

# **“Absolute” Calibration of PMT**

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# Talk Outline

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- 1. Introduction: Principle of PMT**
- 2. NIST Standard Silicon Photodiode**
- 3. Uncertainties, Concerns Specific to PMTs**
- 4. Suggestions and Proposal to our Community**

# Talk Outline

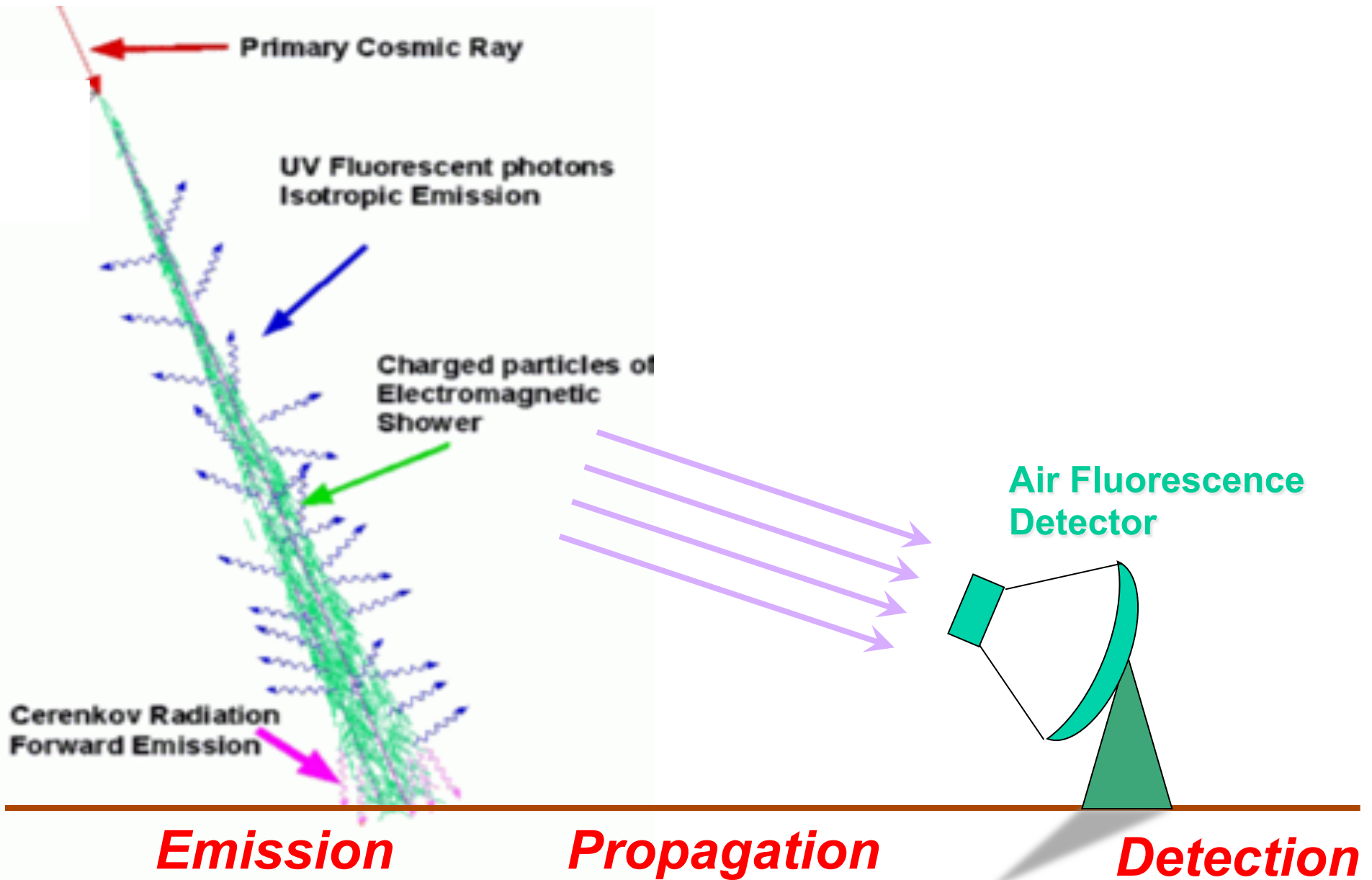
## 1. Introduction: Principle of PMT

2. NIST Standard Silicon Photodiode

3. Uncertainties, Concerns Specific to PMTs

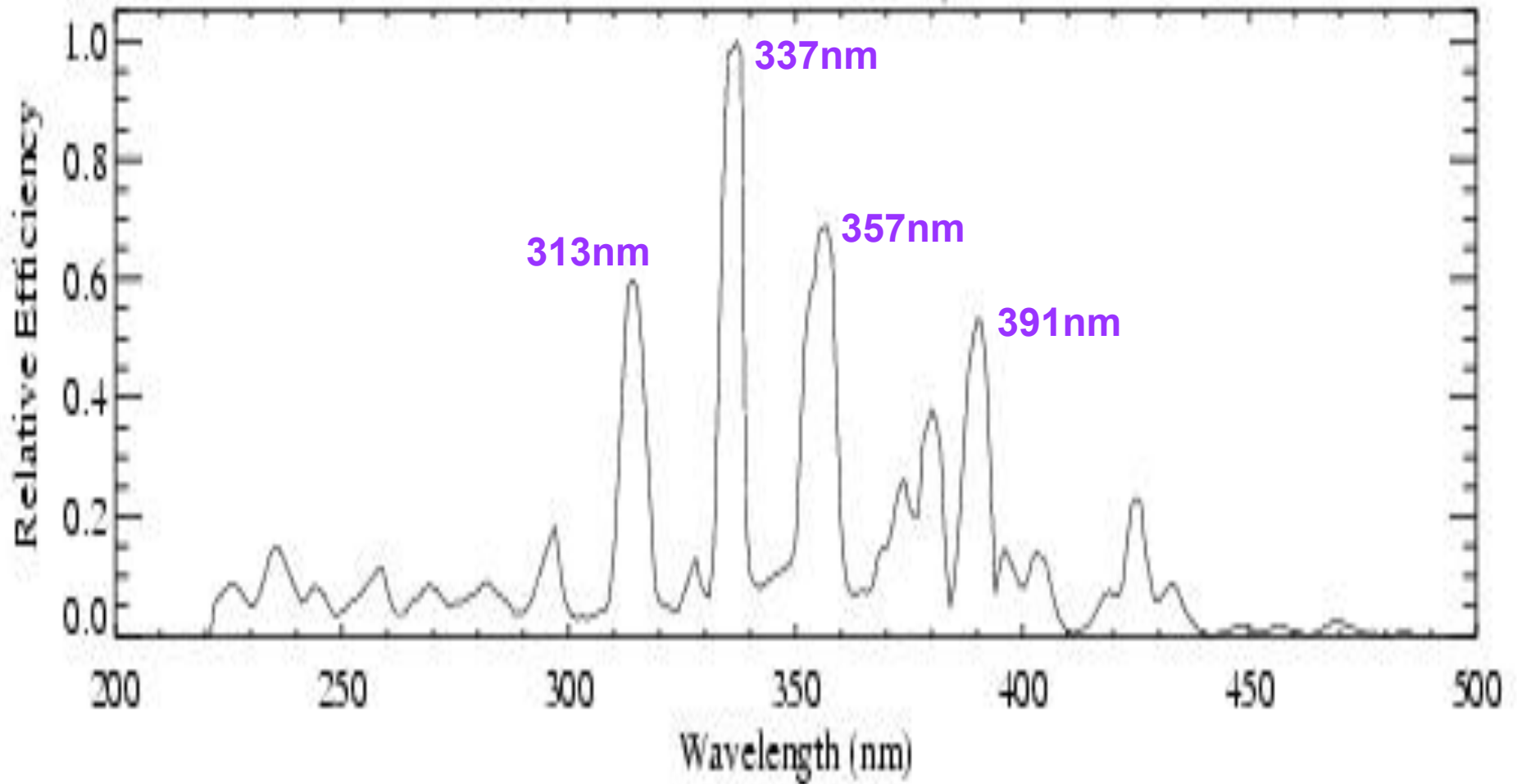
4. Suggestions and Proposal to our Community

# Emission, Propagation and Detection of Fluorescent Photons



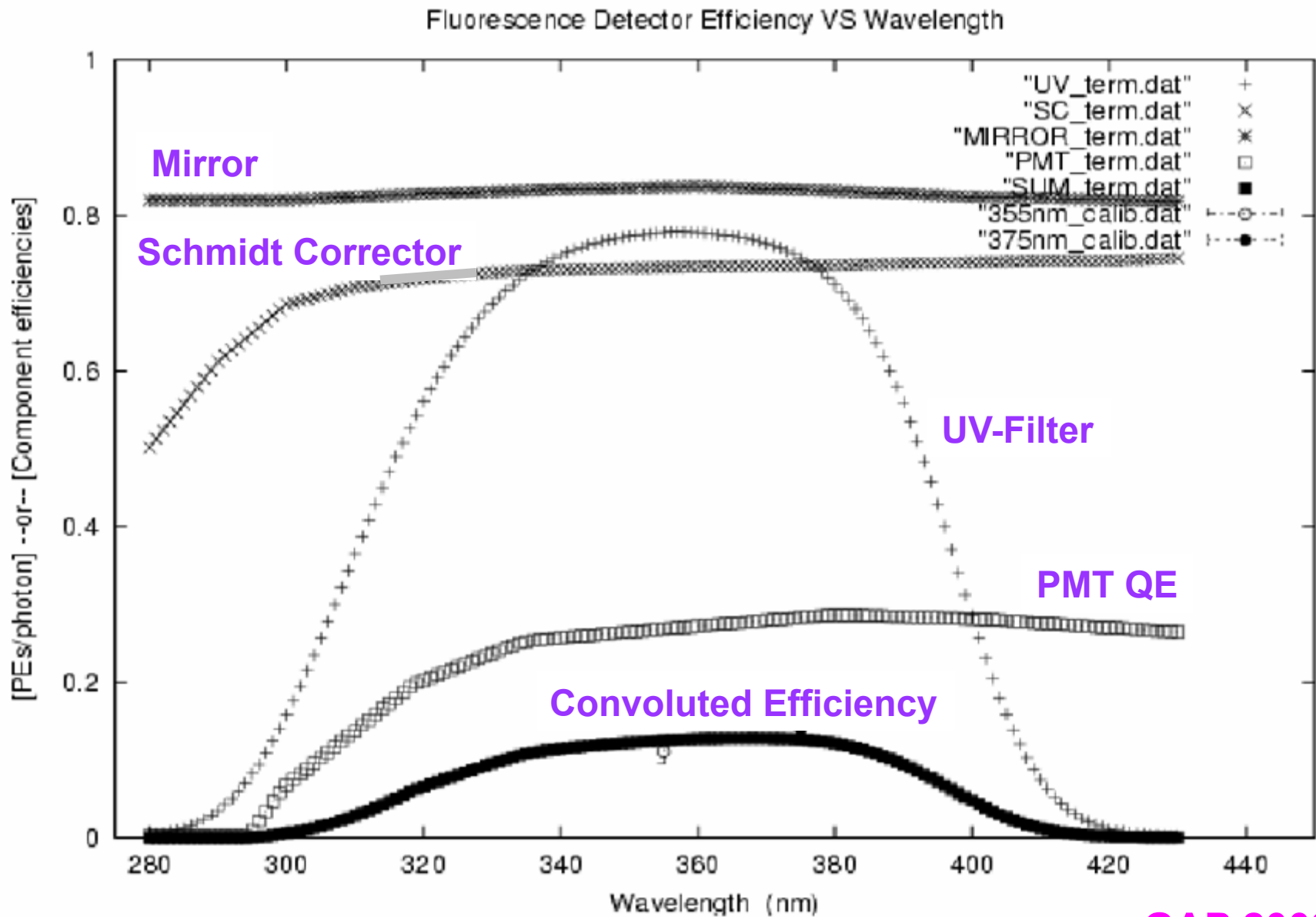
# Emission Spectrum of Nitrogen Fluorescence

Nitrogen Fluorescence Spectrum



From HiRes

# Photon Detection Efficiency of Auger FD



GAP 2002-029

# Principle of PMT

## ➤ How PMT Works

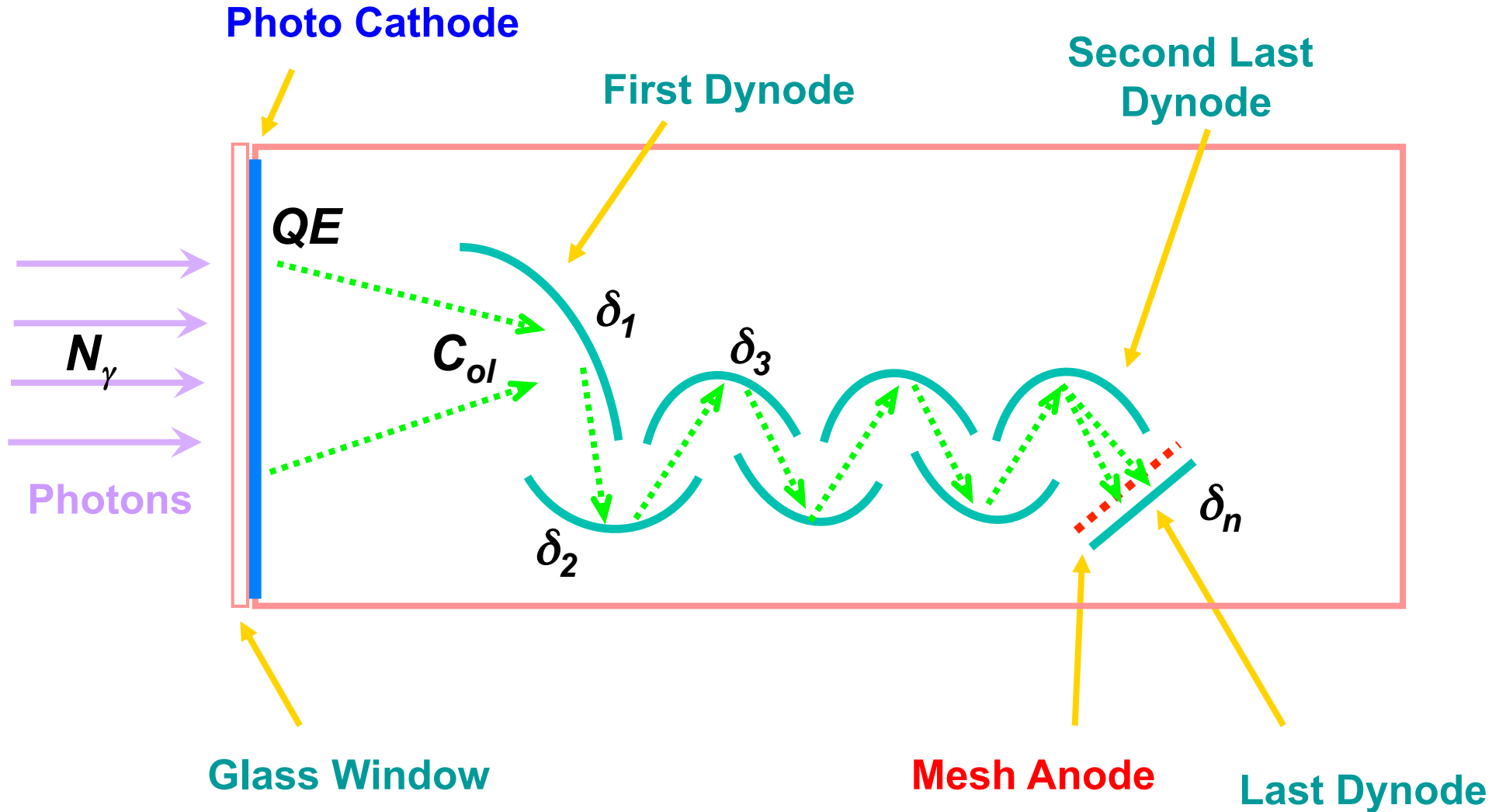
## ➤ Fundamental Parameters of PMT

- Quantum Efficiency (**QE**)
- Photoelectron Collection Efficiency (**C<sub>ol</sub>**)
- Gain (**G**)
- Excess Noise Factor (**ENF**)
- Energy Resolution ( **$\sigma/E$** )

## ➤ How to Measure These Parameters

## ➤ Some Remarks

# Structure of Linear-focus PMT



# Quantum Efficiency (QE)

## ➤ Definition:

$$QE \equiv \frac{(\# \textit{Emitted} \_ \textit{Photoelectrons})}{(\# \textit{Insident} \_ \textit{Photons})}$$
$$= \frac{N_{pe}}{N_{\gamma}}$$

## ➤ How to measure:

- Connect all the dynodes and the anode.
- Supply more than +100V for 100% collection efficiency.
- Measure the cathode current ( $I_c$ ).
- Compare  $I_c$  with that of PMT with known QE.

# Collection Efficiency ( $C_{ol}$ )

## ➤ Definition

$$C_{ol} \equiv \frac{(\# PE \text{ captured by 1st Dynode})}{(\# Emitted Photoelectrons)}$$

## ➤ How to measure

- Measure the Cathode current ( $I_C$ ).
- Add  $10^{-5}$  ND filter in front of PMT.
- Measure the counting rate of the single PE ( $S$ ).
- Take the ratio of  $S \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \times 10^5 / I_C$ .

# Detective Quantum Efficiency (DQE)

## ➤ Definition:

$$DQE \equiv \frac{(\# PE \text{ captured by 1st Dynode})}{(\# Incident Photons)}$$
$$= QE \cdot C_{ol}$$

- Often confused as QE by “Physicists”

## ➤ How to measure:

- Use a weak pulsed light source (so that >90% pulse gives the pedestal.)
- Measure the counting rate of the single PE (**S**).
- Compare **S** with that of PMT with known DQE.

# Gain ( $G_P$ )

## ➤ Definition by Physicists:

$$G_P \equiv \delta_1 \cdot \delta_2 \cdot \delta_3 \cdots \delta_n$$

( $\delta_i$  = Gain of the i-th dynode)

## ➤ How to measure:

- Use a weak pulsed light source (so that >90% pulse gives the pedestal.)
- Measure the center of the mass of Single PE charge distribution of the Anode signal ( $Q_A$ ).
- Take the ratio of  $Q_A/1.6 \times 10^{-19}$ .

# Gain ( $G_I$ )

## ➤ Definition by Industries:

$$G_I \equiv C_{ol} \cdot \delta_1 \cdot \delta_2 \cdot \delta_3 \cdots \delta_n$$

( $\delta_i$  = Gain of the i-th dynode)

## ➤ How to measure:

- Measure the Cathode current ( $I_C$ ).
- Add  $10^{-5}$  ND filter in front of PMT.
- Measure the Anode current ( $I_A$ ).
- Take the ratio of  $I_A \times 10^5 / I_C$ .

$$G_I = C_{ol} \cdot G_P$$

# Anode Signal (E)

## ➤ Definition:

$$\begin{aligned} E &= N_{\gamma} \cdot QE \cdot C_{ol} \cdot \delta_1 \cdot \delta_2 \cdot \delta_3 \cdots \delta_n \\ &= N_{\gamma} \cdot QE \cdot G_I = N_{pe} \cdot G_I \quad \text{(by Industries)} \\ &= N_{\gamma} \cdot QE \cdot C_{ol} \cdot G_p \\ &= N_{\gamma} \cdot DQE \cdot G_p \quad \text{(by Physicists)} \end{aligned}$$

( $N_{\gamma}$  = No. of Incident Photons)

( $N_{pe}$  = No. of Photo-electrons)

# Energy Resolution ( $\sigma/E$ )

➤ In ideal case:

$$\frac{\sigma}{E} = \frac{\sqrt{N_\gamma}}{N_\gamma} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N_\gamma}}$$

➤ In reality:

$$\frac{\sigma}{E} = \sqrt{\frac{ENF}{N_\gamma \cdot QE \cdot C_{ol}} + \left( \frac{ENC}{N_\gamma \cdot QE \cdot C_{ol} \cdot G_P} \right)^2}$$

- QE
- $C_{ol}$
- ENF
- ENC

**Quantum Efficiency**  
**Collection Efficiency:**  
**Excess Noise Factor (from Dynodes)**  
**Equivalent Noise Charge (Readout Noise)**

# Excess Noise Factor (ENF)

➤ **Definition:**

$$ENF \equiv \frac{\sigma_{Output}^2}{\sigma_{Input}^2}$$

➤ **In case of PMT:**

$$ENF = 1 + \frac{1}{\delta_1} + \frac{1}{\delta_1 \cdot \delta_2} + \cdots + \frac{1}{\delta_1 \cdot \delta_2 \cdots \delta_n}$$

➤ **How to measure:**

- Set  $N_{pe} = 10-20$  (for nice Gaussian).
- Measure  $\sigma/E$  of the Gaussian distribution.
- ENF is given by

$$ENF = (\sigma/E)^2 (N_{pe} \cdot C_{ol})$$

# Remarks

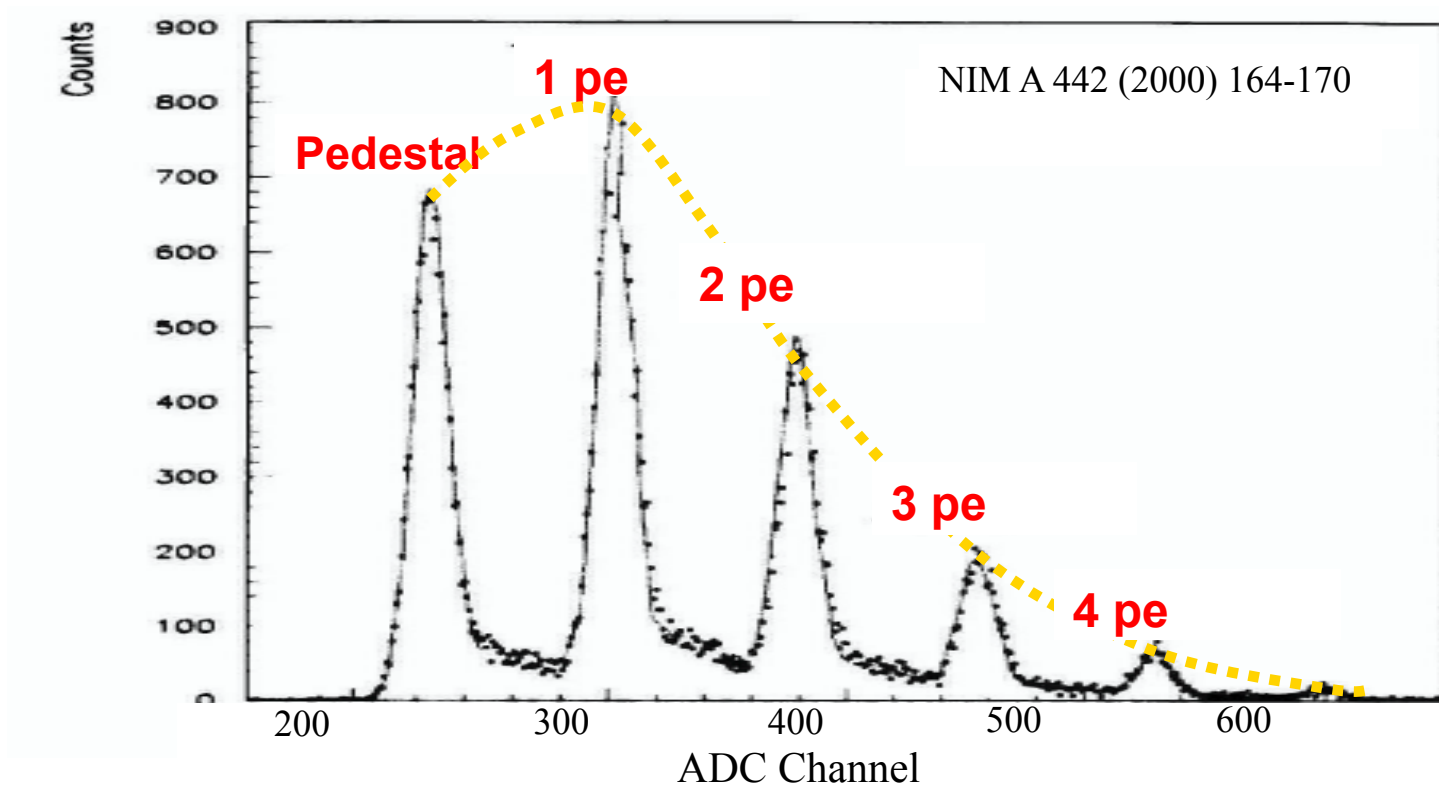
- Don't try to estimate  $N_{pe}$  or  $N_\gamma$  from  $\sigma/E$  !

$$\frac{\sigma}{E} \not\approx \sqrt{\frac{1}{N_{pe}}} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N_\gamma \cdot QE}}$$
$$\frac{\sigma}{E} = \sqrt{\frac{ENF}{N_\gamma \cdot QE \cdot C_{ol}}}$$

(Assuming ENC is negligible.)

# Resolution of Hybrid Photodiode (HPD)

- HPD can count 1, 2, 3... PE separately.
  - ENF=1.0

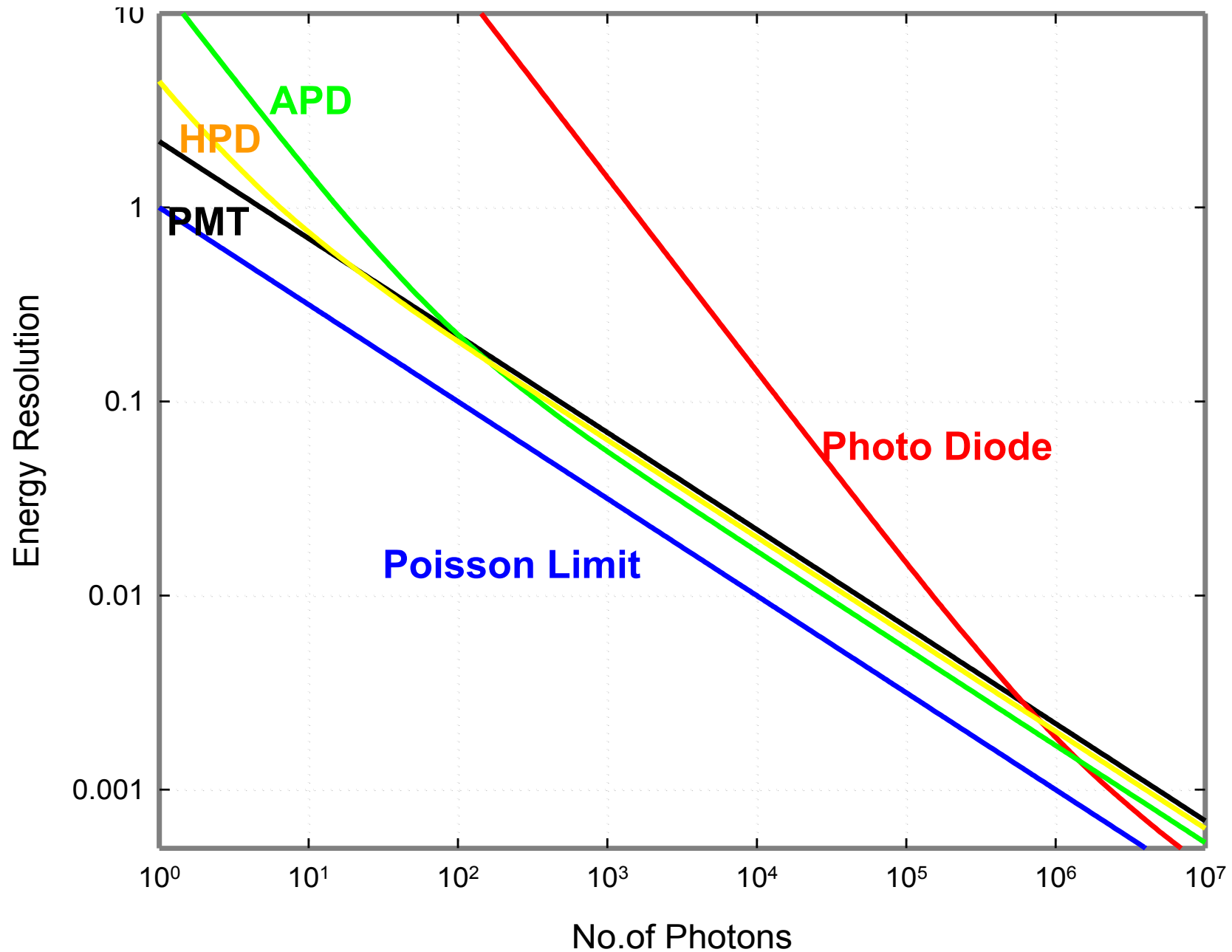


- But it is still suffering from poor QE.
  - We can never beat the Poisson statistics !

# Typical Values and Resolution of Various Photon Detectors

	QE	$C_{oi}$	$\delta_i$	ENF	G	ENC	$\sigma/E$
<b>Ideal</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b><math>10^6</math></b>	<b>0</b>	<b><math>\sqrt{1/N}</math></b>
<b>PMT</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b><math>10^6</math></b>	<b><math>10^3</math></b>	<b><math>\sqrt{4/N}</math></b>
<b>PD</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b><math>10^3</math></b>	<b><math>\sqrt{1.4/N+(1000/N)^2}</math></b>
<b>APD</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>100</b>	<b><math>10^3</math></b>	<b><math>\sqrt{3/N+(14/N)^2}</math></b>
<b>HPD</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.95</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b><math>10^3</math></b>	<b><math>10^3</math></b>	<b><math>\sqrt{3/N+(3/N)^2}</math></b>
<b>HAPD</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.95</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b><math>10^5</math></b>	<b><math>10^3</math></b>	<b><math>\sqrt{3/N}</math></b>

# Energy Resolution vs. $N_\gamma$



# Talk Outline

1. Introduction: Principle of PMT

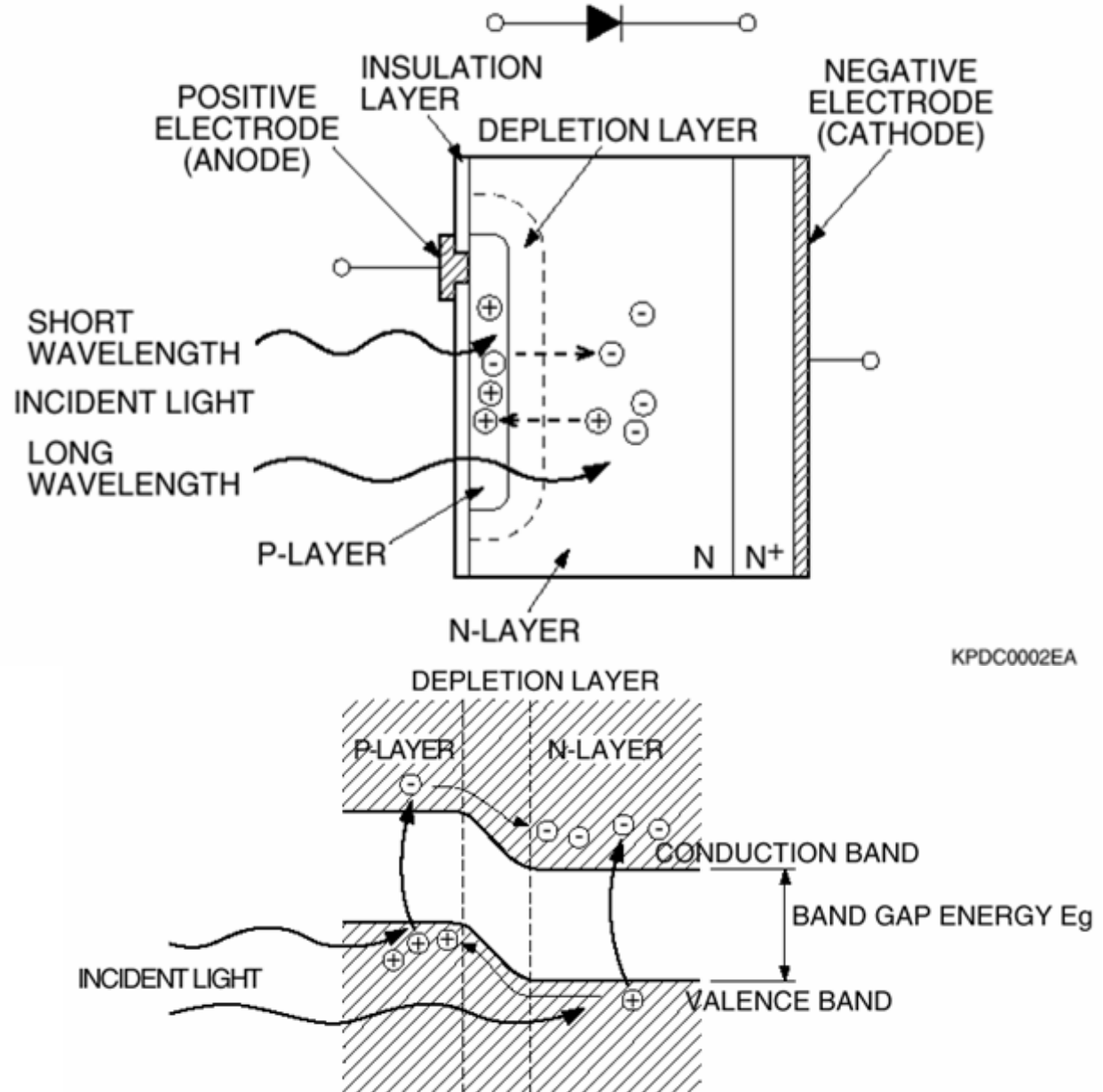
**2. NIST Standard Silicon  
Photodiode**

3. Uncertainties, Concerns  
Specific to PMTs

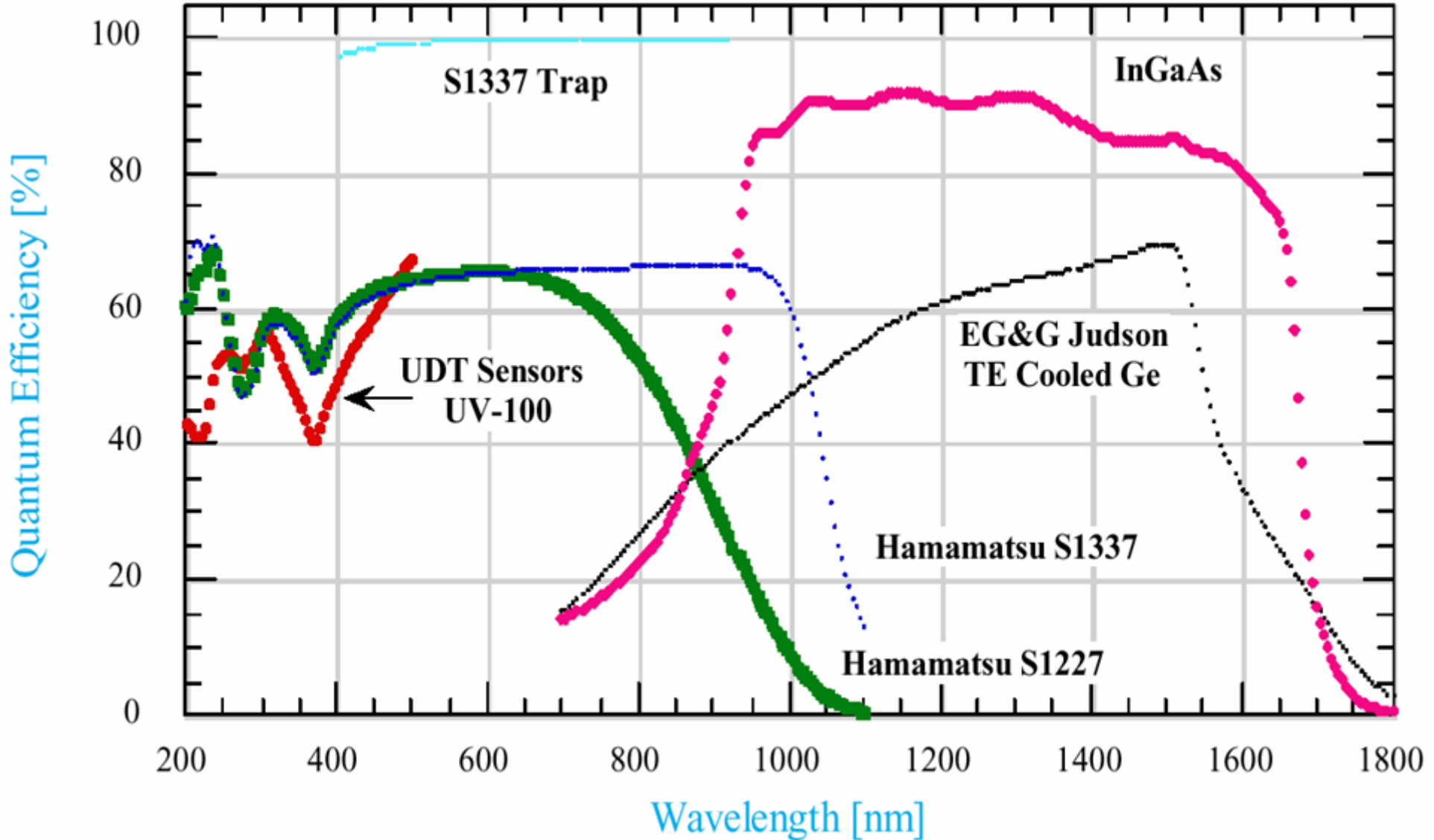
4. Suggestions and Proposal to  
our Community

# Principle of Silicon Photodiode

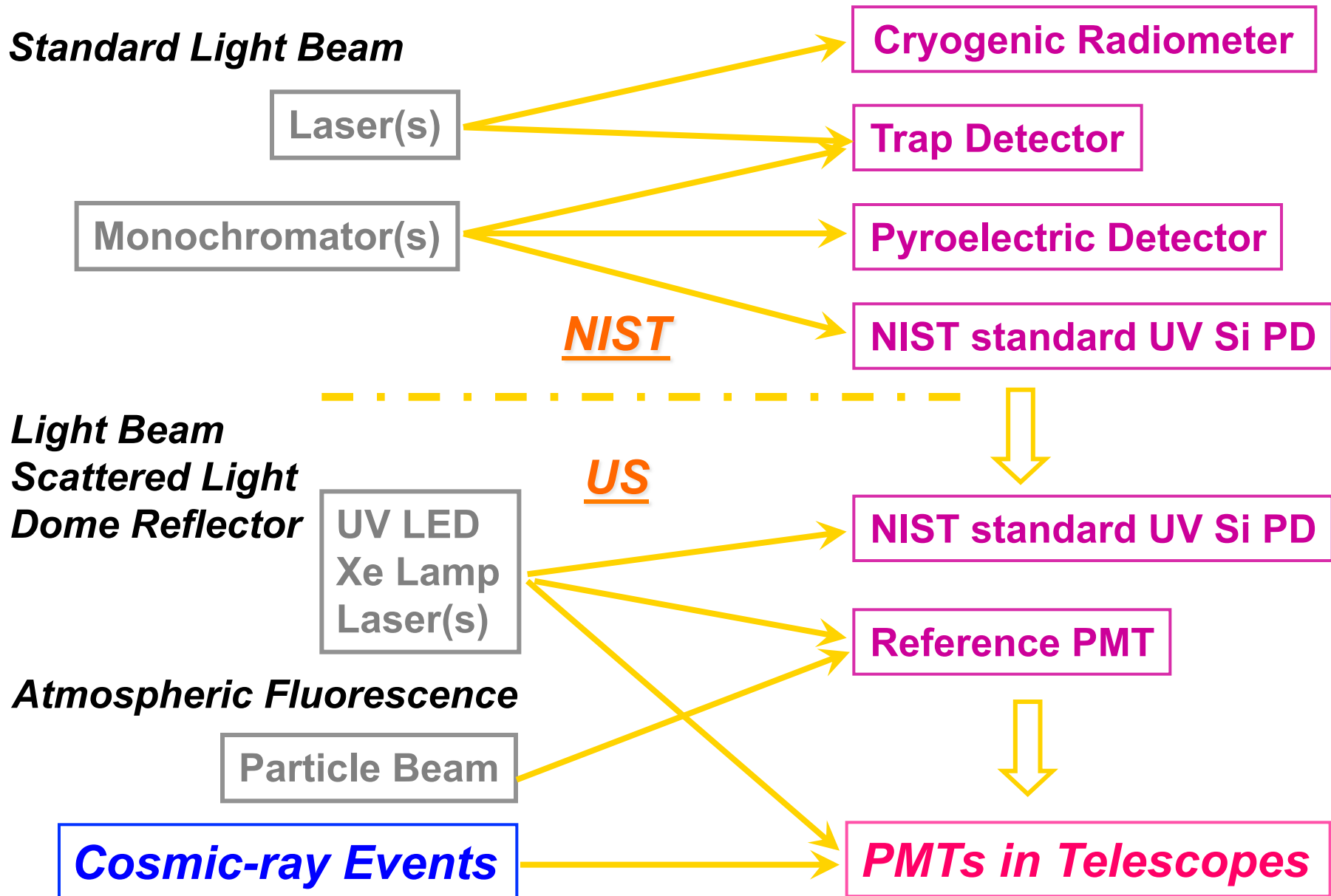
- Gain = 1.0
- QE ~ 100%
- Extremely Stable
- Large Dynamic Range



# Quantum Efficiencies of NIST Standards (Si, InGaAs and Ge photodiodes)

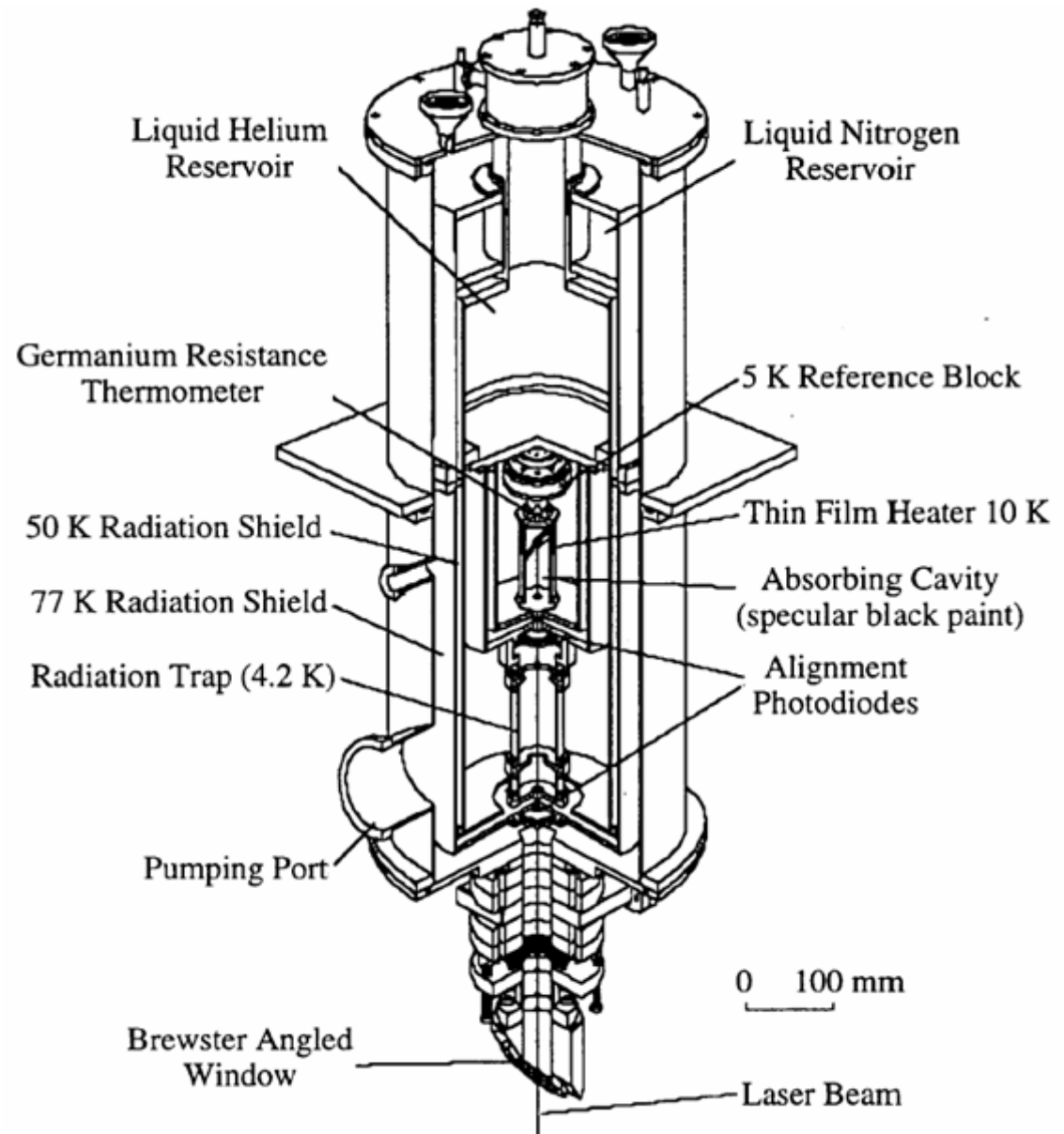


# Propagation Chain of Absolute Calibration of Photon Detectors



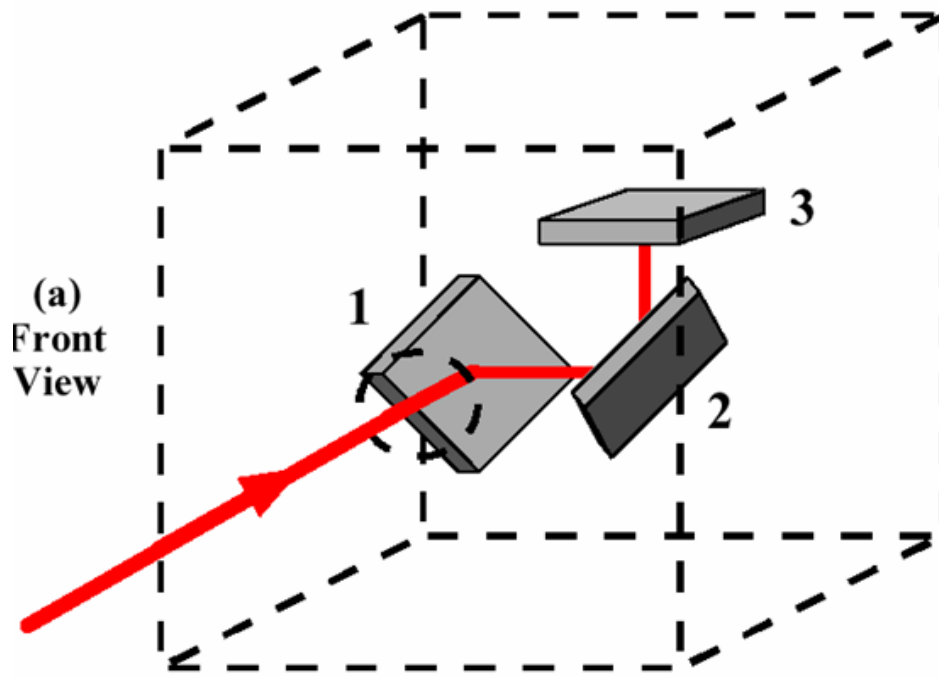
# NIST High Accuracy Cryogenic Radiometer (HACR)

- Shoot a laser to a black body of 4.2°K.
  - Balance heat by electrical power which produces resistive heating.
- ↓
- Uncertainty is 0.021% (at 1mW).

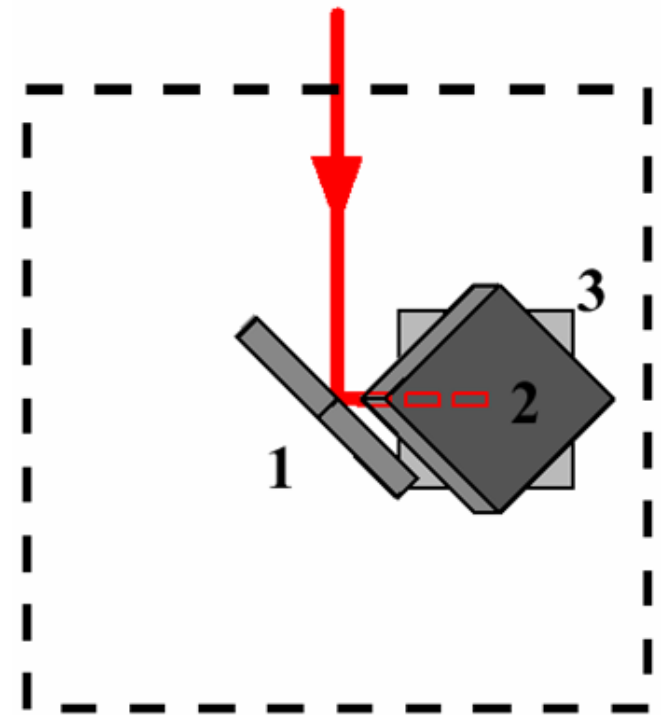


# Trap Detector

- ~99.5% efficiency of trapping.
- Uncertainty is 0.05%.

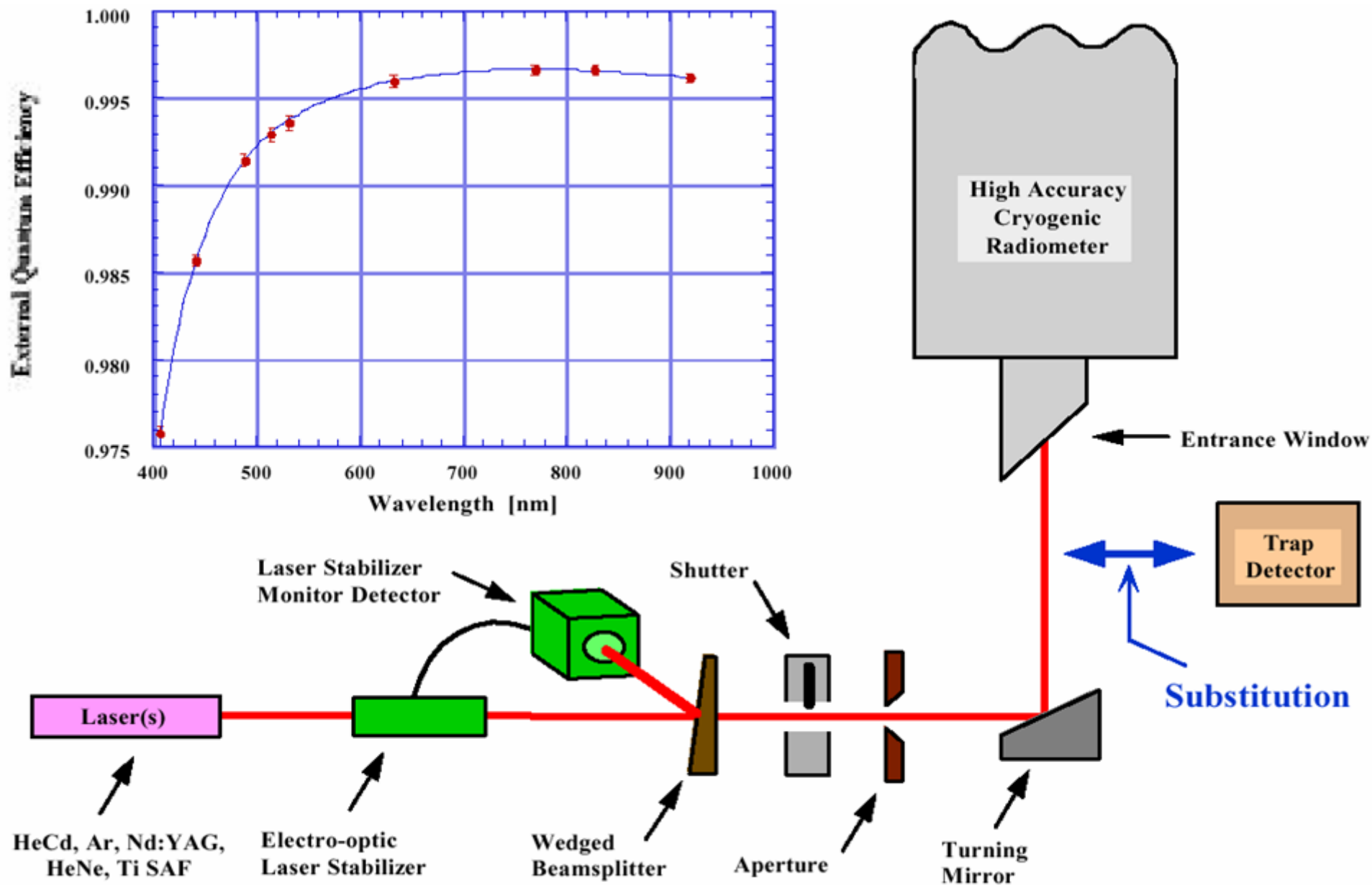


Front View

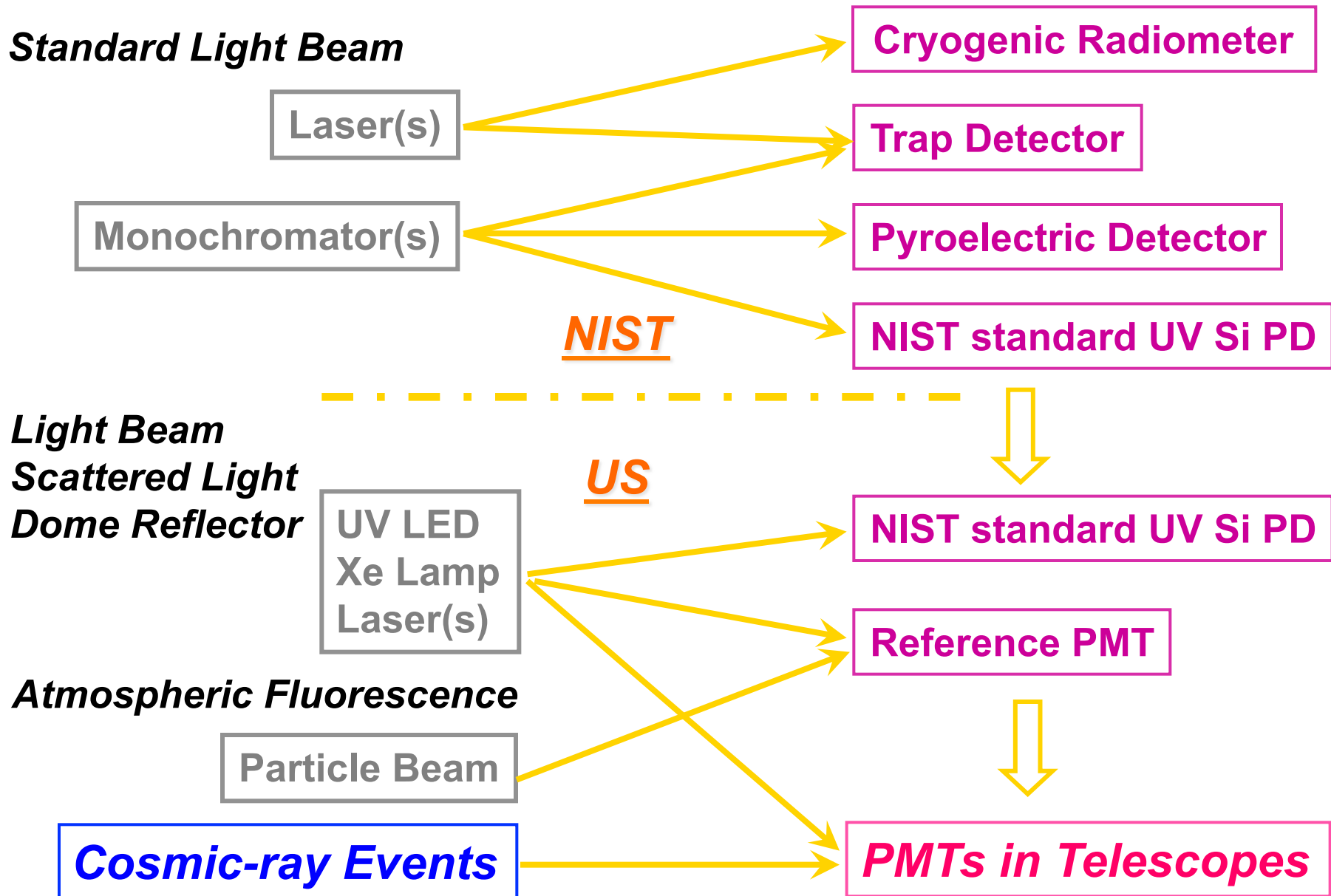


Bottom View

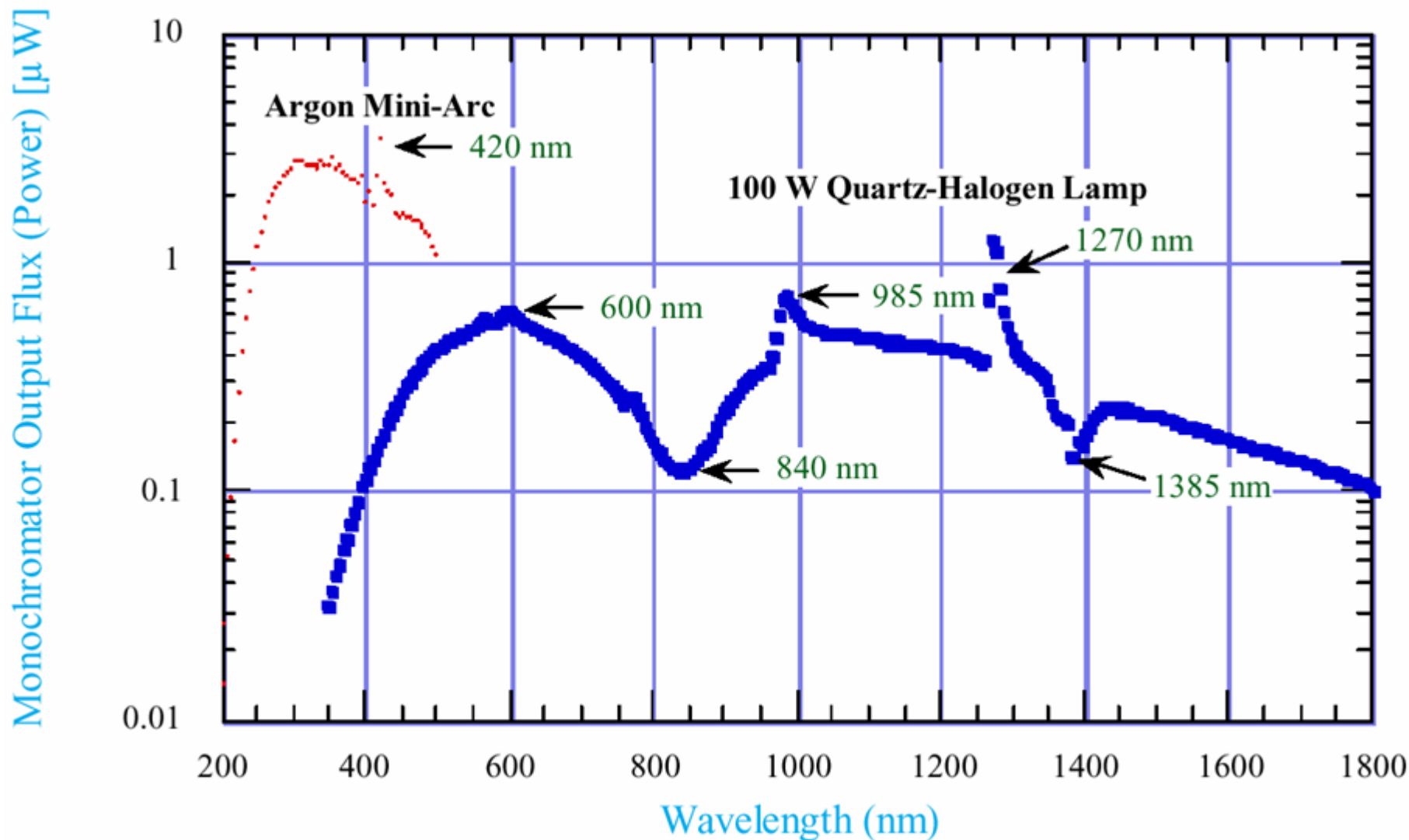
# Scale transfer by substitution method with the HACR



# Propagation Chain of Absolute Calibration of Photon Detectors



# Spectral output flux of the UV and visible to near-IR monochromators



# UV Working Standard Uncertainty

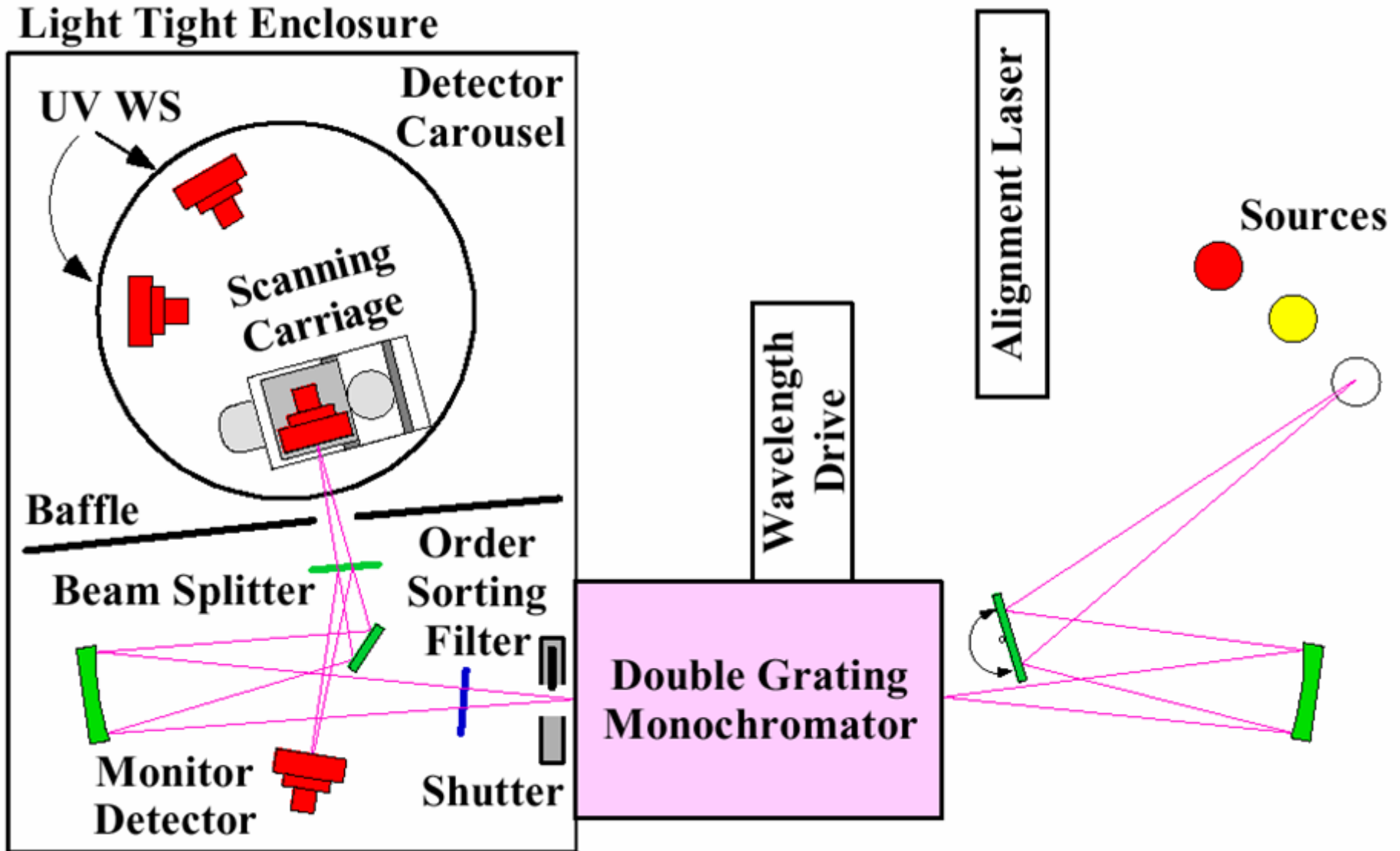
Transfer from Pyroelectric (relative) and Scaling with Visible WS (absolute).

Source of uncertainty	Relative measurement uncertainty	DVM uncertainty	Pyroelectric relative calibration	Scaling factor $\gamma$	Wavelength calibration ( $\pm 0.1$ nm)	Stray light	Bandwidth-effect	UV WS long-term stability	Relative combined standard uncertainty
Type	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	A	[%]
Relative uncertainty	$u(R_m)/R_m$	$u(V)/V$	$u(s_p)/s_p$	$u(\gamma)/\gamma$	$u(S_\lambda)/S_\lambda$	$u(R_{sl})/R_{sl}$	$u(S_{bw})/S_{bw}$	$u(S_{lt})/S_{lt}$	$u_c(S_{UV})/S_{UV}$
Wavelength [nm]	Estimated value [%]								Root-sum-of-squares
200	5.87	0.38	0.52	0.18	-0.98	0.160	0.002	0.72	<b>6.03</b>
250	0.34	0.01	0.52	0.18	-0.05	0.001	0.001	-0.19	<b>0.67</b>
300	0.38	0.01	0.52	0.18	-0.03	0.000	0.001	0.77	<b>1.02</b>
350	0.44	0.01	0.52	0.18	0.03	0.001	0.000	0.44	<b>0.83</b>
400	0.42	0.01	0.52	0.18	-0.06	0.000	0.000	0.17	<b>0.71</b>

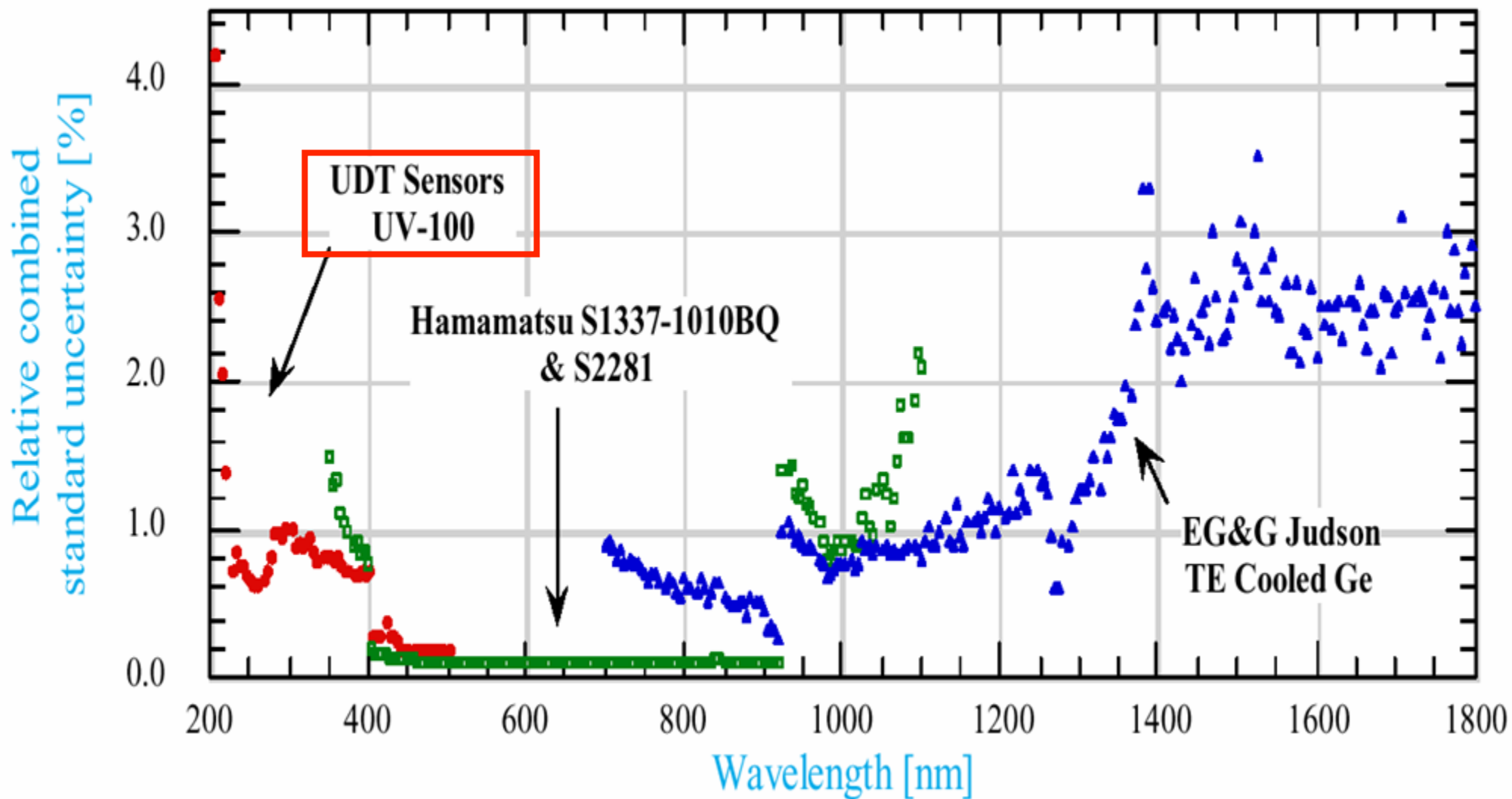
  

Source of uncertainty	Relative measurement uncertainty	DVM uncertainty	Visible WS calibration	Visible WS amplifier gain	UV WS amplifier gain	Wavelength calibration ( $\pm 0.1$ nm)	Stray light	Bandwidth-effect	UV WS long-term stability	Relative combined standard uncertainty
Type	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A	[%]
Relative uncertainty	$u(R_m)/R_m$	$u(V)/V$	$u(S_{Vis})/S_{Vis}$	$u(G_{Vis})/G_{Vis}$	$u(G_{UV})/G_{UV}$	$u(S_\lambda)/S_\lambda$	$u(R_{sl})/R_{sl}$	$u(S_{bw})/S_{bw}$	$u(S_{lt})/S_{lt}$	$u_c(S_{UV})/S_{UV}$
Wavelength [nm]	Estimated value [%]									Root-sum-of-squares
450	0.12	0.04	0.09	0.04	0.04	-0.05	0.0000	-0.002	0.00	<b>0.17</b>
500	0.11	0.03	0.08	0.04	0.04	-0.04	-0.0001	-0.001	-0.04	<b>0.16</b>

# Ultraviolet Spectral Comparator Facility (UV SCF)



# Transfer to test (customer) detectors relative combined standard uncertainty



(Note: Relative standard uncertainty at 200 nm is 6.5 %.)

# Example of “Report of Test”

## REPORT OF TEST

NIST Test # 39071S - Spectral Responsivity

for

UDT Sensors UV100 Silicon Photodiode, U1xxx

Submitted by:

Any Company

Mr. Daniel Doe

123 Calibration Court

Measurement City, MD 00000-0000

(See your Purchase Order No. XXXX-XX, dated January 1, 1997)

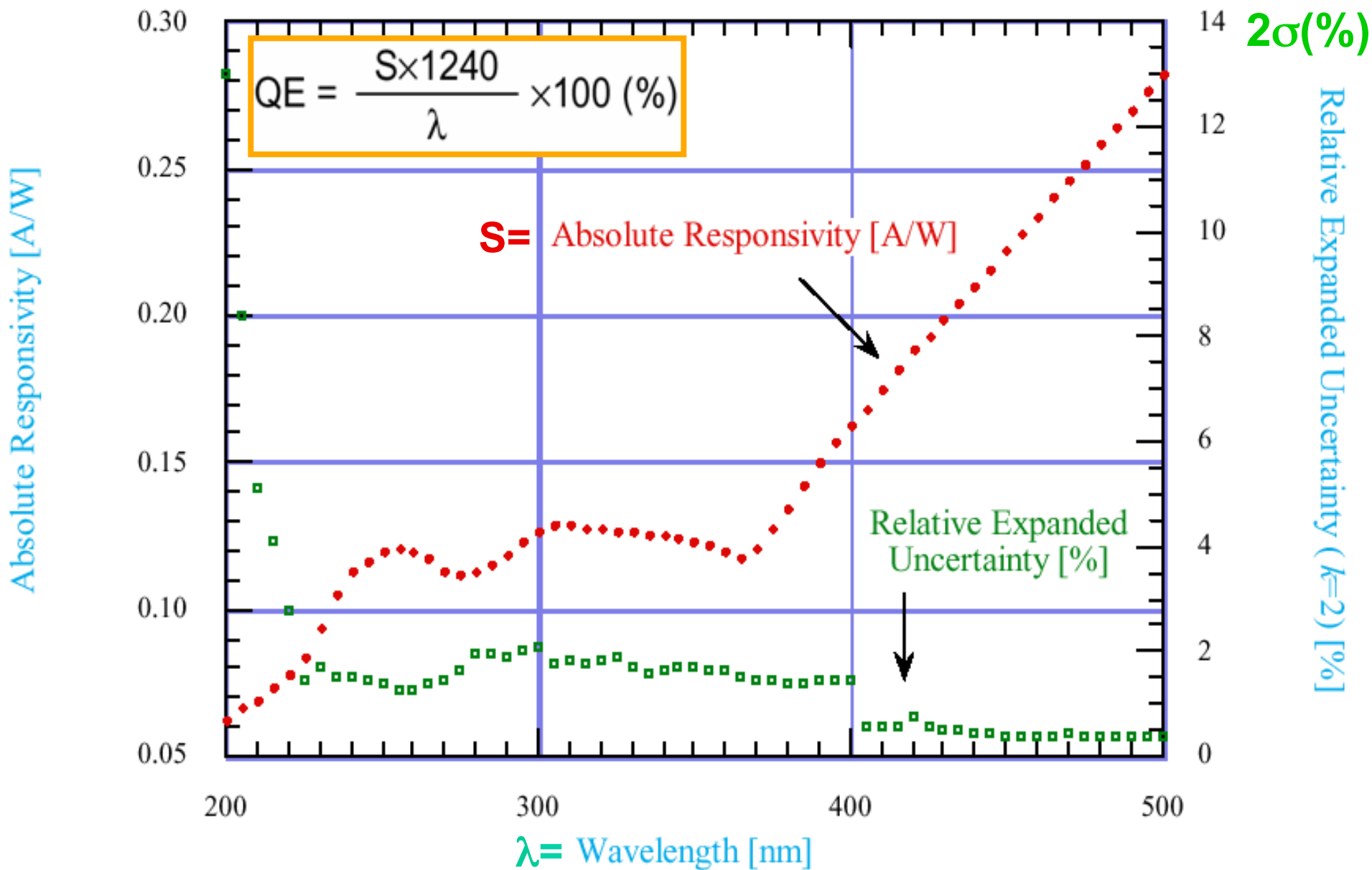
### 1. Description of Test Material

The test photodiode, labeled U1xxx, is a UDT Sensors UV100 inverted layer silicon photodiode in an anodized aluminum mount with a removable precision aperture and a BNC connector. The active area of the photodiode is  $\approx 1 \text{ cm}^2$ .

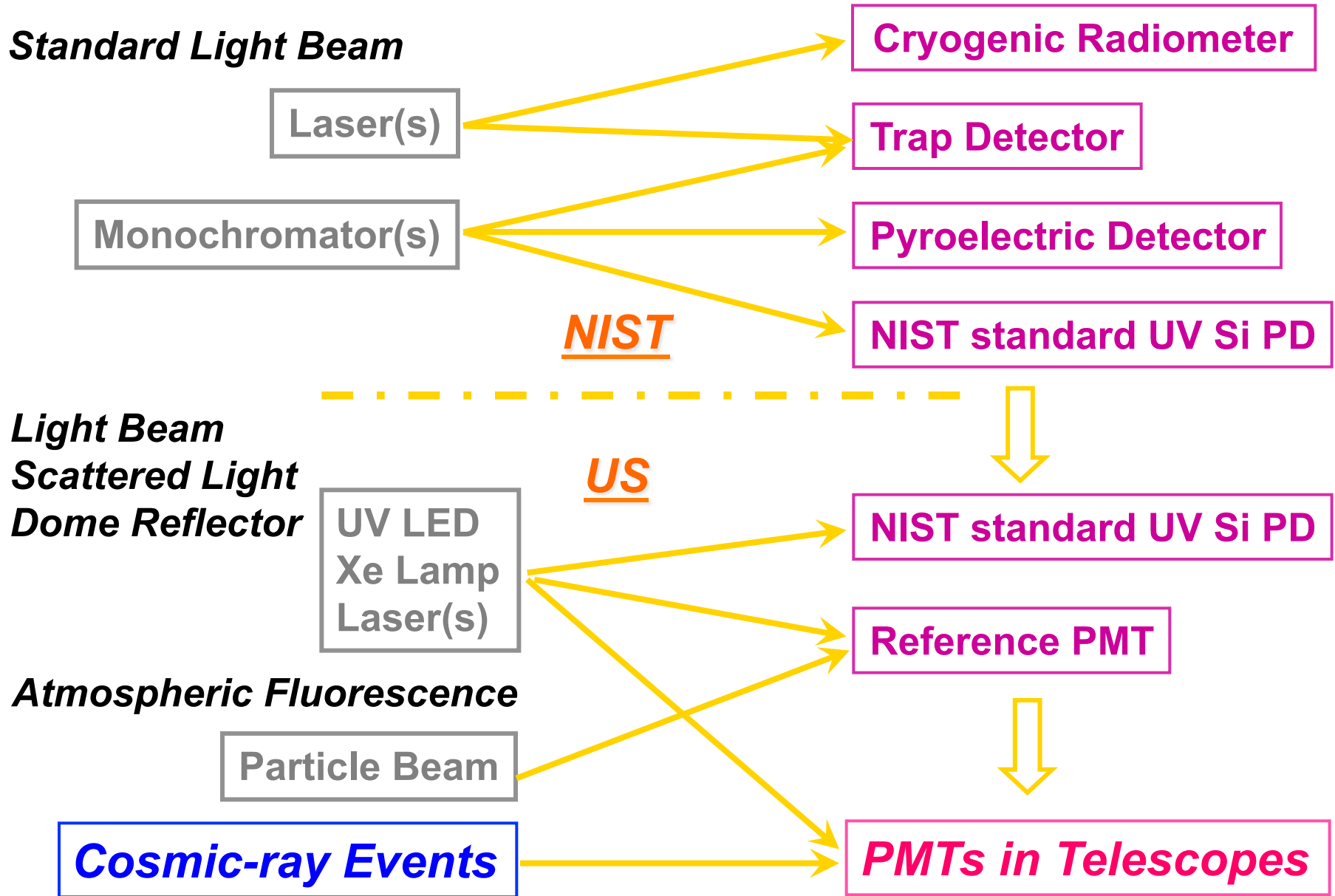
### 2. Description of Test

The test photodiode was compared to two silicon photodiode working standards, U5xx and U5xx, using the NIST Ultraviolet (UV) monochromator-based comparator facility [1] from 200 nm to 500 nm in 5 nm increments. The spectral comparisons between the test photodiode and working standard photodiodes were performed using a double monochromator and an argon arc as the tunable monochromatic source.

# Absolute Spectral Responsivity of Silicon Photodiode U1xxx



# Propagation Chain of Absolute Calibration of Photon Detectors



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# Uncertainties Specific to PMTs

- **PMTs are not perfect. There are many issues to be concerned:**
  - **Cathode and Anode Uniformity**
  - **Wave Length Dependence of QE**
  - **Photon Incident Angles**
  - **Effect of Magnetic Field**
  - **Non Linearity**
  - **Temperature Dependence**
  - **Long-term Stability**

# Cathode Uniformity and Area Correction

HiRes PMT  
(Photonis XP3062)

4cm

0.35  
0.30  
0.25  
0.20  
0.15  
0.10  
0.05

NIST SiPD  
(UDT UV100)

5mm

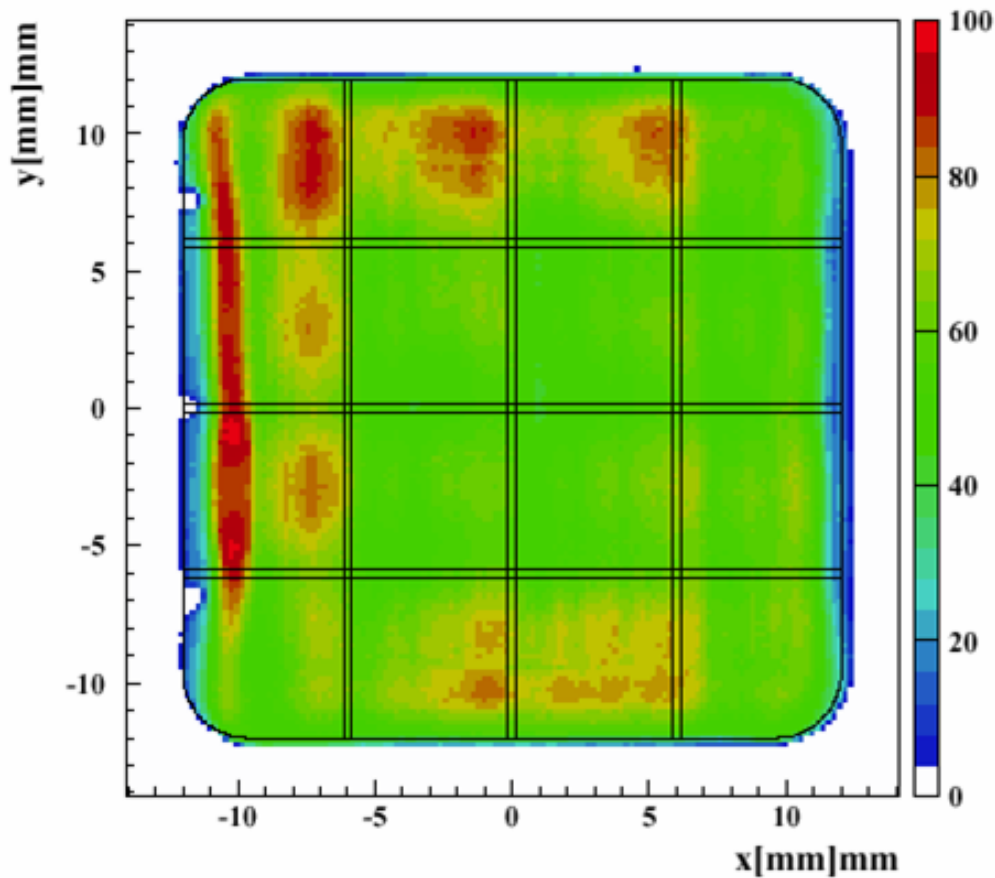
1.010  
1.005  
1.000  
0.995  
6

at  $\lambda=350\text{nm}$

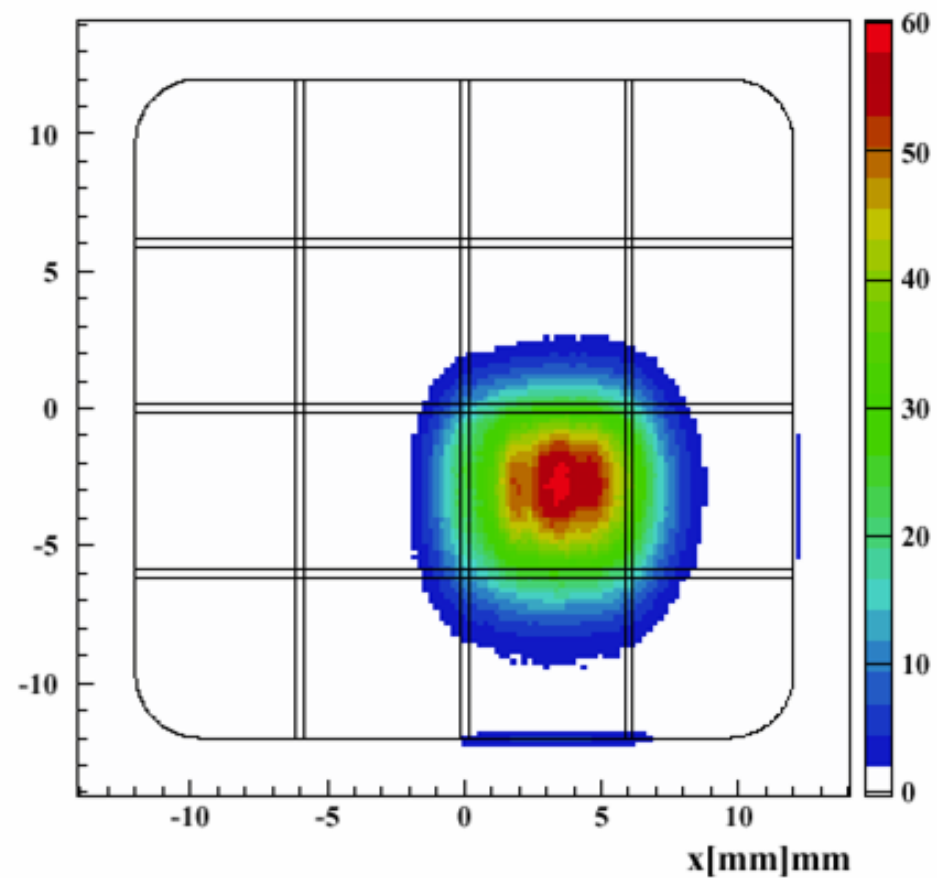
by HiRes (D.J. Bird et al.)

# Sensitivity Map of 16-Pixel PMT for EUSO (R8900-M16F-S12)

Total Sum of 16 Pixels

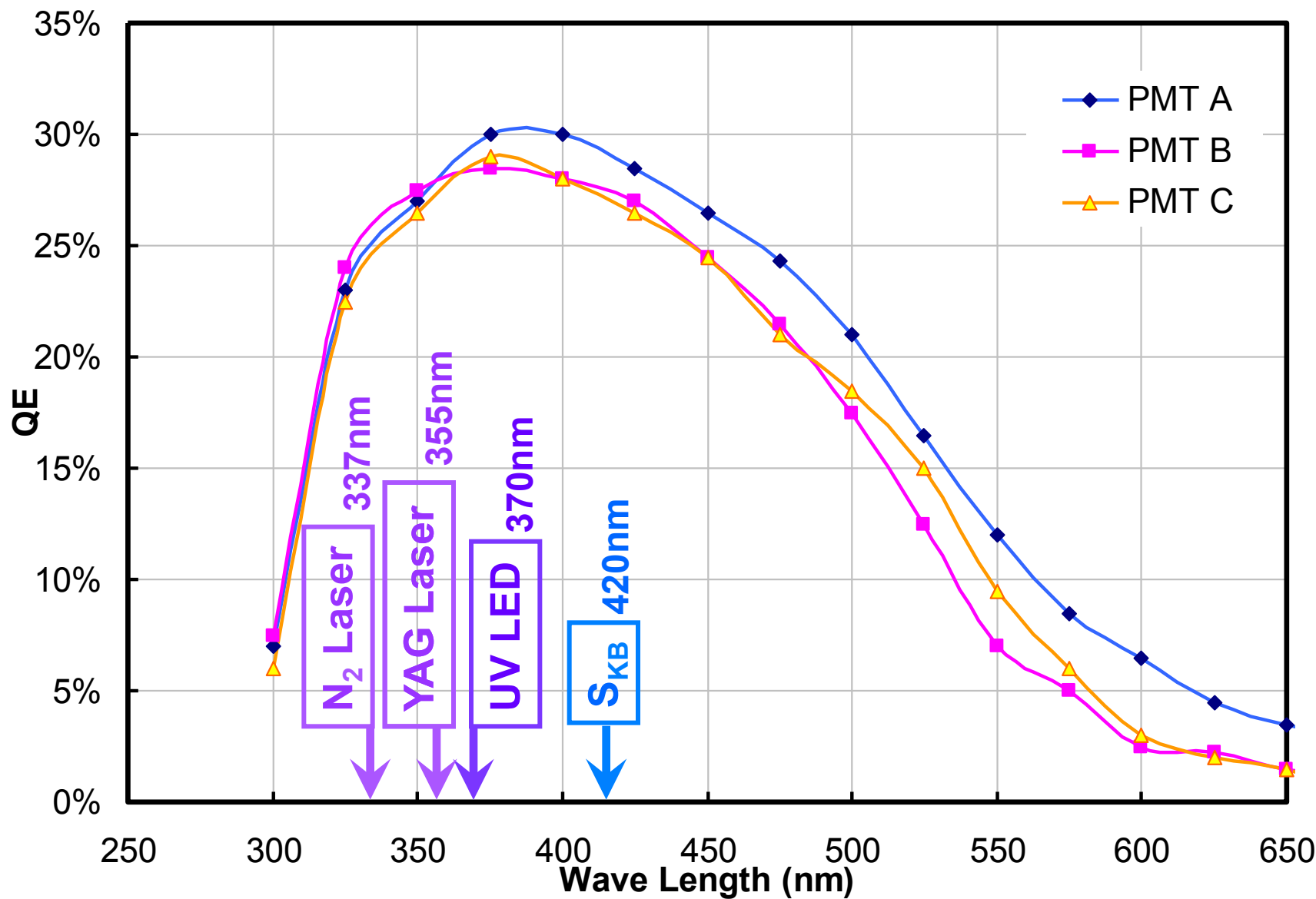


Signal on One Pixel



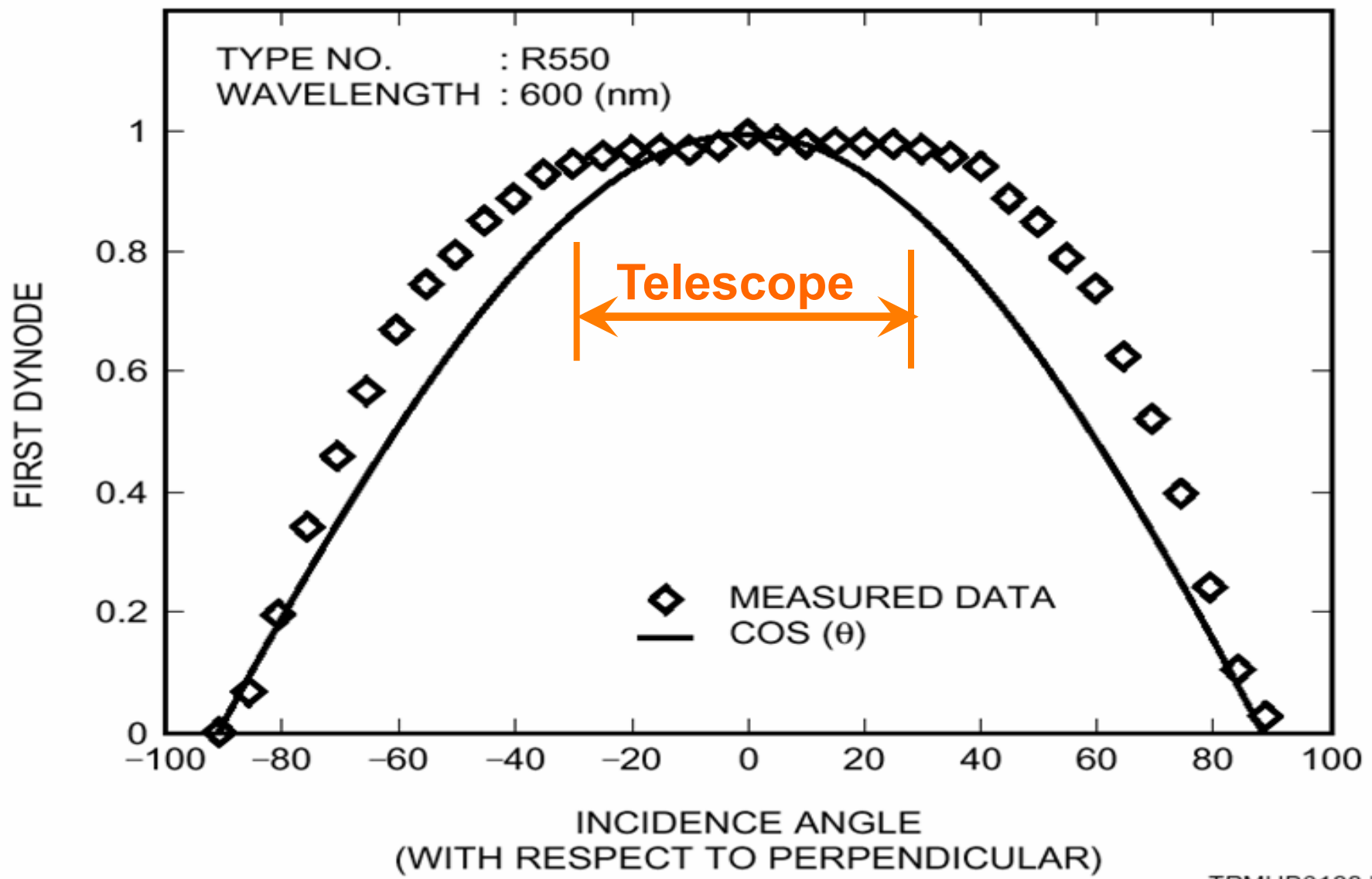
by RIKEN/EUSO Focal Surface Subgroup

# Typical QE of HiRes PMTs (Photonis XP3062)



Measured by Photonis

# Typical Angle Dependence of QE

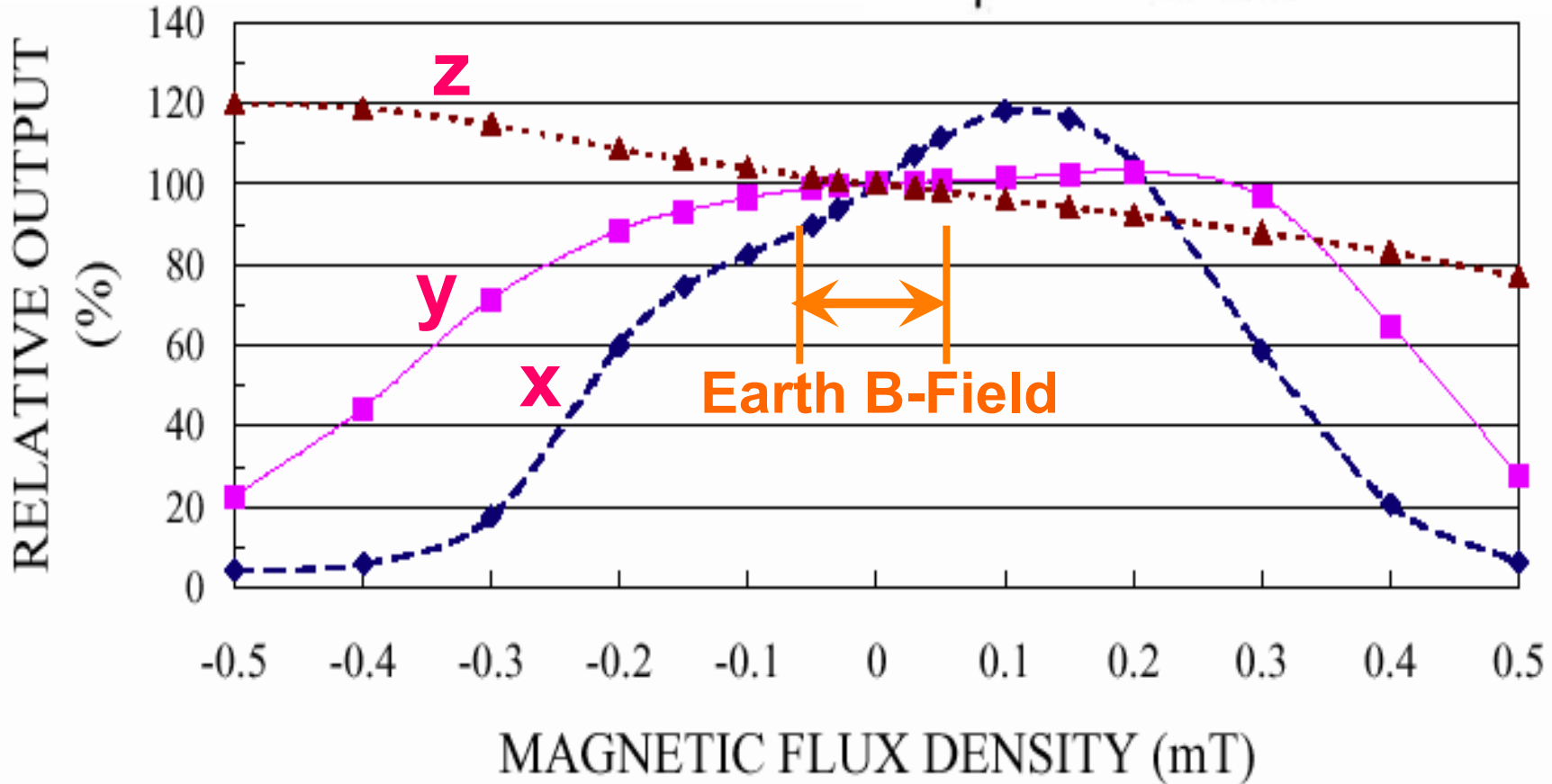
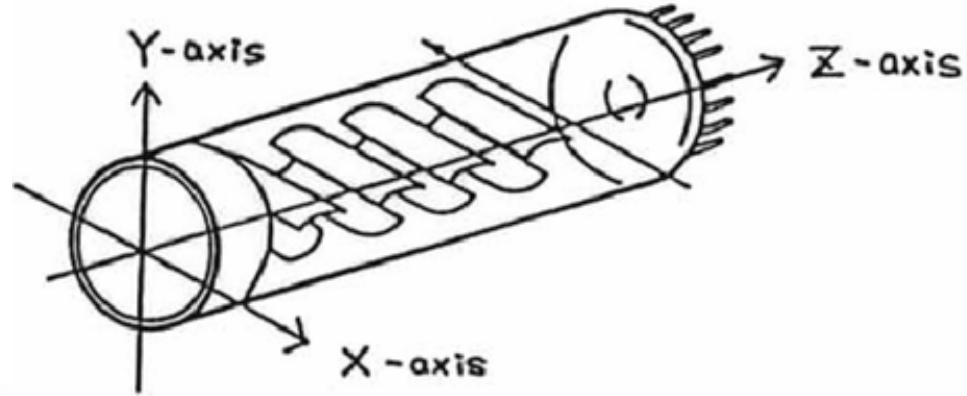


TPMHB0133JA

From Hamamatsu PMT Handbook

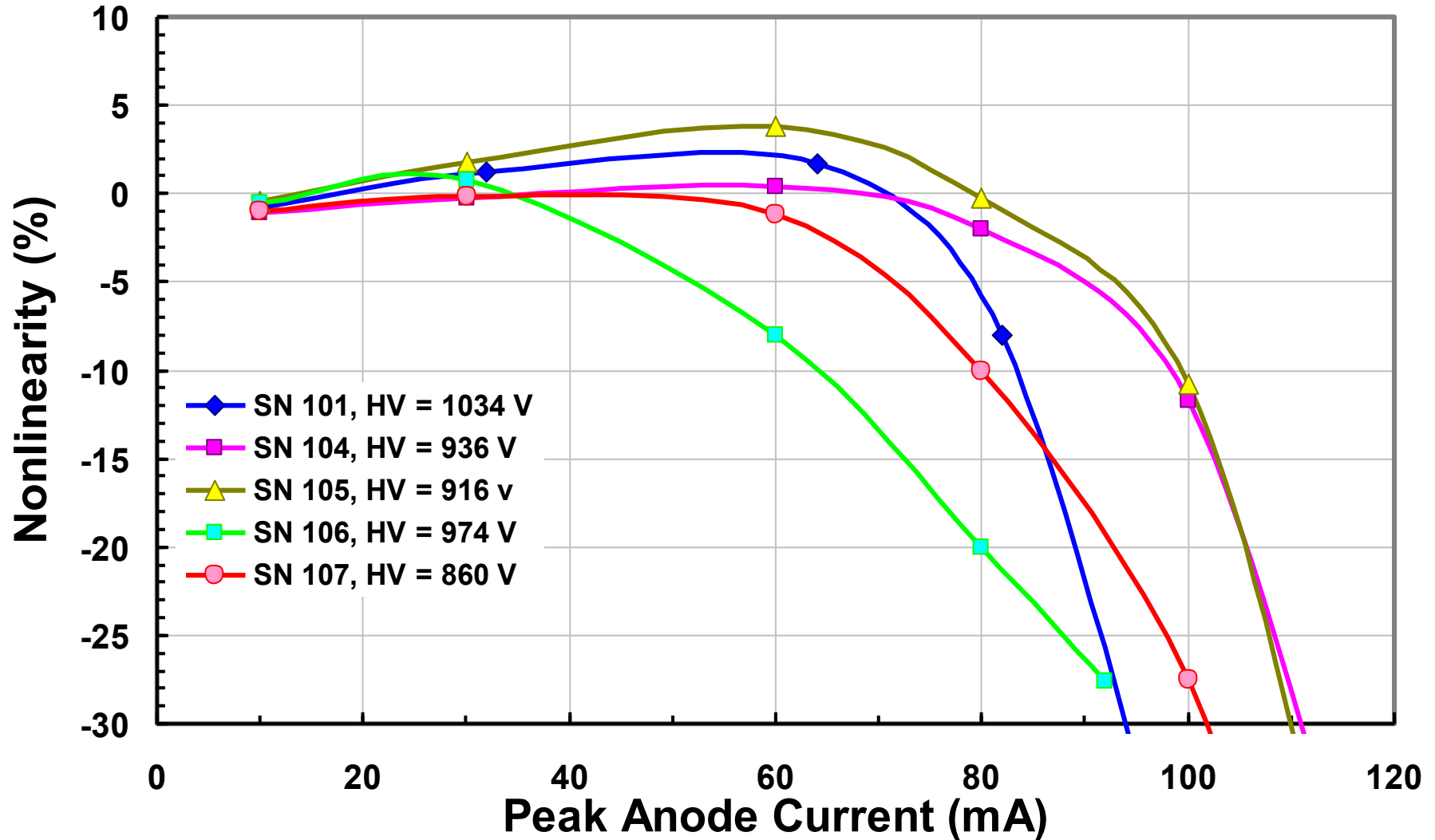
# Effect of Magnetic Field on Liner-focus 2" PMT

Hamamatsu 2" PMT (R7281-01)



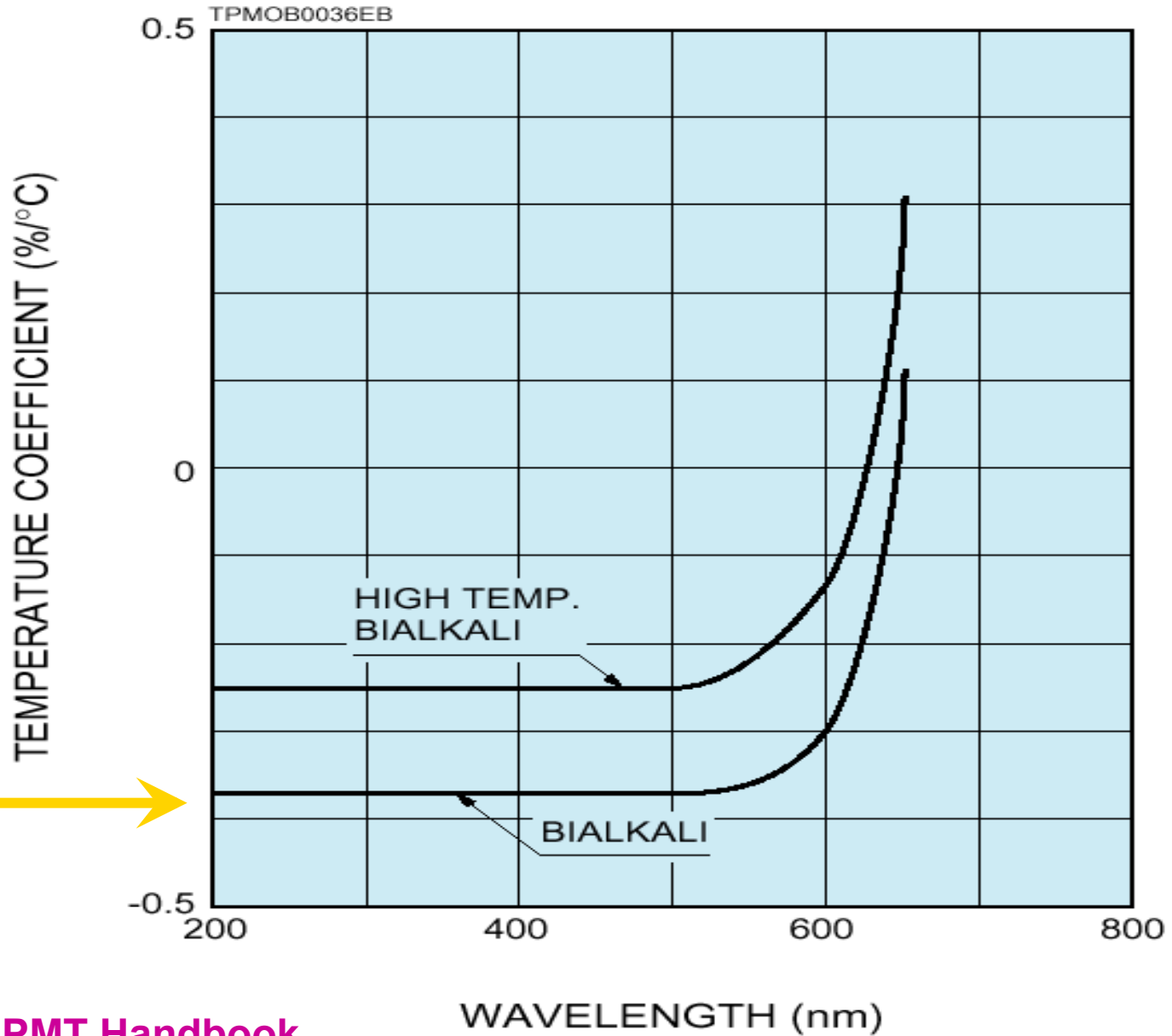
# Linearity of ETL 8" PMT

## Linearity at $2 \times 10^5$ Gain for ETL PMTs



at UCLA PMT Test Facility

# Typical Temperature Coefficients of Anode Sensitivity

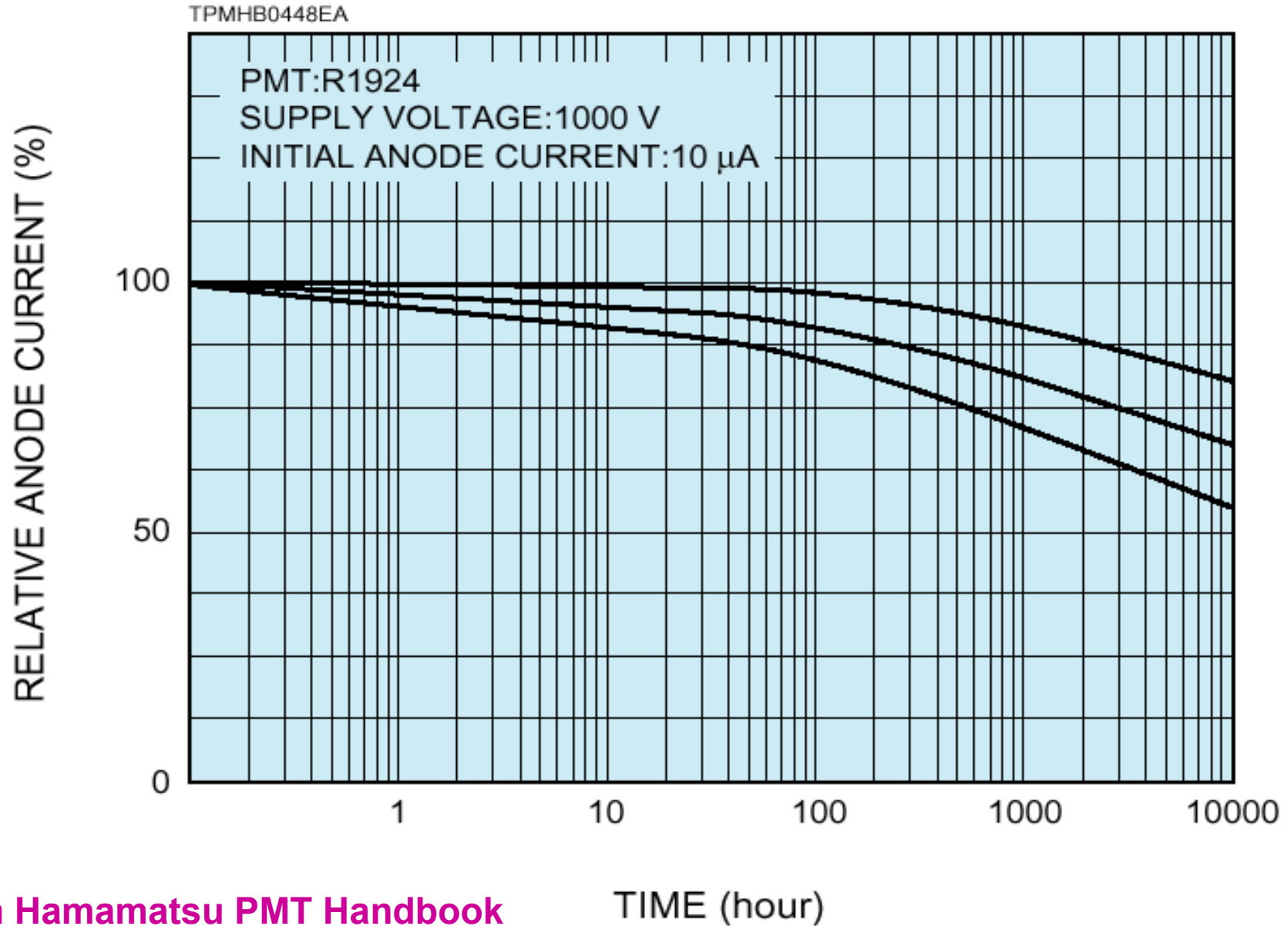


**-0.4%/°C**



From Hamamatsu PMT Handbook

# Typical Long-term Stability



From Hamamatsu PMT Handbook

# PMT vs. Silicon Photo Diode

Source of Systematic Error	Si PD	PMT	Systematic Uncertainty
(Absolute) Quantum Efficiency	~0.7	0.2-0.3	3%
Wave-length Dependence of QE	±1%	± 10%	5%
Cathode Uniformity	±1%	±10%	5%
Photo-Electron Collection Efficiency	0.99	0.8-0.95	10%
Gain	1.0	10 <sup>5-7</sup>	5%
Voltage Dependence of Gain	None	∝HV <sup>6</sup>	3%
Anode (Gain) Uniformity	±1%	±30%	10%
Effect of Earth Magnetic Field	None	±10%	10%
Temperature Dependence	None	-0.4%/°C	3%
Incident Angle Dependence	±1°	±30°	10%
Intensity Correction (ND filter)	1	10 <sup>-5</sup>	5%
Area Correction	5mm ϕ	5cm ϕ	5%
Non Linearity	None	±5%	3%
Rate Dependence	None	±5%	3%
Long Term Stability	Stable	±5%/year	5%
<b>Total Systematic Uncertainty</b>	<b>1%</b>		<b>25%</b>

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# UCLA PMT Test Facility

- **15 years of experience to develop and evaluate new PMTs.**
  - **KTeV Csl Calorimeter**       **$\frac{3}{4}$ " &  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " Linear-focus**
  - **CDF Shower Max**                      **Multi-pixel (R5900-M16)**
  - **Auger SD**                                      **8-9" Hemispherical**
- **We can measure:**
  - **(Absolute) Quantum Efficiency**
  - **Collection Efficiency**
  - **Gain and Dark Current vs. HV**
  - **Single PE Distribution**
  - **Excess Noise Factor**
  - **Cathode and Anode Uniformity**
  - **Dark Pulse Rate and After Pulse Rate**
  - **Temperature Dependence**
  - **Non Linearity**

# Proposal to Evaluate PMTs from HiRes, Auger-FD and EUSO at UCLA

## ➤ We propose to evaluate the sample PMTs from:

- Auger-FD
- HiRes
- EUSO
- Beam Tests
- Reference PMTs

**Mutual Comparison**

## ➤ We plan to add more equipments to measure:

- Effect of Magnetic Field
- Photon Incident-angle Dependence
- Long-term Stability
- ...

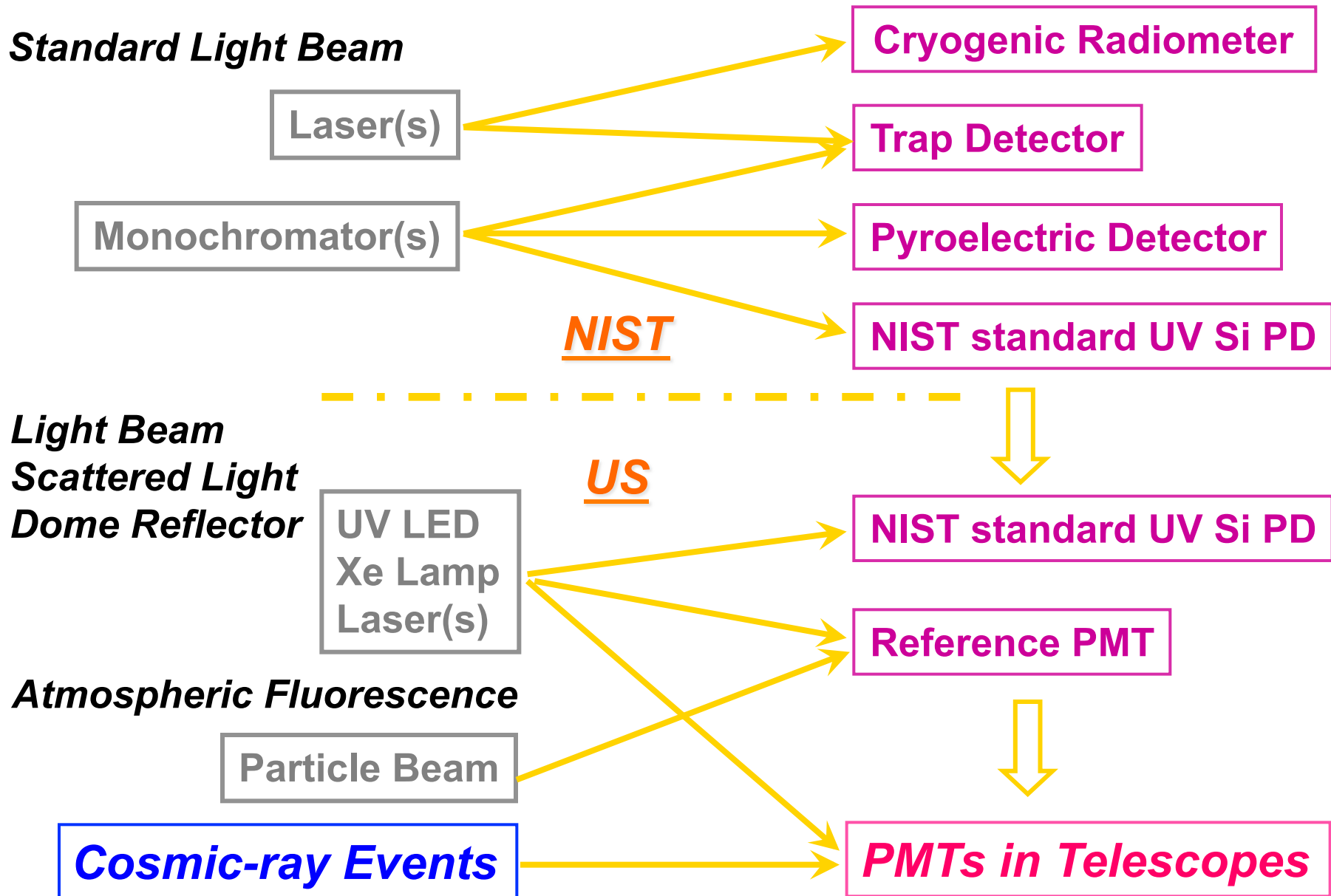
# How to Minimize Systematic Uncertainties

- Don't try to measure QE, Collection Efficiency and Gain separately.
  - Just measure all three together (with a mirror, UV filter etc. as well). ⇒ “**End-to-end Calibration**”
  - Prepare the “absolutely-calibrated” light source.
- Make sure that the “absolutely-calibrated” light source has the same characteristics as cosmic-ray fluorescence signals.
  - Same wave length
  - Same angular distribution on the PMT surface
  - Uniform over the PMT surface
  - Same pulse width and intensity
- Calibrate in situ, monitor external environment.
  - Same (Earth) magnetic field
  - Same temperature
  - Same supplied HV

# How to Minimize Systematic Uncertainties at Beam Tests

- Don't try to measure QE, Collection Efficiency and Gain separately.
  - Just measure all three together (with a mirror, UV filter etc. as well). ⇒ “**End-to-end Calibration**”
  - Prepare the “absolutely-calibrated” light source.
- Make sure that the “absolutely-calibrated” light source has the same characteristics as beam test fluorescence signals.
  - Same wave length
  - Same angular distribution on the PMT surface
  - Uniform over the PMT surface
  - Same pulse width and intensity
- Calibrate in situ, monitor external environment.
  - Same (Earth) magnetic field
  - Same temperature
  - Same supplied HV

# Propagation Chain of Absolute Calibration of Photon Detectors



# How to absolutely calibrate the PMTs in Telescope

- Prepare a stable light source and an “absolutely calibrated photon detector”.
- Measure the “absolute photon flux” from the light source, going into the real telescope by the calibrated photon detector above.
- Measure the PMT output signal (ADC counts) in the telescope.
- Constantly monitor the relative change of the photon intensity from the calibration light source.

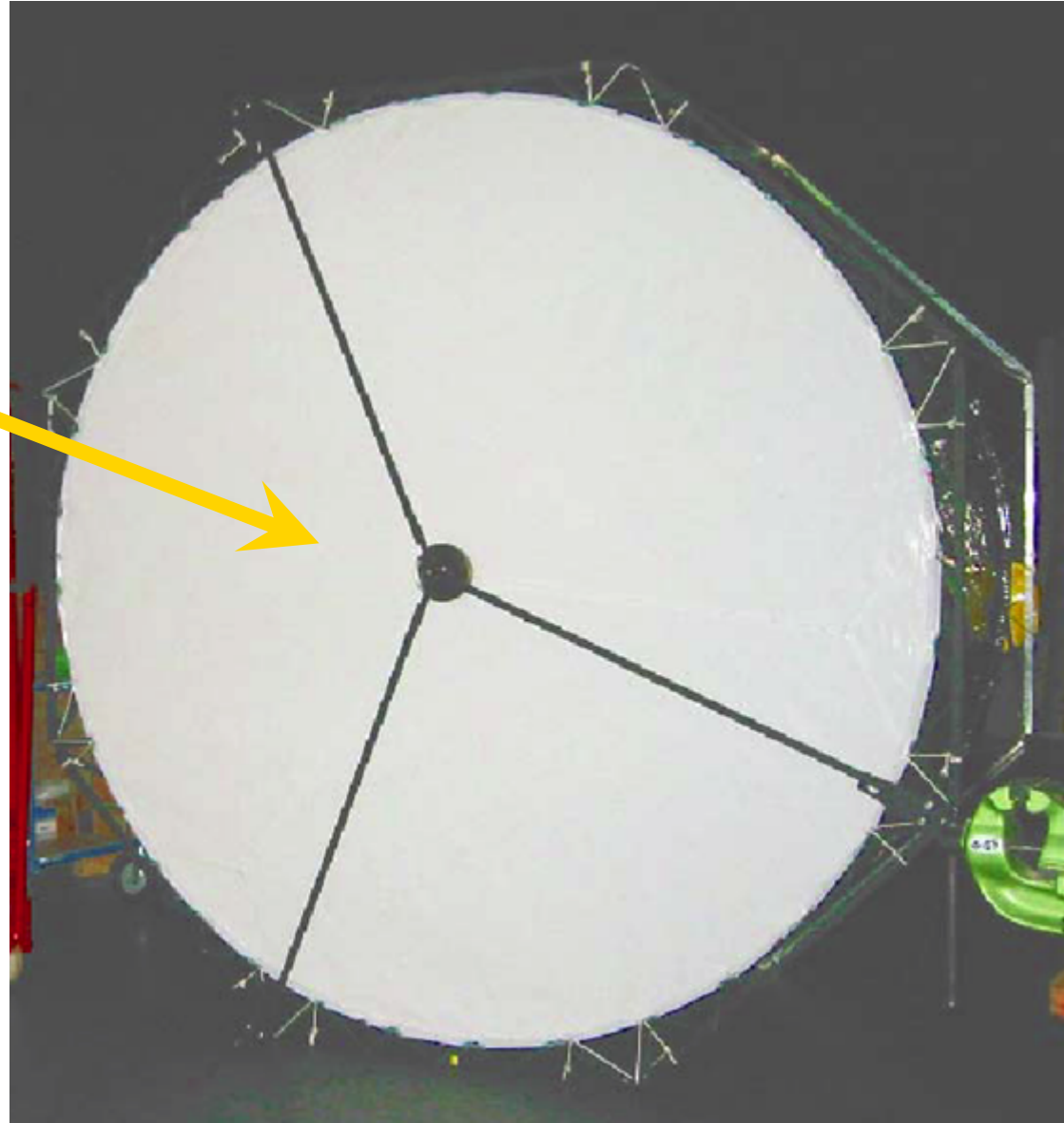
# Light Source for Auger-FD



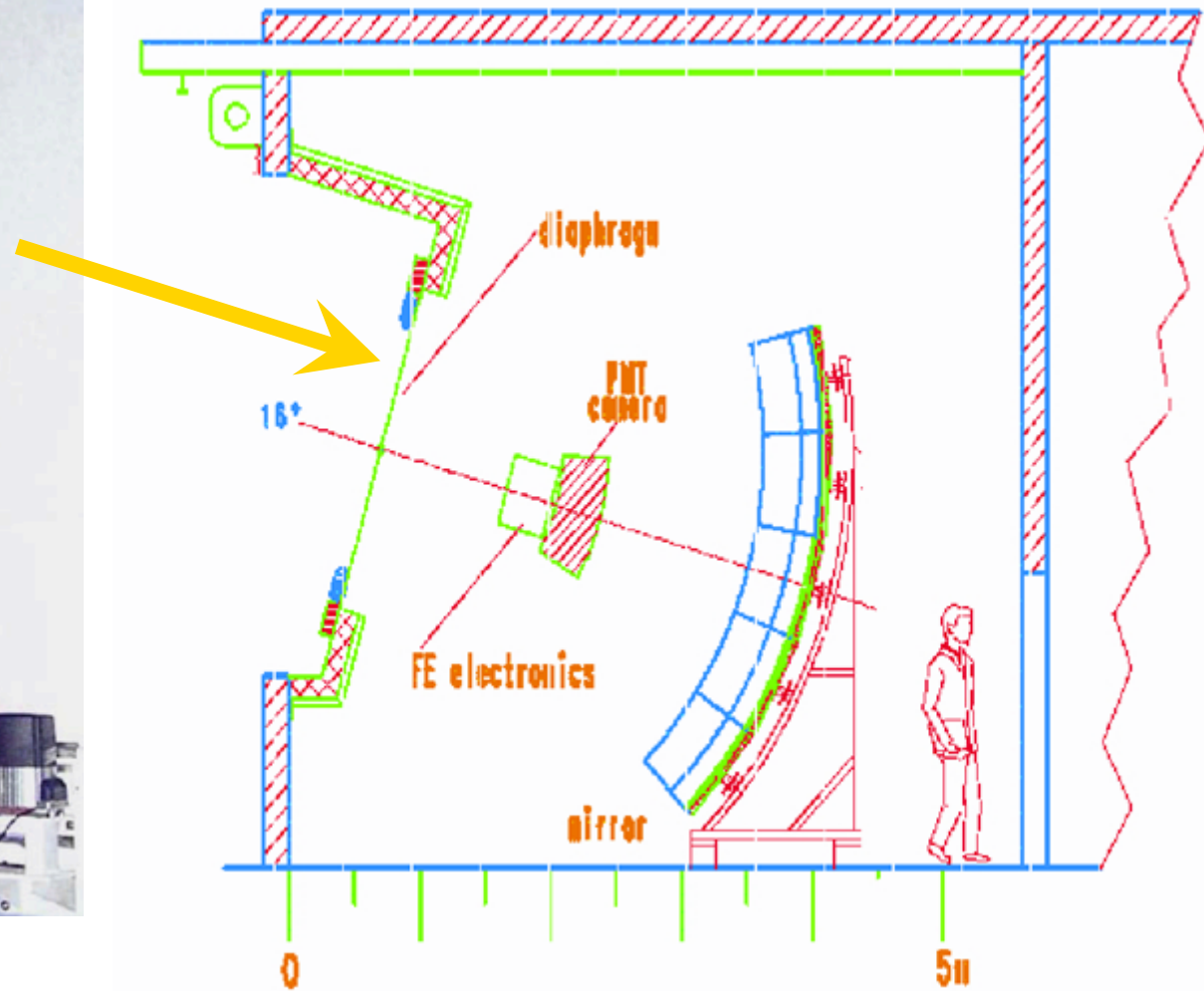
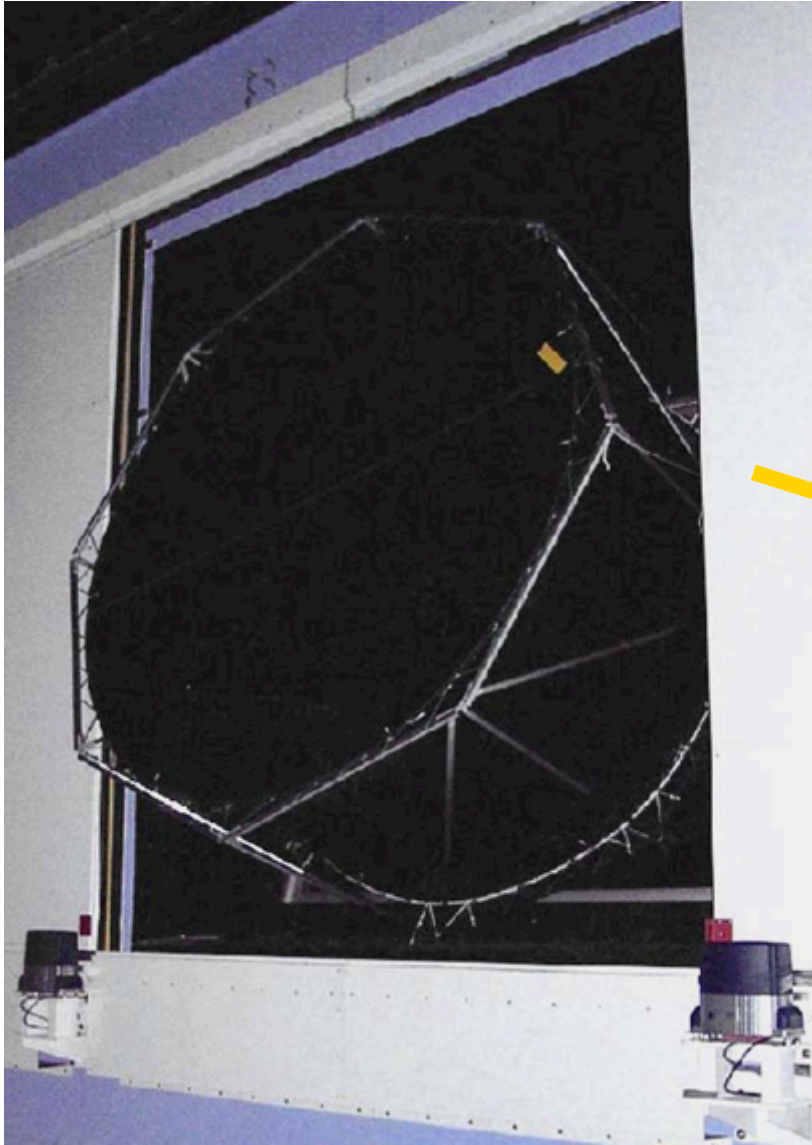
**UV LED  
Light Source (15cm  $\phi$ )**

**By Jeff Brack**

**Drum (2.5m  $\phi$ , 1.4m deep)**

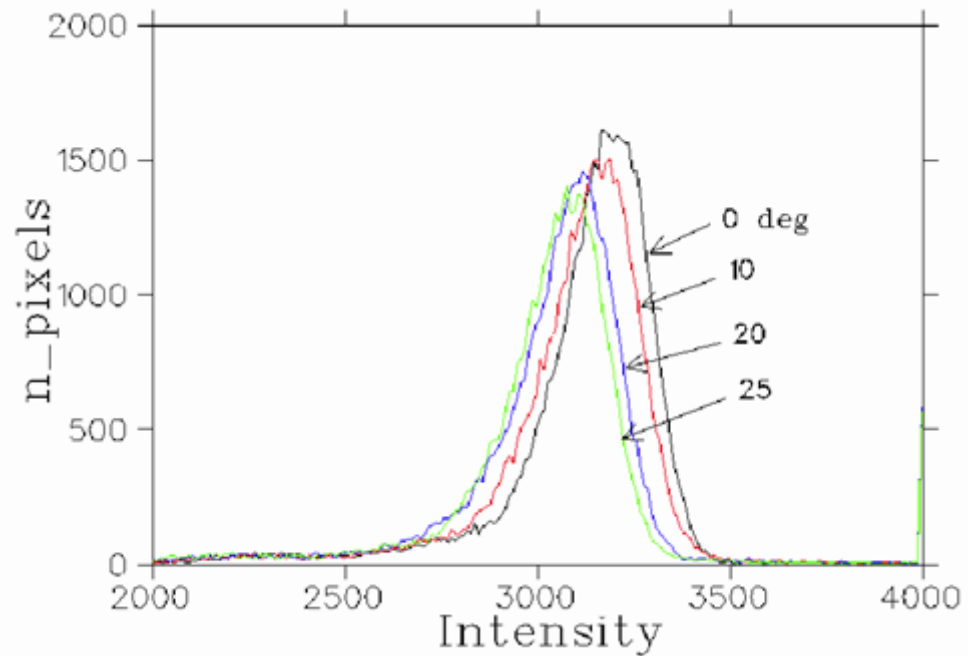
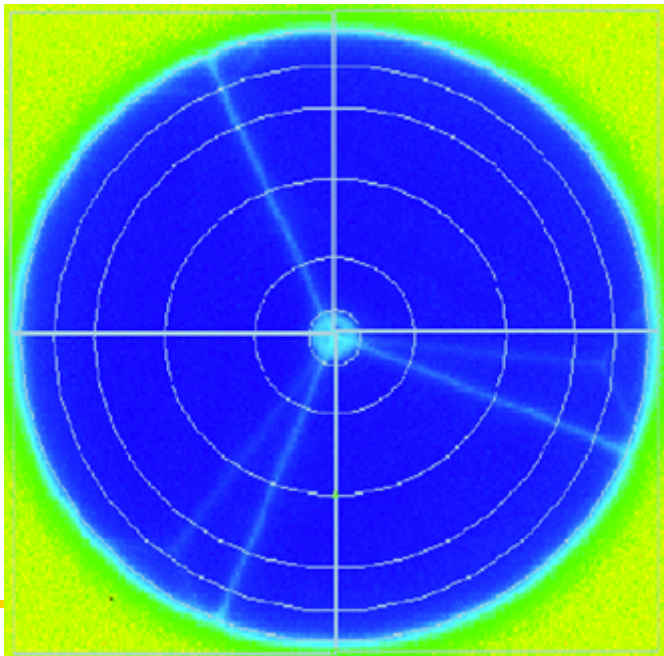
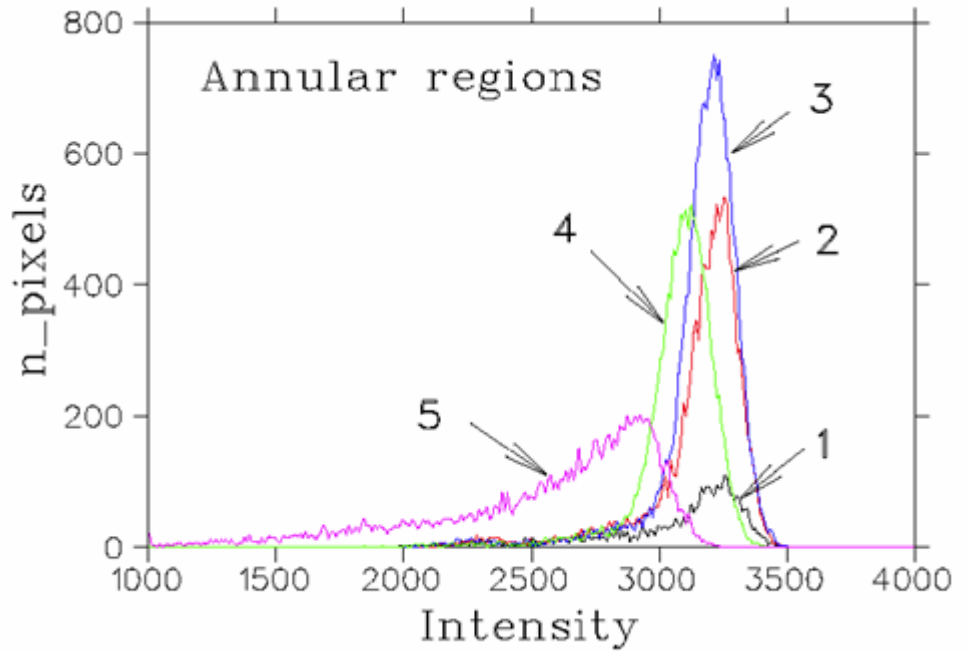
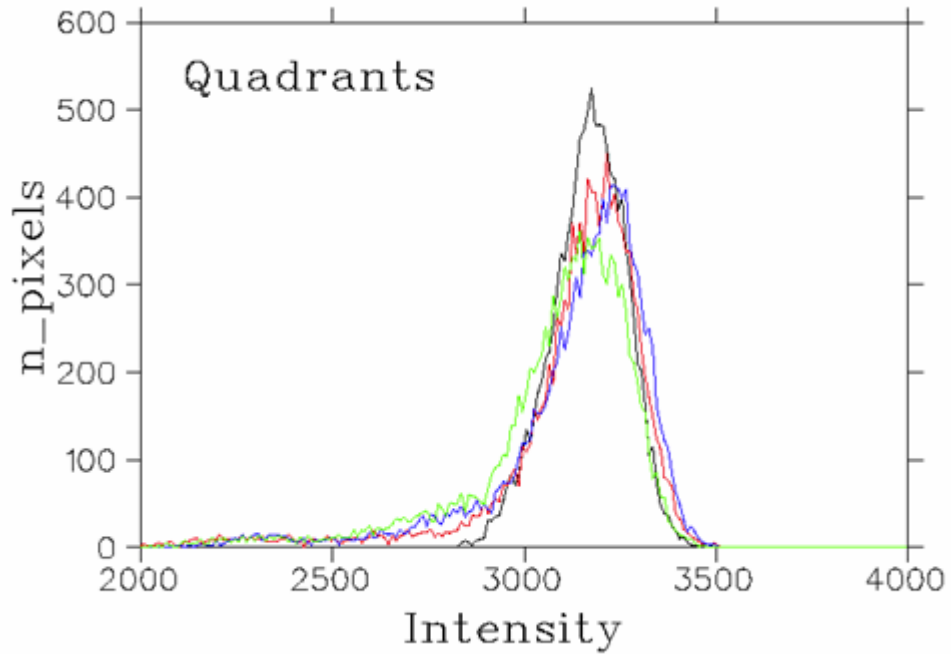


# Drum mounted at the aperture of Bay 4 at Los Leones



# Uniformity of lights emitted from the Drum

By Jeff Brack



# Systematic Uncertainty after End-to-end Calibration

Source of Systematic Error	Si PD	PMT	Sys. Uncertainty	
			Before	After
(Absolute) Quantum Efficiency	~0.7	0.2-0.3	3%	3%
Wave-length Dependence of QE	±1%	± 10%	5%	5%
Cathode Uniformity	±1%	±10%	5%	-
Photo-Electron Collection Efficiency	0.99	0.8-0.95	10%	-
Gain	1.0	10 <sup>5-7</sup>	5%	-
Voltage Dependence of Gain	None	∝HV <sup>6</sup>	3%	3%
Anode (Gain) Uniformity	±1%	±30%	10%	3%
Effect of Earth Magnetic Field	None	±10%	10%	-
Temperature Dependence	None	-0.4%/°C	3%	-
Incident Angle Dependence	±1°	±30°	10%	3%
Intensity Correction (ND filter)	1	10 <sup>-5</sup>	5%	5%
Area Correction	5mm ϕ	5cm ϕ	5%	5%
Non Linearity	None	±5%	3%	3%
Rate Dependence	None	±5%	3%	3%
Long Term Stability	Stable	±5%/year	5%	5%
<b>Total Systematic Uncertainty</b>	<b>1%</b>		<b>25%</b>	<b>12%</b>

# Conclusion

- **Absolute calibration of PMT (in Lab) is absolutely nontrivial. *Don't try it.***
- **The most important is to develop the absolutely calibrated “**standard candle**” which exactly mimics the physics signal.**
- **Then calibrate your telescope **in situ**.**

# Acknowledgements

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- and **Kai Martens** for giving me this opportunity.

## ➤ This talk is available at

- <http://www.physics.ucla.edu/~arisaka/hires/>
- [pmt\\_calibration.pdf](#) (2.6M)
  - [pmt\\_calibration.ppt](#) (3.3M)