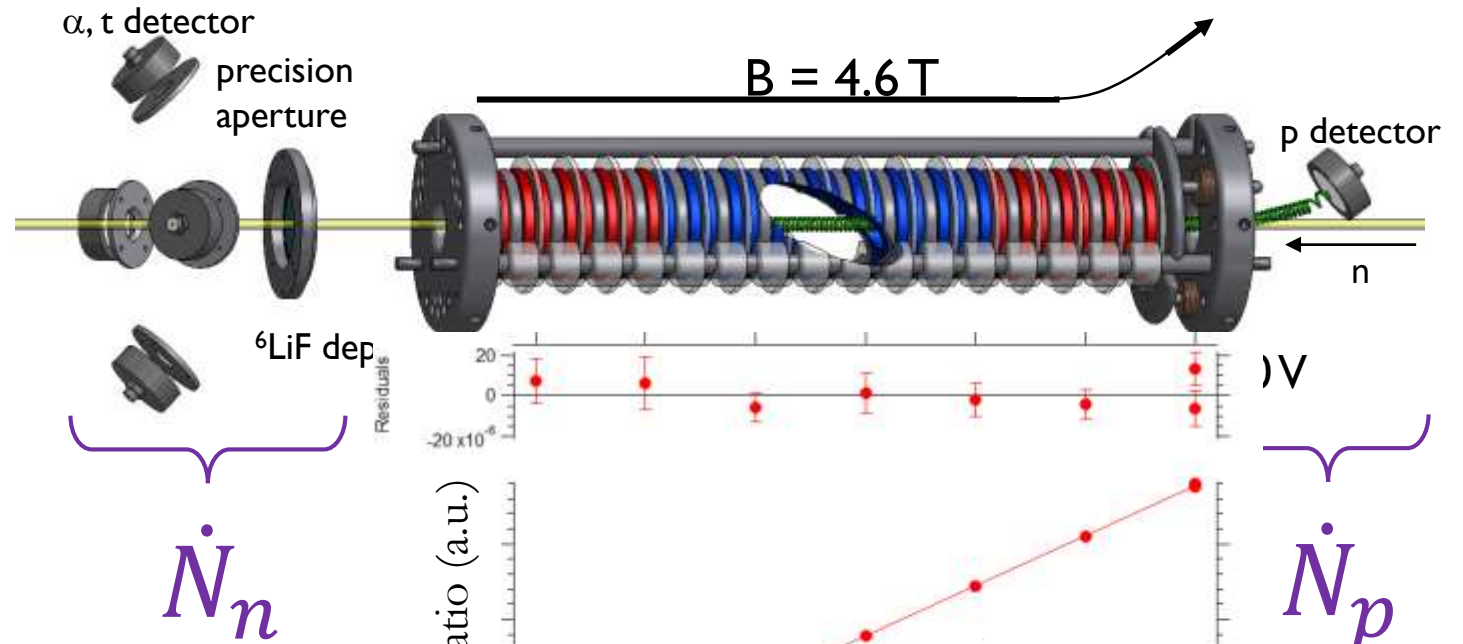
Beam Lifetime Experiments: BL2

- Measure neutron flux and proton decay rate:

$$\dot{N}_p = \epsilon_p \frac{A L}{\tau_\beta} \int \frac{\varphi(v)}{v} dv$$

$$\dot{N}_n = \epsilon_n A v_n \int \frac{\varphi(v)}{v} dv$$

$$\dot{N}_p = \dot{N}_n \left(\frac{L}{\tau_\beta} \right) \frac{\epsilon_p}{\epsilon_n v_n}$$



$$\text{BL1: } \tau_n = 887.7 \pm 1.2_{stat} \pm 3.4_{stat} \text{ s}$$

BL2 data-taking concluding in 2019
projected uncertainty: $< 1 \text{ s}$

Bottle lifetime experiments

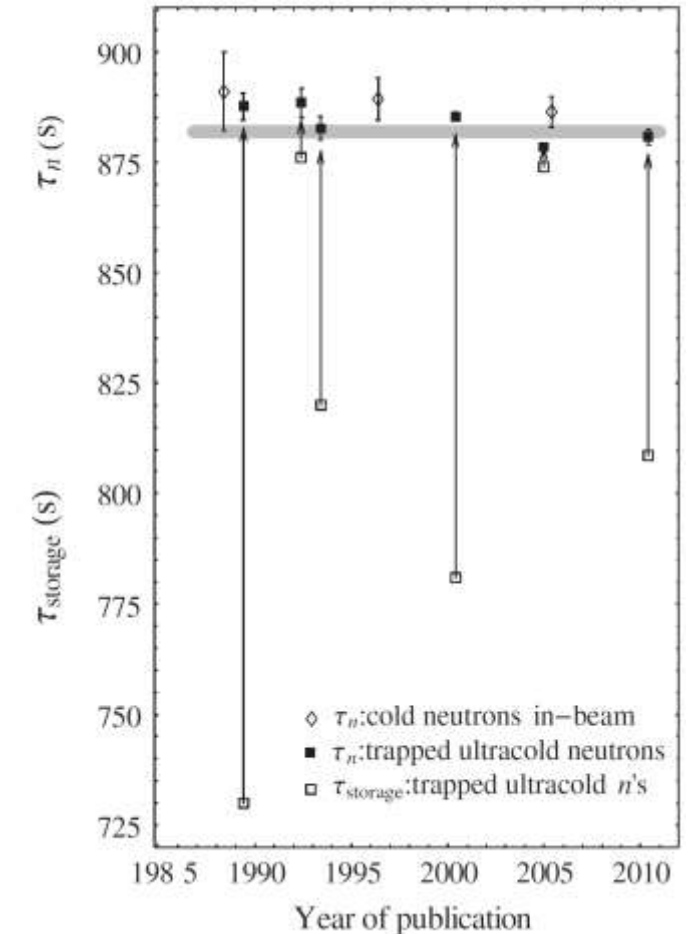
- Measure neutrons remaining after storage:

$$N(\Delta t) = N_0 e^{-\Delta t/\tau_s}$$

$$\frac{1}{\tau_s} = \frac{1}{\tau_\beta} + \frac{1}{\tau_{other}}$$

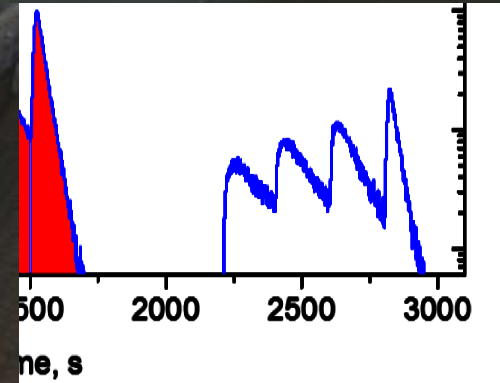
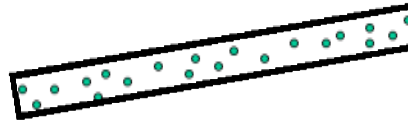
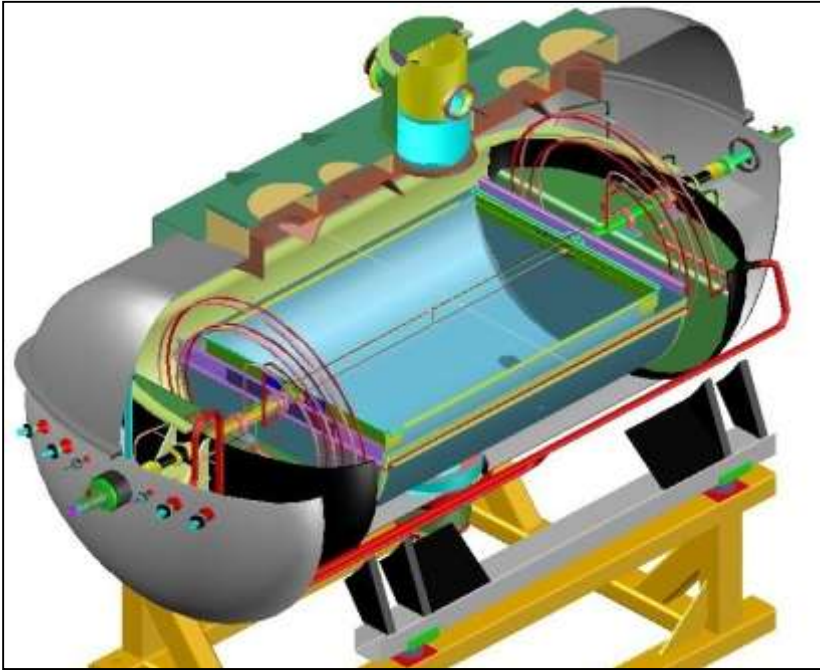
- Loss mechanisms: upscattering on walls, capture on walls, gaps in walls, quasibound escape, depolarization, residual gas...
- Wall losses depend on velocity, collision rate, loss factor:

$$\tau_i^{-1} = \gamma(v)\mu_i(v)$$



Dubbers and Schmidt, *RMP* **83** 1111 (2011)

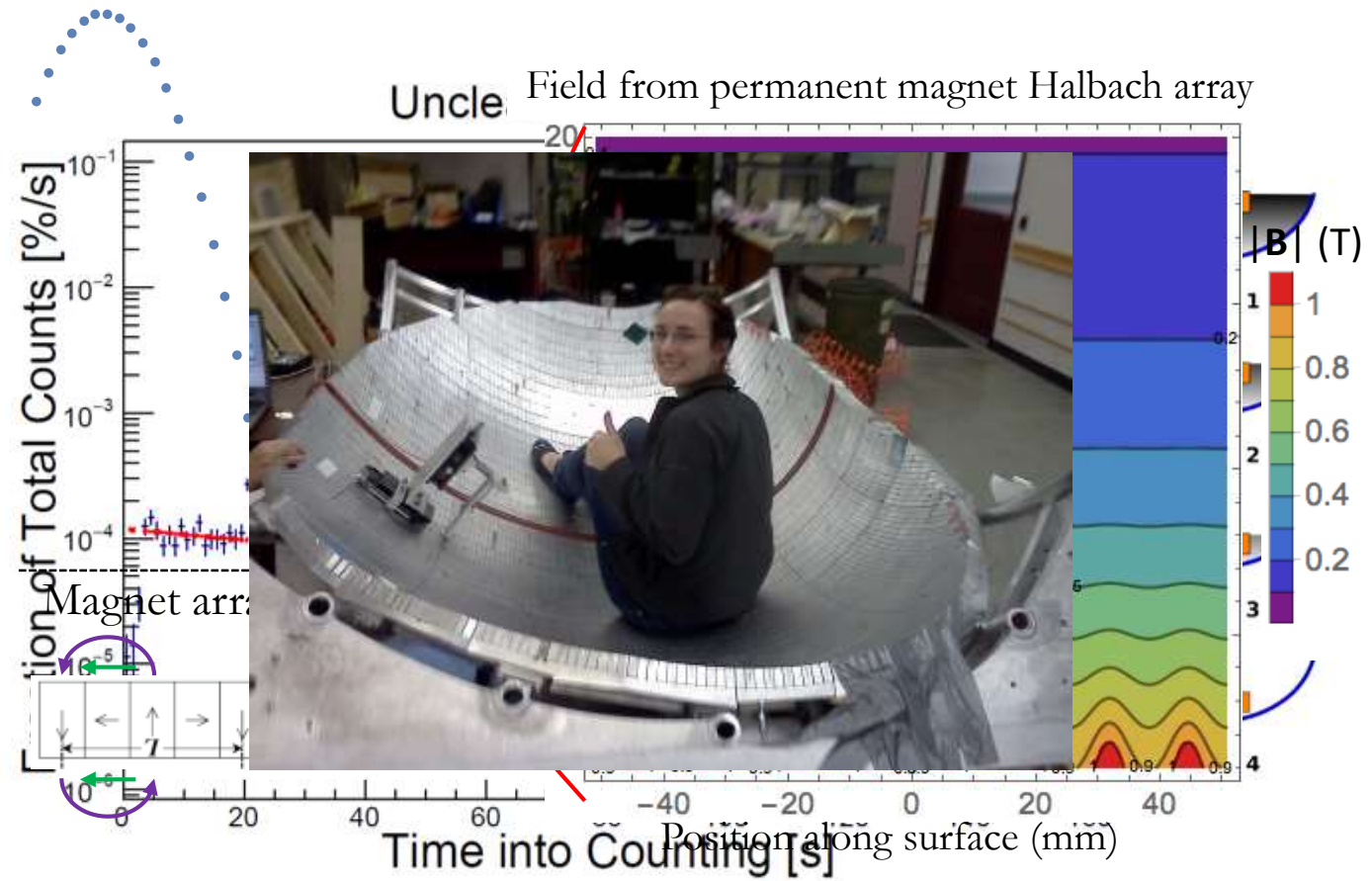
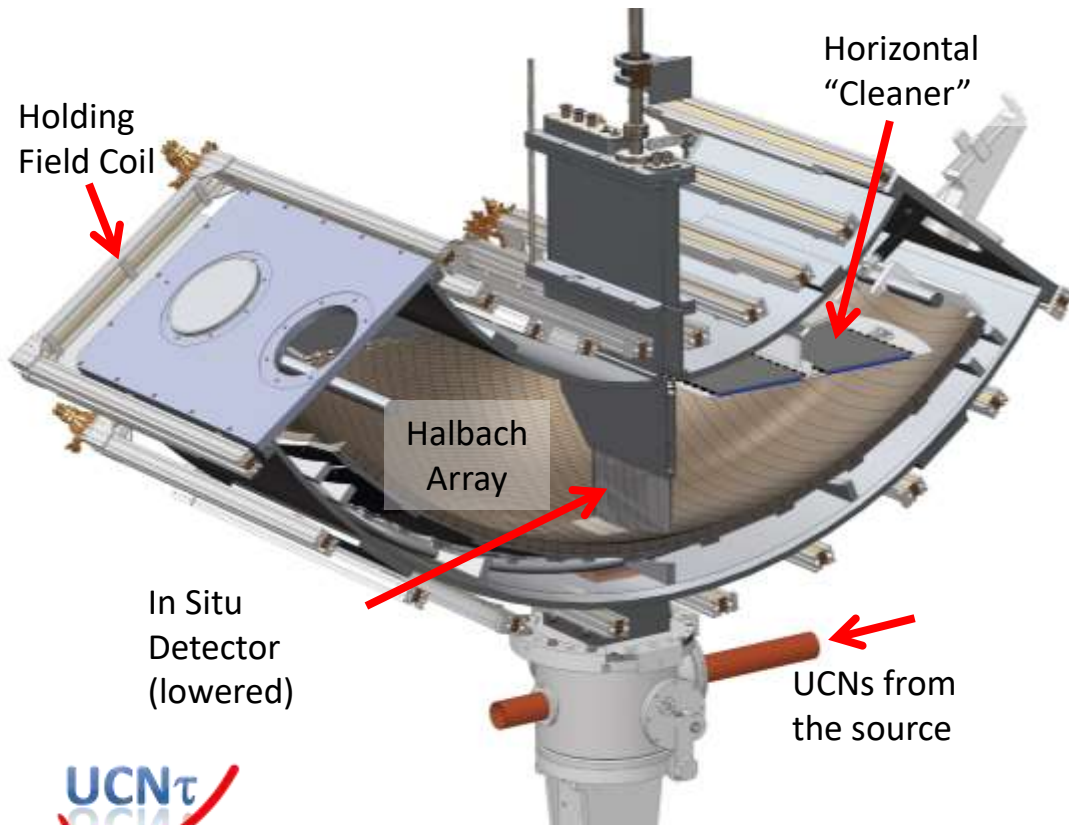
Material Bottle: Gravitrap II



$$0.7_{stat} \pm 0.6_{syst} \text{ s}$$

Slide adapted from A. Serebrov, PPNS2018
A. P. Serebrov et al, JETP Lett. **106** 623 (2018)

Magnetic Bottle: UCN_{τ}



$$\tau_n = 877.7 \pm 0.7_{stat} \pm 0.4_{syst} \pm 0.2_{syst} \text{ s}$$

Slide adapted from S. Clayton, FNPSS2018
R. W. Pattie Jr et al, Science 360 627 (2018)

The β Asymmetry: UCNA

- $W \propto 1 + \frac{v}{c} \langle P \rangle A(E) \cos \theta$
- Magnetic spectrometer: $\langle \cos \theta \rangle = \pm \frac{1}{2}$
- Measure asymmetry: 2 detectors, 2 spin directions

$$A_{exp} = \frac{N^+ - N^-}{N^+ + N^-} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{v}{c} P A$$

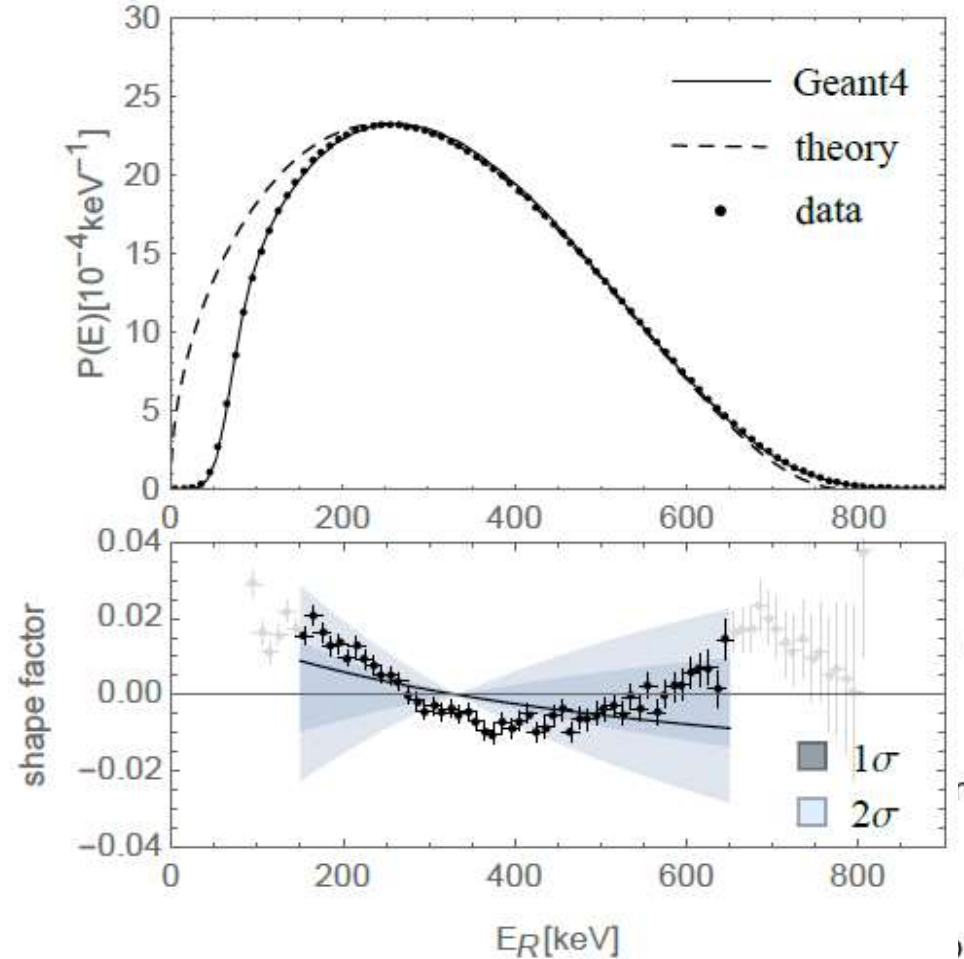
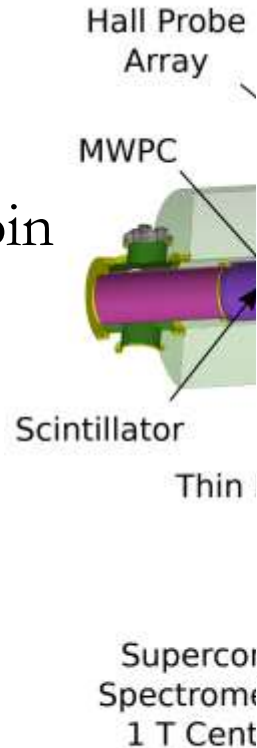
- Cancel systematics with Super-Ratio

$$R(E) = \frac{N(E)_1^+ N(E)_2^-}{N(E)_1^- N(E)_2^+}$$

$$A_{SR} = \frac{1 - \sqrt{R}}{1 + \sqrt{R}} = \frac{v}{c} \langle P \rangle A(E) \cos \theta$$

- “Super-sum” removes distortion from A

$$\Sigma = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{N(E)_1^+ N(E)_2^-} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{N(E)_1^- N(E)_2^+}$$



$$b_n = 0.067 \pm 0.005_{stat} \begin{matrix} +0.090 \\ -0.061 \end{matrix}_{sys}$$

Most recent dataset: $b_n = x.xx \pm 0.03$

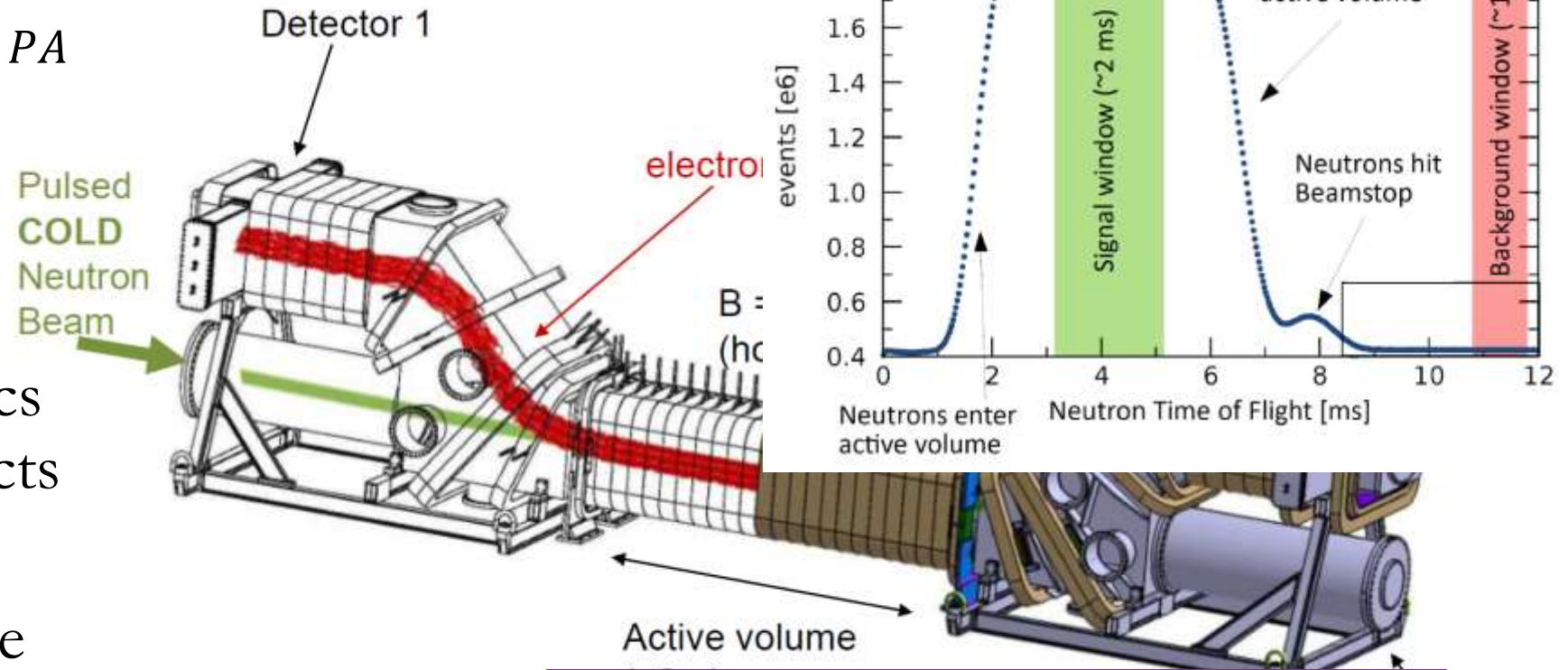
now during beta-decay measurement

Brown et al, PRC 97 035505 (2018)
 Hickerson et al, PRC 96 (2017) 042501

The β Asymmetry: Perkeo 3

$$A_{exp} = \frac{N^+ - N^-}{N^+ + N^-} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{v}{c} PA$$

- Pulsed cold neutron beam avoids systematics due to edge effects
- Most precise λ extraction to date



$$A_0 = -0.11985 \pm 0.00017_{stat} \pm 0.00012_{sys}$$

$$\lambda = -1.27641 \pm 0.00045_{stat} \pm 0.00033_{sys}$$

Slide content from B. Maerkisch
Maerkisch et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 122 242501 (2019)

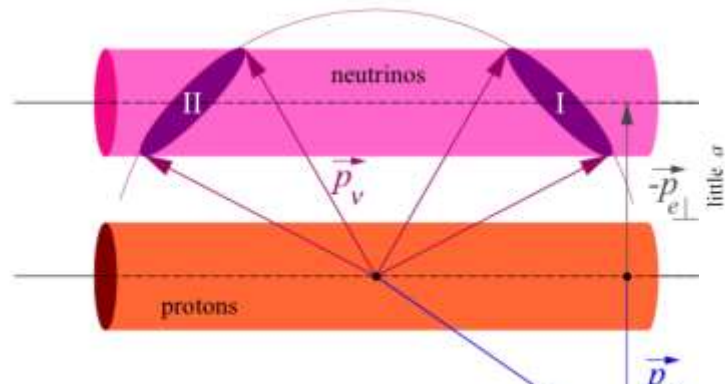
The β - ν Correlation: aCORN

- Kinematic slice + E, p conservation \rightarrow

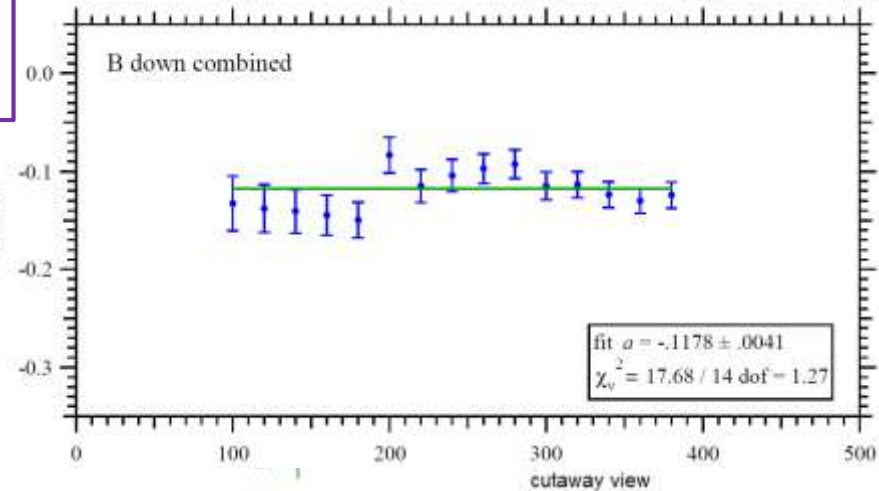
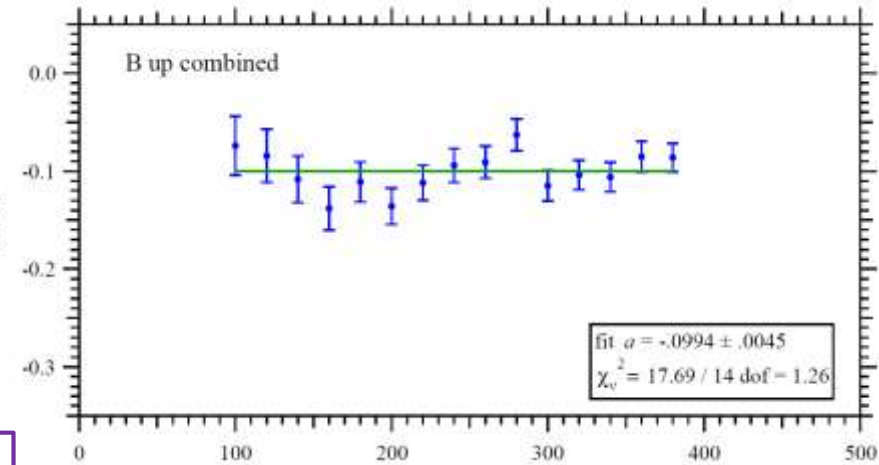
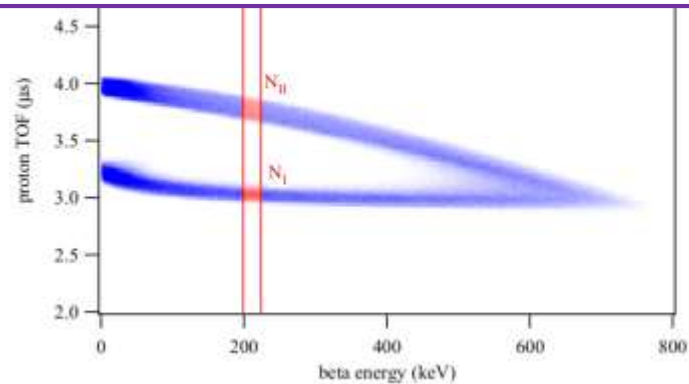
“Wishbone asymmetry”

$$X(E) = \frac{N_I - N_{II}}{N_I + N_{II}} = \alpha f_a(E)$$

- $f_a(E) =$ ave. angle between \vec{p}_e, \vec{p}_ν
 - depends on collimation, B field strength, neutron density distribution



$\alpha = -0.1090 \pm 0.0030_{stat} \pm 0.0028_{sys}$
 Most recent dataset: $\Delta\alpha < 2\%$



Slides adapted from F. E. Wietfeldt
 G. Darius et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 119 042502 (2017)

The β - ν Correlation: Nab at the SNS

- 4π acceptance of β 's:
“tear-drop” phase space

Conservation of momentum:

$$p_p^2 = p_e^2 + 2p_e p_\nu \cos \theta_{ev} + p_\nu^2$$

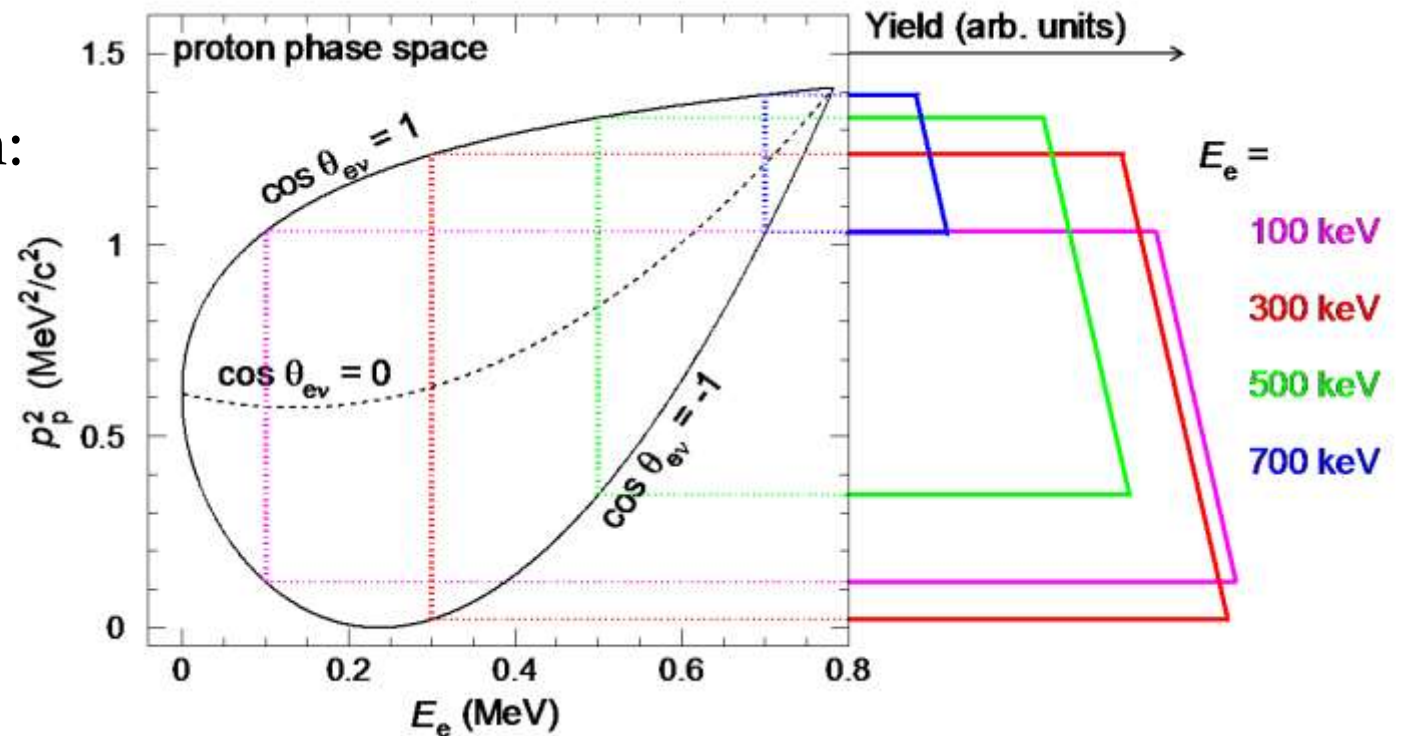
($p_\nu \sim E_0 - E_e$)

Edges:

$$(p_e - p_\nu)^2 < p_p^2 < (p_e + p_\nu)^2$$

$$\text{Yield: } \propto 1 + \mathbf{a} \frac{p_e}{E_e} \cos \theta_{ev}$$

Goal: $\Delta \mathbf{a}/\mathbf{a} \sim 10^{-3}$ and $\Delta \mathbf{b} \sim 3 \times 10^{-3}$



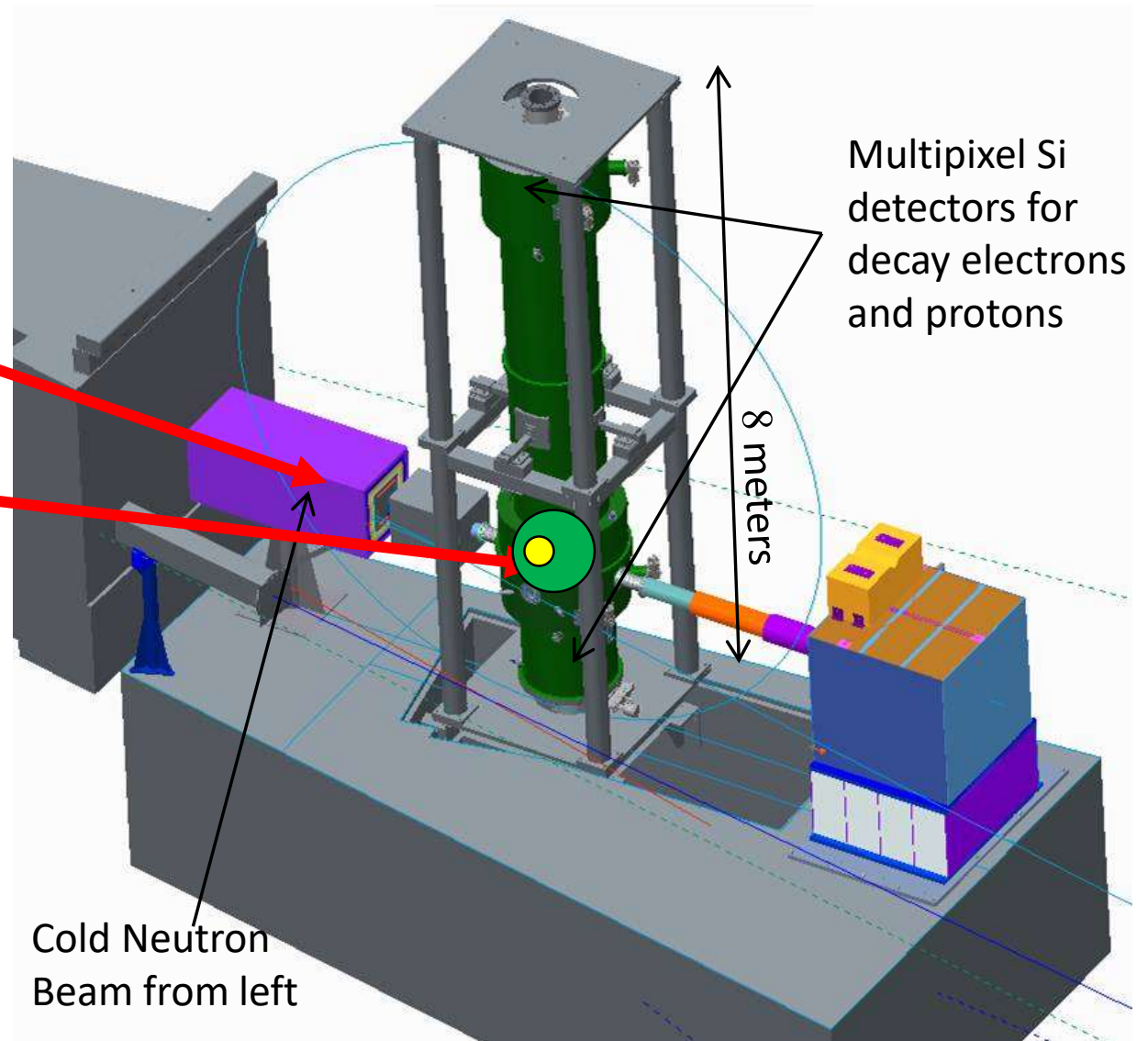
Bowman, J Res NIST 110 40 (2005)

Pocanic et al, NIMA 611 211 (2009)

Baessler et al, J Phys G 41 114003 (2014)

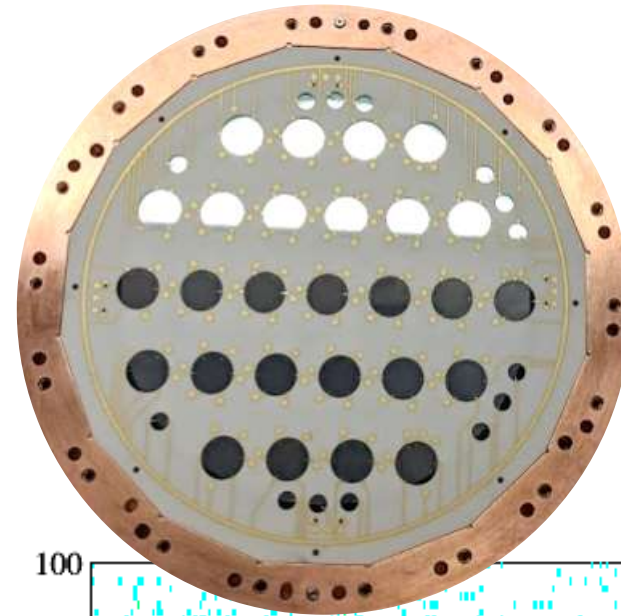
Nab at the SNS

1. Unpolarized neutrons enter experiment region
2. Neutrons decay, charged particles are trapped by magnetic fields
3. Electrons and protons are guided along magnetic field lines to detectors
4. Detectors determine electron energy and proton time of flight

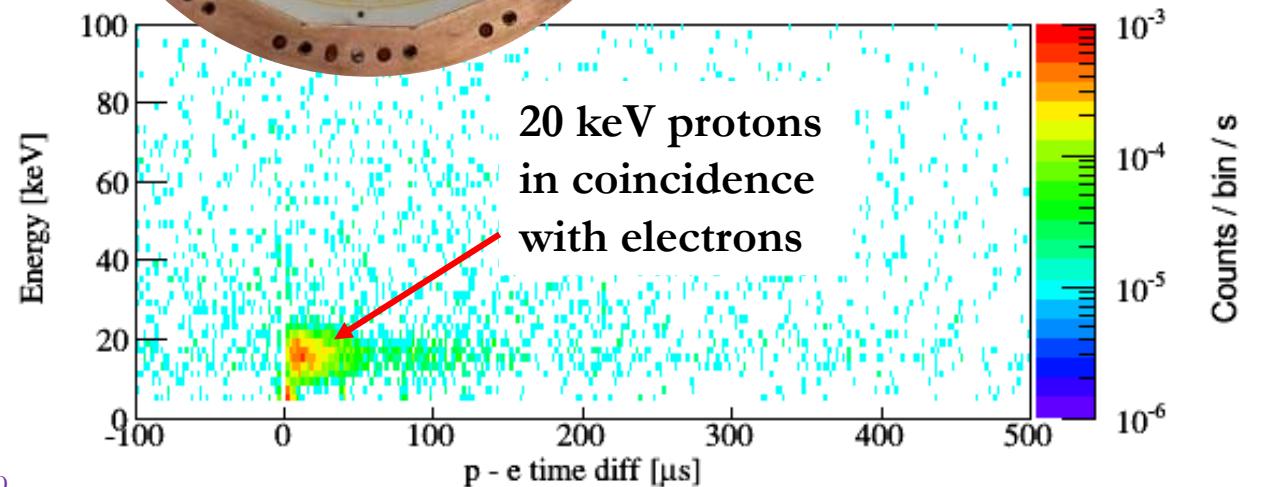


Nab detectors

- Challenge to detect both:
protons ~ 0.8 keV (requires accelerating voltage of -30 kV)
electrons ~ 800 keV
- Demonstrated with UCN!
- Fully instrumented system acceptance testing nearly complete at LANL
- Precision characterizations next: deadlayer, charge collection profile, calibration, cross-talk...



2 mm thick,
11 cm diameter,
100 nm deadlayer,
127 pixel Si detectors



Nab magnetic spectrometer

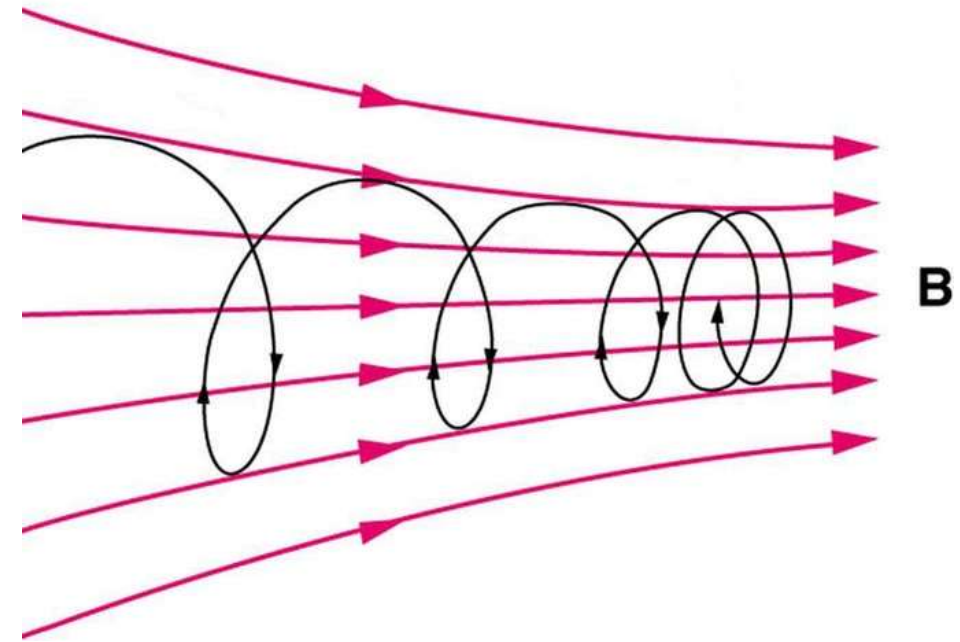
- Charged particles spiral along B field lines:

$$qv_{\perp}B = \frac{mv_{\perp}^2}{r}$$

- Magnetic moment is an adiabatic invariant:

$$\mu = \frac{mv_{1,\perp}^2/2}{B_1} = \frac{mv_{2,\perp}^2/2}{B_2}$$

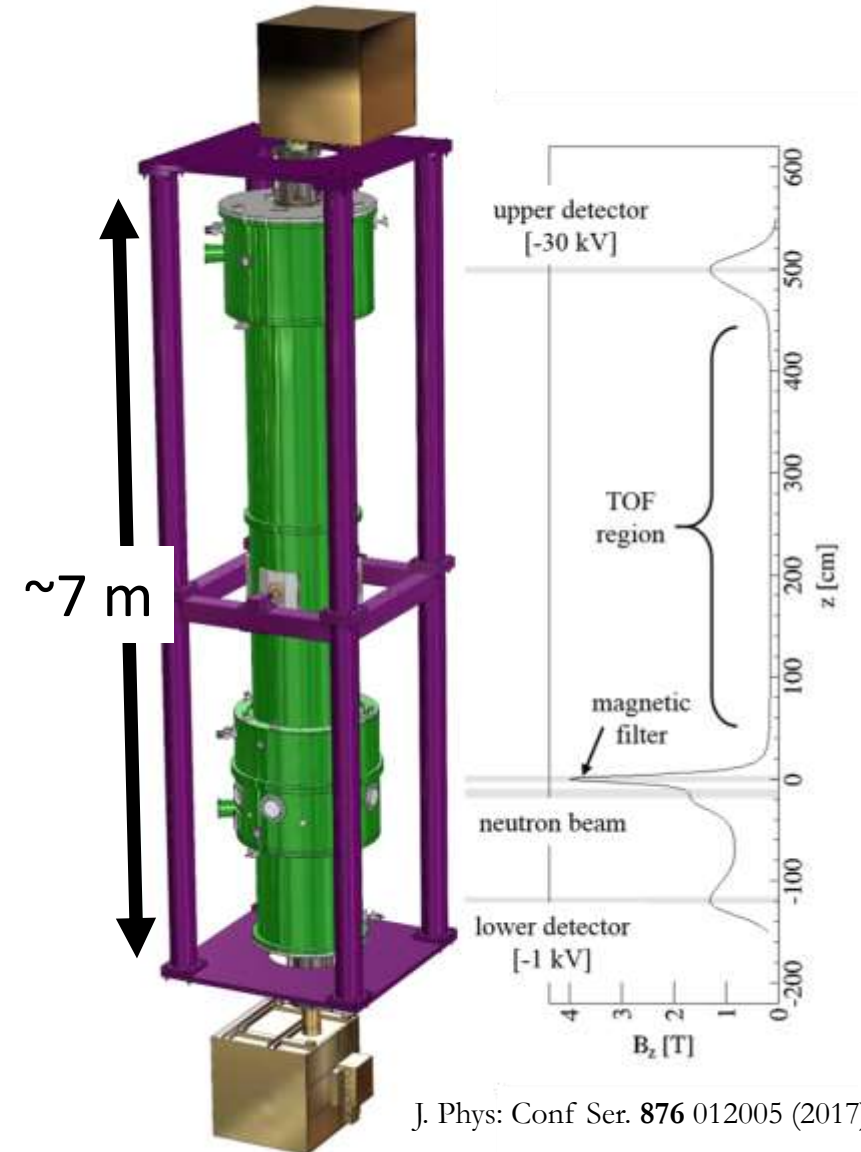
- Conservation of energy: transform v_{\perp} to v_{\parallel}
- Increase B: decrease v_{\parallel} (particle reflects)
- Decrease B: motion becomes parallel to field...



Nab magnetic spectrometer

- 4 T magnetic mirror (filter): reflect/ignore protons with small v_{\parallel}
- 0.2 T TOF region: proton motion nearly parallel to $B =$ spectrometer axis
- Relate time of flight (measured) to proton momentum (desired):

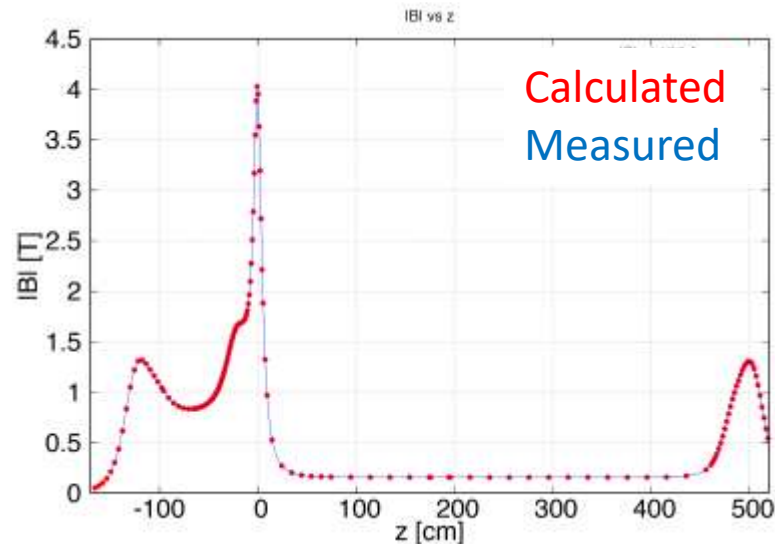
$$t_p = L \frac{m_p}{p_p} = \frac{f(\cos \theta)}{p_p}$$



J. Phys: Conf Ser. **876** 012005 (2017)

Nab spectrometer now commissioning

- Performance success—excellent agreement with calculations
- Precision mapping to be completed *imminently*



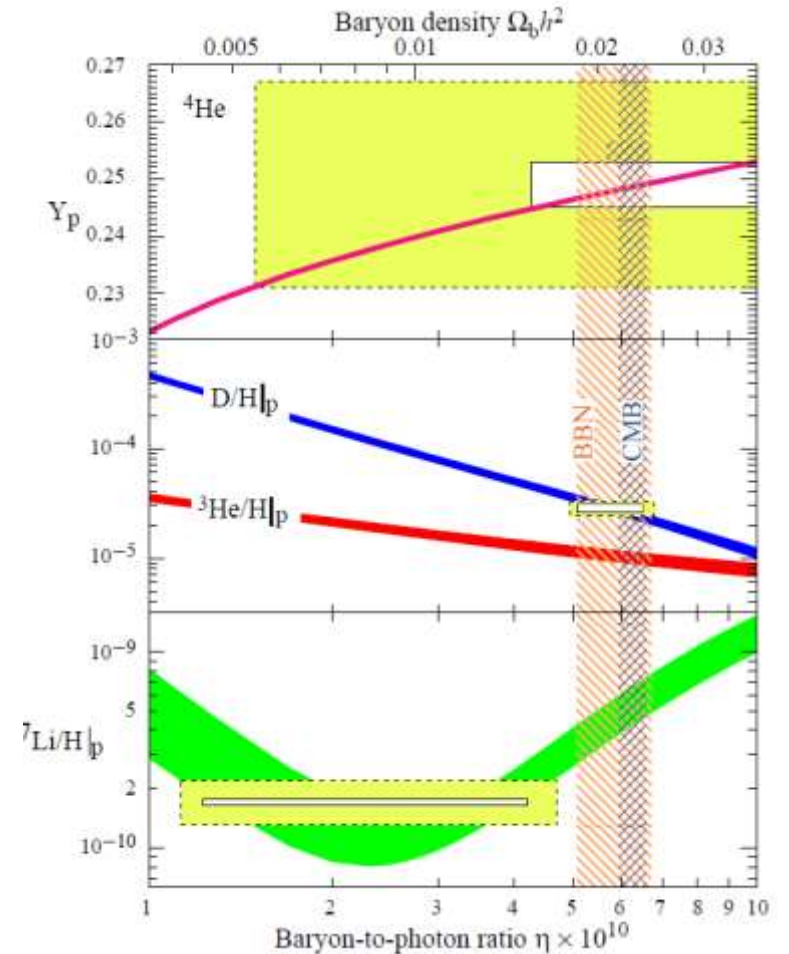
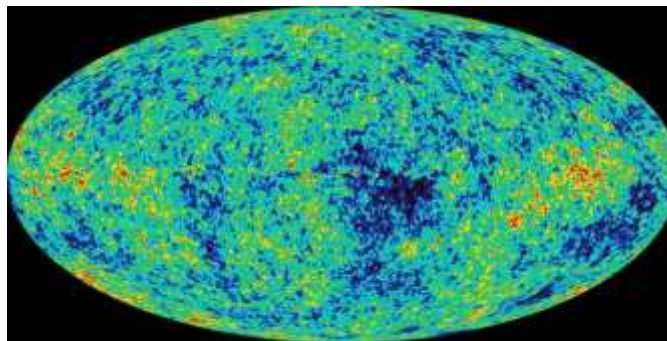
Outline

- P-violation and the weak interaction
- CP-violation and the electric dipole moment
- B-violation and oscillations

The early universe

- Big Bang Nucleosynthesis calculations: how light elements were formed
- Cosmic Microwave Background: “Big Bang’s echo”
- Where’s the antimatter?
 - Cosmic rays?
 - Antimatter galaxies?
 - BBN, CMB agree:

$$\eta \equiv \frac{n_B - n_{\bar{B}}}{s} \sim 10^{-10}$$



Look for clues in symmetries

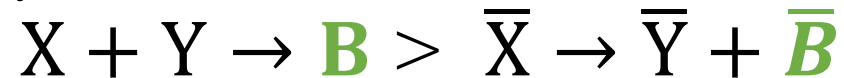
- Internal symmetry: **Baryon number B**
 - Quarks: $B = +\frac{1}{3}$
 - Antiquarks: $B = -\frac{1}{3}$
- Big Bang should have produced matter = antimatter $\rightarrow B = 0$
- **First condition:** we must have a process that does not conserve B to create an excess
 - $X + Y \rightarrow B$
 - Has not been observed...



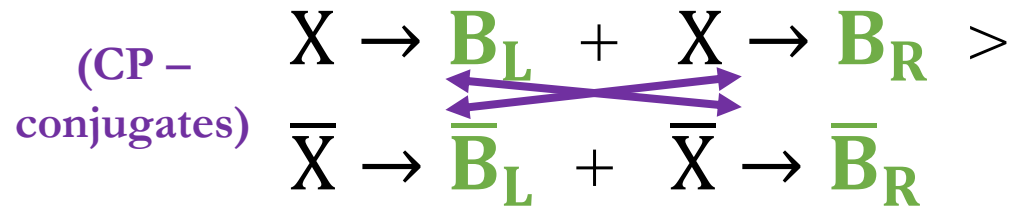
Andrei Sakharov

Look for clues in symmetries

- **Second Condition:** Production of matter must be favored over antimatter
- C-symmetry must be broken



- CP-symmetry must be broken



- **Third Condition:** Excess \mathbf{B} shouldn't be washed out – need this process to occur out of thermal equilibrium

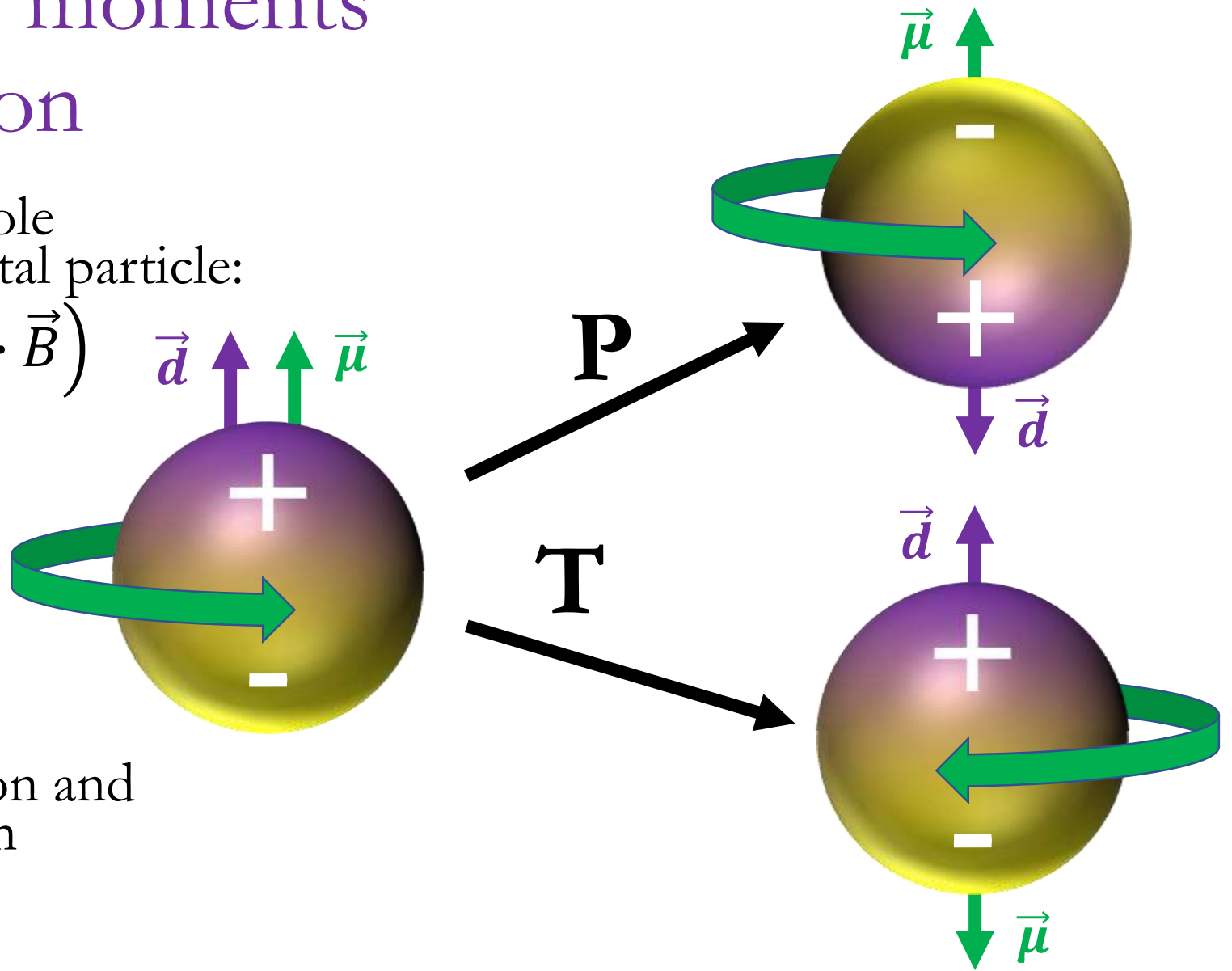


Andrei Sakharov

Electric dipole moments and CP violation

- Non-zero electric dipole moment in fundamental particle:

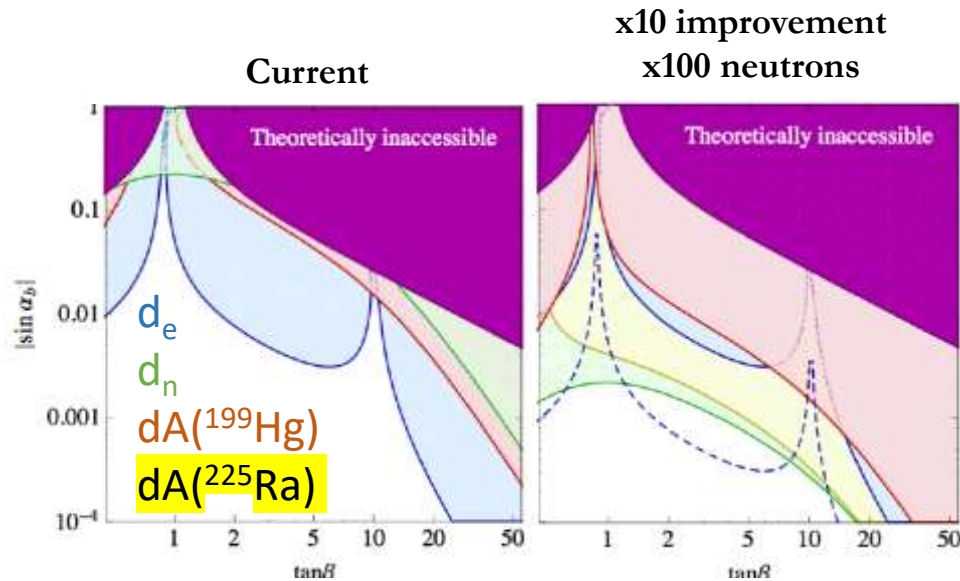
$$H = -\frac{1}{2} \left(\vec{d} \cdot \vec{E} + \vec{\mu} \cdot \vec{B} \right)$$



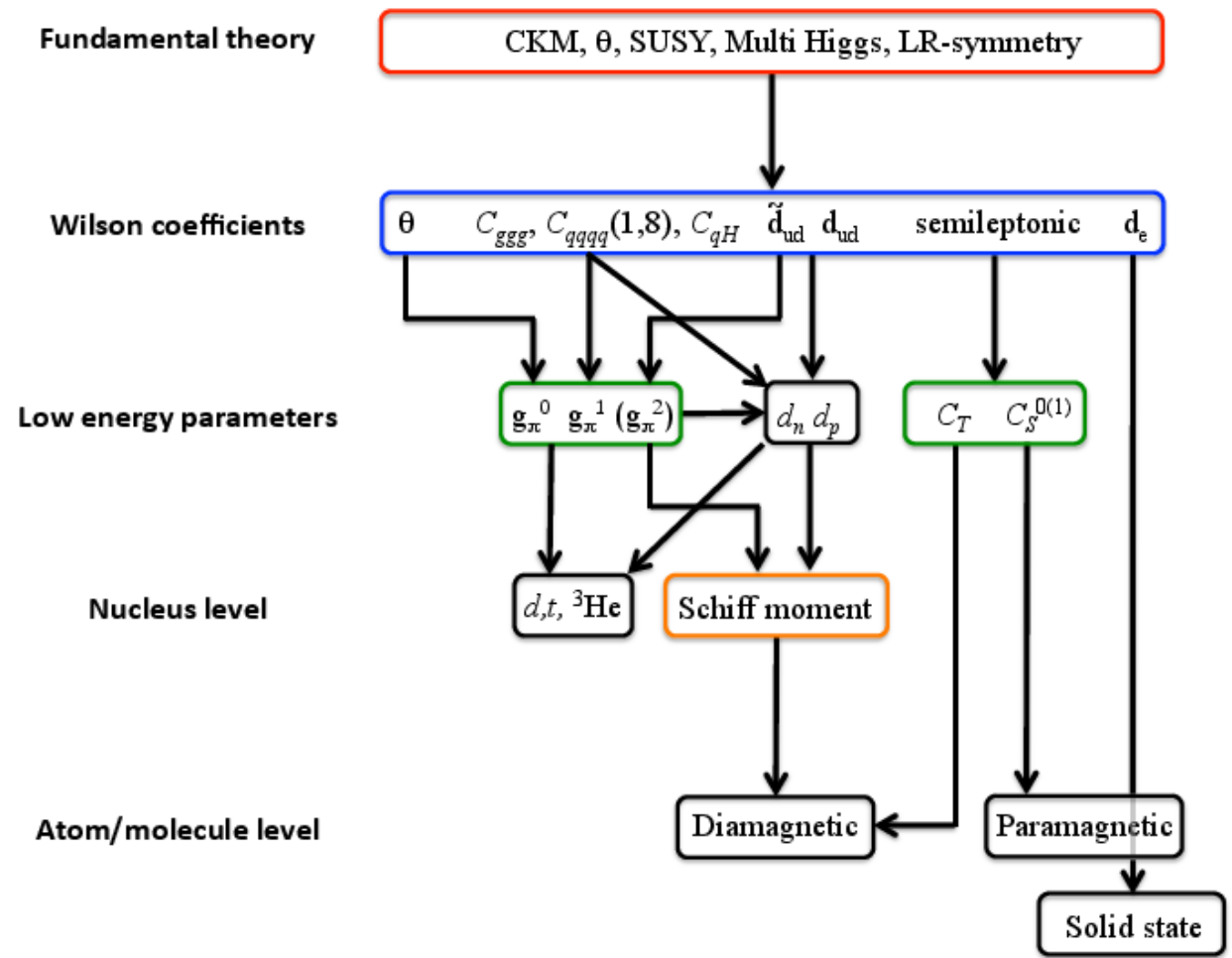
- **P**-violation, **T**-violation and therefore **CP**-violation

Electric dipole moments

- Need many experiments to sort out the source of CP-violation...



Constraints on Two-Higgs Doublet model



Chupp, Fierlinger, Ramsey-Musolf, and Singh, Rev. Mod. Phys. 91 1 (2019)

Neutron electric dipole moment

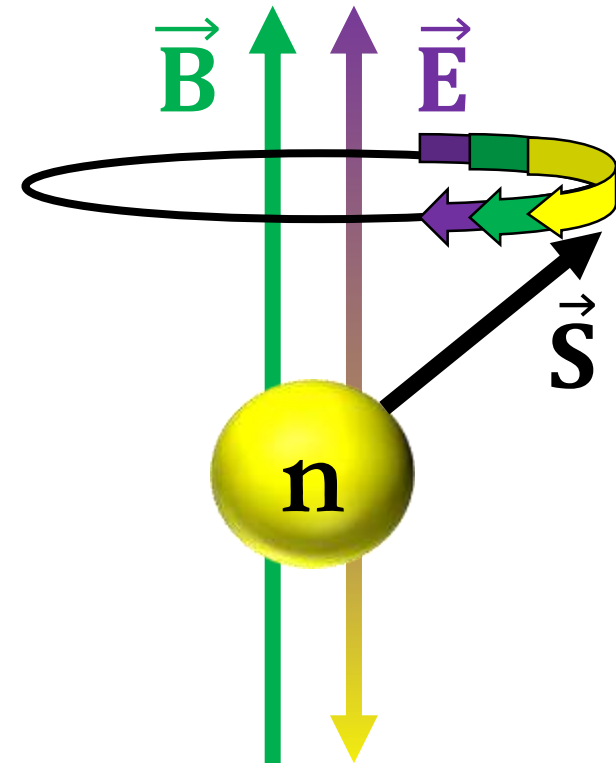
- Neutron has magnetic dipole moment: feels torque perpendicular to magnetic field
- Spin precesses with frequency

$$h\nu = 2\mu_n B$$
- If neutron had an EDM, spin precesses around electric field:

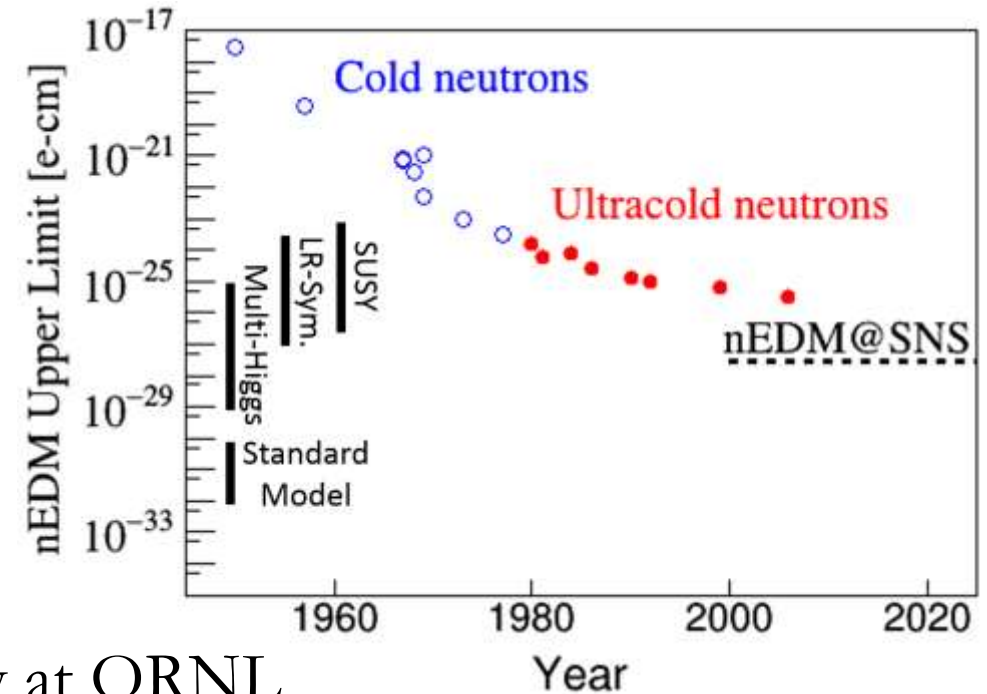
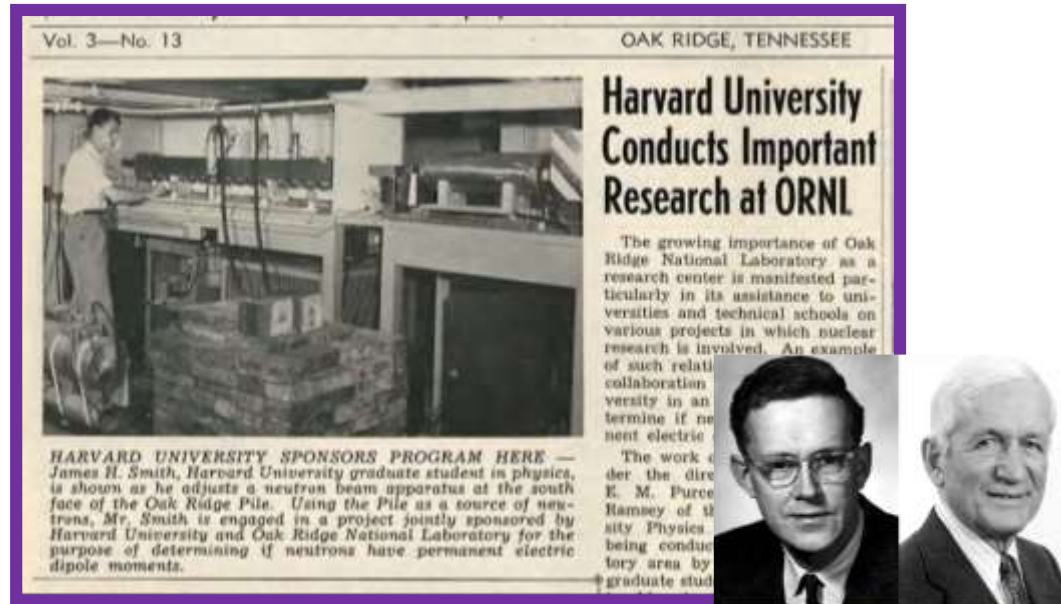
$$h\nu = 2d_n E$$
- Tactic: compare frequency with electric/magnetic fields parallel/antiparallel

$$h\nu_{\pm} = 2\mu_n B \pm 2d_n E \quad \Delta\nu = \frac{4d_n E}{h}$$

$$\Delta\nu = 7.5 \text{ nHz for } d_n = 10^{-28} \text{ e-cm, } E = 75 \text{ kV/cm}$$



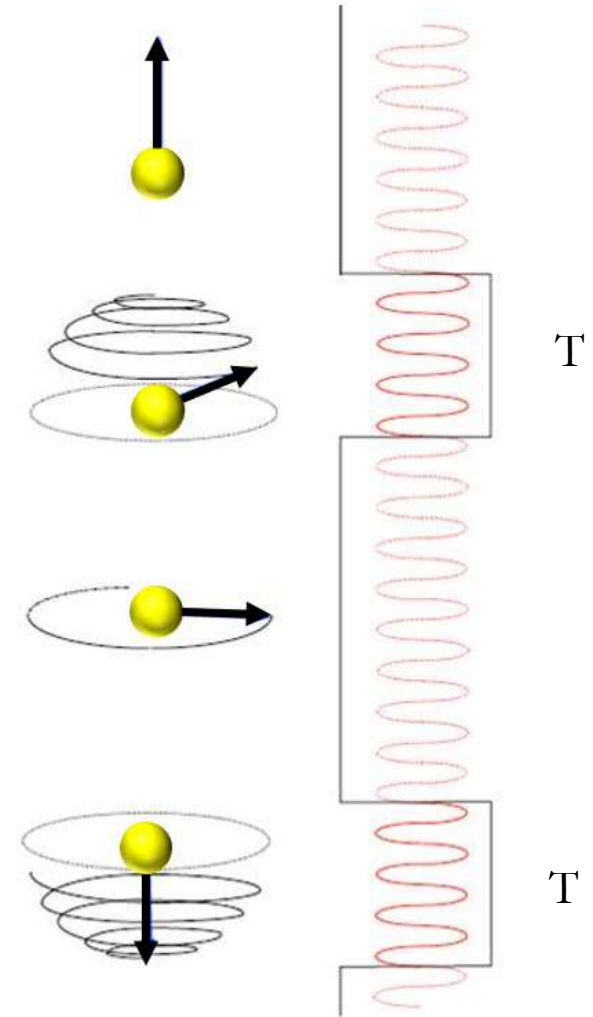
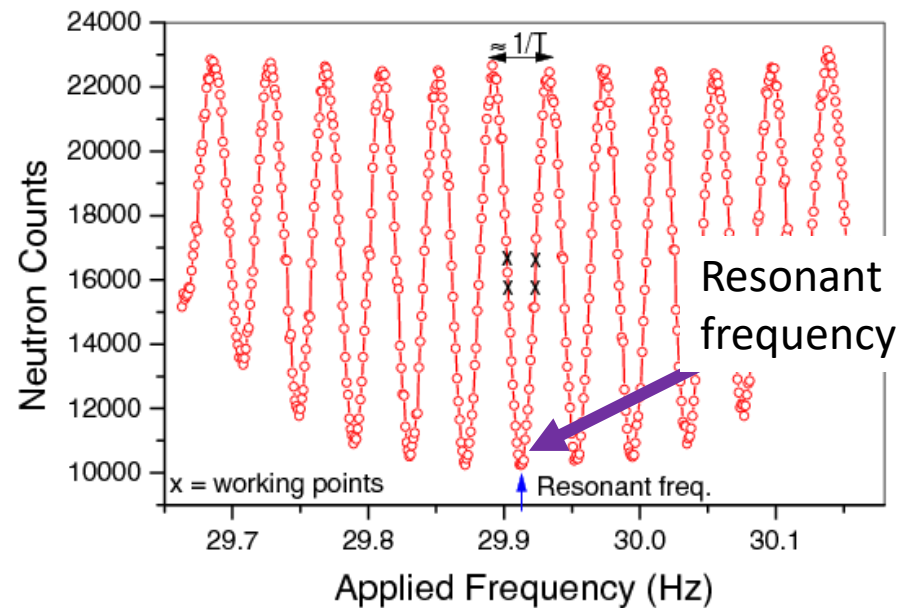
Limit on the neutron EDM



- First measured by Smith, Purcell and Ramsey at ORNL
 - Studying parity violation in neutron scattering
- Neutron EDM extremely small: “Strong CP problem” in QCD Lagrangian
- Motivates “axions” (dark matter candidate)

Ramsey's Method of Separated Oscillating Fields

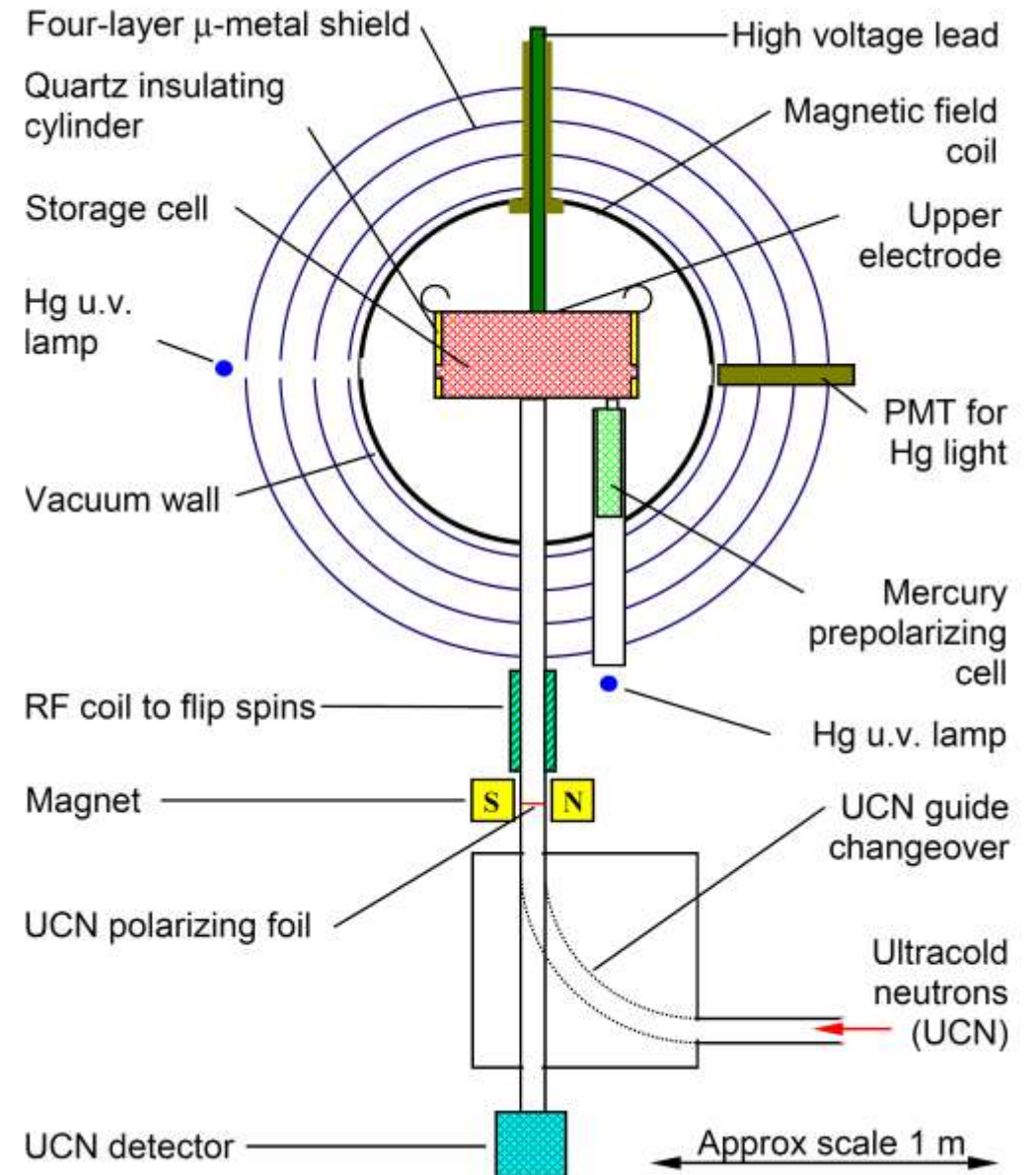
1. Prepare “spin up” neutron
2. Apply 90° spin flip
3. Spin freely precesses by $\omega\Delta t$
4. Apply 90° spin flip (to “spin down”)
5. Measure “spin up” vs “spin down”



Present best nEDM limit

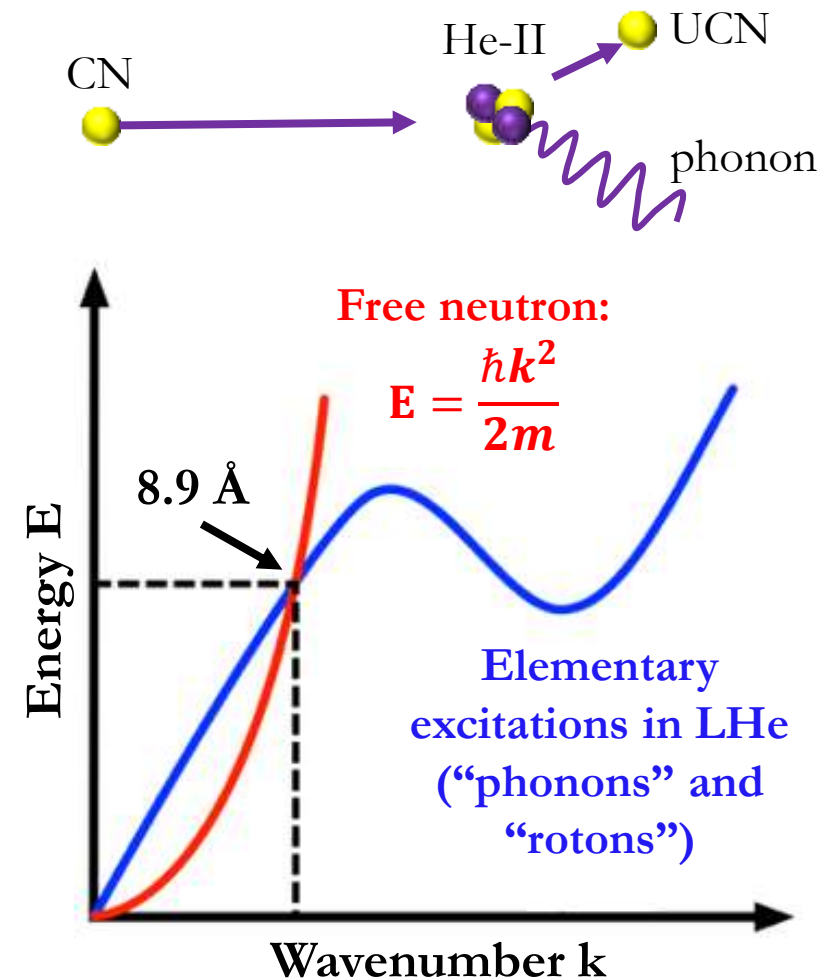


- Trapped 0.5 UCN/cc, stored for ~ 100 s
- $E \sim 10$ kV/cm
- Result: $d_n = -0.21 \pm 1.82 \times 10^{-26}$ e-cm



UCN from superfluid He (He-II)

- UCN production via “superthermal process”
- 8.9 Å (1 meV/11 K) cold neutron emits phonon in He-II, becomes UCN (500 Å/300 neV/3.5 mK)
- He-II cooled to ~1 K: Reverse process is suppressed by Boltzmann factor $e^{-E/k_B T}$



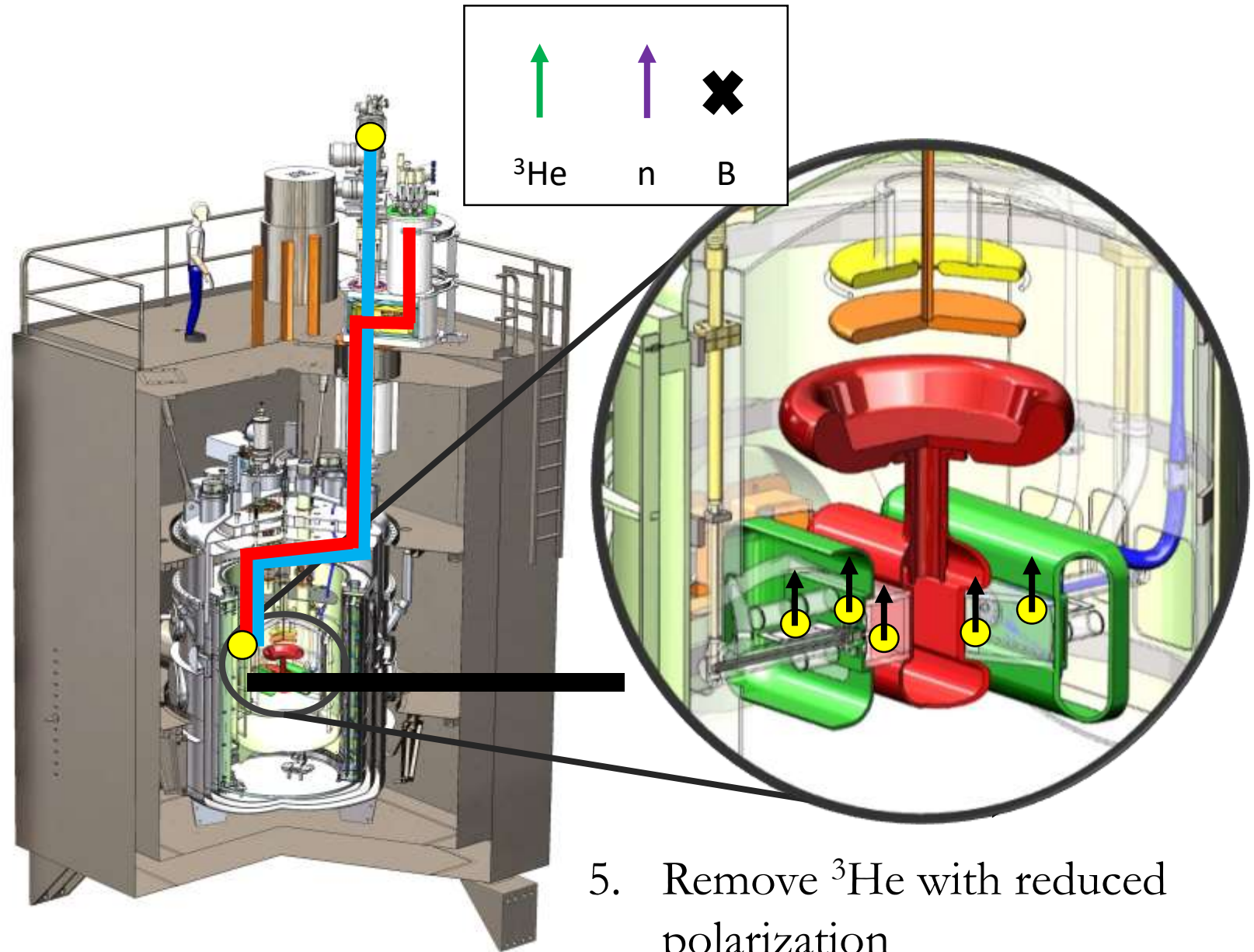
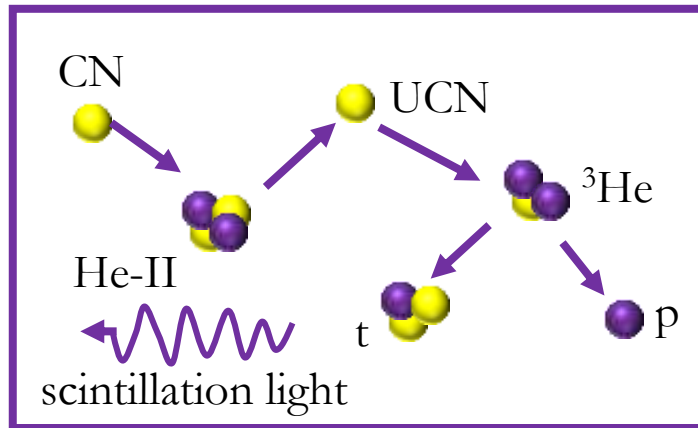
nEDM at the SNS

- Use helium to improve statistical precision
 - E: LHe = high voltage insulator, >85 kV/cm achieved
 - N: Higher densities using He-II
 - t: temp < 0.5 K allows storage times of ~ 1000 s
- and reduce systematic uncertainty
 - **“Geometric phase”**: interaction of $\vec{v} \times \vec{E} = \vec{B}_E$ and magnetic gradients
 - Limit leakage currents from electric field (which may produce magnetic fields)
 - Multiple measurement cells with opposite $\vec{E} \cdot \vec{B}$
 - Multiple measurement techniques

$$\sigma(d_n) \propto \frac{1}{Et\sqrt{N}}$$

SNS nEDM

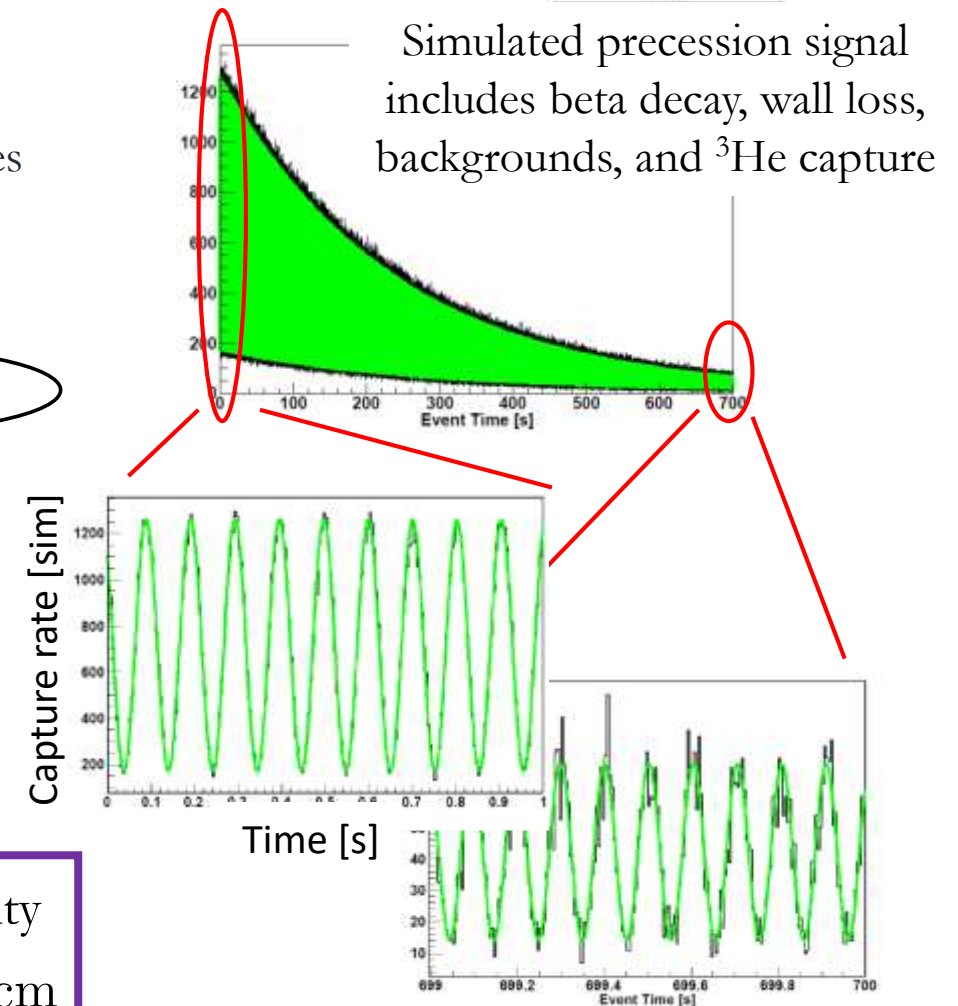
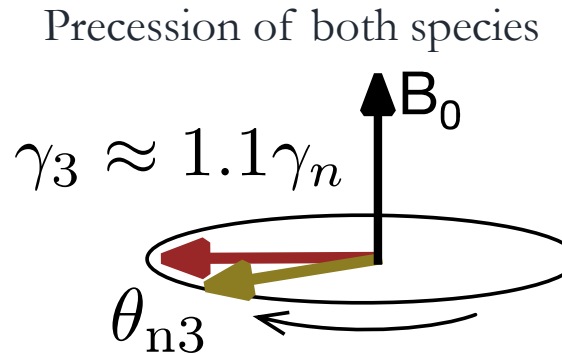
- He-II is UCN source
- ^3He captures neutrons with strong spin-dependence
- He-II acts as a scintillator
- ^3He (95% polarized) used as a co-magnetometer



Extracting the nEDM

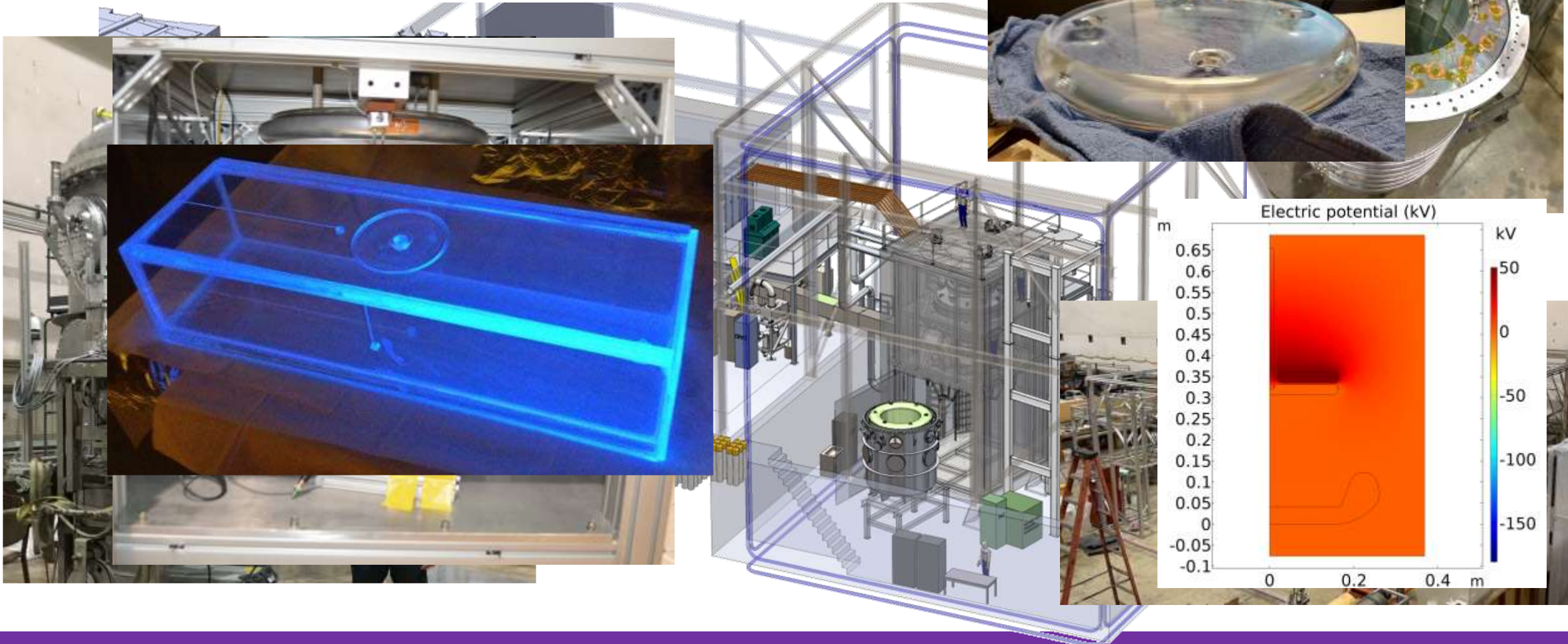
- ^3He capture is strongly spin-dependent
 - 69 kb if spins anti-aligned
 - 11 b if spins aligned
- Time evolution of angle:

$$\theta_{n3} = |\gamma_n - \gamma_3| B_0 t \pm \frac{ed_n |E|}{\hbar} t$$
 - $\cos(\omega_n - \omega_3)$ variation in reaction rate
 - Beat frequency: 9 Hz @ 30 mG
- ^3He as co-magnetometer
 - ^3He shielded by atomic electrons
 - ^3He precession measured directly by SQUID pickup



Expected sensitivity
 $\approx \pm 5 \times 10^{-28} \text{ e.cm}$

nEDM now being constructed



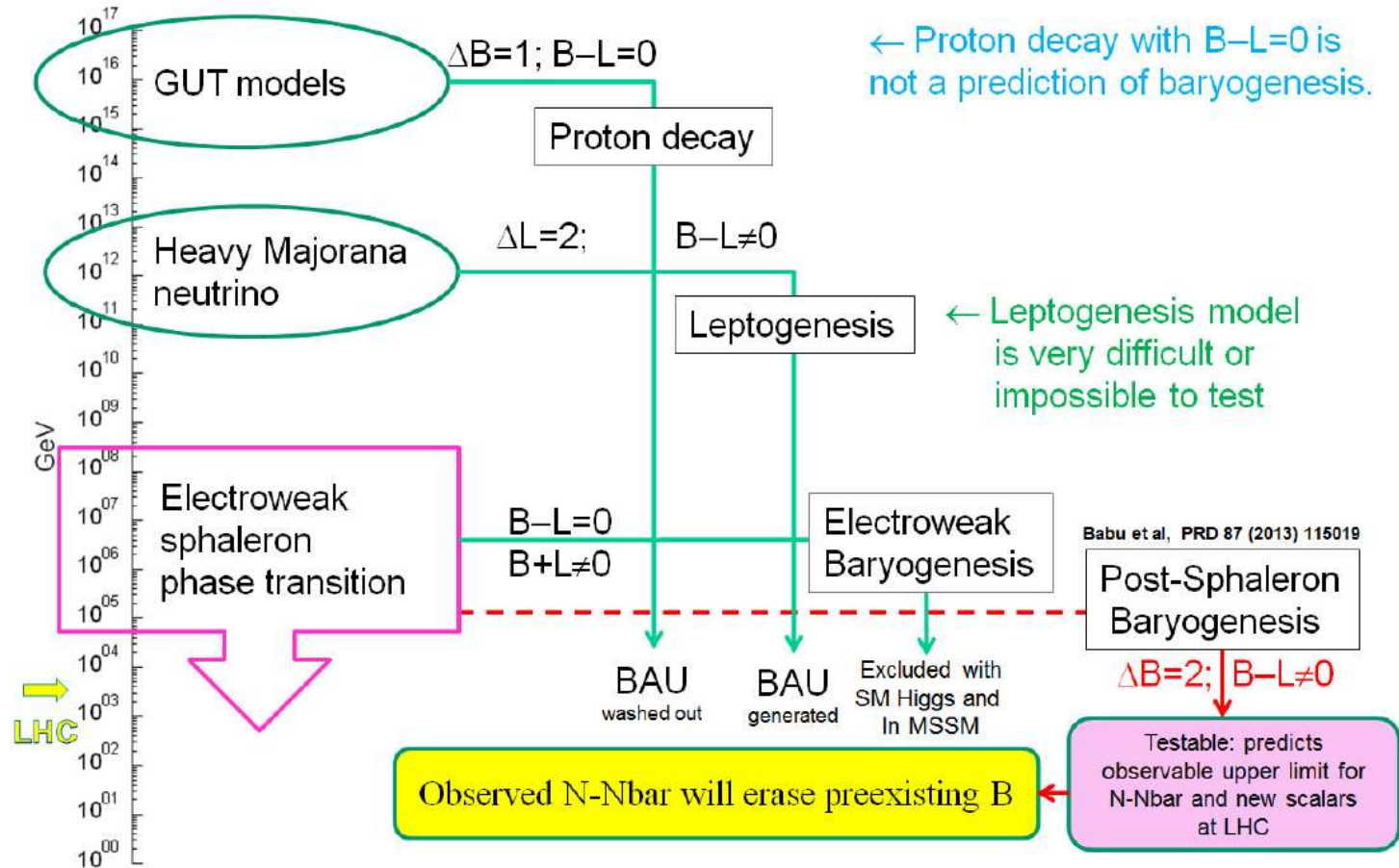
Outline

- P-violation and the weak interaction
- CP-violation and the electric dipole moment
- B-violation and oscillations

Baryon

- BNV per nonperturbative process in phase transition which could be
- Regimes
 - Leptogenesis
 - Lepton Baryogenesis
 - Electroweak sphaleron phase transition
 - Post-sphaleron BNV phase transition

Baryogenesis Models



Positive $n\bar{n}$ result will probe different energy scales.
 Null $n\bar{n}$ result can rule out PSB, a testable model of baryogenesis.

le:

$\Delta B = 1$

$\Delta L = 1$

$\nu = \bar{\nu}$

= 2

Neutron anti-neutron oscillations

$$\hat{H} = \begin{pmatrix} m + \vec{\mu}(\vec{B} \cdot \vec{\sigma}) & \varepsilon \\ \varepsilon & m - \vec{\mu}(\vec{B} \cdot \vec{\sigma}) \end{pmatrix}$$

- Magnetic fields can suppress oscillations:
Mass splitting from any nonzero $B \gg$ off-diagonal term

$$\Delta E = E_n - E_{\bar{n}} = 2\mu B$$

$$\Delta E(1 \text{ nT}) \sim 10^{-22} \text{ MeV} \quad \varepsilon < 10^{-29} \text{ MeV}$$

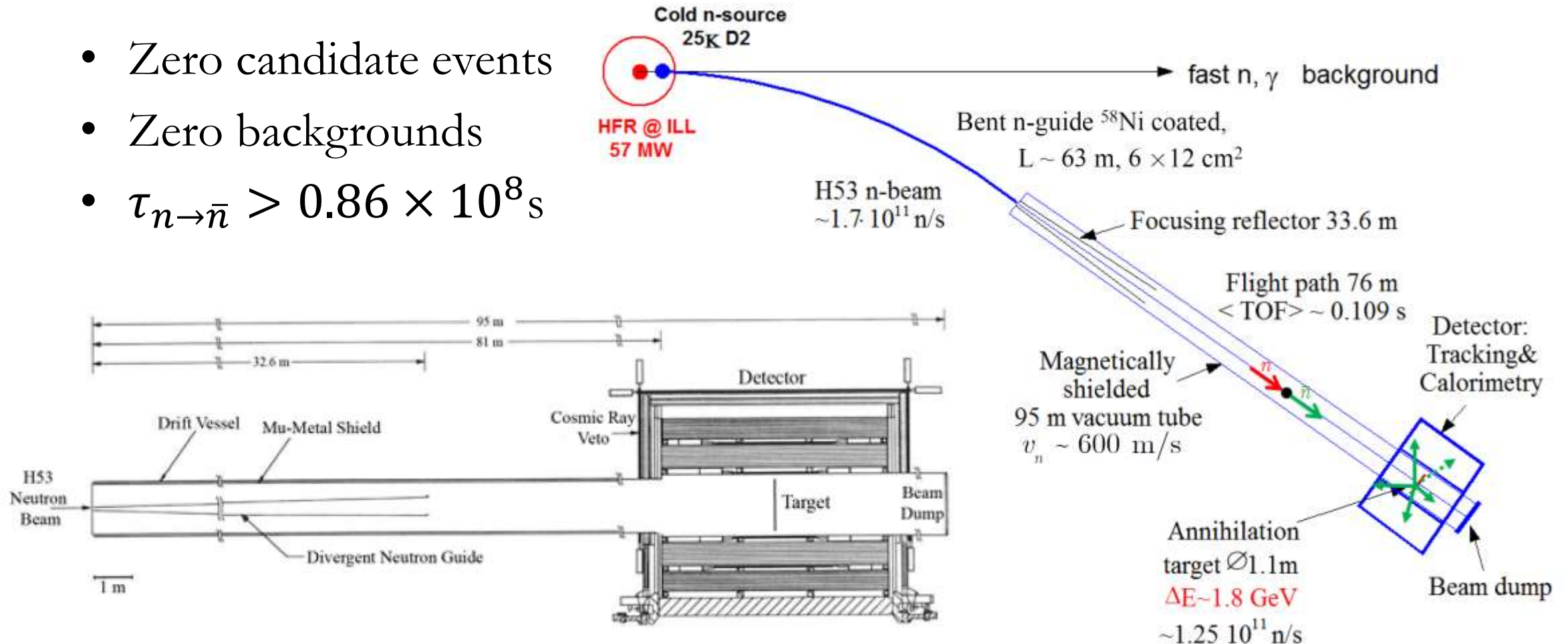
- Need “Quasi-free limit”: Uncertainty principle = $\Delta E \Delta t \ll \hbar$

- ILL: neutron TOF $\sim 0.1 \text{ s}$, $B \sim 10 \text{ nT}$

- In this limit $P_{n \rightarrow \bar{n}}(t) = \left(\frac{t_{free}}{\tau_{n \rightarrow \bar{n}}} \right)^2$

Free $n \rightarrow \bar{n}$ Search at ILL

- Zero candidate events
- Zero backgrounds
- $\tau_{n \rightarrow \bar{n}} > 0.86 \times 10^8 \text{ s}$



Baldo-Ceolin et al, ZPC 63 409-416 (1994)

Improving limits on $n \rightarrow \bar{n}$: European Spallation Source

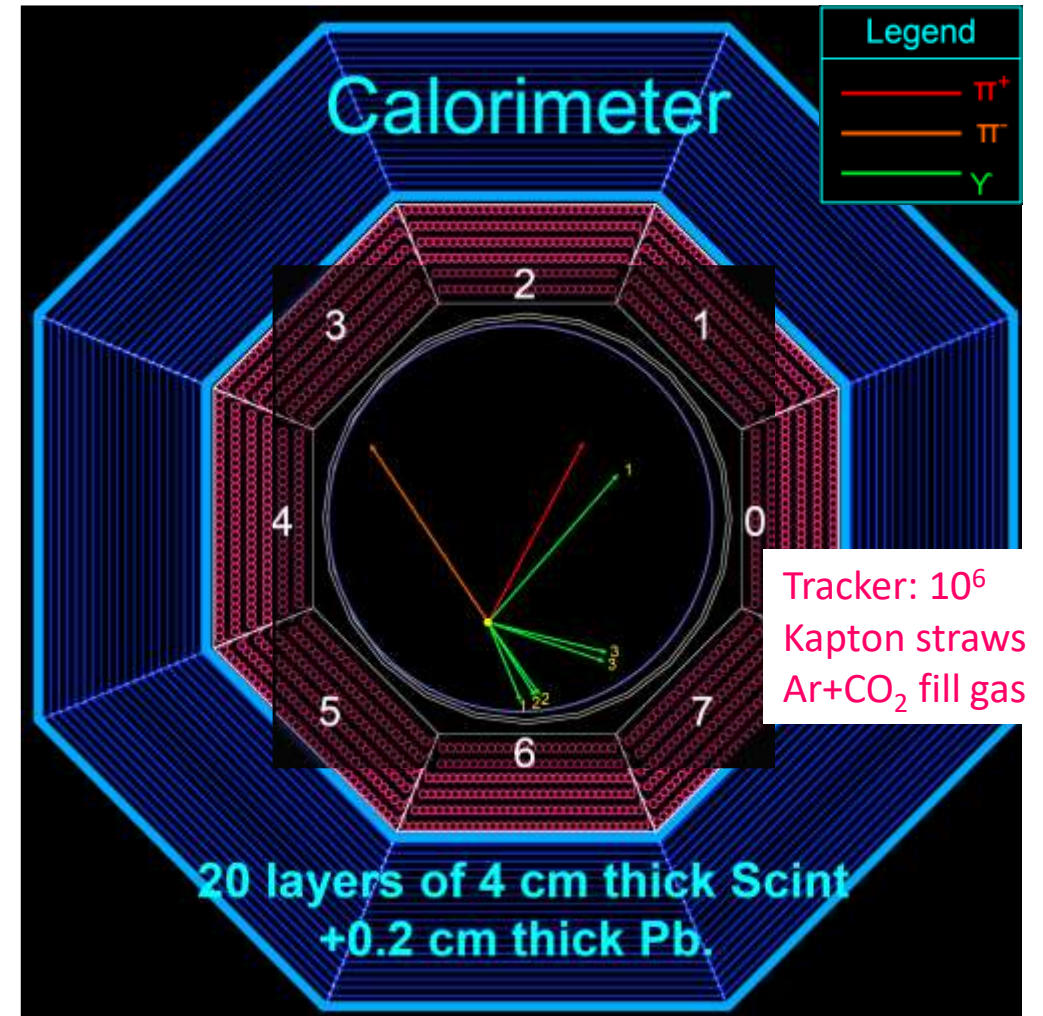
- Similar time-averaged brightness to ILL
 - Pulsed = bkgd rejection
- >200 m beamguides possible
- Moderator, neutron optics, detector design study
 - ~1000x ILL possible



Moderator configuration	Sensitivity Nt^2 in ILL units/yr
ESS TDR 2013	250
Option of large LD_2 source	550
Flat "pancake" with $h = 3$ cm	200
ANNI with BF1 Source	0.8

\bar{n} annihilation detection

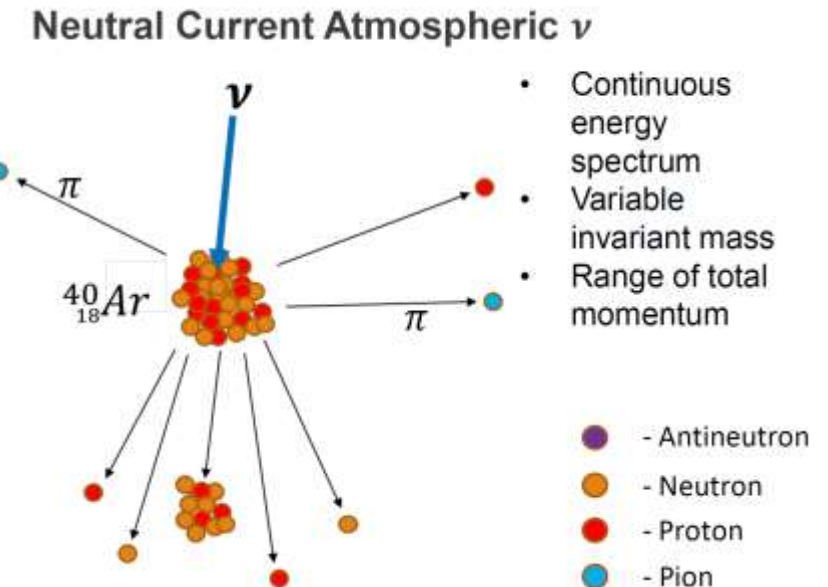
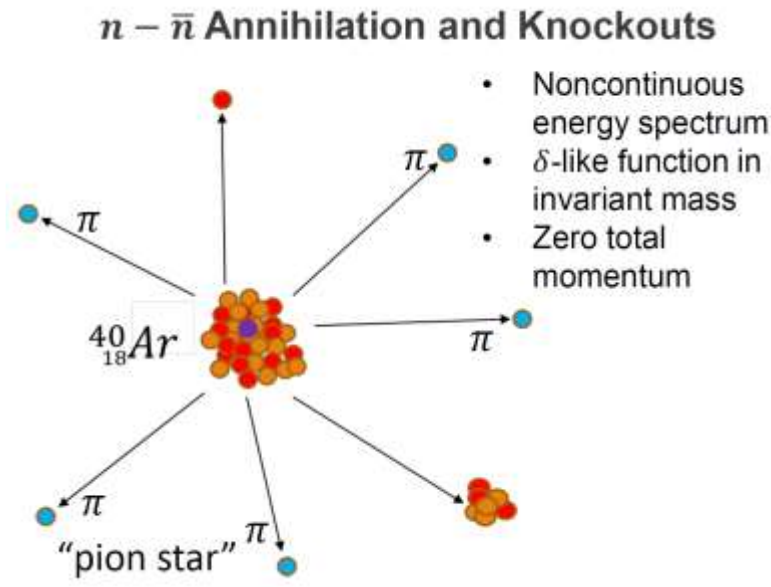
- Maintain “background free”, improve efficiency
- Example “pion star”
$$\bar{n} + {}^{12}\text{C} \rightarrow {}^{11}\text{C} + 3\pi^0 + \pi^+ + \pi^-$$
- Goal background suppression $< 10^{-8}$ Hz
- Key backgrounds:
 - Gamma backgrounds
 - Neutron capture
 - High energy n,p
 - Beta delayed n
 - Cosmic rays
 - Dominant, scales with size



Detector study by A.R. Young, R.W. Pattie Jr, D.G. Phillips II

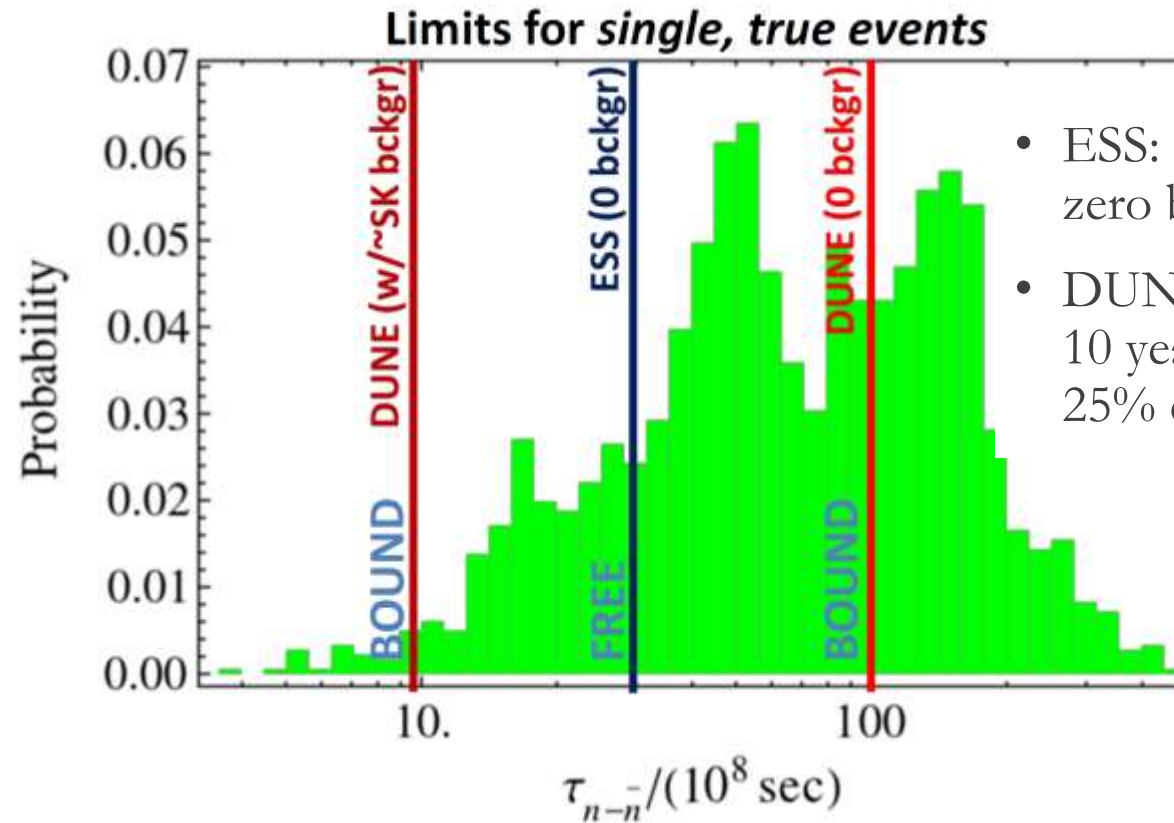
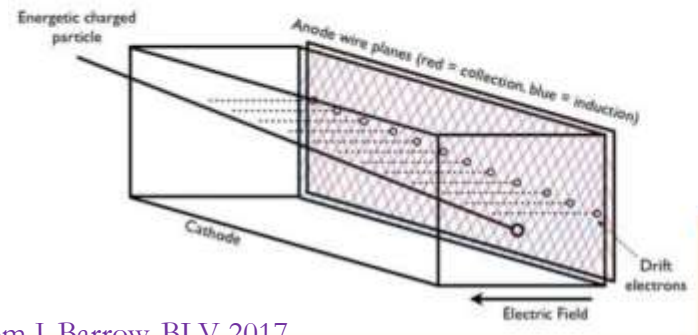
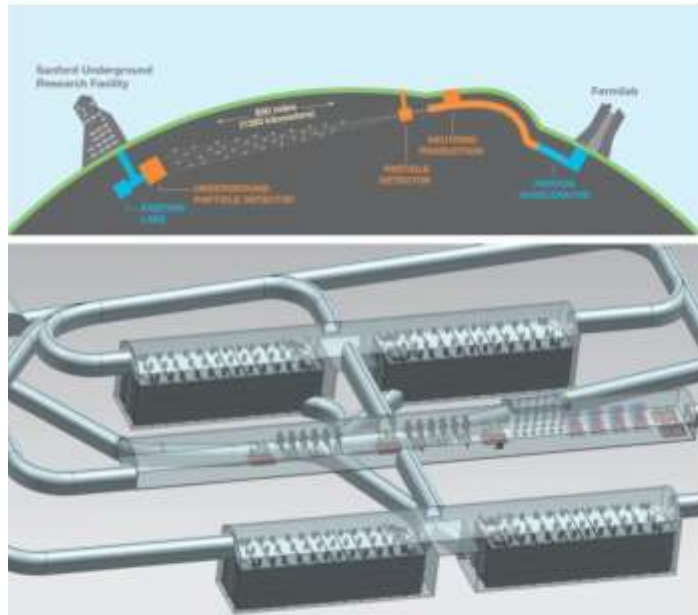
$n \rightarrow \bar{n}$ in Nuclei

- n, \bar{n} have different interactions in nuclei \rightarrow intranuclear searches: suppression factor $R \sim 5 \times 10^{22} \text{ s}^{-1}$ (for ^{16}O)
- Distinguish \bar{n} signal from ν_{atm} background
- Best limits from SuperKamiokande: $\tau_{n \rightarrow \bar{n}} > 2.7 \times 10^8 \text{ s}$



24 candidates, 24.1 expected backgrounds

The Deep Underground Neutrino Experiment and Proposed $n-\bar{n}$ Search



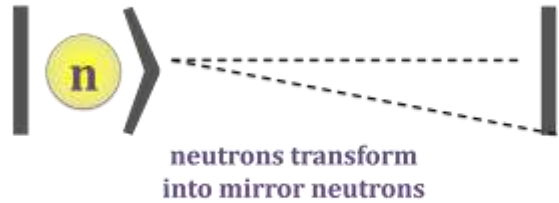
Mirror neutron oscillations

- “Mirror matter”: hidden sector dark matter candidate
- Multiple Baryon Numbers, with overall conservation of $B_{\text{tot}} = B + B'$
- Experimental signature: oscillation into invisible “mirror neutrons”
 - All previous searches performed in ultracold neutron bottle experiments
- Various mechanisms to induce oscillations, using magnetic fields
 - some suggested to explain the neutron lifetime discrepancy
 - can consider mixing with antineutrons

$$\mathcal{H}_{int} = \begin{pmatrix} m + \mu\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{B} & \eta\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot [\mathbf{B} \pm \mathbf{B}'] + \varepsilon \\ \eta\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot [\mathbf{B} \pm \mathbf{B}'] + \varepsilon & m' + \mu'\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{B}' \end{pmatrix}$$

Cold $n \rightarrow n'$ searches

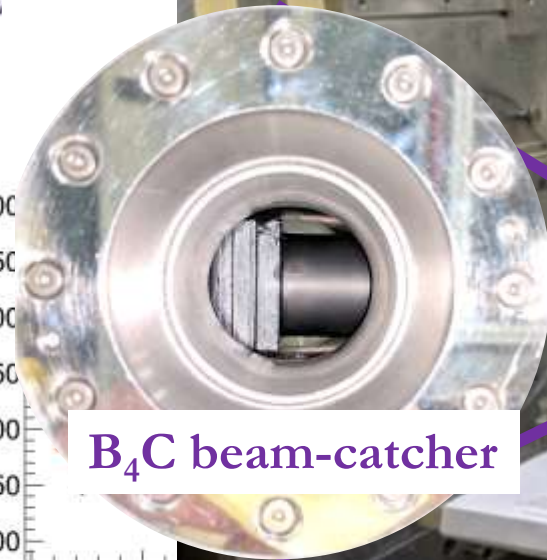
GP-SANS at HFIR



- Add B field control and high suppression “wall” to GP-SANS
- First small scale experiment this summer at SNS

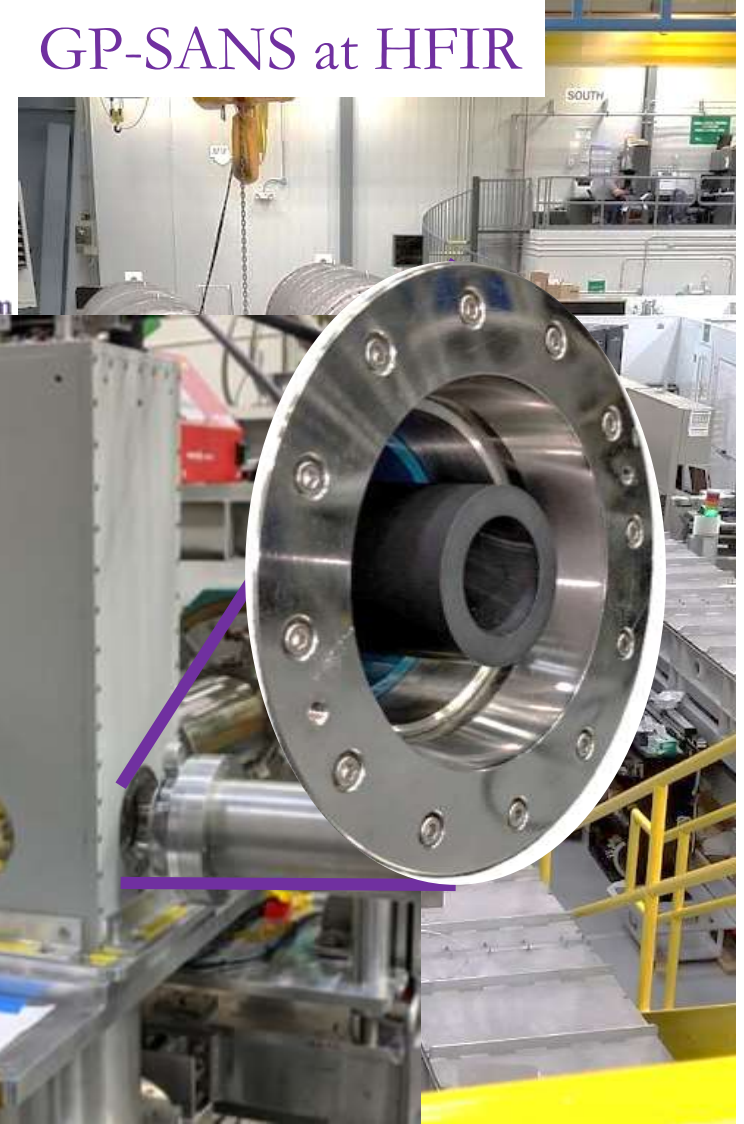
$P(n)$

Events per Run



B Field of Run (mG)

mirror neutrons transform



Summary

- Tremendous opportunity to search for influence of new physics using low energy precision tests of fundamental symmetries
- Violation of CKM unitarity by 3σ demands new precision measurements using independent approaches
 - New precision neutron measurements on the horizon including Nab at SNS
- Matter asymmetry in universe remains one of the most important questions in science
 - Electric dipole moment searches such as nEDM at SNS will probe interesting parameter space for theories predicting CP-violation
 - Observation of neutron oscillations would demonstrate baryon number violating process
- Lots of exciting developments in neutrons and nuclei.... stay tuned!