



# First results on the $\theta_{13}$ mixing angle with the Double Chooz reactor experiment

Inés Gil Botella

Basic Research Department

15 December 2011



**Ciemat**  
Centro de Investigaciones  
Energéticas, Medioambientales  
y Tecnológicas

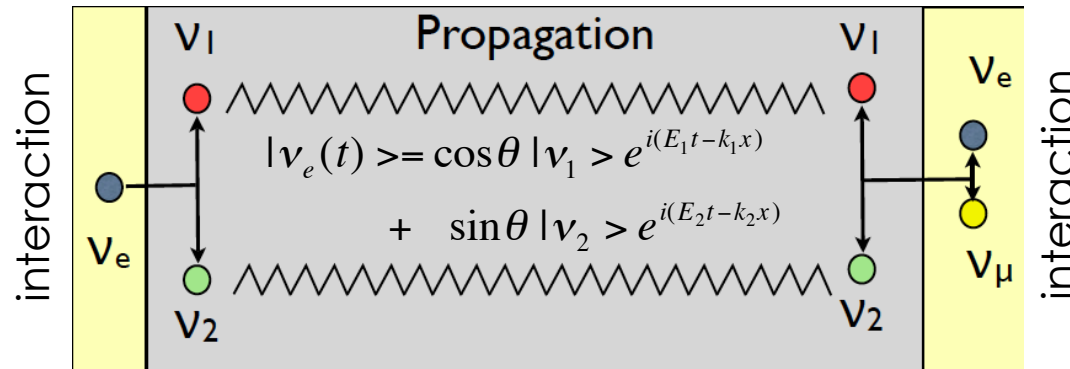
# Overview

- Neutrino oscillations status
  - The search for the  $\theta_{13}$  mixing angle
- Neutrino oscillations at nuclear reactors
  - Neutrino detection and backgrounds
- The Double Chooz experimental setup
- CIEMAT contribution
- Physics results
  - Detector performance
  - Neutrino selection and backgrounds
  - Oscillation analysis
- Prospects
- Conclusions



# Neutrino oscillations status

# Neutrino oscillations

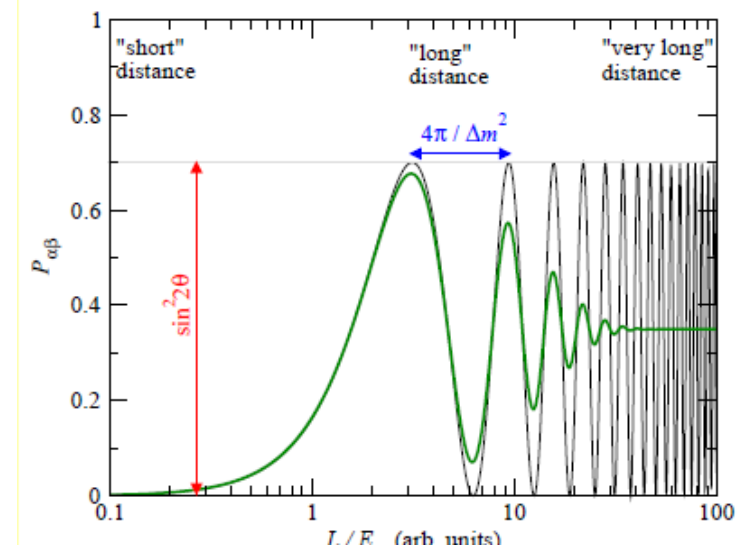


$$|\nu_e(0)\rangle = \cos\theta |\nu_1\rangle + \sin\theta |\nu_2\rangle$$

$$P(\nu_e \xrightarrow{osc} \nu_\mu) = |\langle \nu_\mu(0) | \nu_e(t) \rangle|^2$$

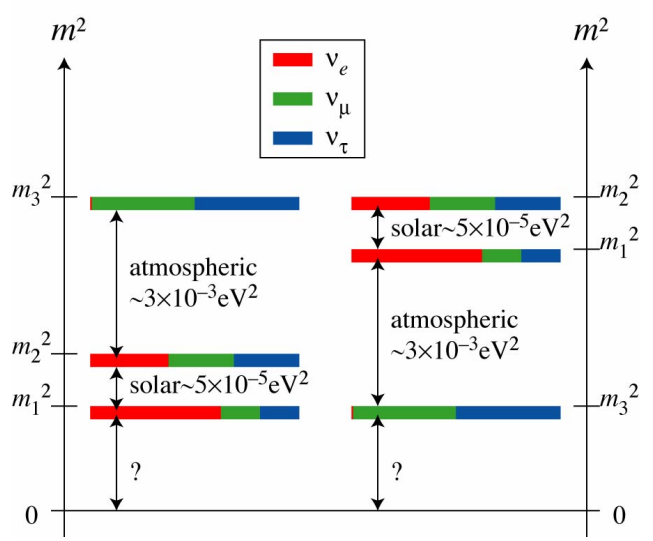
- Quantum mechanical phenomenon
- **Flavor transitions** due to:
  - Finite mass
  - Neutrino mixing

■ For two families:  $P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta) = \sin^2(2\theta) \sin^2\left(\frac{\Delta m^2 \cdot L}{4 \cdot E_\nu}\right)$



# Global analysis of oscillation data

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_\mu \\ \nu_\tau \end{pmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{23} & s_{23} \\ 0 & -s_{23} & c_{23} \end{pmatrix}}_{\theta_{\text{atm}}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} c_{13} & 0 & s_{13}e^{-i\delta} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -s_{13}e^{i\delta} & 0 & c_{13} \end{pmatrix}}_{\theta_{13}, \delta_{\text{CP}} ??} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} c_{12} & s_{12} & 0 \\ -s_{12} & c_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\theta_{\text{sol}}} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \\ \nu_3 \end{pmatrix}$$



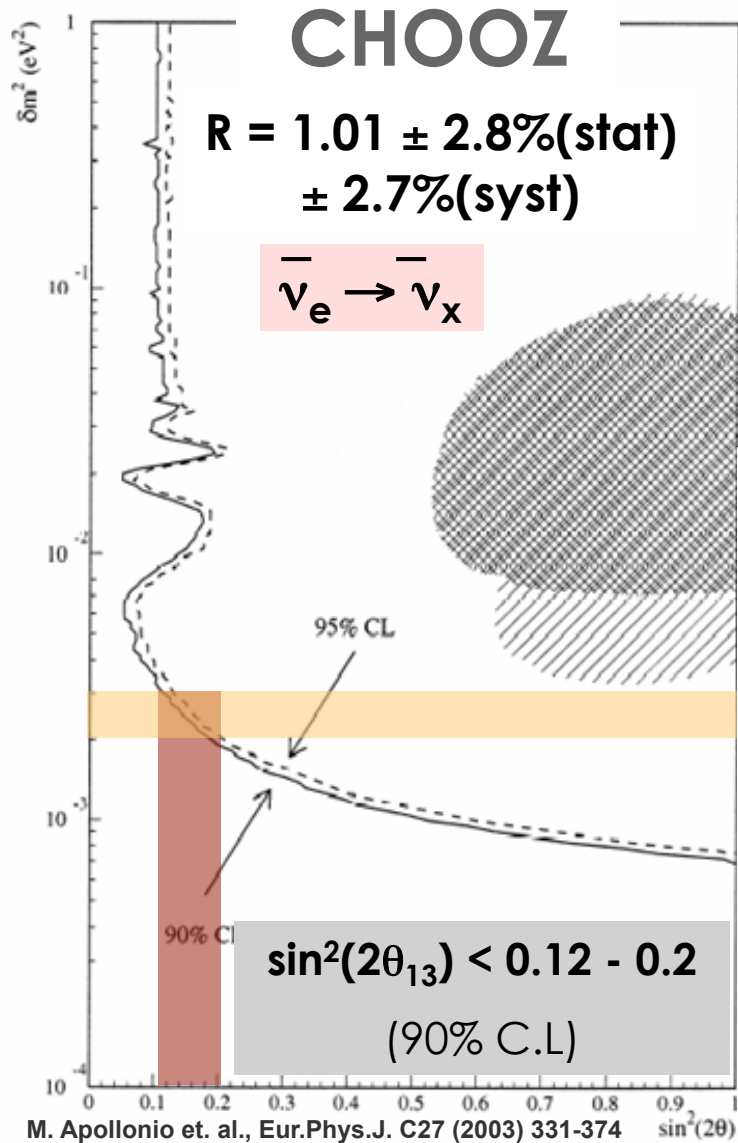
## Experimental measurements

parameter	best fit	$2\sigma$	$3\sigma$
$\Delta m_{21}^2$ [ $10^{-5} \text{eV}^2$ ]	$7.65^{+0.23}_{-0.20}$	7.25–8.11	7.05–8.34
$ \Delta m_{31}^2 $ [ $10^{-3} \text{eV}^2$ ]	$2.40^{+0.12}_{-0.11}$	2.18–2.64	2.07–2.75
$\sin^2 \theta_{12}$	$0.304^{+0.022}_{-0.016}$	0.27–0.35	0.25–0.37
$\sin^2 \theta_{23}$	$0.50^{+0.07}_{-0.06}$	0.39–0.63	0.36–0.67
$\sin^2 \theta_{13}$	$0.01^{+0.016}_{-0.011}$	$\leq 0.040$	$\leq 0.056$

T. Schwetz et al.,  
 New J.Phys.10:113011,2008

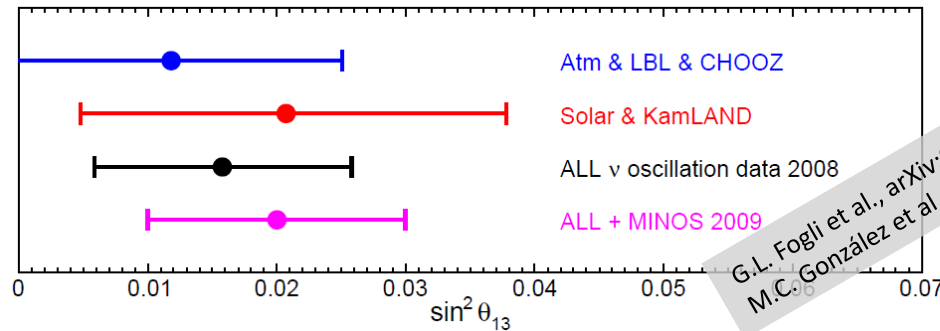
**$\theta_{13}, \delta_{\text{CP}}, \text{sign } \Delta m_{31}^2, \theta_{23} \text{ maximal?}$**

# The $\theta_{13}$ mixing angle

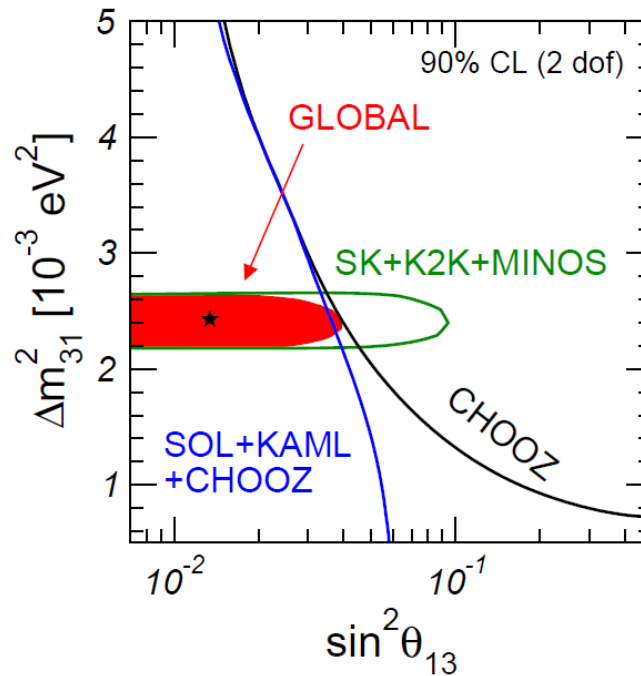


Hints for  $\theta_{13} > 0$

$\sin^2\theta_{13} = 0.01 - 0.02$  ( $1\sigma$ )



+ T2K



Best global limit on  $\theta_{13}$

M. Mezzeto & T. Schwetz  
arXiv:1003.5800

Global (90% CL)  
 $\sin^2\theta_{13} \leq 0.031$

# Two approaches for measuring $\theta_{13}$

## ACCELERATOR

- **Appearance** experiments
- $P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e)$  depends on  $\sin^2(2\theta_{13})$ ,  $\sin^2(\theta_{23})$ ,  $\text{sign}(\Delta m_{31}^2)$ ,  $\delta_{CP}$  phase
  - Parameter degeneracies and correlations
  - Matter effects sensitive
- Possible measurement of CP and  $\text{sign}(\Delta m_{31}^2)$
- EXP. **CHALLENGES**:  $\nu$  beam intensity,  $\nu$  beam flavor contamination,  $\nu$  flux properties,  $\nu$ -N interactions

## REACTOR

- **Disappearance** experiments
- $P(\bar{\nu}_e \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e)$  depends on  $\sin^2(2\theta_{13})$
- **Unambiguous determination of  $\theta_{13}$** 
  - no dependence on  $\delta_{CP}$
  - no dependence on mass hierarchy
  - weak dependence on  $\Delta m_{12}^2$
- Resolve  $\theta_{23}$  degeneracy combined with accelerator experiments
- EXP. **CHALLENGES**: backgrounds, systematic uncertainties

Both type of experiments provide independent and complementary information on  $\theta_{13}$

# Evolution of the $3\sigma$ discovery and sensitivity

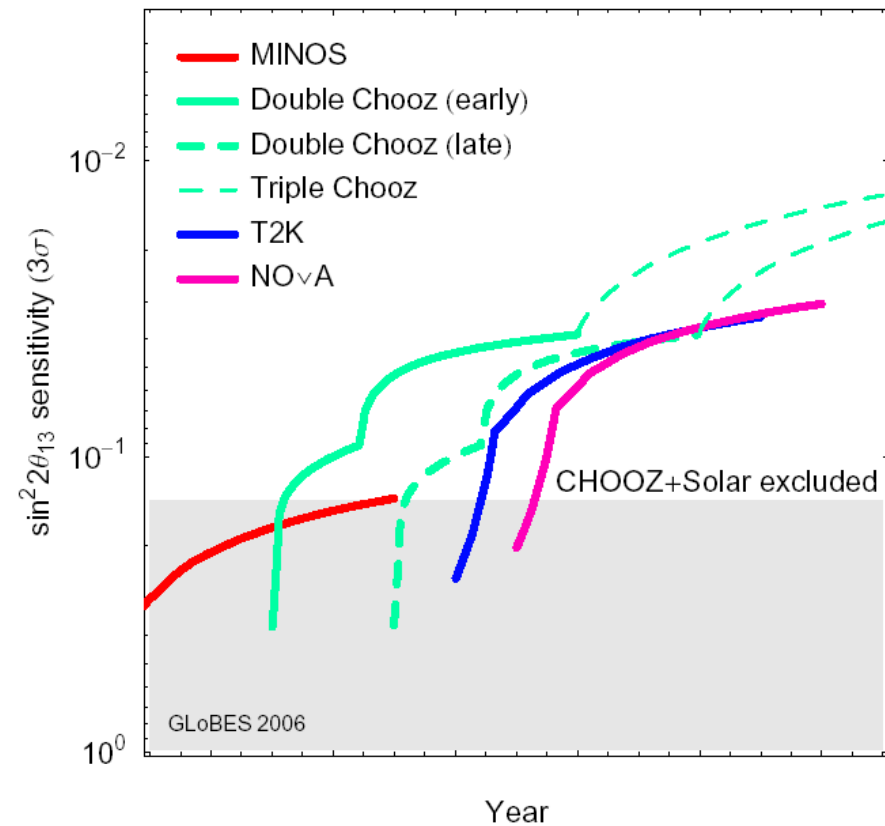
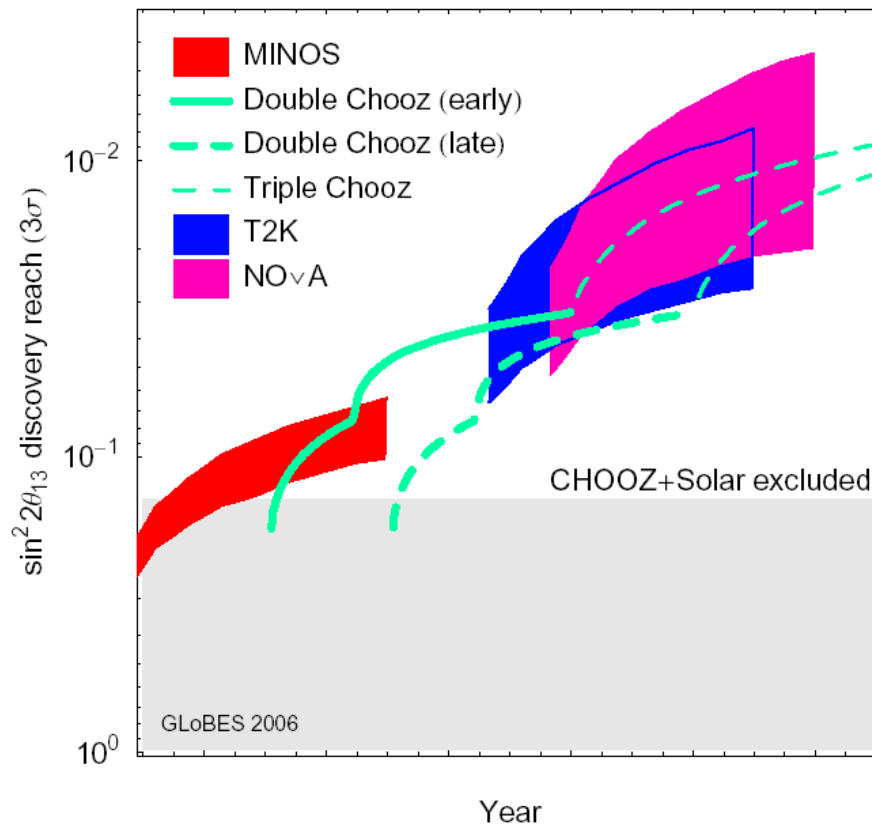
## $3\sigma$ discovery potential

hep-ph/0601266

## $3\sigma$ sensitivity (no signal)

$\sin^2 2\theta_{13}$  discovery (normal hierarchy)

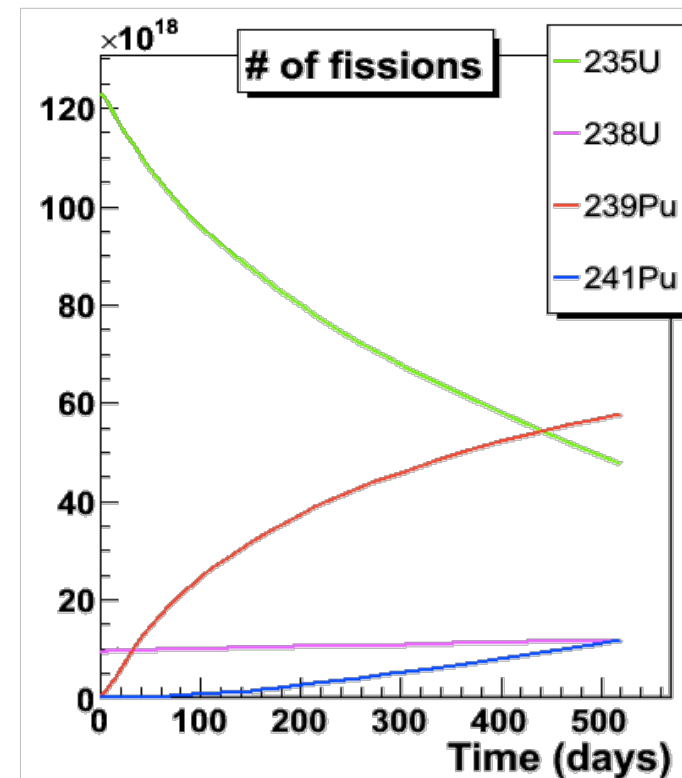
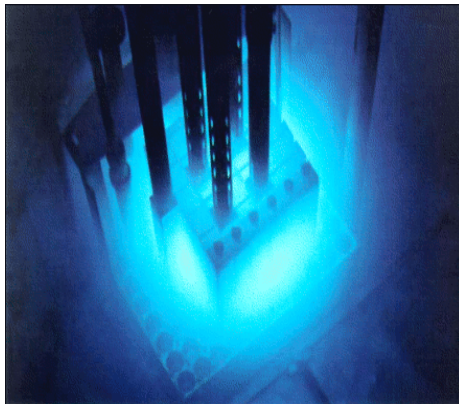
$\sin^2 2\theta_{13}$  sensitivity (no signal)



# Neutrino oscillations at nuclear reactors

# Nuclear reactors

- Electron antineutrinos emitted through decays of fission products of  $^{235}\text{U}$ ,  $^{238}\text{U}$ ,  $^{239}\text{Pu}$ ,  $^{241}\text{Pu}$
- Nuclear reactors:  $1 \text{ GW}_{\text{th}} \cong 2 \times 10^{20} \bar{\nu}/\text{s}$
- Neutrino luminosity:  $N_{\bar{\nu}} = \gamma(1 + k)P_{\text{th}}$ 
  - $\gamma$ : reactor constant
  - $k$ : fuel evolution correction up to 10%
- ~200 MeV/fission is released
- ~6 antineutrinos/fission





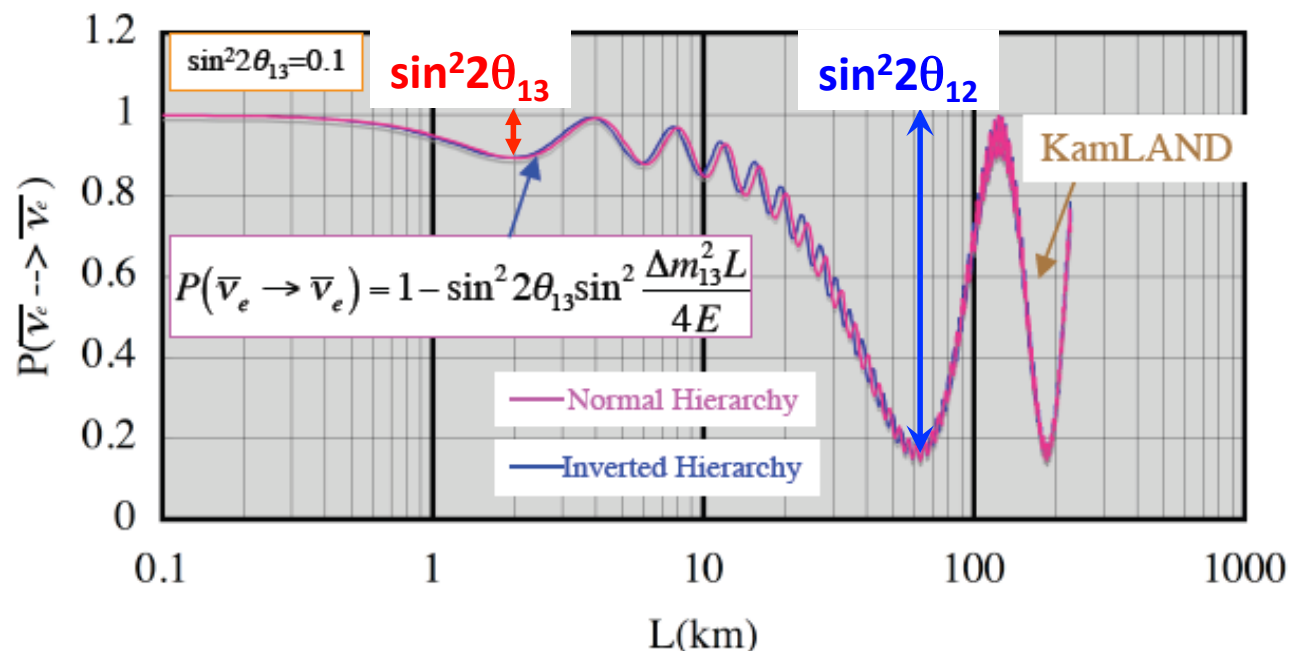
# Neutrino oscillations at nuclear reactors

$\bar{\nu}_e$  survival probability

**Clean measurement**

$$P_{ee} \approx 1 - \sin^2 2\theta_{13} \sin^2 \left( \frac{\Delta m_{13}^2 L}{4E_\nu} \right) - \cos^4 \theta_{13} \sin^2 2\theta_{12} \sin^2 \left( \frac{\Delta m_{21}^2 L}{4E_\nu} \right)$$

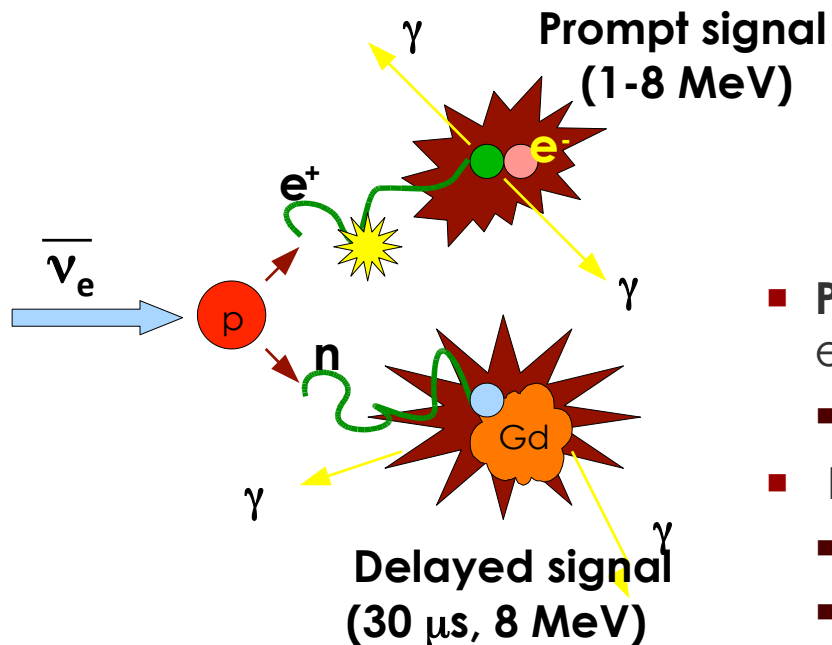
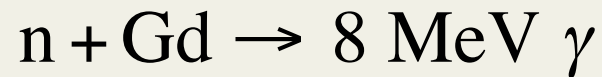
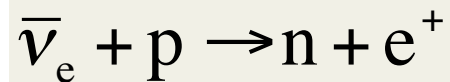
MeV neutrinos:  
only  
*disappearance*  
experiments



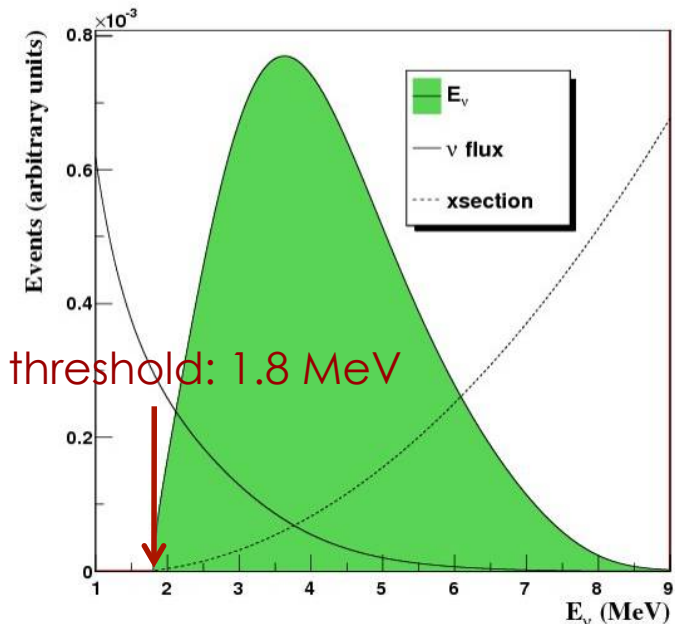
Small deficit ( $= \sin^2 2\theta_{13}$ )  $\Rightarrow$  high precision is necessary

# Antineutrino detection

$\bar{\nu}_e$  detection: inverse beta decay



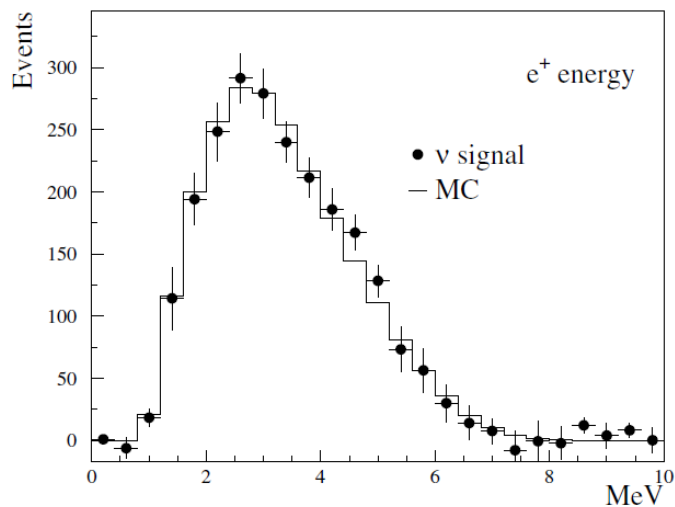
Reaction threshold: 1.8 MeV



- **Prompt signal:**  $e^+$  kinetic energy + photons from  $e^+$  annihilation:
  - $E_{\text{VIS}} \approx E_\nu - (m_n - m_p) + m_e \approx E_\nu - 0.8 \text{ MeV}$
- **Delayed signal:** photons from  $n$  capture
  - on H :  $\Delta t \sim 200 \mu\text{s}$ ,  $E \sim 2 \text{ MeV}$
  - on dedicated nuclei (Gd):  $\Delta t \sim 30 \mu\text{s}$ ,  $E \sim 8 \text{ MeV}$

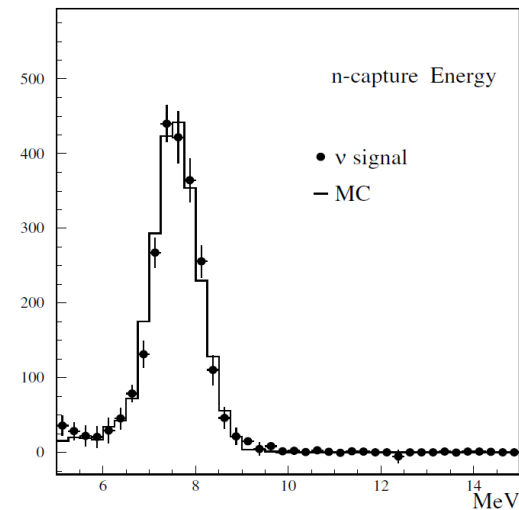
# Main selection observables (CHOOZ data plots)

Prompt energy spectrum



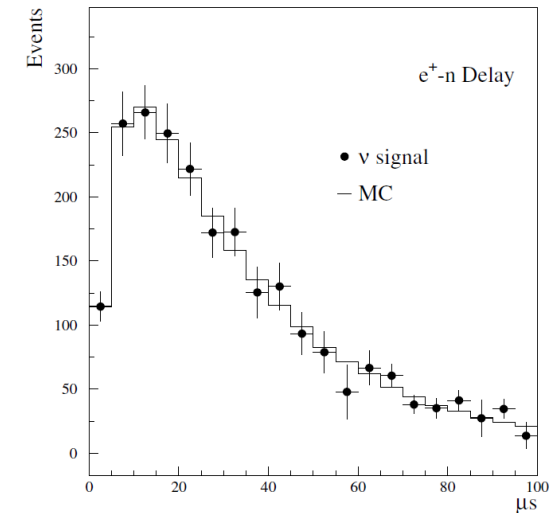
$$E_{e^+} \approx [1-8] \text{ MeV}$$

Delay energy spectrum



$$E_n \approx [6-12] \text{ MeV}$$

Time delay distribution



$$\Delta t \approx [2-100] \mu\text{s}$$

- In addition in CHOOZ: fiducial cut, spatial distance between  $e^+$  and n, neutron multiplicity

# The Double Chooz experimental setup

# Double Chooz collaboration



## Brazil

CBPF  
UNICAMP  
UFABC



## France

APC  
CEA/DSM/IRFU:  
SPP  
SPhN  
SEDI  
SIS  
SENAC  
CNRS/IN2P3:  
Subatech  
IPHC  
ULB/VUB



## Germany

EKU Tübingen  
MPIK Heidelberg  
RWTH Aachen  
TU München  
U. Hamburg



## Japan

Tohoku U.  
Tokyo Inst. Tech.  
Tokyo Metro. U.  
Niigata U.  
Kobe U.  
Tohoku Gakuin  
U.  
Hiroshima Inst  
Tech.



## Russia

INR RAS  
IPC RAS  
RRC  
Kurchatov



## Spain

CIEMAT-Madrid



## UK

Sussex



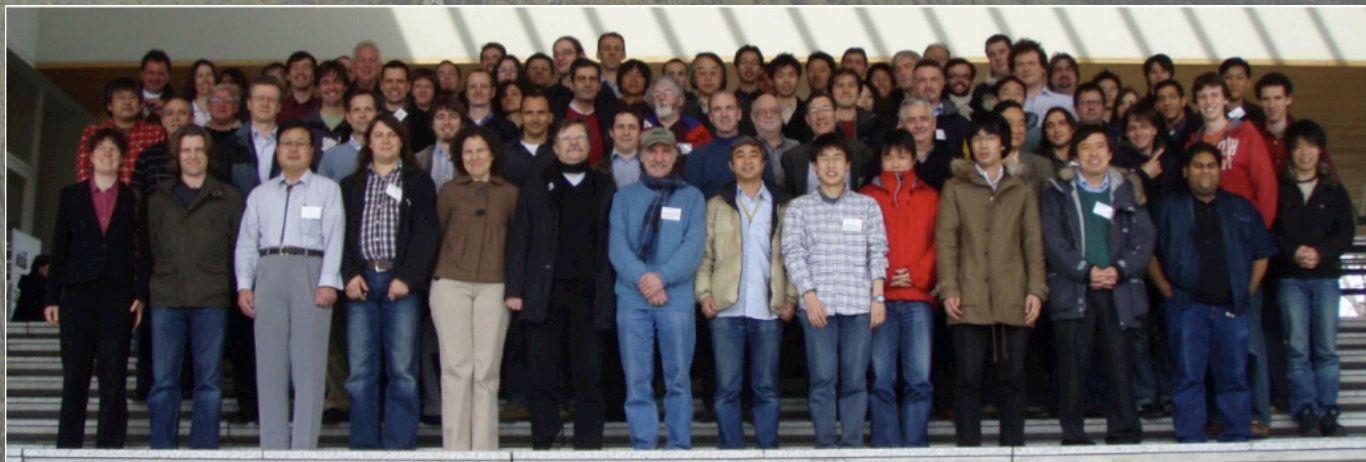
## USA

U. Alabama  
ANL  
U. Chicago  
Columbia U.  
UCDavis  
Drexel U.  
IIT  
KSU  
LLNL  
MIT  
U. Notre  
Dame  
Sandia  
National  
Laboratories  
U. Tennessee

**Spokesperson: H. de Kerret (IN2P3)**

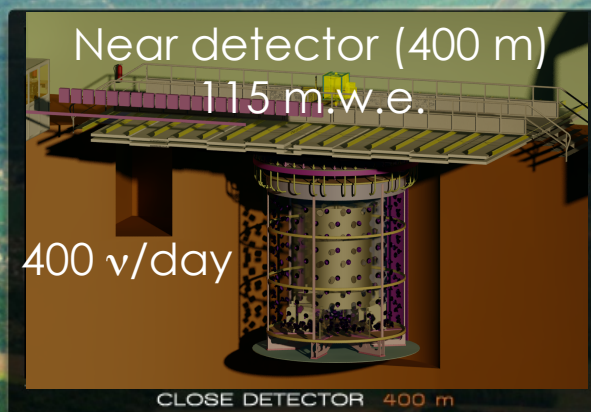
Project Manager: Ch. Veysière (CEA-Saclay)

**Web Site: [www.doublechooz.org/](http://www.doublechooz.org/)**





# The Double Chooz concept

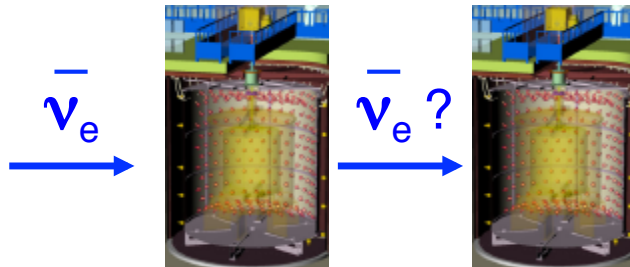
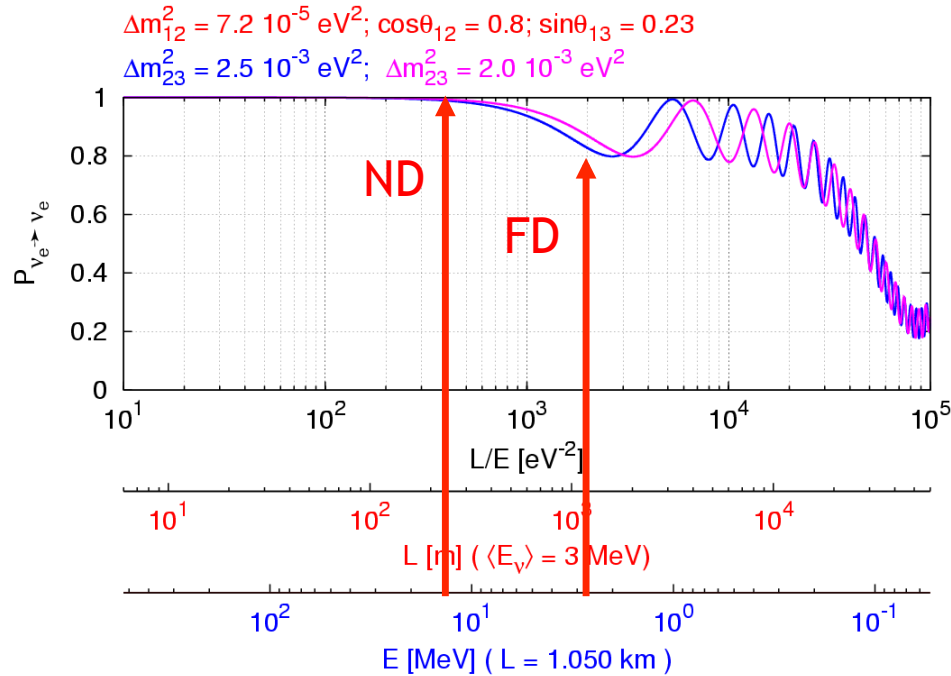


Far detector (1050 m)  
300 m.w.e.

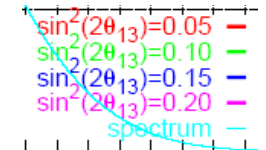




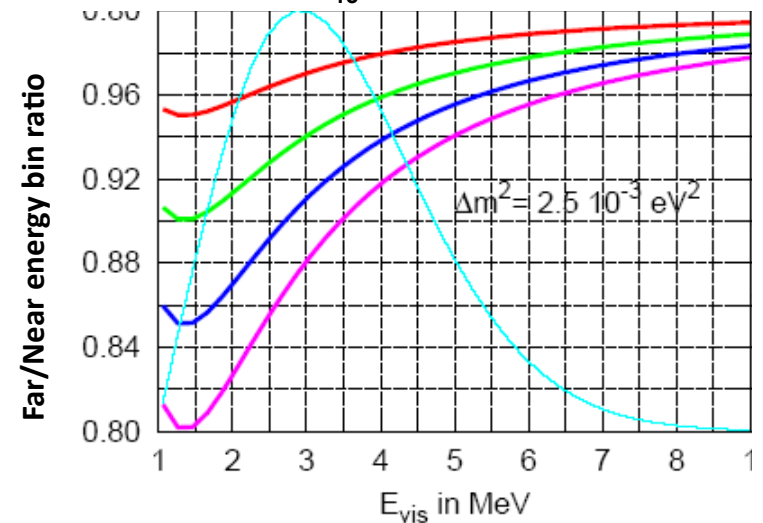
# Reactor measurement principle



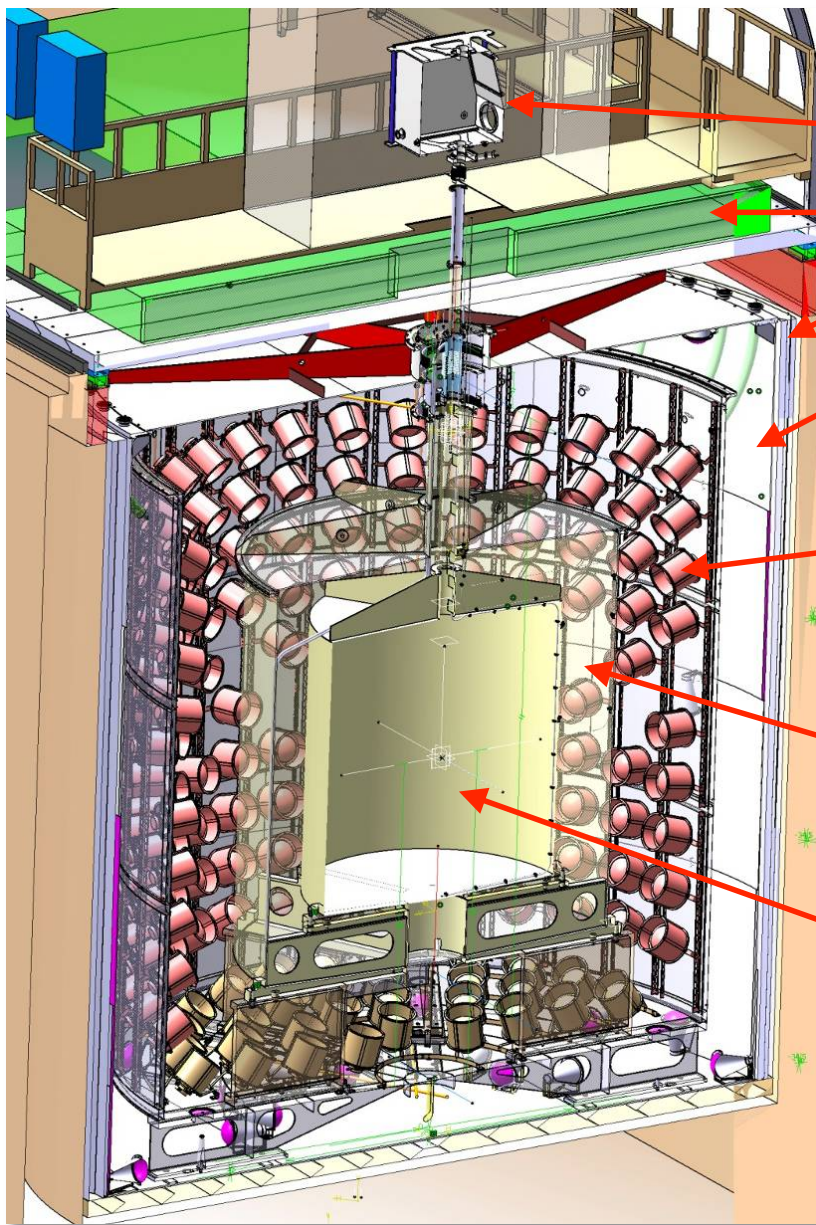
- 2 “identical” detectors
- Rate comparison
- Spectral distortion
- Limit:
  - Systematics
  - Backgrounds



Rate + shape information if  $\theta_{13}$  not too small



# Detector design

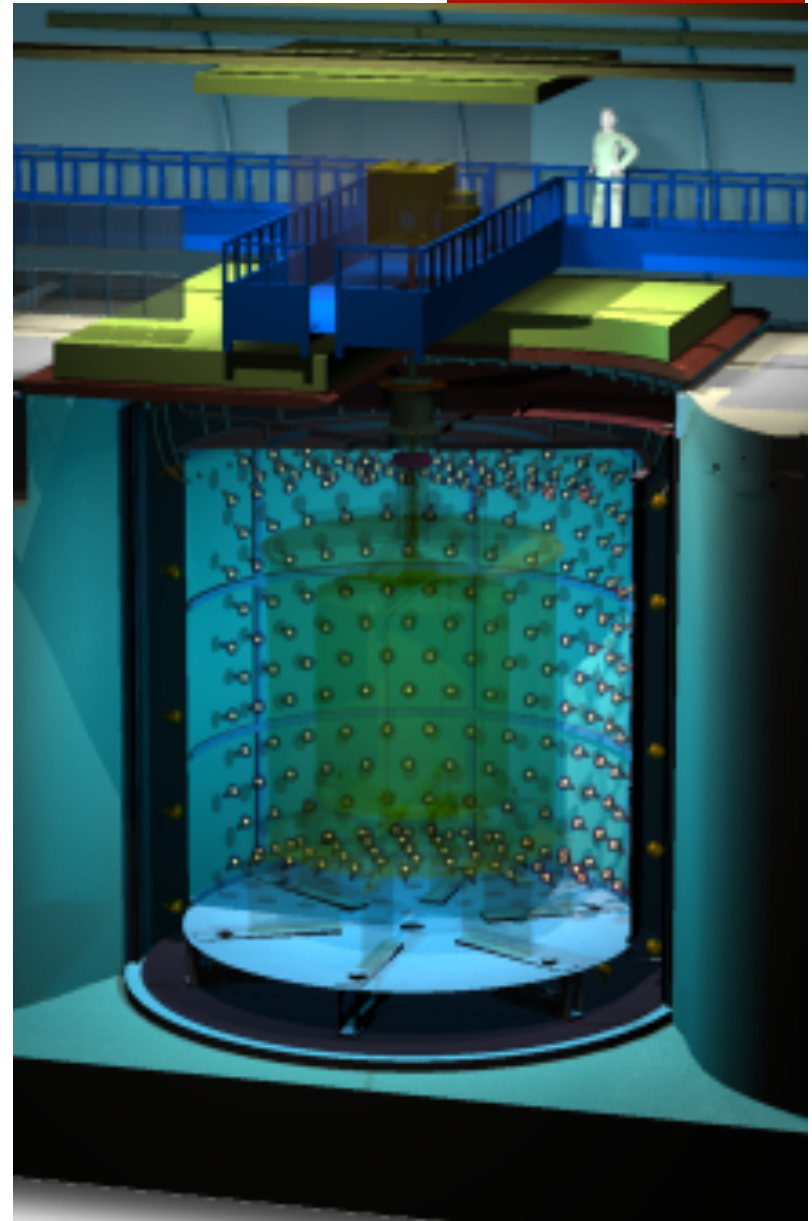


- **Calibration glove box**
- **Outer veto:** plastic scintillator strips
- **Shielding:** 15 cm steel
- **Inner veto:**
  - 90 m<sup>3</sup> of liquid scintillator & 78 8" PMTs in a steel vessel (10 mm)
- **Buffer:**
  - 110 m<sup>3</sup> of non scintillating mineral oil & 390 10" PMTs in a stainless steel vessel (3 mm)
- **Gamma-catcher:**
  - 22.3 m<sup>3</sup> of liquid scintillator in an acrylic vessel (12 mm)
- **Target:**
  - 10.3 m<sup>3</sup> of liquid scintillator doped with 1 g/L of Gd in an acrylic vessel (8 mm)



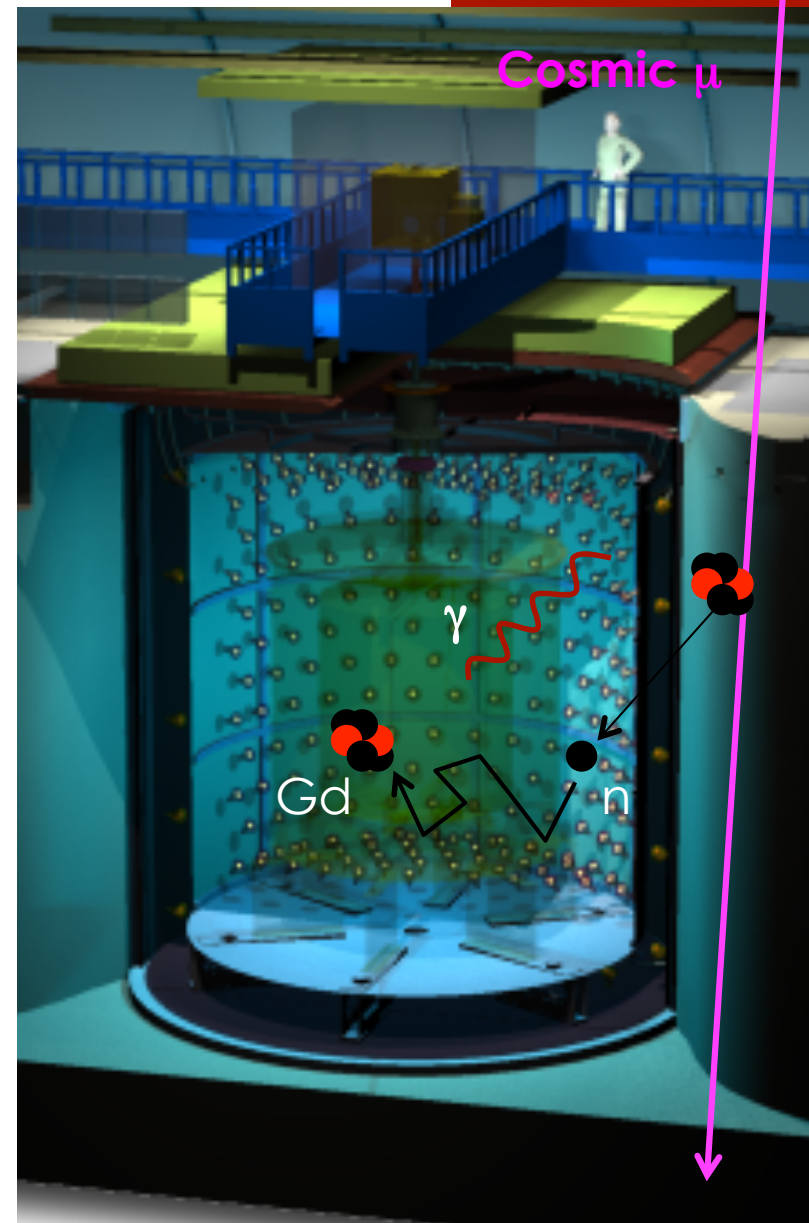
# Expected backgrounds

- Will be reduced with respect to CHOOZ
- Target volume protected by several concentric layers
- Radiopurity requirements for detector materials and during installation
- Efficient muon tagging by inner and outer veto



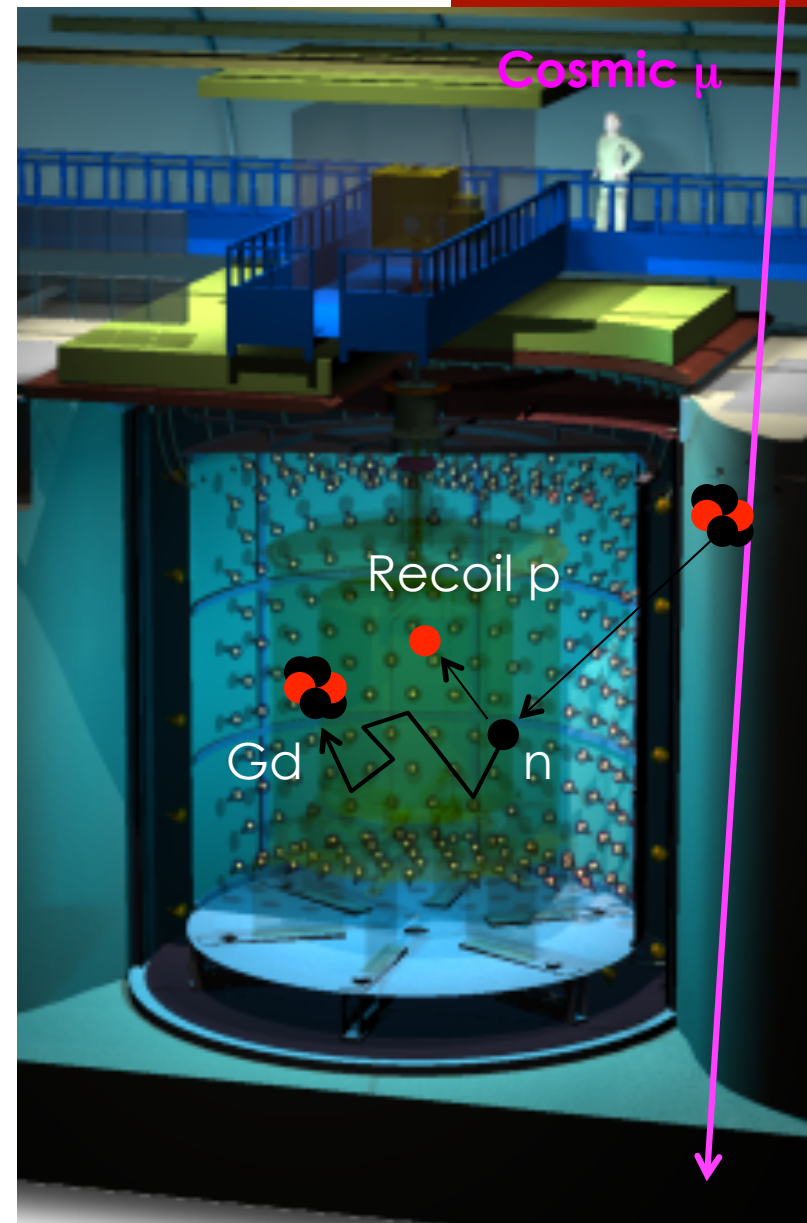
# Expected background

- **Accidental coincidences:**
  - Prompt = radioactivity from materials, rock
  - Delayed = neutron from cosmic muon captured on Gd
  - **Proposal :  $2.0 \pm 0.9$  / day**



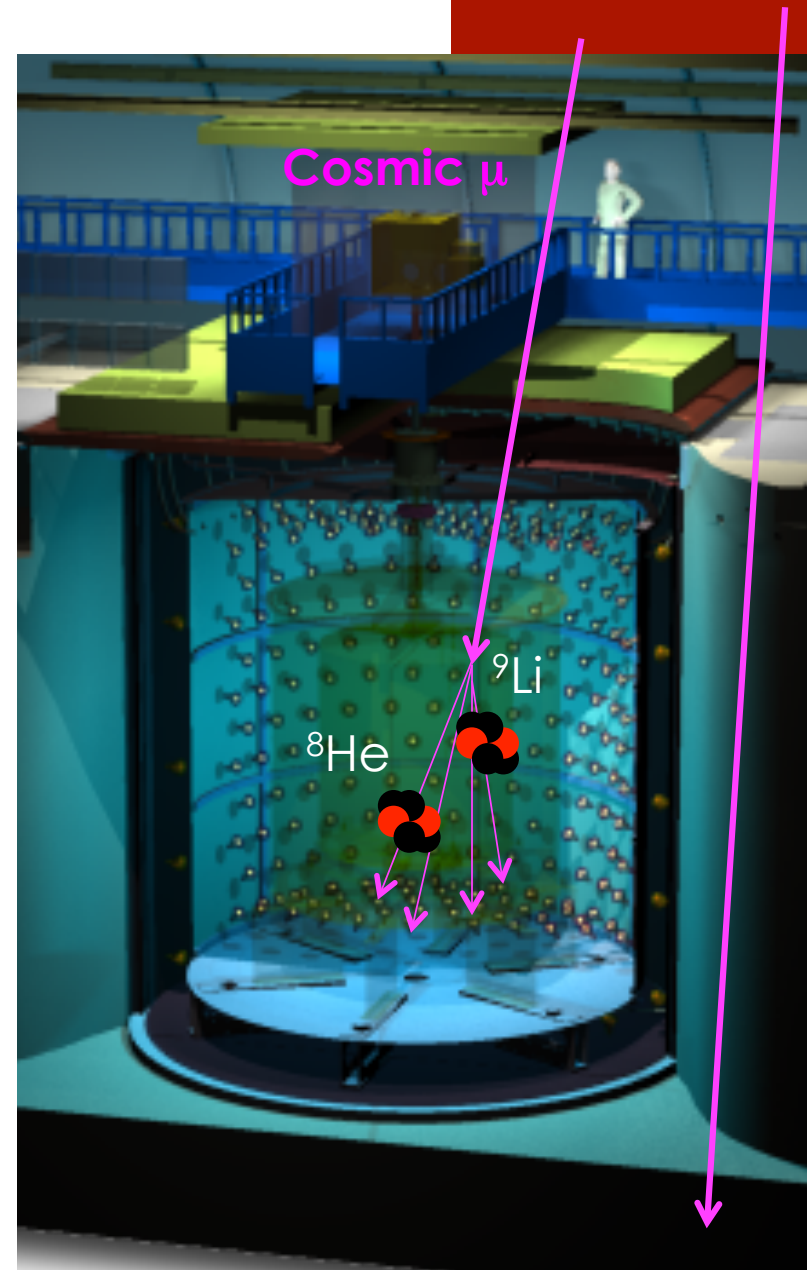
# Expected background

- **Correlated fast neutrons:**
  - $\mu$ -induced
  - Prompt = recoil proton
  - Delayed = neutron capture on Gd
  - **Proposal :  $0.2 \pm 0.2$  / day**



# Expected background

- **Correlated  ${}^9\text{Li}$  and  ${}^8\text{He}$ :**
  - Produced by  $\mu$ -induced spallation processes
  - $\beta$ -n emitters, perfectly mimic the  $\nu$  signal.
  - Long life time  $\sim 250$  ms, difficult to veto completely because of excessive dead time
  - **Proposal :  $1.4 \pm 0.5$  / day**







# Far detector construction (2008-2010)

Inner veto PMTs installed

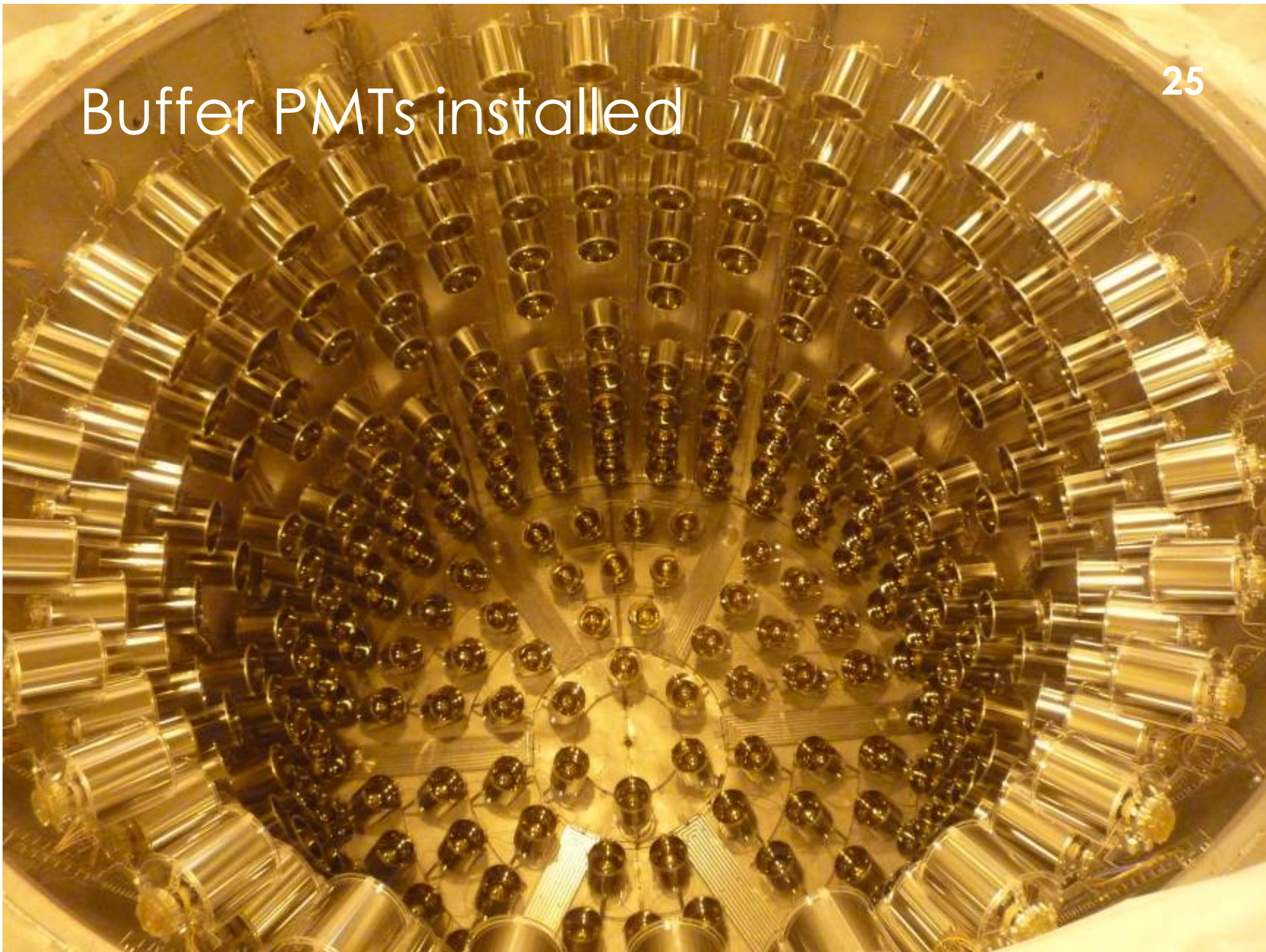
24





Buffer PMTs installed

25





# Installation of acrylic vessels





# Acrylic vessels and PMTs installed





Lid closure

28





Buffer PMT volume closed

29





Steel shield installed





Outer veto installation completed





# Milestones

- May 2008 – October 2010: far detector construction
- December 2010: far detector filling completed
- April 2011: far detector commissioned
- **April 2011: start physics data with far detector**
- July 2011: Outer veto commissioned
- July 2011: Glove box installed
- August 2011: First campaign of calibration
- **November 2011: First release of physics results**
- June 2012: Expected delivery of near lab
- End 2012: Expected near detector completion
- Beg. 2013: Start data taking with far and near detectors



# Near detector lab civil construction



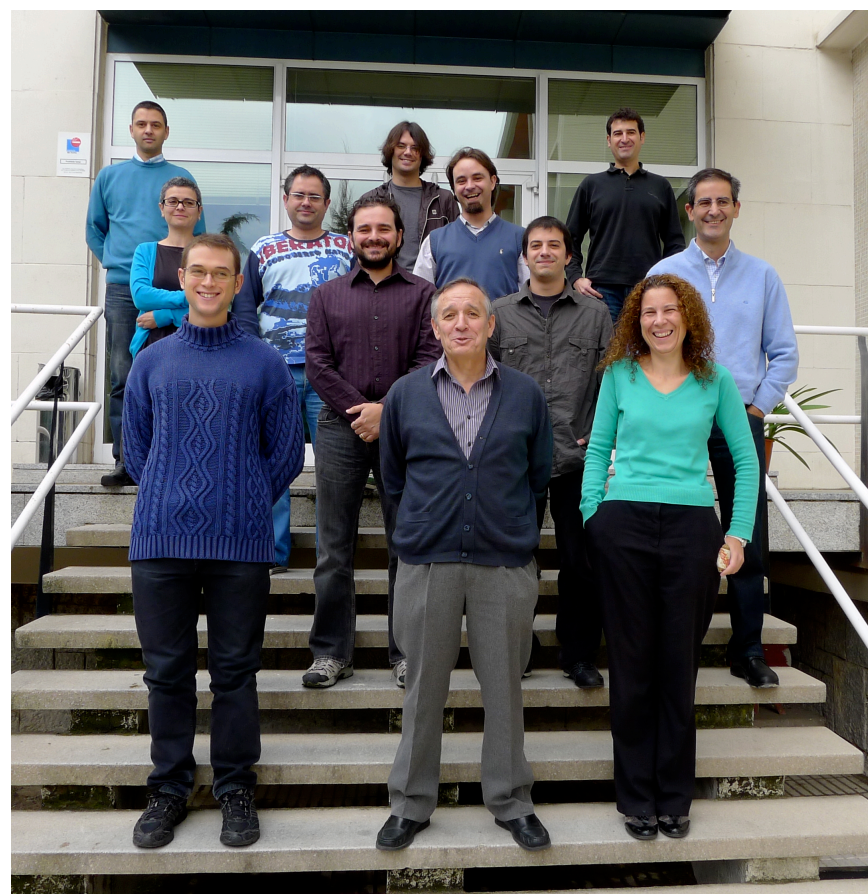
- Started April 2011
- Delivery June 2012
- Detector construction until end 2012
- Overburden: 120 mwe

# CIEMAT contribution



# Experimental neutrino group at CIEMAT

RESEARCHERS	
I. Gil Botella	(I. P.) Permanent
M. Cerrada	Permanent
C. Palomares	Permanent
P. Novella	Postdoc
R. Santorelli	Postdoc
J. Crespo	PhD student
M. López	PhD student
ENGINEERS	
E. Calvo	Mechanical E.
S. Jiménez	Electronic E.
A. Verdugo	Electronic E.
TECHNICAL STAFF	
J.M. Ahijado	Permanent
F. García	Permanent
CIEMAT mechanical workshop	



# Spanish contributions to Double Chooz

36

## DETECTOR MECHANICS

- Design and construction of special tools for acrylics installation
- Design, construction and assembly of PMT mechanical supports
- Installation of PMTs in the detectors

## PHOTODETECTION SYSTEM

- PMT functionality tests
- PMT characterization under magnetic field
- Design, tests, production and assembly of PMT magnetic shields
- PMT light noise characterization

## COMMON FUND

- Filling system
- Buffer and veto liquids
- Safety systems
- Running costs

## ELECTRONICS

- Design, tests, production and installation of PMT HV splitters

## ONLINE SYSTEM

- DAQ Event Builder development

## SIMULATION, DATA RECONSTR. AND PHYSICS ANALYSIS

- Detector simulation software
- Data reconstruction algorithms
- Background simulation and analysis
- Neutrino selection
- Analysis tools for sys. and sensit. estimation
- Coordination of the European cluster

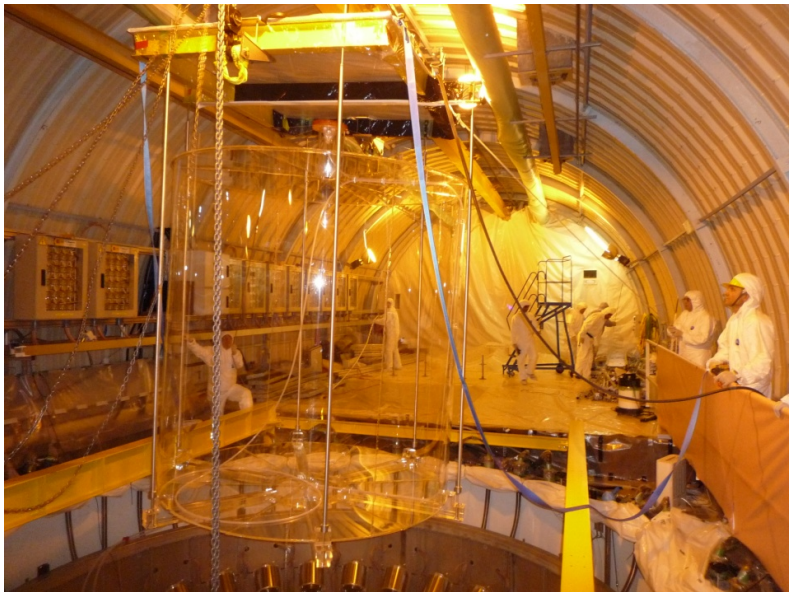
# Mechanical tools for acrylics installation

- 3 mechanical tools for construction and transportation of *target acrylic vessels*
- 1 mechanical tools for construction, transportation and installation of *gamma catcher vessel*
- Tools designed in collaboration with Saclay
- **Manufactured at CIEMAT workshop in 2008**
- Successful acrylic vessel installation at Chooz in 2009



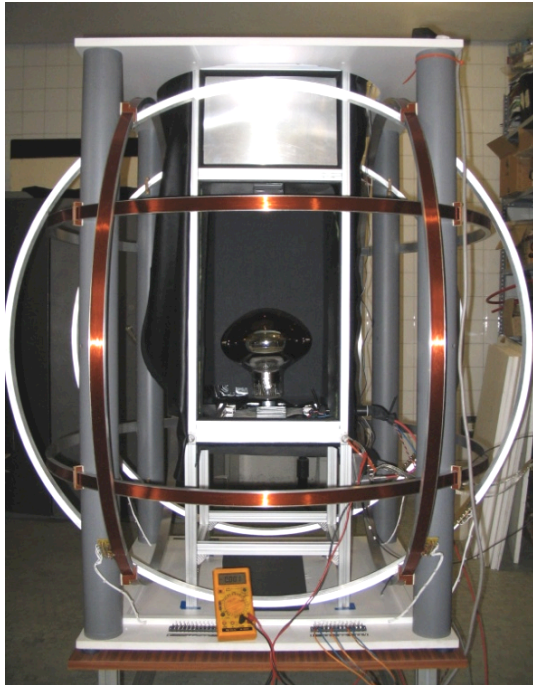


# Successful installation at Chooz





# PMT magnetic characterization & magnetic shields

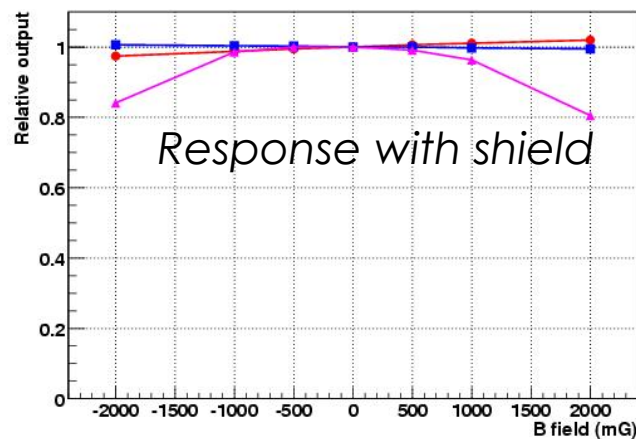
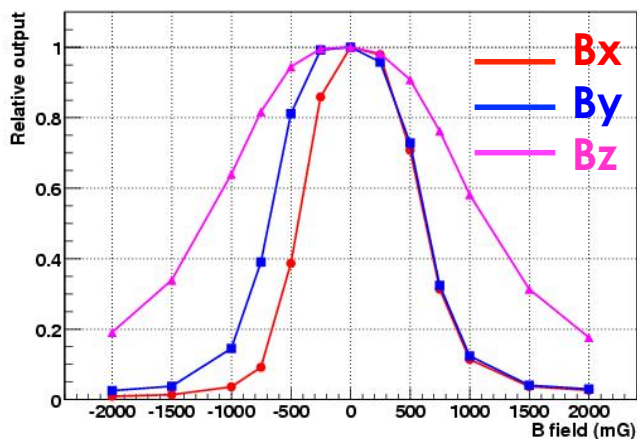


- Hamamatsu 10" R7081 **tests at CIEMAT:**
  - Main characteristics
  - Response under low B-field (for the first time)
  - Uniformity measurements
- **Design and production** of 800 magnetic shields keeping >95% of signal for B-fields up to 1G in any direction
- **Quality tests** of final production shields before their assembly
- **2 NIM papers published**



Quality tests of shields

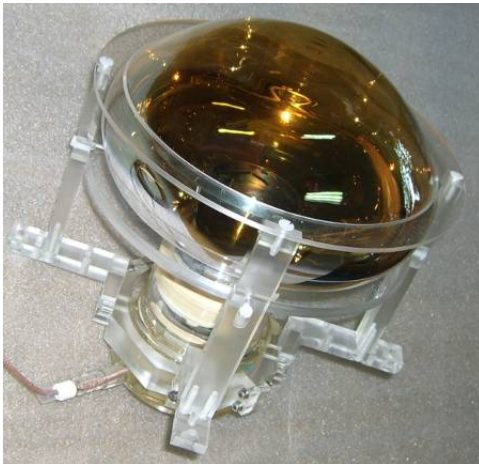
Relative response



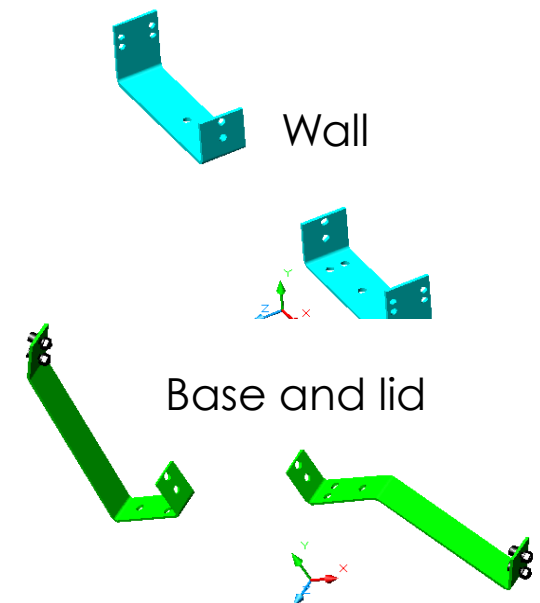
# PMT mechanics: design and fabrication

- **Complete design of PMT mechanical supports** for Double Chooz
- Mechanical and pressure tests at CIEMAT
- Design and production of **fixing system to the buffer wall**
- **Production of all mechanical pieces** (~10,000 pieces) **at CIEMAT workshop**
  - 8 technicians during 8 months (only for FD production)
  - **Production also finished for near detector**
- **Quality control, cleanliness** procedure and **thermal treatment** of acrylics, nylon and stainless steel components at CIEMAT by our technicians (~8 months)

Acrylics (18 pieces per PMT)

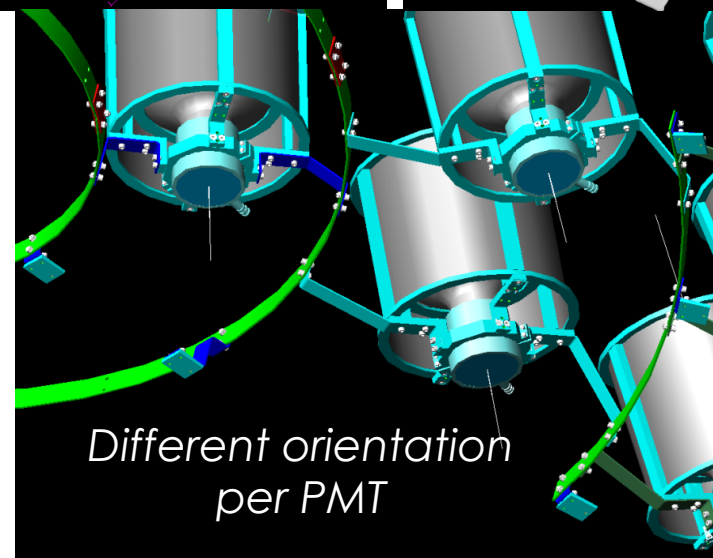
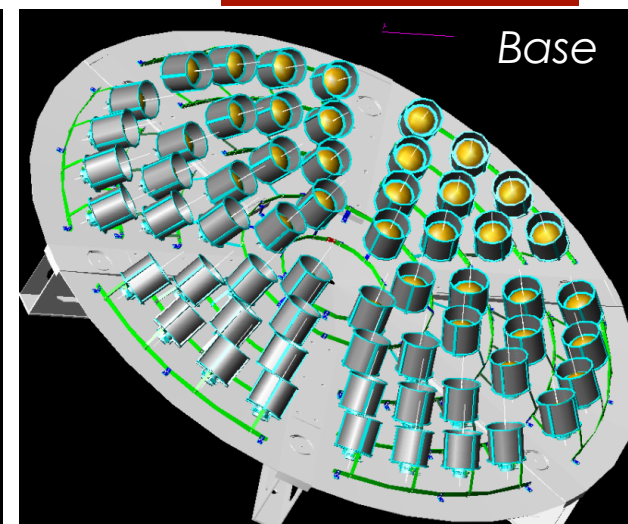
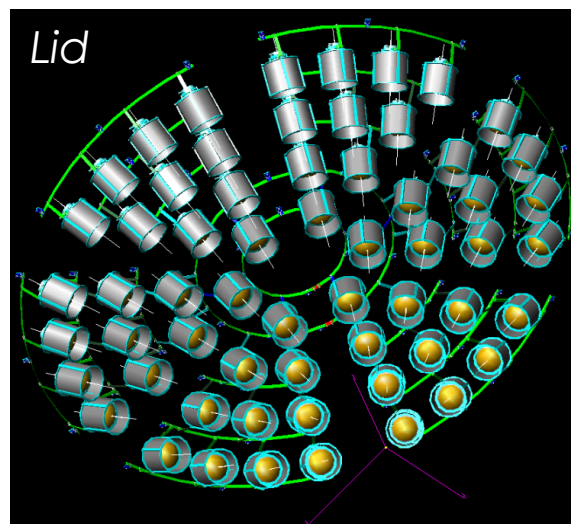
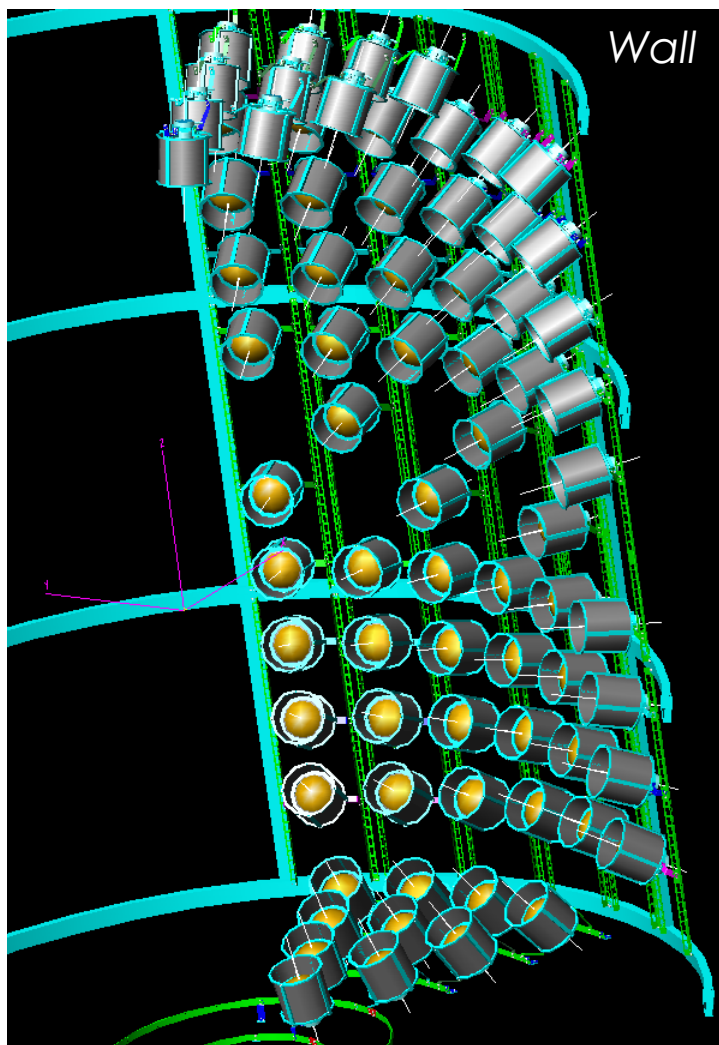


Stainless steel



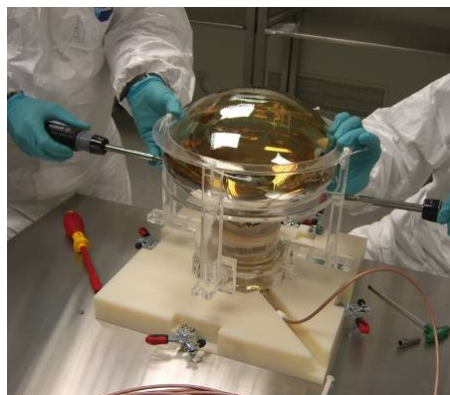


# PMT mechanics: distribution and fixing system to the buffer



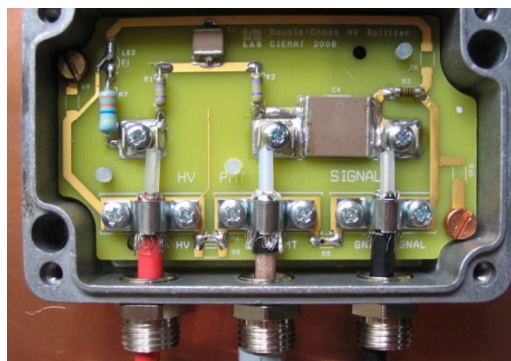
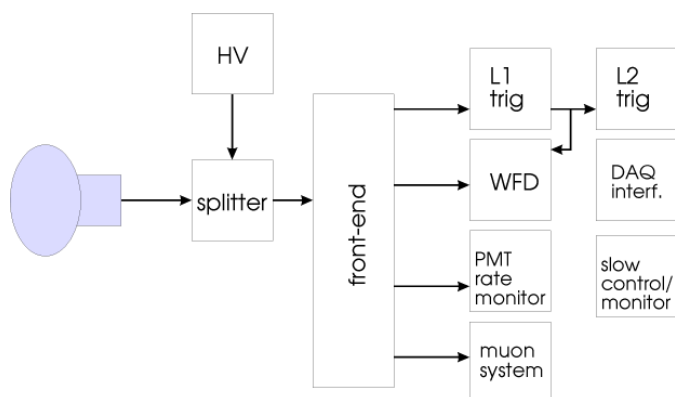
# PMT mechanics: assembly

- **7 weeks** of work for far detector in MPIK Heidelberg
- **4 technicians** from CIEMAT
- Preparation of special tools
- Clean room environment
- 3 CIEMAT technicians **currently assembling** near detector PMTs





# PMT HV splitters

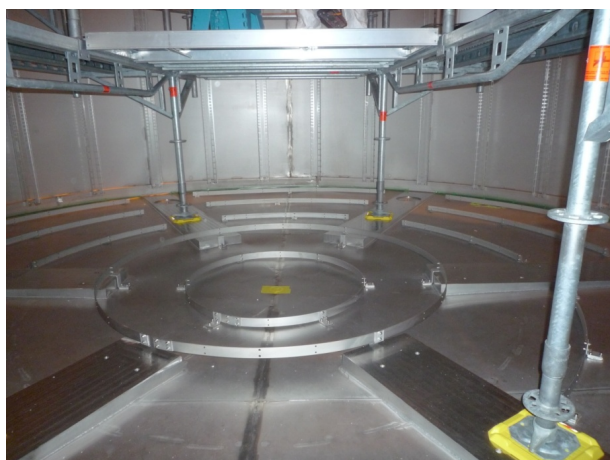


- Divide PMT signal ( $\sim 10$  mVpp) and HV ( $\sim 1500$  V) and filter power supply noise ( $\sim 300$  mVpp) and EMI noise induced in HV cables
- **Design, tests and manufacturing of 480 HV splitters for far detector at CIEMAT labs**
  - 10 modules – 48 HV splitters each
- **HV cables manufactured and tested at CIEMAT**
- Successful installation at Chooz in 2009
- **Currently working in the production for near detector**



# PMT installation inside the pit

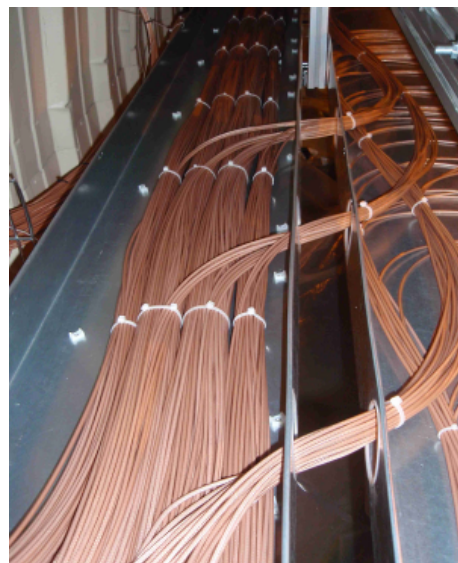
- **Detailed procedure** (phase I: bottom and wall, phase II: lid)
- Performed during **2 months by a team of 10 people** (2 technicians from CIEMAT inside the pit + 1 technician for cabling + our engineers)



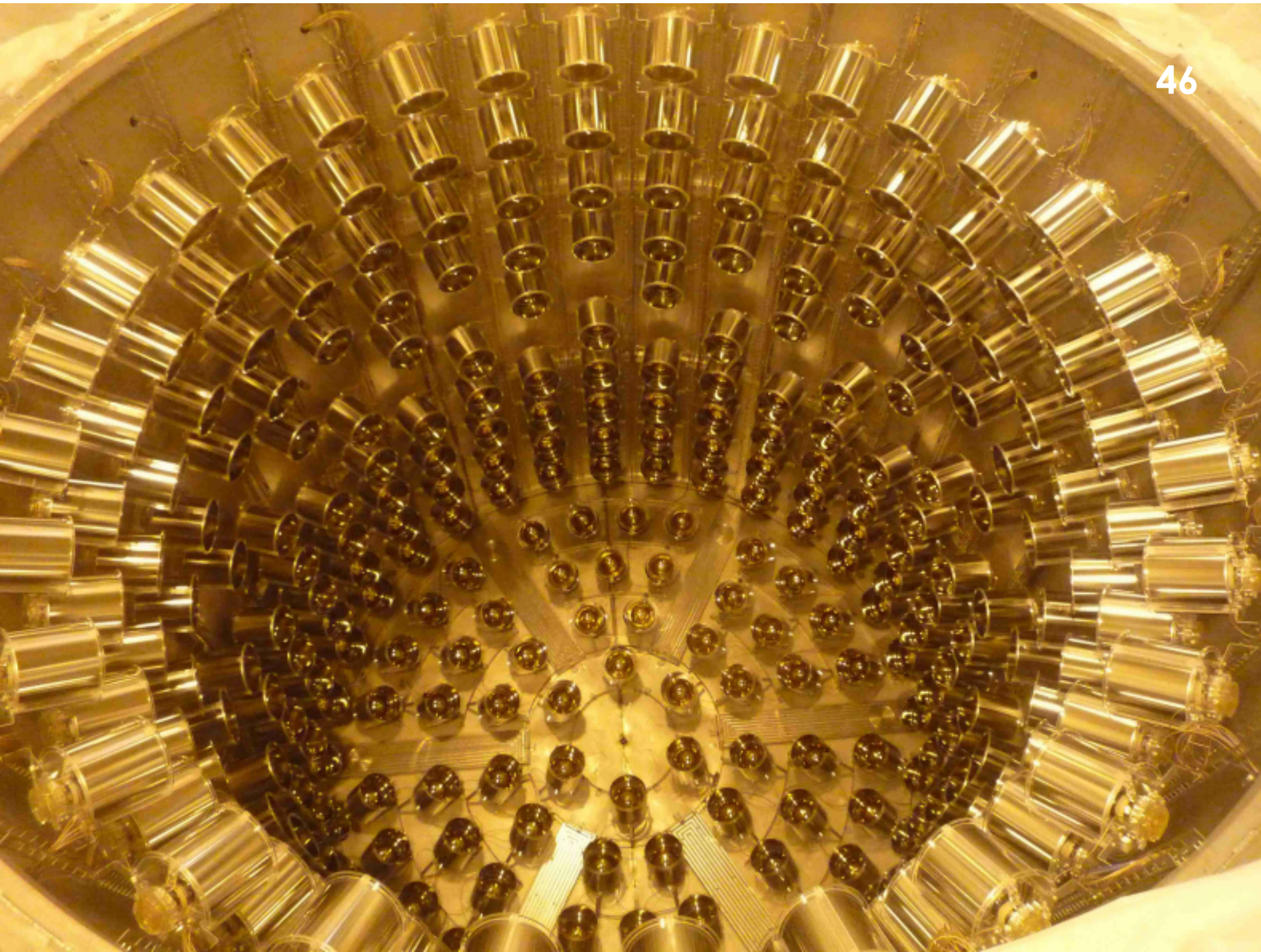


# PMT cabling

- Cabling strategy inside & outside the detector designed by our engineers and technicians









# PMT installation on the lid

- One more week for installing 60 PMTs on the lid



# First physics results

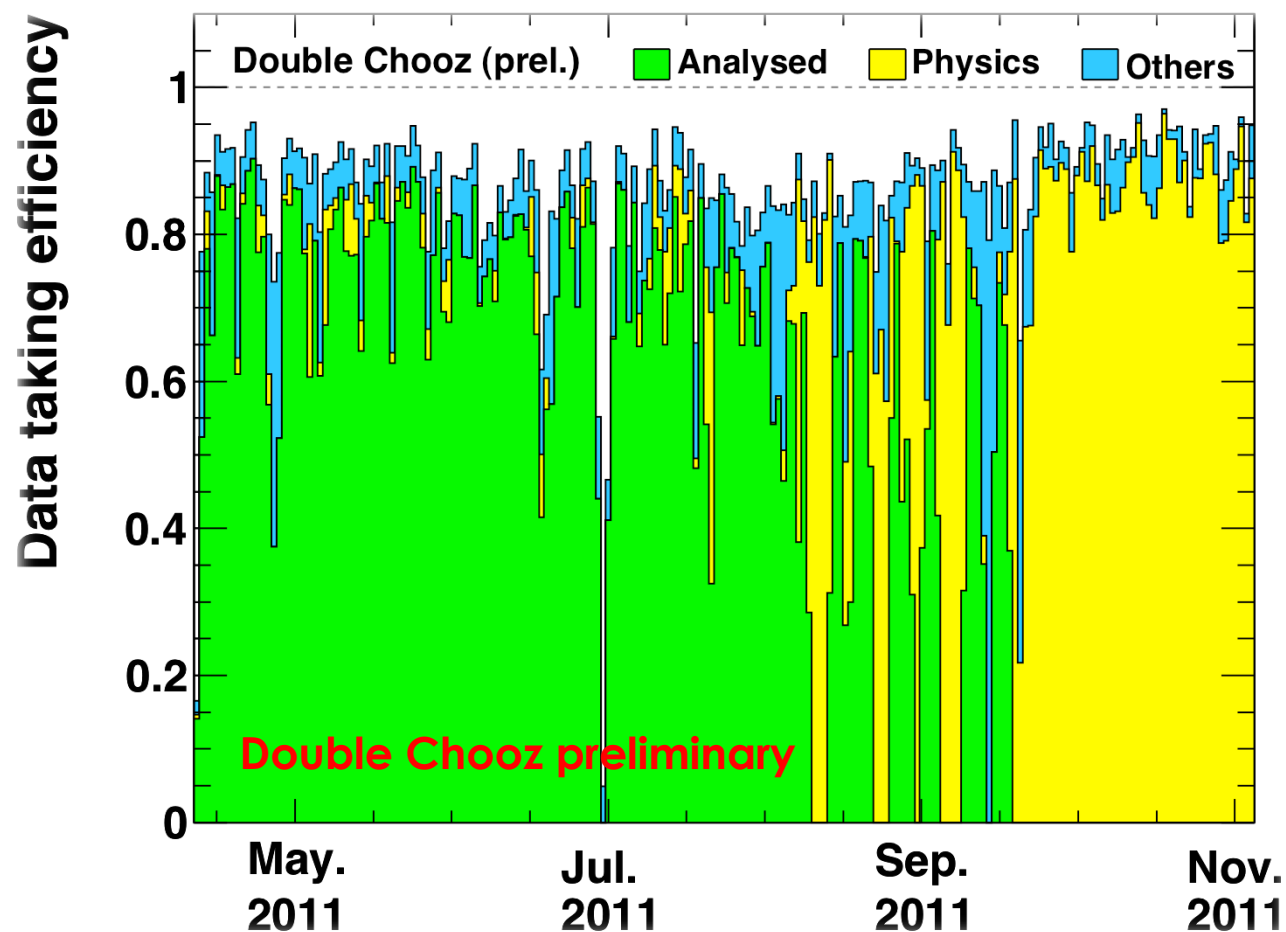
Presented in LowNu 2011 Korea

November 2011



# Detector performance

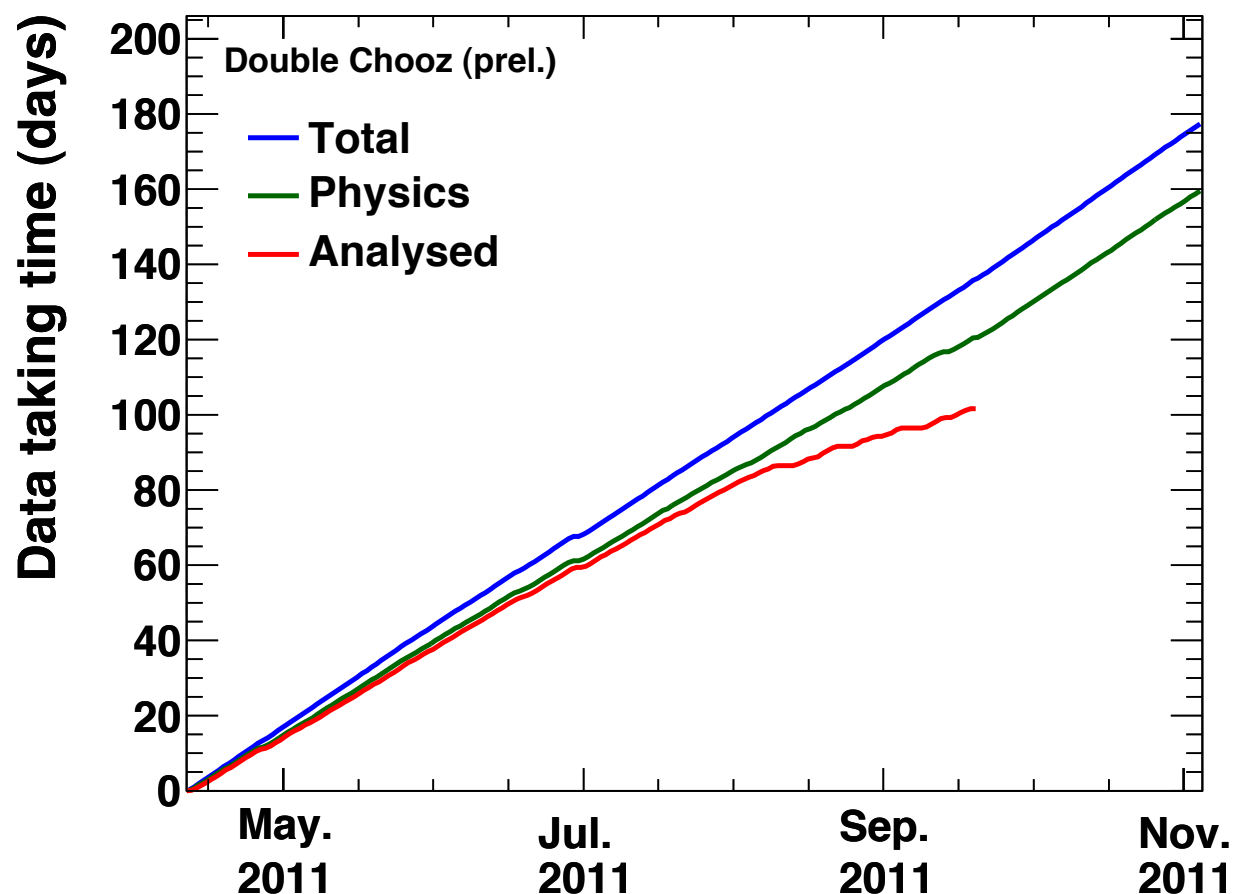
# Data taking efficiency



- Taking physics data since **April, 13<sup>th</sup> 2011**
- Averaged data taking efficiency: **86.2 %**
- **77.5 %** of physics data efficiency
- 10% of calibration runs
- Trigger rate  $\sim 120$  Hz
- Trigger threshold  $< 0.6$  MeV



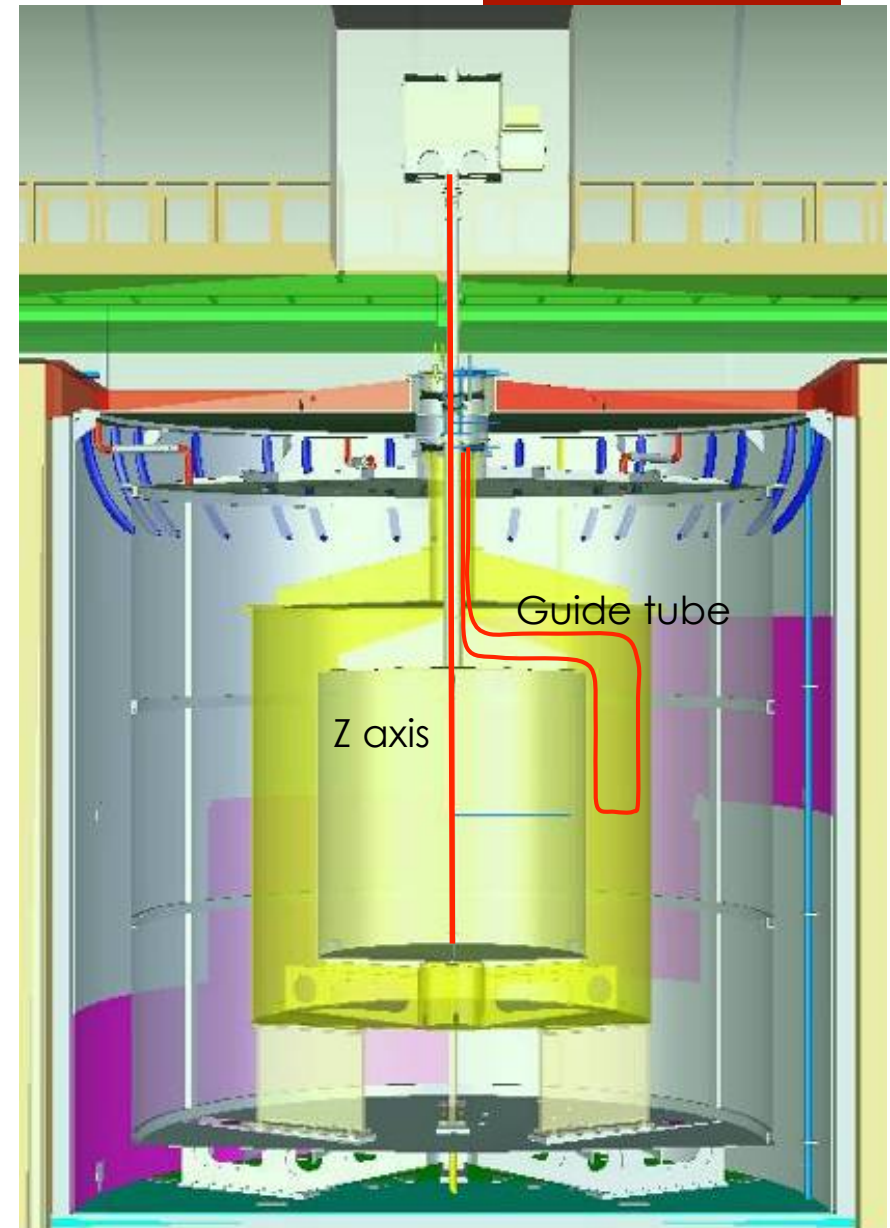
# Integrated data taking



- Integrated data taking time for physics (till 4<sup>th</sup> Nov): **159.6 days**
- Integrated data taking time analyzed: **100 days**
- Run time: 101.5234 days (to Sept 18<sup>th</sup>)
- Live-time: 96.823 days (1ms muon veto)

# Detector calibration

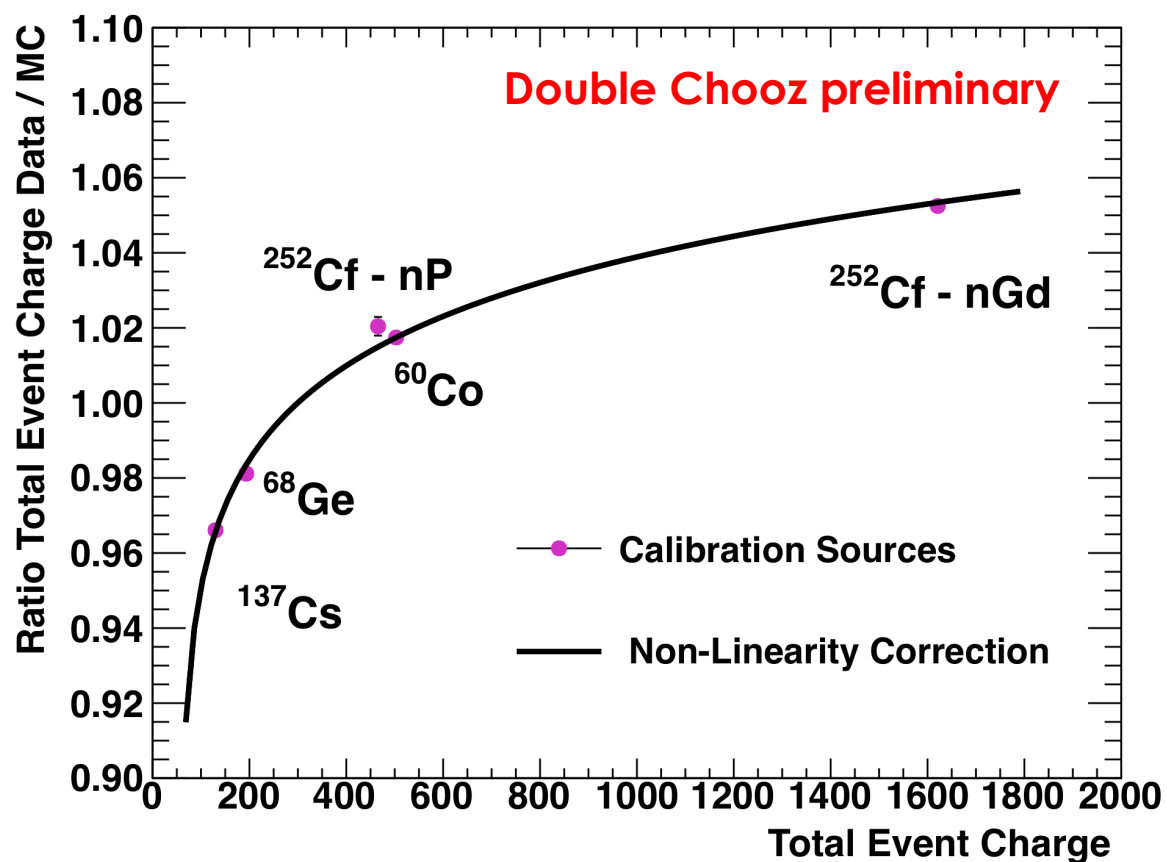
- Multiple calibration methods:
  - **Light injection** in ID and IV
    - Monitor stability of readout (timing, gain) and scintillator
  - **Radioactive sources** deployment
    - Across most energy scale
- Sources deployed in **Z axis** in target and **guide tube** in GC:
  - $^{68}\text{Ge}$ ,  $^{137}\text{Cs}$ ,  $^{60}\text{Co}$ ,  $^{252}\text{Cf}$  (n source)
    - Linearity and energy calibration
    - Z-correction
    - Neutron detection efficiency





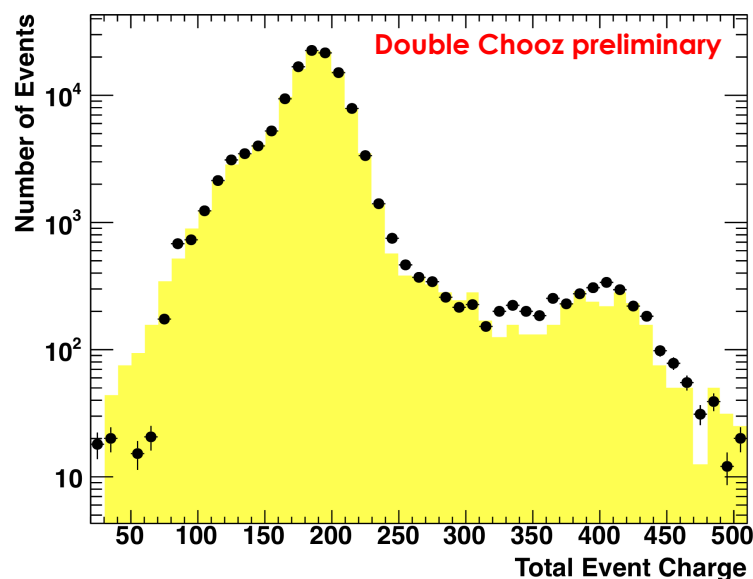
# Charge correction

- Calibrate non-linearity due to single photoelectron efficiency, charge reconstruction and electronics effects

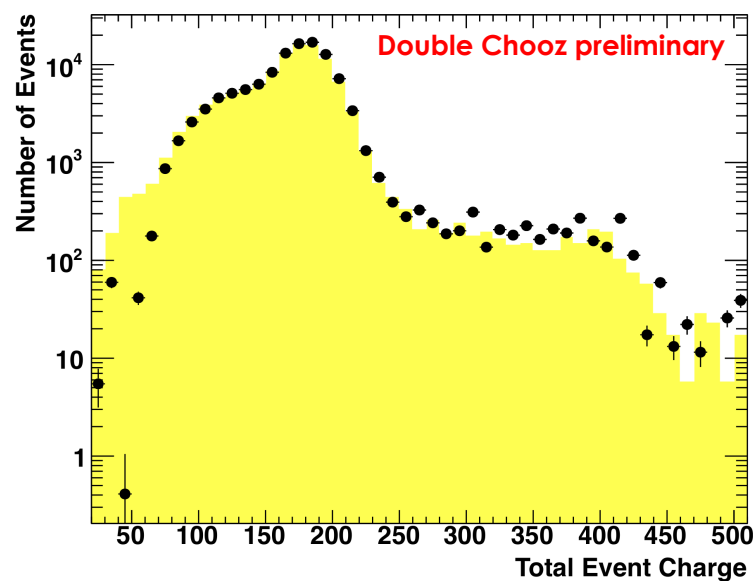


# Energy calibration

$^{68}\text{Ge}$  Detector Center X=0mm, Y=0mm, Z=0mm



$^{68}\text{Ge}$  Guide Tube X=0mm, Y=1433.9mm, Z=0mm

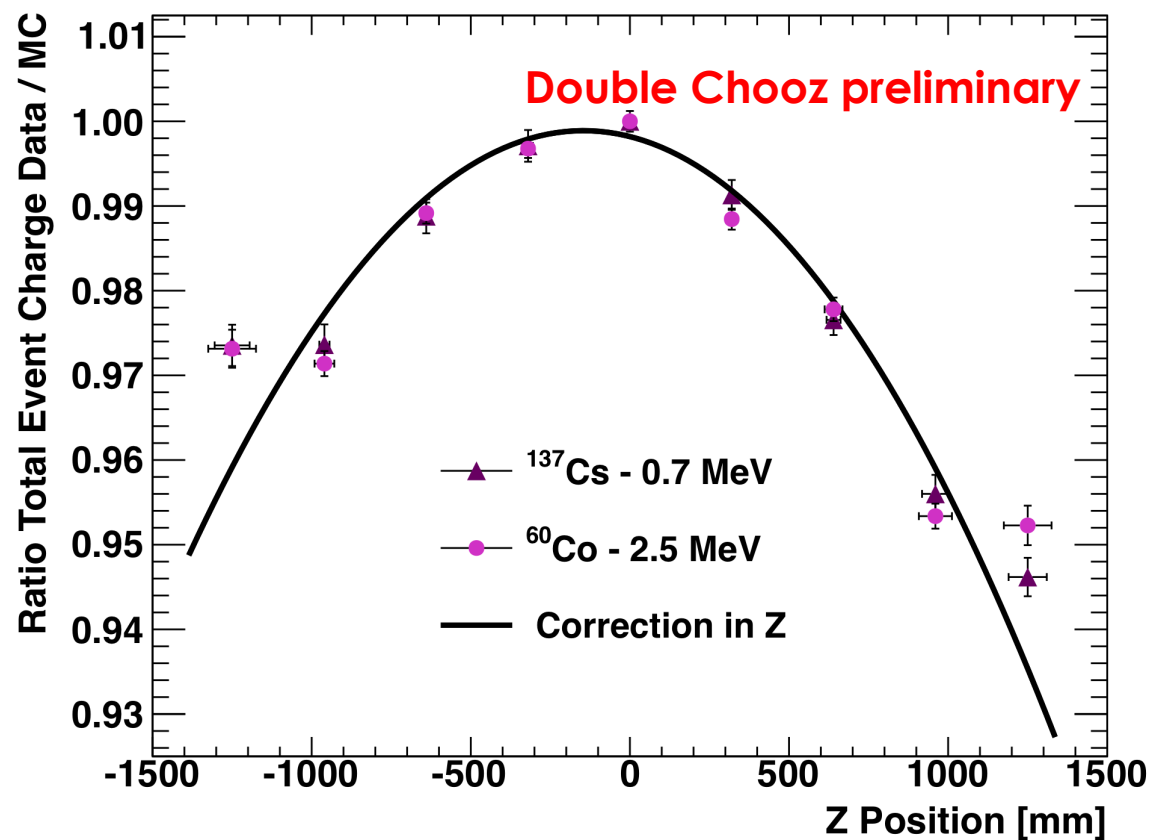


- $^{68}\text{Ge}$  at the center of the target
  - Positron source
  - The spectrum is well modeled
  - Verification of the energy threshold
- $^{68}\text{Ge}$  in the guide tube
  - Correction work also in the Gamma Catcher



# Z correction

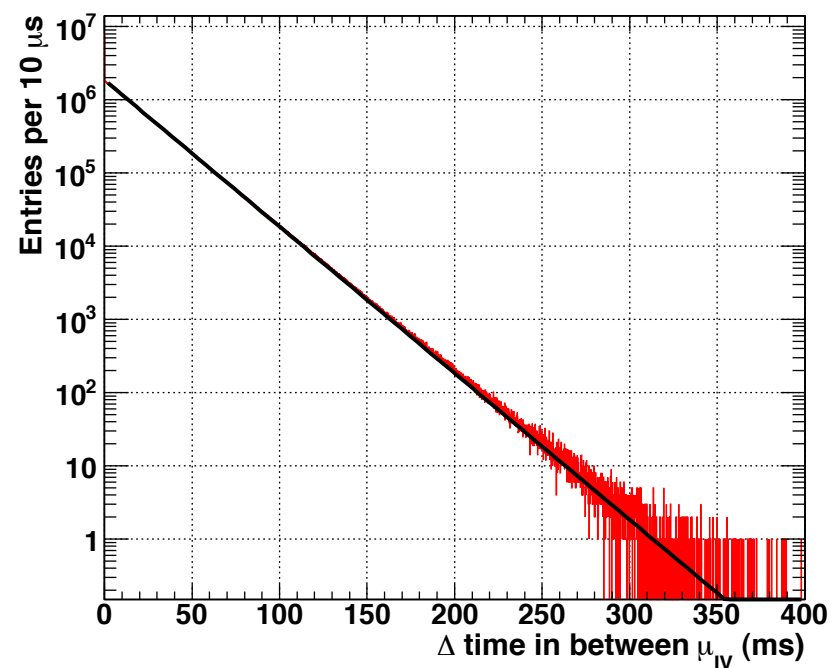
- Calibration of the Z-bias
  - Residuals in the correction will be included in the detector covariance matrix



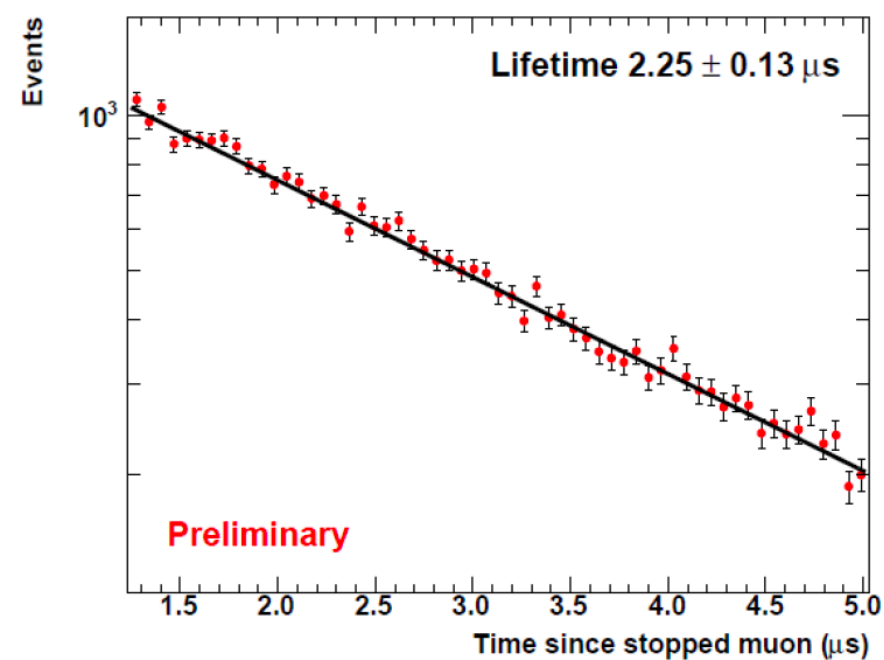
# Muon detection

- Rate of muons in IV: 46 Hz
- Rate of muons in ID: 13 Hz
- Stopping muons can also be tagged and the Michel electron is clearly seen
- Michel electrons:  $\tau = 2.25 \pm 0.13 \mu\text{s}$  (stat error only)

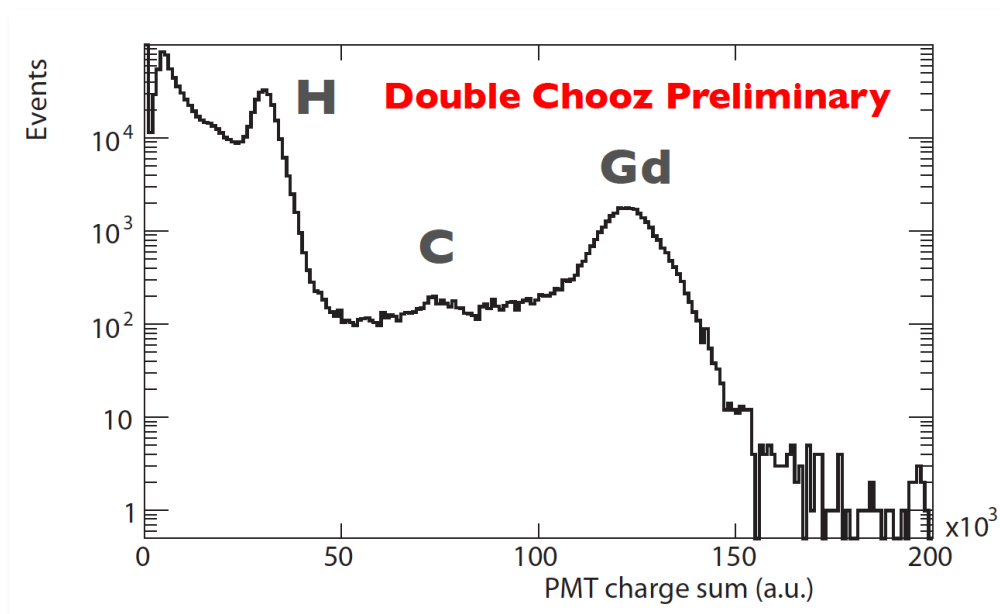
Muon rate in Inner Veto: 46 Hz



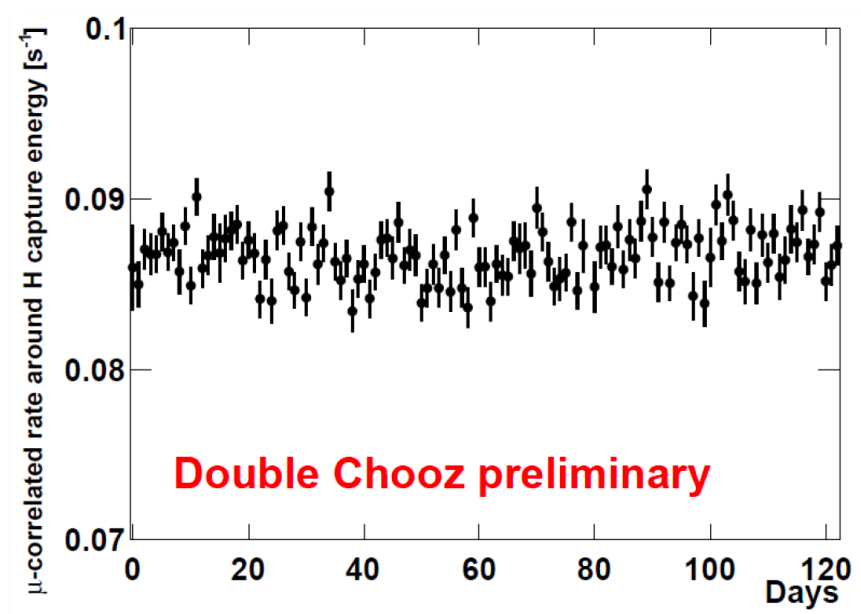
Michel electron timing distribution



# Muon correlated physics



Preliminary energy reconstruction only



Muon induced neutron capture in H energy window (1.9 – 2.5 MeV)  
**Rate < 0.1 Hz stable for 120 days**



# Neutrino selection

$$\bar{\nu}_e + p \longrightarrow e^+ + n$$

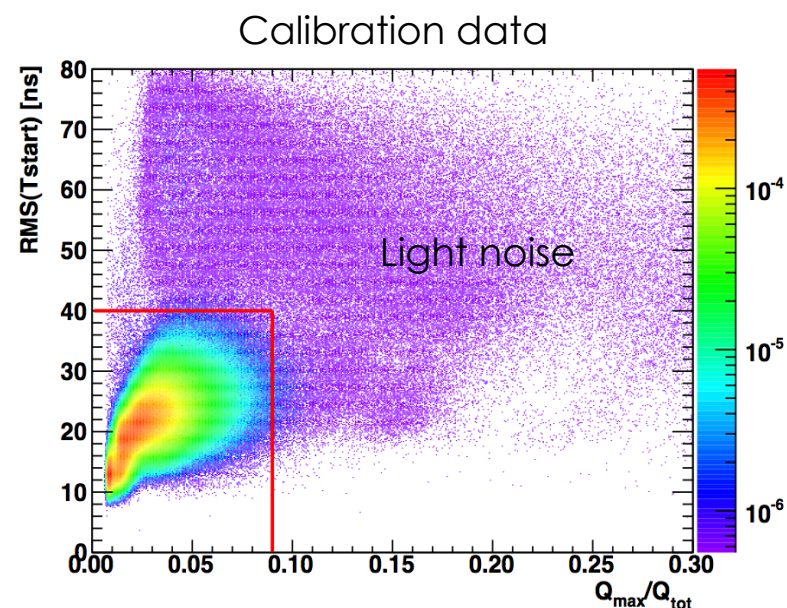
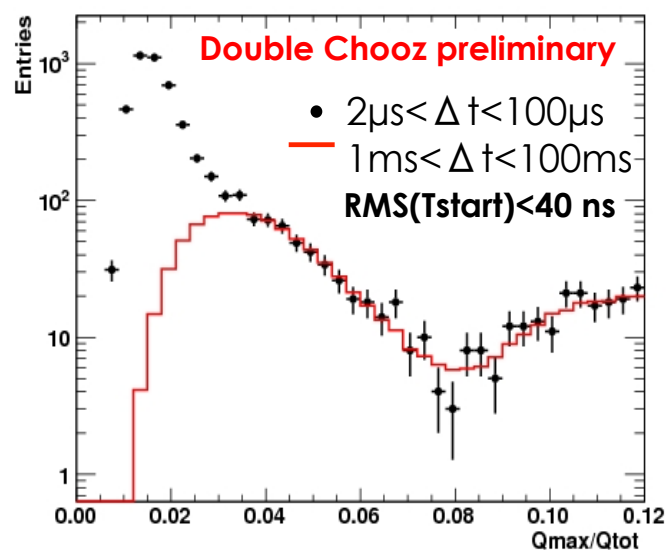
# Muon veto and light noise rejection

## ■ Muon veto

- 1 ms veto after each muon (large energy deposition in IV or ID)

## ■ Instrumental PMT light noise rejection

- 15 PMTs turned off (large emitters)
- $Q_{\max}/Q_{\text{tot}}$ : emitter PMT sees its own light
- $\text{RMS}(T_{\text{start}})$ : light spread in time across all PMTs



# Neutrino selection criteria

## ■ Prompt signal:

- $Q_{\max}/Q_{\text{tot}} < 0.09$  &  $\text{RMS}(T_{\text{start}}) < 40$  ns
- $0.7 < E < 12$  MeV

## ■ Delayed signal:

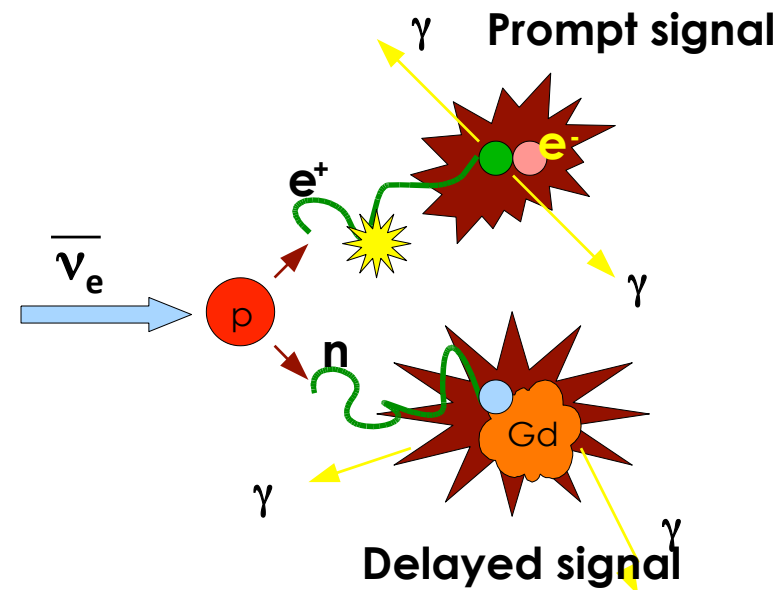
- $Q_{\max}/Q_{\text{tot}} < 0.06$  &  $\text{RMS}(T_{\text{start}}) < 40$  ns
- $6 < E < 12$  MeV

## ■ Coincidence:

- Time coincidence:  $2 < \Delta t < 100$   $\mu\text{s}$
- No space coincidence cut

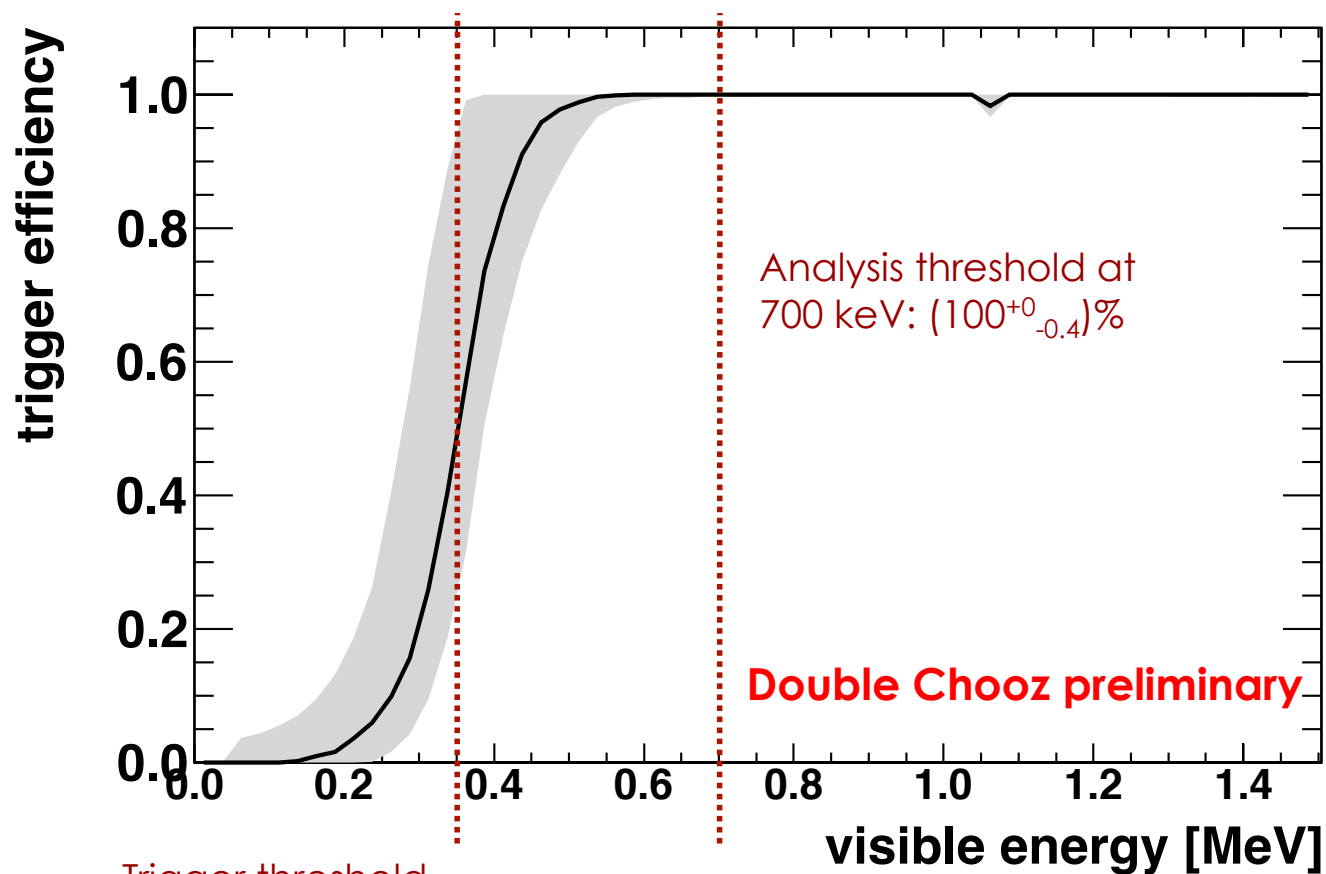
## ■ Multiplicity:

- No events within 100  $\mu\text{s}$  before the prompt
- Only one delayed event allowed within 400  $\mu\text{s}$  after the prompt



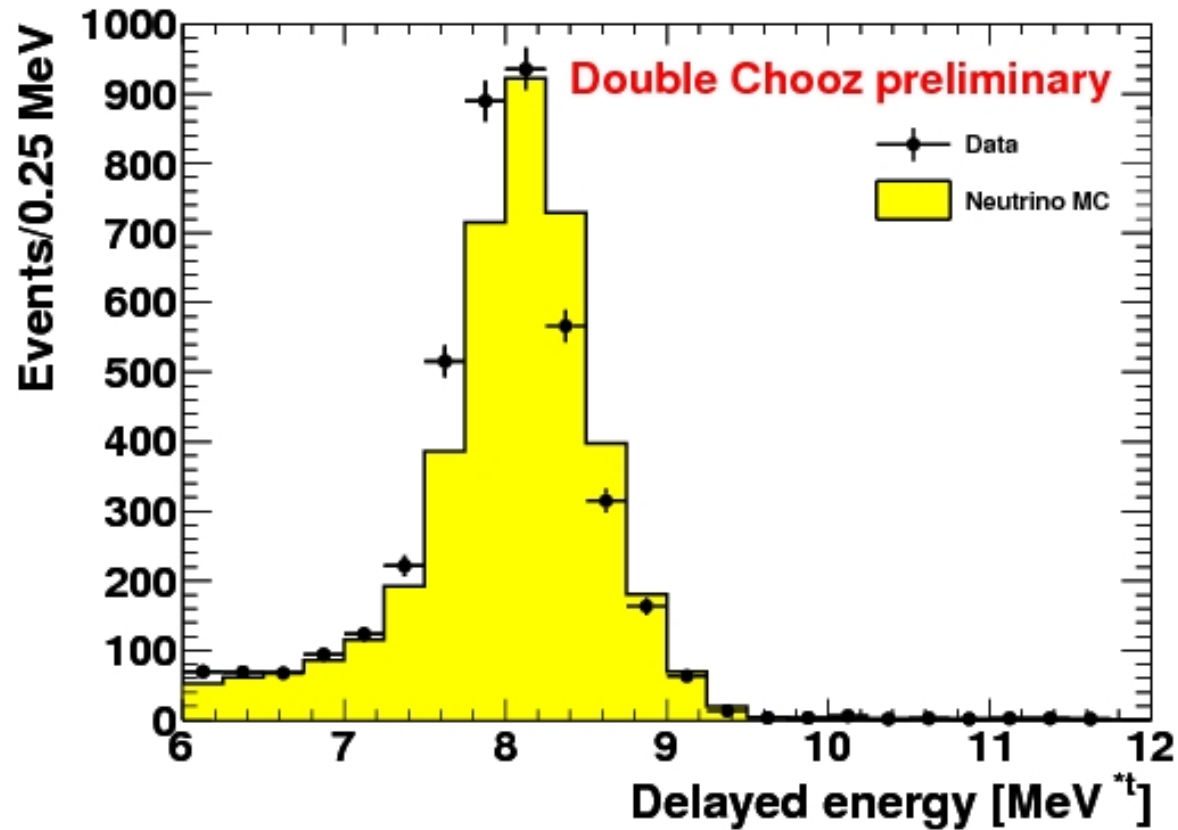


# Trigger efficiency



Prompt energy cut efficiency > 99.9 %

# Delayed energy spectrum

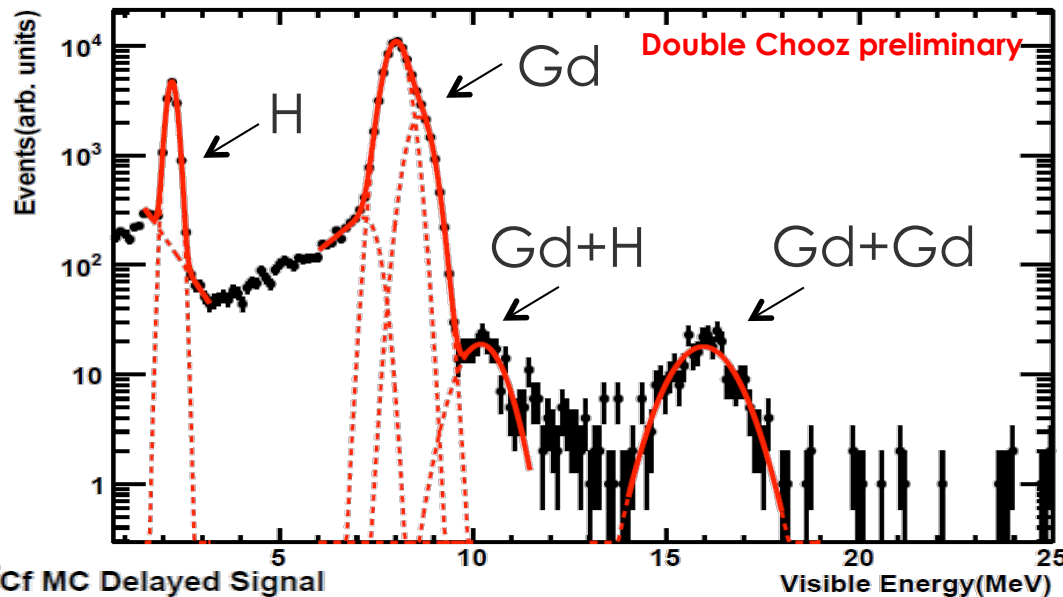


- Fiducial volume is defined by the target

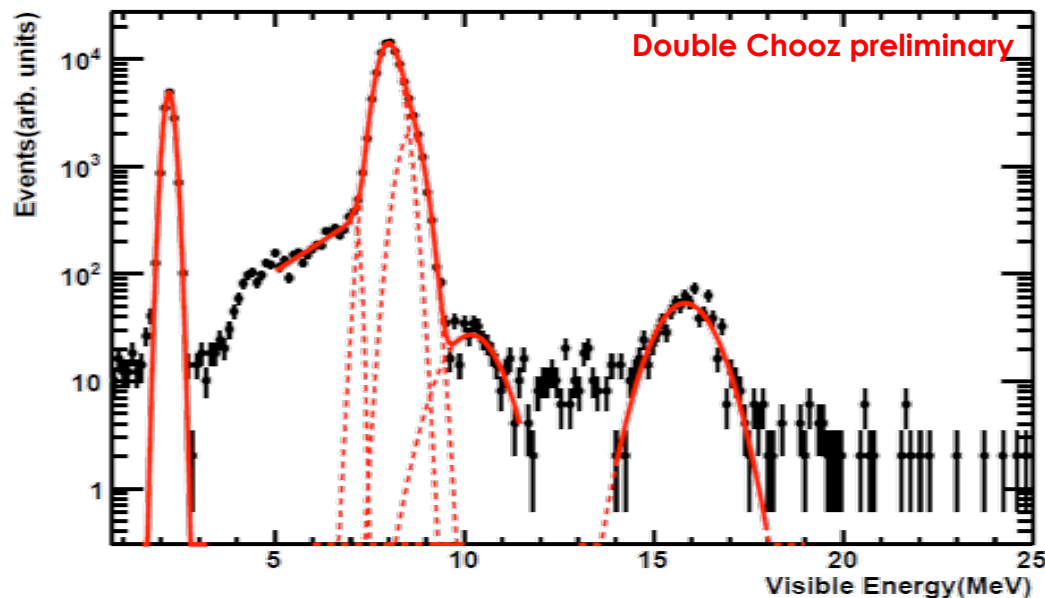
# Fraction of Gd capture

63

<sup>252</sup>Cf Data Delayed Signal



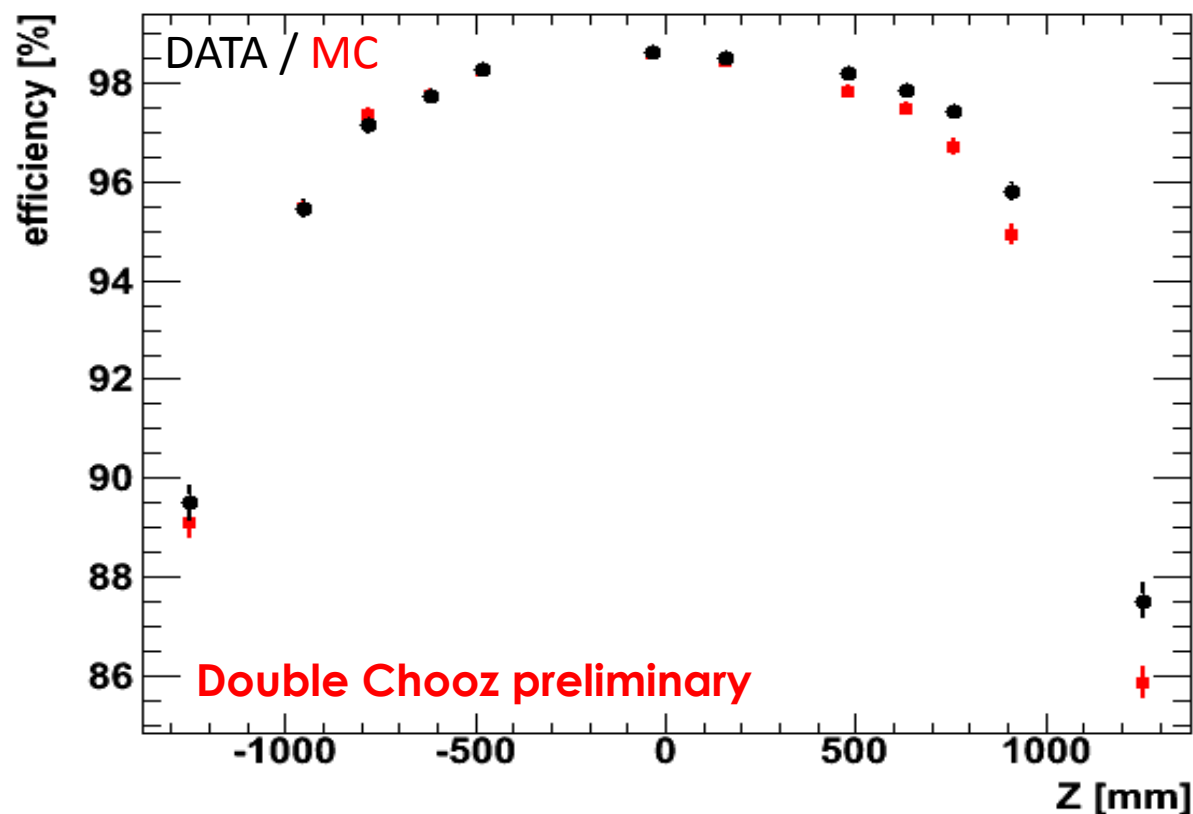
<sup>252</sup>Cf MC Delayed Signal



- Calibration with a <sup>252</sup>Cf source in the central target region
- Deployment along the Z-axis (7 positions)
- Compute Gd/(H+Gd) capture rate
- 2% correction between data & MC
- Gd capture efficiency is  $86.0 \pm 0.6\%$



# Delayed event energy containment

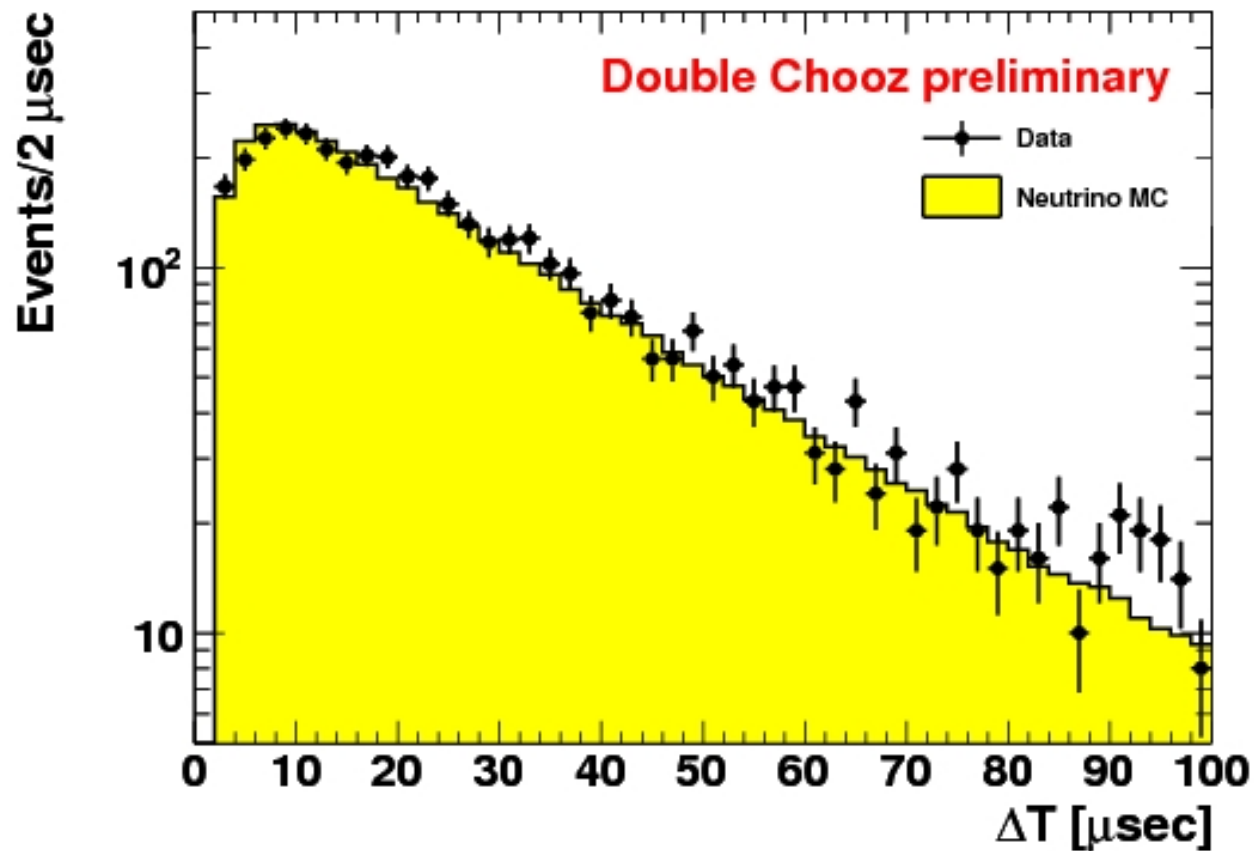


- Part of the Gd-capture gamma's escape the Target + G-Catcher
- Deployment of  $^{252}\text{Cf}$  along the Target z-axis
- Eff. (CHOOZ) = # capture [6,12] MeV / # capture [4,12] MeV

$\Delta E$  cut efficiency:  $94.5 \pm 0.6 \%$

Averaged (Data-MC)/Data relative difference:  $\leq 0.6\%$

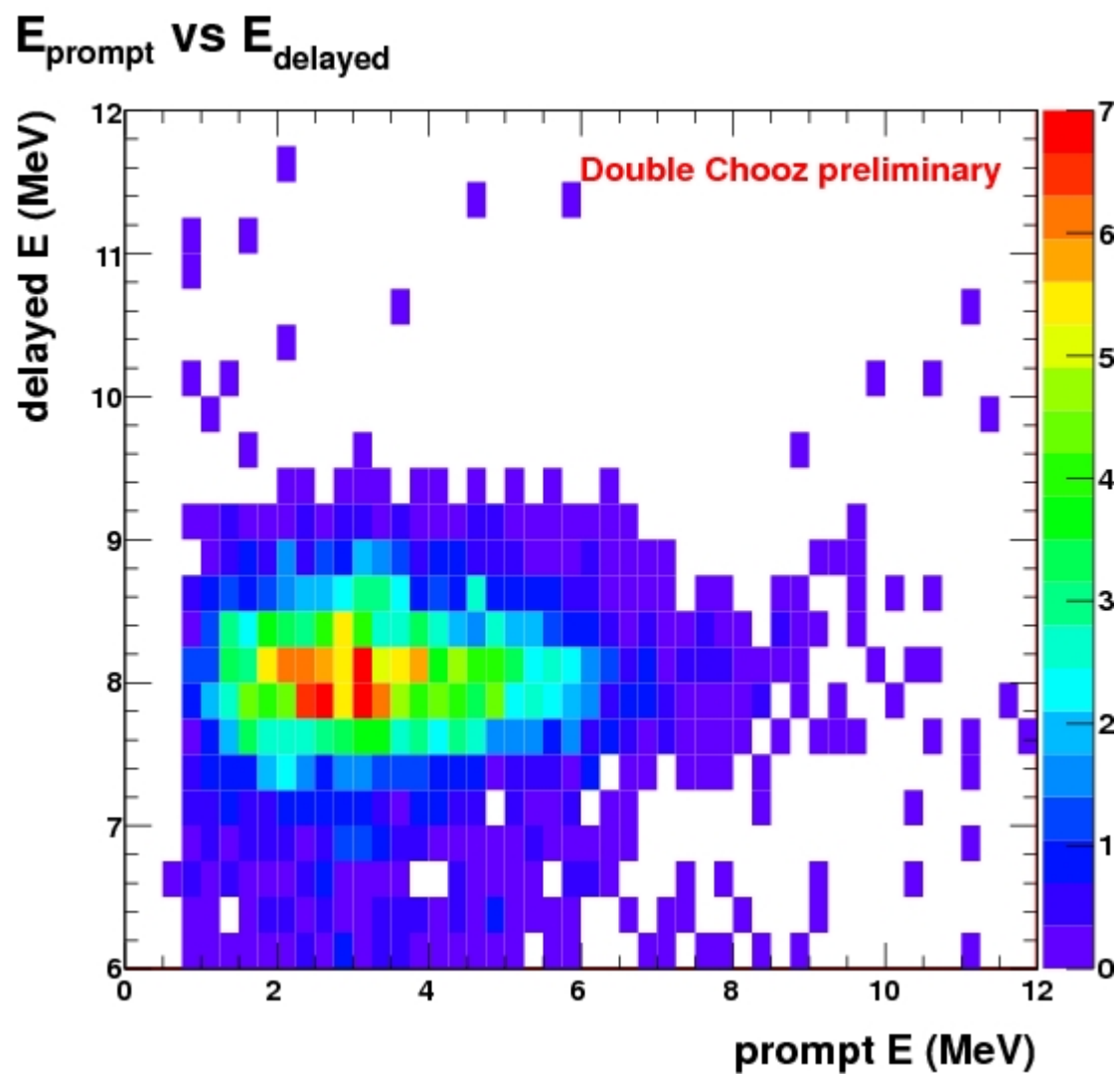
# Time coincidence



- keV neutrons thermalize within a few  $\mu\text{s}$
- Neutrons are captured on Gd with  $\tau \sim 27 \mu\text{s}$

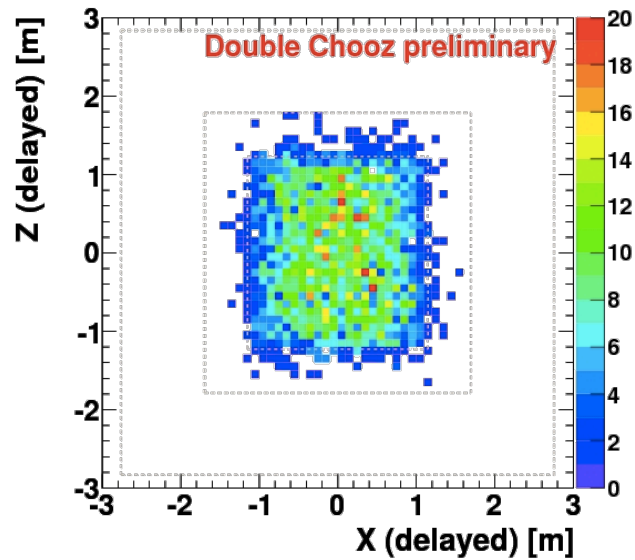
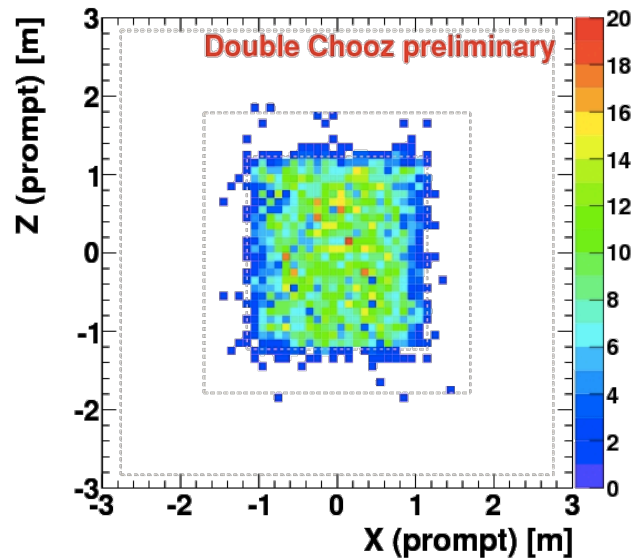
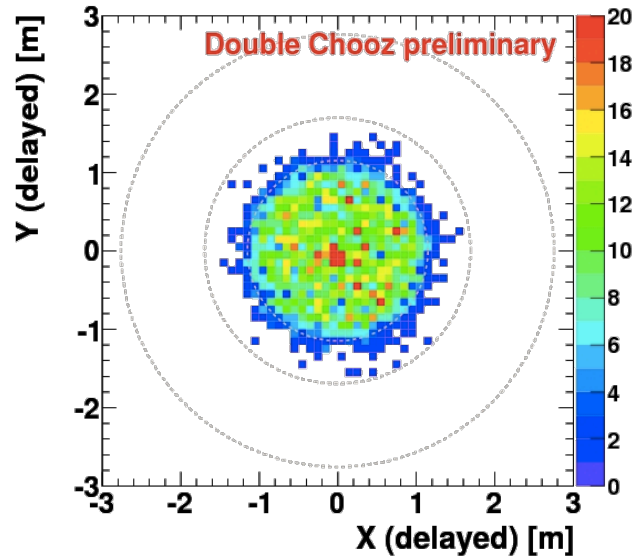
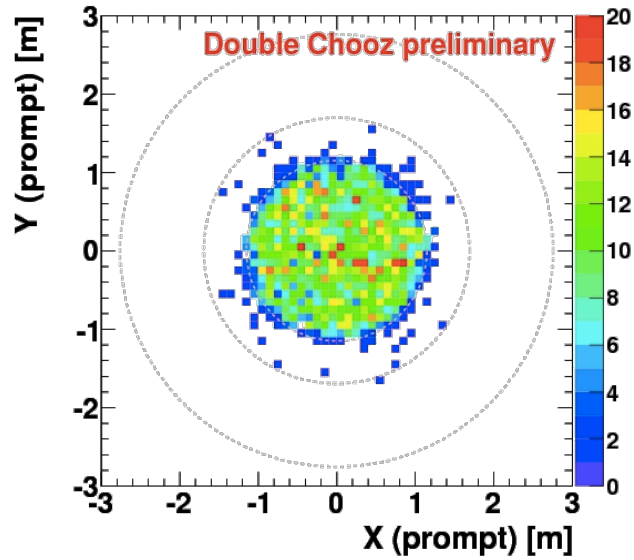
$\Delta T$  cut efficiency within  $[2, 100] \mu\text{s}$ :  $96.5 \pm 0.5 \%$

# Prompt vs delayed energy



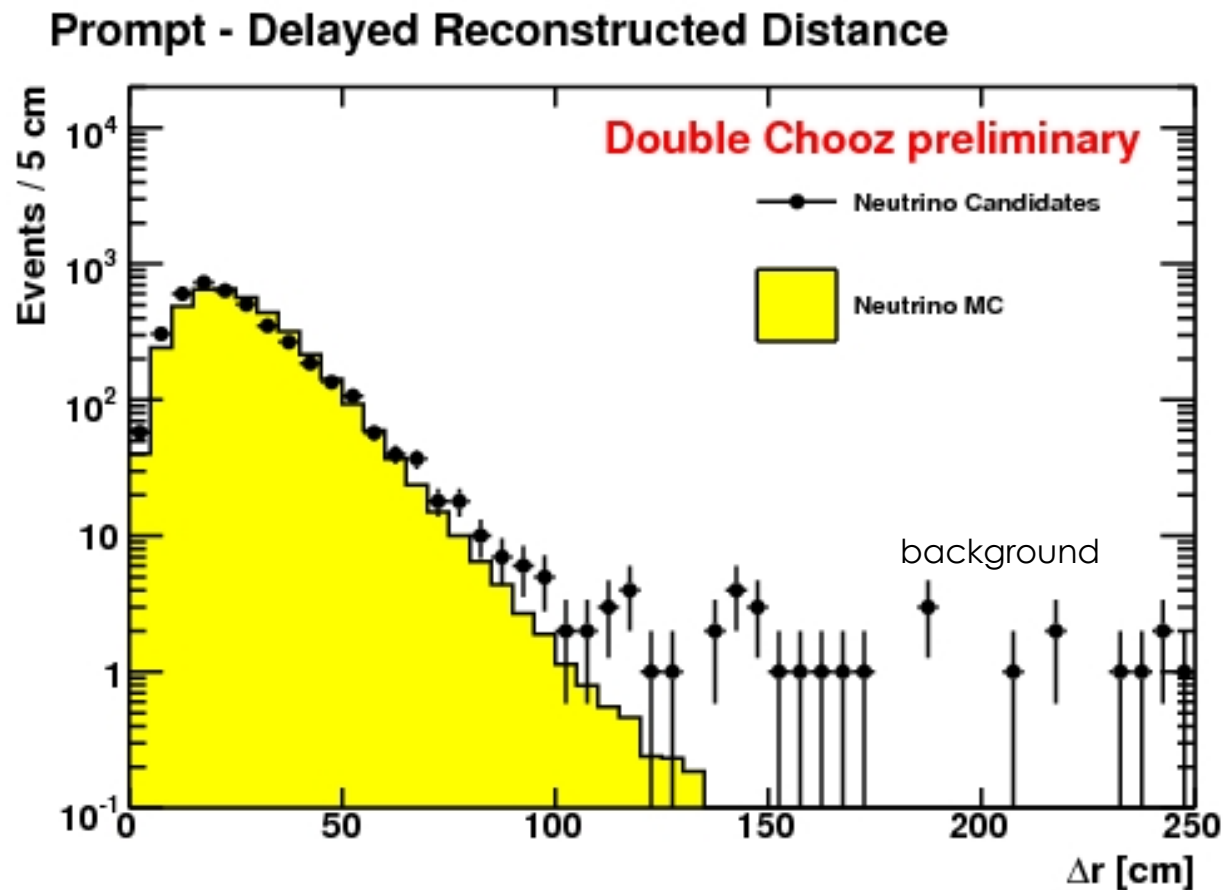


# Reconstructed vertex positions



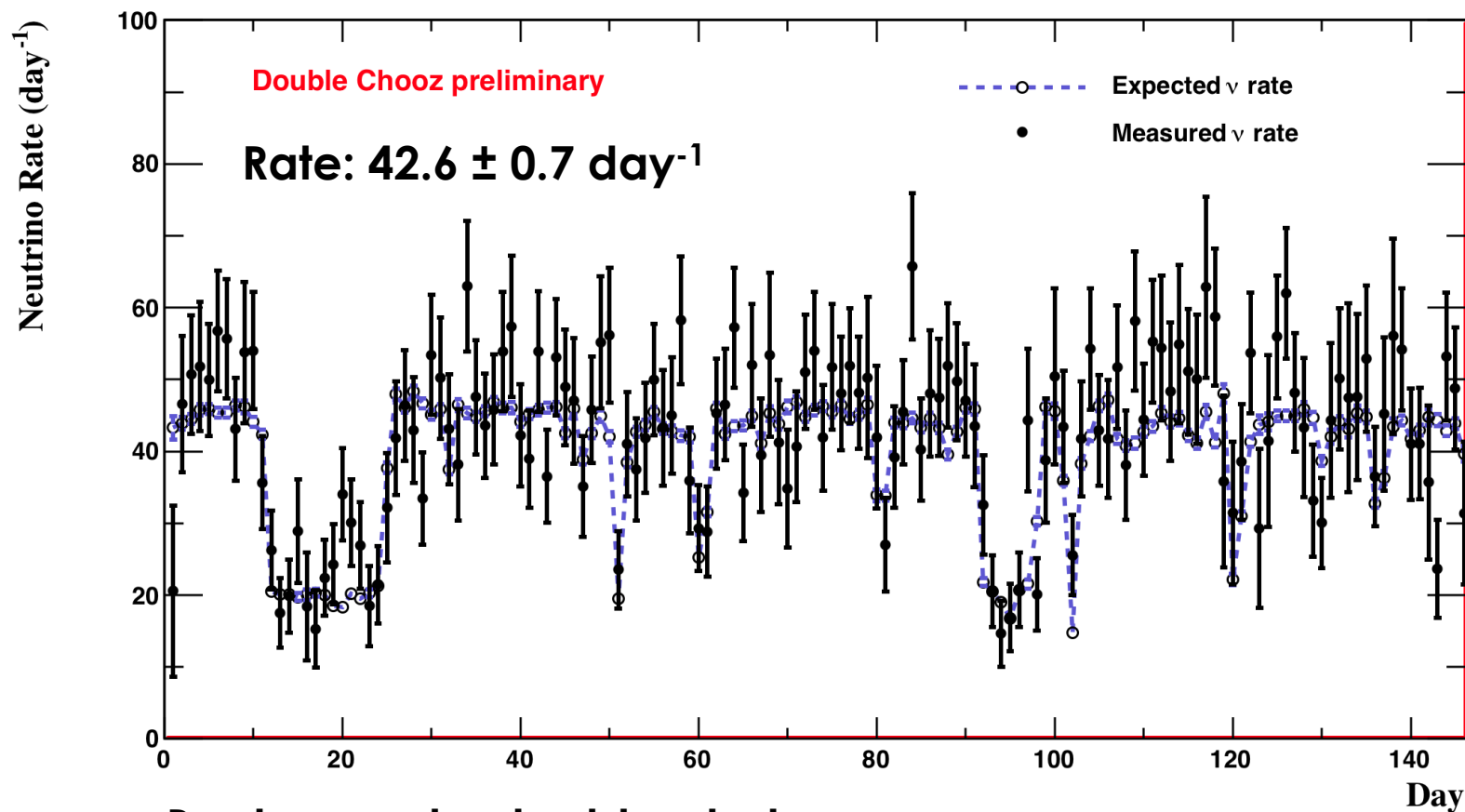
No analysis fiducial cut

# Prompt-delayed distance



- Only signal MC
- No need for  $\Delta r$  cut as designed in the proposal

# Neutrino candidate rate



Background not subtracted

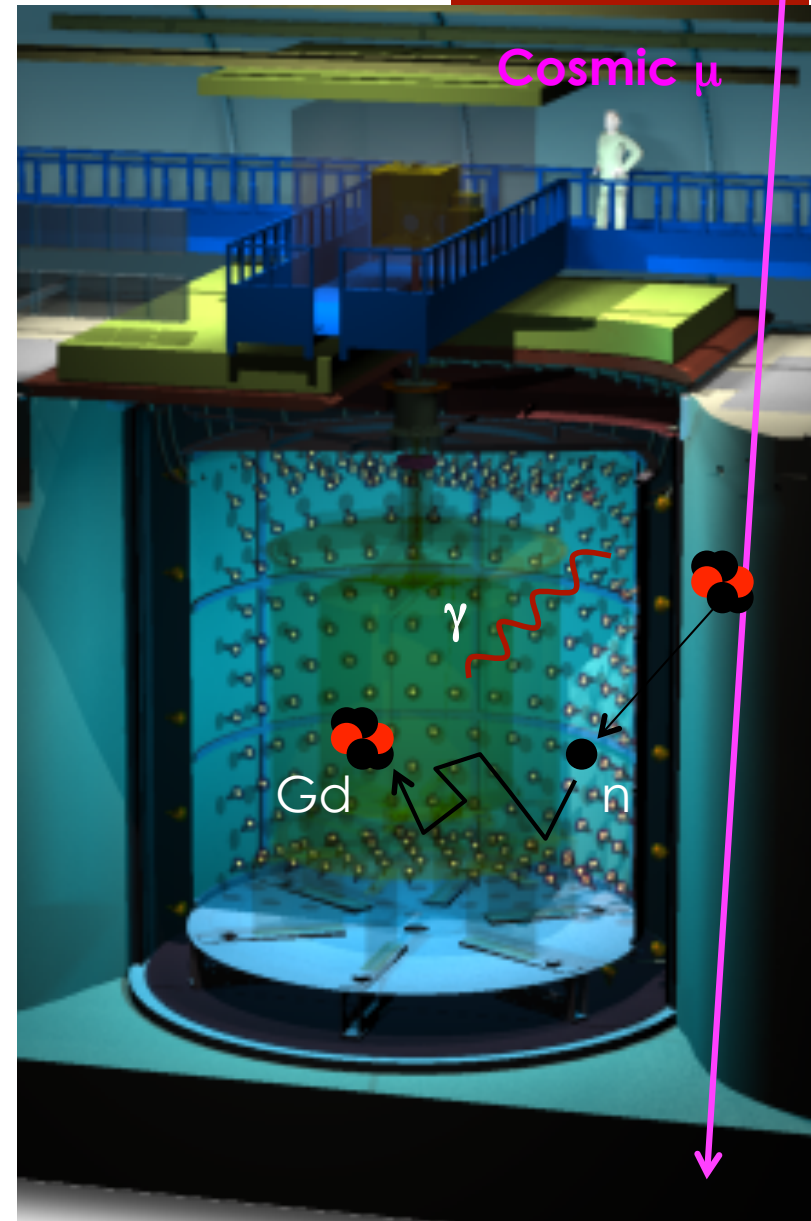
→ low background level !

4121 neutrino candidates

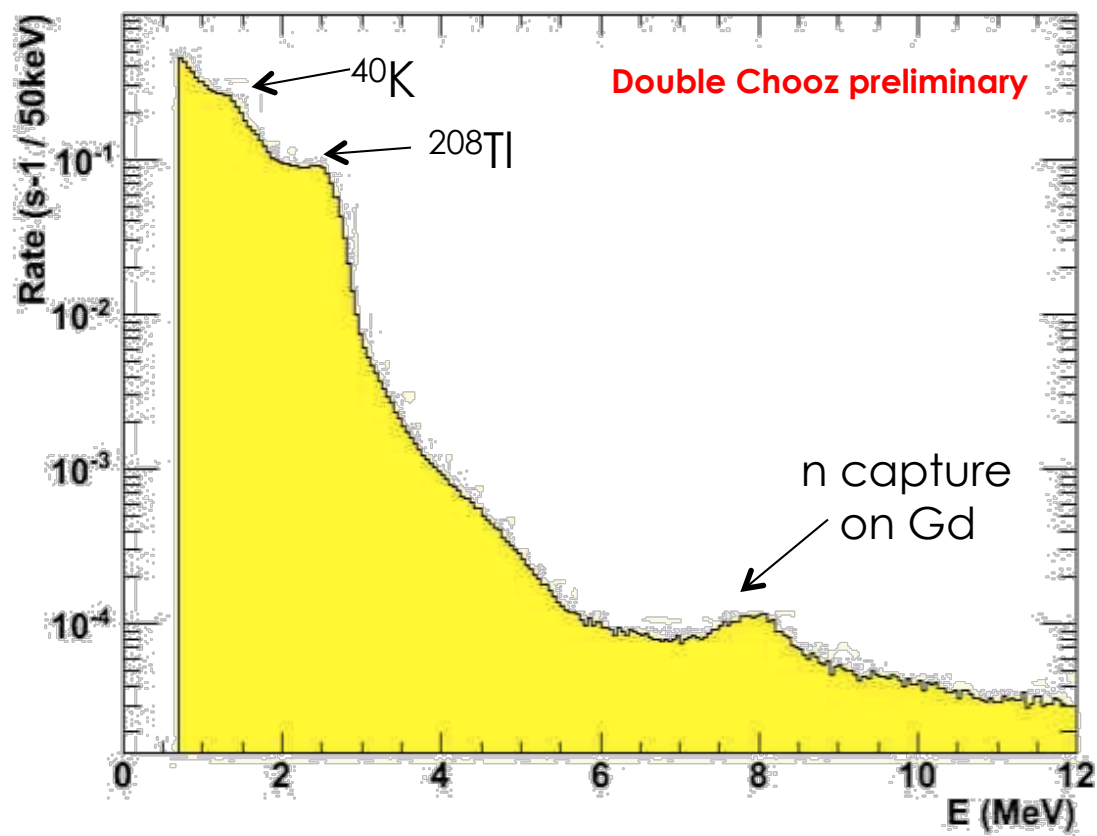


# Backgrounds

# Accidental BG



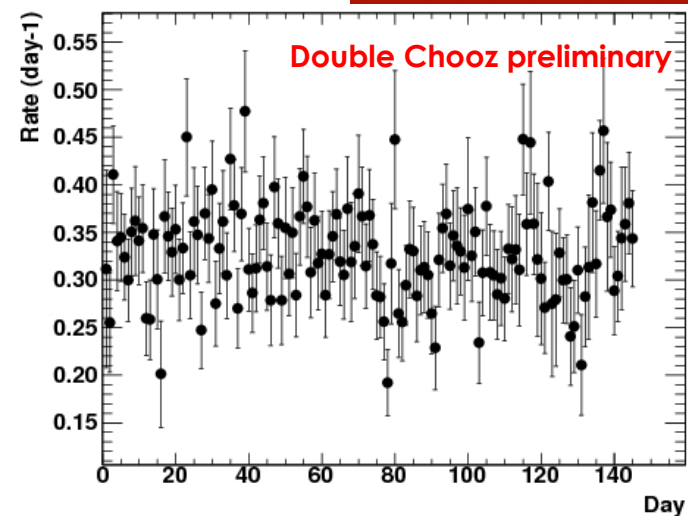
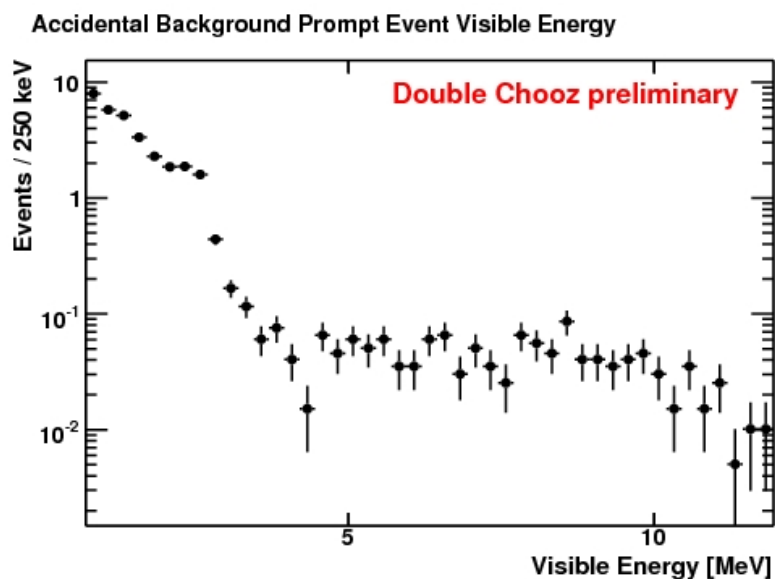
# Singles: rate & spectrum



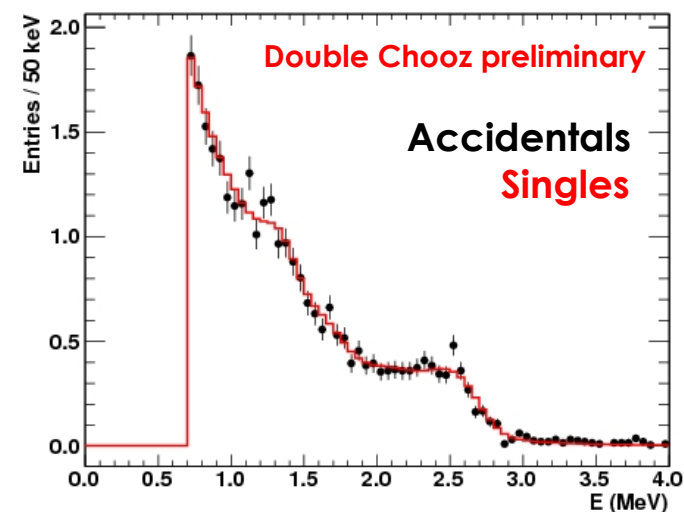
- [0.7,12] MeV
- DC proposal: 10 Hz
- DC (E > 700 keV) = **7.625 ± 0.001 Hz**



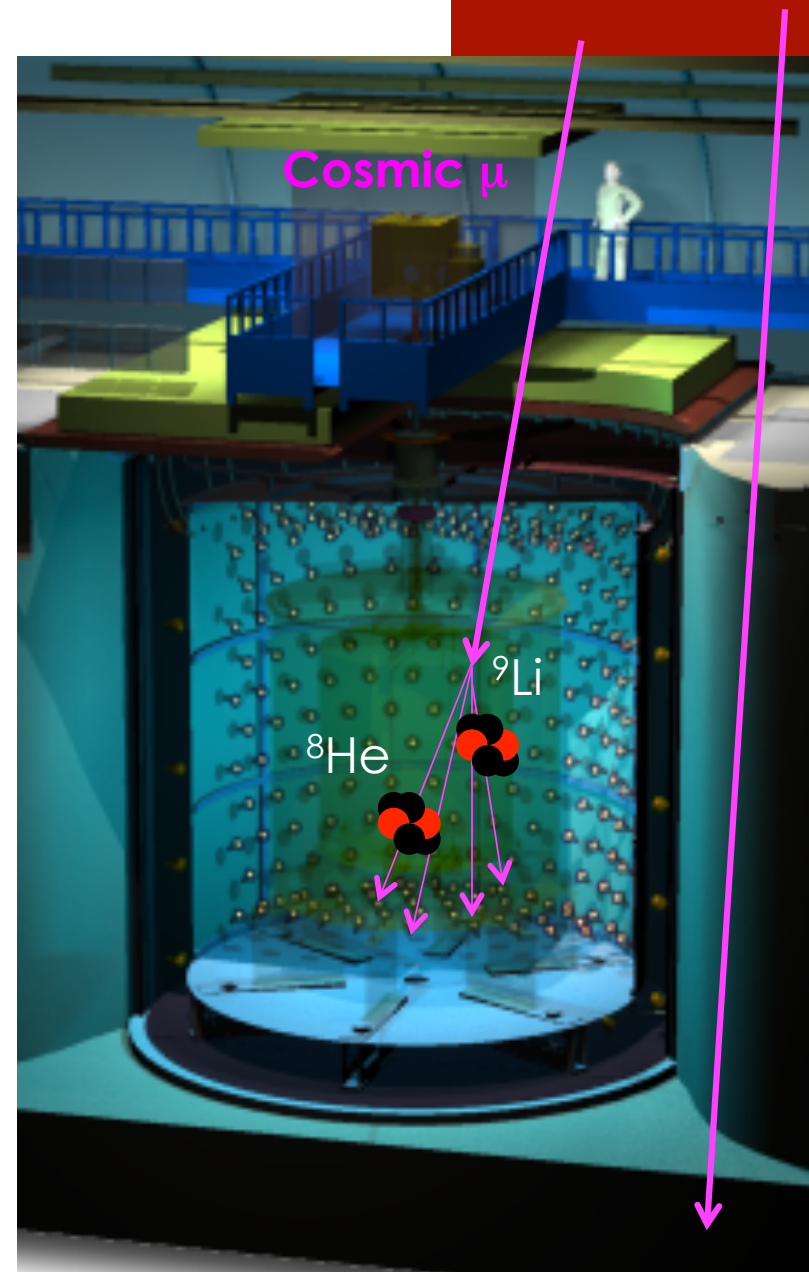
# Accidental background



- Prompt energy in off-time window [1, 100] ms away from neutrino candidates
- Very low rate:  $R = (0.332 \pm 0.004) \text{ day}^{-1}$ 
  - Dominant background for  $< 2 \text{ MeV}$  (oscillation signal)
  - **Stable in time**
- Spectrum dominated by singles (natural radioactivity)

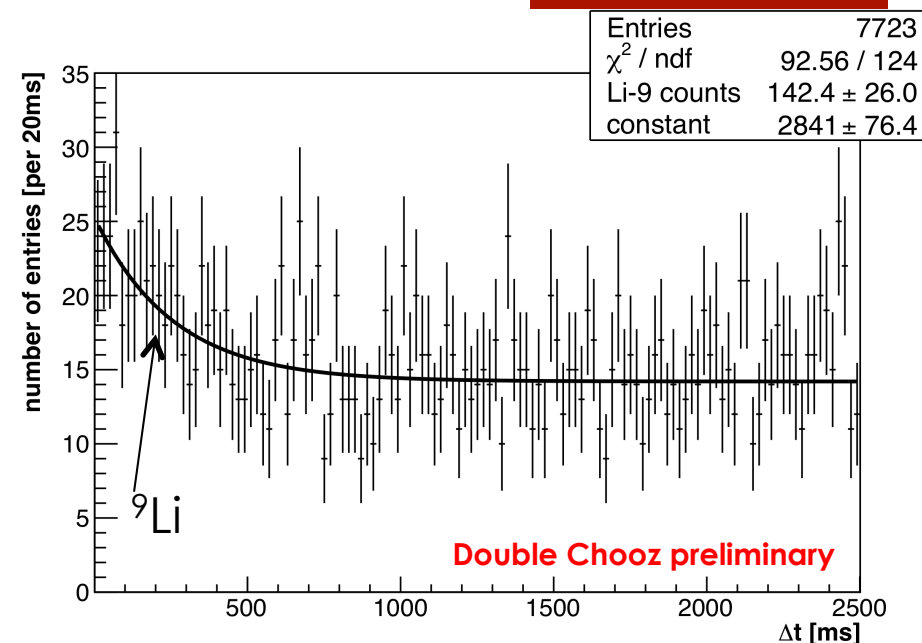


# Cosmogenic BG: ${}^9\text{Li}$ & ${}^8\text{He}$

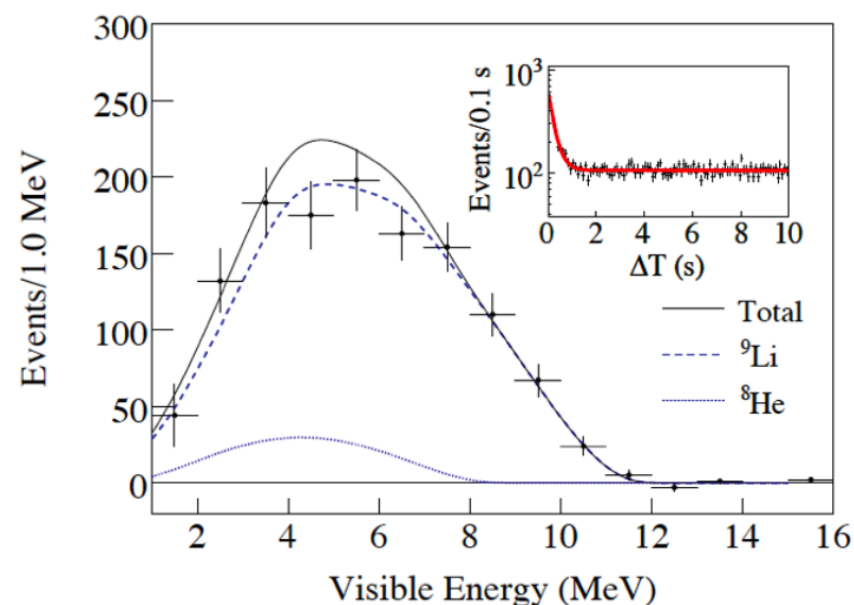


# Cosmogenic BG: ${}^9\text{Li}$ & ${}^8\text{He}$

- ${}^9\text{Li}$  selection:
  - Production measured statistically
  - Search for triple delayed coincidence between showering muon and neutrino-like coincidence
- $\Delta t$  between showering muon and prompt event is given by the  ${}^9\text{Li}$ -like life time (257 ms)
- Rate:  $(2.3 \pm 1.2) \text{ day}^{-1}$
- Energy spectrum from KamLAND via MC

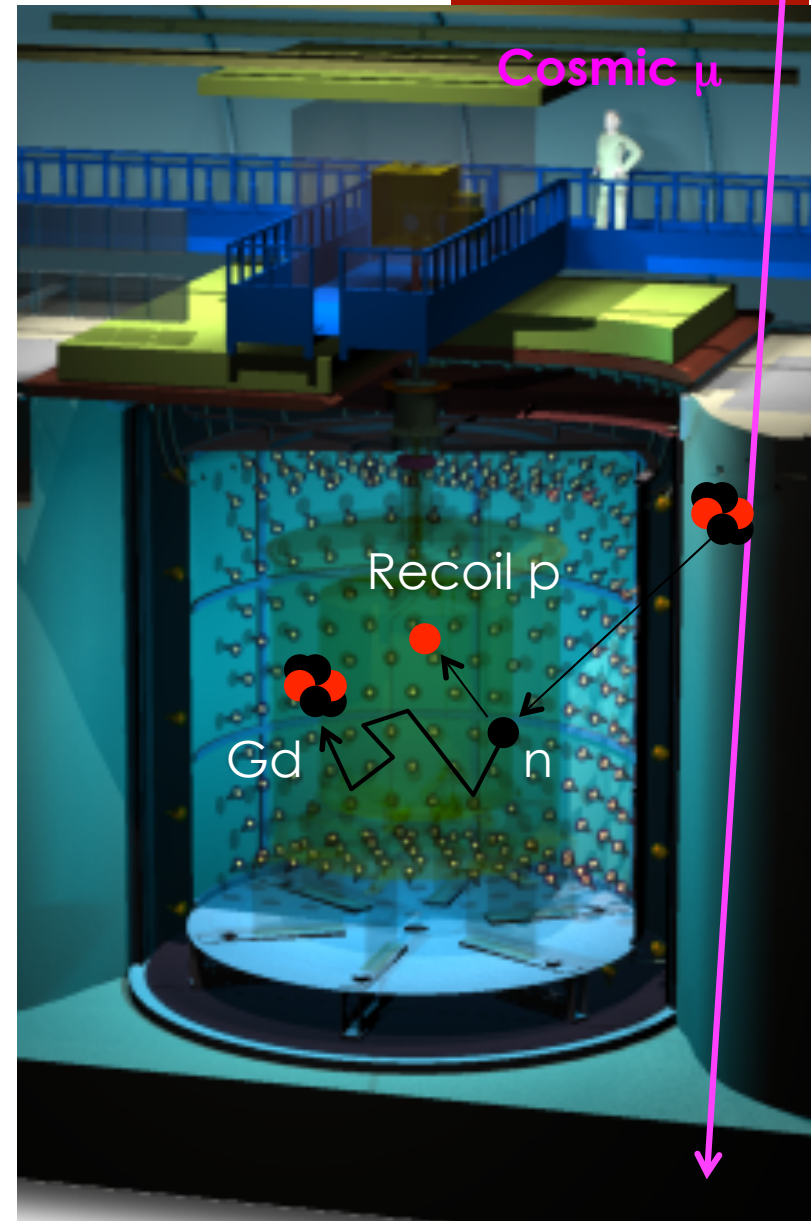


Correlation to last-muon with  $E_{\text{dep}} > 600 \text{ MeV}$



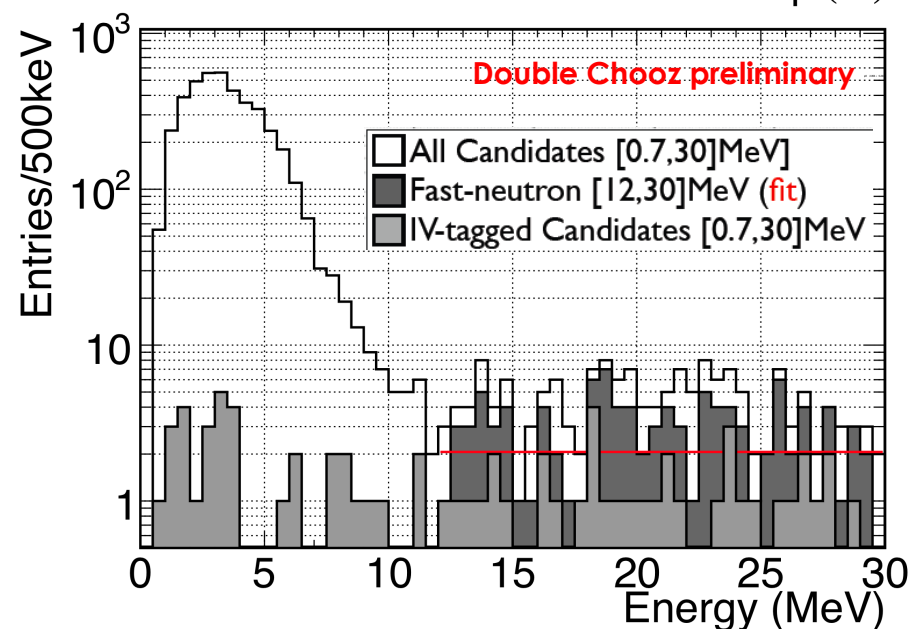
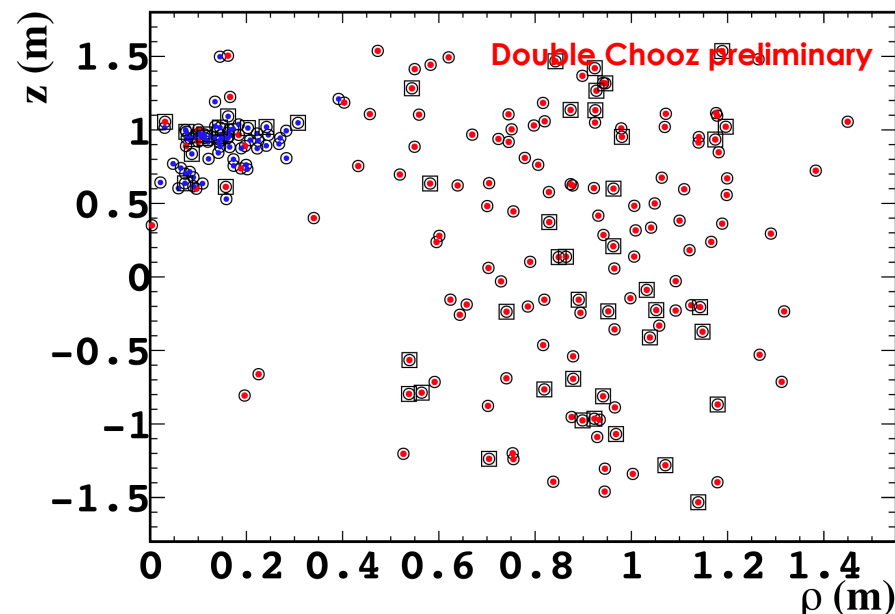


# Fast-neutron BG



# Fast-neutron BG

- Neutrino analysis with prompt energy extended up to 30 MeV
- Two main sources identified:
  - **Fast-n**: scatter in periphery of detector (top/sides predominantly)
    - Delay is captured on Gd ( $\tau \sim 27 \mu\text{s}$ )
  - **Stopping muon**: sneaking through the chimney
    - Delay is Michel-e upon muon decay @ rest ( $\Delta t \sim 2.2 \mu\text{s}$ )
- Rate: extrapolation from high to low energies
  - **Rate =  $(0.7 \pm 0.5) \text{ day}^{-1}$**
- Spectrum: flat hypothesis with uncertainty due to the stopping muon shape



# Summary of backgrounds

Type	R (day <sup>-1</sup> )	$\delta R$ (day <sup>-1</sup> )	$\delta R/R$	R/total (42.6 day <sup>-1</sup> )	Spectrum
Candidates	42.6	0.7	0.016		
Accidental	0.332	0.004	0.012	0.008	Measured
Li/He	2.3	1.2	0.522	0.054	From MC
Fast-n	0.7	0.5	0.714	0.016	Flat + shape uncertainty

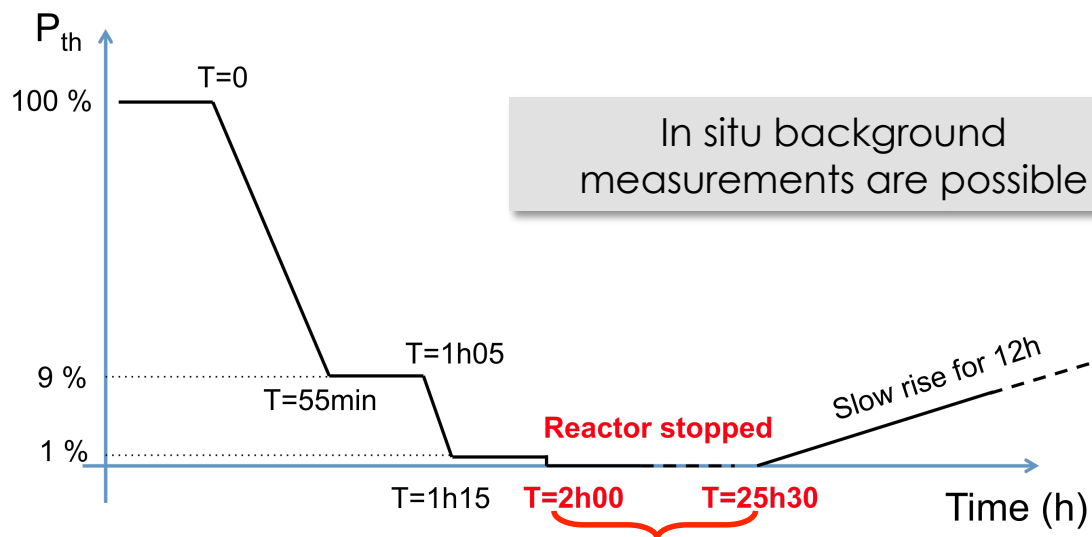
**4121** neutrino candidates

**328** expected background events  
in 96.82 days



# Both reactors OFF for 1 day

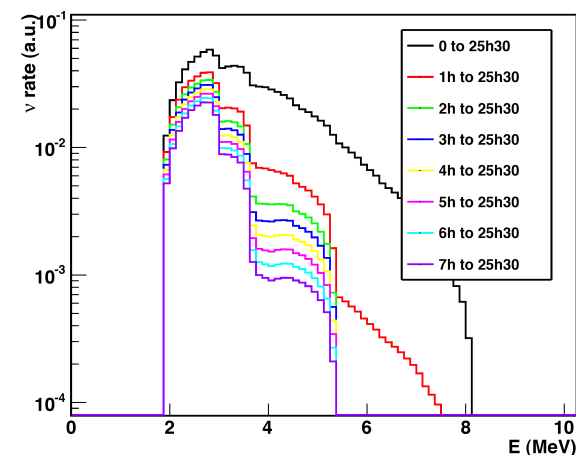
- Reactor 1 was OFF for 2 months (new data not analyzed yet)
- Reactor 2 was OFF for 1 day



Neutrino Analysis: **3 events found** ( $< 30$  MeV)

- 2 candidates within  $[0.7, 12]$  MeV
  - Li/He candidates
- 1 candidate  $> 12$  MeV
  - Stopping muon (sneaking through the chimney)

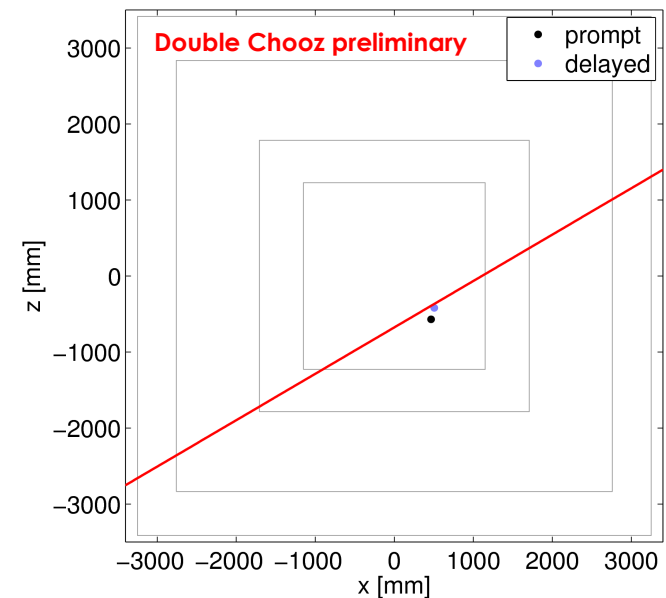
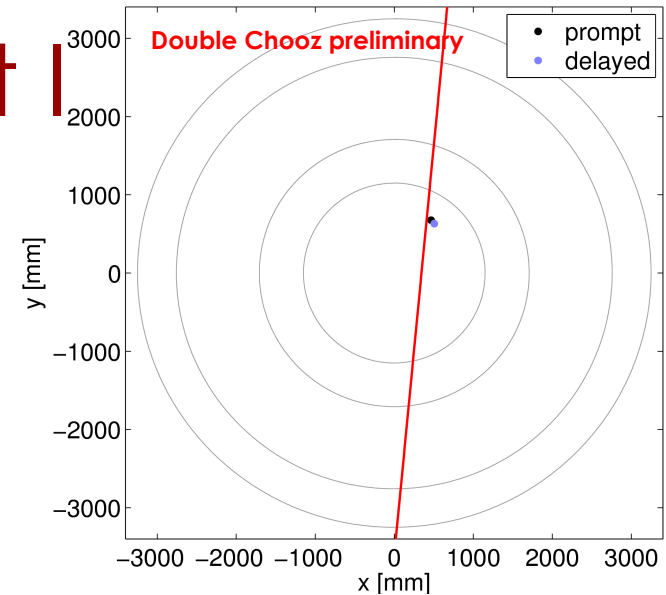
$\nu$ -spectrum at residual power



Number of background events consistent with estimated number of BG events

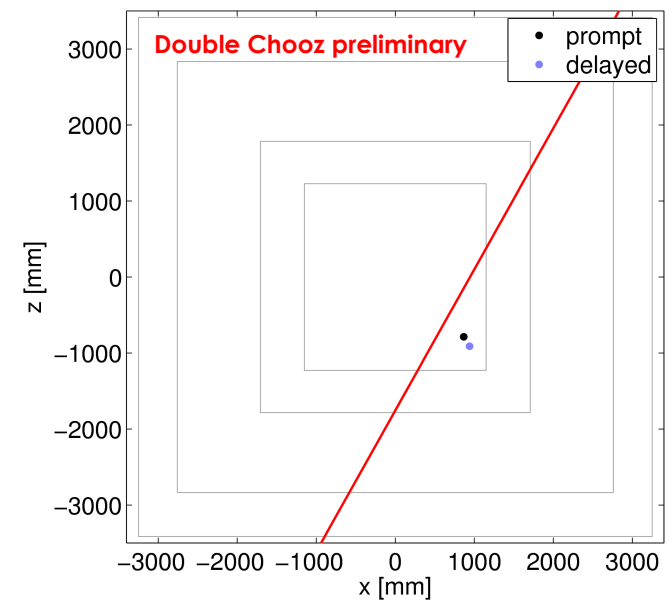
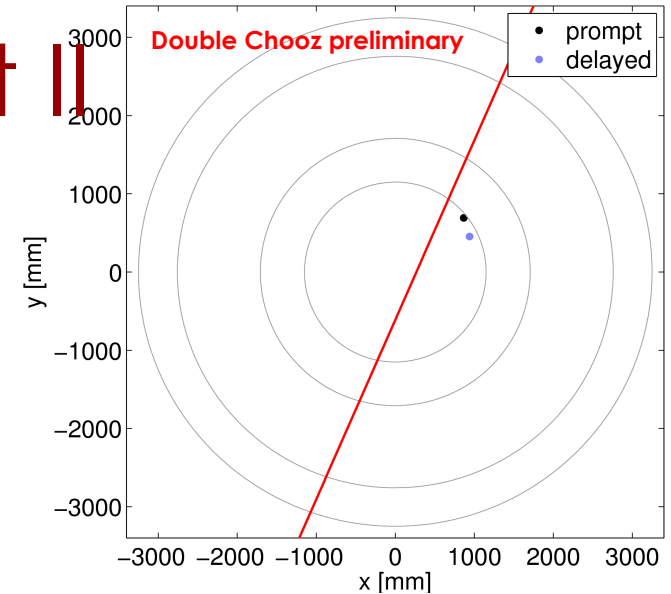
# Both reactors OFF: Event I

- ${}^9\text{Li}$  event candidate
- Prompt event
  - Inner Detector energy: 9.8 MeV
- Delayed event
  - Inner Detector energy 8.0 MeV
- Coincidence characteristics
  - Distance 16.4 cm
  - $\Delta t$ : 4  $\mu\text{s}$
- Muon (> 600 MeV)
  - Inner Detector energy 739 MeV
  - Distance to prompt: 15.4 cm
  - $\Delta t$  to prompt: 201 ms



# Both reactors OFF: Event II

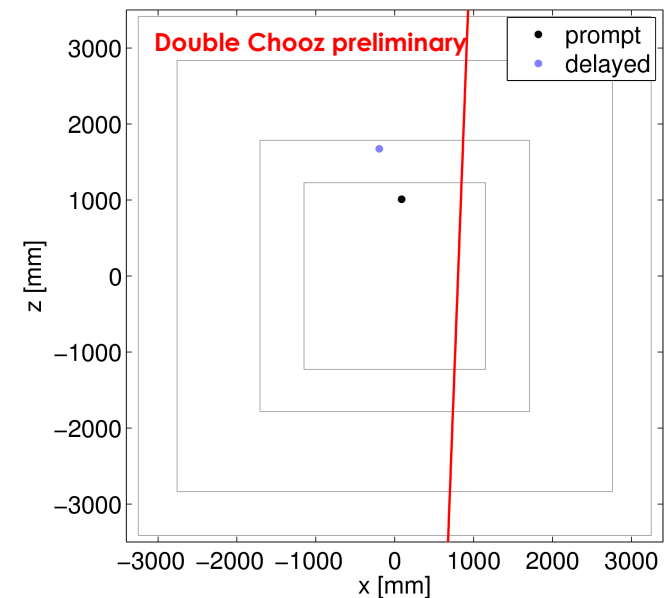
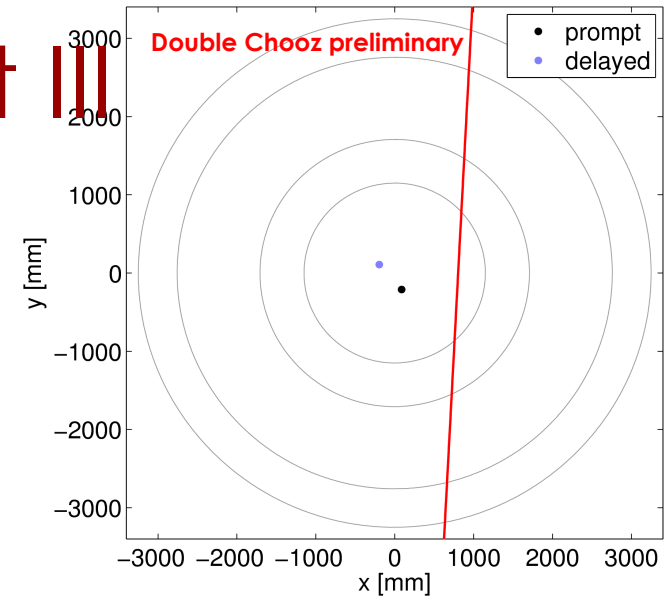
- ${}^9\text{Li}$  event candidate
- Prompt event
  - Inner Detector energy: 4.8 MeV
- Delayed event
  - Inner Detector energy 8.6 MeV
- Coincidence characteristics
  - Distance 27.9 cm
  - $\Delta t$ : 26  $\mu\text{s}$
- Muon (> 600 MeV)
  - Inner Detector energy 627 MeV
  - Distance to prompt: 30.8 cm
  - $\Delta t$  to prompt: 241 ms





# Both reactors OFF: Event III

- **Stop muon chimney event candidate**
- Prompt event
  - Inner Detector energy: 26.5 MeV
- Delayed event
  - Inner Detector energy 7.6 MeV
- Coincidence characteristics
  - Distance 79 cm
  - $\Delta t$ : 2.2  $\mu\text{s}$
- Muon ( $> 600$  MeV)
  - Closest one 17 s prior to prompt
  - Shown track is  $\mu$  with highest energy deposition (523 MeV) within 5 s, with 206 ms, 103 cm distance to prompt

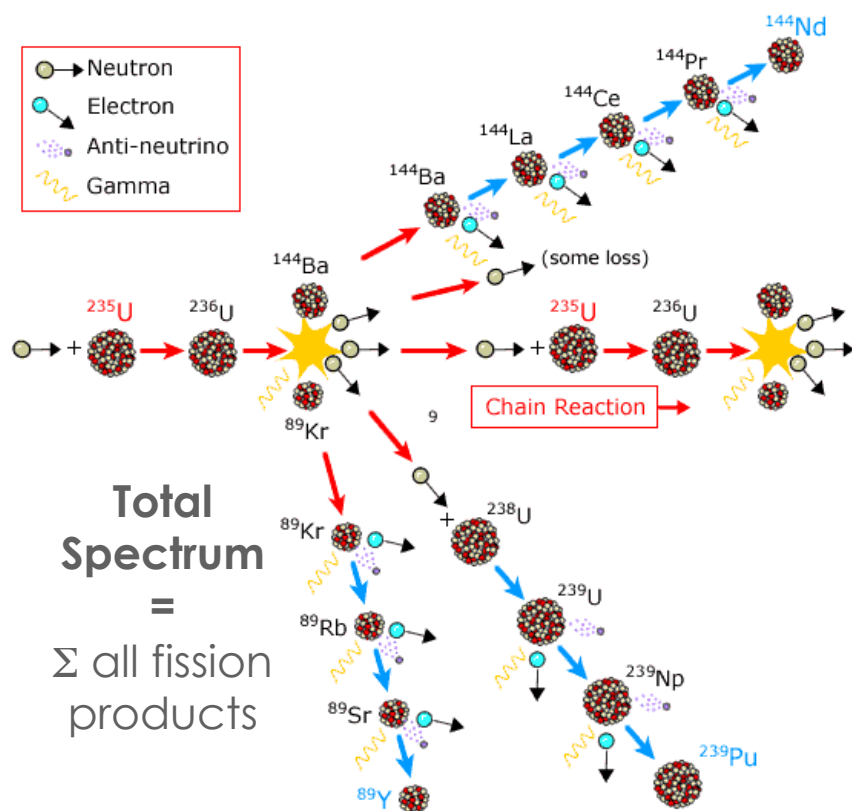


# Oscillation analysis

# Blinded analysis

- The analysis up to here was **blinded**
  - No access to the reactor power and fission rate data
- Only a few elected people had reactor information to develop the corresponding simulations and provide the expected neutrino spectrum

# Reactor neutrino flux calculation



Expected neutrino flux

$$N_v^{\text{exp}}(t) = \frac{N_p \varepsilon}{4\pi L^2} \times \frac{P_{th}(t)}{\langle E_f \rangle} \times \langle \sigma_f \rangle$$

- Mean energy per fission ( $k = ^{235}\text{U}, ^{238}\text{U}, ^{239}\text{Pu}, ^{241}\text{Pu}$ ):

from EdF & simulations

$$\langle E_f \rangle = \sum_k \alpha_k(t) \langle E_k \rangle \quad \alpha_k: \text{fractional fission rate}$$

- Mean cross-section per fission:

from simulations & measurements

$$\langle \sigma_f \rangle = \langle \sigma_f \rangle^{\text{Bugey}} + \sum_k (\alpha_k^{\text{DC}}(t) - \alpha_k^{\text{Bugey}}(t)) \langle \sigma_f \rangle_k$$

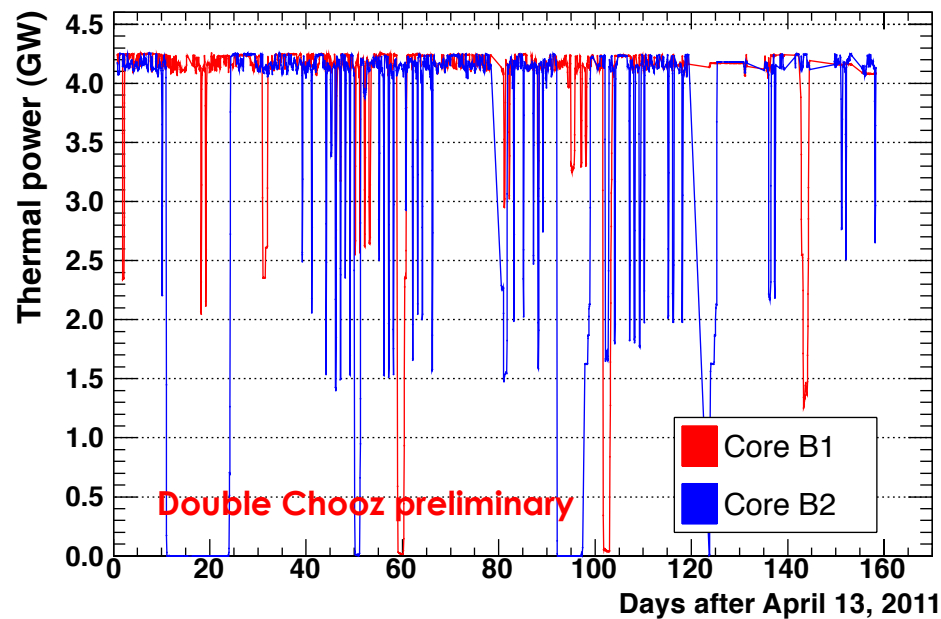
$$\langle \sigma_f \rangle_k = \int_0^\infty dE S_k(E) \sigma_{\text{IBD}}(E)$$

Based on Bugey 4 measurement with correction to DC

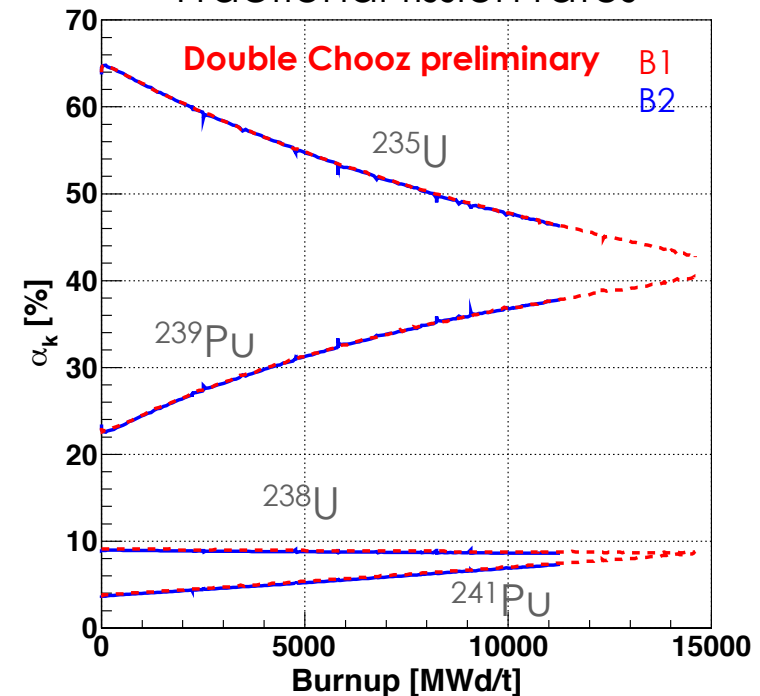


# Reactor information and simulations

Monitoring of thermal power



Fractional fission rates



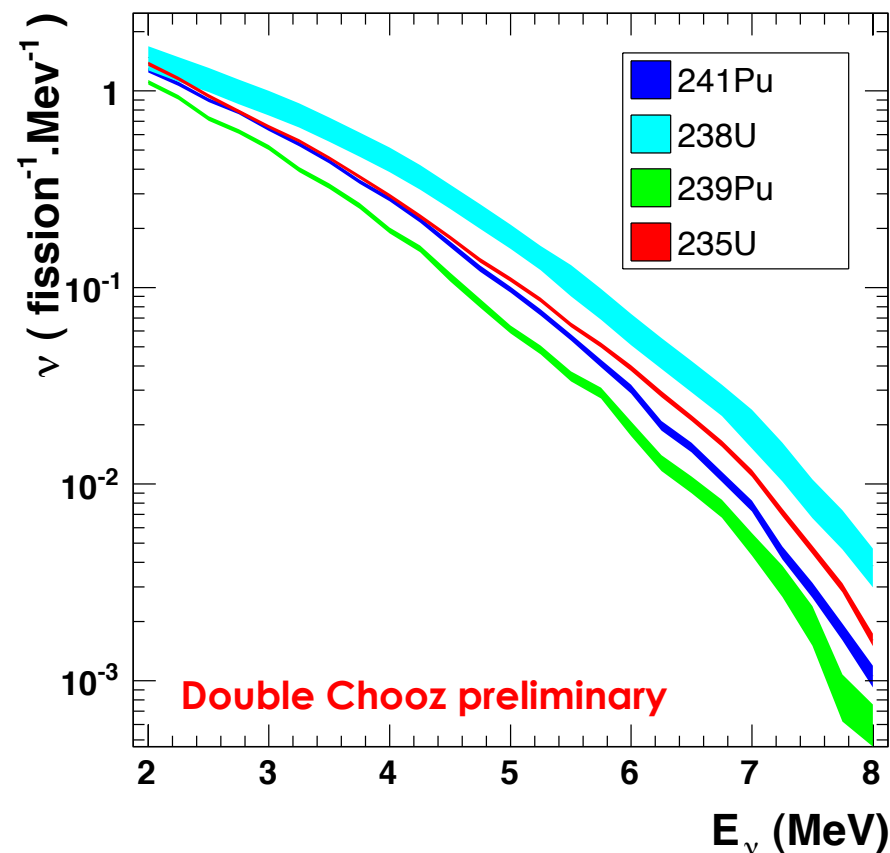
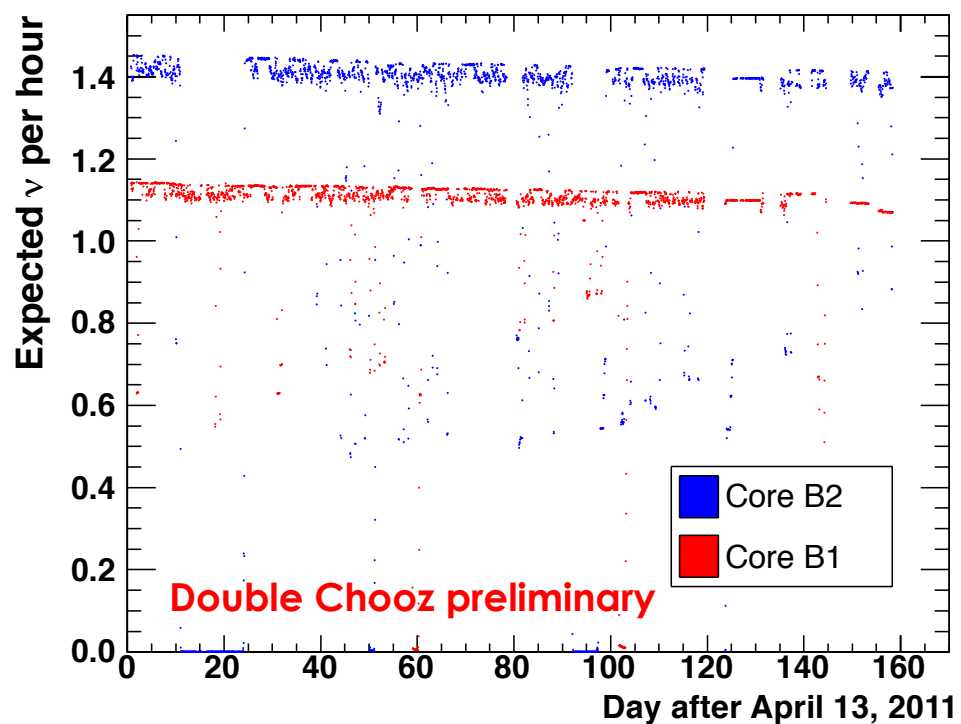
- Monitoring  $P_{th}$  every minute ( $\delta P_{th}/P_{th} = 0.46\%$ )
- Reactor core evolution
  - Complete core simulation (EdF inputs, validation with independent calculations)
  - Error budget based on uncertainty on reactor parameters, code comparison, nuclear database inputs...

# Predicted neutrino spectrum

## New reference neutrino spectrum

Recent re-evaluations of fissile isotopes by:  
 Th. A. Mueller et al, Phys.Rev. C83 (2011) 054615  
 P. Huber, Phys. Rev. C84 (2011) 024617

### Predicted neutrino rate at FD

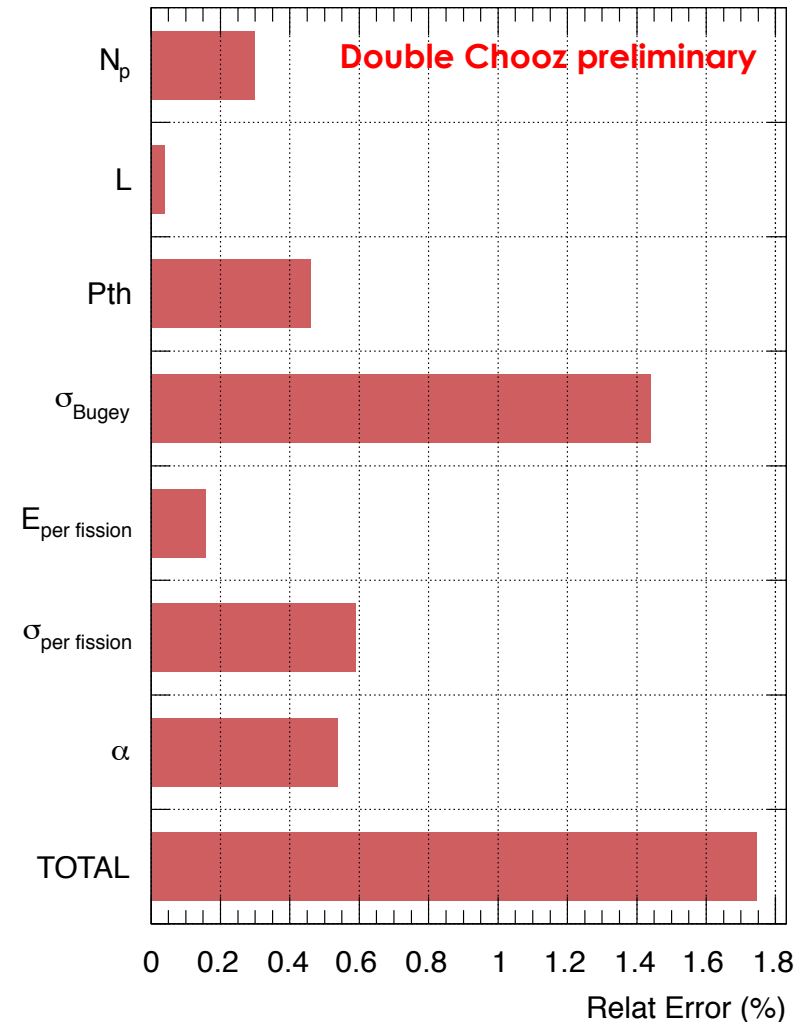


# Total relative error on the predicted neutrino rate

- Bugey4 measurement suppresses sensitivity to reference spectra ( $\sigma_{\text{per fission}}$ )
- Accurate reactor simulation with MURE keep contribution of the uncertainty on fission rates low
- **TOTAL = 1.7% of total error**

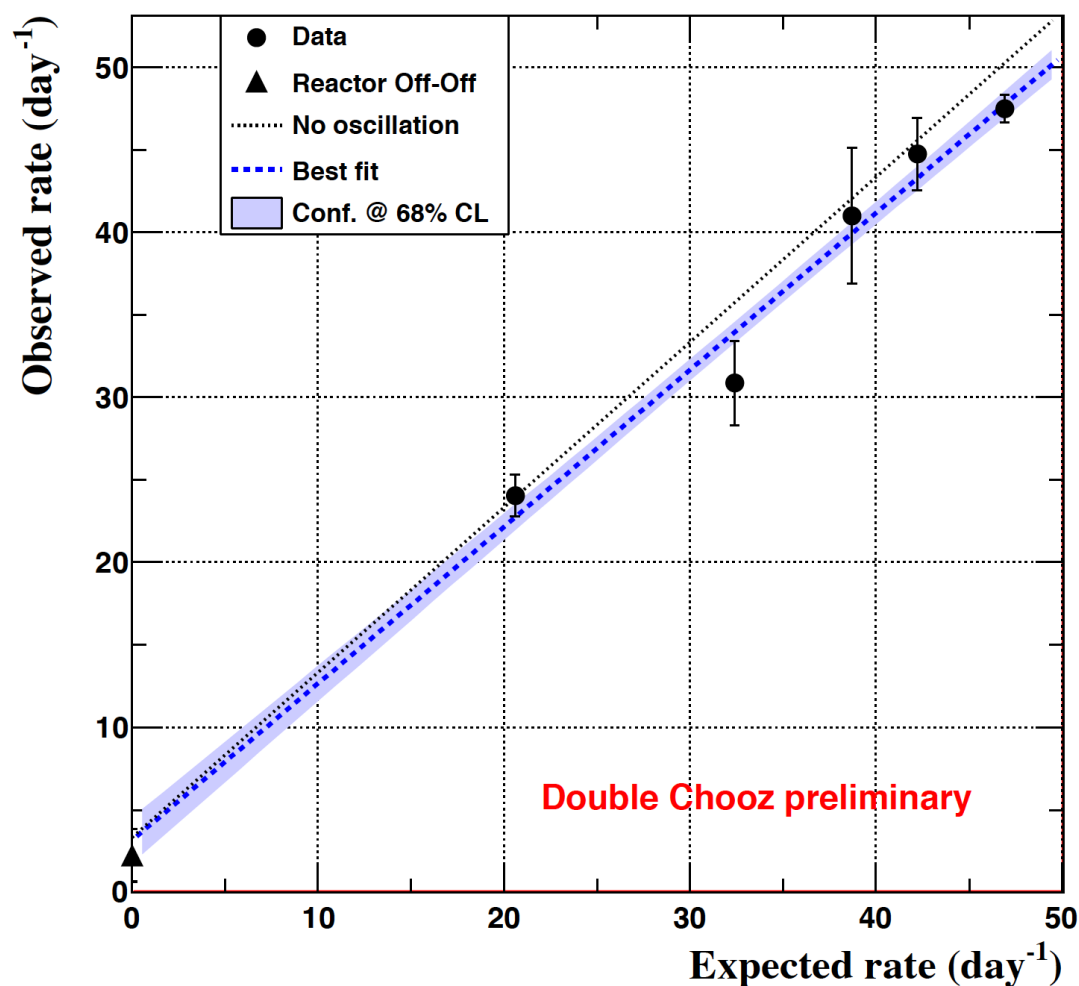
Predicted number of neutrinos =  $5334.7 \pm 93$

(4121 candidates observed)



# Observed vs expected rate

- Background not subtracted
- Reactor OFF-OFF point:
  - 2 candidates
- Background can be measured from fit
  - Without reactor OFF-OFF: BG =  $5.0 \pm 2.3 \text{ day}^{-1}$
  - With reactor OFF-OFF: BG =  $3.2 \pm 1.3 \text{ day}^{-1}$
- Estimated background from analysis:  $3.33 \pm 1.32 \text{ day}^{-1}$
- Slope:
  - $\sin^2(2\theta_{13})$   $0.093 \pm 0.065$





# Fit strategy

$$\begin{aligned}
 \chi^2 = & \left( N_i - \left( \sum_R^{\text{Reactors}} N_i^{\nu,R} + \sum_b N_i^b(P_b) \right) \right) \times \left( M_{ij}^{\text{signal}} + M_{ij}^{\text{detector}} + M_{ij}^{\text{stat}} + \sum_b^{\text{bkgnds.}} M_{ij}^b \right)^{-1} \\
 & \times \left( N_j - \left( \sum_R^{\text{Reactors}} N_j^{\nu,R} + \sum_b N_j^b(P_b) \right) \right)^T \\
 & + \left. \begin{aligned} & \sum_R^{\text{Reactors}} \frac{(P_R)^2}{\sigma_R^2} \\ & + \sum_b^{\text{bkgnds.}} \frac{(P_b)^2}{\sigma_b^2} \end{aligned} \right\} \text{Pull terms (rate uncertainties)}
 \end{aligned}$$

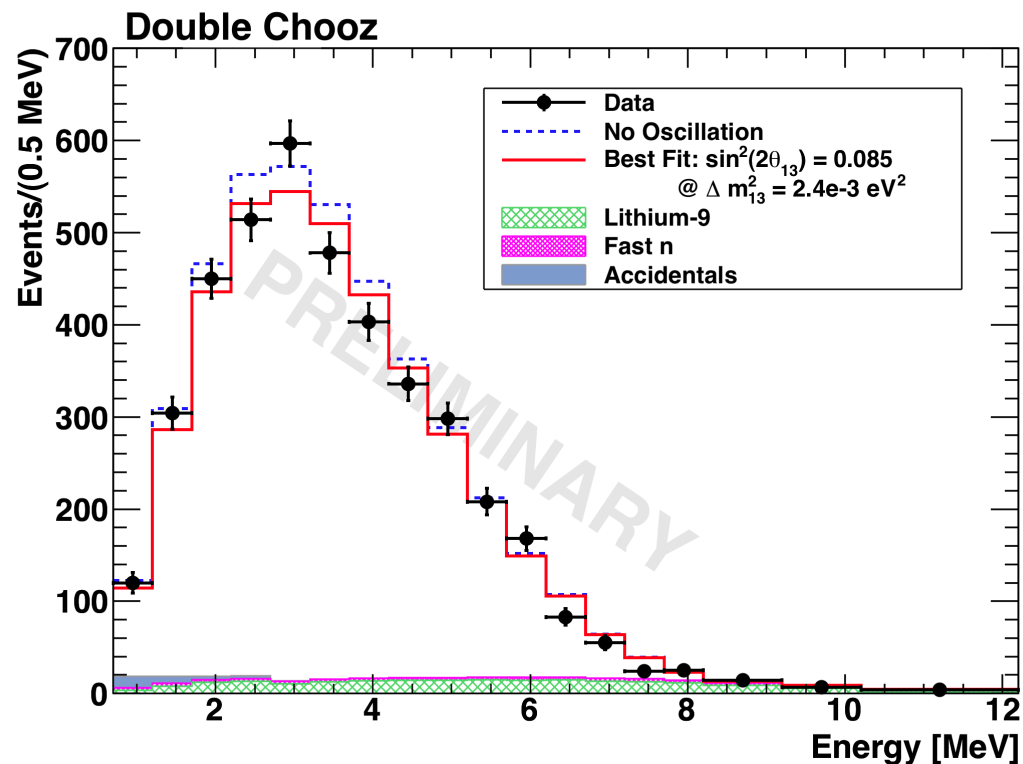
Covariance matrices

- $M^{\text{signal}}$ : signal covariance matrix (uncertainties on neutrino signal from reactor, conversion to reconstructed positron energy)
- $M^{\text{detector}}$ : efficiencies uncertainties, data/MC discrepancy, energy scale uncertainty and other detector effects
- $M^{\text{stat}}$ : statistical covariance matrix
- $M^{\text{backg}}$ : relative spectral uncertainties

# Efficiencies and MC correction

SOURCE	VALUE	UNCERTAINTY
DETECTION EFFICIENCY		
Target free H	100 %	$\pm 0.3$ %
Prompt efficiency	100 %	Negligible
Delay efficiency	86.0 %	$\pm 0.6$ %
$\Delta t$ cut	96.5 %	$\pm 0.5$ %
$\Delta E$ (delay) cut	94.5 %	$\pm 0.6$ %
MC CORRECTION		
Muon veto deadtime	95.5 %	Negligible
Multiplicity	99.5 %	Negligible
Gd to H fraction	98.0%	$\pm 0.6$ %
Spill in/out	99.3 %	$\pm 0.4$ %

# Rate and shape oscillation analysis



## ■ Rate only:

- $\sin^2(2\theta_{13}) = 0.096 \pm 0.029 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.073 \text{ (sys)}$

## ■ Shape only:

- $\sin^2(2\theta_{13}) = 0.044 \pm 0.157$

## ■ Rate + shape:

- $\sin^2(2\theta_{13}) = 0.085 \pm 0.029 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.042 \text{ (sys)} \text{ at } 68\% \text{ CL}$

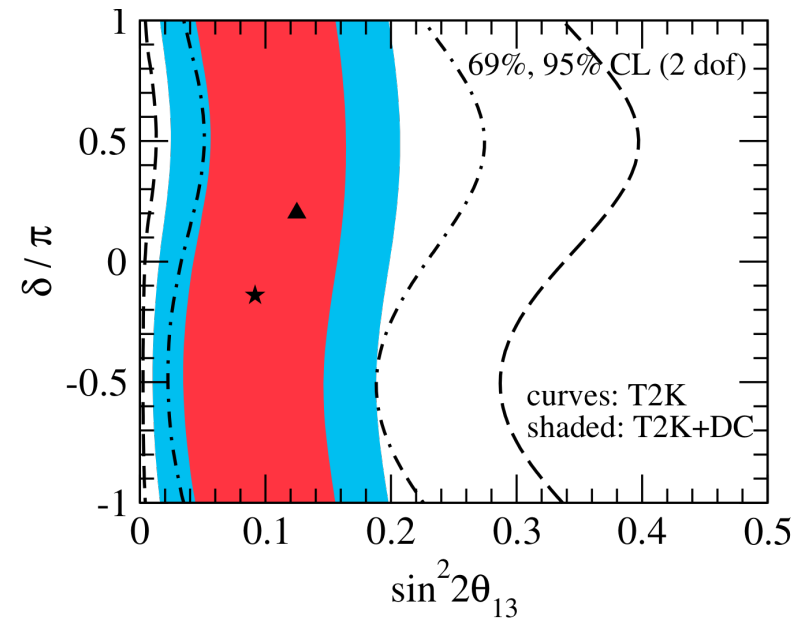
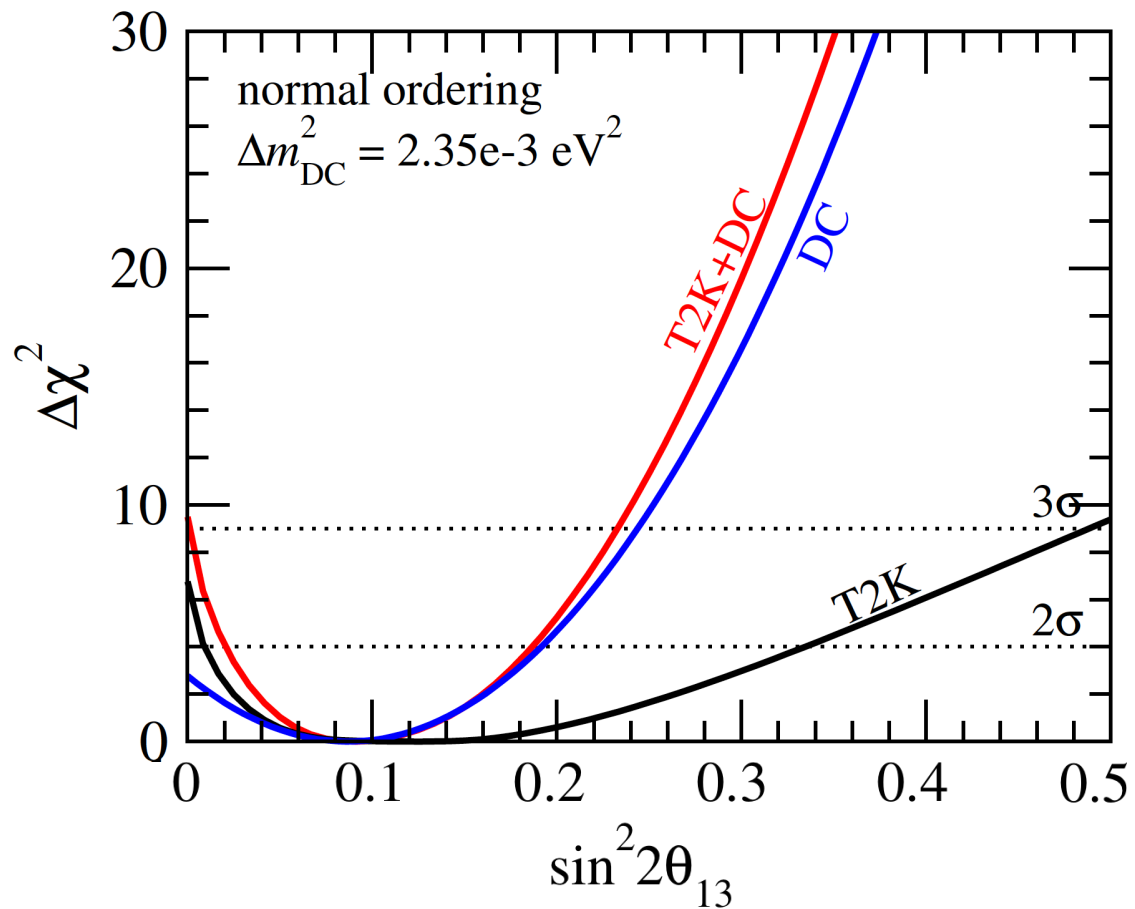
- No oscillation excluded at 92.9%

# Total uncertainties

UNCERTAINTY SOURCE	VARIANCE
<b>Statistical</b>	<b>1.56 %</b>
Reactor flux	1.71 %
Detection efficiency	1.10 %
Detector response	1.20 %
Accidental backg	0.01 %
Fast neutron backg	1.14 %
Lithium-9 backg	2.73 %
<b>Systematic total</b>	<b>3.78 %</b>

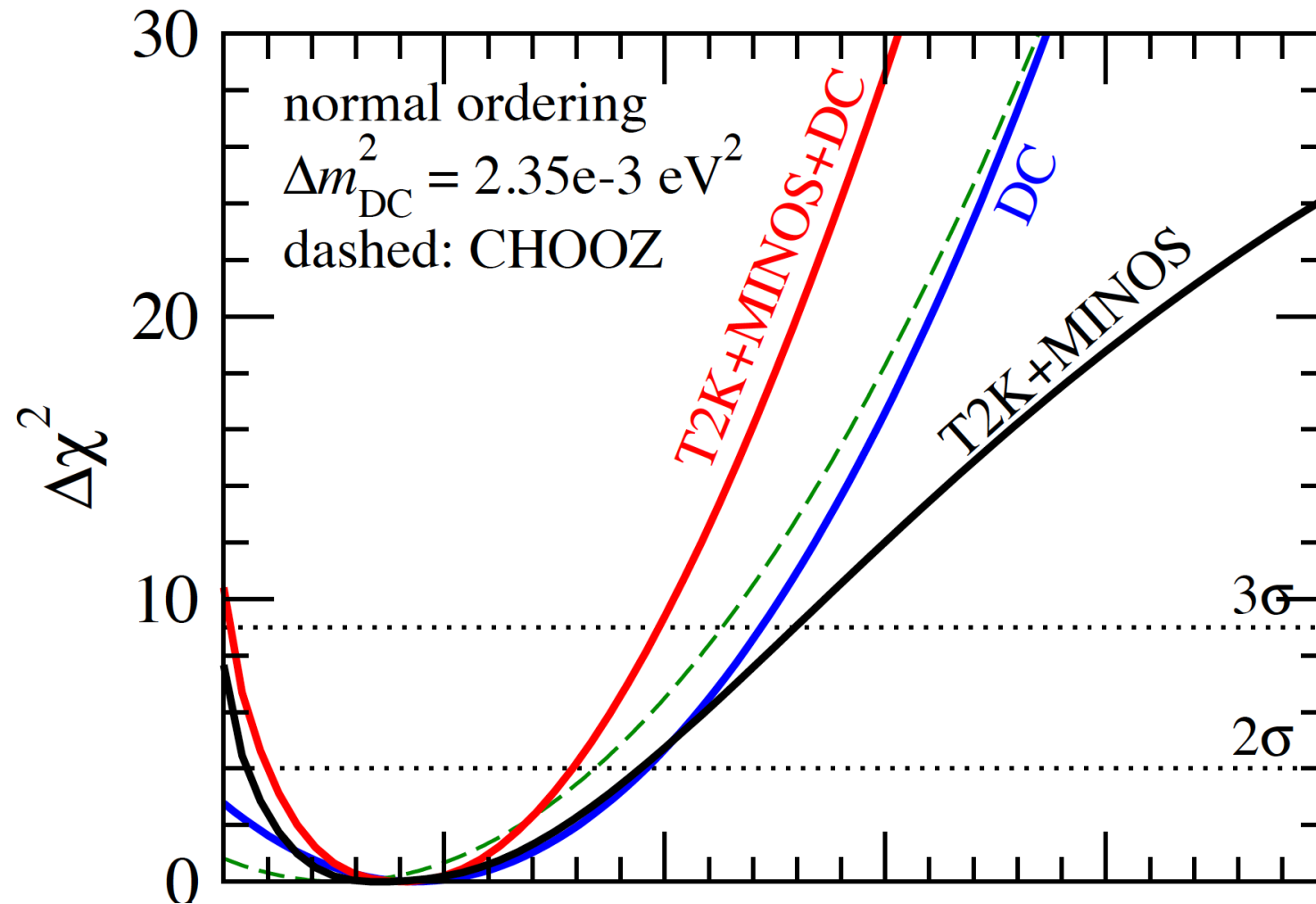


# Double Chooz+T2K combination

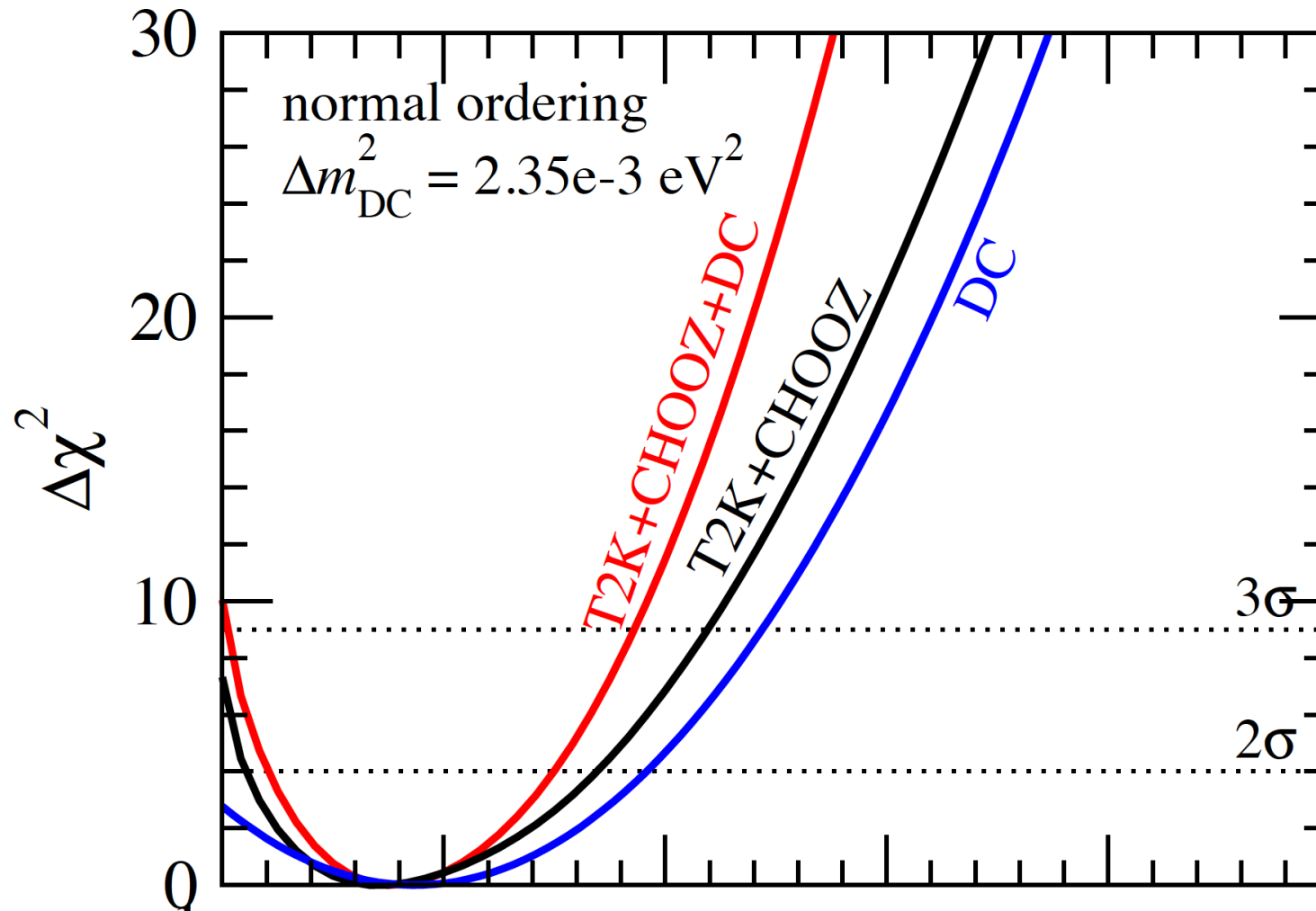


- Best fit point is 0.092
- $\theta_{13} = 0$  is excluded at  $3\sigma$  from DC and T2K
  - Lower limit dominated by T2K
  - Upper limit dominated by DC

# Combination DC+T2K +MINOS



# Combination DC+T2K +CHOOZ



# Prospects



# Statistical and systematic errors

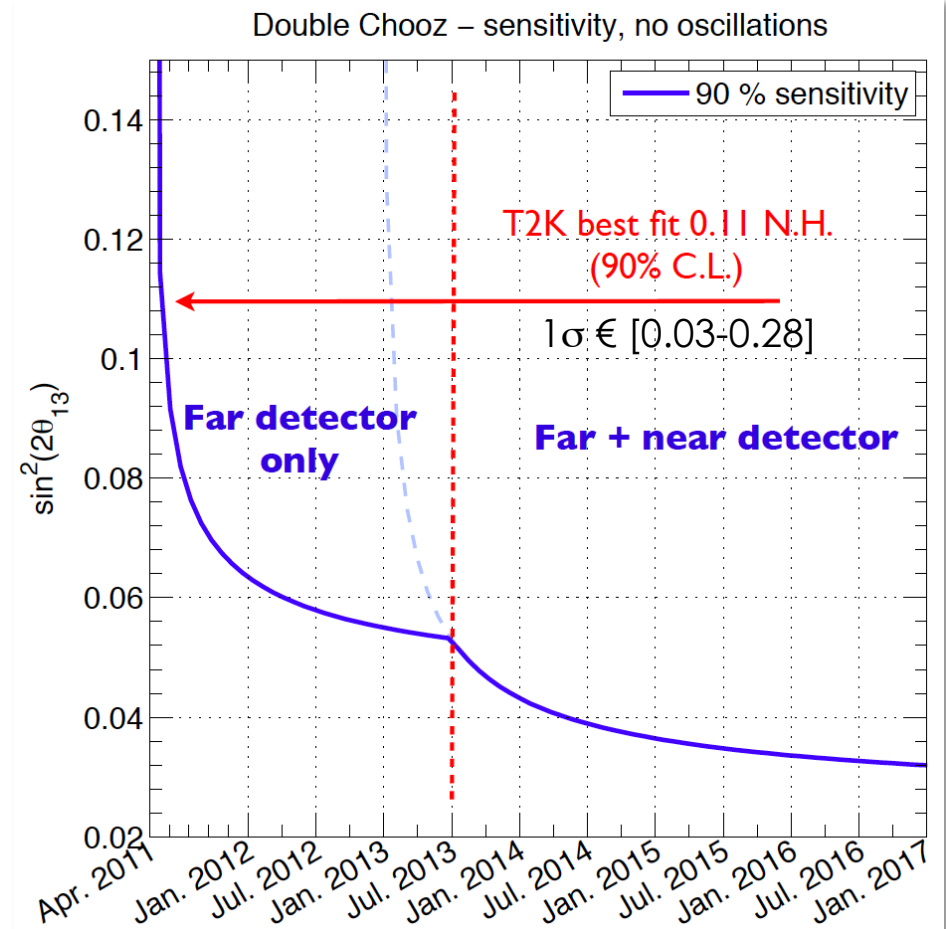
**CHOOZ:  $N_{\text{obs}} / N_{\text{exp}} = 1.01 \pm 2.8\% \text{ (stat.)} \pm 2.7\% \text{ (sys.)}$**

	<b>CHOOZ</b>	<b>Double Chooz</b>
Target volume	5.55 m <sup>3</sup>	10.3 m <sup>3</sup>
Data taking period	few months	3-5 years
Event rate	2700	far: 20.000/y near: 150.000/y
Statistical error	2.8 %	0.5 %

	<b>CHOOZ</b>	<b>Double Chooz</b>
Reactor uncertainties ( $\nu$ flux and reactor power)	2.1 %	< 0.1 %
Number of protons	0.8 %	< 0.2 %
Detector efficiency	1.5%	< 0.5 %
Systematic error	2.7%	< 0.5 %

# Double Chooz sensitivity

- Normalization to Bugey-4 cross section (with FD) to be independent from the flux prediction
- **Phase I (FD only):** 10 x more statistics than CHOOZ
  - Limited by rate and shape reactor flux uncertainties (2.8% total)
- **Phase II (FD + ND):** more robust
  - Limited by inter-detector normalization systematic uncertainties (0.6 %)
- With 3 years of data taking (2 detectors):
  - the sensitivity of the experiment is  $\sin^2(2\theta_{13}) < 0.03$  at 90% CL and
  - the **discovery potential is  $\sin^2(2\theta_{13}) > 0.05$**  at  $3\sigma$  C.L.



# Conclusions

- Double Chooz started physics data taking since April 2011
  - Measuring neutrinos with low backgrounds
- The first preliminary data release at LowNu conference (November, 2011)
  - Oscillation analysis (rate + shape):  $\sin^2(2\theta_{13}) = 0.085 \pm 0.029 \pm 0.042$  (68% CL)
  - **No-oscillation excluded** at 92.1% CL
- **First publication is almost ready**
- **Data taking continues without stop**
- Near detector operational by early 2013
- Great prospects towards very precise  $\theta_{13}$  measurement
  - Final sensitivity  $\sin^2(2\theta_{13}) < 0.03$  (90% CL)

# More DC information on “The Big Bang Theory” show







