

# An Ultracold Neutron Source for TRIUMF

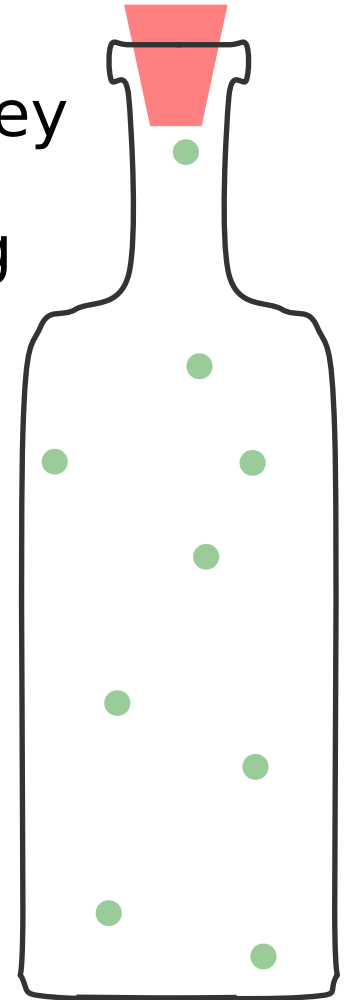
Jeff Martin (U. Winnipeg)

for Chuck Davis (TRIUMF), Akira Konaka (TRIUMF), Yasuhiro Masuda (KEK),  
Lothar Buchmann (TRIUMF), Shelley Page (U. Manitoba), Wim van Oers (U. Manitoba)  
and the rest of the UCN working group

1. UCN interactions
2. UCN physics experiments
3. Source work at RCNP and TRIUMF
4. CFI, relationship, collaboration, KEK

# Ultracold Neutrons

- UCN are neutrons that are moving so slowly that they are totally reflected from surfaces of materials.
- So, they can be confined in material bottles for long periods of time.
- Typical parameters:
  - velocity  $< 8$  m/s
  - temperature  $< 4$  mK
  - kinetic energy  $< 300$  neV
- Interactions:
  - gravity:  $V = mgh$  ( $h < 3$  m)
  - weak interaction (allows UCN to decay)
  - magnetic fields:  $V = -\mu \cdot B$  (100% polarization)
  - strong interaction
- Experiments at UCN sources are chronically limited by UCN density. TRIUMF has the potential to be a world leader in this regard.



# UCN Source at TRIUMF would be a world-class facility

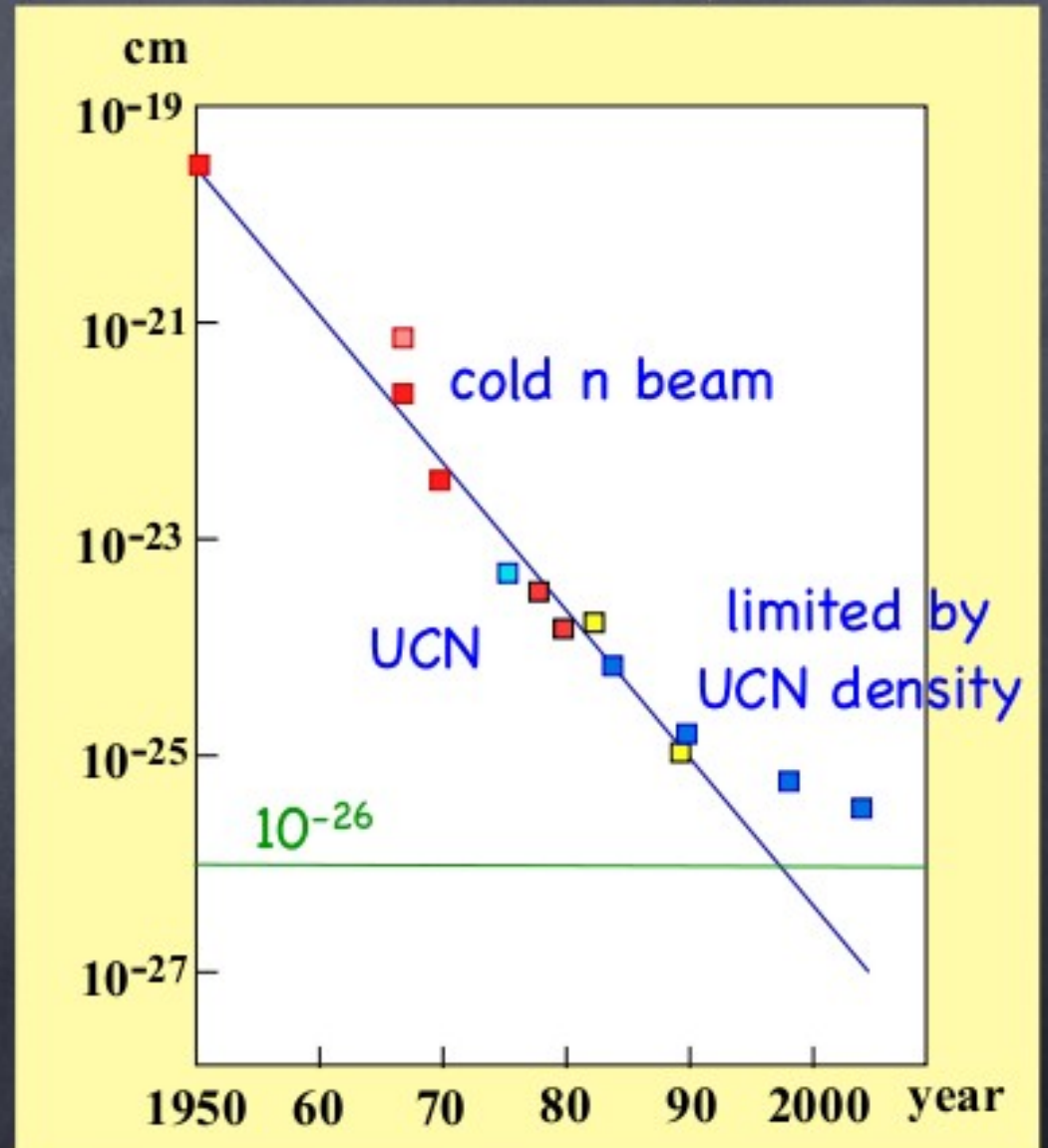
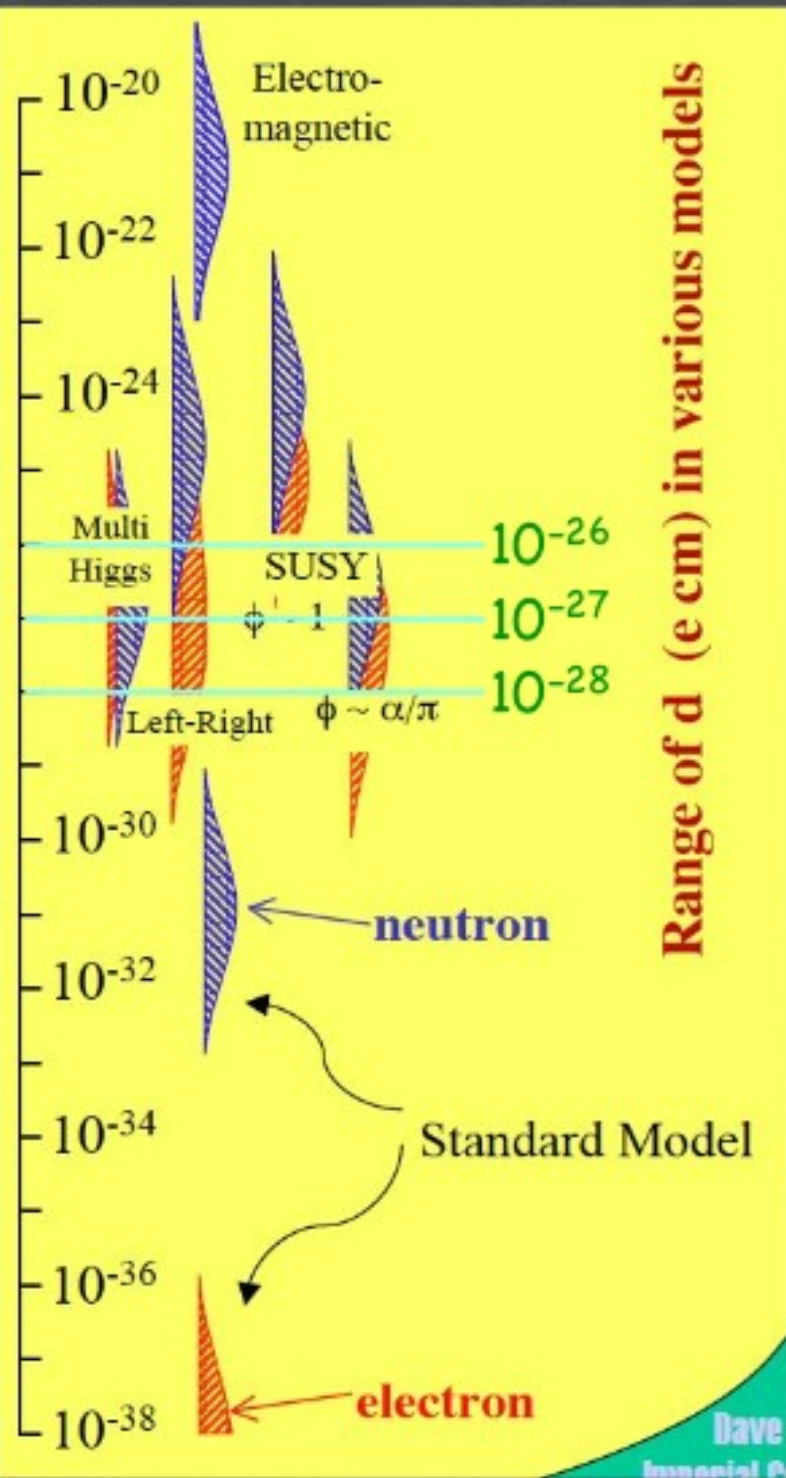
	Source type	$E_c$ and $\tau_s$	UCN density $\rho_{\text{UCN}}(\text{UCN}/\text{cm}^3)$
<b>TRIUMF</b> 5 kW <sub>av</sub> proton	0.8K He-II	$E_c = 210 \text{ neV}$ $\tau_s = 150 \text{ s}$	<b><math>1.8 \times 10^4</math> at experimental port</b>
Grenoble 60MW reactor	0.5K He-II	$E_c = 250 \text{ neV}$ $\tau_s = 150 \text{ s}$	1000 in He-II
SNS cold neutron beam	0.3K He-II	$E_c = 134 \text{ neV}$ $\tau_s = 500 \text{ s}$	430 in He-II
Munich 20MW reactor	SD <sub>2</sub>	$E_c = 250 \text{ neV}$	$10^4$ in source
North Carolina 1 MW reactor	SD <sub>2</sub>	$E_c = 335 \text{ neV}$	1300 in source
PSI 12 kW <sub>av</sub> proton	SD <sub>2</sub>	$E_c = 250 \text{ neV}$ $\tau_s = 888 \text{ s}$	2000 in source
Los Alamos 2.4 kW <sub>av</sub> proton	SD <sub>2</sub>	$E_c = 250 \text{ neV}$ $\tau_s = 2.6 \text{ s}$	120 in source

# UCN Physics

- fundamental interactions of UCN
  - EDM
  - gravity
  - beta-decay
  - nnbar oscillations
- astrophysics
  - BBN
  - r-process
- surface physics
- development towards JPARC 2<sup>nd</sup> target station UCN source

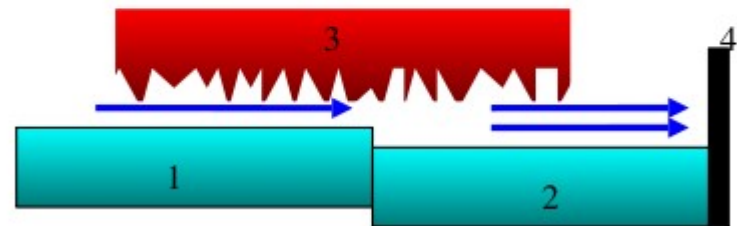
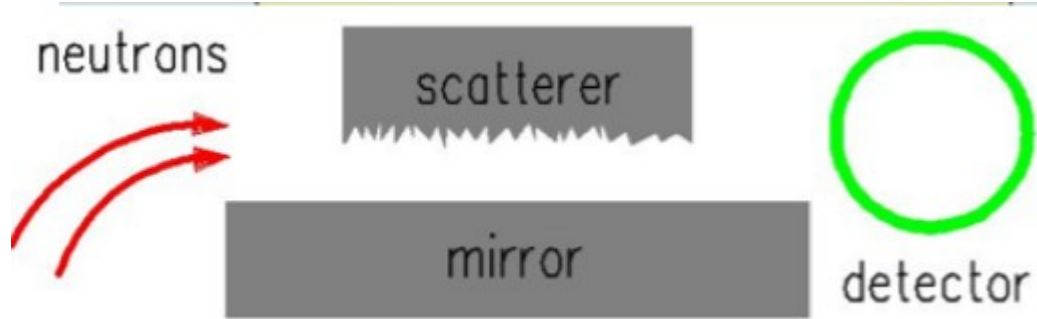
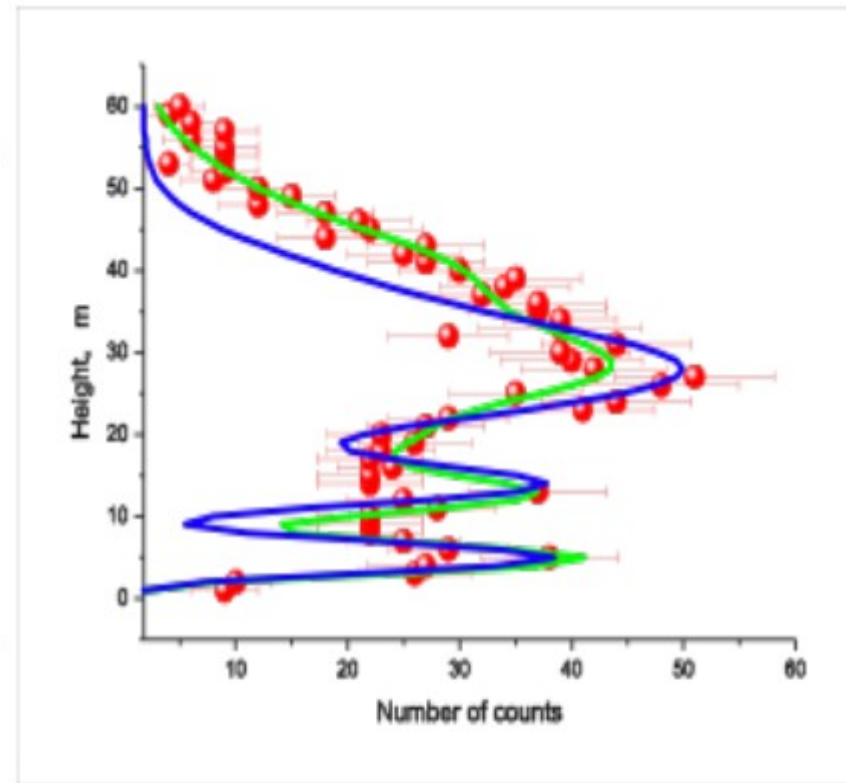
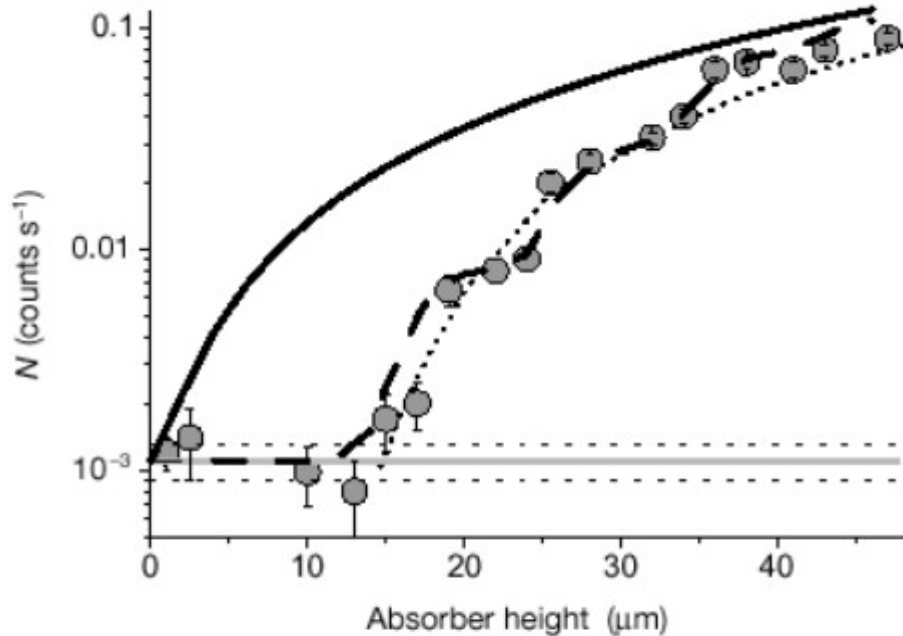
# Theory EDM history

Experiment



# UCN quantum states in gravity

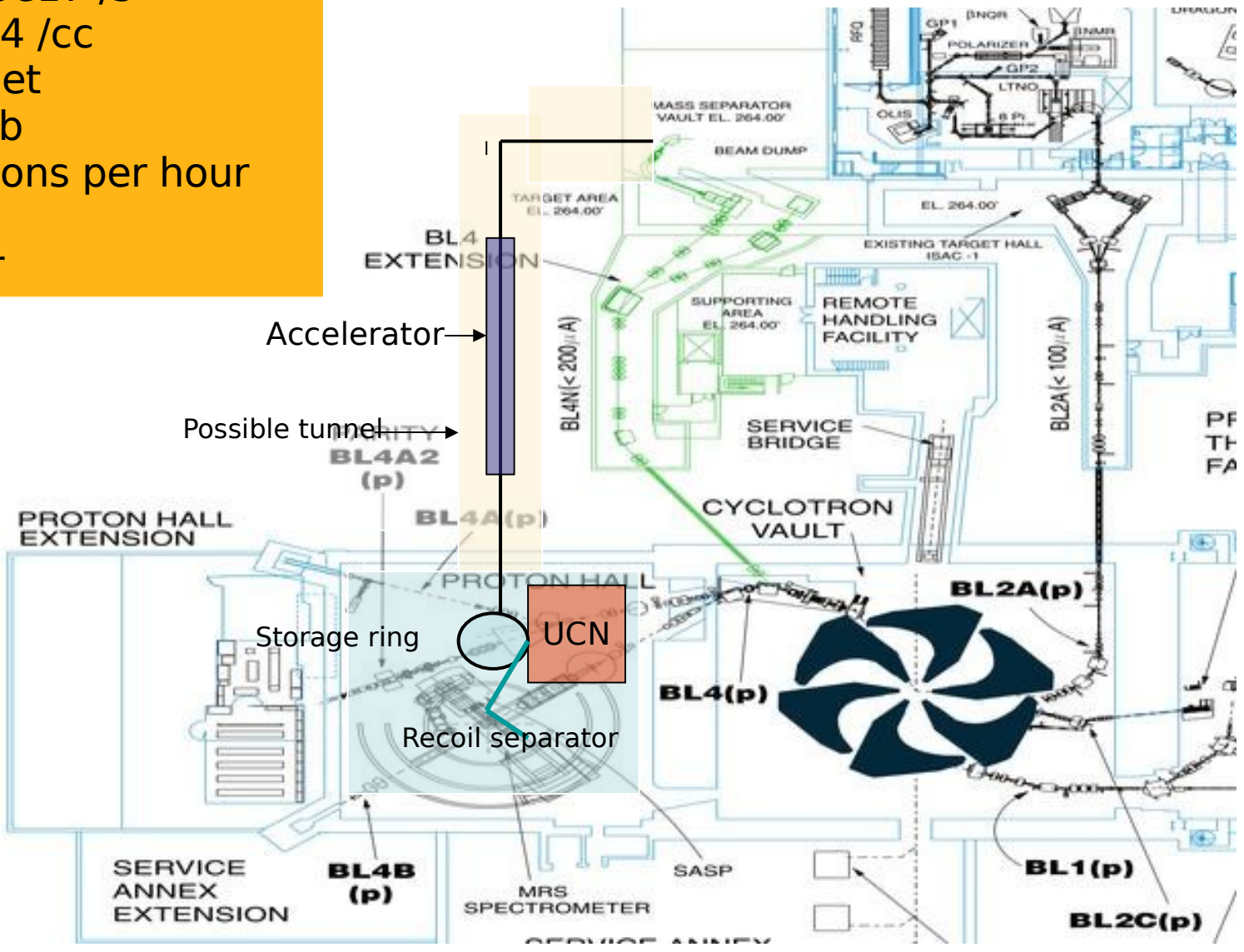
- test of gravity at 10  $\mu\text{m}$  scale



# Measuring $(n, \gamma)$ cross sections of the r-process (Buchmann)

$^{132}\text{Sn}$  stored in ring interacts with free neutron (UCN) target.

$^{132}\text{Sn}$  current  $5e17 / s$   
UCN density  $2e4 / cc$   
meter-long target  
 $\sigma \sim 100 \text{ mb}$   
 $\Rightarrow 50$  interactions per hour  
recoil separator



# Surface Physics

- Many ideas to use UCN to study 10 nm thin surface films
  - (n, gamma)
  - UCN loss measurements
  - n scattering
  - reflectometry
    - polarization for magnetic films
- shown to be sensitive to low-frequency excitations (interesting for surface physics)
- In all cases, lack of UCN worldwide is the problem

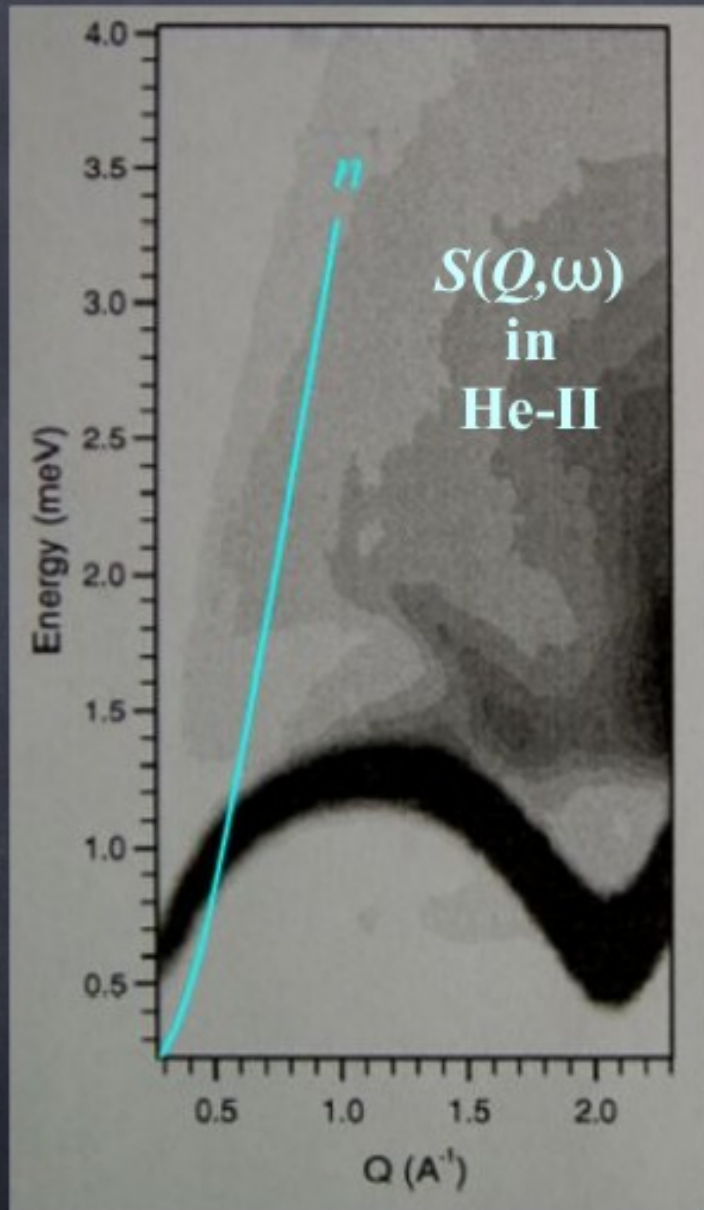


# How do we achieve this UCN density?

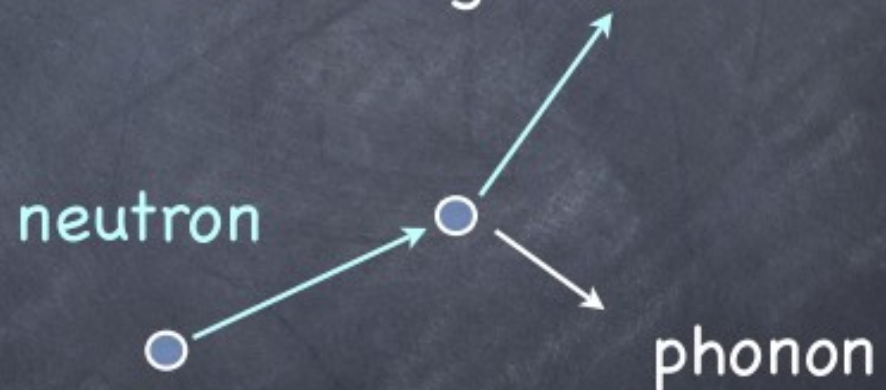
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# Superthermal UCN production in He-II

Coherent inelastic neutron  
scattering in He-II



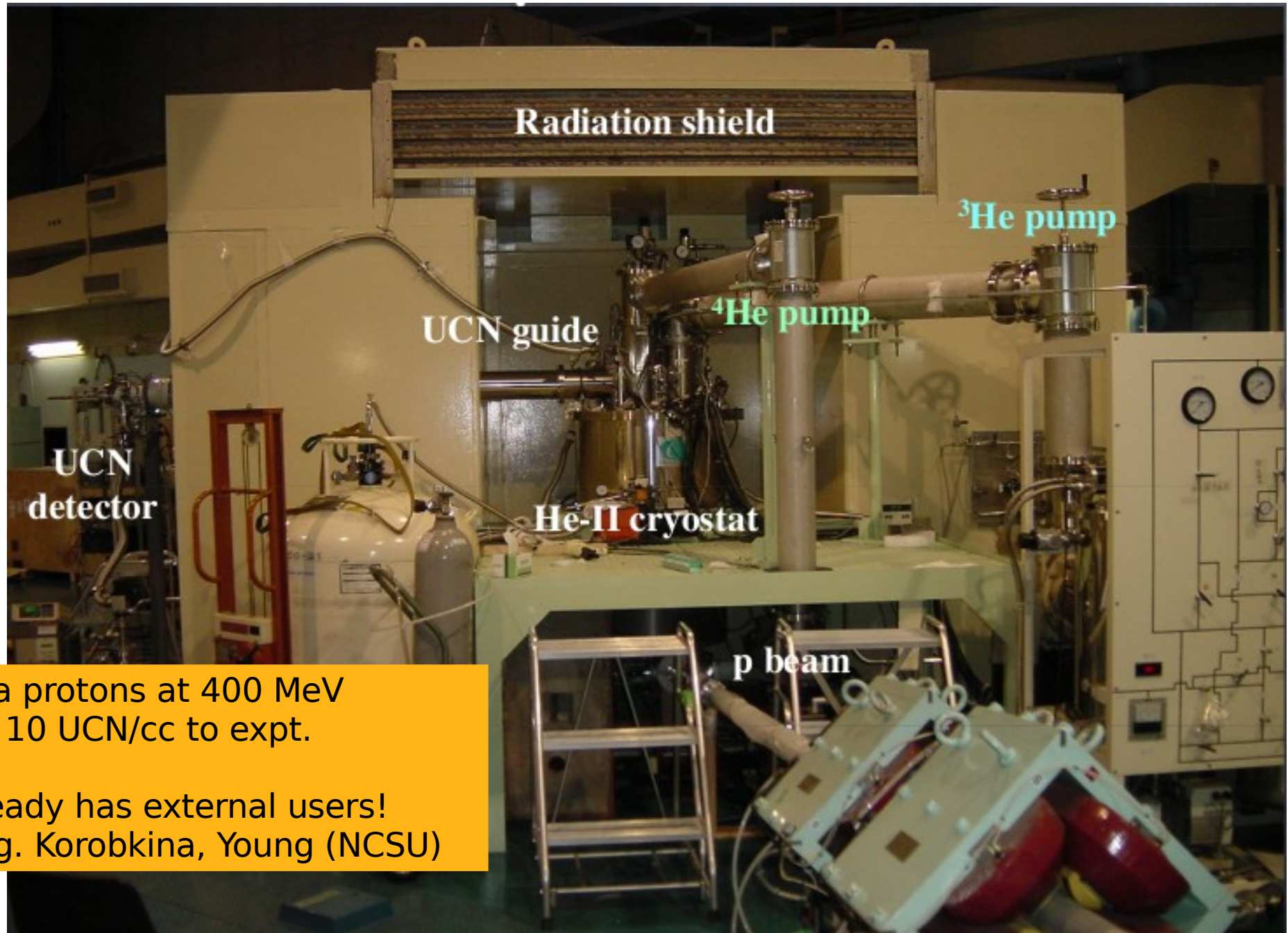
M.R. Gibbs et al. (1999)



Born approximation

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{dQd\omega}$$
$$= k_f/k_i a^2 S(Q, \omega)$$
$$= \sigma_{\text{coh}}/4\pi \cdot k_f/k_i \cdot S(Q, \omega)$$

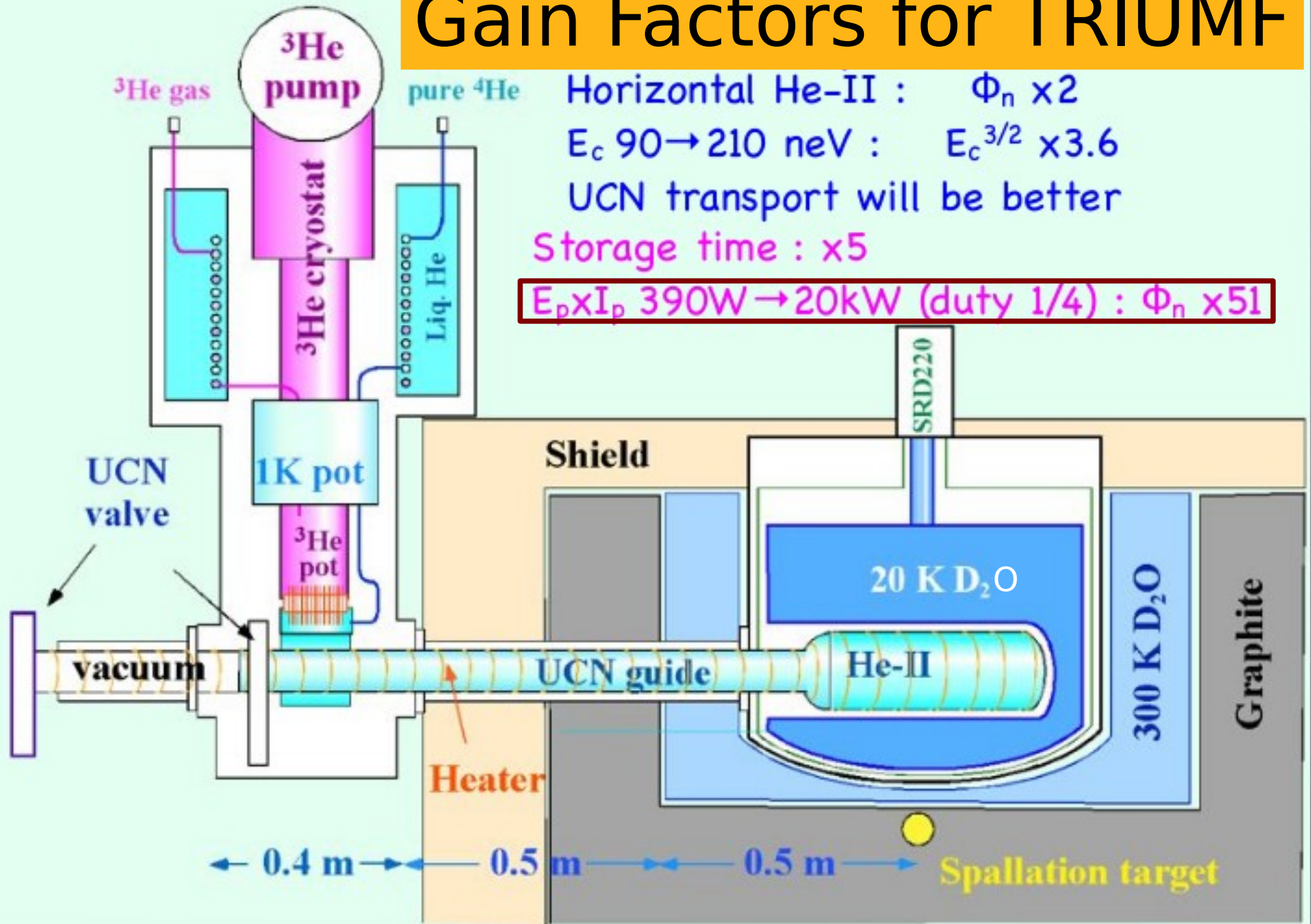
# RCNP UCN Source (Masuda, et al)



1  $\mu\text{A}$  protons at 400 MeV  
 $\Rightarrow$  10 UCN/cc to expt.

Already has external users!  
- e.g. Korobkina, Young (NCSU)

# Gain Factors for TRIUMF



Horizontal He-II :  $\Phi_n \times 2$

$E_c$  90 → 210 neV :  $E_c^{3/2} \times 3.6$

UCN transport will be better

Storage time :  $\times 5$

$E_p \times I_p$  390W → 20kW (duty 1/4) :  $\Phi_n \times 51$

# Schedule

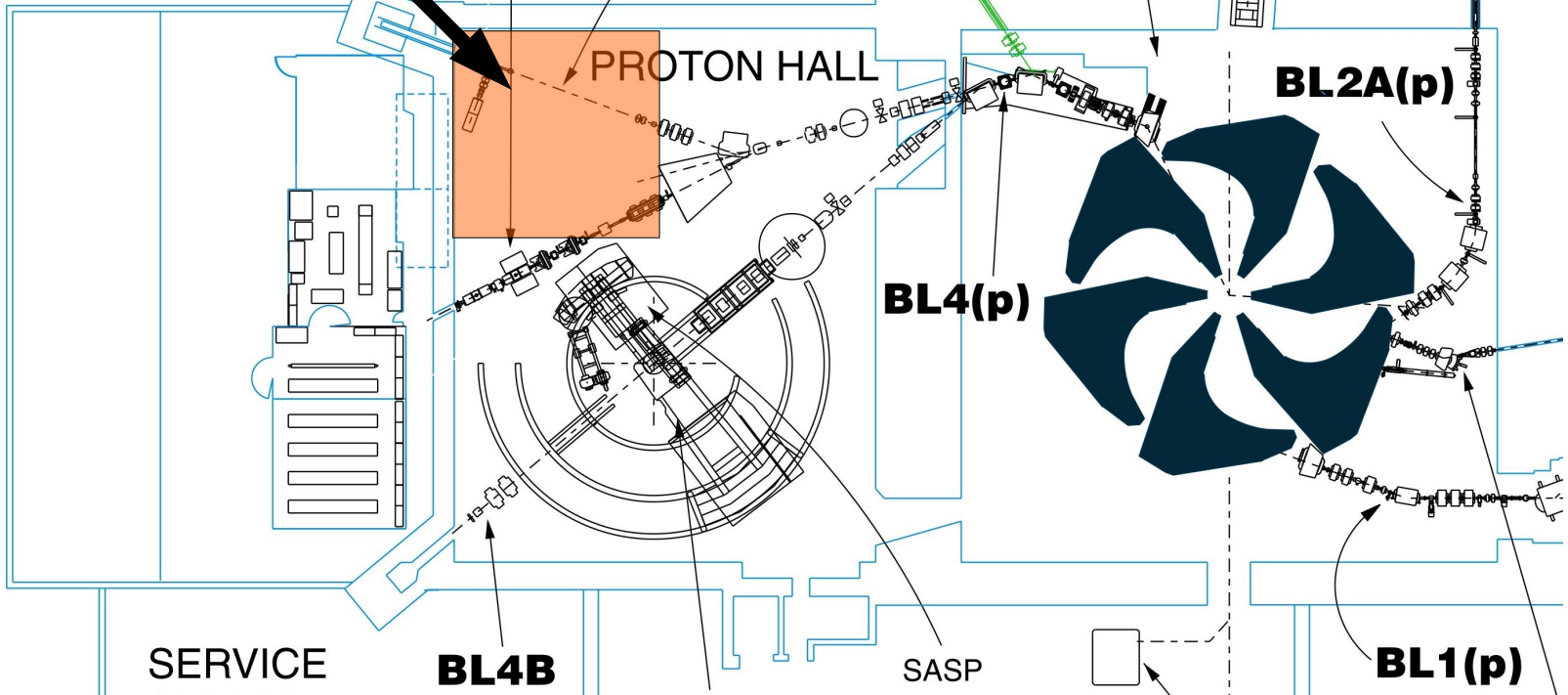
- Prior to 2010, pursue development of new UCN cryostat for TRIUMF at RCNP, Osaka.
  - This would allow us to demonstrate all the gain factors from horizontal extraction, better UCN guides. (aside from beam power)
- After 2010, begin construction of UCN source at TRIUMF (2010 = coincident with major reconstruction for ISAC 3).

# Technical Issues for UCN

- Location.
- Beam sharing (dependent on location).
- Space (dependent on location).
- To carry out precision experiments, it is highly advantageous to pulse the UCN source. E.g. RCNP uses 1 min beam on, 3 mins beam off. During beam off, UCN can be counted (or their decays, etc.)
  - pulsing at ion source incompatible with ISAC.
  - achieve pulsing by diverting beam to well-shielded dump using kicker.

UCN  
(12m x 12m)

PROTON HALL  
EXTENSION



PARITY  
**BL4A2**  
(p)

**BL4A(p)**

PROTON HALL

**BL4(p)**

**BL2A(p)**

**BL1(p)**

BL4  
EXTENSION

TARGET AREA  
EL. 264.00'

EL. 264.00'

EXISTING TARGET HALL  
ISAC -1

SUPPORTING  
AREA  
EL. 264.00'

REMOTE  
HANDLING  
FACILITY

SERVICE  
BRIDGE

CYCLOTRON  
VAULT

SERVICE

**BL4B**

SASP

BL4N (<math>< 200 \mu A</math>)

BL2A (<math>< 100 \mu A</math>)

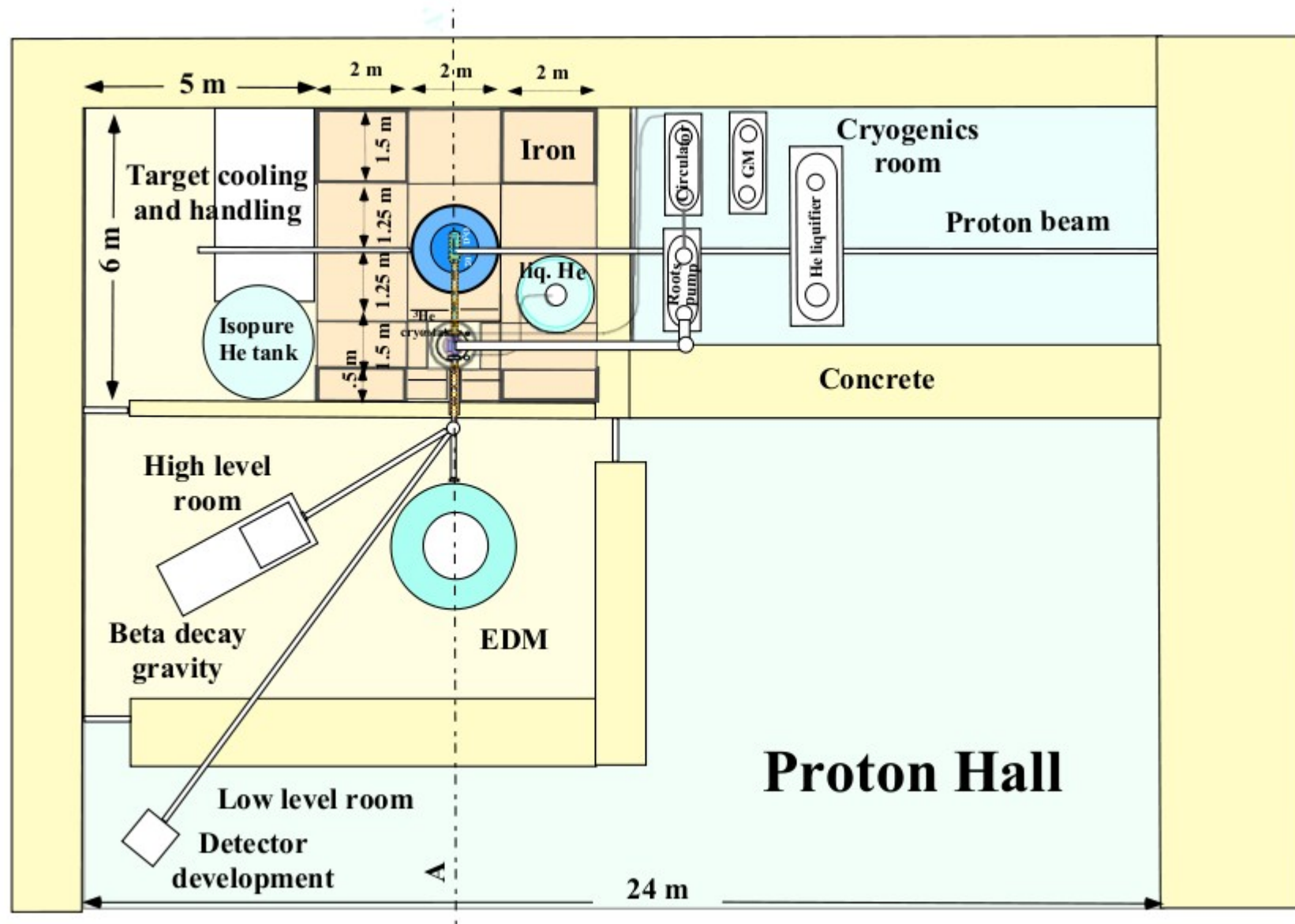
BEAM DUMP

# Solutions Discussed for Technical Issues (thanks, accel group!)

- Location: BL4A area
  - UCN source viewed as an ISAC-3 target station, located in Proton Hall
  - Advantages:
    - UCN fully integrated into ISAC-3 program in terms of physics (fundamental symmetries) and facility (another ISAC-3 target station).
    - simultaneous operation with ISAC-3 by decoupling on kHz scale with kicker/ion source manipulation. Advantageous for ISAC-3: run all three targets simultaneously.
    - use another kicker to divert beam to dump in ISAC-3 area to achieve UCN pulsing (1 min on / 3 mins off).
    - recent designs of ISAC-3 BL4N take the beam further into Proton Hall (towards UCN). And more shielding already required in that area.
  - Disadvantages:
    - space in Proton Hall getting tight.
    - coupled to ISAC-3.
- Location: ISAC-3 target hall.
- Location: BL5 port (new port)



# Potential Layout in Proton Hall (rev. 9/6/07)



layout still needs some work... cryogenics location, shielding, remote handling

# Cost

- Cryostat, LHe cooling costs very well-understood (1.4 M\$ CAD)
- Shielding, remote handling yet to be estimated. Base on experience from TRIUMF, LANL, and RCNP. (Prior to shielding simulations.)

# Collaboration

- Strong interest from Canadian Subatomic Physics community (Winnipeg and Manitoba groups) and from world-wide UCN community
- strong KEK group who have already created a world-class facility (Masuda et al)
- well-attended working group at August TRIUMF townhall meeting
- big event: UCN workshop at TRIUMF Sept. 13-14, 2007
  - world experts in attendance
- Interest in submitting a CFI proposal for UCN source in 2008 from Canadian groups

# International Workshop: UCN Sources and Experiments

September 13-14, 2007

TRIUMF, Vancouver, Canada

<http://www.triumf.info/hosted/UCN>

PLEASE STOP BY THE AUDITORIUM

(after you're done here)

~25 speakers from all over the world

ILL, FRM-II, NCSU, LANL, PSI, KEK, Mainz, ...

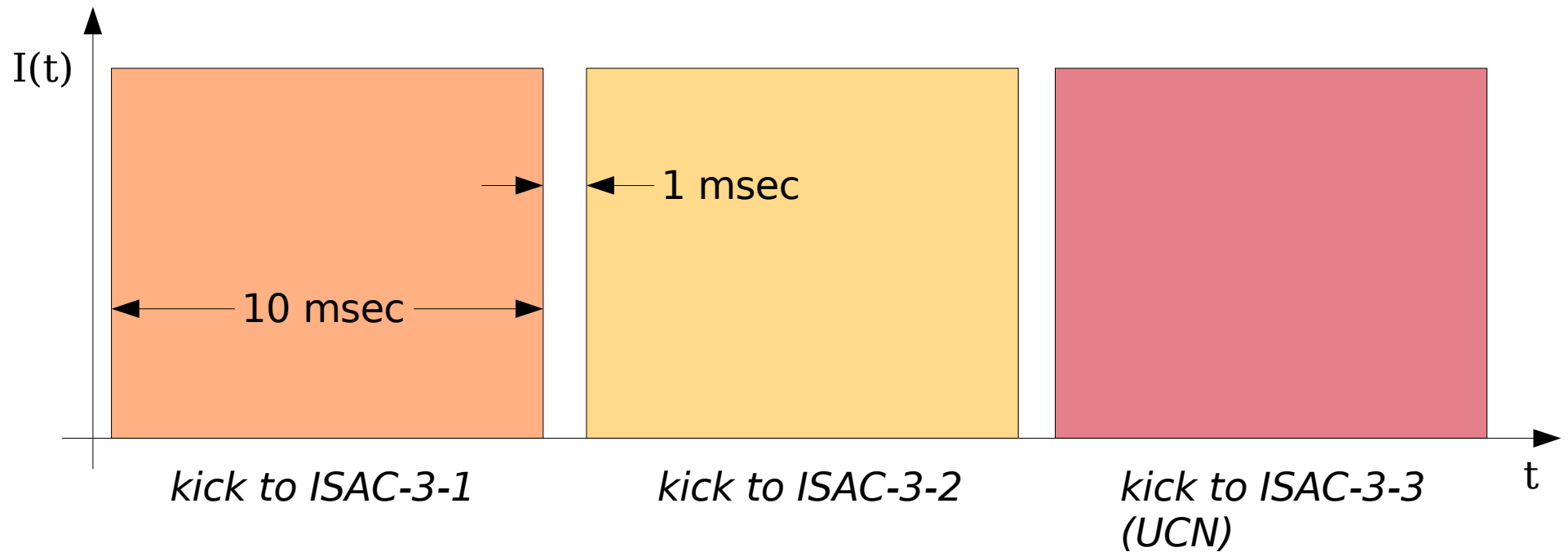
# Summary

- An opportunity exists to create the world's highest density UCN source at TRIUMF
- A flagship physics experiment done this facility would be world's best
- We would like to pursue this unique and timely opportunity

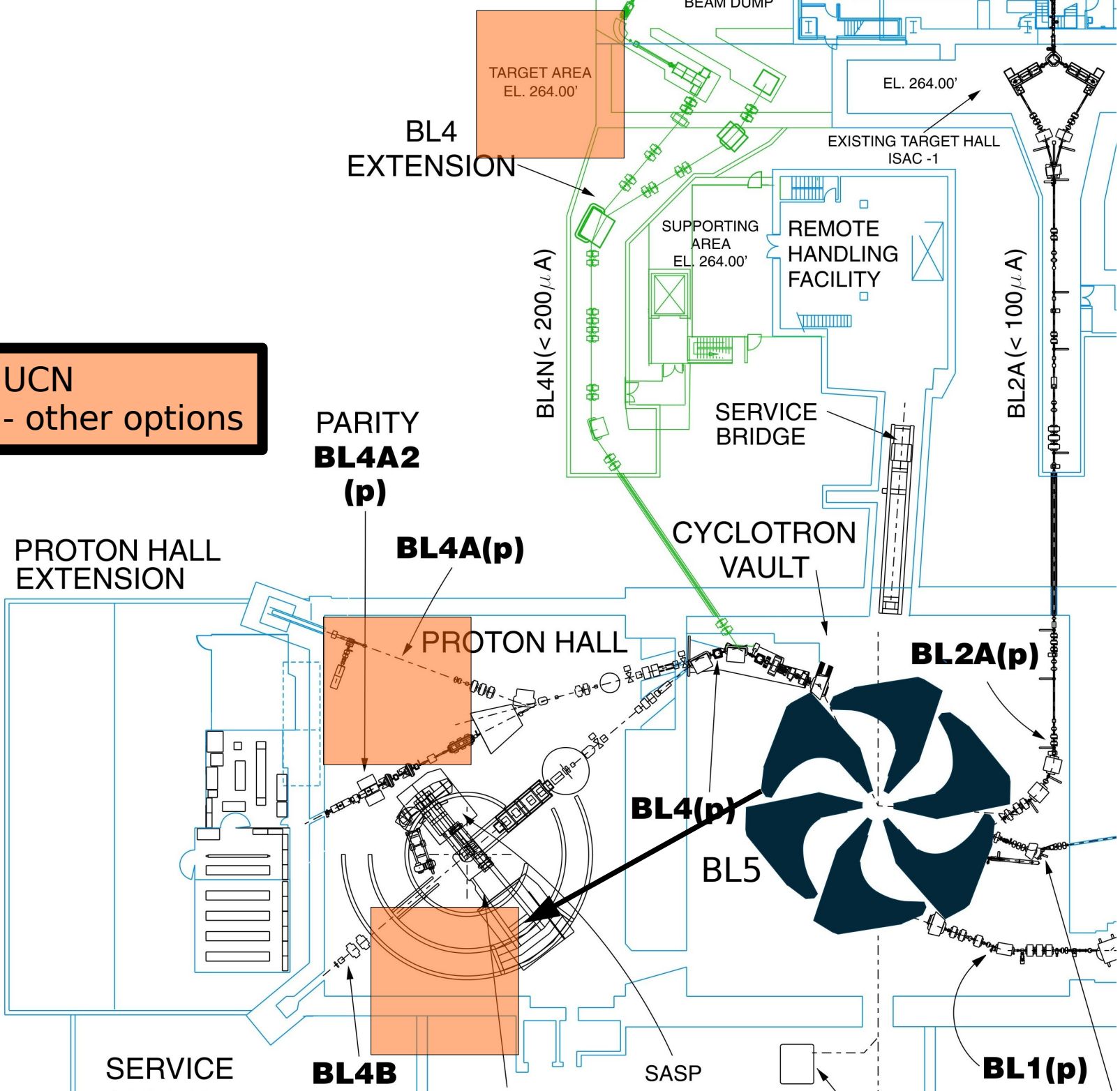
# Back-ups

simultaneous operation with ISAC-3 by decoupling on kHz scale with kicker/ion source manipulation. Advantageous for ISAC-3: run all three targets simultaneously.

## ion source current vs. time



UCN  
- other options





# Solutions Discussed for Technical Issues

- Location:
  - BL5 area
    - Advantages:
      - decoupled from ISAC 3.
    - Disadvantages:
      - new beam port must be constructed
      - beam line must not conflict with cyclotron probe extraction point
      - high-power dump required to achieve pulsing with kicker.
      - space in Proton Hall tighter – likely requires excavation for dump.

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~25 speakers from all over the world  
ILL, FRM-II, NCSU, LANL, PSI, KEK, Mainz, ...

# Speakers at TRIUMF UCN Workshop Sept. 13-14, 2007

H. Abele\*, Heidelberg

S. Baessler, Mainz/UVa

L. Buchmann, TRIUMF

M. Daum, PSI

S. Gardner\*, U. Kentucky

P. Geltenbort\*, ILL

E. Gutschmiedl, Munich  
FRM-II

R. Golub, NCSU

B. Filippone, Caltech

P. Huffman, NCSU

T. Ito, LANL

E. Korobkina, NCSU

C.-Y. Liu, Indiana U.

M. Makela, LANL

J.W. Martin, U. Winnipeg

Y. Masuda, KEK

C. Morris, LANL

P. Mumm, NIST

J. Nico\*, NIST

J. Ng, TRIUMF

S. Paul\*, T.U. Muenchen

M. Pospelov\*, U.  
Victoria/Perimeter Inst.

J.-M. Poutissou, TRIUMF

W.M. Snow\*, Indiana U.

F. Wietfeldt, Tulane U.

A. Young, NCSU

O. Zimmer\*, ILL

Aug. 1

morning - plenary session, charge, and introduction of working groups

12:00 lunch

13:00 Welcome + Charge (Martin) (10+5)

13:15 UCN Sources Worldwide and for TRIUMF (Masuda) (45+10)

14:10 Photofission, (gamma,n) Sources and UCN (Behr) (10+10)

14:30 coffee (30)

15:00 SCRF joint session: Electron Linac Design (Koscielniak) (20+10)

15:30 UCN Infrastructure and Proton Hall Floorplan (Davis) (10+10)

15:50 Proton Hall Radiation Limits (Trudel) (10)

16:00 Discussion (Chair: Davis) (30)

16:30 tour of proton hall? (if desired) (Davis) (30)

Aug. 2

09:00 Continued infrastructure Discussion (60)

10:00 UCN Physics Intro (Martin) (10+5)

10:15 UCN Beta Decay (Melconian) (20+10)

10:45 coffee (30)

11:15 n-EDM (Masuda and/or Hayden?) (20+10)

11:45 radioactive beams (Buchmann) (10+10)

12:05 lunch

13:15 gravity levels (Konaka) (5+10)

13:30 other physics (Martin) (15+10)

13:55 discussion of physics priorities and strategy (chair: Martin) (35)

14:30 begin writing

more joint sessions

draft Aug. 3 morning presentation

Aug. 3

morning - presentations of results from the working groups.

# Agenda

# Options considered

- for duty cycle
  - fast kicker + local beam dump in hall
- for BL4 sharing with ISAC
  - two stripper foils on same extraction probe + septum
    - difficult, more appropriate for BL1
  - other lines: BL1, BL5
  - (gamma,n) or photofission source of neutrons (Behr)
    - requires further study
- for space
  - locate UCN source in ISAC 2<sup>nd</sup> target
- for LHe
  - modest consumption 200 L/day

# Outline of White Paper

- Physics
  - prioritized and realistic, as much as possible
- UCN Source
  - proposed intensity at TRIUMF
  - world context and relevance
- Required Infrastructure
  - floorspace, shielding
  - duty cycle
  - He liquefier
- Required funding
  - CFI and collaboration, and international