

# HOLMES

**The Electron Capture Decay of  $^{163}\text{Ho}$  to Measure the Electron Neutrino Mass with sub-eV sensitivity**

ERC-Advanced Grant 2013

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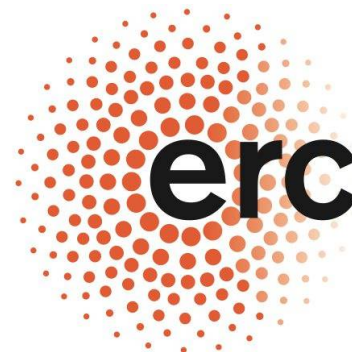
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INFN Sez. Roma, Univ. Lisboa, Miami Univ., NIST, JPL, ...

**Angelo Nucciotti**

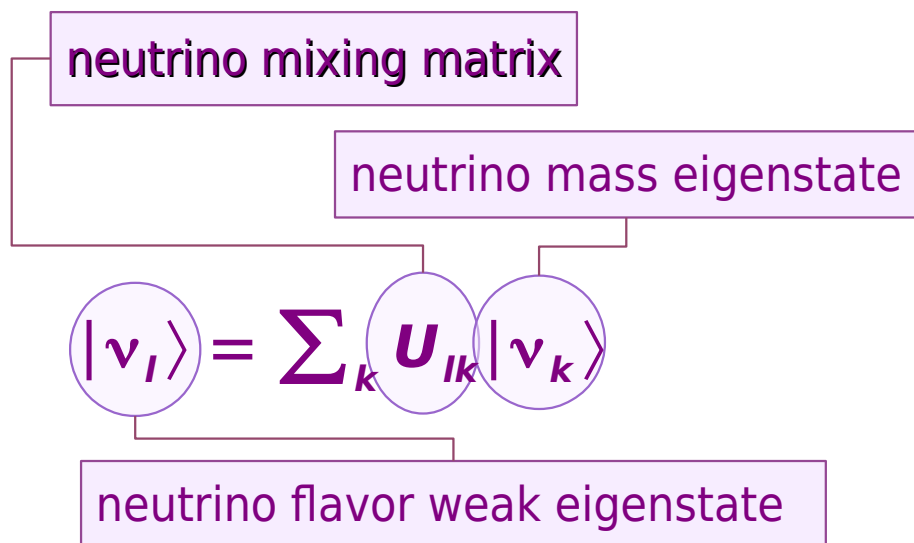
*Università di Milano-Bicocca e INFN - Sezione di Milano-Bicocca*



- Neutrino physics
- Direct neutrino mass measurements
- $^{187}\text{Re}$  calorimetry with thermal detectors
- $^{163}\text{Ho}$  calorimetry with thermal detectors
- **HOLMES** experiment
- Conclusions

# Neutrino properties

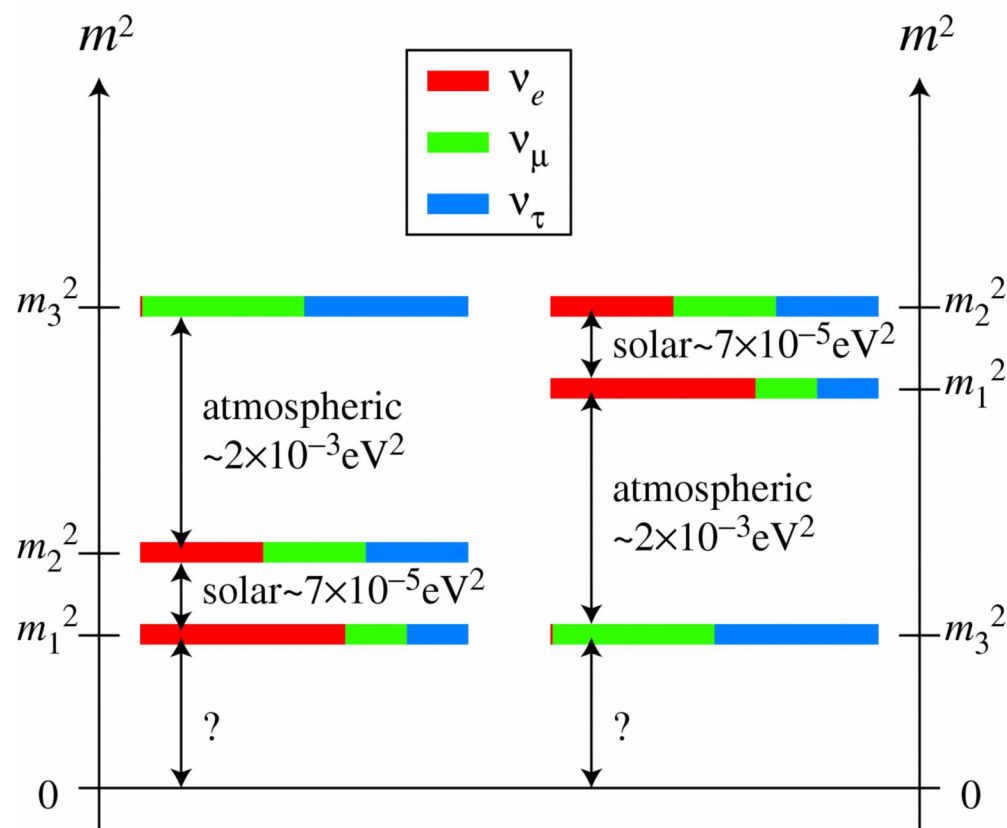
- neutrinos are massive fermions
- there are 3 active neutrino flavors
- neutrino flavor states are mixtures of mass states



→ neutrino oscillation experiments measure

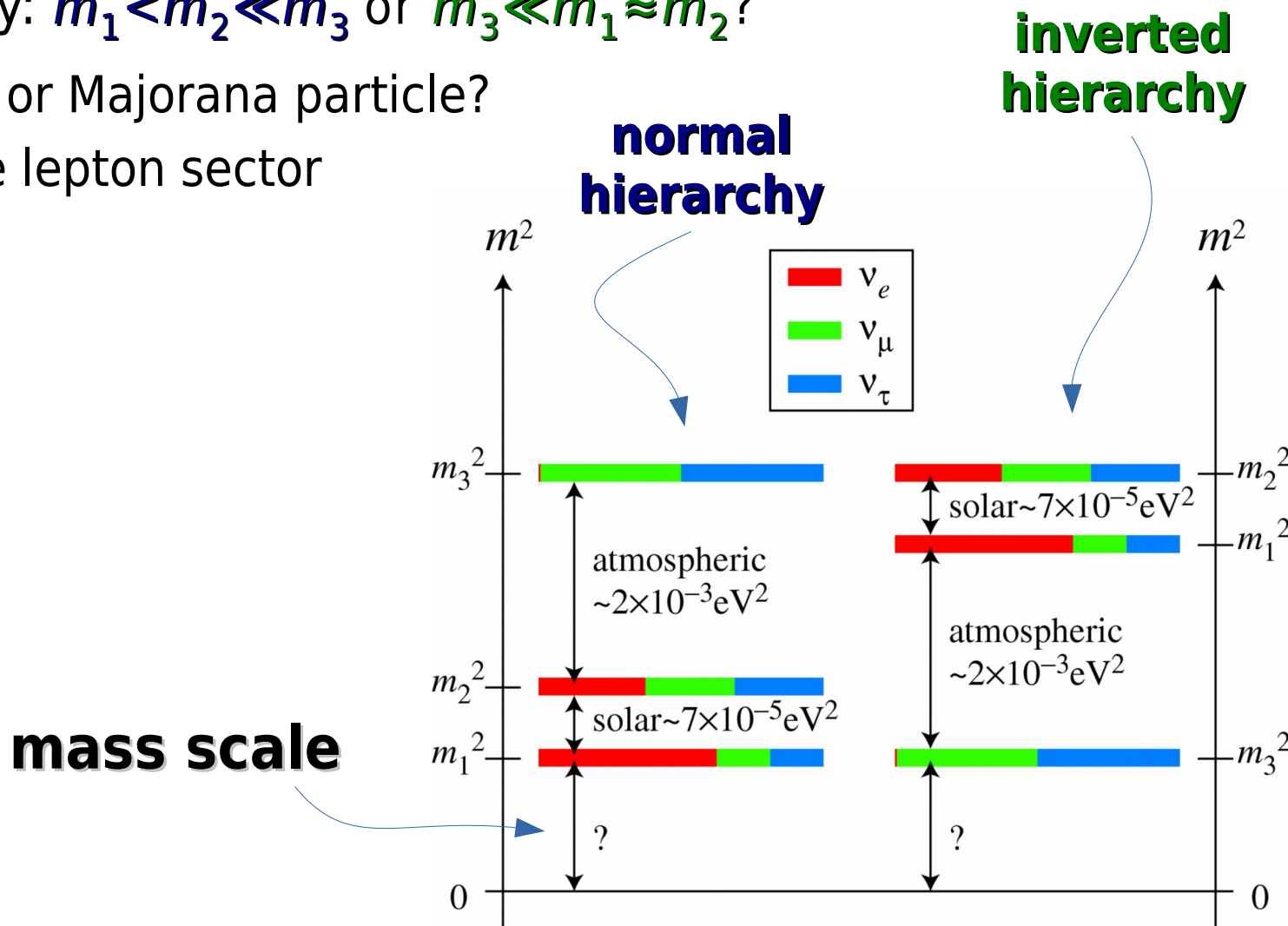
$$\Delta m_{ik}^2 = |m_i^2 - m_k^2|$$

$$\sin^2 2\theta_{ik} = f(|U_{Ik}|^2)$$



# Neutrino open questions

- mass scale: i.e. mass of the lightest  $\nu$
- degenerate ( $m_1 \approx m_2 \approx m_3$ ) or hierarchical masses
  - ▶ mass hierarchy:  $m_1 < m_2 \ll m_3$  or  $m_3 \ll m_1 \approx m_2$ ?
- $\nu = \bar{\nu}$ ? i.e. Dirac or Majorana particle?
- CP violation in the lepton sector

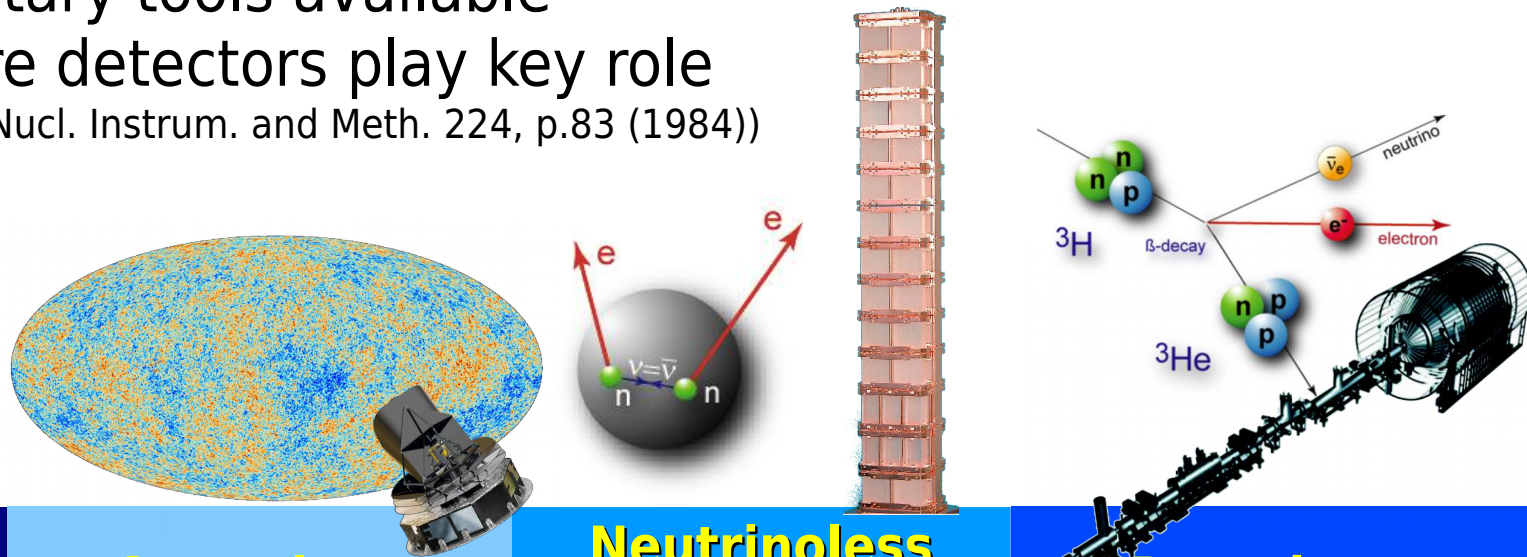


# Mass scale: experimental tools / 1

three complementary tools available

→ low temperature detectors play key role

(E. Fiorini and T. Niinikoski, Nucl. Instrum. and Meth. 224, p.83 (1984))

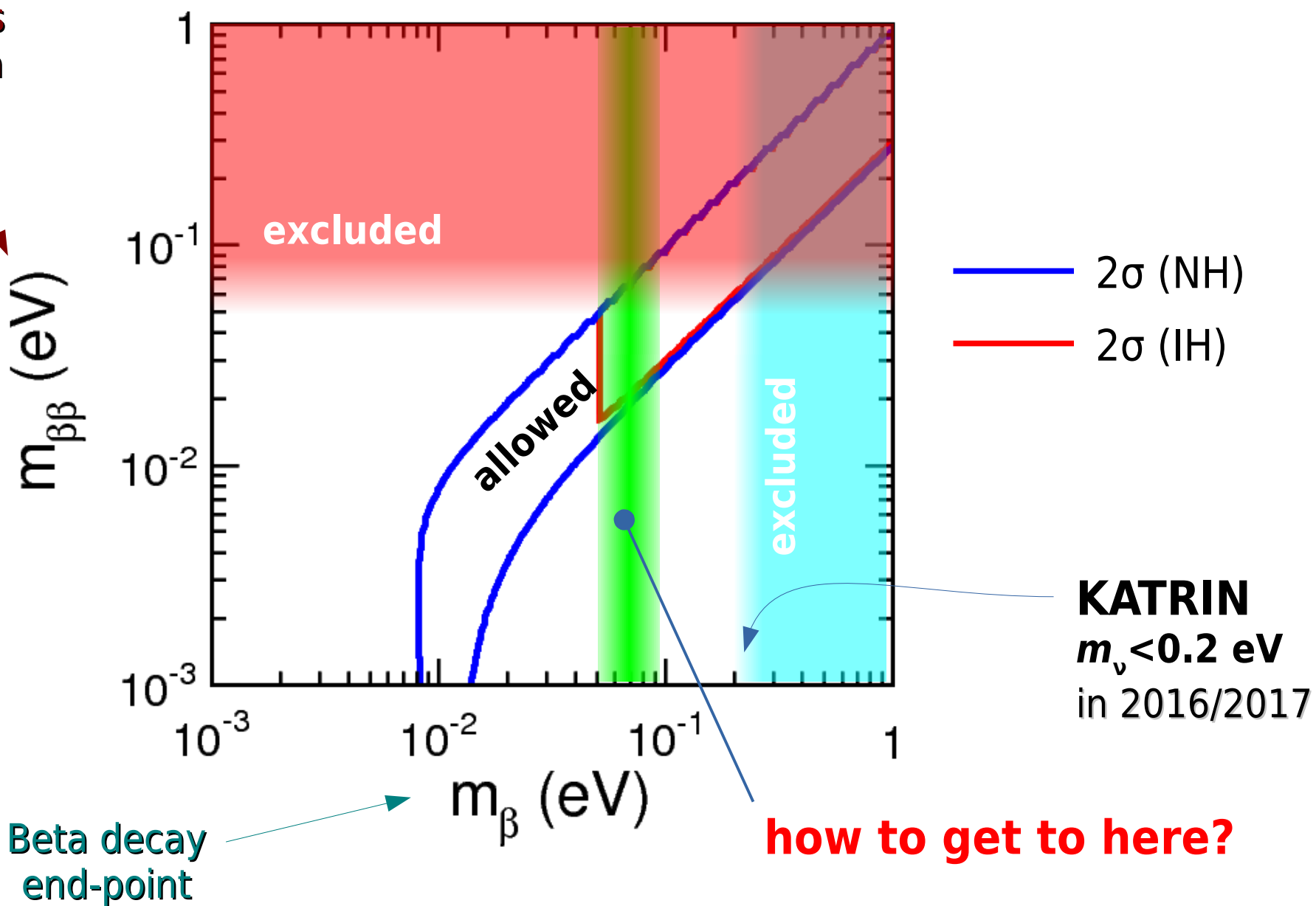


tool	Cosmology CMB+LSS+...	Neutrinoless Double Beta decay	Beta decay end-point
observable	$m_{\Sigma} = \sum_k m_{\nu_k}$	$m_{\beta\beta} =  \sum_k m_{\nu_k} U_{ek}^2 $	$m_{\beta} = (\sum_k m_{\nu_k}^2  U_{ek} ^2)^{1/2}$
present sensitivity	$\approx 0.1$ eV	$\approx 0.1$ eV	2 eV
future sensitivity	<b>0.01 eV</b>	<b>0.01 eV</b>	<b>0.2 eV</b>
model dependency	yes ☹️	yes ☹️	no 😊
systematics	large ☹️	yes 😊	large ☹️

# The Challenge: absolute neutrino mass

expected in the next  $\approx 5$  years

Neutrinoless  
Double Beta  
decay



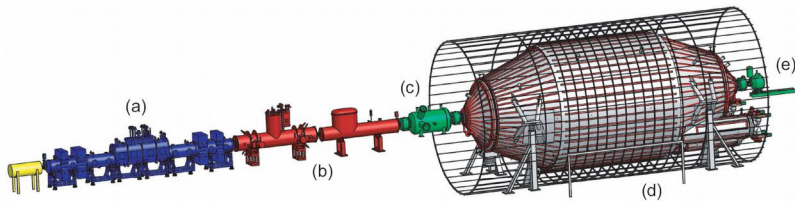
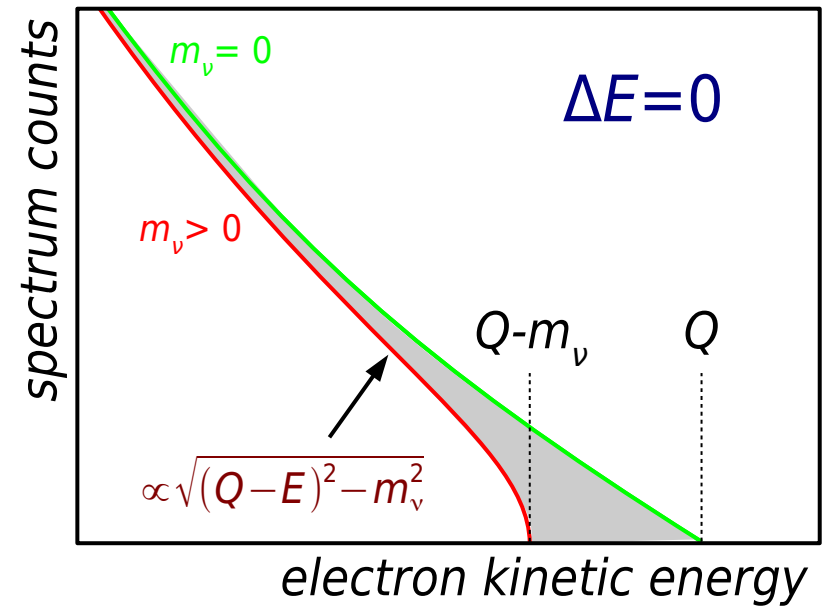
# Direct neutrino mass measurements

## kinematics of weak decays with $\nu$ emission

- ▶ low  $Q$  nuclear beta decays ( ${}^3\text{H}$ ,  ${}^{187}\text{Re}$ ...)
- ▶ only energy and momentum conservation
- ▶ no further assumptions

## 2 approaches with different systematics:

- ▶ **spectrometry**: the  $\beta$  source is outside the detector
- ▶ **calorimetry**: the  $\beta$  source is contained in the detector which measures all the energy released except the  $\nu$  energy



### KATRIN

large MAC-E filter spectrometer with  ${}^3\text{H}$

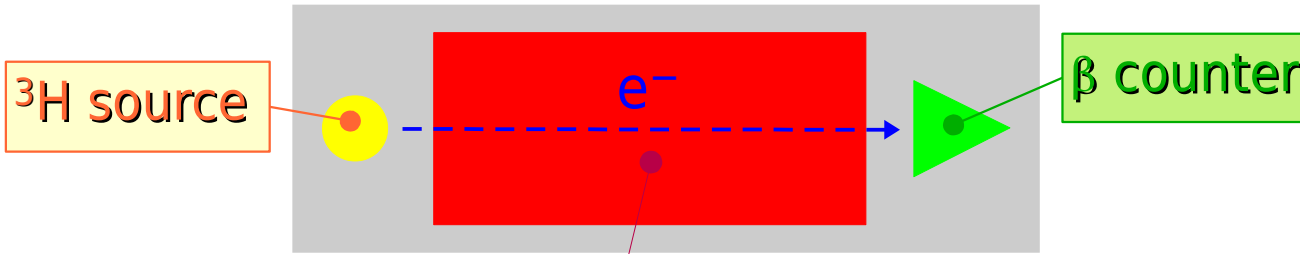


**MARE/ECHO/HOLMES**  
array of low temperature microcalorimeters with  ${}^{187}\text{Re}$  or  ${}^{163}\text{Ho}$



# Experimental approaches

## Spectrometers: source $\neq$ detector

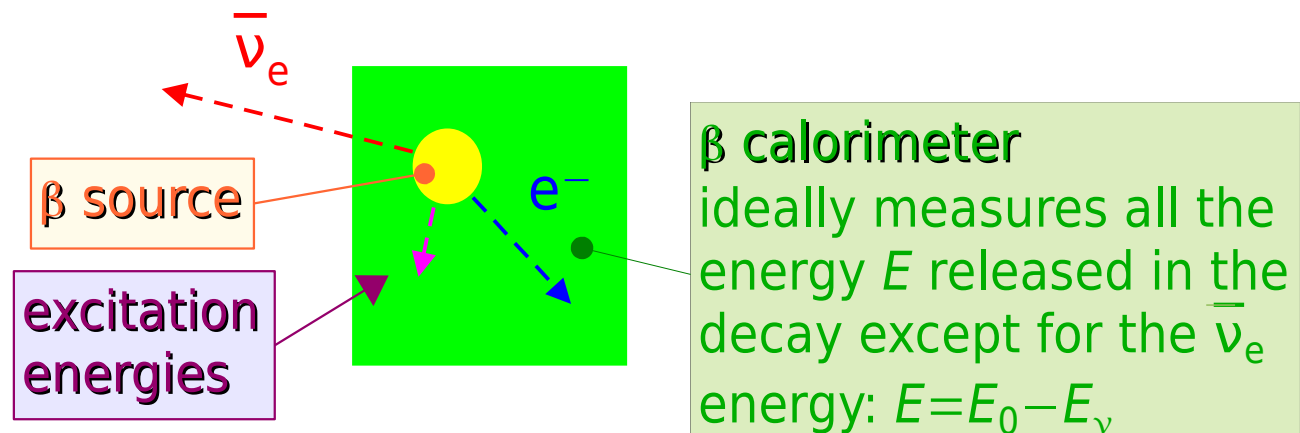


$\beta$  analyzer

differential or integral spectrometer:  $\beta$ s from the  $^3\text{H}$  spectrum  $\delta E$  are magnetically and/or electrostatically selected and transported to the counter

- ▲ high statistics
- ▲ high energy resolution
- ▼ large systematics
  - ▶ source effects
  - ▶ decays to excited states
- ▼ background

## Calorimeters: source $\subseteq$ detector



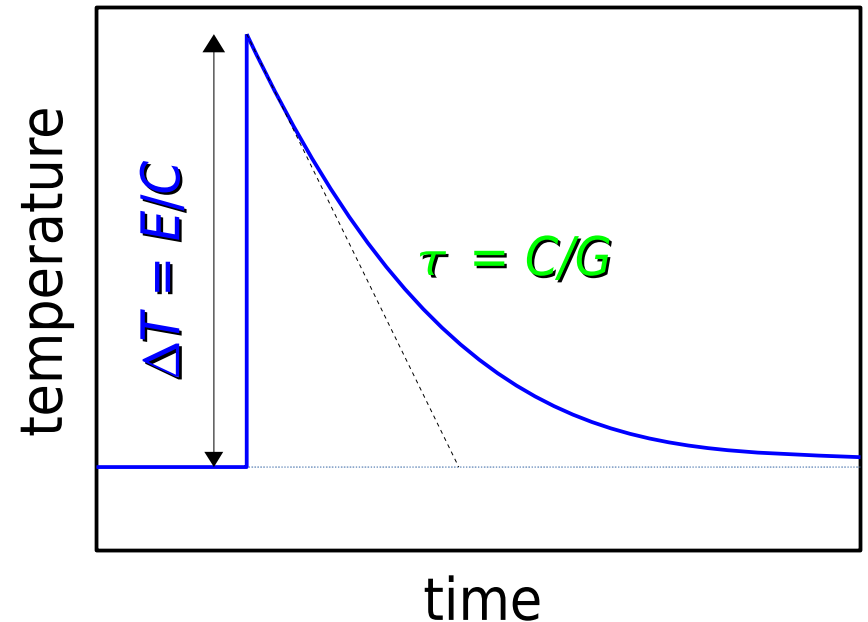
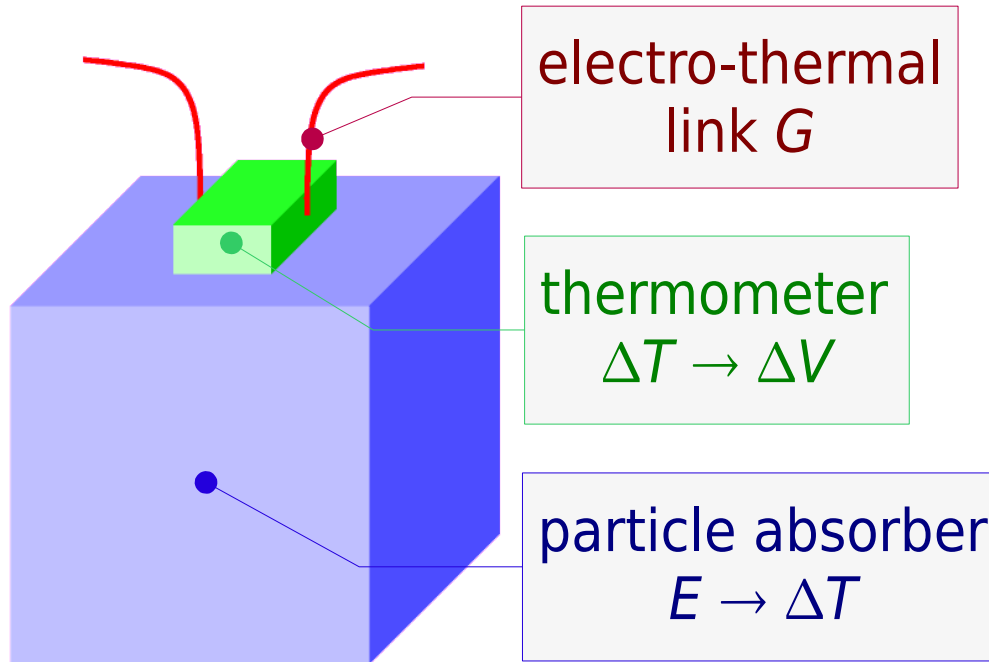
$\beta$  calorimeter

ideally measures all the energy  $E$  released in the decay except for the  $\bar{\nu}_e$  energy:  $E = E_0 - E_{\nu}$

- ▲ no backscattering
- ▲ no energy losses in the source
- ▲ no atomic/molecular final state effects
- ▲ no solid state excitation
- ▼ limited statistics
- ▼ pile-up background
- ▼ spectrum related systematics



# Calorimetry with low temperature detectors (LTD)



1 mg of Re @ 100 mK  
 $C \sim T^3$  (Debye)  $\rightarrow C \sim 10^{-13}$  J/K  
 $\rightarrow \Delta E_{rms} \sim 1$  eV  
 6 keV x-ray  $\rightarrow \Delta T \sim 10$  mK  
 $G \sim 10^{-11}$  W/K  $\rightarrow \tau = C/G \sim 10$  ms

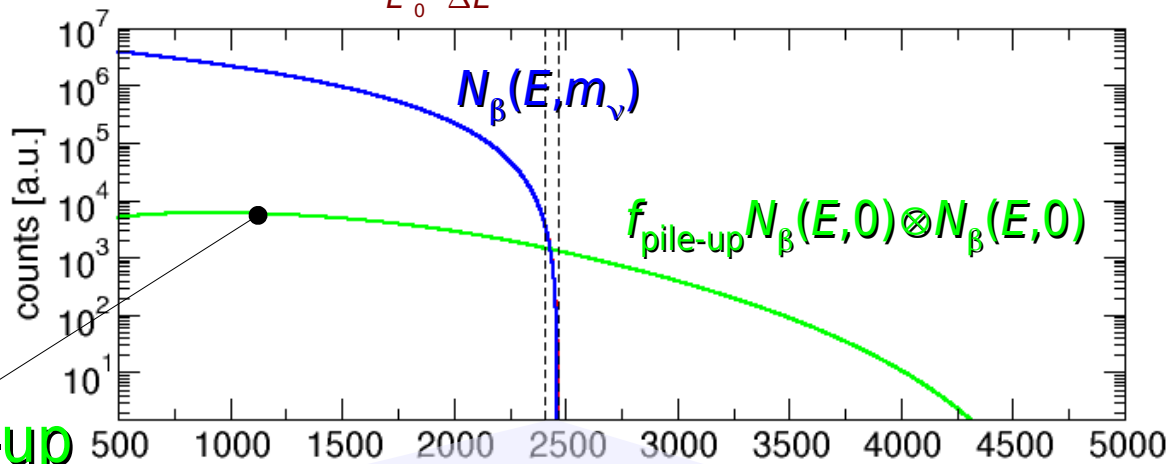
- ▷ complete energy *thermalization* (ionization, excitation  $\rightarrow$  heat)  $\rightarrow$  **calorimetry**
- ▷  $\Delta T = E/C$  with  $C$  total thermal capacity (phonons, electrons, spins...) phonons:  $C \sim T^3$  (Debye law) in dielectrics or superconductors below  $T_c$   $\rightarrow$  low  $T$  (i.e.  $T \ll 1$ K)
- ▷  $\Delta E_{rms} = (k_B T^2 C)^{1/2}$  due statistical fluctuations of internal energy  $E$
- ▷  $\Delta T(t) = E/C e^{-t/\tau}$  with  $\tau = C/G$  and  $G$  thermal conductance

# Calorimeter statistical sensitivity

resolving time  $\tau_R$       analysis interval  $\Delta E$   
 source activity  $A_\beta$       number of detectors  $N_{\text{det}}$   
 pile-up fraction  $f_{\text{pile-up}} = \tau_R A_\beta$   
 experimental exposure  $t_M = T \times N_{\text{det}}$

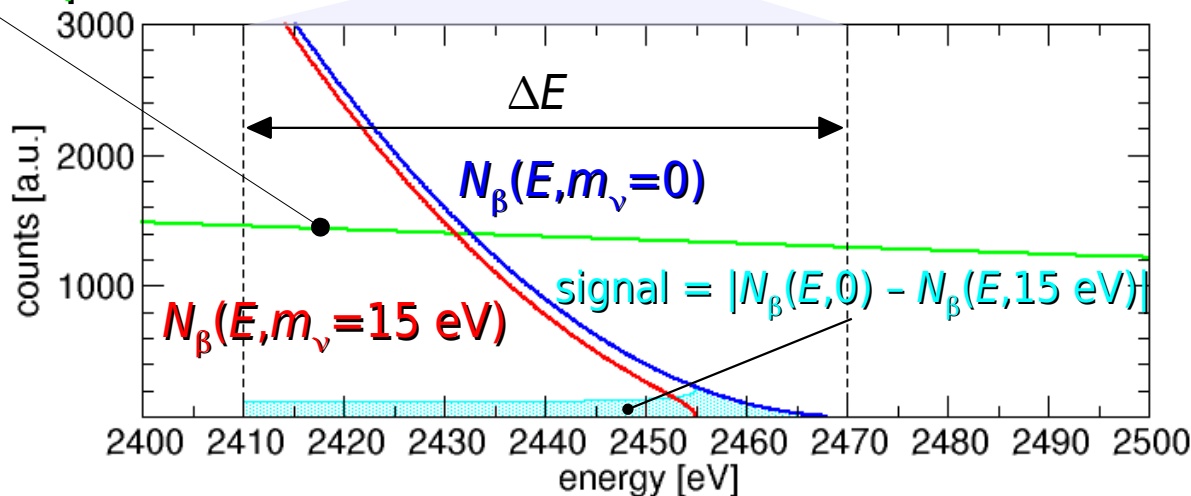
$$N_\beta(E, m_\nu) \approx \frac{3}{E_0^3} (E_0 - E)^2 \sqrt{1 - \frac{m_\nu^2}{(E_0 - E)^2}}$$

$$F_{\Delta E}(m_\nu) = A_\beta N_{\text{det}} \int_{E_0 - \Delta E}^{E_0} N_\beta(E, m_\nu) dE \quad F_{\Delta E}(0) \approx A_\beta N_{\text{det}} \frac{\Delta E^3}{E_0^3} \rightarrow \text{}^{187}\text{Re } E_0 = 2.5 \text{ keV}$$



$$f_{\text{pile-up}} = \tau_R A_\beta \ll \frac{\Delta E^2}{E_0^2} \quad \text{negligible pile-up}$$

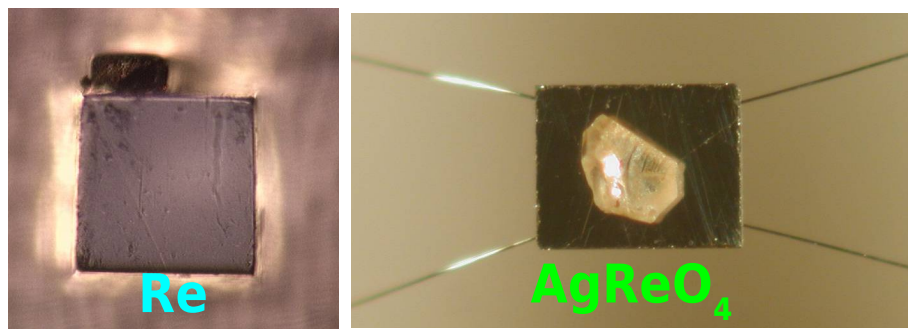
$$\Sigma_{90}(m_\nu) \approx 0.89 \sqrt[4]{\frac{E_0^3 \Delta E}{A_\beta t_M}}$$



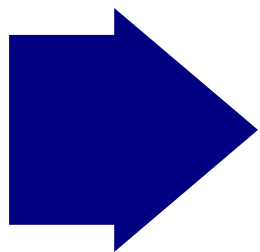
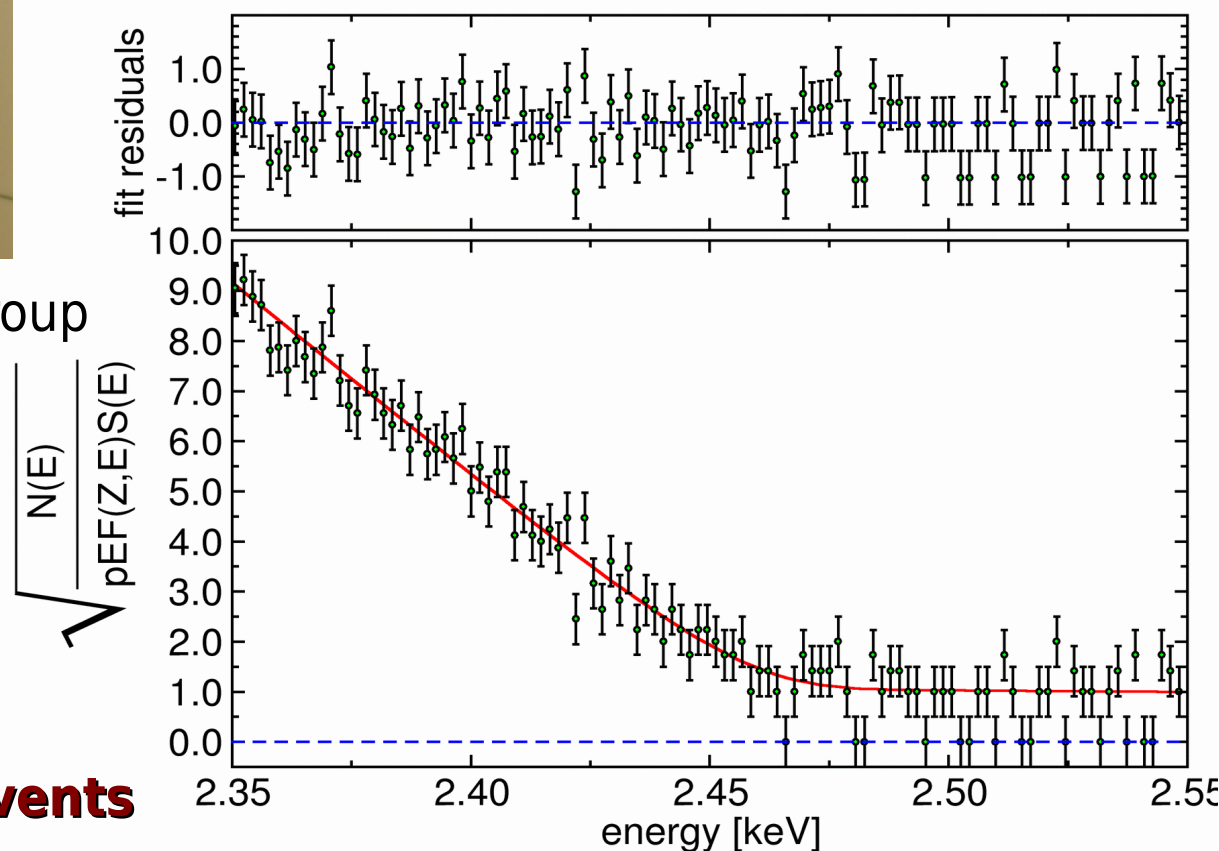
experimental challenges

- ▶ energy resolution  $\Delta E_{FWHM}$
- ▶ time resolution  $\tau_R$
- ▶ exposure  $t_M = N_{\text{det}} \times T$
- ▶ single channel activity  $A_\beta$

# $^{187}\text{Re}$ experiments: MANU-MIBETA ... MARE



- proposed since 1985 by Genova group
- **MIBETA** @ MiB with  $\text{AgReO}_4$ 
  - ▶  $m_\nu < 15$  eV 90% C.L.
  - M.Sisti et al., NIM A 520 (2004) 125
- **MANU** @ Ge with metallic Re
  - ▶  $m_\nu < 26$  eV 95% C.L.
  - F.Gatti, Nucl. Phys. B91 (2001) 293
- first  $^{187}\text{Re}$  experiments:  $N_{\text{ev}} \approx 10^7$  events



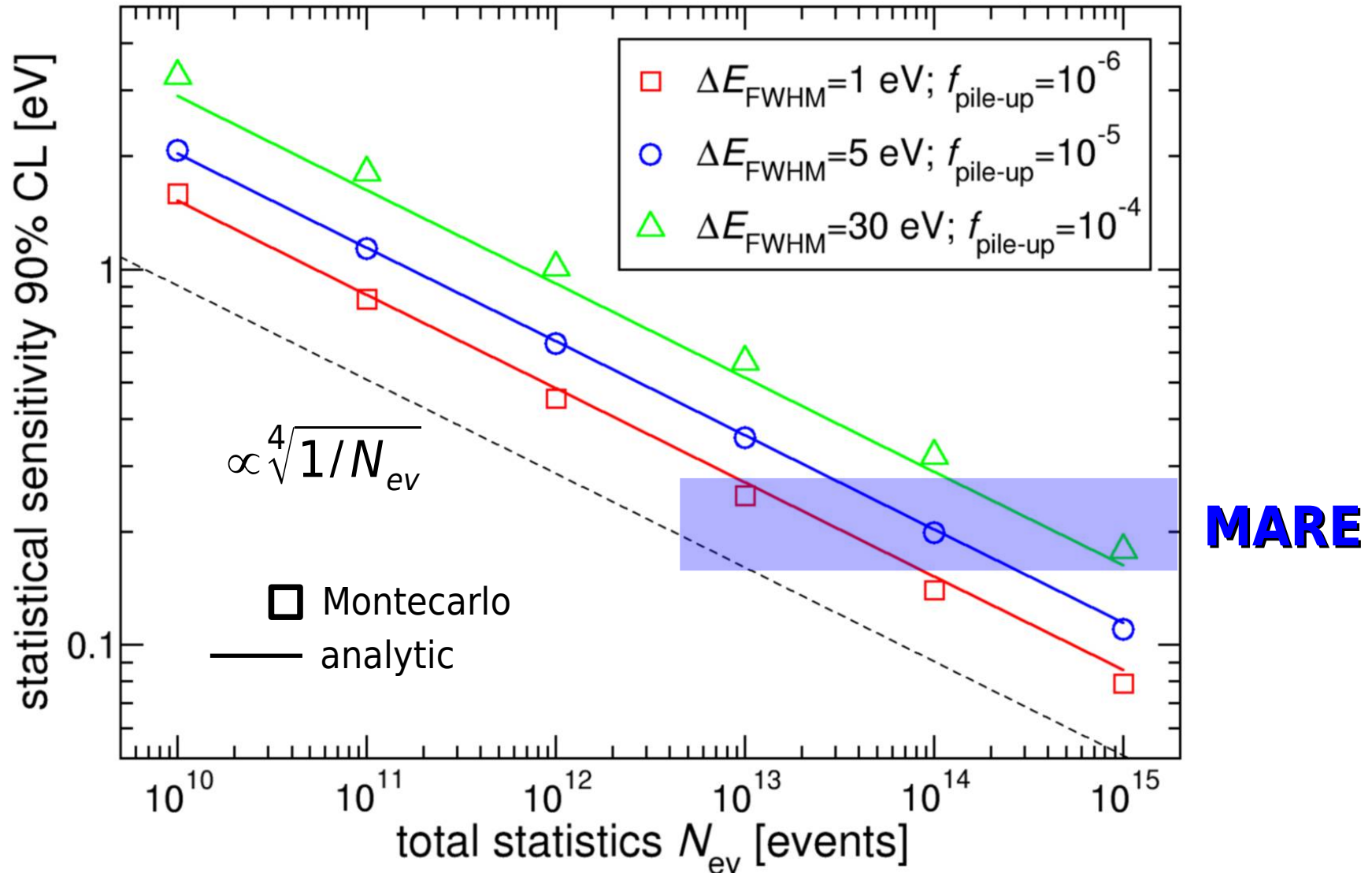
## **MARE** (Microcalorimeter arrays for a Rhenium Experiment)

- project for a sub-eV direct neutrino mass measurement
- wide international interest since Orlando (USA) meeting in 2007
- phased approach to optimize detectors technology

# $^{187}\text{Re}$ experiment statistical sensitivity / 1

## $^{187}\text{Re}$ past measurements

- ▶ total statistics  $N_{\text{ev}} \approx 10^7$  events



A.Nucciotti et al., Astropart. Phys., 34 (2010) 80 (arXiv:0912.4638v1)

# $^{187}\text{Re}$ experiment statistical sensitivity / 2

## exposure required for 0.2 eV $m_\nu$ sensitivity

**bkg = 0**

$A_\beta$ [Hz]	$\tau_R$ [ $\mu\text{s}$ ]	$\Delta E$ [eV]	$N_{\text{ev}}$ [counts]	exposure [det $\times$ year]
1	1	1	$0.2 \times 10^{14}$	$7.6 \times 10^5$
10	1	1	$0.7 \times 10^{14}$	$2.1 \times 10^5$
10	3	3	$1.3 \times 10^{14}$	$4.1 \times 10^5$
10	5	5	$1.9 \times 10^{14}$	$6.1 \times 10^5$
10	10	10	$3.3 \times 10^{14}$	$10.5 \times 10^5$

5000 pixels/array  
8 arrays  
10 years  
400 g  $^{\text{nat}}\text{Re}$

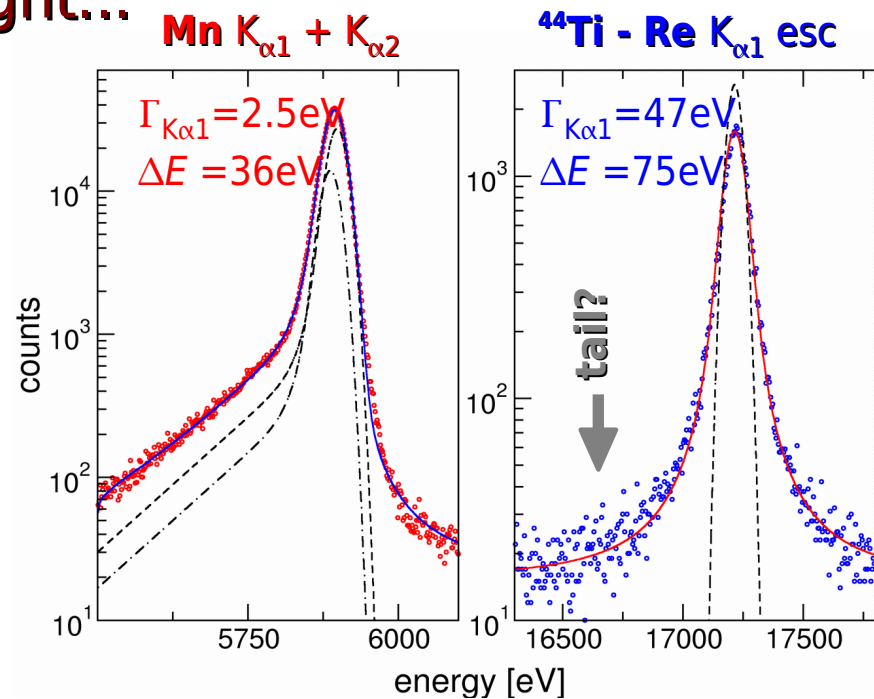
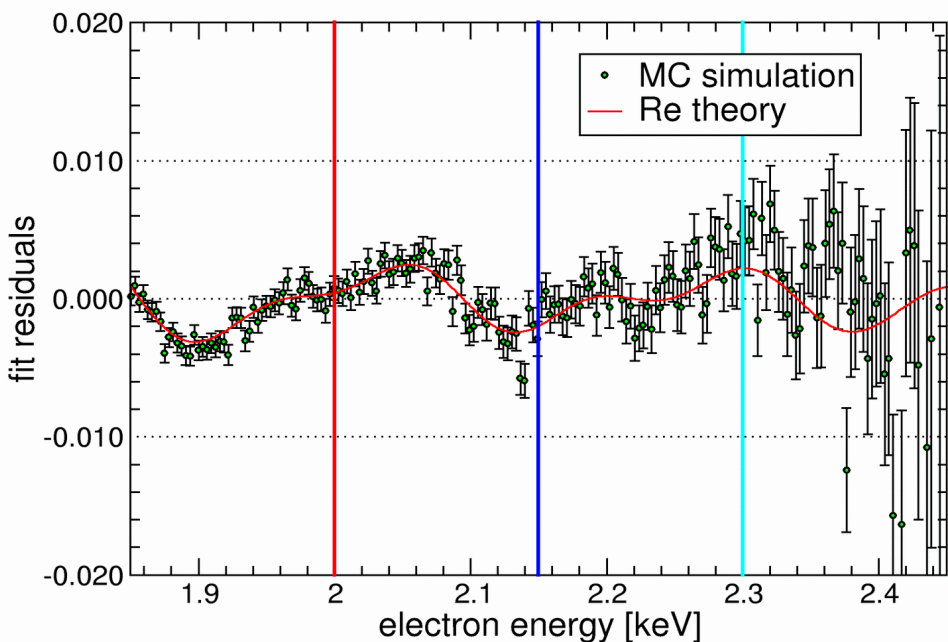
## exposure required for 0.1 eV $m_\nu$ sensitivity

$A_\beta$ [Hz]	$\tau_R$ [ $\mu\text{s}$ ]	$\Delta E$ [eV]	$N_{\text{ev}}$ [counts]	exposure [det $\times$ year]
1	0.1	0.1	$1.7 \times 10^{14}$	$5.4 \times 10^6$
10	0.1	0.1	$5.3 \times 10^{14}$	$1.7 \times 10^6$
10	1	1	$10.3 \times 10^{14}$	$3.3 \times 10^6$
10	3	3	$21.4 \times 10^{14}$	$6.8 \times 10^6$
10	5	5	$43.6 \times 10^{14}$	$13.9 \times 10^6$

20000 pixels/array  
16 arrays  
10 years  
3.2 kg  $^{\text{nat}}\text{Re}$

# Rhenium experiment status and future

- Re detector development → no good results after >20 years of R&D
  - ▶ no clear understanding of Re absorber physics
  - ▶ purity and superconductivity?
  - ▶ extra heat capacity  $C$  due to nuclear quadrupole moment?
- low specific activity → “large” masses → fabrication issues
- possible large systematics
  - ▶ Beta Environmental Fine Structure (BEFS)
  - ▶ detector energy response function
- future of Re experiments is not very bright...



# Electron capture end-point experiment / 1

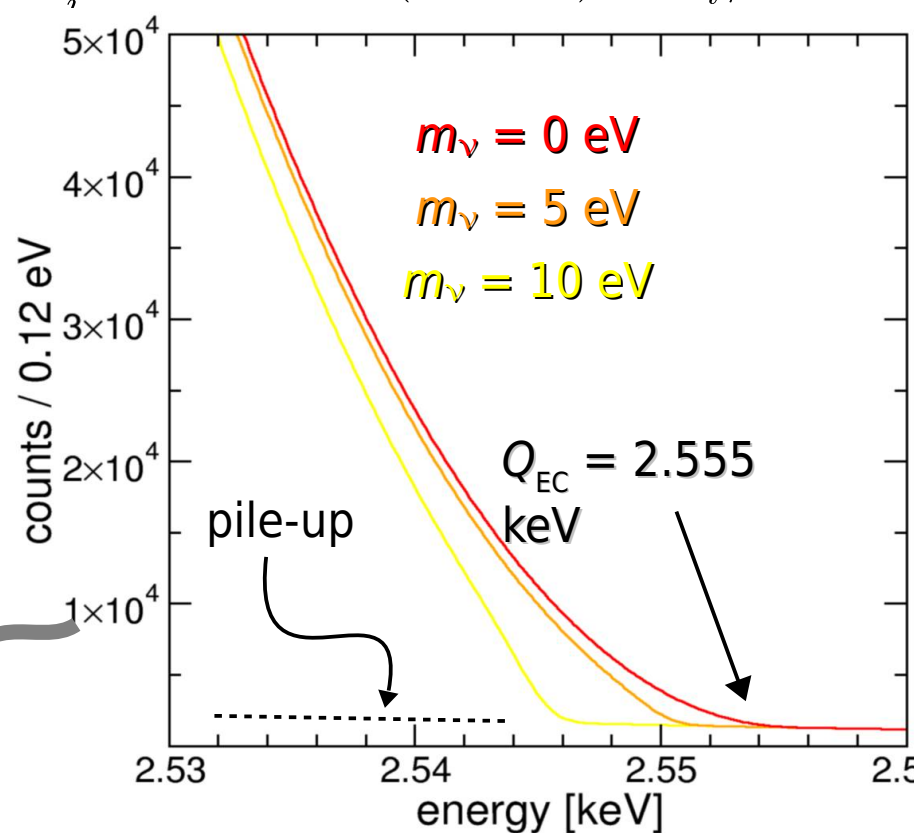
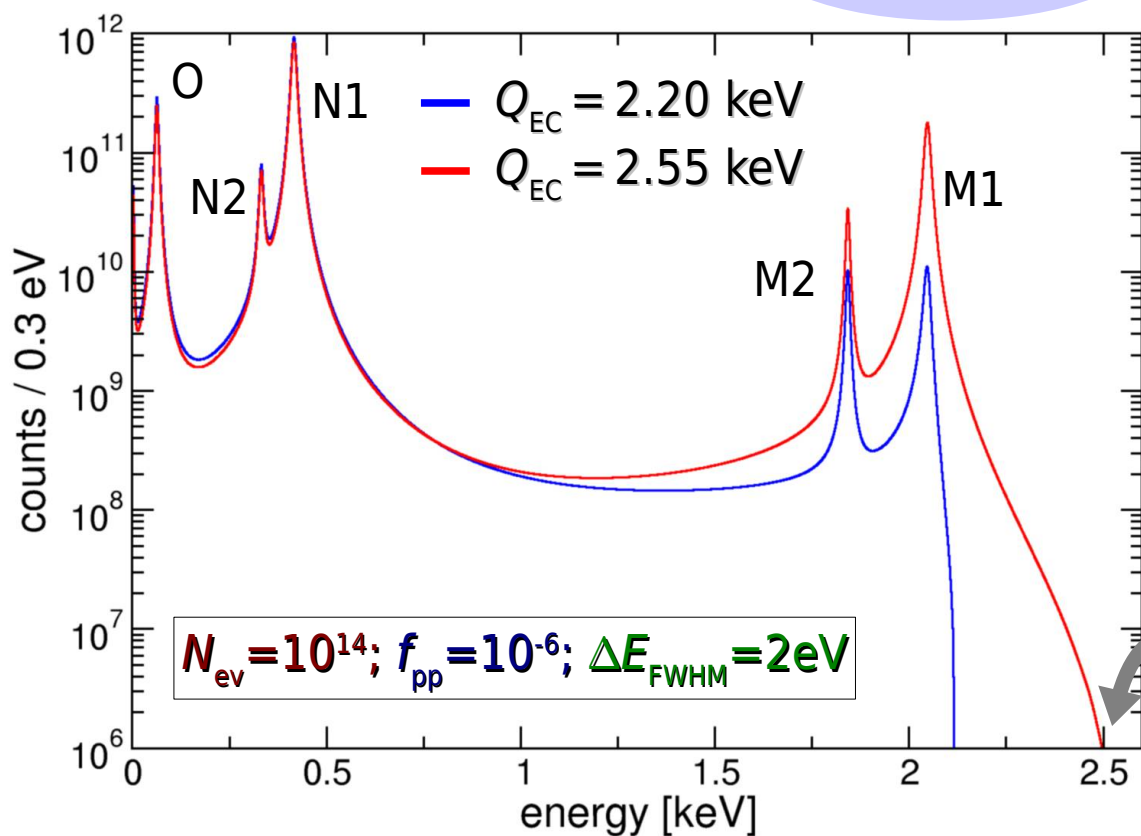


electron capture from shell  $\geq$  M1

A. De Rujula and M. Lusignoli, Phys. Lett. B 118 (1982) 429

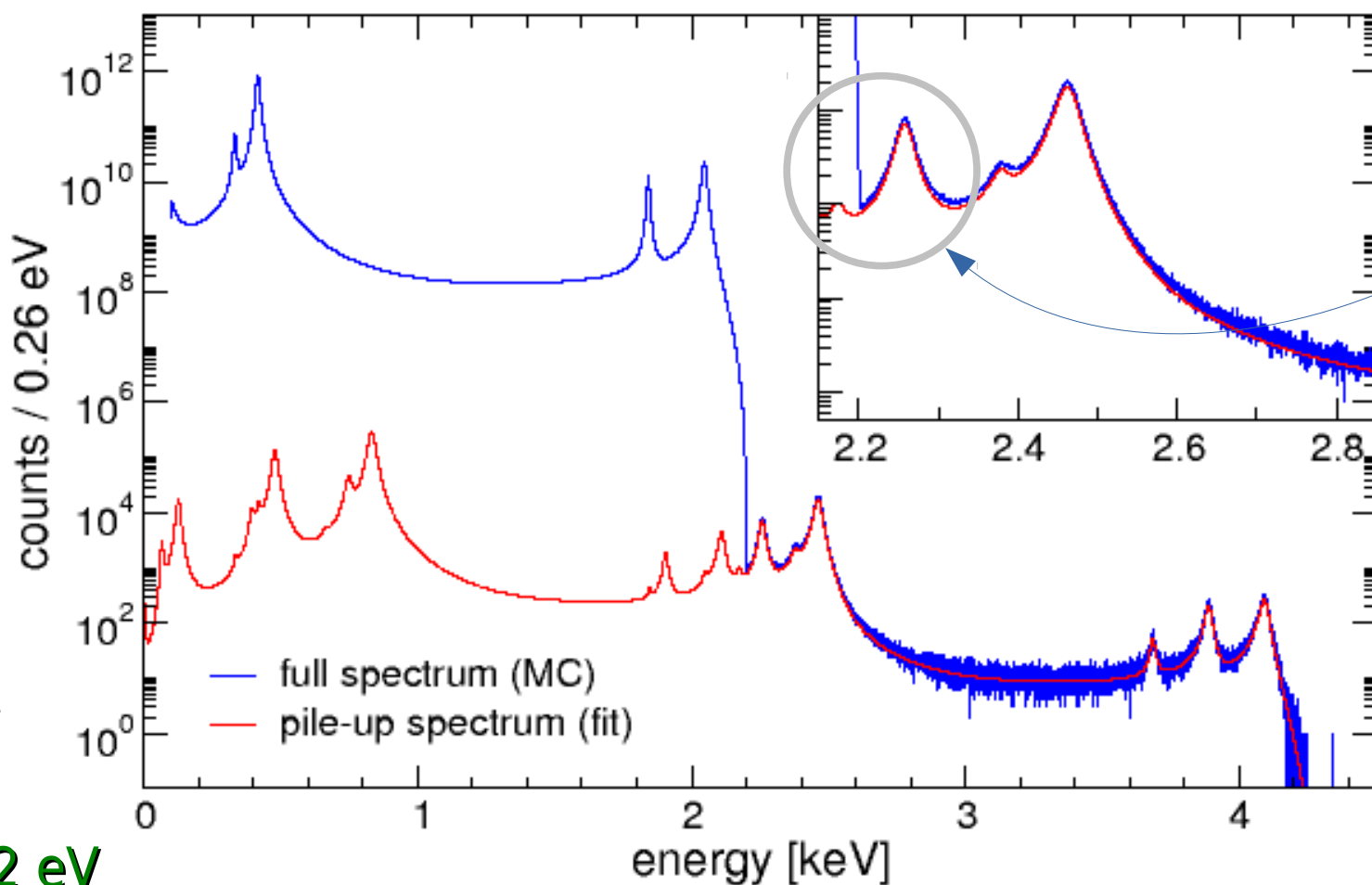
- calorimetric measurement of Dy atomic de-excitations (mostly non-radiative)
- rate at end-point and  $\nu$  mass sensitivity depend on  $Q$ 
  - ▶ Measured:  $Q_{\text{EC}} = 2.2 \div 2.8$  keV. Recommended:  $Q = 2.555$  keV
- $\tau_{1/2} \approx 4570$  years  $\rightarrow$  few active nuclei are needed

$$\frac{d\lambda_{\text{EC}}}{dE_c} = \frac{G_{\beta}^2}{4\pi^2} (Q - E_c) \sqrt{(Q - E_c)^2 - m_{\nu}^2} \times \sum_i n_i C_i \beta_i^2 B_i \frac{\Gamma_i}{2\pi} \frac{1}{(E_c - E_i)^2 + \Gamma_i^2/4}$$



# Electron capture end-point experiment / 2

- no direct calorimetric measurement of  $Q$  so far
- $Q$  and atomic de-excitation spectrum poorly known
- complex pile-up spectrum
  - ▶ end-point spectral shape dominated by  $(Q - E_c)\sqrt{(Q - E_c)^2 - m_\nu^2}$  but...



$$N_{ev} = 10^{14}$$

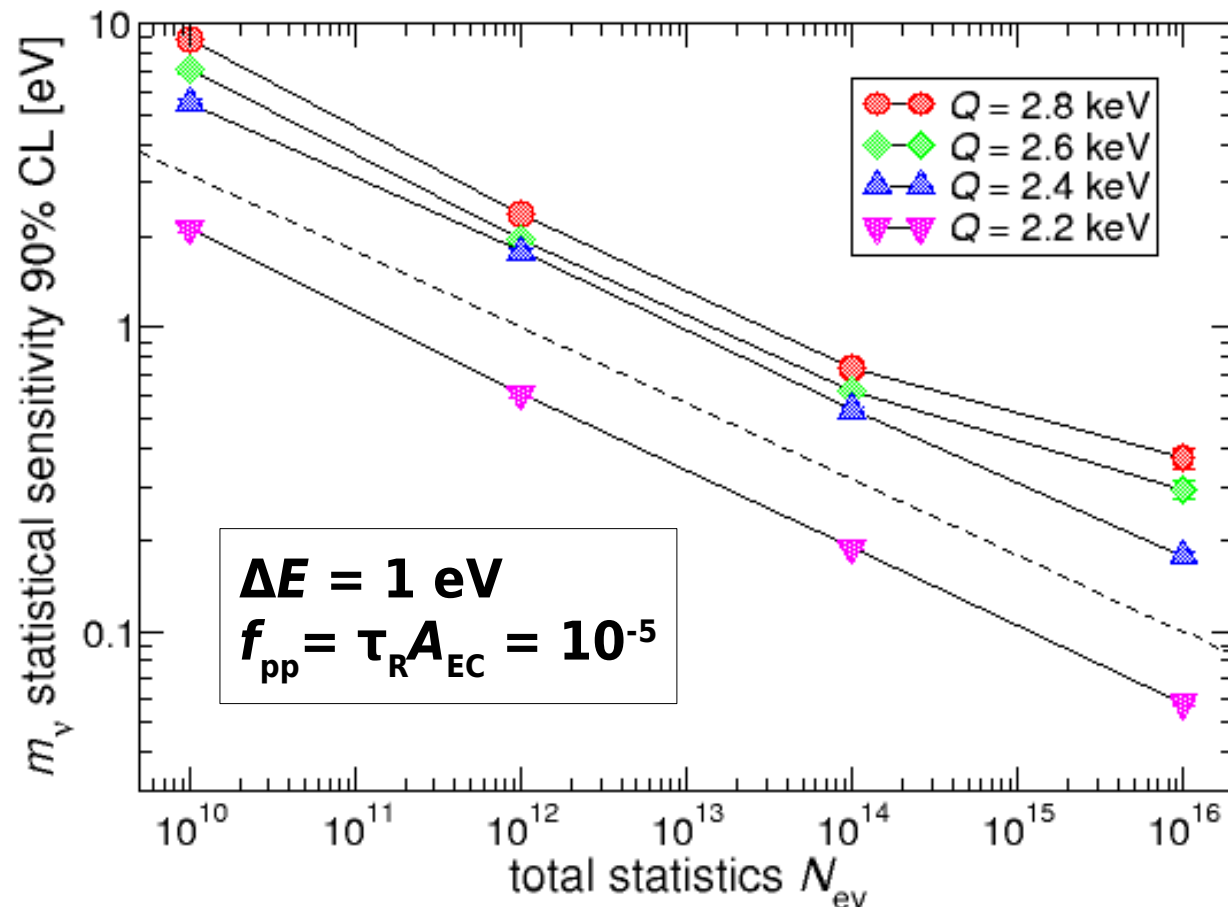
$$f_{pp} = 10^{-6}$$

$$\Delta E_{FWHM} = 2 \text{ eV}$$



# Statistical sensitivity: Montecarlo simulations

- $2 \times 10^{11}$   $^{163}\text{Ho}$  nuclei  $\rightarrow$  1 decay/s
- $^{163}\text{Ho}$  production: p.e. neutron irradiation of  $^{162}\text{Er}$  enriched Er
- embed  $^{163}\text{Ho}$  in thermal detectors for low energy X-rays spectroscopy



- ▶ high energy resolution  $\approx 1\text{eV}$
- ▶ fast response  $\approx 1\mu\text{s}$
- ▶ large multiplexable array  $\approx 1000$

$$\propto \sqrt[4]{1/N_{ev}}$$

# $^{163}\text{Ho}$ experiment statistical sensitivity / 1

## exposure required for 0.2 eV $m_\nu$ sensitivity

$A_\beta$ [Hz]	$\tau_R$ [ $\mu\text{s}$ ]	$\Delta E$ [eV]	$N_{ev}$ [counts]	exposure [det $\times$ year]
1	1	1	$2.8 \times 10^{13}$	$9.0 \times 10^5$
1	0.1	1	$1.3 \times 10^{13}$	$4.3 \times 10^5$
100	0.1	1	$4.6 \times 10^{13}$	$1.5 \times 10^4$
10	0.1	1	$2.8 \times 10^{13}$	$9.0 \times 10^4$
10	1	1	$4.6 \times 10^{13}$	$1.5 \times 10^5$

$Q_{EC} = 2200 \text{ eV}$   
 $bkg = 0$

5000 pixels/array  
3 arrays  
1 year  
 $\approx 2 \times 10^{17}$   $^{163}\text{Ho}$  nuclei

## exposure required for 0.1 eV $m_\nu$ sensitivity

$A_\beta$ [Hz]	$\tau_R$ [ $\mu\text{s}$ ]	$\Delta E$ [eV]	$N_{ev}$ [counts]	exposure [det $\times$ year]
1	0.1	0.3	$1.2 \times 10^{14}$	$3.9 \times 10^6$
100	0.1	0.3	$6.4 \times 10^{14}$	$2.0 \times 10^5$
100	0.1	1	$7.4 \times 10^{14}$	$2.4 \times 10^5$
10	0.1	1	$4.5 \times 10^{14}$	$1.5 \times 10^6$
10	1	1	$7.4 \times 10^{14}$	$2.4 \times 10^6$

5000 pixels/array  
4 arrays  
10 years  
 $\approx 3 \times 10^{17}$   $^{163}\text{Ho}$  nuclei

# $^{163}\text{Ho}$ experiment statistical sensitivity / 2

## exposure required for 0.2 eV $m_\nu$ sensitivity

$A_\beta$ [Hz]	$\tau_R$ [ $\mu\text{s}$ ]	$\Delta E$ [eV]	$N_{ev}$ [counts]	exposure [det $\times$ year]
1	1	1	$3.8 \times 10^{15}$	$1.2 \times 10^8$
1	0.1	1	$1.6 \times 10^{15}$	$5.3 \times 10^7$
100	0.1	1	$9.8 \times 10^{15}$	$3.1 \times 10^6$
10	0.1	1	$3.8 \times 10^{15}$	$1.2 \times 10^7$
10	1	1	$9.8 \times 10^{15}$	$3.1 \times 10^7$

$Q_{EC} = 2800 \text{ eV}$   
 $bkg = 0$

60000 pixels/array  
5 arrays  
5 year  
 $\approx 4 \times 10^{18}$   $^{163}\text{Ho}$  nuclei

## exposure required for 0.1 eV $m_\nu$ sensitivity

$A_\beta$ [Hz]	$\tau_R$ [ $\mu\text{s}$ ]	$\Delta E$ [eV]	$N_{ev}$ [counts]	exposure [det $\times$ year]
1	0.1	0.3	$2.6 \times 10^{16}$	$8.2 \times 10^8$
100	0.1	0.3	$1.9 \times 10^{17}$	$5.9 \times 10^7$
100	0.1	1	$1.6 \times 10^{17}$	$5.0 \times 10^7$
10	0.1	1	$6.1 \times 10^{16}$	$1.9 \times 10^8$
10	1	1	$1.6 \times 10^{17}$	$5.0 \times 10^8$

$10^6$  pixels/array  
6 arrays  
10 years  
 $\approx 8 \times 10^{19}$   $^{163}\text{Ho}$  nuclei

# Holmium experiment status

## ■ $^{163}\text{Ho}$ seems to be better than $^{187}\text{Re}$

- ▶ higher specific activity → don't need a “Holmium detector”
- ▶ *self calibrating* → better systematics control
- ▶ **but**
  - higher  $Q$  → maybe less sensitive
  - pile-up spectrum
  - chemical effects on  $Q$

## ■ (at least) **two projects**

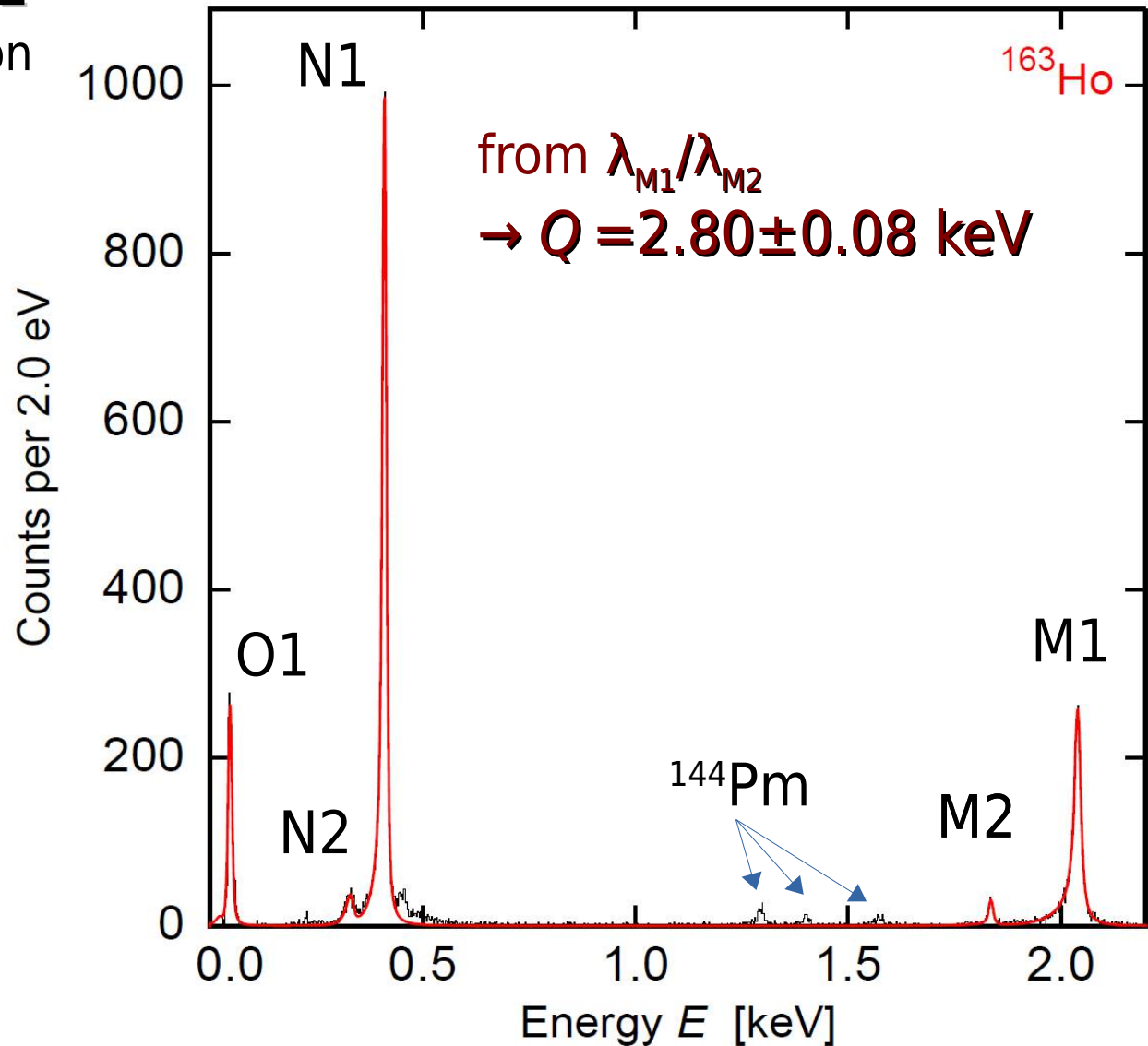
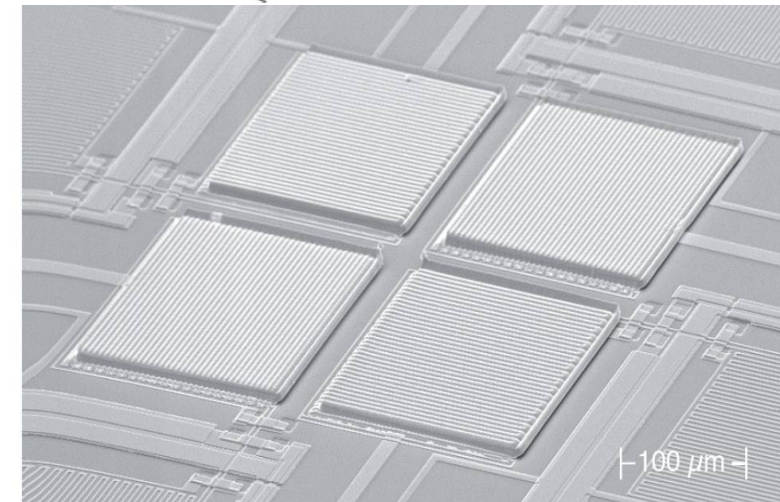
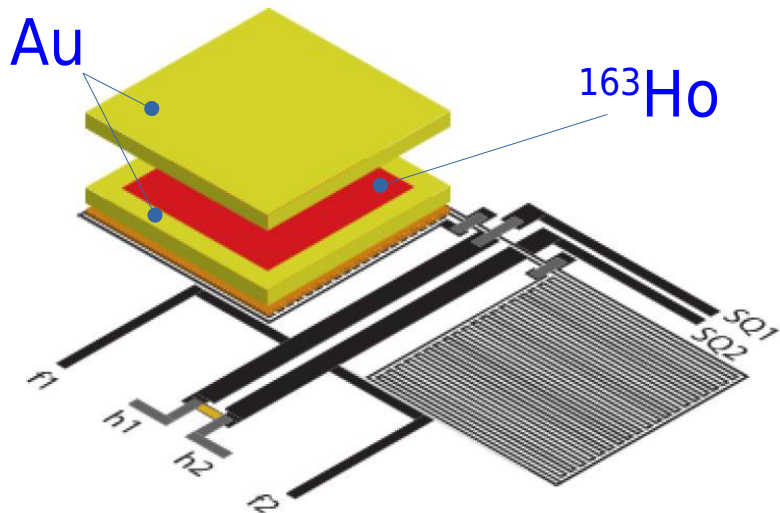
- ▶ **ECHO** (Heidelberg)
- ▶ **MARE** (→ will become HOLMES)
- ▶ Los Alamos National Lab., Stanford University ?, ...

## ■ **common technical challenges**

- ▶ clean  $^{163}\text{Ho}$  production
- ▶  $^{163}\text{Ho}$  incorporation
- ▶ large channel number → high speed multiplexing
- ▶ data handling (processing, storage, ...)

# ECHO experiment

- Magnetic Metallic Calorimeters with Au absorbers (2 pixels)
  - ▶  $\Delta E \approx 8$  eV and  $\tau_{\text{rise}} \approx 130$  ns
- p on W/Ta target at ISOLDE
  - ▶ online separation/implantation
  - ▶  $\approx 10^{10}$   $^{163}\text{Ho}$  nuclei



## goal

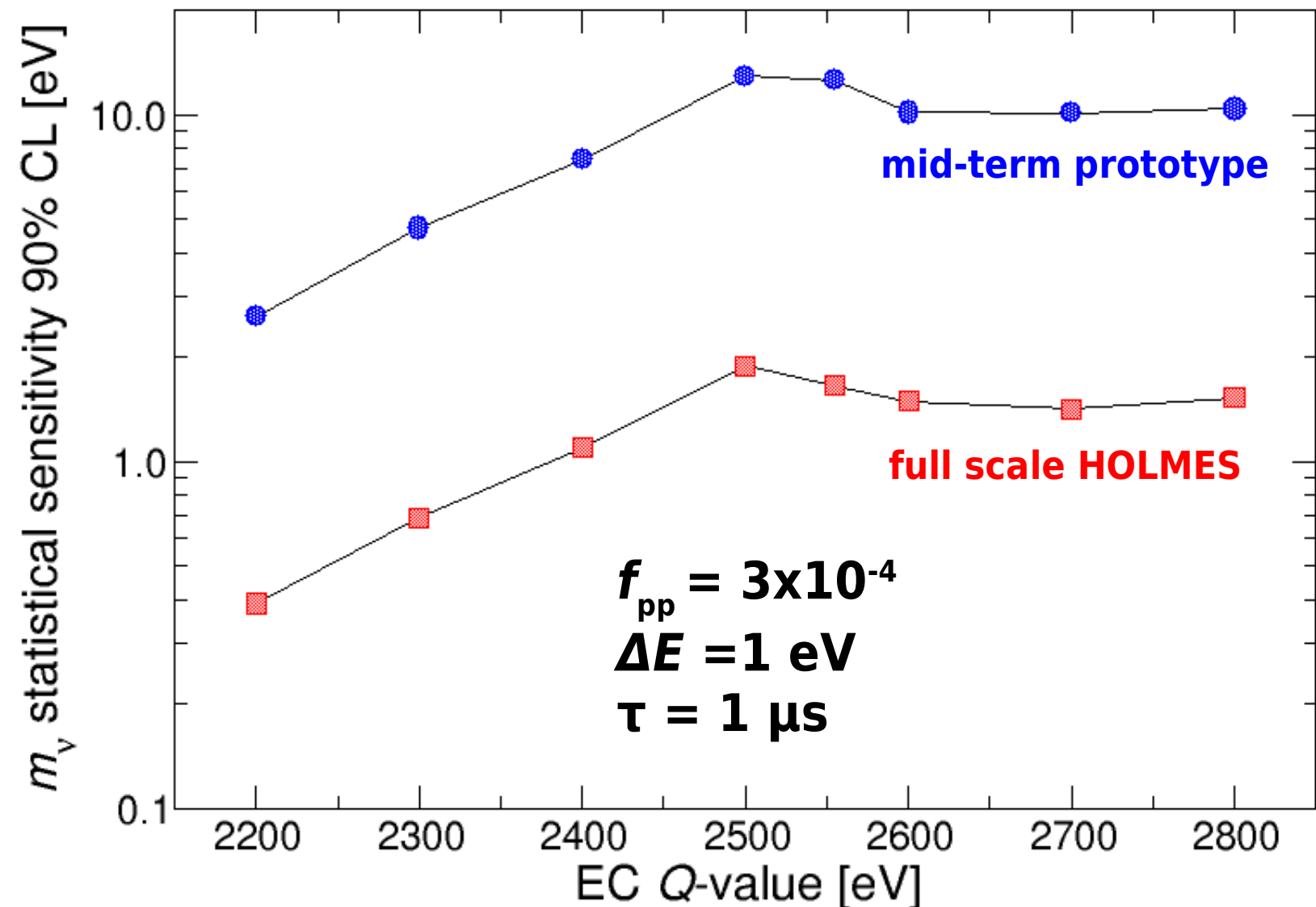
- neutrino mass measurement:  $m_\nu$  statistical sensitivity as low as  $0.4 \text{ eV}$
- prove technique potential and scalability:
  - ▶ assess EC Q-value
  - ▶ assess systematic errors

## baseline

- Transition Edge Sensors (TES) with  $^{163}\text{Ho}$  implanted Au absorbers
  - ▶  $6.5 \times 10^{13}$  nuclei per detector  $\rightarrow$  300 dec/sec
  - ▶  $\Delta E \approx 1 \text{ eV}$  and  $\tau_R \approx 1 \mu\text{s}$
- 1000 channel array
  - ▶  $6.5 \times 10^{16}$   $^{163}\text{Ho}$  nuclei  $\rightarrow \approx 18 \mu\text{g}$
  - ▶  $3 \times 10^{13}$  events in 3 years

**$\rightarrow$  Project Start: 1 Feb 2014**

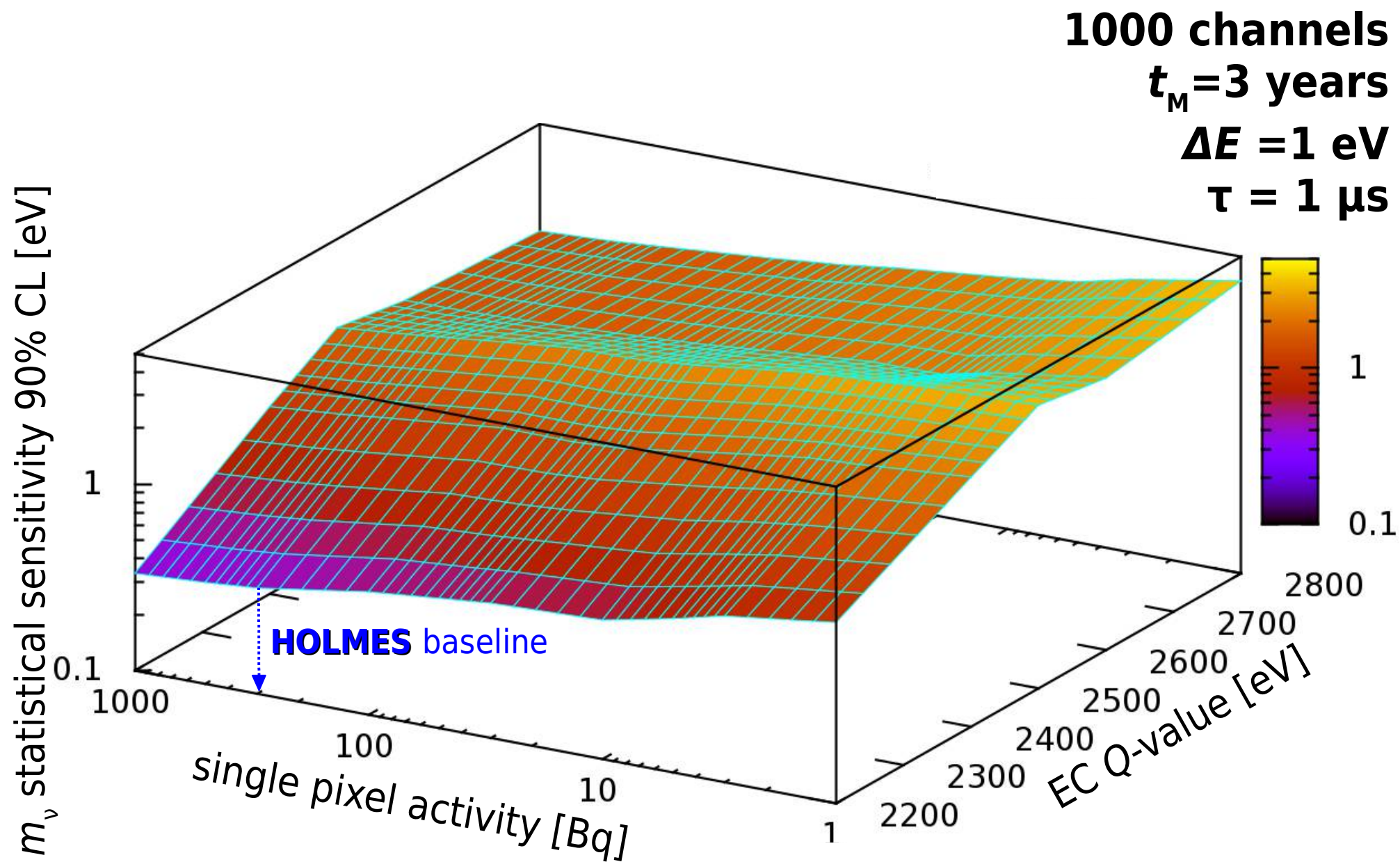
# HOLMES baseline statistical sensitivity



16 channels  
 $t_M = 1$  month  
 $A = 300 \text{ Hz/ch}$   
 $\rightarrow 10^{10}$  decays

1000 channels  
 $t_M = 3$  years  
 $A = 300 \text{ Hz/ch}$   
 $\rightarrow 3 \times 10^{13}$  decays

# Statistical sensitivity and single pixel activity

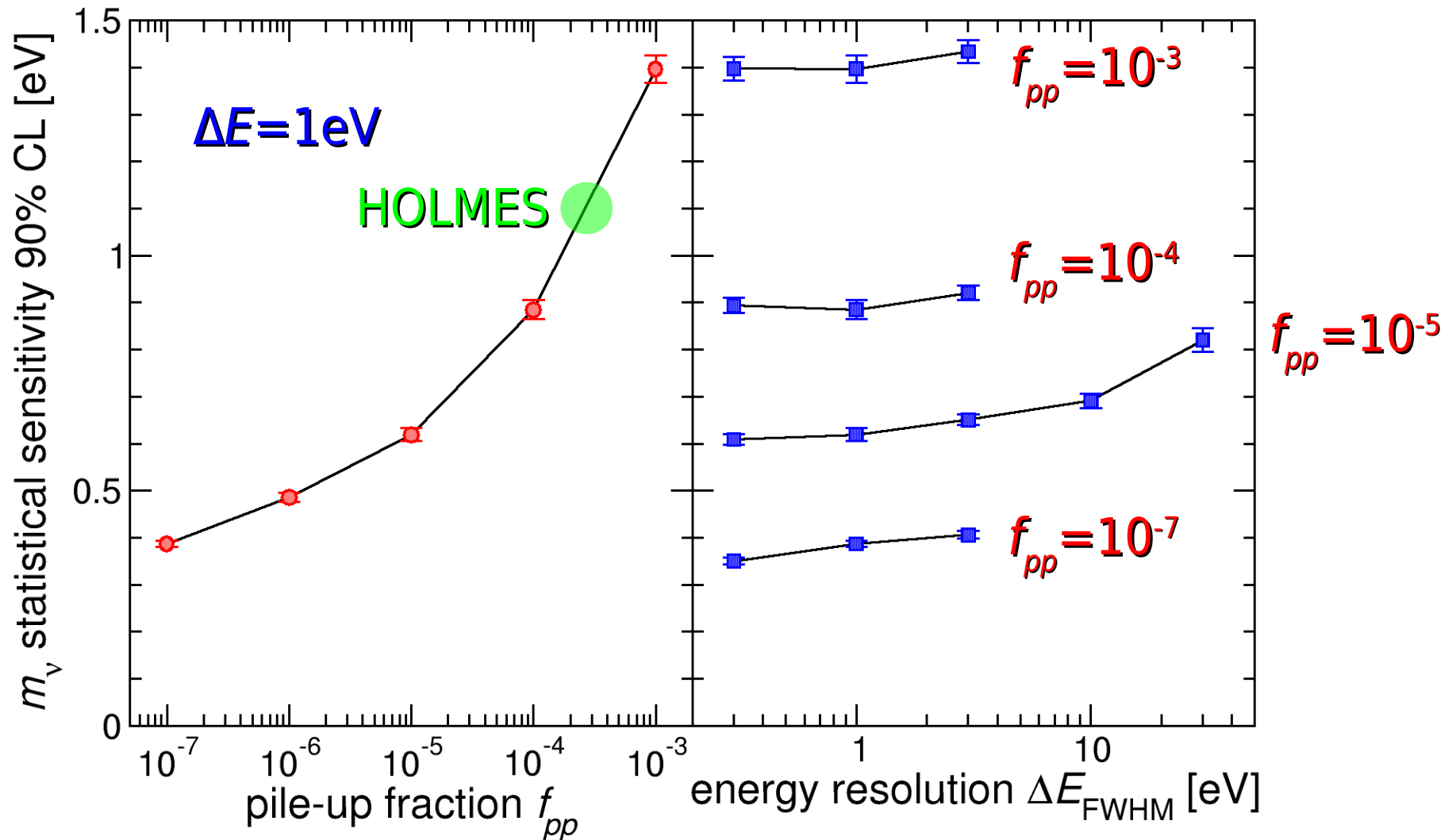




# More MC simulations...

$$Q_{\text{EC}} = 2.6 \text{ keV}$$

$$N_{\text{ev}} = 10^{13}$$



# Low energy background sources / 1

- **environmental  $\gamma$  radiation**

- Compton interactions
- Photoelectric interactions with photoelectron escape
- fluorescent X-rays and X-ray escape lines

- **$\gamma$  and  $\beta$  from close surroundings**

- **cosmic rays**

- muons, ...
- EM showers

- ...

## Cosmic rays at sea level (muons)

- **Au pixel**:  $200 \times 200 \times 3 \mu\text{m}^3$

▷  $\langle \Delta E \rangle \approx 10 \text{keV}$ ,  $r \approx 1 \text{d}^{-1}$

- **Si chip**:  $20 \times 20 \times 0.5 \text{mm}^3$

▷  $\langle \Delta E \rangle \approx 300 \text{keV}$ ,  $r \approx 7000 \text{d}^{-1}$

- **MIBETA**:  $300 \times 300 \times 150 \mu\text{m}^3$   $\text{AgReO}_4$  crystals

▶  $\text{bkg}(2..5 \text{keV}) \approx 1.5 \times 10^{-4} \text{c/eV/d/det}$

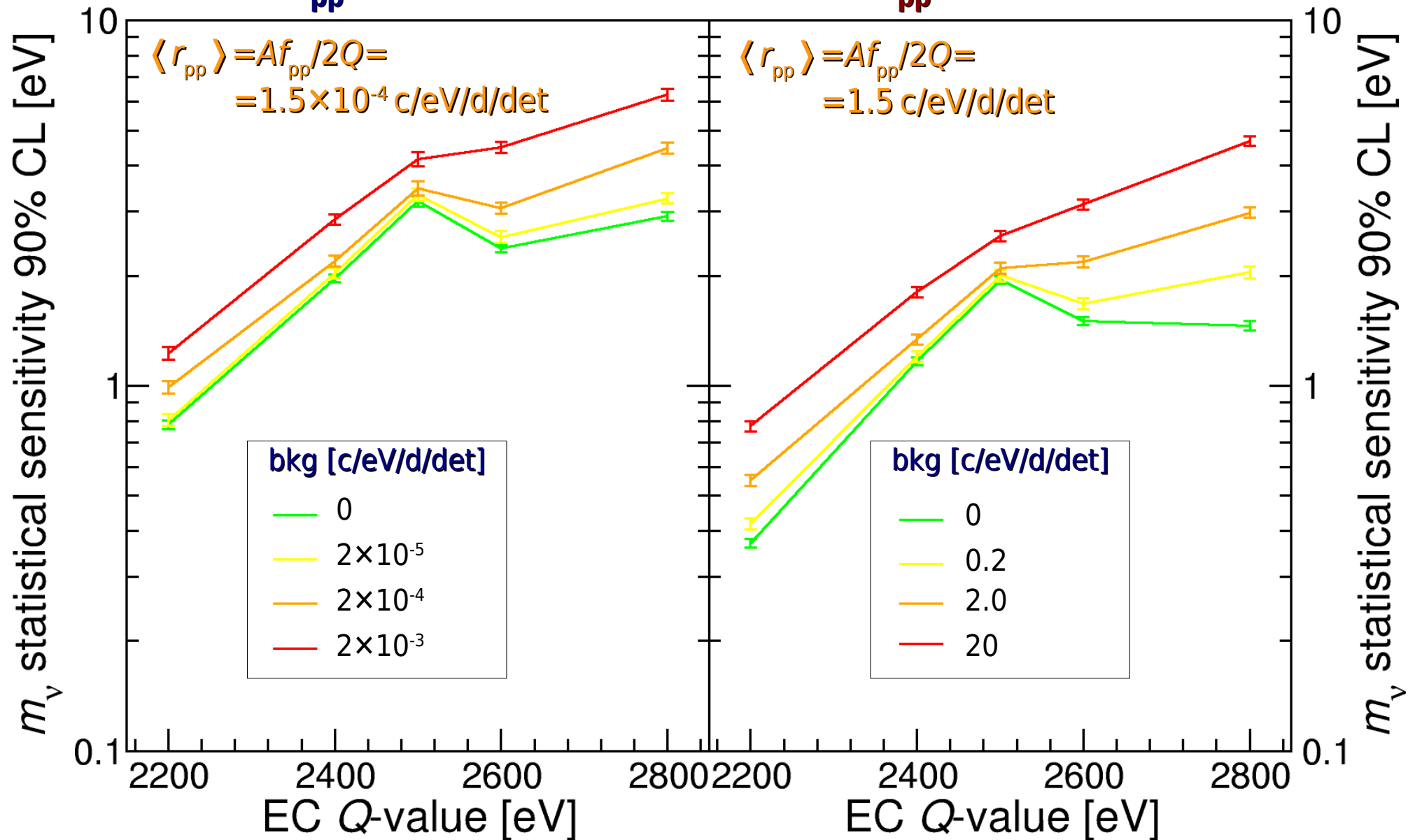
- **TES @NIST (1600m)**:  $350 \times 350 \times 2.5 \mu\text{m}^3$  Bi absorbers

▶  $\text{bkg} < 1 \text{c/eV/d/det}$  (preliminary measurement: not conclusive...)

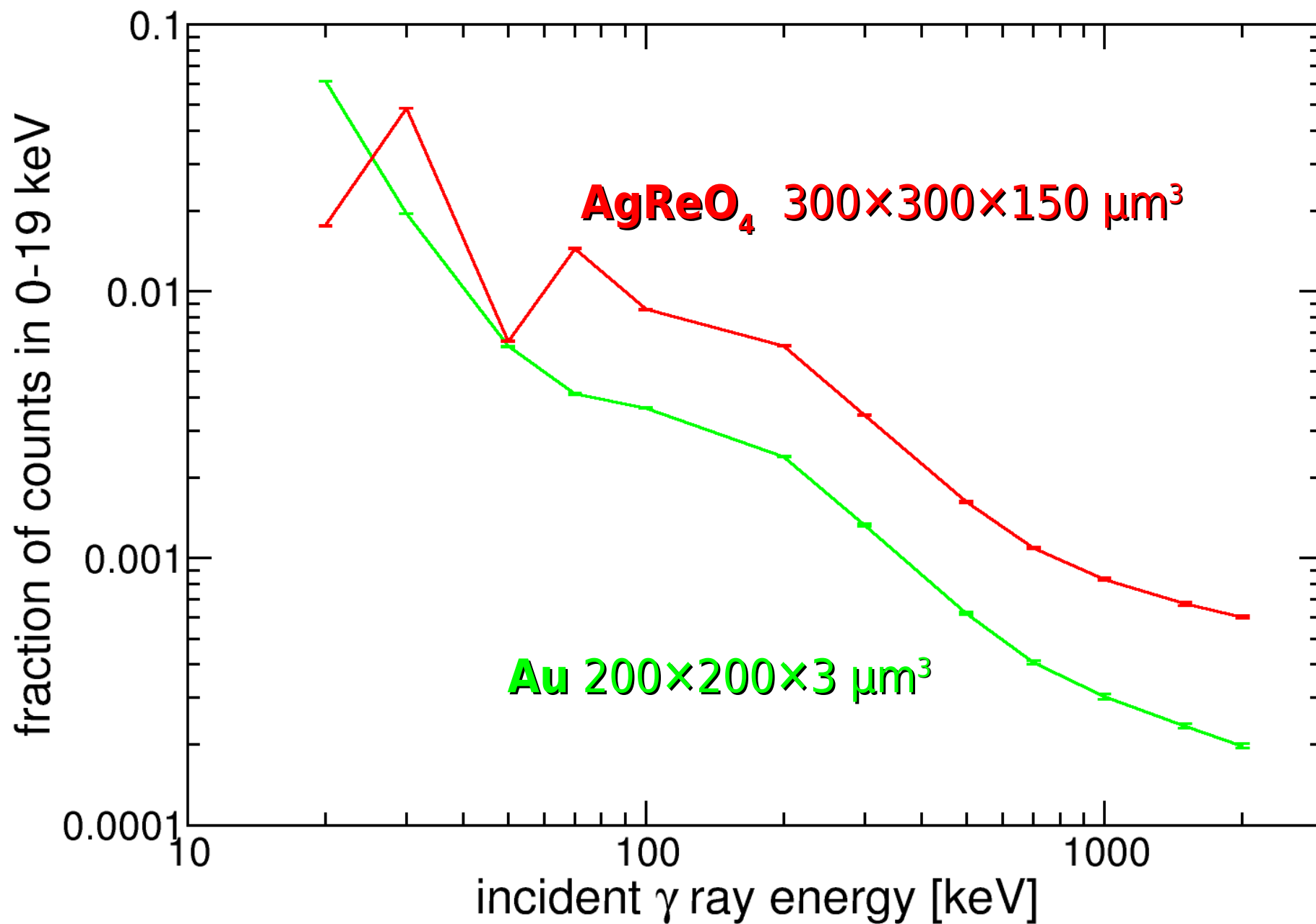
# Effect of background on sensitivity

**$A=3\text{Hz/det}$**   
 **$f_{pp} = 3 \times 10^{-6}$**

**$A=300\text{Hz/det}$**   
 **$f_{pp} = 3 \times 10^{-4}$**



## Low energy background sources / 2



# ***HOLMES tasks***

---

- $^{163}\text{Ho}$  isotope production
- $^{163}\text{Ho}$  isotope embedding in detector
- single TES optimization and testing
- TES array design, engineering and testing
- **SQUID read-out and multiplexing optimization and testing**
- **room temperature signal processing and in-line analysis**
- cryogenic set-up

# $^{163}\text{Ho}$ production and embedding

## ■ $^{163}\text{Ho}$ production by nuclear reaction

- ▶ high yield
- ▶ low by-products contaminations (in particular  $^{166\text{m}}\text{Ho}$ ,  $\beta$   $\tau_{1/2}=1200\text{y}$ )
- ▶ not all cross sections are well known
  - neutron activation of enriched  $^{162}\text{Er}$  (nuclear reactor)
  - $^{163}\text{Dy}(p,n)^{163}\text{Ho}$   $E_p > 10$  MeV (direct, low yield → PSI?)
  - $^{\text{nat}}\text{Dy}(\alpha,xn)^{163}\text{Er}$  and  $^{159}\text{Tb}(^7\text{Li}, 3n)^{163}\text{Er}$

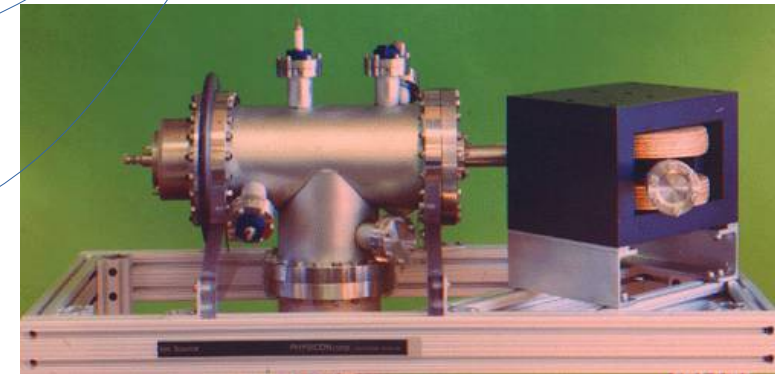
**HOLMES baseline**

## ■ $^{163}\text{Ho}$ Separation from Dy, Er and more ...

- ▶ radiochemistry (before and/or after irradiation)
- ▶ magnetic mass separation
- ▶ resonance ionization laser ion source (RILIS)?

## ■ $^{163}\text{Ho}$ embedding in detector absorber

- ▶ implantation (+magnetic separation)
- ▶ Au film deposition for full containment



**ECHO**

J.W. Engle et al., NIM B 311 (2013) 131-138

particle	$p$	$n$ $10^{14}$ n/cm <sup>2</sup> /s	$p$ 16 MeV 80 $\mu\text{A}$	$p$ 24 MeV 240 $\mu\text{A}$	$\alpha$ 40 MeV 30 $\mu\text{A}$
target	W/Ta	$^{162}\text{Er}$ (40%)	$^{\text{nat}}\text{Dy}$ 200mg/cm <sup>2</sup>	$^{\text{nat}}\text{Dy}$ 20g	$^{\text{nat}}\text{Dy}$ "thick"
$^{163}\text{Ho}$ prod rate [nuclei/h]	$10^{14}$	$10^{13-15}$ / mg $^{162}\text{Er}$	$10^{14}$	$10^{15}$	$10^{13}$

# $^{163}\text{Ho}$ production by neutron activation

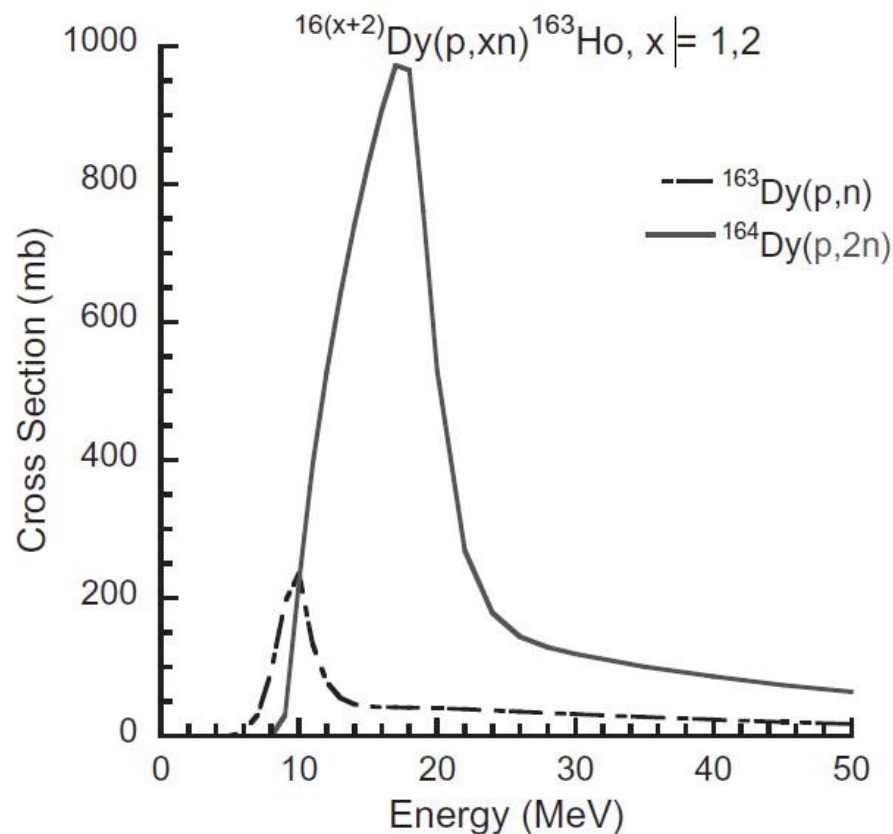


Tm 163 1.81 h $\epsilon$ $\beta^+$ ... $\gamma$ 104; 69; 241; 1434; 1397...	Tm 164 5.1 m, 2.0 m $\epsilon$ $\beta^+$ 2.9... $\gamma$ 91; 1155; 315... 769...	Tm 165 30.06 h $\epsilon$ $\beta^+$ ... $\gamma$ 243; 47; 297; 807...	Tm 166 7.70 h $\epsilon$ $\beta^+$ 1.9... $\gamma$ 779; 2052; 184; 1274...	Tm 167 9.25 d $\epsilon$ $\gamma$ 532... m	Tm 168 93.1 d $\epsilon$ ; $\beta^+$ ... $\beta^-$ ... $\gamma$ 198; 816; 447...
Er 162 0.139 $\sigma$ 19 $\sigma_{n,\alpha} < 0.011$	Er 163 75 m $\epsilon$ $\beta^+$ ... $\gamma$ (1114...) g	Er 164 1.601 $\sigma$ 13 $\sigma_{n,\alpha} < 0.0012$	Er 165 10.3 h $\epsilon$ no $\gamma$	Er 166 33.503 $\sigma$ 3 + 14 $\sigma_{n,\alpha} < 7\text{E-}5$	Er 167 2.3 s, 22.869 $\beta^-$ 208 $\sigma$ 650 $\sigma_{n,\alpha} 3\text{E-}6$
Ho 161 6.7 s, 2.5 h $\epsilon$ $\gamma$ 26; 78... $e^-$ $\beta^-$ 211	Ho 162 68 m, 15 m $\epsilon$ $\beta^-$ 58; 38... $\gamma$ 185; 1220; 283; 937... $\beta^+$ 1.1... $\gamma$ 81; 1319...	Ho 163 1.1, 4570 a $\epsilon$ no $\gamma$	Ho 164 37 m, 29 m $\epsilon$ $\beta^-$ 1.0... $\gamma$ 91; 73... $e^-$ $\beta^-$ 37; 57...	Ho 165 100 $\sigma$ 3.1 + 58 $\sigma_{n,\alpha} < 2\text{E-}5$	Ho 166 1200 a, 26.80 h $\beta^-$ 0.07... $\gamma$ 184; 810; 712 $\sigma$ 3100 $\beta^-$ 1.9... $\gamma$ 81... $e^-$
Dy 160 2.329 $\sigma$ 60 $\sigma_{n,\alpha} < 0.0003$	Dy 161 18.889 $\sigma$ 600 $\sigma_{n,\alpha} < 1\text{E-}6$	Dy 162 25.475 $\sigma$ 170	Dy 163 24.896 $\sigma$ 120 $\sigma_{n,\alpha} < 2\text{E-}5$	Dy 164 28.260 $\sigma$ 1610 + 1040	Dy 165 1.3 m, 2.35 h $\beta^-$ 108; $e^-$ $\beta^-$ 0.9; 1.3... 1.0... $\gamma$ 95; $\gamma$ 515... $\sigma$ 2000 $\sigma$ 3500
Tb 159 100	Tb 160 72.3 d	Tb 161 6.90 d	Tb 162 7.76 m	Tb 163 19.5 m	Tb 164 3.0 m

- only few experimental data for almost all cross sections involved
- possibly high yield
  - ▶  $\approx 3 \times 10^{12}$   $^{163}\text{Ho}$  nuclei/mg( $^{162}\text{Er}$ )/h for a thermal neutron flux of  $10^{13}$  n/cm<sup>2</sup>/s
- $^{163}\text{Ho}(n,\gamma)^{164}\text{Ho}$  (burn-up)?
- $^{165}\text{Ho}(n,\gamma)$  (from Ho contaminations or  $^{164}\text{Er}(n,\gamma)$ ) →  $^{166\text{m}}\text{Ho}$ ,  $\beta$   $\tau_{1/2} = 1200\text{y}$
- analyse  $^{163}\text{Ho}$  content in MARE-RD activated samples → ICPMS
- requires enrichment and oxide chemical form ( $\text{Er}_2\text{O}_3$ )

# $^{163}\text{Ho}$ production by $p$ irradiation

$^{163}\text{Dy} (p,n) ^{163}\text{Ho}$  and  $^{164}\text{Dy} (p,2n) ^{163}\text{Ho}$



Tm 163 1.81 h $\epsilon$ $\beta^+$ ... $\gamma$ 104; 69; 241; 1434; 1397...	Tm 164 5.1 m 2.0 m $\epsilon$ $\beta^+$ 2.0... $\gamma$ 91; 1155; 315... 769...	Tm 165 30.06 h $\epsilon$ $\beta^+$ ... $\gamma$ 243; 47; 297; 807...	Tm 166 7.70 h $\epsilon$ $\beta^+$ 1.9... $\gamma$ 779; 2052; 184; 1274...	Tm 167 9.25 d $\epsilon$ $\gamma$ 532... m	Tm 168 93.1 d $\epsilon$ ; $\beta^+$ ... $\beta^+$ ... $\gamma$ 198; 816; 447...
Er 162 0.139 $\sigma$ 19 $\sigma_n, \alpha < 0.011$	Er 163 75 m $\epsilon$ $\beta^+$ ... $\gamma$ (1114...) g	Er 164 1.601 $\sigma$ 13 $\sigma_n, \alpha < 0.0012$	Er 165 10.3 h $\epsilon$ no $\gamma$	Er 166 33.503 $\sigma$ 3 + 14 $\sigma_n, \alpha < 7E-5$	Er 167 2.3 s 22.869 $\gamma$ 208 $e^-$ $\sigma_n, \alpha 3E-6$
Ho 161 6.7 s 2.5 h $\epsilon$ $\gamma$ 26; 78... $e^-$ $\gamma$ 211	Ho 162 68 m 15 m $\epsilon$ $\beta^+$ 1.1... $\gamma$ 81; 1319... $e^-$ $\gamma$ 58; 38... 185; 1220; 283; 937...	Ho 163 1.1 s 4570 a $\epsilon$ no $\gamma$ $\gamma$ 298	Ho 164 37 m 29 m $\epsilon$ $\beta^+$ ... $\gamma$ 37; 57... $e^-$	Ho 165 100 $\sigma$ 3.1... 58 $\sigma_n, \alpha < 7E-5$	Ho 166 1200 a 26.80 h $\beta^-$ $\gamma$ 184; 810; 712 $\sigma$ 3100 $e^-$
Dy 160 2.329 $\sigma$ 60 $\sigma_n, \alpha < 0.0003$	Dy 161 18.889 $\sigma$ 600 $\sigma_n, \alpha < 1E-6$	Dy 162 25.475 $\sigma$ 170	Dy 163 24.896 $\sigma$ 120 $\sigma_n, \alpha < 2E-5$	Dy 164 28.260 $\sigma$ 1610 + 1040	Dy 165 1.1... 2.35 h $\beta^-$ $\gamma$ 108... 1.3... 1.0... $\gamma$ 95; 515... (362...) $\sigma$ 2000 $\sigma$ 3500
Tb 159 100	Tb 160 72.3 d	Tb 161 6.90 d	Tb 162 7.76 m	Tb 163 19.5 m	Tb 164 3.0 m

- only few experimental data for almost all cross sections involved
- metallic Dy target with natural composition
- lower yield
- many high energy neutrons produced by  $(p,xn)$  on Dy isotopes
  - ▶  $^{165}\text{Ho}(n,\gamma)$  (from Ho contaminations or  $^{164}\text{Dy}(n,\gamma)$ ) →  $^{166m}\text{Ho}$ ,  $\beta^-$   $\tau_{1/2} = 1200\text{y}$



# MARE-RD: $^{163}\text{Ho}$ / 1

- $^{163}\text{Ho}$  production by Er: $^{162}\text{Er}$  enriched neutron irradiation
  - ▷ 3 irradiations at Lisboa research reactor (ITN)
  - ▷ 1 irradiation at Grenoble reactor (ILL) → 1MBq of  $^{163}\text{Ho}$  (now cooling...)

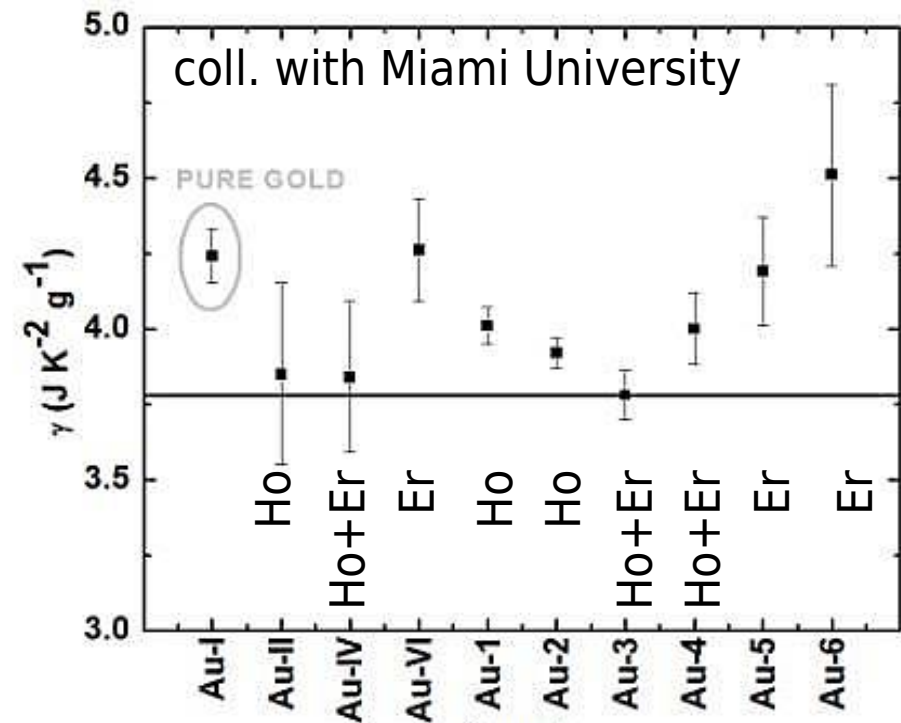
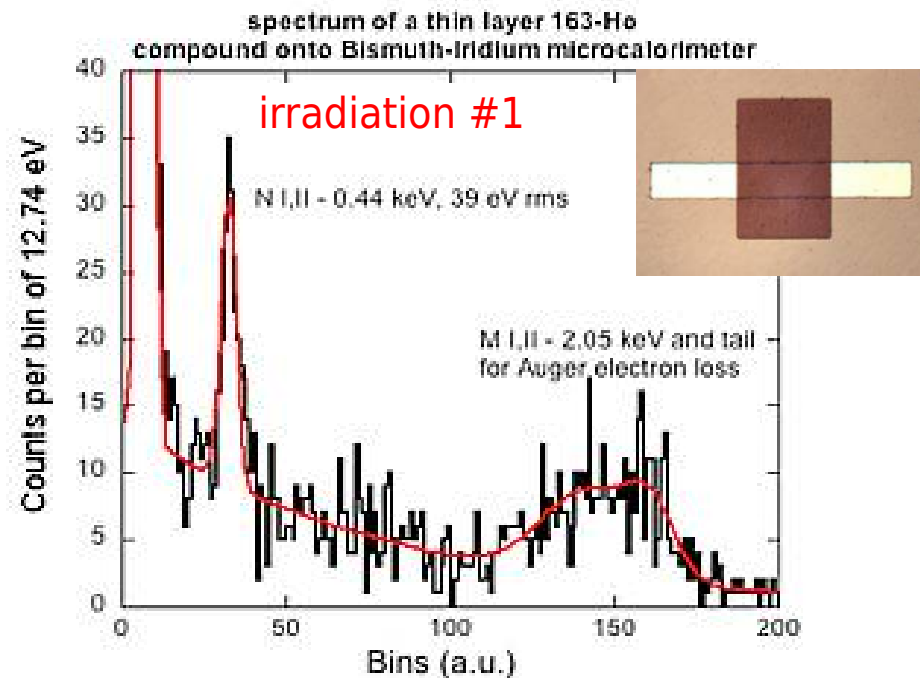
- $\text{Er}_2\text{O}_3/\text{Ho}_2\text{O}_3$  thermoreduction → metallic target for implantation

- ▷  $\text{Y}_5\text{Si}_3 + \text{Ho}_2\text{O}_3 \rightarrow \text{Y}_{5-x}\text{Ho}_x\text{Si}_3$  a 600-800°C: **didn't work out...**
- ▷  $\text{Ho}_2\text{O}_3 + 2\text{Y}(\text{met}) \rightarrow 2\text{Ho}(\text{met}) + \text{Y}_2\text{O}_3$  at 2000°C: **in progress...**

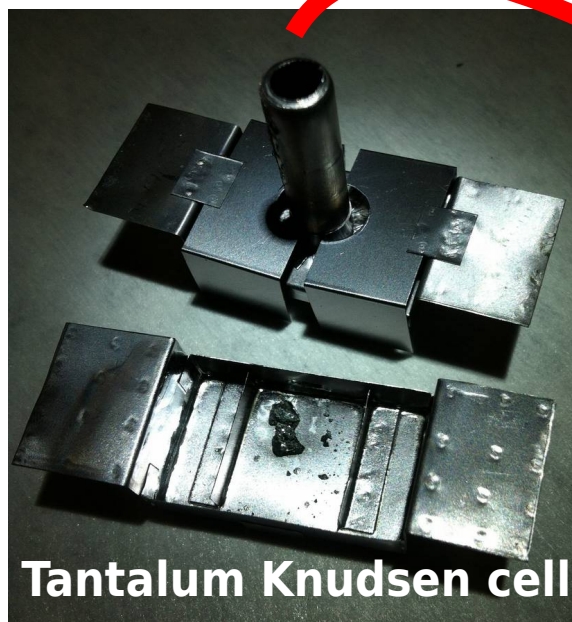
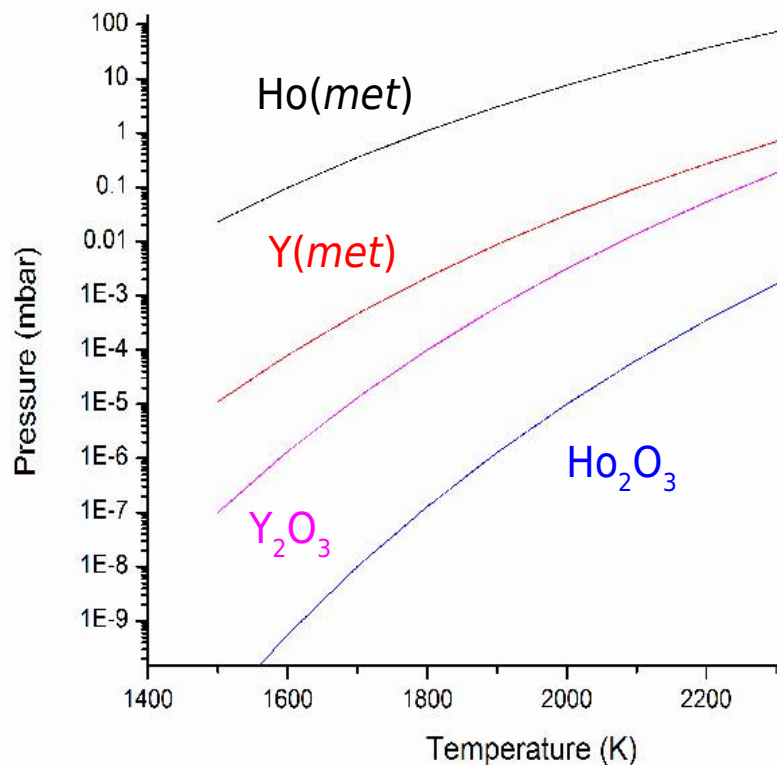


- effect of Ho/Er implantation in Au absorbers

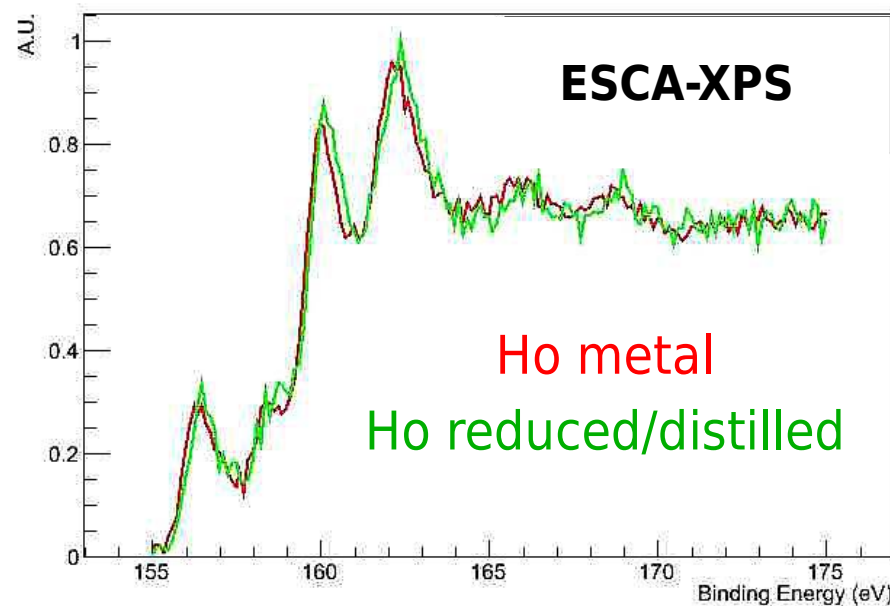
- ▷ magnetic contributions to Au heat capacity due to hyperfine interactions



# MARE-RD: Ho oxide reduction

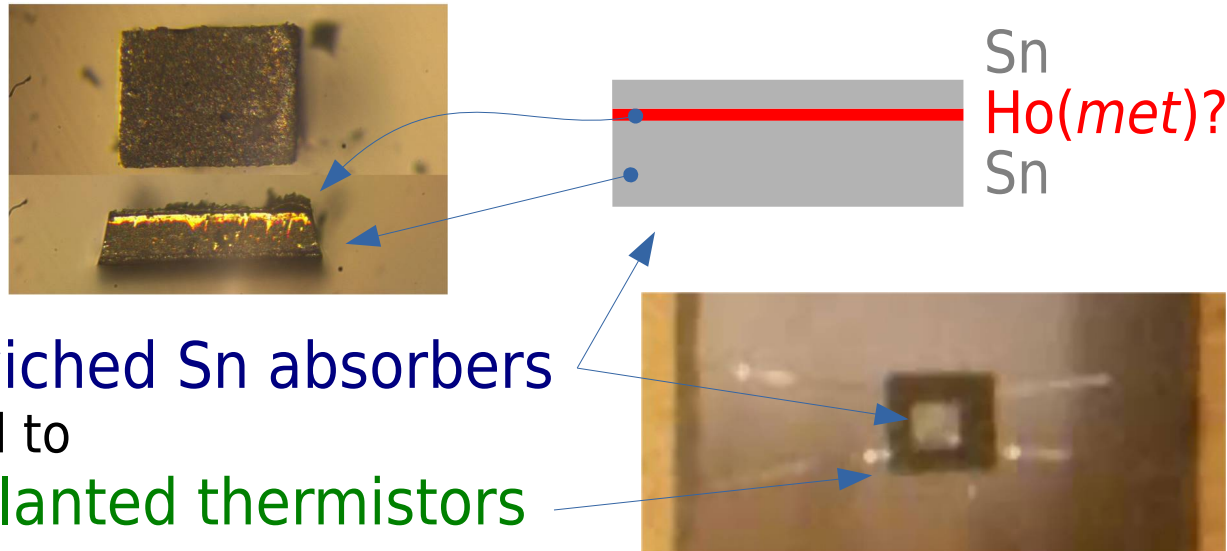


- Ho<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> distillation around 2000K
- XPS on deposited film:
  - 80% metallic Ho
  - 20% re-oxidized Ho

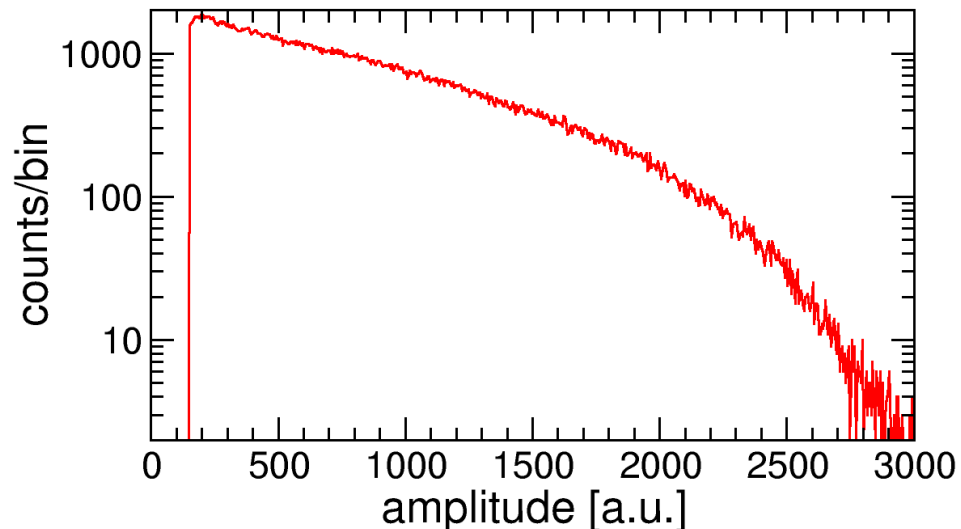


# MARE-RD: tests on irradiated samples

- sample from irradiated  $\text{Er}_2\text{O}_3$  ( $^{162}\text{Er}$  enriched at 20%) powder (#2)
- $\text{Er}_2\text{O}_3/\text{Ho}_2\text{O}_3$  distillation at  $\approx 2000\text{K}$
- deposition on thinned Sn single crystal



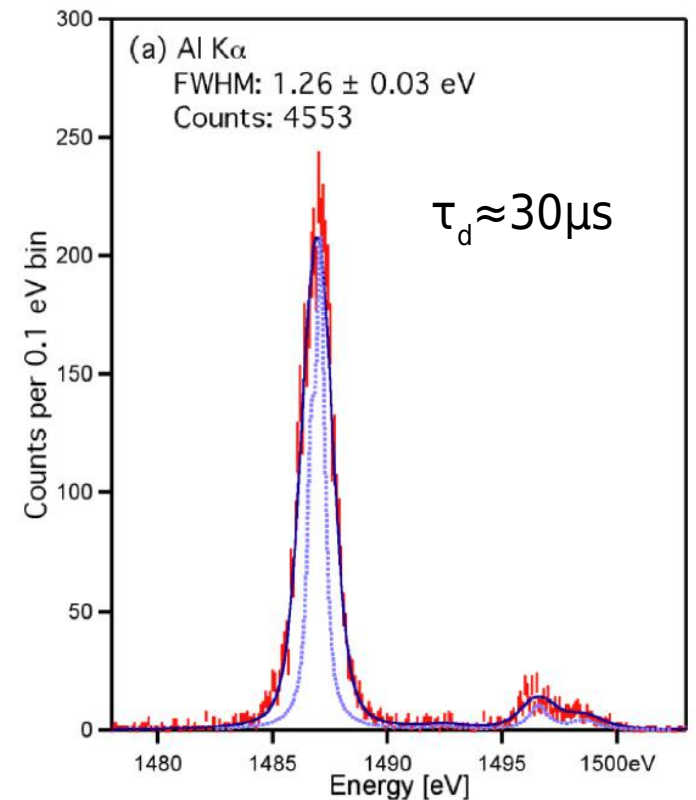
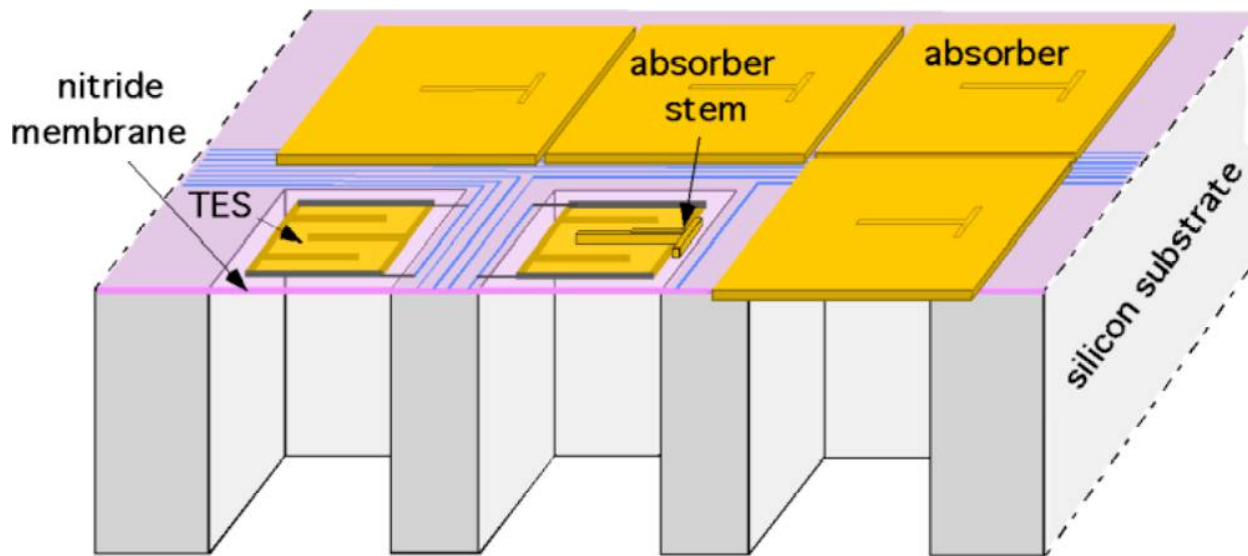
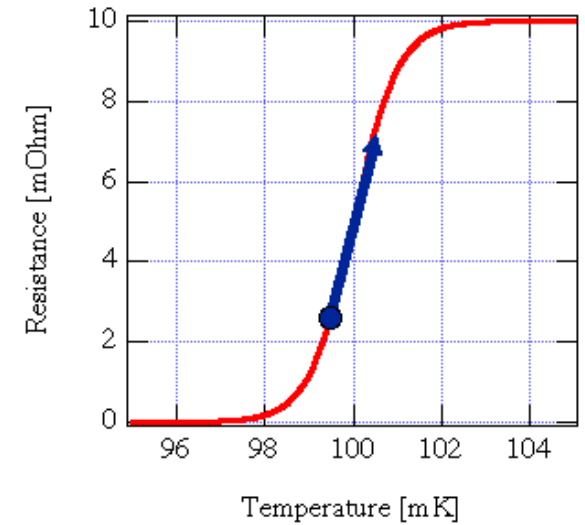
sandwiched Sn absorbers  
coupled to  
Si implanted thermistors



- ▶ no  $^{163}\text{Ho}$  peaks
- ▶ continuum  $\approx 1\text{c/s}$   
→  $\beta$  from  $^{152}\text{Eu}$  in irradiated sample?
- ▶ more tests...
- ▶ sample analysis ICPMS (@LNGS), ...
- ▶ sample purification

# HOLMES detectors

- Transition Edge Sensors (TES) with Au absorber
  - ▷ hot electron microcalorimeters with electro-thermal feedback
  - ▷ 2  $\mu\text{m}$  thick electrodeposited Au for full absorption
- MoAu or MoCu proximity TES  $\rightarrow T_c \approx 100\text{mK}$
- on  $\text{Si}_2\text{N}_3$  membrane

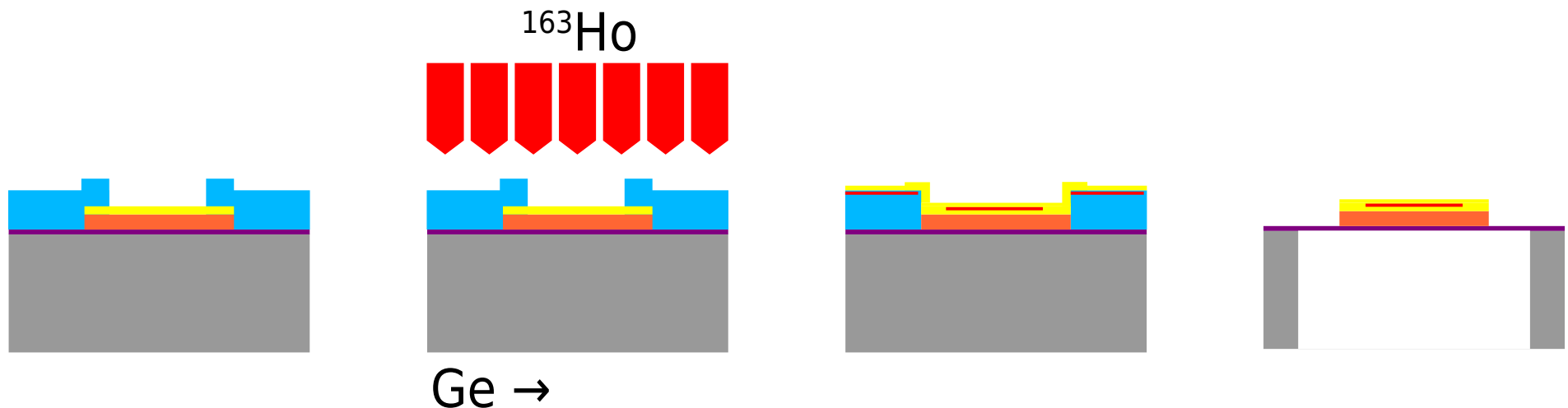


NASA/GSFC

# ***HOLMES detector array fabrication***

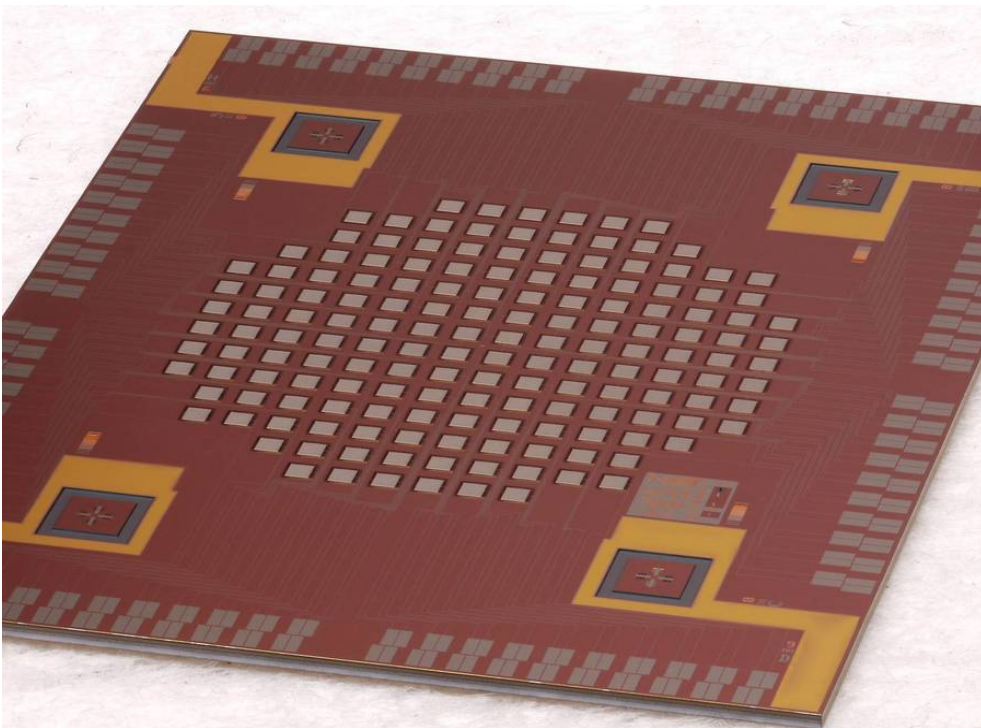
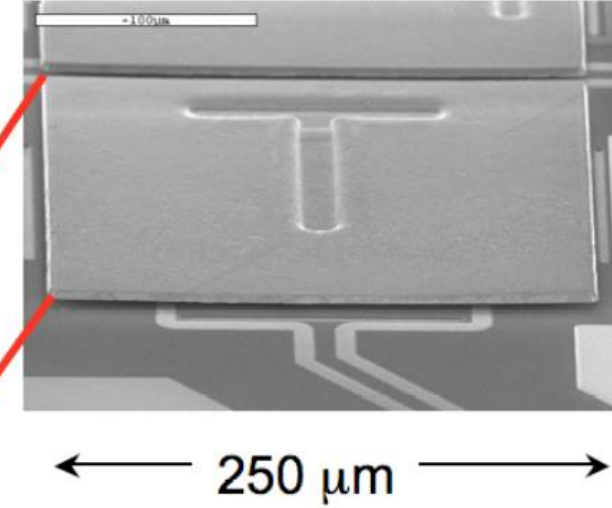
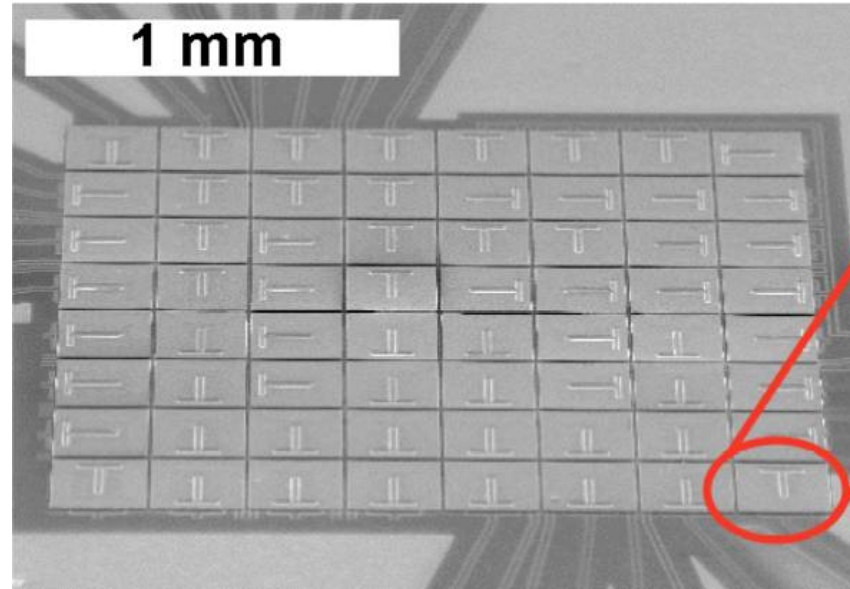
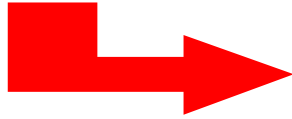
---

- single pixel development @Genova
  - ▷ optimize design for speed and resolution
  - ▷ define process for  $^{163}\text{Ho}$  implantation
- array design @Genova
- subcontract array fabrication
  - ▷ subcontractor fabricates array with  $1\ \mu\text{m}$  Au absorber
- Genova completes array fabrication
  - ▷ Genova implants  $^{163}\text{Ho}$  at shallow depth ( $\approx 100\text{\AA}$ )
  - ▷ Genova covers implant with  $1\ \mu\text{m}$  Au absorber
  - ▷ Genova completes array fabrication ( $\text{Si}_2\text{N}_3$  release)

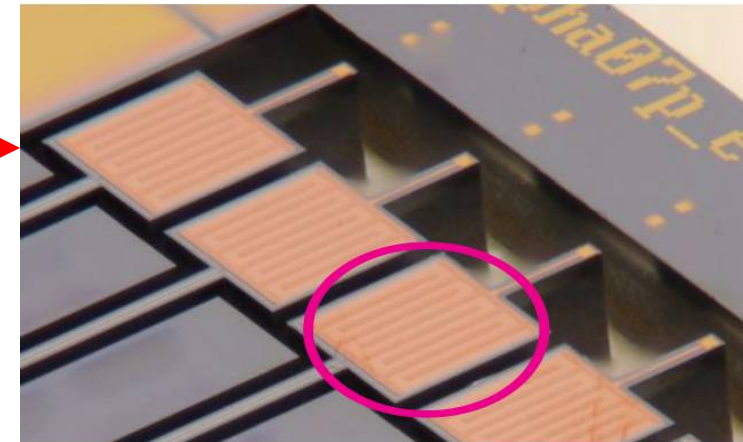


# HOLMES detector array

**NASA/GSFC**



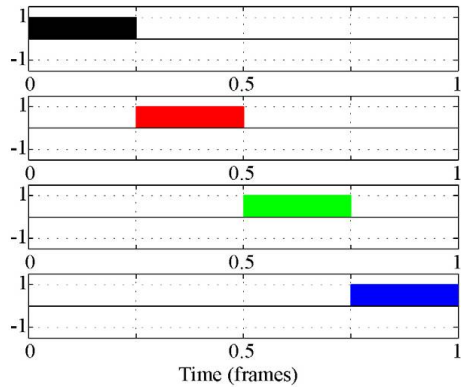
**NIST**



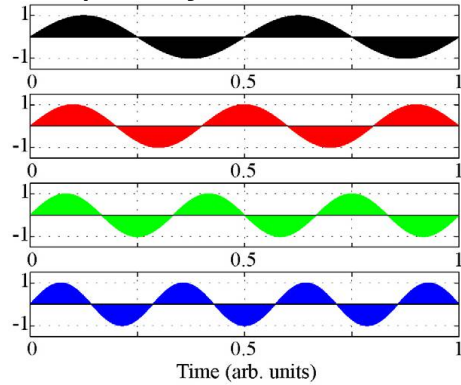
→ **HOLMES array: 256 sparse pixels (4x)**

# HOLMES array multiplexing

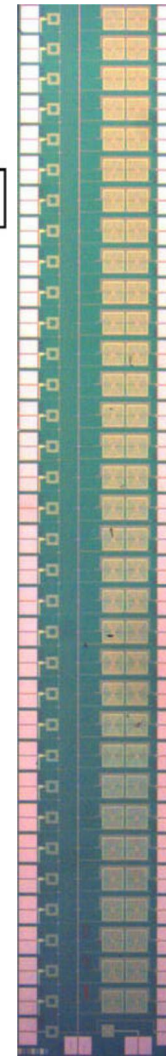
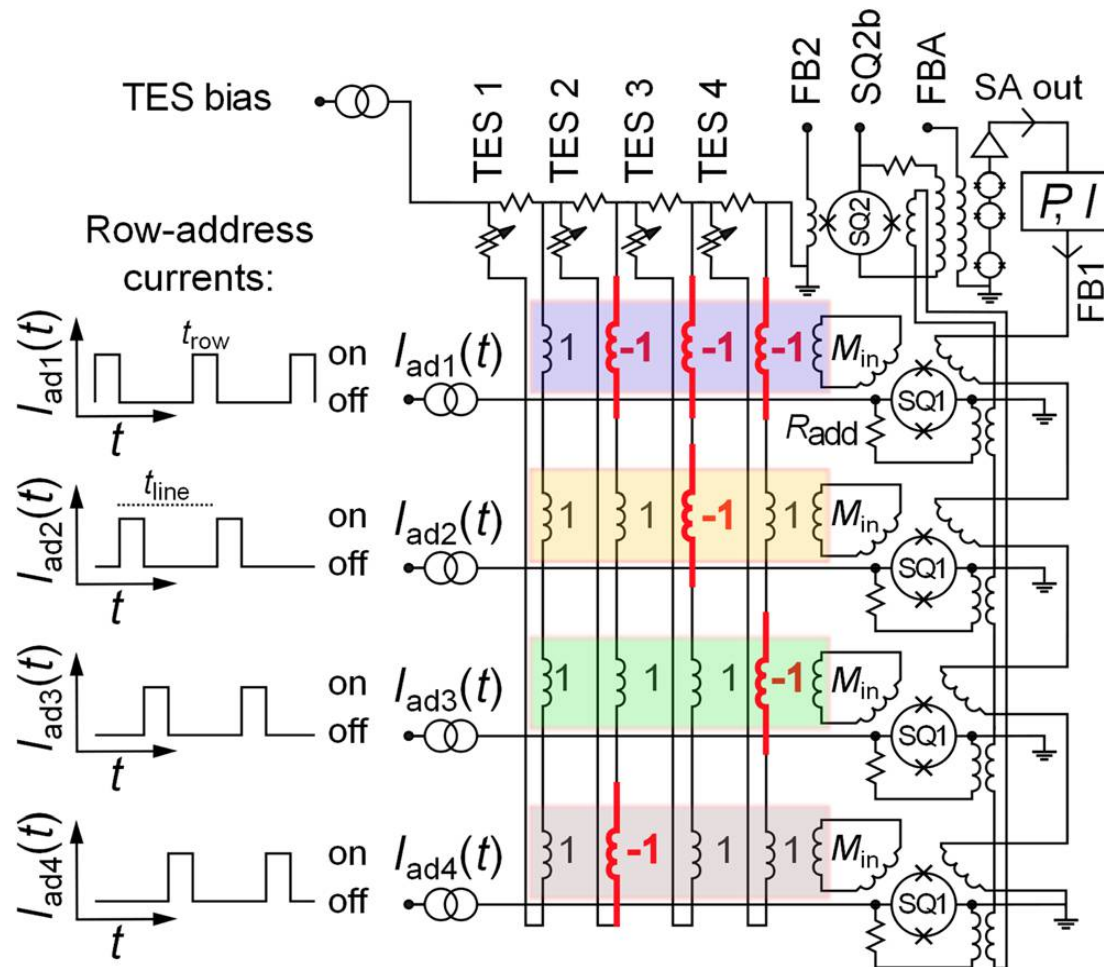
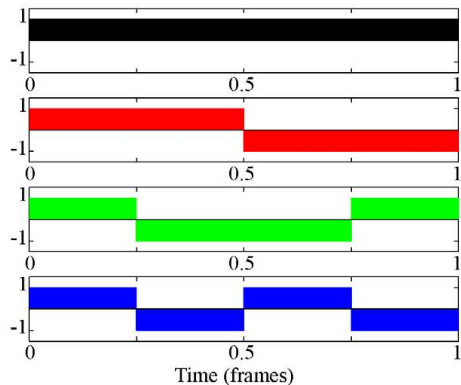
## Time Division Mux



## Frequency Division Mux



## Code Division Mux



**NIST  
32 row  
 $\Phi$ -CDM  
chip  
(1 column)**

M. Niemack et al., Appl. Phys. Lett. 96, 163509 (2010)  
G.M. Stiehl et al., Appl. Phys. Lett. 100, 072601 (2012)

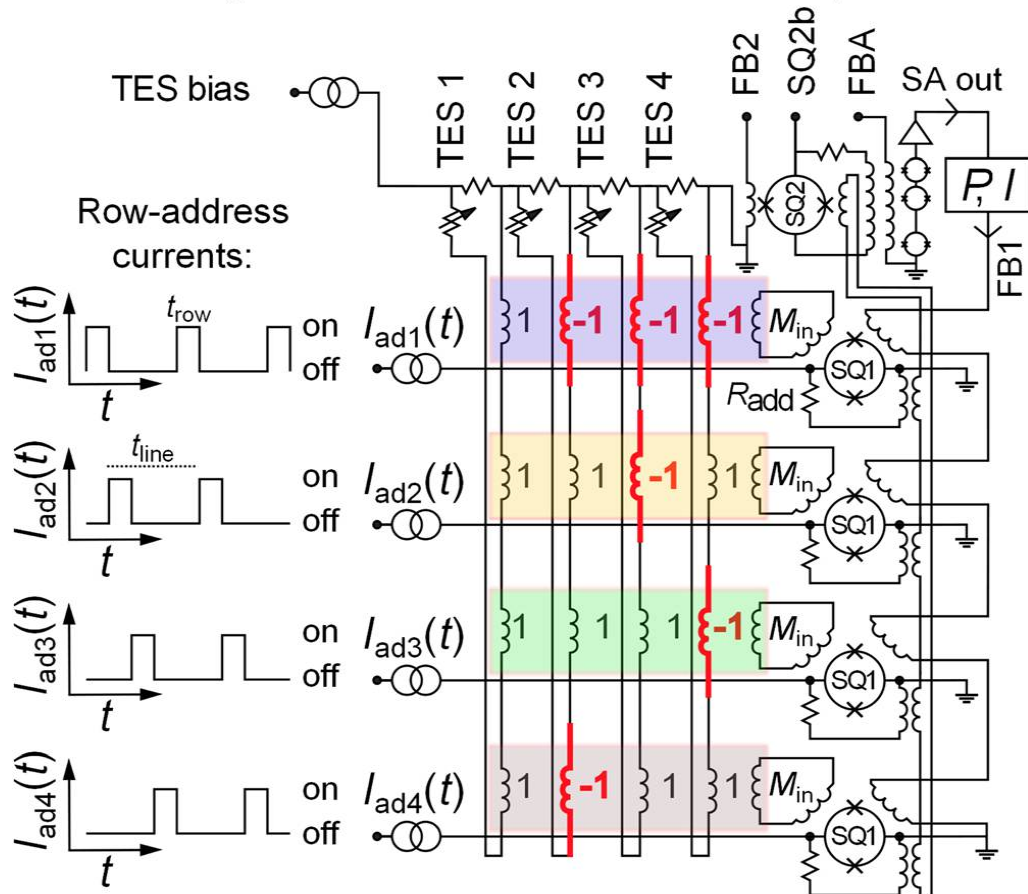
→ **HOLMES mux:  $\Phi$ -CDM with 16 row columns (64x)**  
→ 900 wires



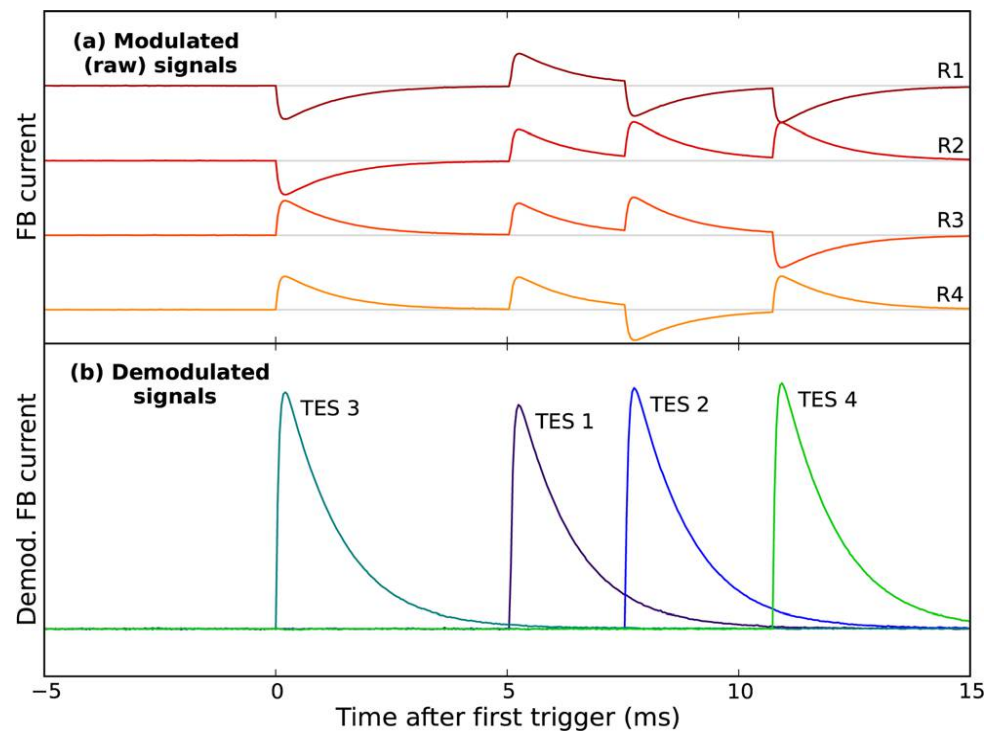


$$W_4 \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$W_8 \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



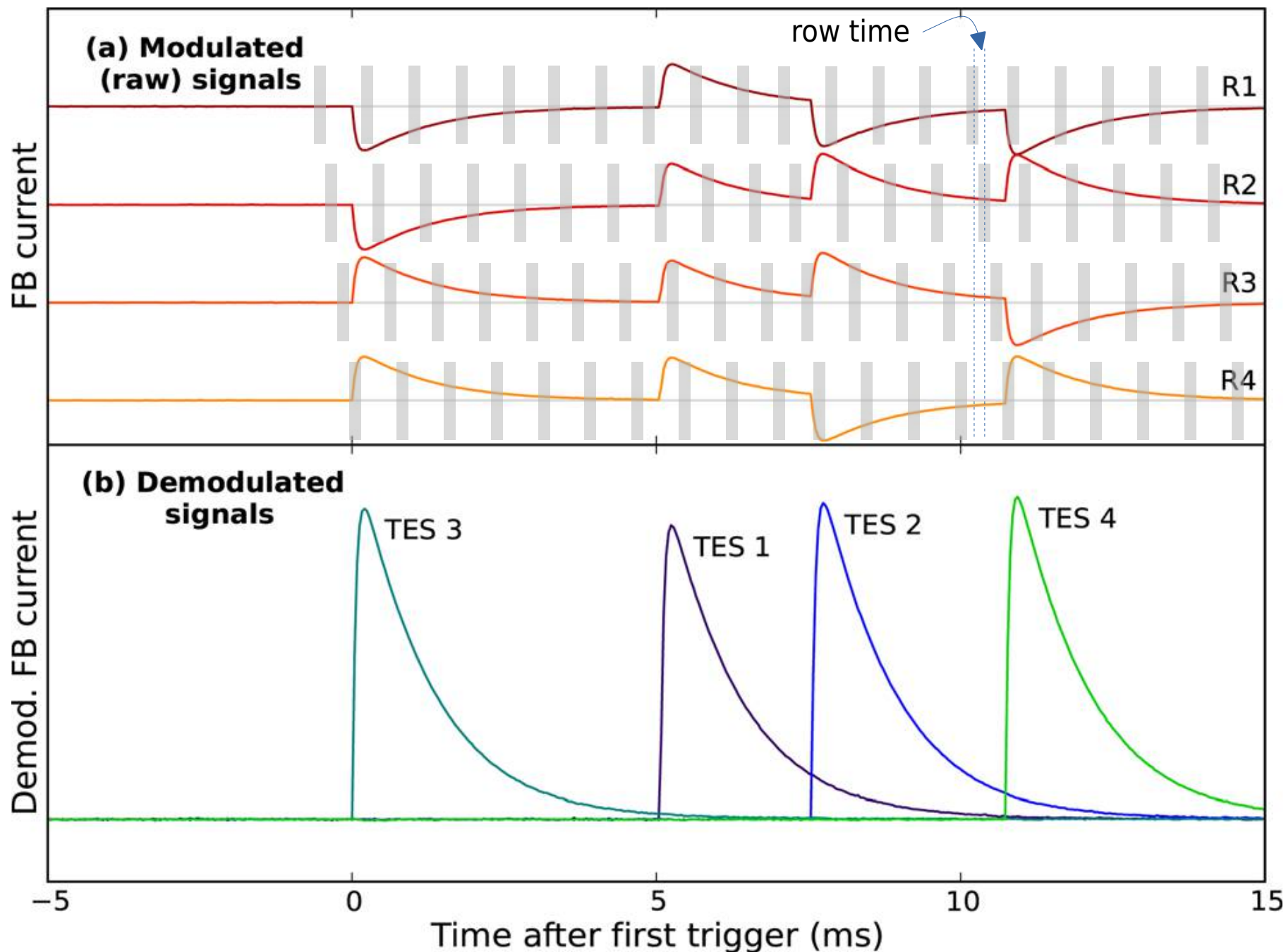
- TES DC biasing
- always ON TESs
- sub-frame sampling

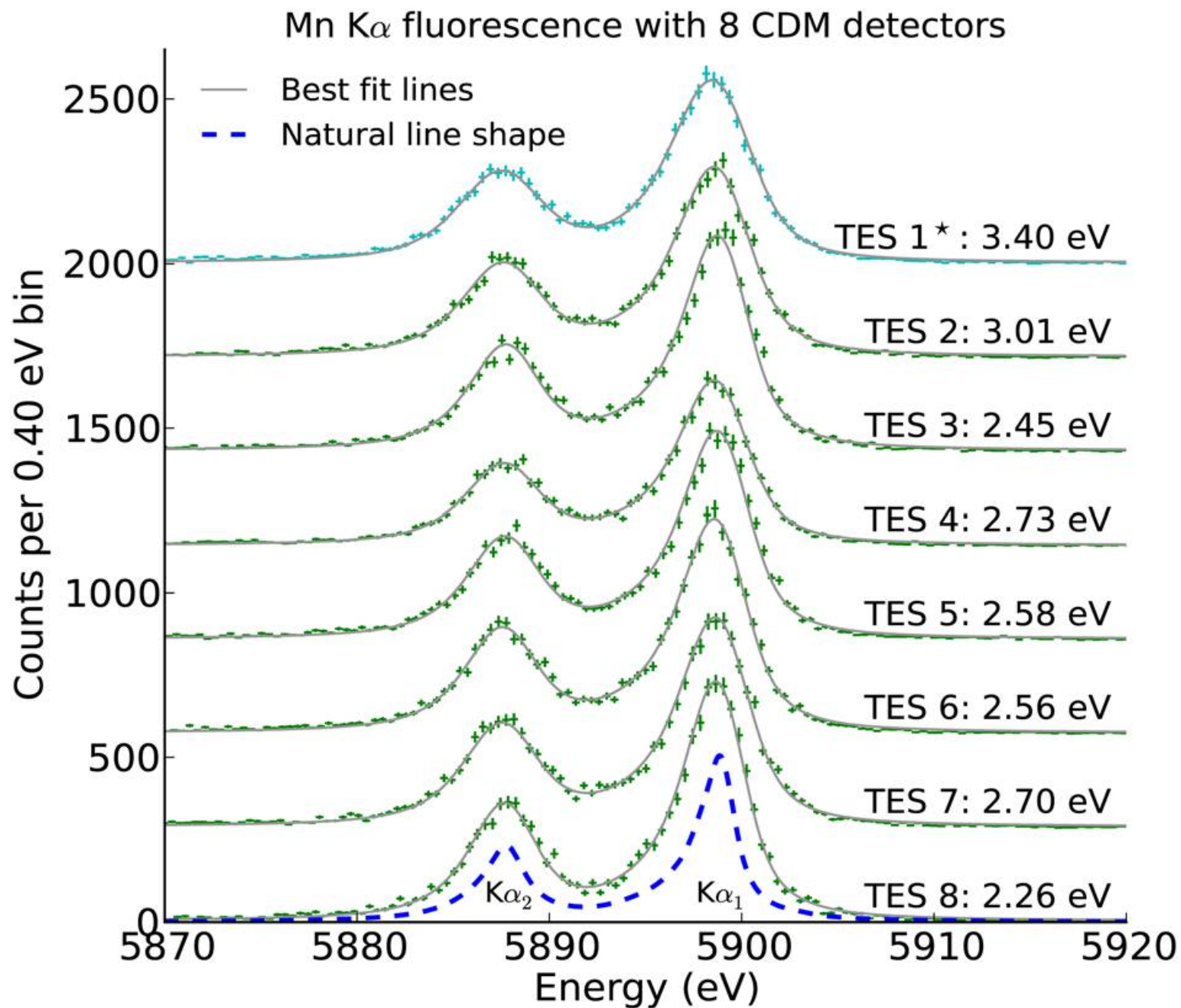


- speed?
- cross-talk?

# Sub-frame sampling

modulated signal sampling time (frame time) = 4 \* row time





# HOLMES signal processing and in-line analysis

**data throughput with digitized pulses**  
 **$3 \times 10^5$  decay/s  $\times$  2k (rec len)  $\times$  16 bit = 2.5GB/s**

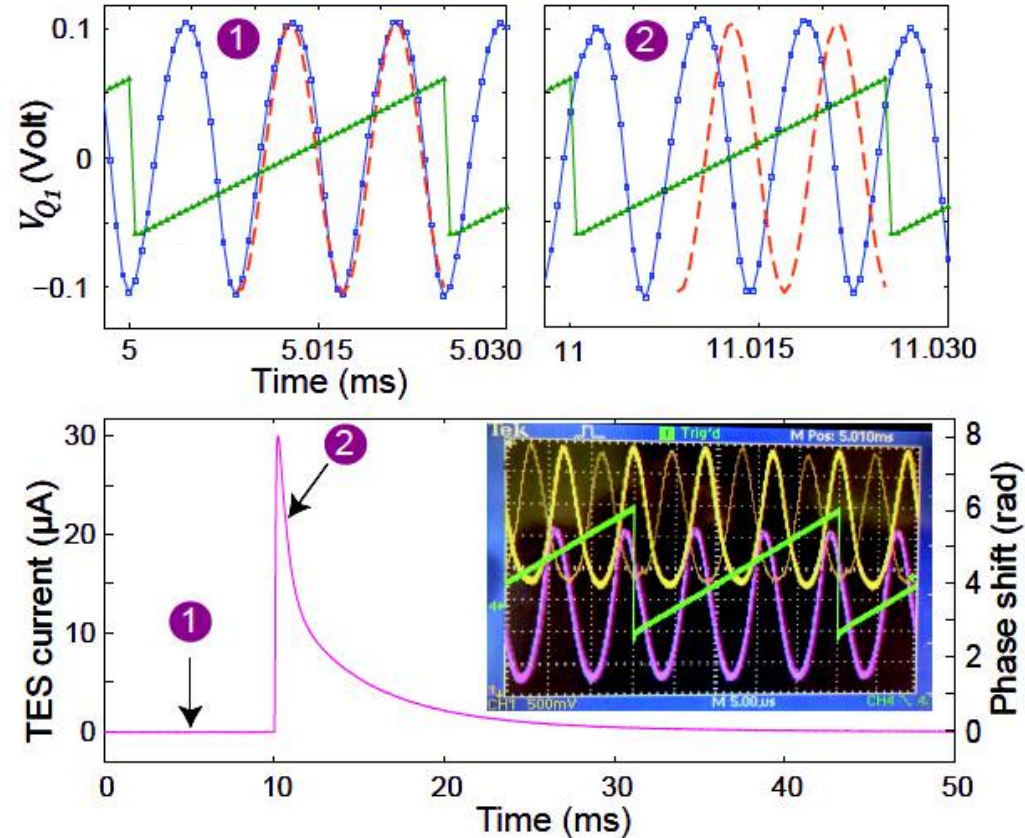
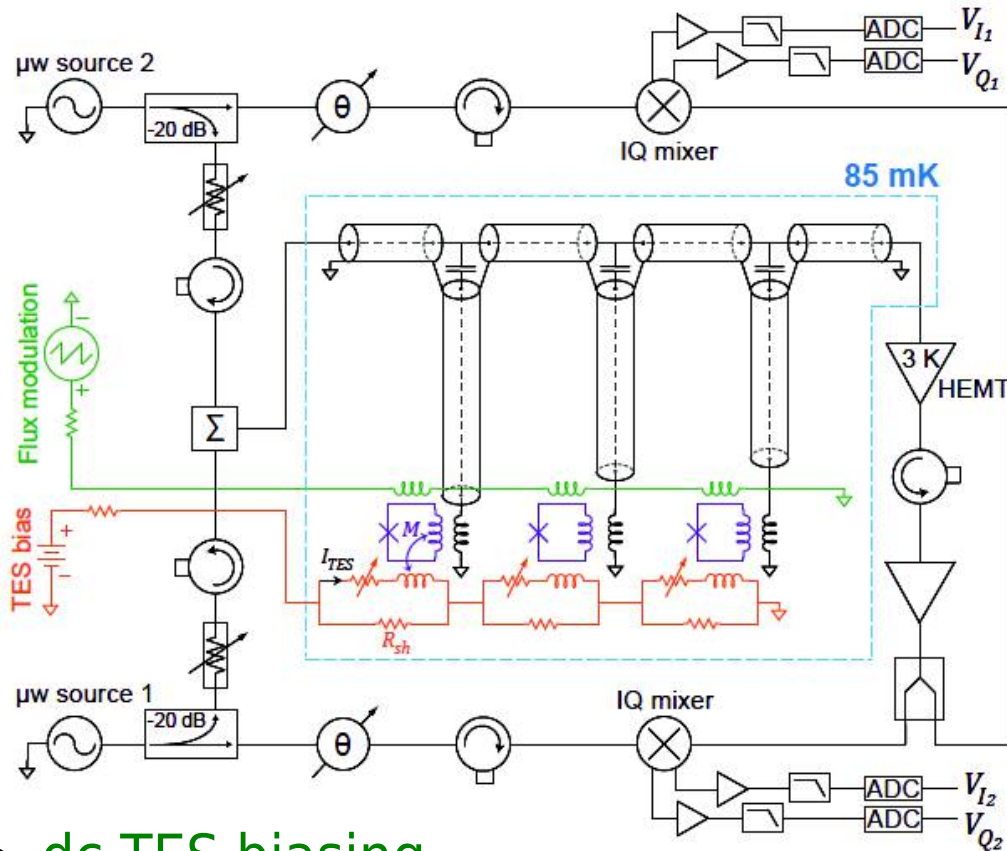
- reduce resolution (14 bit) and record length (256)
- **real time pulse processing**
  - ▶ optimal filtering, pile-up detection, pulse shape analysis
- commissioning and periodic minimum bias samples
  - ▶ full waveform saved to disk for off-line analysis
  - ▶ full spectrum (10% live time) and with 1.5keV threshold (90%)
  - ▶ 2.2TB/day
- normal data taking
  - ▶ save only n-tuples (16 16 bit words) for each event above 1.5keV
  - ▶ 90TB in 3 years
- **140TB total**

# Alternatives to HOLMES baseline

- **$^{163}\text{Ho}$  production route** (baseline: neutron activation of  $^{162}\text{Er}$ )
  - ▷  $^{163}\text{Dy}(p,n)^{163}\text{Ho}$   $E_p > 10$  MeV at PSI
- **Detector technology** (baseline: TES with multiplexed SQUID read-out)
  - ▷ Thermal mode microresonators with microwave multiplexing (FBK)
- **Detector read-out** (baseline: Code Division Multiplexing with dcSQUID)
  - ▷ microwave rfSQUID multiplexing
  - ▷ microwave mux with Kinetic inductance parametric up-converter

# RF SQUID multiplexing

## 2 channel $\mu$ mux



- dc TES biasing
- always ON TESs

bandwidth/pix 10MHz

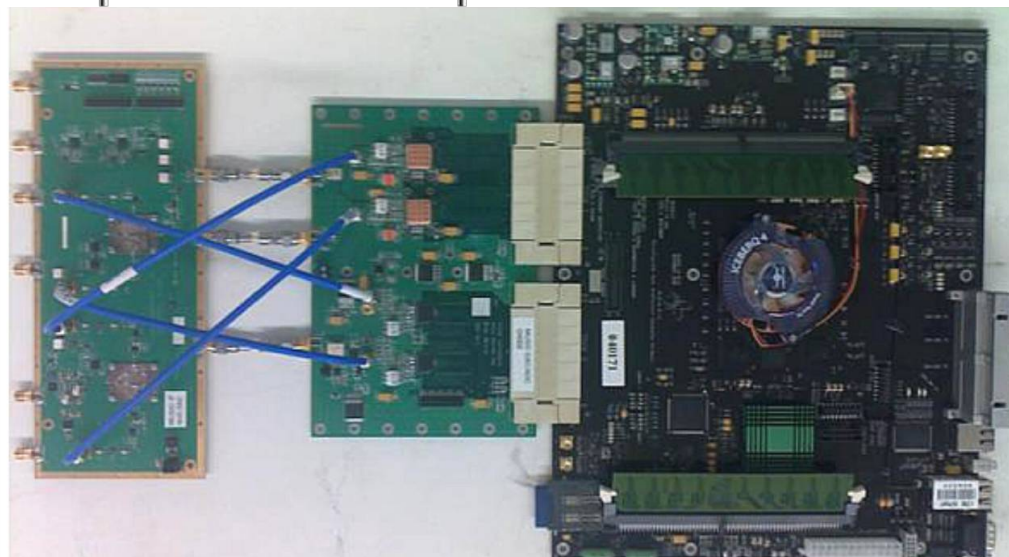
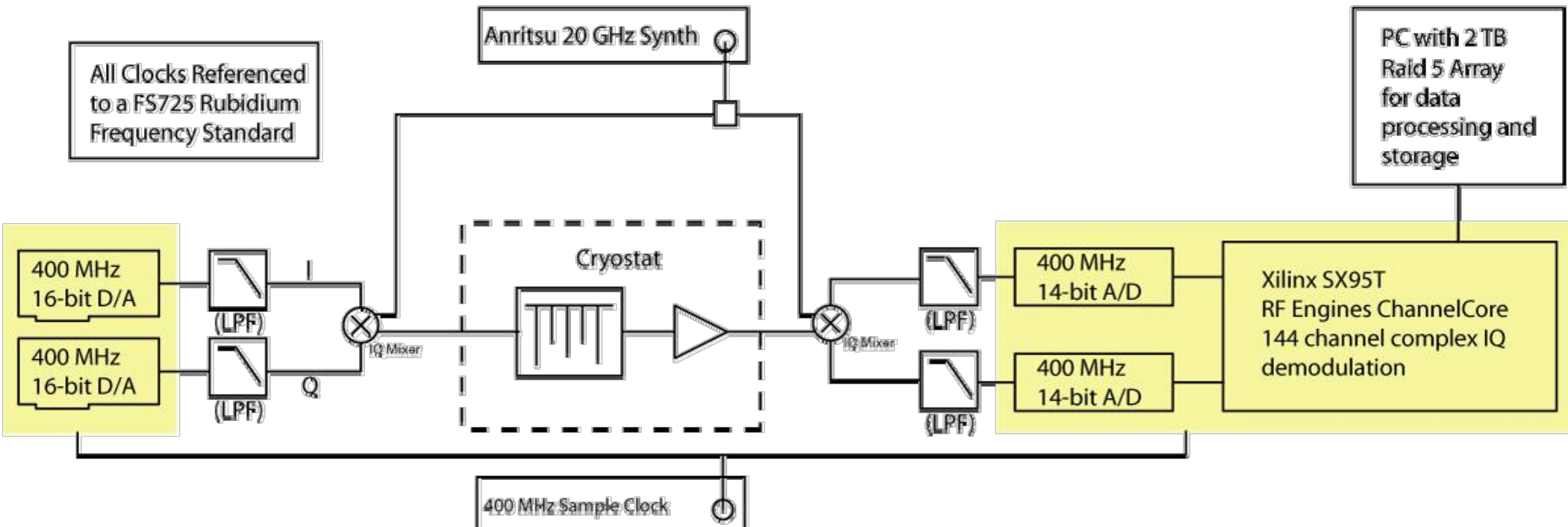
→ 50 resonances between 0 and 500MHz

→ up-conversion → 5-5.5GHz

→ down-conversion → 0-500MHz → demux

# RF SQUID multiplexing / 2

Digital multiplexing (Software Defined Radio) based on ROACH-2 open system



## **large arrays for high flux high resolution X-rays spectroscopy**

- astrophysics → ATHENA, ...
- material science → XAS, XAS imaging, XRF, XES ...
  - ▷ chemistry and biology
  - ▷ archeometry
  - ▷ ...
- time resolved sub-picosecond XAS
- nuclear safeguard and nuclear reactor fuel diagnostic



# HOLMES schedule

Activities	Tasks	Project year									
		Y1		Y2		Y3		Y4		Y5	
		6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60
<b>Isotope production</b>	Production optimization										
	Final production										
<b>Pixel optimization</b>	TES sensor design optimization and tests										
	Absorber <sup>163</sup> Ho embedding										
	Absorber with isotope optimization										
<b>Array</b>	Prototype production and testing										
	4x4 array production										
	32x32 array engineering and production										
<b>Multiplexed read-out</b>	SQUID/MUX development and tests										
	SQUID/MUX prototype										
	SQUID and MUX production										
<b>RT electronics and data processing</b>	Analog/digital signal processing R&D and tests										
	Analog/digital signal processing for prototype										
	Analog/digital signal processing for HOLMES										
	Server and storage system										
<b>Software Tools</b>	Neutrino mass analysis package										
	In-line signal processing algorithm development										
<b>Cryogenics</b>	Temporary set-up for testing										
	Dilution refrigerator installation										
	Set-up for prototype measurement										
	HOLMES setu-up										
<b>Physics Measurements</b>	4x4 array commissioning and data taking										
	32x32 array commissioning										
	Engineering run										
	HOLMES data taking										
	Preliminary analysis and physics results										

**Project Start: 1 Feb 2014**

# Conclusions

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- **HOLMES is challenging project!**
  - it will assess the potential of  $^{163}\text{Ho}$
  - it will give interesting limits on the neutrino mass
  - it may be a technology demonstrator for an experiment with  $\leq 0.1$  eV sensitivity