

The HOLMES experiment

Marco Faverzani

Università & INFN Milano-Bicocca
on behalf of the **HOLMES** collaboration



Outline

- Neutrino mass
- Direct and calorimetric measurement of m_ν with ^{163}Ho
- HOLMES
 - Experimental statistical sensitivity
 - Experiment design and baseline
 - Technical tasks status
- Conclusions

HOLMES collaboration



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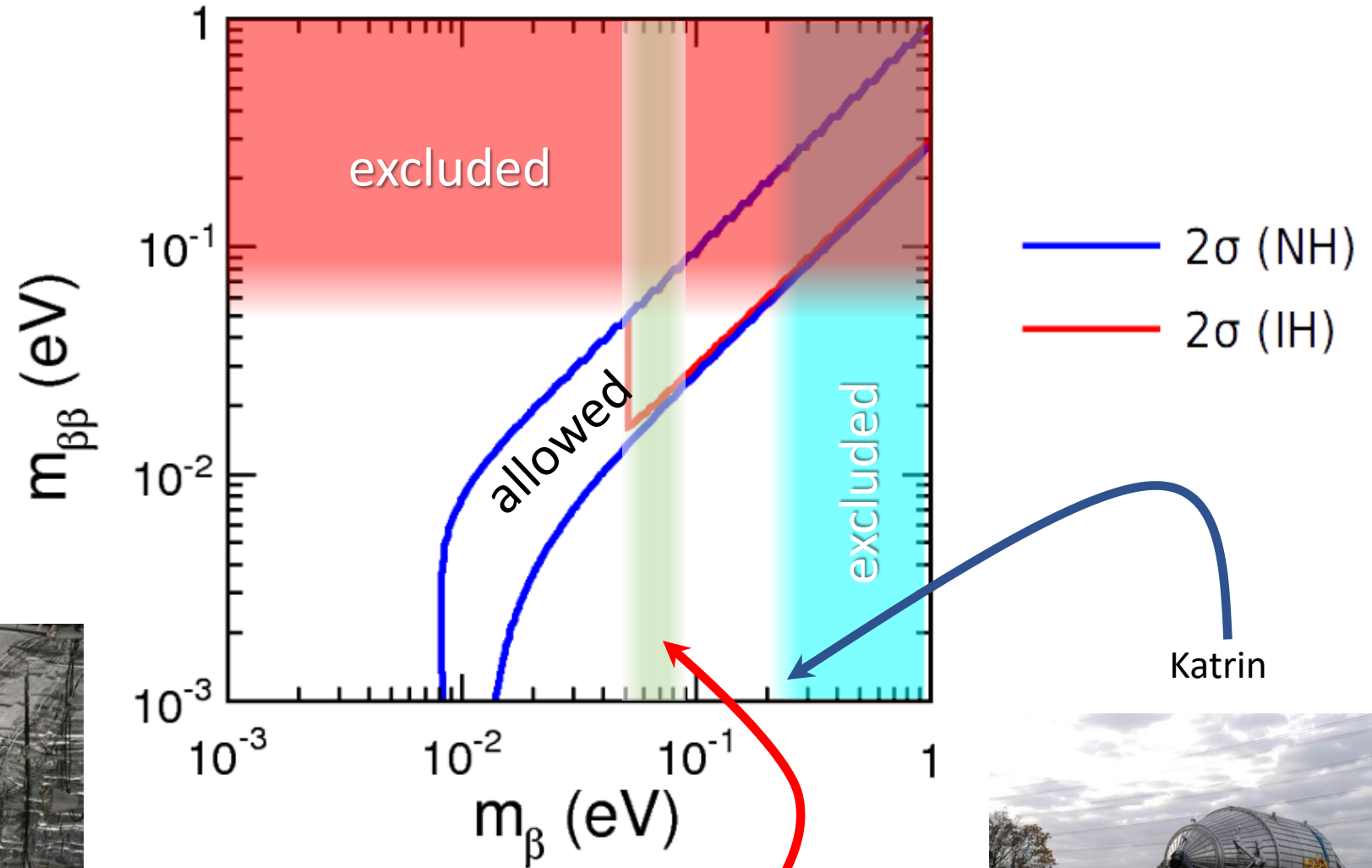
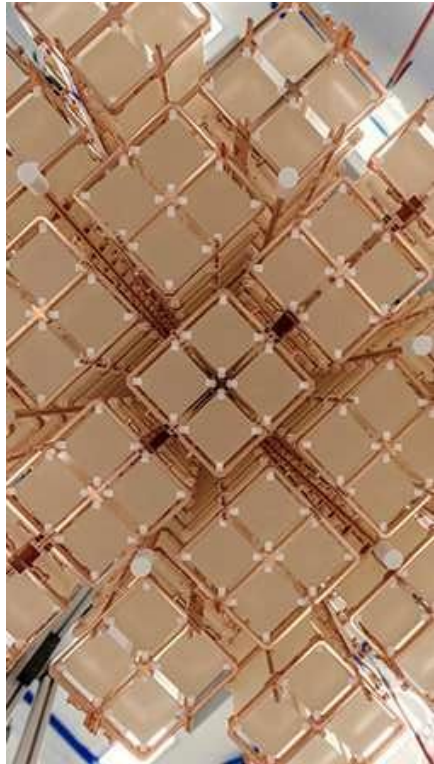


NEUTRONS
FOR SCIENCE

ILL

U. Koester

Absolute neutrino mass



^{163}Ho electron capture



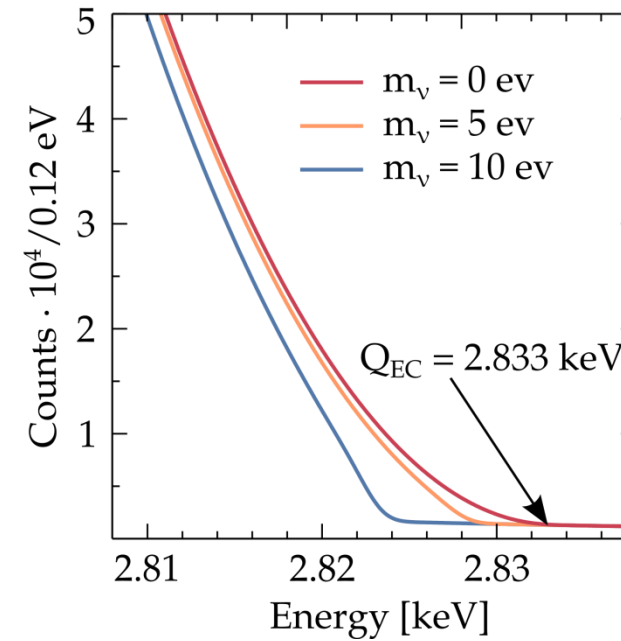
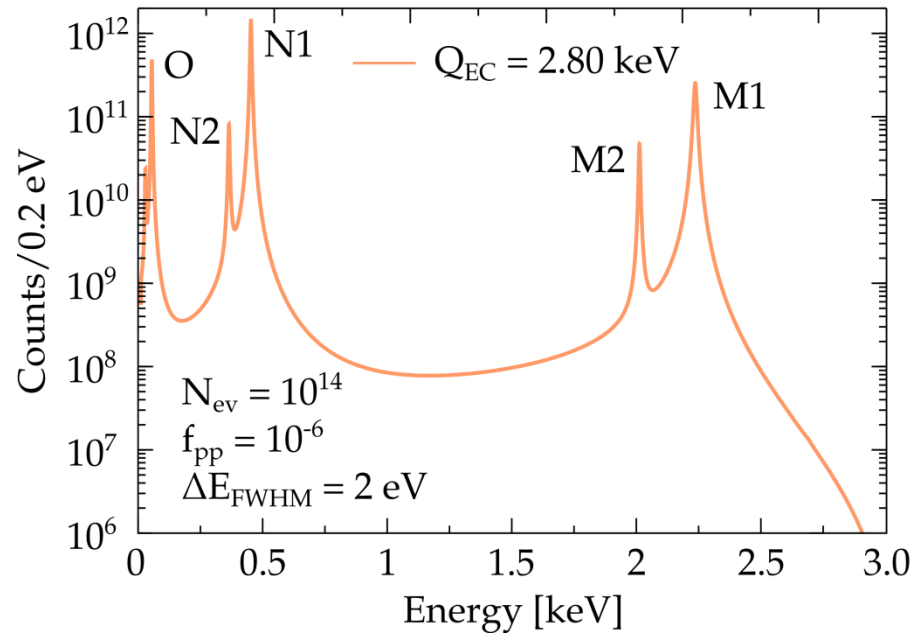
^{163}Ho decay via EC from shell $\geq \text{M1}$, with $Q_{\text{EC}} \sim 2.8\text{keV}$

Proposed by A. De Rujula and M. Lusignoli, *Phys. Lett. B* 118 (1982) 429

- calorimetric measurement of the Dy atomic de-excitation (mostly non-radiative)
- rate at the end point depends on $(Q - E_{\text{M}_1})$: the proximity to M1 resonance peak enhances the statistics at the end point (i.e. sensitivity on m_ν)
- $\tau_{1/2} \sim 4570$ years: few nuclei are needed (2×10^{11} ^{163}Ho nuclei = 1 Bq)

$$\frac{d\lambda_{\text{EC}}}{dE_c} = \frac{G_\beta^2}{4\pi^2} \left((Q - E_c) \sqrt{(Q - E_c)^2 - m_\nu^2} \right) \times \sum_i n_i C_i \beta_i^2 \frac{\Gamma_i}{2\pi (E_c - E_i)^2 + \Gamma_i^2/4} \frac{1}{\Gamma_i}$$

Simulation with
single hole
excitations



Pile-up

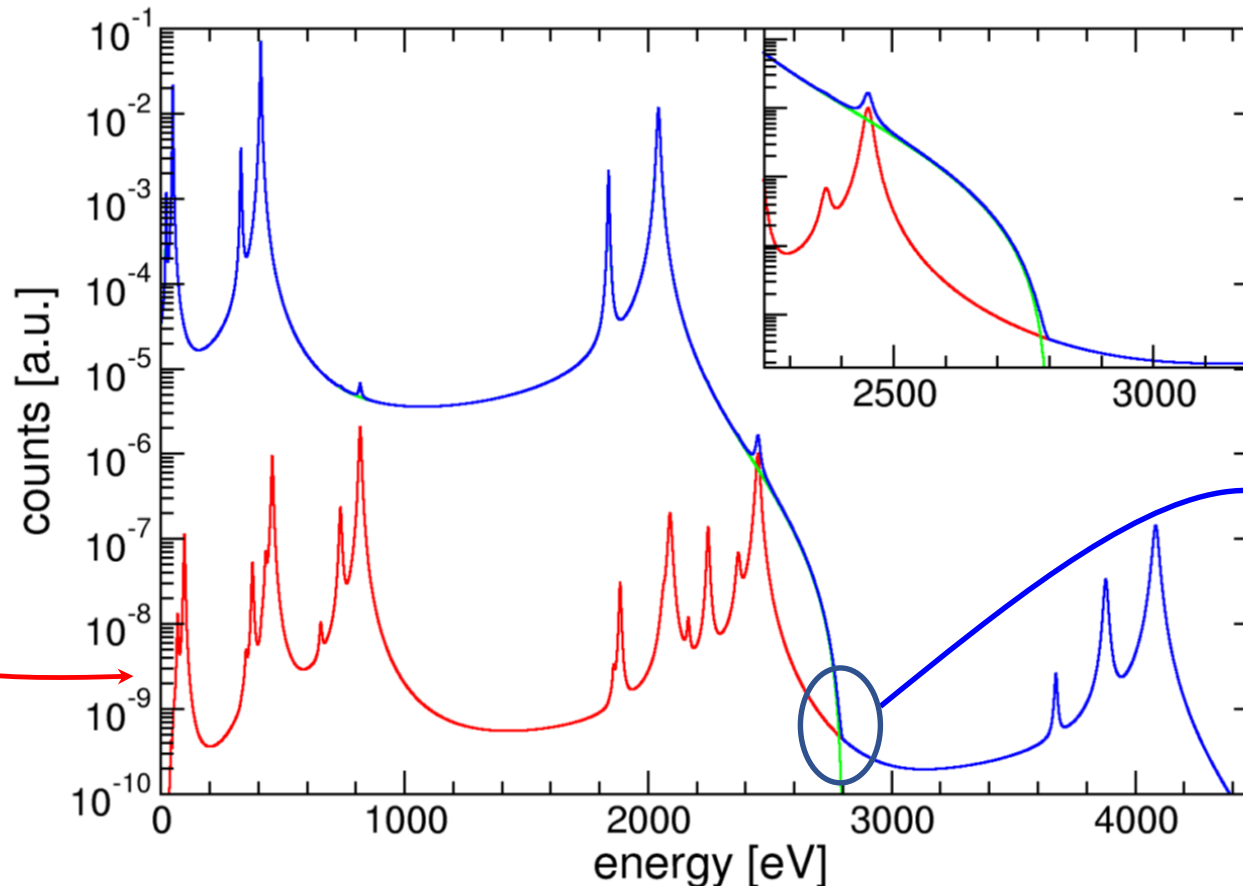
- no direct calorimetric measurement of Q (end-point) so far
- pile-up is a major systematic of the calorimetric approach

➤ $N_{pp}(E) = f_{pp} N_{EC}(E) \otimes N_{EC}(E)$, with $f_{pp} \approx A_{EC} \tau_R$

A_{EC} activity/detector
 τ_R time resolution (\sim rise time)

- fast detectors
 - limited activity/det
- parallelization over large number of detectors

Single hole excitations
 $Q = 2800$ eV
 $f_{pp} = 10^{-4}$



Impairing effect on the end-point measurement

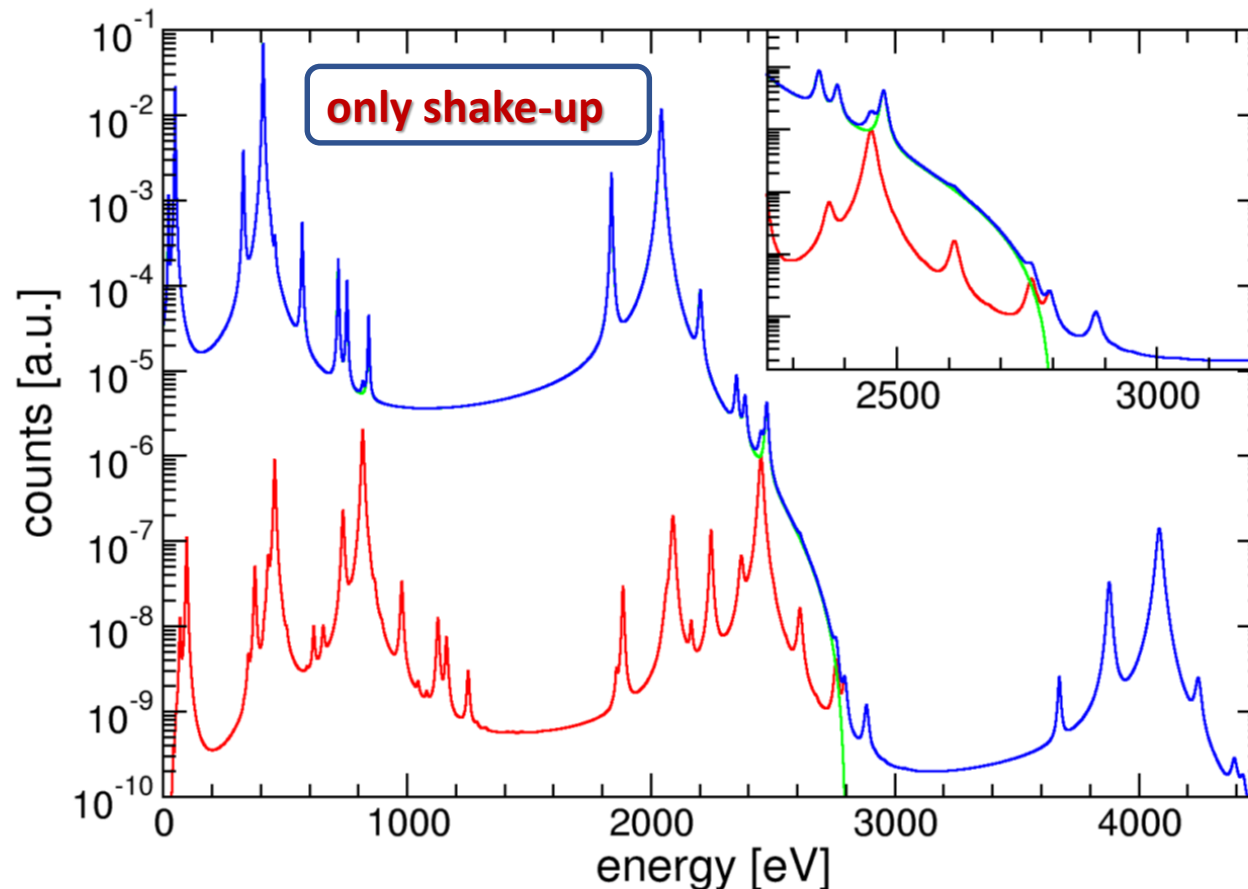
Pile-up/2

- shake-up/shake-off due to two holes excitations
 - n -hole possible, but less probable
 - energies and probabilities are still uncertain

Double hole excitations

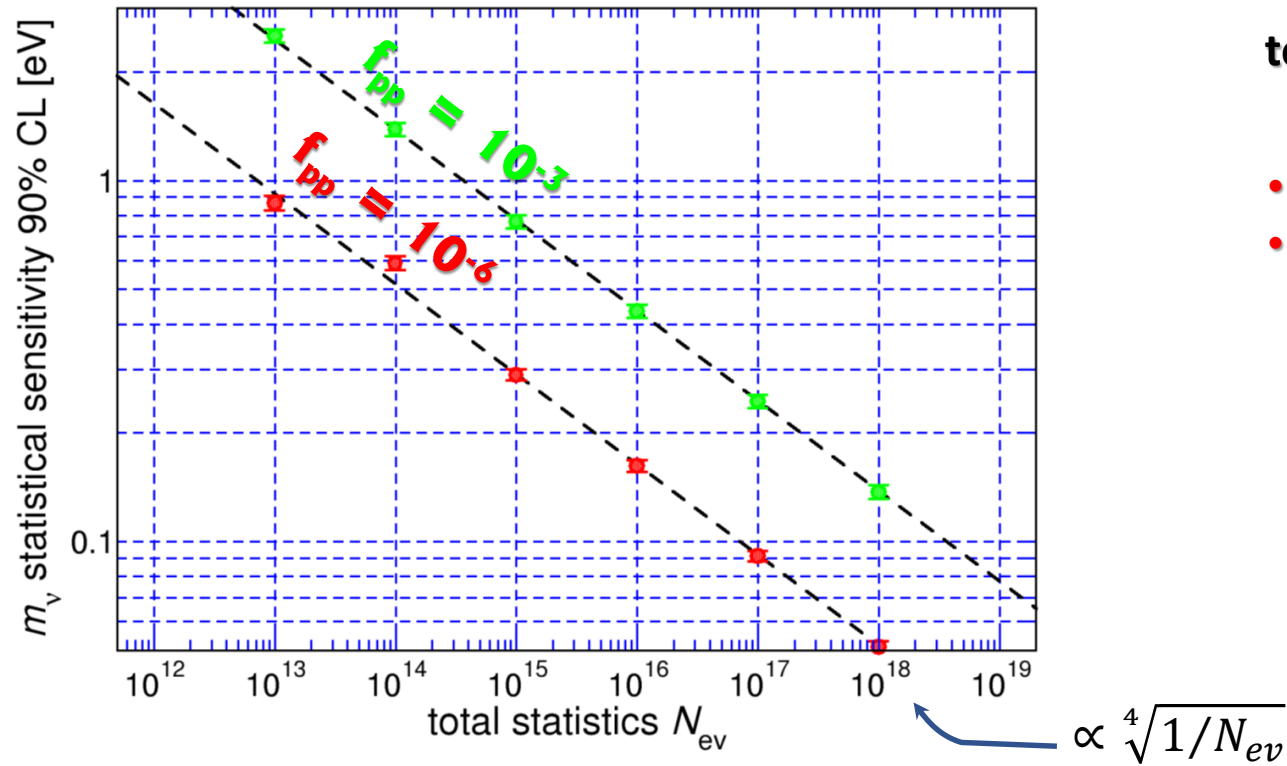
$Q = 2800$ eV

$f_{pp} = 10^{-4}$



more complex structure at the end-point might require a f_{pp} even lower than 10^{-4}

Statistical sensitivity



MC simulation

- $Q = 2.8$ keV
- $\Delta E = 1$ eV
- $\tau_R = 1$ μ s

M. Galeazzi et al., arXiv:1202.4763v2

A. Nucciotti, Eur. Phys. J. C (2014) 74:3161

to obtain $\Sigma(m_\nu) \leq 0.1$ eV

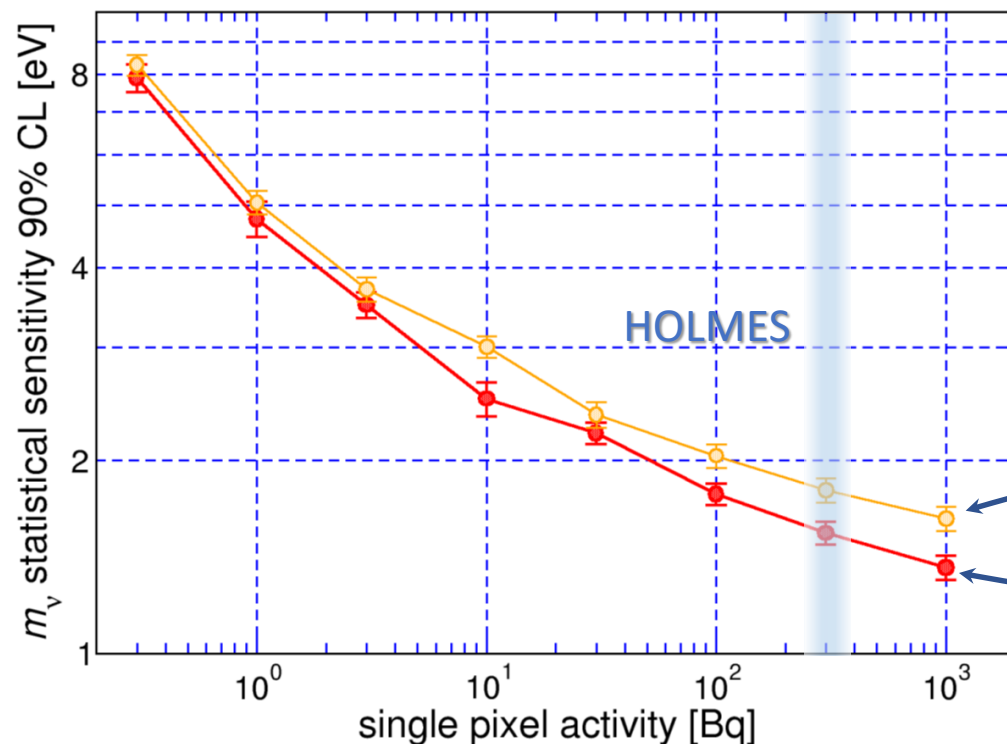
- $A = 1$ Bq, $f_{pp} = 10^{-6}$
- $N_{det} t_M \approx 2 \times 10^9$ det \cdot y
- $A = 1000$ Bq, $f_{pp} = 10^{-3}$
- $N_{det} t_M \approx 10^8$ det \cdot y

Detectors:

- time resolution $\tau_R = 1$ μ s
- $\Delta E = 1$ eV @ 2.8 keV
- Extremely large detector array!!

Statistical sensitivity vs pixel activity

1000 channels, $t_M = 3$ years

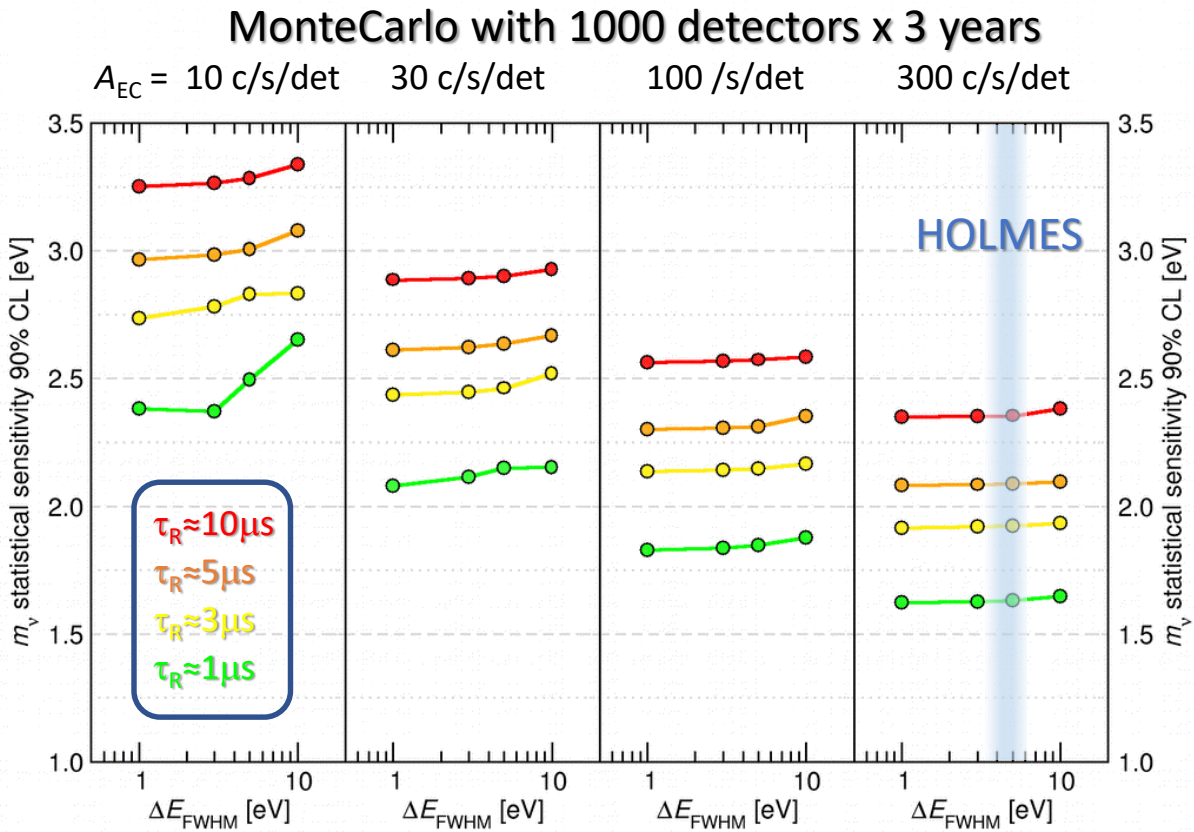


higher counting rates provide higher sensitivity
➤ robustness against background
➤ **$b \leq 0.1$ counts/eV/day/det** (flat background)

$\Delta E = 3$ eV, $\tau_R = 3$ μ s

$\Delta E = 1$ eV, $\tau_R = 1$ μ s

HOLMES (ERC-Adv. Grant 340321) PI: S. Ragazzi



Goals:

- Neutrino mass determination with a sensitivity as low as $\sim 1 \text{ eV}$
- proof potential and scalability of the approach
- precise calorimetric determination of Q
- systematic errors assessment

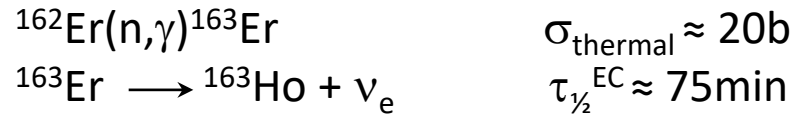
Two steps approach:

- 64 channels mid-term prototype, $t_M = 1 \text{ month}$ ($m_\nu < 10 \text{ eV}$)
- full scale: 1000 channels, 3×10^{13} events collected in 3 years
- 6.5×10^{16} ^{163}Ho nuclei ($\approx 18 \mu\text{g}$)

5 years project started on Feb. 1st 2014

B. Alpert et al., Eur. Phys. J. C, (2015) 75:112
<http://artico.mib.infn.it/holmes>

^{163}Ho production



Er 162 0.139	Er 163 75 m	Er 164 1.601	Er 165 10.3 h	Er 166 33.503	Er 167 2.3 s
Ho 161 6.7 s	Ho 162 68 m	Ho 163 1.1 s	Ho 164 37 m	Ho 165 100	Ho 166 1200 a
Dy 160 2.329	Dy 161 18.889	Dy 162 25.475	Dy 163 24.896	Dy 164 28.260	Dy 165 1.3 m

- ILL nuclear reactor @ Grenoble: high **thermal n flux 1.3×10^{15} n/cm²/s**
- cross section burn up $^{163}\text{Ho}(n,\gamma)^{164}\text{Ho}$ not negligible (~ 200 b)
- $^{165}\text{Ho}(n,\gamma)$ (mostly from $^{164}\text{Er}(n,\gamma)$) \rightarrow **$^{166\text{m}}\text{Ho}$, β^- , $\tau_{1/2} = 1200$ y, $Q = 5.97$ keV**
 - $A(^{163}\text{Ho})/A(^{166\text{m}}\text{Ho}) = 100 \sim 1000$
- chemical pre-purification and post-separation at PSI (Villigen, Switzerland)
- **HOLMES needs ~ 200 MBq of ^{163}Ho ***

*depends on the actual global embedding process efficiency

^{163}Ho production/2

- So far three batches* of enriched Er_2O_3 irradiated @ILL, pre/post processed @PSI and analyzed with ICP-OES, NAA (PSI) and ICP-MS (PSI+LNGS):
 - 18 mg (enriched ~28%) irradiated for 55 days @ILL → **5 MBq (6 kBq)** of ^{163}Ho ($^{166\text{m}}\text{Ho}$)
 - 120 mg (enriched ~26.5%) irradiated for 53 days @ILL → **23 MBq (37 kBq)** of ^{163}Ho ($^{166\text{m}}\text{Ho}$)
 - 544 mg (enriched ~25%) irradiated for 50 days @ILL. *Expected in 2018:* **108 MBq (200 kBq)** of ^{163}Ho ($^{166\text{m}}\text{Ho}$)
- total of **~108 MBq (243 kBq)** of ^{163}Ho ($^{166\text{m}}\text{Ho}$): enough for R&D and 500 pixels
- Ho radiochemical separation with ion-exchange resins in hot-cells at PSI
 - efficiency $\geq 79\%$



*from INFN, Uni Milano-Bicocca and CENTRA (Lisbon)

Background

- environmental γ radiation
- γ , X and β from surroundings
- **cosmic rays**
 - GEANT4 simulation for cosmic rays (muons) at sea level
 - 200x200x2 μm^3 Au absorber produce **bkg $\approx 5 \times 10^{-5}$ c/eV/day/det** (0 – 4 keV)

$$\text{HOLMES baseline: } ^{163}\text{Ho pile-up rate} \\ \langle r_{pp} \rangle = A \cdot f_{pp} / 2Q = 300 \text{ Bq} \times 3 \cdot 10^{-4} / 2Q = 1.5 \text{ c/eV/day/det}$$

MIBETA experiment: 300x300x150 μm^3 AgReO₄ absorber \rightarrow bkg (2 – 5 keV) $\approx 1.5 \times 10^{-4}$ c/eV/day/det

- **internal radionuclides ($^{166\text{m}}\text{Ho}$)**
 - GEANT4 simulation for $^{166\text{m}}\text{Ho}$ (β^- , $Q = 1856$ keV, $\tau_{1/2} = 1200$ y)
 - 200x200x2 μm^3 Au absorber produce a **bkg $\approx 10^{-11}$ c/eV/day/det/($^{166\text{m}}\text{Ho}$ nucleus)**

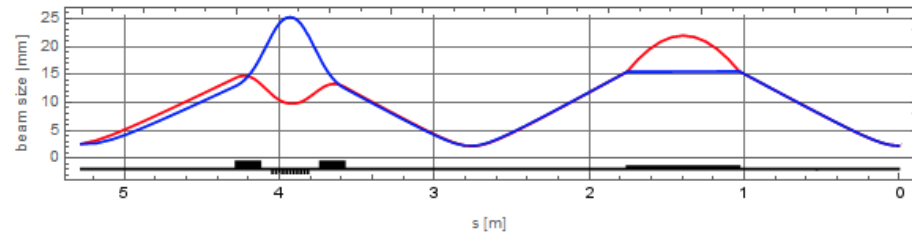
if **$A(^{163}\text{Ho}) = 300$ Bq** and requiring **bkg($^{166\text{m}}\text{Ho}$) < 0.1 c/eV/day/det**

$$N(^{163}\text{Ho})/N(^{166\text{m}}\text{Ho}) > 6000$$

$$A(^{163}\text{Ho})/A(^{166\text{m}}\text{Ho}) > 1500$$

Ion implanter

calculated beam size



≈4 mm FWHM
beam size

target
chamber *

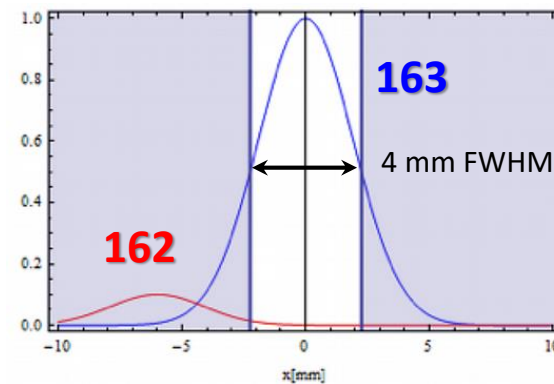
electrostatic
triplet **

90° magnet
sputter ion source



*delivered in July 2017

**delivered in January 2018



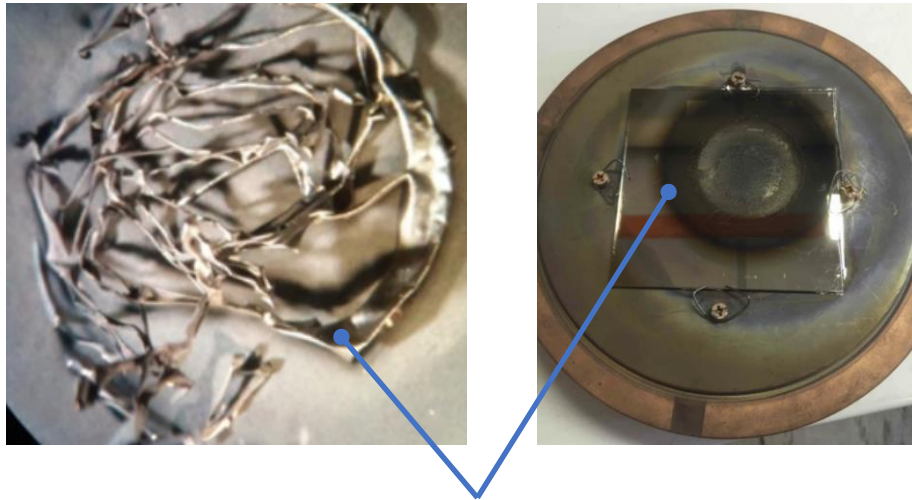
- extraction voltage 30-50 kV
- 10-100 nm implanting depth
- $^{163}\text{Ho}/^{166\text{m}}\text{Ho}$ separation better than 10^5

See G. Gallucci (Tuesday talk)
M. De Gerone (poster)

Ion source sputter target production

- sputter target for ion-implanting has to be in metallic form for possible extraction efficiency loss
- enriched $\text{Er}_2\text{O}_3 \rightarrow \text{Ho}_2\text{O}_3$
- thermoreduction/distillation in furnace:
 $\text{Ho}_2\text{O}_3 + 2\text{Y}(\text{met}) \rightarrow 2\text{Ho}(\text{met}) + \text{Y}_2\text{O}_3 @ T > 1600^\circ\text{C}$
- distillation efficiency $\approx 70\%$ (preliminary)

See G. Gallucci (Tuesday talk)
M. De Gerone (poster)



evaporated metallic holmium

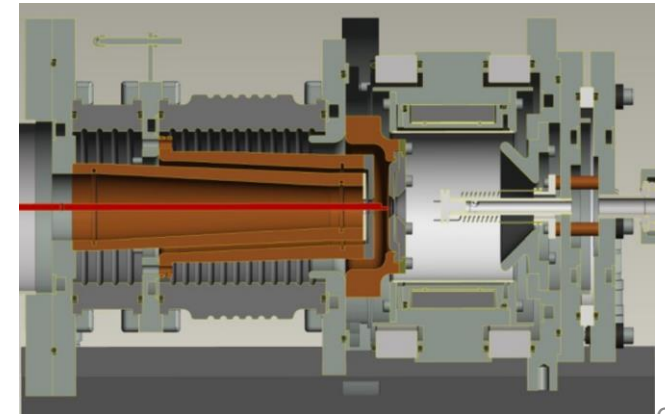
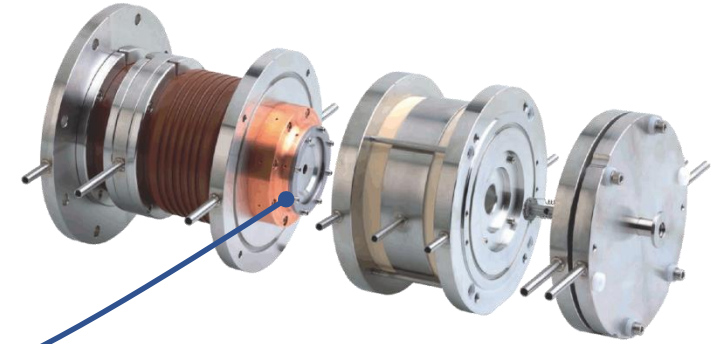


Ion source sputter target production/2

- sputter target for ion-implanting has to be in metallic form for possible extraction efficiency loss
 - work in progress to produce the sputter target
 - sintering of Ho with other metals
 - production of targets with different metals to test the implanting efficiency



Ho
t
a
r
g
e
t

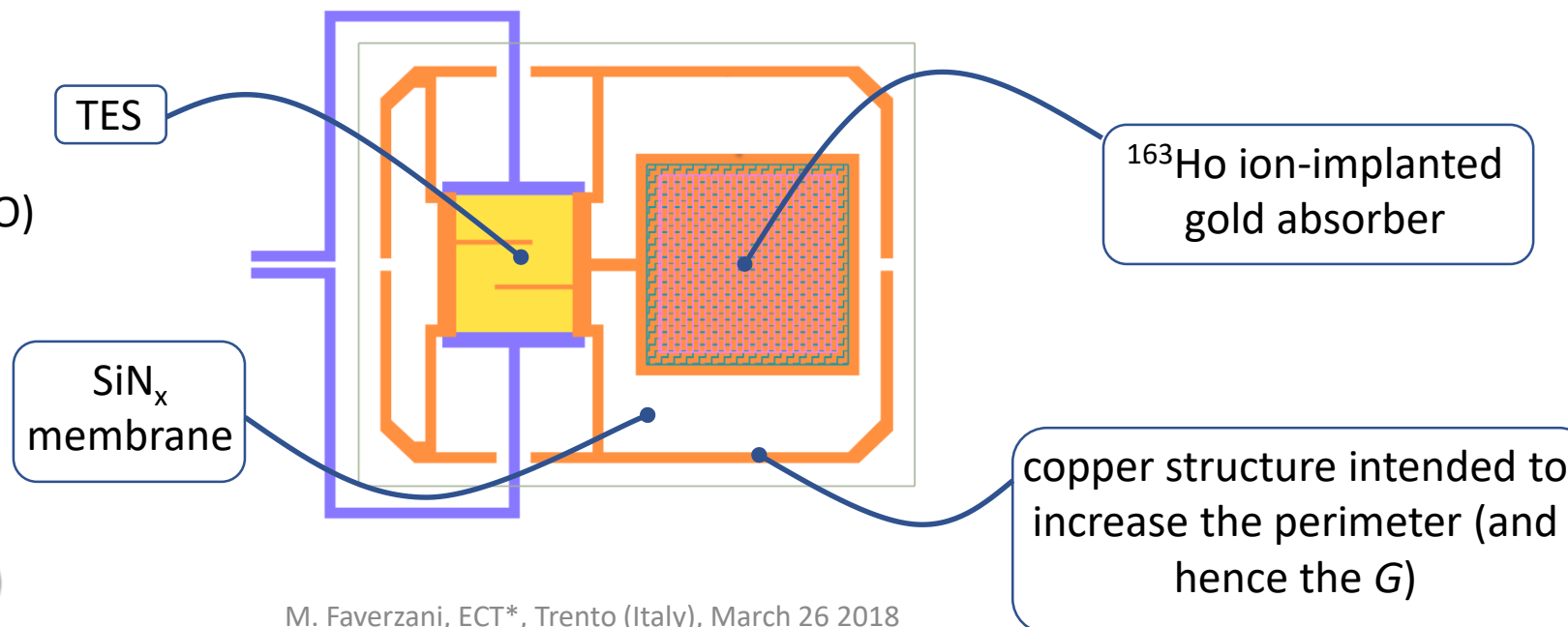
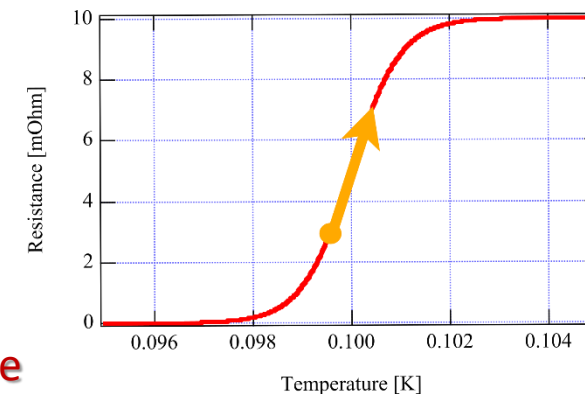


HOLMES detectors & readout

- **transition edge sensors**
 - good energy resolution: few eVs @ Q -value
 - compatible with ion-implanting
 - detectors intrinsically fast $O(100\text{ ns})$ – slowed down to $\sim 20\text{ }\mu\text{s}$ for bandwidth limitations
 - effective time resolution better than rise time → pile-up discrimination
 - 300 Hz/pixel: excess of heat capacity? Degradation of detector performances? To be investigated...
- **microwave multiplexing**
 - rather simple readout scheme
 - compatible with fast sampling rate & intrinsic energy resolution
- **DAQ based on Software Defined Radio**
 - multiplexing factor limited by bandwidth of the ADC

Detectors

- Transition Edge Sensors: exploit the strong dependence of R vs T of a superconductor kept in its transition
- ^{163}Ho ion-implanted gold absorber thermally coupled to the sensor
- “side-car” geometry to prevent proximity effect
- absorber thickness determined by stopping power of electrons and photons
- fast detector response for high counting rate
 - signal rise time determined by electrical cut-off (L/R)
 - signal decay time (at the first order) set by C/G : **large G to reduce dead time**



- ✓ production @NIST (Boulder, CO)
- ✓ test at NIST and Milano
- ion-implanted in Genova
- production completion in Genova+Milano

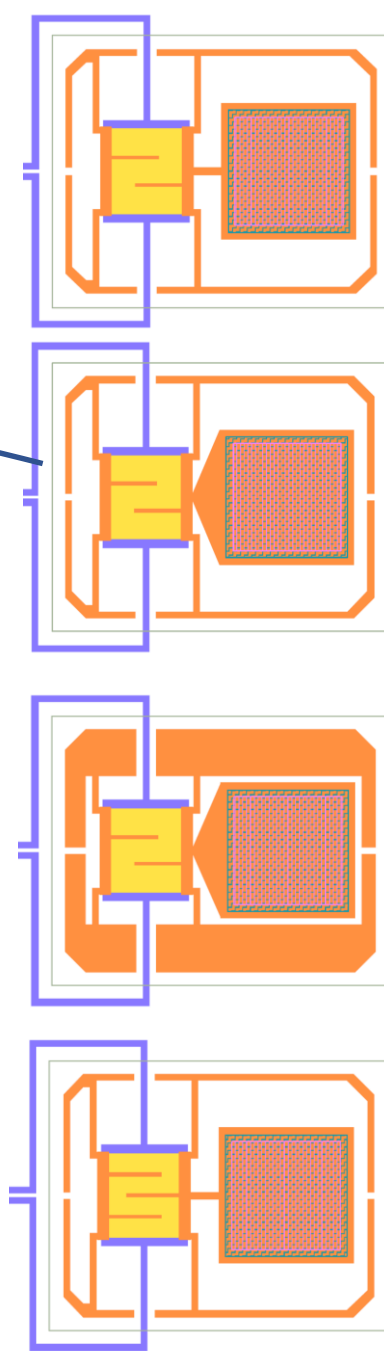
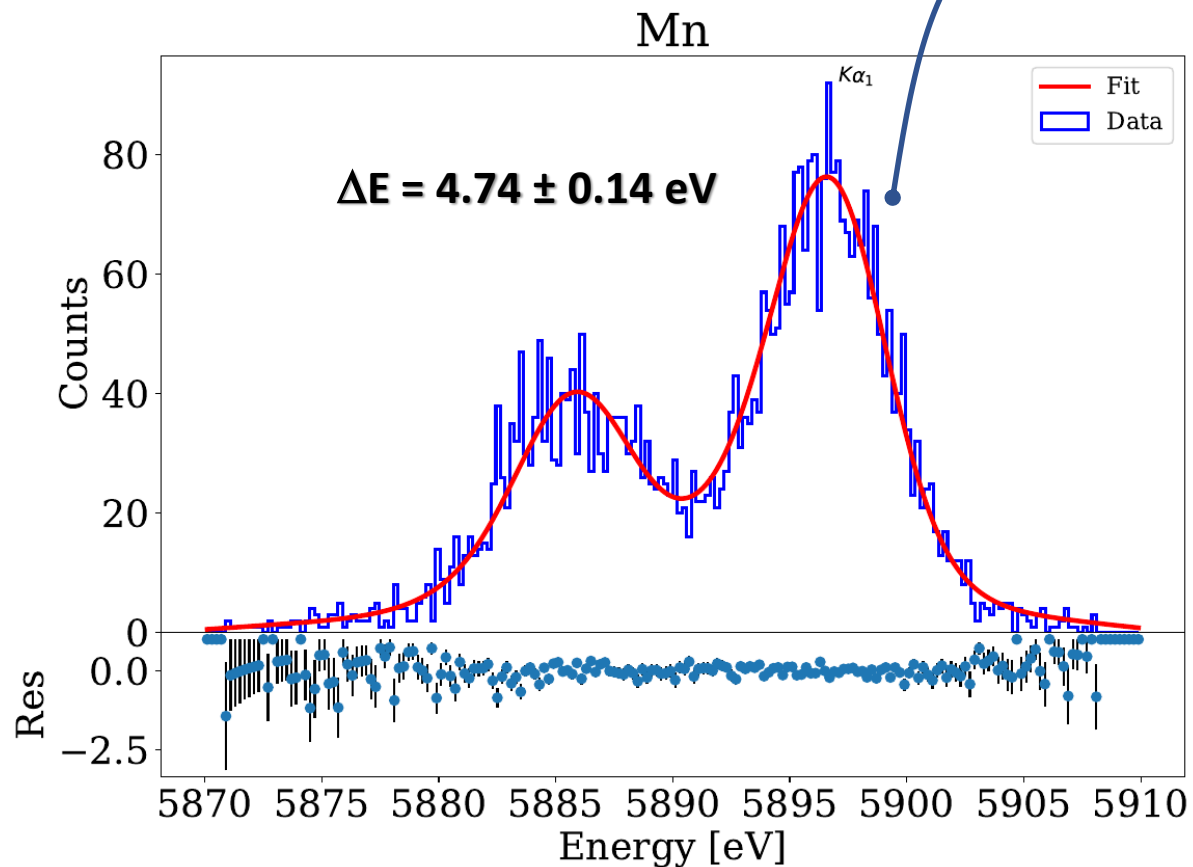
See E. Ferri (Wednesday talk)

Detectors testing

- tested several geometries
- **Not implanted with Holmium!**
- ^{55}Fe (5.9 keV) + fluorescence source (Ca – 3.7 keV; **Cl – 2.6 keV**; Al – 1.5 keV)
- selected stray inductance to obtain $\tau_R \approx 10 \mu\text{s}$

test @Milano with $f_{\text{samp}} = 500 \text{ kHz}$

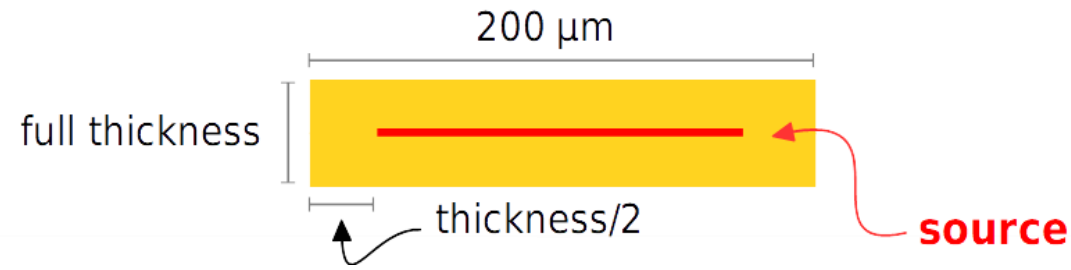
E [keV]	ΔE [eV]
1.49	4.6
2.62	5.3
3.69	4.6



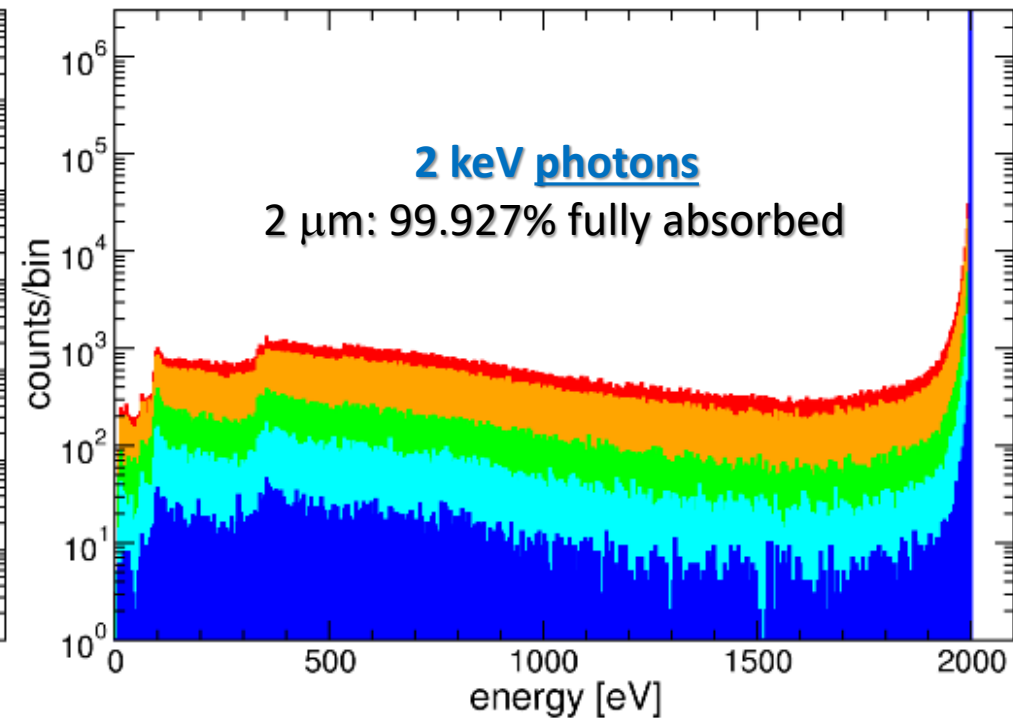
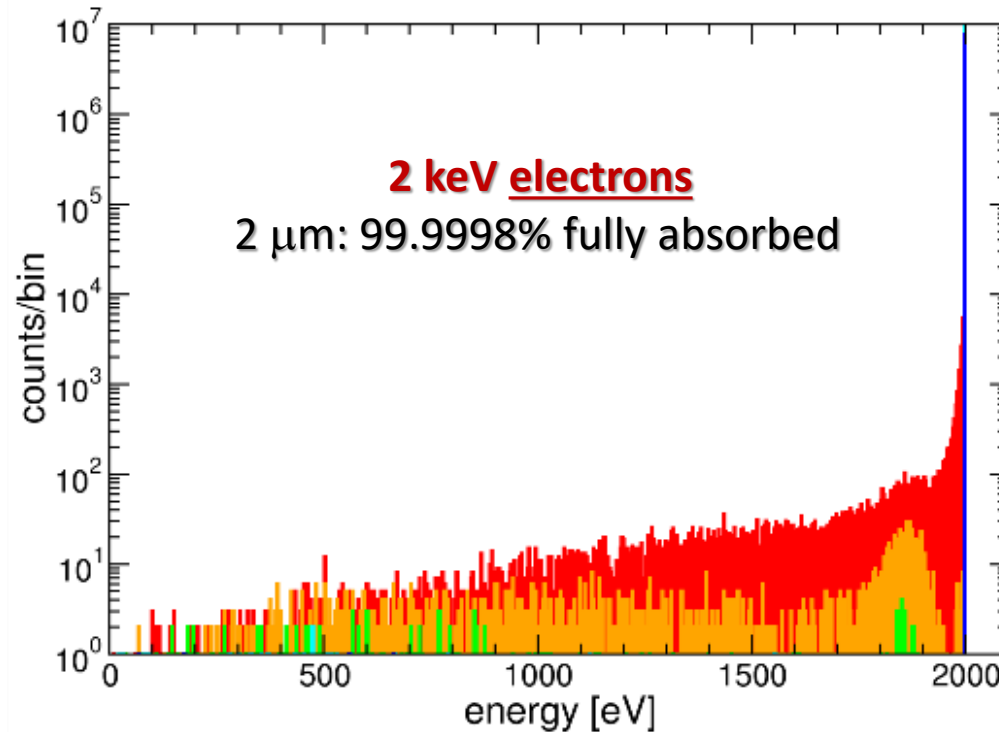
See E. Ferri (Wednesday talk)

Gold absorber - simulations

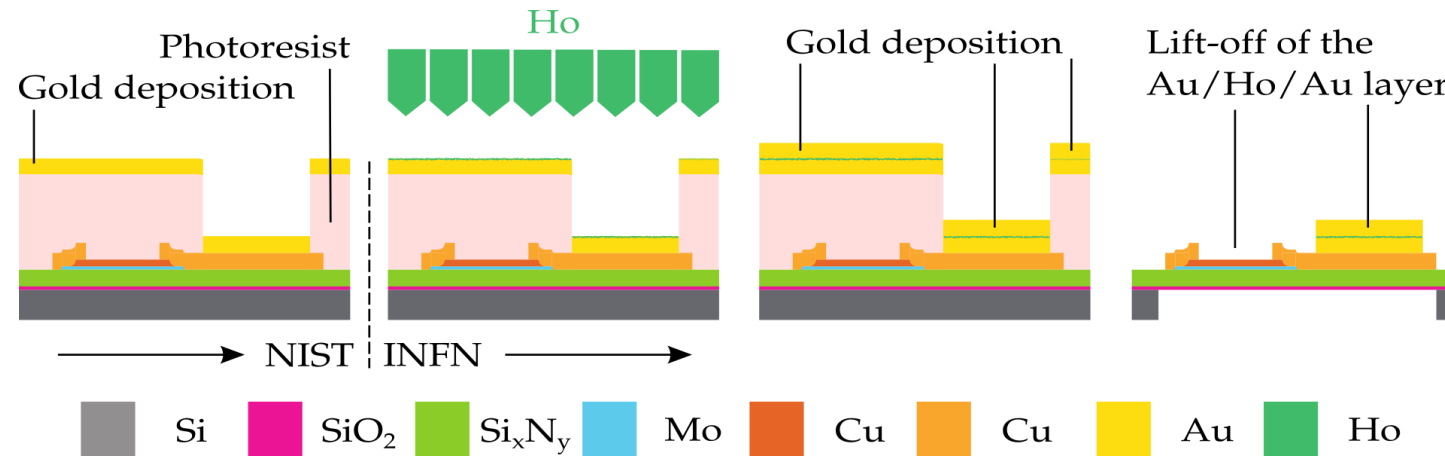
Geant4 + LowEnergyEM MC simulation: 10^7 events



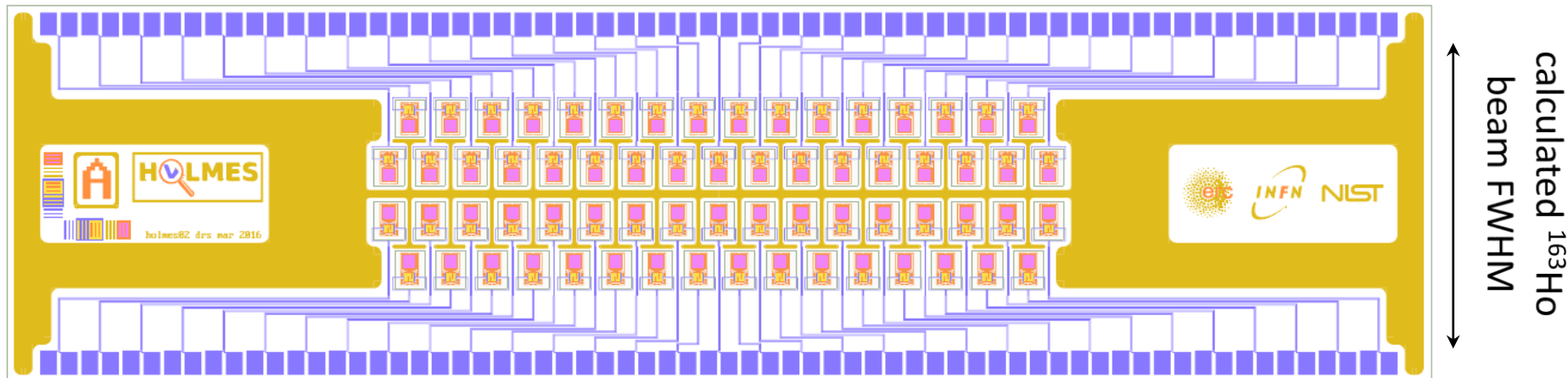
full thickness: 0.05, 0.1, 0.5, 1, 2 μm



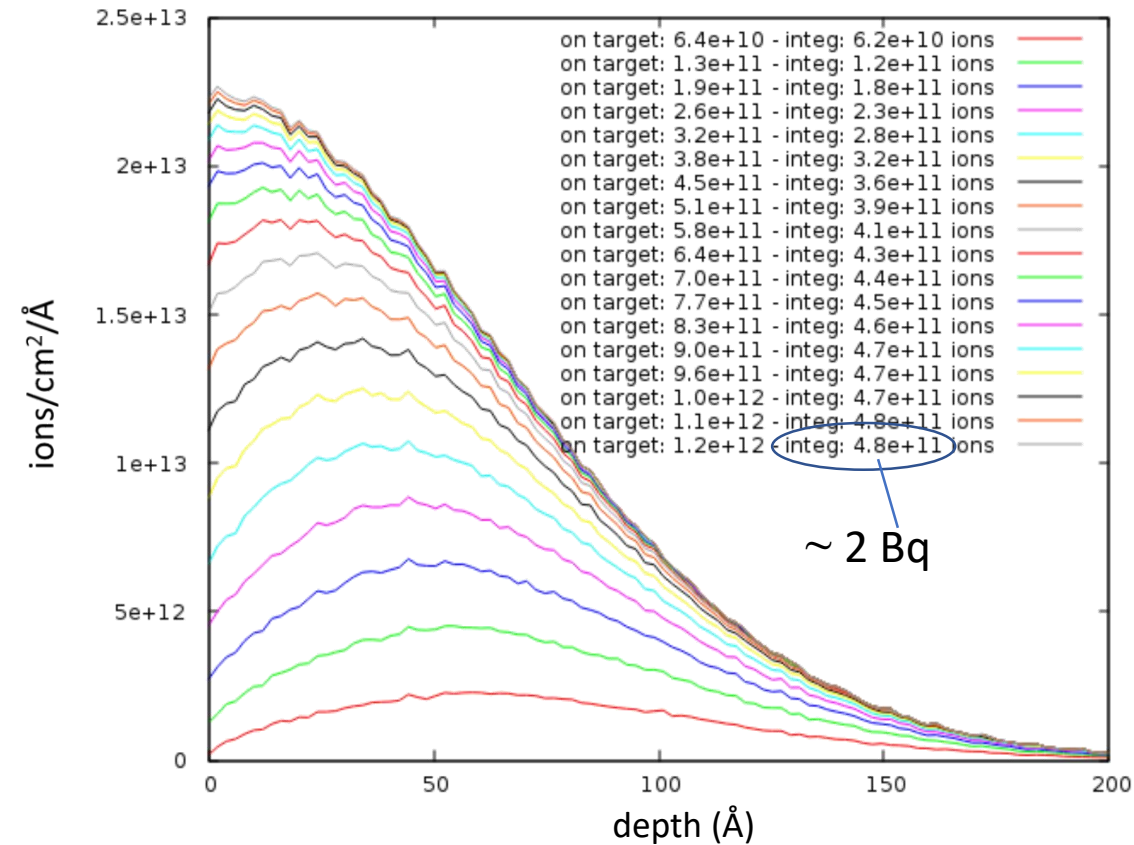
Detectors fabrication



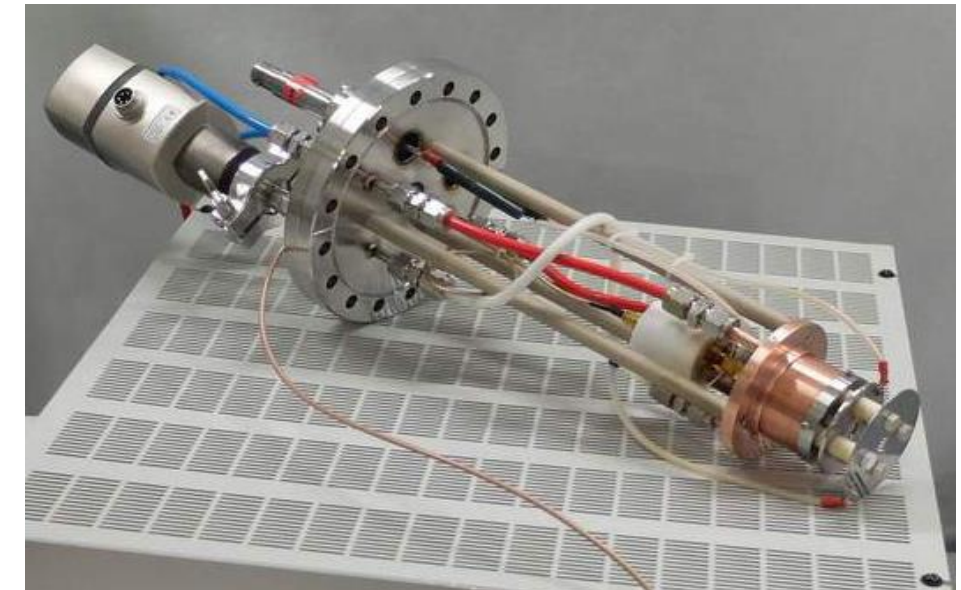
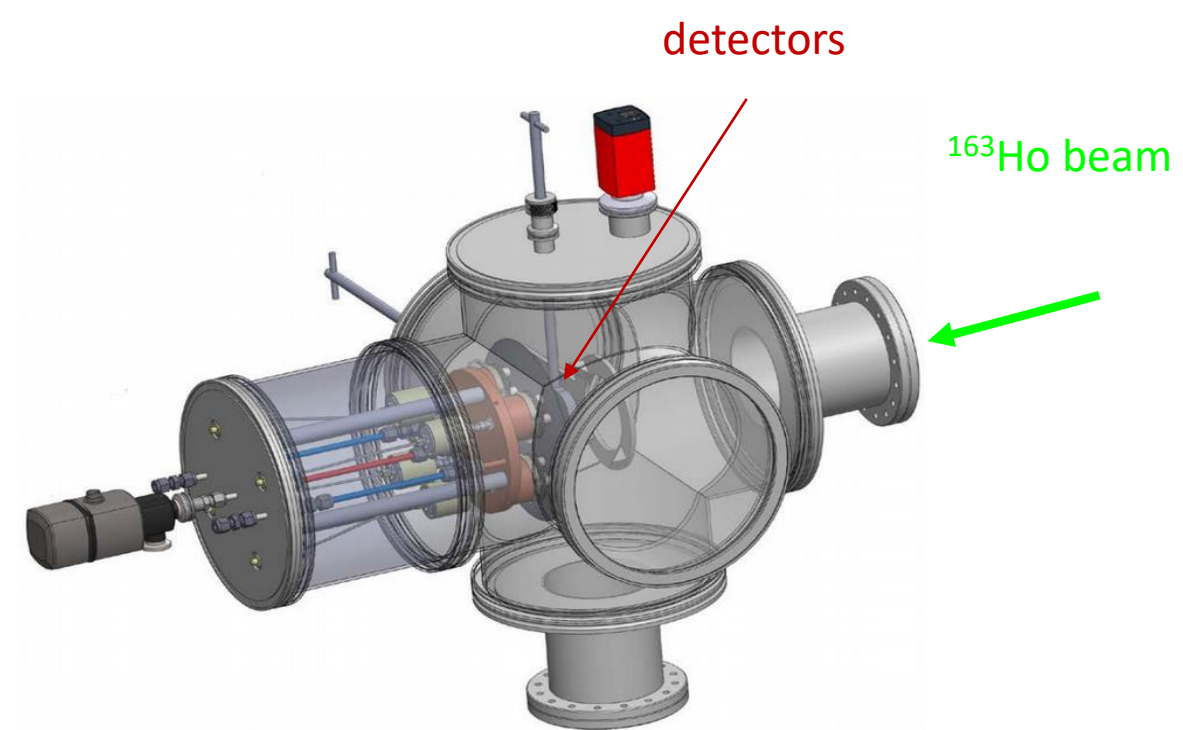
- TES originally fabricated at NIST, Boulder, CO, USA
- ^{163}Ho implantation at INFN, Genova, Italy
- 1 μm Au final layer deposited at INFN, Genova, Italy
- final fabrication process: release of the membrane with KOH in Milano or DRIE
- HOLMES 4 x 16 linear sub-array for low parasitic L and high implant efficiency



Target chamber

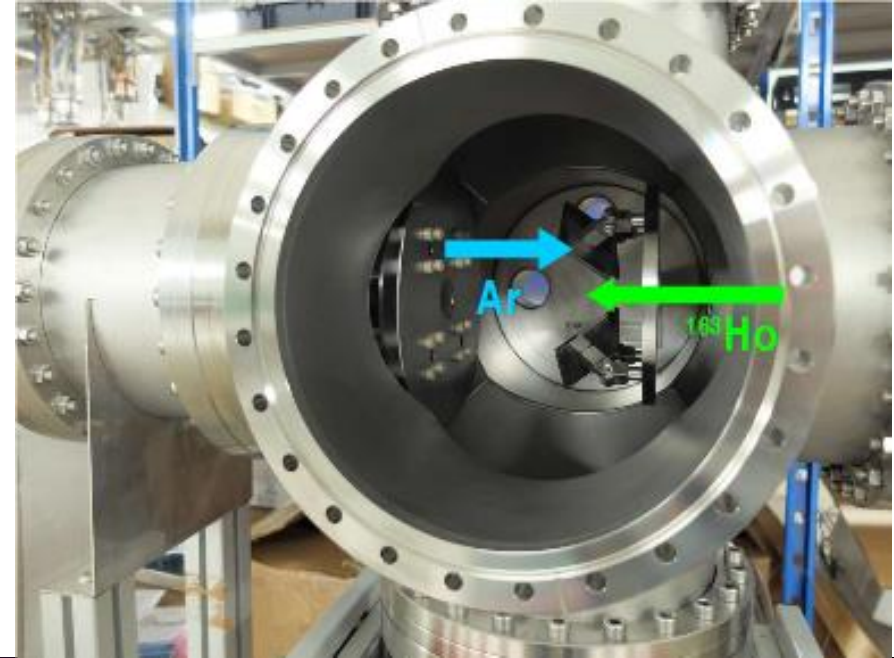
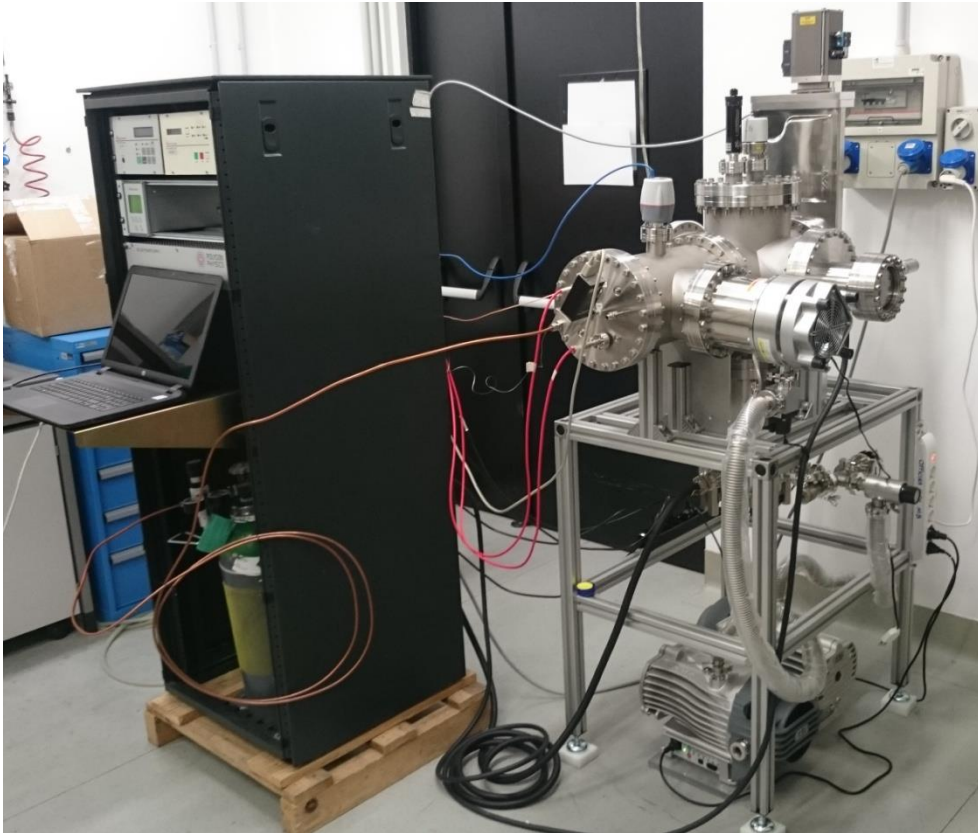


- ^{163}Ho concentration in absorbers saturate because ^{163}Ho sputters off Au from absorber
- effect compensated by Au co-evaporation (also for heat capacity reasons)
- final $1 \mu\text{m}$ Au layer deposited in situ to avoid oxidation



Target chamber/2

gold deposition rate ≈ 100 nm/hour
(tunable with RF power or with Ar energy)



Microwave multiplexing readout

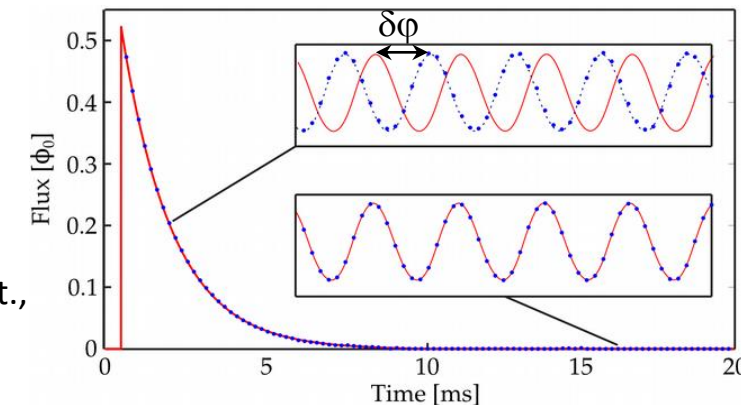
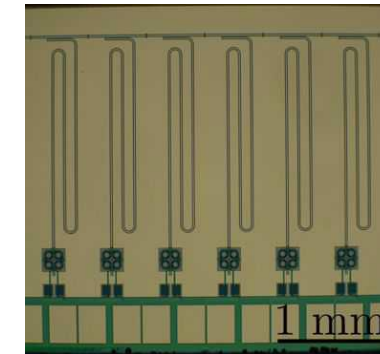
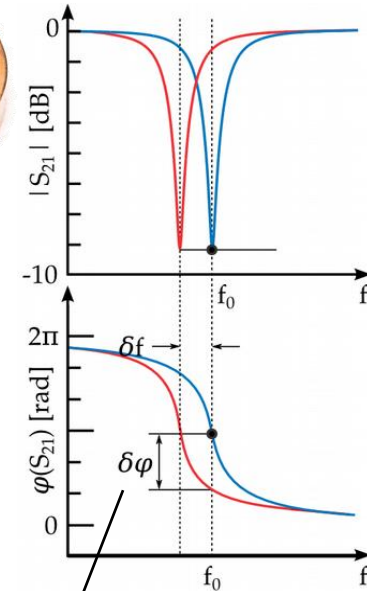
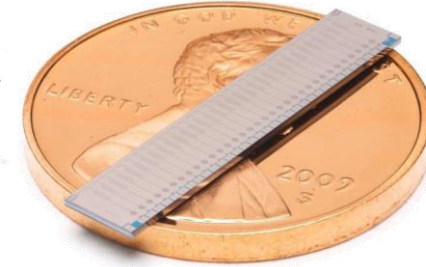
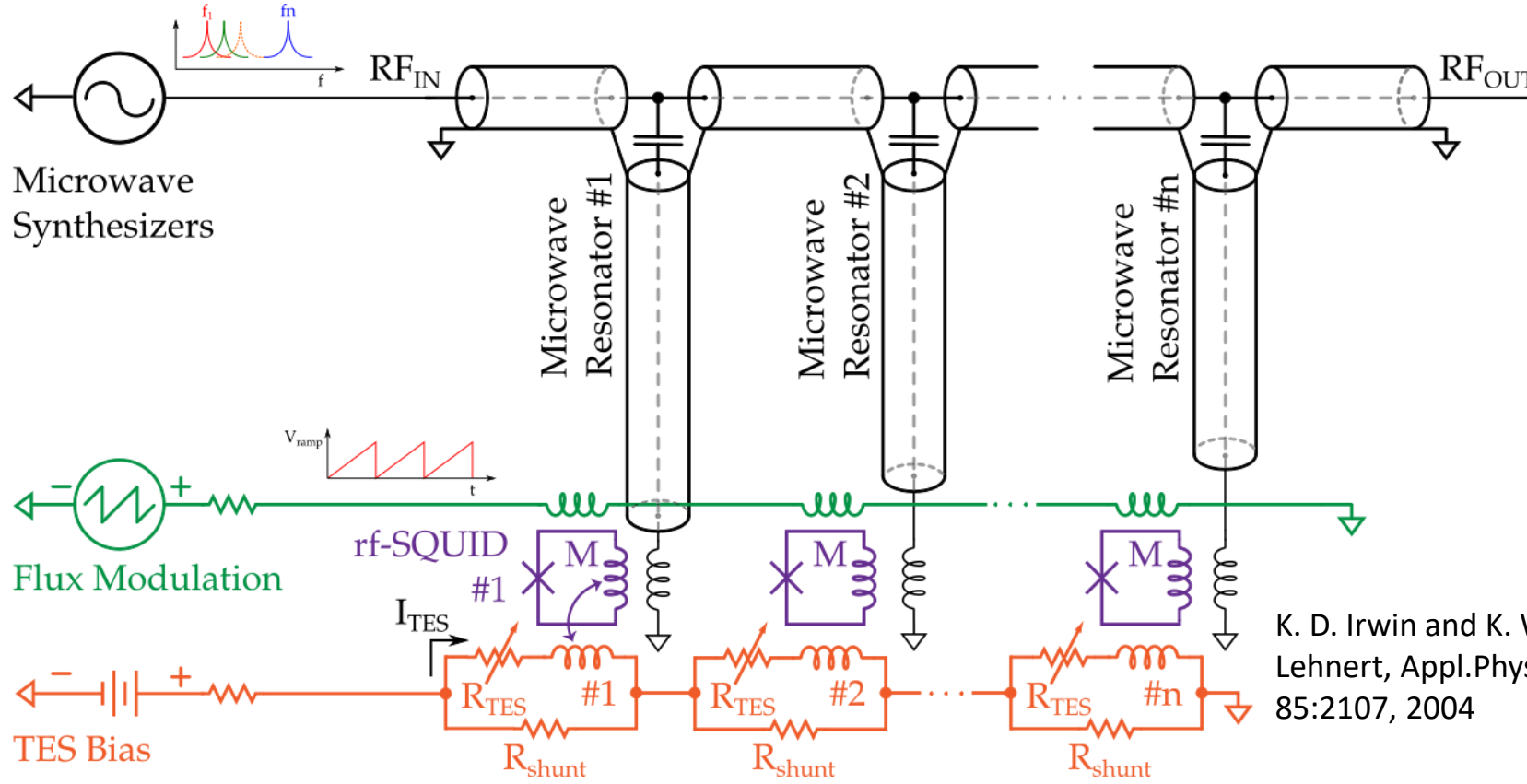
See E. Ferri (Wednesday talk)

TESs readout with microwave multiplexing (produced by NIST)

- each sensor inductively coupled to a RF-squid part of a $\lambda/4$ resonator
- a comb of signals probe the resonators at their characteristic resonant frequency

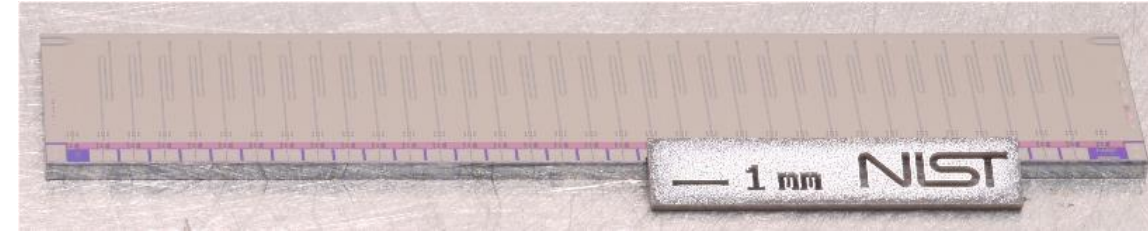
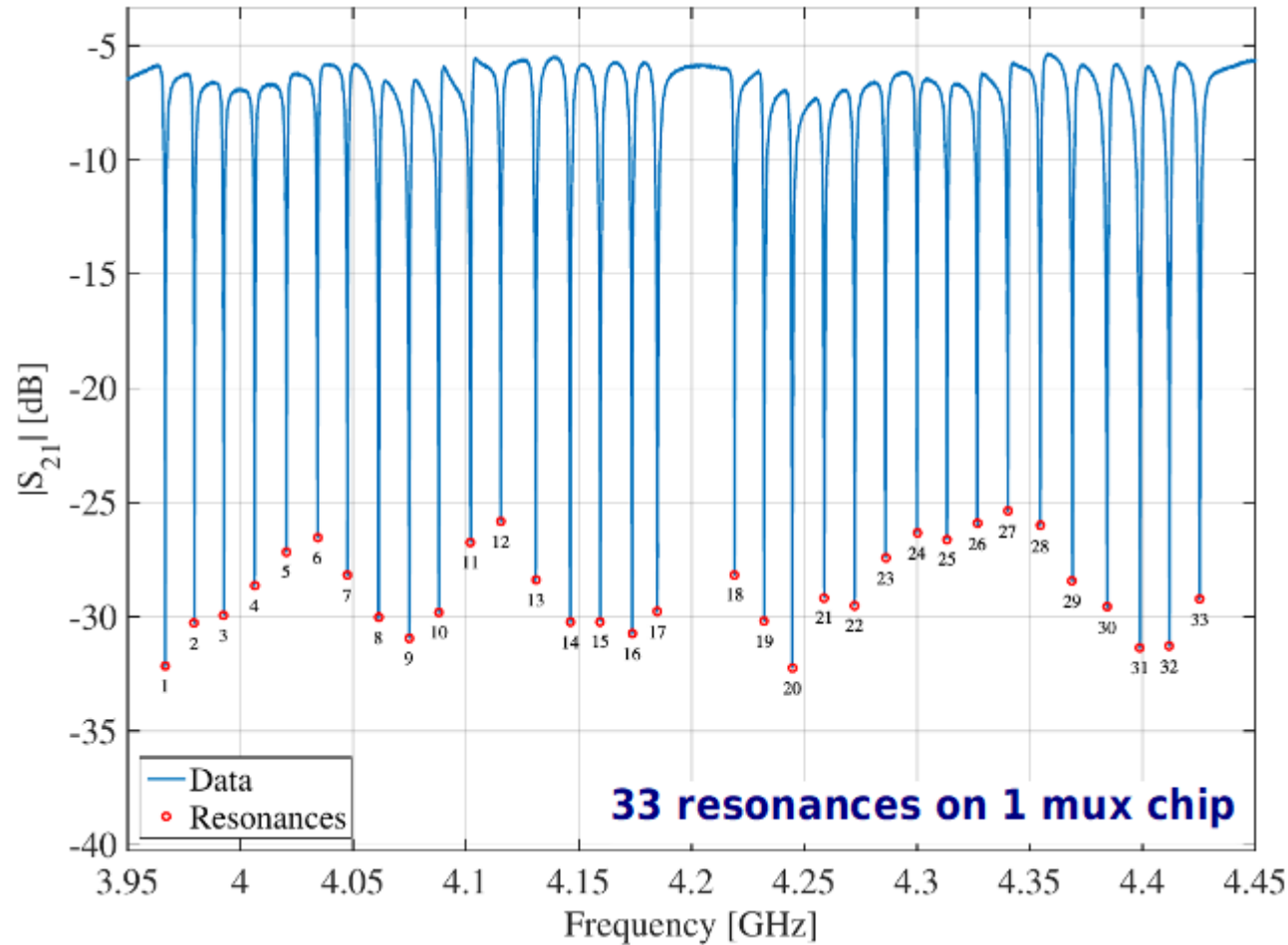
$$E \rightarrow \delta T_{\text{TES}} \rightarrow \delta I_{\text{TES}} \rightarrow \delta \phi_{\text{squid}} \rightarrow \delta f_{\text{resonator}}$$

- a ramp signal added to the squids in order to linearize the response



K. D. Irwin and K. W. Lehnert, Appl. Phys. Lett., 85:2107, 2004

Microwave multiplexing readout

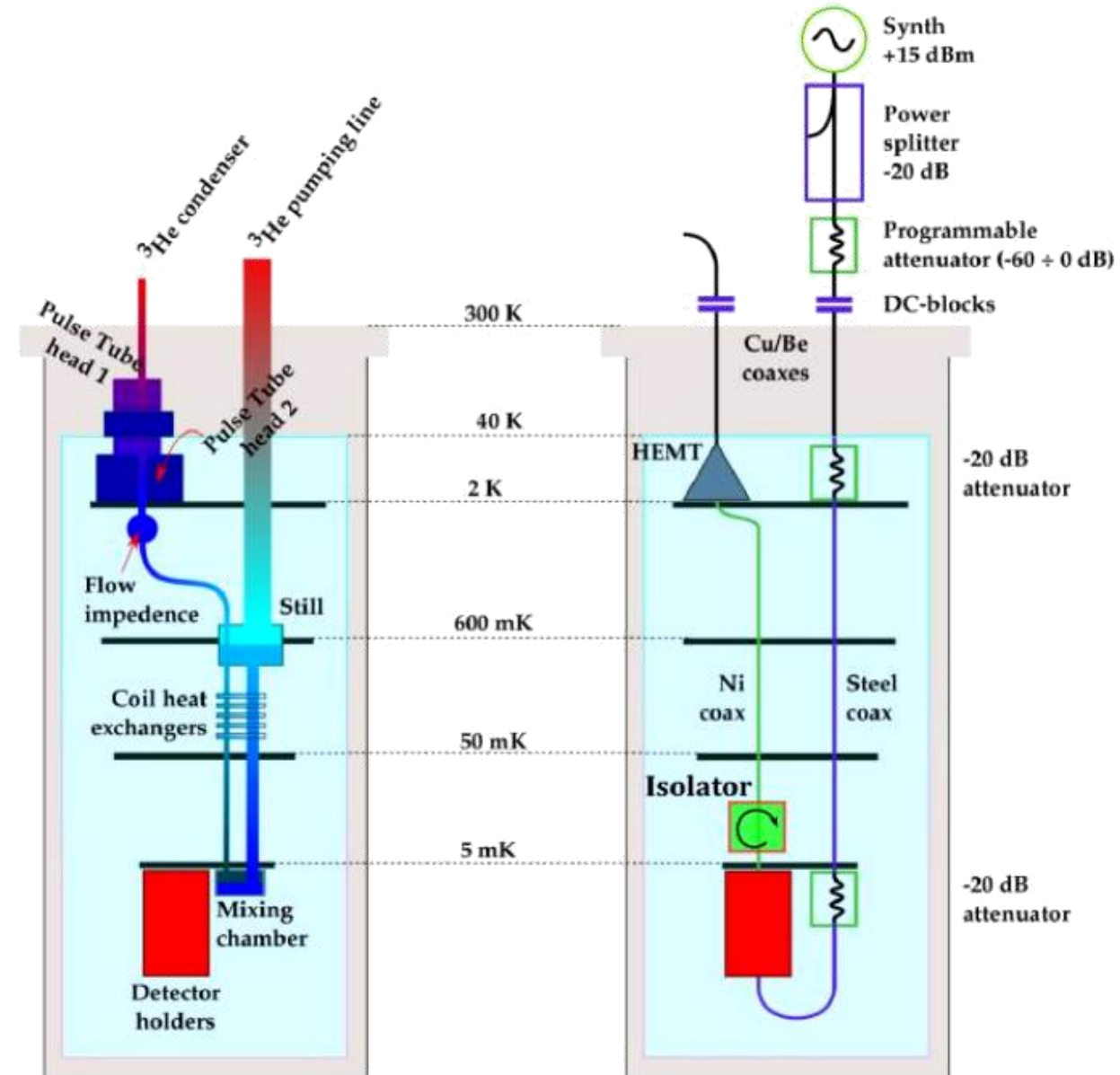
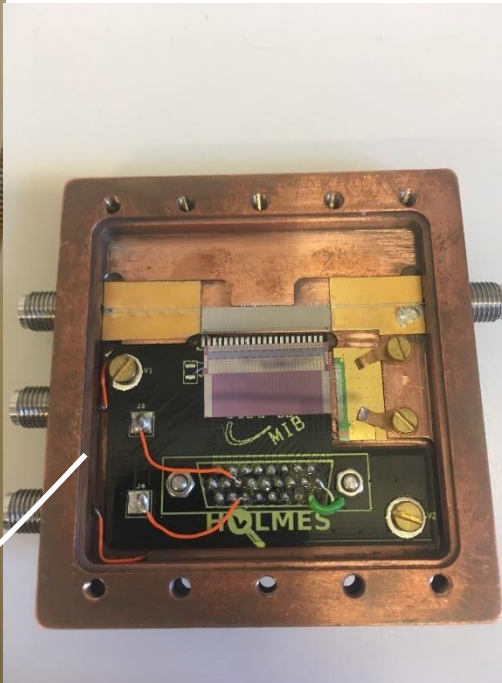
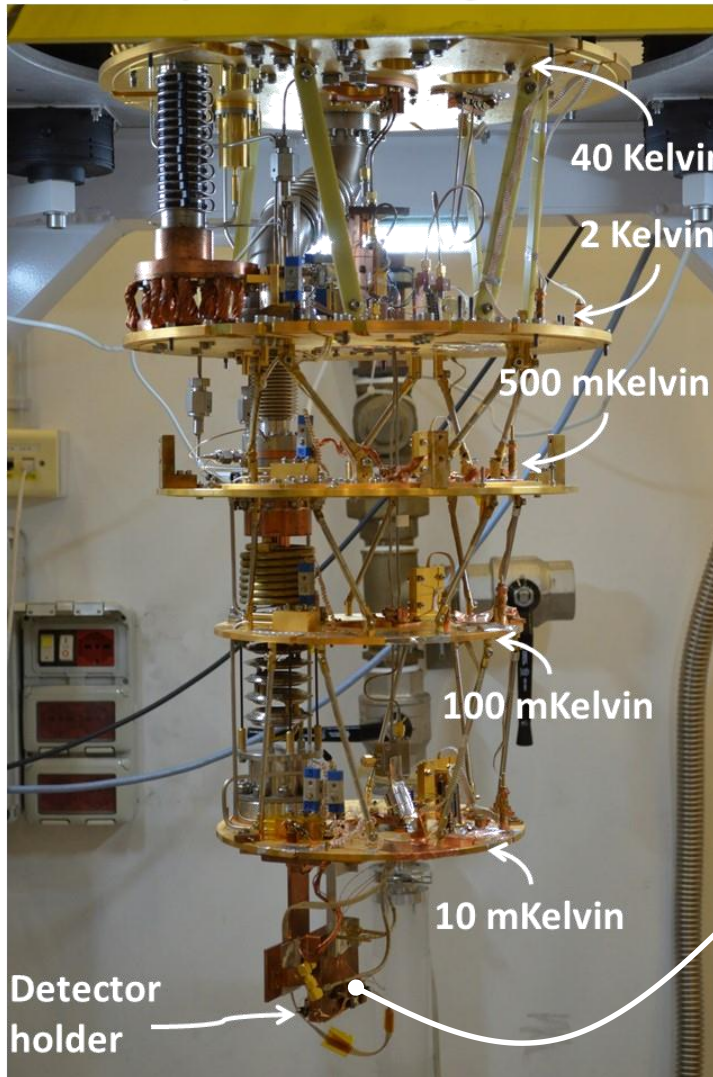


- 33 resonances/chip over 500 MHz
- BW = 2 MHz per resonator
- separation between resonances 14 MHz (to prevent crosstalk)
- depth greater than 10 dB
- SQUID equivalent noise: $\leq 2 \mu\phi_0/\sqrt{Hz}$

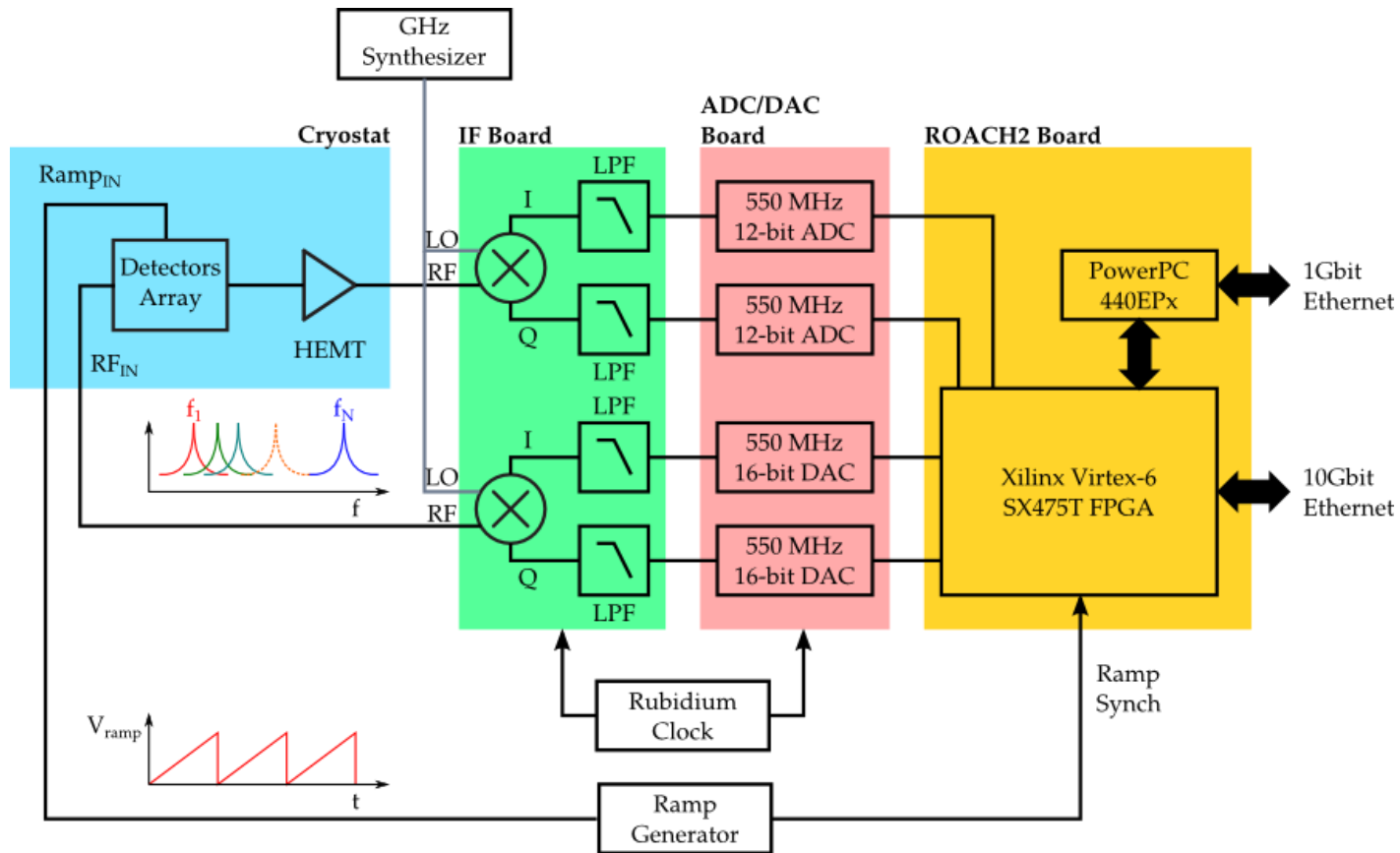
See E. Ferri (Wednesday talk)

Cryogenic set-up

dry dilution refrigerator



DAQ with the ROACH2



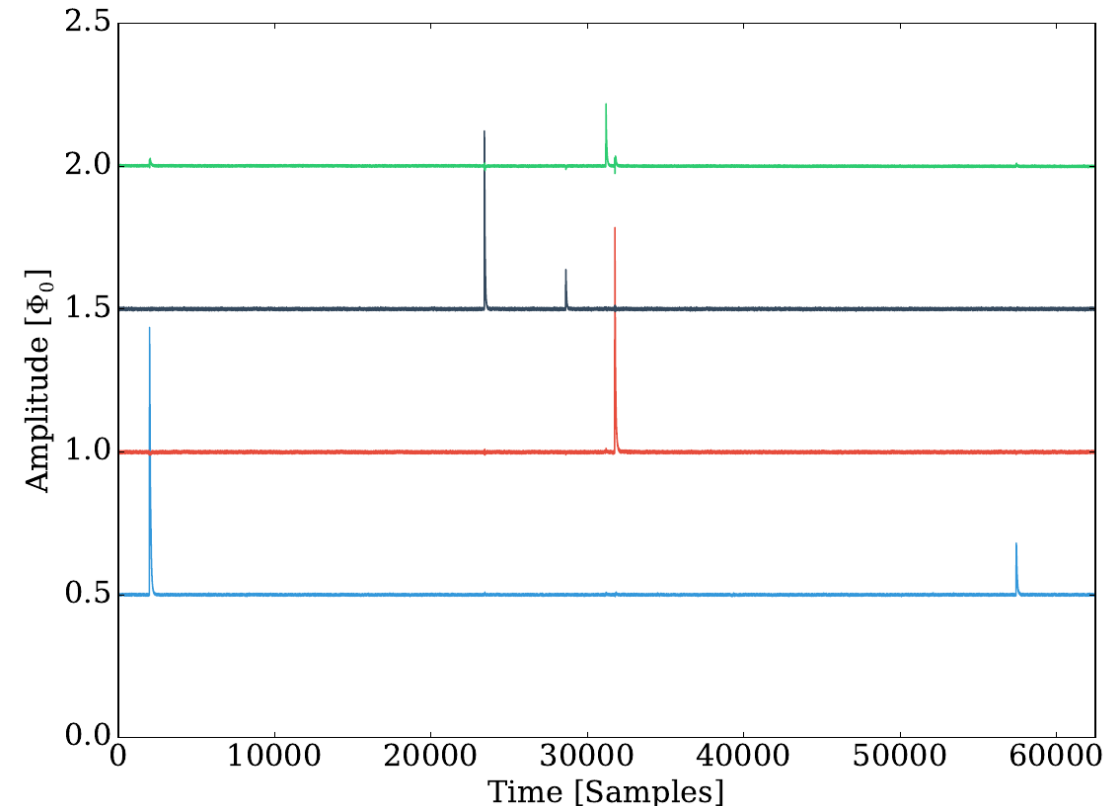
- Software Defined Radio with the open system ROACH2 (Casper collaboration)
- ADC BW 550 MHz
- real time pulse reconstruction

Multiplexing factor proportional to the target rise time: $n_{TES} \approx 3.4 \cdot 10^{-6} \tau_R$

requiring $\tau_R = 10 \mu s$

$$n_{TES} \approx 34$$

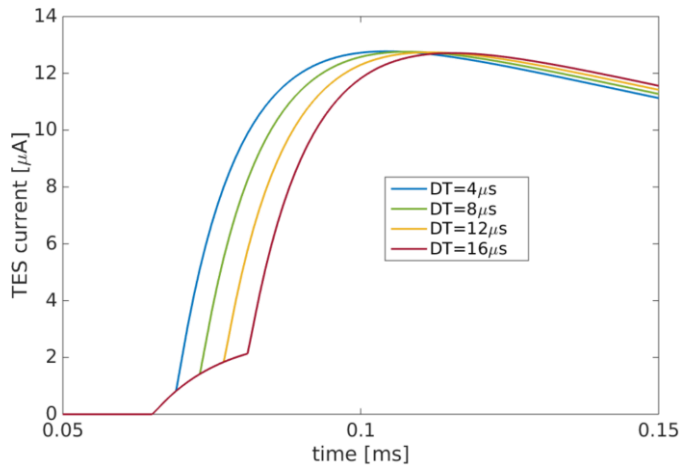
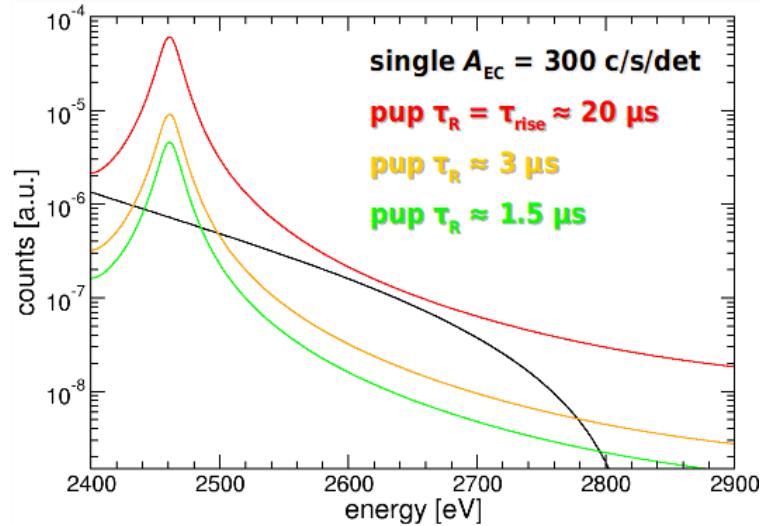
At the moment n_{TES} is limited by the readout power of the RF probe signals



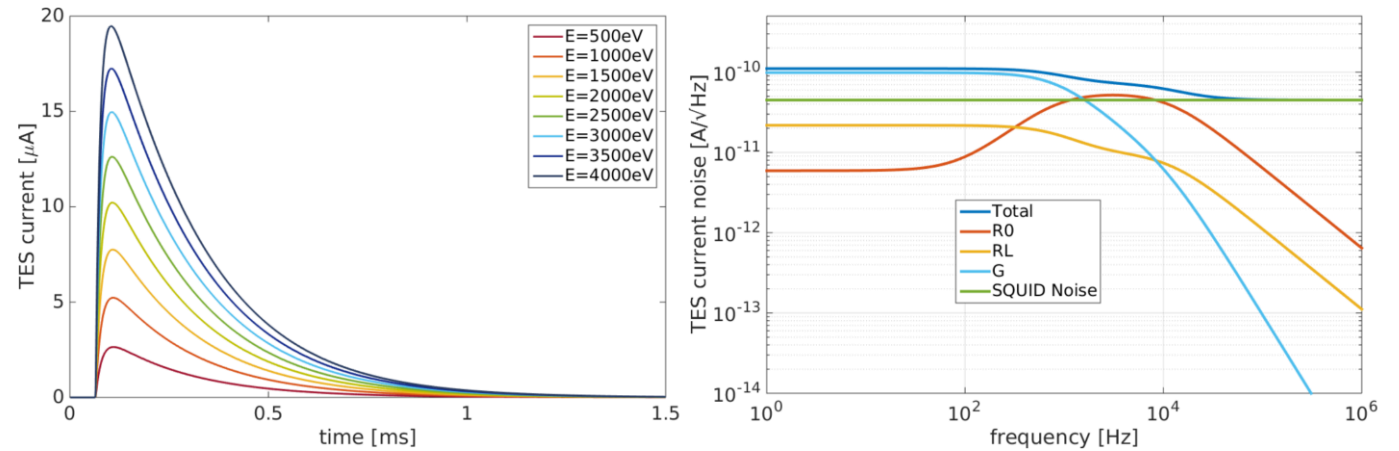
Detector time resolution (MC simulations)

pile-up spectrum with a time resolution τ_R :

$$N_{pp}(E) = A_{EC} \int_0^\infty \tau_R(E, \epsilon) N_{EC}(\epsilon) N_{EC}(E - \epsilon) d\epsilon$$



pulse shape and noise from NIST TES model, sampled with f_{samp} , record length, and n bit



pile-up detection algorithms for $f_{samp} = 0.5$ MHz, $\tau_{rise} \approx 20 \mu s$:

- Wiener Filter $\rightarrow \tau_R \approx 3 \mu s$
- Single Value Decomposition $\rightarrow \tau_R \approx 1.5 \mu s$

$E1 + E2 \in (2.4 \div 2.9)$ keV (from ^{163}Ho spectrum), $\Delta t \in [0 \div 10] \mu s$

Signal processing

- normal data taking (hypothetical configuration)
 - ❑ Save only n -tuples (6 x 4 byte words)
 - ❑ high threshold ($E_{\text{th}} \approx 2.022 \text{ keV} < E_{M_1}$, 21% of spectrum)
 - **about 150 TB 3 years of data-taking**
- periodic minimum bias samples (temporary storage)
 - ❑ tune parameter for real time pulse processing
 - ❑ full waveform for immediate off-line analysis (512 samples x 12 bits)
 - ❑ full spectrum → **20 TB/day**

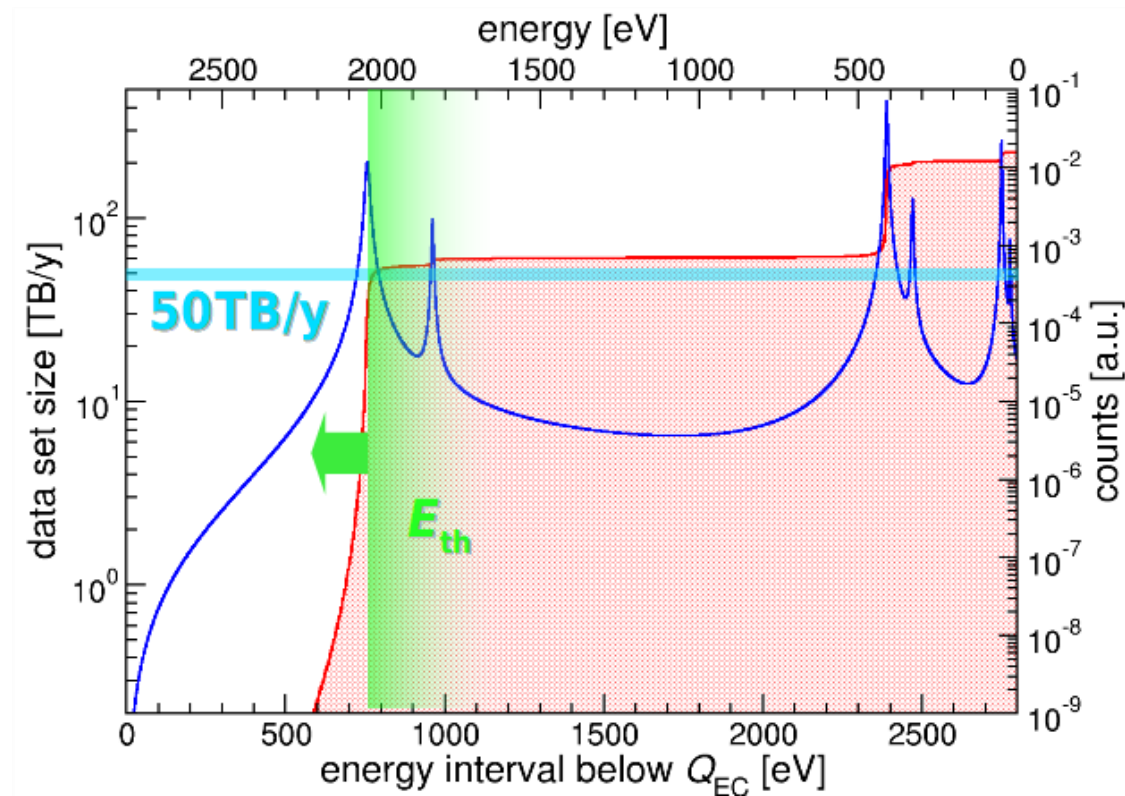
ROACH2 real-time

pulse processing + threshold cut

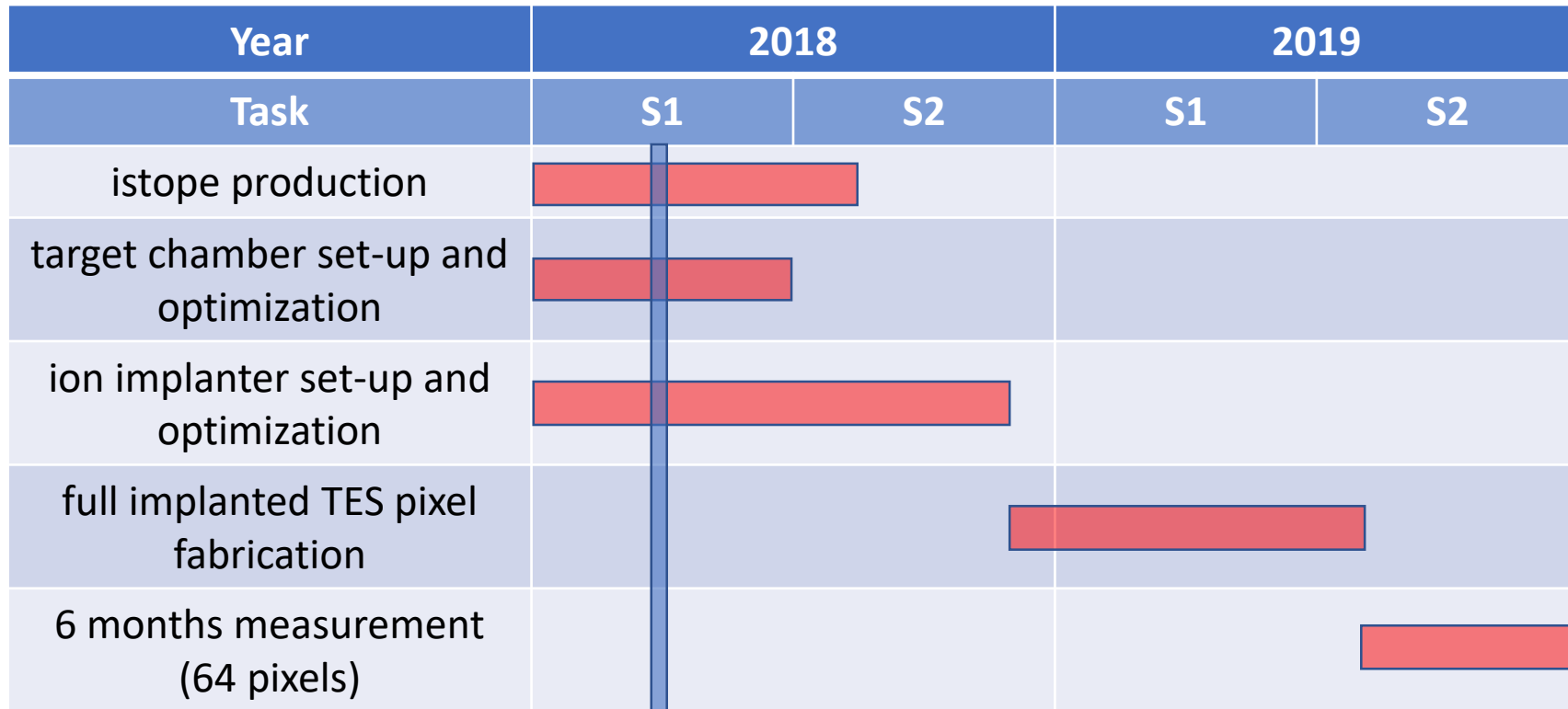
Server quasi real-time

pulse processing:

- OF analysis
- pile-up detection
- ...



Schedule



Project status:

- TES detectors and DAQ ready
- ion implanting and target chamber are being setting up
- first spectrum measurement with 64 channles will start in mid 2019
 - 1 month of data-taking → $\Sigma_{m_v} \approx 10$ eV