

# **Beyond standard model particle physics with neutrinos and neutrino telescopes**

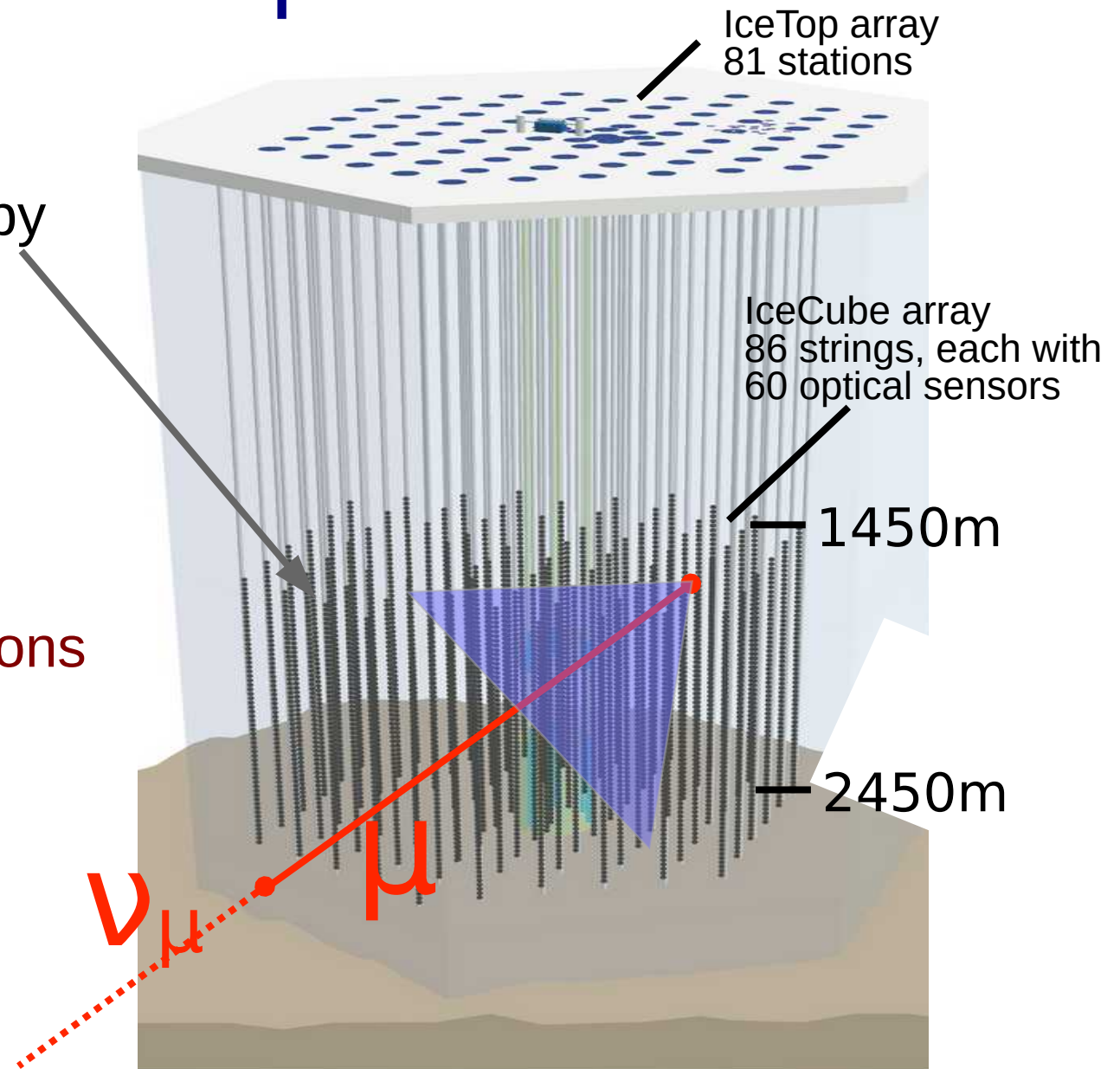
**Klaus Helbing**



**BERGISCHE  
UNIVERSITÄT  
WUPPERTAL**

# Primary working principle of Neutrino Telescopes

- Particles interact with the deep clear ice
- Emitted light is detected by sensors
  - Cherenkov Light
  - Bremsstrahlung
  - Pair production
  - Photonuclear interactions
  - Luminescence

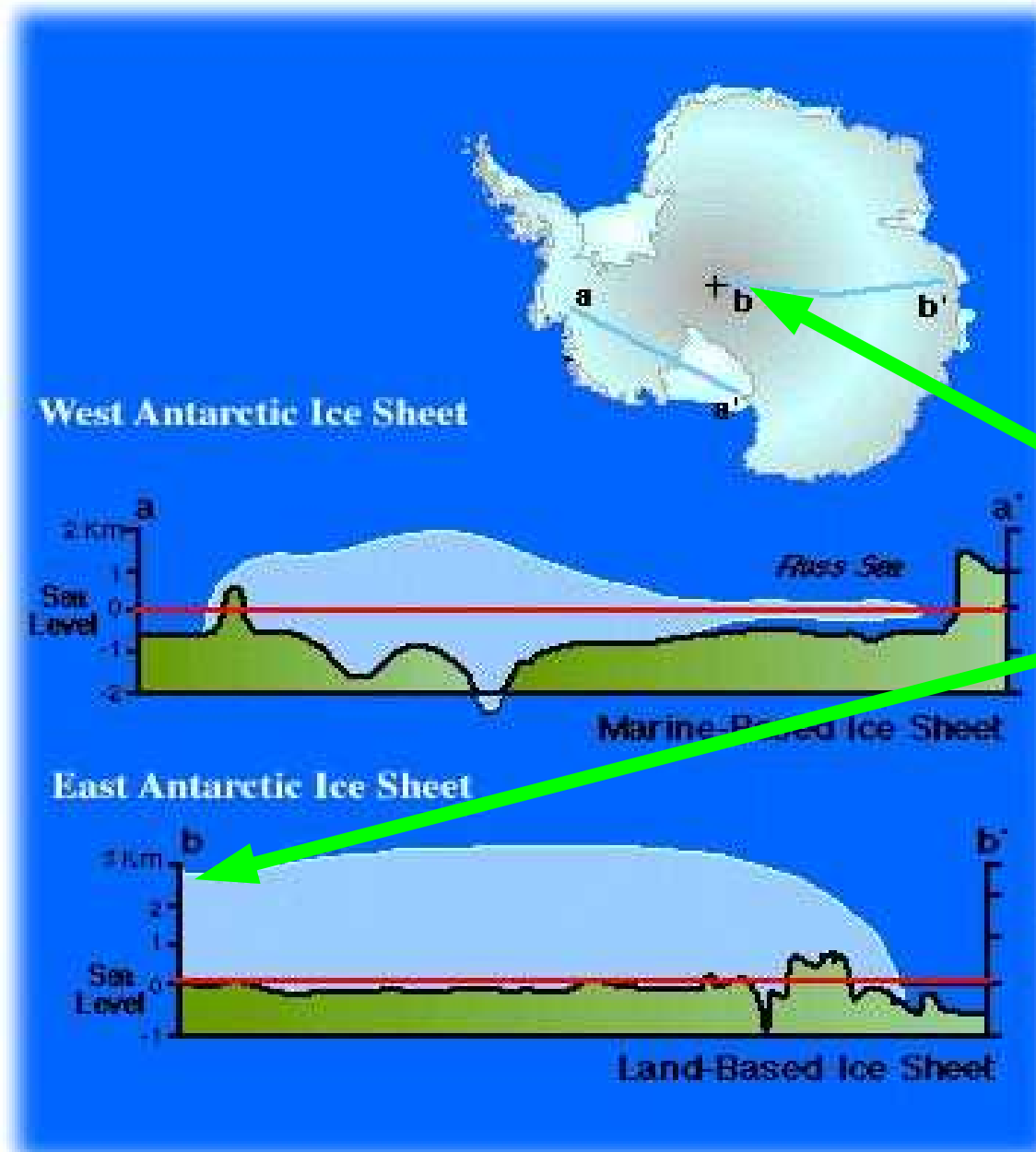


# Neutrino Telescope Sites



Deep natural sites with water or ice

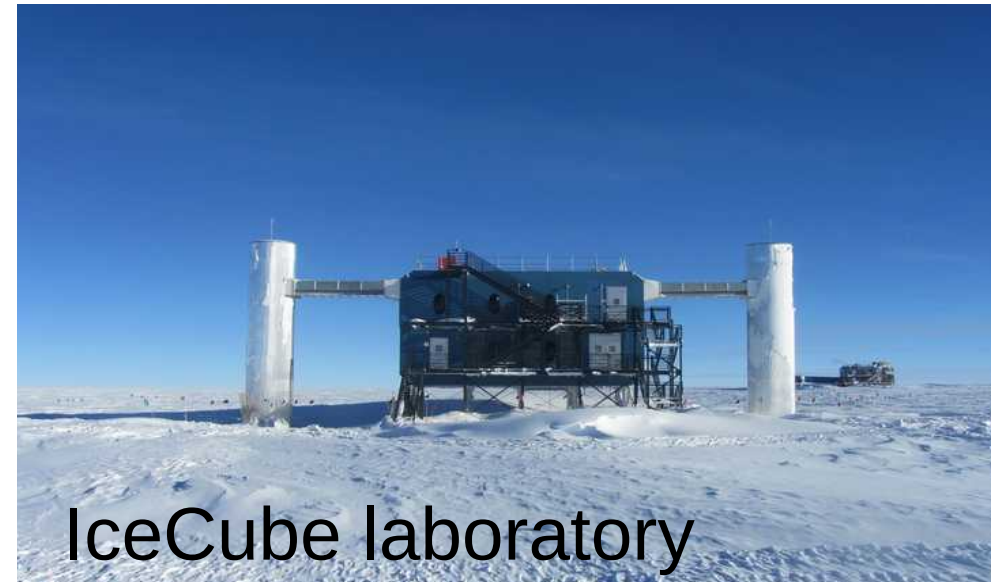
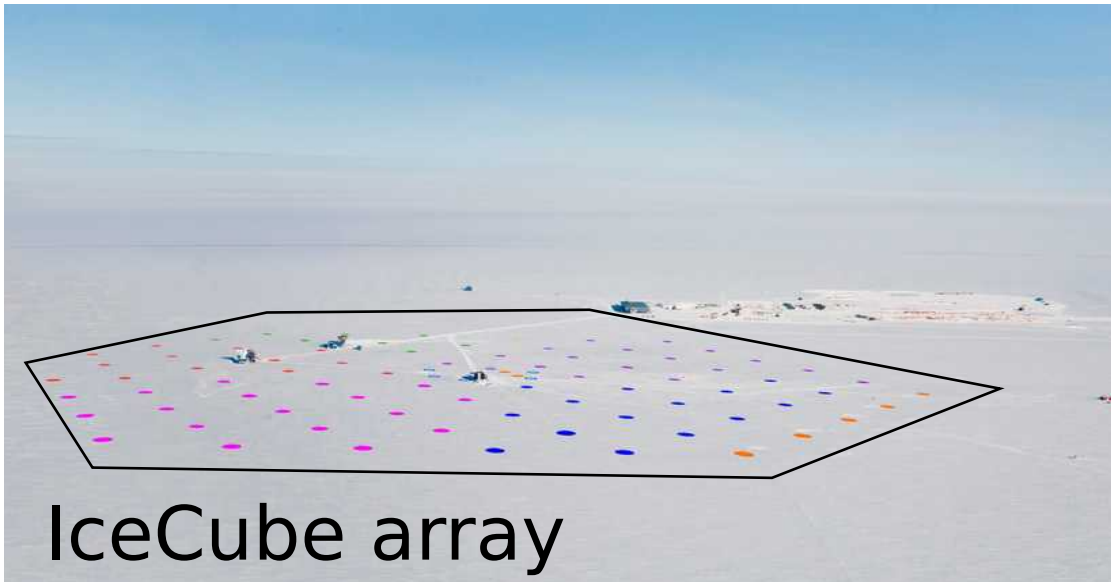
# South Pole ice



South Pole

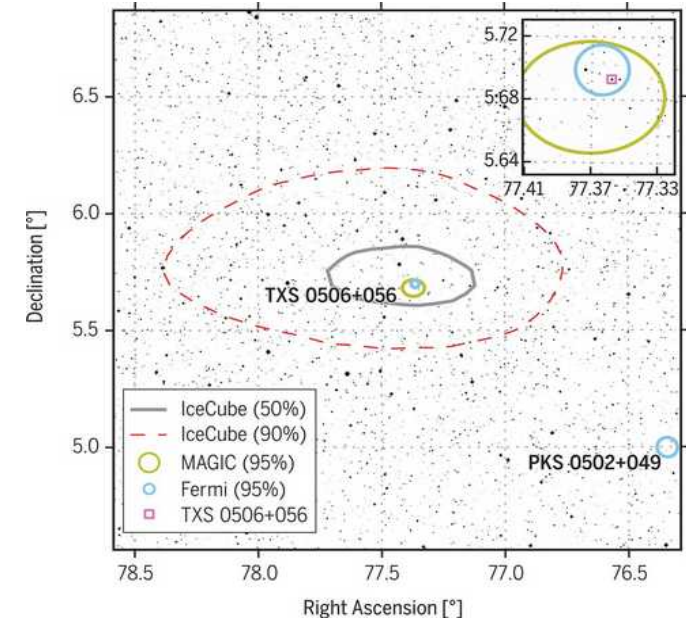
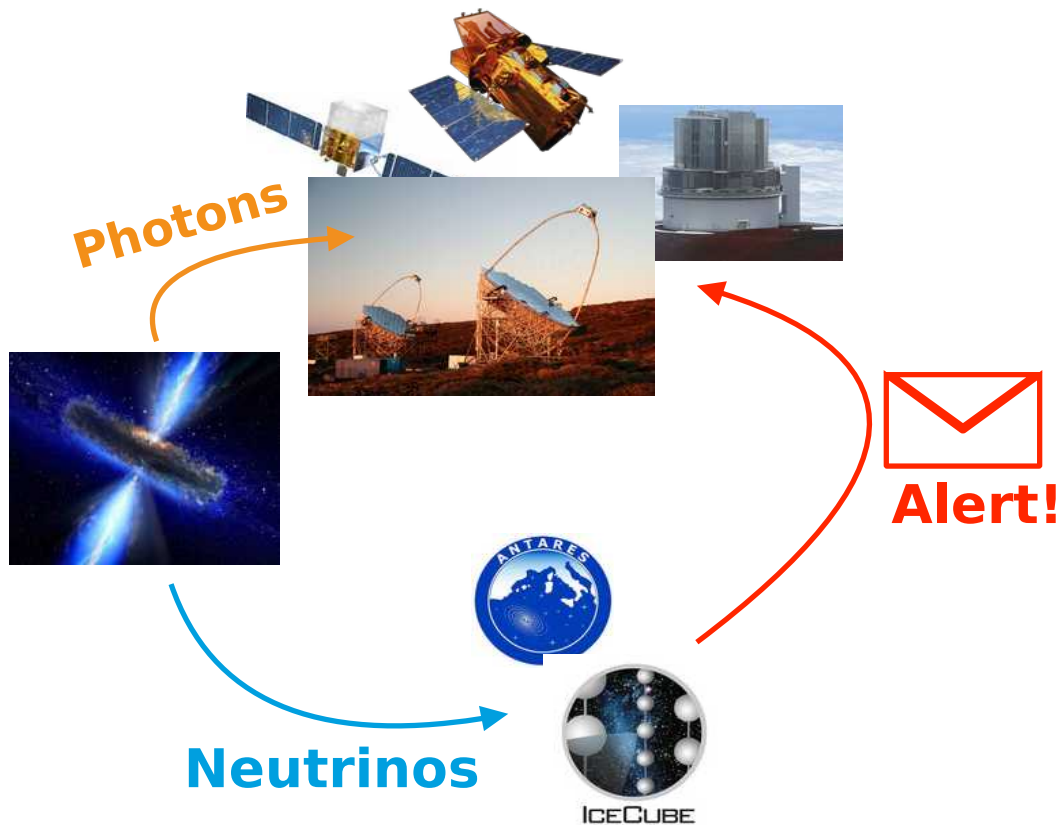


# IceCube Neutrino Observatory



# First evidence for a neutrino source!

## Real-time alerts



3 $\sigma$  correlation of  
IC-170922A (~300 TeV)  
with the flaring blazar  
TXS 0506+056

# This is not what this talk is about ...

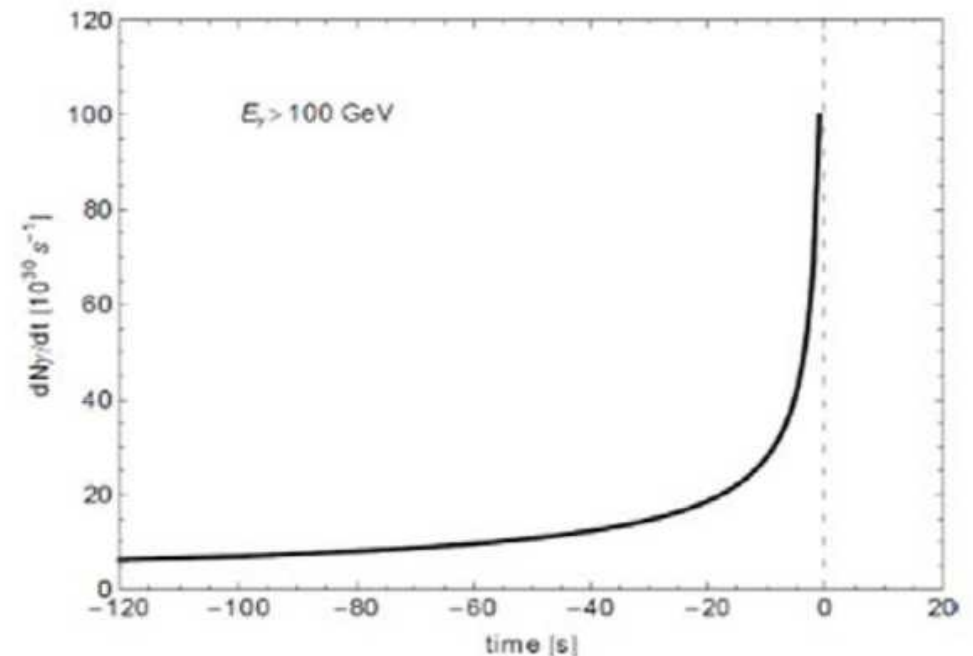
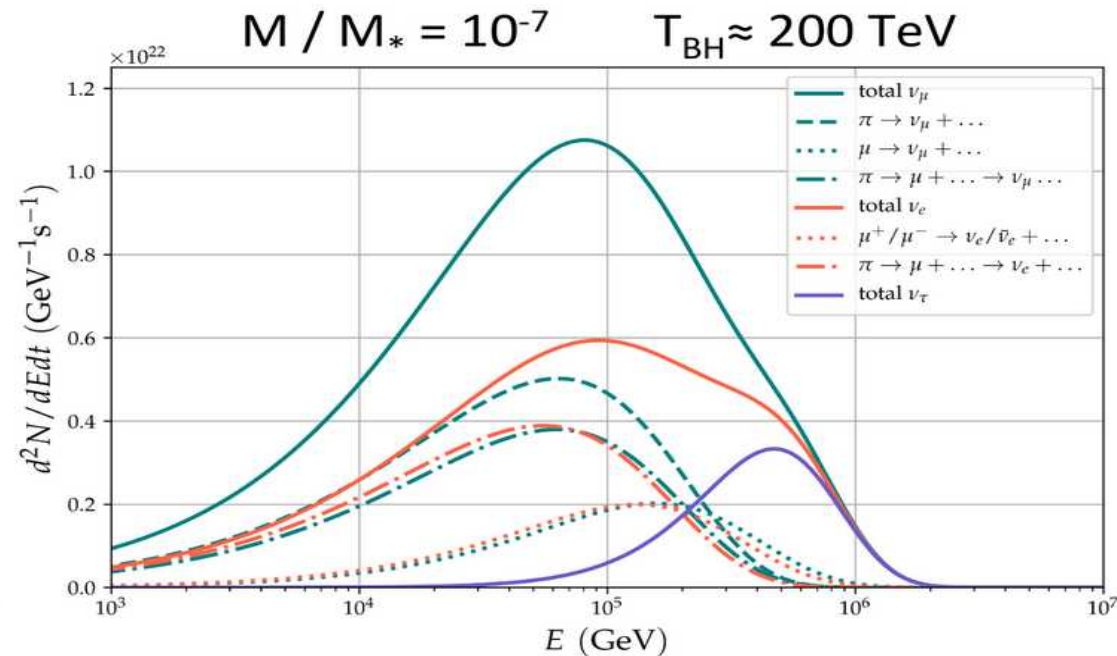
... but signatures of BSM physics

- In IceCube
  - black hole evaporation
  - Magnetic Monopoles
  - Q-Balls, Nuclearites
  - Fractional charges
- In KATRIN
  - Direct neutrino mass
  - Relic neutrinos
  - LIV
- and – **Deexcitation of Rydberg atoms**

*... sorry, need to skip over oscillations  
more by Markus Ackermann tomorrow*

# Evaporating primordial black holes as flaring point sources

Today might be the ideal cosmological epoch



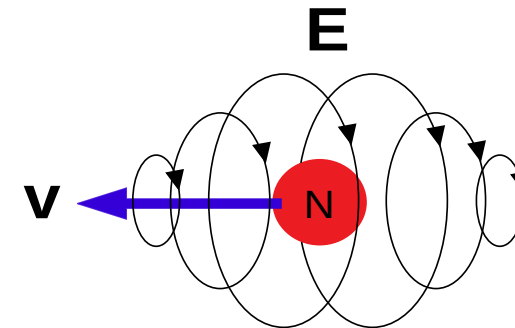
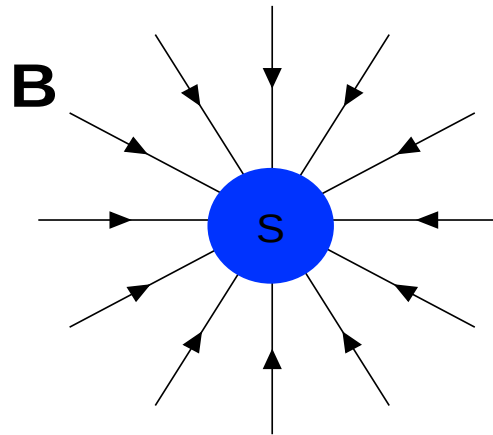
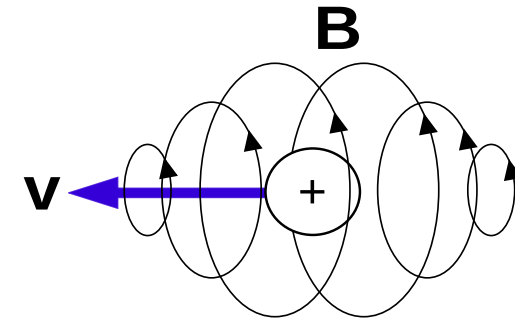
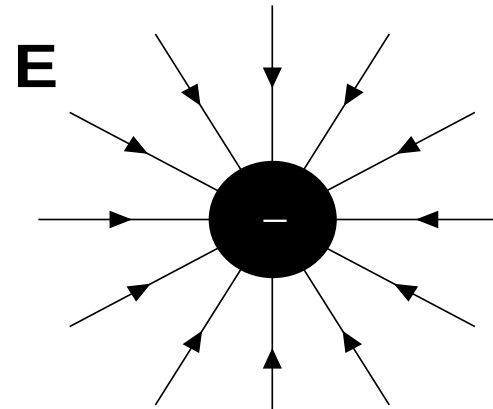
**Signature:**  
Hawking radiation of neutrinos  
→ chirp with increasing energy

Interested? Join us!



# Symmetric Maxwell equations – classical field theory

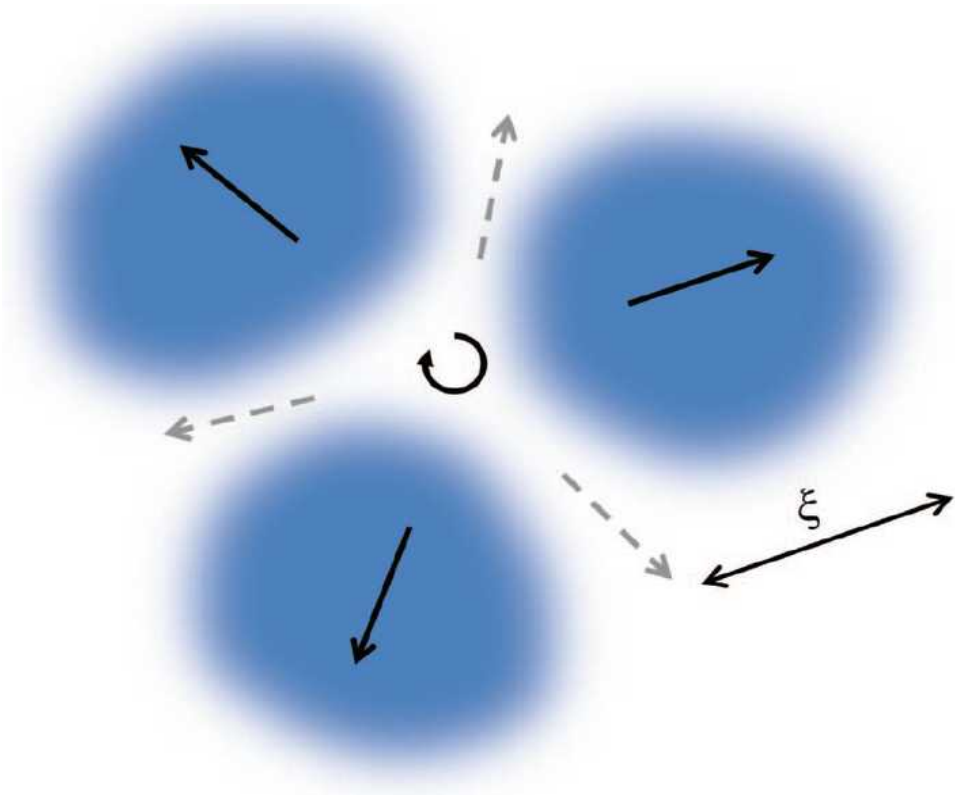
$$\begin{aligned}\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} &= \rho_E \\ \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} &= \rho_M \\ \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} &= -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} - \vec{j}_M \\ \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B} &= \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} + \vec{j}_E\end{aligned}$$



vector potential  $\vec{A}$  :  $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A} = \vec{B}$

# Cosmic Monopoles

- Hot big bang:  
GUT symmetry breaks in a phase transition
- Higgs field chooses direction randomly but monotonous within interaction horizon.
- Kibble: Monopoles form at least one per horizon volume  
→ “Monopole Problem”
- Inflationary phase of the Universe

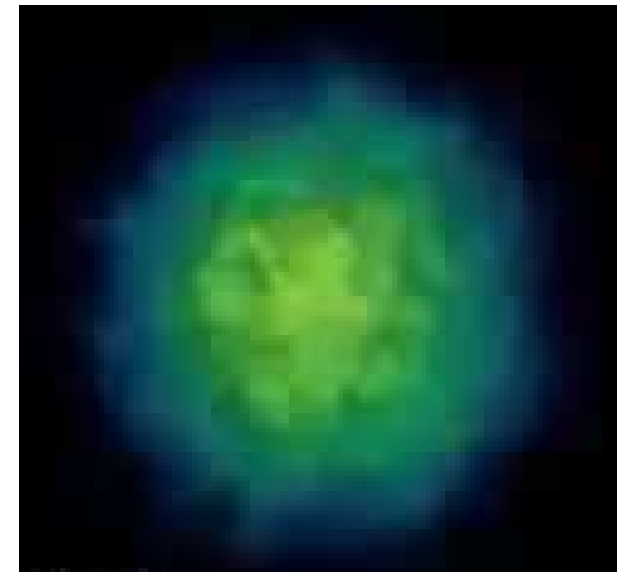
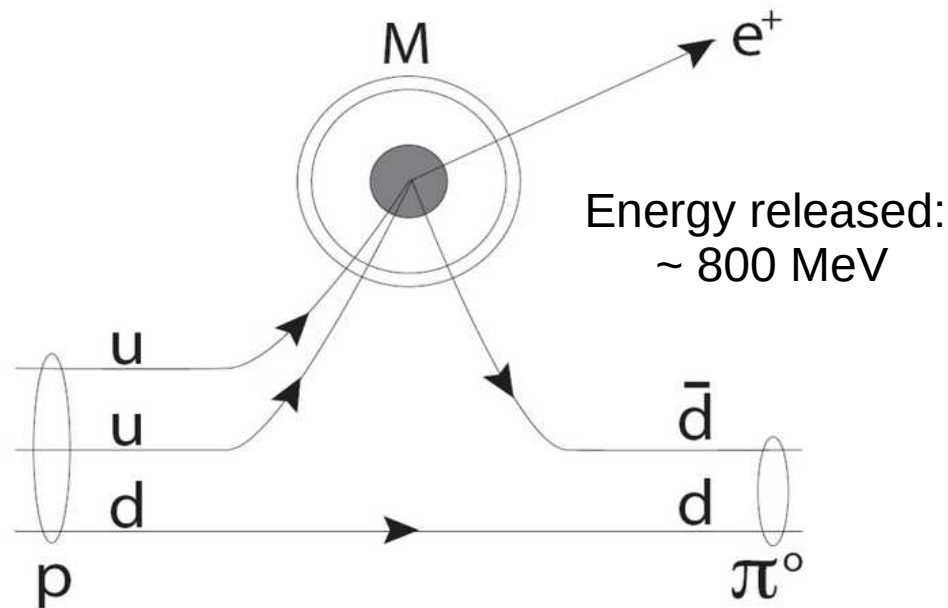
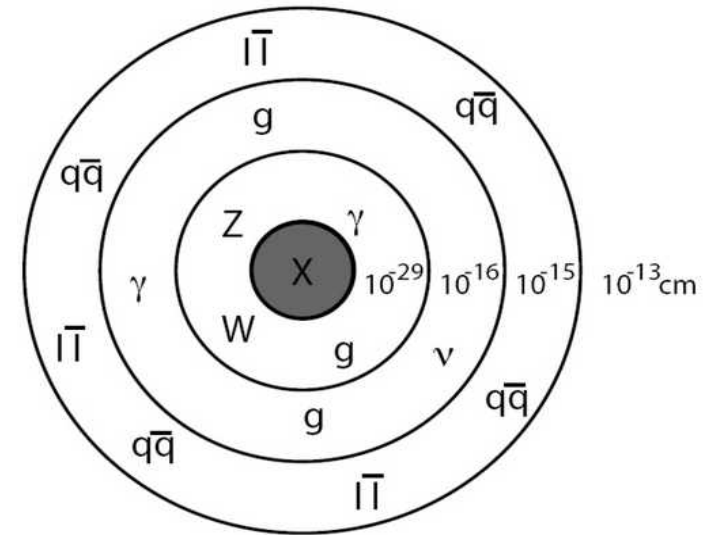


$$\rho_{mon}^{\#} \simeq 10^{-13} \text{ m}^{-3}$$

$$\rho_{mon} \simeq 10^{+4} \text{ GeV m}^{-3}$$

# GUT Monopoles

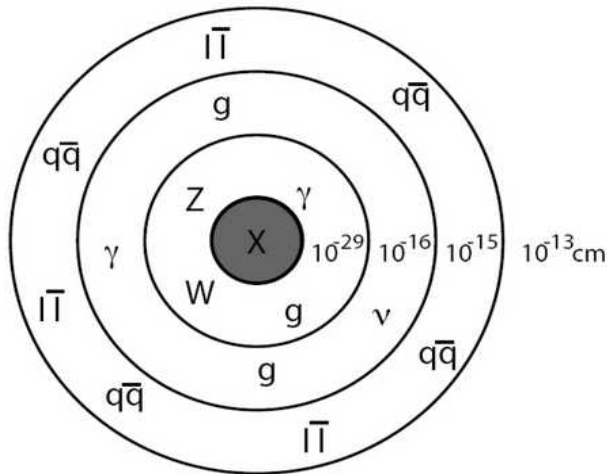
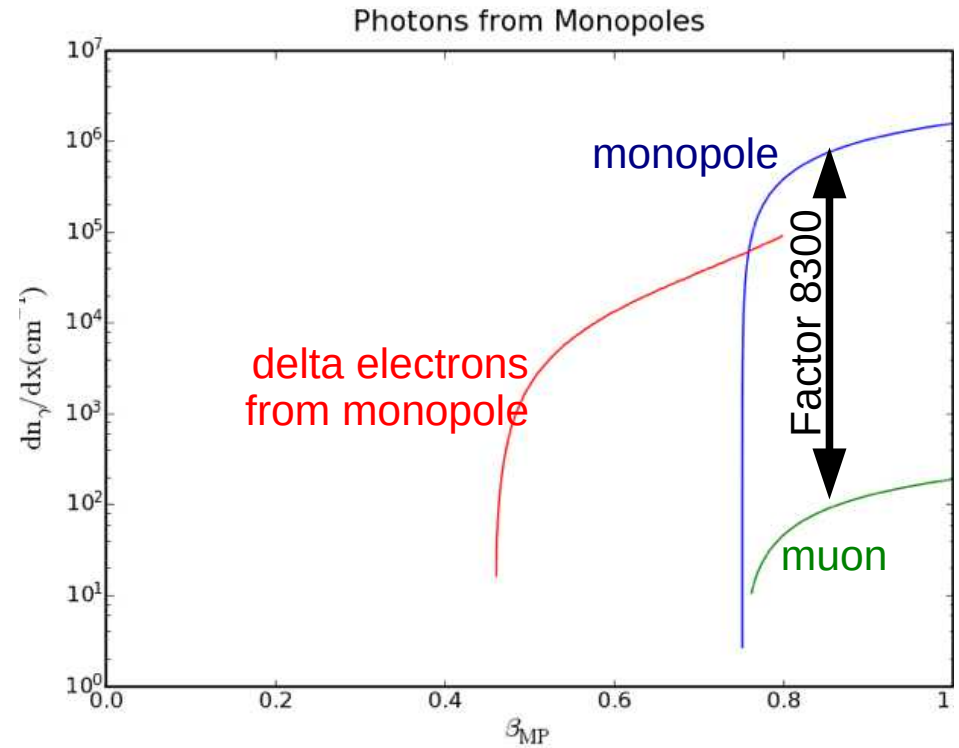
- Generic predictions of GUTs
- Mass typically  $10^{17}$  GeV
- May catalyze proton decay



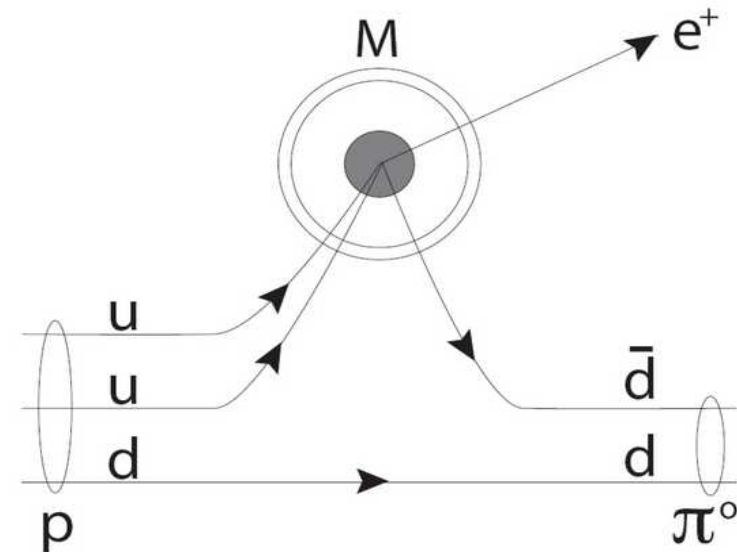
Lattice field theory simulation (A. Rajantie)

# Detection of monopoles

- Charge:  
 $g \approx N \cdot 68.5 e$
- Mass:  
 $m = 10^4 - 10^{17} \text{ GeV}$
- Kinetic energy:  
 $T = 10^9 - 10^{16} \text{ GeV}$
- Cherenkov light:  
 $N_\gamma \propto (g \cdot n / e)^2$   
 $\propto 8300 N_\gamma(\mu)$

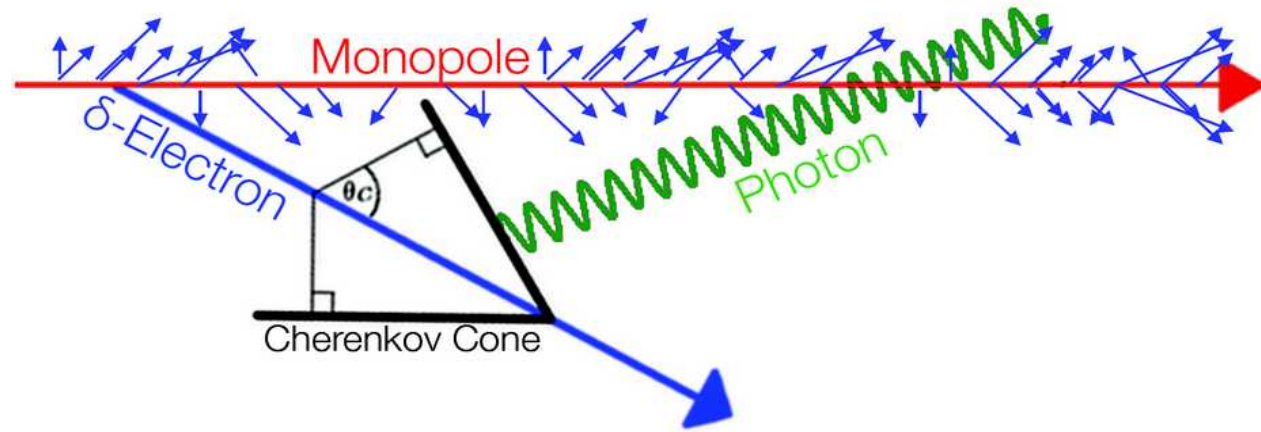


GUT monopole:  
Onion like structure  
containing the whole  
world of GUT  
→ nucleon decay catalysis



# Monopole detection techniques

Cherenkov light



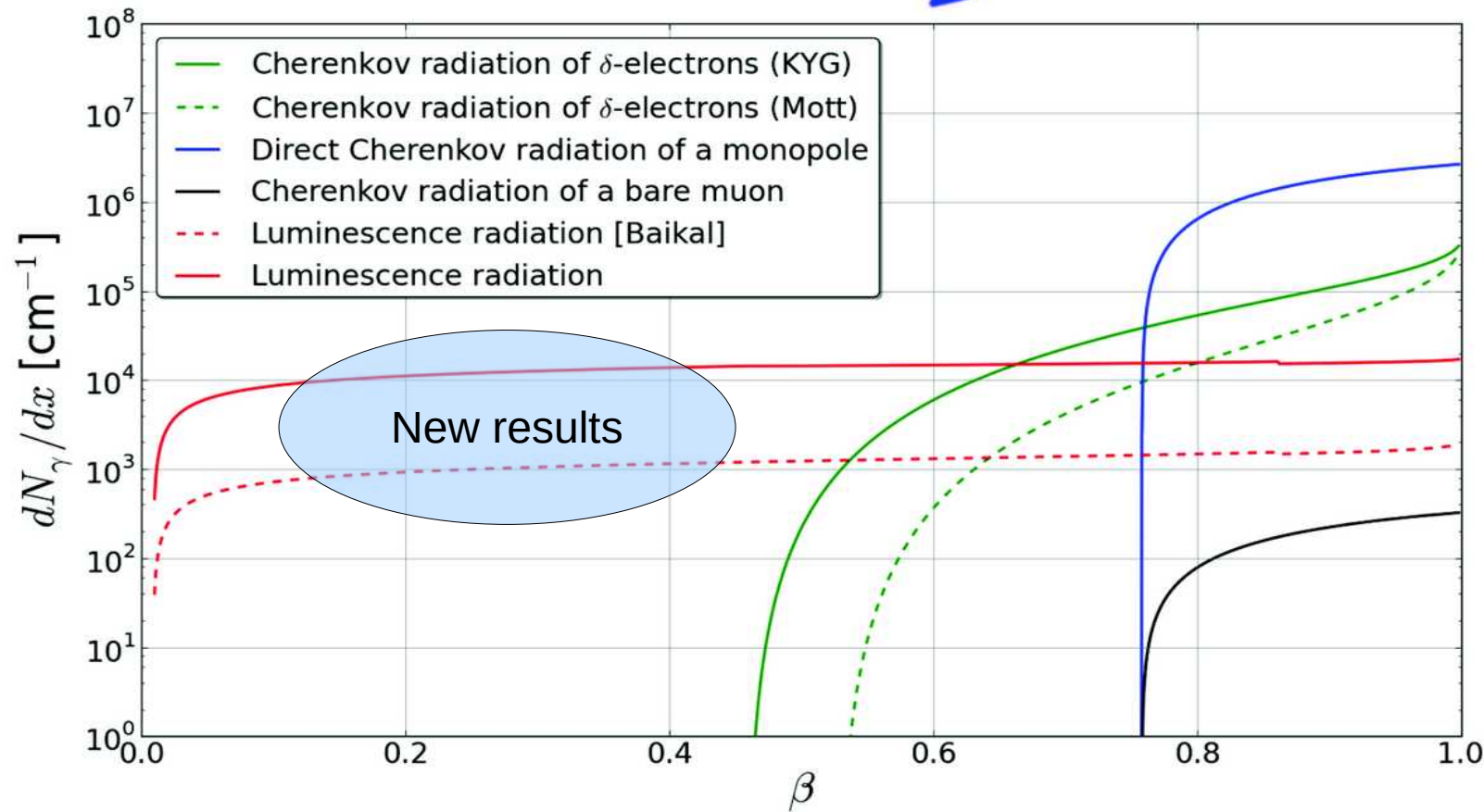
$\beta > 0.76$ : direct  
Cherenkov light:

$$N_\gamma \propto (g \cdot n / e)^2 \propto 8300 N_\gamma(\mu)$$

... i.e. dead simple

Monopoles with  $\beta > 0.5$ :  
indirect Cherenkov

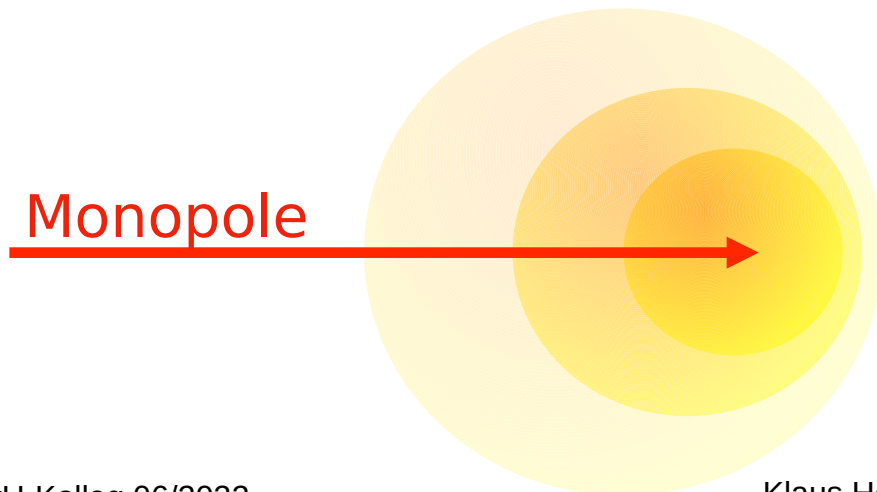
Monopoles with  $\beta < 0.5$ :  
– Nucleon decay catalysis  
– **Radio-luminescence**



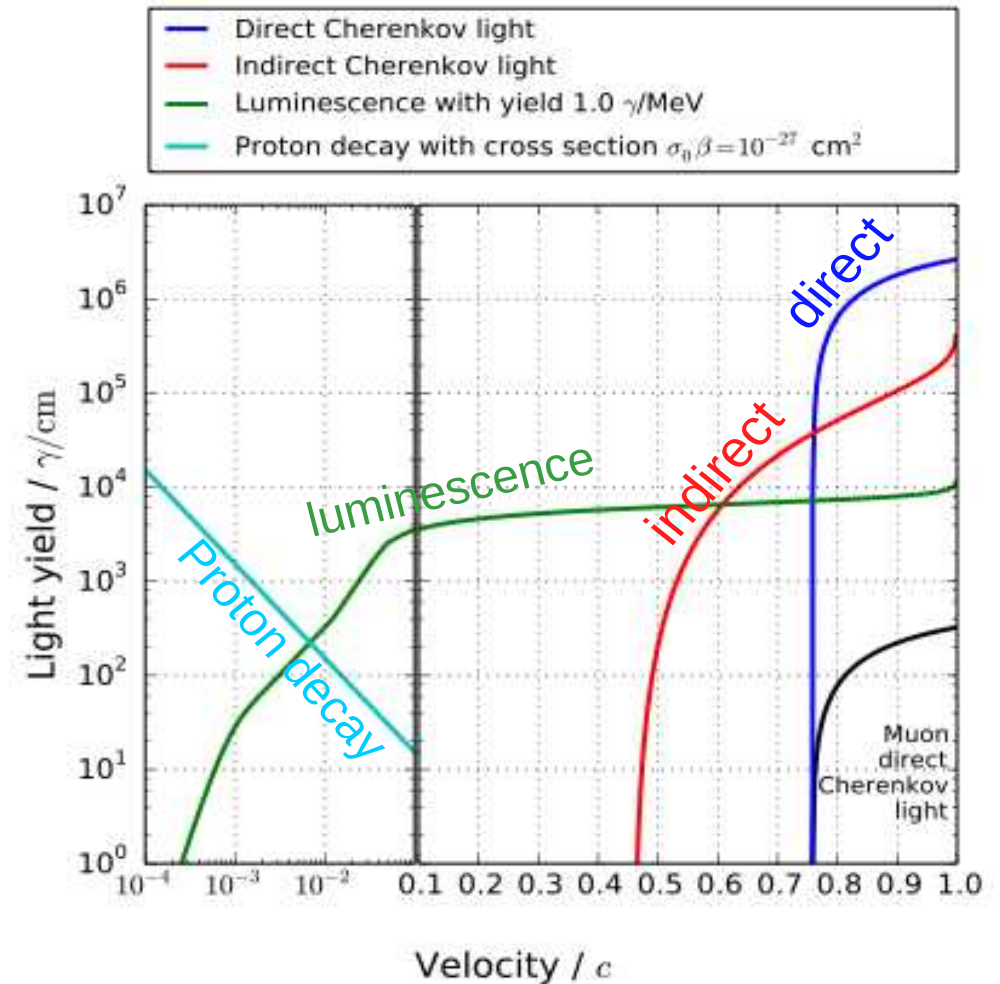


# Radio-Luminescence

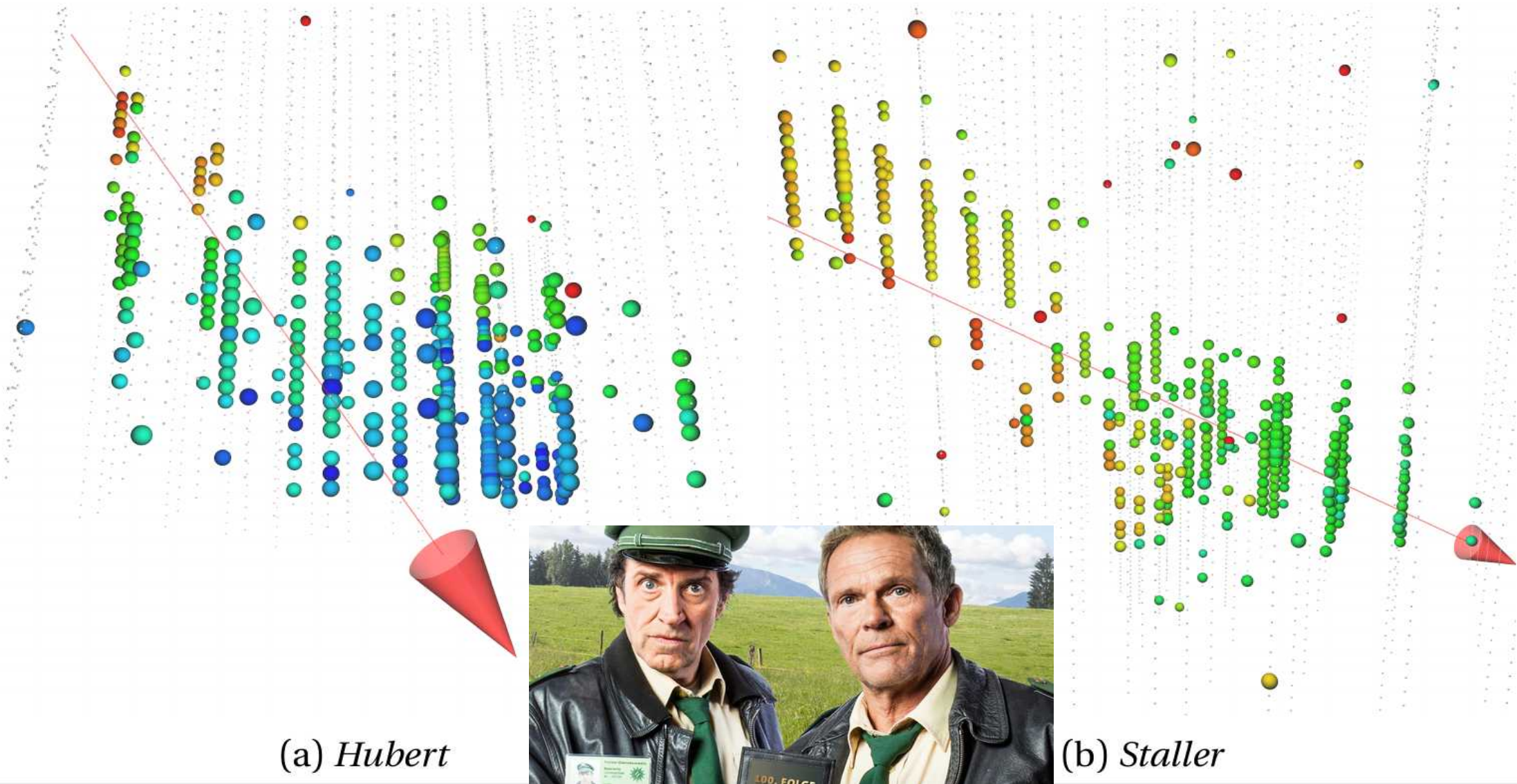
- highly ionizing, multiply charged particle
- excites surrounding matter
- photon release at relaxation ... basically very slow scintillation



## Monopole light yield

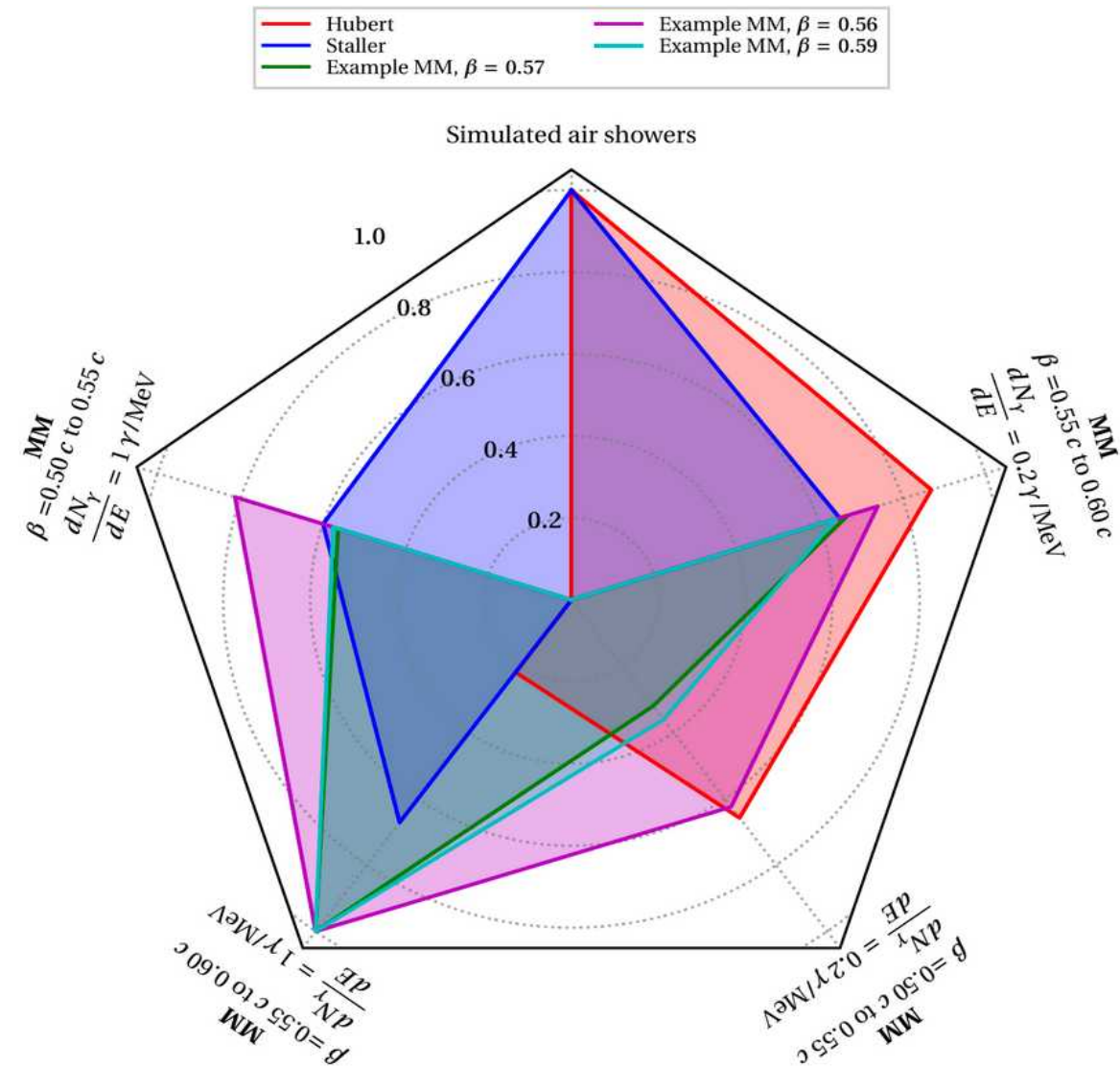


# 2 remaining events in the box



Name	Velocity / $c$	Azimuth / $^\circ$	Zenith / $^\circ$	Date
Hubert	$0.564 \pm 0.009$	$38 \pm 6$	$38 \pm 1$	September 19, 2013
Staller	$0.54 \pm 0.01$	$246 \pm 5$	$62 \pm 1$	March 14, 2018

# Event Origin

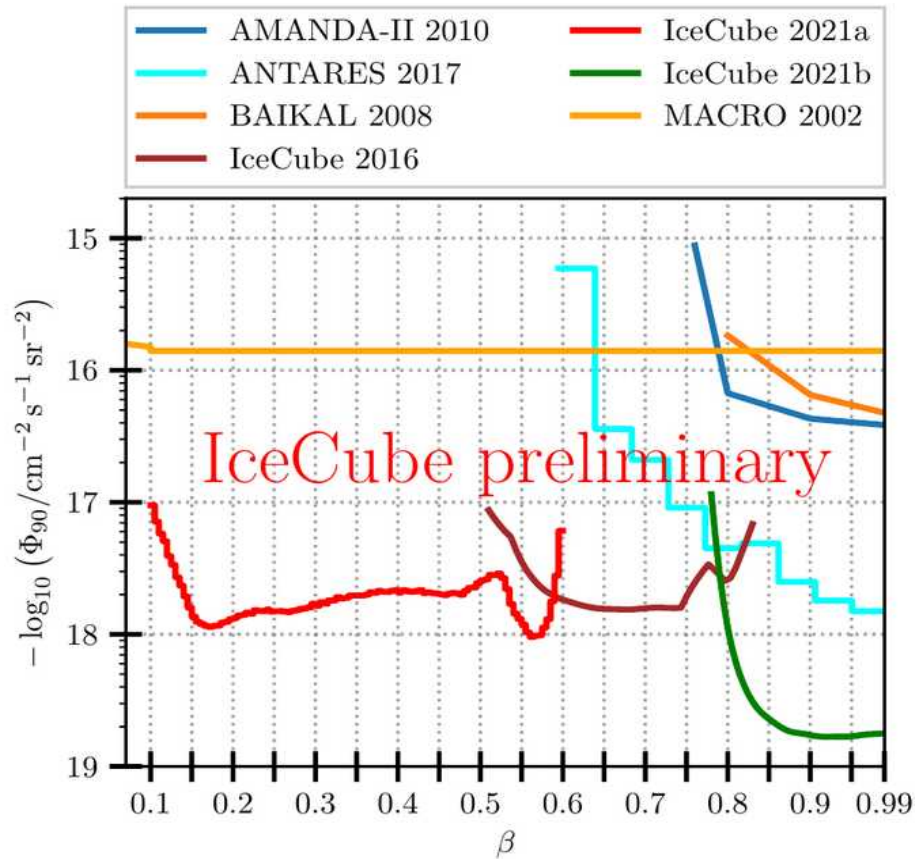


- Corners: probability from KDEs (kernel density estimator)
- Hubert & Staller slightly more compatible with air shower origin
- Treated as background

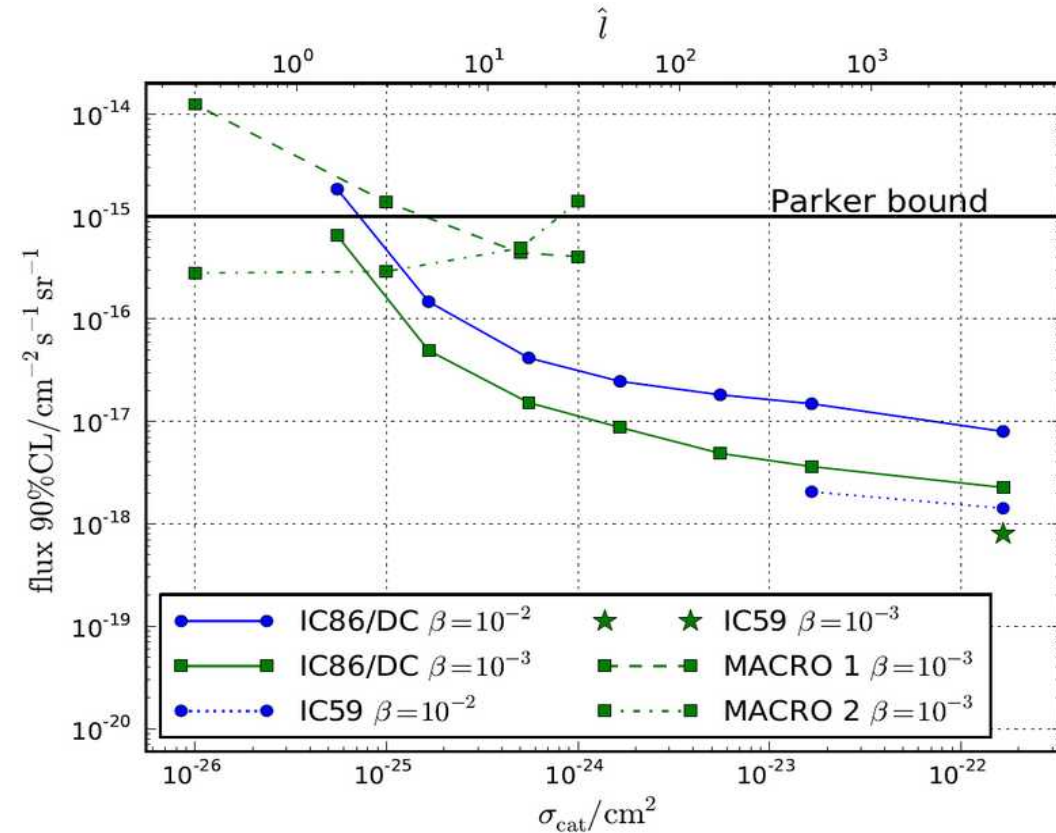


# Monopole limits

Mildly and highly relativistic



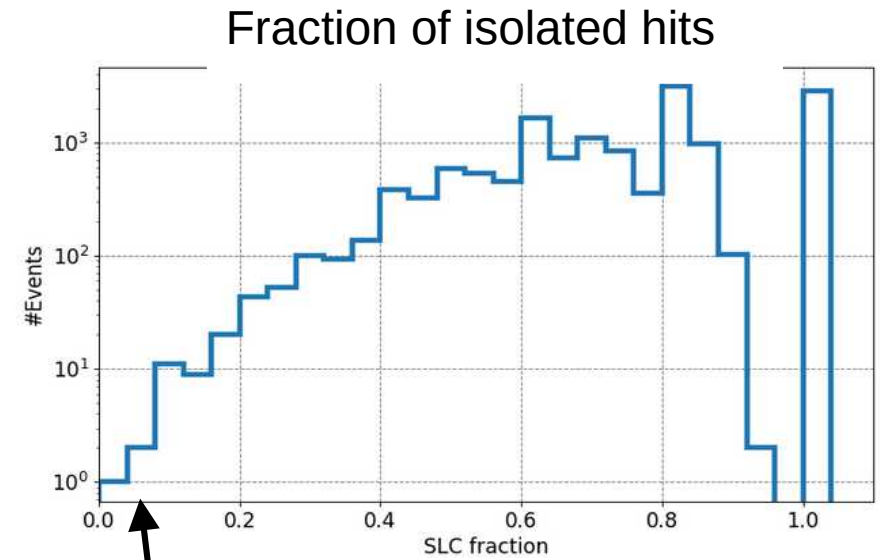
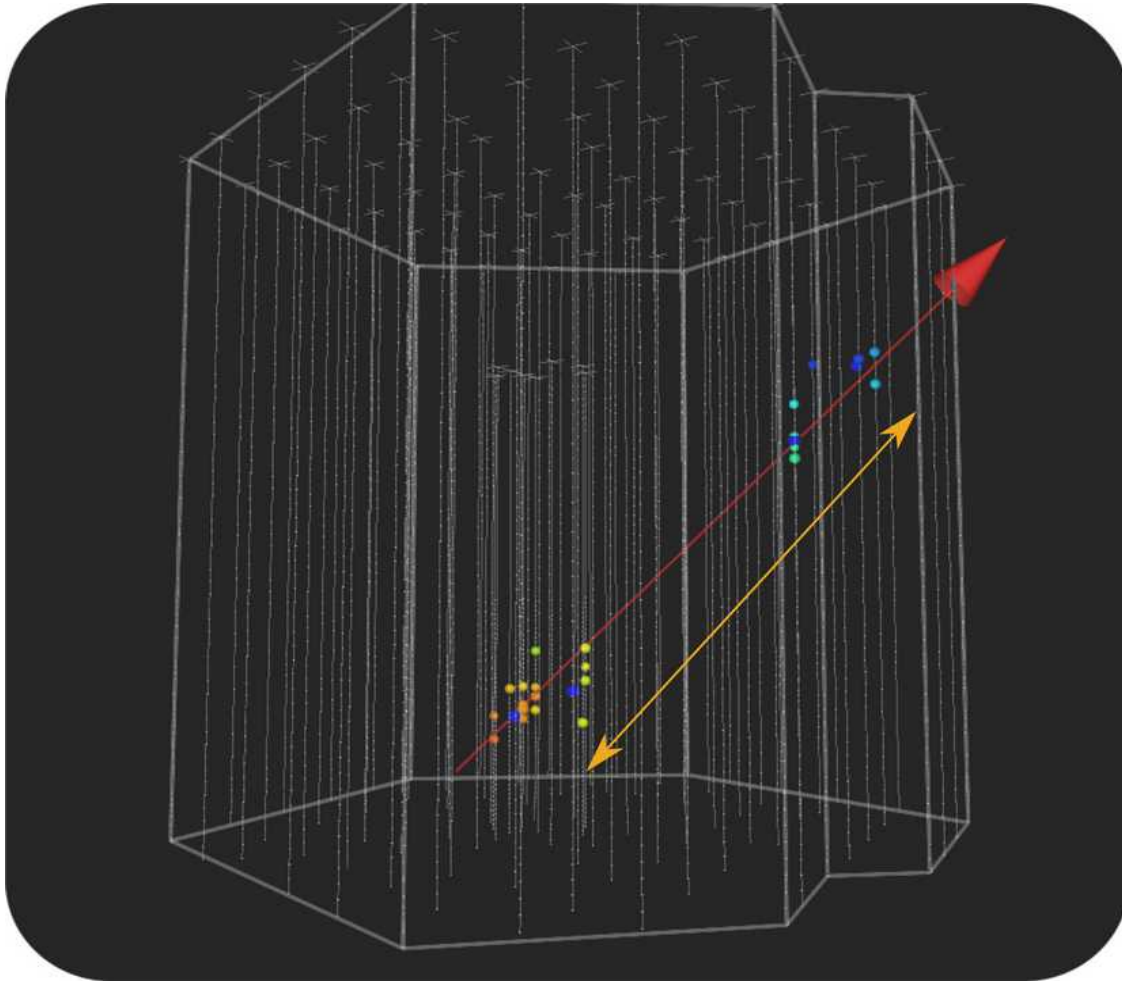
Nucleon decay catalysis



Odd enough: astrophysical neutrinos significant background to relativistic monopoles! ... Statler and Waldorf



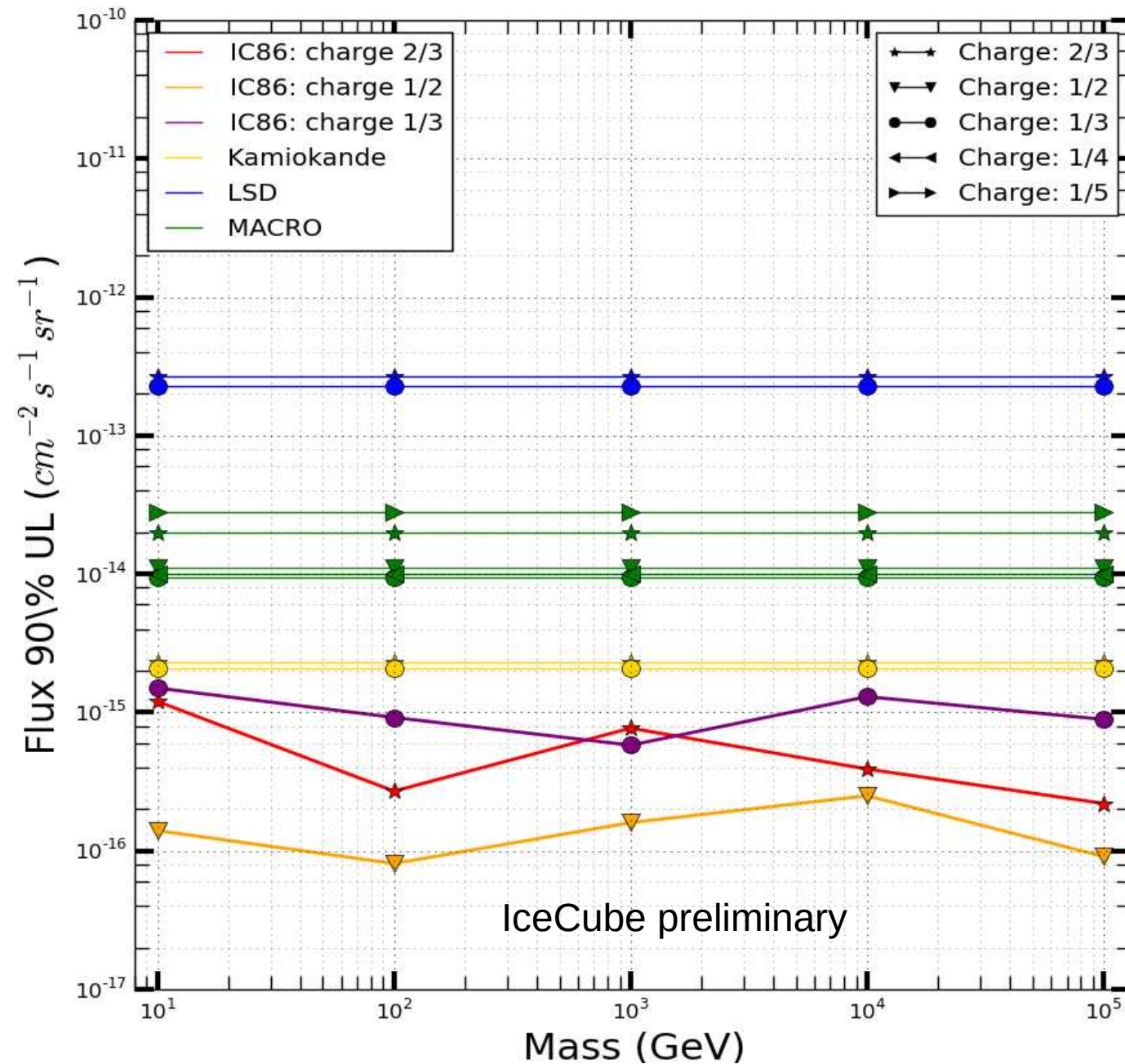
# Fractional charges



Existing trigger primarily works on locally clustered detector hits

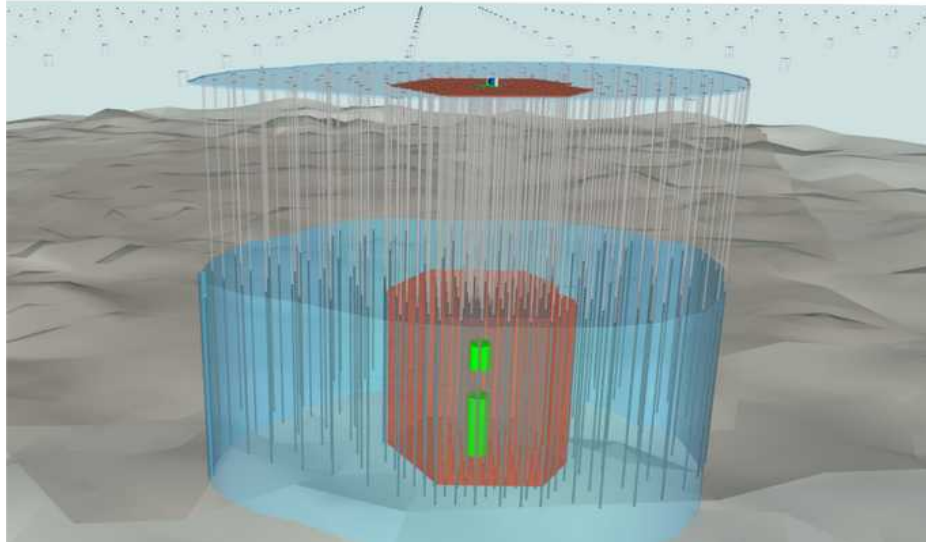


# Limits for Fractional Charges

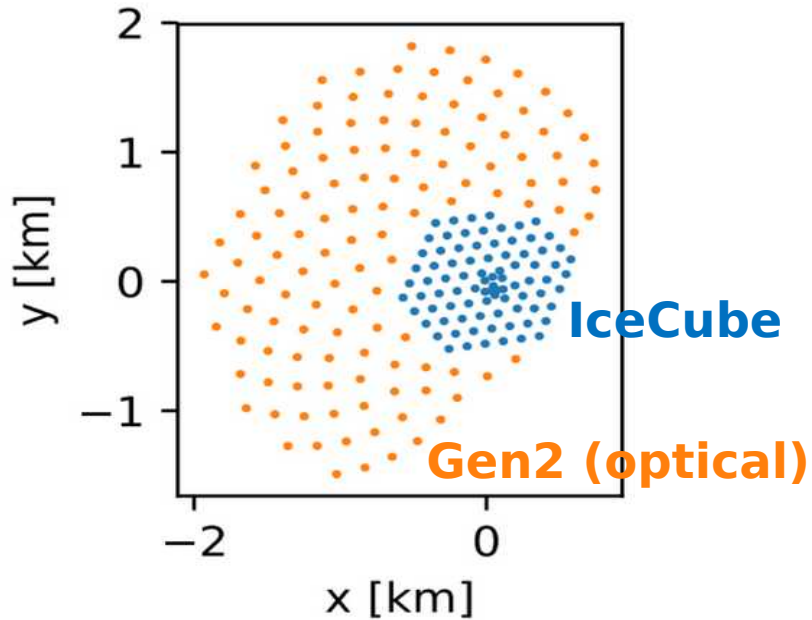
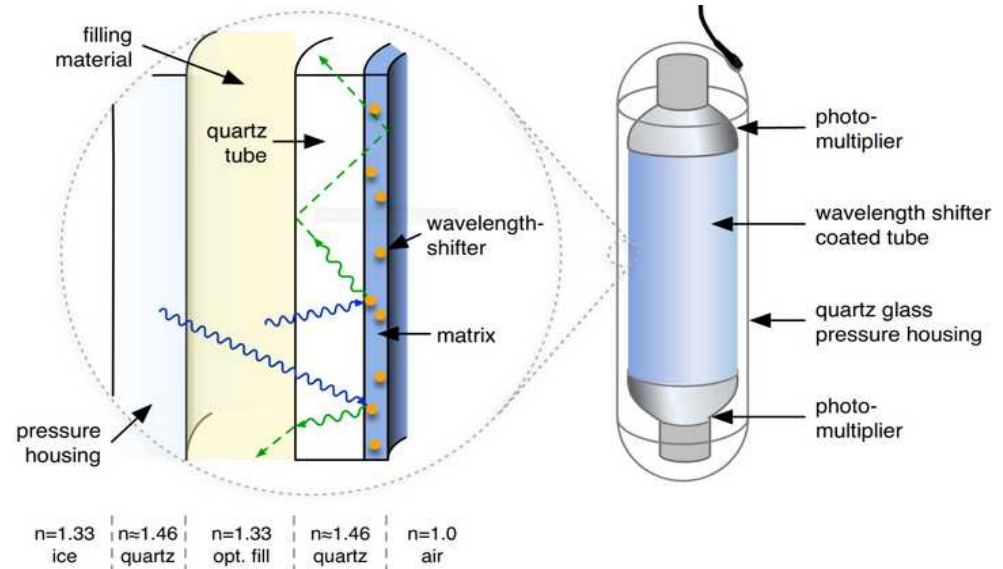


# 3 ways to improve further

Bigger detector: IceCube Gen2



Sensitive sensors



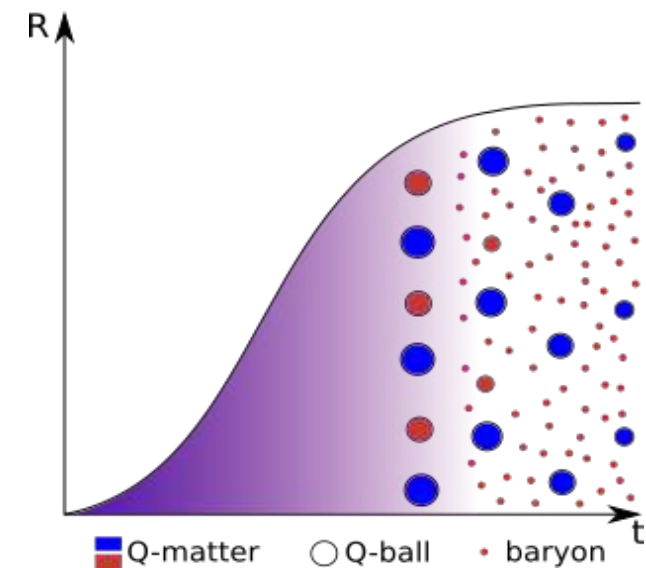
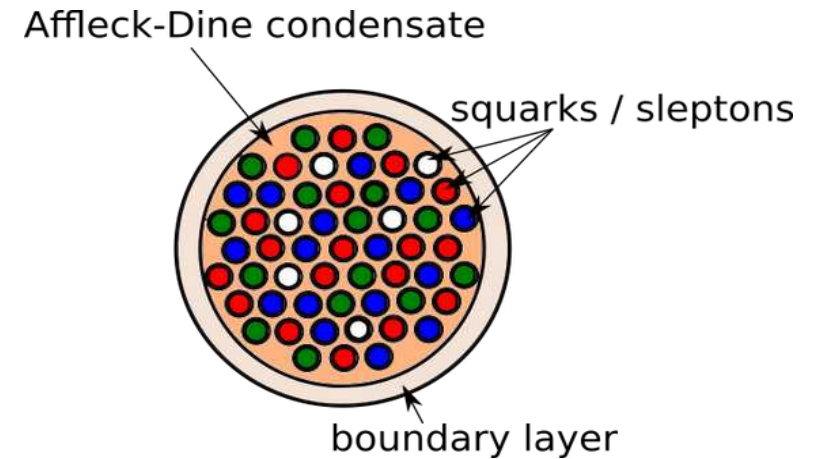
New trigger



hit time sorting and directional matching of hits can be done in real time in FPGA.

# Q-Balls

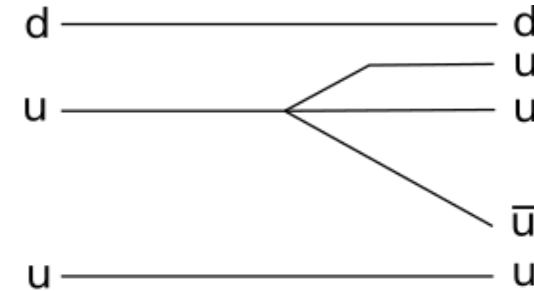
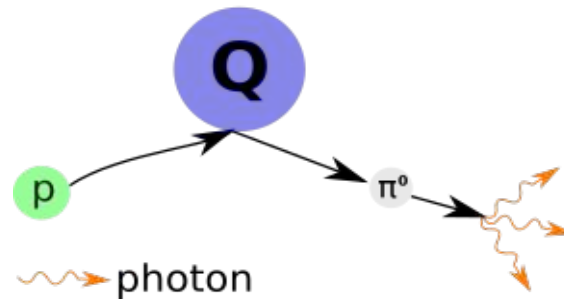
- Q-balls arise in all supersymmetric extensions of the standard model
- Charge  $Q$  is baryon or lepton number:  $Q = 10^{12} - 10^{38}$
- Electric charge  $0 \leq Z \leq 137$
- Q-balls are filled with squarks and sleptons
- They could have been produced in the early Universe  
→ Affleck-Dine baryogenesis
- Q-balls can be entirely stable  
→ dark matter candidate



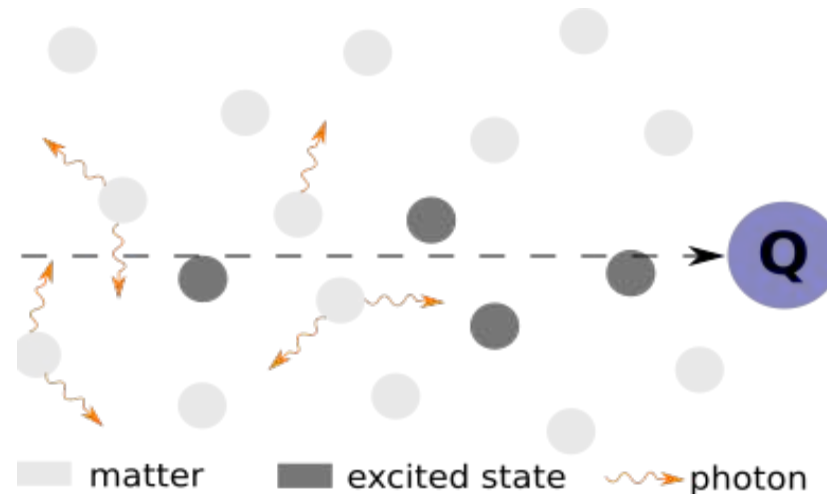
# Interaction with matter

## Main light production mechanisms

→ nucleon decay  
(KKST-process)



→ luminescence



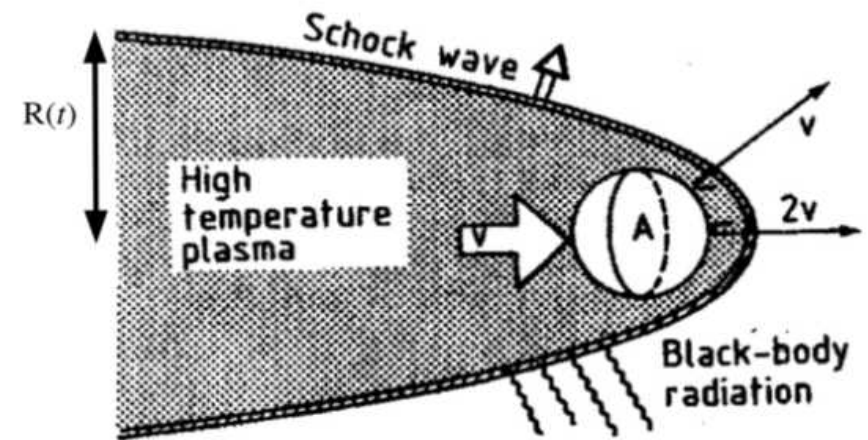
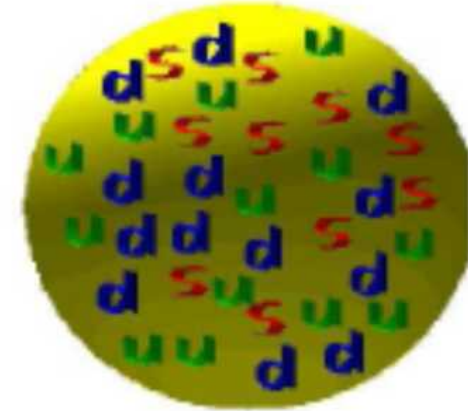
→ similar to magnetic monopoles

Interested? Join us!



# Nuclearites

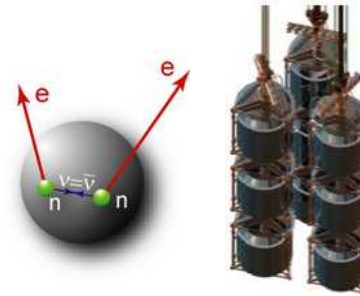
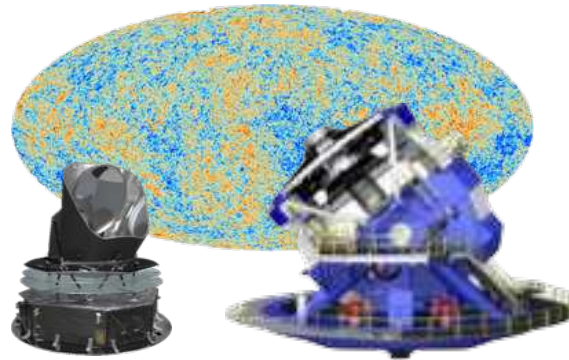
- The particle
  - nuggets of strange quark matter surrounded by electron shell  
→ atom-like neutral system
  - stable states in SM in thermodynamic processes
  - heavy stable object of u-, d-, s-quarks
  - almost neutral
  - produced after Big Bang or as lumps of neutron stars
- Detection
  - Intense elastic collisions
  - thermal shock wave



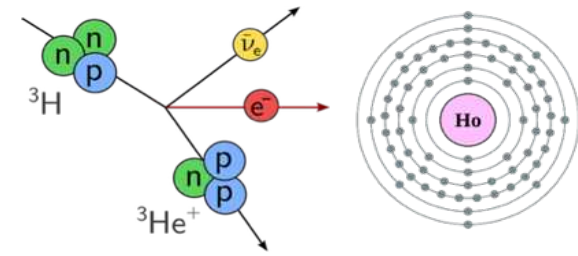
Interested? Join us!



# The absolute neutrino mass

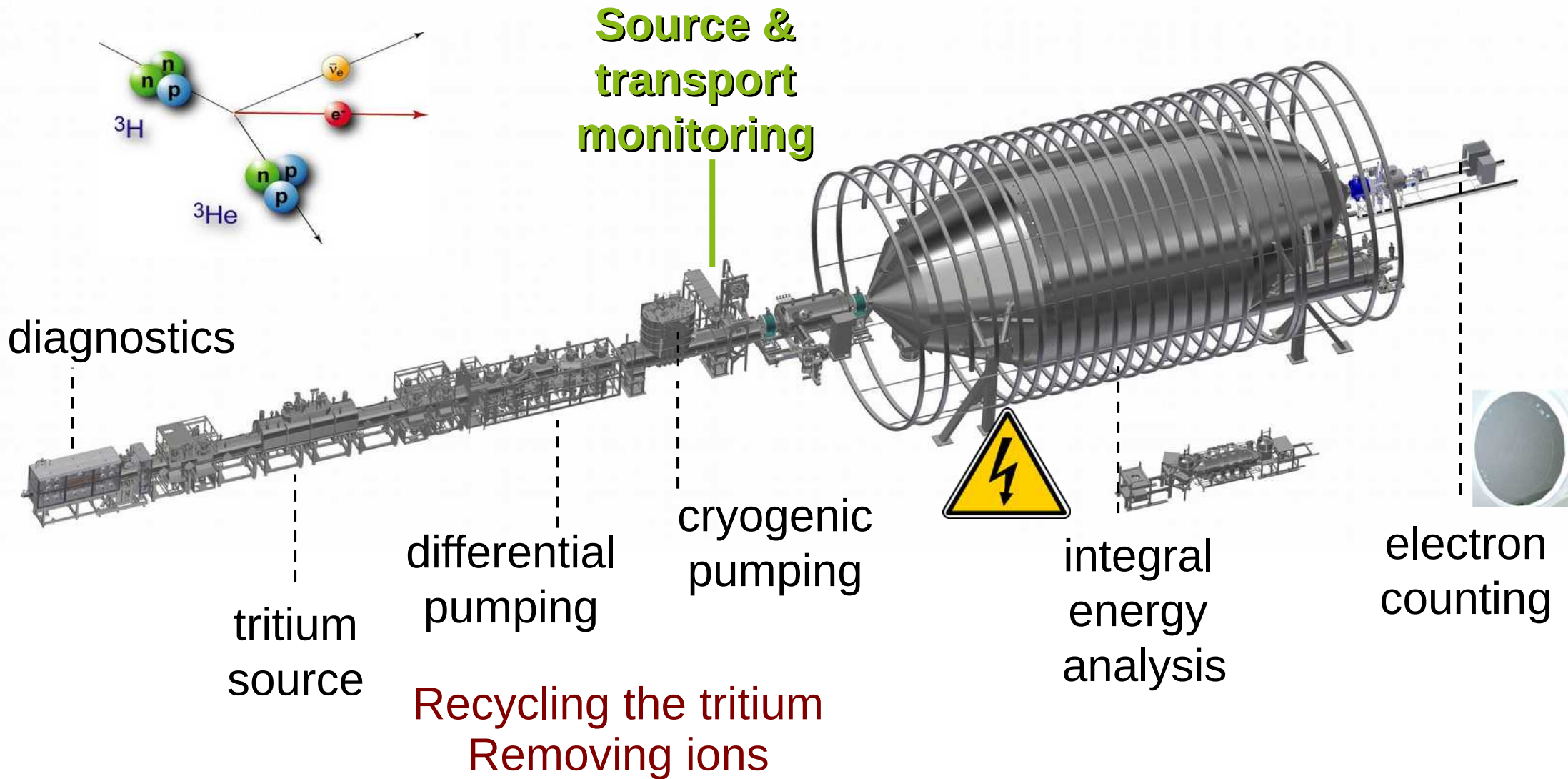


Truly !

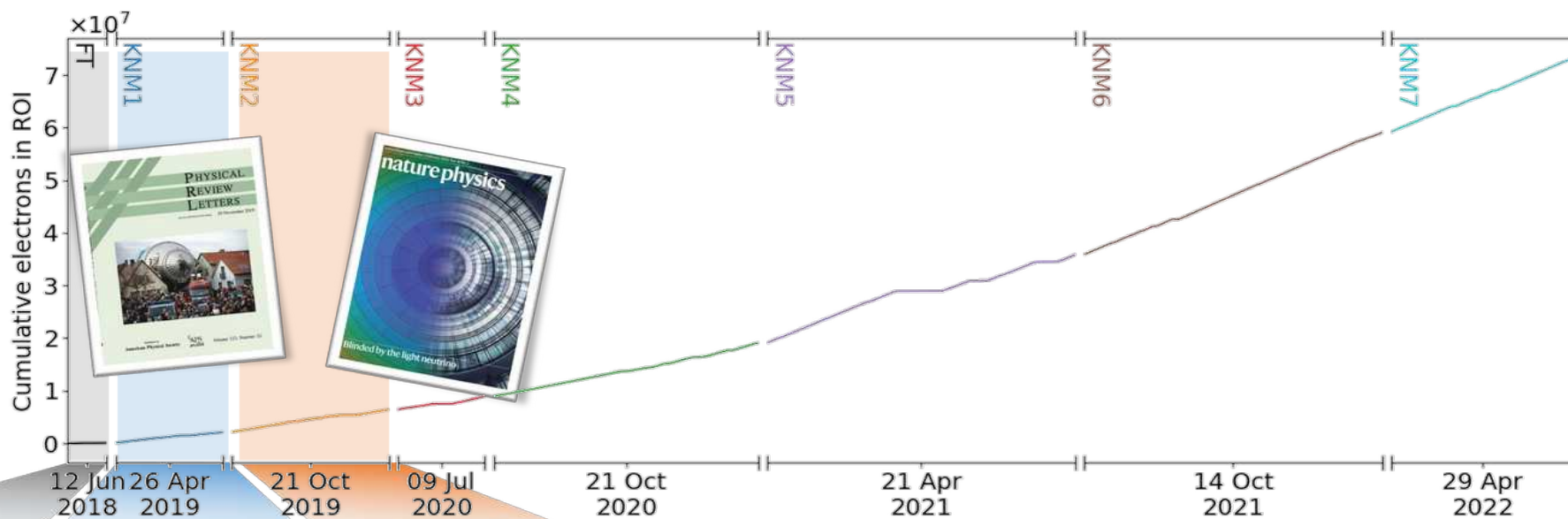


	Cosmology	Search for $0\nu\beta\beta$	$\beta$ -decay & electron capture
<b>Observable</b>	$M_\nu = \sum_i m_i$	$m_{\beta\beta}^2 =  \sum_i U_{ei}^2 m_i ^2$	$m_\beta^2 = \sum_i  U_{ei} ^2 m_i^2$
<b>Present upper limit</b>	0.12 – 1 eV	0.2 – 0.4 eV	2 eV
<b>Potential</b>	15 – 50 meV	15 – 50 meV	200 meV
<b>Model dependence</b>	Multi-parameter cosmological model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Majorana <math>\nu</math>: LNV</li> <li>- BSM contributions other than <math>m(\nu)</math>?</li> <li>- nucl. matrix elements</li> <li>- Incl. interferences</li> </ul>	<b>Direct</b> , only kinematics; no cancellations in incoherent sum

# KATRIN beam line: 70 m



# KATRIN status



- Commissioning
- Only 0.5% tritium

EPJ C 80, 264 (2020)

- 1<sup>st</sup>  $m_\nu$  campaign
- $m_\nu < 1.1$  eV

PRL 123, 221802 (2019)

Phys. Rev. D 104, 012005 (2021)

- 1<sup>st</sup> + 2<sup>nd</sup>  $m_\nu$  campaign
- $m_\nu < 0.8$  eV

Nat. Phys. 18, 160-166 (2022)



light sterile neutrinos



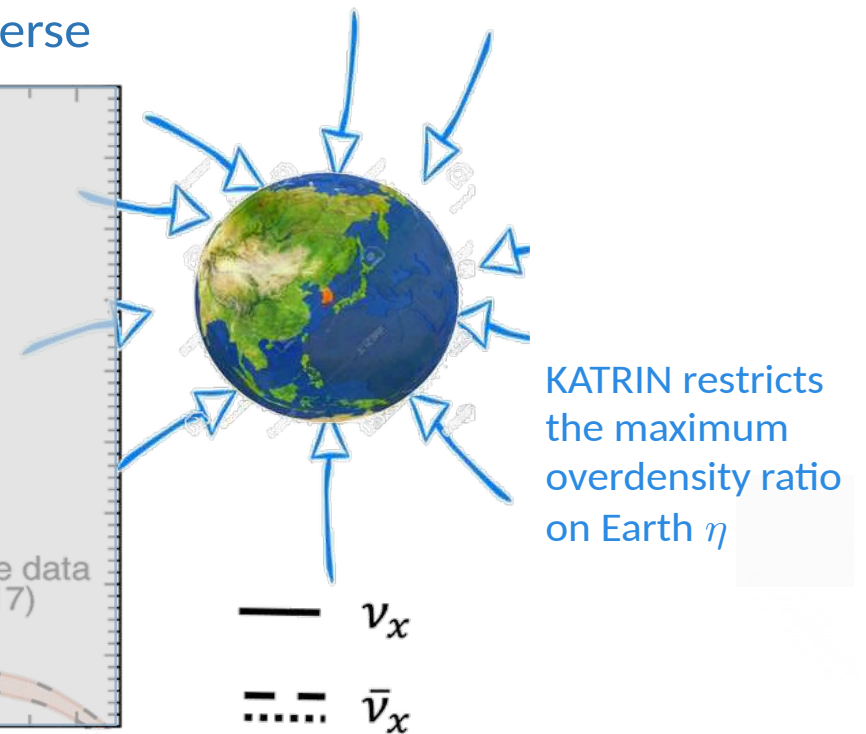
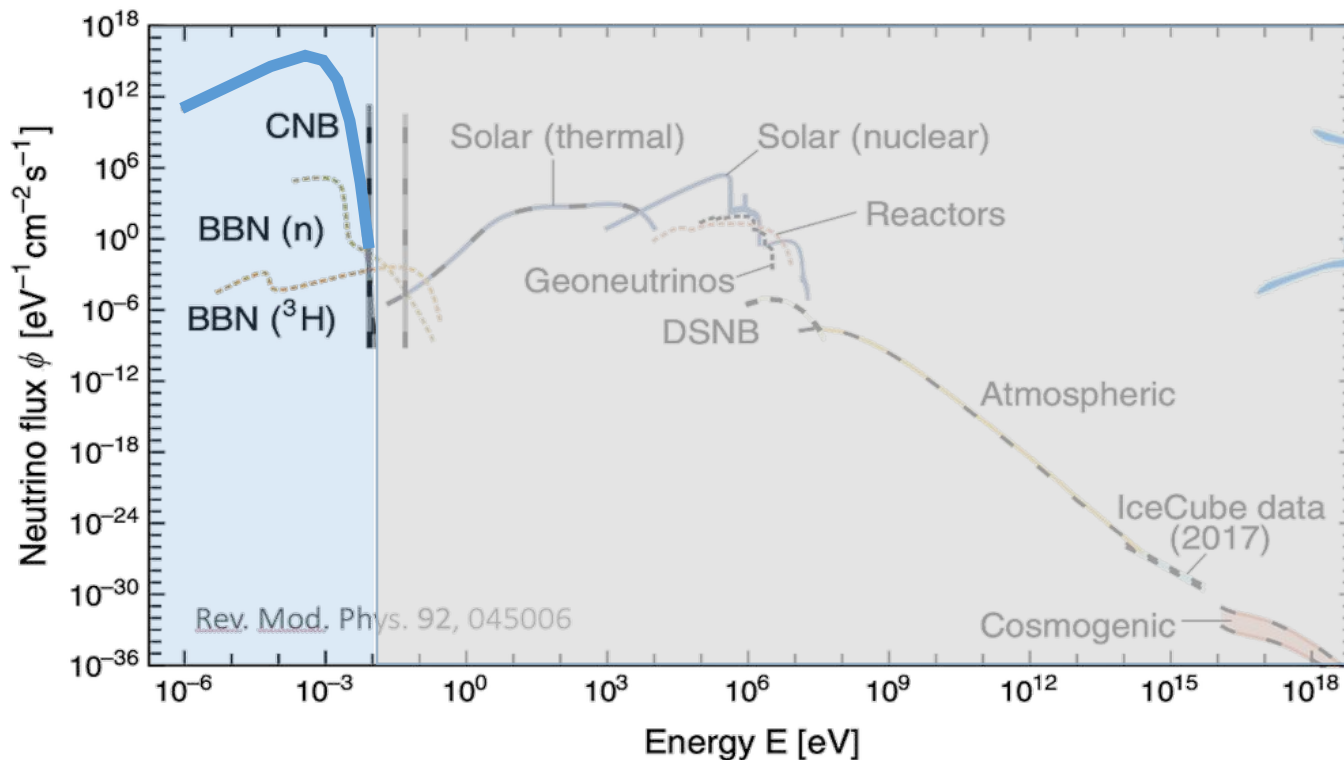
relic neutrinos



# Cosmic relic neutrinos

- Early Universe:  $\nu$ 's are in thermal equilibrium with matter
- Big-Bang+1 sec (1 MeV):  $\nu$  decouple  
 → Relic (Cosmic) Neutrino Background emission

340 relic neutrinos of all species /cm<sup>3</sup> in the Universe

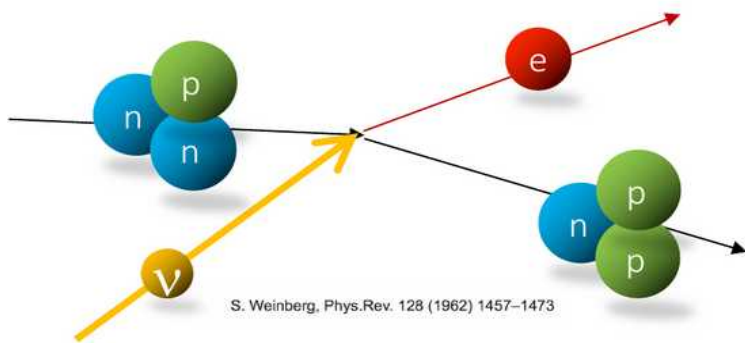
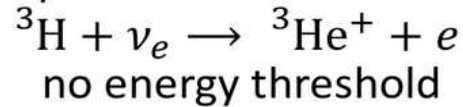




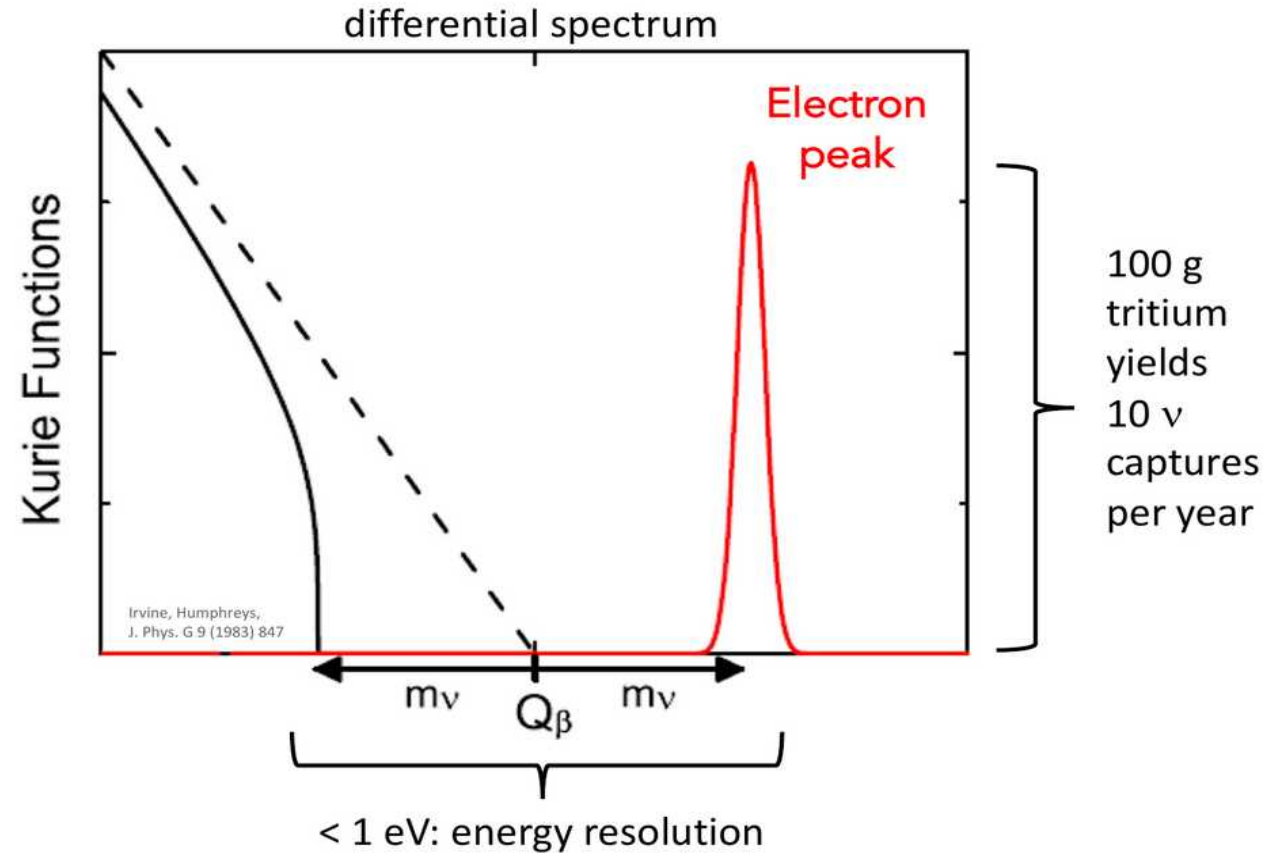
# Relic neutrino capture in KATRIN

meV relic neutrinos...

neutrino capture on tritium:



electron peak right above endpoint  
(in the differential spectrum)

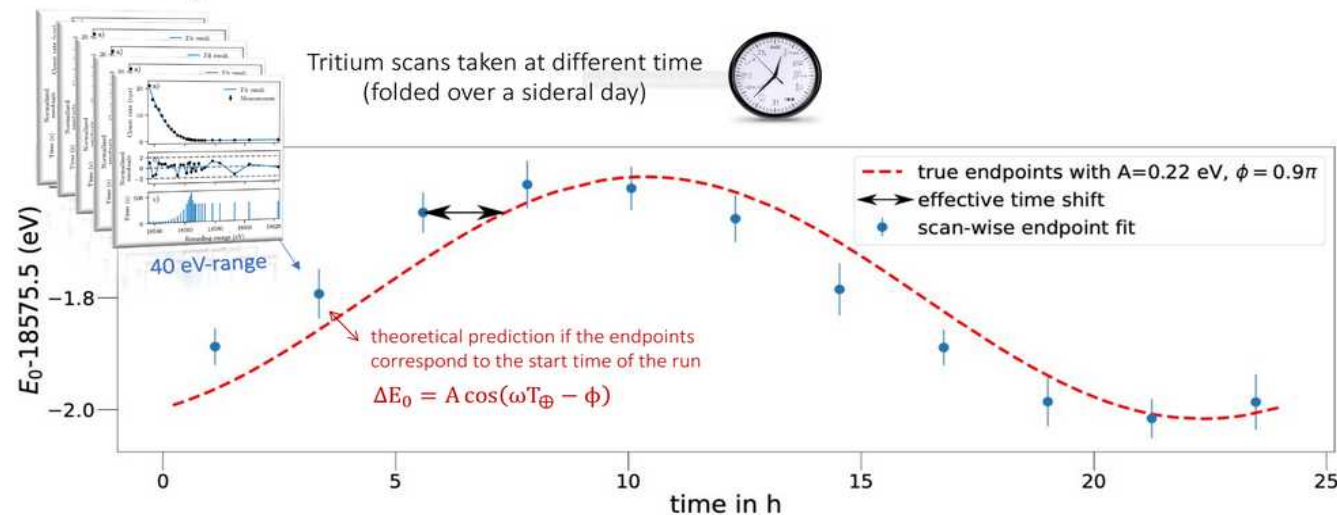
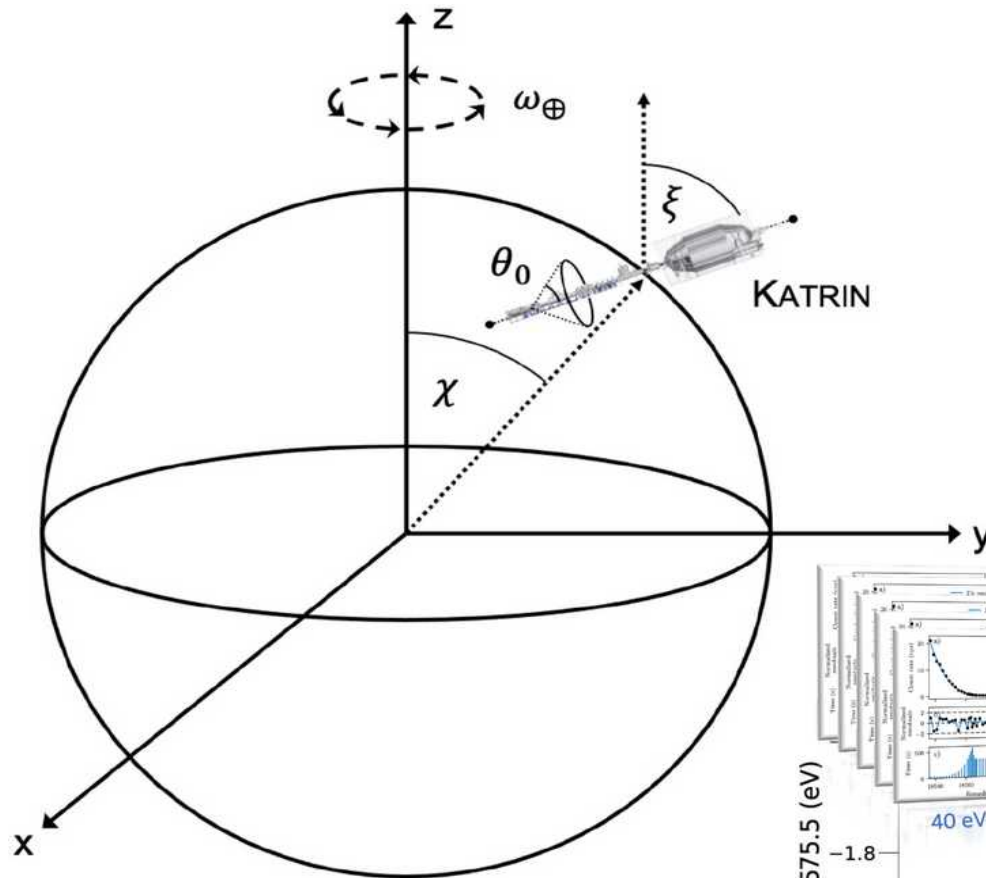


No electron peak observed  $\rightarrow$  over-density  $< \sim 10^{10}$



# Lorentz-Invarianz Violation

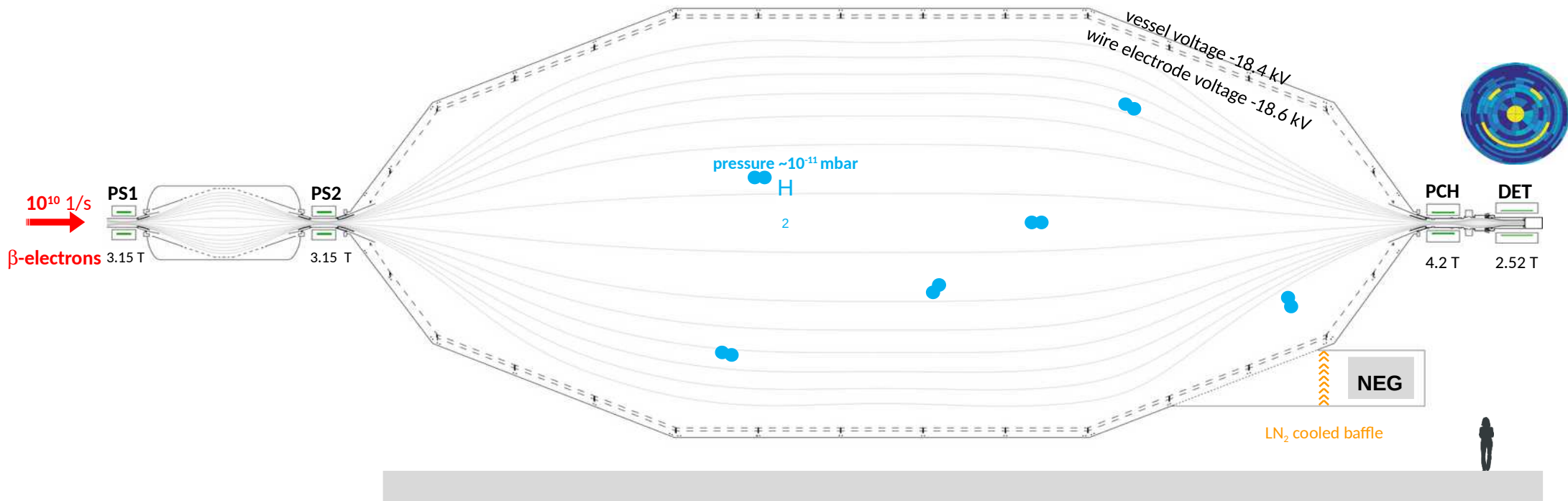
- Anisotropic LV: KATRIN source acceptance angle introduces preferred “direction”
- As the earth is rotating, relative direction of KATRIN to the LV-violating vector changes  
→ search for oscillation of Tritium endpoint with sidereal frequency (23h 56 min)



Results forthcoming!



# Background rate in KATRIN



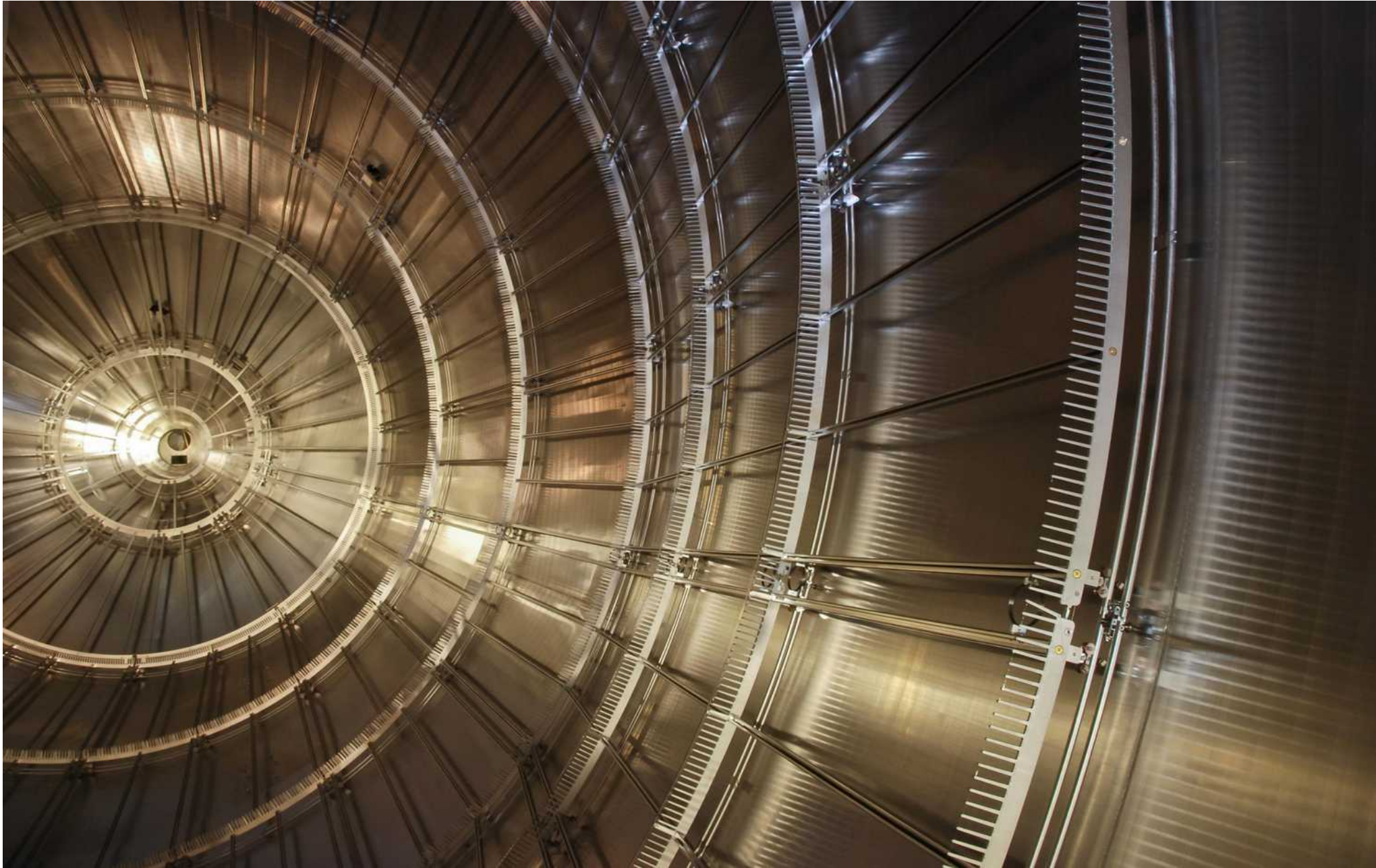
- Design goal of KATRIN: Background rate  $R < 10$  mcps in ROI (25.72 keV to 30.72 keV)
- But the current background level is 204 mcps





# Main spectrometer

Ernst Otten: “feels like entering the Cologne Cathedral”



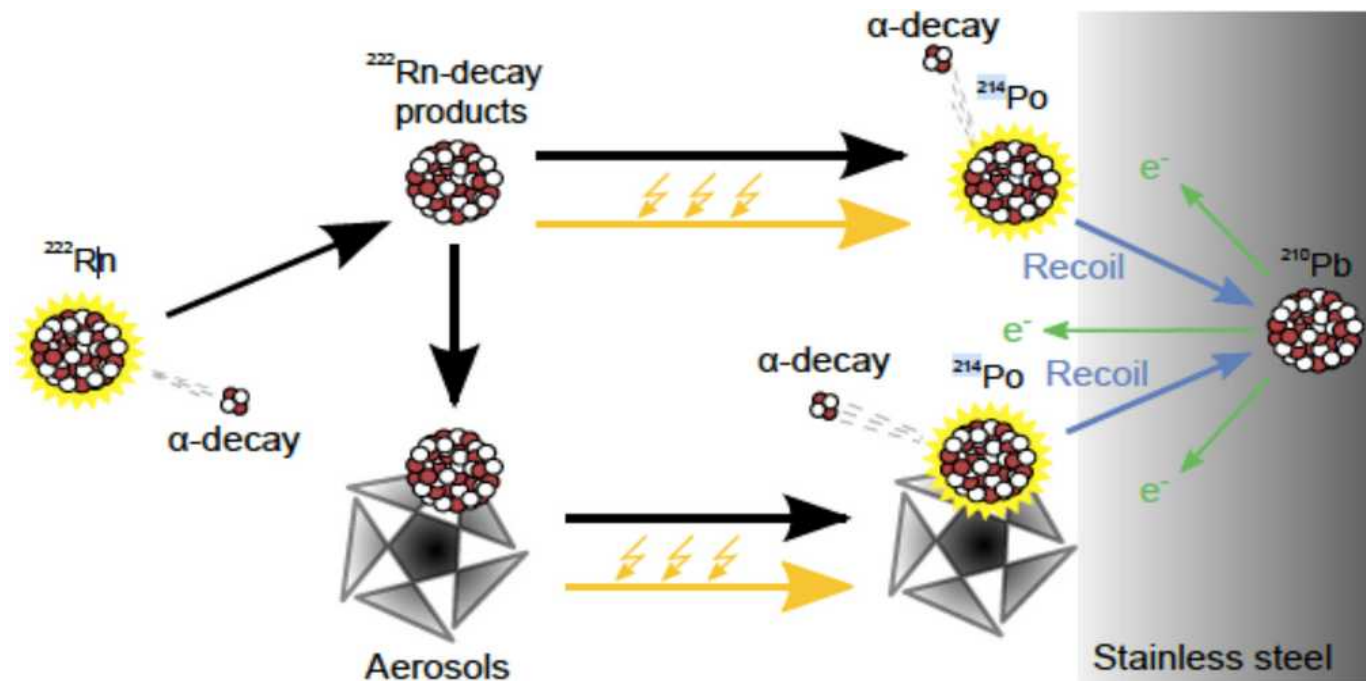


# Idea: Rydberg atoms

- “Messenger-particle” between radioactive decay on the surface and the low-energy electrons in the volume
  - cannot be charged (shielded by the magnetic field)
  - needs to originate and be caused by the alpha-chain radioactivity on the vessel surface
- Rydberg atoms produced in sputtering process in the vessel wall.
  - Rydberg atom is excited atom with one or more electrons with very high principal quantum number  $n$
  - extremely large Radius  $\sim 1 \mu\text{m}$
  - Neutral Rydberg atoms travel through the whole spectrometer and get ionized by BBR
  - resulting free electron is accelerated to the detector

# Rydberg production: Implataation

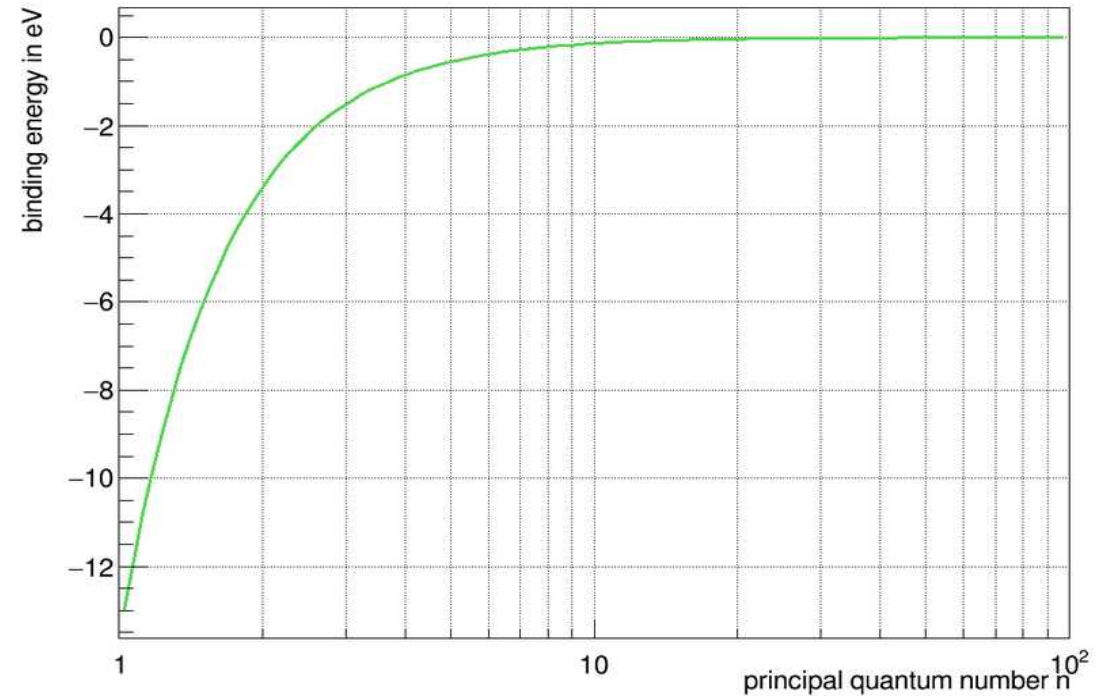
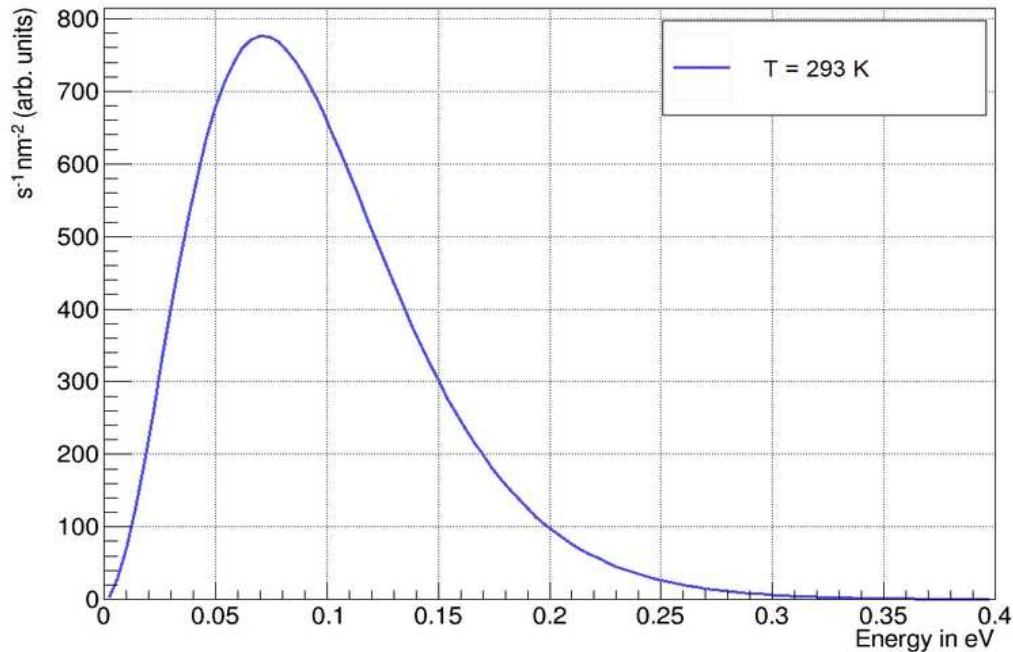
- $^{222}\text{Rn}$  (3.8 d half-life) contamination due to spec at ambient air for 5 years
- Short lived daughter nuclei ( $^{218}\text{Po}$ ,  $^{214}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{214}\text{Bi}$ ,  $^{214}\text{Po}$ ) settle on the vessel wall surface
- $^{241}\text{Po}$  decays into the long-life  $^{210}\text{Pb}$  (22.2 y,  $\alpha$ )
- Efficiently (88%) implanted with 146 keV recoil energy into the vessel wall surface in mean depth of 12 nm.



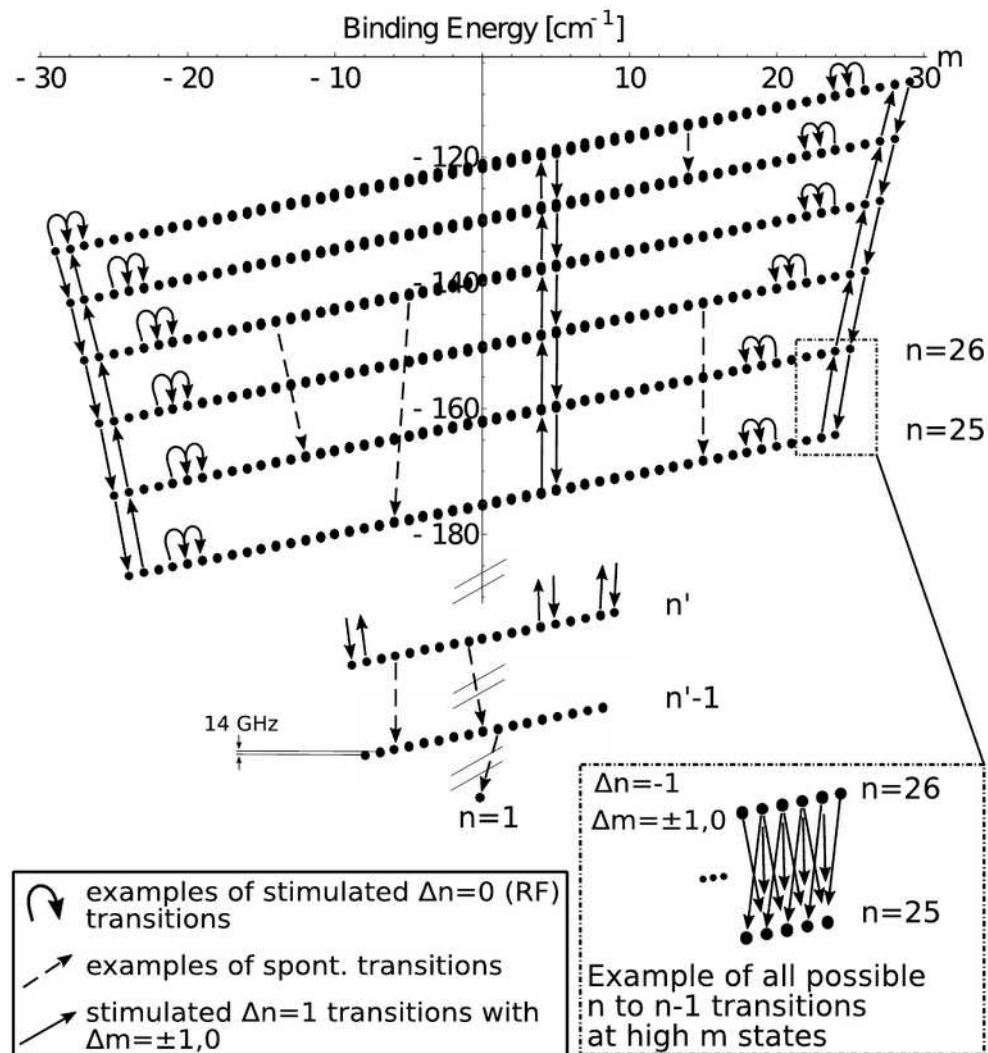


# Rydberg ionization

- Spontaneous Decay
- Photoionization by thermal black body radiation
  - Ionization by room temperature BBR
  - → very low kinetic energies (below 0.15 eV)
  - below the energy resolution of  $E = 0.95$  eV of KATRIN



# Idea inherited from ASACUSA – last Humboldt Kolleg

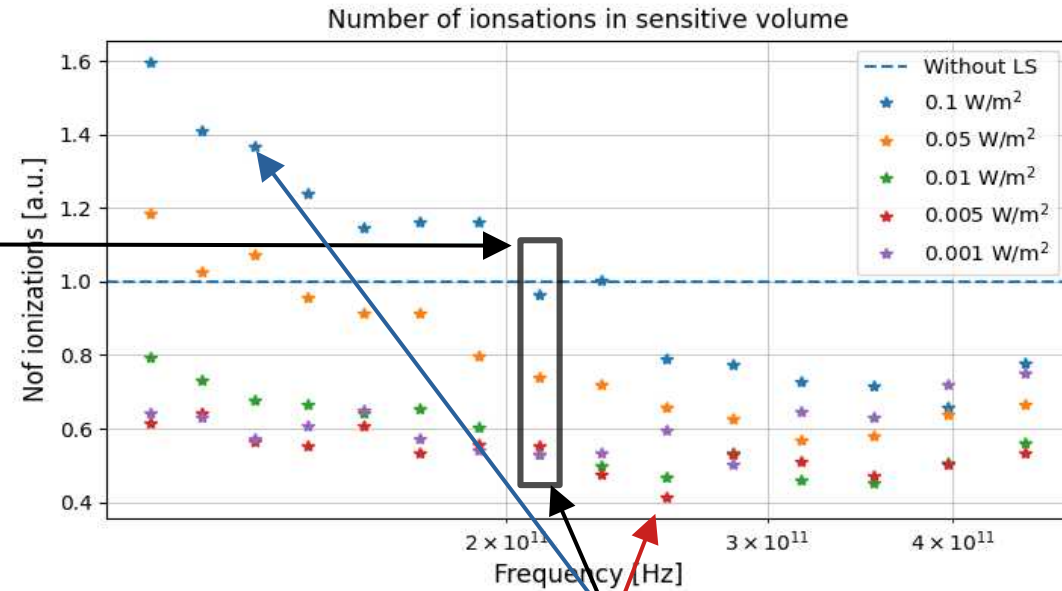
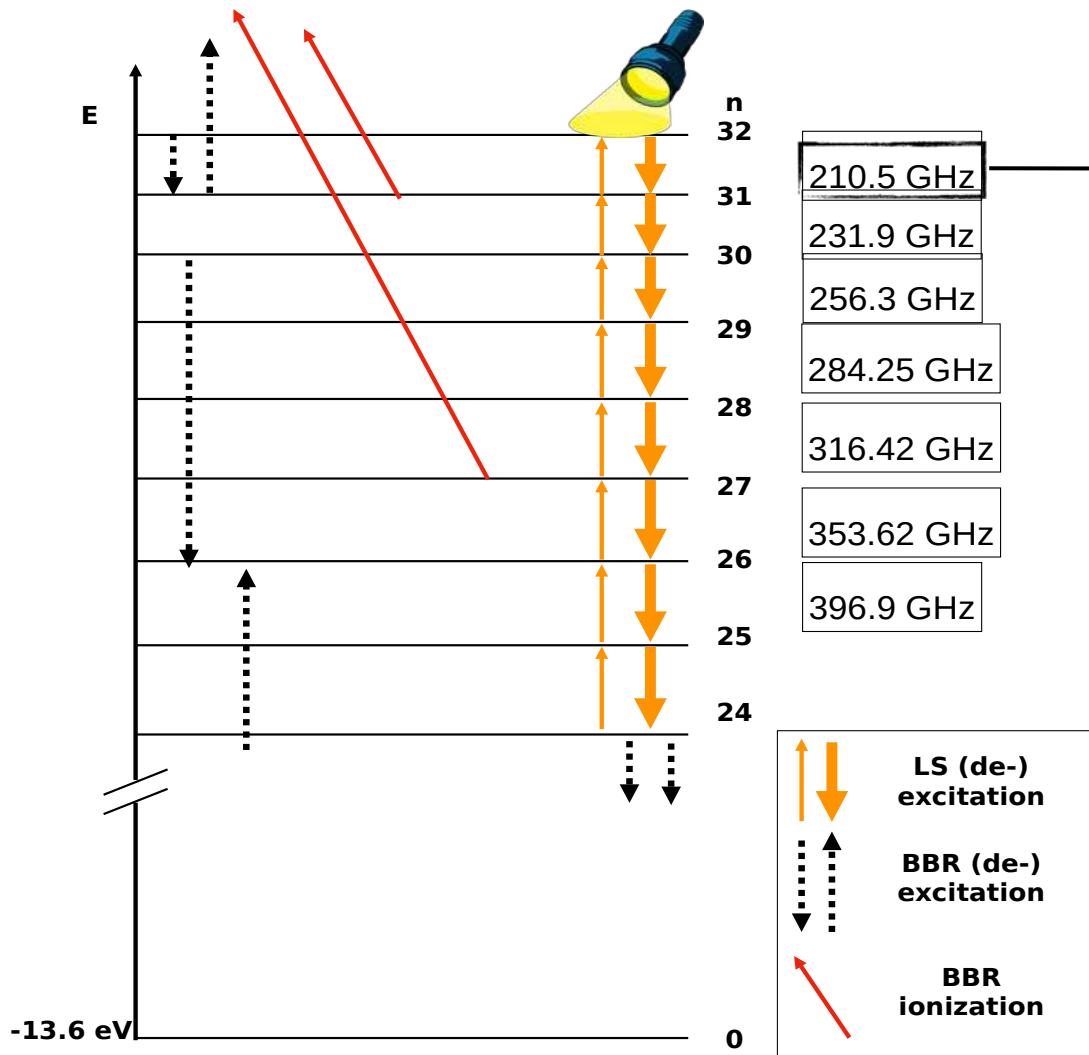


- Anti-Hydrogen formation:
  - drive newly bound anti-hydrogen down to ground state
  - More earlier this week: Chloe Malbrunot
- KATRIN:
  - Avoid random ionization in sensitive volume
  - manipulate state distribution with THZ radiation



# THz treatment in KATRIN

Full simulation in place with state distribution from sputtering



Approach:

- Eightfold Way:  
8 consecutive light sources  
drive down to  $n-8$  e.g.  $32 \rightarrow 24$
- choose intensity not to overdrive
- at least factor 2 reduction  
possible in simulation

# Summary & Outlook

We are stretching IceCube and KATRIN far beyond design goals and initial ideas!

Fundament discoveries must be around the corner  
... meanwhile entertaining ourselves with atomic physics ☺



Major research infrastructures