



Constraining the effective mass dependence of the Nuclear Symmetry Energy

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Office of
Science

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Outline

Motivation

Previous Experimental Work

New Experimental Setup

iRA Upgrade

Microball

Neutron Wall

Charged-particle Veto Wall

Outlook



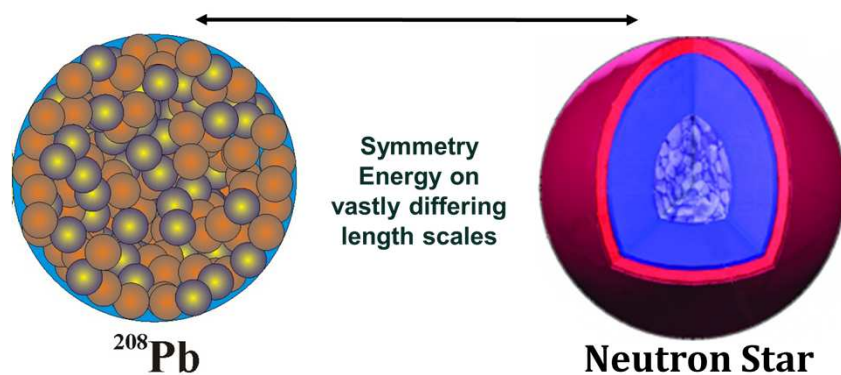
Motivation

Nuclear Equation of State

$$\frac{E}{A}(\rho, \delta) = \frac{E}{A}(\rho, \delta = 0) + E_{sym}(\rho)\delta^2$$

$$\delta = \frac{\rho_n - \rho_p}{\rho_n + \rho_p}$$

Symmetry Energy: cost for $N \neq Z$
(largest EoS uncertainty)



Symmetry Energy affects

- Neutron Skin Thickness
- Fragment Flow
- Yield Ratios
- Isospin Diffusion

Astrophysics

- Neutron star cooling
- Mass-radius relation in neutron stars
- Production of r-process nuclei

C.J. Horowitz, J. Piekarewicz, Phys. Rev. Lett. 86 (2001) 5647



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Effective Mass

The isovector effective mass describes how the potential energy depends on the momentum

$$m^* = \frac{m}{1 + \frac{m}{p} \frac{\partial V}{\partial p}}$$

At saturation density this reduction is ~70% from the free nucleon mass. In asymmetric matter the potentials that neutrons and protons feel are expected to be different → effective-mass splitting

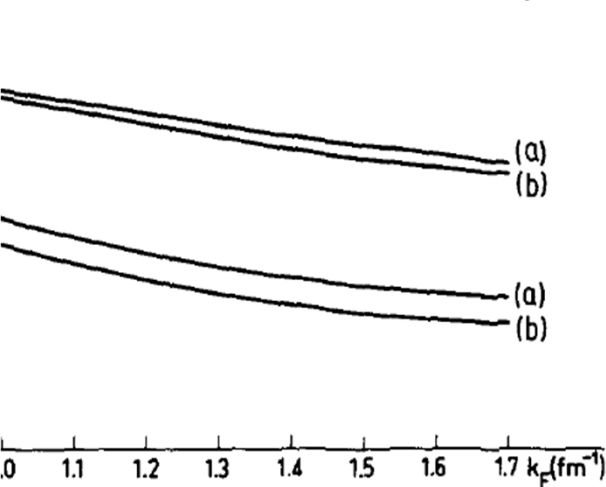
$$\Delta m_{np}^* = \frac{m_n^* - m_p^*}{m_N}$$



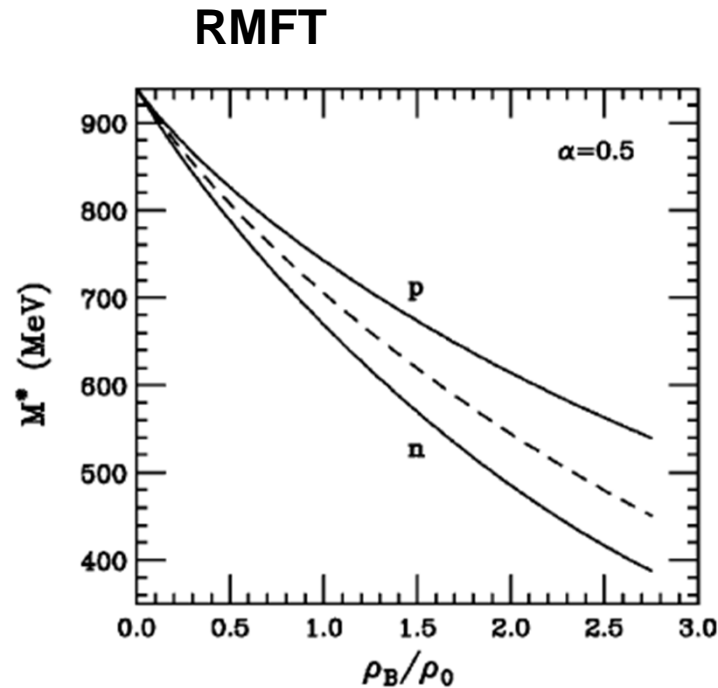
Effective-Mass Splitting

- Neutron rich systems show effective-mass splitting
- Greater isospin asymmetry leads to more mass splitting

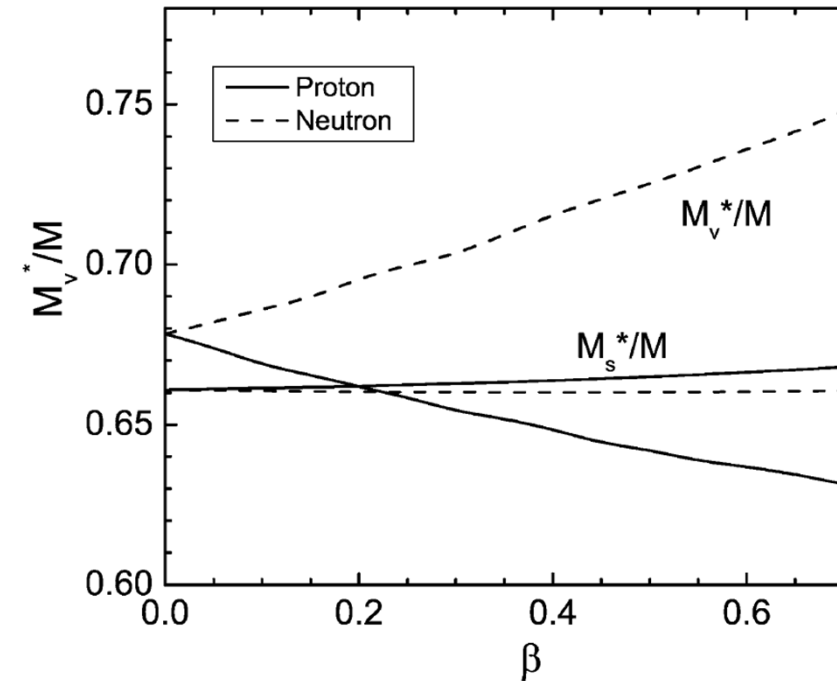
Fermi Liquid Theory



Sjoberg, Nuc Phys A265, 511-516 (1976)



B. Liu, et al Phys Rev C65, 045201, (2002)



M. Zhong-Yu et al, Phys Lett B, 606 170-174, (2004)

Theoretical models disagree whether $m_p^* > m_n^*$ or $m_n^* > m_p^*$



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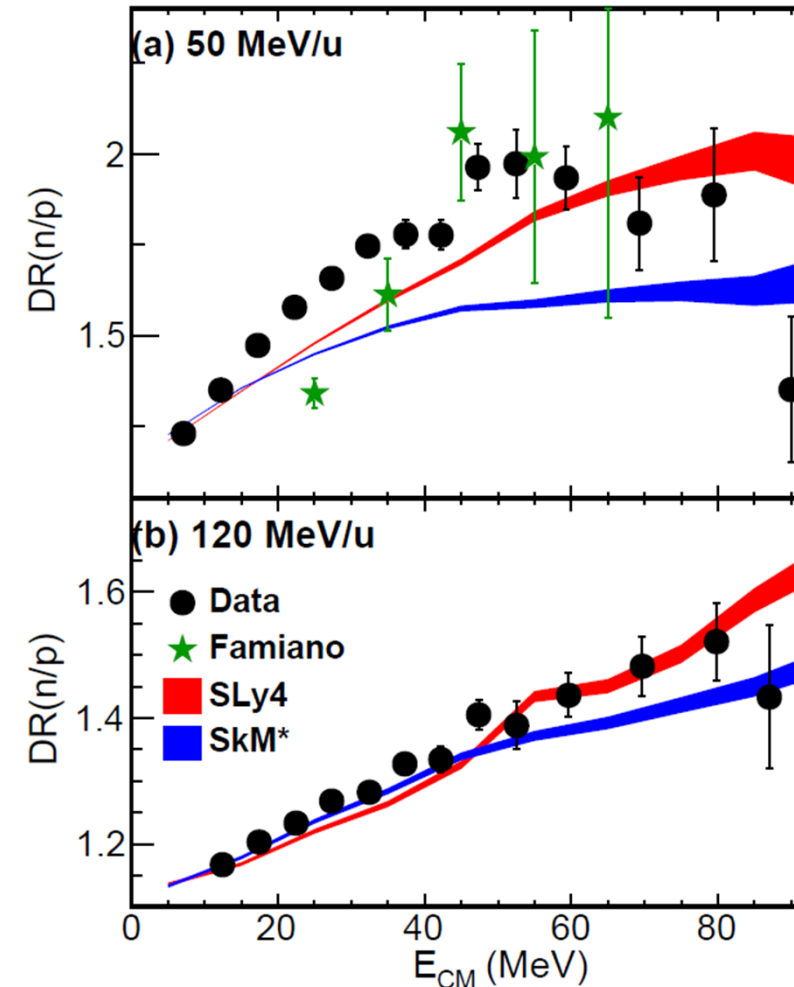
Experimentally Constraining Δm_{np}^*

Previous work:

- Divide n/p ratios for two reactions
- Minimize systematic uncertainties in detection efficiencies of neutrons and charged particles
- Reduces effects from the Coulomb force
- Uncertainties large between theory and experiment

Future Improvements:

- Single ratio has better sensitivity BUT need better understanding of experimental system \rightarrow NPTool simulations
- Need to probe at higher energies
- Requires upgrade to our experimental setup



D. D. S. Coupland *et al*, PRC **94**, 011601 (R) (2015)



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K Brown, Sept 2017 NuSym, Slide 10

Experimentally Constraining Δm_{np}^*

4030 & e15190

Plan to measure the n/p ratio for the near symmetric systems $^{40,48}\text{Ca} + ^{64}\text{Ni}$ and the very asymmetric systems $^{40,48}\text{Ca} + ^{112,124}\text{Sn}$ at 50, 140 MeV/A

the light, symmetric systems:

Can make extensive comparisons with nearly all transport models $\rightarrow E_{\text{sym}}$ and m_{sym} constraints

the asymmetric systems:

More sensitive to momentum dependence and less sensitive to density dependence of mean field potential

These data will add to the heavy, mass symmetric ($^{112,124}\text{Sn} + ^{112,124}\text{Sn}$, Coupland et al) already measured at 50, 120 MeV/A



Upgrading the Experimental Setup



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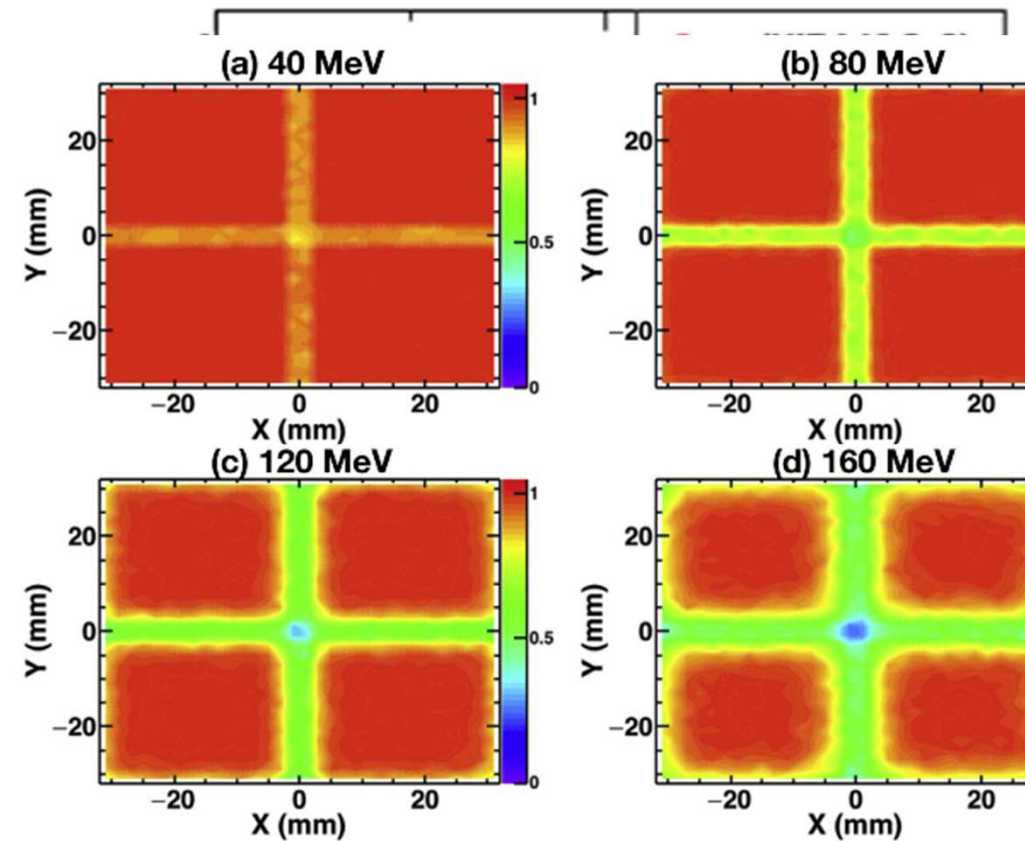
HiRA Upgrade

are exchanging the 4-cm-long CsI(Tl) crystals for 10 cm crystals -> increased dynamic range

Isotope	4 cm CsI (MeV)	10 cm CsI (MeV)
p	116	200
d	157	265
t	186	314

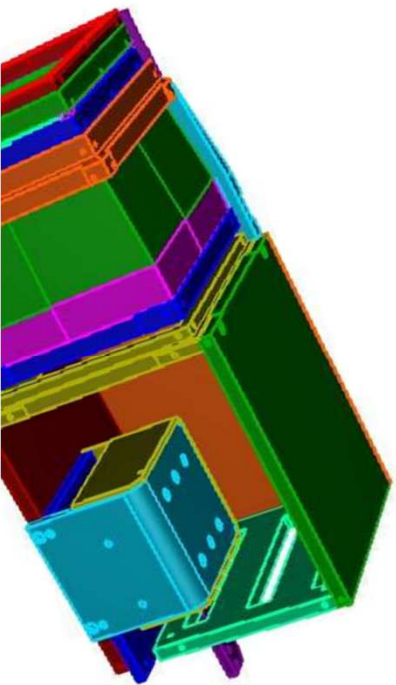
increase comes at the cost of loss in efficiency due to out-scattering and nuclear reactions

efficiency is also a function of energy, so most dramatic losses will occur for the highest energy particles

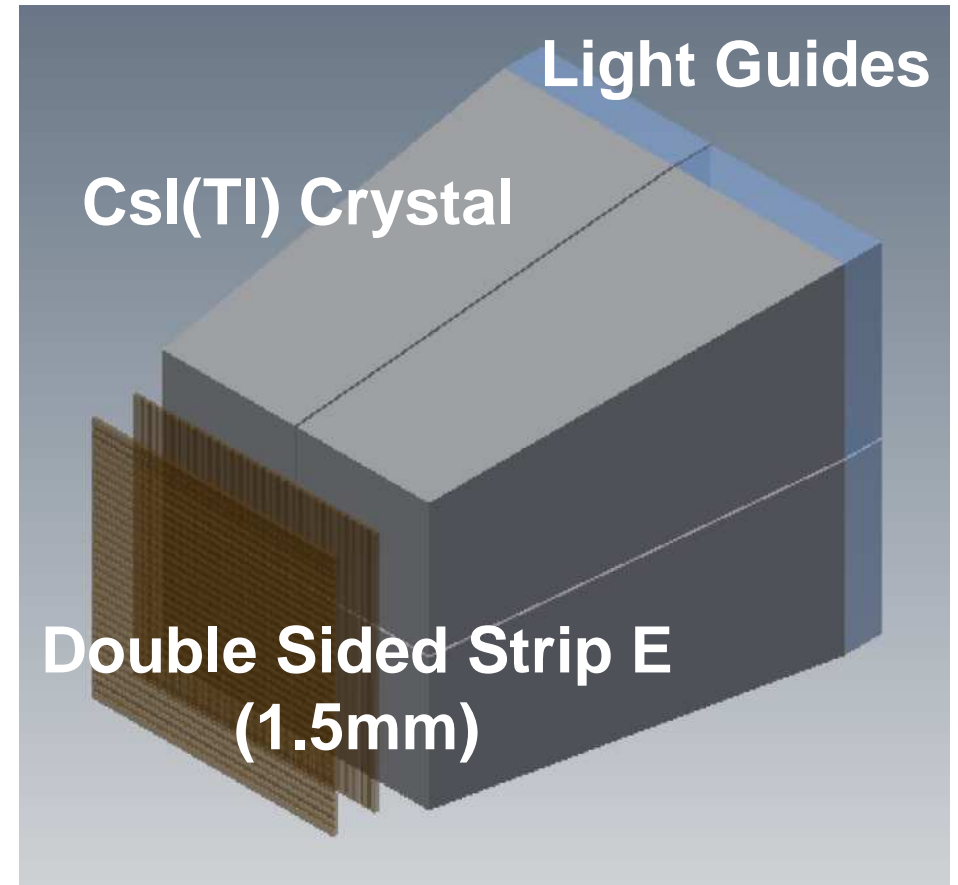
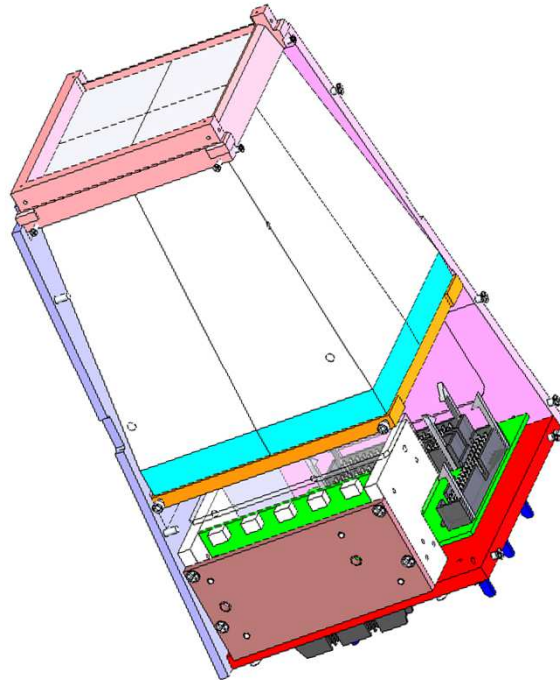


HiRA Upgrade

Old HiRA



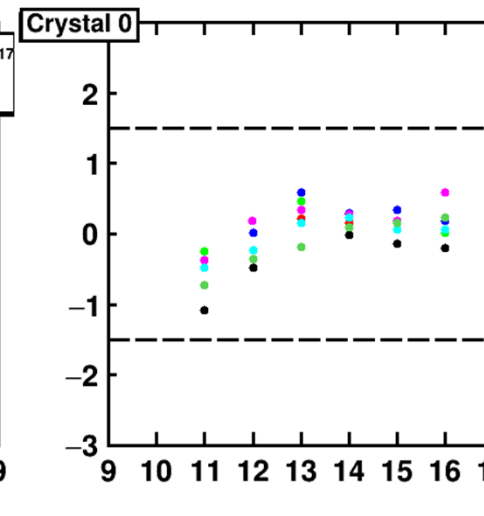
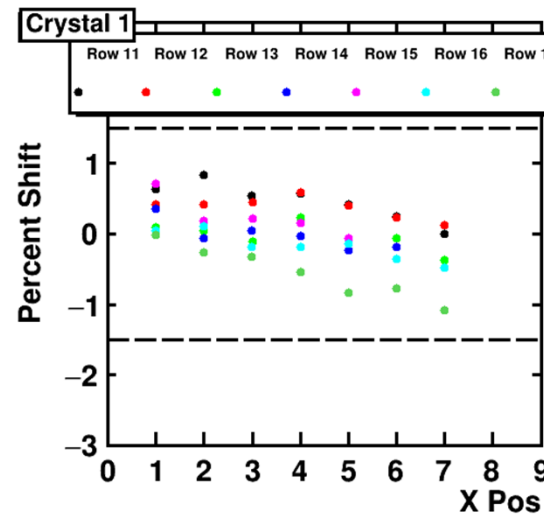
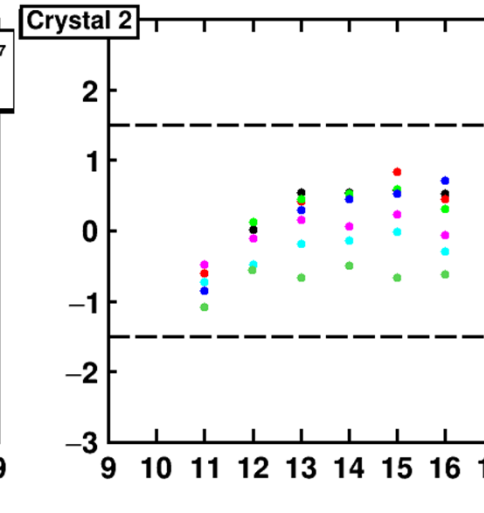
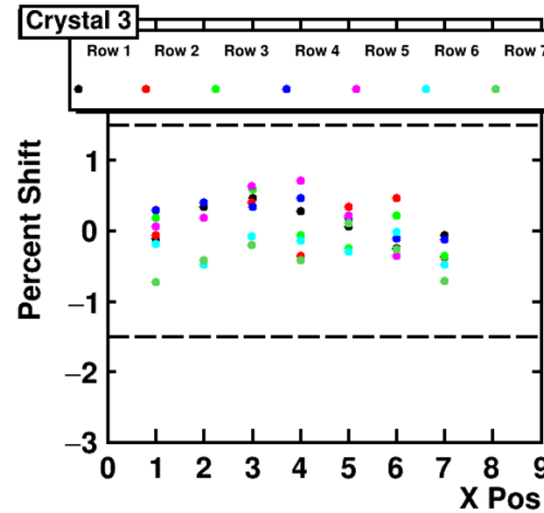
HiRA Upgrade



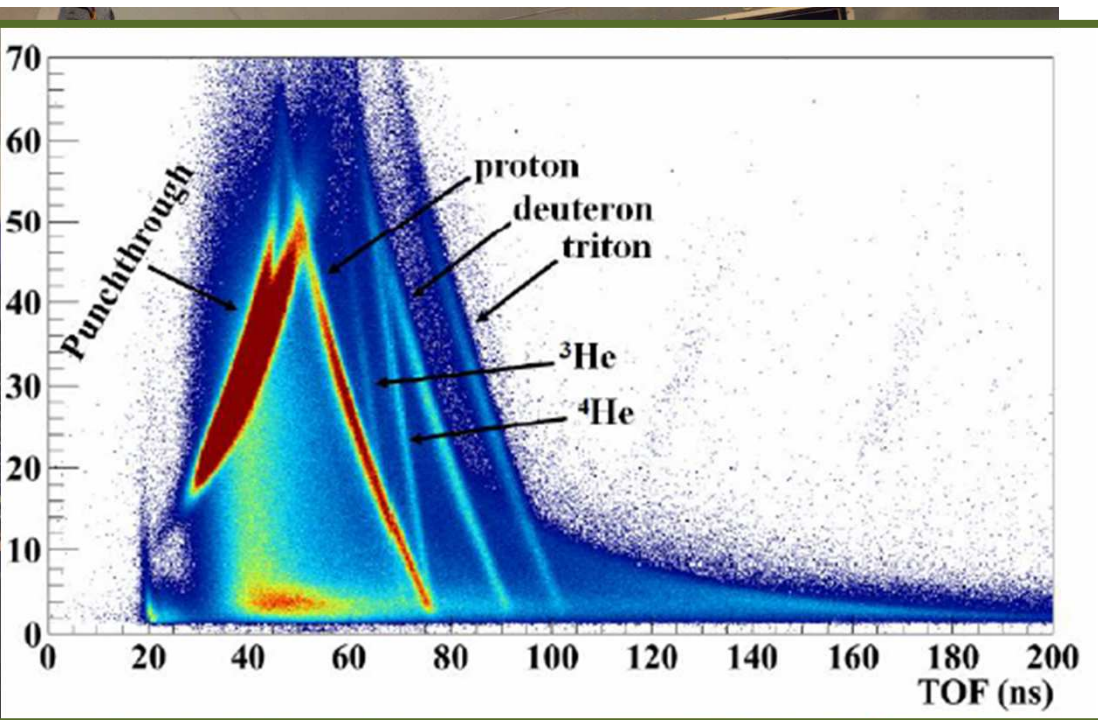
Testing for Uniformity



$$\text{Shift} = 100 * (\mu_i - \mu_{av}) / \mu_{av}$$

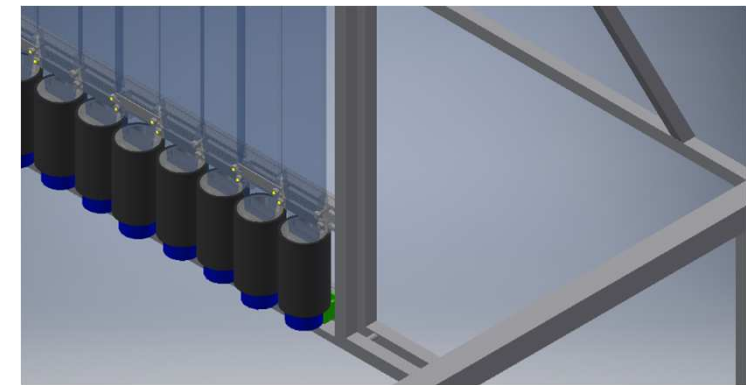
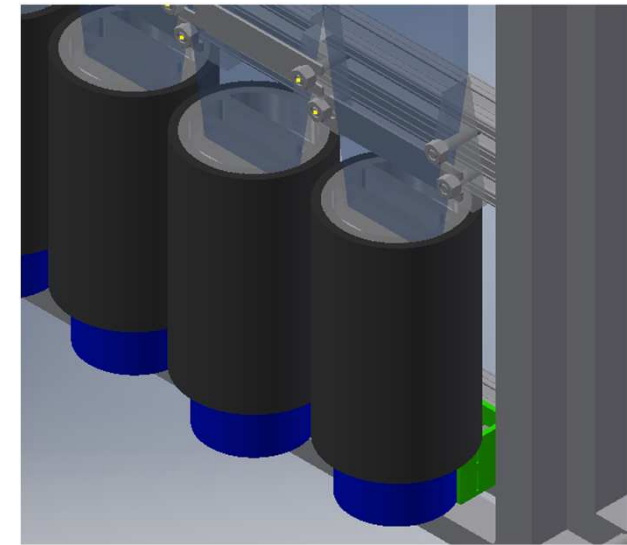
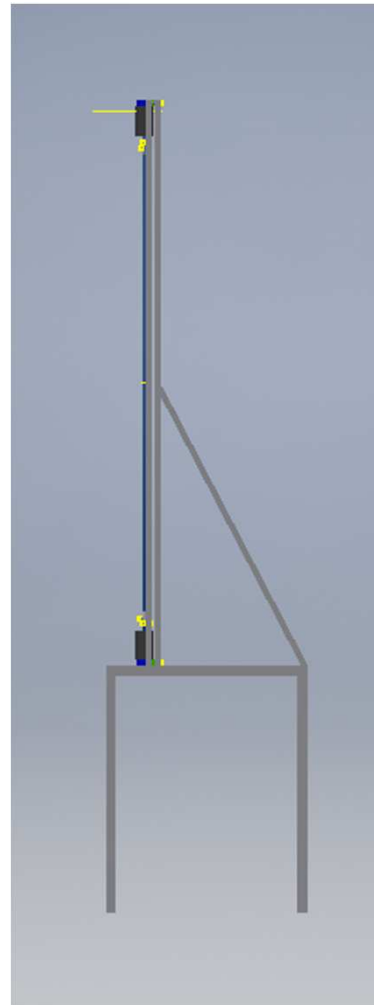
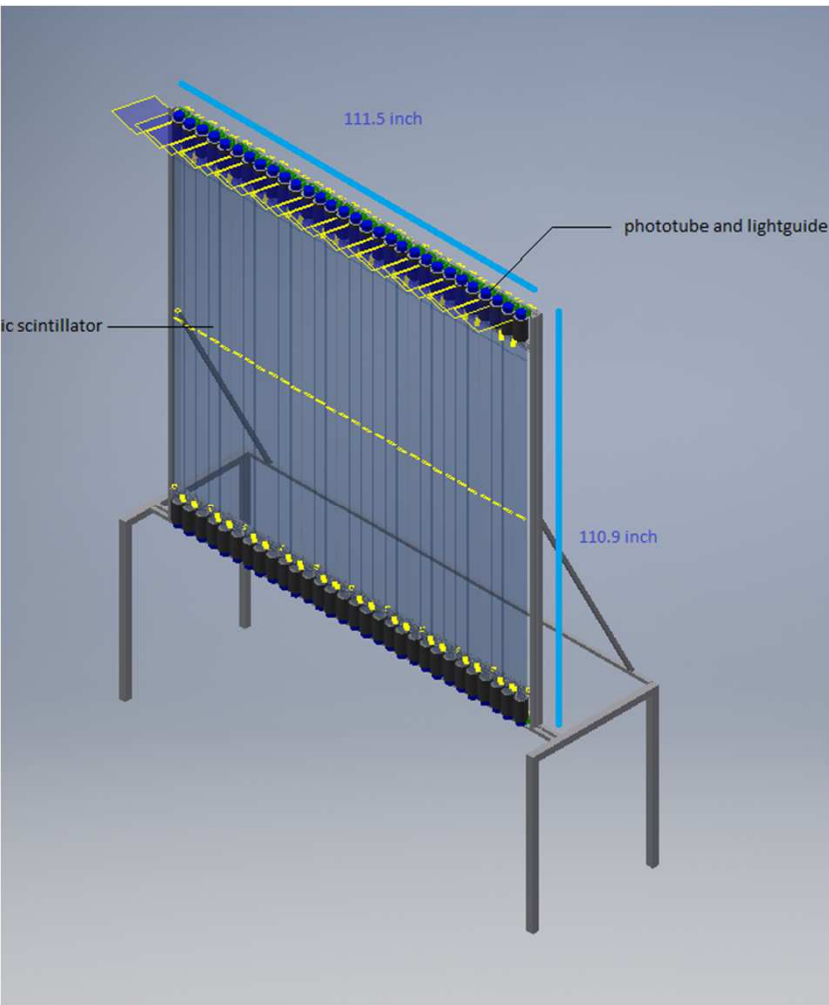


Large Area Neutron Array (LANA)

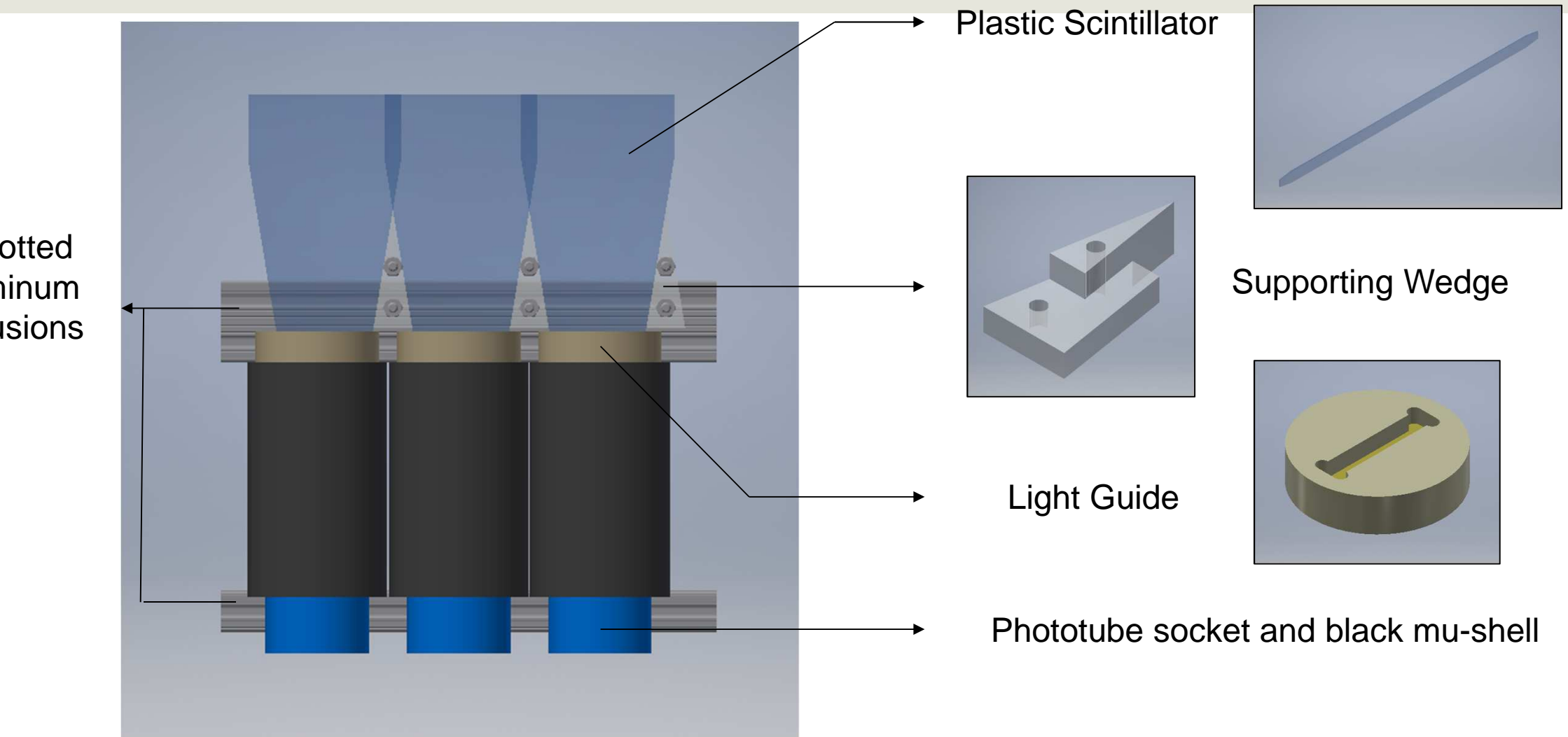


- We are recommissioning LANA to use to detect the neutron energy spectra
- LANA is comprised of:
 - Two Walls of 25 scintillator bars
 - » 2 meters long, 7.7 cm square cross-section
 - » NE-213 liquid scintillator
- In previous work, the veto of charged particles was not perfect
 - The veto detector was small, close to the target and did not have position information in 2D
 - Not all of the charged particles could be rejected

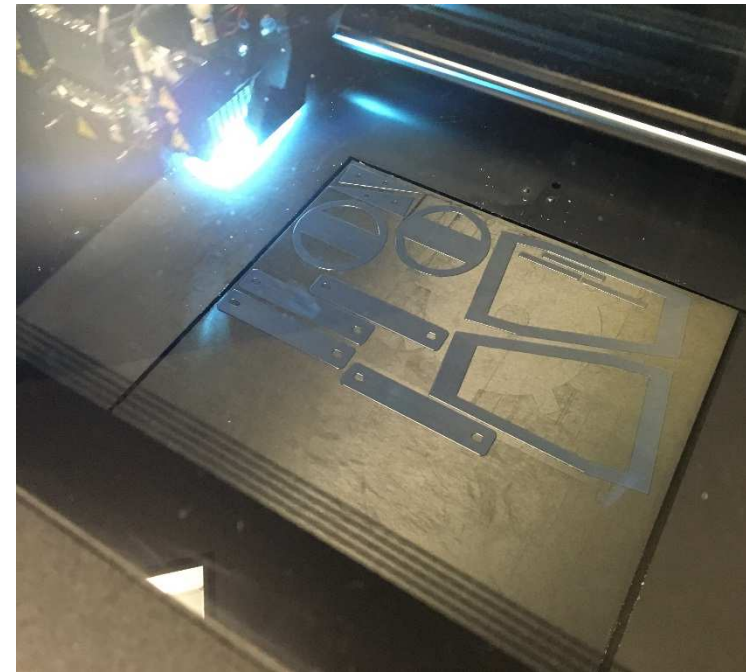
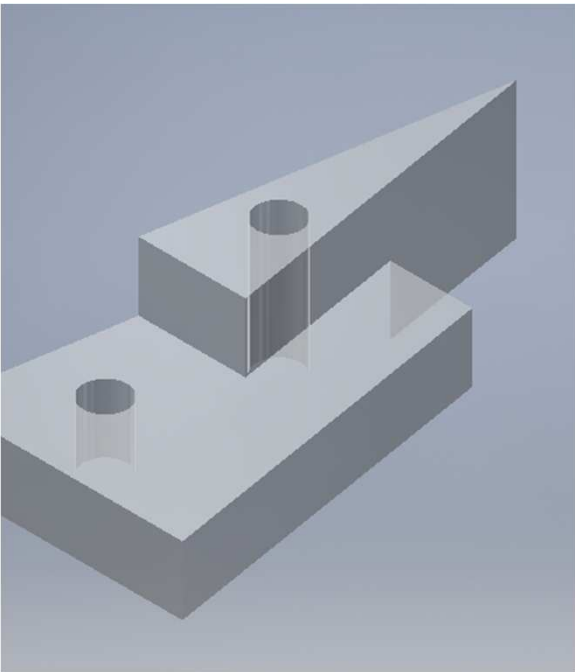
Construction of a new Veto Wall



Construction of a new Veto Wall



Construction of a new Veto Wall



Objet Connex350 Multi Material 3D Printing System

3D Printing

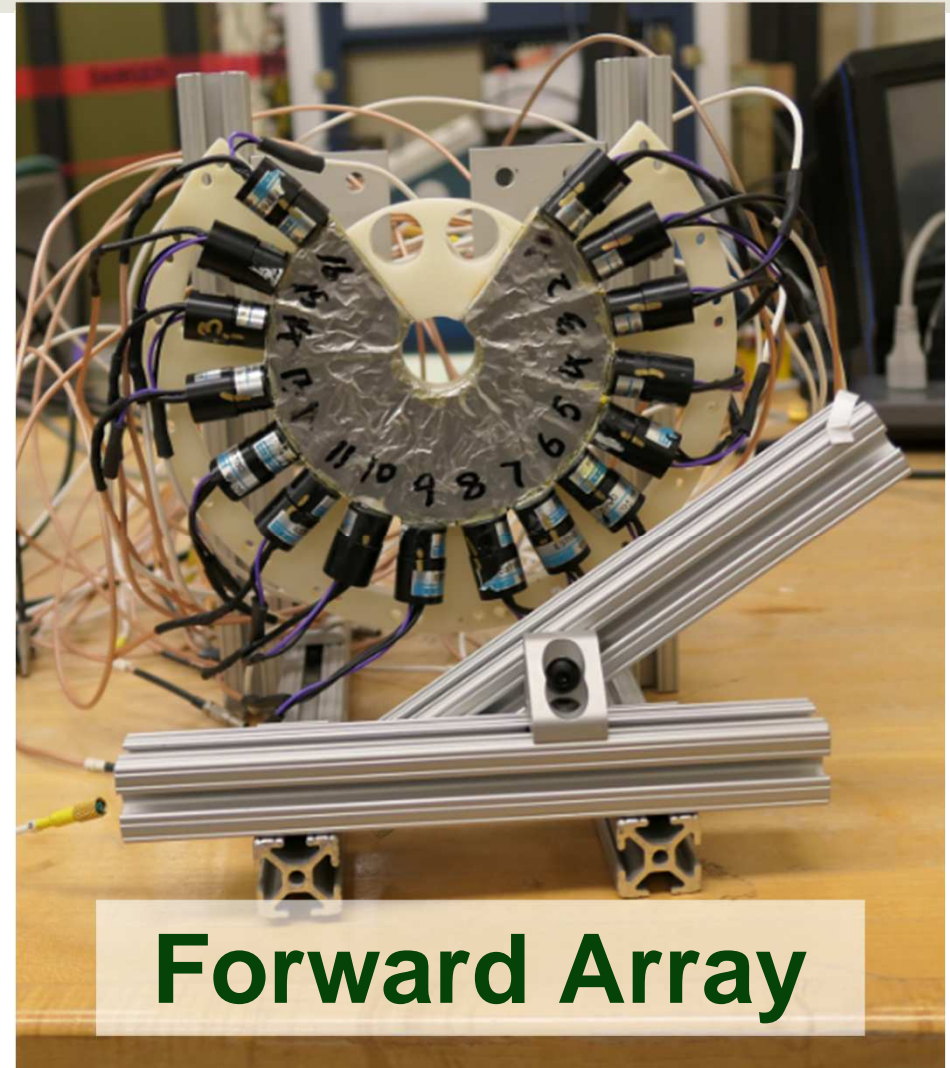
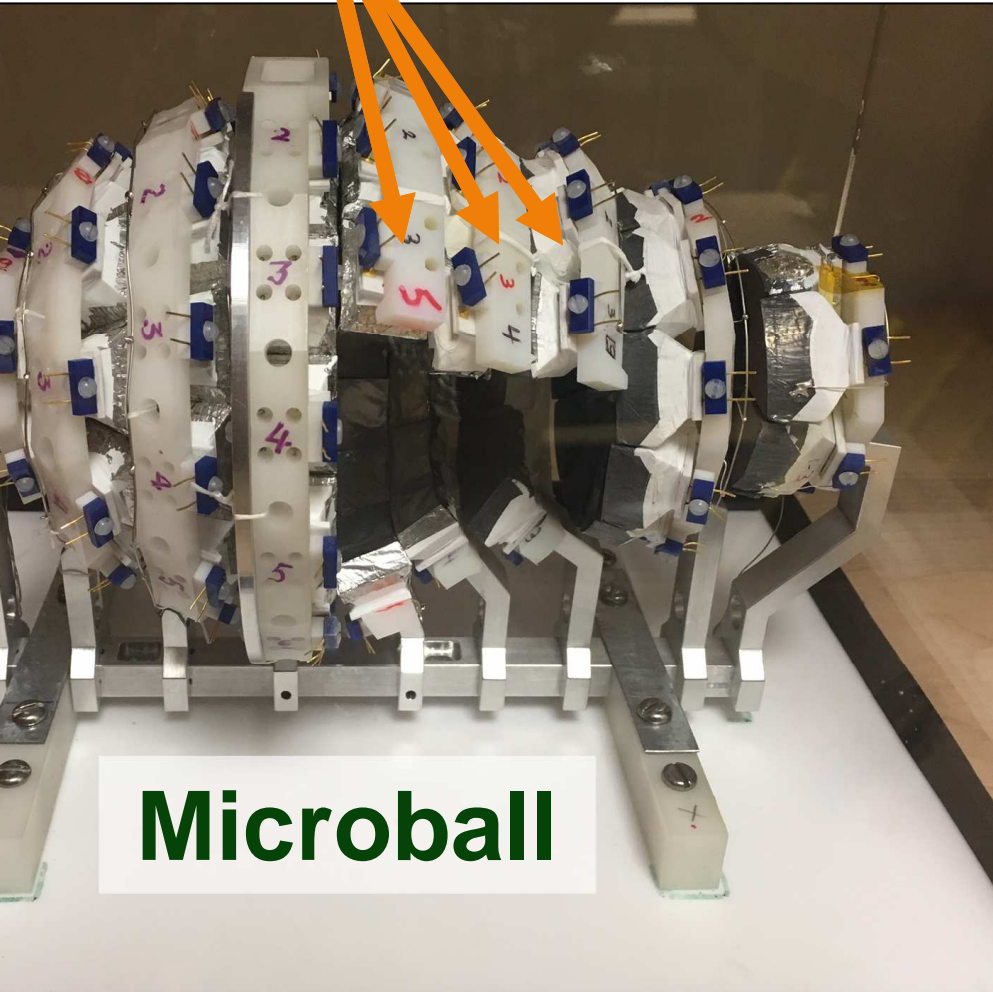


Construction of a new Veto Wall



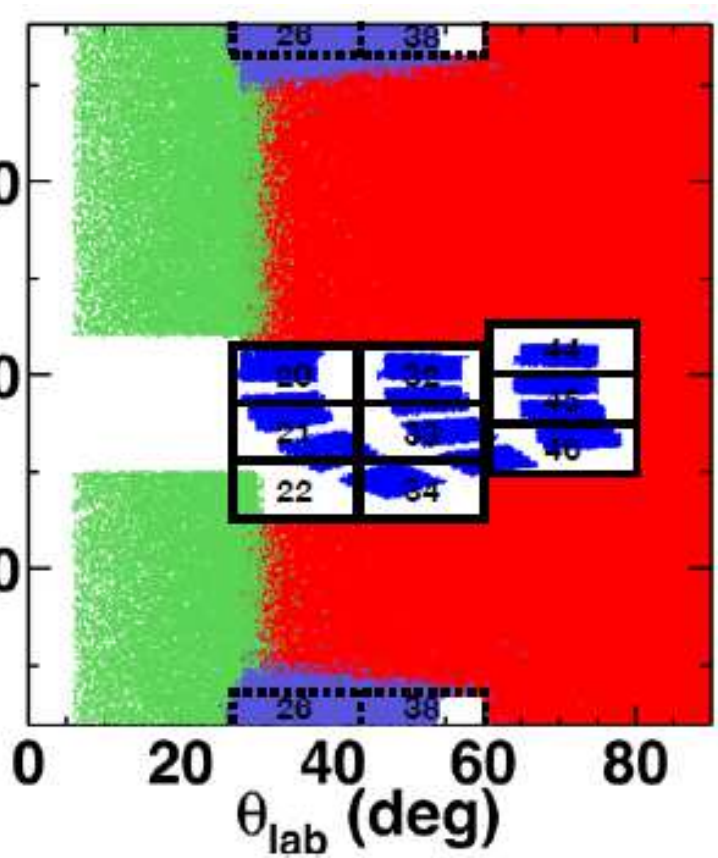
3-D Printed!

Other Detector Systems

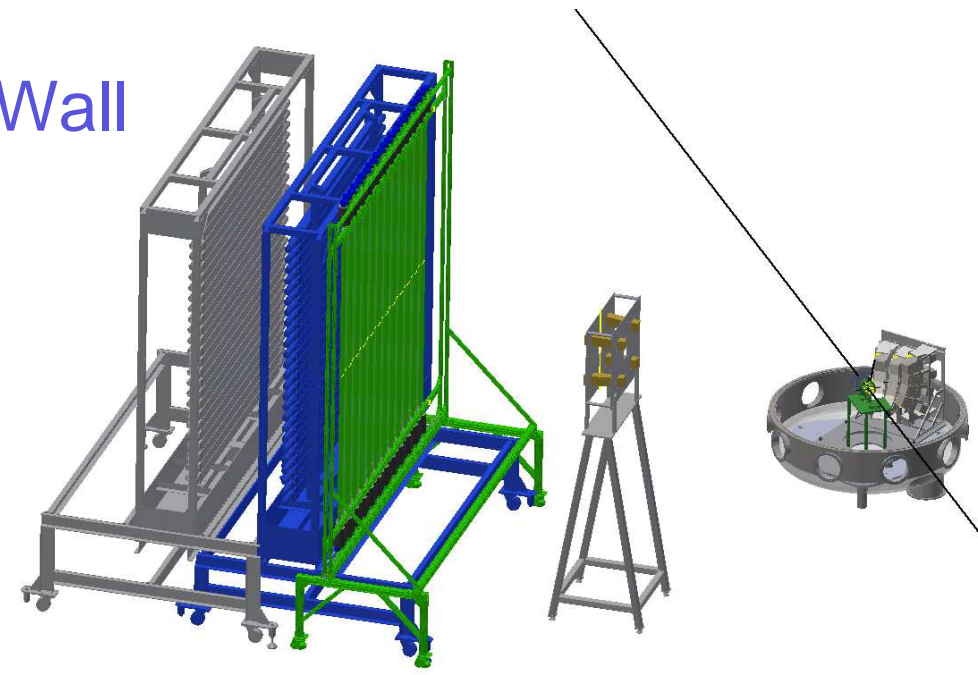


Putting it all together

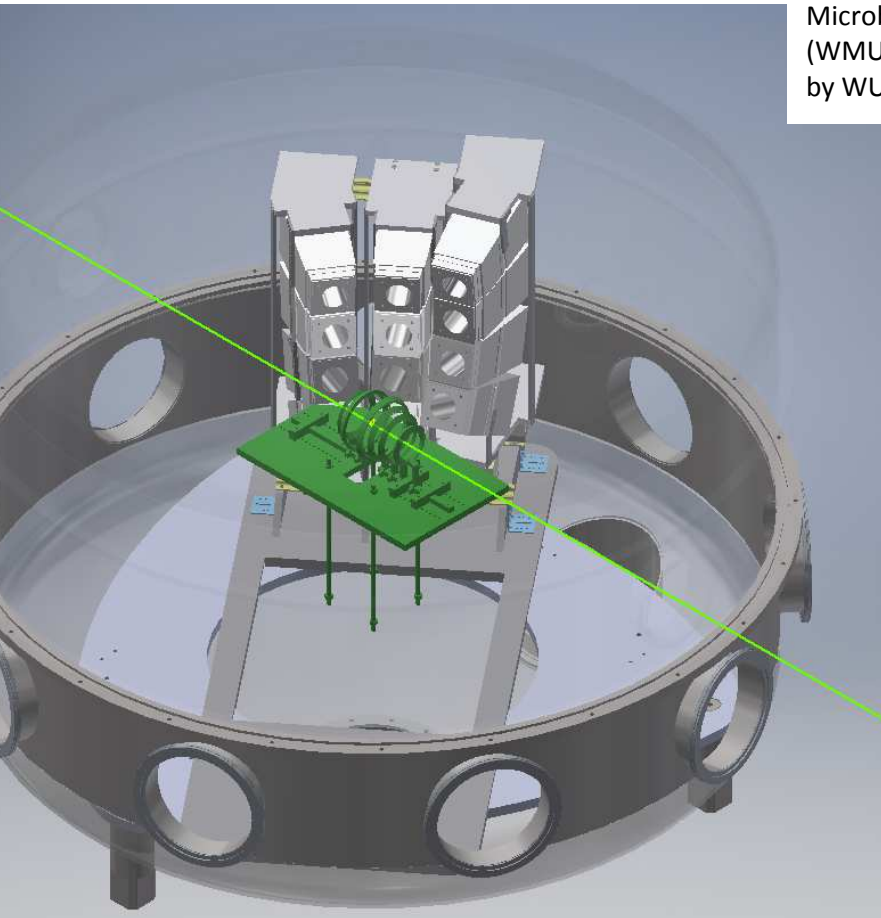
- Space for all of these detector systems is quite tight
 - Forward Array
 - Microball
 - HiRA10
 - Neutron Wall



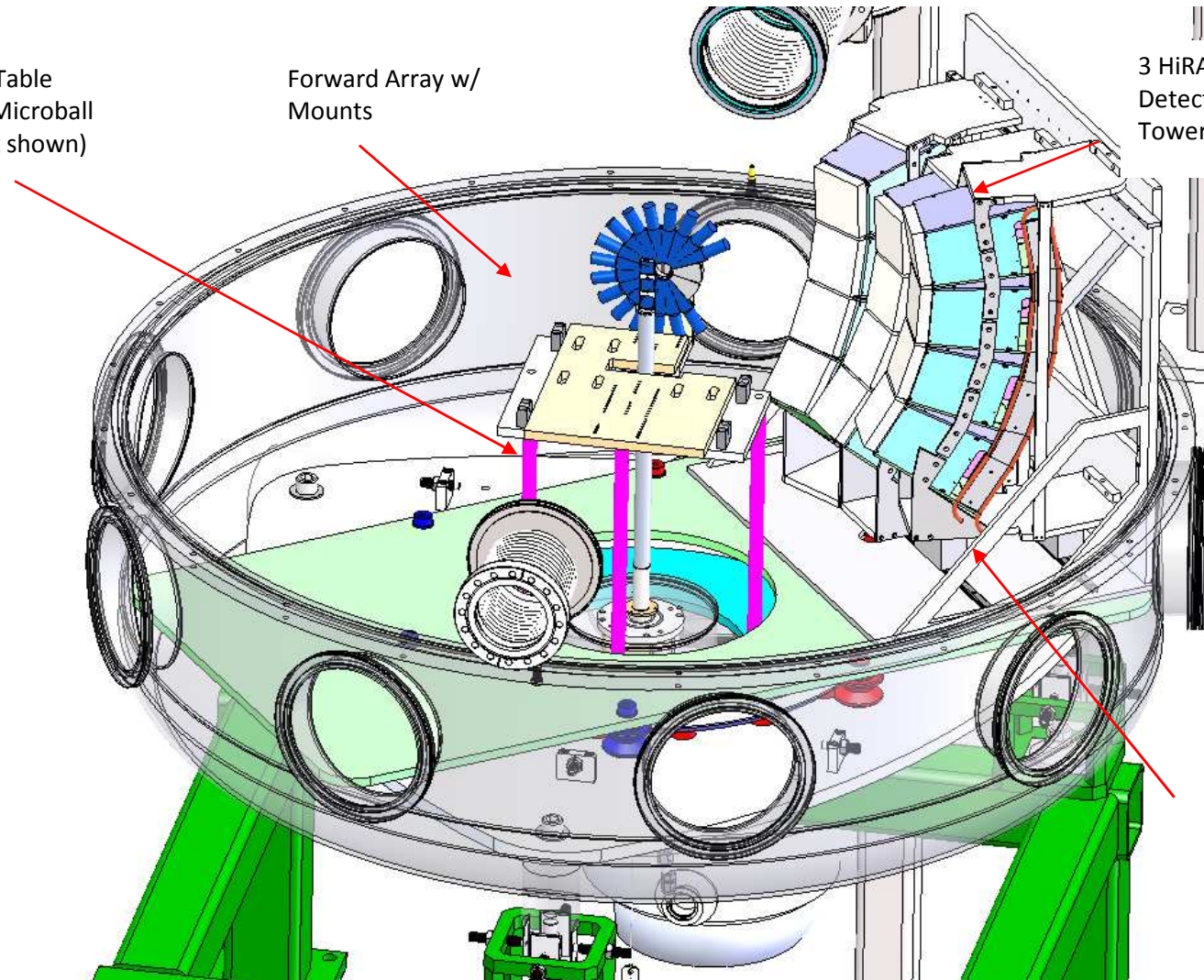
Removed Microball crystals for neutron side
Crystal 10 in ring 3 (crystal 26)
Crystal 10 in rint 4 (crystal 38)



Putting it all together



Microball Table
(WMU) – Microball
by WU not shown)



Run Schedule

late December → HiRA10 calibration, Veto/Neutron Wall
commissioning and shakedown (3 days)

February → $^{40}\text{Ca} + ^{112,124}\text{Sn}, ^{58,64}\text{Ni}$ (18 days) @ 50,140 MeV/A

March → HiRA10 calibration (3 days)

March → $^{48}\text{Ca} + ^{112,124}\text{Sn}, ^{58,64}\text{Ni}$ (18 days) @ 50,140 MeV/A



Summary and Outlook

The effective mass of nucleons is an important piece in the Symmetry energy puzzle.

Neutron-to-proton energy spectra from heavy-ion collisions are a sensitive observable for constraining the effective mass of nucleons in heavy nuclei.

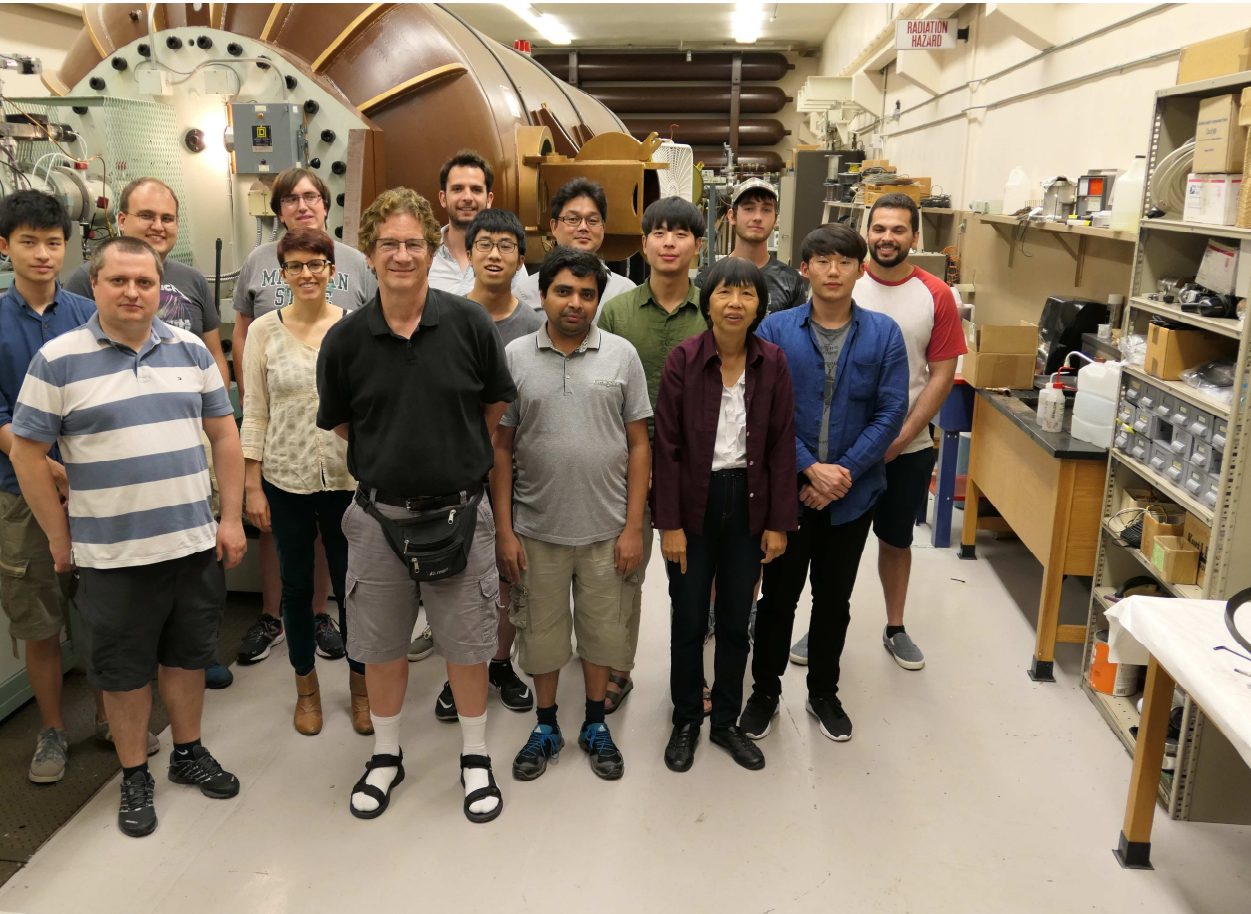
Upgrades to the **H**igh **R**esolution **A**rray (HiRA) will allow us to nearly double the energy range of detected protons.

Construction of the new Charged-Particle Veto Wall will enable us to more accurately measure the energy distribution of the neutrons.

HiRA is now tuned for results from our upcoming beam time.



Collaboration



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