



J-PARC-ESS Workshop
2022/10/10-11 @Lund, Sweden & Zoom

The neutron source characterization at BL10, NOBORU

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Introduction

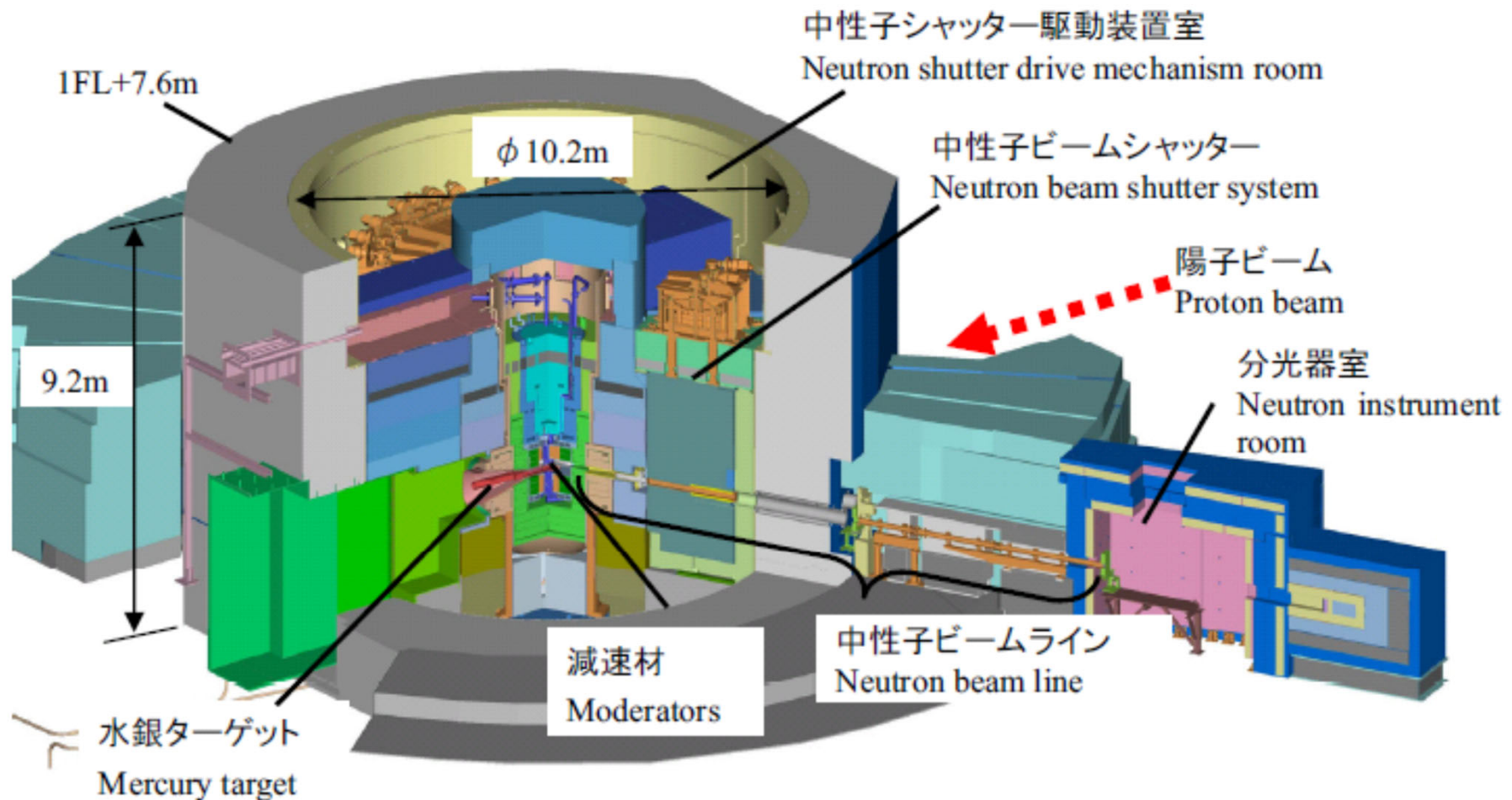
Introduction

- ▶ The spallation neutron source at MLF in J-PARC has been designed by particle transport codes (NMTC/JAM, PHITS, MCNP and MCNPX) on viewpoint of neutronics.
- ▶ The validation is one of the most important works to check reliability of the calculations.
- ▶ The purpose of this study is the validation of neutronics calculation at MLF spallation neutron source in J-PARC.

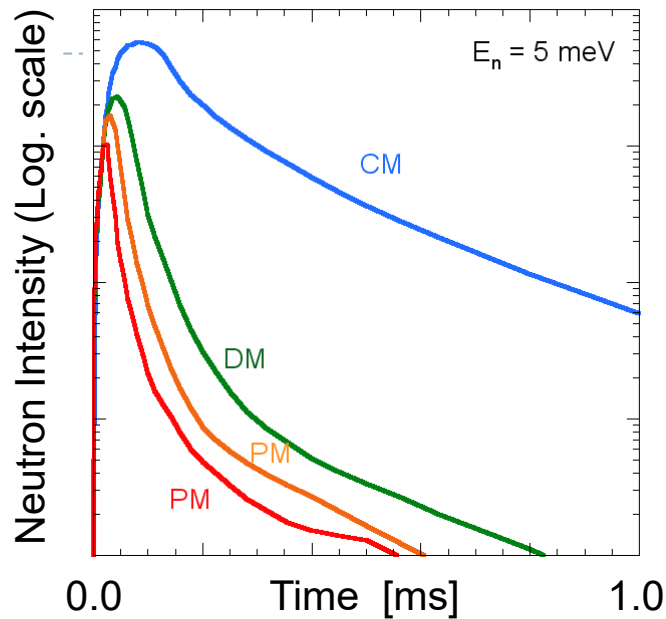


Spallation Neutron Source at MLF in J-PARC

- 3GeV proton beam
- Mercury Target
- Supercritical hydrogen moderator



Liquid moderators



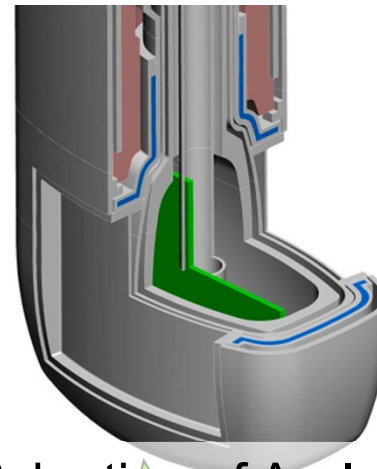
Poisoned decoupled moderator (PM)

Decoupled moderator (DM)

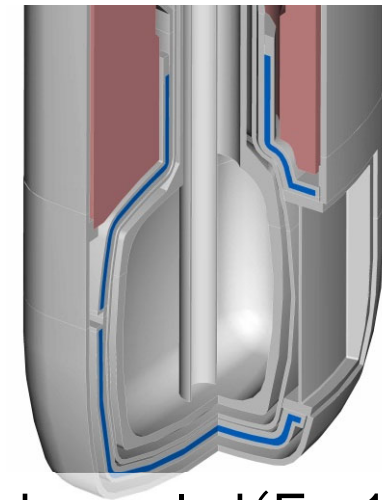
Sharp pulse

High intensity & sharp pulse

Port: 6



Port: 6



Coupled moderator (CM)

Port: 11

High intensity



- Large volume and Cylindrical shape
- Large extraction angle

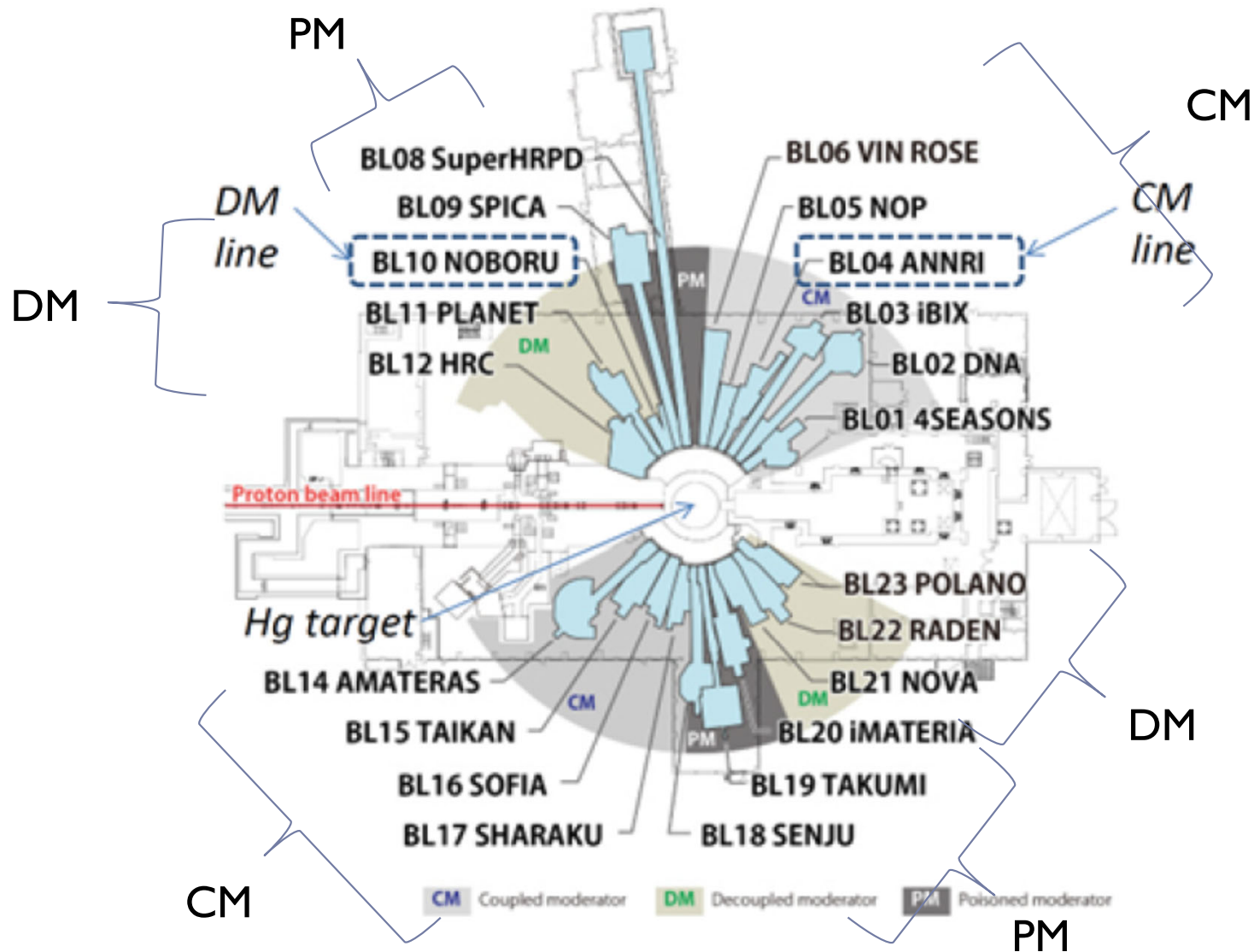
- Adoption of Ag-In-Cd (AIC) decoupled ($E_d=1\text{eV}$)
- Optimized decoupler arrangement for sharp pulse tails
- Adoption of Cd poison

Proton beam

Hg target

- Optimized to 100% para-hydrogen moderator

Beam line arrangement and BL10



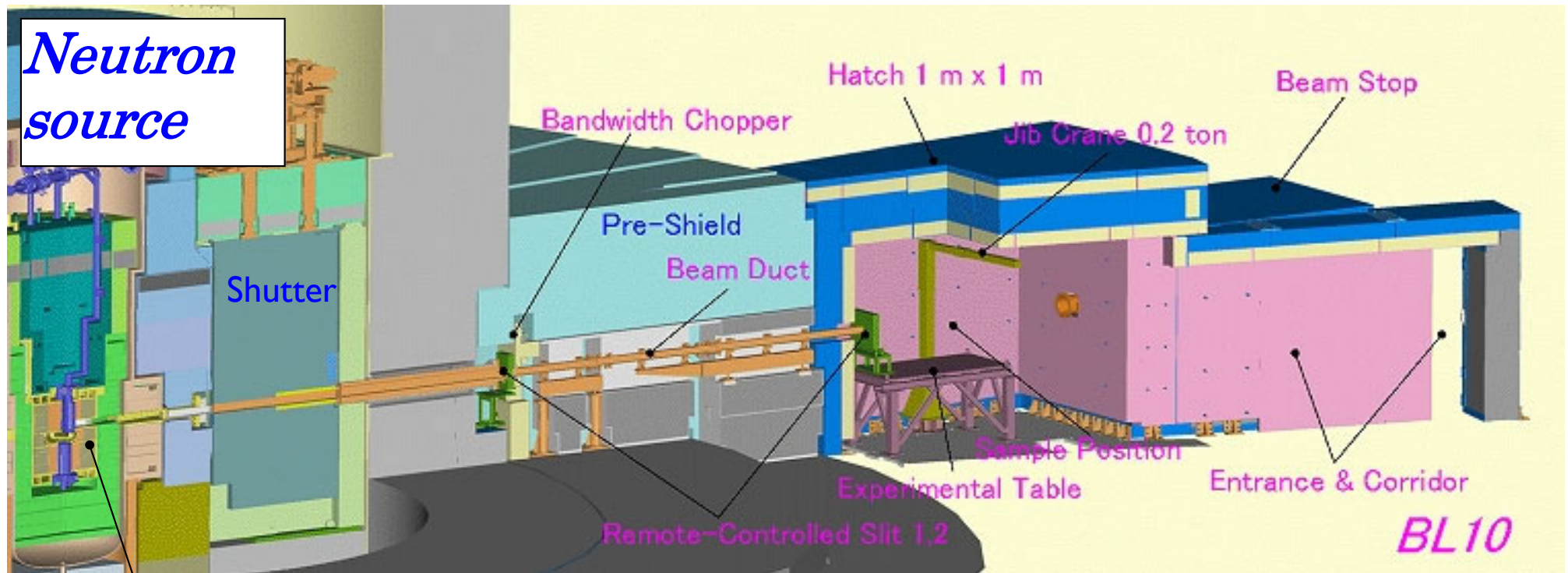
BL10, NOBORU

NeutrOn Beam-line for Observation and Research Use (NOBORU)

The aims of BL10 are to confirm the neutron characteristics and to do various test.

The largest sample (Fe in $10 \times 10 \times 10 \text{ cm}^3$) can be used.

Sample position is 14m in distance from moderator. Neutron beam line size is $10 \times 10 \text{ cm}^2$ and the largest among the neutron beam ports. Several components are installed.



Target & Moderator

Calculations

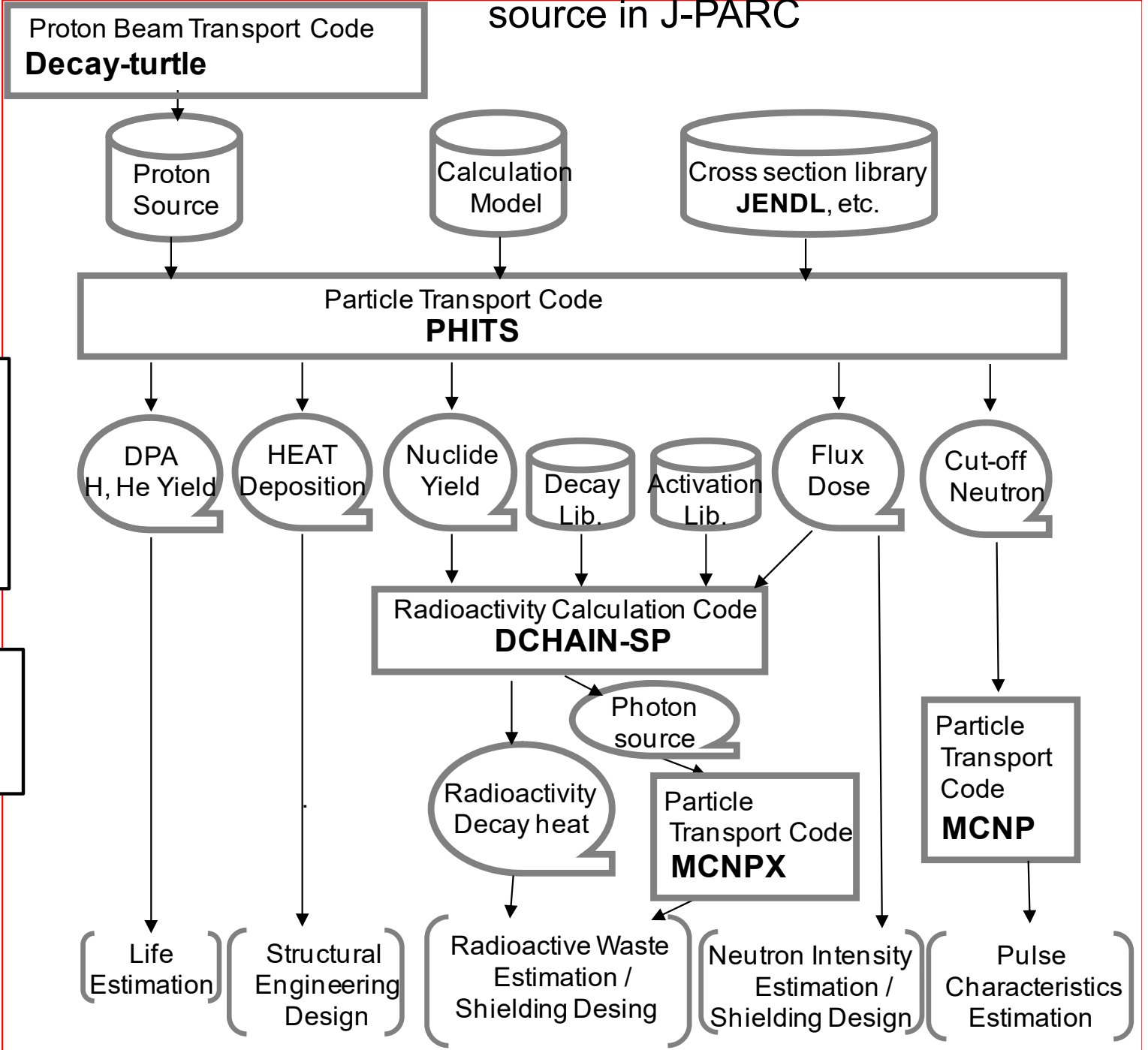
Code System

For the spallation neutron source in J-PARC

PHITS:
Particle and Heavy Ion Transport Code

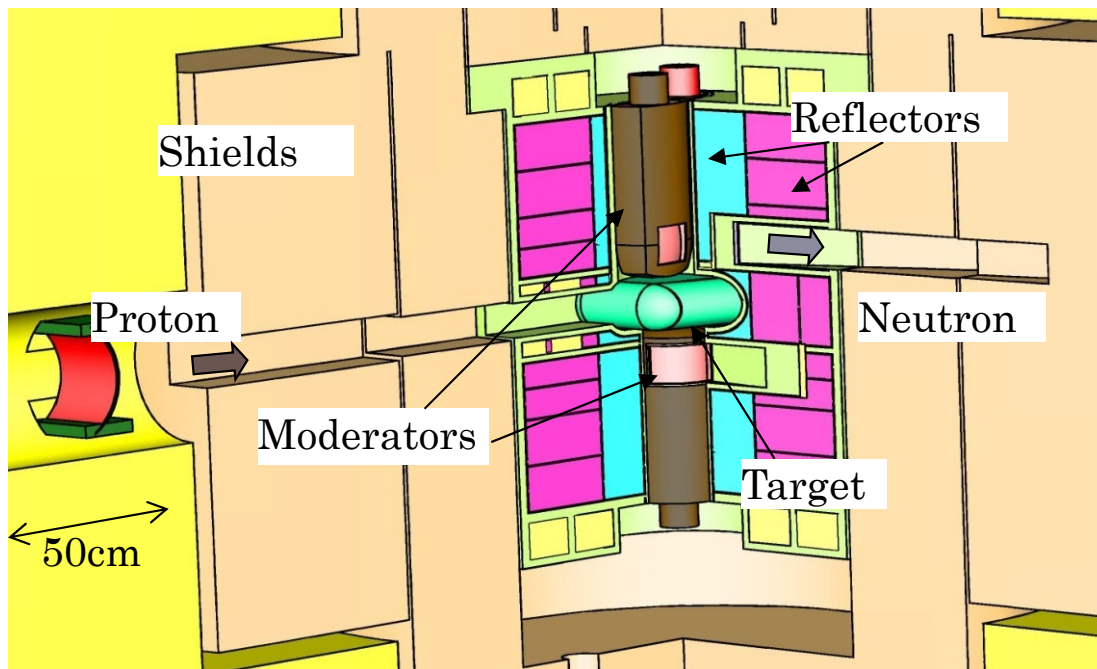
Large model size (>15m),
Large model number (>2000)
Large attenuation of neutron flux (>10 decades)
Large cases (~2000)

Around 2008,
MPI parallel computing system was used
Pentium IV 2.8GHz (2 core) X 36
Xeon 3.0 GHz (4 core) X 1



Calculation model and calculation parameter

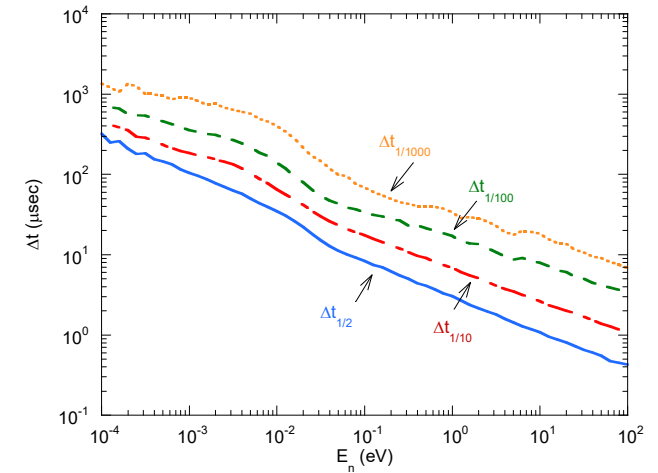
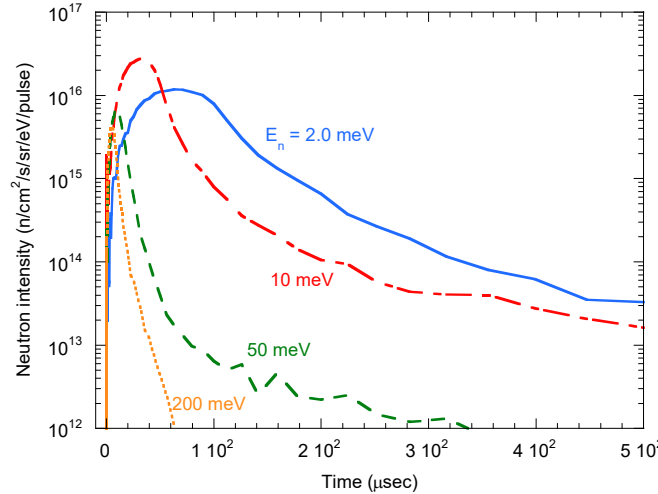
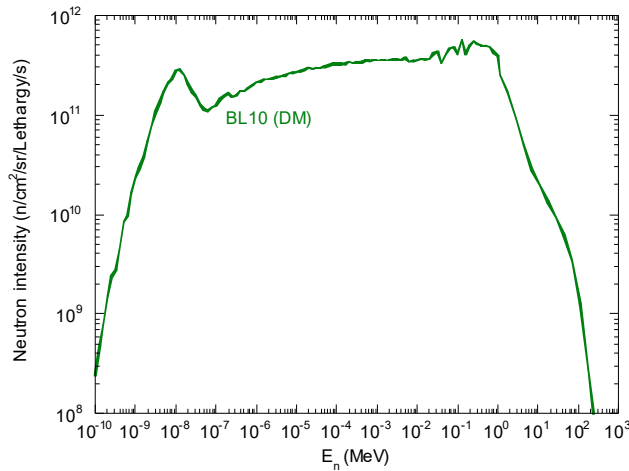
3 D view of JSNS design



| Item | Calculation condition |
|----------------------------|---|
| Proton Beam | |
| Power | 1MW at the proton beam window |
| Operation time | 5000 hours / year |
| Profile | Emittance : 81π mm mrad Gaussian + Uniform |
| Repetition rate | 25Hz |
| Proton Beam window | |
| Material & thickness | Al-alloy (A5083), 2.5mm ^t x 2 plates |
| Coolant | H ₂ O |
| Target | |
| Material, density | Mercury, 13.6 g/cm ³ |
| Vessel material | 316L stainless steel |
| Coolant | D ₂ O |
| Moderator | |
| Type & number | Coupled (CM) 1 Decoupled (DM) 1 Decoupled Poisoned (PM) 1 |
| Material property | Super-critical hydrogen, 20K, 1.5MPa, 0.07g/cm ³ |
| Vessel material | Al-alloy (A6061, A5083) |
| Coolant | H ₂ O |
| Reflector | |
| Material & size (Inner) | Beryllium, 50 cm (Dia.) x 100 cm (Hei.) |
| Material & size (Outer) | Iron, 100 cm (Dia.) x 100 cm (Hei.) |
| Coolant material, fraction | D ₂ O, about 10% (channel width: 5mm) |
| Vessel material | Al-alloy (A5083) |
| Water-cooled shield | |
| Material | 304 stainless steel |
| Coolant material, fraction | H ₂ O, about 10% |
| Air-cooled shield | |
| Material | Steel |
| Coolant material | Air |
| Neutron beam line | |
| Number | 23 |

Calculation results

Neutron flux and pulse shape for providing at the neutron beam port



Nuclear heat generation

Precise treatment were considered

- 1, Photon energy deposition via electron energy deposition
- 2, Energy-balanced neutron kerma factor
- 3, Decay heat

Energy conservation was consistent.

| Component | | Nuclear Heating (kW) |
|---------------------|--|----------------------|
| Target | Mercury & Vessel | 493.0 |
| Reflector | Reflector & Vessel | 193.9 |
| Shielding block | Water-cooled shielding block | 133.8 |
| Proton beam window | Window assembly | 1.4 |
| Poisoned moderator | H ₂ & H ₂ Vessel | 1.1 |
| | Water-cooled outer Vessel | 4.4 |
| Decoupled moderator | H ₂ & H ₂ Vessel | 1.0 |
| | Water-cooled outer Vessel | 4.9 |
| Coupled moderator | H ₂ & H ₂ Vessel | 1.4 |
| | Water-cooled outer Vessel | 5.2 |
| Total | | 874.7 |

Dose rate
DPA
Radioactive materials
and so on.

Measurements and validations

Measurement list

- ▶ **First neutron measurement**
- ▶ **Neutron intensity**
 - ▶ Thermal-cold neutrons
 - ▶ High energy
- ▶ **Pulse shape**
 - ▶ Thermal-cold neutrons
 - ▶ High energy
- ▶ **Spatial distribution on moderator surface**
 - ▶ Thermal-cold neutrons
 - ▶ High energy



Pictures of neutron measurement at BL10

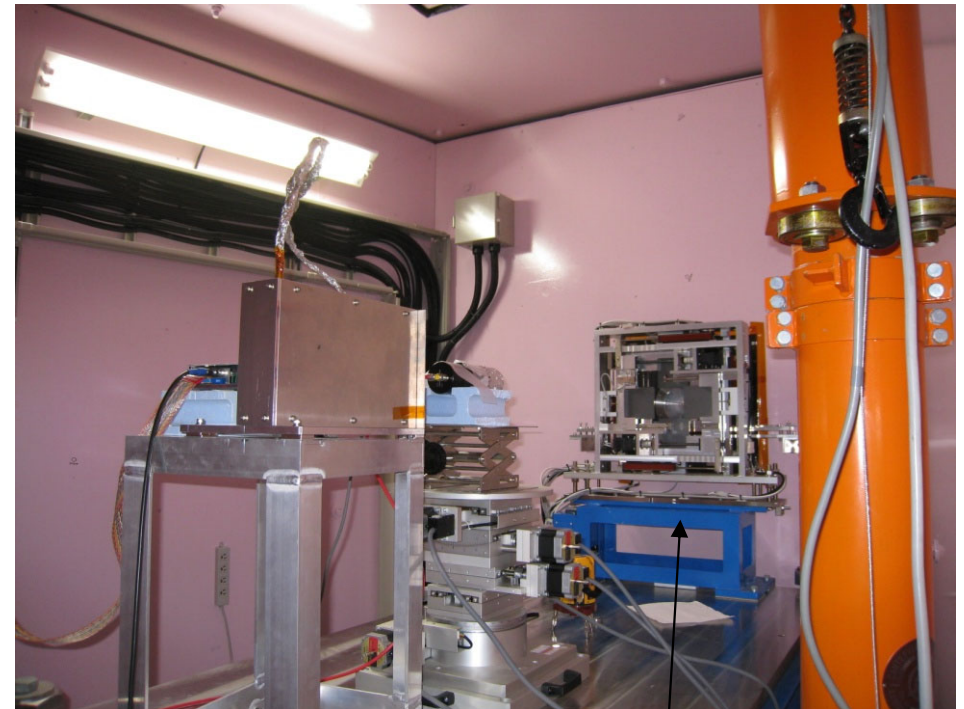
Li-glass scintillator

^3He detector

Counting detectors

1/2 inch He-3 detector (Eff~1)

He-3 monitor (Eff: 10^{-1} , 10^{-2} , 10^{-3} , 10^{-4} , 10^{-5})



Beam stop

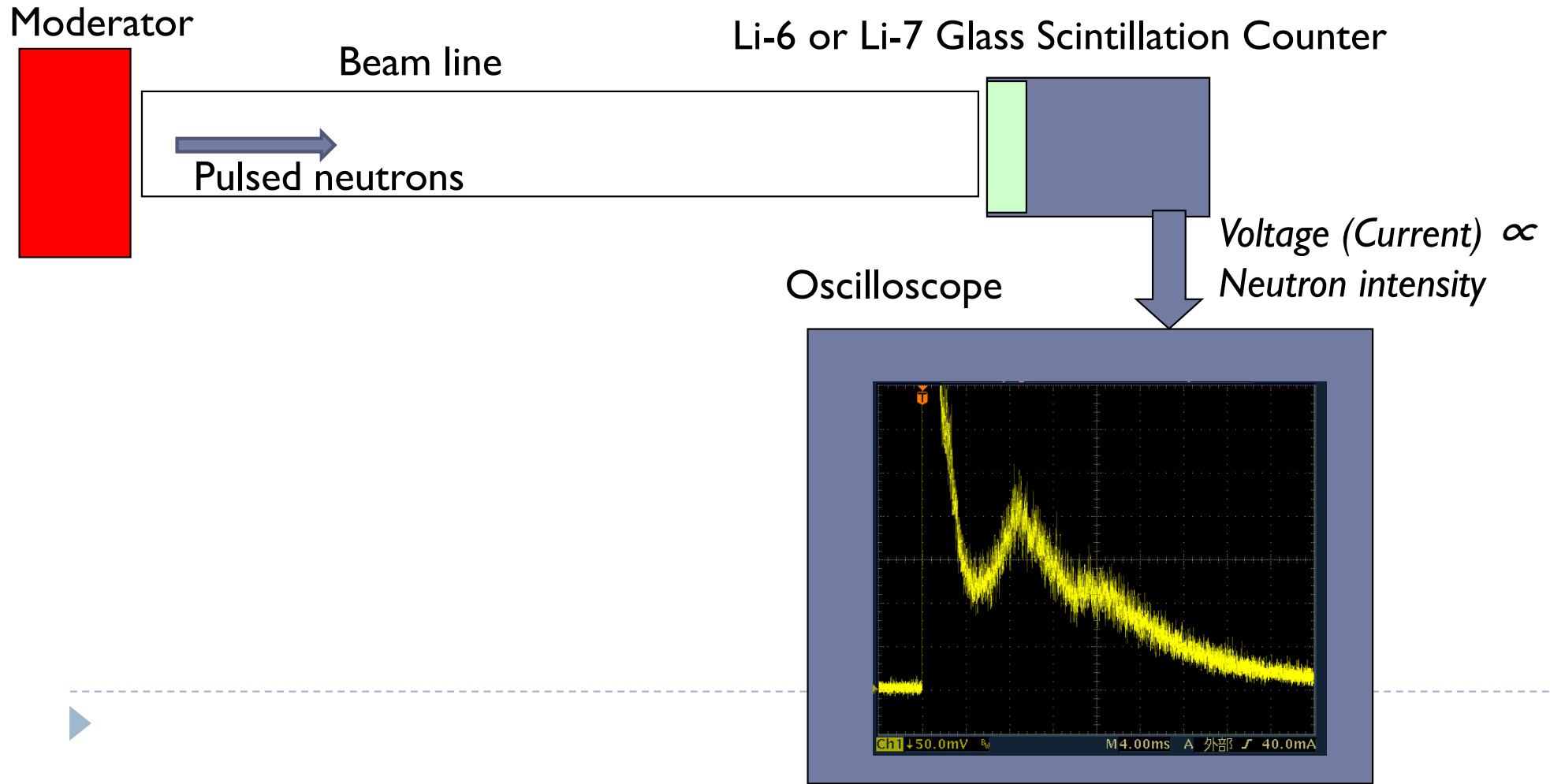
Neutron beam entrance



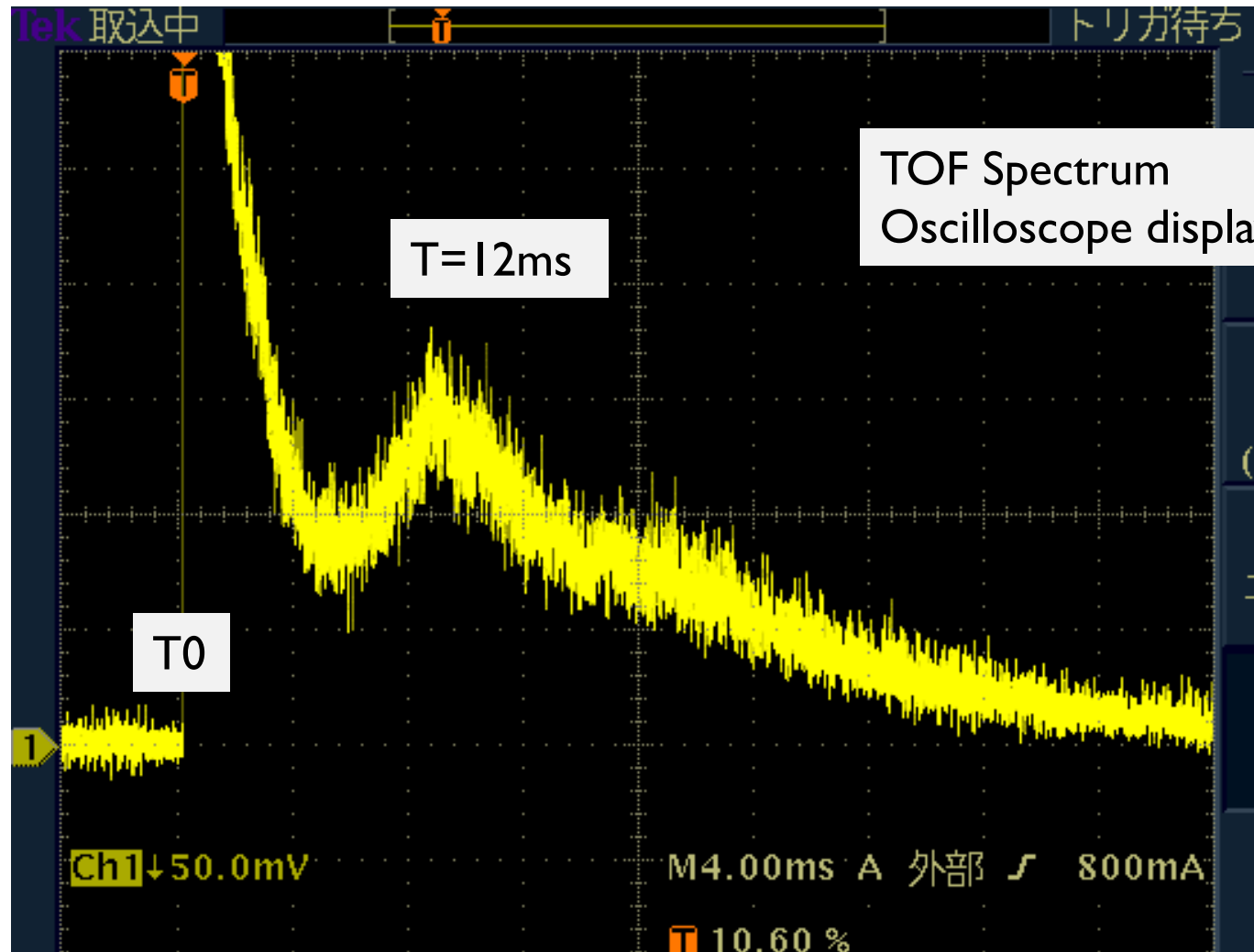
First Neutron Measurement

First direct beam was measured by CTOF method at the sample position at BL10.

CTOF: *Current Time of Flight*

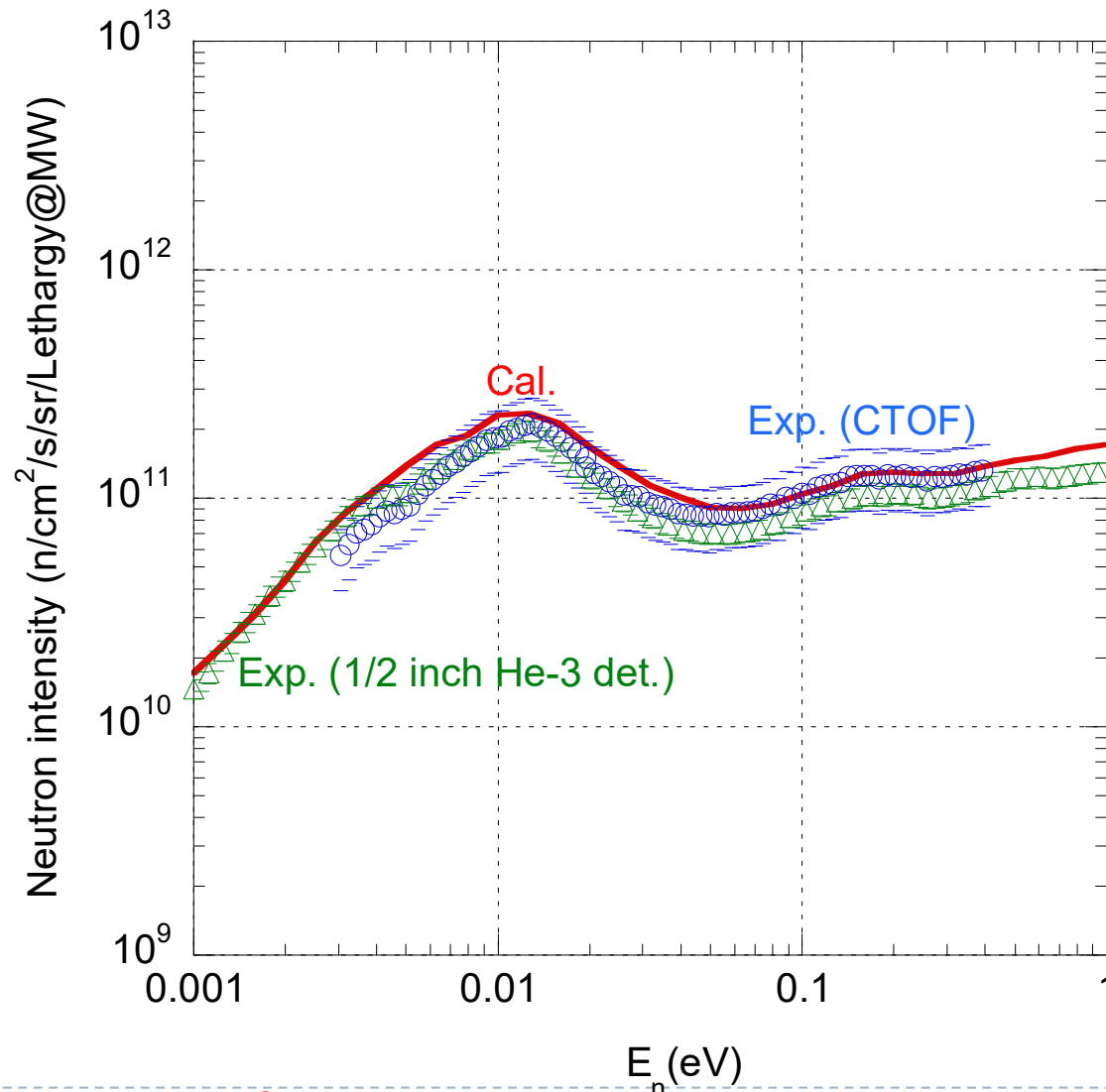


The first neutron beam



Only 1 shot !

Measurement of neutron spectral intensity



Time of flight

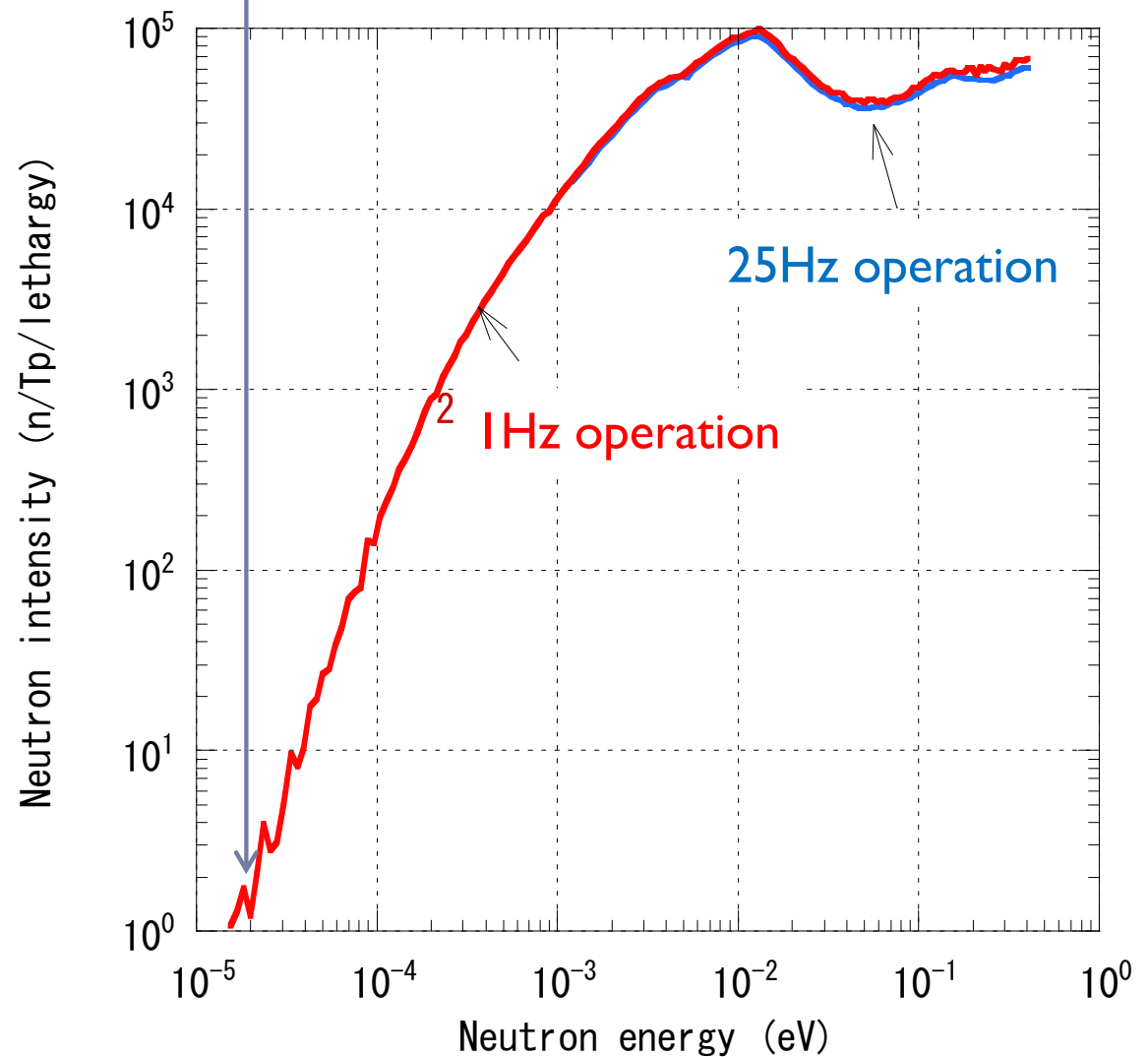
- Measuring time
6 minutes CTOF
1 hour 1/2" He-3
at 20 kW
- Exp(CTOF)-Exp(He-3):
Good agreement
- Exp(CTOF)-Cal :
Good agreement
- Experimental error :
within 30 % :CTOF
within 10 % :He3 detector

*Exp (He-3) and Cal. are in very good agreement!
(without any parameter adjustment nor normalization).*

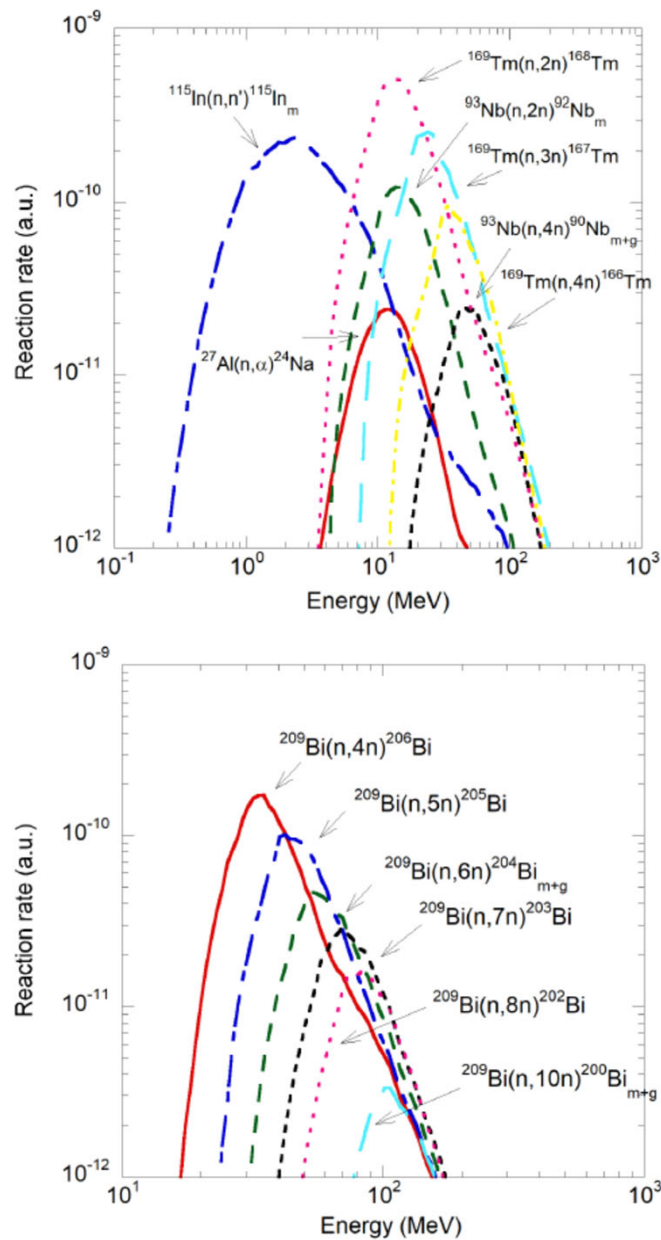
Ultra-cold neutrons

- ▶ Neutron measurement in 1 Hz operation was performed.
- ▶ Lower neutrons around 20 μeV could be measured.

20 $\mu\text{eV} = 64 \text{ \AA}$, $t=200 \text{ ms}$

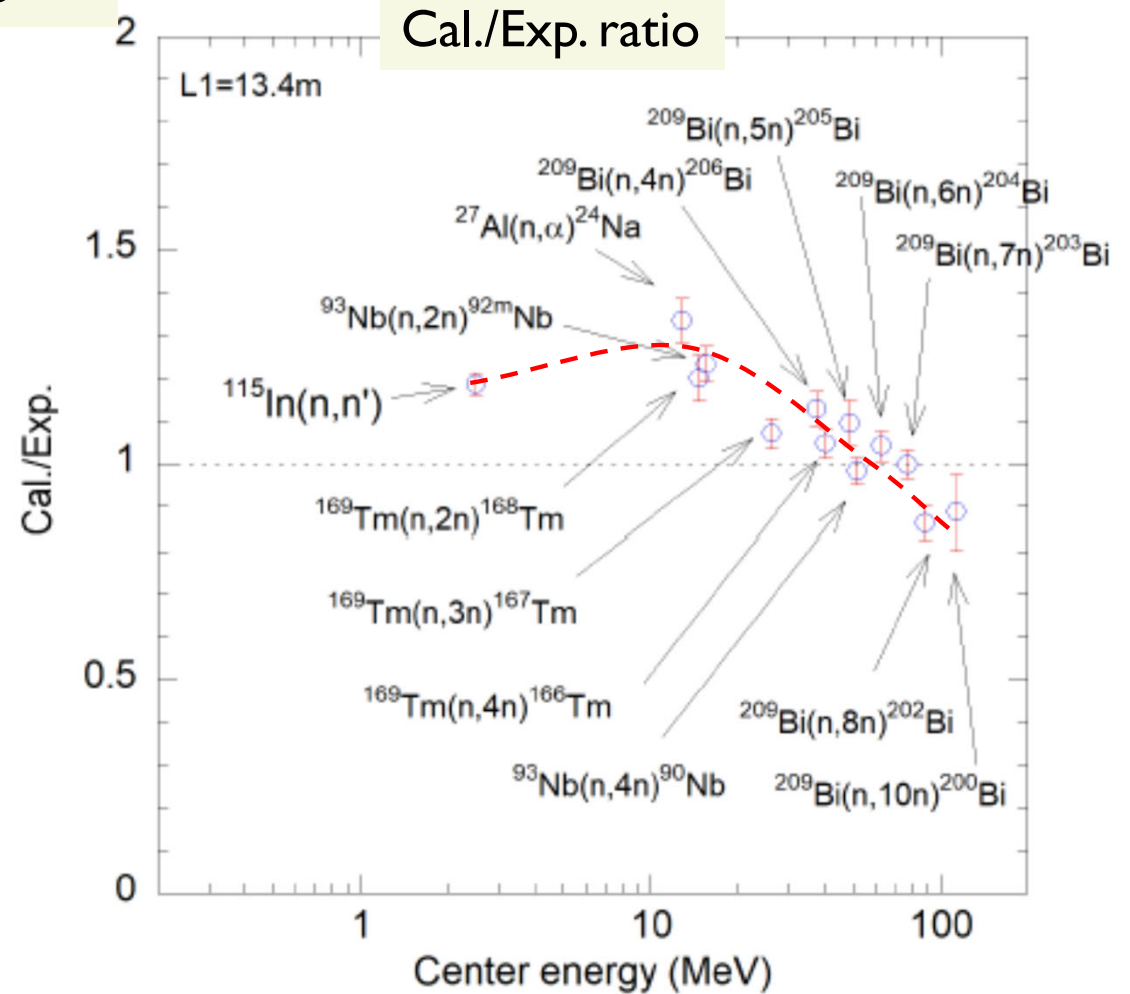


High energy neutrons (1)



Reaction rate

The foil activation method with the threshold energy reactions was used.



C/E: 0.8 ~ 1.2

Figure 11: Neutron energy dependence of each reaction rate.

Pulse shape measurement

- ▶ Sample: mica and diamond
- ▶ The detector was located at 170°

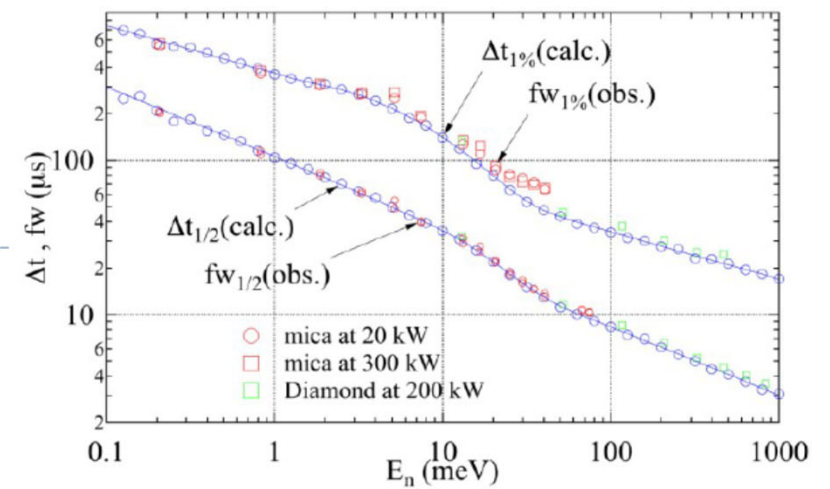


Fig. 3. Pulse width at half and 1 % maximum of observed pulses of DM of JSNS.

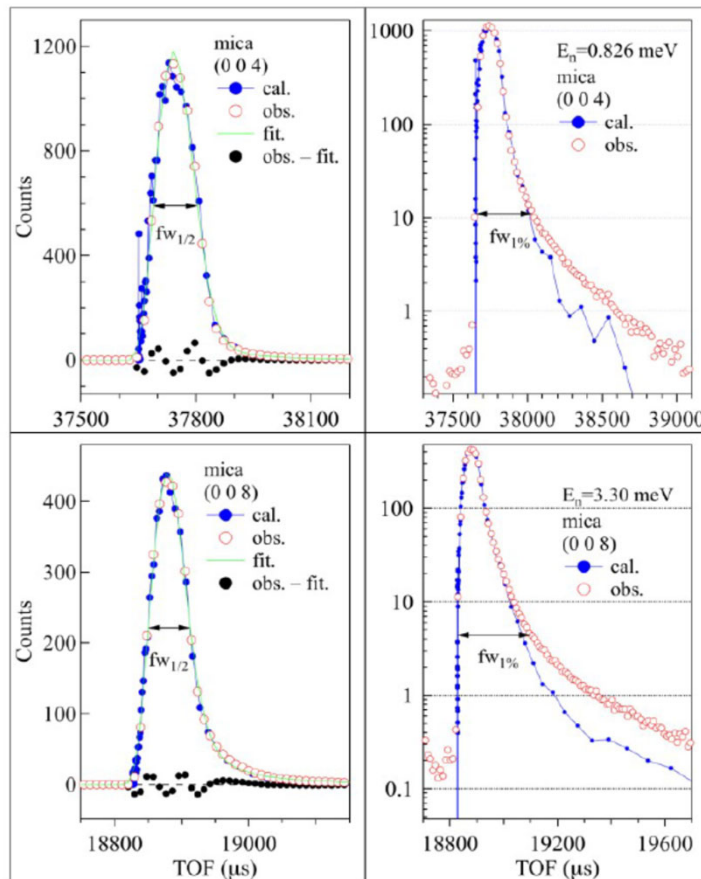


Fig. 1. Example of pulse shapes of the cold neutrons. Bragg peaks of (004) and (008) of mica are represented.

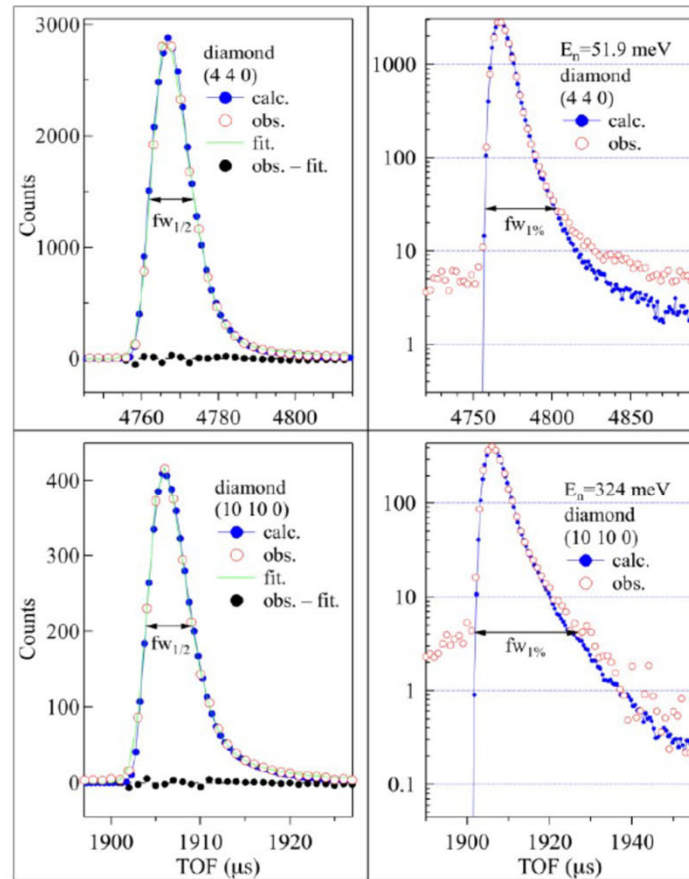
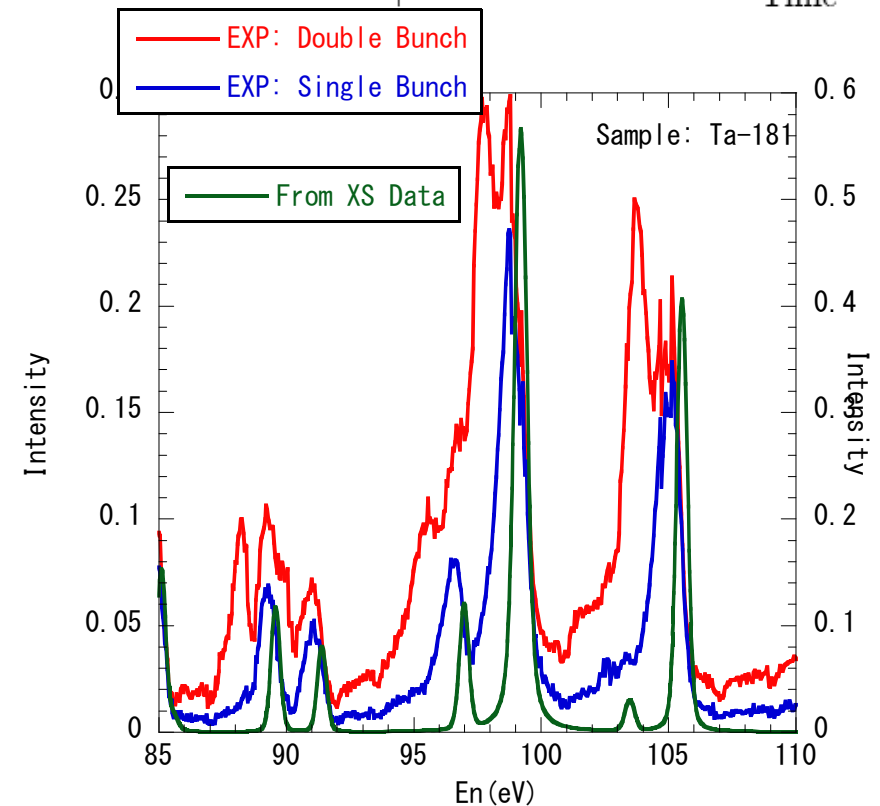
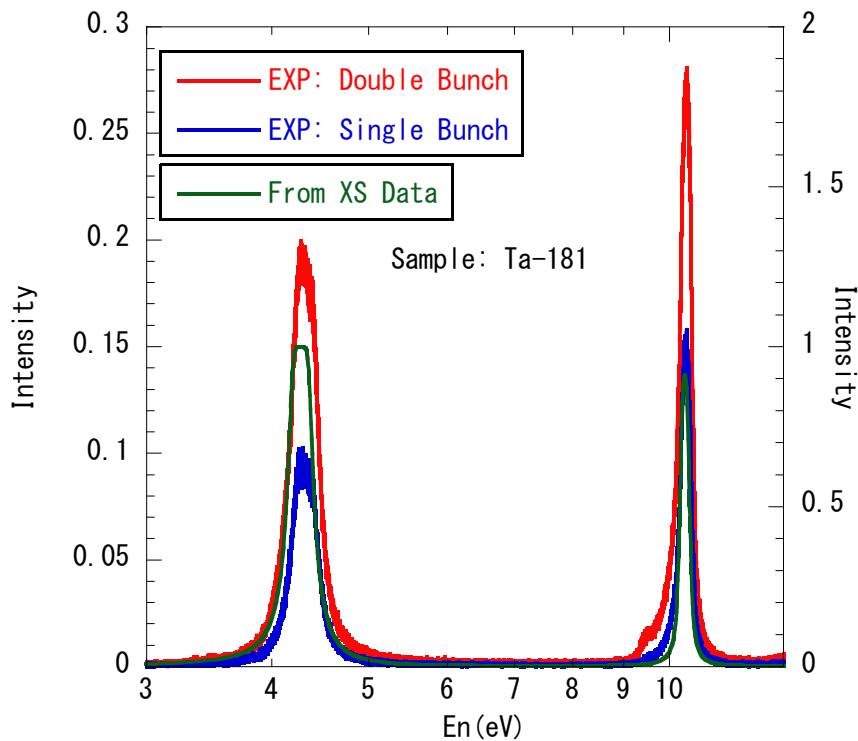
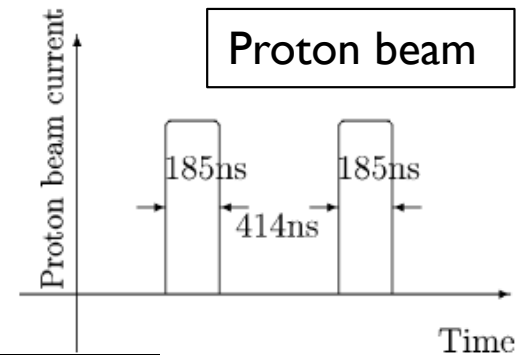
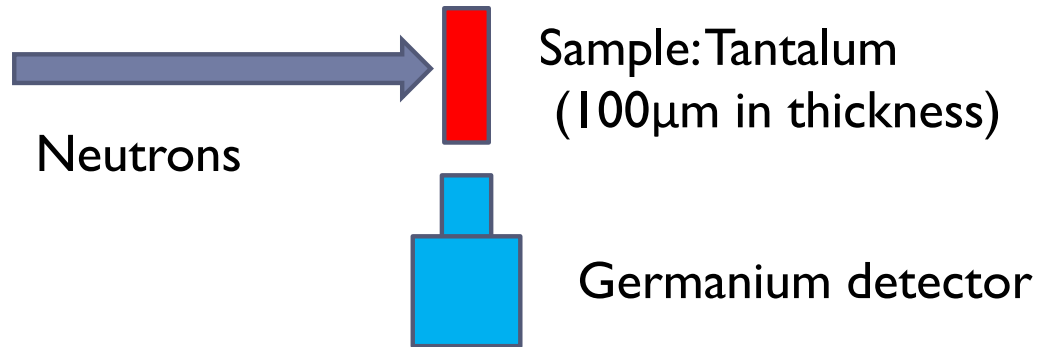


Fig. 2. Example of pulse shapes of the thermal and epithermal neutrons. Bragg peaks of (440) and (10 10 0) of diamond are extracted.

Good agreement

Pulse shape at eth-thermal region



Spatial distribution

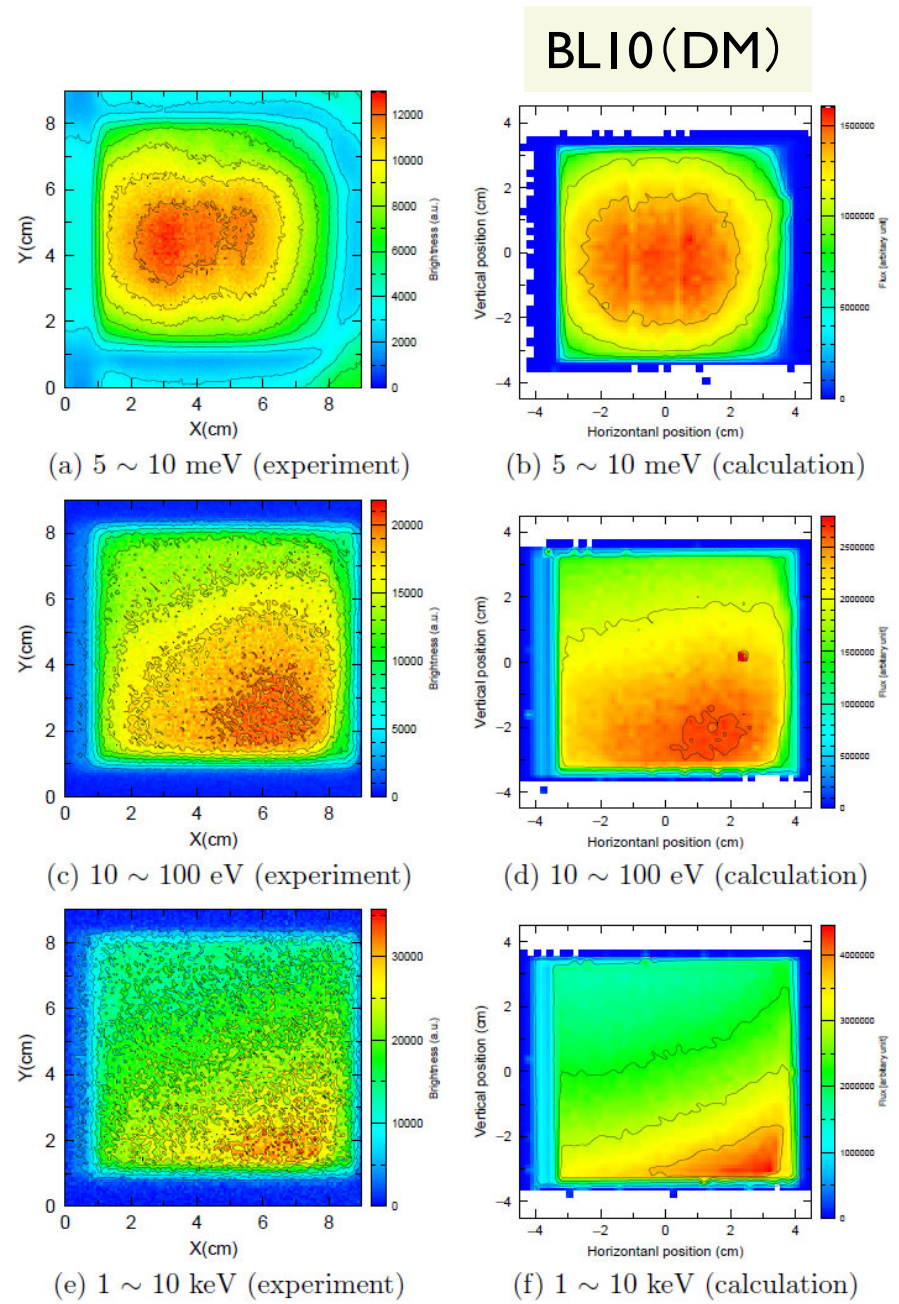
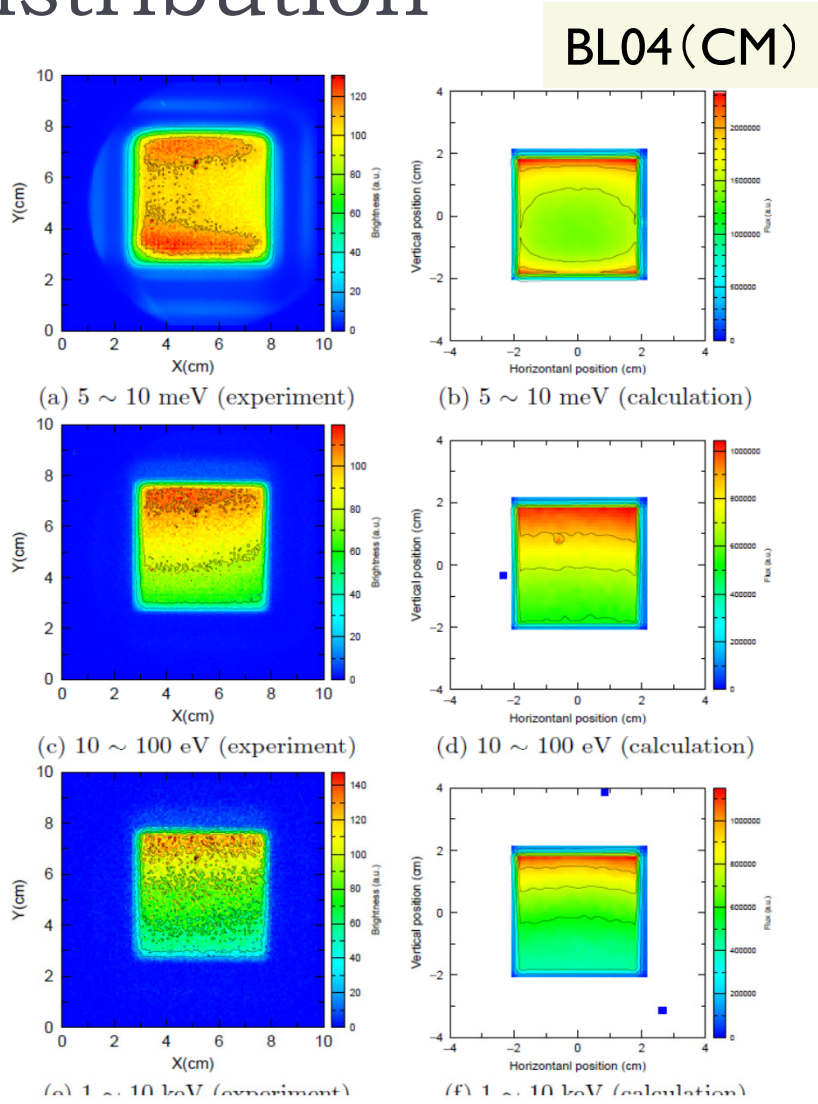
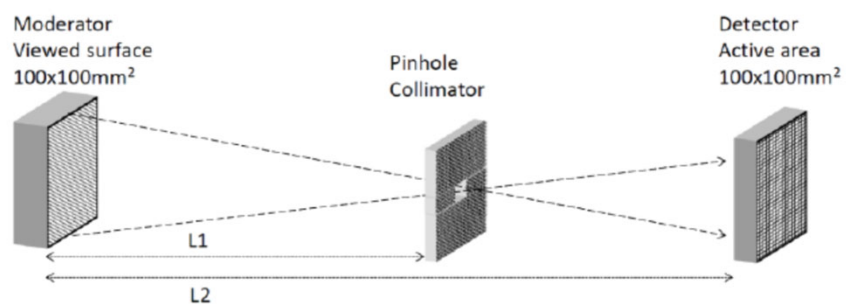


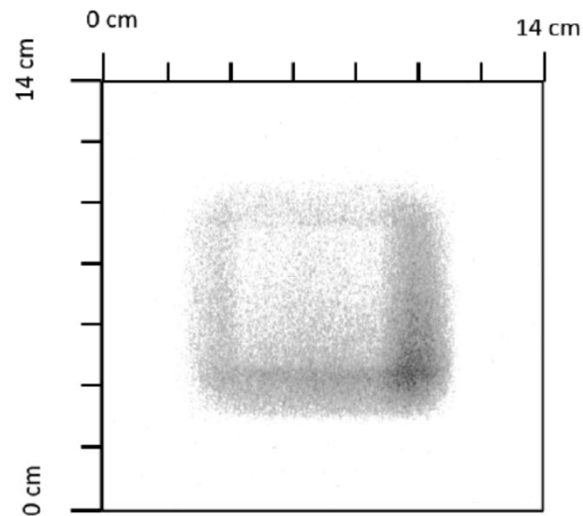
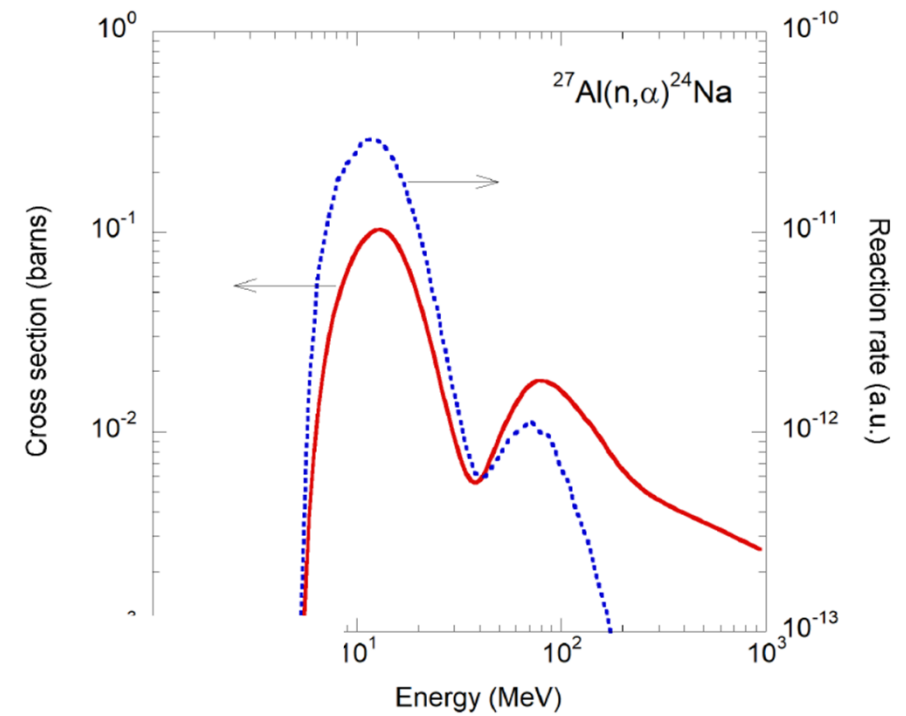
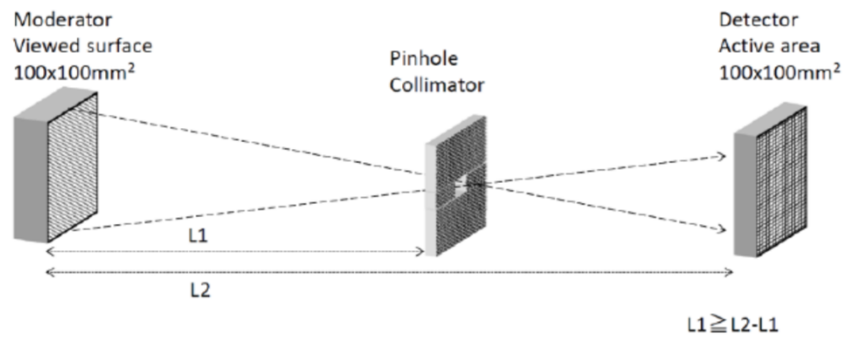
Figure 9: Measured and calculated brightness at BL10.



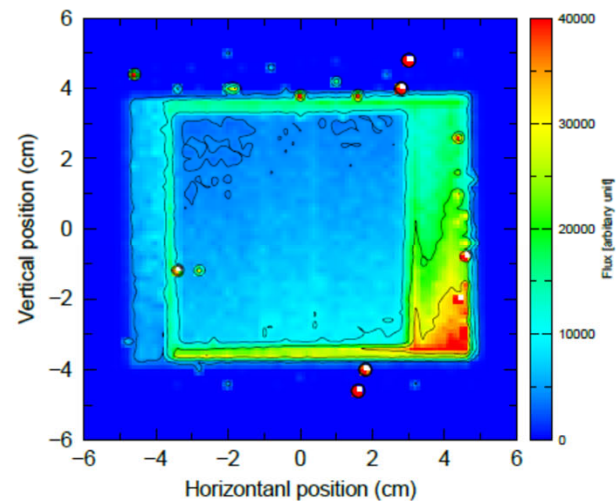
We could observe the spatial distribution.

Spatial distribution of high energy neutrons

The $^{27}\text{Al}(n,\alpha)^{24}\text{Na}$ reaction was used.



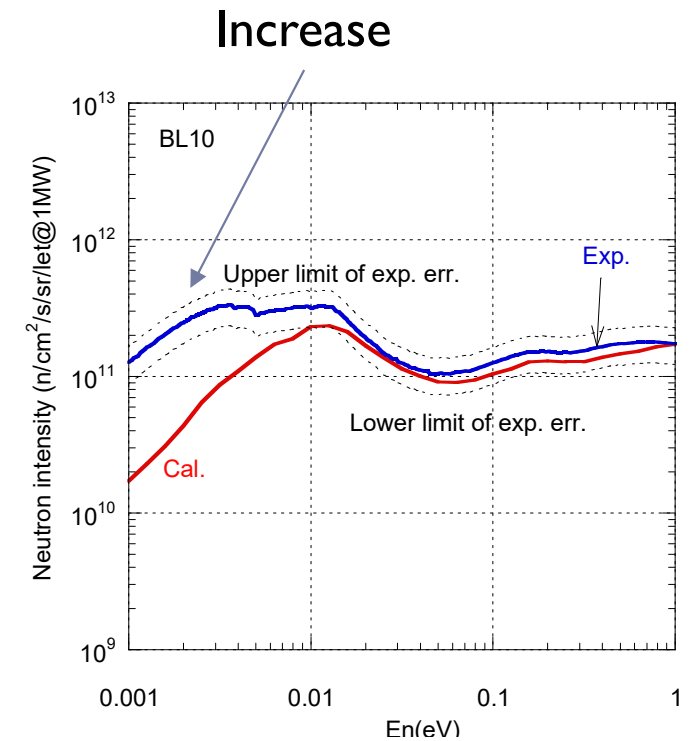
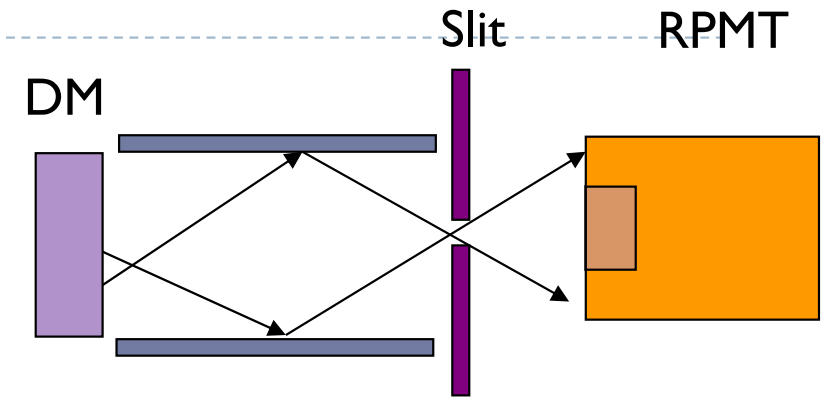
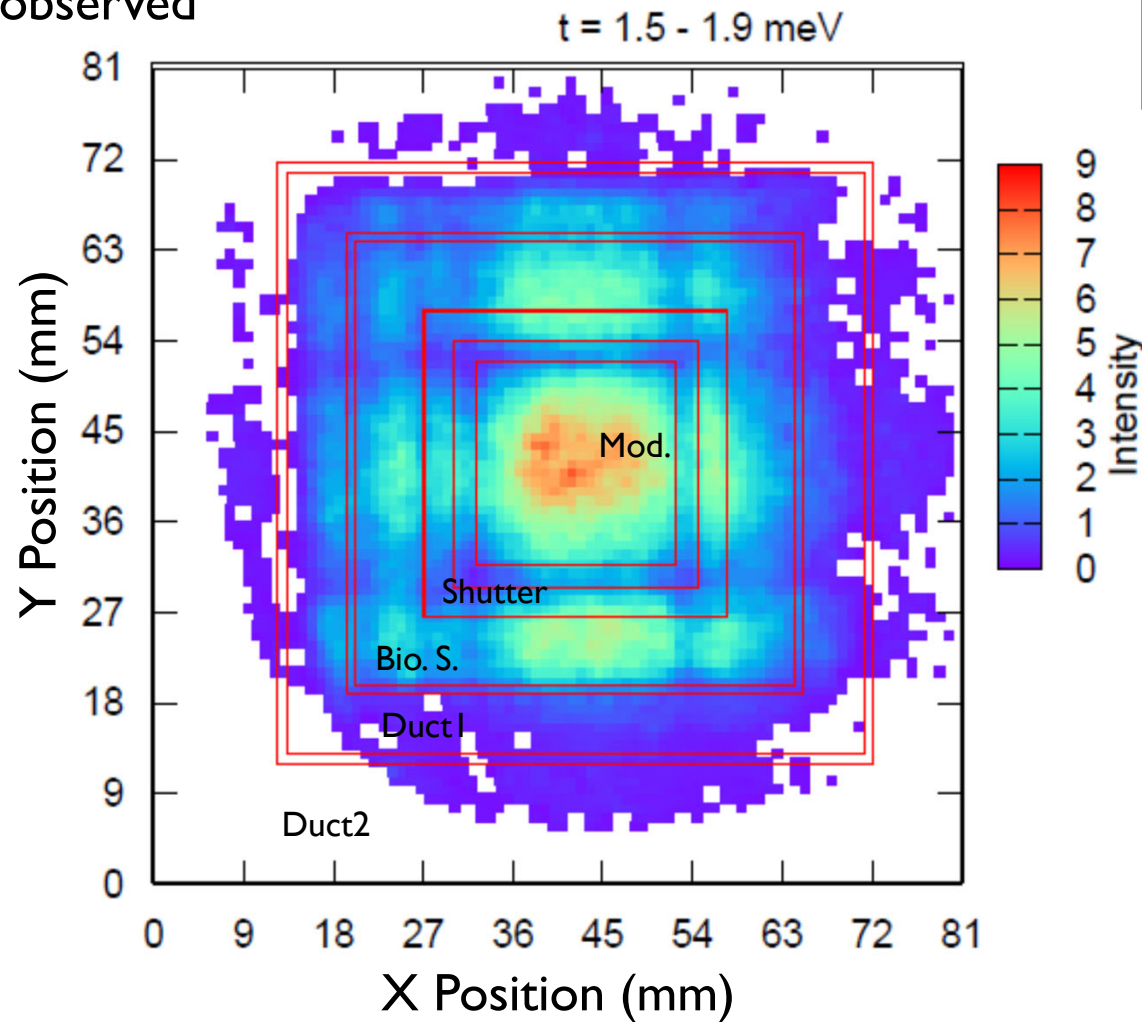
(a) experiment



(b) calculation

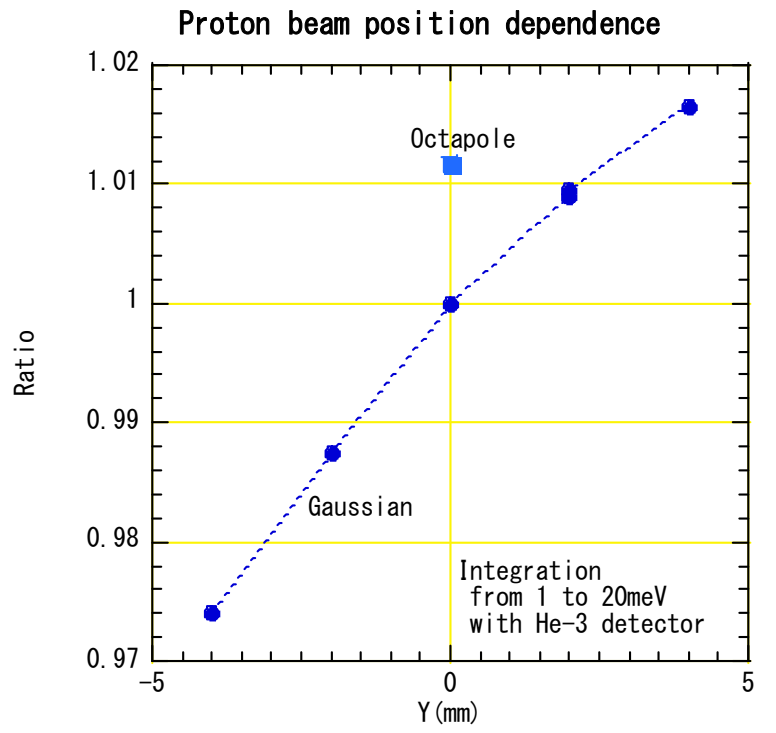
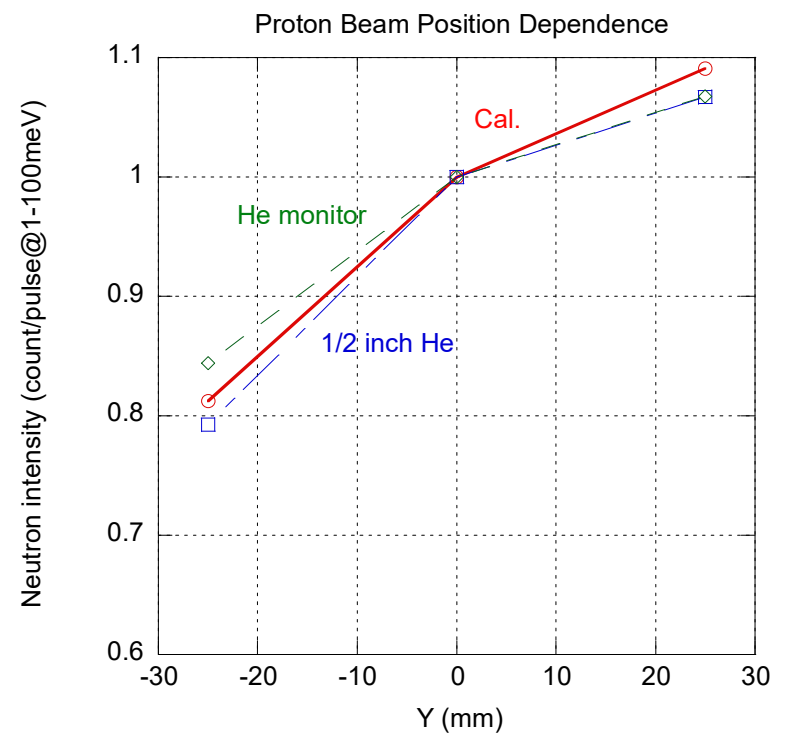
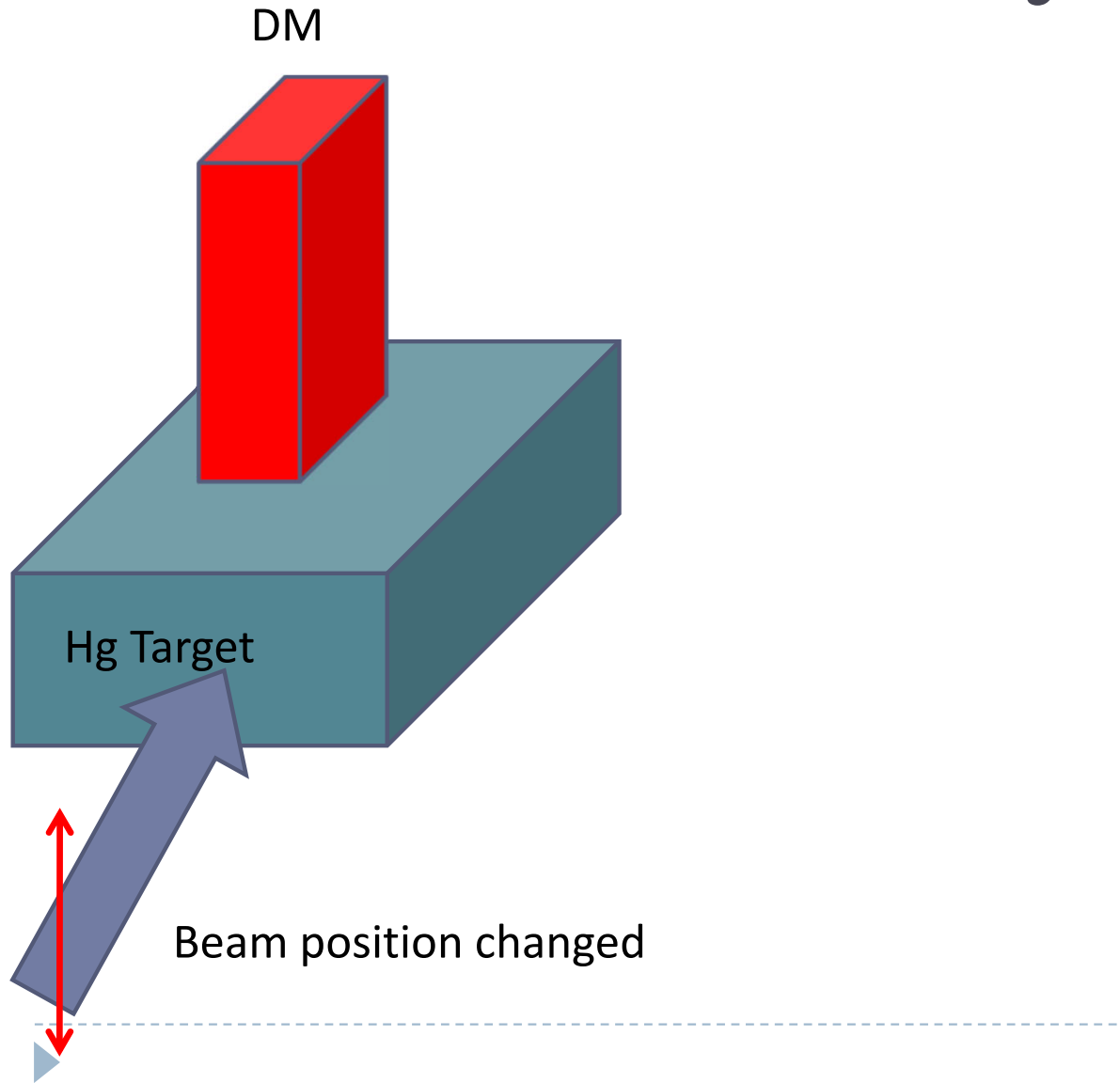
Spatial distribution on moderator surface and neutrons reflection at ducts

- Neutron reflection in shutter, biological shields and so on can be observed

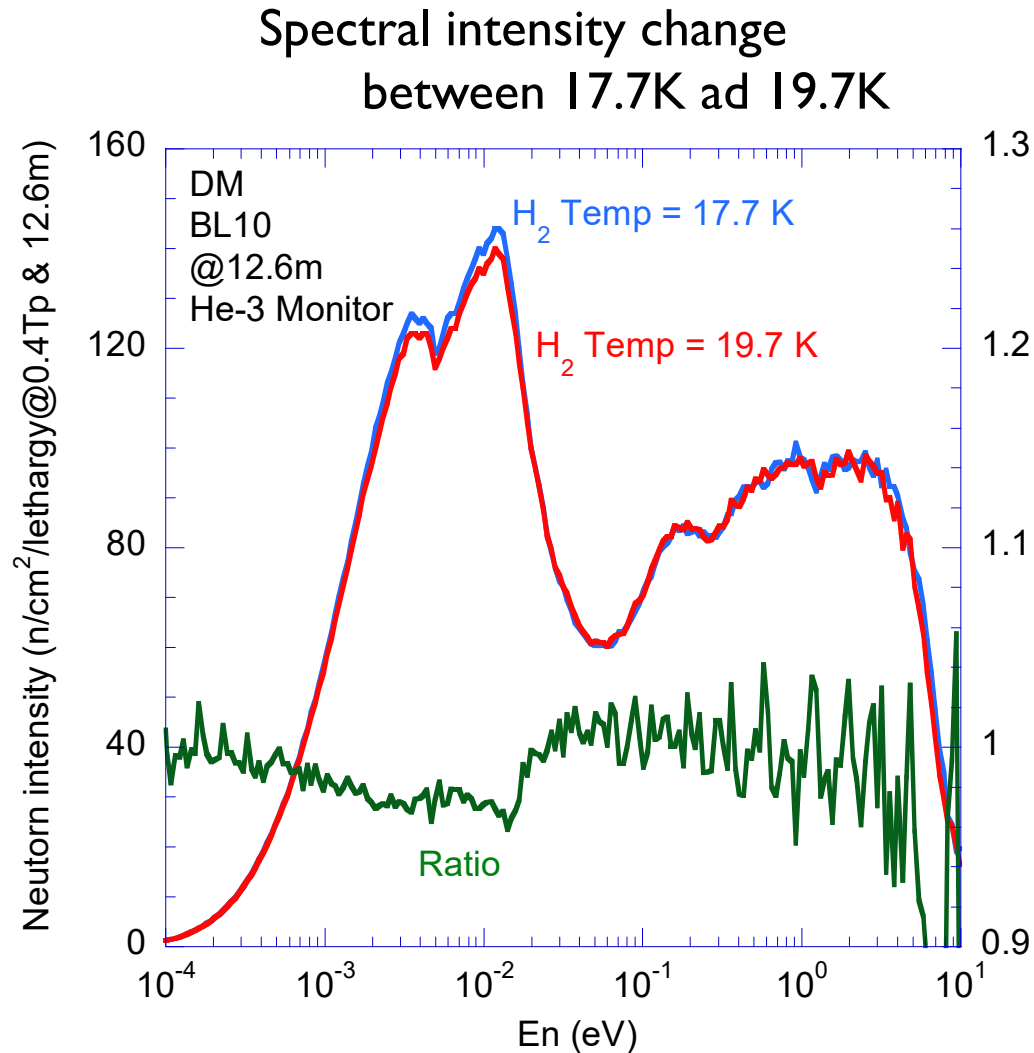


Other measurements

Proton beam position dependence on neutron intensity



Liquid hydrogen temperature dependence on neutron spectral intensity



From calculation

DM

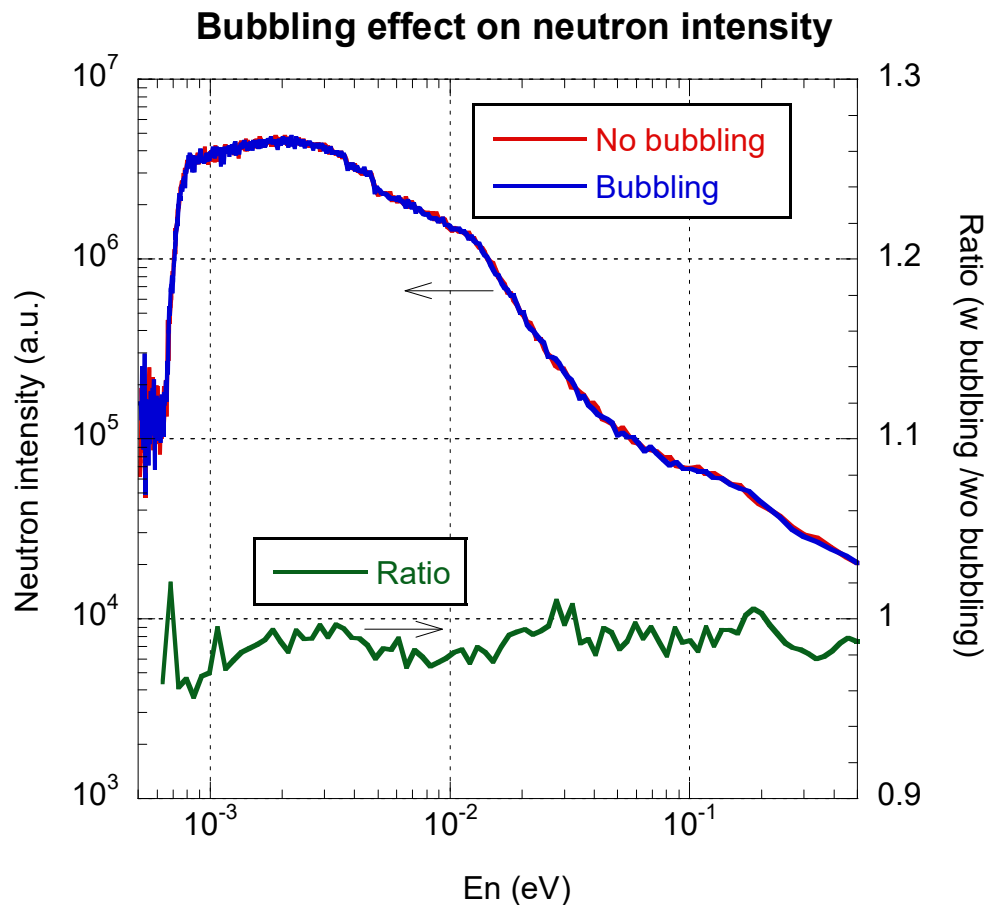
$E_n < 50 meV$ 5%/2K

$E_n > 50 meV$ 1%/2K



Good agreement

Bubbling effect on neutron intensity

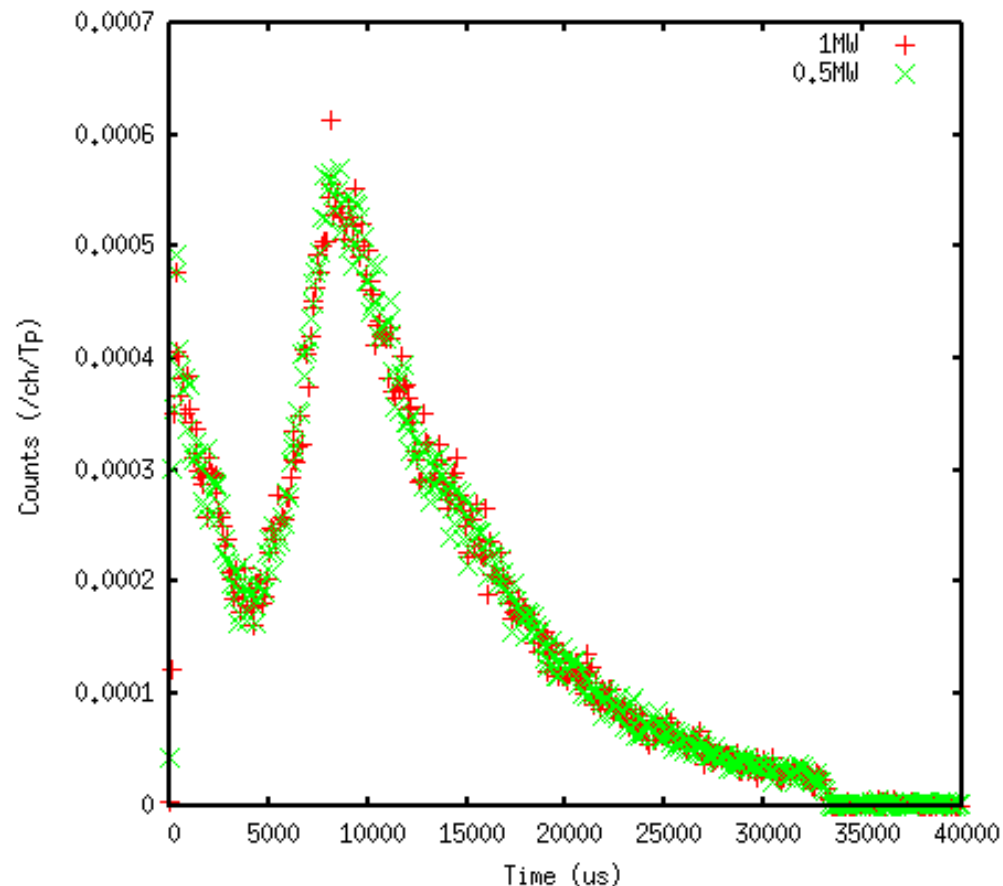


- Neutron intensity decreases or doesn't by the bubbling in the target system?
- Neutron intensity were measured at BL10 with the He-3 monitor (Eff: 10^{-5})
- Neutron intensity integrated in the energy region from 1 meV to 100 meV with the bubbling decreases **0.55%** compared with that without the bubbling.
-> **Negligible difference**

Comparison of 0.5MW and 1MW operation Neutron absolute intensity and spectral intensity (Preliminary)

BL10 noboru

Spectrum by He-3 detector



2cases operation

- 0.5MW(506kW) operation
- 1.0MW(879kW) operation

Absolute value by Gold foil activation method

Below Cd cut-off energy

2.1×10^{-16} reaction/atom/s@506kW

→ 2.0×10^{-31} reaction/atom/p

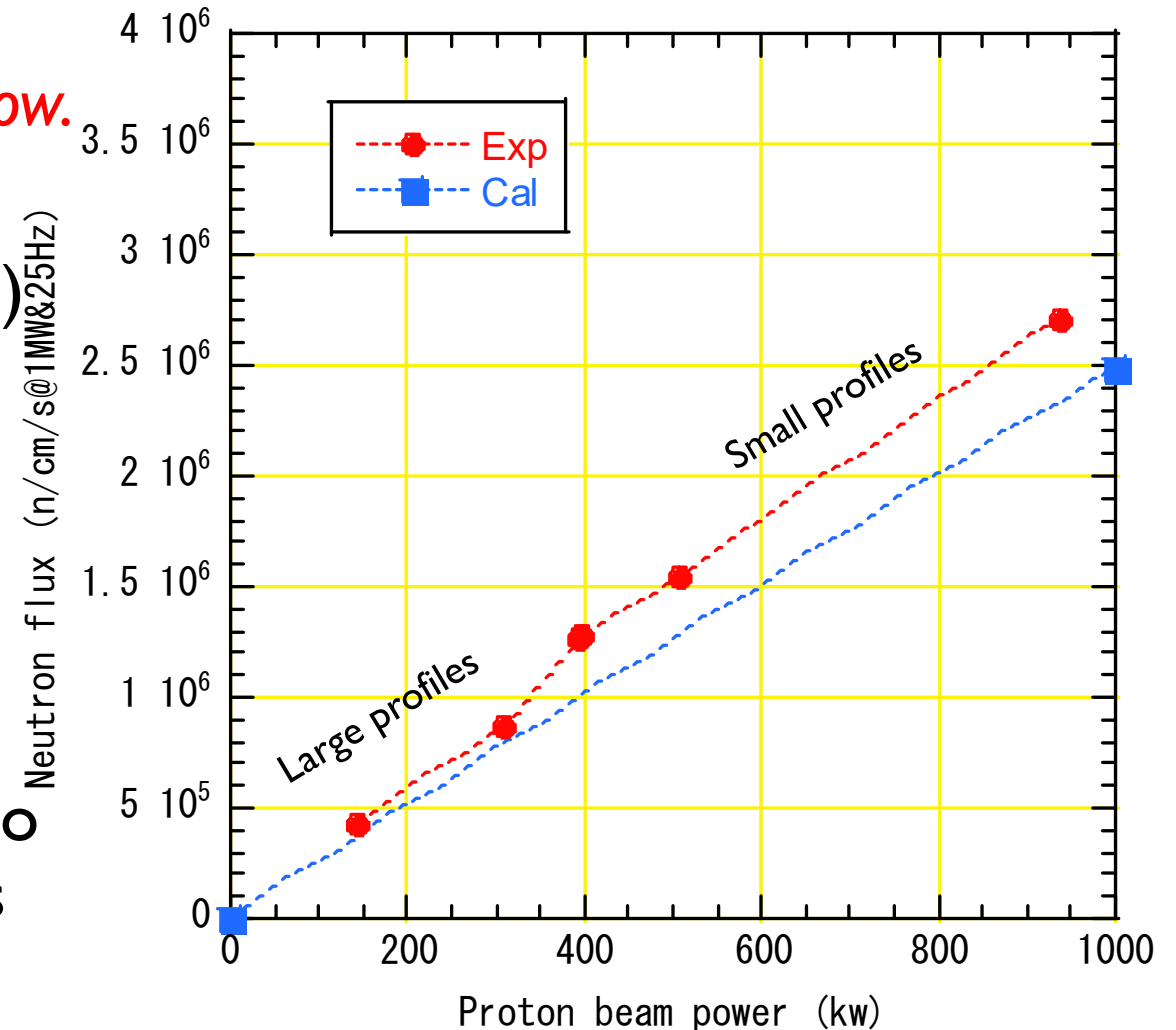
3.6×10^{-16} reaction/atom/s@879kW

→ 2.0×10^{-31} reaction/atom/p

Linearity is good.

Absolute value of neutron intensity with gold foil activation method

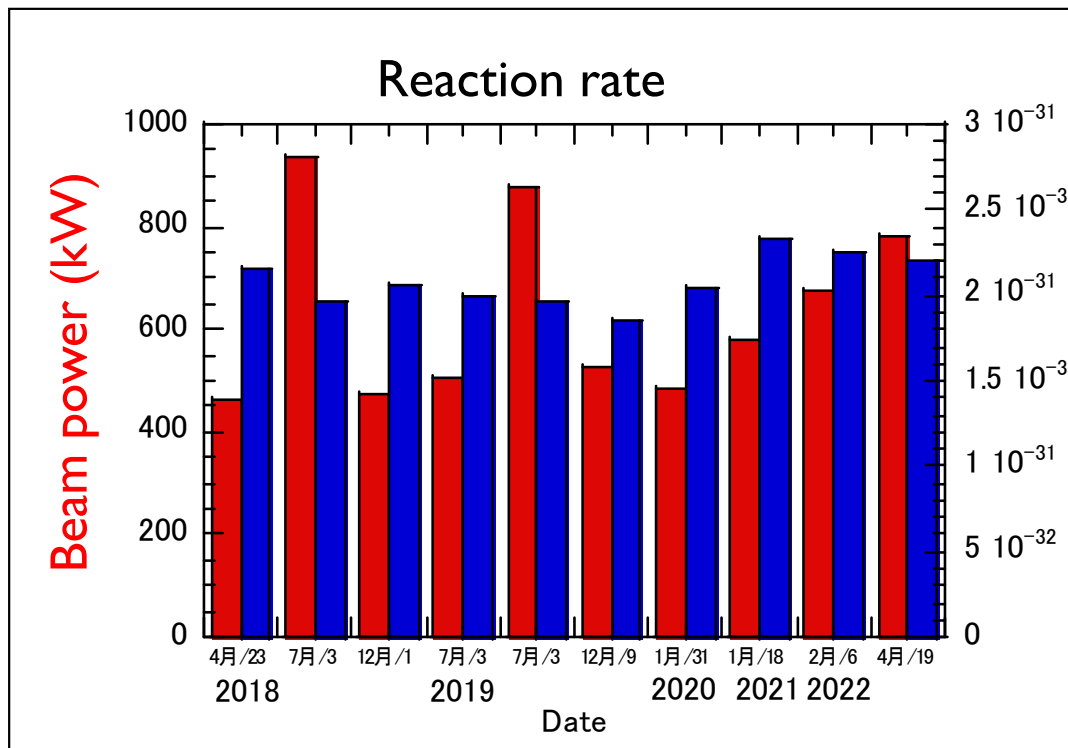
- ▶ *1MW operation for 10 hours on July 3 was successful.*
- ▶ *500kW operation is stable now.*
- ▶ At sample position (13.4m) BL10 (Noboru) with collimators
- ▶ W/WO Cd cover
- ▶ Good agreement
- ▶ At 1MW operation with no collimator, 4.7×10^7 n/cm²/s will be archived.



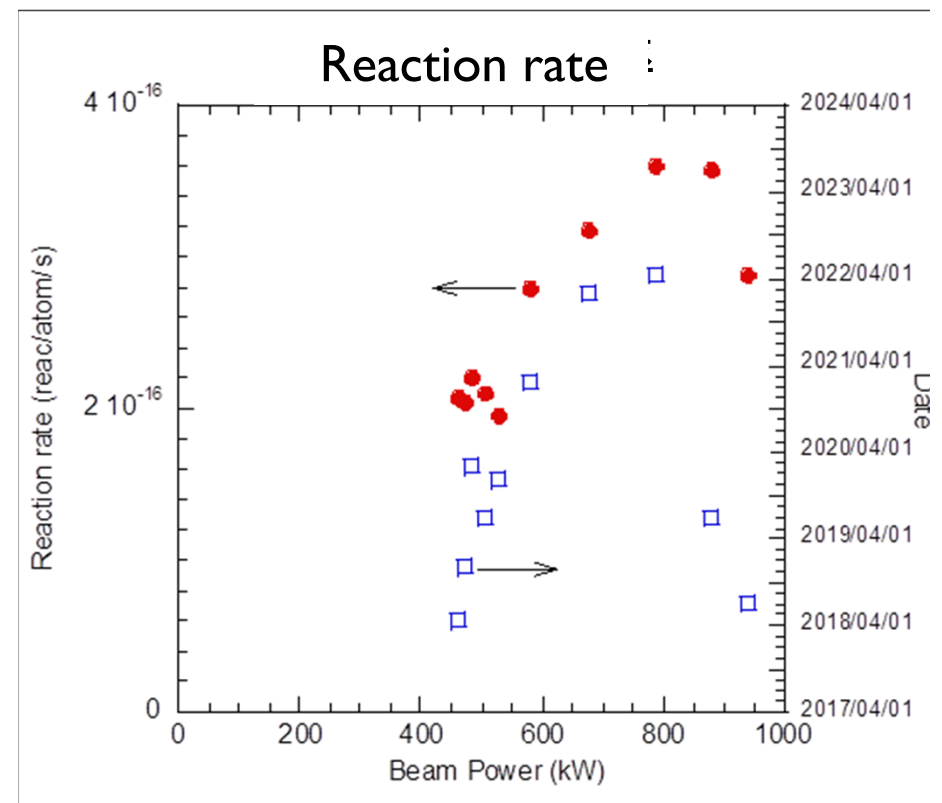
Fixed measurement (Gold foils)

We continue to measure neutron intensity with the gold foil and He-3 monitor

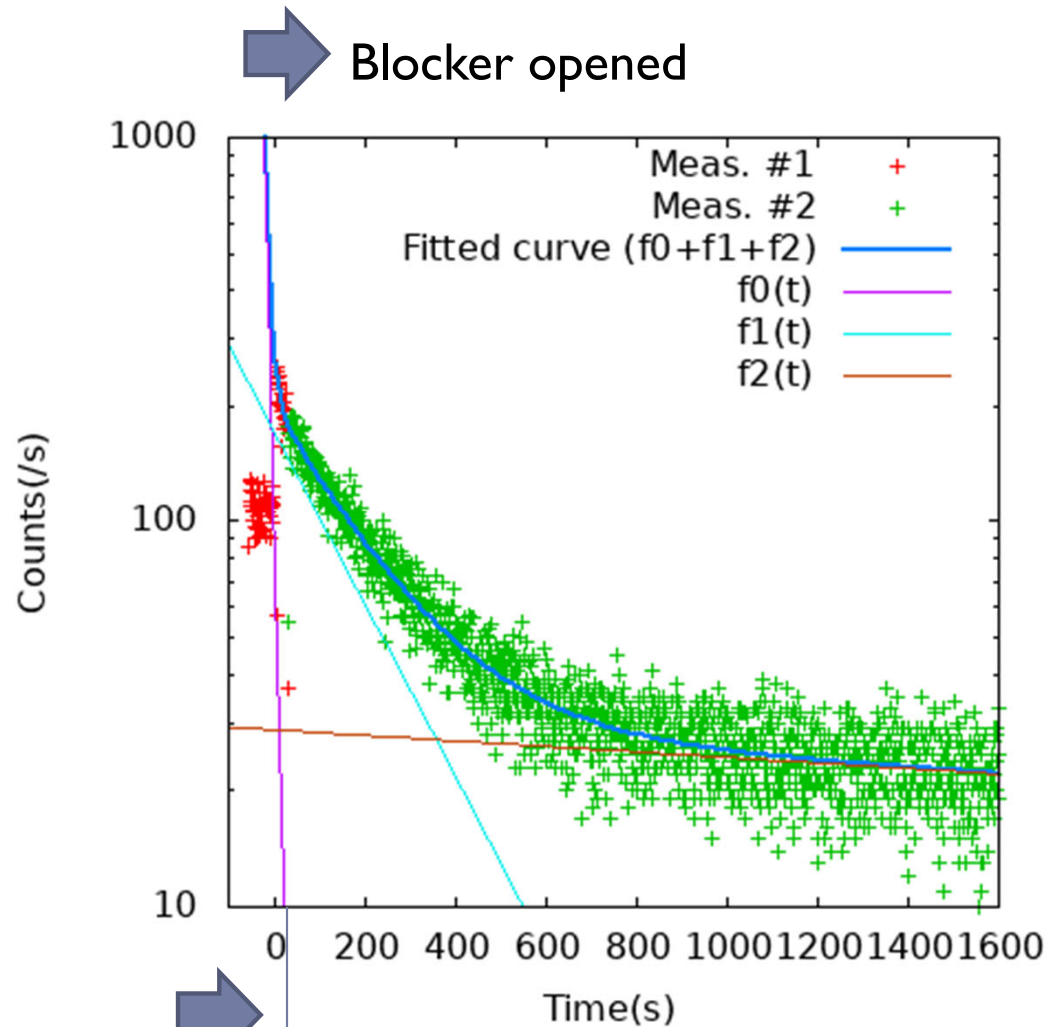
Reaction rate at each measurement



Reaction rate vs. Proton beam power



Neutron observation after the operation stop

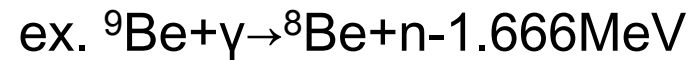


There events were confirmed as neutron detections from the pulse height data

These events ?

1, Delayed neutrons

2, The (γ, n) reaction



In operation — Operation stop

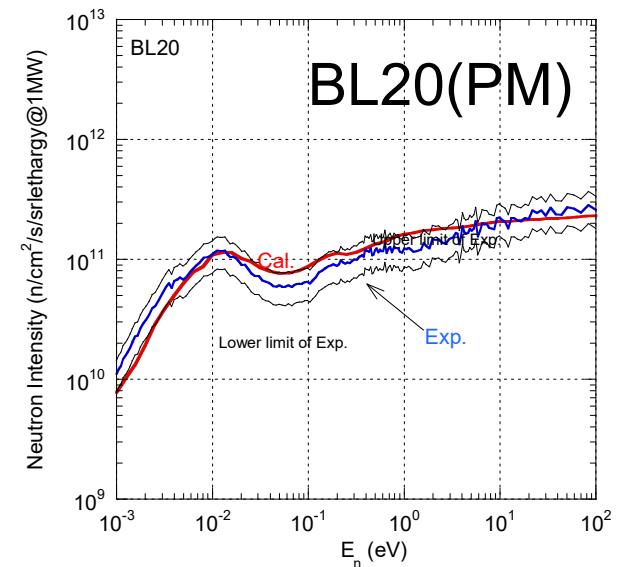
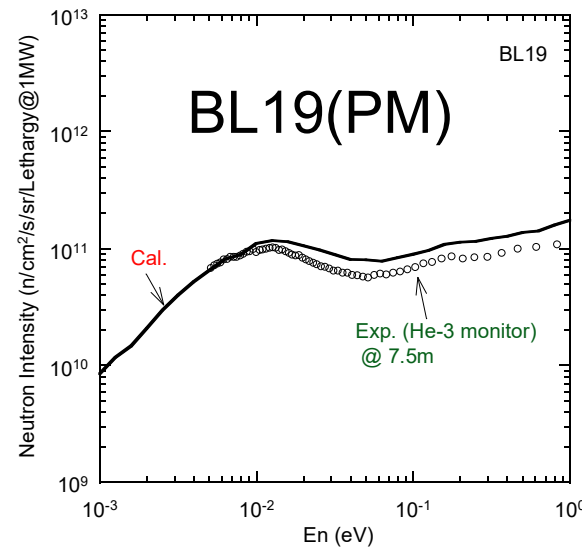
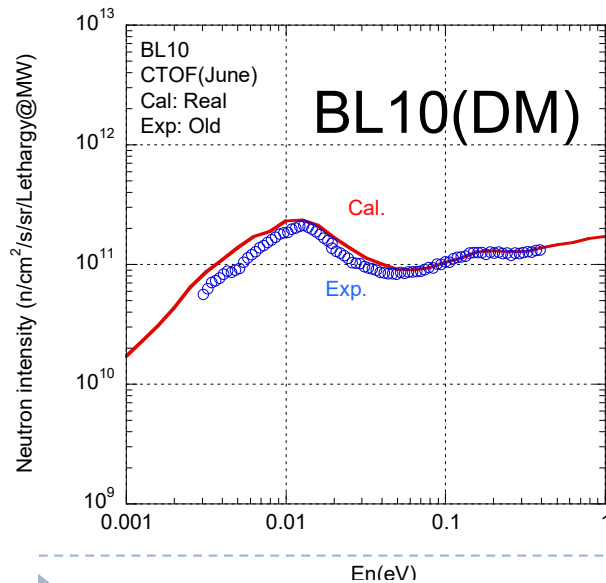
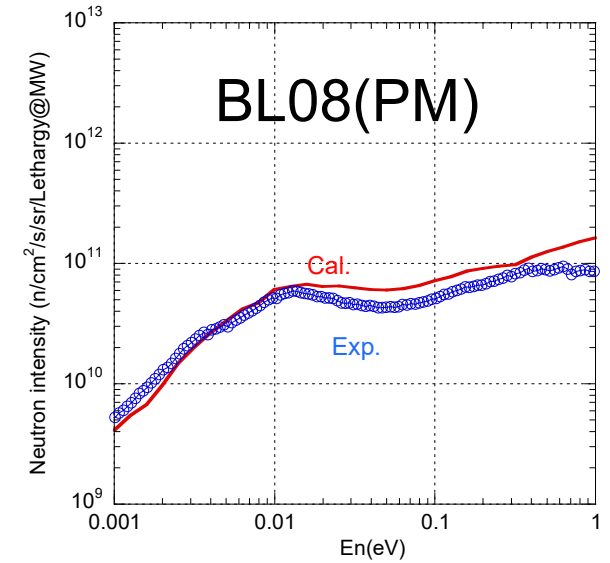
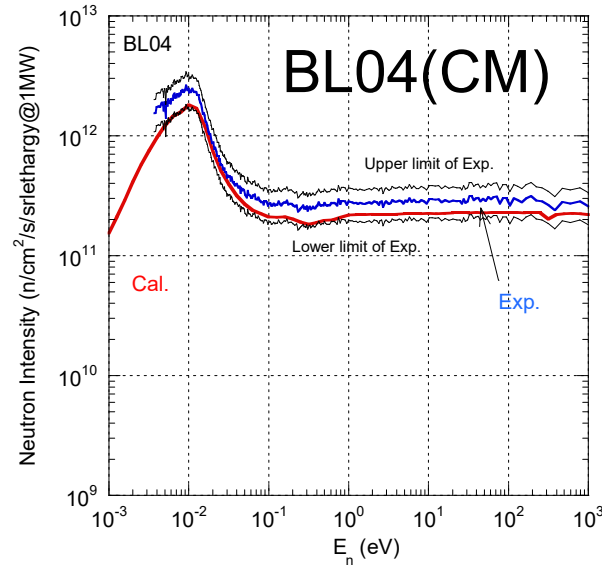
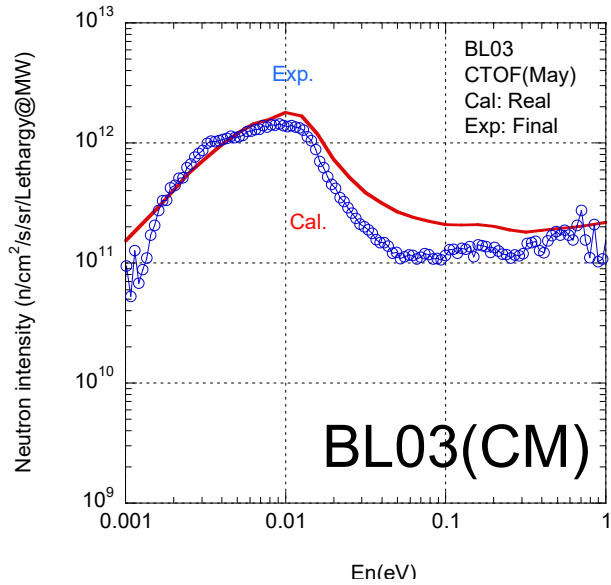
$$f_0(t) = 95.749 * (1/2)^{(t/6.5381)}$$

$$f_1(t) = 172.06 * (1/2)^{(t/134.41)}$$

$$f_2(t) = 28.811 * (1/2)^{(t/4217.2)}$$

Measurements in other BLs

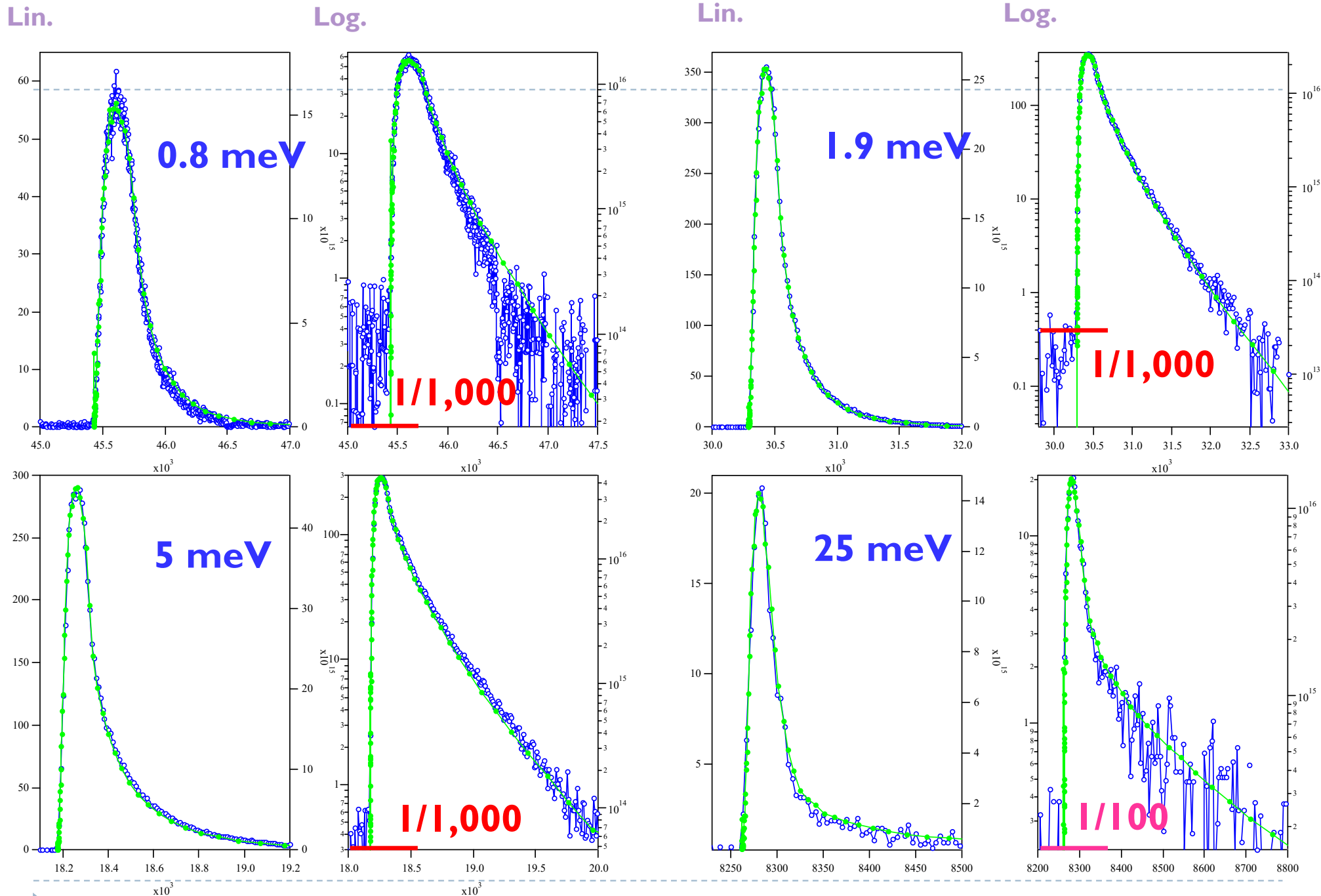
Neutron spectral intensity in other beam lines



Good agreement within 20%

Pulse Shape Measured & Calculated

BL01 4Season (CM)



normalized at the peak

20%の精度でよい一致

Summary

- ▶ The neutronics calculation at MLF spallation neutron source in J-PARC was validated and the good agreement was confirmed.
- ▶ Several measurement remained will be done.



References

▶ Main contents

- ▶ M. Harada, et al., Experimental validation of the brightness distribution on the surfaces of coupled and decoupled moderators composed of 99.8% parahydrogen at the J-PARC pulsed spallation neutron source, Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A Vol.903, 38-45, (2018).
- ▶ K. Oikawa, et al., Study on the pulse shape of thermal and cold neutrons provided by the decoupled moderator of JSNS, JPS Conf. Proc. (Internet), 1, p.014012_1 - 014012_4 (2014)
- ▶ M. Harada, et al., Application and validation of particle transport code PHITS in design of J-PARC 1 MW spallation neutron source, Prog. Nucl. Sci. Technol. (Internet), Vol.2, 872-878, (2011).
- ▶ M. Harada, et al., Shielding Design of a Neutron Beam Line "NOBORU" at JSNS/J-PARC, Prog. Nucl. Sci. Technol. (Internet), Vol.1, 94-97, (2011).
- ▶ M. Harada, et al., Measurement of neutronic characteristics of JSNS, Proc. ICANS-19 (CD-ROM), 1-8, (2010).

▶ Spatial distribution at high energy region

- ▶ M. Harada, et al., to be prepared to submit to Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A

▶ Proton beam power dependence

- ▶ M. Harada, et al., to be presented in JSNS 2022 Autumn



Thank you for your attention.