

# Research and development for the exploration of unknown cosmic ray events using billion-year-scale mineral track detectors

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# Important Problem in Particle Physics

➤ Asymmetrical Matter and Anti Matter  
Matter  $>$  Anti Matter

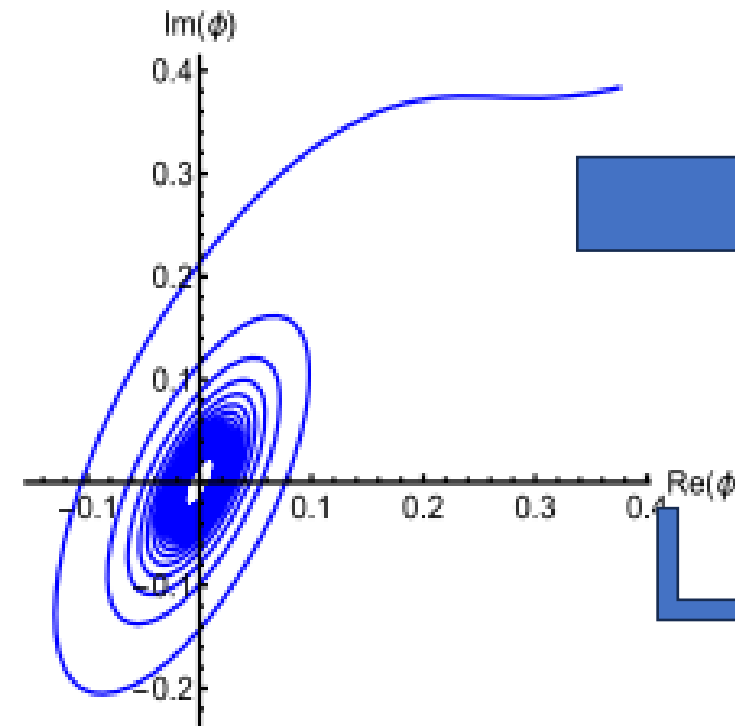


Affleck – Dine mechanism

➤ Existence of Dark Matter

Unknown gravitational force in the galaxy  
large - scale structure of the cosmos

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- 
- 



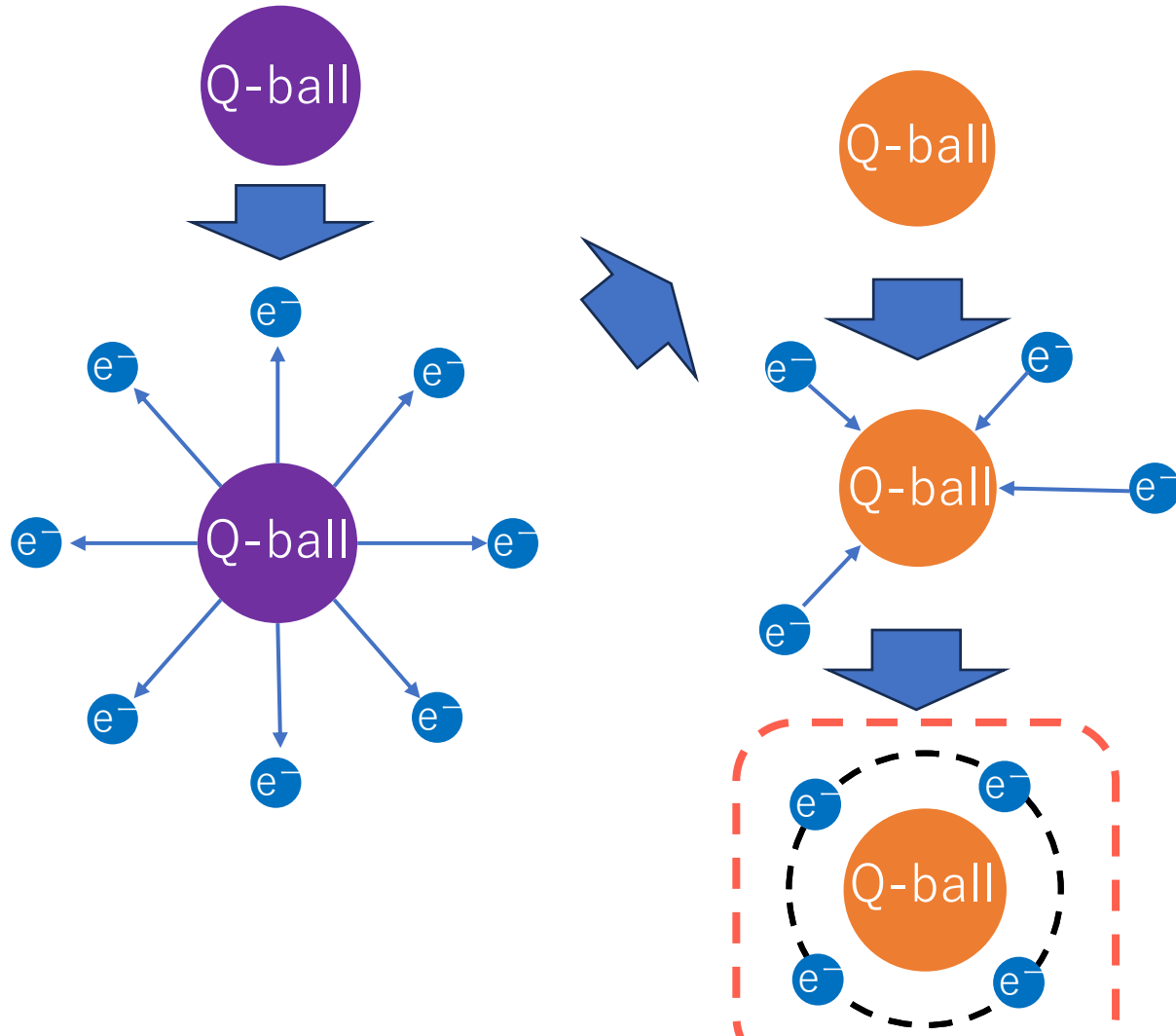
Generate  
Baryons and Leptons



Spatial instability  
→ Qball

# Charged Q-ball [1][2][3]

[1] J. P. Hong, et al.,(2015) arXiv : 1505.02594  
[2] J. P. Hong, et al.,(2016) arXiv : 1604.04352  
[3] J. P. Hong & M. Kawasaki,(2017) arXiv : 1702.00889



Become  $Q^{0(1)}$  ions  $\rightarrow$  Charged Q-ball

## ➤ Mass of Q-ball

$$M_Q \gtrsim 3.9 \times 10^{26} \text{ GeV}$$

## ➤ Charge of Q-ball

$$Z_Q < \alpha^{-1} = 137$$

※Valence is  $O(1)$  considering electronic capture of proton

**Possibility of extremely heavy Dark Matter**

# How can we explore Q-ball?

Paleo-Detector (Mica) might be the best solution



Over  $10^8$ yr Since creation  
→ Scale of years of the Earth

$$flux = \frac{\rho [GeV/cm^3]}{M_{DM} [GeV/c^2]} \times v [cm/sec]$$

$\rho$  :  $0.4 GeV/cm^3$  (local dark matter density from rotation curve of galaxy)

$v$  : typically  $300 km/sec$  (dark matter velocity)

**Assume “heavy” DM, Flux is very low**

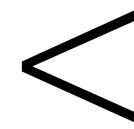
→ we need big exposure

$$Exposure \propto M [kg \text{ (or area)}] \times T [year]$$

Largest detector at current situation

$$10^6 \text{ g} \times O(1) \text{ yr}$$

$$\rightarrow 10^6 \text{ g} \cdot \text{yr}$$

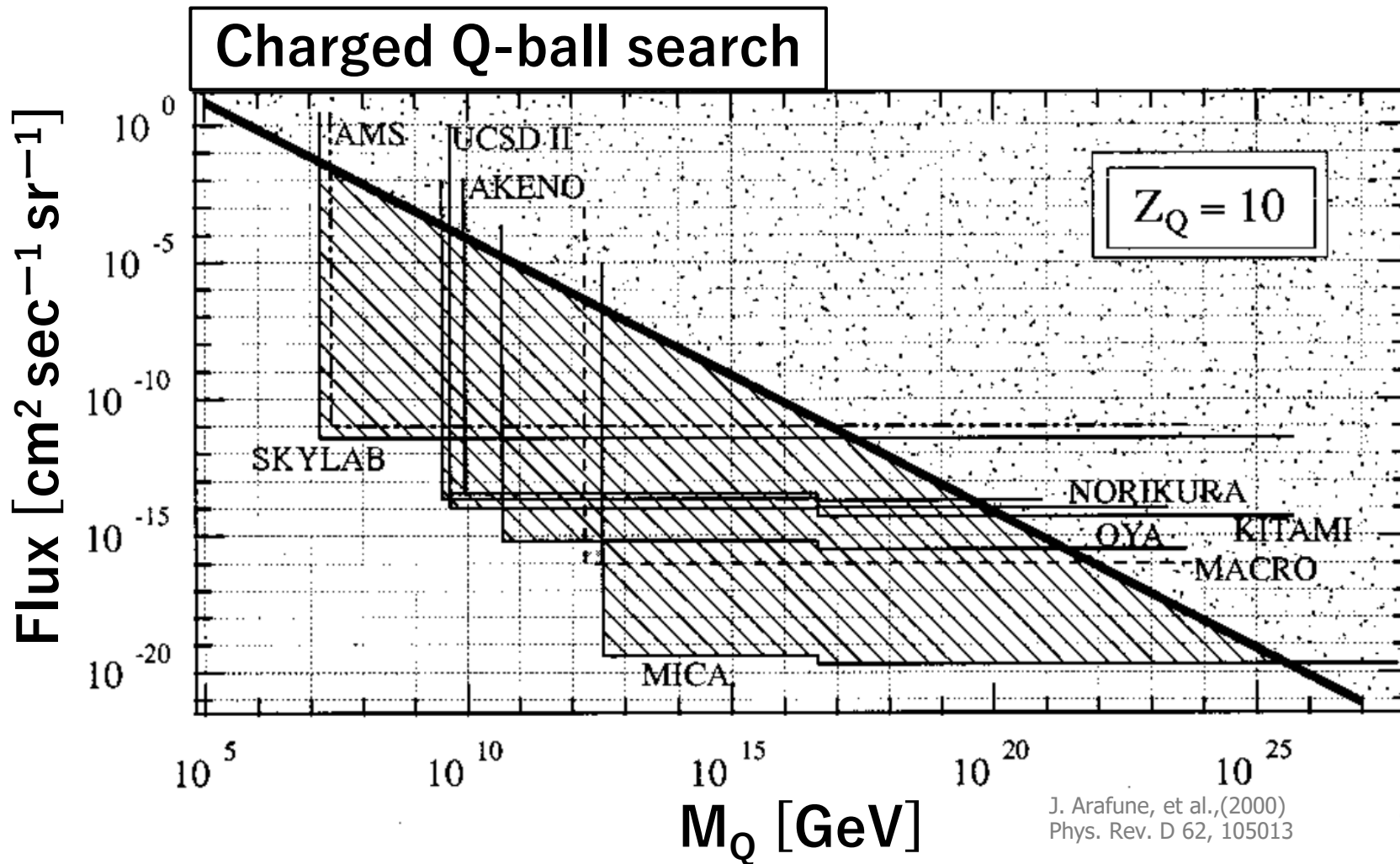


**Paleo detector**

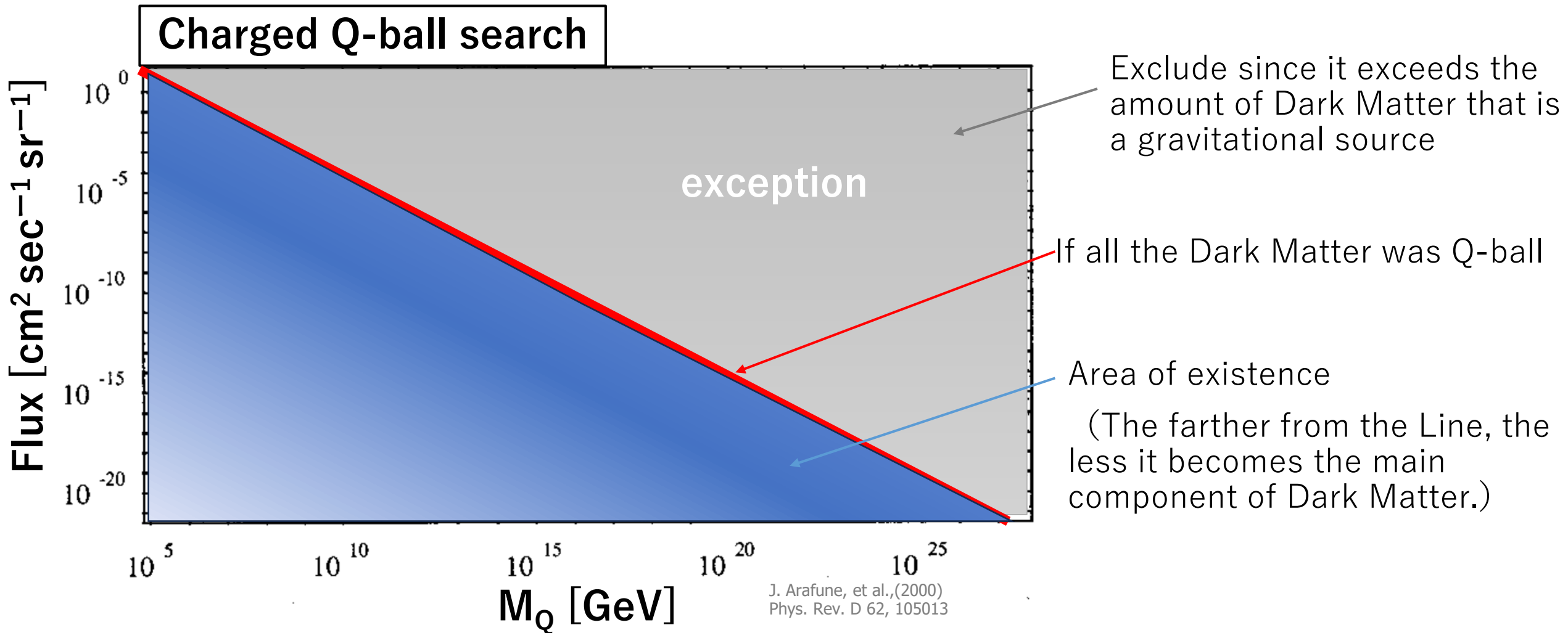
$$1 \text{ g} \times >10^8 \text{ yr}$$

$$\rightarrow >10^8 \text{ g} \cdot \text{yr}$$

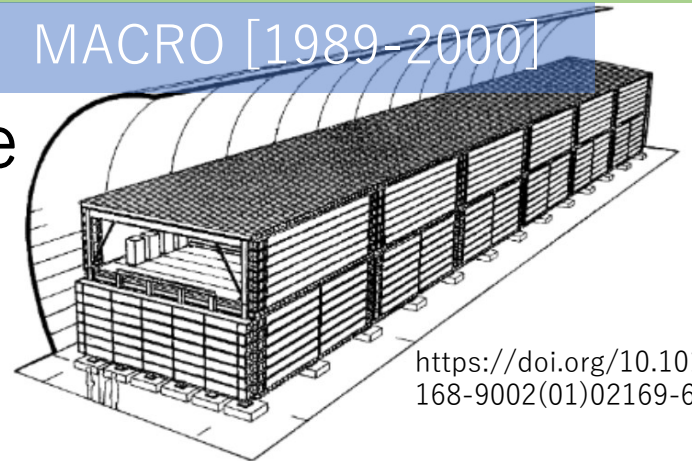
# Paleo detector that increases the search amount by time



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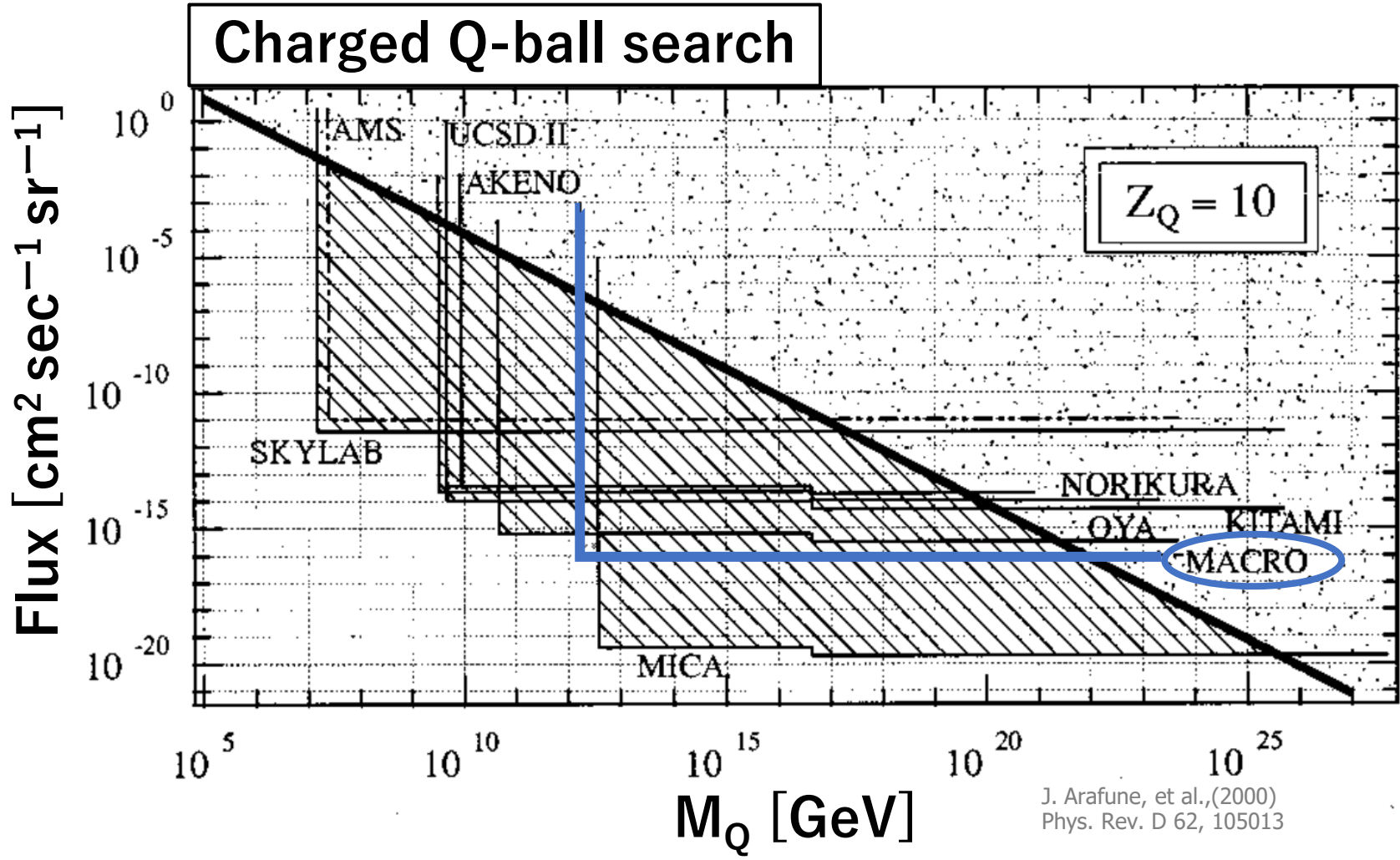


# Paleo detector that increases the search amount by time

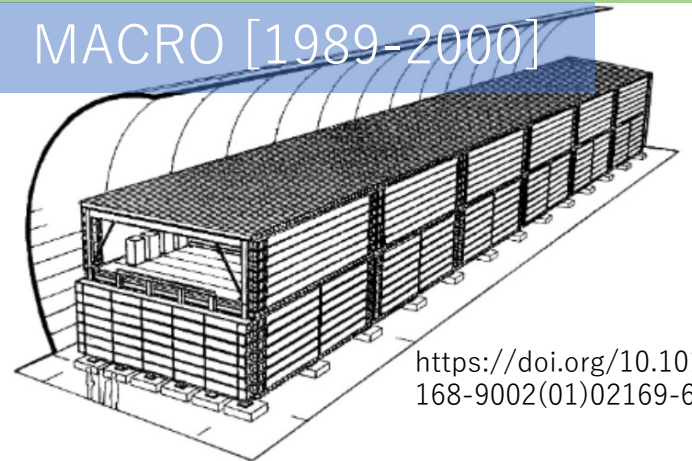


[https://doi.org/10.1016/S0168-9002\(01\)02169-6](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0168-9002(01)02169-6)

CR-39 (plastic damage detectors)  
Observed area : O(10 x 10) m<sup>2</sup>  
Exposure time : O(1) year



MACRO [1989-2000]



[https://doi.org/10.1016/S0168-9002\(01\)02169-6](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0168-9002(01)02169-6)

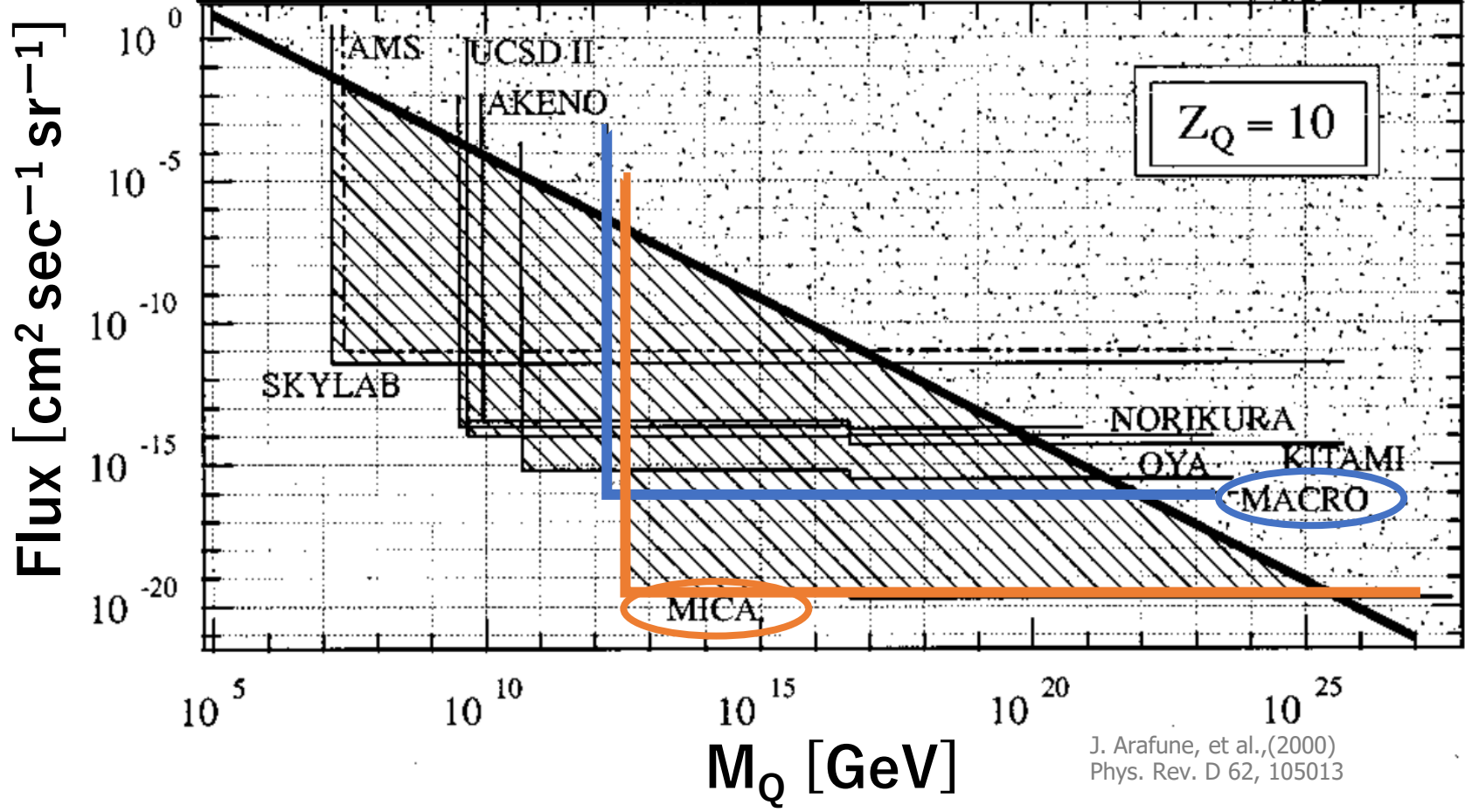
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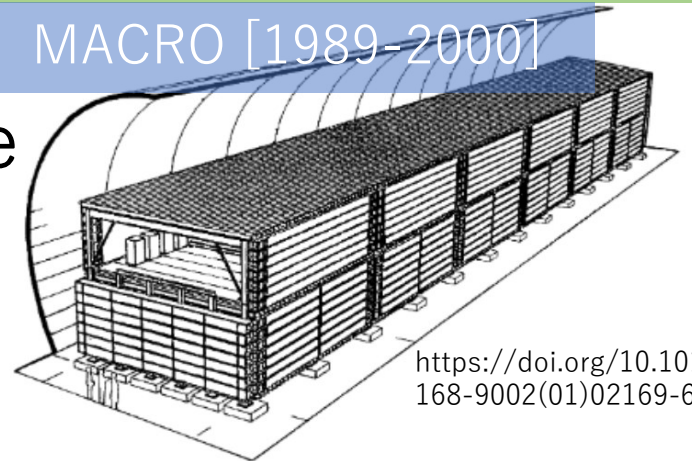
Mica [1986]  
Observed area : 595cm<sup>2</sup>  
Exposure time : 10<sup>8</sup> years  
(Extrapolation of the results from Monopole search)

# Paleo detector that increases the search amount by time

## Charged Q-ball search



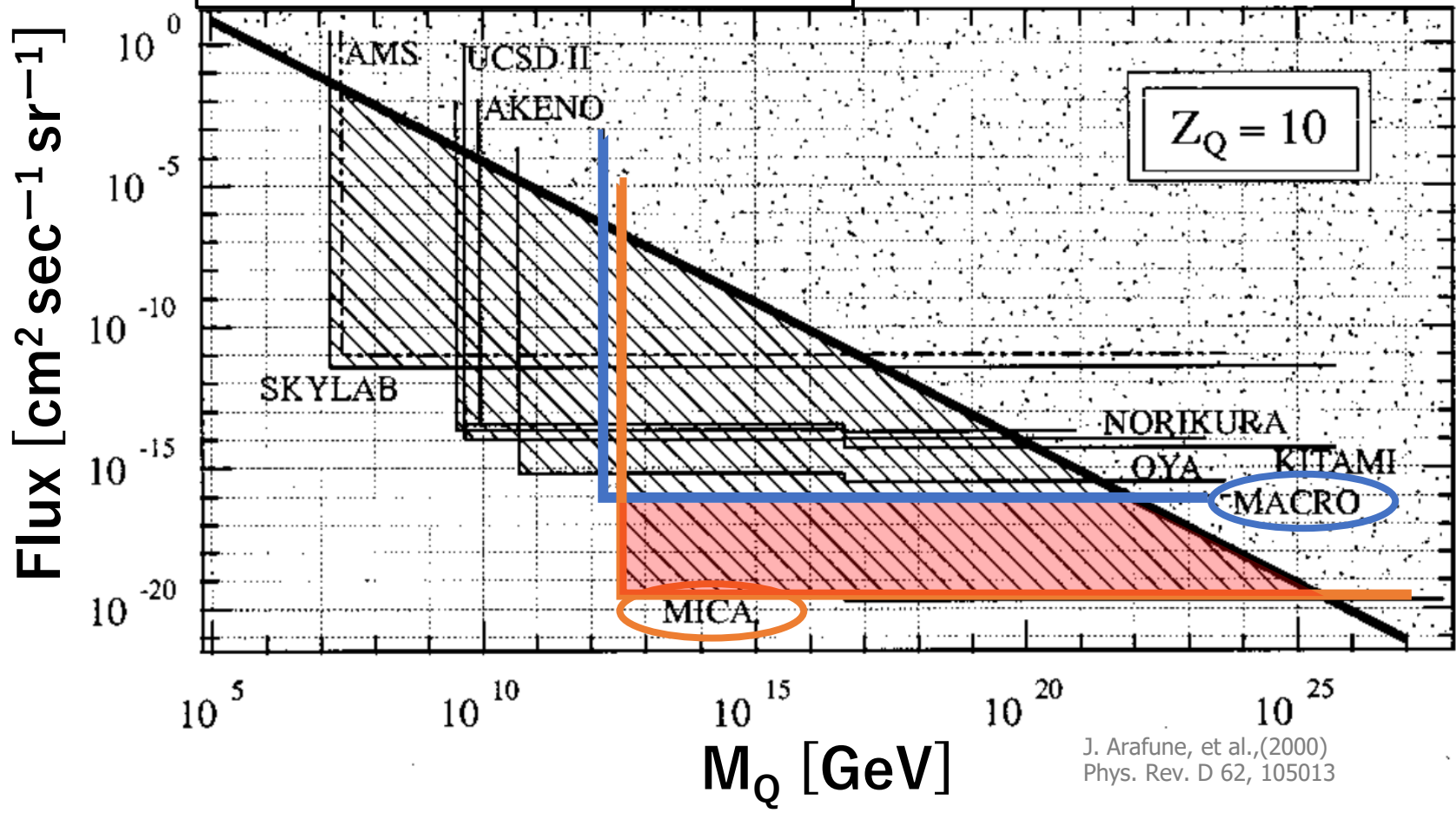




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# Paleo detector that increases the search amount by time

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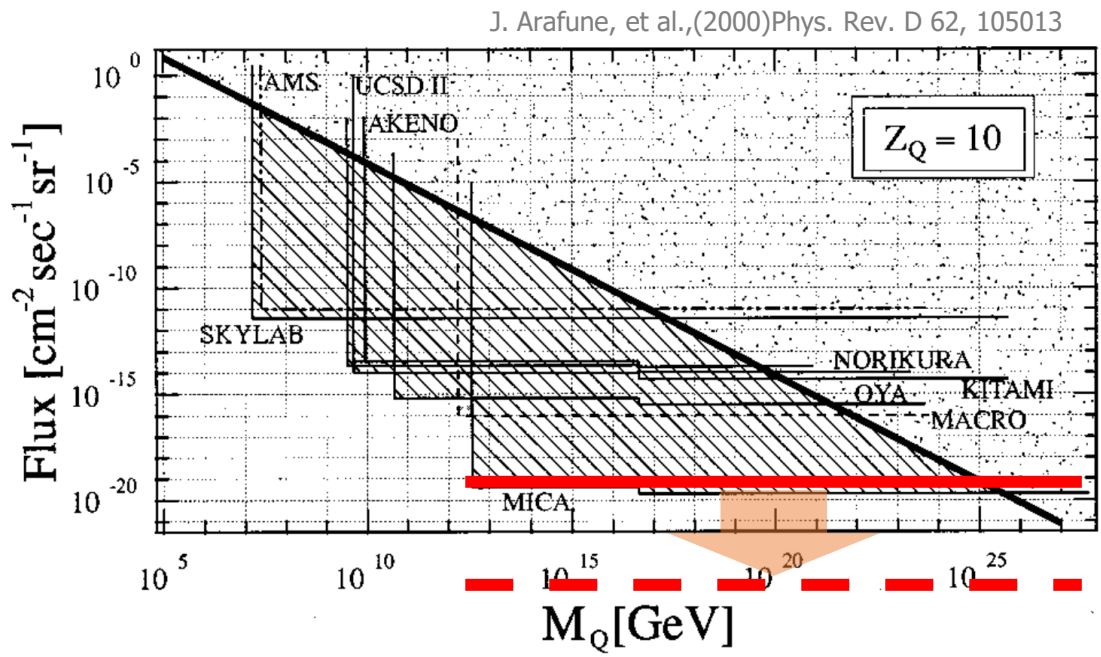


CR-39 (plastic damage detectors)  
 Observed area :  $O(10 \times 10)$  m<sup>2</sup>  
 Exposure time :  $O(1)$  year



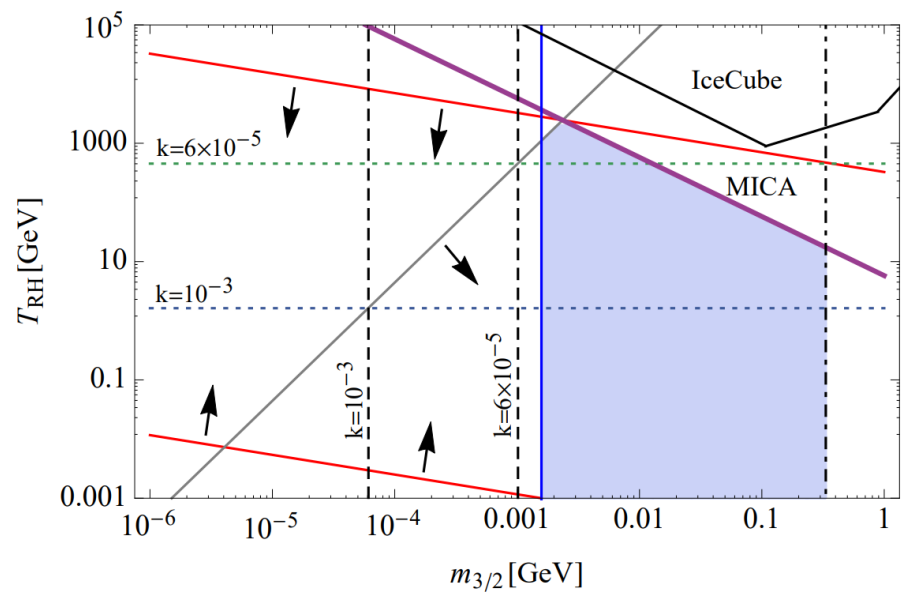
Mica [1986]  
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# Introducing the scanning system and Optimization

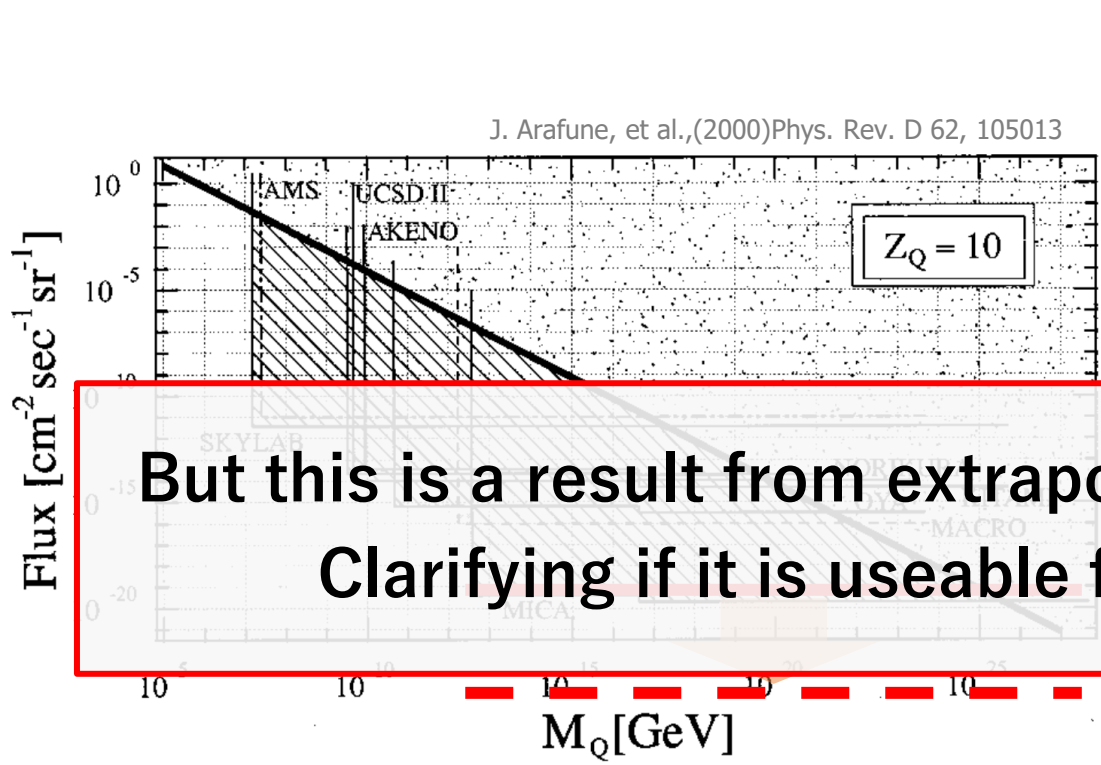


Possibility of putting a new limit against physical quantities.

$T_{RH}$  : Re-heating temperature of the universe,  $m_{3/2}$  : Gravitino mass

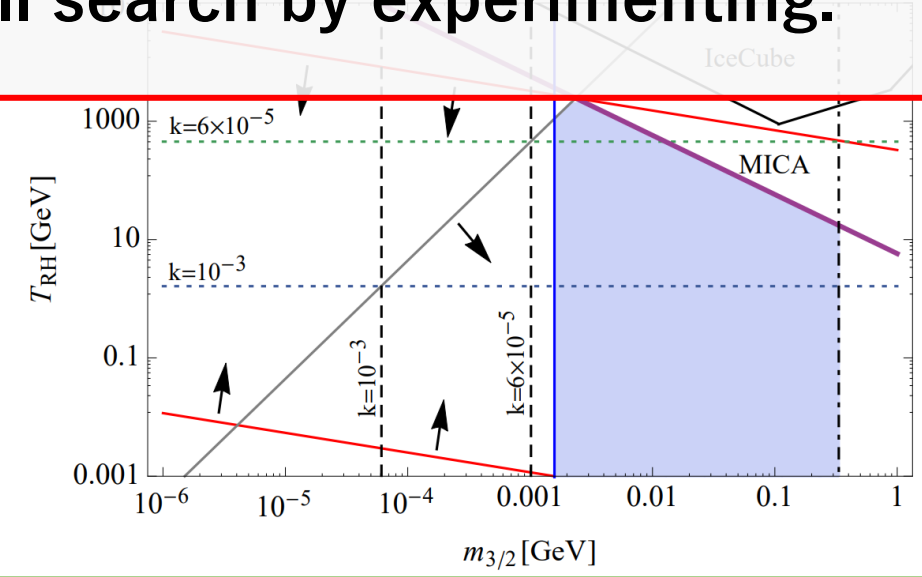


# Introducing the scanning system and Optimization



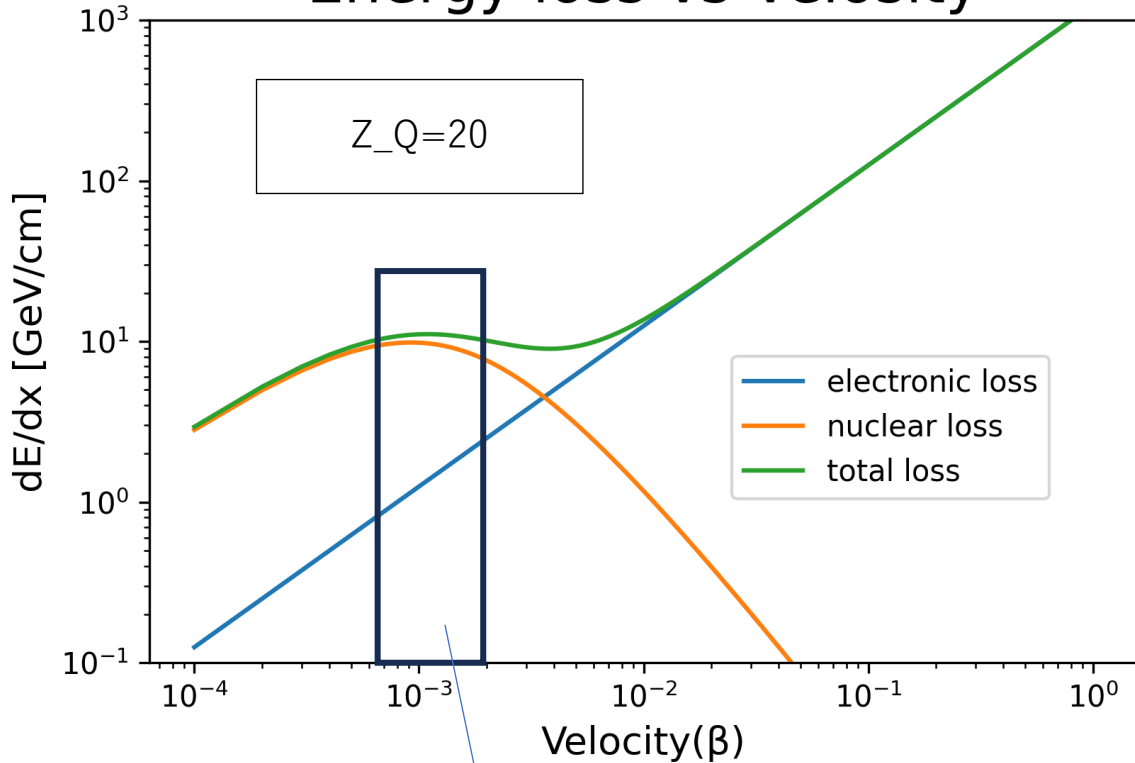
**But this is a result from extrapolating the results from a Monopole search  
Clarifying if it is useable for a Q-ball search by experimenting.**

Possibility of putting a new limit against physical quantities.  
 $T_{RH}$  : Re-heating temperature of the universe,  $m_{3/2}$  : Gravitino mass



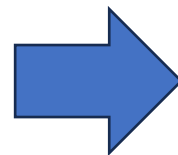
# Stopping power of charged Q-ball

## Energy loss vs Velocity

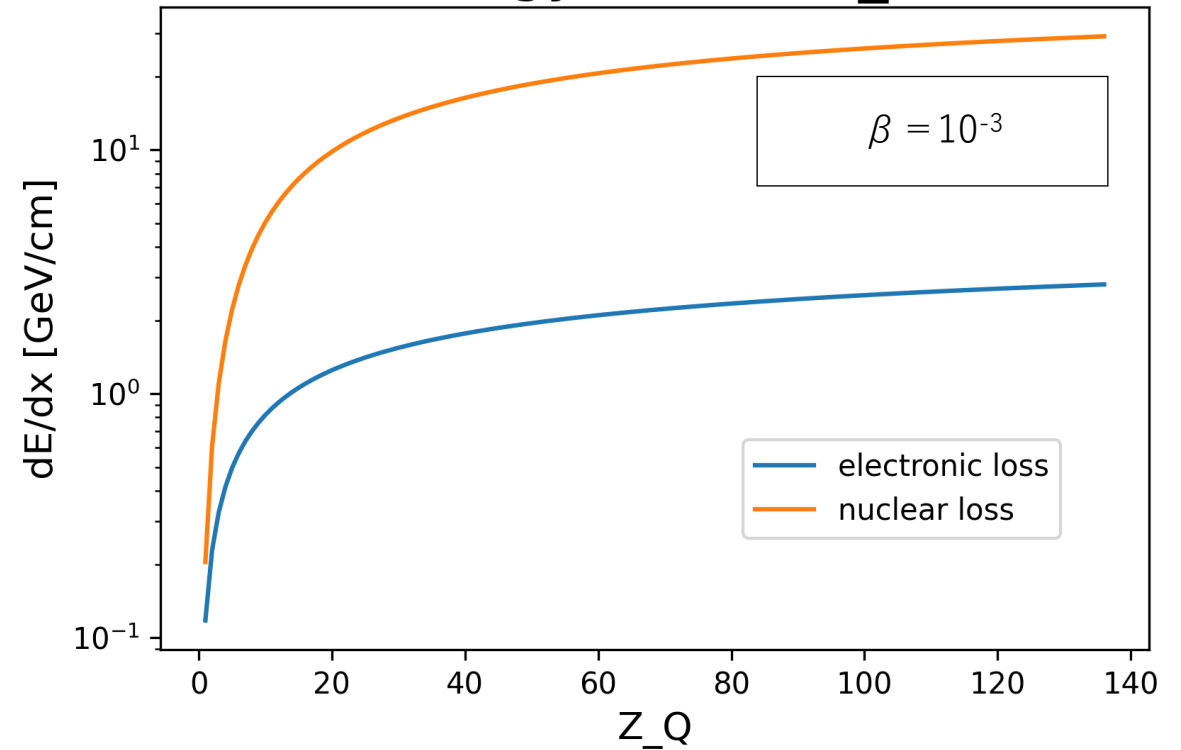


Existence area of Dark Matter

Nuclear stopping power is dominant in this area



## Energy loss vs $Z_Q$

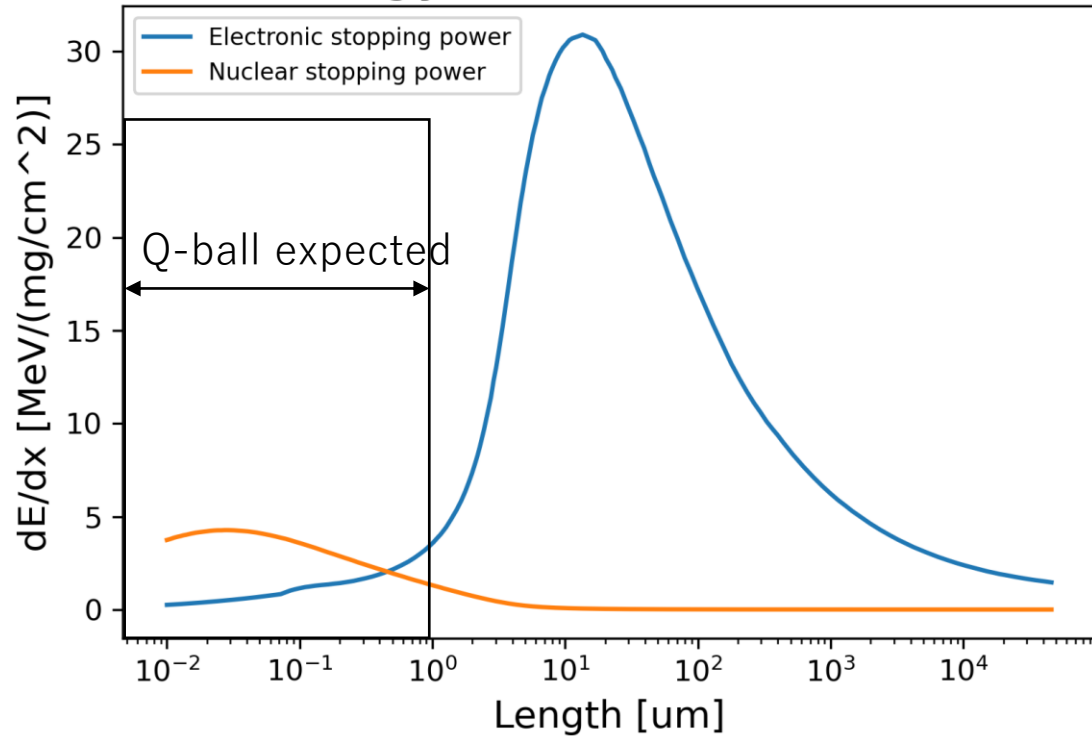


J. Arafune, et al., Phys. Rev. D **62**, 105013 より算出

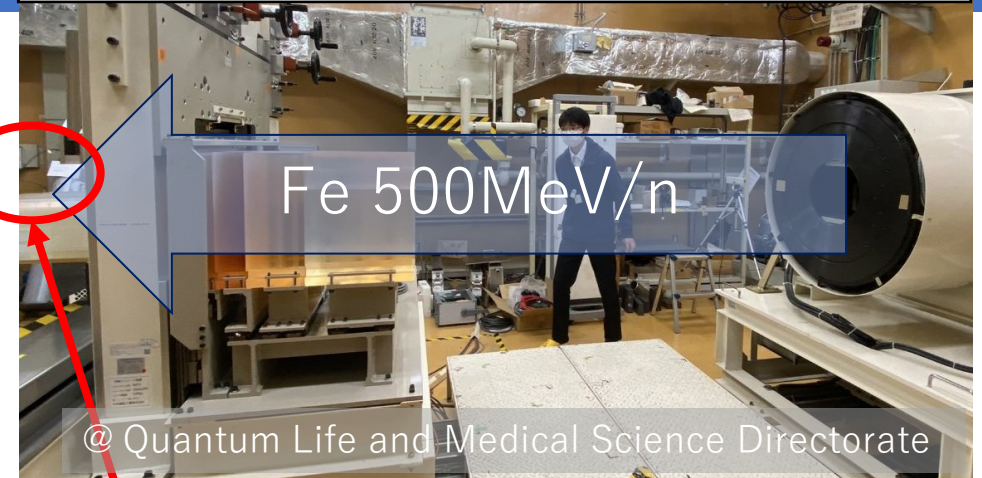
Evaluating the track formation threshold and optical track image in this area

# Calibration using Fe ions

## Energy loss of Fe in mica

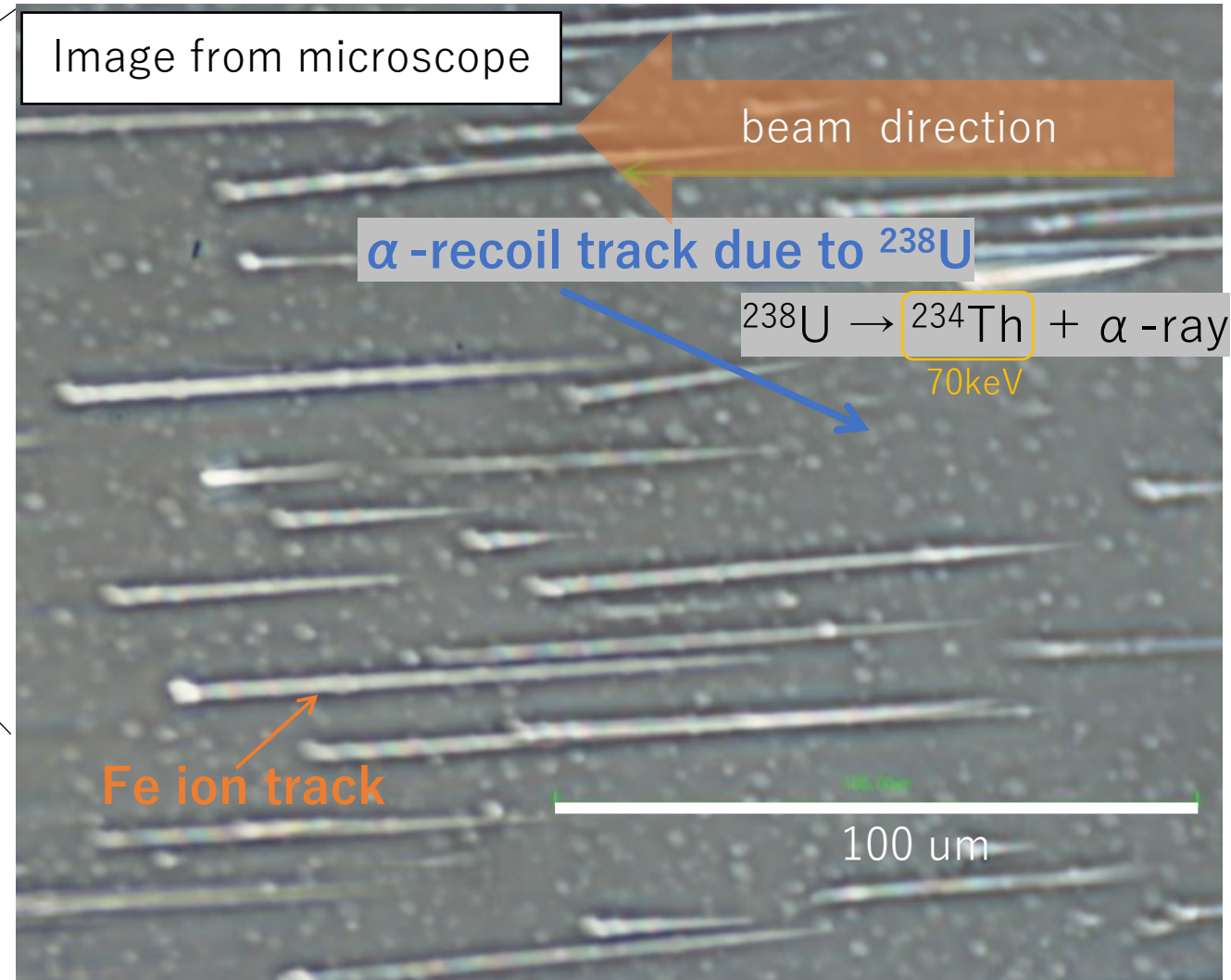
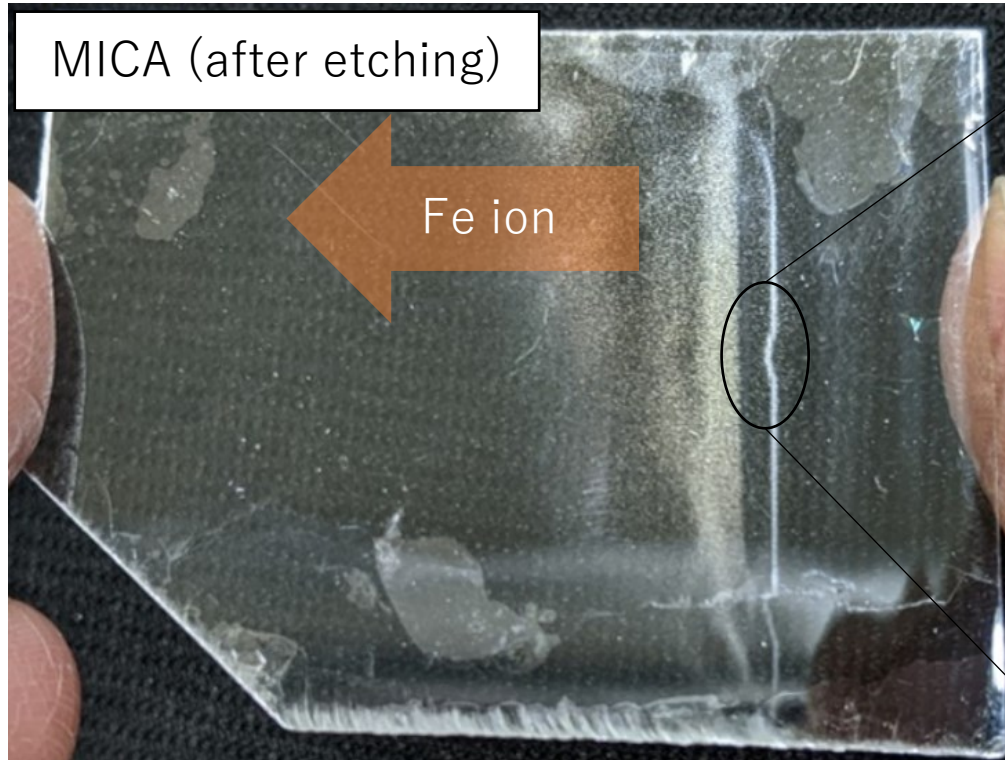


## Heavy ion beam cancer treatment device (HIMAC)



- Exposure of Fe ions that have similar stopping power as Q-ball
- Whole tracks : Calculation of threshold from length (Described later)
- First half : Evaluating the track form for before and after the Bragg-peak
- End of tracks : Calibration as an imitation signal of Q-ball

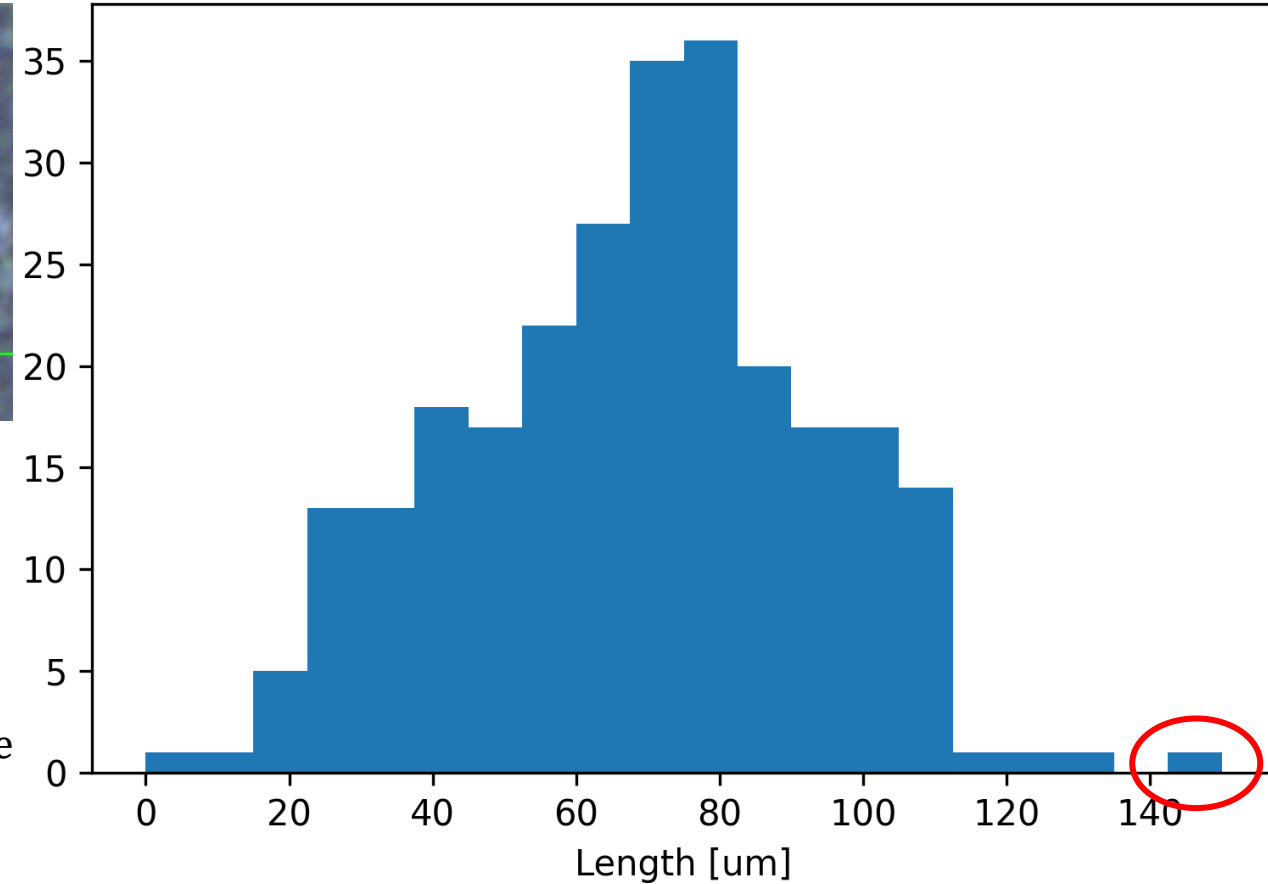
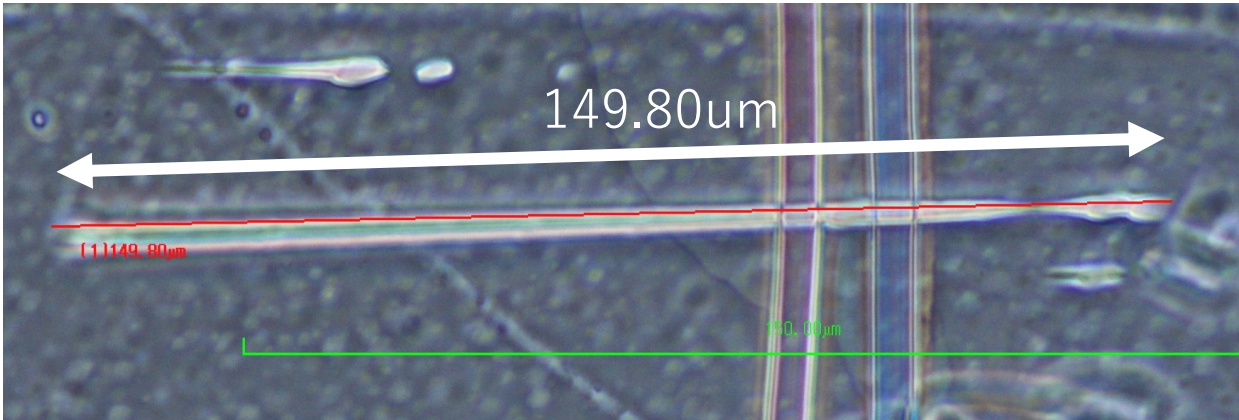
# The surface of mica when using an optical microscope



- Etching conditions : HF(45%), 25°C, 80min
- Long tracks could not be seen in reference samples
- Point like is  $\alpha$ -recoil track

# Calculation of threshold from the Fe tracks

Histogram of track lengths for Fe ion in mica



$$l_{\text{origin}} = l_{\text{Experimental value}} - 2v_{EC}t_{EC}$$

$$= 147.05 \text{ [}\mu\text{m]}$$

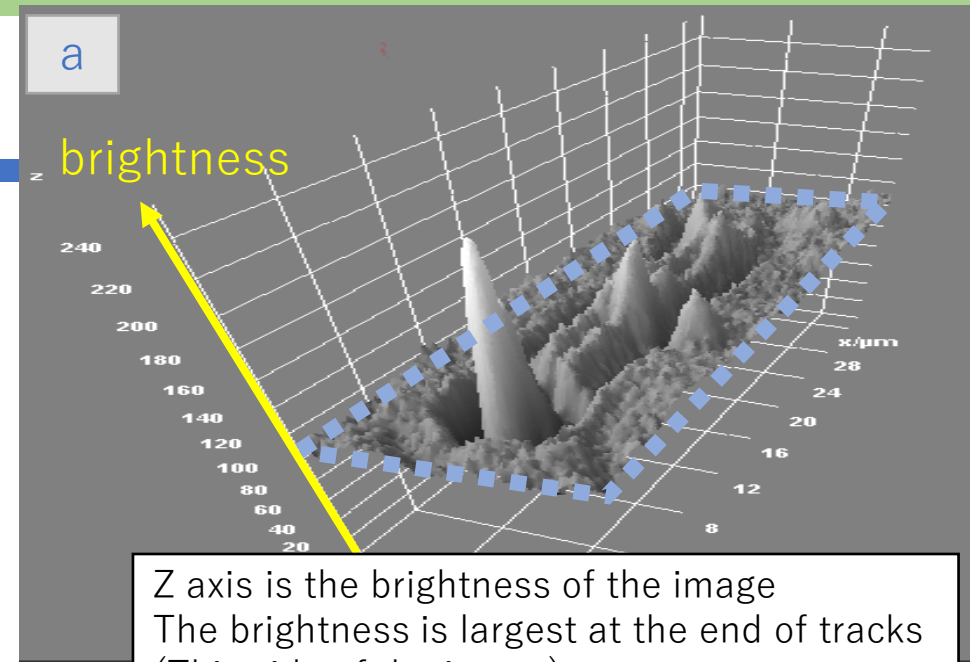
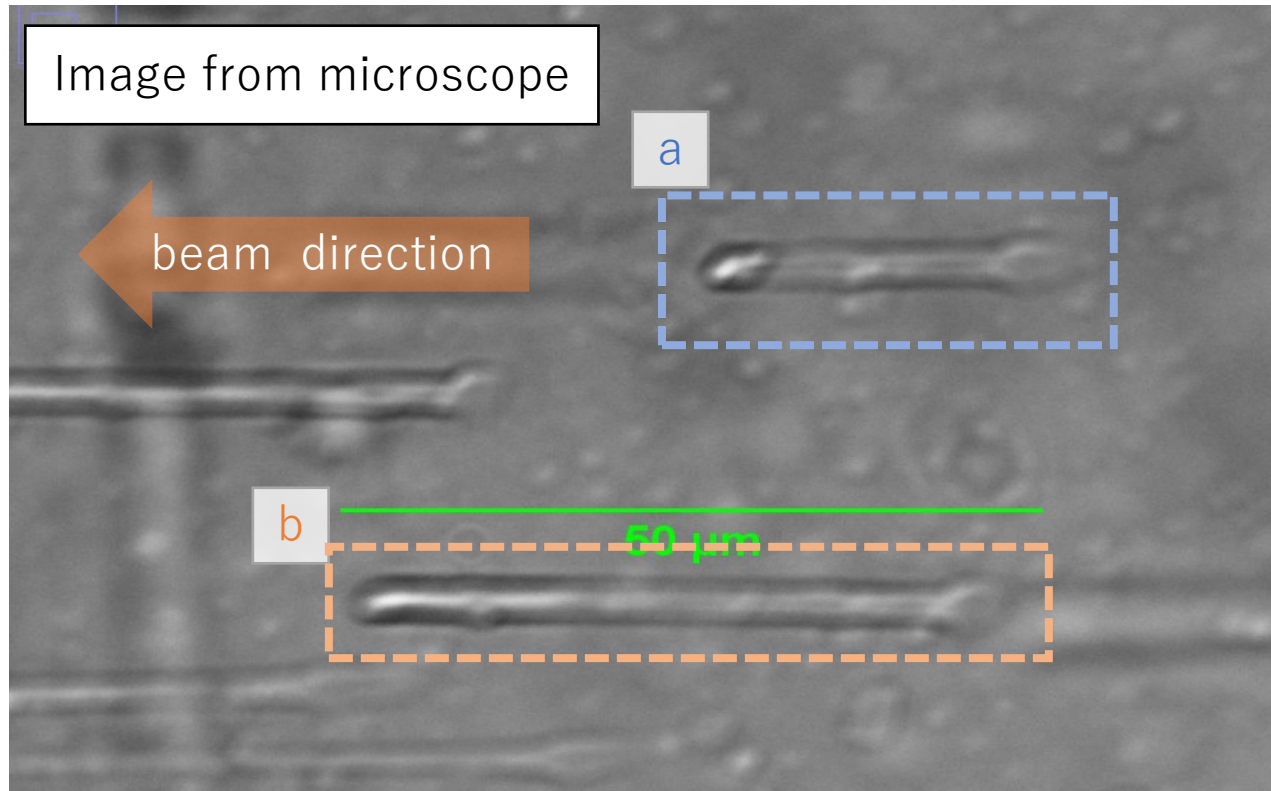
$l_{\text{origin}}$  : original length     $v_{EC}$  : etching velocity     $t_{EC}$  : etching time

$l_{\text{Experimental value}}$  : experimental track length by microscope

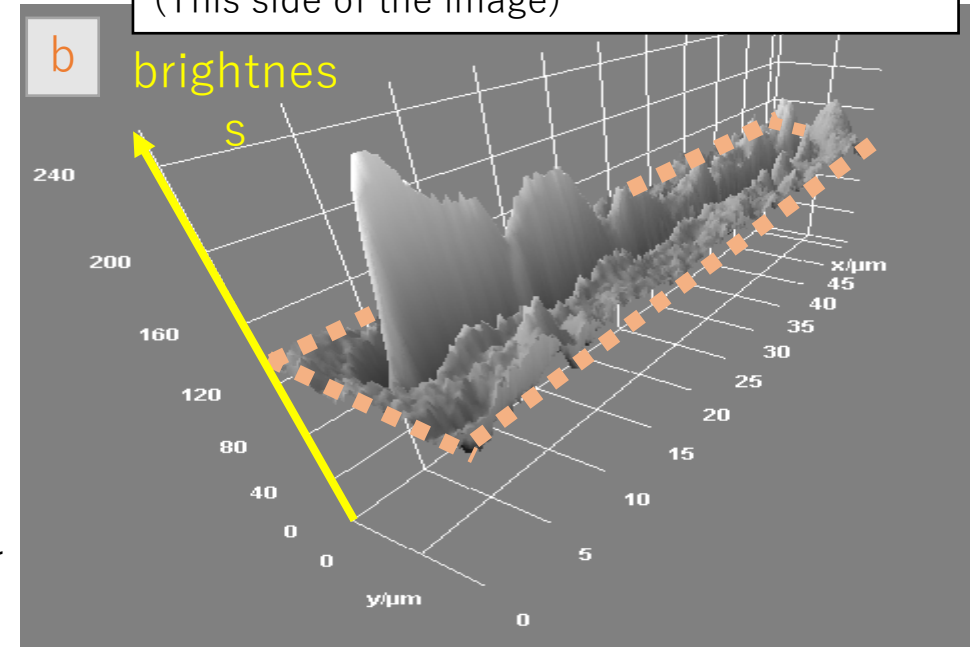
**Threshold in high-speed area → 14.26 ~ 14.43 MeV/mg/cm<sup>2</sup>**

SRIM2013より

# An increase in brightness at the end of tracks



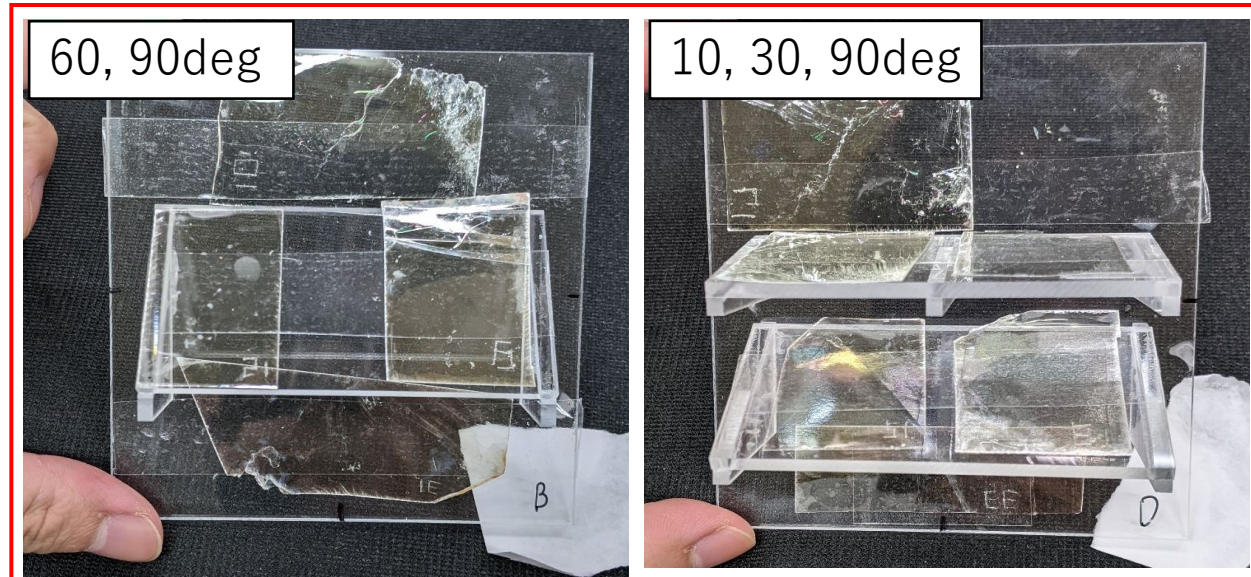
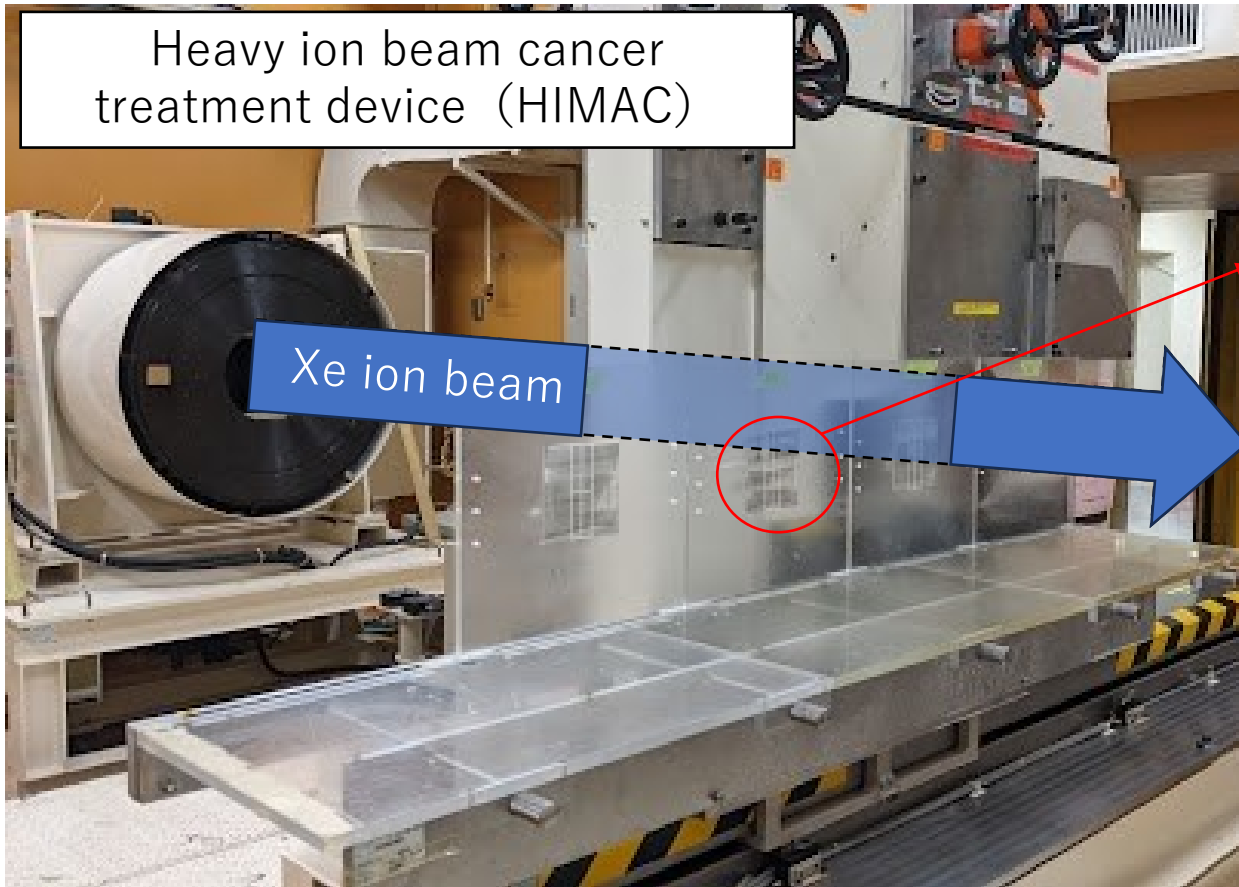
Z axis is the brightness of the image  
The brightness is largest at the end of tracks  
(This side of the image)



- Possibility of seeing the point where the stopping power is largest (Bragg peak)
- Possible change in track form from a change in the dominant stopping power
  - It might have a lower threshold against slower tracks?

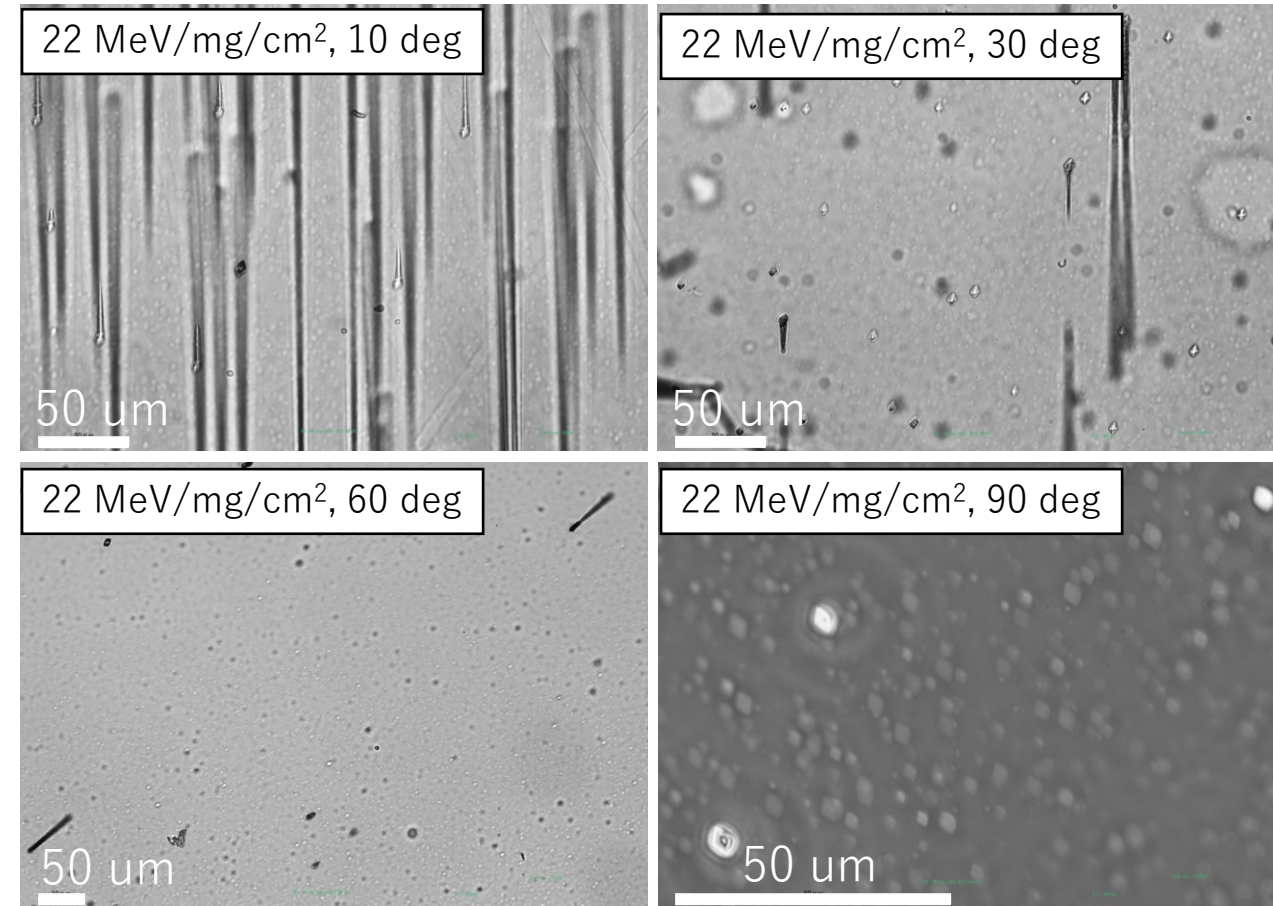
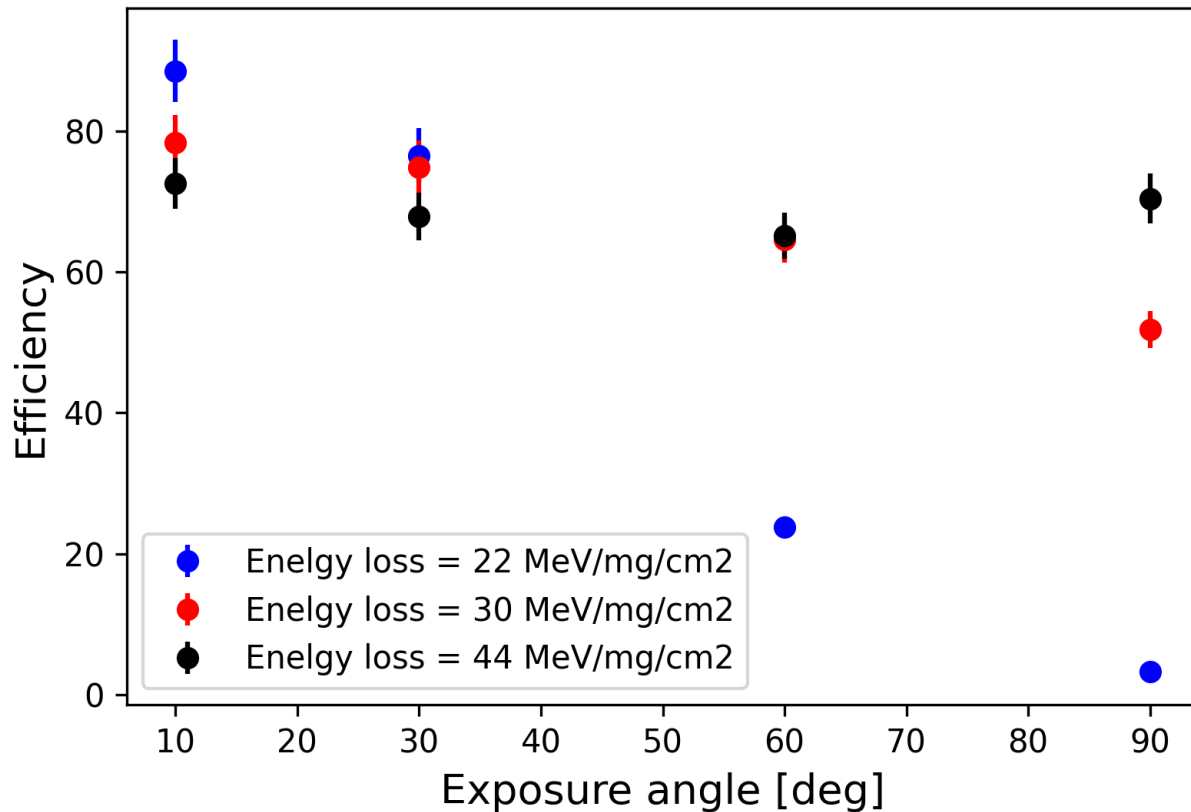


# Angle dependence in track formation efficiency and optical track image



- Energy : Adjusted by moderator
- Angle : Adjusted by platforms set at an angle
- Xe ion is more heavier than Fe.  
It means more simirer Q-ball track than Fe track.

# Angle dependence in track formation efficiency and optical track image



- Potential track volume related to etching might be related?
- Not much change in angle because the potential tracks are already developed where the stopping power is large?

# Brightness at the end of Fe tracks

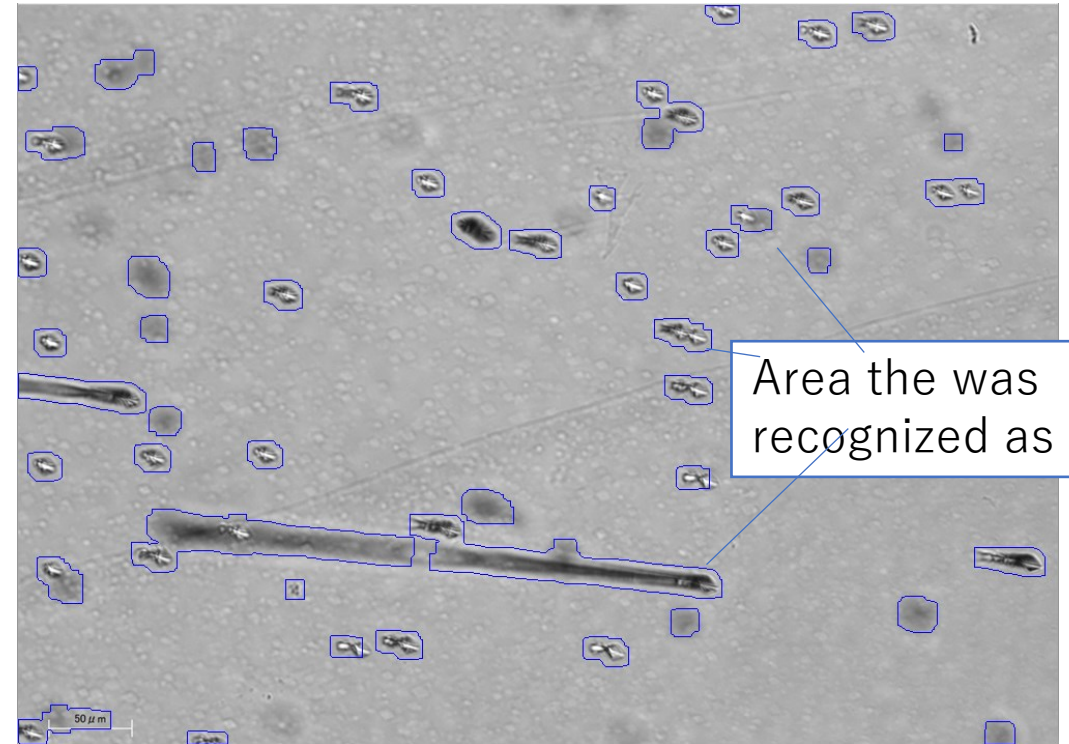
Development of a scanning



xy coordinates : Deciding the position by moving the stage

Z coordinates : Fault imaging by piezo

Development of a software to acquire tracks from the images



- ✓ Threshold is already determined in the high-speed area
- ✓ Already acquired optical track images with an angle
- If we can decipher between backgrounds, a search can be done at a certain condition

# Summary

Q-balls are particles with the potential to solve current particle physics problems

Paleo detectors can be a powerful tool in the search for Q-balls.

Scanning system is under development and can be conditionally searched as soon as hardware development is complete.

- Basic data acquisition of threshold values and optical images for slow particles
- Development of scanning system

Aim to achieve the world's highest sensitivity in the search for Q-balls.

→ Once the technology is established, it can be applied to other particles!

1 mm track seen on a lunar sample ↑  
What kind of particles leave such long trails?

