



# CYGNO status and plans June 2024



UNIVERSIDADE  
FEDERAL DE JUIZ DE FORA



# LIME: Runs 1-4

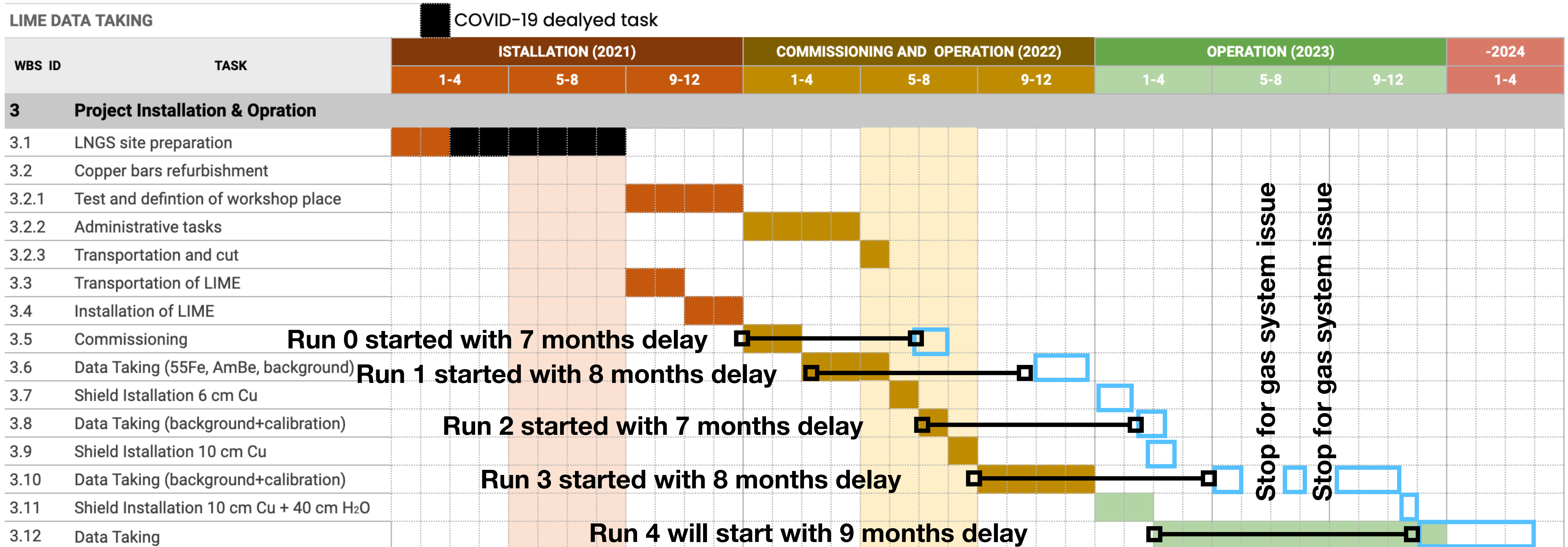


	Time slot	Number of pictures	Event rate	Number of events
<b>RUN 1: No-shielding</b>	3 November - 15 December	$4 \cdot 10^5$	35 Hz	$4 \cdot 10^6$
<b>RUN 2: 4 cm Cu shielding</b>	15 Feb - 15 March	$4.5 \cdot 10^5$	3.5 Hz	$5 \cdot 10^5$
<b>RUN 3: 10 cm Cu shielding</b>	5 May - 16 November	$1.6 \cdot 10^6$	1.5 Hz	$7.3 \cdot 10^5$
<b>RUN 4: 10 cm Cu + 40 cm water shielding</b>	30 November - 31 March	$2 \cdot 10^6$	1.0 Hz	$6 \cdot 10^5$

## Special data takings

<b>AmBe for Nuclear Recoils</b>	2-6 August	$2 \cdot 10^5$	0.04 Hz of NR	$2.5 \cdot 10^3$ NR
<b><math>^{241}\text{Am}</math> for Electron Recoils</b>	7-16 November	$7 \cdot 10^5$	50 Hz	$10^6$

# PHASE 0: GANTT



**Run4** started 9 months later than it was expected in 2020;

W.r.t. the real t0 (due to the civil works in the experimental site) so far **2 months** of delay were accumulated in about **20 months of operations**;

# LIME PLANS

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With the **end of RUN4** in March 2024, LIME data taking for **PHASE\_0** is considered closed;

**Several** different **analyses are ongoing**: radon contamination, NR sensitivity from AmBe events, low energy ER sensitivity, 3D reconstruction of events, muons counting;

In **April 2024** we took some “**technical runs**” to study the effects of gas **filters, gas gain, drift fields**;

The water shielding was then removed and in **May 2024** a new run (**RUN5**) has started:

- this data taking is intended to measure the **flux of underground neutrons**, in the framework of **PRIN** “Zero Radioactivity”
- very **preliminary simulation** demonstrated a **promising sensitivity of LIME** to them with the possibility of detecting few **tens of neutrons per months**, allowing the perform a **competitive measurement** in 6 months;
- a more **effective evaluation** of the **sensitivity** based on the measurement in **RUN3** in **RUN4** is now starting;
- good exercise to **tune and test simulation and analysis algorithms** for **NR**, propaedeutic to DM search...

# Plans for 2024



PROJECT TITLE		INFN		
PROJECT MANAGER				
WBS ID	TASK	CONSTRUCTION, TEST & INSTALLATION (2024)		
		1-4	5-8	9-12
<b>WP1 Physics</b>				
1.1	solar neutrino sensitivity			
1.2	dark matter sensitivity			
1.3	physical parameters PHASE 2			
<b>WP2 Data Analysis</b>				
2.1	reconstruc/background v0			M2.1
2.2	reconstruc/background v1			
2.3	detector analysys PHASE 1			
<b>WP3 Detector Simulation</b>				
3.1	valdete PHASE 0 results			
3.2	Montecarlo for PHASE 1			M3.2
3.3	estimation for PHASE 2			
<b>WP4 Detector Design and Construction</b>				
4.1	executive layout infrastructure			
4.2	executive layout of the detector			
4.3	procurements of components		M4.3	
4.4	install infrastructure			D4.1
4.5	install detector			D4.2
4.6	commissioning & calibration			
4.8	decommissioning			
<b>WP5 Auxiliary Services</b>				
5.1	validating gas system			
5.2	validating DAQ v0			
5.3	validating DAQ v1			D5.2
<b>WP6 Research and Development</b>				
6.1	validating large GEM			
6.2	validating sensors and lens			D6.2
6.3	validating field cage component	D6.1		
6.4	validating R&D for PHASE 2			
<b>WP7 Management</b>				
7.1	ERC-FRP3			
7.2	ERC-FRP4			
7.3	CSN2 Progress Report		M7.4	
7.4	ERC-SRP2			
7.5	CSN2 Final Report			

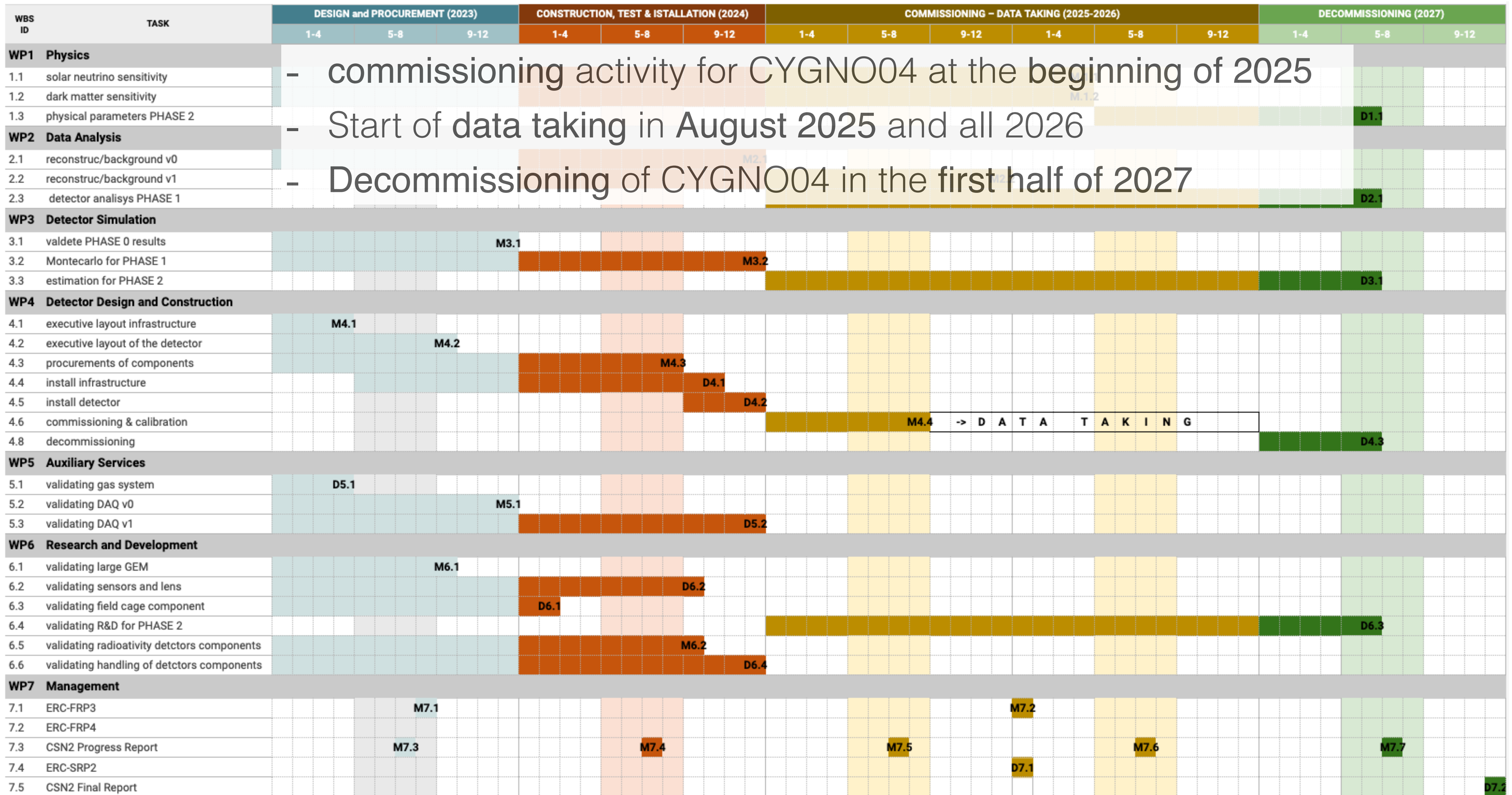
In general, the **running of LIME** is now way **less demanding** than in the past, requiring a **lighter shifts sharing scheme**

Main part of the **person-power moved** to data analysis and simulation and **studies** for the **CYGNO04 realisation**.

Activities foreseen:

- Full **LIME data analysis** (M2.1 - 31/12)
- Full **GEANT4 simulation** of CYGNO-04 (M3.2 - 31/12);
- **Tenders** for CYGNO-04 realisation (M4.3 - 31/08);
- Installation of the **infrastructure** (D4.1 - 30/10) and then of the **detector** (D4.2- 31/12);
- **Validation** of last components and ancillaries: **field cage** (D6.1 - 28/02), **new optics** (D6.2 - 30/09) and **DAQ V1** (D5.2 - 31/12)

# TDR CYGNO04 GANNT



Davide Pinci, INFN - Roma

# TDR CYGNO financial plan and CSN2 proposal



In **2022**, according to the operation schedule presented in the **TDR**, we presented the financial plans for the **quinquennium 23-27**

A total of **525 k€** in **5 years**, including 200 k€ for travels

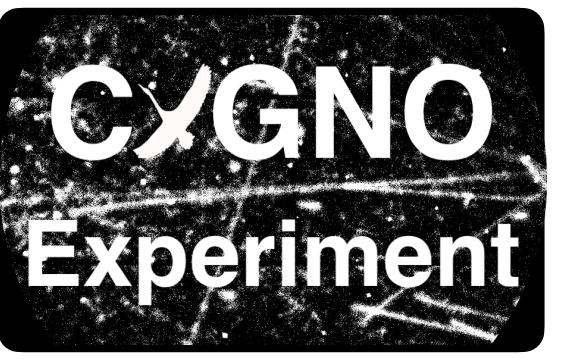
INFN - CSN2	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Gas Bottle	10	5	15	15	0
Gas Recovery	10	0	20	20	0
Consumables	10	20	20	10	20
R&D	50	50	30	20	0
Tot w/o Travels (k€)	80	75	85	65	20
Travels - Shift	30	20	20	30	0
Travels - Installation	10	30	30	0	30
Tot Travels (k€)	40	50	50	30	30
<b>Tot (k€)</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>50</b>

La commissione giudica positivamente il TDR di Cygno-04 notando che, in quanto progetto finanziato ERC, ha un profilo di rischio più alto di quello normalmente accettato per un progetto di commissione 2. Richiede che il TDR venga aggiornato appena siano disponibili i risultati ottenuti dal run underground del prototipo LIME (performance, stabilità temporale, background model) e dai test previsti per il prossimo anno su catodo, field cage, ecc.

La commissione approva il piano finanziario proposto dalla collaborazione CYGNO che prevede, da parte della Commissione, un contributo massimo di 120 k€/anno (inclusivo di ogni voce di spesa). L'approvazione si riferisce per il momento ai due anni previsti per la costruzione: 2023 e 2024. Quando sarà disponibile il TDR aggiornato secondo le richieste sopra menzionate, la Commissione procederà alla discussione del piano di spesa previsto per gli anni 2025-2027 che servirebbe a sostenere i costi di operazione del dimostratore.

# Collaboration structure

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WP1 **Physics**, E. Baracchini GSSI, is in charge of studying the discovery potential and physics cases of the project

WP2 **Data Analysis**, G. Dho INFN-LNF: is in charge of developing reconstruction software and analyzing data

WP3 **Detector Simulation**, G. D'Imperio INFN-RM1: is in charge to develop fast and full simulation of the detector background and to evaluate detector systematics and uncertainty

WP4 **Detector Design and Construction**, G. Mazzitelli INFN-LNF: is in charge of the design, construction and implementation of the detector, the shielding and infrastructures.

WP5 **Auxiliary Services**, A. Messina INFN-ROMA1: is in charge of all Auxiliary System: Gas System, HV and LV, DAQ and computing.

WP6 **Research and Development**, D. Pinci INFN-ROMA1: in charge of the development ongoing for PHASE 1 and the study needed to enhance the performance for PHASE 2

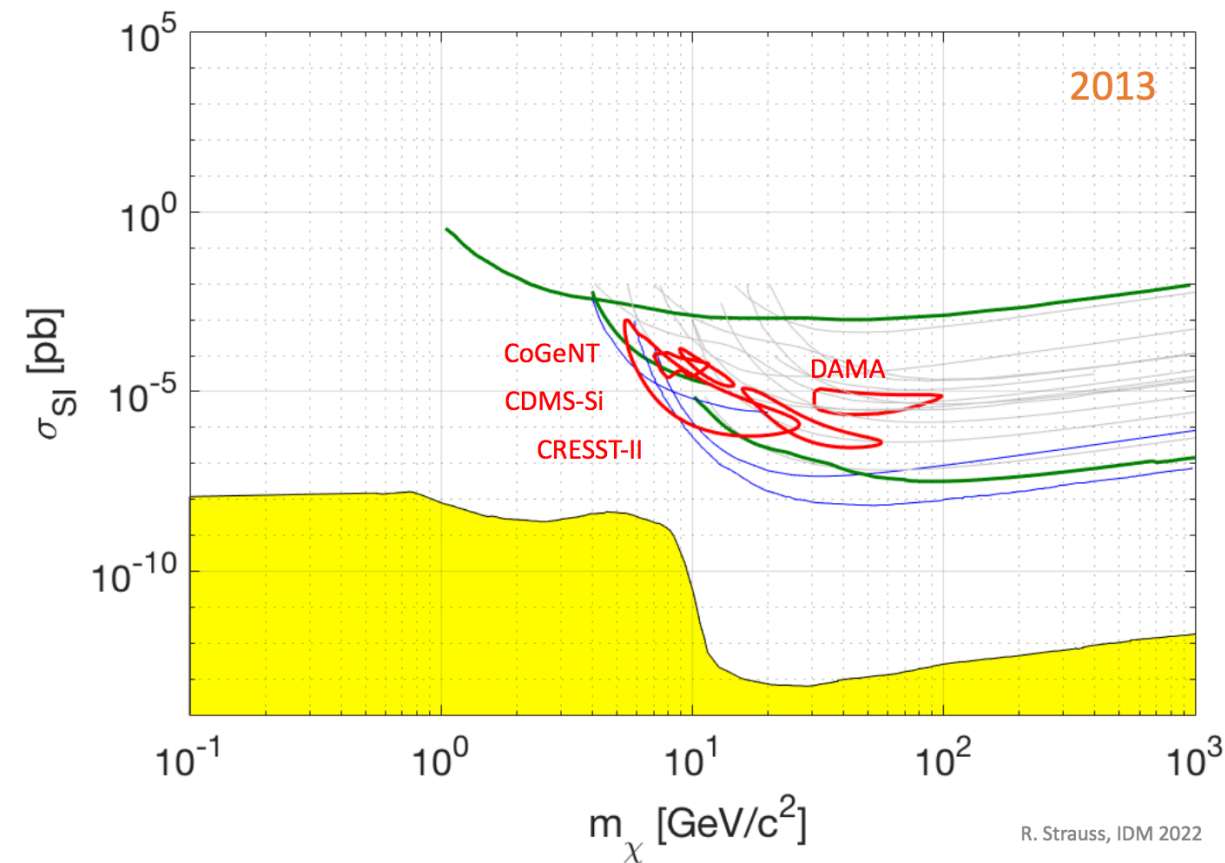
WP7 **Management**: management of the project and interactions with CSN2, LNGS, ERC



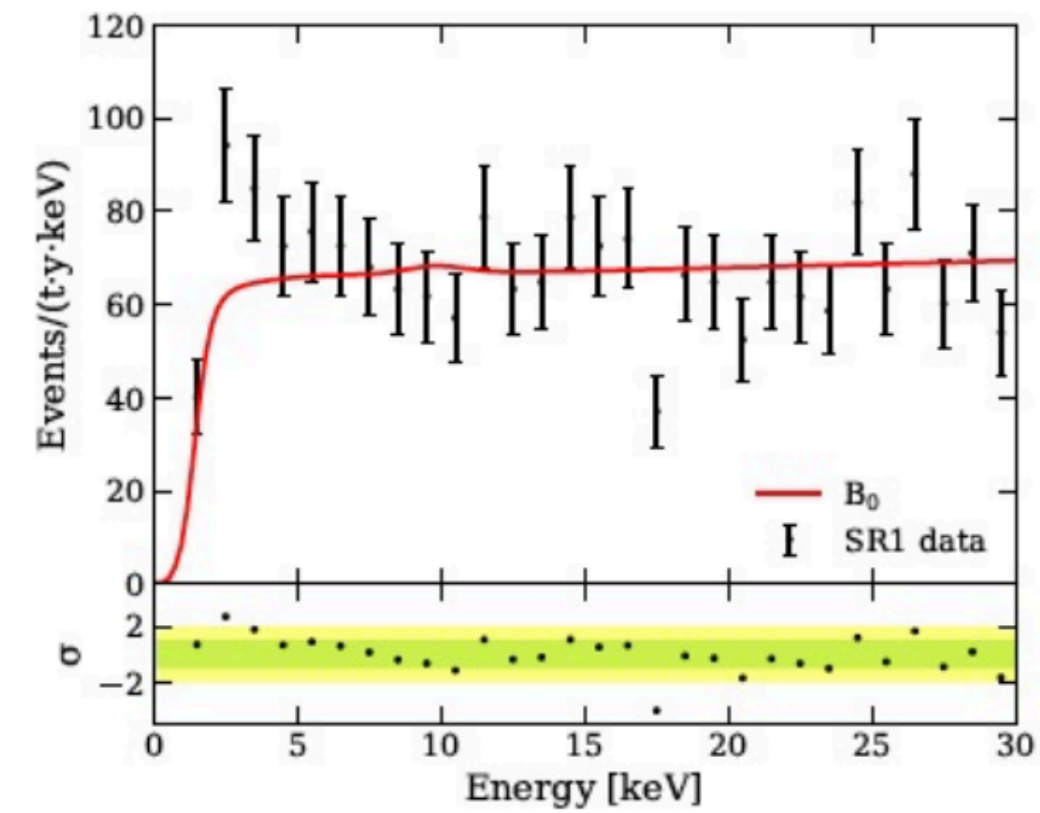
## a search hampered by many false promises

*i.e. many things can look like a signal if you don't know where they are coming from*

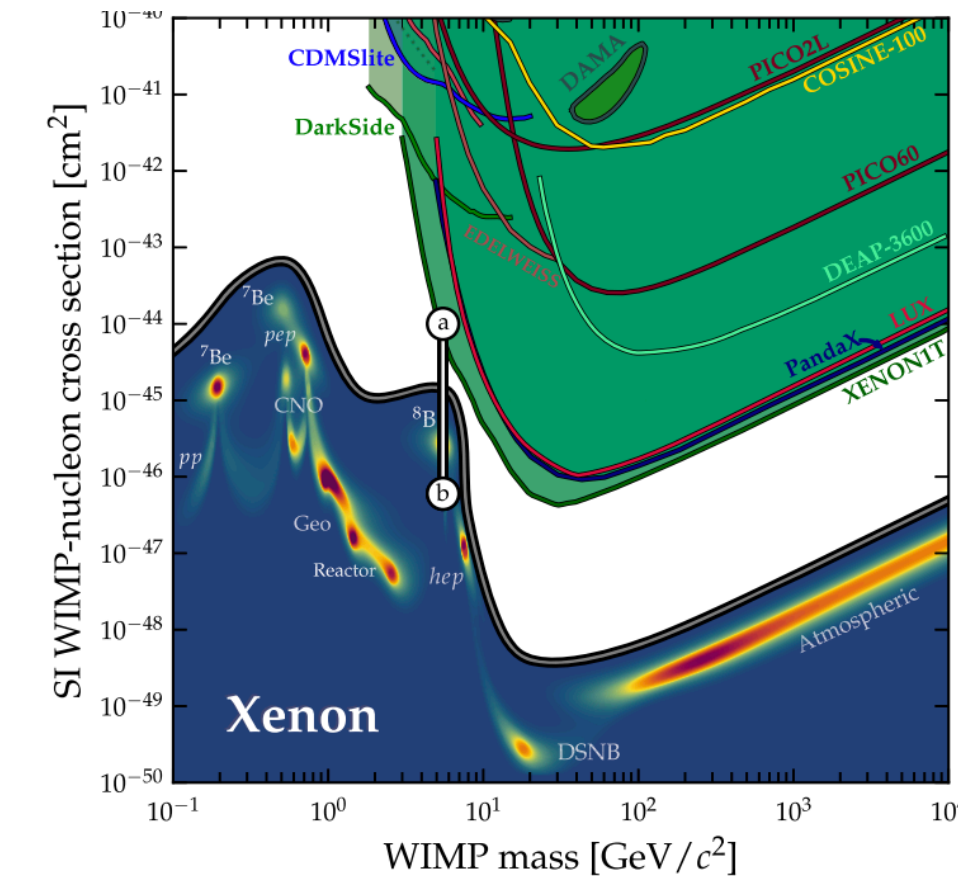
**DAMA annual modulation + past Cogent-CDMS-CRESST claims at similar masses**



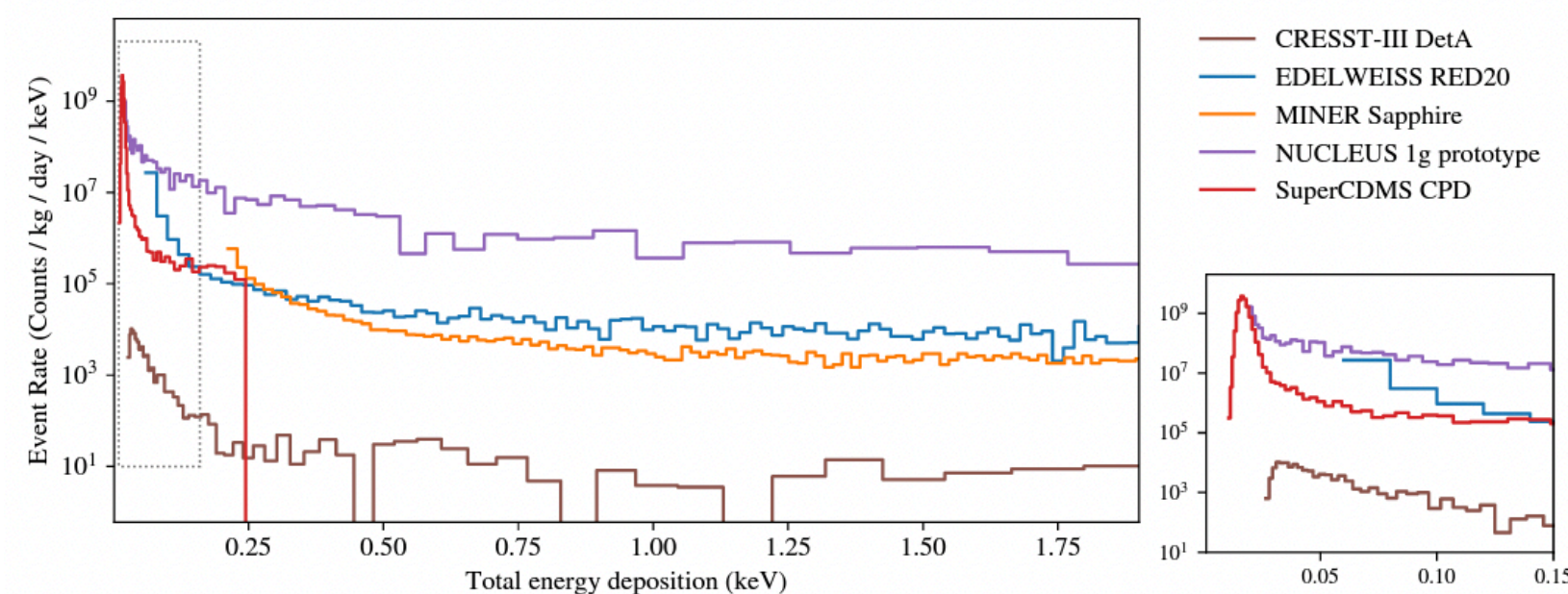
**Low energy ER excess in XenonIT**



**Neutrinos**



**The unexplained Low Energy Excess (LEE) in many low threshold detectors** (SciPost Phys.Proc. 9 (2022) 001)



**Once a DM signal is effectively found by any experiment, a directional experiment will be needed to confirm the Galactic origin of the signal and eventually perform DM astronomy**

**Once experiments reach the Neutrino Fog, a directional experiment will be needed to continue DM searches beyond it**



Directional detectors aiming at reconstructing the direction and energy of the WIMP-induced nuclear recoil offer an unambiguous way of confirming the Galactic origin of a WIMP signal. Several efforts worldwide, including **European-led projects** are underway, and while, due to technological challenges and significantly lower target masses, currently lagging behind conventional WIMP detectors in terms of sensitivity, in the future they may offer some other potential advantages, e.g., of reaching down below the neutrino floor. It is vital to pursue and support this effort as a longer term investment in the field that, after a detection of a DM signal, may be most effective in exploring a new window on the Universe in terms of “DM astronomy”.

**APPEC recognise the imperative need to support long-term investment in directional DM detector**

**Recommendation 4.** European participation in DM search programmes and associated, often novel, R&D efforts, that currently do not offer the biggest improvement in sensitivity should continue and be encouraged with view of a long-term investment in the field and the promise of potential interdisciplinary benefits.

**APPEC recommends to continue and encourage European participation in directional DM search as a long-term investment**

L. Roszkowski. APPEC feedback meeting. 2 Feb 2021

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#### 4.6.5.1 R&D program

The **CYGNUS proto-collaboration** has been formed, evolving from the workshop series of the same name. It gathers most of the groups working on directional DM detection in the world and is carrying out R&D to determine the optimum configuration for a large target mass directional detector [356]. The

[....]

Conceived as a modular and multi-site observatory, there are proposals for CYGNUS detectors in labs in Australia, Italy, Japan, the UK and the USA. Expectations for SD WIMP-proton interaction sensitivity are very promising, for instance, with a 1000 m<sup>3</sup> detector of He:SF<sub>6</sub> and taking data for 6 years, cross sections for SD interaction at the level of 10<sup>-43</sup> cm<sup>2</sup> could be reached for  $m_\chi \sim (10-100) \text{ GeV}/c^2$  [356].

CYGNO, working at LNGS, has already operated some prototypes with He/CF<sub>4</sub> using GEMs, CMOS cameras and PMTs [357] en route to building a detector of 1 m<sup>3</sup>, and nuclear recoils from a neutron gun with measurable direction and sense have been registered in the LEMOn prototype.

**APPEC recognise the CYGNUS effort and explicitly cite only CYGNO among its participants**



# CYGNUS proto-collaboration vision

Since 2016

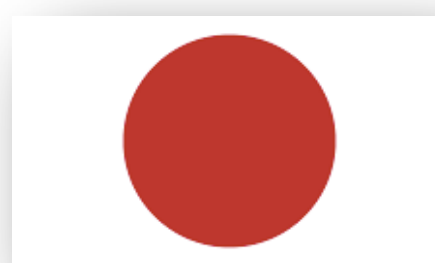


**A *multi-site, multi-target Galactic Recoil Observatory at the ton-scale to probe Dark Matter below the Neutrino Floor for both SI and SD couplings and measure solar Neutrinos with directionality***

[arXiv:2008.12587](https://arxiv.org/abs/2008.12587)

CYGNUS: Feasibility of a nuclear recoil observatory with directional sensitivity to dark matter and neutrinos

S. E. Vahsen,<sup>1</sup> C. A. J. O'Hare,<sup>2</sup> W. A. Lynch,<sup>3</sup> N. J. C. Spooner,<sup>3</sup> E. Baracchini,<sup>4,5,6</sup> P. Barbeau,<sup>7</sup> J. B. R. Battat,<sup>8</sup> B. Crow,<sup>1</sup> C. Deaconu,<sup>9</sup> C. Eldridge,<sup>3</sup> A. C. Ezeribe,<sup>3</sup> M. Ghrear,<sup>1</sup> D. Loomba,<sup>10</sup> K. J. Mack,<sup>11</sup> K. Miuchi,<sup>12</sup> F. M. Mouton,<sup>3</sup> N. S. Phan,<sup>13</sup> K. Scholberg,<sup>7</sup> and T. N. Thorpe<sup>1,6</sup>



More than 50 members and growing

Steering group:

- Elisabetta Baracchini (GSSI/INFN, Italy)
- Greg Lane (Melbourne, Australia)
- Kentaro Miuchi (Kobe, Japan)
- Neil Spooner (Sheffield, UK)
- Sven Vahsen (Hawaii, USA)

**Italian and INFN leadership in CYGNUS management since its start**

**Italian and INFN leadership in CYGNUS detectors developments (see next slides)**



# Where CYGNO stands in the context of directional DM searches



	Drift length [cm]	Amplification + Readout	Gas Mixture	Gas Pressure [mbar]	Volume [L]	Energy Threshold [keV]	Active Mass [gr]
DRIFT	50	MWPC	73% CS <sub>2</sub> + 25% CF <sub>4</sub> + 2% O <sub>2</sub>	55	800	20	33
NEWAGE	40	1 GEM + muPIC	CF <sub>4</sub>	100	37	20	11.5
MIMAC	25	Micromegas	70% CF <sub>4</sub> + 28% CHF <sub>3</sub> + 2% C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>10</sub>	50	5.8	2	1.2
CYGNO-04	50	3 GEMs + sCMOS + PMT	60% He + 40% CF <sub>4</sub>	1000	400	1	600

Table 2: Summary of the main characteristics of all the existing gaseous directional Dark Matter search TPCs installed underground, compared to CYGNO-04.

## As from our TDR

- 📍 Largest active mass (of a factor 20)
- 📍 Lowest energy threshold
- 📍 Highest gas pressure
- 📍 Longest (with DRIFT) drift distance

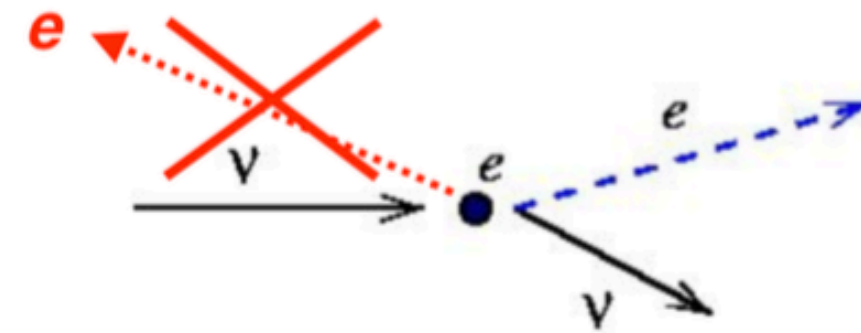
**Valid also for LIME!**  
(except for active mass, but see below..)

	Exposure	Exposure for SD searches	Energy threshold	Reference
DRIFT II-d	3.5 kg days	0.96 kg days	20 keV <sub>ee</sub>	Astropart. Phys. 91 (2017) 65-74
NEWAGE 3b	3.2 kg days	3.2 kg days	50 keV <sub>ee</sub>	PTEP 2023 (2023), 10 113F01
LIME Run4	2.6 kg days	2.0 kg days	1 keV <sub>ee</sub>	See D. Pinci slides
CYGNO-04 (1 year)	203 kg days	190 kg days	1-0.5 keV <sub>ee</sub>	See D. Pinci slides

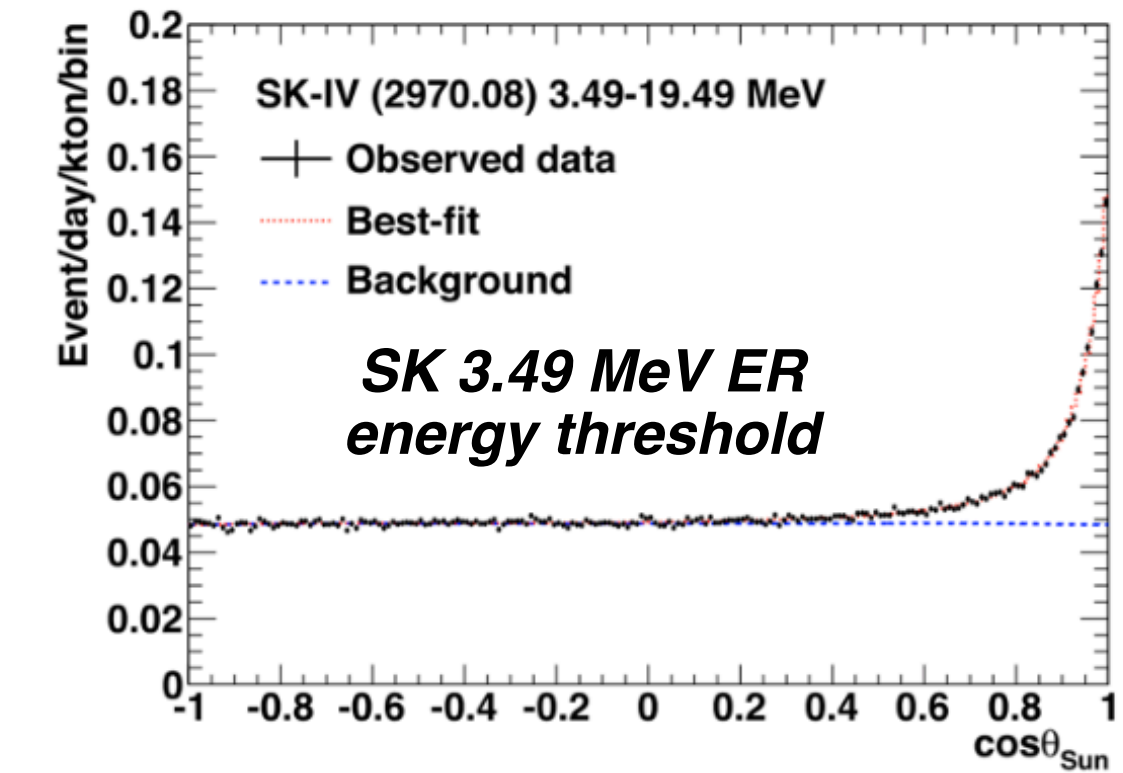
**DRIFT and NEWAGE data reported for the latest and most sensitive limits published, no MIMAC underground limit exists**

## directional detection of low energy solar neutrinos

Given the Sun position, recoils in opposite direction are kinematically forbidden



Differently from WIMPs, background can be measured on sidebands data

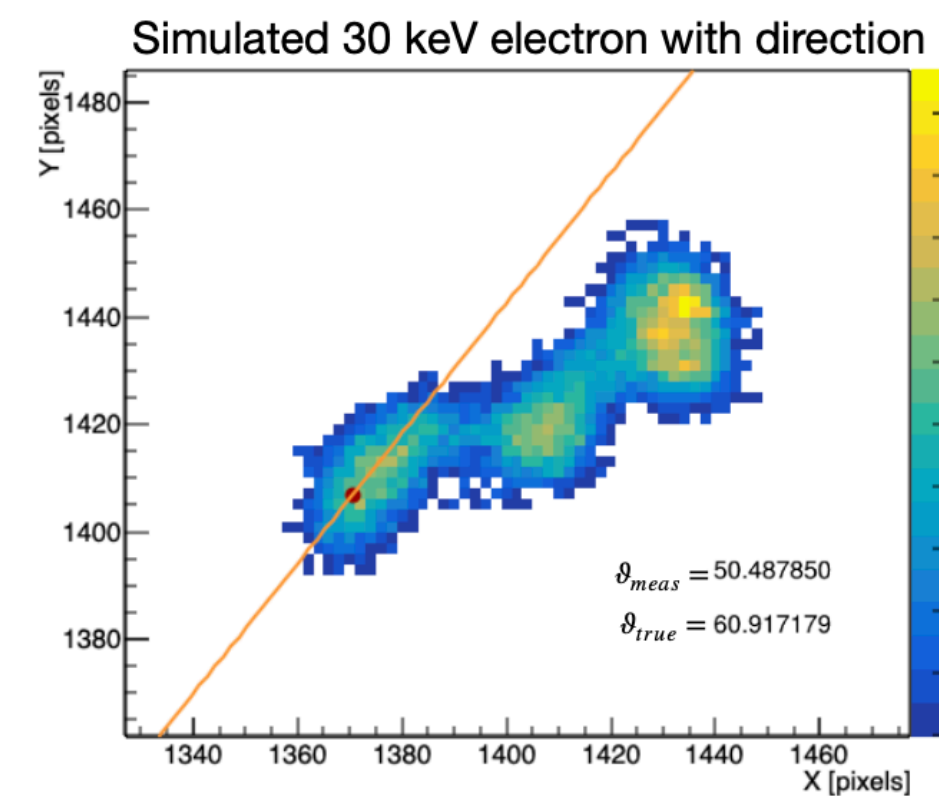


Same concept of SuperKamiokande, but with much lower energy threshold:  
**10 keV ER energy == 55 keV on ν energy**

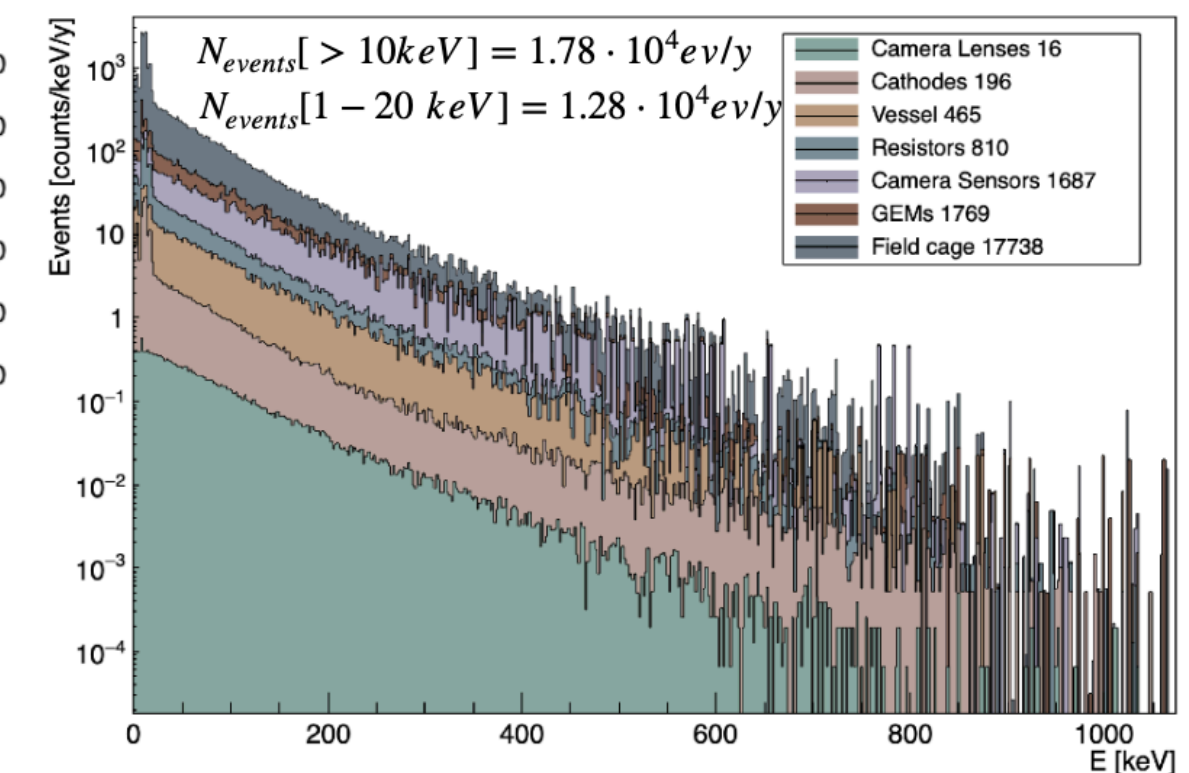
Borexino pp measurement energy threshold:  
**160 keV ER energy == 300 keV on ν energy**

### Detailed feasibility case for CYGNO-30 developed within S. Torelli PhD thesis

- ER reconstruction performances from real data and comprehensively validated MC simulation
- Original low energy ER directional algorithm developed
- Full Geant-4 simulation of expected internal background contribution of main components
- Feasibility of pp detection at  $3\sigma$  sensitivity for 5.5 year of CYGNO-30 operation demonstrated**



Fiducialization cutting 1 cm from the edge of each gas volume



**Detection feasible with S/N == 165/9790**



# CYGNO-100 and CYGNO-1000 (i.e. CYGNUS) potentialities for solar neutrinos spectral measurements

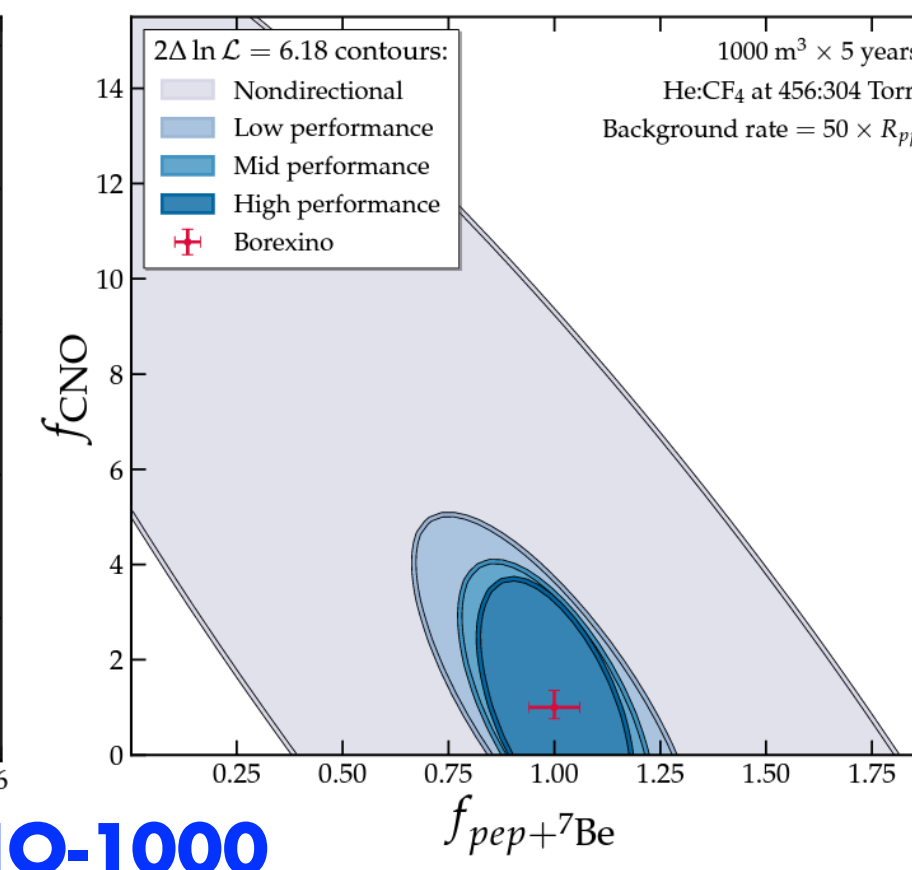
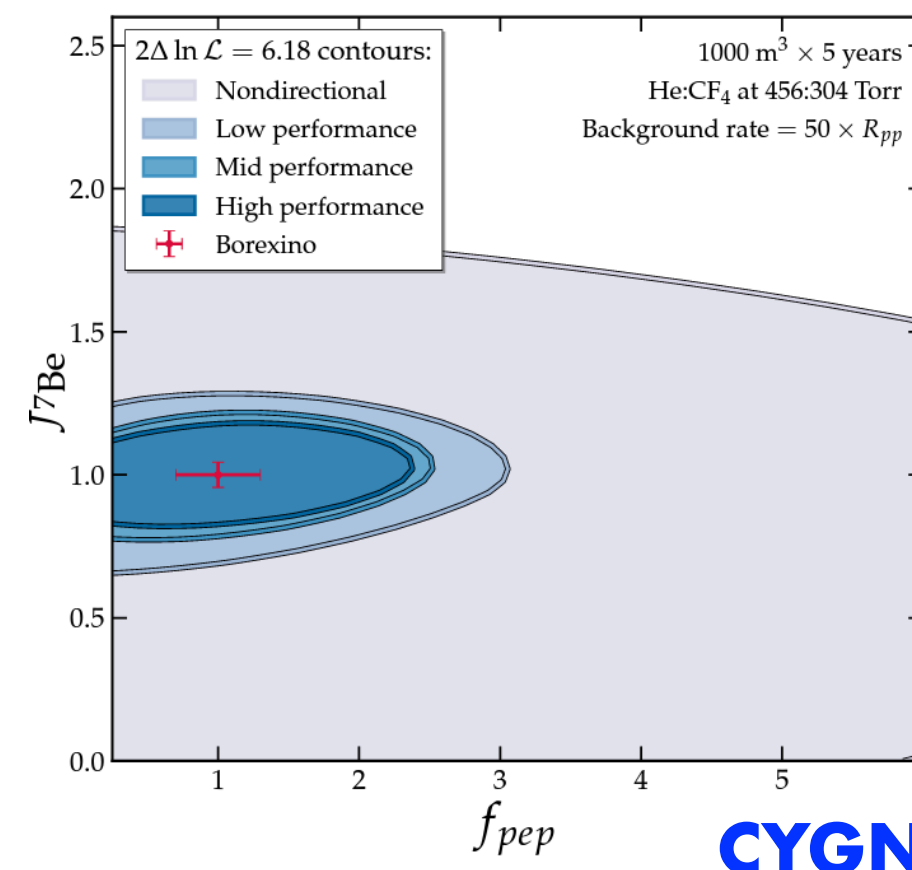
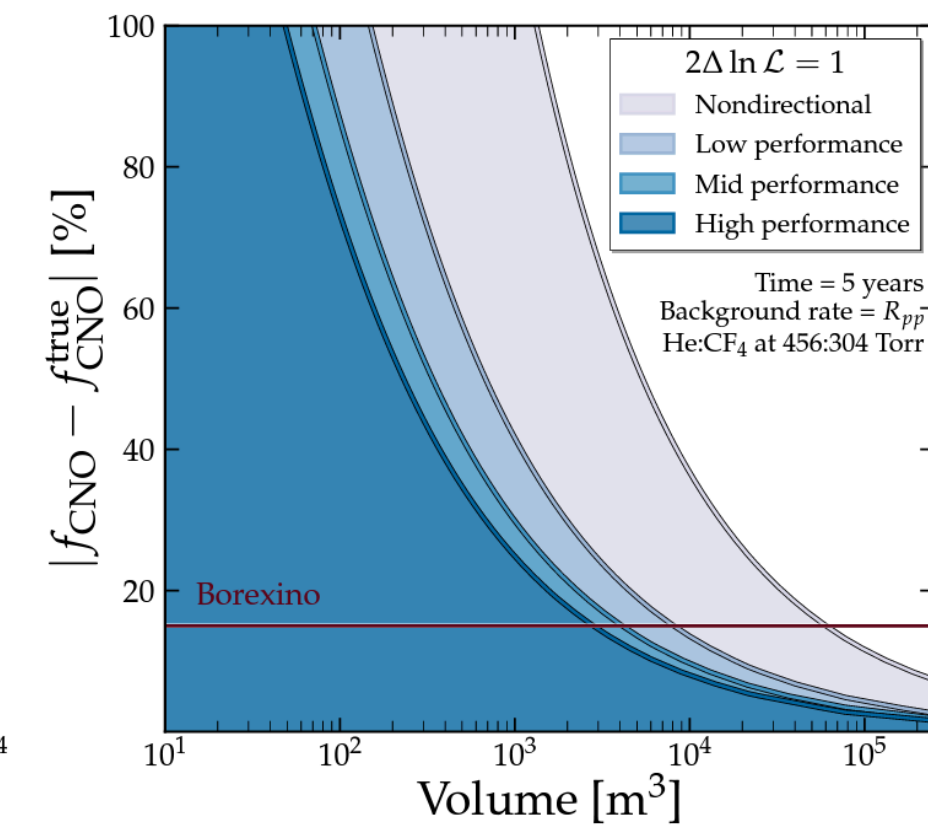
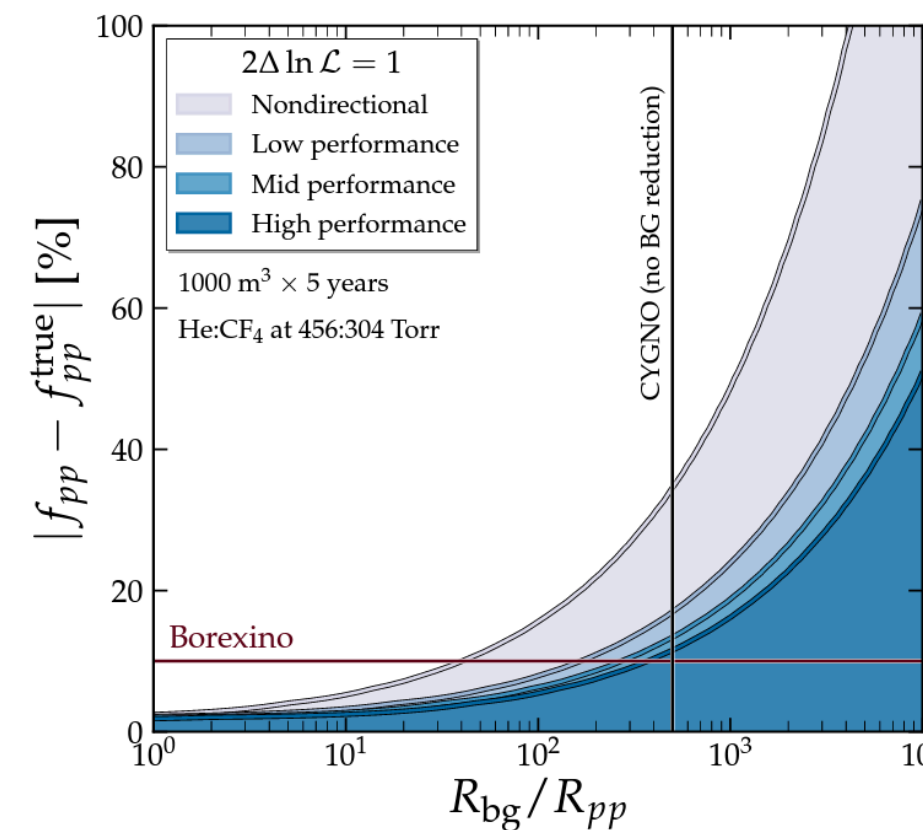
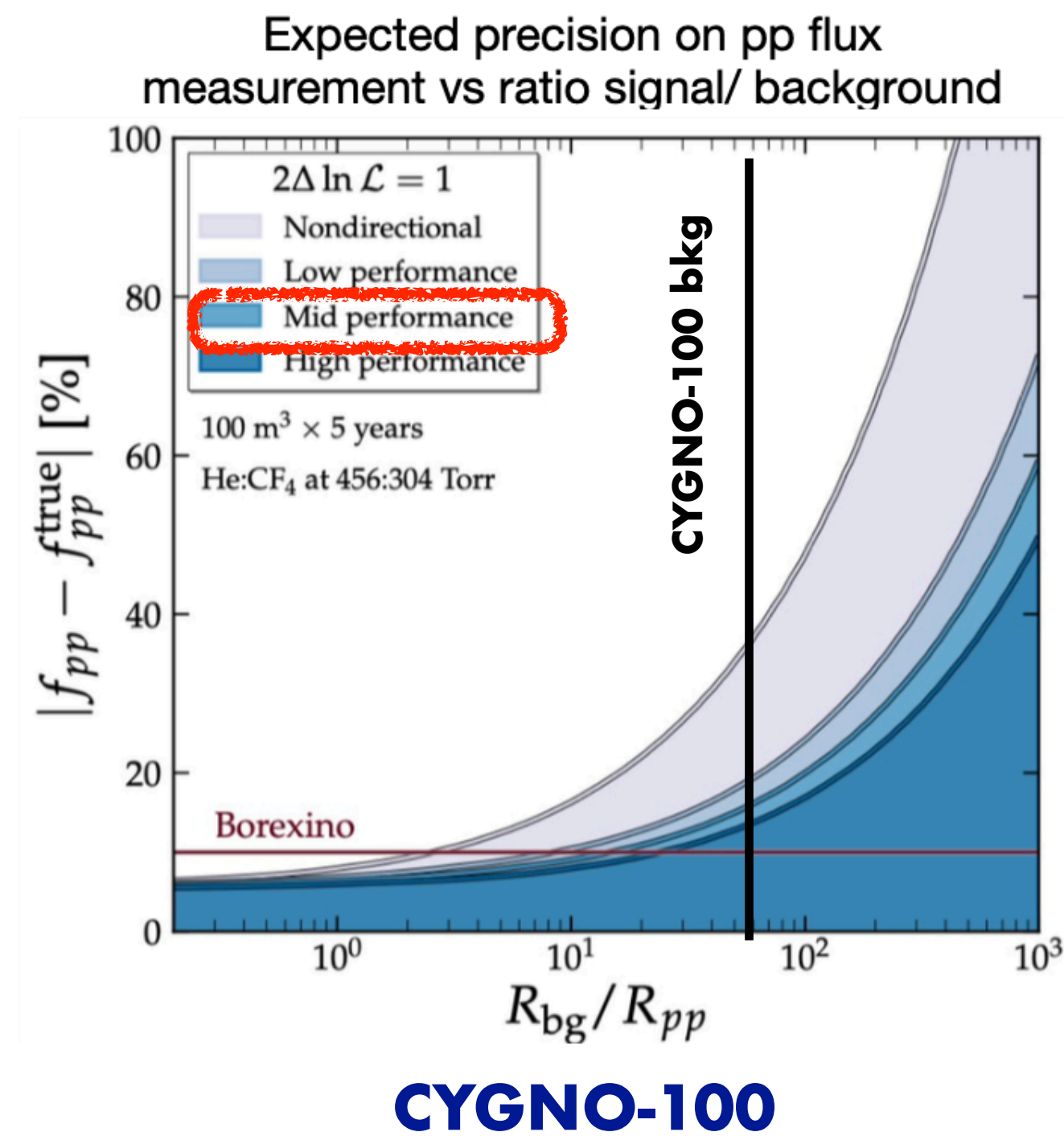


[arXiv:2404.03690v1](https://arxiv.org/abs/2404.03690v1)

CYGLS: Detecting solar neutrinos with directional gas time projection chambers

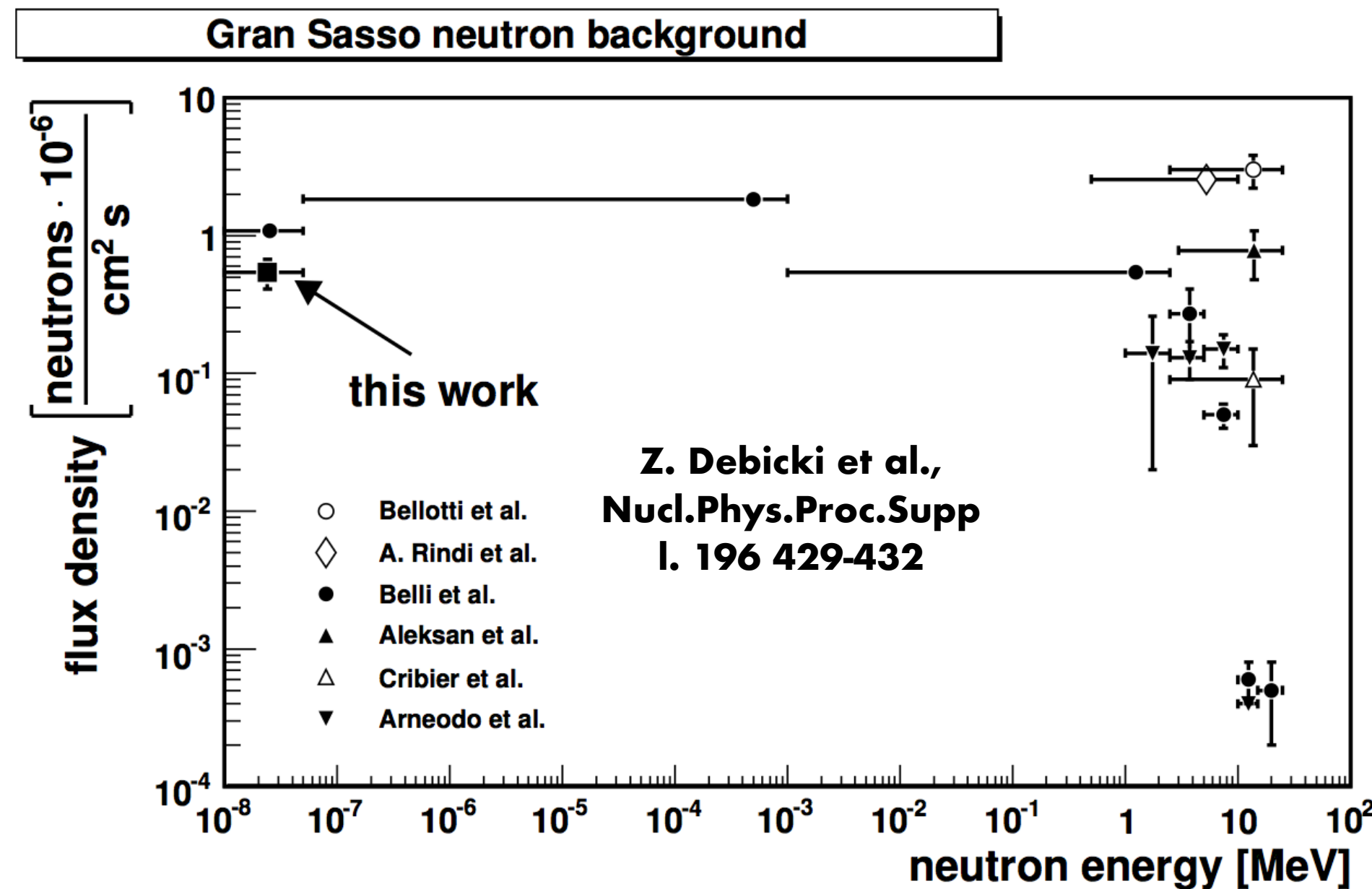
Chiara Lisotti,<sup>1, a</sup> Ciaran A. J. O'Hare,<sup>1, b</sup> Elisabetta Baracchini,<sup>2, 3</sup> Victoria U. Bashu,<sup>4</sup> Lindsey J. Bignell,<sup>4</sup> Ferdos Dastgiri,<sup>4</sup> Majd Ghrear,<sup>5</sup> Gregory J. Lane,<sup>4</sup> Lachlan J. McKie,<sup>4</sup> Peter C. McNamara,<sup>6</sup> and Samuele Torelli<sup>2, 3</sup>

## CYGNO approach used as benchmark also for CYGNUS



# Why LIME Run5?

Fast and thermal neutron measurements varying widely



Fast neutron flux measurement more than 20 years old

Very poor knowledge of actual underground natural neutron spectrum shape (and also intensity..)

All techniques (except for Arneodo et al.) use indirect measurement through <sup>3</sup>He or BF<sub>3</sub> counters

Arneodo et al. measurement showed harder spectrum than others, but affected by large instrumental and spectrum deconvolution systematics

**NOTA BENE:** an harder spectrum would require a smaller neutron shielding (i.e. reduced costs) for every LNGS underground experiments (including ton-scale active or under construction).....

With 6 months of data taking in Run5, LIME fulfils the goals of PRIN2017 and will be able to provide additional (and more precise..) measurement of LNGS underground neutron flux

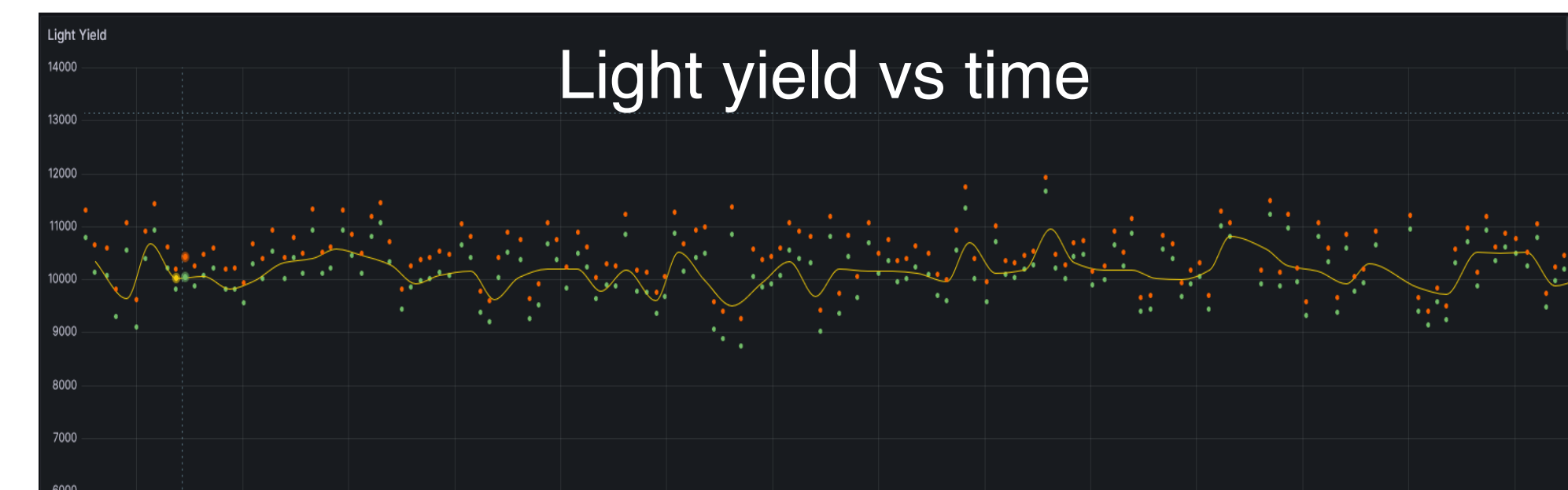
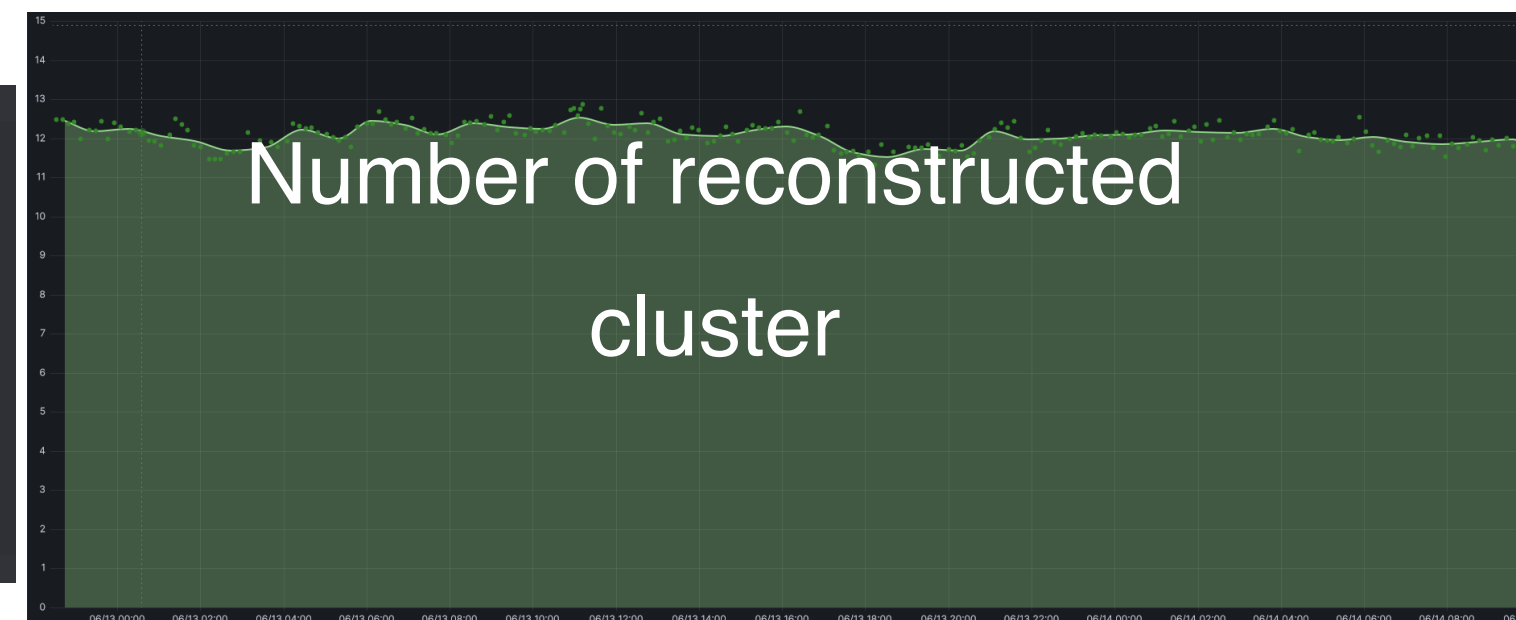
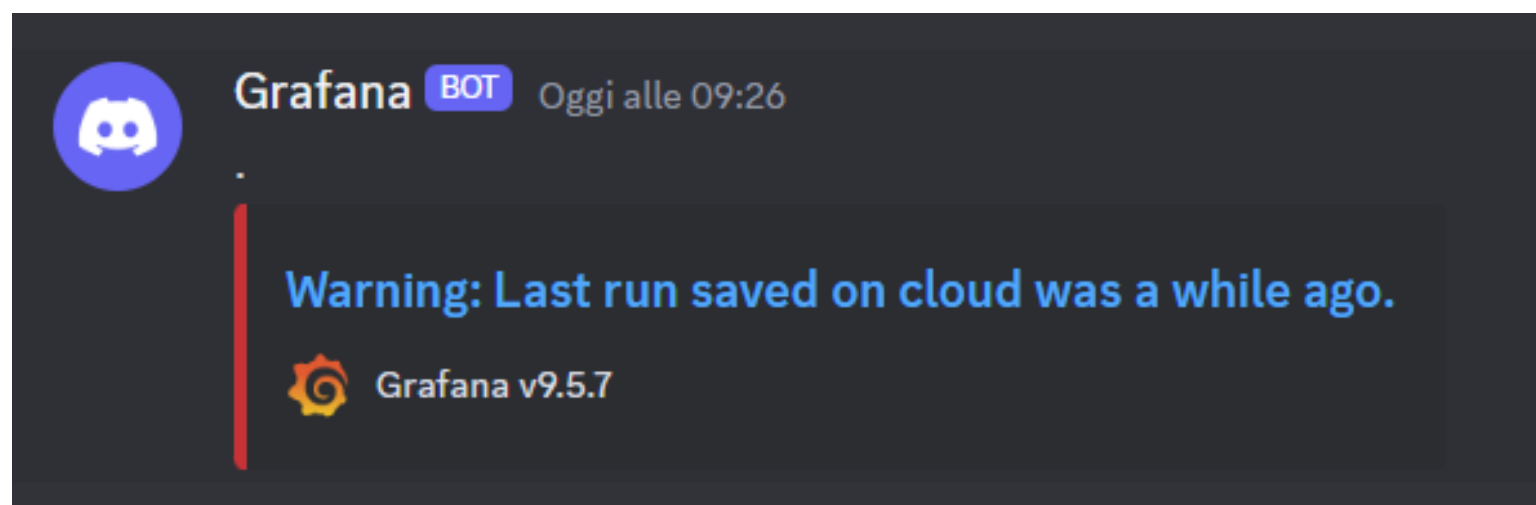
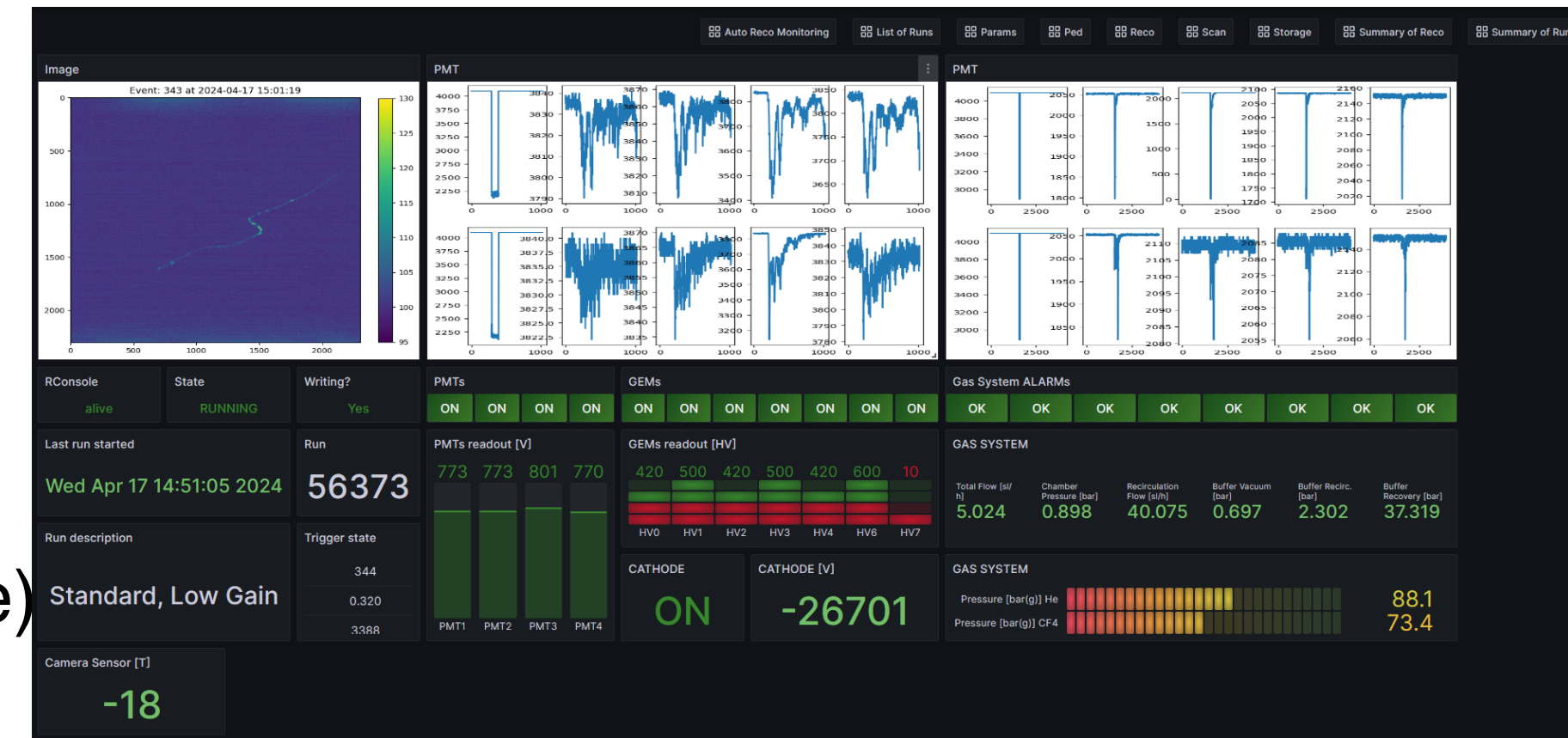
# WP2: WHAT WE LEARNT I: STABILITY OF OPERATION AND MONITOR

- LIME underground data proved to be fundamental to test our understanding of the detector in a realistic environment for rare event searches

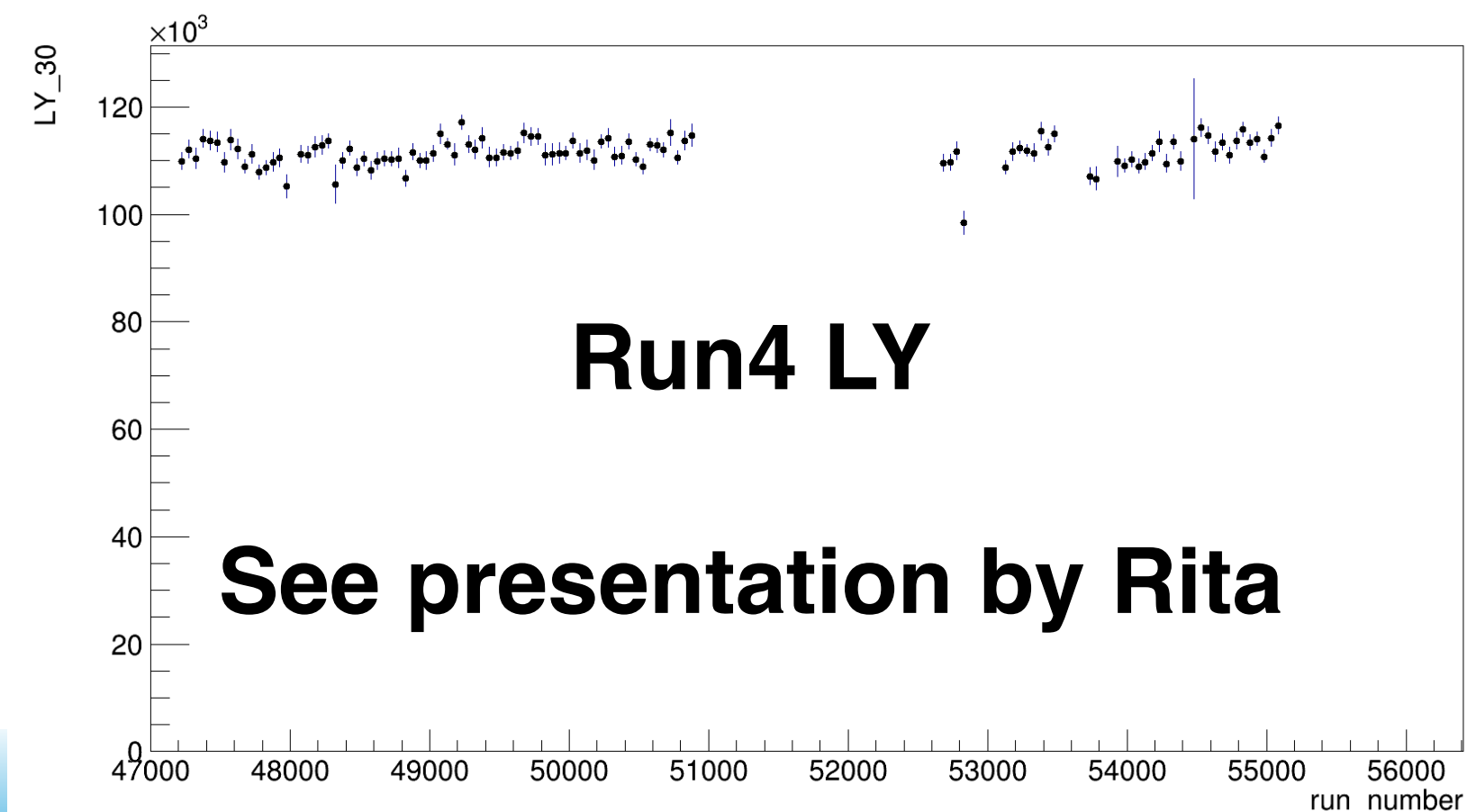
**No in person shifter was required anymore**

(except for gas bottle changes)

- Automation of reconstruction algorithm allows continuous monitoring of various variables in close-to real time and check quality of data (Run4 had 95% duty cycle)



- Correction for light yield variation with time allowed to estimate the stability of the detector and performing first physics analyses



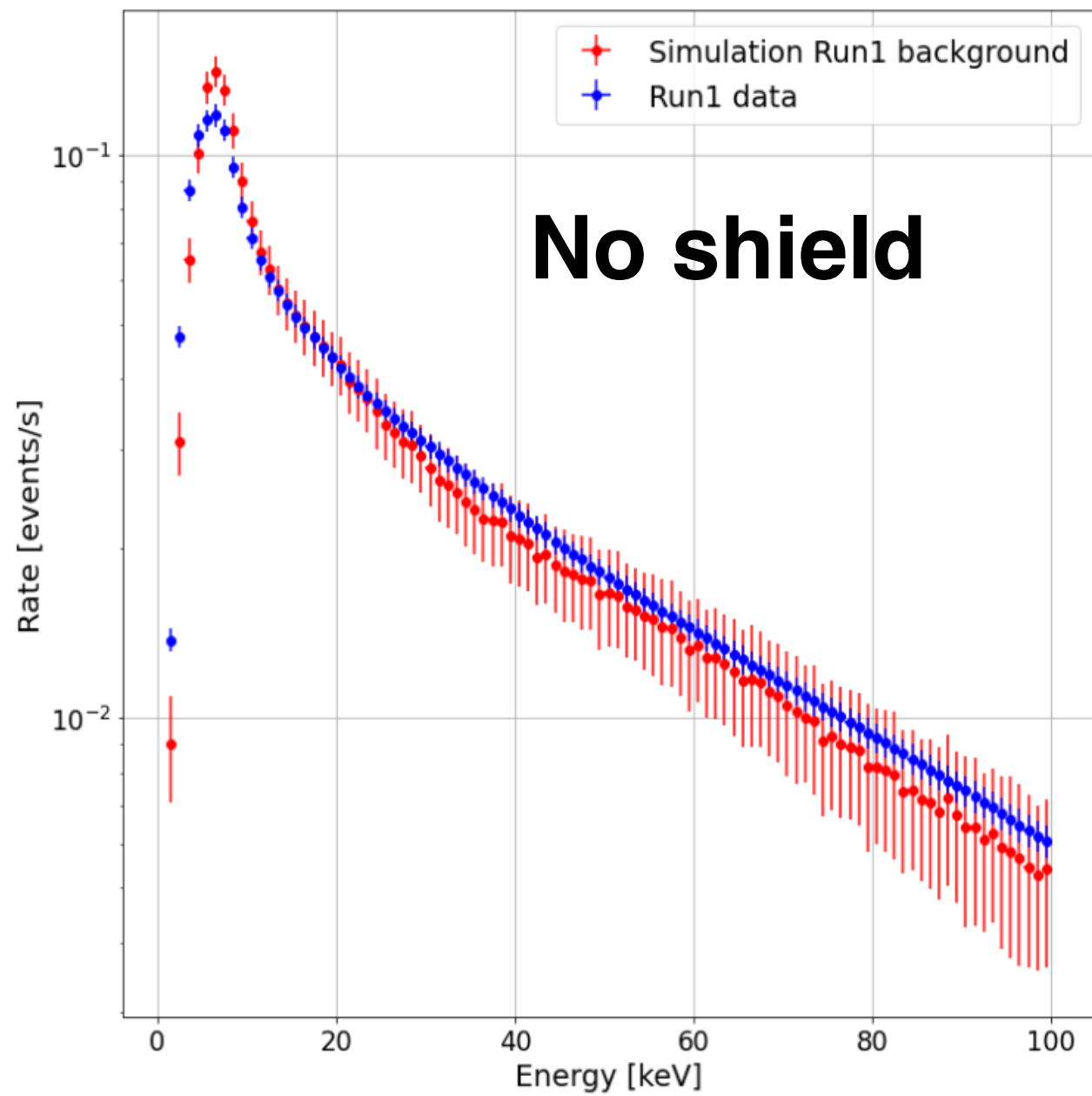
**WP2:2.1 The data of background is coherently and continuously reconstructed**



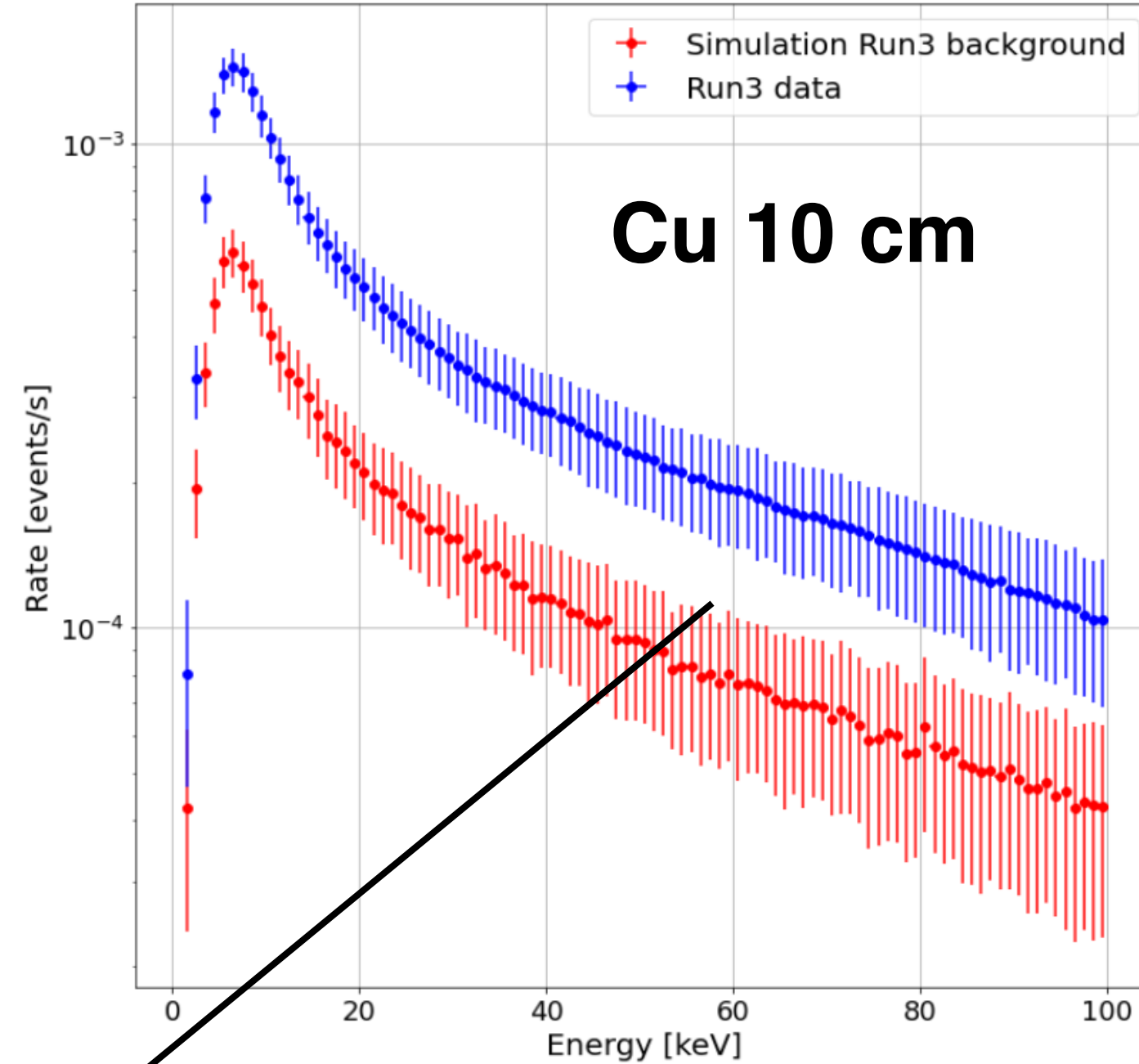
# WP2: WHAT WE LEARNT II: SIMULATION + ANALYSIS WORKS

- The analysis and study of the data-MC comparison showed extremely good results

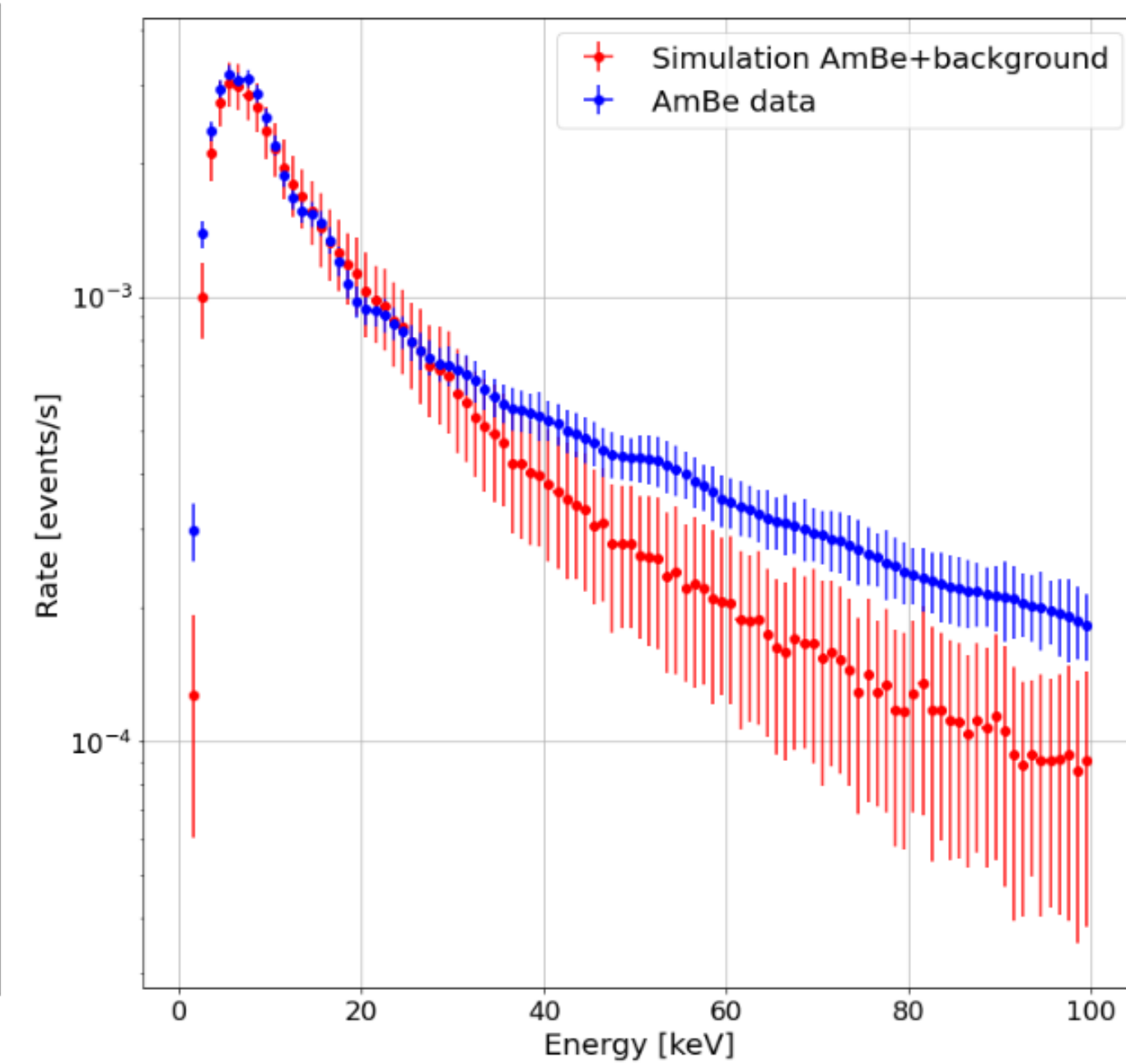
Run1



Run3

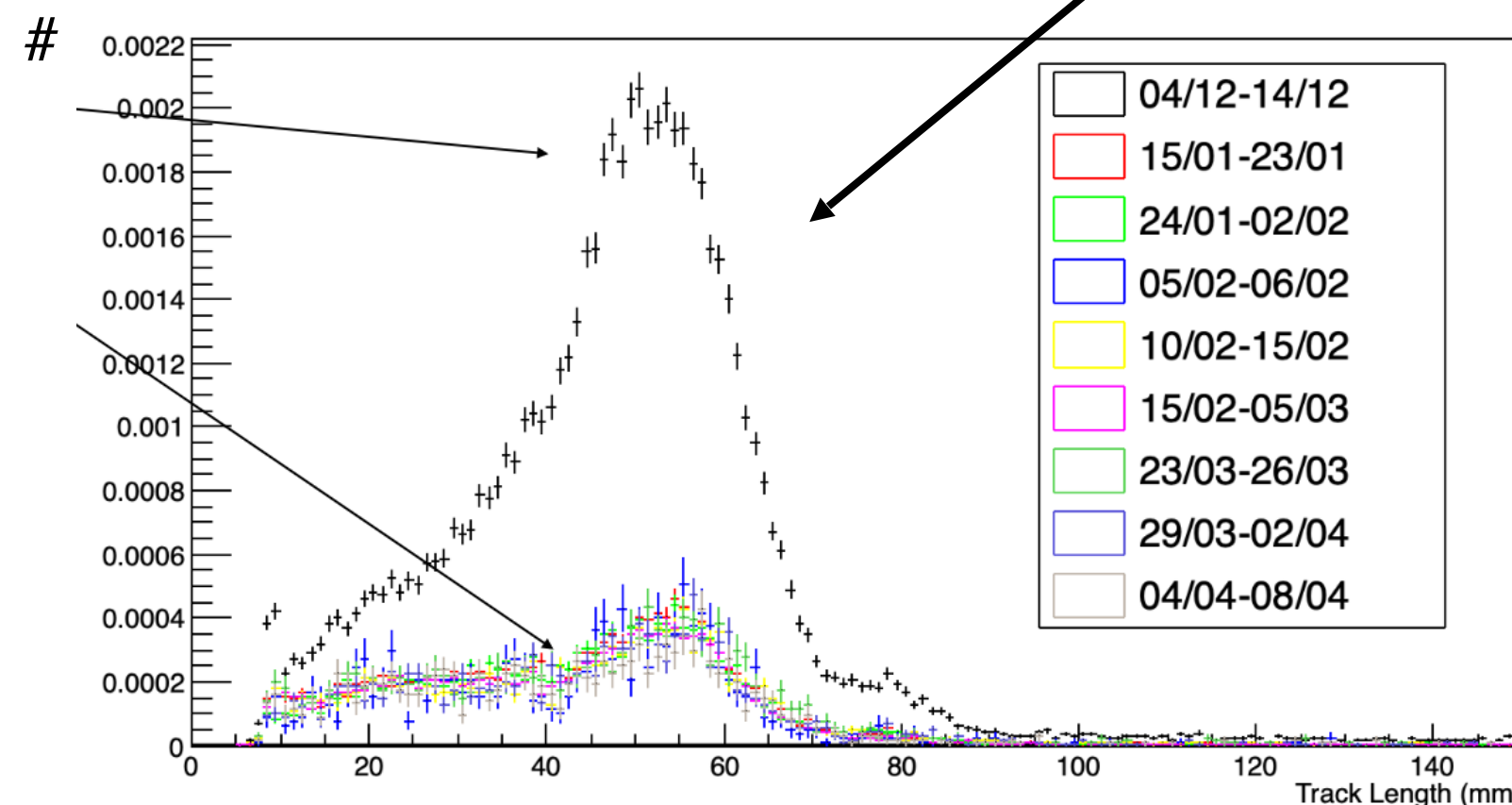


AmBe



Run4 undergoing

AmBe simulation excellently matches data when AmBe contribution dominates



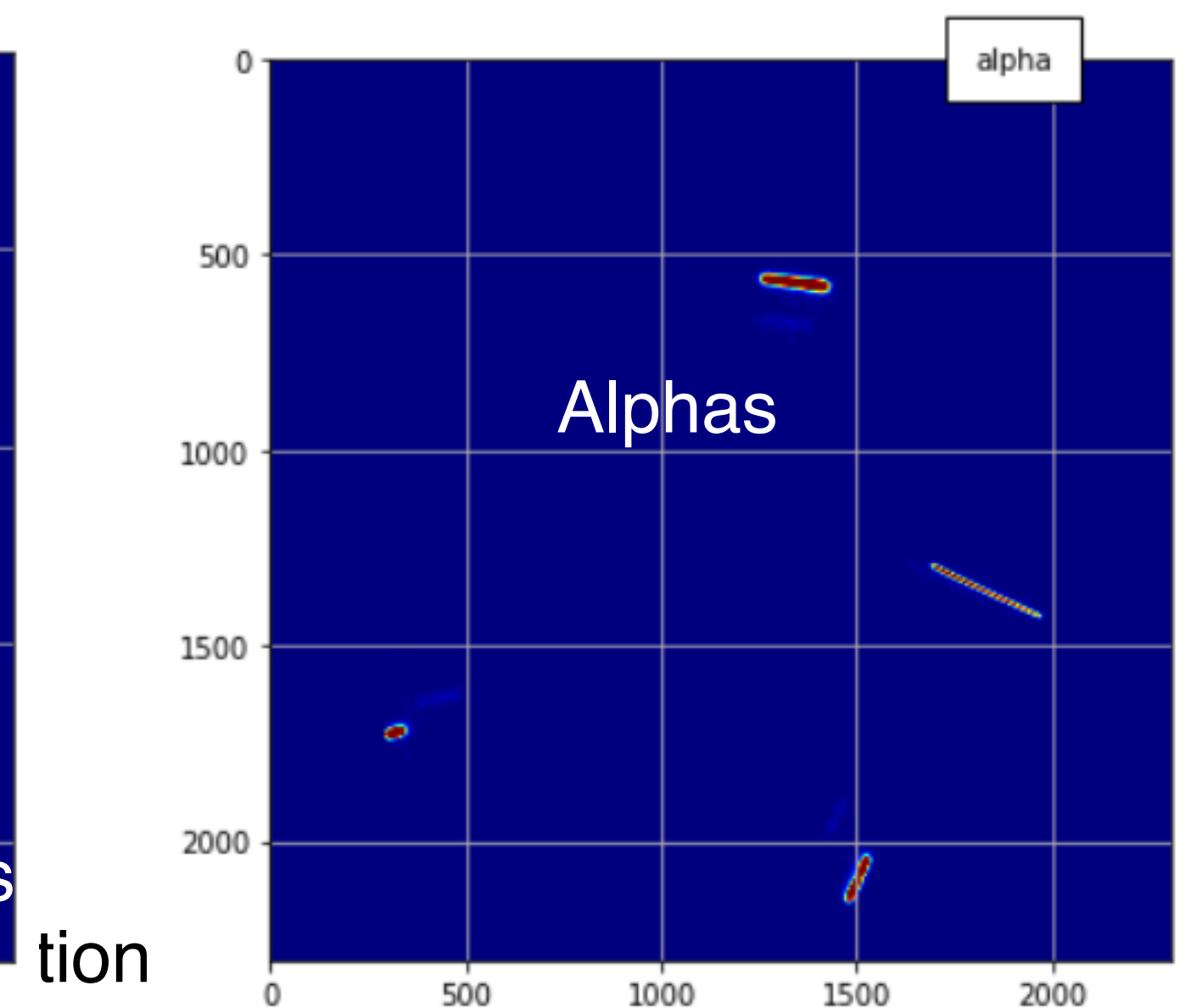
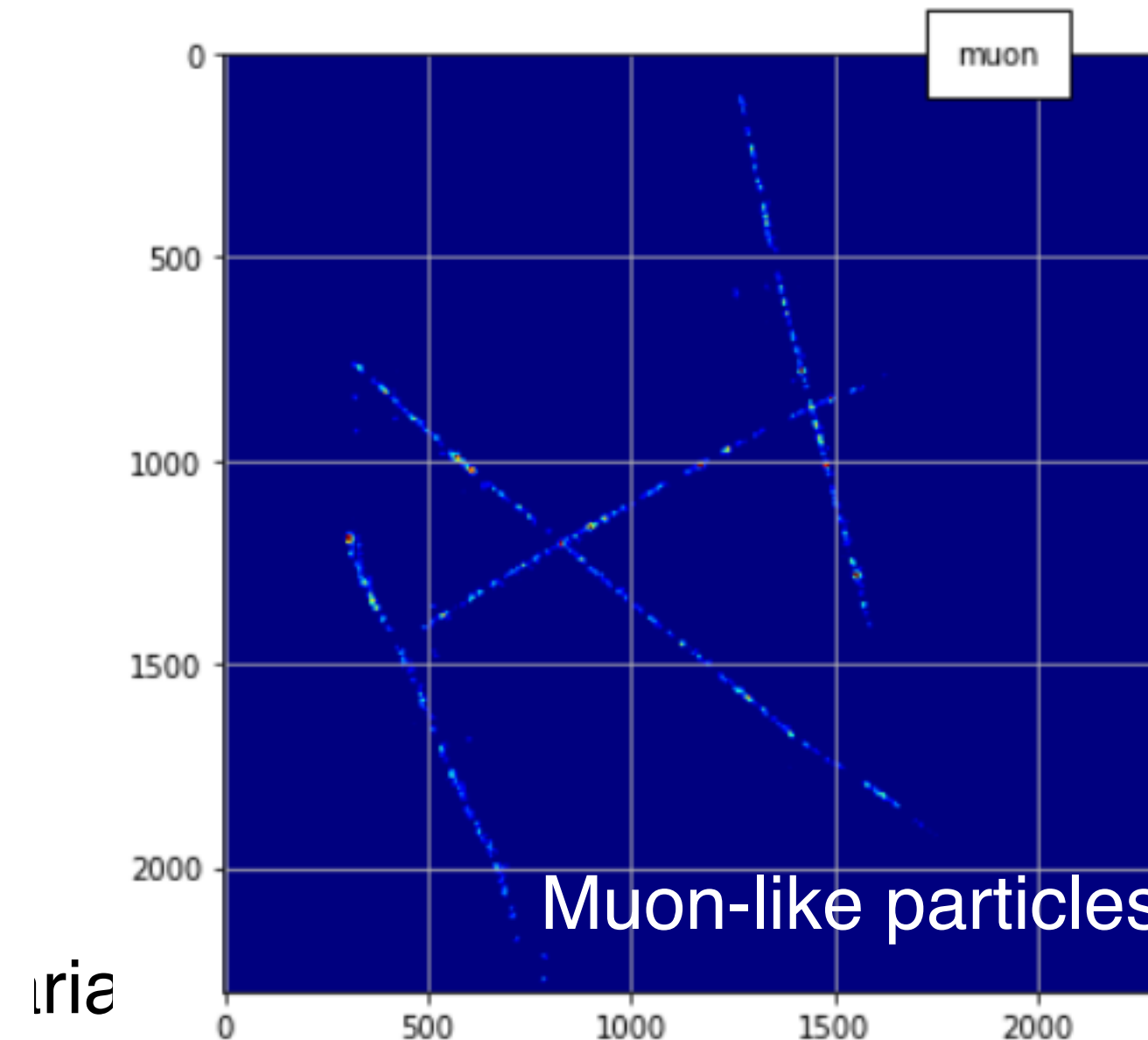
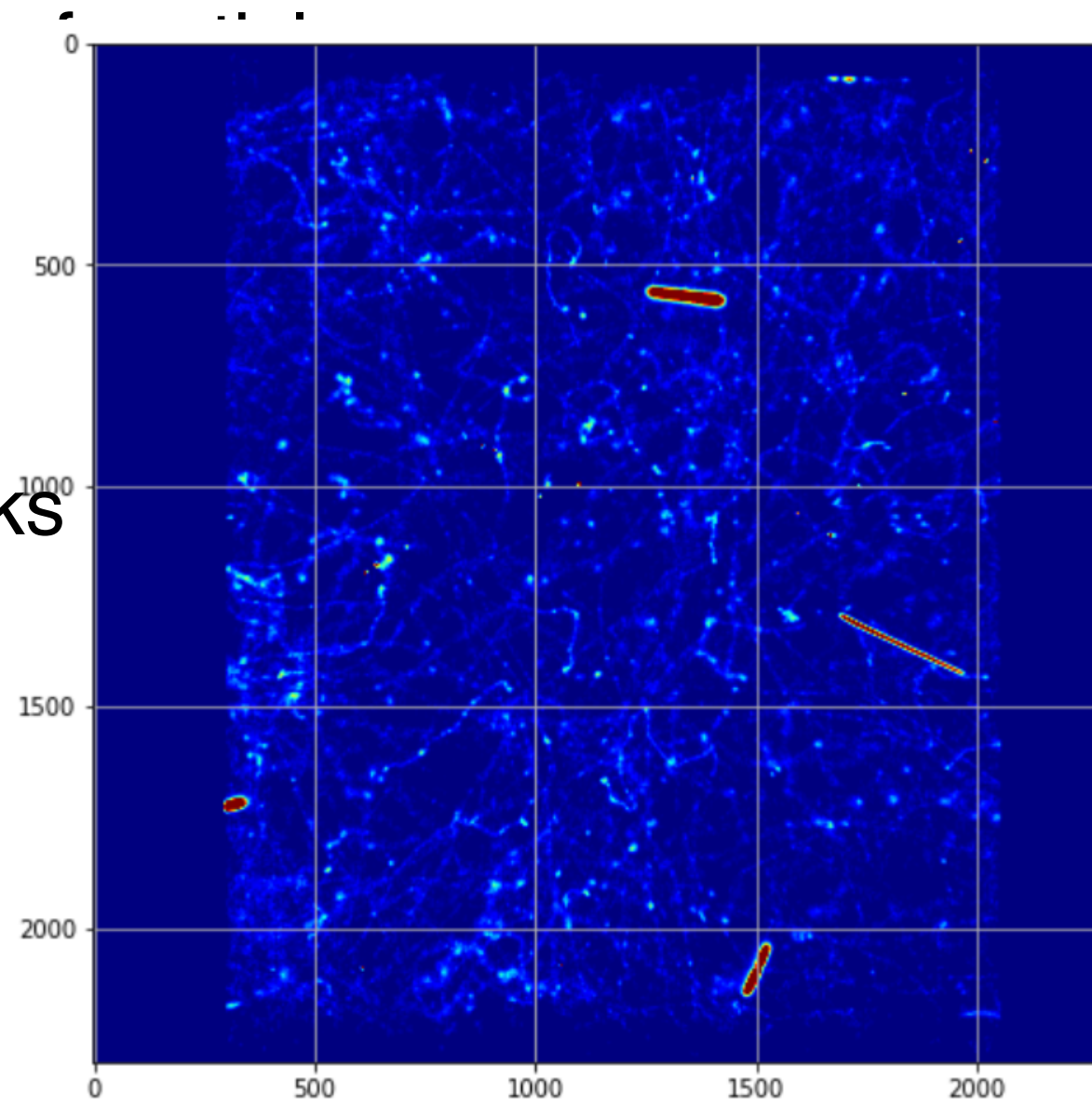
Contamination found (Rn suspects under analysis)

**WP3:3.1 MC can be considered validated by the simulation and the analysis comparison (see WP3 section)**

# WP2: WHAT WE ARE LEARNING I: PARTICLE DISCRIMINATION

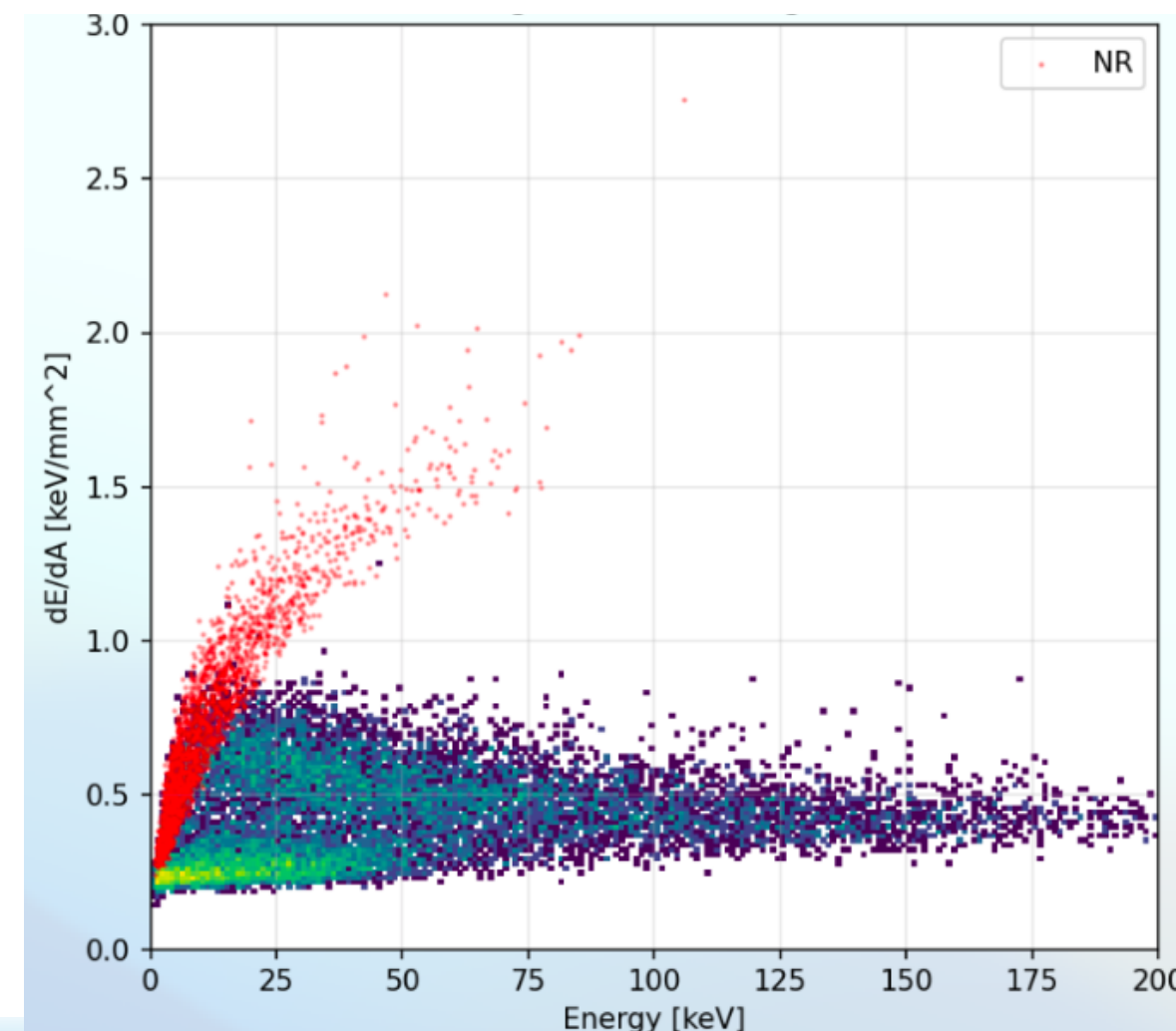
- Large statistics and low occupancy provided by LIME, simple variables of clusters (density, length..) can be used to discriminate wide types

All reconstructed tracks  
in 400 images



- Machine Learning techniques on samples to get NR-ER discrimination

Trained only on  
simulated pool of data



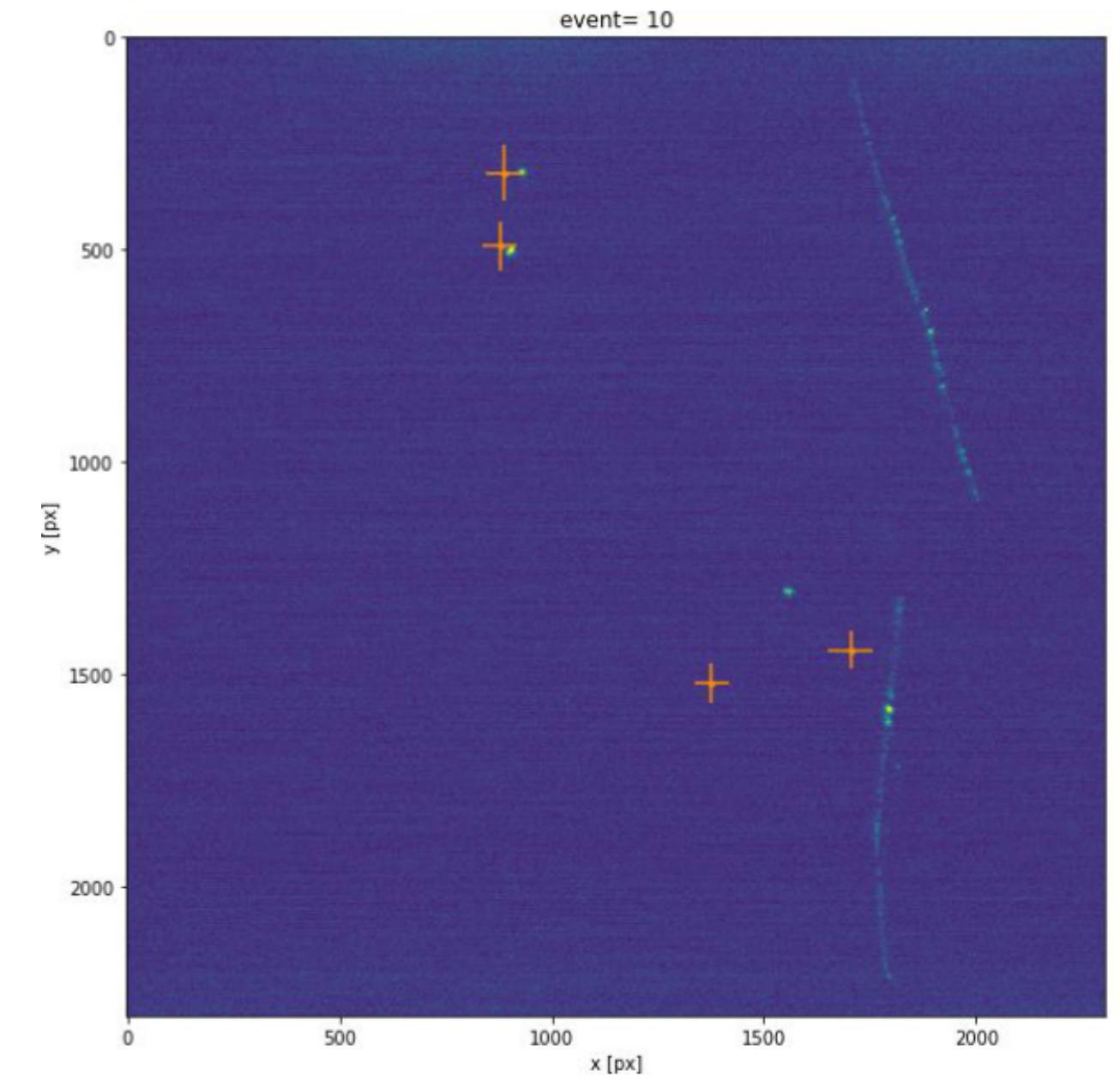
Parameters and ML  
structure selection on  
going

**WP2:2.1 Towards ER and NR  
discrimination**

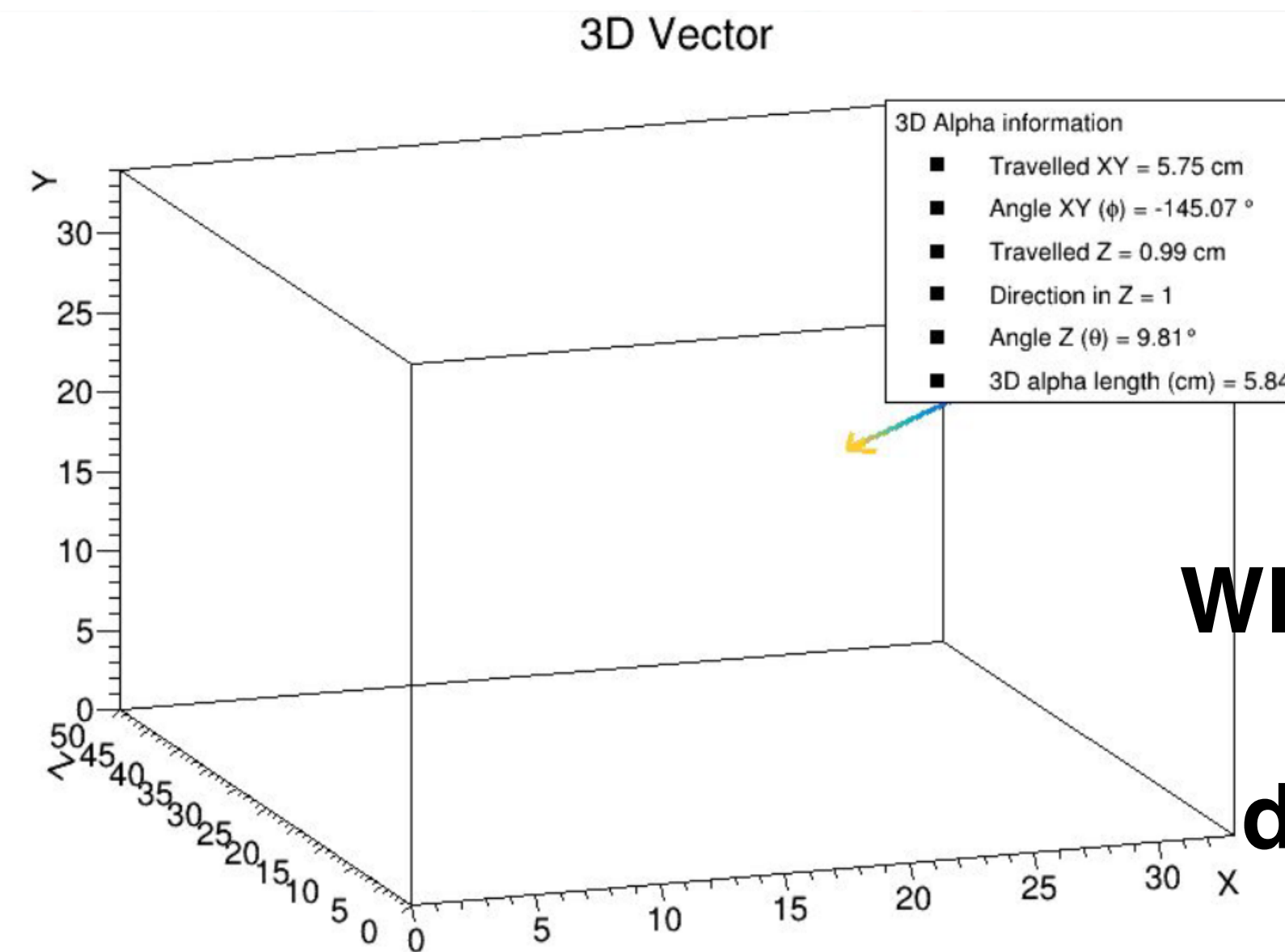
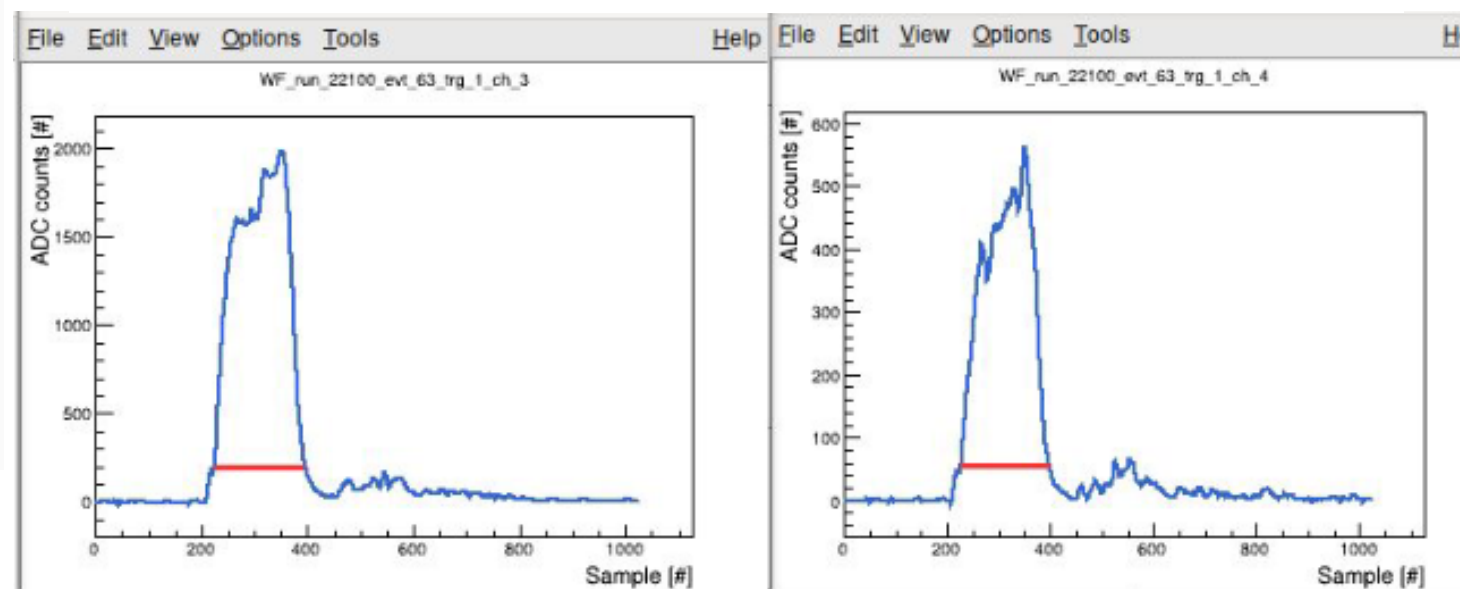
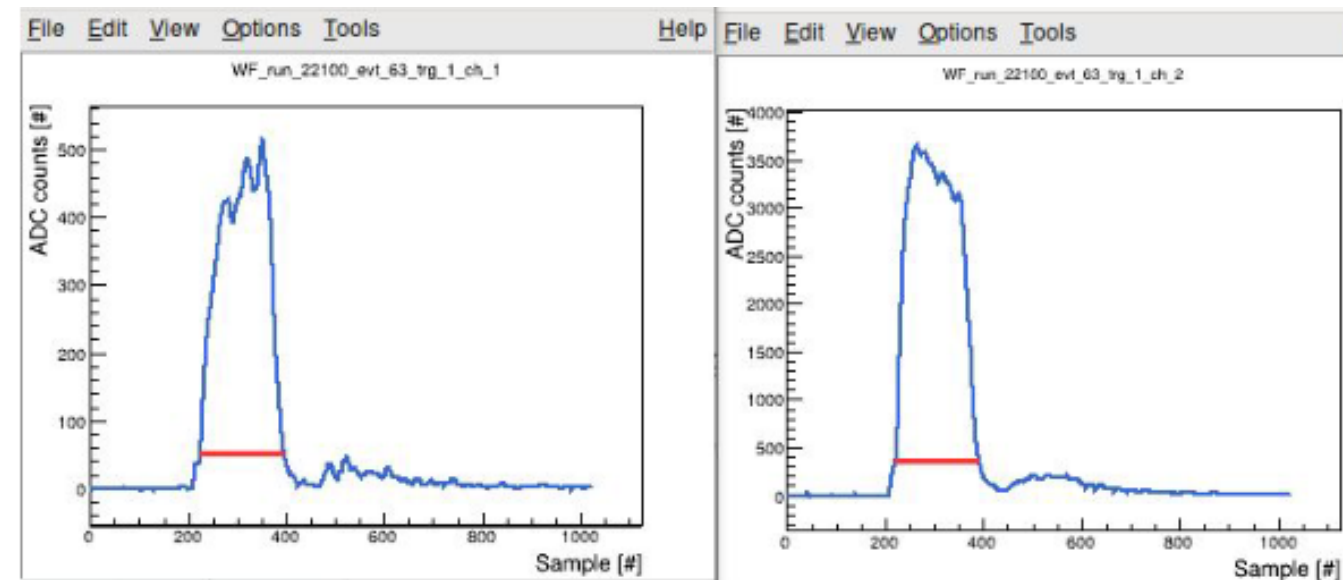
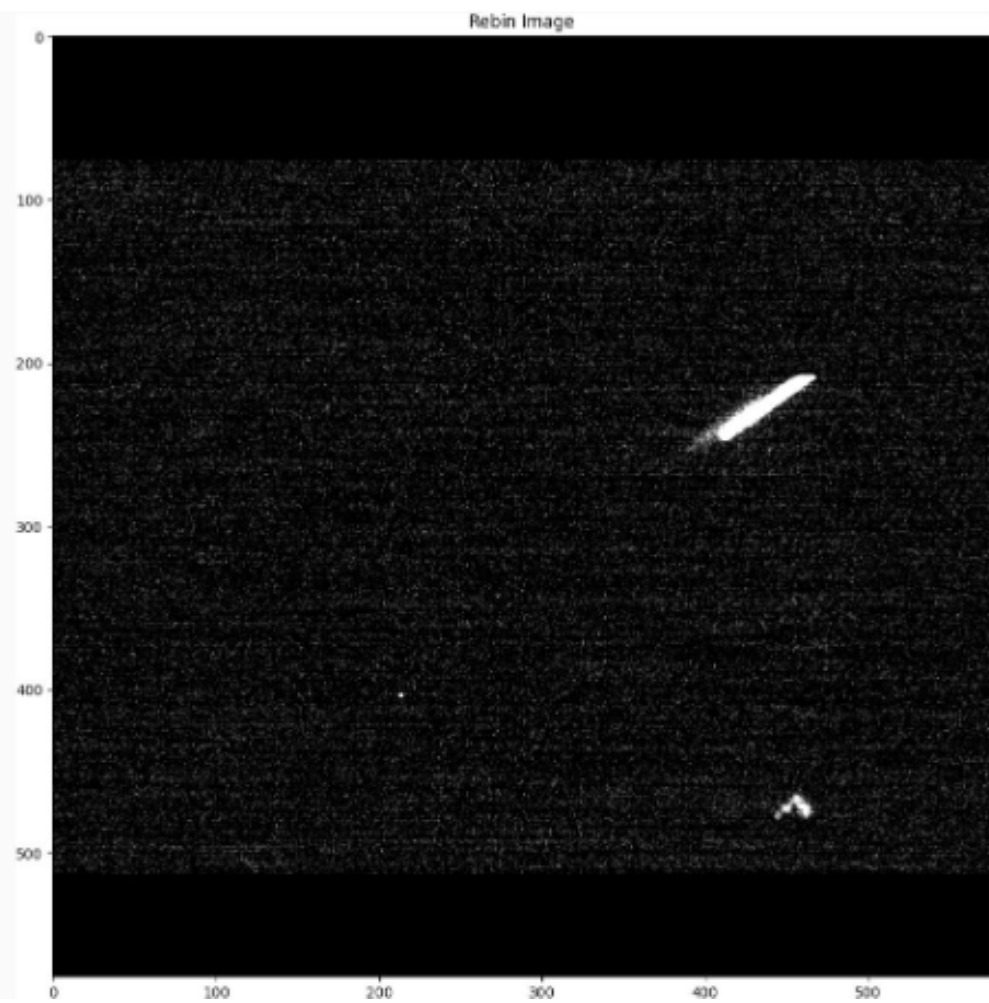
# WP2: WHAT WE ARE LEARNING II: 3D RECONSTRUCTION

- Bayesian fit technique allows to link PMT waveforms to camera cluster O(cm) precision

Crosses are positions x-y positions estimated by PMT



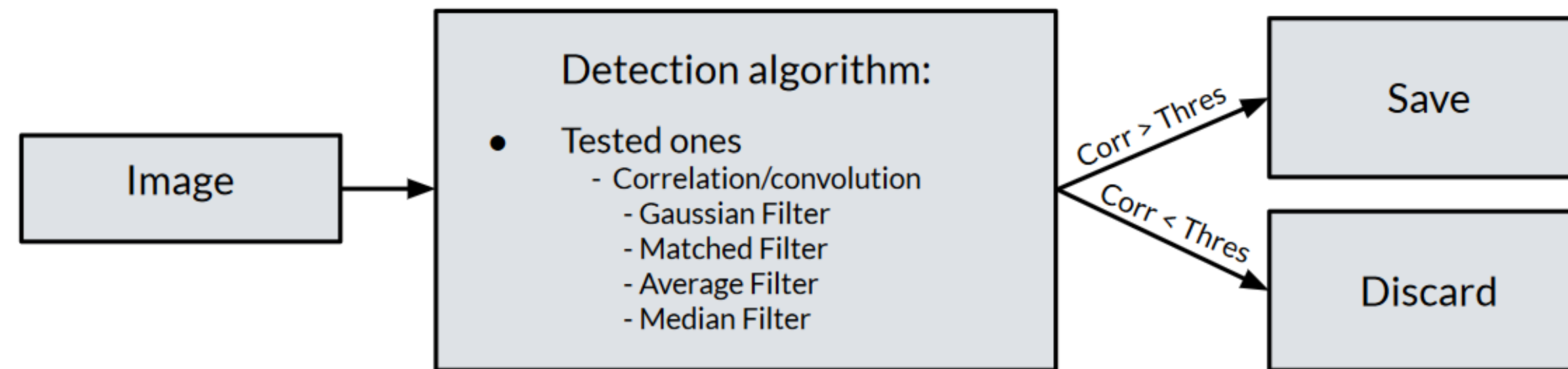
- The topology of camera and PMT waveforms can be joined to reconstruct 3D orientation of tracks (under test on data alpha tracks)



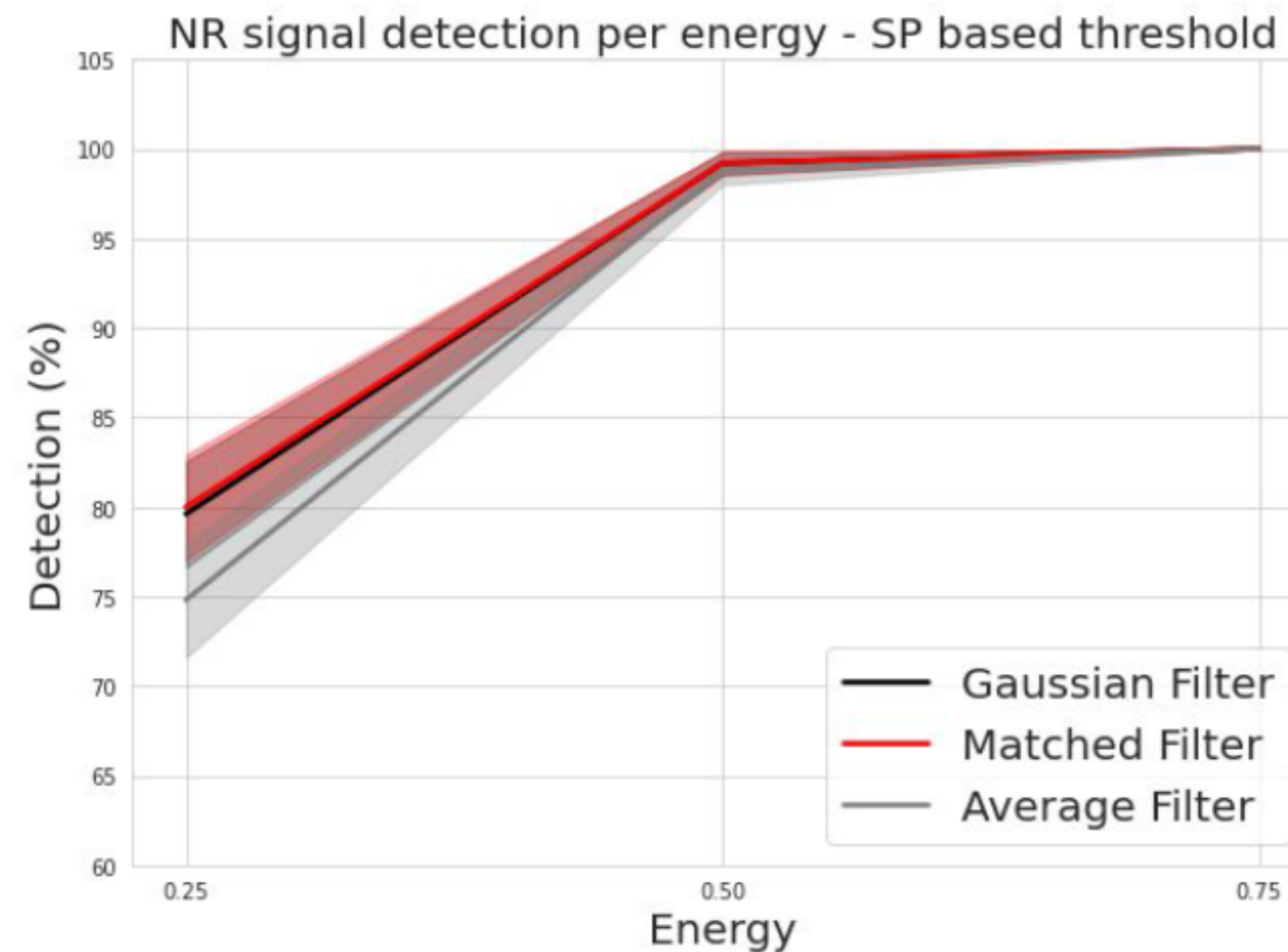
**WP2:2.1 Towards ER and NR discrimination**

# WP2 LOOKING FORWARD: IMAGE AND SIGNAL SELECTION

- Machine learning techniques are under study on simulated data to improve image selection (when an image has signal) and which pixels contain relevant information



Above 80% efficiency in selecting signal images with  $E=0.25 \text{ keV}_{ee}$



**WP2:2.2 Towards Multicamera analysis**

# WP3: Detector simulation



Milestone M3.1 Dec 2023: **validation of the PHASE\_0 results**

**Software** able to **reproduce detector response** and main **background components**. Still under **evaluation** the contribution of **Radon** in order to properly quantify it;

Milestone M4.1 Dec 2024: **Montecarlo for PHASE\_1**

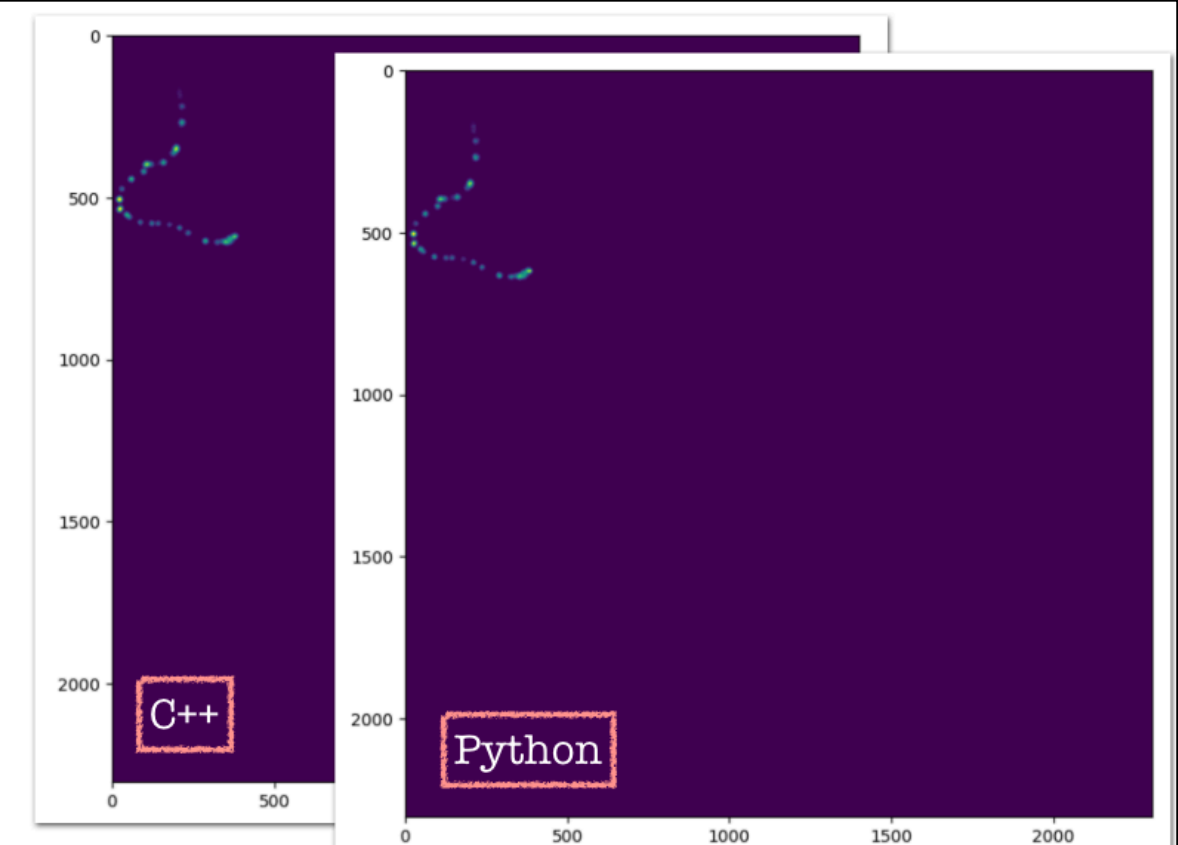
**Simulation** and **digitisation** underwent several optimisation to **speed them up by a factor 10**;

the full simulation of radioactivity background in the apparatus is about 5 times faster

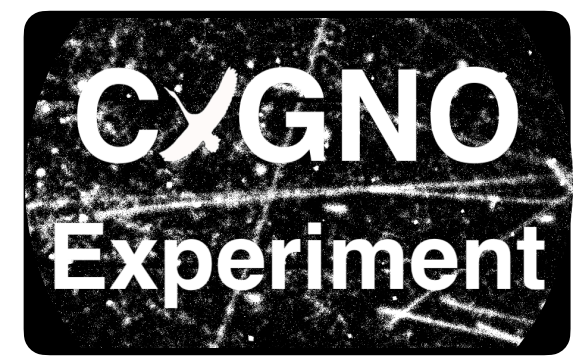
Montecarlo

- Total time to digitize 9 tracks:
  - ➔ Traditional voxels, Python: 178 s
  - ➔ Traditional voxels, C++: 25 s
  - ➔ New map algorithm on long tracks, C++: 19 s

Digitisation



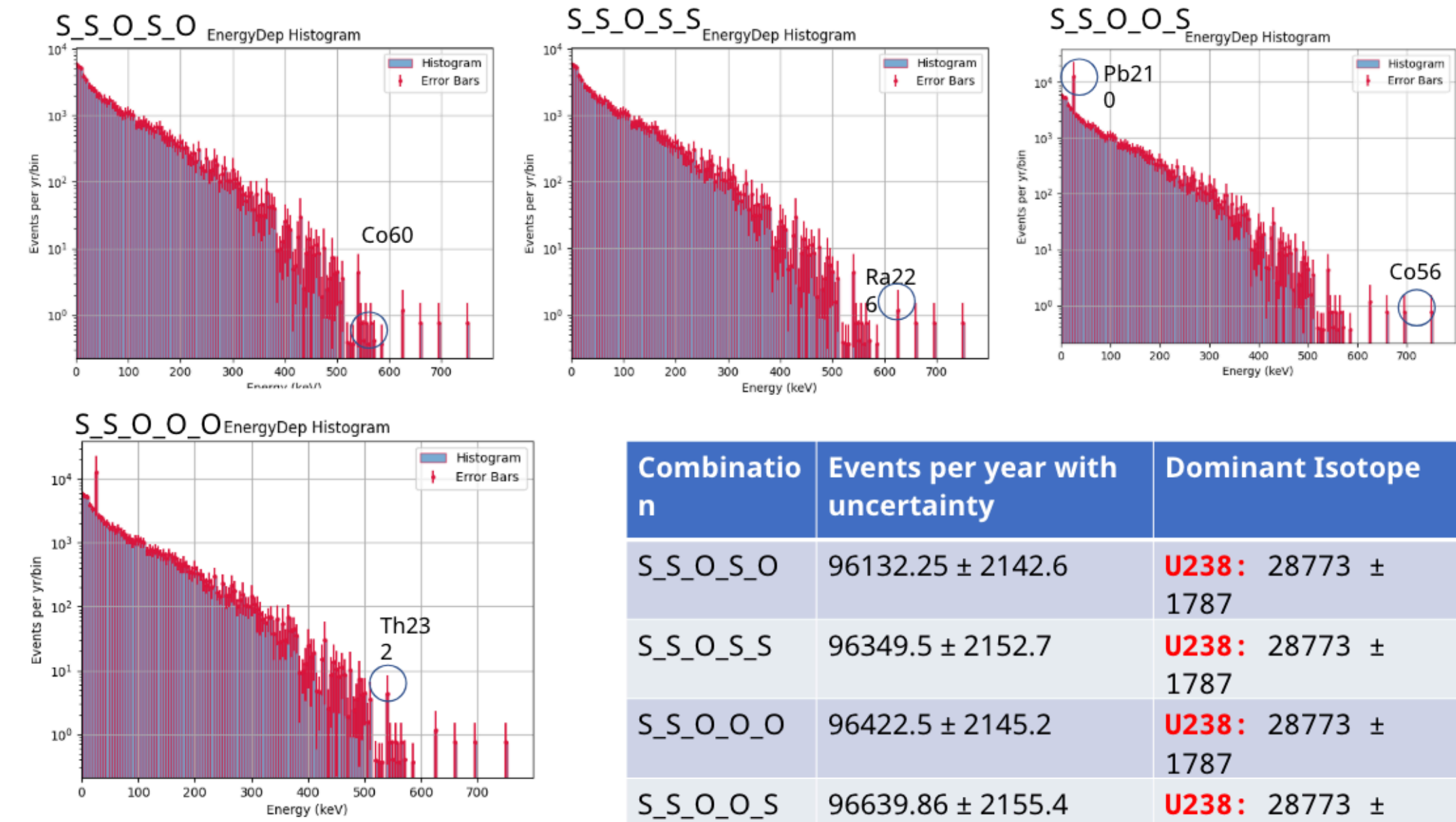
# WP3: Detector simulation



Milestone M4.1 Dec 2024: **Montecarlo for PHASE\_1**

A first **estimation** of **background** in **CYGNO04** was done with preliminary designs in the past years;

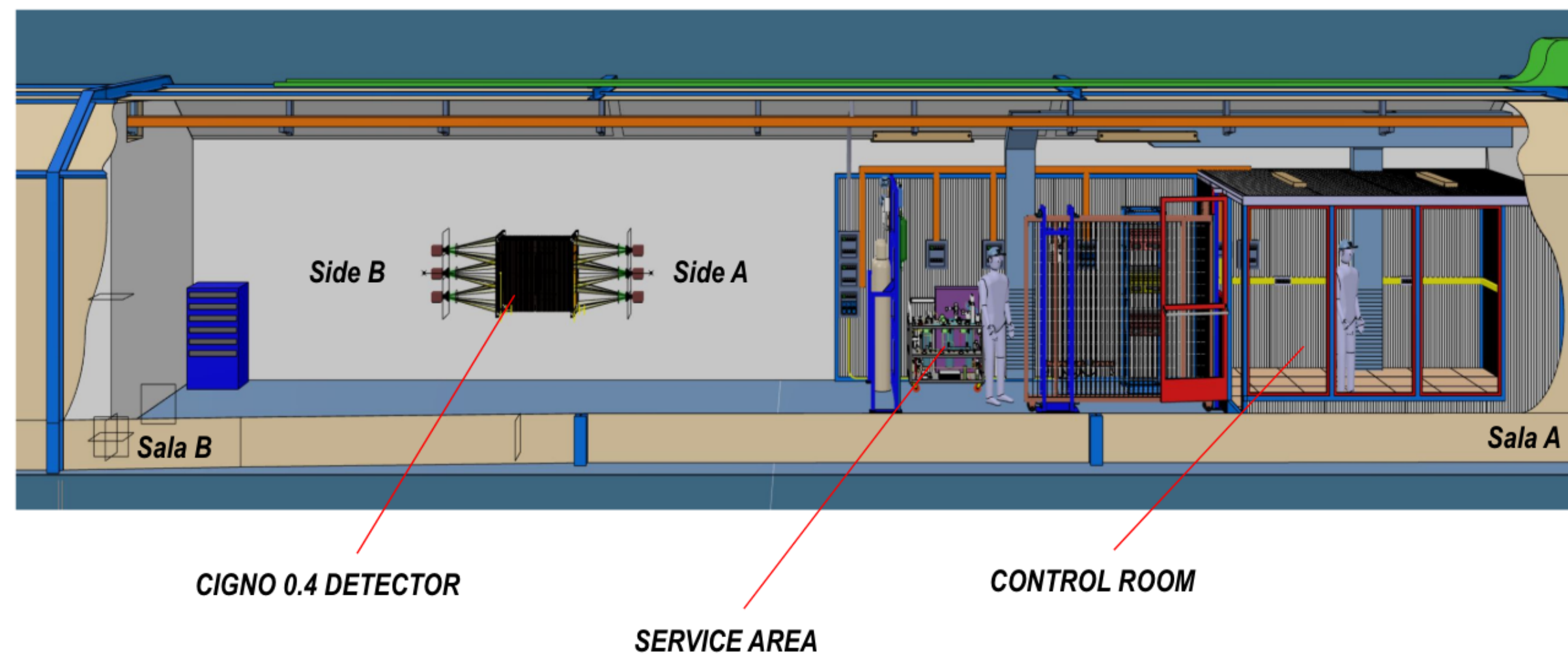
- **optimised** detector **copper** shielding configuration;
- the **contribution** of **external background**, **copper** shielding already **fully simulated**;
- as soon as **CYGNO04 design is frozen**, the detector CAD will be **imported in GEANT4** and the contribution of each part will be **evaluated**.
- One **month** of computing time should be enough;
- new C++ code will allow to digitise also alphas and high energy releases and thus provide info about the effect of **radon contamination** in the sensitive volume;



# WP4: Detector Design and Construction

## GENERAL SETUP SALA "F" - CIGNO 0.4 DETECTOR

- POSIZIONAMENTO DETECTOR
- GESTIONE SPAZI
- IMPIANTISTICA
- ETC.



## Infrastructure installation (D4.1)

- Final **designs** produced in **November 23**
- (Very) long **iteration** between GSSI (commissioner of works) and LNGS lead to an **official agreement in March 24**;
- Final designs translated in **executive designs in the meanwhile** and tender expected to be **issues in the next weeks**;

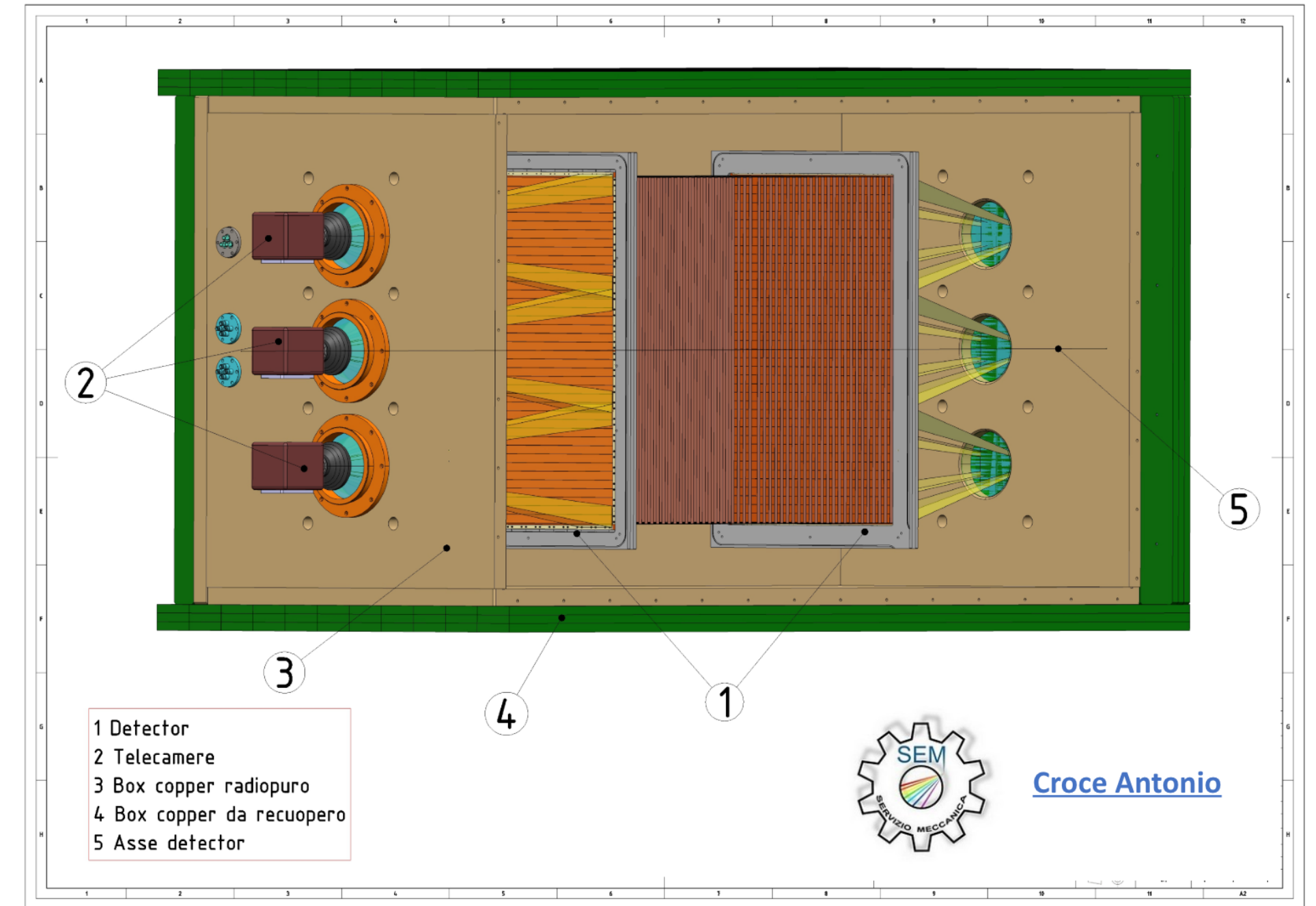
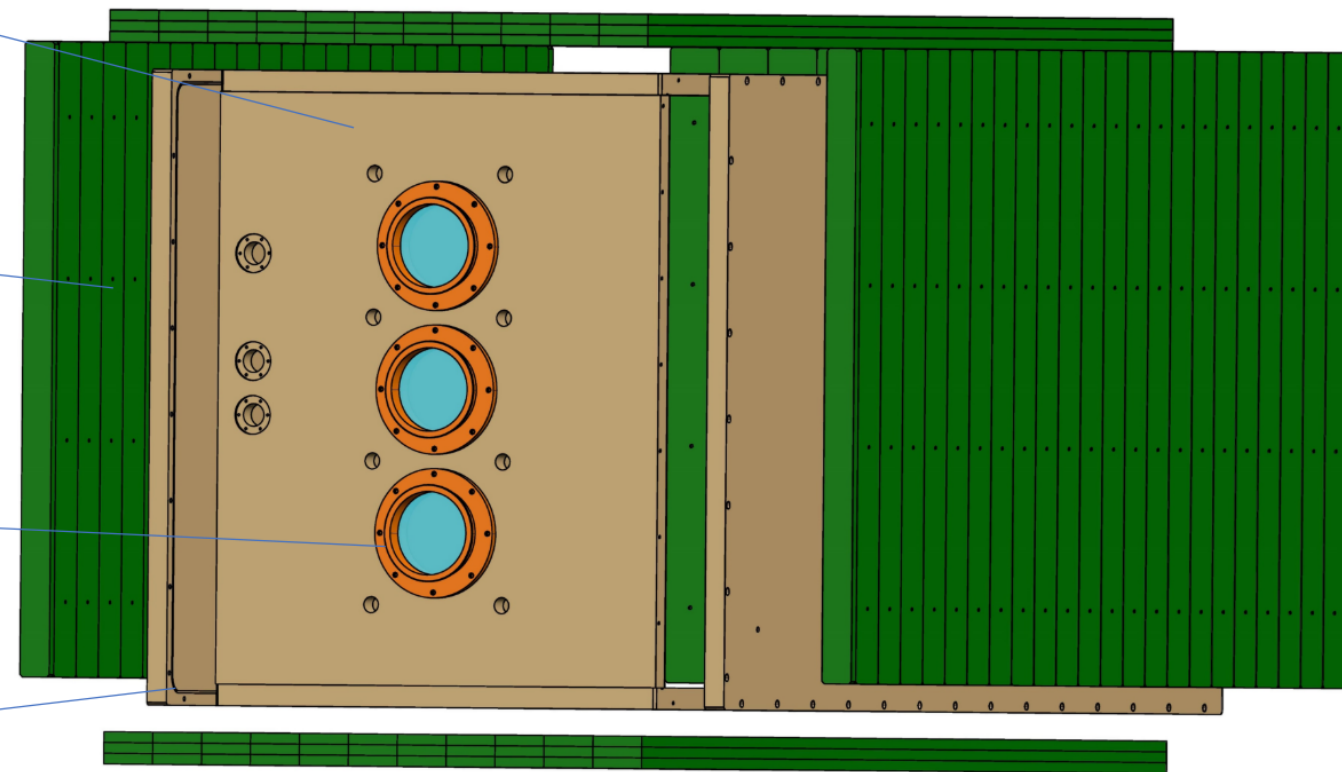
Material procurement and preparation by the **company in July**;

**Works** are then expected to **start after the summer** with a duration of **1-2 months**;

**Hall-F** is then expected to be **ready by the end of 2024**;

# WP4: Detector Design and Construction

- Box clean Cu (2260x900x1100)
- Box of Cu refurbished (OPERA).
- CAMERAs pass through
- O-Ring Cu for tightness



## Detector Design (M4.2)

- Based on the optimisation of copper shielding scheme, the demonstrator designs are being developed: **4 tons of radio-pure** copper for the **internal** layer and **7 tons for the external one**;
- Feed through and optical windows still under study;
- **Cathode** and **field cage almost finalised** (Giorgio and Alex slides);
- Internal **PMMA gas vessel still to be finalised**;
- **Final layout** of the detector foreseen **after the summer** (October 24);

Item	Cost (k€)
4 Ton of radiopure Copper	120
Copper precision machining	10
7 Ton of "OPERA" Copper refurbishing	30
High Voltage Feed Through	10
Optical windows	10
Total	180



## DAQ

- Finalise **automatic procedure** to handle **calibration** runs
- Develop a **custom module** to handle **timing**, **trigger**, and **busy** signals, and to monitor rates and deadtime. **First version** used **successfully** in **LIME**;
- Acquiring and testing USB3 PCIe cards to **readout 6 cameras** and **additional digitizers**
- Working on a new **DAQ** software to **readout** the cameras in **continuum mode**. This should **reduce** by a **factor 10 the dead time** of the camera readout;

## Gas system

- From LIME data we evaluated **an efficiency larger than 90%** of the recirculation system **in filtering radon from gas**;
- From this number, the **activity** expected to be produced by **external radon** entering through a **gas leak to be 1300 ev/y/sccm** in **CYGNO04**;

## Material scrutiny

A new PhD student is working with **Special Technics Services** (STS) for the data analysis to **speed up** the test **procedure**;

In the **past** years, **several materials** were **scrutinised**: LIME-copper, LIME-PMMA, different cameras, sensors, PMT, lenses;

**Recently** we tested (we are testing): different **Field Cages foils** and **ultra-clean GEM**;

As soon as CYGNO04 design is frozen, we'll contact companies for the final purchase and for **material samples** for radioactivity measurements;

**Cleaning** the **handling** procedures to be used are discussed with **STS team** and colleagues from **other experiments**;

## Large area GEM

- The 50x80 cm<sup>2</sup> GEM were bought at CERN and underwent an **high voltage validation at LNF (M6.1)**;
- All of them resulted to be **good**;
- A similar **GEM**, is going to be tested by **STS for the radioactivity measurements (M6.2)**;

## Field cage and Cathode (D6.2)

- Different **field cage structures** were tested at **LNF** on the **GIN prototype** (see Giorgio's slides);
- **One** of them was already **tested** by TST and **another** is **under test**;

## Low radioactive optics (D6.3)

- The **mechanical design** and **tolerance analysis** is **completed**;
- By **July** we will have the **final report** and **samples of semi-finished material** for **radioactivity** test

# WP7: Management

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Since **July 2023**, the **Steering Committee** composed by the leaders of the different Working Packages and Local Responsible started to operate with the **goal of overseeing to the smooth progress in the work** of the **CYGNO collaboration** through its goals;

In April, **Giovanni Mazzitelli resigned** from his roles of **Technical Coordinator, RAE** and **GLIMOS** because of an **irreconcilable** difference of opinion about the project management

Since April 2024, **Fabrizio Petrucci** (RomaTRE University) is the new **Project Coordinator** of the CYGNO

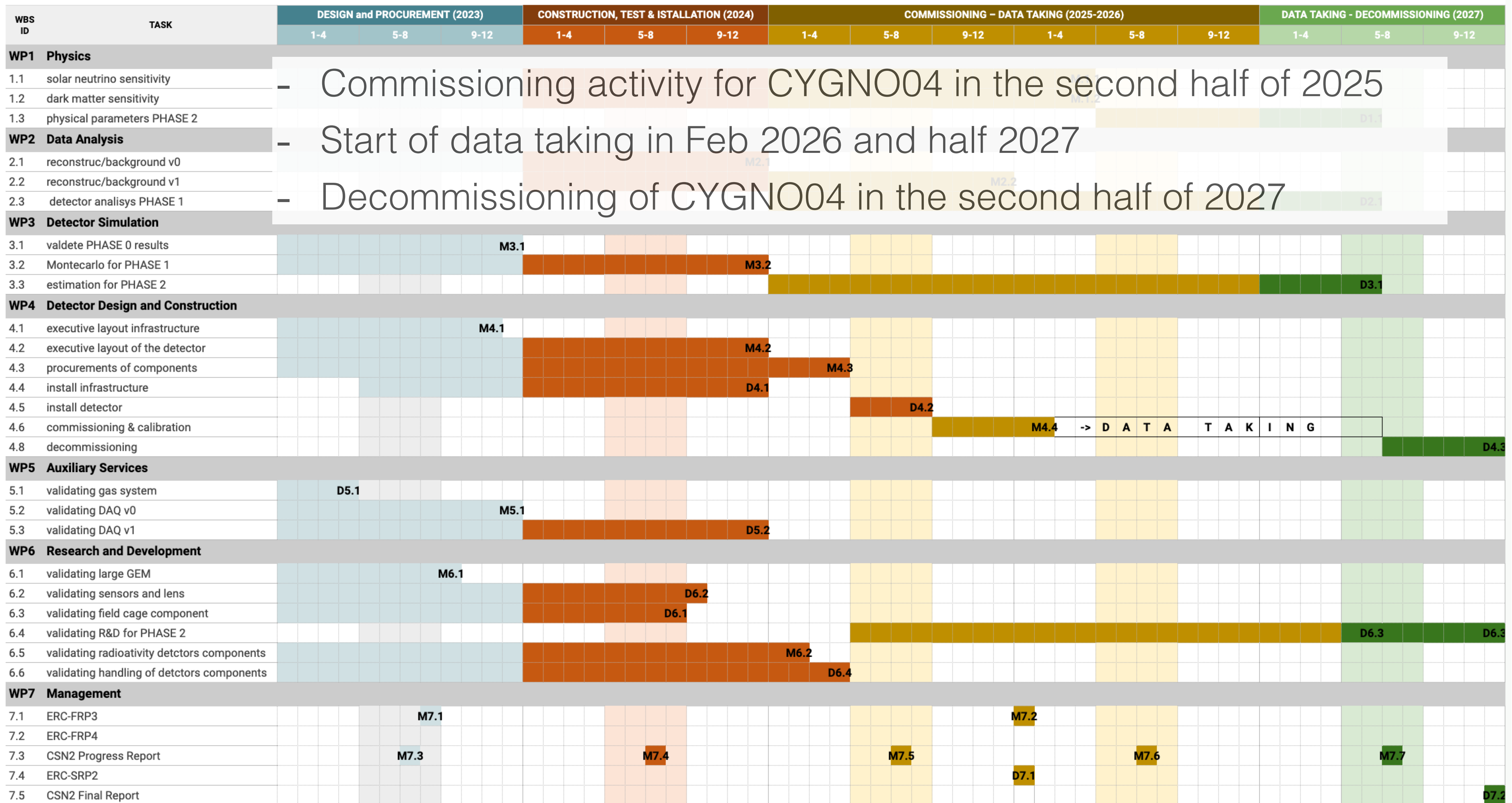
With this role he is **coordinating** the **steering committee** operation, working in close contact with the SPs, and the coordinators of the WPs, acting as an **interface** to ensure a **smooth communication** among the different coordinators;

A separate role for a **SC Coordinator** can be **foreseen** in the future;

Andrea Messina is the new **coordinator** of the **Publication** Committee;

D. Pinci is the **resource manager**;

# Tentative updated CYGNO04 GANNT



- Commissioning activity for CYGNO04 in the second half of 2025

- Start of data taking in Feb 2026 and half 2027

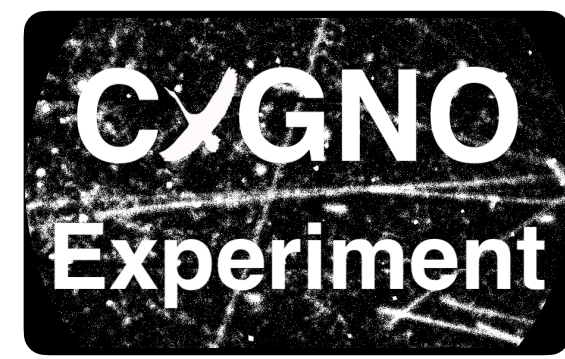
- Decommissioning of CYGNO04 in the second half of 2027

# Richieste 2025



Task	Section	Item	Cost [k€]
Travels	LNF	shifts (TDR-M2.1/M3.1)	3
		meeting di analisi e di collaborazione	6
		installazione infrastruttura e detector CYGNO04 e coordinamento ai LNGS. TDR-D4.1/D4.2 e commissioning (2 persone, 5 volte al mese)	20
	RM1	shifts (TDR-M2.1/M3.1)	4
		CYGNO04 commissioning (2 persone, 2 volte al mese)	5
		meeting di analisi e di collaborazione	6
	RM3	CYGNO04 commissioning (1 persona, 2 volte al mese)	3
		meeting di analisi e di collaborazione	4
	LNGS	meeting analisi e meeting di collaborazione	5
			<b>Tot</b>
Consumo	LNF	manutenzione apparati ai LNF/LNGS (sistema di gas, sensori ausiliari, tubi gas, connettori, ecc)	5
		consumo necessario per l'assemblaggio di CYGNO-04 ai LNF (TDR-D4.1/D4.2)	15
	RM1	studio e realizzazione ottica a bassa radioattività (TDR-D6.2)	30
		materiale per realizzazione e test sistema purificazione radon (TDR-D5.1)	5
			<b>Tot</b>
Altri Consumi	LNGS	acquisto gas per test overground e underground (TDR-M2.1/M3.1)	5
		gas recovery per commissioning CYGNO04	10
		attività manutenzione e facchinaggio CYGNO04 (TDR-M2.1/M3.1)	5
	LNF	acquisto gas per test e commissioning CYGNO04	5
			<b>Tot</b>
		<b>Gran-Tot</b>	<b>136</b>

# Updated CYGNO04 Costs for CSN2



Based on the experience gained with the on-going R&D and the construction, commissioning and running of LIME, we expect:

- 10-20 k€/year of consumable for detector maintenance or construction;
- 50 k€/year of R&D before CYGNO-04 installation and 20/30 k€/year for the last R&Ds toward PHASE 2;
- 30 k€/year of travels for the technical operation (installation, commissioning and decommissioning);
- 20 k€/year of gas bottles for CYGNO-04;
- 20 k€/year of gas recovery for CYGNO-04;
- 20 k€/year for shifts and commissioning;

INFN - CSN2	2025	2026	2027
Gas Bottles	10	20	10
Gas Recovery	10	20	10
Consumables	30	10	20
R&D	30	20	0
<b>Tot w/o Travels (k€)</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>40</b>
Travels - Shift	28	20	10
Travels - Installation	28	10	30
<b>Tot Travels (k€)</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Tot (k€)</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>80</b>

Summed to the **185 k€ funded** in the past two years would provide **501 k€** in total for **5 years 2023-2027**

# Economic sustainability



Currently, from the ERC fundings, to cover the core costs of CYGNO04, there are **119 k€** available at **INFN** and **490 k€ at GSSI** for a **total of 609 k€**

Part of the equipment needed for CYGNO04 was already bought and is currently being used and validated on LIME:

- high voltage system;
- gas system;
- DAQ and trigger;

Item	Cost (k€)
Gas Vessel	35
Readout: GEM. cameras, PMT	146
Cathode	17
Field Cage	13
Calibration	10
Copper Shielding	180
Water Shielding	85
Polietilene Base	20
DAQ	11
Electric Services	20
Cooling and Conditioning	25
Safety: fire detection, gas monitors	35
Total	597

According to the latest quotations received, the **other costs** expected for the **construction** of CYGNO04 is of **597 k€**, therefore an expense that can **be fully covered with ERC funds**

The **total value** of **CYGNO04** is of about **910 k€**.



# Summary of CYGNO04 Costs



Year	INITIUM/ERC	CYGNO/INFN
2019	20	54
2020	201	44
2021	71	96
2022	40	96
2023	164	90
2024	528	90
2025	75	136
2026	0	90
2027	0	80
Tot 23-27	767	486
Tot	<b>1099</b>	<b>776</b>

With the projections foreseen

- the total INFN-CSN2 contribution to CYGNO/INITIUM activity in **9 years of operations**, from the R&D phase to the demonstrator decommissioning will be **776 k€** (of these, 255 k€ for travels);
- an average of 86 k€/year;
- the contribution mainly for **material** and **instrumentation** and the realisation of the site and the **demonstrator** from **ERC is 1099 k€**.

# Conclusion

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- 2024 is the year of **transition** from PHASE\_0 to PHASE\_1;
- activities on **LIME** are mostly **ordinary maintenance** of gas bottle and filters and light shifts;
- a lot of effort moved to **data analysis** and **simulation** to extract as more information as possible from the LIME data;
- focused **R&D** on GIN are leading the **final choice** about the detector **field cage** and **cathode**;
- we are converging on the **final designs** for CYGNO04: **shielding** first, then the **gas vessel** and **field cage** and **cathode**;
- by the end of **2024** the **site will be ready** and we plan to start the **commissioning** of **CYGNO04** in **2025**;
- we formally ask to **CSN2** the **approval** of the **financial plan** presented for the **triennium 2025-27**;



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Letter

## Secondary scintillation yield from GEM electron avalanches in He-CF<sub>4</sub> and He-CF<sub>4</sub>-isobutane for CYGNO — Directional Dark Matter search with an optical TPC

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Our paper on the use of hydrogenated has mixtures for the search of light DM was published on Physics Letter B

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WIMP

### ABSTRACT

CYGNO is an international collaboration with the aim of operating a 1 m<sup>3</sup> optical time projection chamber (TPC) for directional Dark Matter (DM) searches and solar neutrino spectroscopy, to be deployed at the Laboratori Nazionali del Gran Sasso (LNGS). A He/CF<sub>4</sub> (60/40) mixture is used, along with a triple Gas Electron Multiplier (GEM) cascade to amplify the ionisation signal. The scintillation produced in the electron avalanches is read out using a scientific complementary metal-oxide-semiconductor (sCMOS) camera. This solution has proven to provide very high sensitivity to interactions in the few keV energy range. The inclusion of a hydrogen-based gas will offer an even lighter target, resulting in a more efficient energy transfer in a DM particle collision, and consequently, a lower detection threshold. Additionally, longer track lengths of light nuclear recoils are easier to detect with a clearer direction. However, the addition of such gas will contribute to quenching the scintillation, jeopardizing the TPC performance. In this work, we demonstrate the feasibility of adding 1% to 5% isobutane to the He/CF<sub>4</sub> (60/40) mixture by measuring the respective absolute scintillation yield output. The overall scintillation produced in the charge avalanches is not drastically suppressed by quenching due to the isobutane addition. The presence of Penning transfer from excited He atoms to isobutane molecules increases the number of electrons in the avalanches, partially compensating for the loss of scintillation due to quenching. For the highest applied GEM voltage, the total number of photons produced in the avalanche per keV deposited in the absorption region presents a decrease of only a factor of about three, from 2.30(20) × 10<sup>4</sup> to 8.2(4) × 10<sup>3</sup>.

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