Neutrino Cross Section Experiments

45th Karpacz Winter School

Morgan Wascko
Imperial College London

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Overview of Lectures

- Introduce neutrino cross section experiments
  - Only cover accelerator neutrino beams
    - Focus on recent measurements near 1 GeV
      - K2K, MiniBooNE, SciBooNE
- Experimental Methods
- Measurements, current and future
- Uncertainties

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A note on style

- Informal lectures
- Please ask questions

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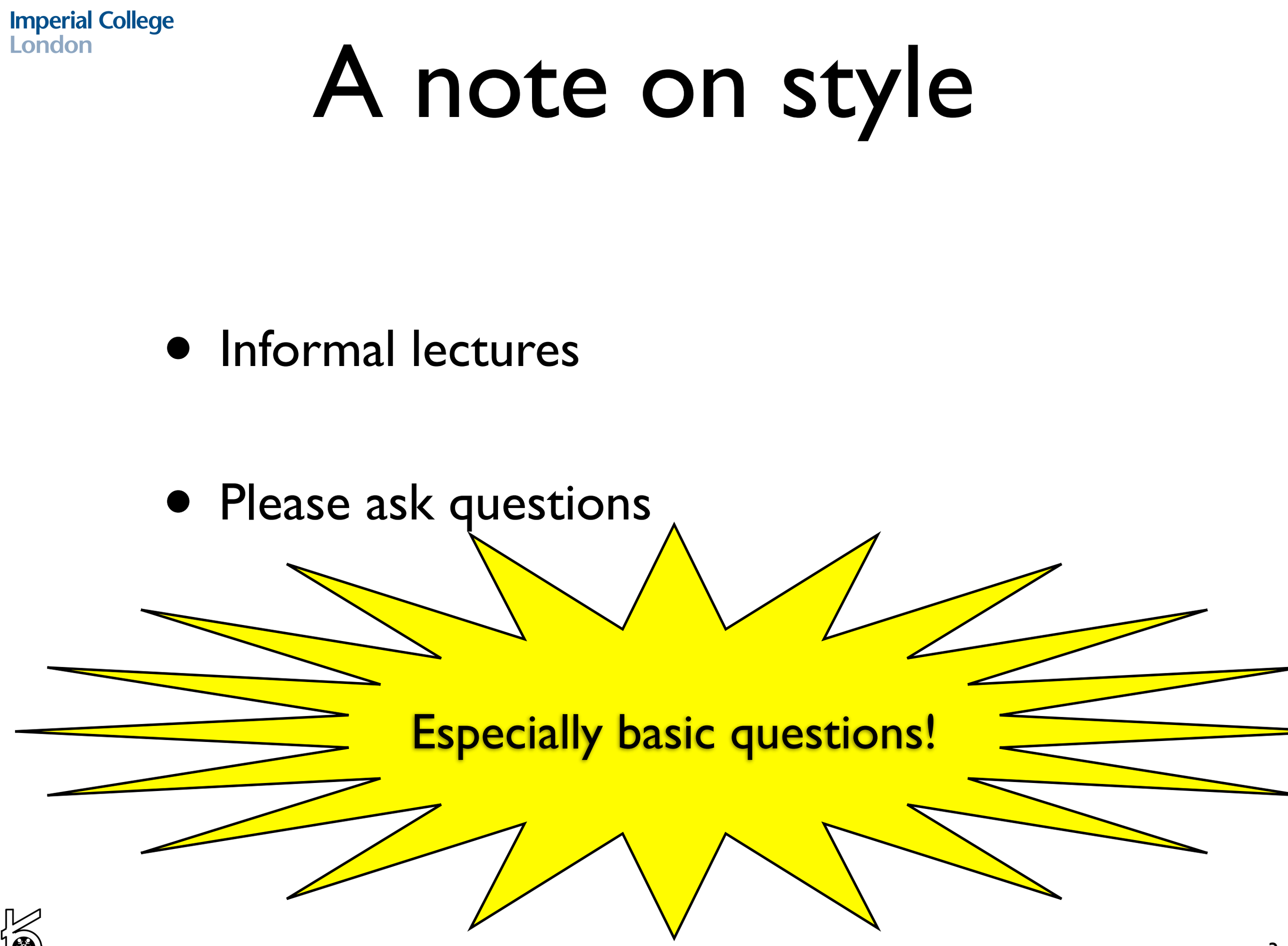
- Informal lectures
- Please ask questions



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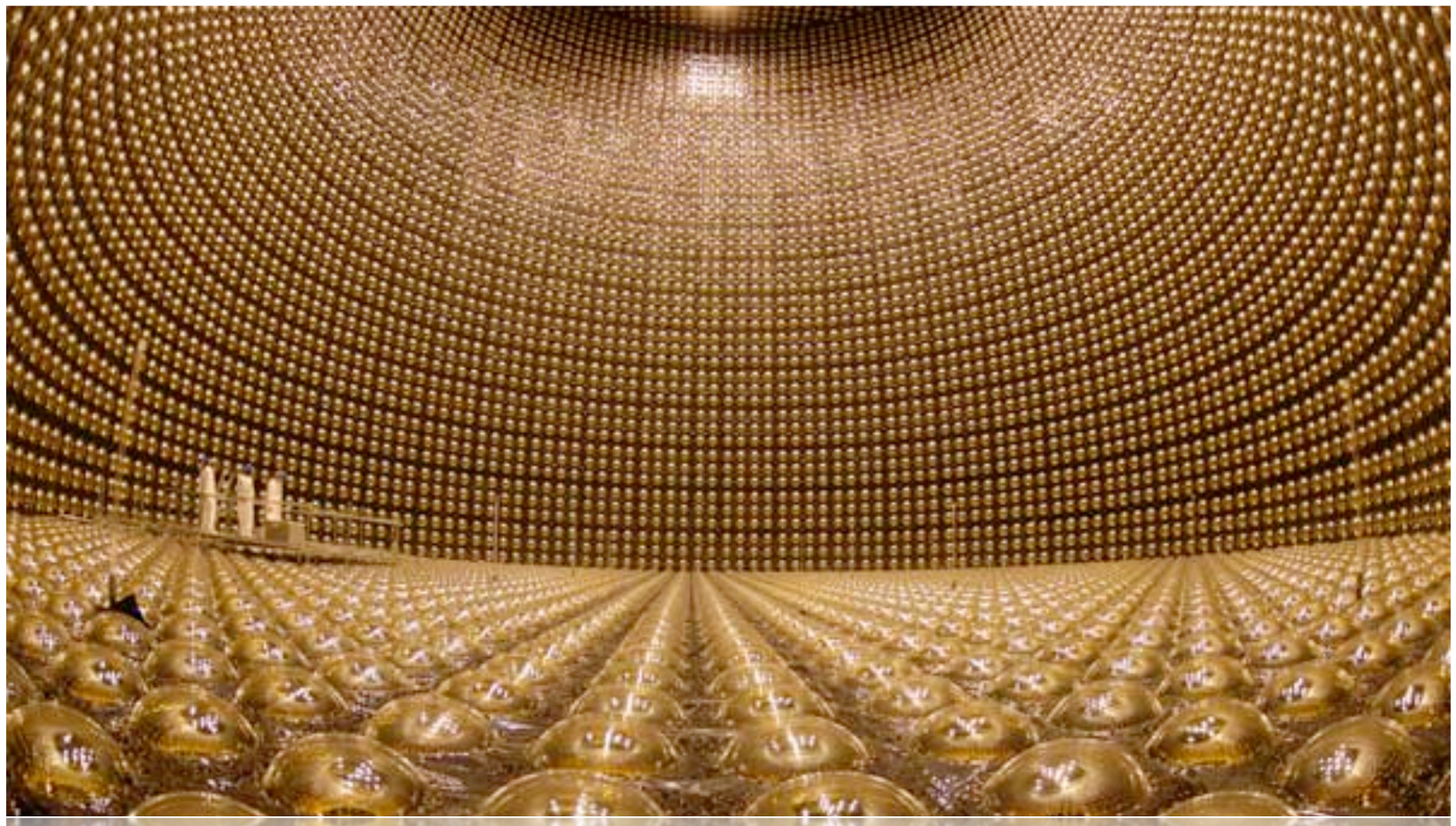
Schedule of Talks

- 1 - Introduction & Experiments
- 2 - CCQE
- 3 - CC1π^+
- 4 - NC1π^0
- 5 - Other processes (NC Elastic, CC1π^0)
- 6 - Antineutrino measurements

Discuss relation to oscillation experiments here



Lecture 1.
Introduction

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Lecture 1 Outline

- Overview of Accelerator ν Experiments
  - Motivation
- Past Experiments
  - Hadron production experiments
- Current Experiments
  - K2K
  - MiniBooNE
  - SciBooNE
- Future Experiments

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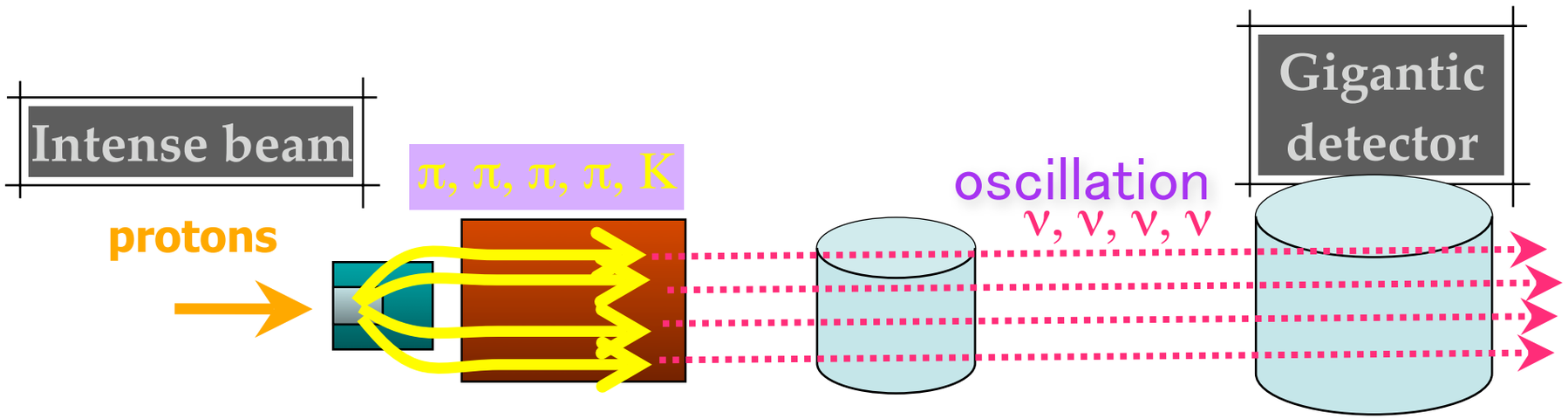
Accelerator Neutrino Experiments



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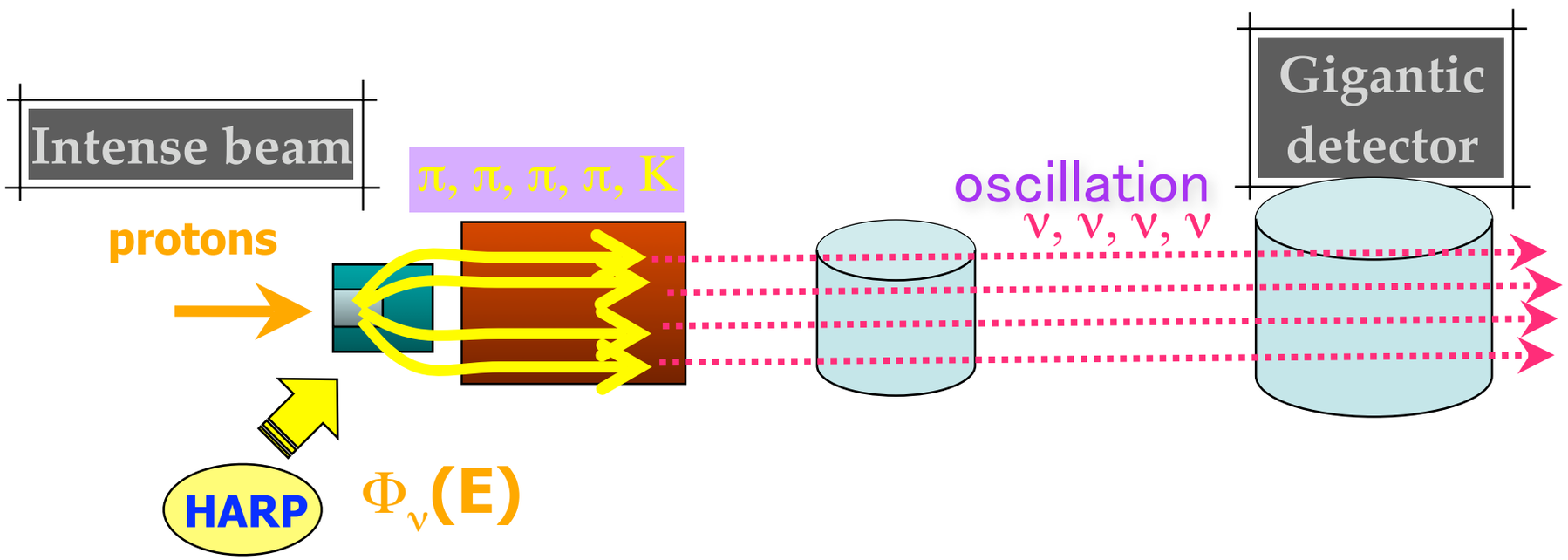
Accelerator Neutrino Experiments



HARP $\Phi_\nu(E)$

MIPP SHINE

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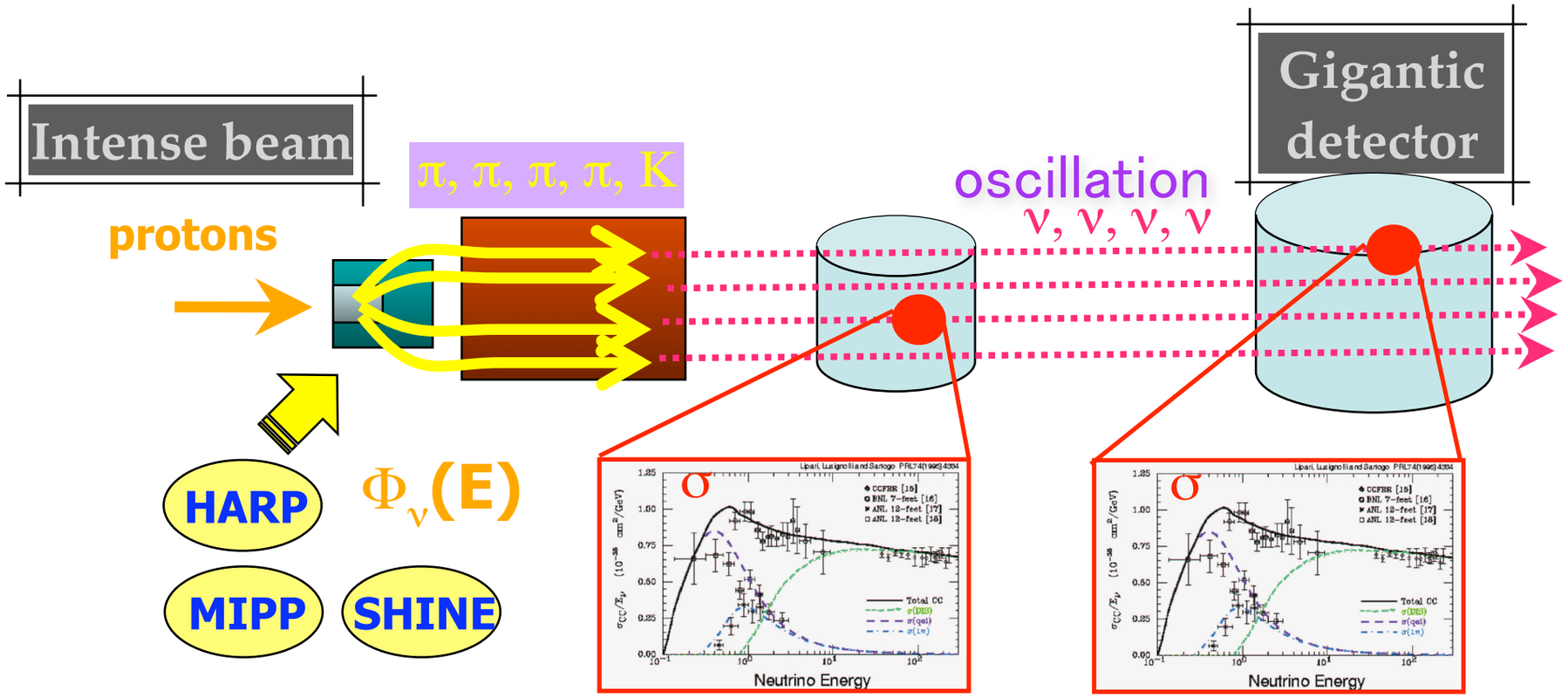
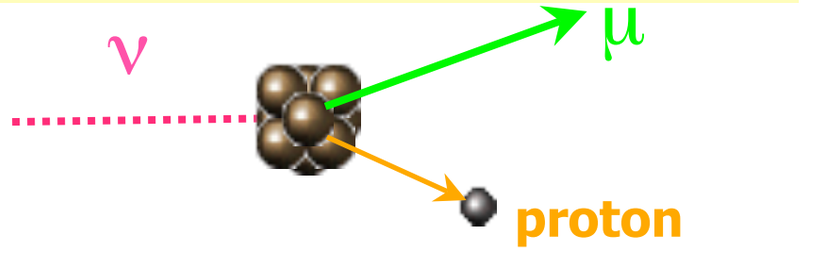
Accelerator Neutrino Experiments



$$\sigma(E)\cdot\Phi_\nu^{near}(E) \Leftrightarrow \sigma(E)\cdot\Phi_\nu^{far}(E)$$



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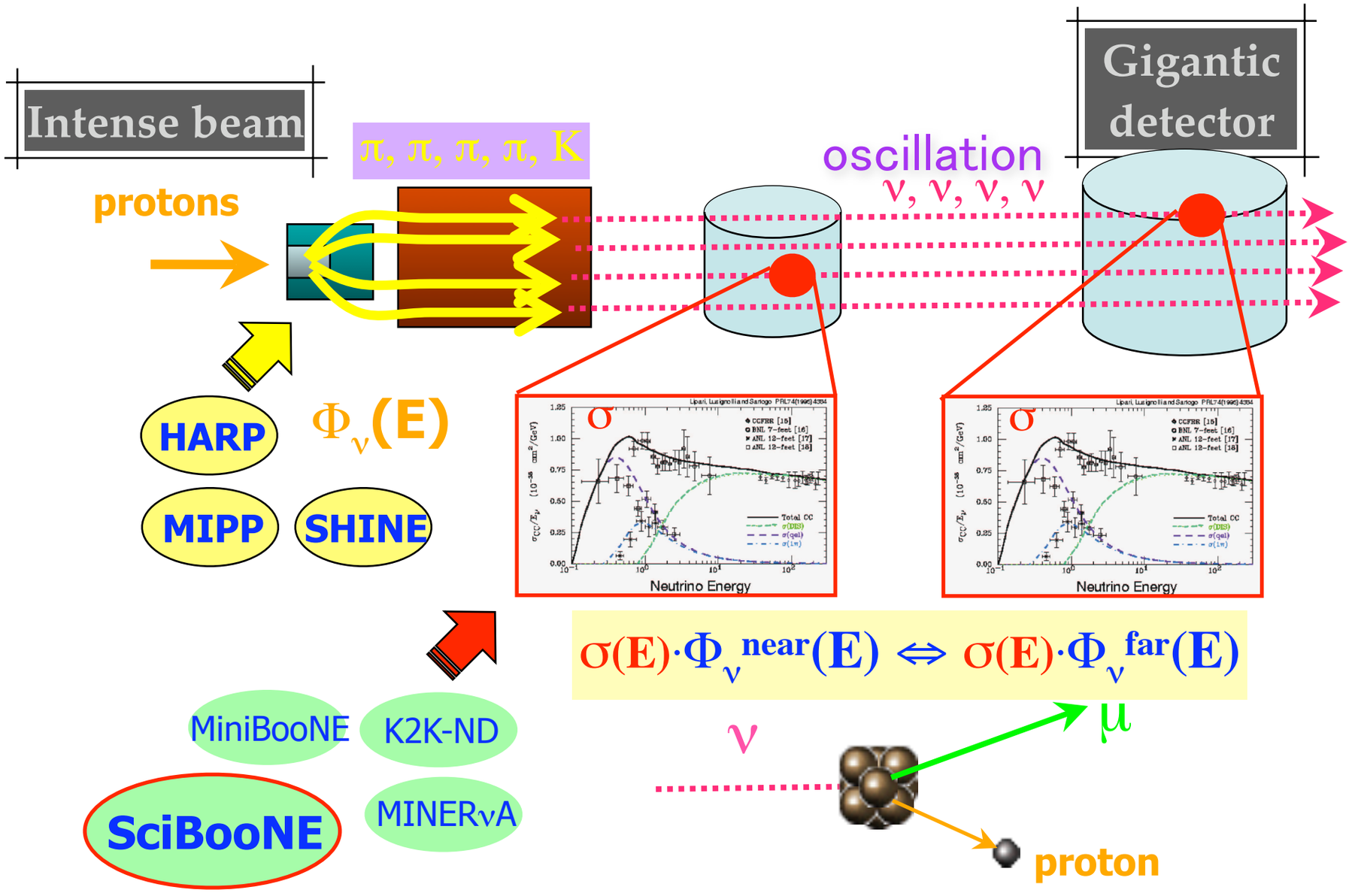
Accelerator Neutrino Experiments



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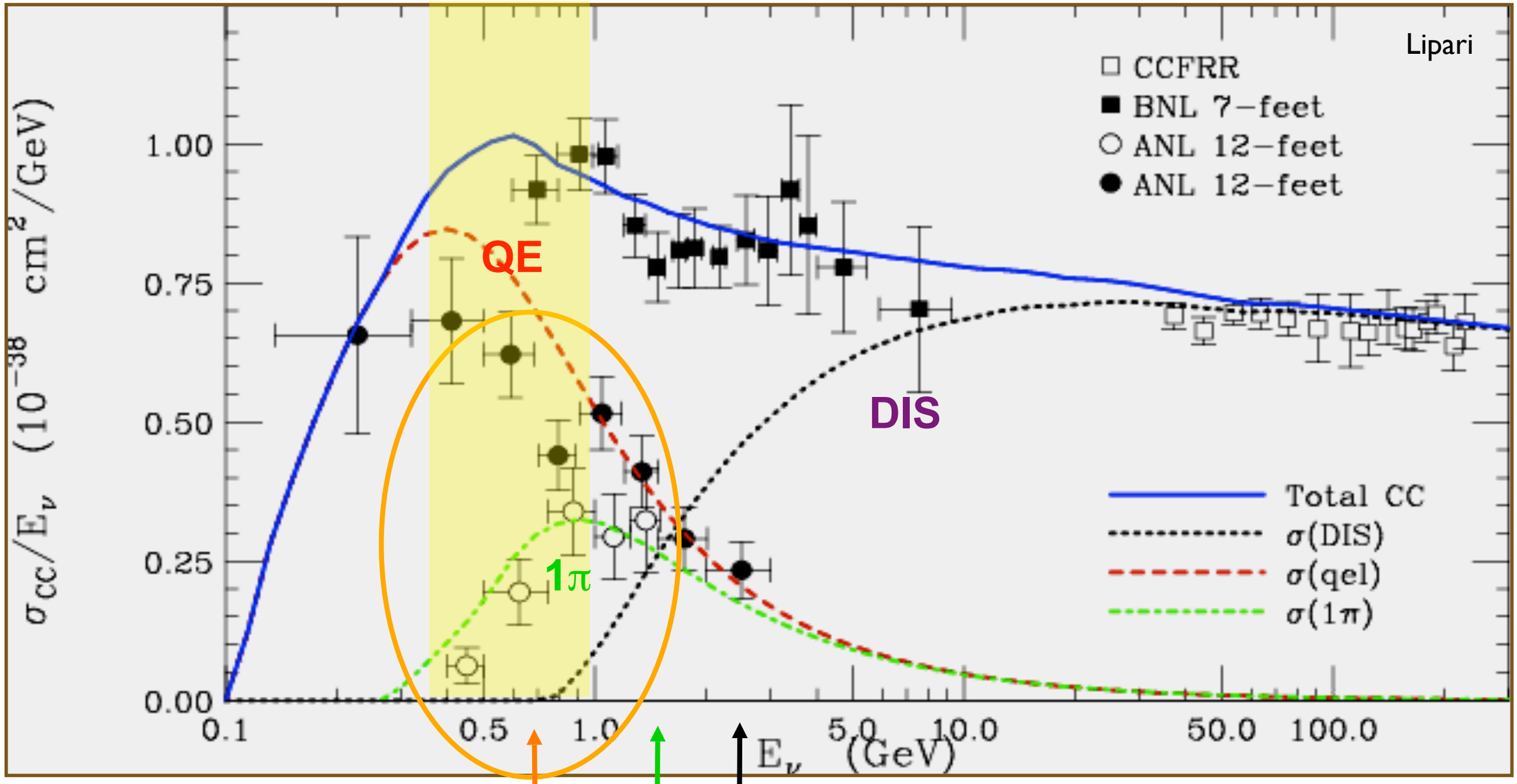
Energy range

Neutrino oscillation searches drive need for better cross section knowledge



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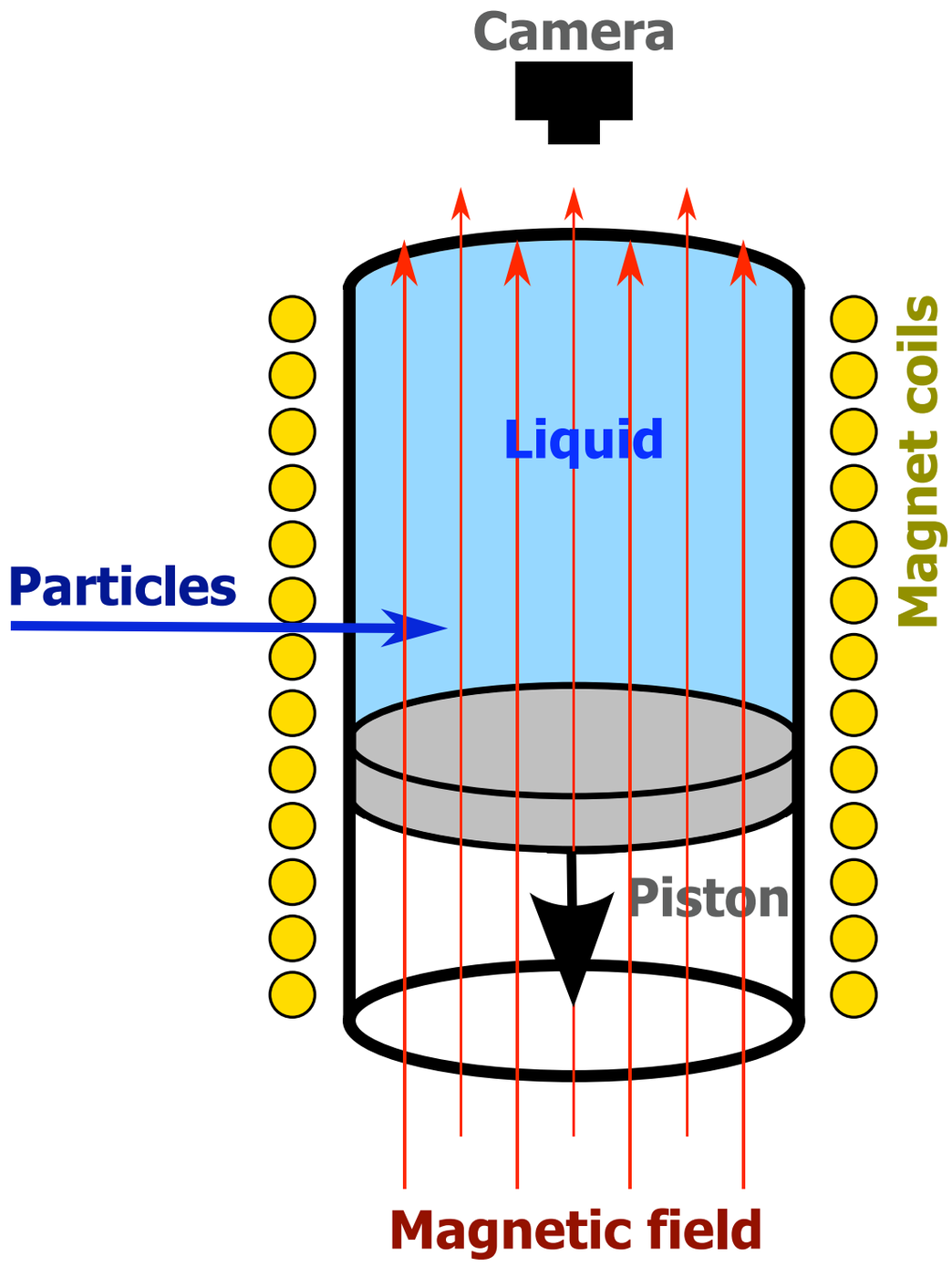
Past Experiments

- Bubble chambers
  - First measurements
- Conventional neutrino beams

Bubble Chambers

- Super heated liquid
  - Ionisation creates bubbles
- External trigger
  - Cameras
- Very good position resolutions
- Slow reconstruction - human hand scanning
  - Extremely limited statistics



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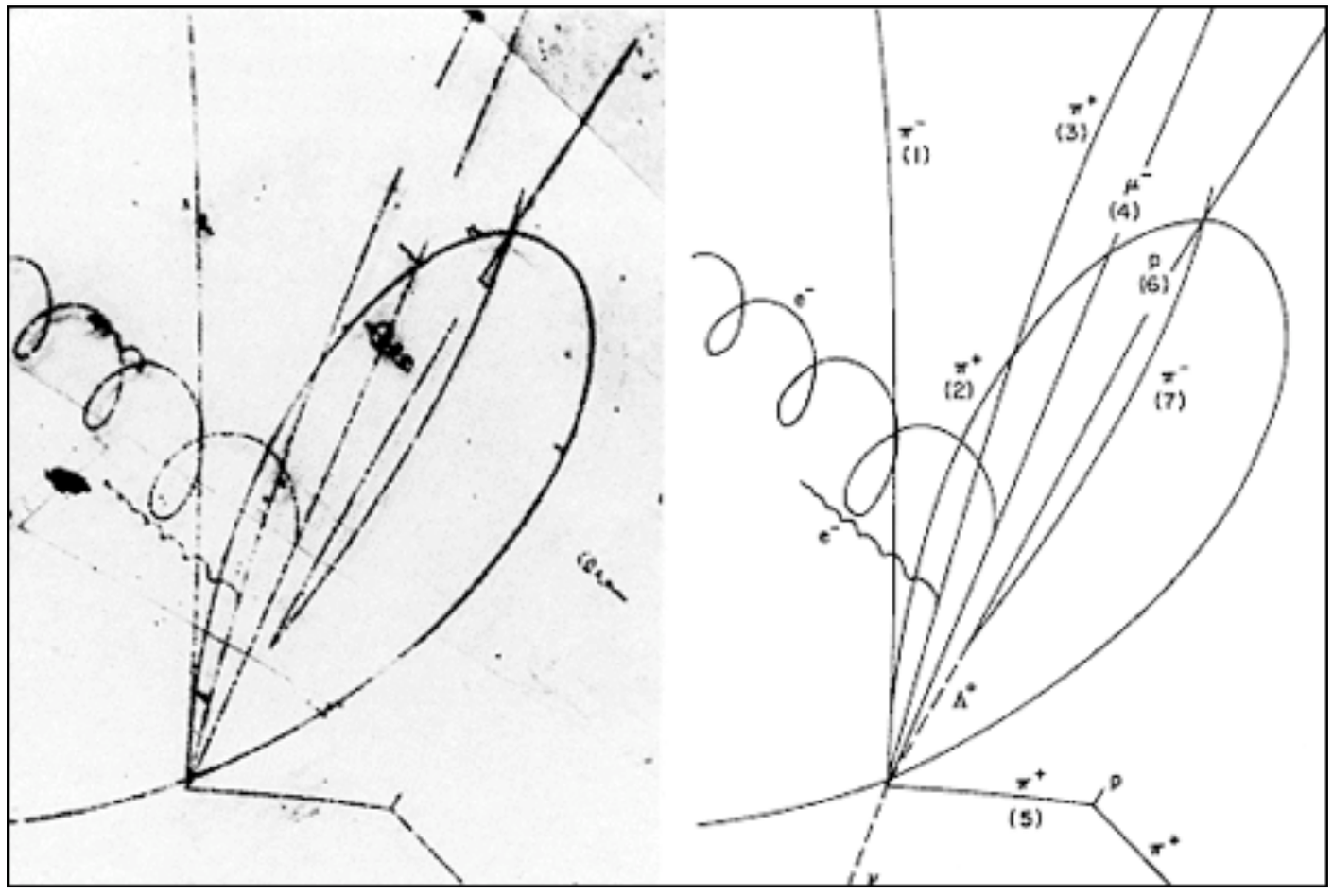

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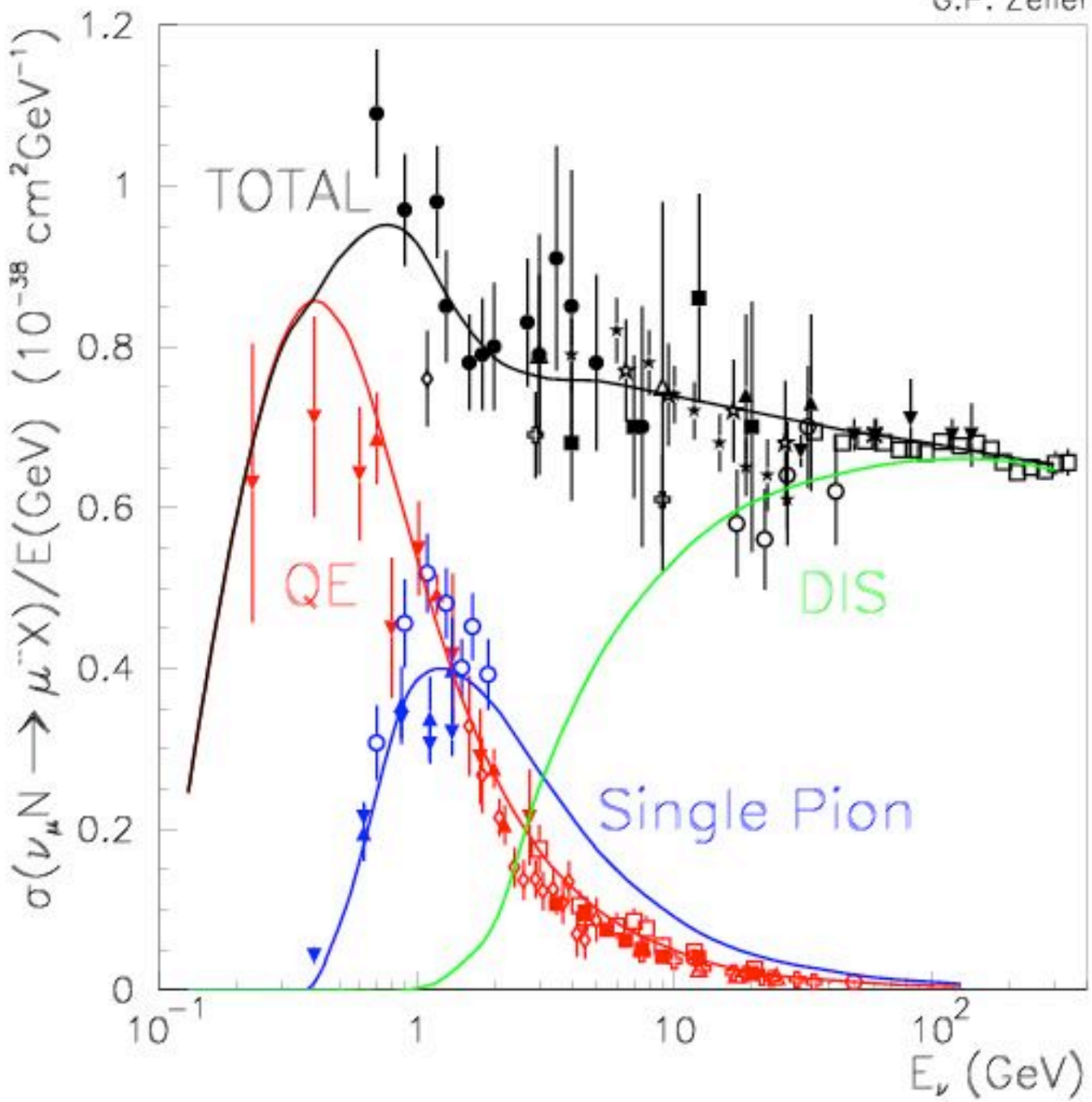
Bubble Chambers 2

- Bubble chambers used with neutrinos at CERN, ANL, BNL, FNAL
- Neutrino
- Antineutrino

- Slow data processing motivates use of electronic readout



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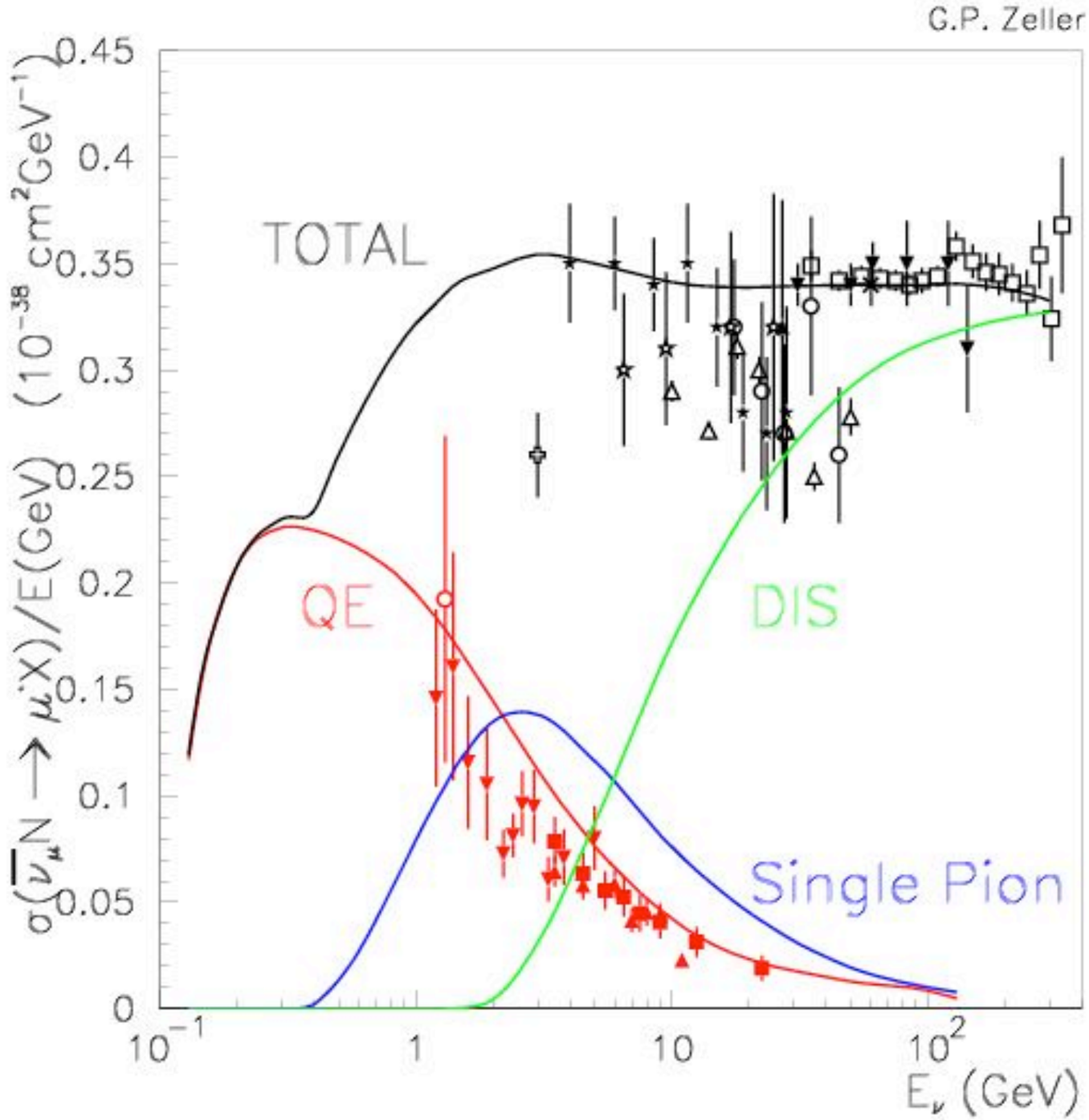

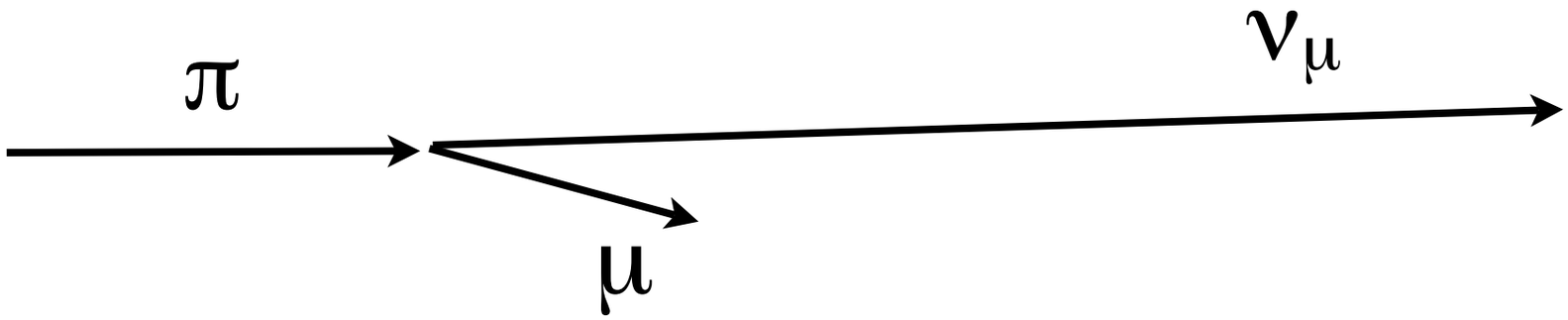

Conventional Neutrino Beams

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First neutrino beam

- Lederman, Schwartz & Steinberger
  - Discovery of 2 types of neutrinos
- Used an undirected, unfocused beam of pions to create neutrinos

Phys. Rev. Lett. 9, 36 - 44 (1962)

$\pi \rightarrow \mu\nu$

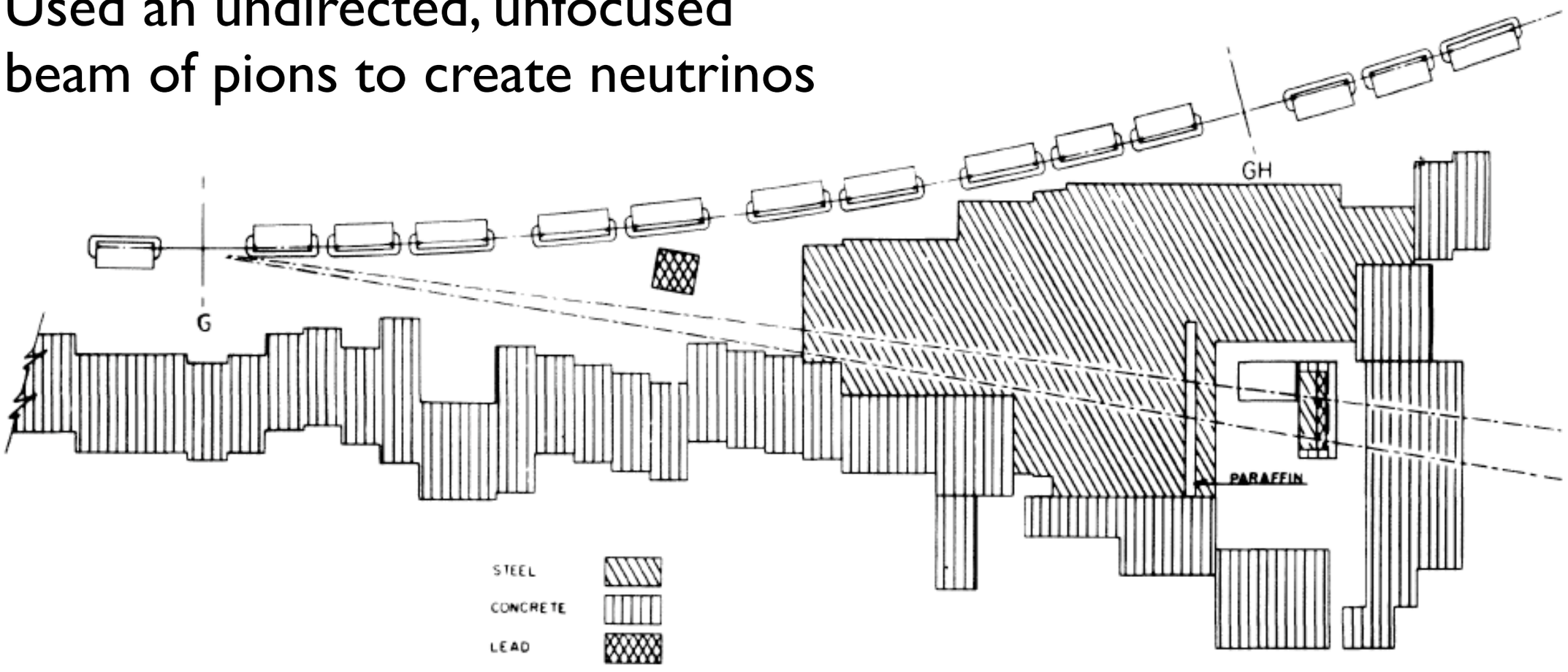

FIG. 1. Plan view of AGS neutrino experiment.

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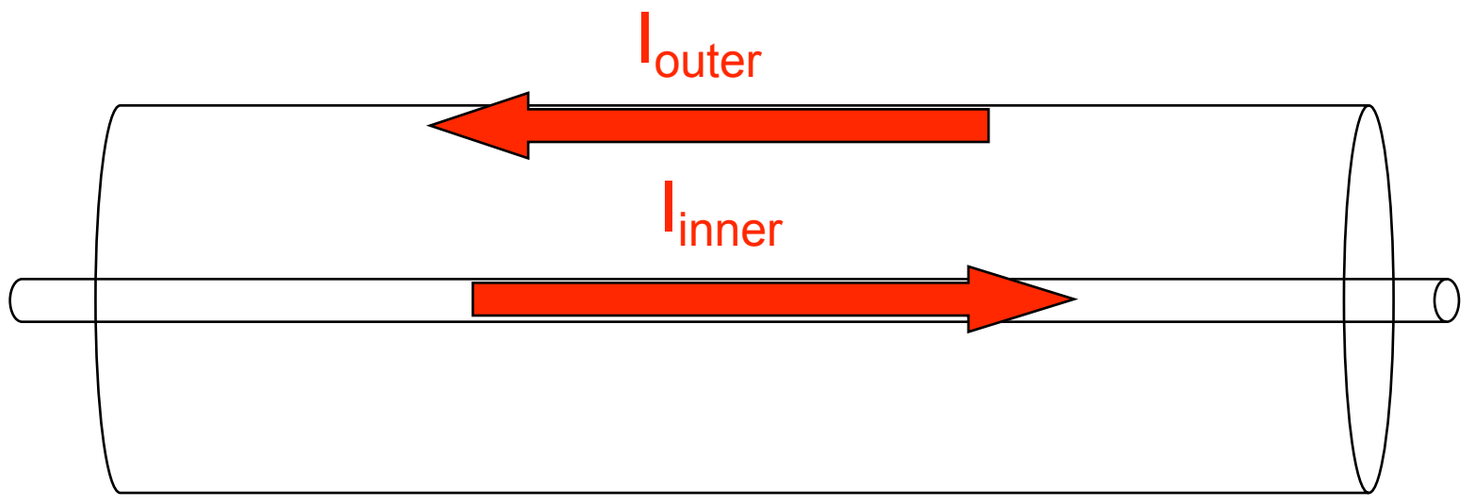
Increasing the flux of neutrino beams

- Simon van der Meer had an idea in the mid 60's:
  - Using two cylindrical current sheets
  - Create a toroidal magnetic field around the neutrino target to
  - Focus pions toward the neutrino detector
  - Increases flux, allows sign selection, some energy selection



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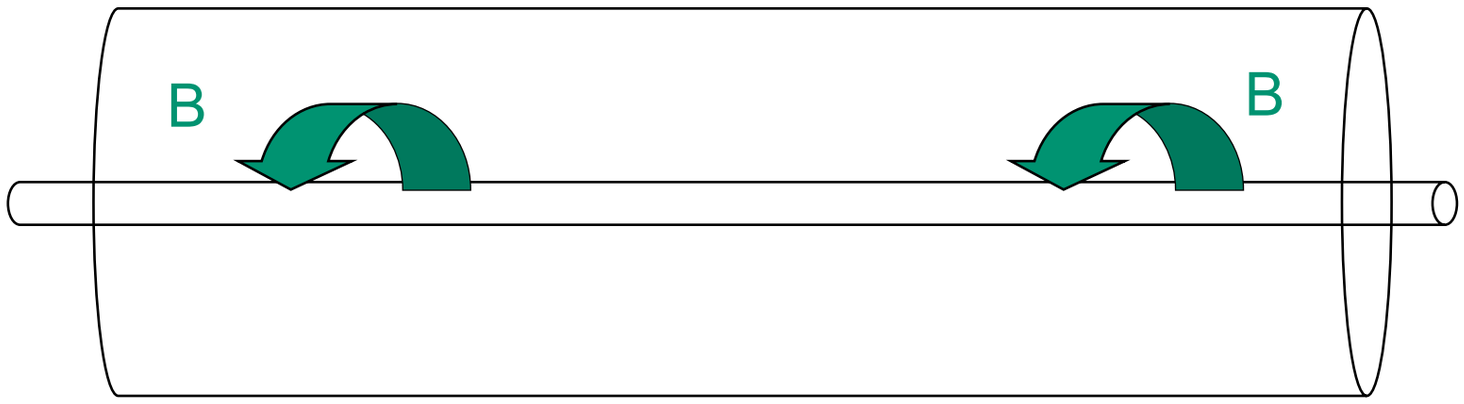

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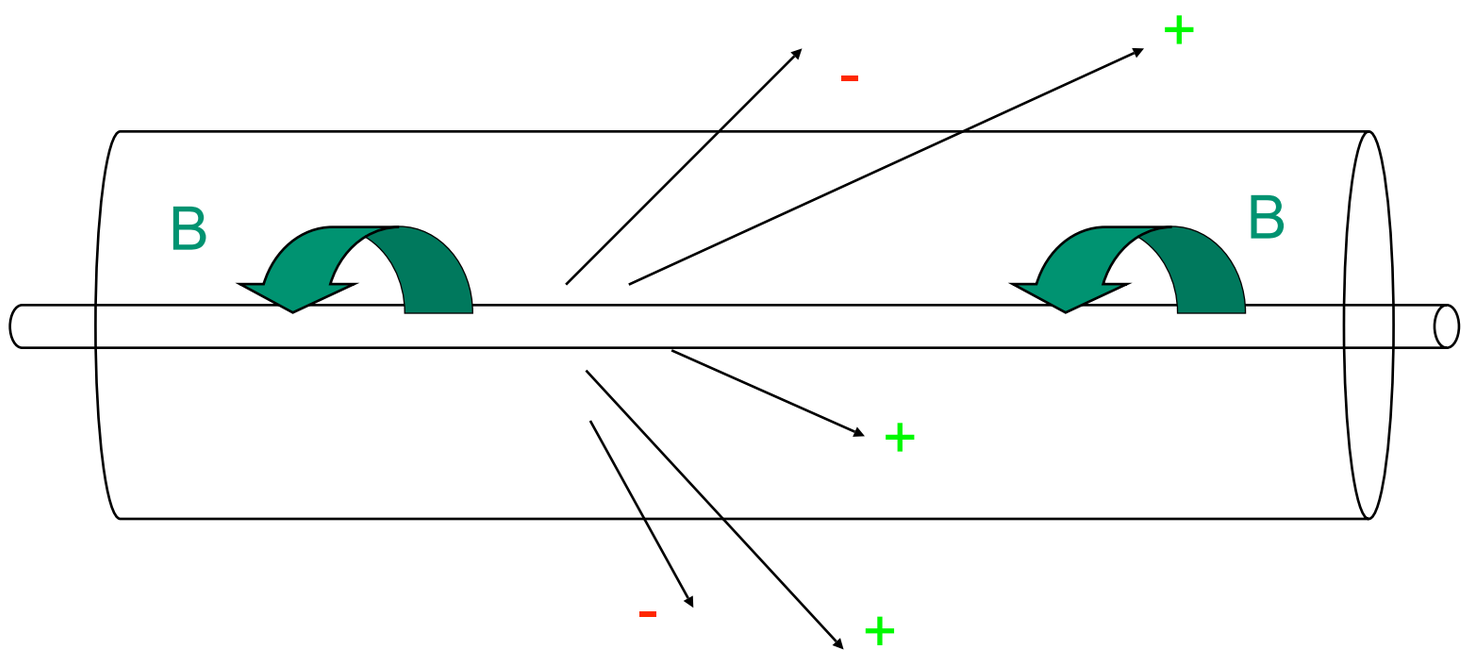

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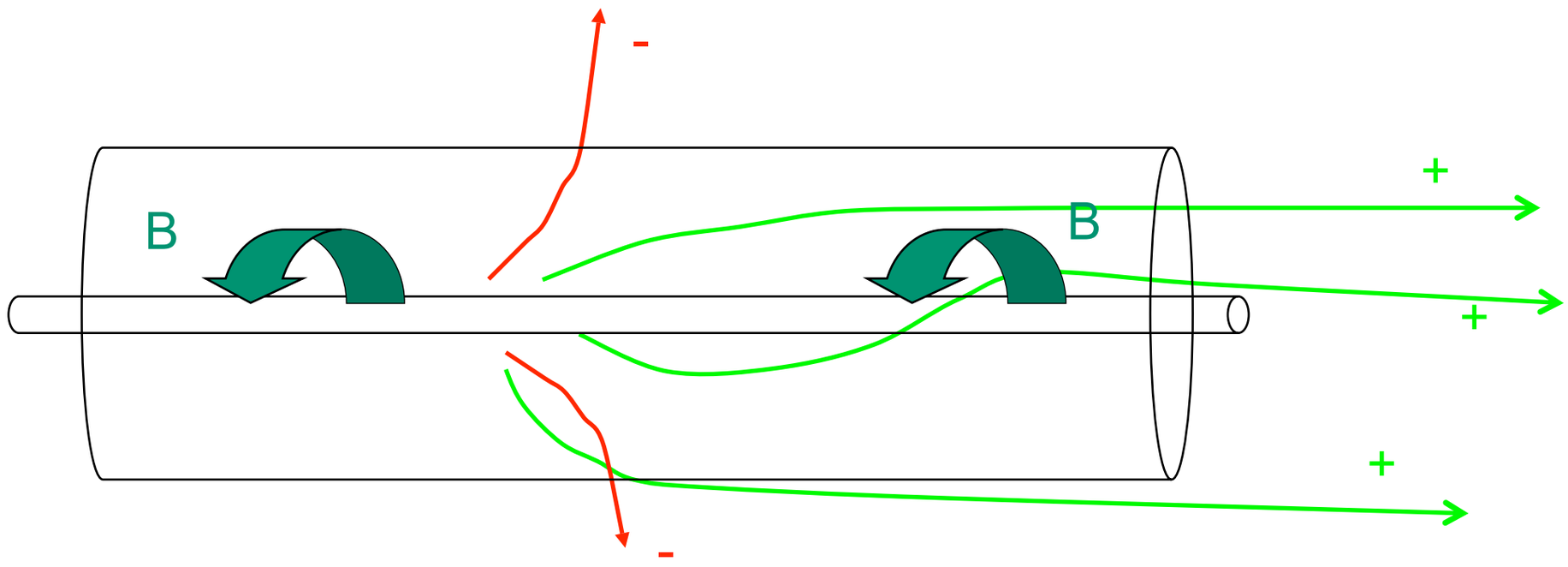

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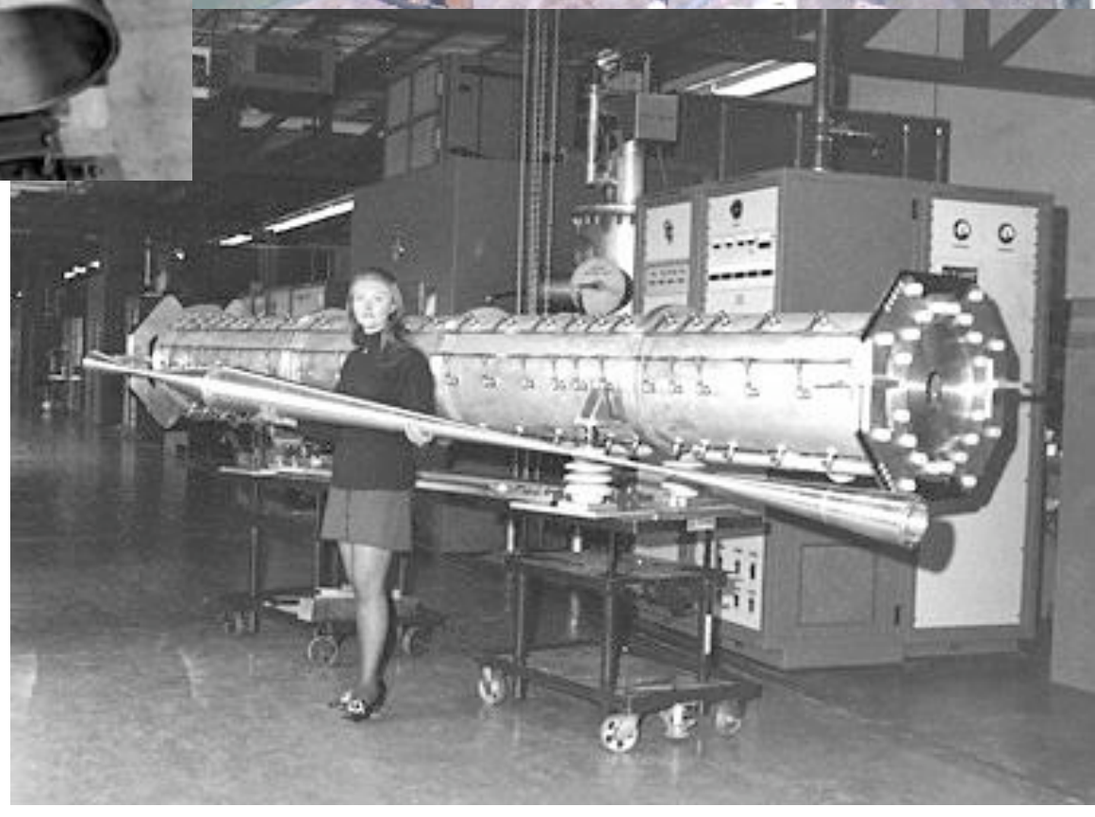
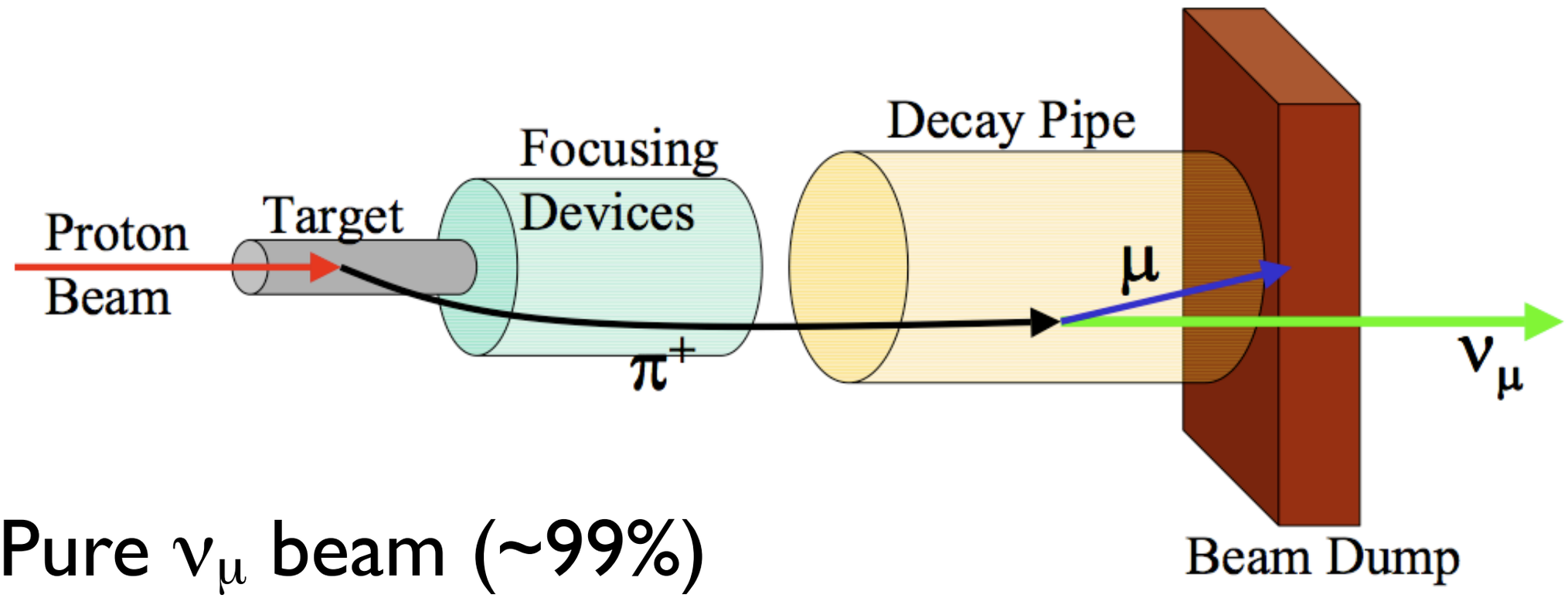
Horns

- These devices are called magnetic horns or just neutrino horns



Conventional characteristics



- Pure ν_μ beam (~99%)
- Slight ν_e contamination from muon and kaon (Ke3) decay
  - Muon decay mitigated with short decay region
  - Higher kaon content at higher proton energies
    - Tradeoff: beam power & purity

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Beam References

- Phys.Rept.439:101-159,2007; arXiv:physics/0609129v1 [physics.acc-ph]

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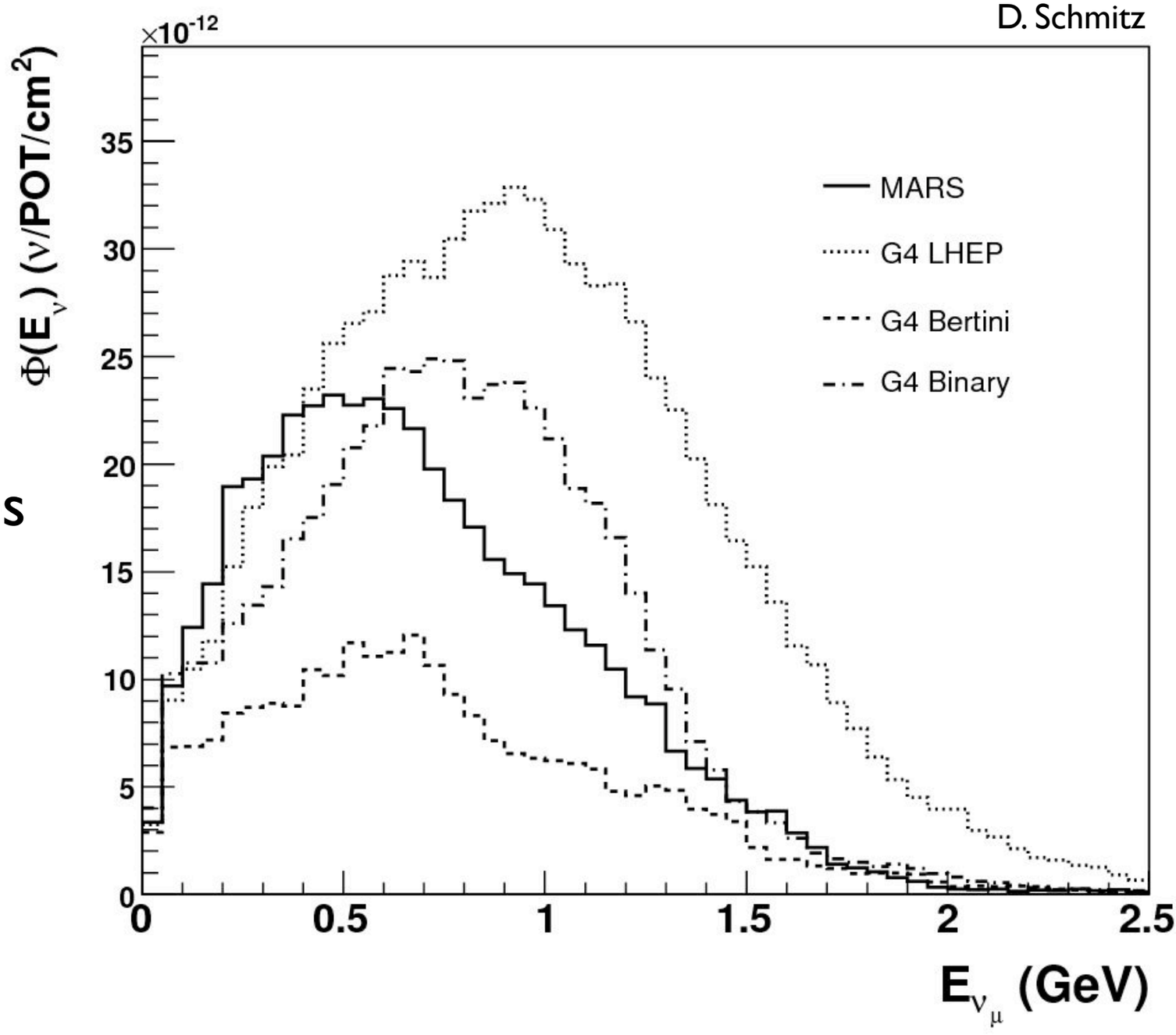
Hadron Production

- Neutrino flux directly related to the meson flux in decay region

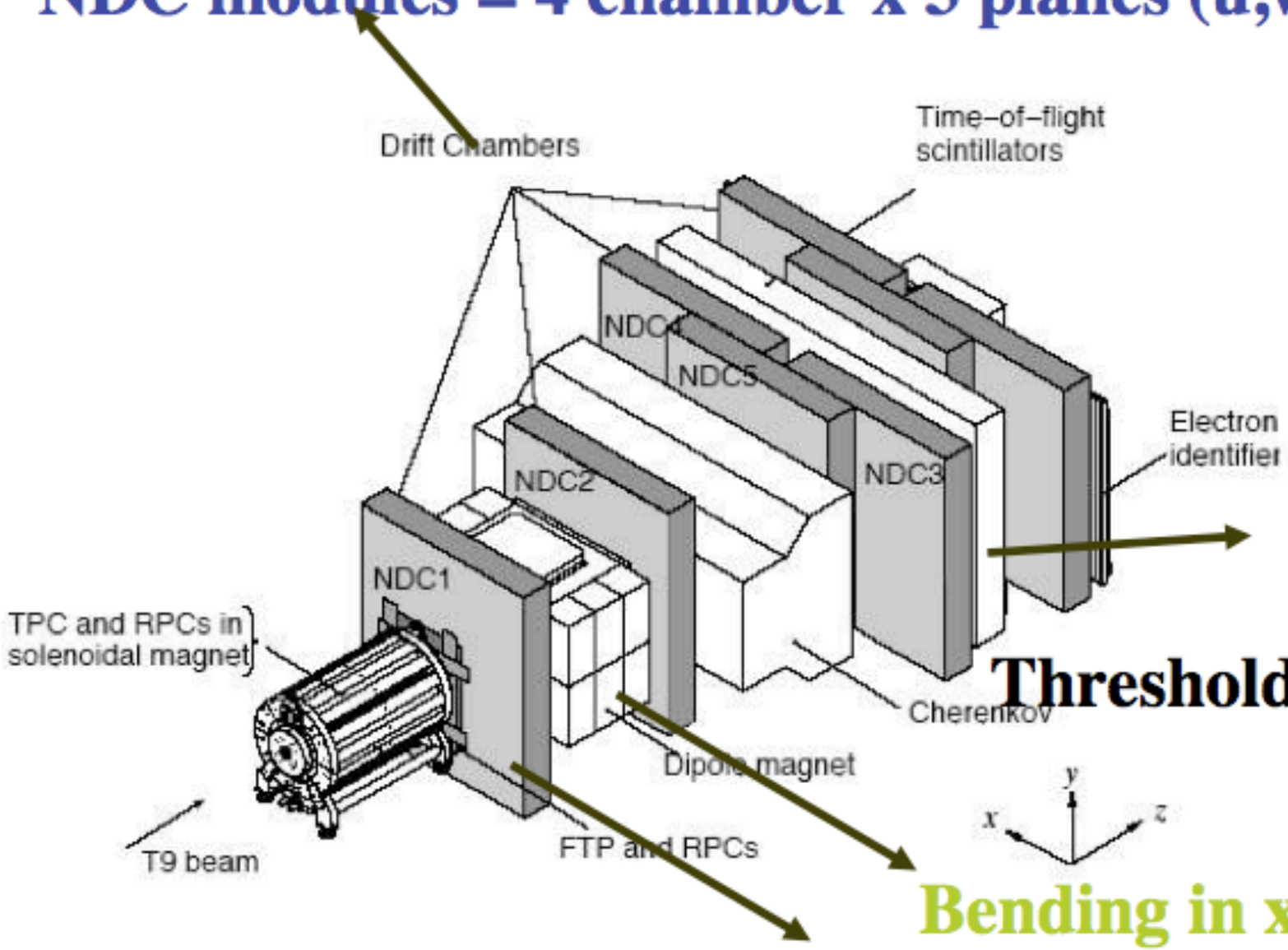
- Uncertainties in meson flux lead to uncertainties in neutrino flux

- Need good meson production measurements
  - HARP at CERN



Harp Detector

NDC modules = 4 chamber x 3 planes (u,v,x) = 12 planes/module



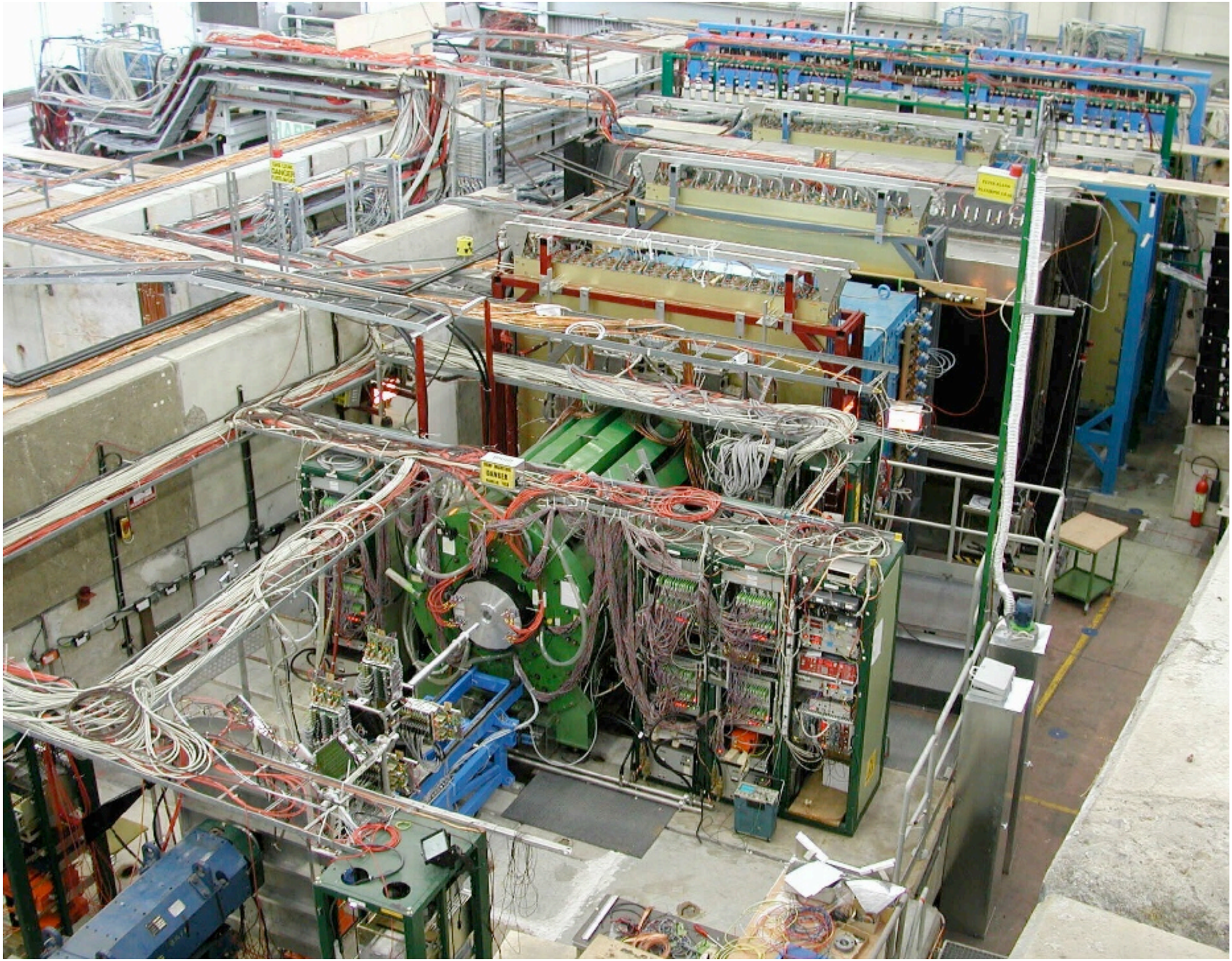
TOFW + t0 Δt ~180 ps

Threshold mode: $E_{th}^{\pi} = 2.6$ GeV

Bending in xz plane: 0.5 T

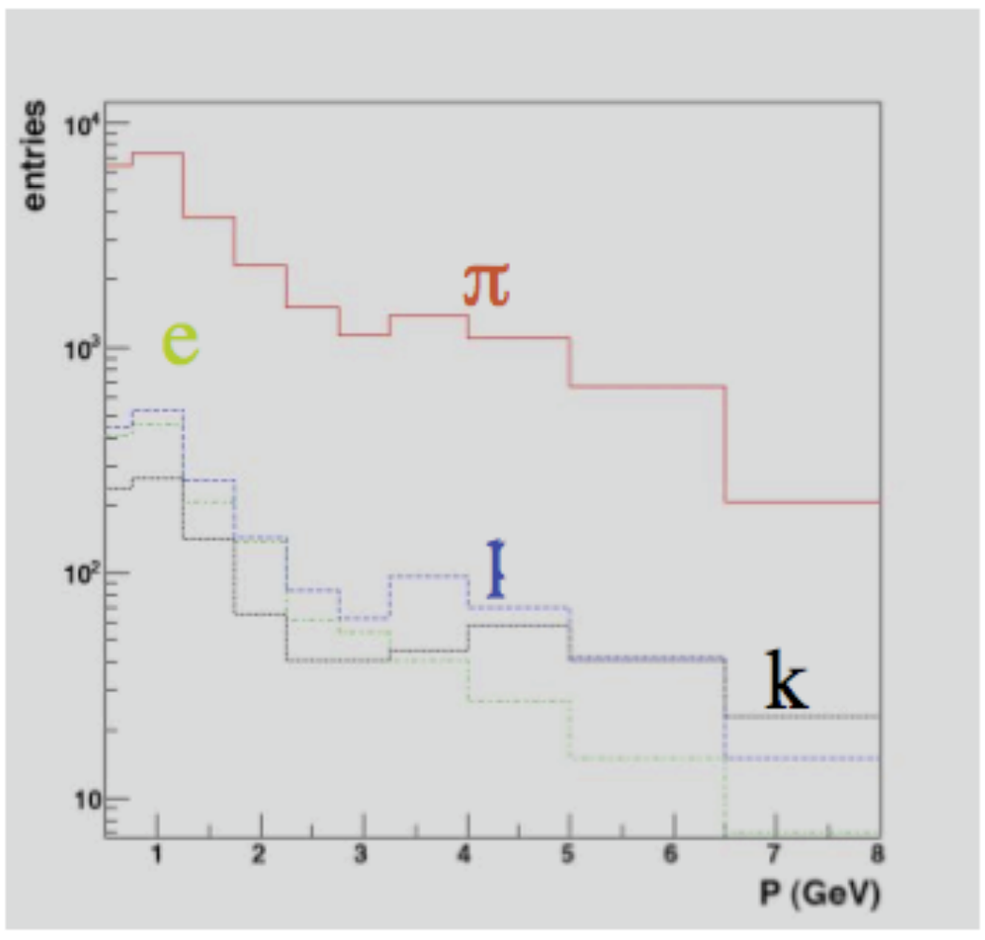
Beam instrumentation

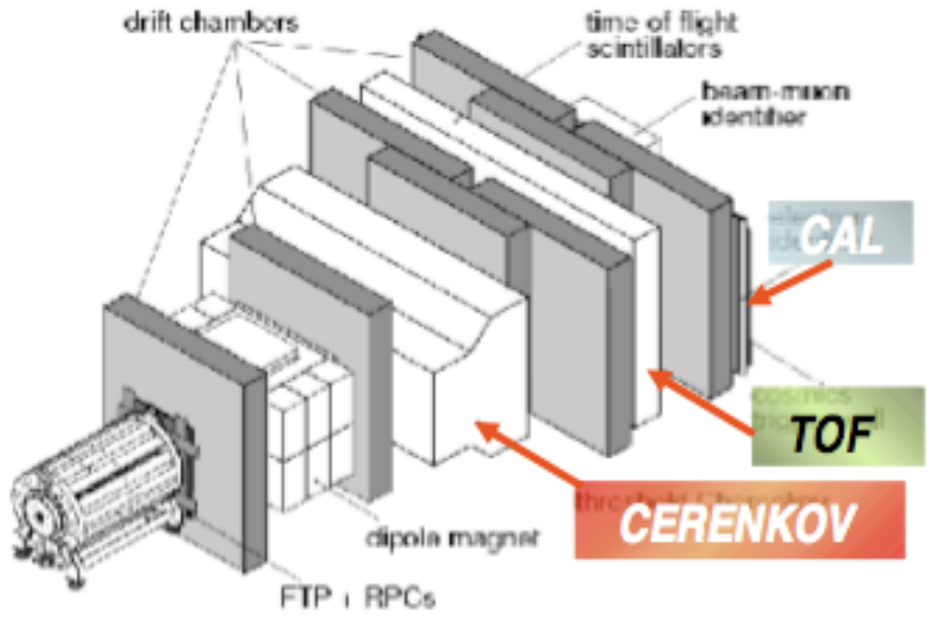
FTP gives interaction trigger

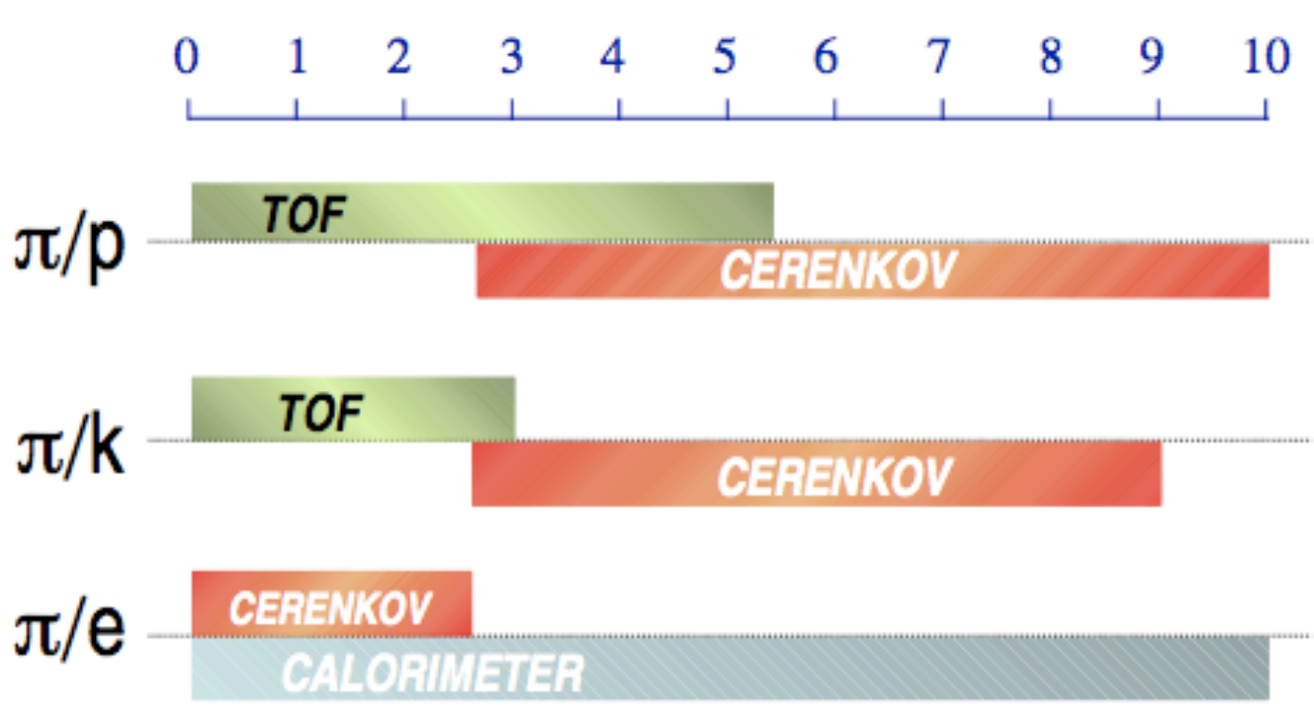


PID in Harp

MC simulation of particle yields

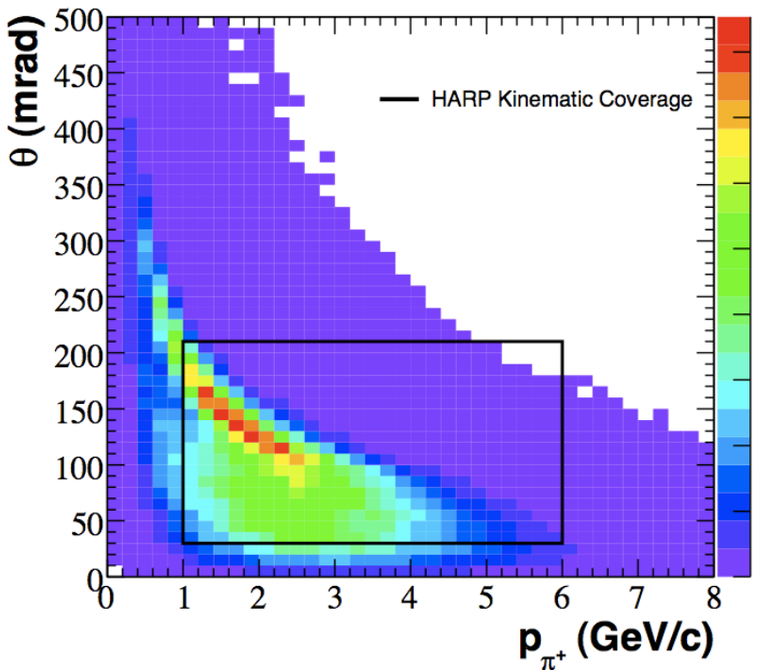


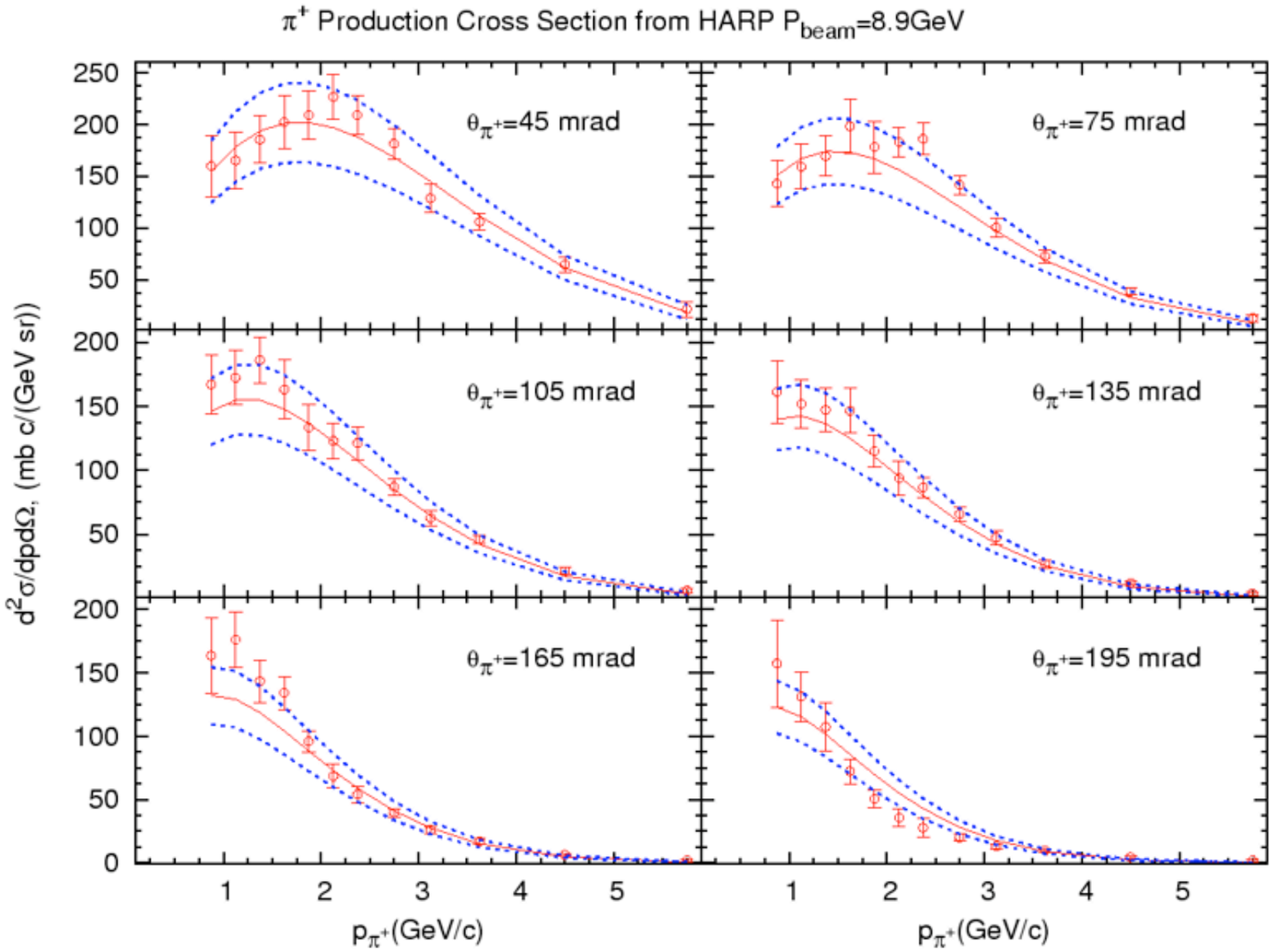




HARP Results (Be)

- 8 GeV KE protons
- Beryllium target
  - thin target
  - MiniBooNE replica target
- Wide coverage of meson phase space





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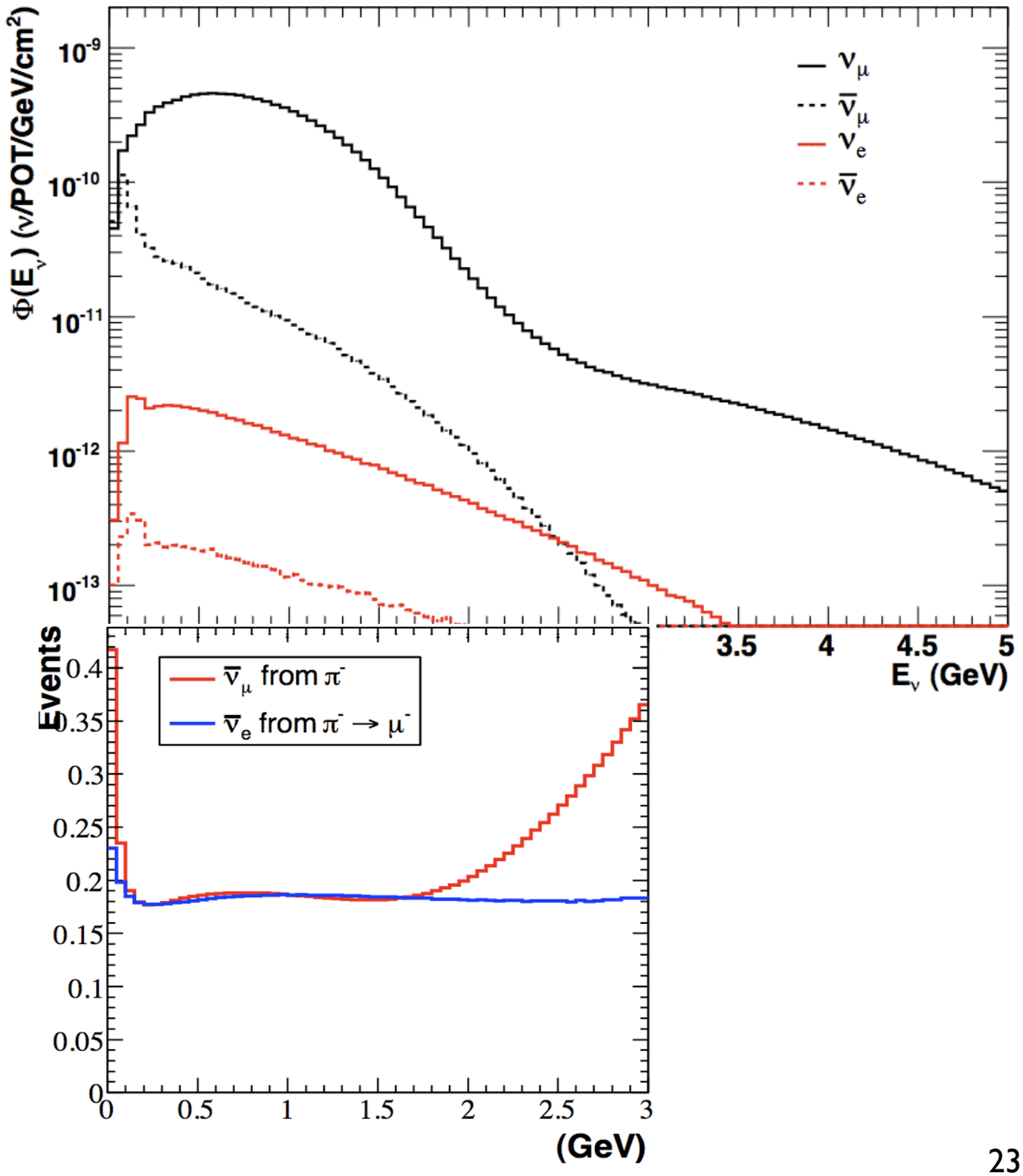
BooNE Flux w/HARP

- Use HARP data with Sanford-Wang parameterization directl in BooNE flux MC
- ~17% uncertainty
  - Direct interpolation of data (no S-W) yields ~8% uncertainty



arXiv:0806.1449 [hep-ex].

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HARP References

- http://harp.web.cern.ch/harp
- Al: Nucl. Phys. **B732** (2006) 1, arXiv:hep-ex/0510039.
- Be: Eur. Phys. J. **C52** (2007) 29-53, arXiv:hep-ex/0702024.

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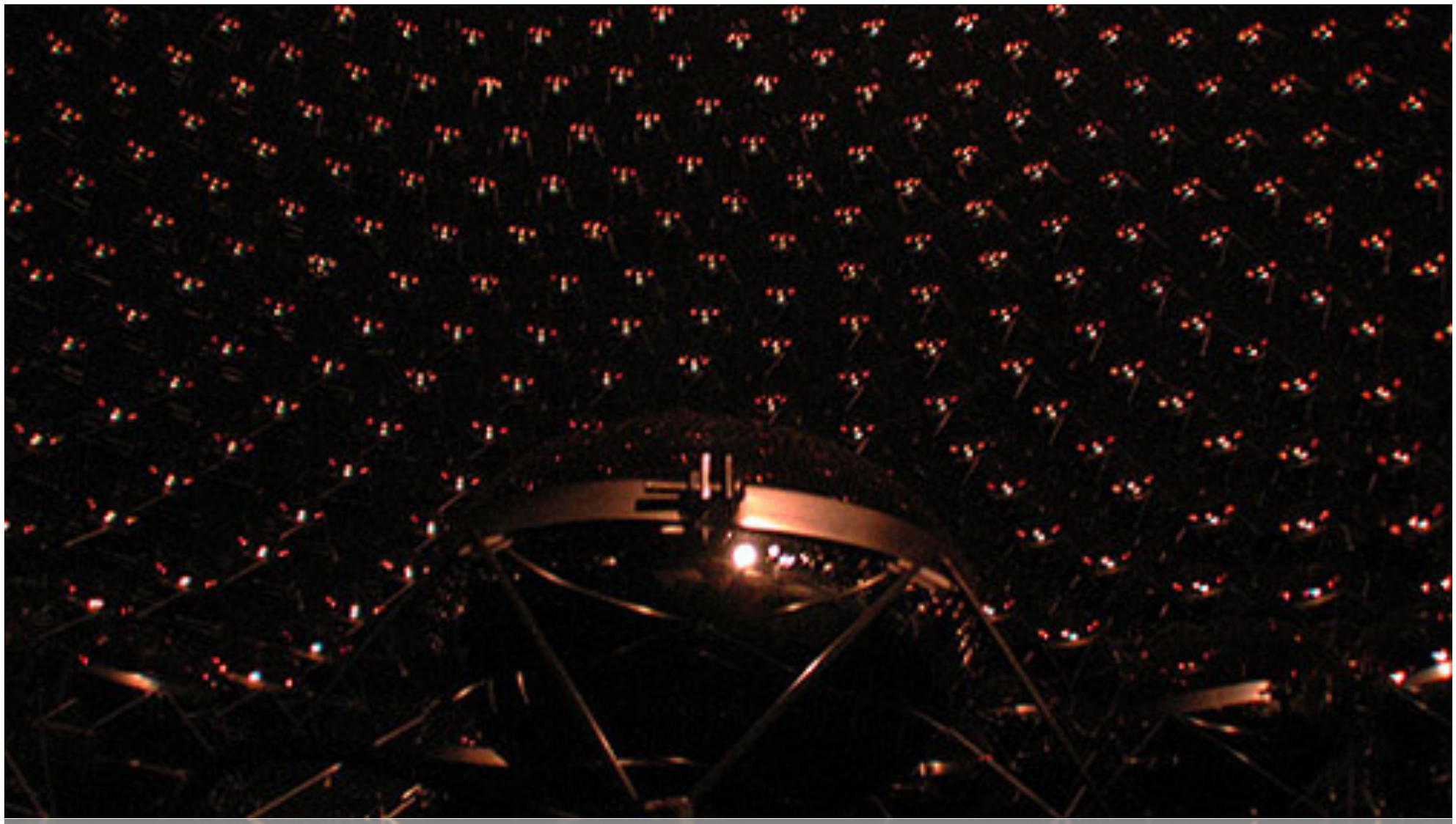
Other Hadron production experiments

- MIPP (Main Injector Particle Production)
  - Fermilab
  - Ran in 2004-5
  - Analyzing data now
- SHINE (NA-61)
  - CERN
  - for T2K
  - Took data in 2007
  - Running more this spring (2009)



Neutrino Experiments

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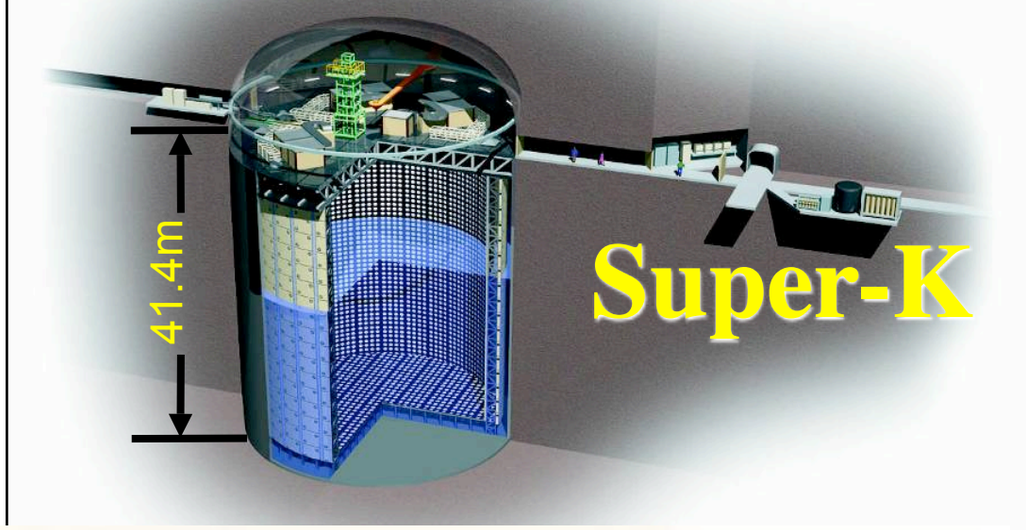
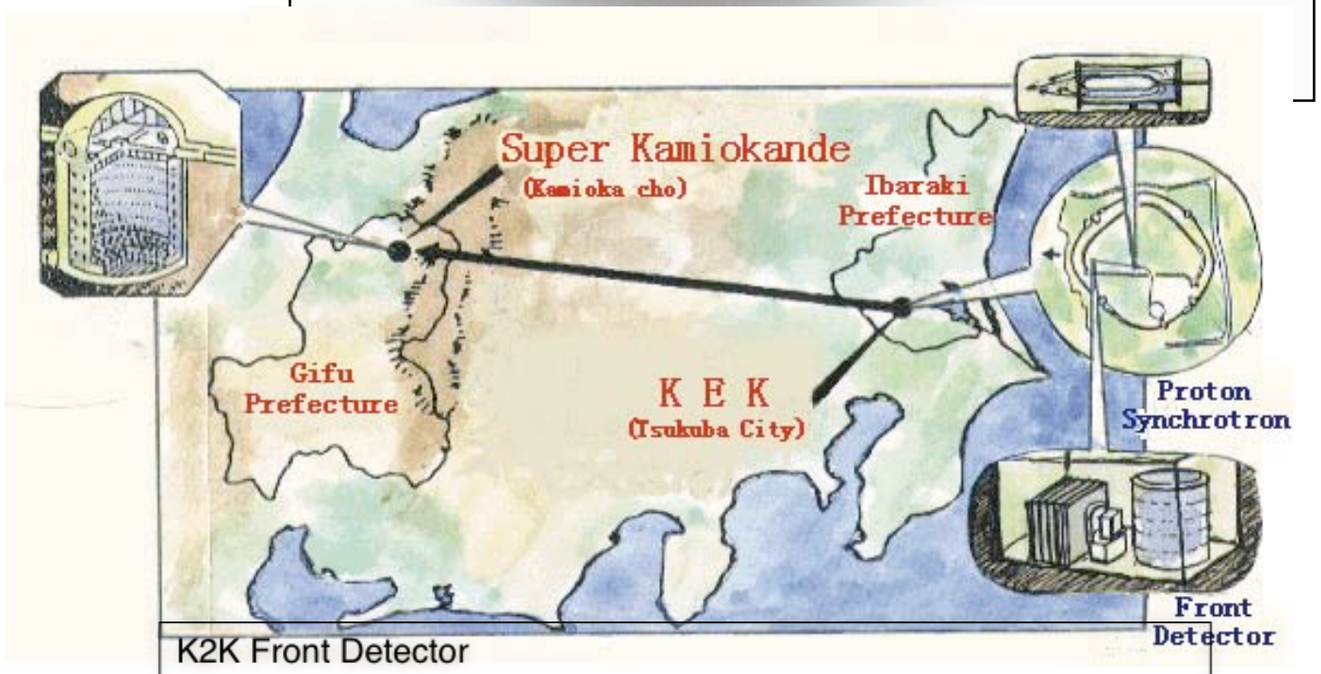
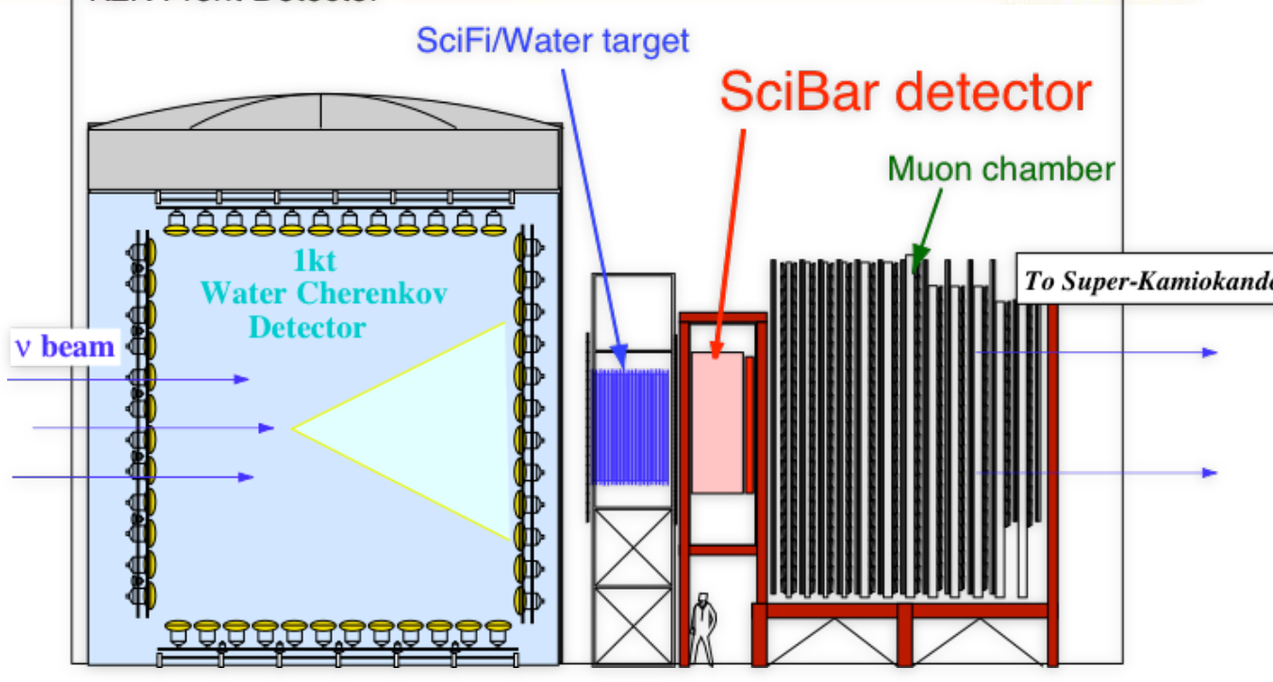
K2K Intro



- Designed to confirm atmospheric neutrino oscillations using Super-K as the far detector
- Suite of near detectors to observe un-oscillated neutrinos and measure neutrino cross sections
- Peak ν energy 1.3 GeV
  - Renewed interest in neutrino cross sections at these energies





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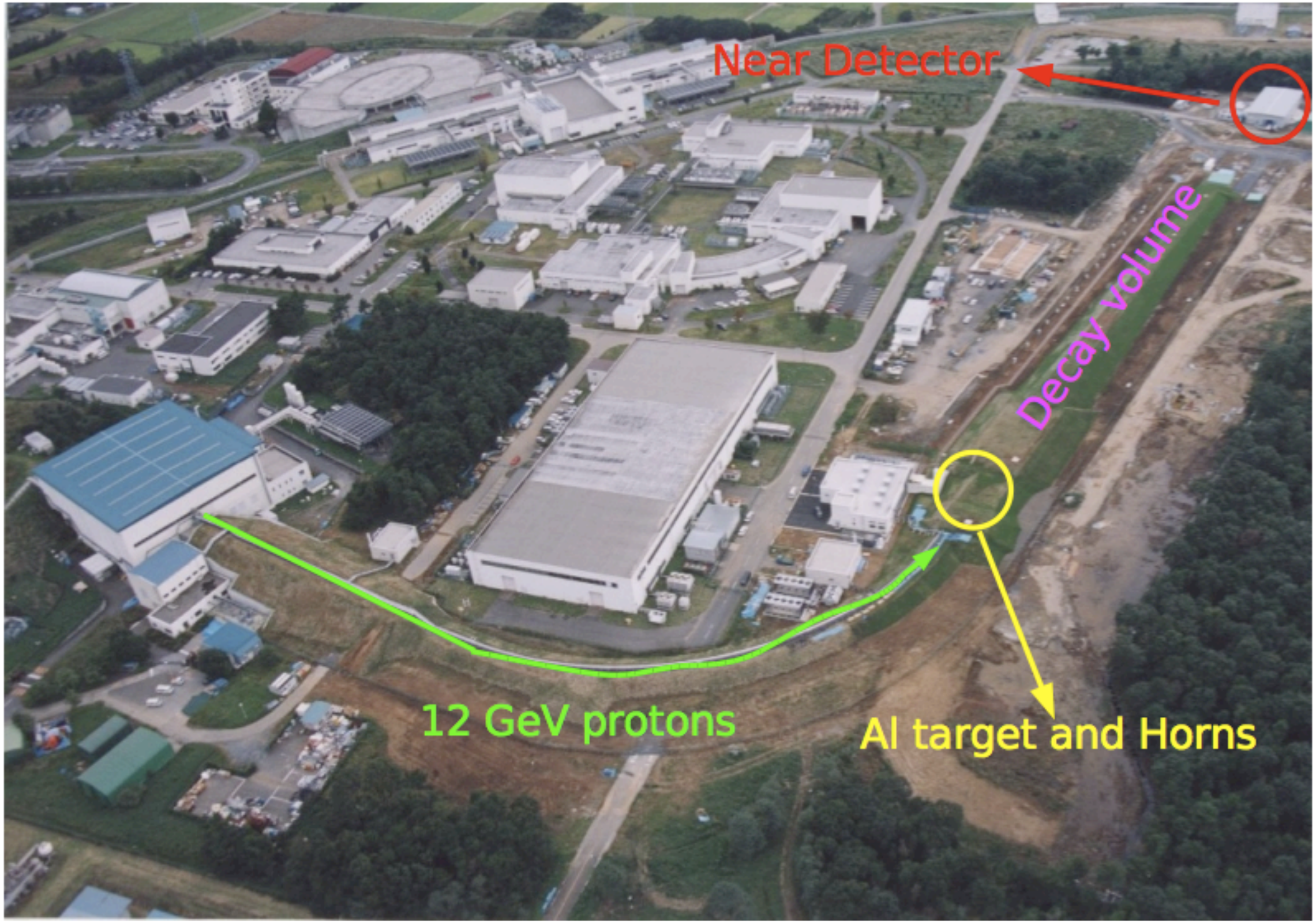
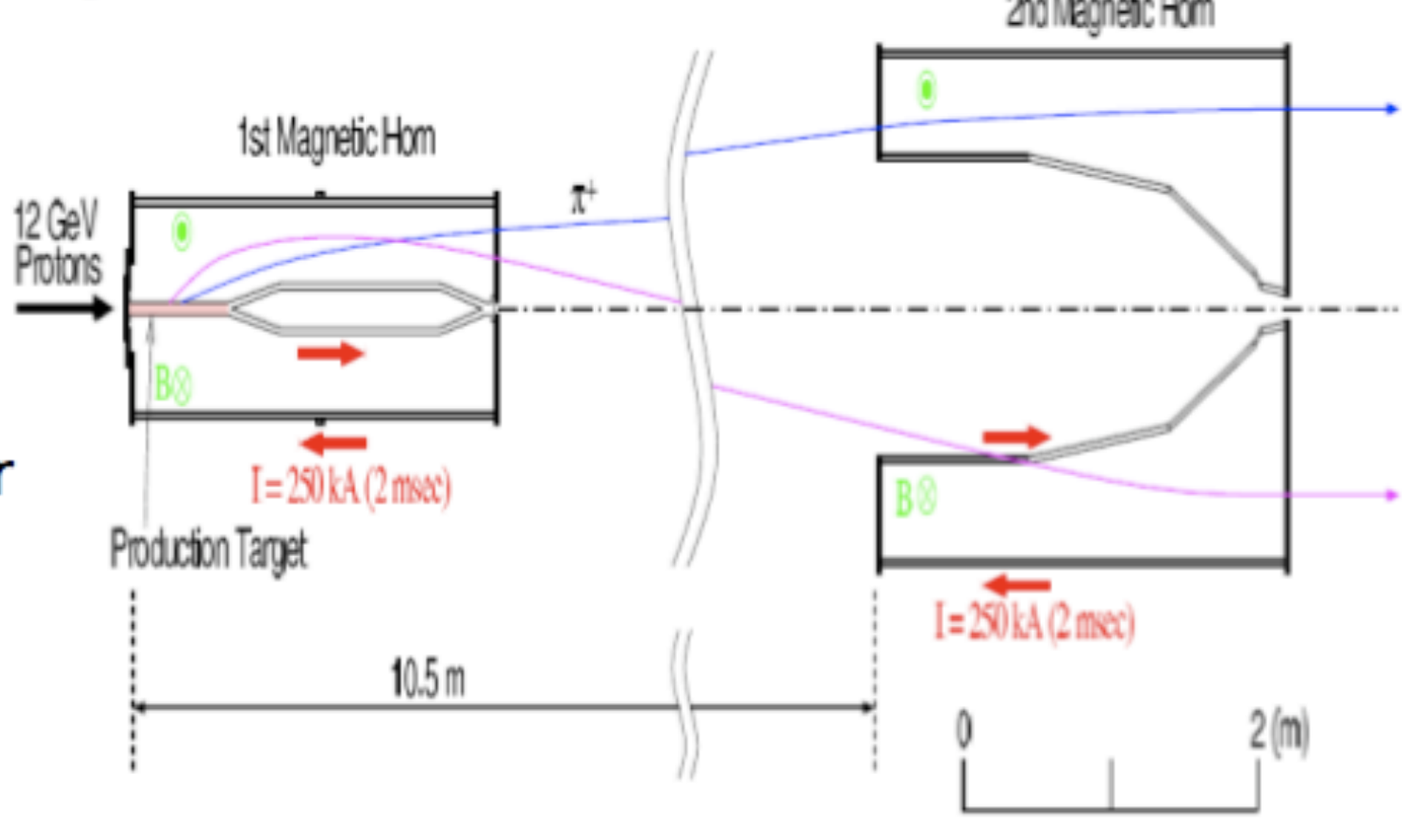
K2K Overview



K2K target/horns

- The production target is an Al rod
- Two magnetic horns focus mainly π^+
  - π^+ momentum ~ 2-3 GeV/c → E_ν ~ 1-1.5 GeV
- Neutrino flux with horns magnets is 22 times greater than without
- Maximum magnetic field 33 kG

- Target:
  66 cm length, 3 cm diameter
- First horn:
  2.37 m length, 0.70 m diameter
- Second horn:
  2.76 m length, 1.65 m diameter
- Pulsed current:
  2 msec duration and 250 kA amplitude



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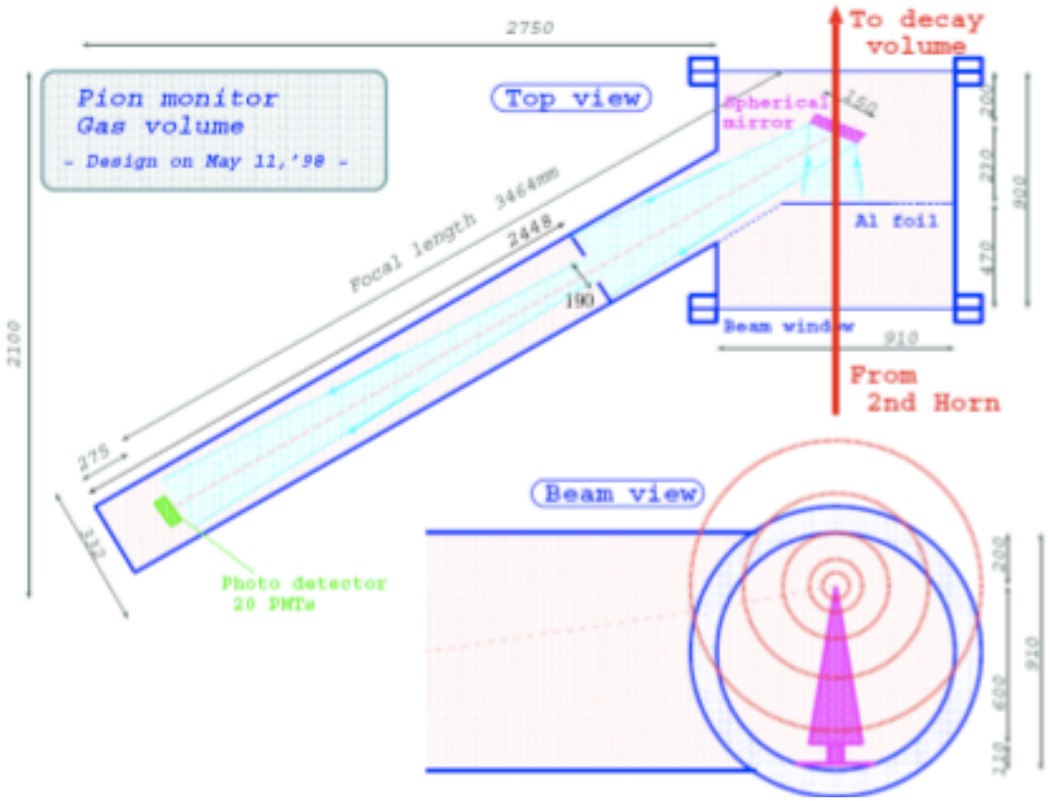
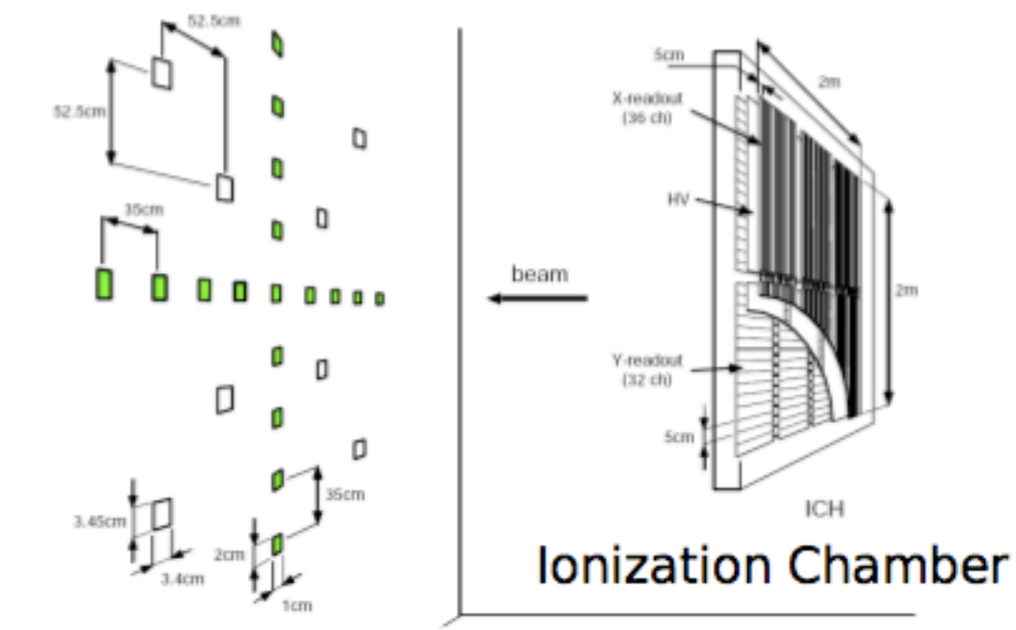
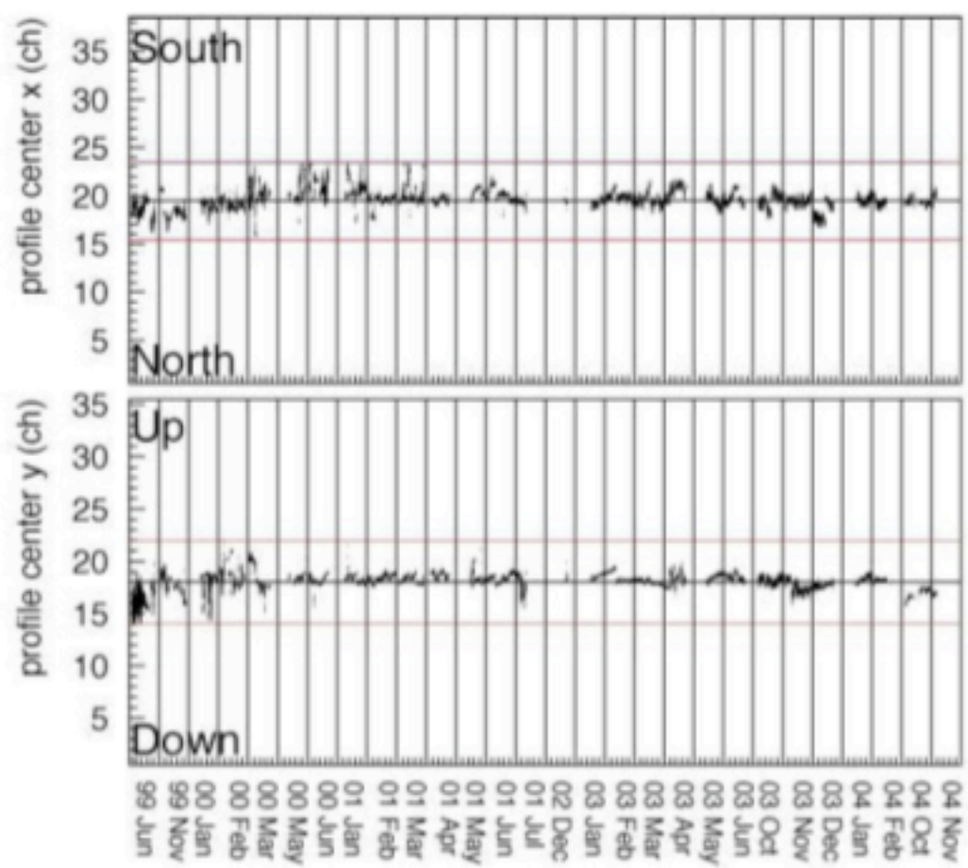
K2K Beam Monitoring





PIMON measured pion momentum spectrum

MUMON measured beam center position (pointing to SK)



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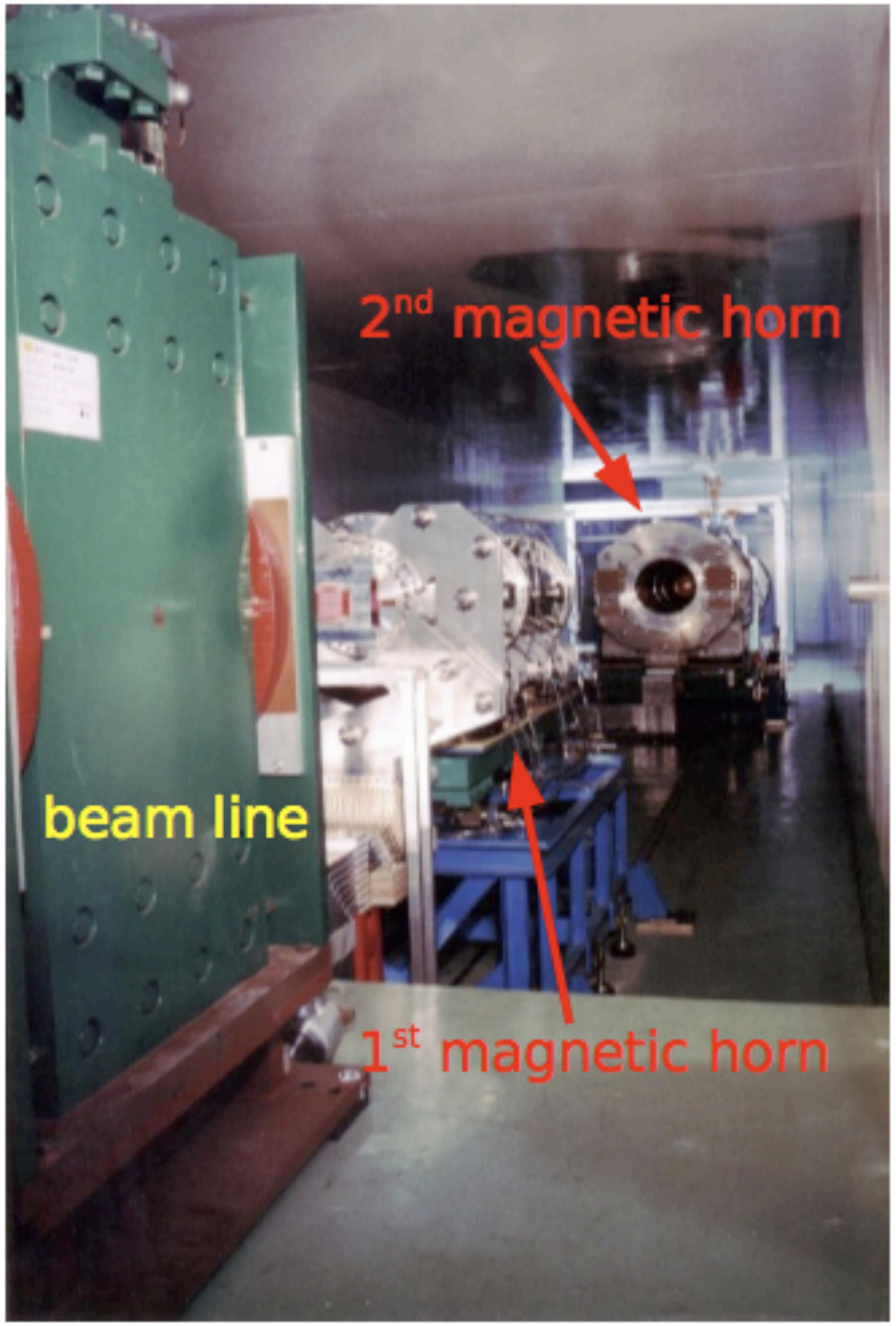
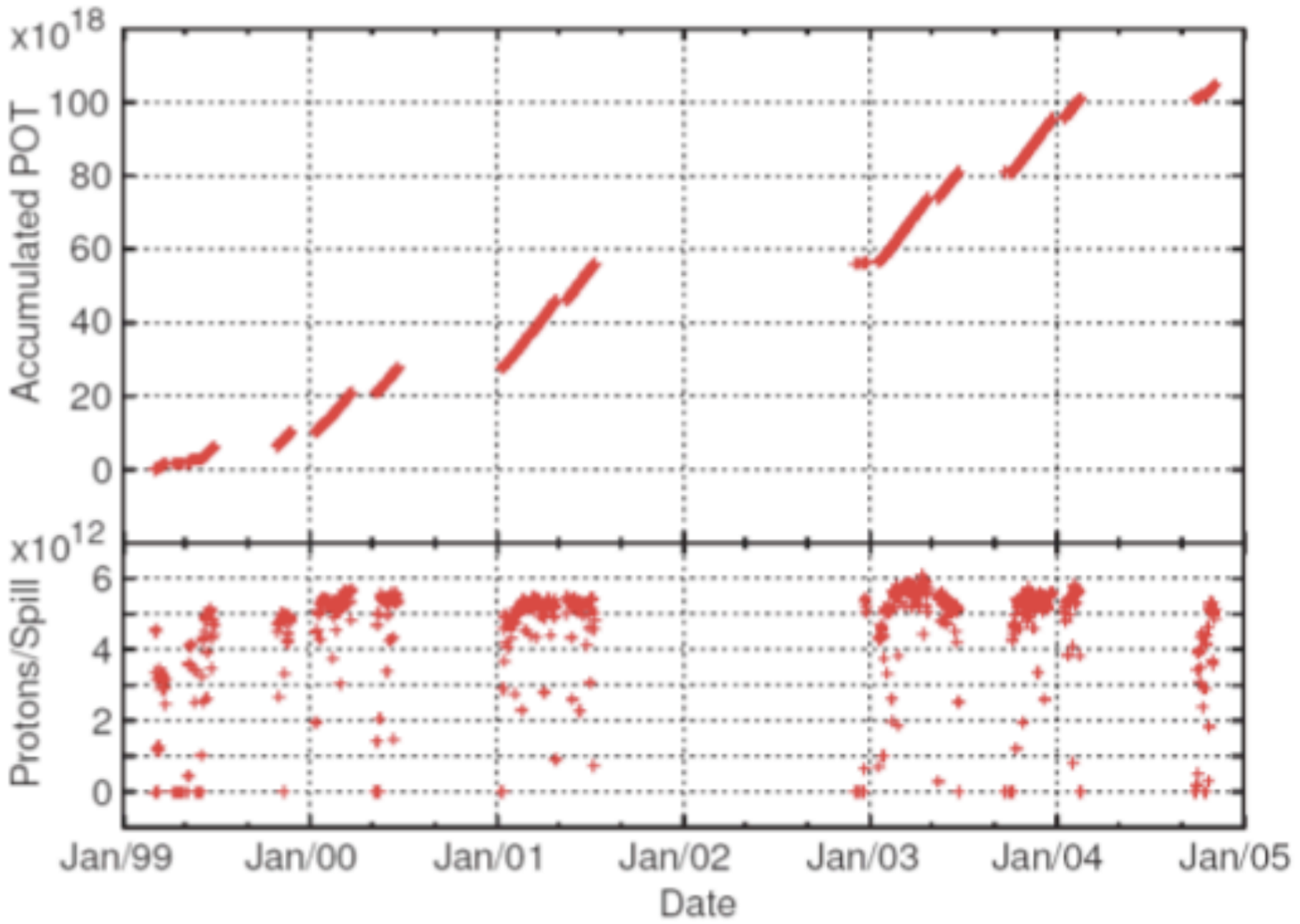
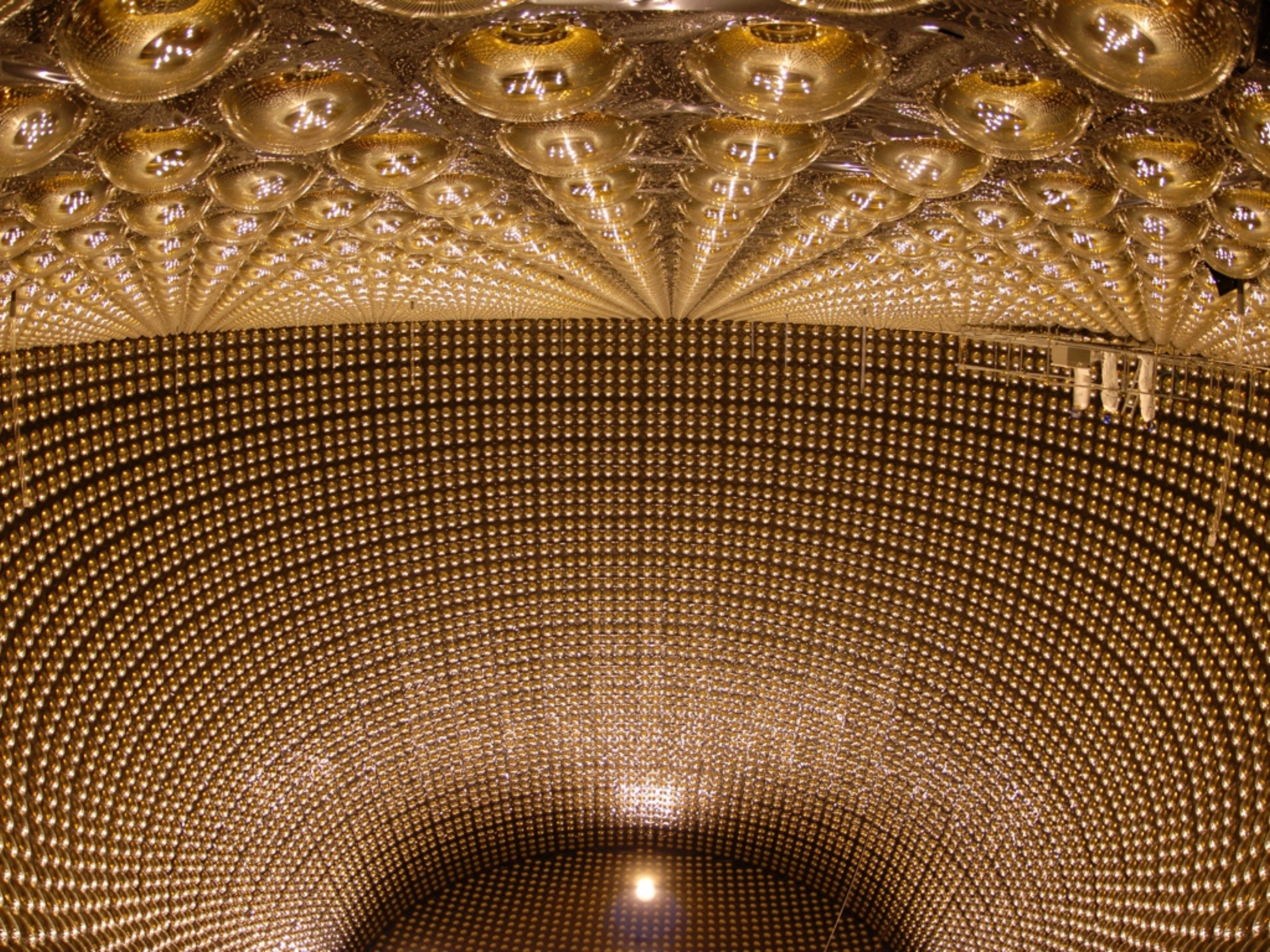
K2K Performance



10^{20} POT were delivered to the production target





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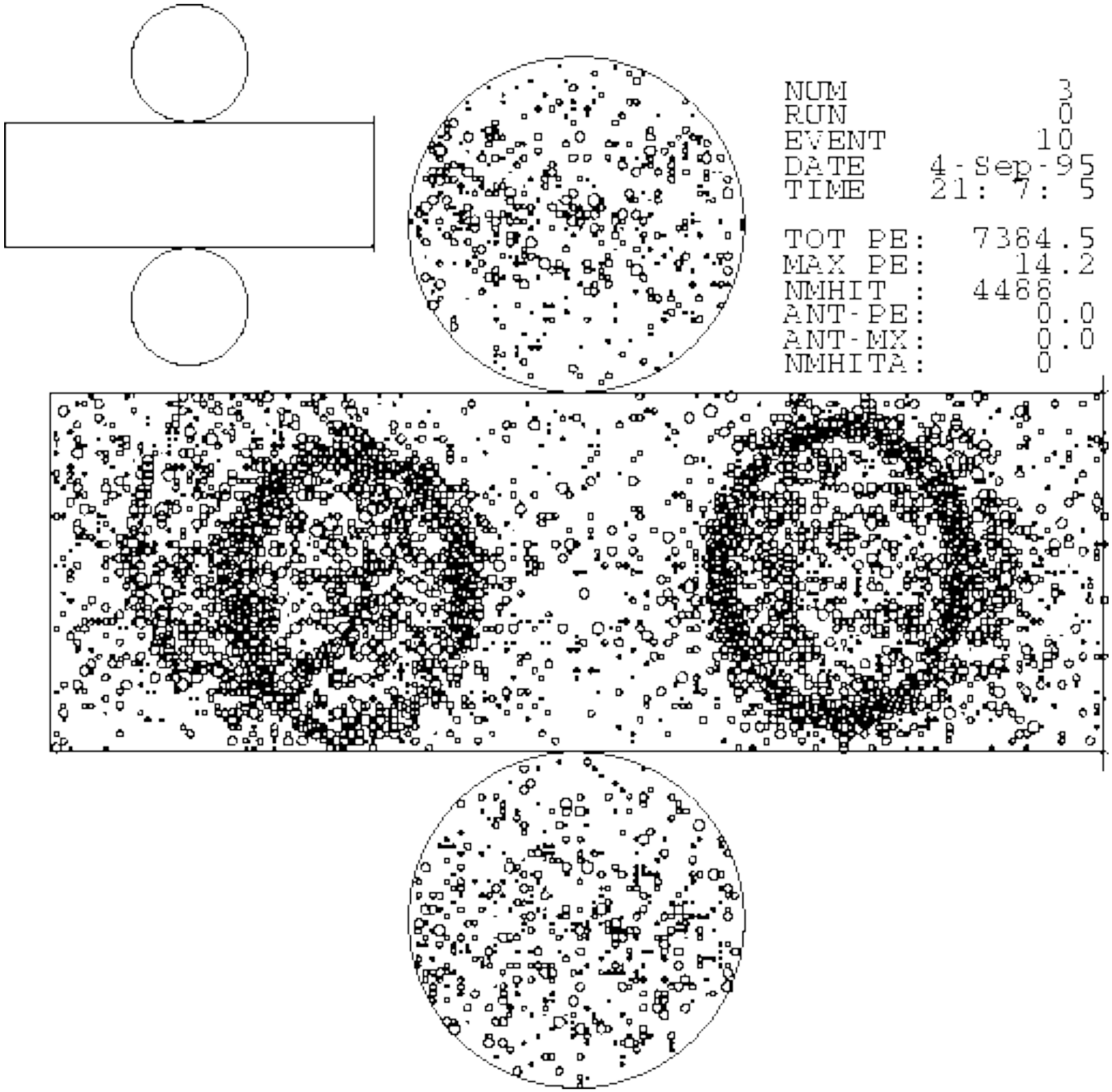
Super-K Event



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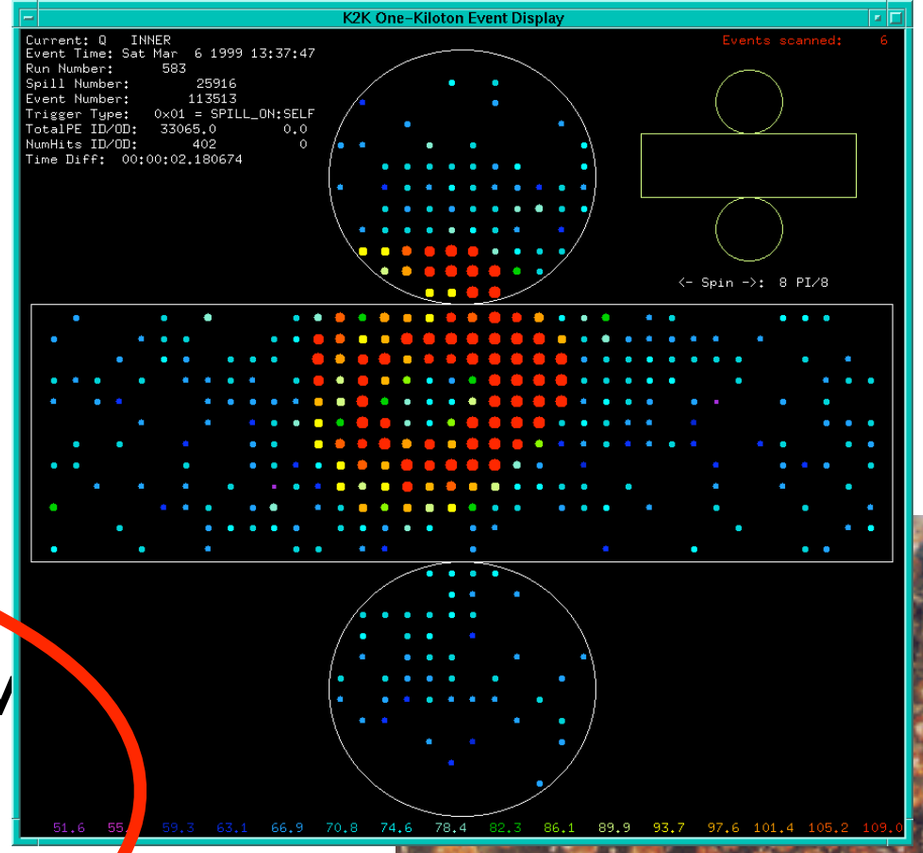
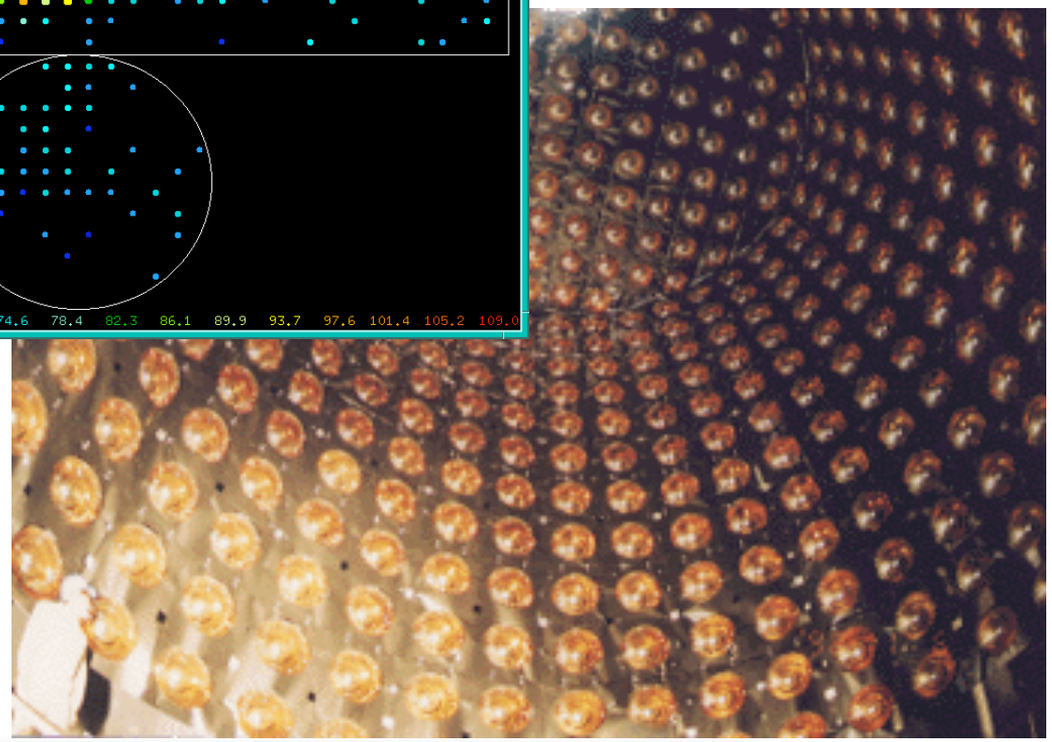
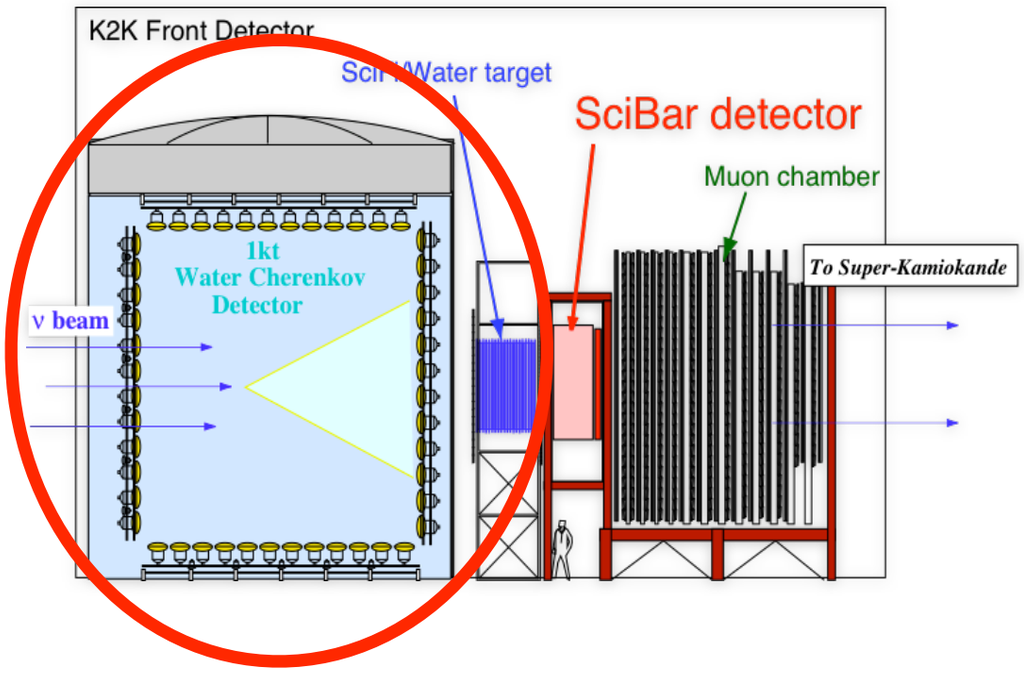
K2K: 1kT





- 1 kt Water Cherenkov
  - Oxygen target
  - 0.64e20 POT
- SciFi
  - Oxygen target
  - 0.64e20 POT
- SciBar
  - Carbon target
  - Only 0.2e20 POT total!



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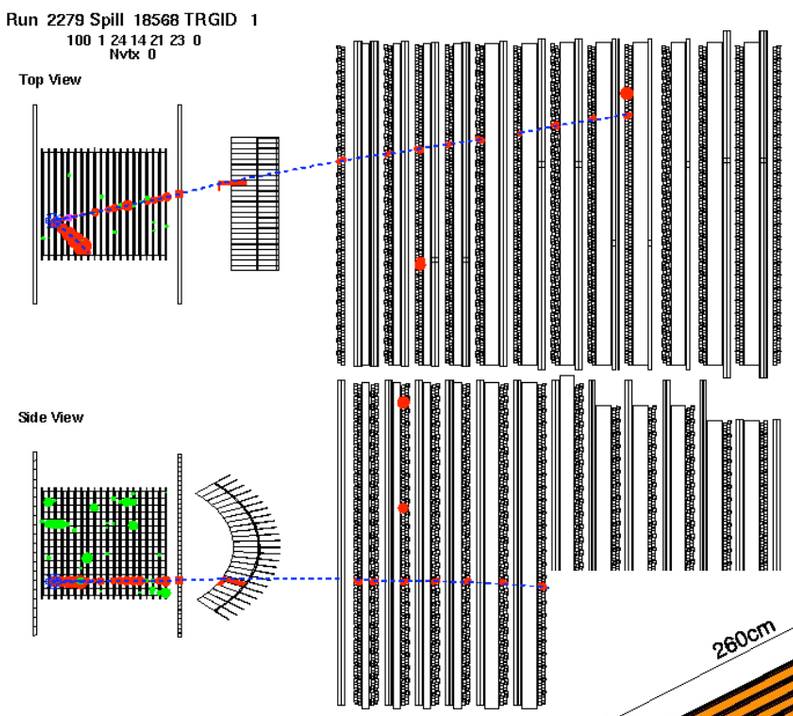
K2K: SciFi



1 kt Water Cherenkov

Oxygen target

0.64e20 POT

SciFi

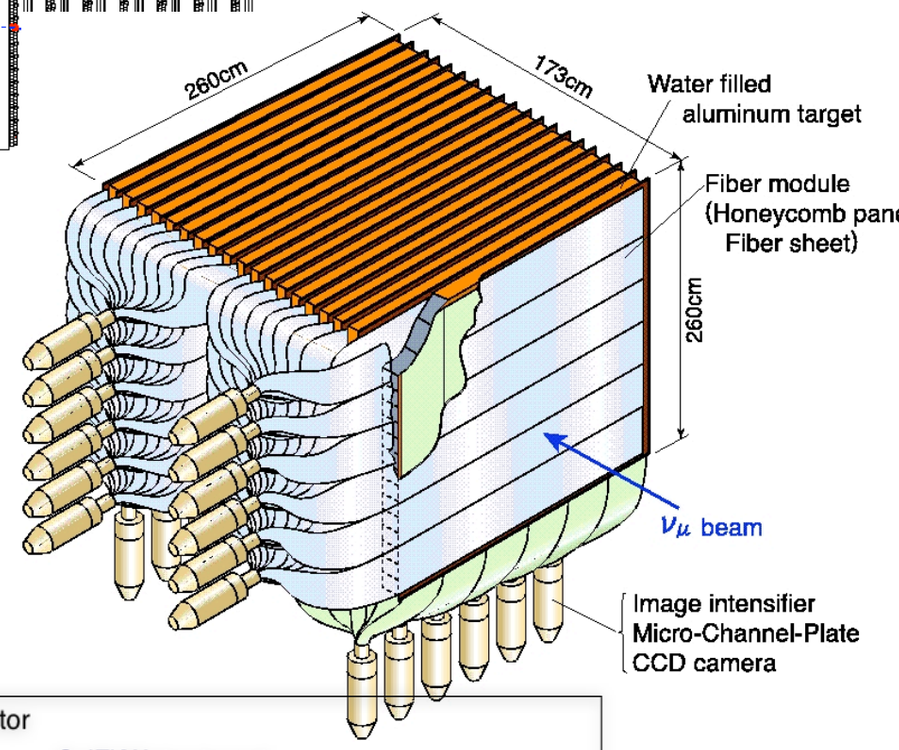
Oxygen target

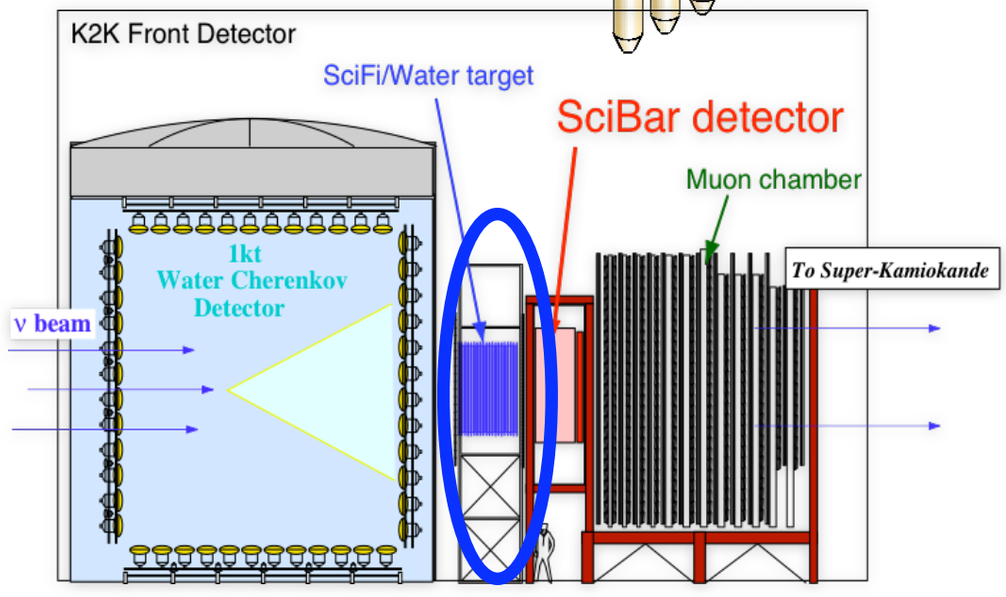
0.64e20 POT

SciBar

Carbon target

Only 0.2e20 POT total!





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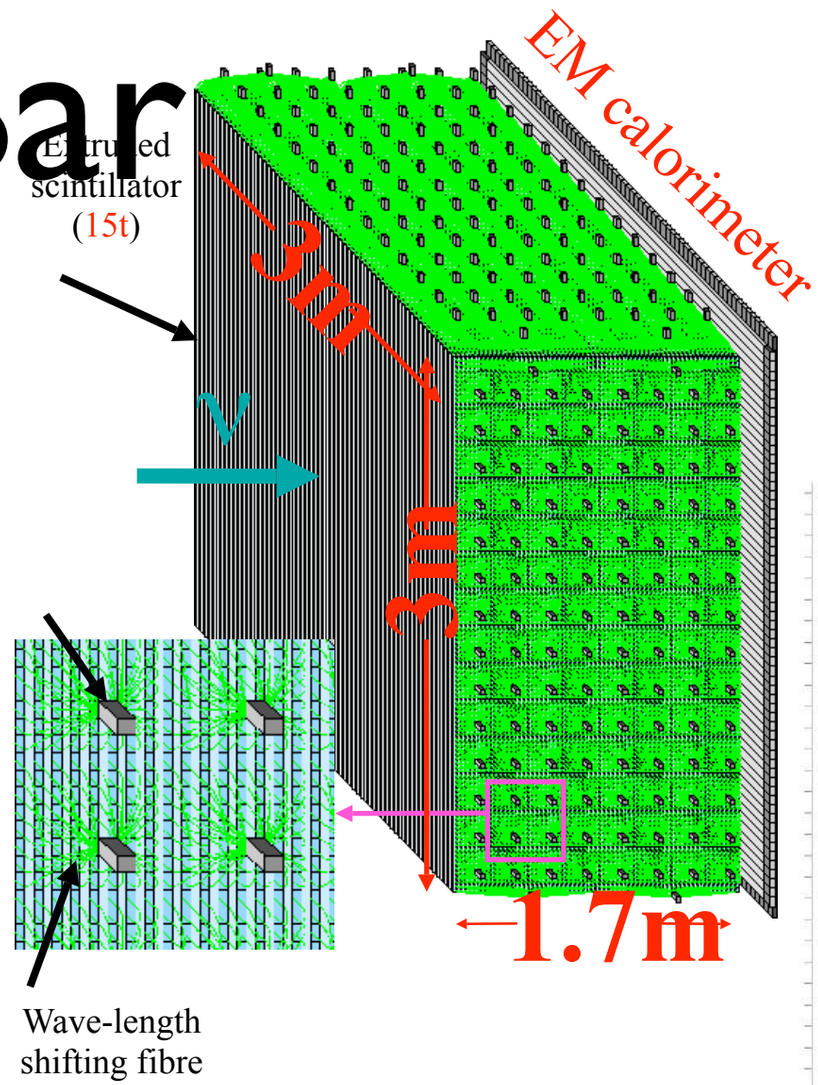
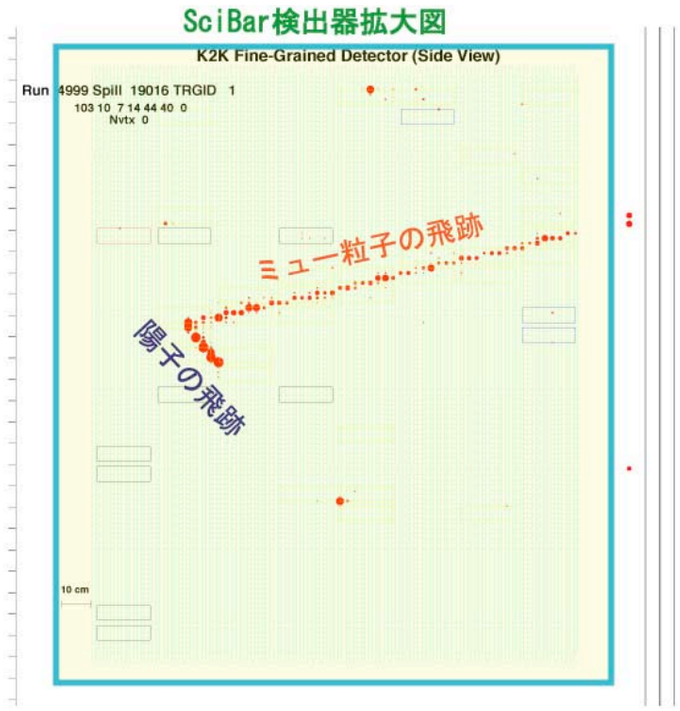
K2K: SciBar





1 kt Water Cherenkov

Oxygen target

0.64e20 POT

SciFi

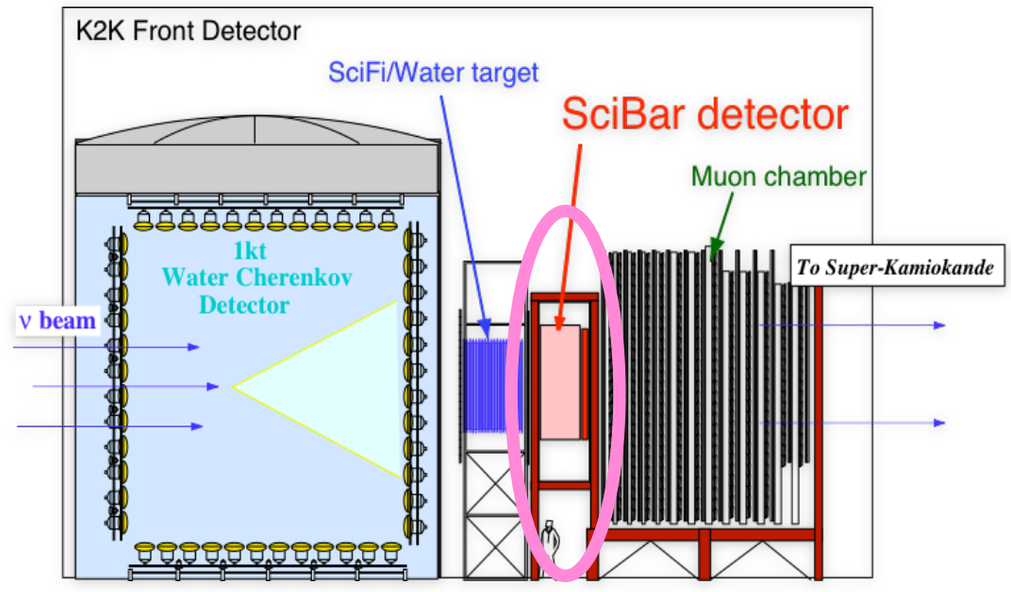
Oxygen target

~~0.64e20 POT~~

SciBar

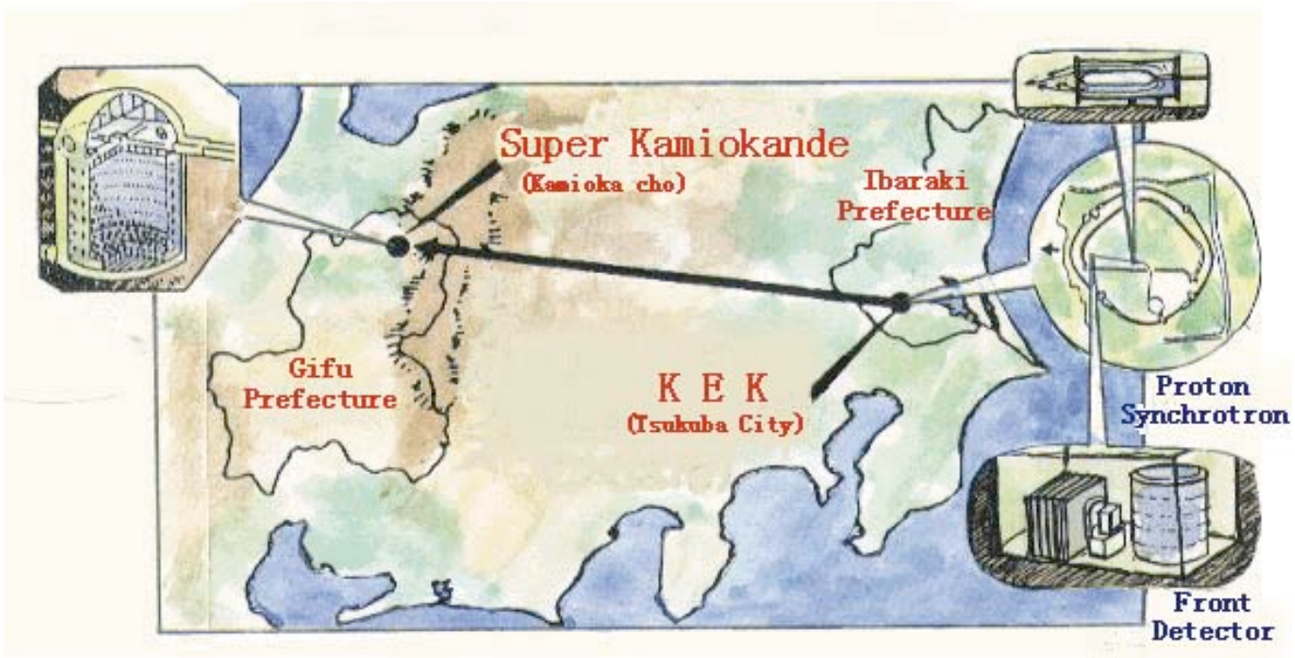
Carbon target

Only 0.2e20 POT total!



K2K Measurements

- CCQE
  - SciFi
  - SciBar
- CC1pi+
  - SciBar
- NCpi0
  - 1 kton



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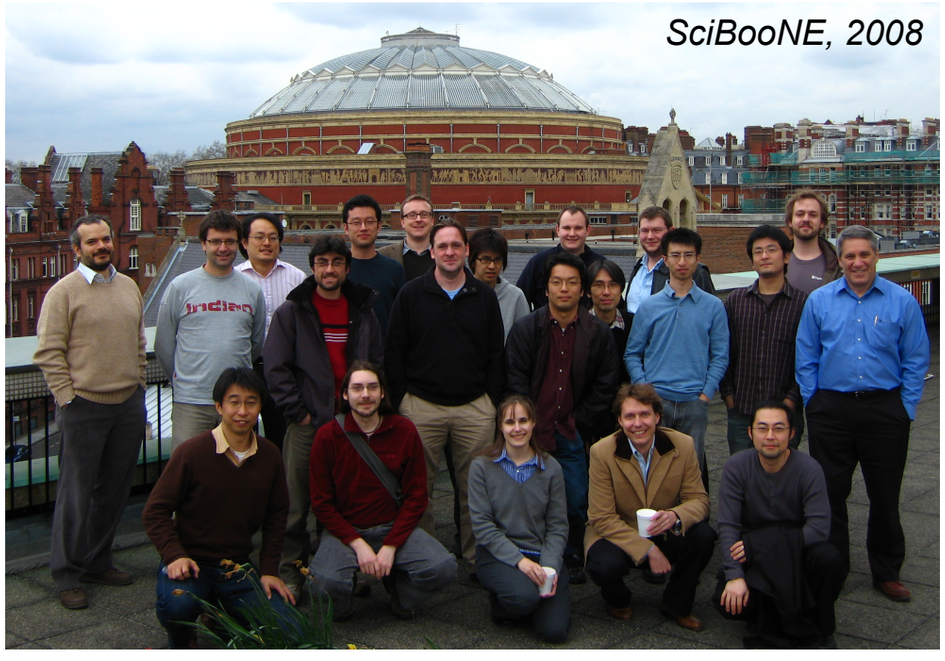
Booster Neutrino Experiments

- Booster Neutrino Beam at Fermilab
- MiniBooNE
  - proposed 1998
  - started 2002
  - still running
- SciBooNE
  - proposed 2005
  - started 2007
  - finished 2008

MiniBooNE, 2002


SciBooNE, 2008

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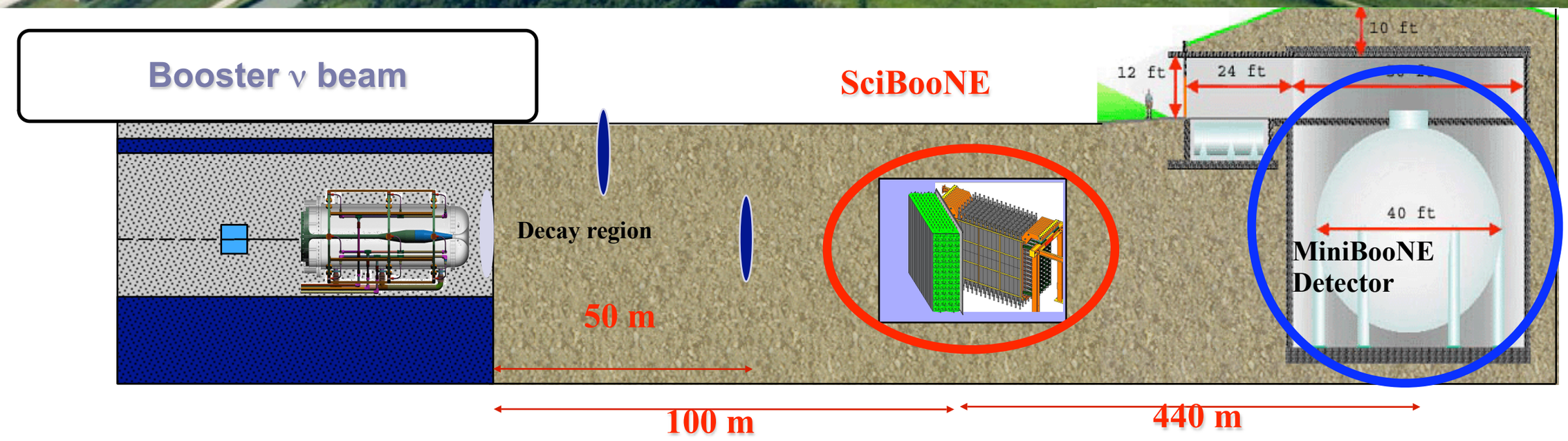
BooNEs Overview



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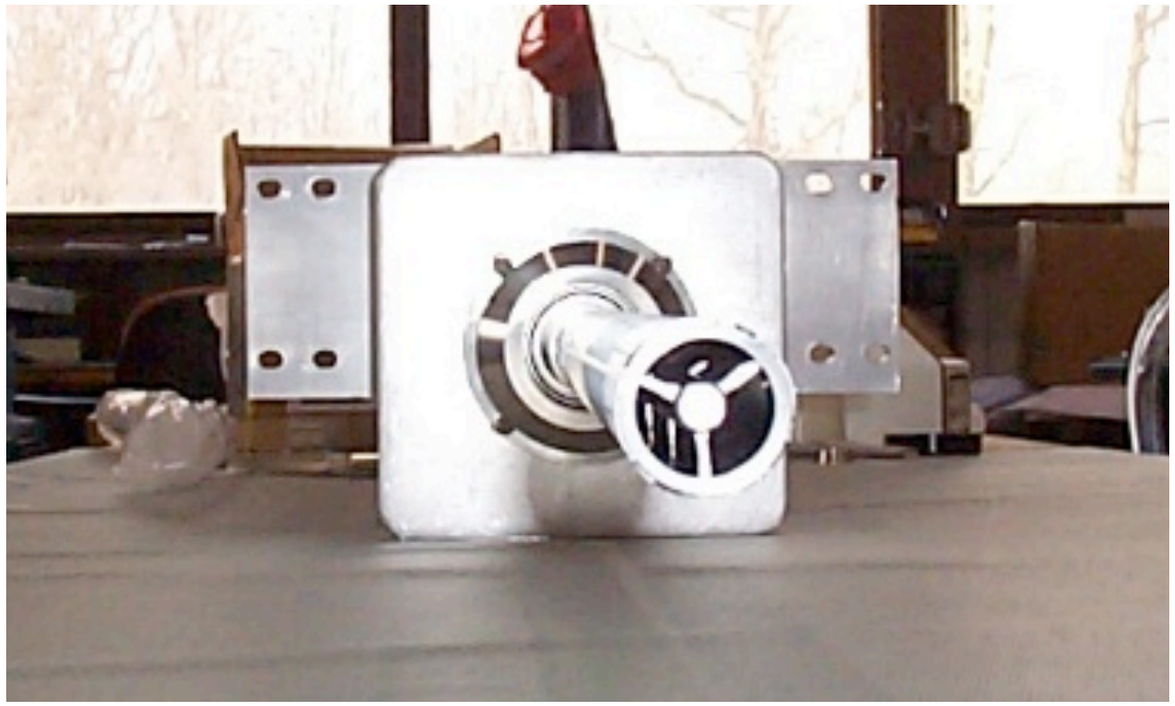
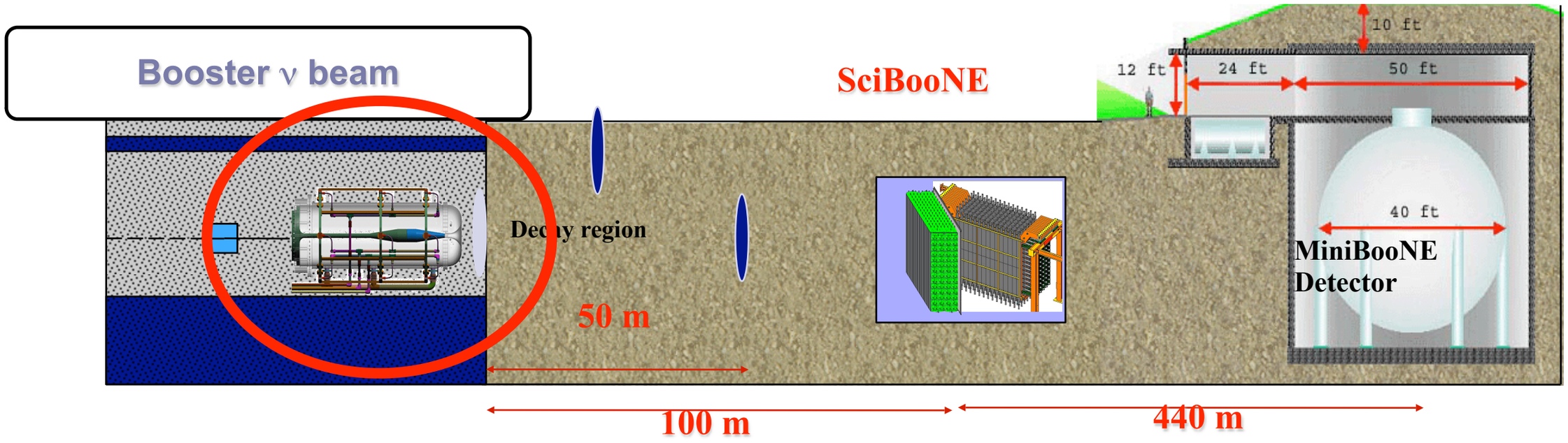
Target & Horn



Main components of Booster Neutrino Beam (BNB)

(96M and 200M+ pulses)



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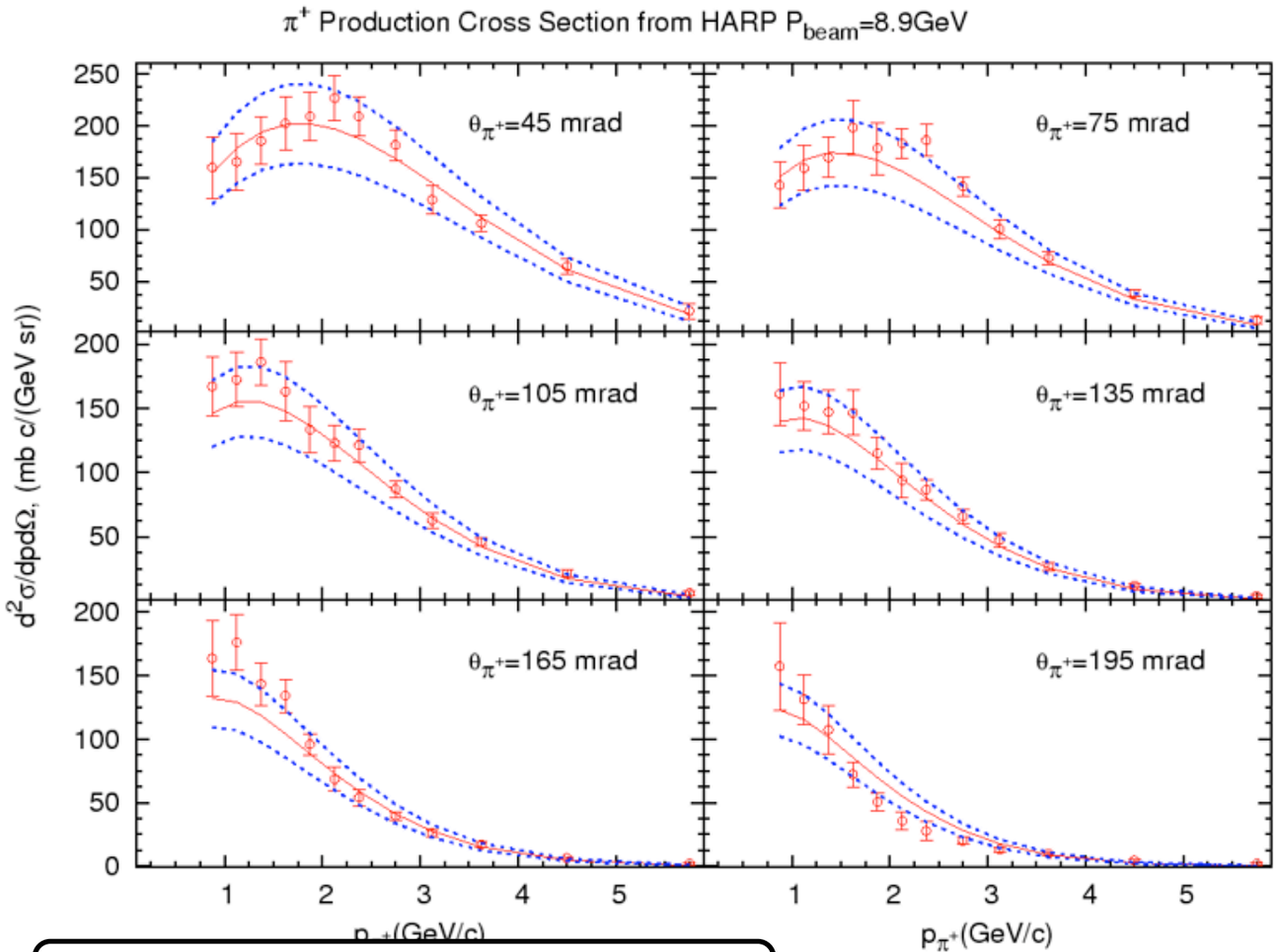
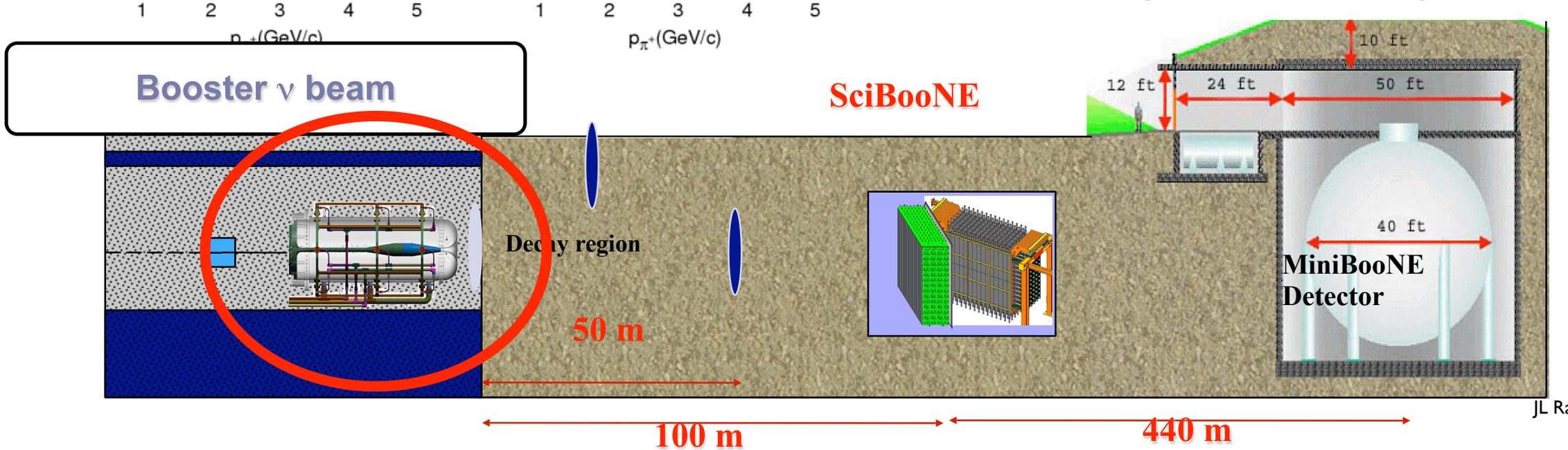
Meson Production



- External meson production data
  - HARP data (CERN)
- Parametrisation of cross-sections
  - Sanford-Wang for pions
  - Feynman scaling for kaons



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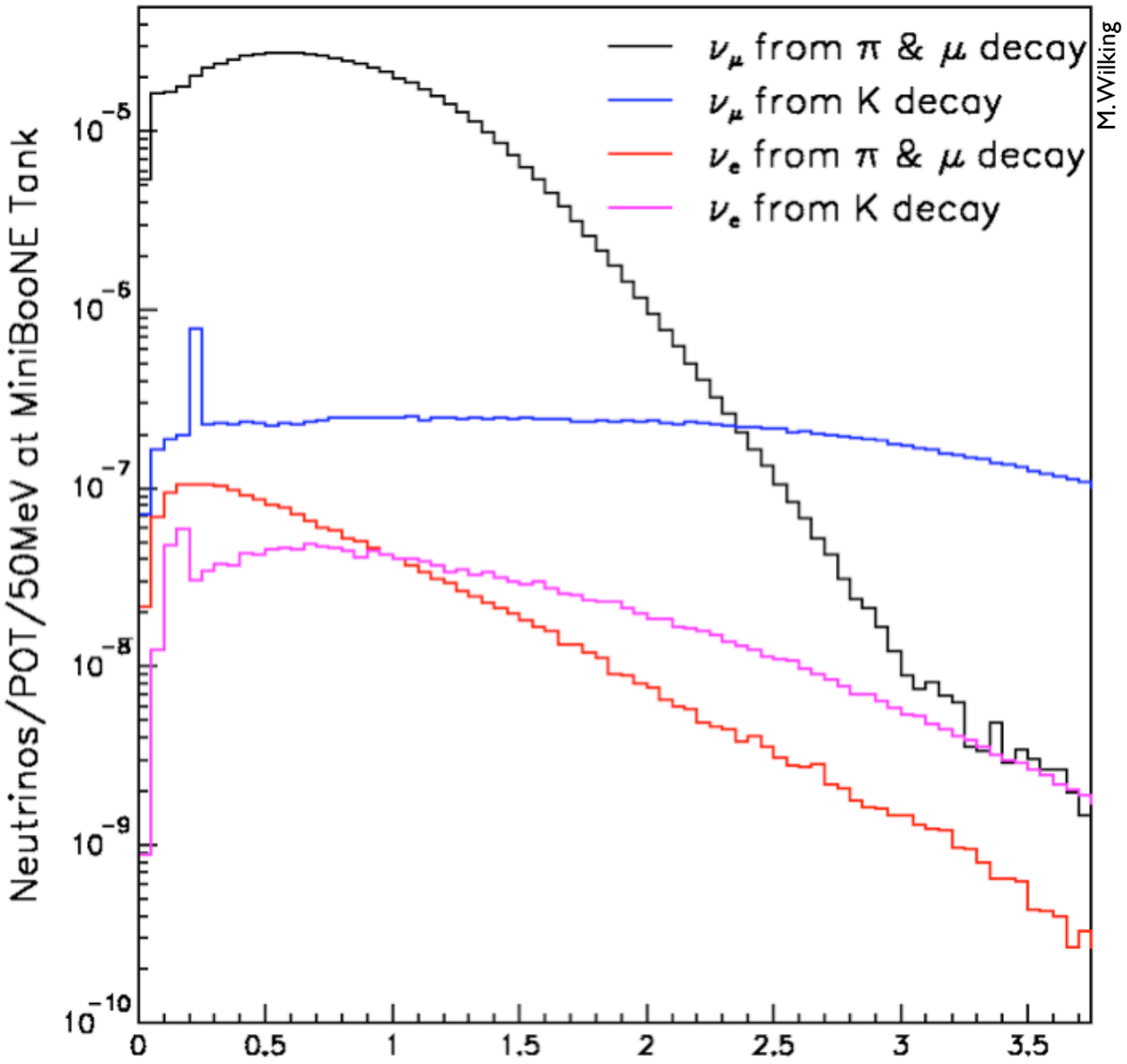
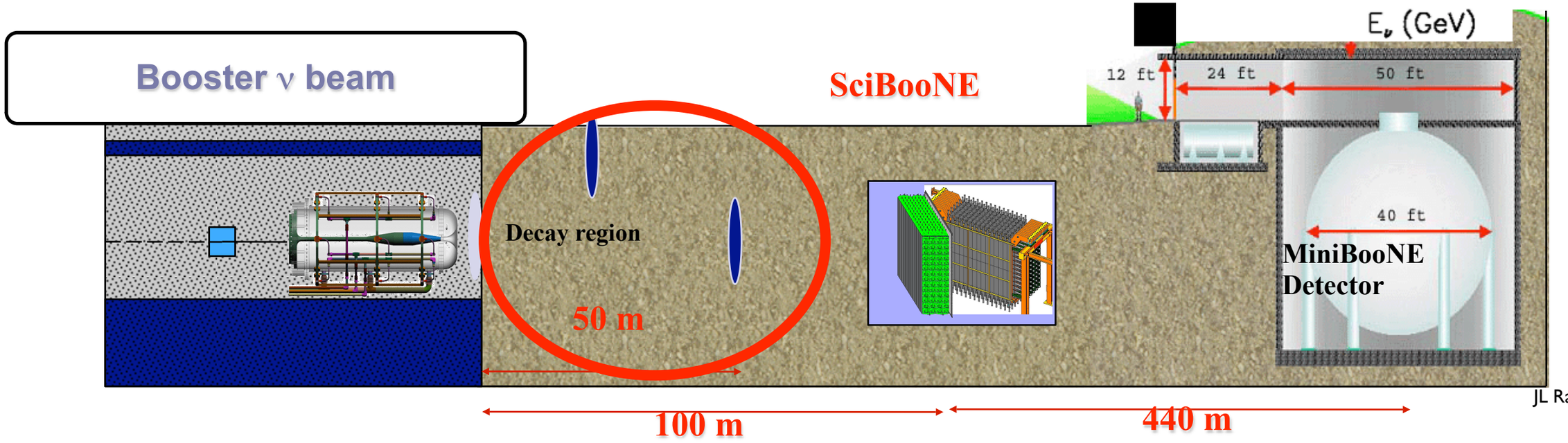
ν Flux

- 99.5% pure muon flavour
- 0.5% intrinsic ν_e
- Constrain ν_e content with ν_μ measurements





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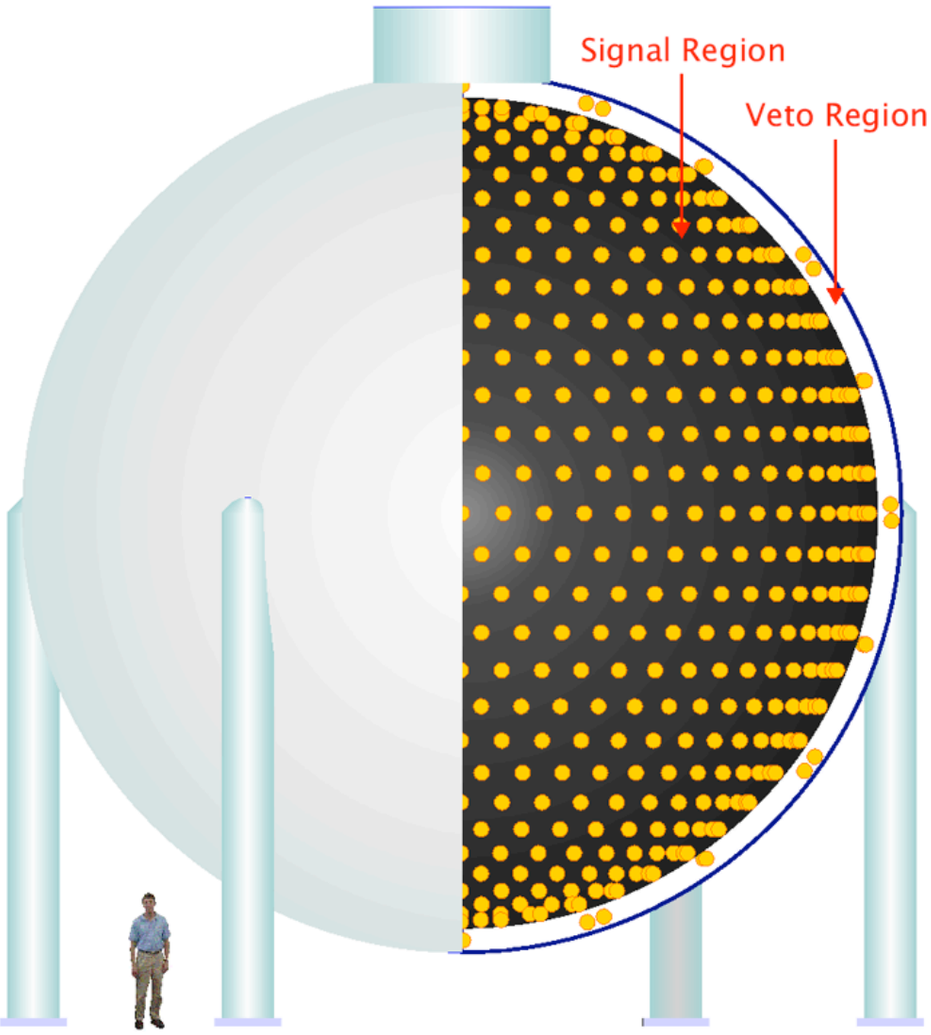
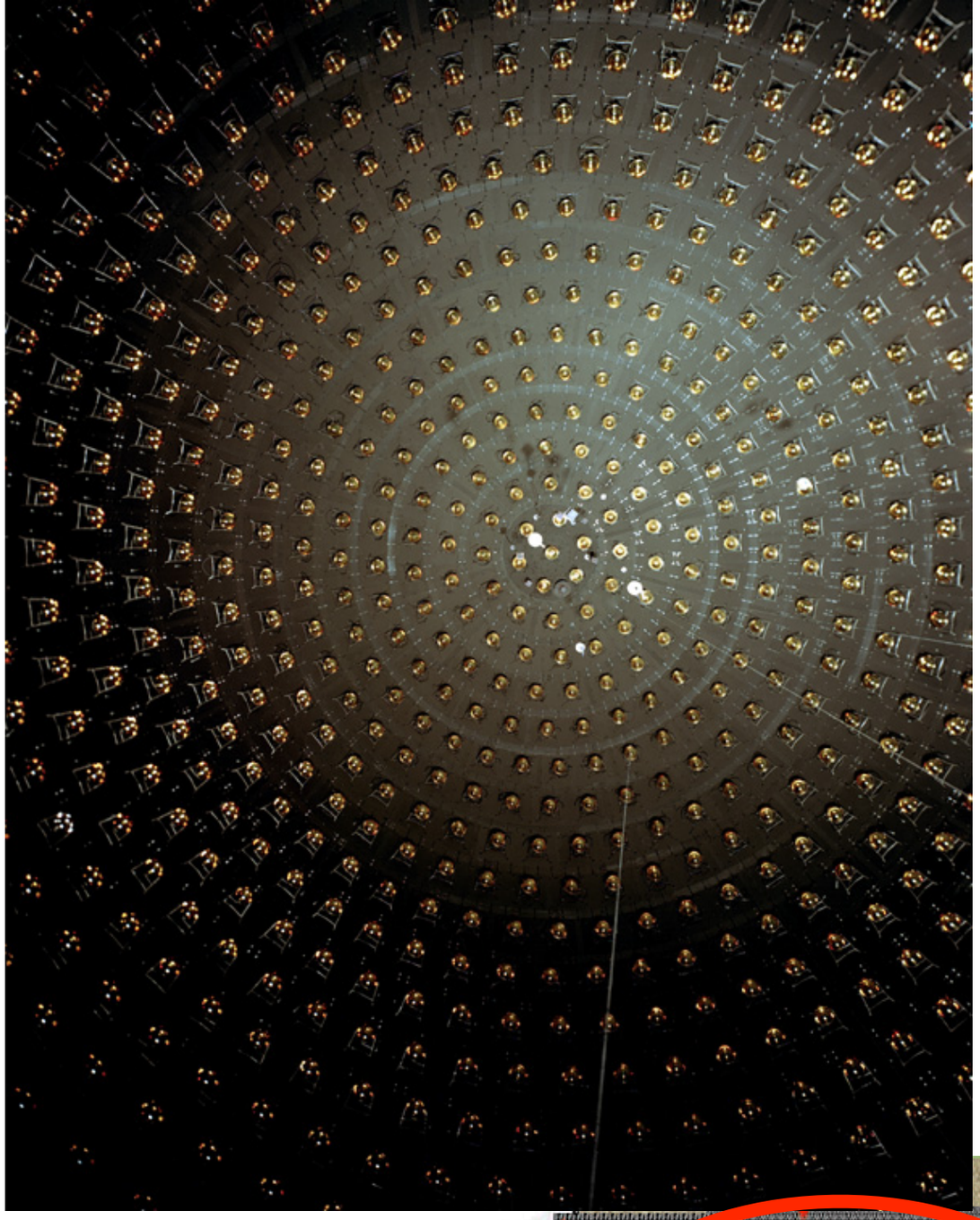
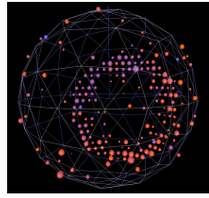
MiniBooNE

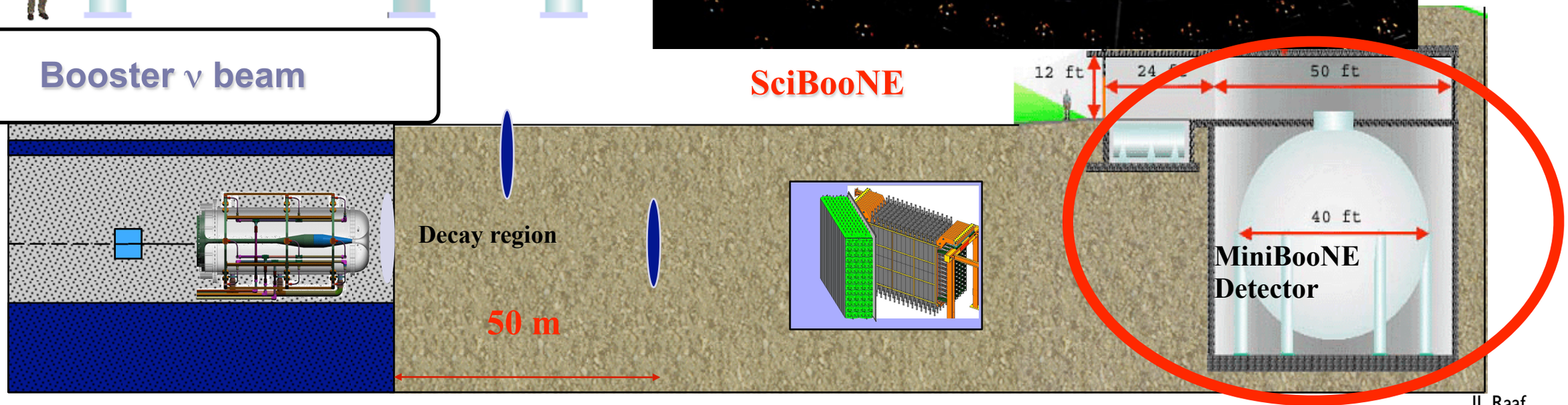






Booster ν beam

SciBooNE



JL Raaf

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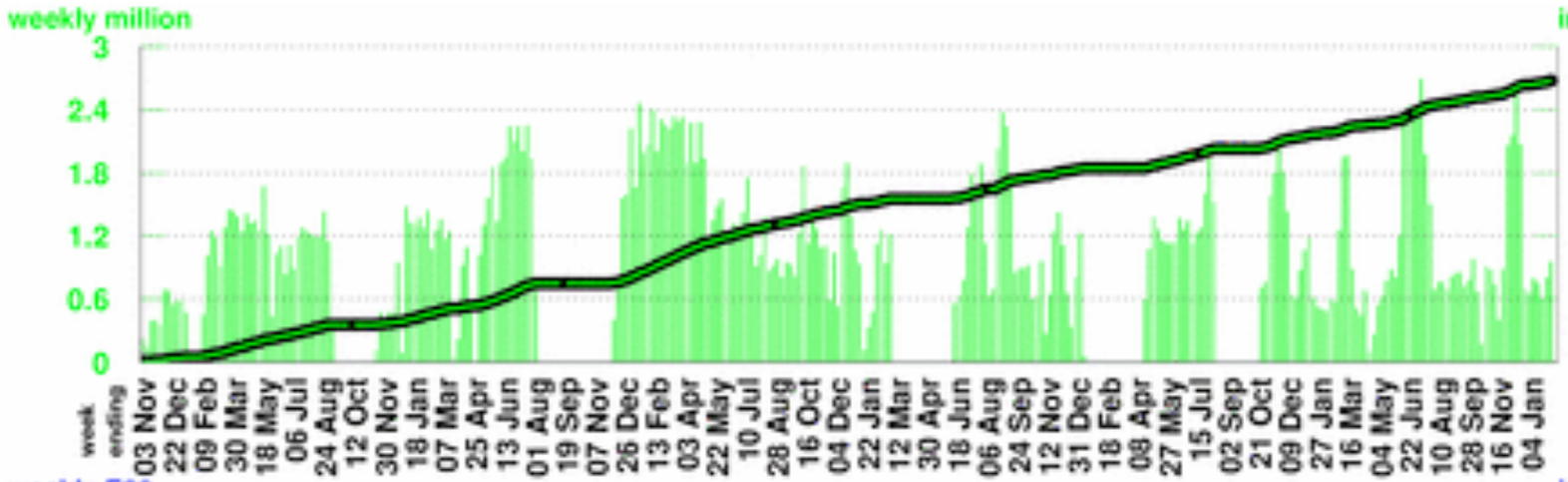
MiniBooNE Progress

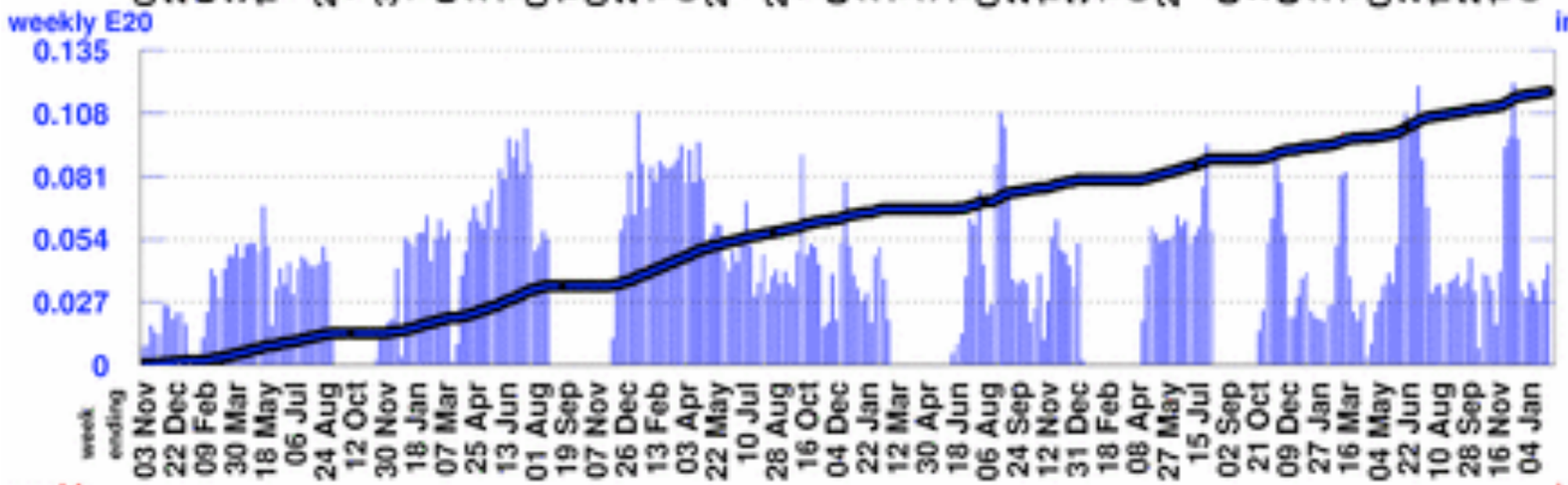


Number of Horn Pulses

To date: 303.18 million

Largest week: 2.69 million

Latest week: 0.95 million

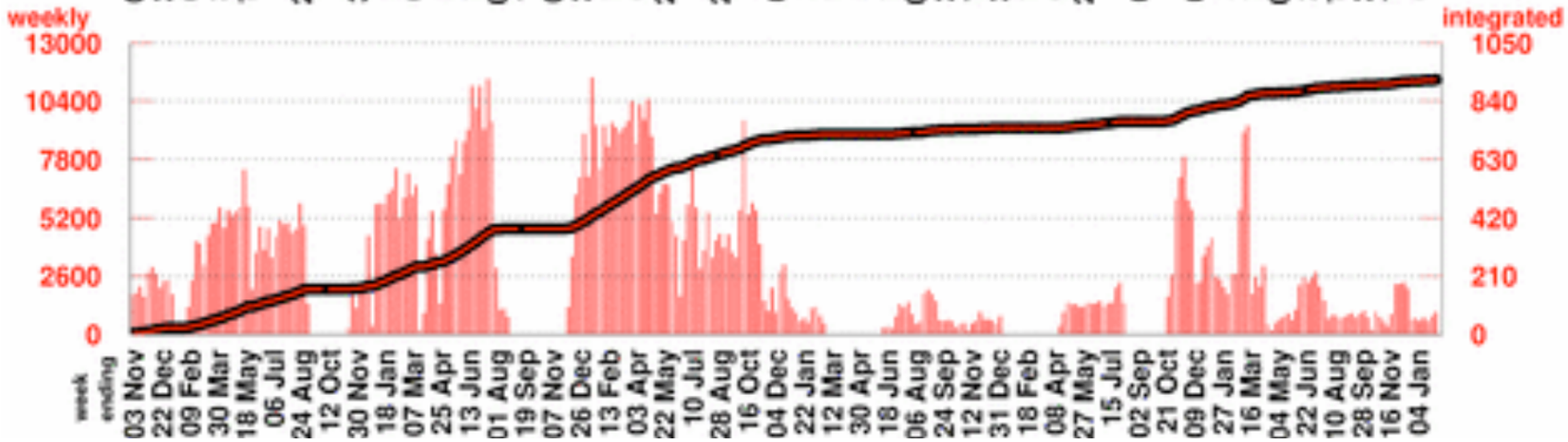


Number of Protons on Target

To date: 12.6114 E20

Largest week: 0.1208 E20

Latest week: 0.0435 E20

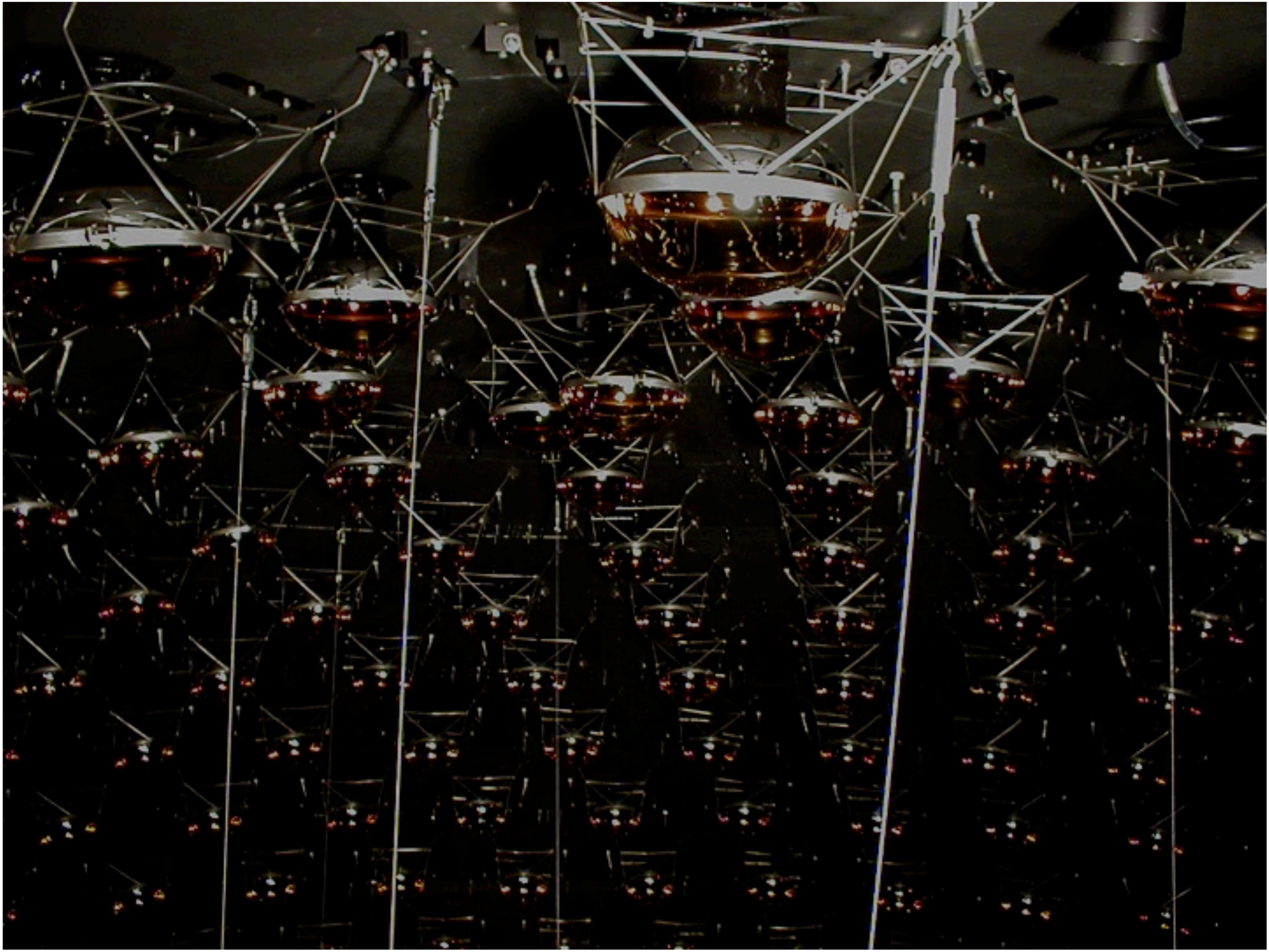


Number of Neutrino Events

To date: 916559

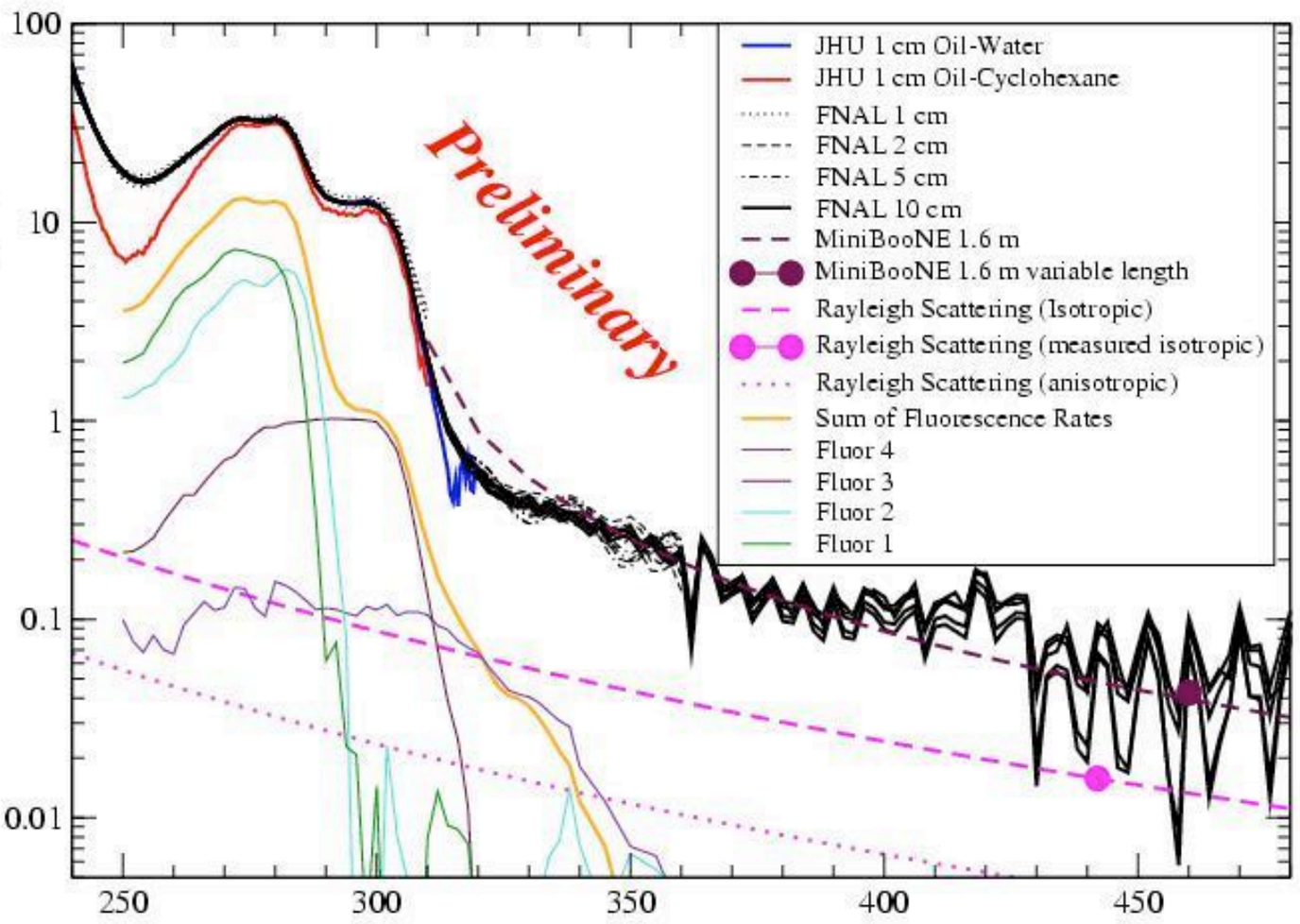
Largest week: 11447

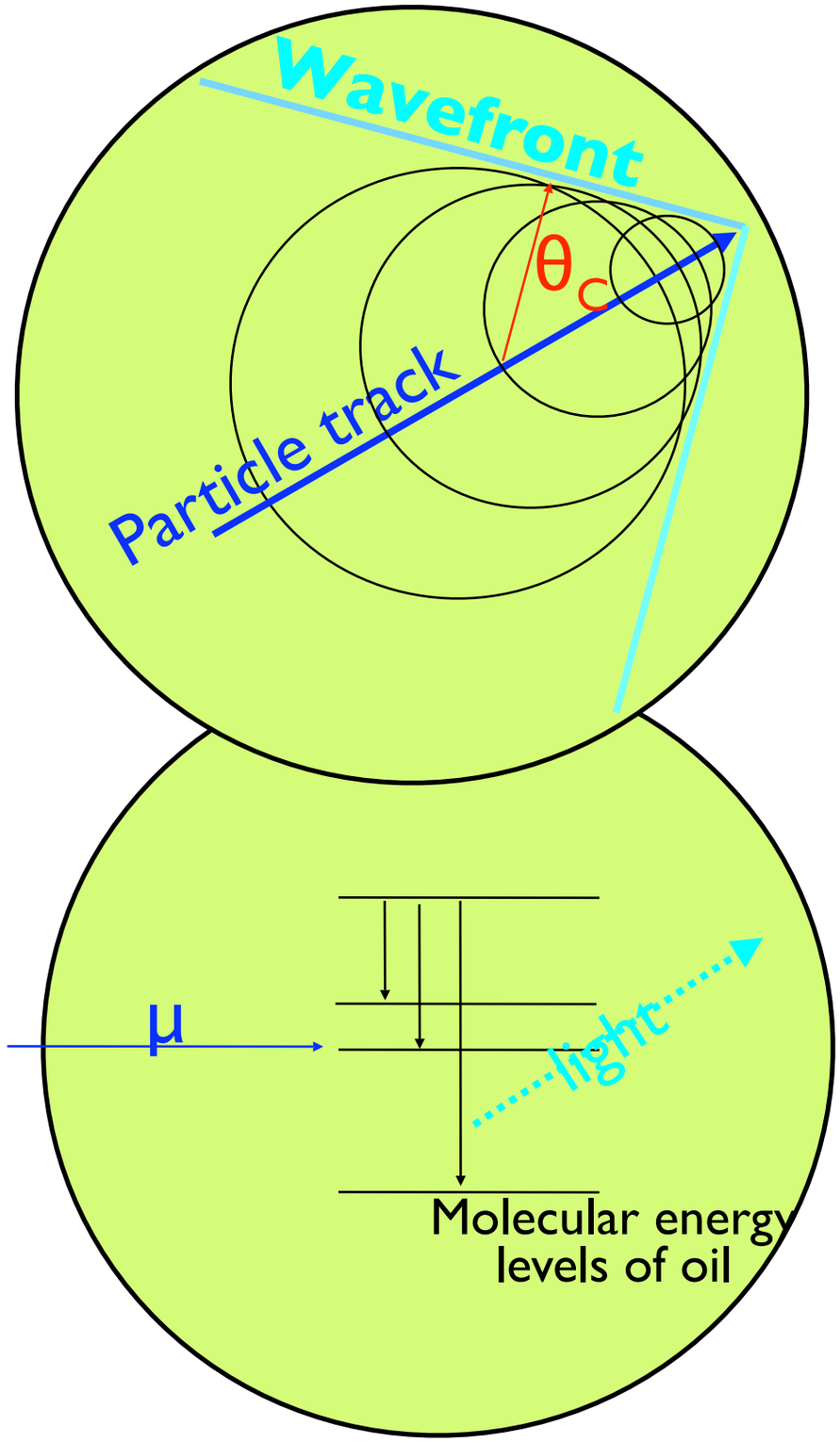
Latest week: 976



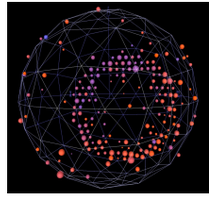
Mineral Oil Optics

- Production:
  - Cherenkov and scintillation
- Secondary:
  - Fluorescence and scattering (Raman, Rayleigh)

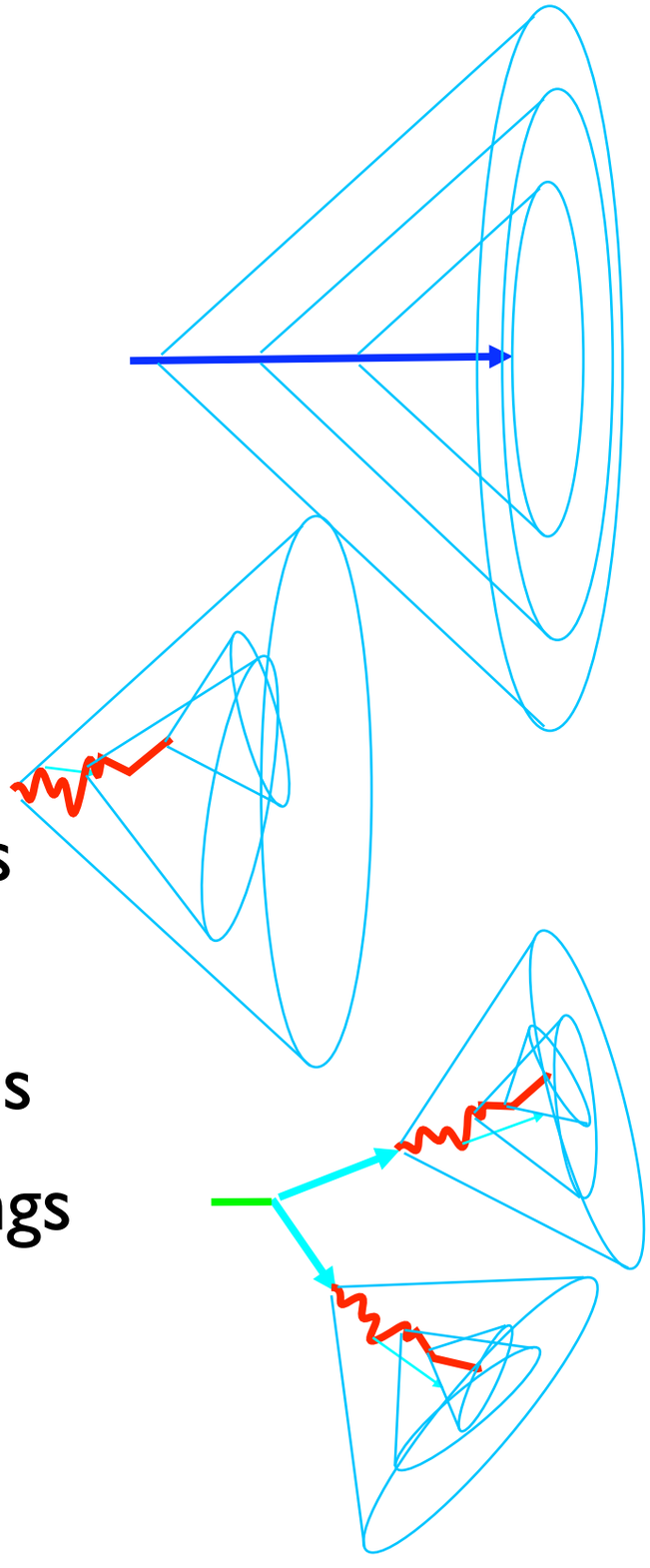


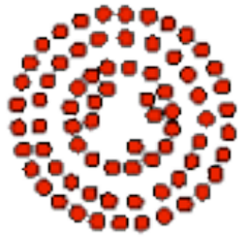


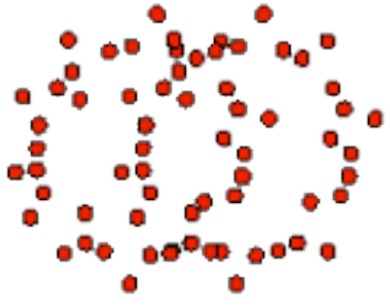
Track Images

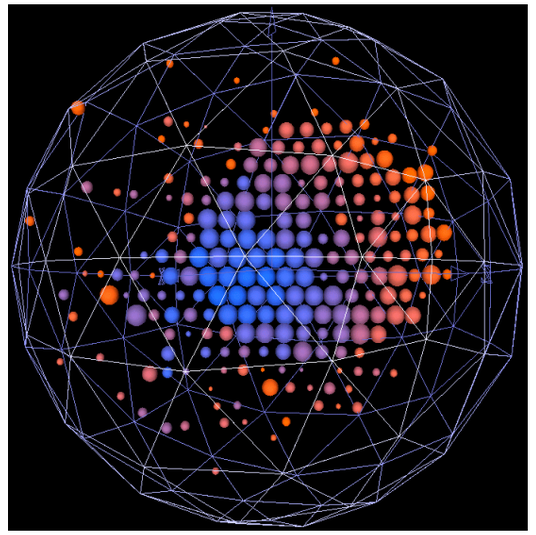


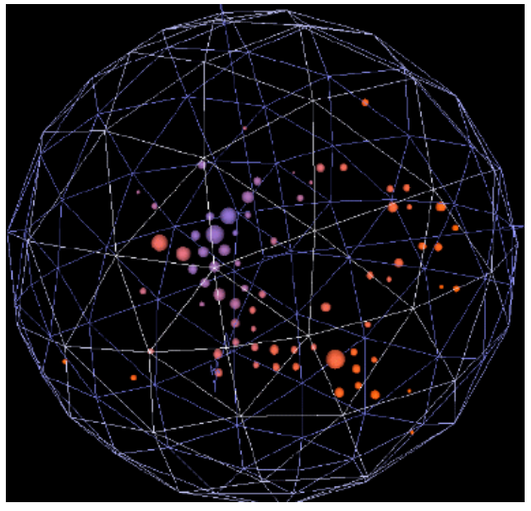
- Muons
  - full rings
- Electrons
  - fuzzy rings
- Neutral pions
  - double rings

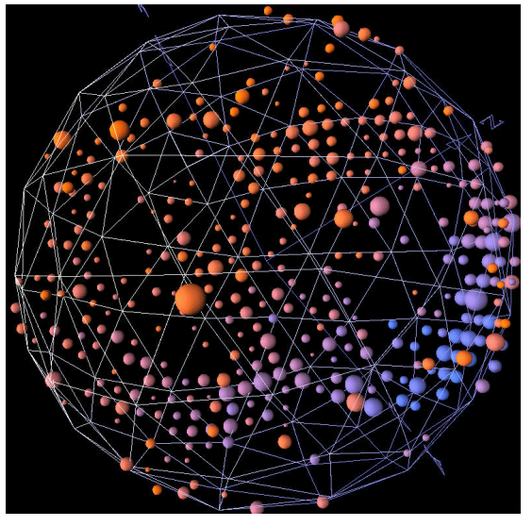




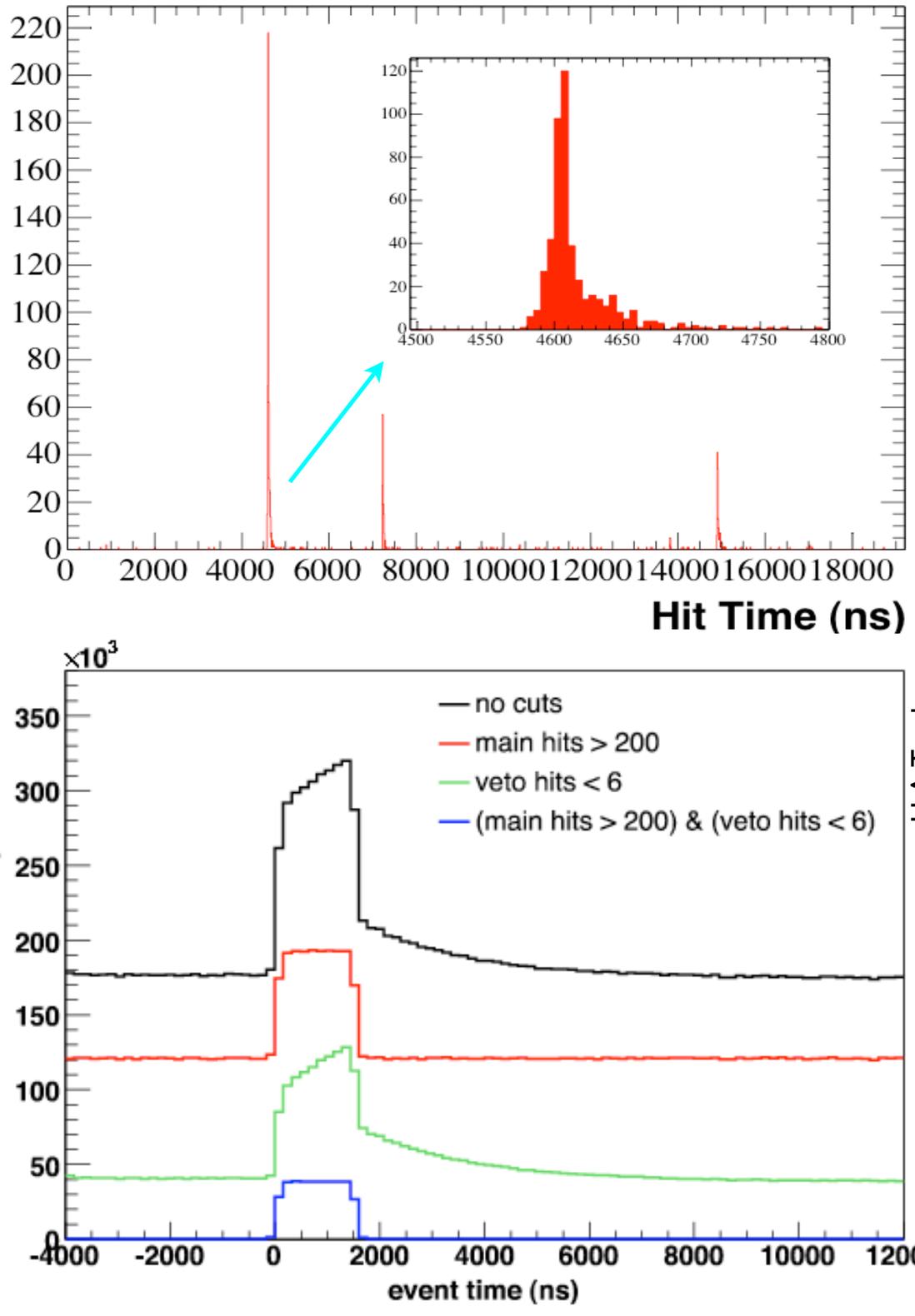








PMT Hit Clusters



- PMT hits clusters in time form "subevents"
- ν_μ events have 2 subevents
  - μ, followed by e
- ν_e events have 1 subevent
- Simple cuts on subevents remove cosmic backgrounds
  - "pre-cuts"

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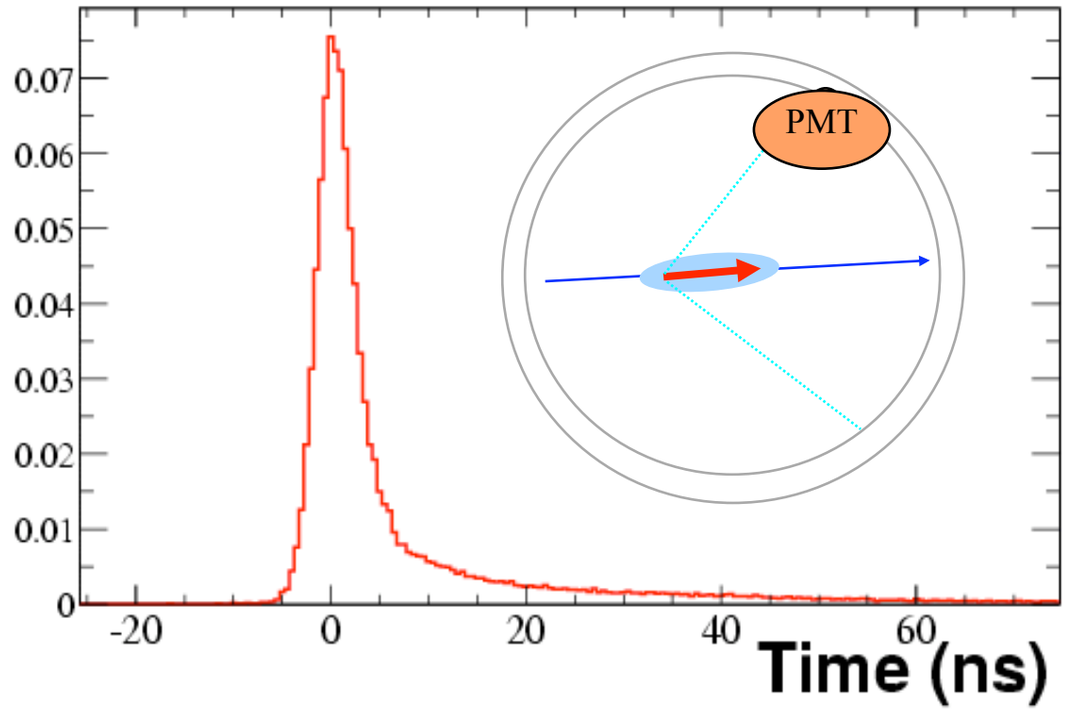
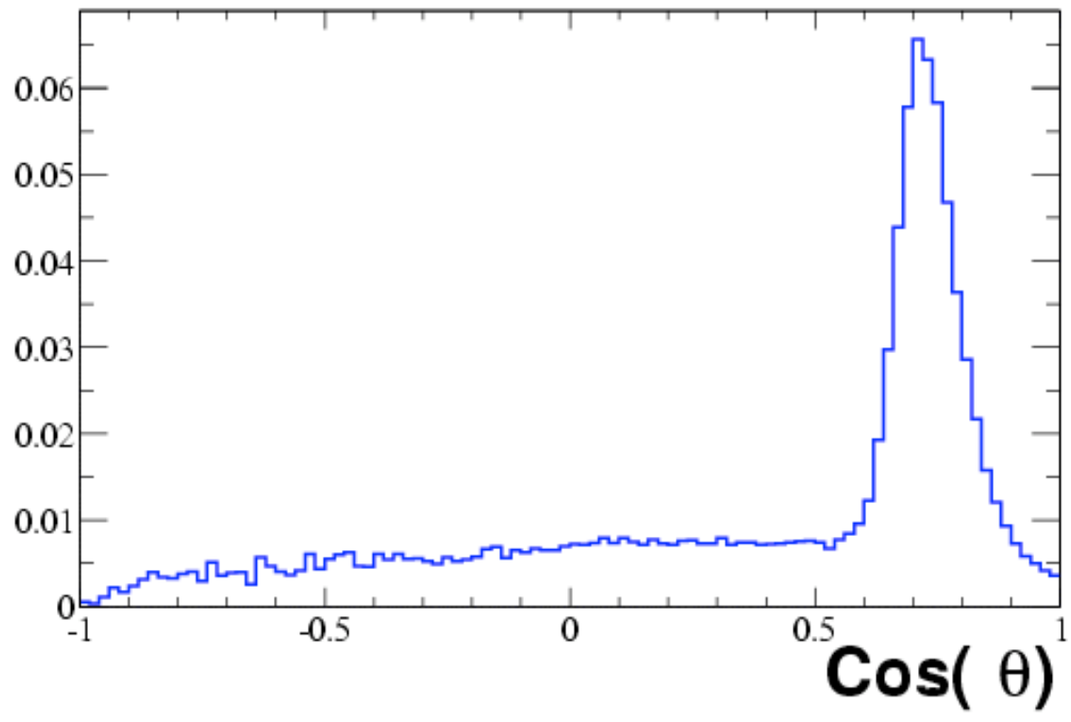
Track Reconstruction

Charged particles produce Cherenkov and scintillation light in oil





PMTs collect photons, record t,Q

Reconstruct tracks by fitting time and angular distributions

Find position, direction, energy

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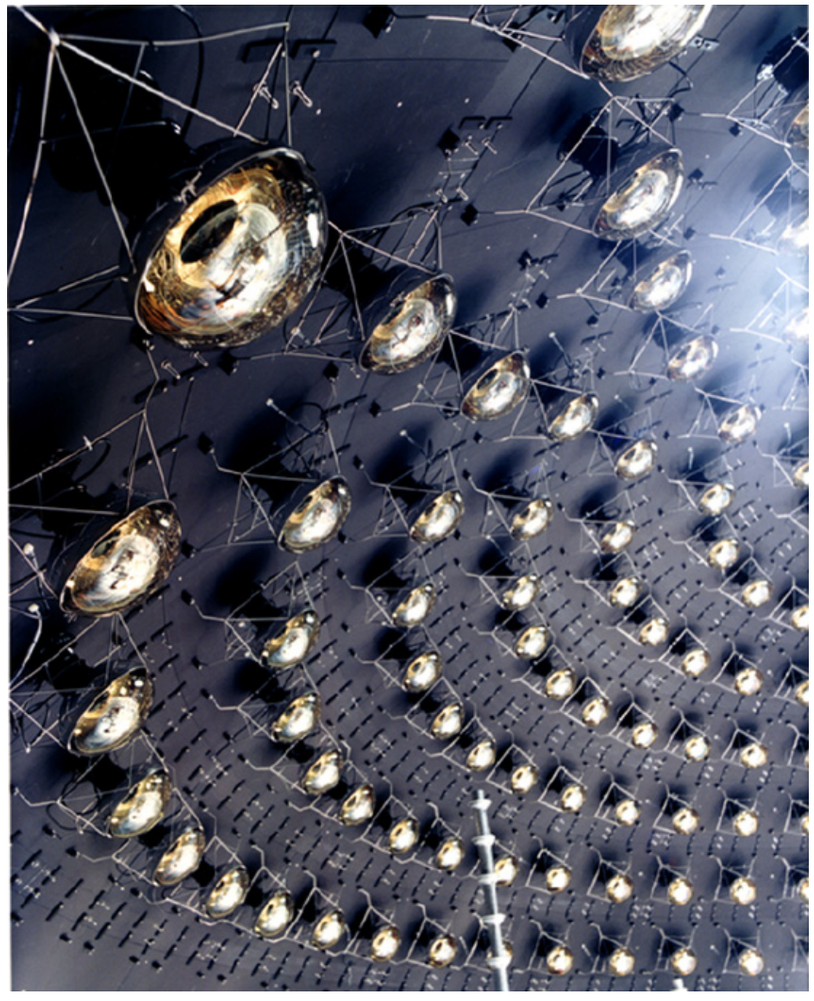
MiniBooNE Measurements

- Default MC=NUANCE
- CCQE
- CC1pi+
- CC1pi0
- NCpi0
- NCE
- Antineutrinos



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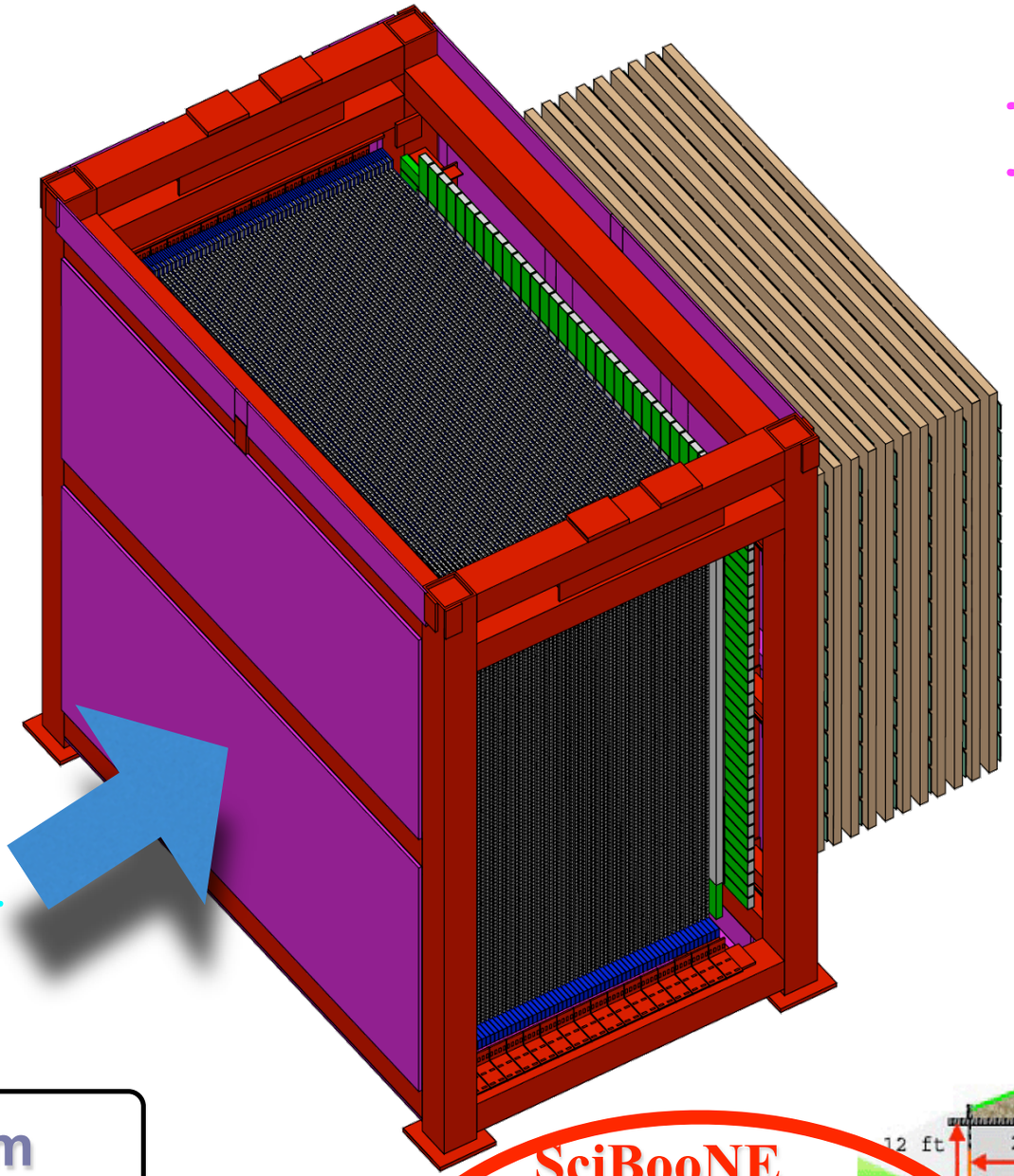
SciBooNE

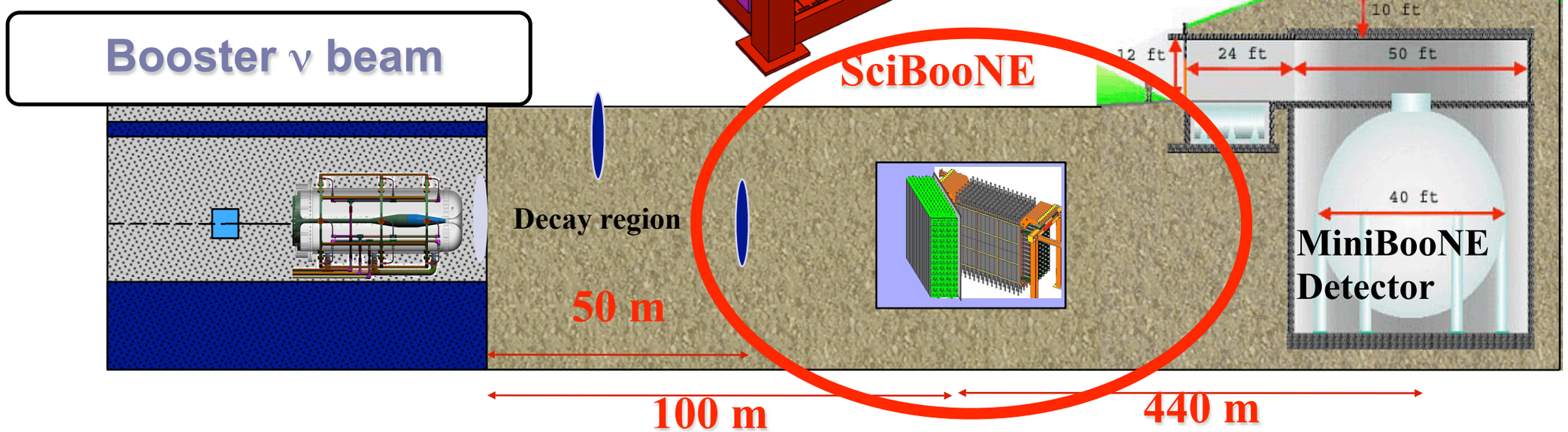
SciBar (Scintillator Bar)



Muon Range Detector (MRD)

Electron Catcher (EC)

ν beam



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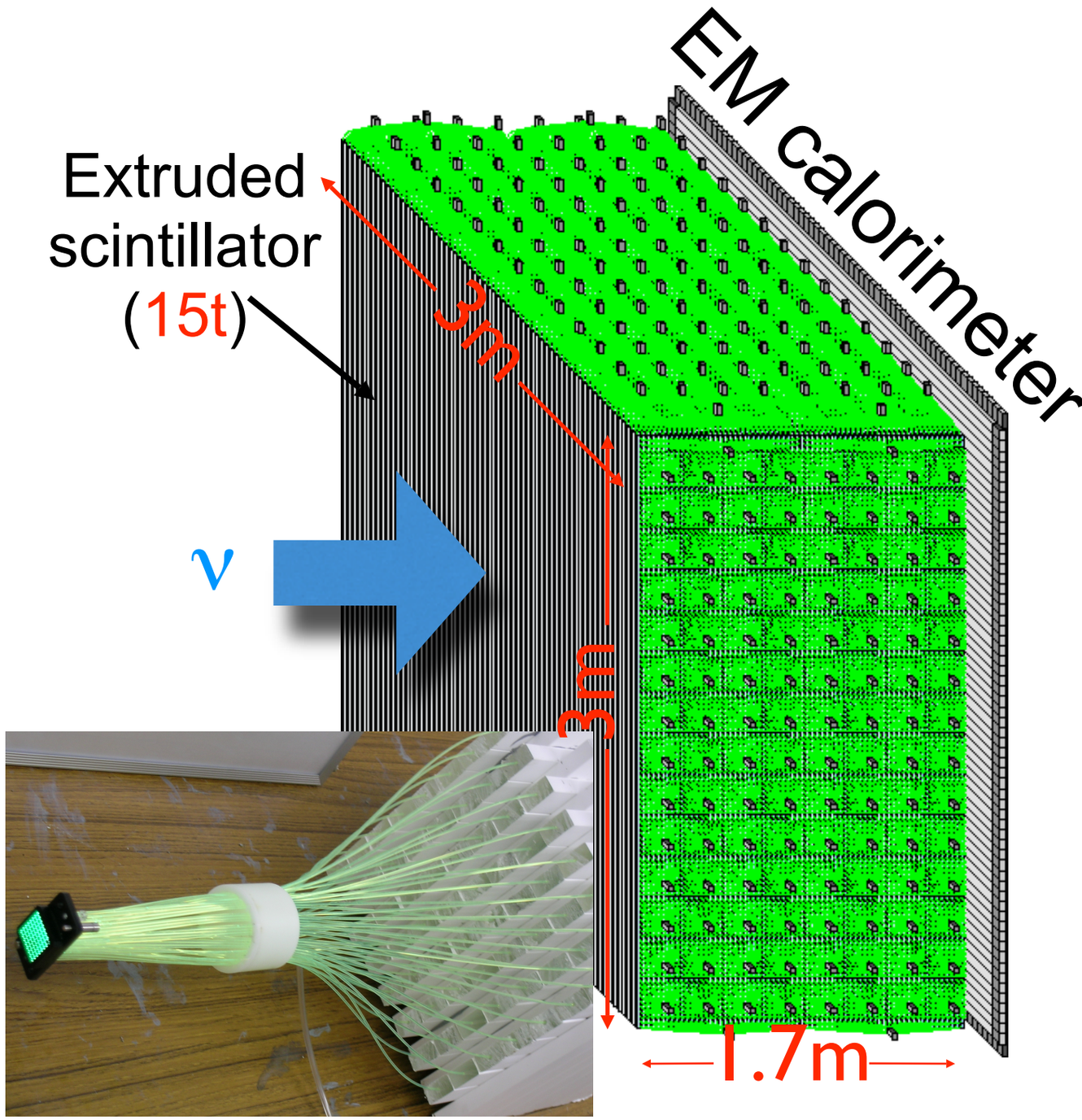
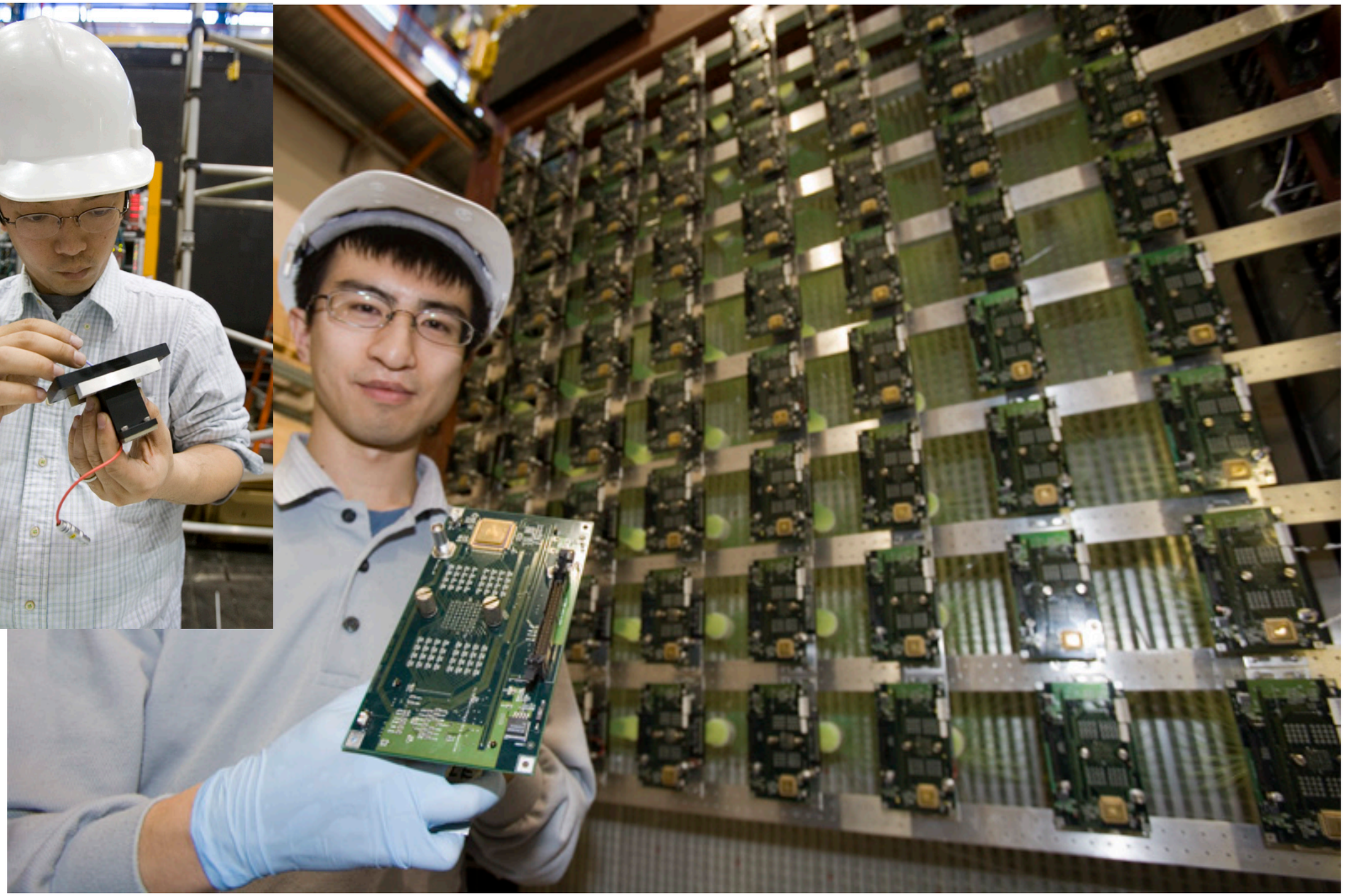
Vertex Detector: SciBar

- Fine-grained neutrino vertex detector
- Extruded plastic scintillator with WLS fibres
  - 64 channel MAPMTs
  - ~15k channels
    - All channels operational
- 15 tonne total mass

Originally used in K2K experiment in Japan





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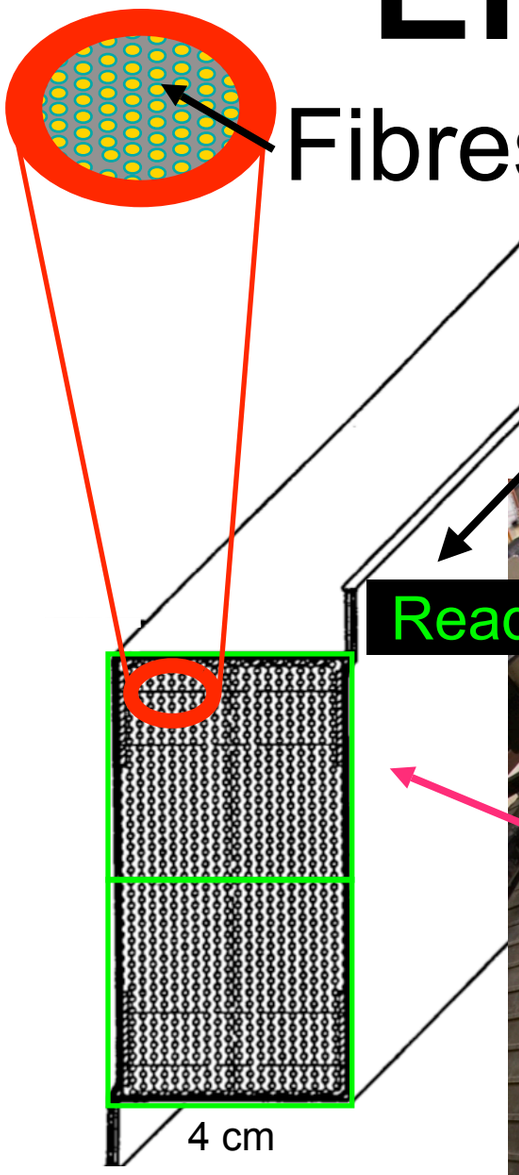
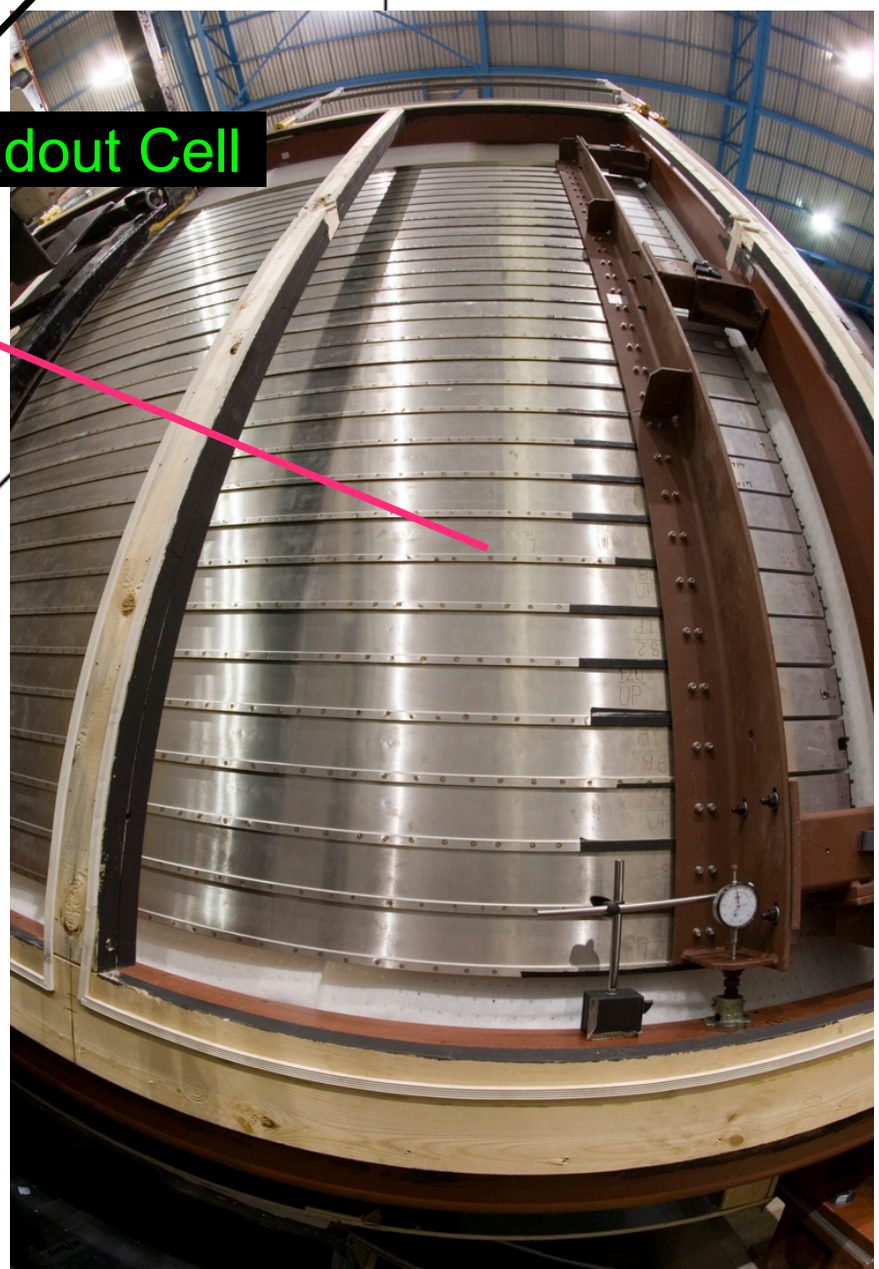
EM Calorimeter: EC

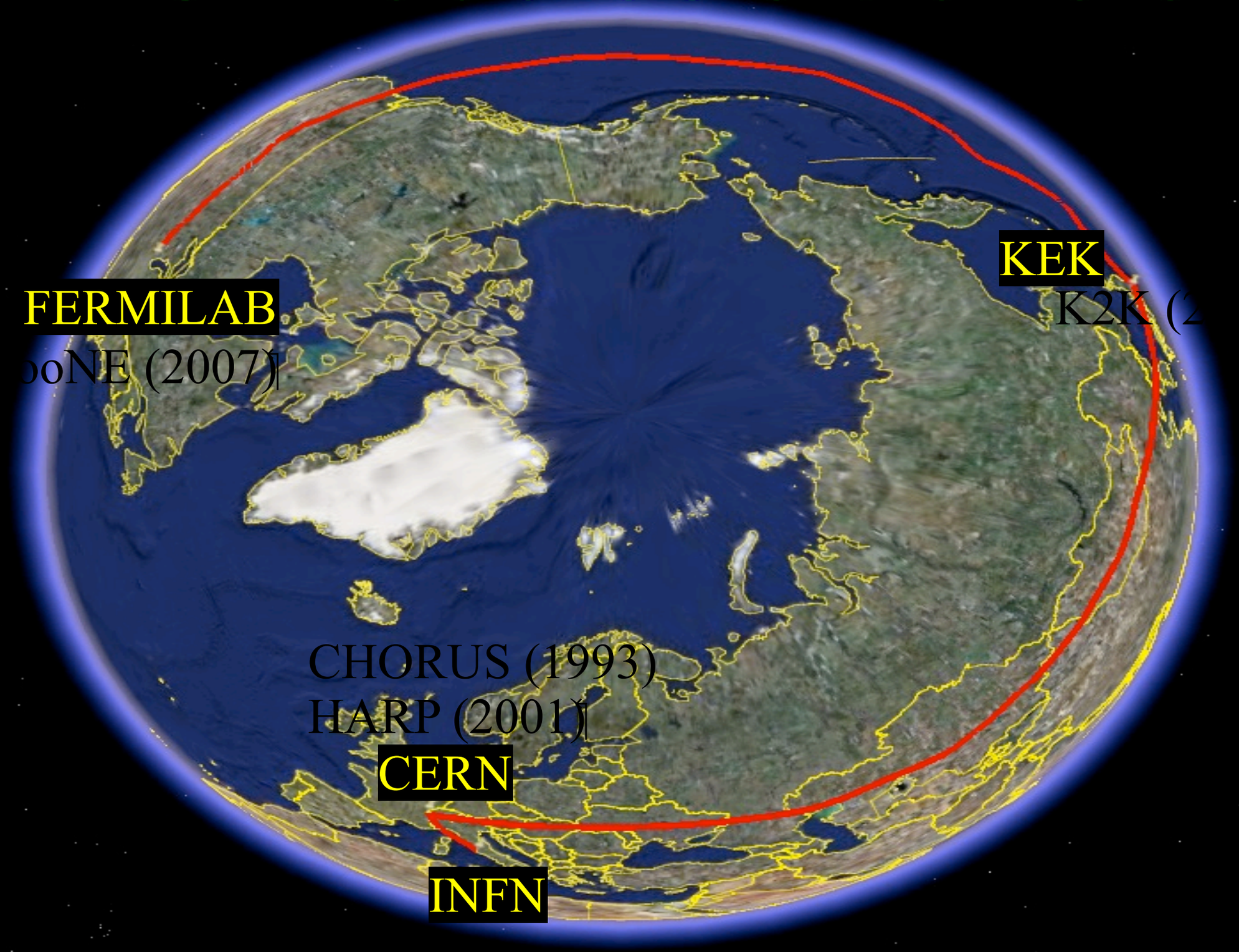




- "Spaghetti" calorimeter
  - Scintillating fibres sandwiched in lead foils
  - PMT readout at both ends
- good energy resolution and linearity
  - 14%/√E resolution
  - MC tuned with cosmic data
- 11 X_0 thick

Originally built for CHORUS; used in K2K

EC modules's travels



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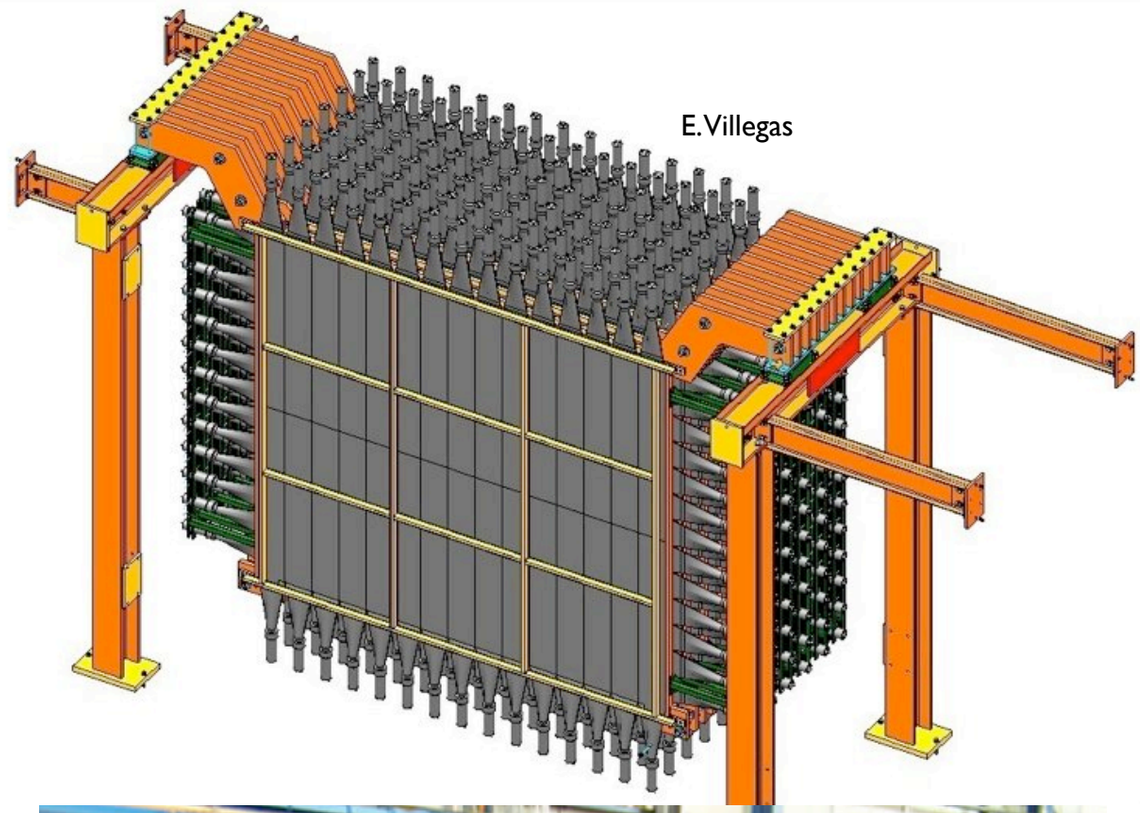
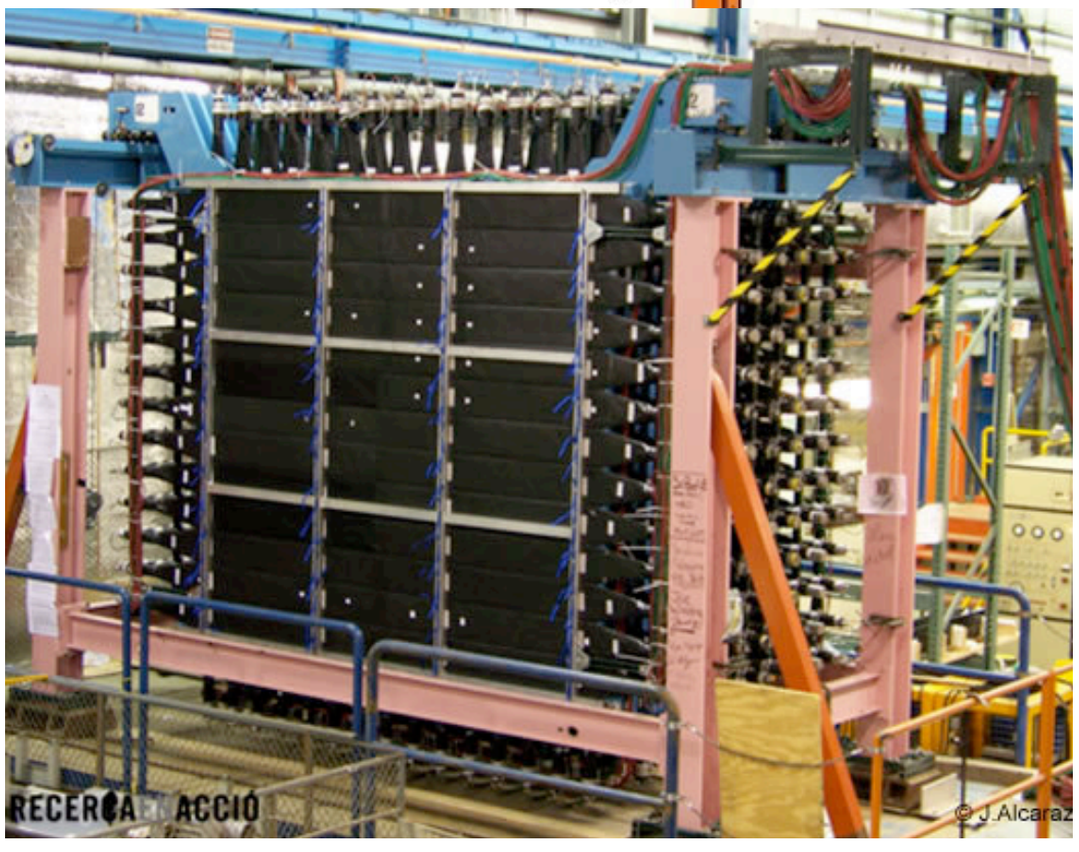
Muon Range Detector

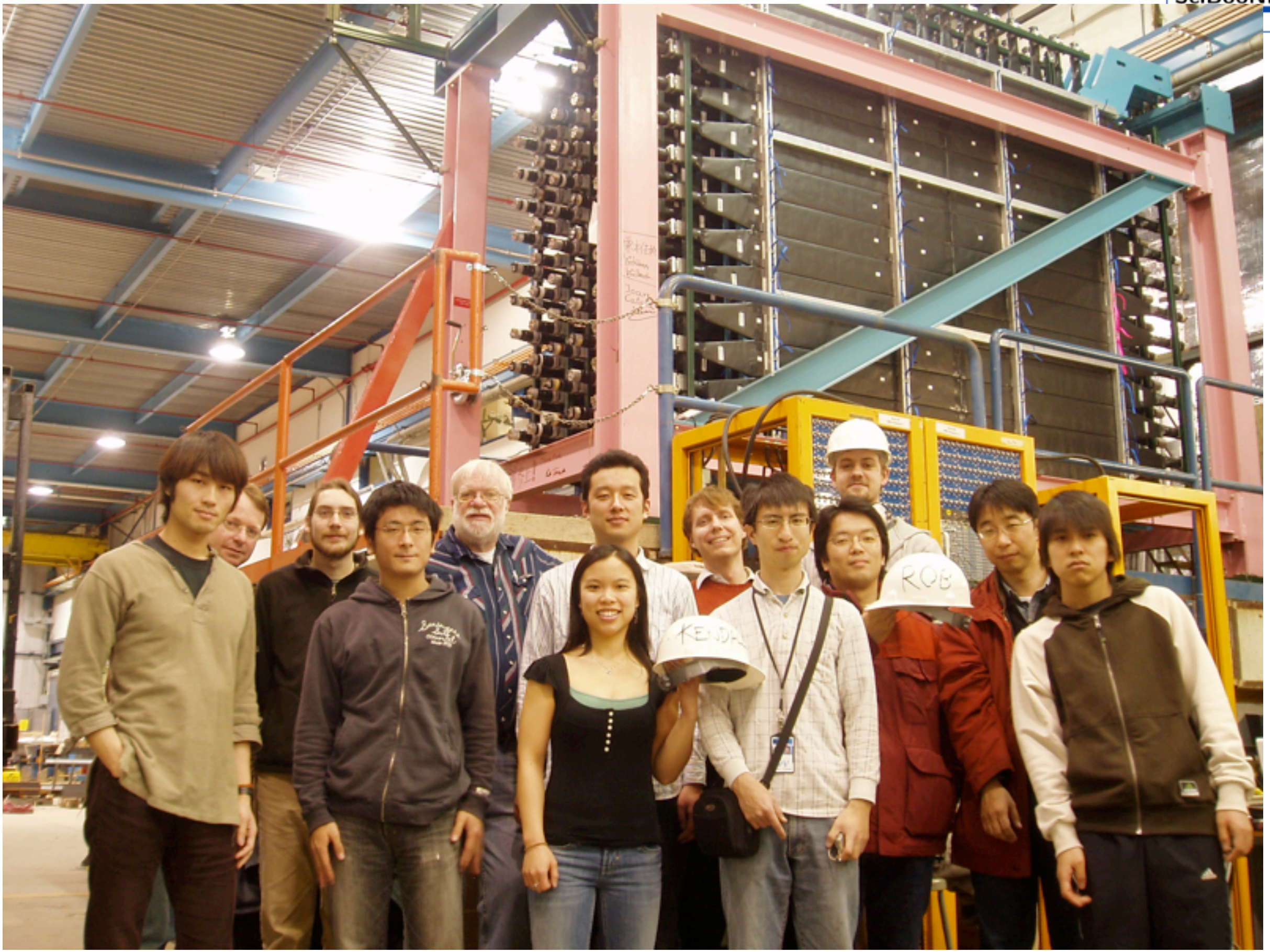
- Iron plates (5cm) with scintillation counters
  - Measure up to ~1.2 GeV muons
  - ~5% momentum resolution

Recycled from past FNAL experiments

Won DOE "Closing the Circle" and P2 awards






ROB

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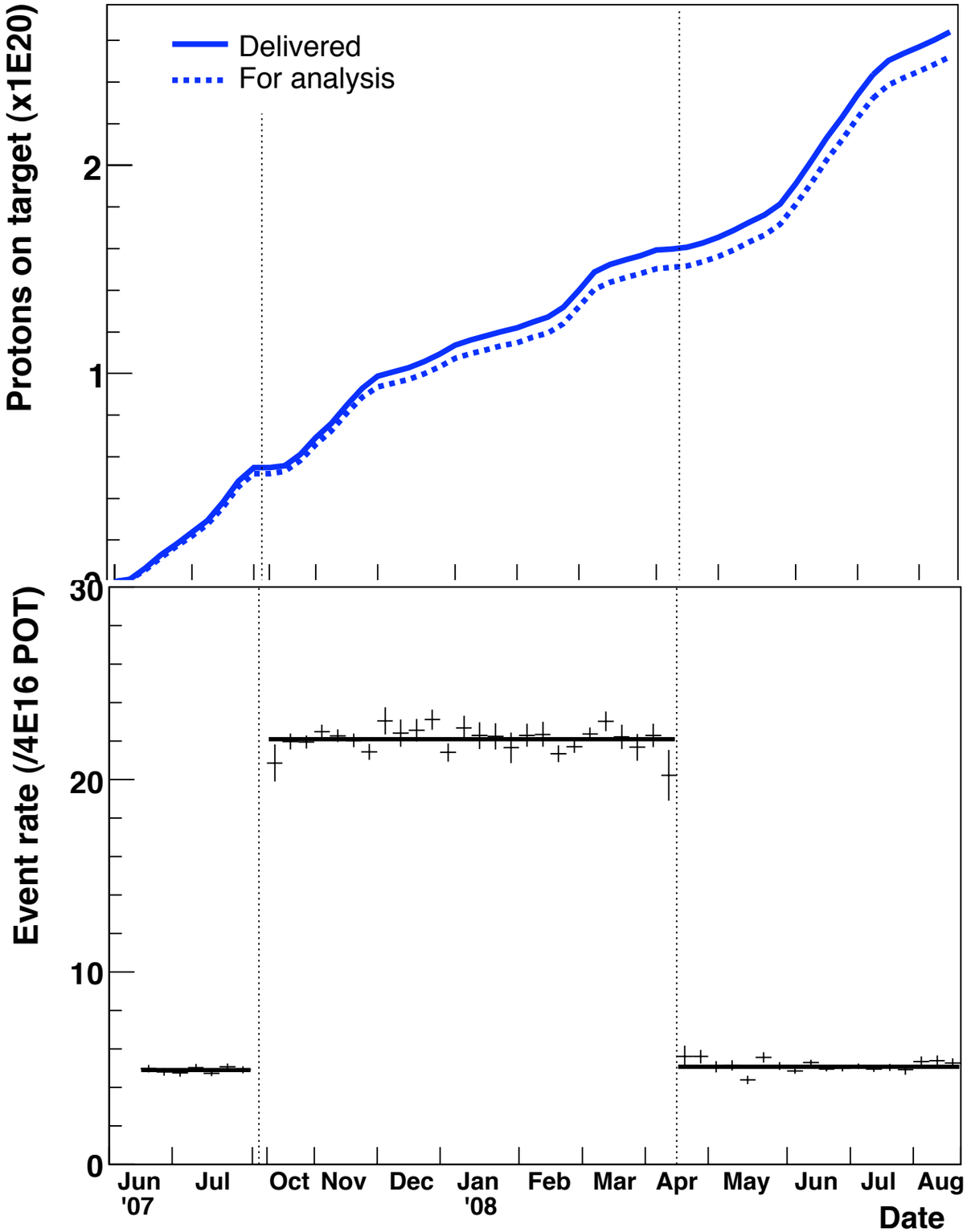
SciBooNE

SciBooNE Performance

SciBooNE installed and commissioned in spring 2007



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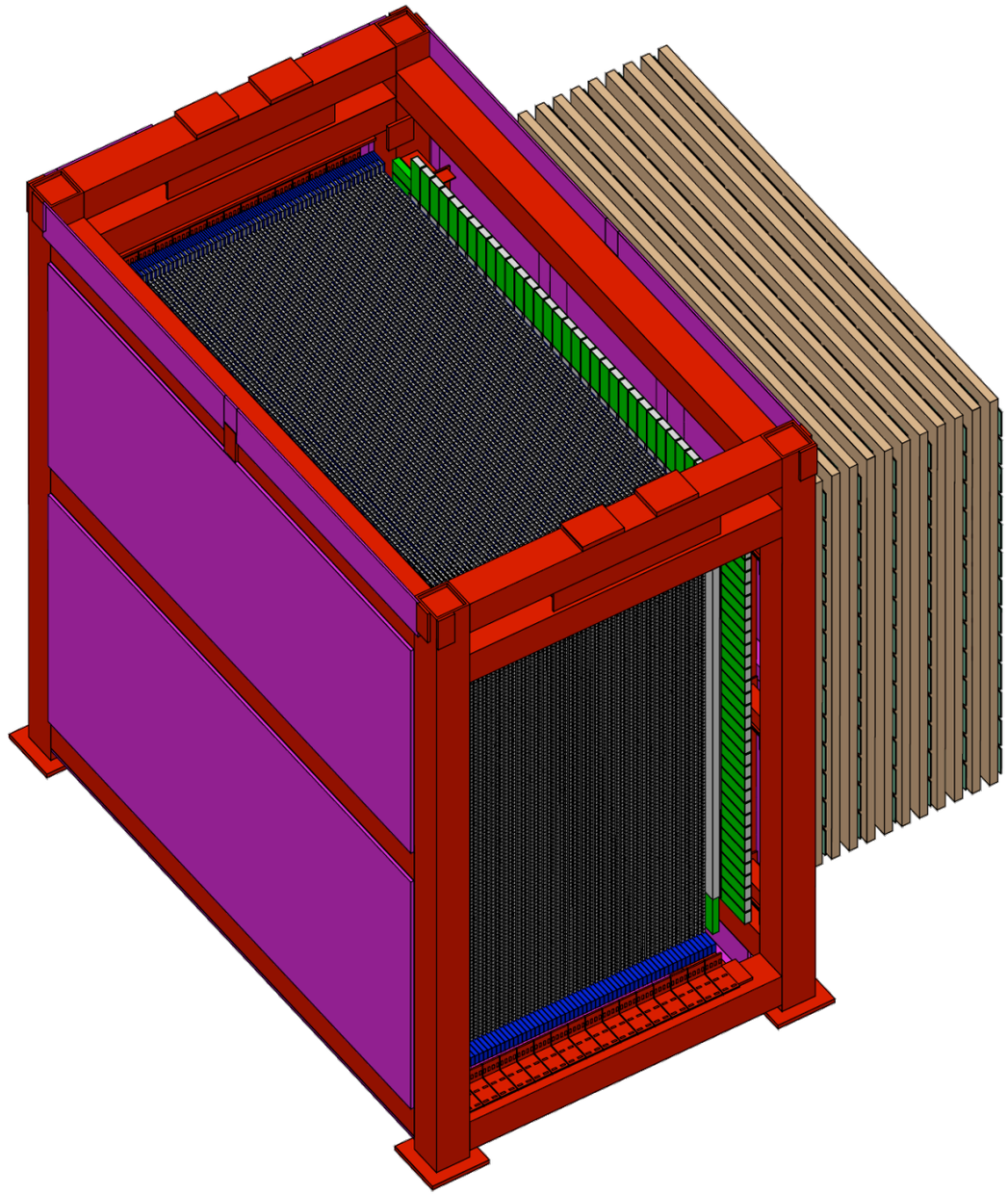
SciBooNE

SciBooNE Measurements

- CCQE
- CC1π+
- CCπ0
- NCπ0
- NCE
- Antineutrinos



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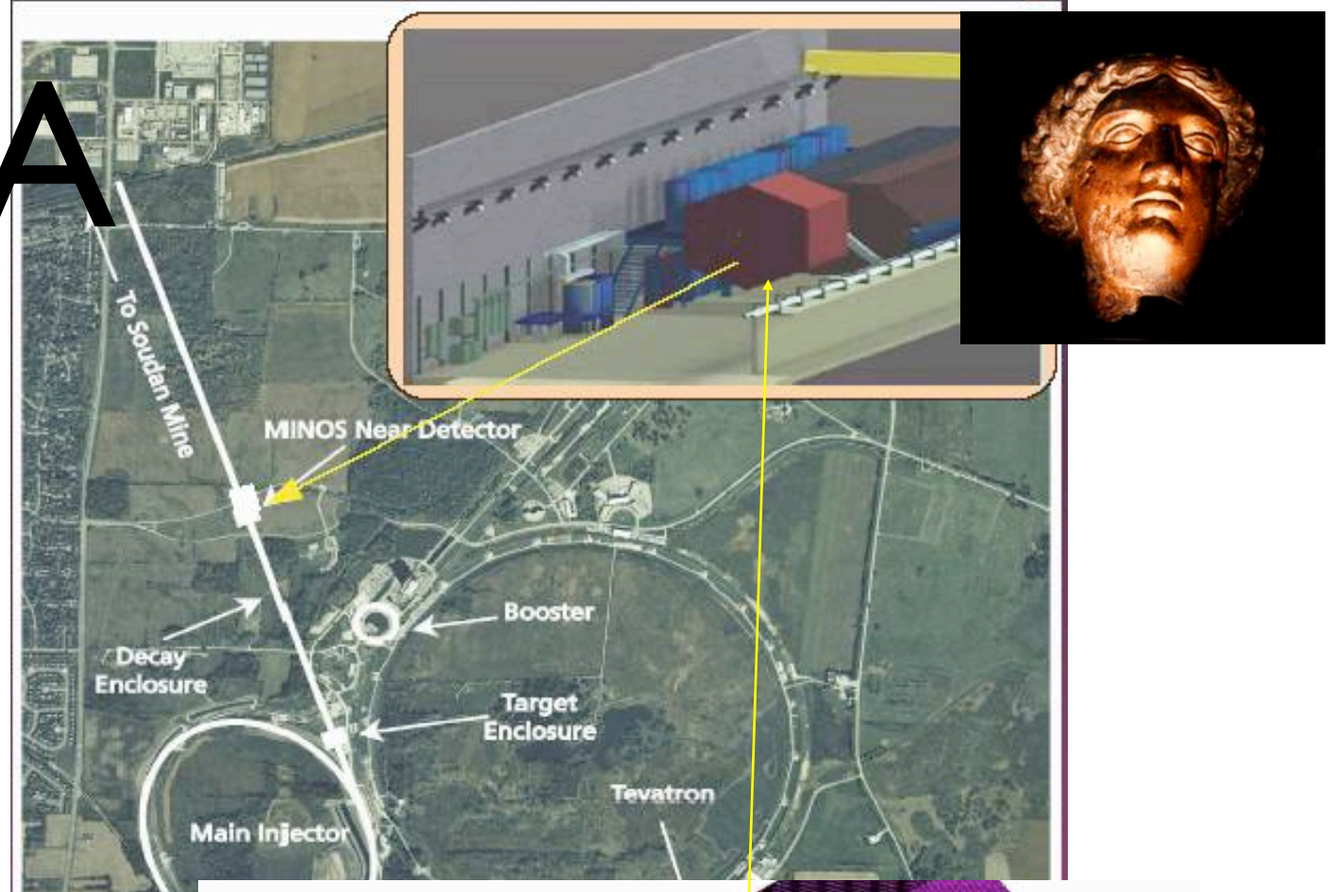
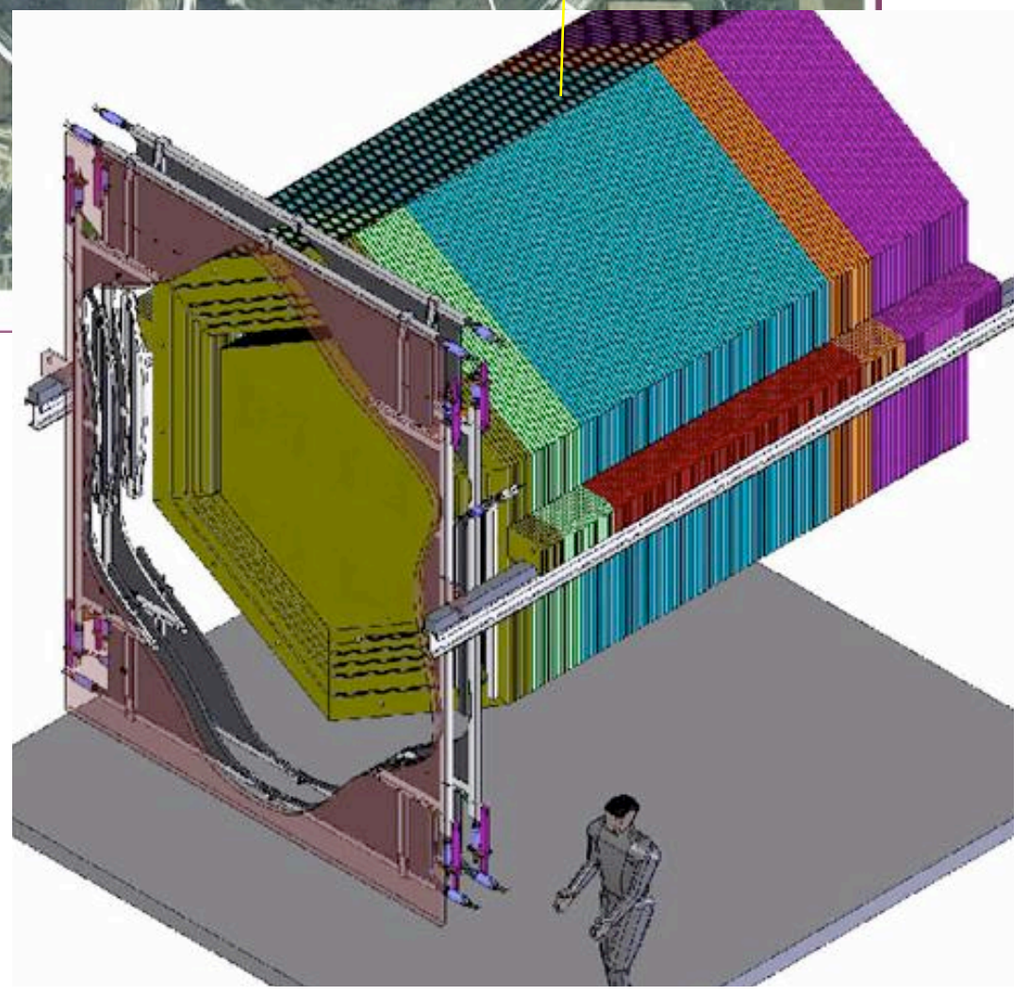
Future: MINERνA

- MINERνA is designed to study ν-nucleus interactions with unprecedented detail
- The detector will be placed upstream of the MINOS Near Detector in the NuMI beam line
- The NuMI beam provides a wide range of neutrino energies
- Detector with several different nuclear targets allows study of neutrino nuclear effects
  - Unique to this experiment!





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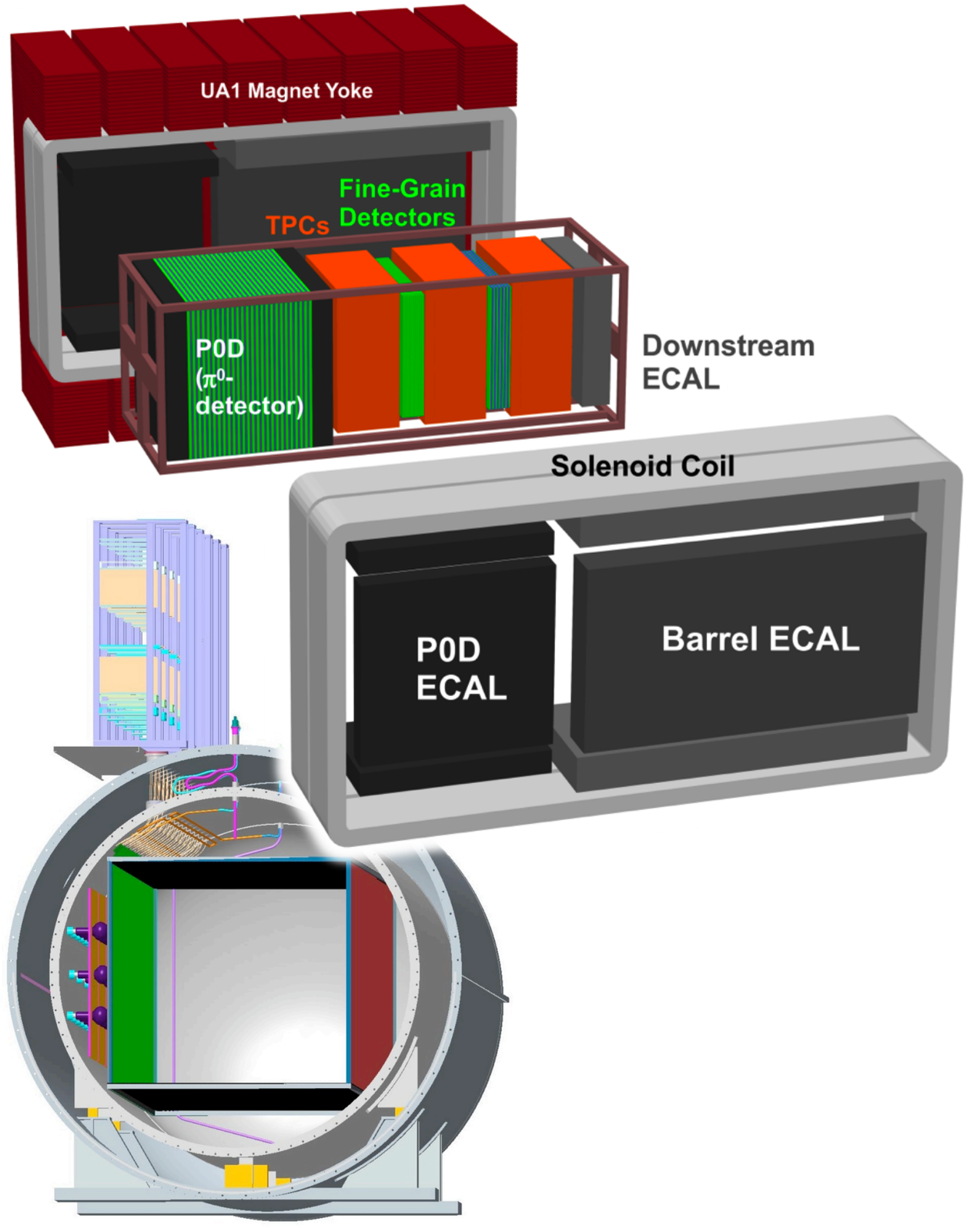
Other Experiments

- Oscillation experiments developing increasingly complex near detectors
- MINOS, NOvA
- T2K ND280
  - High resolution detector
  - Most powerful nu beam
- MicroBooNE
  - Liquid Argon