

# CryoEDM – A Cryogenic Neutron-EDM Experiment

## Collaboration:

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Oxford University

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# nEDM Overview

- Theoretical Background
- The Method of Ramsey Resonance
- Room-temperature Experiment
- Ultra-Cold Neutrons
- The Cryogenic Experiment

# Fundamental Inversions

**C** particle  $\longrightarrow$  antiparticle  $(Q \rightarrow -Q)$

**P** position  $\longrightarrow$  inverted  $(\mathbf{r} \rightarrow -\mathbf{r})$

**T** time  $\longrightarrow$  reversed  $(t \rightarrow -t)$

# Symmetries

Weak interactions are not P or C symmetric.

Normal matter -  $n$ ,  $\mu$ ,  $\pi$  - readily breaks C / P symmetry.

The combination CP is different:

Normal matter respects CP symmetry to a very high degree.

Time reversal is equivalent to CP (with CPT ok):

Normal matter respects T symmetry to a very high degree.

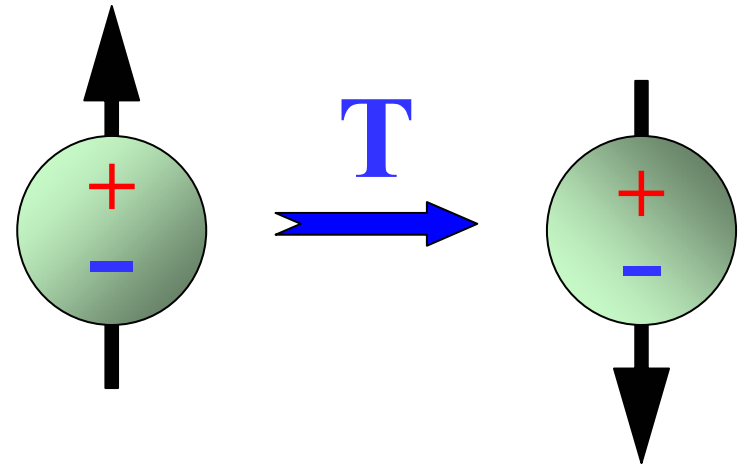
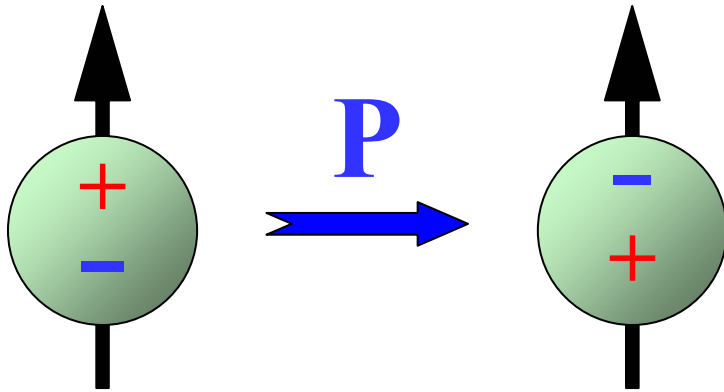
# EDM breaks P and T Symmetry

neutron EDM:

$$\mathbf{d}_n = d_n \hat{\mathbf{s}}$$

P odd

T odd



(~~P~~ no big deal)

(~~CP~~ big deal)

(assuming CPT invariance)

# Theoretical Overview

- SM contribution is immeasurably small, but...
- most models beyond SM predict values about  $10^6$  greater than SM. Very low background!
- EDM measurements already constrained SUSY models.
- “Strong CP Problem”: Why does QCD not violate CP? Nobody knows.
- Finally, there is the question of baryon – anti-baryon asymmetry in the universe.

# Two Motivations to Measure EDM

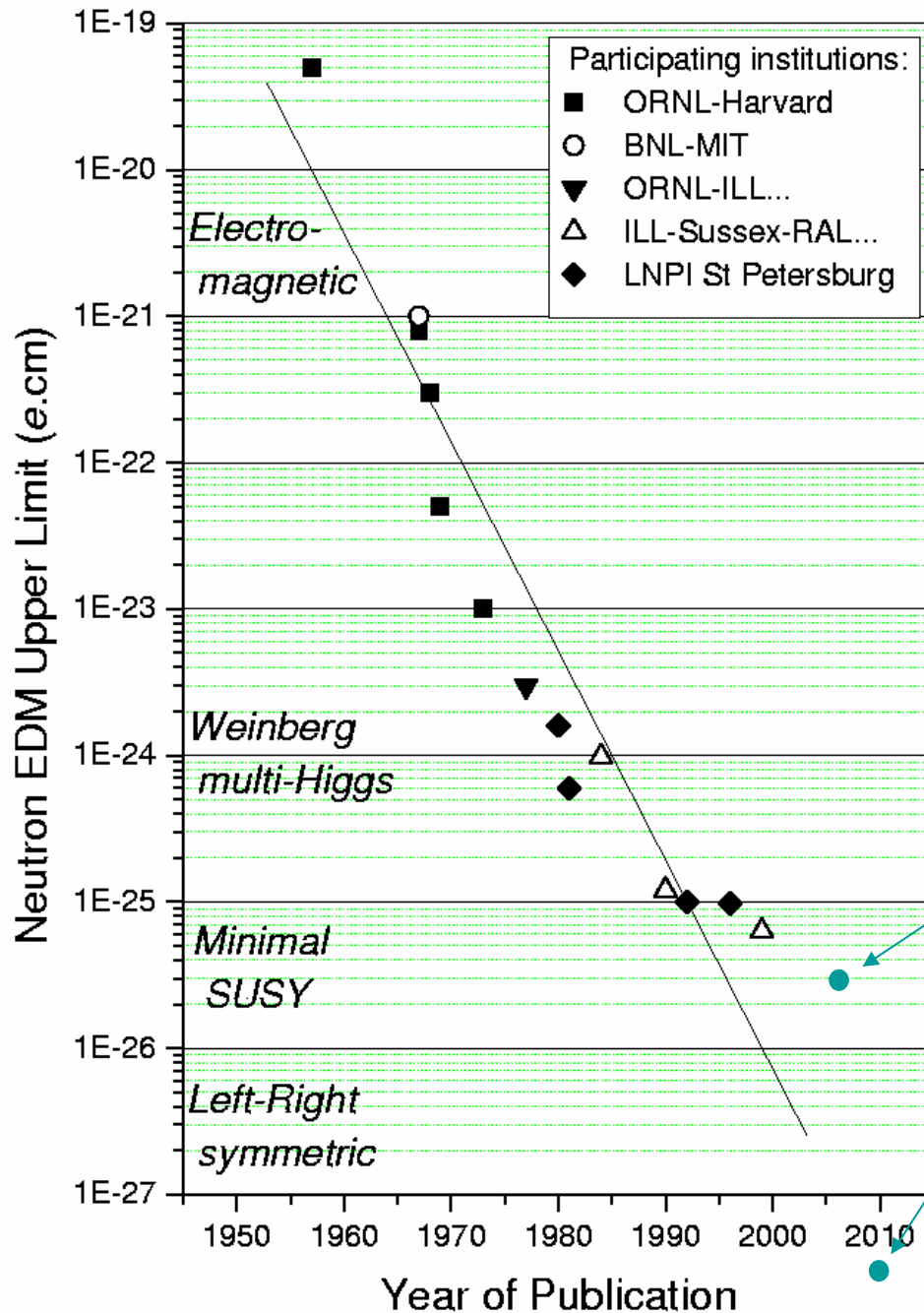
**EDM violates T symmetry**

**Deeply connected to CP violation and the matter-antimatter asymmetry of the Universe**

**Standard model EDM is effectively zero, but big enough to measure in non-standard models**

**Direct test of physics beyond the standard model**

# A Bit of History

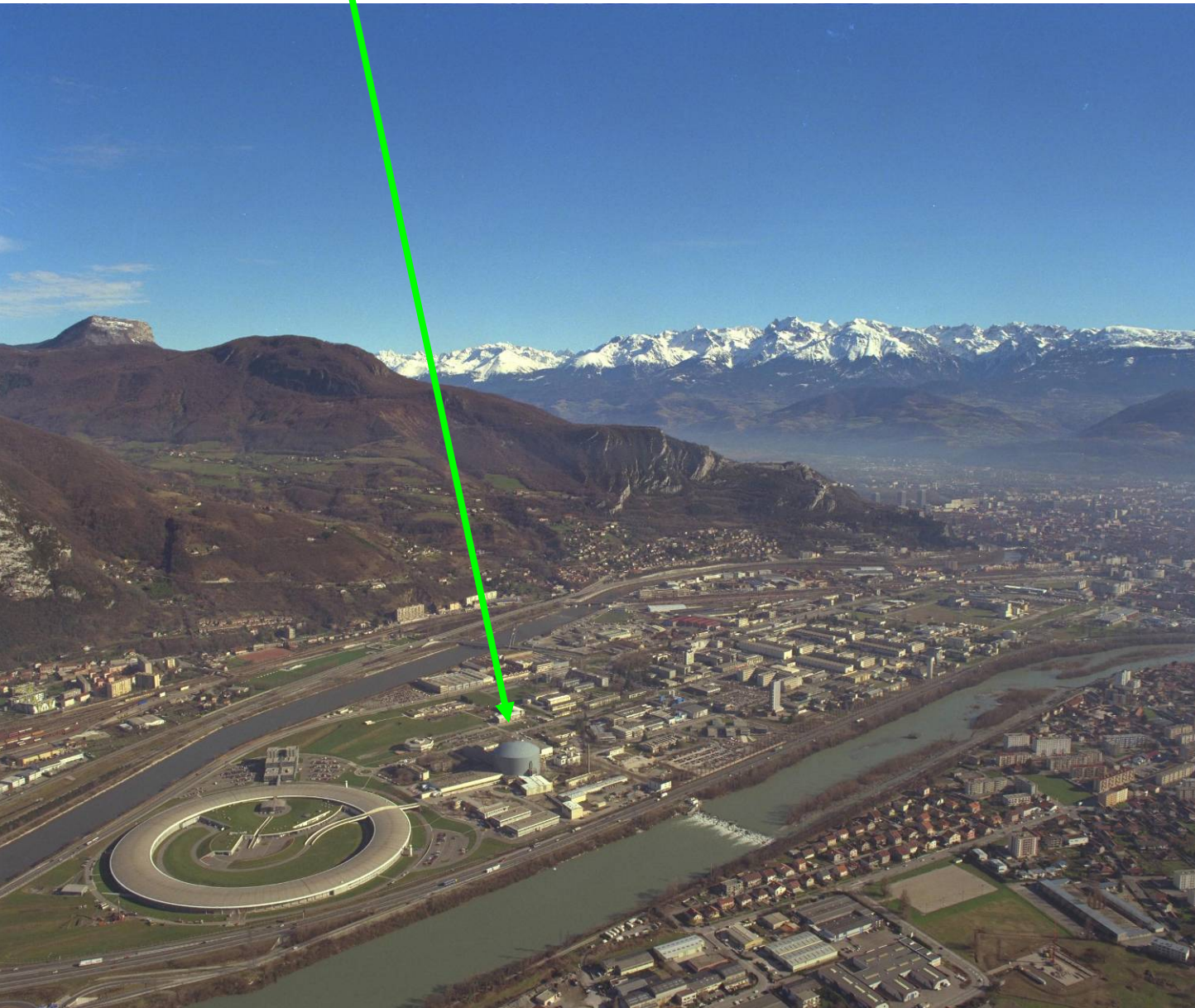


A factor 10 improvement on average every 8 years.

Step change through new techniques.



# The ILL in Grenoble



# The Neutron Source

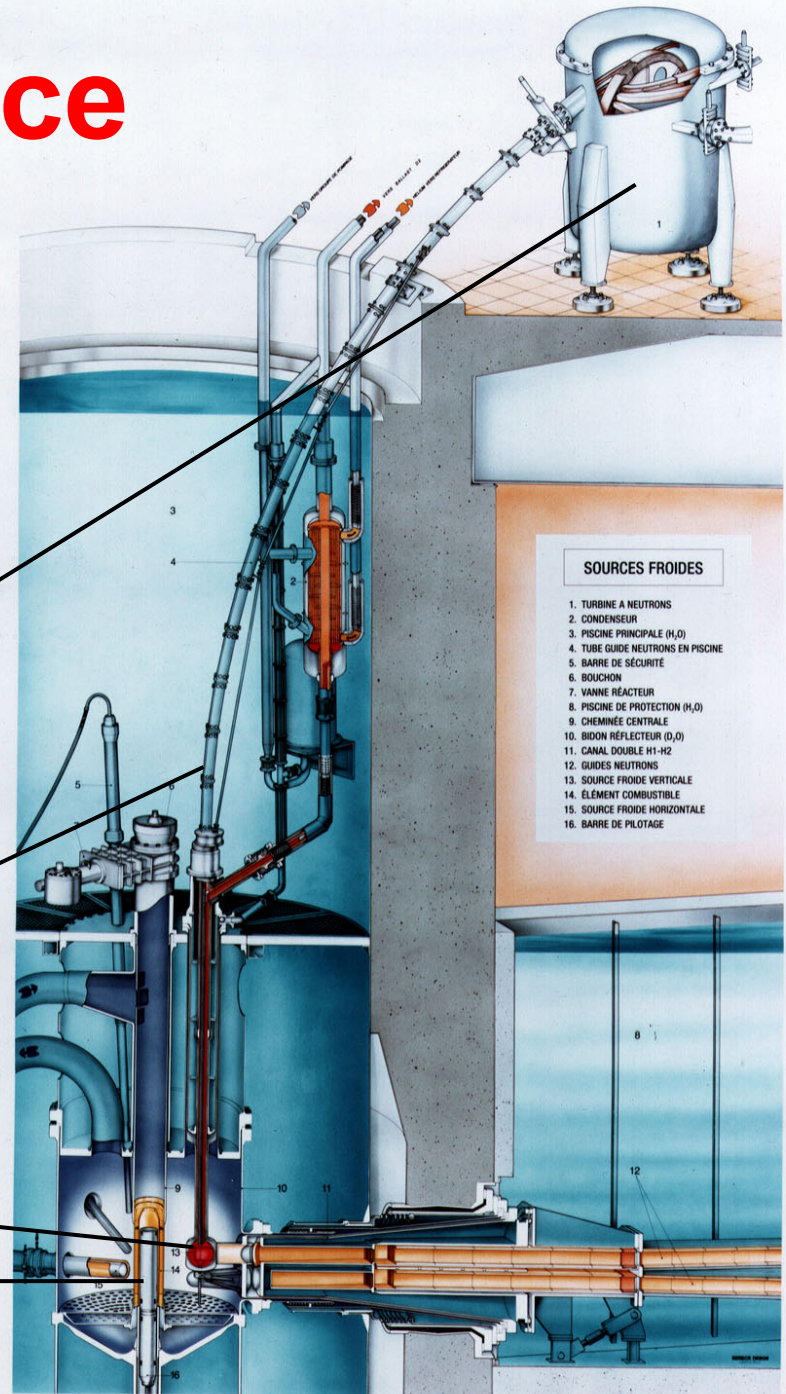


Neutron turbine  
A. Steyerl (TUM - 1986)

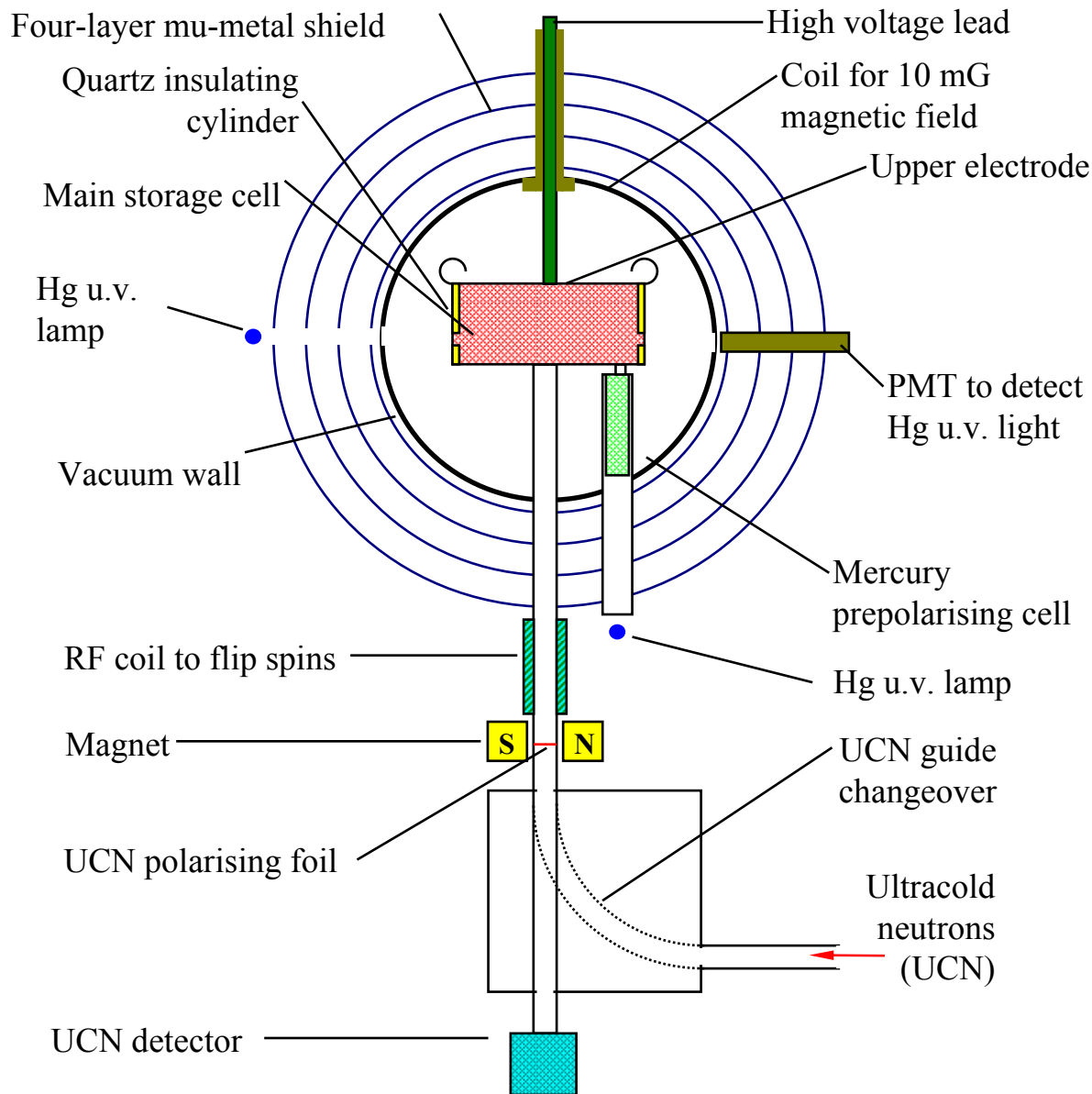
Vertical guide tube

Cold source

Reactor core

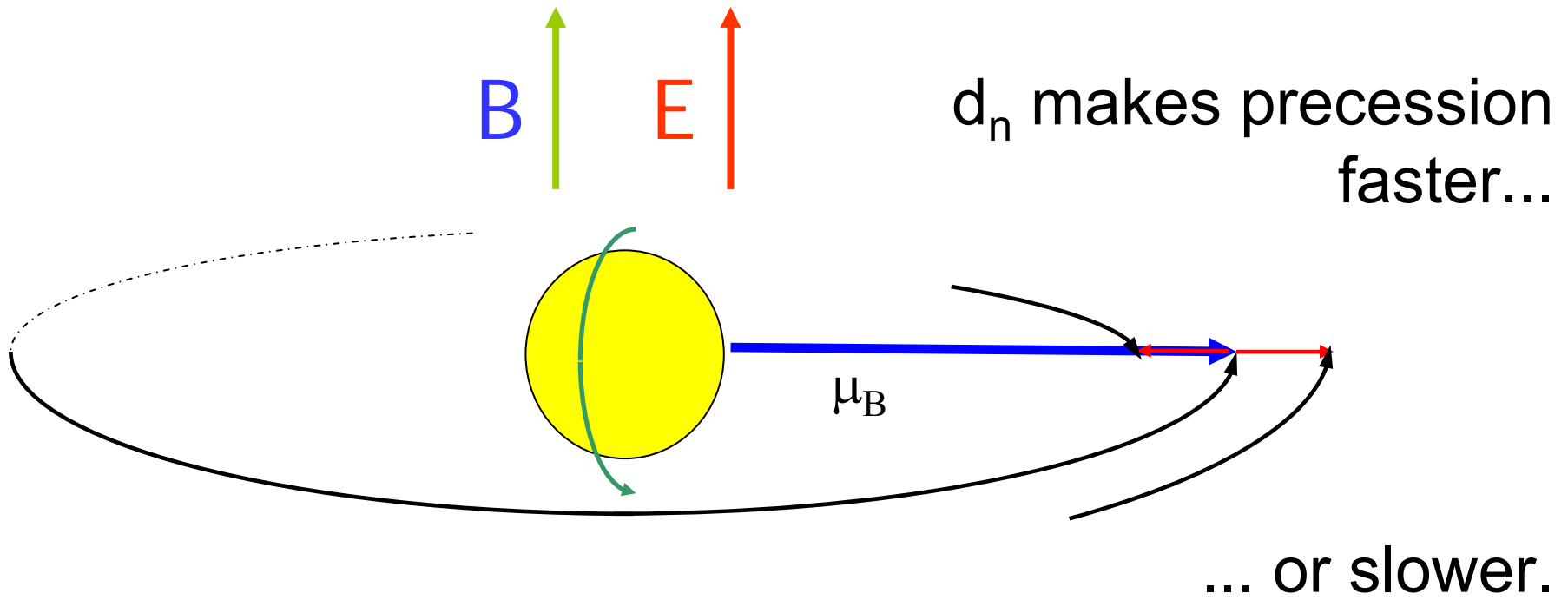


# Room Temperature Experiment



# Measurement Principle

Measure Larmor spin precession frequency in parallel & antiparallel **B** and **E** fields:



# Measurement Principle

Apply const magnetic field, reverse electric field:

$$\Delta W_{\uparrow\uparrow} = 2\boldsymbol{\mu}_n \cdot \mathbf{B} + 2\mathbf{d}_n \cdot \mathbf{E}$$

$$\Delta W_{\uparrow\downarrow} = 2\boldsymbol{\mu}_n \cdot \mathbf{B} - 2\mathbf{d}_n \cdot \mathbf{E}$$

$$\nu_{\uparrow\uparrow} - \nu_{\uparrow\downarrow} = 4\mathbf{d}_n \cdot \mathbf{E} / h$$

Measure difference in precession frequency  
and find **Electric Dipole Moment**

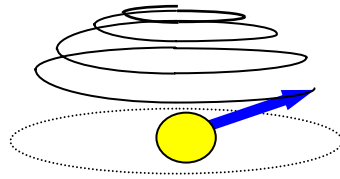
# Ramsey's Technique

1.



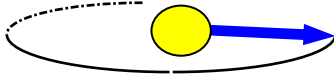
*"Spin up"  
neutron...*

2.



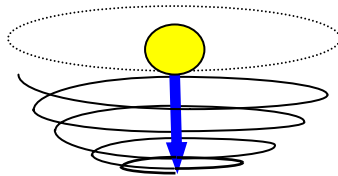
*Apply  $\pi/2$  spin  
flip pulse...*

3.

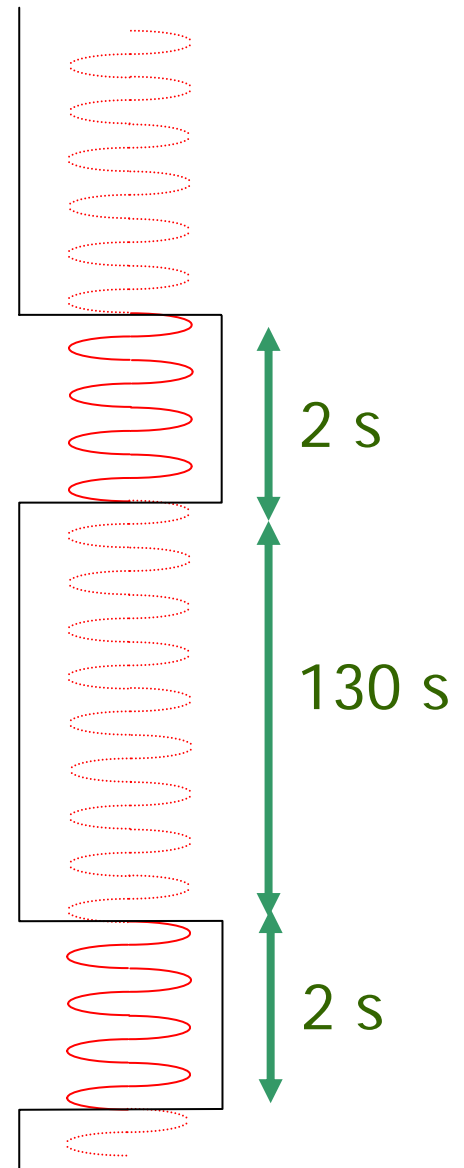


*Free  
precession...*

4.

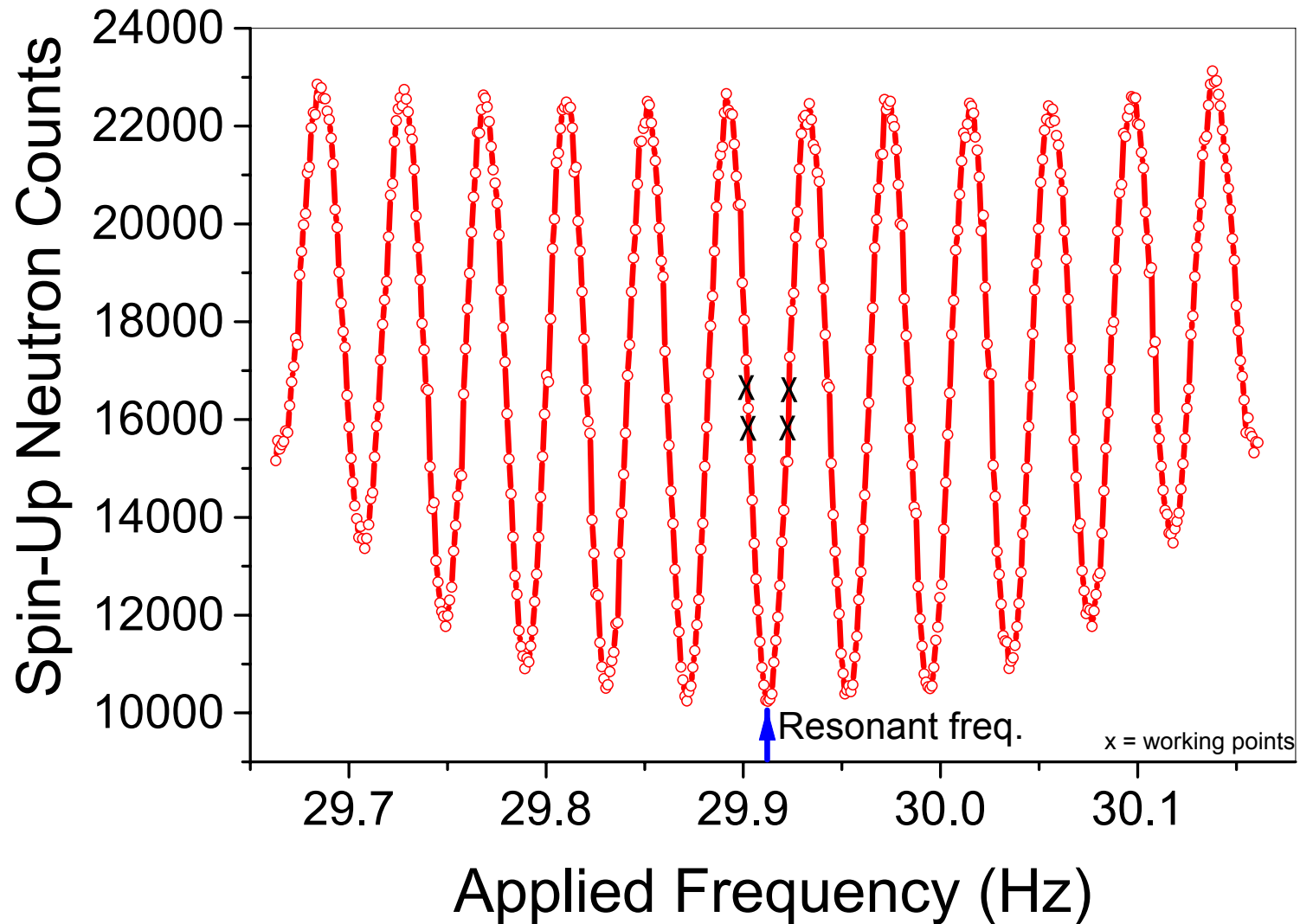


*Second  $\pi/2$  spin  
flip pulse.*



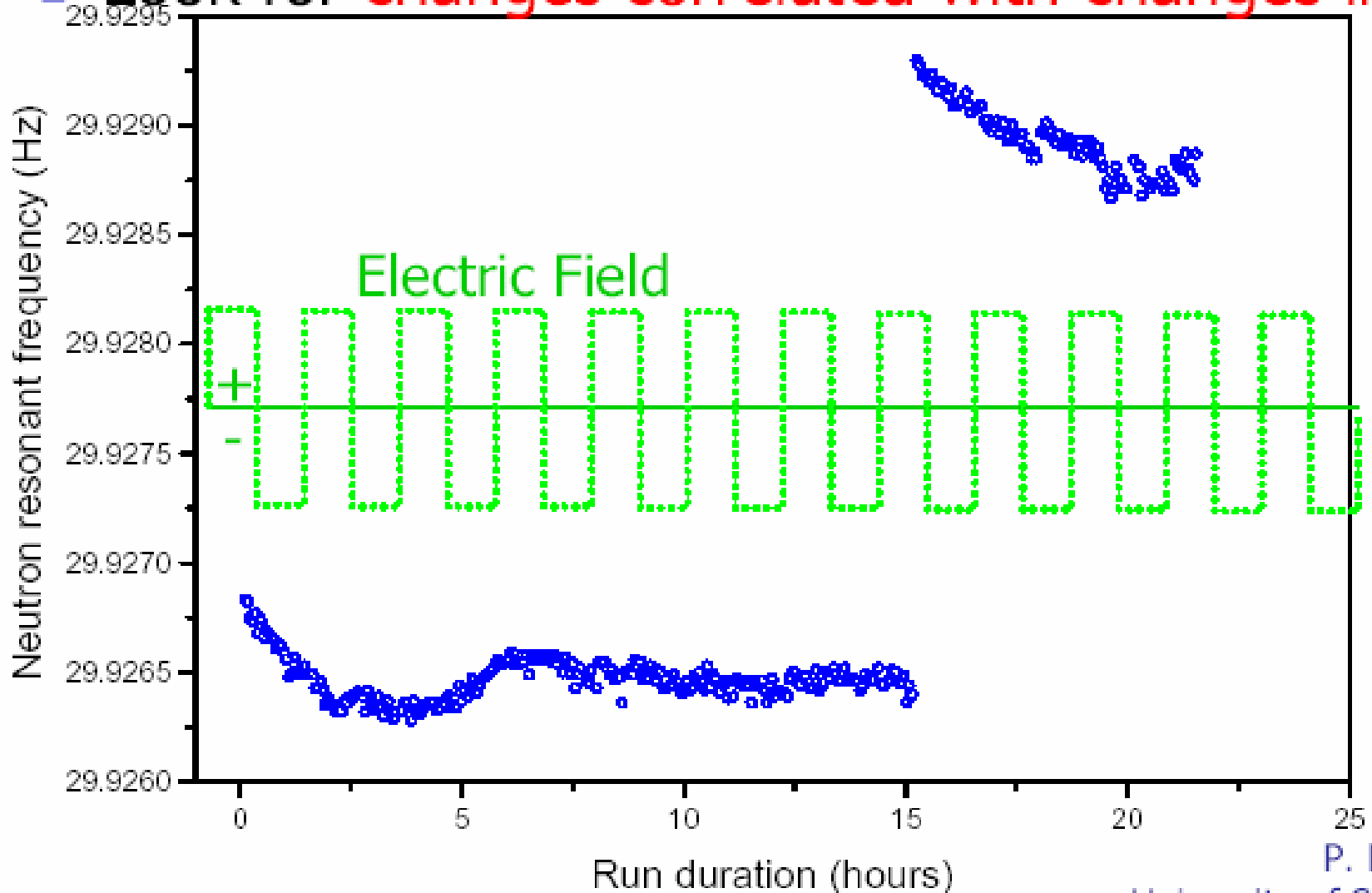
# Ramsey Resonance

Phase gives frequency offset from resonance.



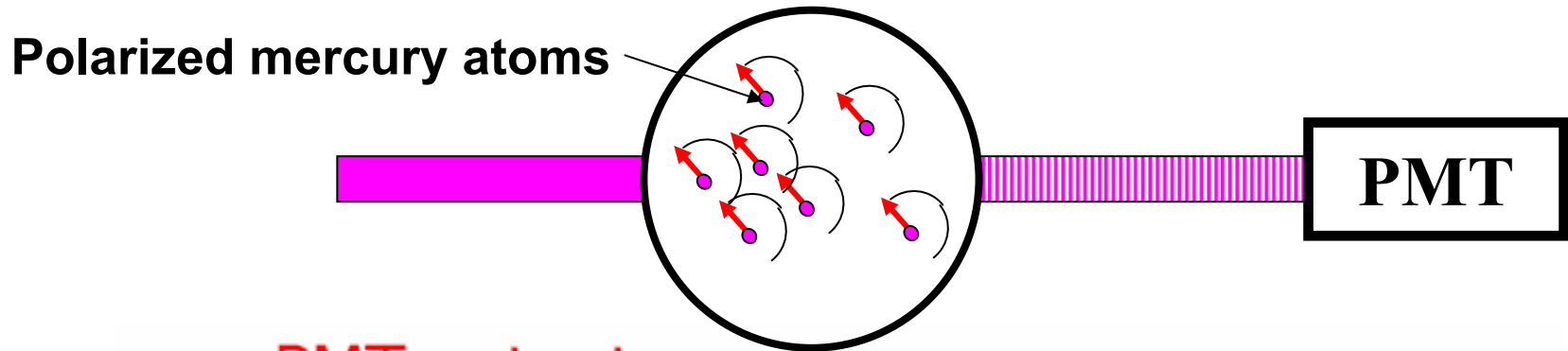
# The Measurement

- Look for changes correlated with changes in E

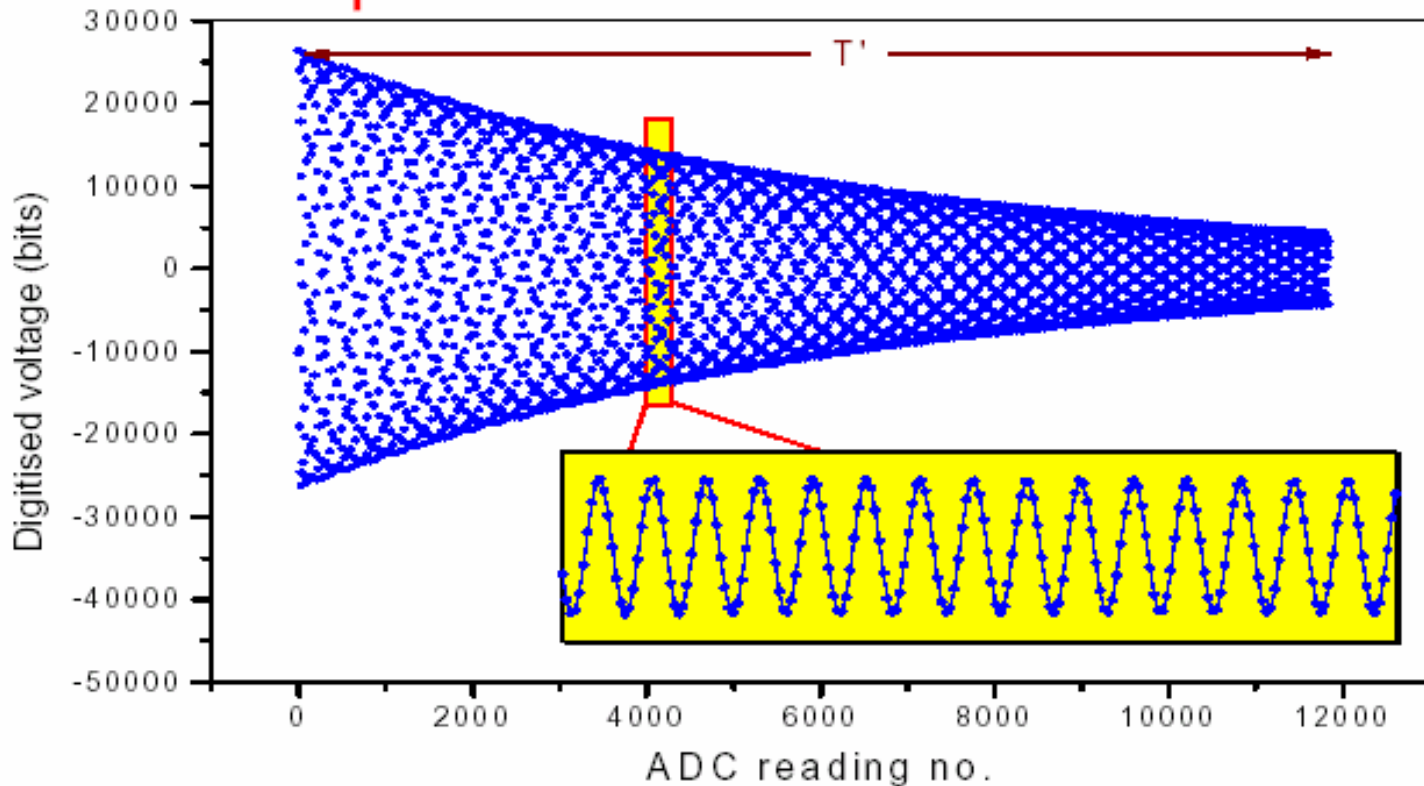




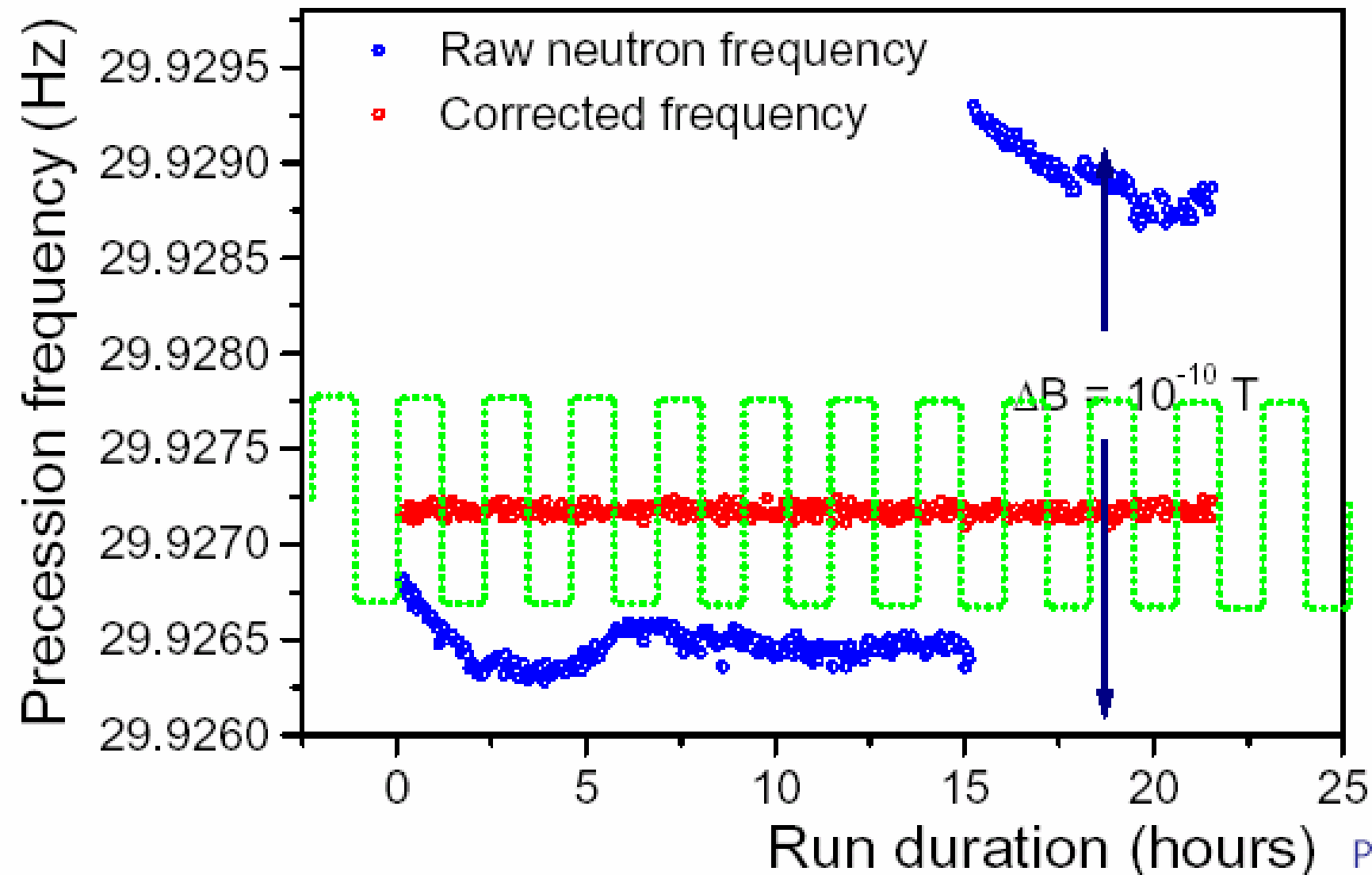
# Mercury Magnetometry



PMT output:



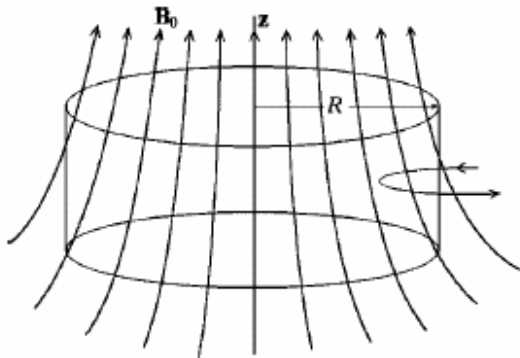
# With Magnetometer



# False EDM Signals

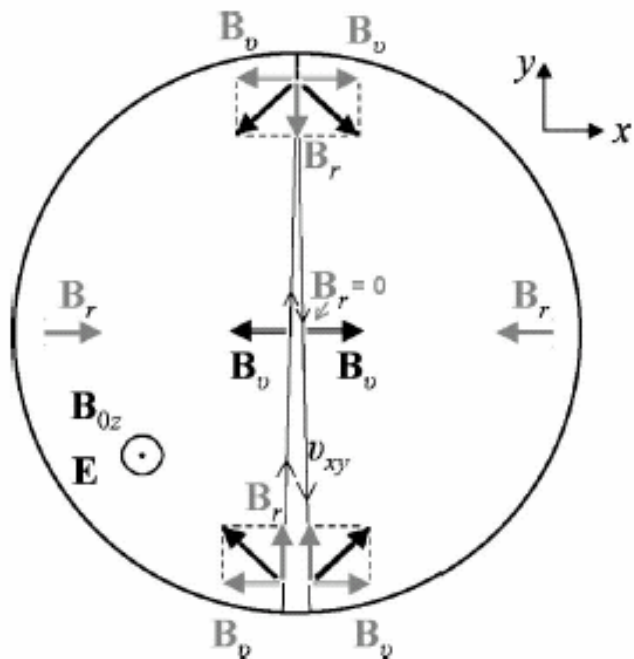
$$\frac{\partial B}{\partial z} \Rightarrow B_r \propto r$$

from  $\text{div} \mathbf{B} = 0$



$$\mathbf{B}' = \frac{1}{\gamma} \frac{\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{E}}{c^2}$$

from spec. rel.

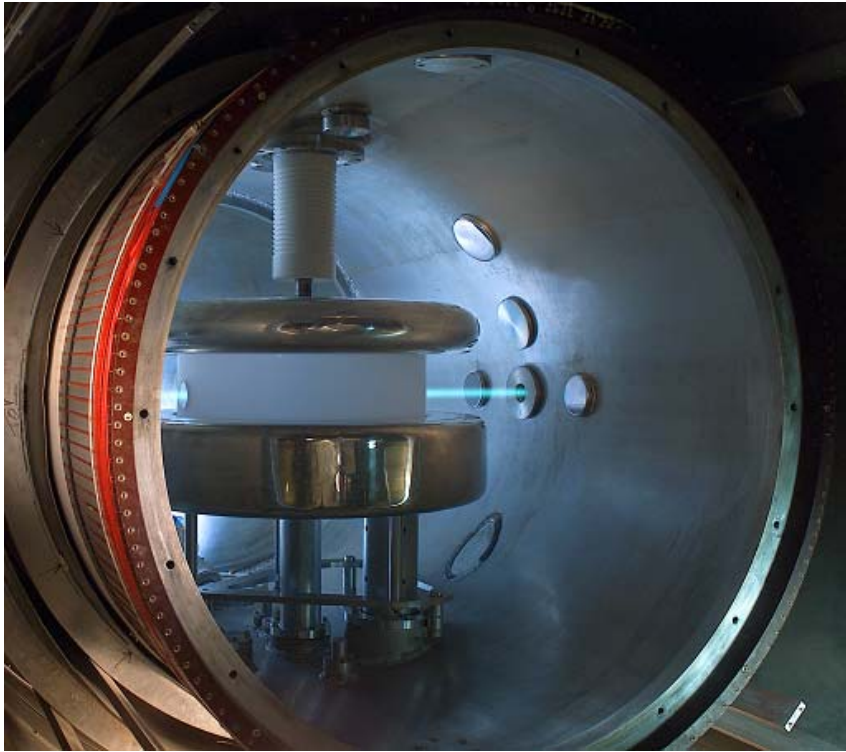


Different for  $^{199}\text{Hg}$  and neutrons

see: Phys. Rev. A 70, 032102 (2004)

Need for precise magnetometry

# Room Temperature Results



US University  
of Sussex

CCLRC

NEUTRONS  
FOR SCIENCE

Room temperature neutron EDM result:

C.A. Baker et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **97**, 131801 (2006) or hep-ex/0602020

$$|d_n| < 2.9 \times 10^{-26} \text{ e.cm (90\% C.L.)}$$

# CryoEDM – the new generation

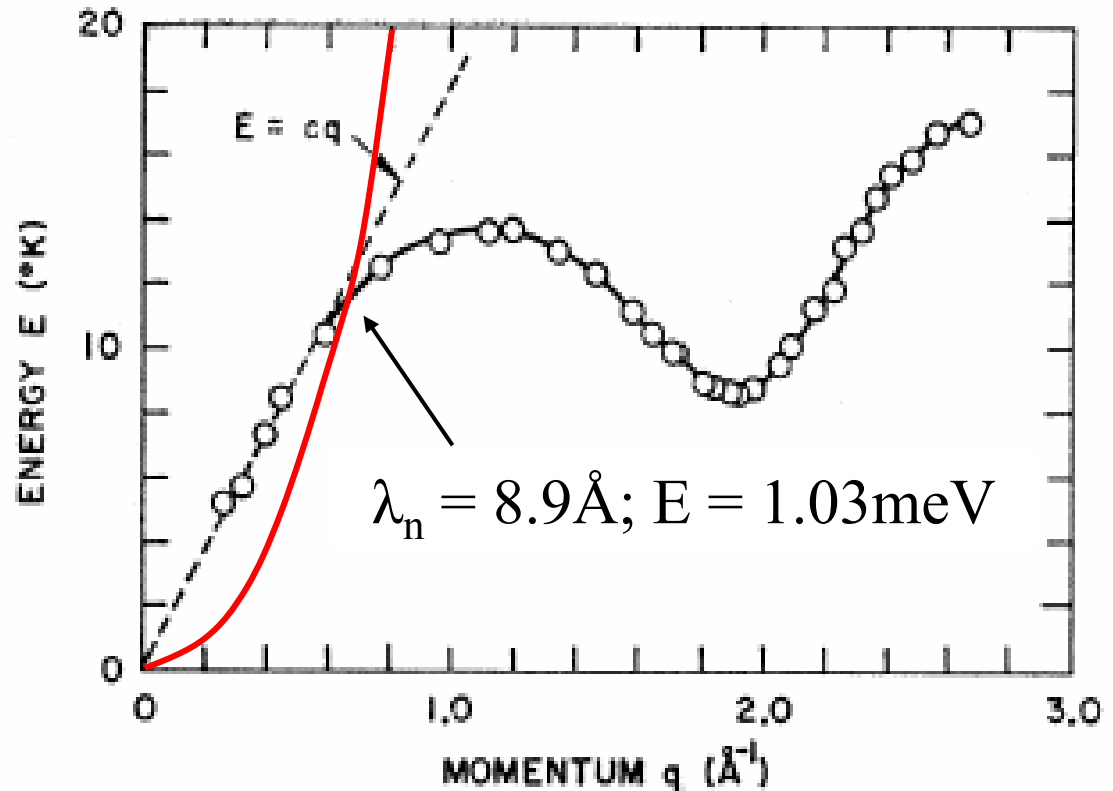
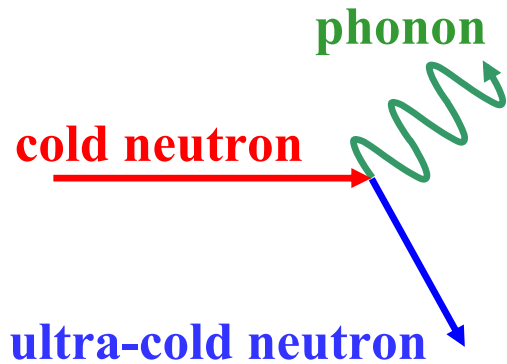


New technology:

- More neutrons
- Higher E field
- Better polarisation
- Longer NMR coherence time

100-fold improvement in sensitivity

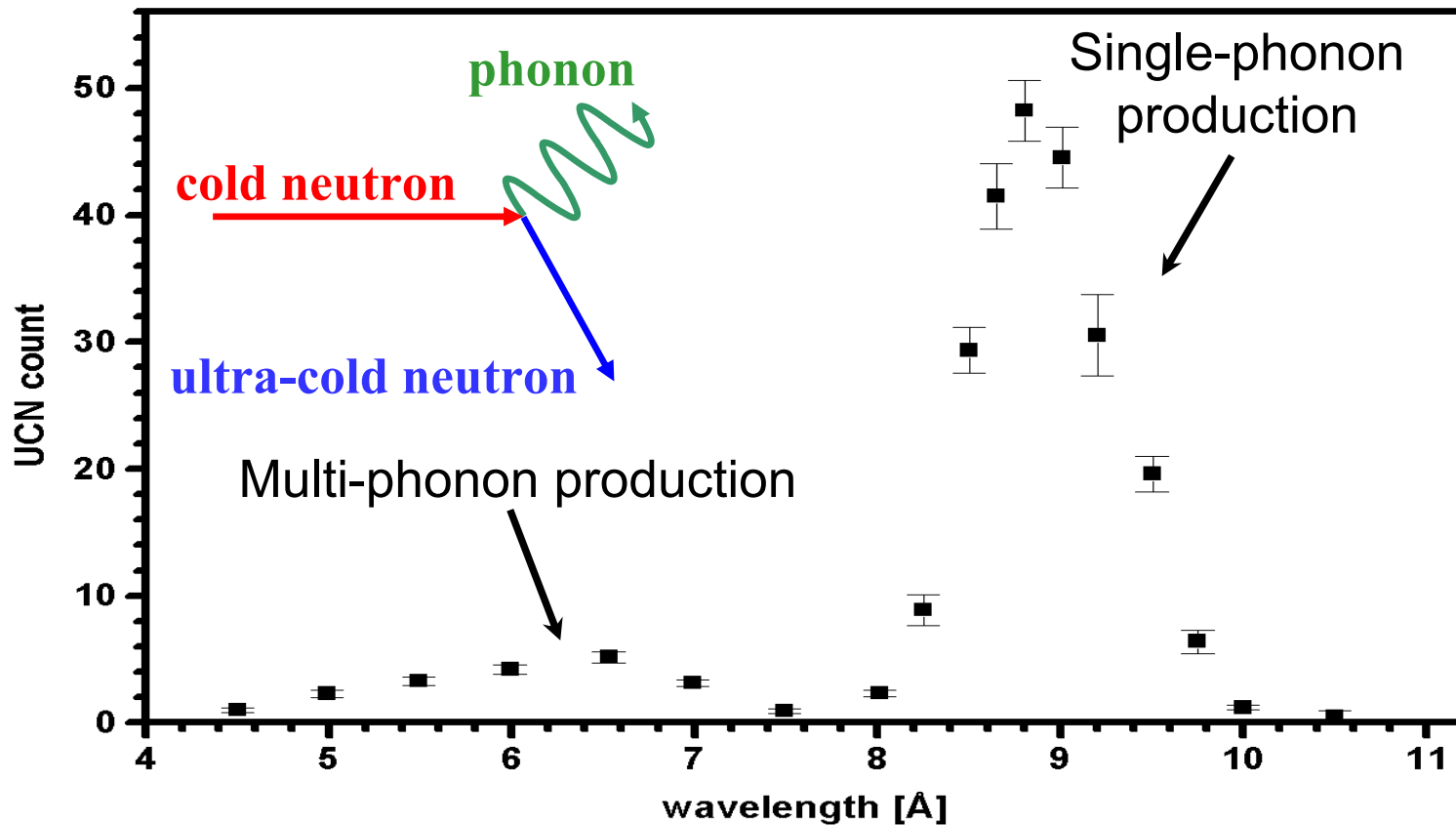
# Ultra-cold Neutron Production



1.03 meV (11K) neutrons down-scatter by emission of phonons in superfluid helium at 0.5K

Up-scattering suppressed: hardly any 11K phonons

# Ultra-cold Neutron Production



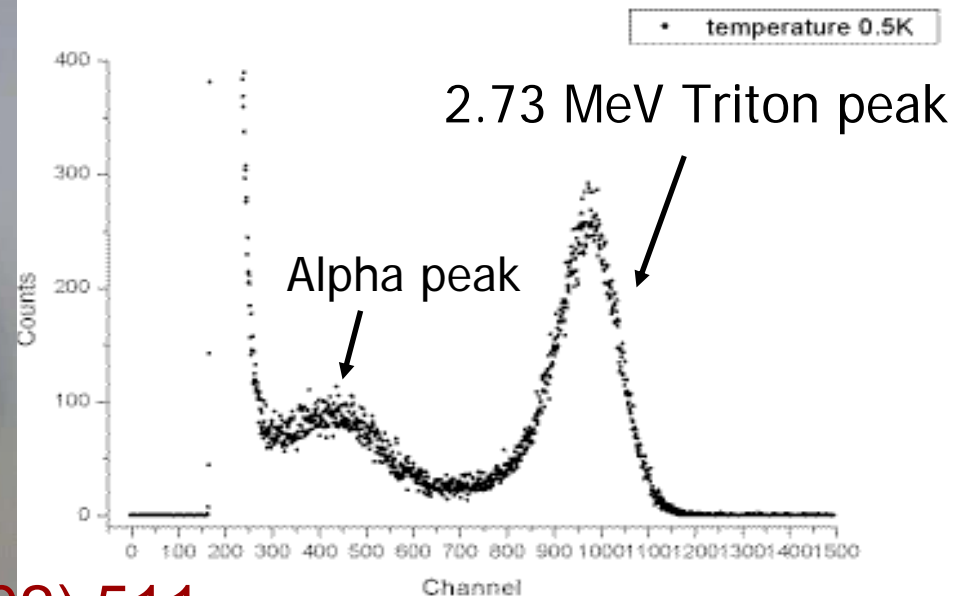
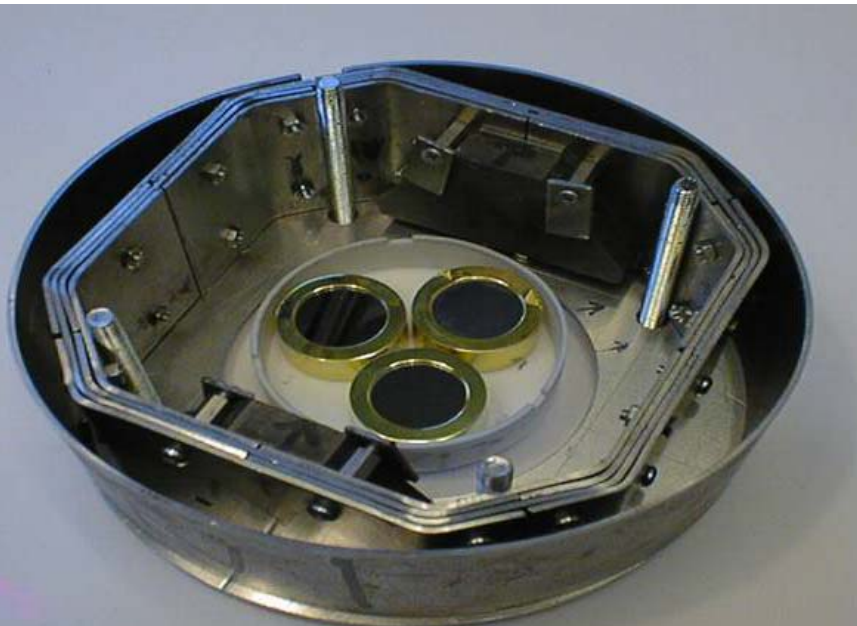
$1.19 \pm 0.18$  UCN  $\text{cm}^{-3} \text{s}^{-1}$  expected

$0.91 \pm 0.13$  UCN  $\text{cm}^{-3} \text{s}^{-1}$  observed

C A Baker et al., Phys. Lett. **A 308** (2002) 67

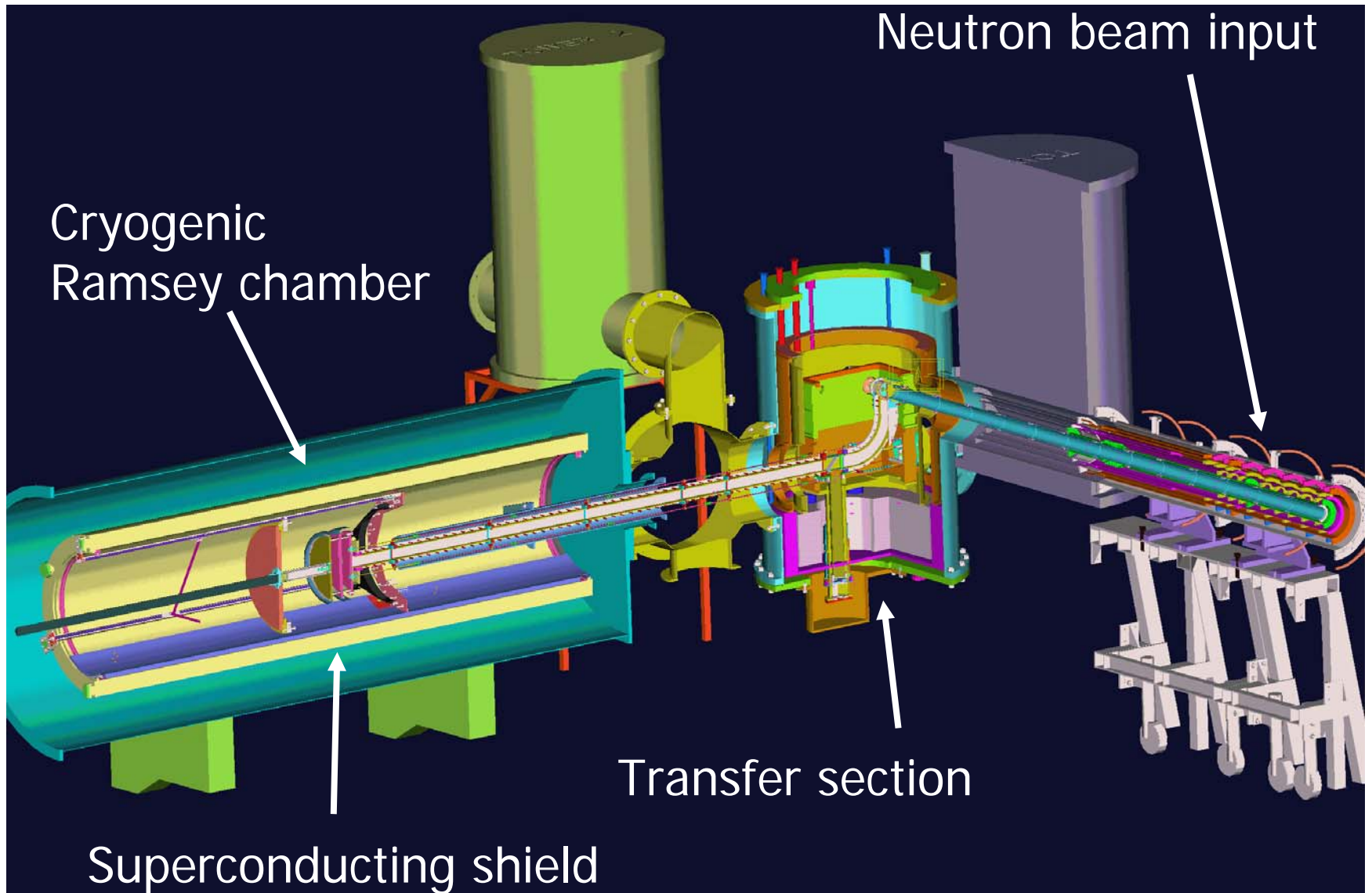
# Ultra-cold Neutron Detection

- ORTEC ULTRA at 430mK temperature.
- Equipped with thin surface layer of  ${}^6\text{Li}$ .
- Using:  $n + {}^6\text{Li} \rightarrow \alpha + {}^3\text{H}$

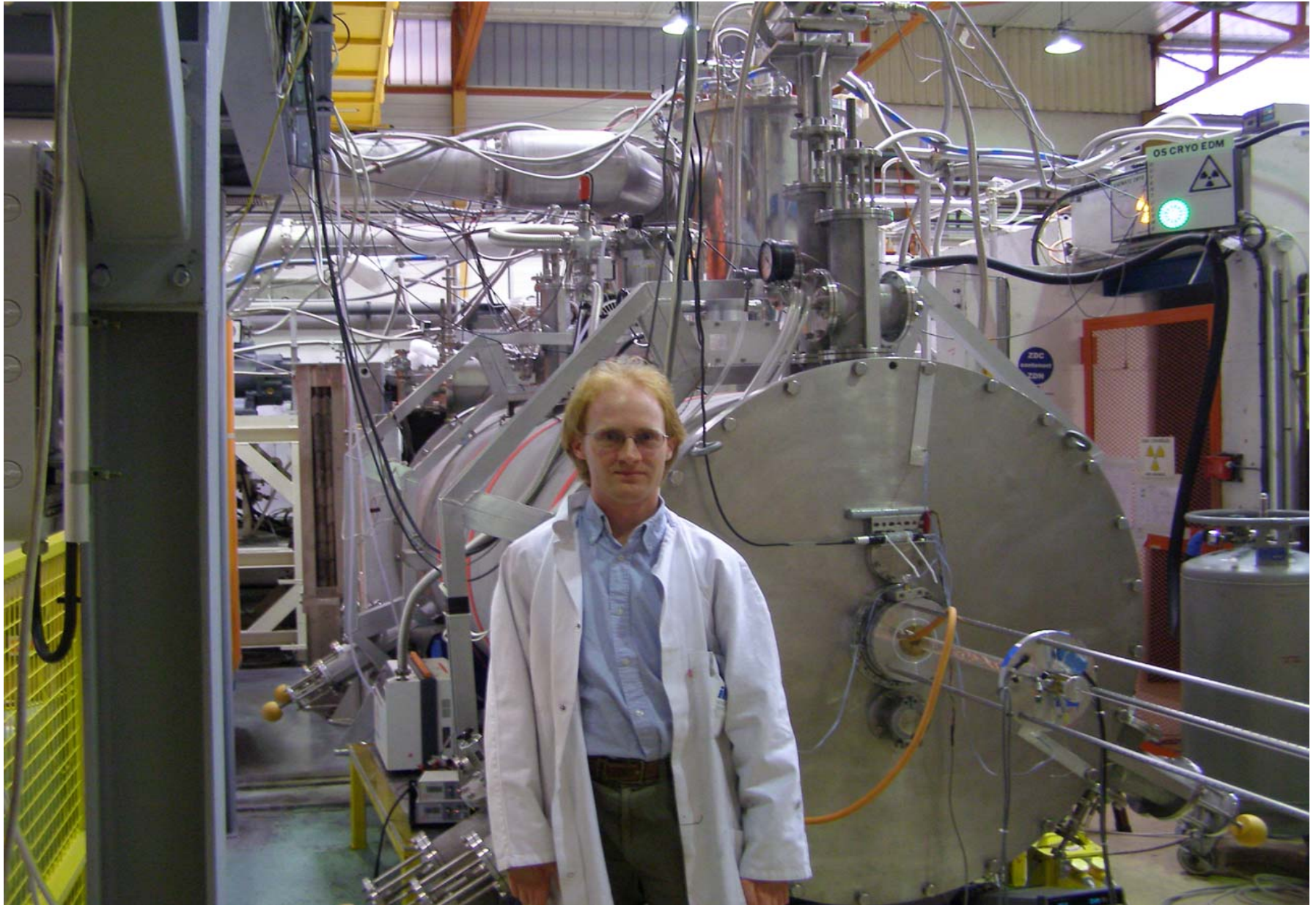




# The Cryogenic Setup



# Superconducting Shield



# Improvements on Statistics

$$\sigma_D = \frac{\hbar/2}{\alpha ET \sqrt{N}}$$

## Parameter

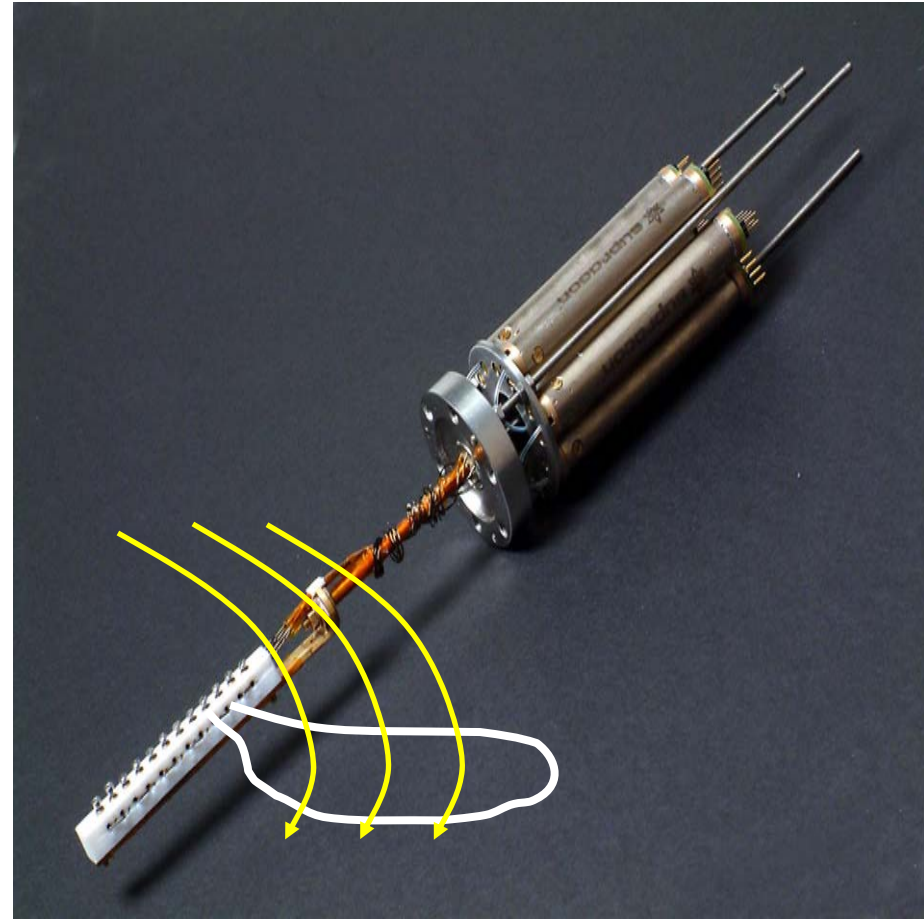
## RT Expt

## Sensitivity

- Polarisation+detection  $\alpha = 0.75$  x 1.2
- Electric field:  $E = 10^6$  V/m x 4
- Precession period:  $T = 130$  s x 2
- Neutrons counted:  $N = 6 \times 10^6$  /day x 4.5
- (with new beamline) x 2.6

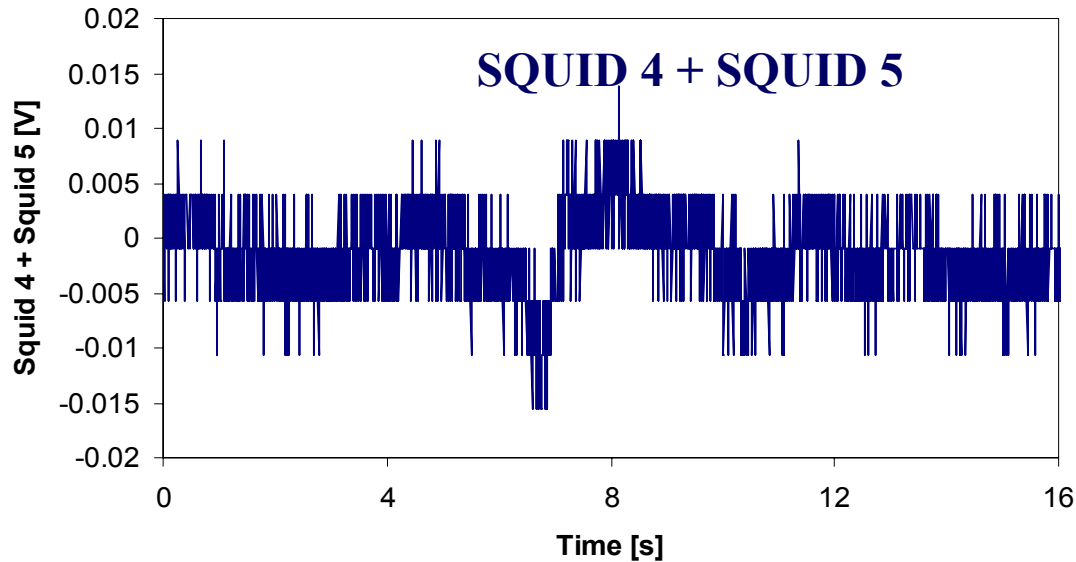
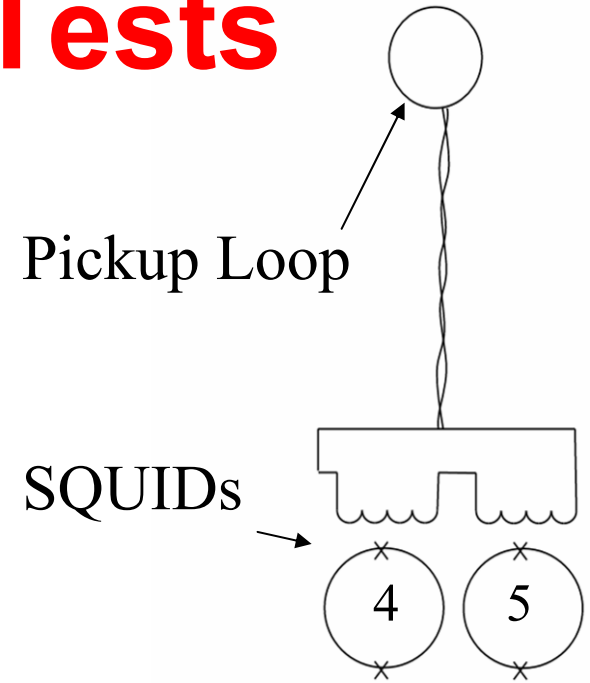
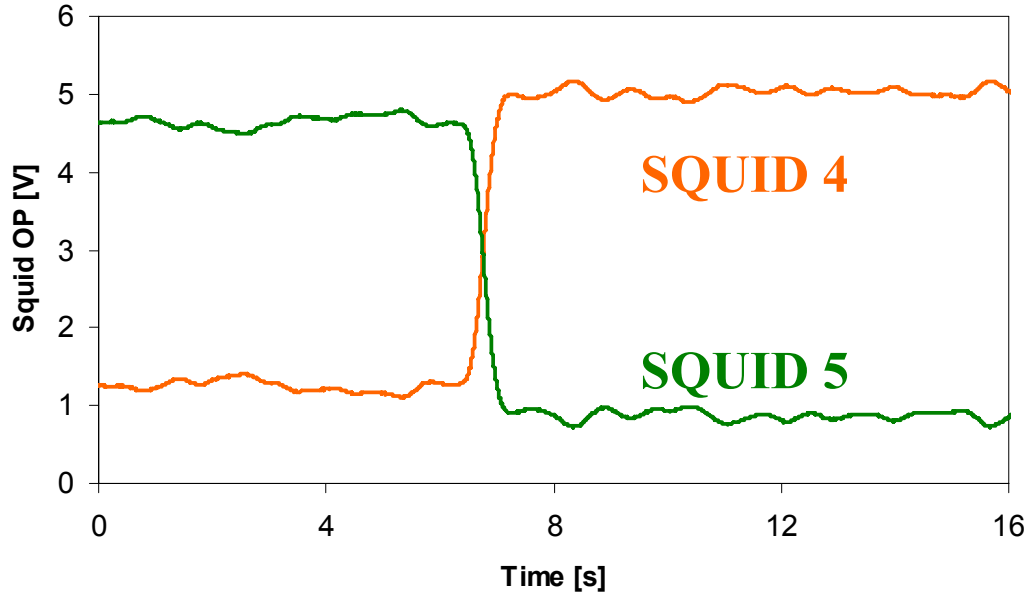
Total improvement: appr. x 100

# SQUIDS from CRESST



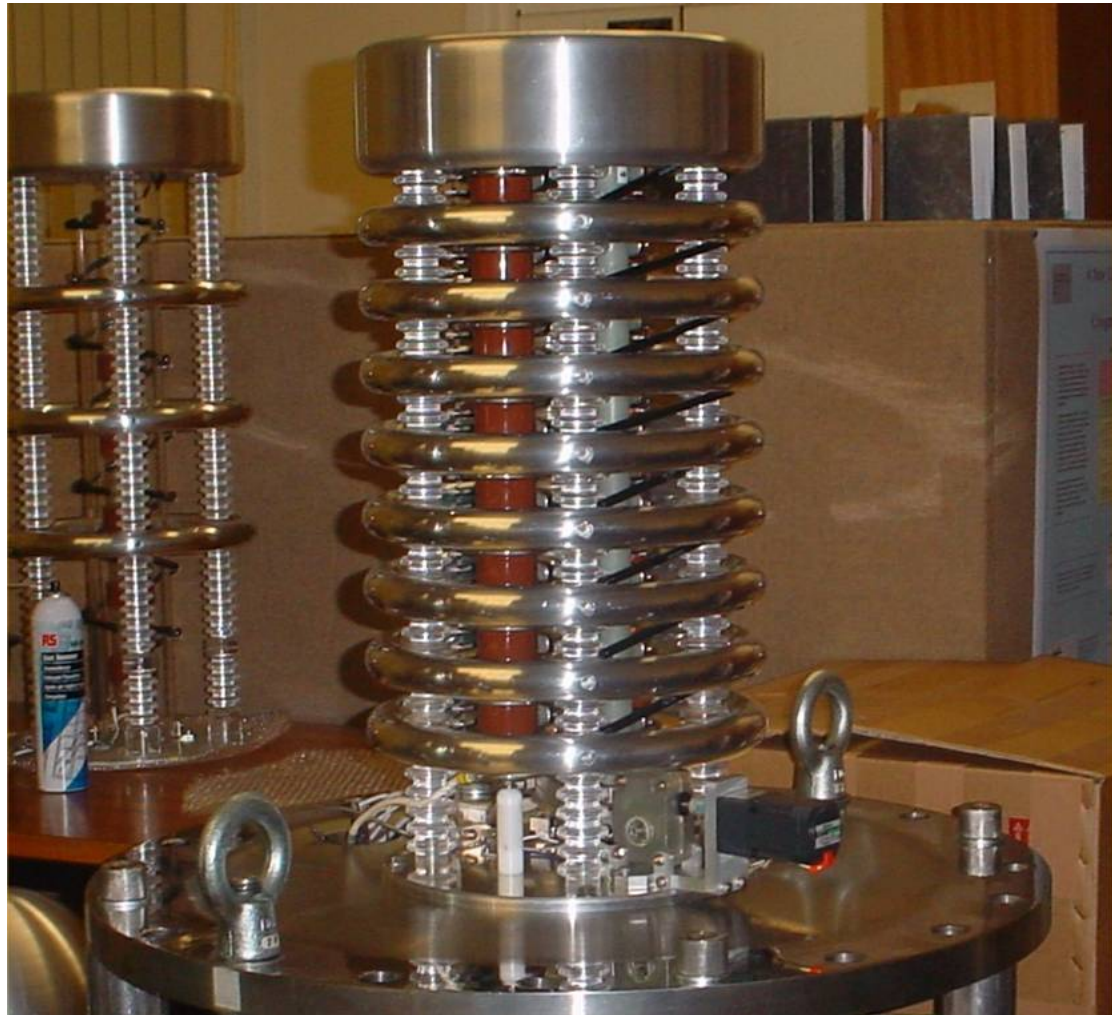
SQUIDs for Magnetometry

# Magnetometry Tests



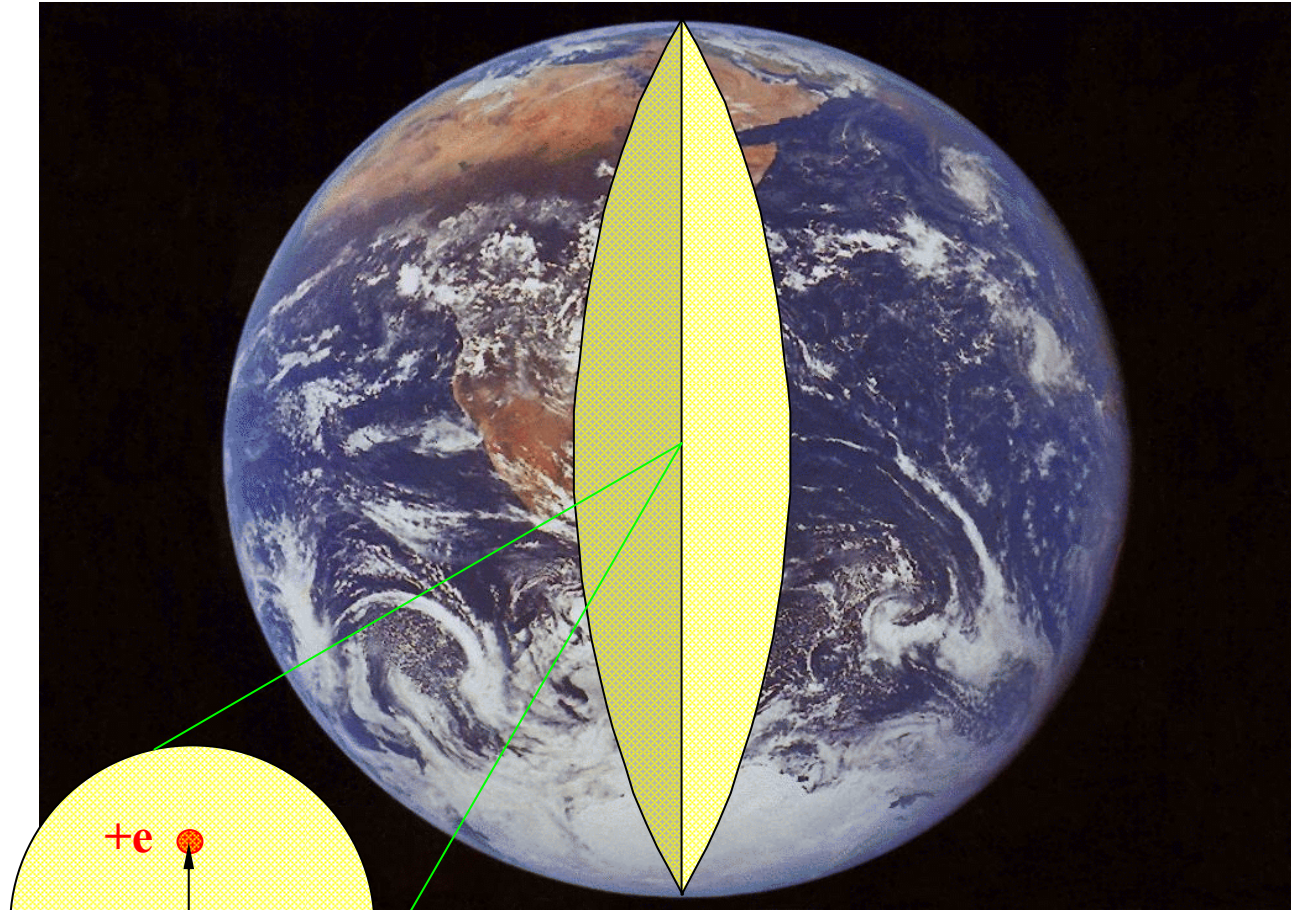
**Resolution 0.16 pT  
(1.6nG) @ 1Hz**

# Ramsey Cell and HV Stack



# Reality Check

If neutrons were the size of the Earth ...



... then current EDM limit means  
charge separation of  $\Delta x \approx 1.5 \mu\text{m}$

# Summary

- After half a century, no sign of an EDM ...
- SUSY being squeezed. Ever-tighter limits continue to constrain physics beyond SM.
- Room-temperature experiment finished.
- CryoEDM: under way with aim of  $\sim 100$  improvement in sensitivity.