



# The Development of a High Brightness Muonium Beam

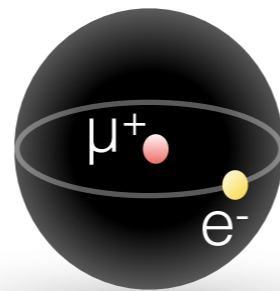
**Narongrit Ritjoho**

on behalf of Muonium collaboration

PAUL SCHERRER INSTITUT  
**PSI**

**ETH** zürich

# What is Muonium ?



- Muonium is a bound state of an antimuon and an electron
- Hydrogen-like atom
- Unstable atom with lifetime 2.2  $\mu\text{s}$
- Pure leptonic system (1st and 2nd generations)
- No finite size and nuclear effect

# Why Muonium ?

- Gravity of antimatter and 2nd generation particle

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Trump



$9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$

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Trump



9.8 m/s<sup>2</sup>



Anti-Trump



? m/s<sup>2</sup>

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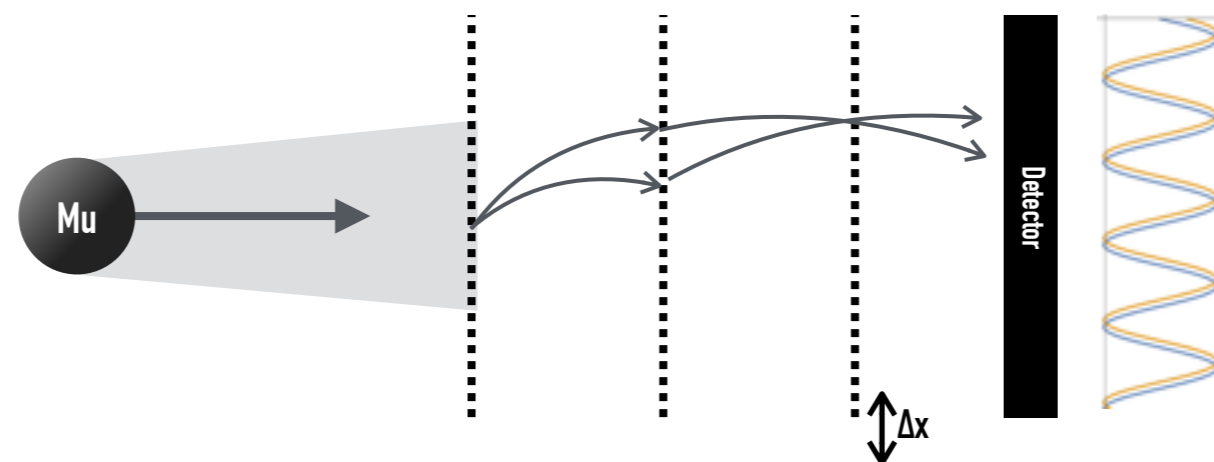
Trump

↓  
 $9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$



Anti-Trump

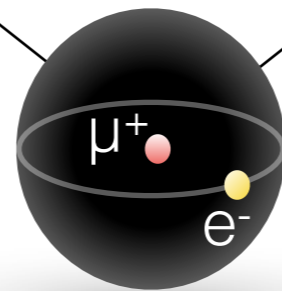
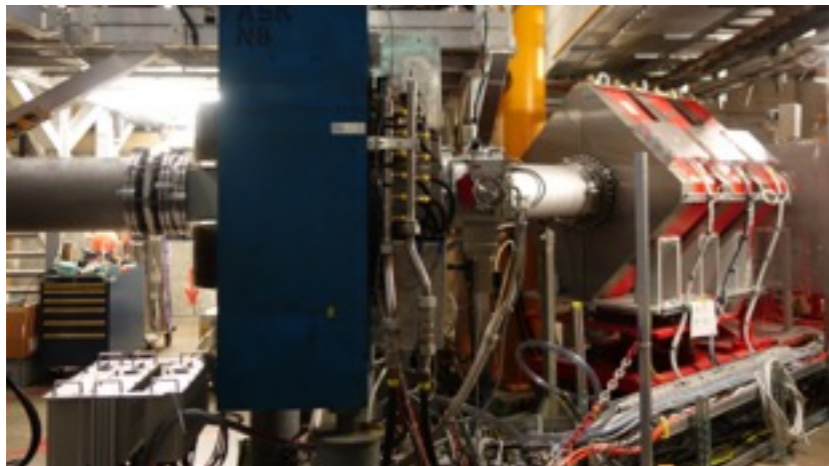
↓  
 $? \text{ m/s}^2$



# How to produce Muonium ?

● Antimuon

● Electron



?

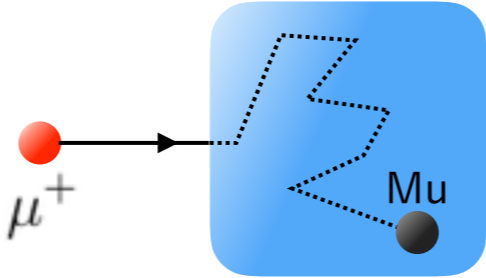
Pictures : <https://www.psi.ch/media/the-psi-proton-accelerator>

# History of Muonium

1960

Ar gas

V.W.Hughes, Phys. Rev. Lett. 5, 20 (1960)

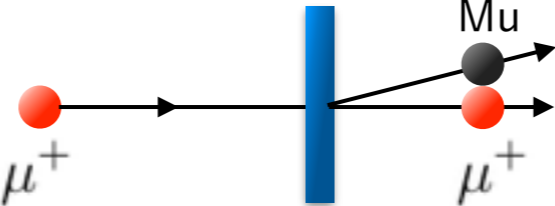


- First Mu was discovered by V.W.Hughes
- 100% Muonium yield in gas
- No vacuum yield

1986

Tungsten foil

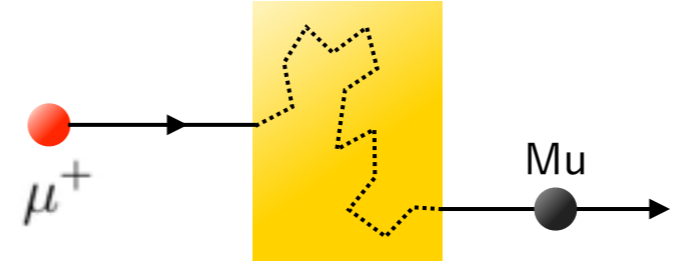
A.P.Mills, Phys. Rev. Lett. 56, 14 (1986)



1986

SiO<sub>2</sub> powder or aerogel

G. A. Beer, Phys. Rev. Lett. 57, 6 (1986)  
G. A. Beer, Prog. Theor. Exp. Phys., 091C01 (2014)

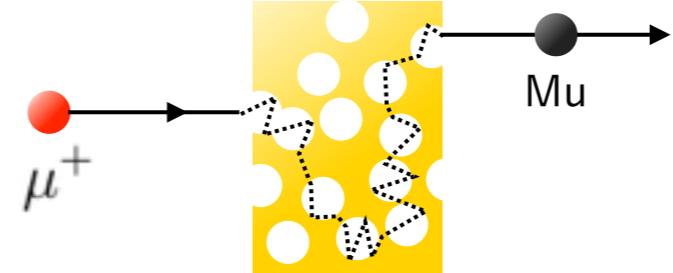


- Muonium emitted into vacuum

2012

SiO<sub>2</sub> mesoporous thin film

A.Antognini, Phys. Rev. Lett. 108, 14 (2012)

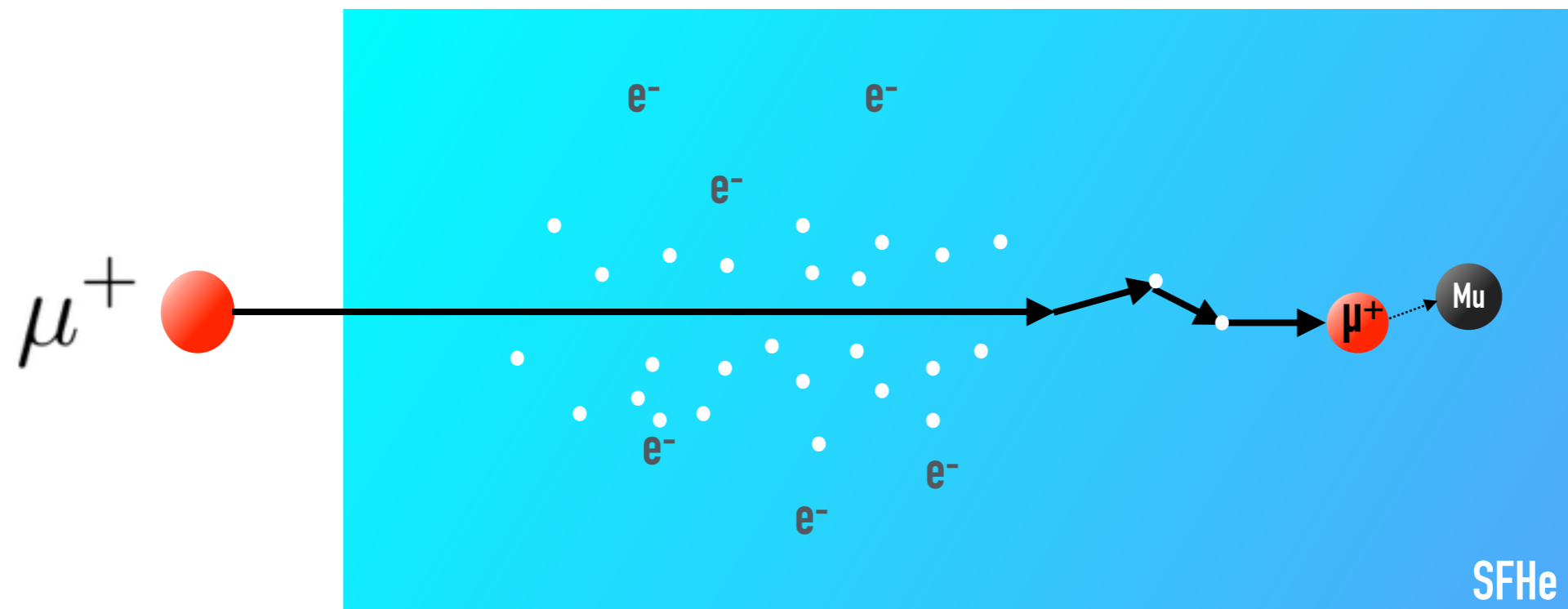


Now?

Superfluid-He thin film



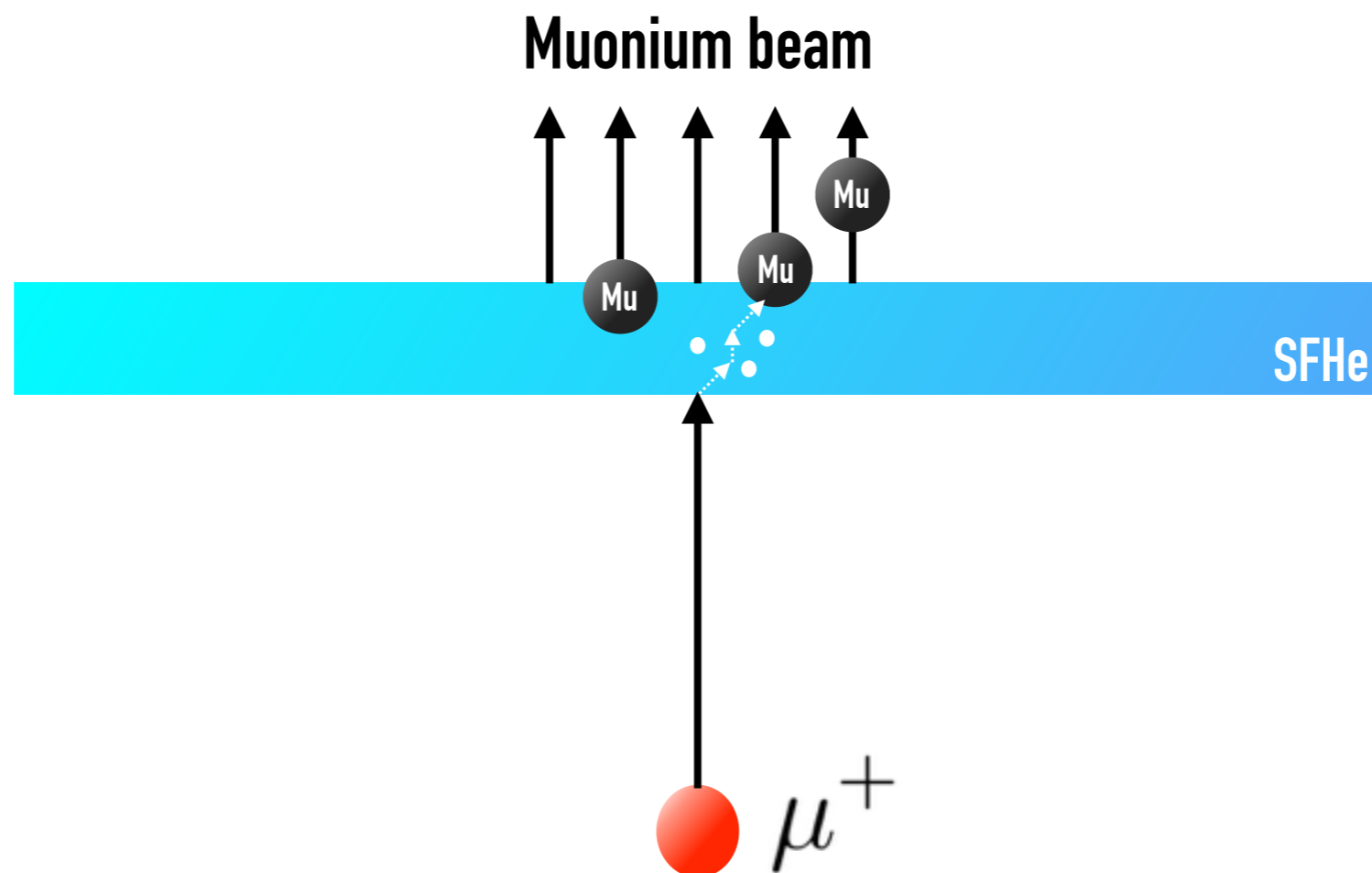
# Muonium formation processes



D.G. Eshenko, Phys. Rev. B 66, 035105 (2002)

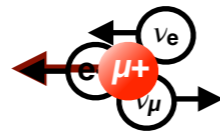
# Superfluid-helium thin film target

- Mu experiences a positive chemical potential inside SFHe,  $E/k_b \sim 270$  K
- Mu will be emitted out of the surface of a SFHe thin film with mono-energetic energy and narrow divergence



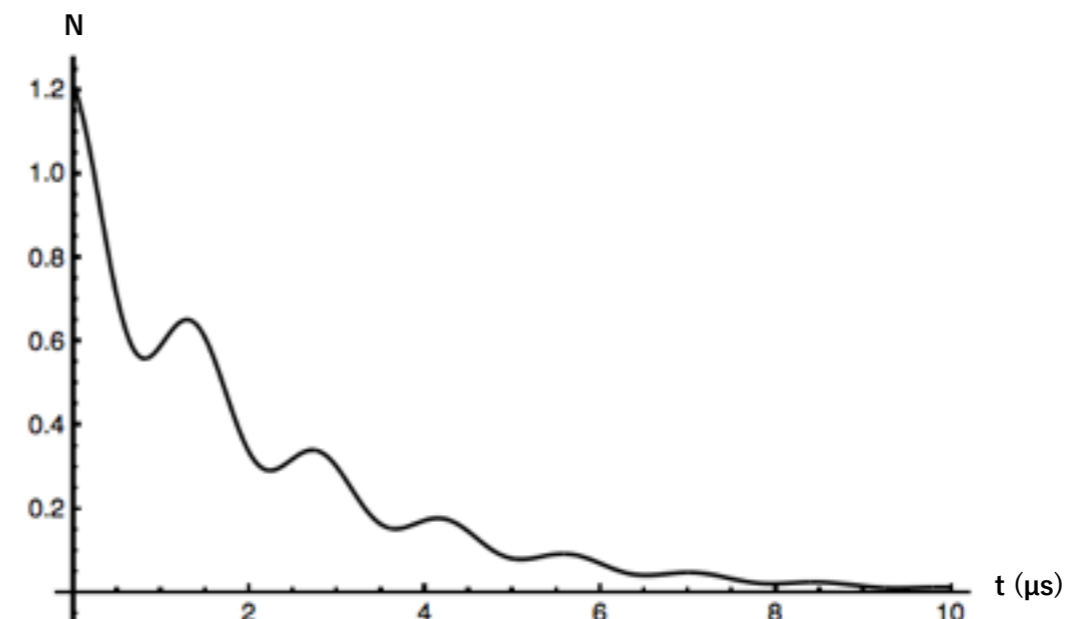
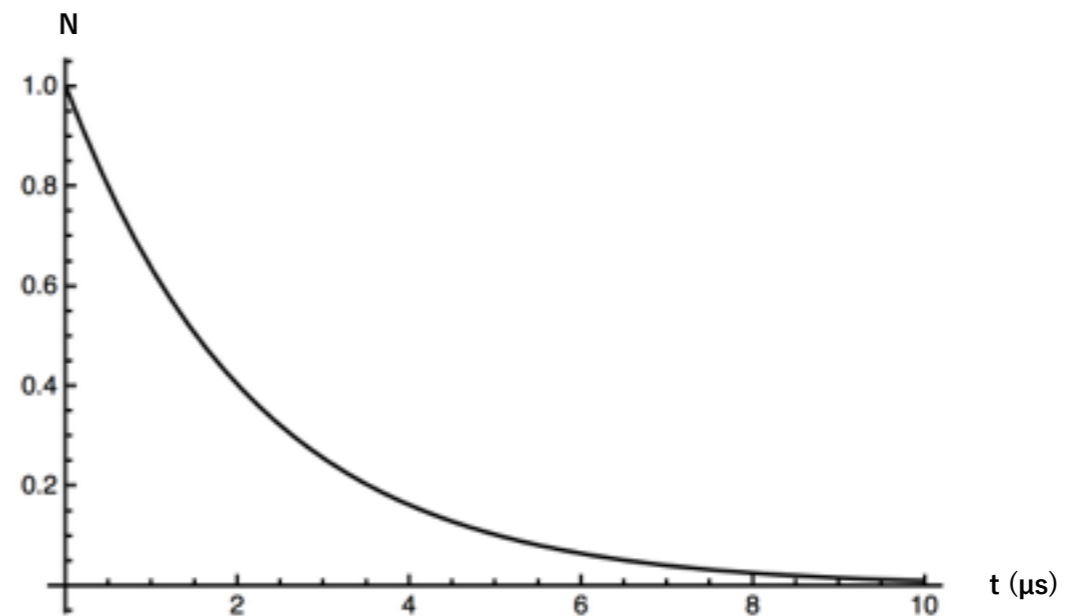
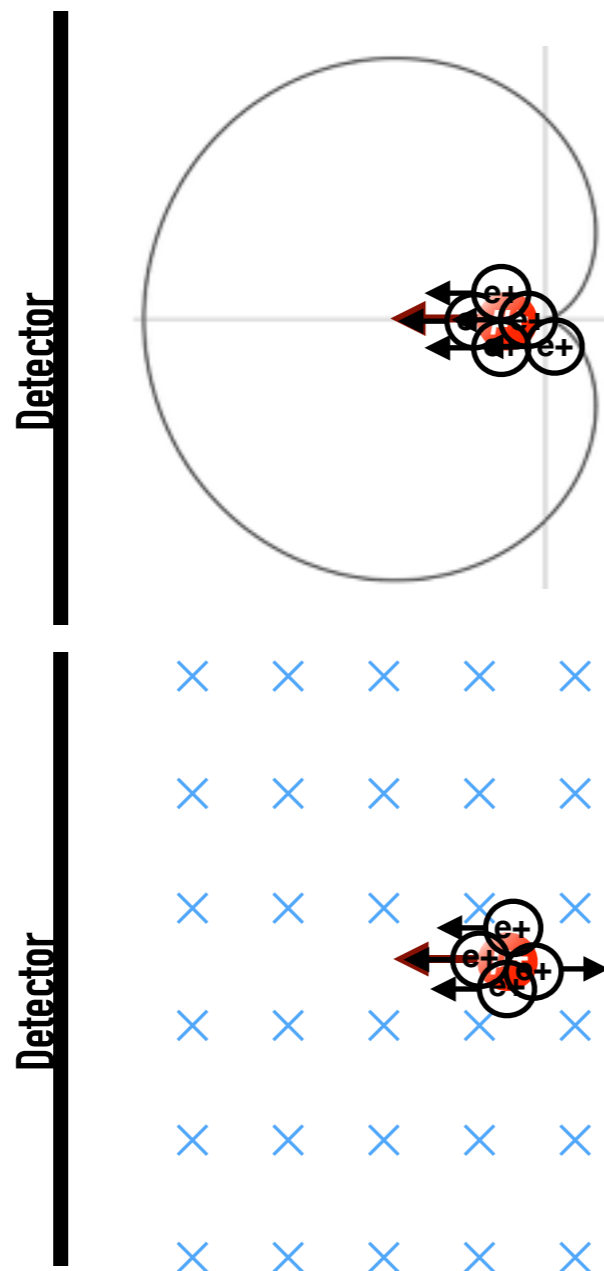
# How to detect Muonium ?

- Muon spin rotation (muSR) technique
- $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ + \nu_e + \bar{\nu}_\mu$
- Due to parity violation of weak decay, the direction of emitted positron is distributed asymmetrically with respect to the spin of muon



# How to detect Muonium ?

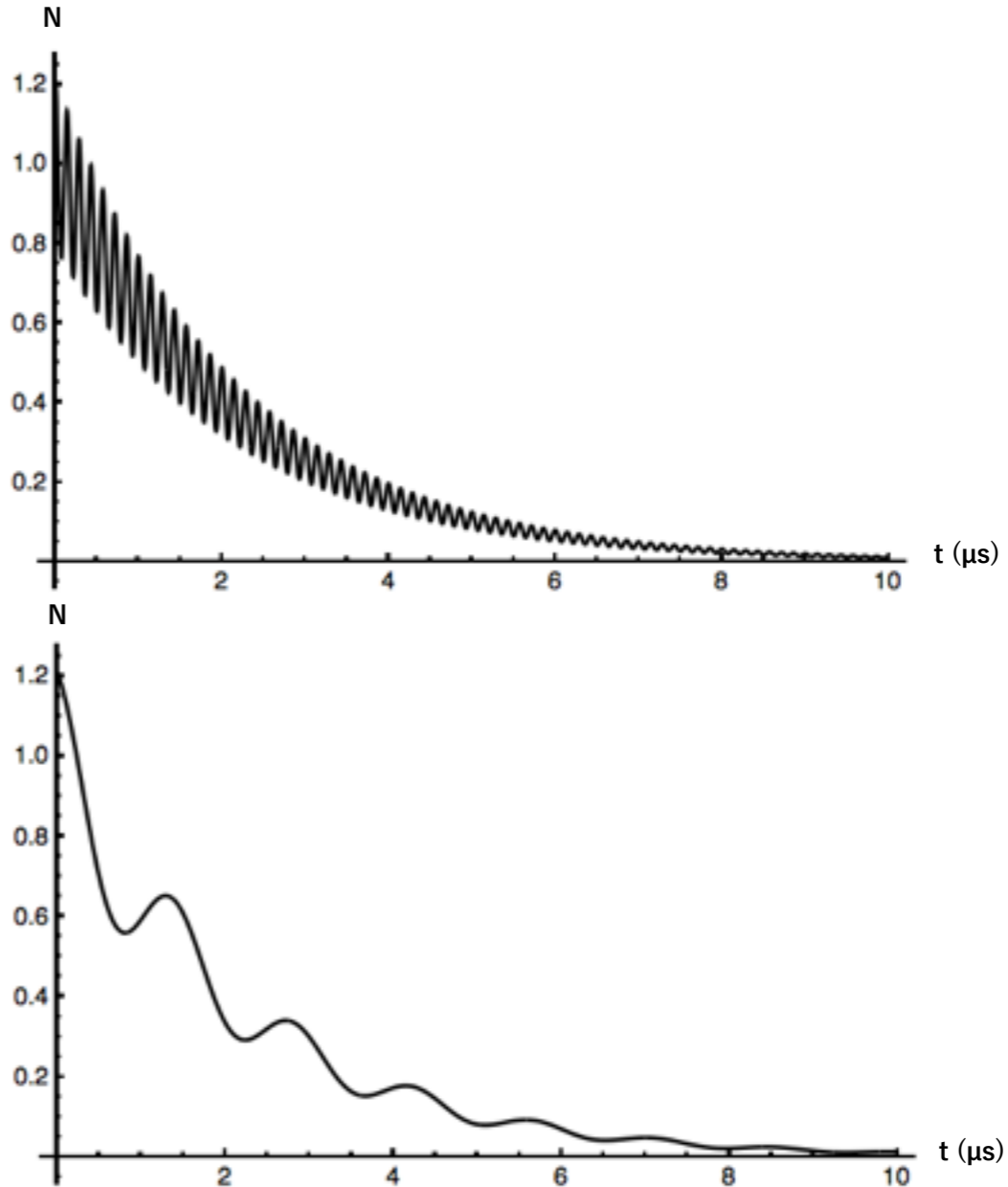
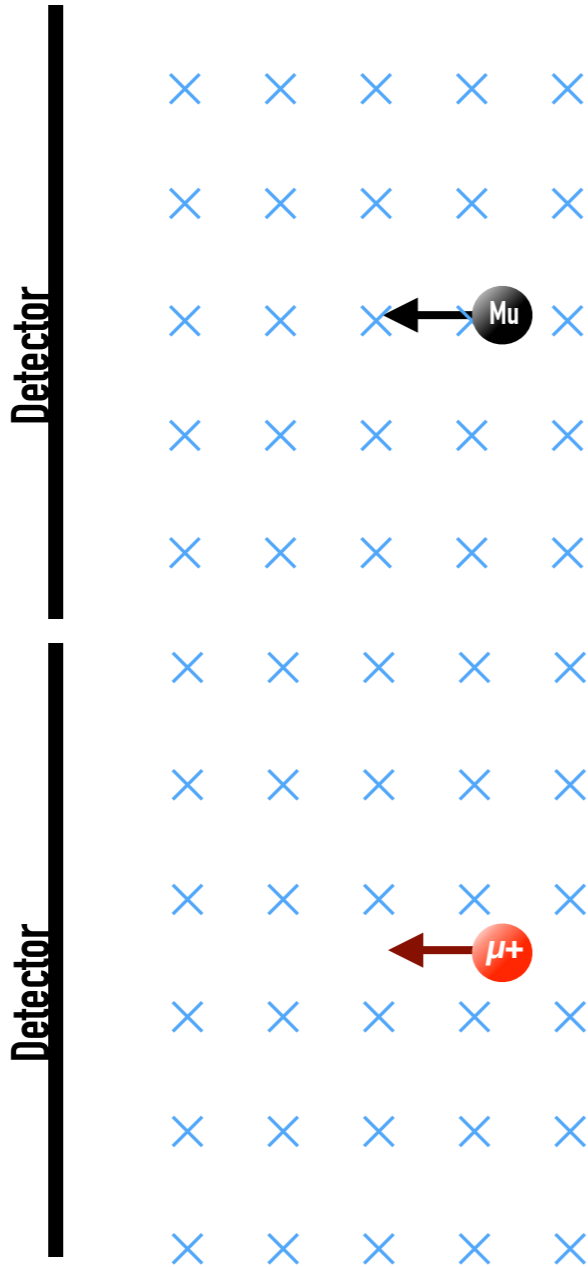
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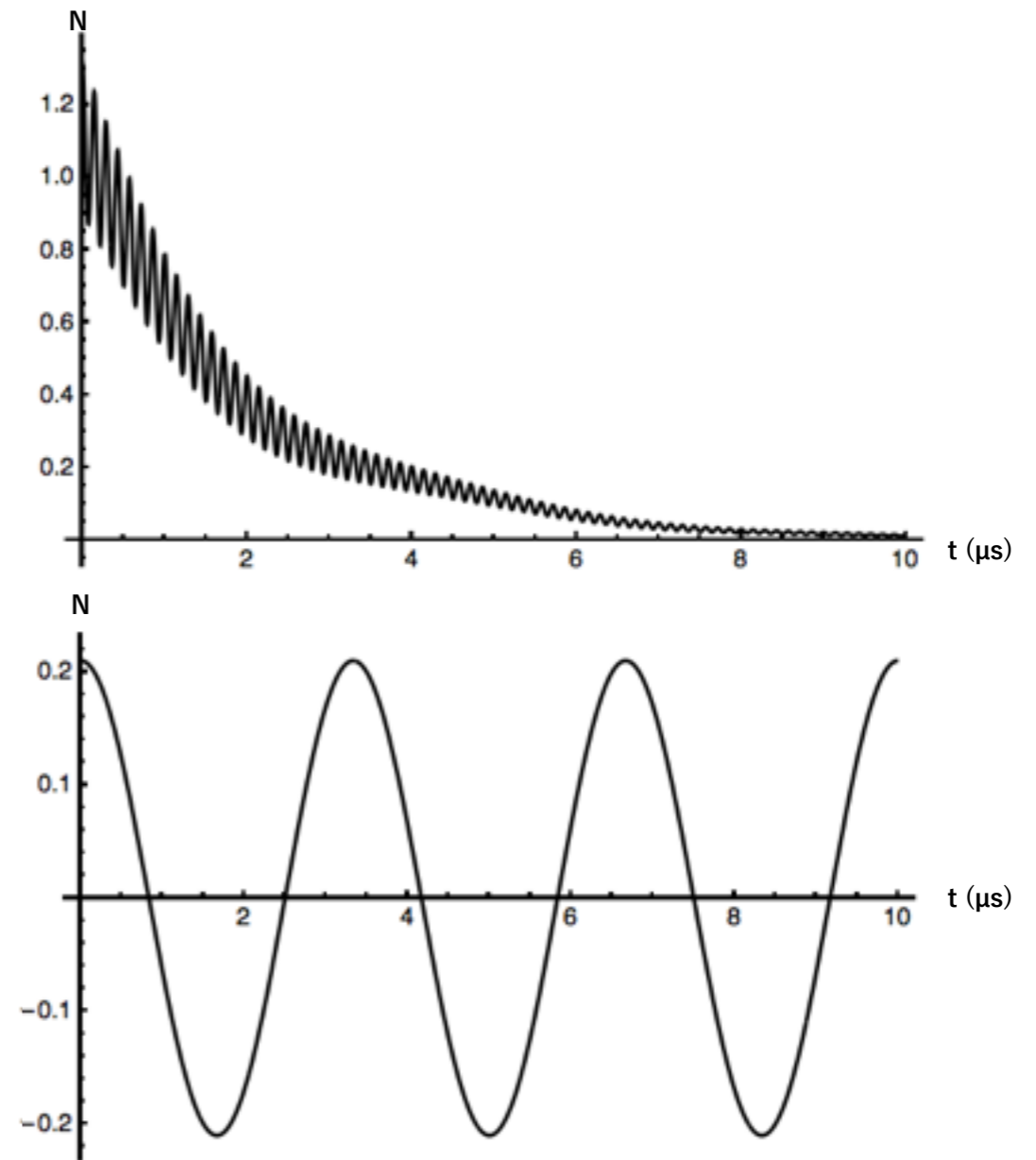
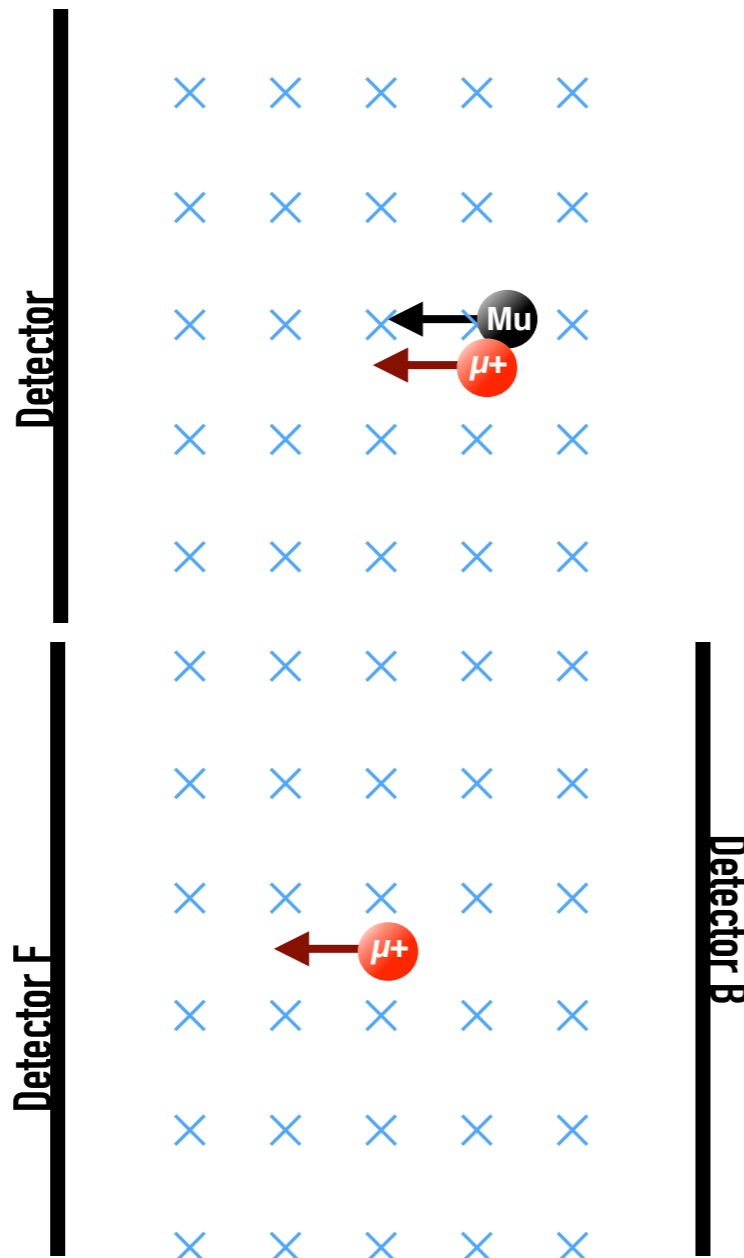
- Gyromagnetic ratio
- $\omega = \gamma \cdot B$
- $\gamma_{\text{Mu}} = 103 \cdot \gamma_\mu$



# How to detect Muonium ?

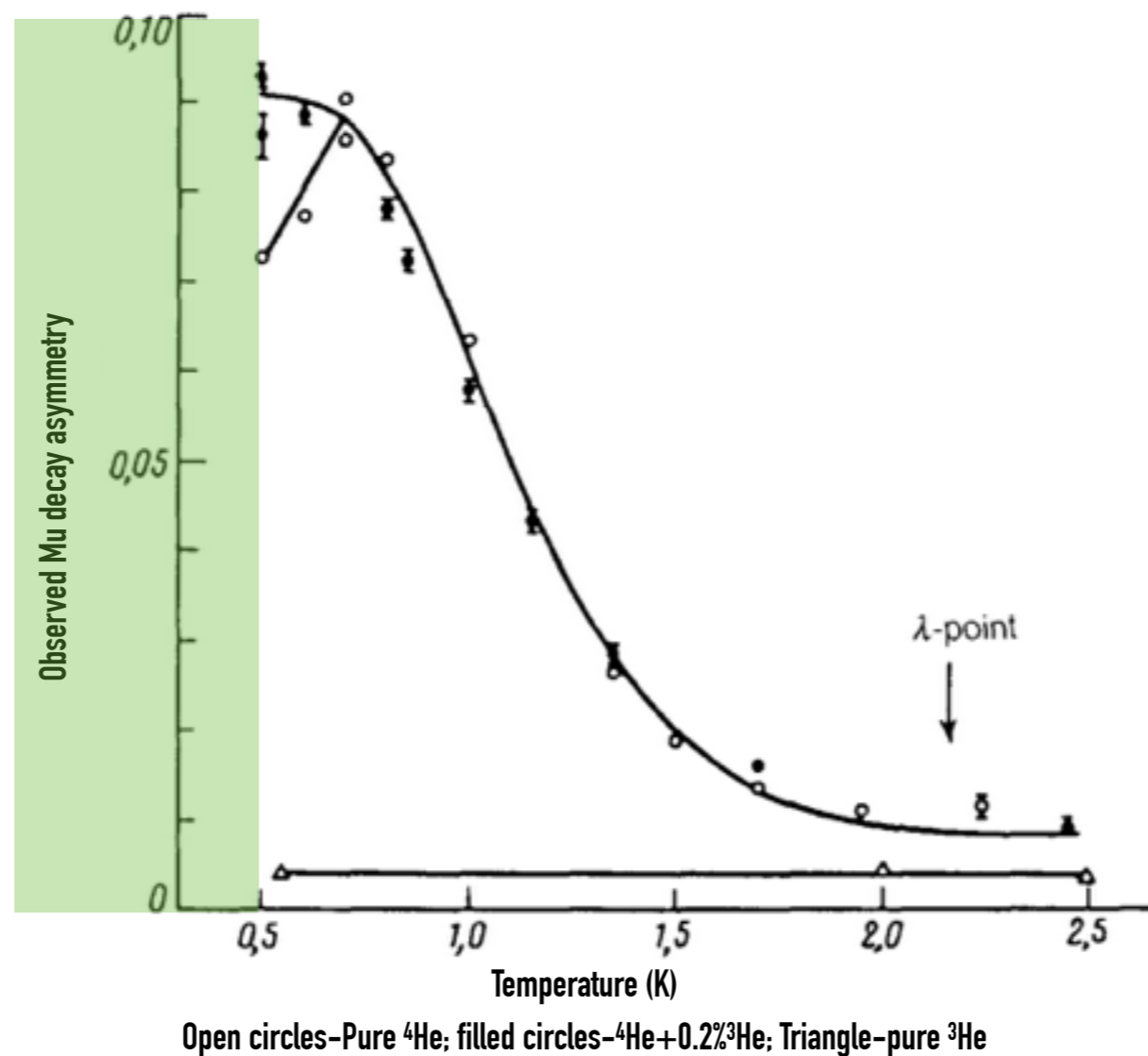
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Decay asymmetry  
 $A = (N_F - N_B) / (N_F + N_B)$



# Previous Studies of Muonium in Superfluid-Helium

- The previous study of Mu formation rate in bulk-SFHe shows a high formation rate depending on [temperature\(T\)](#) and [mixtures of heliums](#)
- Mu production rate depends on the mobility of muons inside the SFHe

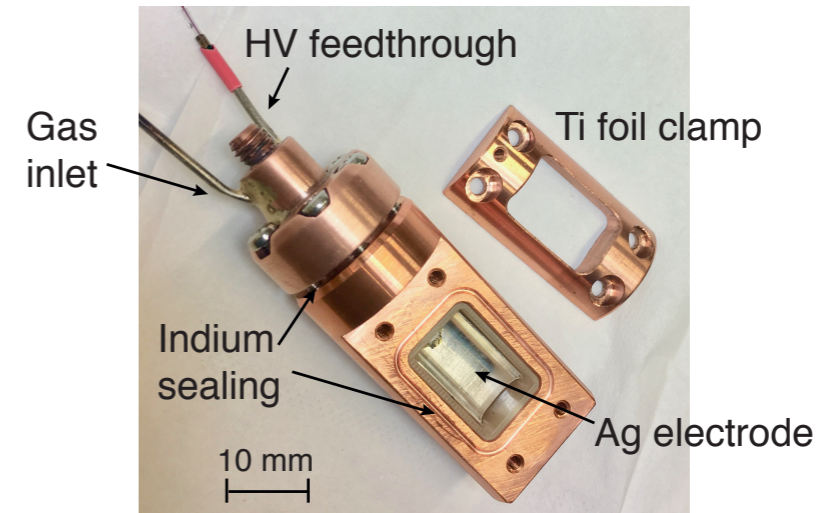
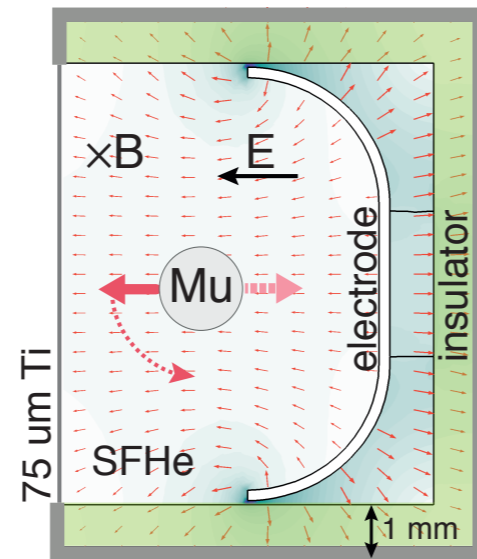
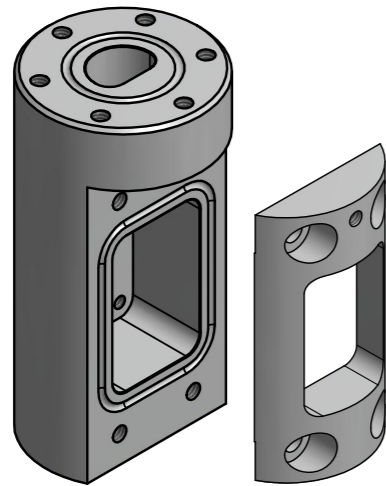


R. Abela et al., JETP Lett. 57, 157 (1993)

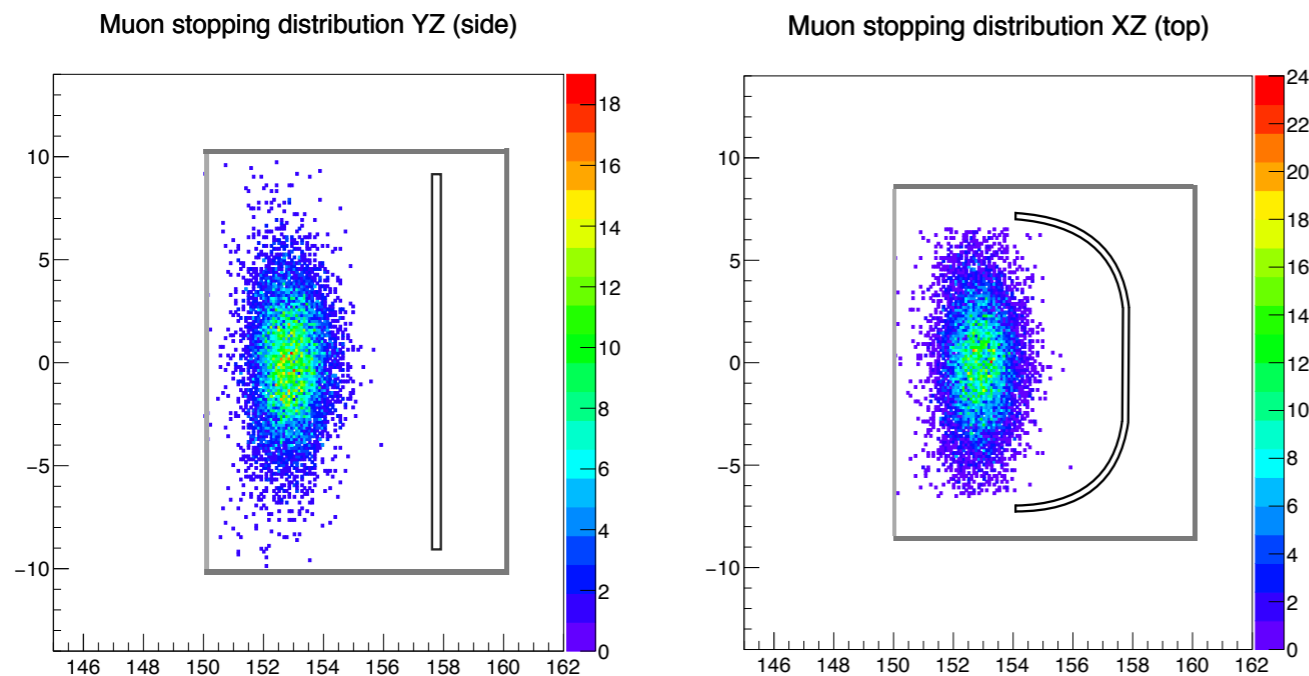
- We will also test the [electric\(E\)](#) and [magnetic\(B\)](#) field effect of the Mu formation rate

# Experimental Setup

- Design of a SFHe container



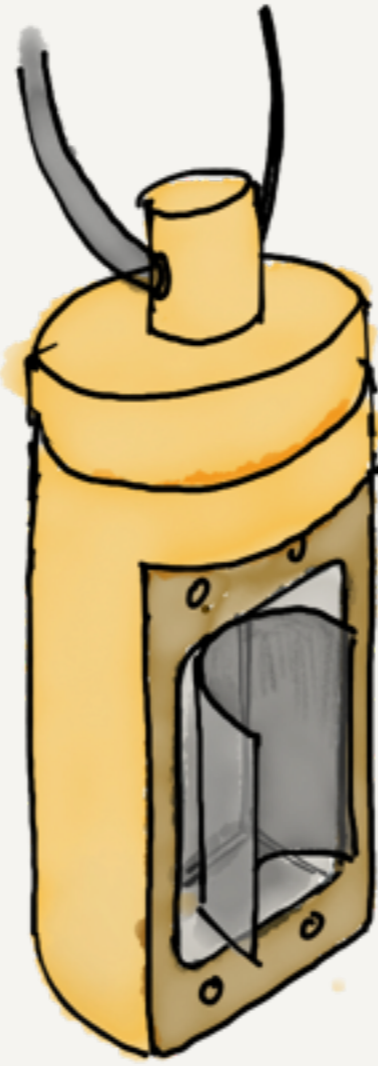
- Stopping distribution of muon in SFHe by G4beamline

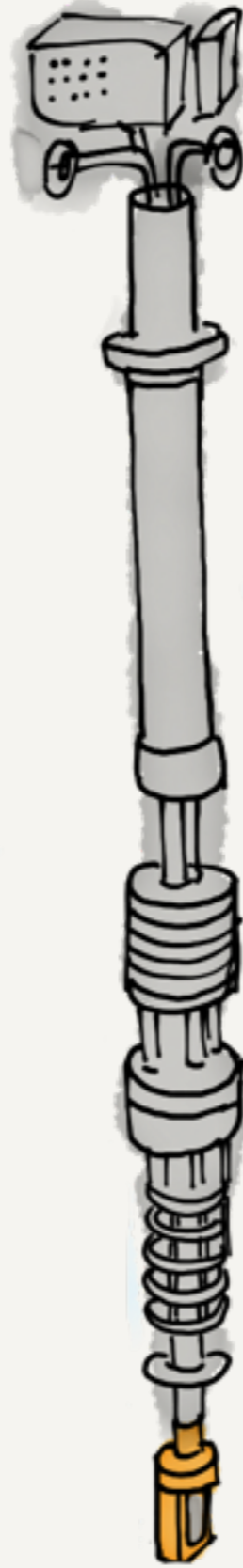


- **Momentum = 31.5 MeV/c**
- **Mean\_stop = 2.88 mm from Ti foil**
- **RMS\_z = 0.70 mm**
- **97.5% of mu+ stopped in SHe**

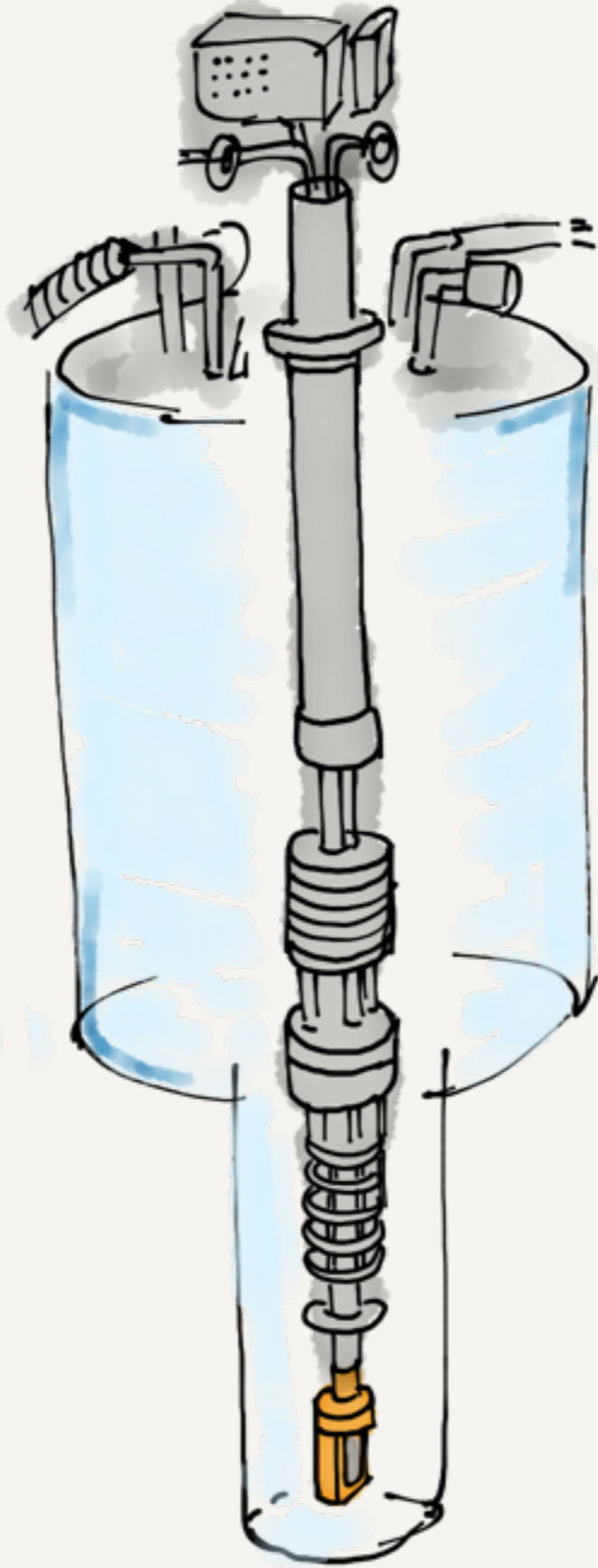


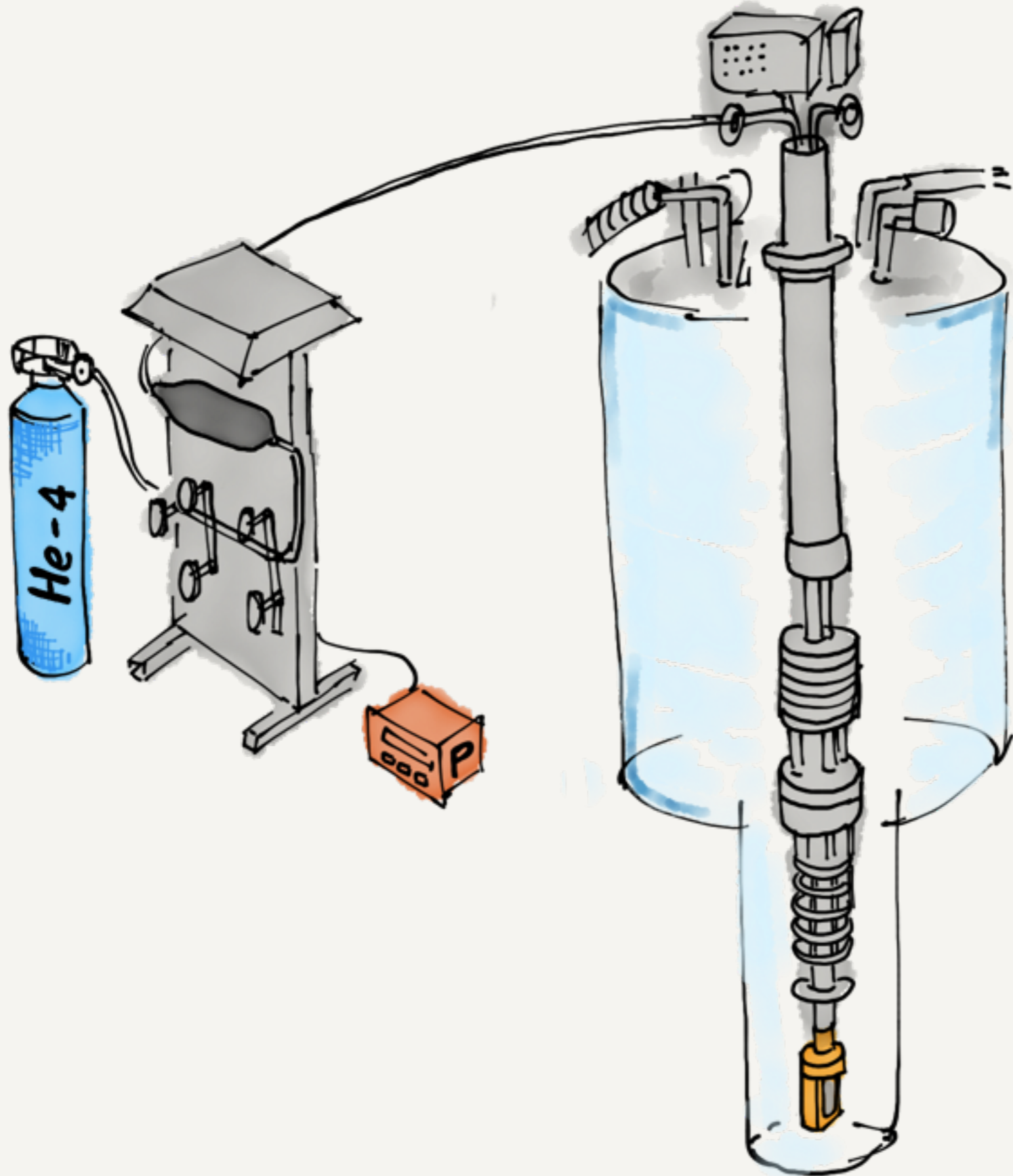


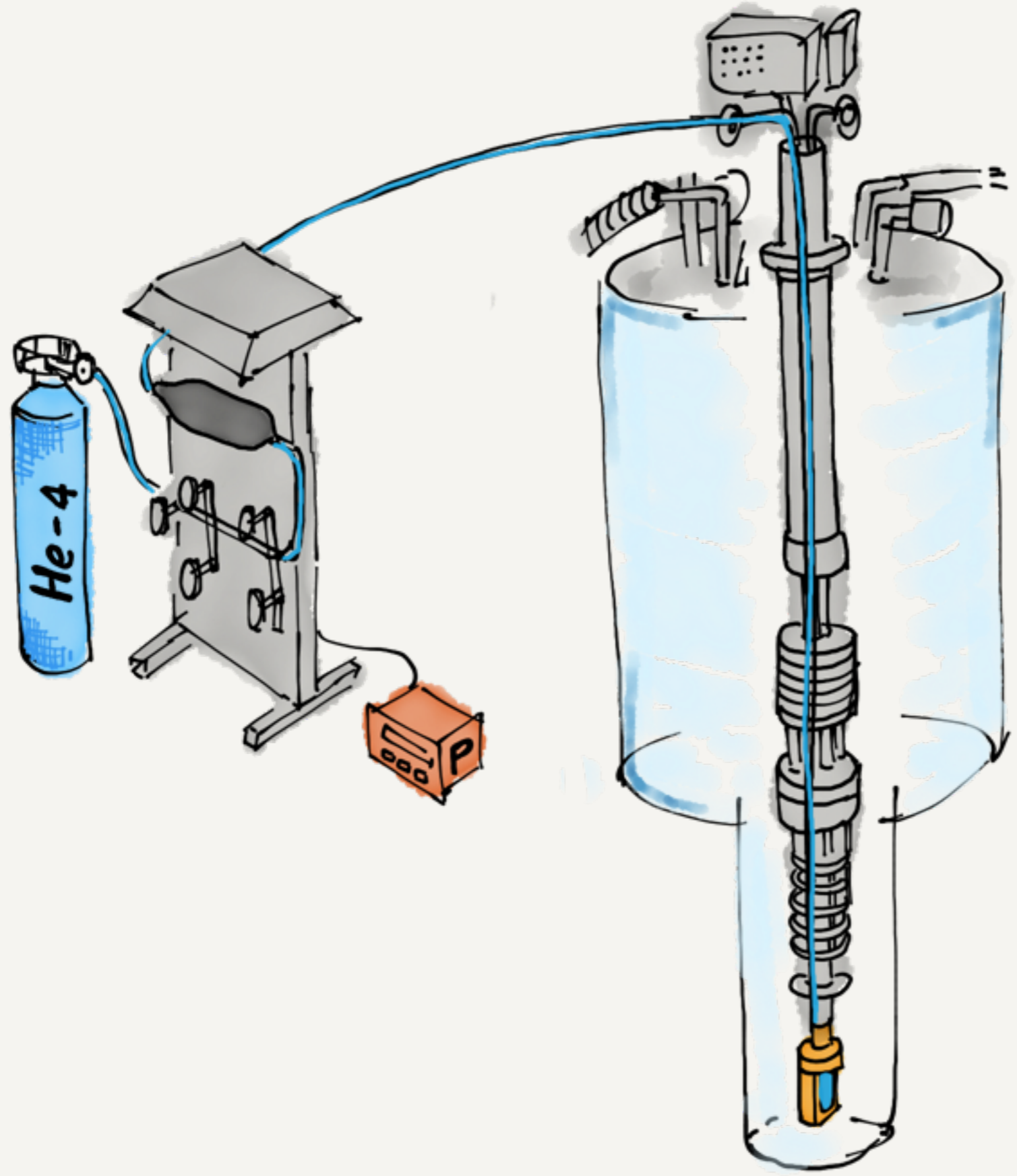


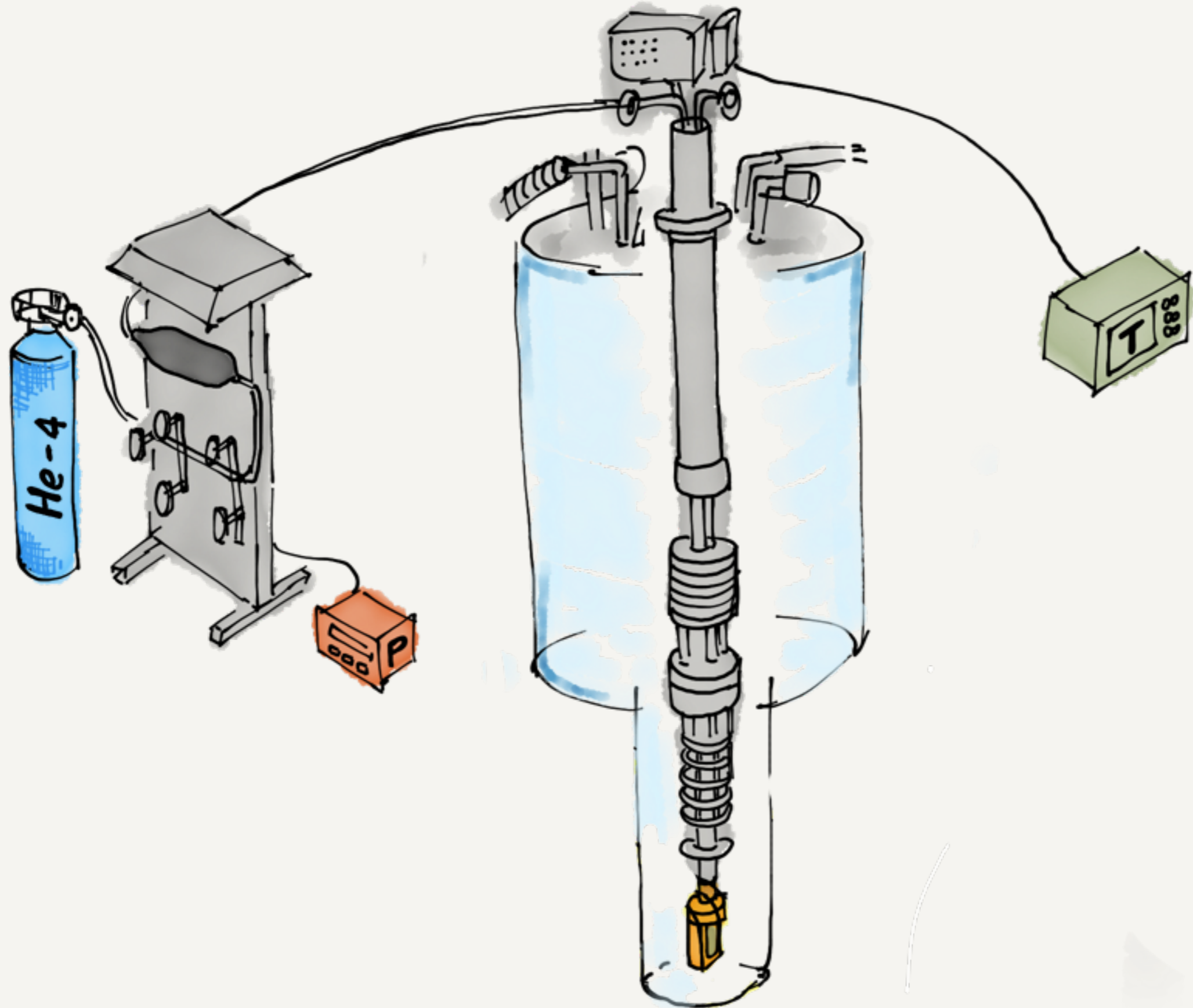


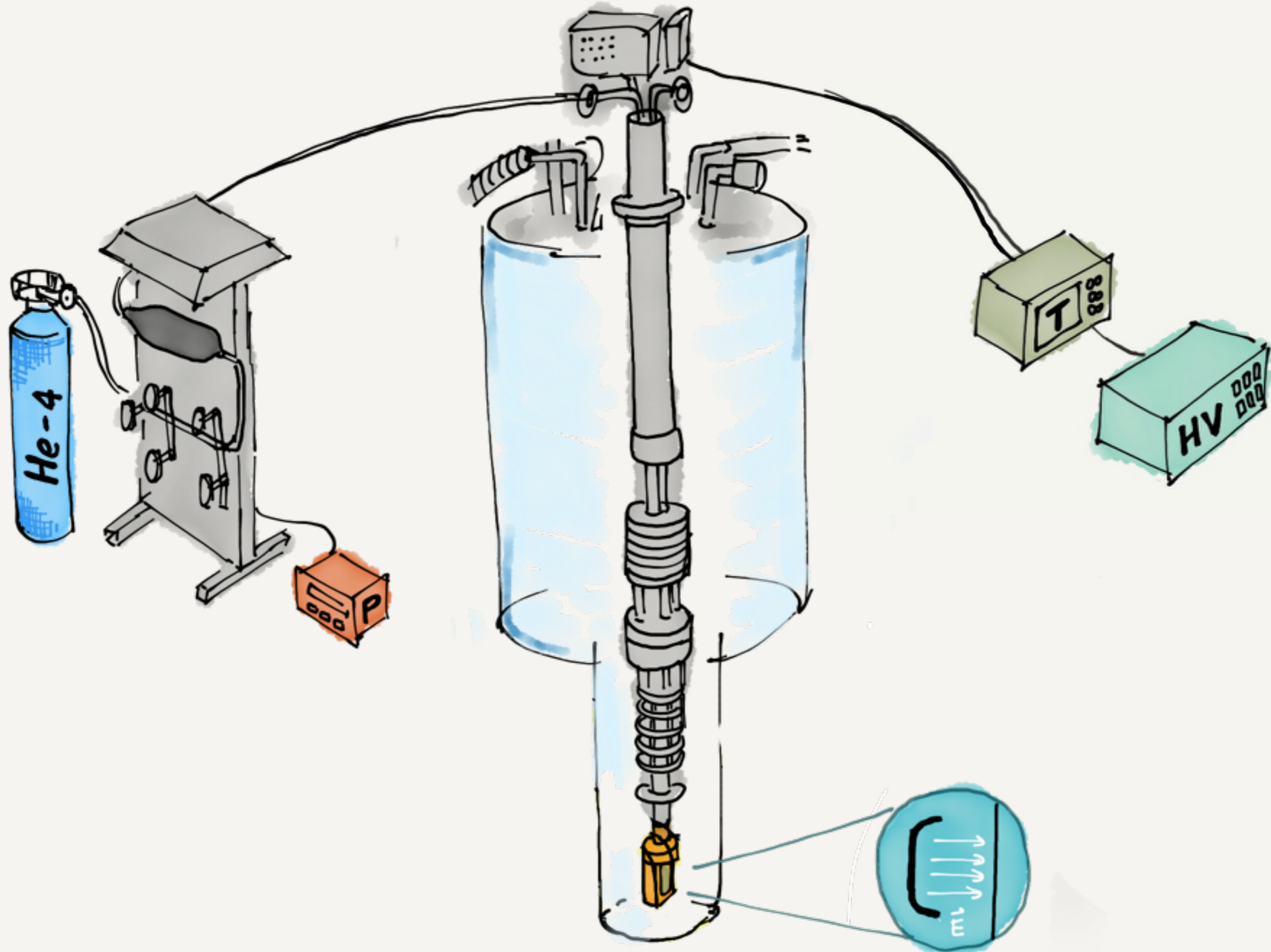
$^3\text{He}$ - $^4\text{He}$  dilution refrigerator



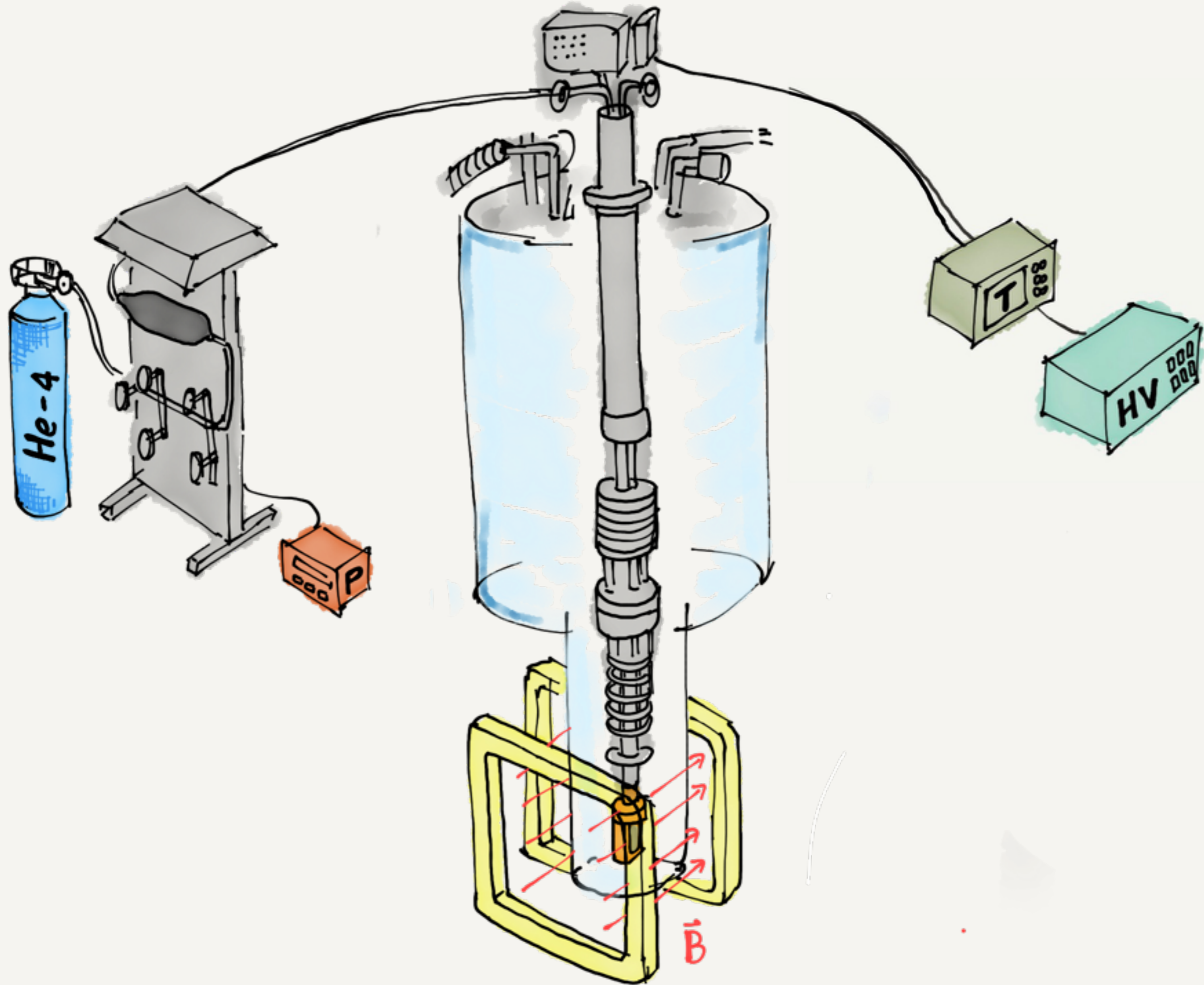


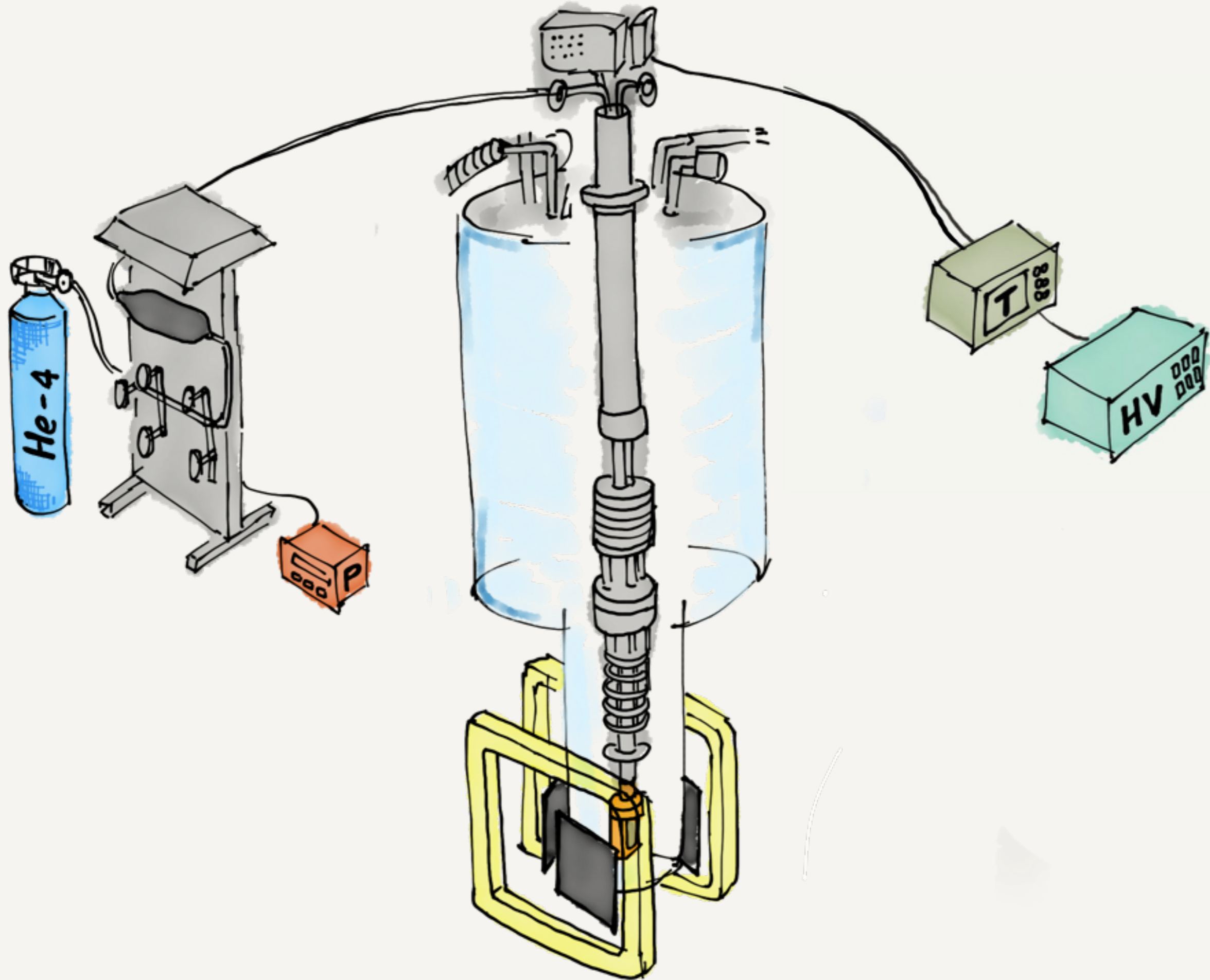


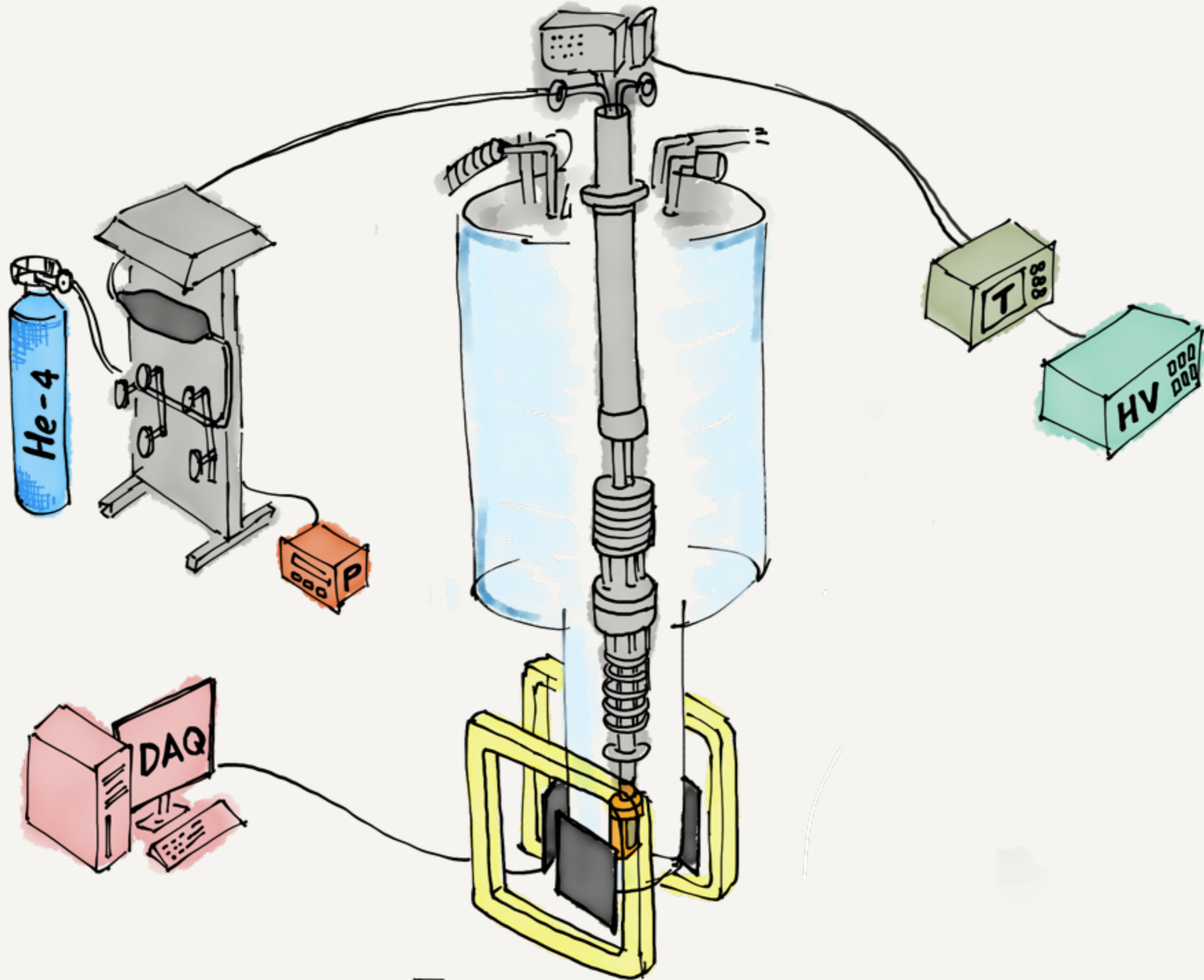


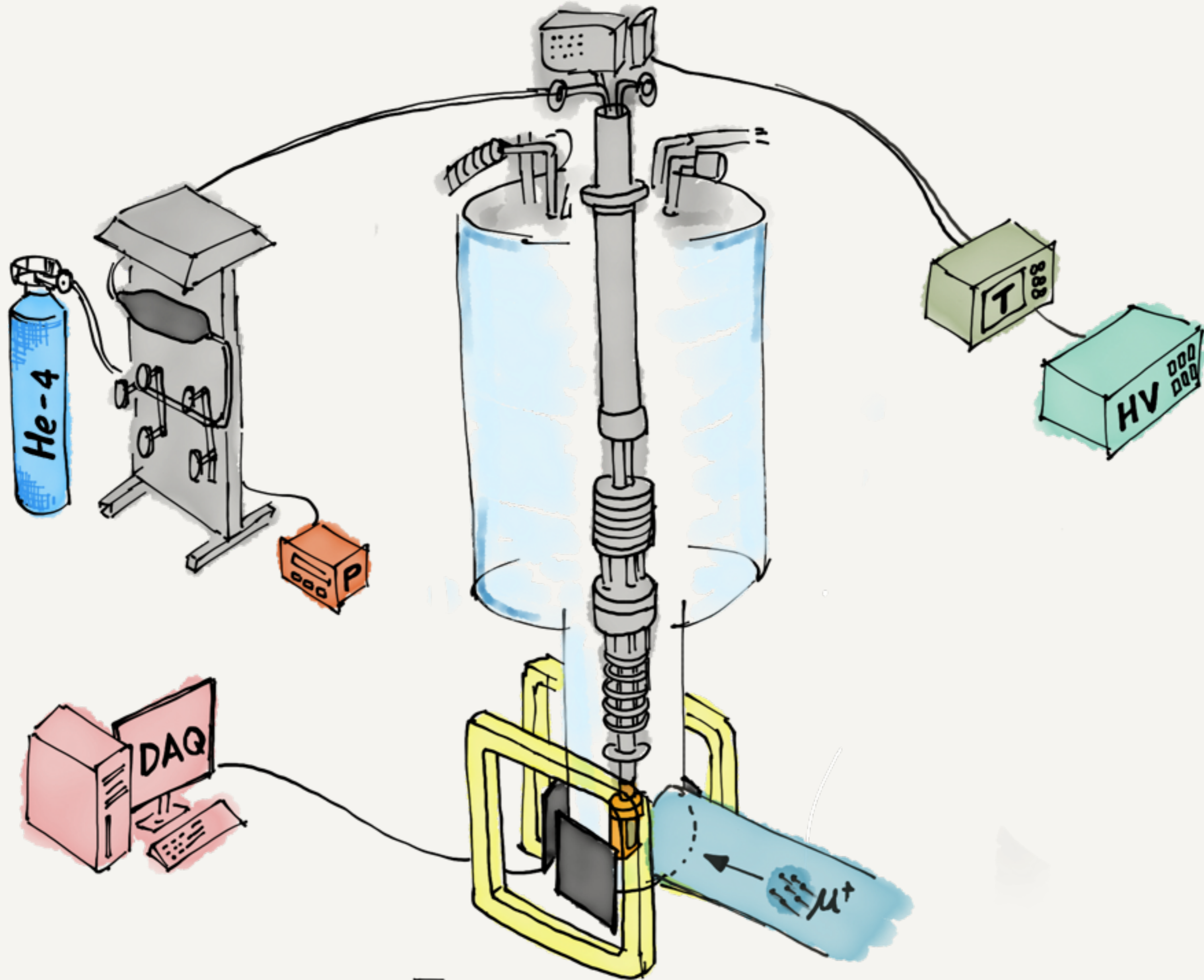






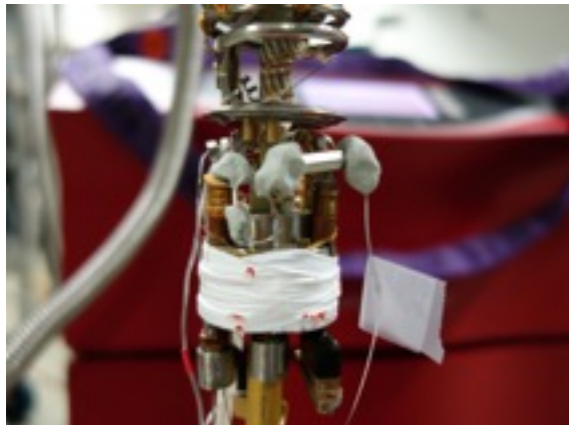
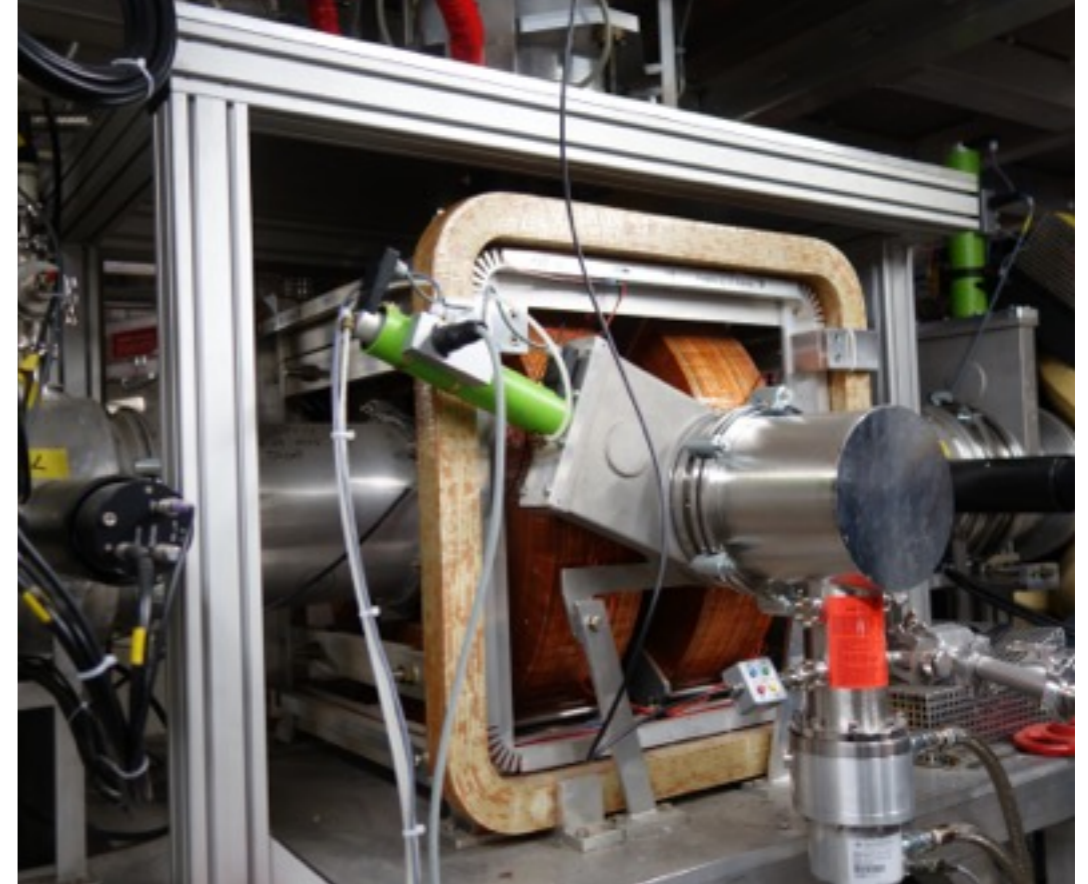




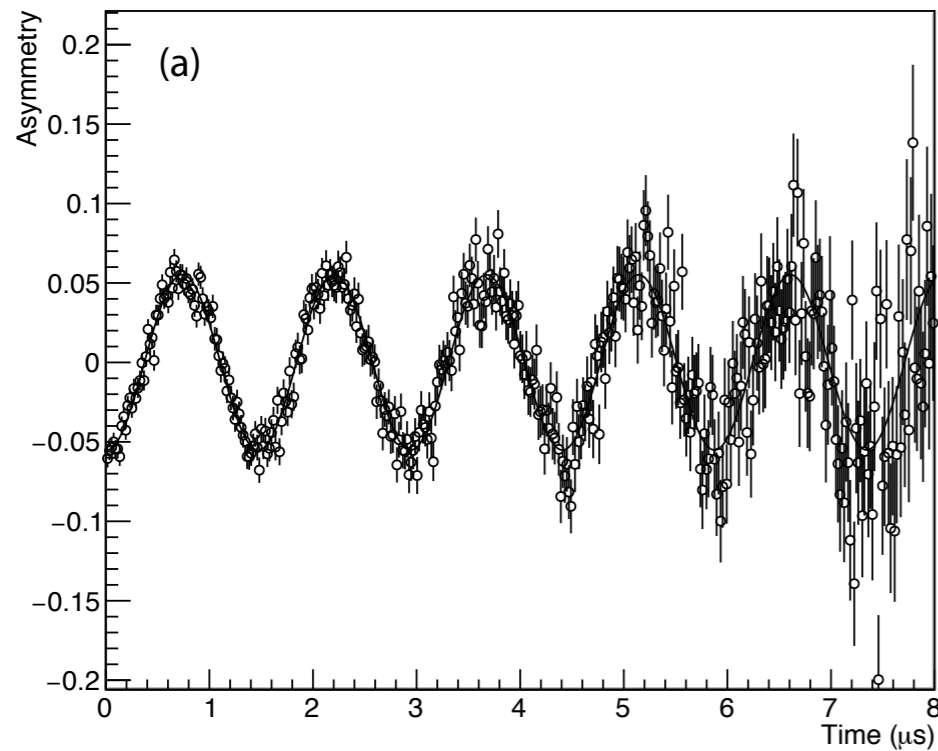


# Experiment

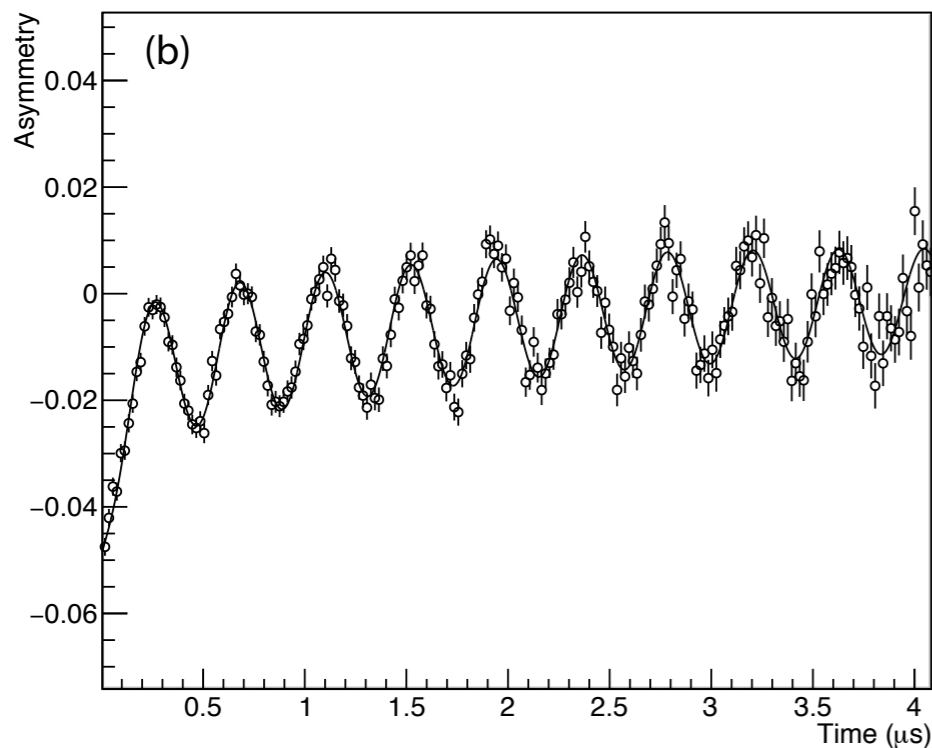
• November 2017, PiE1 area at PSI



# Results

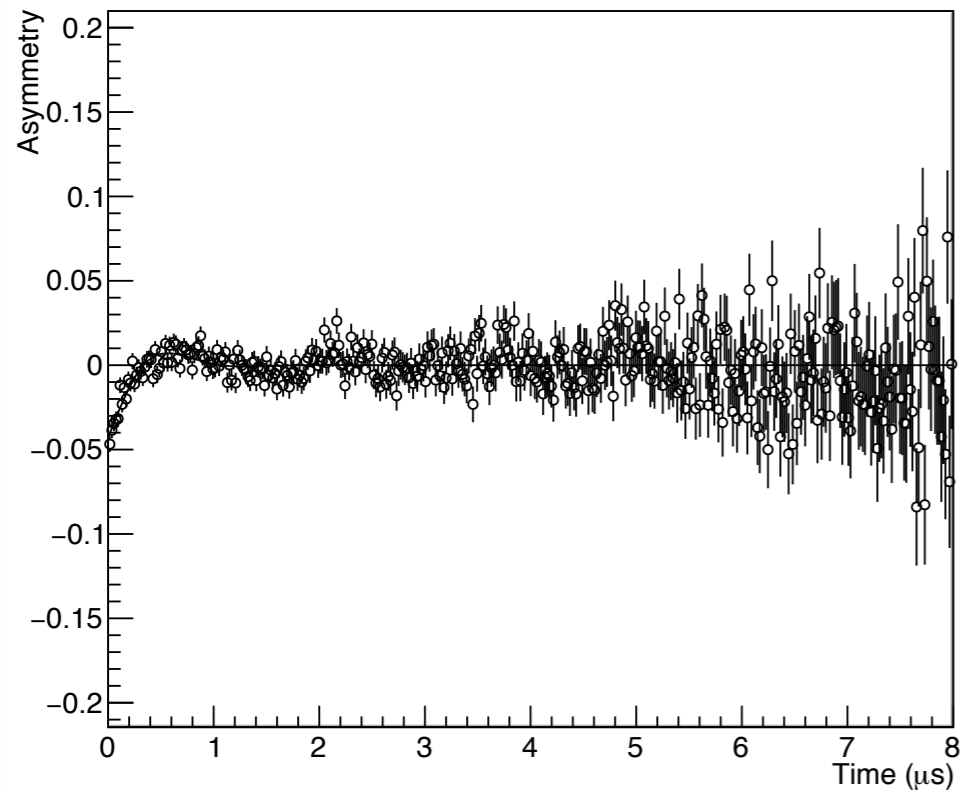


- Empty cell
- Muon stopped at the silver electrode
- Muon decay asymmetry at  $B = 50 \text{ G}$
- $A_{\mu} = 0.0555 \pm 0.0015$



- Full cell with superfluid He-4,  $T = 0.5\text{K}$
- Muon stopped in the superfluid and formed muoniumium
- Muoniumium decay asymmetry at  $B = 1.6 \text{ G}$
- $A_{\text{Mu}} = 0.0136 \pm 0.0005$

# Results



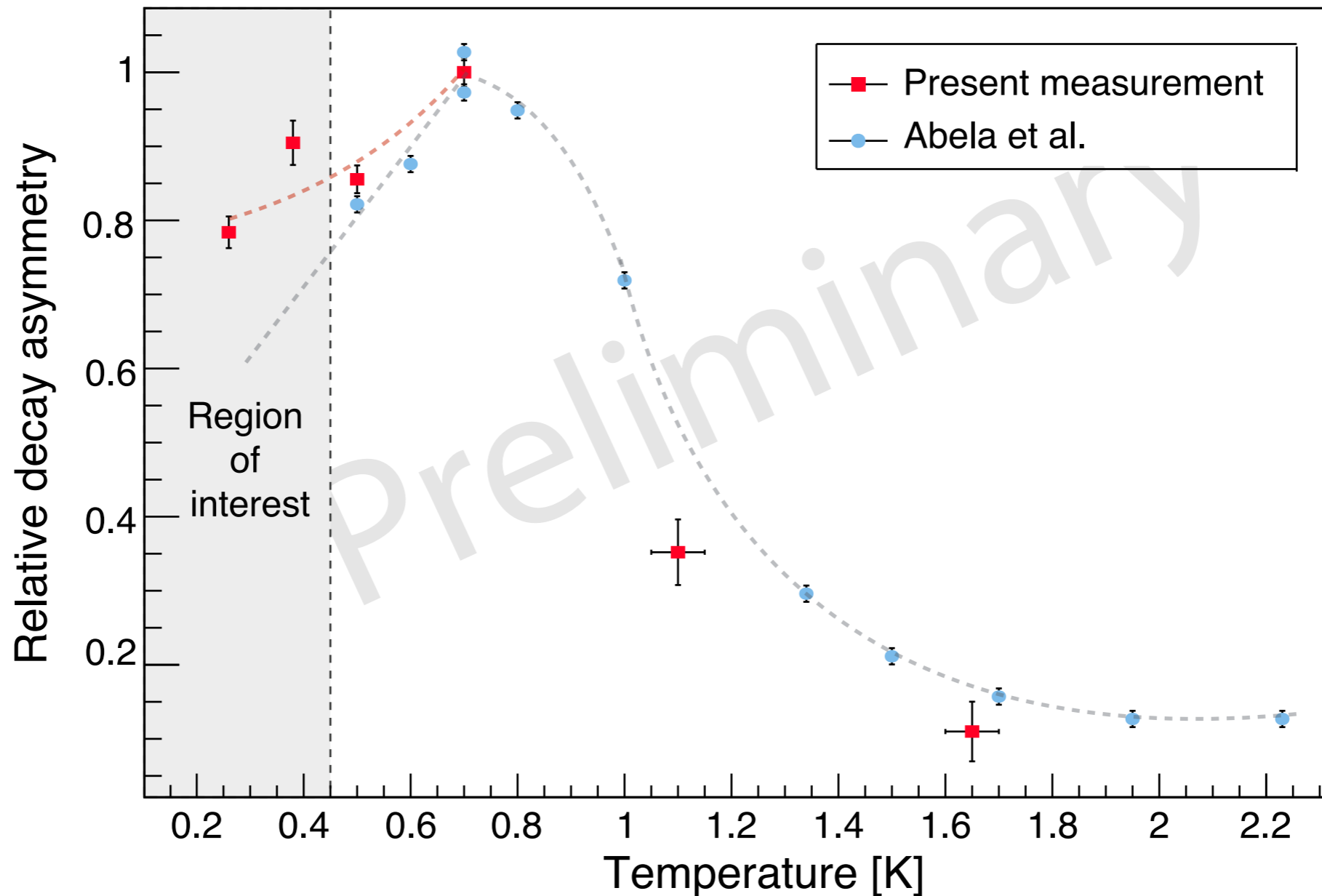
- Full cell with superfluid He-4,  $T = 0.5\text{K}$
- Muon stopped in the superfluid and formed muonium
- Muonium decay asymmetry at  $B = 50\text{ G}$
- Disappearance of muon signal

- Scanned Parameters

- Temperature
- Electric field (Voltage)
- Magnetic field
- Which configuration will give the highest yield of Mu ?

# Results

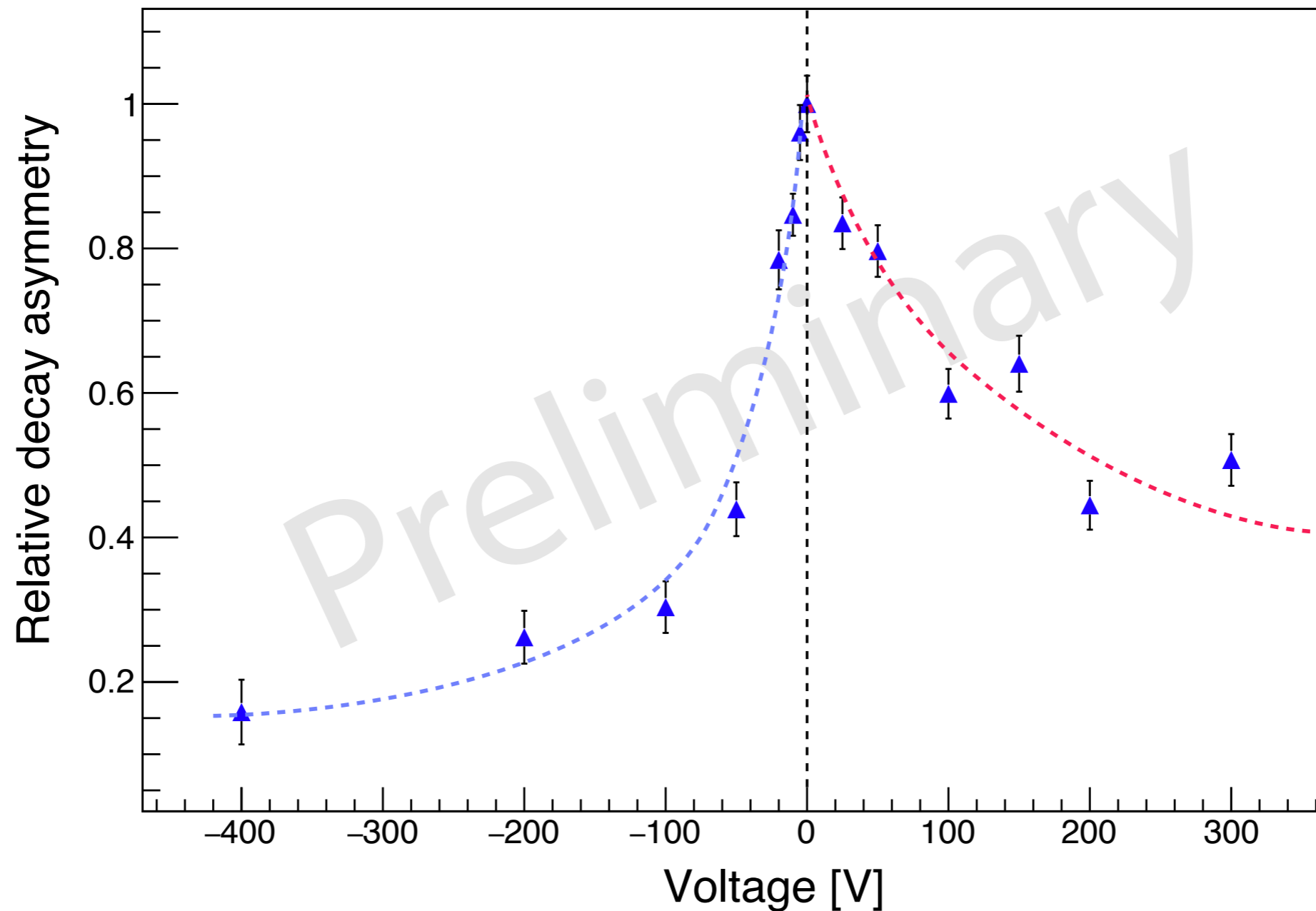
- Temperature scan
- First measurement of muonium formation in SFHe at  $T < 0.5\text{K}$





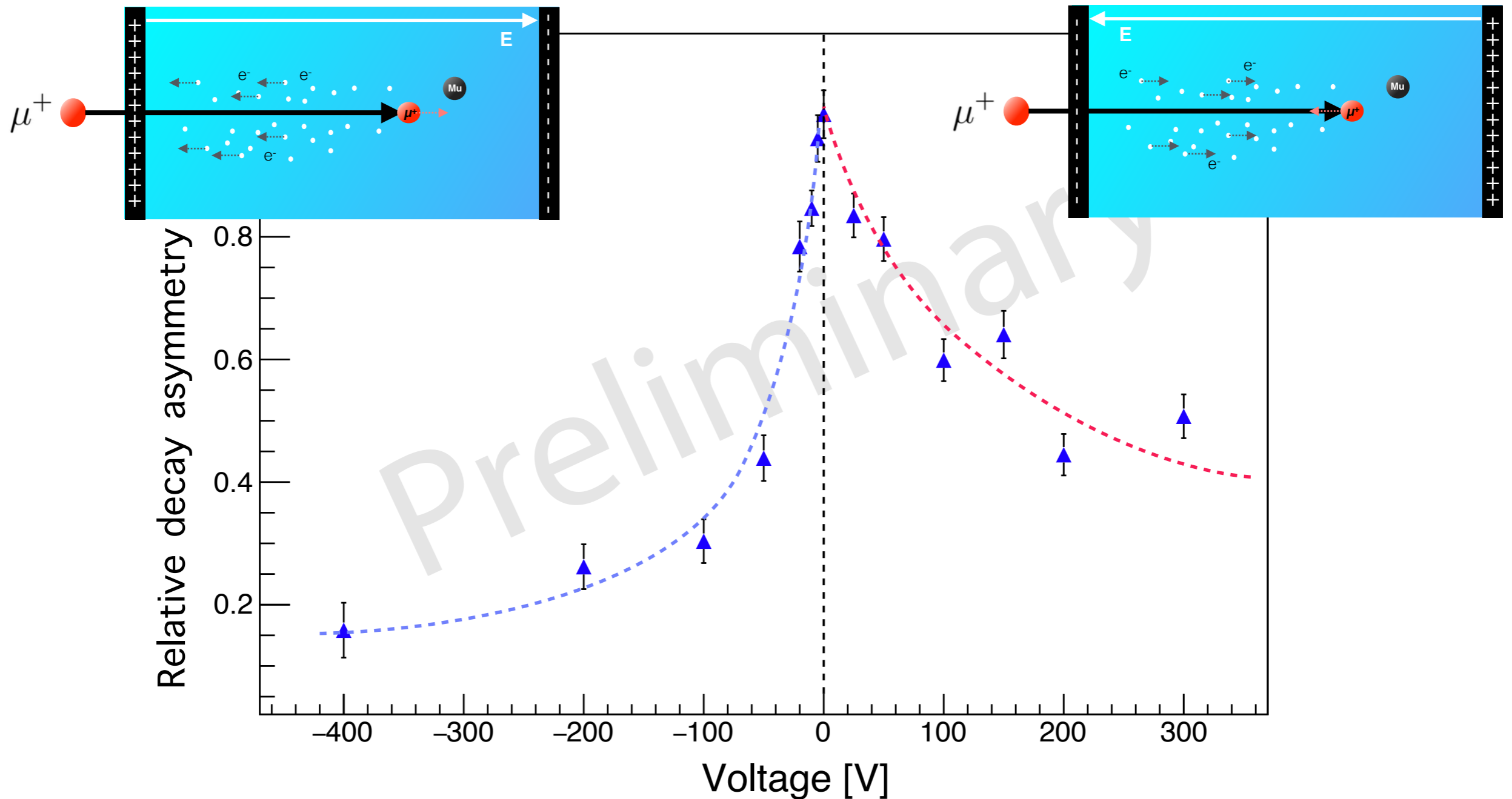
# Results

- Voltage scan
- Perform the electric field scan at low temperature 0.26 K
- Muonium formation rate decreases when the voltage increases



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# Conclusions

- The first measurement of the Mu formation rate was done at  $T < 0.5$  K
- The highest Mu formation rate is at  $T = 0.7$  K
- The Mu formation rate at lower temperature is still reasonably high
- An applied electric field prevents the muonium formation rate

## Next episode . . .

- In this year, our experimental goal is to measure emission of muonium into vacuum from SFHe

**ETH ZÜRICH**

ALDO ANTOGNINI\*

PAOLO CRIVELLI

KLAUS KIRCH\*

DAVID TAQQU

**PAUL SCHERRER INSTITUTE**

MAREK BARTKOWIAK

ANGELA PAPA

NARONGRIT RITJOHO

ANDREAS KNECHT

ANNA SOTER

DAVID ROUSSO<sup>n</sup>

ROBERT SCHEUERMANN

**UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE**

MICHAEL DE VOLDER

**ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY**

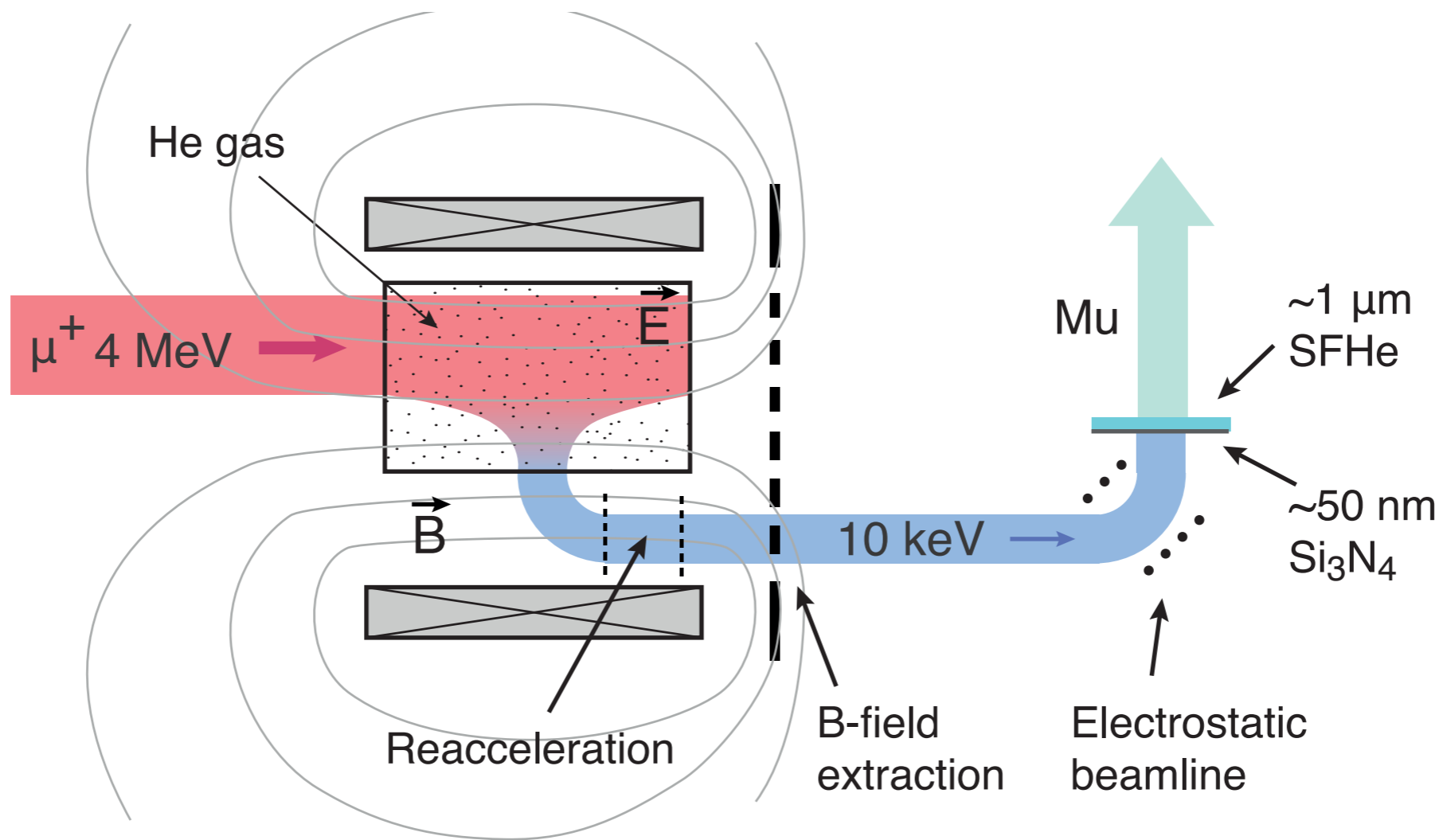
THOMAS PHILLIPS

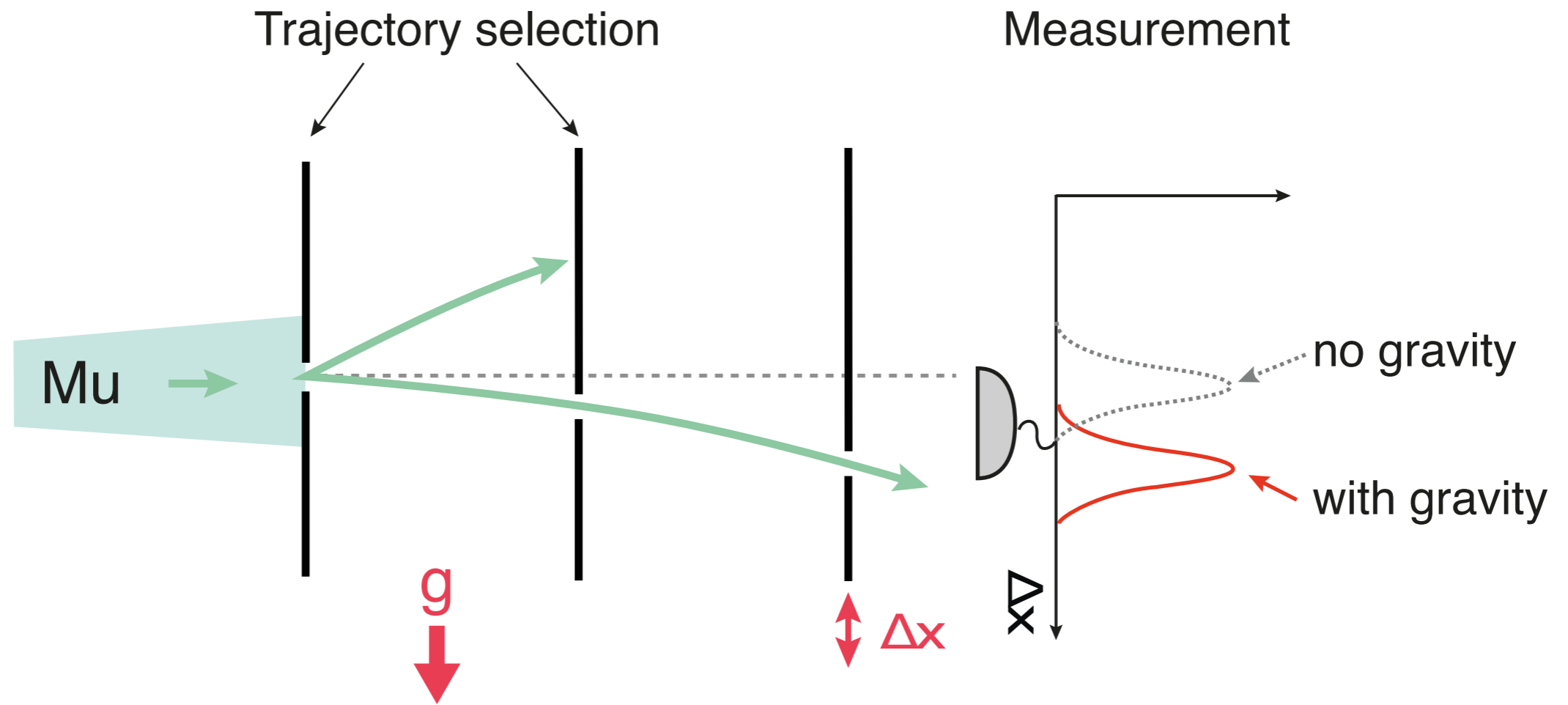
DANIEL KAPLAN

\* also affiliated with PSI

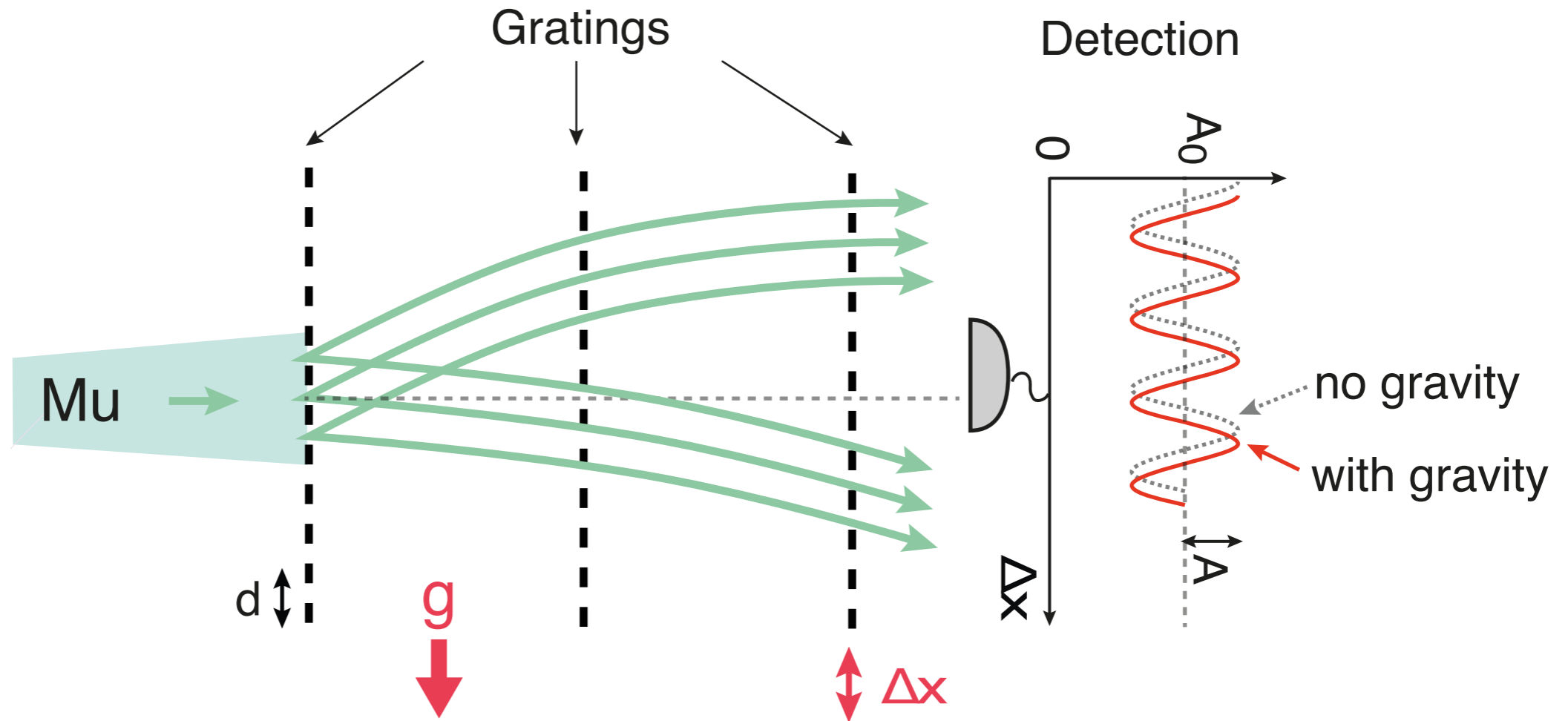
<sup>n</sup> student from University of Waterloo, Canada

BACK UP



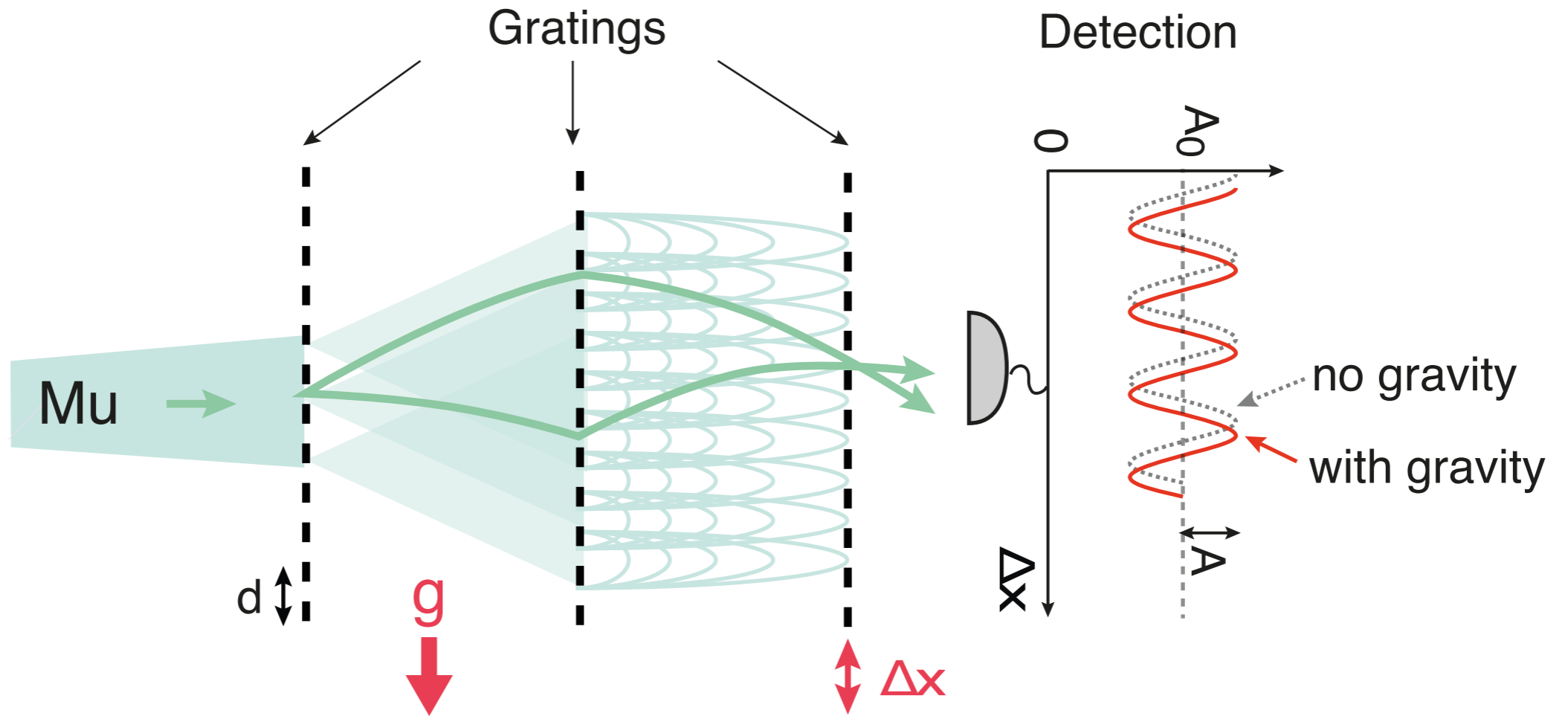


Trajectory selection by collimation: large losses in atom number!



- ▶ Increasing intensity: series of collimators = gratings.
- ▶ Effects of gravity: vertical shift in the periodic pattern of shadows
- ▶ If this effect is small, small grating period ( $d$ ) needed
  - ▶ Challenging:  $\mu$  falls less than 1 nm during its few us flight!





$$\frac{\Delta g}{g} \approx \frac{1}{2\pi T^2} \frac{d}{C\sqrt{N}}$$

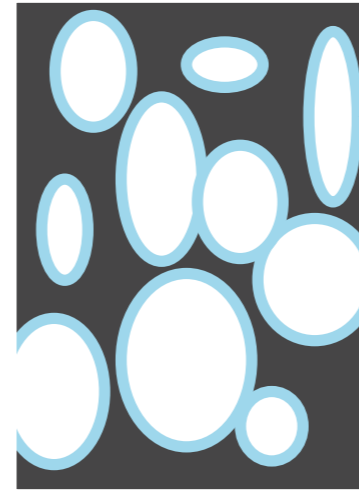
Small grating period

Interaction time  
 $\sim \tau = \text{few } \mu\text{s} !$

Many atoms  $N \sim N_0 b^3 e^{-(t_D+T)/\tau}$   
 Large contrast  $C = A/A_0$

## New concept: nanostructured targets coated with SFHe

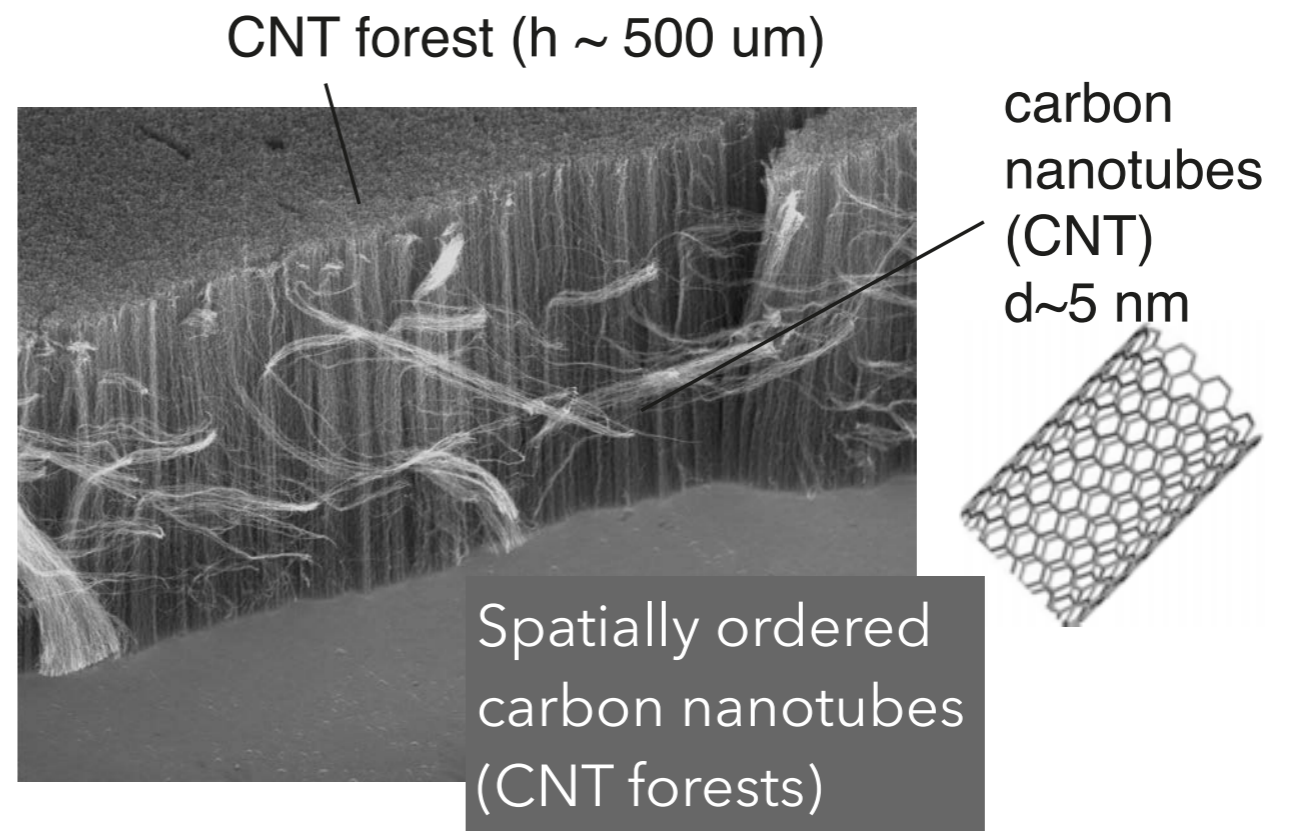
- ▶ Large  $\mu^+$  stopping power and surface area for Mu escape
- ▶ SFHe film prevents atoms sticking to the wall



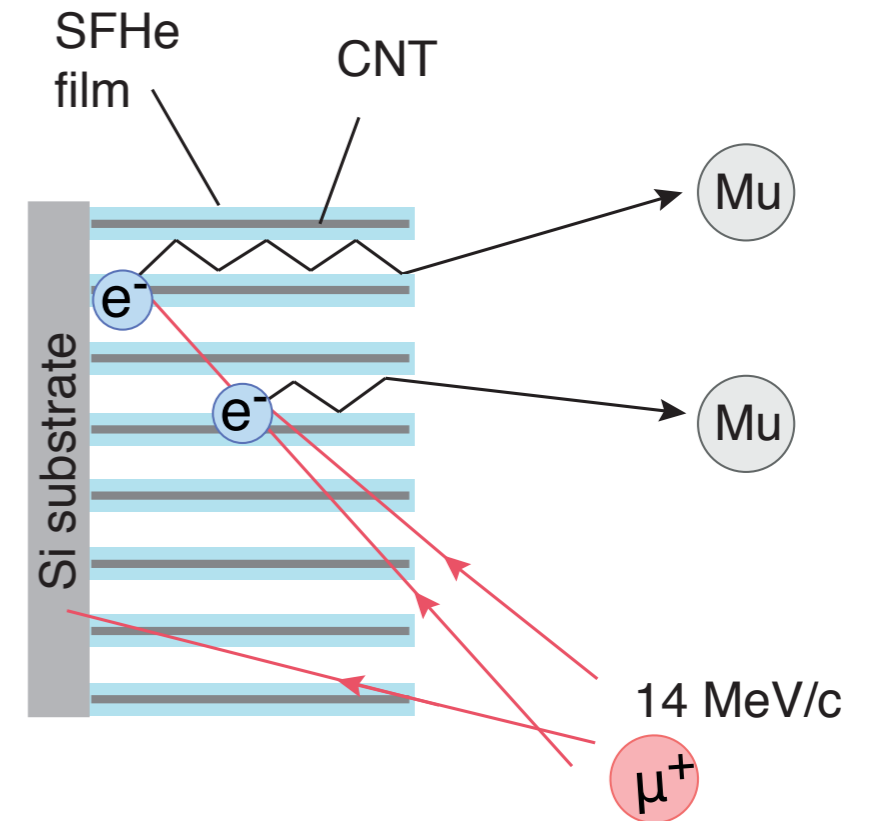
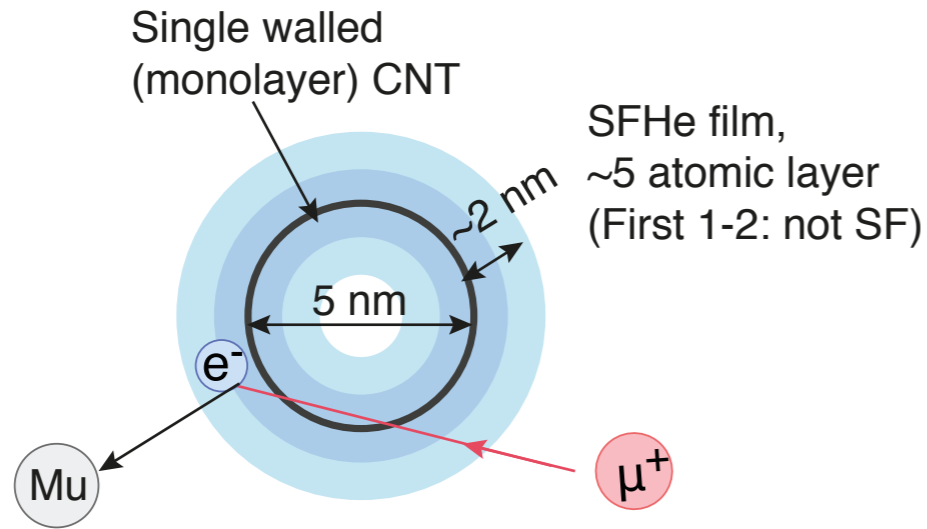
- ▶ e.g. coating mesoporous  $\text{SiO}_2$  with SFHe?

## New concept: nanostructured targets coated with SFHe

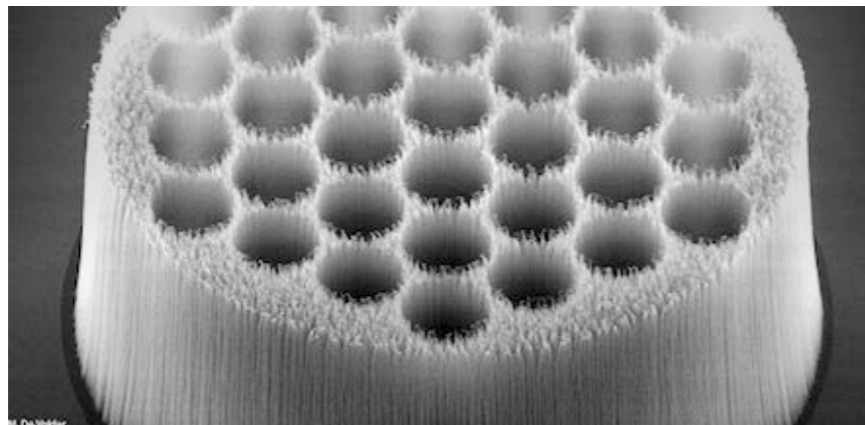
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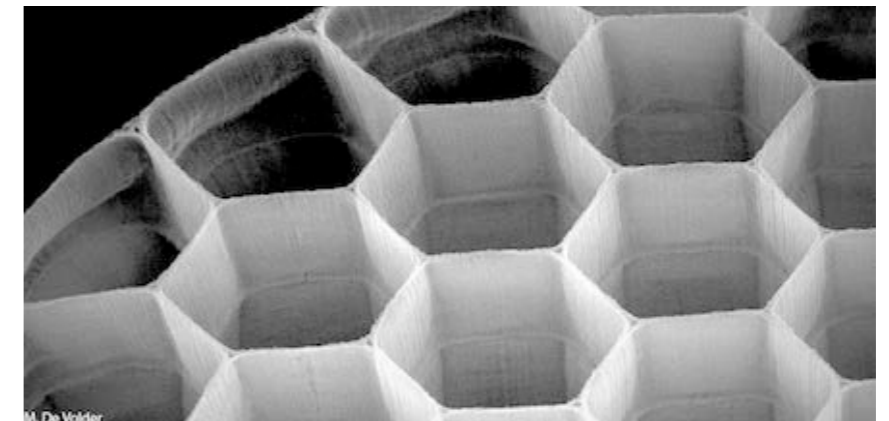
# The potential of SFHe coated CNT forests



- ▶ significant stopping power in SFHe vs carbon
- ▶ forest: ~5% graphite density, quasi-ordered structure - fast Mu escape?



And, the possibility for:



- ▶ Prefabricated holes for better Mu extraction

- ▶ Free-standing structures for back-implantation

