

# Experiments at MAMI/MESA

S. Baunack

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Qingdao, September 24, 2025



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# Outline

- Accelerator facilities MAMI/MESA
- Beam Normal Single Spin asymmetries
  - BNSA with hydrogen target (A4 collaboration)
  - BNSA with heavier nuclei (A1 collaboration)
- P2 Experiment
  - Search for new physics: precision determination of  $\sin^2\Theta_W$
  - Present status
- Spin asymmetries at MAGIX



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# MAinz Microtron MAMI



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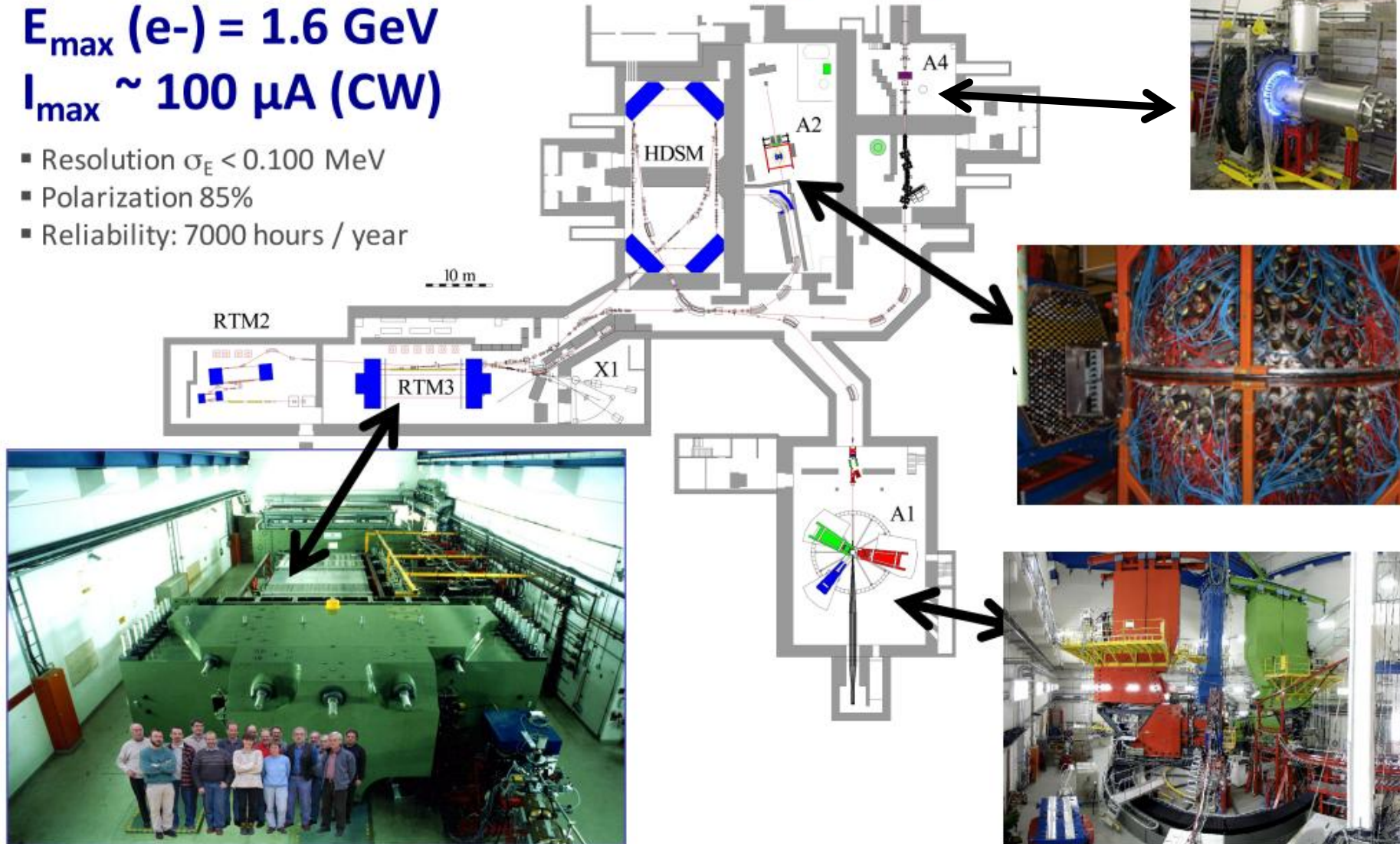
# MAinz Microtron MAMI

## Electron Accelerator for Fixed Target Experiments

$E_{\text{max}} (e^-) = 1.6 \text{ GeV}$

$I_{\text{max}} \sim 100 \mu\text{A (CW)}$

- Resolution  $\sigma_E < 0.100 \text{ MeV}$
- Polarization 85%
- Reliability: 7000 hours / year



A4:  
Parity  
violation

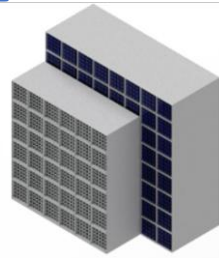
A2:  
Tagged  
photons

A1:  
Electron  
scattering

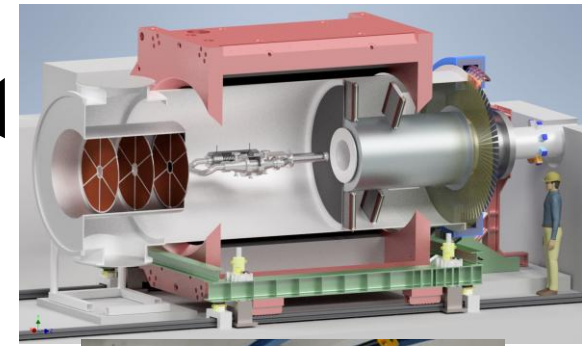
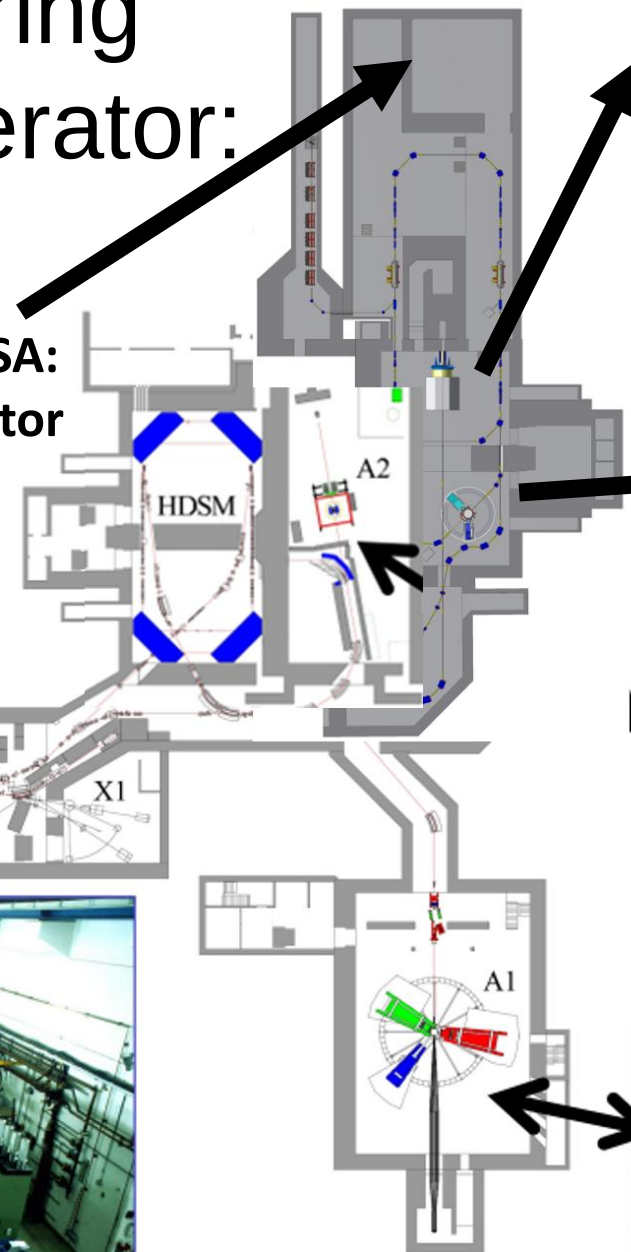
# Mainz Energy recovering Superconducting Accelerator: MESA

- $E_{\text{max}} (e^-)$  155 MeV
- $I_{\text{max}}$ : 1 mA

- Polarization 85%
- CW beam



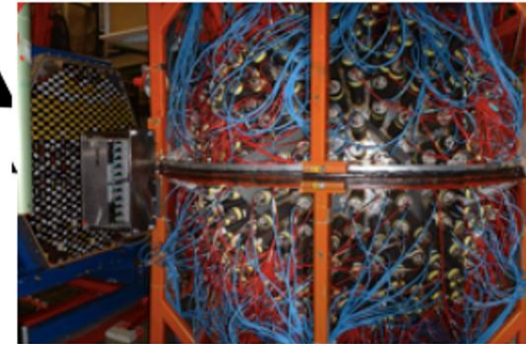
DarkMESA:  
Dark sector  
particles



P2:  
Weak  
mixing  
angle



MAGIX:  
High precision  
electron  
scattering



A2:  
Tagged  
photons



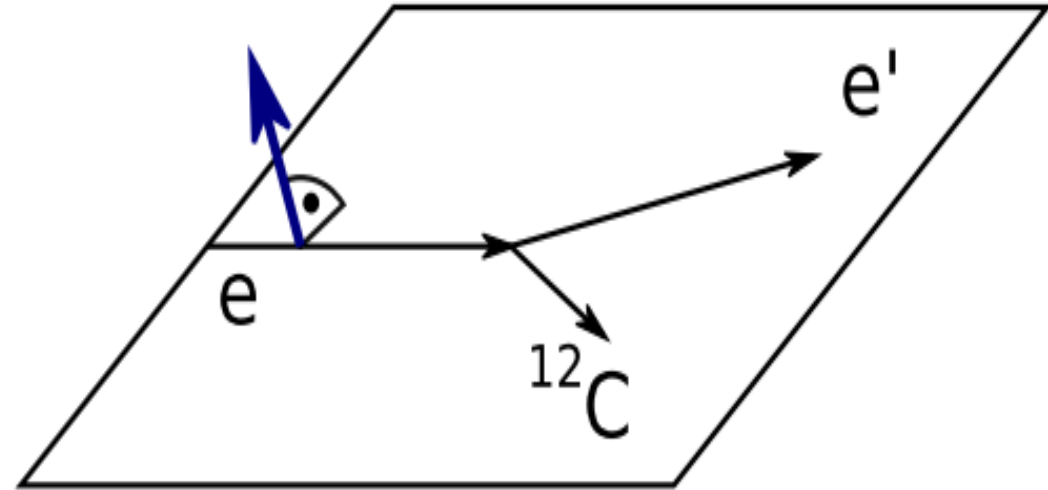
A1:  
Electron  
scattering

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- **Beam Normal Single Spin asymmetries**
  - **BNSA with hydrogen target (A4 collaboration)**
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- Spin asymmetries at MAGIX

# Beam normal spin asymmetries

- Transversely polarized electrons
- Unpolarized nuclei
- Cross section asymmetry: Two-photon exchange
- Theoretical treatment of  $A_n$  is non-trivial: All possible intermediate states need to be related to the absorptive part of  $M_{\gamma\gamma}$



$$T_{fi} = \begin{array}{c} T_{fi}^{1\gamma} \\ \text{---} \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} T_{fi}^{2\gamma} \\ \text{---} \end{array} + \dots$$

$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_{em}) \qquad \mathcal{O}(\alpha_{em}^2)$

$$A_n = \frac{\sigma^\uparrow - \sigma^\downarrow}{\sigma^\uparrow + \sigma^\downarrow} = \frac{2 \operatorname{Im}(\mathcal{M}_\gamma^* \cdot |\mathcal{M}_{\gamma\gamma}|)}{|\mathcal{M}_\gamma|^2}$$

# Beam normal spin asymmetries

Existing Calculations:

Cooper & Horowitz

[Phys. Rev. C72, 034602 (2005)]

All orders of photon exchange

Coulomb distortion effects

Only elastic intermediate state

Gorchtein & Horowitz

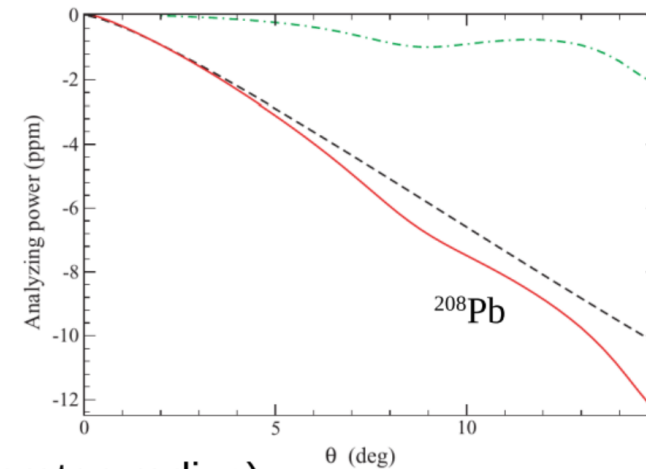
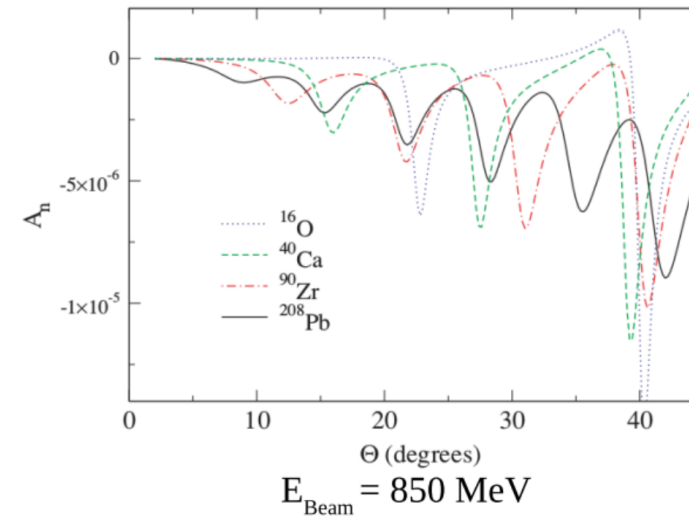
[Phys. Rev. C77, 044606 (2008)]

Full range of intermediate excitation states

Only 2 photon exchange

Limited to small forward angles

- No consistent Theory, but
- Contribution to every PV experiment
  - Contribution to other measurements (e.g. proton radius)



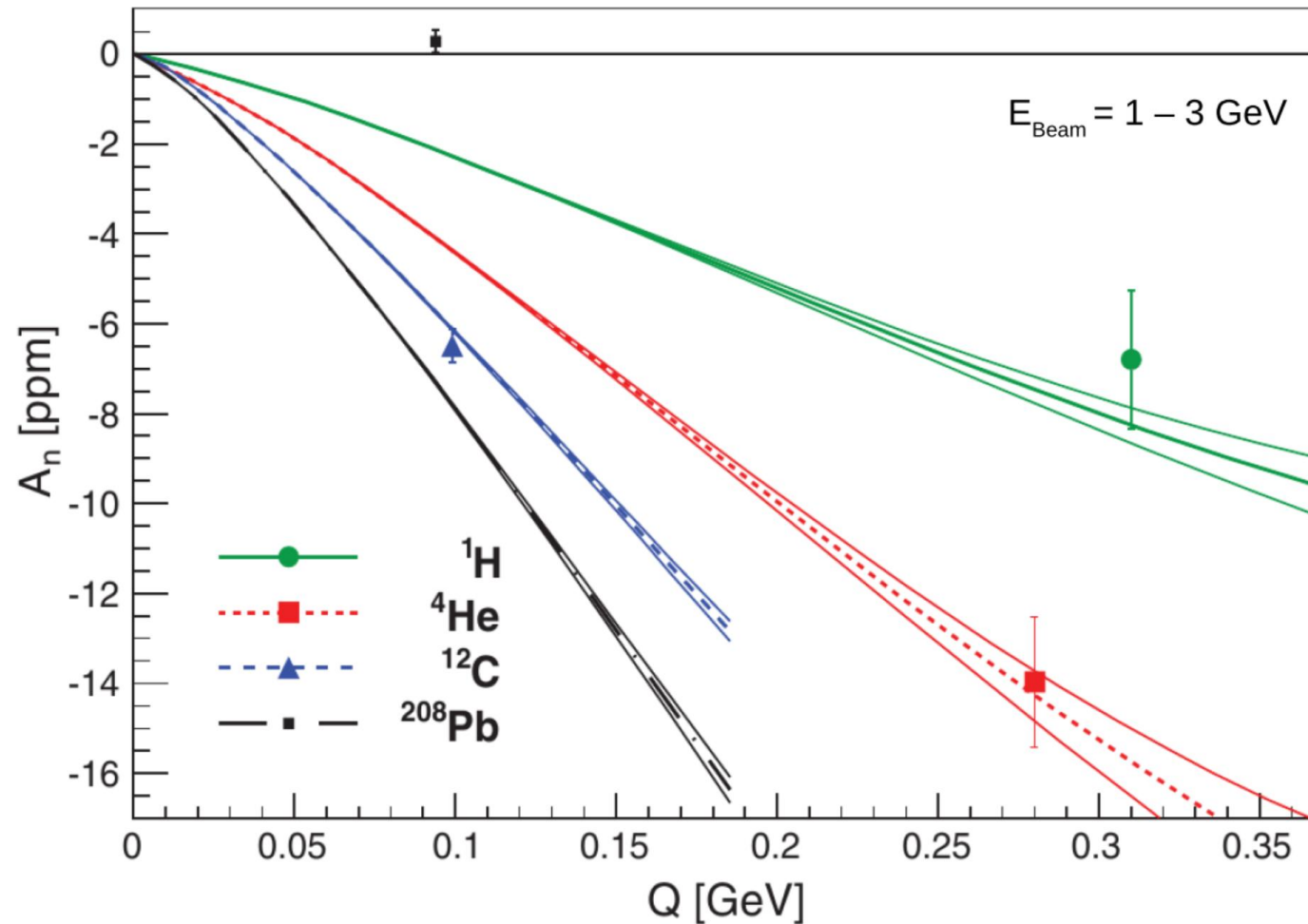
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# Beam normal spin asymmetries



Measurement of  $A_n$  at PREX and HAPPEX



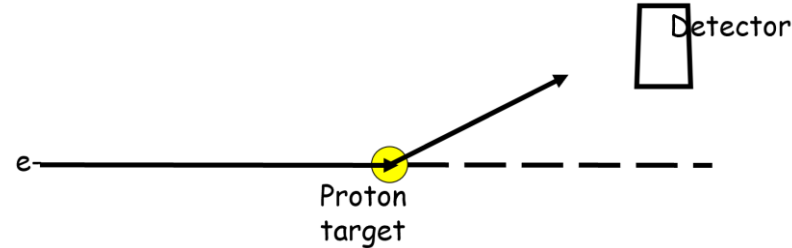
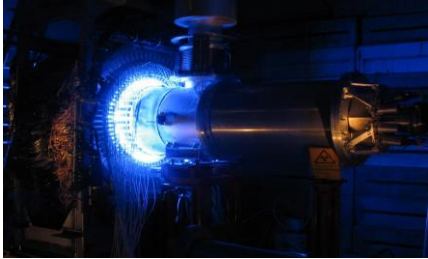
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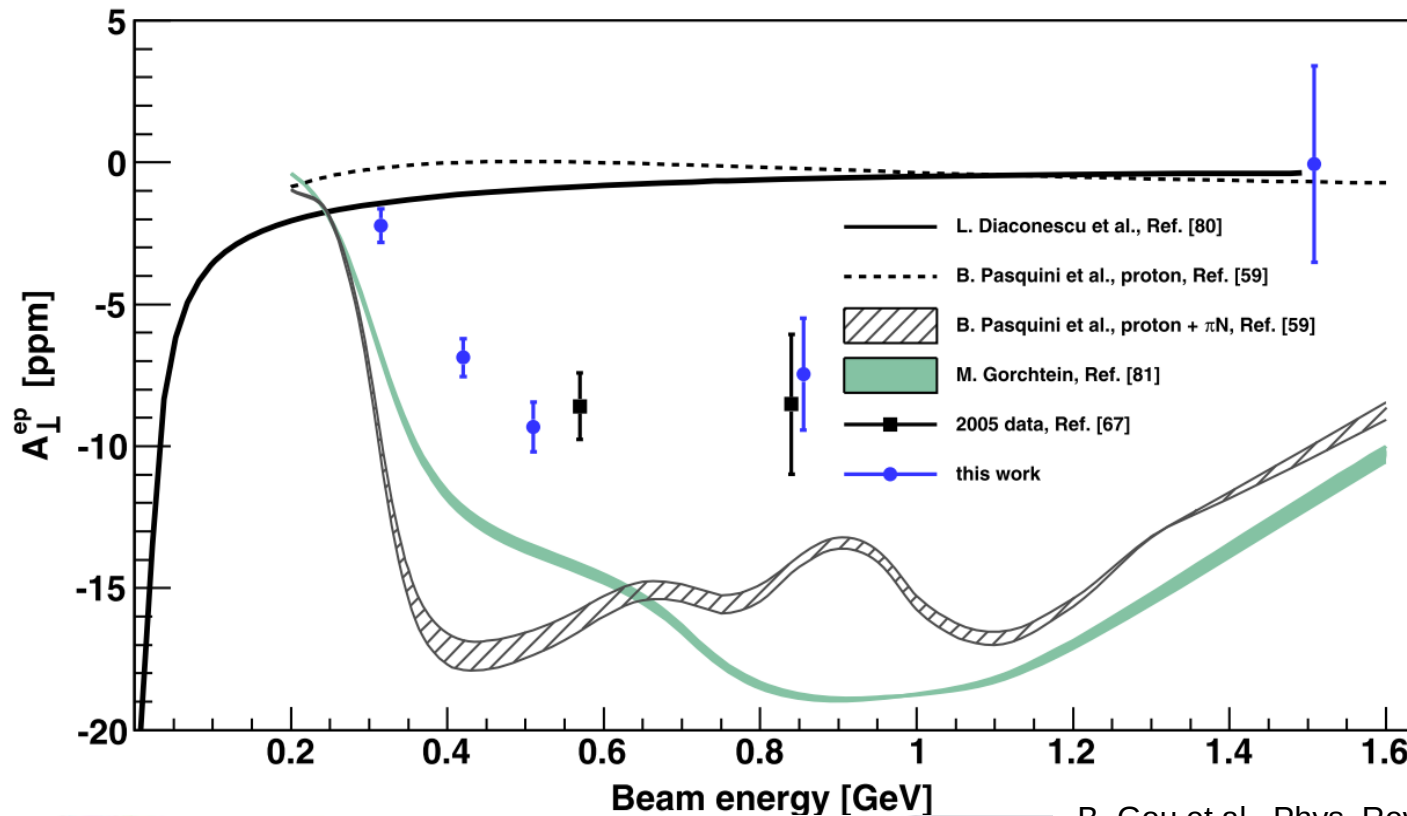
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# BNSA: Hydrogen results



Measurements by the A4 collaboration at MAMI

- Scattering angle  $35^\circ$
- Various beam energies
- Excited intermediate nucleon states play an important role
- Significant discrepancies with the theoretical predictions



B. Gou et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 124, 122003, 2020



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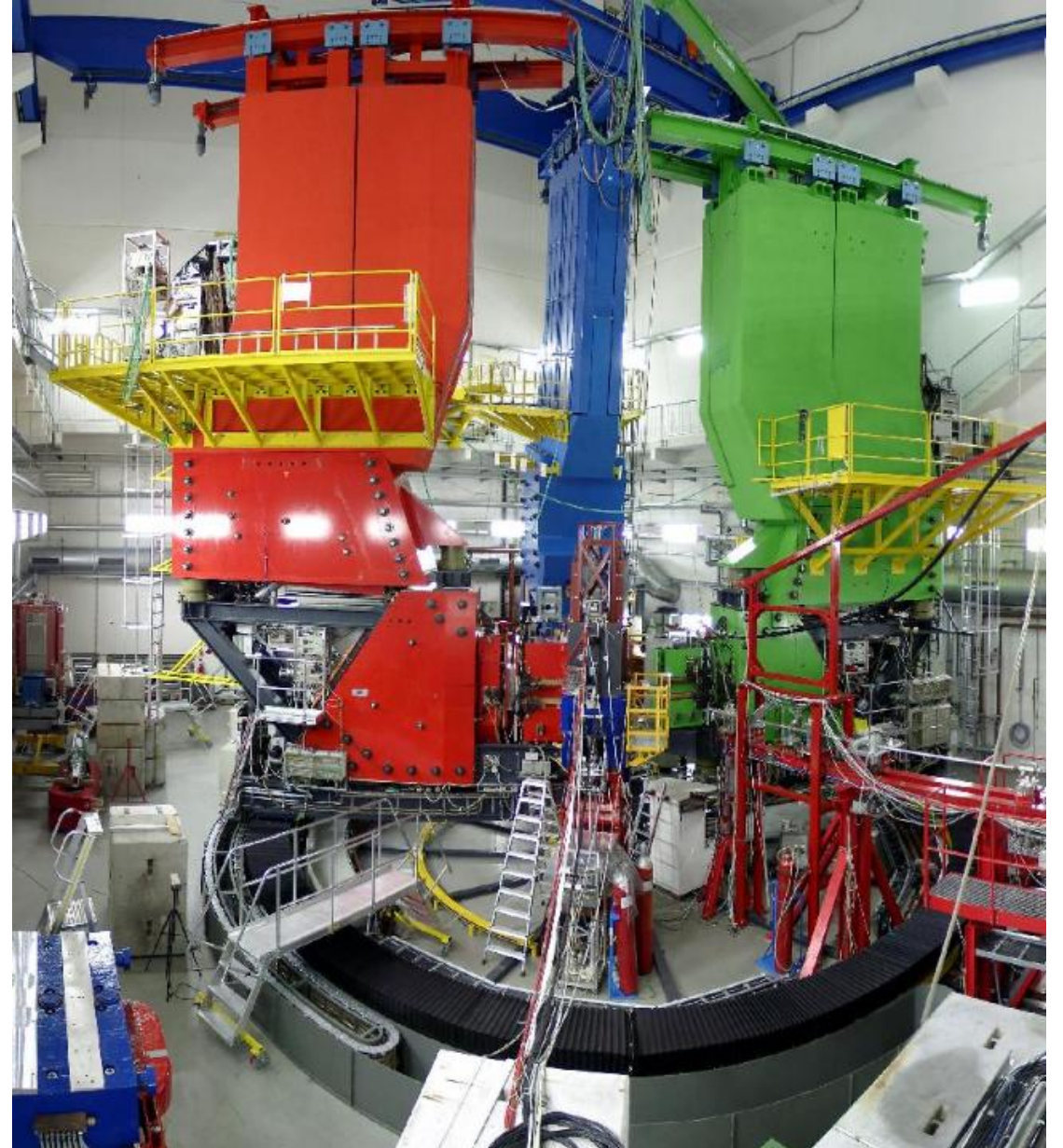


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# BNSA: Heavier nuclei

## Measurements by the A1 collaboration at MAMI

- Electron beam:
  - $E_{\text{Beam}} = 570 \text{ MeV}$
  - $I_{\text{Beam}} = 20 \mu\text{A}$
- Spectrometers:
  - Define scattering angles:  
 $\Theta = 15^\circ - 26^\circ$   
 $Q^2 = 0.02 - 0.05 \text{ GeV}^2/c^2$
  - Select elastic events
- Further requirements:
  - High quality vertically polarised beam
  - Precise knowledge of the polarisation
  - High rate capable detector system



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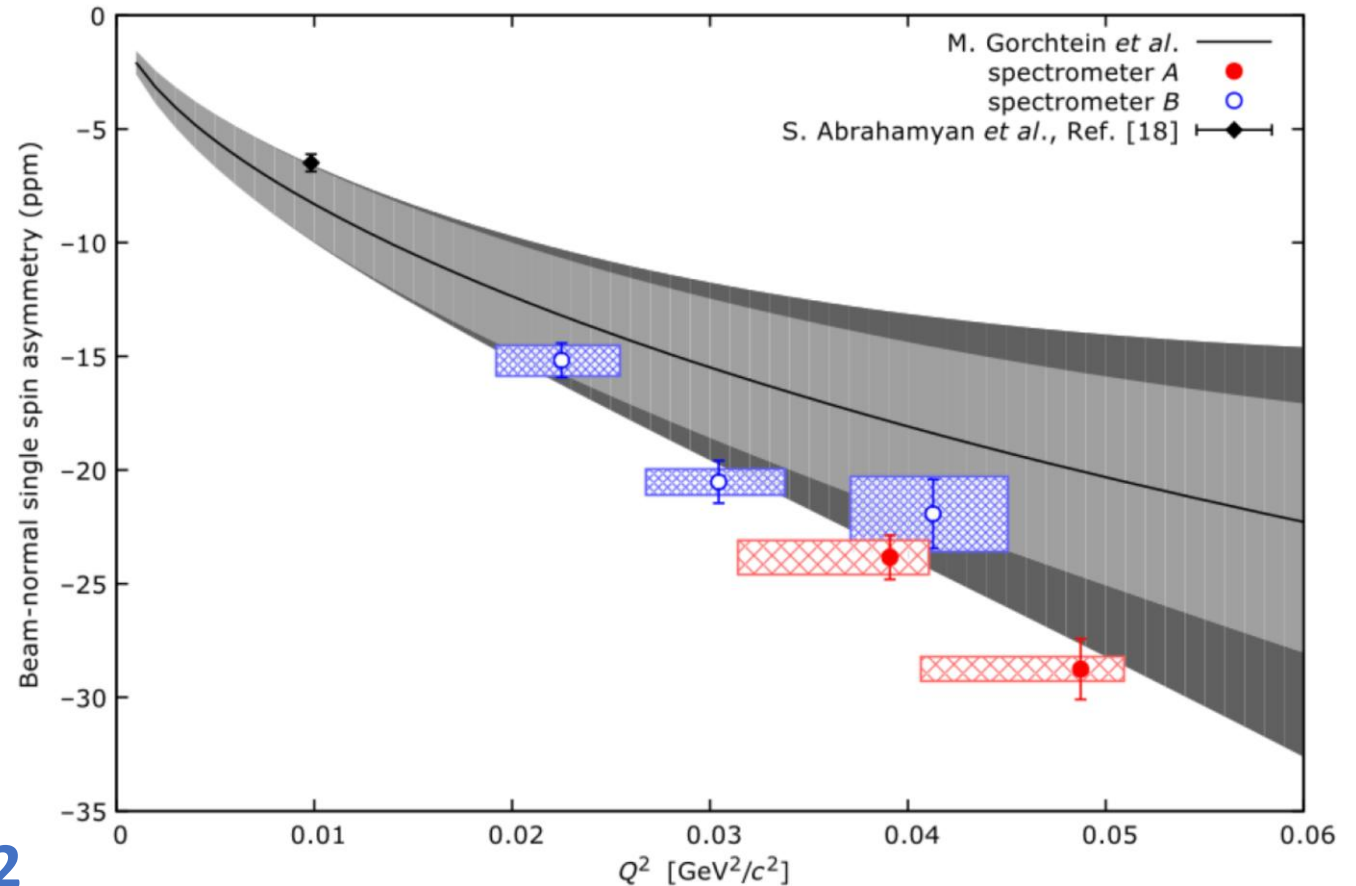
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  - Select elastic events

## • Measurements with C-12



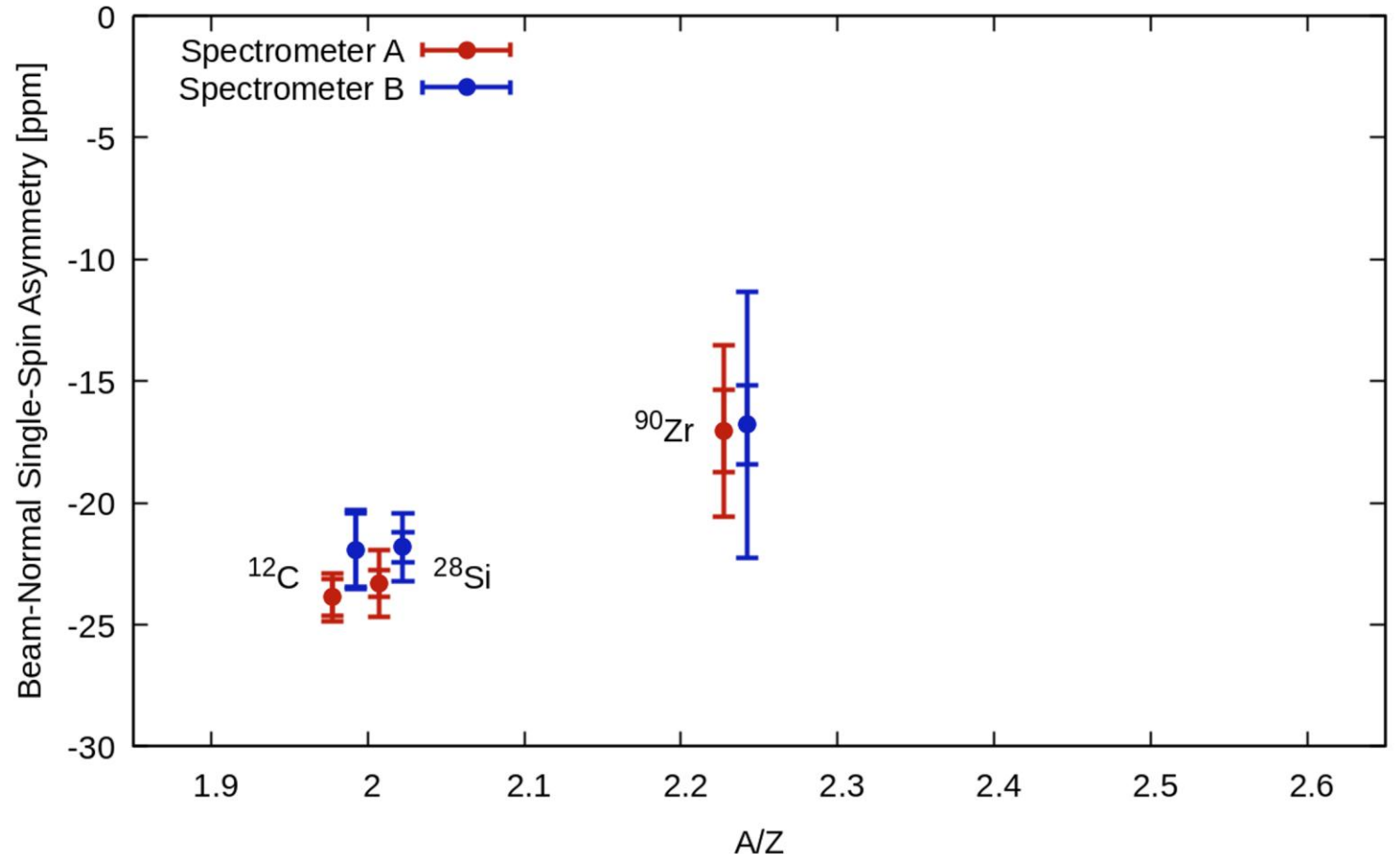
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- Spectrometers:
  - Define scattering angles:  
 $\Theta = 15^\circ - 26^\circ$   
 $Q^2 = 0.02 - 0.05 \text{ GeV}^2/c^2$
  - Select elastic events
- More nuclei...



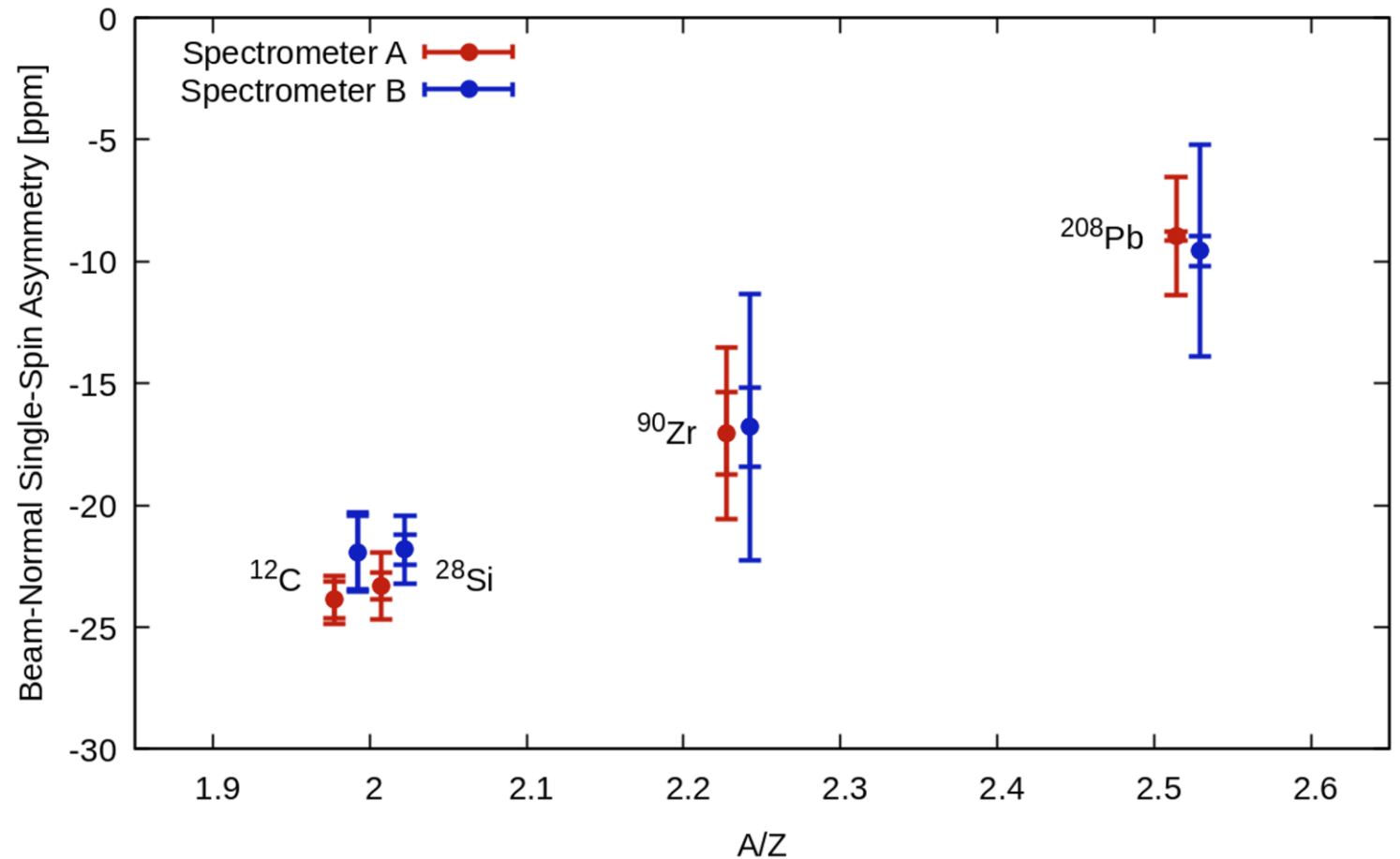
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# BNSA: Heavier nuclei

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  - $I_{\text{Beam}} = 20 \text{ }\mu\text{A}$
- Spectrometers:
  - Define scattering angles:  
 $\Theta = 15^\circ - 26^\circ$   
 $Q^2 = 0.02 - 0.05 \text{ GeV}^2/c^2$
  - Select elastic events
- **Most recent:  $^{208}\text{Pb}$**



A. Esser et al., submitted to PRL



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# The Weak Mixing Angle

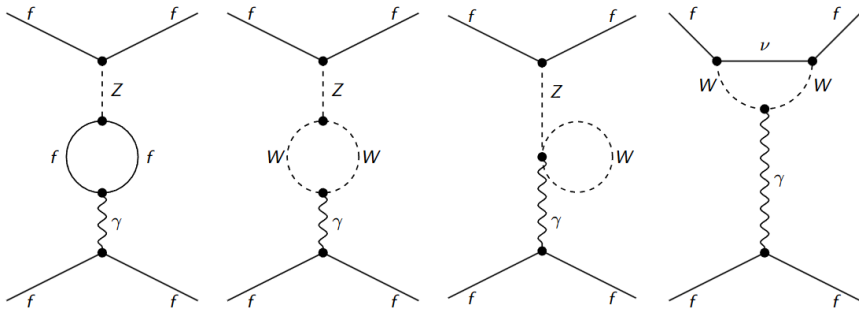
Tree level relations:

- Electric charge  $e = \sqrt{4\pi\alpha} = g_1 \cos \theta_W = g_2 \sin \theta_W$
- Masses of W and Z Boson  $\cos \theta_W = M_W / M_Z$
- Myon decay constant  $G_\mu = \frac{\pi\alpha}{\sqrt{2} \sin^2 \theta_W M_W^2}$

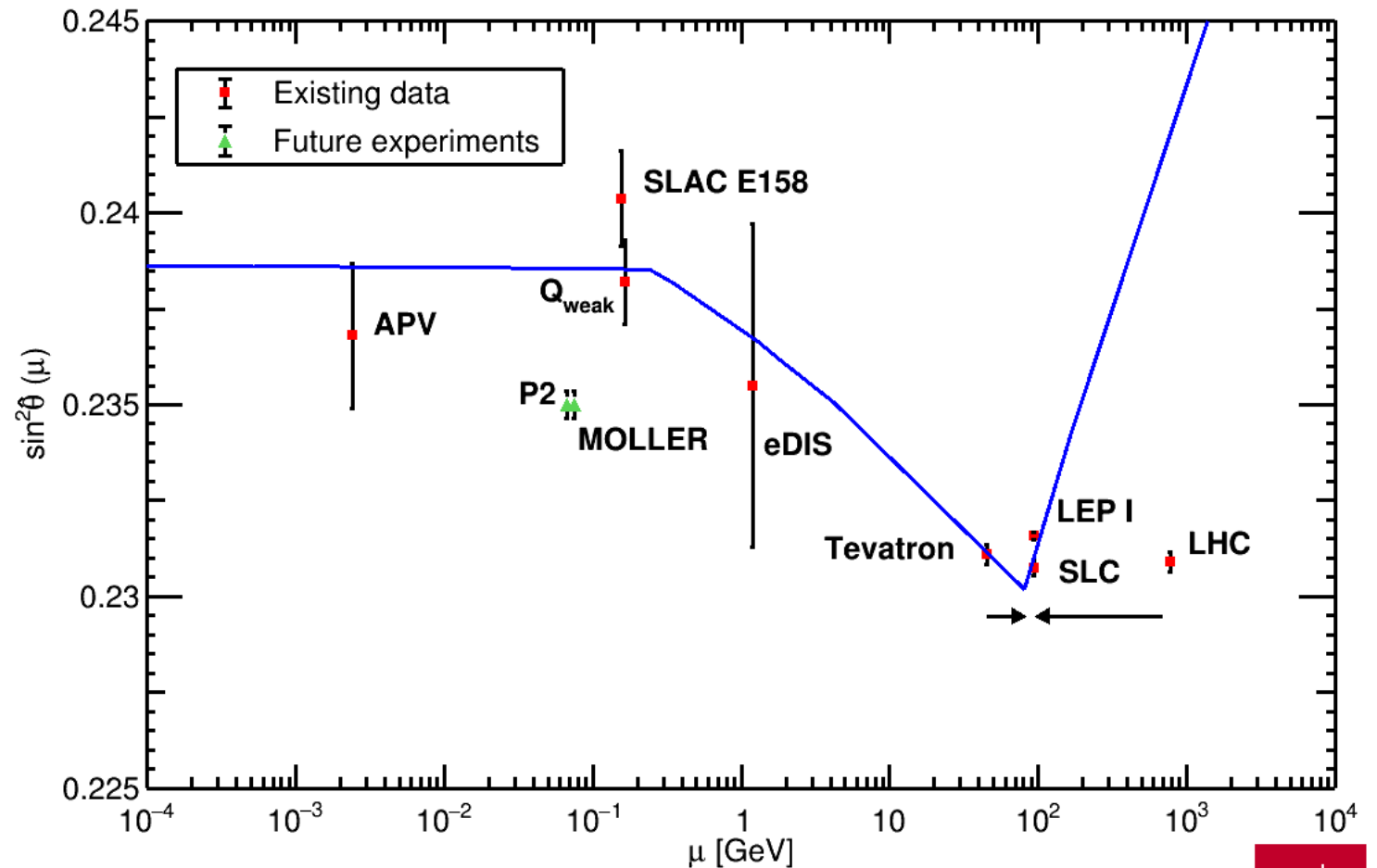
Important parameter of the Standard Model

# The running of $\sin^2\Theta_W$

- Scale dependence of  $\sin^2\Theta_W$



- Z-Pole: High precision, some tension between results
- Low Q: Large experimental uncertainties

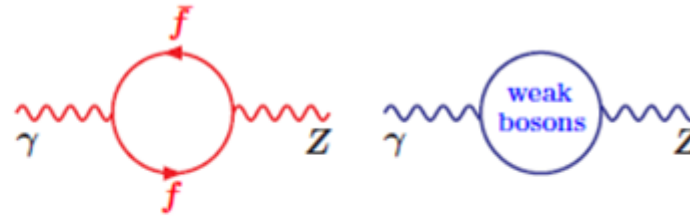


# Beyond the Standard Model

Including radiative corrections:

$$G_\mu = \frac{\pi\alpha}{\sqrt{2}\sin^2\theta_W M_W^2} (1 + \Delta r)$$

with  $\Delta r = \Delta r(\alpha, M_W, \sin\theta_W, m_{top}, M_{Higgs}, \dots)$



New physics?



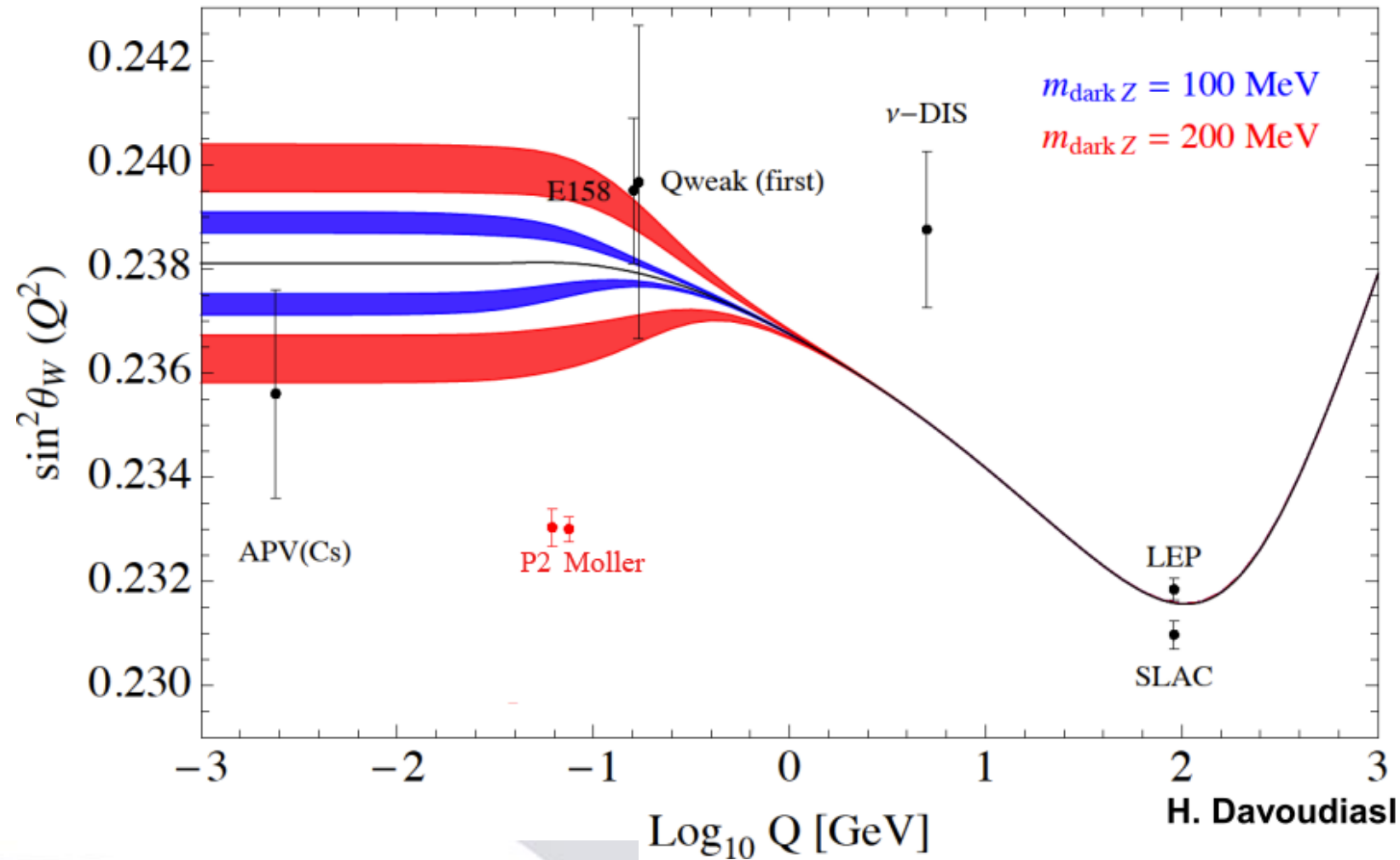
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# Example: Dark Parity Violation



H. Davoudiasl



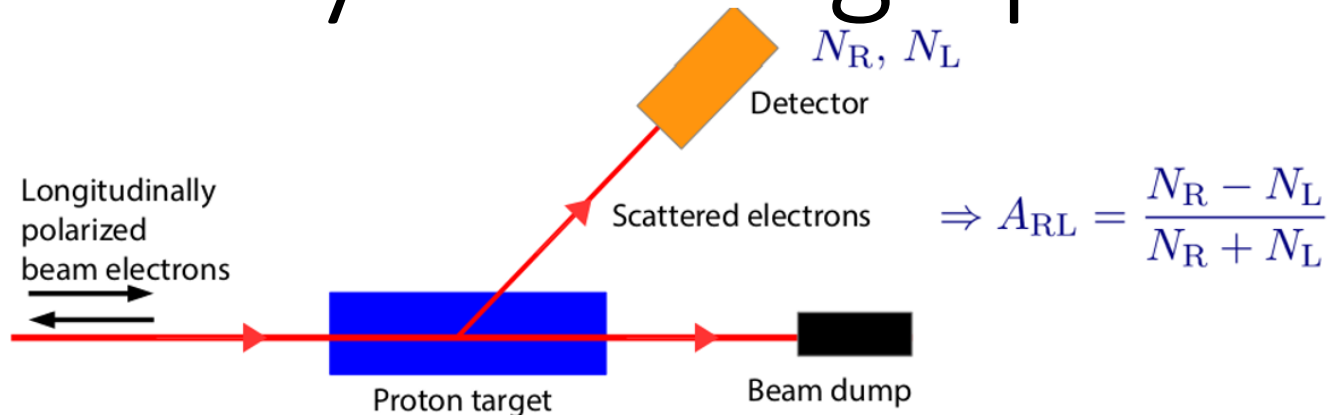
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# Parity violating ep scattering



$$\Rightarrow A_{RL} = \frac{N_R - N_L}{N_R + N_L}$$

$$A_{LR} = \frac{\sigma(e_{\downarrow}) - \sigma(e_{\uparrow})}{\sigma(e_{\downarrow}) + \sigma(e_{\uparrow})} = -\frac{G_F Q^2}{4\sqrt{2}\pi\alpha} (Q_W(\mathcal{N}) - F(Q^2))$$

The weak charge of the proton (tree level):

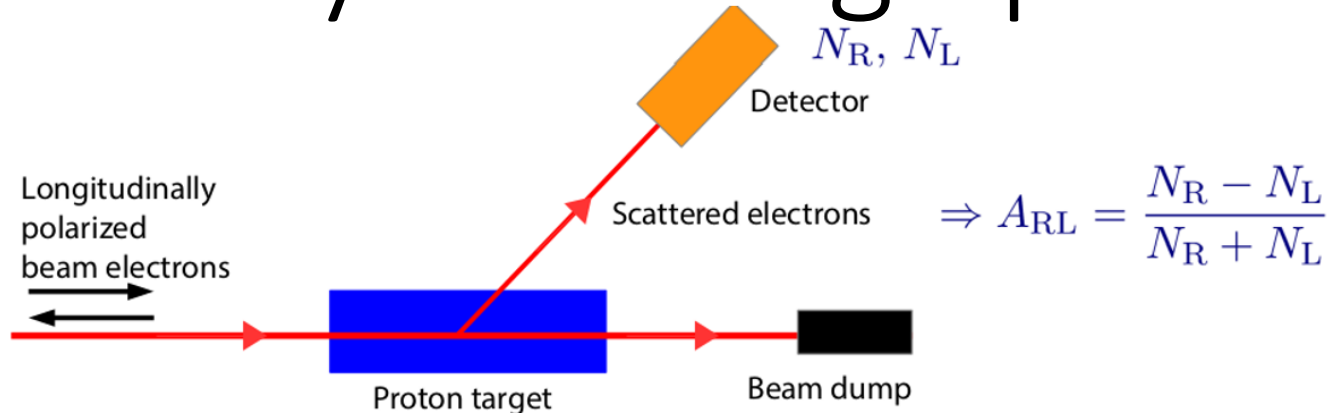
$$Q_W(p) = 1 - 4 \sin^2 \theta_W$$

$$\frac{\Delta \sin^2 \theta_W}{\sin^2 \theta_W} = \frac{1 - 4 \sin^2 \theta_W}{4 \sin^2 \theta_W} \frac{\Delta Q_W(p)}{Q_W(p)}$$



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# Parity violating ep scattering



$$A_{LR} = \frac{\sigma(e_{\downarrow}) - \sigma(e_{\uparrow})}{\sigma(e_{\downarrow}) + \sigma(e_{\uparrow})} = -\frac{G_F Q^2}{4\sqrt{2}\pi\alpha} (Q_W(\mathcal{N}) - F(Q^2))$$

The weak charge of the proton (tree level):

$$Q_W(p) = 1 - 4 \sin^2 \theta_W = \frac{1}{11}$$

$$\frac{\Delta \sin^2 \theta_W}{\sin^2 \theta_W} = \frac{1 - 4 \sin^2 \theta_W}{4 \sin^2 \theta_W} \frac{\Delta Q_W(p)}{Q_W(p)}$$

1.5% precision in  $Q_W(p)$  results in a precision of 0.13% in  $\sin^2 \theta_W$



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# Parity violating ep scattering

Asymmetry in the cross section of elastic electron-proton scattering for left- and right-handed polarized electrons

$$A_{LR} = \frac{\sigma(e_{\downarrow}) - \sigma(e_{\uparrow})}{\sigma(e_{\downarrow}) + \sigma(e_{\uparrow})} = -\frac{G_F Q^2}{4\sqrt{2}\pi\alpha} \left( Q_W(\mathcal{N}) - F(Q^2) \right)$$

The weak charge of the proton (tree level):

$$Q_W(p) = 1 - 4 \sin^2 \theta_W \rightarrow = \frac{1}{11}$$
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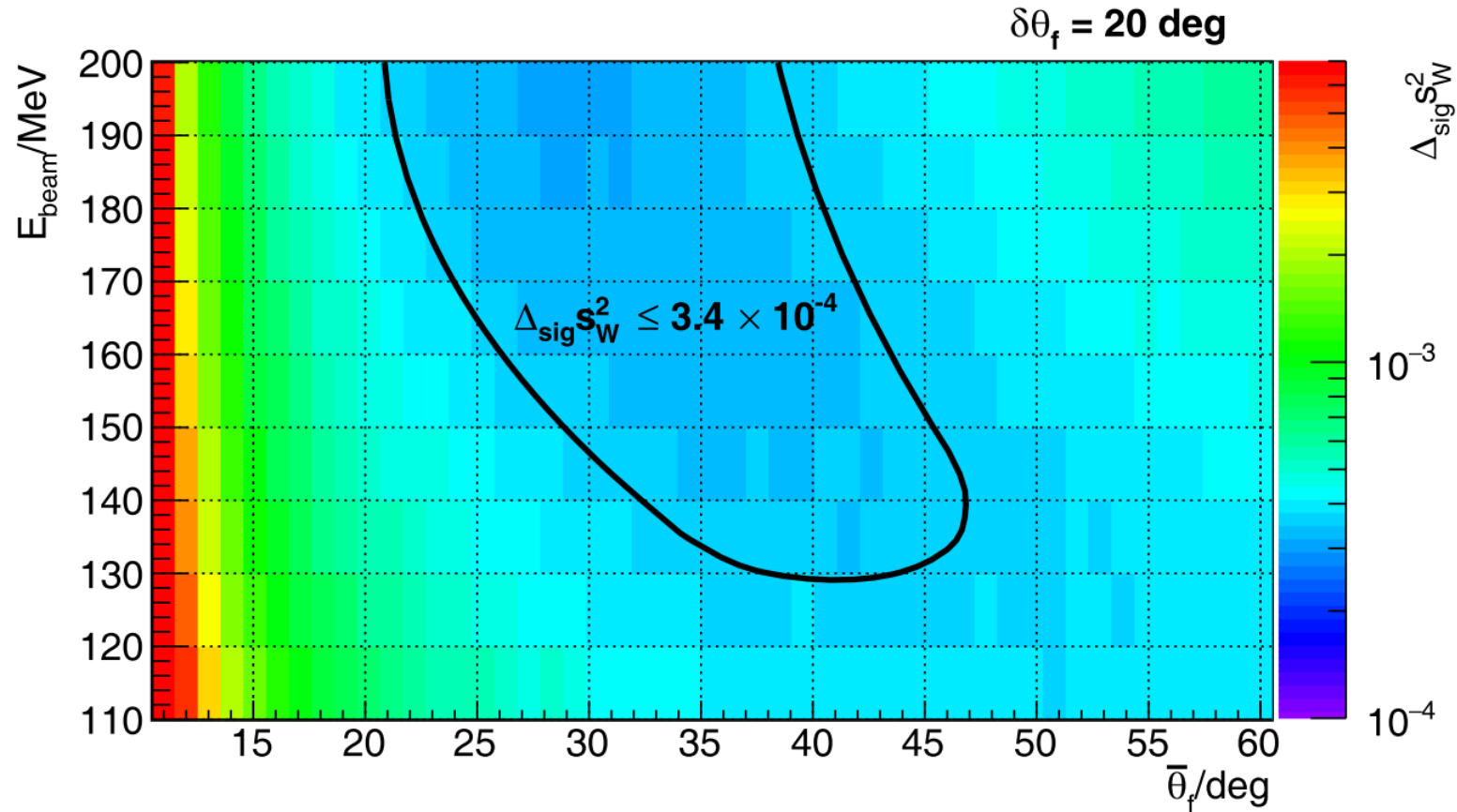
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# Precision studies

Find the best kinematics in the energy/scattering angle plane:



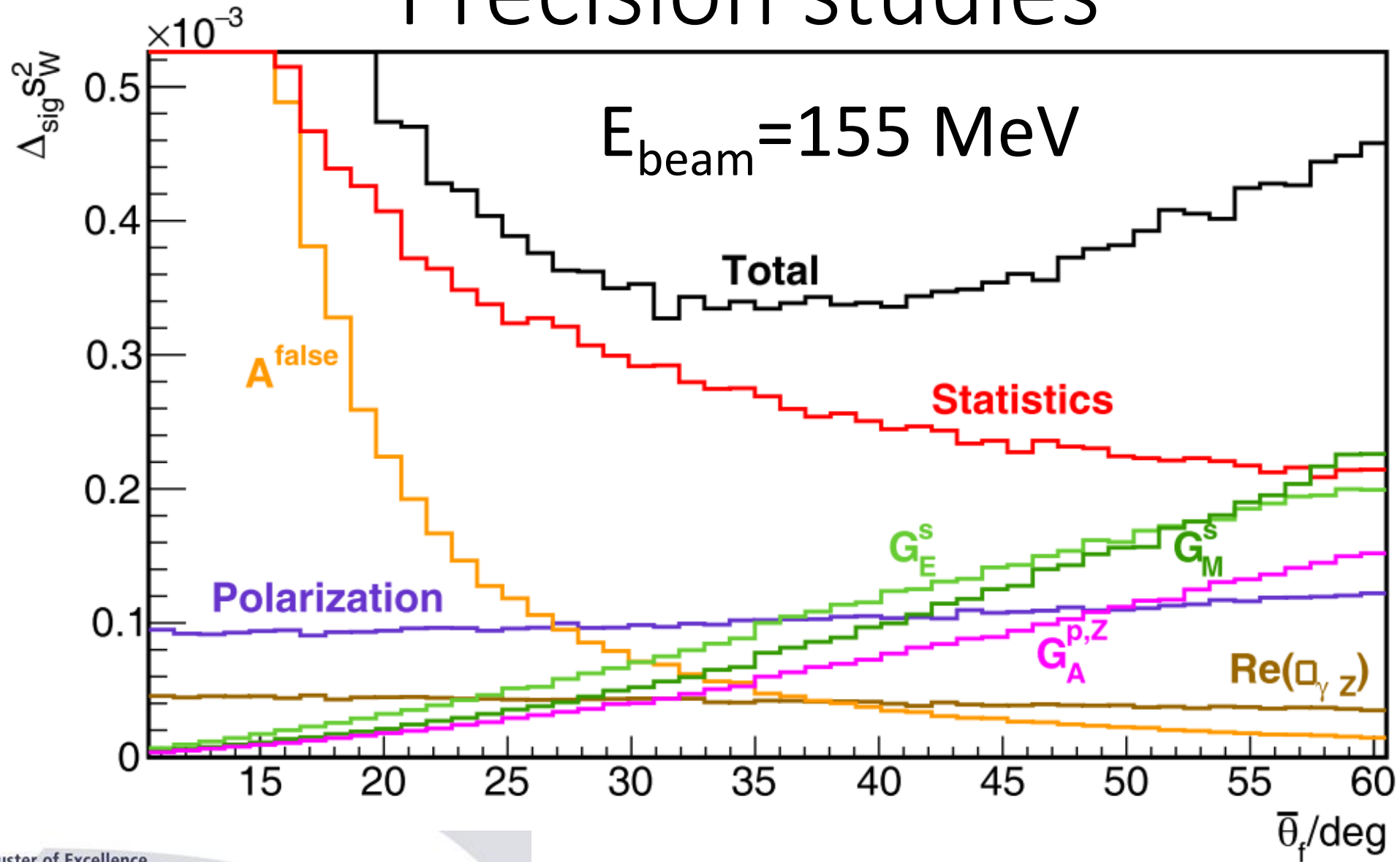
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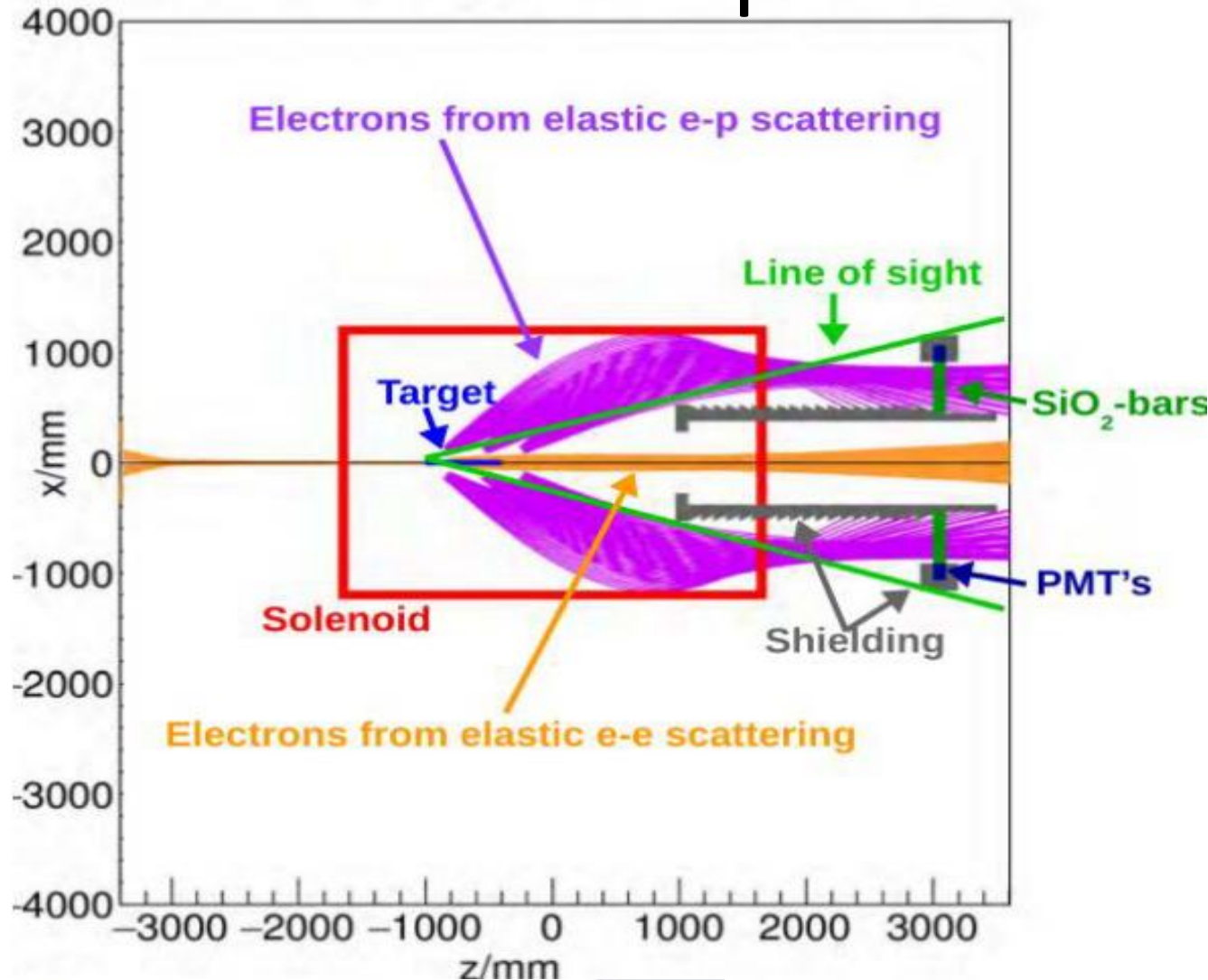


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# Precision studies



# P2 Experiment



- Electron beam,  
 $E=155$  MeV,  $I=150$   $\mu$ A
- Target: 60 cm liquid hydrogen
- Superconducting solenoid,  
 $B_{\text{max}}=0.7$  T
- Electron detection: 72 fused silica bars
- $Q^2$  determination: Tracking detector (HV-MAPS)
- Backward angle detector (Micromegas)



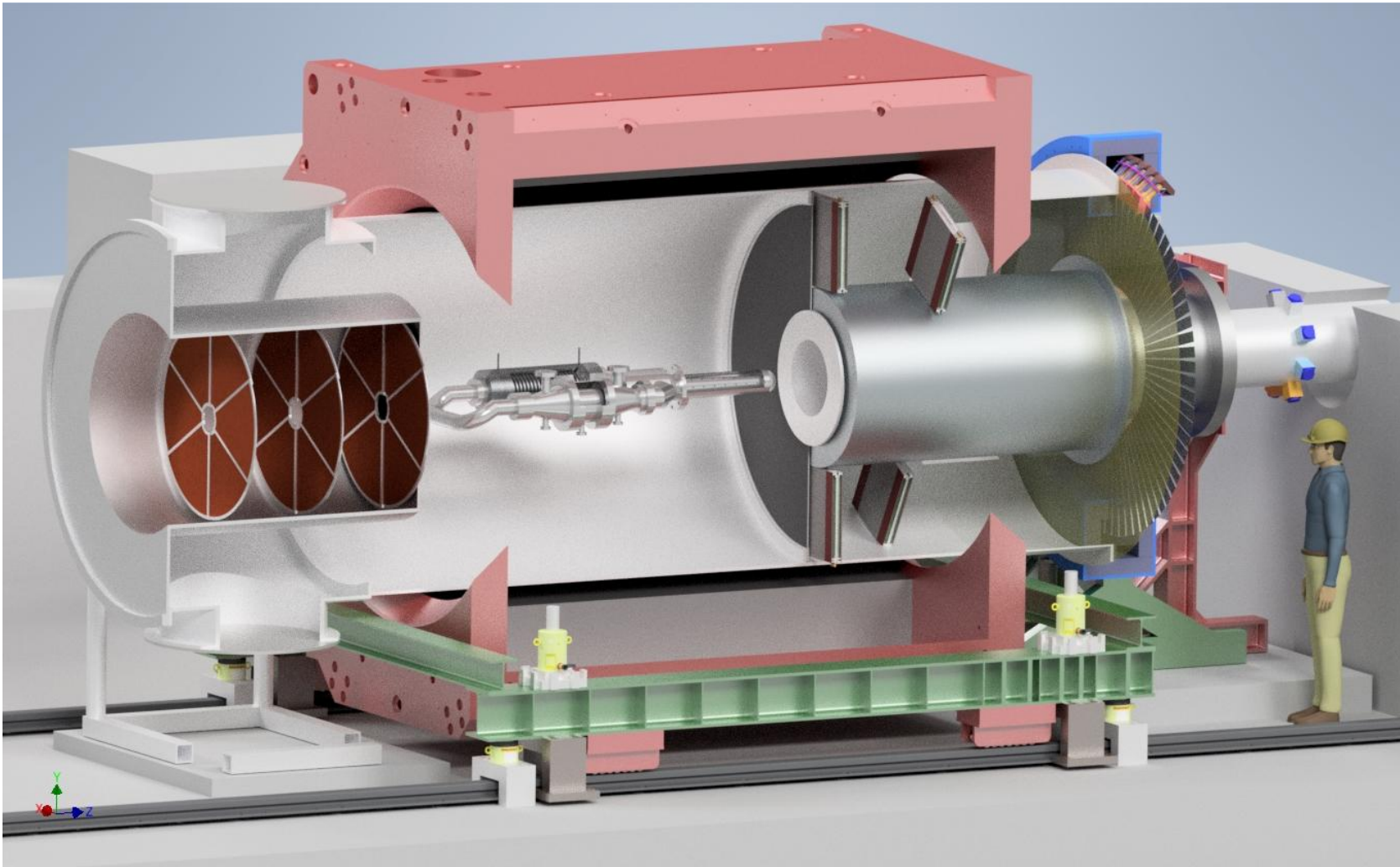
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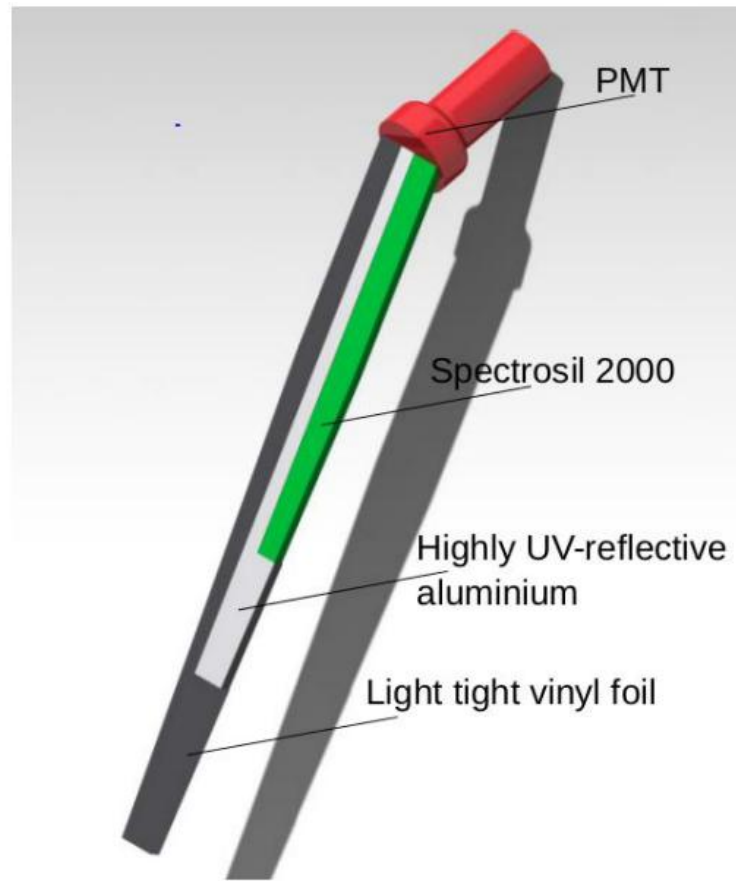
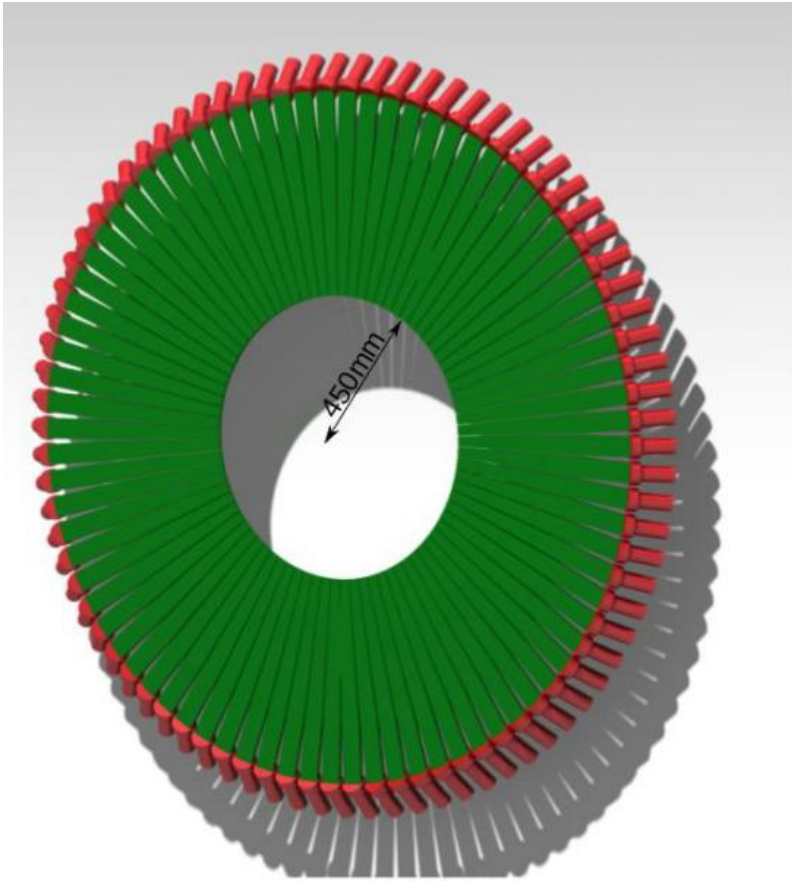
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# P2: Cherenkov detectors



- 72 detector modules
- Material: Fused silica (Spectrosil 2000, Heraeus)
- Fast, radiation hard
- Light readout by PMT (9305 QKB from ET)



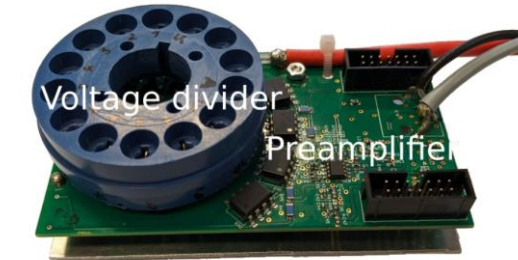
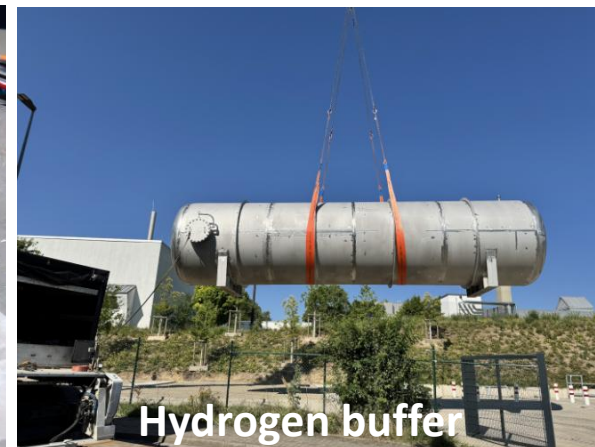
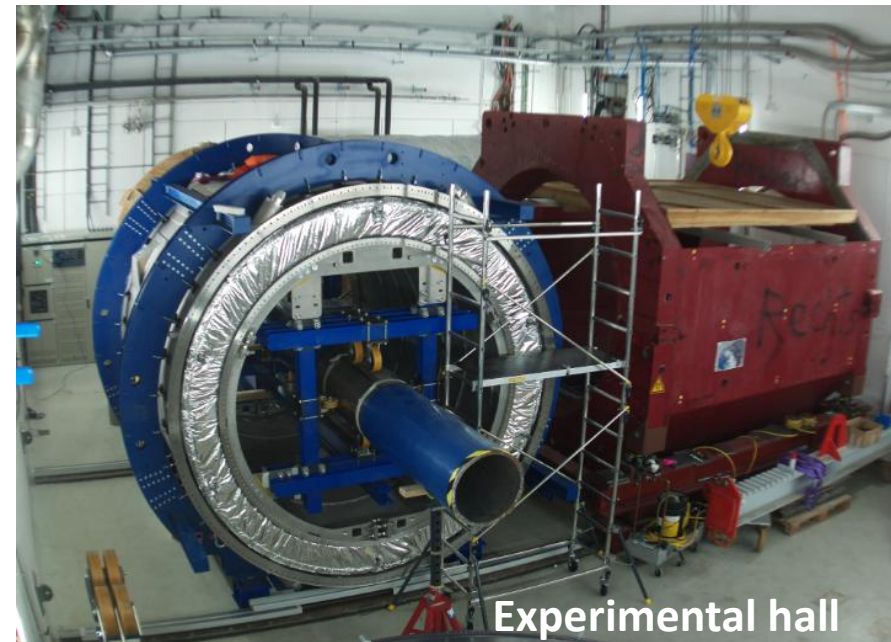
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# P2: Installation in progress



# P2: Cryogenics



Liquifier & Refrigerator hall



Transfer



Compressor hall



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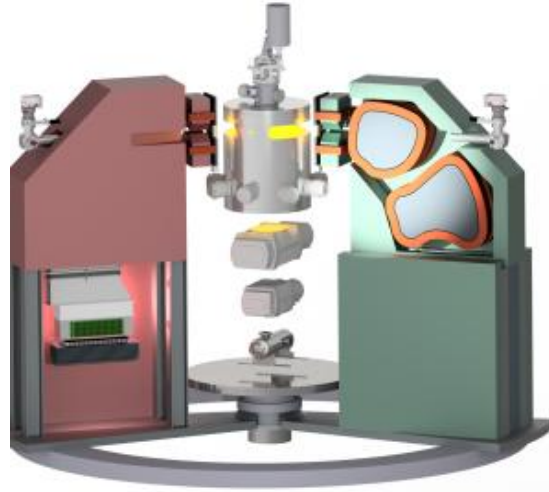
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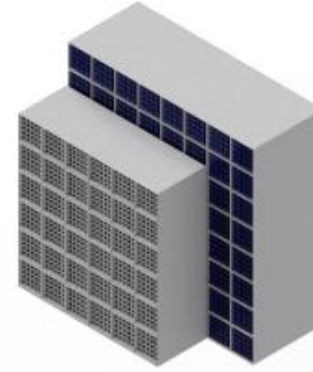
## MAGIX

- High Resolution Spectrometers
- Internal Gas Target, ERL-Mode

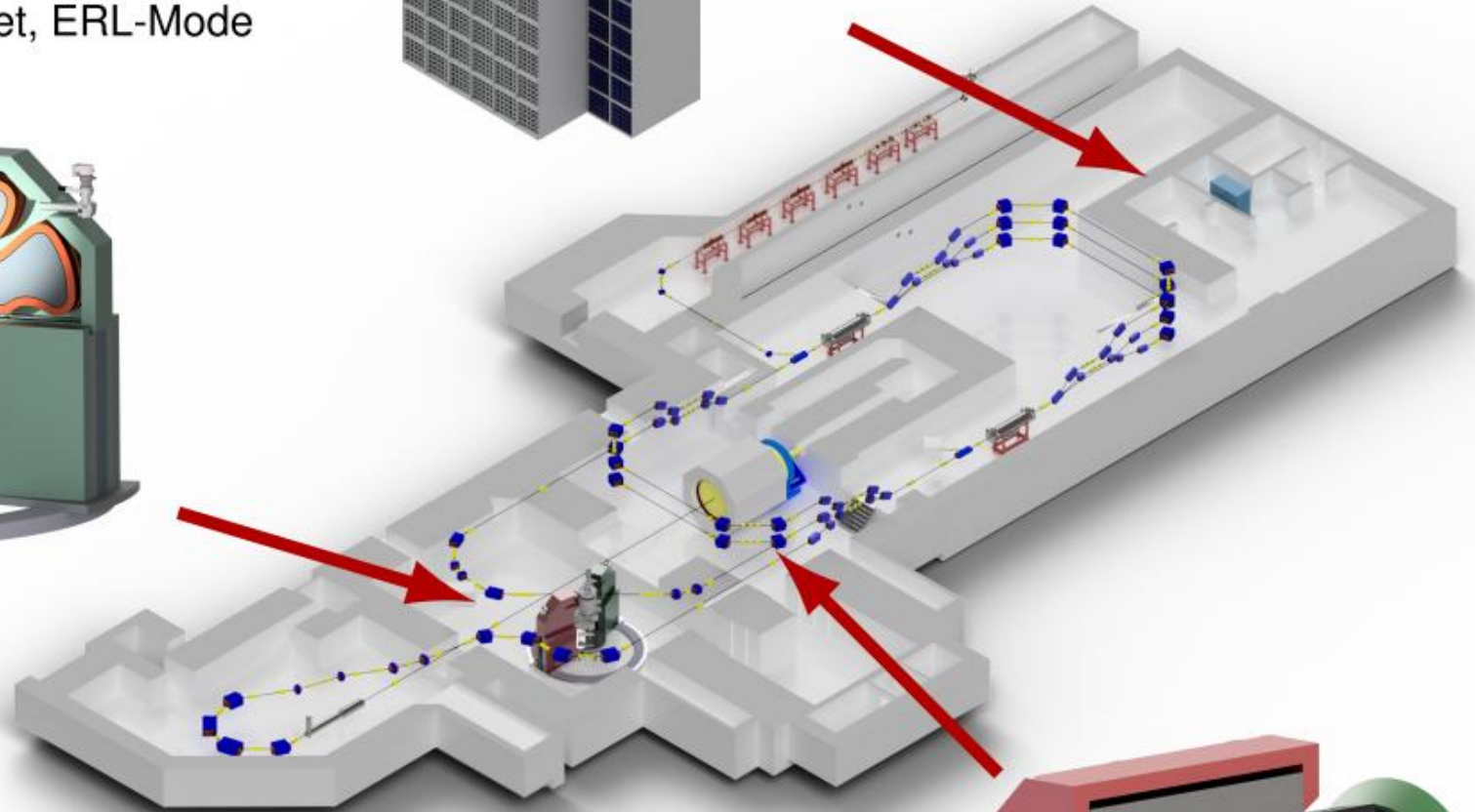


## DarkMESA

- Search for Dark Sector Particles

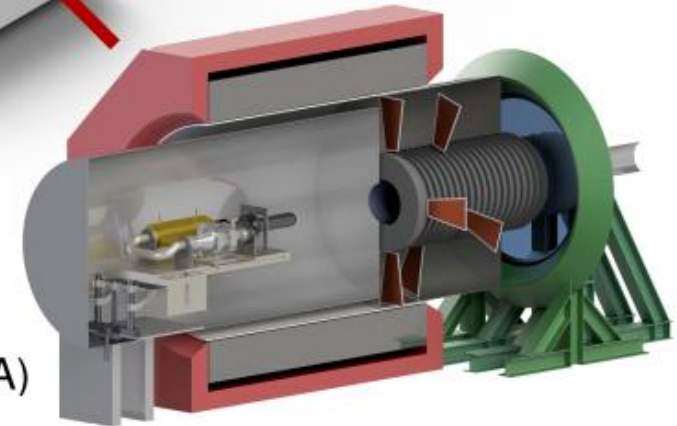


# Installation at MESA



## P2

- Parity-Violating  $\vec{e}$ -scattering
- Extracted Beam (155 MeV, 150  $\mu$ A)



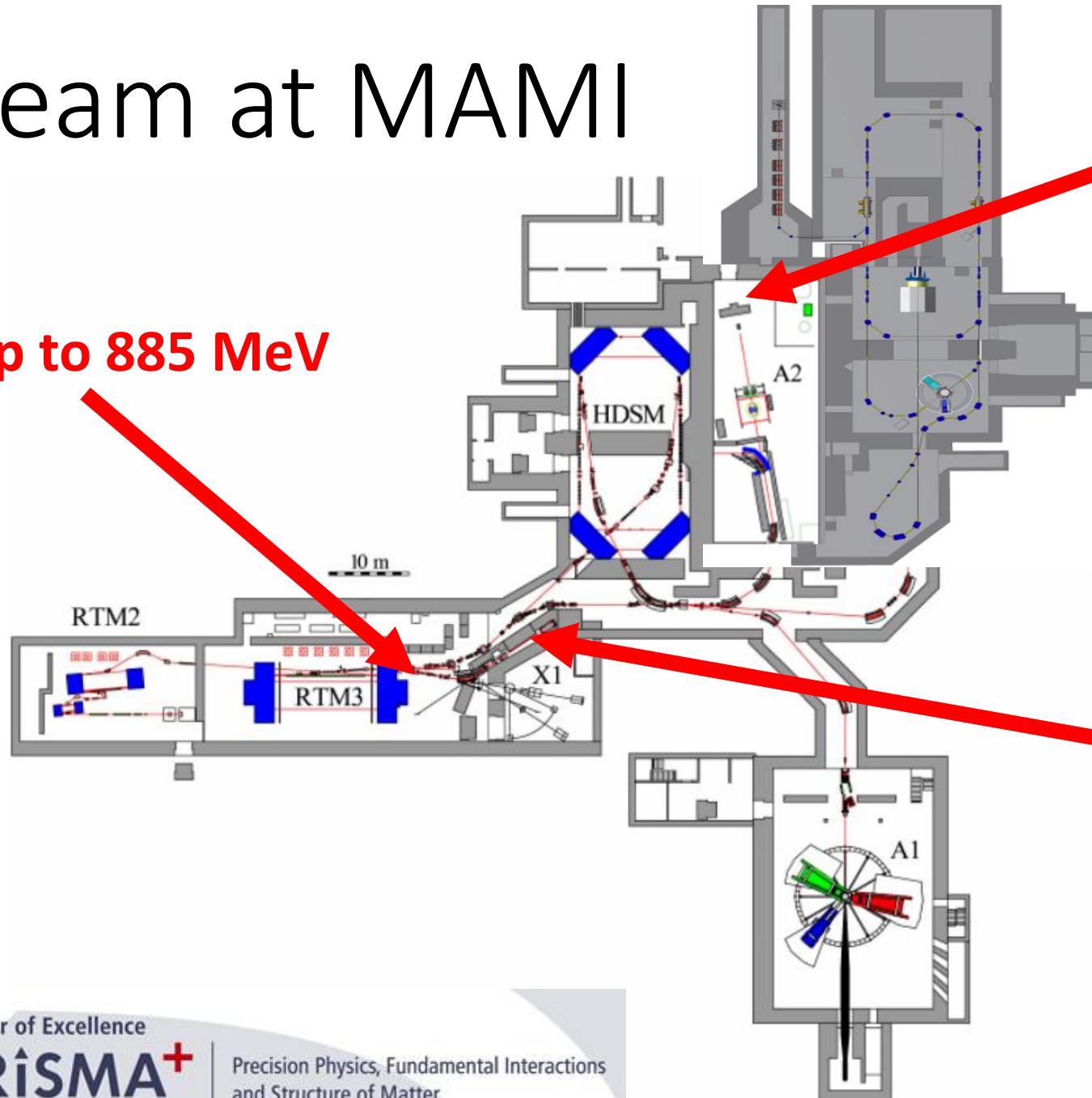
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# Test beam at MAMI

**Electrons**  
180 MeV up to 885 MeV

**Photons**  
10 MeV up to 1.6 GeV



**Radiation hardness**



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# Test with electrons



- Beam rate 1 kHz ... 10 MHz  
0.1 fA ... 1 pA
- Beam rate 0.5 GHz ... 3 GHz  
100 pA ... 0.5 nA
- Prototype testing



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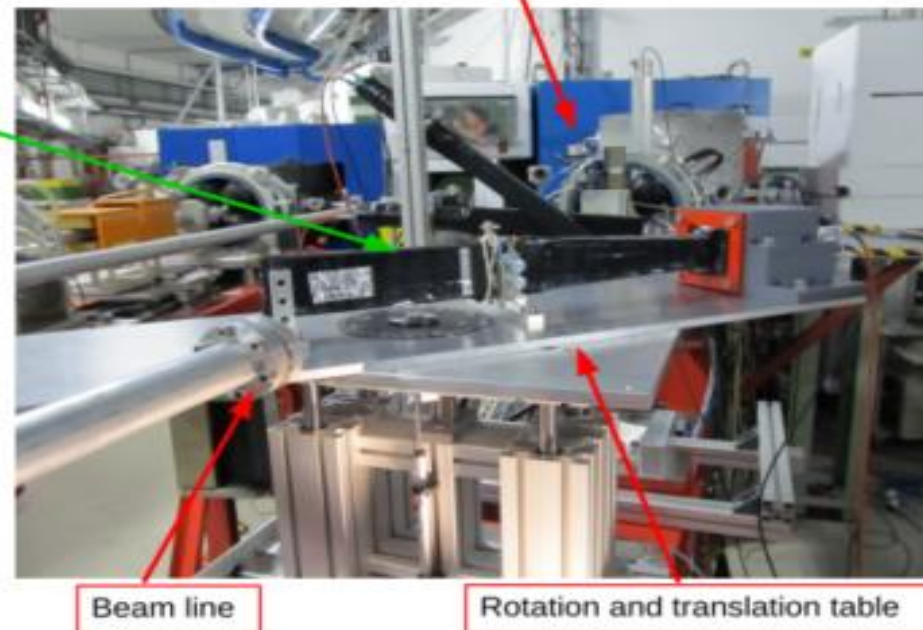
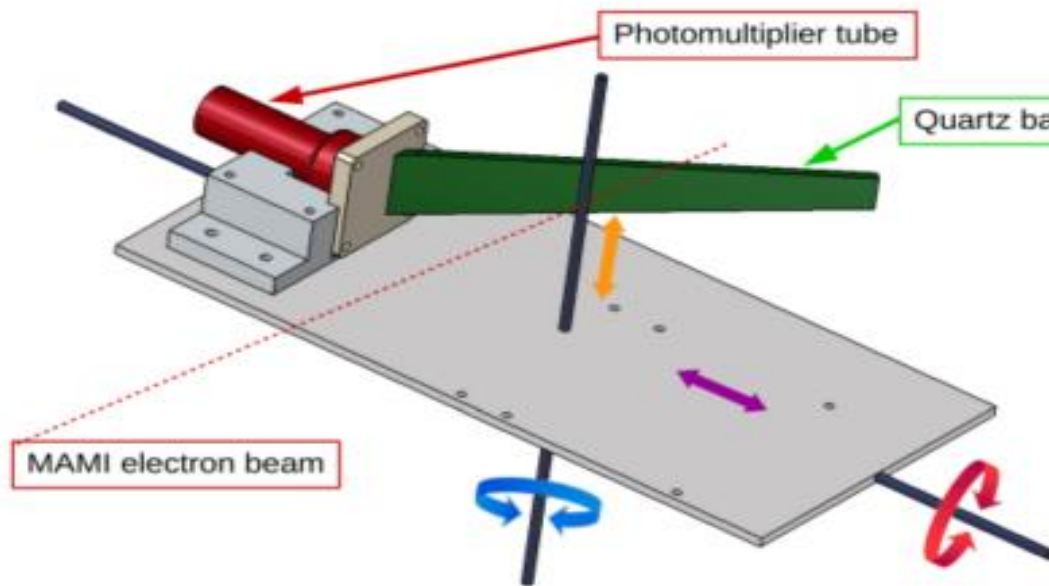
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# Test with electrons

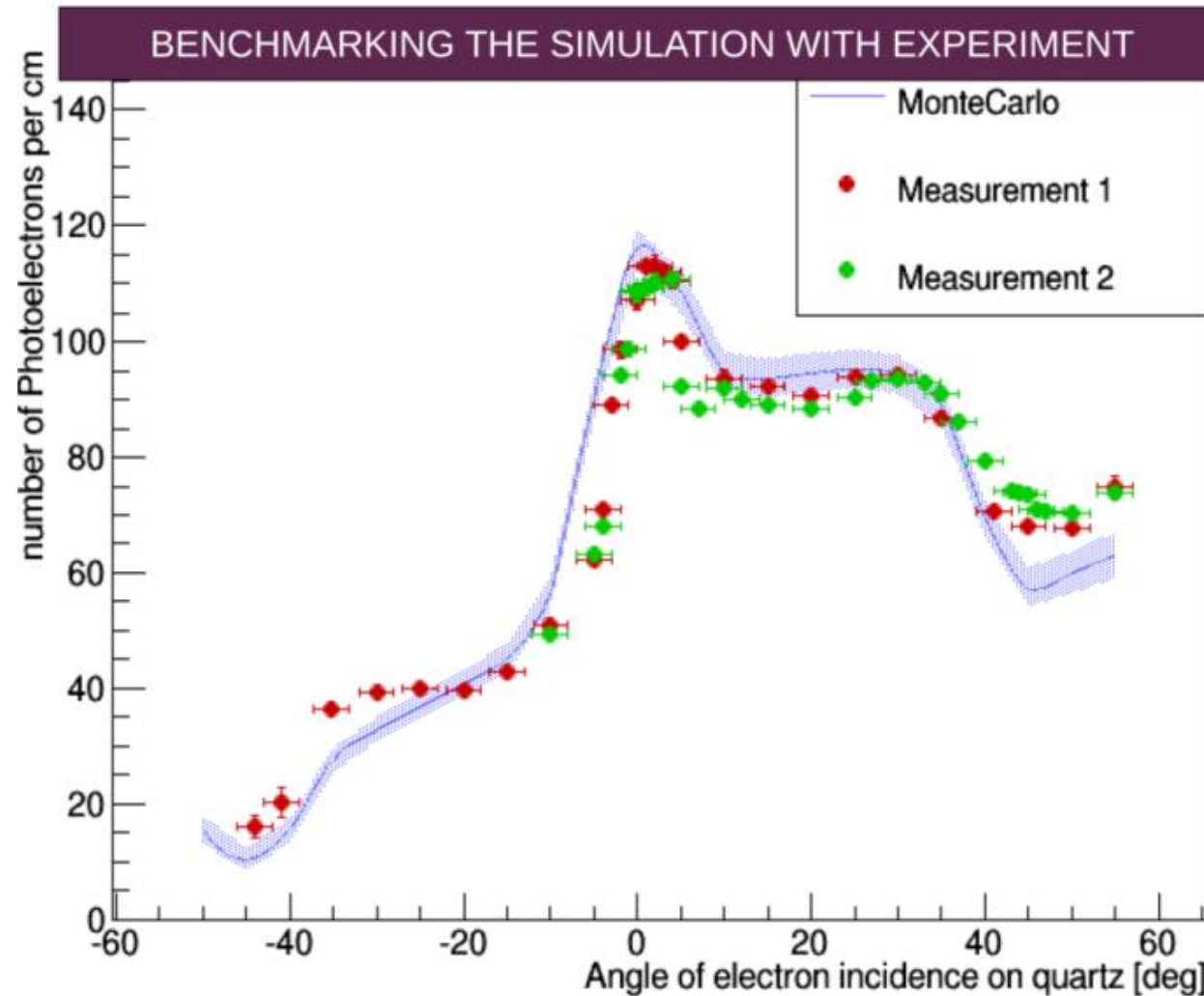
Measure detector response to electrons depending on location and angle of impact



>4000 MEASUREMENT RUNS DONE AT MAMI with different conditions:

|                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                       |
|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Angle scans</b></p> <p>PMT</p>                       | <p><b>Geometries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quartz bars 10 mm / 15 mm</li> <li>• "outlet optic": cuboid and wedged</li> <li>• Measurements with and without light guide</li> </ul> | <p><b>Quartz materials</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heraeus Suprasil 2A</li> <li>• Heraeus Spectrosil 2000</li> </ul>             |
| <p><b>Positions</b></p> <p>PMT</p> <p>90°</p> <p>+75mm</p> | <p><b>Polishes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flamepolished</li> <li>• Mechanical</li> <li>• Optical polish</li> </ul>                                                                 | <p><b>Reflective materials</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mylar</li> <li>• Alanod 4300UP</li> <li>• Millipore ImmobilonP</li> </ul> |

# Benchmarking the simulation



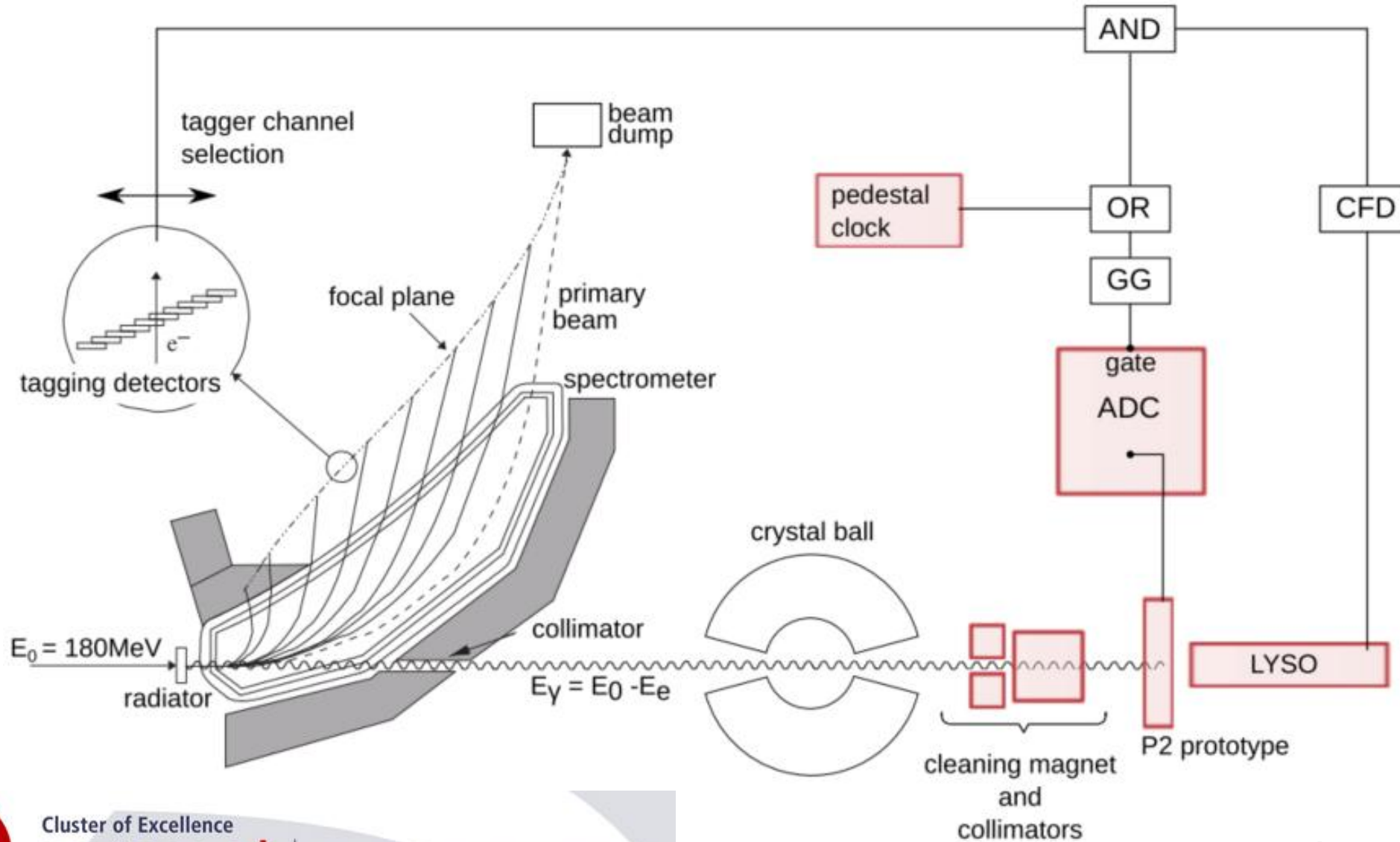
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# Tests with tagged photons



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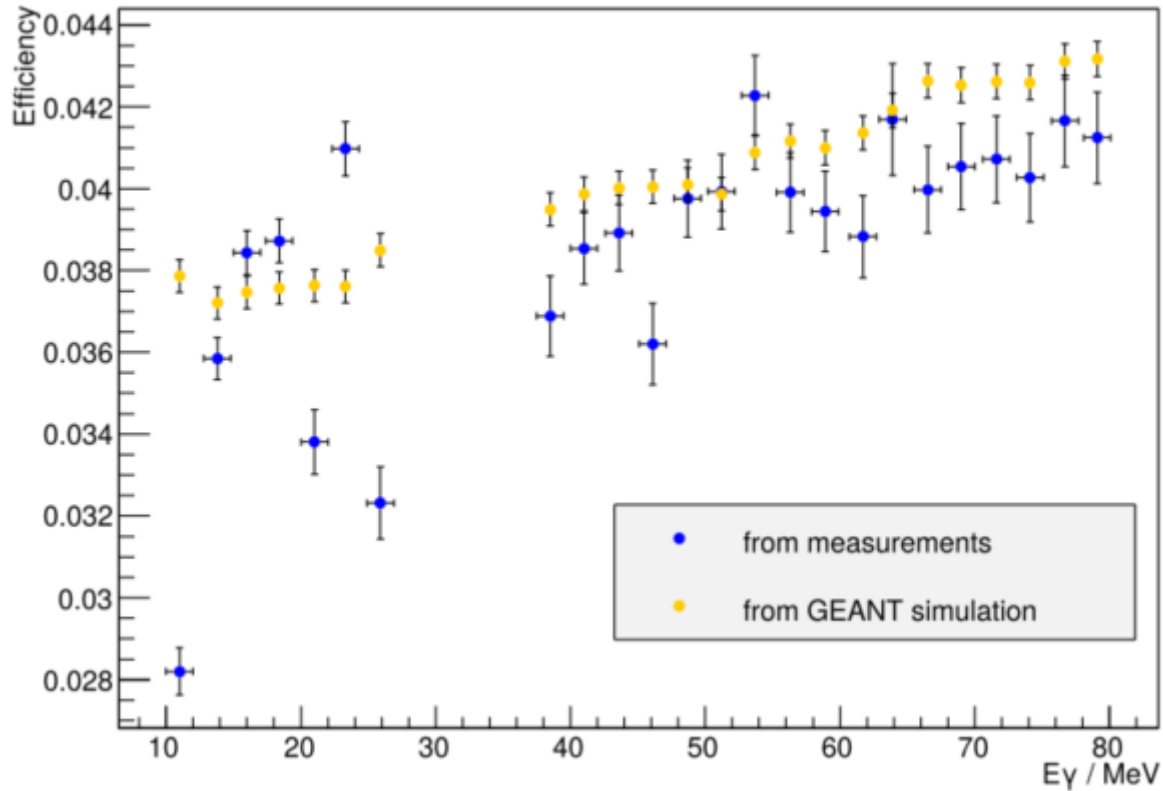
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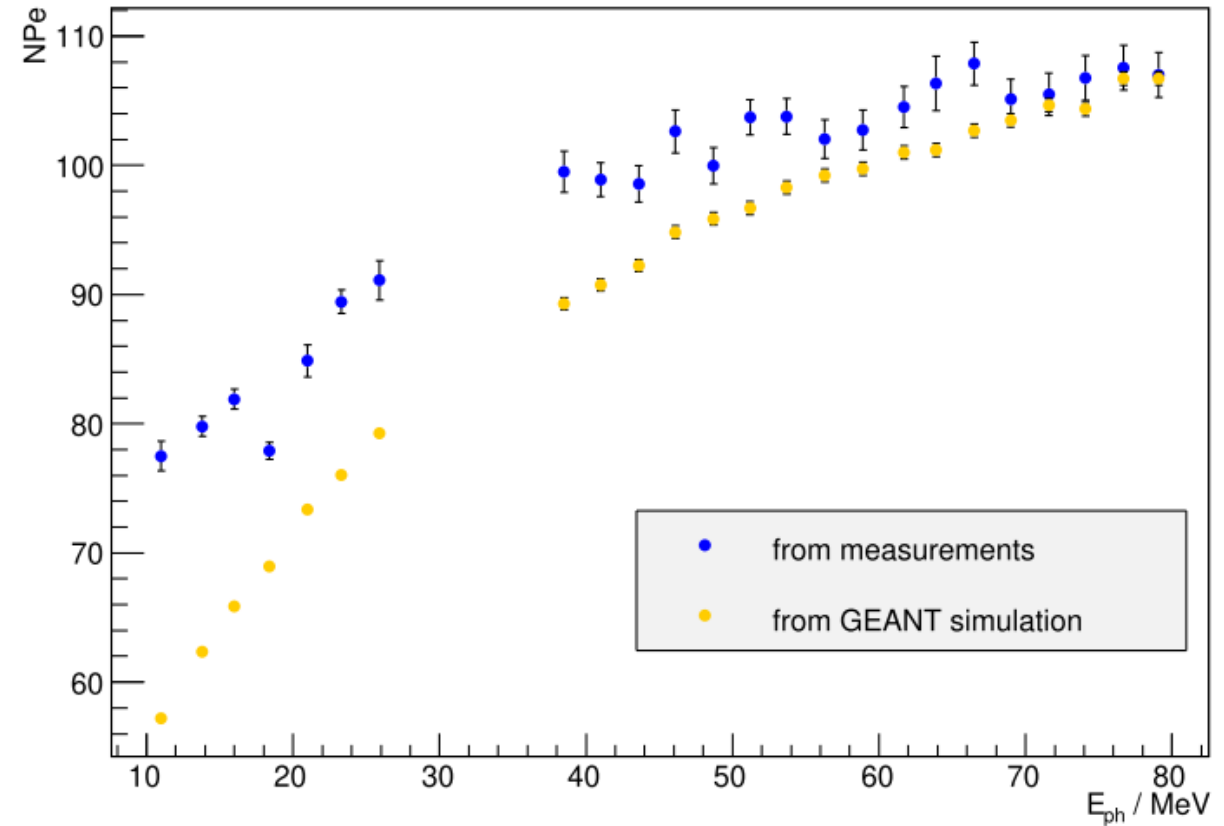
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# Tests with photons

Photon detection efficiency



Mean signal



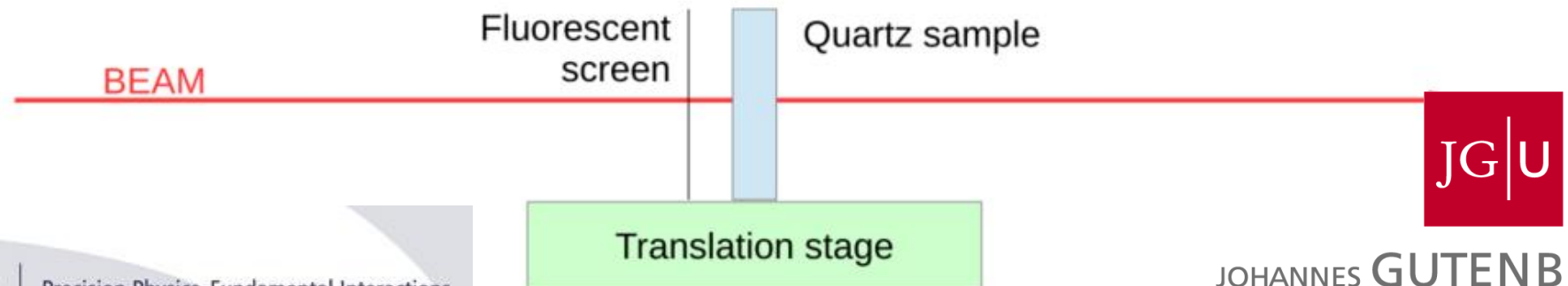
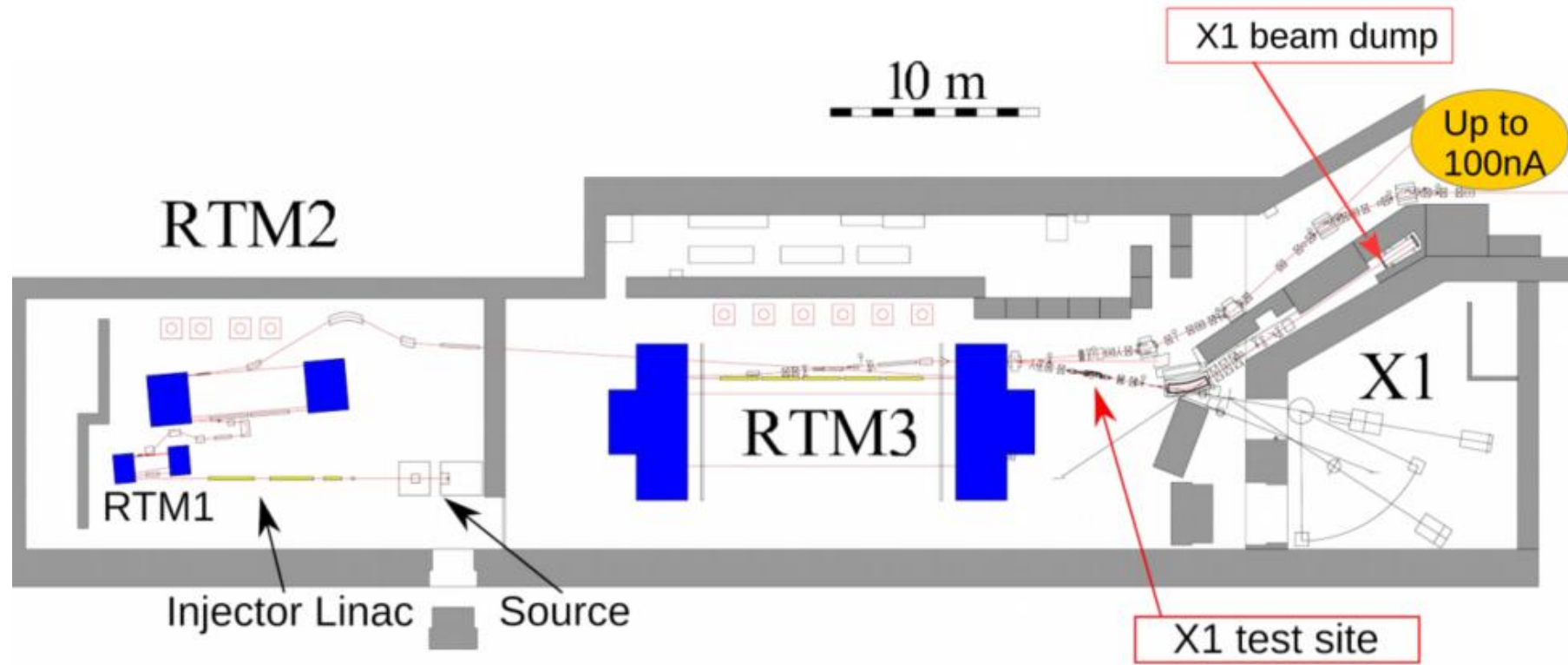
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# Radiation hardness tests



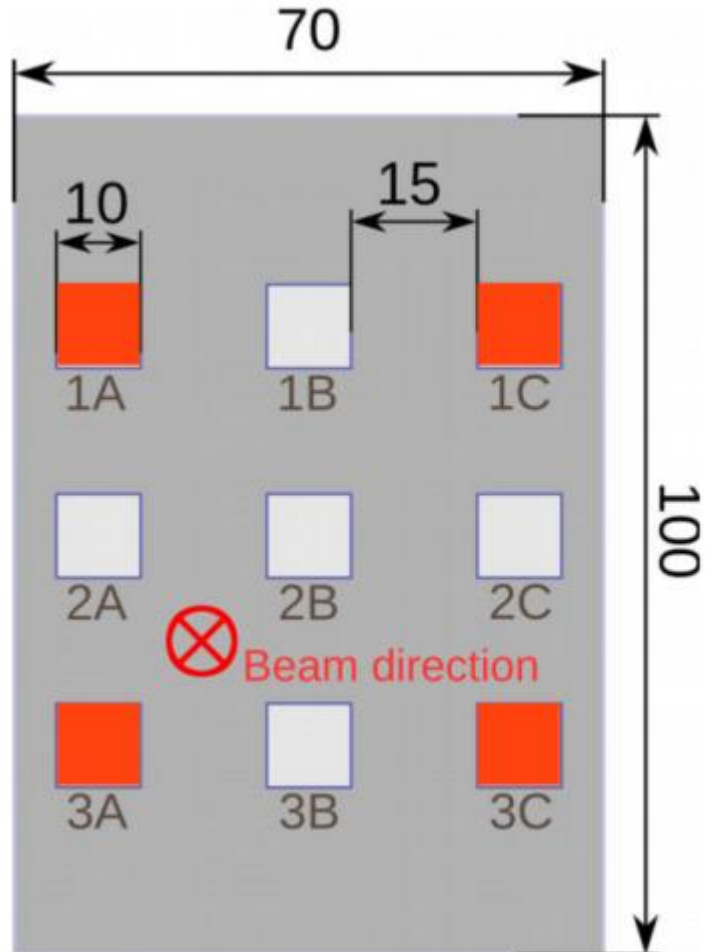
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# Radiation hardness tests

Suprasil 3A, Spectrosil 2000



Sample dimensions

Beam spot: - rastered over 1 cm x 1 cm areas  
- visible on fluorescent screen



Monitor picture in MaMi control room: Beam spot on fluorescent screen in front of quartz samples



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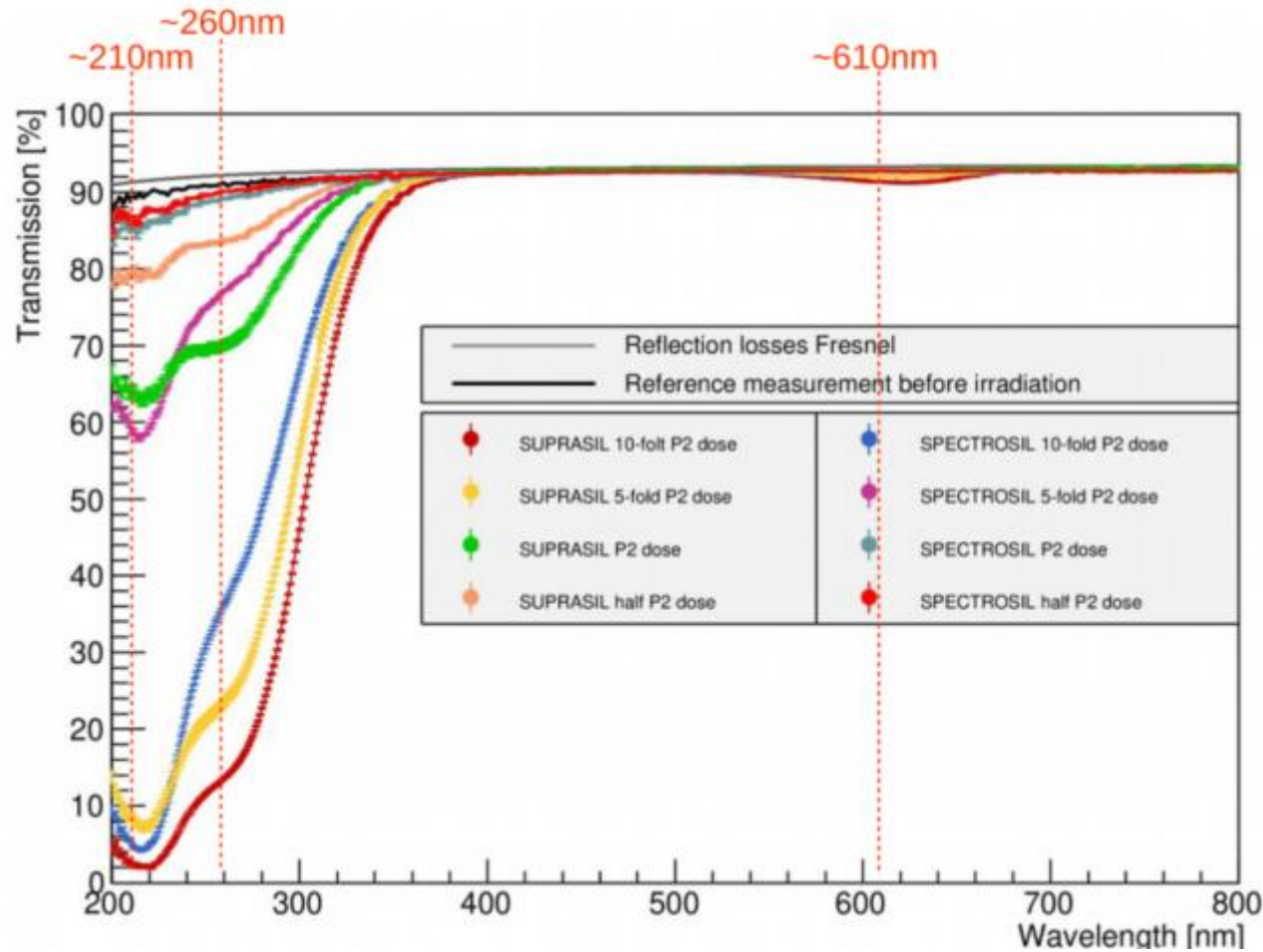
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# Radiation hardness tests

Transmission measurements of samples in spectrophotometer



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# Measurement with carbon-12

**Weak charge**  $Q_W = 2T_3 - 4Q \sin^2 \Theta_W$

Proton:  $Q_W = 1 - 4 \sin^2 \Theta_W \approx 0.07$

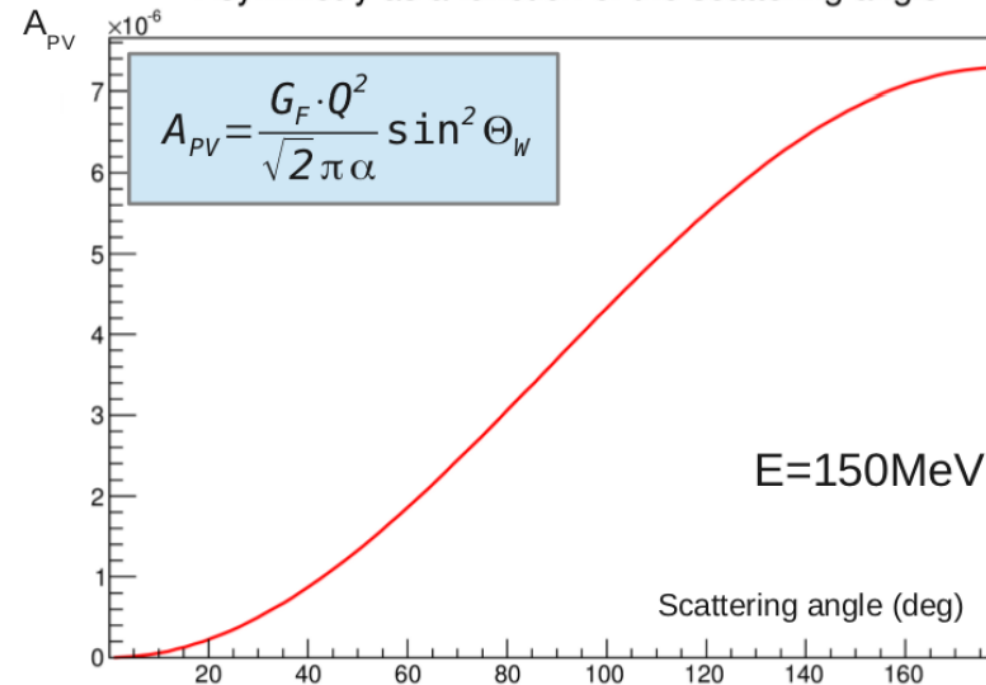
$^{12}\text{C}$ :  $Q_W = -24 \sin^2 \Theta_W \approx -5.51$

=> Large asymmetry: 400 ppb

- Complimentary sensitivity to certain classes of new physics models
- Improved beam polarization measurement required

Carbon-12: Spin 0, Isospin 0: => No magnetic form factors, electric form factors cancel out in asymmetry formula

Asymmetry as a function of the scattering angle



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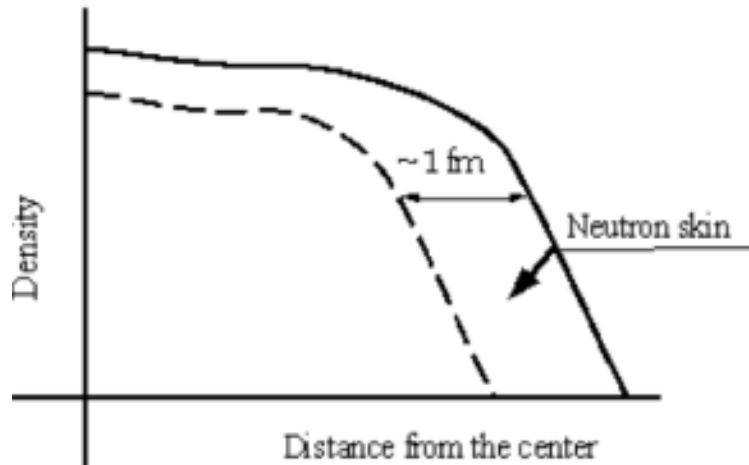
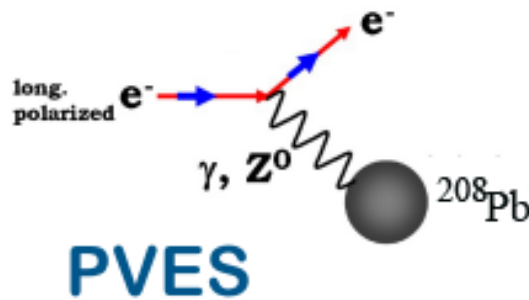
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# P2: further program

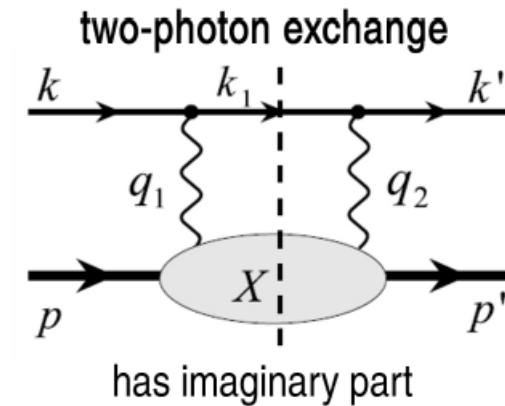
- $^{208}\text{Pb}$ : Neutron skin



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- Two photo exchange amplitude



- $^{12}\text{C}$ : Complementary sensitivity to new physics

**Weak charge**  $Q_W = 2T_3 - 4Q \sin^2 \Theta_W$

Proton:  $Q_W = 1 - 4 \sin^2 \Theta_W \approx 0.07$

$^{12}\text{C}$ :  $Q_W = -24 \sin^2 \Theta_W \approx -5.51$



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# P2: program

| P2@MESA<br>Hydrogen                                                  | P2@MESA<br>Carbon                                                                                   | P2@MESA<br>Calcium,Lead                                                   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| $A_{ep} = -28$ ppb                                                   | $A_{ec} = 416.3$ ppb                                                                                | $A_{epb} \sim 700$ ppb                                                    |
| $\Delta A_{ep} = 0.5$ ppb<br>ppb=1/VN<br>Factor 19<br>After 11,000 h | $\Delta A_{ep}^{stat} = 2.7$ ppb<br>after 300 h<br>$\Delta A_{ep}^{stat} = 0.9$ ppb<br>after 2500 h | MREX will improve<br>the neutron skin<br>thickness by a<br>factor of two. |
| $\Delta A_{ep}/A_{ep} = 1.8$ %                                       | $\Delta A_{ep}/A_{ep}^{stat} =$<br>0.6 % (0.2 %)<br>Polarimetry!                                    | In addition<br>measurements of<br>transverse<br>asymmetries               |
| $\Delta \sin^2 \theta_W / \sin^2 \theta_W =$<br>0.15 %               | $\Delta \sin^2 \theta_W / \sin^2 \theta_W = 0.6$<br>% (0.3%)                                        | Two-Photon<br>exchange<br>amplitude                                       |
| Aux. measurement<br>backward angle                                   | Aux. measurement<br>backward angle                                                                  |                                                                           |



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# Outline

- Accelerator facilities MAMI/MESA
- Beam Normal Single Spin asymmetries
  - BNSA with hydrogen target (A4 collaboration)
  - BNSA with heavier nuclei (A1 collaboration)
- P2 Experiment
  - Search for new physics: precision determination of  $\sin^2\Theta_W$
  - Present status
- **Spin asymmetries at MAGIX**



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# Sherman function of nuclear resonances

- MESA beam energies and MAGIX spectrometers ideal for measuring low-energy nuclear resonances
- Resonances can constrain bulk nuclear properties
  - Possible correlation between dipole response (e.g., giant, pygmy dipole resonances) and neutron skin thickness  $R_{np}$ ?
- Low-lying inelastic states background to  $R_{np}$  measurements with elastic parity-violating electron scattering (e.g. CREX, MREX)
- Polarized electron scattering observables contain additional sensitivity to structure of inelastic states
  - Sherman function (or analyzing power): transverse (vertical) spin asymmetry

$$S = \frac{\sigma^{\uparrow} - \sigma^{\downarrow}}{\sigma^{\uparrow} + \sigma^{\downarrow}}$$

- Accessible at MAGIX with polarized MESA beam

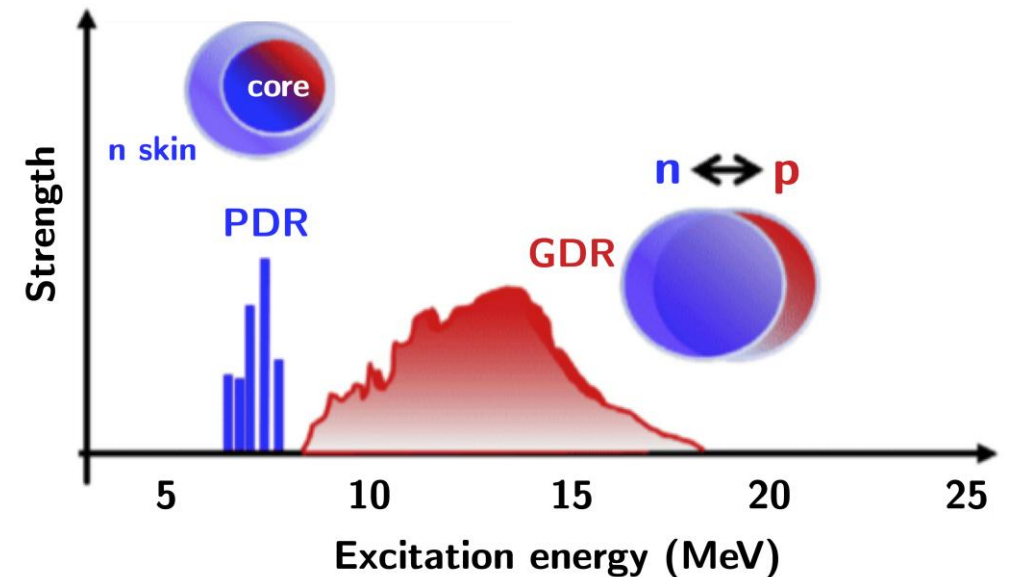


Figure adapted from [Prog. Part. Nuc. Phys. 106, 360 \(2019\)](#)

# Summary and outlook

- MAMI: Measurement of BNSA for various nuclei
- MESA-P2: High precision determination of  $\sin^2\Theta_W$  at low  $Q^2$ 
  - Search for BSM physics
  - Extensive detector R&D
  - Start of measurements: Q4/2026
- MESA-MAGIX: Spin asymmetries for giant dipol resonances

# Precision studies

The parity violating asymmetry can be written as

$$A^{\text{PV}} = \frac{-G_{\text{F}}Q^2}{4\pi\alpha_{\text{em}}\sqrt{2}} [Q_{\text{W}}(\text{p}) - F(E_{\text{i}}, Q^2)]$$

with the form factor contribution

$$F(E_{\text{i}}, Q^2) \equiv F^{\text{EM}}(E_{\text{i}}, Q^2) + F^{\text{A}}(E_{\text{i}}, Q^2) + F^{\text{S}}(E_{\text{i}}, Q^2)$$

with

$$F^{\text{EM}}(E_{\text{i}}, Q^2) \equiv \frac{\epsilon G_{\text{E}}^{\text{p},\gamma} G_{\text{E}}^{\text{n},\gamma} + \tau G_{\text{M}}^{\text{p},\gamma} G_{\text{M}}^{\text{n},\gamma}}{\epsilon (G_{\text{E}}^{\text{p},\gamma})^2 + \tau (G_{\text{M}}^{\text{p},\gamma})^2}$$

Electromagnetic FF

$$F^{\text{A}}(Q^2) \equiv \frac{(1 - 4 \sin^2 \theta_{\text{W}}) \sqrt{1 - \epsilon^2} \sqrt{\tau(1 - \tau)} G_{\text{M}}^{\text{p},\gamma} G_{\text{A}}^{\text{p},\text{Z}}}{\epsilon (G_{\text{E}}^{\text{p},\gamma})^2 + \tau (G_{\text{M}}^{\text{p},\gamma})^2}$$

Effective axial FF

$$F^{\text{S}}(E_{\text{i}}, Q^2) \equiv \frac{\epsilon G_{\text{E}}^{\text{p},\gamma} G_{\text{E}}^{\text{s}} + \tau G_{\text{M}}^{\text{p},\gamma} G_{\text{M}}^{\text{s}}}{\epsilon (G_{\text{E}}^{\text{p},\gamma})^2 + \tau (G_{\text{M}}^{\text{p},\gamma})^2} + \frac{\epsilon G_{\text{E}}^{\text{p},\gamma} G_{\text{E}}^{\text{u,d}} + \tau G_{\text{M}}^{\text{p},\gamma} G_{\text{M}}^{\text{u,d}}}{\epsilon (G_{\text{E}}^{\text{p},\gamma})^2 + \tau (G_{\text{M}}^{\text{p},\gamma})^2}$$

Strangeness FF

