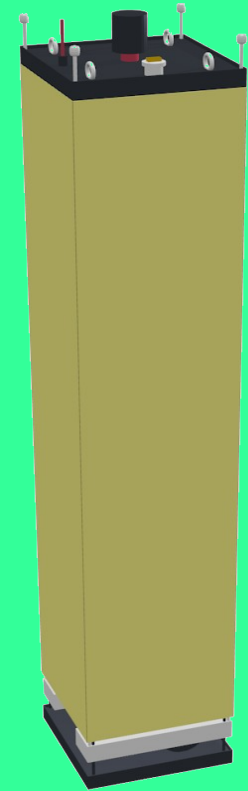




# ArgonCube: scalable modular approach for large LArTPCs



15th Topical Seminar on Innovative Particle and Radiation Detectors  
(IPRD19) 14-17 October 2019 Siena, Italy

Igor Kreslo  
AEC/LHEP University of Bern



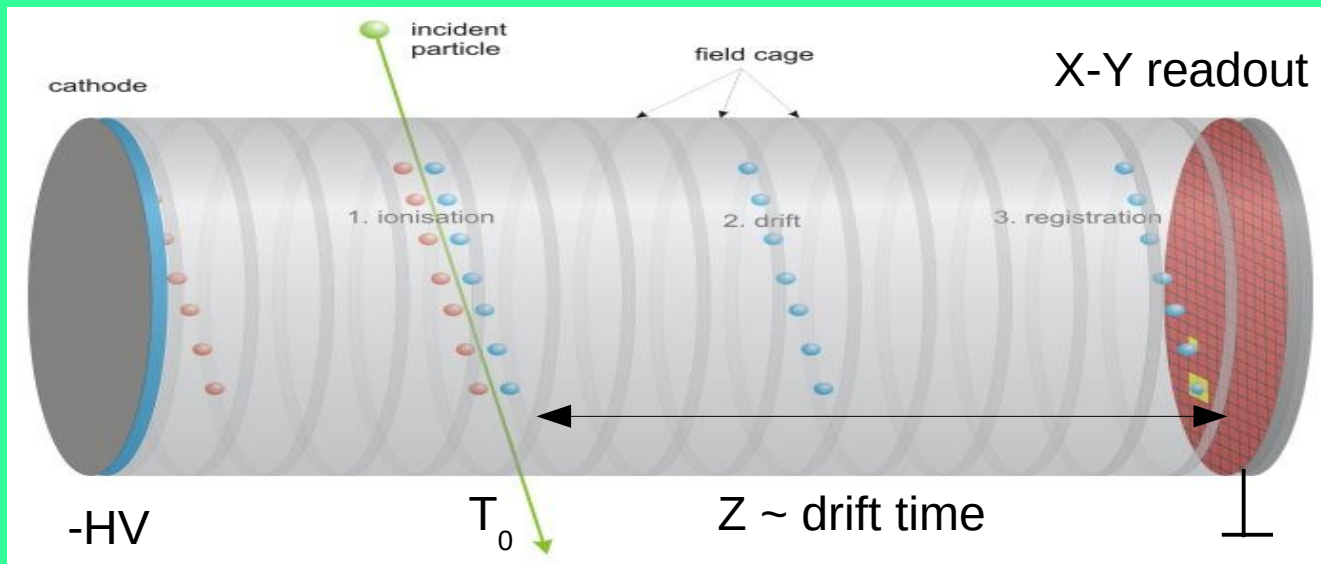
LABORATORIUM FÜR HOCHENERGIEPHYSIK  
**LHEP**  
UNIVERSITÄT BERN

$u^b$

<sup>b</sup>  
UNIVERSITÄT  
BERN

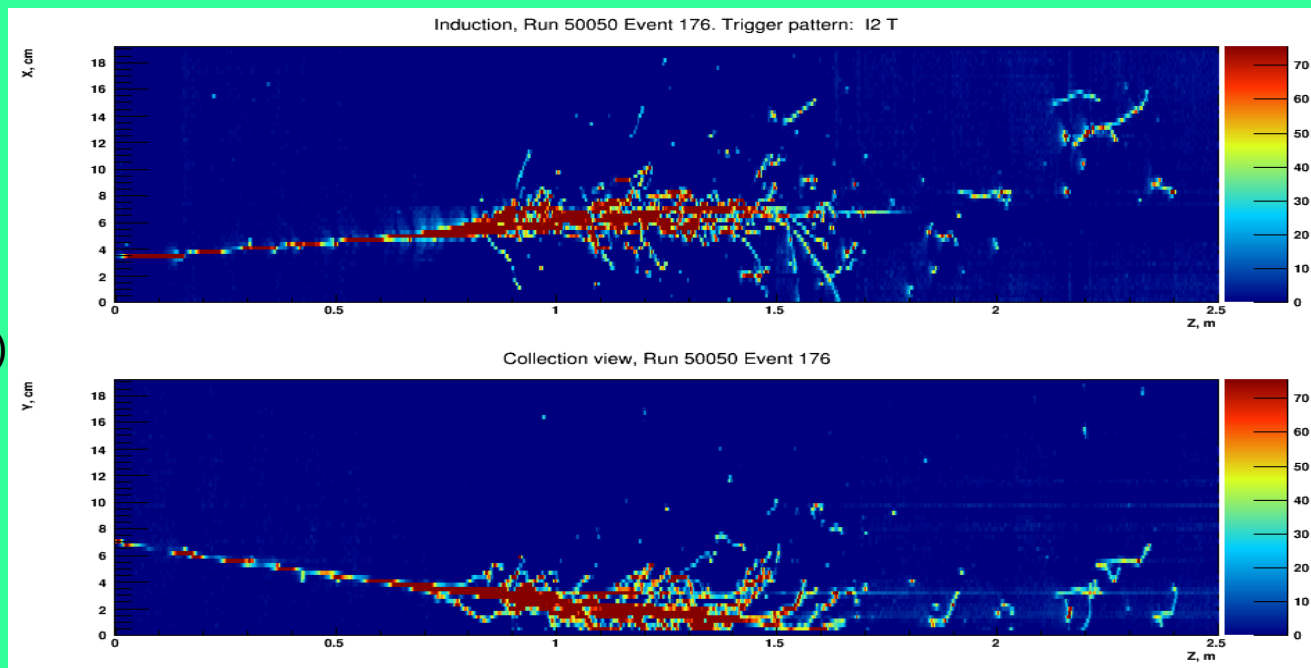
AEC  
ALBERT EINSTEIN CENTER  
FOR FUNDAMENTAL PHYSICS

# Liquid Argon Time Projection Chamber



Charge yield (MIP)  
~ **9000 e/mm** (1.5 fC/mm)  
 $T_0$  by scintillation

**Classic** charge readout:  
X: Induction (non-destructive)  
Y: Collection

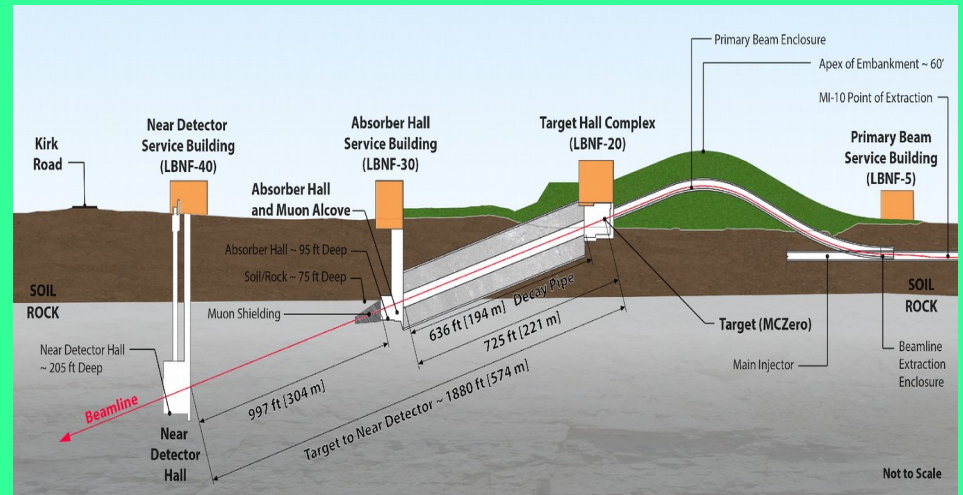
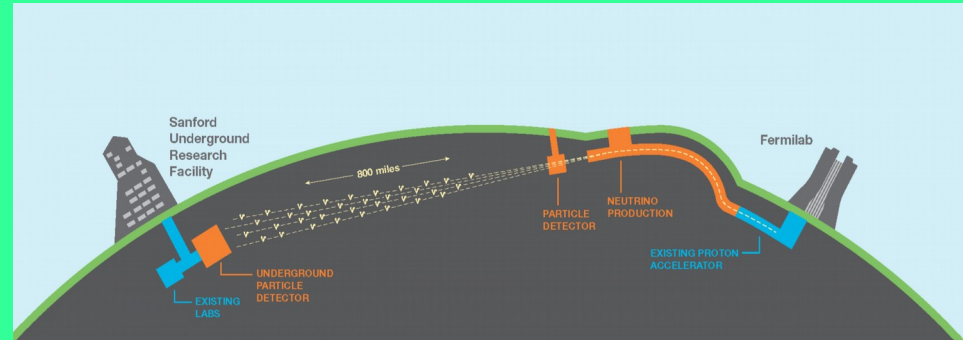


# ArgonCube: design inspired by LBNO → LBNE → LBNX → DUNE requirements

Multi MW LBNF beam from FNAL 1280 km to the LAr DUNE far detector (FD) at SURF

LAr is desirable in the near detector(ND), to uncertainties near to far, and constrain the flux.

At the near detector, 574 m from the first focusing horn, a 1.2 MW beam corresponds to **~0.16 neutrino events per tonne** of argon per spill (10  $\mu$ s).



**mND ~ 150 ton ->  
Neutrino events pile up!**

## The Solution – ArgonCube

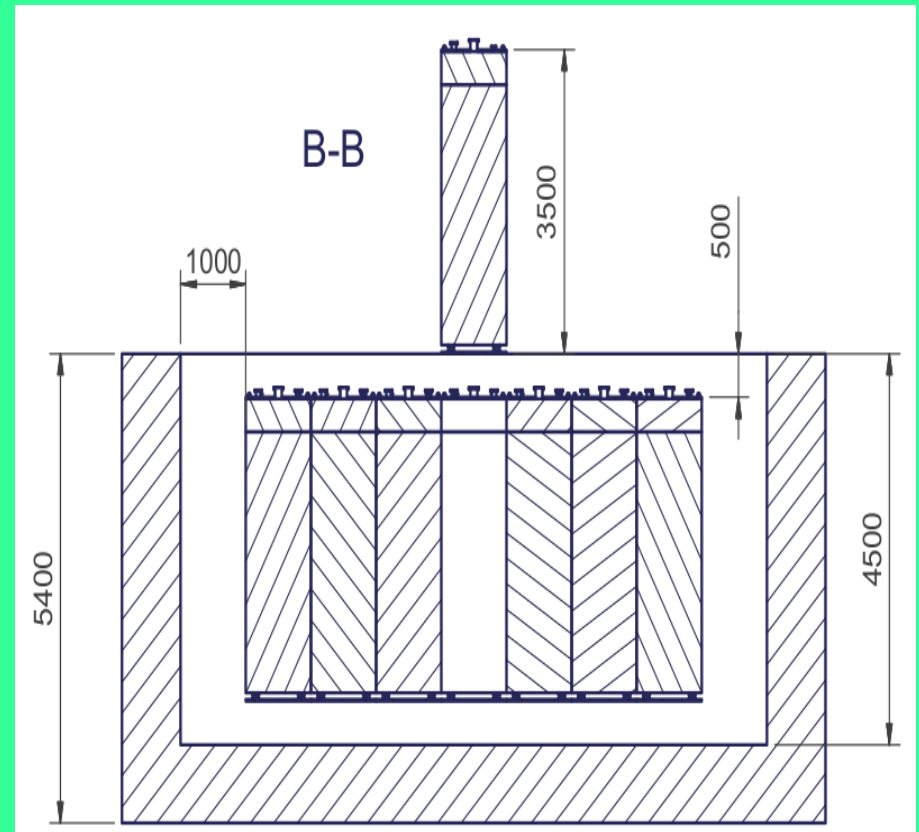
Instead of a monolithic detector volume, divide the detector into a number of self-contained TPC modules sharing a common cryostat - I. Kreslo & M. Weber, 2014

- Short drift distances ( $< 1\text{m}$ )
- Low cathode voltage ( $< 100\text{ kV}$ )
- Reduced stored energy
- Reduce purity requirements
- Contained scintillation light
- Upgradeable/repairable sans downtime
- High active mass ratio ( $\sim 85\%$ )

Also

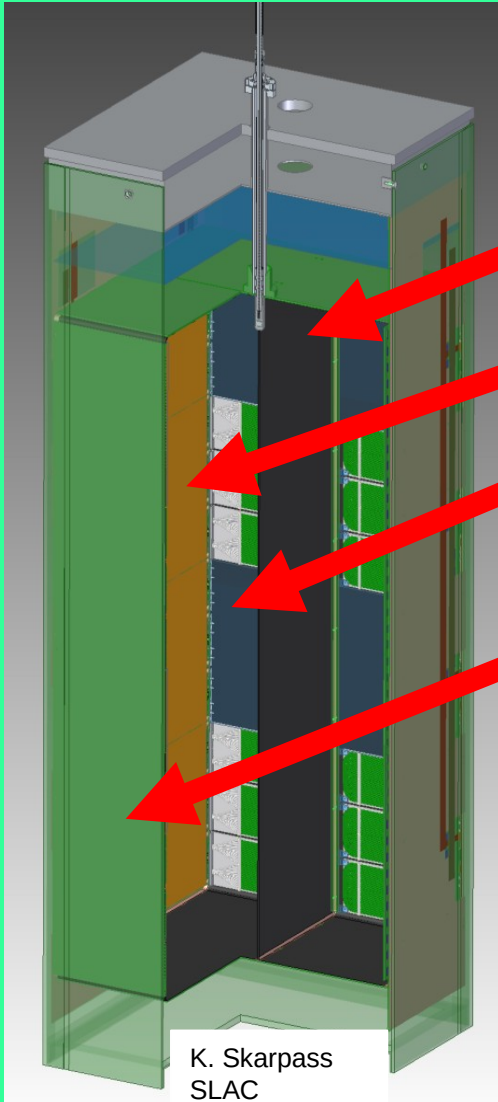
Unambiguous charge readout

All of which is good for reducing pileup



# ARGONCUBE

## Module design features



K. Skarpass  
SLAC

Central cathode  
2 TPC volumes

Pixelated anode plane

Dielectric light readout within TPCs

G10 structure:  
good dielectric shielding, and comparable  
radiation & hadronic interaction lengths to Lar  
**Resistive field shell**

Thin walls  
Min. material budget

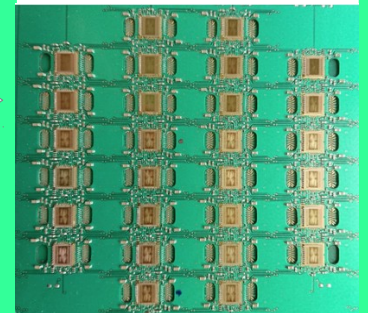
Limited LAr convection  
Heat management  
< 100 W/module overall



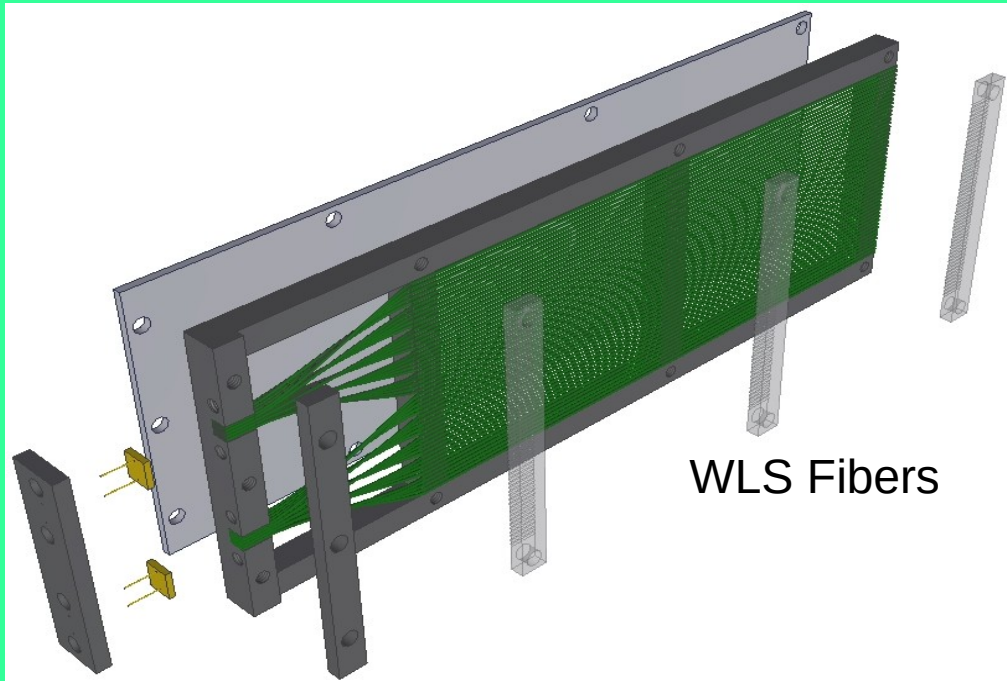
Resistive shell



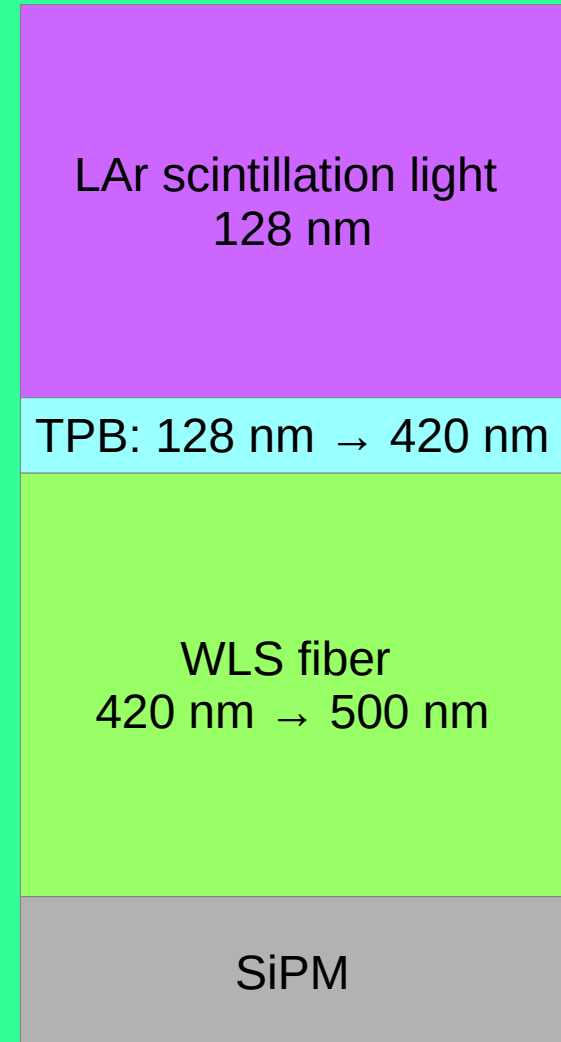
LArPix ASIC



# Scintillation Light Readout, option 1: Light Collection Module (collaboration with JINR, Russia)

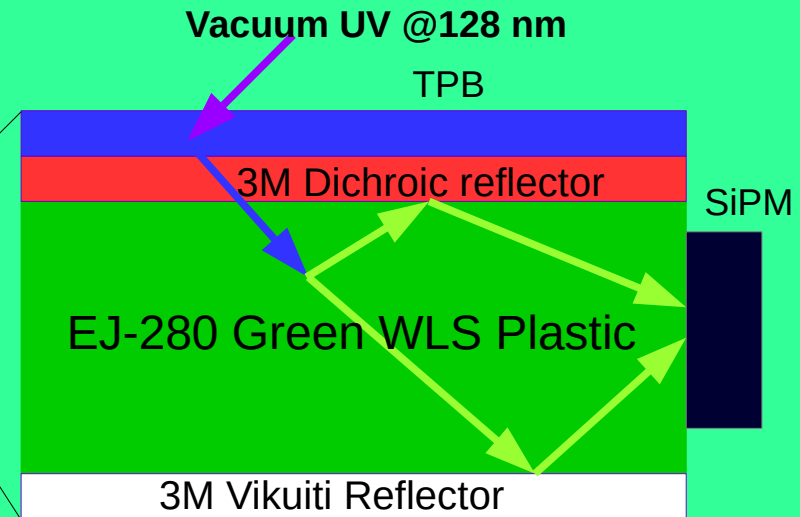
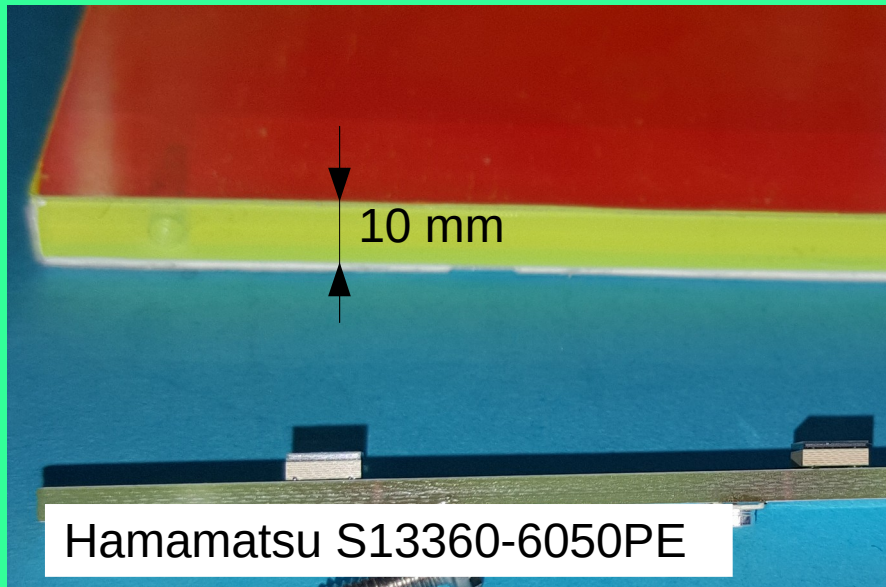


VUV scintillation light is double-shifted to green



**PDE ~ 1% (10x30 cm, 2 SiPMs)**

## Scintillation Light Readout, option 2: ArCLight - ArgonCube light detector (design inspired by s.c. Arapuca : A.A. Machado and E. Segreto 2016 JINST 11 C02004)



**Self-supporting, technologically simple**

**SiPMs are placed at one edge only  
Can be placed in high field region  
(parallel to the the drift)**

- SiPM dark current at 87K is O(Hz) at 1 p.e.
- Photon collection efficiency:

$$\epsilon_{coll} = \frac{f}{1 - \langle R_{490} \rangle (1 - f)}$$

**PDE ~ 0.1% (30x30 cm, 6 SiPMs)**

**Time resolution ~ 6ns**

**Some coordinate resolution**

*Auger M. et al., Instruments 2 (2018) no.1, 3*

## Pixelated charge readout : bespoke ASIC LArPix (LBNL)

Low-power cold amplification and digitisation of every pixel is required for true 3D readout.

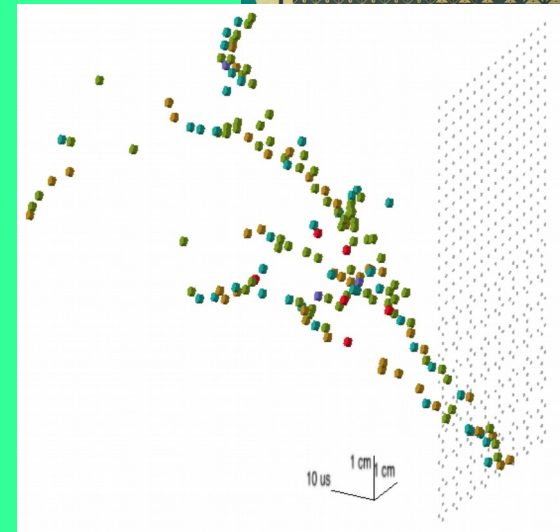
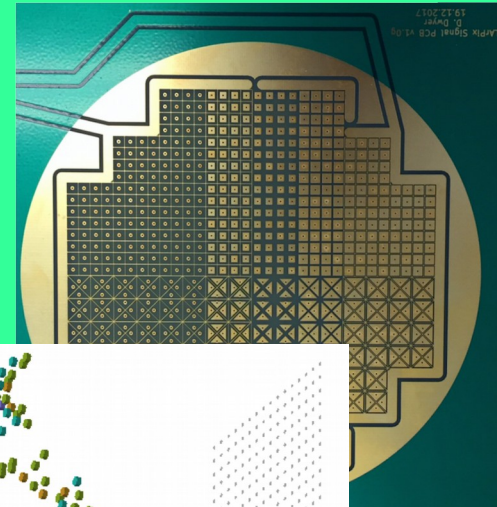
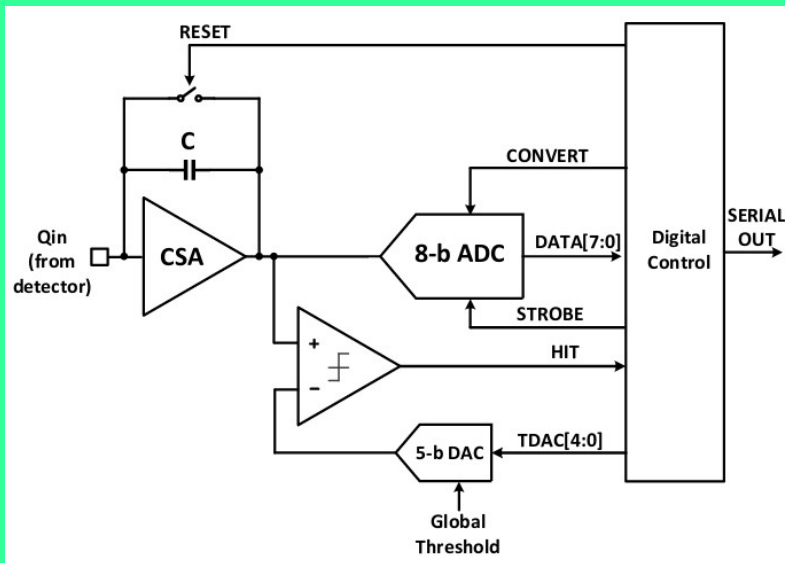
This was enabled by the LArPix ASIC, developed at Dan Dwyer at LBNL.

Power consumption per pixel:  $62 \mu\text{W}$  ( $37 \mu\text{W}$  digital).

Data rate:  $O(0.1) \text{ MB/s/m}^2$

LArPix V2: **64 channels / ASIC**

Pixel  $4 \times 4 \text{ mm}$ ,  $0.5 \mu\text{s}$  time stamp

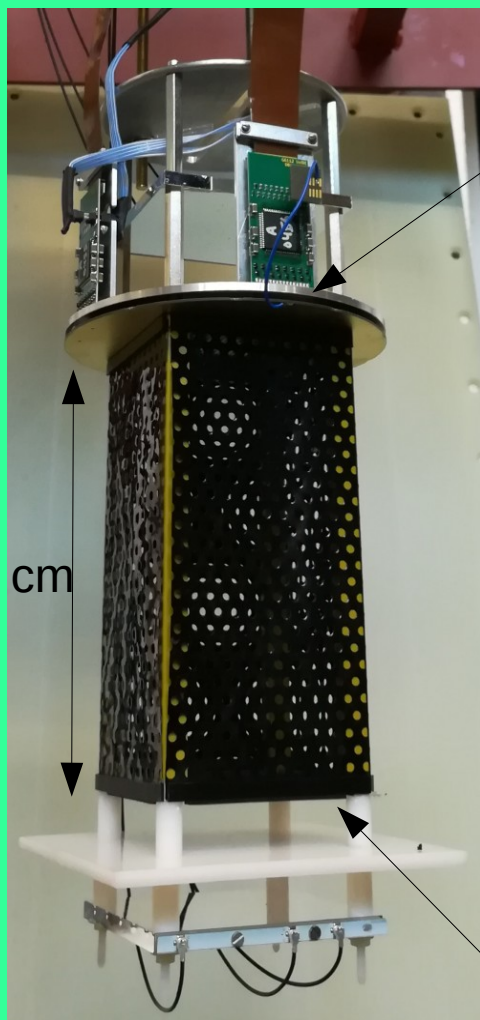


Unfiltered 3D information from cosmic muon.  
JINST 13 (2018) no.10, P10007



Field uniformity test is conducted, data analysis in progress.

## First Resistive Shell LArTPC (RSTPC) No more field shaping rings and resistors!



Anode at GND

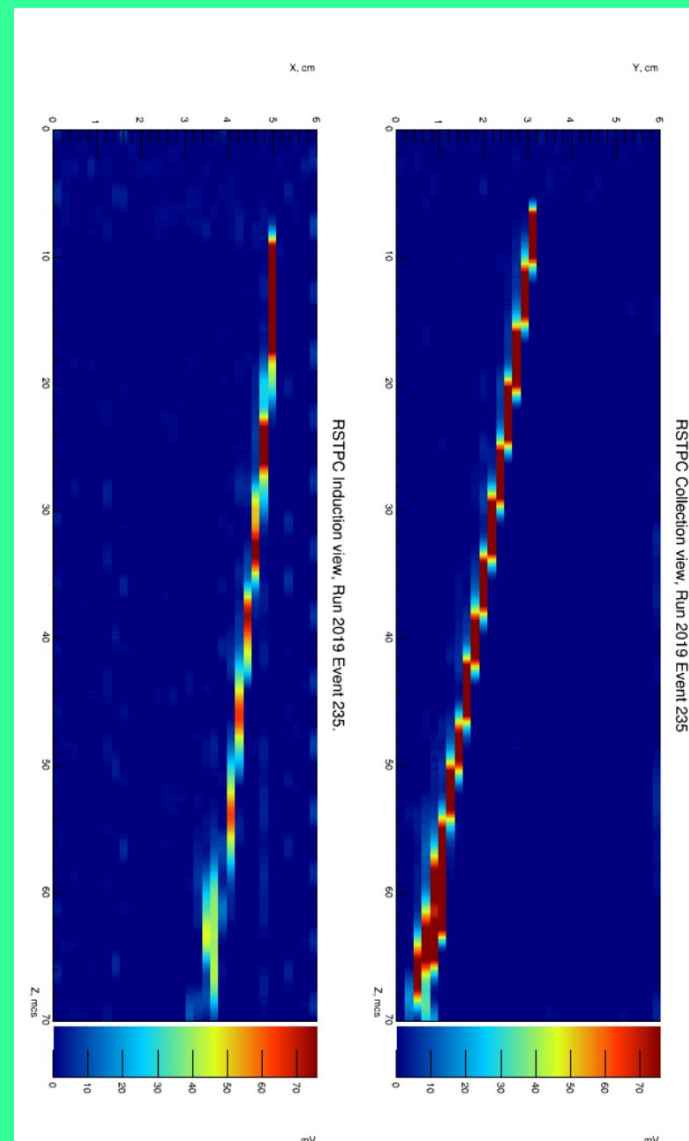
Resistive foil:  
DuPont DR8

16 Gohm/sq in cold

Field uniformity by  
muon tracks:

**Better than 1%**

Cathode at -HV(up to 25 kV)



## Novel cryogenic liquid valve developed

Bistable: toggled by a current pulse,  
no heat dissipation in either state

Operates fully immersed in liquid argon

PLC-friendly controller

Patent pending..



# The DUNE Proto-ND (*ArgonCube 2x2 Demonstrator, ~1/50 scale ND*) 2020 goes to Fermilab to on-axis NuMI beam

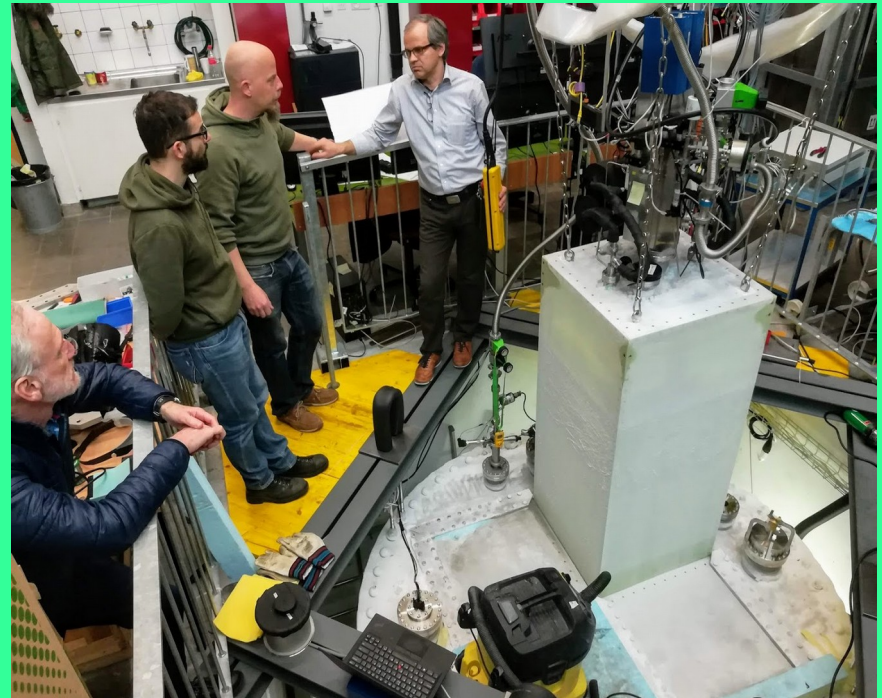
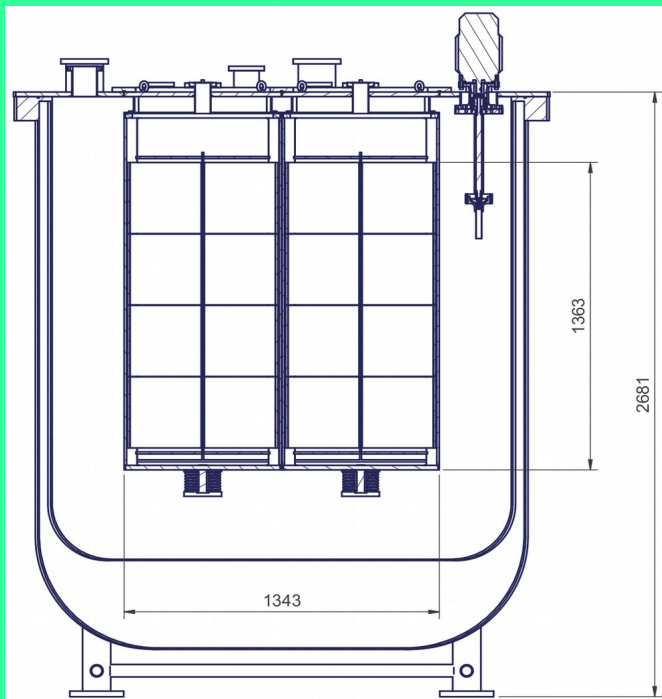
Vacuum insulated LN2-cooled cryostat, housing 4 modules, 2.4t active LAr  
Top flange sealed with Indium wire

130  $\mu$ s drift time at 1kV/cm

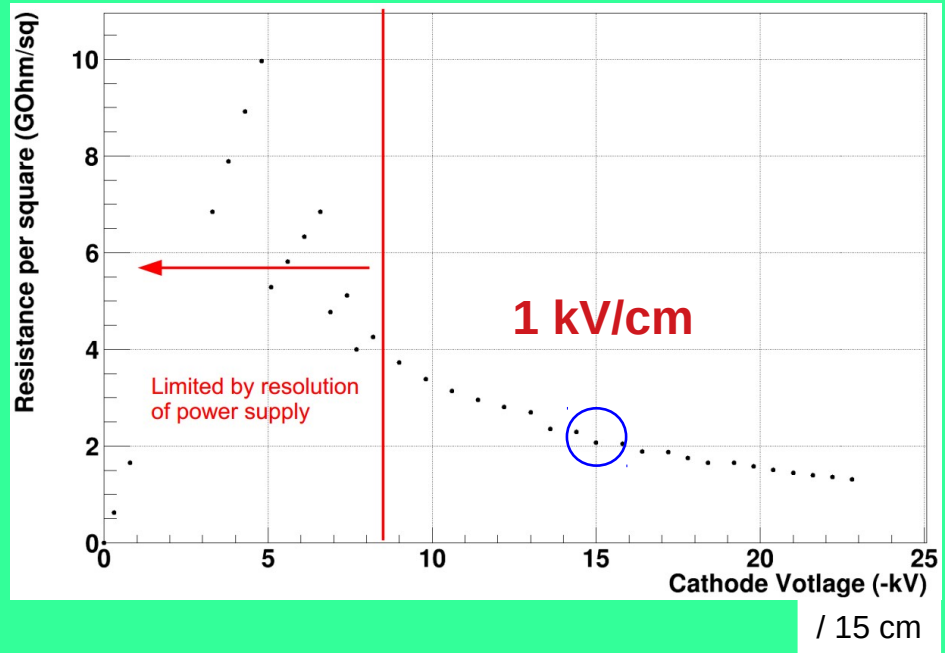
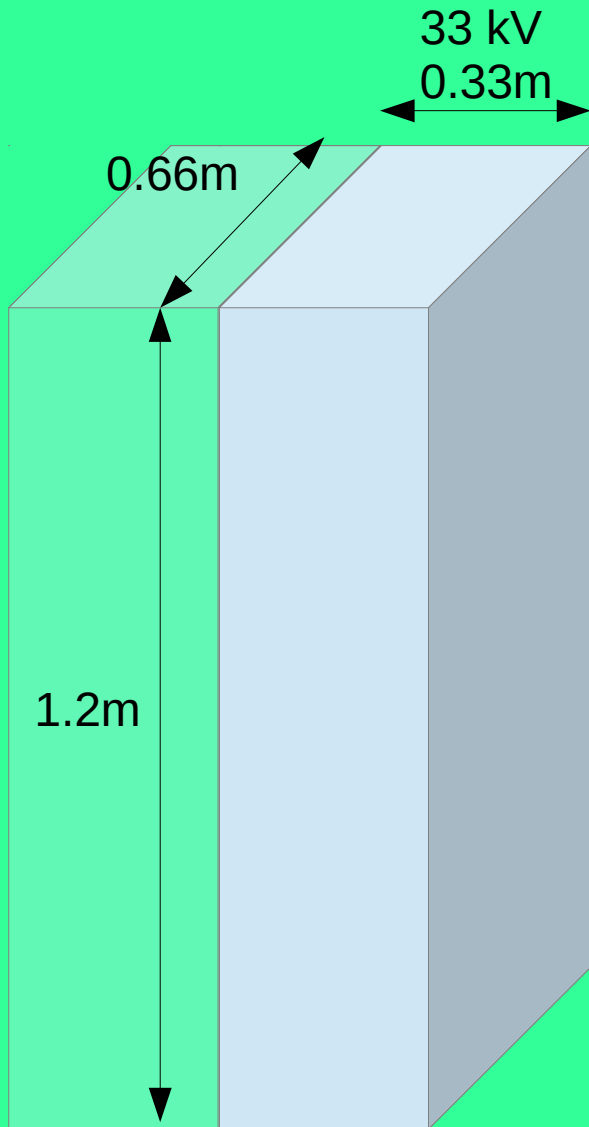
Pixelated charge readout: **400k Pixels (13M Pix for DUNE ND)**

**4 x 4 x 1.5mm voxel**

**192 SiPMs** for scintillation R/O



## DUNE Proto-ND module with RS



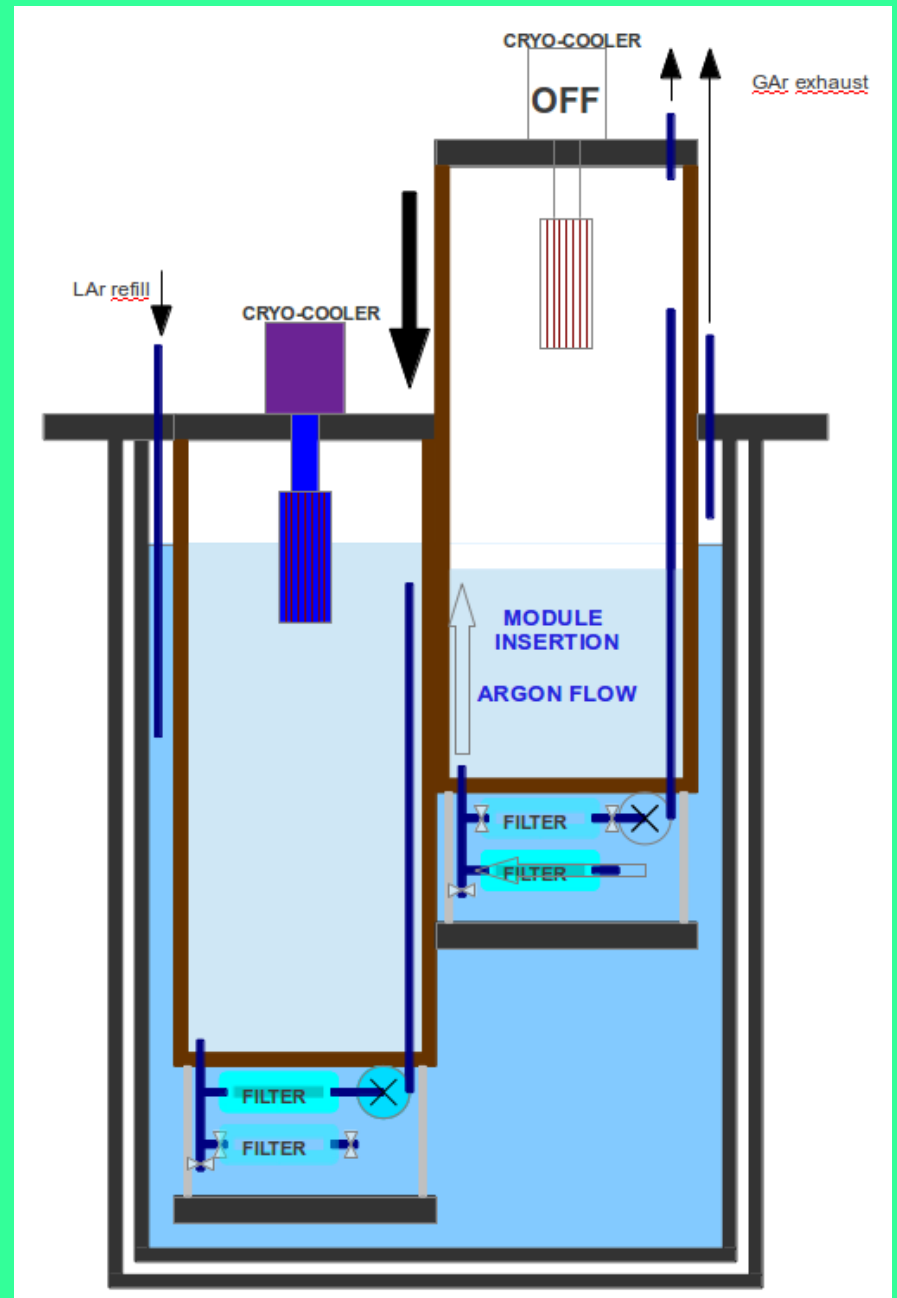
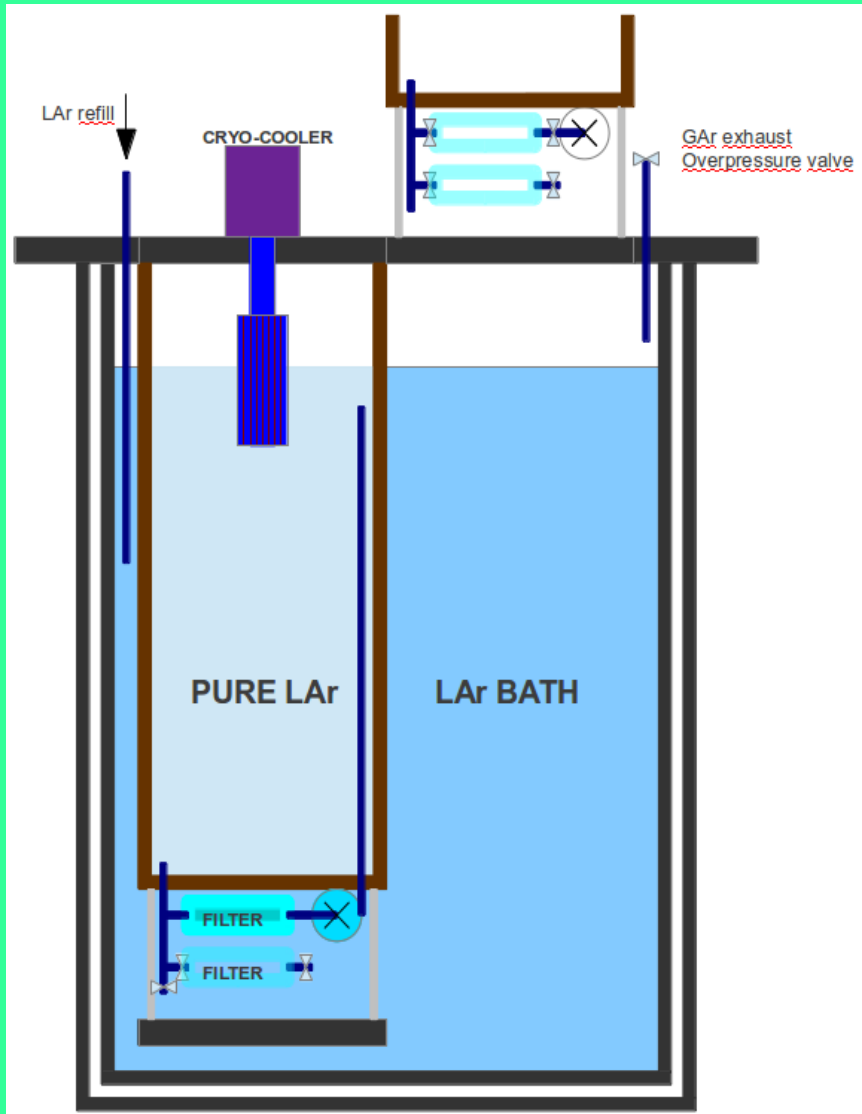
2 G/sq @ 1kV/cm,  $U=33\text{kV}$

$P= 4.5 \text{ W/m}^2$

**~10 W/module — acceptable.**

# Cryogenics:

## Module *cold* extraction / re - insertion



# DUNE Proto-ND module tests

2 measuring campaigns (one in progress), goal:

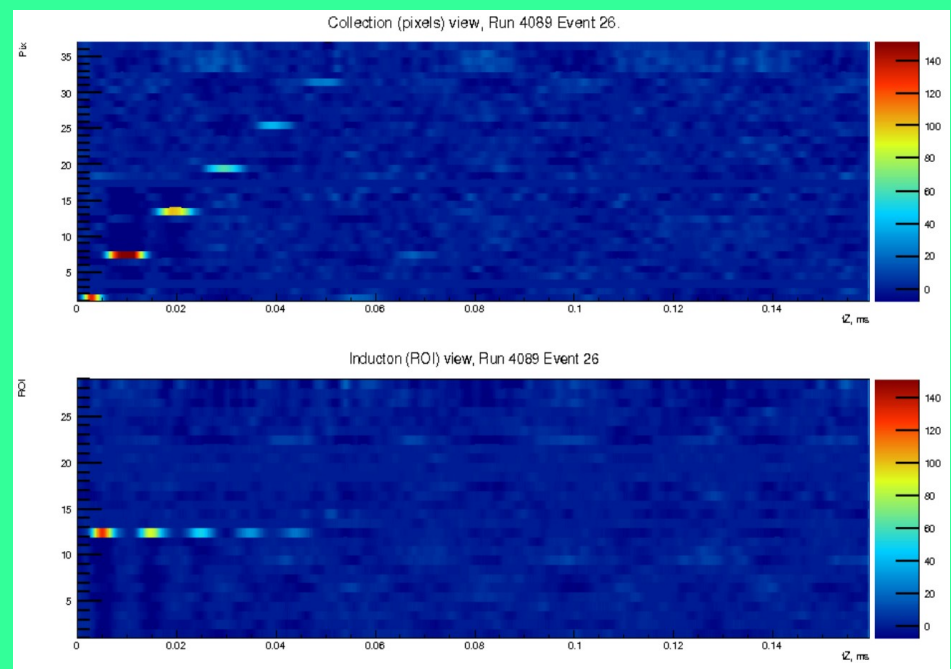
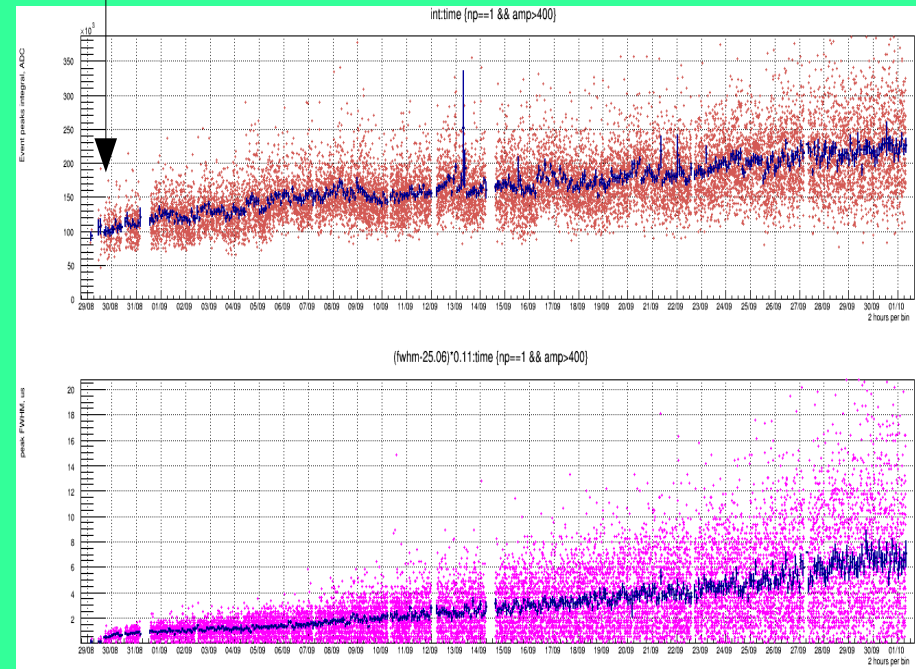
**demonstrate cryogenics & purification**  
**demonstrate module cold extraction / insertion**

Before extraction: steady purification rate, stopped at  $\sim 30$  us life time  
( $>10$  cm long muon tracks observed)

Extraction / Reinsertion performed successfully

**Re-Purification : back to starting point after 1 week**

**Note: filter material used is 100 times less efficient than the state of art!**



## Dune Proto-ND current status

All novel aspects of ArgonCube have been demonstrated:

Charge R/O – [arXiv:1801.08884](#), [JINST 13 \(2018\) no.10, P10007](#)

Light R/O – [Instruments 2 \(2018\) no.1, 3](#)

Field shell – [Instruments 3 \(2019\) no.2, 28](#)

- [Bern](#) has secured funding for production of 4 modules.
- [FNAL](#) is providing support for facilities to deployment in NuMI.
- [JINR](#) is providing the light R/O.
- [LBNL](#) has secured funding for the charge R/O (supplemented by Bern).
- [Rochester](#) is providing a high level DAQ, beam trigger, and muon tagger.
- [SLAC](#) is providing the mechanical module design & production of TPC components.

**Will operate on-axis in NuMI in 2020.**

## Summary

**ARGONCUBE concept — an optimal solution for large, scalable tracking detector.**

- High active mass ratio (85%)
- Unified modules → high redundancy
- Step-by-step commissioning: «democratic» construction and incremental installation
- Repairing single module without stopping data taking
- Scalable and extendable (same tech. for ND and FD)
- Iterative upgrade with new technologies
- Low cost of module failure

### Short-drift length modules

- Relatively low electric potentials — reduced risk for breakdowns
- Reduced purity requirements

### Pixel charge readout

- Up to 50% increase in reconstruction efficiency w.r.t. wire readout
- Improved accuracy of kinematical event reconstruction

**ARGONCUBE is accepted as the technology for DUNE Near Detector.**

DUNE ND CDR 2019, TDR 2020, Installation 2025.

**Option for DUNE Far Detector «module of opportunity»**

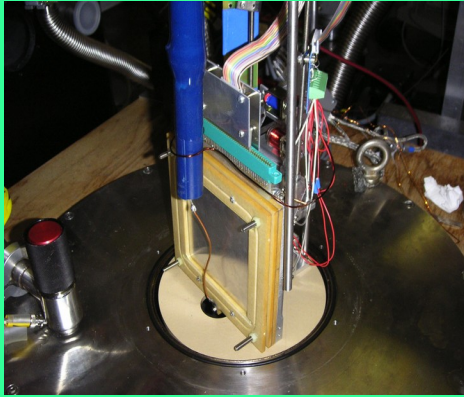


Thank you!



Backup slides

## Evolution of LAr TPCs at Bern



**L=0.5 cm**

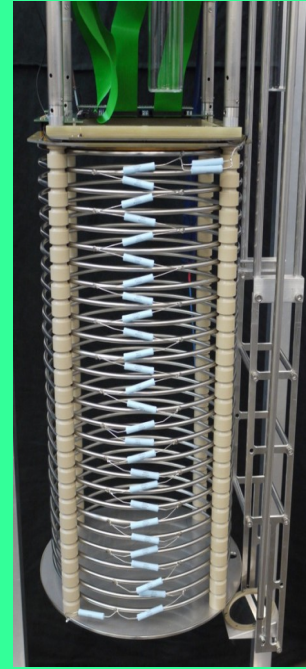
JINST 4, P07011 (2009)

New J. Phys. 12, 113024 (2010)

JINST 5, P10009 (2010)



**L=25 cm**



**L=57 cm**



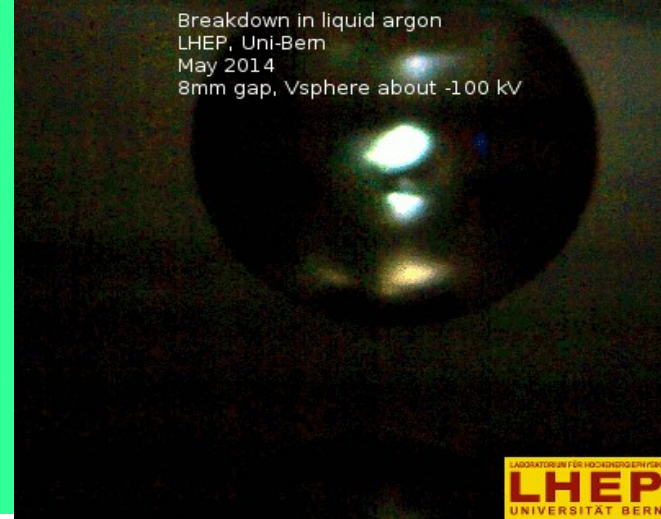
**ARGONTUBE  
L=500 cm**

JINST 7 (2012) C02011

JINST 1307 (2013) P07002

# Breakdown in liquid Argon: detailed study at Bern

Breakdown in liquid argon  
LHEP, Uni-Bern  
May 2014  
8mm gap, Vsphere about -100 kV



1. Abnormally low dielectric strength at long distances

2. Studied V/A characteristics

3. Studied time-resolved light emission spectra

4. Discovered slow streamers in LAr discharge

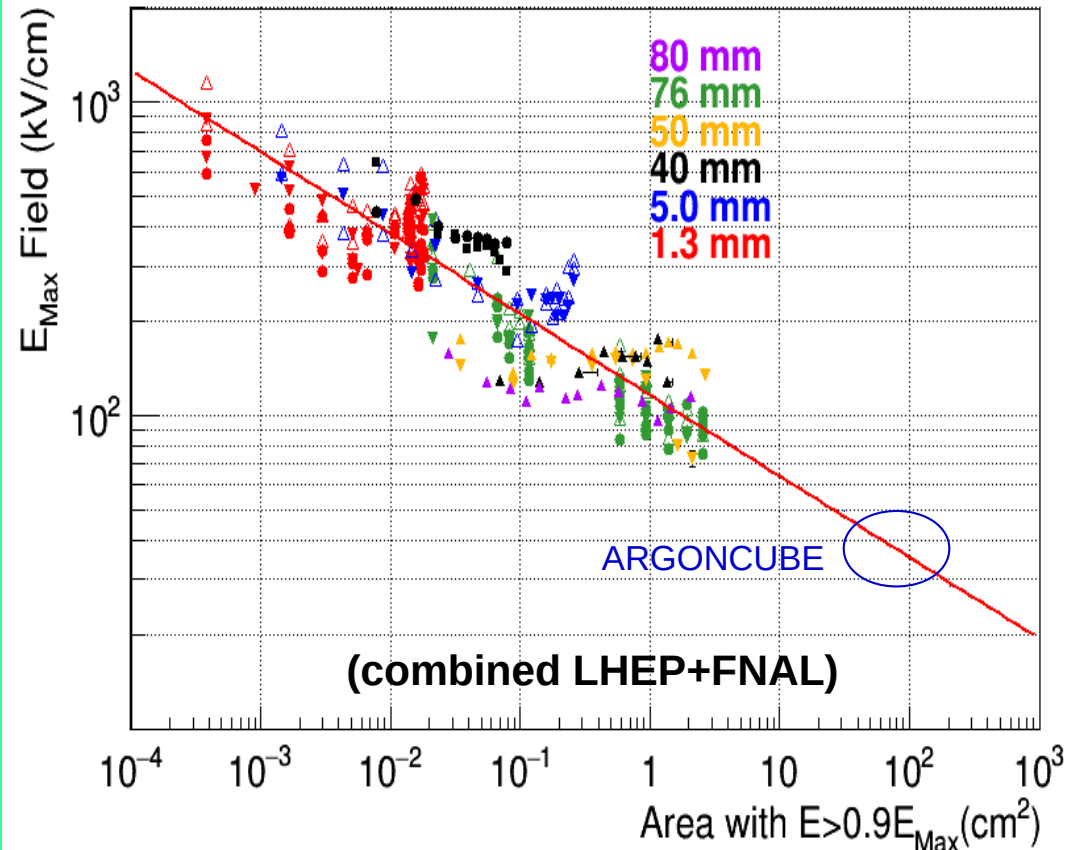
5. Measured 1<sup>st</sup> Townsend coefficient at fields O(100 kV/cm)

6. Suggested method to improve breakdown field by factor of 10

M. Auger et al., JINST 9, P07023 (2014)

A. Blatter et al., JINST 9, P04006 (2014)

M. Auger et al., JINST 11 (2016) no.03, P03017.



## Why liquid argon at DUNE ND?

Sample the unoscillated beam using the same target material as the FD.  
Essential in order to constrain uncertainties on neutrino cross sections.

Major uncertainties (event topology, secondary interactions) are primarily common near-far.

High multiplicity at near site necessitates differences in design, differences are likely second-order.

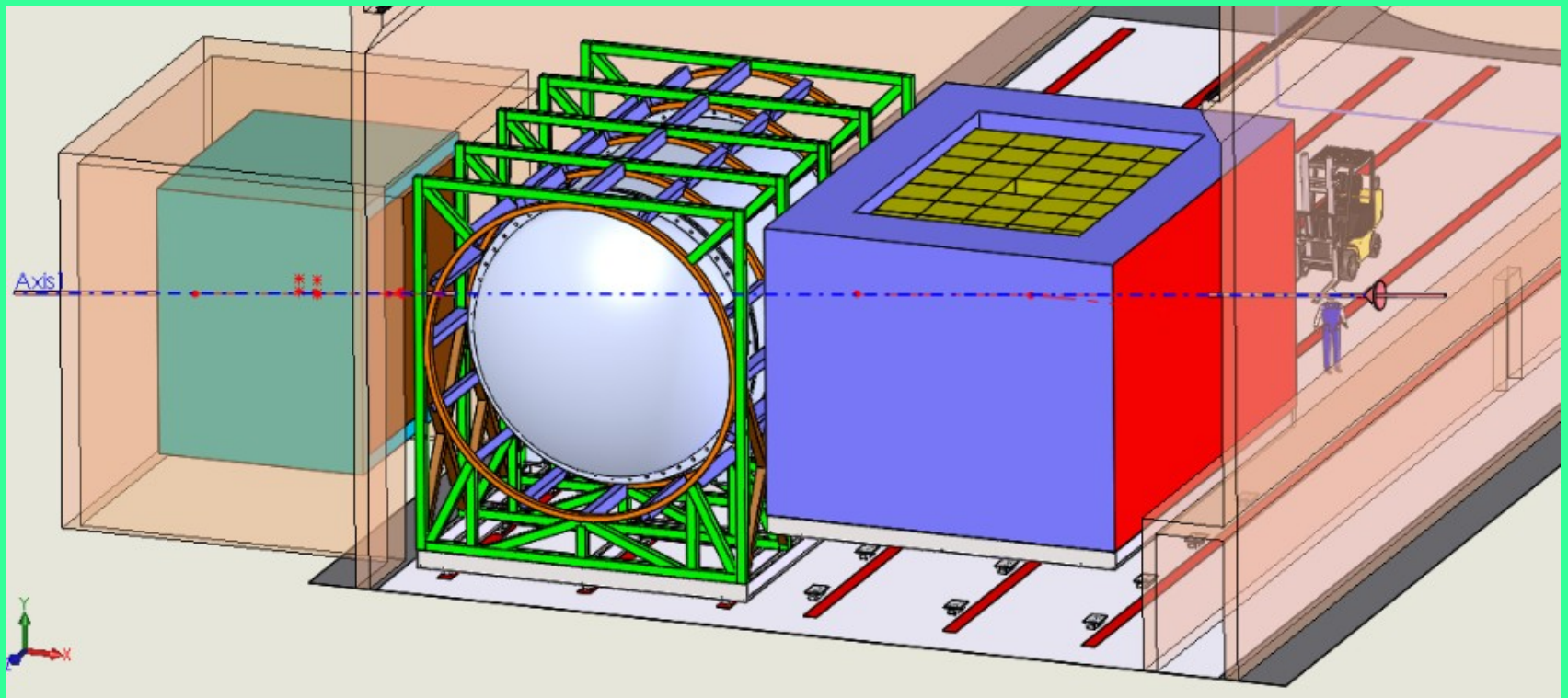
The energy and angular resolution and mass is sufficient to extract a high-statistics sample of neutrino-electron elastic scattering events, which have a known cross section.

Can be used to constrain the flux to better than 2%.  
(MINERvA arXiv:1906.00111)

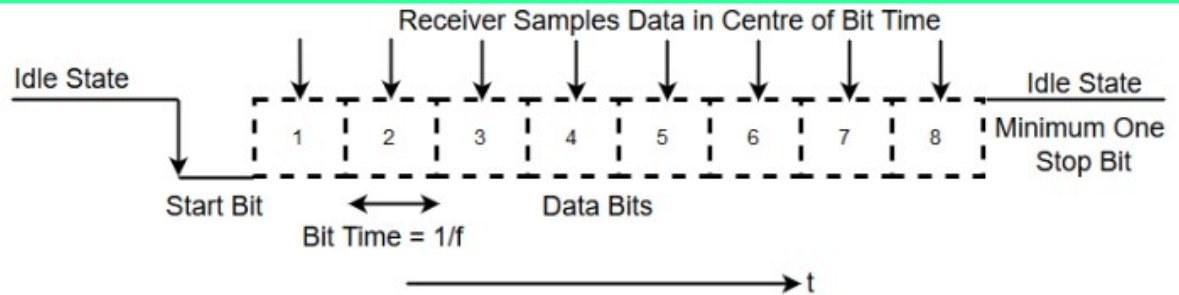
Constrain electron neutrino contamination.

Use e/ $\gamma$  separation to reduce NC background.

# Dune ND with ArgonCube



## Pixel readout features



UART-like communication with a 54 bit data word

300Hz

54 bit, 16 chips, 60cm drift

~10Hz

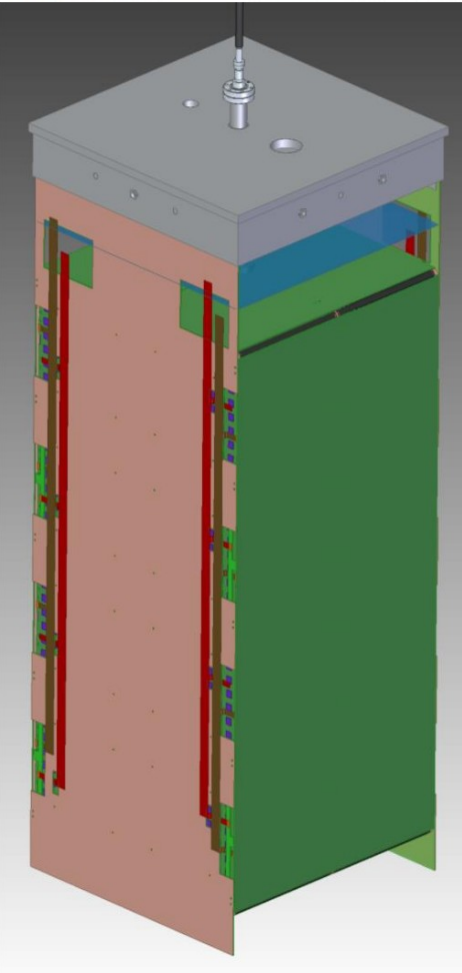
54 bit, 1 chips, 30cm drift

1 chip

540 bit/s

5000 chip

2,7 Mbit/s



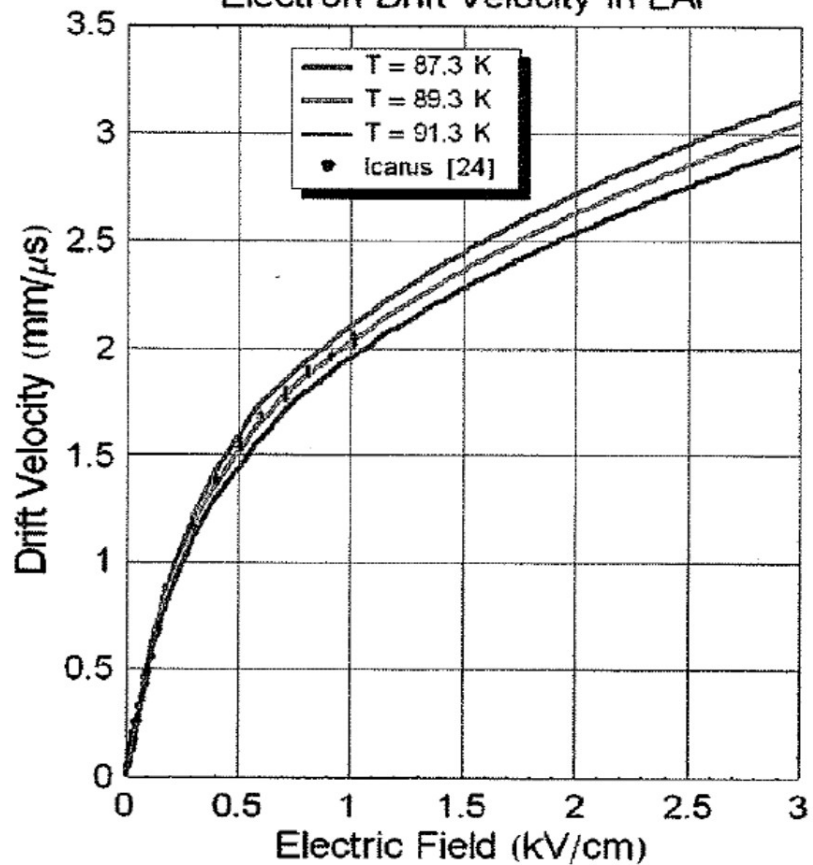
## Liquid argon properties

<http://atlas.web.cern.ch/Atlas>

Atomic number	18	
Atomic weight (u)	39.94	
Radiation length (cm)	14.2	
Absorption length (cm)	83.6	
Molière radius (cm)	10.1	
Critical energy (MeV)	30.5	
< DEmip (1 cm) > (MeV)	2.1	
W-value (1 MeV electrons) (eV/ion-pair)		23.3
Fano factor	0.107	
Electron mobility at bp (m <sup>2</sup> V <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )		0.048
Ion mobility at bp (x10 <sup>5</sup> ) (m <sup>2</sup> V <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )		0.016
Dielectric constant	1.6	
Heat capacity (Cp) (cal mol <sup>-1</sup> K <sup>-1</sup> )		10.05
Thermal conductivity (x10 <sup>3</sup> ) ( cal s <sup>-1</sup> cm <sup>-1</sup> K <sup>-1</sup> )		30
Critical point temperature (K)	150.85	
Normal boiling point (bp) (K)	87.27	
Liquid density at bp (g cm <sup>-3</sup> )	1.40	
Heat of vaporization at bp (cal mol <sup>-1</sup> )	1557.5	
Gas/liquid ratio	784.0	
Temperature (K) : Pressure (bars)		
87.15	1.0	
89.3	1.25	
91.8	1.6	



### Electron Drift Velocity in LAr



### Recombination Factor in LAr

