

# The Quest for $\mu \rightarrow e \gamma$ and its Experimental Limiting Factors at Future High Intensity Muon Beams

*G. Cavoto, A. Papa, FR, E. Ripiccini and C. Voena  
Eur. Phys. J. C (2018) 78: 37*



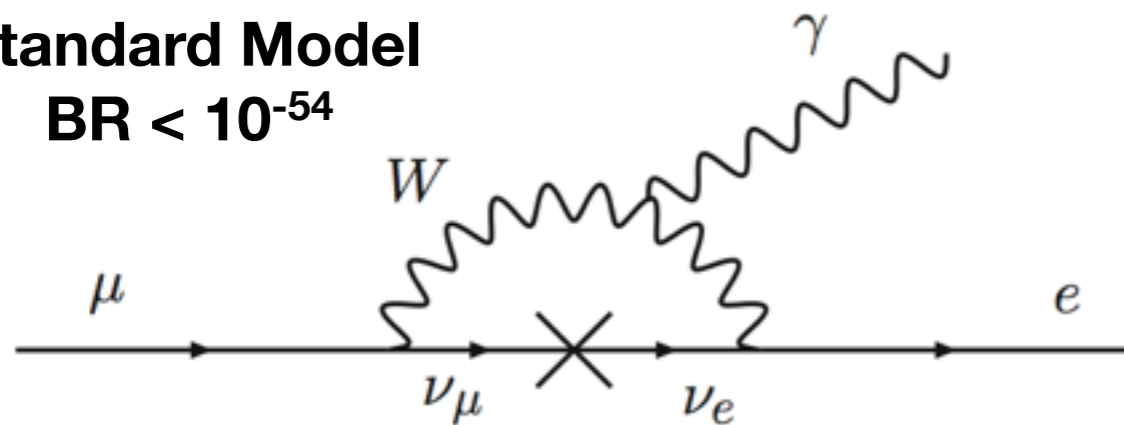
**Francesco Renga**  
*INFN Roma*

# Lepton Flavor Conservation in the Standard Model

- Lepton Flavor conservation in the Standard Model (SM) is an *accidental symmetry*, arising from the particle content of the model
- Generally violated in most of New Physics (NP) models

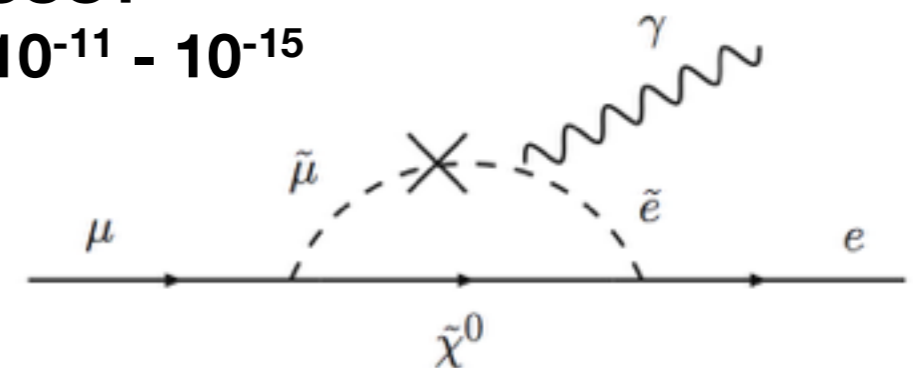
**Standard Model**

**BR <math>10^{-54}</math>**



**SUSY**

**BR ~ 10<sup>-11</sup> - 10<sup>-15</sup>**

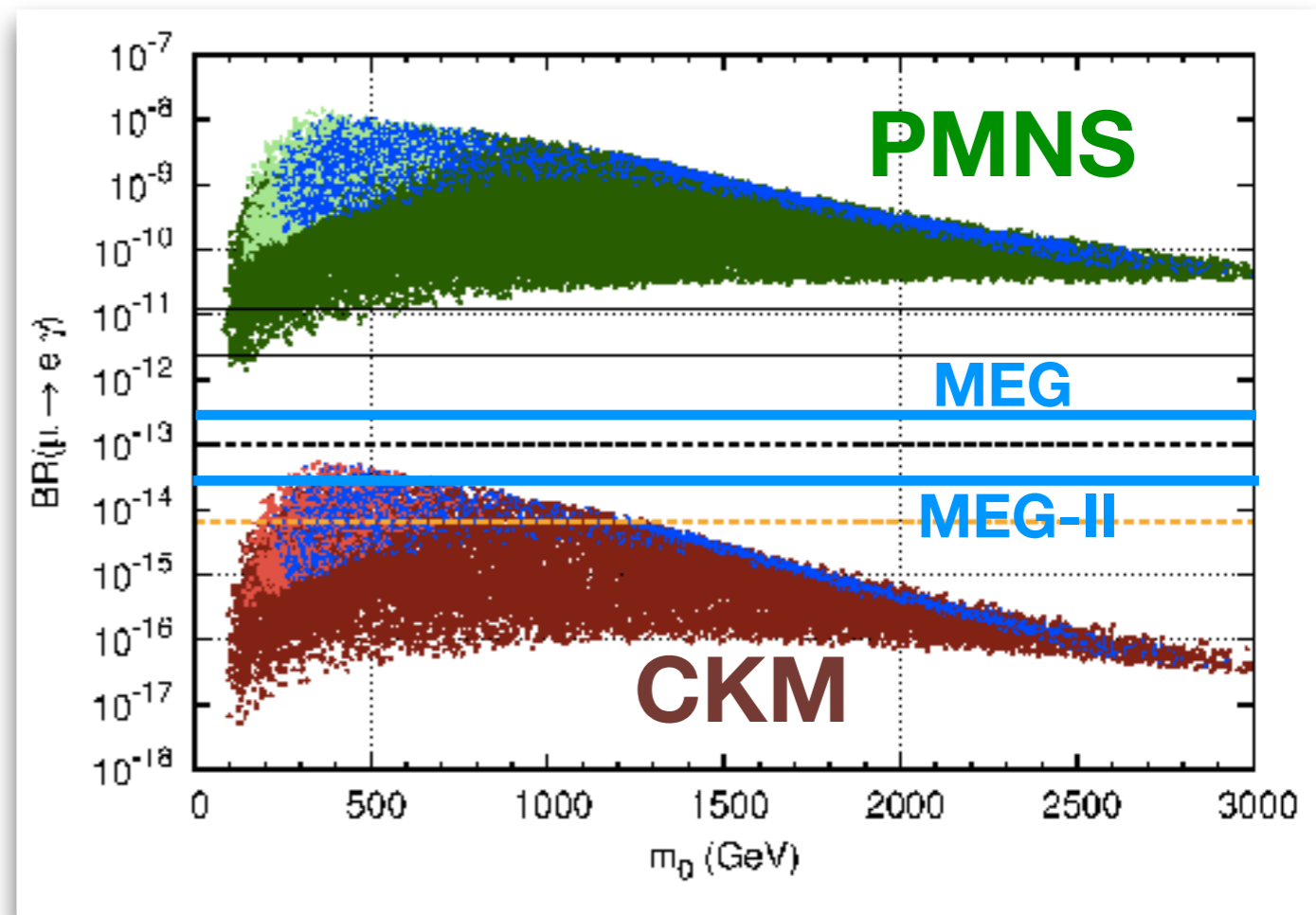


*“Charged LFV (cLFV) is THE signature for New Physics”*  
 — A. Schöning

# cLFV and direct NP searches at the LHC

- cLFV rates strongly depend on the details of the flavor structure of new physics:
  - even within the same model, sLFV constraints can be much stronger or much weaker than LHC constraints
  - LHC searches still leave a lot of place for cLFV

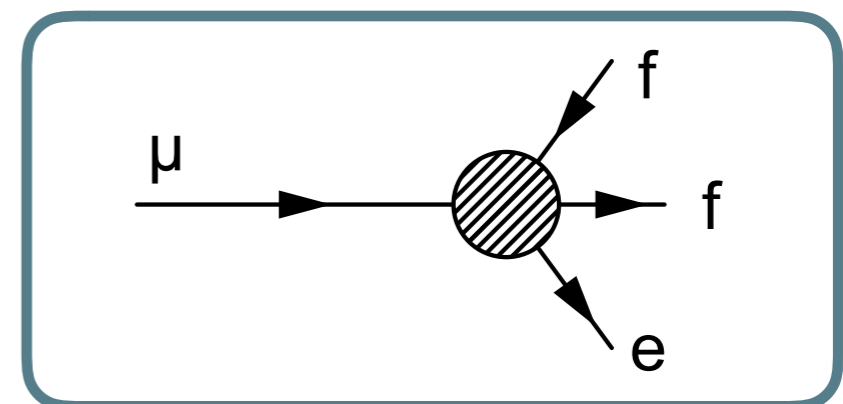
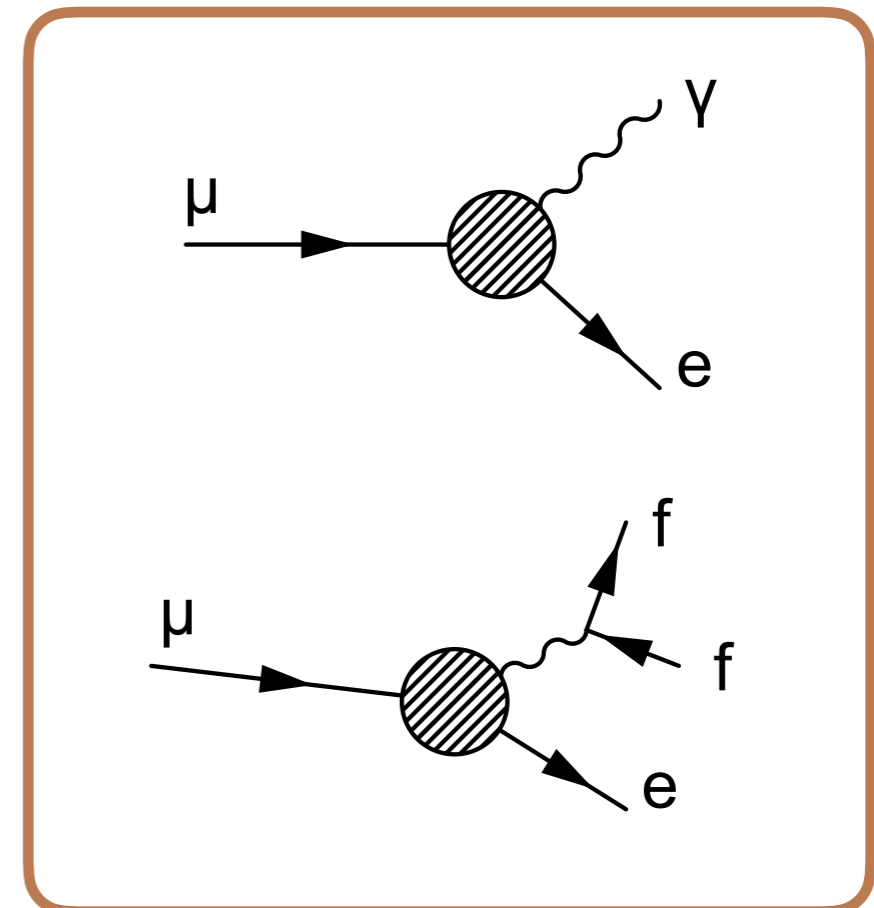
**STRONG  
COMPLEMENTARITY**



L. Calibbi et al., Eur. Phys. J. C72 (2012) 1863

# cLFV searches in the muon sector - the naive view

- cLFV searched for in muon decays ( $\mu \rightarrow e \gamma$ ,  $\mu \rightarrow e e e$ ) and  $\mu \rightarrow e$  **conversion** in nuclei
- Effective Field Theory (EFT) approach (tree level):
  - $\mu \rightarrow e \gamma$  sensitive to **dipole operator**
  - $\mu \rightarrow e e e$  and  $\mu N \rightarrow e N$  sensitive to both **dipole** and **4-fermion operators**

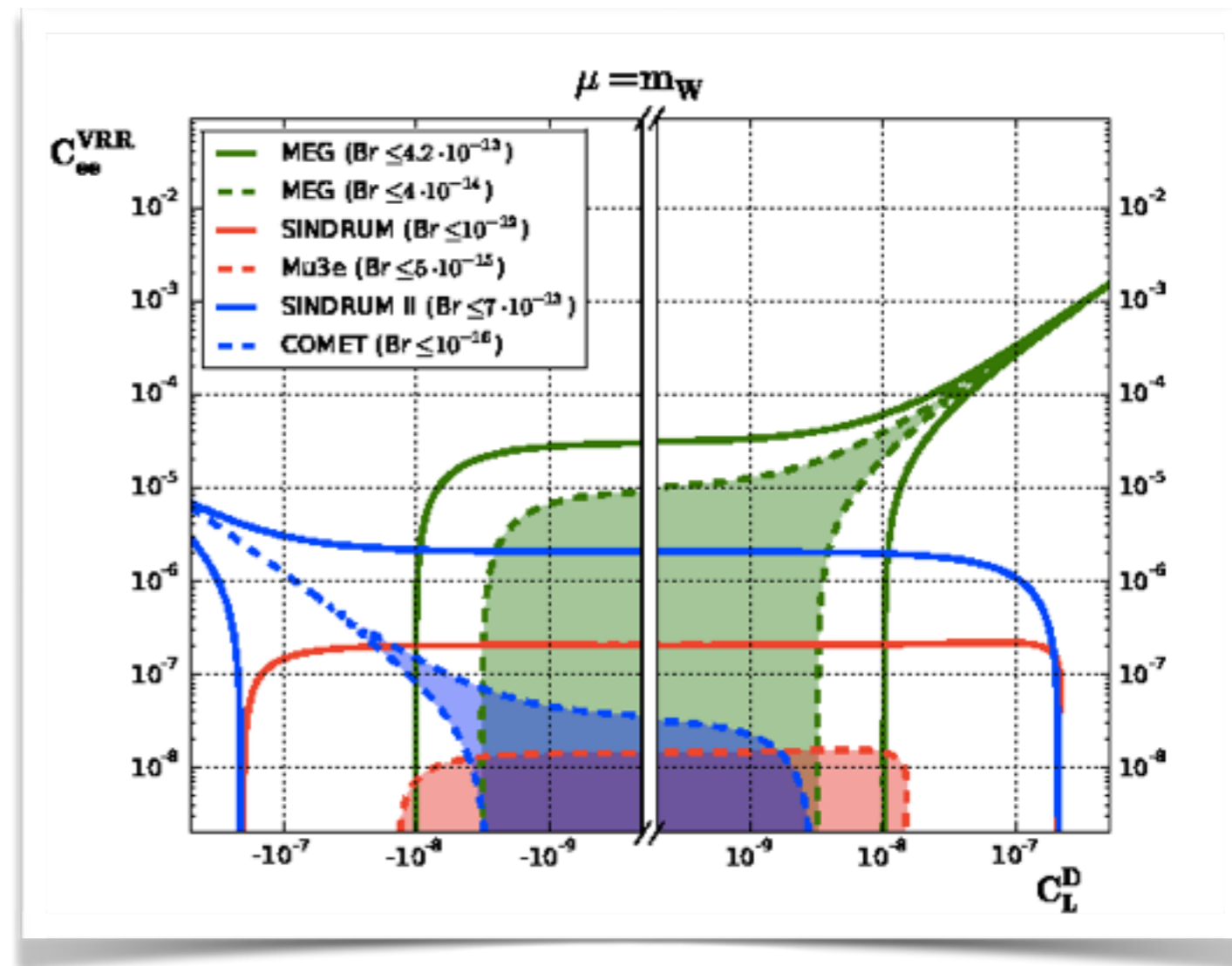


*Naive conclusion: the upcoming  $\mu \rightarrow e$  conversion experiments will overcome the muon decay experiments*

# cLFV searches in the muon sector - the full view

- Operators mix at the loop level:
  - $\mu \rightarrow e \gamma$  also sensitive to 4-fermion operators
  - $\mu \rightarrow e \gamma$  gives the strongest bound to dipole operators in some scenarios

**STRONG  
COMPLEMENTARITY**



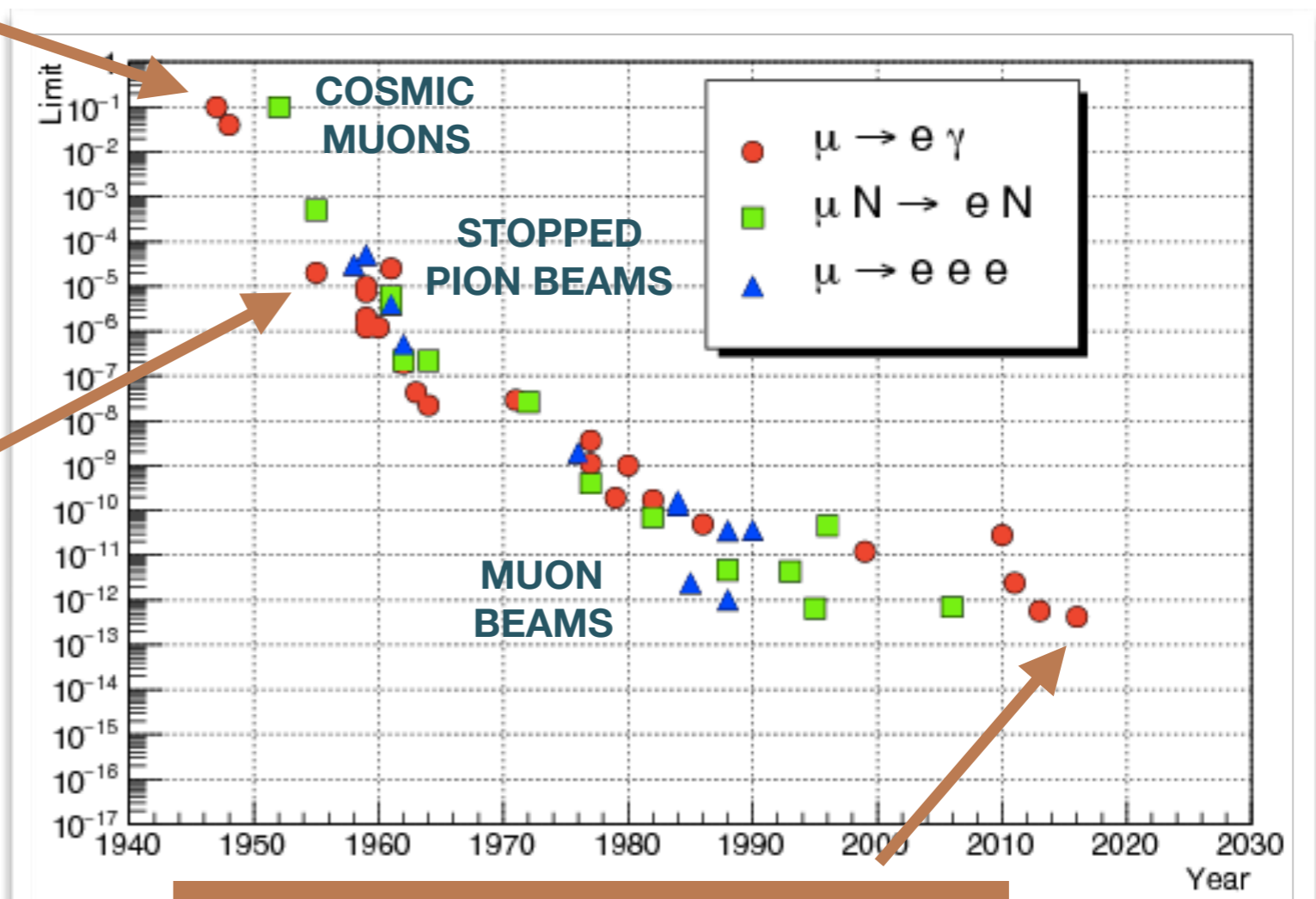
A. Crivellin et al., JHEP 1705 (2017) 117

*Even in the era of the upcoming  $\mu \rightarrow e$  conversion experiments,  $\mu \rightarrow e \gamma$  (and  $\mu \rightarrow e e e$ ) will continue to play a crucial role*

# History of cLFV searches

Hincks & Pontecorvo  
 [Phys. Rev. 73 (1948) 257]  
*muon is not an "excited electron"*

Lokanathan & Steinberger  
 [Phys. Rev. A 98 (1955) 240]  
*lepton flavors*



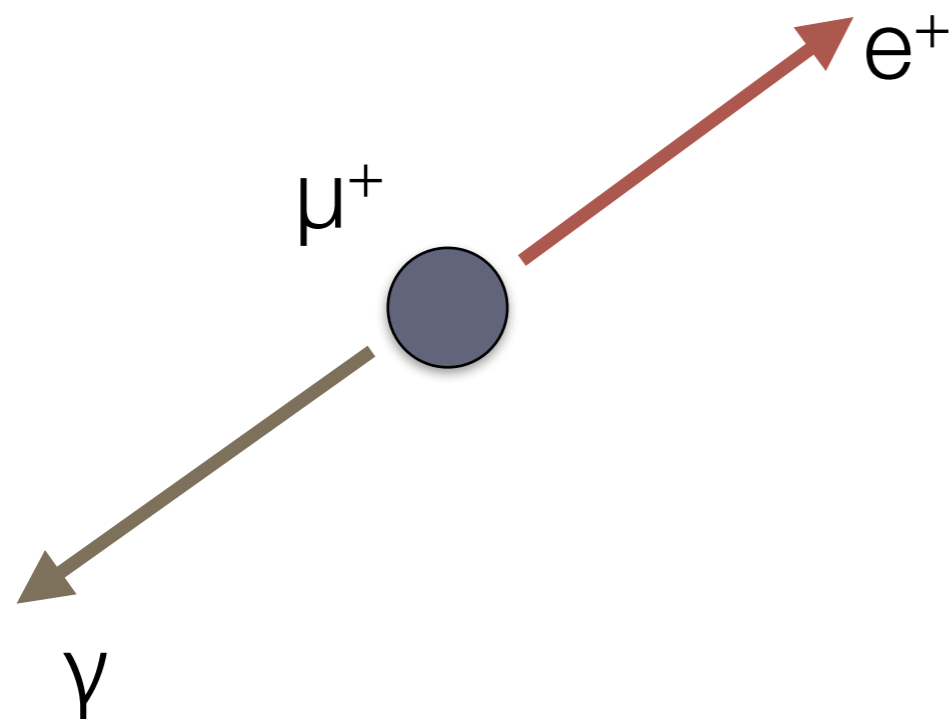
MEG Experiment  
 [Eur.Phys.J. C76 (2016) 8, 434]  
 $BR(\mu \rightarrow e \gamma) < 4.2 \times 10^{-13}$

# Muon beams for $\mu \rightarrow e \gamma$

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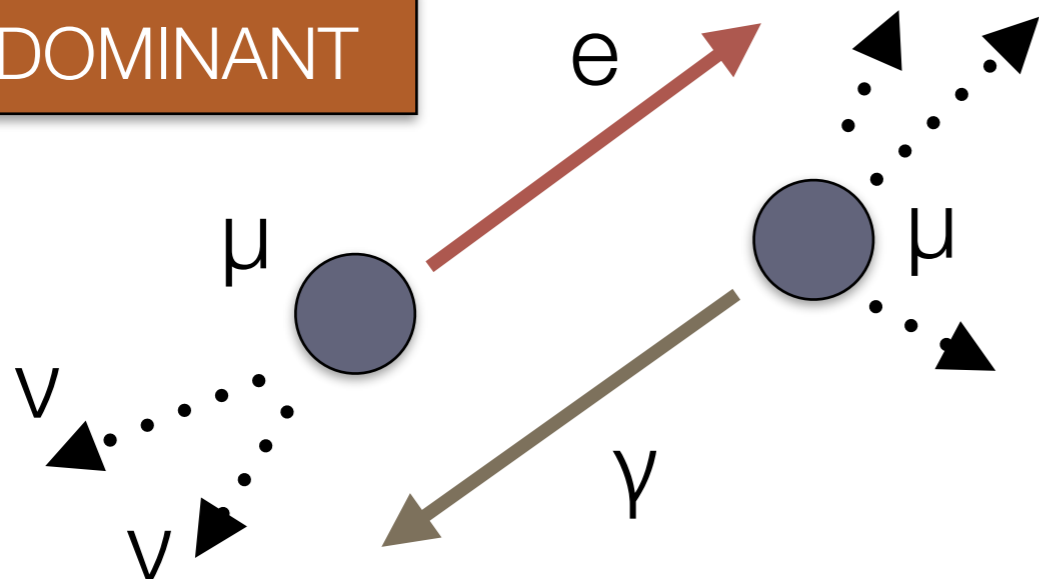
- Muon beams are obtained from proton beams stopped on a target, through the decay of pions
  - clean and intense 28 MeV/c muon beams from pions decaying at rest at the target surface (*surface muons*)
- **Continuous** (*to avoid pileup*) **positive** (*to avoid capture by nuclei in the stopping target*) muon beams are used for cLFV in muon decays at rest
- The Paul Scherrer Institut (PSI, Villigen, CH) currently delivers the most intense DC muon beams (up to  $10^8 \mu/s$ )

# $\mu \rightarrow e \gamma$ searches



**Accidental Background**

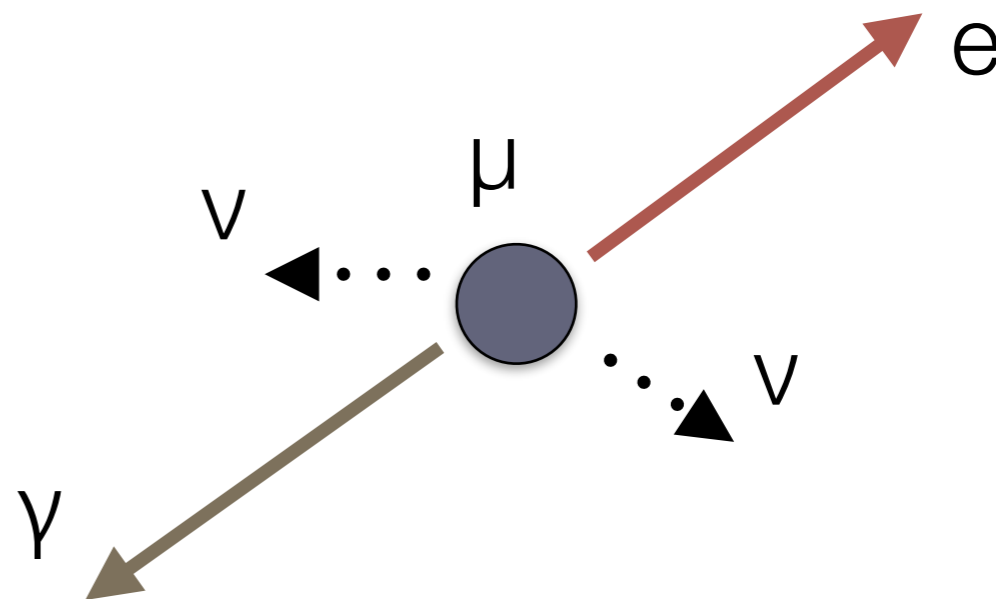
**DOMINANT**



28 MeV/c muons are stopped on a thin target

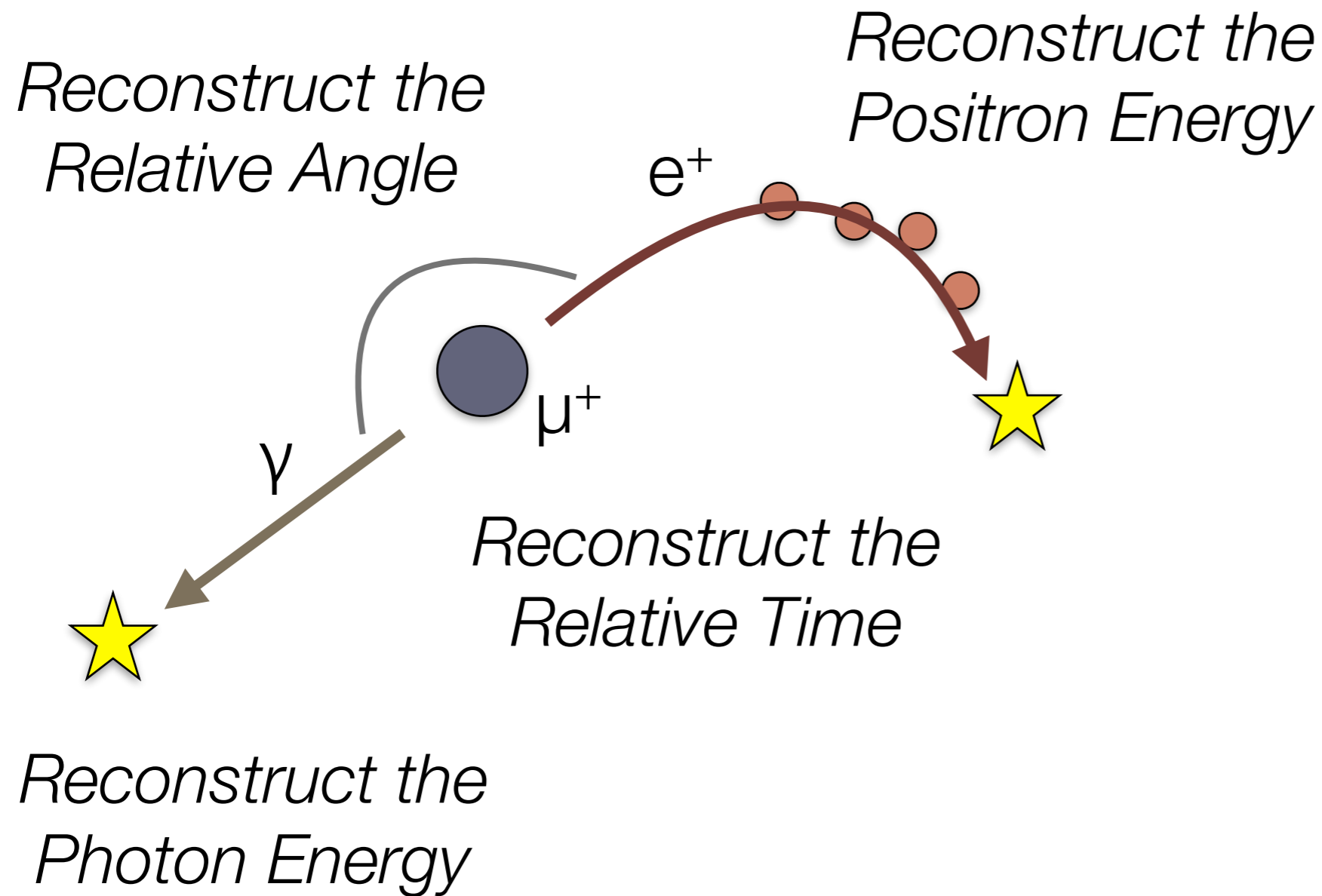
Positron and photon are **monochromatic** (52.8 MeV), **back-to-back** and produced at the **same time**;

**Radiative Muon Decay (RMD)**

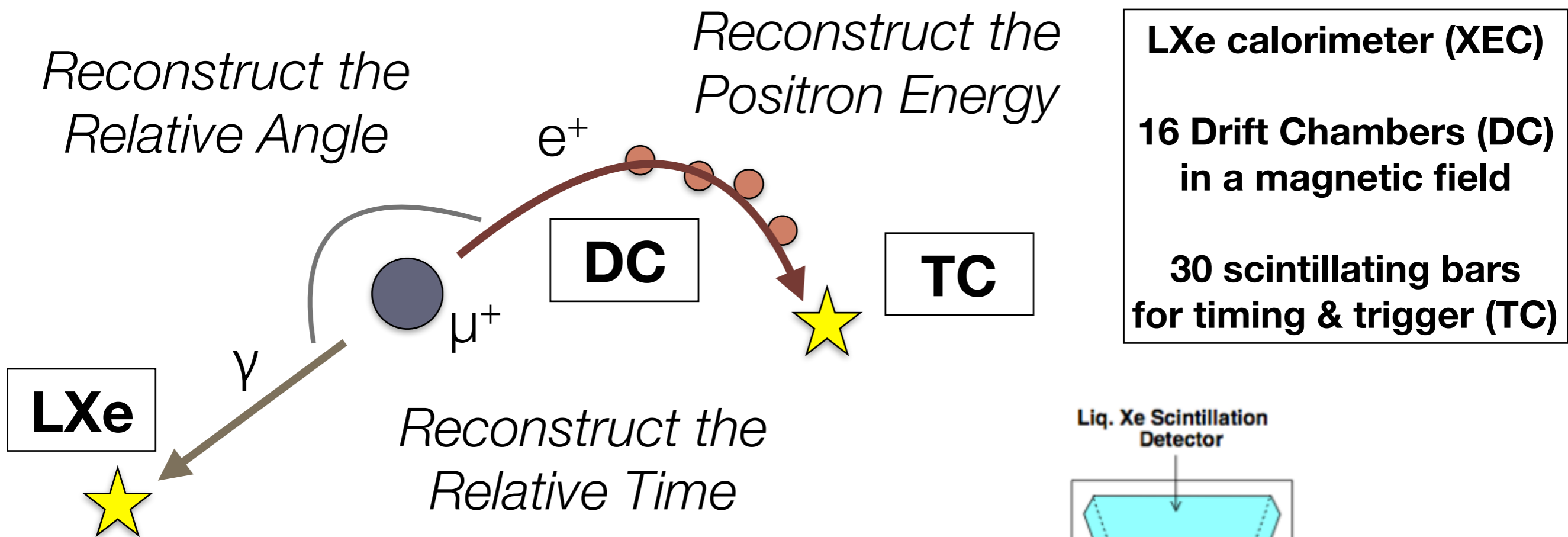




# Ingredients for a search of $\mu \rightarrow e \gamma$



# The MEG Experiment

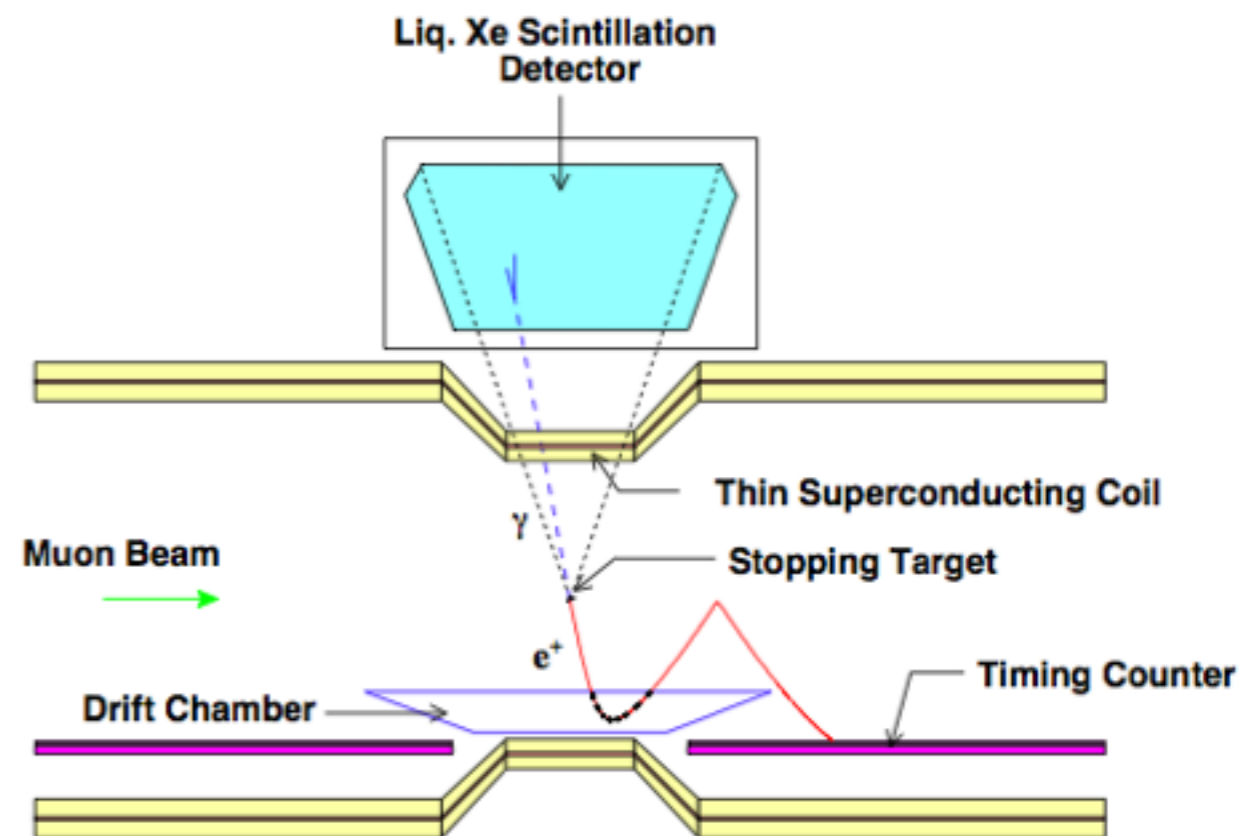


- LXe calorimeter (XEC)**
- 16 Drift Chambers (DC) in a magnetic field**
- 30 scintillating bars for timing & trigger (TC)**

*Reconstruct the Photon Energy*

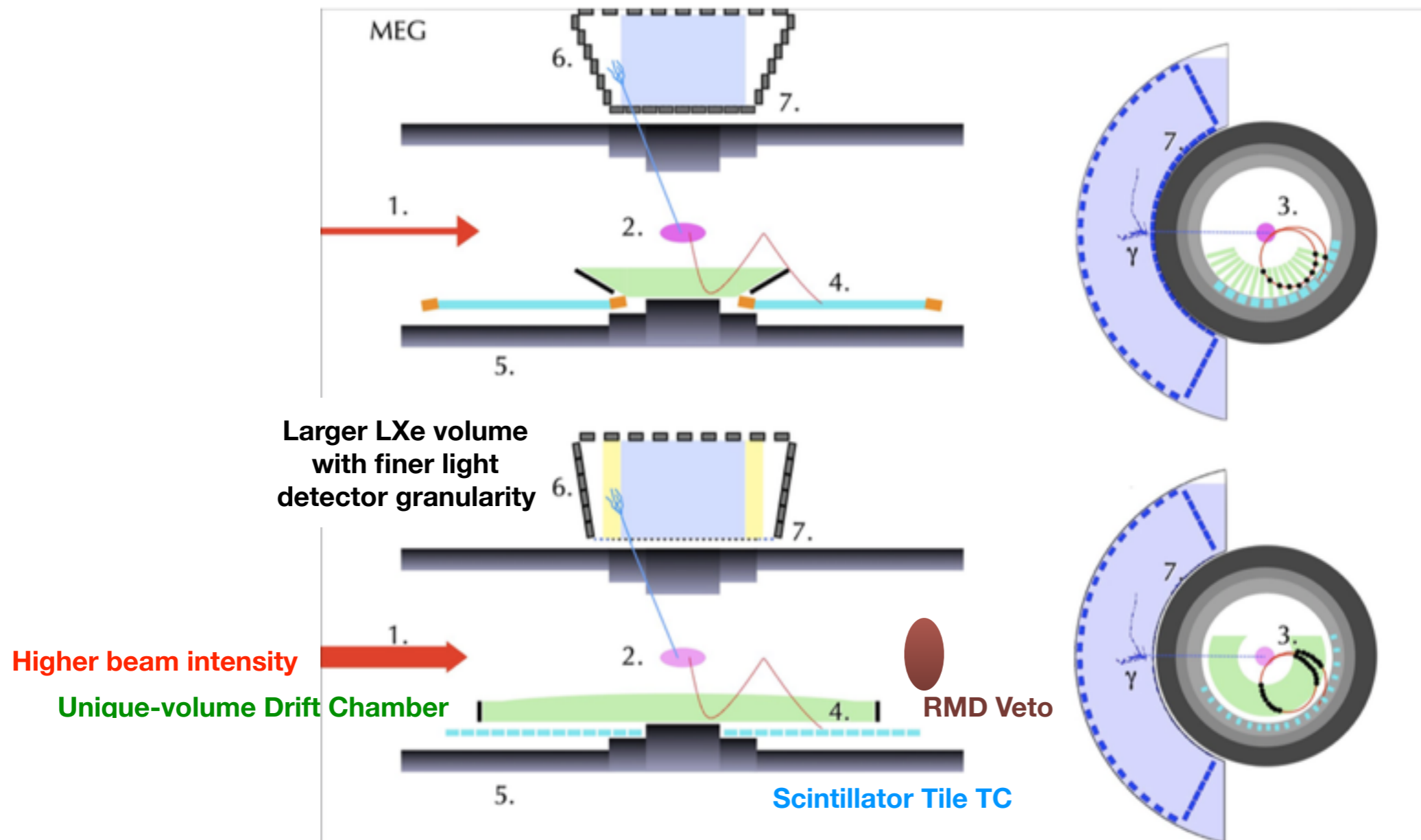
**$7.5 \times 10^{14} \mu$  on target**

**$BR(\mu \rightarrow e \gamma) < 4.2 \times 10^{-13}$  @ 90% C.L.**

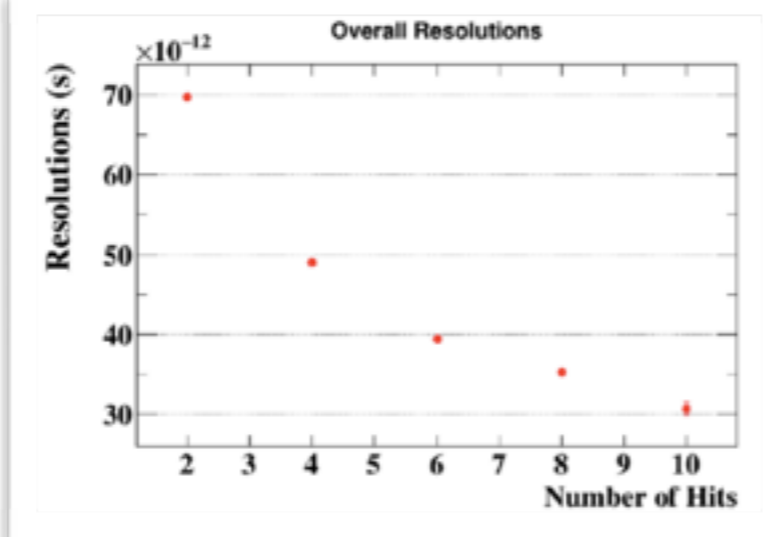
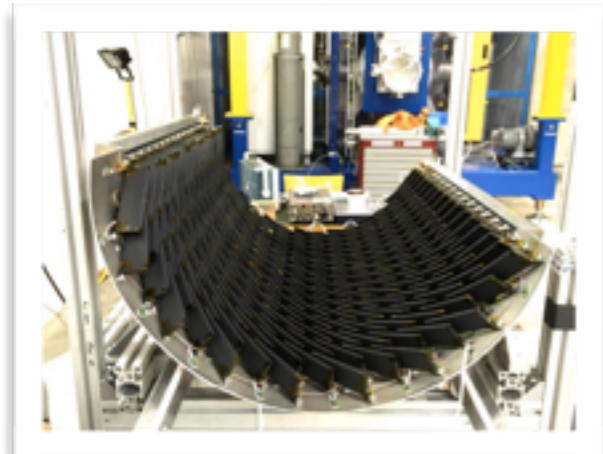


# MEG-II

- The MEG experiment is undergoing an upgrade which involves all sub-detectors

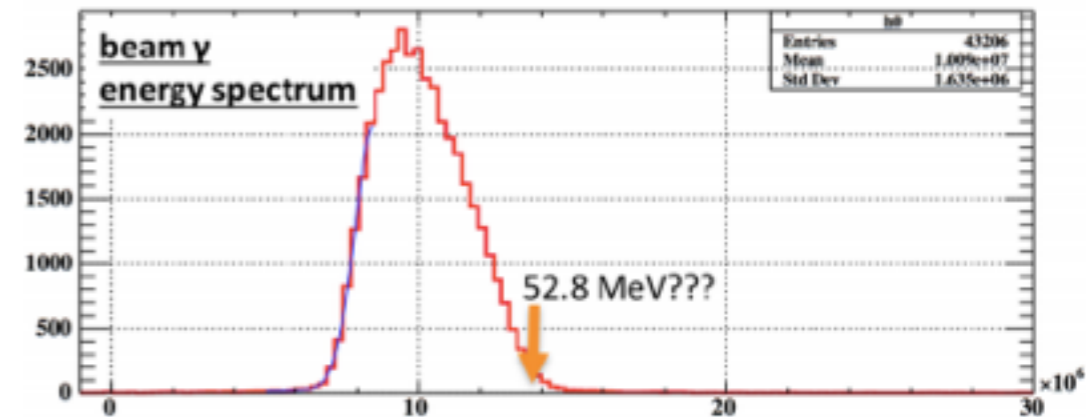


# MEG-II status



TC built and commissioned  
in 2016-2017  
 $\sigma_T \sim 35$  ps

First photons in the upgraded  
XEC in 2017  
 $\sigma_E \sim 1\%$  @ 52.8 MeV



New DC fully assembled  
and installed  
in 2018  
 $\sigma_E \sim 130$  keV

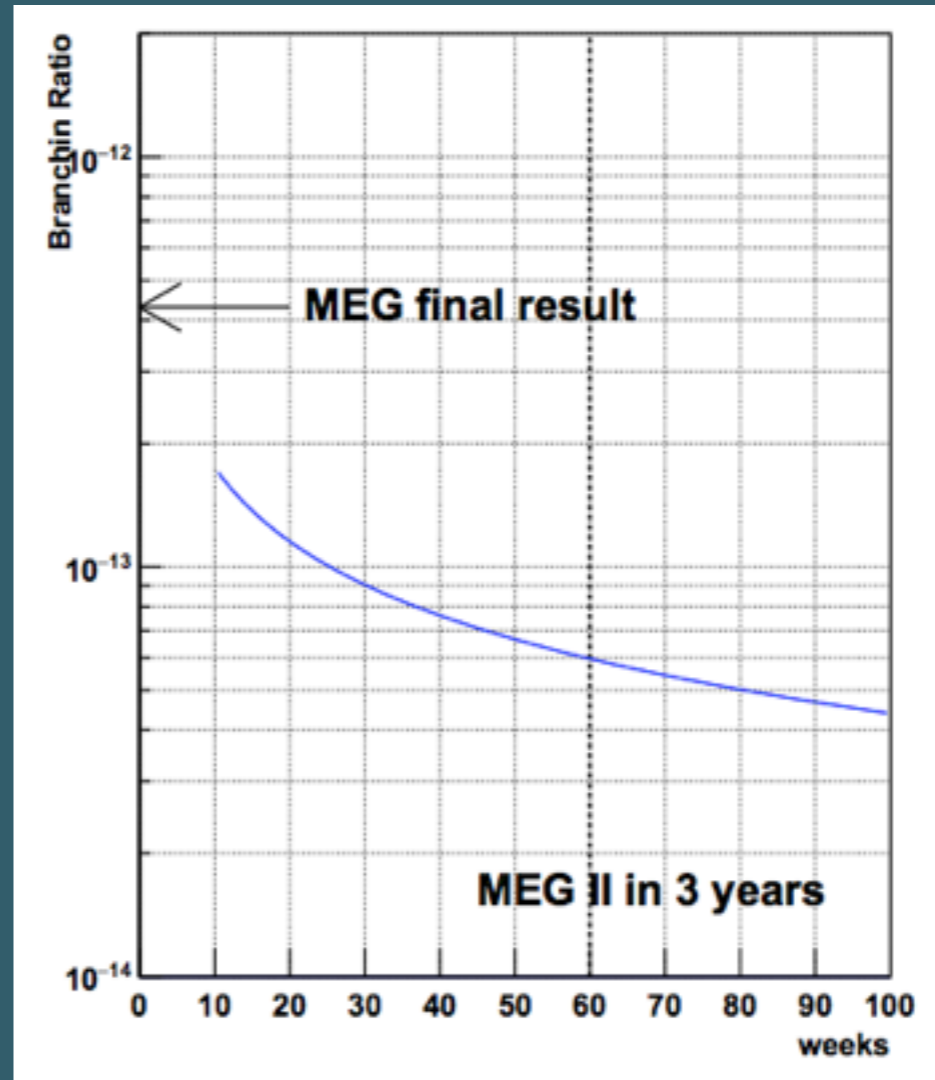
# MEG-II status



TC

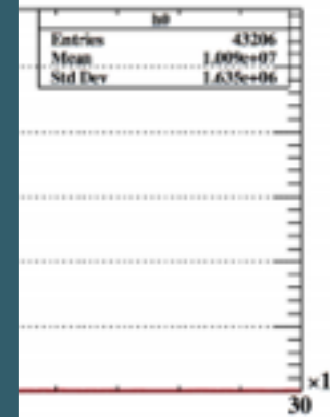
**First physics run in 2019**

**Expected UL**  
 $\sim 6 \times 10^{-14}$   
**in a 3-year run**



upgraded

MeV



assembled

called

MEG II B

$\sigma_E \sim 130$  keV

What next?

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# High Intensity Muon Beams

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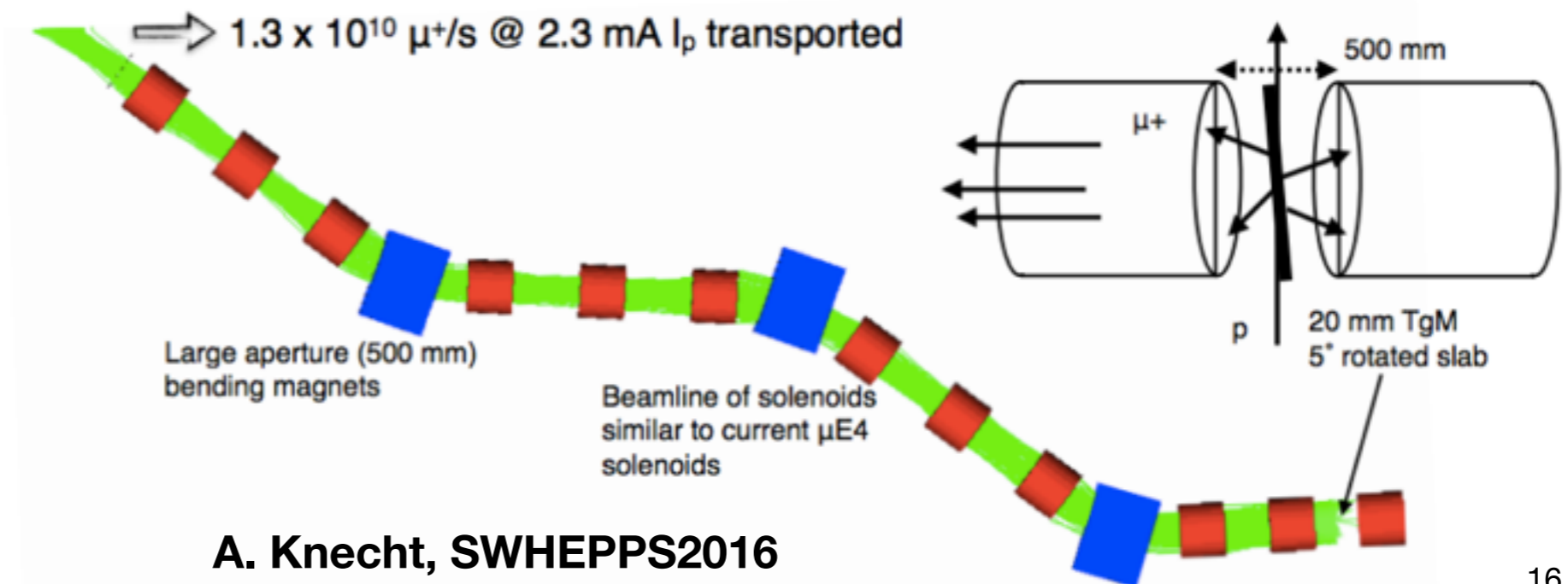
- High intensity muon beams are crucial in the search for cLFV
- A few projects to get muon beams 1 or 2 orders of magnitude more intense than now are under study around the world:
  - HiMB @ PSI
  - MuSIC @ RCNP (Osaka, Japan)
  - prospects for DC muon beams at PIP-II (Fermilab, USA) are under studies

# The HiMB Project @ PSI

- PSI is designing a high intensity muon beam line (HiMB) with a goal of  $\sim 10^{10}$   $\mu$ /sec (x100 the MEG-II beam)
- Optimization of the beam optics:
  - improved muon capture efficiency at the production target
  - improved transport efficiency to the experimental area

x4  $\mu$  capture eff.  
 x6  $\mu$  transport eff.

**$1.3 \times 10^{10}$   $\mu$ /s**  
 in the experimental area  
 with 1400 kW beam power

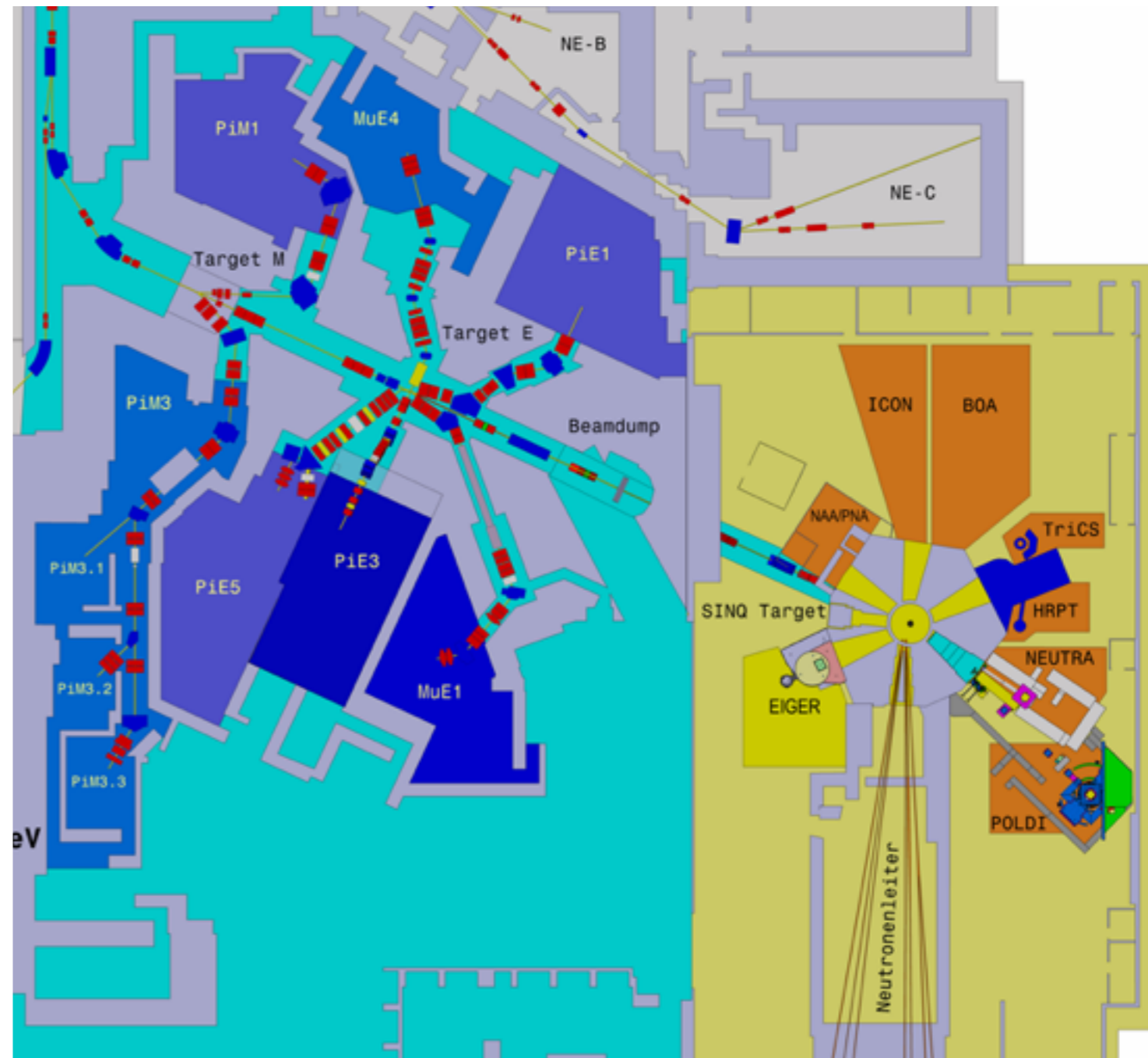


A. Knecht, SWHEPPS2016



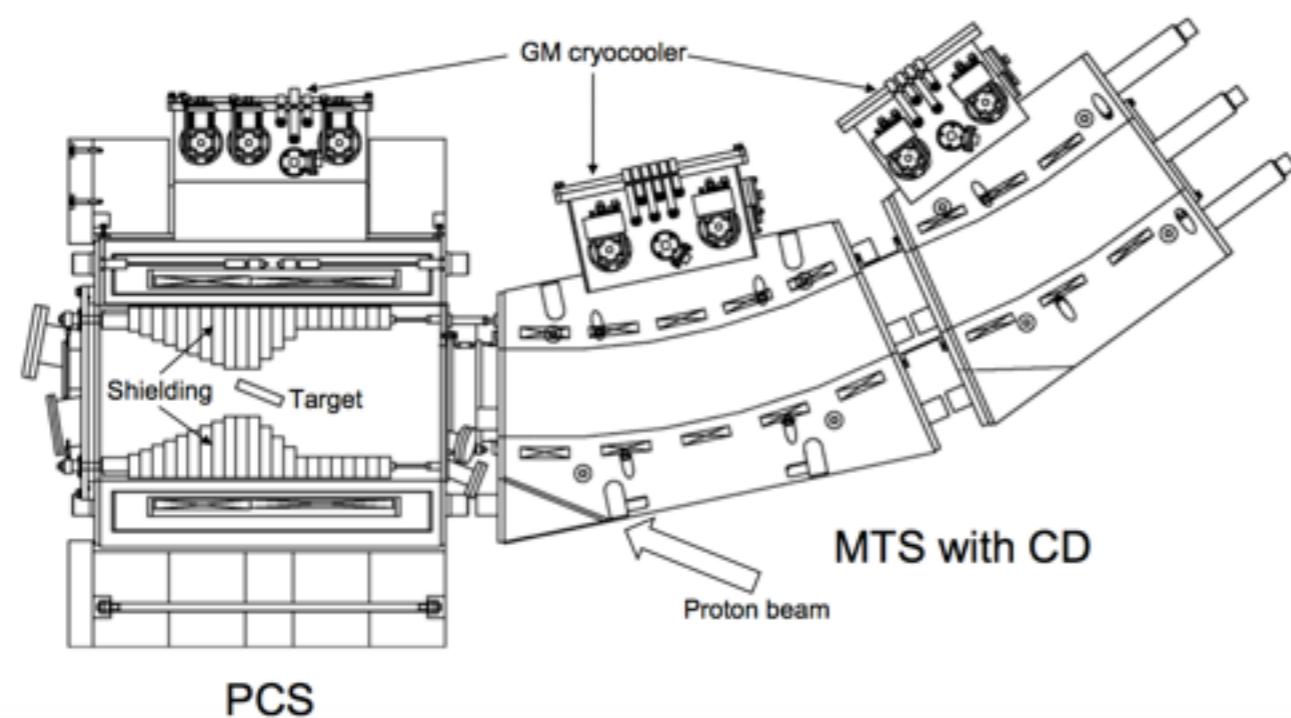
# Production target

- The ring cyclotron at PSI also serves a **neutron spallation source** (SINQ) downstream of the  $\pi/\mu$  production target
  - the proton beam need to be mostly preserved  
-> **thin production target**



# The MuSIC Project @ RCNP

- At RCNP in Osaka (Japan) the goal is to fully exploit the proton beam power with a thick production target:
  - $10^6$   $\mu$  per Watt of beam power (vs.  $10^4$   $\mu/W$  at HiMB)

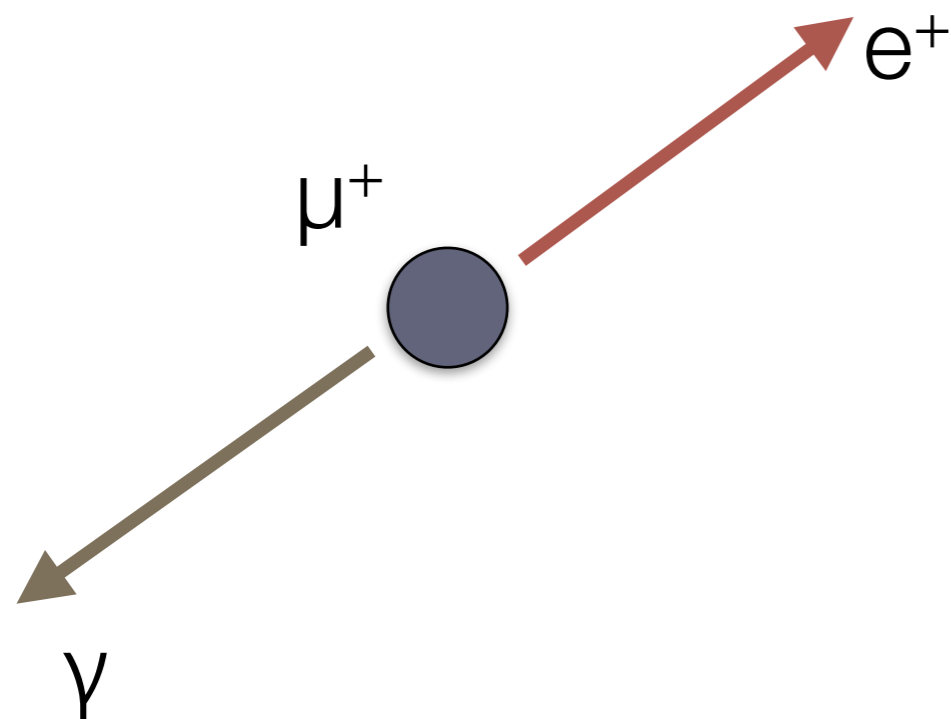


Thick production target  
 $\pi$  capture solenoid

**$4 \times 10^8$   $\mu/s$**   
**at the production target**  
**with 400 W beam power**

S. Cook *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Accel. Beams 20 (2017)

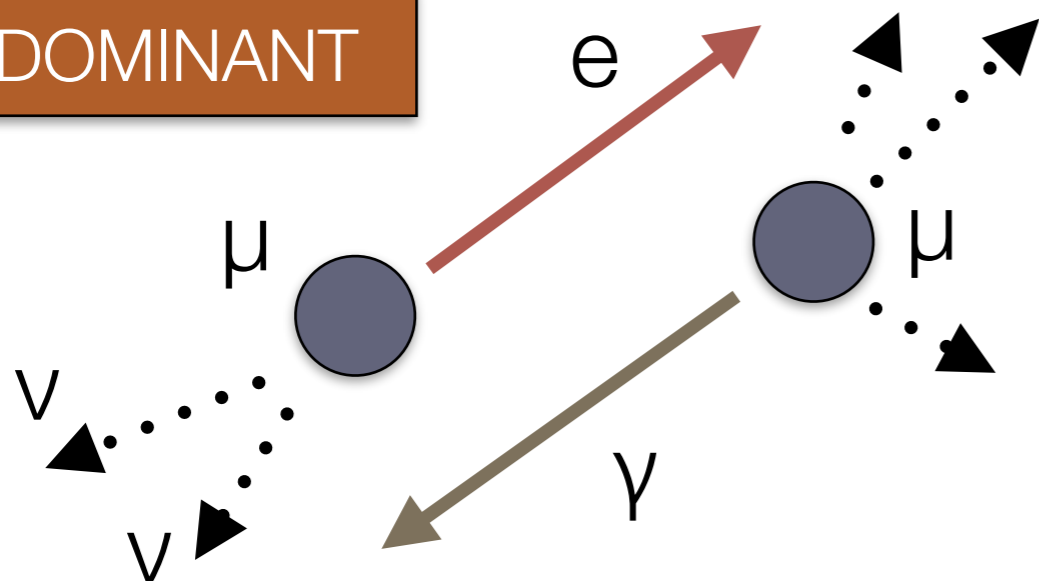
# $\mu \rightarrow e \gamma$ searches



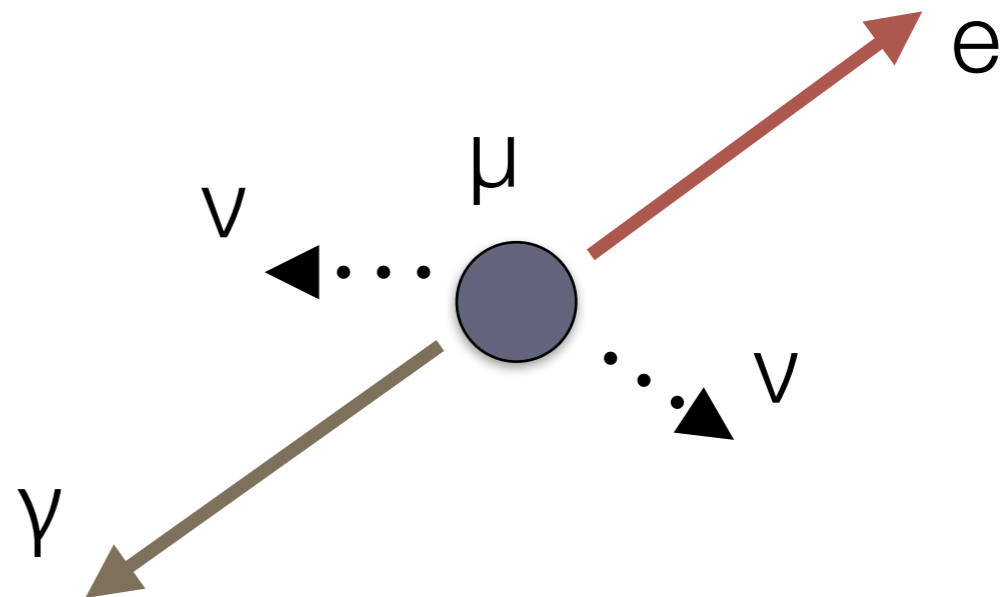
**Accidental Background**

Positron and photon are **monochromatic** (52.8 MeV), **back-to-back** and produced at the **same time**;

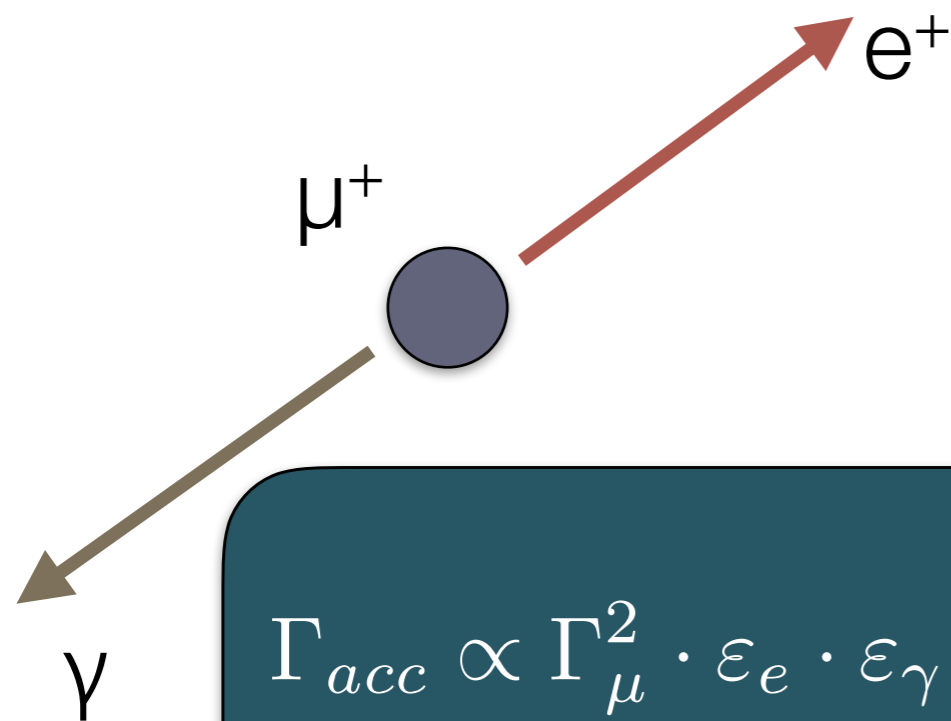
**DOMINANT**



**Radiative Muon Decay (RMD)**



# $\mu \rightarrow e \gamma$ searches



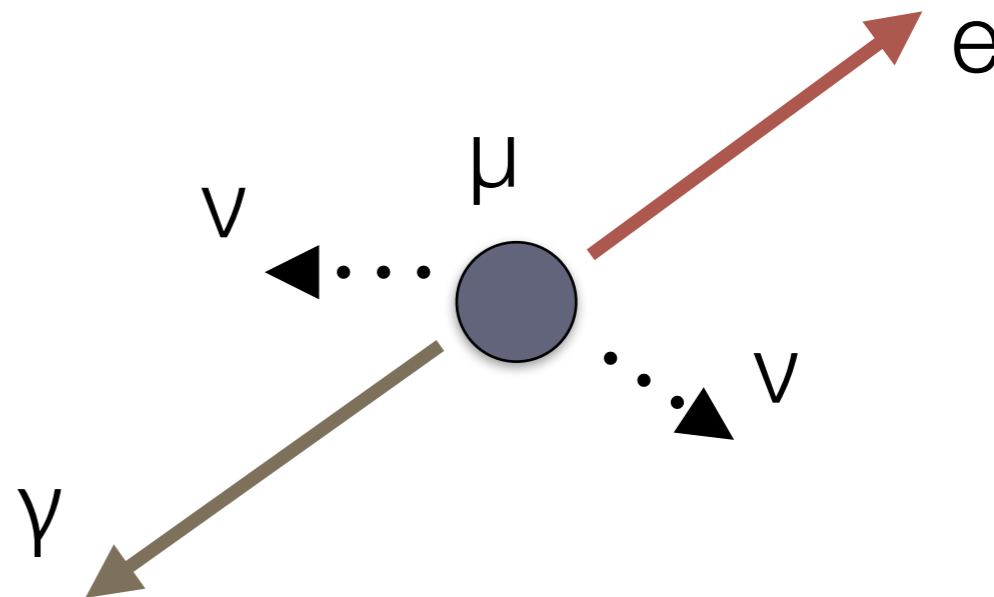
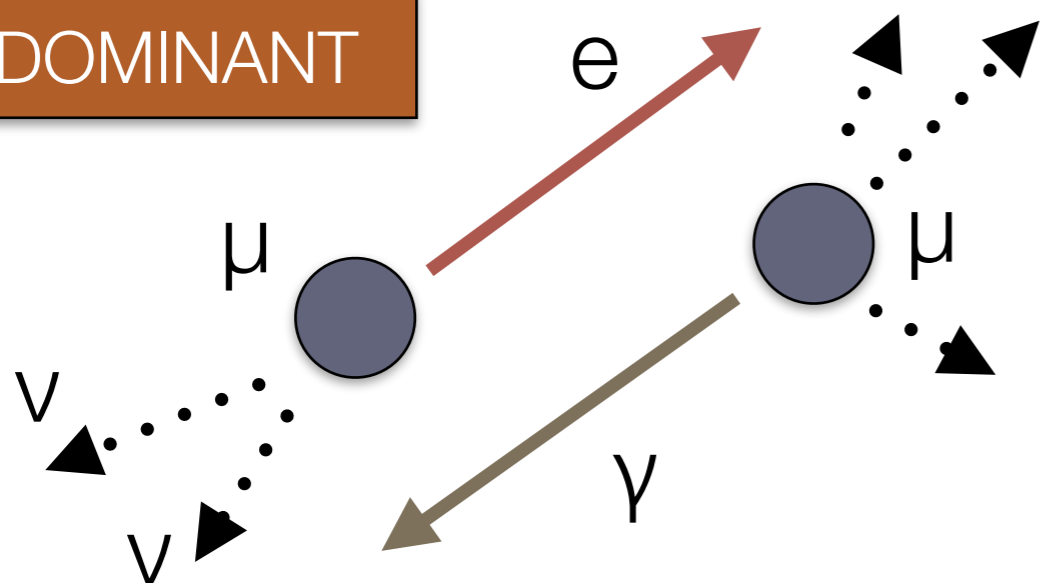
Positron and photon are **monochromatic** (52.8 MeV), **back-to-back** and produced at the **same time**;

$$\Gamma_{acc} \propto \Gamma_{\mu}^2 \cdot \varepsilon_e \cdot \varepsilon_{\gamma} \cdot \delta E_e \cdot (\delta E_{\gamma})^2 \cdot (\delta \Theta_{e\gamma})^2 \cdot \delta T_{e\gamma}$$

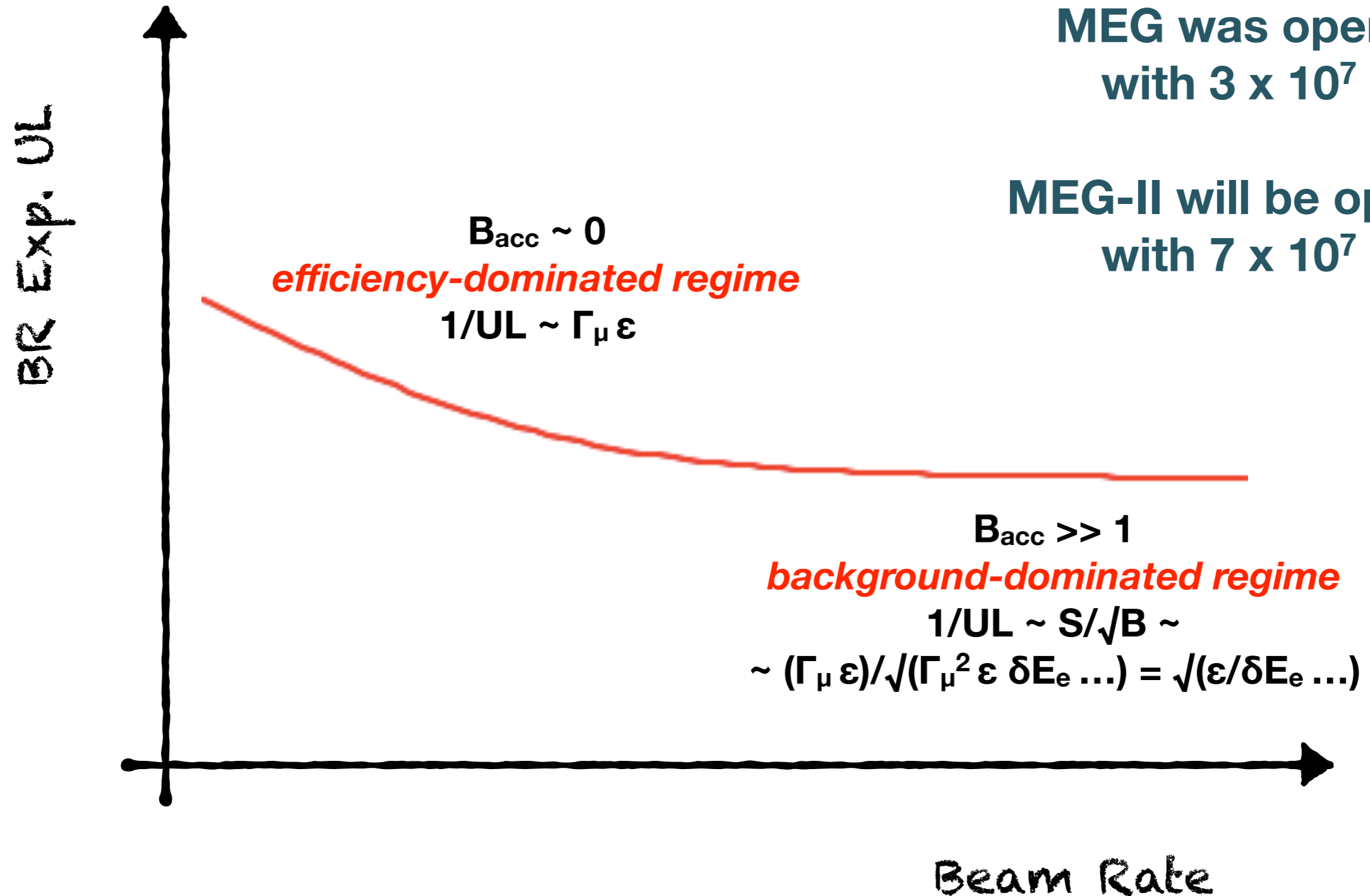
Accid

ay (RMD)

DOMINANT



# $\mu \rightarrow e \gamma$ searches



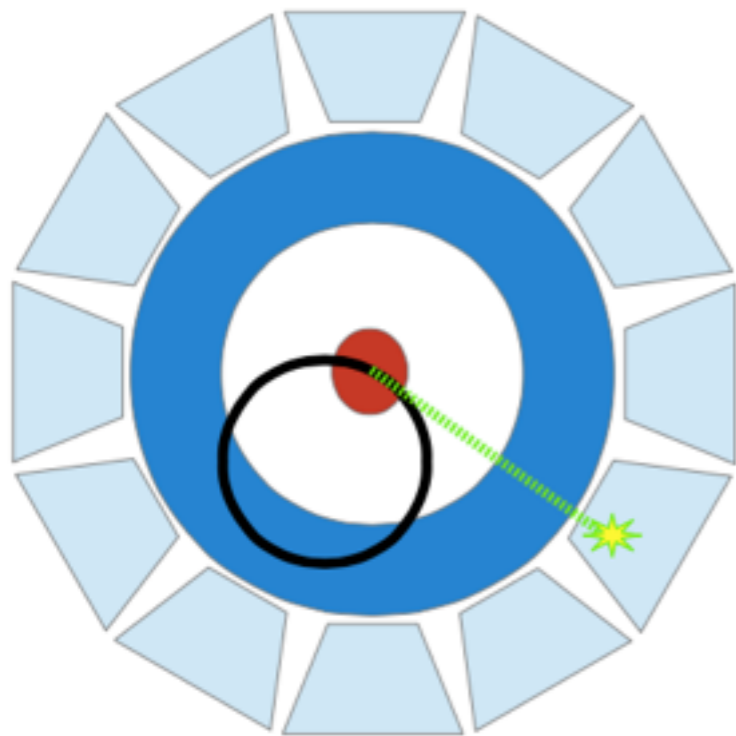
# Toward the next generation of $\mu \rightarrow e \gamma$ searches: Photon Reconstruction

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## Calorimetry

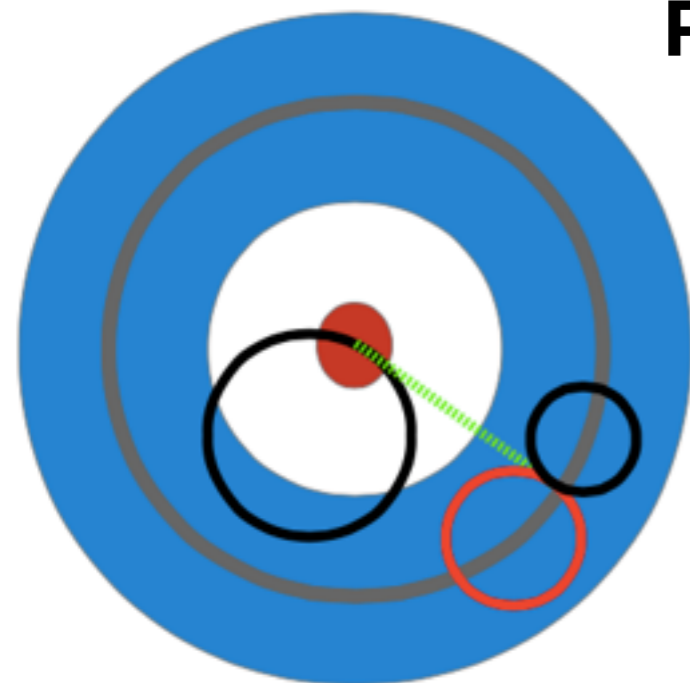
High efficiency  
Good resolutions

*MEG:*  
*LXe calorimeter*  
*10% acceptance*

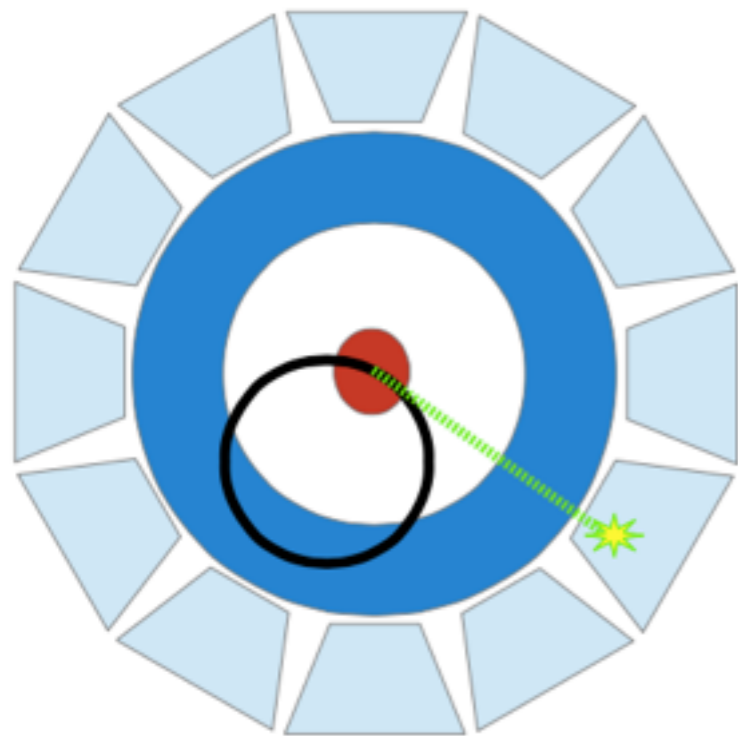


## Photon Conversion

Low efficiency (~ %)  
Extreme resolutions  
+  $e\gamma$  Vertex



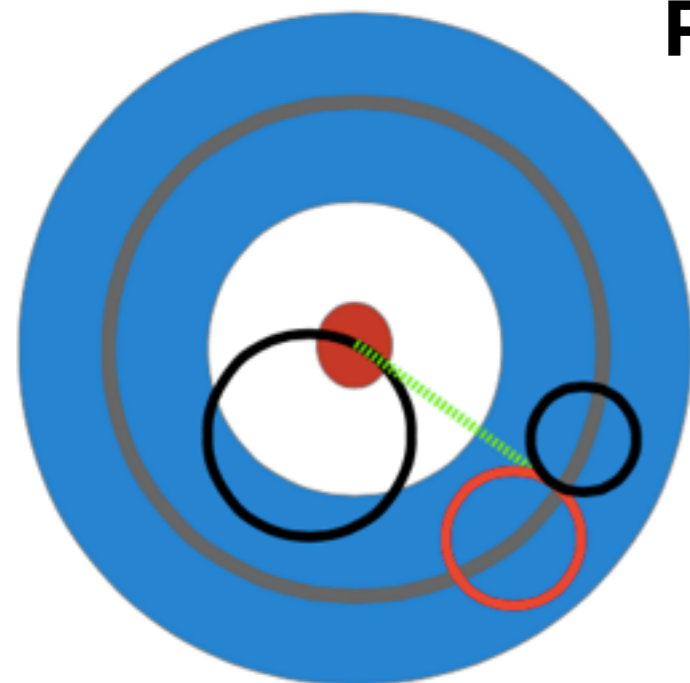
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## Calorimetry

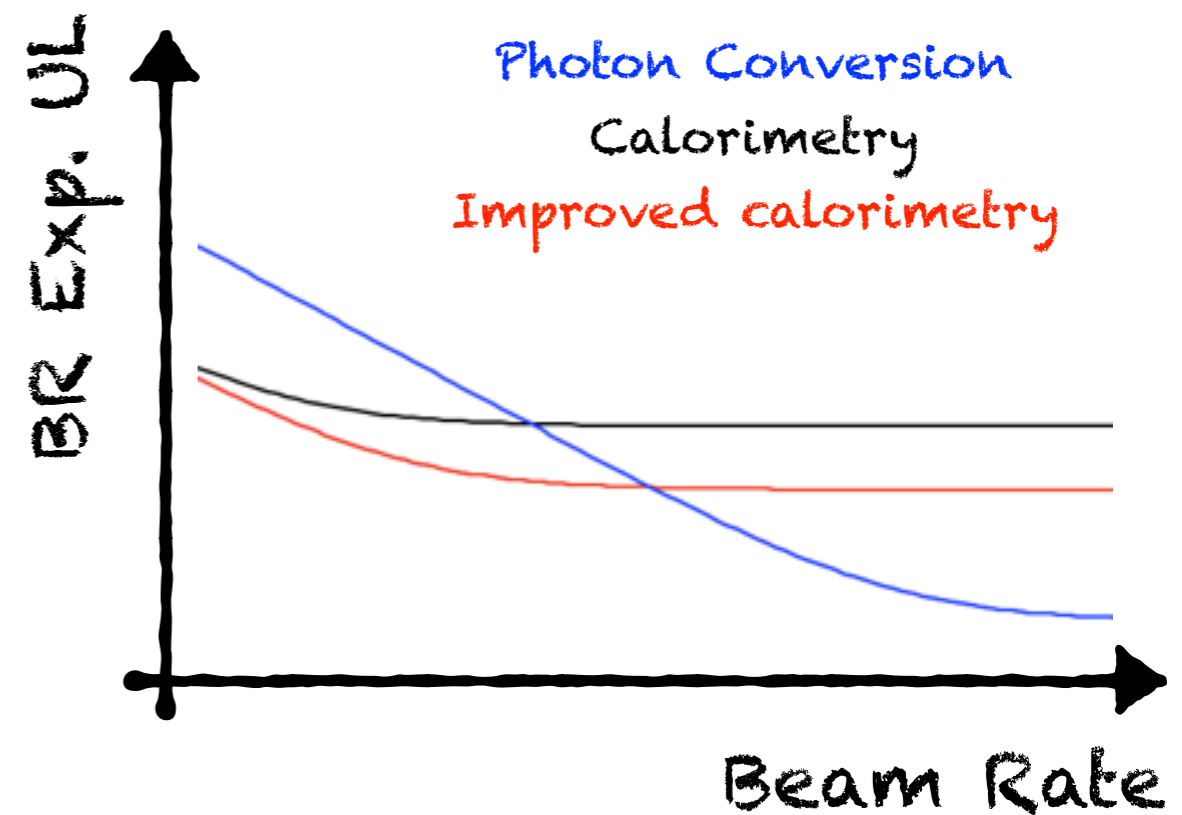
High efficiency  
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## Photon Conversion

Low efficiency ( $\sim$  %)  
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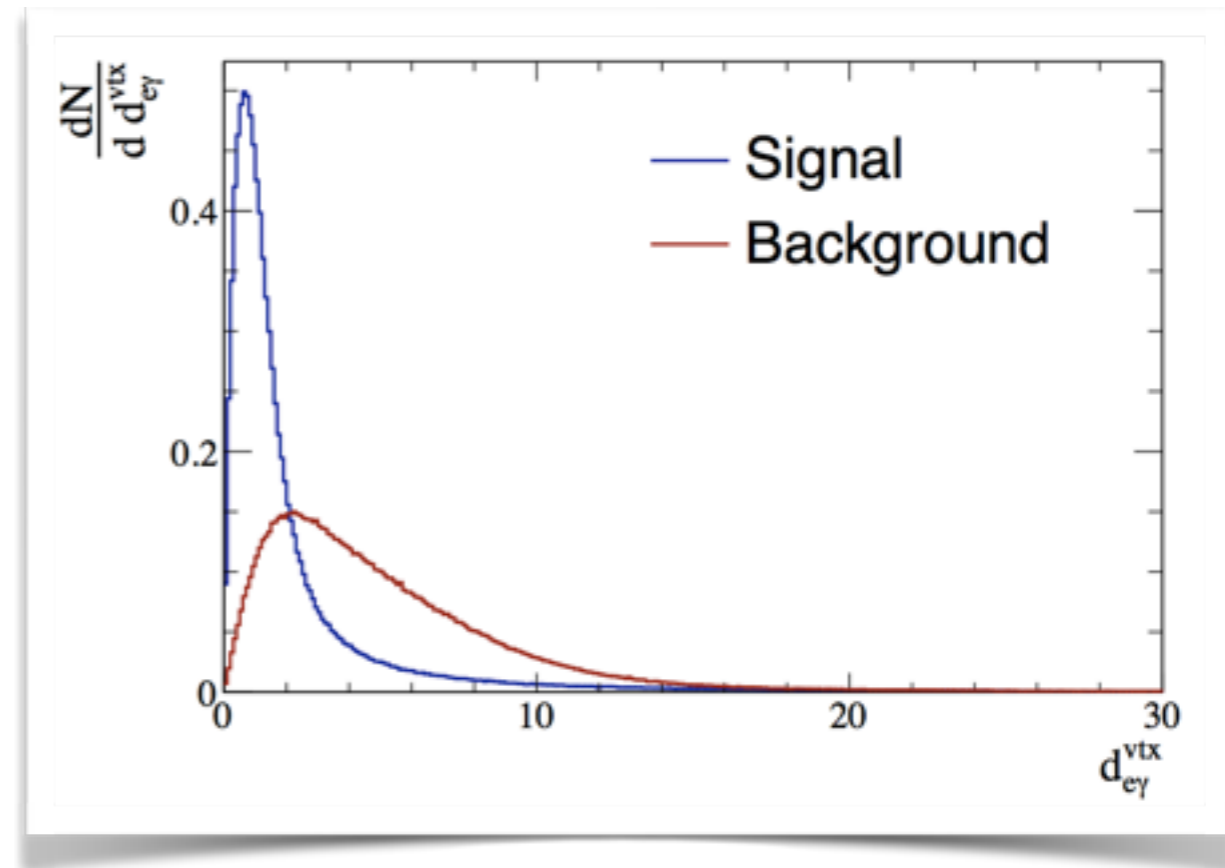
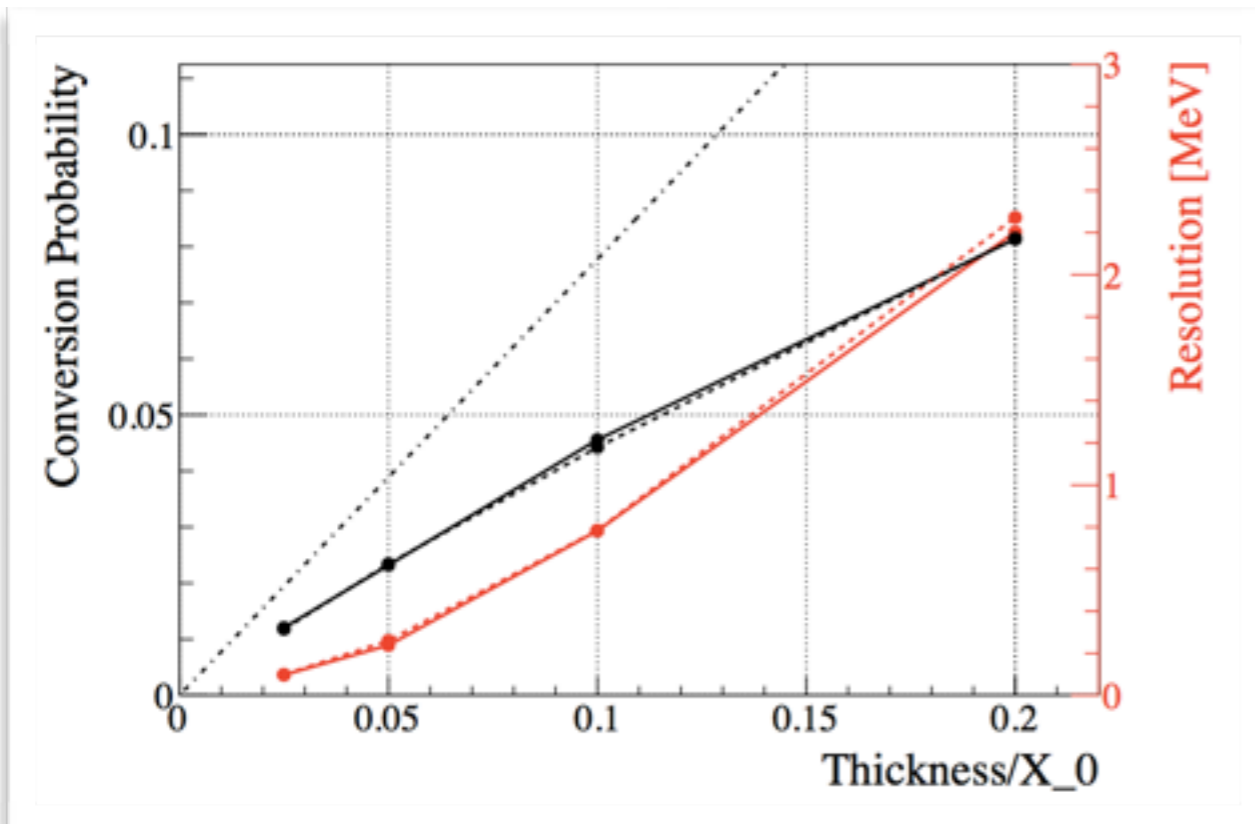
# $\gamma$ Reconstruction: Limiting factors — Calorimetry

- |                              | Scintillator           | Density]<br>[g/cm <sup>3</sup> ] | Light Yield<br>[ph/keV] | Decay Time<br>[ns] |
|------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| • Photon Statistics          | LaBr <sub>3</sub> (Ce) | 5.08                             | 63                      | 16                 |
| • Scintillator time constant | LYSO                   | 7.1                              | 27                      | 41                 |
| • Detector segmentation      | YAP                    | 5.35                             | 22                      | 26                 |
|                              | LXe                    | 2.89                             | 40                      | 45                 |
|                              | NaI(Tl)                | 3.67                             | 38                      | 250                |
|                              | BGO                    | 7.13                             | 9                       | 300                |
- LaBr<sub>3</sub>(Ce) — a.k.a. *Brilliance* looks a very good candidate:
    - our simulations & tests indicate that ~ 800 keV resolution can be reached
    - extreme time resolution (~ 30 ps)
    - large acceptance
    - very expensive



# $\gamma$ Reconstruction: Limiting factors – Conversion

- Interactions in the converter (conversion probability,  $e^+e^-$  energy loss and MS)
- Large  $Z$  materials (Pb, W) give the best compromise of efficiency vs. resolution



- Can take advantage of the photon direction determination from the  $e^+e^-$  reconstruction

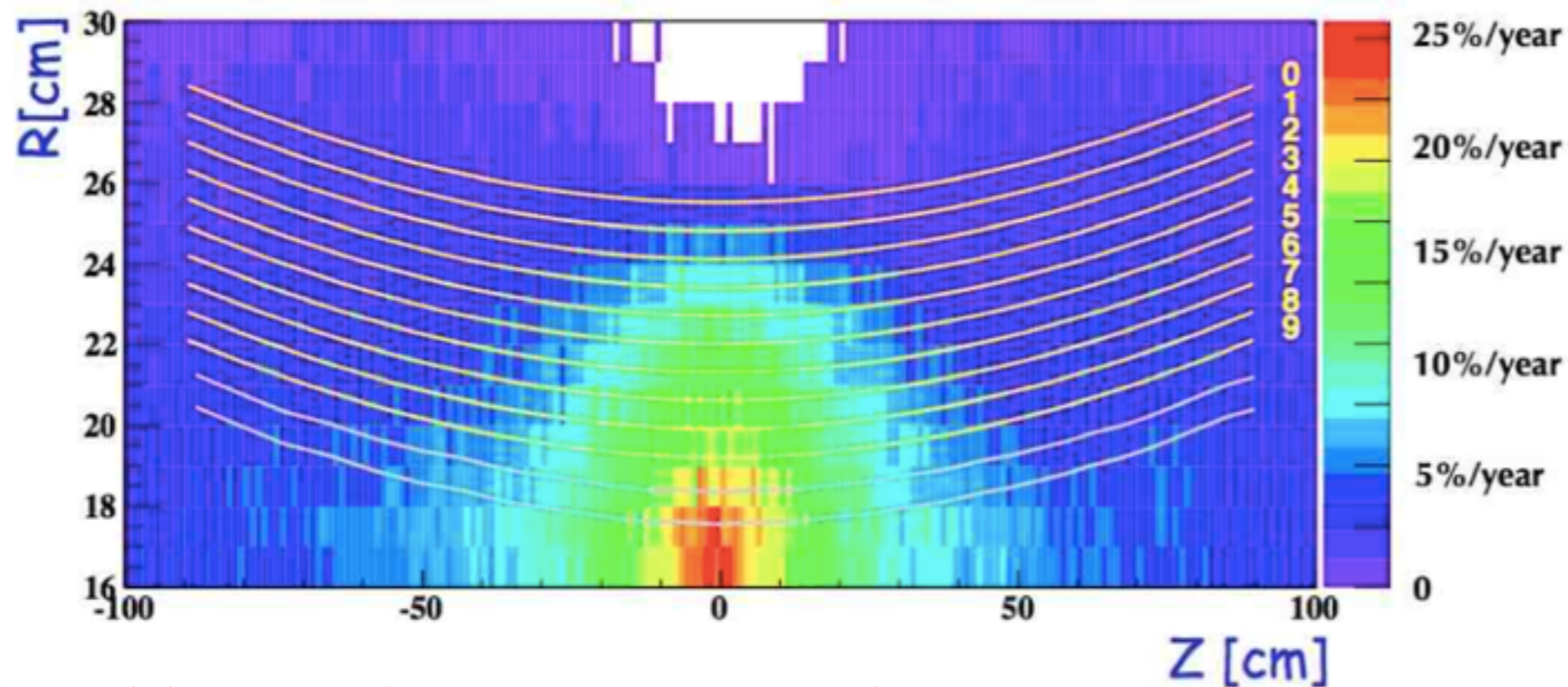
$$d_{e\gamma}^{vtx} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{X_e - X_\gamma}{\sigma_X}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{Y_e - Y_\gamma}{\sigma_Y}\right)^2}$$

# Toward the next generation of $\mu \rightarrow e \gamma$ searches: Positron Reconstruction

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- Tracking detectors in a magnetic field are the golden candidates:
  - high efficiency
  - better resolutions w.r.t. calorimetry ( $\sigma(E_e)$  down to 0.2% vs.  $> 1\%$ )
- Performances are limited by Multiple Scattering of 52.8 MeV positrons in target and tracker materials
  - Need a very light detector (the MEG drift chambers gave  $\sim 2 \times 10^{-3} X_0$  over the whole positron trajectory, 200  $\mu\text{m}$  silicon equivalent)
  - Silicon trackers are likely to be not competitive with gaseous detectors in terms of resolutions (**C-H. Cheng et al. arXiv: 1309.7679**)

# Positron Reconstruction at High Beam Rate



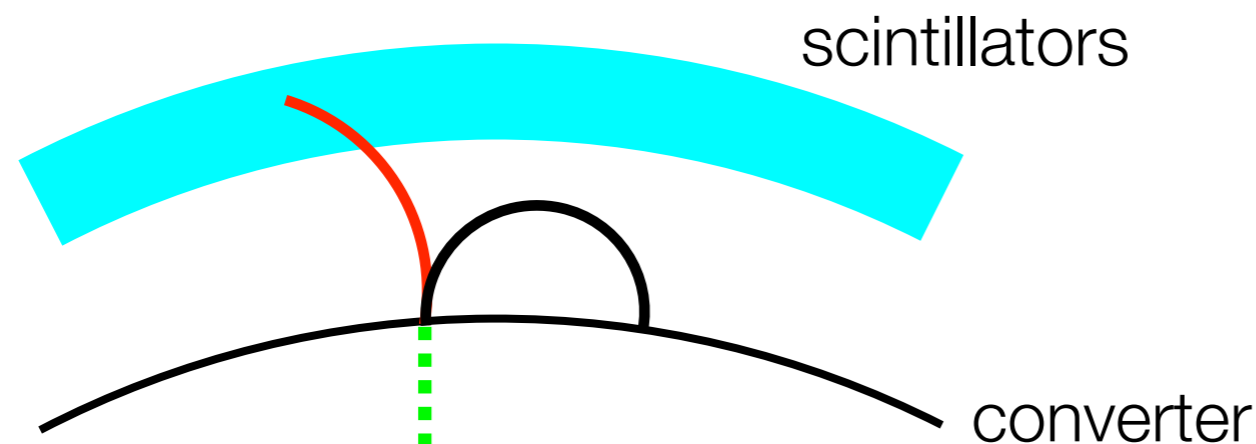
A. Baldini et al., MEG Upgrade Proposal, arXiv:1301:7225

Expected aging  
(gain loss) in the  
MEG-II Drift  
Chamber

Would a gaseous detector be able to cope with the very high occupancy at  $> 10^9 \mu/s$ ?

# Photon and Positron timing

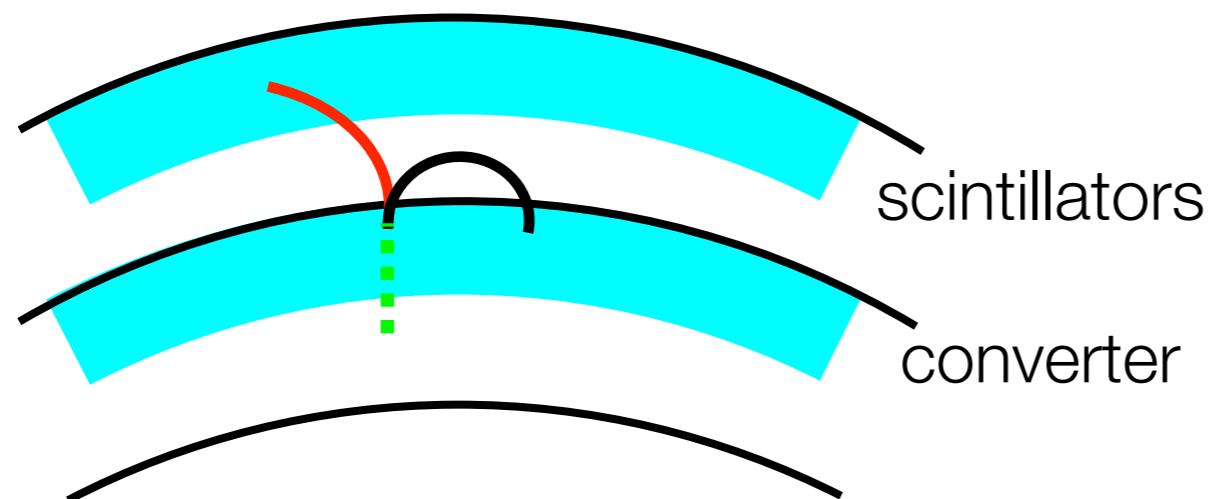
- Timing plays a crucial role in  $\mu \rightarrow e \gamma$  searches (accidental coincidences!!!):
  - need a very good positron and photon timing
  - $\sigma(T_{e\gamma}) \sim 80$  ps in MEG-II
- $\text{LiBr}_3(\text{Ce})$  calorimeters + positron scintillating counters like in MEG can give the required performances
- For photon conversion, need to detect  $e^+$  or  $e^-$  in a **fast detector**



*What about stacking multiple layers?*

# Photon and Positron timing

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*Effective converter material with lower  $Z$*

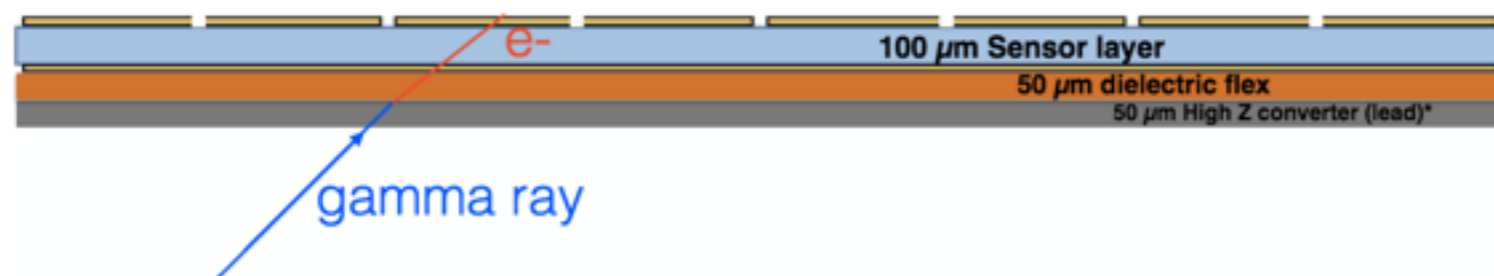
***Worse compromise of efficiency vs. resolution***

# An active conversion layer

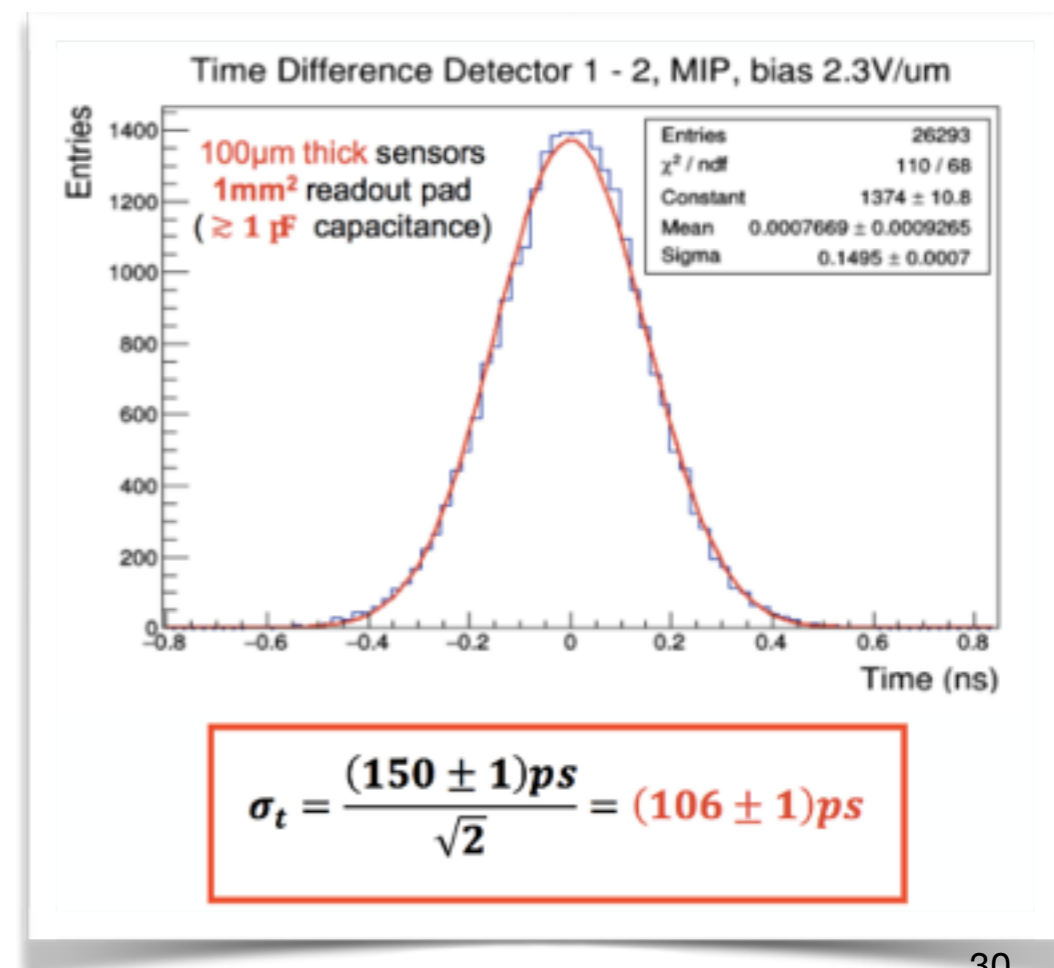
- Low Z active material for timing deteriorates the best efficiency/resolution configuration
  - the active layer must be as thin as possible
- Scintillators have poor “timing to thickness” figures (~ 1 ns for 250 μm fibers)

## FAST SILICON DETECTORS

- R&D on going for PET application (**TT-PET**)

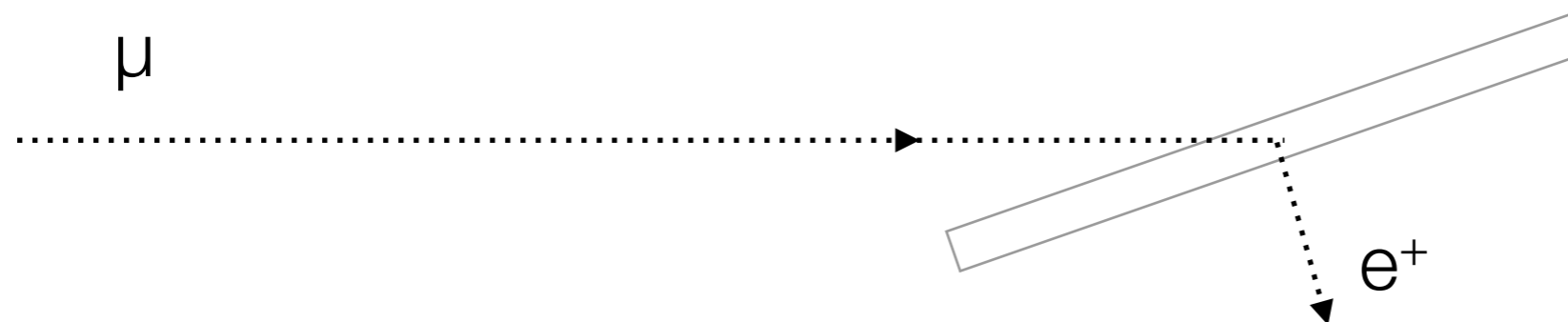


M. Benoit et al., JINST 11 (2016) no. 03, P03011



# Muon Stopping Target

- The target plays a crucial role in determining the positron angular resolution, due to the Multiple Coulomb Scattering:
    - target must be as thin as possible
  - In order to stop a significative fraction of muons, it must be at the Bragg peak:
    - muons not stopped by the target are stopped in the gas right after, giving background without contributing to the signal
- ➔ enough thickness to stop ~ all muons

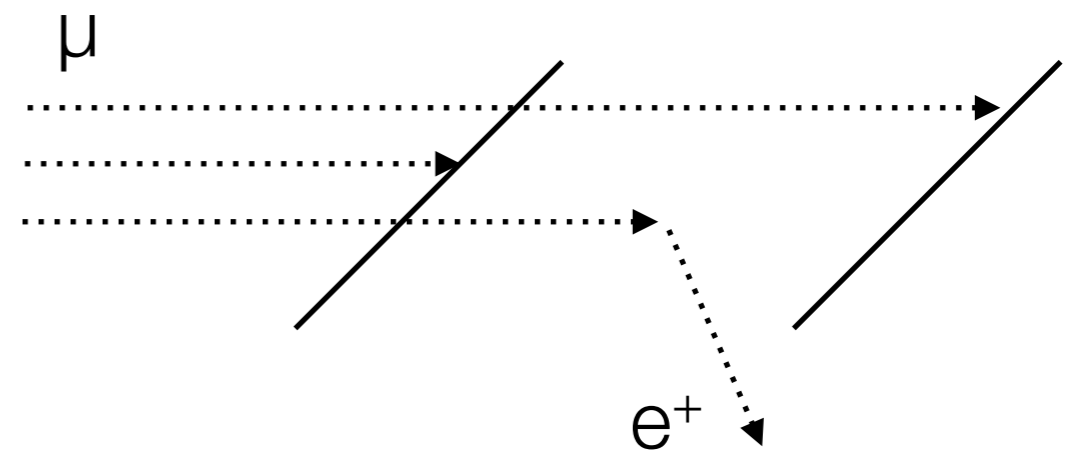


**Optimal target  
Be, 90 μm**

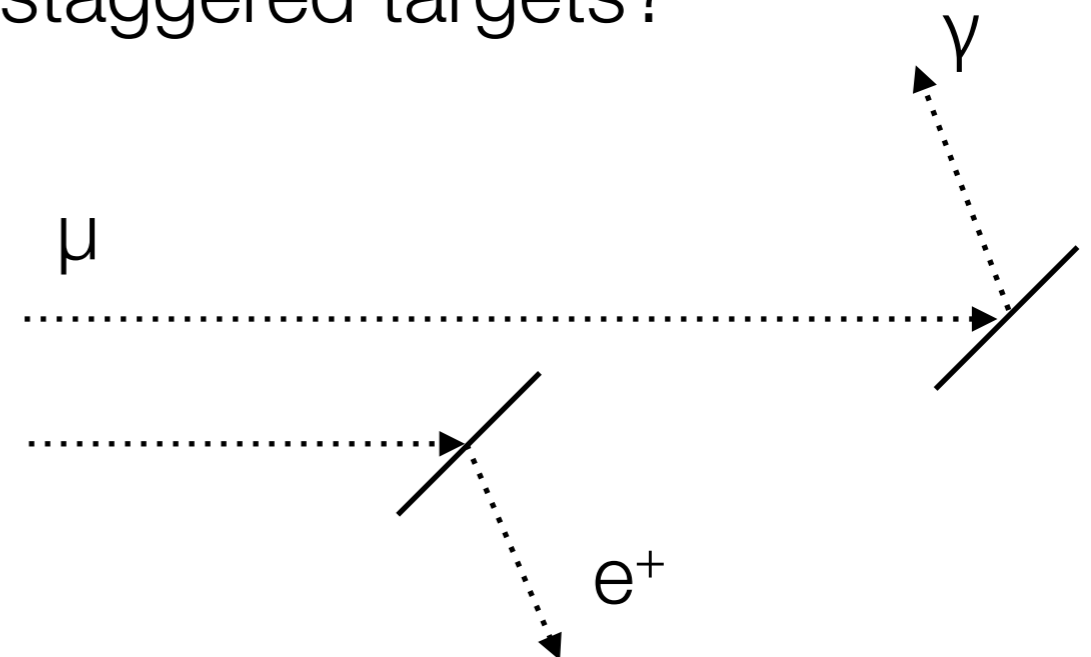
**$\theta_{Ms}(e^+) \sim 2.5 - 3 \text{ mrad}$**

# Multiple Targets?

- Does it make sense to use multiple thinner targets in sequence?
  - probably not: many muons would decay in the gas between the two targets (background, efficiency loss,...)

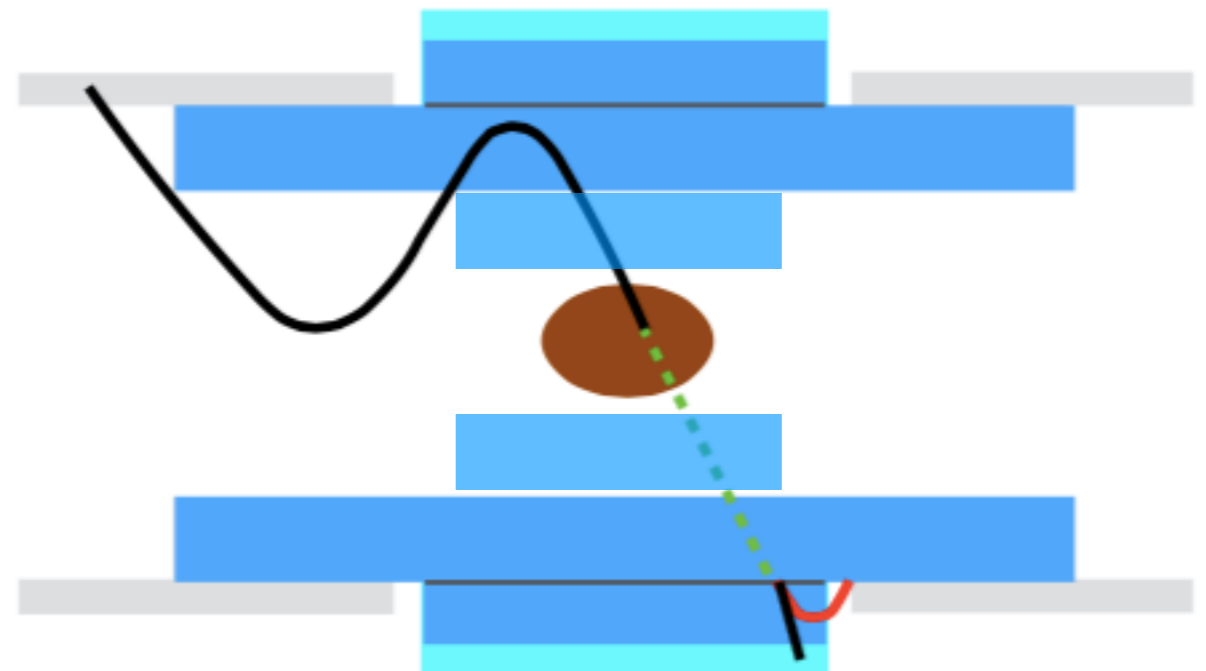
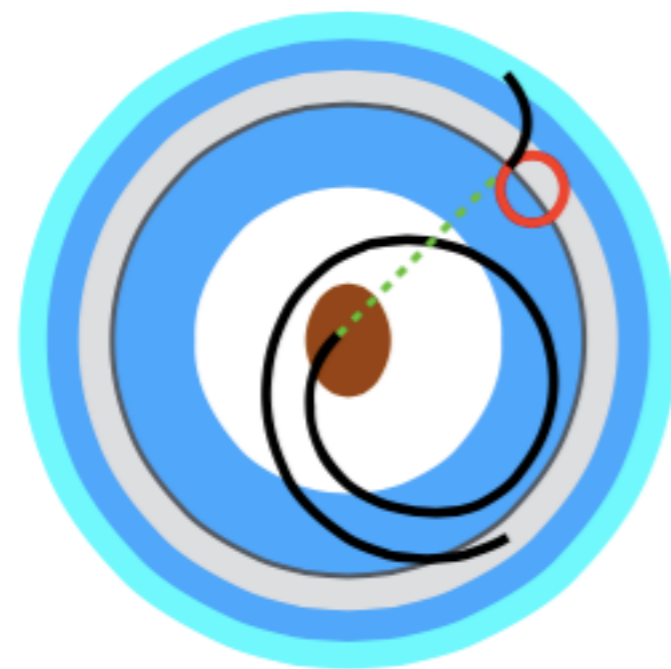
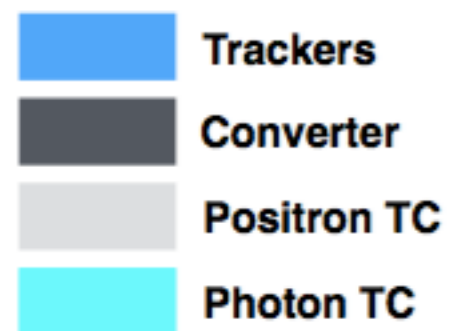


- Does it make sense to use multiple staggered targets?
  - probably yes: with photon direction from conversion, it could reduce the acc. bkg. by a factor of 2





# A Tentative Design



# Possible Scenarios

## CALORIMETRY

Variable	Resolution				
	w/o vtx detector	w/ TPC vtx detector		w/ silicon vtx detector	
		conservative	optimistic	conservative	optimistic
$\theta_{e\gamma} / \phi_{e\gamma}$ [mrad]	7.3 / 6.2	6.1 / 4.8	3.5 / 3.8	8.0 / 7.4	6.3 / 6.9
$T_{e\gamma}$ [ps]			30		
$E_e$ [keV]			100		
$E_\gamma$ [keV]			850		
Efficiency [%]			42%	<b>(70% <math>\gamma</math> acceptance)</b>	

## PHOTON CONVERSION

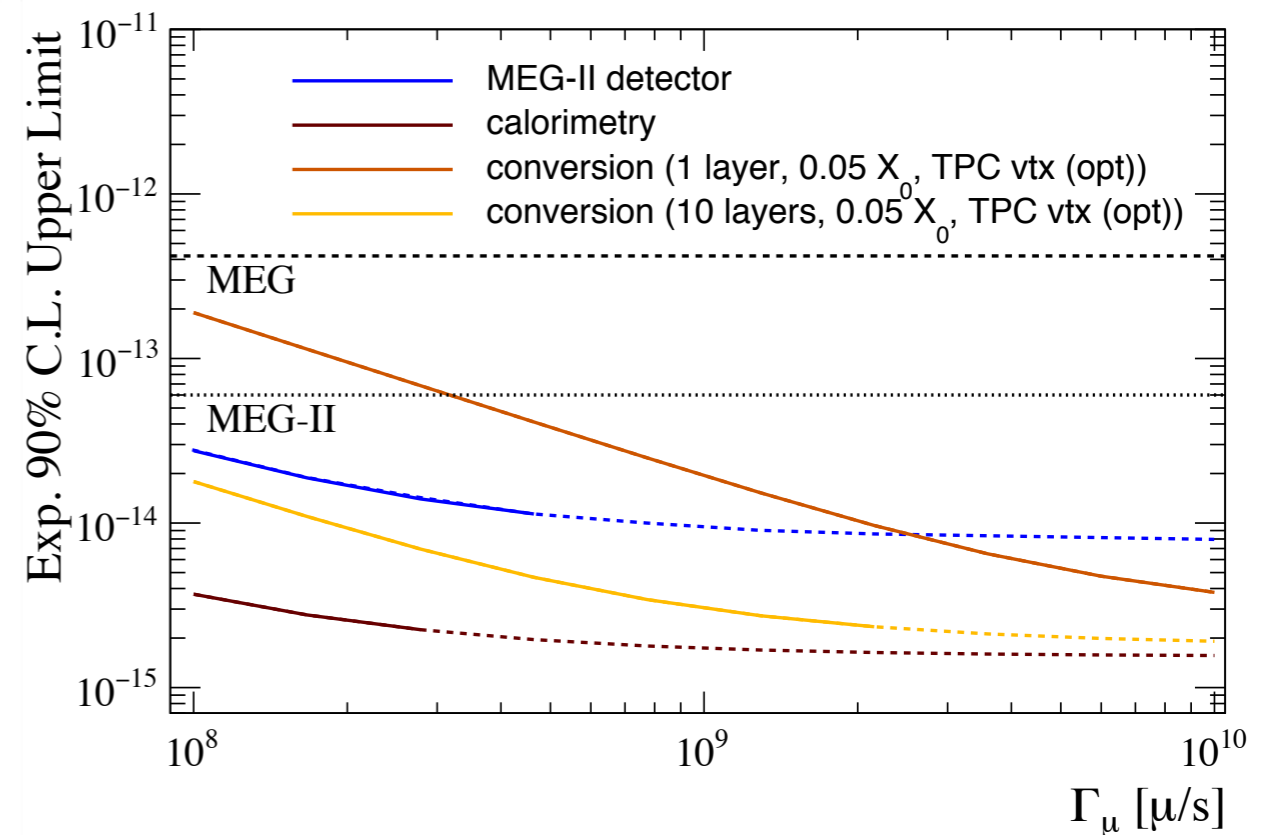
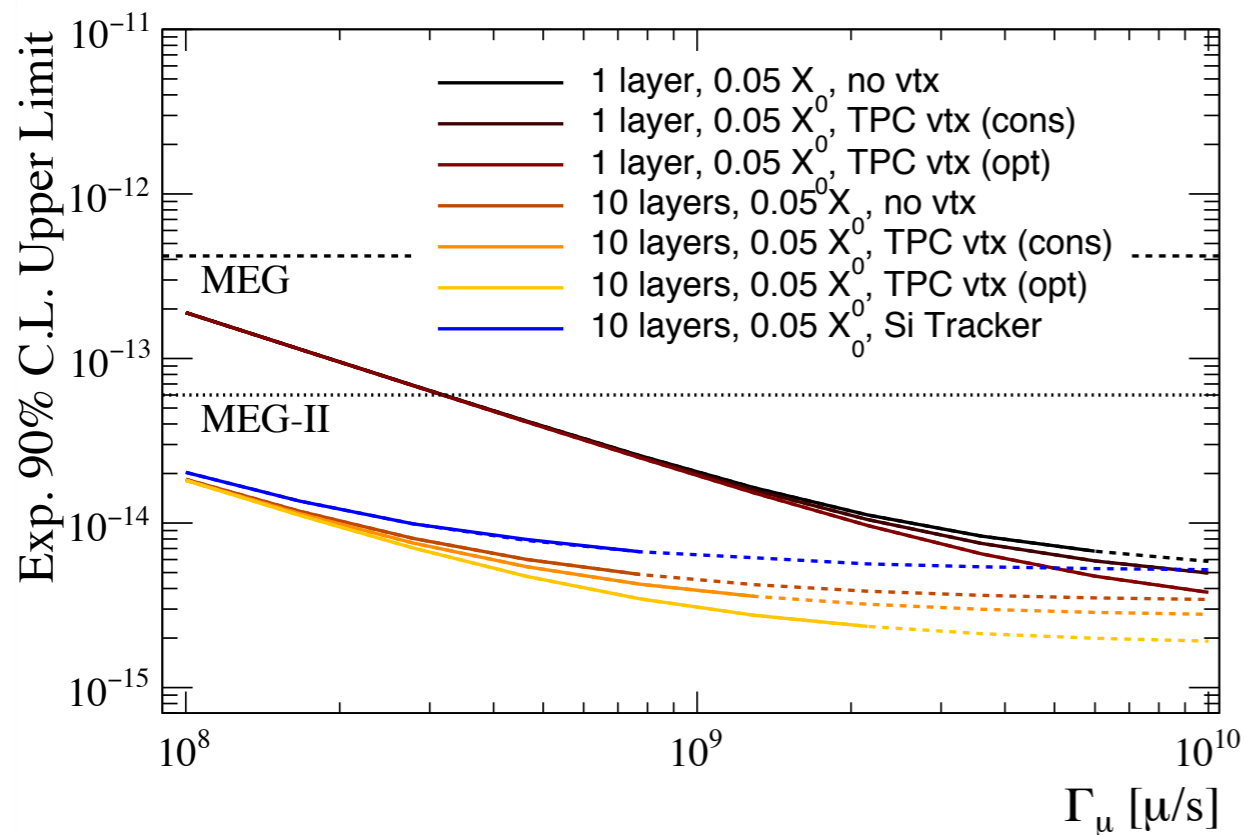
Variable	Resolution				
	w/o vtx detector	w/ TPC vtx detector		w/ silicon vtx detector	
		conservative	optimistic	conservative	optimistic
$\theta_{e\gamma} / \phi_{e\gamma}$ [mrad]	7.3 / 6.2	6.1 / 4.8	3.5 / 3.8	8.0 / 7.4	6.3 / 6.9
$T_{e\gamma}$ [ps]			50		
$E_e$ [keV]			100		
$E_\gamma$ [keV]			320		
Efficiency [%]			1.2	<b>(1 LAYER, 0.05 <math>X_0</math>)</b>	

# Discussion

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- Projecting the  $\mu \rightarrow e \gamma$  sensitivity to future experiments requires to take into account many subtle experimental effects
- Most of the experimental **limiting factors** will come from the **physics of the particle interaction** with the detector materials (MS,  $dE/dx$ , etc.):
  - *almost no room to break these limits by incremental improvements of the detector technologies!*
- **Significative technological efforts** still needed to sustain high intensity muon beams and to reach these limits (detector aging, pileup rejection, etc.)

# Expected Sensitivity

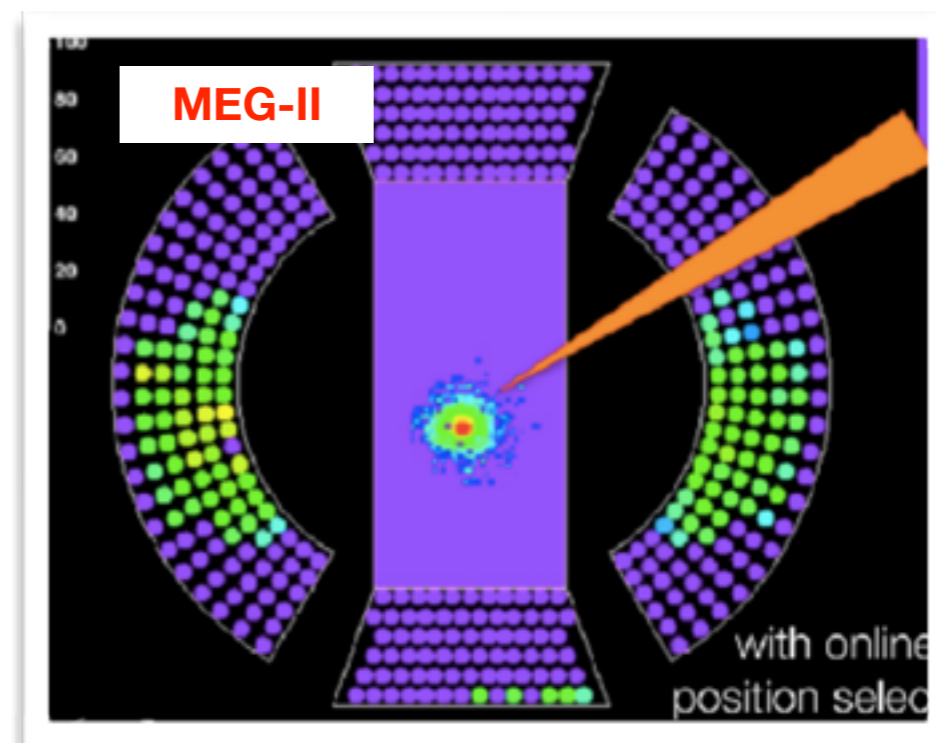
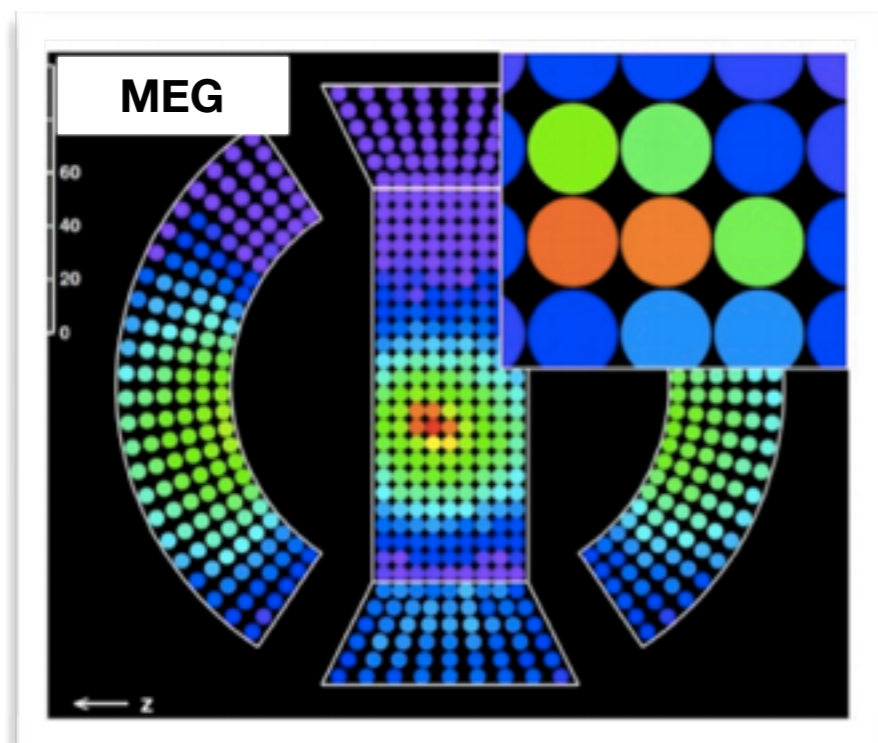


A few  $10^{-15}$  seems to be within reach for a 3-year run at  $\sim 10^8 \mu/s$  with calorimetry (*expensive*) or  $\sim 10^9 \mu/s$  with conversion (*cheap*)

Fully exploiting  $10^{10} \mu/s$  and breaking the  $10^{-15}$  wall seem to require a ***novel experimental concept***

Backup

# MEG-II Highlights - The LXe Calorimeter

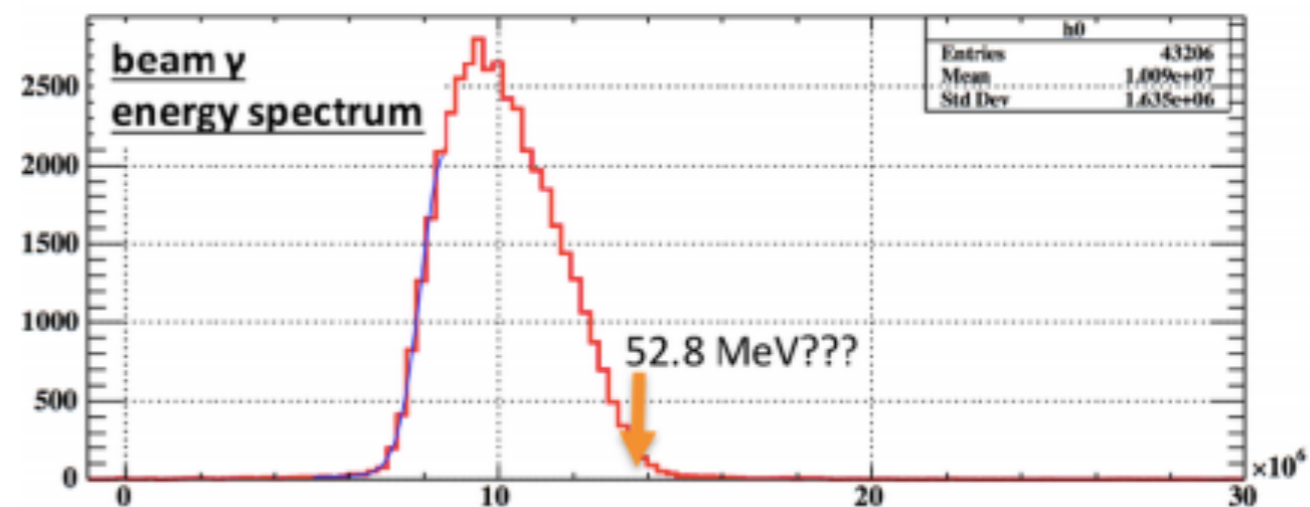


**First events/spectra from 2017 data**

We developed large-area (12x12 mm<sup>2</sup>), UV-sensitive MPPCs to cover the inner face of the LXe calorimeter

Better Resolution, better pile-up rejection

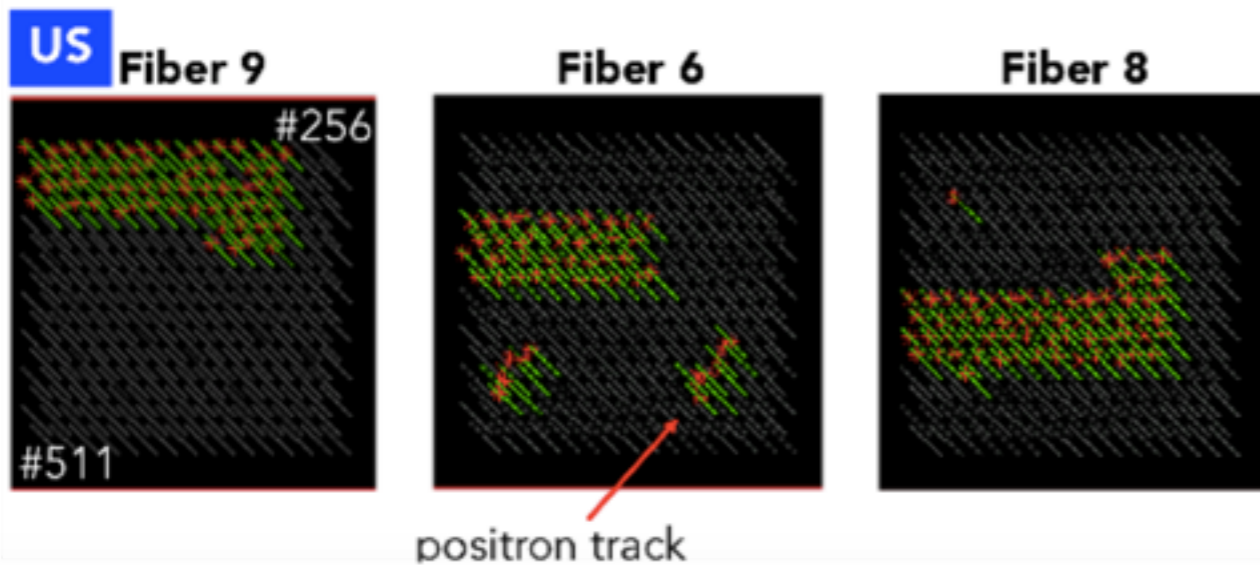
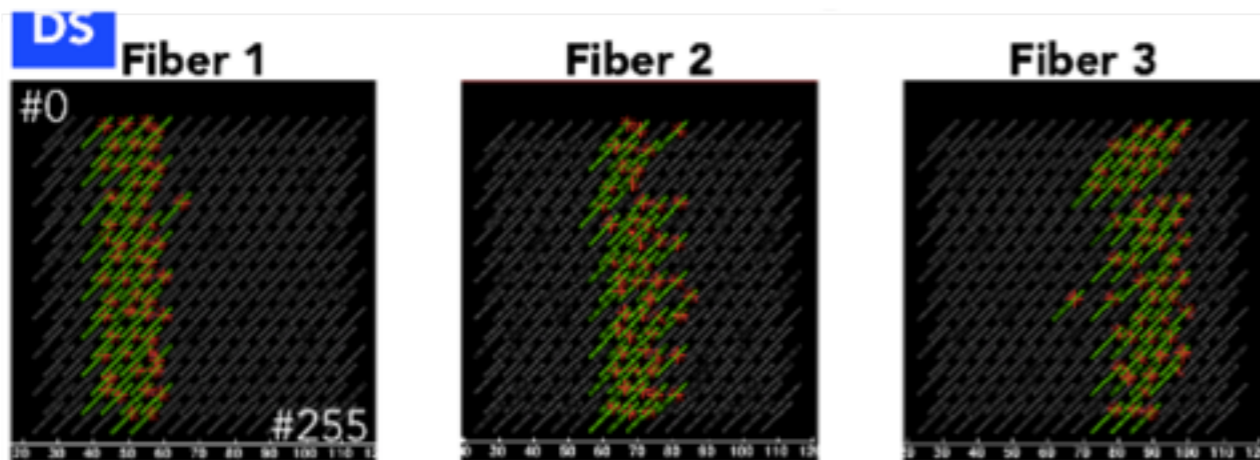
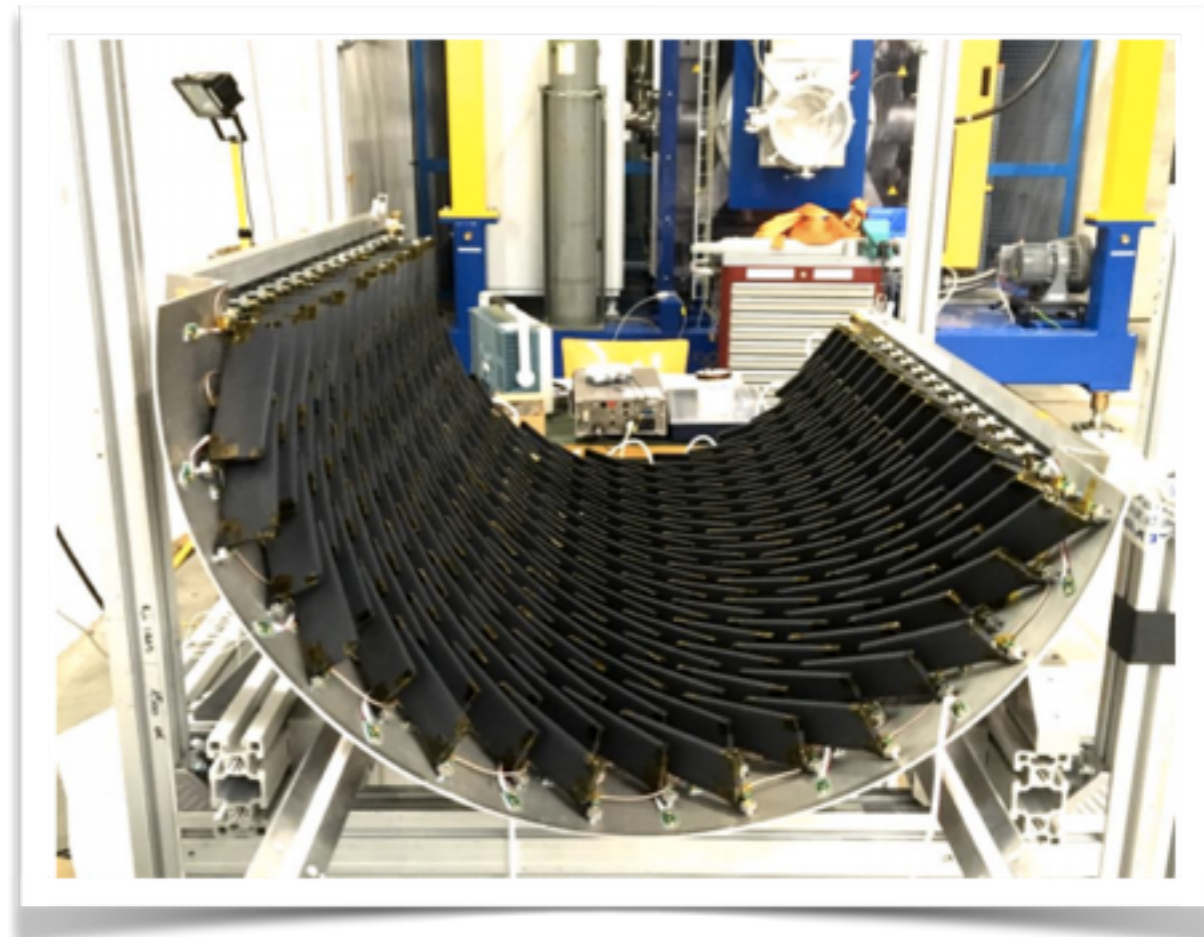
$$\sigma_E \sim 1\%, \quad \sigma_{\text{position}} \sim 2/5 \text{ mm (x,y/z)}$$



# MEG-II Highlights - The Timing Counters

5mm-thick Scintillator Tiles read out by 3x3 mm<sup>2</sup> SiPM

**Complete detector took data in 2017**

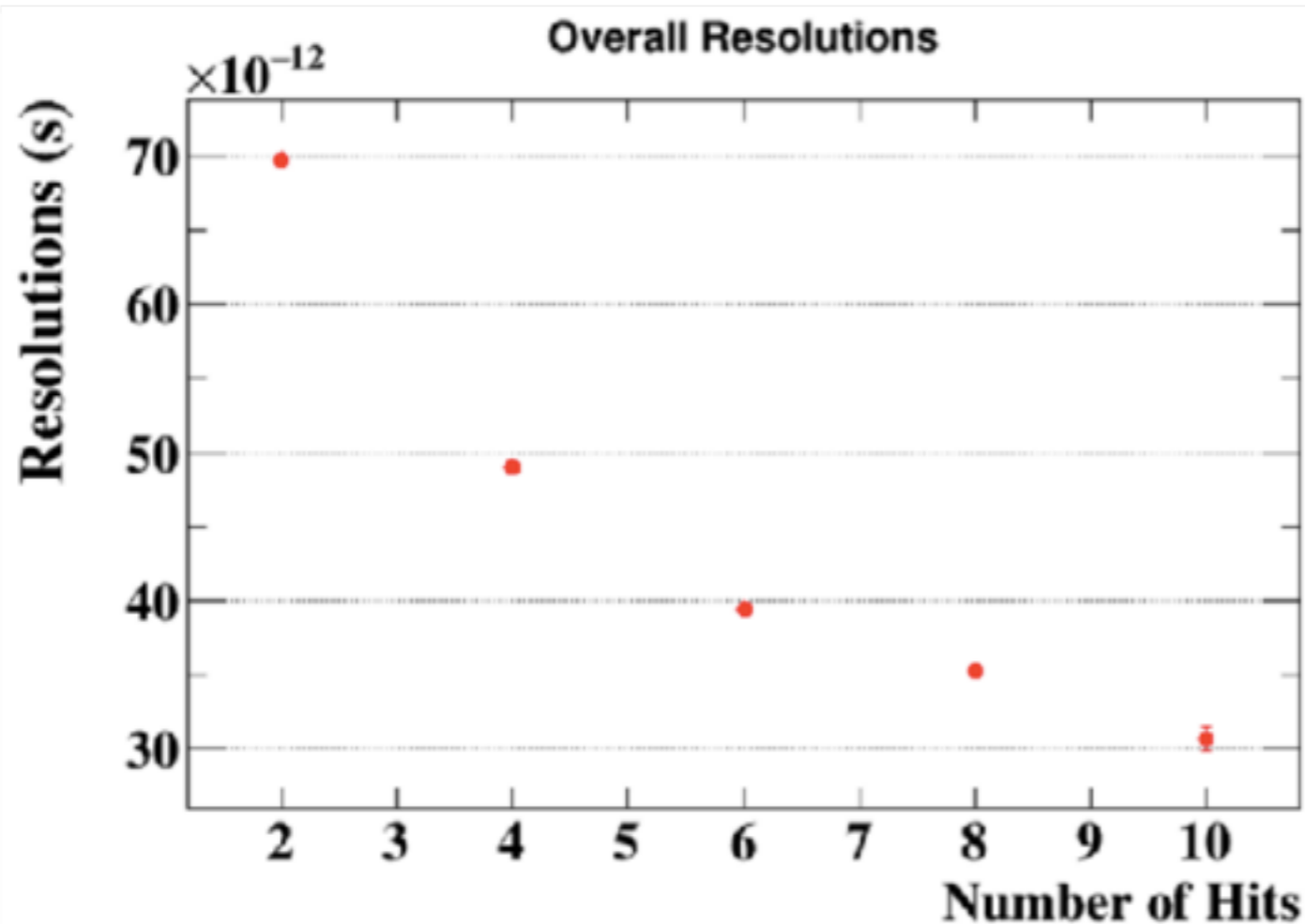
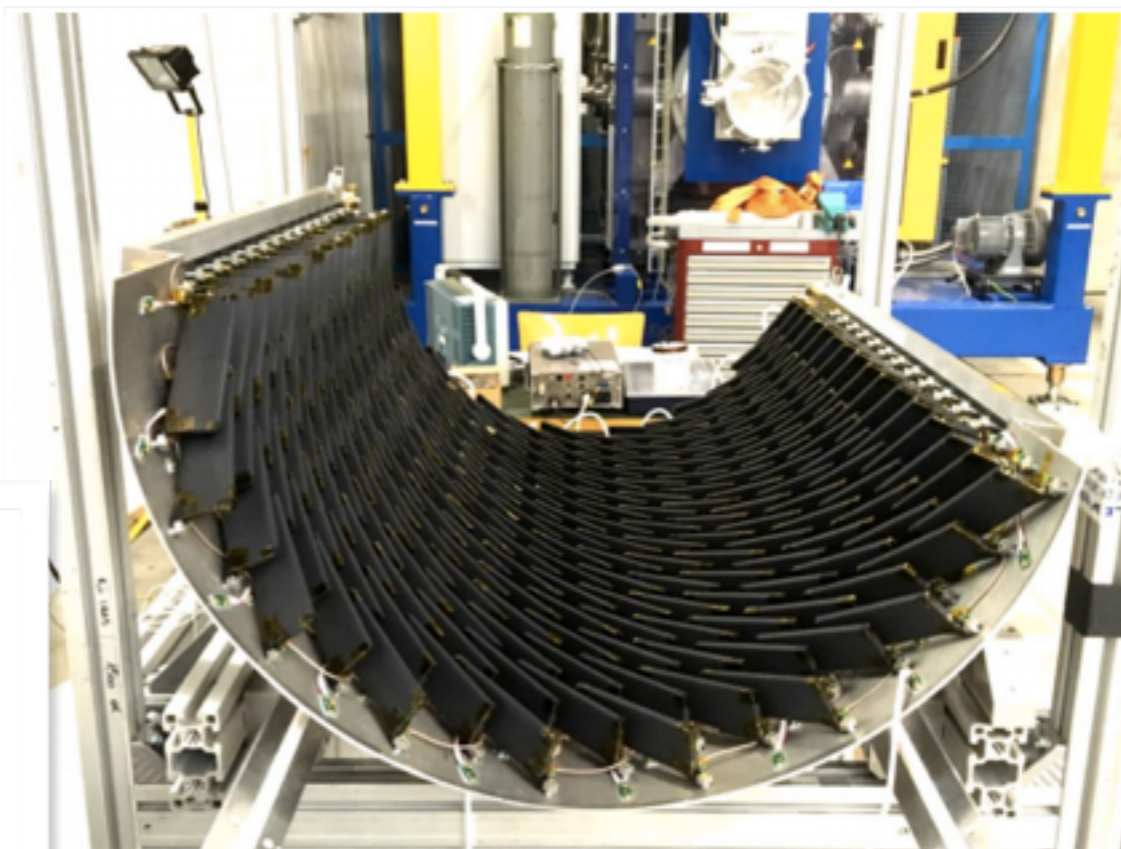


***Calibration with dedicated laser***

# MEG-II Highlights - The Timing Counters

5mm-thick Scintillator Tiles read out by 3x3 mm<sup>2</sup> SiPM

**Complete detector took data in 2017**



$$\sigma_T \sim 35 \text{ ps}$$

*Already reached the design resolution*

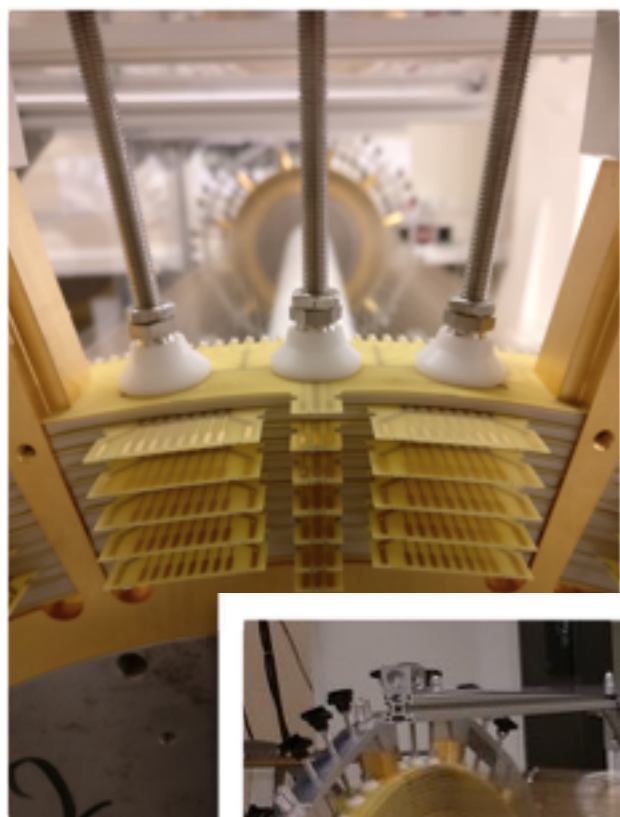


# MEG-II Highlights - The Drift Chamber

Wiring, assembly and sealing have been completed

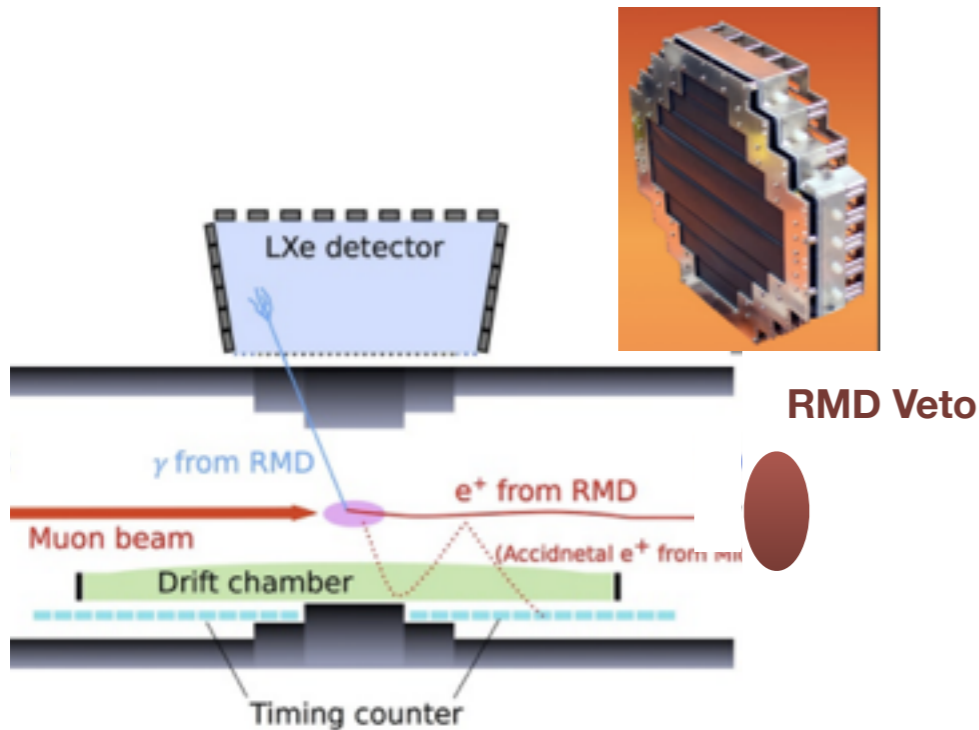
Had to face severe problems of wire fragility in presence of contaminants + humidity

**On beam in Fall 2018**



$\sigma_E \sim 130 \text{ keV}$ ,  $\sigma_{\text{angles}} \sim 5 \text{ mrad}$ , 2x larger positron efficiency

# MEG-II Highlights - RDC, DAQ, Trigger



50% of acc. background photons come from RMD w/ positron along the beam line

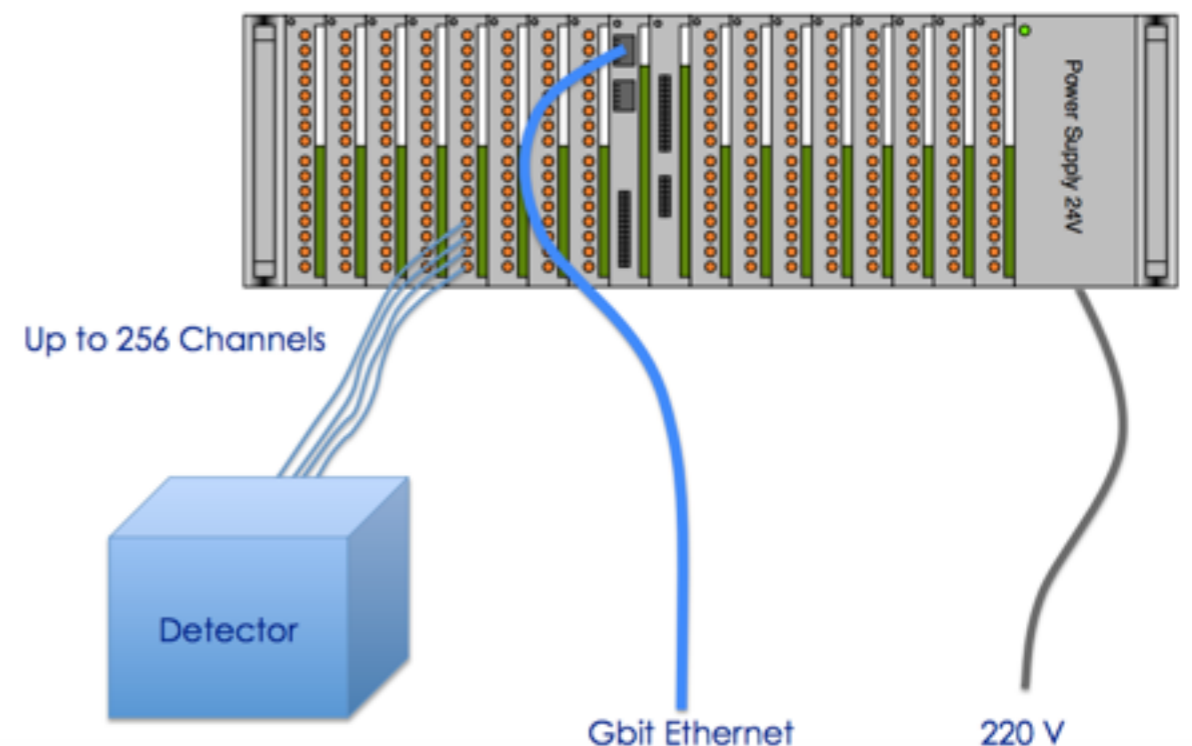
Can be vetoed by detecting the positron in coincidence with the photon

A new detector (LYSO + plastic scint.) built and tested in 2017 -> 16% better sensitivity

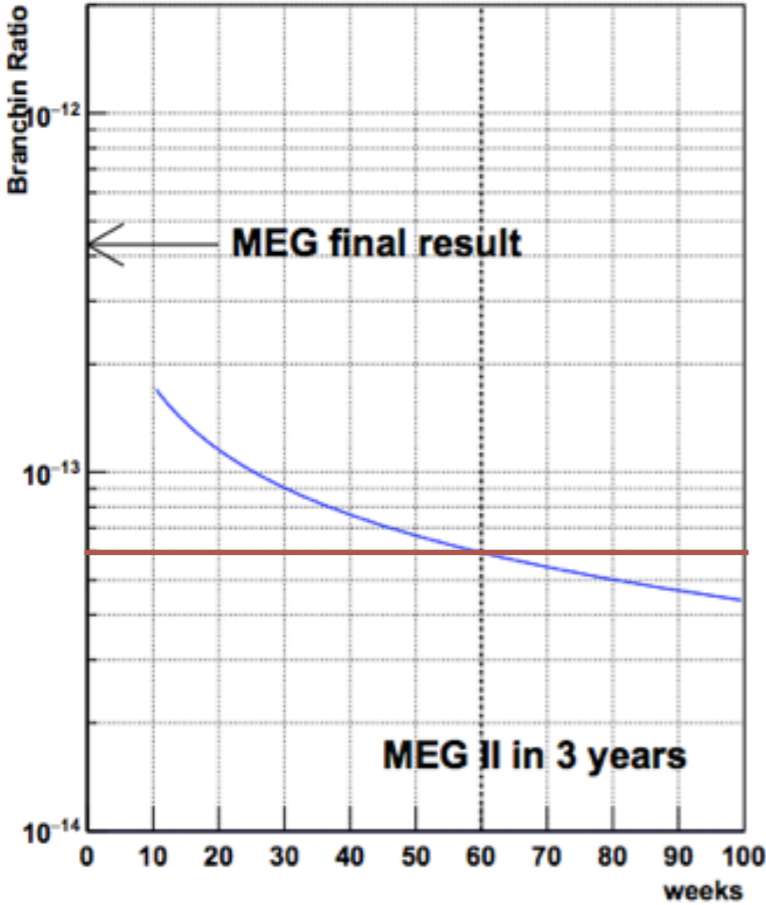
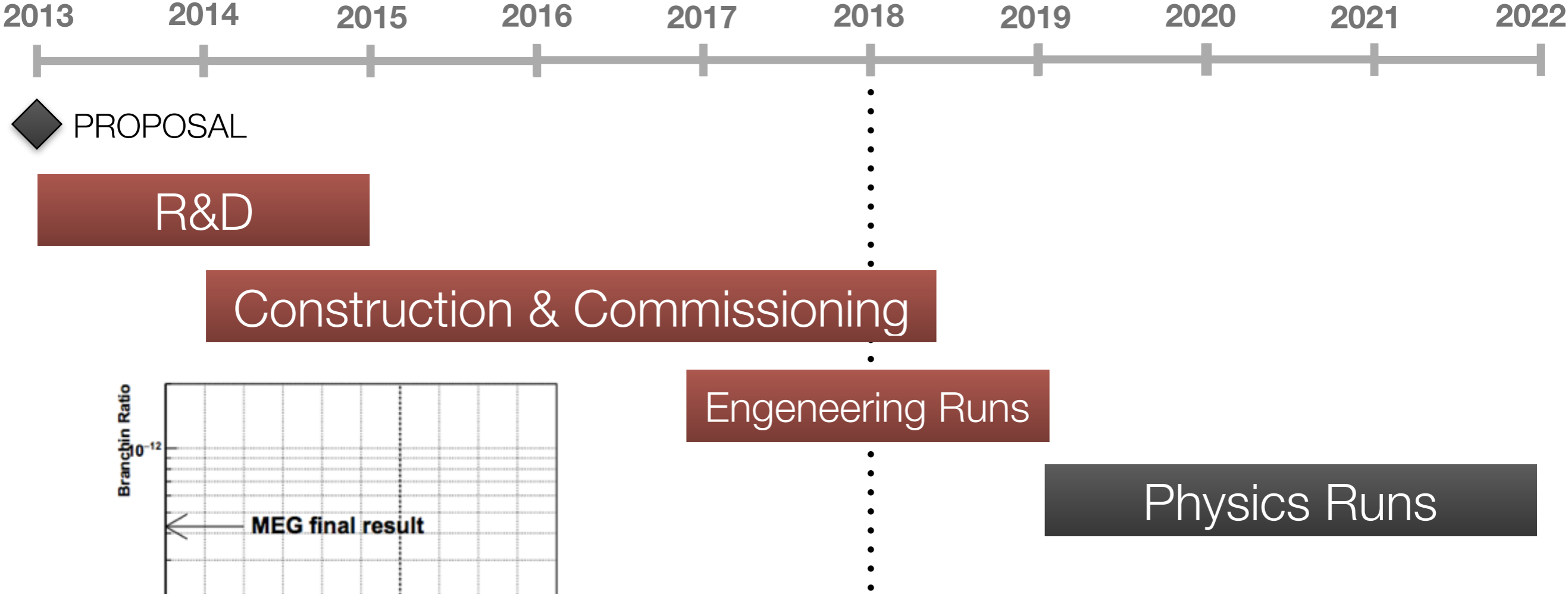
Trigger and DAQ will be integrated in a single, compact system (WaveDAQ)

Also provides power and amplification for SiPM/MPPC

Successfully tested in 2017 with XEC, TC and RDC



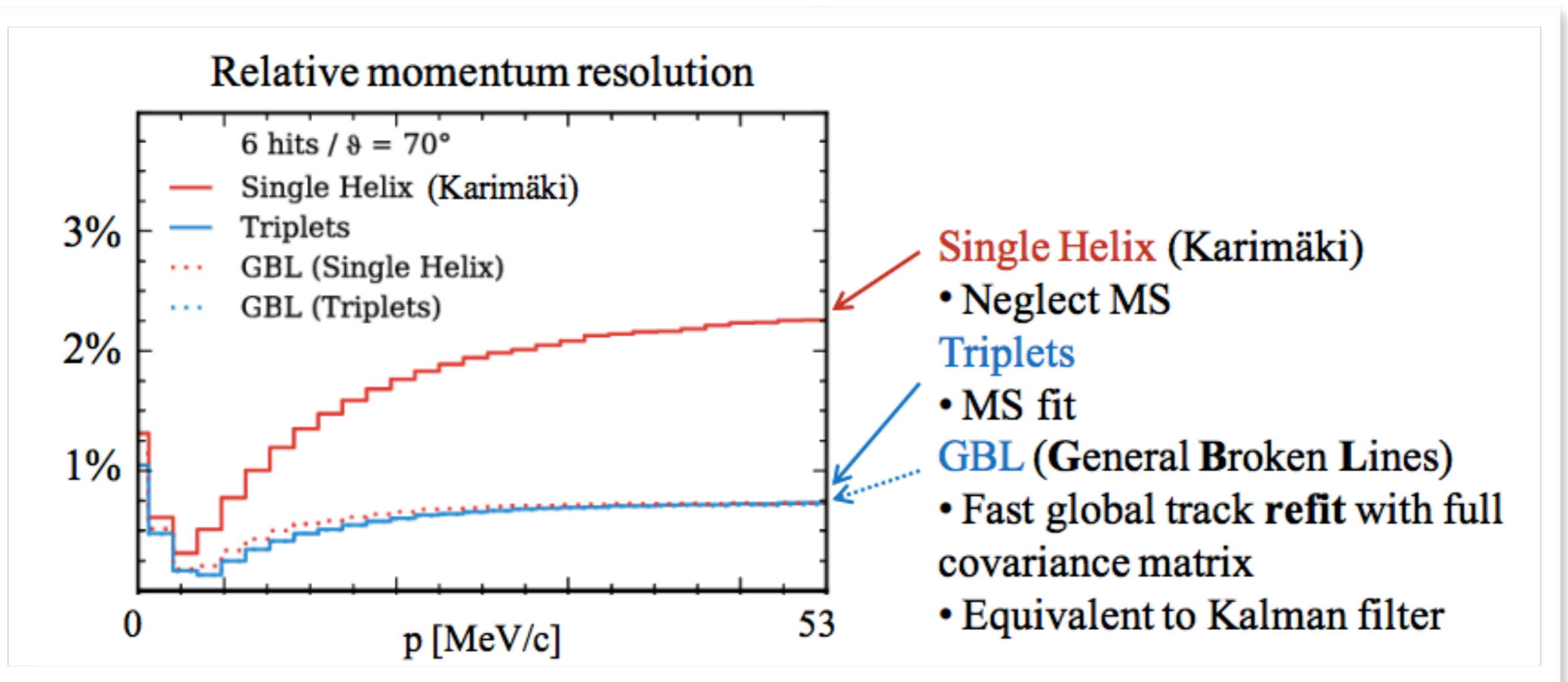
# MEG-II schedule & sensitivity



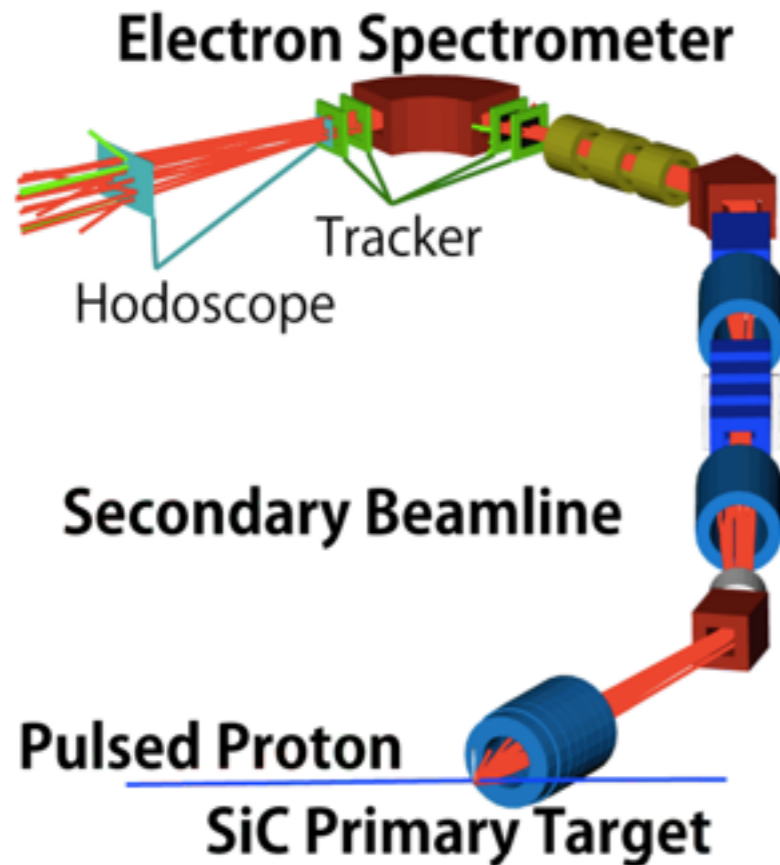
$6 \times 10^{-14}$

# Silicon detector momentum resolution

## Mu3e momentum resolution ( $B = 1T$ ) 4x worse than MEG-II

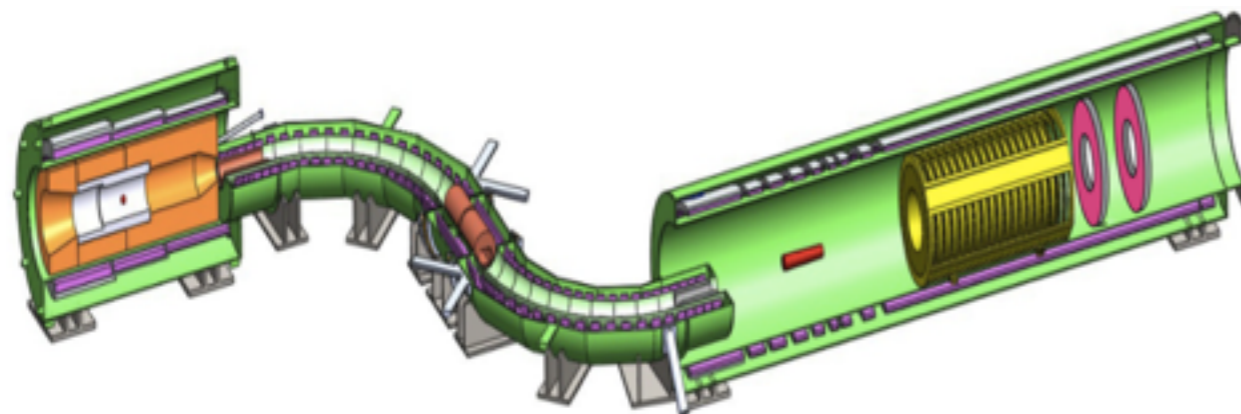
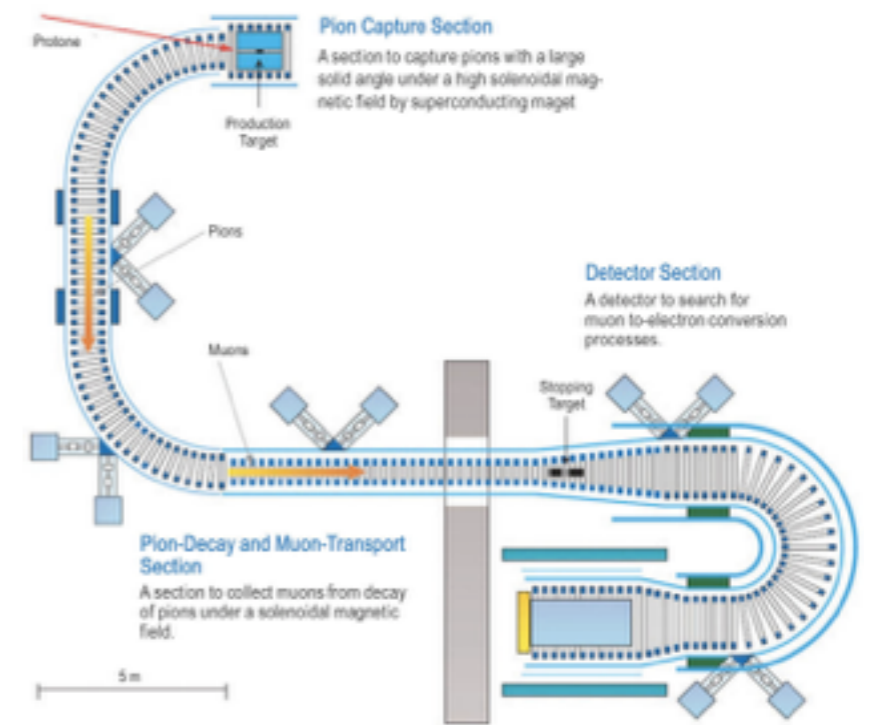


# DeeMee / COMET / Mu2e



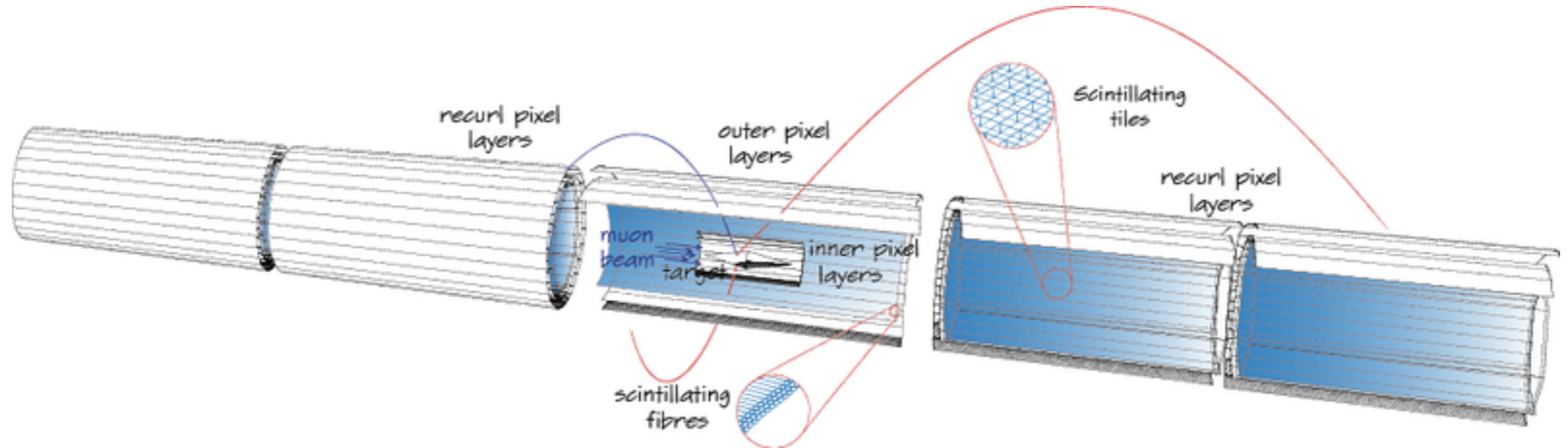
DeeMee: will start data taking soon  
SES  $\sim 10^{-14}$

COMET: Will start phase-I commissioning  $\sim 2019$   
phase-II SES  $\sim 10^{-17}$



Mu2e: Data taking expected  $\sim 2022$   
SES  $< 10^{-16}$

# Mu3e



R&D almost completed  
 Commissioning will start soon  
 Data taking expected > 2020

Expected BR UL  $\sim 10^{-16}$