

Bubble Chambers for Dark Matter

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PICO Collaboration

CAP Congress Jun 18, 2014



PICO



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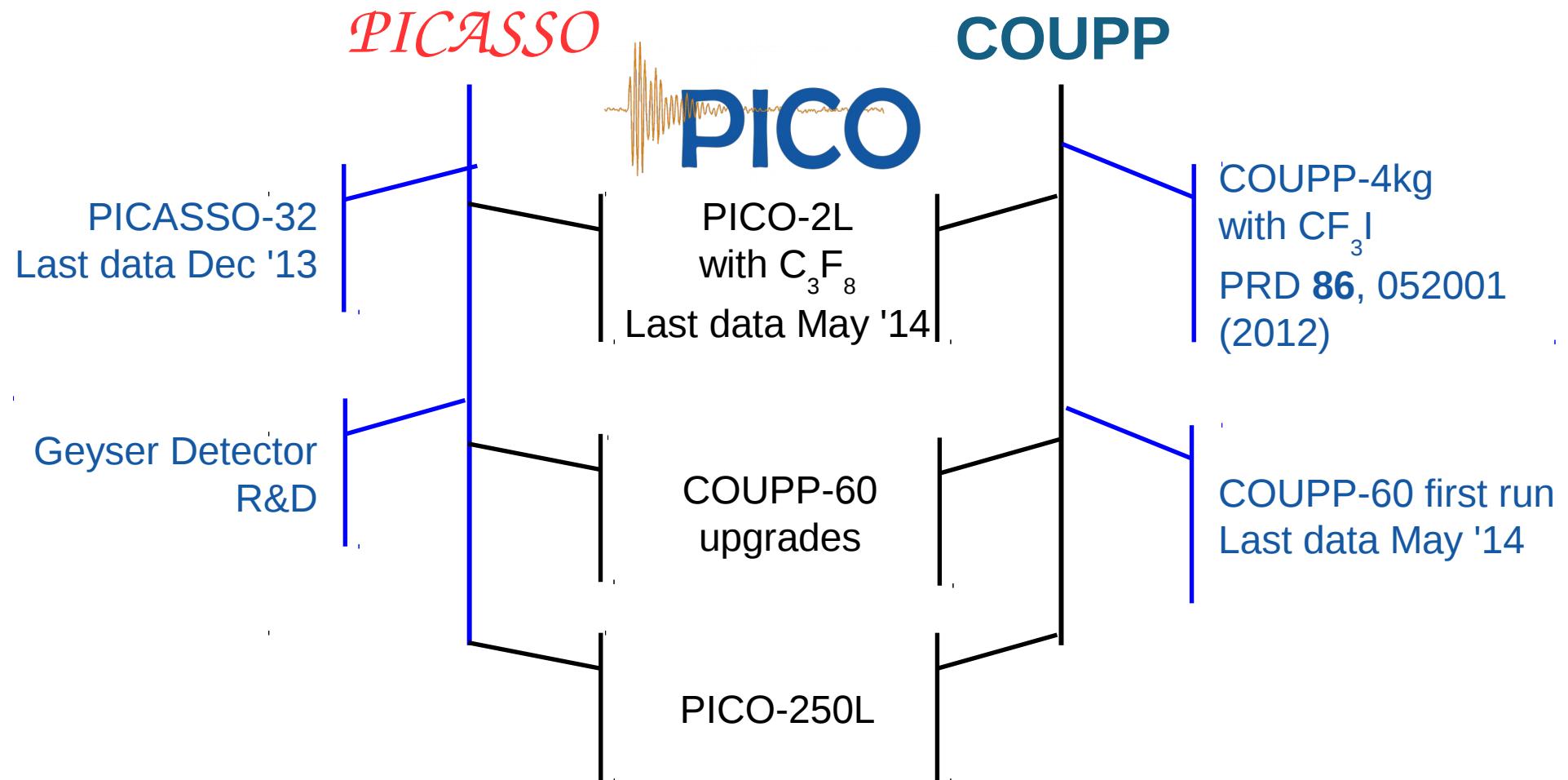


K. Clark



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PICO PICASSO & COUPP at SNOLAB





Why Bubble Chambers?

They're Scalable



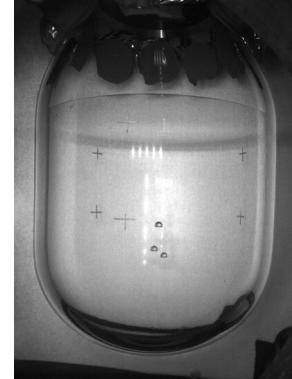
2005
First COUPP prototype



2007
1-L bubble chamber



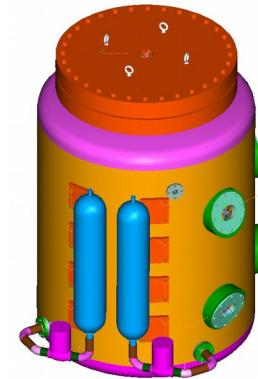
2009
COUPP-4kg at FNAL
Acoustic Discrimination



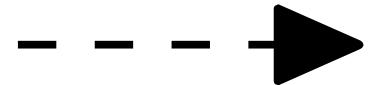
2010
COUPP-4kg at SNOLAB
COUPP-60 at FNAL



2013
COUPP-60 at SNOLAB
PICO-2L



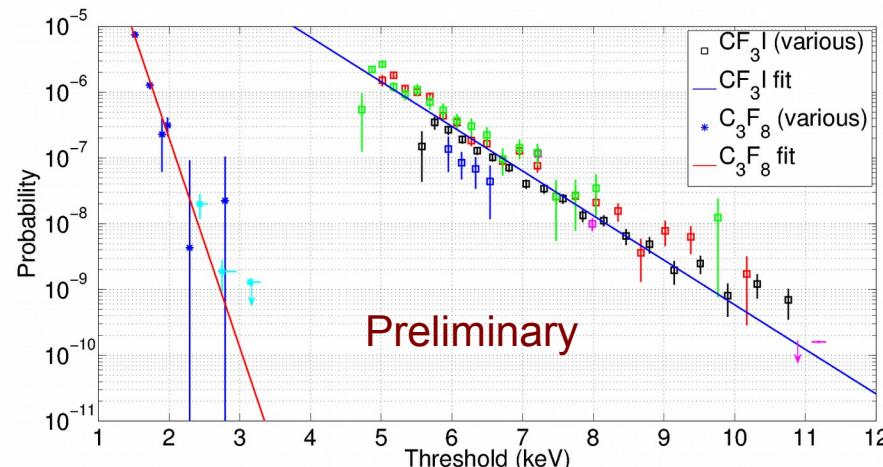
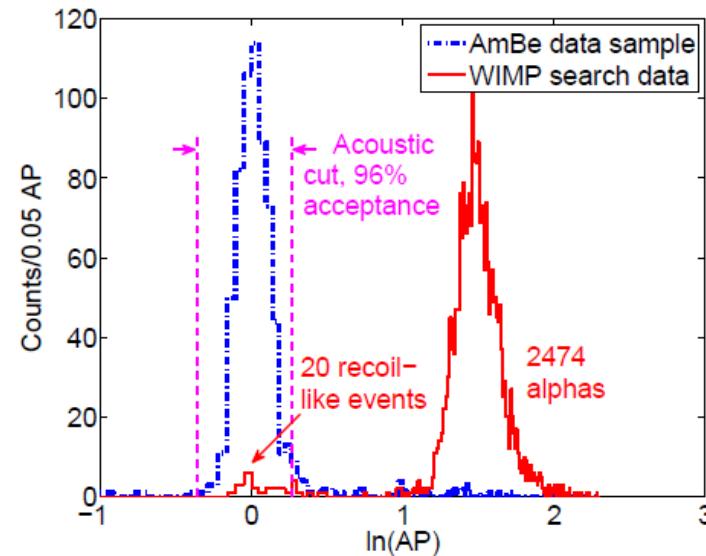
2016
PICO-250 ?



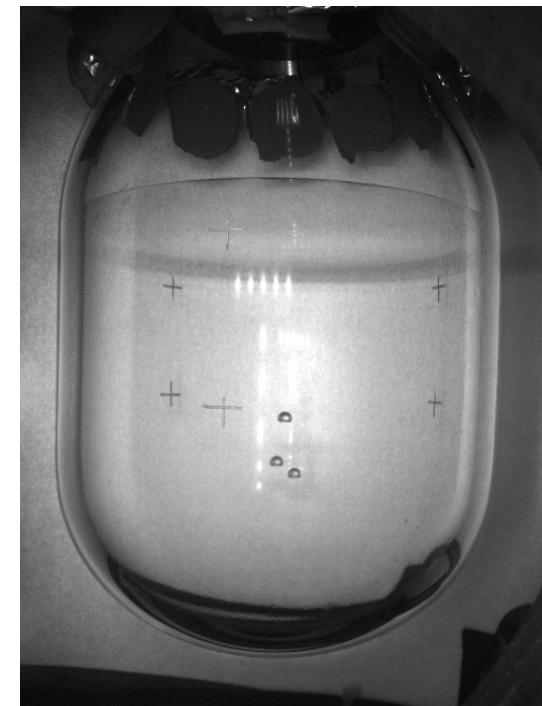
Impressive Background Rejection

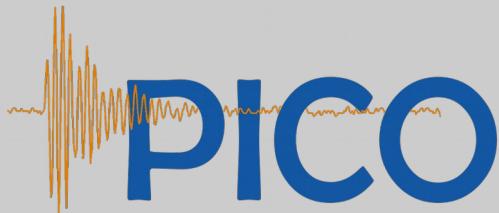
Acoustic Alpha
Discrimination

Gamma
Interaction
Insensitivity



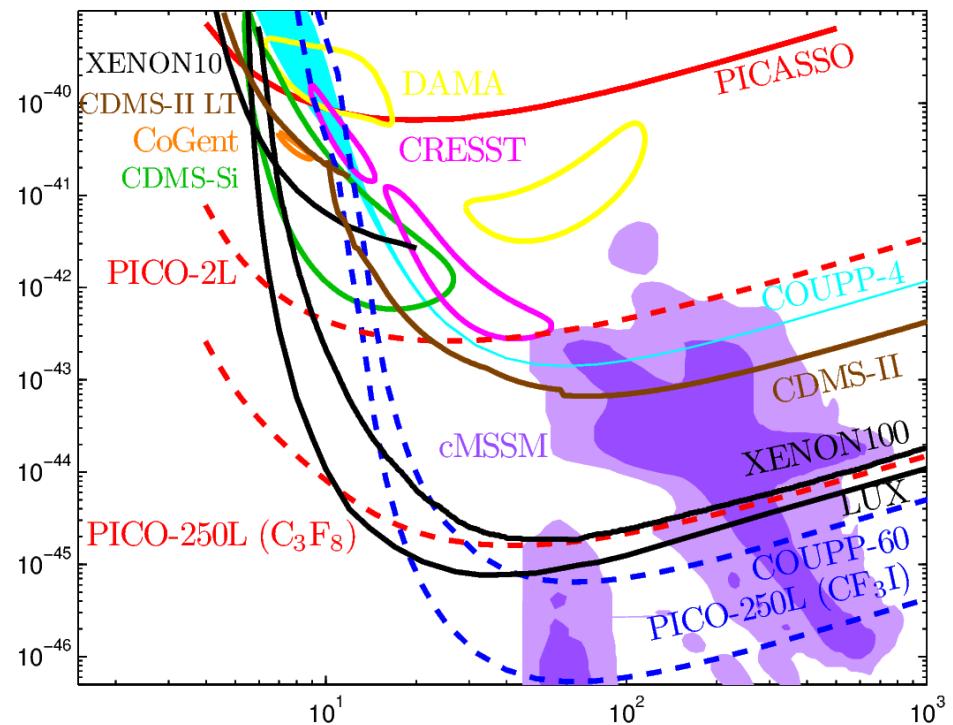
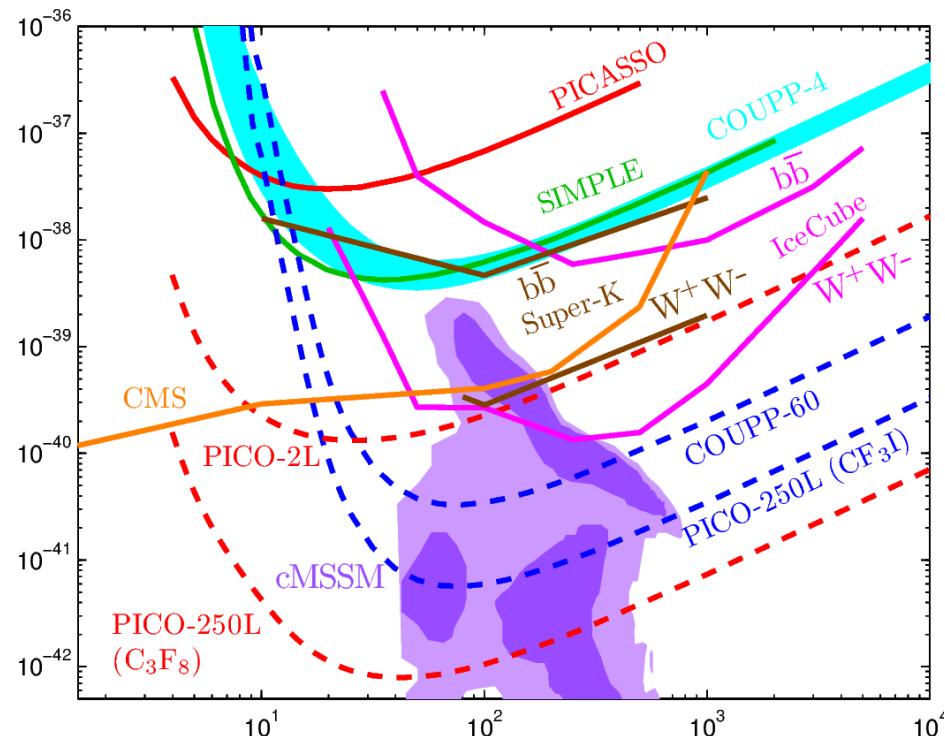
Multiple Neutron
Scattering





Why Bubble Chambers?

Spin-dependent & Low mass
Ability to change target fluid

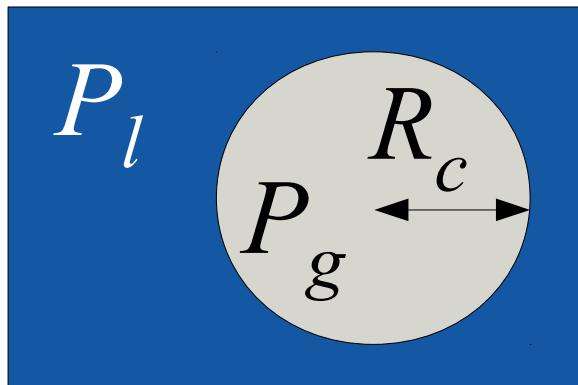




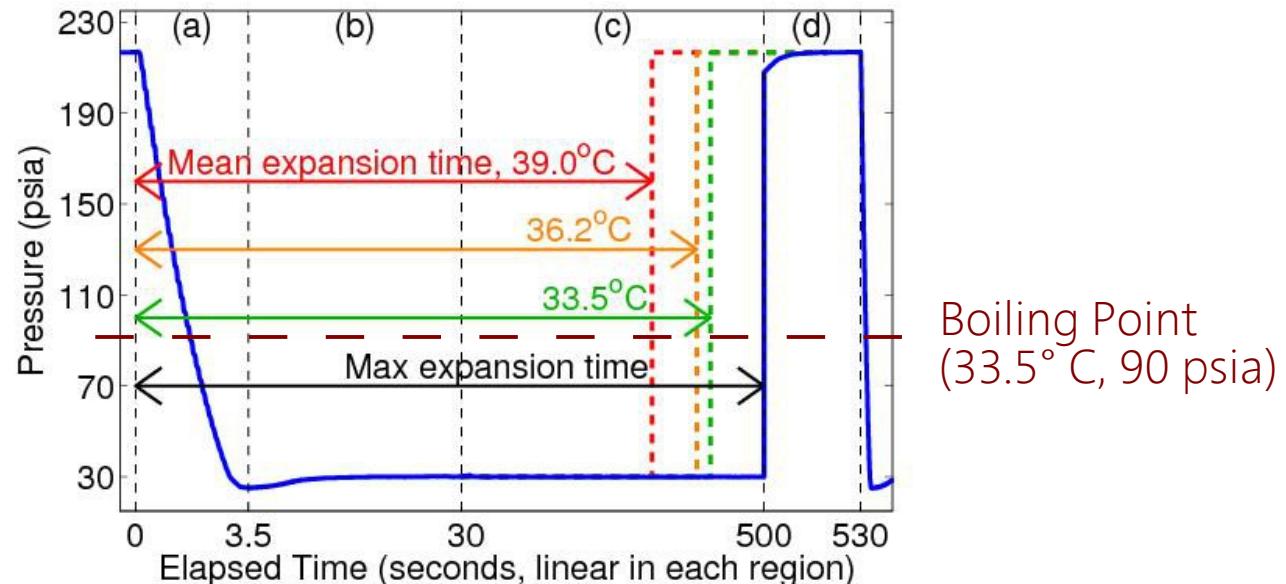
PICO How it works

Radiation induced boiling of superheated fluid.

Bubble Chamber operation cycle



$$P_g - P_l = \frac{2\sigma}{R_c}$$

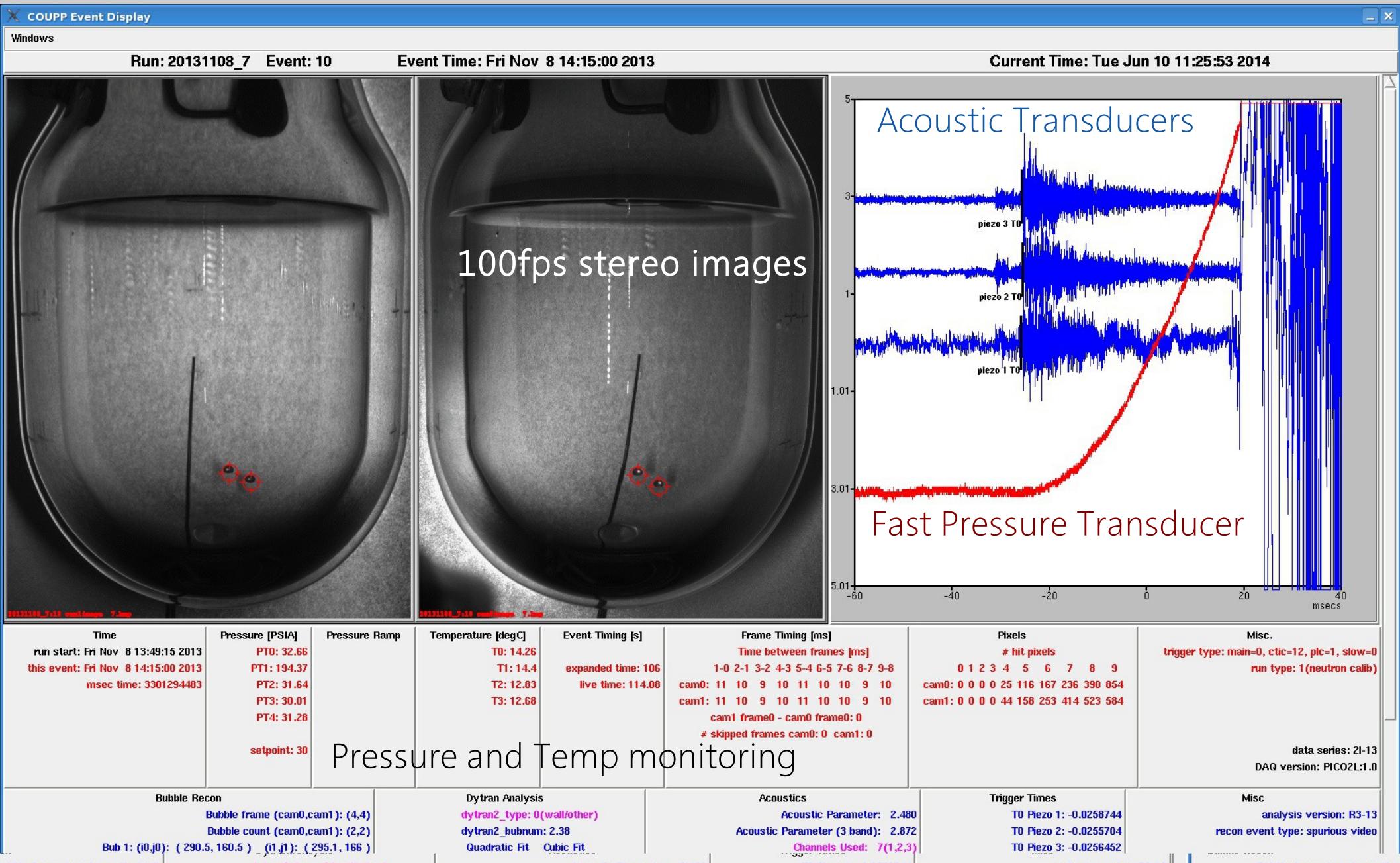


Latent Heat

Surface Formation

$$Q = \frac{4\pi}{3} r_c^3 \rho_b (h_b - h_l) + 4\pi r_c^2 \left(\sigma - T \frac{d\sigma}{dT} \right)$$

PICO How it works

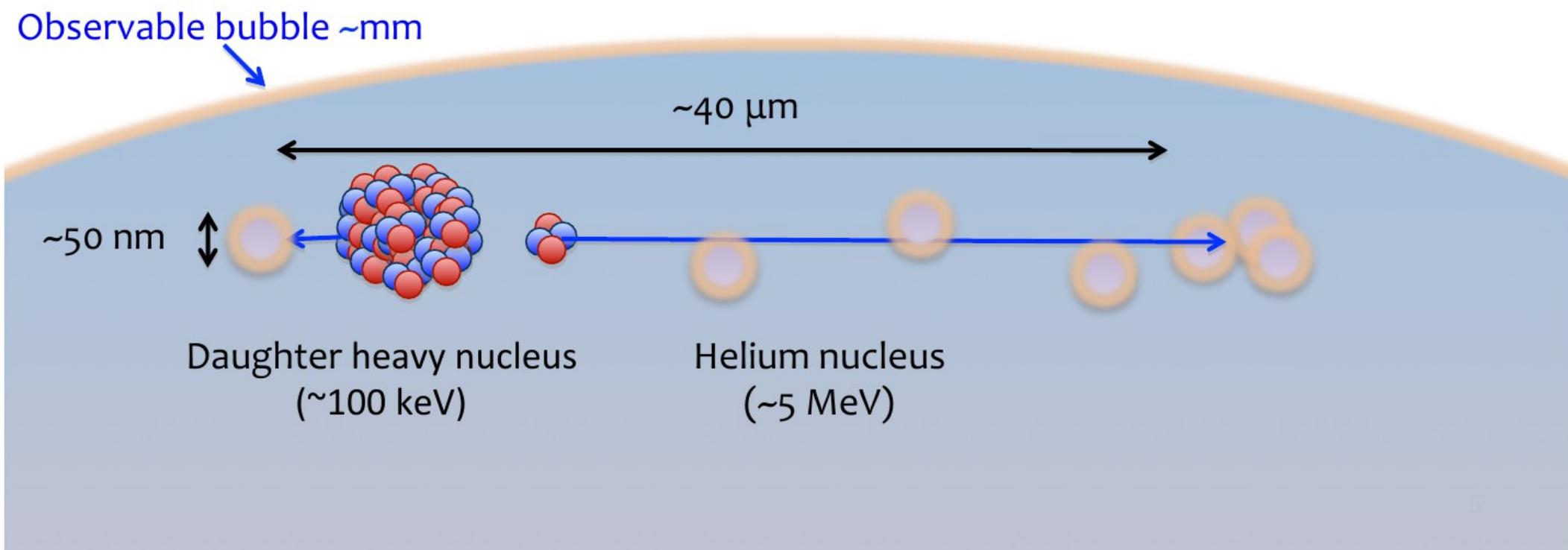




How it works

Alphas are ~4 times louder than nuclear recoil bubbles.

>99.4% discrimination against alpha events demonstrated.

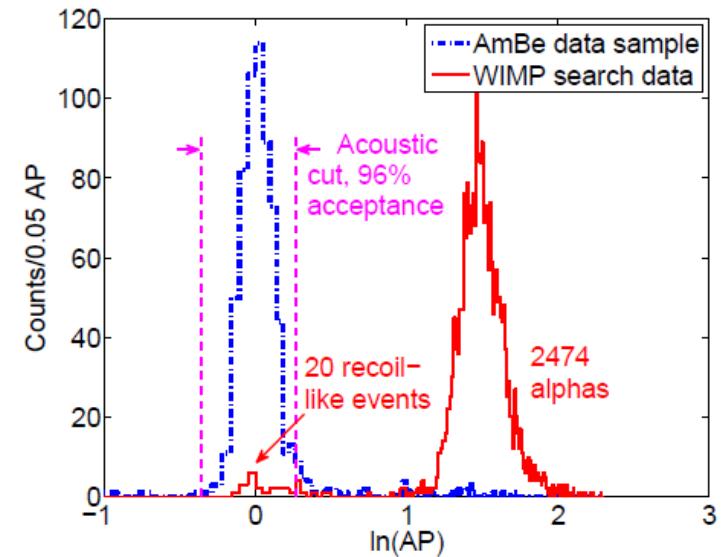




COUPP-4kg at SNOLAB



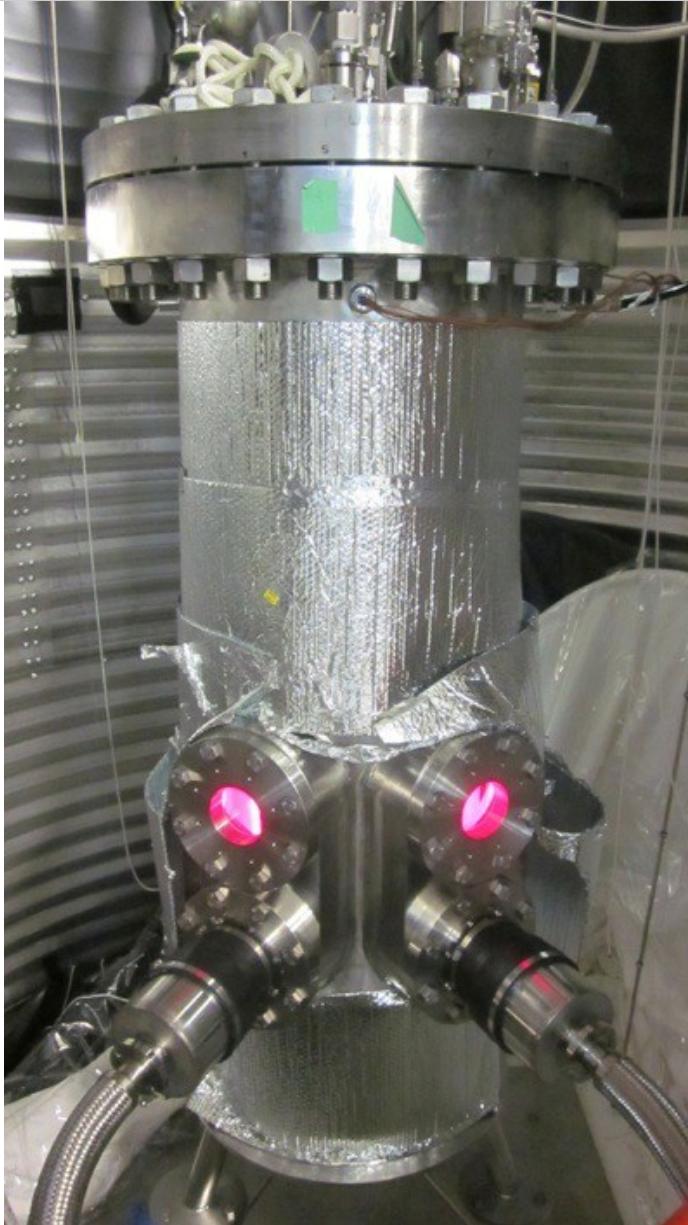
- First run deep underground.
- Demonstrated 99.4% alpha discrimination



- Backgrounds
 - ▶ (α, n) neutrons from components
 - ▶ Time-clustered events.



PICO COUPP-60

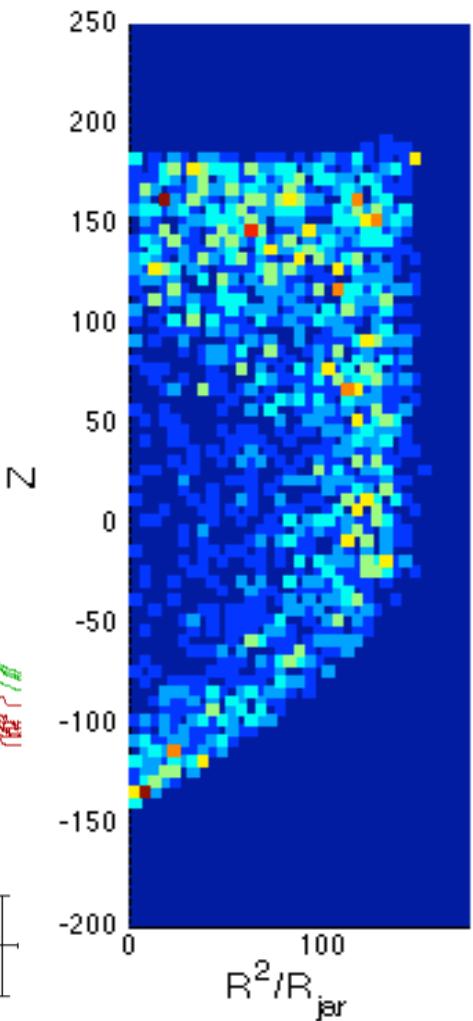
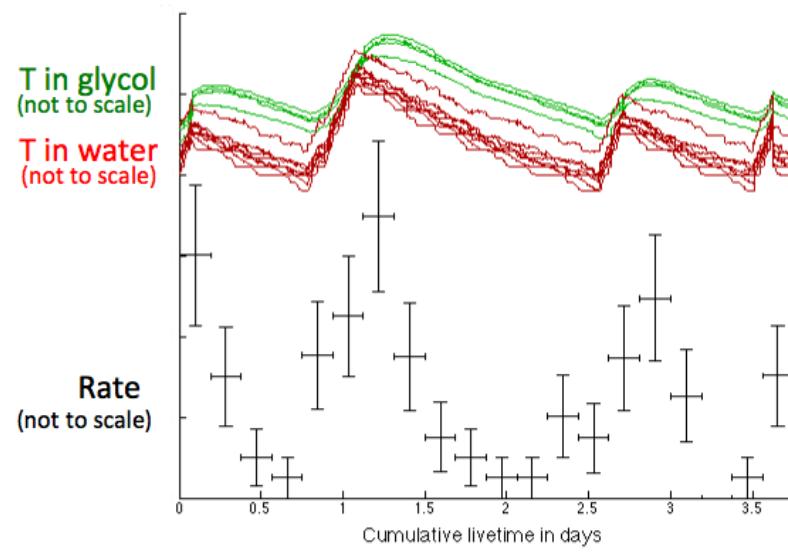
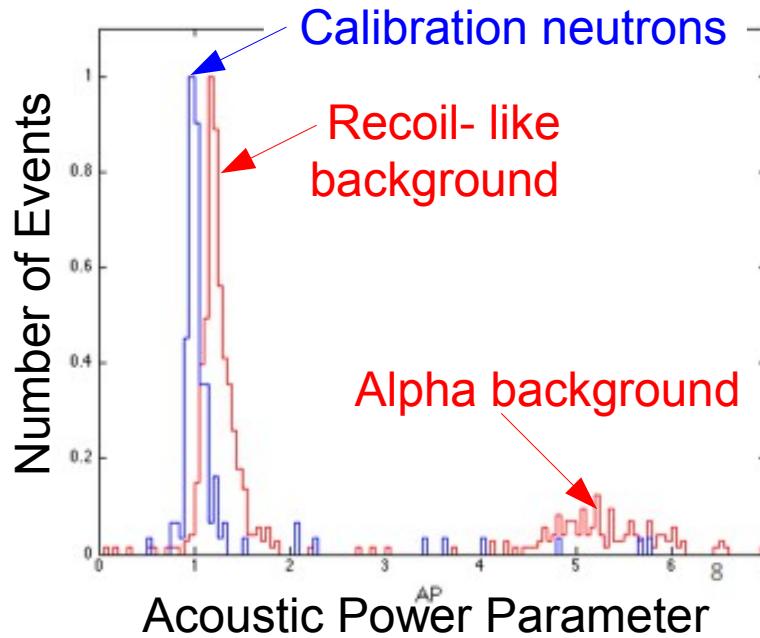


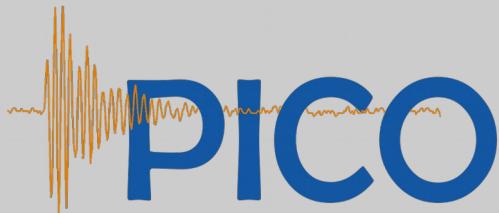
- Operational success:
 - ▶ 10x more massive
 - ▷ (35 kg of CF_3I)
 - ▶ > 80% live fraction
 - ▶ No multiple bubble events from neutrons
 - ▶ Acoustic discrimination confirmed in large chamber
 - ▶ > 3000 kg-days DM search data collected.



PICO COUPP-60

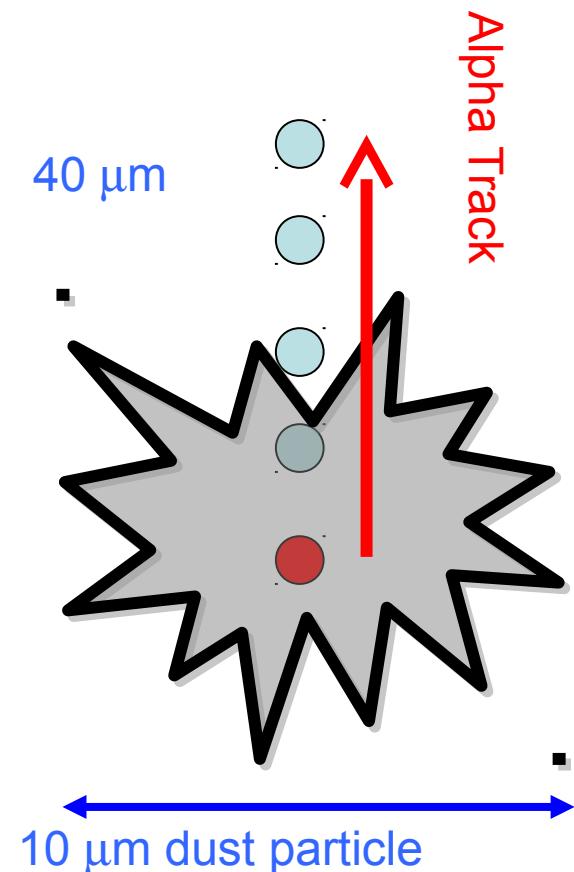
- Time-clustered background:
 - ▶ Correlated with temperature ramp
 - ▶ Spatially clustered around outside of active volume.
 - ▶ Anomalous acoustic power





PICO COUPP-60 upgrade

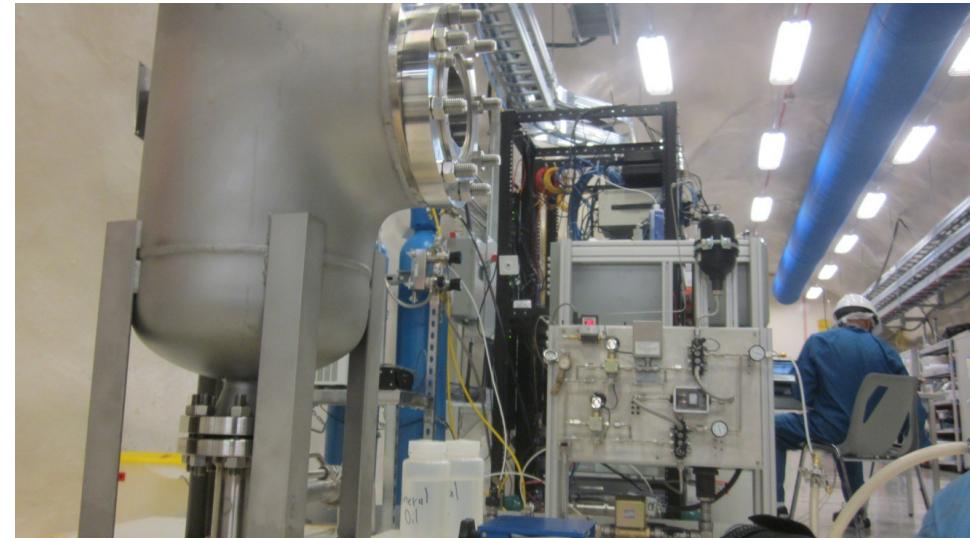
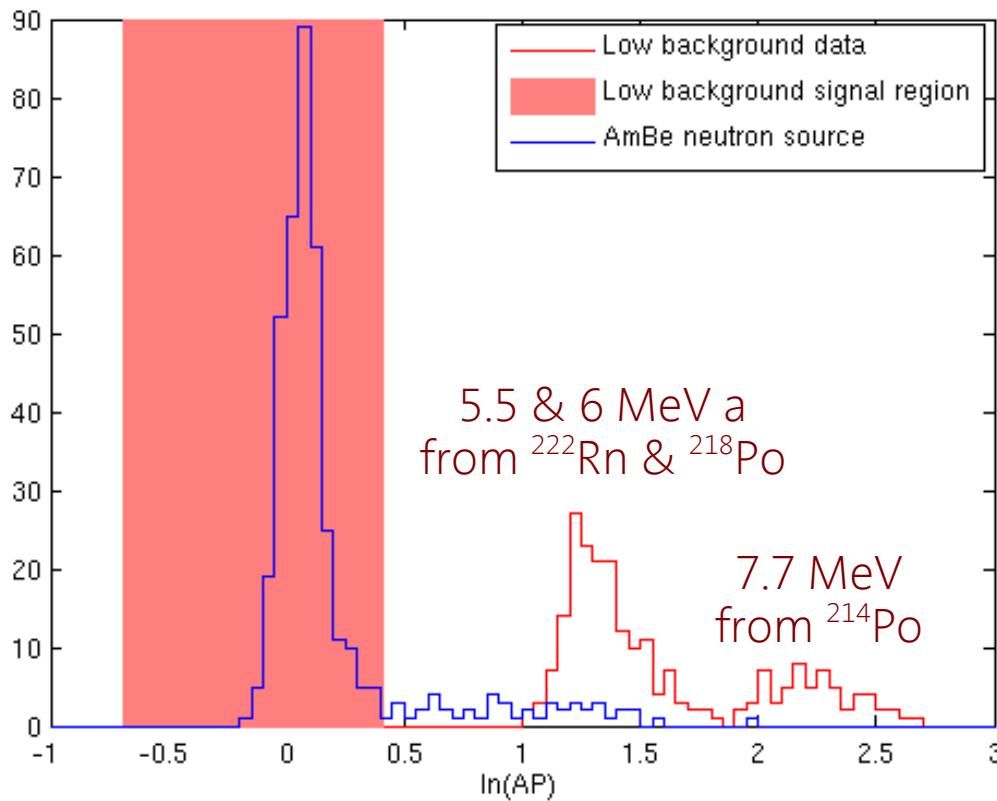
- Suspect background from dust.
- Next steps:
 - ▶ Assay target fluid for particulates.
 - ▶ Installation of in-situ fluid filtration system.
 - ▶ Elimination of sources of particulate





PICO PICO-2L

- C₃F₈ filled:
 - ▶ Lower threshold
 - ▶ Spin-dependent sensitivity
 - ▶ Chemically inert

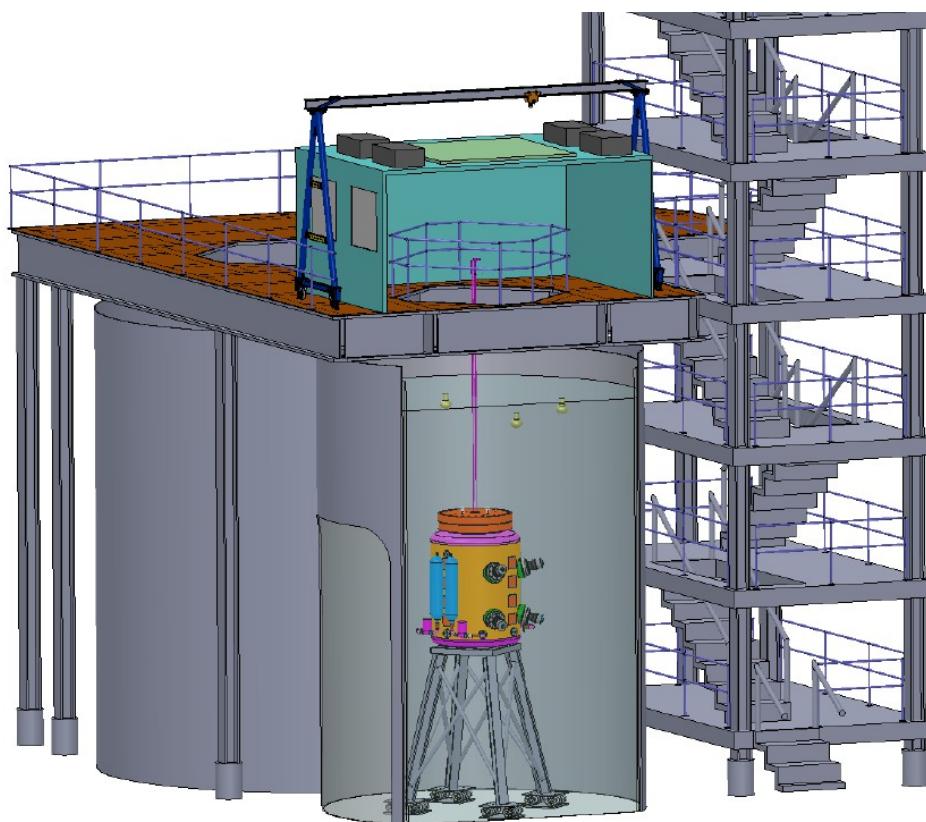


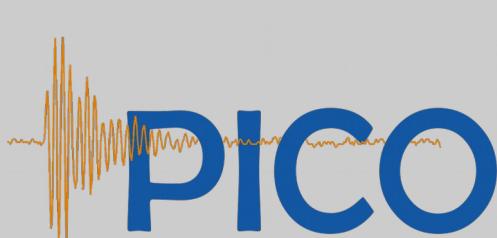
- >300 kg-days exposure.
- Run completed in May.
- Acoustic calorimetry.



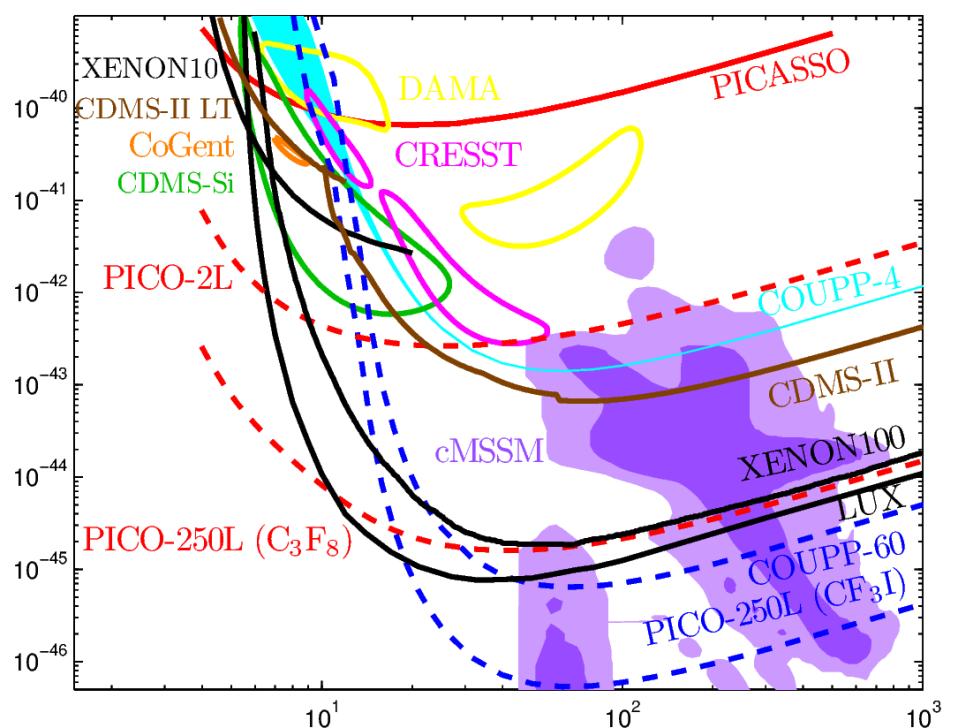
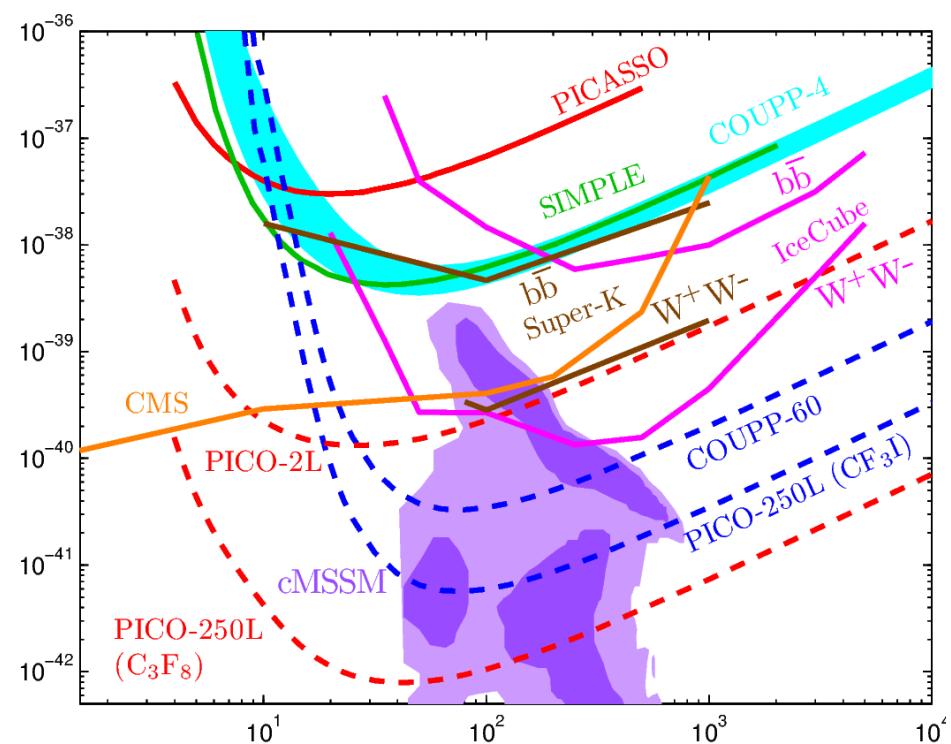
PICO PICO-250L

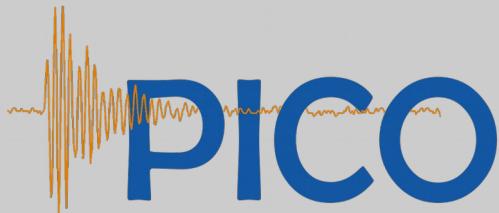
- Designed for 250L of C_3F_8 or CF_3I target fluid
- Awaiting funding decision (DOE G2)
- Engineering of components underway





PICO Sensitivity Projections





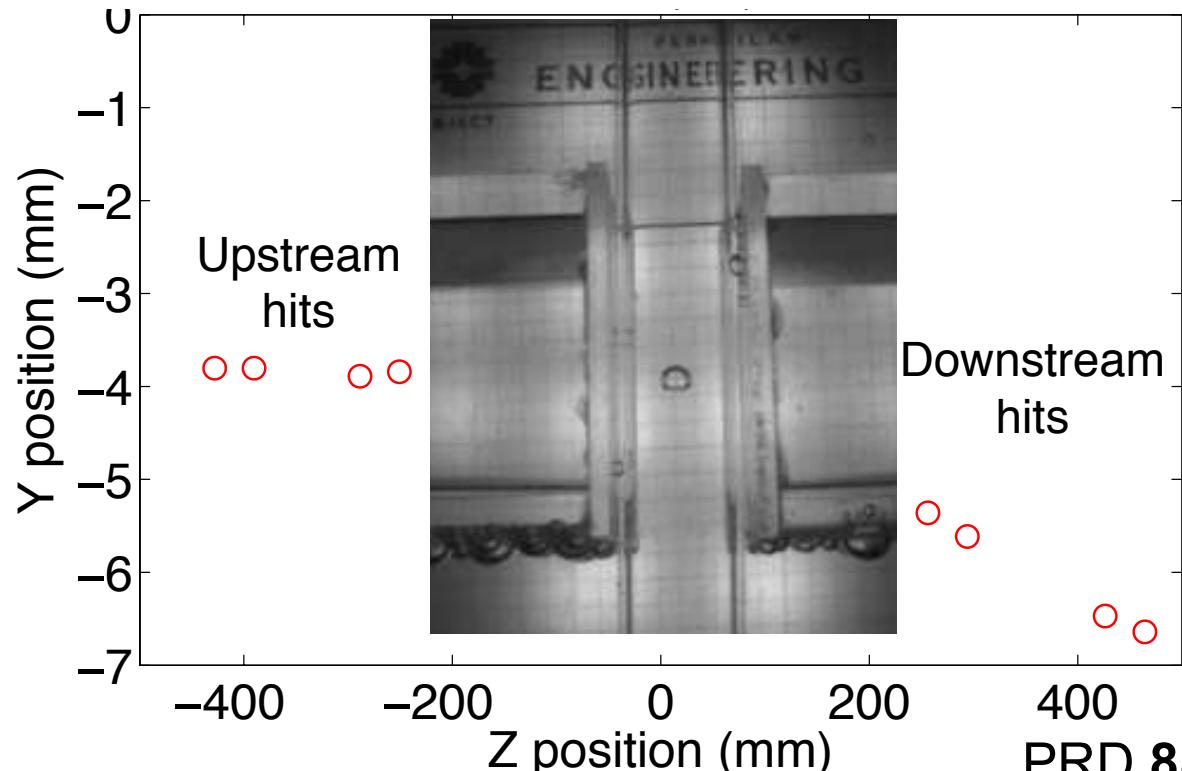
Other PICO Talks

- (R1-9) Dark Matter II – 09h45 tomorrow
 - ▶ Chanpreet Amole – PICO-2L analysis
 - ▶ Ruslan Podvianuk – Acoustic signal conditioning
 - ▶ Pitam Mitra – Geyser detector R&D
- Poster Session – 19h00 today
 - ▶ Matthieu Lafrenière – Geant4 simulations
 - ▶ Arthur Plante – Acoustic Discrimination
- (F1-5) Dark Matter III – 08h45 Friday
 - ▶ Mathieu Laurin – Characterization of detectors using mono-energetic neutrons

Extra slides

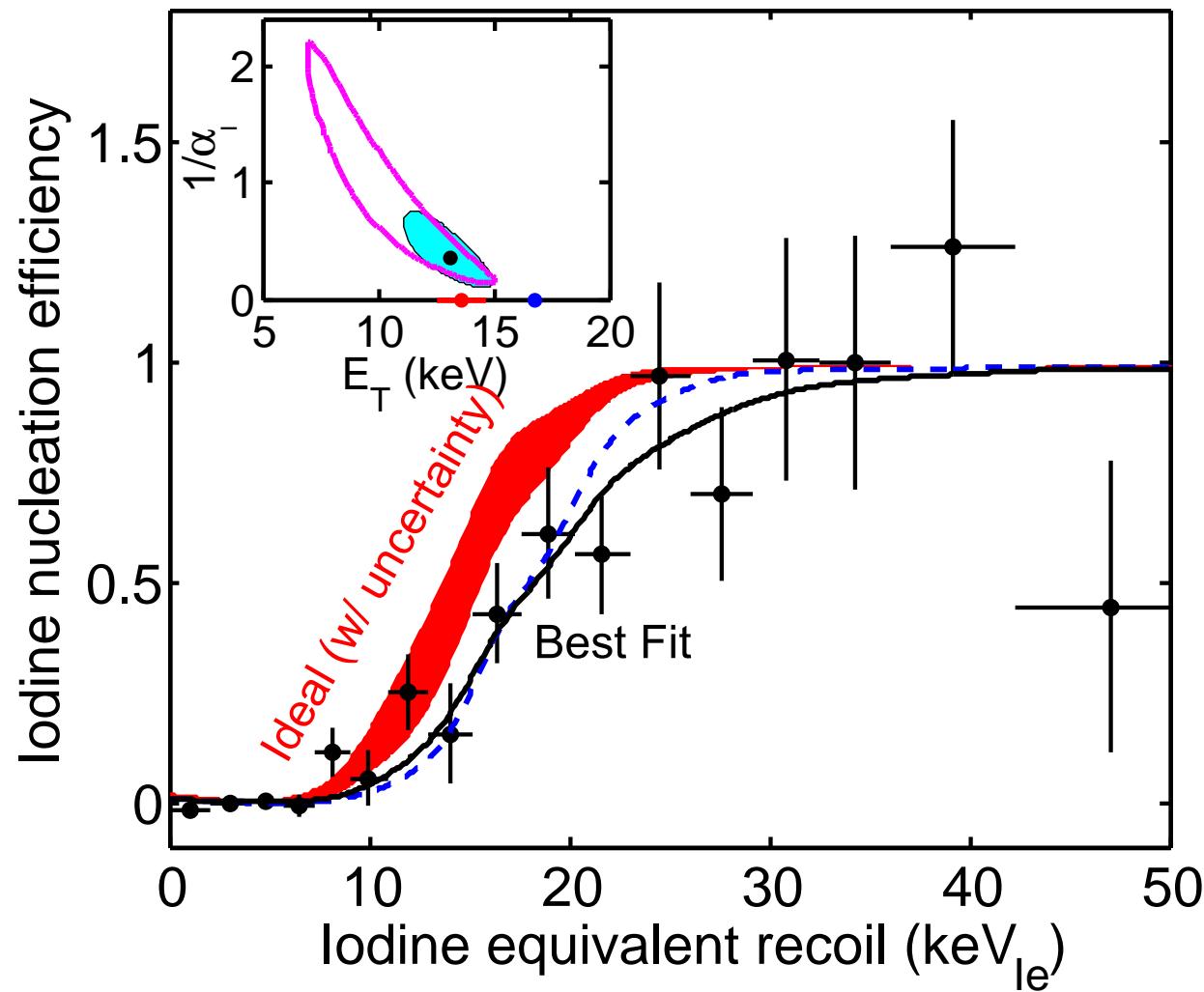
Efficiency calibrations

- Measure elastic scatters of a 12 GeV π^- beam
 - Event-by-event recoil energy measurement.
 - Preferentially scatters on iodine.



PRD 88, 021101

Efficiency calibrations

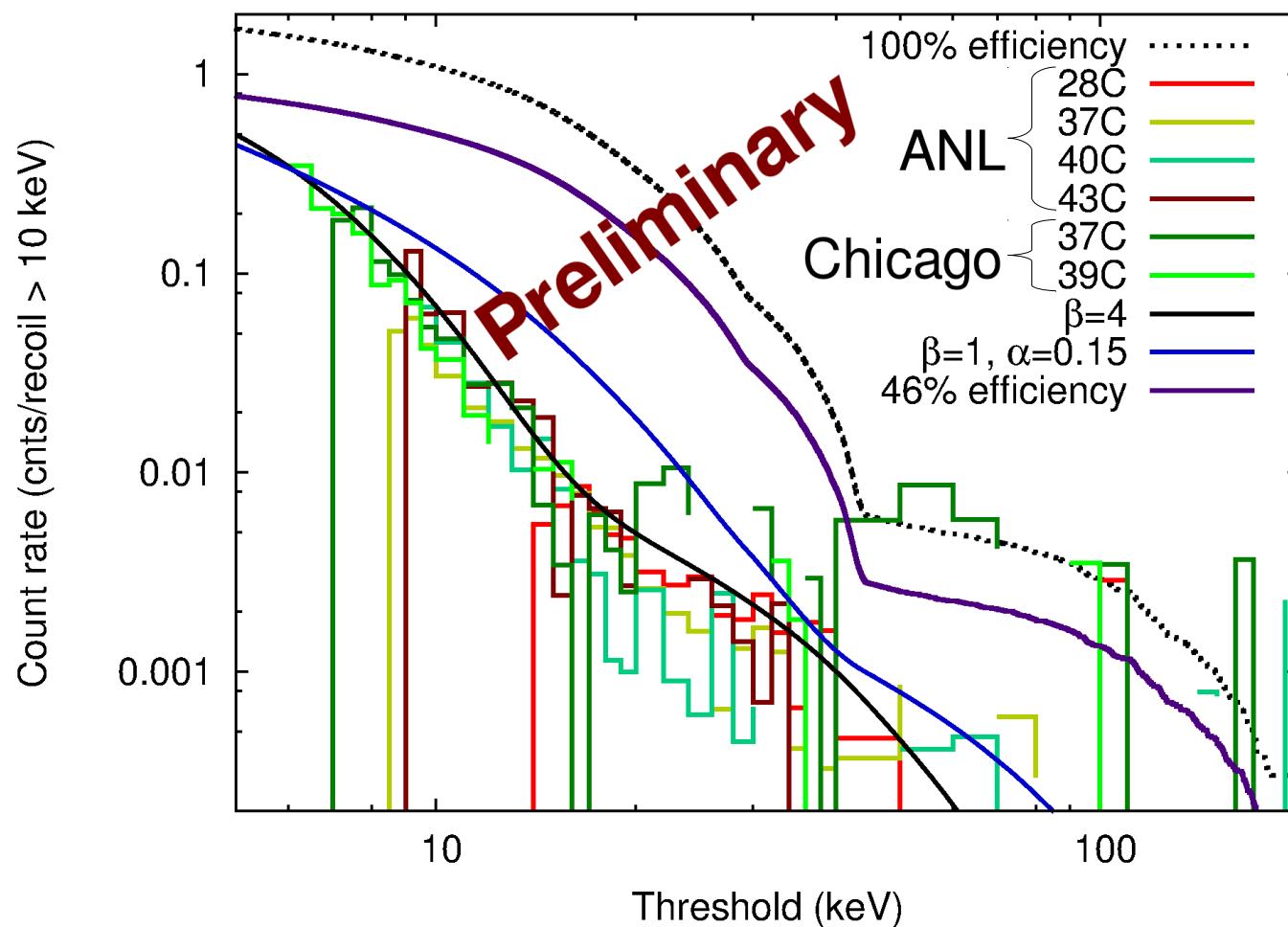


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Slide 20/17
CAP 2014
Jun 18, 2014

CF_3I C/F Efficiency

Normalized background subtracted count rate
for Y/Be neutrons on CF_3I bubble chambers



Expectation and Fit from Y/Be neutrons on C₃F₈

