



Neutron Optical Parity and Time Reversal EXperiment

Experimental Study of Parity and Time-Reversal Symmetries in Polarized Epithermal Neutron Optics

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The parity violating effects in nuclear interactions is extremely enhanced in resonant neutron absorption processes via compound nuclear states for some of medium-heavy nuclei. The enhancement is explained as a result of the interference between parity-unfavored partial amplitudes of the compound nuclear process, which is referred to as "s-p mixing". The "s-p mixing" is expected to enhance the visibility of the effect of the breaking of both parity and time-reversal symmetry (P-odd T-odd). Based on these considerations, an experimental approach to search for the P-odd T-odd effects to activate a novel type of new physics search beyond the standard model is in progress using the pulsed neutron beam from the pulsed spallation neutron source of Japan Proton Accelerator Research Complex (J-PARC) under the collaboration "Neutron Optical Parity and Time-Reversal Experiment (NOPTREX)" as the program number J-PARC E99. P-odd T-odd effects will be studied in neutron optics in which fake T-violating effects can be controlled, with the enhanced sensitivity biased to chromo-EDM. We discuss the studies of the "s-p mixing" in $^{139}\text{La}(\text{n},\gamma)^{140}\text{La}$ and the plan of T-violation search with polarized lanthanum target

Introduction of Neutron Fundamental Physics in Japan

History of Universe

neutron category	phenomena
ultracold	electric dipole moment
near epithermal	T-violating correlations
ultracold neutrino	neutron antineutron oscillation neutrino physics double beta-decay neutrino oscillation
cold	neutron interference neutron scattering neutron diffraction (neutron gravitational antenna)
very cold	

symmetry

CP symmetry
time reversal symmetry

origin of matter and spacetime

Accelerators:
CERN-LHC
FNAL-Tevatron
BNL-RHIC
CERN-LEP
SLAC-SLC

high-energy cosmic rays
indirect study with precision measurement
direct study using accelerators

Tn

conservation law

baryon number conservation

B,L

lepton number conservation

B-L

gravity → spacetime

general relativity

short-range gravity (fifth forces)

primordial gravitational waves



History of Universe

neutron category	phenomena
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ultracold neutrino	neutron antineutron oscillation neutrino physics double beta-decay neutrino oscillation
cold	neutron interference neutron scattering neutron diffraction (neutron gravitational antenna)
very cold	
cold, very cold	neutron interference
medium epithermal	
far epithermal, fast	nuclear reactions

symmetry

CP symmetry
time reversal symmetry

origin of matter and spacetime

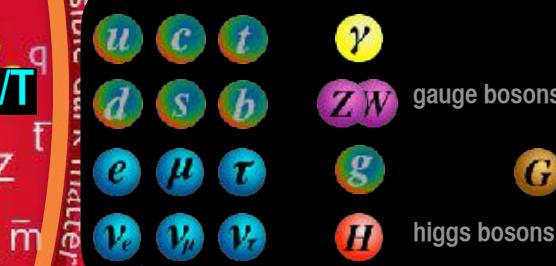
Accelerators:
CERN-NA3
FNAL-Tevatron
BNL-RHIC
CERN-LEP
ISLAC-SLC

high-energy cosmic rays
indirect study with precision measurement
direct study using accelerators
 T_n

conservation law

baryon number conservation

lepton number conservation



CP/T

gravity → spacetime

general relativity

short-range gravity (fifth forces)

primordial gravitational waves



accelerated expansion

nucleosynthesis

nuclear engineer

J-PARC

Japan Proton
Accelerator
Research
Complex

Materials and Life Science
Experimental Facility

Hadron Beam Facility

Nuclear
Transmutation

500 m

Neutrino to
Kamiokande

Linac
(330m)

3 GeV Synchrotron
(25 Hz, 1MW)

50 GeV Synchrotron
(0.75 MW)

J-PARC = Japan Proton Accelerator Research Complex

Joint Project between KEK and JAEA



J-PARC

Japan Proton
Accelerator
Research
Complex

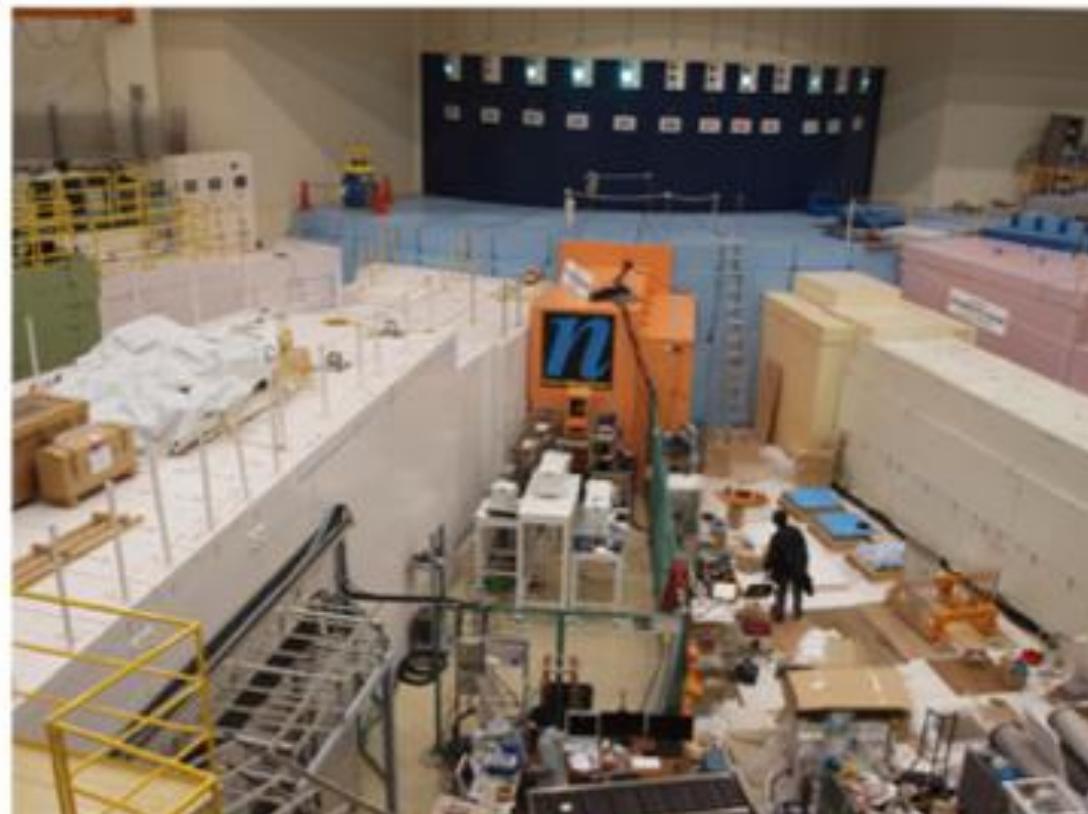
Materials and Life Science
Experimental Facility

Hadron Beam Facility

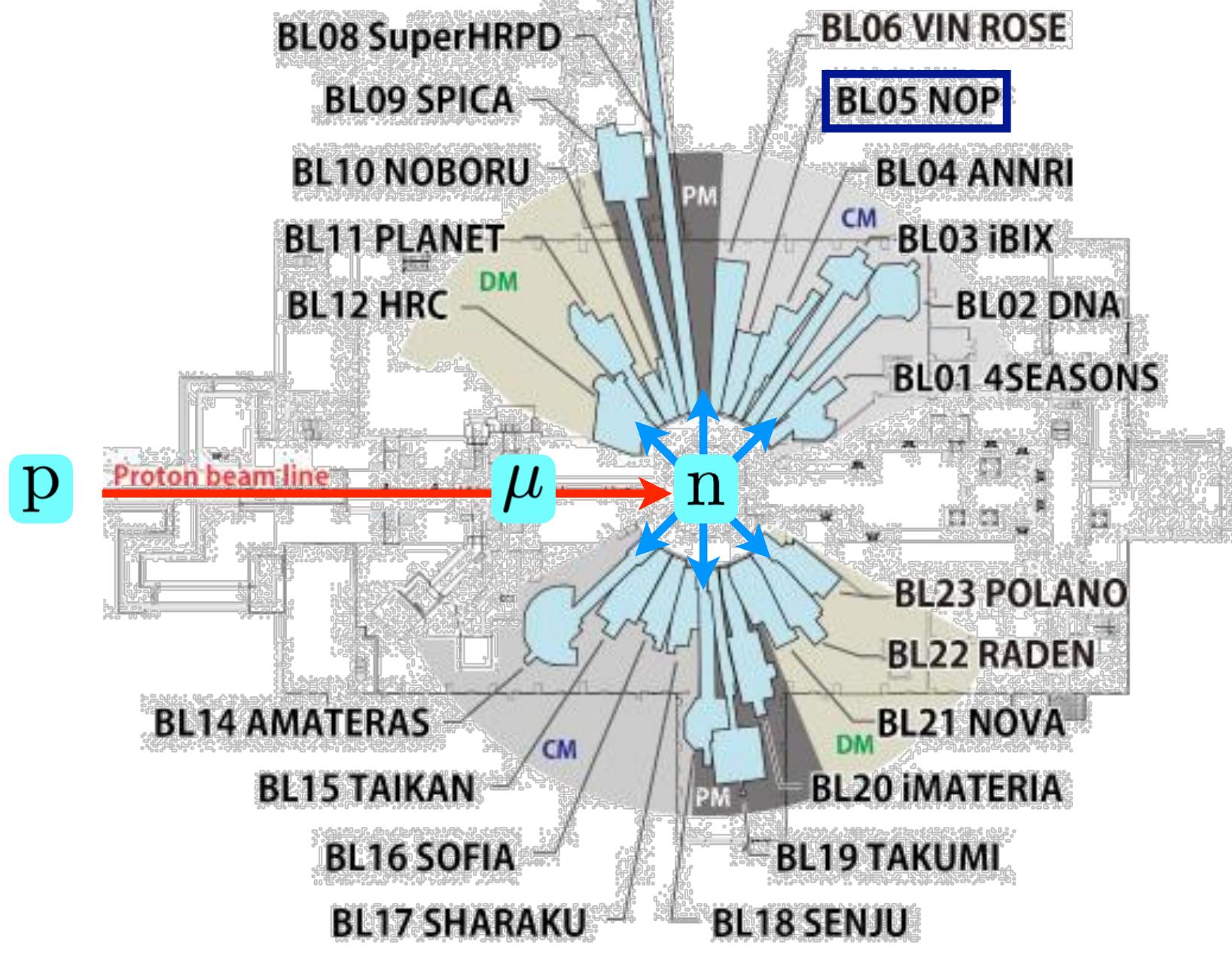
Nuclear
Transmutation



Linac
(330m)



Proton
Complex



$\bar{g}_{\pi NN}(\alpha, \lambda)d_n$

BL08 SuperHRPD

BL09 SPICA

 $\tau_n(\alpha, \lambda)d_n$

BL05 NOP

BL04 ANNRI

 $\bar{g}_{\pi NN}\tau_n$

BL10 NOBORU

BL11 PLANET

BL12 HRC

BL02 DNA

BL01 4SEASONS

p

Proton beam line

n

BL14 AMATERAS

 (α, λ) BL15 TAIKAN $d_n \tau_{n\bar{n}}$

BL16 SOFIA

BL17 SHARAKU

d_n

BL18 SENJU

BL23 POLANO

BL22 RADEN $\bar{g}_{\pi NN}$

BL21 NOVA

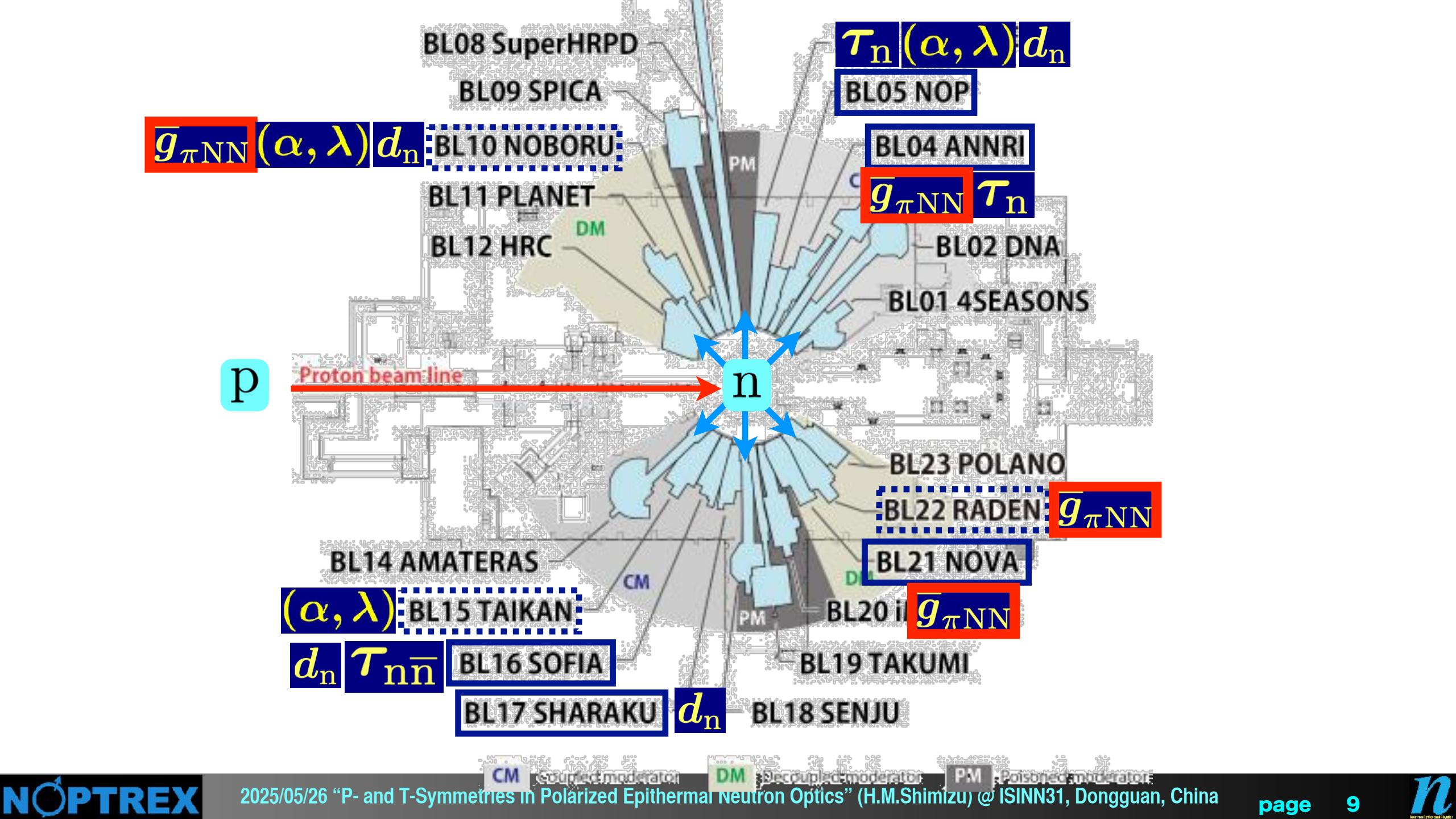
BL20 $\bar{g}_{\pi NN}$

BL19 TAKUMI

CM Coupled moderator

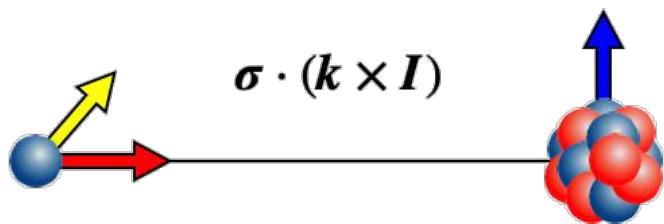
DM Decoupled moderator

PM Polarized moderation



T-violation in compound nuclei

Enhanced symmetry violation appears in neutron resonance capture reaction.



Determine enhancement factor $\sim 10^6$ also for T-violation in ^{139}La

$$\Delta\sigma_T = \kappa(J) \frac{W_T}{W} \Delta\sigma_P$$

$$\kappa = 0.59 \pm 0.05$$

Suggest discovery potential for T-violation search competitive with neutron EDM

^{139}La resonance
30 days
at J-PARC



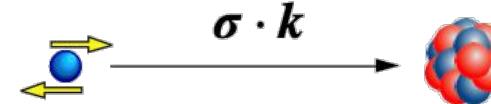
Neutron EDM
 10^{-26} e cm

$$\frac{\Delta\sigma_{CP}}{2\sigma_{tot}} = \frac{-0.185[\text{b}]}{2\sigma_{tot}} \left(\bar{g}_\pi^{(0)} + 0.26\bar{g}_\pi^{(1)} \right)$$

$$d_n \simeq 0.14 \left(\bar{g}_\pi^{(0)} - \bar{g}_\pi^{(2)} \right)$$

Statistical nature of compound states

P-violation



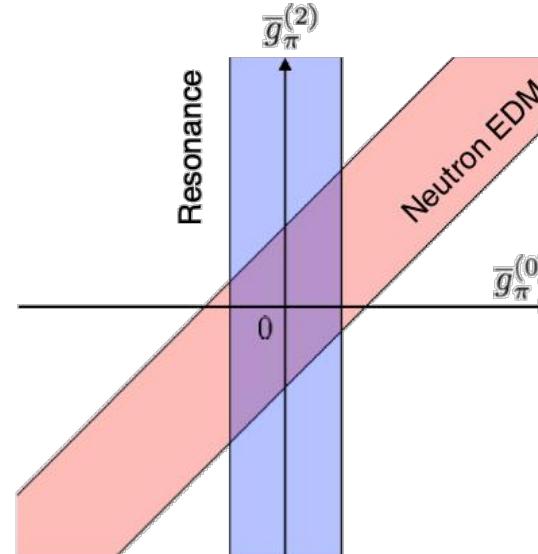
In the case of ^{139}La , P-violation is 10^6 times enhanced.

Target candidate search

^{139}La T. Okudaira *et. al.*, Phys. Rev. C. 97 034622 (2018)
T. Yamamoto *et al.* Phys. Rev. C. 101, 064624 (2020)
T. Okudaira *et. al.*, Phys. Rev. C. 104, 014601(2021)
M. Okuzumi *et al.* Phys. Rev. C. accepted (2025)

^{117}Sn J. Koga *et. al.*, Phys. Rev. C. 105, 05461 (2022)
S. Endo *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C. 106 064601 (2022)

^{131}Xe T. Okudaira *et al.* Phys. Rev. C 107, 054602 (2023)

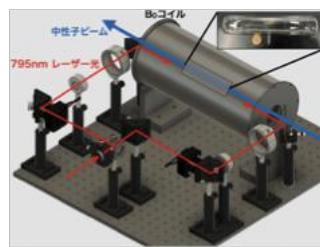


R&D for T-violation search

Neutron beam polarization

^3He spin filter for eV neutrons is available now! $\text{P} \sim 80\%$ at 0.75eV

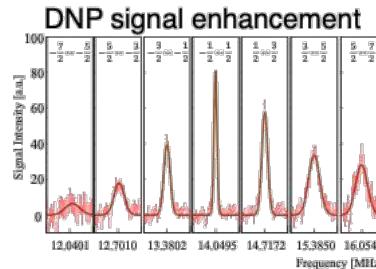
In-situ system is also available.



Target nuclei polarization

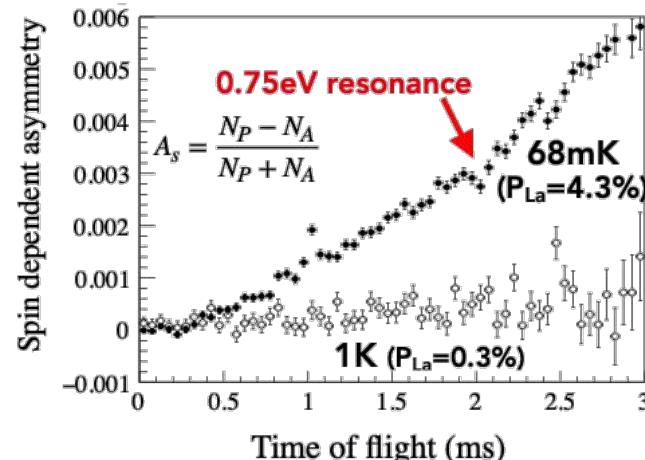
Dynamic nuclear polarization for ^{139}La with LaAlO_3 crystal

$$P_{\text{La}} \rightarrow 31.9\%$$



Demonstration of T-violation search

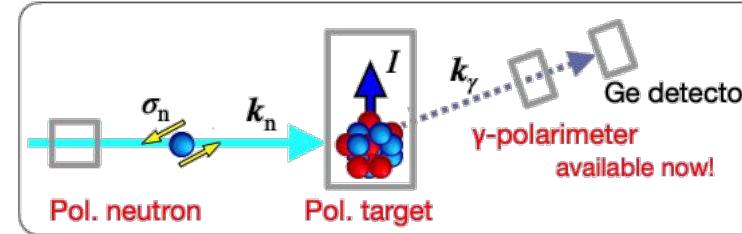
Asymmetry of absorption was observed.



T. Okudaira et al., Phys. Rev. C, 109, 044606 (2024)

Many correlation terms of (n, γ) reaction can be used to study the statistical nature of compound states.

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \underline{a_0} + \underline{a_1} \mathbf{k}_n \cdot \mathbf{k}_\gamma + \underline{a_2} \boldsymbol{\sigma}_n \cdot (\mathbf{k}_n \times \mathbf{k}_\gamma) + \underline{a_3} \left((\mathbf{k}_n \cdot \mathbf{k}_\gamma)^2 - \frac{1}{3} \right) + \dots \right\}$$



T. Yamamoto et. al., Phys. Rev. C101, 064624 (2020)

T. Okudaira et. al., Nucl. Instr. Meth. A977, 164301 (2020)

K. Ishizaki, et.al., Nucl. Instr. and Meth. A1020, 165845 (2021)

K. Ishizaki, et.al., Rev. Sci. Instrum. 95, 063301 (2024)

S. Endo et. al. Eur. Phys. J. A 60:166 (2024)



This asymmetry can be translated into an upper limit on CP violation.

Same order of nEDM with 10^{-19} e cm (\sim first nEDM limit)

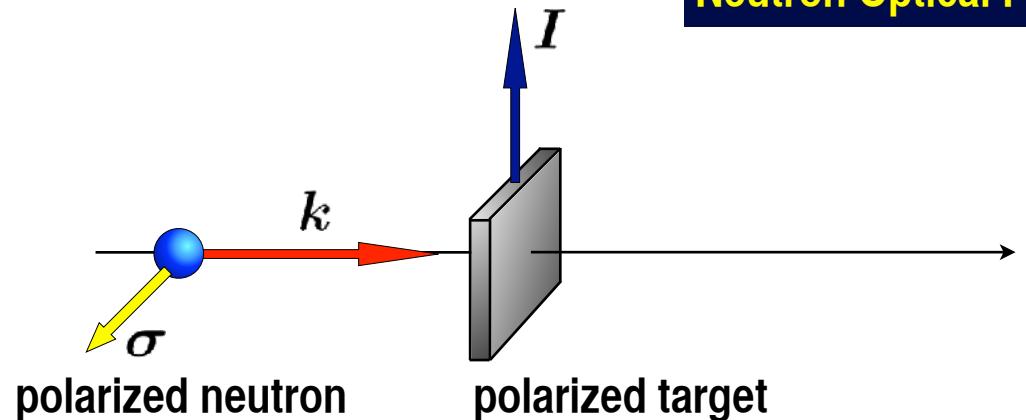
R. Nakabe, PhD thesis (2024)

$$f = A' + B' \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{I}} + C' \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{k}} + D' \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\hat{\mathbf{I}} \times \hat{\mathbf{k}})$$

R. Nakabe et al., Phys. Rev. C. L041602 (2024)

NOPTREX

Neutron Optical Parity and Time Reversal EXperiment



$$f = \underbrace{A'}_{\text{Spin Independent}} + \underbrace{B' \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{I}}}_{\text{P-even T-even}} + \underbrace{C' \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{k}}}_{\text{P-even T-even}} + \boxed{D' \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\hat{\mathbf{I}} \times \hat{\mathbf{k}})}$$

Spin Independent
P-even T-even

Spin Dependent
P-even T-even

P-violation
P-odd T-even

T-violation
P-odd T-odd

$$P : \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{k}} \rightarrow \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (-\hat{\mathbf{k}})$$

P-odd

$$P : \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\hat{\mathbf{k}} \times \hat{\mathbf{I}}) \rightarrow \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot ((-\hat{\mathbf{k}}) \times \hat{\mathbf{I}})$$

$$T : \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\hat{\mathbf{k}} \times \hat{\mathbf{I}}) \rightarrow (-\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \cdot ((-\hat{\mathbf{k}}) \times (-\hat{\mathbf{I}}))$$

P-odd T-odd

1. Optical Test

final-state interaction controllable

2. Enhancement

dynamical and kinematical enhancement

3. New Type of New Physics Search

biased sensitivity to chromo-EDM

NOPTREX

Neutron Optical Parity and Time Reversal EXperiment

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Western Kentucky Univ. I.Novikov

Wayne State Univ. E.Y.Chekmenev

P-violation in Nuclear Interaction

$$\begin{array}{l} \mathbf{P} \quad \sigma \rightarrow \sigma \quad k \rightarrow -k \\ \quad \quad \quad \sigma \cdot k \rightarrow -\sigma \cdot k \end{array}$$

nucleon-nucleon cross section

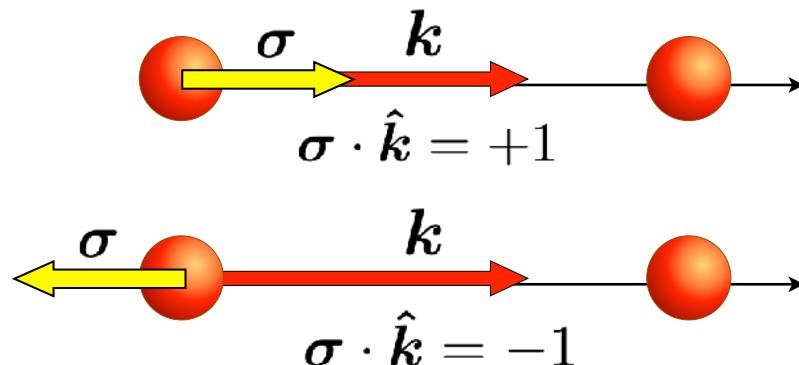
ST
strong
interaction

even

WK
weak
interaction

odd

$$\sigma = \sigma_0 + \Delta\sigma(\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{k}})$$

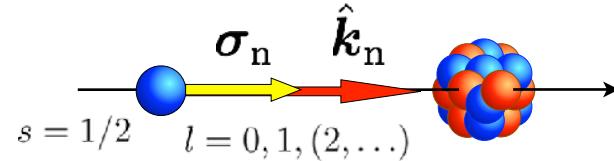


$$\sigma_0 + \Delta\sigma$$

$$\sigma_0 - \Delta\sigma$$

$$\frac{\Delta\sigma}{\sigma_0} \sim 10^{-7}$$

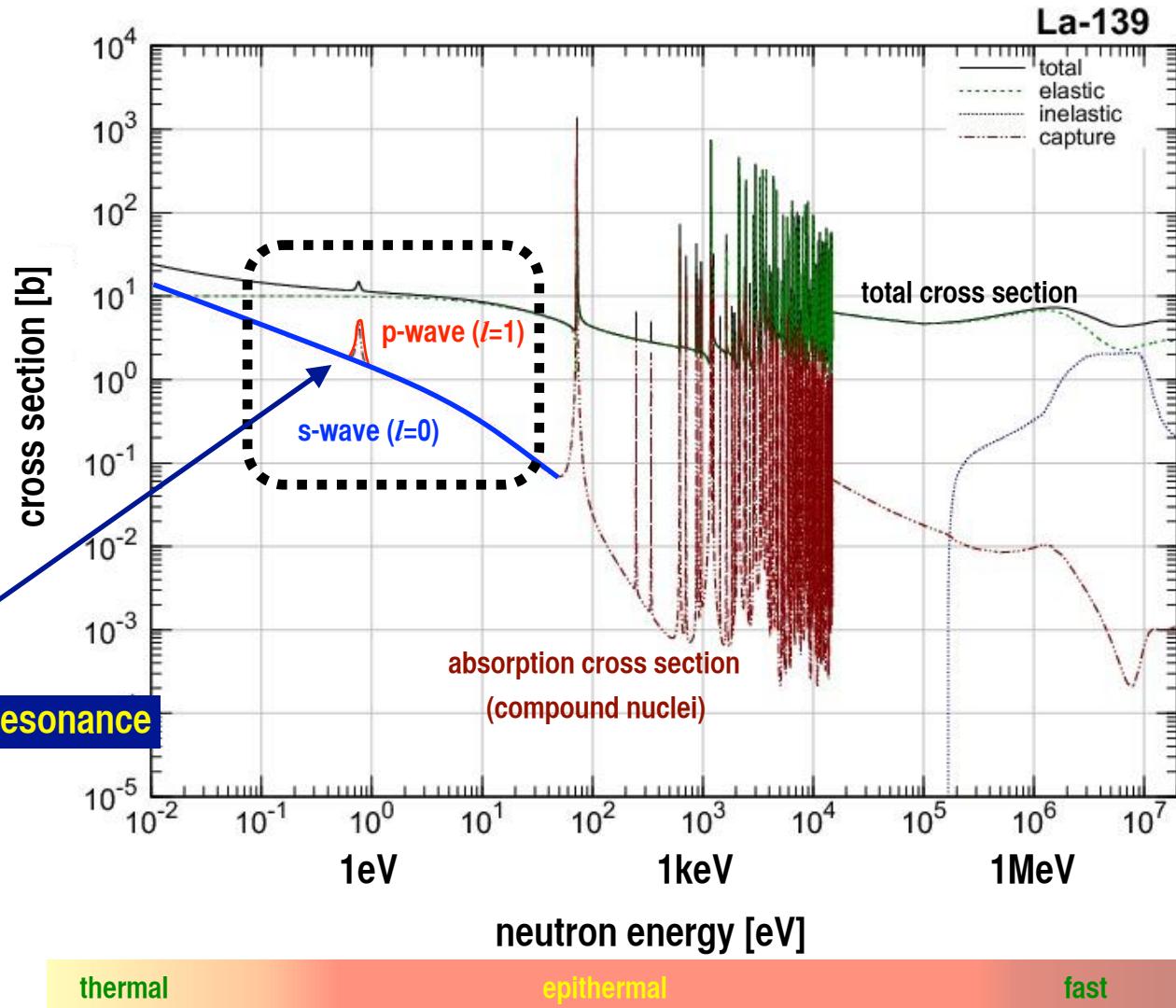
P-violation in Compound State



$$\sigma = \sigma_0 + \Delta\sigma(\sigma_n \cdot \hat{k}_n)$$

$$A_L = \frac{\Delta\sigma}{\sigma_0} \times \frac{\sigma_0}{\sigma_p}$$

P-violation reaches 10^{-1} in this p-wave resonance



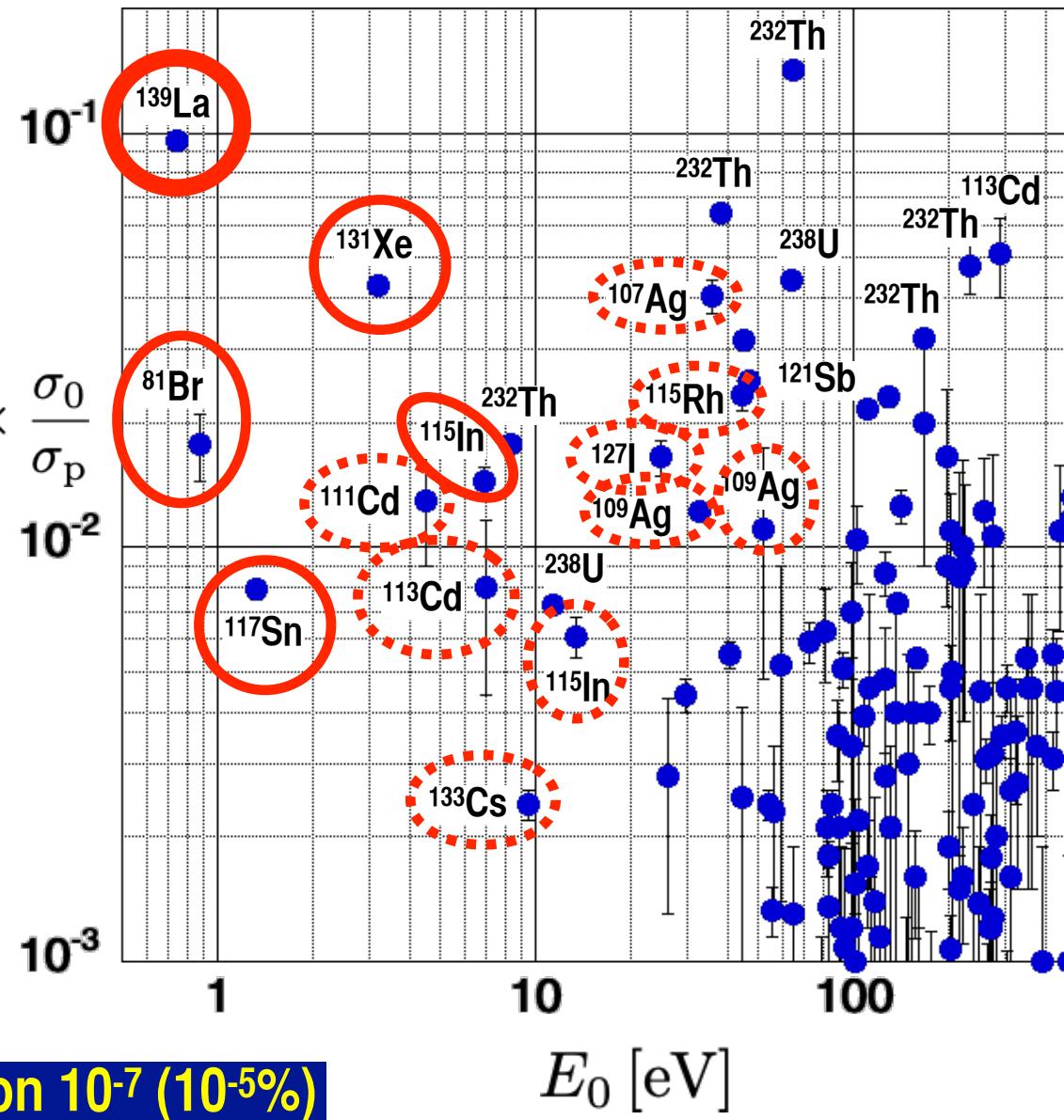
Enhancement of P-violation in Compound States

Mitchell, Phys. Rep. 354 (2001) 157
Shimizu, Nucl. Phys. A552 (1993) 293

$$A_L = \frac{\Delta\sigma}{\sigma_0} \times \frac{\sigma_0}{\sigma_p}$$

10⁻⁷ for NN

NN-interaction 10⁻⁷ (10^{-5%})



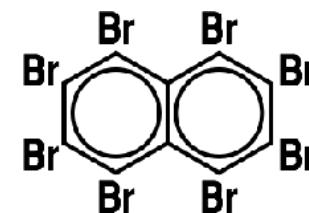
E_0 [eV]

Choice of Target Nuclei

	^{139}La	^{81}Br	^{117}Sn	^{131}Xe	^{115}In
large $\Delta\sigma_p$	○	○	○	○	○
low E_p [eV]	○	○	○	○	△
small nonzero I	7/2 △	3/2 ○	1/2 ○	3/2 ○	9/2 △
isotopic abn	○	○	✗	△	○
large $ \kappa(J) $	○	?	?	○ ?	?
method of pol.	DNP	Triplet -DNP?	—	OP	—

$\text{La}(\text{Nd})\text{AlO}_3$

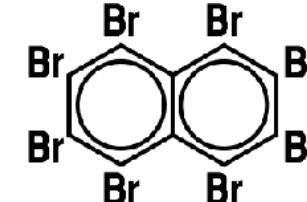
Key-technique: Polarized Target



Choice of Target Nuclei

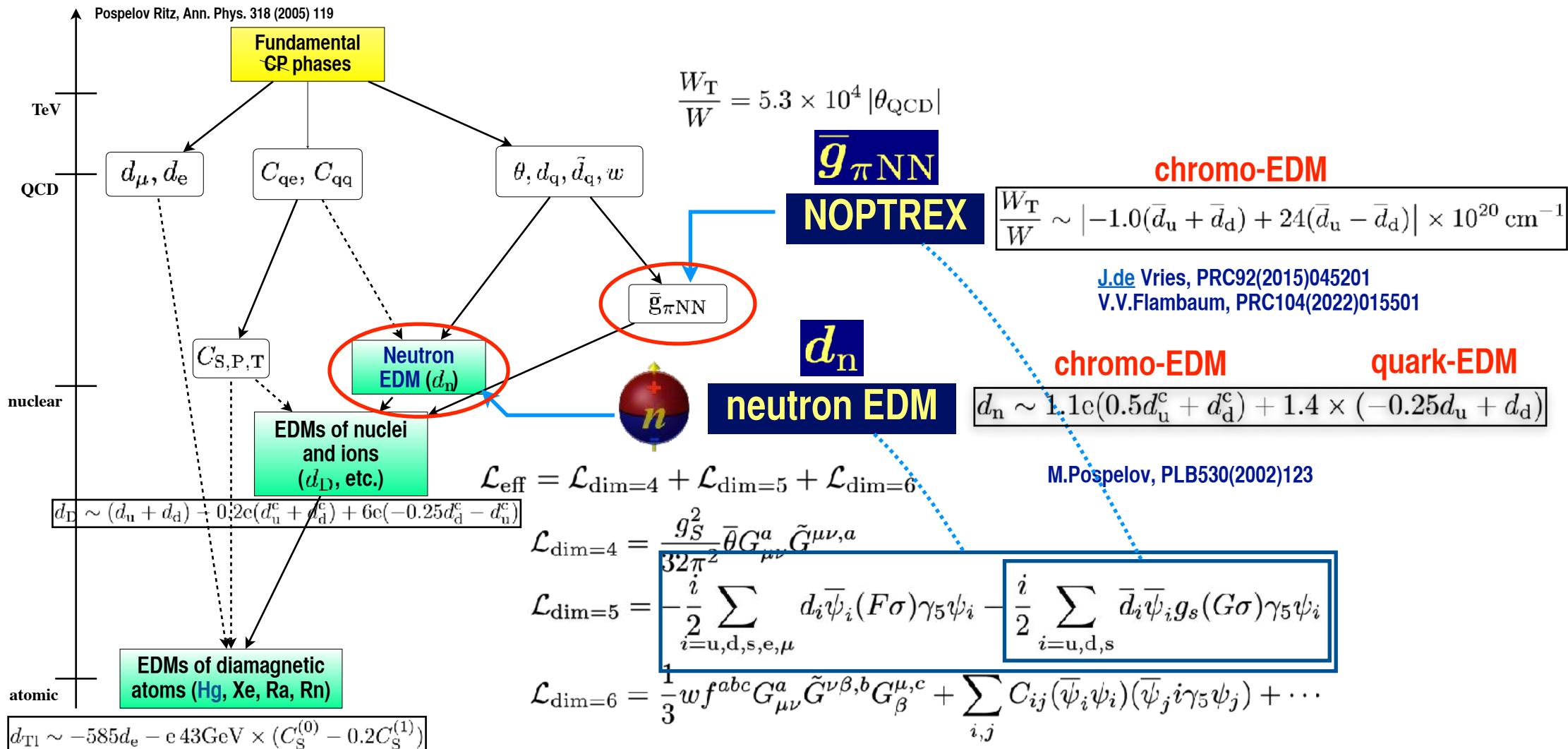
	^{139}La	^{81}Br	^{117}Sn	^{131}Xe	^{115}In
large $\Delta\sigma_p$	○	○	○	○	○
low E_p [eV]	○	○	○	○	△
small nonzero I	7/2 △	3/2 ○	1/2 ○	3/2 ○	9/2 △
isotopic abn	○	○	✗	△	○
large $ \kappa(J) $	○	?	?	○ ?	?
method of pol.	DNP	Triplet -DNP?	—	OP	—
	La(Nd)AlO ₃				

Key-technique: Polarized Target

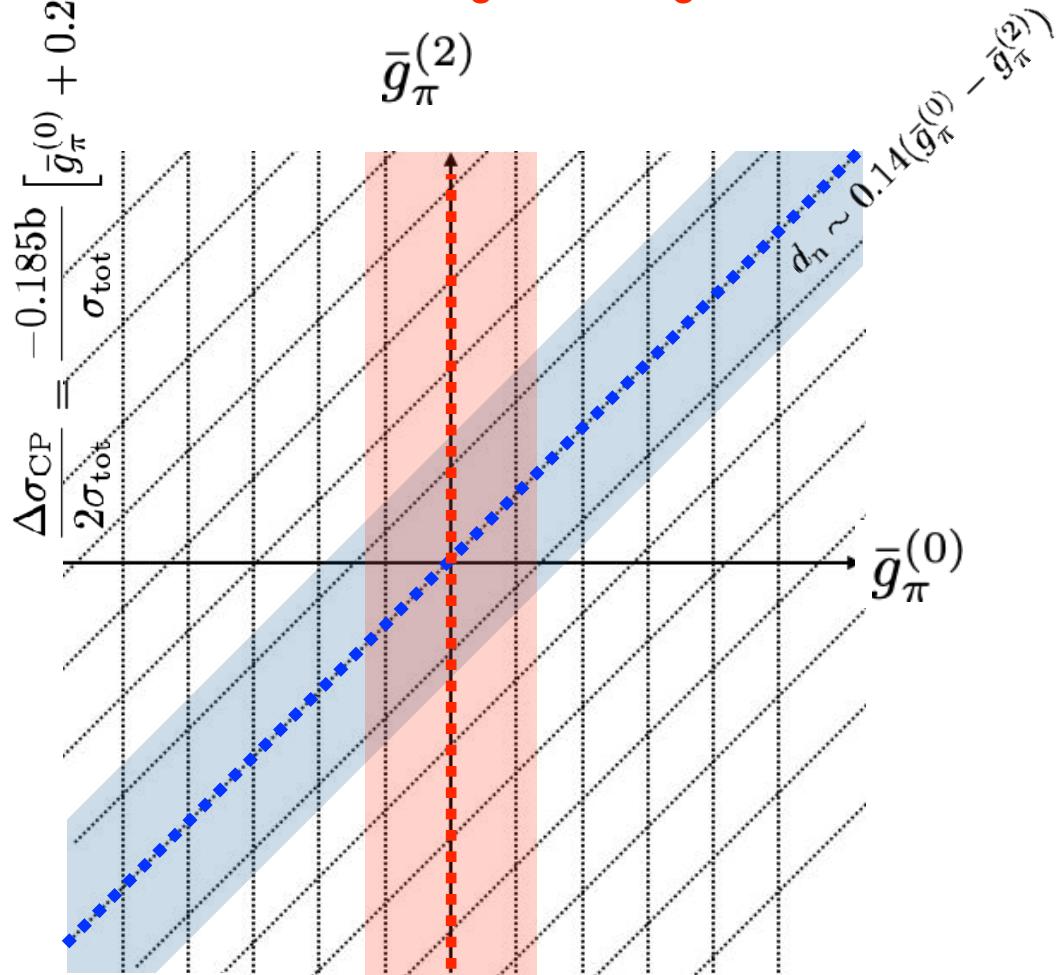


The chemical structure shows two benzene rings connected by a single bond, with both rings having four bromine atoms attached at the 1, 2, 4, and 4' positions respectively.

Propagation of CP-violation beyond the Standard Model into Low Energy Observables



conceptual visualization based on deuteron-case
※ not true for general target nuclei



NOPTREX

neutron EDM

$$\frac{W_T}{W} = 5.3 \times 10^4 |\theta_{\text{QCD}}| \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{J.de Vries, PRC92(2015)045201} \\ \text{V.V.Flambaum, PRC105(2022)015501} \end{array}$$

$$\frac{W_T}{W} \sim |-1.0(\bar{d}_u + \bar{d}_d) + 24(\bar{d}_u - \bar{d}_d)| \times 10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

$$d_n \sim 1.1e(0.5d_u^c + d_d^c) + 1.4 \times (-0.25d_u + d_d)$$

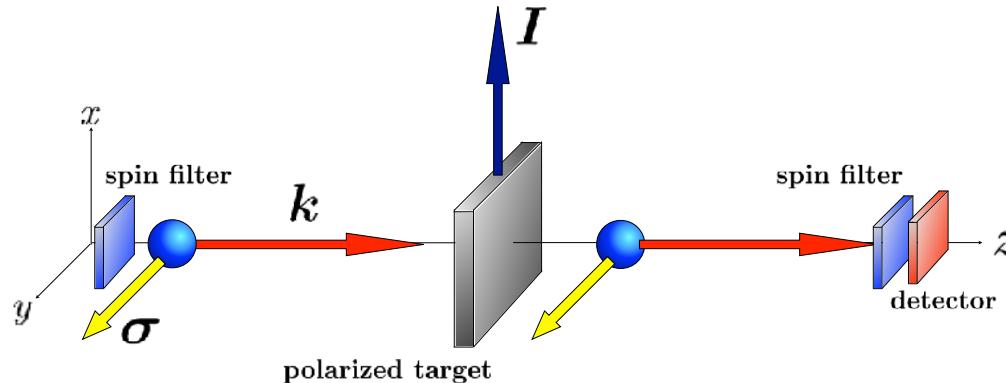
$$d_{\text{Hg}} \sim 7 \times 10^{-3}e(0.5d_u^c + d_d^c)$$

$$d_D \sim (d_u + d_d) - 0.2e(d_u^c + d_d^c) + 6e(-0.25d_d^c - d_u^c)$$

$$d_{\text{Tl}} \sim -585d_e - e 43\text{GeV} \times (C_S^{(0)} - 0.2C_S^{(1)})$$

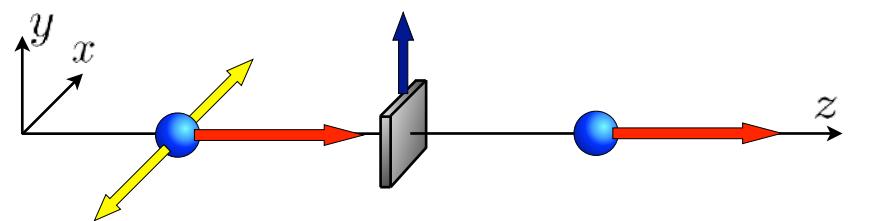
New Type of New Physics Search

visualization of measurements



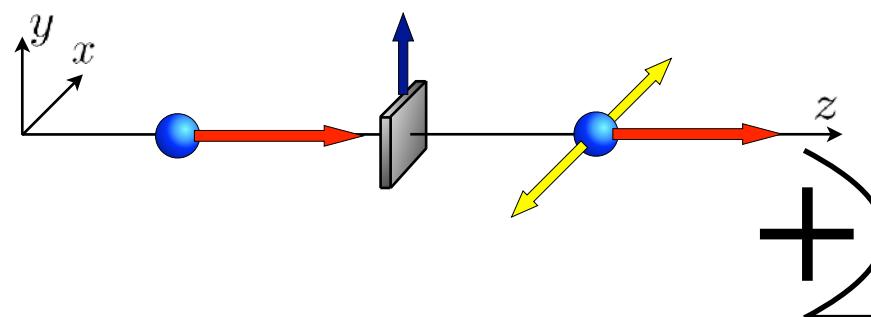
We consider the case that neutrons polarized along y -axis transmit through the lanthanum target polarized along x -axis.

One spin filter will be set upstream of the polarized target and another spin filter downstream. Neutron transmission will be measured by the detector put downstream of the second spin filter.



$$A_y \equiv \text{Tr} [\mathcal{S}^\dagger \sigma_y \mathcal{S}] = 4(\text{Re} \underline{A^* D} + \text{Im} \underline{B^* C})$$

Spin Independent P-even T-even Spin Dependent P-even T-even
T-violation P-odd T-odd P-violation P-odd T-even



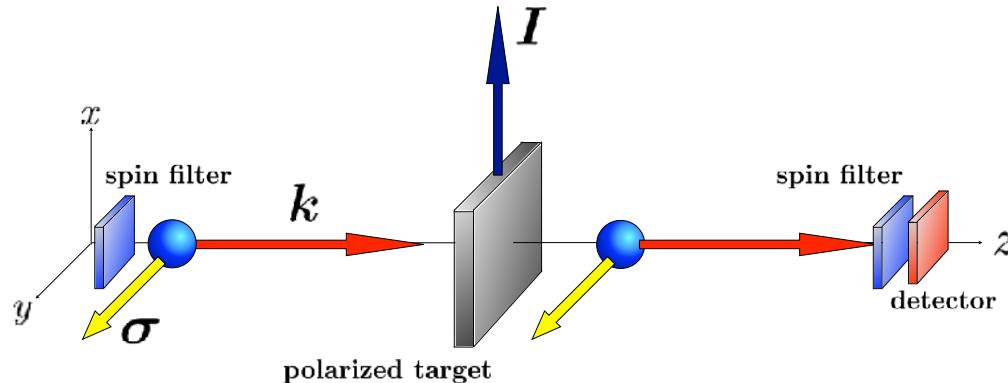
$$P_y \equiv \text{Tr} [\sigma_y \mathcal{S}^\dagger \mathcal{S}] = 4(\text{Re} \underline{A^* D} - \text{Im} \underline{B^* C})$$

Spin Independent P-even T-even Spin Dependent P-even T-even
T-violation P-odd T-odd P-violation P-odd T-even

$$A_y + P_y = 8\text{Re} \underline{A^* D}$$

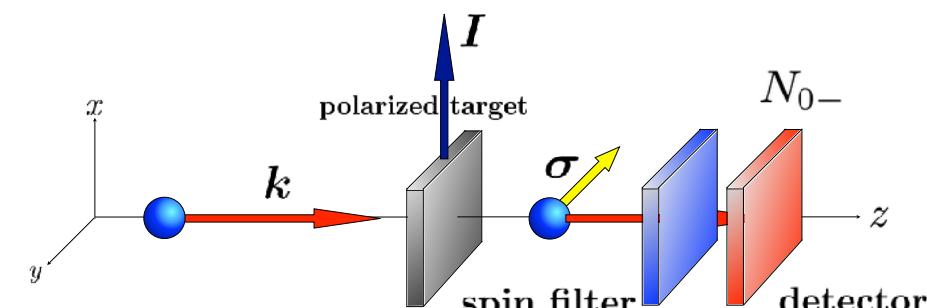
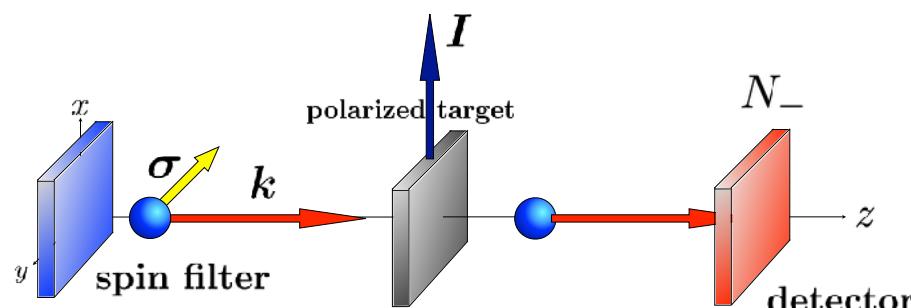
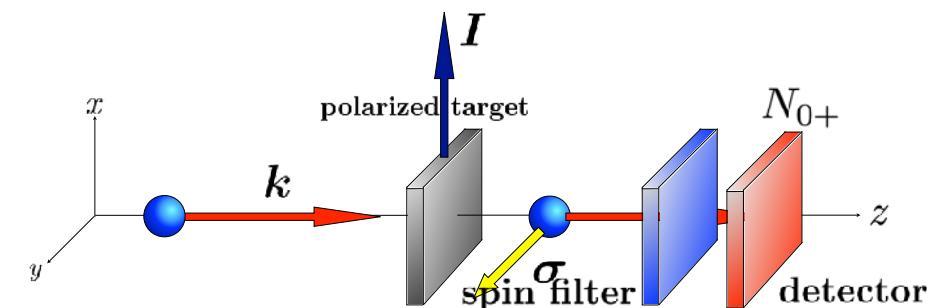
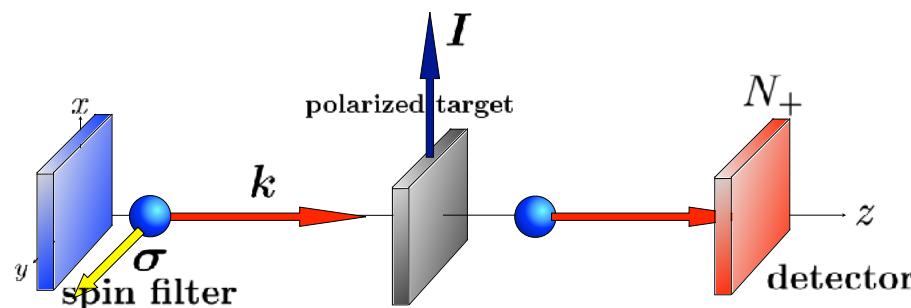
New Type of New Physics Search

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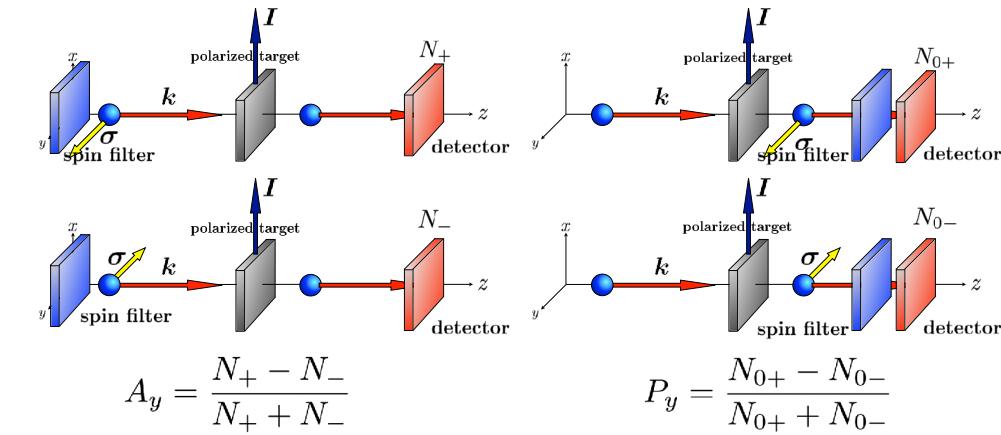
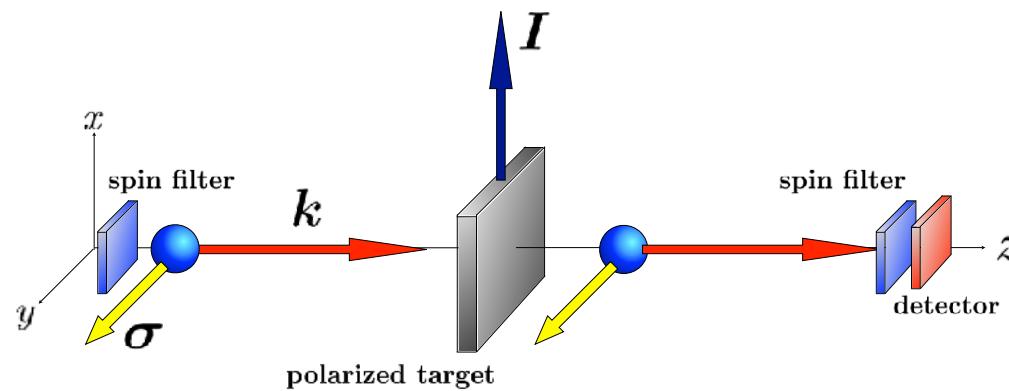


$$A_y = \frac{N_+ - N_-}{N_+ + N_-}$$

$$P_y = \frac{N_{0+} - N_{0-}}{N_{0+} + N_{0-}}$$

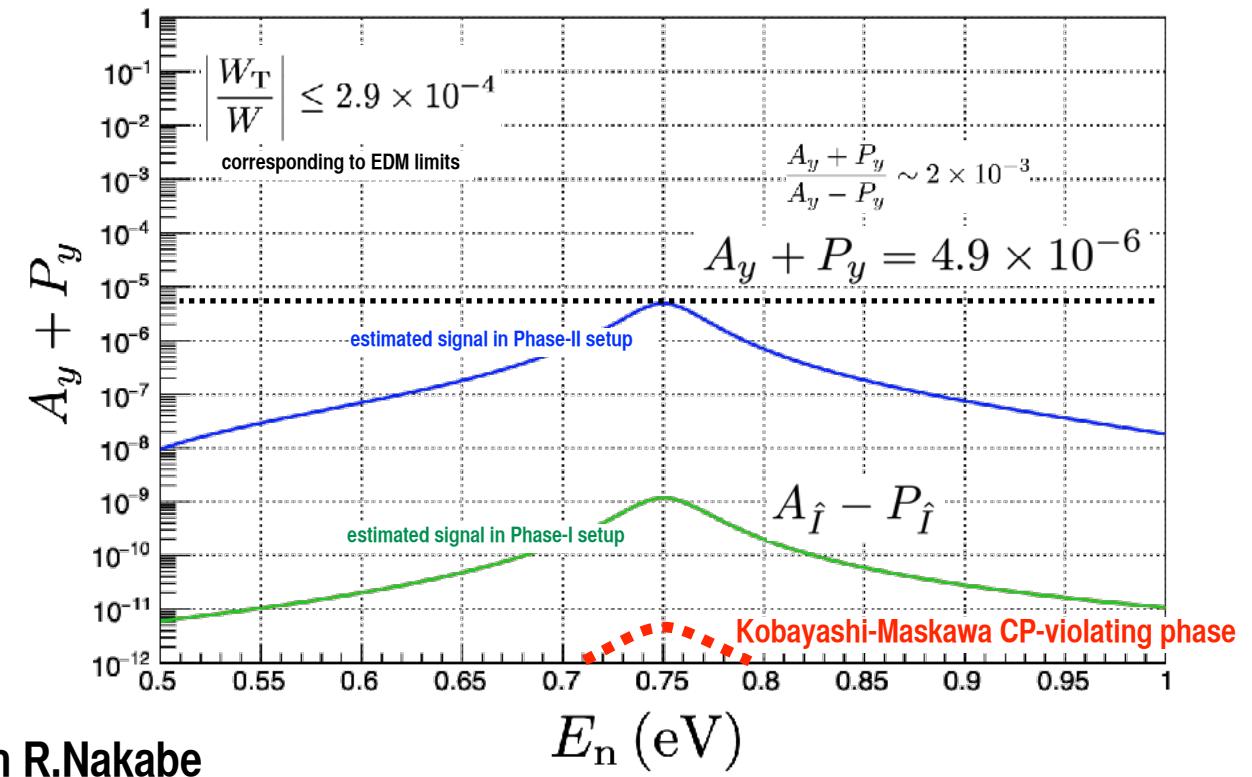
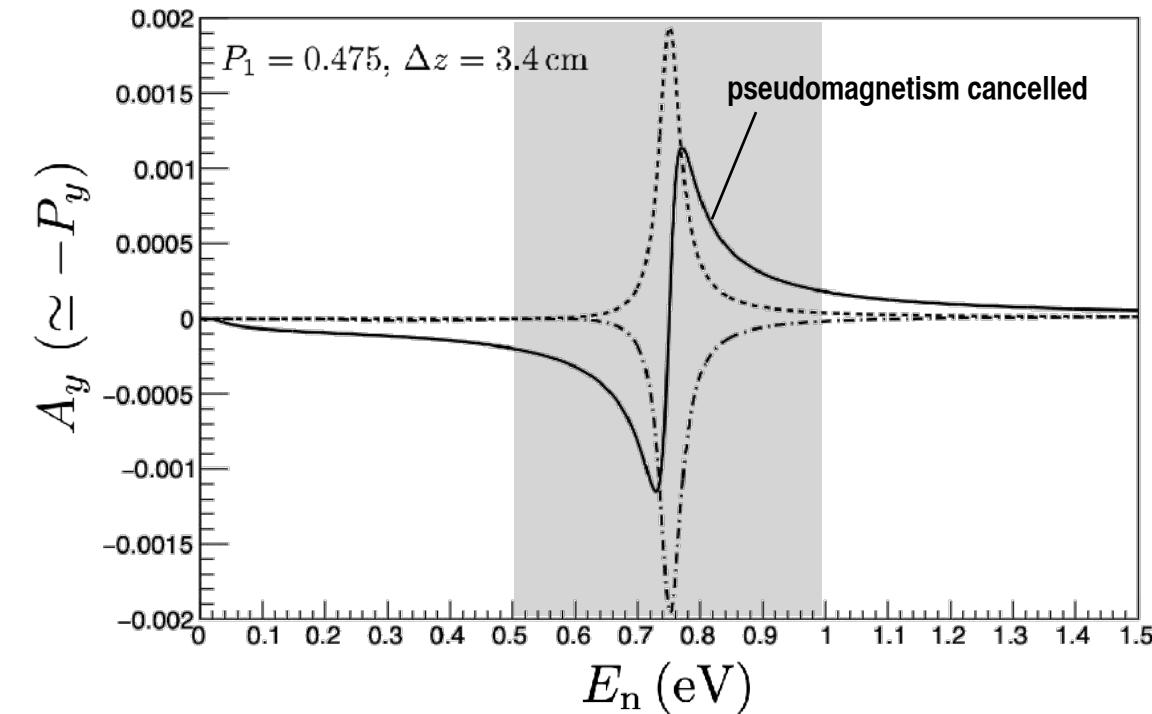
New Type of New Physics Search

visualization of measurements



$$A_y = \frac{N_+ - N_-}{N_+ + N_-}$$

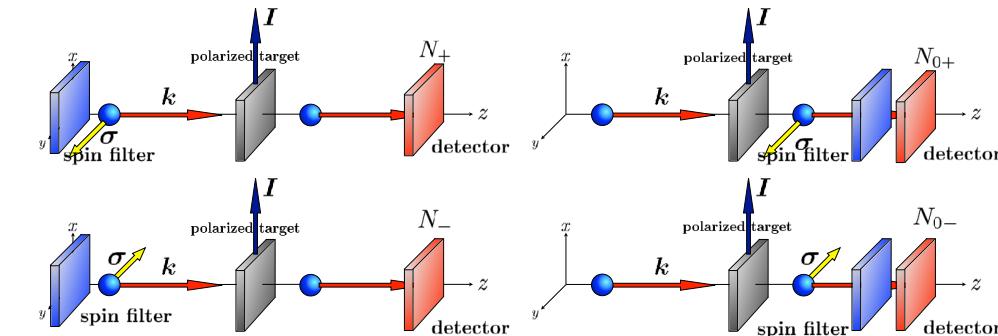
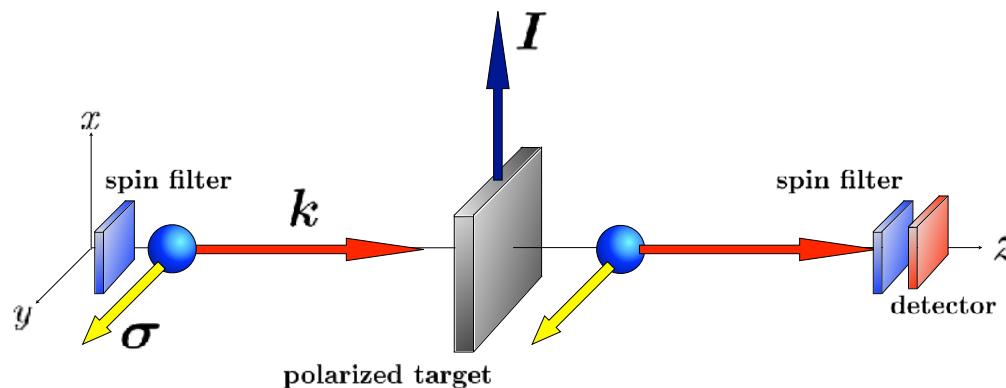
$$P_y = \frac{N_{0+} - N_{0-}}{N_{0+} + N_{0-}}$$



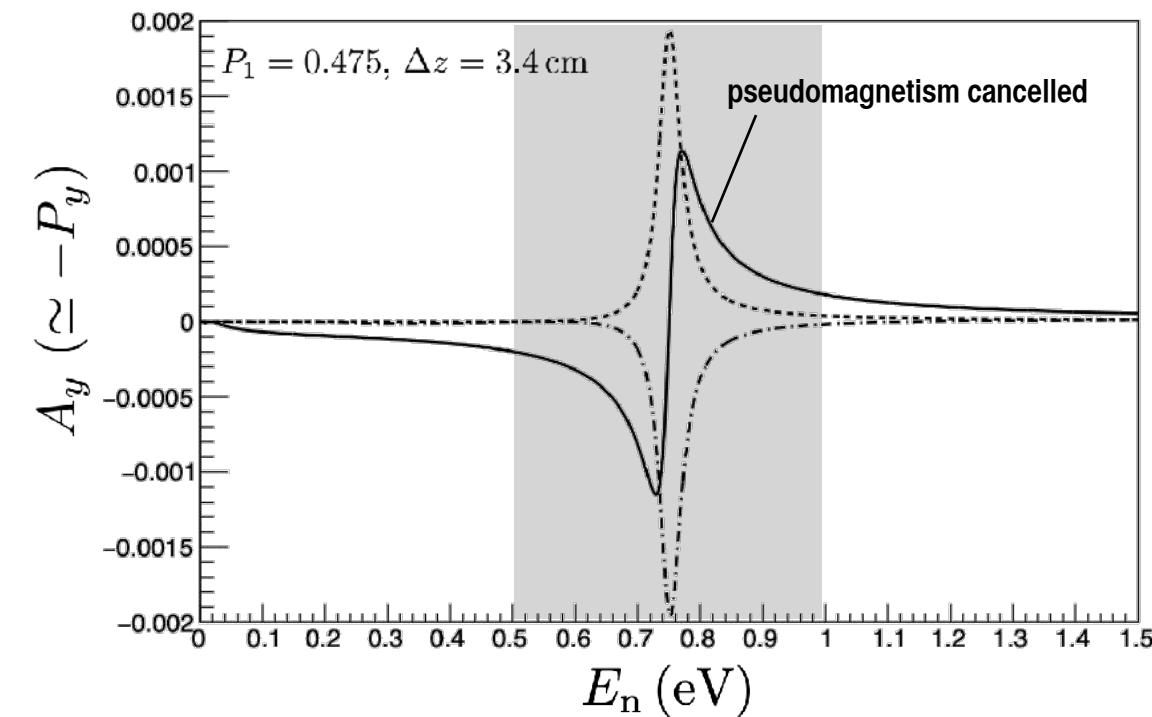
dissertation R.Nakabe

New Type of New Physics Search

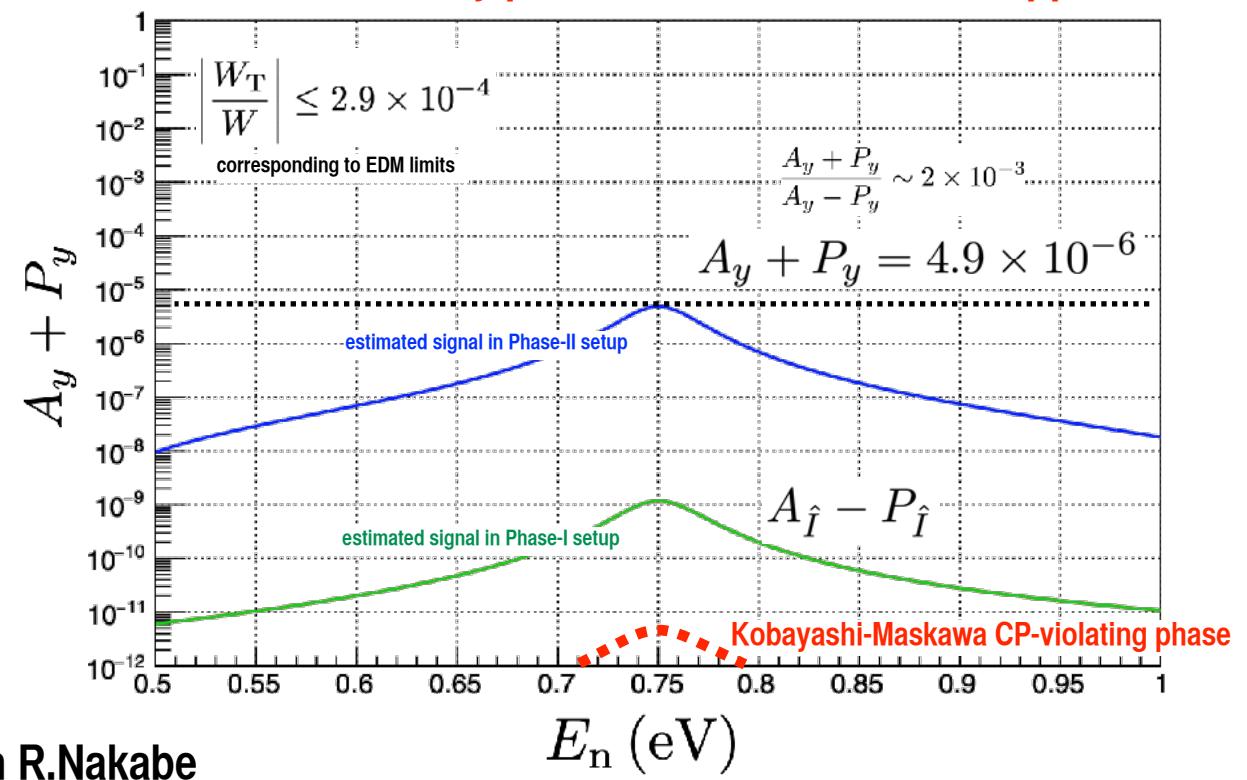
visualization of measurements



Comparison with EDM is estimated under the assumption of isotensor contribution is zero and only pion can contribute to our approach.



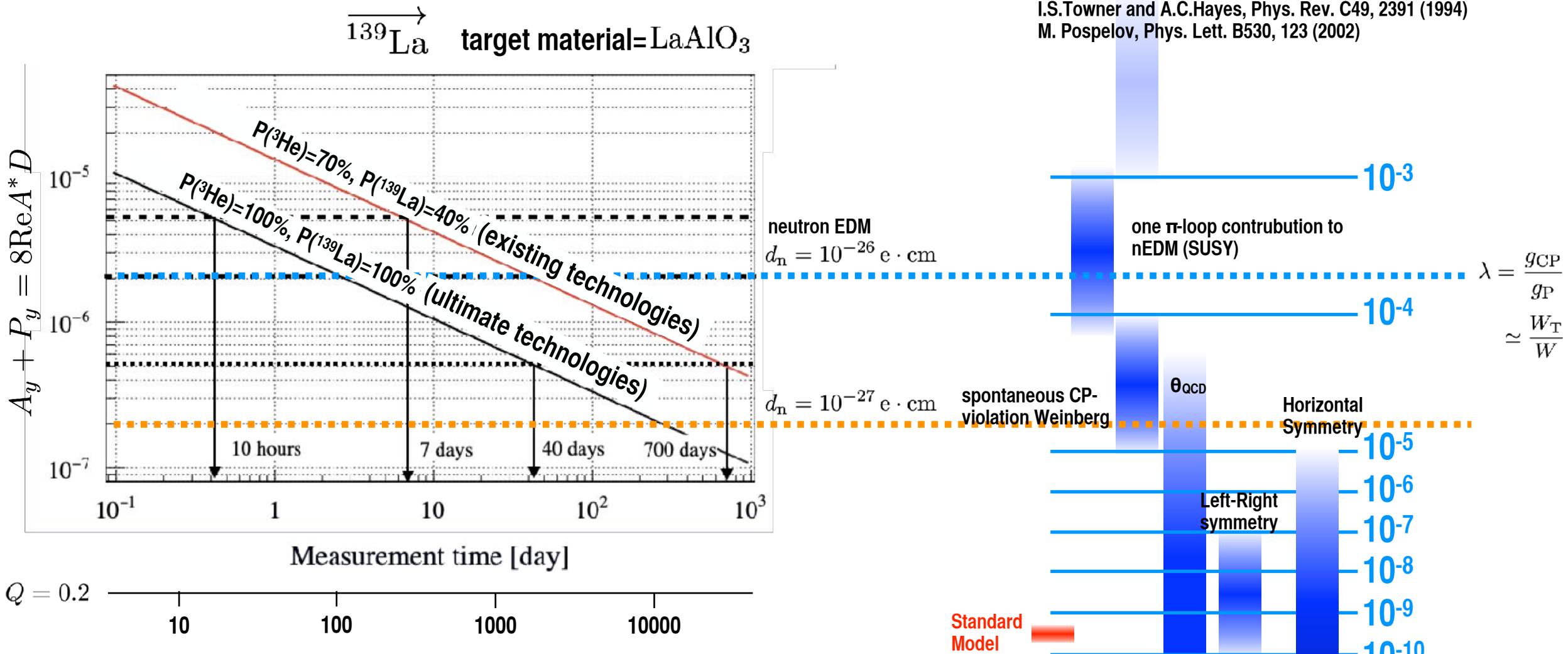
dissertation R.Nakabe



New Type of New Physics Search

Any upper limit delivers a new restriction.

Comparison with EDM is shown under the assumption of isotensor contribution is zero and only pion can contribute to our approach.



Polarized Lanthanum Target

Lanthanum Aluminate diluted with Neodymium as the Polarized Lanthanum Target Material

Advantage

- Narrow ESR linewidth : ~ 5G (~40G in LaF_3)
- C_{3v} symmetry in La ions
- Diagonalization of quadratic coupling in the crystal C_3 axis

g -factor of Nd^{3+} : $g_{//} = 2.12, g_{\perp} = 2.68$

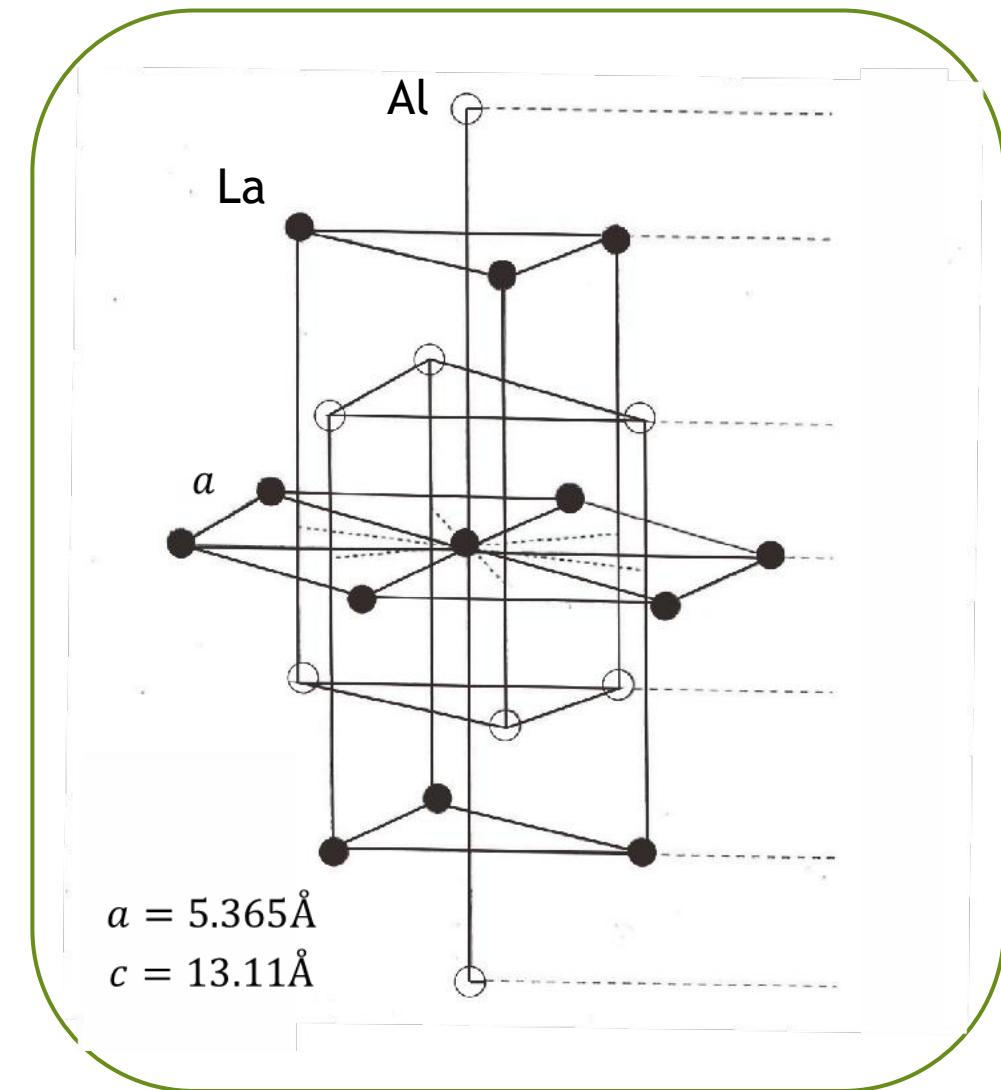
Spin Hamiltonian

$$\mathcal{H} = -\hbar\gamma_N \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{H} + \hbar D_{zz} \left(I_z^2 - \frac{I(I+1)}{3} \right)$$

γ_N : gyromagnetic ratio ($\gamma_N/2\pi = 0.6 \text{ kHz/G}$)

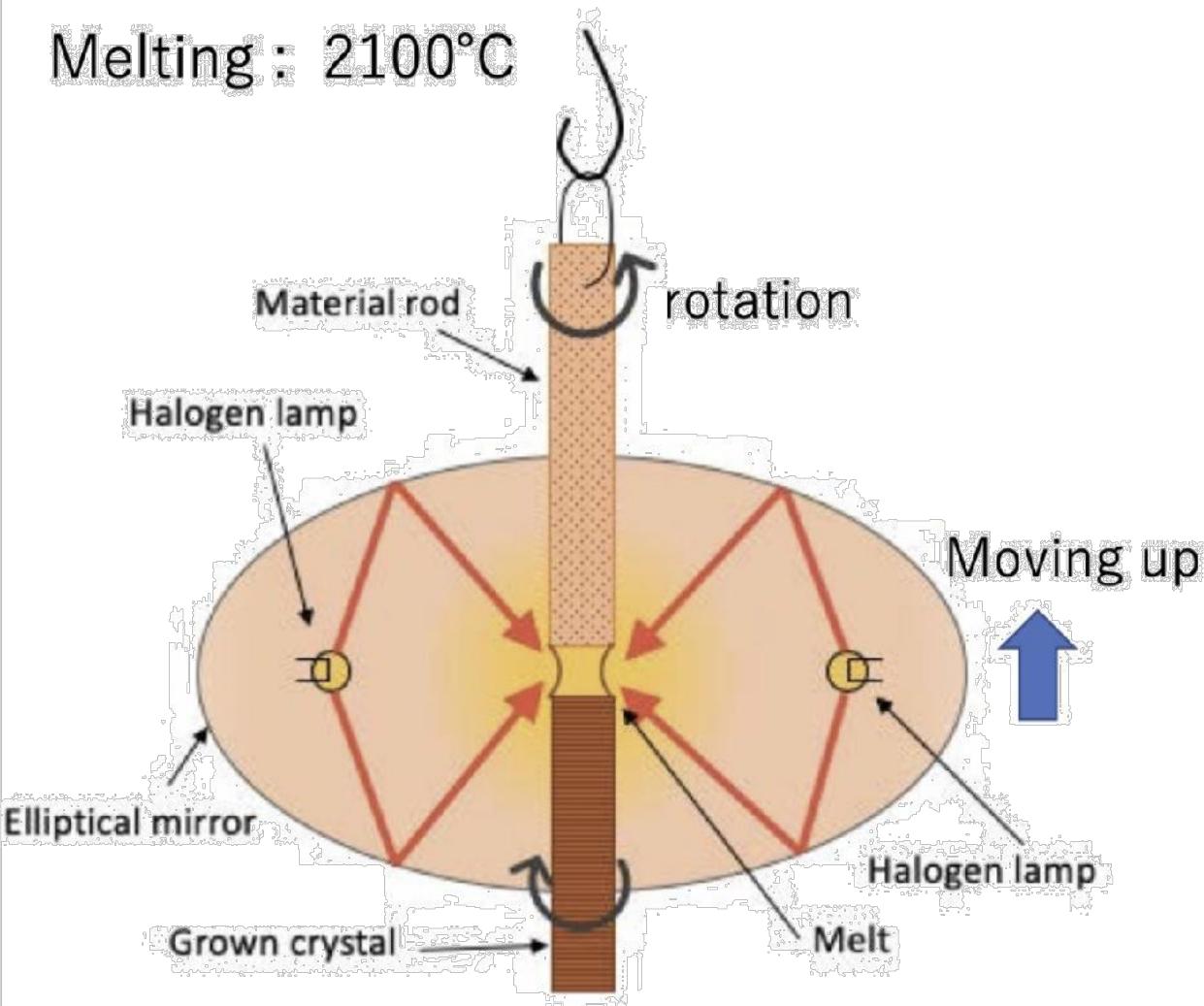
I : nuclear spin of La ($I = 7/2$)

D_{zz} : quadratic coupling constant ($D_{zz}/2\pi = 0.36 \text{ MHz}$)

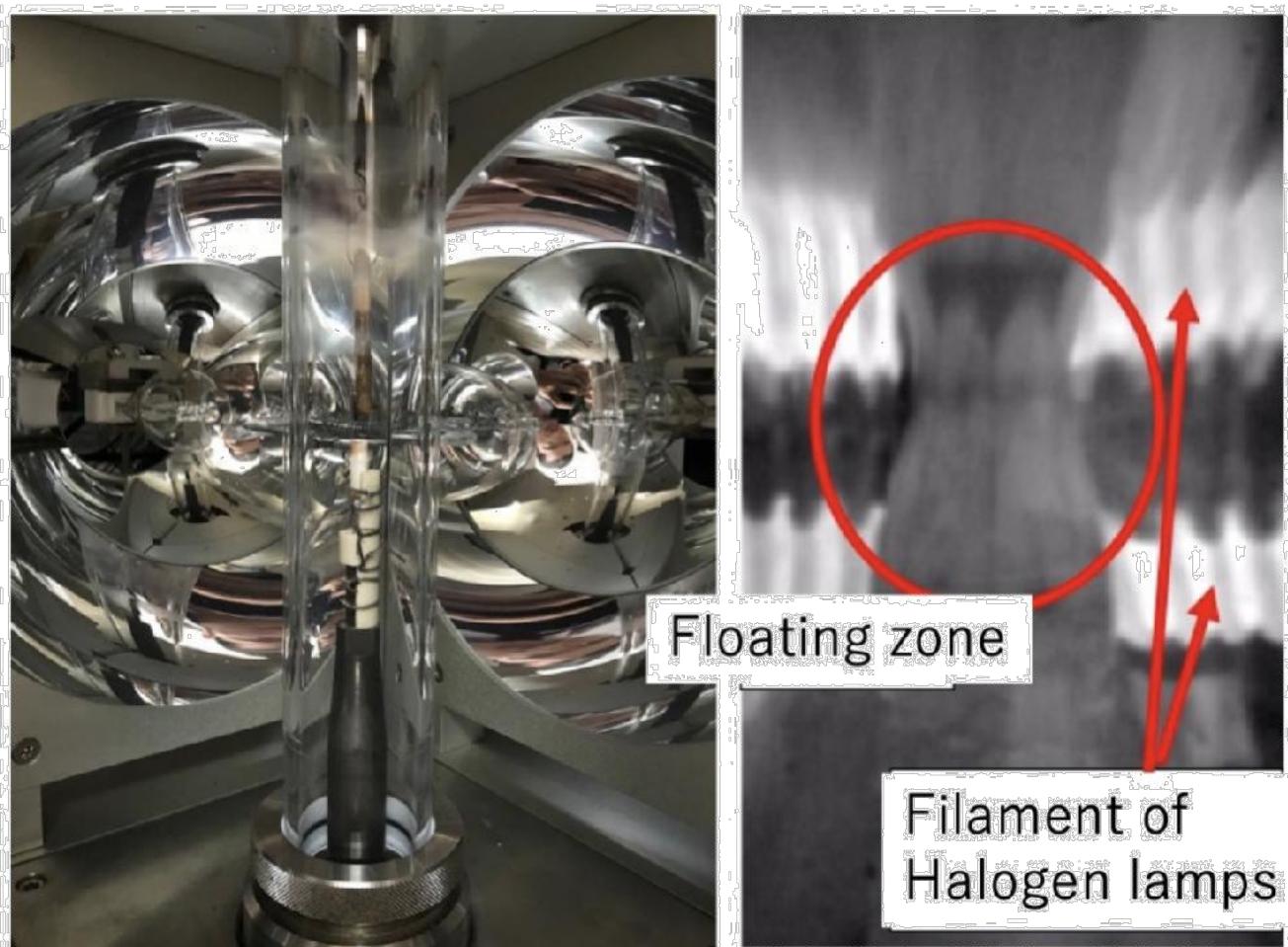


Crystal Growth at the Institute for Material Research, Tohoku Univ.

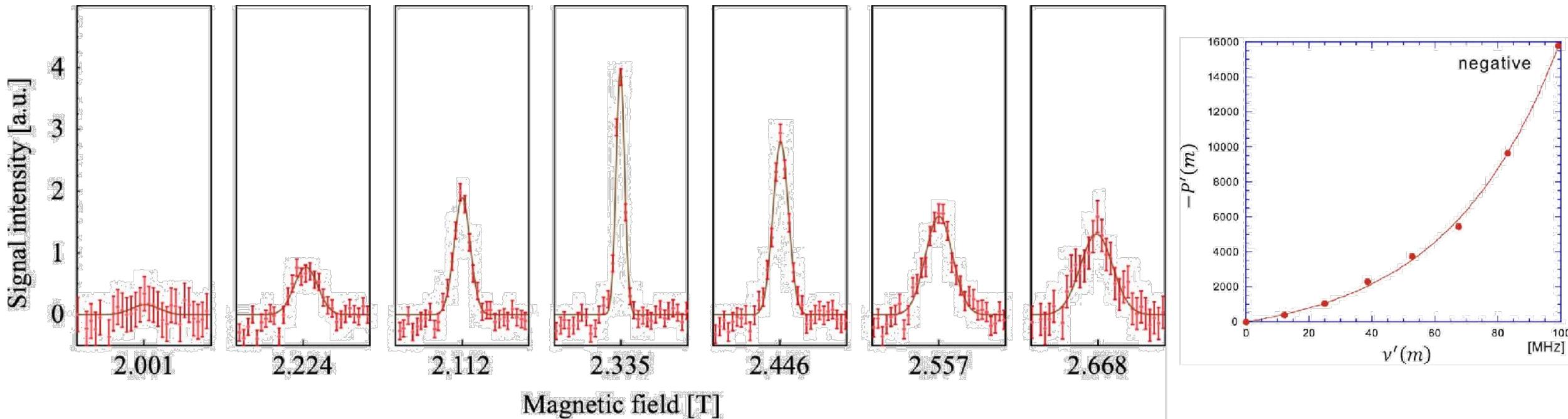
Melting : 2100°C



Mixed sample : powder of $\text{La(OH)}_3 + \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$



Complete Determination of Occupancy Distribution (consistent with single spin temperature)

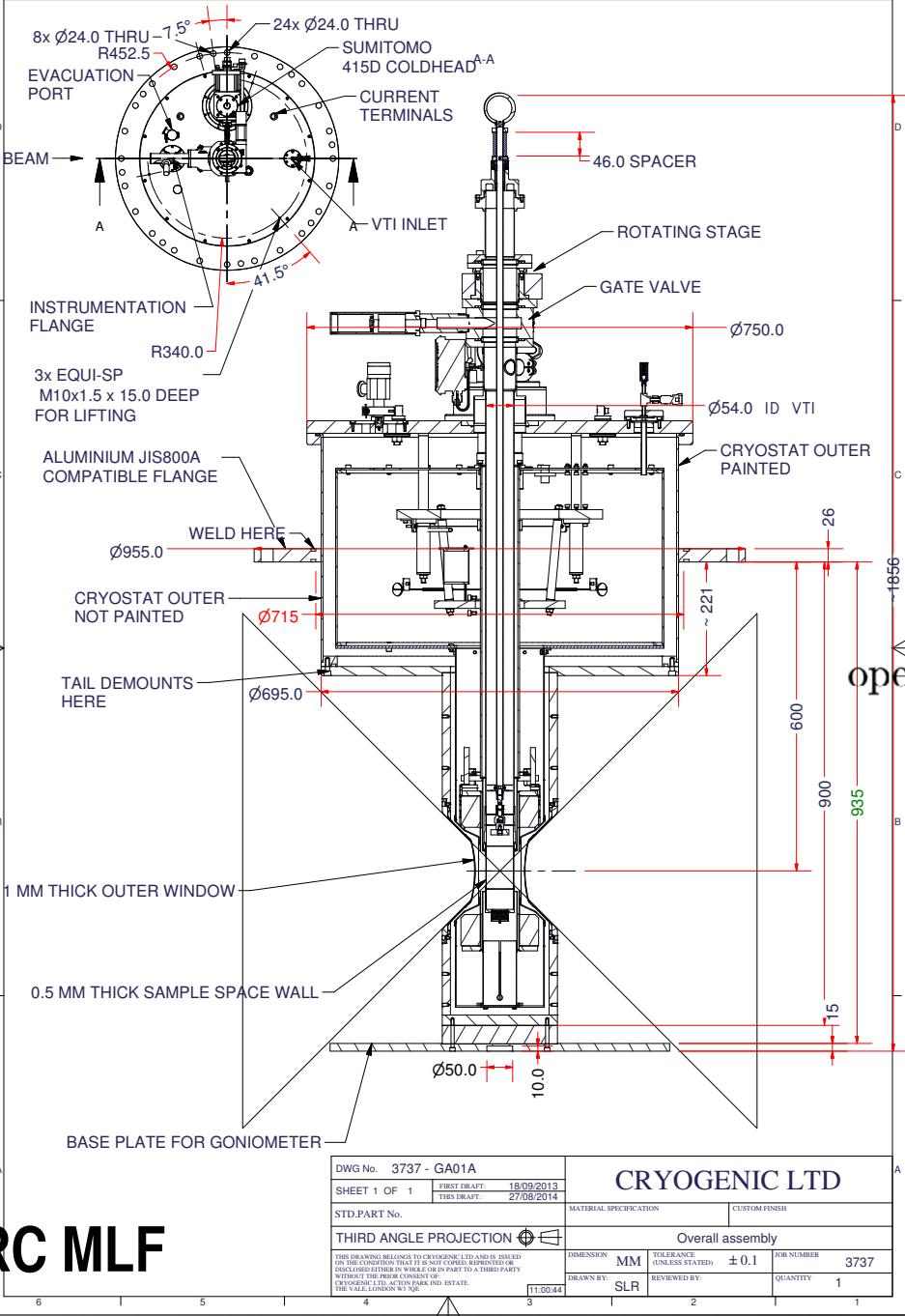


Optimization/Control of the Doping Rate of Paramagnetic Centers

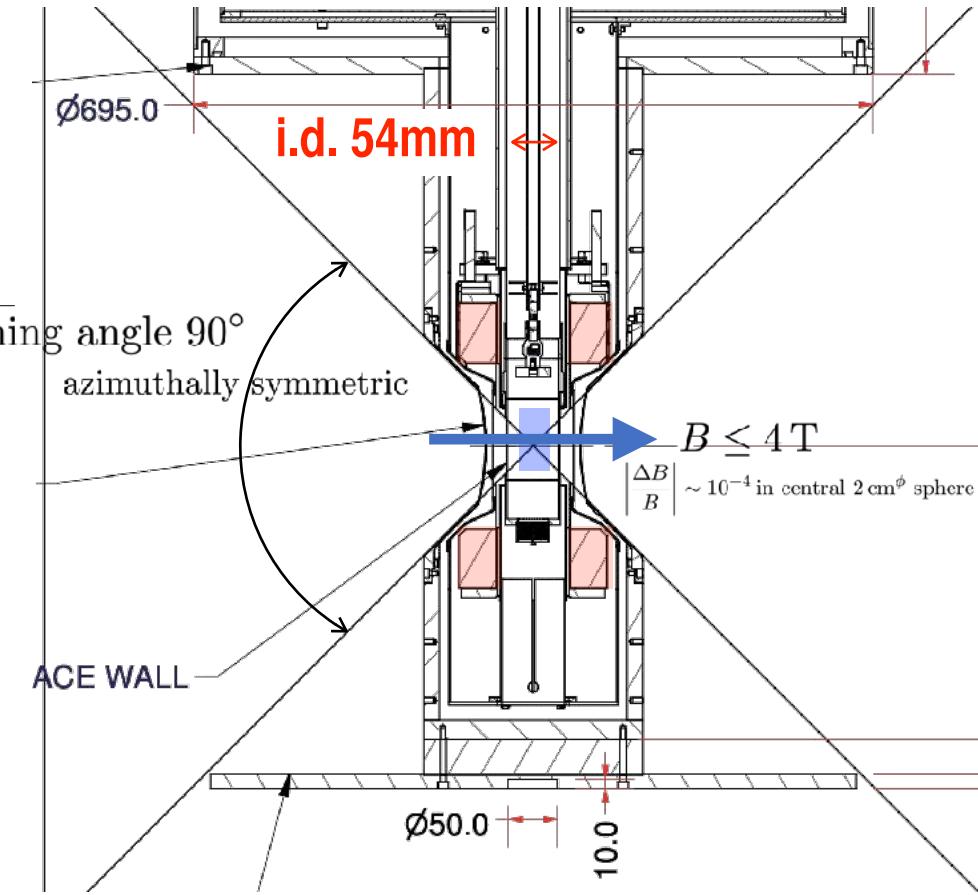
Nd (mol%)	$P(\text{La})$		T_1	
	2.3T, 1.3K	2.3T, 0.3K	2.3T, 1.3K	0.1T, 0.1K
0.3	comm.	small		
0.05	IMR	0.2%	15 min.	
0.03	comm.	20%	85 min.	>60 min.
0.01	IMR	>20% (>81%)	>120 min.	(>180 min.)
0.003	IMR	crystal growth scheduled in May and June, 2024		
0.001	IMR	enhancement was below our sensitivity		

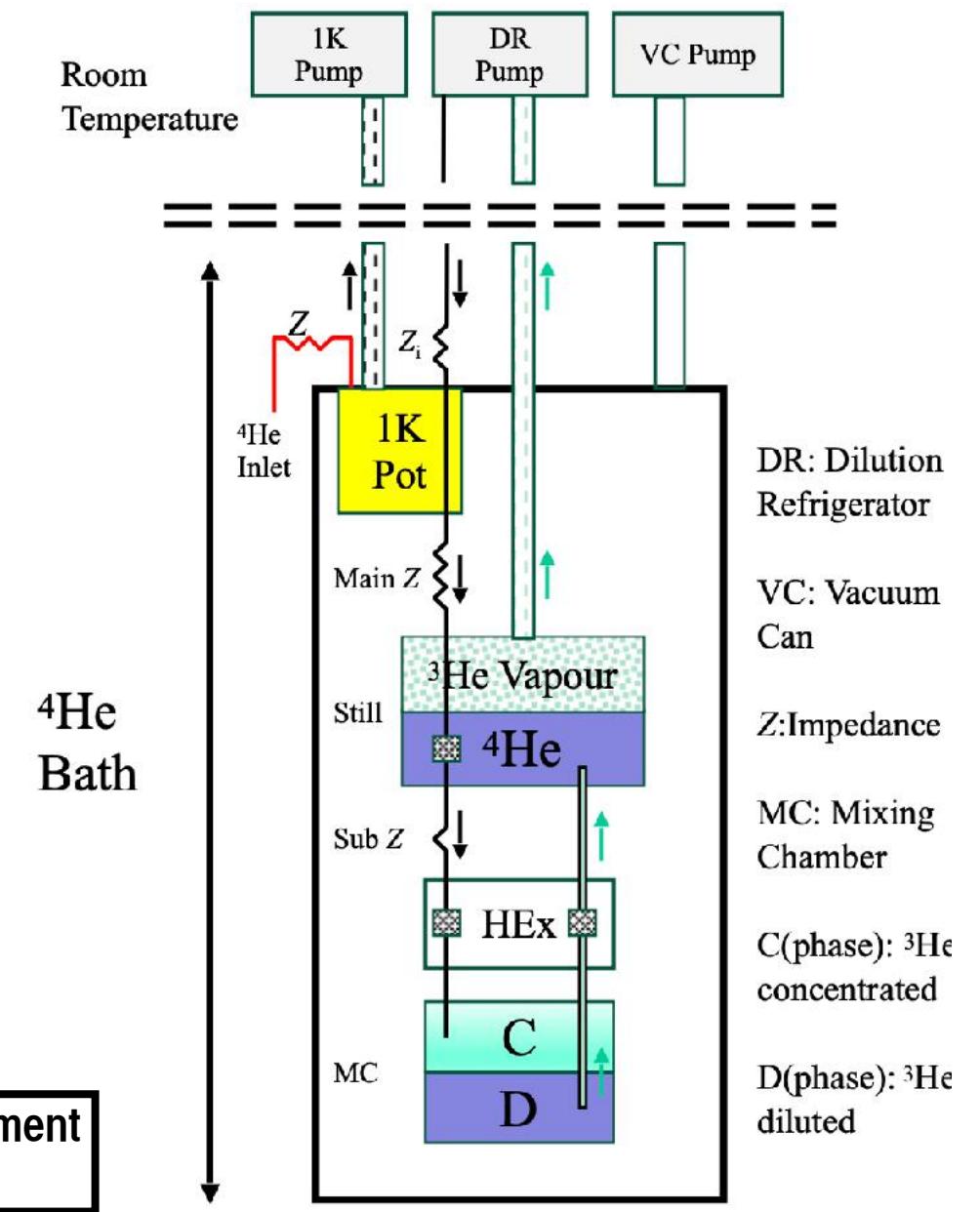
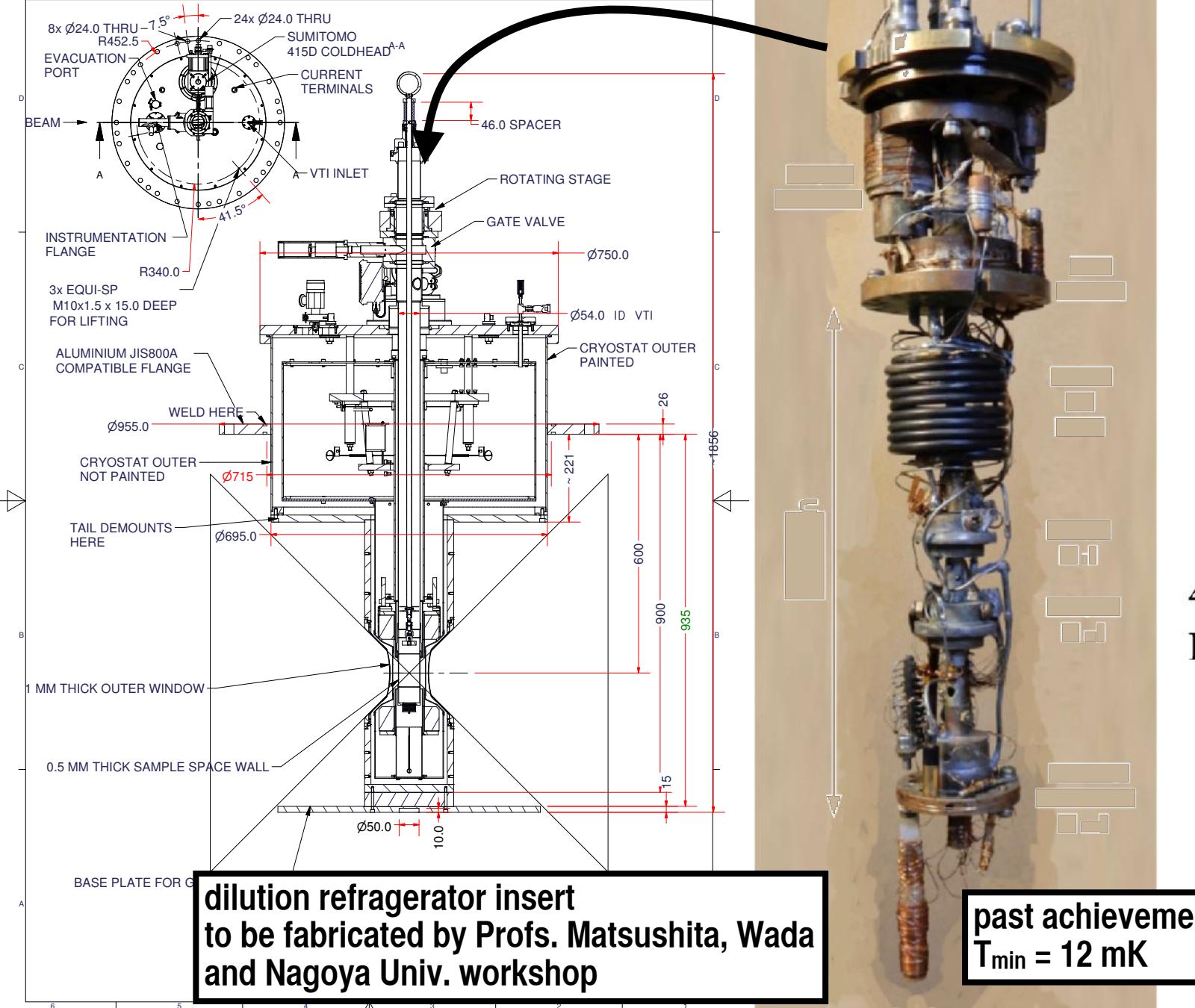
Dependence of the spin relaxation time (T_1) on the magnetic field is being measured.

for Phase-I



ready for use at J-PARC MLF

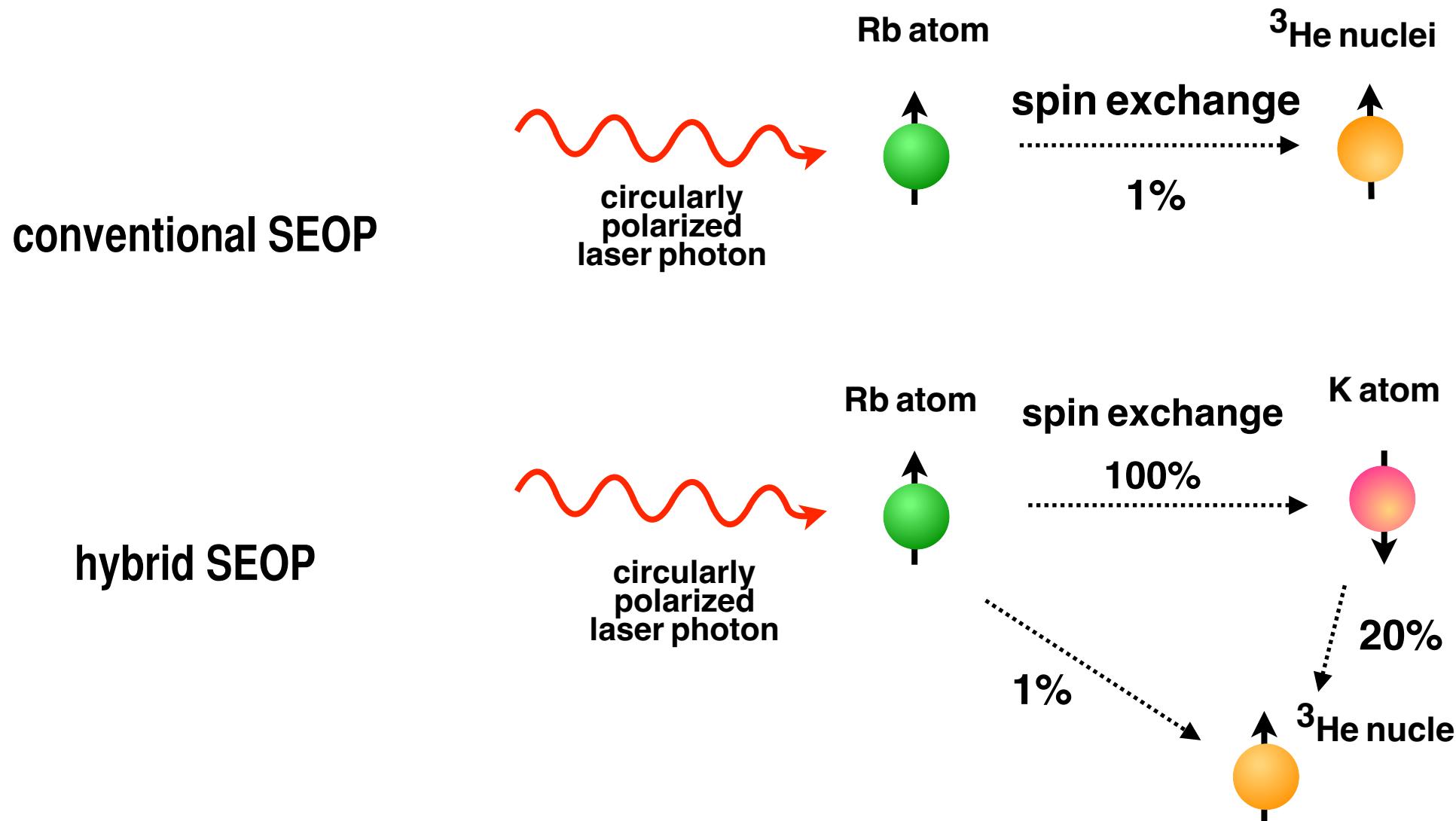




^3He Spin Filter

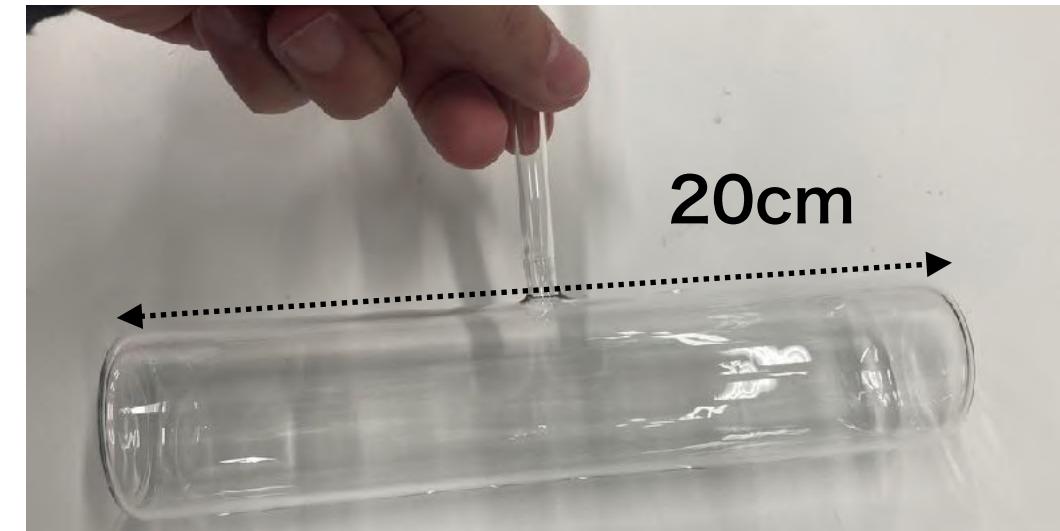
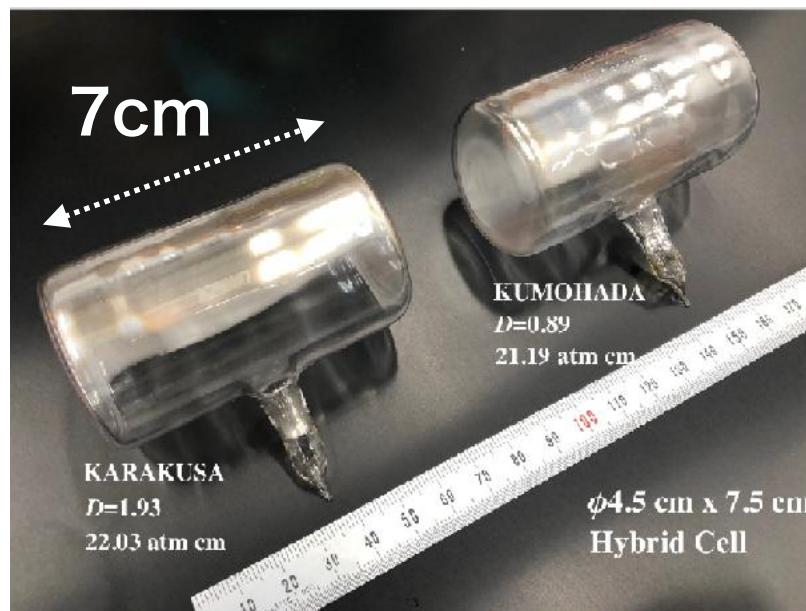
Application of Rb-K Hybrid Spin Exchange Optical Pumping (SEOP)

Hybrid SEOP ${}^3\text{He}$ polarization > 0.7 (up to ~ 0.8)



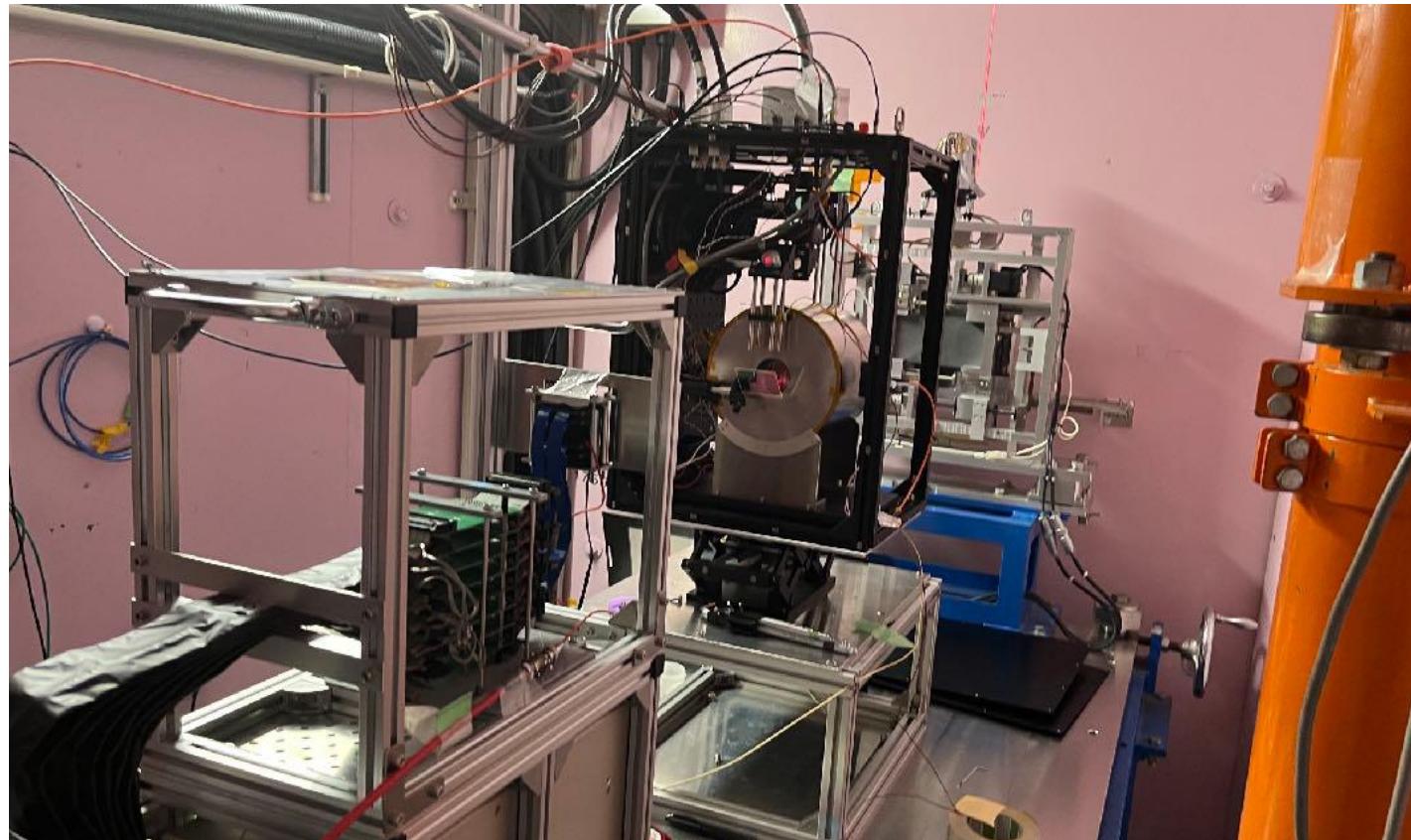
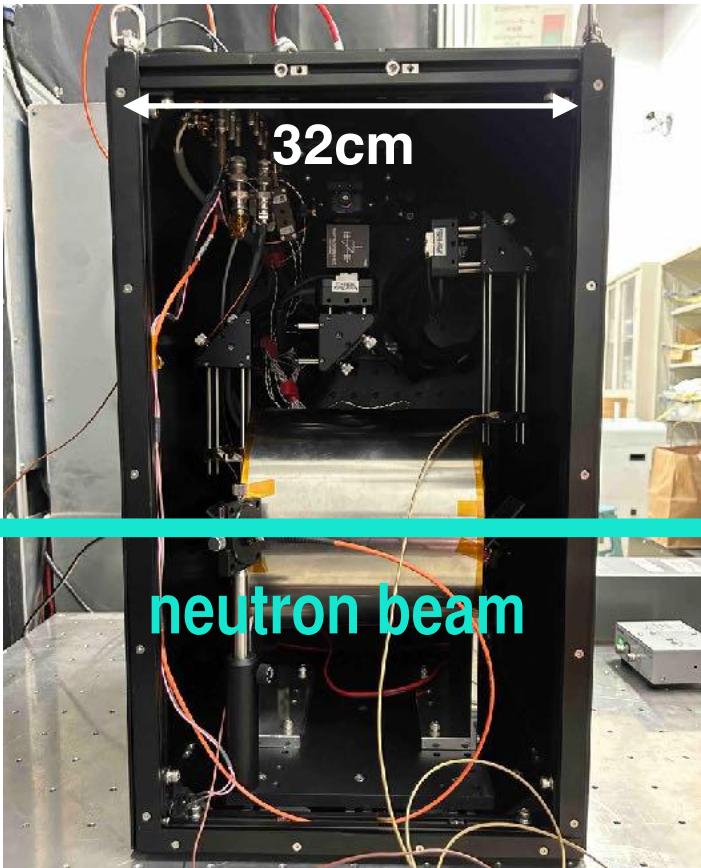
Development of Larger Cells

^3He gas thickness $> 3 \text{ atm.} \times 15 \text{ cm}$ (up to $3 \text{ atm.} \times 20 \text{ cm}$)
cell fiducial cross section $\geq 5 \text{ cm} \times 5 \text{ cm}$



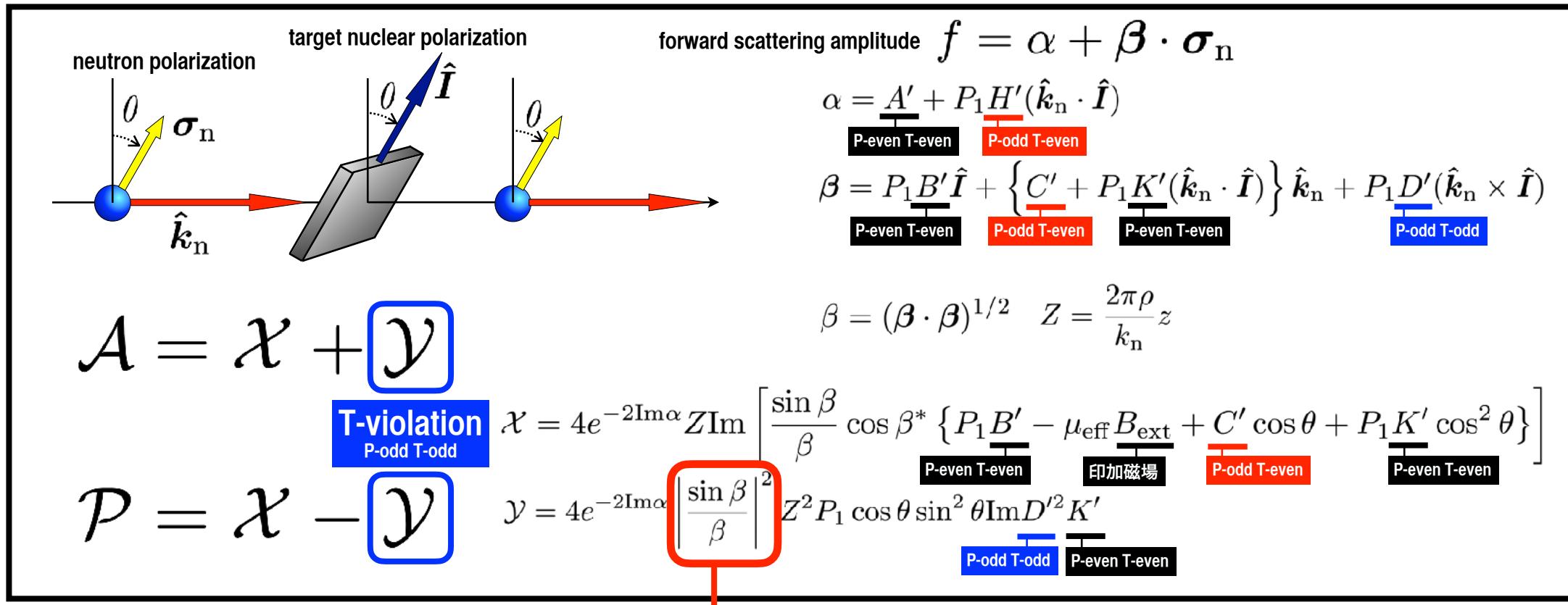
In-situ SEOP

a compact in-situ SEOP



J-PARC : engineering test done in May for 4 day continuous operation
LANL : successfully operated for one beam cycle

Phase-I

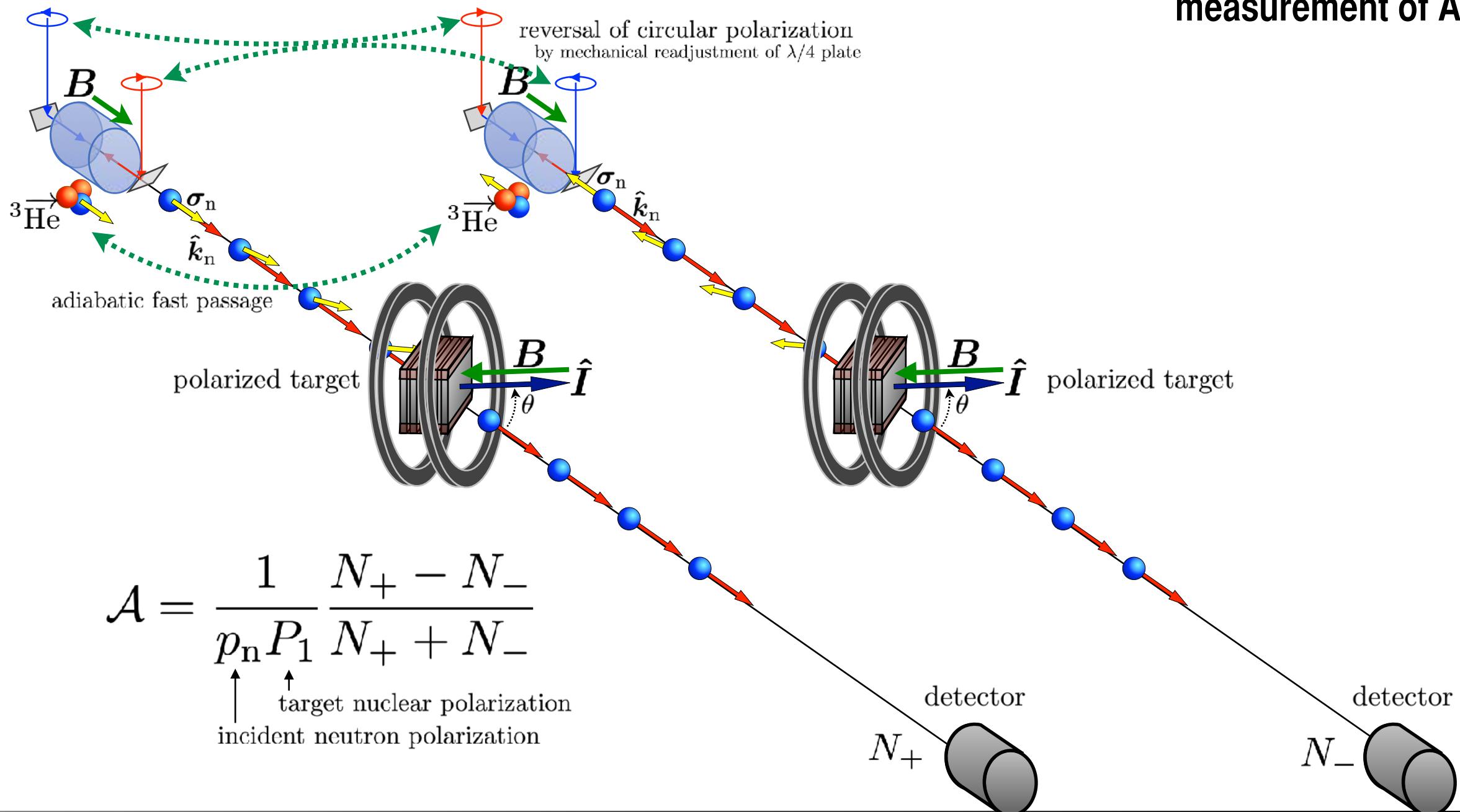


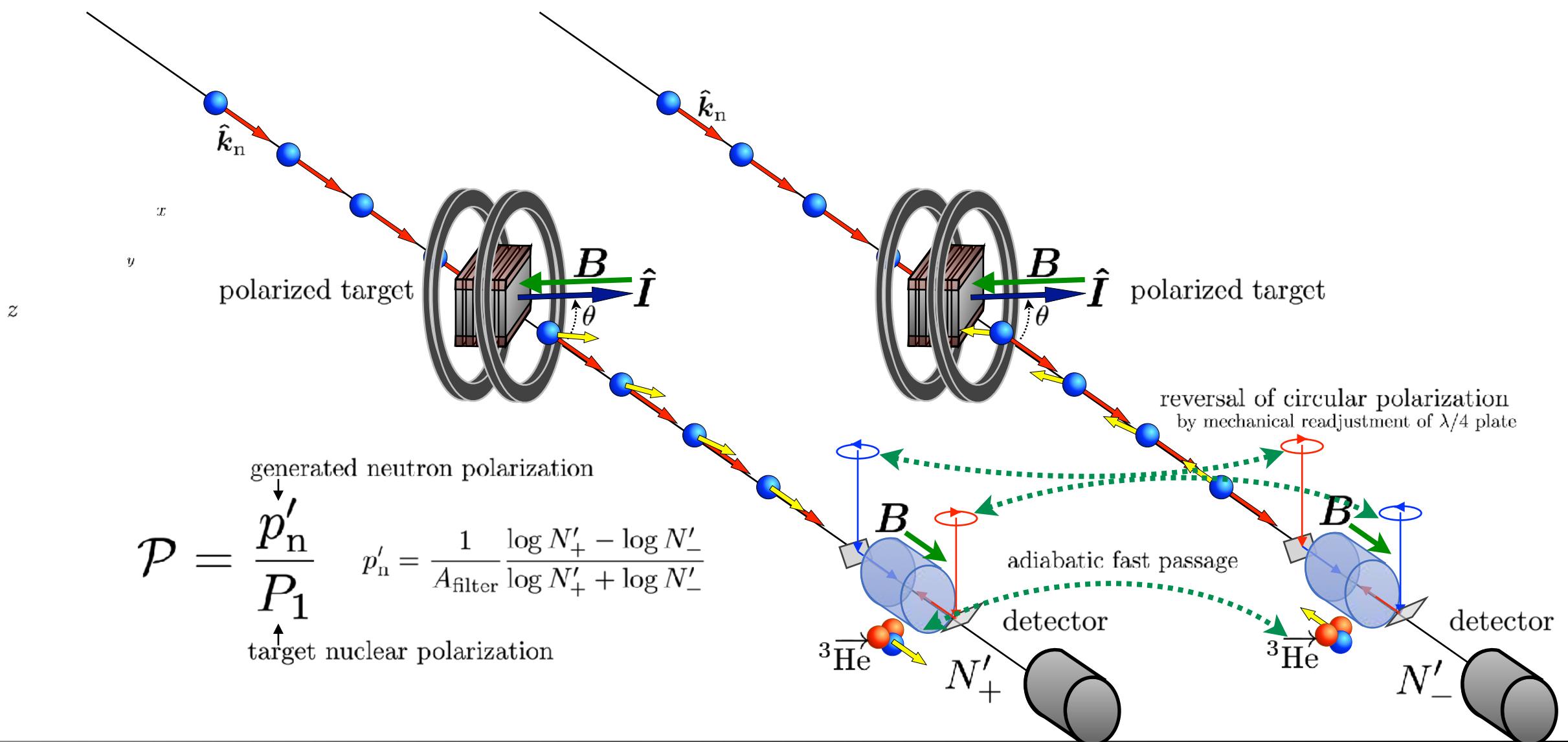
Sensitivity deterioration due to magnetic and pseudomagnetic spin rotation cancellation remains also in this case.

Step-1: Dynamic Nuclear Polarization at $B_{\text{ext}} \sim 2.3$ T and $T \sim 1$ K

Step-2: Spin Freezing at $B_{\text{ext}} \sim 0.1$ T and $T \leq 0.1$ K

measurement of A

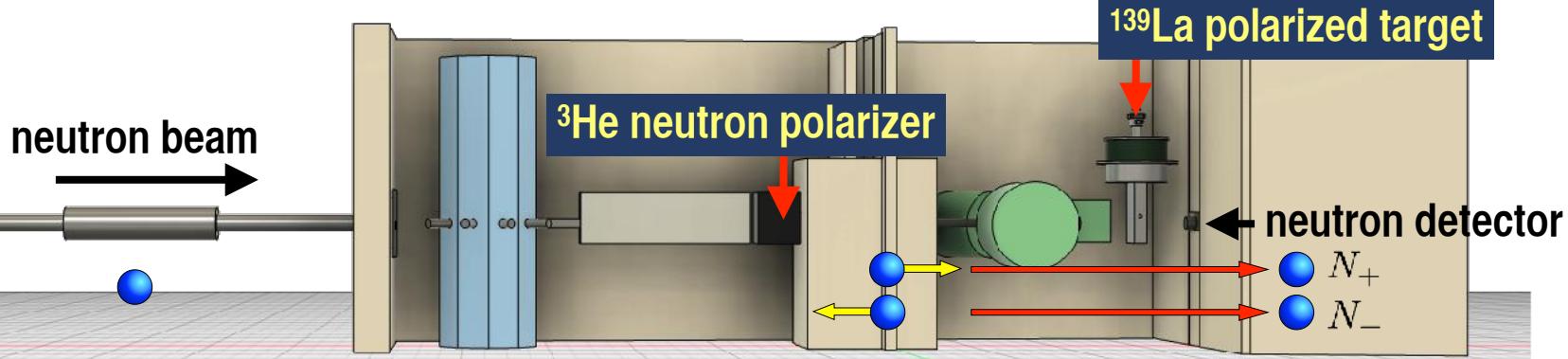




NOPTREX Phase-I (E99 Stage 1)

$$A_I = \frac{1}{p_n P_1} \frac{N_+ - N_-}{N_+ + N_-}$$

↑ target nuclear polarization
incident neutron polarization



■ NOPTREX Phase-I @ MLF BL04

■ 3He neutron polarizer

Sep. 2024

3He gas cell	completed
pumping laser	completed
magnetic field	completed

Apr. 2025

Oct. 2025

Apr. 2026

Oct. 2026

commissioning run

physics run

simultaneous operation of pol. ^3He and pol. ^{139}La at a neutron beam line (BL04)

experimental basis of systematics evaluation

critical technologies

spin freezing (^{139}La)

magnetic field separation for neutron spin control

to be submitted at the beginning of FY2026 or later

■ ^{139}La polarized target

superconducting magnet	completed
dilution refrigerator insert	design manufacturing assembly
$\text{Nd}^{3+}:\text{LaAlO}_3$ crystal growth	setup production assembly
electron spin resonance	design procurement of missing parts testing
nuclear magnetic resonance	design procurement of missing parts testing
installation mechanism	design manufacturing

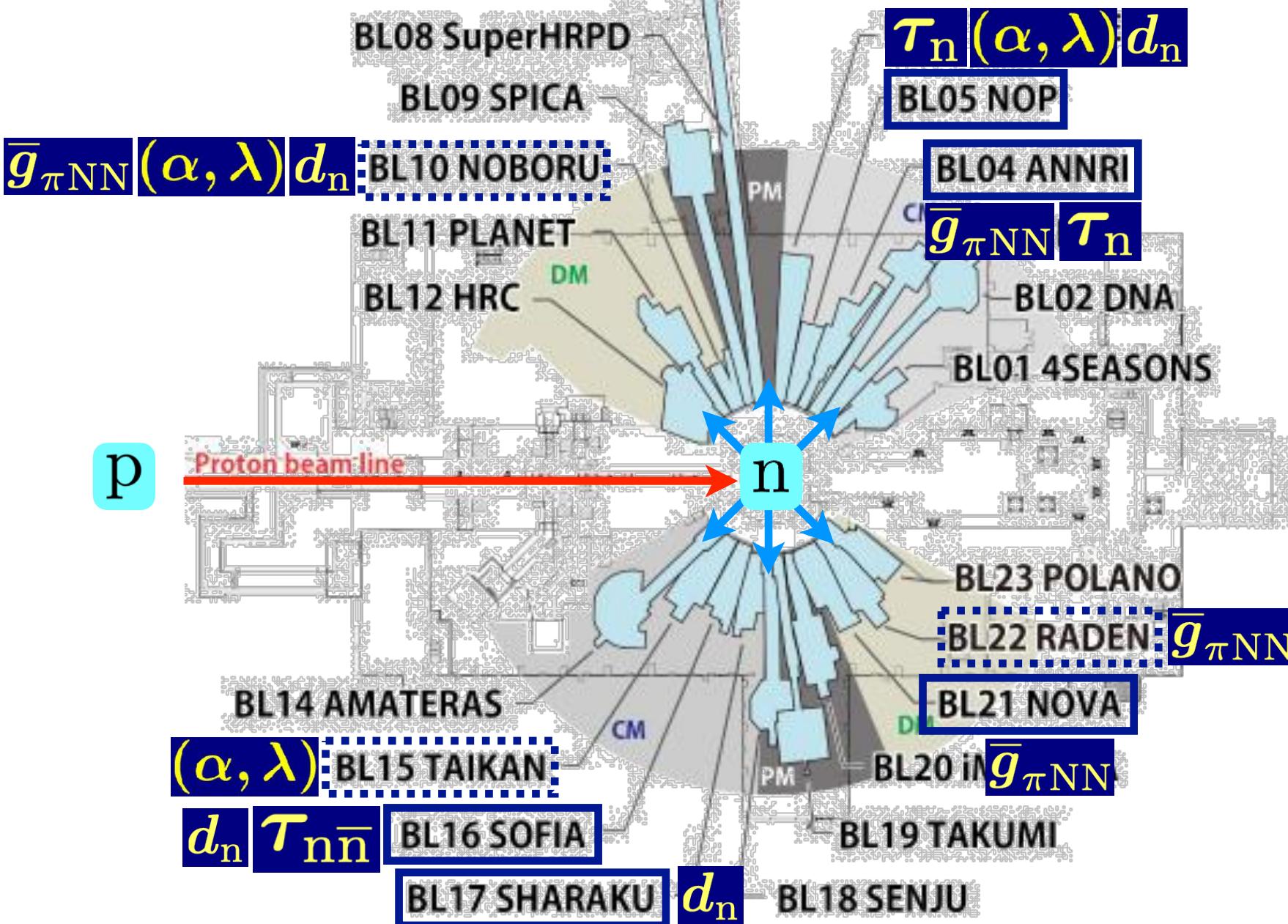
■ beam time

proposal submitted to J-PARC MLF for 2025A

■ study of Meißner shield

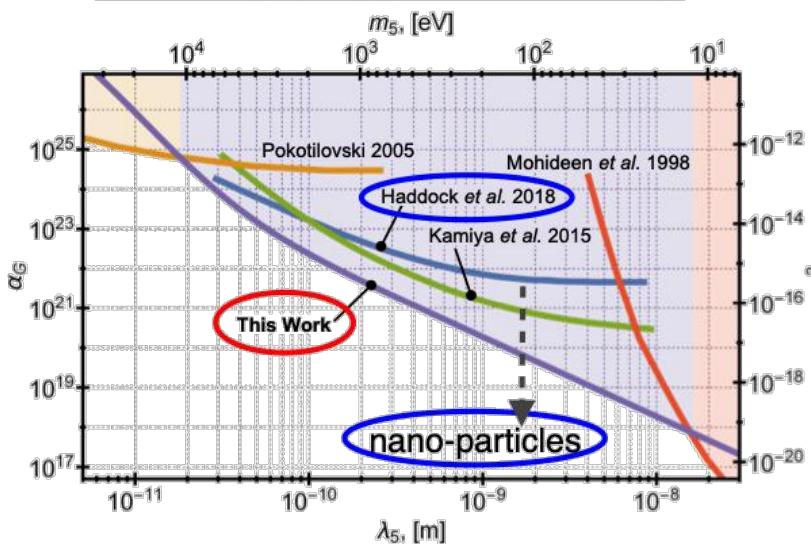
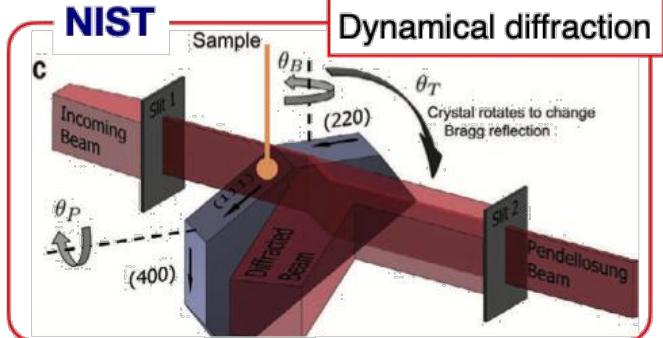
Dec. 2024

test of commercially available materials



New limit for Yukawa-type intermediate force

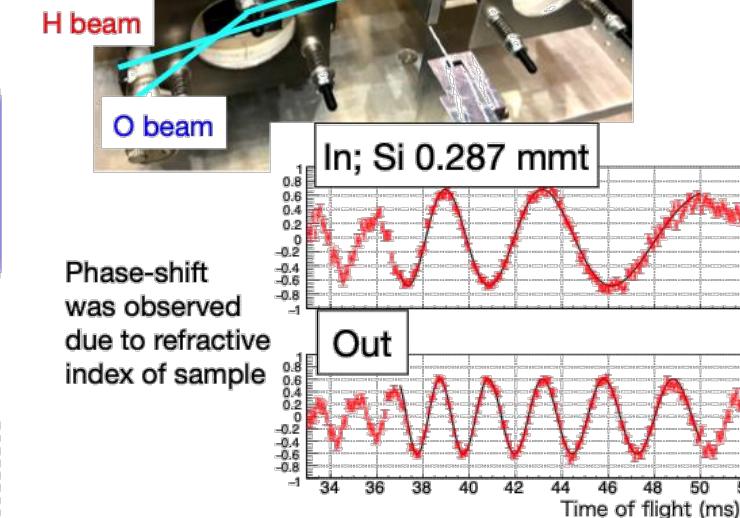
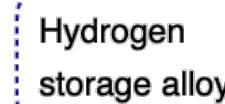
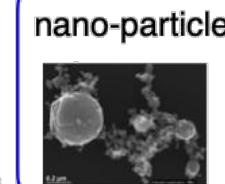
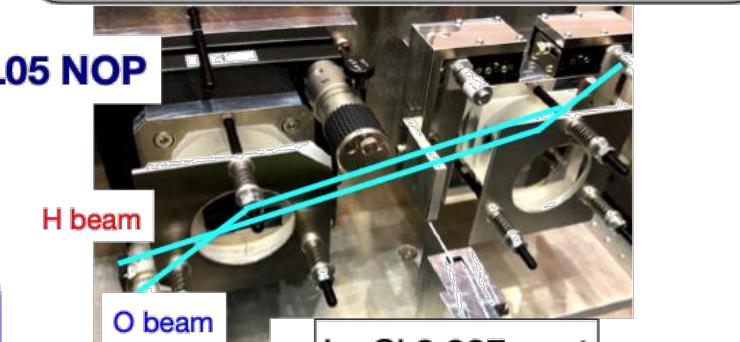
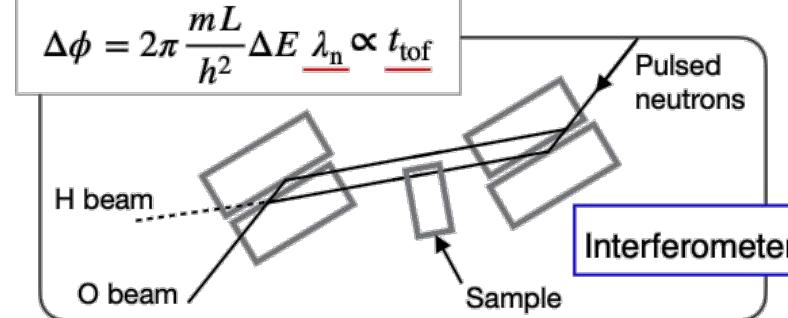
$$V(r) = -G_N \frac{mM}{r} (1 + \alpha e^{-r/\lambda})$$



C. C. Haddock, et al., Phys. Rev. D97, 062002 (2018)

B. Heacock et. al., Science 373 6560 (2021)

New interferometer with high precision

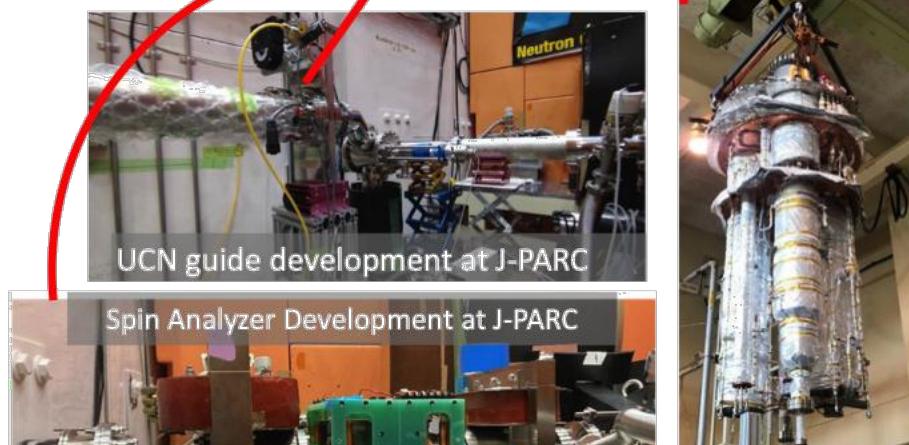
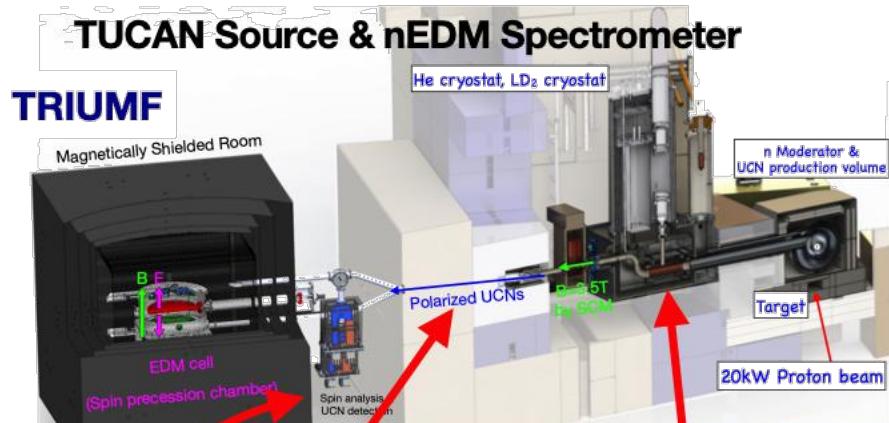
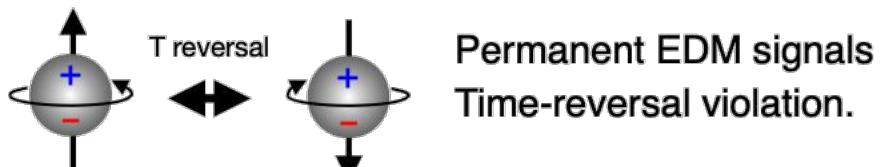


Precision measurements of neutron-nuclear scattering lengths were demonstrated.

T. Fujiiie, et al., PRL 132, 023402 (2024)

d_n

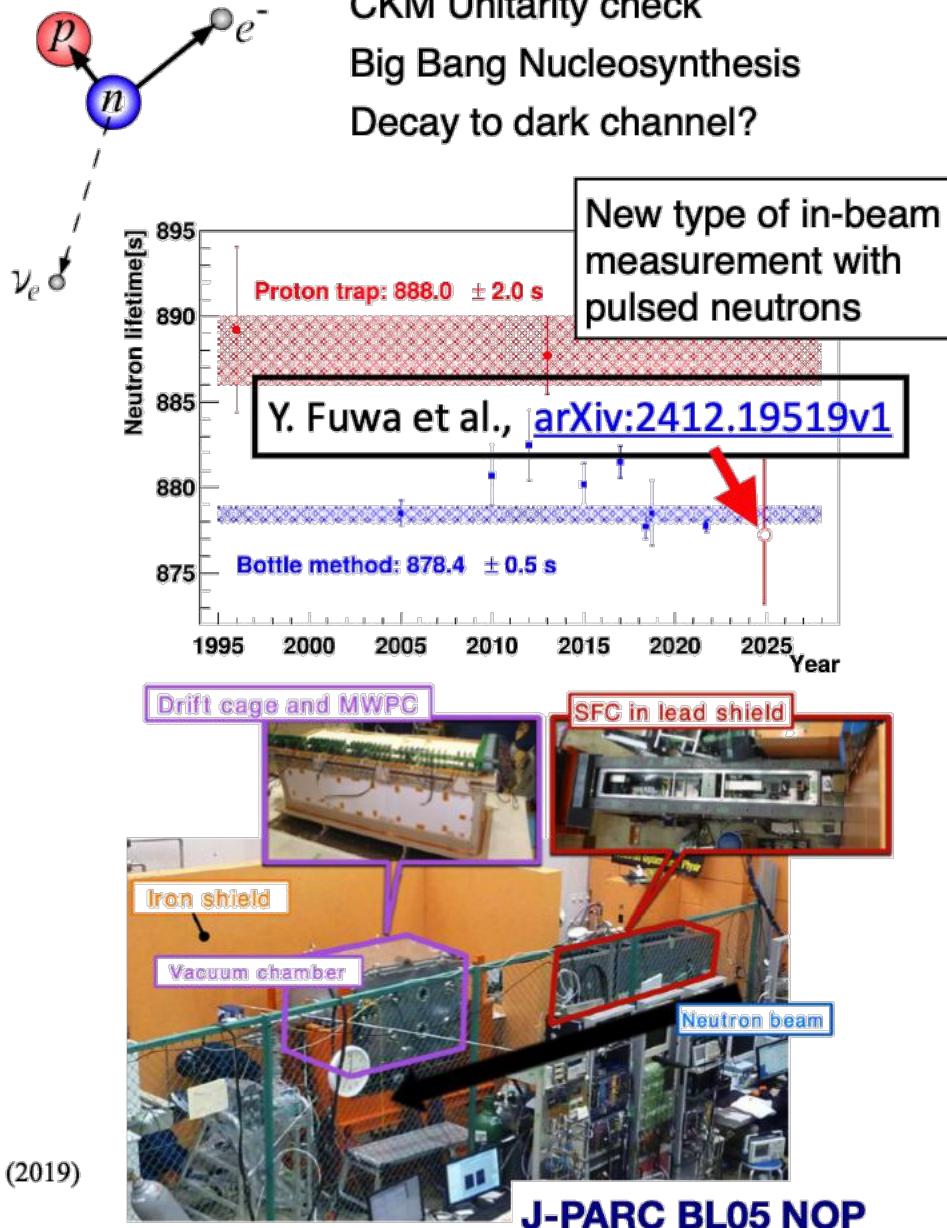
Neutron EDM using high-flux UCNs



J-PARC BL05 NOP

S. Ahmed, et.al.,
Phys. Rev. C 99, 025503 (2019)

Neutron Lifetime



B, B-L nonconservation

nnbar oscillation: spontaneous transition from neutron to antineutron

$$n \xrightarrow[\Delta(B-L) = -2]{\Delta B = -2, \Delta L = 0} \bar{n}$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi} M \psi$$

$$\psi = \begin{bmatrix} n \\ \bar{n} \end{bmatrix} \quad M = \begin{bmatrix} m_n & \delta m \\ \delta m & m_{\bar{n}} \end{bmatrix} \quad |n_{1,2}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|n\rangle \pm |\bar{n}\rangle)$$

$$m_{1,2} = m_n \pm \delta m$$

$$P_{n \rightarrow \bar{n}} = \sin^2 \frac{\delta m}{\hbar} t \simeq \left(\frac{t}{\tau_{n\bar{n}}} \right)^2 \quad \tau_{n\bar{n}} = \frac{\hbar}{\delta m}$$

$$\tau_{n\bar{n}, \text{free}} > 0.86 \times 10^8 \text{ s (CL90\%)}$$

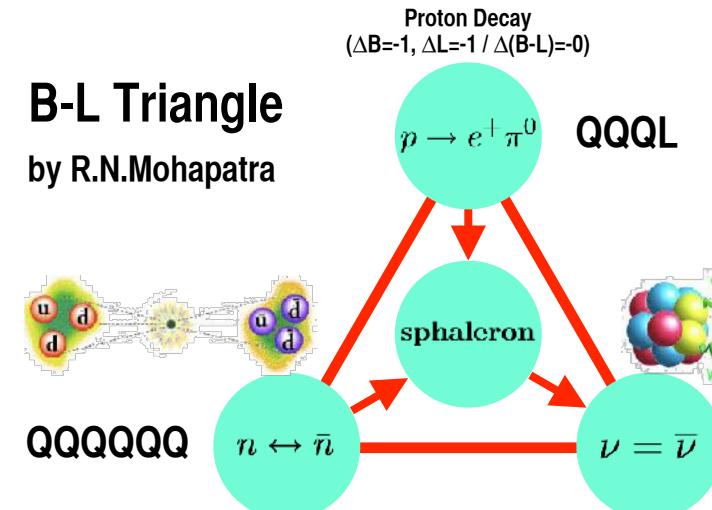
M.Baldo-Ceolin et al., Z. Phys. C63 (1994) 409

2-3 order improvement

$$\tau_{n\bar{n}} = \mathcal{O}(10^{10} \text{ s})$$

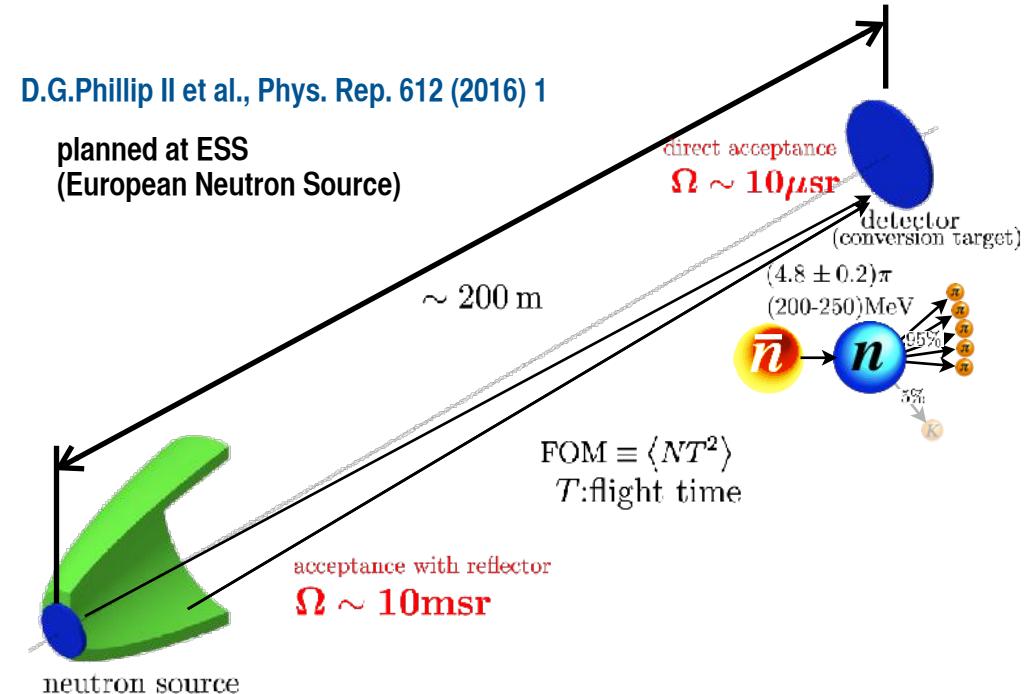
K.S.Babu et al., Phys. Rev. D87(2013)115019

B-L Triangle by R.N.Mohapatra



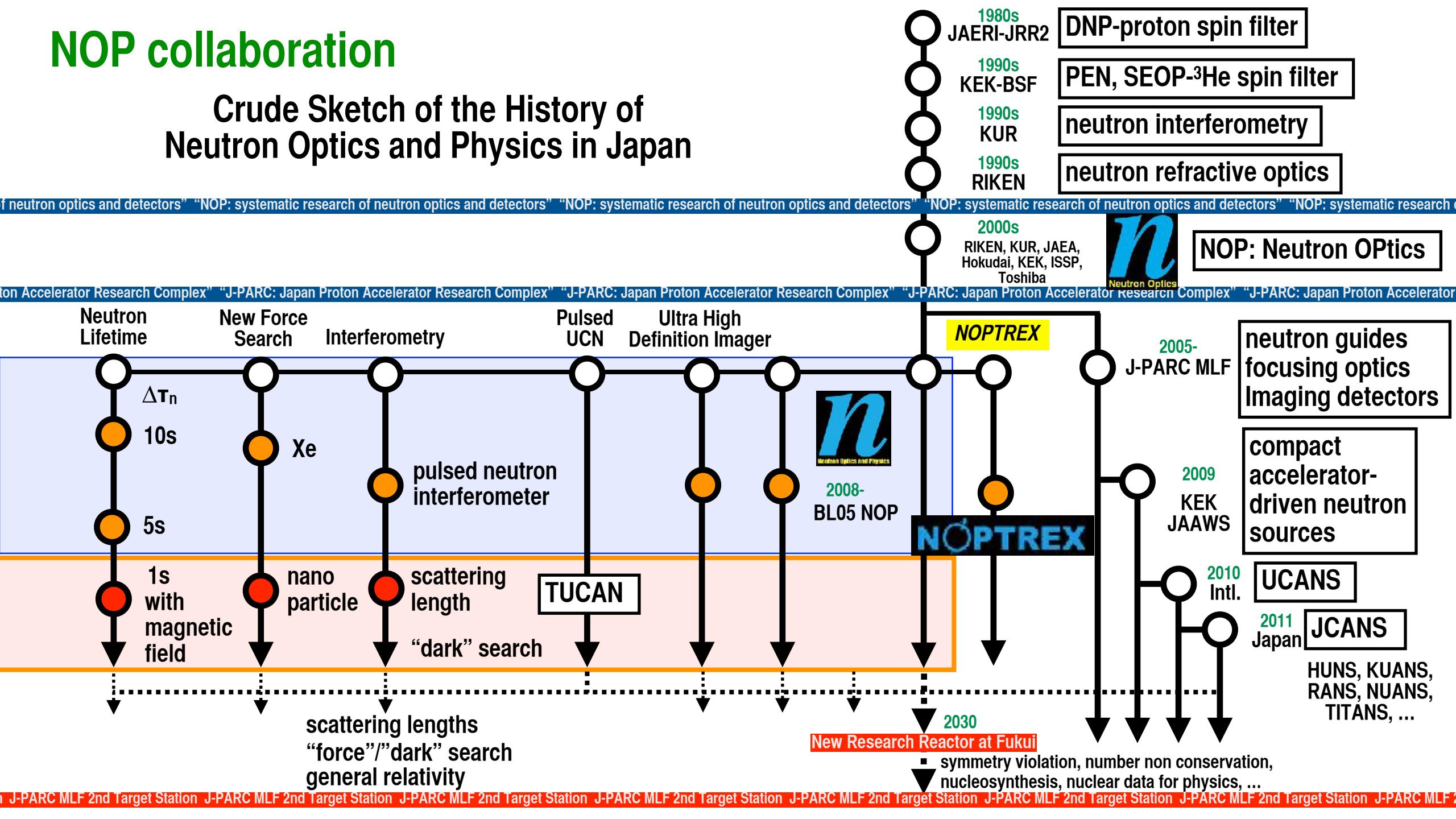
D.G.Phillip II et al., Phys. Rep. 612 (2016) 1

planned at ESS
(European Neutron Source)



NOP collaboration

Crude Sketch of the History of Neutron Optics and Physics in Japan



NOP collaboration

Crude Sketch of the History of Neutron Optics and Physics in Japan

