Towards a Precise Measurement of the ²³⁵U Spectrum with PROSPECT

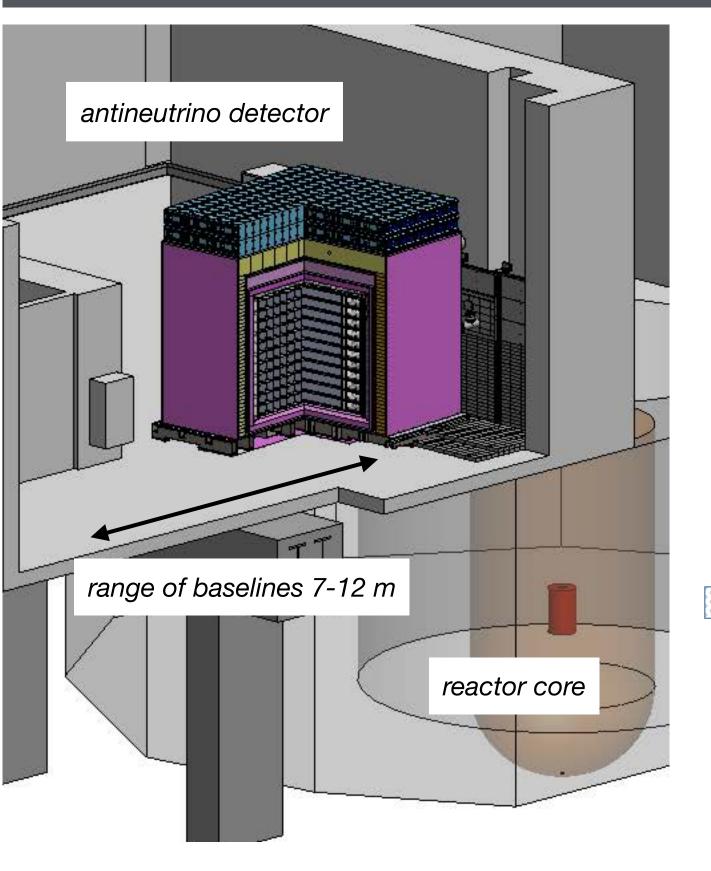
prospect.yale.edu

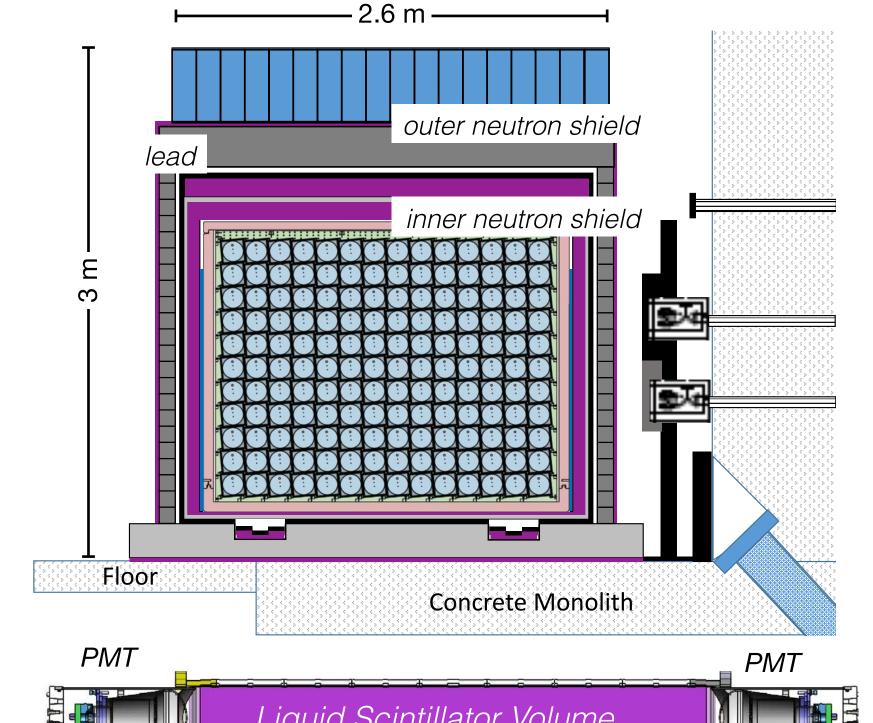
PRESPECT

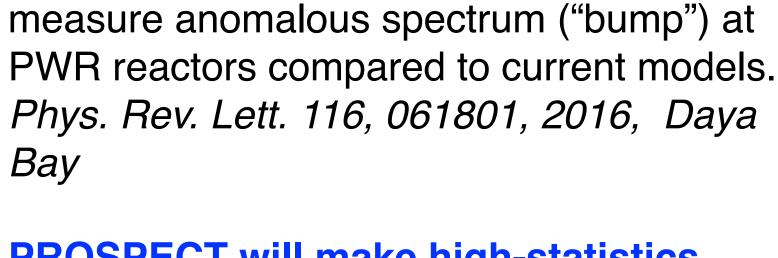
Karsten M. Heeger, Yale University for the PROSPECT Collaboration

A Segmented Antineutrino Detector

Understanding the Reactor Antineutrino Spectrum

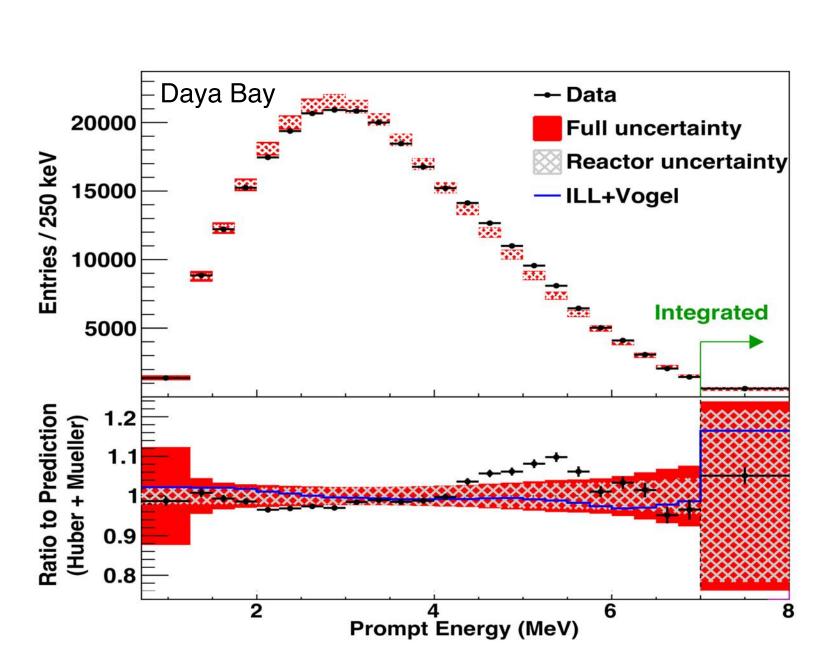






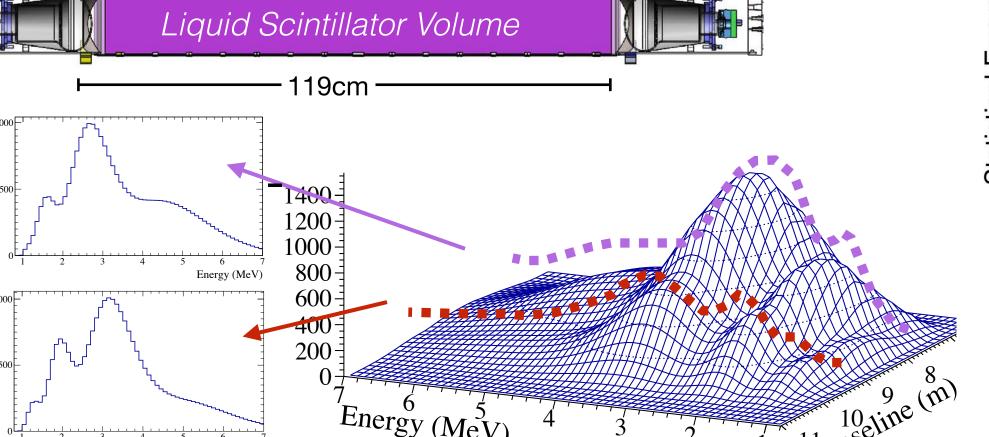
Daya Bay and other reactor experiments

PROSPECT will make high-statistics measurement of HEU spectrum with excellent energy resolution and test reactor models. Understanding detector energy response is critical. J.Phys. G43 (2016) no.11, 113001



PROSPECT measures \overline{V}_e energy

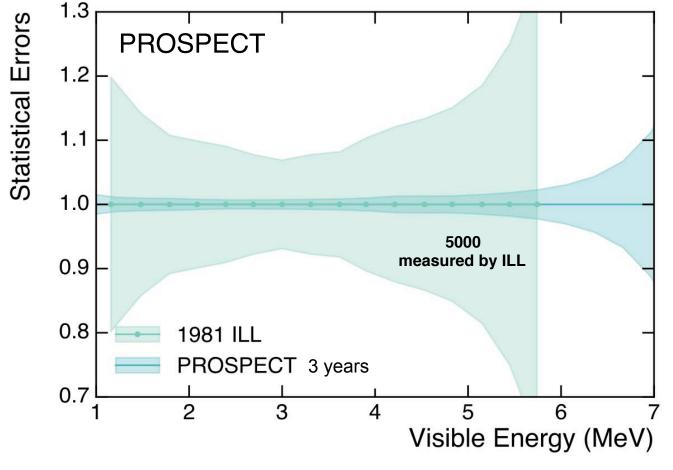
spectrum with energy resolution < 5%/√E in 154 segments at baselines 7-12m from HEU reactor (235U) at the High Flux Isotope Reactor (HFIR) at ORNL. ~640 inverse beta decays detected per day.

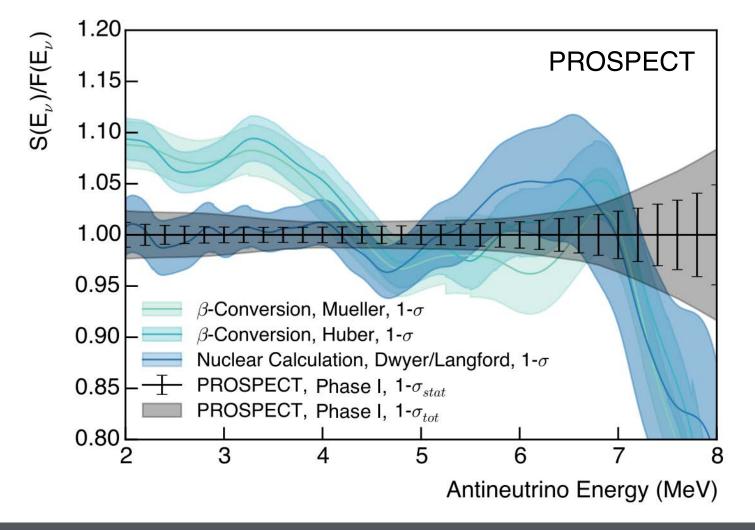


662 y

 $e^+ \rightarrow 511 \text{ y}$

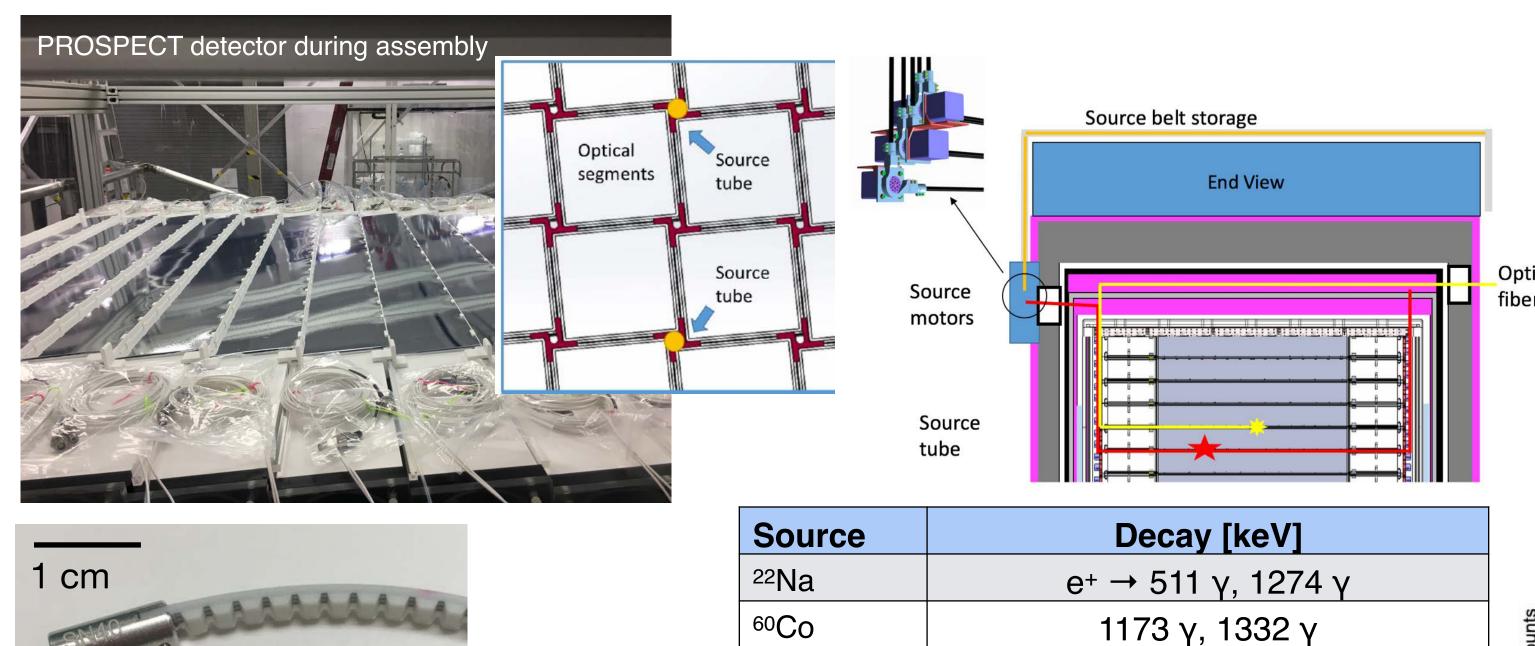
Spontaneous fission → n

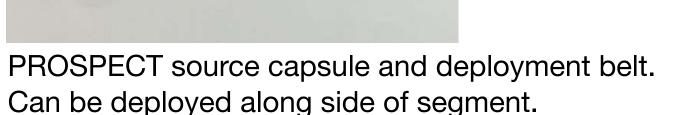


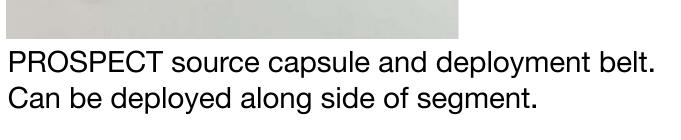


Source Calibration of PROSPECT

Individual detector segments calibrated with radioactive and optical sources.





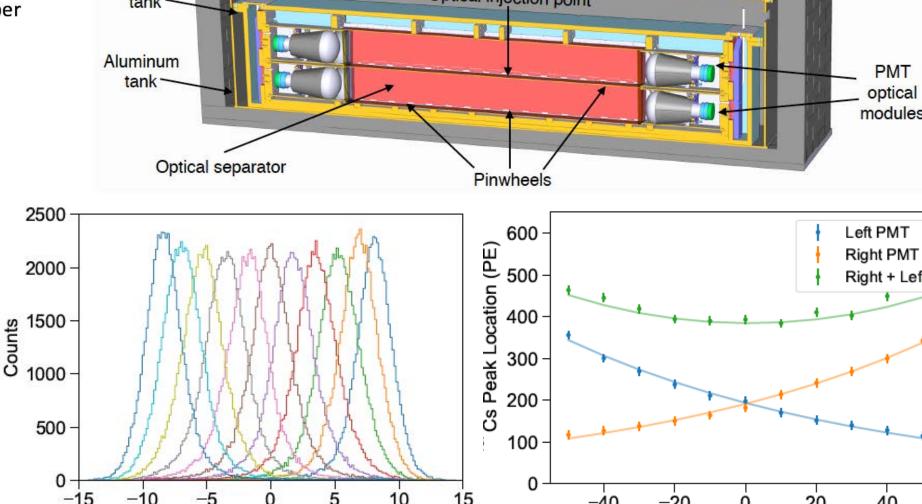


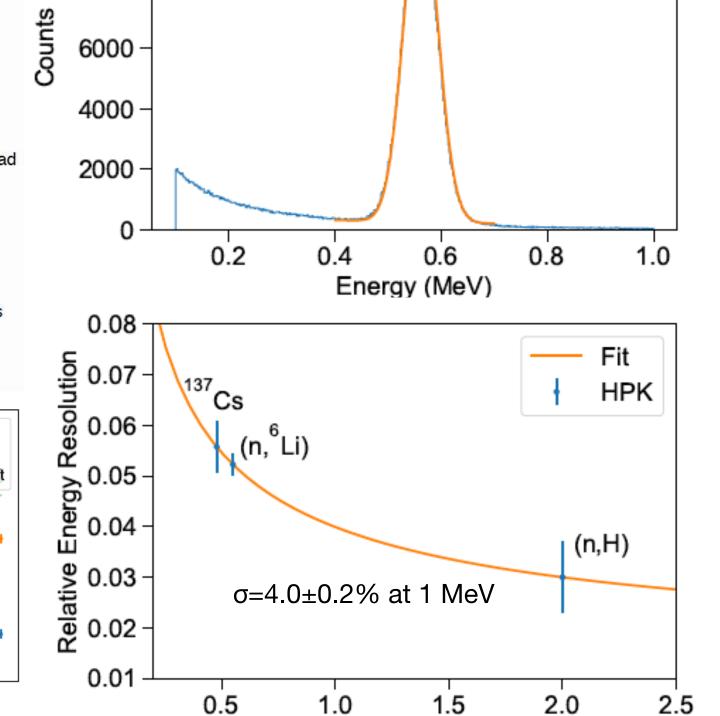
Optical injection point

Time Separation (ns)

Calibration studies of PROSPECT

prototype segment arXiv: 1805.09245





Fit

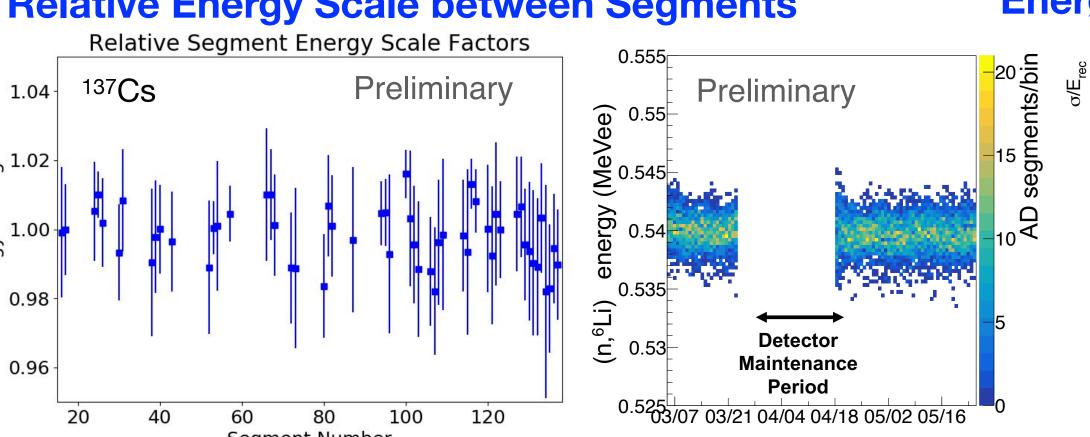
Energy Response: Scale, Resolution, Stability

137**C**S

⁶⁸Ge

²⁵²Cf

Single Cell Calibration Time Stability of E Reconstruction ¹²B Cosmogenics 12**B** ²²Na, single cell distributed uniformly in detector MC Data 1.002 Data **Preliminary Preliminary Preliminary** 1.5 15 E [MeV] **Energy Resolution** Relative Energy Scale between Segments



Data **Energy Model** ¹³⁷Cs σ =4.5% at 1 MeV 0.06 ²²Na 0.04 ⁶⁰Co 0.02 **Preliminary**

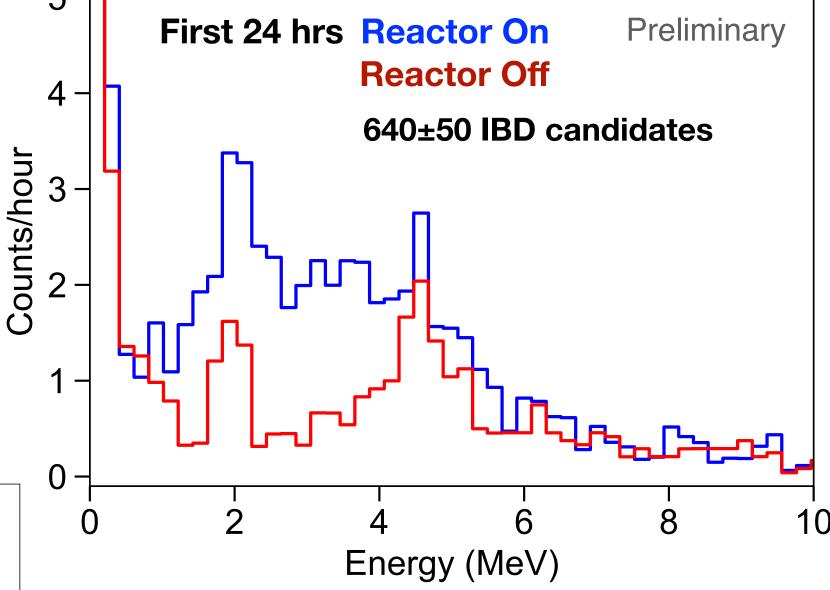
Observation of Reactor Antineutrinos at HFIR

Performance of Detector Segment (P50 Prototype)

10000

8000

First day of reactor antineutrinos at HFIR



First observation of antineutrinos from HFIR at $>5\sigma$ in ~4 hrs.

Energy (MeV)

Radioactive source calibration, cosmogenics, and optical calibration used to characterize response of individual detector segments.

Excellent E resolution <5% at 1 MeV. S/B > 1.3 in first round of analysis.

Stay tuned for more data!

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