



# Soil Moisture Measurements with Cosmic-Ray Neutrons

*Particle Physics Colloquium  
November 12<sup>th</sup> 2019*

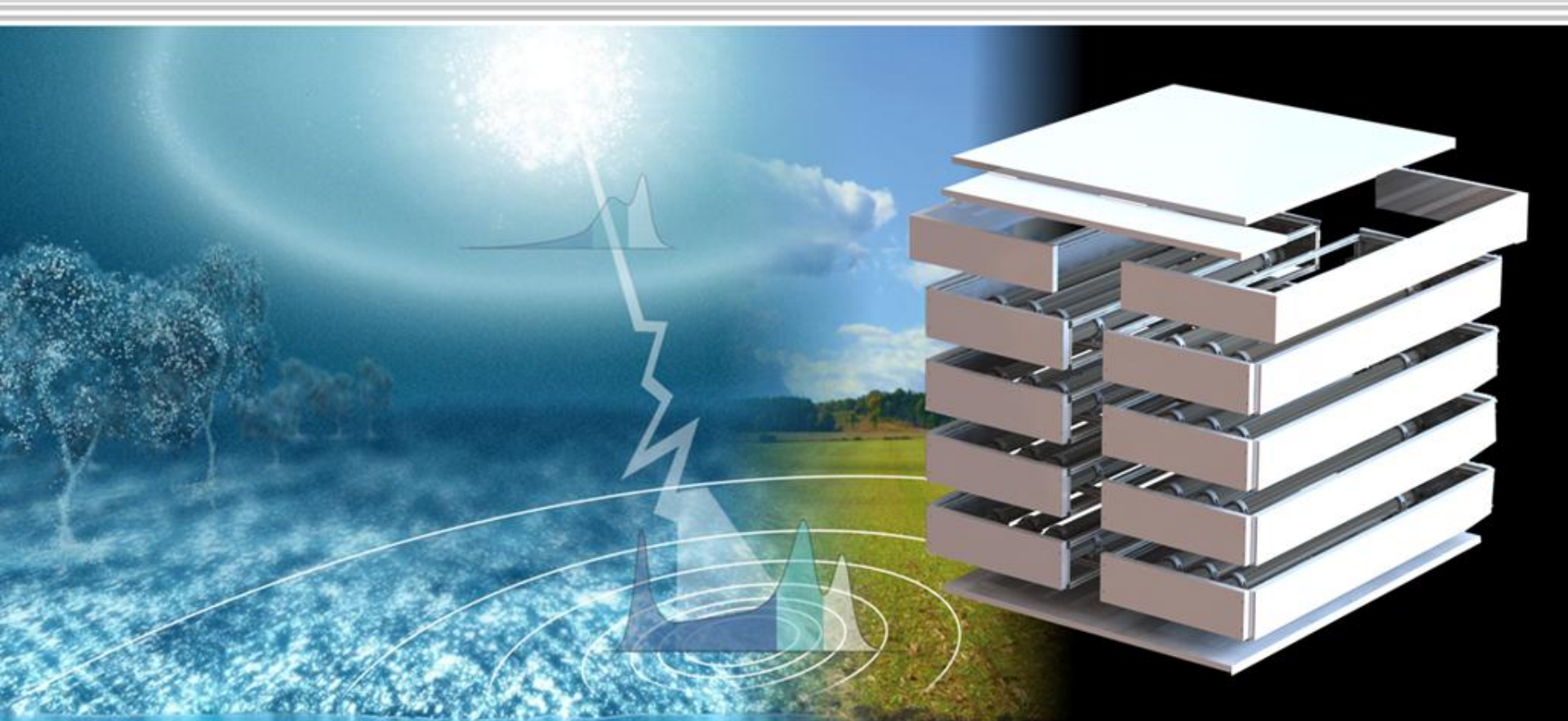
**Markus Köhli**

AG Schmidt  
ANP-PAT

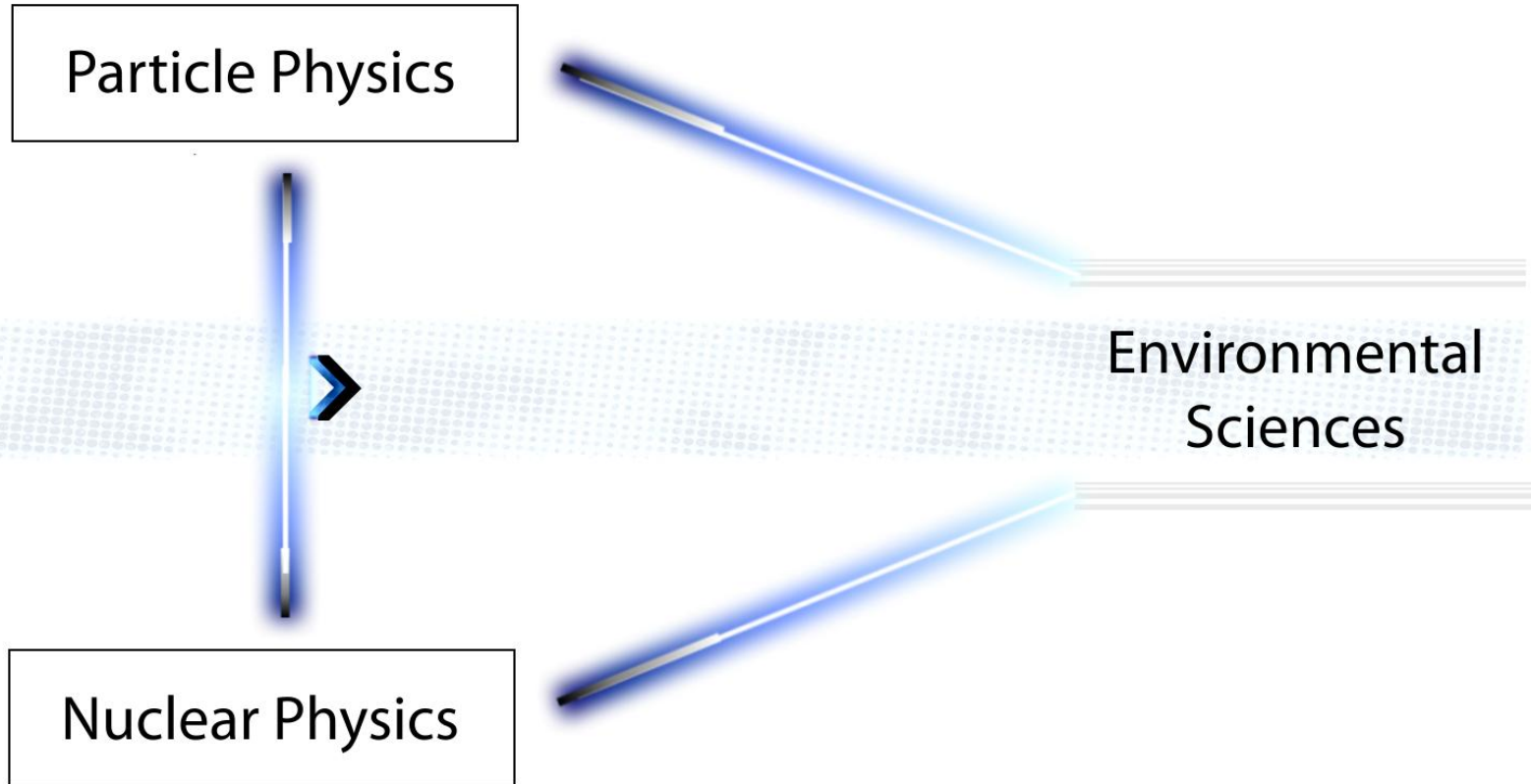


Physikalisches Institut

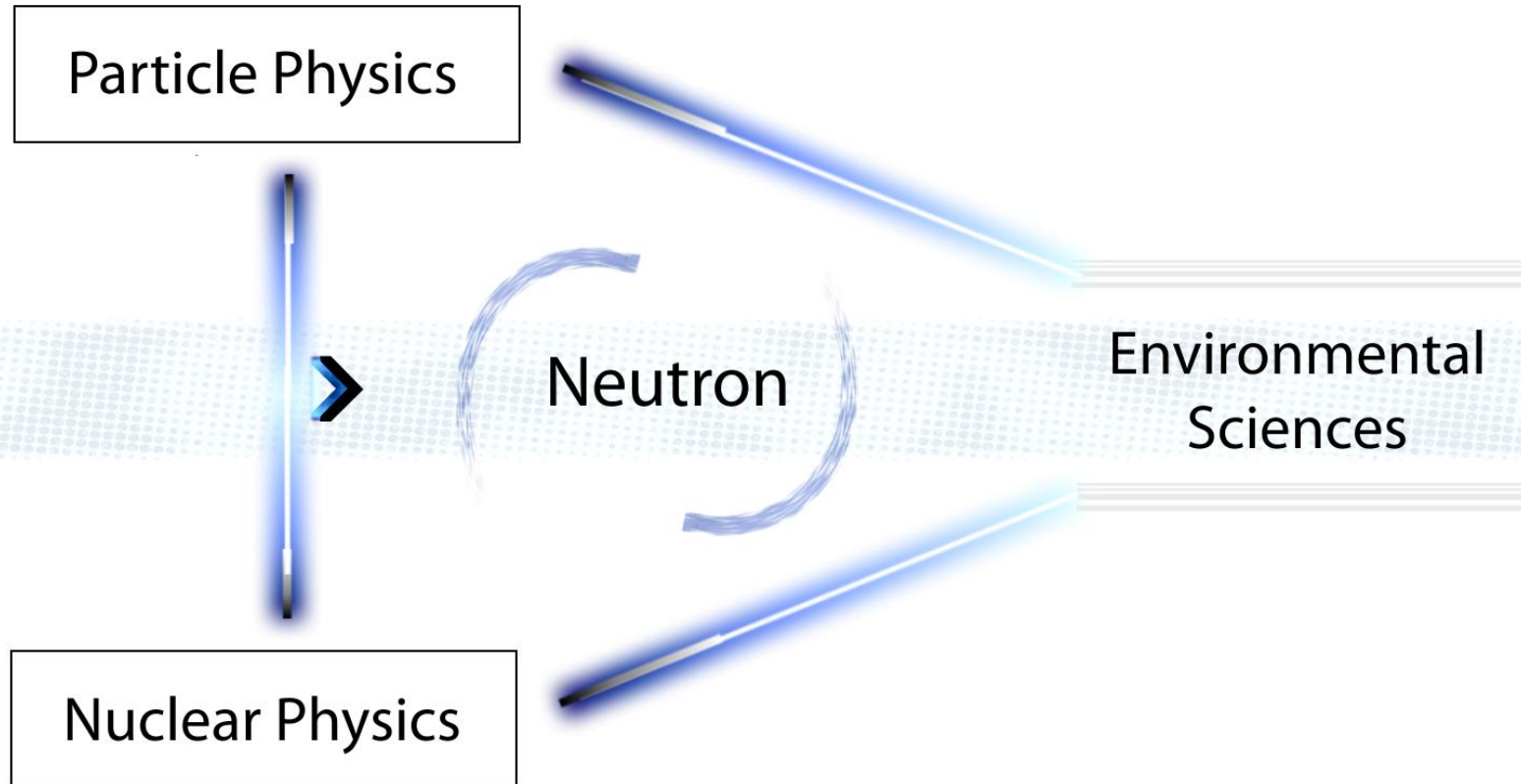
Ruprecht-Karls-Universität  
Heidelberg



# An interdisciplinary spin-off



# An interdisciplinary spin-off





CNCS inelastic spectrometer, SNS





[1]

[1] [http://www.iso.org/iso/2012\\_iso-in-action\\_water\\_vignette.jpg](http://www.iso.org/iso/2012_iso-in-action_water_vignette.jpg)



[1]

Where?

When?

How much?

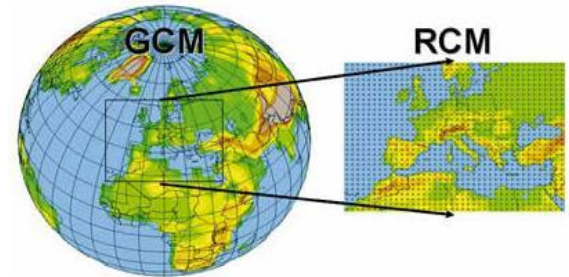
[1] [http://www.iso.org/iso/2012\\_iso-in-action\\_water\\_vignette.jpg](http://www.iso.org/iso/2012_iso-in-action_water_vignette.jpg)



[3]



[2]



[1]

[1] <http://www.wmo.int/pages/themes/climate/images/figures/ClimateModelnesting.jpg>

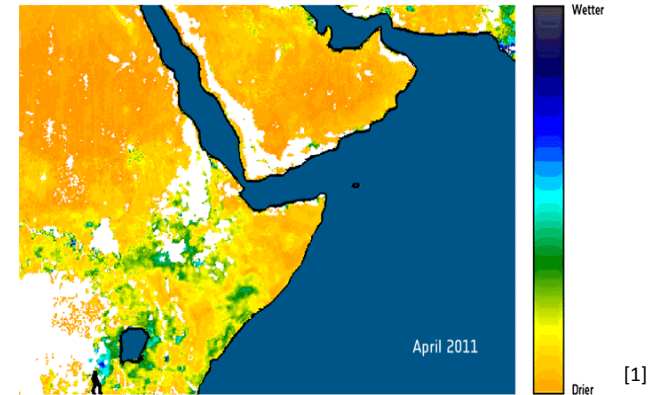
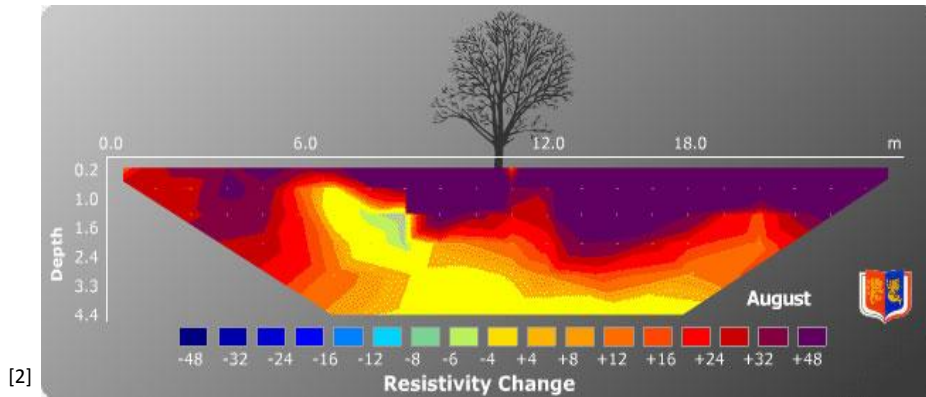
[2] <http://www.livetradingnews.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/precisionag.jpg>

[3] [http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/37/Nam\\_steppe.jpg](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/37/Nam_steppe.jpg)



< 10 m

~ 1 km



via  
local techniques  
(electrical resistivity, capacitance, etc)  
(even neutrons...)

via  
satellite remote sensing  
(optical, microwave)

[1] ESA SMOS ([http://www.esa.int/Our\\_Activities/Observing\\_the\\_Earth/SMOS/Horn\\_of\\_Africa\\_drought\\_seen\\_from\\_space](http://www.esa.int/Our_Activities/Observing_the_Earth/SMOS/Horn_of_Africa_drought_seen_from_space))  
[2] The Clay Research Group (<http://www.theclayresearchgroup.org/images/ert.jpg>)

# Cosmic-Ray Neutron Sensing .CRNS.





# A talk of $\sim 3$ neutron lifetimes

Part  
**I**

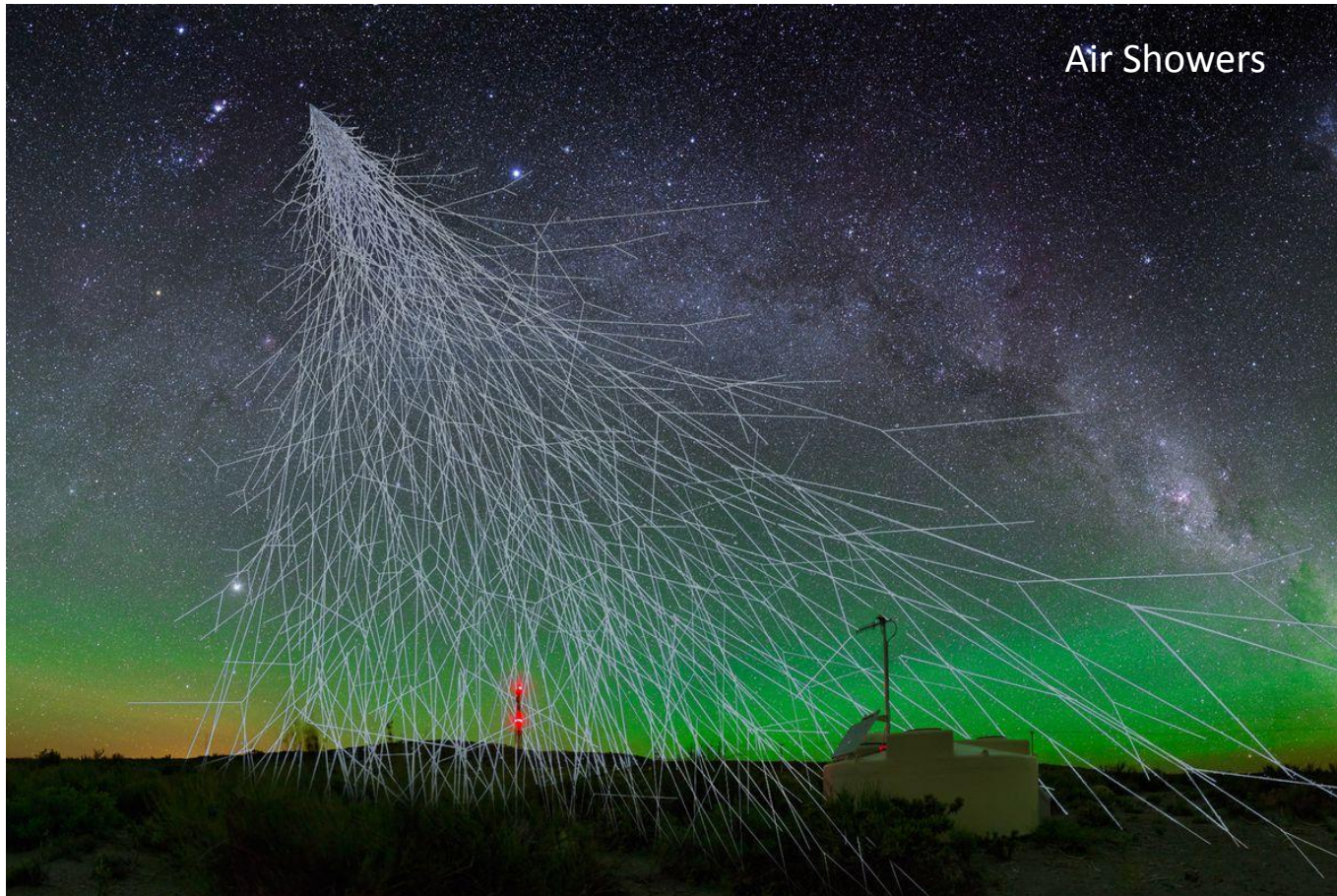
- Cosmic-Ray Neutron Basics
- Measure Water With Neutrons

Part  
**II**

- Neutron Detection Principles
- Detector Developments

# CRNS

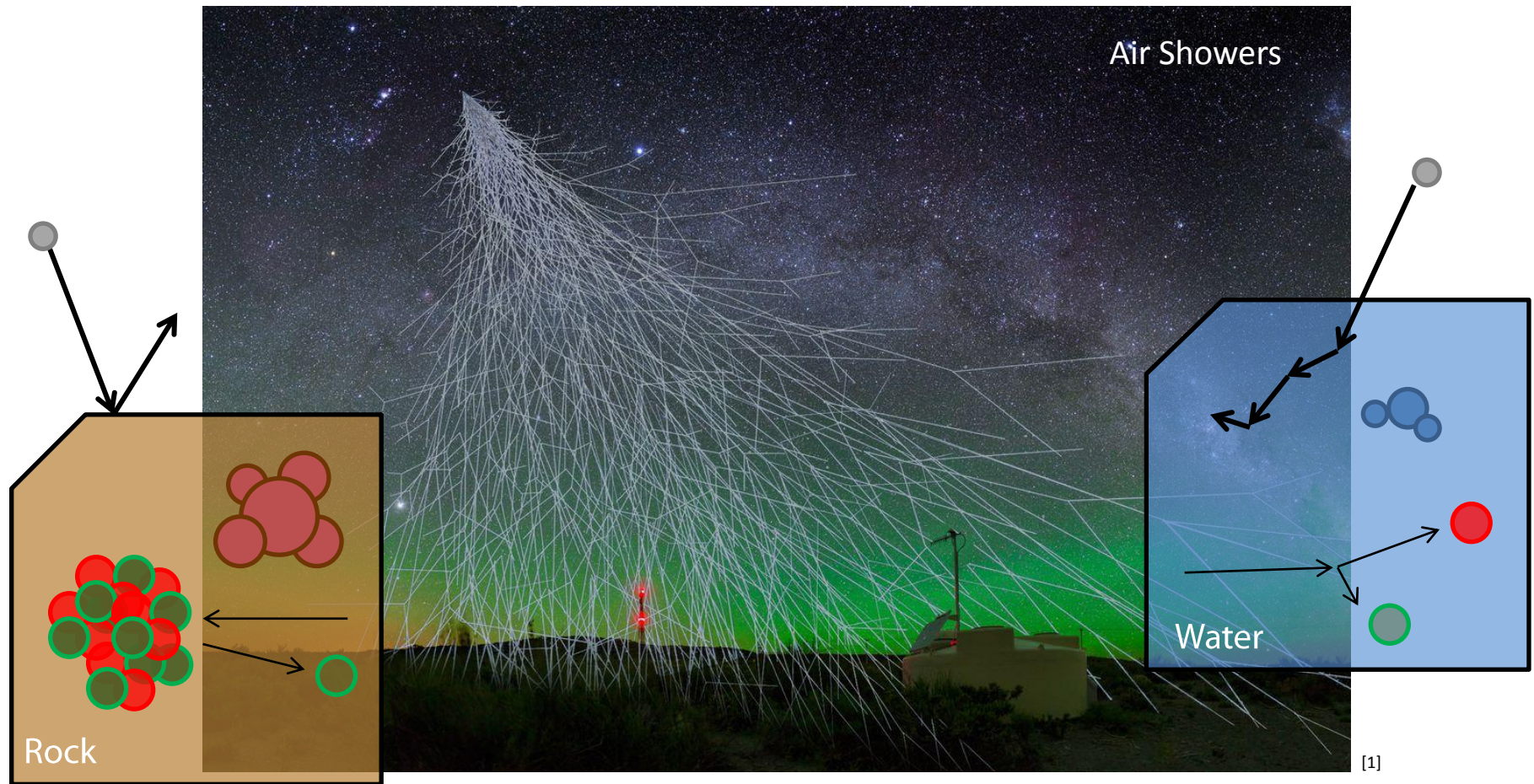
# The Cosmic Neutron Basics



[1]

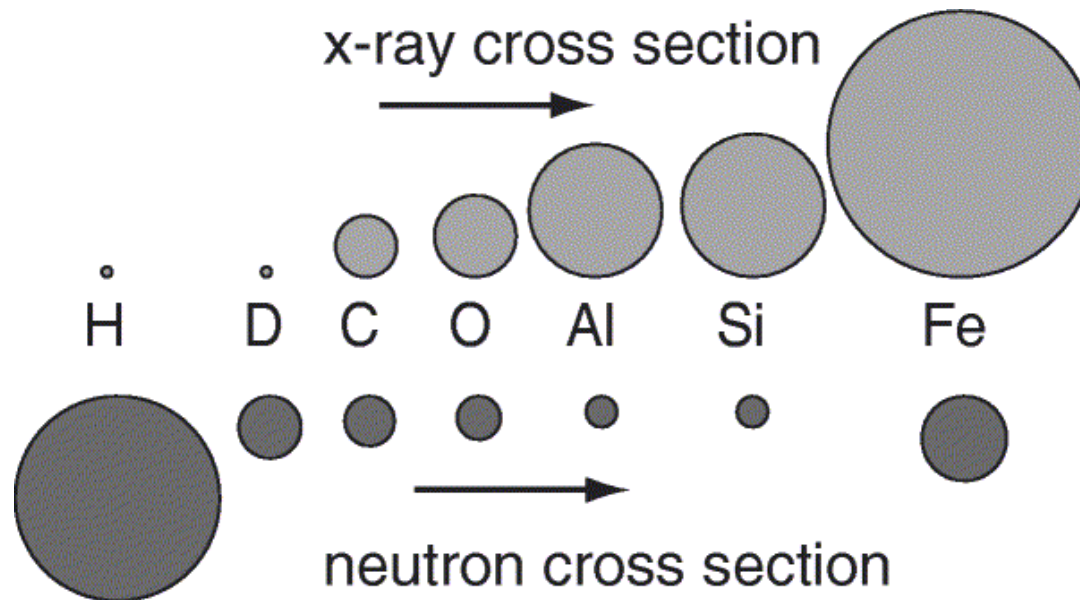
[1] Image by A. Chantelauze, S. Staffi, and L. Bret, <https://www.theverge.com/2017/9/21/16335164/pierre-auger-observatory-cosmic-ray-galaxies-air-shower-particles>

# The Cosmic Neutron Basics



[1] Image by A. Chantelauze, S. Staffi, and L. Bret, <https://www.theverge.com/2017/9/21/16335164/pierre-auger-observatory-cosmic-ray-galaxies-air-shower-particles>

# ▶ Cross Sections



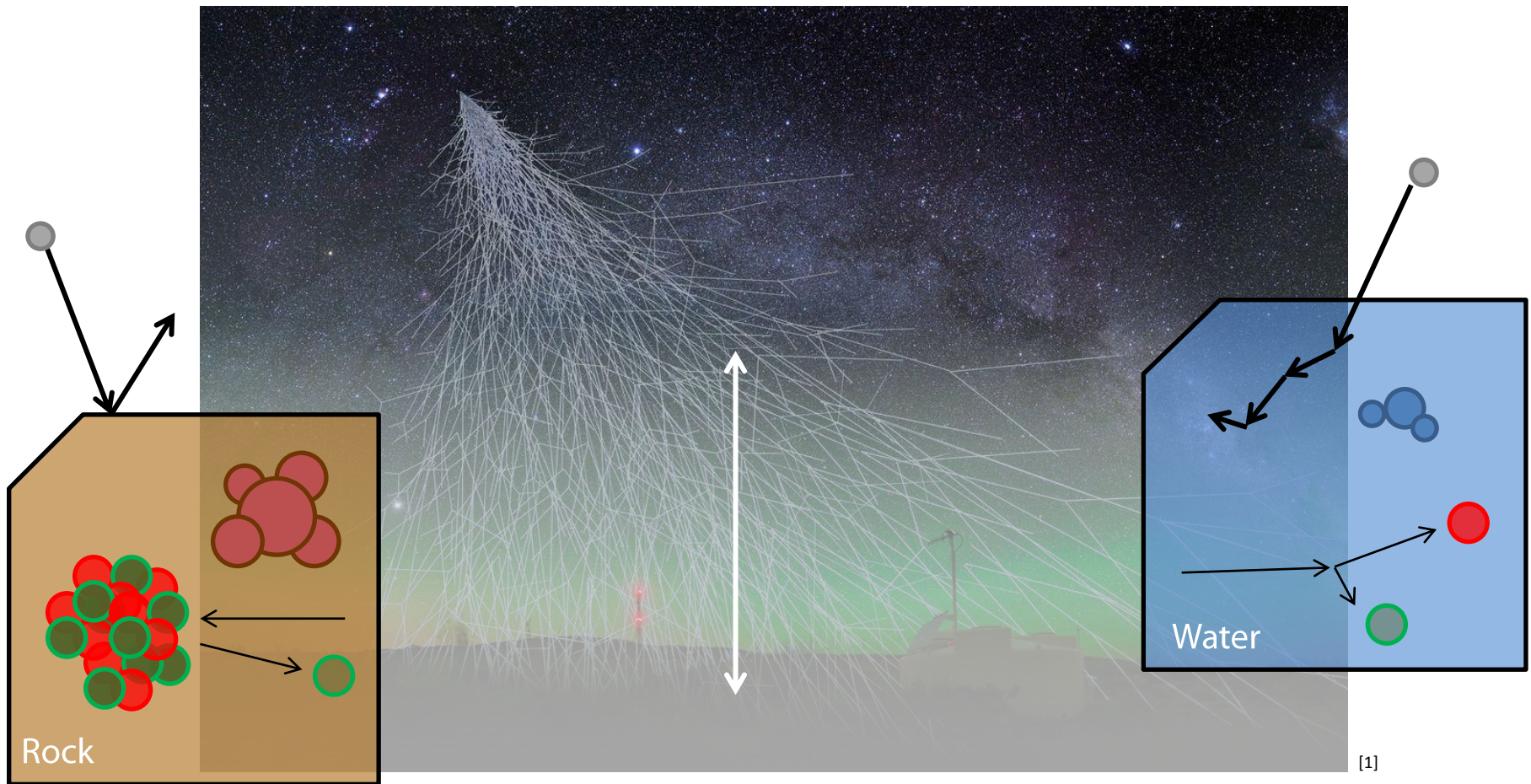
- **X-Ray** cross section depends on  $Z$
- **neutron** cross section varies over periodic table

# Neutron imaging



Courtesy: PSI

# The Cosmic Neutron Basics

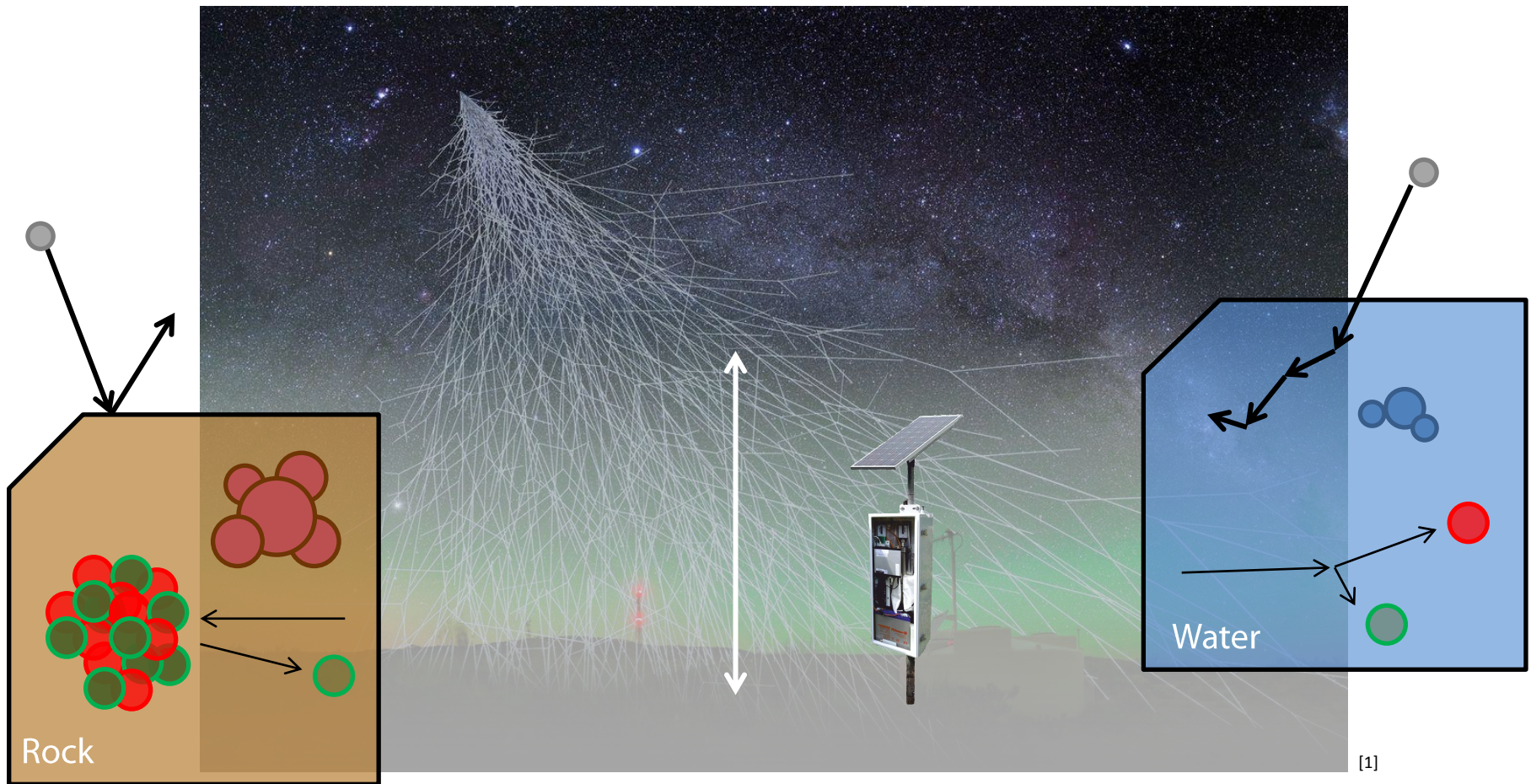


[1]

[1] Image by A. Chantelauze, S. Staffi, and L. Bret, <https://www.theverge.com/2017/9/21/16335164/pierre-auger-observatory-cosmic-ray-galaxies-air-shower-particles>



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[1] Image by A. Chantelauze, S. Staffi, and L. Bret, <https://www.theverge.com/2017/9/21/16335164/pierre-auger-observatory-cosmic-ray-galaxies-air-shower-particles>



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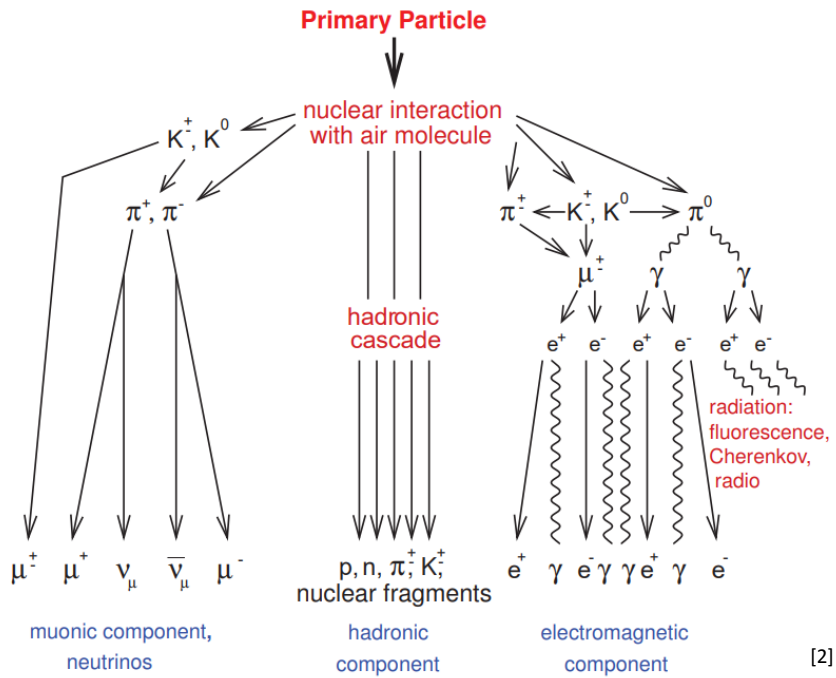
More details please...

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A decorative horizontal band at the bottom of the slide, consisting of a fine grid of small grey squares.

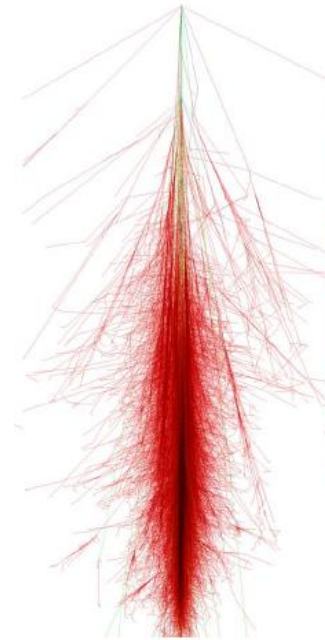


# The Cosmic Neutron Basics

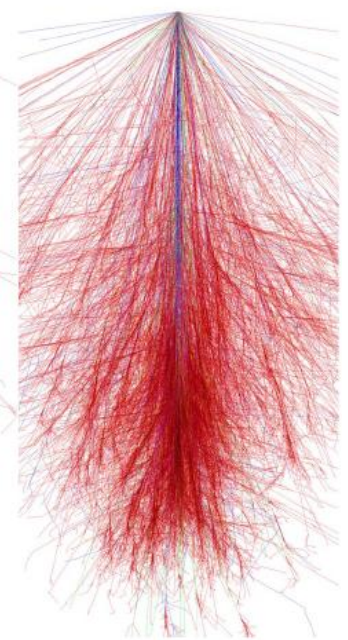


[2]

1 TeV Proton



1 TeV Iron

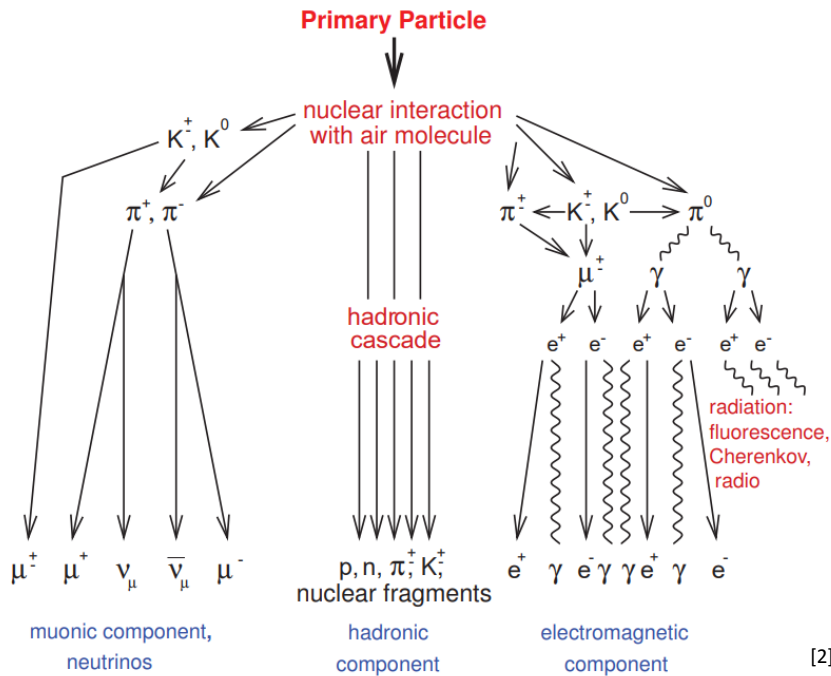


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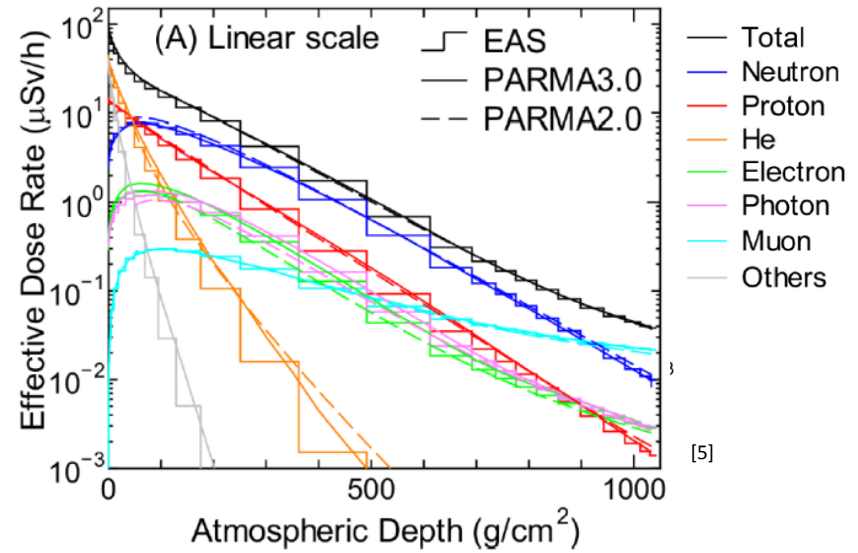
[2] Haungs, A. et al., „Energy spectrum and mass composition of high-energy cosmic rays.” Rep. Prog. Phys., 66 (7) (2003)

[3] Heck, D. et al., „CORSIKA: A Monte Carlo code to simulate extensive air showers.” FZKA 6019. Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe (1998)

# The Cosmic Neutron Basics



[2]

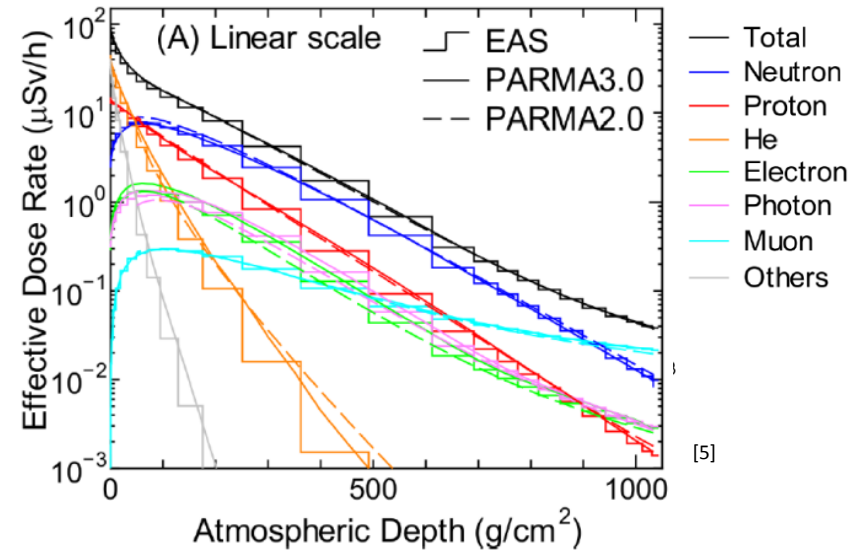
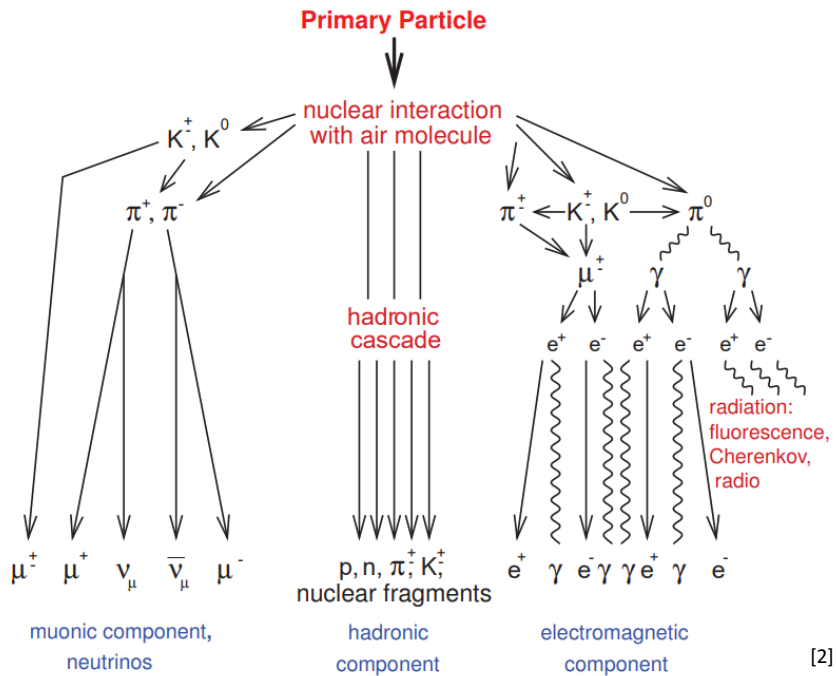


[5]

[2] Haungs, A. et al., „Energy spectrum and mass composition of high-energy cosmic rays.” Rep. Prog. Phys., 66 (7) (2003)

[5] Sato, T., “Analytical Model for Estimating Terrestrial Cosmic Ray Fluxes Nearly Anytime and Anywhere in the World: Extension of PARMA/EXPACS.”, PLOS ONE 10(12) (2015)

# The Cosmic Neutron Basics



Sea-level particle absorption lengths.

Particle	Length <i>L</i> (g/cm <sup>2</sup> )
Electrons	100
Protons	110
Pions	113
Neutrons	136
Muons and muon capture	261

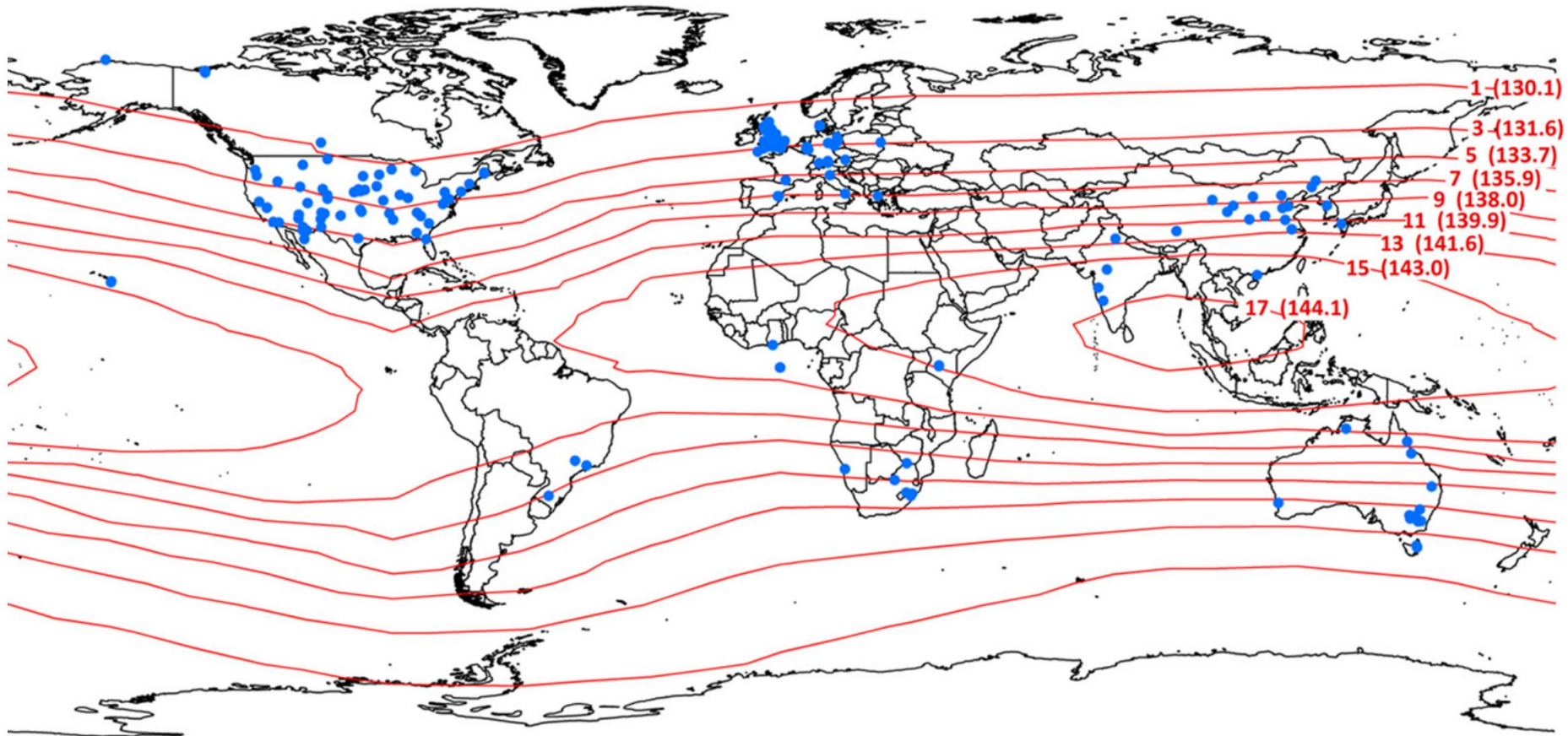
[4]

[2] Haungs et al., „Energy spectrum and mass composition of high-energy cosmic rays.” Rep. Prog. Phys., 66 (7) (2003)

[4] Ziegler, J.F., “Terrestrial cosmic ray intensities.” IBM Journal of Research and Development 42(1) (1998)

[5] Sato, T., “Analytical Model for Estimating Terrestrial Cosmic Ray Fluxes Nearly Anytime and Anywhere in the World: Extension of PARMA/EXPACS.”, PLOS ONE 10(12) (2015)

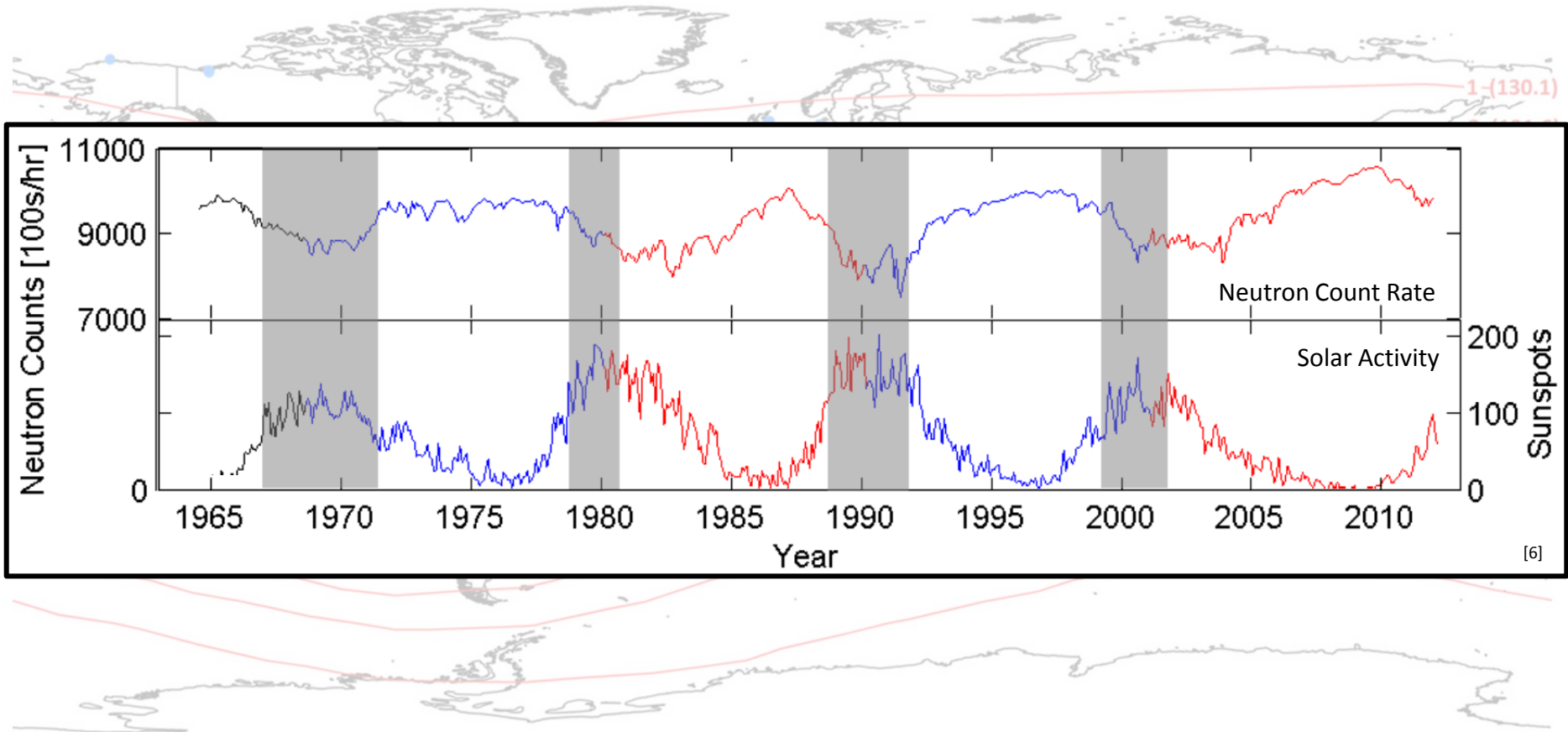
# The Cosmic Neutron Basics



[5] Andraesen, M. et al. "Status and Perspectives on the Cosmic-Ray Neutron Method for Soil Moisture Estimation and Other Environmental Science Applications." *Vadose Zone Journal* 16(8) (2017)

[5]

# ▶ The Cosmic Neutron Basics



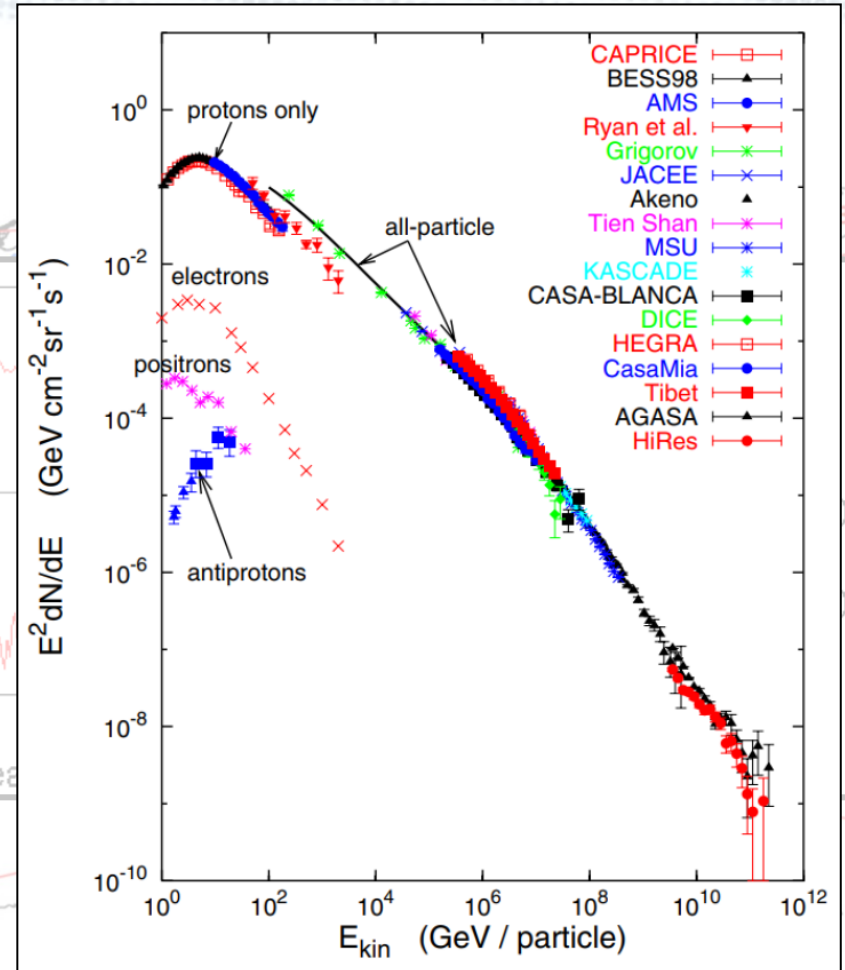
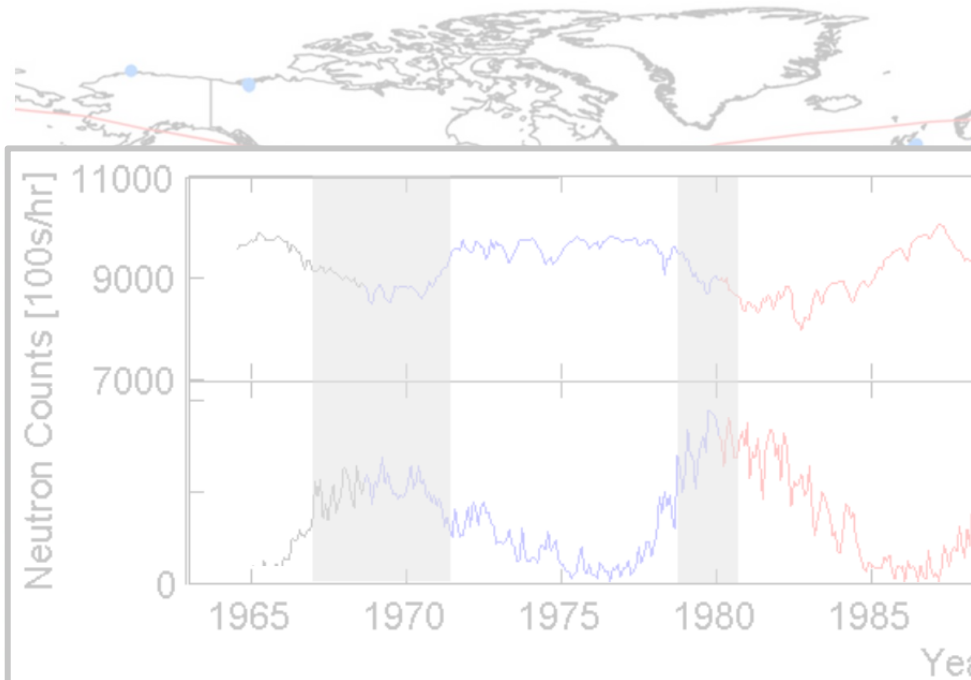
[6]

[5]

[5] Andreasen, M. et al. "Status and Perspectives on the Cosmic-Ray Neutron Method for Soil Moisture Estimation and Other Environmental Science Applications." *Vadose Zone Journal* 16(8) (2017)

[6] Thomas, S.R. et al. "The 22-Year Hale Cycle in Cosmic Ray Flux -Evidence for Direct Heliospheric Modulation." *Solar Physics* 289(1) (2014)

# The Cosmic Neutron Basics



30.1)

Sunspots

[6]

[7]

[5]

[5] Andreasen, M. et al. "Status and Perspectives on the Cosmic-Ray Neutron Method for Soil Moisture Estimation and Other Environmental Science Applications." *Vadose Zone Journal* 16(8) (2017)

[6] Thomas, S.R. et al. "The 22-Year Hale Cycle in Cosmic Ray Flux - Evidence for Direct Heliospheric Modulation." *Solar Physics* 289(1) (2014)

[7] Gaisser, T.K. "The Cosmic-ray Spectrum: from the knee to the ankle." *Journal of Physics:Conference Series* 47(1) (2006)

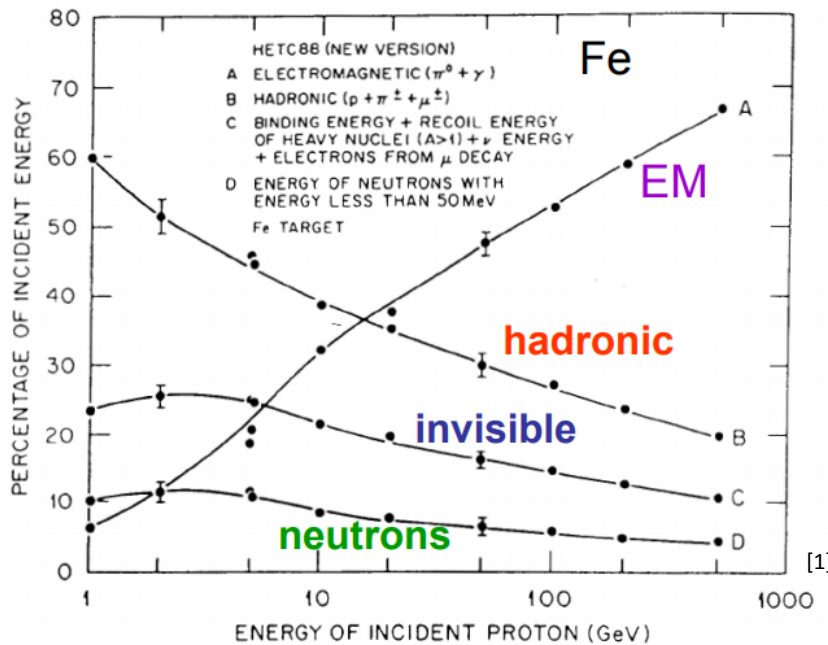


# Neutrons in Calorimeters

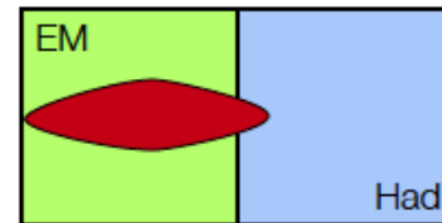
## Deposited Energy

$$E_p = f_{em} e + (1 - f_{em}) h$$

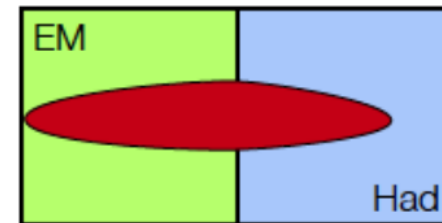
$$h = f_{rel} \cdot rel + f_p \cdot p + f_n \cdot n + f_{inv} \cdot inv$$



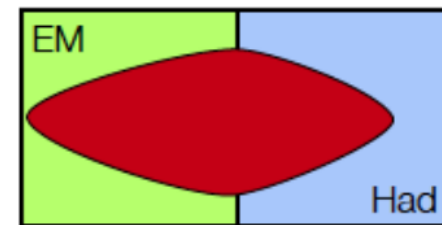
Electrons  
Photons



Taus  
Hadrons



Jets



[1] Anderson, D.F. et al. „Proceedings Of The First International Conference on Calorimetry In High Energy Physics“ (1991)  
 [2] Schlepper, „Hadron Calorimeters“ [http://www.desy.de/~schleper/lehre/Det\\_Dat/SS\\_2018/06\\_lecture\\_calorimetry\\_HAD.pdf](http://www.desy.de/~schleper/lehre/Det_Dat/SS_2018/06_lecture_calorimetry_HAD.pdf)

# The Cosmic Neutron Basics

## Scattering

coherent

elastic  
(n,n)

inelastic  
(n,n')

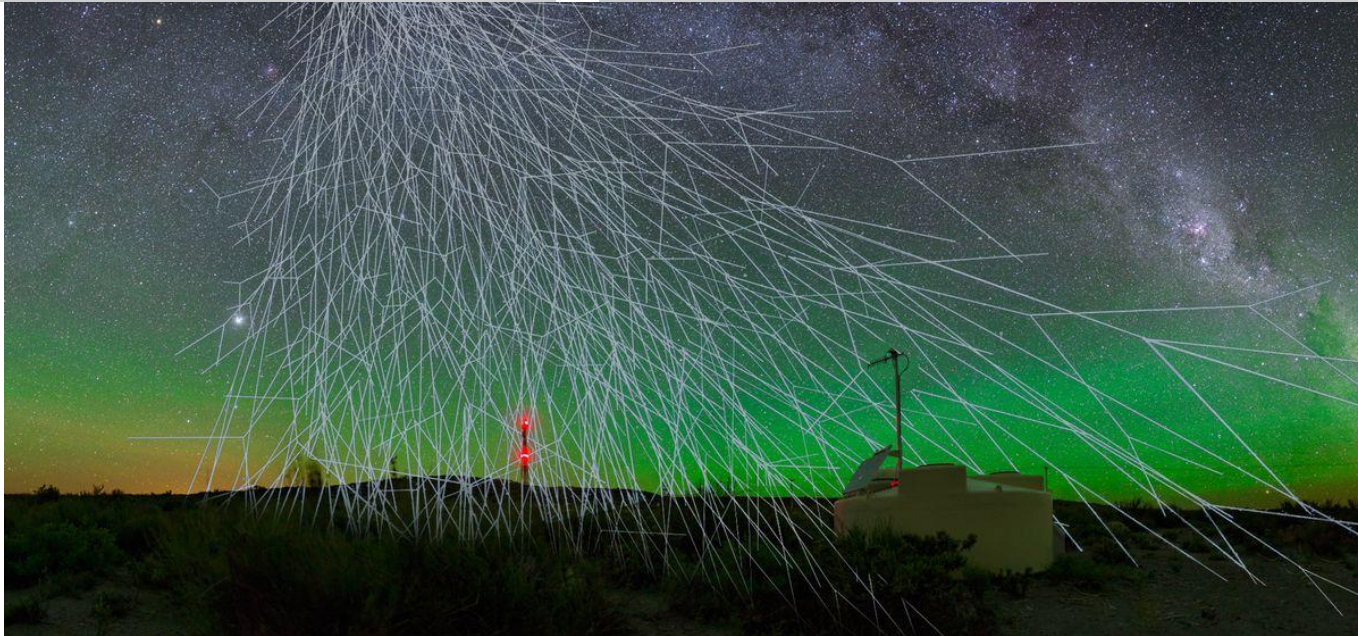
## Absorption

photonic  
(n, $\gamma'$ )

charged  
(n,p)  
(n,d)  
(n, $\alpha$ )

neutral  
(n,2n)  
(n,3n)

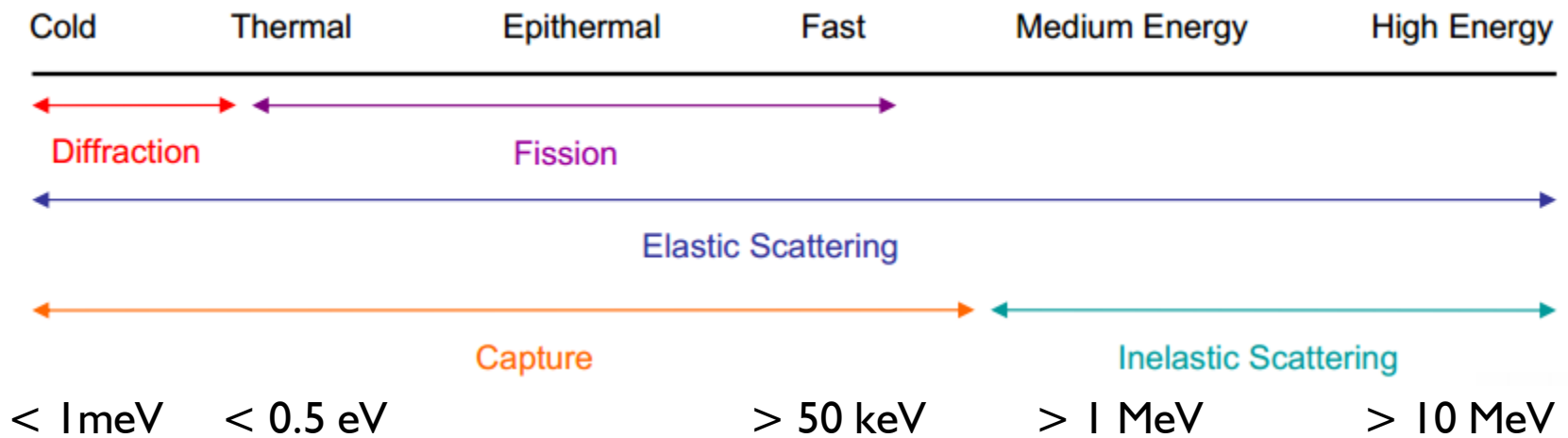
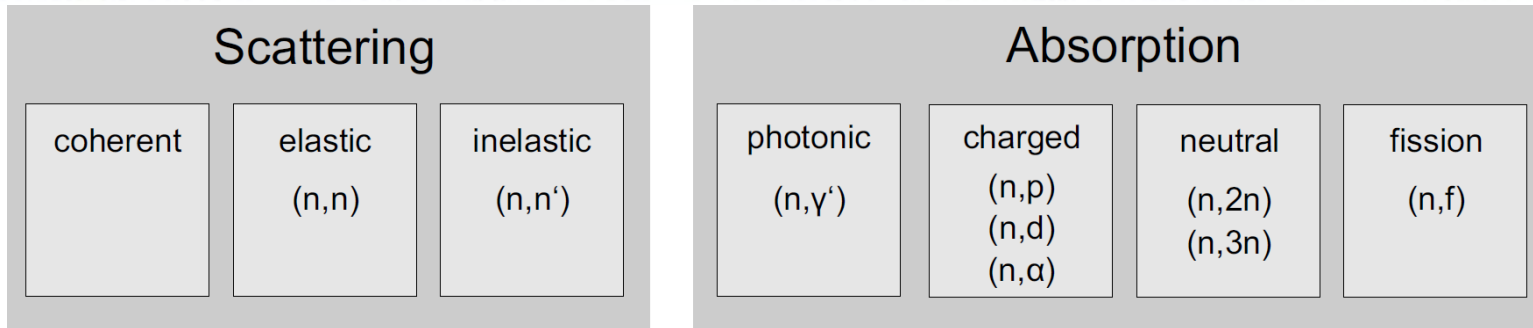
fission  
(n,f)



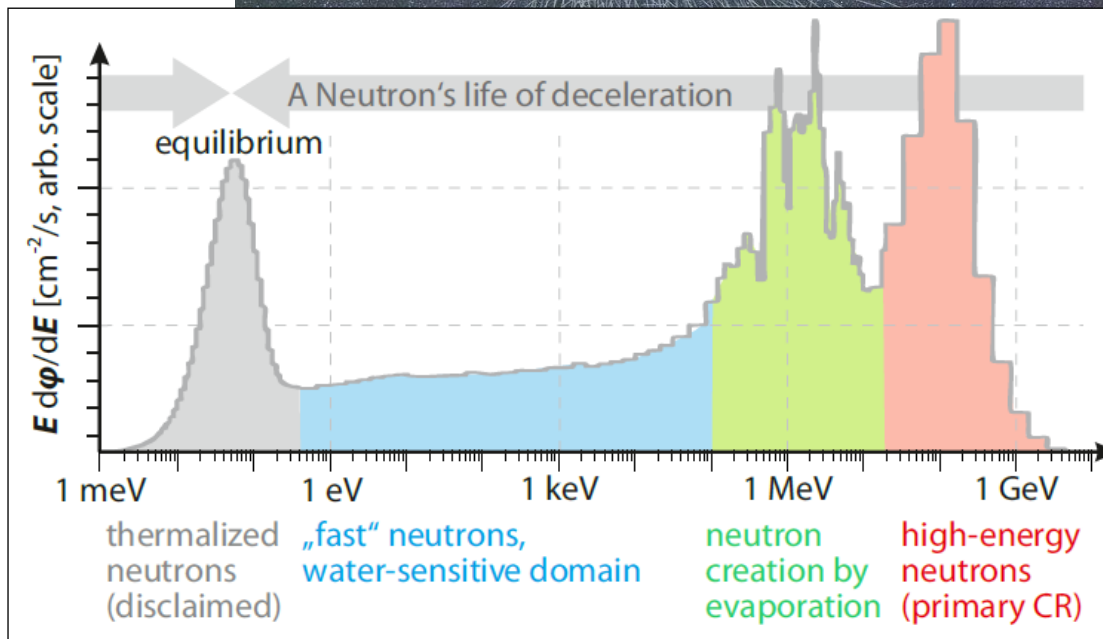
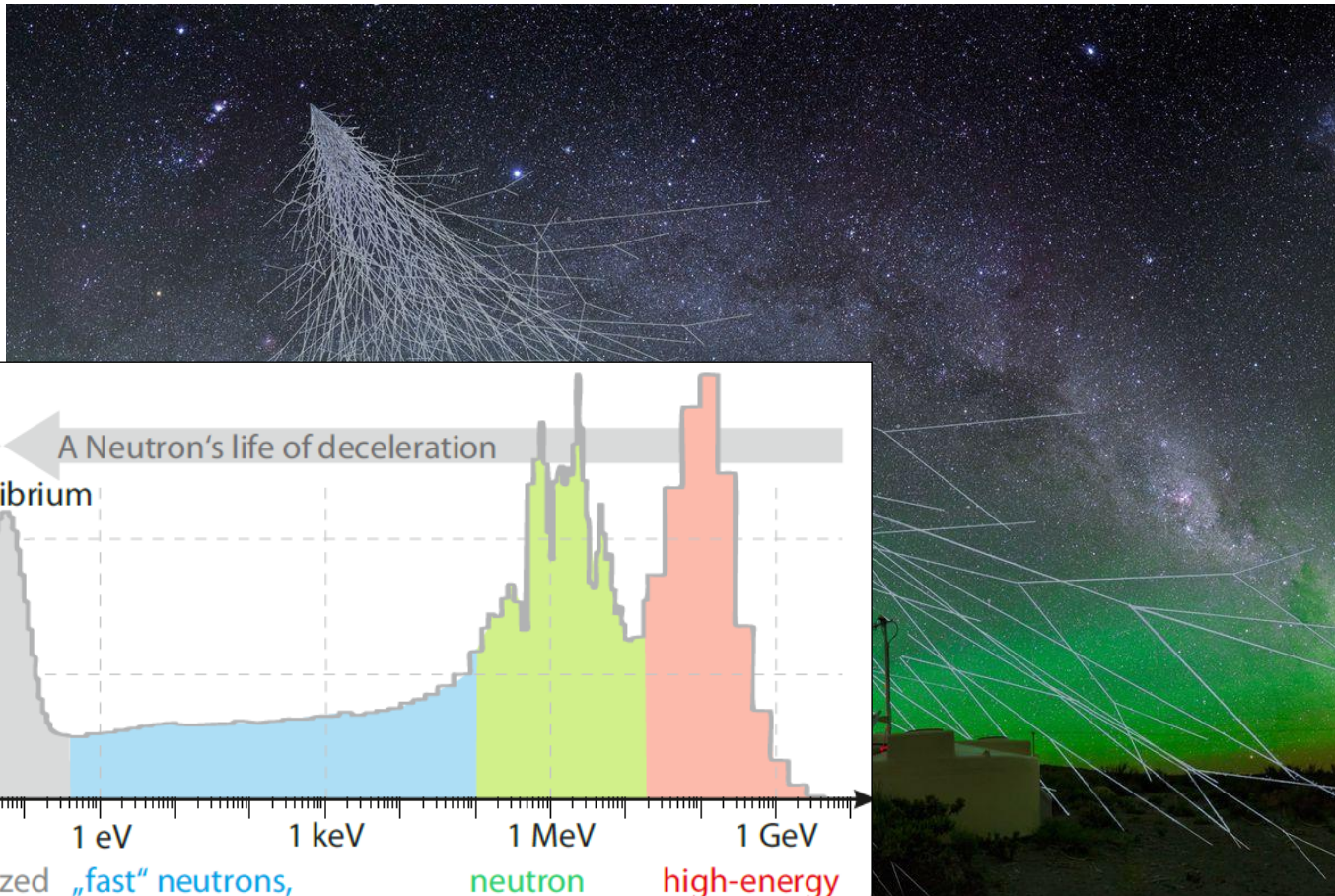
[1]

[1] Image by A. Chantelauze, S. Staffi, and L. Bret, <https://www.theverge.com/2017/9/21/16335164/pierre-auger-observatory-cosmic-ray-galaxies-air-shower-particles>

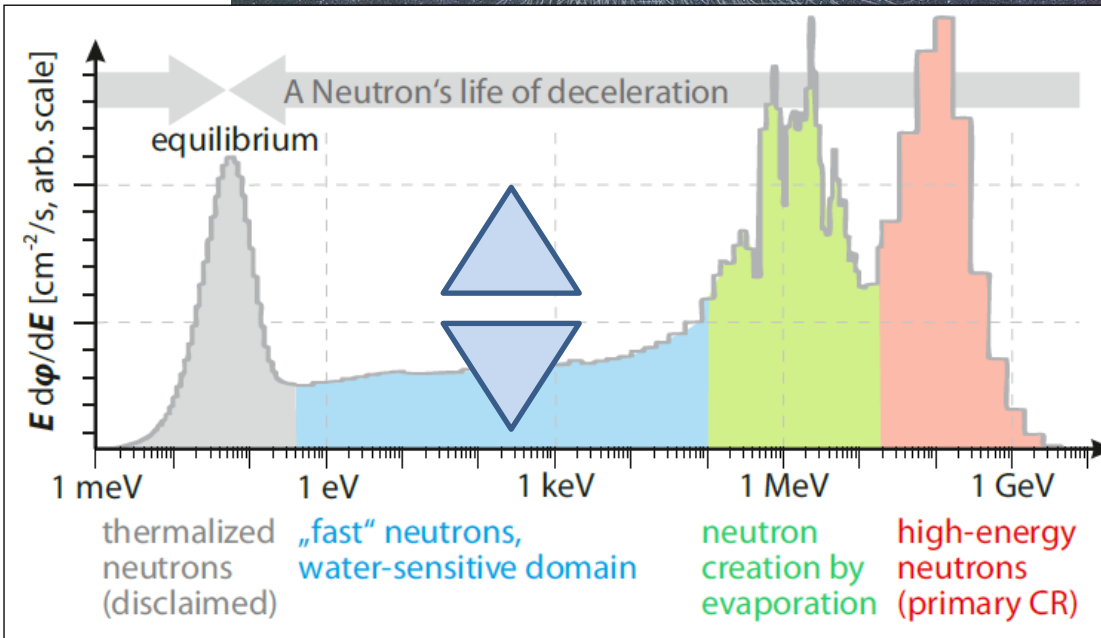
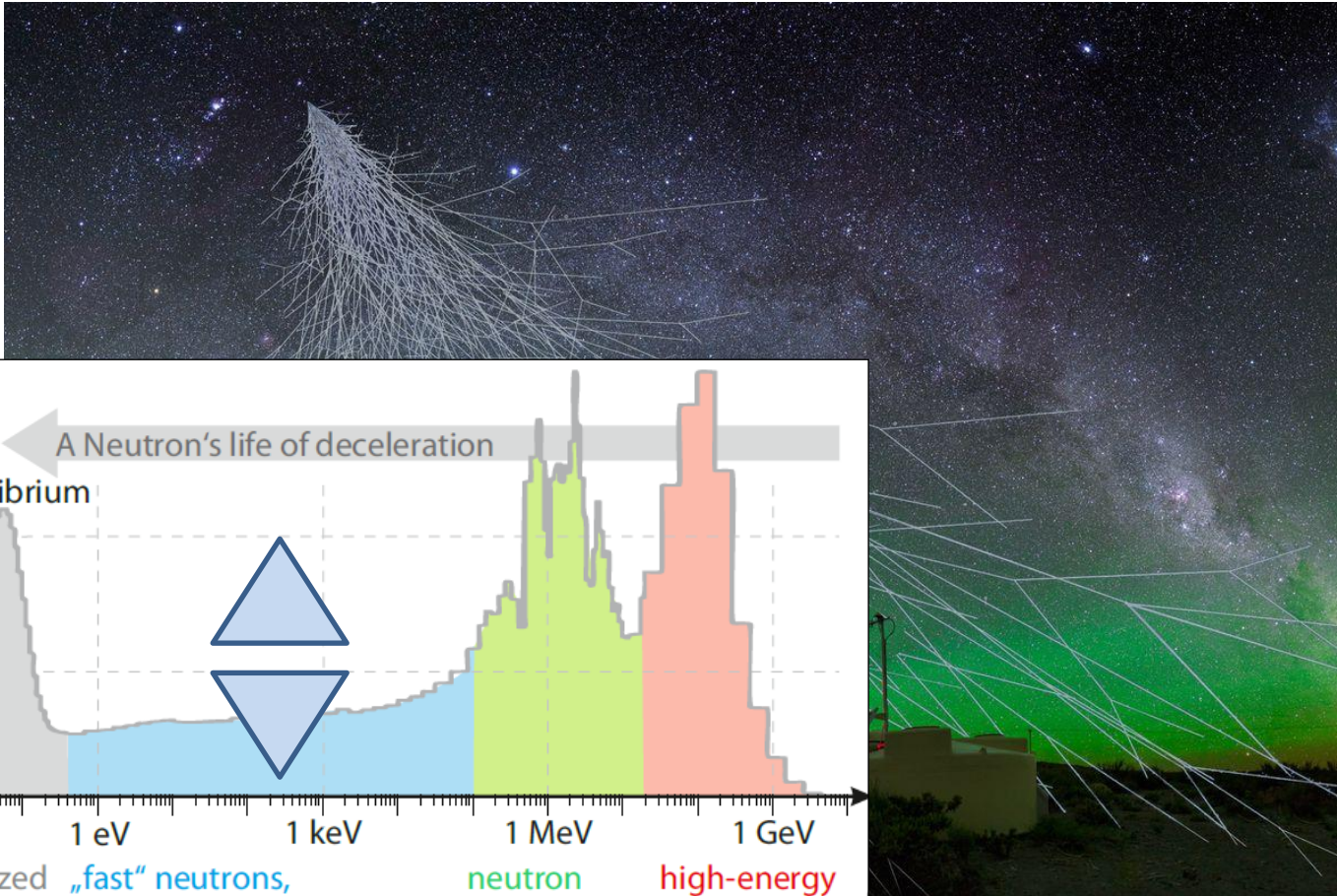
# ▶ The Cosmic Neutron Basics



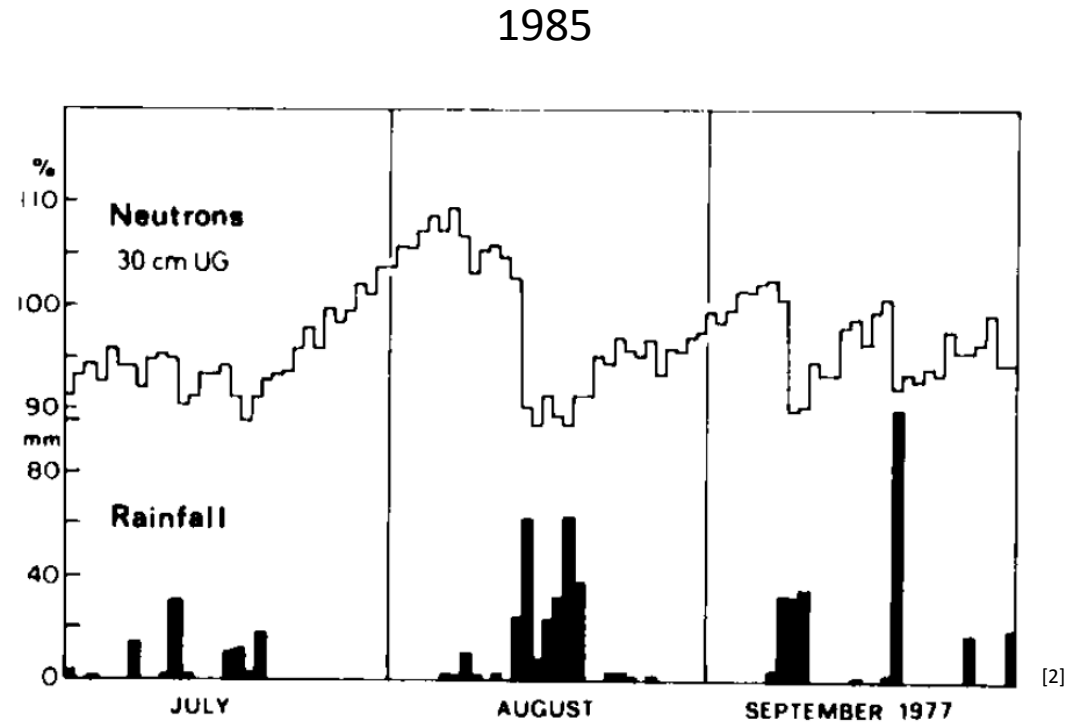
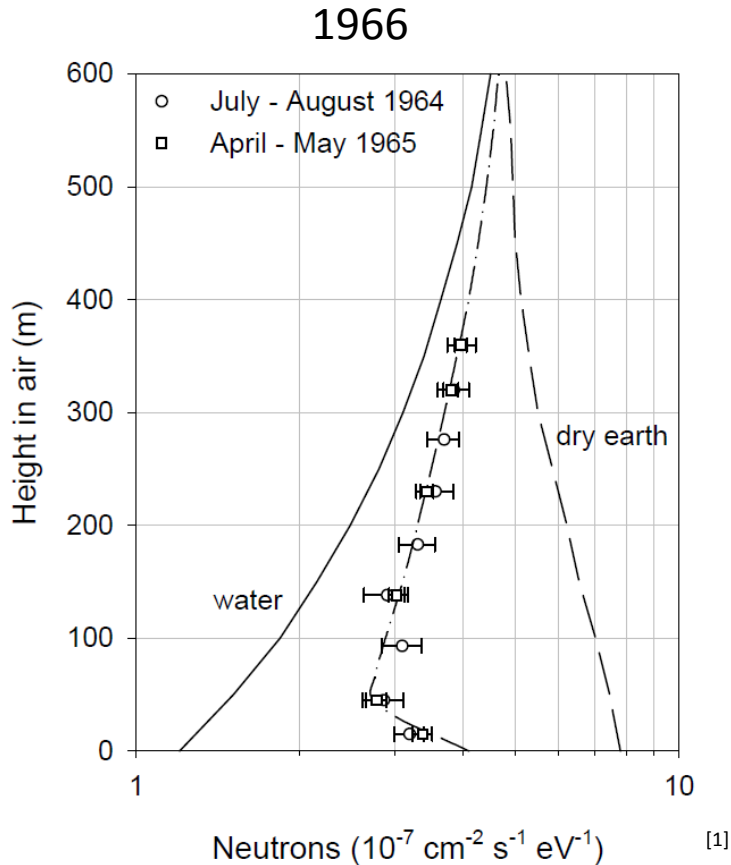
# The Cosmic Neutron Basics



# The Cosmic Neutron Basics



# Historical References

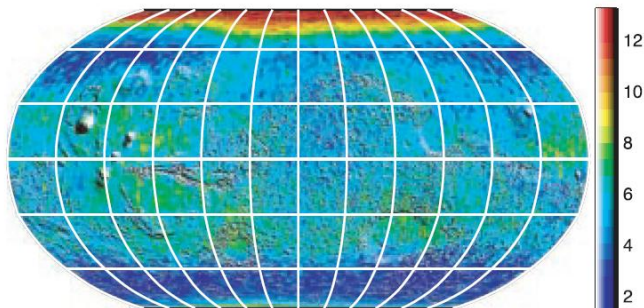


[1] Hendrick, L. D. and Edge, R. D., "Cosmic-ray neutrons near the Earth", Phys. Rev. Ser. II, 145 (1966)

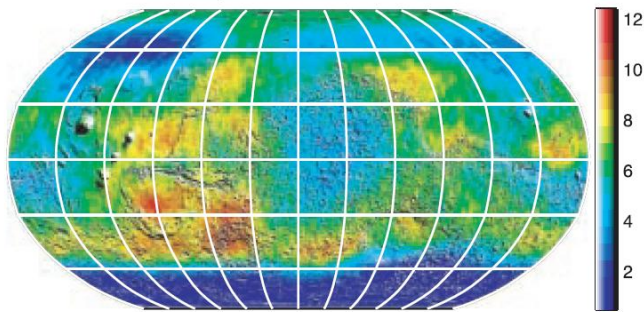
[2] Kodama, M. et al., "Application of atmospheric neutrons to soil moisture measurement", Soil Sci., 140 (1985)

# Water on Mars

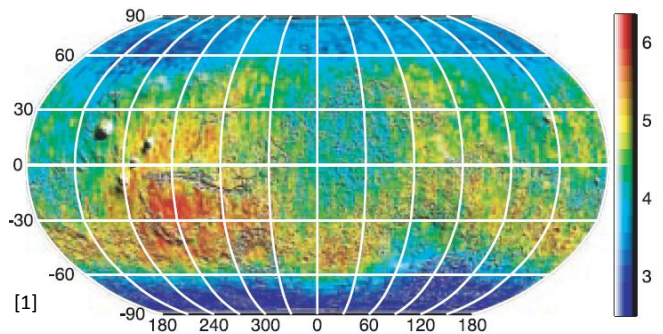
Thermal neutrons



Epithermal neutrons

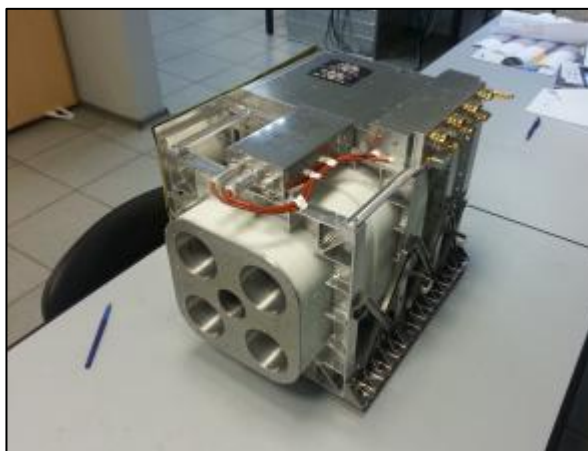


Fast neutrons



[1]

## Curiosity Rover



[2]

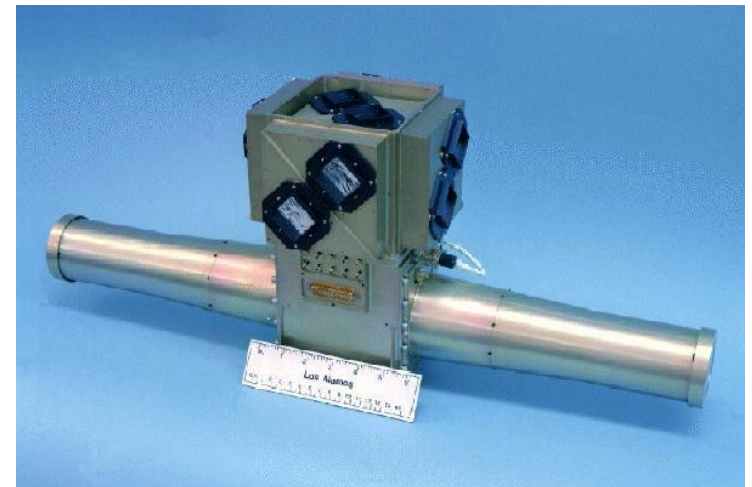
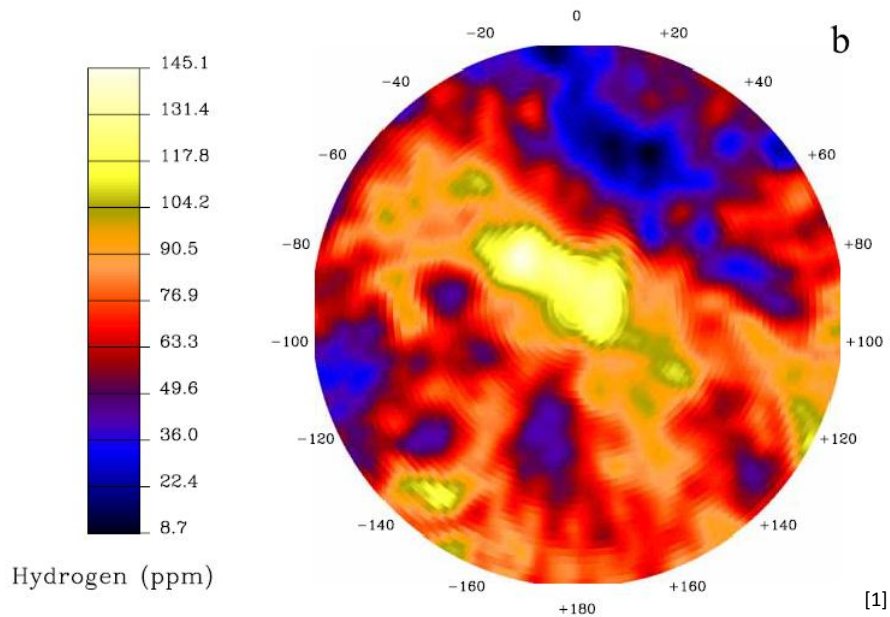
## Trace Gas Orbiter

[1] W.C. Feldman, et. al. „Global Distribution of Neutrons from Mars: Results from Mars Odyssey“, Science 297 (5578) (2002), 75-78.

[2] <http://exploration.esa.int/mars/48523-trace-gas-orbiter-instruments/?fbodylongid=2217>

# Water on Moon

2002+

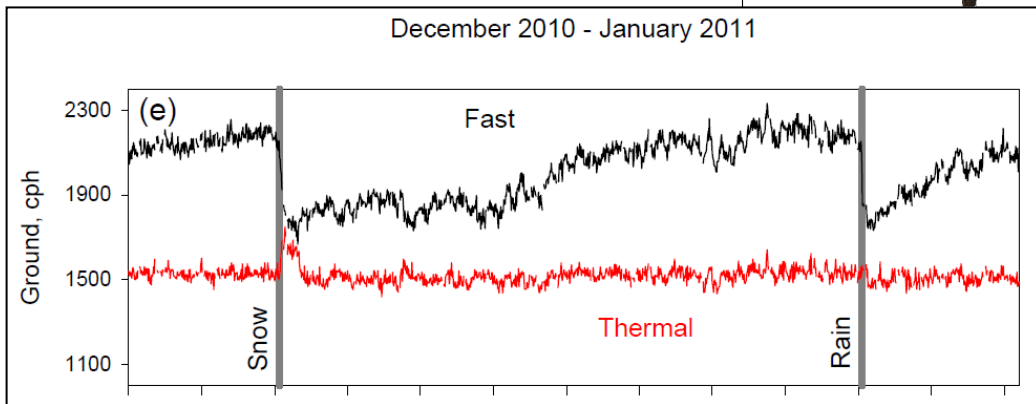
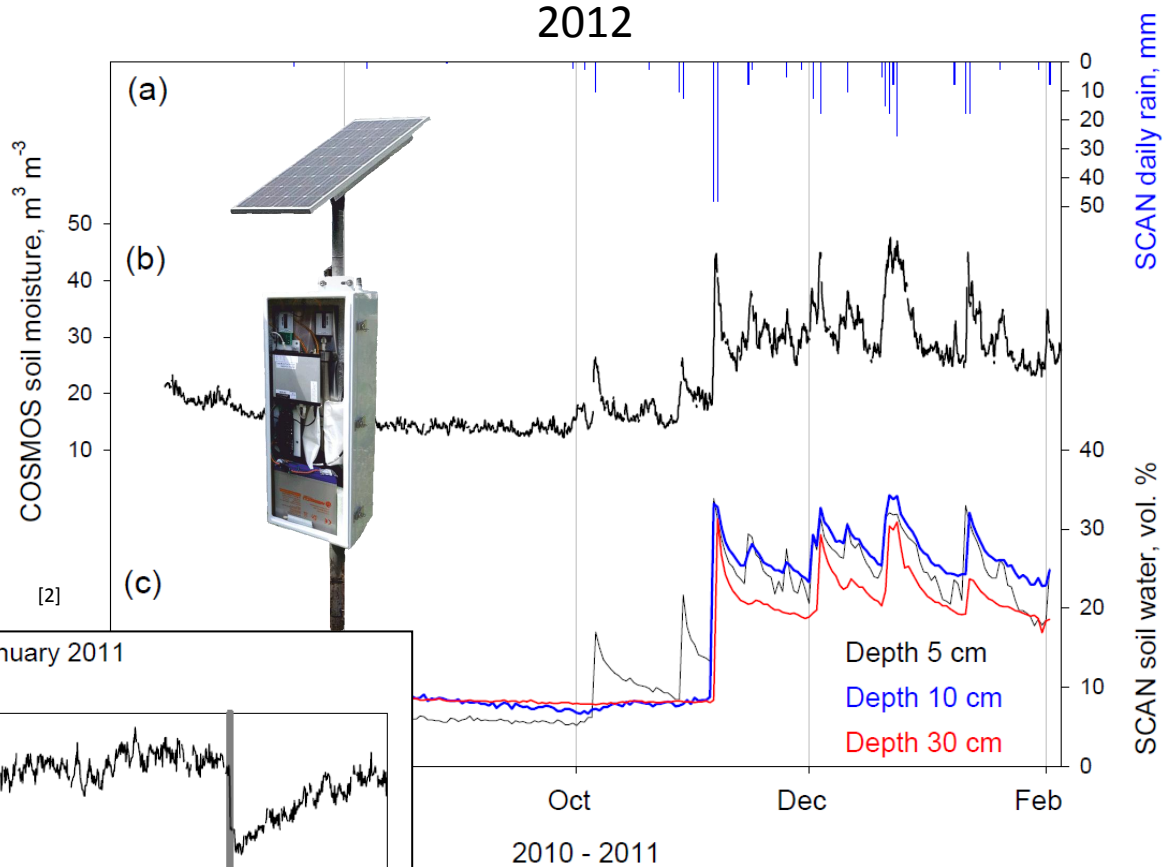
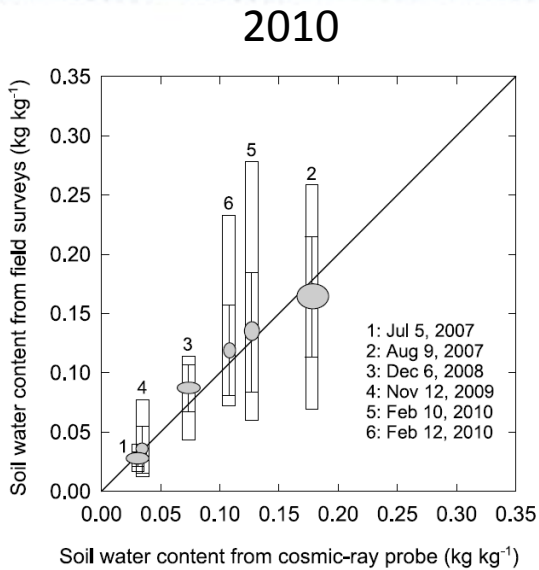


[1] Lawrence, D.J. et al., „Improved modeling of Lunar Prospector neutron spectrometer data: Implications for hydrogen deposits at the lunar poles“, Journal of Geophysical Research, 111 (2006)

[2] [http://www.tsgc.utexas.edu/spacecraft/lunar\\_prospector/ns.html](http://www.tsgc.utexas.edu/spacecraft/lunar_prospector/ns.html)

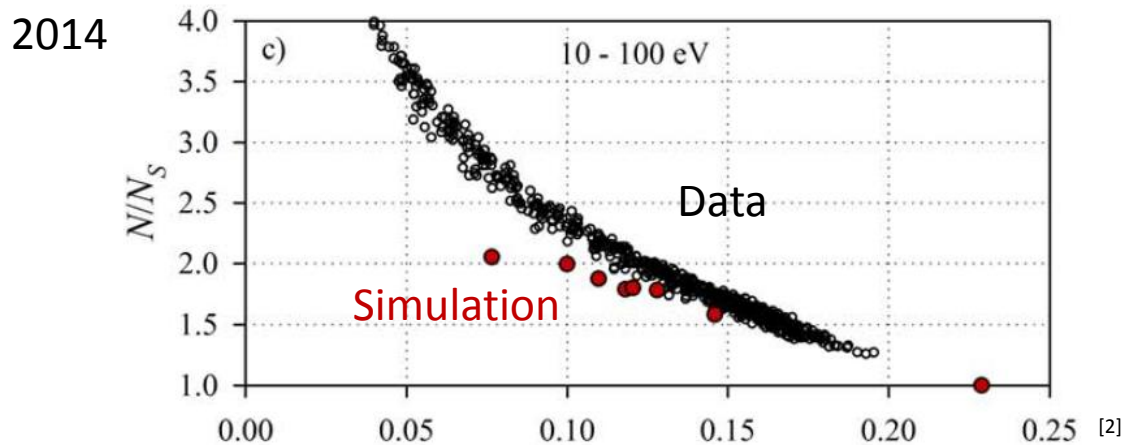
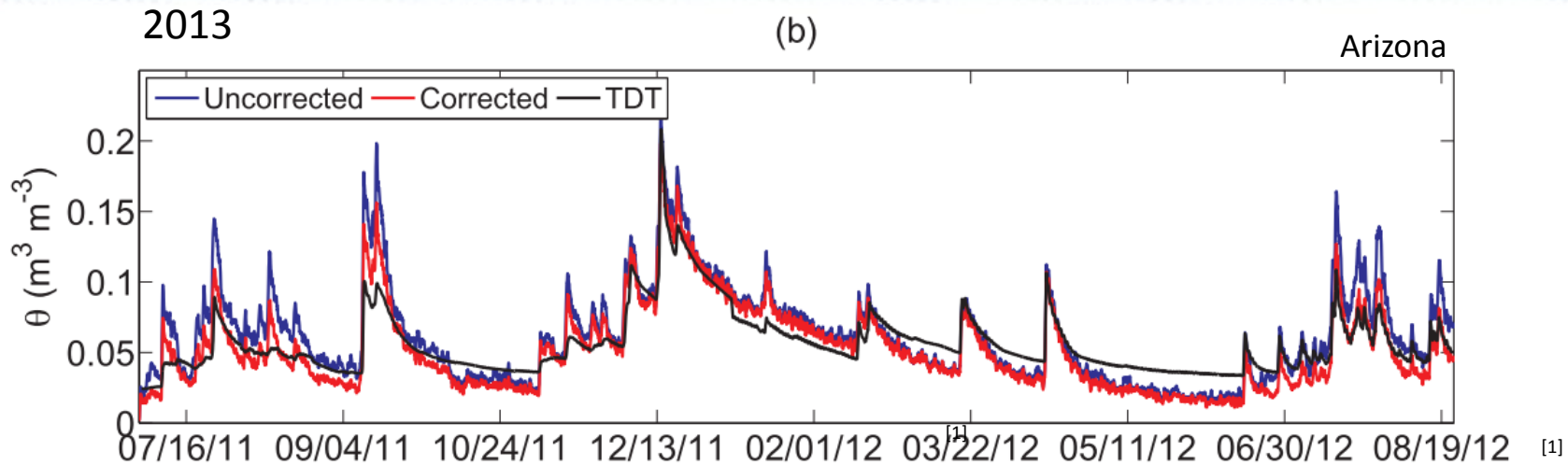


# The Birth of CRNS



- [1] Zreda, M. et al., "COSMOS: The COsmic-ray Soil Moisture Observing System." *Hydrology and Earth System Sciences* 16(11) (2012)
- [2] Desilets, D. et al., "Nature's neutron probe: Land surface hydrology at an elusive scale with cosmic rays.", *Water Resources Research* 46(11) (2010)

# The Birth of CRNS

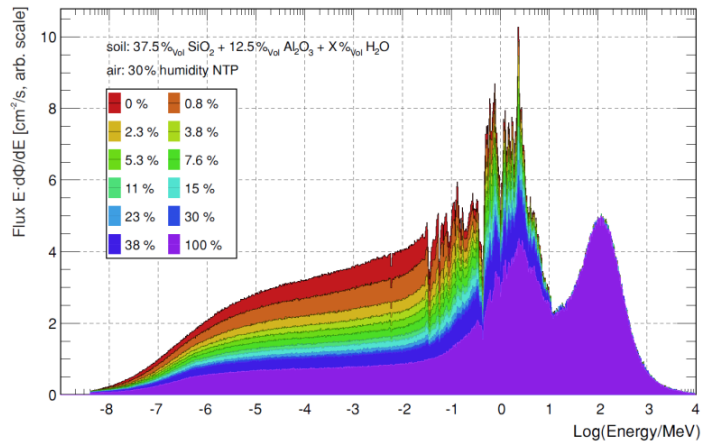


[1] Rosolem, R. et al. "The Effect of Atmospheric Water Vapor on Neutron Count in the Cosmic-Ray Soil Moisture Observing System." J. of Hydrometeorology 14(5) (2013)

[2] McJannet, D. et al., "Field testing of the universal calibration function for determination of soil moisture with cosmic-ray neutrons." Water Resources Res. 50(6) (2014)

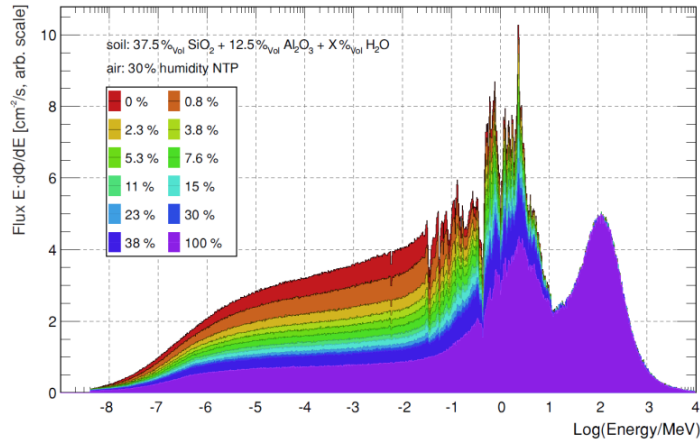
# The Birth of CRNS

2015

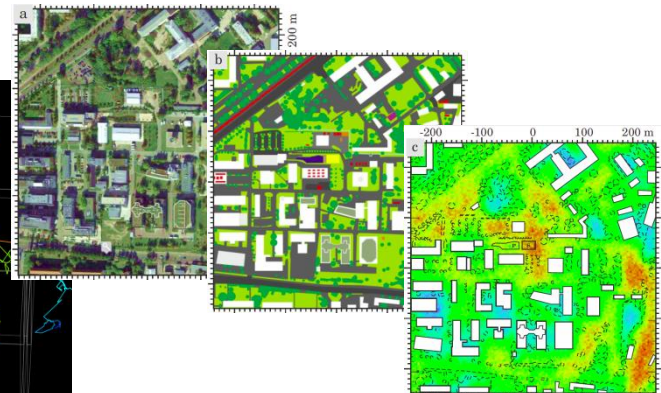
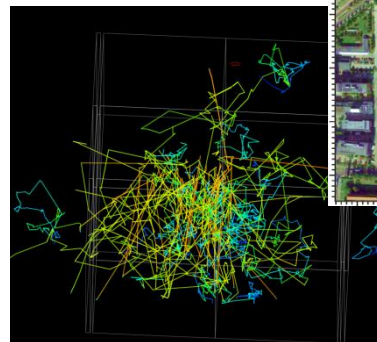


# The Birth of CRNS

2015

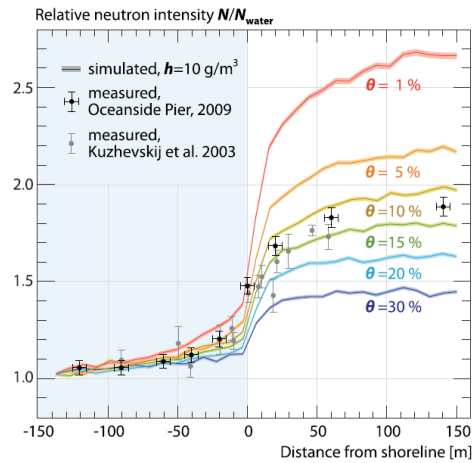
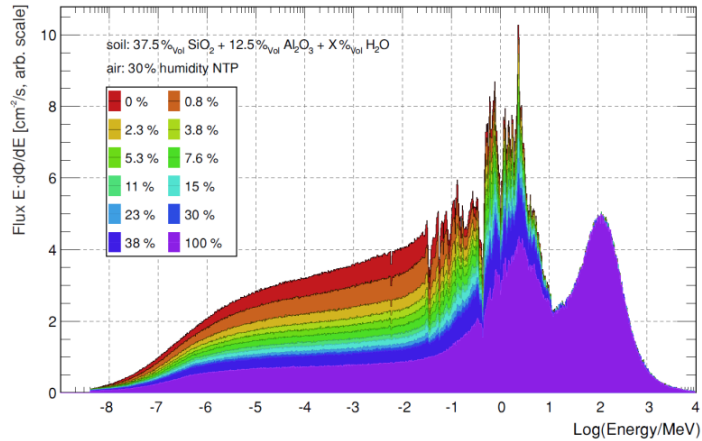


- Neutron Transport Monte Carlo
- Voxel Engine
- Ray-Casting
- Cosmic Neutron Source Option
- written in C++
- linked against ENDF data bases



# The Birth of CRNS

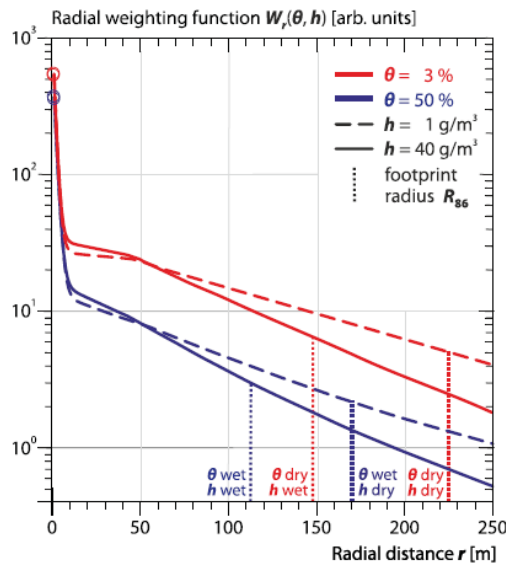
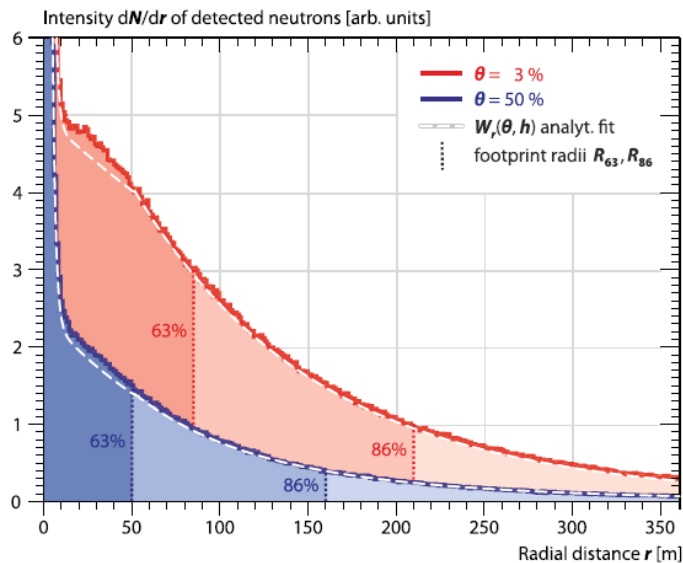
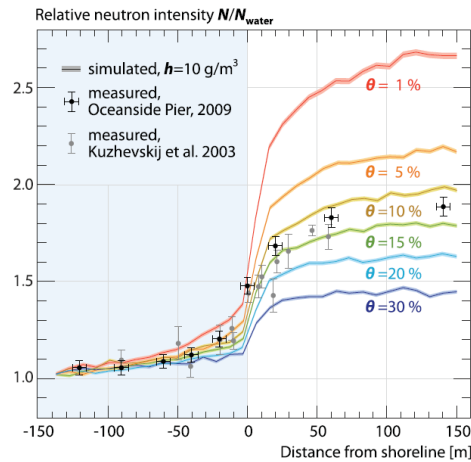
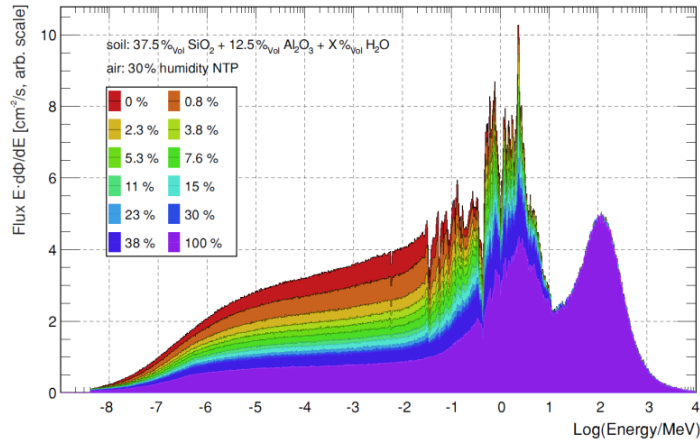
2015





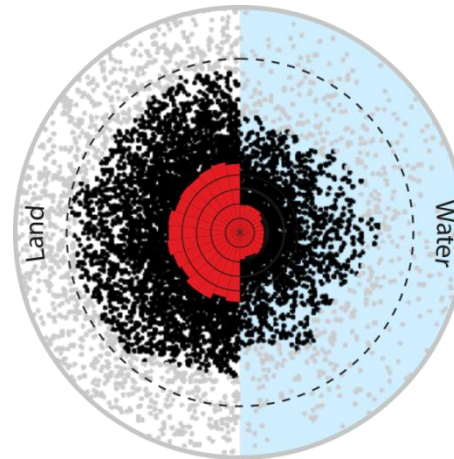
# The Birth of CRNS

2015



# Cosmic Neutron Propagation

dry land

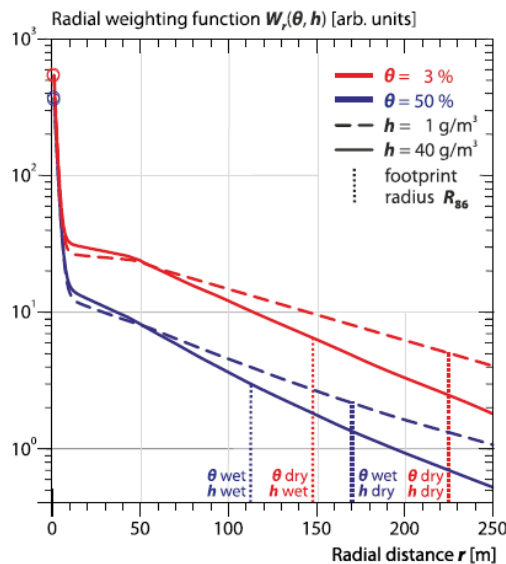
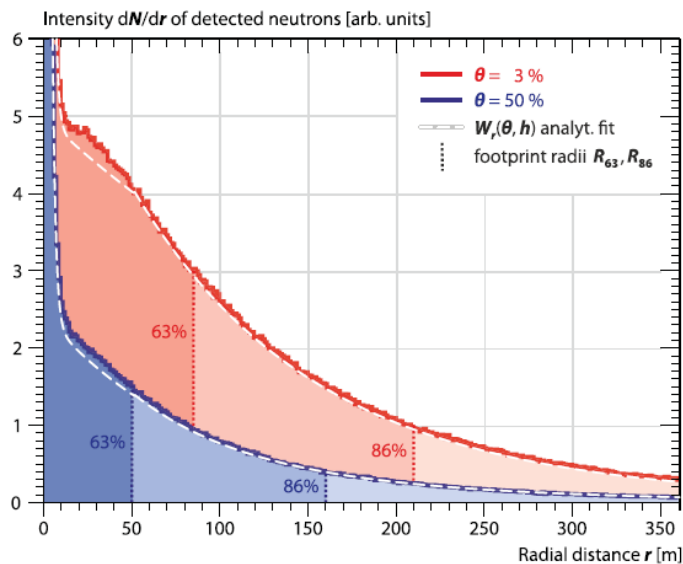
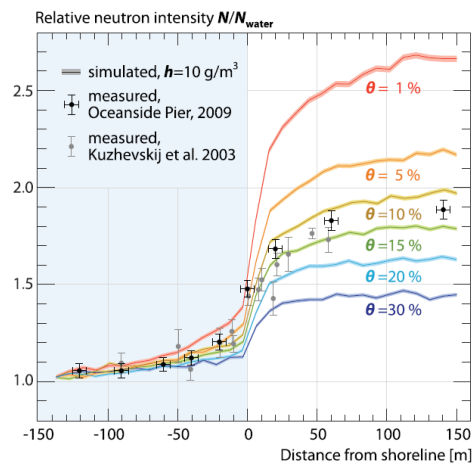
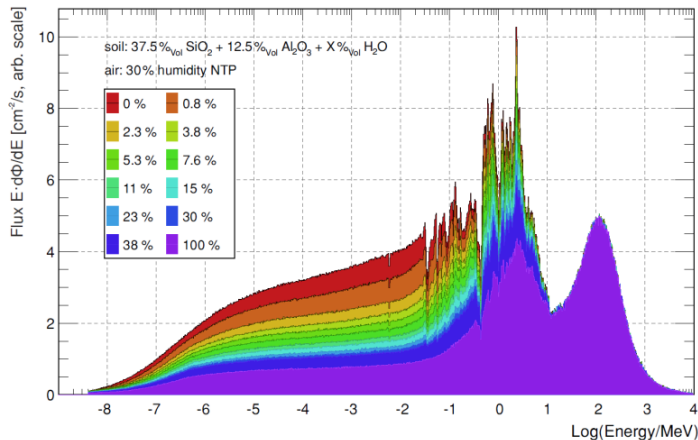


water

Footprint

# The Birth of CRNS

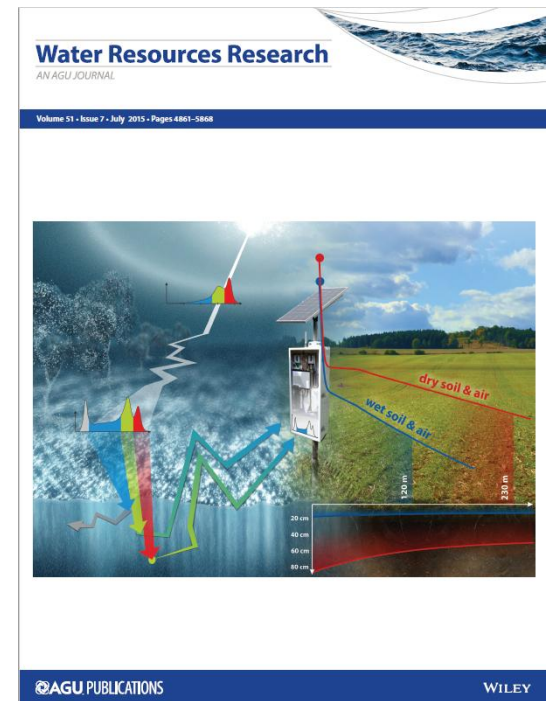
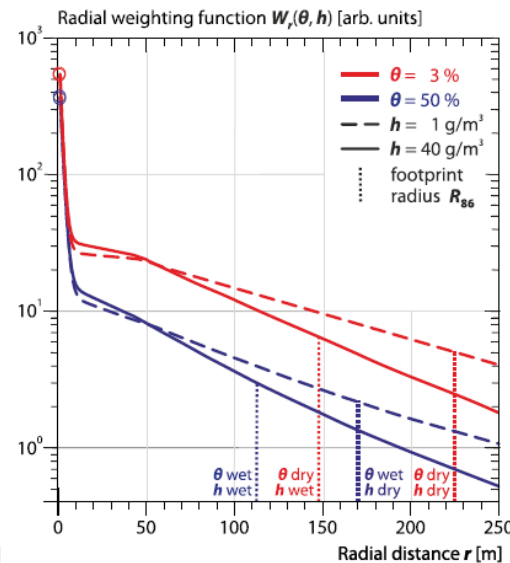
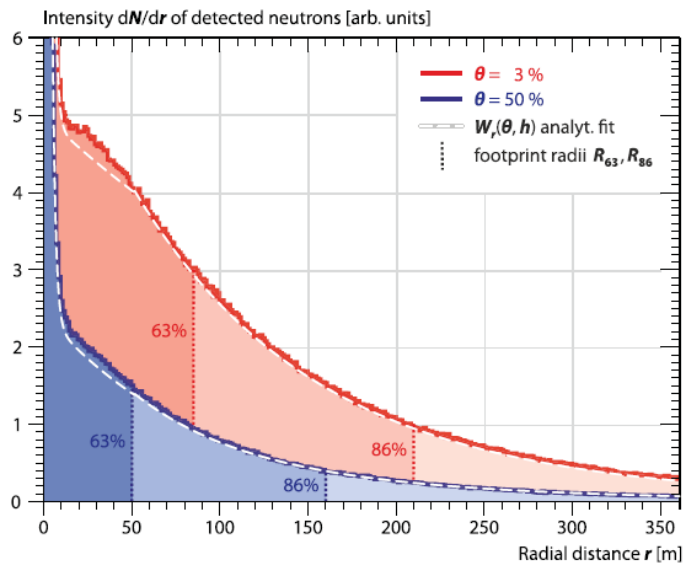
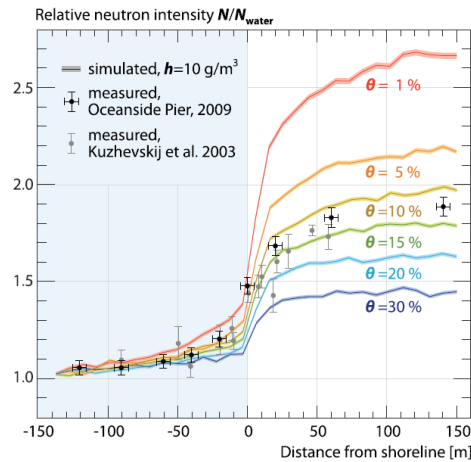
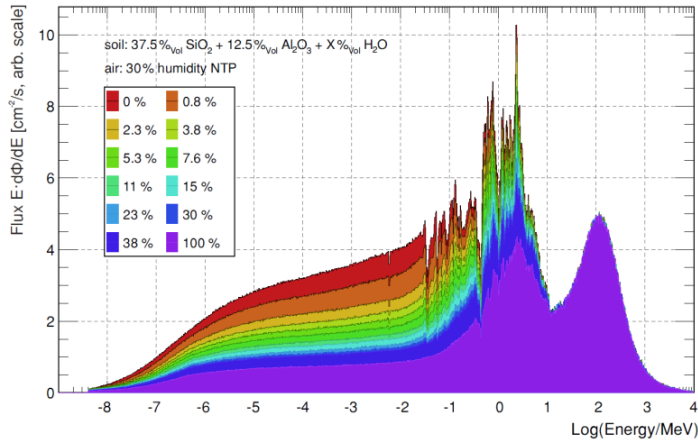
2015





# The Birth of CRNS

2015



# The Birth of CRNS

gu/journal/10.1002/(ISSN)1944-7973/issues/2007/

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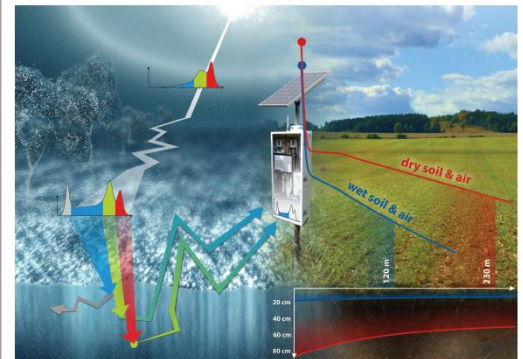


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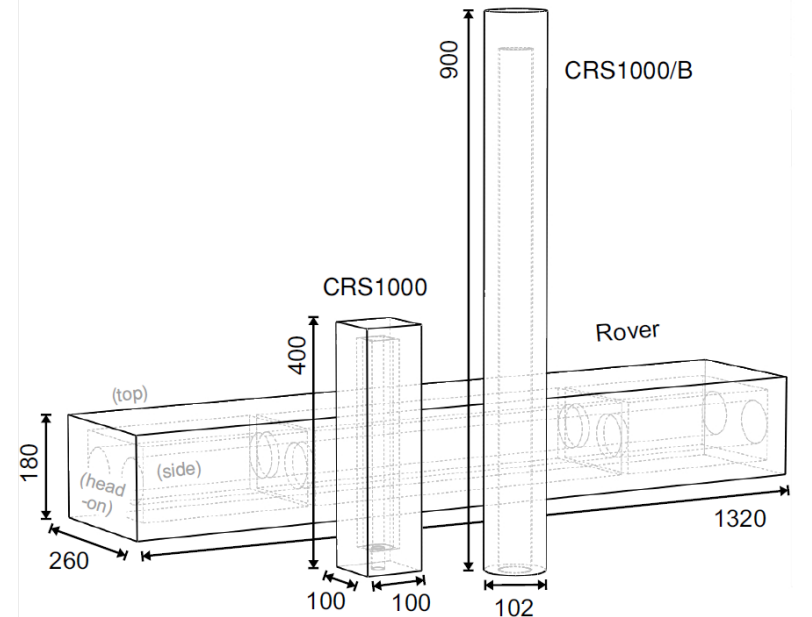
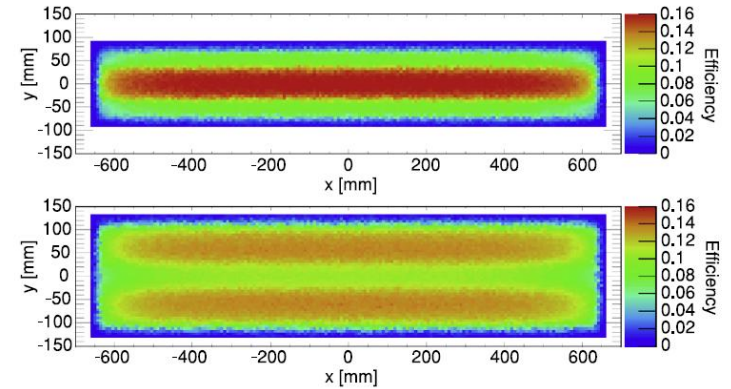
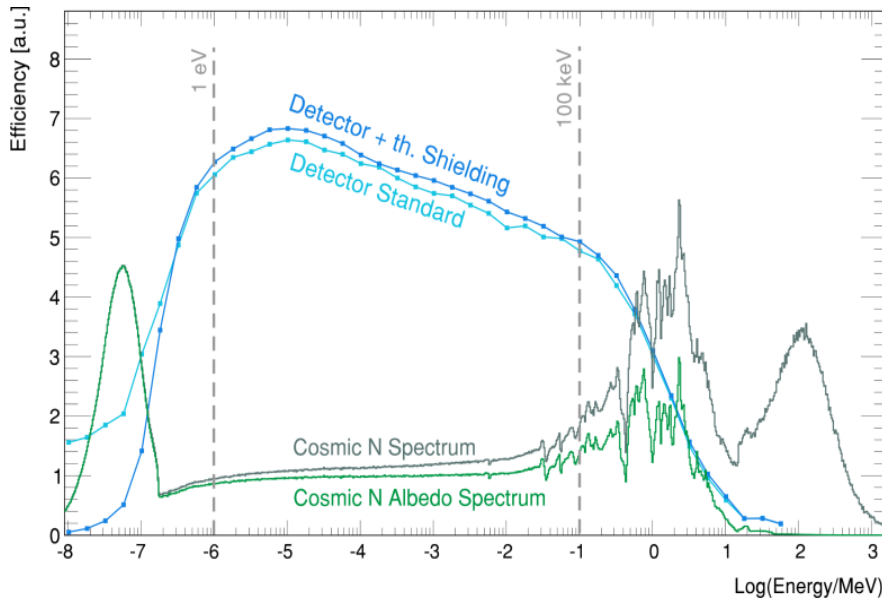
Volume 51 - Issue 7 - July 2015 - Pages 4861-5868



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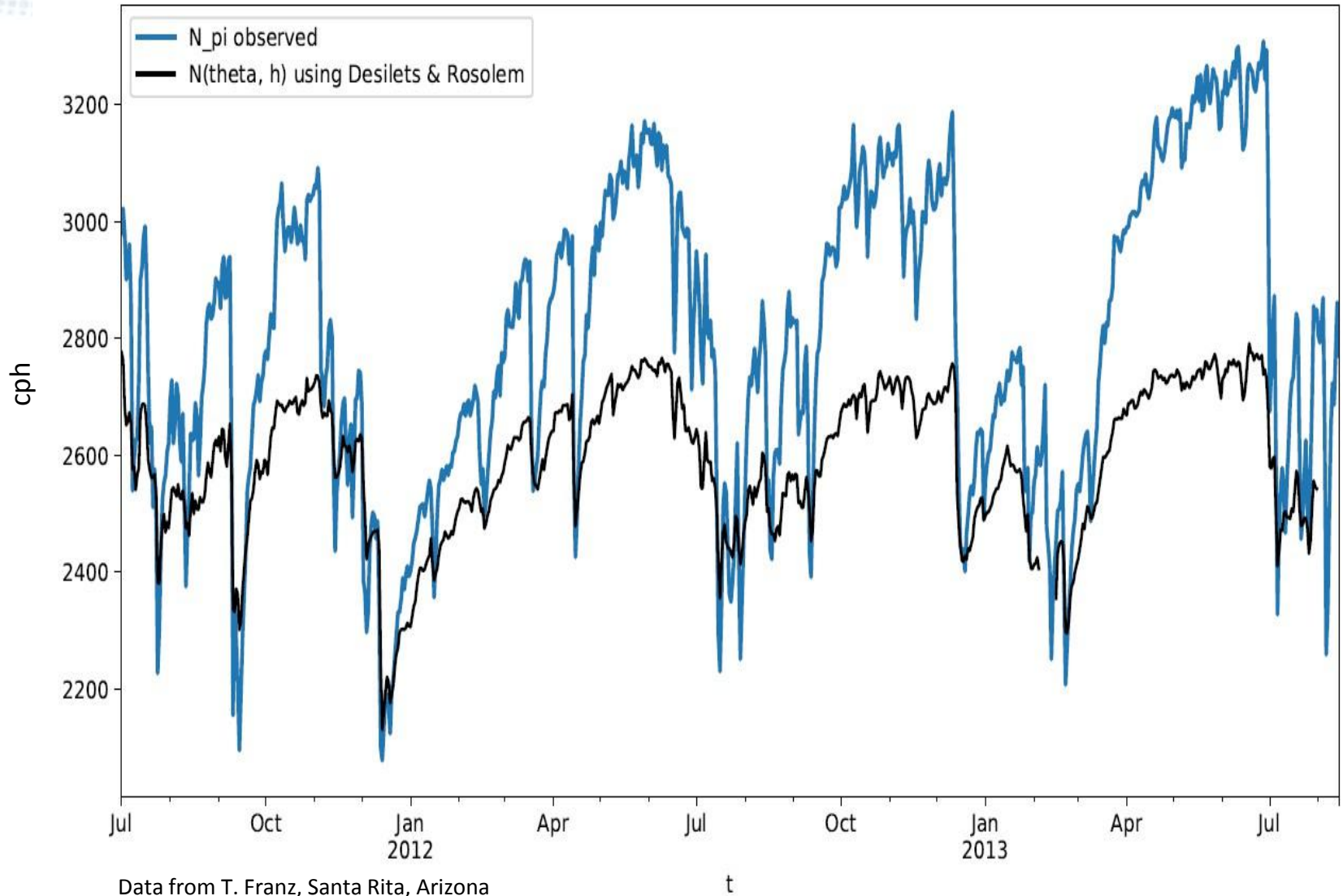
WILEY

# Detector Response Function



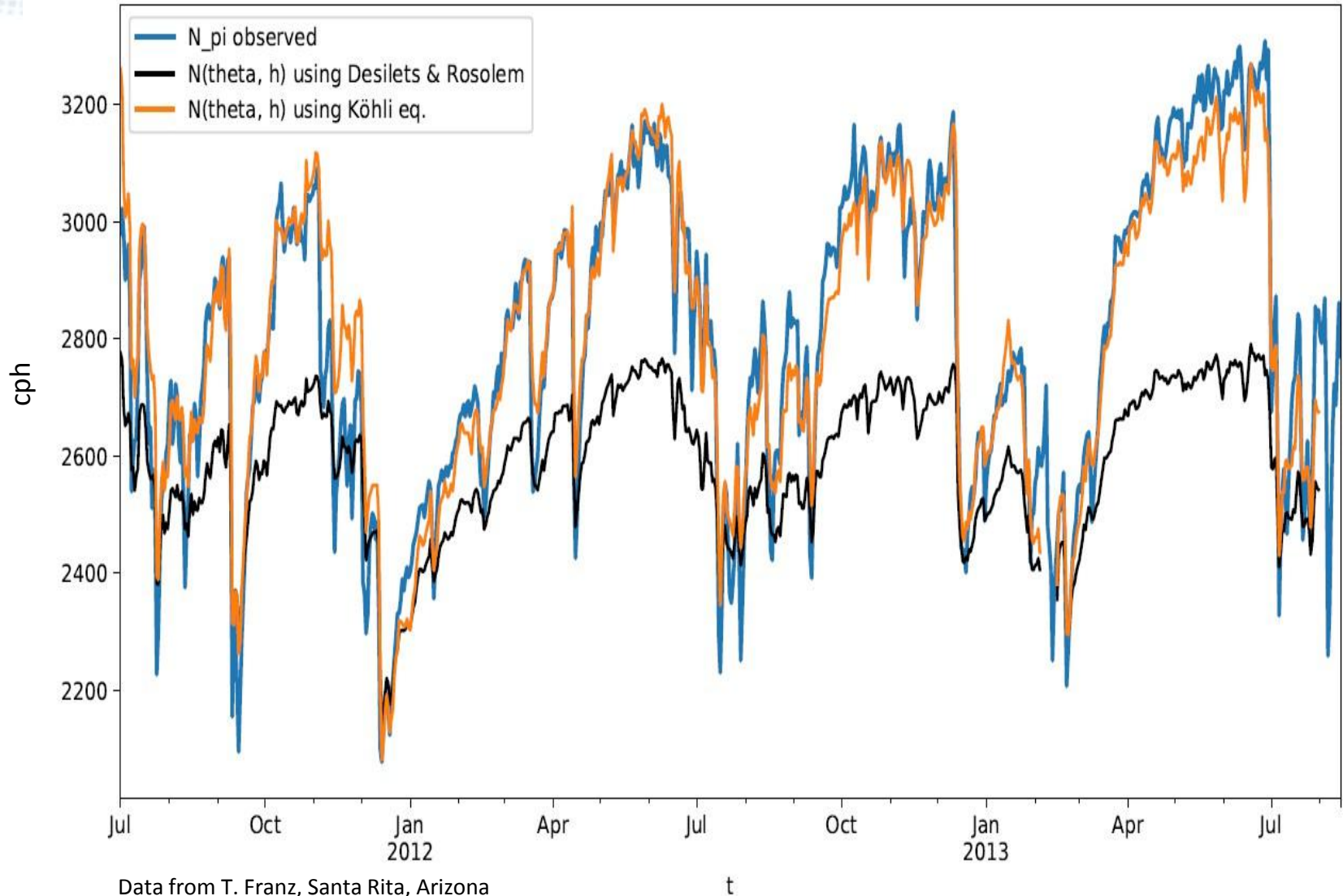


# Intensity Function





# Intensity Function Revised



Data from T. Franz, Santa Rita, Arizona

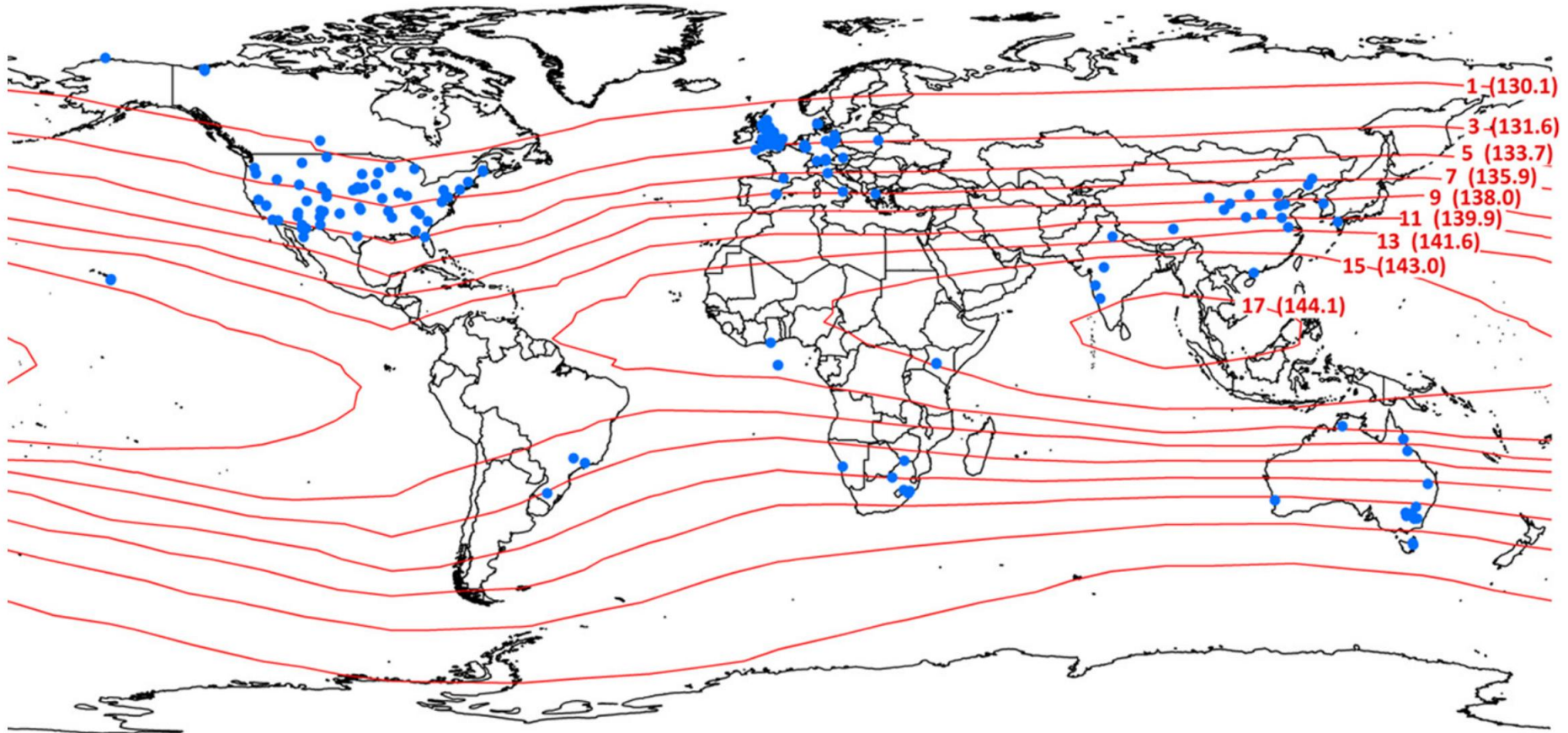
t

# Examples and Recent Studies



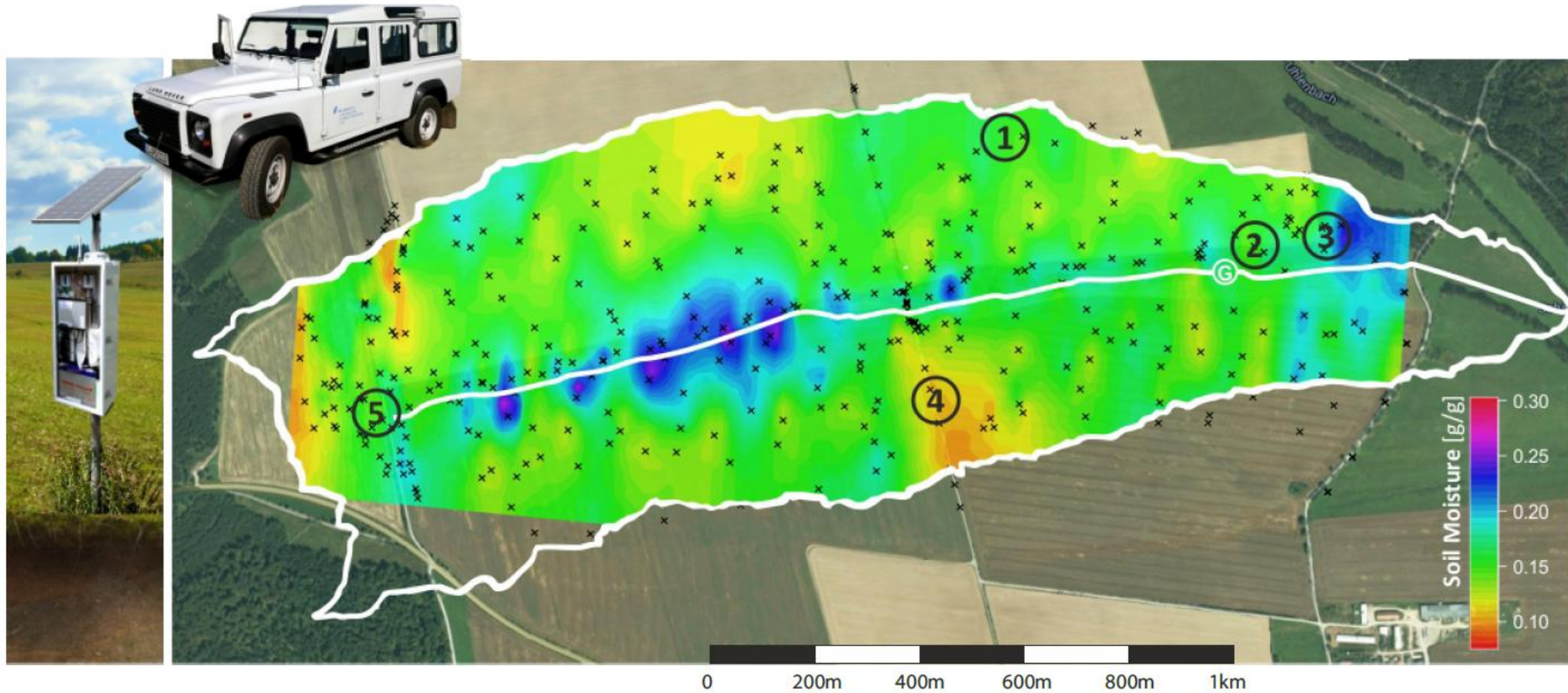


# COSMOS Probe Deployment



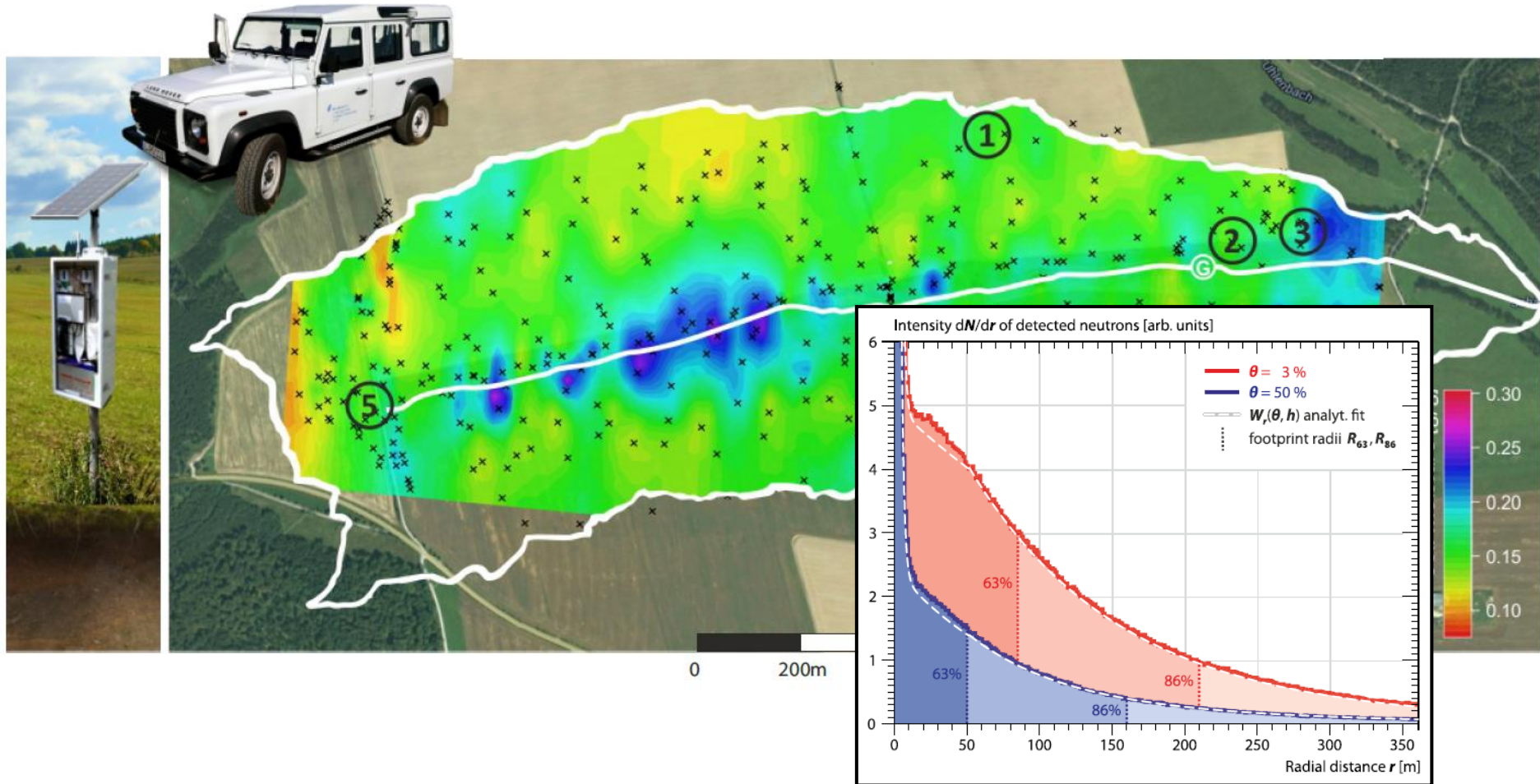
[5] Andreasen, M. et al. "Status and Perspectives on the Cosmic-Ray Neutron Method for Soil Moisture Estimation and Other Environmental Science Applications." *Vadose Zone Journal* 16(8) (2017)

# Roving



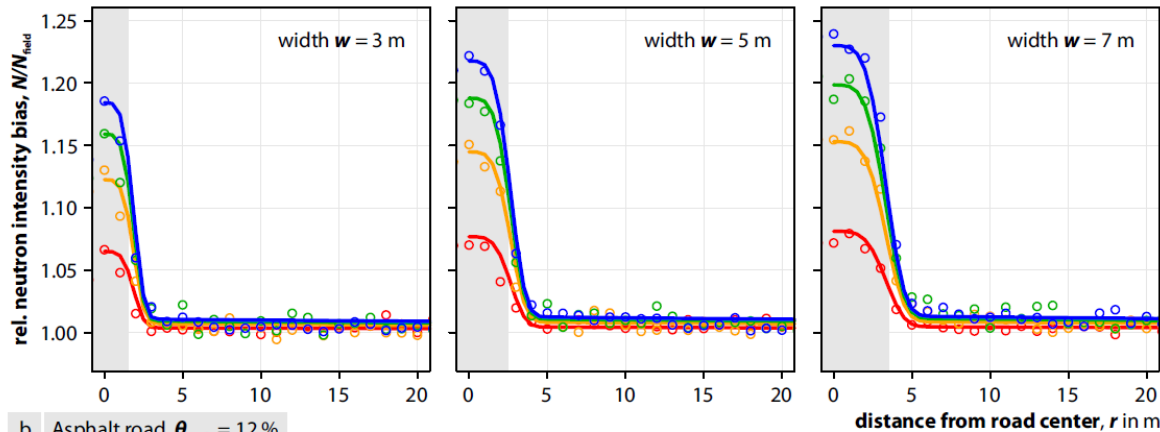


# Roving

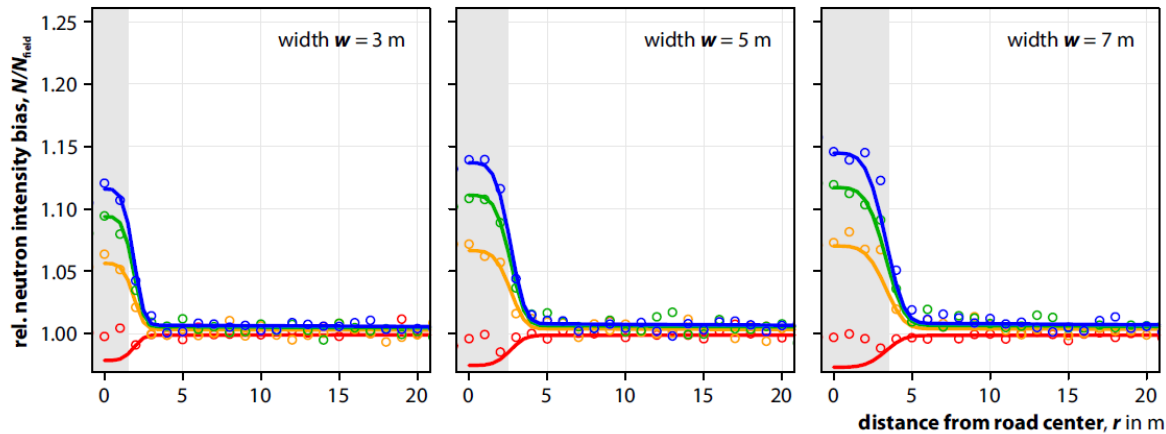


# The Road Effect

a Stone road,  $\theta_{\text{road}} = 3\%$

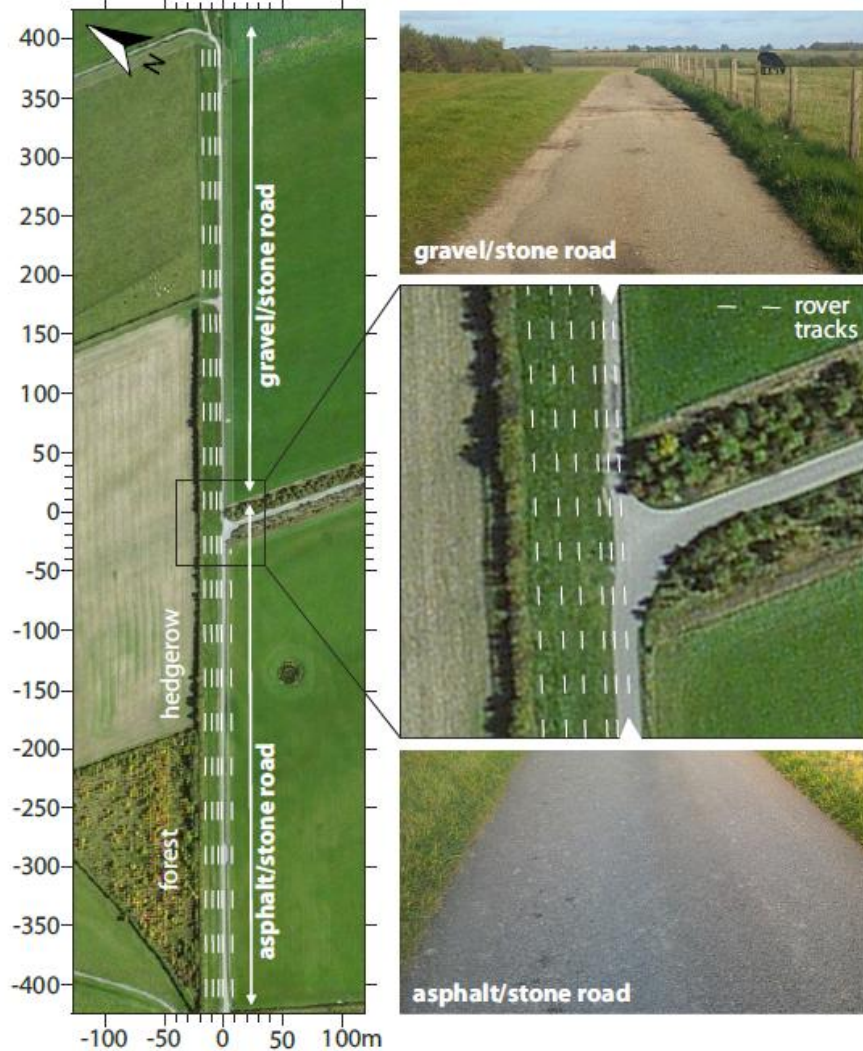


b Asphalt road,  $\theta_{\text{road}} = 12\%$



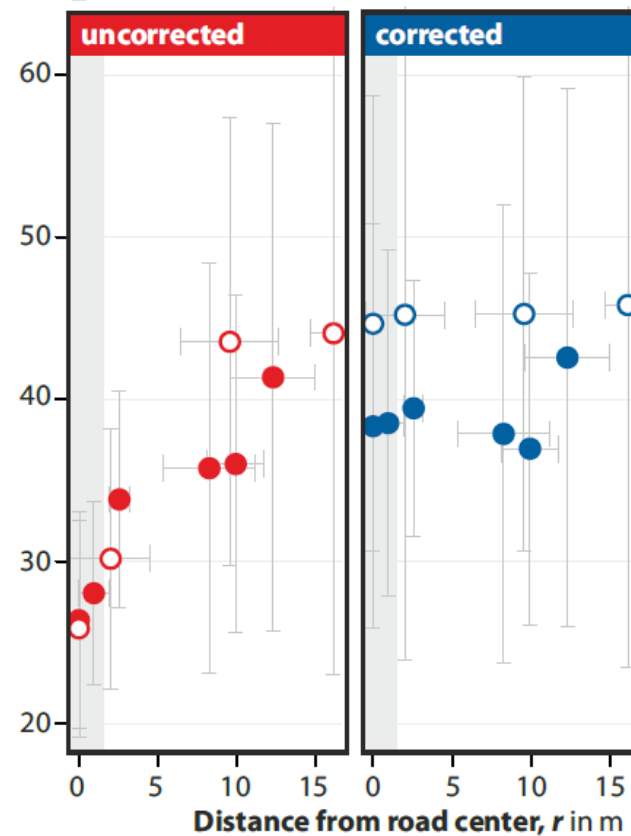
# The Road Effect

a **Ex B: Parallel tracks** at Sheepdrove Farm



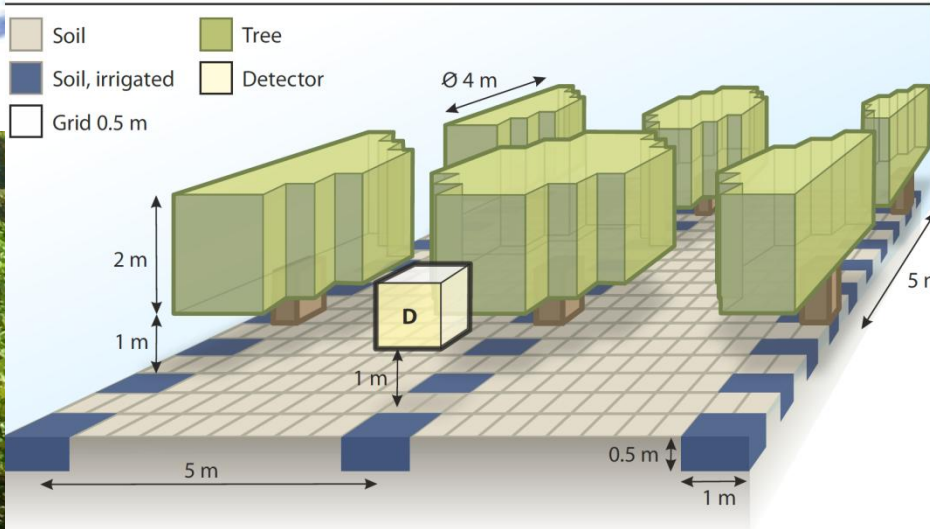
b **Ex B: Observed vol. soil moisture in %**

○ gravel/stone road ● asphalt/stone road  
 ┆ variability along each track (400 m)



# Drip Irrigation

Schematical segment of the URANOS setup, total extent: 500 m

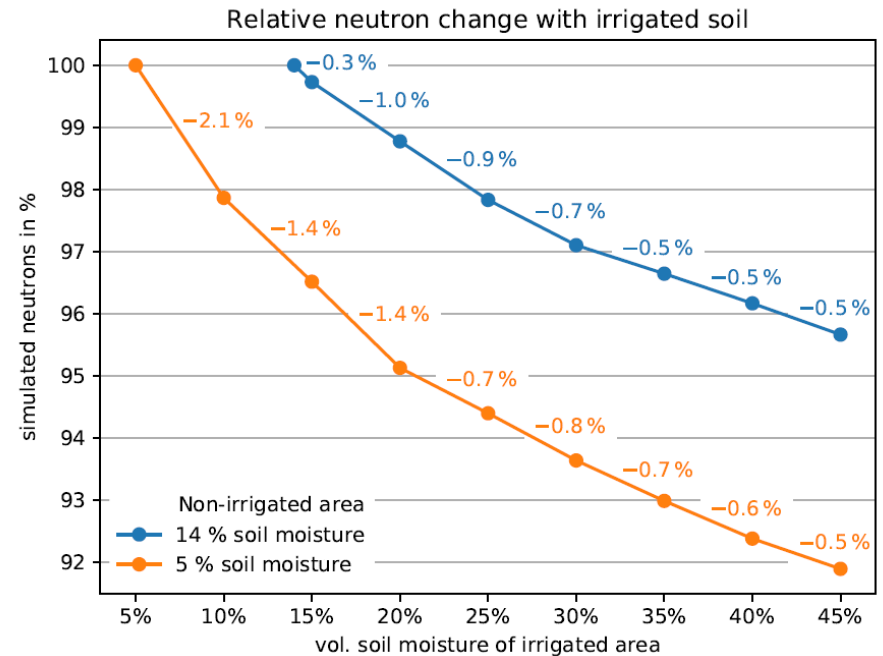
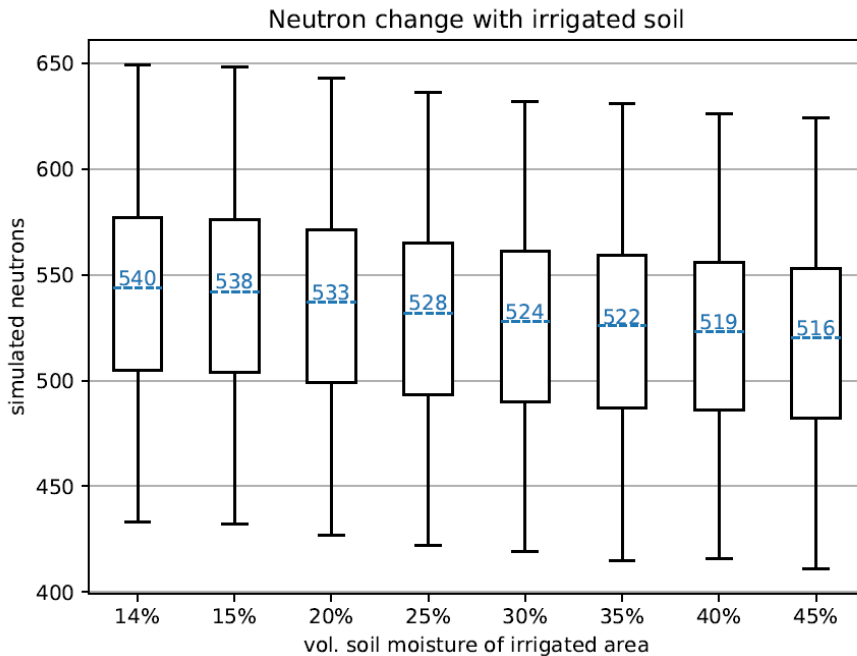


# Drip Irrigation



In collaboration with  
Dazhi Li  
FZ Jülich

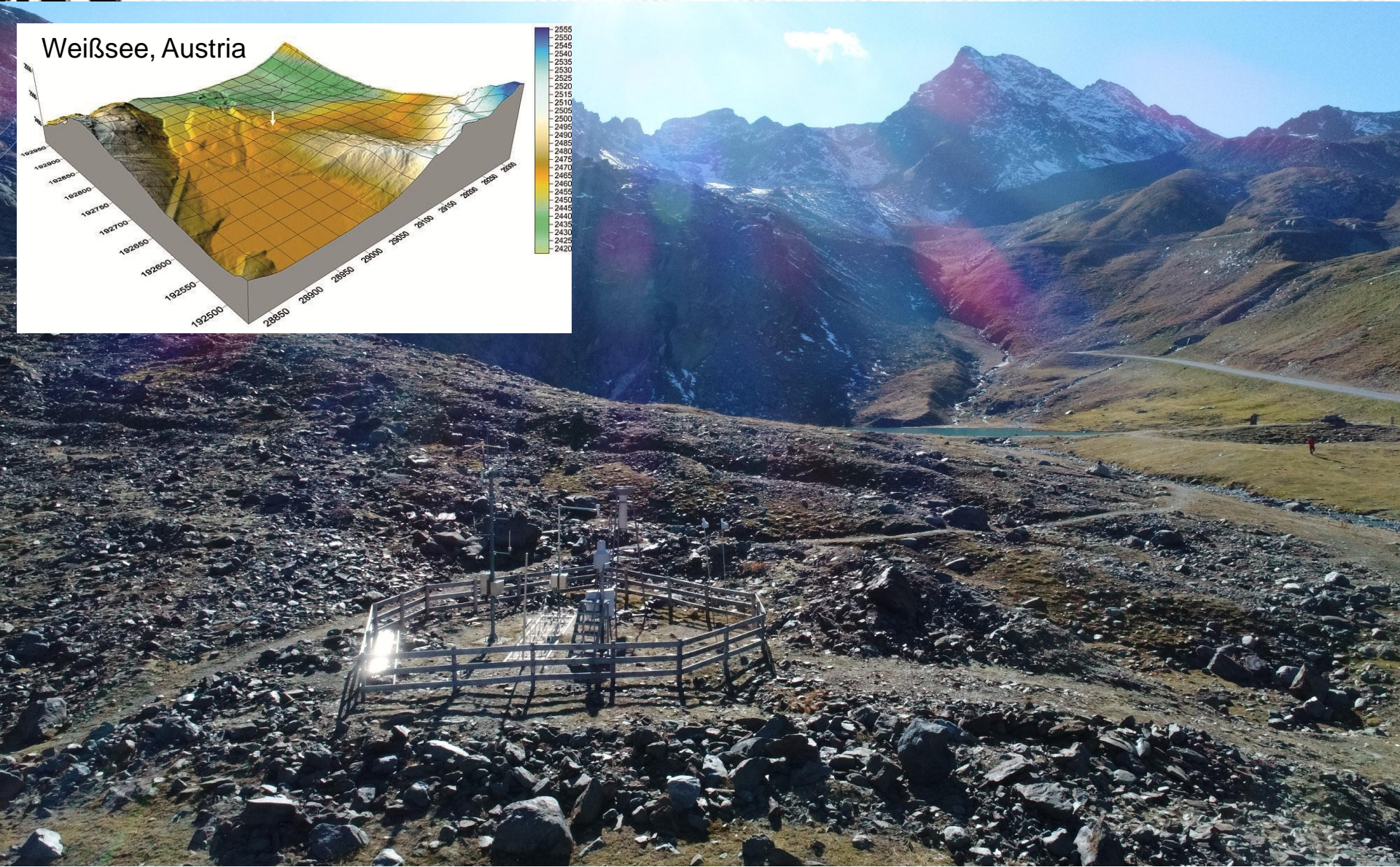
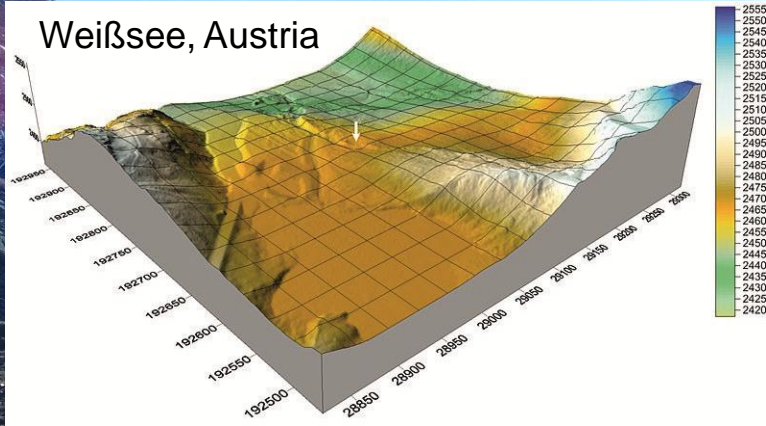
Lemon trees: 3 kg/m<sup>3</sup> biomass  
8 % of soil irrigated



Only a few percent change -> needs large sensor

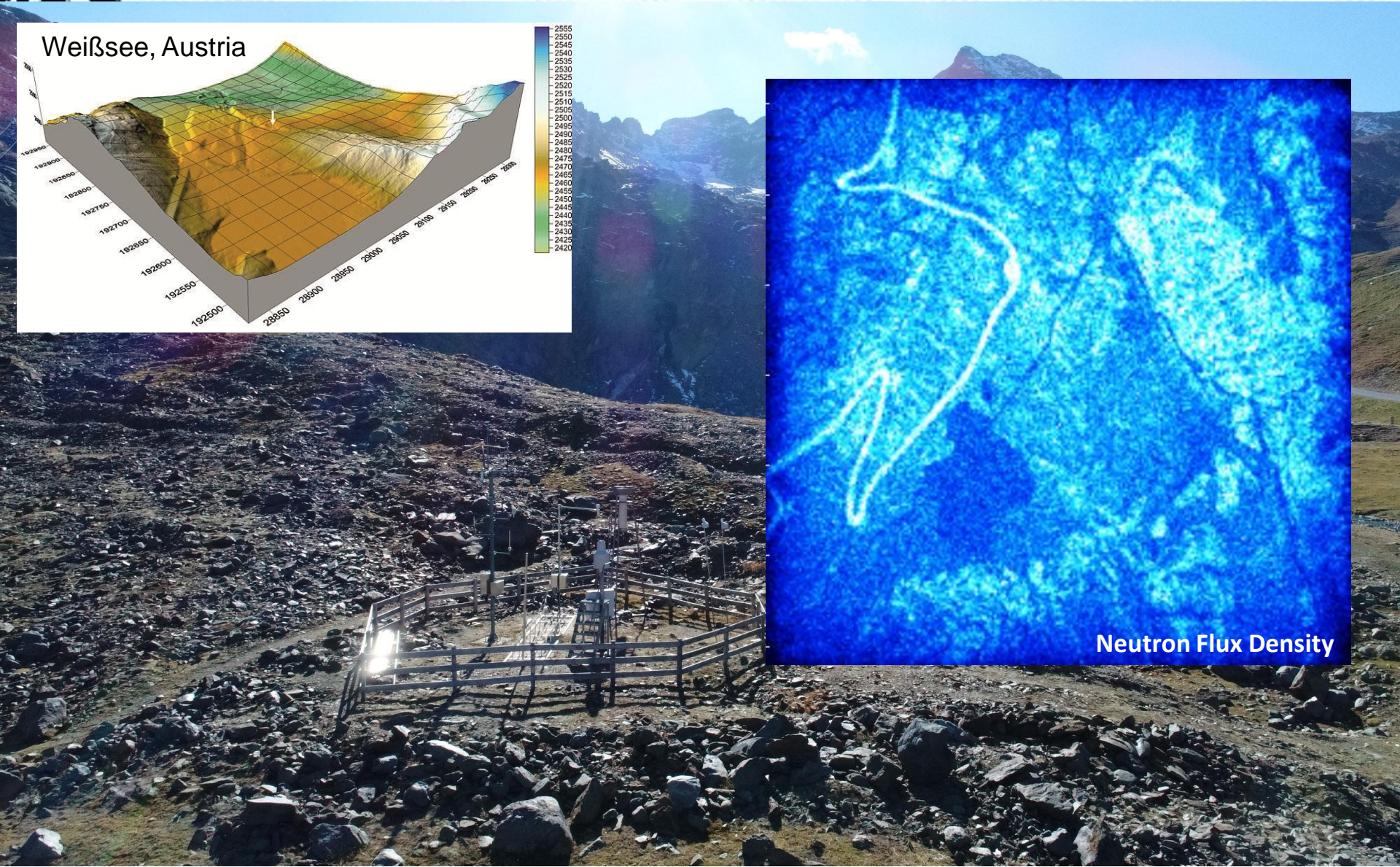
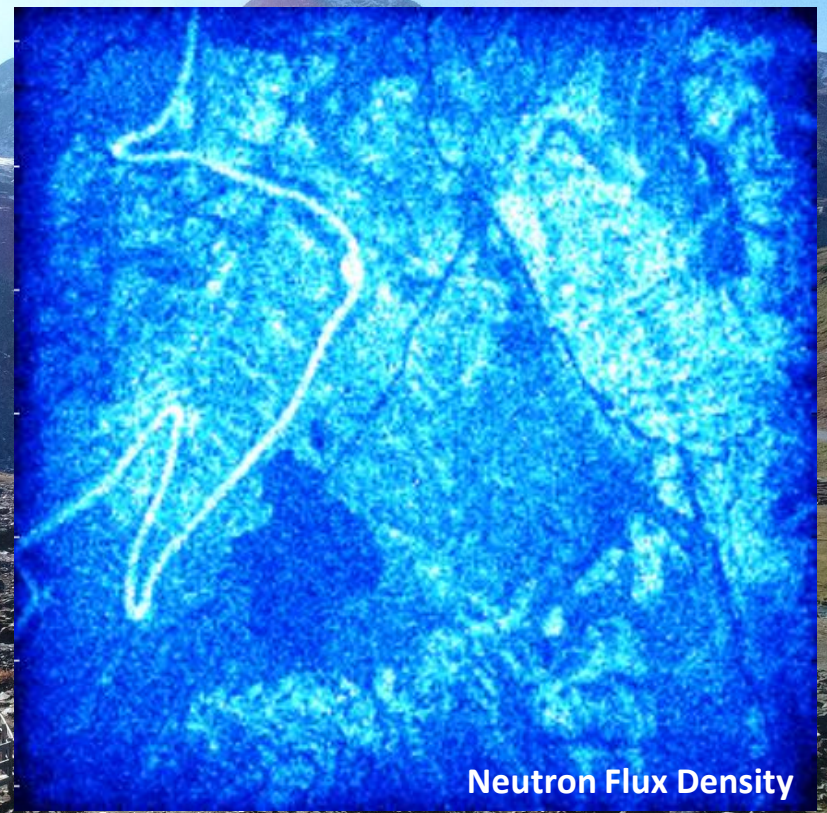
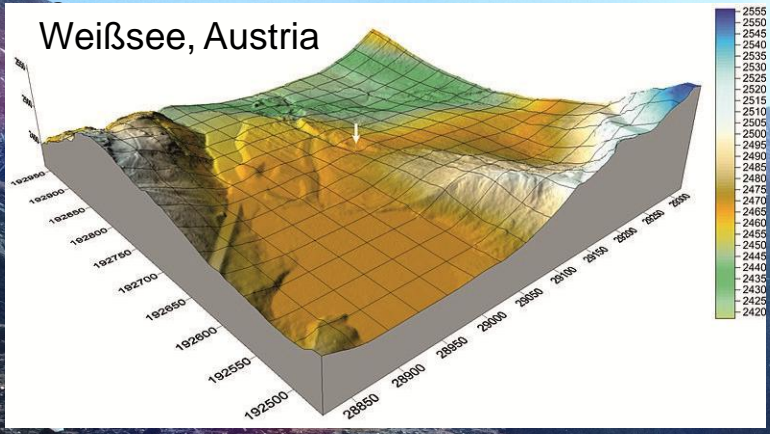
# Snow Water Equivalent

Weißsee, Austria



P. Schattan et al., to be published

# Snow Water Equivalent

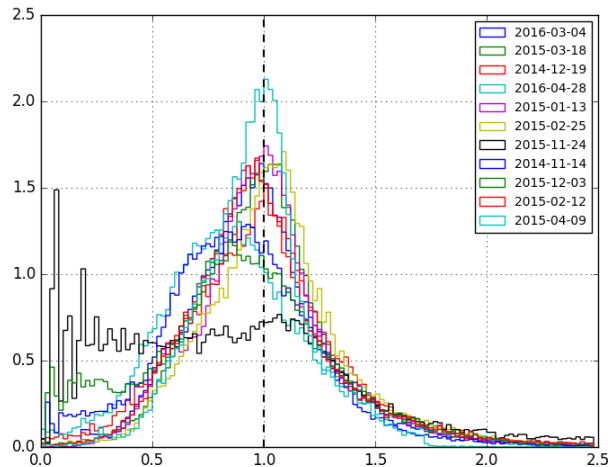


P. Schattan et al., to be published

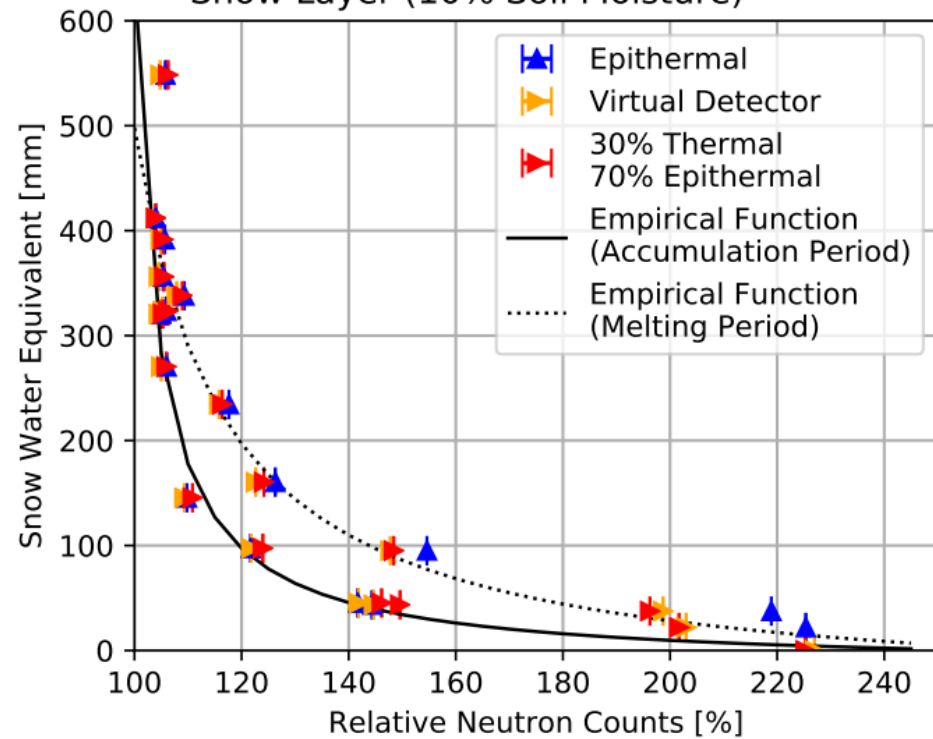
# Snow Water Equivalent

In collaboration with  
Paul Schattan  
Uni Innsbruck

3D Laser scanner  
snow distribution measurements



(b) URANOS Results Distributed  
Snow Layer (10% Soil Moisture)



P. Schattan et al., to be published





# Neutron Detection

## Basics

# Neutron Detection

- No charge
- „Low“ energies - as low as thermal ( $k_B T = 25 \text{ meV}$ )  
MeV  $\longrightarrow$  neV

## Scattering

coherent

elastic  
(n,n)

inelastic  
(n,n')

## Absorption

photonic  
(n, $\gamma'$ )

charged  
(n,p)  
(n,d)  
(n, $\alpha$ )

neutral  
(n,2n)  
(n,3n)

fission  
(n,f)

# Neutron Detection

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- „Low“ energies - as low as thermal ( $k_B T = 25 \text{ meV}$ )  
MeV  $\longrightarrow$  neV

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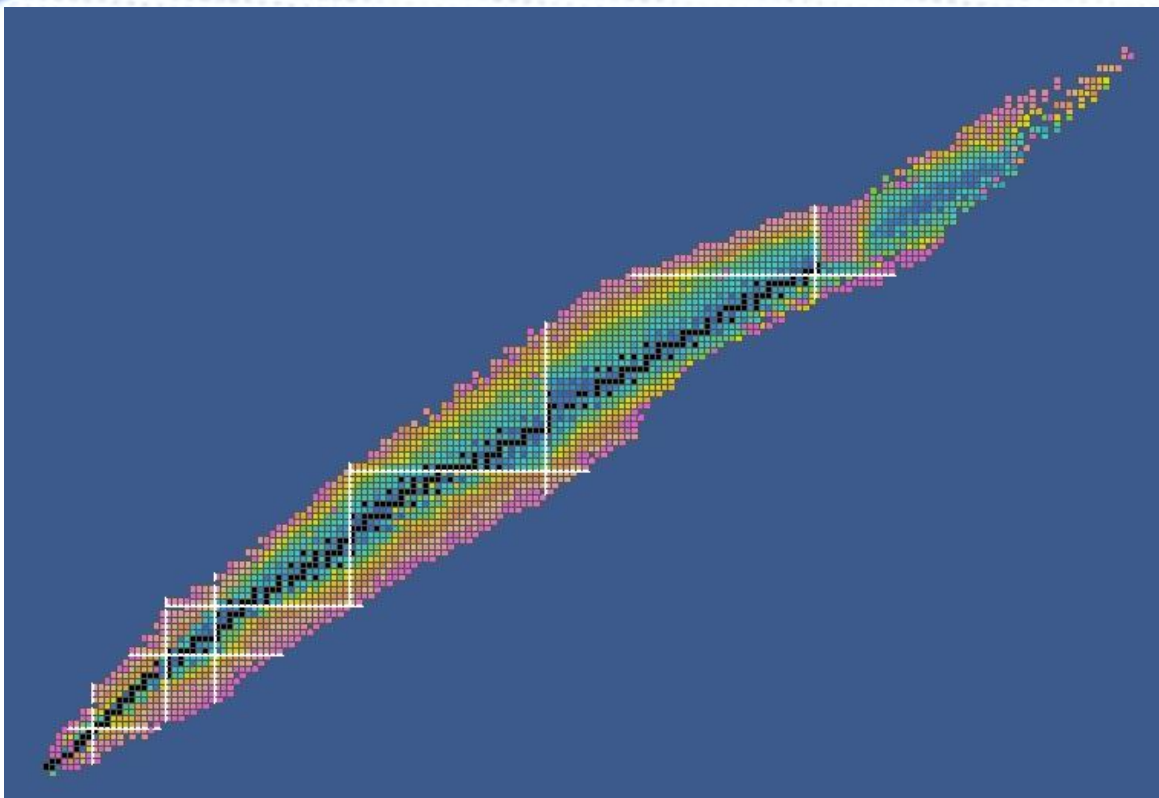
charged  
(n,p)  
(n,d)  
(n, $\alpha$ )

neutral  
(n,2n)  
(n,3n)

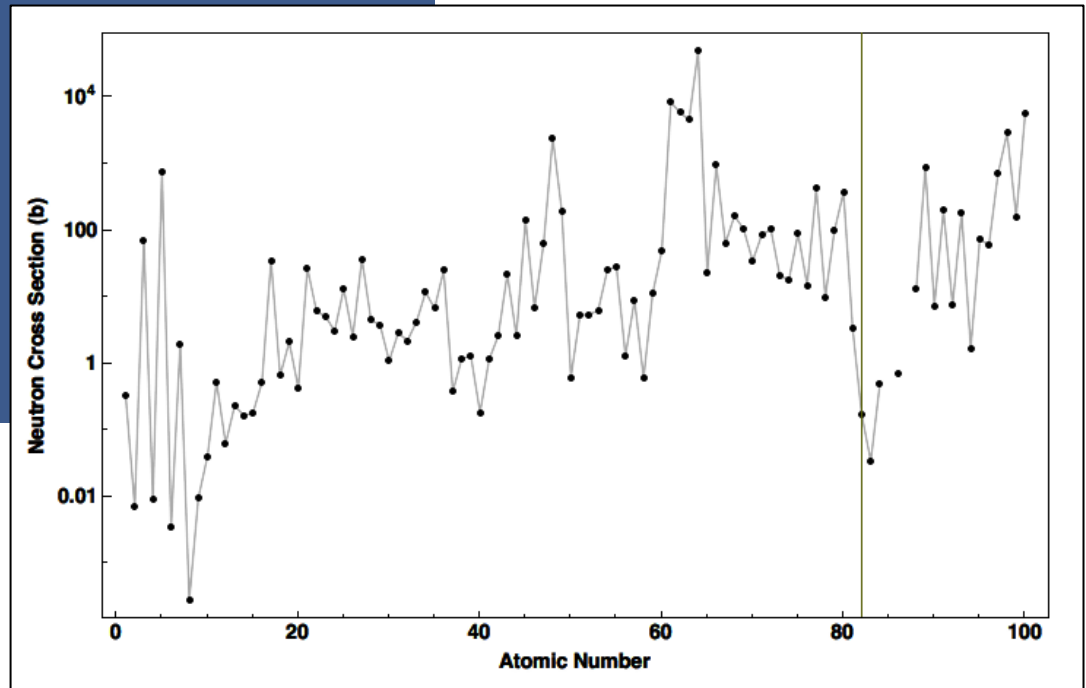
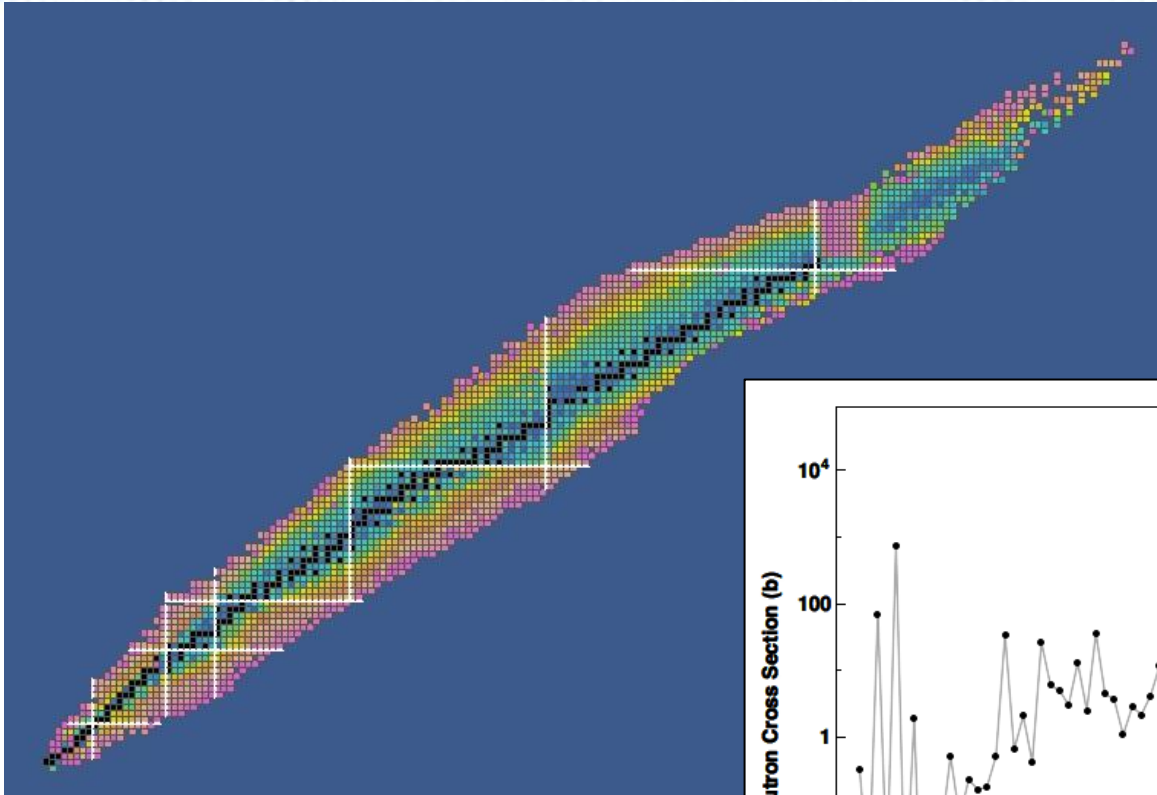
fission  
(n,f)

„converters“

# Neutron Detection

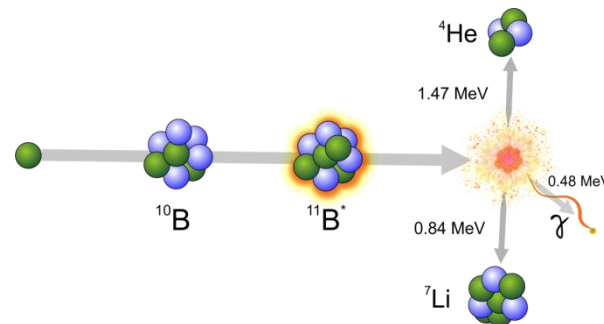


# Neutron Detection

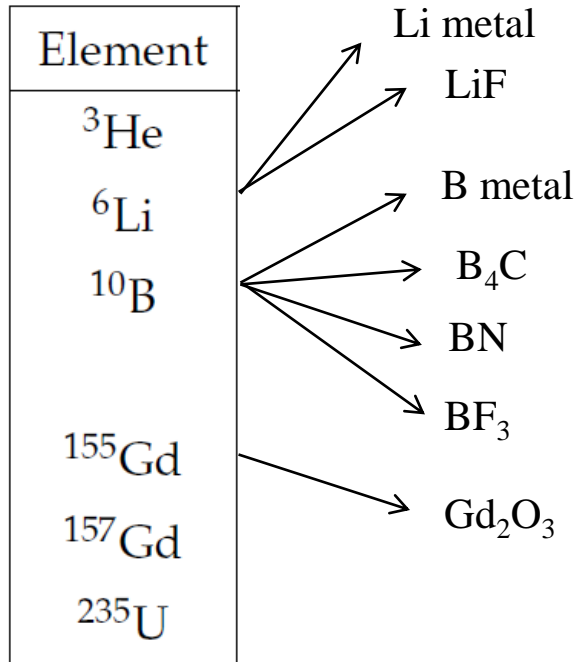


# Neutron Converters

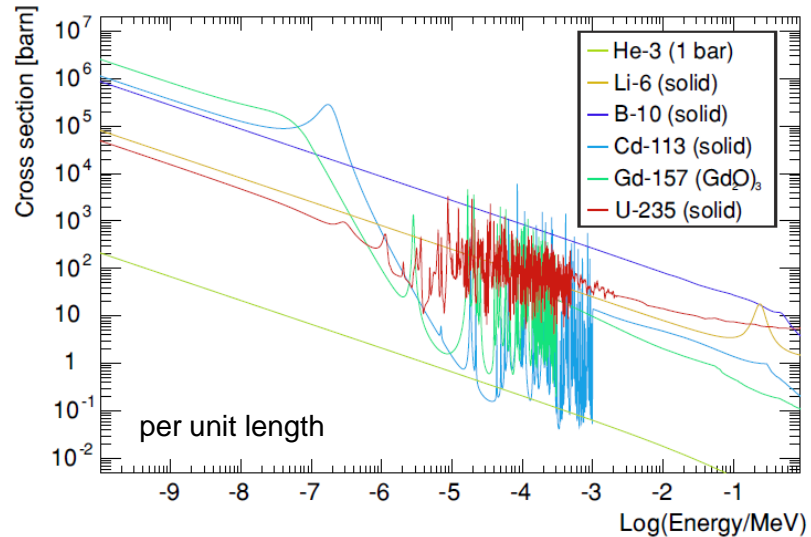
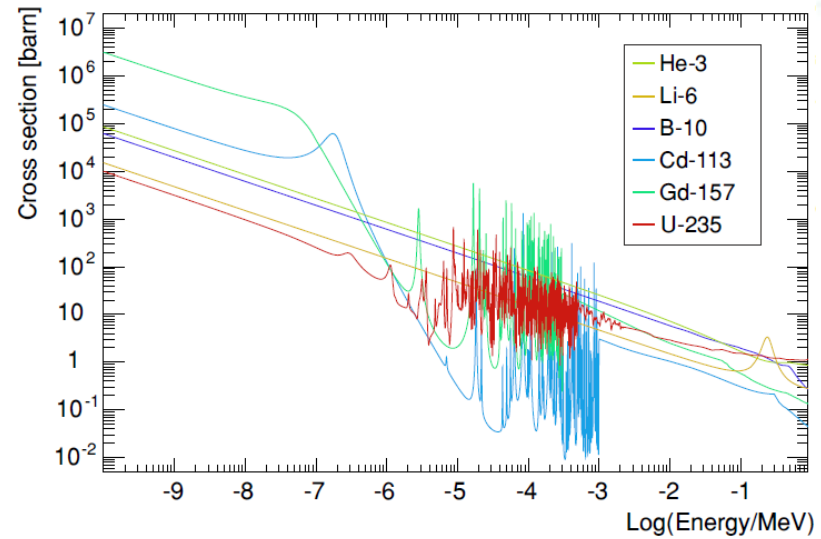
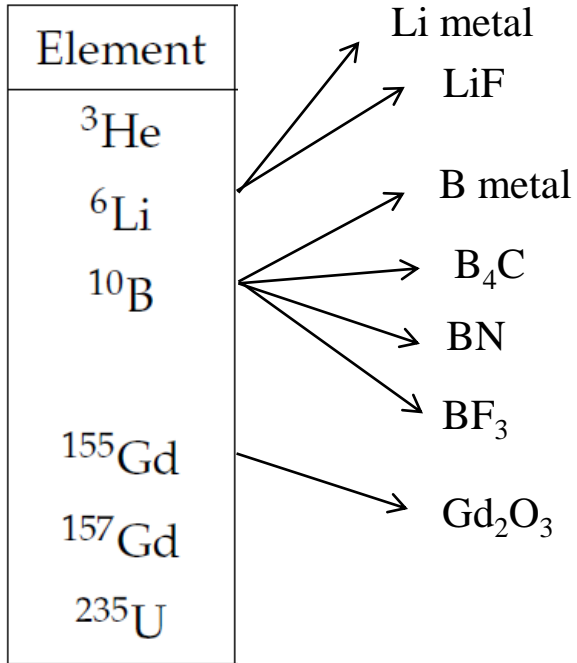
Element	Reaction	CS at 25.2 meV
$^3\text{He}$	$^3\text{He} + n \longrightarrow ^3\text{H} + 764 \text{ keV} + p$	5327 b
$^6\text{Li}$	$^6\text{Li} + n \longrightarrow ^3\text{H} + \alpha + 4.78 \text{ MeV}$	940 b
$^{10}\text{B}$	$^{10}\text{B} + n \longrightarrow ^7\text{Li} + \alpha + 2.79 \text{ MeV} \text{ (6 \%)}$	3837 b
	$^{10}\text{B} + n \longrightarrow ^7\text{Li}^* + \alpha + 2.31 \text{ MeV} \text{ (94 \%)}$	
$^{155}\text{Gd}$	$^{155}\text{Gd} + n \longrightarrow ^{156}\text{Gd} + \gamma + e^- + (30 - 180) \text{ keV}$	61000 b
$^{157}\text{Gd}$	$^{157}\text{Gd} + n \longrightarrow ^{158}\text{Gd} + \gamma + e^- + (30 - 180) \text{ keV}$	254000 b
$^{235}\text{U}$	$^{235}\text{U} + n \longrightarrow \text{fission fragments} + 160 \text{ MeV}$	584 b



# Neutron Converters

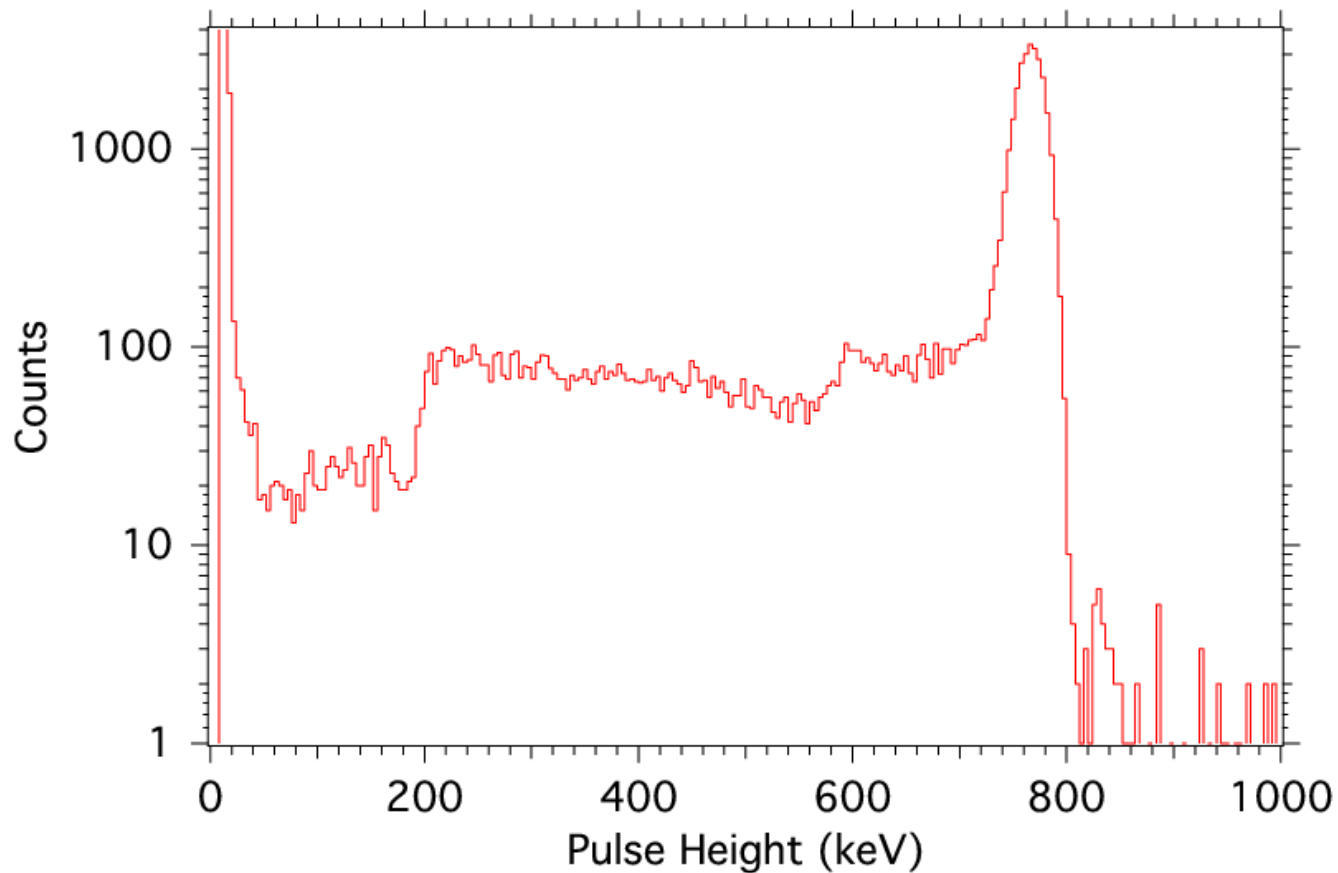
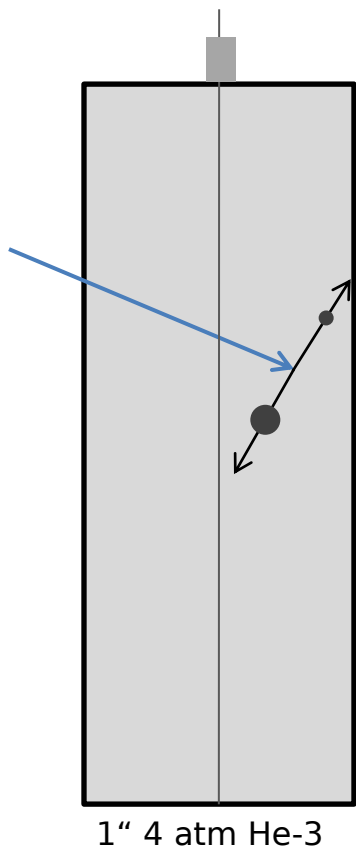


# CS vs. absorption coefficient

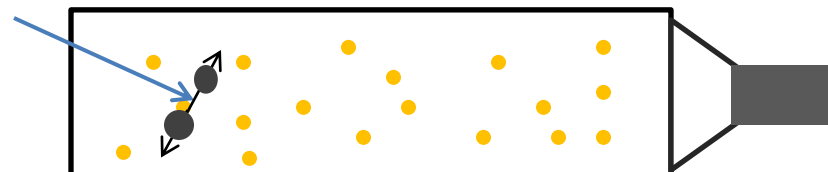
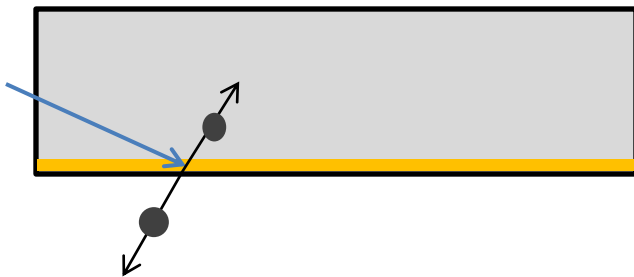
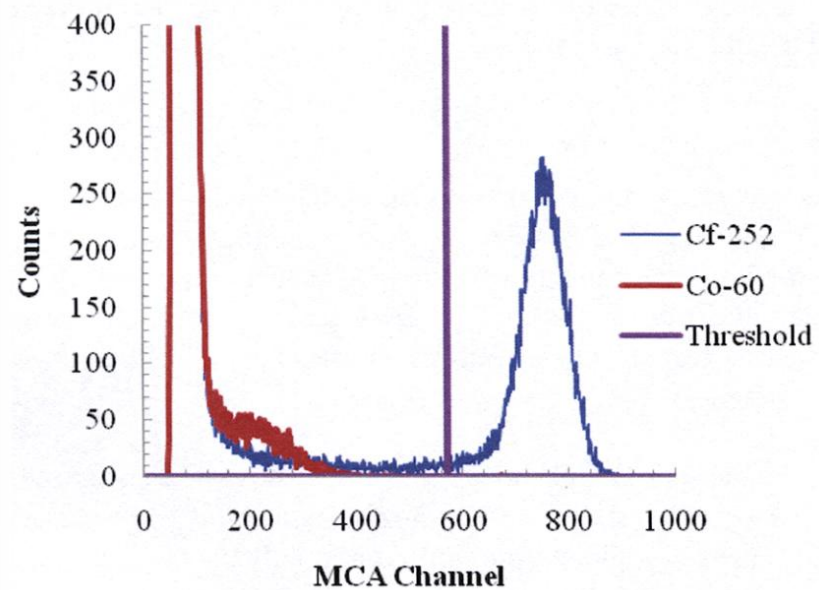
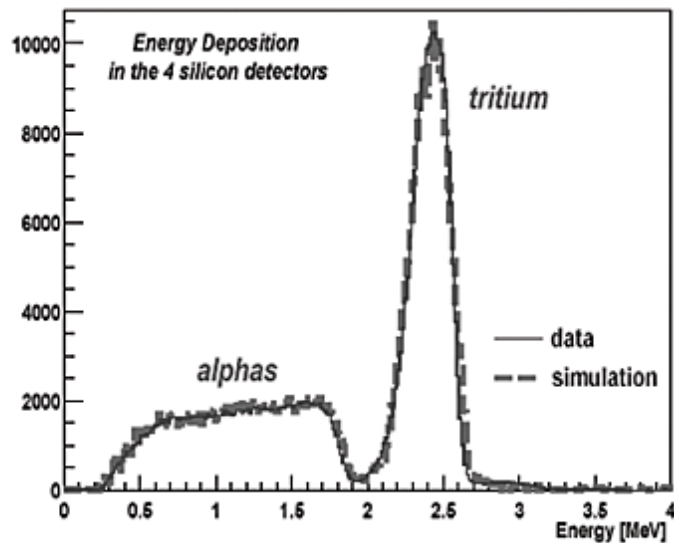




# Conversion in $^3\text{He}$



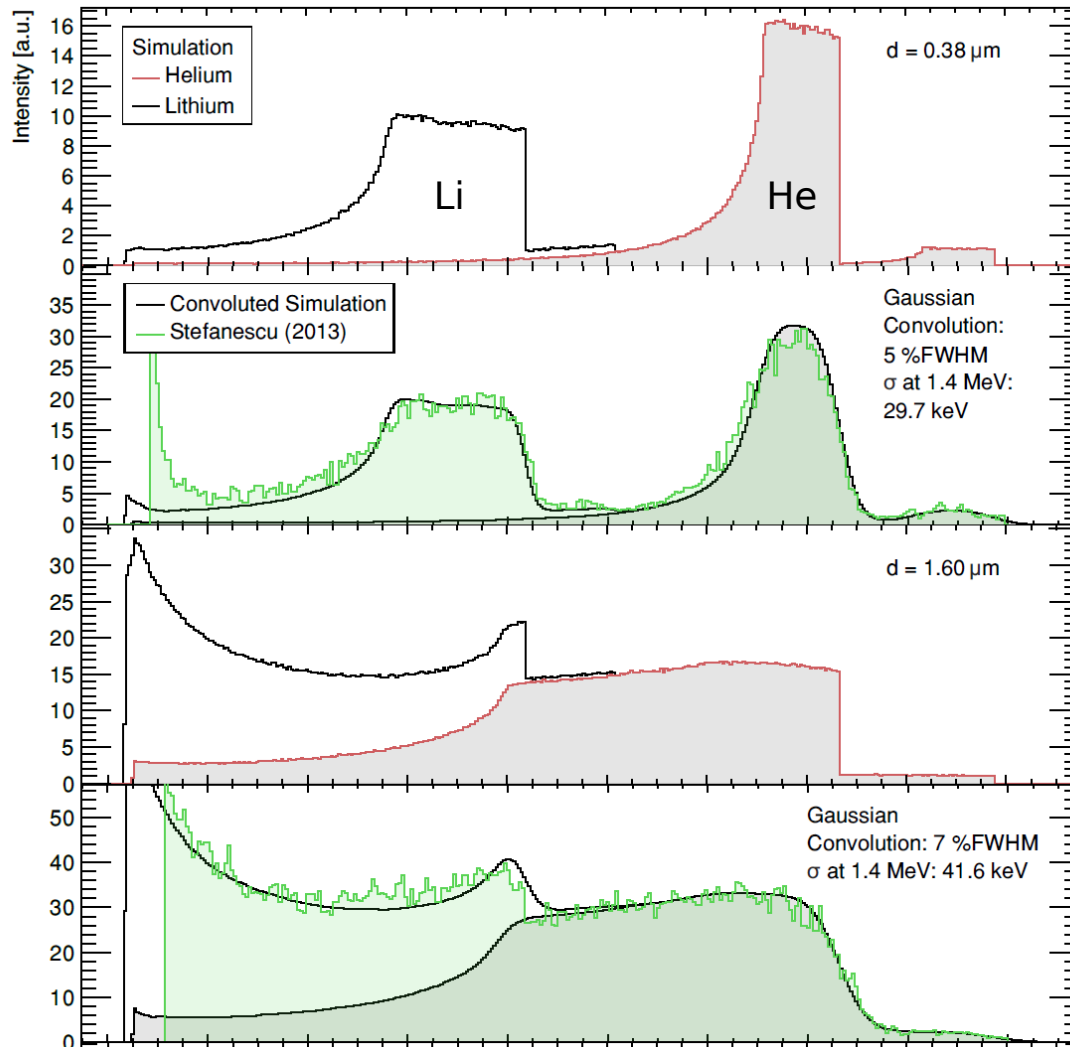
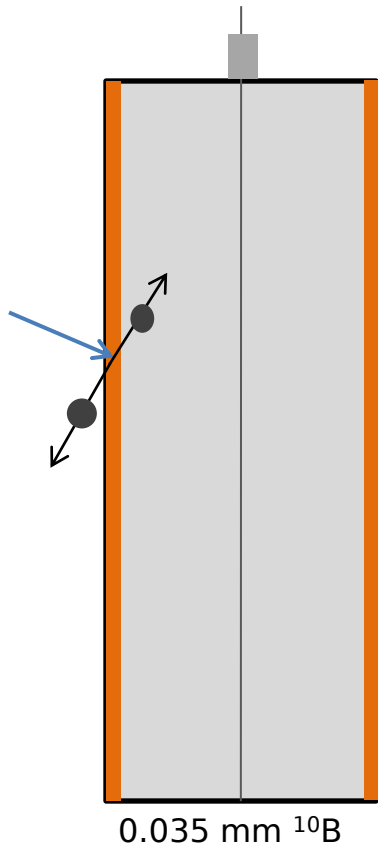
# Conversion in ${}^6\text{Li}$



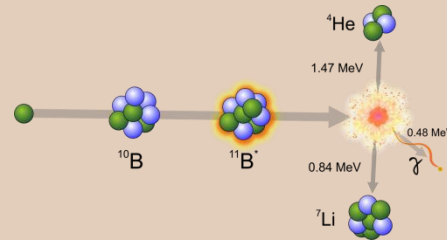
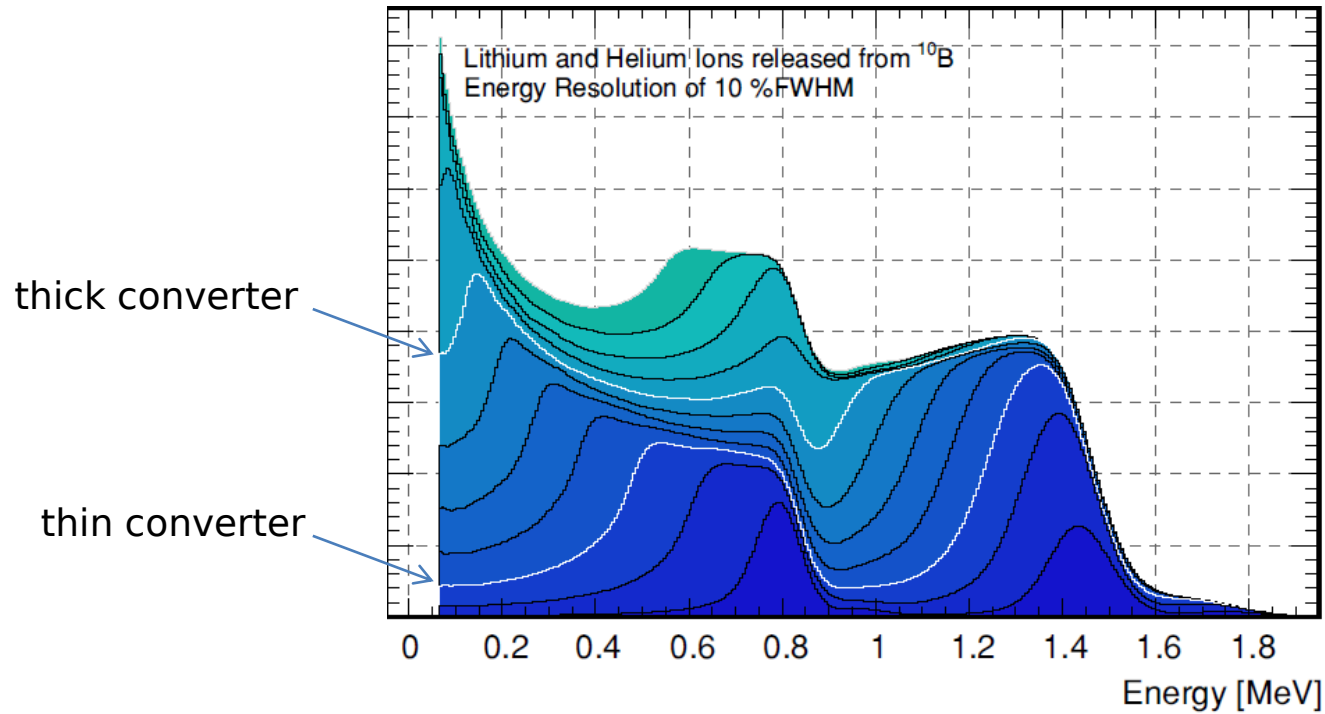
[1] P.F. Mastinu et al., "A low-mass neutron flux monitor for the n\_TOF facility at CERN", Braz. J. Phys. vol.34 no.3, 2004

[2] "A Compact Neutron Detector Based on the use of a SiPM Detector", IEEE Nuc. Spring Symp., 2008

# Conversion in $^{10}\text{B}$



# Conversion Products: Energy Spectra





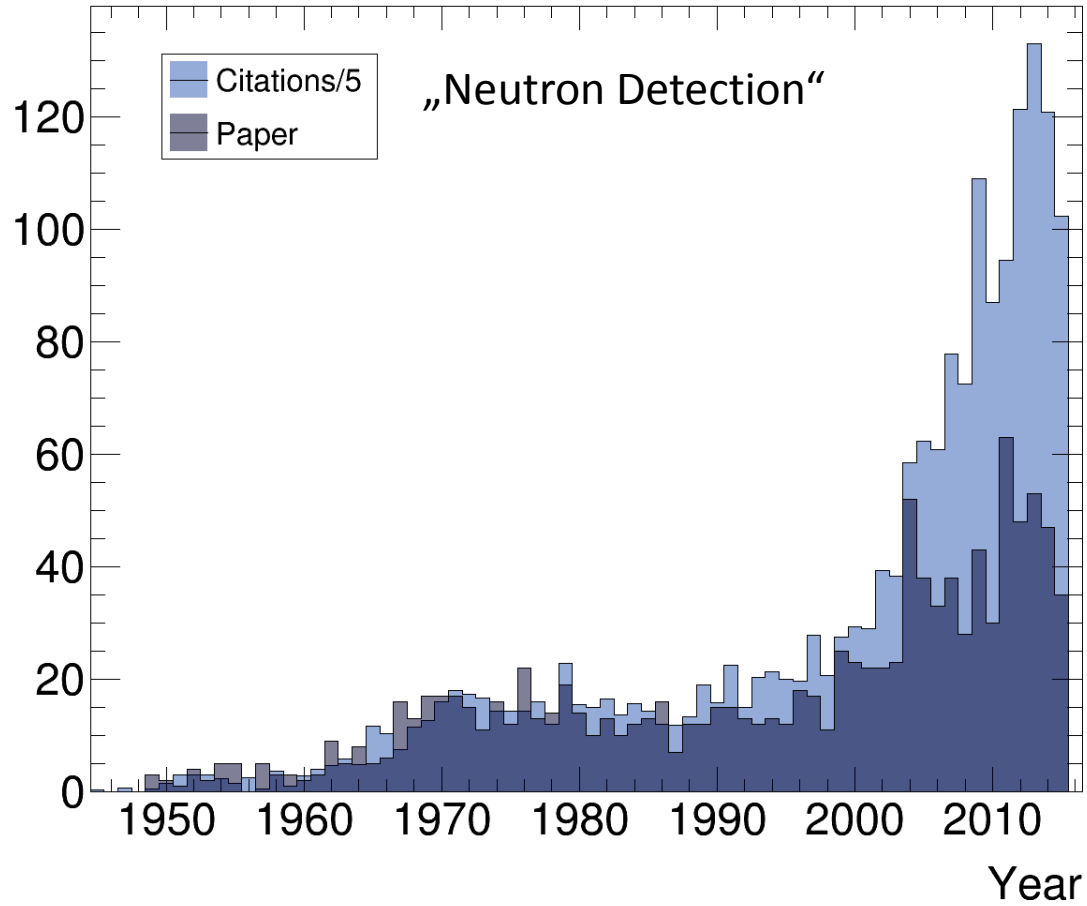
# Neutron Detection

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The rise and rise  
of  
citatation analysis

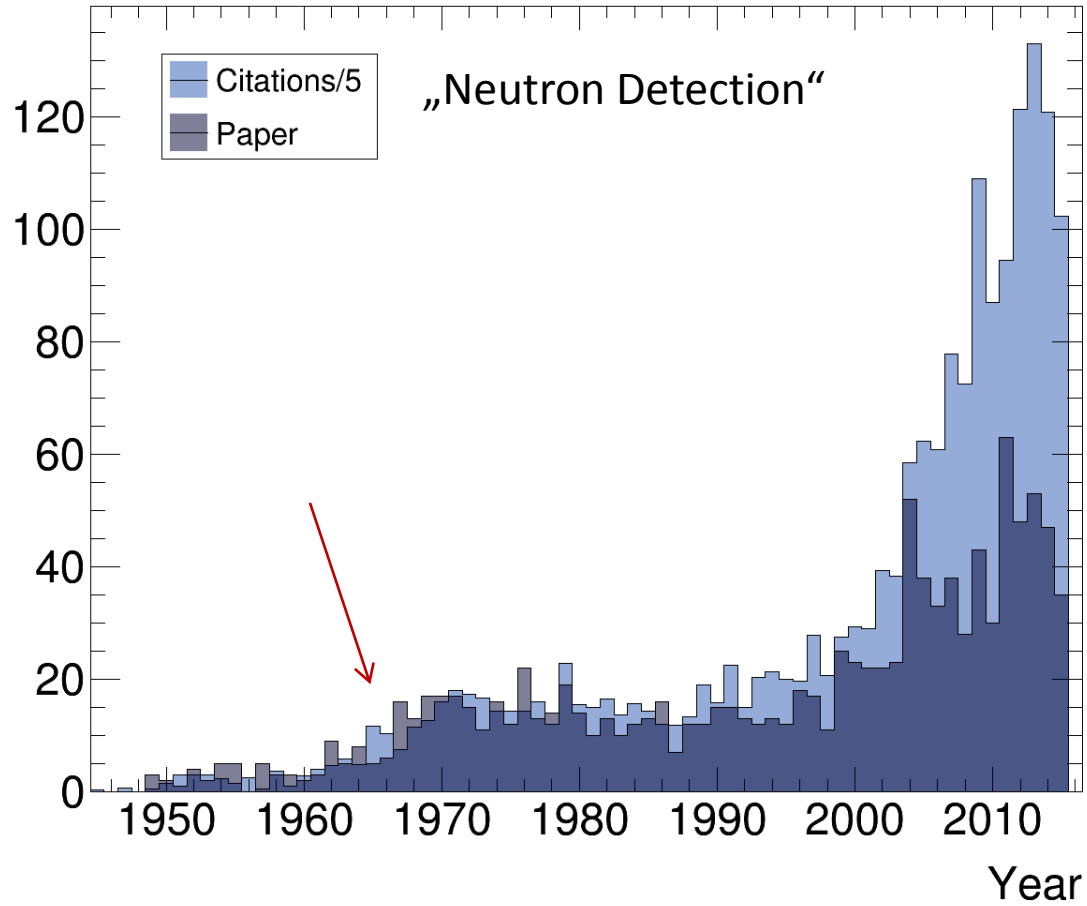
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# Citation Analysis



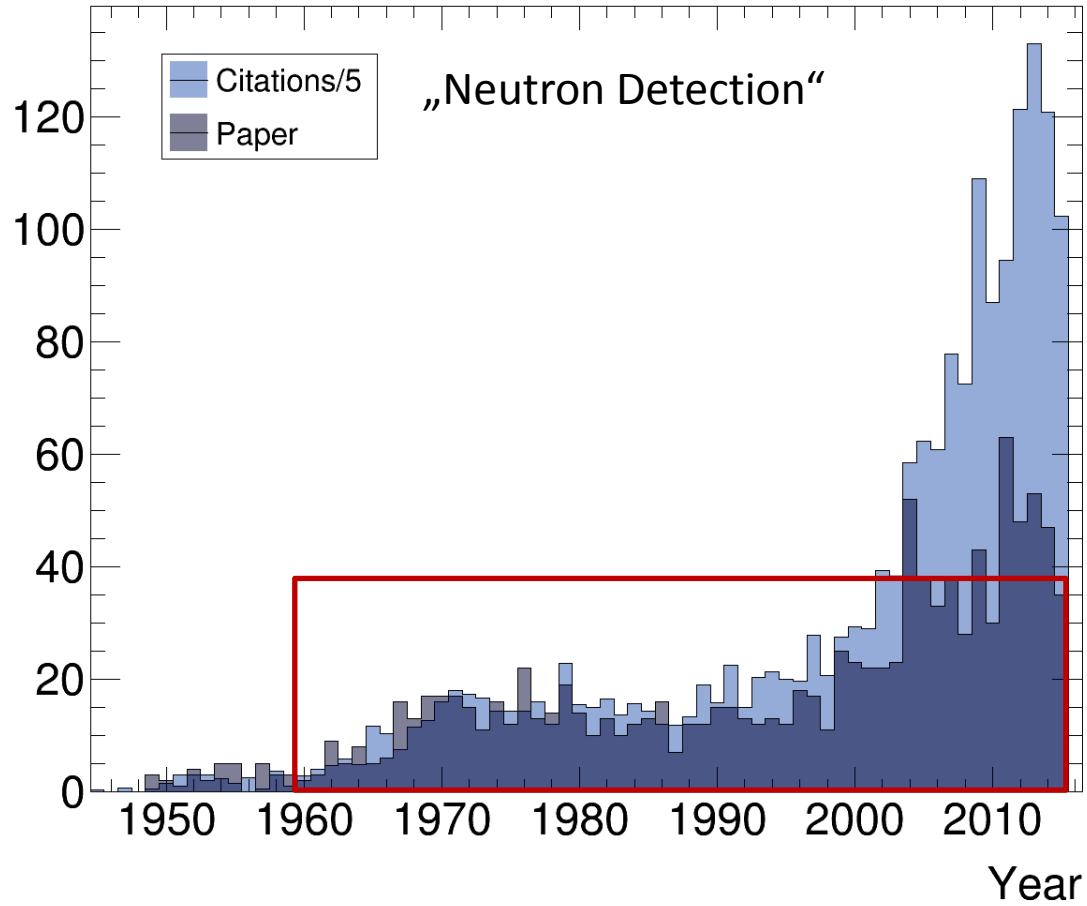
Web of Science Citation Reports

# Citation Analysis



Web of Science Citation Reports

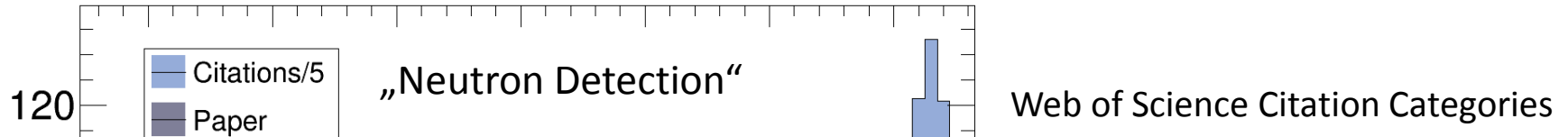
# Citation Analysis



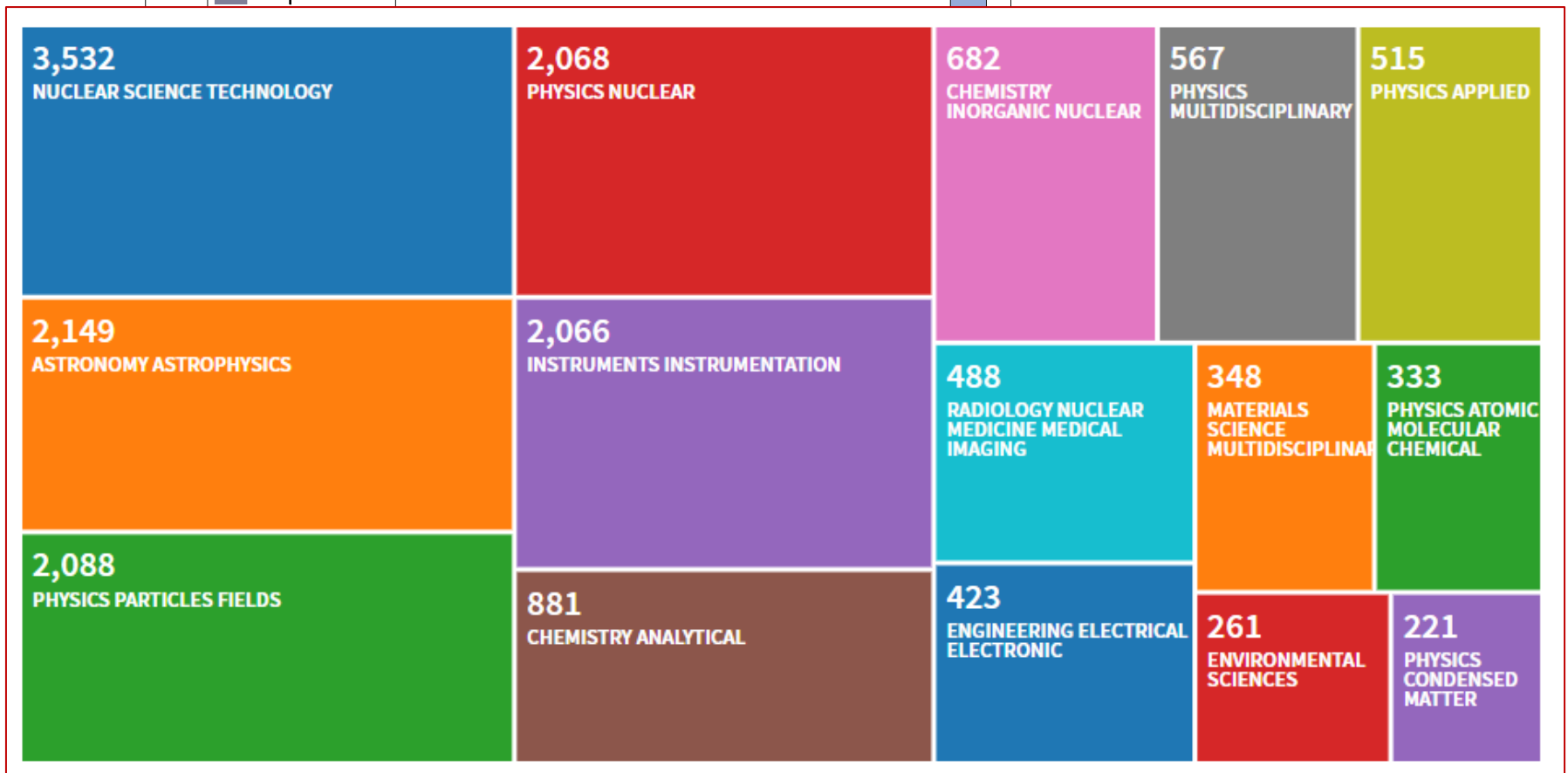
Web of Science Citation Reports



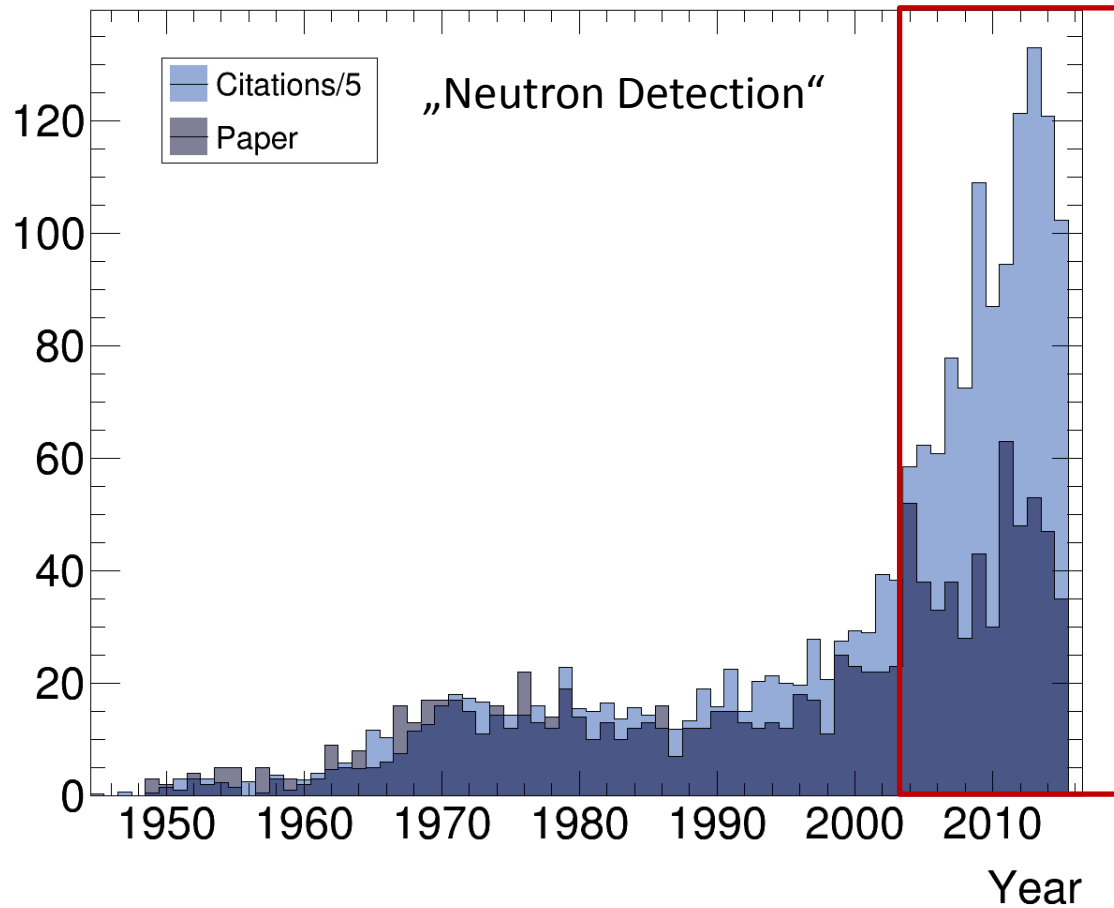
# Citation Analysis



Web of Science Citation Categories



# Citation Analysis



Web of Science Citation Reports

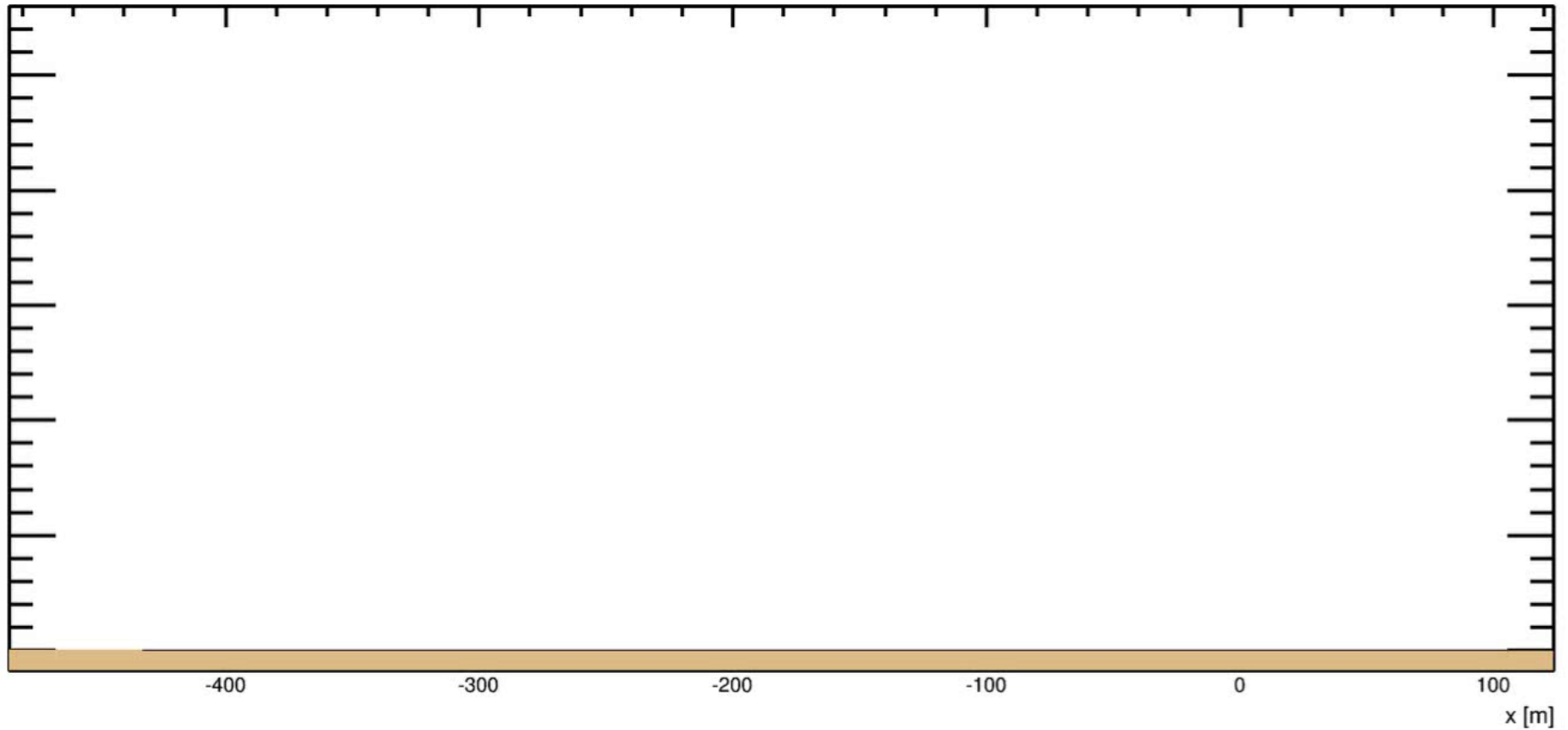


82-5117E OR ON 1A1110



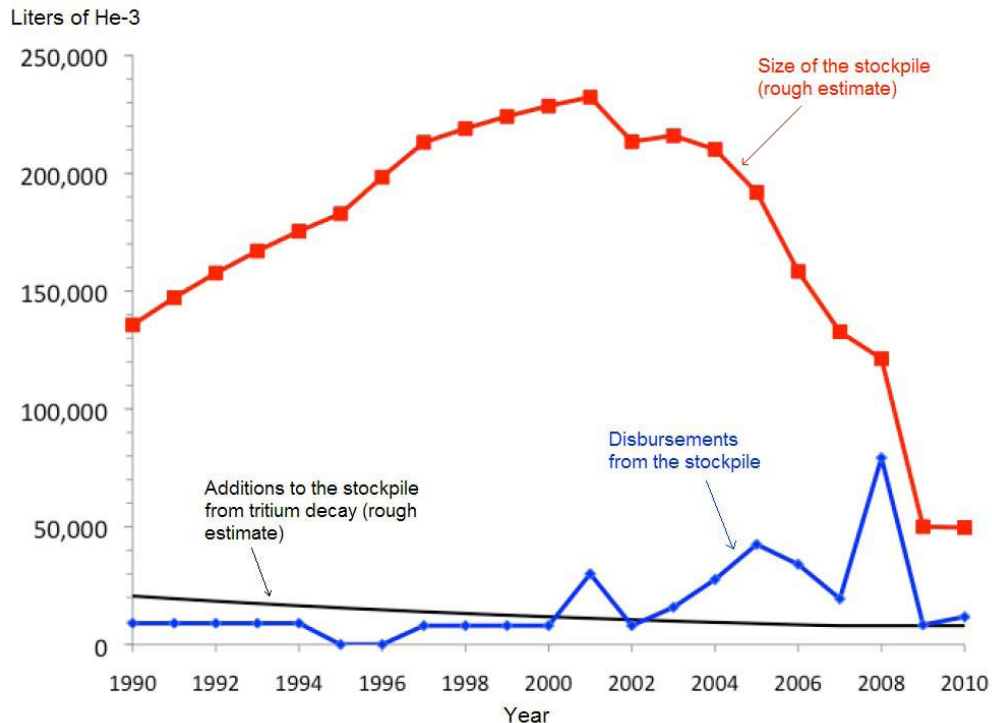
Titan II Rocket in Launch Silo, Arizona State Museum

# ► Where does the He-3 come from?





# The Helium-3 Crisis

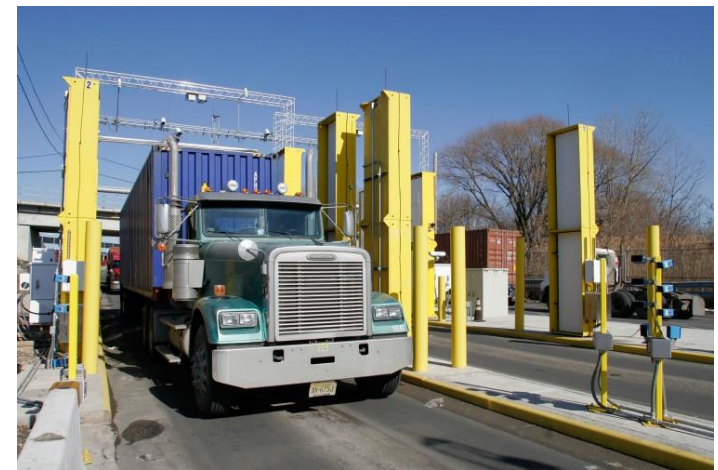
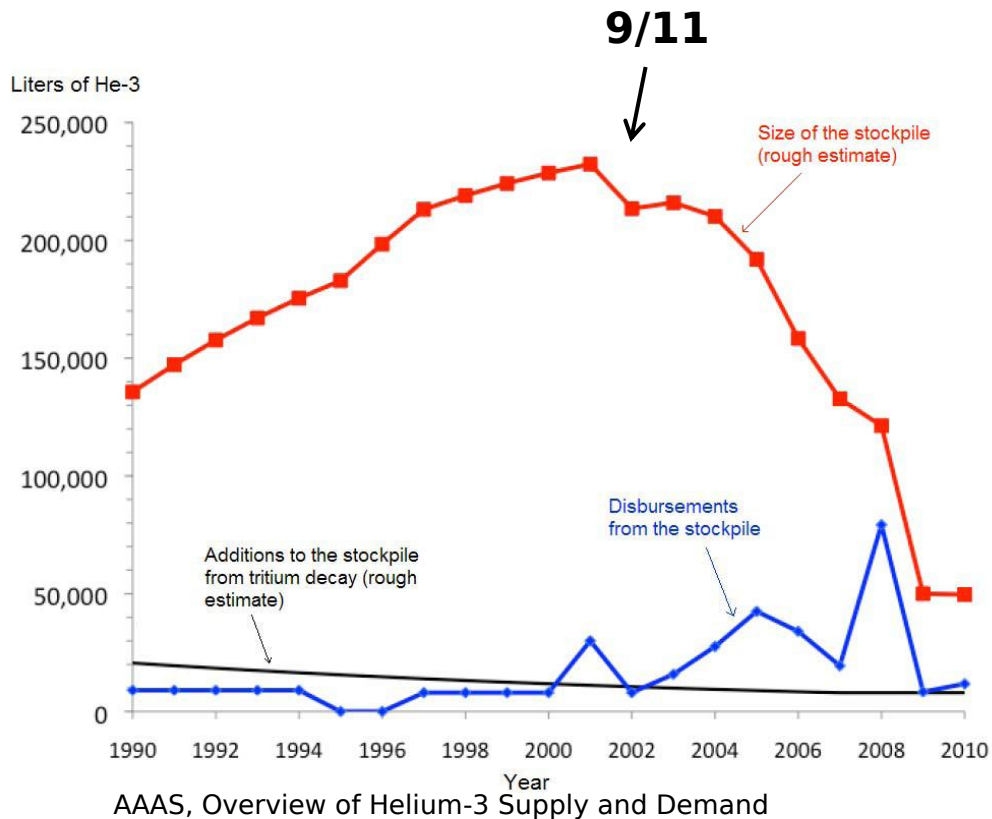


AAAS, Overview of Helium-3 Supply and Demand

[1] <http://www.saphymo.com/photos/ecatalogue/116-2/access-control-clearance-monitors-rcp-radiological-control-for-pedestrian.jpg>

[2] [http://cits.uga.edu/uploads/1540compass/1540images/\\_compass750/RPM1.jpg](http://cits.uga.edu/uploads/1540compass/1540images/_compass750/RPM1.jpg)

# The Helium-3 Crisis



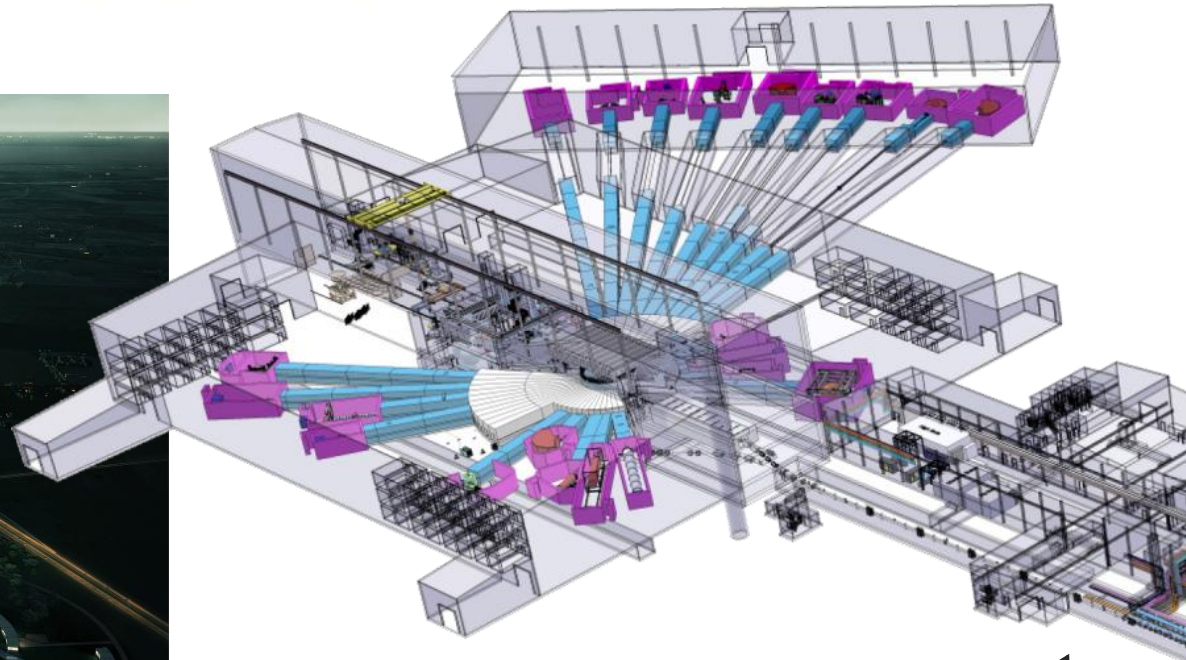
[1] <http://www.saphymo.com/photos/ecatalogue/116-2/access-control-clearance-monitors-rcp-radiological-control-for-pedestrian.jpg>

[2] [http://cits.uga.edu/uploads/1540compass/1540images/\\_compass750/RPM1.jpg](http://cits.uga.edu/uploads/1540compass/1540images/_compass750/RPM1.jpg)

# ▶ The European Spallation Source



ESS TDR 2013  
Lund, Sweden

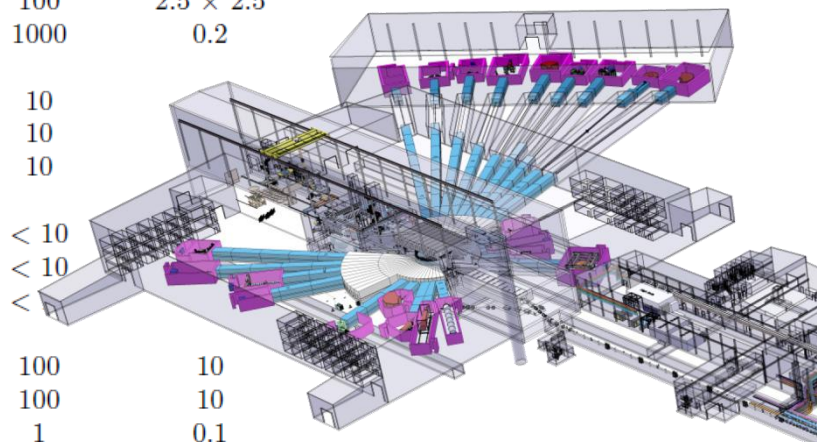


Linear Accelerator  
2 GeV  
3 ms Pulse  
62.5 mA



# ESS Instrumentation

Instrument	Detector area [m <sup>2</sup> ]	Wavelength range [Å]	Time resolution [μs]	Spatial resolution [mm]
Multi-purpose imaging	0.5	1 - 20	1	0.001 - 0.5
General purpose polarised SANS	5	4 - 20	100	10
Broad-band small sample SANS	14	2 - 20	100	1
Surface scattering	5	4 - 20	100	10
Horizontal reflectometer	0.5	5 - 30	100	1
Vertical reflectometer	0.5	5 - 30	100	1
Thermal powder diffractometer	20	0.6 - 6	< 10	2 × 2
Bi-spectral powder diffractometer	20	0.8 - 10	< 10	2.5 × 2.5
Pulsed monochromatic powder diffractom.	4	0.6 - 5	< 100	2 × 5
Material science & engineering diffractom.	10	0.5 - 5	10	2
Extreme conditions instrument	10	1 - 10	< 10	3 × 5
Single crystal magnetism diffractometer	6	0.8 - 10	100	2.5 × 2.5
Macromolecular diffractometer	1	1.5 - 3.3	1000	0.2
Cold chopper spectrometer	80	1 - 20	10	
Bi-spectral chopper spectrometer	50	0.8 - 20	10	
Thermal chopper spectrometer	50	0.6 - 4	10	
Cold crystal-analyser spectrometer	1	2 - 8	< 10	
Vibrational spectroscopy	1	0.4 - 5	< 10	
Backscattering spectrometer	0.3	2 - 8	<	
High-resolution spin echo	0.3	4 - 25	100	10
Wide-angle spin echo	3	2 - 15	100	10
Fundamental & particle physics	0.5	5 - 30	1	0.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>282.6</b>			



ESS TDR 2013



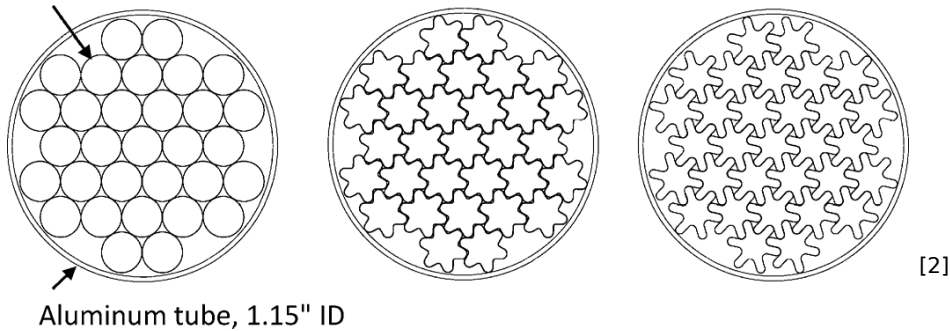
# Neutron Detection

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## Alternative detection technologies

# New Detectors – Tube Replacement

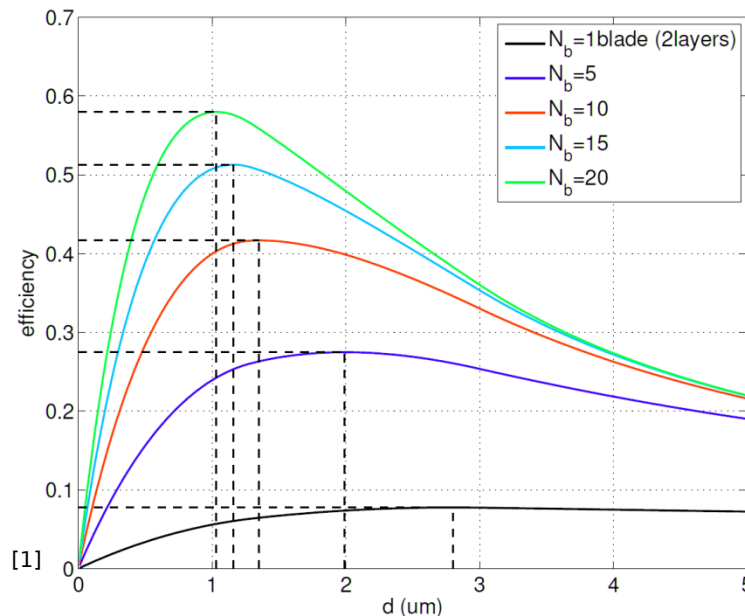
31× boron-coated straws,  
4.43 mm diameter each



[2]



[2]

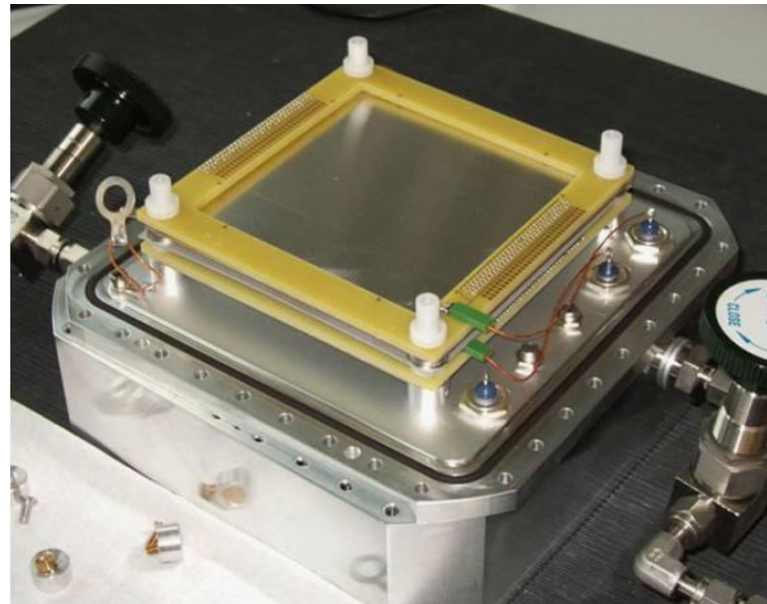
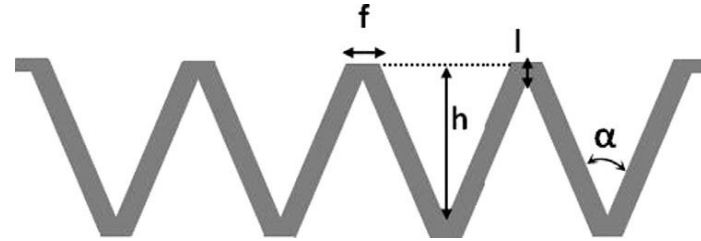
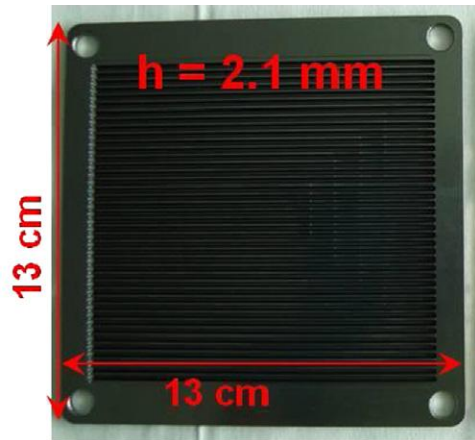


[1] F. Piscitelli, "Boron-10 layers, Neutron Reflectometry and Thermal Neutron Detectors", PhD Thesis 2014

[1]

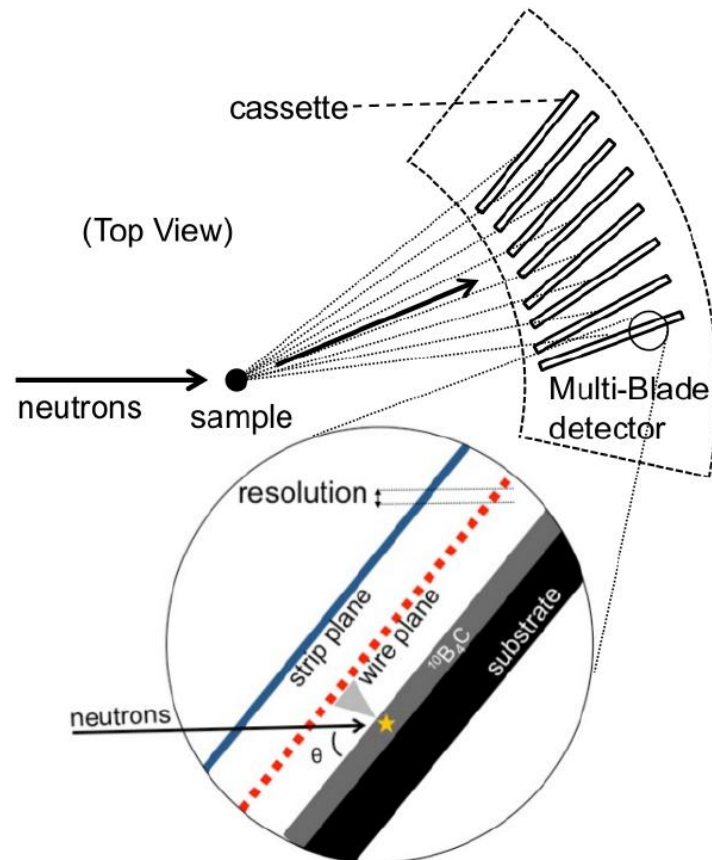
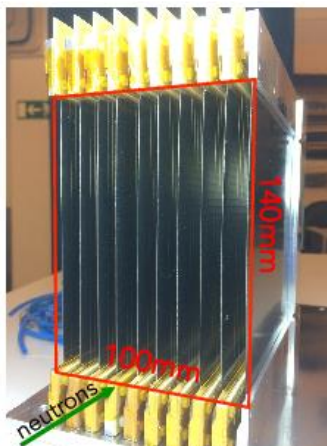
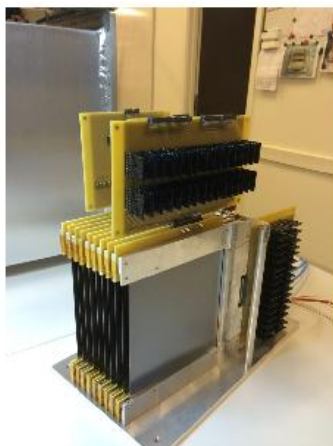
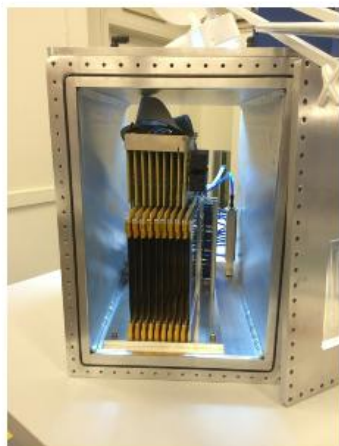
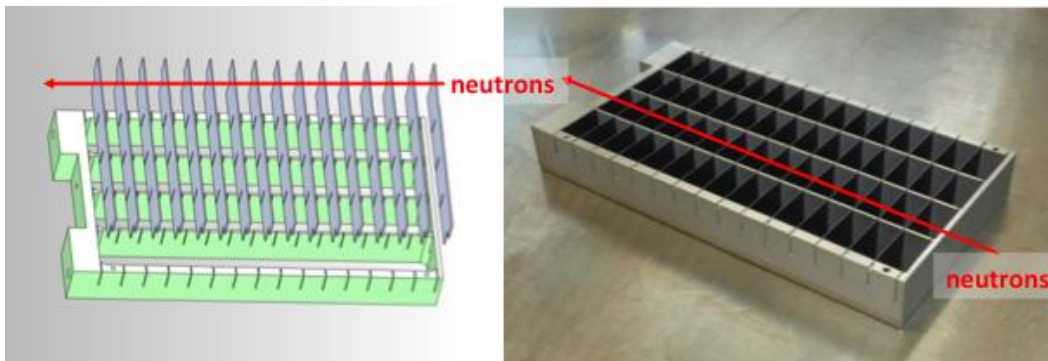
[2] J. L. Lacy et al., "The Evolution of Neutron Straw Detector -Applications in Homeland Security", IEEE Transactions on Nucl. Science, 60,2 (2013)

# ▶ New Detectors – Cathode Structures



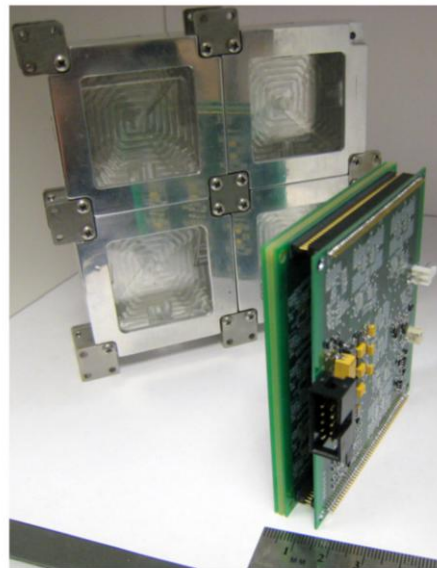
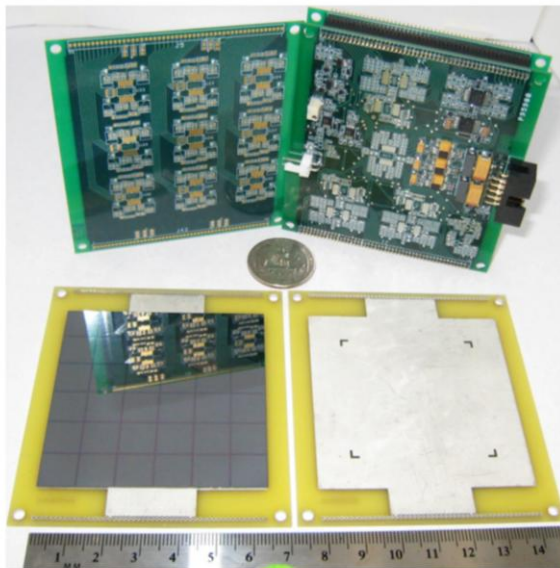
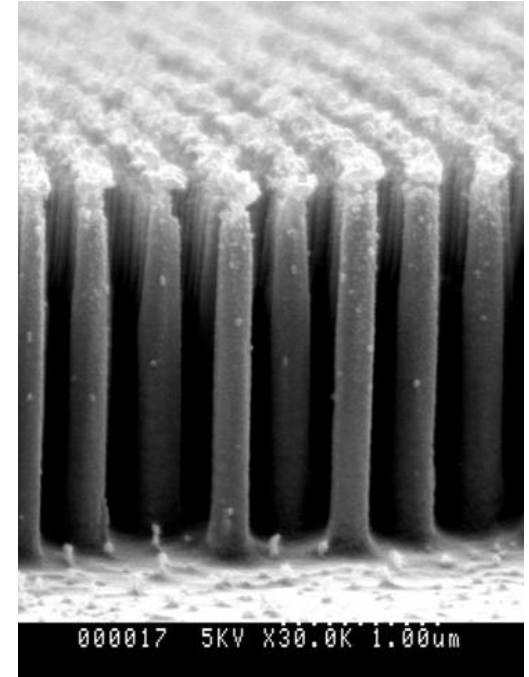
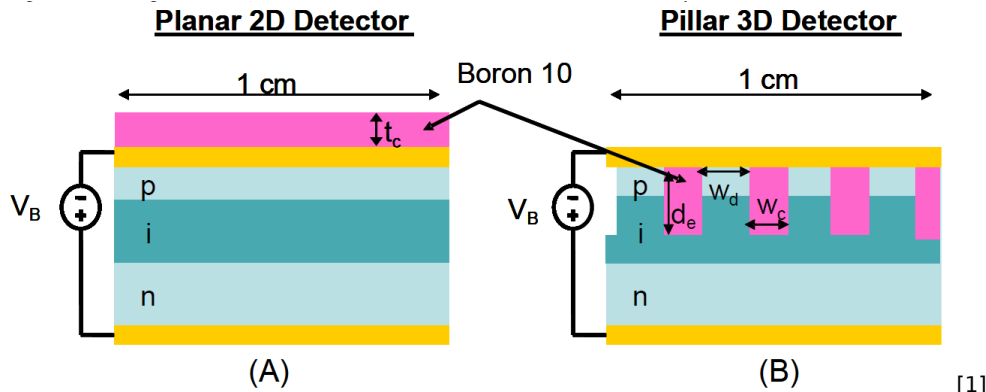
I. Stefanescu et al., „Development of a novel macrostructured cathode for large-area neutron detectors based on the  $^{10}\text{B}$ -containing solid converter“, NIMA 727 (2013)

# ▶ New Detectors – He-3 Replacements



F. Piscitelli et al., "Novel Boron-10-based detectors for Neutron Scattering Science" arXiv:1501.05201v1 (2015)

# ➤ New Detectors – 3D Silicon

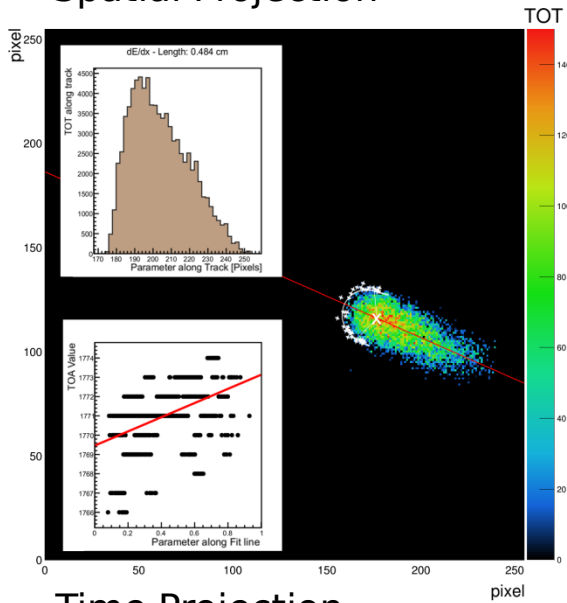


[2]

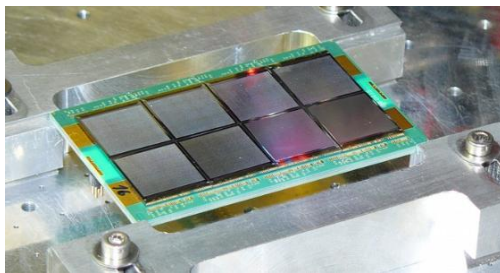
[1] R.J. Nikolic et al. "Roadmap for High Efficiency Solid-State Neutron Detectors", Barry Chin Li Cheung Publications, 15 (2005)  
 [2] D.S. McGregor et al., „High-efficiency microstructured semiconductor neutron detectors that are arrayed, dual-integrated, and stacked“, Applied Radiation and Isotopes 70 (2012)

# New Detectors – Time Projection

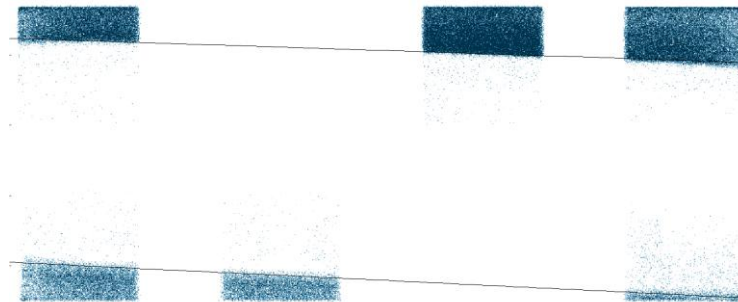
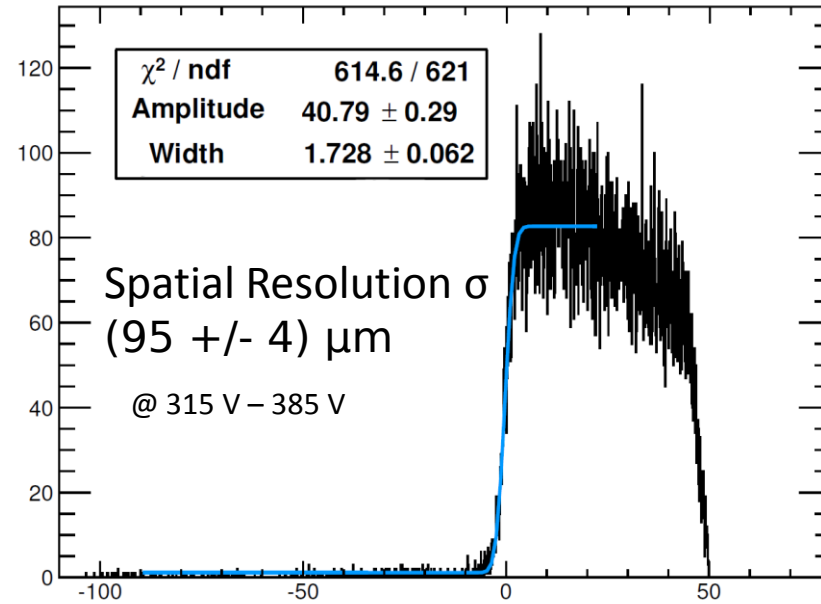
## Spatial Projection



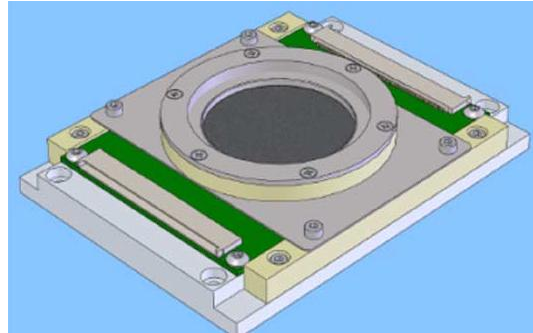
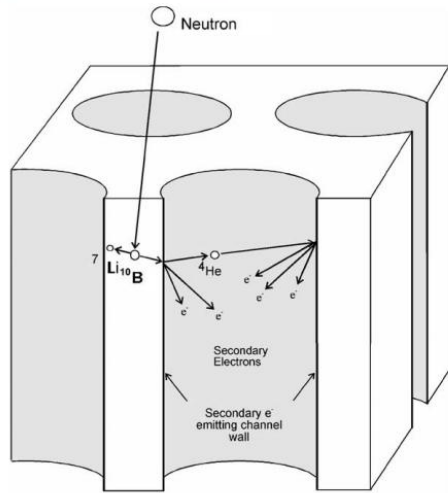
## Time Projection



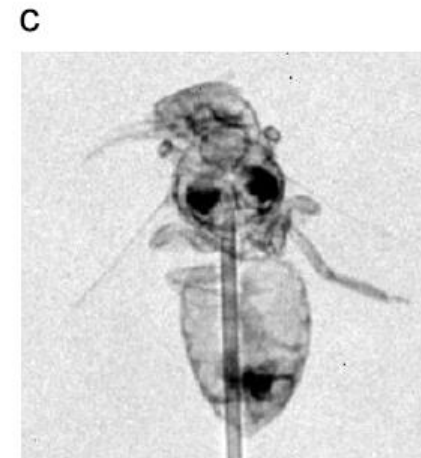
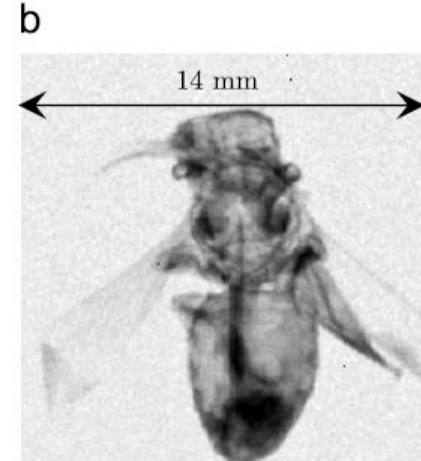
## Edge Projection



# New Detectors - MCP



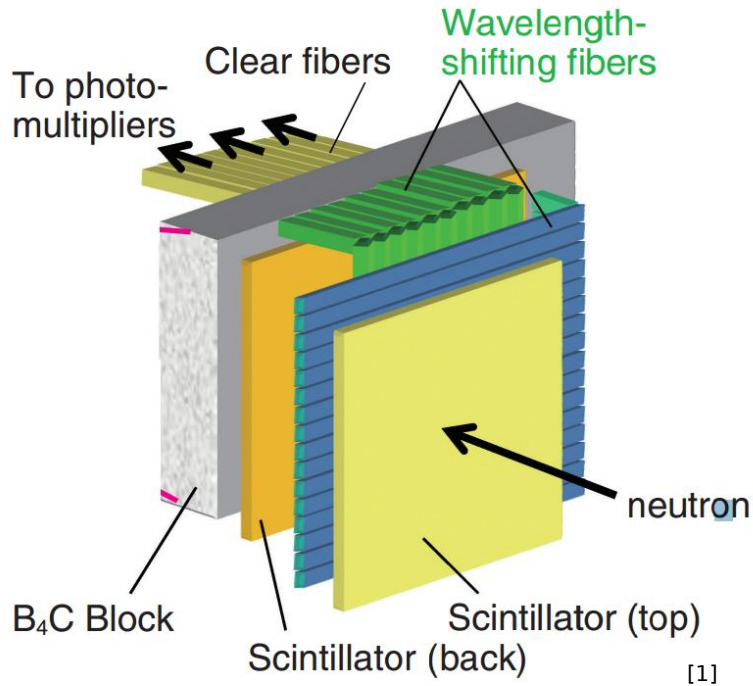
A. Tremsin et al., "High-resolution neutron radiography with microchannel plates: Proof-of-principle experiments at PSI", NIM A, 605 (2009)  
 A. Tremsin et al., "Efficiency optimization of microchannel plate (MCP) neutron imaging detectors. I. Square channels with 10B doping", NIM A, 539 (2005)



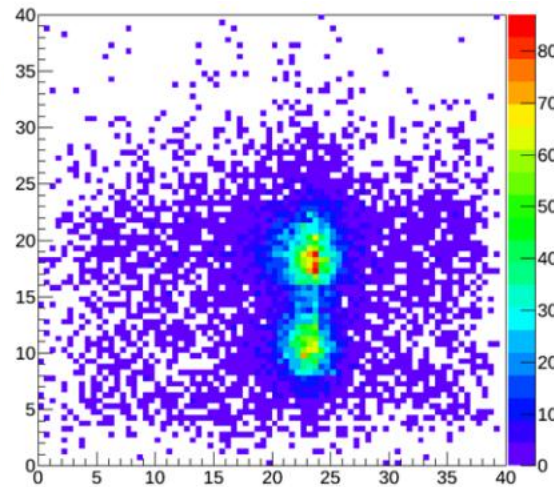
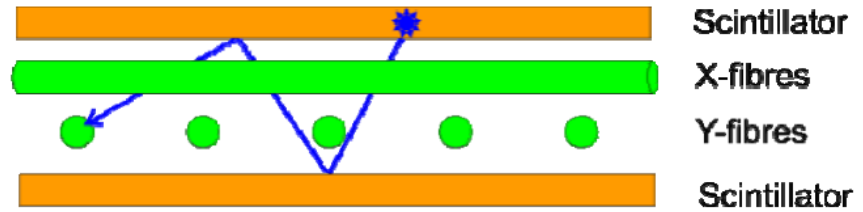
**Fig. 3.** Photograph (a) and neutron radiographic images of a bee; (b) thermal neutron beamline NEUTRA, acquisition time 15 min; (c) cold neutron beamline ICON, acquisition time 3 min. The edges of the hypodermic needle show some diffraction enhancement.



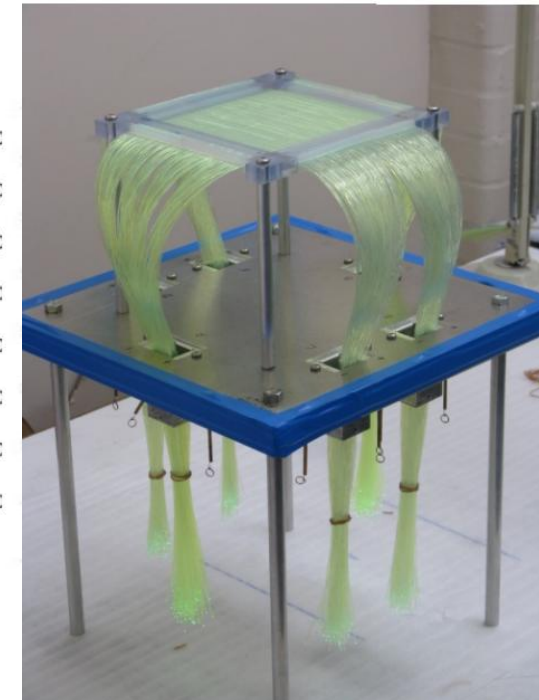
# ➤ New Detectors - WLSF



[1]



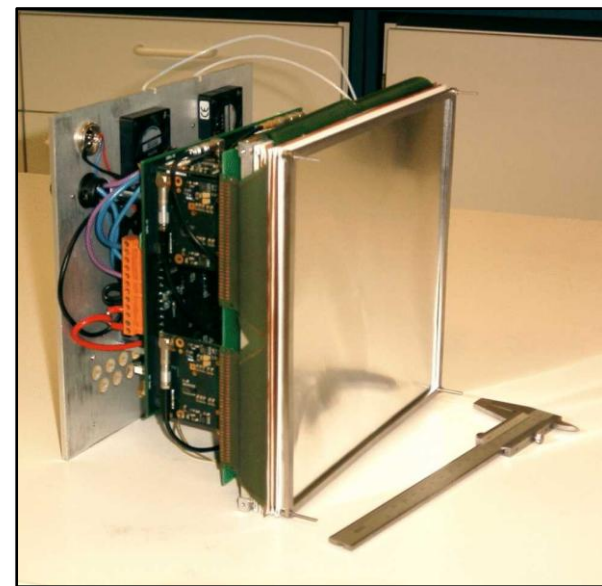
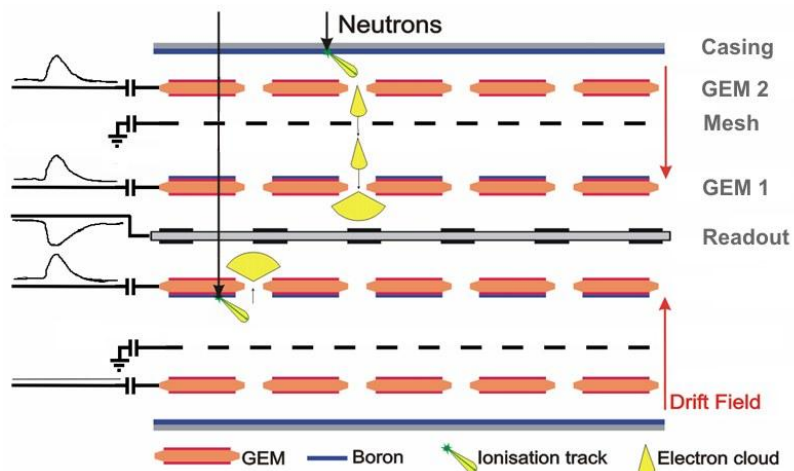
[2]



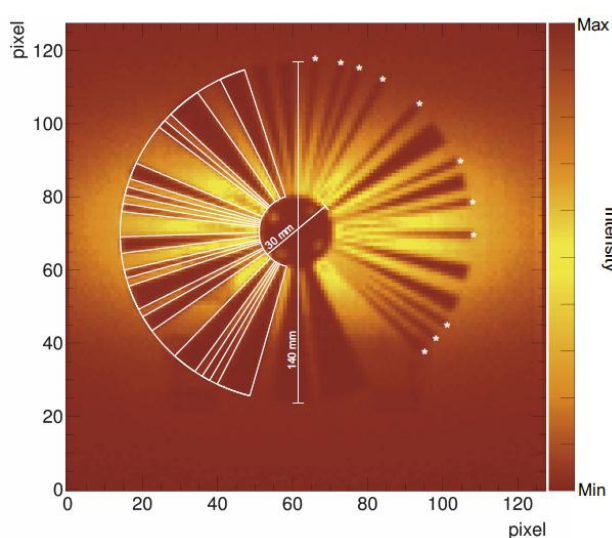
[3]

- [1] J. Sykora, "WLSF detector status and future plans at ISIS" (2013)
- [2] R. Engels "Status WLSF Neutron Detector Prototype from FZ" (2012)
- [3] Nakamura, T. et al., "A Large-Area Two-Dimensional Scintillator Detector with a Wavelength-Shifting Fibre Readout for a Time-of-Flight Single-Crystal Neutron Diffractometer", NIM A, 686, issue 1 (2012)

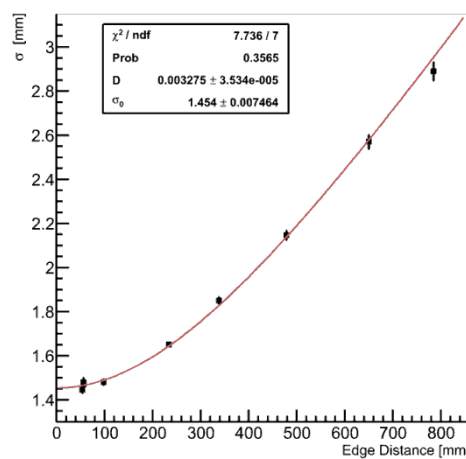
# „New“ Detectors – CASCADE



for RESEDA  
FRM II, TU Munich



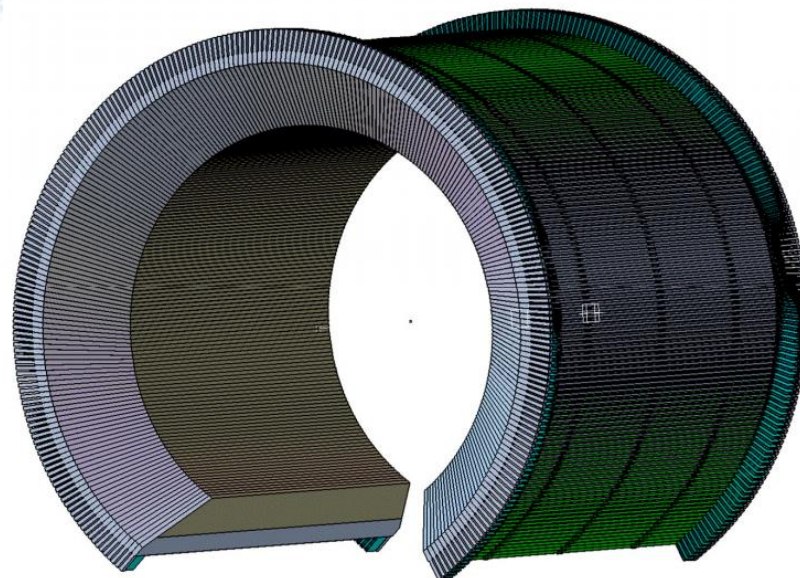
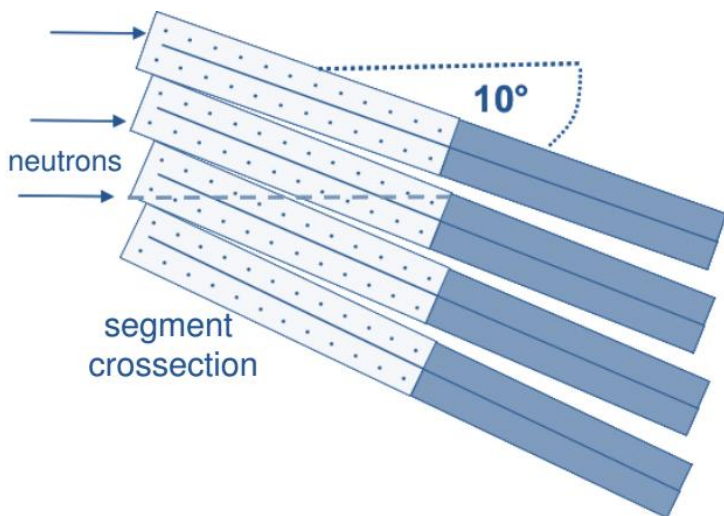
**Spatial Resolution**



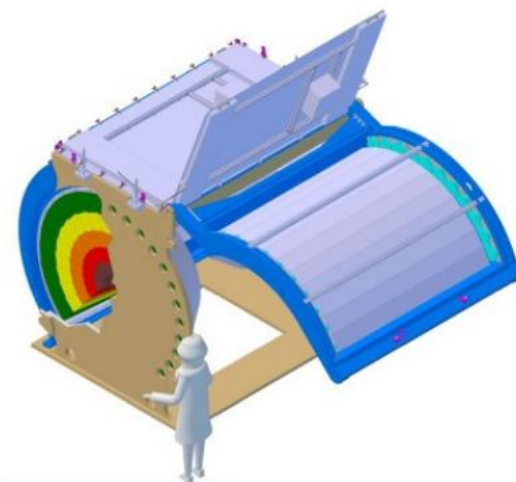
Spatial Resolution  $\sigma$   
(1.4) mm



# „New“ Detectors – Jalousie



The Jalousie Detector Concept  
for Powtex (FZJ @ FRM II, Munich)  
and DREAM (FZJ @ ESS, Sweden)

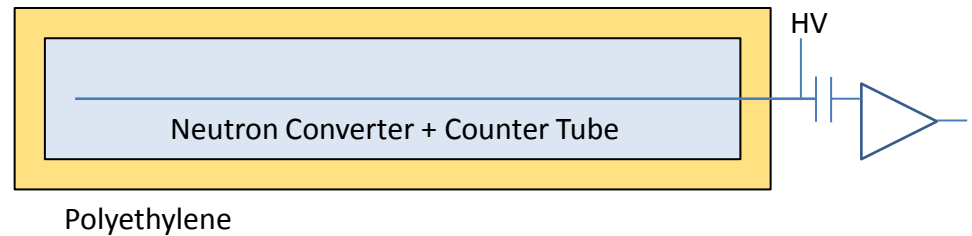




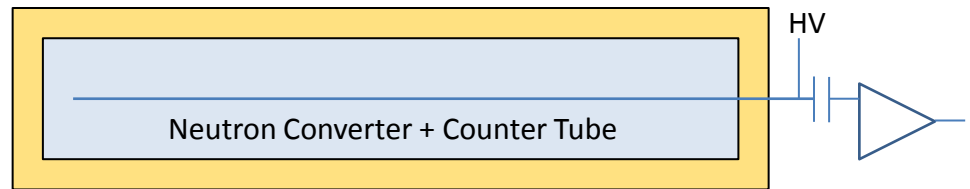
Neutron Detection

# CRNS Inhouse Developments

# CRNS Detectors

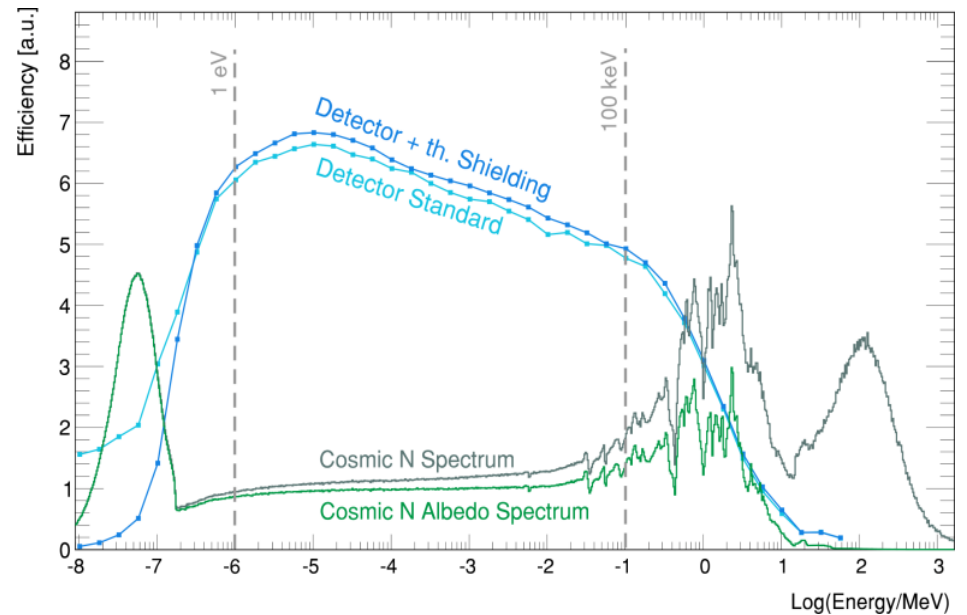
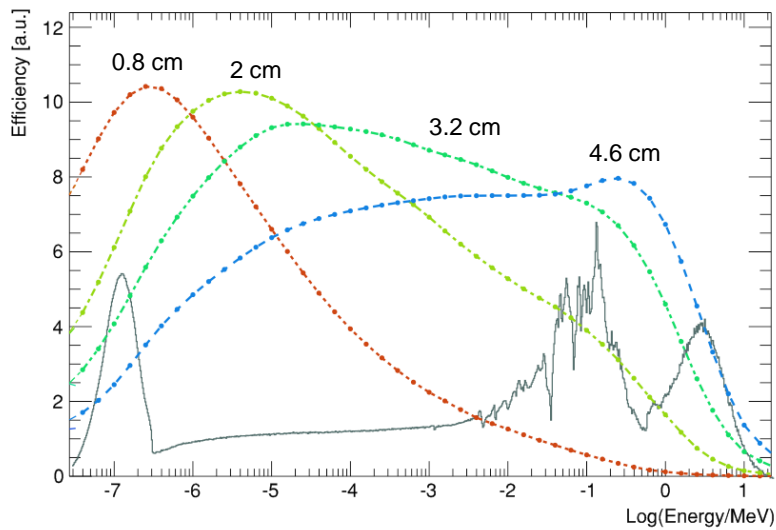


# CRNS Detectors

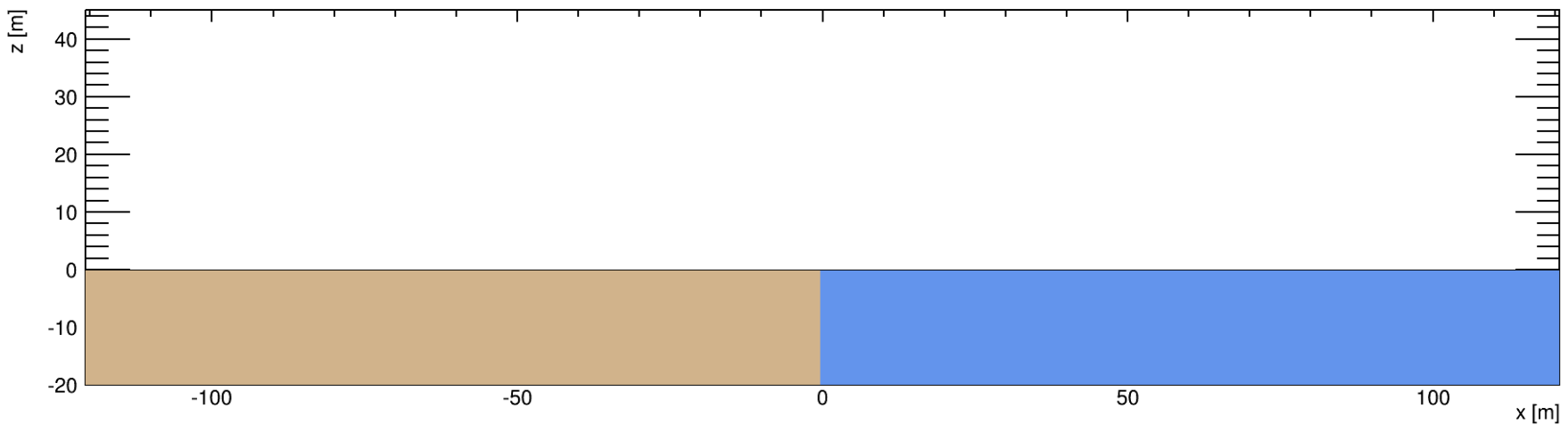
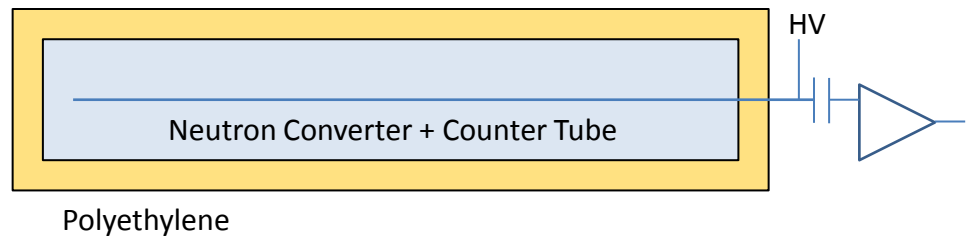


Polyethylene

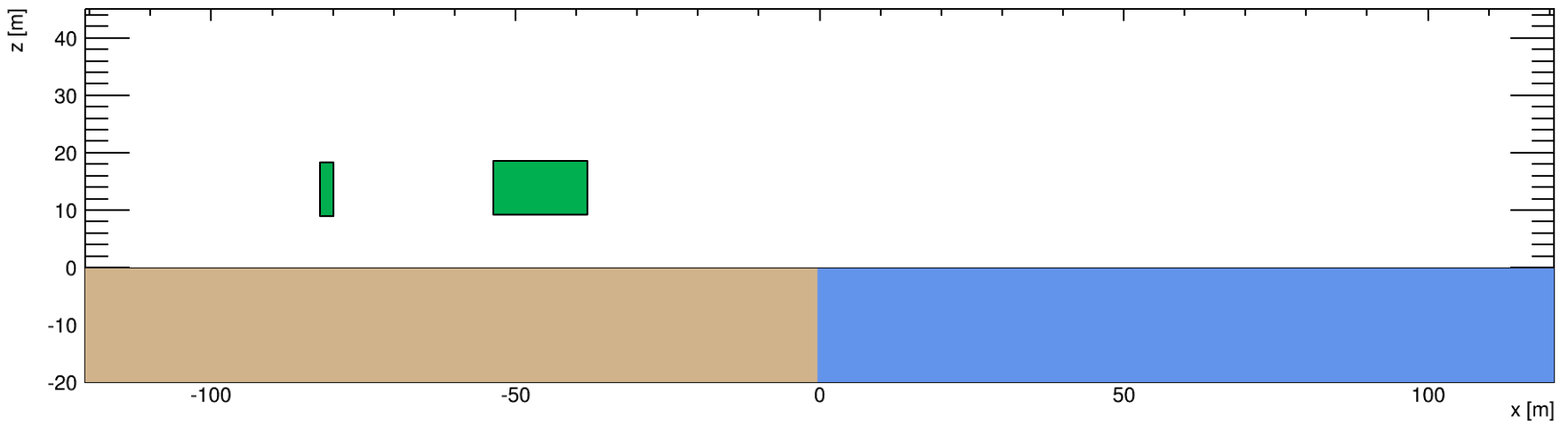
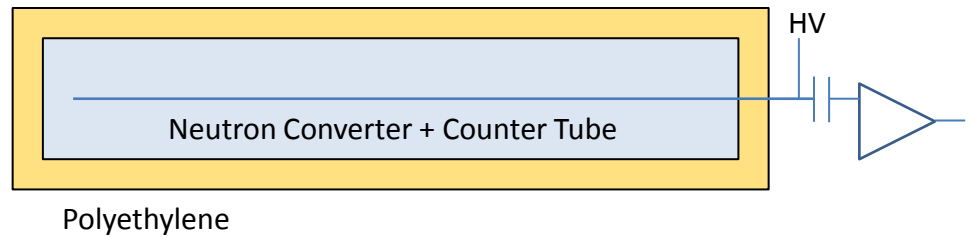
Response function for Bonner Sphere moderator thicknesses



# CRNS Detectors

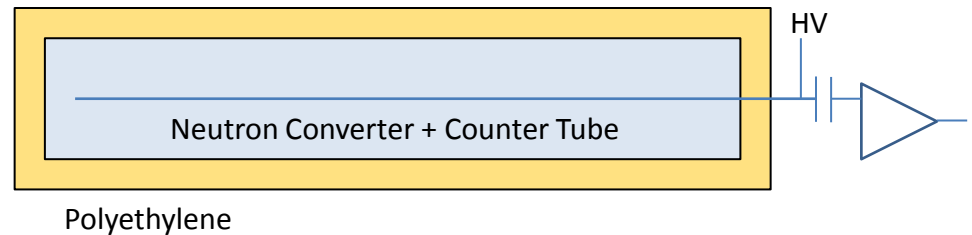


# CRNS Detectors





# CRNS Detectors



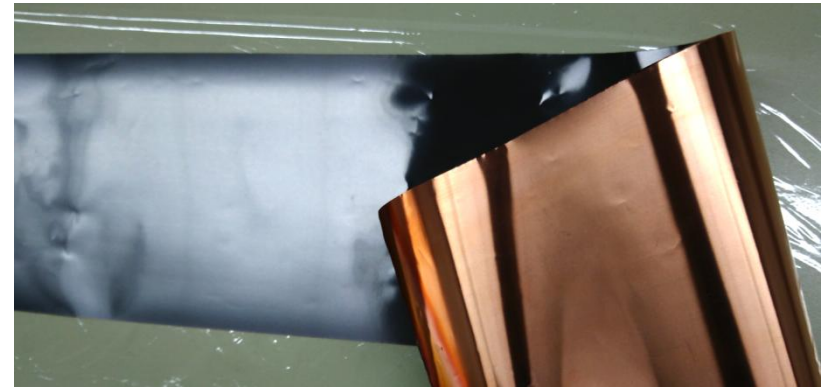
## Challenges:

- radiopure materials
- good background suppression
- independent 24/7 operation
  - over months and years
- low power consumption
- wireless data transmission

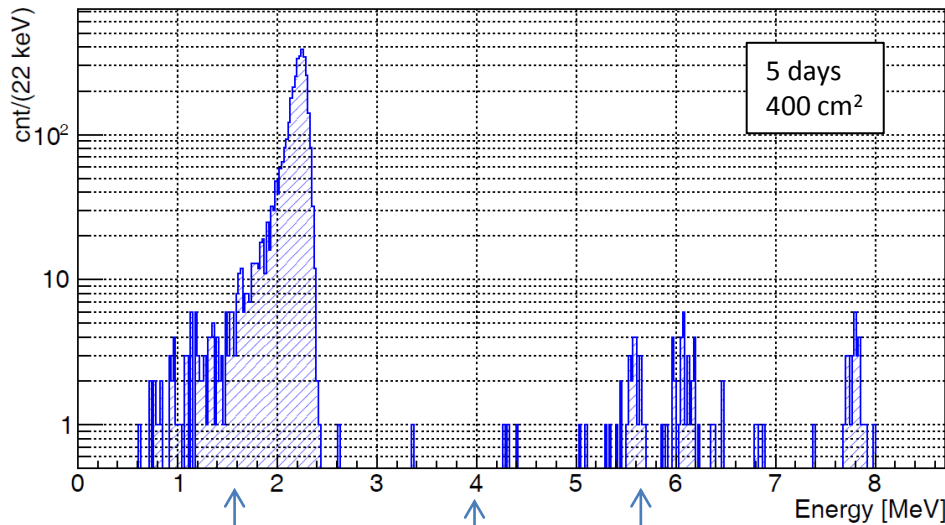
# Radiopurity of tube materials



In collaboration with  
Heinrich Wilsenach  
IKTP, TU Dresden



Measured sample of high purity copper foils



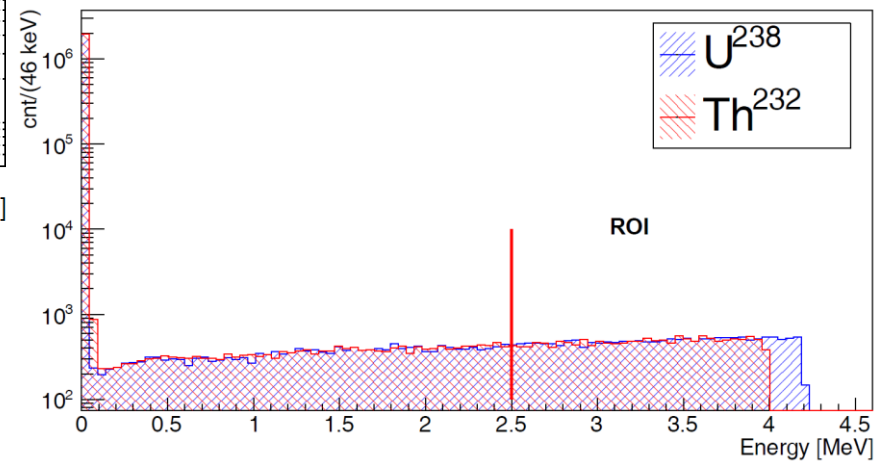
Calibration Source

ROI

Rn-222  
Traces

$(1.05 \pm 0.1) / \text{h/m}^2$   
in (2.6-5.0) MeV

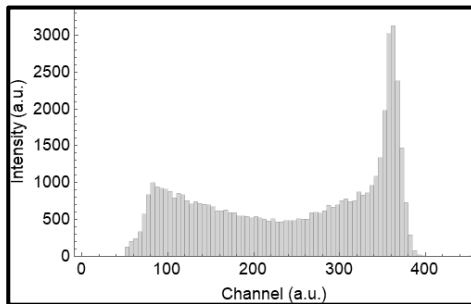
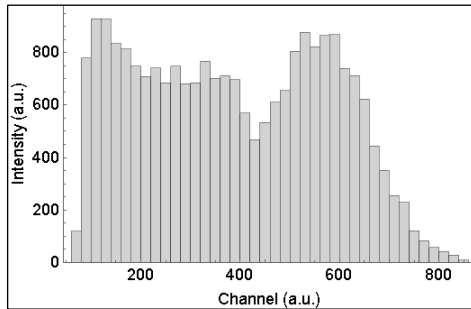
Simulated U+Th Spectra



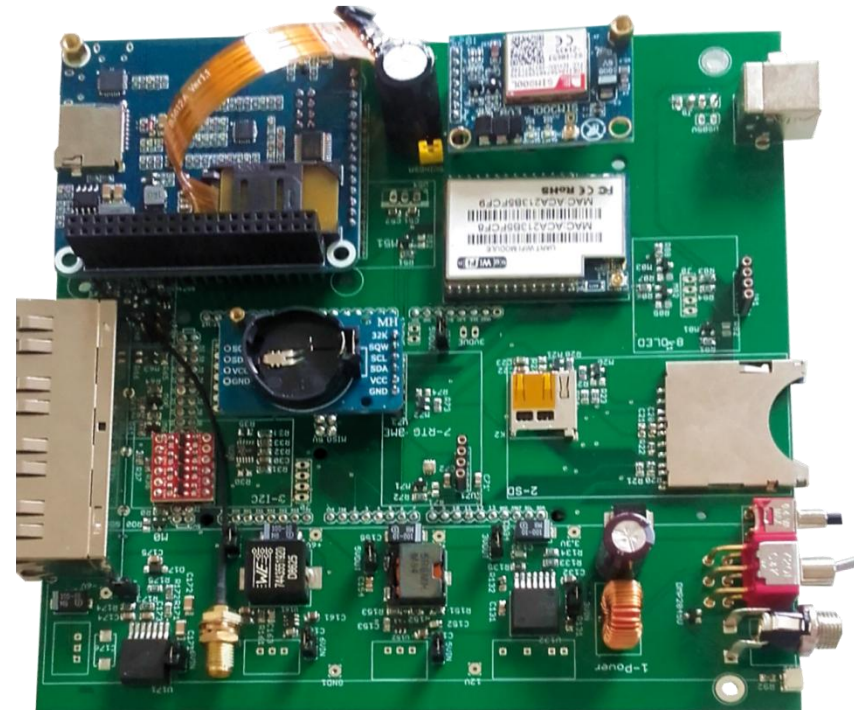
# Microcontroller Readout Electronics



nCatcher  
HV unit



Data logger

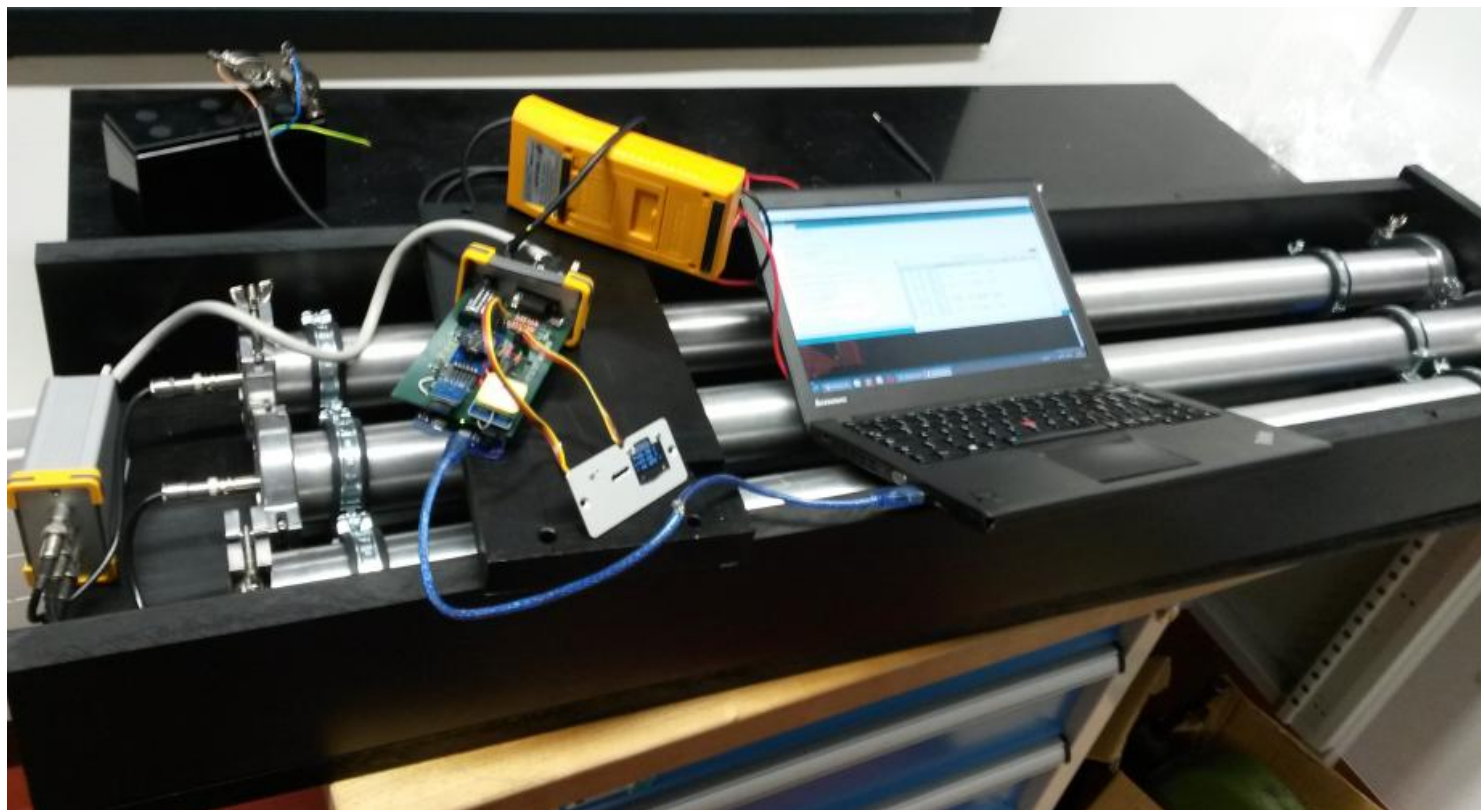


## Improvements/Features:

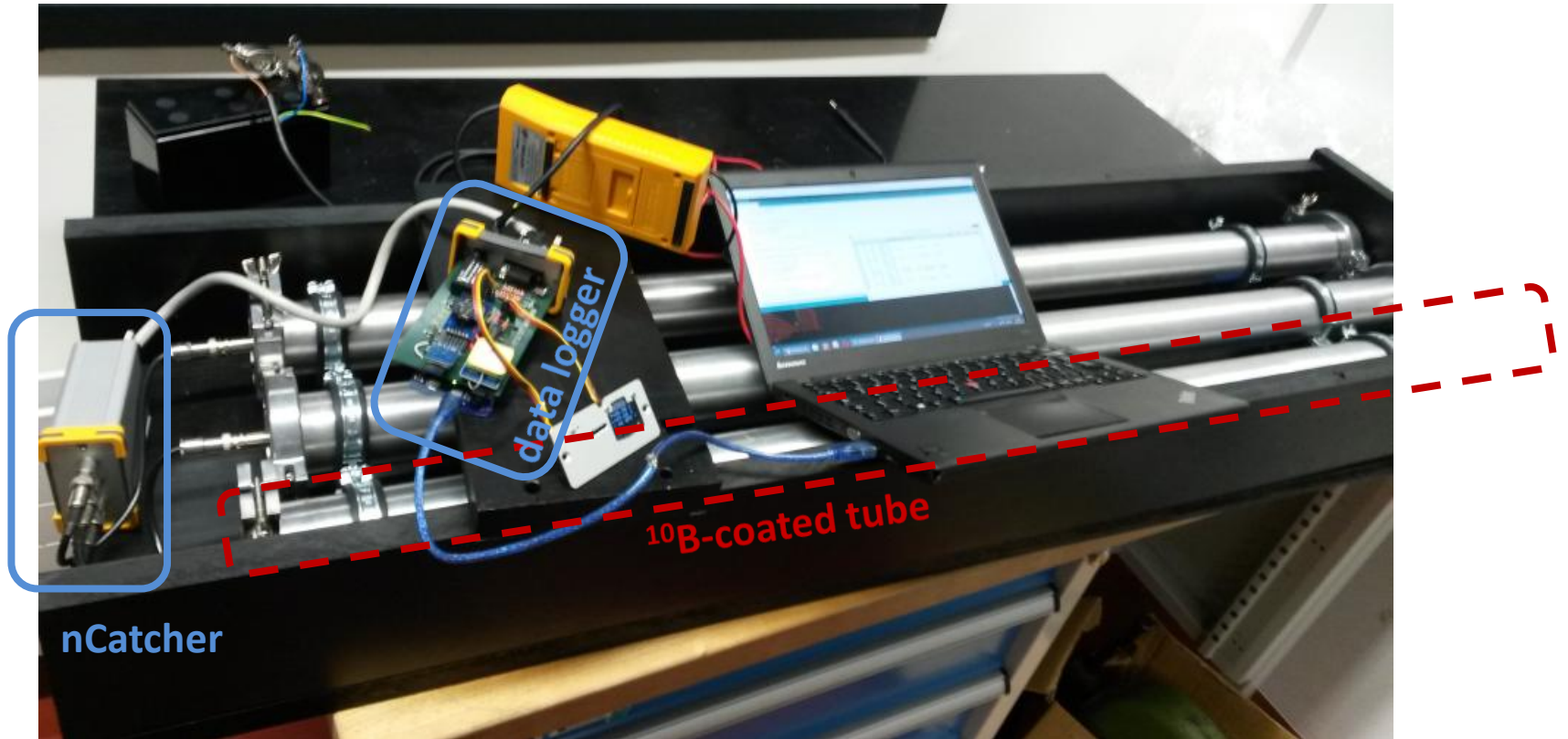
- Low temperature dependence (Remaining drift can be corrected by the firmware)
- Display: RL,  $p$ , event info
- High resolution for environmental variables (especially pressure)
- Battery/voltage monitoring
- Multi-purpose RJ45 Connector
- (SDI-12 implementation to come)



# $^{10}\text{B}$ CRNS Detectors - Prototype



# ▶ $^{10}\text{B}$ CRNS Detectors - Prototype

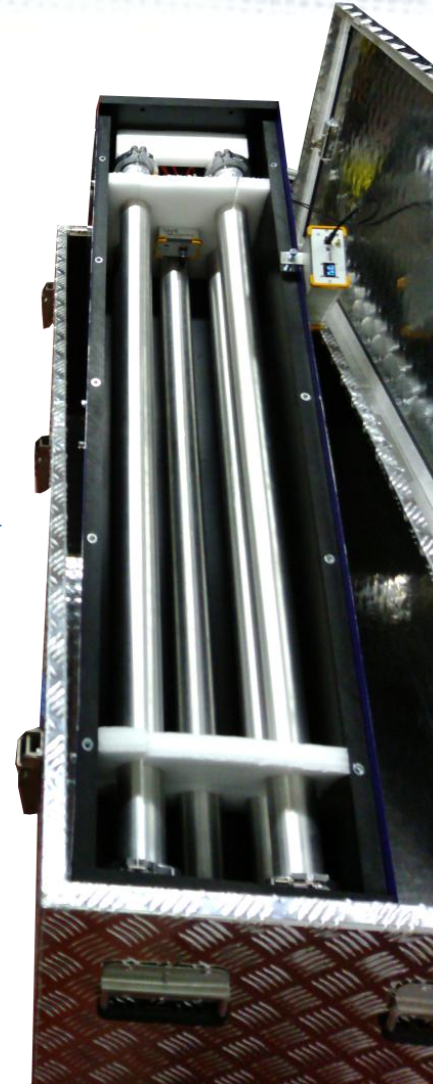


# $^{10}\text{B}$ CRNS Detectors - Prototype



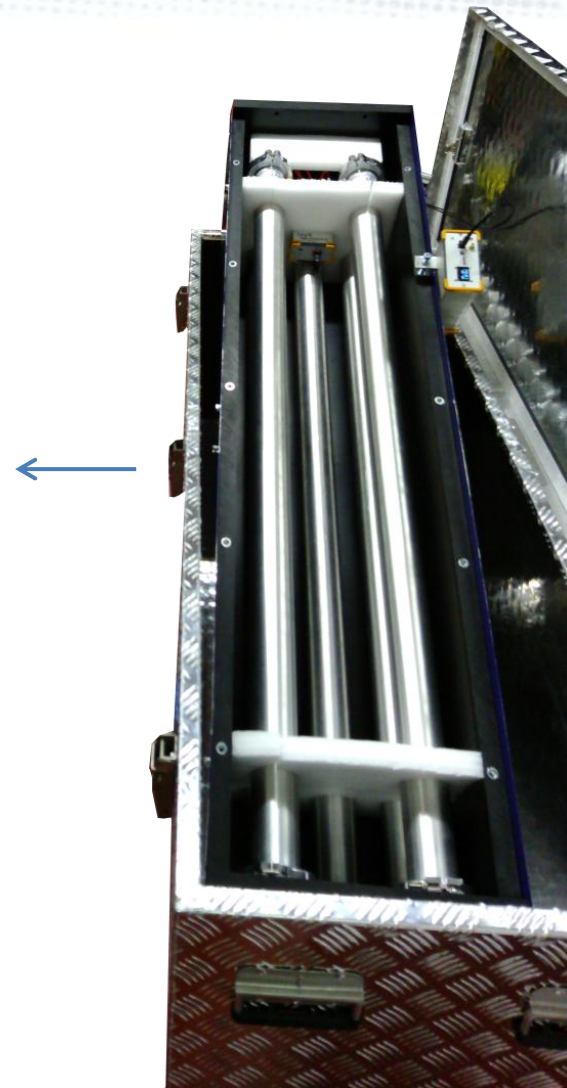
In collaboration with  
Heye Bogena and Jannis Jakobi  
FZ Jülich

Measurements @ Wüstebach (Eifel)

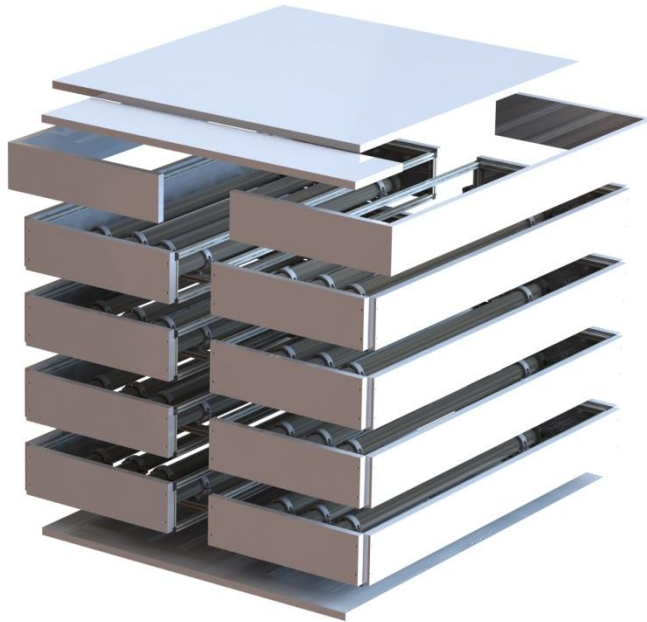


# $^{10}\text{B}$ CRNS Detectors – Full Size

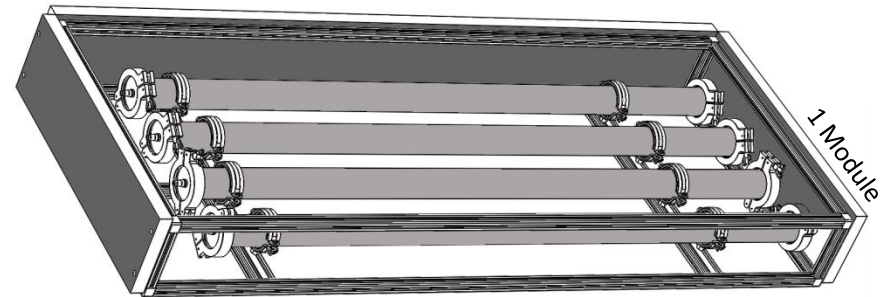
Measurements @ Fendt (Bavaria)



# ▶ The largest CRNS Detector



Team: Jannis Weimar Matthias Janke  
Fabian Allmendinger Markus Köhli



First Data:

Standard Sensor: 600 /h  
Heidelberg Rover: 18000 /h

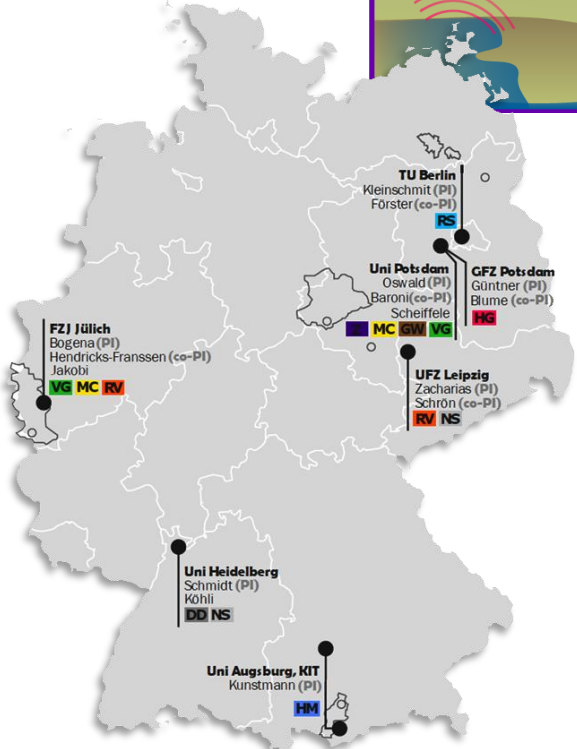
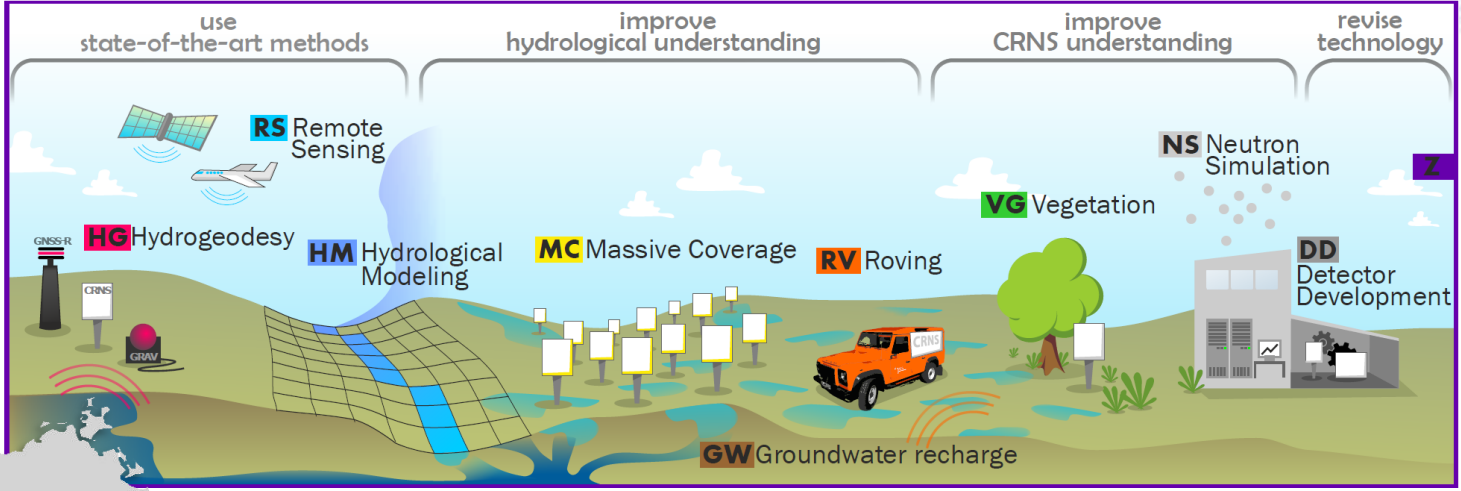






# An interdisciplinary Collaboration

**DFG**  
FOR 2694



DFG Research Group



<https://www.uni-potsdam.de/de/cosmicsense.html>



Neutron

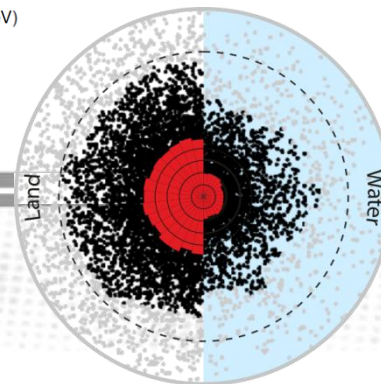
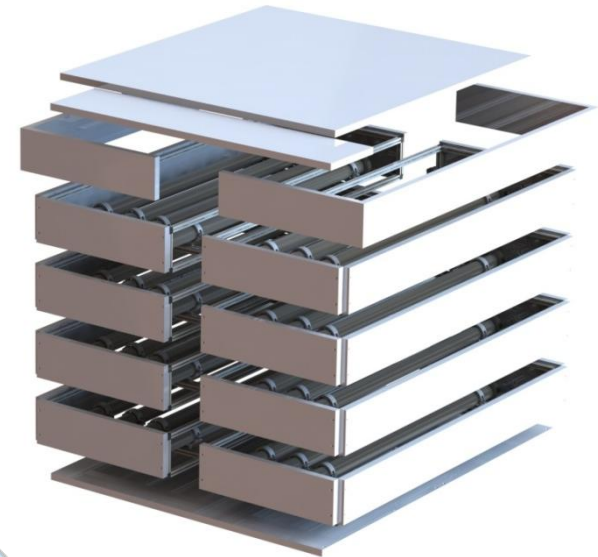
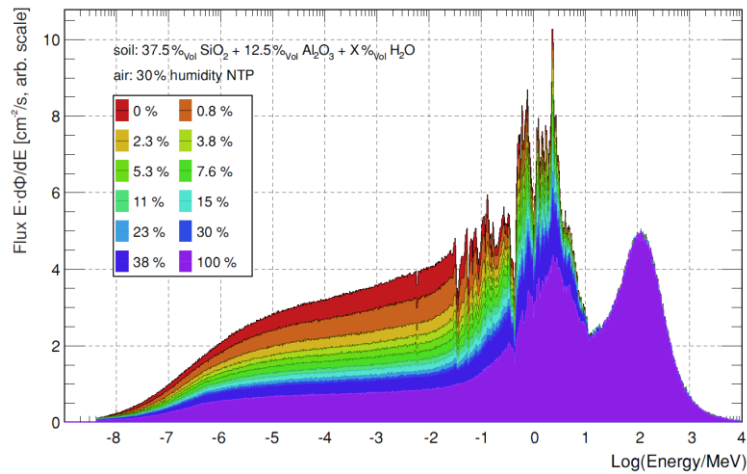
# Physics

↑  
(detection)

across the scales  
and disciplines



# Soil Moisture Measurements with Cosmic-Ray Neutrons



Physikalisches Institut

Ruprecht-Karls-Universität  
Heidelberg

Markus Köhli

AG Schmidt  
ANP-PAT