

Neutrino-less  
Double Beta Decay  
study  
in  
CANDLES experiment

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for the  
CANDLES Collaboration



# CANDLES Collaboration (~30 members)



Osaka Univ.



Osaka RCNP



Fukui Univ.



Tokushima Univ.



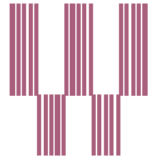
Osaka Sangyo Univ.



Tsukuba Univ.



Saga Univ.



Wakasa Energy Center

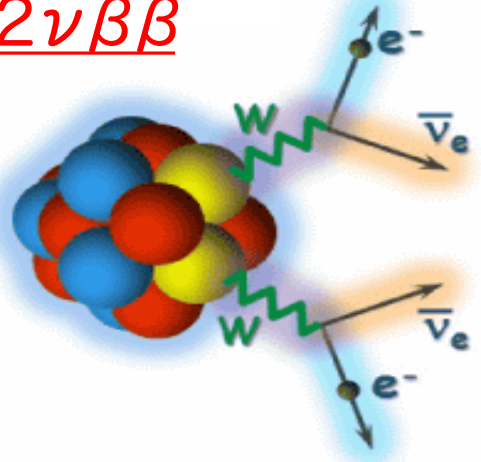


# Outline of the Talk

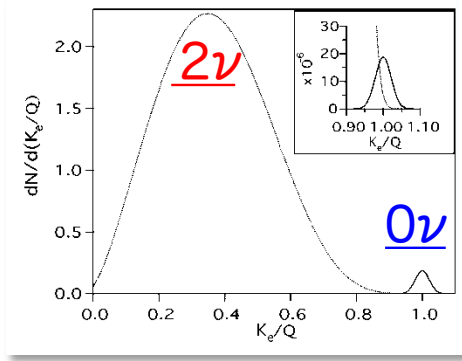
- Double Beta Experiment
- CANDLES Experiment
  - Background
  - Detector Upgrade
  - Current Limit
- R&D for Next/Future CANDLES

# Double Beta Decay experiment

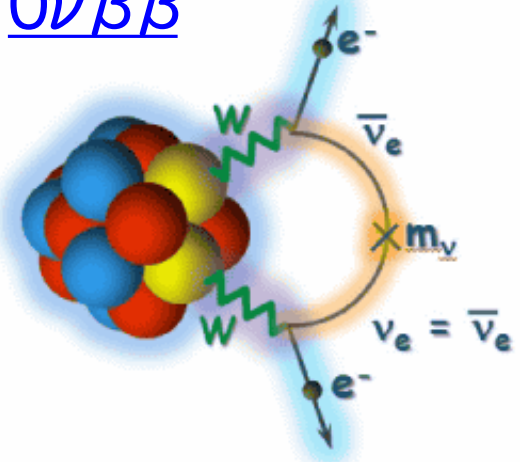
2νββ



Ann.Rev.Nucl.Part.Sci.52:115



0νββ

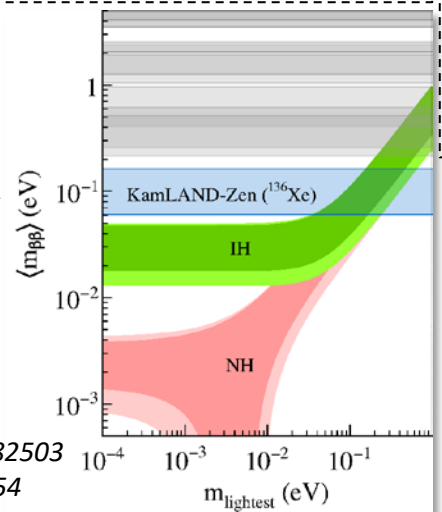


Continuous vs. Monochro.

- ✓ rare but under standard model
- ✓ measured with >10 Isotopes
  - ✓ <sup>76</sup>Ge, <sup>100</sup>Mo, <sup>130</sup>Te, <sup>136</sup>Xe, <sup>48</sup>Ca...
- ✓ T<sub>1/2</sub> : 10<sup>18</sup> ~ 10<sup>20</sup> yr

- ✓ extremely rare beyond standard model
  - ✓ Majorana particle (ν = ν̄)
  - ✓ lepton number violation ⇒ leptogenesis
  - ✓ neutrino mass ⇒ hierarchy
- under measurement with
  - ✓ <sup>136</sup>Xe, <sup>76</sup>Ge, <sup>130</sup>Te, <sup>48</sup>Ca...
- T<sub>1/2</sub> : ≥ 10<sup>26</sup> yr (KL-Zen, GERDA)

$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} = \left[ G_{0\nu} |M_{0\nu}|^2 \langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle^2 \right]^{-1}$$



Phys.Rev.Lett.117,082503  
+ Eur.Phys.J.C71 1754

- milestones for neutrino mass hierarchy
- ~60meV : degenerated ?
  - ~20meV : inverted ?
  - ~meV : normal ?



# $0\nu\beta\beta$ experiment w/ $^{48}\text{Ca}$

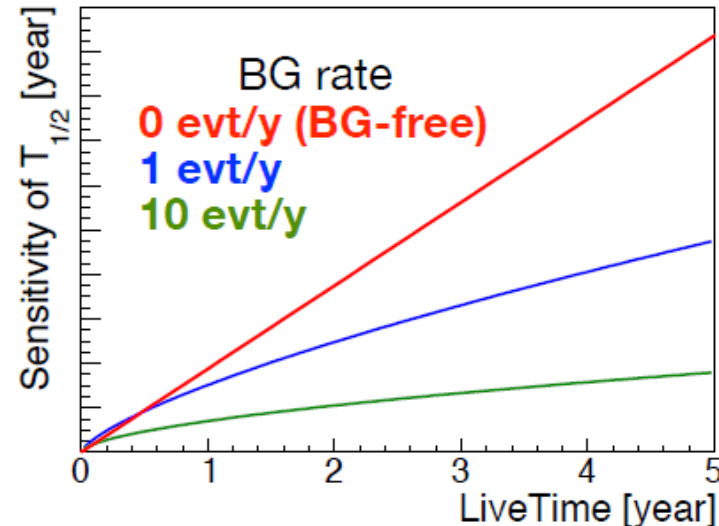
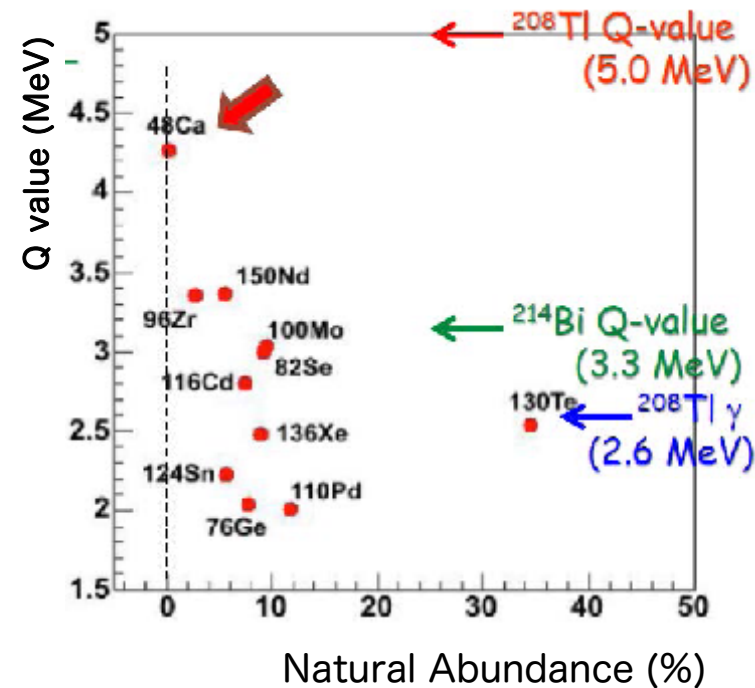
## $^{48}\text{CaF}_2$ crystal as target $0\nu\beta\beta$

😊 **Max  $Q_{\beta\beta}$  @ 4.271 MeV**

- $\geq ^{238}\text{U}, ^{232}\text{Th}, ^{40}\text{K}...$ 
  - except Internal  $^{208}\text{Tl}$  ( $\beta + \gamma$ )
- **~ 0 BG @  $Q_{\beta\beta}$**
- powerful in next generation
  - $\langle m_\nu \rangle \sim T^{-1/2} \sim M^{-1/2}$
  - c.f.  $\sim M^{-1/4}$  (BG limit)
- Large phase space factor

😞 **Low natural abundance (0.187%)**

- separated isotope is expensive (M\$/10g)
- independent **enrichment** is required
- high E res. (<1%) at low temp.
  - inevitable for  $2\nu$  vs  $0\nu$
  - **bolometer** technique is required



# CANDLES III experiment

Calcium Fluoride for Studies of Neutrino and Dark Matters by Low Energy Spectrometer



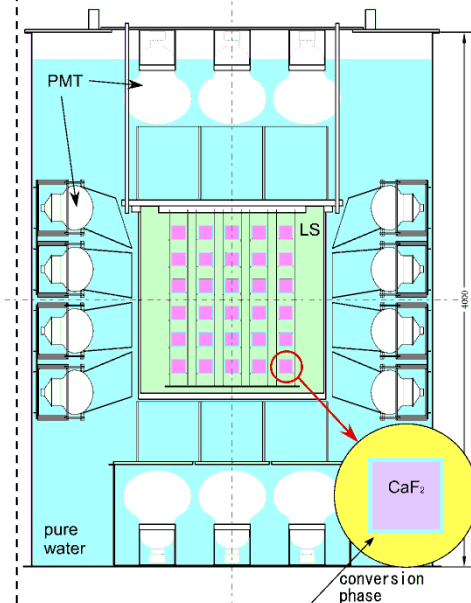
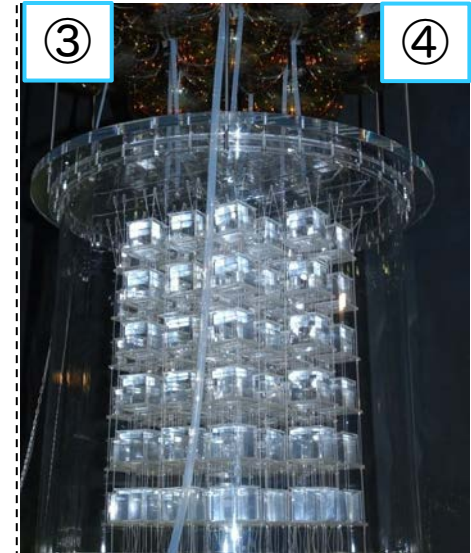
@ Kamioka-mine (UG)  
1km overburden ( $10^{-5}\mu$ )

① pure water (4x3m  $\phi$ )  
• passive shield

② PMT + light guide  
• 10" (R7081) x12  
• 13" (R8085) x36  
• 20" (R7250) x14  
• guide : ~93% ref  
@420nm

③ 2.1m<sup>3</sup> LS  
•  $4\pi$  active shield  
• ~10ns pulse

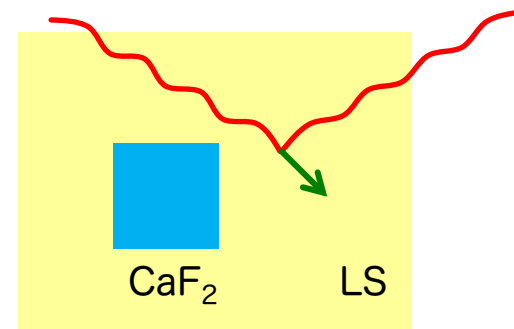
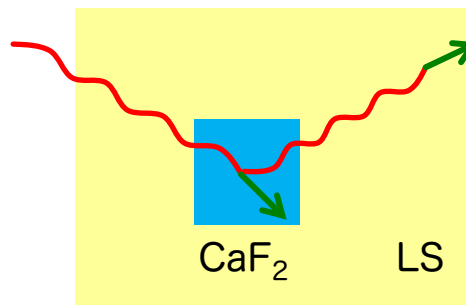
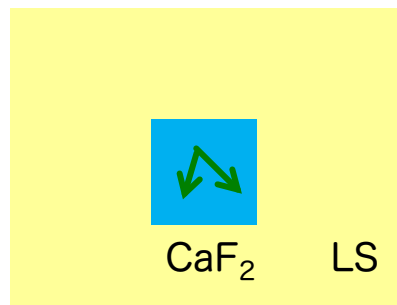
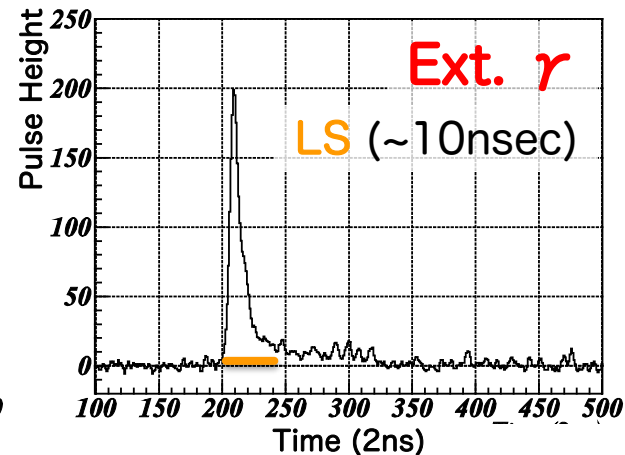
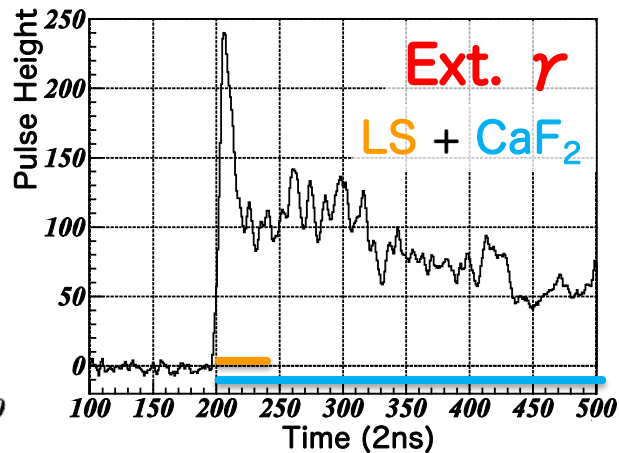
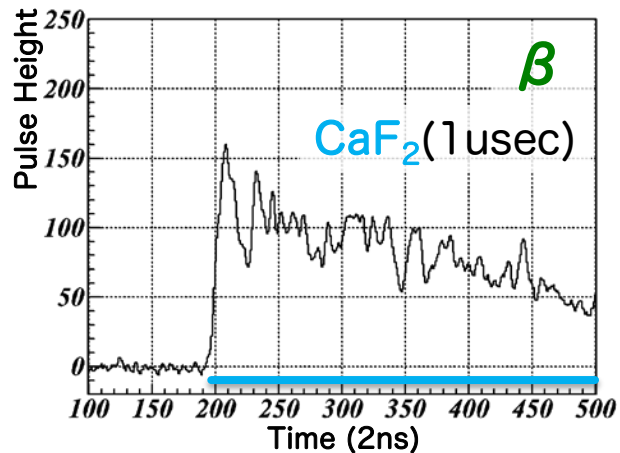
④ CaF<sub>2</sub> (pure) module x 96  
: 305kg (350g <sup>48</sup>Ca)  
WLS : 280 $\Rightarrow$ 420nm  
• ~1  $\mu$ s pulse  $\Rightarrow$  PSD



# Signal in $4\pi$ active shield (Liquid Scintillator : LS)

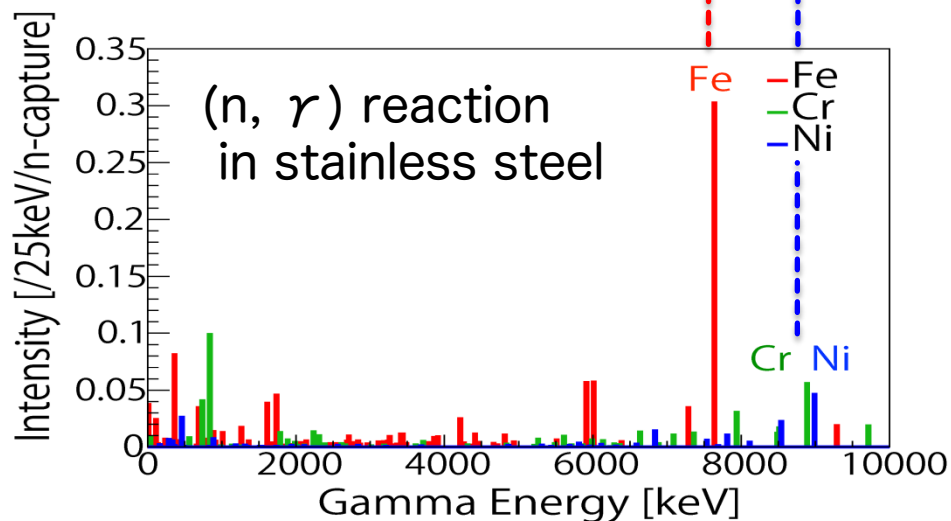
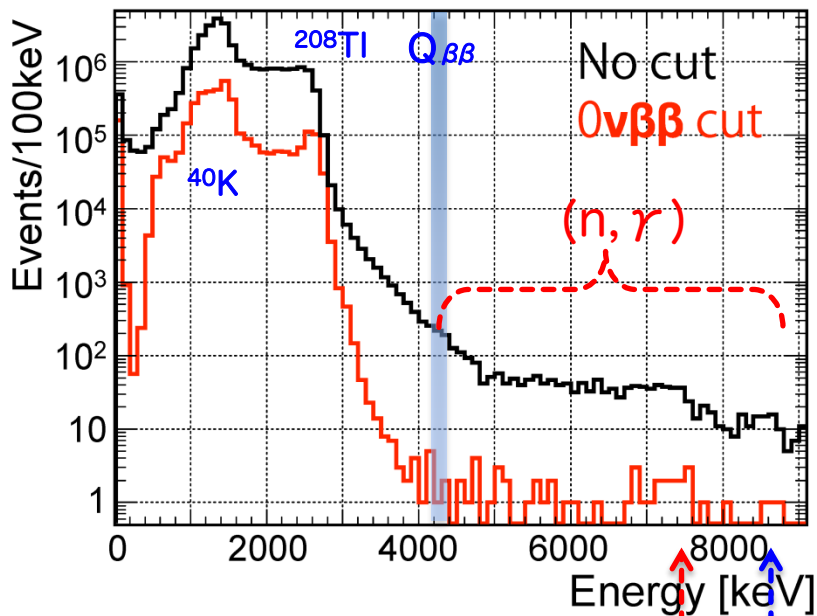
## Rejection of external $\gamma$ events with LS

- Event discrimination by offline **pulse shape analysis**
  - Distinctive time constant : **CaF<sub>2</sub>** (1usec) vs. **LS** (~10nsec)
- 500MHz Flash ADC provides fine structure



# Background Spectrum in CANDLES III (2015)

26 crystal data (least  $^{232}\text{Th}$ )



Live Time	60.3 d
Exposure ( $^{48}\text{Ca}$ )	5.73 kg · d
Events in ROI	6
Expected BG	(n, $\gamma$ ) : $3.4 \pm 0.4$ $^{208}\text{Tl}$ : $\sim 1$
Sensitivity ( $T_{1/2}$ )	$0.8 \times 10^{22}$ yr

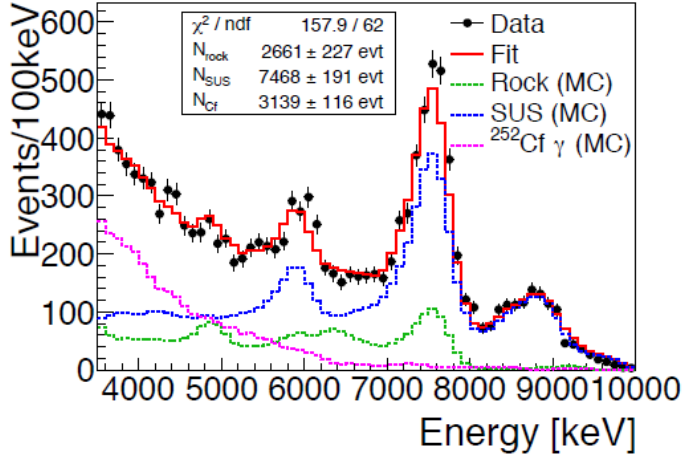
- high E BG remains after LS cut
- BG peaks  $\sim 7.5\text{MeV}$
- seems to be produced from neutron capture on surrounding materials
  - rock n  $\Rightarrow$  rock  $\gamma \Rightarrow \text{CaF}_2$
  - rock n  $\Rightarrow$  SUS tank  $\gamma \Rightarrow \text{CaF}_2$



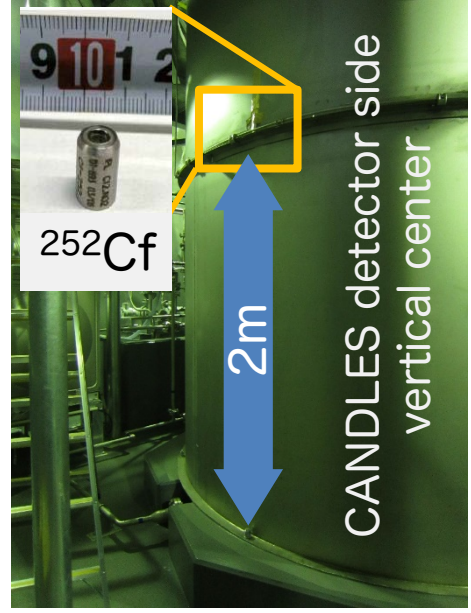
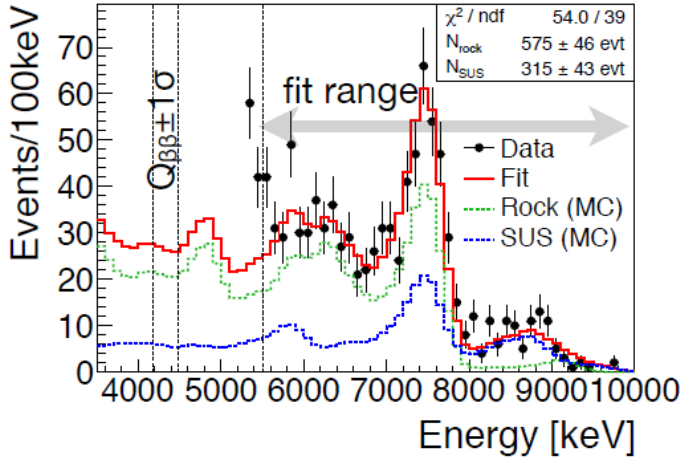
# Understand $(n, \gamma)$ with $^{252}\text{Cf}$ & MC

$^{252}\text{Cf}$  : put neutron source  
 on the SUS tank side or on the rock side  
 MC : detector simulation for  $(n, \gamma)$  reaction  
 in the stainless tank and in the rock

$^{252}\text{Cf}$  Run (3.1 hour)



Physics Run (88.1 days)



- ☑ High E peaks are identified with  $^{252}\text{Cf}$  data.
- ☑  $(n, \gamma)$  MC in rock and stainless tank well reproduced the real data.

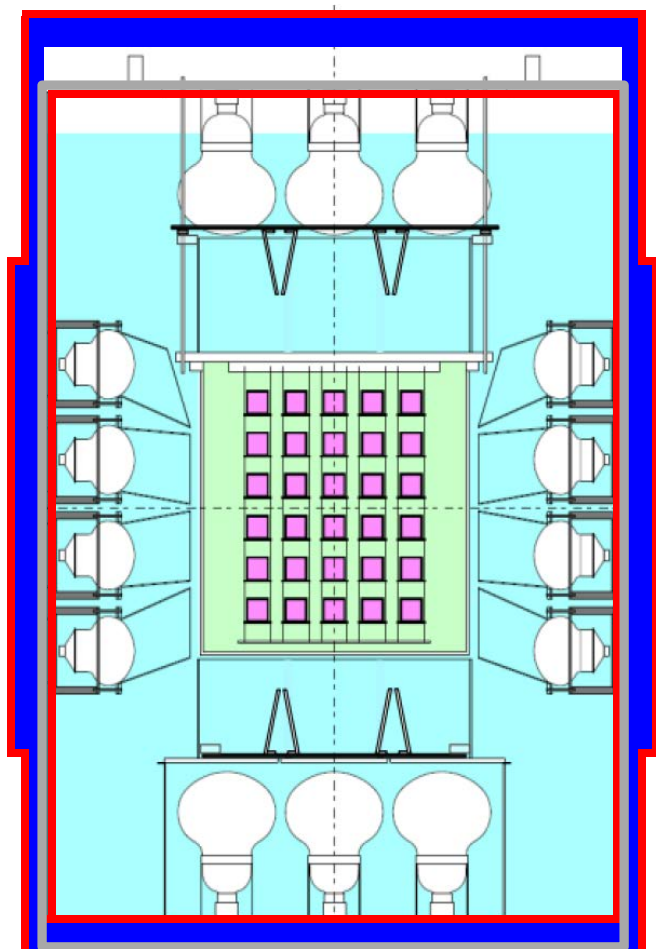
⇒ ☑ **main BG is identified and understood as  $(n, \gamma)$  reaction**  
 $76 \pm 9$  (stat.) events/yr/96 crystals

# Detector Upgrade : neutron & gamma Shield

- SUS tank
- Pb Shield
- B Shield

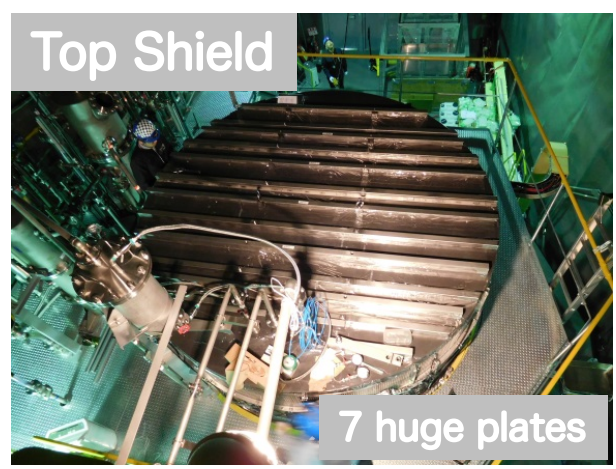
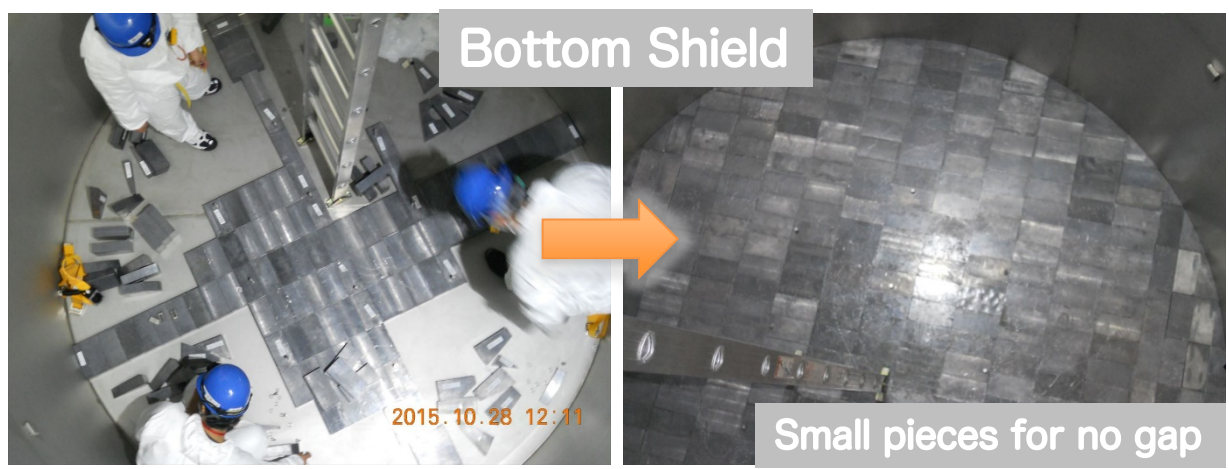
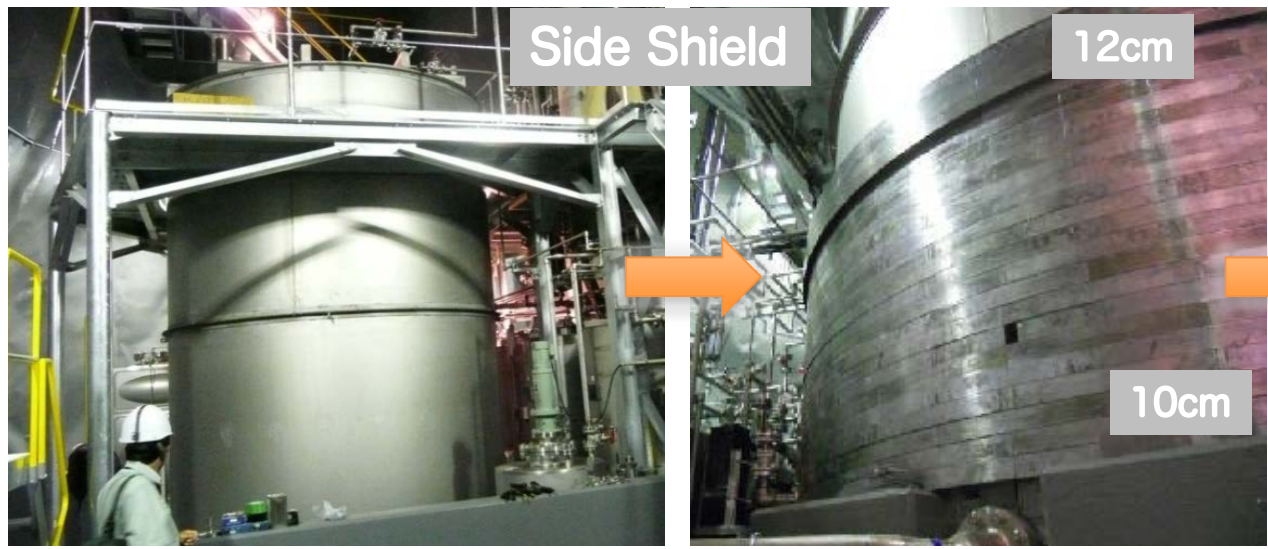
Target :  $\sim 1$  event/yr/96crystals

- **Pb Shield** :  $\gamma$  shield ( $\sim 1/120$ )  
 $(n, \gamma)$  @ Pb =  $O(10^{-1})$  of @ SUS  
 Top (7cm)  
 Bottom (10cm) inside tank  
 Side (10cm) + Barrel (12cm)
- **B Shield** : n shield for SUS ( $\sim 1/30$ )  
 Top, Side (5mm 40wt% B<sub>4</sub>C sheet)  
 outside Pb, inside SUS  
 Bottom (liquid type) inside SUS
- $(n, \gamma)$  BGs in CANDLES is estimated by MC to become  $\sim 1/80$ .  
 Rock :  $0.34 \pm 0.14$  event/yr  
 Tank :  $0.4 \pm 0.2$  event/yr



concrete  
rock

# Pb Shield Construction

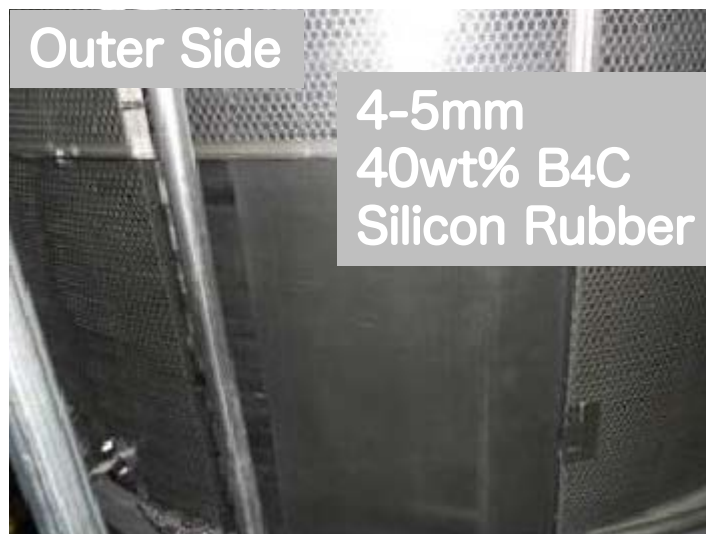


# B Shield Construction

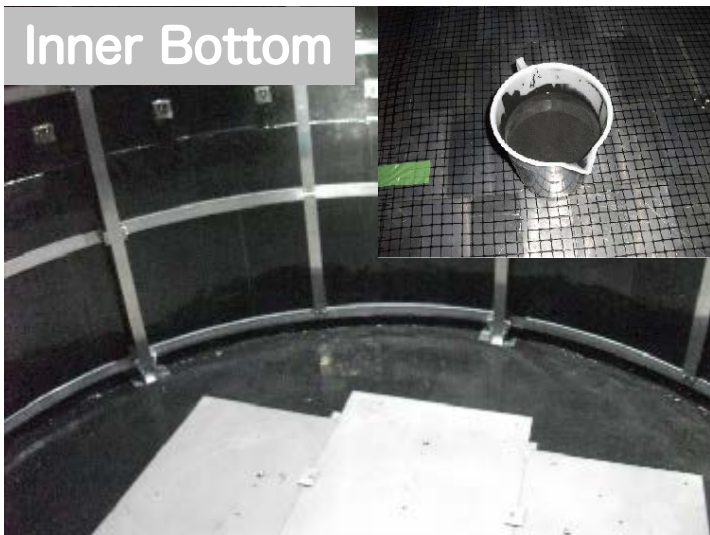
Inner Side



Outer Side

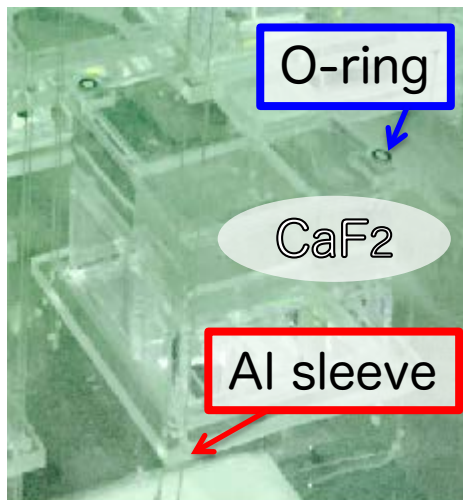
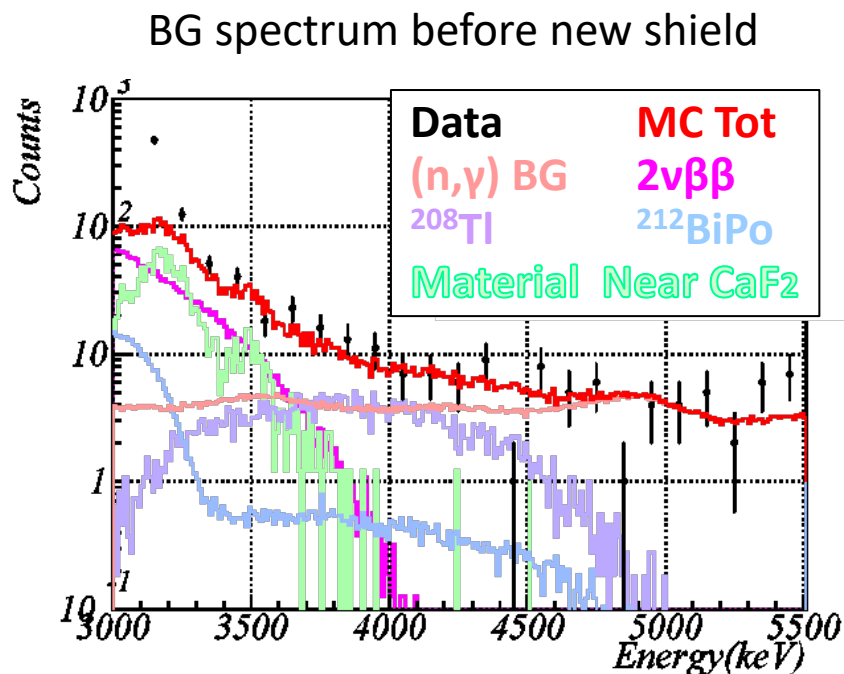
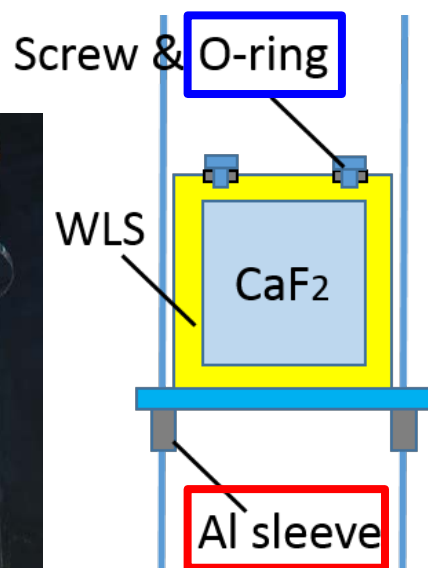


Inner Bottom



- Liquid B compound was poured on top of Pb shield for inner bottom shield.
- This is for both shielding neutron and waterproofing the bottom Pb blocks.
- No B and Pb elution into water have been confirmed by monthly water ICP-MS/OES examination.

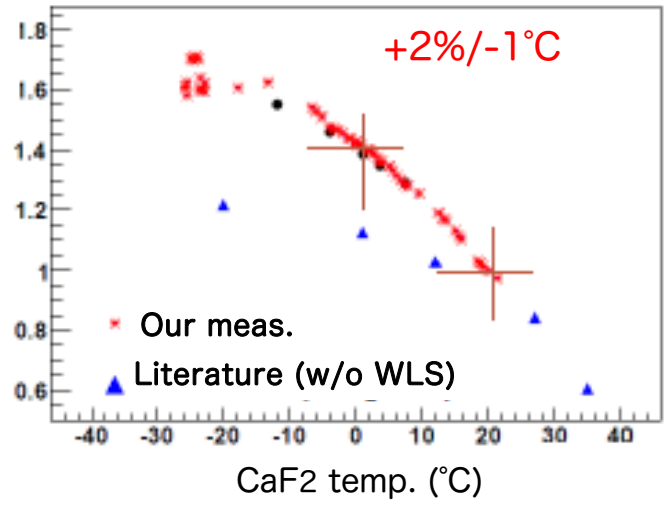
# Low BG material selection for near CaF<sub>2</sub>



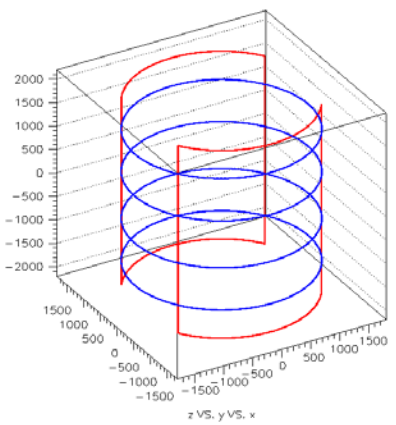
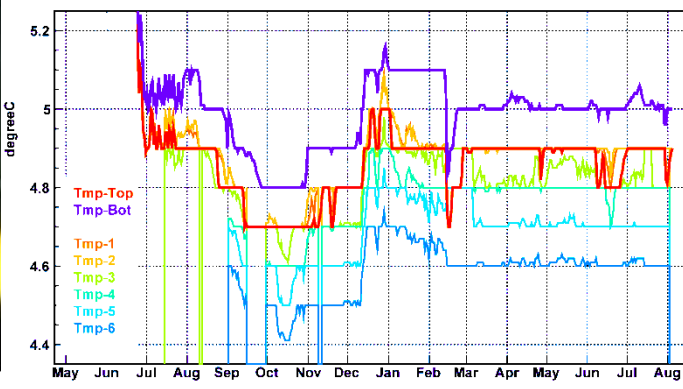
- Radioassay with Ge detector  
⇒ Al sleeve and O-ring are dirty
- Replacement by cleaner ones  
⇒ <sup>232</sup>Th for Al sleeve 0.4 ⇒ 0.1 mBq/crystal
- Less than half background  
@ 3-3.5 MeV region is expected.

# Detector Cooling & Geomag. Compensation

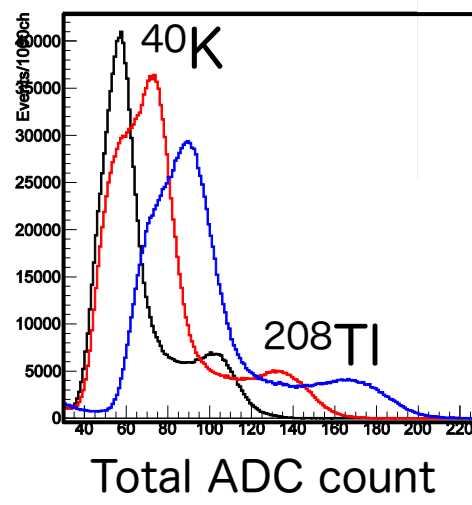
CaF2 Light Yield



- CaF2 light yield increases when chilled +2%/-1°C
- Cooling system (cool room ⇒ detector) was installed.
- Under stable control with +24% light yield (room 17.5⇒2.0±0.8°C, water 17.0⇒4.9±0.1°C)



Geomagnetic compensation coil for large PMT was also installed.

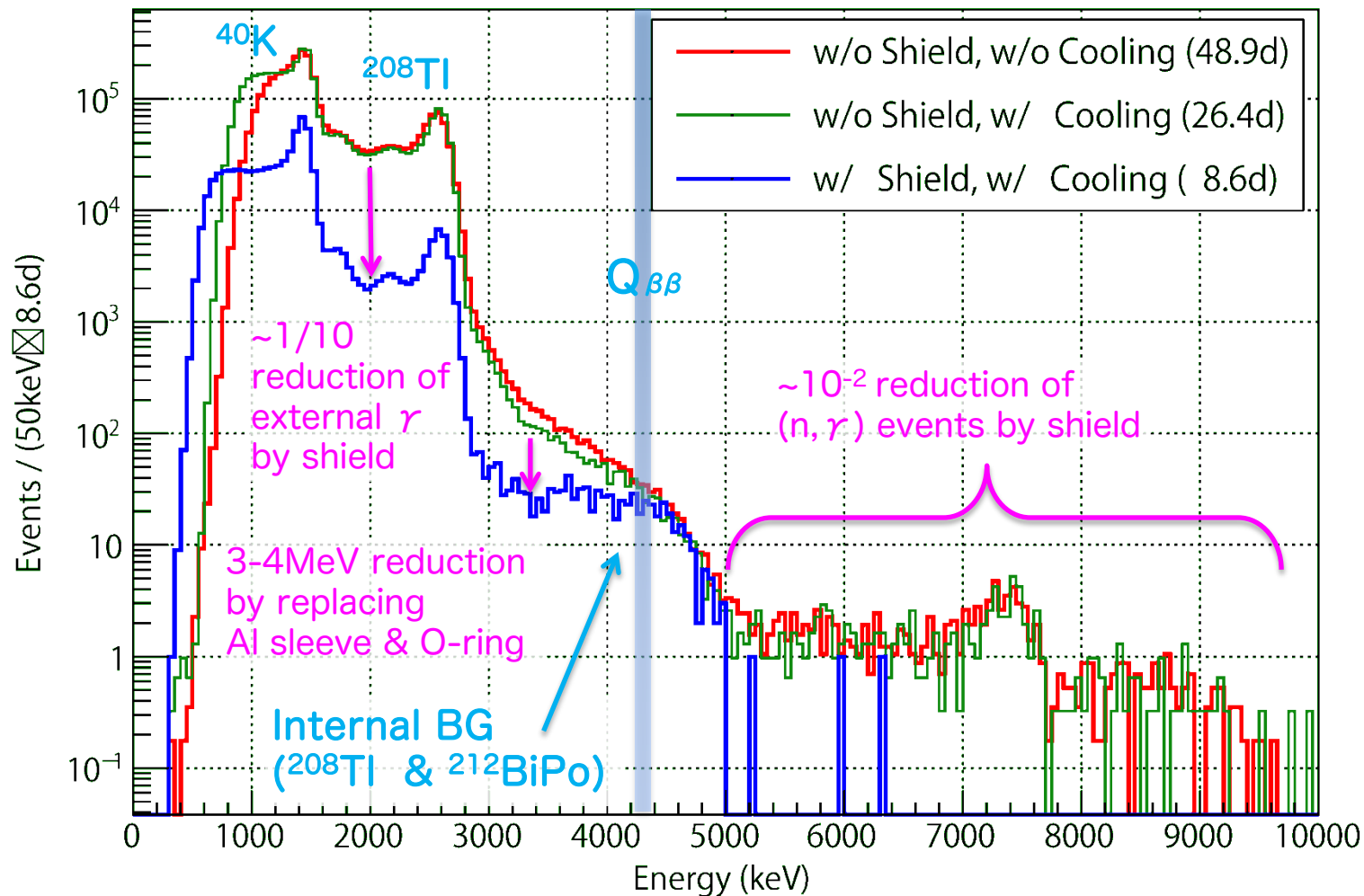


	<sup>88</sup> Y (1.8MeV) Resolution
Original	4.8%
+Coil	4.2%
+Cool (4.0°C)	3.6%
now	4.1%

Resolution progress by upgrade is confirmed.

# Background after Detector Upgrade

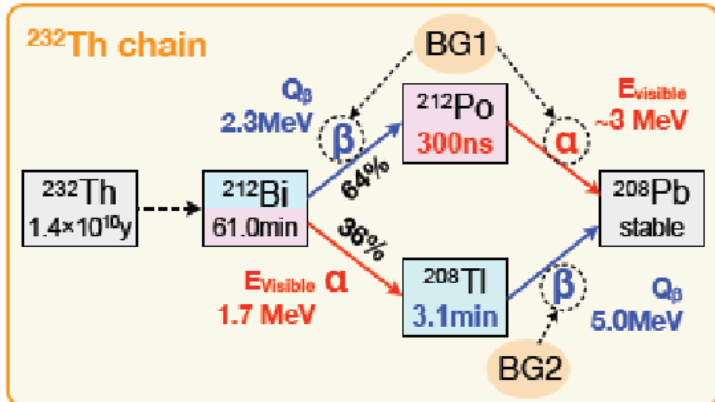
BG measurement w/ Pb+B shield, low BG material, Cooling, Coil



- All upgrades successfully reduced BG by designed magnitude !
- Analytical internal BG reduction is next key for current CANDLES

\* only loose LS cut is applied on this plot

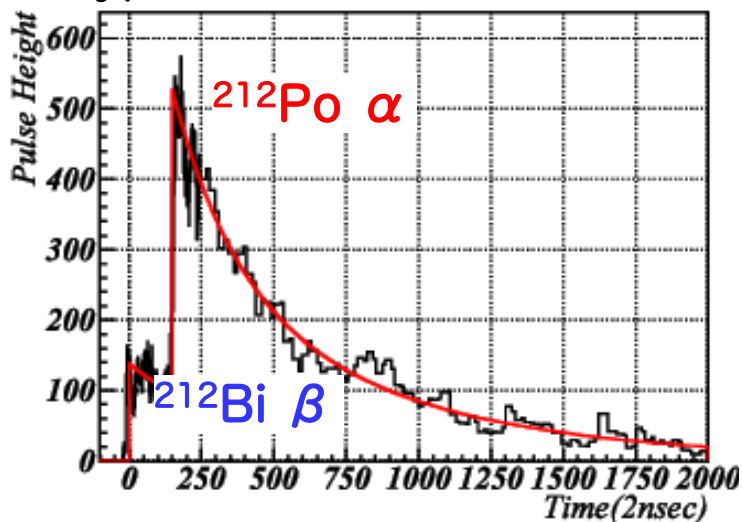
# Internal BG in CANDLES : $^{232}\text{Th}$ daughters



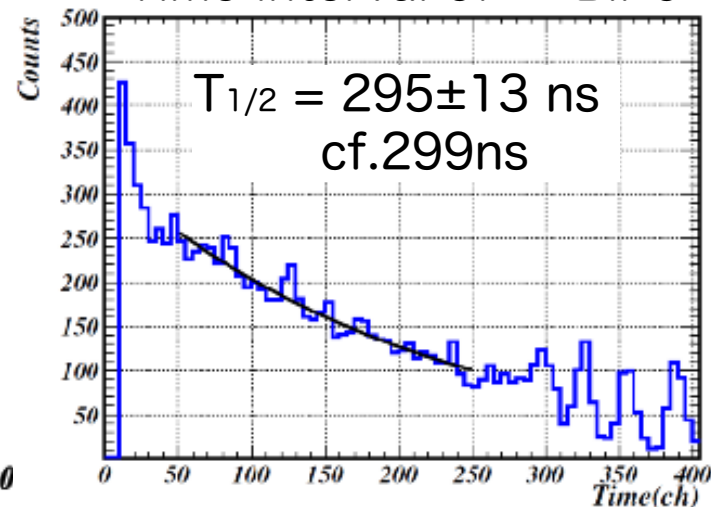
BG1:  $^{212}\text{BiPo}$  sequential decay

- Total Max 5.3 MeV  $\Rightarrow$   $0\nu\beta\beta$  BG
- Pileup in one event window (4usec)
- Pulse Shape Analysis removes this.

Typical BiPo Waveform



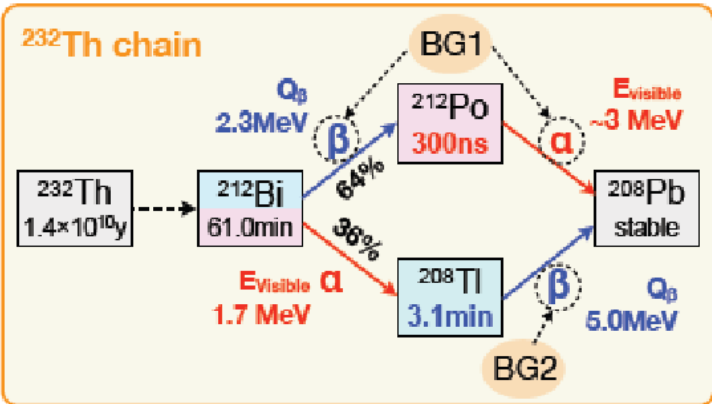
Time Interval of  $^{212}\text{BiPo}$



Pileup identification with  $\Delta T > 20\text{ns} \Rightarrow 95\%$  rejection efficiency.  
 Remaining 5% contribution is currently negligible.



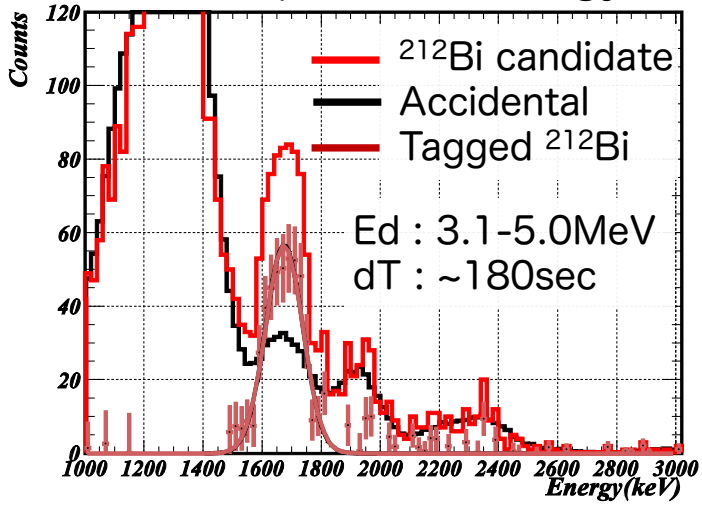
# Internal BG in CANDLES : $^{232}\text{Th}$ daughters



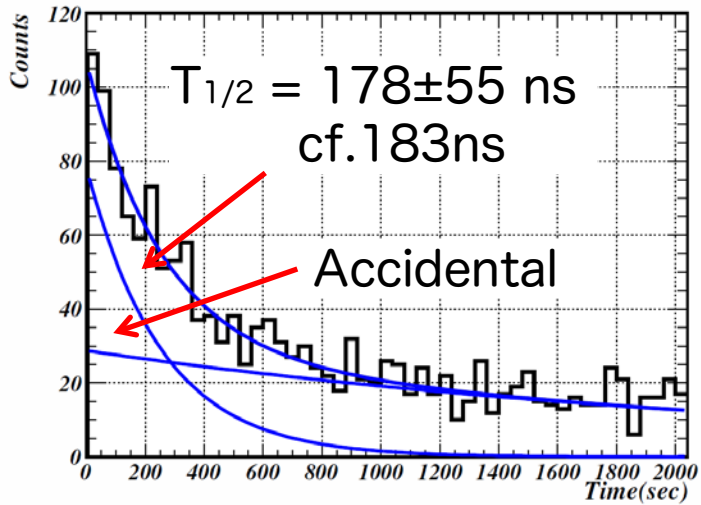
BG2:  $^{208}\text{Tl}$  ( $\beta + \gamma$ )

- Total Max 5.0 MeV  $\Rightarrow 0\nu\beta\beta$  BG
- Event tagging with  $^{212}\text{Bi}$ 
  - Find parent  $^{212}\text{Bi}$   $\alpha$  candidate by PSD.
  - Veto  $^{208}\text{Tl}$  in 12min for same crystal

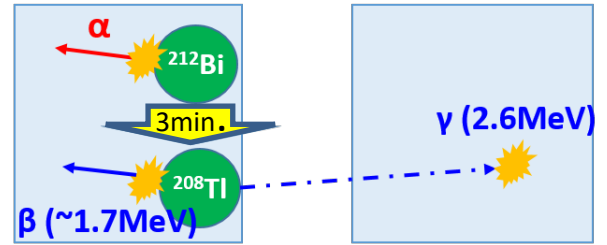
Prompt  $^{212}\text{Bi}$  energy



Time Interval of  $^{208}\text{Tl}$



- current rejection eff.  $\sim 75\%$ , acceptance  $\sim 83\%$
- detection of Multi-crystal hit by escaped  $\gamma$  is under study.

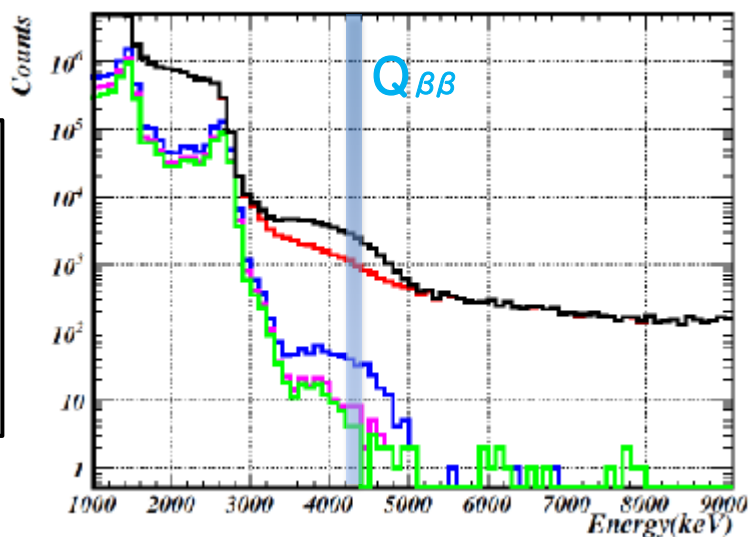


# Energy Spectra & Event Selection

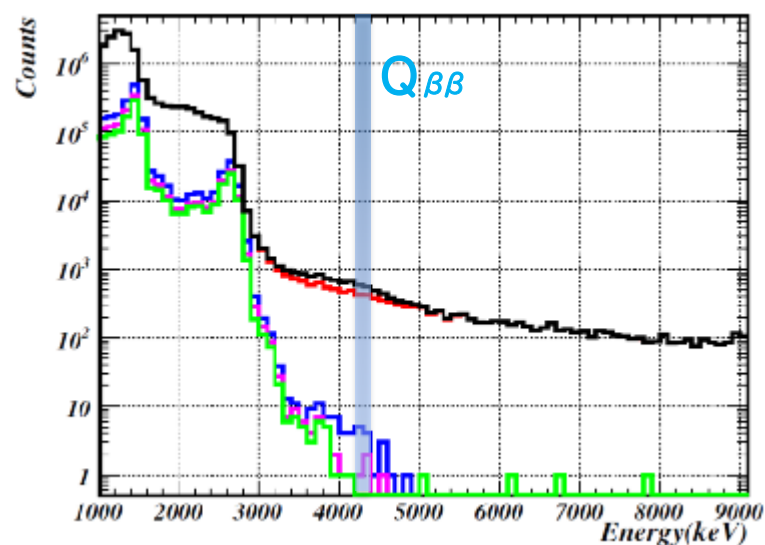
Preliminary

LiveTime : 131 days

95 crystals



27 crystals ( $^{232}\text{Th} < 10\text{uBq/kg}$ )



Exp. Data  
 $^{212}\text{BiPo}$  Cut  
 LS Cut  
 $^{208}\text{TI}$  Cut  
 Position Cut

# event	95 crystals			27 crystals		
	$Q_{\beta\beta}$	4-5MeV	5.5-6.5MeV	$Q_{\beta\beta}$	4-5MeV	5.5-6.5MeV
LS Cut	115	257	8	12	23	1
$^{208}\text{TI}$ Cut	19	49	6	3	6	1
Position Cut	10	34	6	0	2	1

☑ No event in high purity crystals is confirmed.

# Results

Preliminary

	95 CaF <sub>2</sub>	27 CaF <sub>2</sub>
Livetime	131	
$0\nu\beta\beta$ eff.	$0.39 \pm 0.06$	
Event in ROI	10	0
Expected BG	~11	~1.2
$T_{0\nu\beta\beta}^{1/2}$ <sup>48</sup> Ca (yr)	$>3.8 \times 10^{22}$	$> 6.2 \times 10^{22}$
Sensitivity (yr)	$6.2 \times 10^{22}$	$3.6 \times 10^{22}$

## \* ELEGANT IV

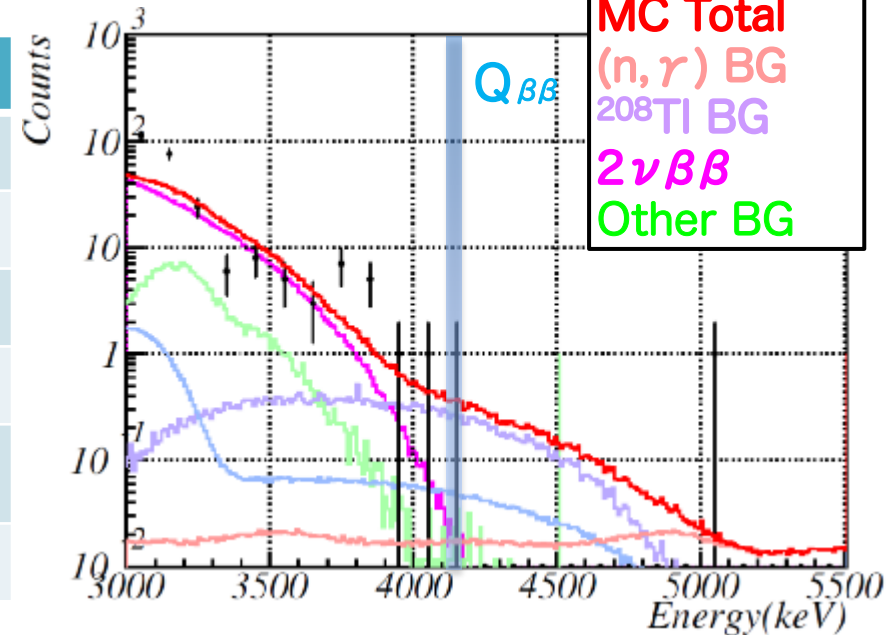
Exposure : 4947kg · d (2yr<)

$0\nu\beta\beta$  eff. : 0.53

$T_{0\nu\beta\beta}^{1/2}$  <sup>48</sup>Ca :  $5.8 \times 10^{22}$  yr

Exp. Data and BG MC

In <sup>27</sup>CaF<sub>2</sub>

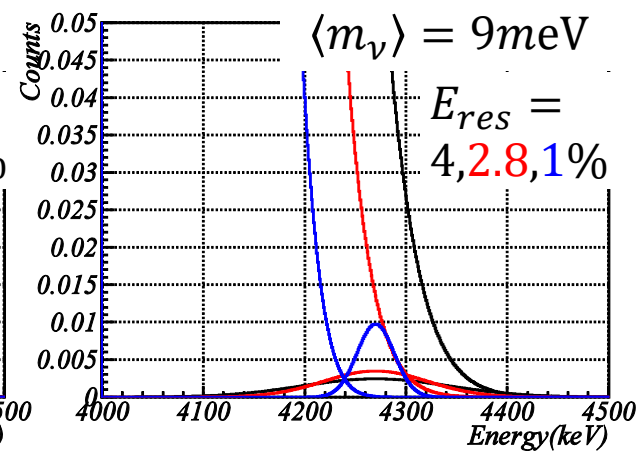
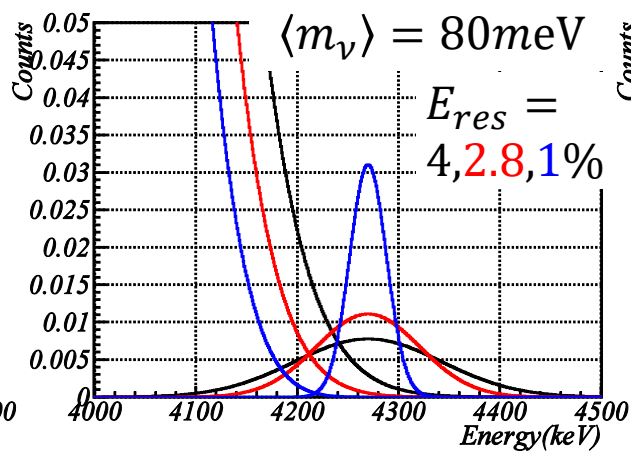
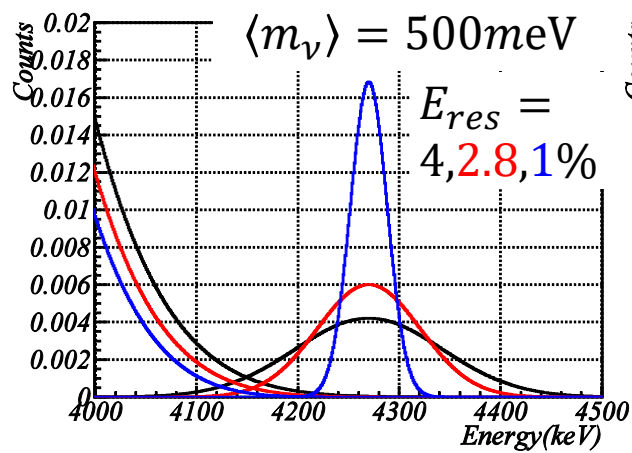


$\chi^2_\beta < 1.5$ ,  $-3\sigma < S|k < 1\sigma$   
 $-2\sigma < \text{position cut} < 2\sigma$   
 Pileup cut  $> 20\text{ns}$   
<sup>208</sup>Tl cut  
 $-1\sigma < 0\nu\beta\beta \text{ window} < 2\sigma$

CANDLES is now exploring the forefront  $T_{0\nu\beta\beta}^{1/2}$  in <sup>48</sup>Ca !

# Future CANDLES

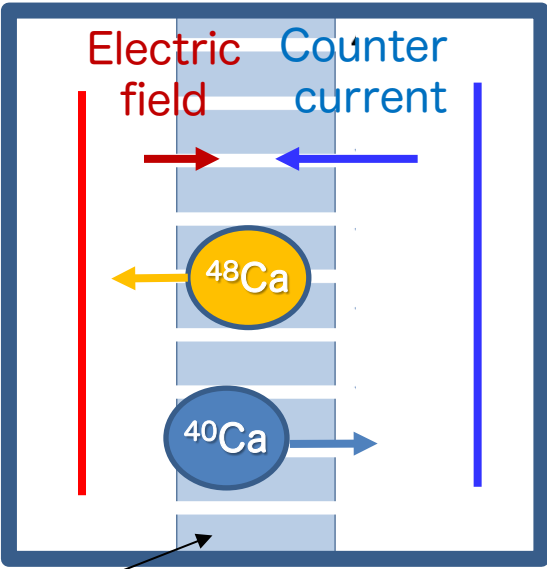
	CANDLES III+	CANDLES IV	CANDLES V
Crystal CaF <sub>2</sub> / <sup>48</sup> Ca	0.187% 305 kg / 0.35 kg	2% 2000 kg / 25 kg	50% 2000 kg / 610 kg
Energy Res.	6%	2.8% (required)	1.0% (required)
$\langle m_\nu \rangle$ sensitivity	500 meV	80 meV	9 meV
Feature	Cooling CaF <sub>2</sub> Low BG	Cooling CaF <sub>2</sub> Low BG Massive <sup>48</sup> Ca DH $\Rightarrow$ IH	Massive <sup>48</sup> Ca Bolometer IH $\Rightarrow$ NH



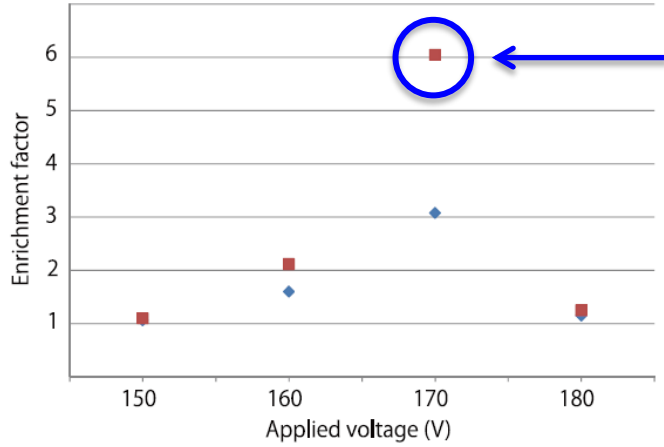
both Enrichment & Bolometer techniques are necessary  
for future CANDLES

# R&D : $^{48}\text{Ca}$ enrichment : MCCCE

- Multi-channel counter current electrophoresis

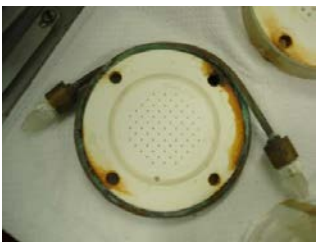


- Separation using difference of migration speed between  $^{40}\text{Ca}$  /  $^{48}\text{Ca}$ .
- Principle was demonstrated.



Enrichment Factor  
(48/40): 6.1

Boron Nitride plate  
80mm  $\phi$  x 10mm,  
x69 0.8mm  $\phi$  channel



- Reproducibility has been increased.
- Further study on parameter optimization for
  - High enrichment
  - Large amount

PTEP

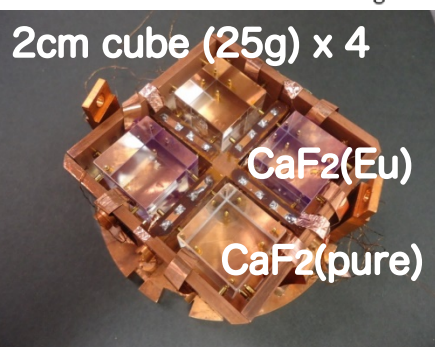
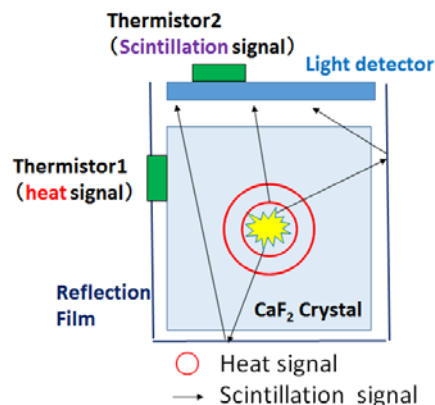
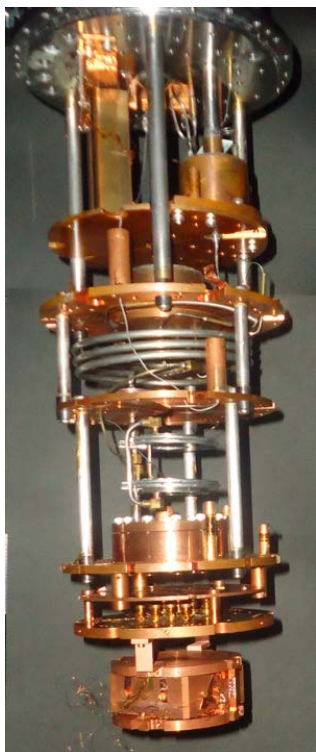
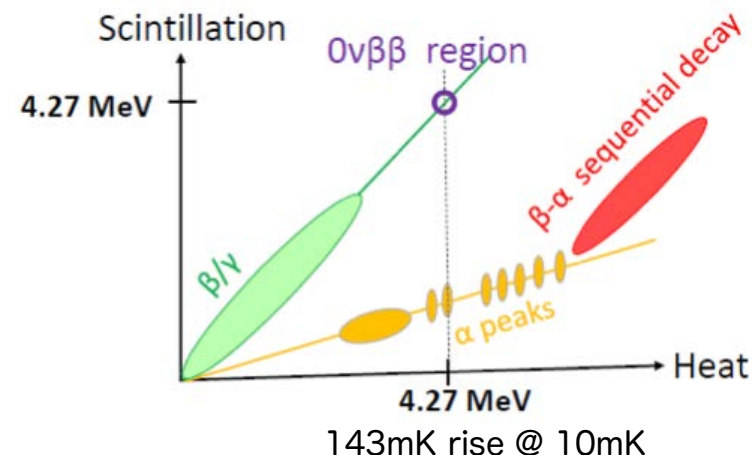
Prog. Theor. Exp. Phys. 2015, 033D03 (10 pages)  
DOI: 10.1093/ptep/ptv020

Calcium isotope enrichment by means of multi-channel counter-current electrophoresis for the study of particle and nuclear physics

- Parallel R&D on crown-ether + micro-reactor, crown-ether resin + chromatography, laser isotope separation.

# R&D : Scintillating Bolometer

- $2\nu\beta\beta$  is an inevitable BG for explorer IH, NH.
- Better energy resolution is necessary.  
Scintillator  $\rightarrow$  Bolometer
- $^{238}\text{U}$   $\alpha$  4.27MeV will be BG.
- Simultaneous measurement of heat and scintillation enables to identify the PID( $\alpha/\beta$ )  
 $\Rightarrow$  Scintillating Bolometer
- The technique was already established.  
CRESST-II (CaWO<sub>4</sub>), Lucifer, AMoRE



## Dilution refrigerator

- Dilution refrigerator, developed for the dark matter search with LiF.
- Cooling power is  $2\mu\text{W}$  @ 20mK

## Cooling Test

- LN<sub>2</sub> pre-cooling (77K)
- LHe pre-cooling (4K)
- 1K pot decompressing cooling (1K)
- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$  mixed gas circulation (10mK)
- Detect Heat Signal

## Other Preparation

- Ge wafer for light detector prepared
- 10cm Pb + 5cm Cu shield ready.

on going done

# Summary

- CANDLES :  $0\nu\beta\beta$  search by  $^{48}\text{Ca}$  (350g) /  $\text{CaF}_2$  (305kg)
  - highest Q (4.3MeV), potential 0 BG observation, important for IH/NH
- Detector upgrade in 2015-2016
  - Additional passive shield against largest BG : (n,  $\gamma$ )
    - ◆ Pb : 7 or 12 cm, B : 5mm →→  $10^{-2}$  reduction
  - Low BG material replacement
  - Detector cooling & Geomagnetic Compensation coil
    - ◆  $17^\circ\text{C} \Rightarrow 4.9^\circ\text{C}$  →→ +47% light yield
- Remaining BG :  $^{208}\text{Tl}$  inside  $\text{CaF}_2$ 
  - Further analytical rejection study is on going
- Preliminary  $T_{0\nu\beta\beta}^{1/2}$  limit on  $^{48}\text{Ca}$  :  $6.2 \times 10^{22}$  yr (sensitivity  $3.6 \times 10^{22}$  yr)  
 (ELEGANT IV  $> 5.8 \times 10^{22}$  yr)  
 > 3.5 exposure already, and continue to explore the forefront.
- Future CANDLES
  - $^{48}\text{Ca}$  enrichment with MCCCE method, Scintillating Bolometer under study