



Toho University



Kobayashi-Maskawa Institute
for the Origin of Particles and the Universe

NEWSdm experiment

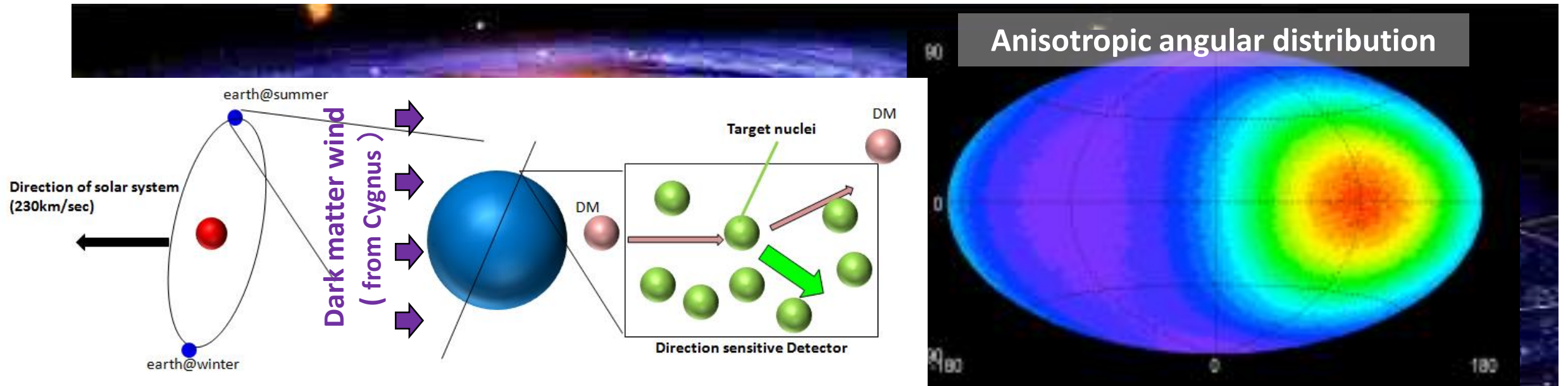
Directional dark matter search with super-high resolution nuclear emulsion

NAKA Tatsuhiro

Toho University

on behalf of NEWSdm collaboration

Direct Dark Matter search and Directionality



- Good discovery potential with lower statistics (several 10 events enough)
- High Background discrimination
- Dark matter astronomy

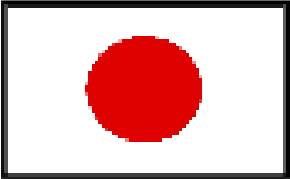





“Tracking” is finally very important to identify the DM

NEWSdm experiment [Nuclear Emulsion for WIMPs Search – directional measurement]



<http://news-dm.lngs.infn.it>

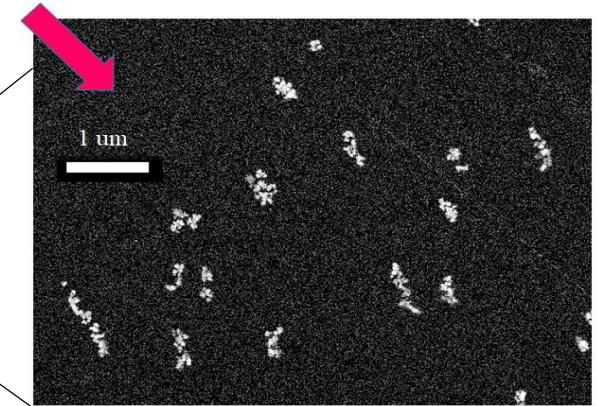
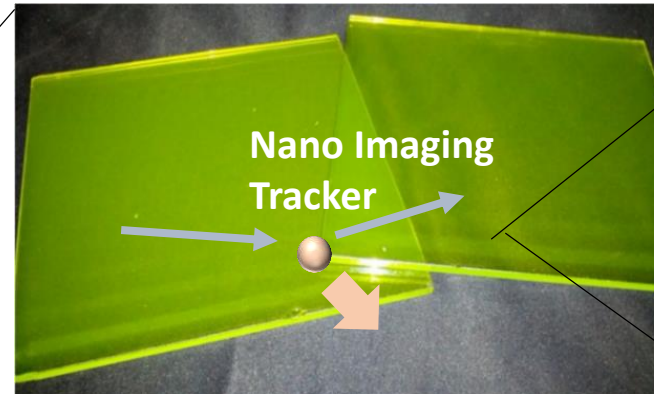
LOI under review by the LNGS science committee

		
Nagoya Toho Chiba		METU Ankara
		
LNGS Napoli, Roma, Padova, Potenza, Benevento	LPI RAS Moscow JINR Dubna SINP MSU Moscow INR Moscow Yandex School of Data Analysis	Gyeongsang

NEWSdm

[Nuclear Emulsion for WIMP search- directional measurement]

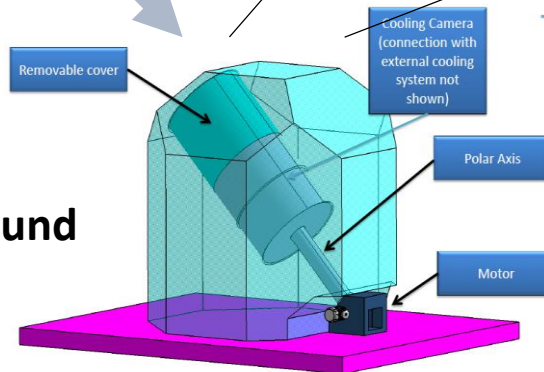
Super-resolution nuclear emulsion and sub-micron tracking



Readout by the optical system

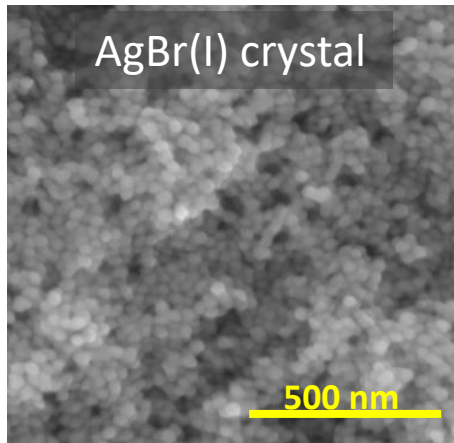


Gran Sasso Underground Laboratory (LNGS)

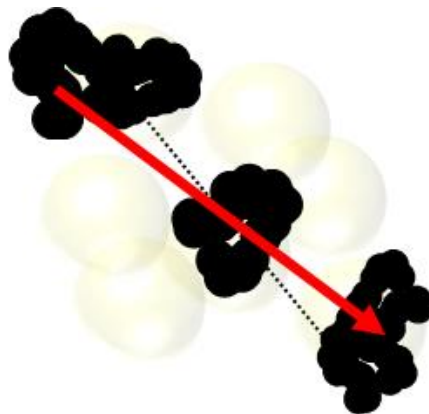
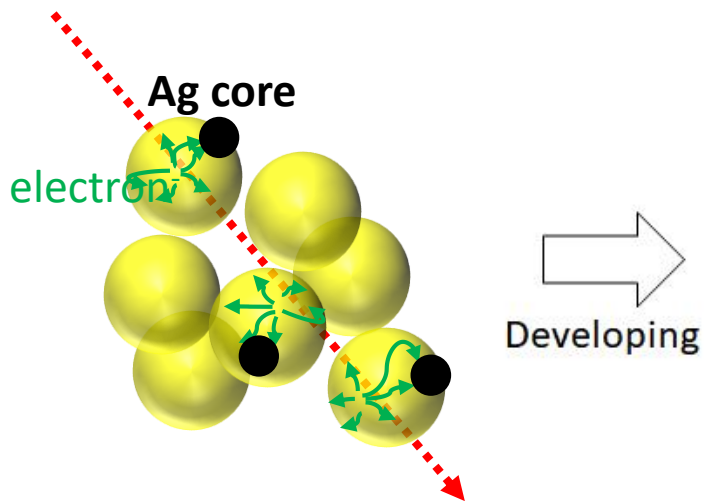
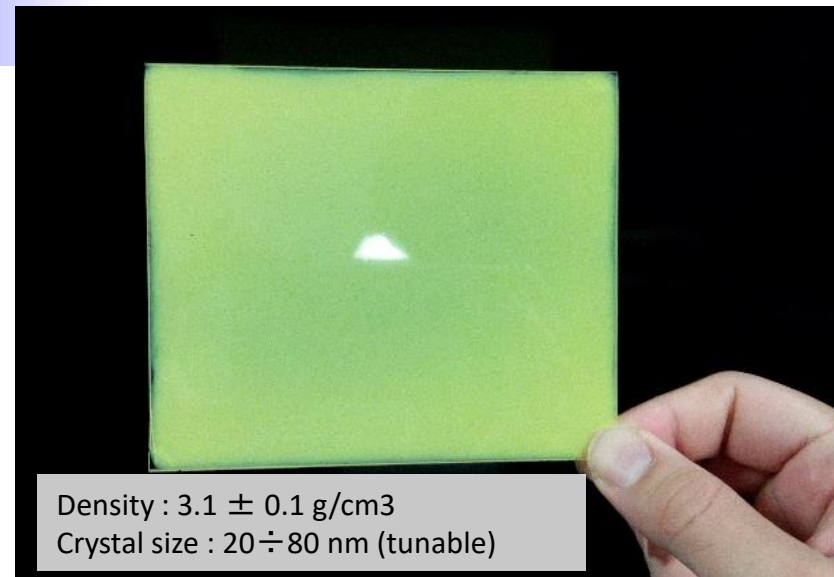


- Optical readout system
- Super-resolution analysis
- Directional and topological measurement

Nano Imaging Tracker (NIT) for NEWSdm



NIM A Nucl. Inst. Meth. A 718 (2013) 519-521
PTEP (2017)063H01

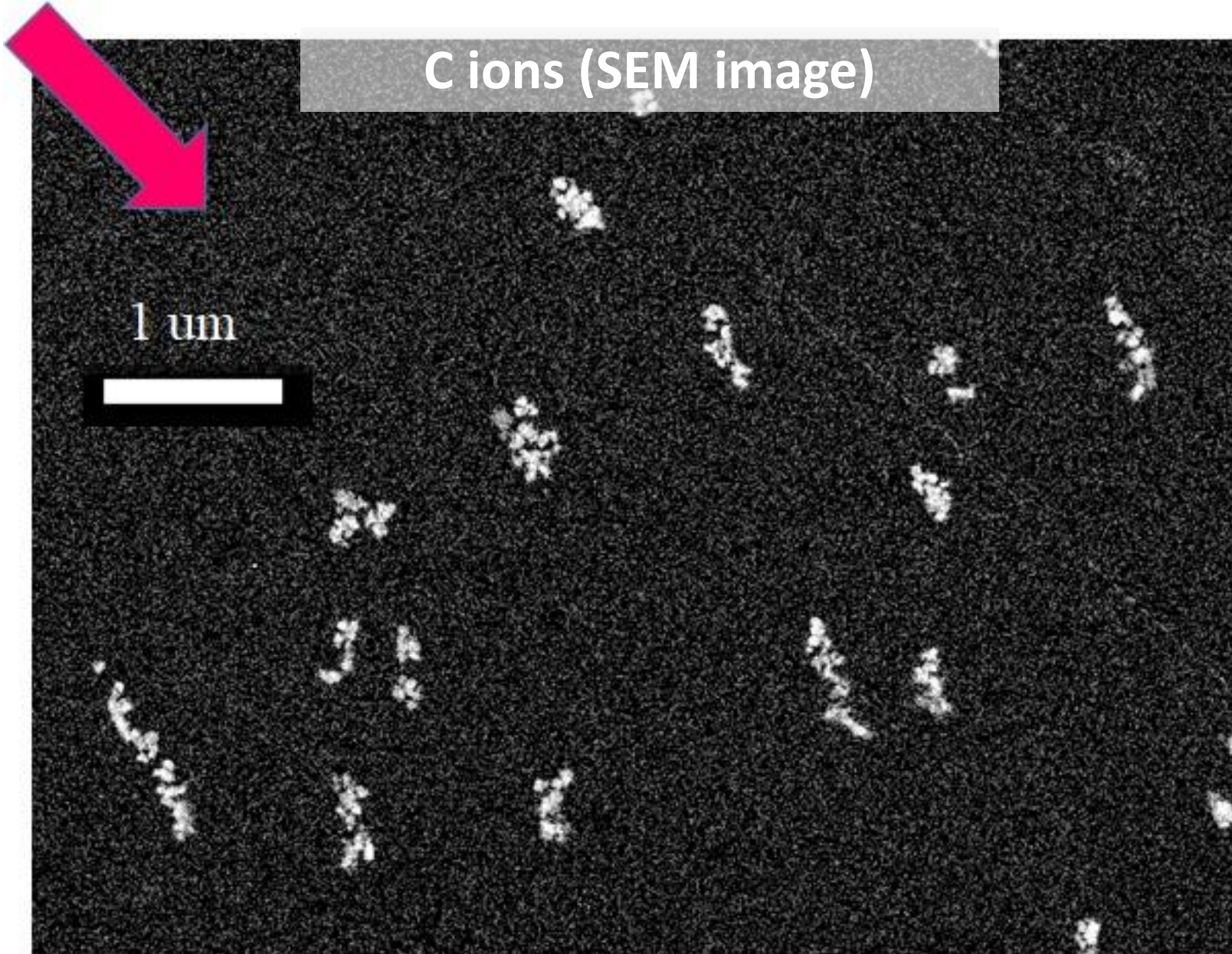


Main target heavier DM
Neutron, BDM

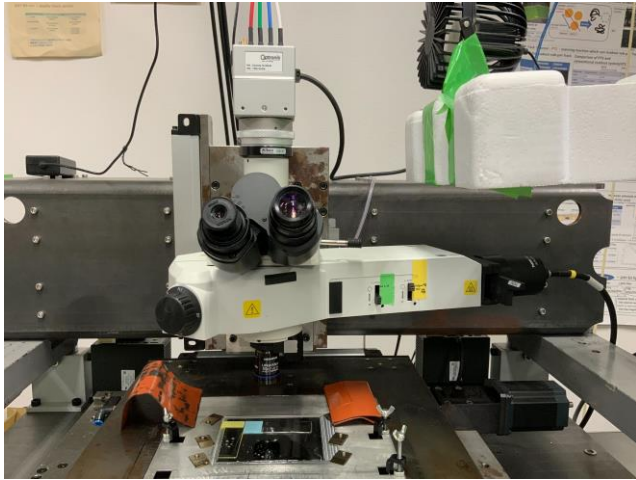
Element	Mass fraction [%]	Atomic fraction [%]
Ag	41.5	8.4
Br	29.7	8.1
I	1.9	0.3
C	12.3	22.7
N	3.7	5.2
O	9.2	12.5
H	1.8	42.8
S, Na + others	~0.1	0.1

C ions (SEM image)

1 μm



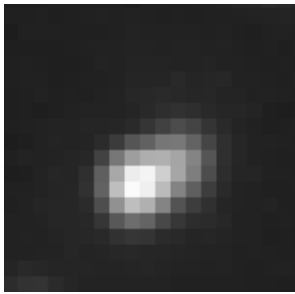
Readout technologies



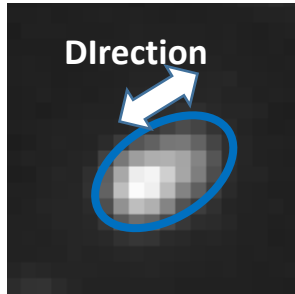
Current set-up and performance

- Blue LED (450 nm λ)
→ 200 nm optical resolution
- CMOS camera image taking
- X100 objective lens

~ 0.1 kg/year/machine

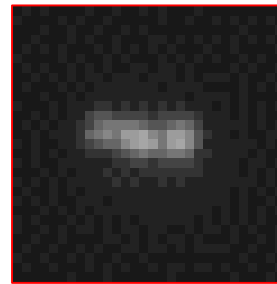


1 μm



Elliptical shape analysis
PTEP. 103H02 (2020) 10

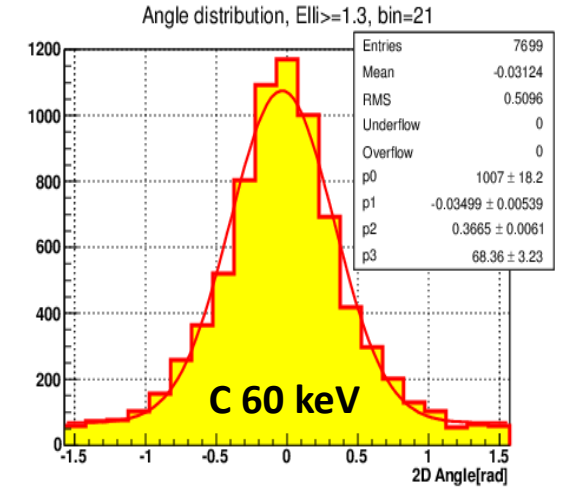
Further selection



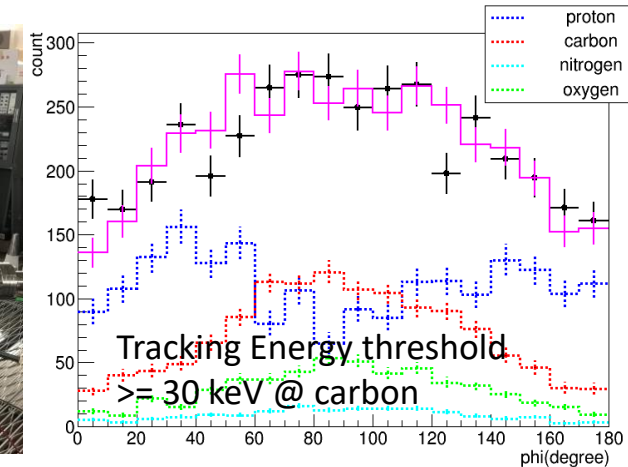
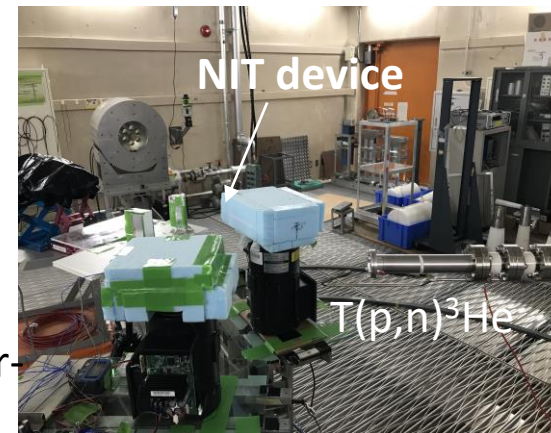
- **ML selection**
⇒ more likely track selection
- Plasmon analysis and super-resolution

PTEP, 063H02,(2019) 6
Scientific Reports (2020) 10:18773

Ion-implantation

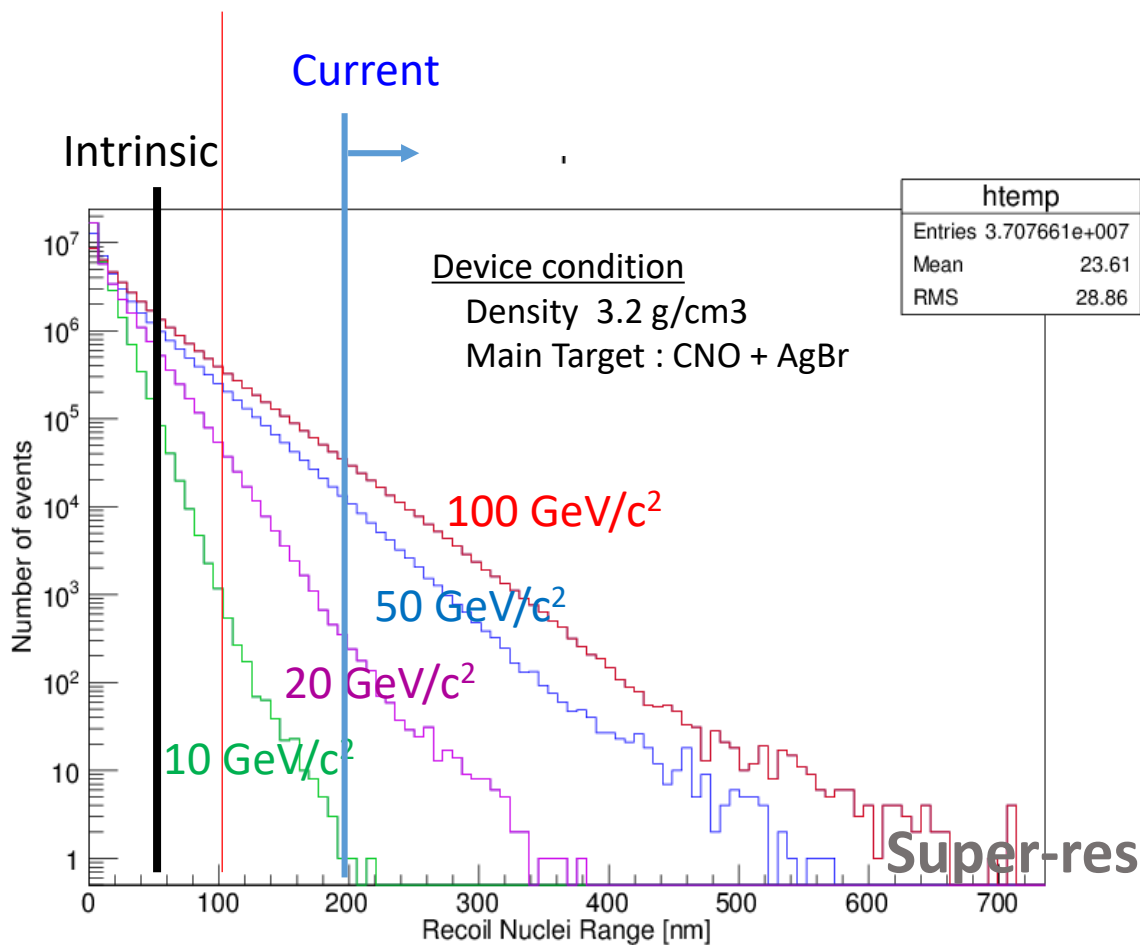


Nuclear recoil by neutron

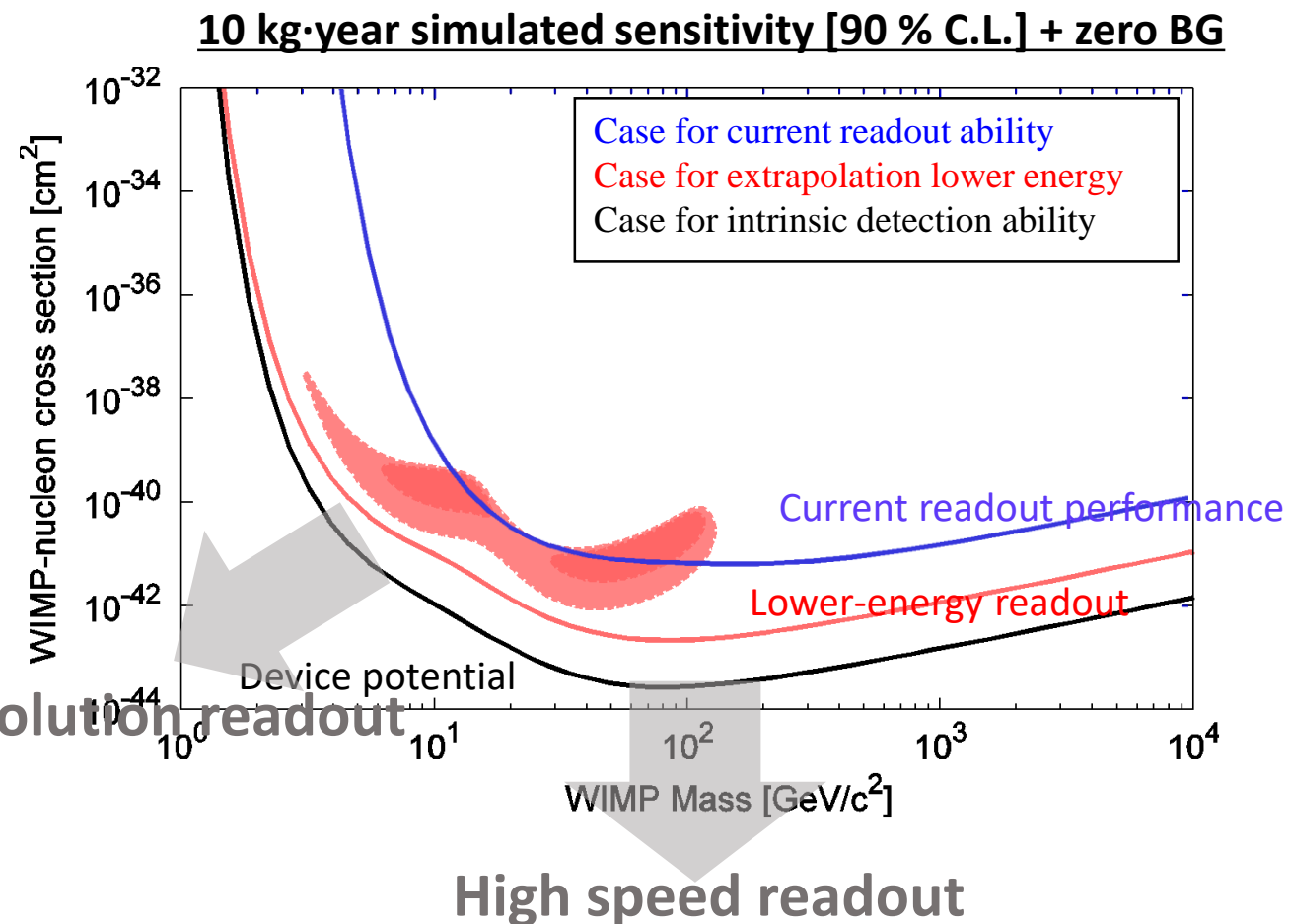


Dark matter sensitivity

Demonstrated new tech.

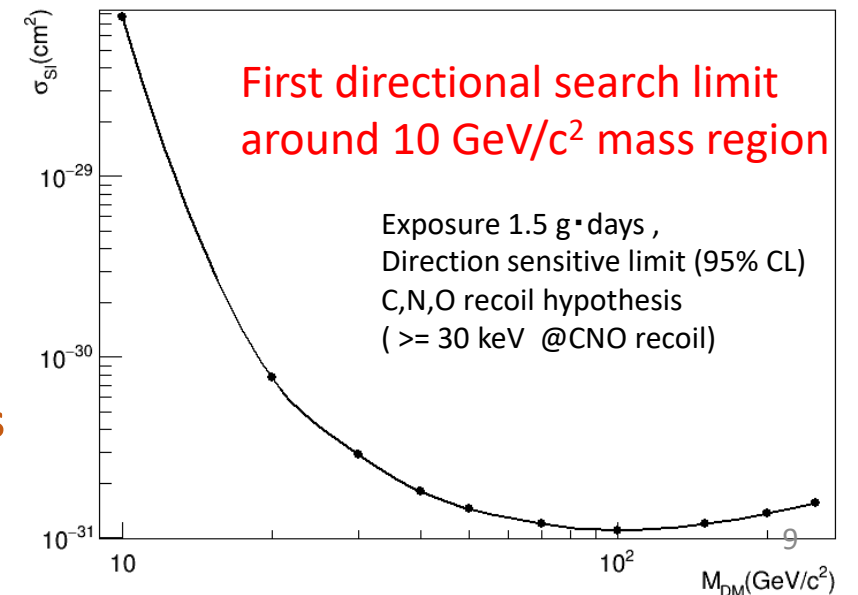
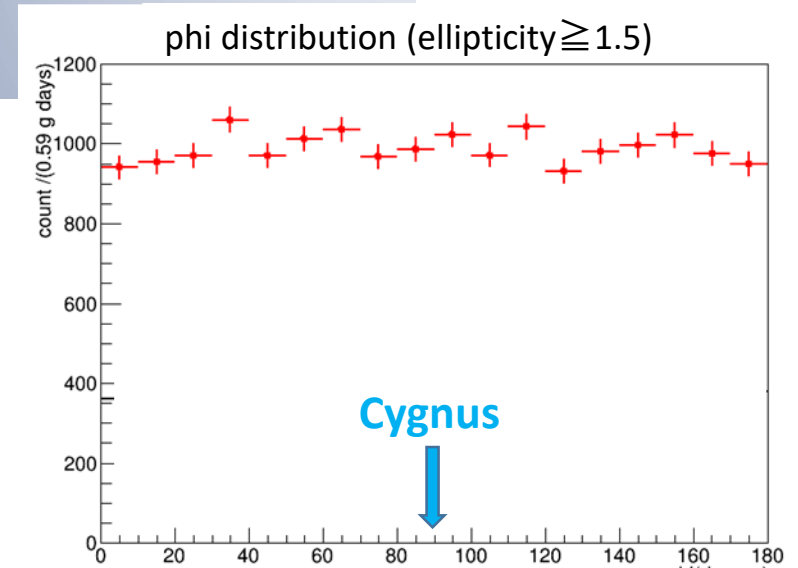
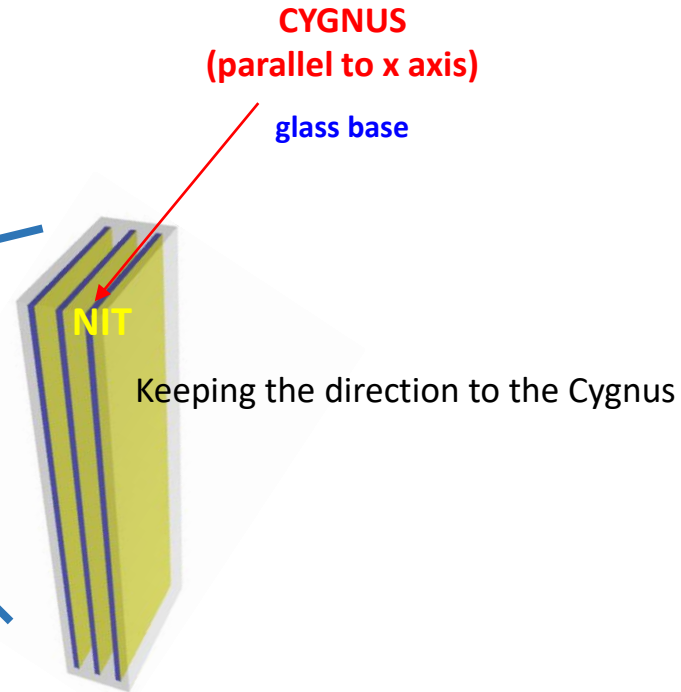
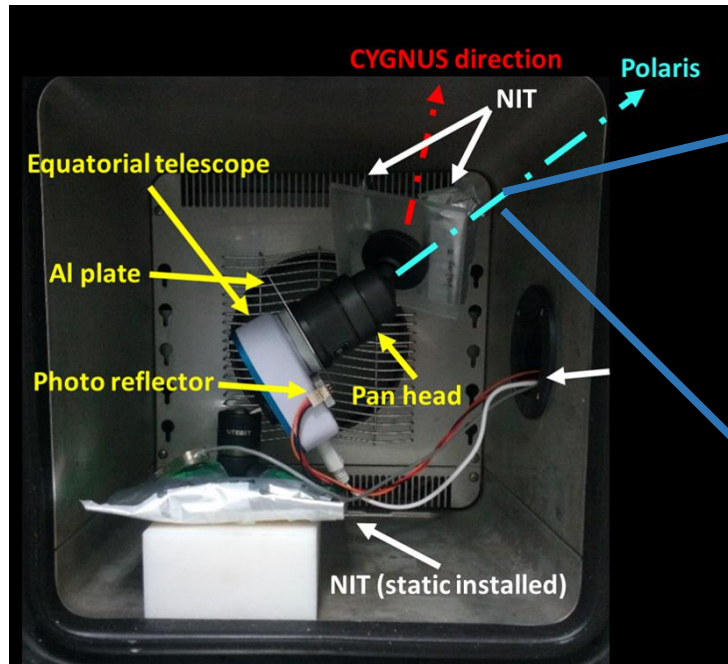


Super-resolution readout



Demonstration of directional dark matter search [surface run @ Nagoya University]

Technical test at surface lab.

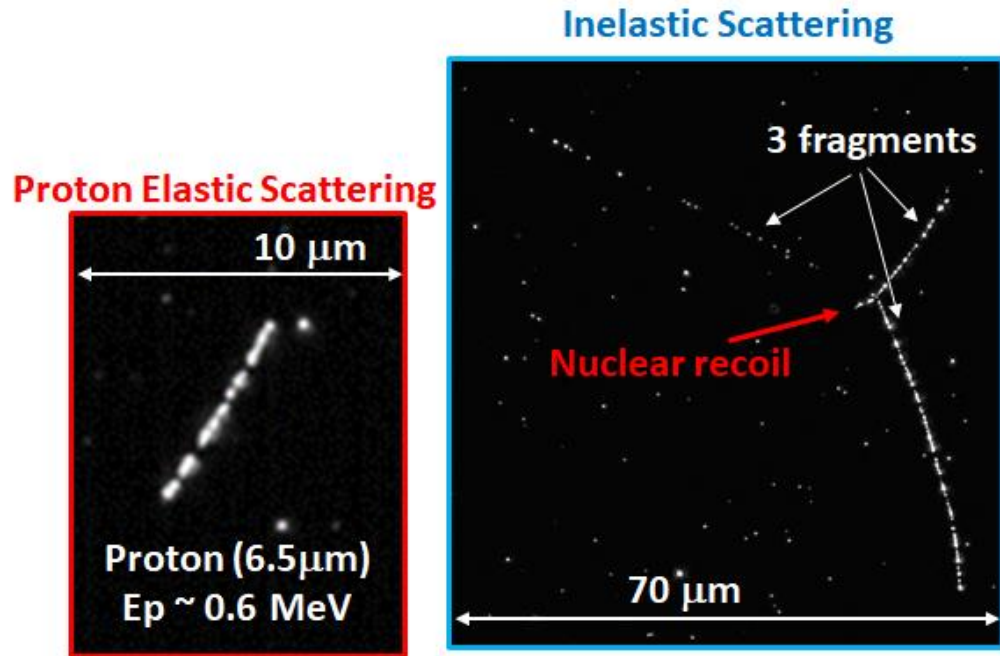


- First demonstration of solid detector and directly tracking analysis
- Directional search around 10 GeV/c² region is first in the world

Proton recoil

Neutron Measurement

Sub-MeV or more energy neutron measurement by proton of $> 100\text{keV}$



Perfectly γ (or electron) background rejection by topological track information and crystal sensitivity

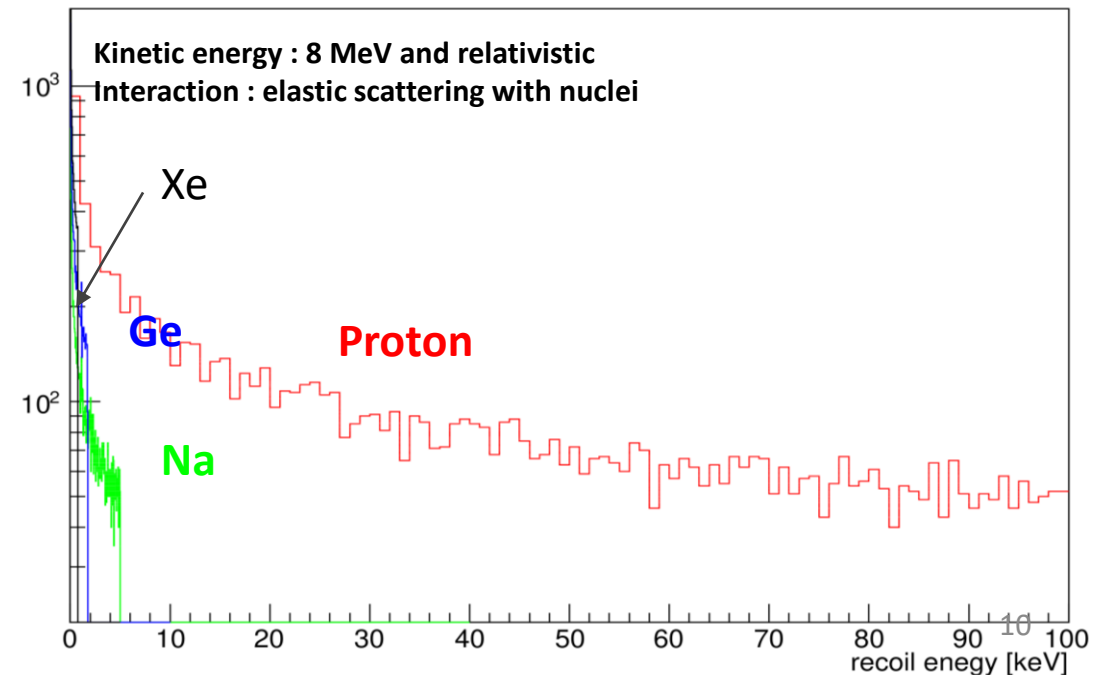
Boosted DM

- Annihilation process of two-component DM in the GC
- MeV scale DM and baryon scattering

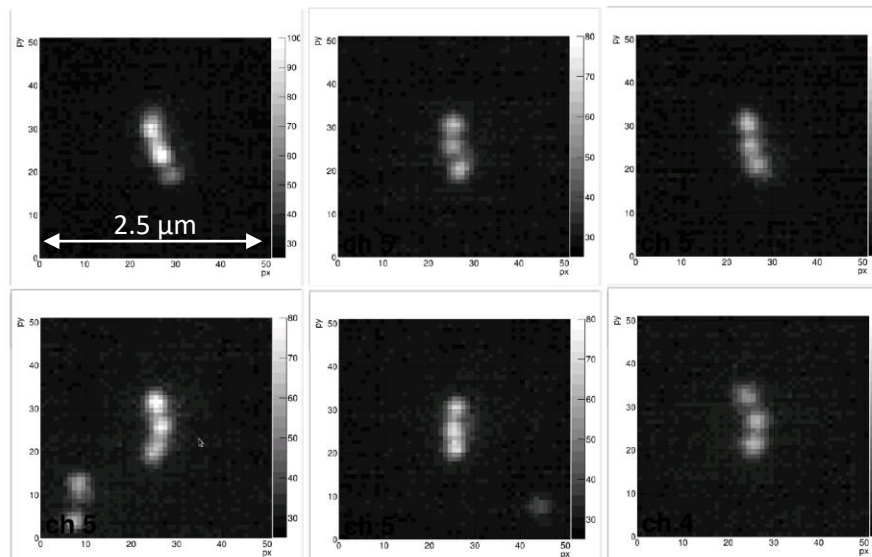
$$\chi\chi \rightarrow X X \text{ [galactic center]}$$



BDM flux on the earth $\phi \sim 1.6 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \left(\frac{\langle \sigma v \rangle}{5 \times 10^{-26} \text{ cm}^3/\text{s}} \right) \left(\frac{5 \text{ MeV}/c^2}{M_1} \right)^2$



Low-E Proton tracking



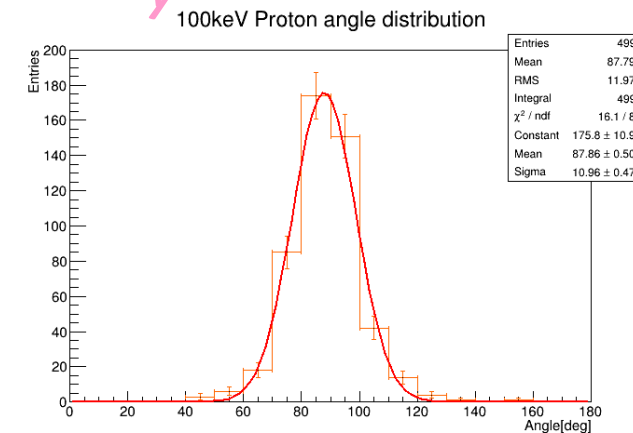
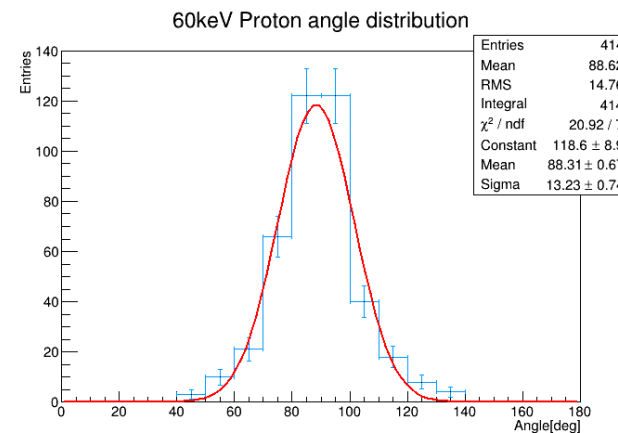
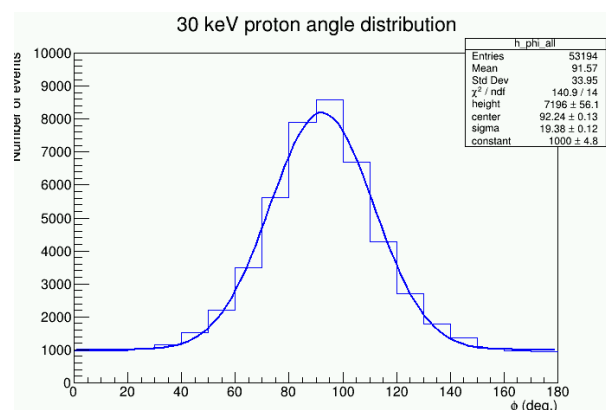
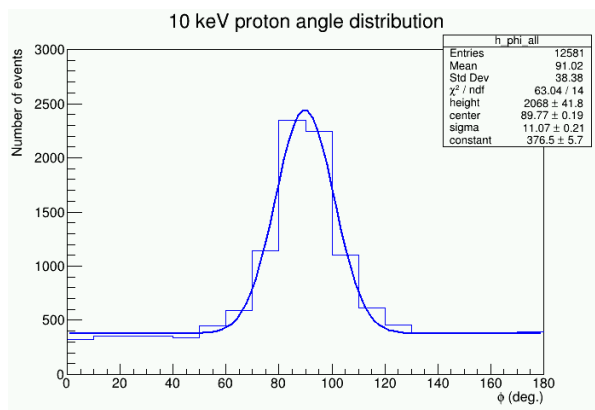
Low-energy proton beam by ion-implantation system

Setup condition :

- Horizontal exposure ($\sim 10^\circ$)
- NIT device : 70nm crystal + HA sensitization
- Data taking : PTS3 &4 analyzed

Angular distribution of proton induced by the ion-implantation system [10-100keV]

Preliminary

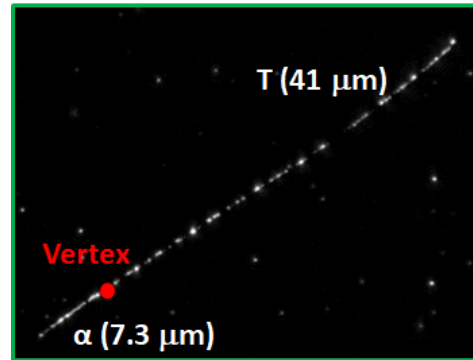
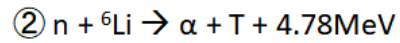
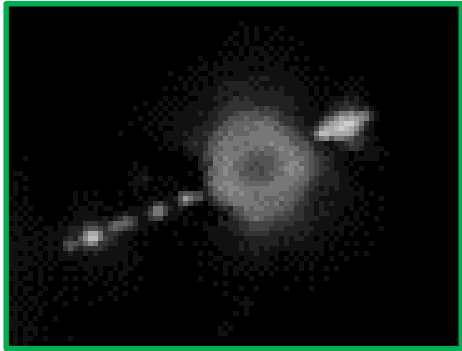
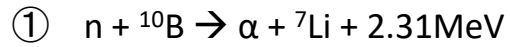


Proton recoil track of >10 keV was observed!!

Technical Application

Thermal & cold neutron imaging

Thermal & cold neutron imaging

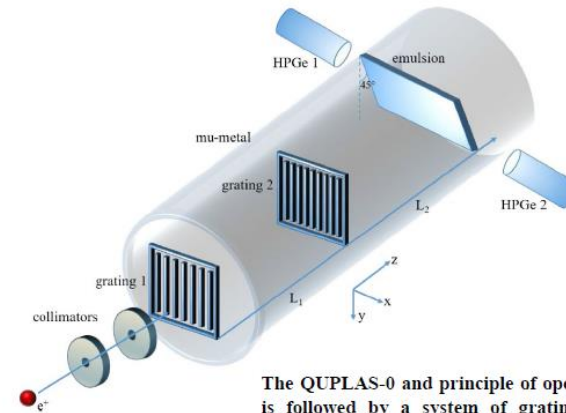


EPJ C vol.78, 959 (2018)

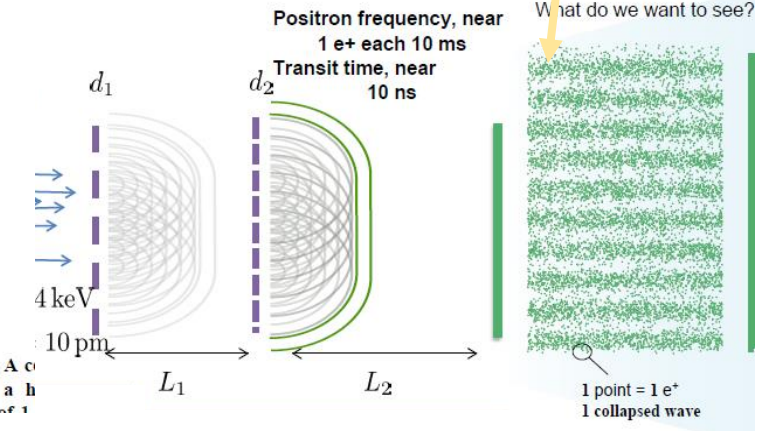
- Neutron radiography
- Gravitational effect by ultra-cold neutron
- Etc.

NIT device

Quantum effect for anti-particle [QUPLAS experiment]



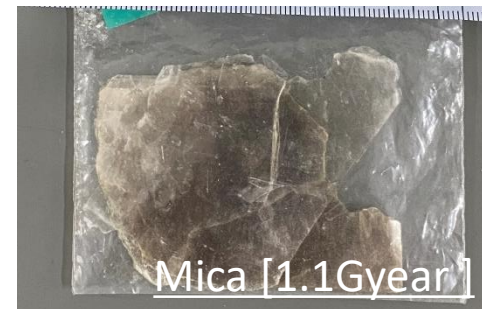
The QUPLAS-0 and principle of operation. An e^- is followed by a system of grating and a h detector. The periodicity of the gratings is of 1



Scanning system → Paleo detector

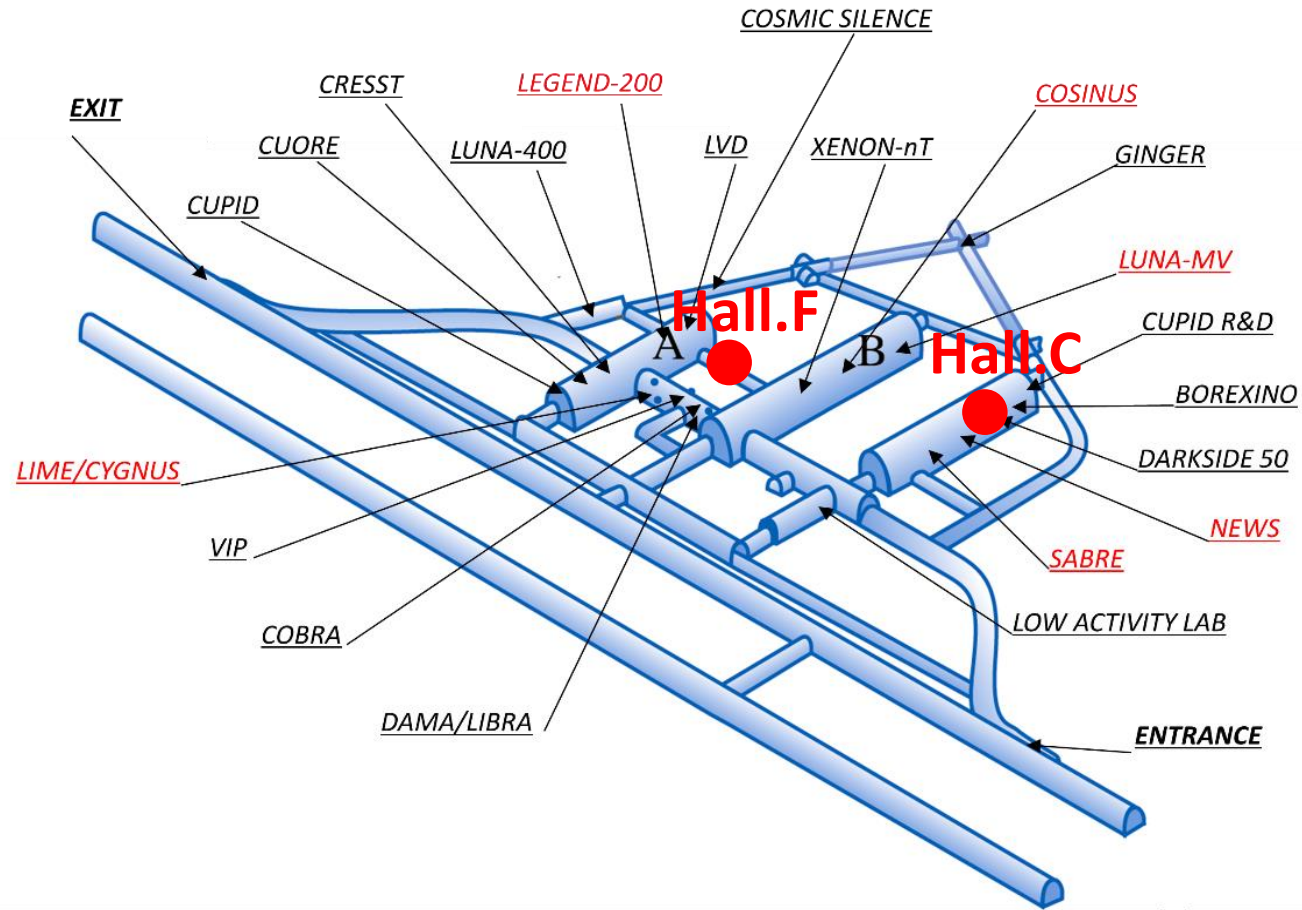
- Heavy dark matter
- Q-ball
- Monopole

Galactic Archaeology!



Current LNGS activities

Underground facility @ LNGS



Underground facility @ LNGS



Device Production
 ~ 100 g /production/4 hour
 (1 kg target production/week)

External background source	Shield power
Environmental γ -rays	$< 10^{-3}$
Environmental neutrons	$< 4.7 \times 10^{-2}$ (90 % C.L.)

Background expectation

[Intrinsic radioactivity in the device]

	Activity [mBq/kg]
U-238	42
Th-232	7-21
K-40	40-130
Ag-108m	50
C-14	24000

	Flux @ underground	Event rate for current selection condition [/kg/day] outside the shield	Event rate for current selection condition [/kg/day] w/ shield
μ	$\sim 10^{-8}$ /cm ² /s	$< 1 \times 10^{-2}$	$< 1 \times 10^{-2}$
Environment γ -ray	0.38 /cm ² /s	$\sim 1.8 \times 10^5$	< 100
C-14 (intrinsic)		~ 100	~ 100
Neutron	$\sim 10^{-6}$ /cm ² /s	< 0.1	$< 10^{-3}$

Run operation

Pouring process



O(1) or less /g for electrons

Pre-dry process



Dry process



~ 0.1 /g/day for electron
(-50°C operation)

Run

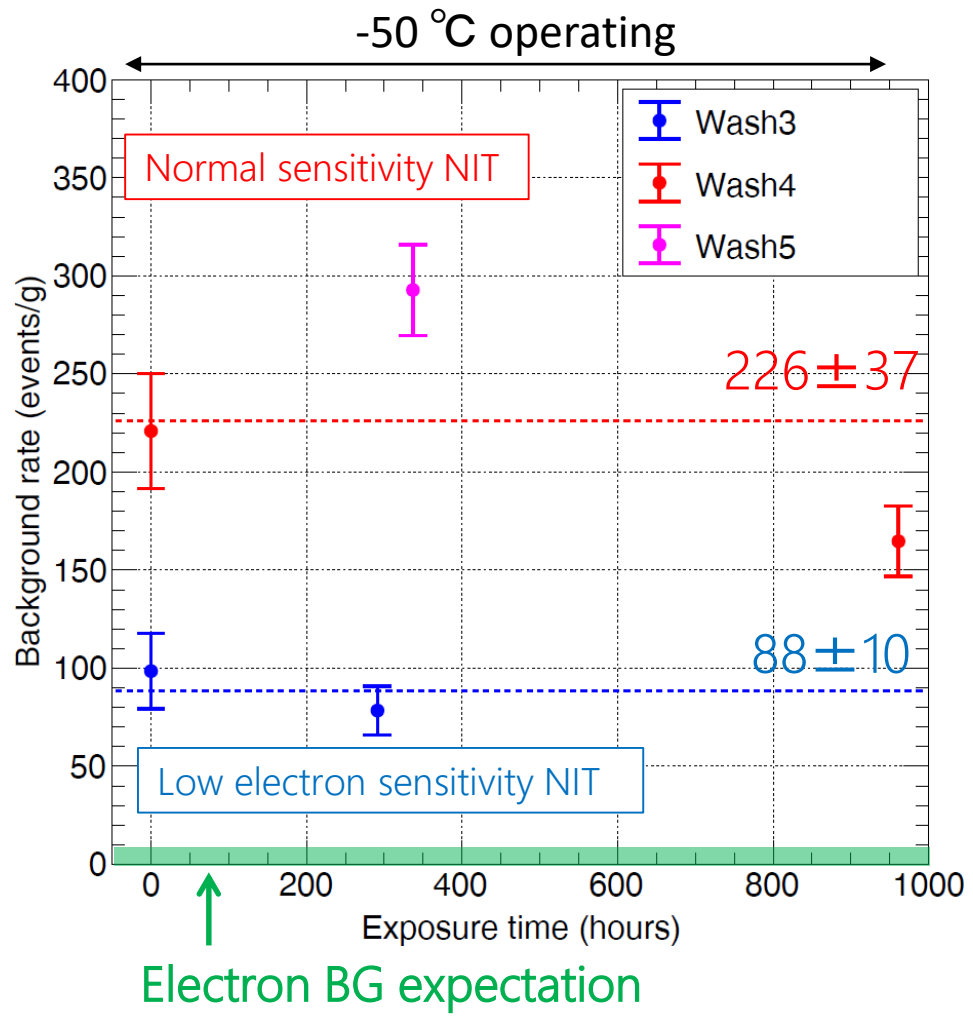
Extraction + Development



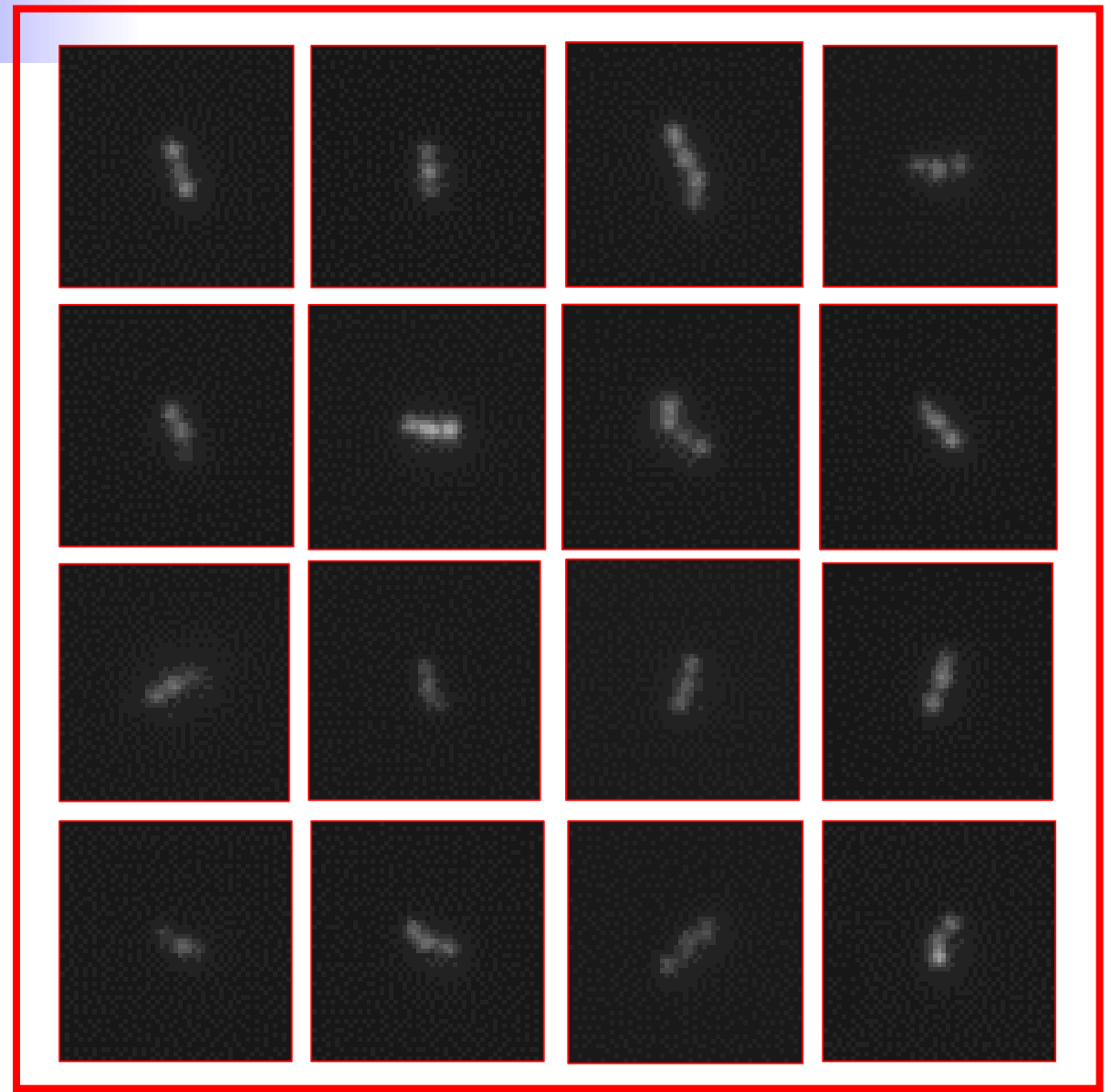
~ 5 /g for electrons

Integrated electron BG rate : 10 or less /g/month

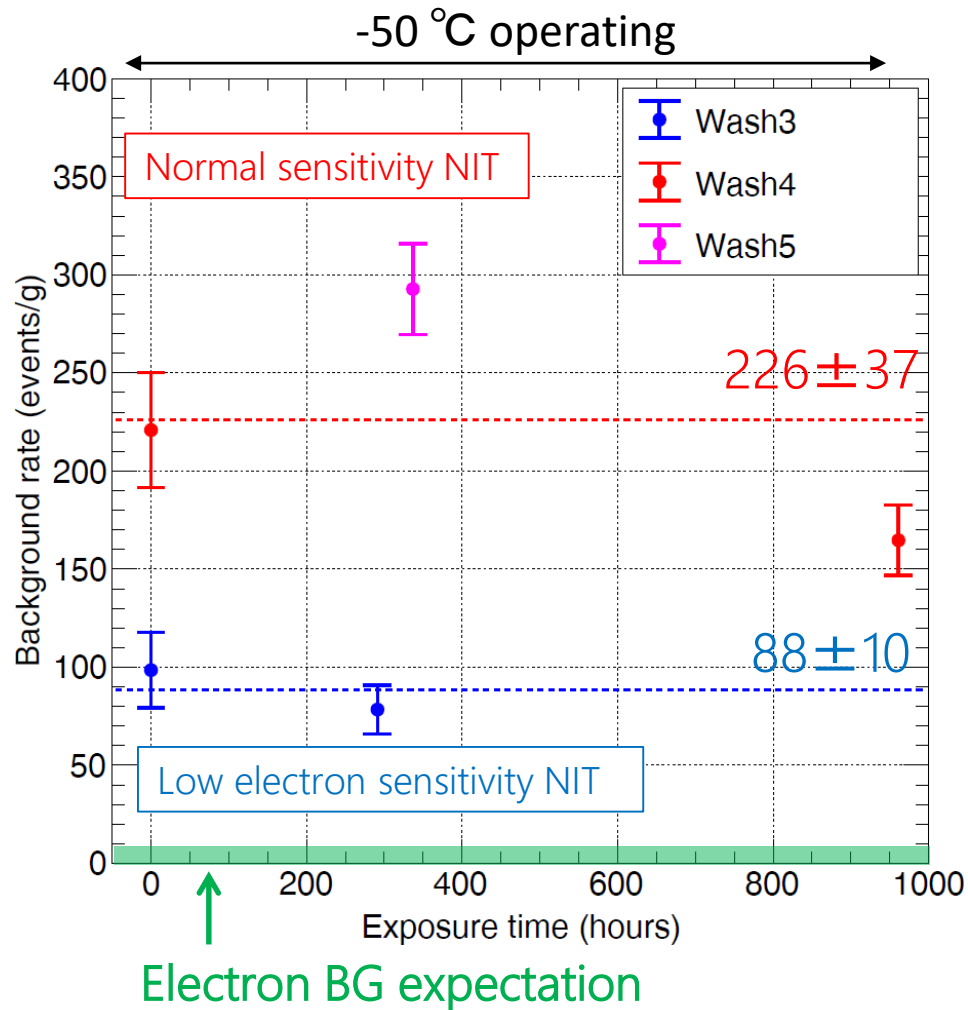
Underground BG run status



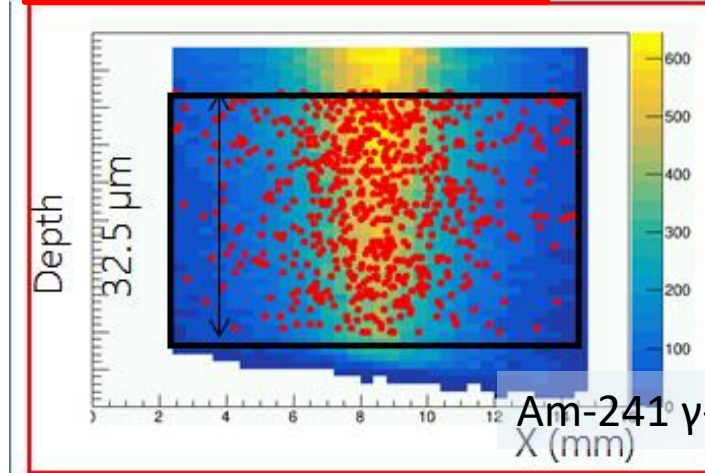
Example of Selected candidate events



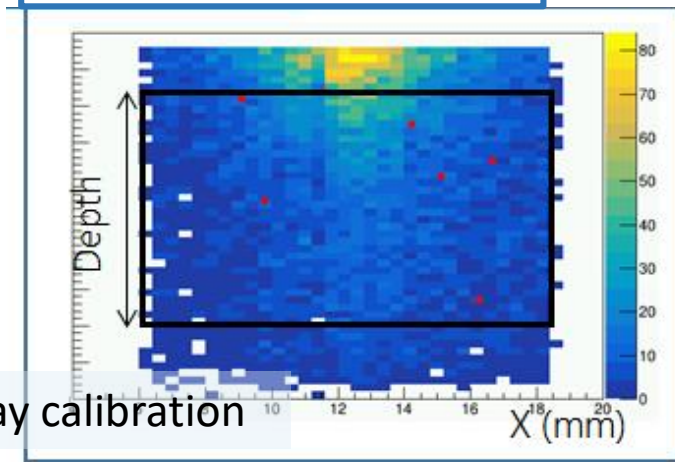
Underground BG run status



Normal sensitivity NIT



Low e sensitive NIT

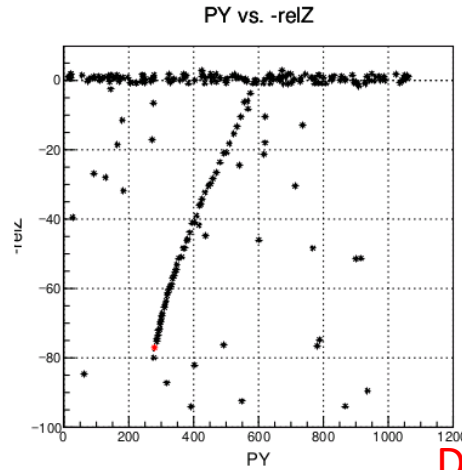
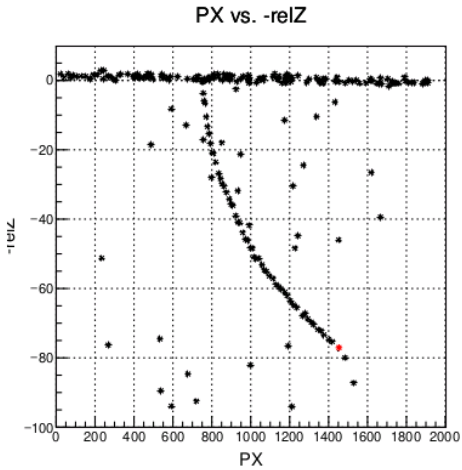


Electron efficiency is $\times 130$ difference

- Ruled out as electron BG
 - Not so difference between two type NIT
 - 10 times higher event rate than electron BG expectation
 - track topology
- NO time dependency at -50°C
 - ⇒ Not CNO recoil
- Unlikely accumulate outside the shield

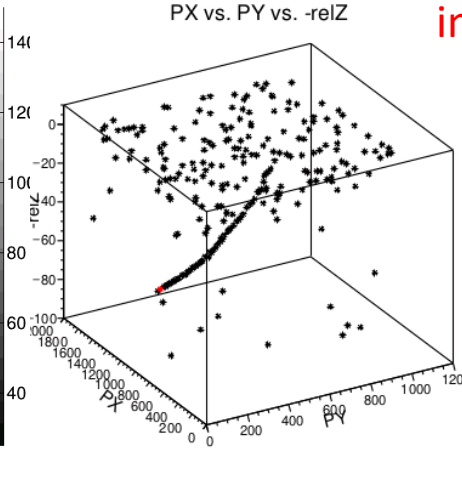
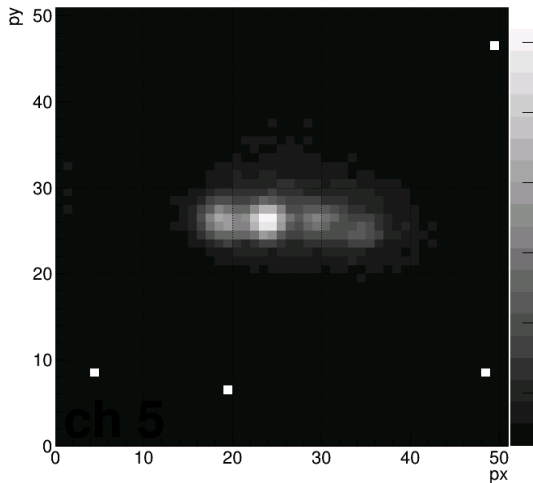
α-ray possibility

Rn measurement



Hall. F

Dry process
in the shield



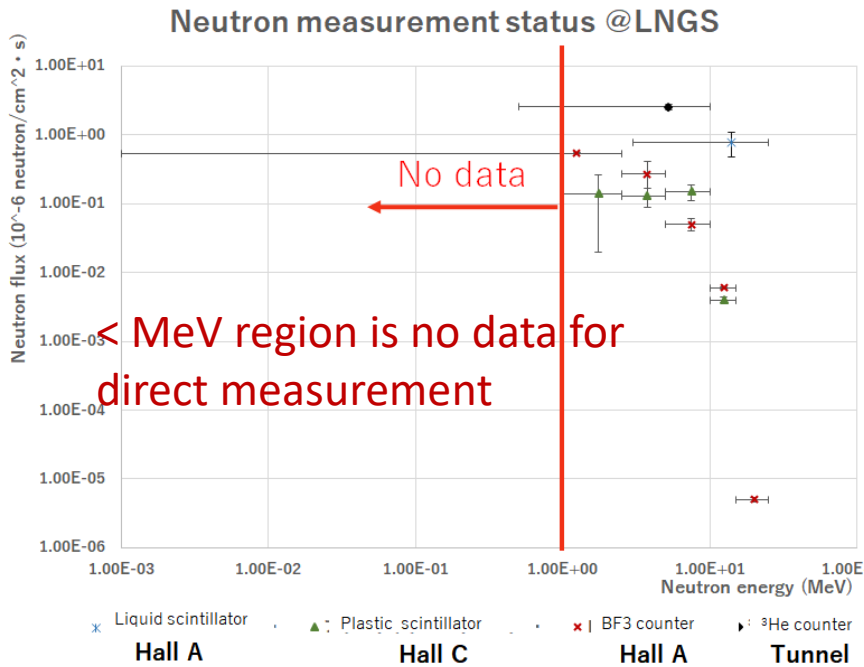
	Bq/m ³	Sigm _a	°C	humid.	mbar
hallF prod.room chamber opened	75.9	15.3	12.1	82.4	917.8
hallF prod.room pouring desk	72.5	15.2	20.7	44.8	916.2
hallF prod.room fridge (wet gel)	71.0	9.1	8.4	52.6	912.6
hallF control room	81.1	16.7	17.5	44.5	907.4
hallF prod.room chem.desk	89.2	16.1	19.5	39.6	909.8
hallC compressed air	163.1	14.3	15.1	11.0	915.7
hallC N2 20L/h	2.3	2.6	15.1	7.8	921.3
hallC top of shield air	46.9	9.6	14.5	45.3	914.8
hallF dev.room desk	87.0	16.4	17.2	53.5	907.1
hallF corridor air	73.8	19.8	17.1	46.0	907.1
hallB air (source of room air)	18.6	6.3	14.5	46.0	909.3

*average from 8h to end

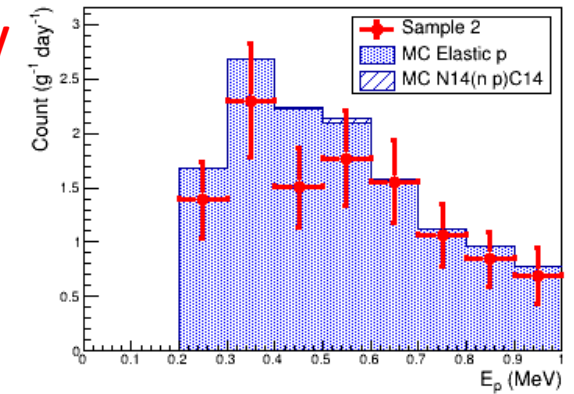
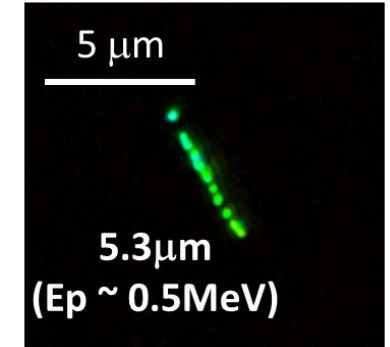
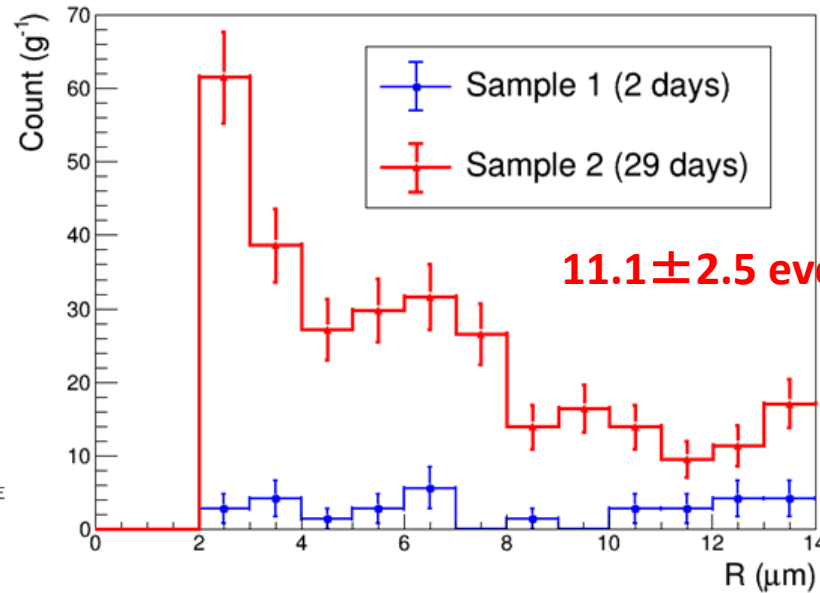
2 times higher alpha-ray source (Rn) was contaminated in the drying air

Sub-MeV neutron measurement at LNGS

Neutron elastic scattering



Range spectrum of Single-prong signal



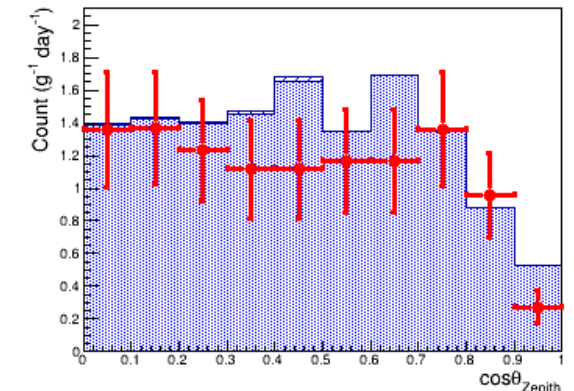
✓ Observed signal increase consistent with environmental neutron signal

Flux @0.25-10 MeV : $(5.9 \pm 1.2) \times 10^{-3} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$

arXiv:2208.13366 (2022)

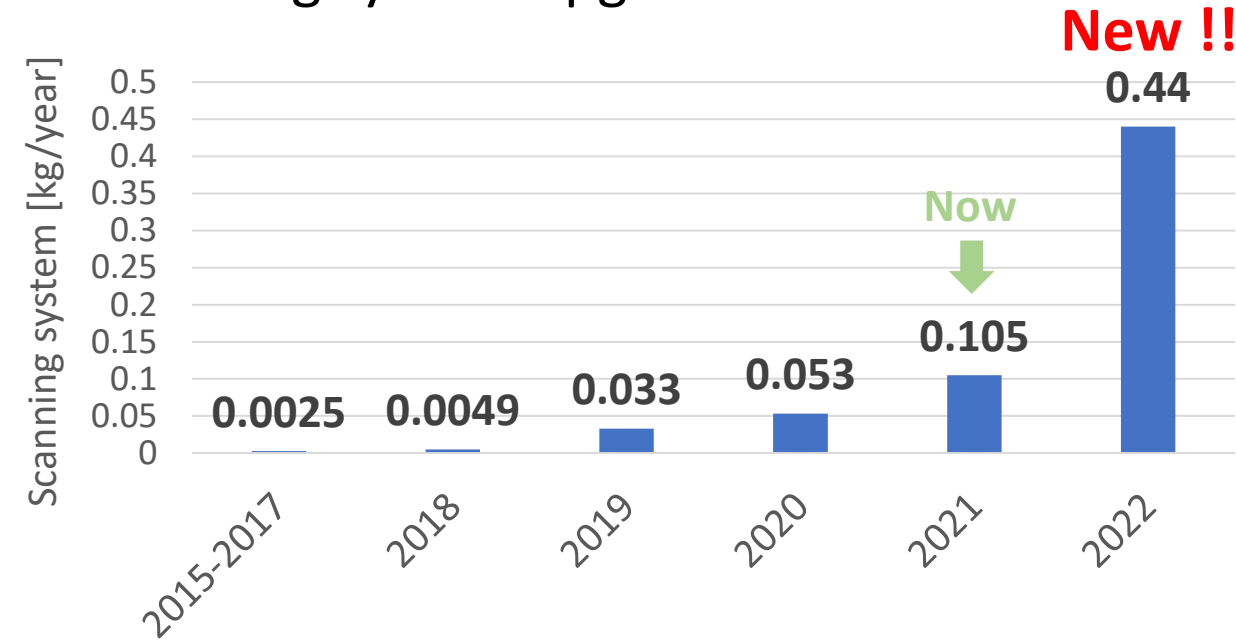


Next: underground measurement



Prospect

■ Scanning system upgrade



Current speed : 0.1kg/year/mothine

→ 0.44 kg/y/machine x 5 machine ~ 2.0 kg/y scanning [2022-2023]

+1

Additional upgrade study is also on going

~ 2.0 kg/y scanning ⇒ > 50 kg/y [2024-]

- * multi camera and wide view image taking
- * 10 machine operation

■ Underground and surface run [2022-2023 task]

- Improvement to lower background condition and scale up
- Proton recoil tracking to search the BDM both surface and underground run
- Neutron measurement at underground lab

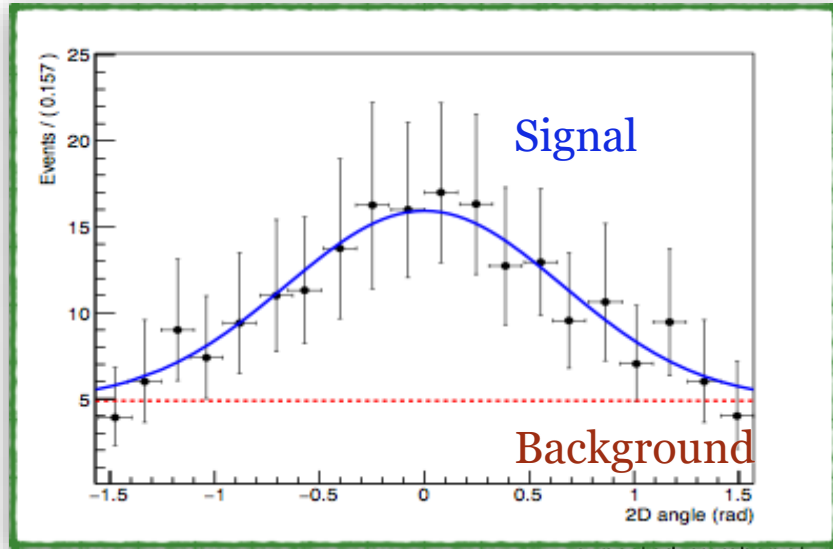
And, continue to various upgrade study for the device and data analysis

Conclusion

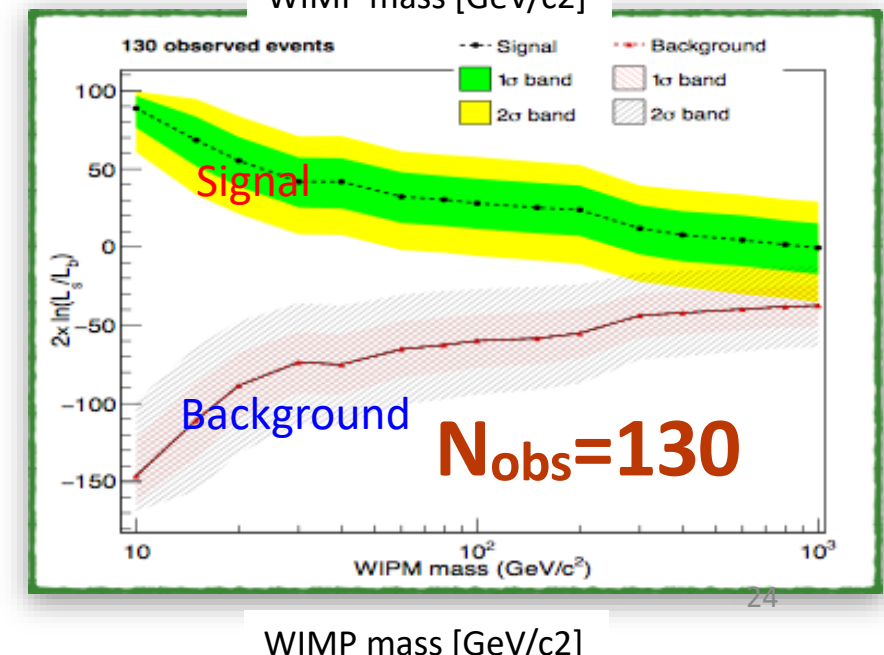
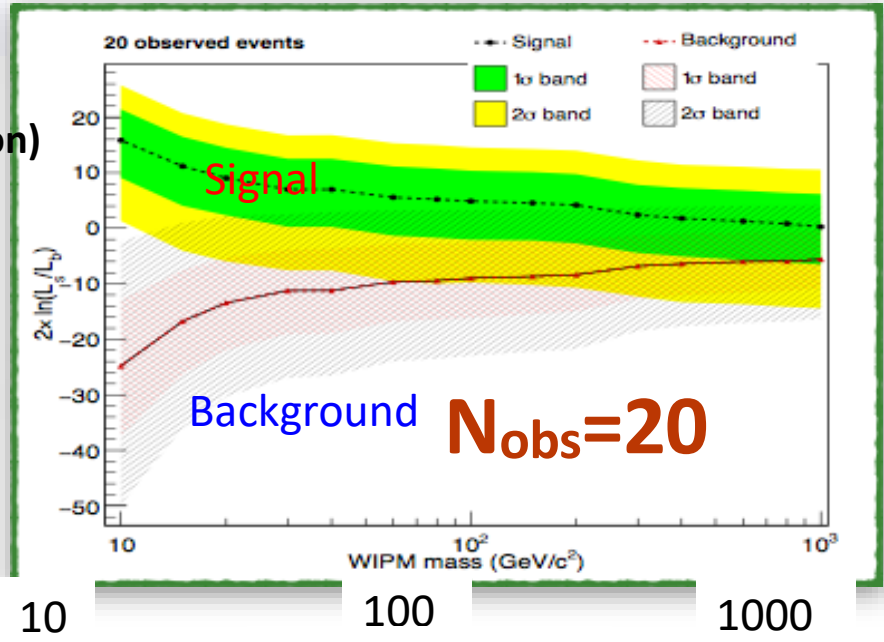
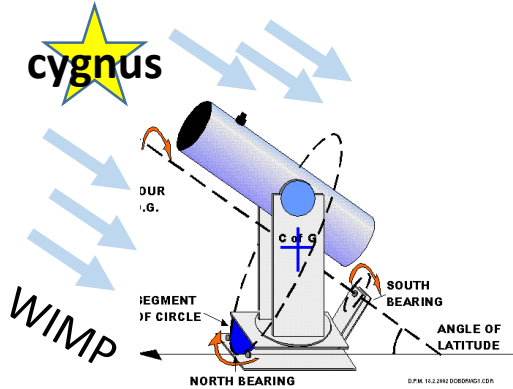
- NEWSdm is motivated by the directional dark matter search, and sub-micron length tracking by the Nano Imaging Tracker (NIT) based on the fine-grained nuclear emulsion
- Tracking ability for the nuclear recoil of $O(10)$ keV was demonstrated by the ion-implantation system and neutron recoil
- Directional search was also demonstrated at the surface lab. using the telescope, and got the first limit with directional information
- Device facility at hall.F, LNGS was constructed, and all handling from device production is possible.
- Now, underground run at LNGS is promoting, and observed the higher level BG to our expectation
⇒ they are expected to be BG attributed to alpha-ray contaminated in dry process
- Sub-MeV neutron measurement on surface lab. at LNGS was succeeded , and go to underground measurement as next.

Back up

Potential of Directional Sensitive Search



N. Agfanova *et al.* (NEWSdm collaboration)
Eur. Phys. J. C (2018) 78: 578



$$\mathcal{L}(\sigma_{\chi-n}, R_b) = \frac{e^{-(\mu_{\chi} + \mu_b)}}{N!} \times \prod_{i=1}^N [\mu_{\chi} f_{\chi}(\vec{q}_i; t_i) + \mu_b f_b(\vec{q}_i)]$$

expected number of WIMP events
expected number of background events

signal pdf
background pdf

total number of observed events

set of observables

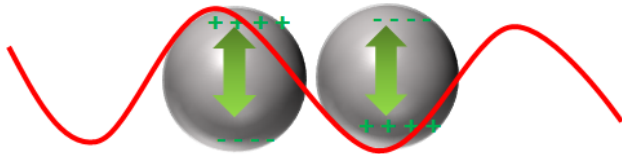
Annual modulation : O(1000) events

Gain of 100 times

Direction information : O(10) events

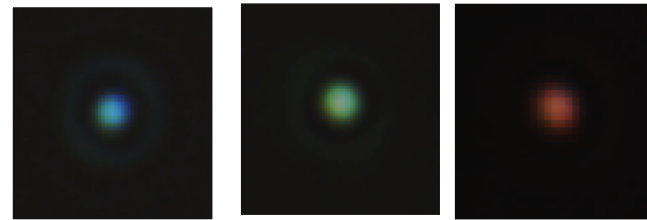
Super-resolution system with localized surface plasmon resonance(LSPR) response

LSPR



$$p = 4\pi\epsilon_m a^3 \frac{\epsilon_1(\lambda) - \epsilon_m(\lambda)}{\epsilon_1(\lambda) + 2\epsilon_m(\lambda)} E_0$$

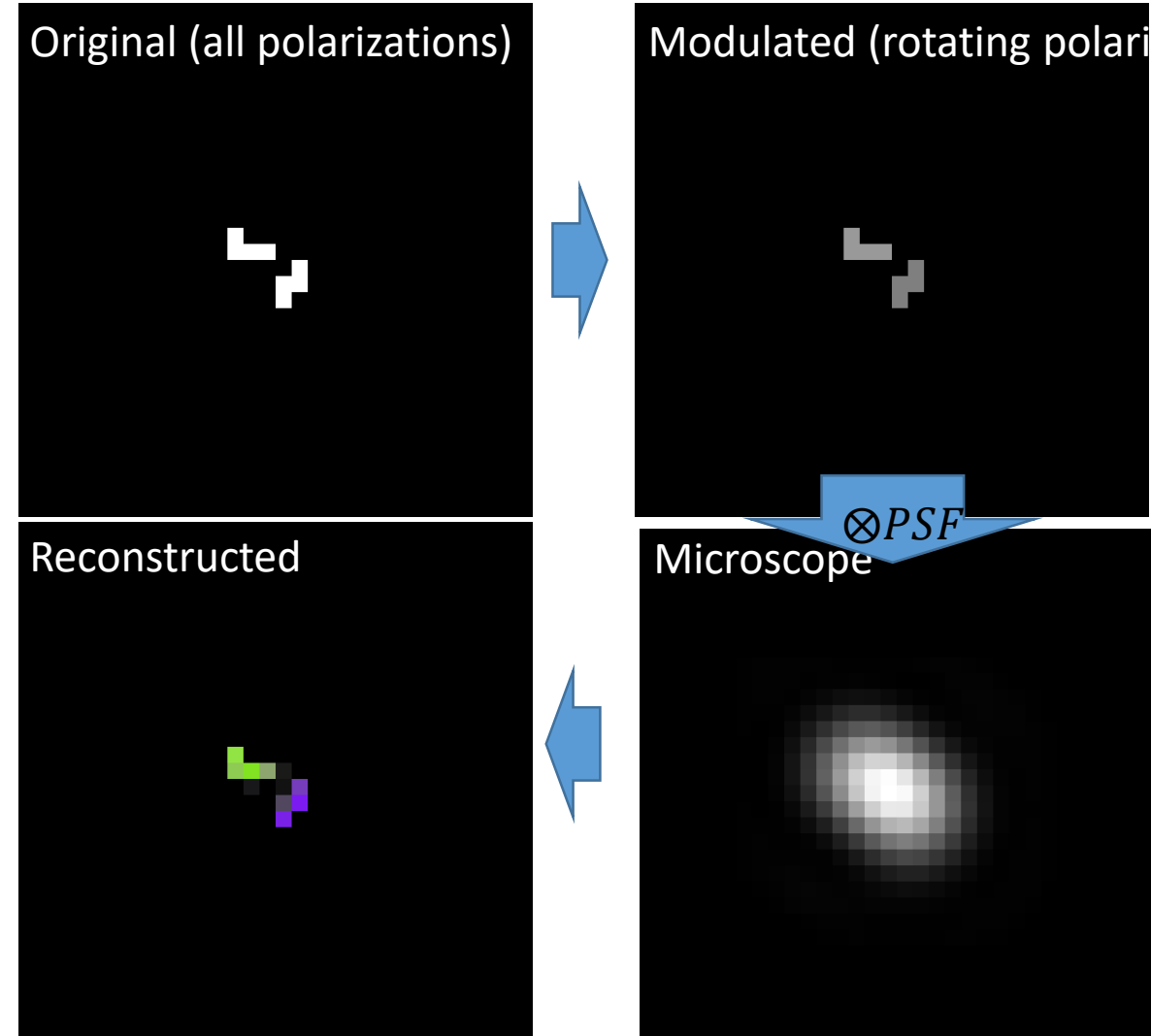
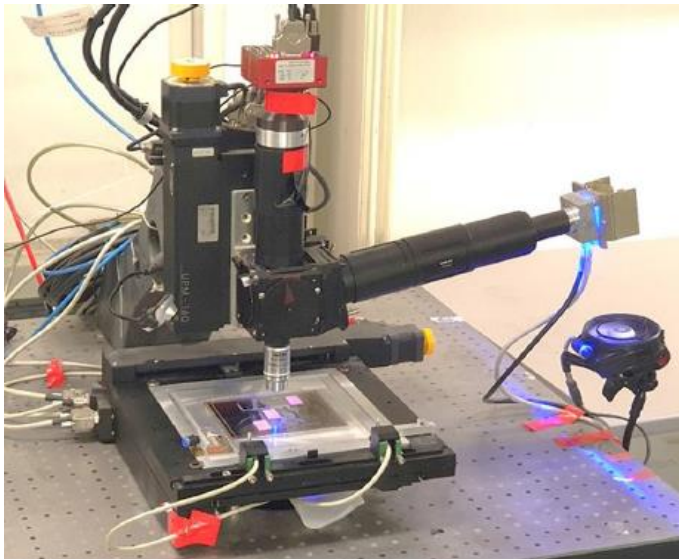
$$\epsilon_1(\lambda) + 2\epsilon_m(\lambda) \approx 0$$



40 nm

80 nm

120 nm



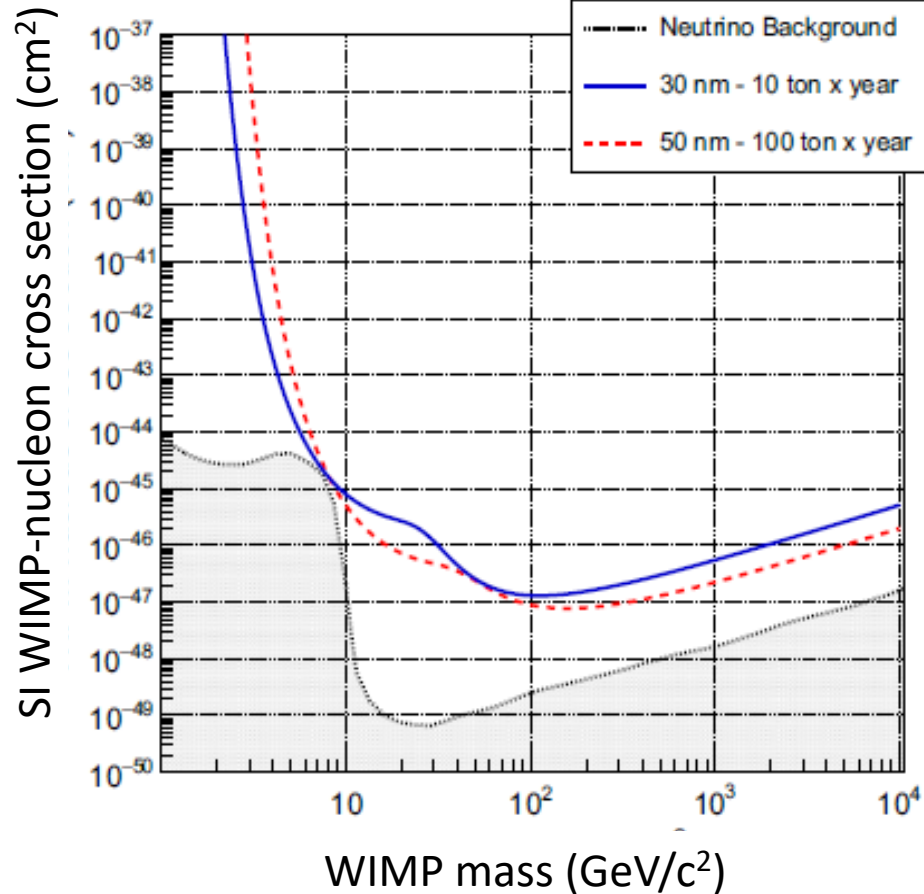
Modulate the intensity of each pixel in the image: $I_\theta = a \cos[2(\theta - \varphi)] + b$

θ – polarization angle
 φ – pixel “phase”,
 b – pixel brightness mean,
 a – pixel brightness change amplitude

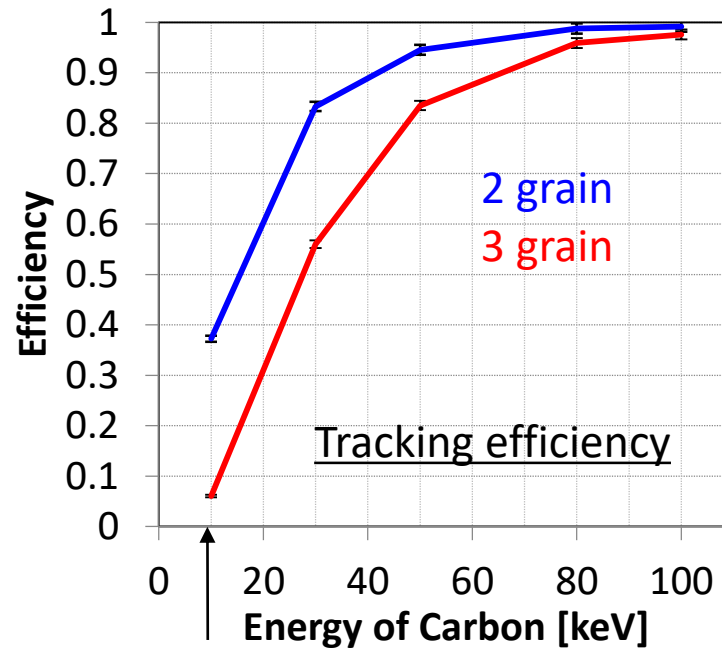
PTEP, 063H02,(2019) 6 <https://doi.org/10.1093/ptep/ptz033>

Scientific Reports (2020) 10:18773

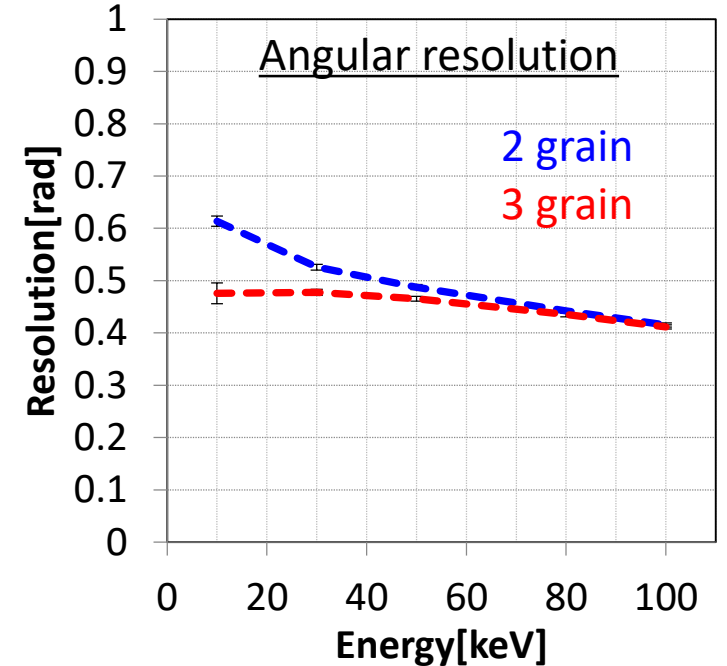
Device potential toward neutrino



Simulation for NIT device intrinsic potential



35 nm C : 10 keV
Br : 45 keV
Ag : 55 keV



- ☑ 10 ton production : special machine optimized this device is required (more simple system : current machine is over speck)
- ☑ High scanning speed machine is needed (current highest machine in the nuclear emulsion field is ~ 1 ton/month)
- ☑ under studying about light emission from NIT as event trigger ²⁶



Future facility for NEWSdm: 10kg and beyond

Emulsion facility and shielding with an equatorial telescope

