



## Results and Prospects on Geo-Neutrinos

Research Center for Neutrino Science, Tohoku University

**Hiroko Watanabe**

for KamLAND Collaboration

# Contents

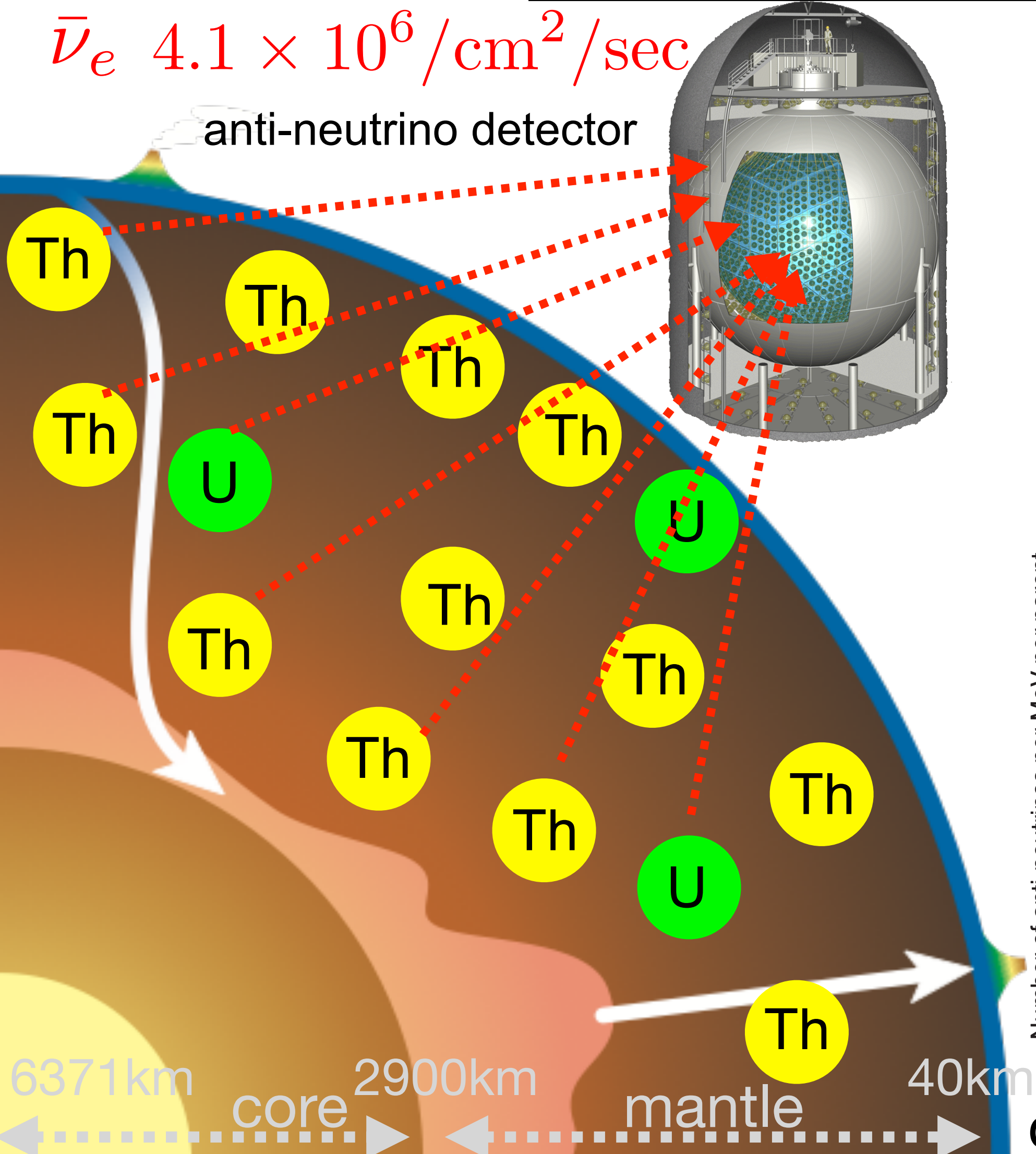
- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Results from KamLAND and Borexino**
- 3. Future Prospects**
- 4. Summary**

# Contents

- 1. Introduction**
2. Results from KamLAND and Borexino
3. Future Prospects
4. Summary

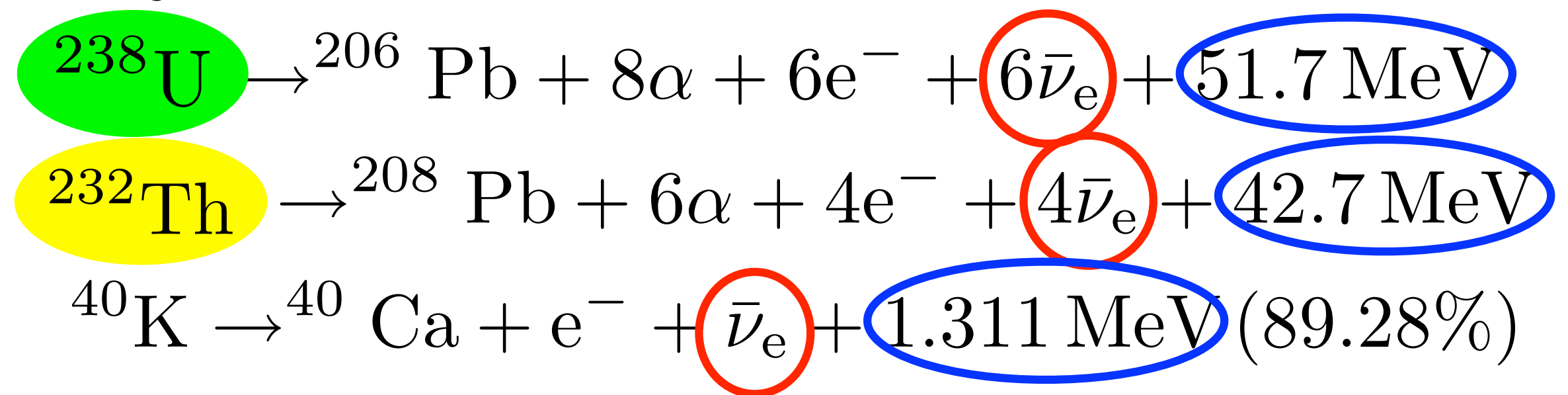
# ▶ What is geo-neutrino?

## Electron-antineutrino from natural radioactive decay

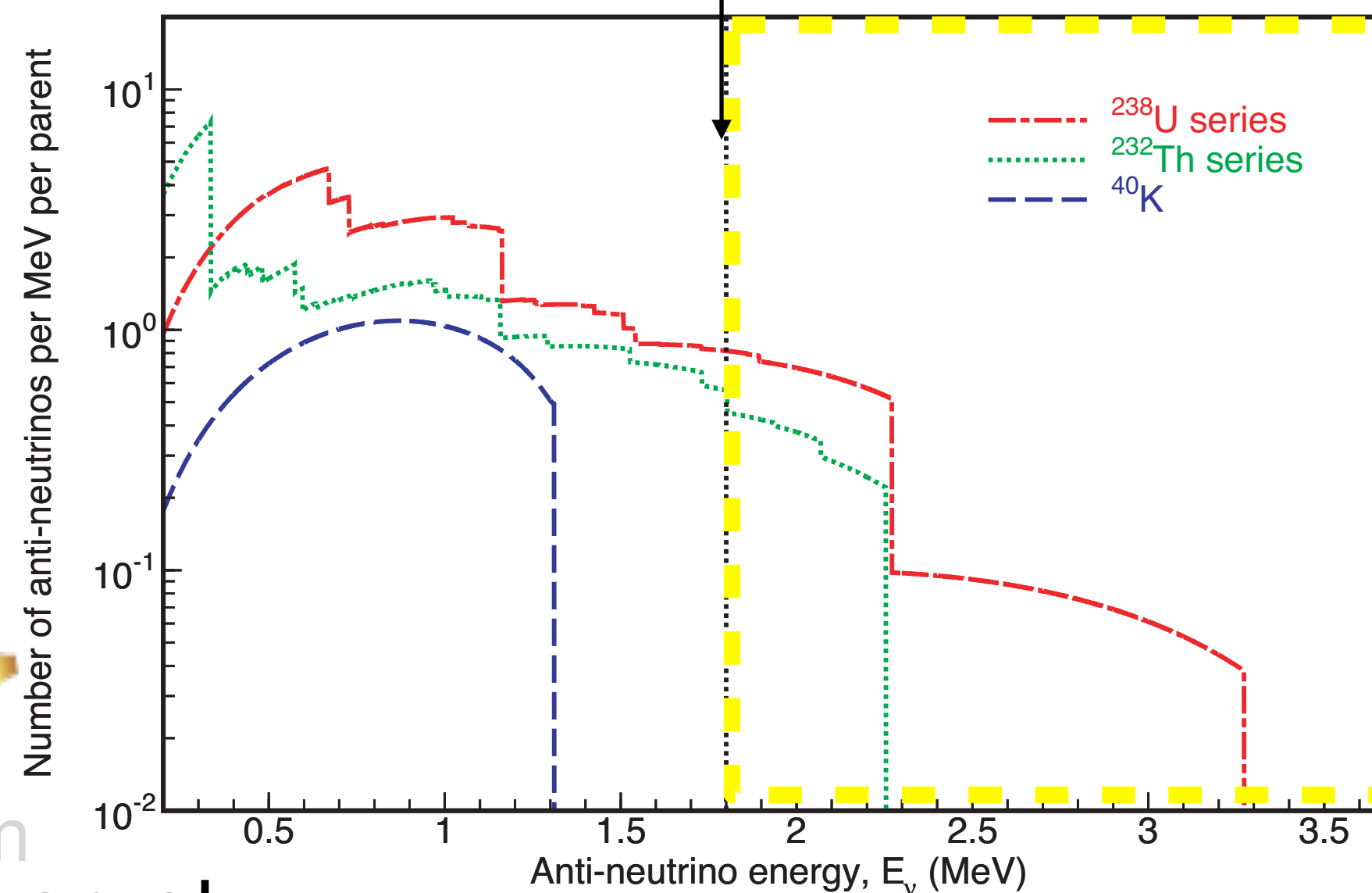


### $\beta$ -decay

### Geo-neutrinos

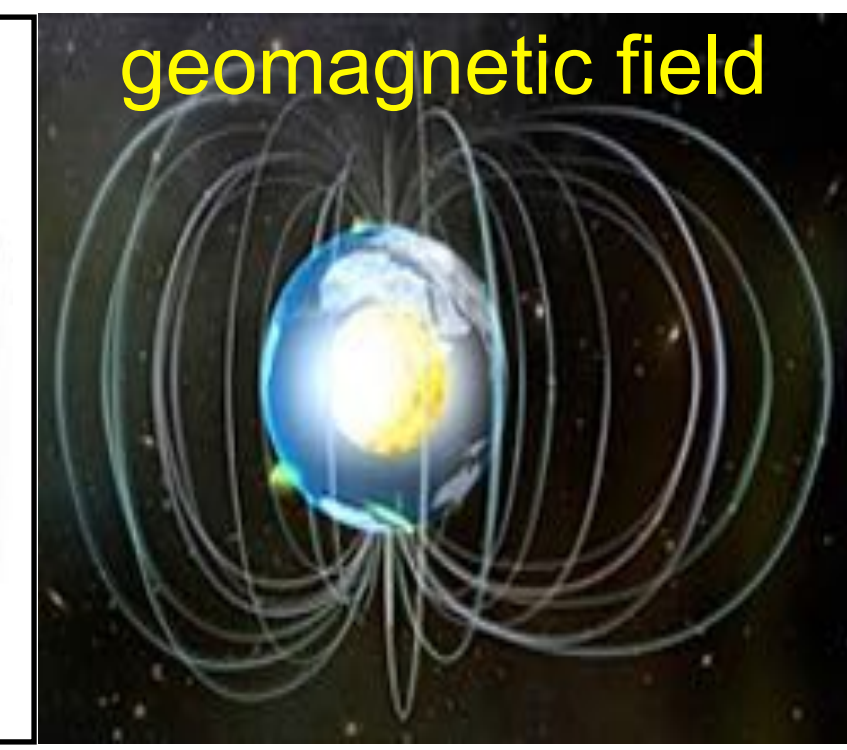
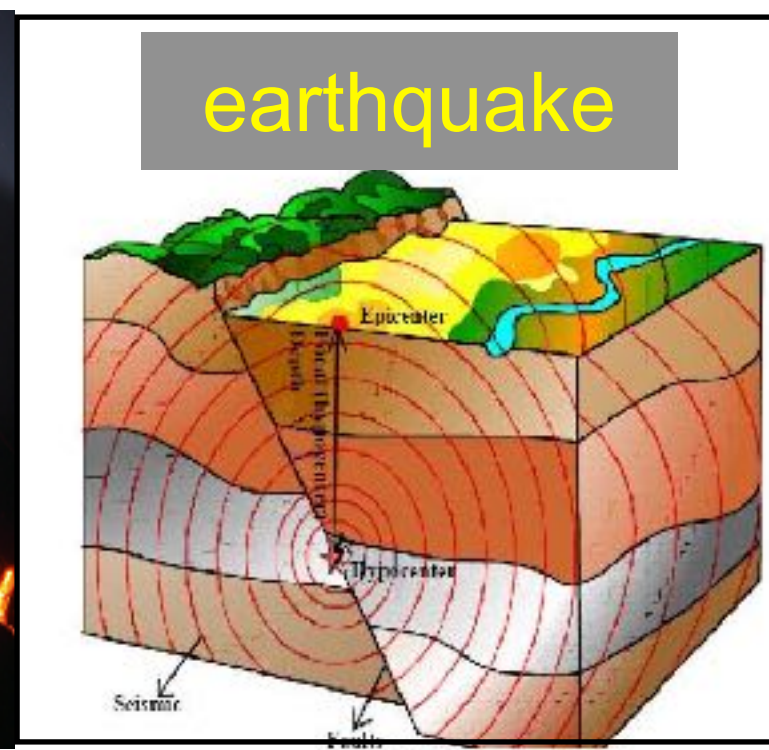
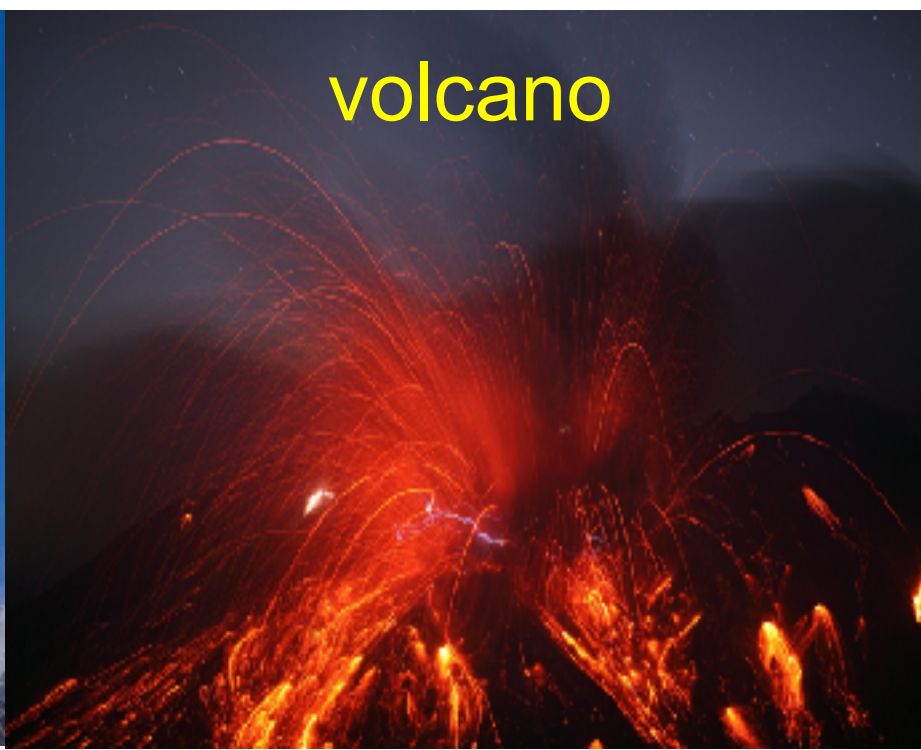
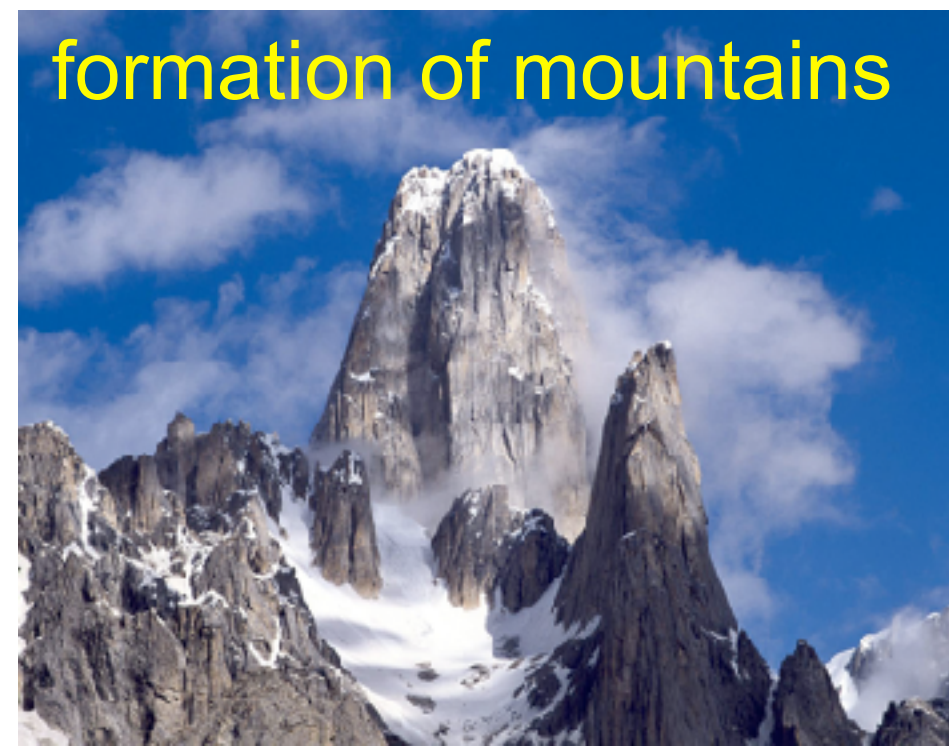
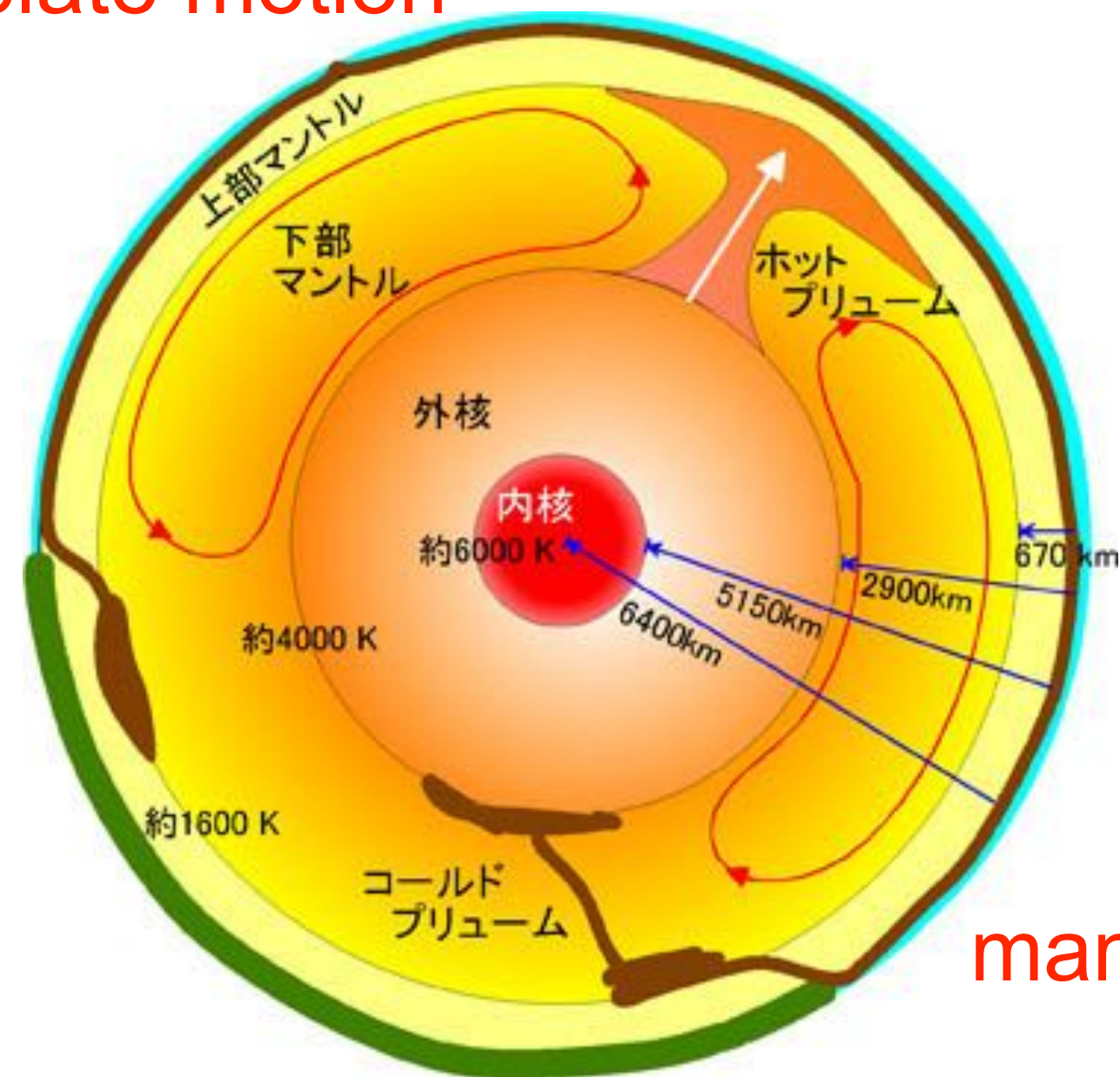


Energy threshold, 1.8 MeV



\* Only geo-neutrinos from **U** and **Th** are detectable right now.  
 \* K geo-neutrinos require new type detector

plate motion



mantle convection

## Question on geophysical activity

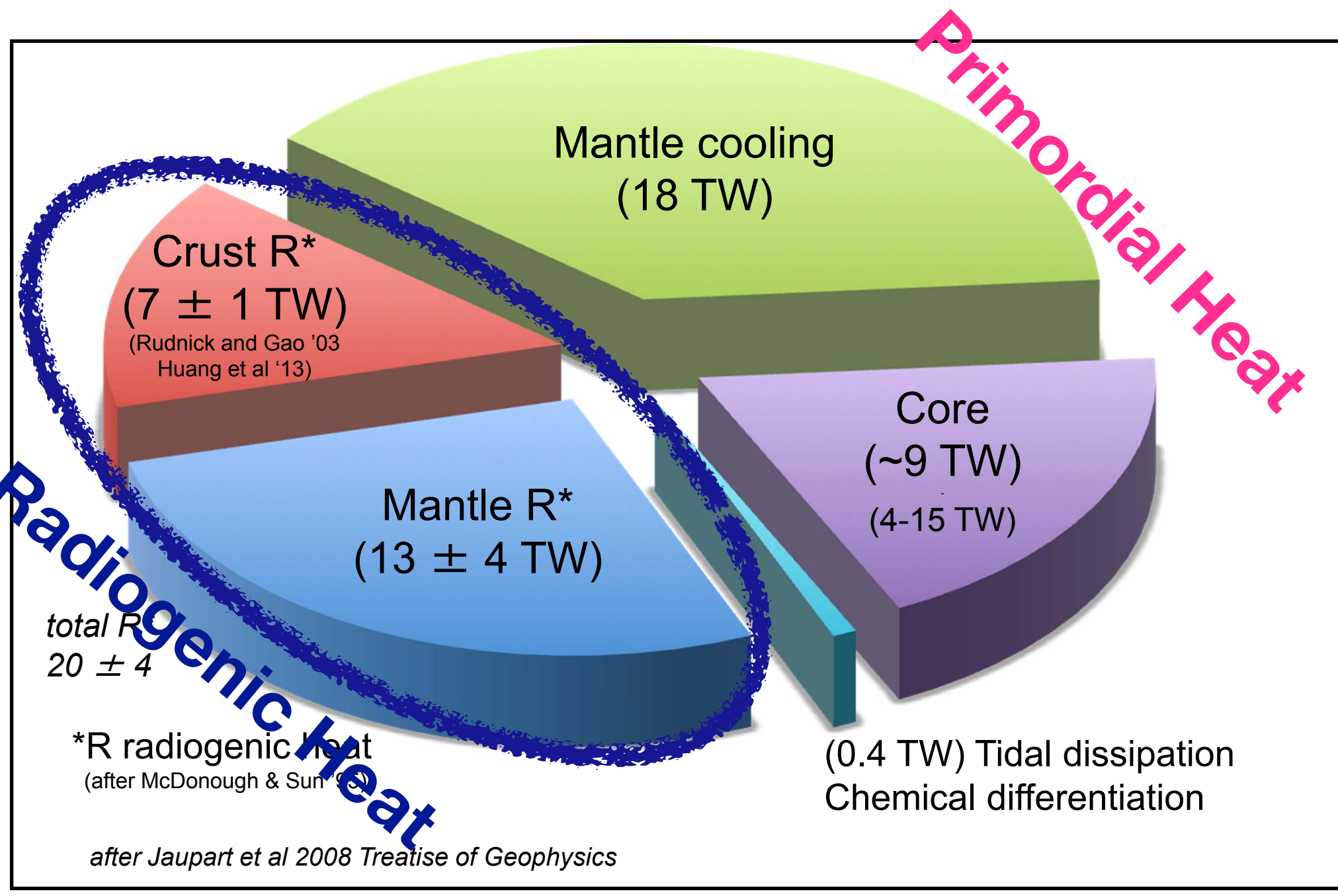
- What are energy sources? How much energy?
- How is the mantle convecting, single or multi-layer convection?
- What is driving source of geodynamo?

→ It is important to find out the terrestrial heat.

# ▶ Earth's Heat Balance

Surface heat flow  
**46 ± 3 TW**

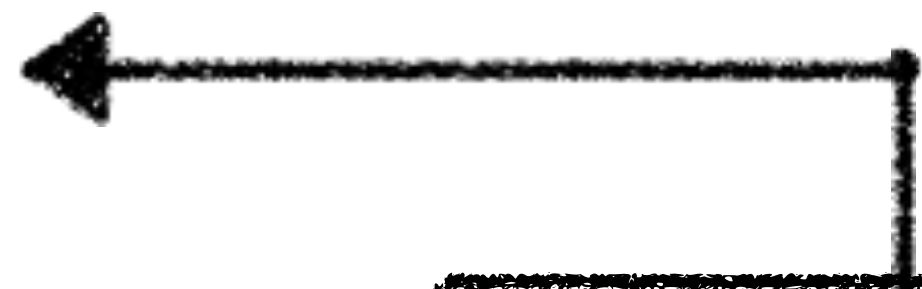
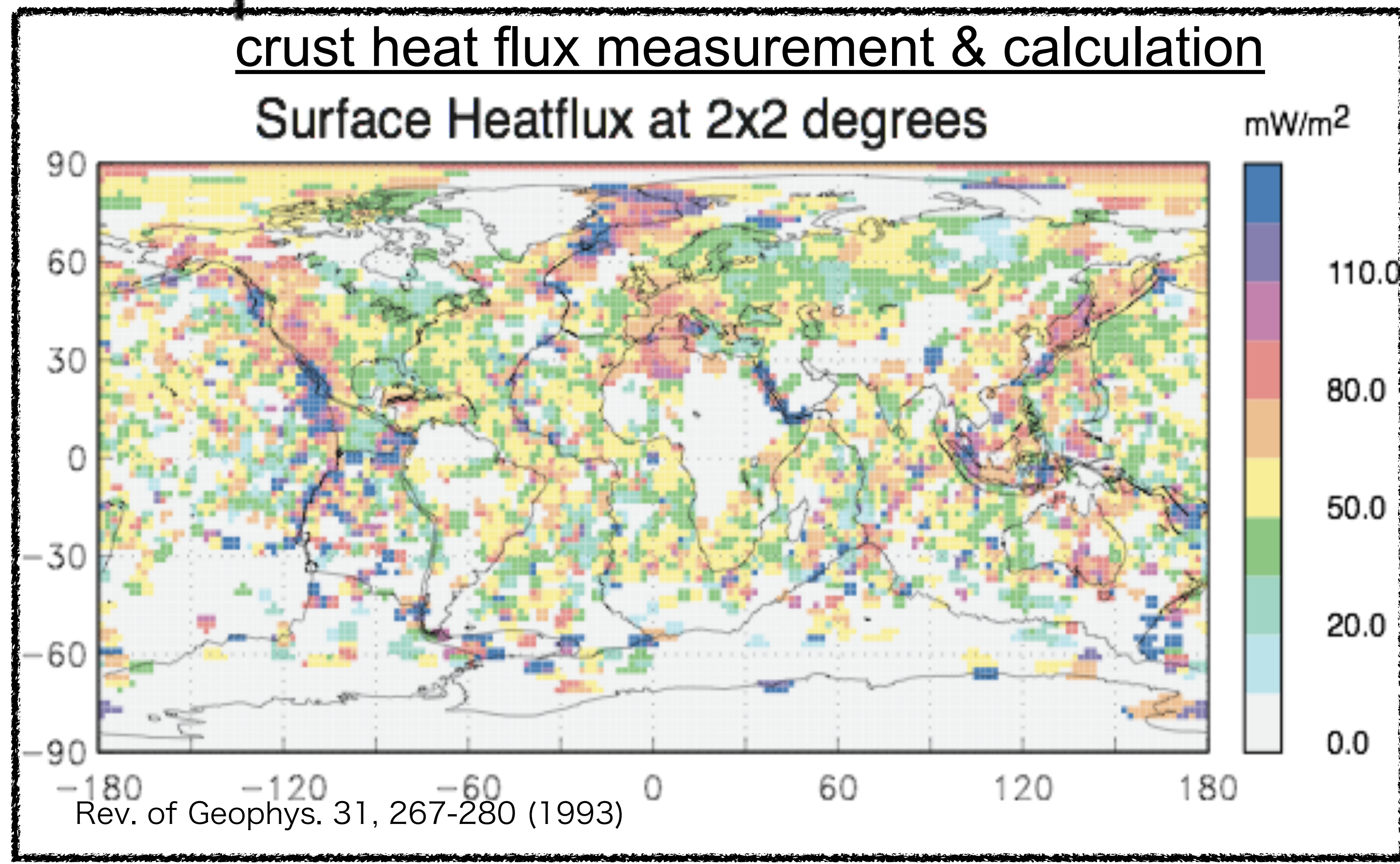
example of Earth model



## Primordial Heat

- \* Releases of gravitational energy through accretion or metallic core separation
- \* Latent heat from the growth of inner core

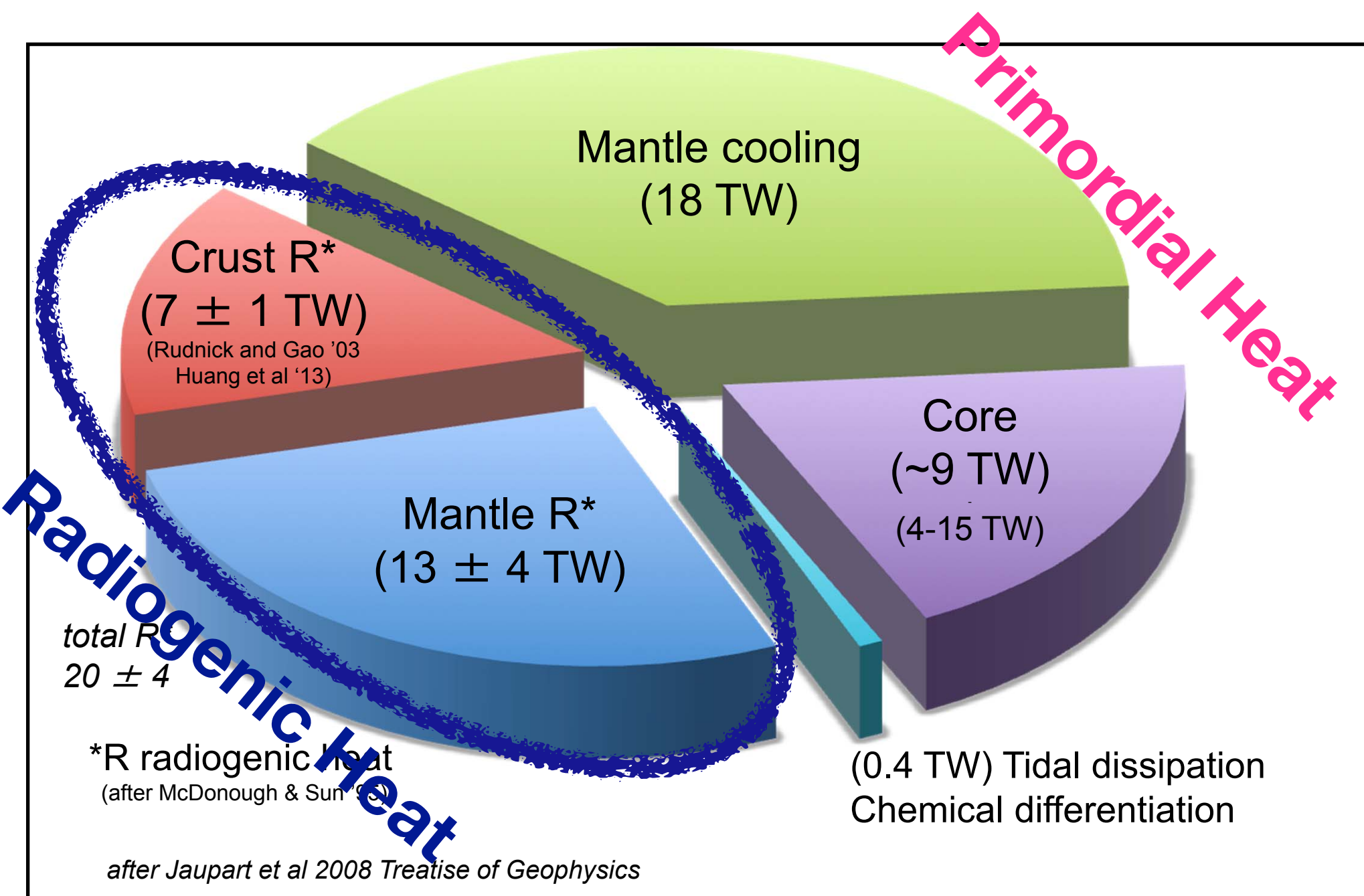
crust heat flux measurement & calculation



# ▶ Earth's Heat Balance

☑ Surface heat flow  
 **$46 \pm 3$  TW**

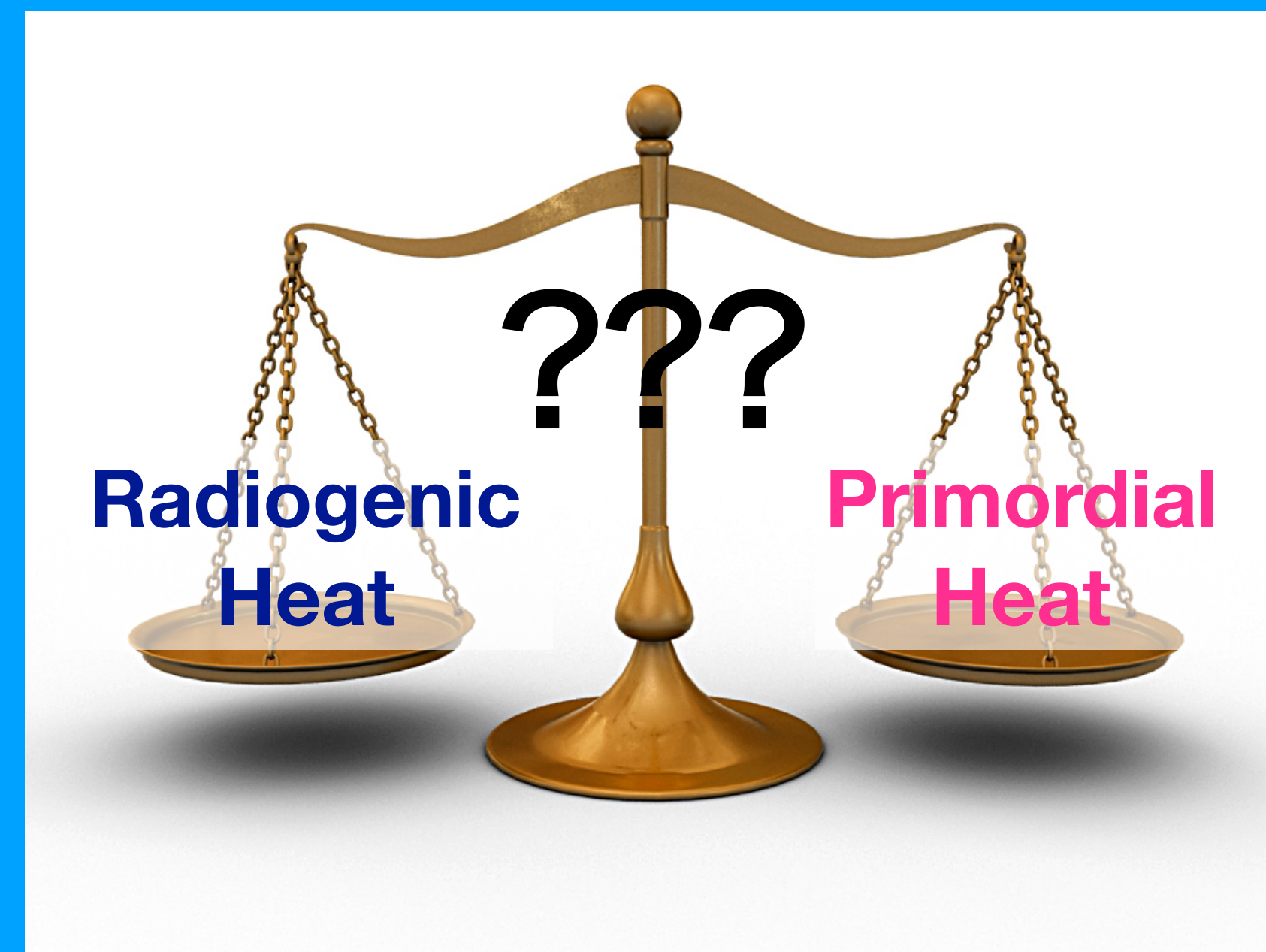
example of Earth model



## Primordial Heat

- \* Releases of gravitational energy through accretion or metallic core separation
- \* Latent heat from the growth of inner core

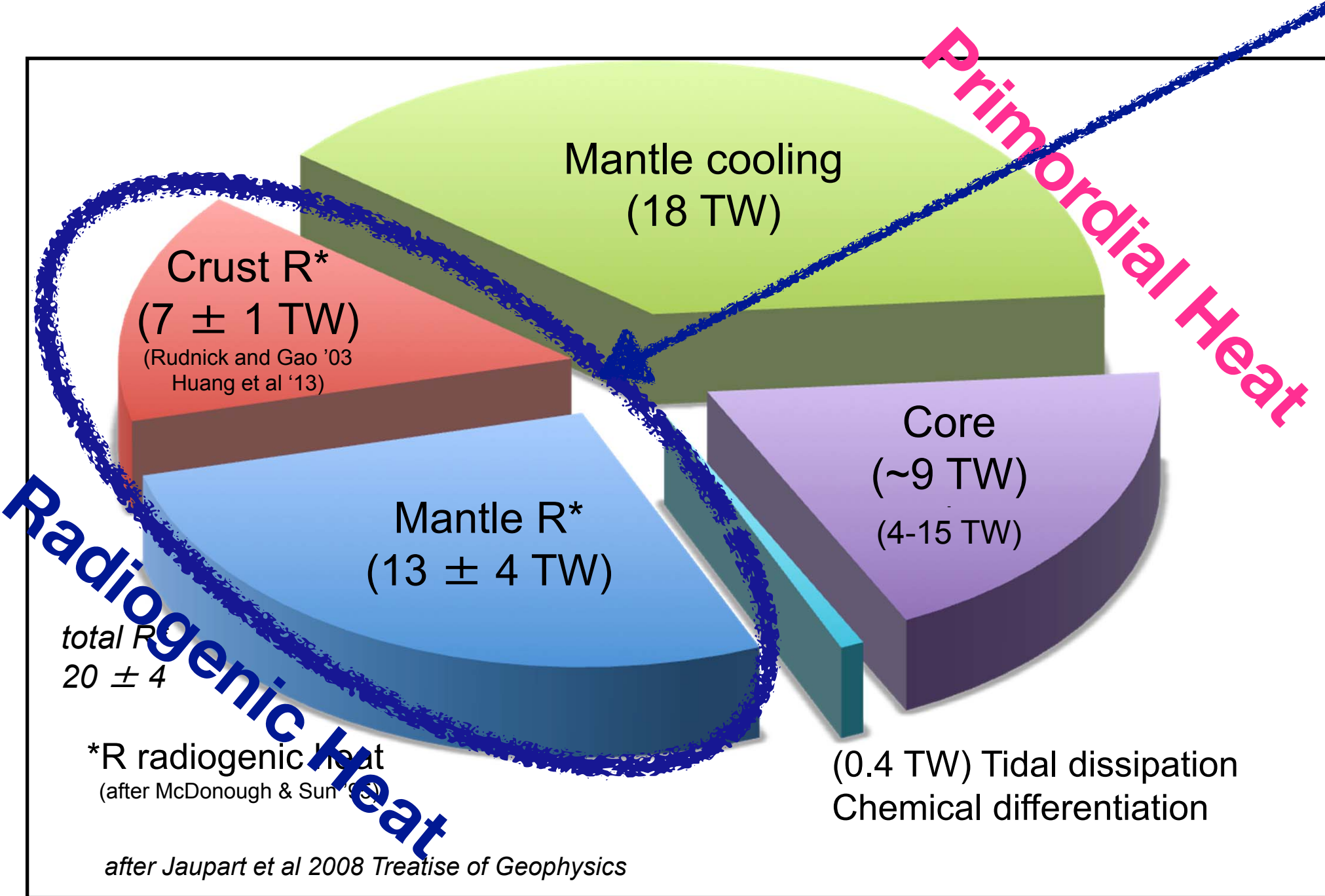
Q : How much radiogenic heat contributes to Earth's heat?



# ▶ Earth's Heat Balance

Surface heat flow  
**46 ± 3 TW**

example of Earth model



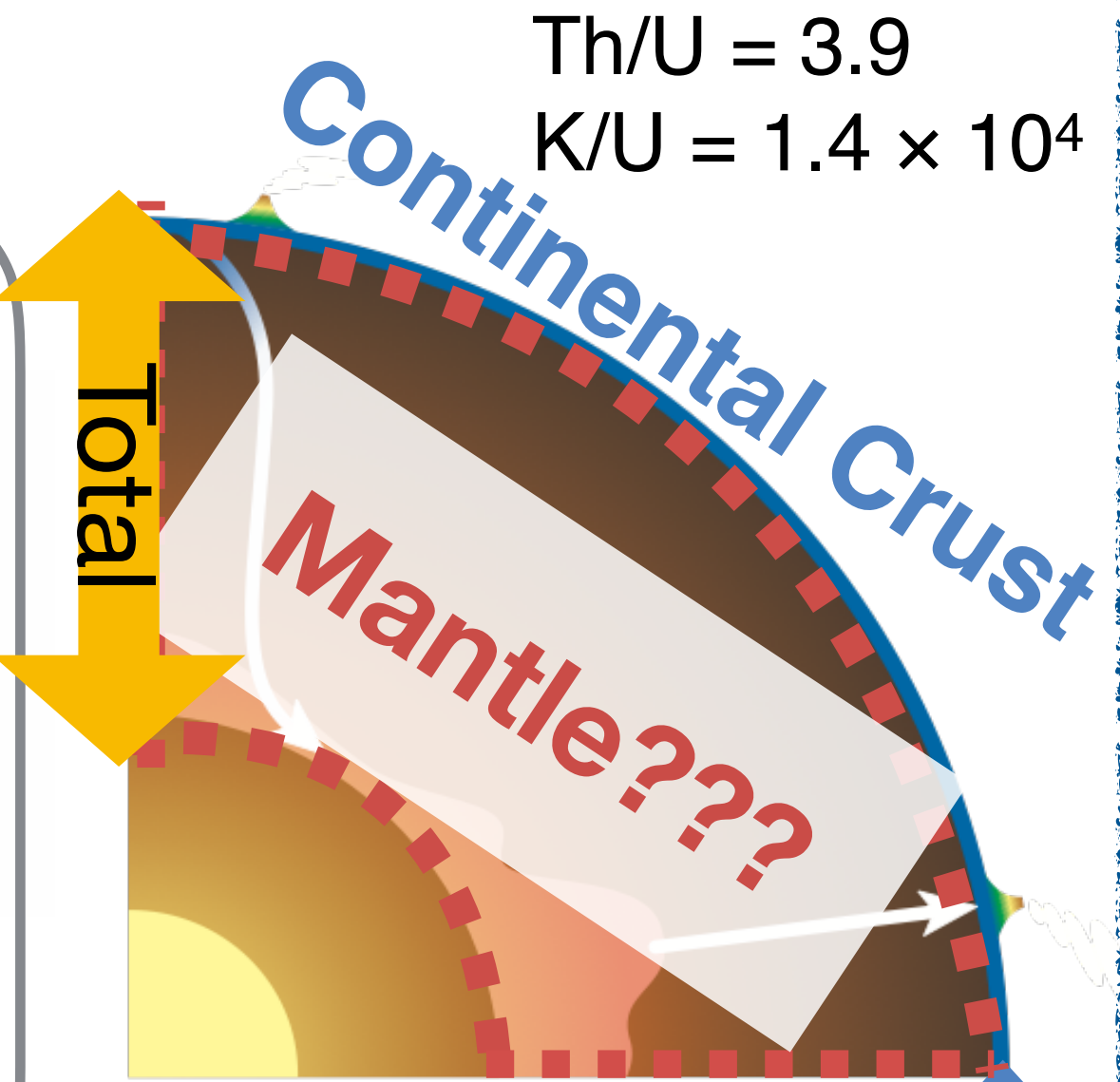
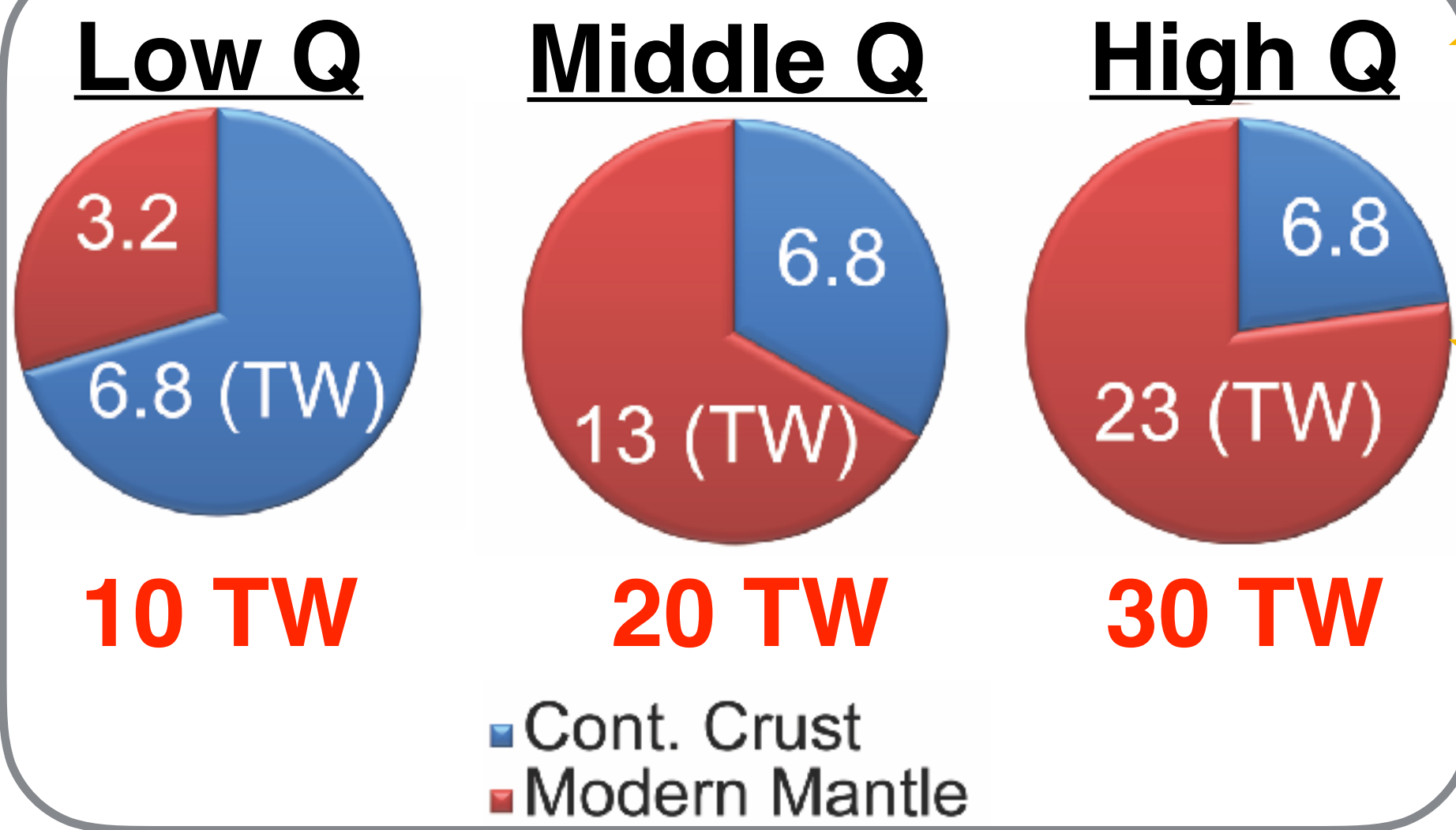
## Primordial Heat

- \* Releases of gravitational energy through accretion or metallic core separation
- \* Latent heat from the growth of inner core

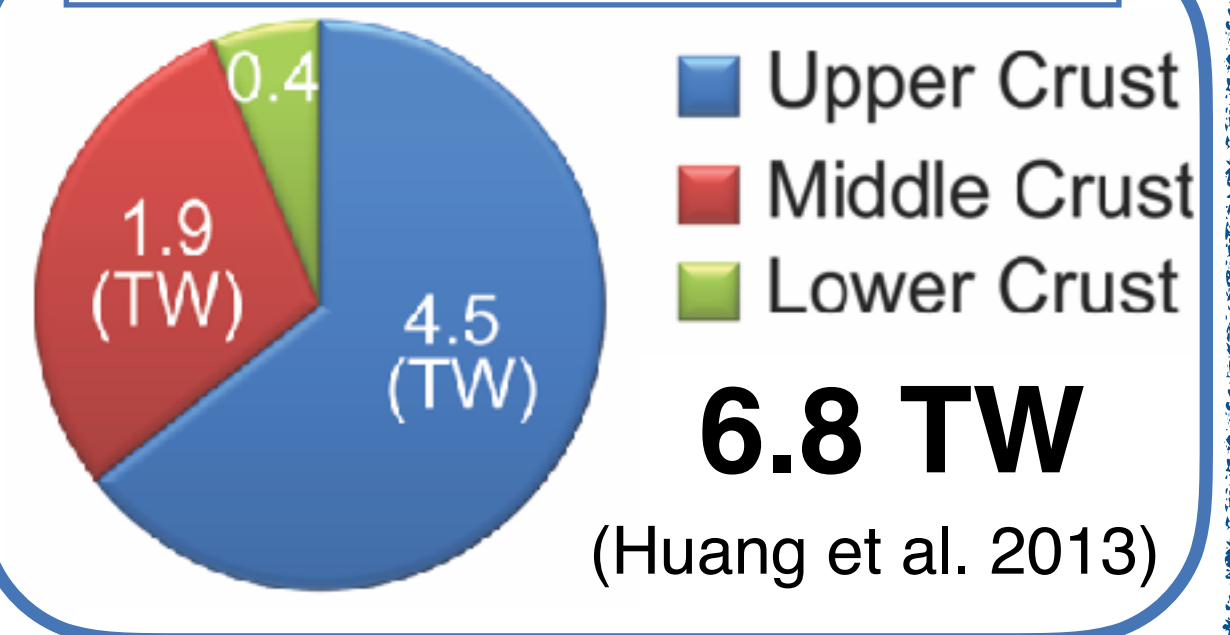
## Bulk Silicate Earth (BSE) models

composition of chondrite meteorite

**Total**  
 (Cont. Crust + Modern Mantle)



## Continental Crust



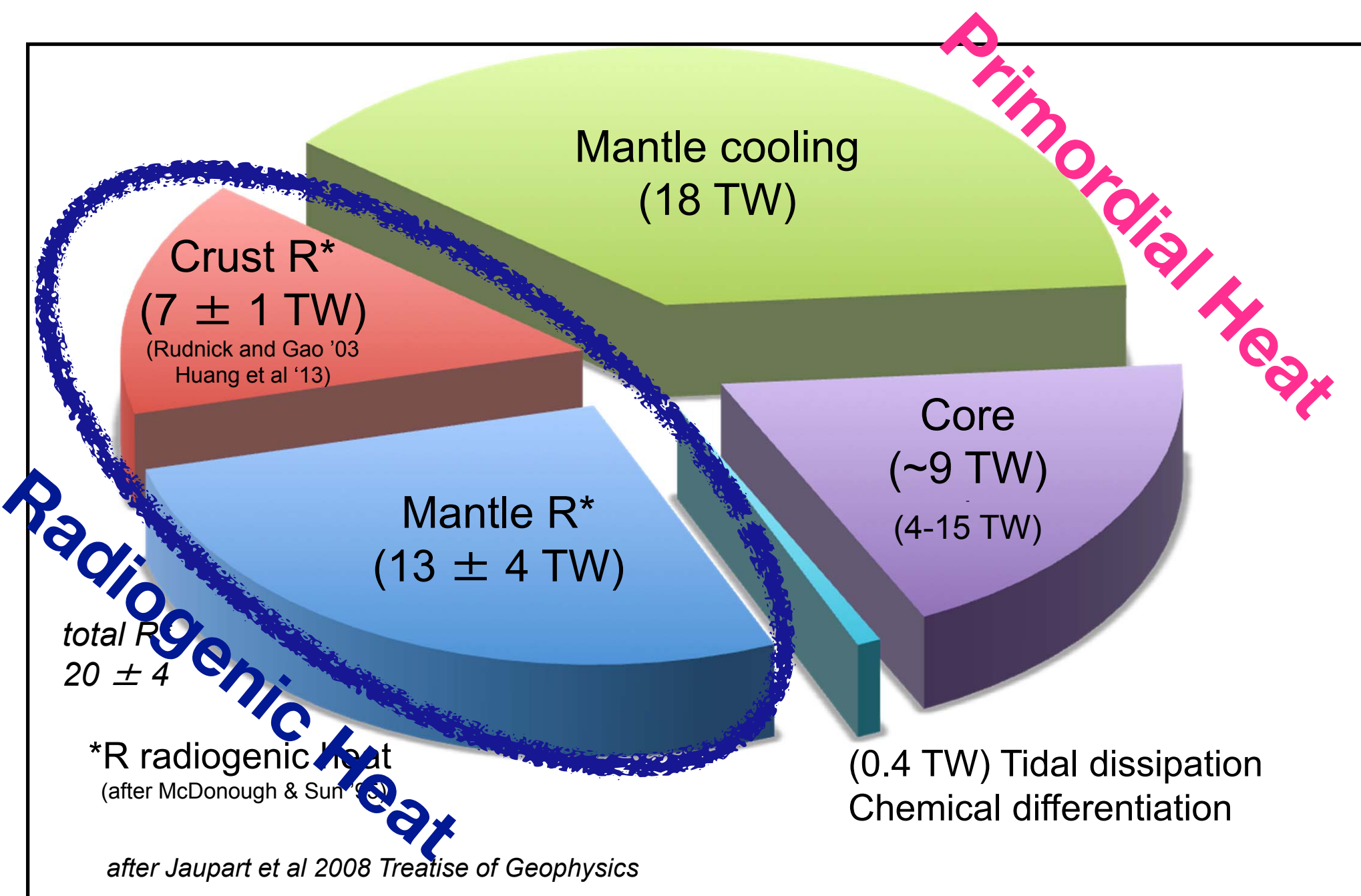
**Q : Which model can explain current Earth?**



# ▶ Earth's Heat Balance

☑ Surface heat flow  
 $46 \pm 3 \text{ TW}$

example of Earth model



## Primordial Heat

- \* Releases of gravitational energy through accretion or metallic core separation
- \* Latent heat from the growth of inner core

Q : How much radiogenic heat contributes to Earth's heat?

Q : Which model can explain current Earth?

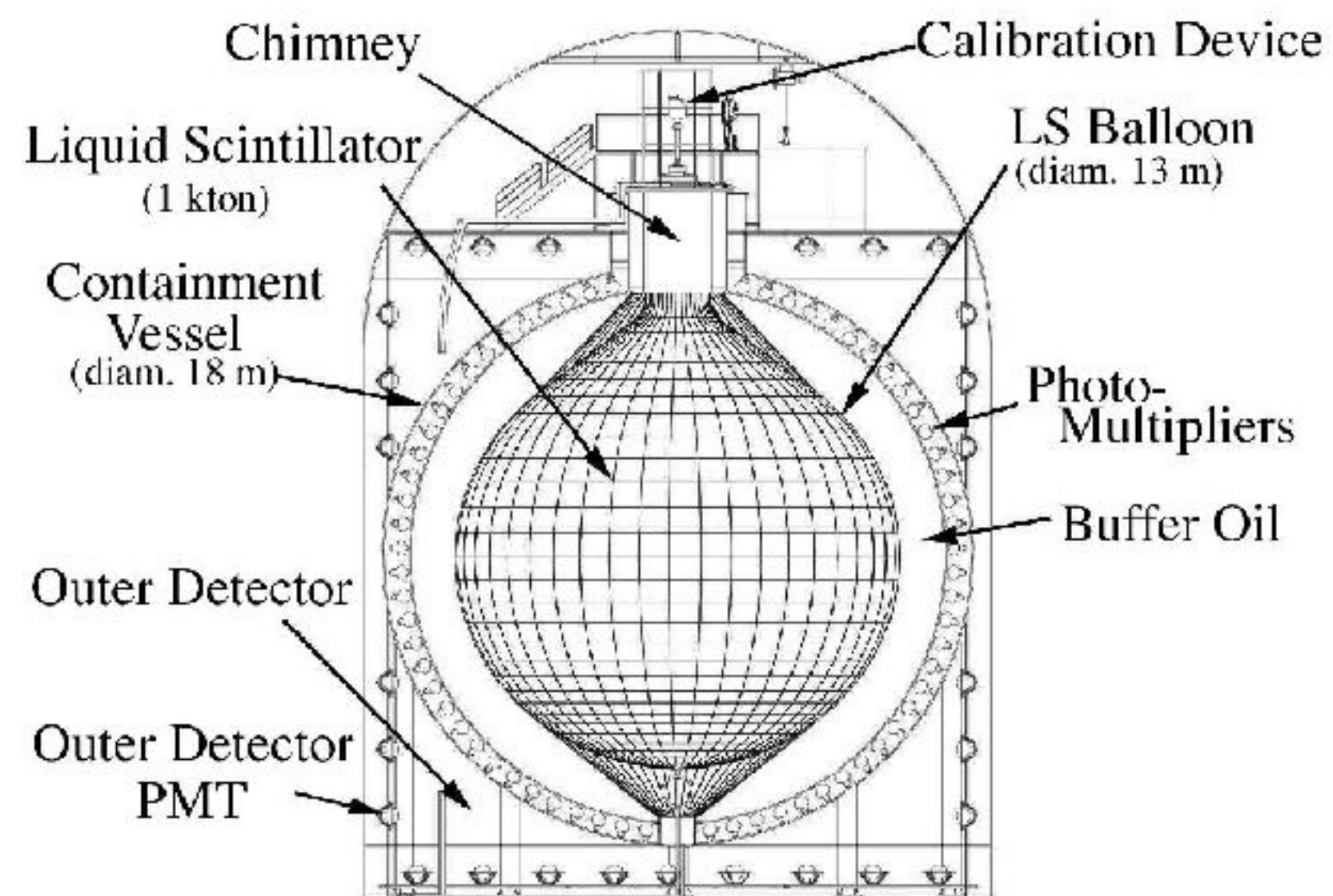
Geo-neutrino can directly define power to drive the Earth's engine

# Contents

1. Introduction
- 2. Results from KamLAND and Borexino**
3. Future Prospects
4. Summary

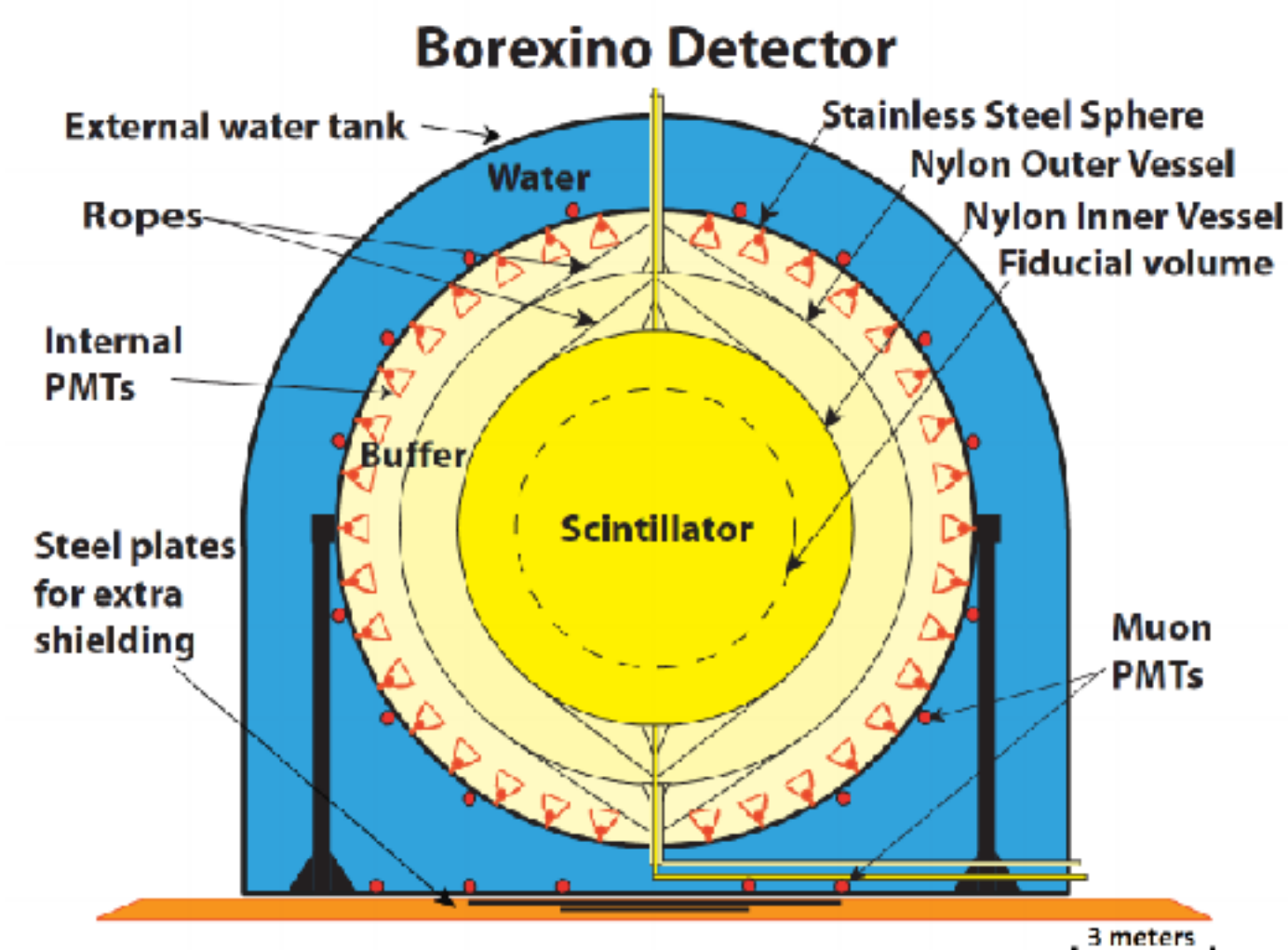
Two running liquid scintillator (LS) experiments have measured geoneutrinos.

## KamLAND (Japan, 2002~)



- \* LS : 1000 t
- \* Depth : 2700 m.w.e.
- \* expected event ratio  
reactor/geo  $\sim 6.7$  (up to 2010)  
 $\sim 0.4$  (2011~)  
w/o Japanese reactors

## Borexino (Italy, 2007~)



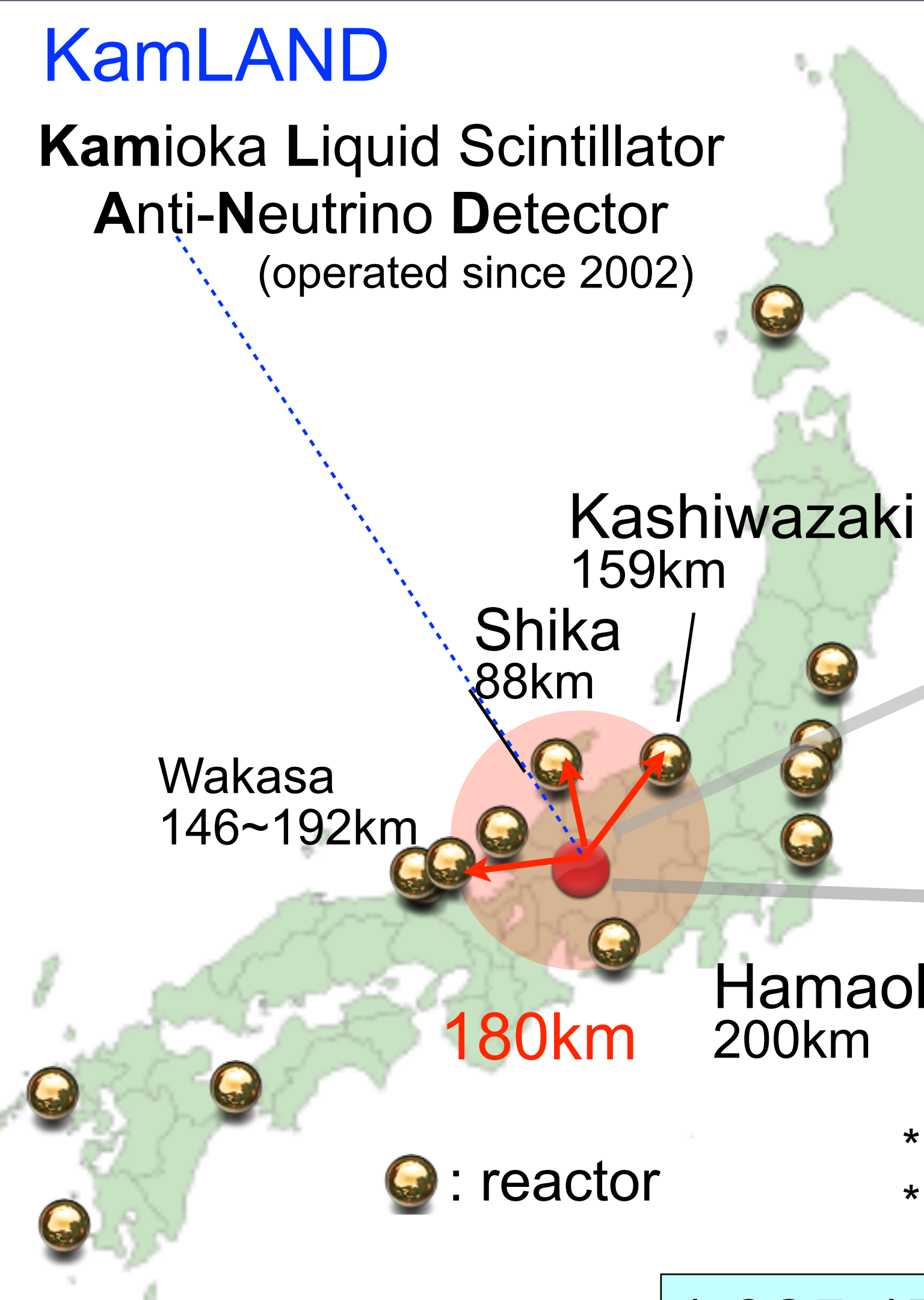
- \* LS : 280 t
- \* Depth : 3600 m.w.e.
- \* expected event ratio  
reactor/geo  $\sim 0.3$  (up to 2010)

## KamLAND

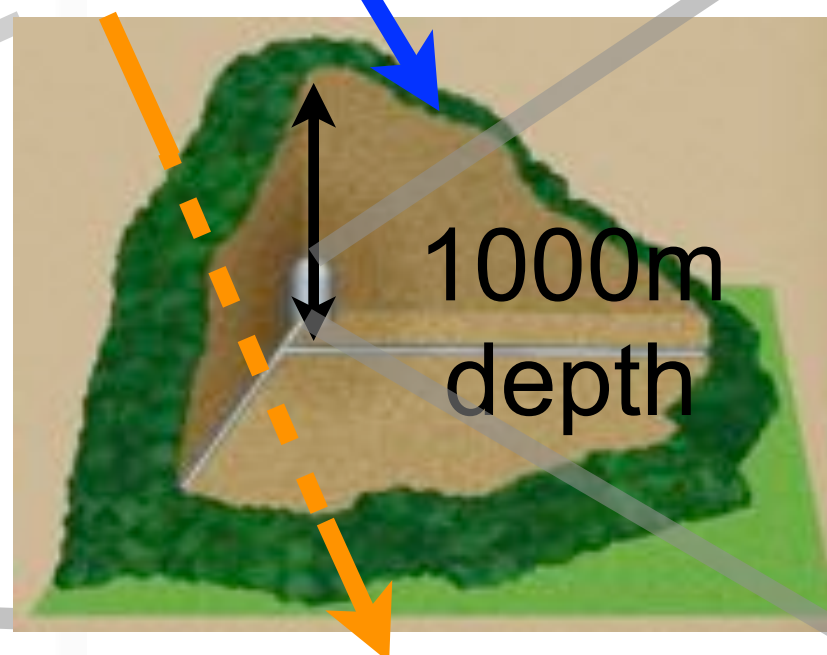
**Kamioka Liquid Scintillator  
Anti-Neutrino Detector**  
(operated since 2002)



Kamioka Mine



neutrino cosmic ray



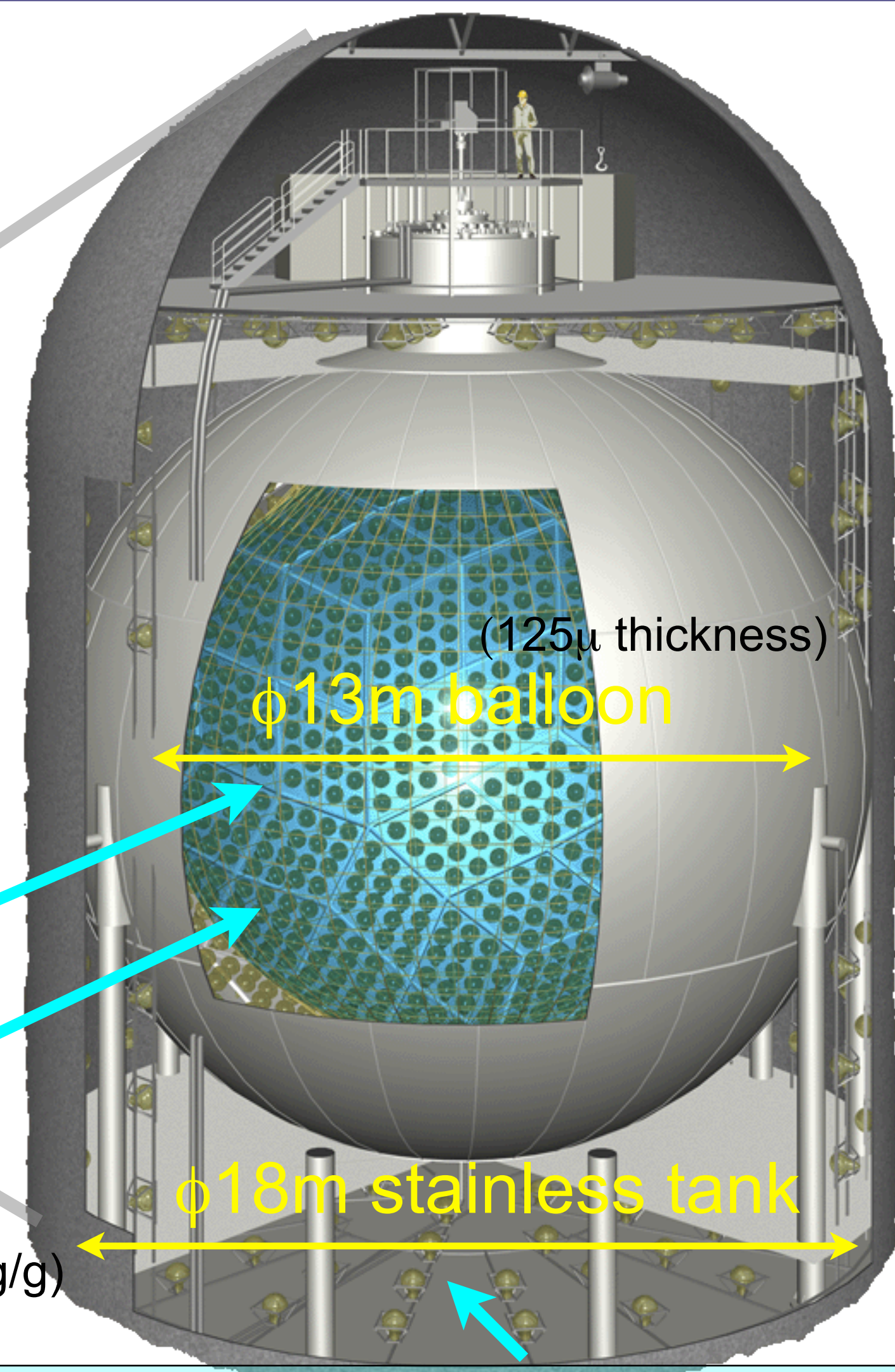
1000m  
depth

**1,000t Liquid Scintillator**

\* Dodecane (80%) Pseudocumene (20%) PPO (1.36 g/l)  
\* extremely low impurity ( $^{238}\text{U}:3.5 \times 10^{-18}\text{g/g}$ ,  $^{232}\text{Th}:5.2 \times 10^{-17}\text{g/g}$ )

**1,325 17inch + 554 20inch PMTs**

\* Photo coverage 34%



(125 $\mu$  thickness)  
**φ13m balloon**

**φ18m stainless tank**

**Water Cherenkov Outer Detector**

\* Muon veto

Scientists : ~50

Institutes :

5 Japan

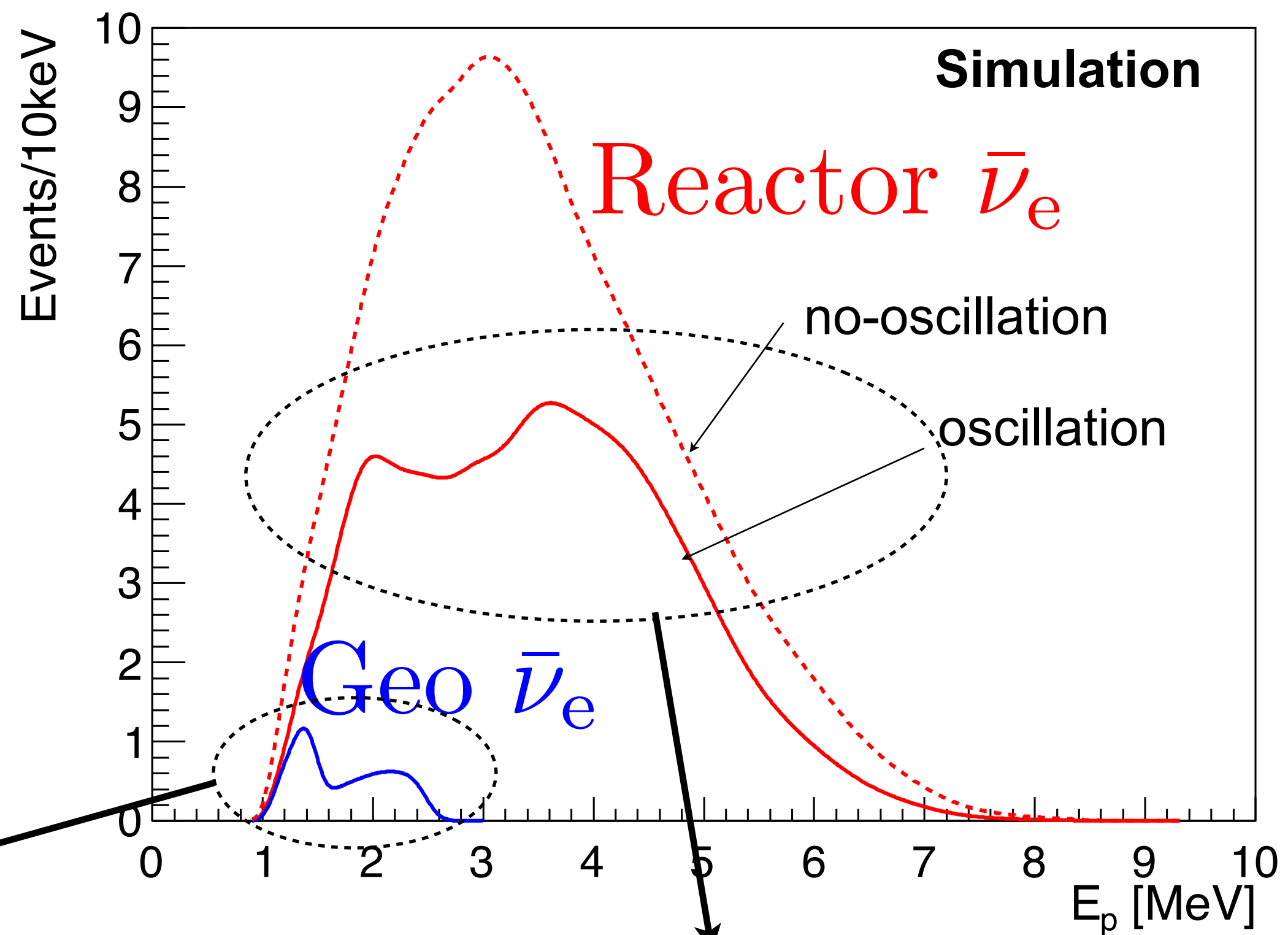
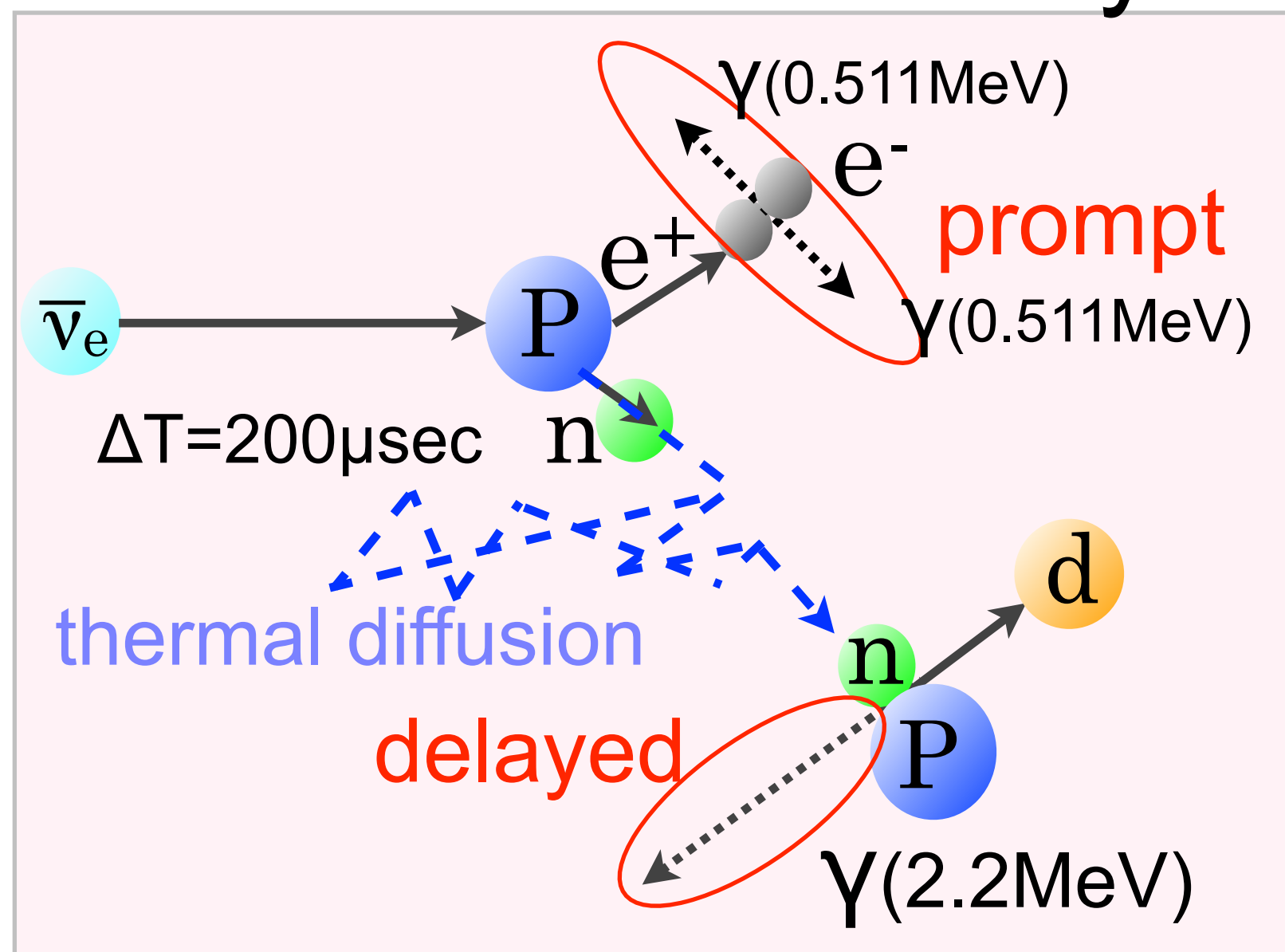
7 US

1 Europe

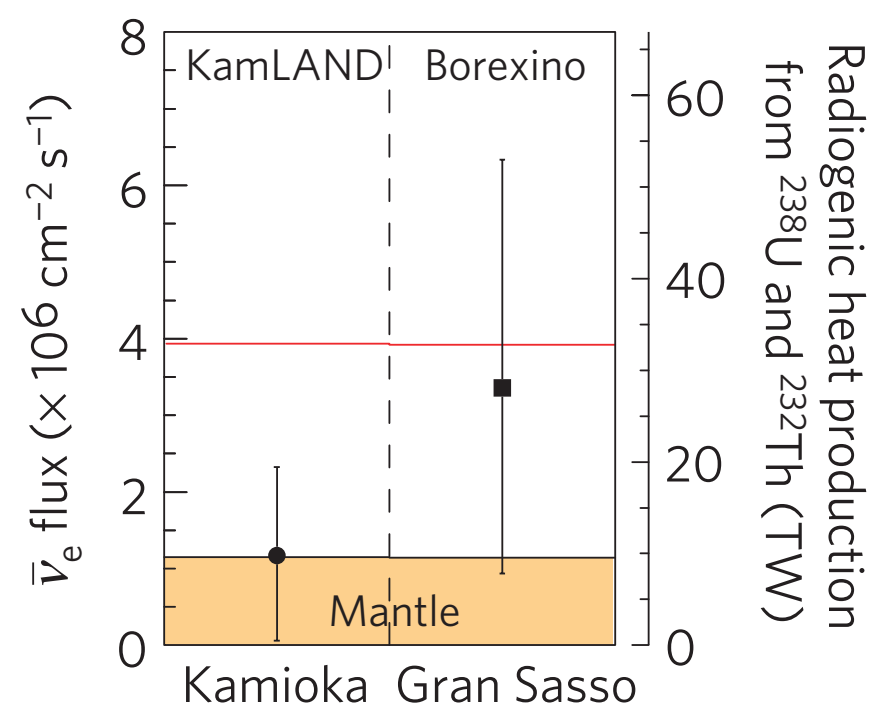


Sep. 2018, MIT, Boston

## inverse-beta decay

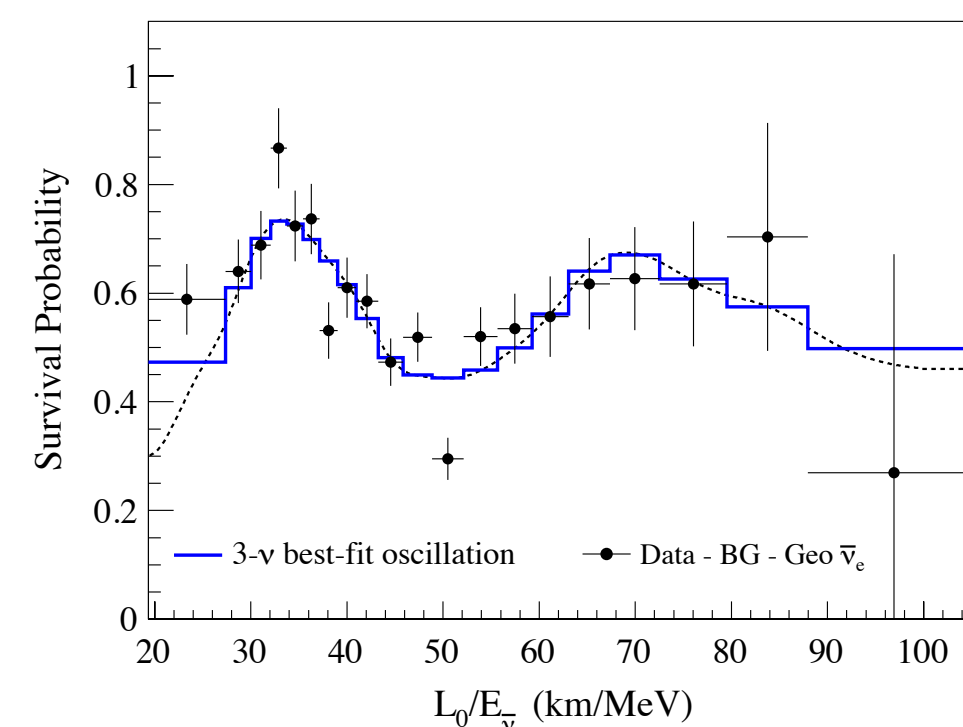


## Geoneutrinos : Neutrino Application

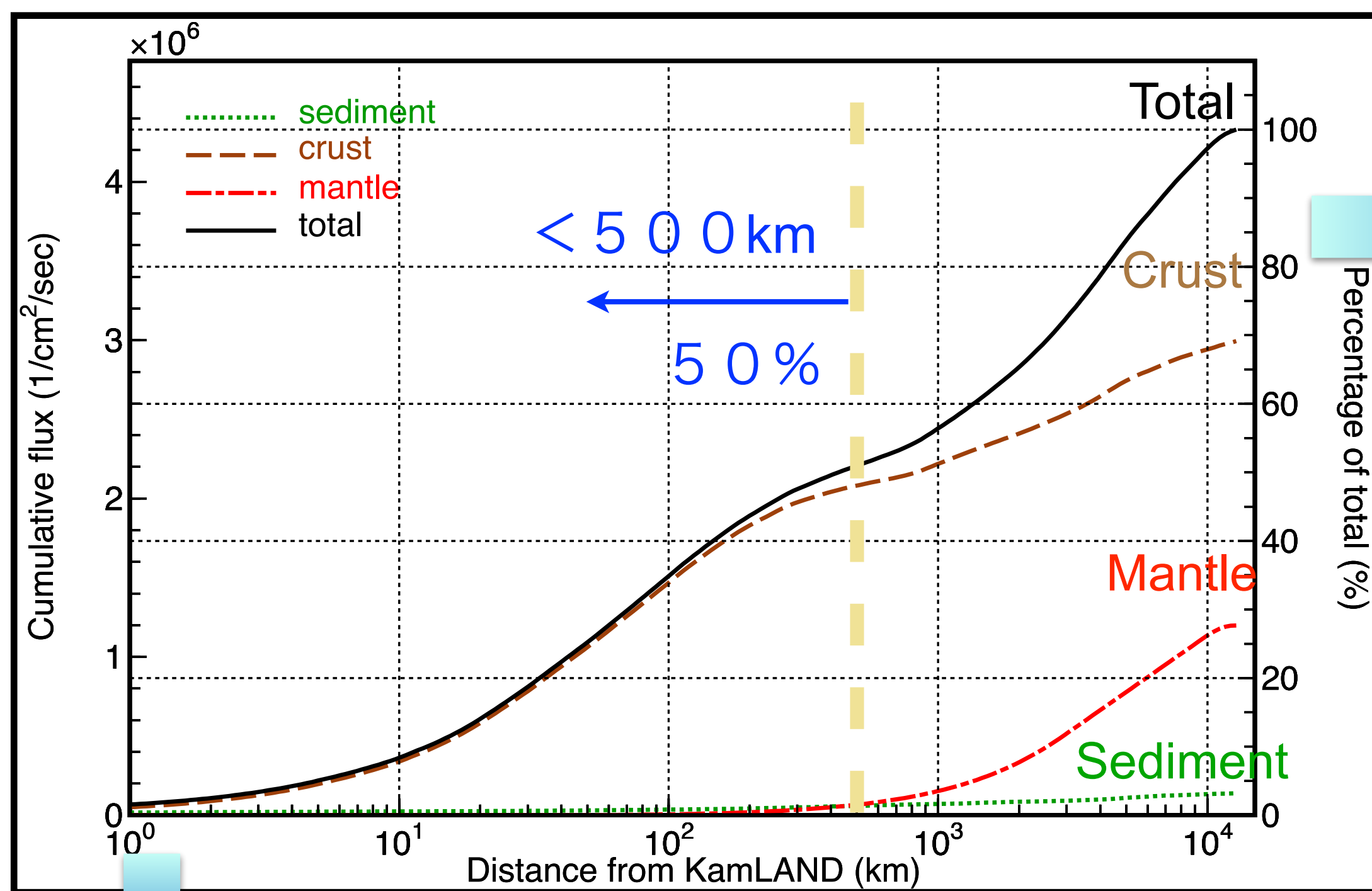


- Direct measurement of radiogenic heat contribution

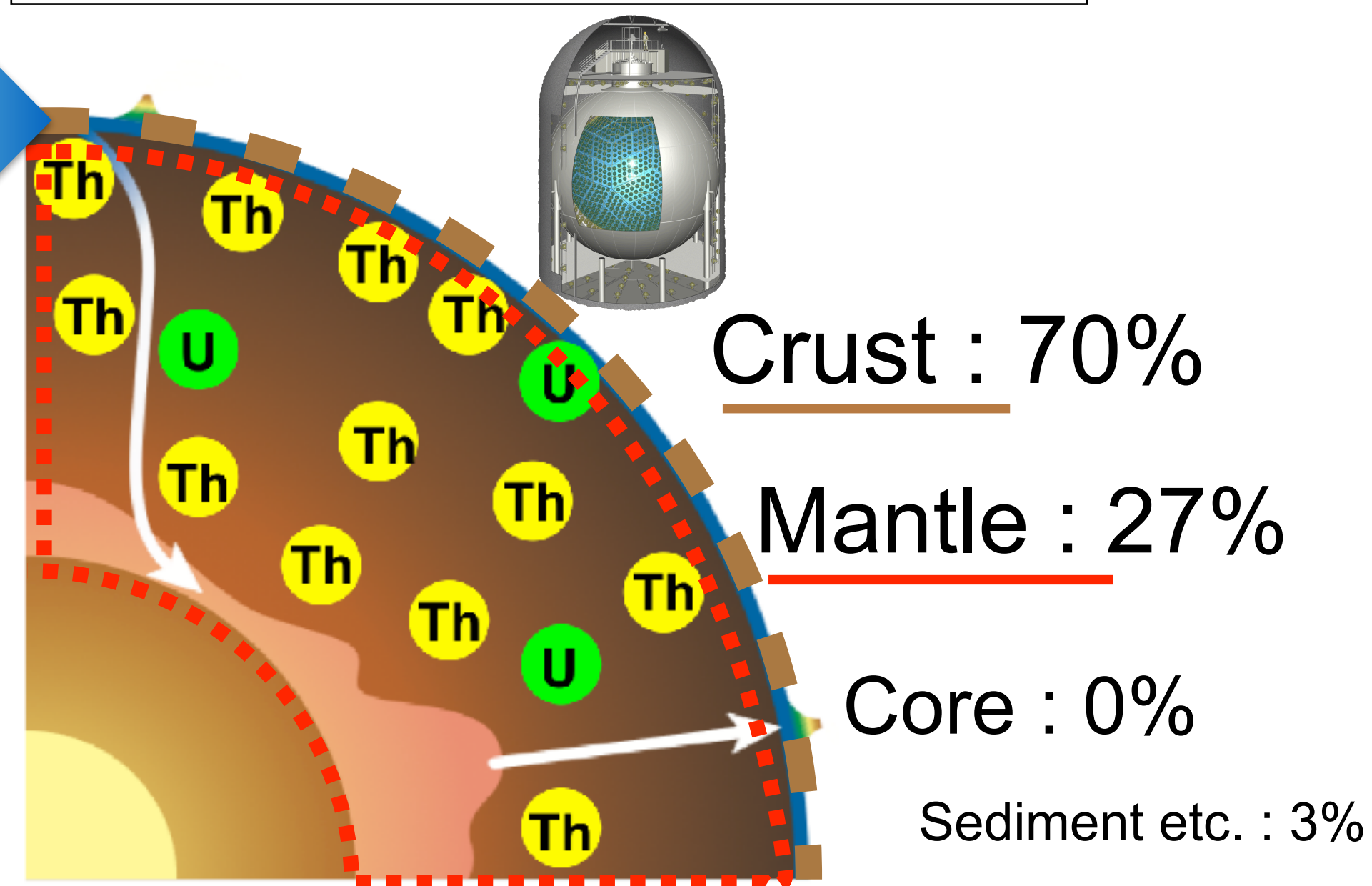
## Neutrino Property Study



- Signature of neutrino oscillation
- Precise measurement of oscillation parameters



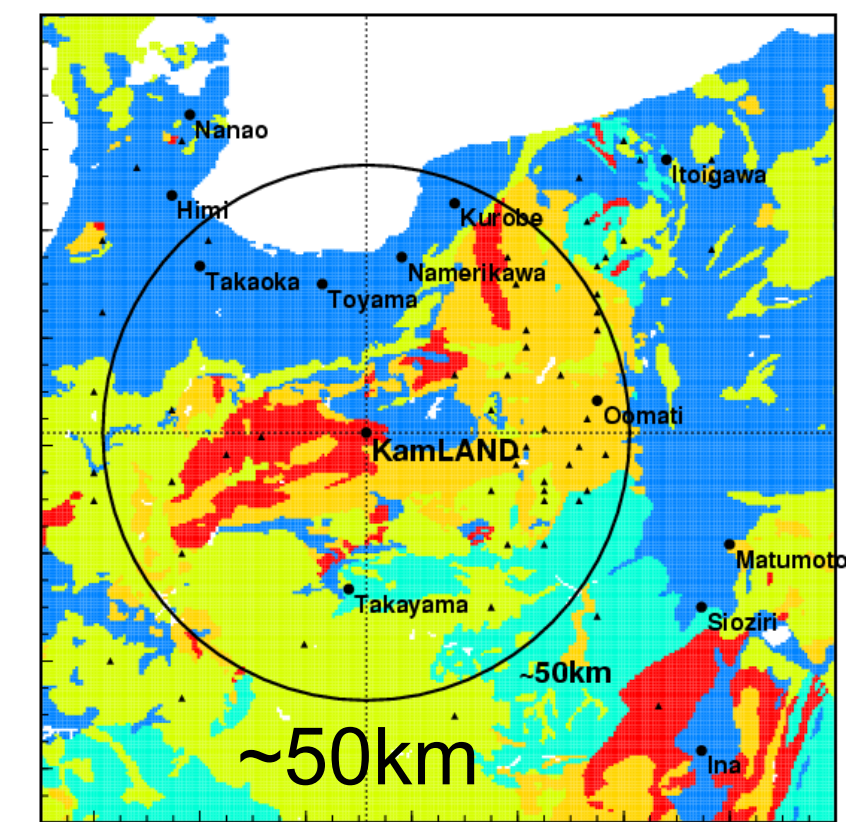
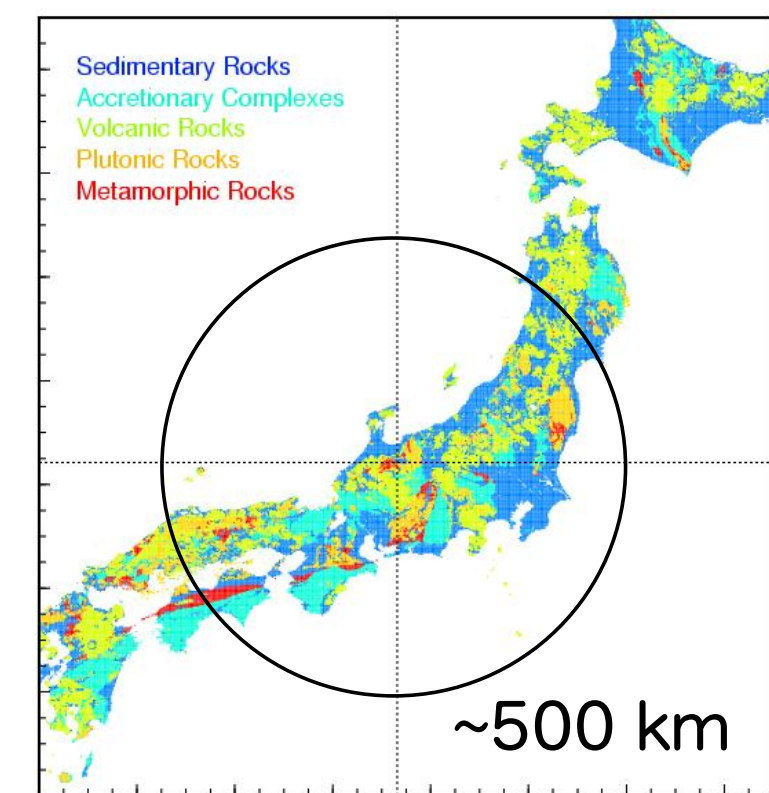
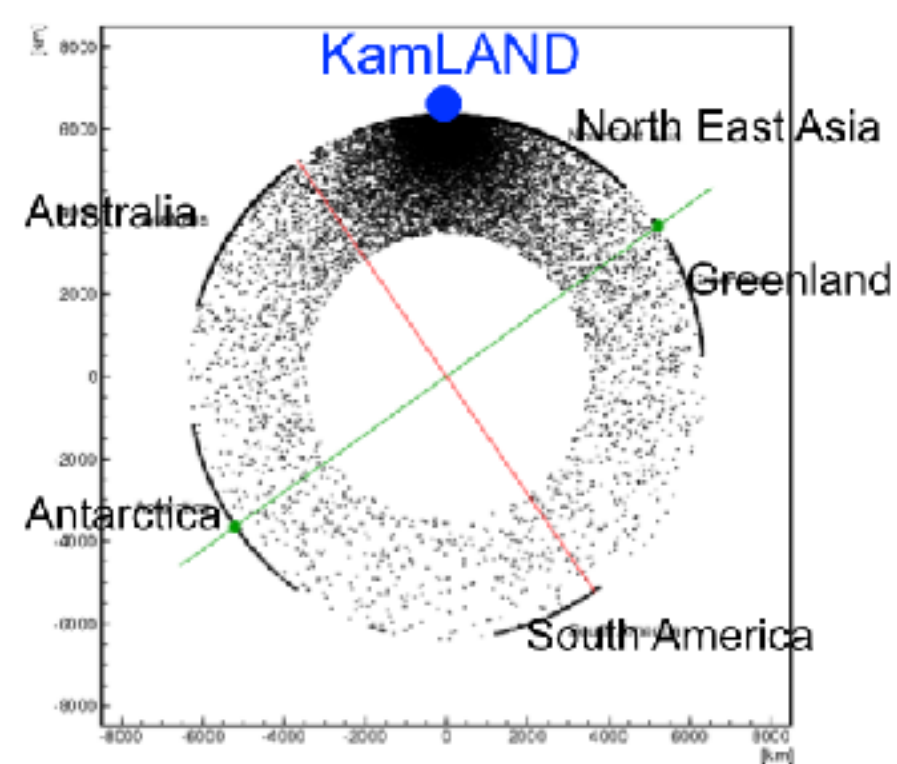
Contributions from each part

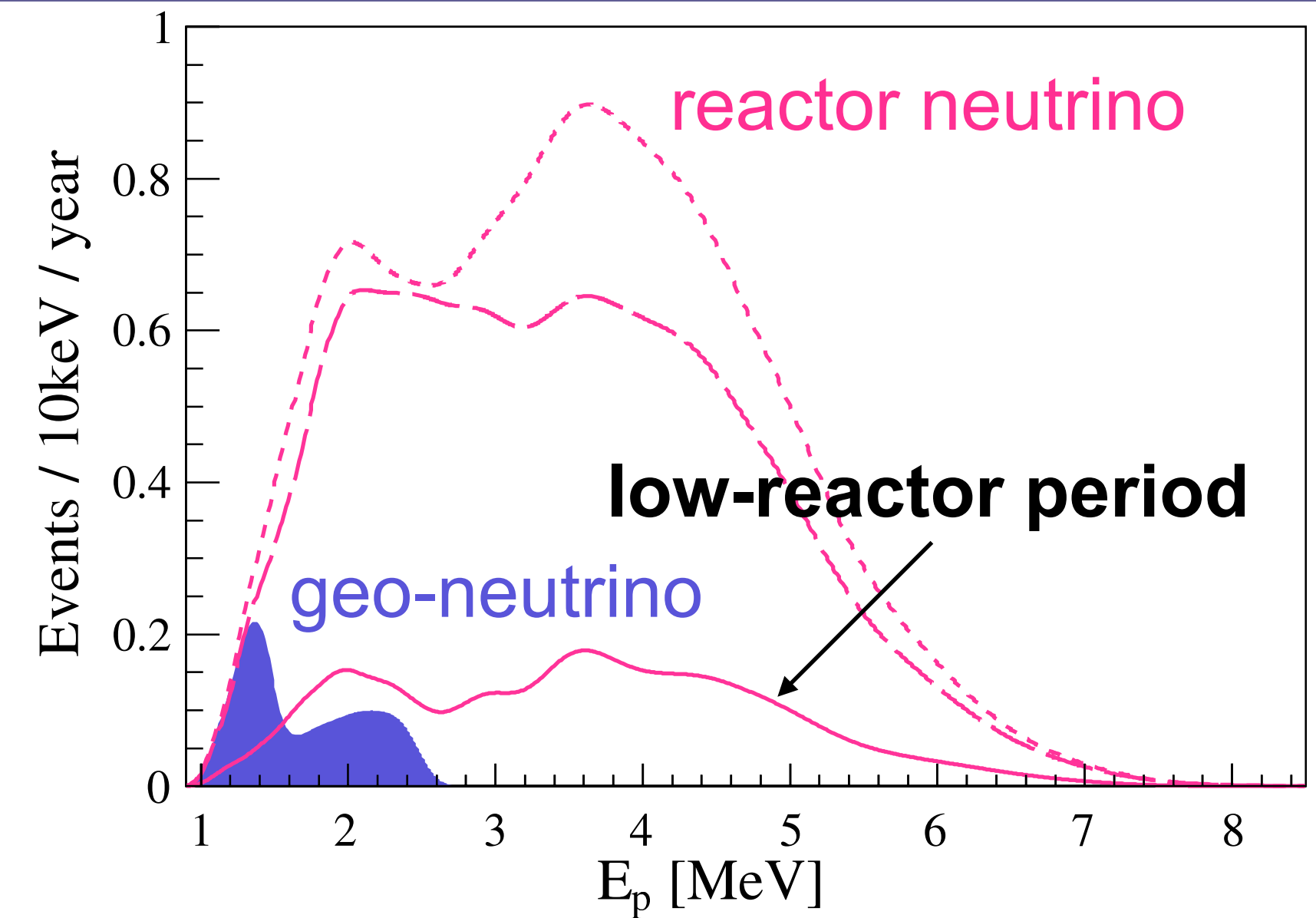
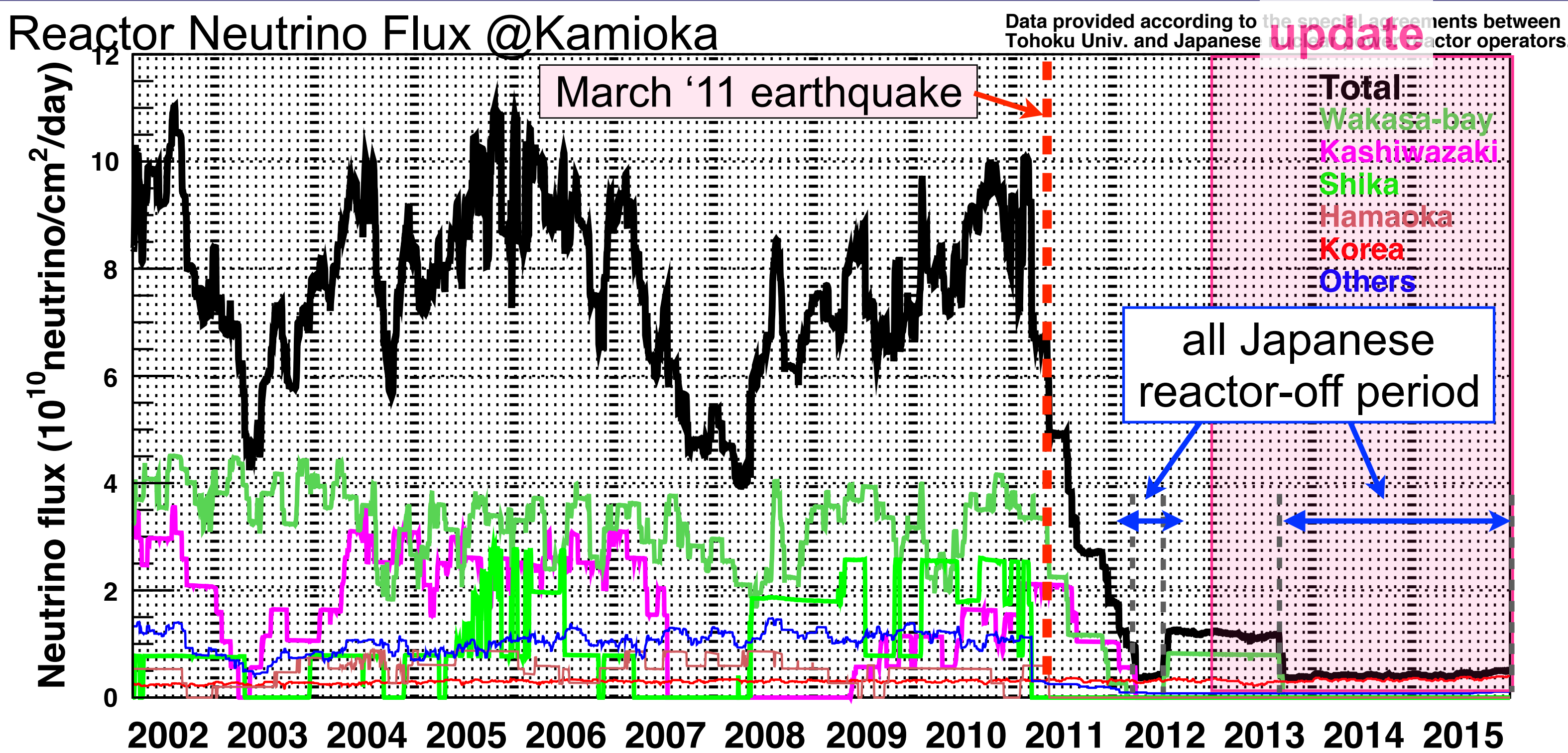


Contributions from each area

- **50%: distance < 500km**
- 25%: distance < 50km
- 1~2%: from Kamioka mine

**Important to understand Japanese geology**





Reactor neutrino background is decreased significantly.

*Preliminary*

2013 data-set : 2991 days  
 $4.90 \times 10^{32}$  proton-year

2016 data-set : 3901 days  
 $6.39 \times 10^{32}$  proton-year

PRD 88, 033001 (2013)

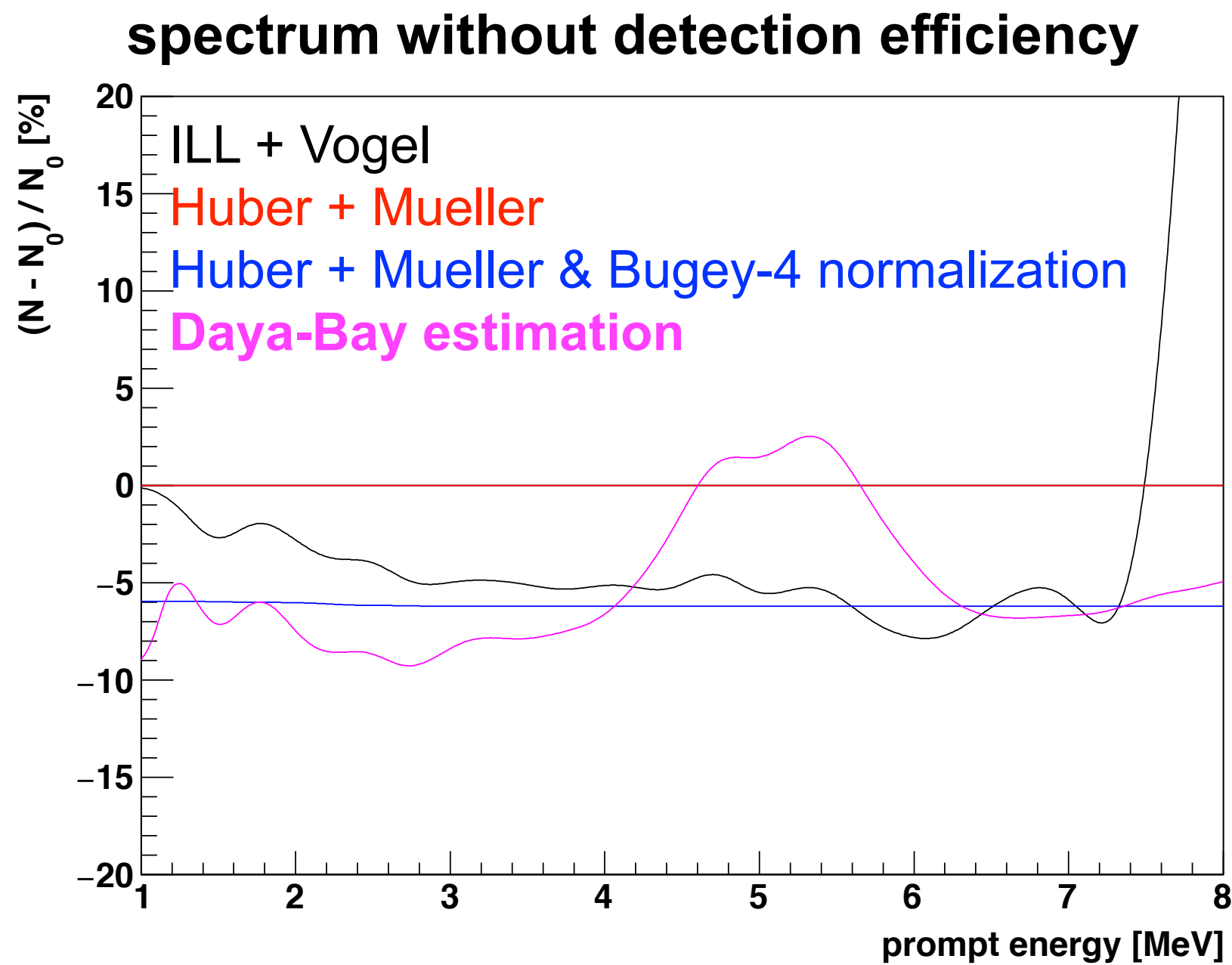
advantages {

- 1.3 times of 2013 data-set
- low-reactor operation period : ~3.5 years livetime
- all Japanese reactor-off period : ~2.0 years livetime

Precise understanding of reactor neutrino spectrum enhances geo-neutrino measurement.



*2016 Preliminary Result*



- Reactor neutrino spectrum for KamLAND analysis

[2013 paper](#) : Huber + Mueller & Bugey-4 normalization

[2016 preliminary](#) : **Daya Bay estimation**

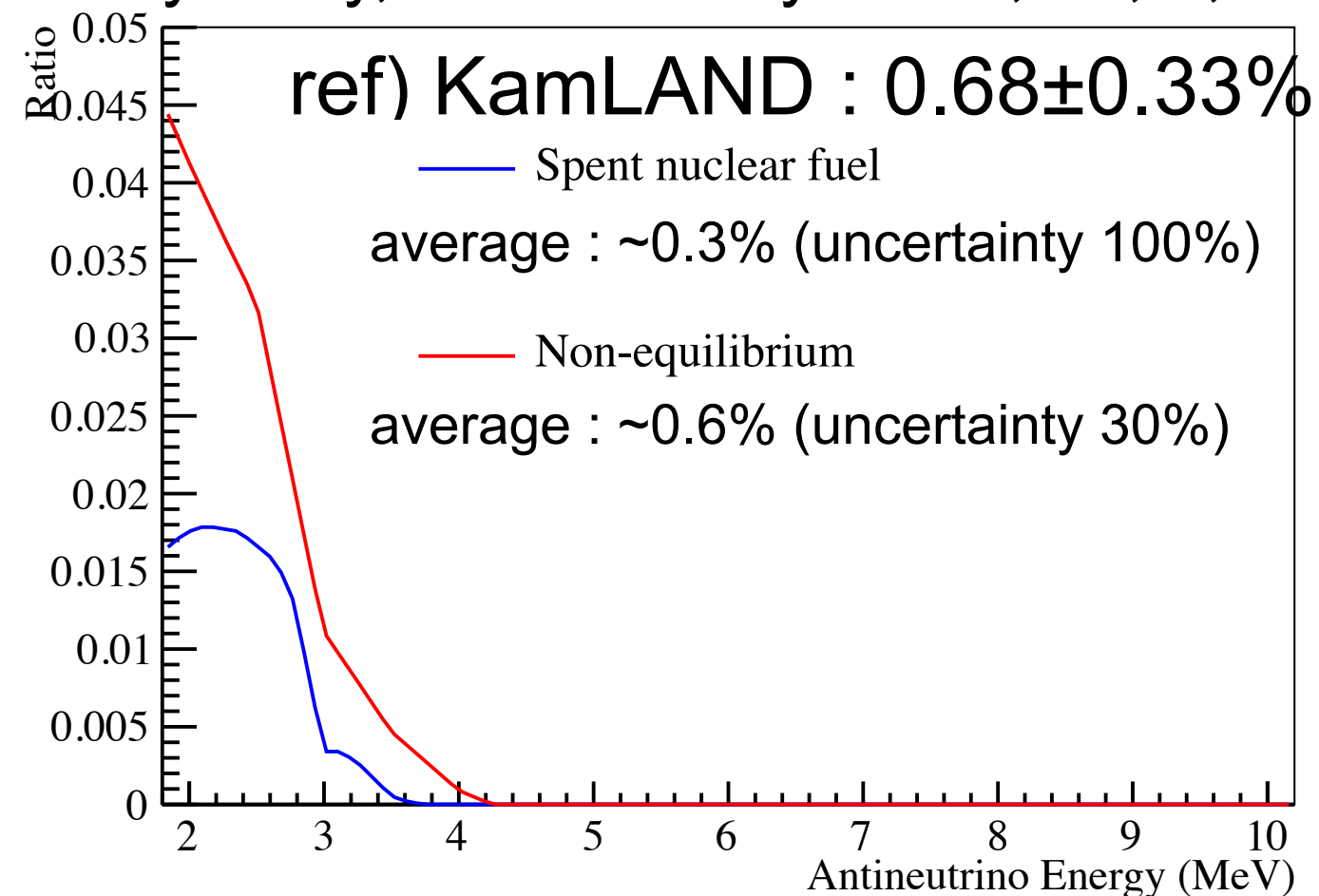
$$\sigma_f(\text{cm}^2/\text{fission}) = (5.92 \pm 0.12) \times 10^{-43} \quad (\text{uncertainty : } 2.03\%)$$

\* Excess at 4-6 MeV : **~+5%**.

\* In the publication, Daya Bay also shows contributions from “spent nuclear fuel” and “Non-equilibrium”.

→ We **subtract** these contributions from Daya-Bay spectrum, and then **add**

Daya Bay, Chinese Physics C, 41, 1, 013002 (2017) [KamLAND evaluation](#) from history of fission rate ( $^{90}\text{Sr}$ ,  $^{16}\text{Ru}$ ,  $^{144}\text{Ce}$ ,  $^{97}\text{Zr}$ ,  $^{132}\text{I}$ ,  $^{93}\text{Y}$ )

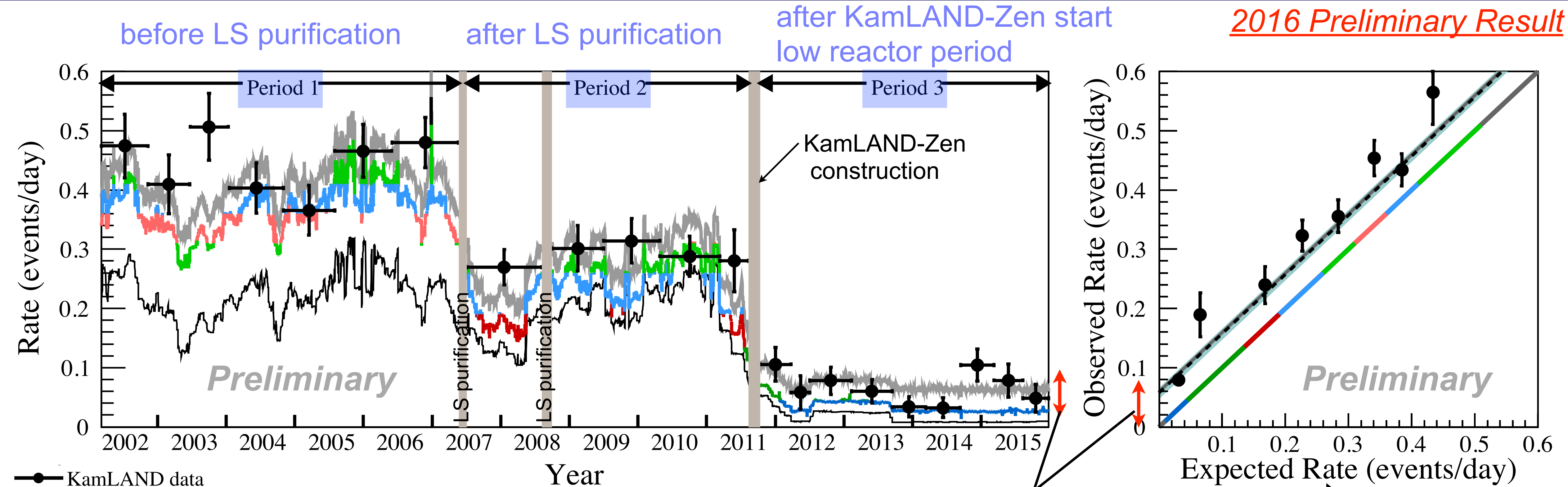


- We confirmed that :

4-6 MeV excess has no impact on the geo-neutrino results.

effect of reactor spectrum uncertainty is much smaller than the statistical uncertainty of geo-neutrino events.

2016 Preliminary Result



- KamLAND data
- Expected reactor  $\bar{\nu}_e$  + backgrounds + geo  $\bar{\nu}_e$
- Expected reactor  $\bar{\nu}_e$  + backgrounds
- Expected reactor  $\bar{\nu}_e$

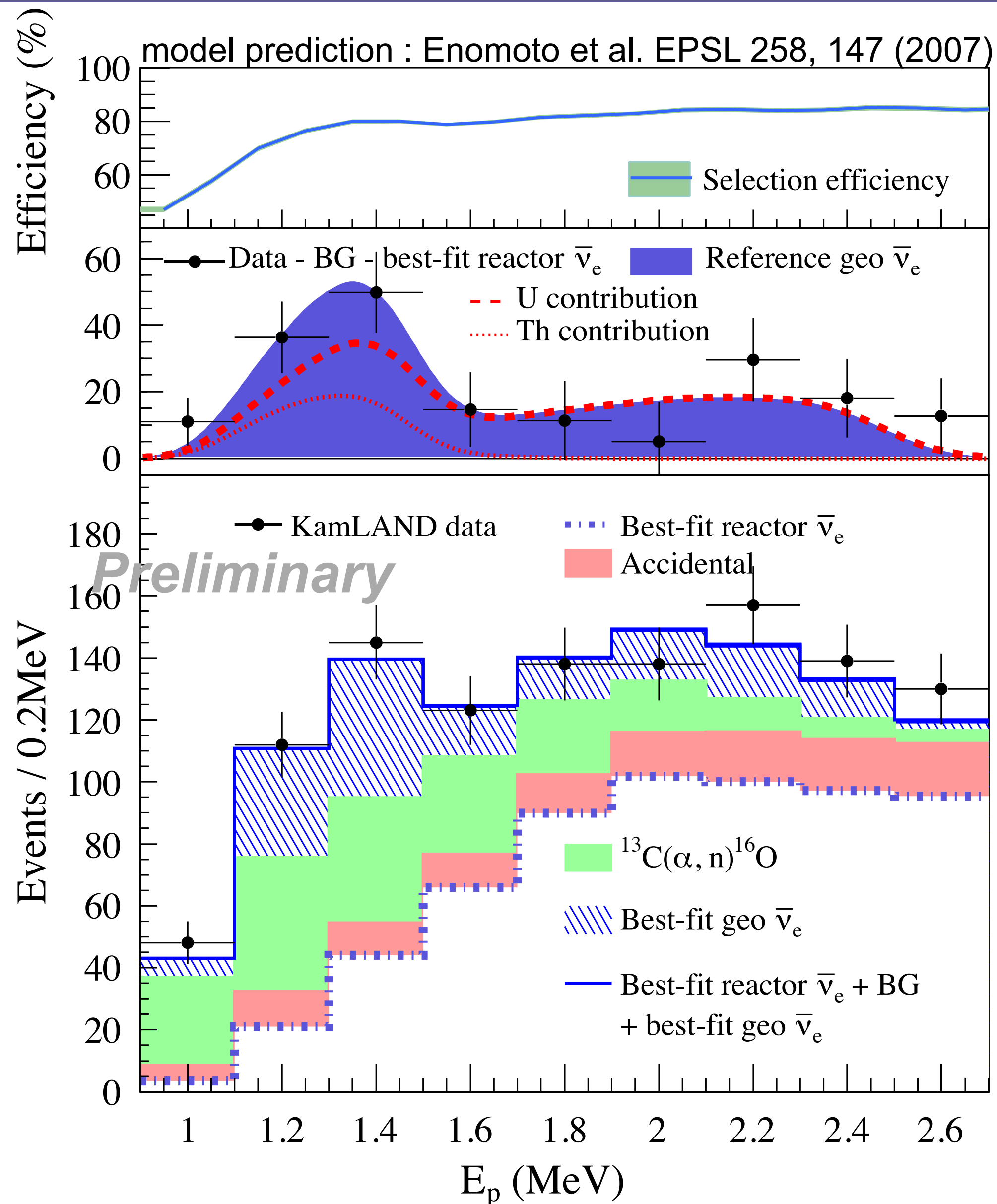
constant contribution of geo-neutrino

reactor anti-neutrino + other backgrounds

- Backgrounds :
  - LS purification → non-neutrino backgrounds reduction
  - Earthquake → reactor neutrino reduction

- Constant contribution of geo-neutrino
  - Time information is useful to extract the geo-neutrino signal

*2016 Preliminary Result*



Livetime : 3900.9 days

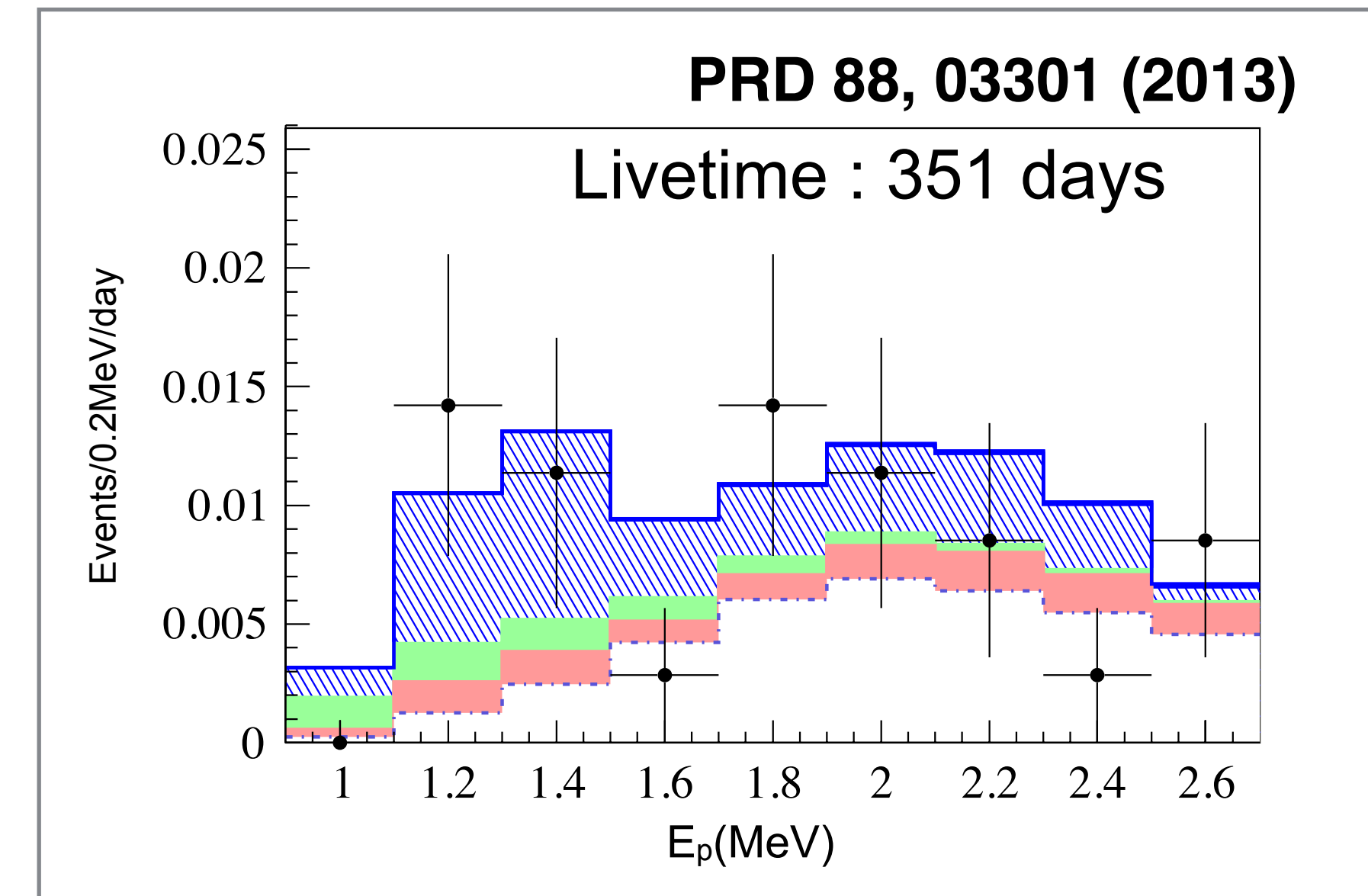
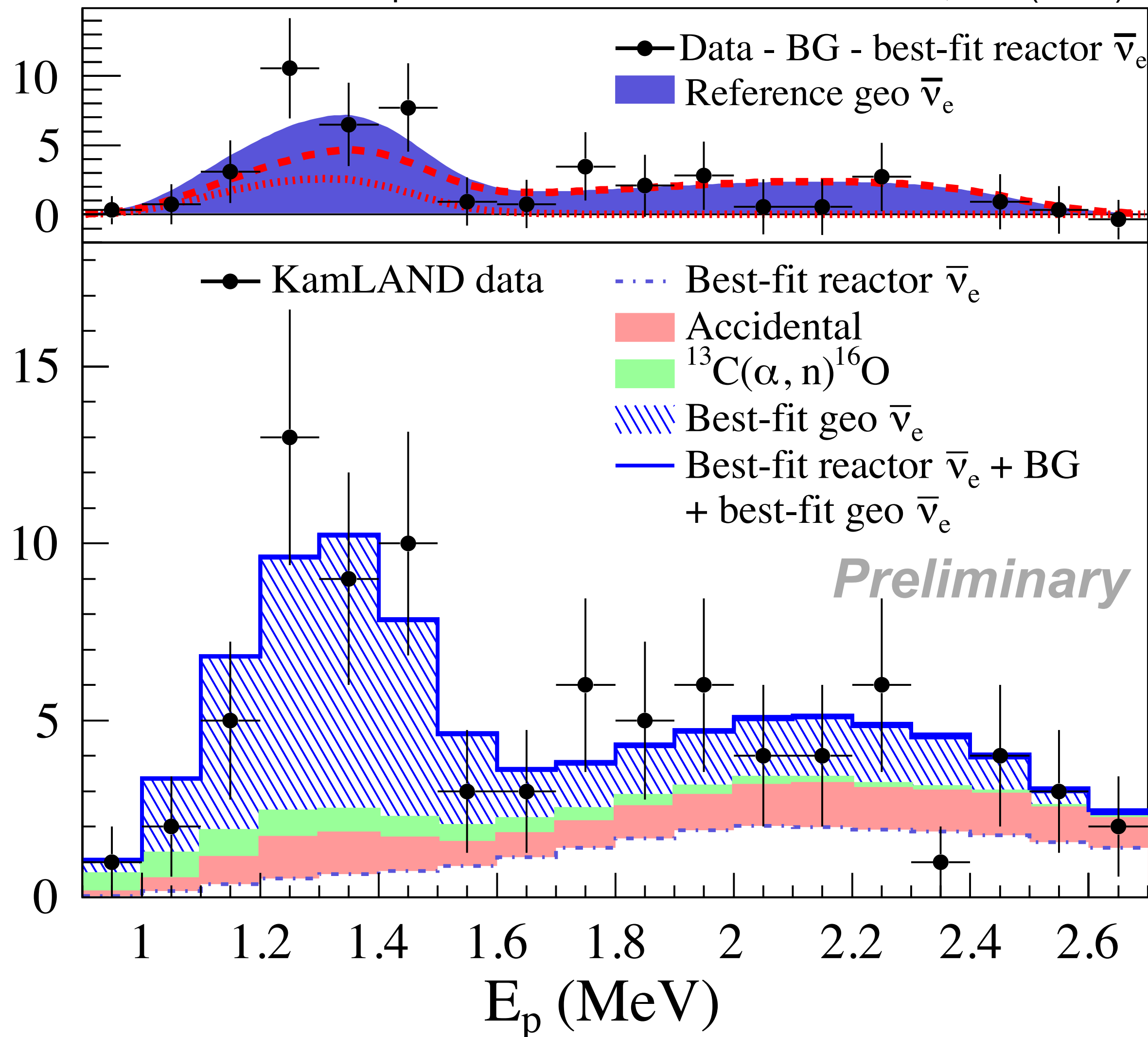
Candidate : 1130 ev

Background Summary

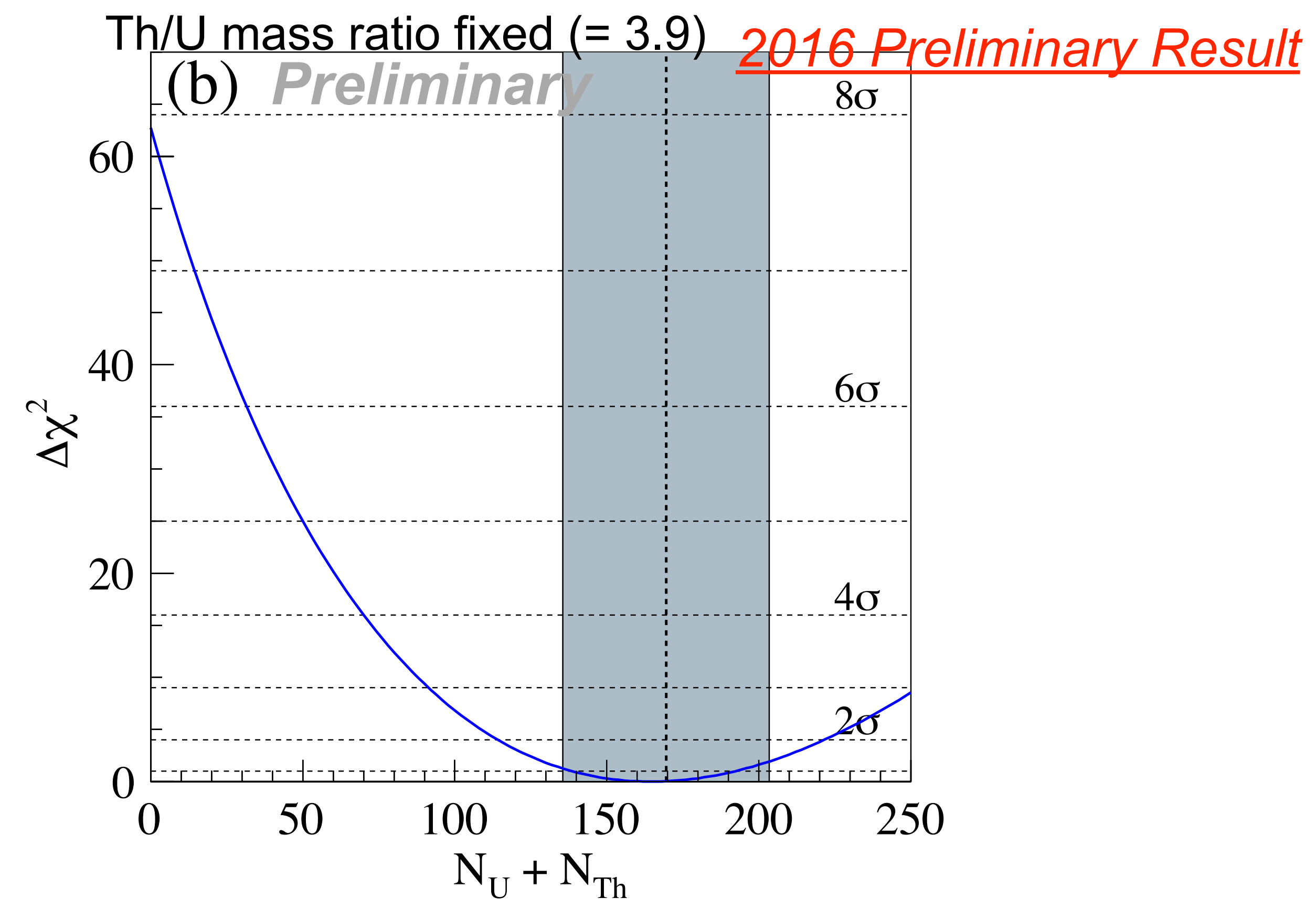
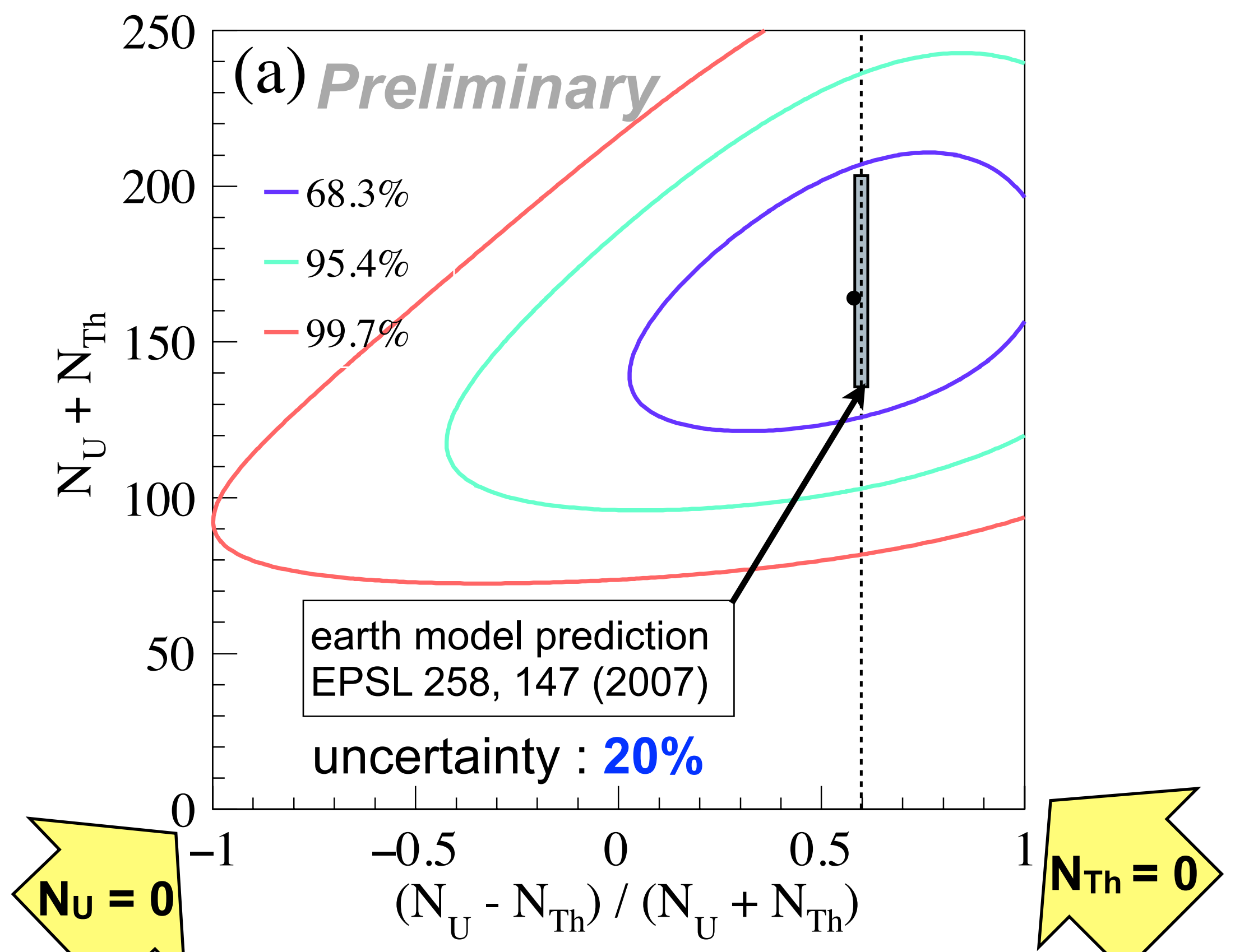
$^9\text{Li}$	$3.4 \pm 0.1$
Accidental	$114.0 \pm 0.1$
Fast neutron	$< 4.0$
$^{13}\text{C}(\alpha, n)^{16}\text{O}$	$205.5 \pm 22.6$
<b>Reactor <math>\bar{\nu}_e</math></b>	<b><math>618.9 \pm 33.8</math></b>
<b>Total</b>	<b><math>941.8 \pm 40.9</math></b>

Livetime : 1259.8 days *2016 Preliminary Result*

model prediction : Enomoto et al. EPSL 258, 147 (2007)



- Geo-neutrino/Background ~1.0
- We measured clear distribution of geo-neutrino events.



◆ Th/U mass ratio fixed (= 3.9)

$N_{geo} = 164 +28/-25$  events (17%)  
 $F_{geo} = 3.9 +0.7/-0.6 \times 10^6/cm^2/sec$   
 0 signal rejection :  $7.92 \sigma$

ref) PRD 88, 03301 (2013)  
 $N_{geo} = 116 +28/-27$  events (24%)  
 $F_{geo} = 3.4 +0.8/-0.8 \times 10^6/cm^2/sec$   
 0 signal rejection :  $4.74 \sigma$

☑ Measurement uncertainty gets close to uncertainty of Earth model prediction.

A satellite view of Earth, showing the Western Hemisphere with North and South America visible. The image is semi-transparent, allowing text to be overlaid. The text is in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

# geoscientific findings from measurement results

- \* Th/U Mass Ratio
- \* Radiogenic Heat

# ▶ Th/U Mass Ratio : Introduction

- According to geochemical studies,  $^{232}\text{Th}$  is more abundant than  $^{238}\text{U}$ .  
Mass ratio (Th/U) in **bulk silicate Earth** is expected to be **around 3.9**.

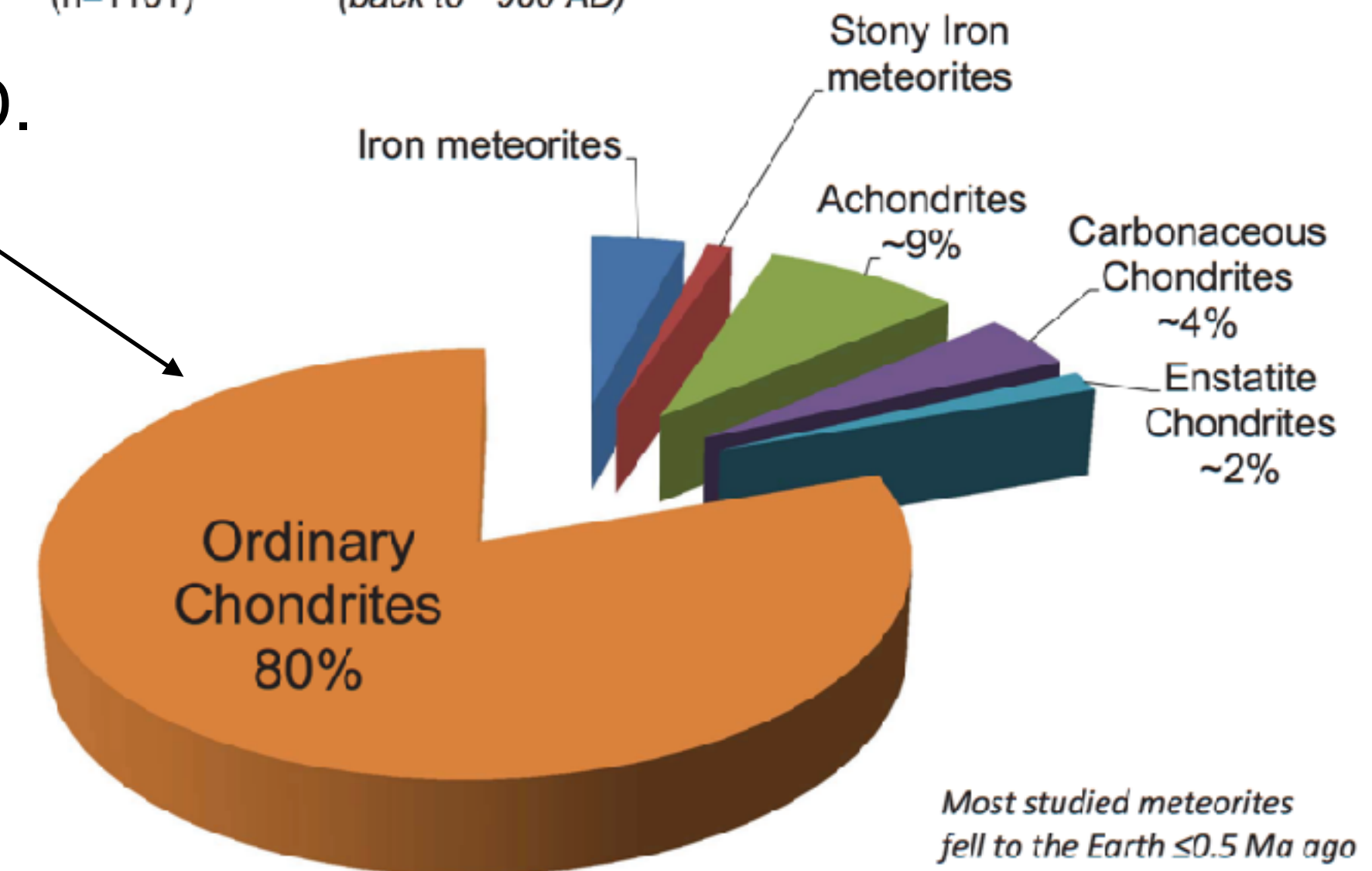
## Models : 3.58-4.2

4.2 : Allegre et al. (1986)	3.76 : Hart & Zindler (1986)
3.92 : McDonough & Sun (1995)	3.71 : Lyubetskaya & Korenaga (2007)
3.89 : Taylor (1980)	3.62 : Jagoutz et al (1979)
3.85 : Anderson (2007)	3.58 : Javoy et al. (2010)
3.77 : Palm & O'Neil (2003)	

- **Chondrite samples analysis : 1.06-6.42**

Fall statistics for the meteorites identified and catalogued since 980 A.D.

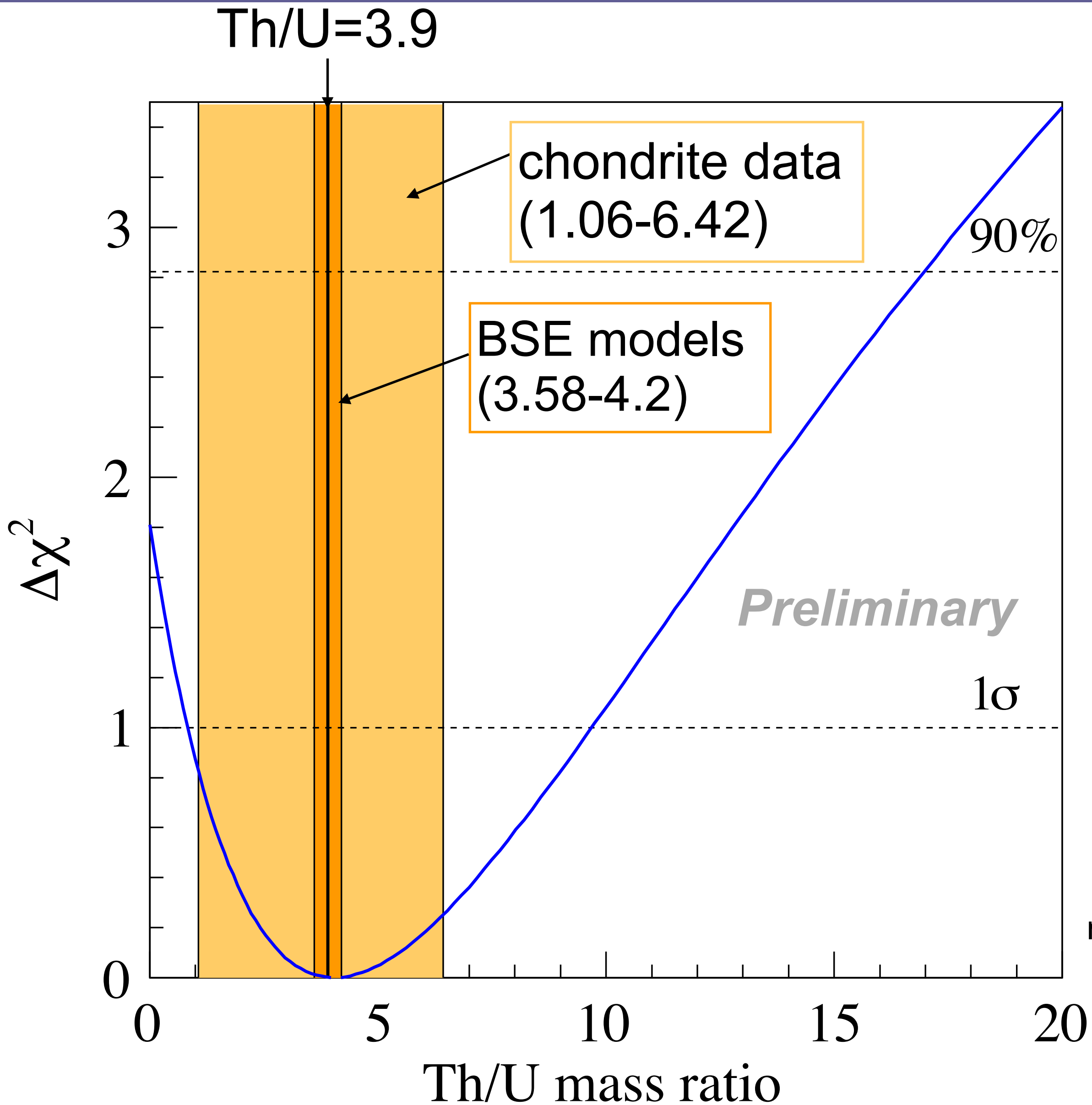
**Meteorite: Fall statistics**  
(n=1101) (back to ~980 AD)



- Geo-neutrino observed rate can be converted to amount of Th & U assuming homogeneous distribution.

**Independent & direct measurement of entire Earth**

*2016 Preliminary Result*



Best fit

$$\text{Th/U} = 4.1^{+5.5}_{-3.3}$$

$$\text{Th/U} < 17.0 \text{ (90\% C.L.)}$$

ref) 2013 paper Th/U < 19 (90% C.L.)

- We have a sensitivity of Th/U mass ratio of entire Earth.**
- KamLAND best-fit is consistent with chondrite data and BSE models.**

ref) chondrite data

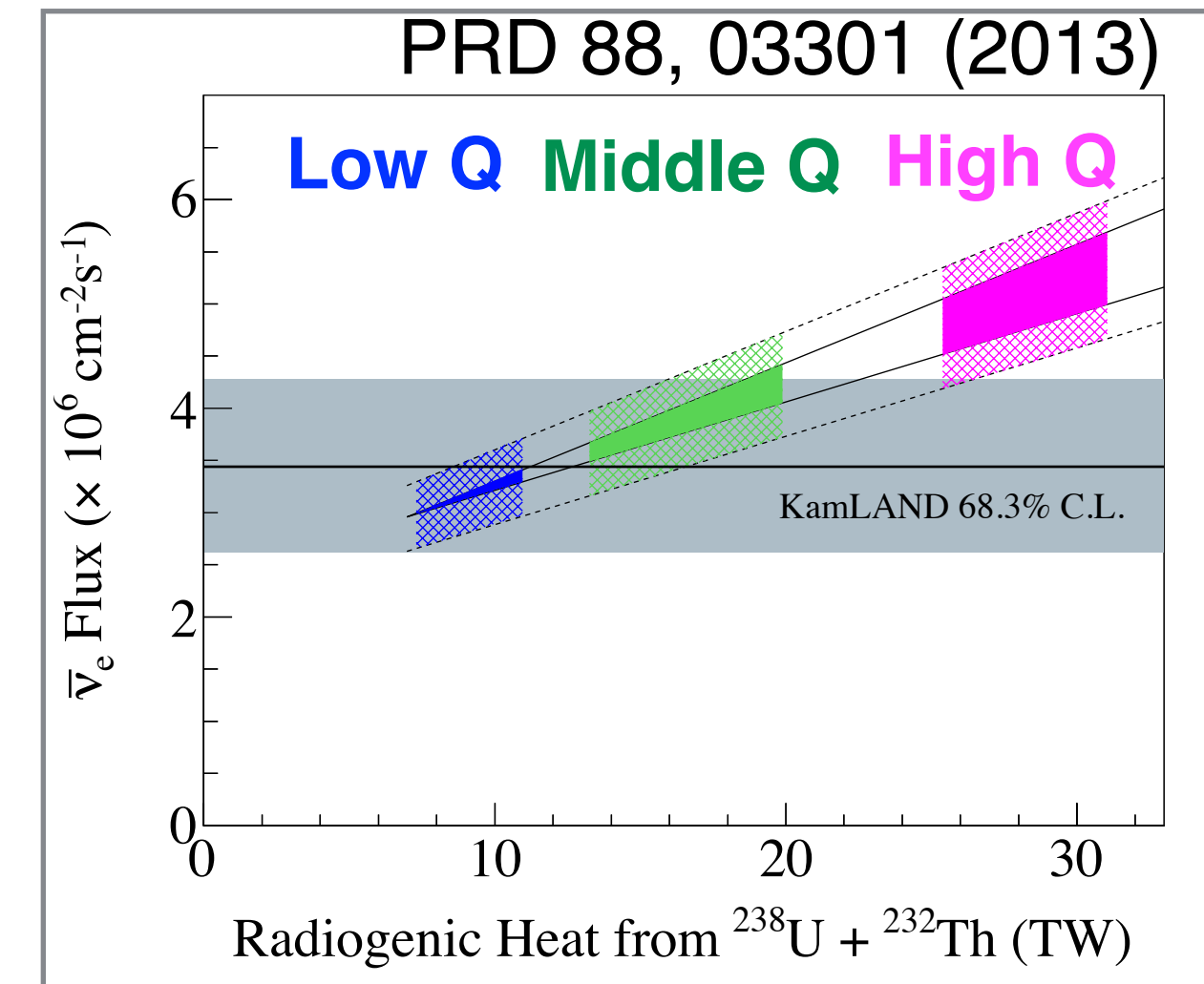
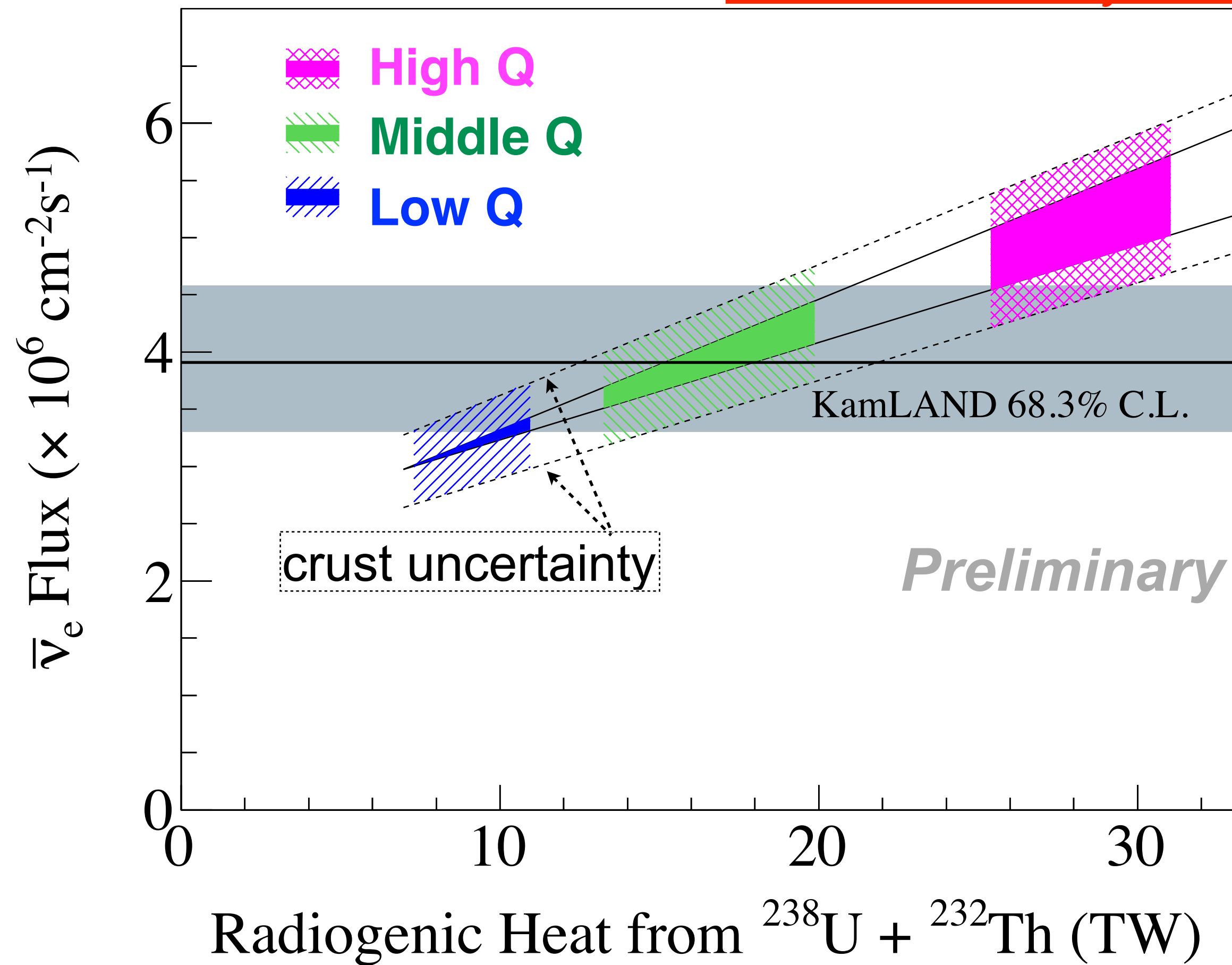
Ordinary Chondrites : J. S. Goreva & D. S. Burnett, Meteoritics & Planetary Science 36, 63-74 (2001)

Carbonaceous Chondrites : A. Rocholl & K. P. Jochum, EPSL 117, 265-278 (1993)

Enstatite Chondrites : M. Javoy & E. Kaminski, EPSL 407, 1-8 (2014)



*2016 Preliminary Result*



[BSE models]

**High Q**

based on balancing mantle viscosity and heat dissipation

**Middle Q**

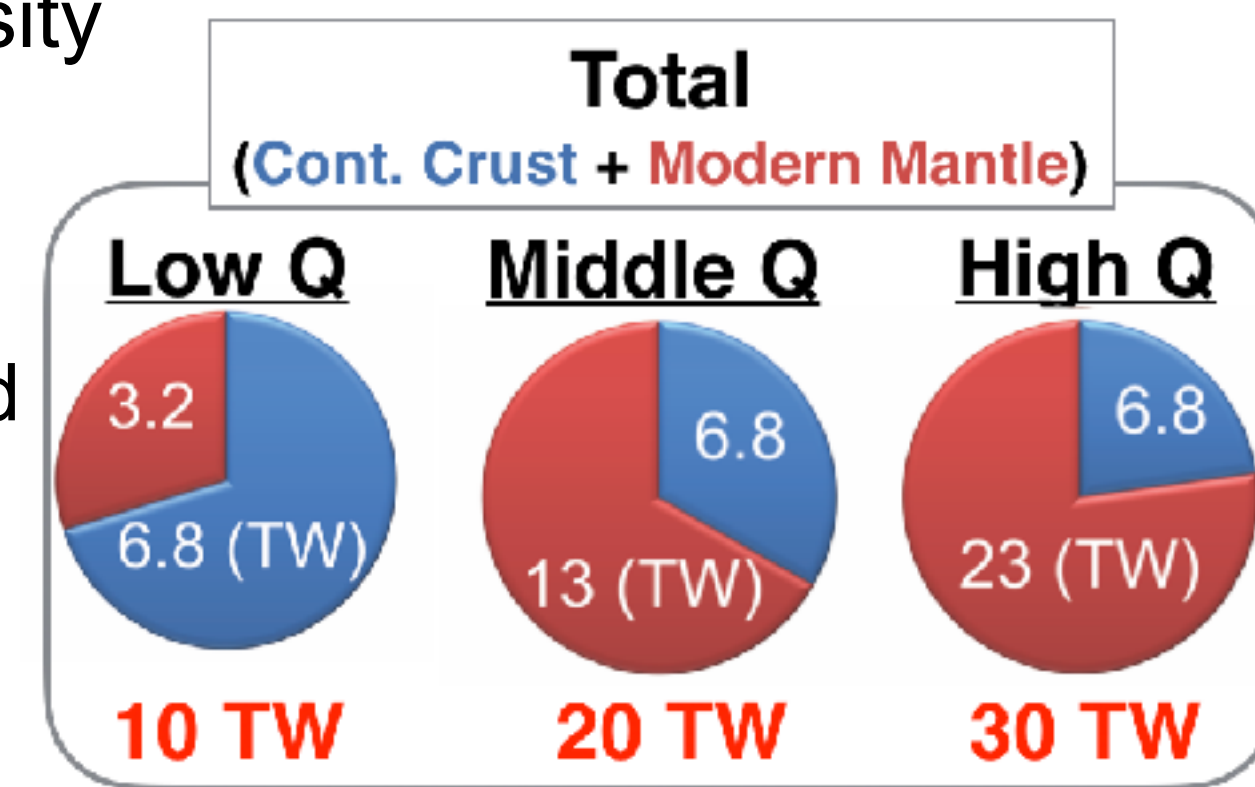
based on mantle samples compared with chondrites

**Low Q**

based on isotope constraints and chondritic models

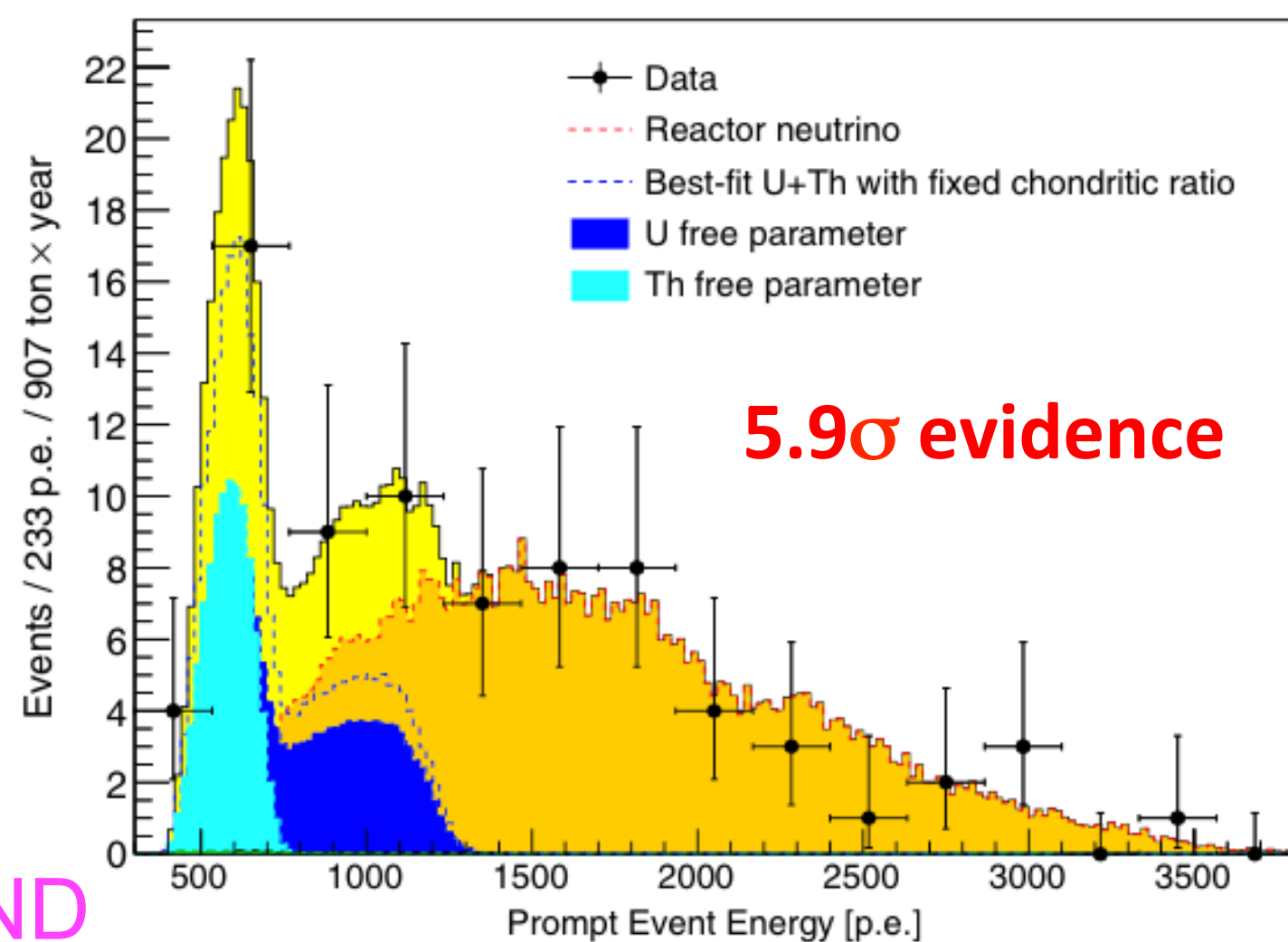
☑ Radiogenic Heat :  $15.5^{+6.5}_{-6.3}$  TW

☑ Started to disfavor **Low Q** model



# Latest Borexino geoneutrino results

PRD 92, 031101(2015)



Two types of fits:

1)  $m(^{232}\text{Th})/m(^{238}\text{U}) = 3.9$  (CI chondrites)

$S(^{232}\text{Th})/S(^{238}\text{U}) = 0.27$

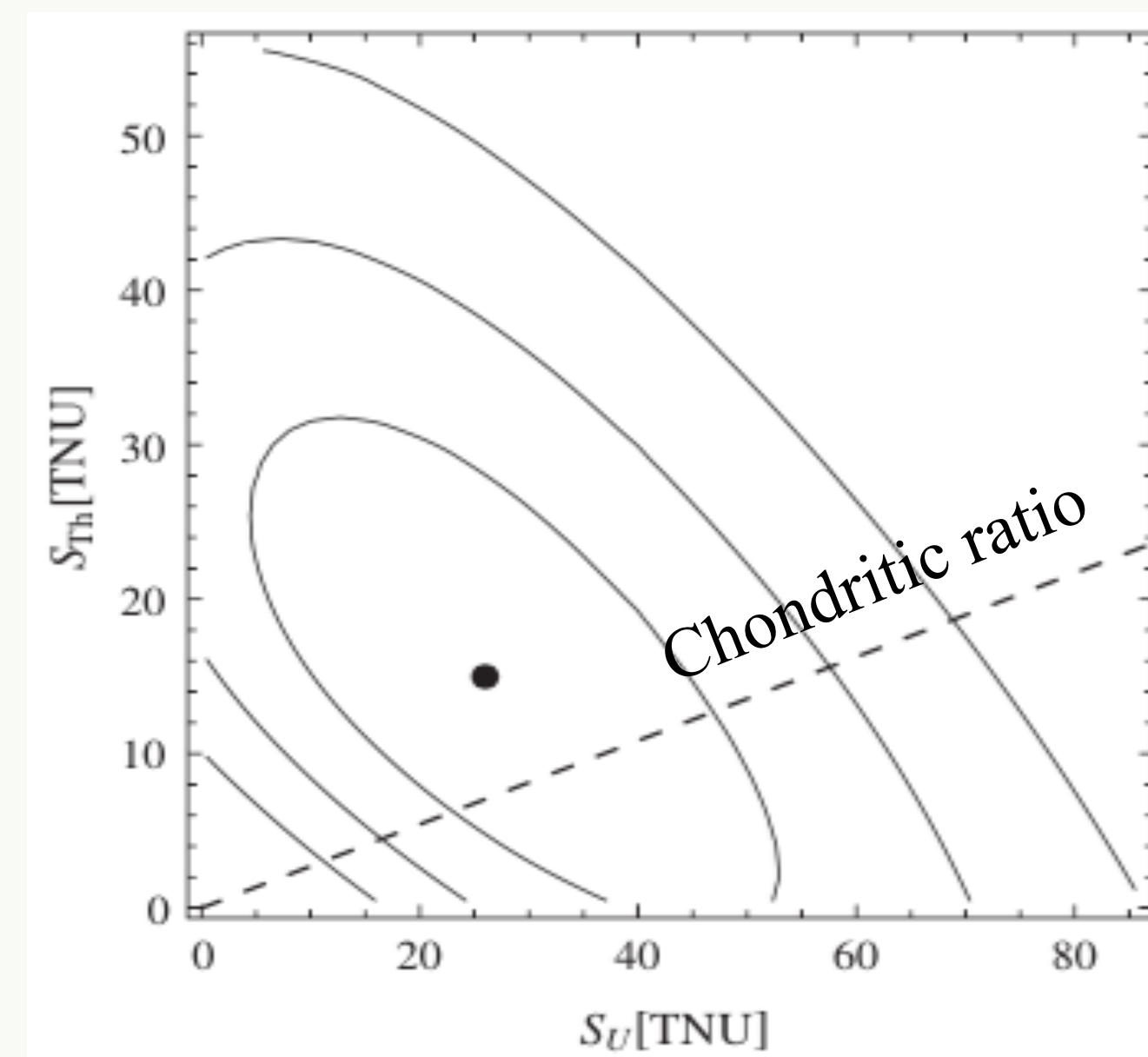
$S(^{238}\text{U})/S(^{232}\text{Th}) = 3.7$

~28% error

$N_{\text{geo}} = 23.7^{+6.5}_{-5.7}(\text{stat})^{+0.9}_{-0.6}(\text{sys})$  events

$S_{\text{geo}} = 43.5^{+11.8}_{-10.4}(\text{stat})^{+2.7}_{-2.4}(\text{sys})$  TNU

2) U and Th free fit parameters



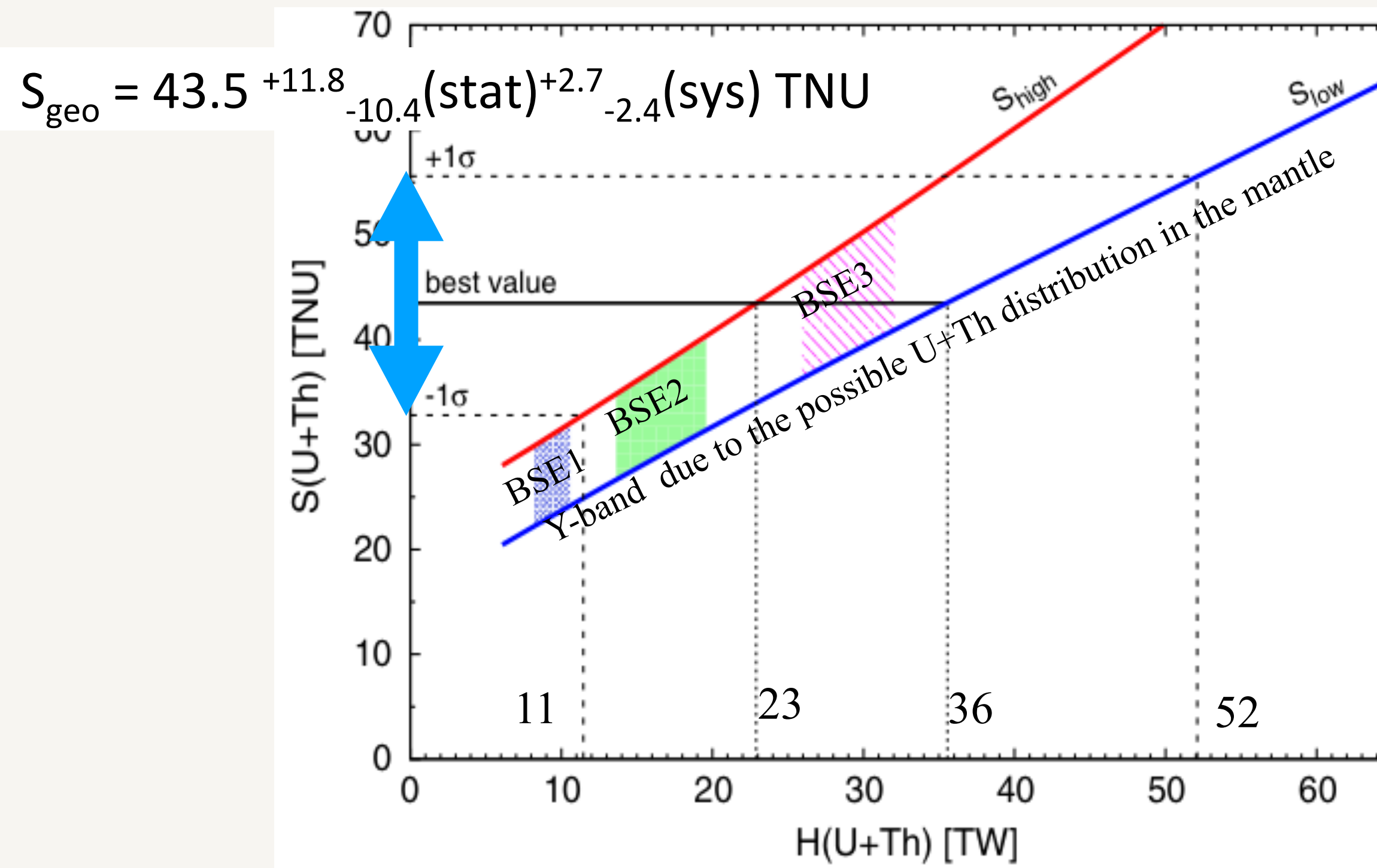
8.6% of KamLAND

Period	Dec.07 – Mar15 ( $5.5 \pm 0.3$ ) $10^{31}$ prot*y
Tot ev [full sp.]	77
Reactors ev.	$52.7^{+8.5}_{-7.7}(\text{stat})^{+0.7}_{-0.9}(\text{sys})$
Background ev.	$0.78^{+0.13}_{-0.10}$
Geo-ν ev.	$23.7^{+6.5}_{-5.7}(\text{stat})^{+0.9}_{-0.6}(\text{sys})$
Geo-ν signal (TNU)	$43.5^{+11.8}_{-10.4}(\text{stat})^{+2.7}_{-2.4}(\text{sys})$

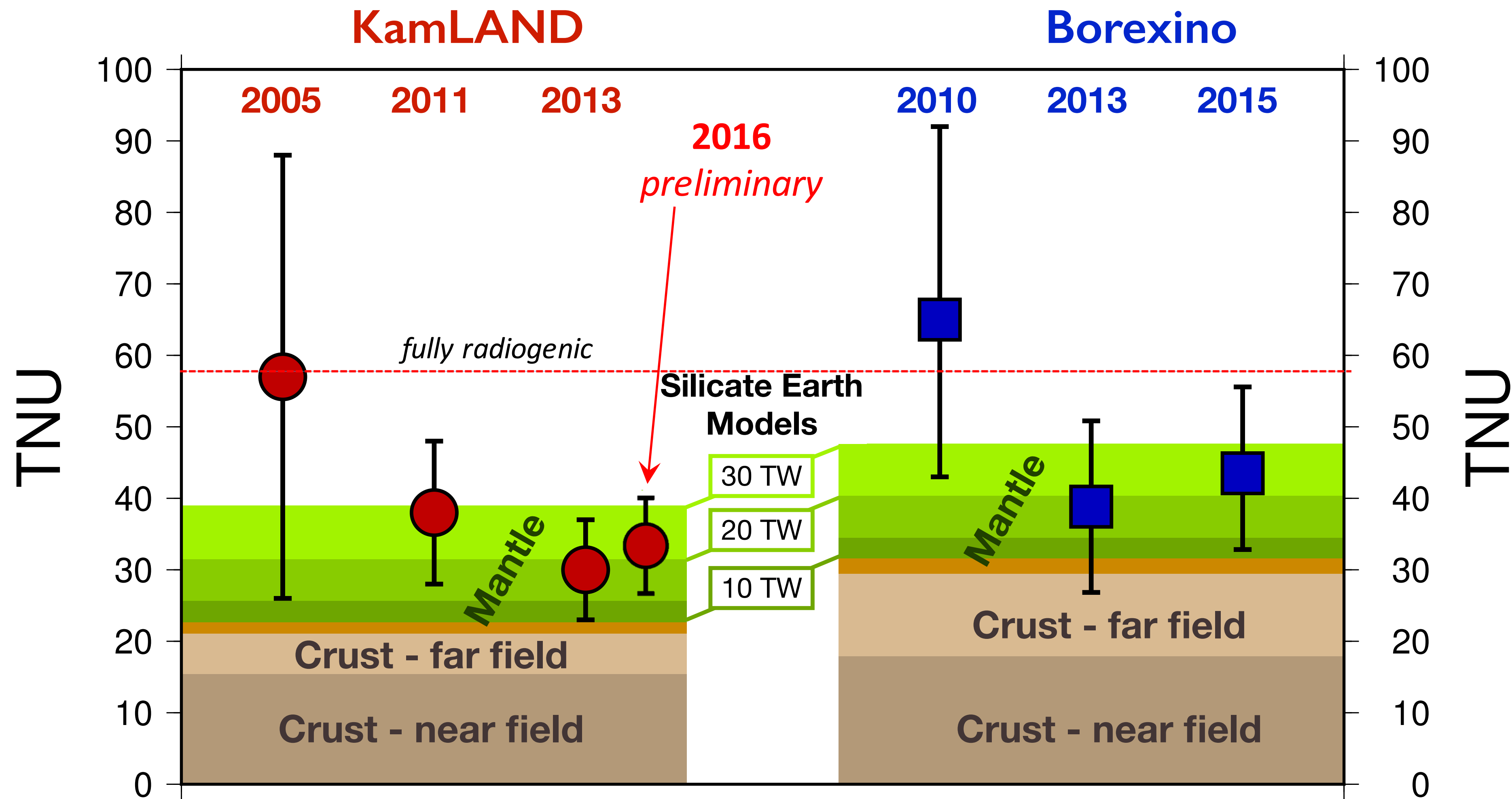
## Geological implications of the new Borexino results

PRD 92, 031101(2015)

### Radiogenic heat



- Radiogenic heat (U+Th): 23-36 TW for the best fit and 11-52 TW for  $1\sigma$  range
- Considering chondritic mass ratio  $\text{Th}/\text{U}=3.9$  and  $\text{K}/\text{U} = 10^4$  : Radiogenic heat  
 $(\text{U} + \text{Th} + \text{K}) = 33^{+28}_{-20} \text{ TW}$   
 to be compared with  $47 \pm 2 \text{ TW}$  of the total Earth surface heat flux (including all sources)



- Geo-neutrino Measurement
- giving **total** radiogenic heat
  - testing BSE models

TNU: anti-neutrino event seen by a kiloton detector in a year

# Contents

1. Introduction
2. Results from KamLAND and Borexino
- 3. Future Prospects**
4. Summary

## what we need

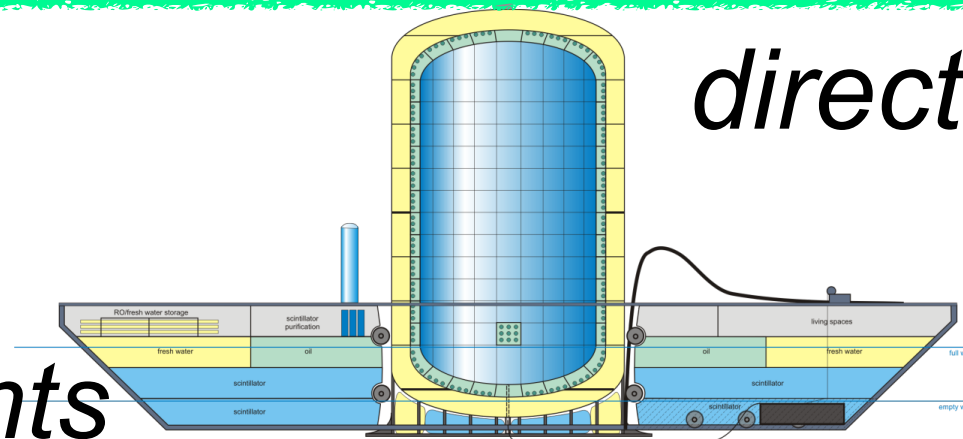
improved accuracy of measurement & modelling

multi-site measurements

detector in the Ocean

directional sensitive detector

new type detector



current generation

next generation

total radiogenic heat in the Earth

✓ achieved

resolving vertical and horizontal flux differences

Th/U ratio ✓ achieved

distinguishing mantle contribution

detecting K geo-neutrino

## what we learn



first measurement in 2005

# Next Target : Mantle Contribution

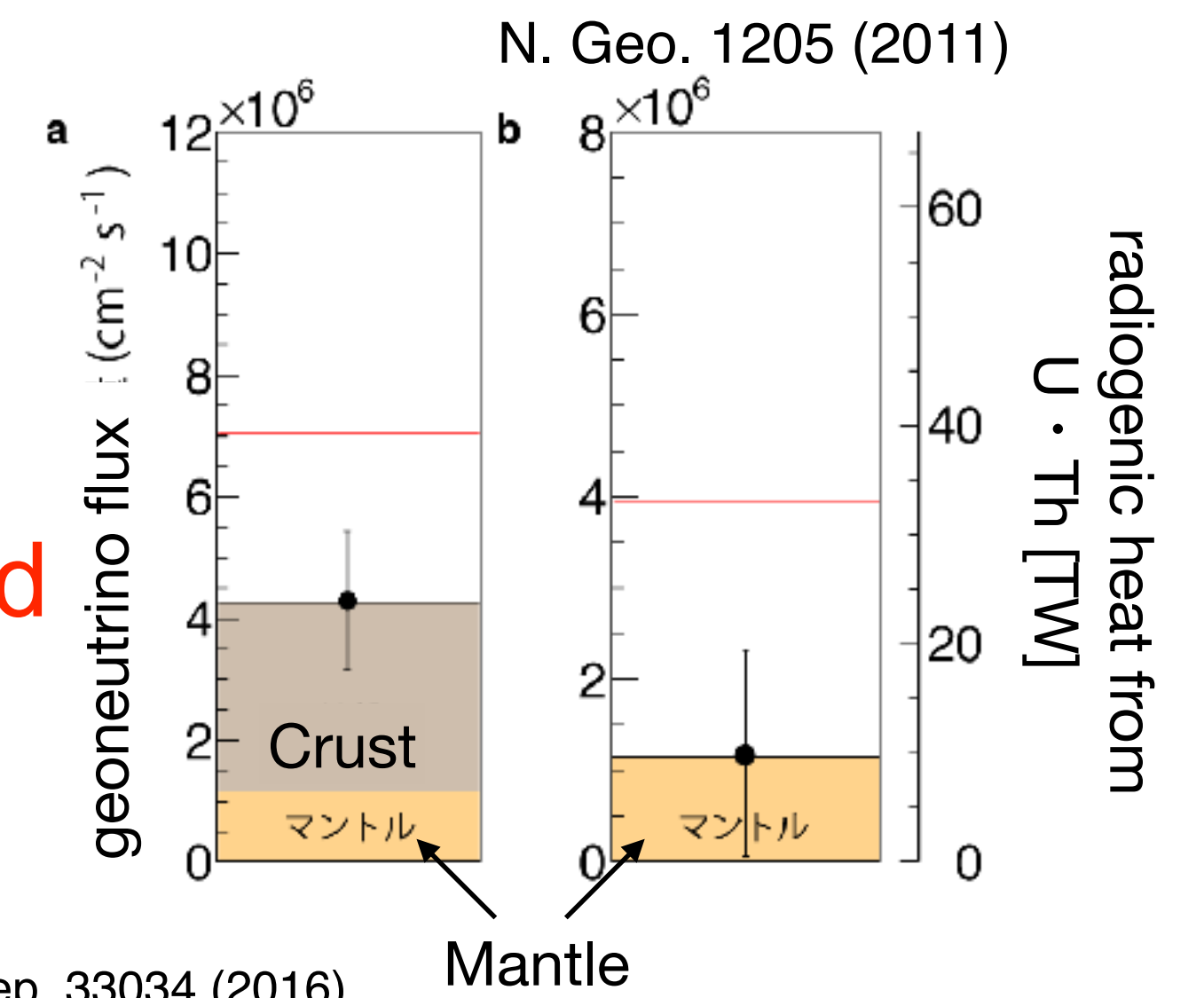
## 1. Observation - Crust (Model) = Mantle

17% error  
(2016, KamLAND)

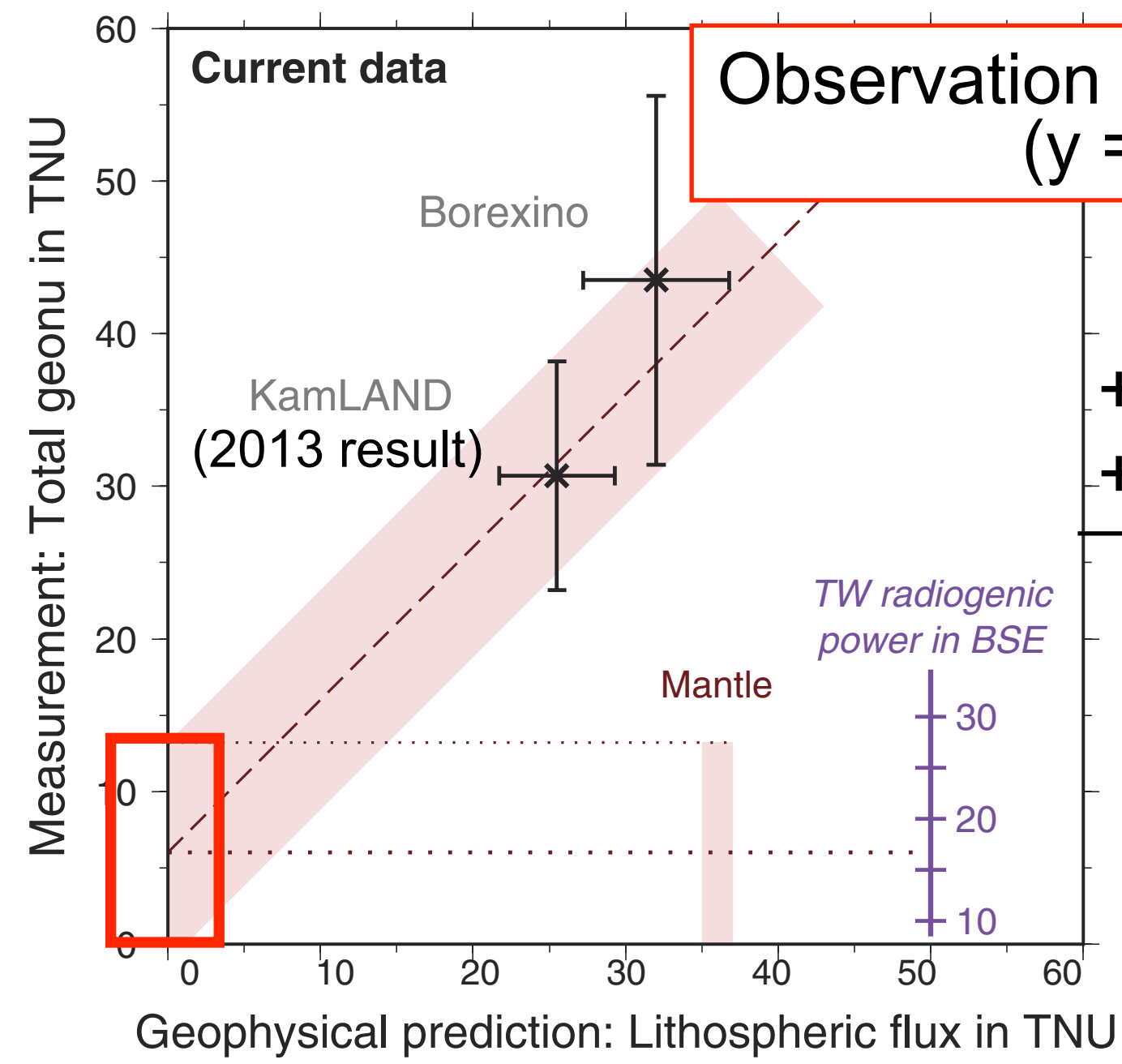
20% error Method of uncertainty estimation is unclear

- Consider geoscientific inputs**
- Seismology
  - Geochemistry
  - Measurement result of heat flux etc

**Flux model needs to be improved**  
(higher reliability and accuracy)

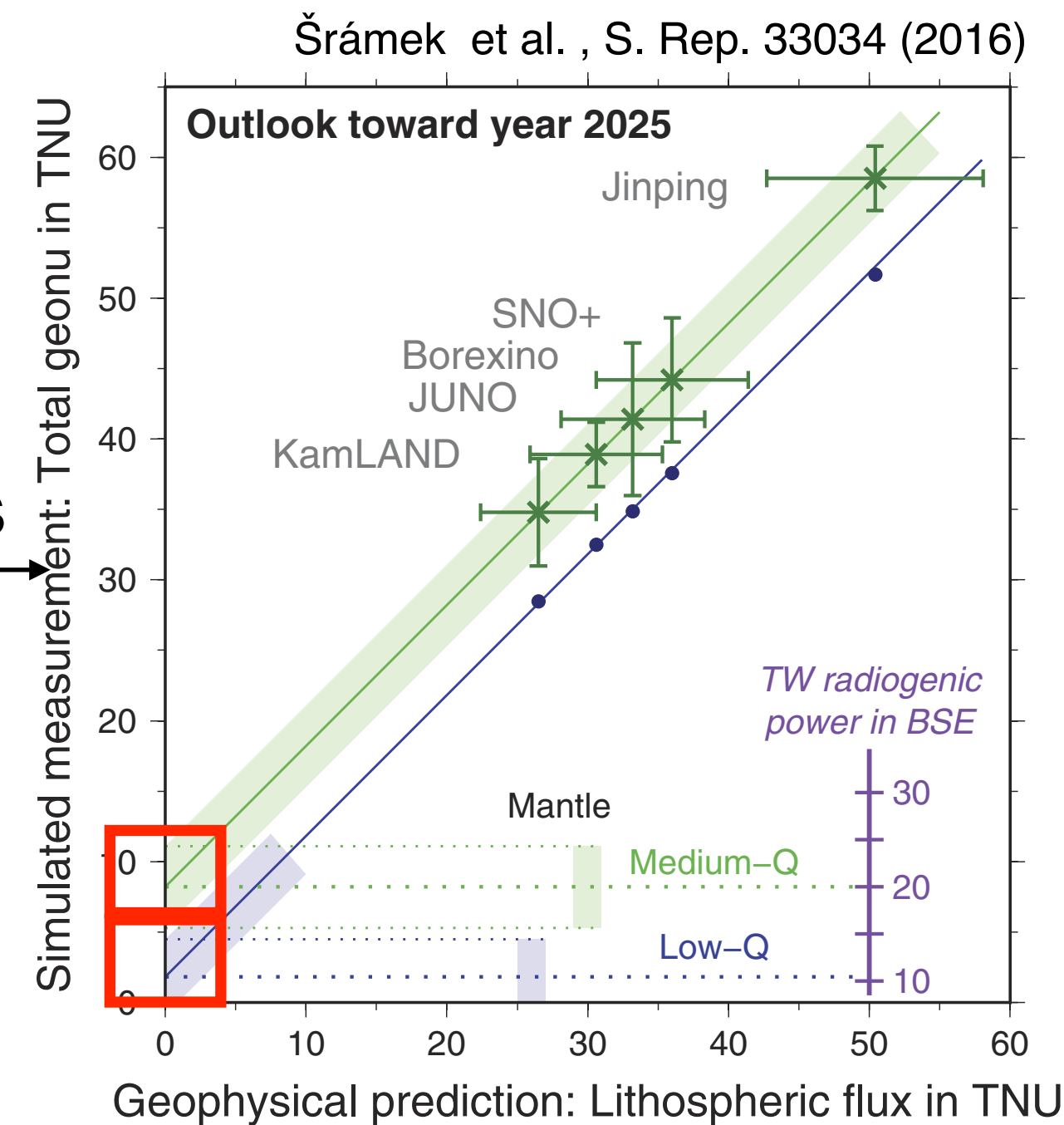


## 2. Multi-site measurements Note : Assuming homogeneous mantle



**Observation = Crust + Mantle**  
 $(y = x + b)$

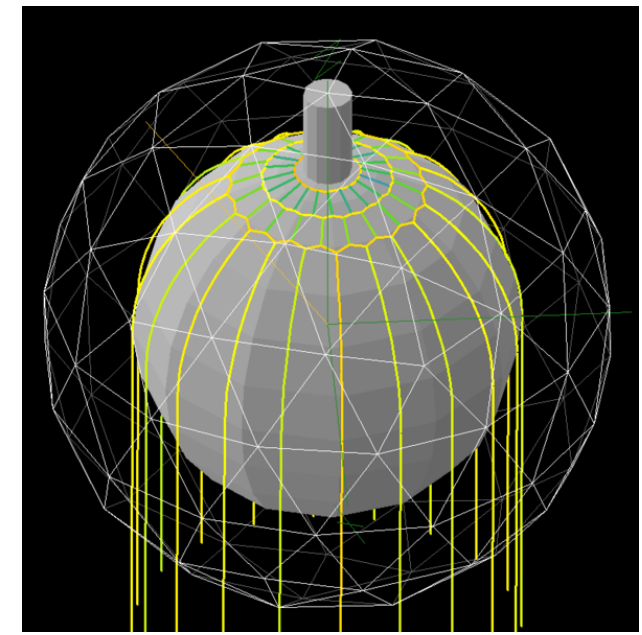
+10-year data  
+New experiments



Šrámek et al., S. Rep. 33034 (2016)

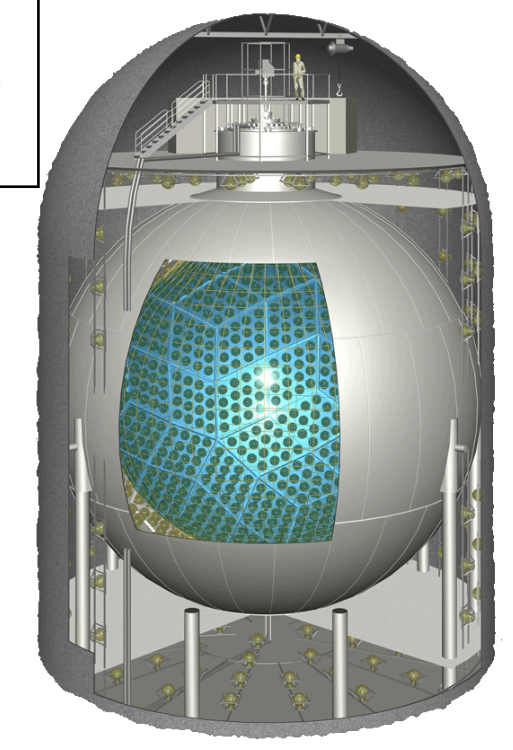
## SNO+

1kt, LS+, 5.4 kmwe  
Liquid scintillator filling is in progress!

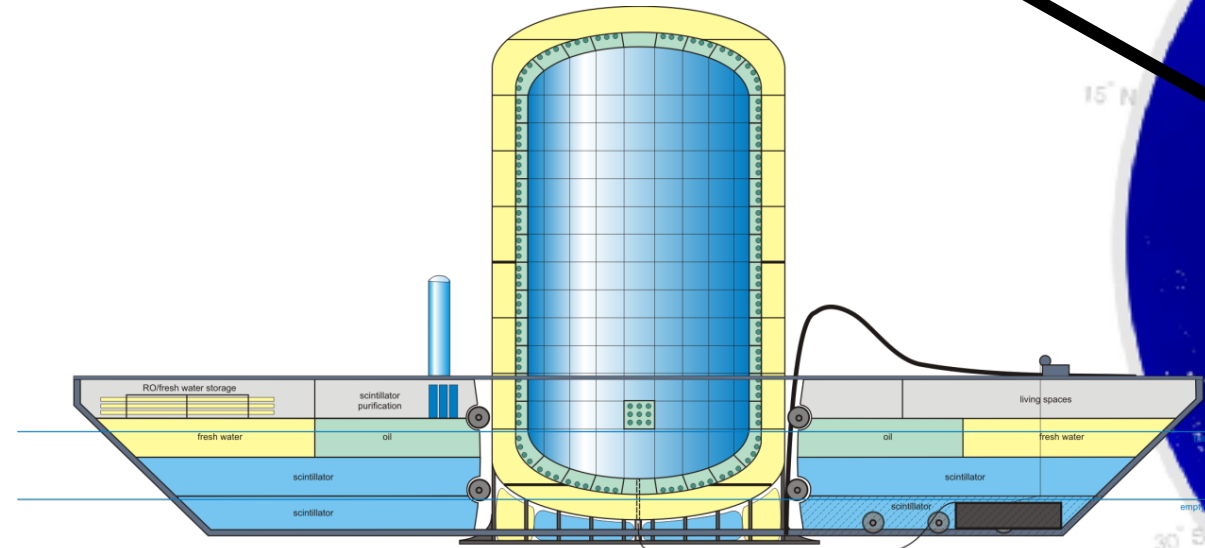


## KamLAND

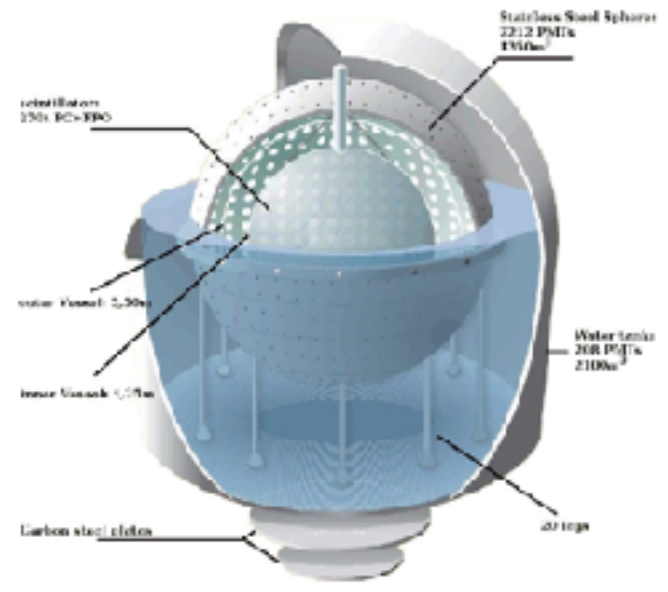
1kt, LS  
2.7 kmwe  
running



## Ocean Bottom Detector



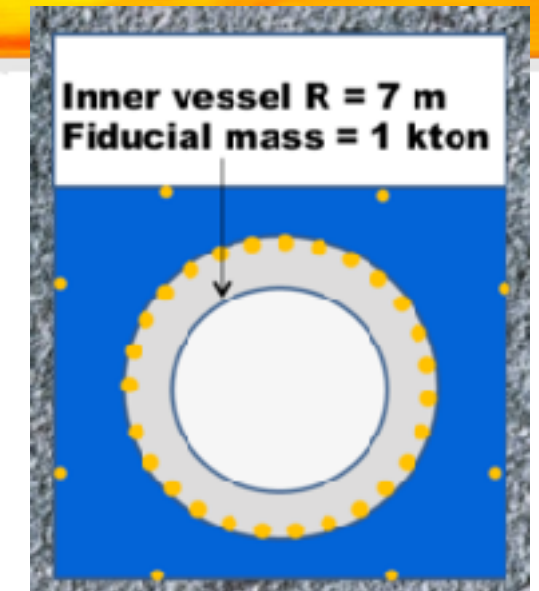
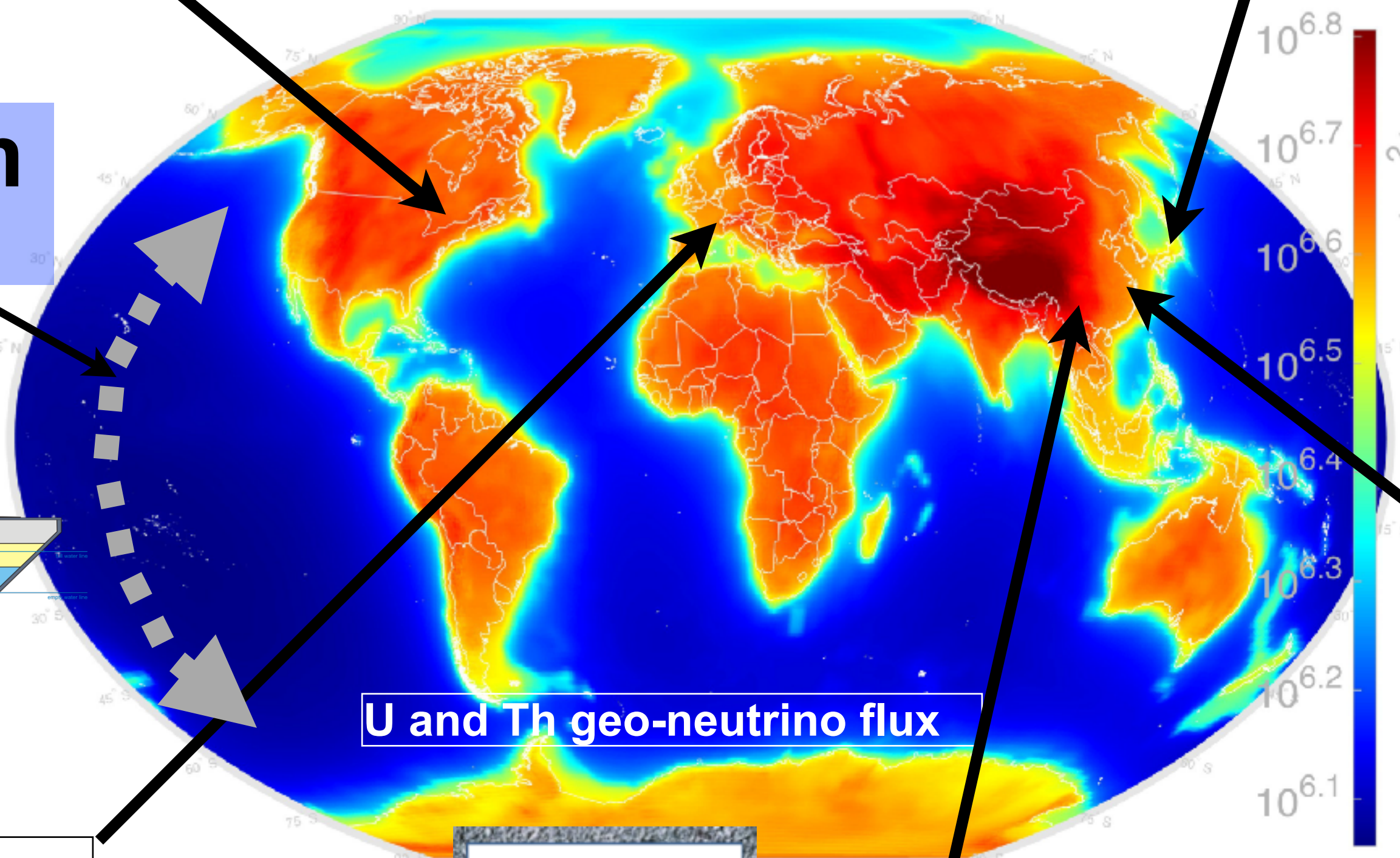
10-50kt, LS, ~5kmwe,  
movable, R&D



## Borexino

0.3kt, LS  
3.7kmwe  
running

U and Th geo-neutrino flux

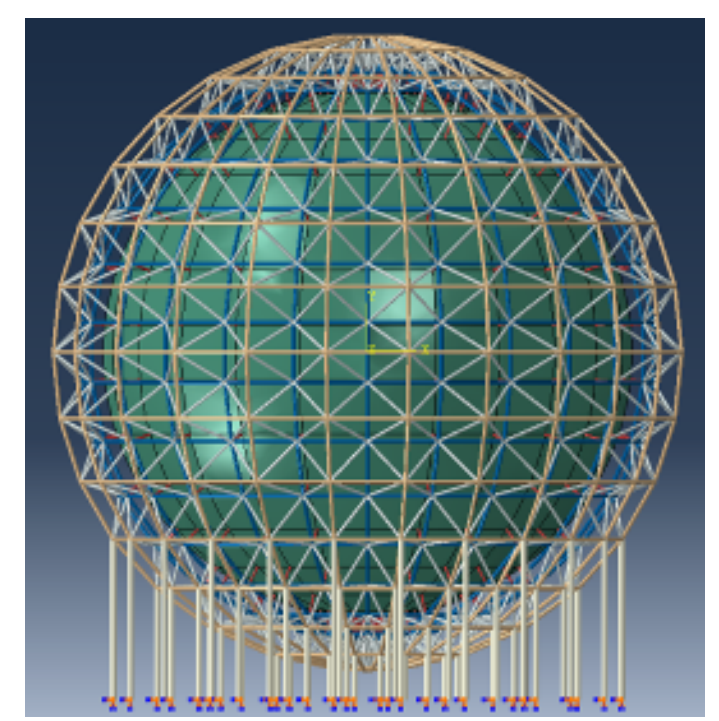


## Jinping

1kt, LS  
6.7 kmwe  
R&D

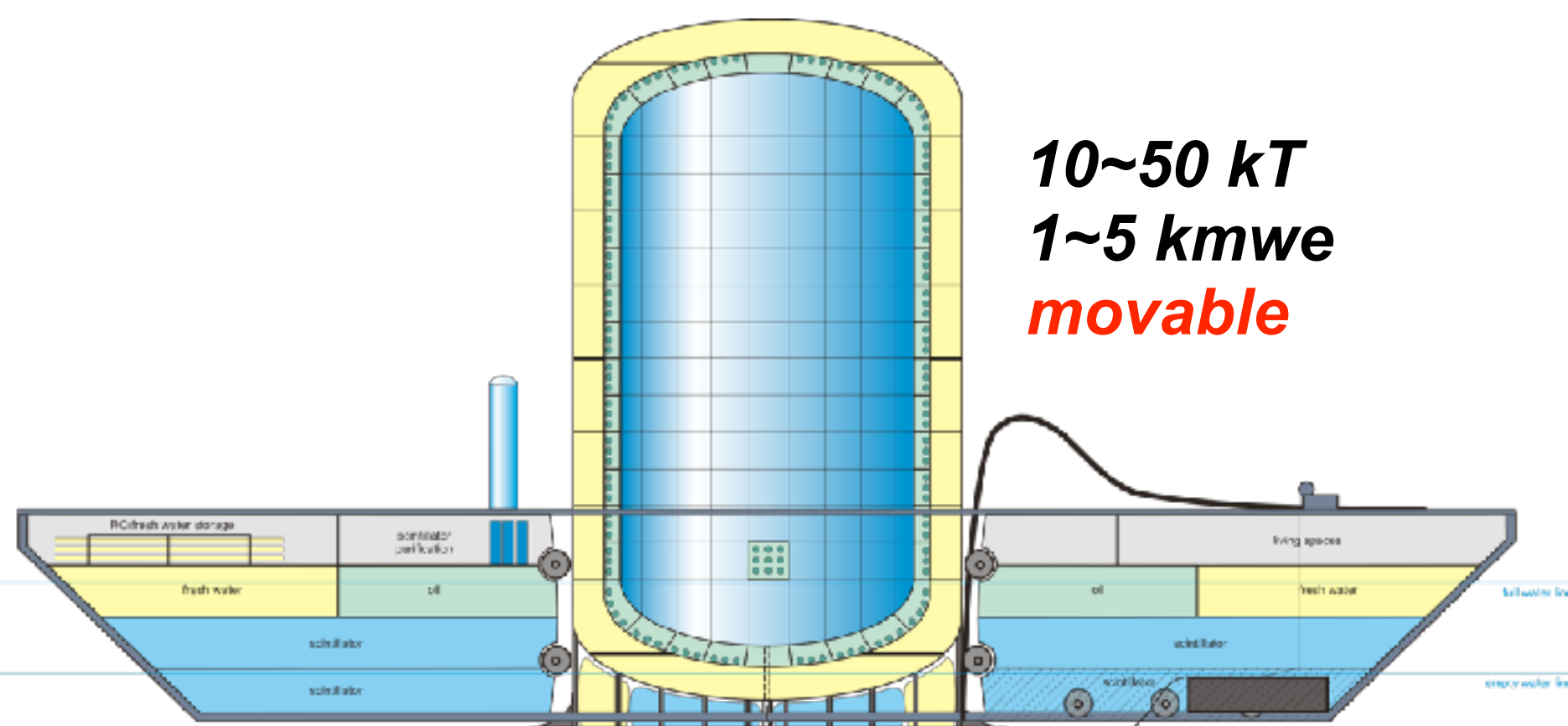
## JUNO

20kt, LS  
1.5 kmwe  
approved  
(2020~)

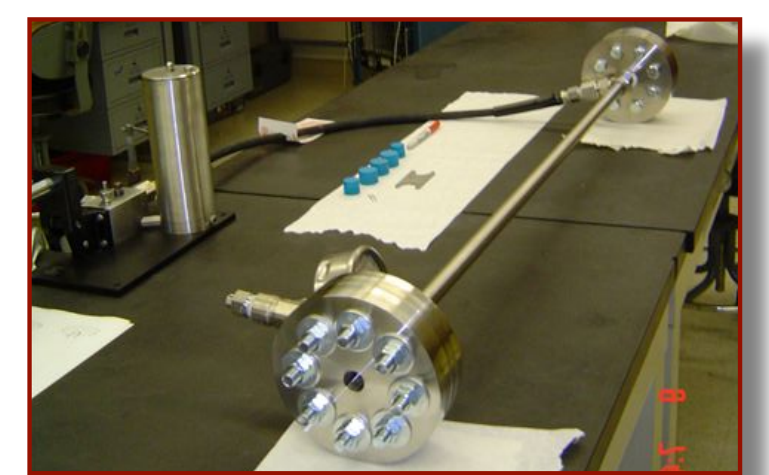
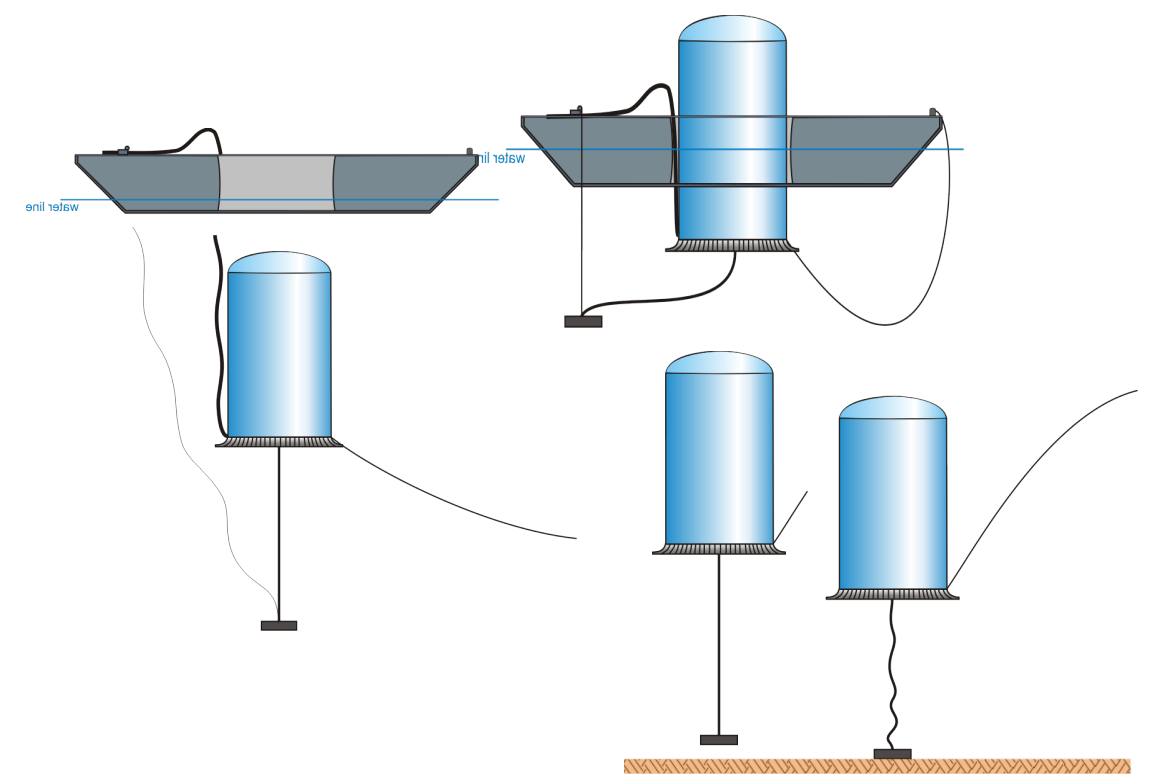




Šrámek et al (2013) EPS, [10.1016/j.epsl.2012.11.001](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.epsl.2012.11.001)

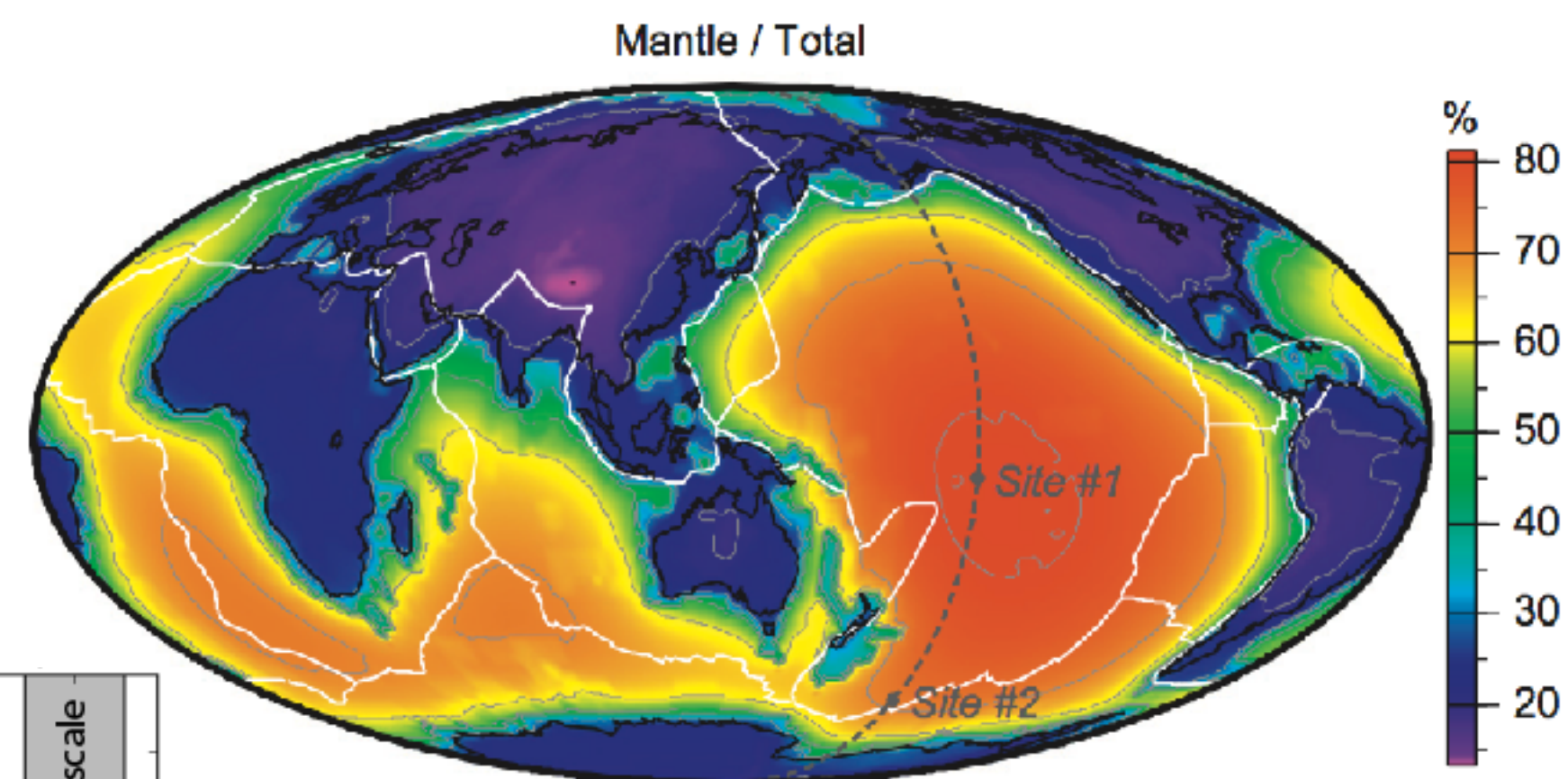


10~50 kT  
1~5 kmwe  
**movable**

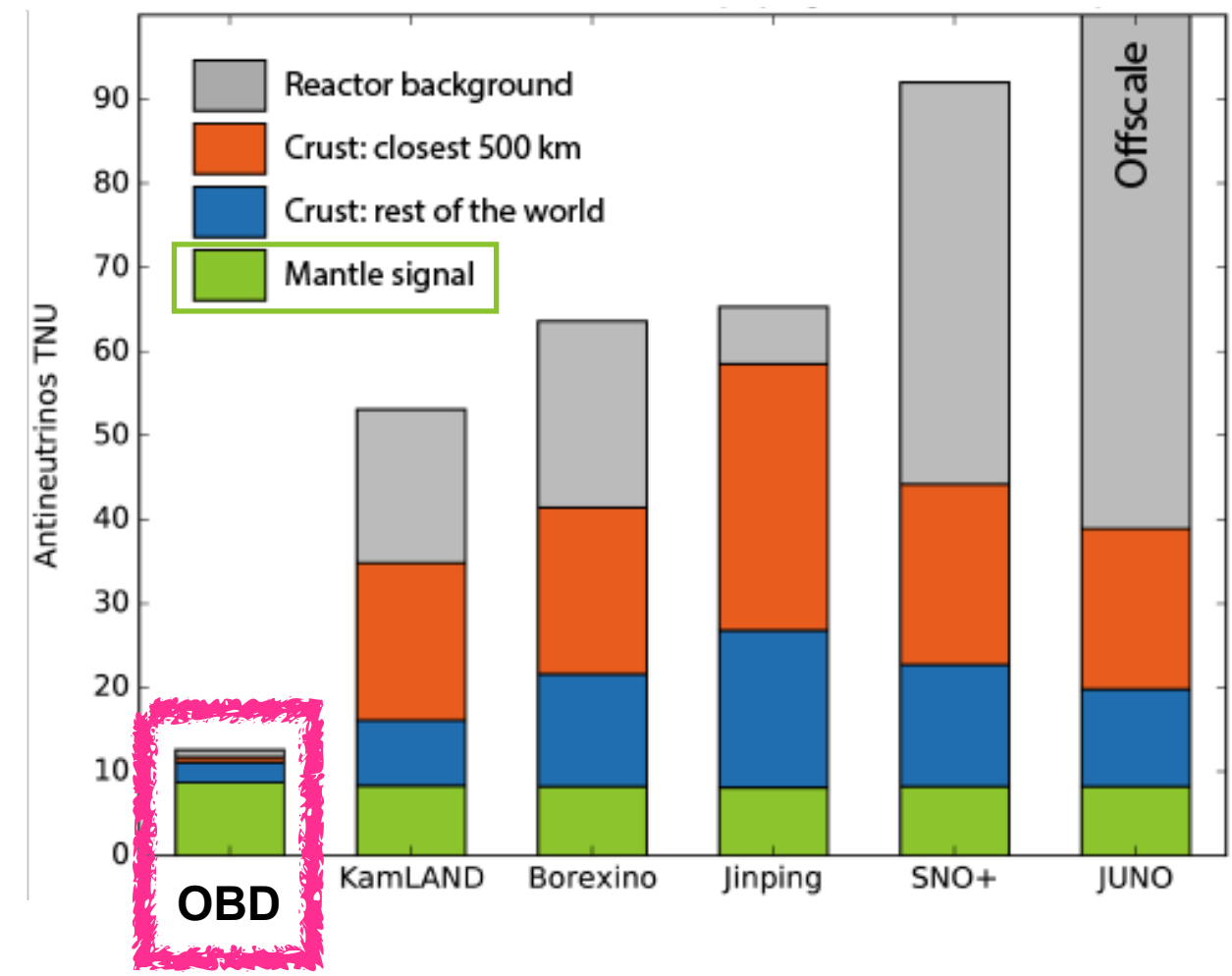


2005 : Specific engineering study was started in Hawaii.

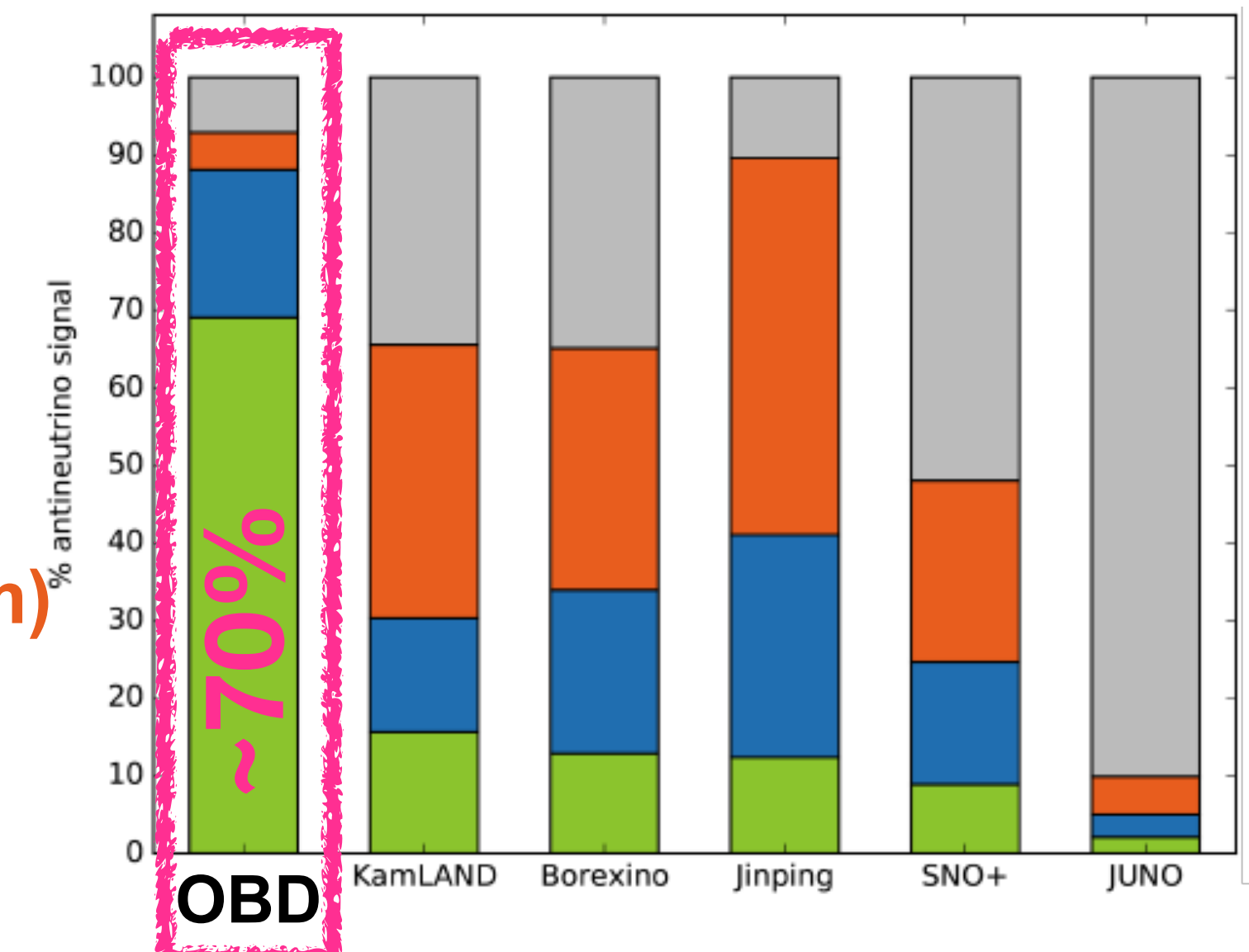
- **Direct measurement of mantle contribution**
- **Test of Earth models**
- **Geoneutrino has power to measure deep Earth**



## Total Flux

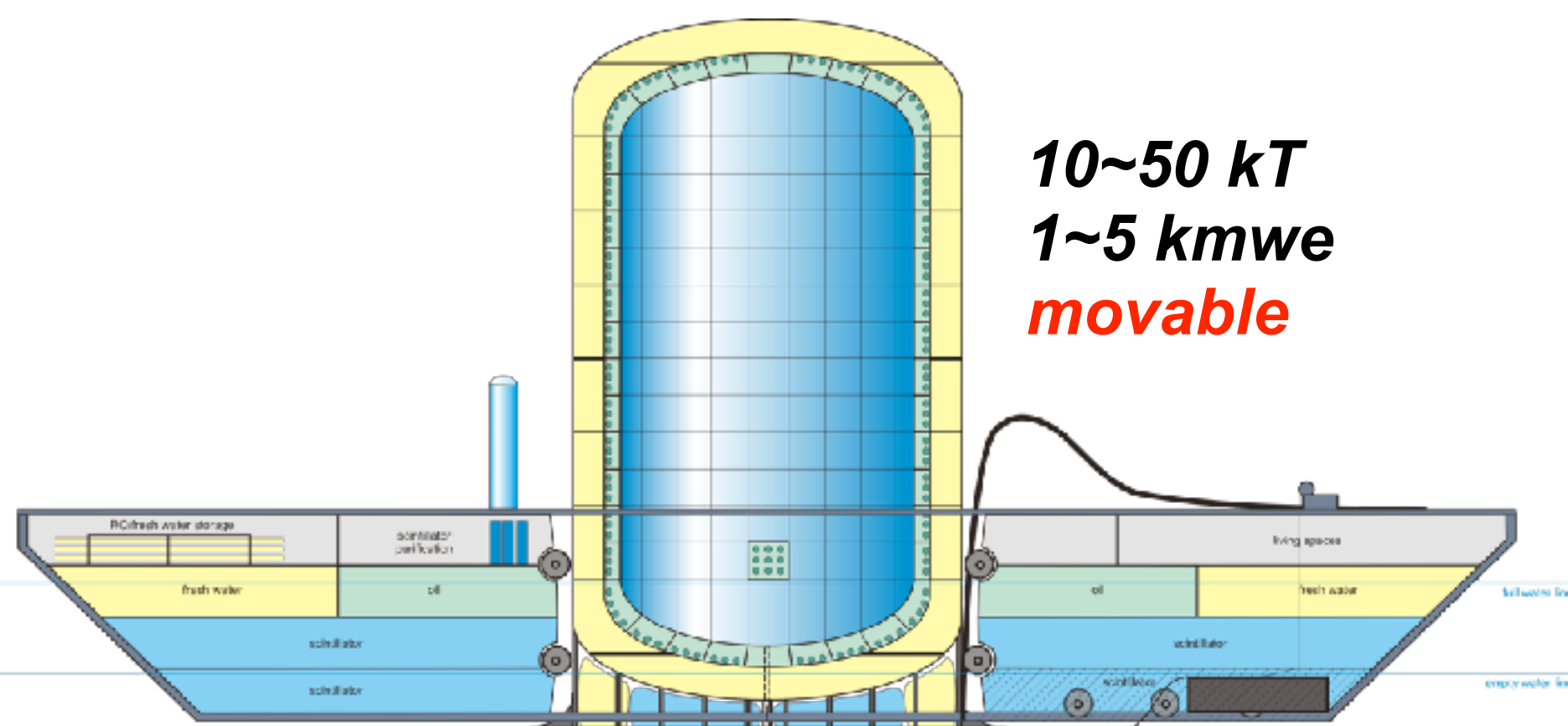


## Contributions

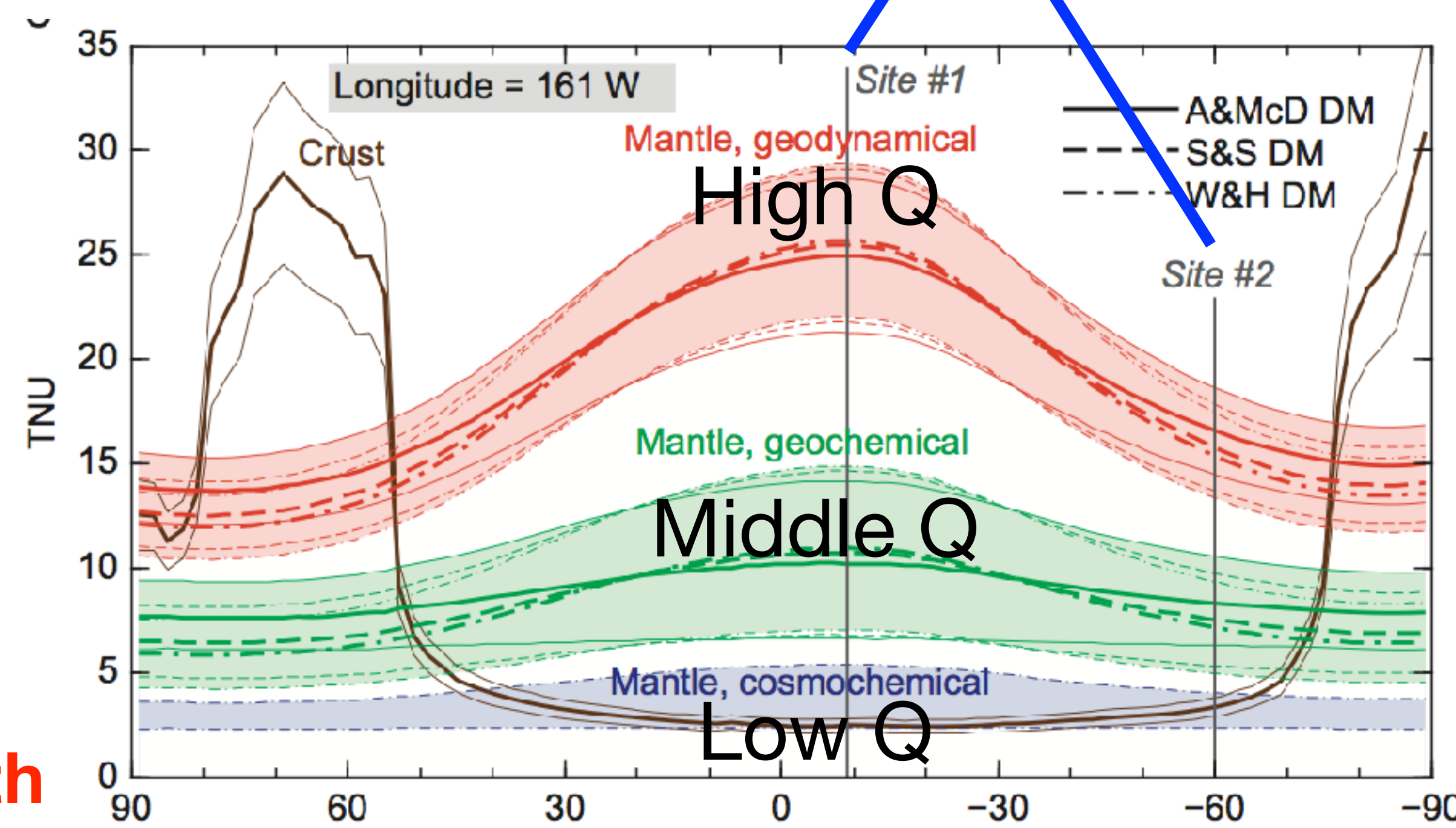
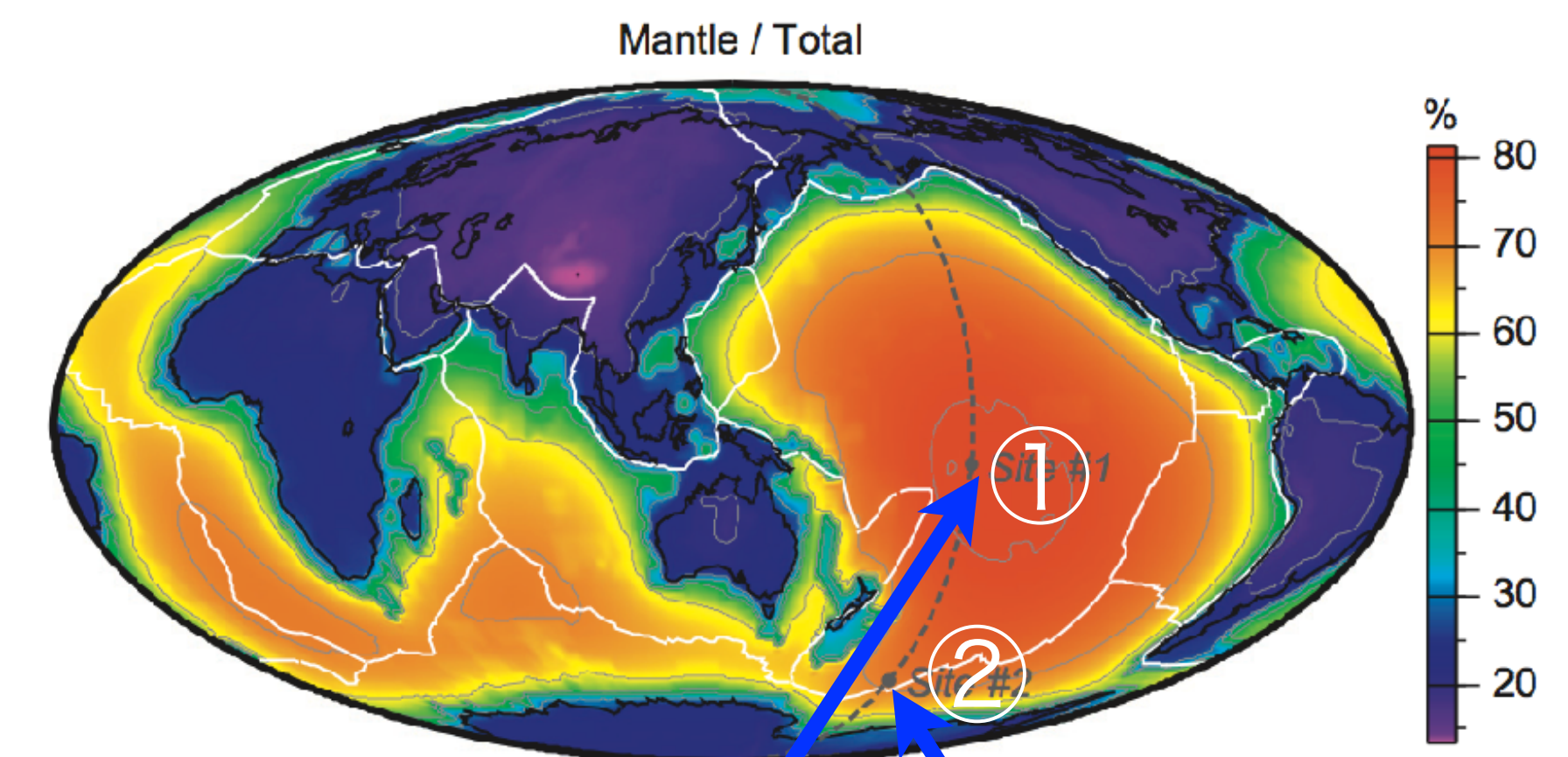
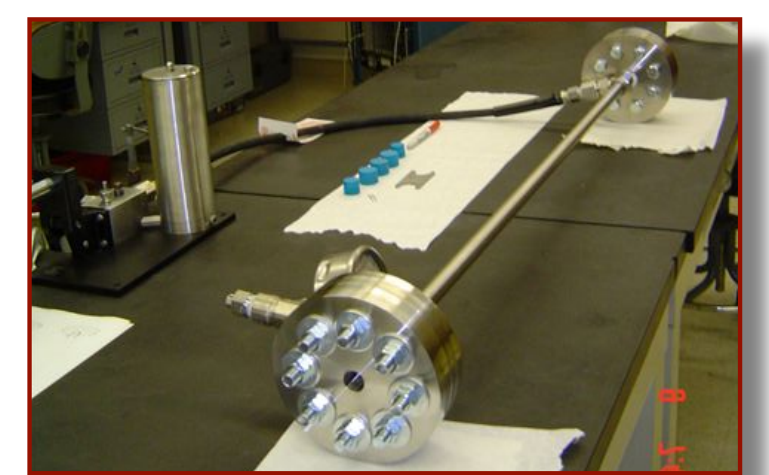
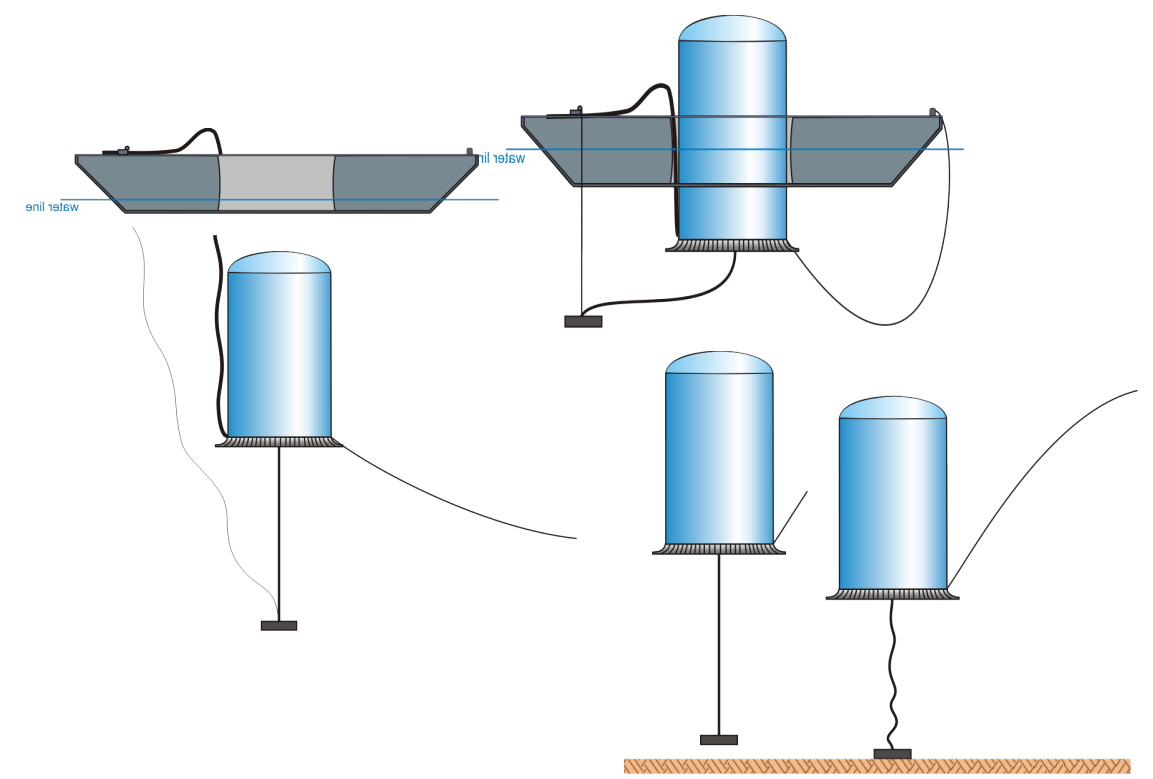


Reactor  
Crust(<500km)  
Crust(other)  
Mantle

Šrámek et al (2013) EPS, [10.1016/j.epsl.2012.11.001](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.epsl.2012.11.001)



10~50 kT  
1~5 kmwe  
**movable**



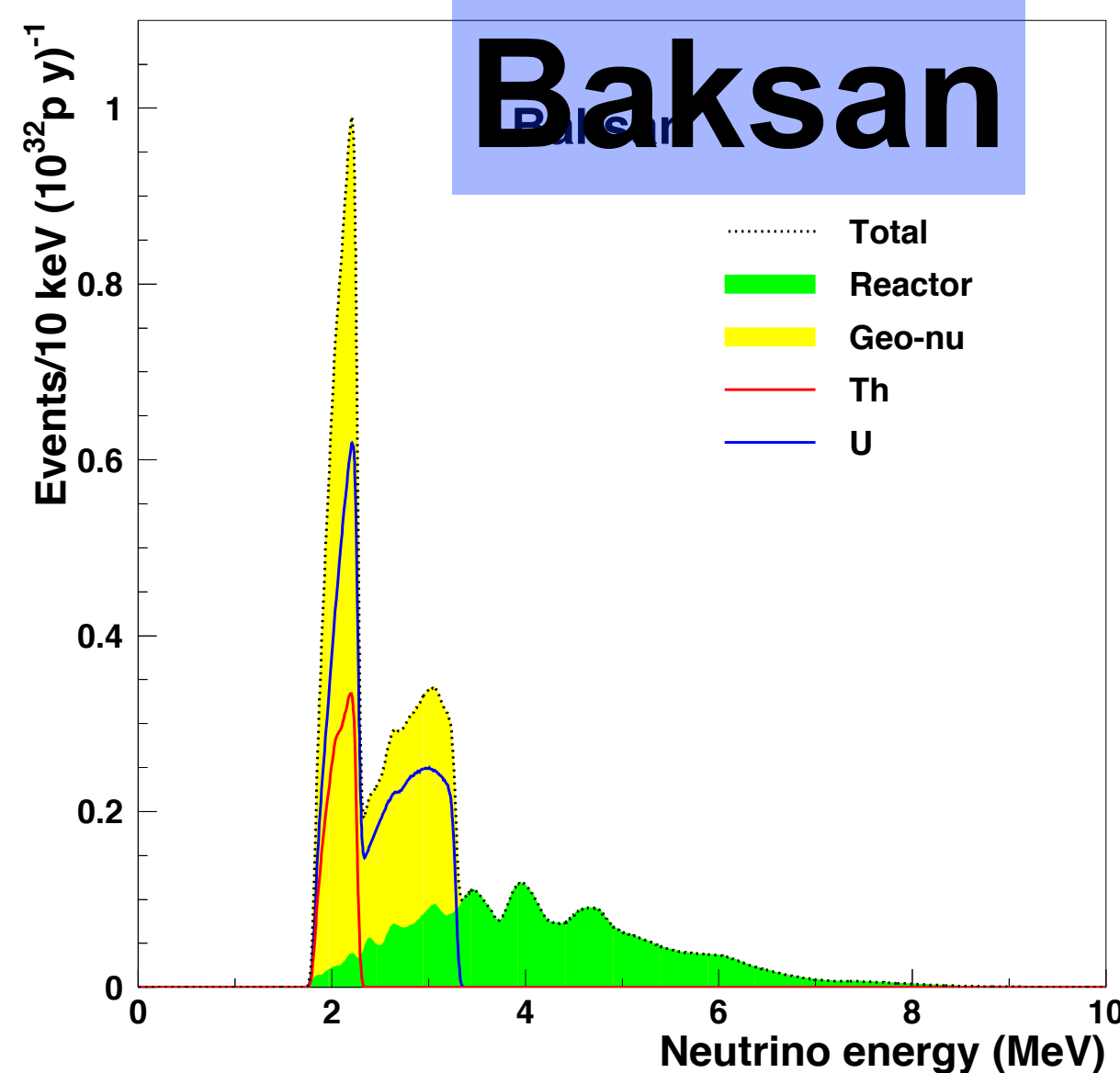
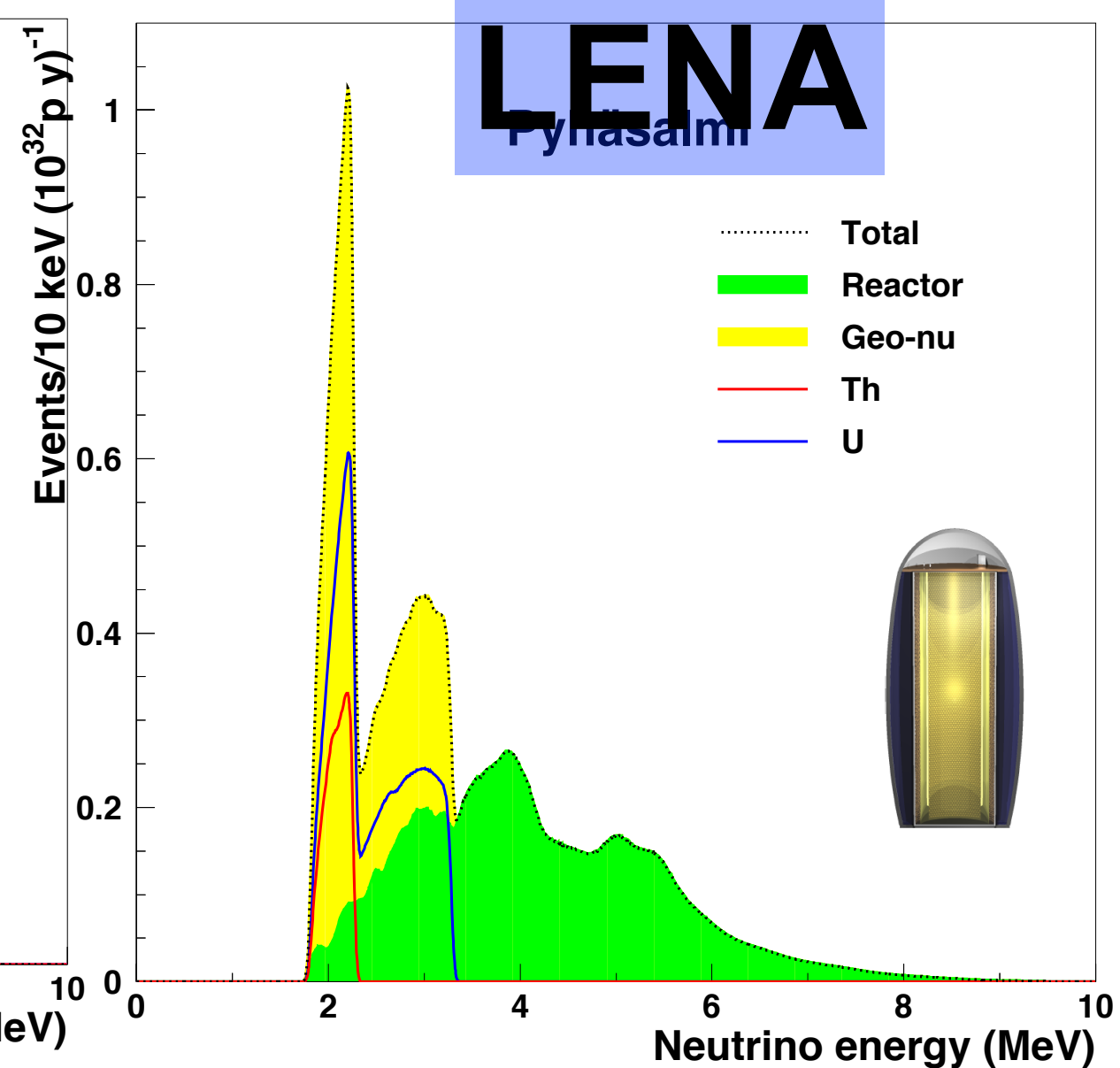
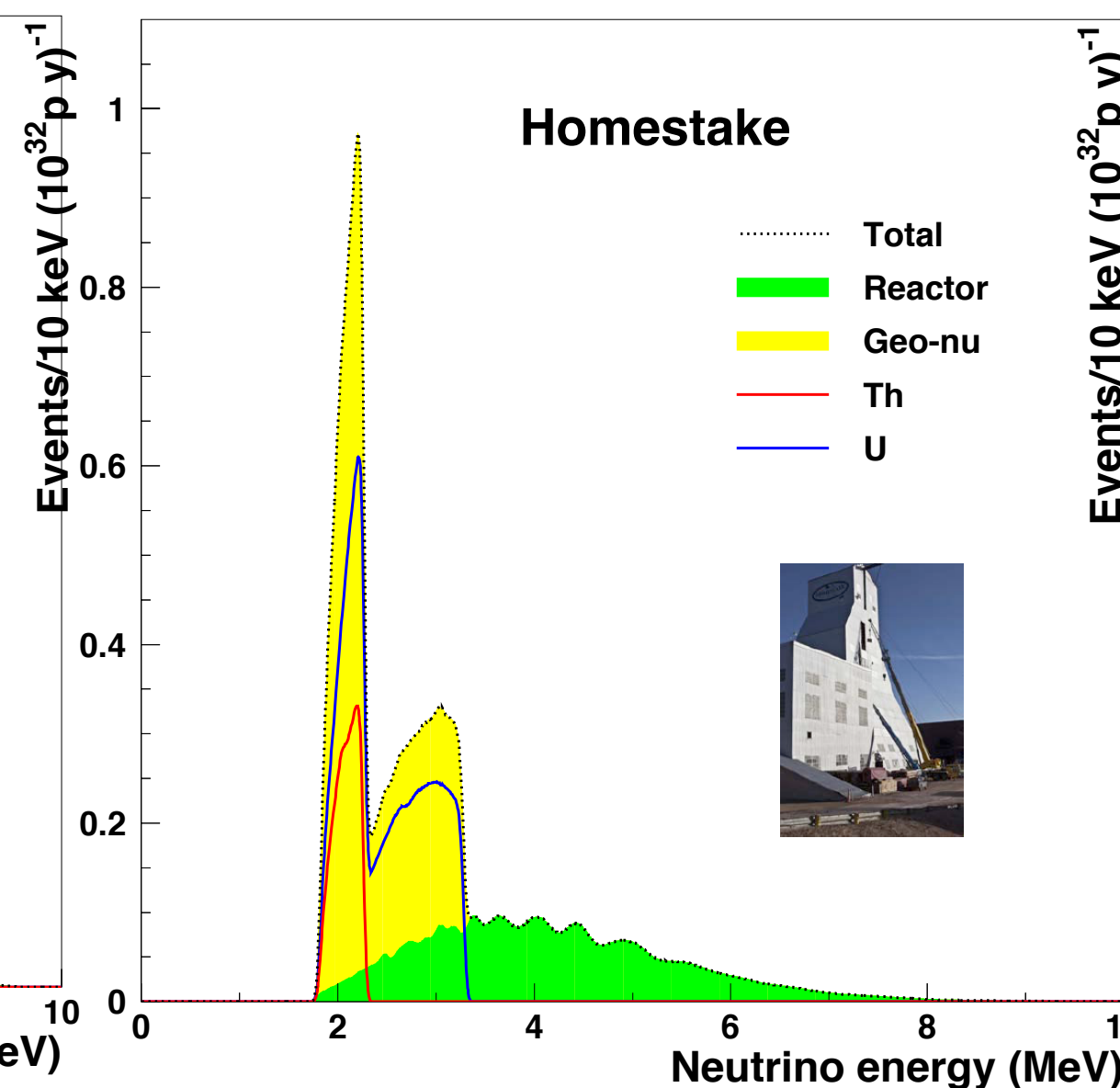
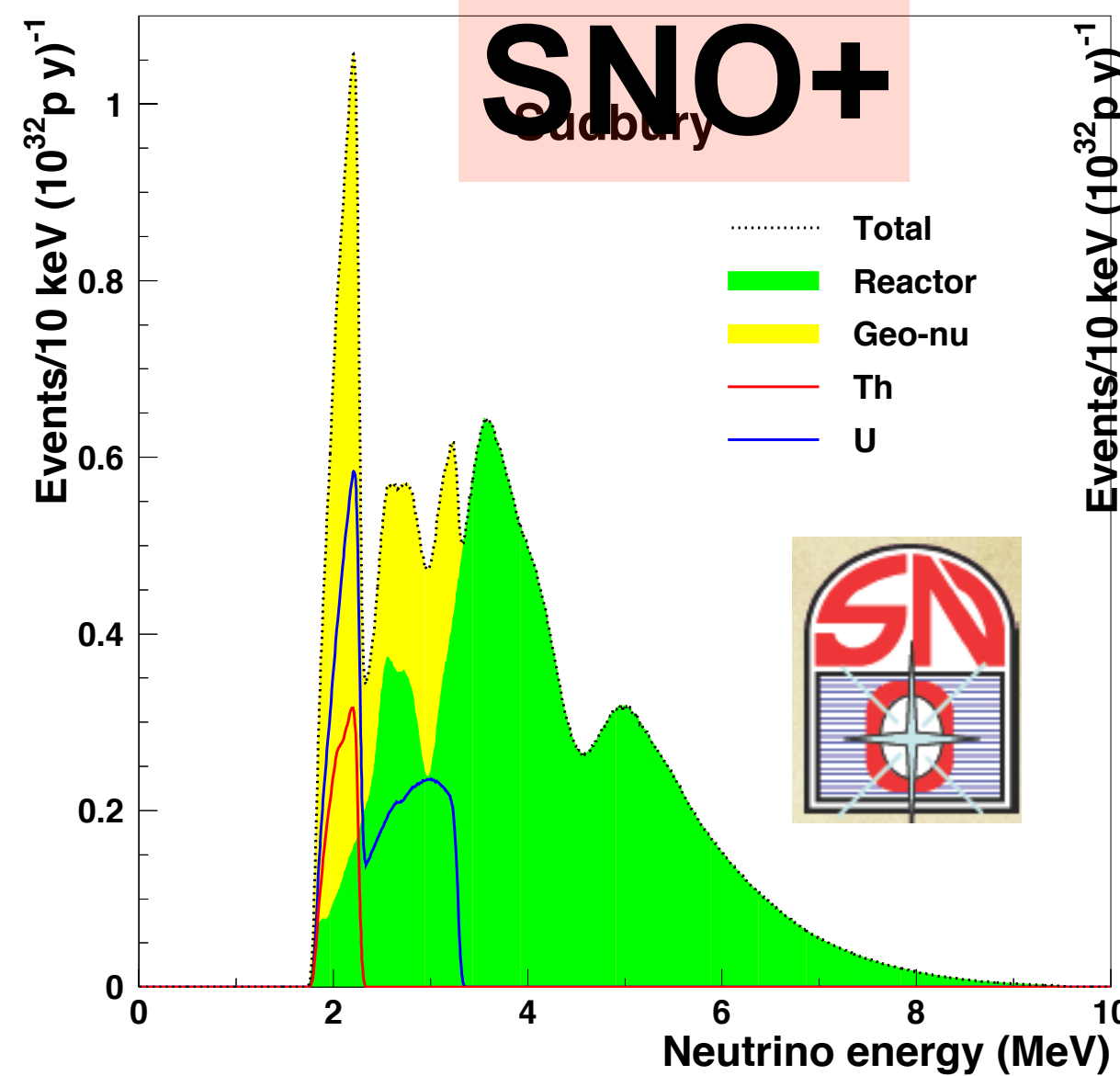
2005 : Specific engineering study was started in Hawaii.

- **Direct measurement of mantle contribution**
- **Test of Earth models**
- **Geoneutrino has power to measure deep Earth**

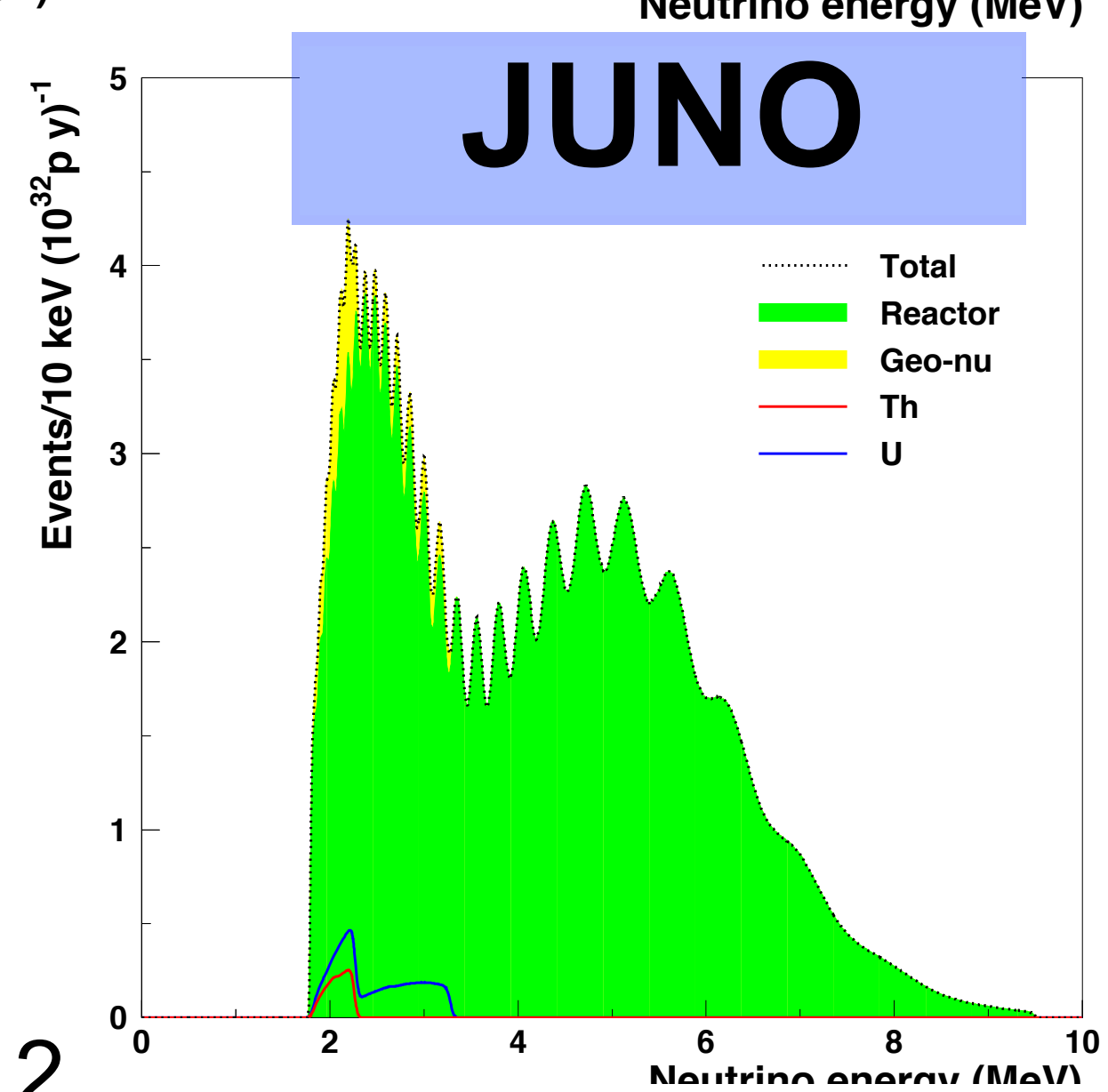
- ▶ Geoneutrinos bring unique and direct information about the Earth's interior and dynamics.
- ▶ **Results from geo-neutrino measurements**
  - Geoscientific results
    - Total radiogenic heat in the Earth
    - Th/U mass ratio
    - Test of Earth model
  - Measurement uncertainty gets close to the uncertainty of Earth model prediction.
  - KamLAND : New results with additional 500-day low reactor phase data will be published soon!
- ▶ **Future prospects of geo-neutrino measurement**
  - Next target : **Mantle contribution**
  - Near future
    - \* Estimation of geo-neutrino contribution from mantle
    - \* Better understanding of crust model
    - \* Multi-site measurements
  - **Ocean Bottom Detector has strong power to measure mantle contribution directly.**

Backup

# ▶ Anti-neutrino Detectors



**Continental  
Observatories**



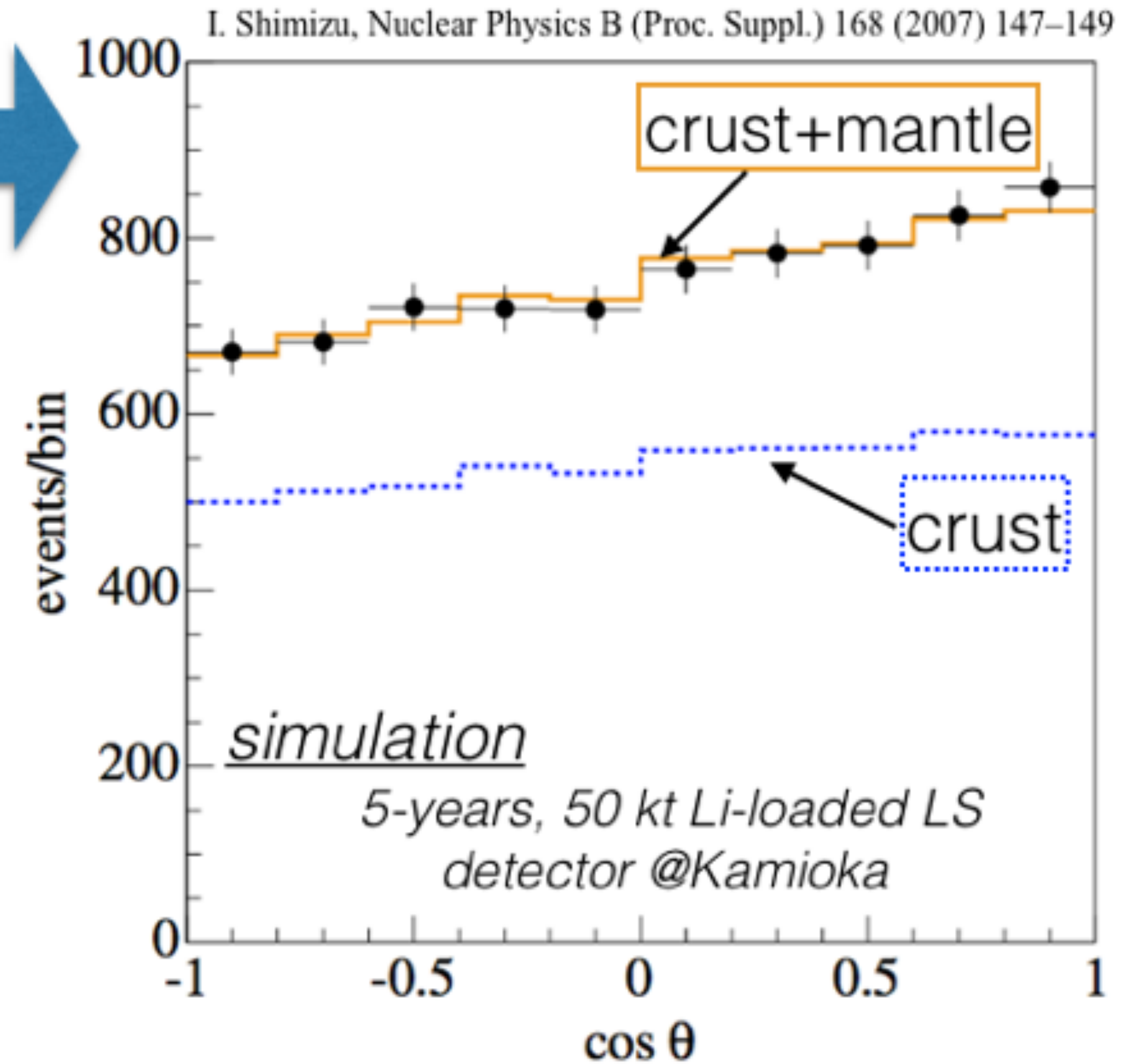
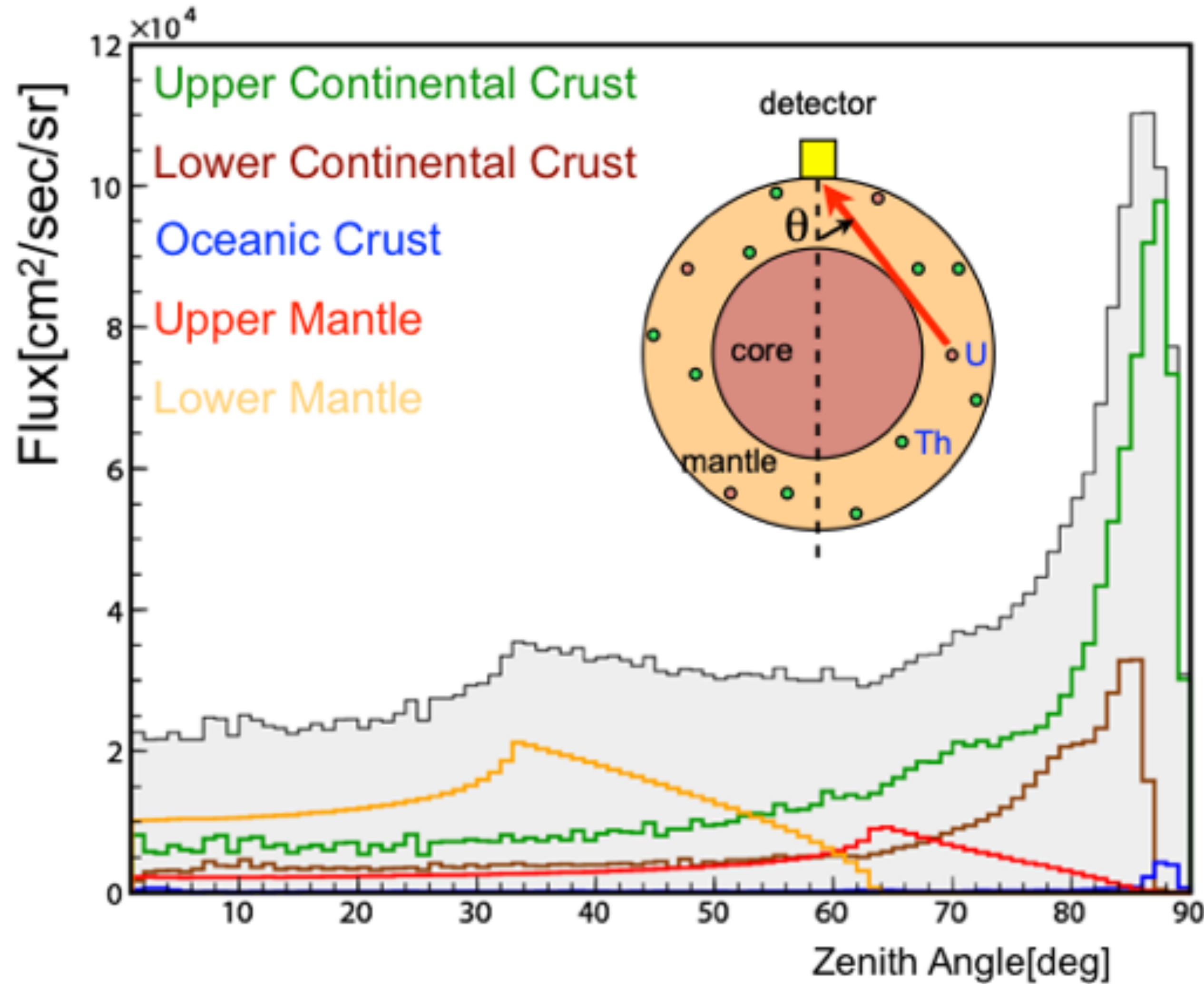
Multi-site measurements  
can distinguish  
crustal differences.



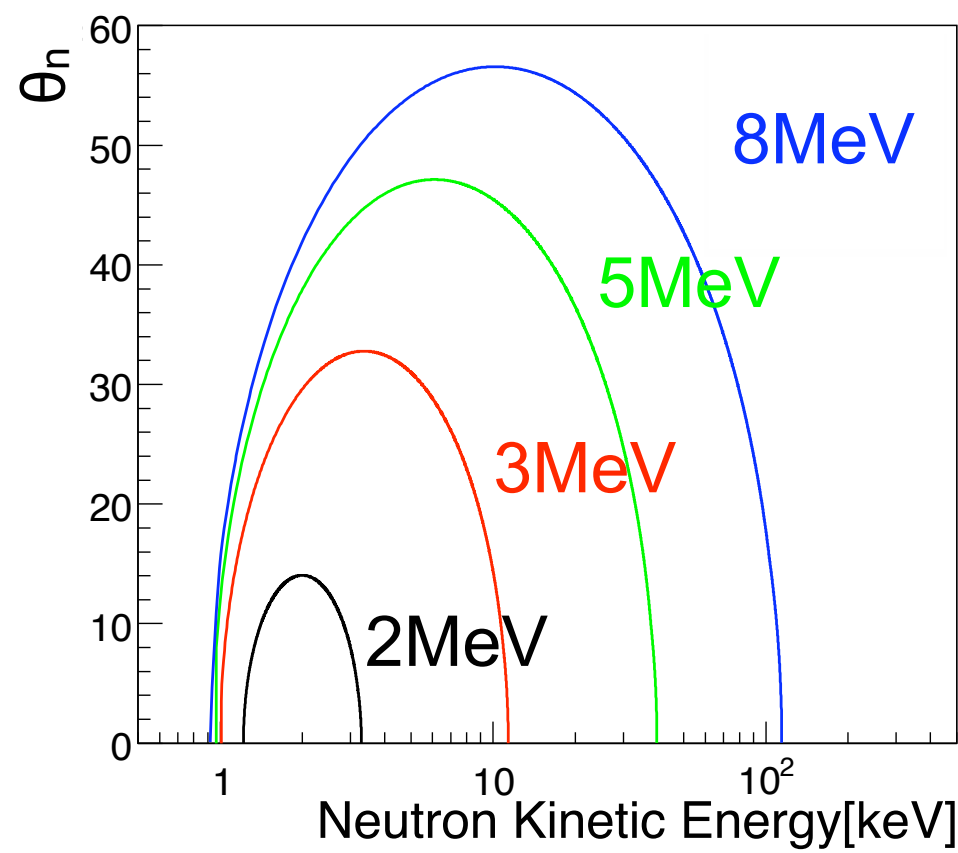
Understanding of  
geochemical evolution  
of the Earth.

# ► Directional Measurement

geo-neutrino angular distribution @Kamioka

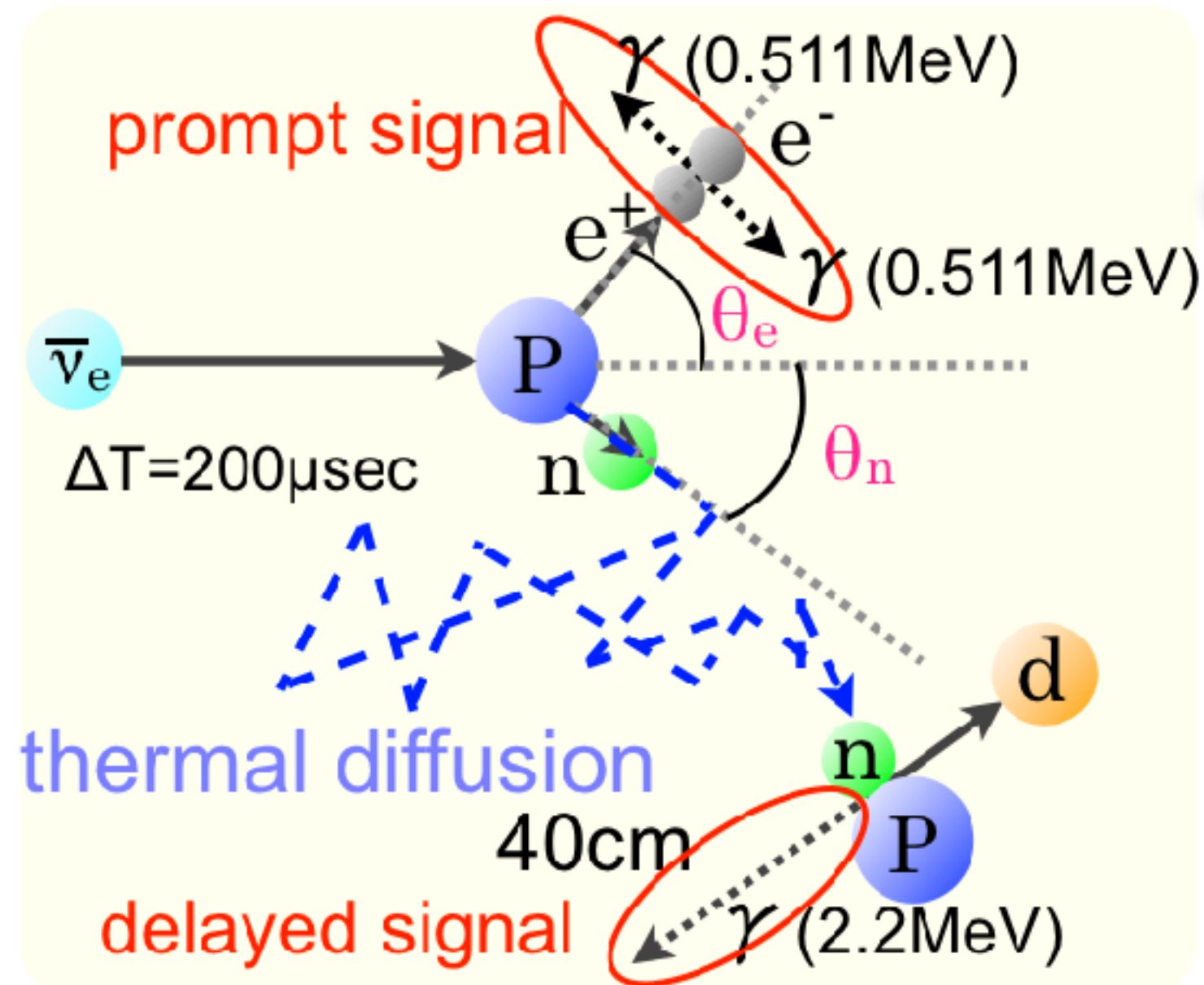


# ► Directional Measurement with ${}^6\text{LiLS}$ and Imaging Detector



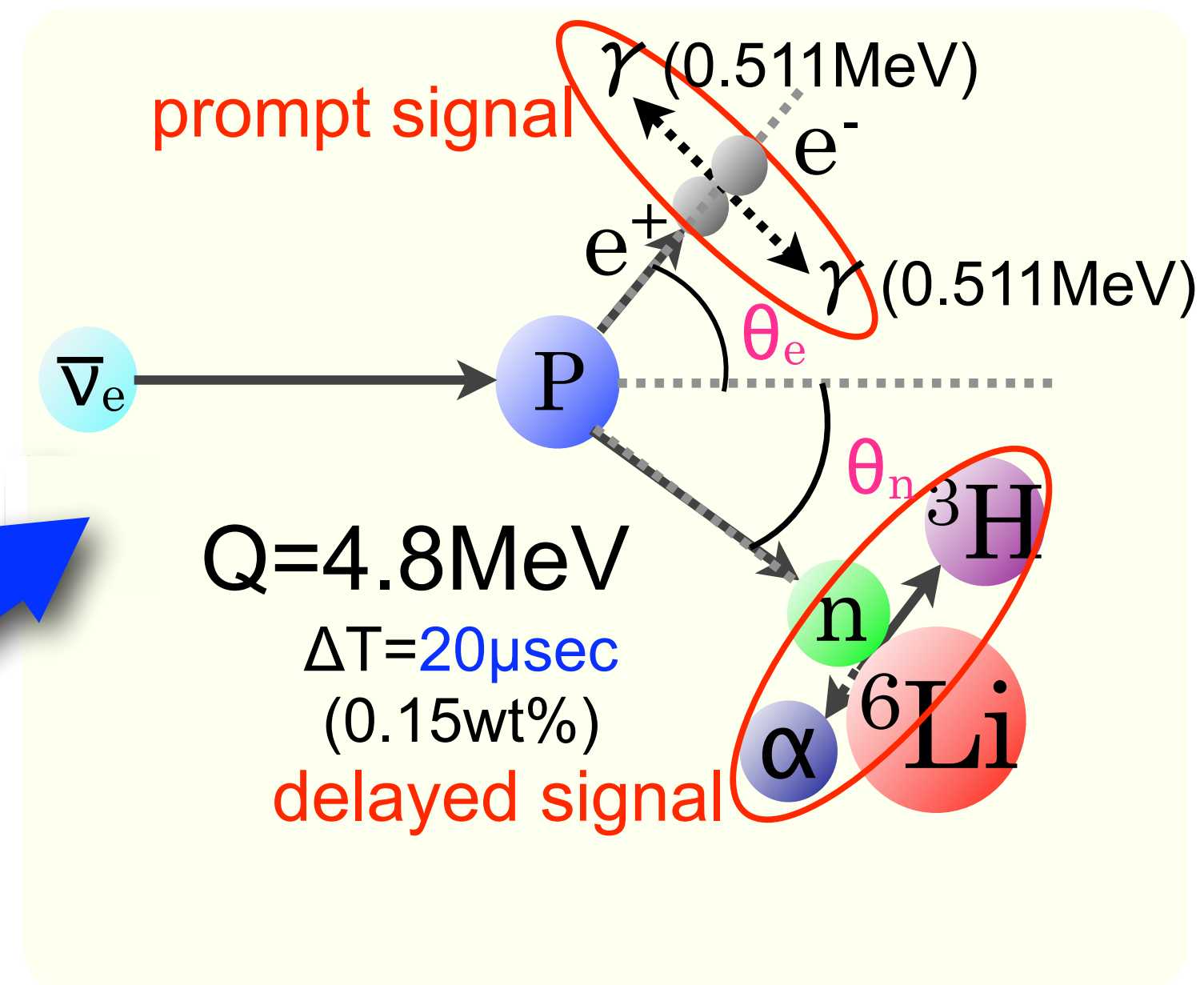
$$E_{\bar{\nu}_e} < 3\text{MeV} \rightarrow \theta_n < 35^\circ$$

[current liquid scintillator]



neutron has directional information of anti-neutrino

[Li loaded liquid scintillator]



- large neutron capture cross section ( ${}^6\text{Li}$  940 barns vs  ${}^1\text{H}$  0.3 barns)
- $\alpha$  doesn't travel far

+  
[high vertex resolution imaging detector]

- higher than 2 cm resolution (PMT  $\sim 10\text{cm}$ )

# ▶ $^{40}\text{K}$ geoneutrino

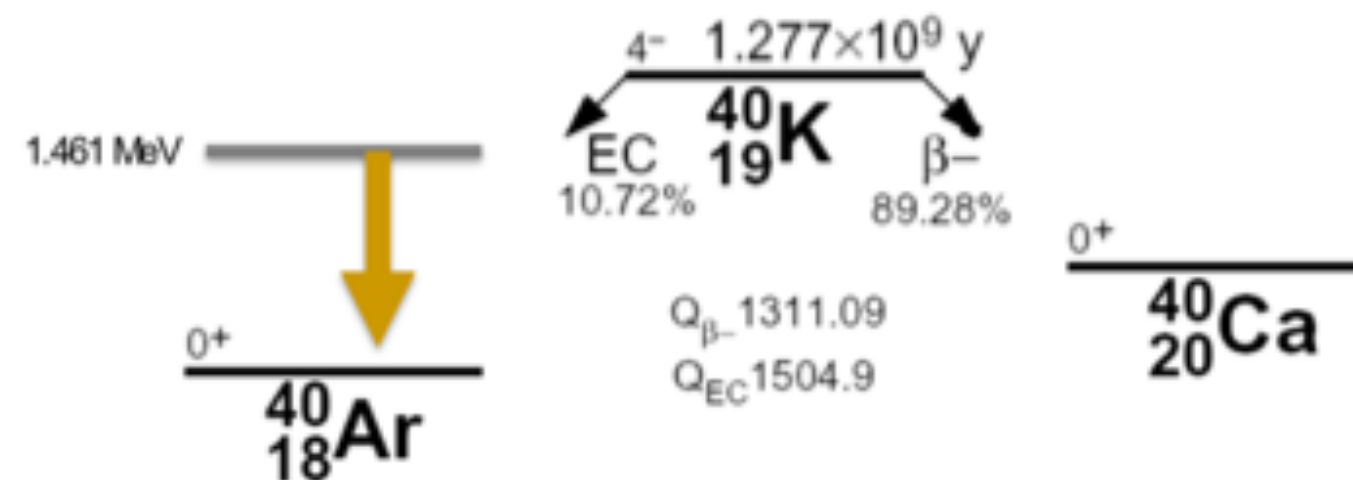
## Motivation

- ~16% of Earth's radiogenic heat is from  $^{40}\text{K}$
  - K may reside in the Earth's core?
- $^{40}\text{K}$  geoneutrino measurement is useful to know amount and distribution

## $^{40}\text{K}$ Decay

- 89.28 %  $Q_\beta = 1.311 \text{ MeV}$   $^{40}\text{K} \rightarrow ^{40}\text{Ca} + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e$   $(5-15) \times 10^6 / \text{cm}^2/\text{s}$  → possible?
- 10.72 %  $Q_{\text{EC}} = 1.505 \text{ MeV}$   $^{40}\text{K} + e^- \rightarrow ^{40}\text{Ar} + \nu_e$ 
  - 10.67 % to 1.461 MeV state ( $E_\nu = 44 \text{ keV}$ )  $(5-15) \times 10^5 / \text{cm}^2/\text{s}$  → impossible...
  - 0.05 % to g.s. ( $E_\nu = 1.5 \text{ MeV}$ )  $(2-6) \times 10^3 / \text{cm}^2/\text{s}$

ref) 1.44 MeV pep solar  $\nu$  :  $1.42 \times 10^8 / \text{cm}^2/\text{s}$

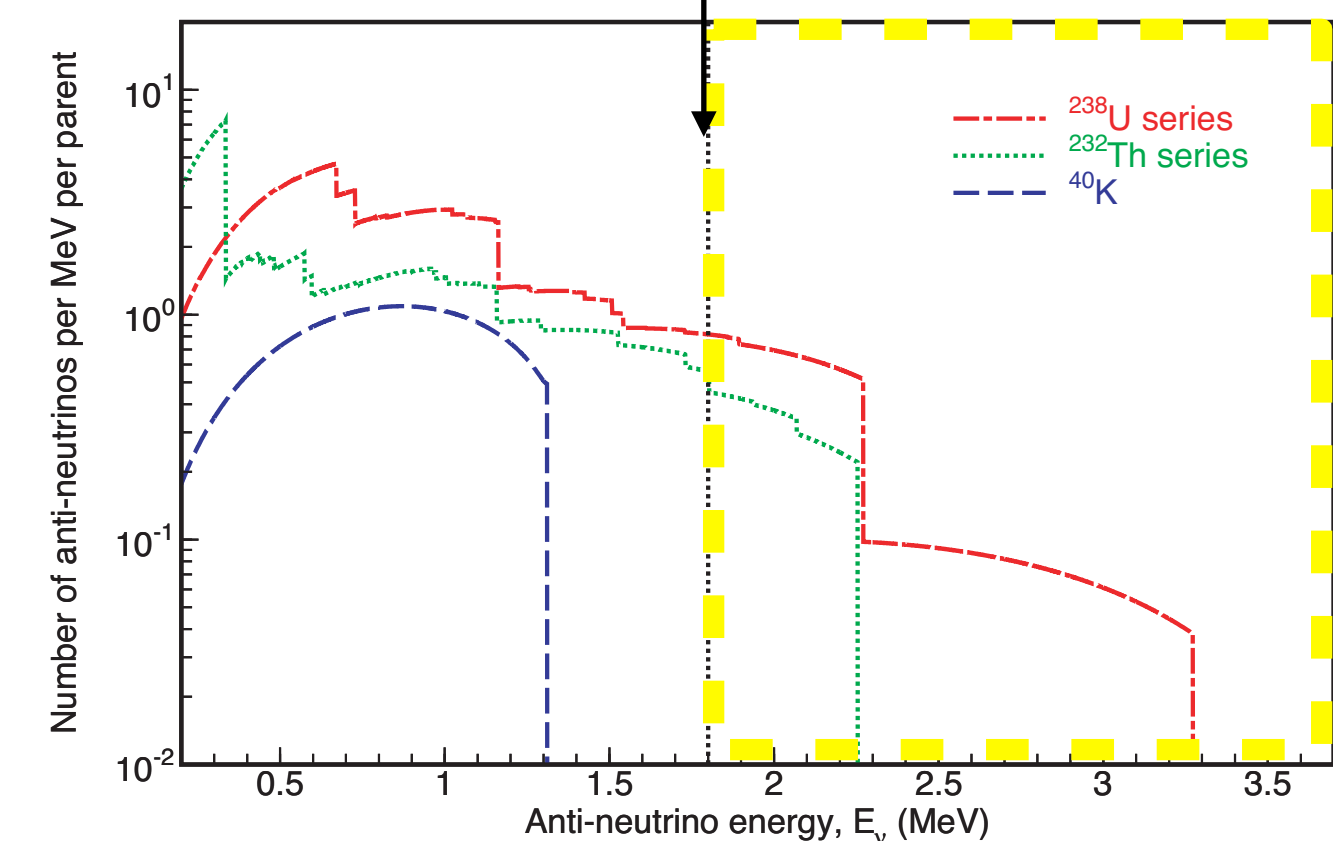


## $^{40}\text{K}$ Anti-neutrino

$\bar{\nu}_e - e$  scattering

requires electron recoil directionality due to large flux of solar neutrinos

Energy threshold, 1.8 MeV

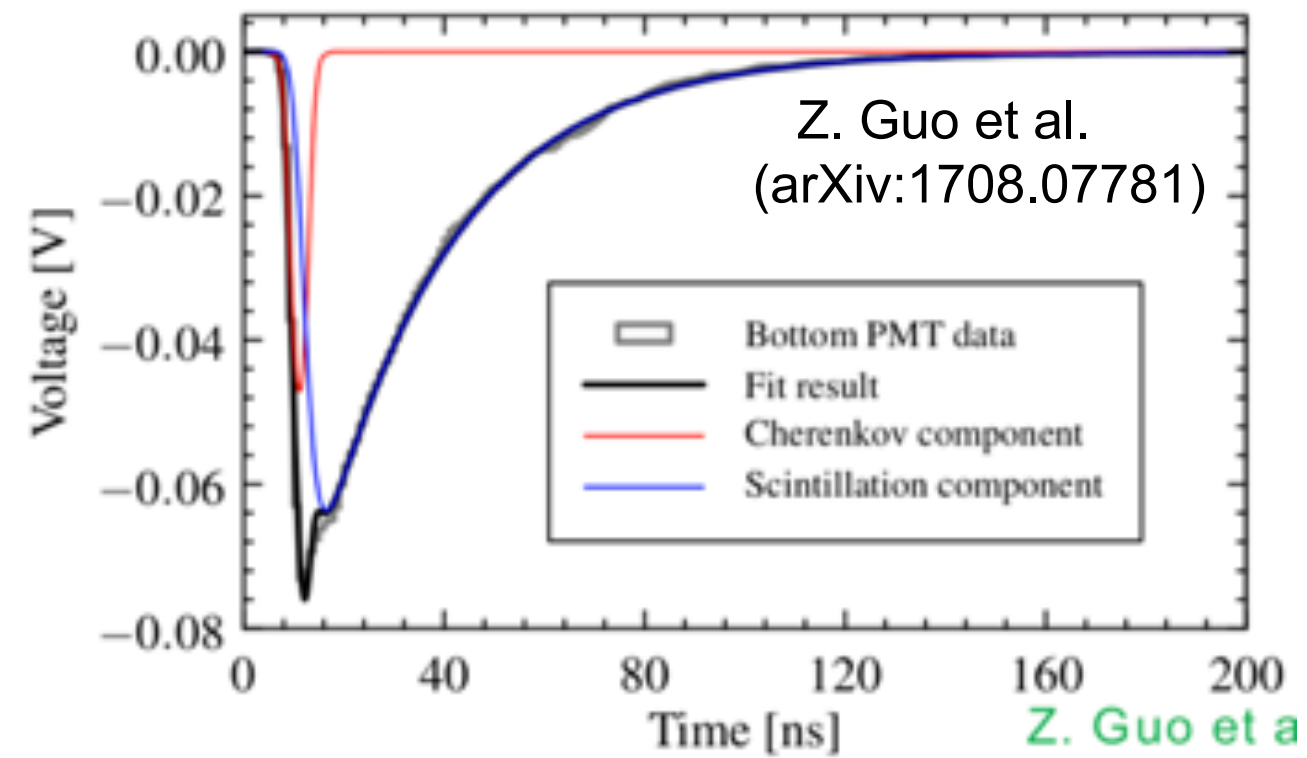




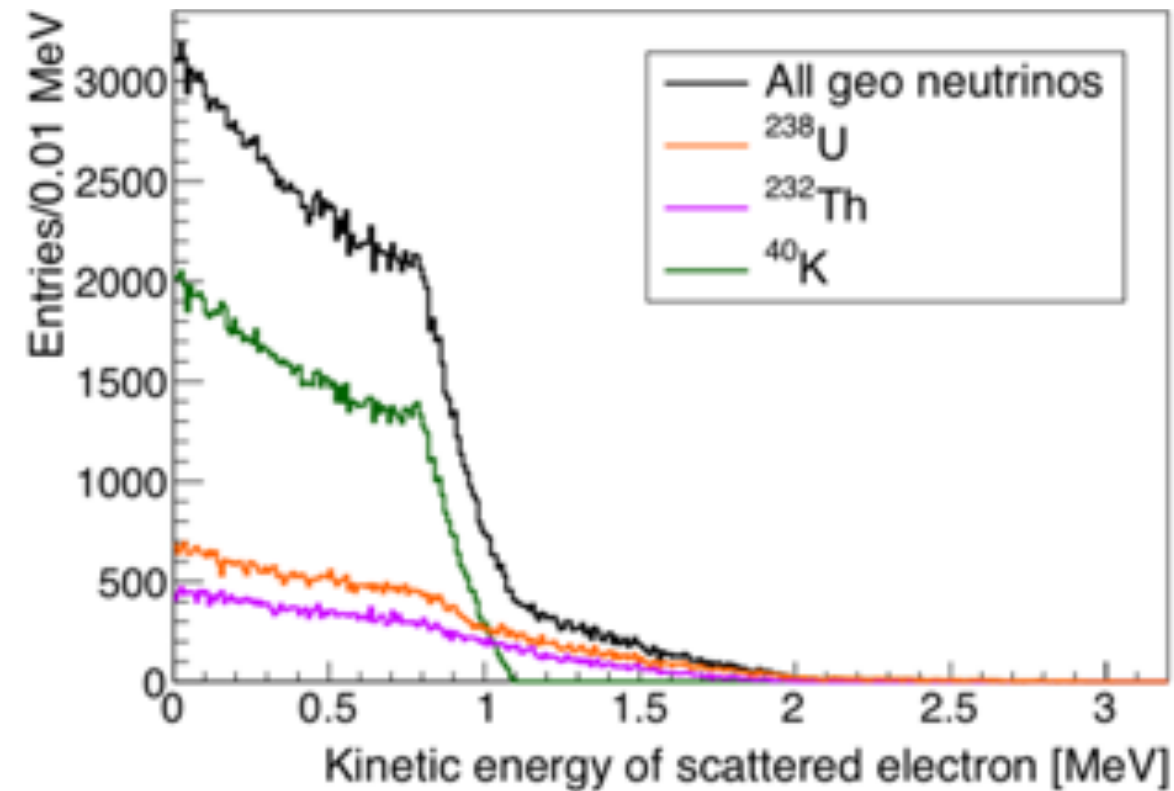
# ▶ $^{40}\text{K}$ geoneutrino

## Liquid Scintillator Cherenkov Neutrino Detector

Z. Wang & S. Chen (arXiv:1709.03743)



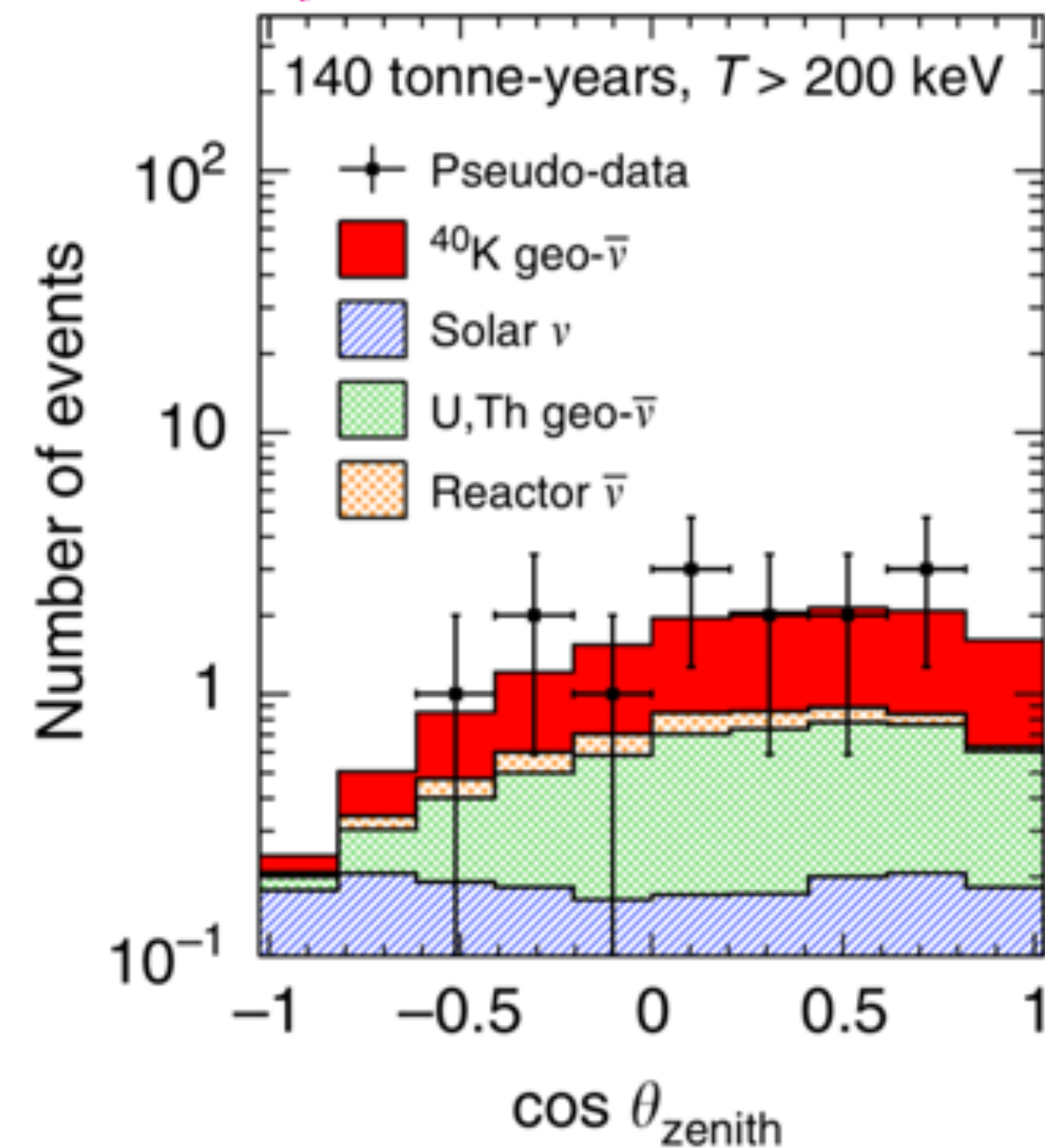
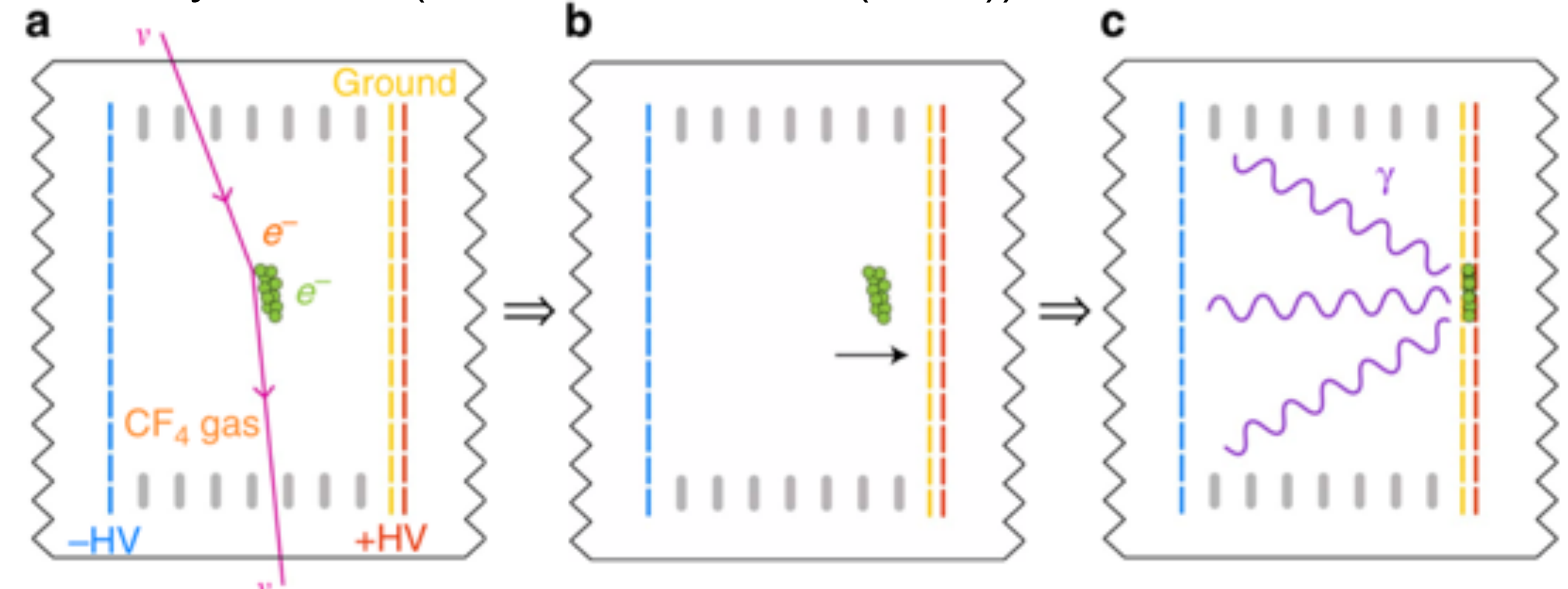
Z. Guo et al.  
(arXiv:1708.07781)



- Slow LS. Cherenkov and scintillation can be measured.
- Cherenkov  $\rightarrow$  Directional information
- Serious effects from solar  $\nu$  and radioactive background

## Gas TPC

M. Layton et al. (Nat. Comm. 15989(2018))



- Huge gas chamber (cf.  $\text{CF}_4$ )
- Technically difficult