

Introduction

Valentina Santoro

ESS European Spallation Source

On Behalf of the NNBAR/HIBEAM Collaboration



HighNESS is funded by the European Union Framework Programme for Research and Innovation Horizon 2020, under grant agreement 951782



The European Spallation Source



- The European Spallation Source is a neutron scattering facility under construction in Lund, in southern Sweden
- It is an international laboratory with host countries Sweden & Denmark and 11 partner countries with a total construction budget: 1843 M€₂₀₁₃
- The facility's unique capabilities will both greatly exceed and complement those of today's leading neutron sources



CONSTRUCTION START

2014

COMPLETION STATUS

79%

PERSONNEL

516

NATIONALITIES

57

IN-KIND PARTNERS

40

USER PROGRAMME BEGINS

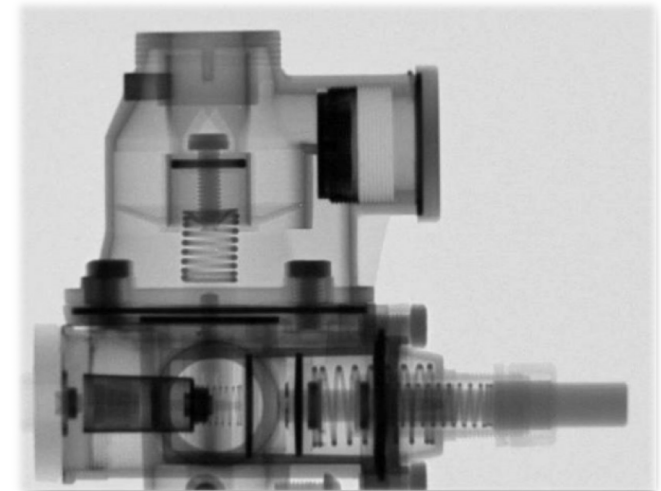
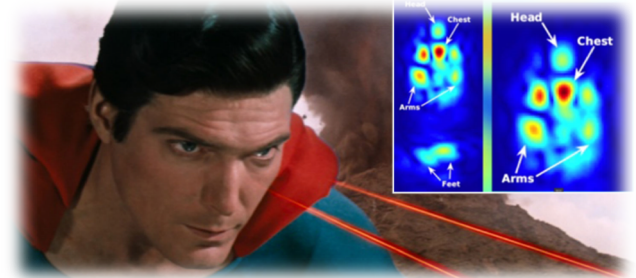
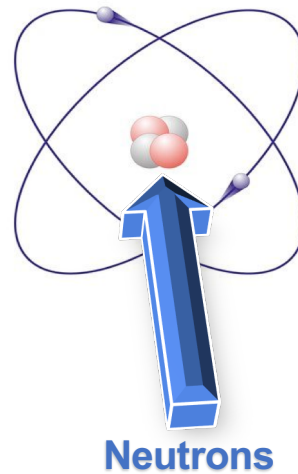
2023



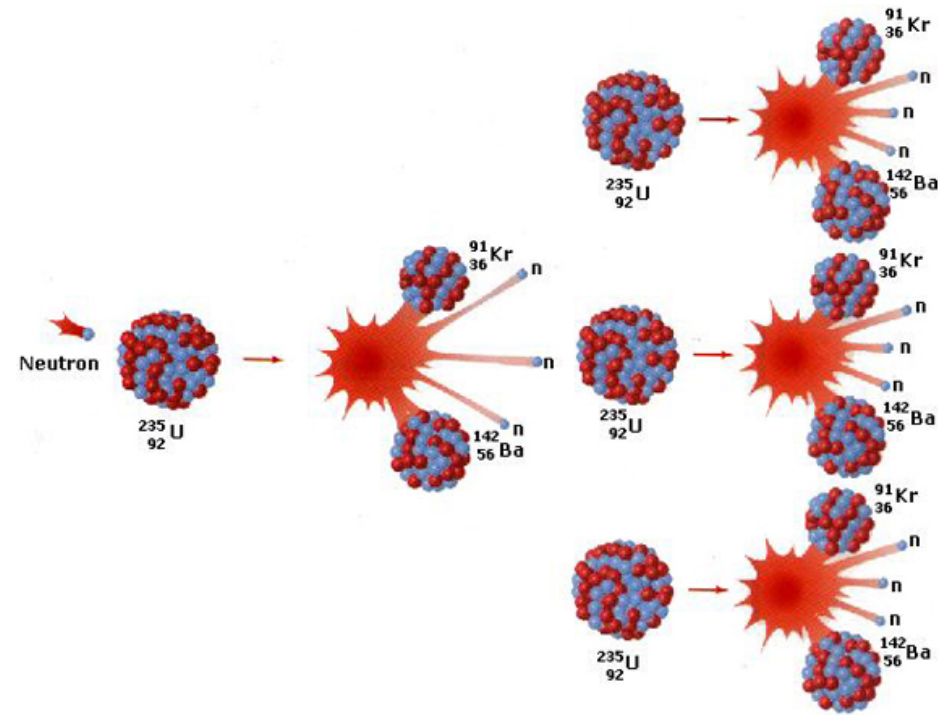
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ESS is a microscope where neutrons are used instead of light



Fission of uranium in nuclear reactor

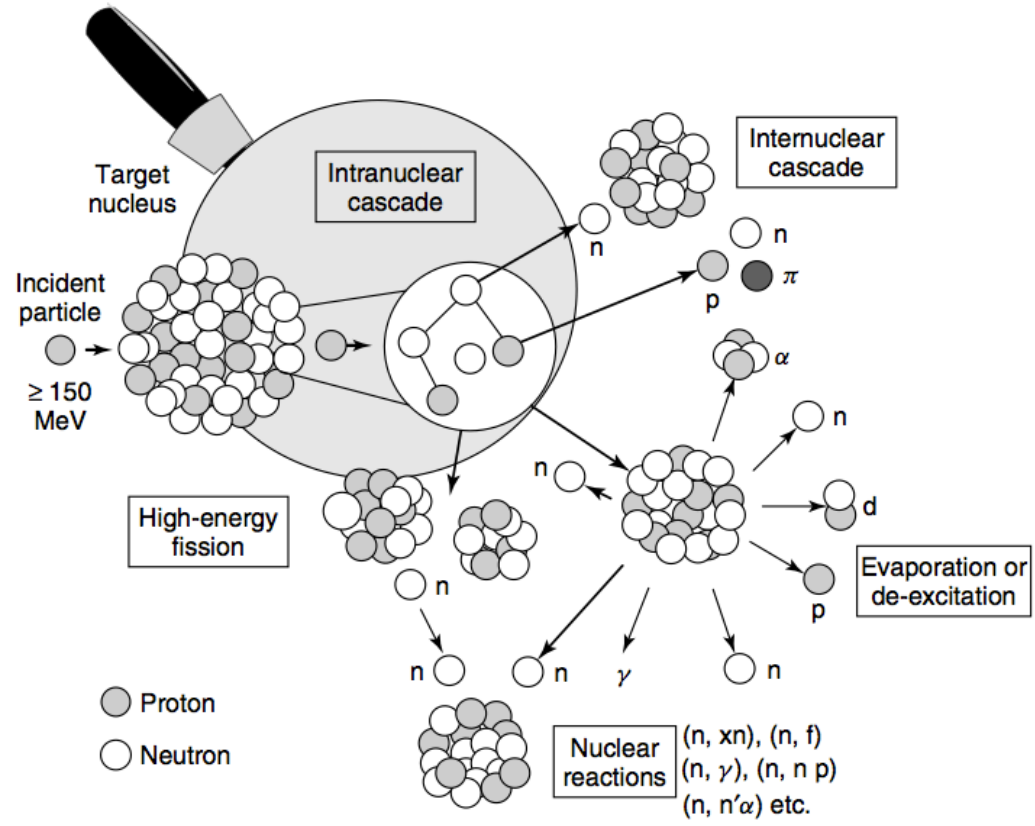


2-3 neutrons per process

Production of neutrons (II)

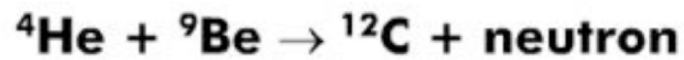
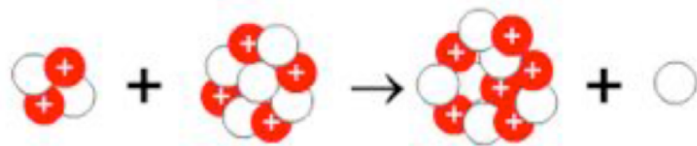


Spallation on target using proton accelerator

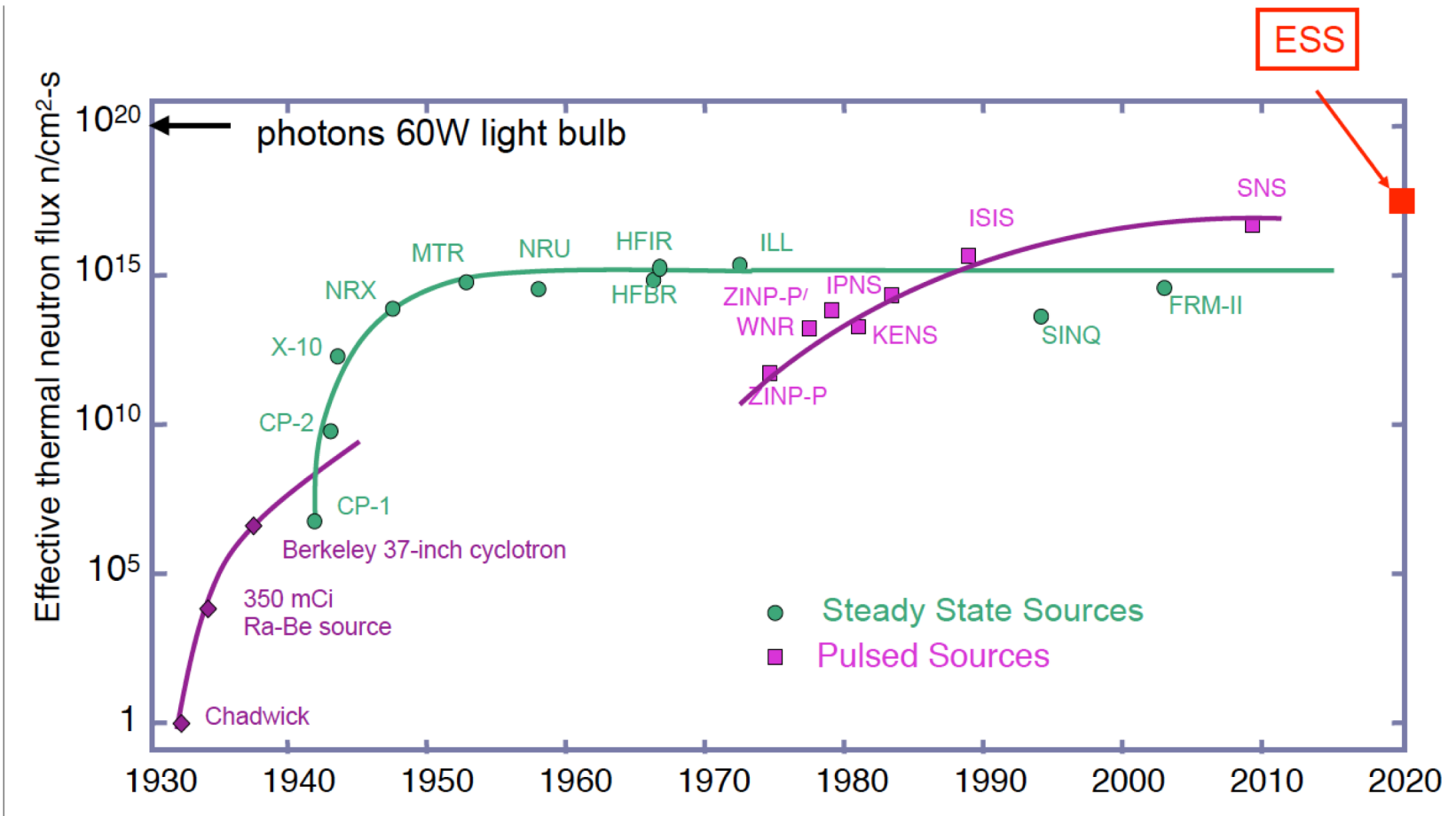


30 +
neutrons
per process

Use Polonium as alpha emitter on Beryllium



Evolution of neutron sources



(Updated from *Neutron Scattering*, K. Skold and D. L. Price, eds., Academic Press, 1986)

How does a spallation source work ?

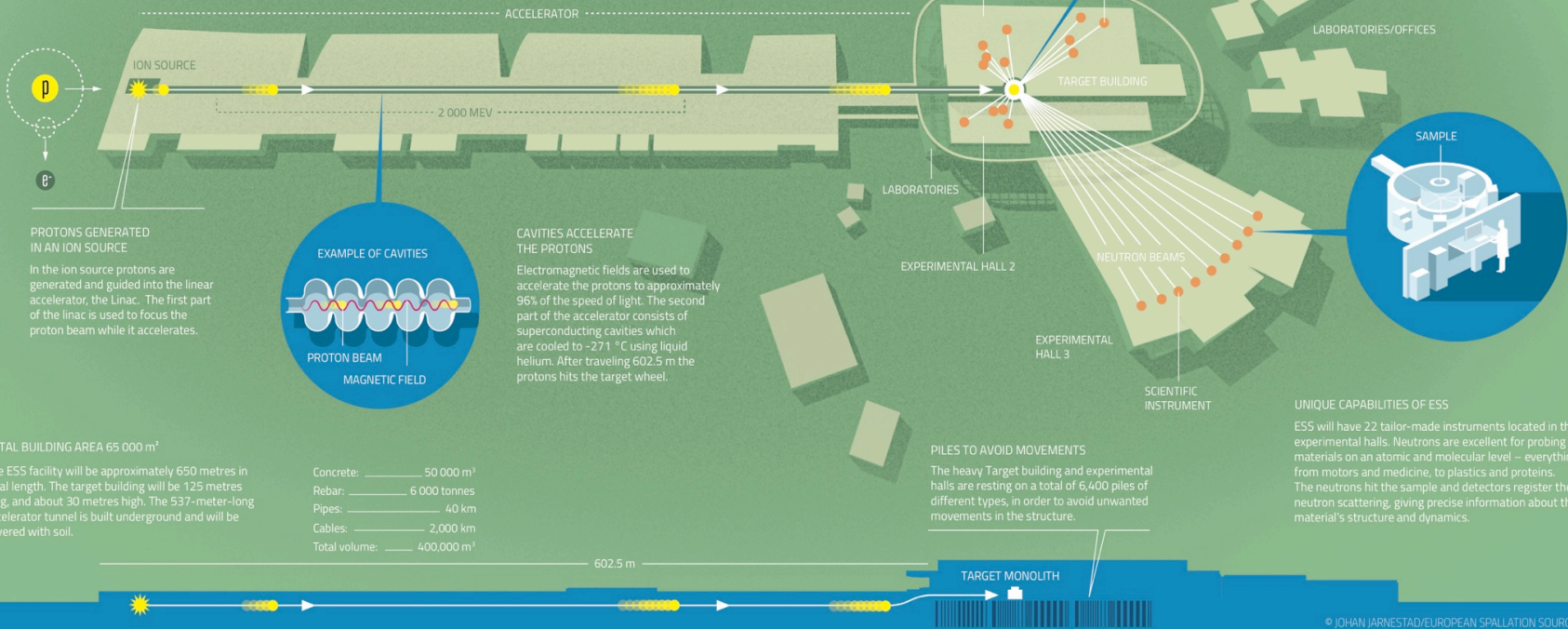
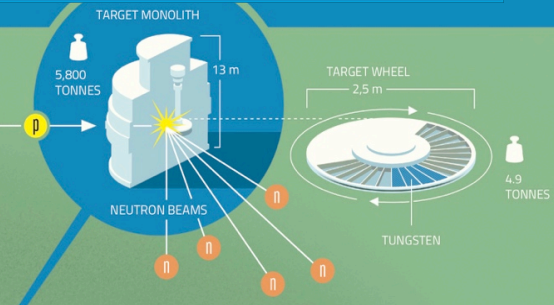


The European Spallation Source (ESS) is a multi-disciplinary research centre based on the world's most powerful neutron source. ESS will give scientists new possibilities in a broad range of research, from life science to engineering materials, from heritage conservation to magnetism. ESS is a pan-European project, with Sweden and Denmark serving as host countries. The main research facility is being built in Lund, Sweden, and the Data Management and Software Centre (DMSC) is located in Copenhagen, Denmark.

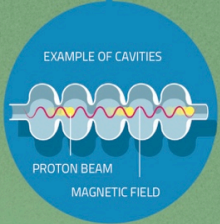


THE TARGET IS THE NEUTRON SOURCE

When the accelerated protons hit the rotating tungsten target wheel spallation occurs and neutrons are scattered from the tungsten nucleus. The more neutrons produced and collected in the target, the "brighter" the neutron source. The neutrons are directed through moderators and neutron guides to the scientific instruments where they are used for experiments. The Target monolith consists of the Target wheel, moderators, cooling systems and shielding and weighs approximately 5,800 tonnes.



PROTONS GENERATED IN AN ION SOURCE
In the ion source protons are generated and guided into the linear accelerator, the Linac. The first part of the linac is used to focus the proton beam while it accelerates.



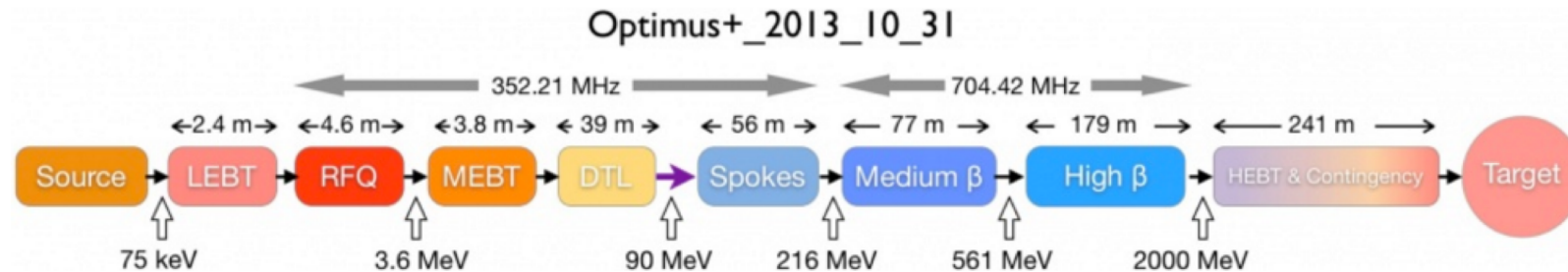
CAVITIES ACCELERATE THE PROTONS
Electromagnetic fields are used to accelerate the protons to approximately 96% of the speed of light. The second part of the accelerator consists of superconducting cavities which are cooled to -271 °C using liquid helium. After traveling 602.5 m the protons hit the target wheel.

TOTAL BUILDING AREA 65 000 m²
The ESS facility will be approximately 650 metres in total length. The target building will be 125 metres long, and about 30 metres high. The 537-metre-long accelerator tunnel is built underground and will be covered with soil.

- Concrete: 50 000 m³
- Rebar: 6 000 tonnes
- Pipes: 40 km
- Cables: 2,000 km
- Total volume: 400,000 m³

PILES TO AVOID MOVEMENTS
The heavy Target building and experimental halls are resting on a total of 6 400 piles of different types, in order to avoid unwanted movements in the structure.

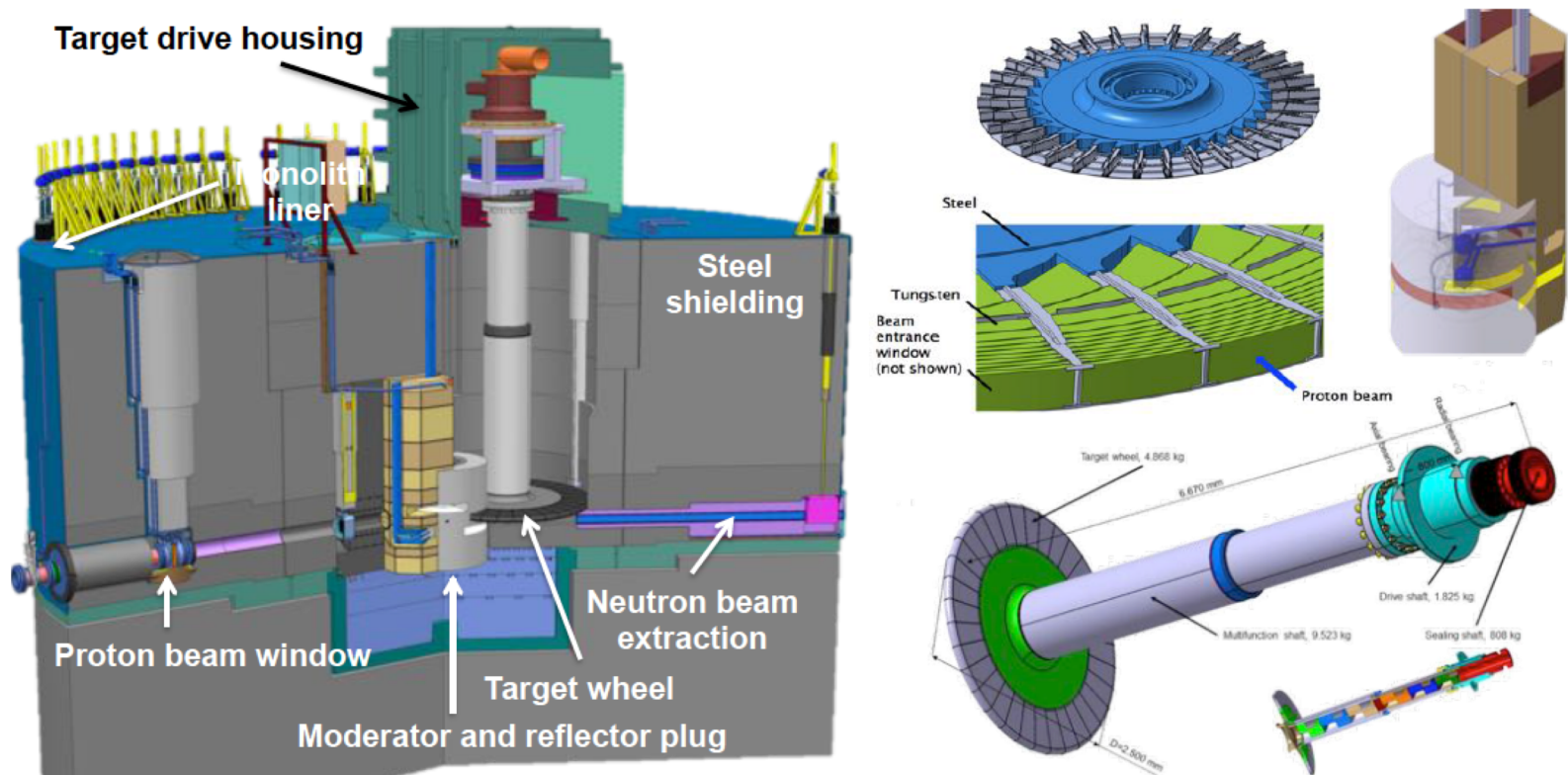
UNIQUE CAPABILITIES OF ESS
ESS will have 22 tailor-made instruments located in three experimental halls. Neutrons are excellent for probing materials on an atomic and molecular level – everything from motors and medicine, to plastics and proteins. The neutrons hit the sample and detectors register the neutron scattering, giving precise information about the material's structure and dynamics.



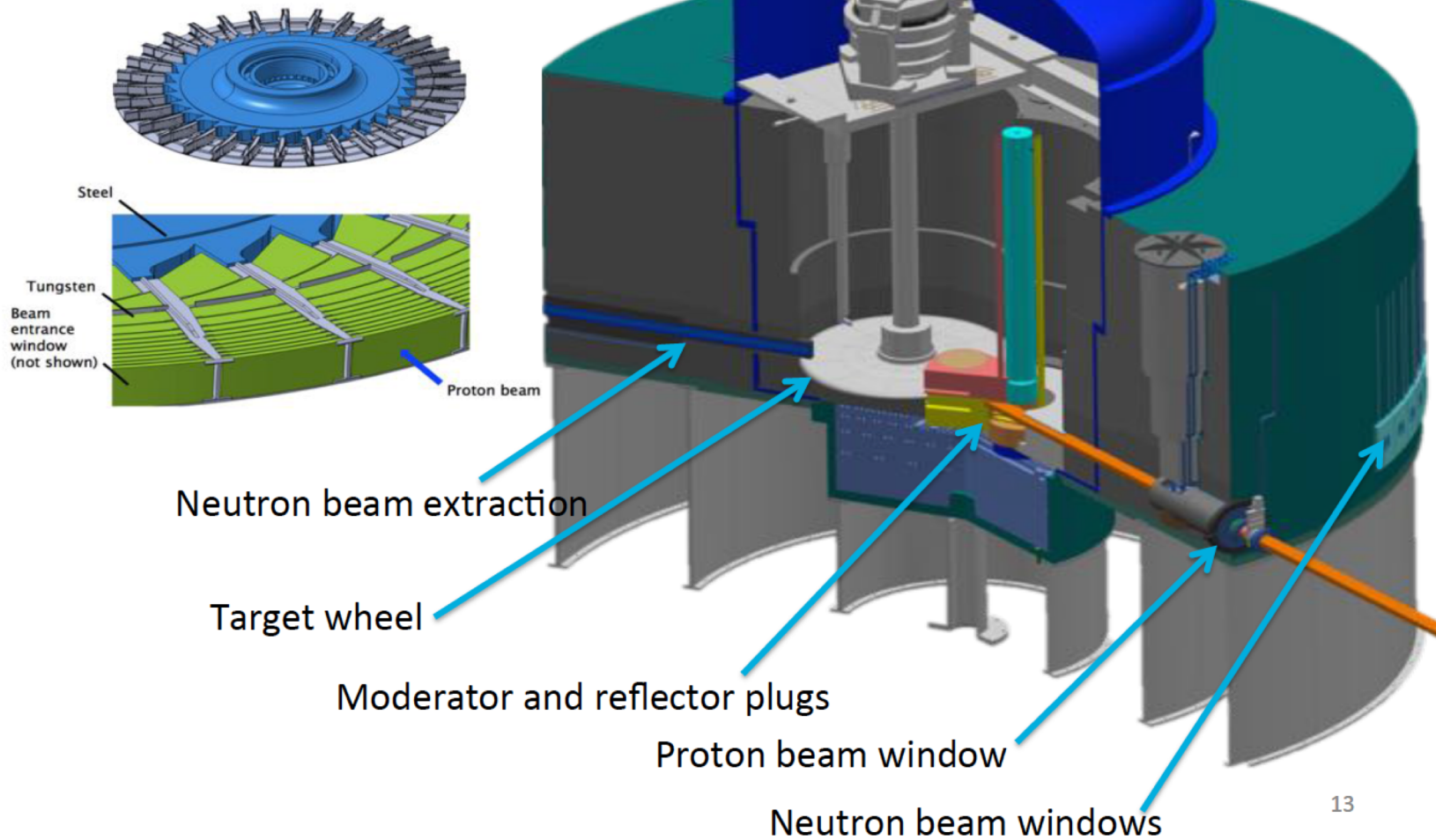
- The ion source produces a proton beam that is transported through a Low Energy Beam Transport (LEBT) section to the Radio Frequency Quadrupole (RFQ) where it is bunched and accelerated up to 3.6 MeV.
- In the Medium Energy Beam Transport (MEBT) section the transverse and longitudinal beam characteristics are diagnosed and optimized for further acceleration in the Drift Tube Linac (DTL). The first superconducting section consists of 26 double-spoke cavities (SPK) with a geometric beta value of 0.50.
- The spoke-cavities are followed by 36 Medium Beta Linac (MBL) cavities with $\beta = 0.67$ and 84 High Beta Linac (HBL) elliptical cavities, with $\beta = 0.86$. After acceleration the beam is transported to the target through the High Energy Beam Transport (HEBT) section.

ESS Target: Helium-cooled rotating tungsten target

Converting protons into neutrons and slowing them down results in ...
... peak brightness 30x times leading steady state source



The Target Monolith





Hydrogen is a very good moderator

1: ~Same mass as the neutron

=> Fewer collisions needed

2: Short mean free path

=> Smaller neutron sources

But: Hydrogen have a fairly high neutron absorption cross section.

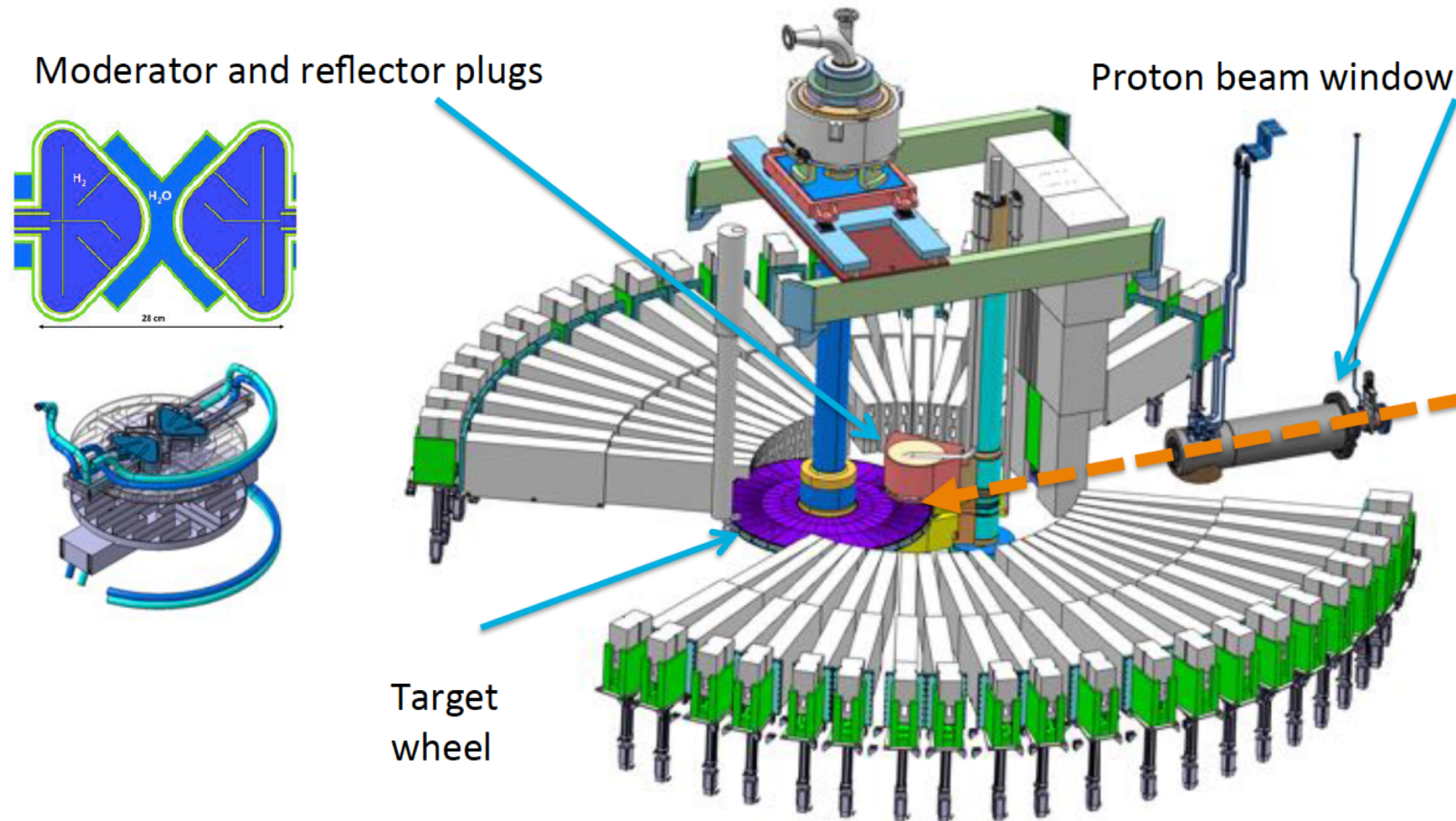
Main challenges:

1: Get the neutrons into the bucket.

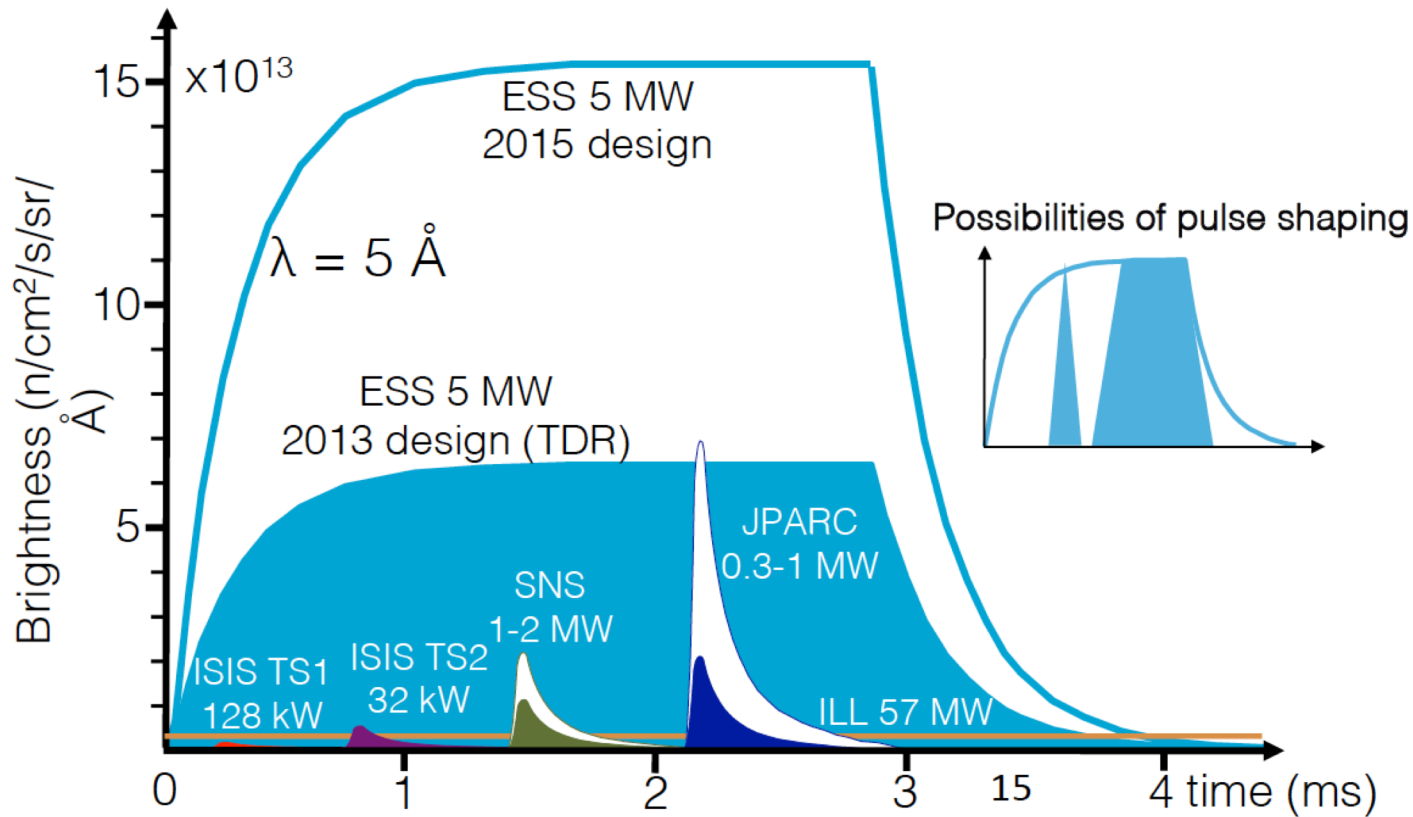
2: Moderate them.

3: Get the neutrons out of the bucket.

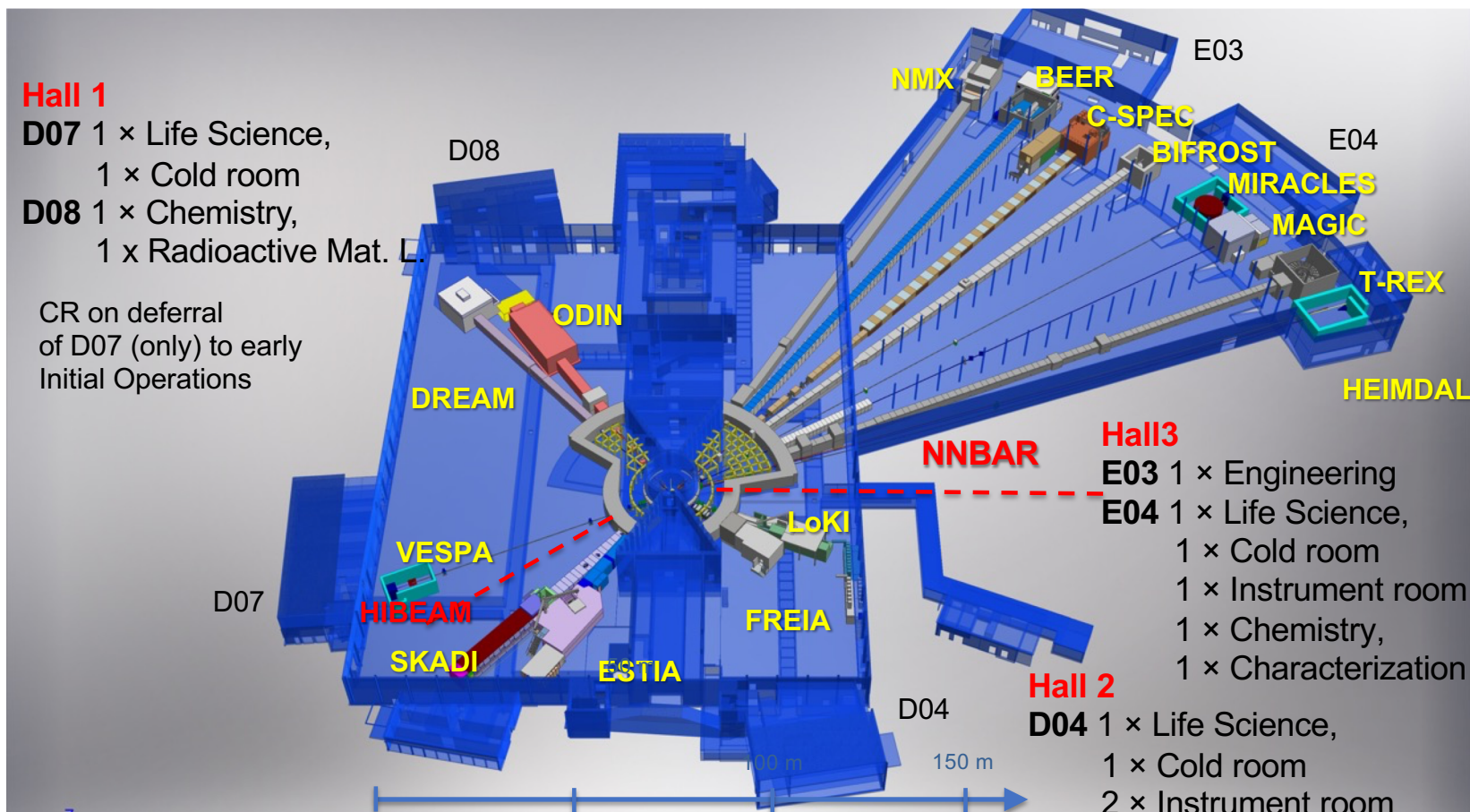
Neutron Beam extraction inside Target Monolith



The unique ESS long pulse



more neutrons per second than any steady state source ...
 ... with higher brightness than any other spallation source





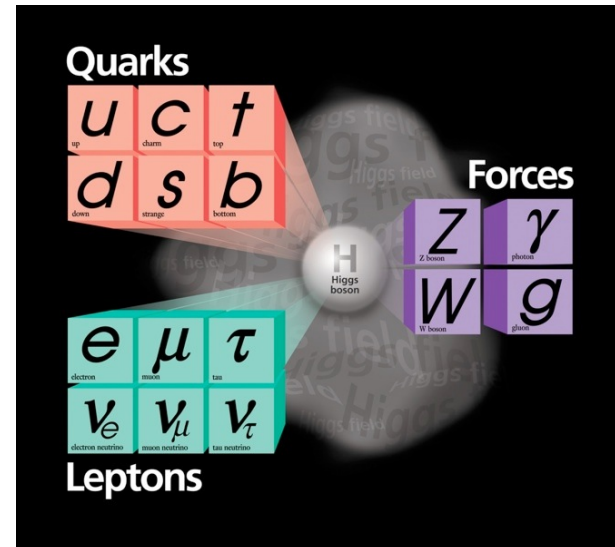
Why fundamental physics at
ESS?

Standard Model Today (I)



Nobel Prize in Physics 2013

- Higgs discovery completes the Standard Model
- Fully consistent, complete, precise description of strong, electromagnetic and weak interactions
- Even generate fermion masses

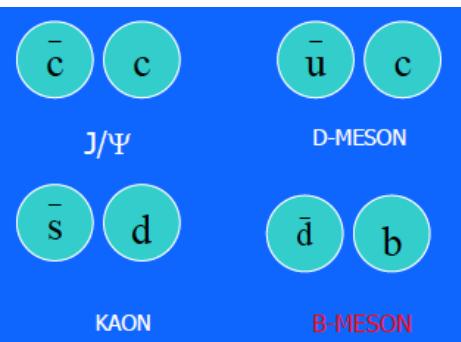
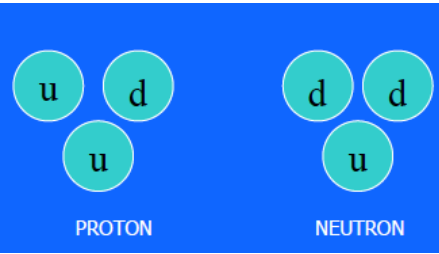


Standard Model Today (II)

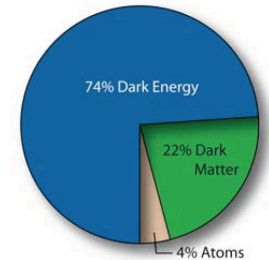


Quarks	<i>u</i> up	<i>c</i> charm	<i>t</i> top	<i>g</i> gluon	Force Carriers
	<i>d</i> down	<i>s</i> strange	<i>b</i> bottom		
Leptons	<i>ν_e</i> <i>e</i> neutrino	<i>ν_μ</i> <i>μ</i> neutrino	<i>ν_τ</i> <i>τ</i> neutrino	<i>W</i> <i>W</i> boson	
	<i>e</i> electron	<i>μ</i> muon	<i>τ</i> tau	<i>Z</i> <i>Z</i> boson	
	I	II	III	← Generations	

- With quarks you can build baryons (qqq) or mesons (q \bar{q})
- You can build stable particles using 1st generation of quarks (neutrons, protons)
- Unstable particles using heavy 2nd and 3rd generation

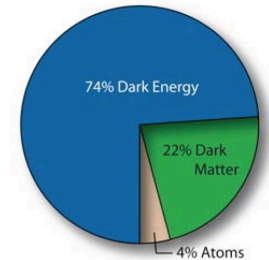


- Why the neutrinos have mass?
- What is dark matter?
- Why is there so much matter in the universe?
- Why is the expansion of the universe accelerating?
- Is there a particle associated with the force of gravity?

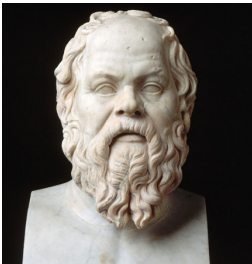


<https://www.symmetrymagazine.org/article/five-mysteries-the-standard-model-cant-explain>

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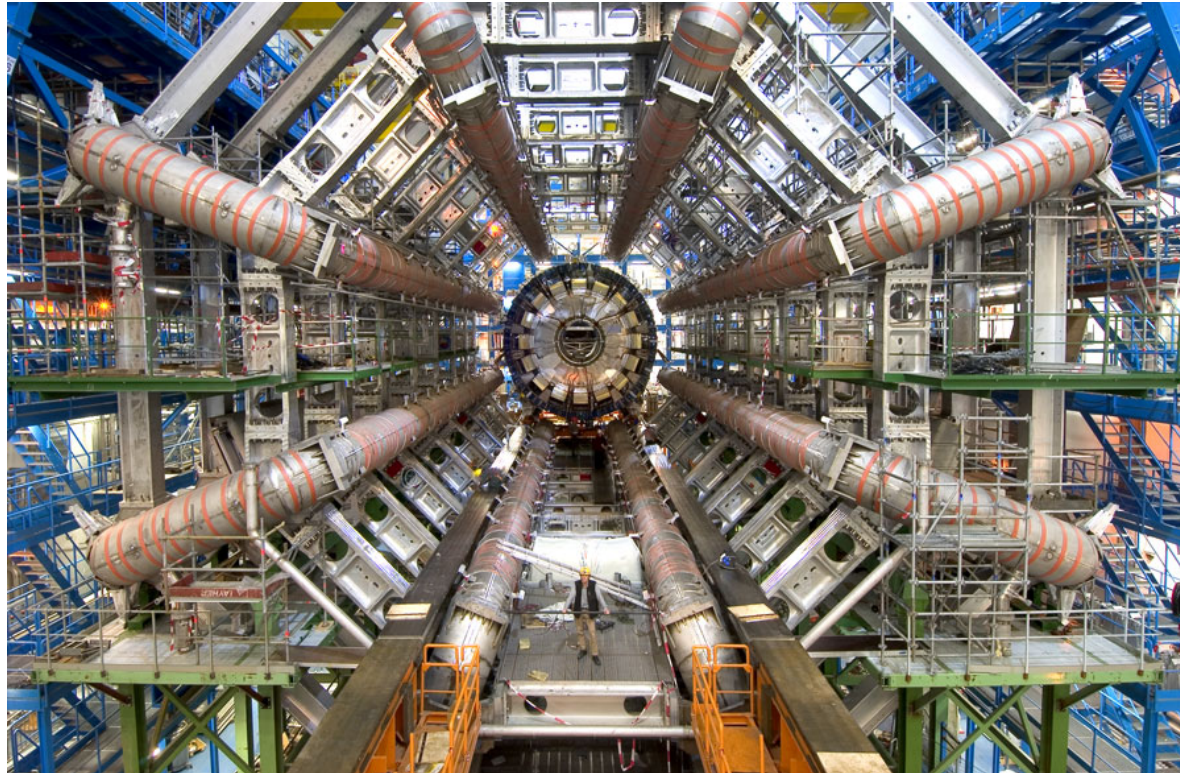


<https://www.symmetrymagazine.org/article/five-mysteries-the-standard-model-cant-explain>



“The only true wisdom is in knowing you know nothing”
Socrates

To answer all the present questions people built LHC



- The Higgs is found.
- Lots of questions are still unanswered

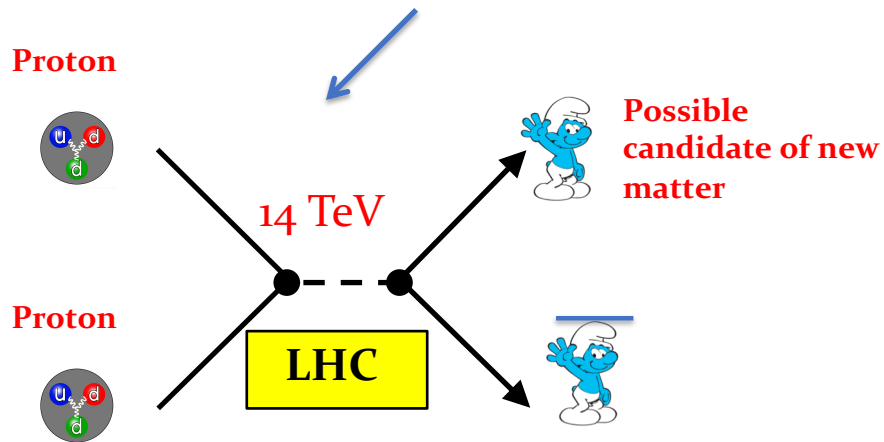
- We are living in an interesting time
- ESS fundamental physics measurements can be complementary and competitive with LHC measurements



The way to find Beyond the Standard Model physics

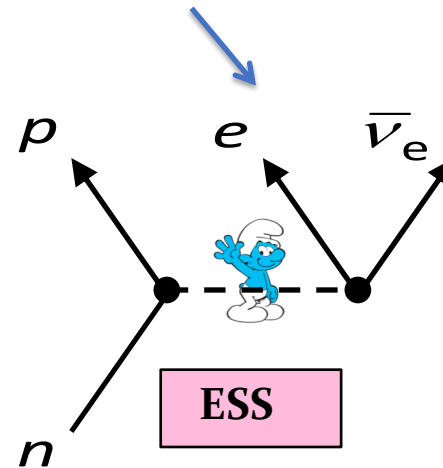
Direct Searches

Produce new particles as real particles in pp collisions



Indirect Searches

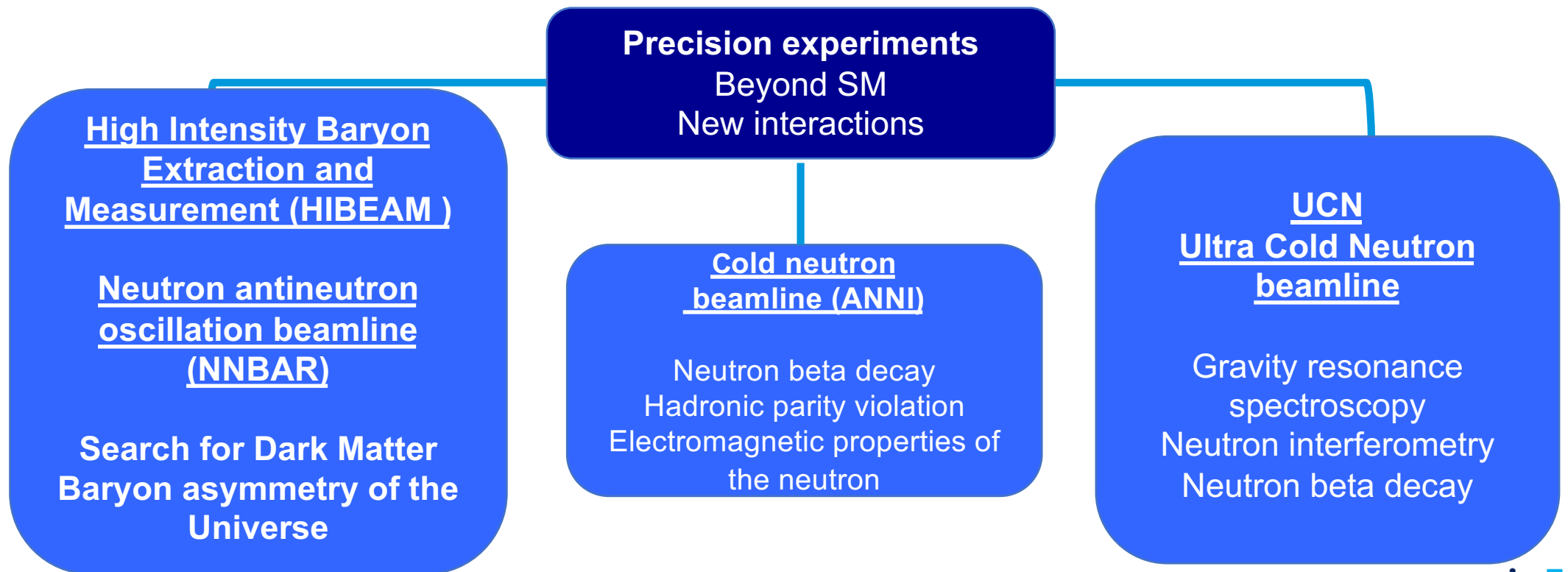
New particles will appear as virtual particles in quantum loops



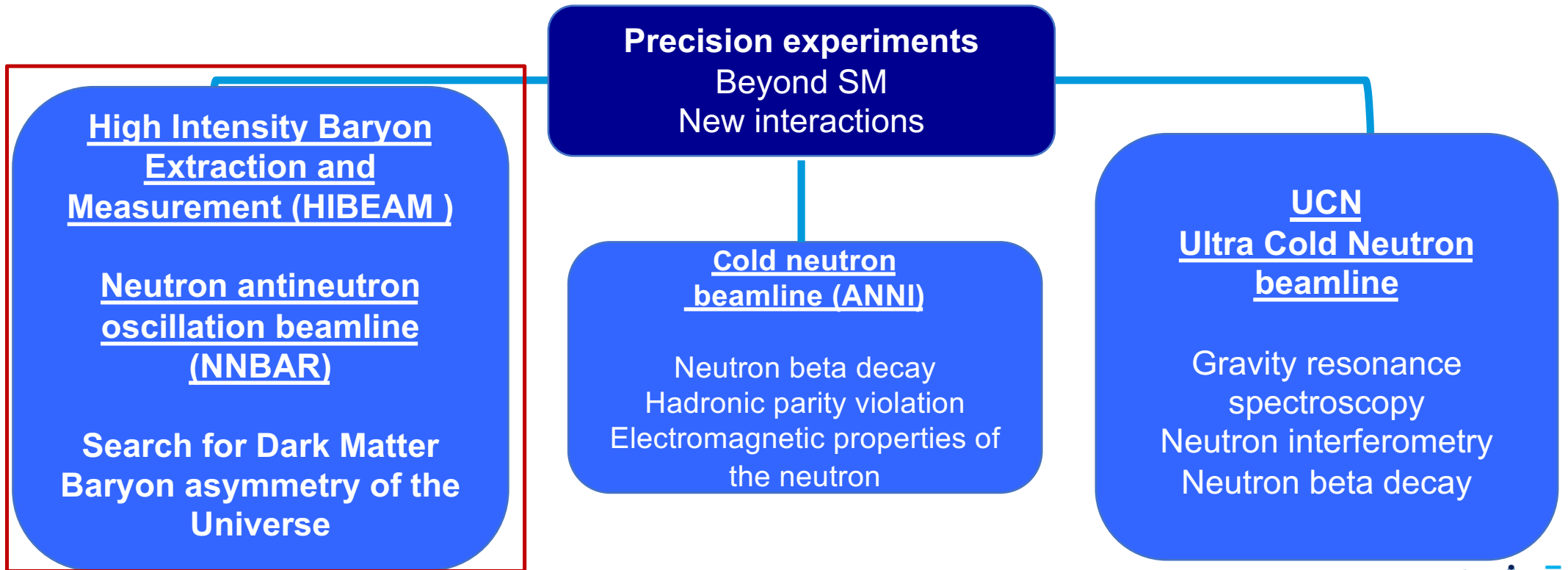
An aerial photograph of the ESS (European Spallation Source) facility, showing a large complex of buildings, parking lots, and a curved concrete structure. The facility is surrounded by green fields and a road. The text "Indirect searches for New Physics is the key of the Fundamental and particle physics at ESS" is overlaid in white on the central part of the image.

Indirect searches for New
Physics is the key of the
Fundamental and particle
physics at ESS

- In addition to neutron scattering the higher intensity and the pulse structure of ESS provide new possibilities for fundamental physics research with neutrons



- In addition to neutron scattering the higher intensity and the pulse structure of ESS provide new possibilities for fundamental physics research with neutrons
- The ESS mandate includes a fundamental physics program, and the current lack of an appropriate beamline for fundamental physics has been identified as one of the most important missing capabilities



Free Neutron Oscillations Searches at the ESS

(The HIBEM and the NNBAR program)

Valentina Santoro

ESS European Spallation Source

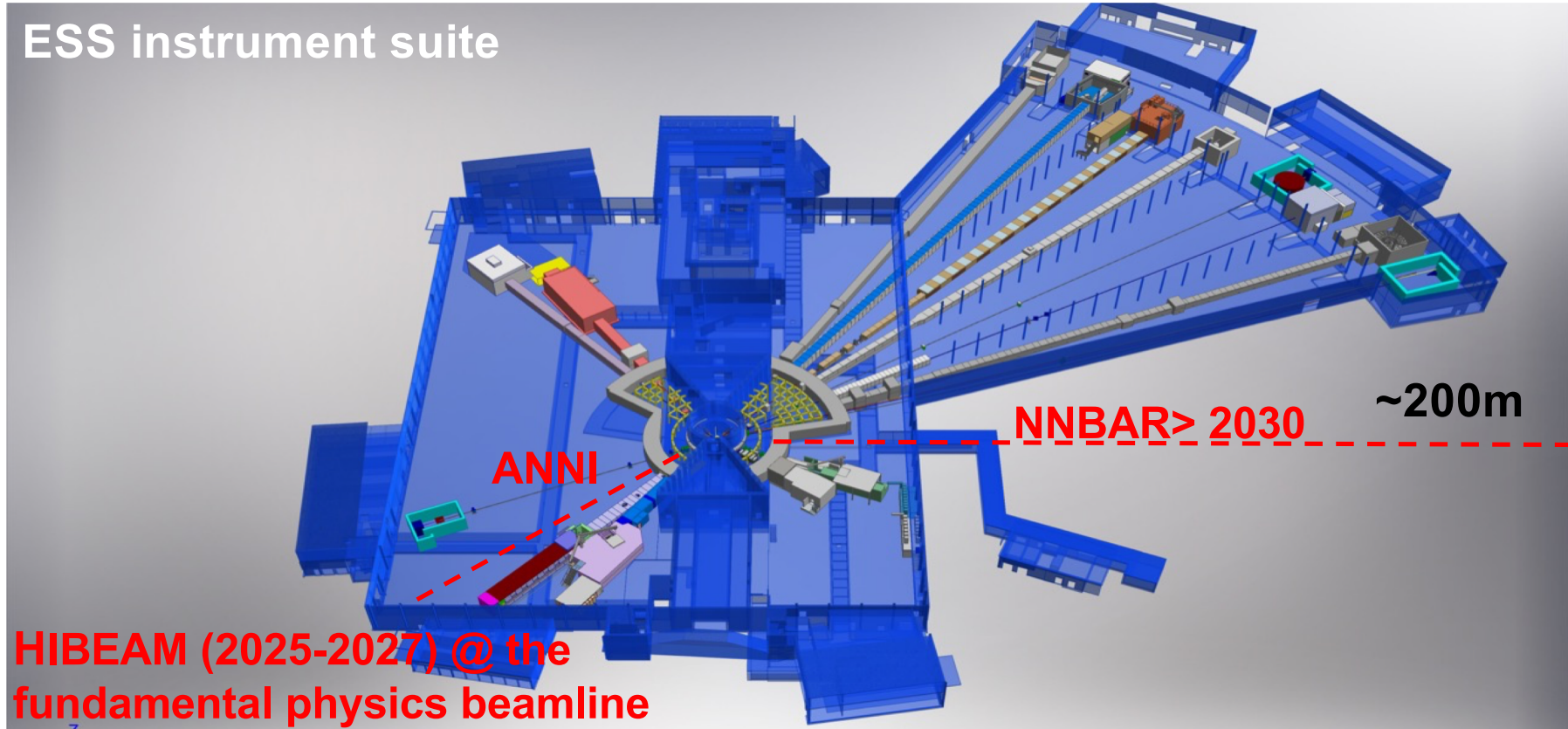
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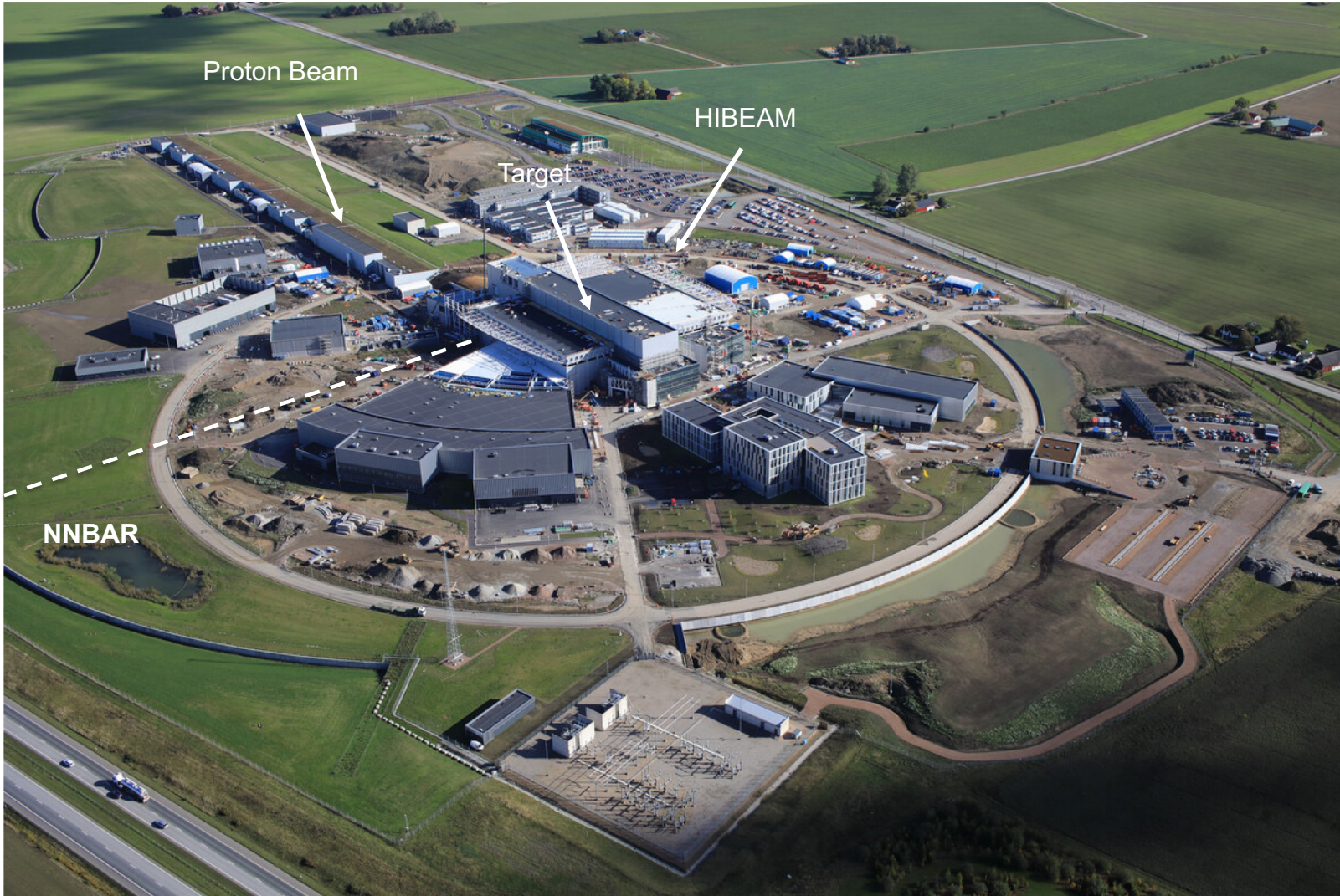
ESS instrument suite



Two stage program:

- HIBEAM (≥ 2025): smaller program of complementary experiments (focus on sterile neutron searches)
- NNBAR (> 2030): search for $n \rightarrow \bar{n}$ oscillations (sensitivity increase of 10^3 compared to previous experiments)





Despite its success the standard model it is known to be incomplete ...

- There is a number of key questions for which it is unable to provide answers, such as the nature of dark matter and the origin of the matter-antimatter asymmetry or baryogenesis.
- Free Neutron oscillation searches address both these problems in a unique and innovative way.
- The novel experiments proposed at ESS will search for processes that are forbidden in the SM
 - neutrons converting to sterile neutrons (HIBEAM)
 - neutrons converting to anti-neutrons via sterile neutrons (HIBEAM)
 - neutrons converting directly to anti-neutrons (NNBAR)

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} Address the nature of the dark matter problem

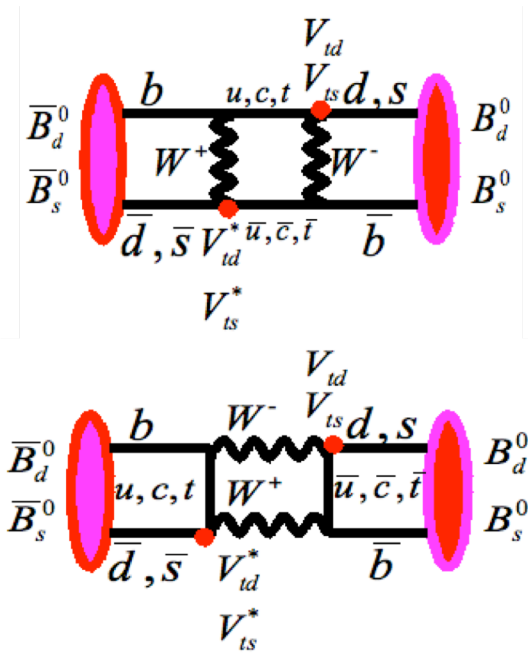
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 - neutrons converting directly to anti-neutrons (NNBAR)
- Address the nature of the dark matter problem
- Baryogenesis

The power of oscillations



- Neutral particle oscillations have played large role in particle physics
 - K^0 - \bar{K}^0 oscillations ($\Delta S = 2$) at the core of our initial understanding of CP-violation
 - B meson oscillations ($\Delta B_{\text{Beauty}} = 2$):
 - Sensitive to CKM elements
 - CP-violation "workhorse"
 - Probe m_t^2/m_W^2
 - First indication of large top mass! (1987)
 - Neutrinos oscillations which shows that the neutrinos have mass.
- **Sensitive probes of high mass scales**





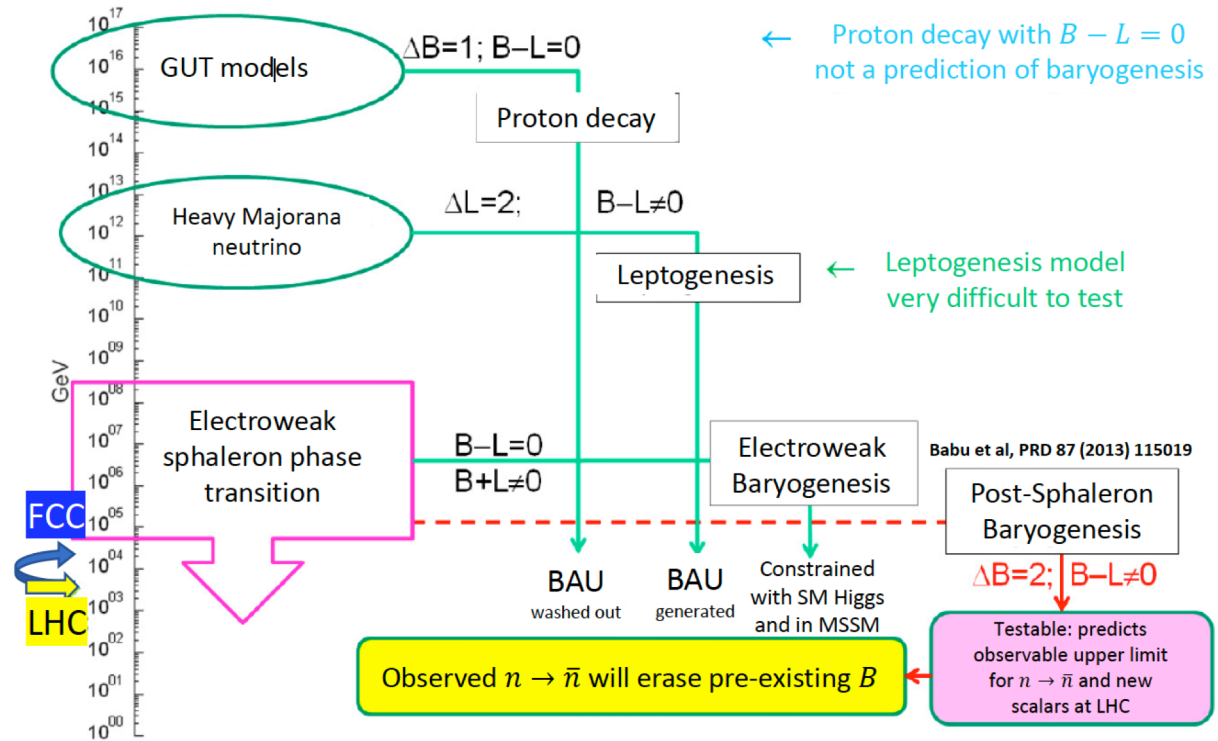
- BN is an “accidental” global symmetry at perturbative level
 - BNV in SM non-perturbatively (eg instantons)
 - $B-L$ is conserved, not B , L separately.
- Baryon number is expected to be violated: Sakharov condition for baryogenesis
- BNV generic features of SM extensions (eg SUSY, extra dimensions ...)
- Important to probe possible BNV channels
- HIBEAM will search for $n \rightarrow n' \rightarrow \bar{n}$ ($|\Delta B| = 1$) neutrons to sterile neutron transitions
- NNBAR experiment will search for $n \rightarrow \bar{n}$ ($|\Delta B| = 2$)

Sensitivity increase of 10^3 compared to previous experiments

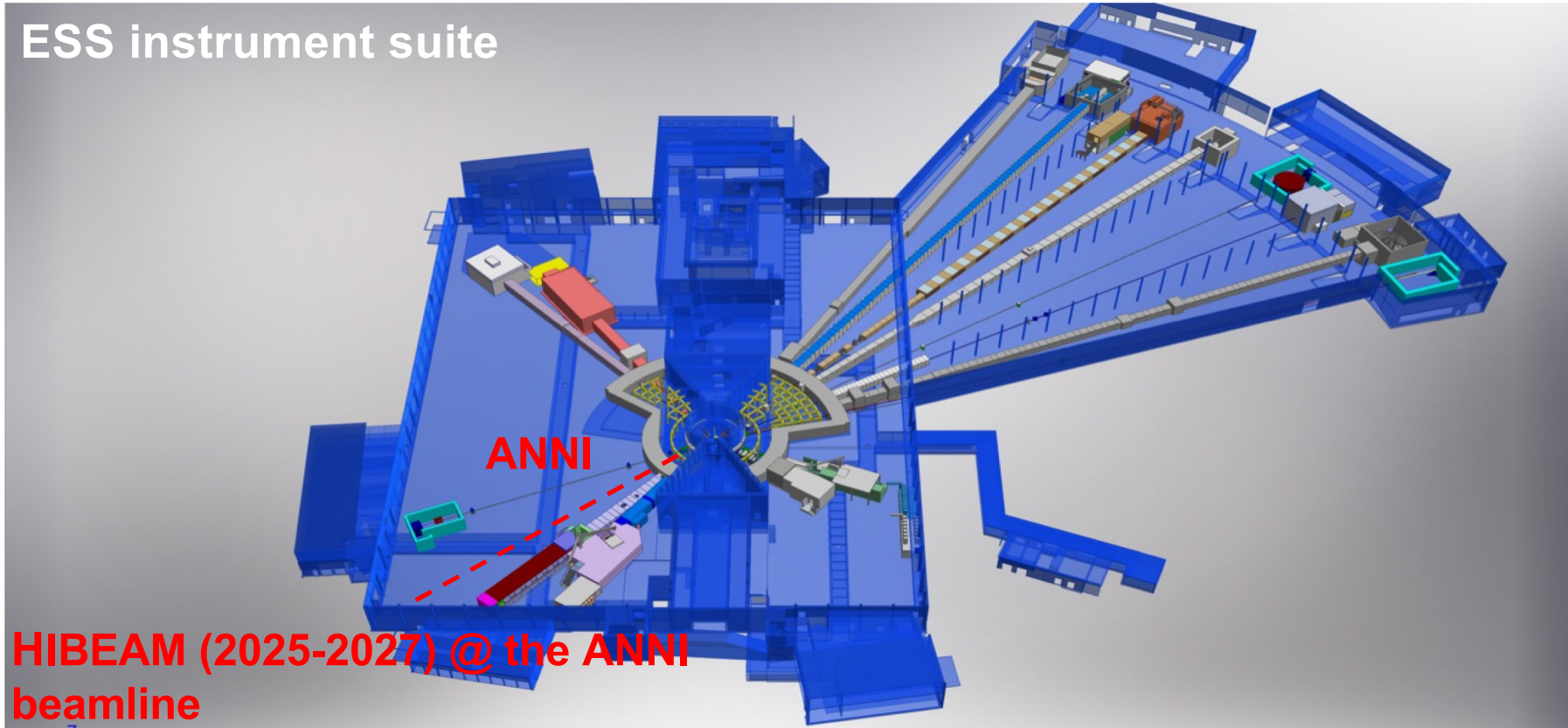
New high-sensitivity searches for neutrons converting into antineutrons and/or sterile neutrons at the HIBEAM/NNBAR experiment at the European Spallation Source *A Addazi et al 2021 J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. 48 070501*



- Regimes for baryogenesis
- Leptogenesis: Sphalerons convert L into B
 - Electroweak baryogenesis: T violation near EW scale creates B without L
 - Post-sphaleron baryogenesis: New BNV process below EW phase transition
 - $n \rightarrow \bar{n}$ targets accessible energy scales. Null result will restrict phase space of PSB models



ESS instrument suite



HIBEAM (≥ 2025): Search for Sterile Neutron transitions
HIBEAM will make use of the ANNI beamline



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DARK Matter

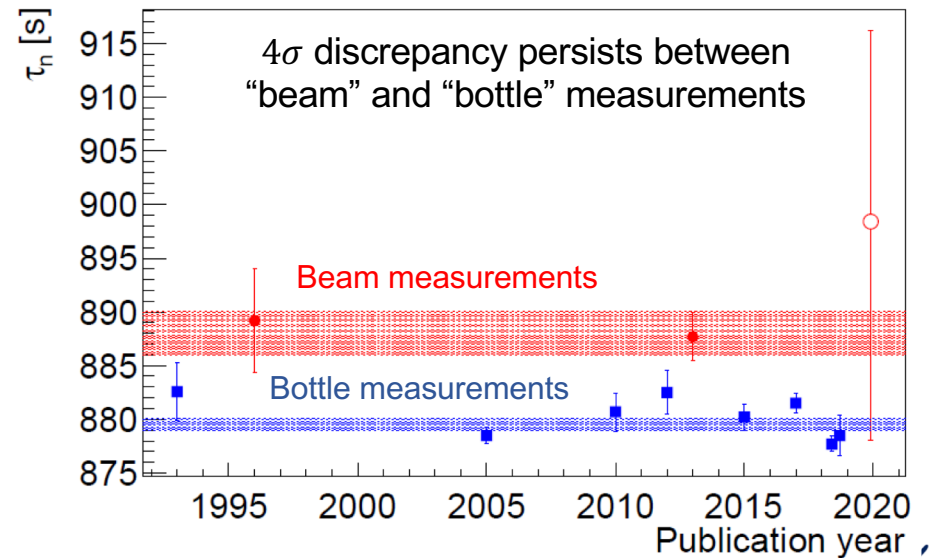
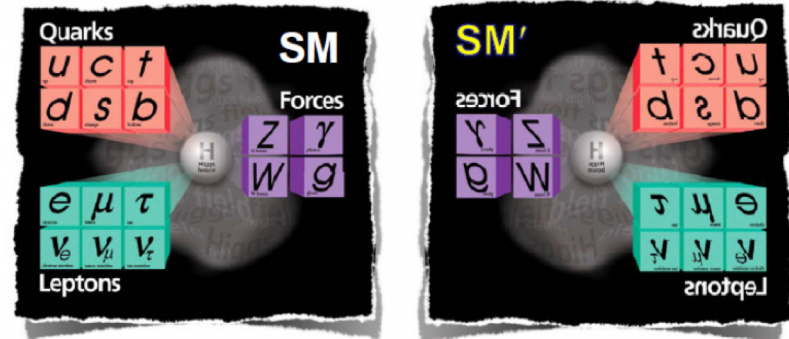
- **What is the nature of dark matter?**
- **The fact that our astronomical observations are not sufficiently well described by the SM is unquestioned.**
- **The existence of a dark sector, interacting primarily gravitationally with our familiar visible sector, has long been postulated to explain astronomical data**
- **Such dark sector is assumed to have particles having interactions similar to our own SM interactions, sterile neutrinos and sterile baryons**
- **In principle, observable portals onto such a sector can occur via mixing phenomena between any stable or meta-stable electrically neutral particles, allowing for conversion into a dark partner particle.**

- As a meta-stable neutral particle, the neutron is one of the few possible portals to a hidden/dark sector. (e.g. mirror matter and generic dark sectors)

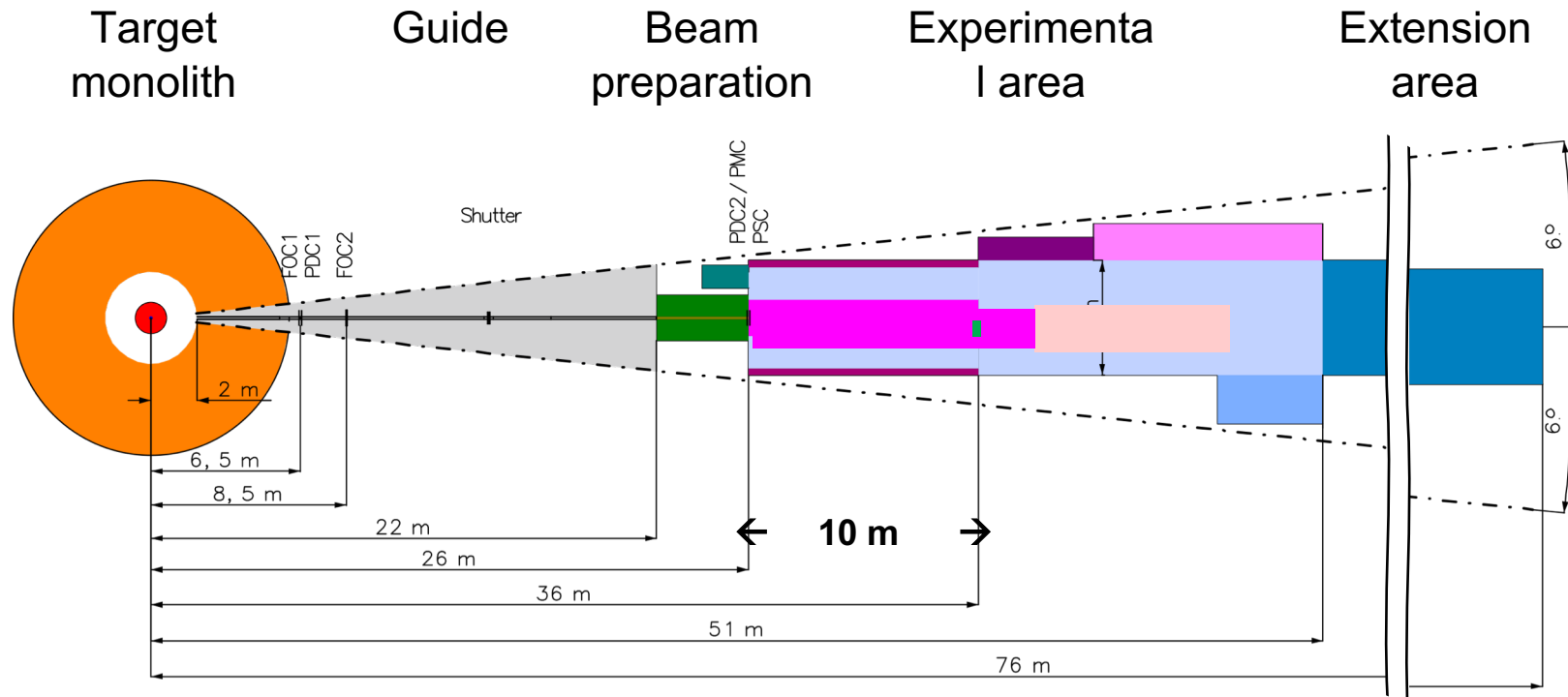
- Z. Berezhiani, Phys. Rev. Lett. 96 (2006) 081801
- Z. Berezhiani, arXiv:hep-ph/0508233 (2005)
- R. Foot, Int. J. Mod. Phys. A29 (2014) 1430013
- Z. Berezhiani, Int. J. Mod. Phys. A29 (2014) 3775-3806

- n mixing with dark sector n' : relatively unexplored experimentally
- These transitions can also shed light on the anomaly between neutron

lifetime in "beam" and "bottle" [EPJC 79, 484 \(2019\)](#)

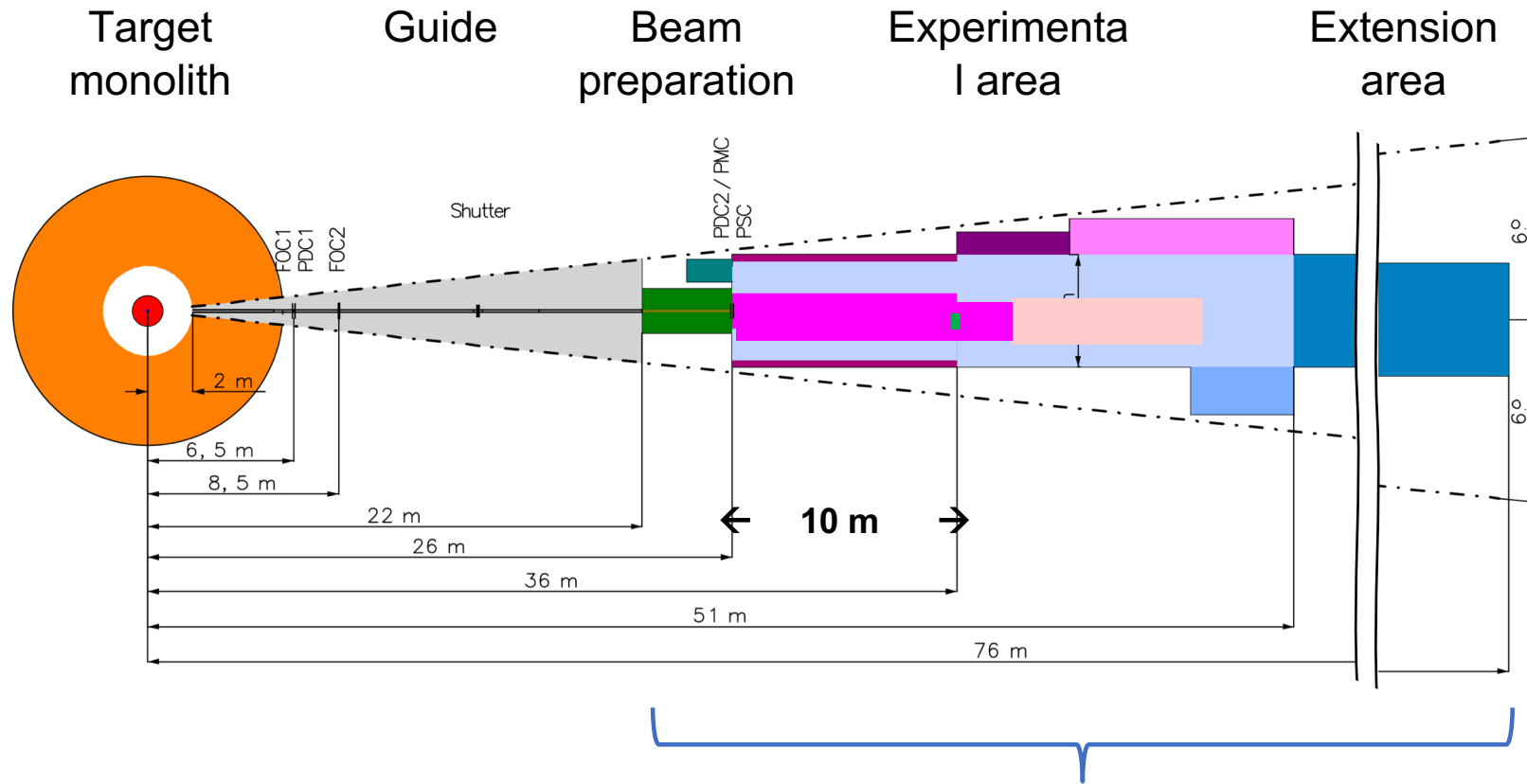


The ESS Fundamental Physics Beam Line: ANNI



Apart from HIBEAM there are several other experiments planned at the ANNI beamline (EDM searches, neutron beta decay correlation coefficients, hadronic weak interaction ecc..)

The ESS Fundamental Physics Beam Line: ANNI

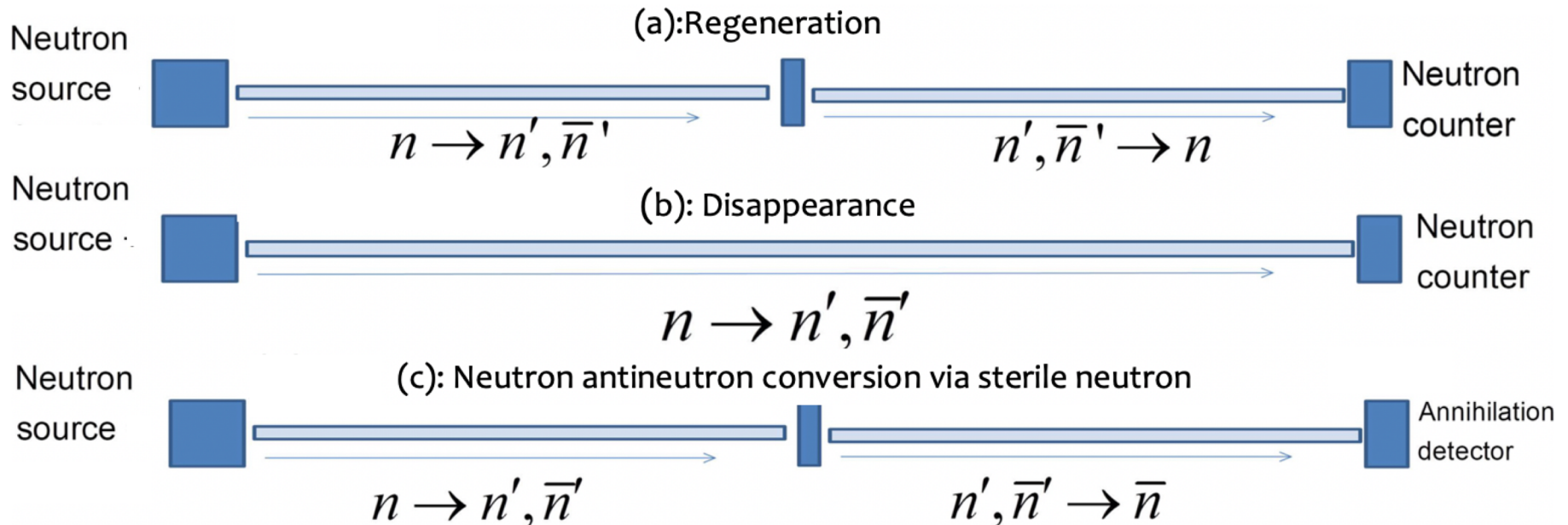


HIBEAM experiment

The HIBEAM program: search for neutron to sterile neutron conversion (I)

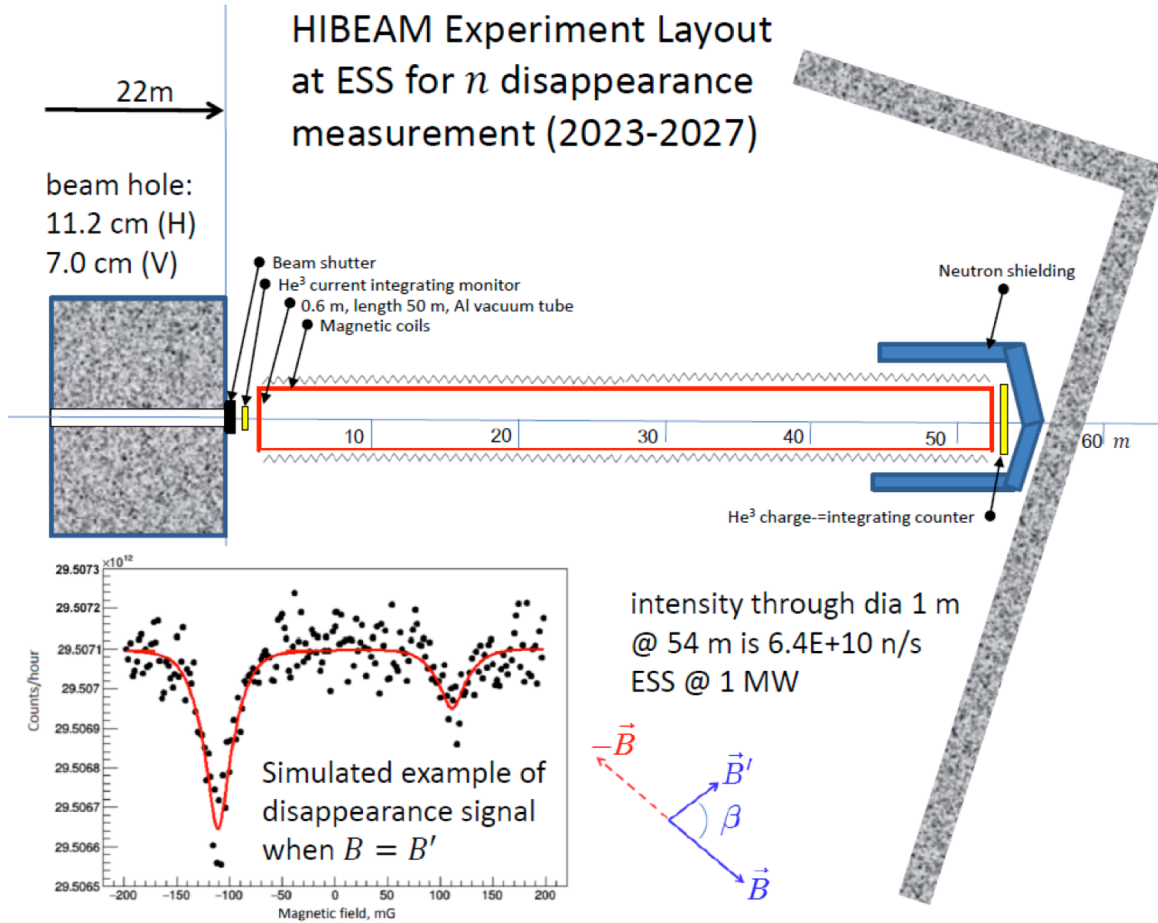


- HIBEAM will look for n regeneration, n disappearance and n to antineutron conversion via sterile neutron
- All experiments shown are dependent on the magnetic field. Experiments (a), (b), and (c) should scan through the magnetic field range $\sim \pm 1$ G to coincide in resonance with the unknown value of the "mirror magnetic field" in magnitude and in direction. For the flight path of these experiments, full 3D control of the magnetic field will be needed.



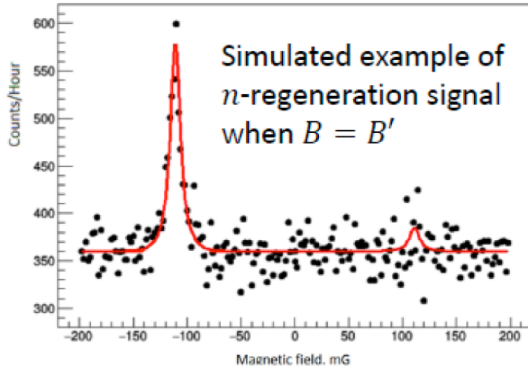
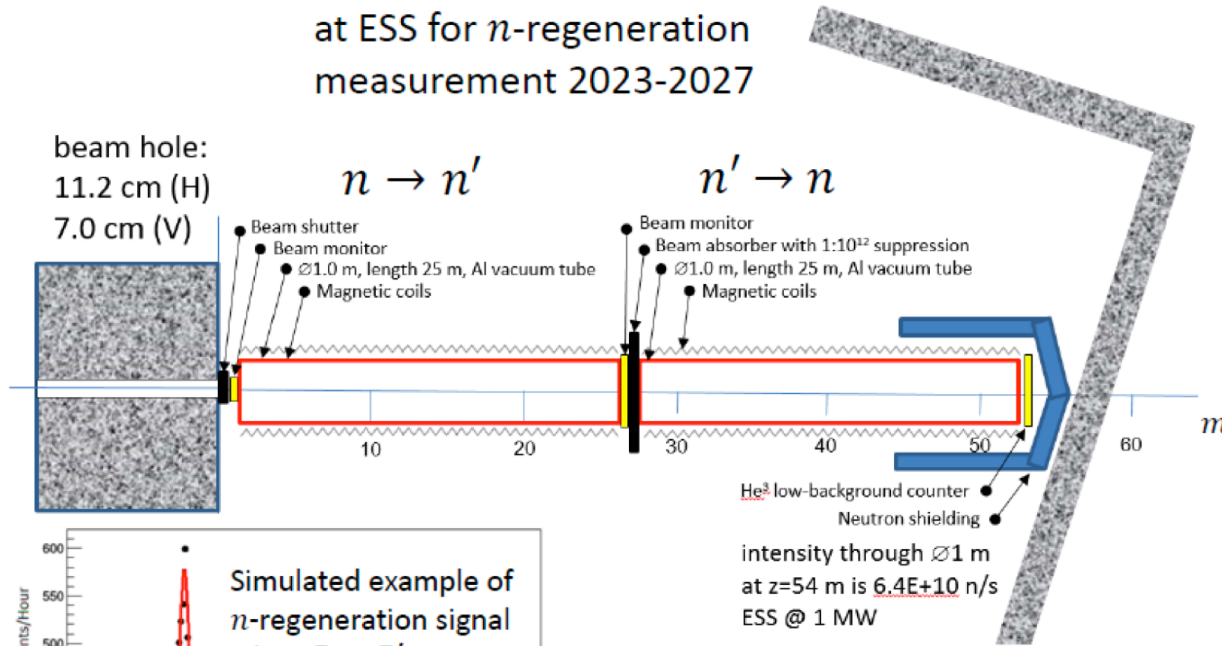
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HIBEAM Experiment Layout at ESS for n disappearance measurement



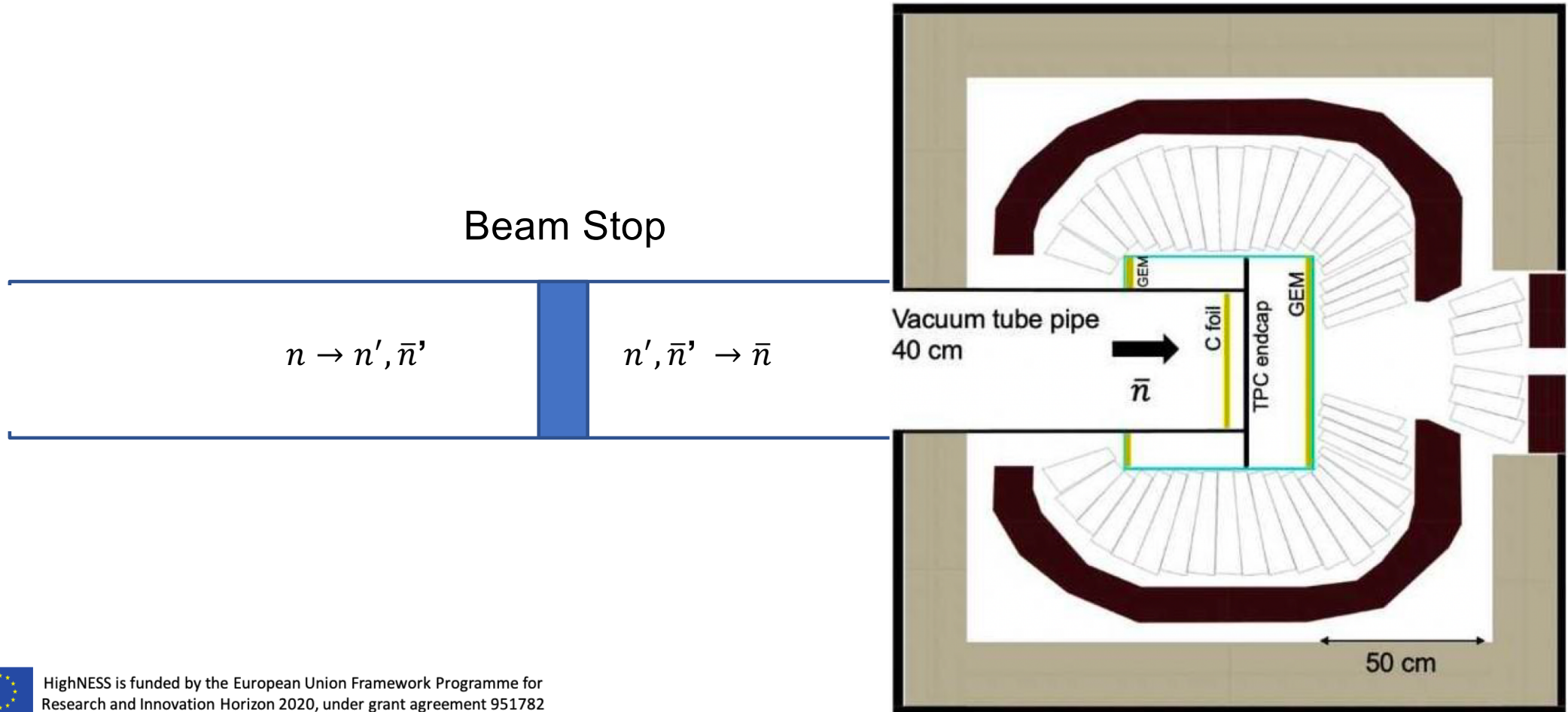
HIBEAM Experiment Layout at ESS for n -regeneration measurement

HIBEAM Experiment Layout at ESS for n -regeneration measurement 2023-2027



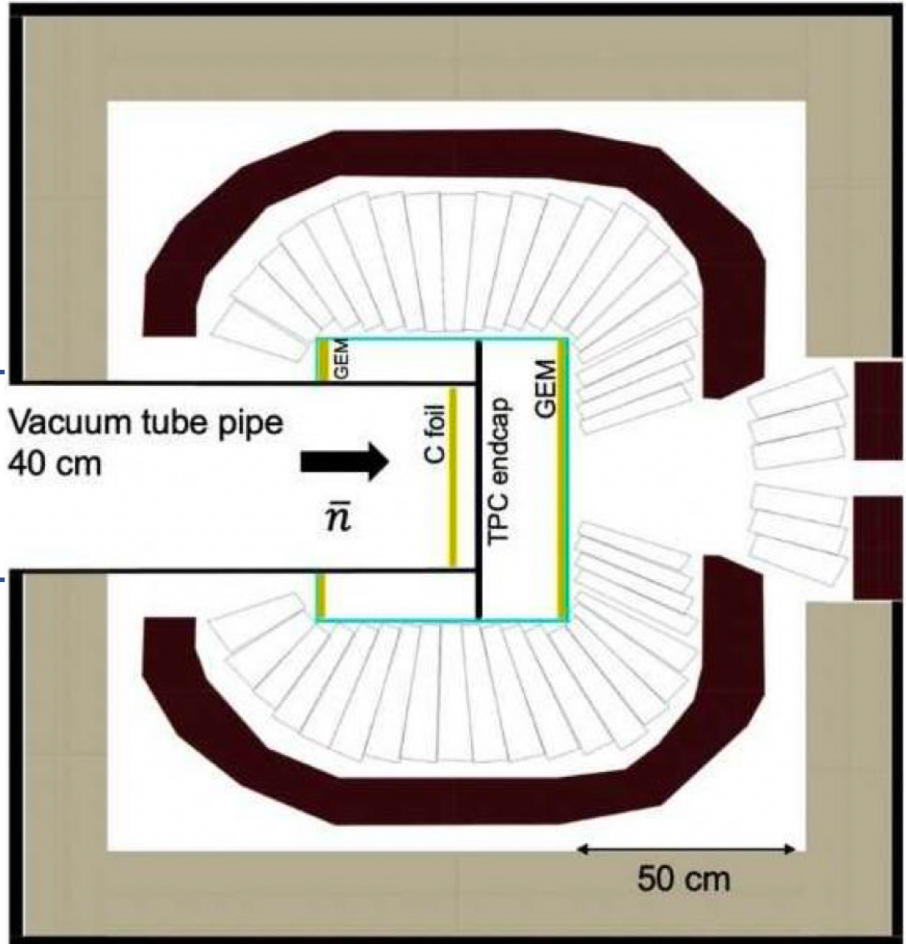
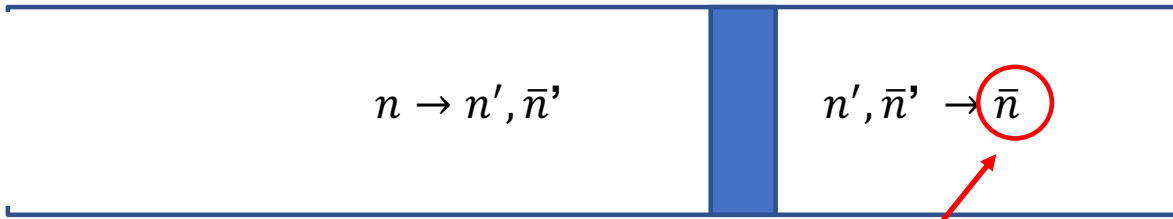
Detection of resonance via variation of magnetic field B will also demonstrate the existence of mirror photons field γ'

HIBEAM Experiment Layout at ESS
for neutron antineutron conversion via
sterile neutron



HIBEAM Experiment Layout at ESS
for neutron antineutron conversion via
sterile neutron

Beam Stop



You need to have an annihilation detector in order to detect the annihilation of the antineutron with a target material

- The HIBEAM/NNBAR collaboration has been recently awarded with 10MSEK for the project " Pre-studies for a HIBEAM Instrument at the ESS" by Vetenskapsrådet
- D. Milstead (SU) is the project leader
- Lund University, ESS, Chalmer, Uppsala, ILL and Tennessee University are involved in the project
- Scope of the project is to deliver the TDR of the HIBEAM experiment

Why is there so much matter in the universe?



The Big Bang should have created equal amounts of matter and antimatter in the early universe. But today, everything we see is made almost entirely of matter.

There is not much antimatter to be found.

Something must have happened to tip the balance.

Sakharov conditions (1967) for Baryogenesis

Baryon number violation

C and CP violation

Departure from thermodynamic equilibrium (non-stationary



Abstract

The observation of neutrons turning into antineutrons would constitute a discovery of fundamental importance for particle physics and cosmology. Observing the $n-\bar{n}$ transition would show that baryon number (B) is violated by two units and that matter containing neutrons is unstable. It would provide a clue to how the matter in our universe might have evolved from the $B=0$ early universe. If seen at rates observable in foreseeable next-generation experiments, it might well help us understand the observed baryon asymmetry of the universe. A demonstration of the violation of $B-L$ by 2 units would have a profound impact on our understanding of phenomena beyond the Standard Model of particle physics.

$$\Psi = \begin{pmatrix} n \\ \bar{n}' \end{pmatrix}$$

Mixed n, \bar{n}, n' QM state

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} E_n & \varepsilon \\ \varepsilon & E_{\bar{n}} \end{pmatrix}$$

ε is the mixing mass term that depends on the scale of the new physics
the mass mixing term ε is different for $n \rightarrow \bar{n}$ and $n \rightarrow n'$

$m_n = m_{\bar{n}}$ by CPT invariance, E_n and $E_{\bar{n}}$ are **not** generically equal due to environmental effects (i.e. matter medium or magnetic fields)

Probability to find an antineutron at time t is given by

$$P_{n\bar{n}}(t) = \frac{\varepsilon_{n\bar{n}}^2}{(\Delta E/2)^2 + \varepsilon_{n\bar{n}}^2} \sin^2 \left[t \sqrt{(\Delta E/2)^2 + \varepsilon_{n\bar{n}}^2} \right] e^{-t/\tau_n},$$

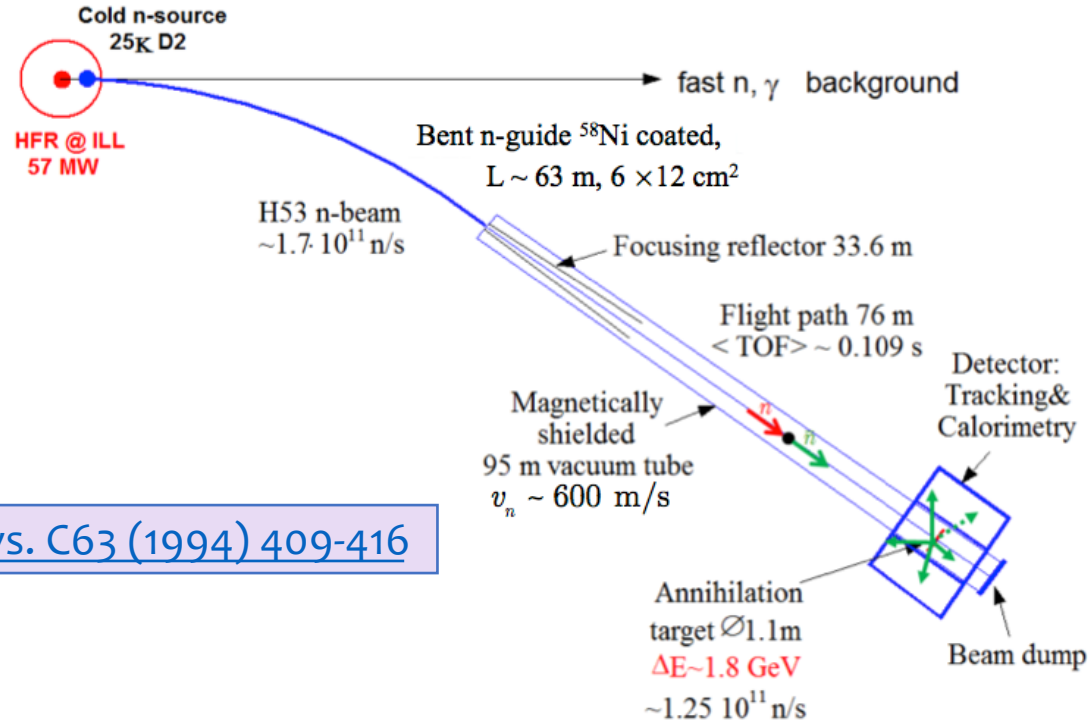
$\Delta E = E_n - E_{\bar{n}}$ and τ_n (mean life time of the free neutron)

-> the probability of conversion is suppressed when the energy degeneracy between neutron and antineutron is broken.

Quasi free regime $|\Delta E|t \ll 1$ can be realized in vacuum with very low magnetic shield. Under this

$$P_{n \rightarrow \bar{n}}(t) = \left(\frac{t_{free}}{\tau_{n \rightarrow \bar{n}}} \right)^2$$

**Figure of merit
(background-free): Nt^2**



Baldo-Ceolin et al, [Z.Phys. C63 \(1994\) 409-416](#)

$$Nt^2 = 1.5 \cdot 10^9 s, P < 1.6 \cdot 10^{-18} \text{ (run lasted } \sim 1 \text{ year) and } \tau_{n \rightarrow \bar{n}} > 0.86 \cdot 10^8 s$$

(N is the free neutron flux reaching the annihilation target and t is the neutron observation time).

Many subtle optimizations to minimize losses and backgrounds

Experiment was background-free

Sensitivity of the NNBAR experiment at ESS



- **Increase number of neutrons**

- Flux
- Moderator brightness and area
- Angular acceptance
- Longer run

- **Increase time-of-flight**

- Longer beamline

- **Keep (or even increase) detection**

efficiency ($\sim 50\%$), keep background at ~ 0

- **Better B_{Earth} suppression**

Factor	Gain wrt ILL
Source Intensity	≥ 2
Neutron Reflector	40
Length	5
Run time	3
Total gain	≥ 1000

All these factors are being currently studied and optimized in the HighNESS Project (see next two slides)

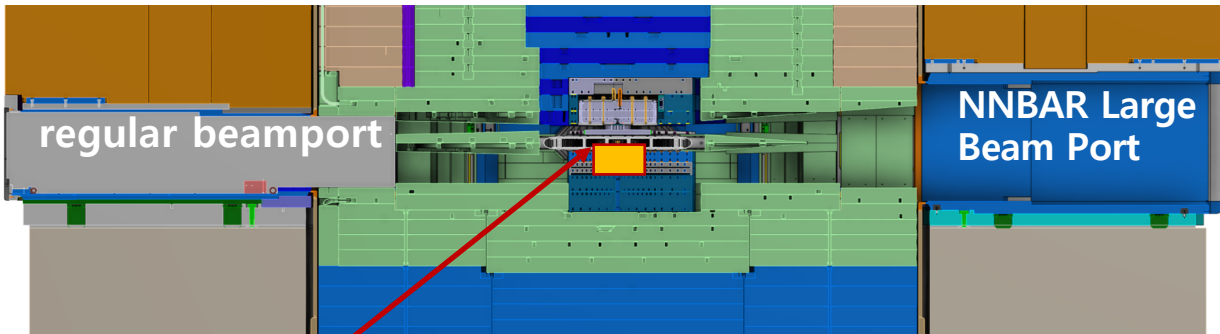
NNBAR final design aim
to improve by 10^3 the ILL limit



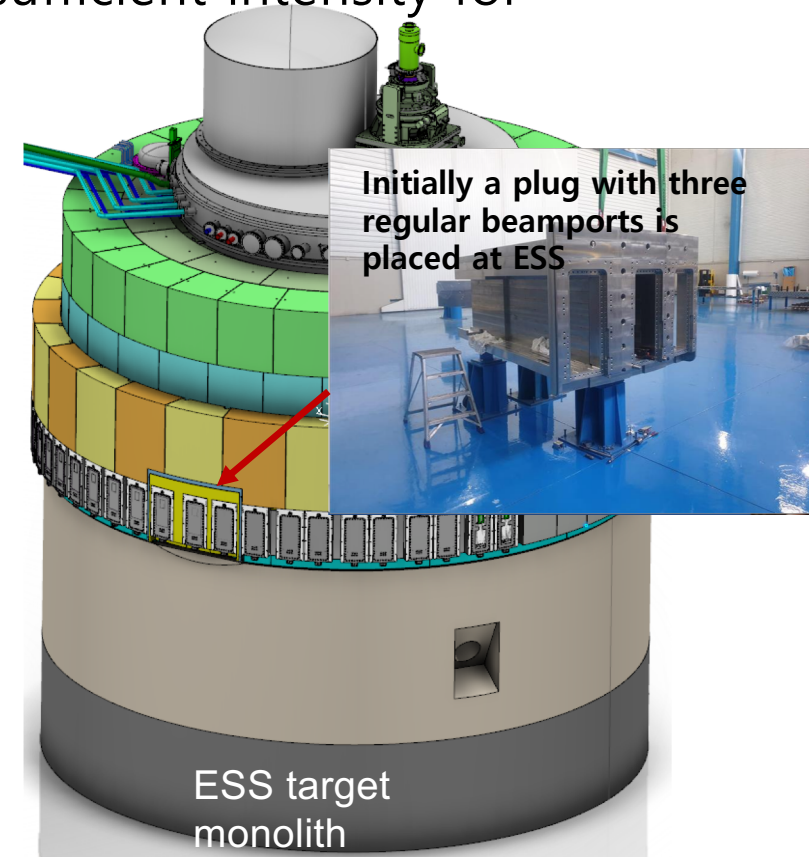
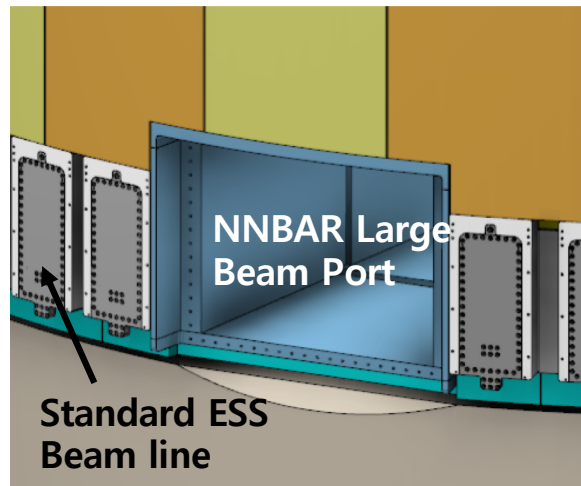
Why NNBAR at ESS?



A large beam port has been built at ESS specifically for NNBAR to allow for extraction of a high intensity beam to provide sufficient intensity for neutron to antineutron search



Location of lower moderator

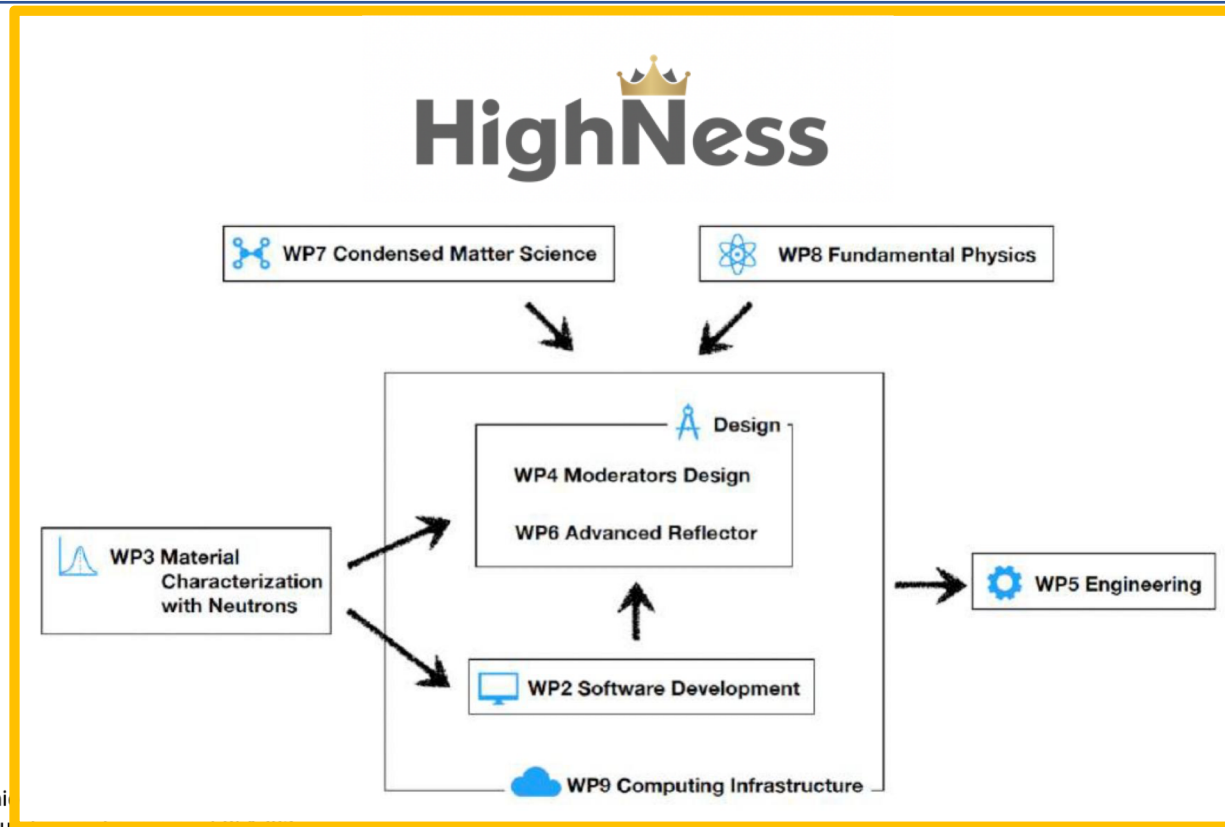


The HighNESS project (3 MEURO funded by the European Commission) has as purpose the development of the new source that will be installed at ESS >2030

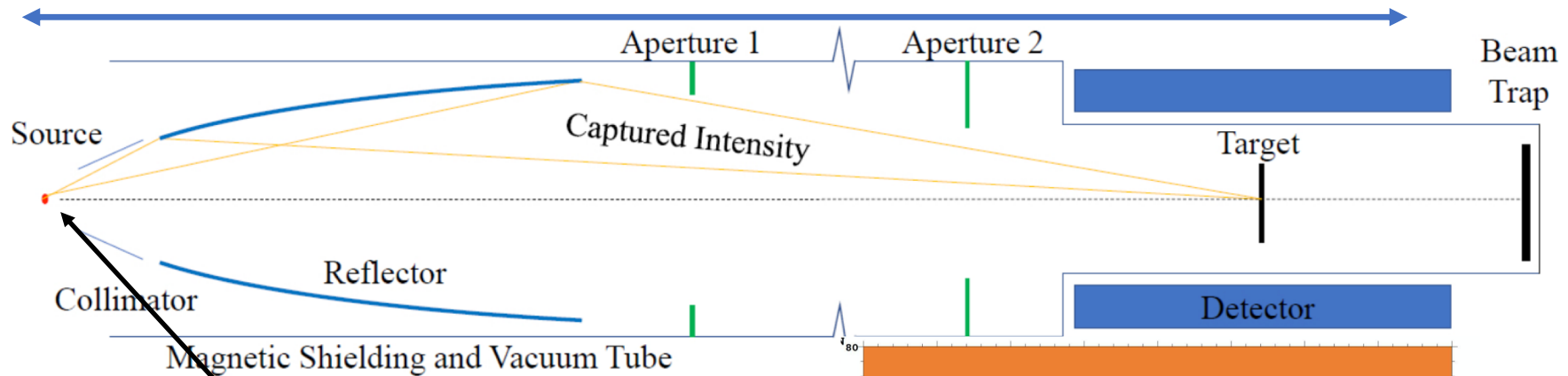
The new source will be composed by Liquid deuterium moderator that will serve a UCN moderator and a VCN source using advanced reflectors. **The new source will be designed to be optimal for NNBAR**

In the project will be also developed the associated experiments including NNBAR -> **Conceptual Design Report expected by the end of 2023**

8 EU Institutes,
7 countries,
34 people presently
involved



Schematic of the NNBAR experiment

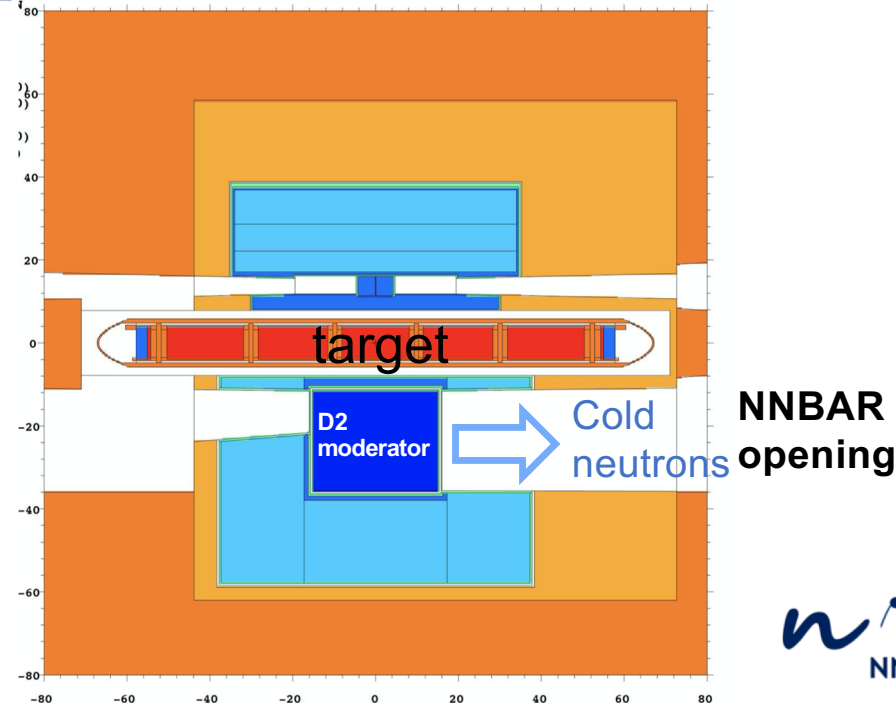


To design the optimal experiment you need to take into account several different aspects:

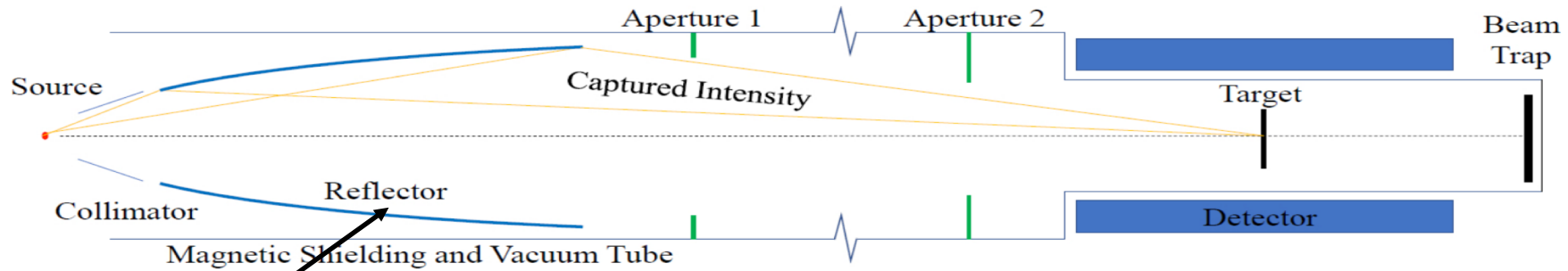
Source (Moderator):

It determines the number of cold neutrons emitted by the source

Work-on going at ESS+ collaborators to design the ideal source for NNBAR



The NNBAR experiment (schematic)



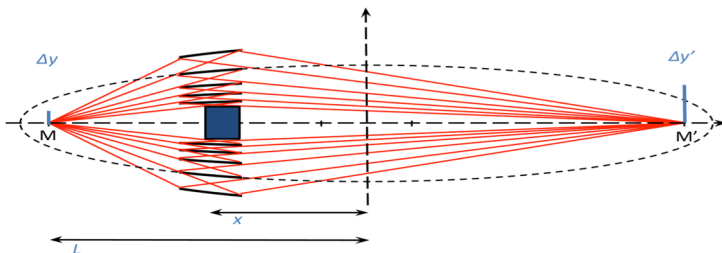
Reflector :

How many neutrons you collect, transport and focus in the experiment

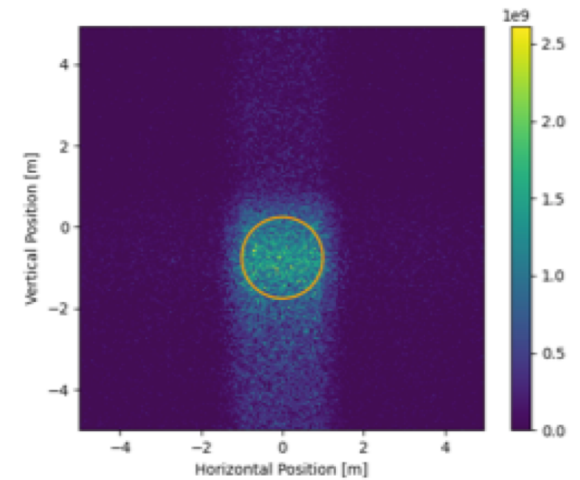


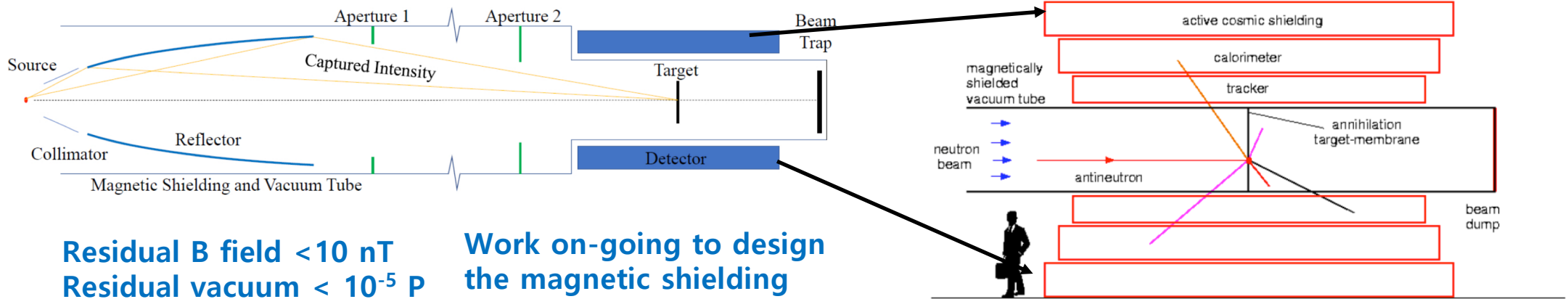
Courtesy of Oliver Zimmer and Richard Wagner (ILL)

Design nested mirror systems of a single set of elliptic/short mirrors and of Wolter-optic types.



Optimization studies on-going at ILL +collaborators
 Circle of radius 1m at maximum (⇒ detector placed at optimal position)





Residual B field < 10 nT
Residual vacuum $< 10^{-5}$ p

Work on-going to design
the magnetic shielding
system and the vacuum
pipe

Detector :

- At the end of the beamline the neutron beam will hit a thin carbon foil target
- If the neutron has converted to antineutron it will annihilate in the carbon foil
- The carbon has large \bar{n} annihilation cross section
~5 pions produced in annihilation
- Detector design on-going (TPC for tracker, scintillator+lead-glass for calorimeter +cosmic shield)

Design and optimization of the NNBAR detector on going

y direction

Time Projection Chamber

80% Ar + 20% CO₂
 Two different dimensions (x-y)
 • 0.85 m x 1.87 m
 • 2.04 m x 0.85 m
 2m long (z direction)

Scintillator Modules

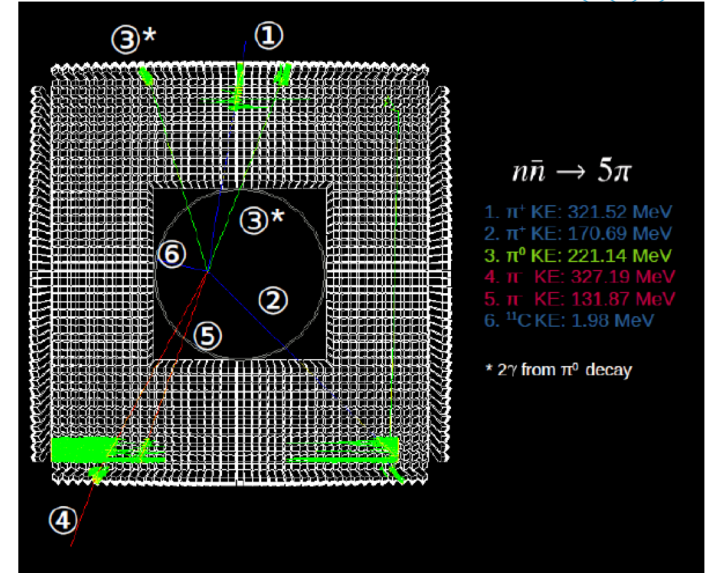
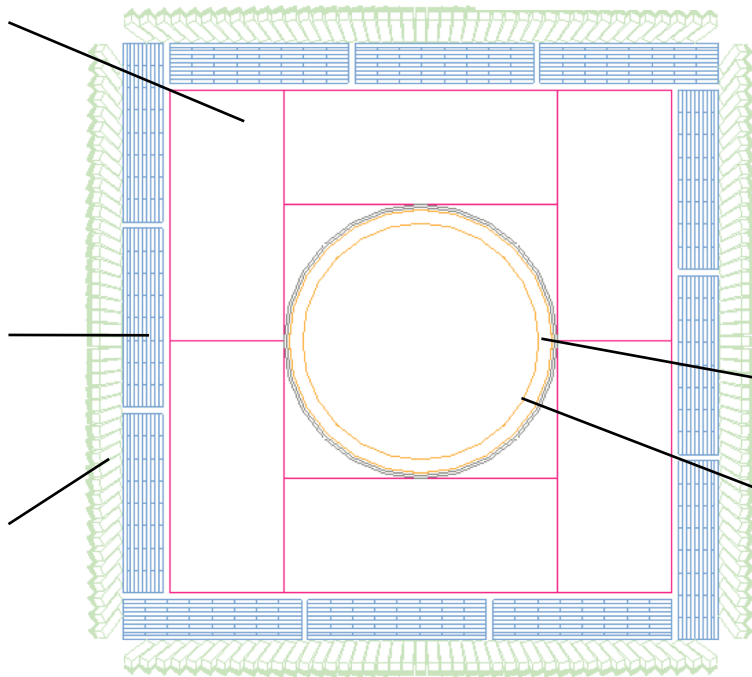
10 layers of plastic scintillator
 3 cm thick for each layer
 Each layer is divided into 8 staves
 Consecutive layers are perpendicular

Lead Glass Blocks

Base: 8 cm x 8 cm
 Height: 25 cm
 Pointing towards the **center of the detector**



LUND



$$n\bar{n} \rightarrow 5\pi$$

- 1. π^+ KE: 321.52 MeV
- 2. π^+ KE: 170.69 MeV
- 3. π^0 KE: 221.14 MeV
- 4. π^- KE: 327.19 MeV
- 5. π^- KE: 131.87 MeV
- 6. ${}^{12}\text{C}$ KE: 1.98 MeV

* 2γ from π^0 decay

Silicon Trackers

Layer 1: Inner radius = 87.97 cm Thickness = 0.03 cm Length = 6 m	Layer 2: Inner radius = 97.97 cm Thickness = 0.03 cm Length = 6 m
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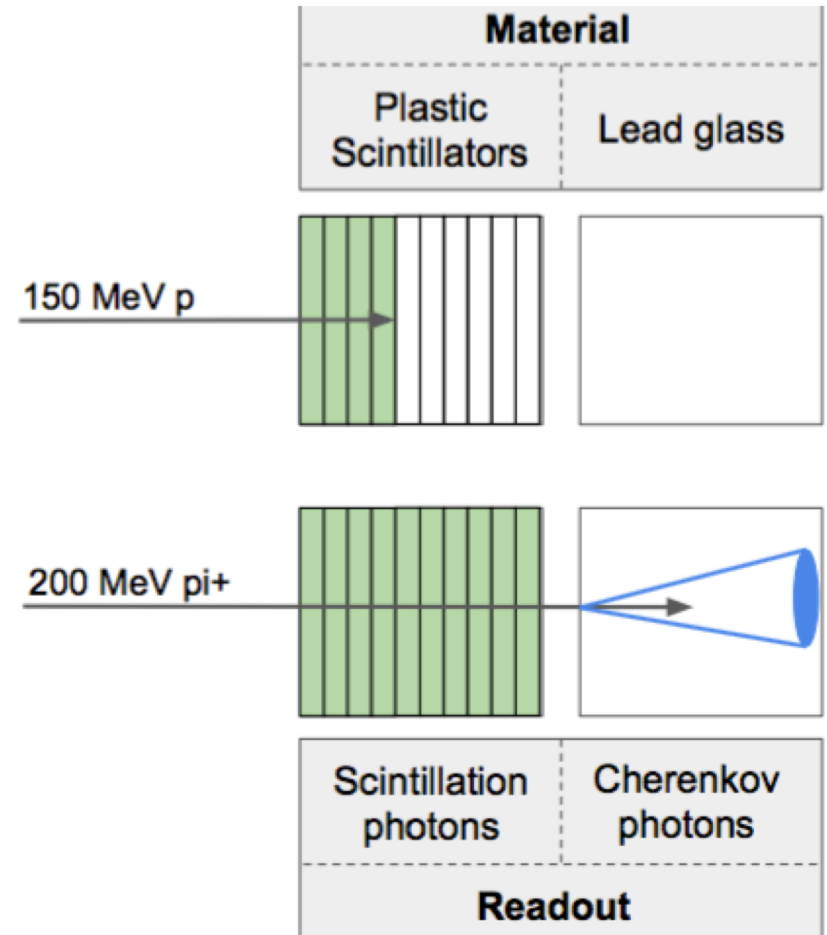
Vacuum tube

1 m inner radius
 2 cm thick
 6 m long (z direction)

A computing and Detector Simulations framework for the HIBEAM/NNBAR
 Experimental program at the ESS EPJ Web of Conferences 251, 02062 (2021)



- Work on-going at Stockholm University + collaborators
- Hybrid hadronic range detector + EM calo
- Binary readout (hit/not hit) of staves+ Cherenkov light from lead glass
- Measurement inform simulations of full detector
- Next year Low energy hadrons/electrons
 - PSI : protons 74--230 MeV
 - INFN : electrons 25--500 MeV
- Ultimately to be deployed at ESS test beam to validate in situ background



The HIBEAM/NNBAR Calorimeter prototype arxiv 2107.02147

Summary of neutrons oscillations searches at HIBEAM and NNBAR

$$n \rightarrow \bar{n}$$

$$n \rightarrow n'$$

$$\mathcal{H} = \begin{pmatrix} E_n & \varepsilon_{n\bar{n}} \\ \varepsilon_{n\bar{n}} & E_{\bar{n}} \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\mathcal{H} = \begin{pmatrix} E_n & \alpha_{nn'} \\ \alpha_{nn'} & E_{n'} \end{pmatrix},$$

..... + nTMM terms

Channel		Mixing terms	Experimental conditions
$n \rightarrow \bar{n}$	"Classic" nnbar	$\varepsilon_{n\bar{n}}$	Field-free
$n \rightarrow [\bar{n}', n'] \rightarrow \bar{n}$	Nnbar via sterile neutrons	$\alpha_{nn'}, \alpha_{n\bar{n}'}$	Scan B -field
$n \rightarrow \bar{n}', n'$	Disappearance	$\alpha_{nn'}, \alpha_{n\bar{n}'}$	Scan B -field
$n \rightarrow n', \bar{n}' \rightarrow n$	Regeneration	$\alpha_{nn'}, \alpha_{nn'} + \alpha_{n\bar{n}'}, \alpha_{n\bar{n}'}$	Scan B -field

New high-sensitivity searches for neutrons converting into antineutrons and/or sterile neutrons at the HIBEAM/NNBAR experiment at the European Spallation Source *A Addazi et al 2021 J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. 48 070501*

• Baryon Number Violation at the core of our existence

Physics of Baryon Number Violation of utmost importance

• Standard Model tells us about interactions

But *nothing* about nature of quarks and leptons

Our existence, Grand Unification our best hints

• Baryon Number Violation excellent probe

We *know* it exists

• **Opportunities to gain a factor 1000 in sensitivity to processes at core of our existence and understanding of universe are rare**

- Lots of activities are going on right now in the HIBEAM/NNBAR collaboration
- HighNESS project started in 2020:
 - Design of the optimal moderator for NNBAR
 - CDR of the NNBAR experiment
- Prototype development and construction on-going
- VR Grant recently awarded towards the HIBEAM TDR

- **HIBEAM > 2025 search for sterile neutron transitions**
- **NNBAR ~2030 search for neutron to antineutron oscillations x1000 improvement respect to the previous limit**

- Broad international base and supporters
 - ~ 100 authors from 50 institutes in 8 countries
- Combines experts in neutronics, magnetics, nuclear and particle physics
- Leah Broussard, and Y. Kamyshkov Co-pi of ORNL mirror neutron program
- NNBAR Co-spokespersons: G. Brooijmans (Columbia), D. Milstead (Stockholm Uni.) Lead scientist: Y. Kamyshkov (Tennessee Uni.) Technical coordinator: V. Santoro (ESS)
- White paper: A Addazi *et al* 2021 *J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys.* 48 070501
- CDR in 2023 as part of HighNESS program
- **Collaborators are welcome !!**

New high-sensitivity searches for neutrons converting into antineutrons and/or sterile neutrons at the HIBEAM/NNBAR experiment at the European Spallation Source [A Addazi et al 2021 J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. 48 070501](#)

BACK-UP SLIDES



www.highness.eu

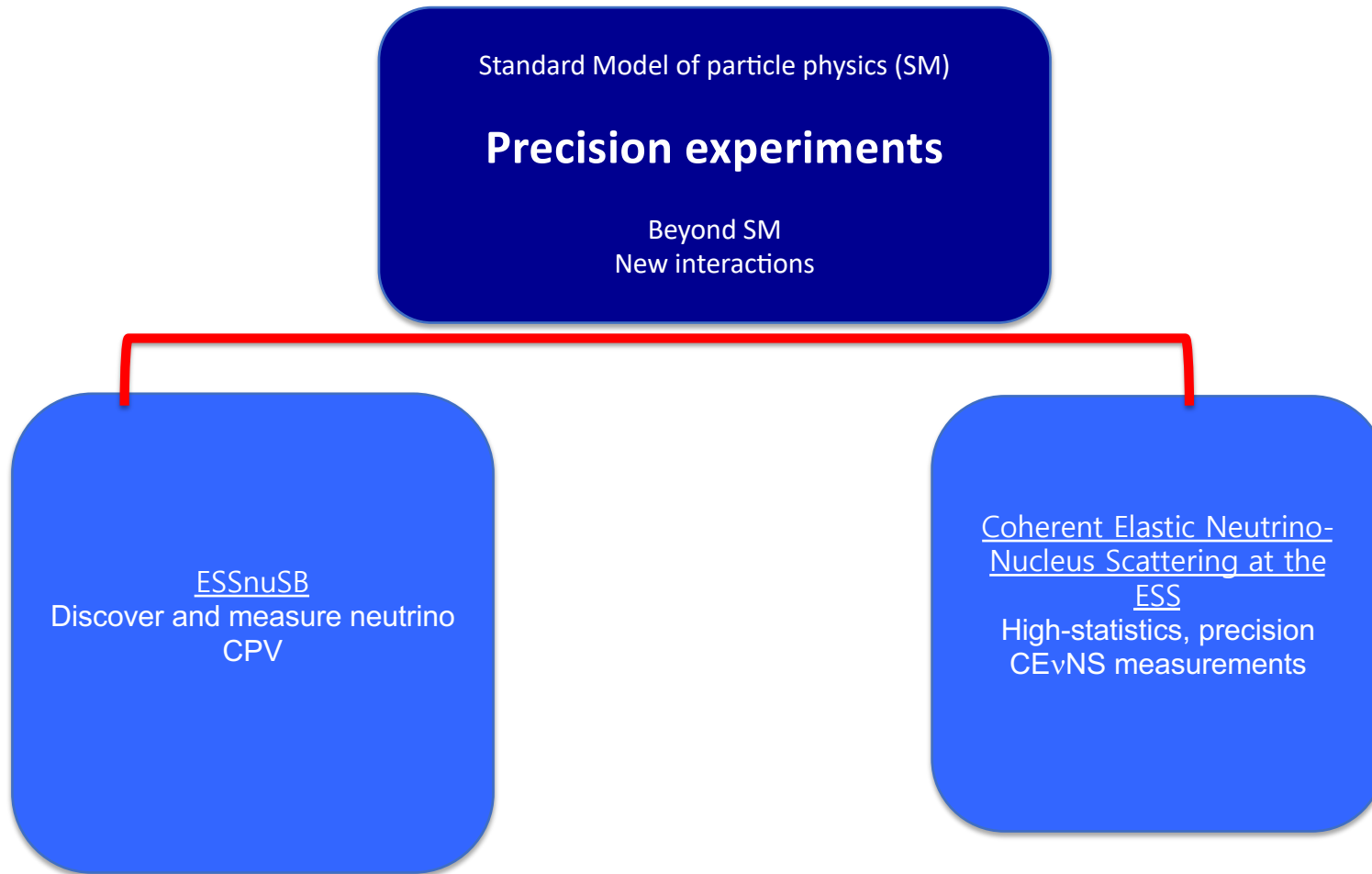
<https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/951782>

highness@ess.eu

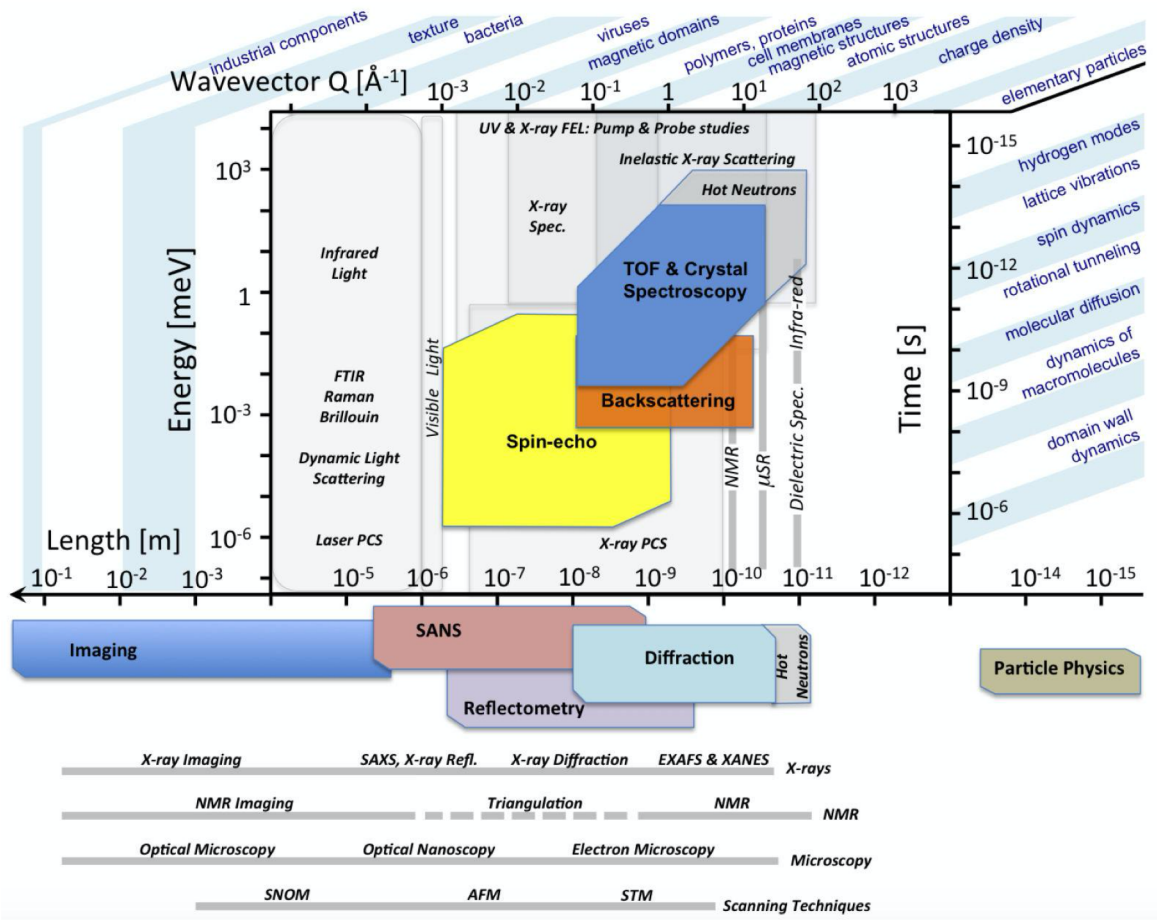
email to me valentina.santoro@ess.eu



There are also interesting neutrino searches in program but I will not discuss today during the presentation



The European Spallation Source (II)



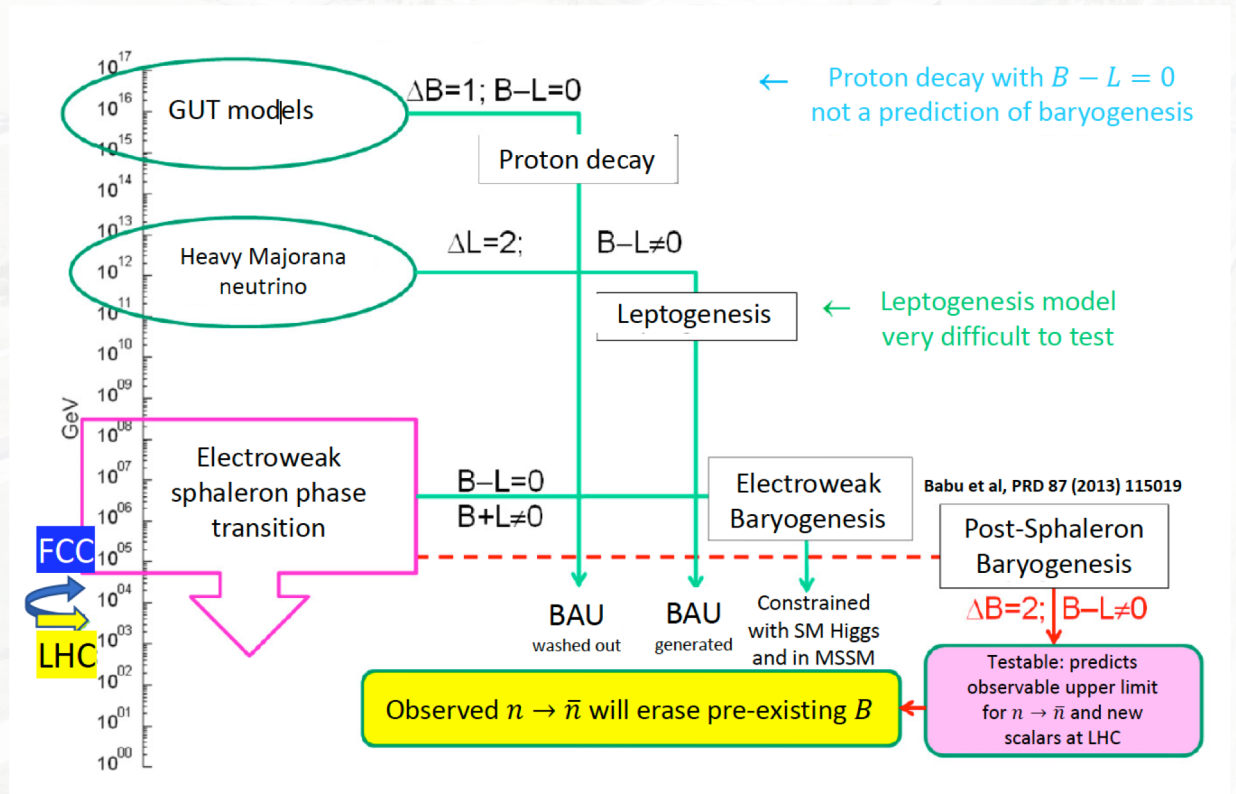
- Neutron scattering can be applied to a range of scientific questions, spanning the realms of physics, chemistry, geology, biology and medicine.
- In neutron scattering the neutron is used as a probe for revealing the structure and function of matter from the microscopic down to the atomic scale.

Baryogenesis Models



Regimes for baryogenesis

- Leptogenesis: Sphalerons convert L into B
- Electroweak baryogenesis: T violation near EW scale creates B without L
- Post-sphaleron baryogenesis: New BNV process below EW phase transition
- $n \rightarrow \bar{n}$ targets accessible energy scales. Null result will restrict phase space of PSB models





HighNess

- The scope of ESS, as defined in the ESS statutes, is to build and operate 22 world-leading instruments in an open user program. Of these, the first 15 will be brought on-line by the end of 2025.
- Regarding instruments 16-22 a document from ESS (The ESS Instrument Suite – A Capability Gap Analysis (<https://europeanspallationsource.se/instruments/capability-gap-analysis>) has analysed the capability gaps
- Result of this analysis has shown that one of the community that is not catered is the particle physics community. **Therefore filling this capability gap is given the highest priority.**

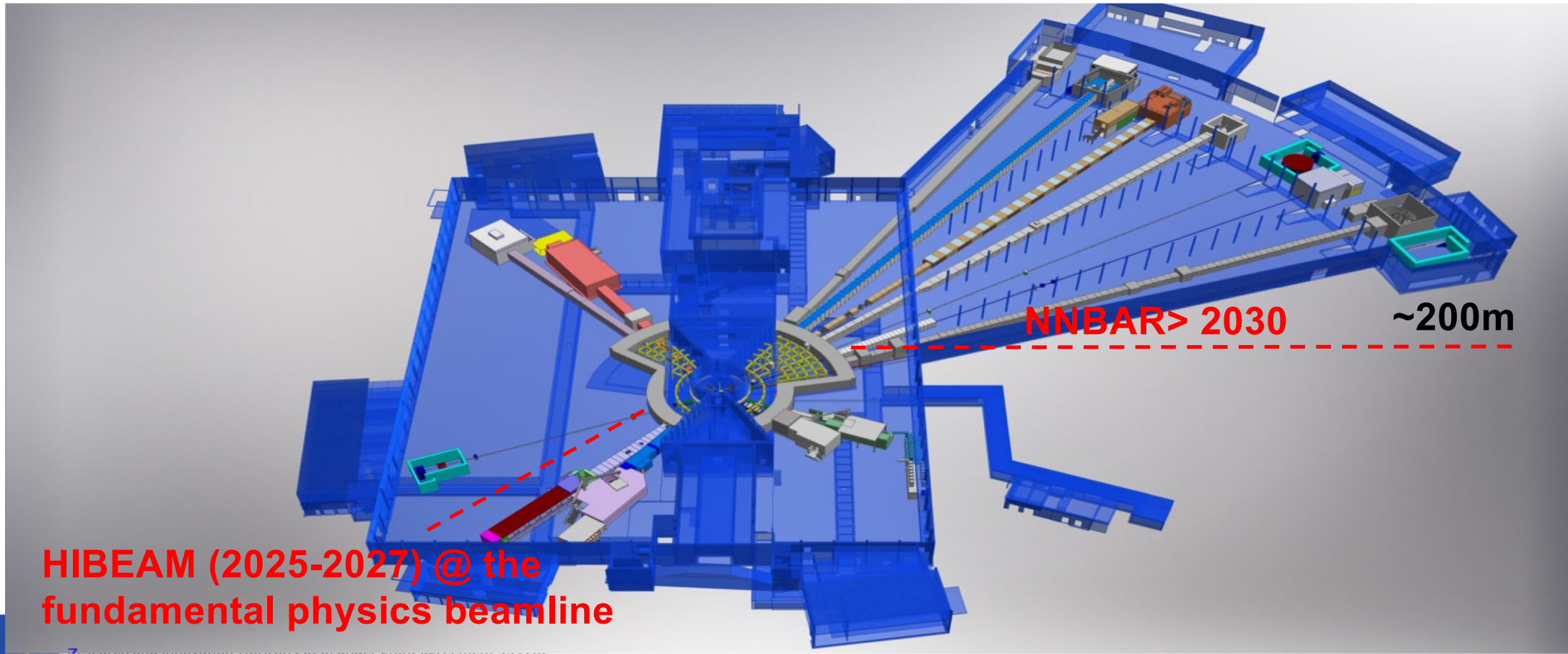


DARK Matter

- **What is the nature of dark matter?**
- **The fact that our astronomical observations are not sufficiently well described by the SM is unquestioned.**
- **The existence of a dark sector, interacting primarily gravitationally with our familiar visible sector, has long been postulated to explain astronomical data**
- **Such dark sector is assumed to have particles having interactions similar to our own SM interactions, sterile neutrinos and sterile baryons**
- **In principle, observable portals onto such a sector can occur via mixing phenomena between any stable or meta-stable electrically neutral particles, allowing for conversion into a dark partner particle.**

ESS Neutron Instruments 1-15 and HIBEAM and NNBAR locations

- HIBEAM: smaller program of complementary experiments (with focus on sterile neutron searches) ≥ 2025
- NNBAR: Beamline earliest available ≥ 2030



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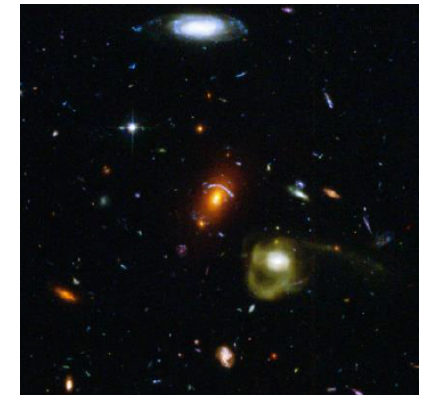
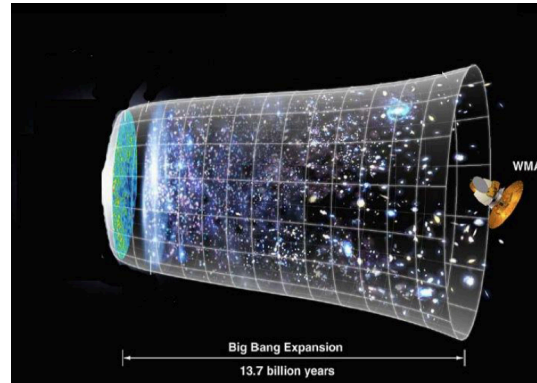
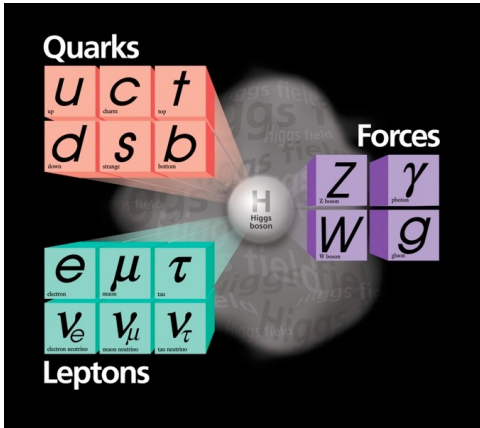
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Standard Model + General Relativity = Universe ???



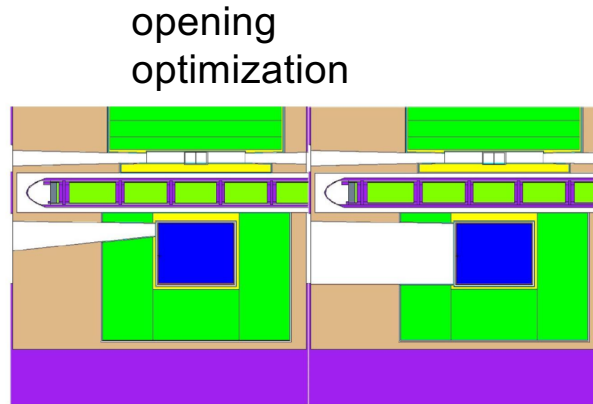
We are able only to account for 5% of the energy content of the universe



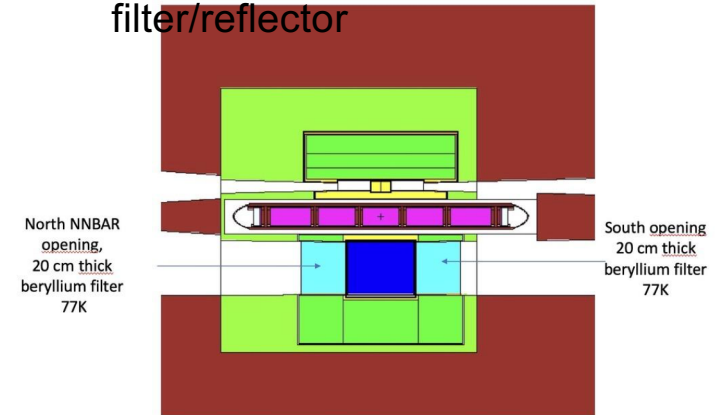
Liquid deuterium moderator design on-going



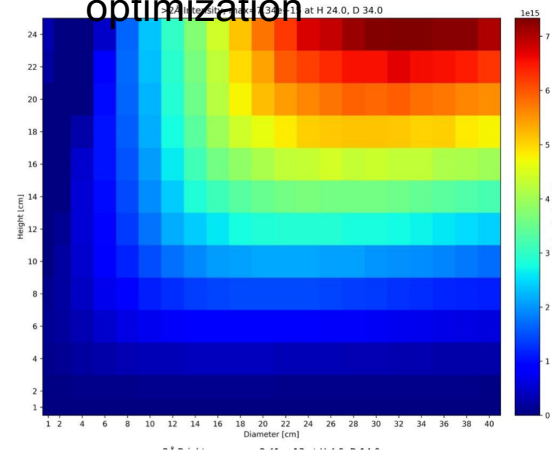
- Neutronic study of large D₂ moderator ongoing
 - Intensity variation with dimensions, number of beamlines, use of Be filter/reflector
- Additional works:
 - Design of nanodiamond reflector for cold and very cold neutrons (advanced reflector)
 - Design of UCN source
 - Prototype experiment will be performed at Budapest reactor



Use of Be filter/reflector



size optimization



Luca Zanini
Alan Takibayev and many others

- ☐ Two stage experiment
- ☐ HIBEAM (>2025)
 - ☐ High precision (x10 improvement): $n \rightarrow \bar{n}', n'$ (disappearance) ; $n \rightarrow [\bar{n}', n'] \rightarrow n$ (regeneration) ;
 $n \rightarrow [\bar{n}', n'] \rightarrow \bar{n}$ (nnbar via sterile neutrons)
 - ☐ Possibility to match earlier sensitivity from 1990's ILL experiment: $n \rightarrow \bar{n}$ and perform new search
 $n \rightarrow [\bar{n}', n'] \rightarrow \bar{n}$
 - ☐ ANNI cold neutron beamline
- ☐ NNBAR (>2030)
 - ☐ $\sim 10^3$ improvement in sensitivity: $n \rightarrow \bar{n}$
 - ☐ Large Beam Port

Theoretical motivation

- Baryon number is expected to be violated: Sakharov condition for baryogenesis
- Accidental symmetry in the SM

$n \rightarrow \bar{n}$

- Baryogenesis (eg post-sphaleron baryogenesis)
- RPV-SUSY, LR symmetric models, Extra dimensions
- ...

$n \rightarrow \bar{n}', n'$

- Co-genesis (baryogenesis and dark matter)
- Generic dark sector
- Mirror matter
- Can potentially solve "beam" vs "bottle" neutron lifetime anomaly
- Much theoretical work (Z. Berezhiani : INFN, Uni. of L'aquila)

