An aerial photograph of the SPring-8 synchrotron facility and the SACLA X-ray free electron laser facility. The SPring-8 is a large, circular, silver-colored structure in the upper left. The SACLA is a long, straight, silver-colored structure extending from the SPring-8 towards the bottom right. The surrounding area includes green fields, trees, and some buildings.

SPring-8

**Probe into vacuum field using  
High-intensity X-ray  
Applications to the Particle Physics**

SACLA

S.Asai (U.Tokyo) on behalf of our collaboration

# Contents of my talk

1. What is the Vacuum?
2. Non-linear effect of the Vacuum (QED)
3. [A]Search for the photon-photon scatter at SACLA
4. [B]Using collision of X-ray and Laser at SACLA
5. [C]Using collision of X-ray and strong Magnet at Spring8 (Axion,Dilaton)
6. Summary

Collaboration members are as follows;

Particle Phys, T.Yamaji, Y.Seino, T.Inada, T.Yamazaki, T.Namba, **S.Asai** (U.Tokyo)

SACLA-Spring8 Group: K.Tamasaku, K.Sawada, M.Yabashi, T. Yabuuchi, T. Togashi, Y.Inubushi, **T.Ishikawa** (Riken, JASR), Y.Tanaka(U. Hyogo),

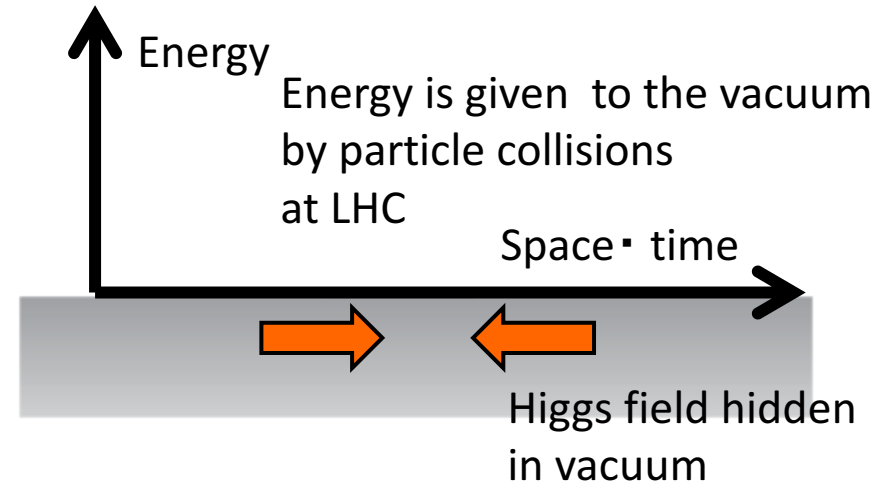


# 1. What is the vacuum?

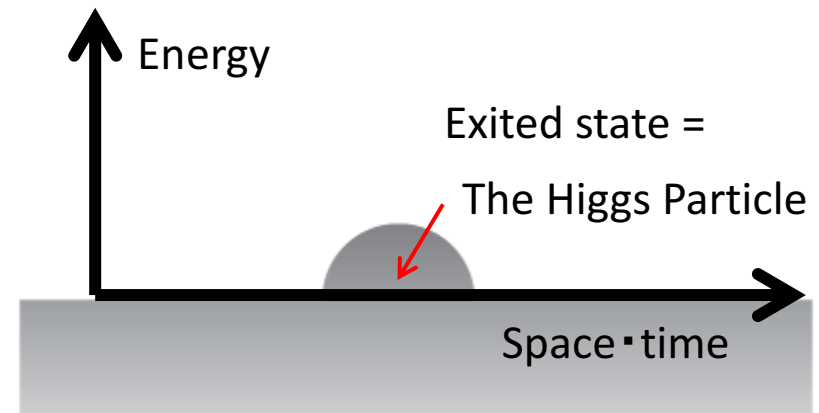
The Higgs Boson is discovered in 2012 at LHC



Higgs particle is **NOT important**,  
Existence of the Higgs particle shows that  
**our vacuum is filled with the strange  
quantum field** (Higgs field)  
Higgs field is hidden in our vacuum.  
It is important notice.



The energy excites the field.

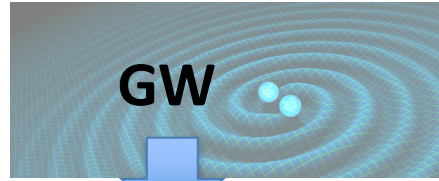


# Vacuum and Space-time become targets of Particles Physics

Particle is not a target now.

Space-time structure  
and vacuum structure  
are studied  
using particles.  
Quantum level.  
First step to  
unify GR + QM

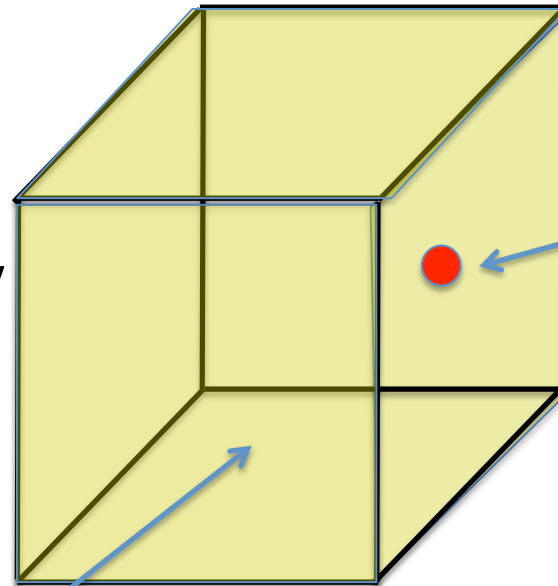
LHC is Energy frontier  
Photon is intensity  
and Precision Frontier



**Space-Time**

SUSY is the next main target  
of LHC, since it bridges between

- Supersymmetry
- Unify the Gravity and  
Particle physics
- Extra dimension



**Particle**

**Vacuum**

**Higgs Boson**

- Higgs (Origin of mass)
- Spontaneous symmetry breaking  
→ origin of variety

# Space-Time

- Supersymmetry
- Unify the Gravity and

Particle physics

- Extra dimension

- Universe (birth and evolution)
- Dark energy

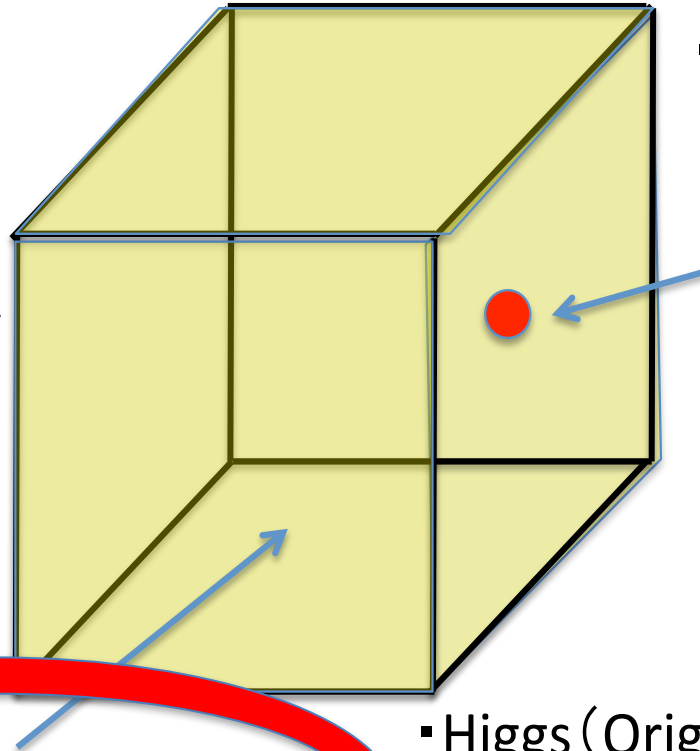
Particle

Today I focus on

Vacuum

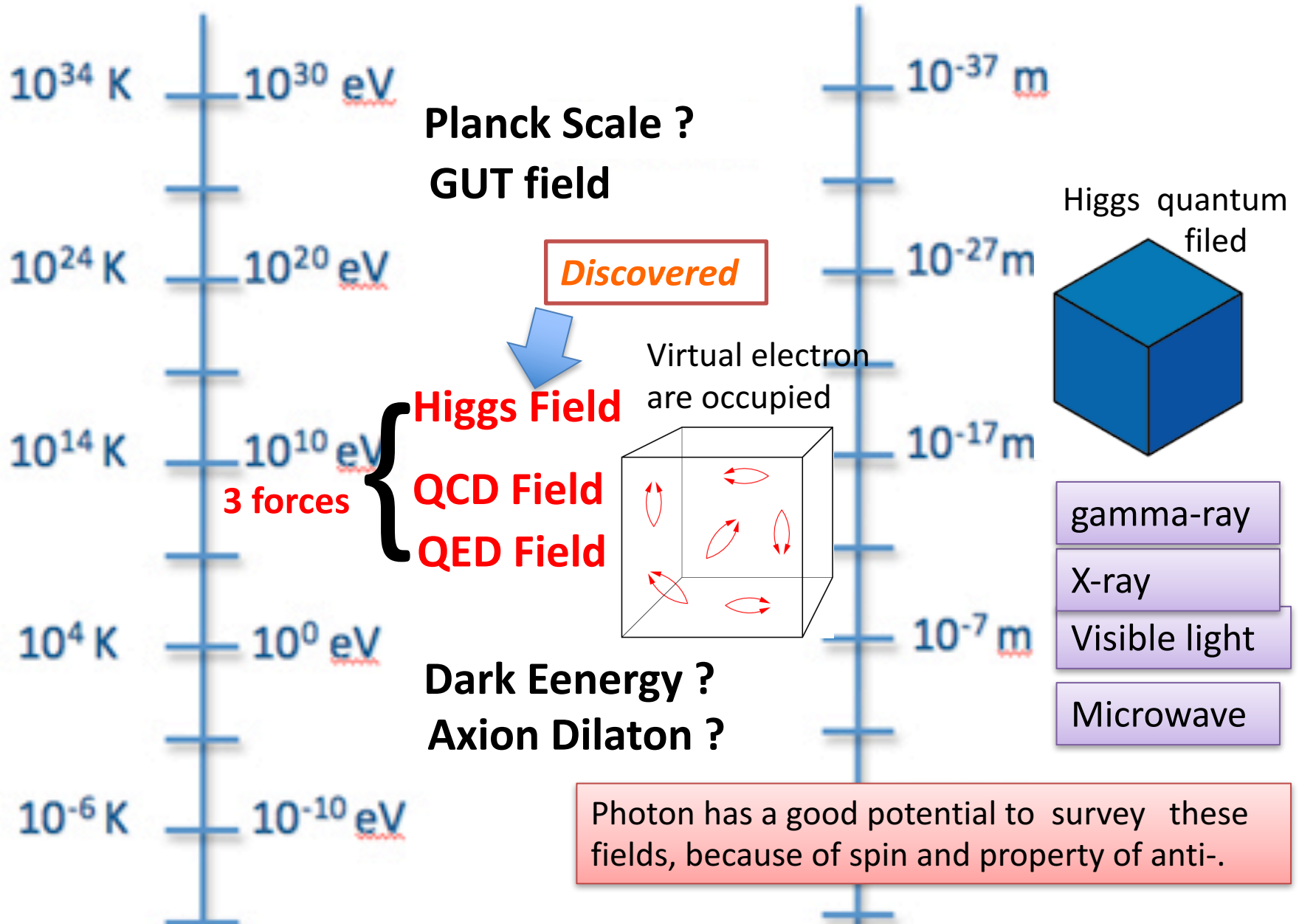
- Higgs (Origin of mass)
- Spontaneous symmetry breaking  
→ origin of variety

Probe the vacuum using Photon, X-ray



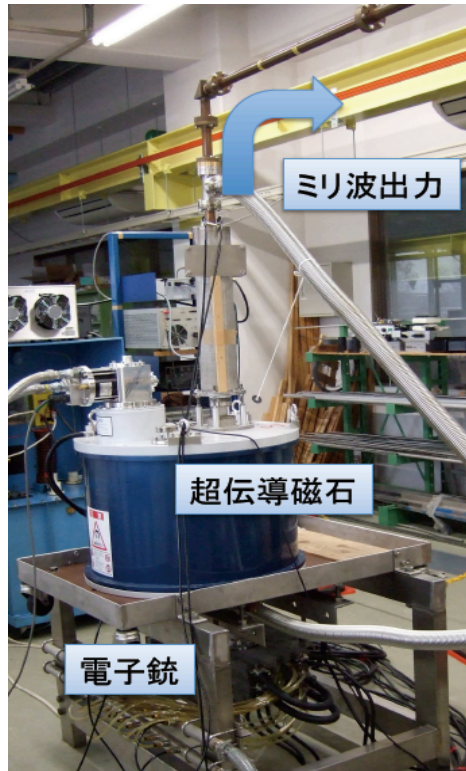


# Various fields are hidden in our vacuum



# Wide range of Light Sources are developed/used

meV(THz)



Gyrotron + FP resonator  
 $E > 20\text{kW}$   $10^{26}$  Photon



eV (Laser)



F=450,000 FP resonator

Hidra-100(2.5TW)



10T strong Magnet

KeV (X Ray)

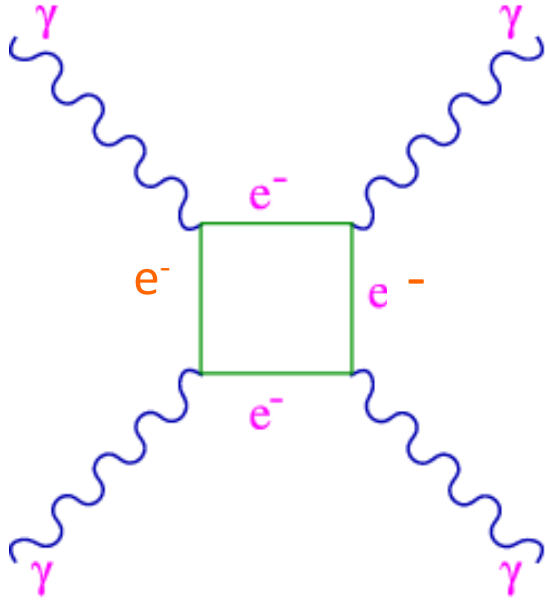


SACLA • Spring8



Various combinations  
of these light sources  
cover various CME for survey

## 2 . Non-linear effect of the vacuum



In Maxwell eq, photon does not couple to photon itself.  
But virtual electron-positron pair exists in our vacuum. (This is the QED vacuum)  
Photon-photon scatter through this loop.

This is BG for hunting of a new field(Axion, DE..) but It is also a very interesting target.  
Nobody see it

Photon-Photon collision is the direct evidence of the QED field hidden in the Vacuum;

QED predicts

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{139\alpha^4}{(180\pi)^2 m^2} \left(\frac{\omega}{m}\right)^6 (3 + \cos^2 \theta)^2$$

This process is seriously suppressed by  $\alpha^4$  and highly suppressed by electron mass  $m$ .

The expected cross section  $\sigma = 1.8 \times 10^{-70} [\text{m}^2]$  for  $\omega = \text{eV}$  Too small!!  
 **$10^{-27} \text{fb}$**



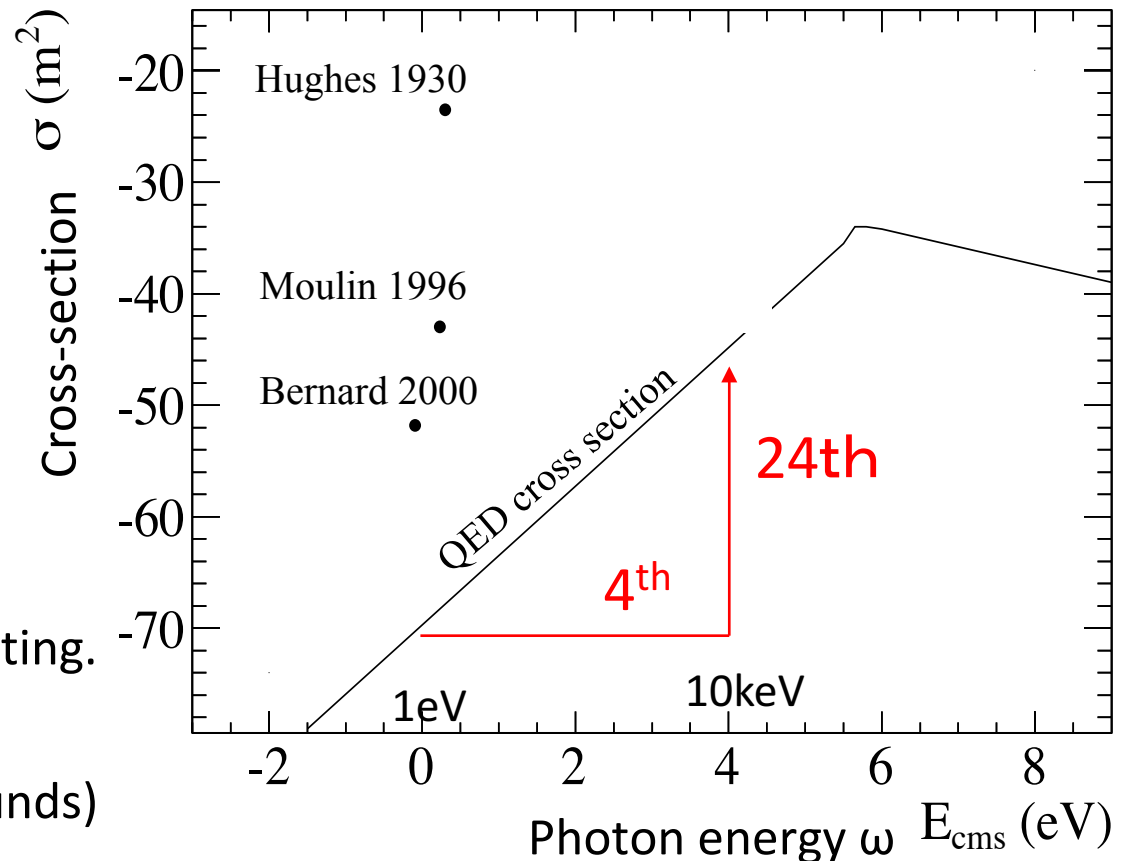
# X-ray has advantages to probe the QED vacuum

- ✧ Cross-section has the strong dependence on  $\omega$ ;  $(\omega/m_e)^6$  6<sup>th</sup> power!!  
Enhanced by 24<sup>th</sup> order of magnitude for 10KeV X-ray comparing to visible lights.
- ✧ Previous searches have been performed using visible/infrared light.

Many filed may be hidden in the vacuum.

Let's use different  $\omega$ , and Explore a new regions.

- ✧ X-ray is vey interesting
  - (1) Squeeze upto  $\sim O(1)$  nm
  - (2) Go straight
  - (3) Easy a single photon counting.((1)-> intensity  
(2)(3) -> to control backgrounds)



### 3. [A]Search for the photon-photon scatter at SACLA

We performed to search for photon-photon collision at SACLA(XFEL).

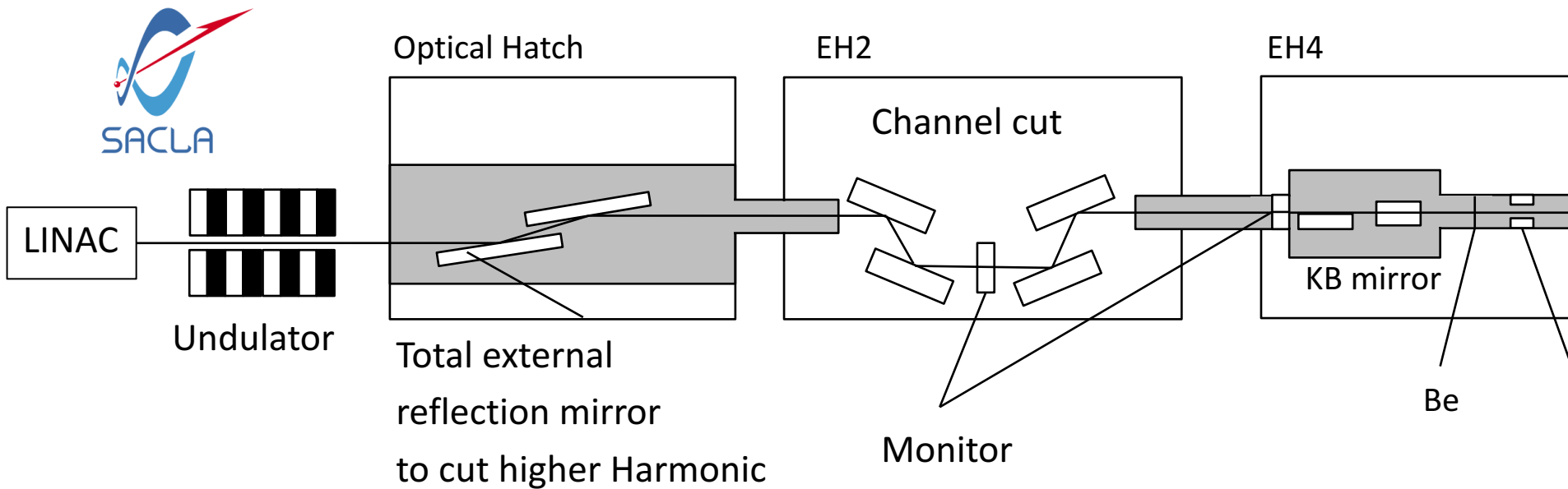
Just collide? Not so easy!!

#### 3 challenges



- A) Photon Luminosity is crucial.
- B) To collide photon to photon, control the optical path accurately in space and in timing.
- C) Understand background events and reject them drastically. Signal is very very small. On the other hand, BG is huge.

# A) How to gain Photon Intensity; Upstream



- ✧  $6 \times 10^{11}$  photons/pulse @ 11 keV, Pulse frequency is 30-60 Hz.
- ✧ Beam width is  $200 \mu\text{m} \times 200 \mu\text{m}$  (FWHM), and a pulse length is short as  $10 \text{ fs} (= 3 \mu\text{m})$
- ✧ Monochromatic spectrum (bandwidth 80 eV  $\rightarrow$  63 meV) is obtained using the channel cut in which Si (4,4,0) Lattice is used.  
 $E = 10.985 \text{ keV}$
- ✧ Using the KB mirrors, beam is squeezed into  $1 \mu\text{m}$  (Horizontal)  
 $\rightarrow$  High Intensity is obtained.



## B) How to Split and Collide X-rays

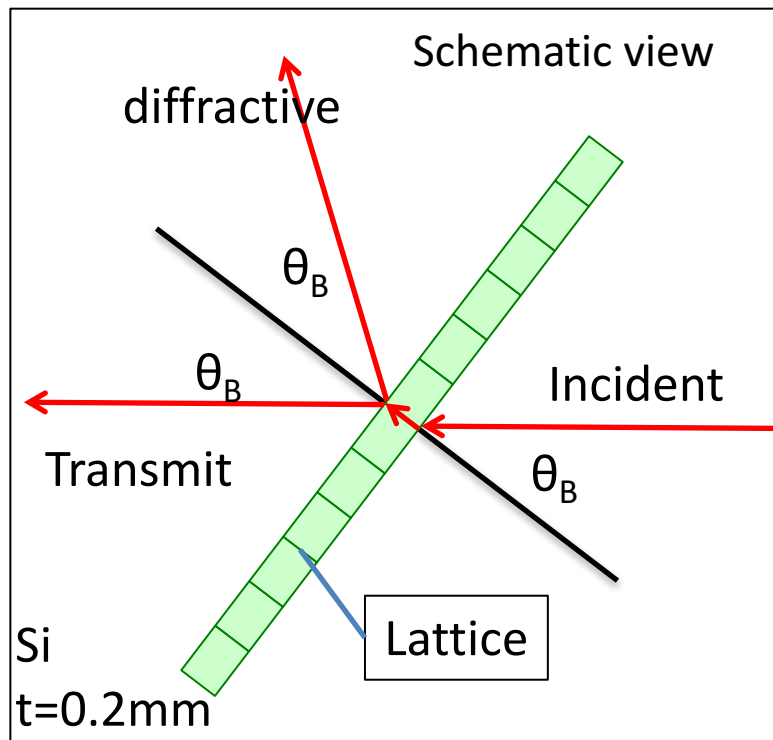
**Laue diffraction is used;**

Si (4,4,0) Crystal Lattice is used.

$\theta_B = 36^\circ$  for 10.985keV incident X-ray

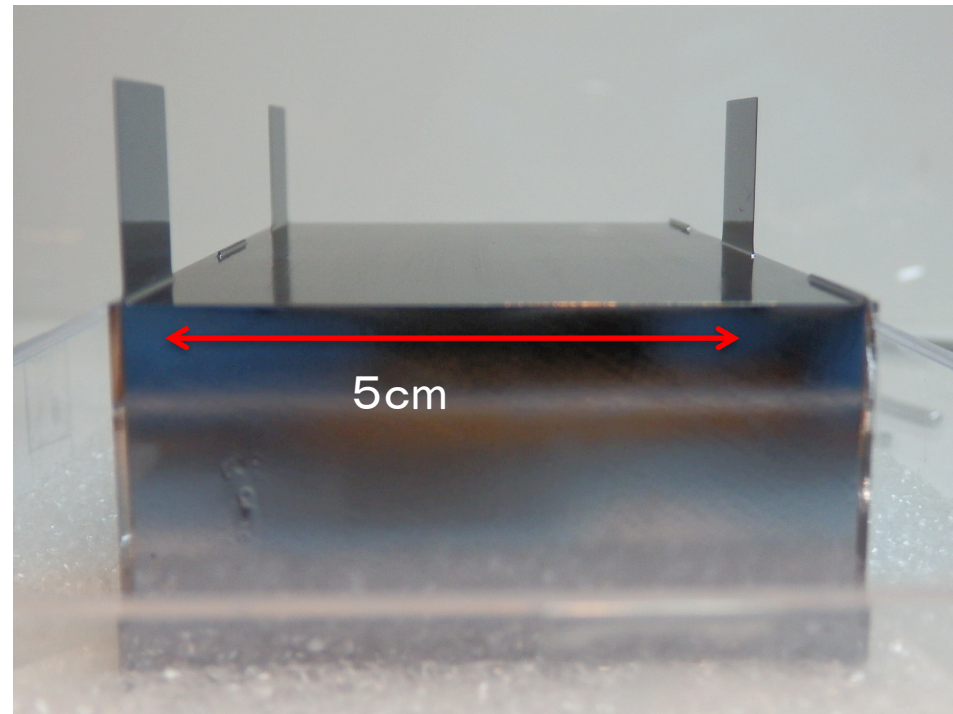
Injected X-ray is split into

transmit and diffractive. Both efficiencies are about 10%



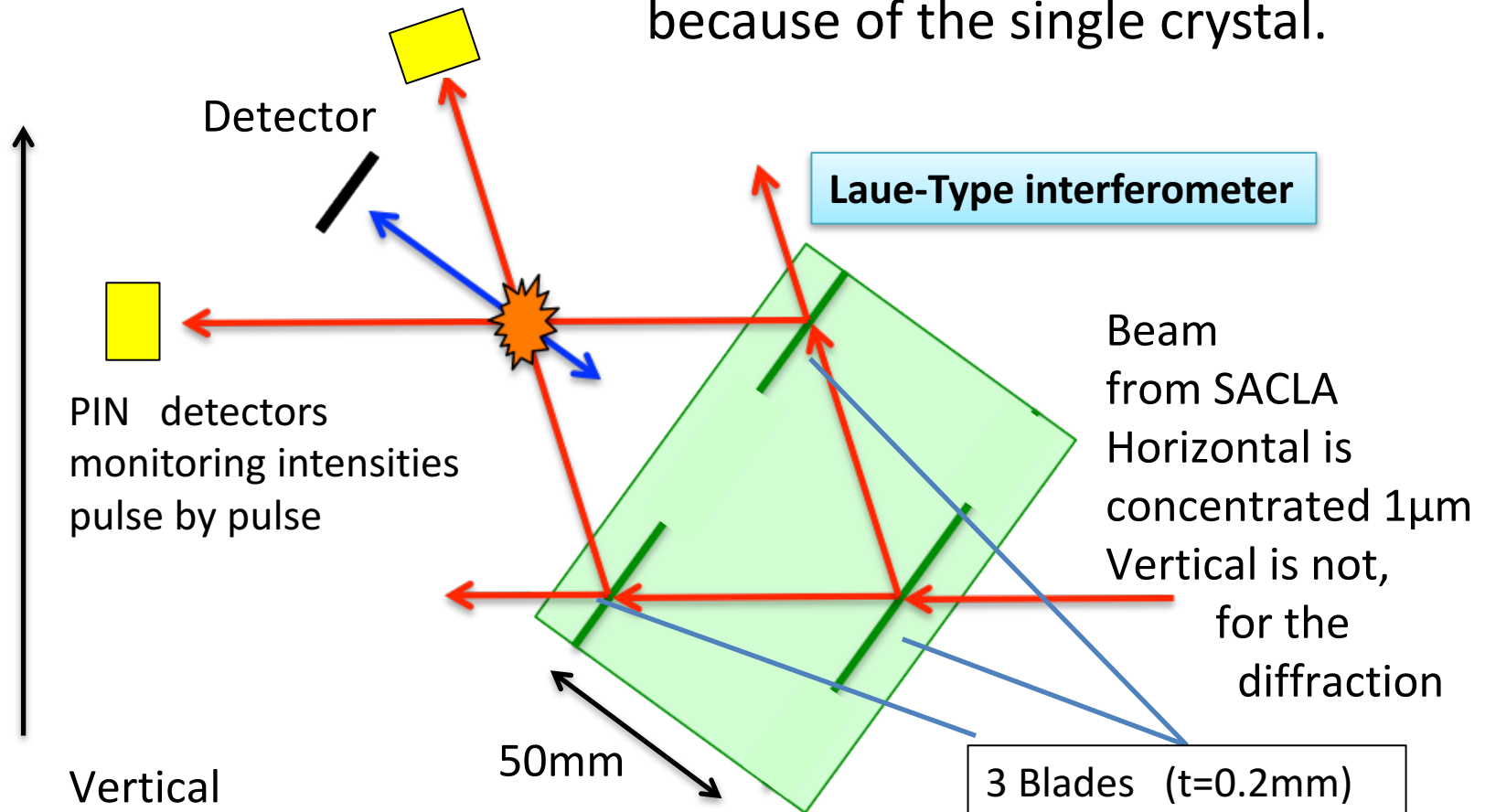
**Laue-Type interferometer is used;**

**3 blades (t=200 $\mu$ m) are cut from a single crystal of Silicon.**



## B') How to collide X-rays

Beam splits into two using the blades, and collide here.  
Optical path (both in space and time) is guaranteed,  
because of the single crystal.



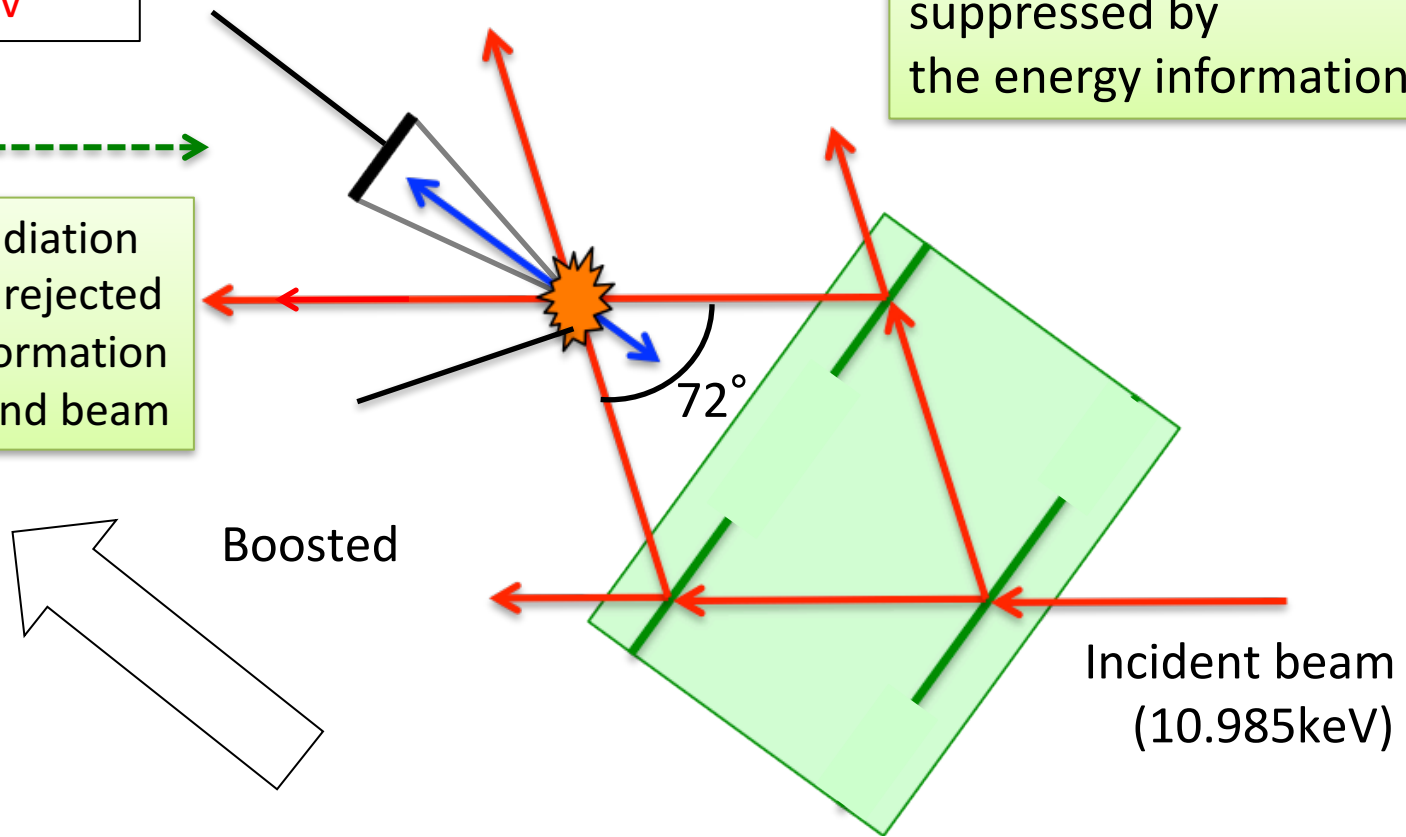
## C) Background suppression (Energy information)

Dominant background is the stray photon of the incident light. ( $E \sim 11\text{KeV}$ )  
Collision is not Head-on (the collision angle is  $72^\circ$ ), then the CM system is boosted forward. The energy of signal photon becomes  $18\text{-}20\text{ keV}$ .

signal coverage: 17.4%  
X ray  $E=18\text{-}20\text{keV}$

Background events are suppressed by the energy information

Environmental radiation backgrounds are rejected by the timing information between signal and beam





# Result

## ◆ Potential source of pseudo signals

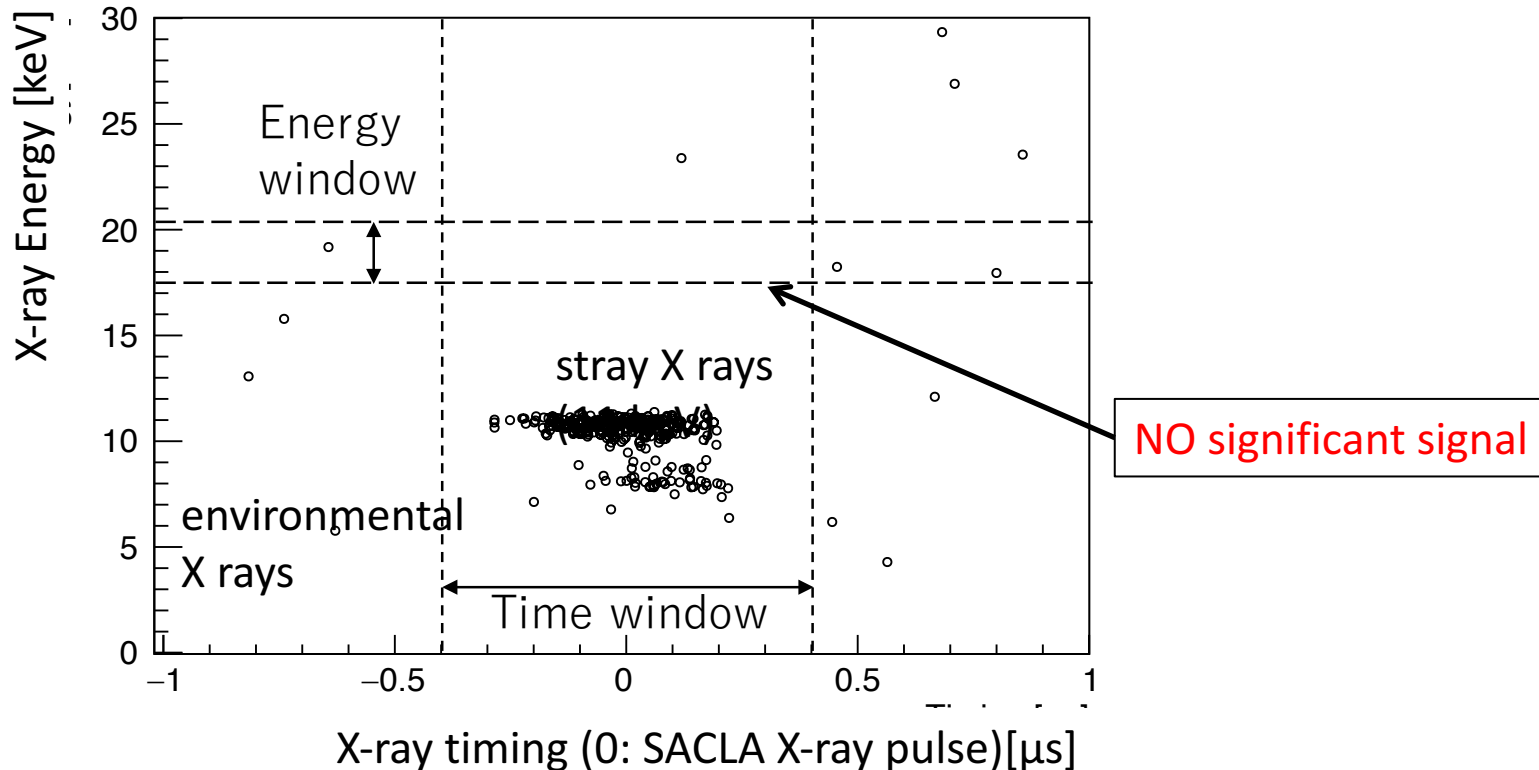
1) pileups of two stray X rays

:  $\sim 0.01$  pileups are expected

2) accidental coincident of  
environmental X rays

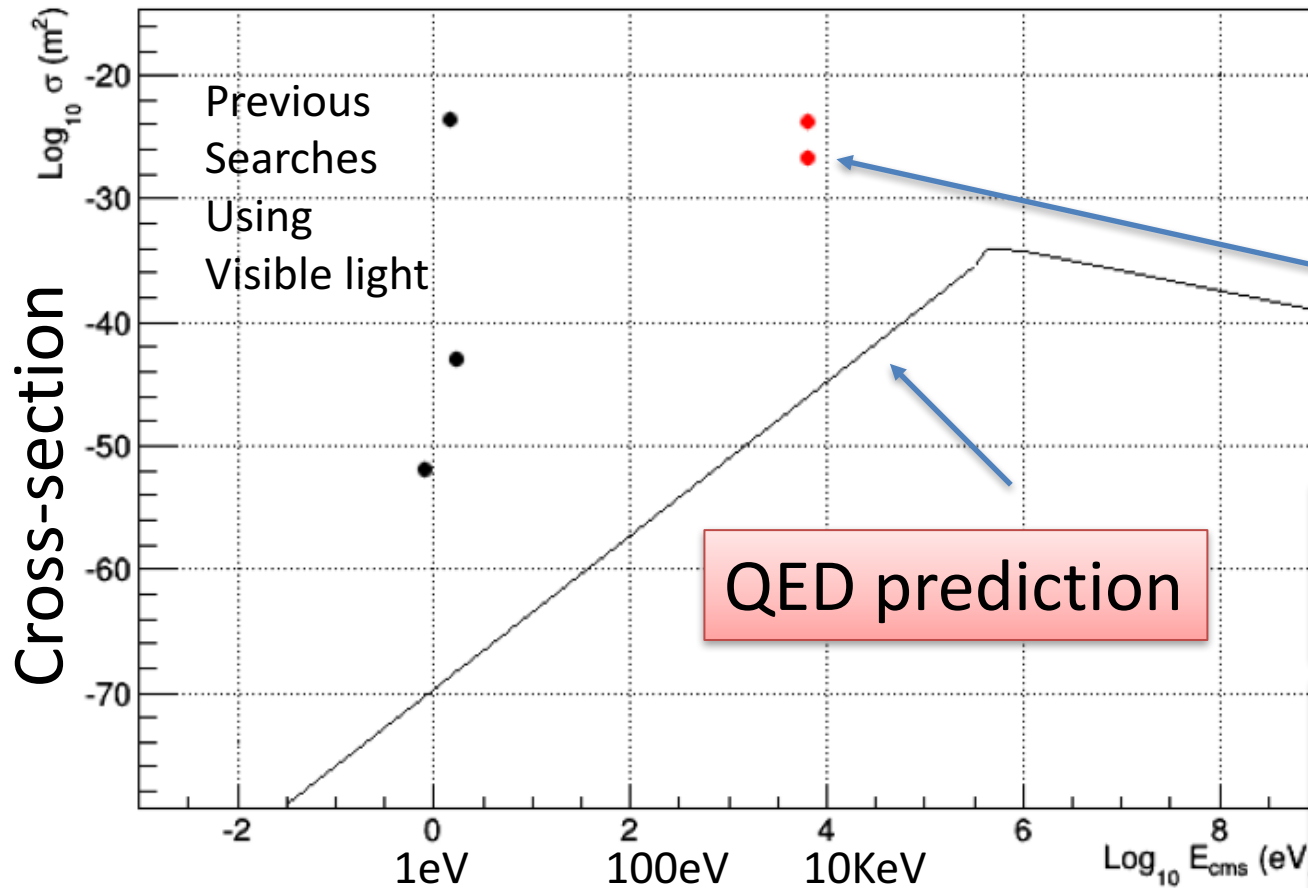
:  $0.43 \pm 0.03$  BGs are expected

*Phys. Lett. B 763 (2016) 454*



No signal  
was observed

Upper-limit on the cross-section(95%CL)



$$1.9 \times 10^{-27} \text{ [m}^2\text{]} \\ \sim 10^{14} \text{ fb}$$

We have performed  
twice in  
2014 and 2016

The first results at  
X ray region.

But still need  
sensitivity of  $10^{20}$   
to observe the  
QED vacuum

Photon Energy at CM

Why so becomes worse? E Width of "Laue scatter" is too narrow  
80eV -> 63meV  $1/1000 * 2\%$  (2 Laue scatter) ->  $10^{-5}$  photon loss / each

# Next Step : Soft mirroring? SACLA+SPring-8 head-on collision

If Laue/Bragg scatter is used, very narrow Energy width is necessary (63 meV). Can we use more loose mirroring valid for the wide width (like mosaic crystal or multi-Layer Bragg)? New idea / New Optics are necessary to use all photons ( $10^{12}$ ) from the XFEL.

## SACLA+SPring-8 co-operation

In EH5: SACLA and SPring-8 will be synchronized in near future.

From Spring8  $\sim 10^3$  photon/pulse 40ps (pulse intensity is  $10^{-9}$  weaker than SACLA)

All photons from SACLA/Spring8 can be used.

▪ 50nm focusing can be used in head-on collision

→ sensitivity  $10^{11}$  is enhanced.



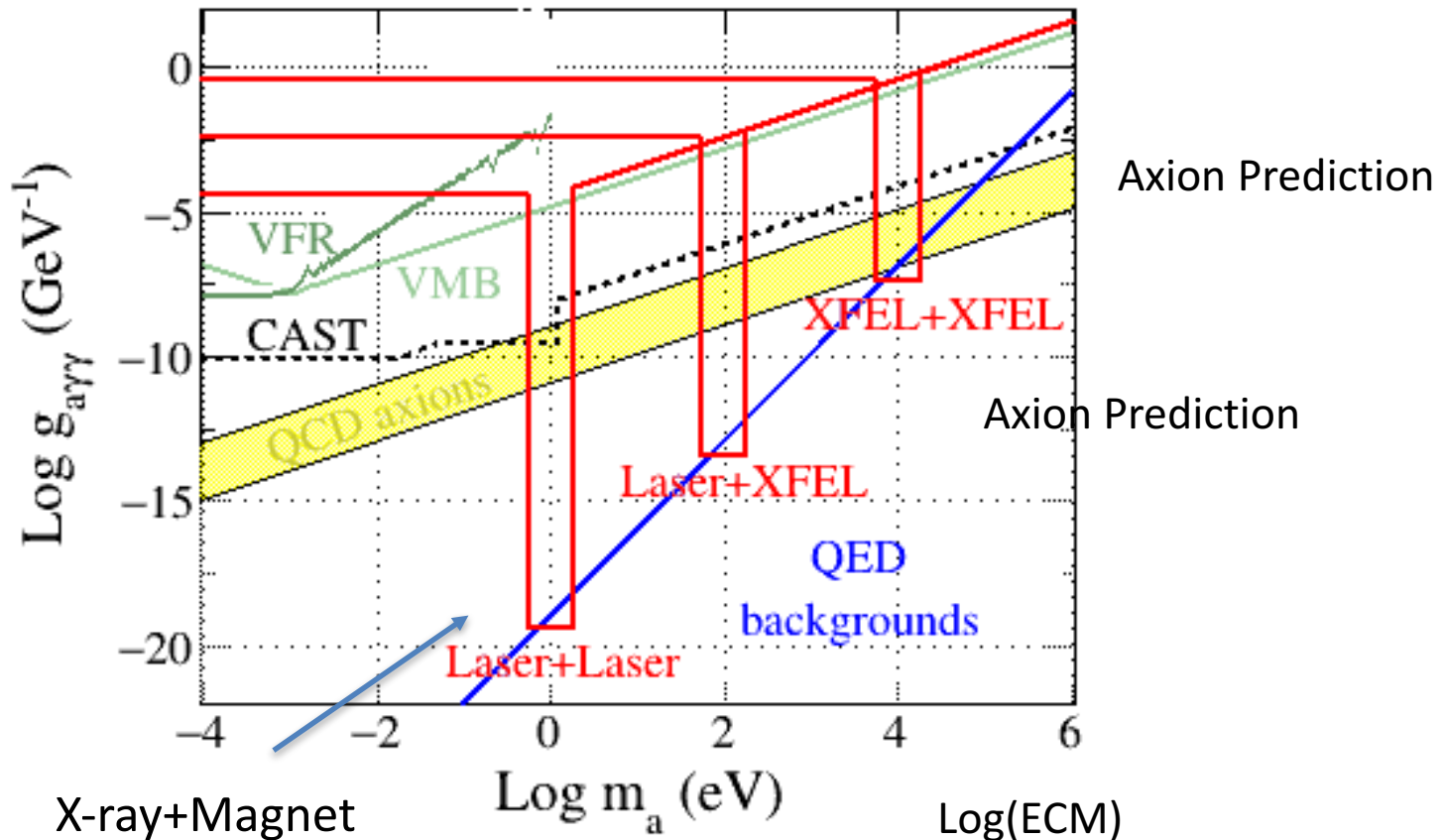
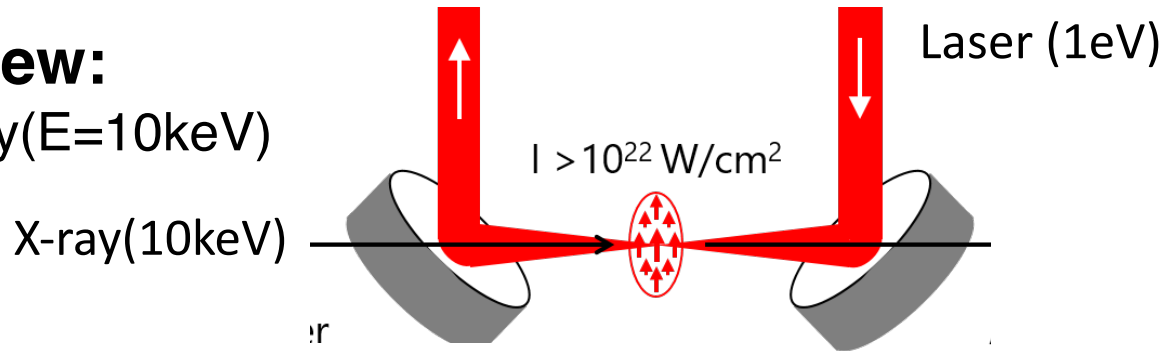
Then we can reach the QED vacuum or discover a new unknown field (Axion, Dilaton).

## 4. [B] Using collision between X-ray and Laser at SACLA

### Particle Physicist View:

Laser(Visible light) + X-ray( $E=10\text{keV}$ )

Center-of-Mass energy is  
 $\sim 100\text{ eV}$ .

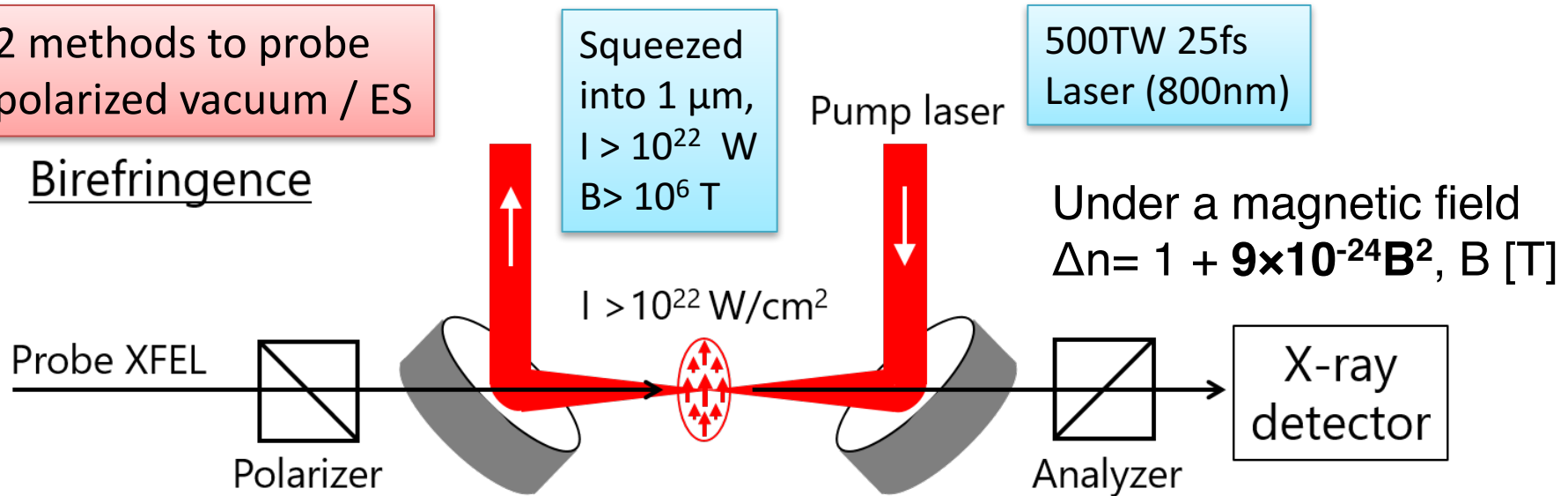


3 different  
ECMs are  
covered.

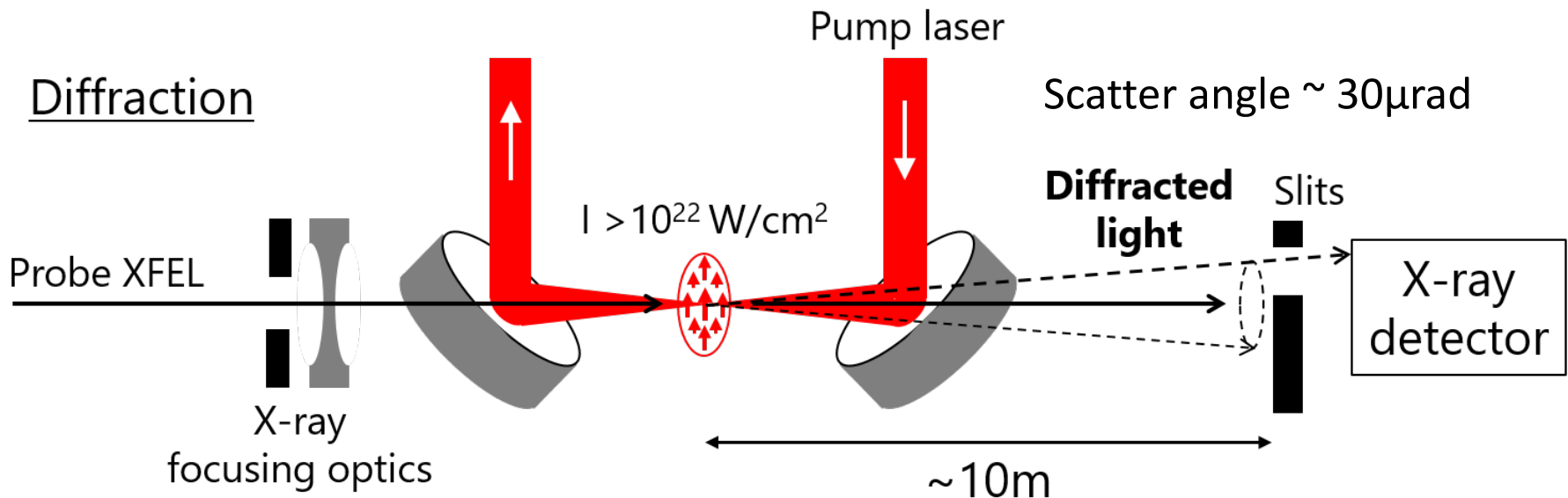
# Material scientist View: pump-probe spectroscopy, target is “vacuum”

2 methods to probe  
polarized vacuum / ES

Birefringence



Diffraction



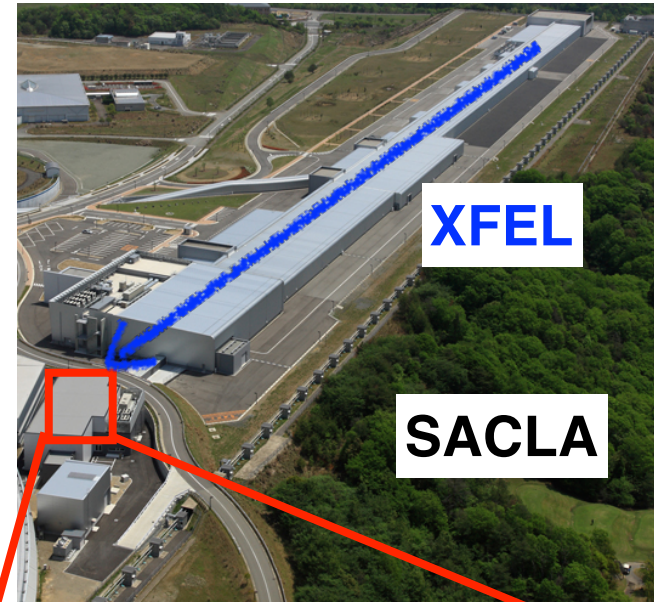


# Light Sources to Pump and Probe

## Probe

### Performance of the SACLA

- Photon number :  $6 \times 10^{11}$  photons/pulse @ 10 keV
- Pulse width : <10 fs
- Beam size after focusing ->  $1 \mu\text{m}$



## Pump

A high power laser is synchronized with SACLA  
a **500 TW laser** is under installation.

### Performance of the 500 TW laser

- Wave length : 800 nm
- Pulse energy : 12.5 J
- Pulse width : 25 fs
- Rate : 1 Hz
- beam size can be squeezed upto  $1 \mu\text{m}$



**2.5 TW laser (Hidra-100)** is used  
now for test experiment.

500 TW laser

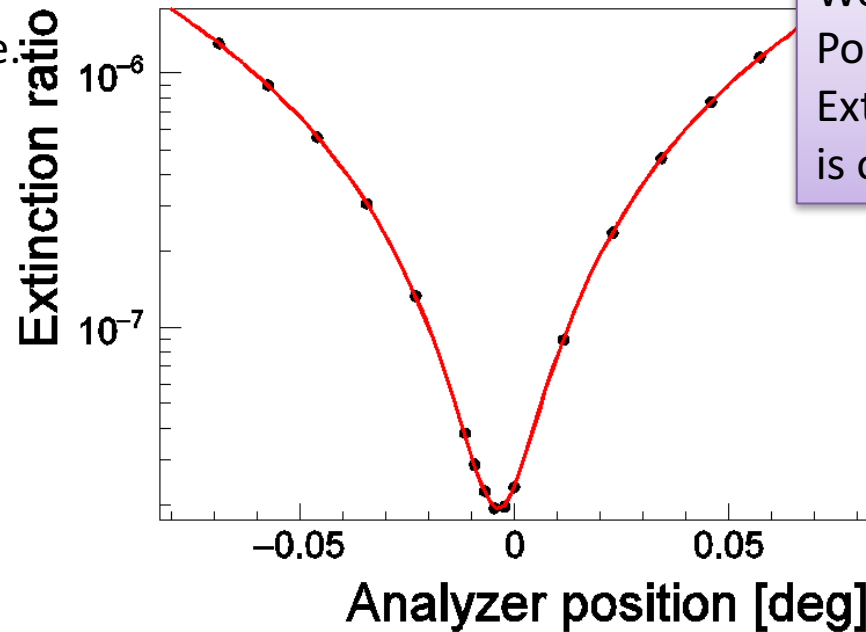
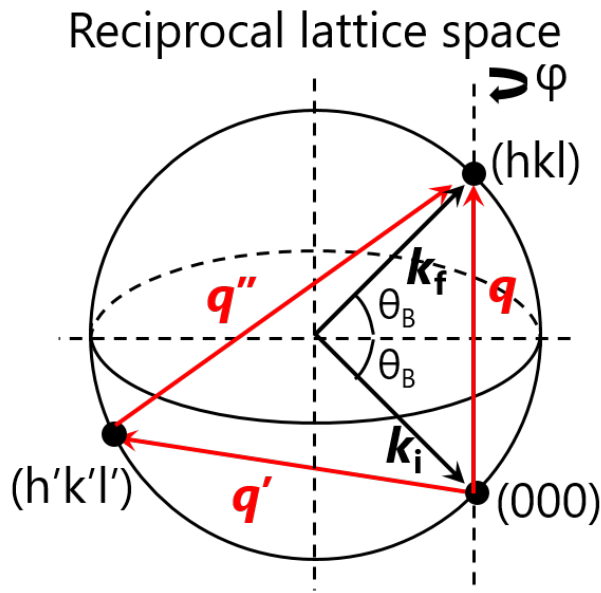
# A) Polarizer is key technology for birefringence exp.

$$\Delta n \sim 10^{-11} \quad \text{for } I=10^{22} \text{ W/cm}^2$$

High Extinction ratio  $\sim 10^{-11}$  is necessary

Big Trial!!

Multi-Beam Refraction  
Is background to make worse.



We have tested a new Polarizer at Spring8  
Extinction ratio  $10^{-8}$   
is obtained.

Distance between  
polarizer and  
analyzer is close  
at test,  
Divergent angle  
makes ER worse,  
we hope  $10^{-10}$

$k_i$ : input vector,  $q$  is transfer by Bragg. Usual path

MBR: at least twice scatter, a lattice structure is examined,  $\rightarrow$  Choice no  $q'$  lattice

## B) Diffraction experiment case

Estimated distribution

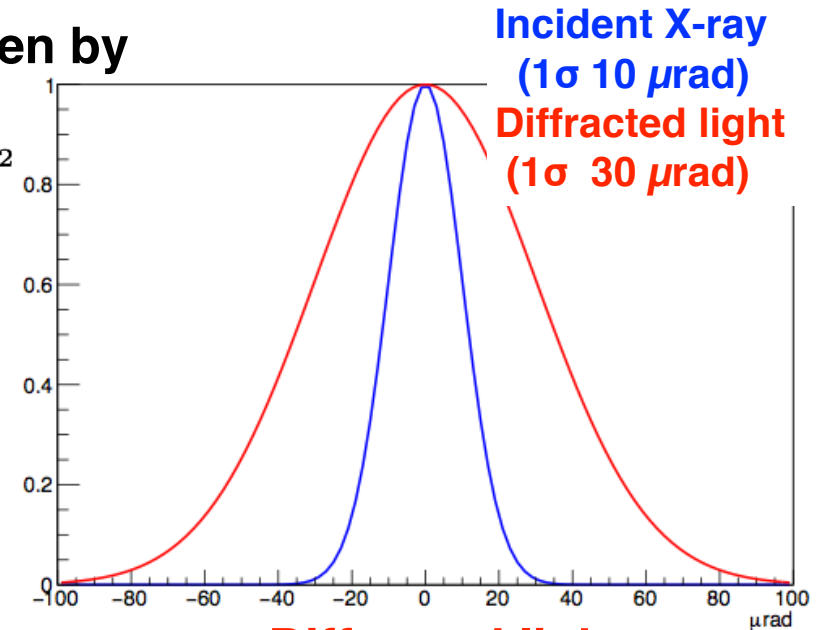
Angle distribution of **Diffracted light** is given by

$$\frac{dN_{\text{diffracted}}}{d \cos \theta} \sim \frac{J E^2 W^2}{w_L^2 (w_L^2 + 2w_X^2)} \times (E w)^2 e^{-\frac{1}{2} (E w \theta)^2}$$

$$w^2 = \frac{w_L^2 w_X^2}{w_L^2 + 2w_X^2}$$

PRD 94, 013004 (2016)

High Energy  $E$   
Squeezed both  
High Flux  $J$   
High Power  $W$

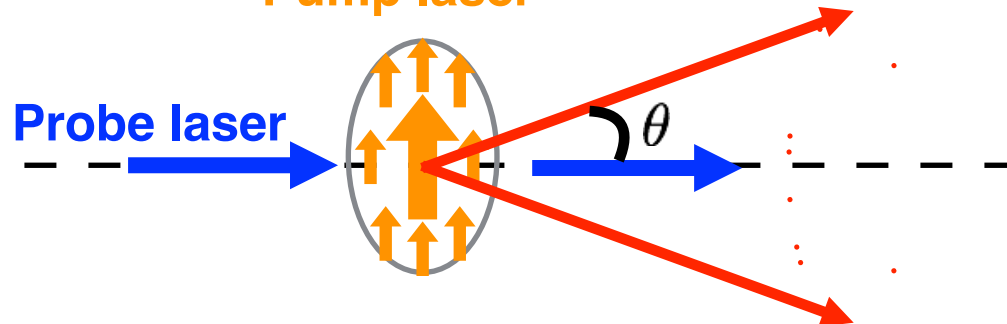


**Diffracted light**

Probe X-ray is diffracted  
~ **30μrad** (Very small angle)

**Probe X-ray laser**  
(Gaussian beam)  
Photon flux :  $J$   
Photon energy :  $E$   
Beam waist :  $w_X$

**Pump laser**  
Pulse energy :  $W$   
Beam waist :  $w_L$   
**Pump laser**



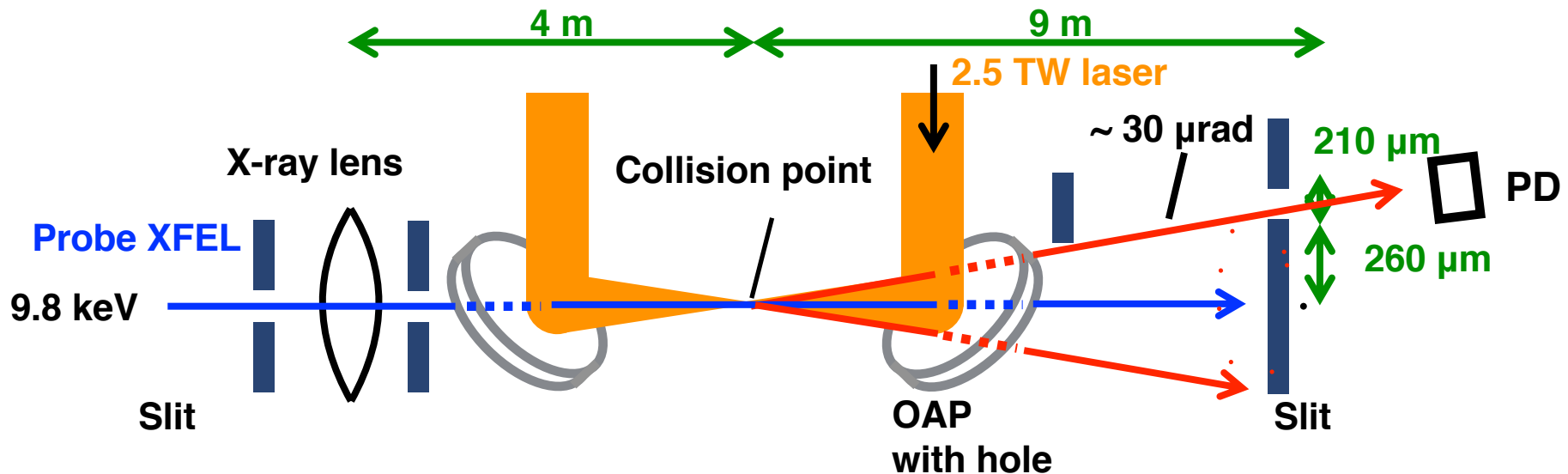
## B') The first research has been performed at SACLA (2016)

**2.5 TW laser light** is squeezed upto  $10\text{ }\mu\text{m}$  with Off-Axis-Parabolic mirror with hole. (beam size of both are estimated with CCD and wire-scan  $\rightarrow 10\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ )

### 3 big Challenges !!!

- 1) **Timing:** Laser is synchronized with SACLA (within a few ps)
- 2) **In Space:** Collision point is exactly controlled (within beam size)
- 3) **Background suppression (Suppression factor  $10^{-16}$ )**

Photon Detector is used.  
Scatter is





h has been performed at SACLA (2016)

Photograph in  
Vacuum chamber

hole.

3 Tr **Probe XFEL**

- 1) T
- 2) In
- 3) B

**Pump laser**

**OAP**

**Vacuum chamber**

**Probe**

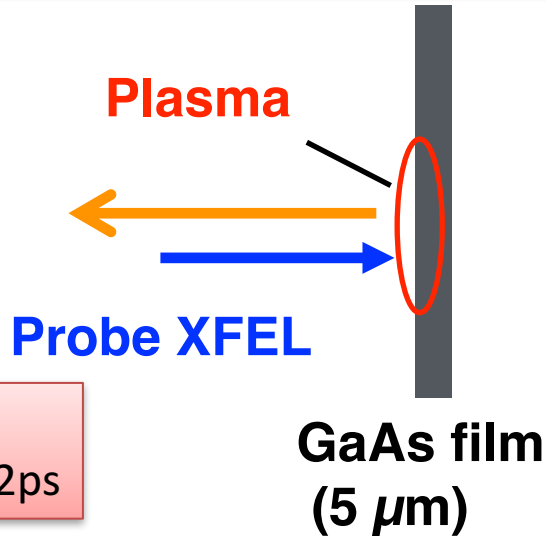
9.8 keV

**collision point**

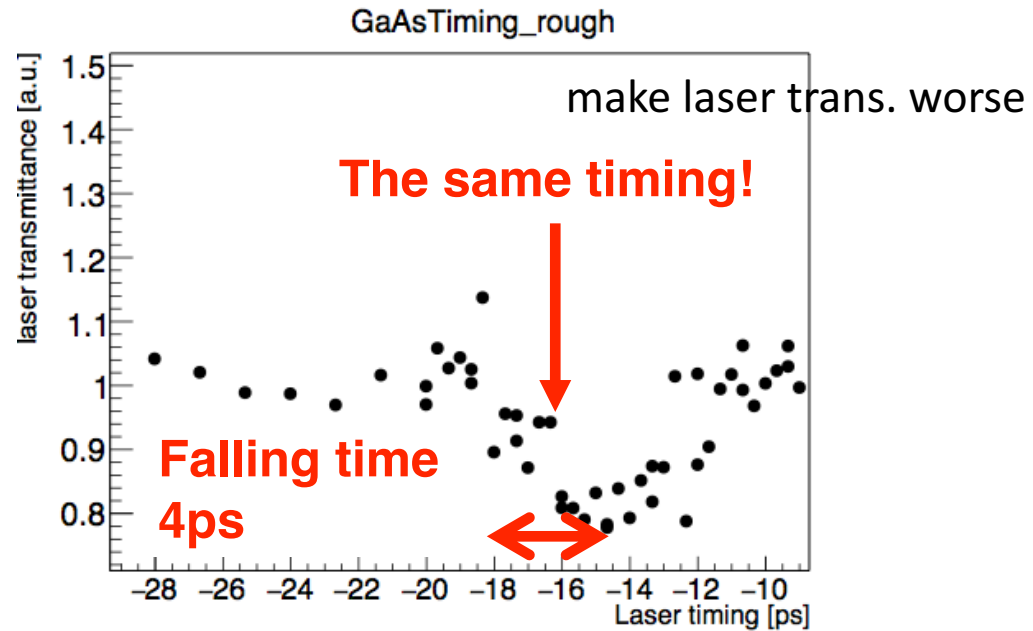


Timing is estimated with GaAs film

X-ray hits  
GaAs film  
Plasma is  
produced

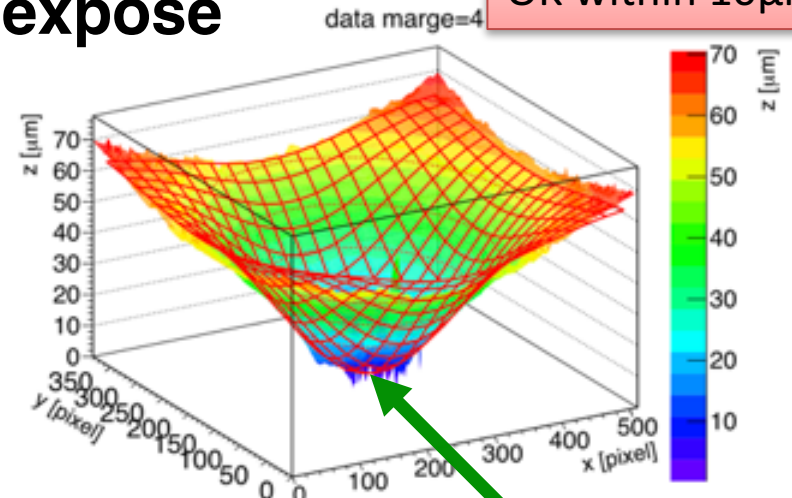
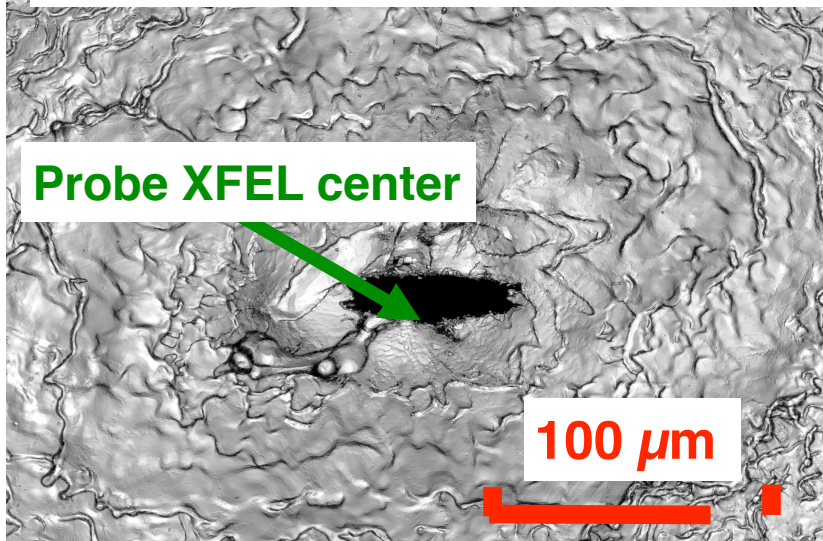


timing is  
OK within 2ps



Position is estimated with Zn thin film

**Laser microscope image after expose**

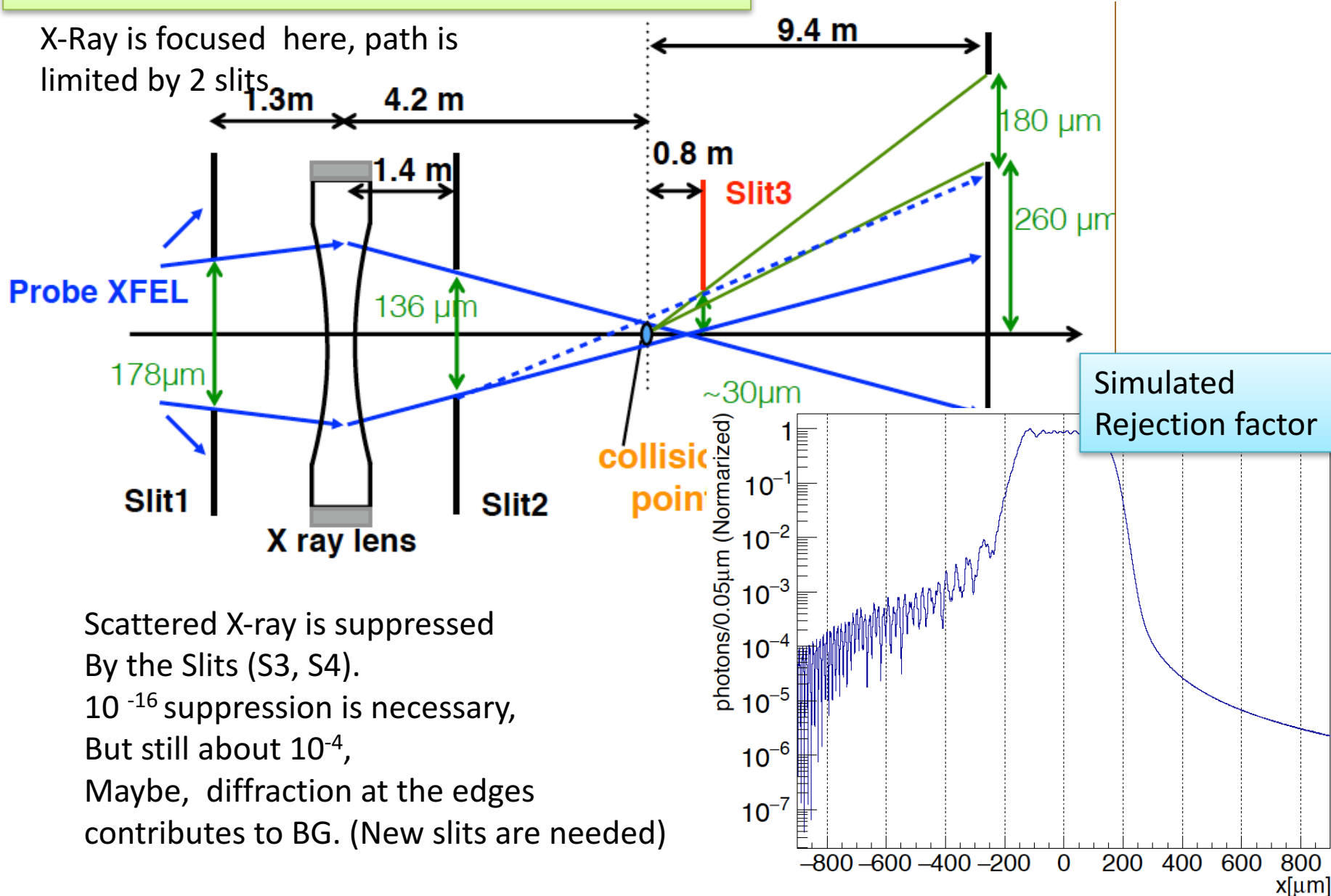


Center is  
OK within 10 $\mu\text{m}$

**Pump laser center**

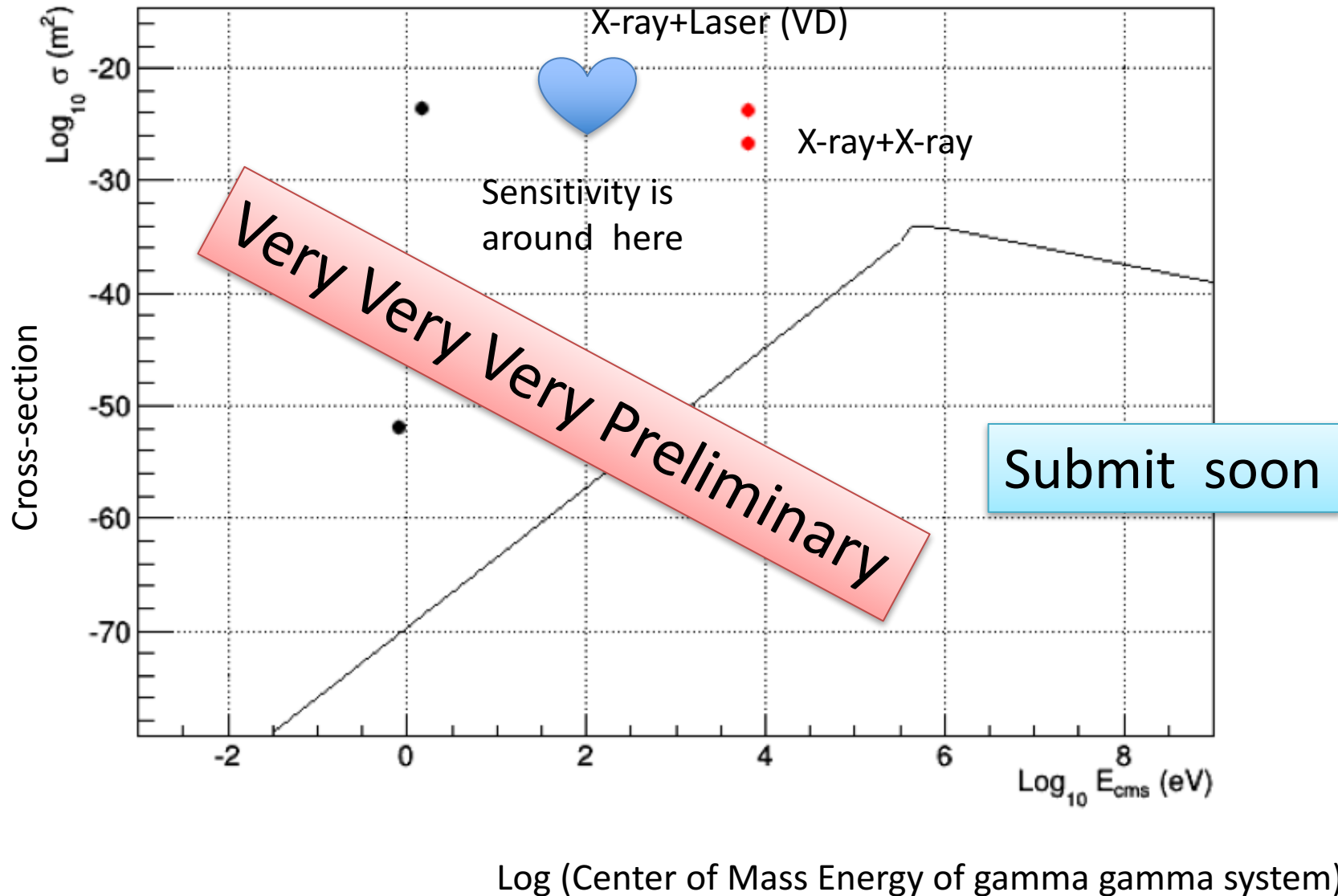
# But Background level is still high

X-Ray is focused here, path is limited by 2 slits

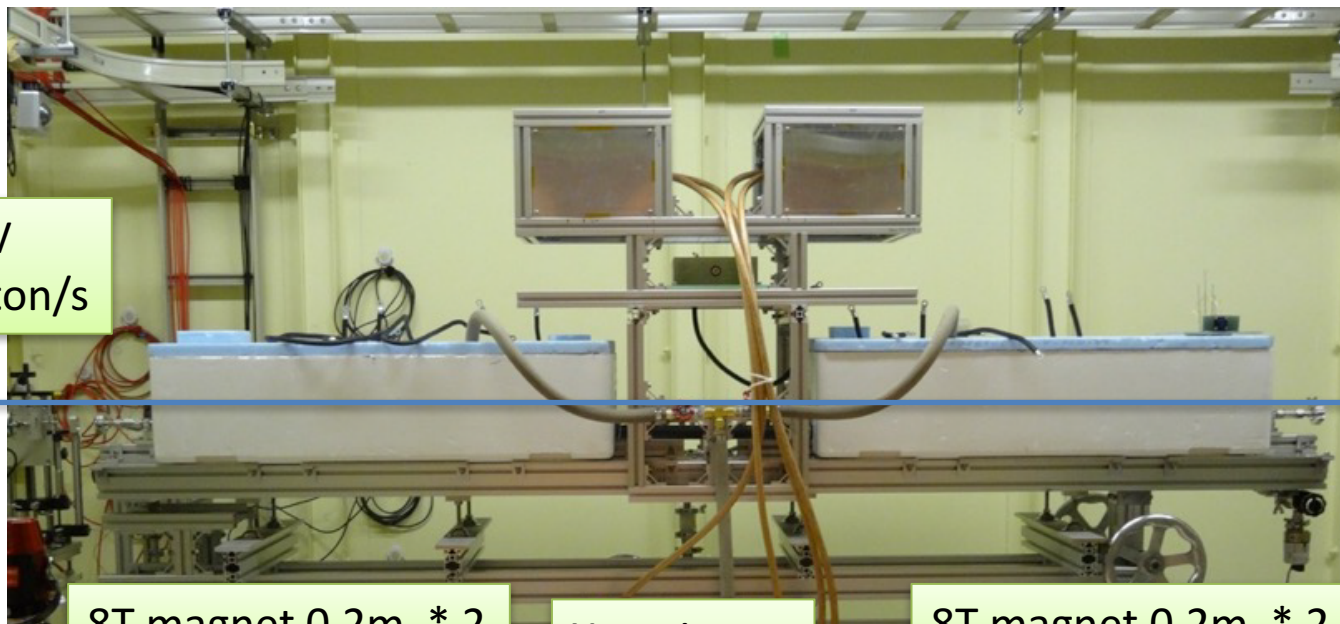


Scattered X-ray is suppressed  
By the Slits (S3, S4).  
 $10^{-16}$  suppression is necessary,  
But still about  $10^{-4}$ ,  
Maybe, diffraction at the edges  
contributes to BG. (New slits are needed)

The first research has been performed with 2.5TW laser + SACLA  
Focusing size  $\sim 10\mu\text{m}$



## 5. [C] Using collision of X-ray and Strong Magnet at Spring-8 (Axion/Dilaton like particle)



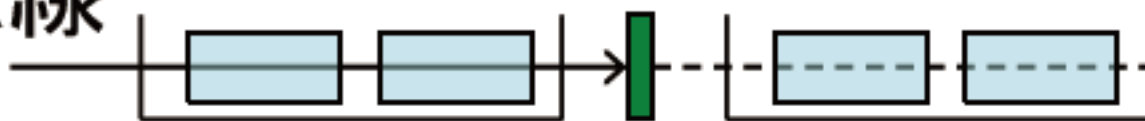
X ray 9.5KeV  
 $3 \times 10^{13}$  photon/s

8T magnet 0.2m \* 2

X-ray is cut  
here

8T magnet 0.2m \* 2

X線

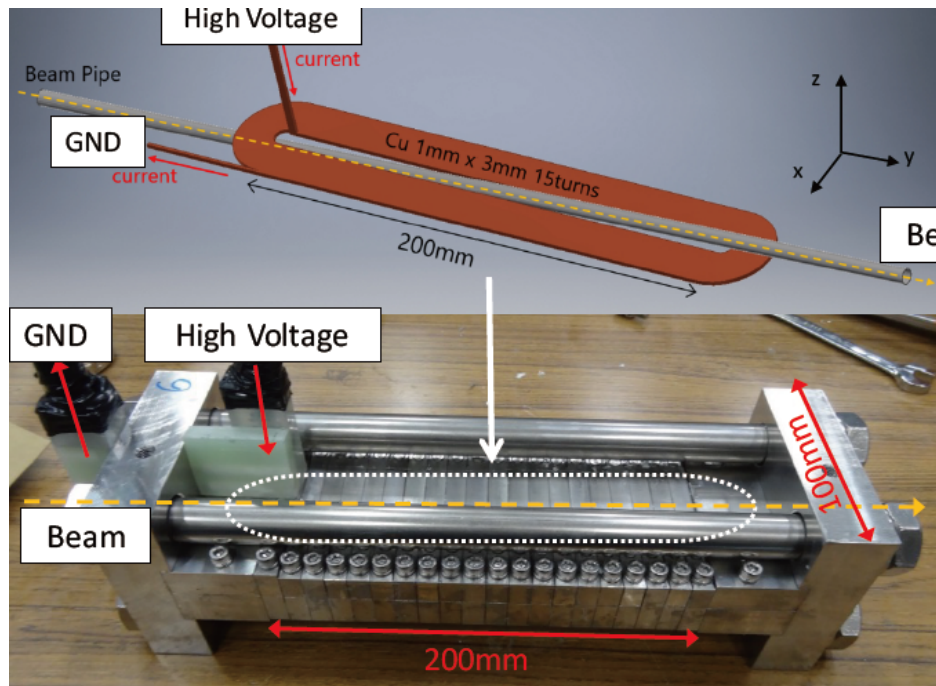


ALP

Reconverted  
With magnet



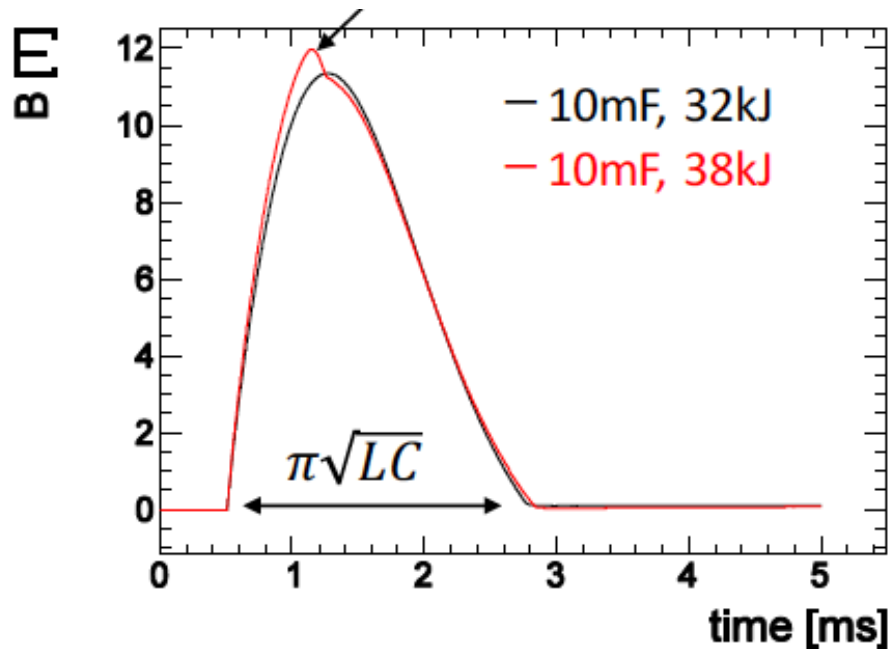




10T Magnets are used (4 units)

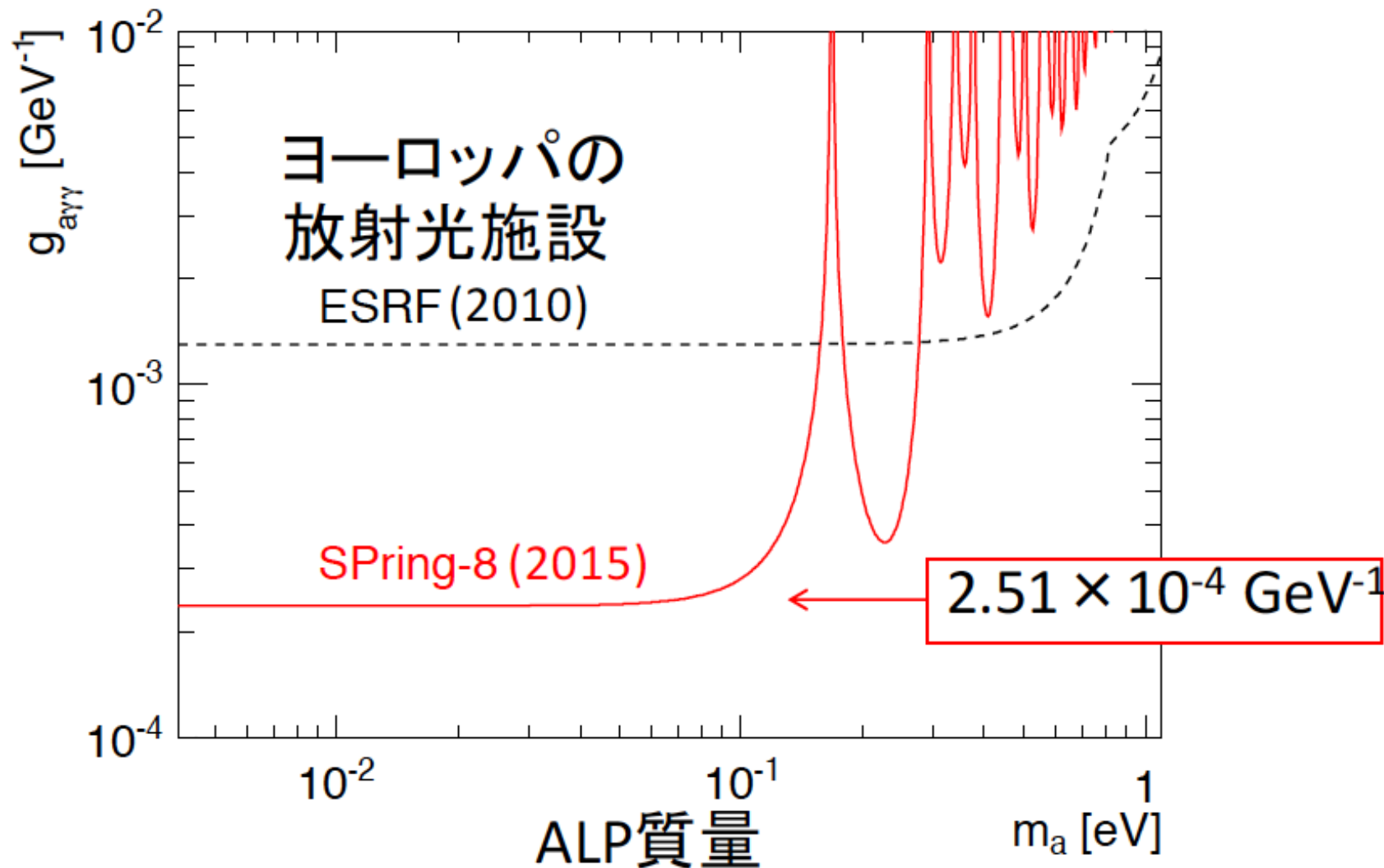
L.Ne is used to cool magnet down  
100L/h is exhausted.

3mF Condenser bank  
30KJ (1HZ rep.)





Sensitivity is for 0.1 eV



# Summary

- After Higgs Boson discovery, “Vacuum” becomes one of the frontier field.
- Many fields are hidden in vacuum. Photon is key technology to probe the vacuum.
- Using XFEL SACLA/Spring-8, three different energy regions (10KeV, 100eV, 0.1eV) are explored with the different technologies.
- **New developments on X-ray optics / XFEL open new possibilities**
- You can find out more details of experiments and the other activities of our group

