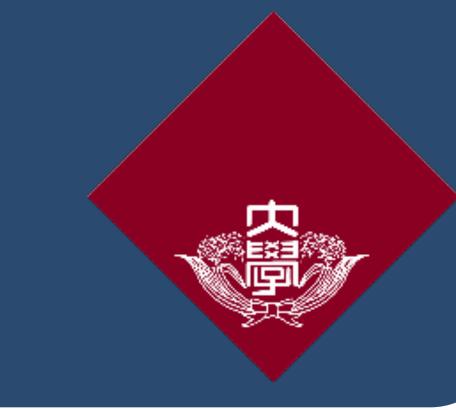


# GRAMS Engineering Balloon Flight

Riki Nakajima (Waseda University) On behalf of the GRAMS Collaboration



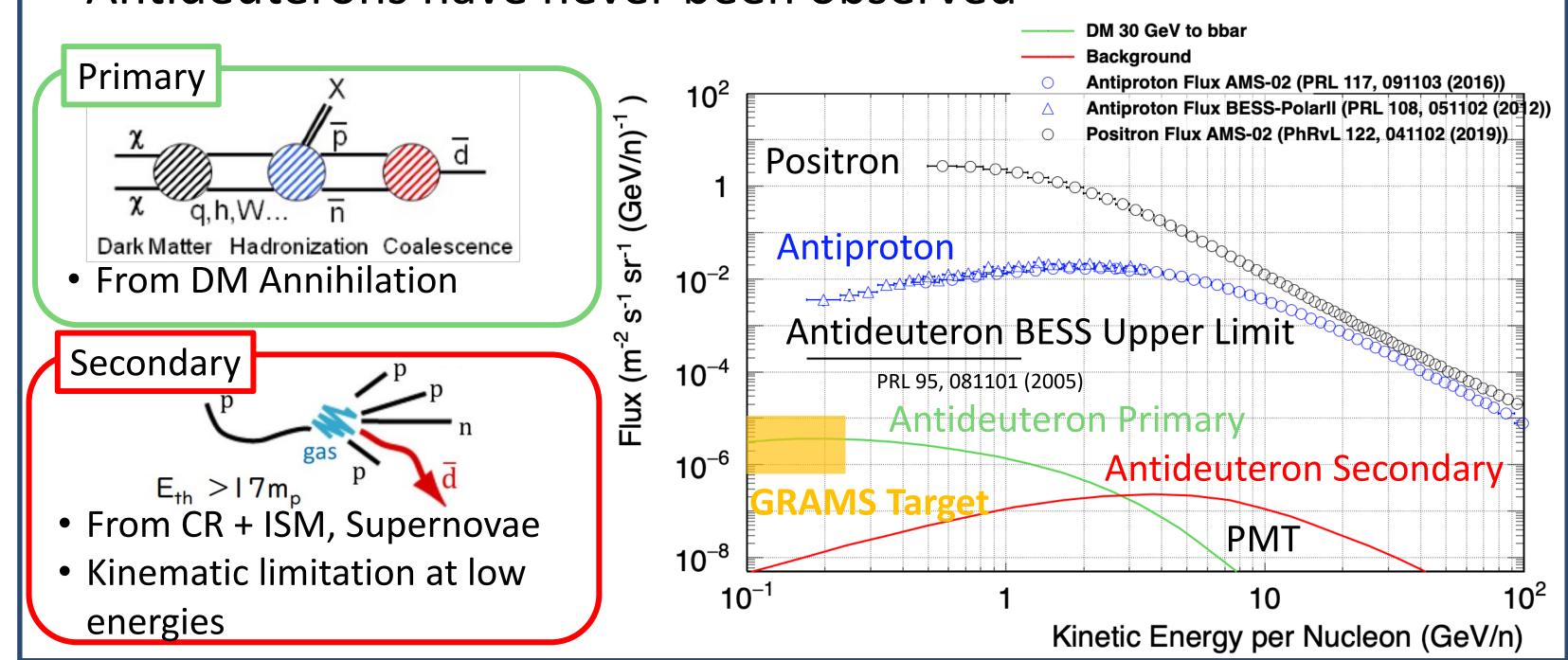
LArTPC Signal @ 5km (MIP)

# 1. Gamma-Ray and AntiMatter Survey

- Proposed balloon/satellite experiment using a LArTPC **Physics Motivation:**
- 1. MeV Gamma-Ray Observation → Nucleosynthesis, PBH...
- 2. Cosmic Antimatter Detection  $\rightarrow$  Indirect DM Search

### Indirect DM Search using Cosmic Antimatter:

Antideuterons have never been observed



ToF Plastic scintillator (outer)

ToF Plastic scintillator (inner)

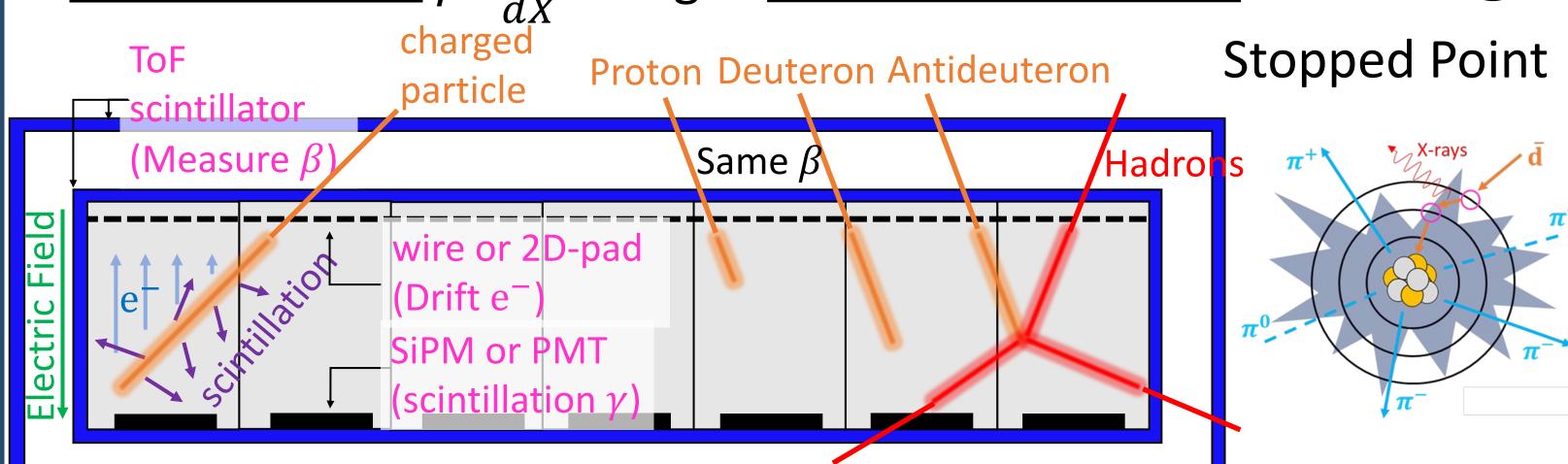
# 2. GRAMS Detector

### LArTPC + 2 Layer ToFs:

- LArTPC: Calorimeter/Particle Tracker
- ToF: Measure Velocity  $\beta$
- Cost effective, expandable, no dead volume
- ~30 days ~40km above south pole to reach target sensitivity

### Particle Identification Method:

Different Mass:  $\beta + \frac{aE}{D} + Range$  Matter - AntiMatter: Reaction @



# 3. GRAMS Engineering Balloon Flight — B23-06

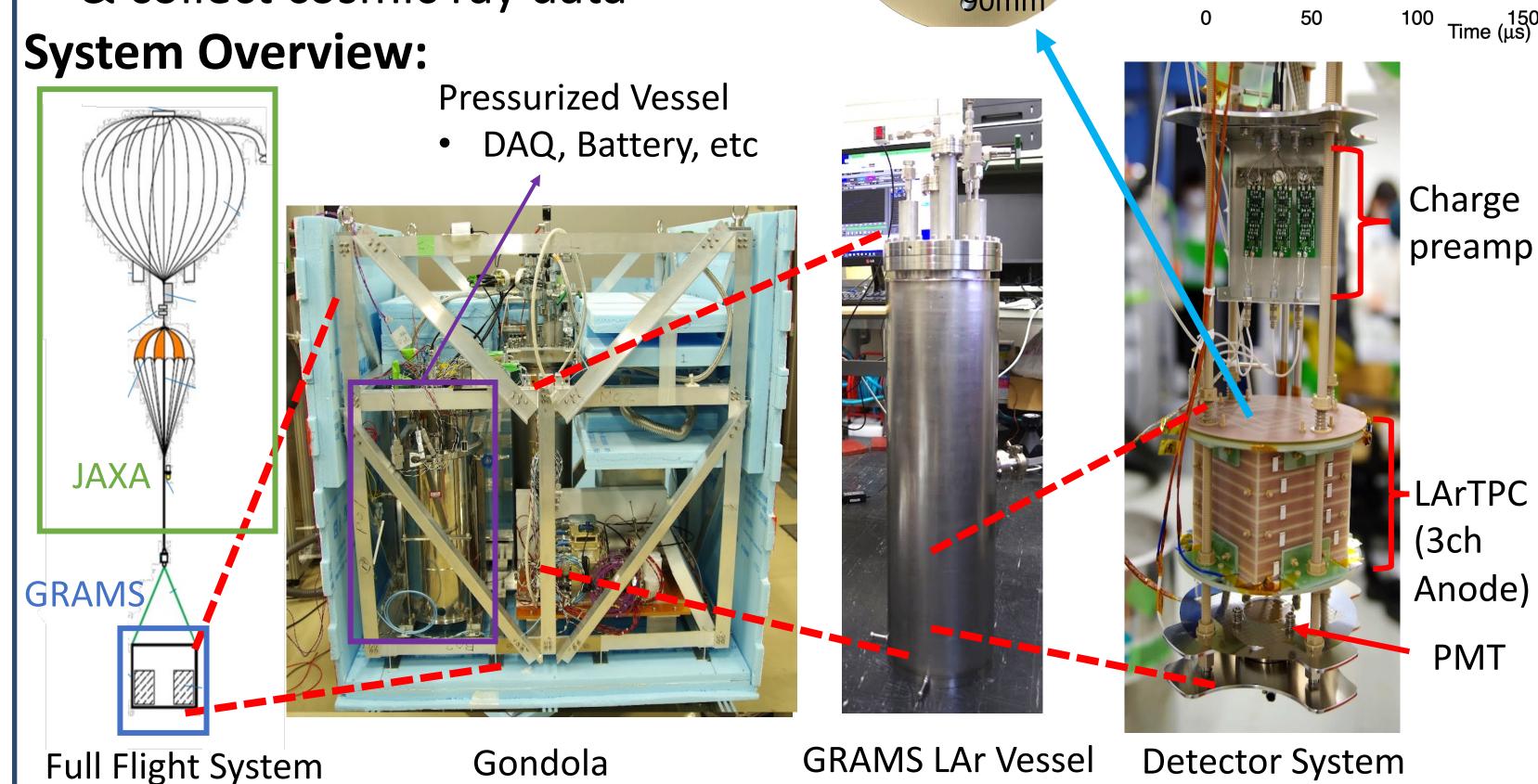
### JAXA TARF (@Hokkaido, Obihiro)

- Taiki Aerospace Research Field -> JAXA's balloon launching site
- B23-06 was accepted for 2023 flight

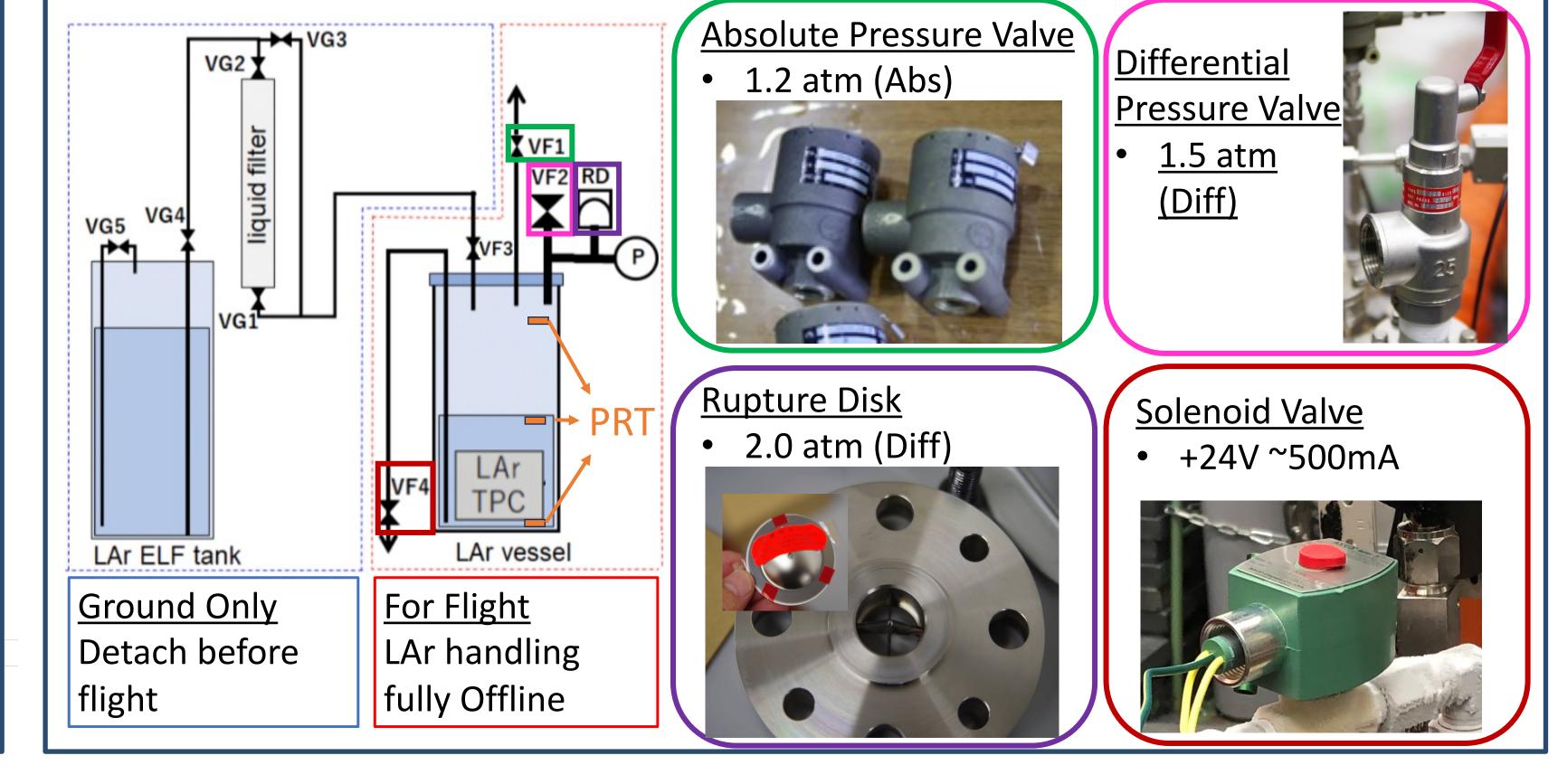
### **Objective:**

Establish safe LAr handling system Anode @ balloon altitudes

Operate LArTPC & collect cosmic ray data



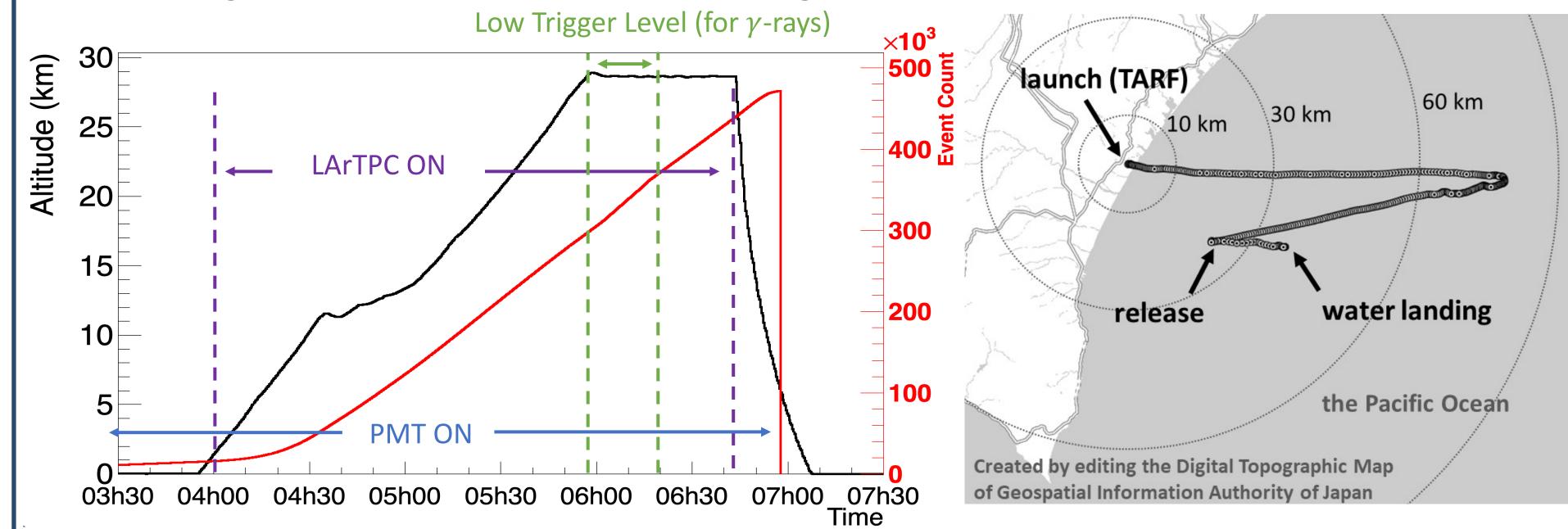
# 4. Liquid Argon Handling System



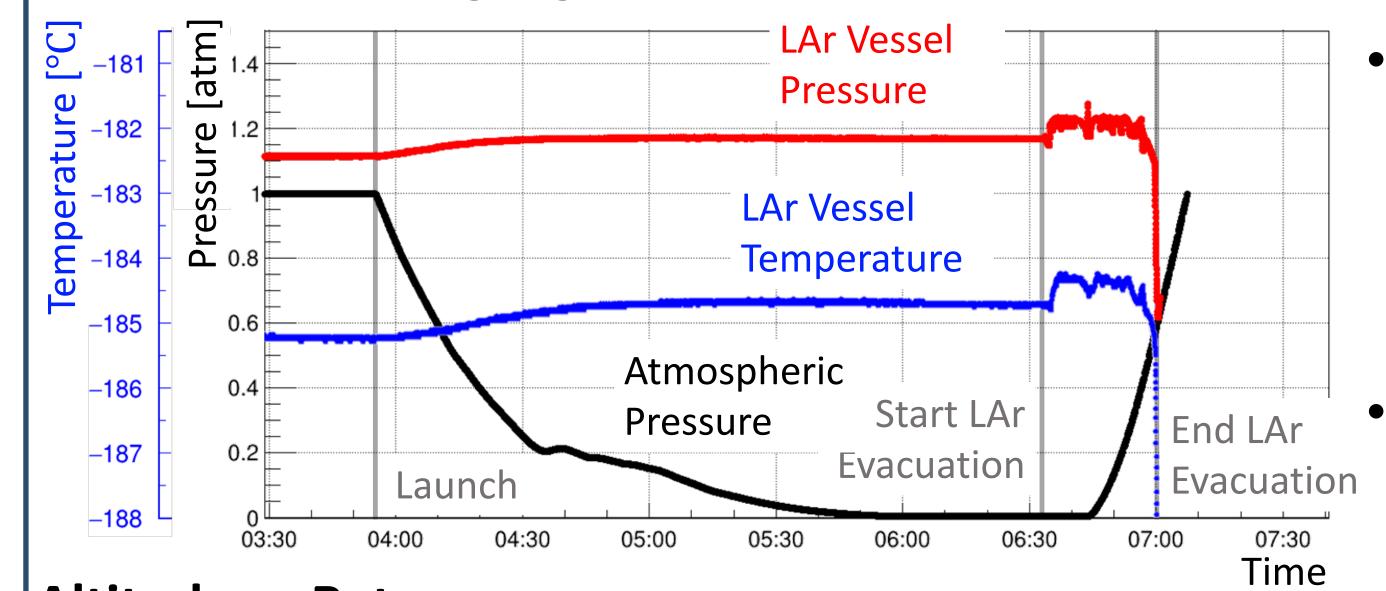
### 5. Results

### Flight Operation:

Total Flight Time: 3hr 12min, Level Flight: 44min, Max Altitude: 28.9km



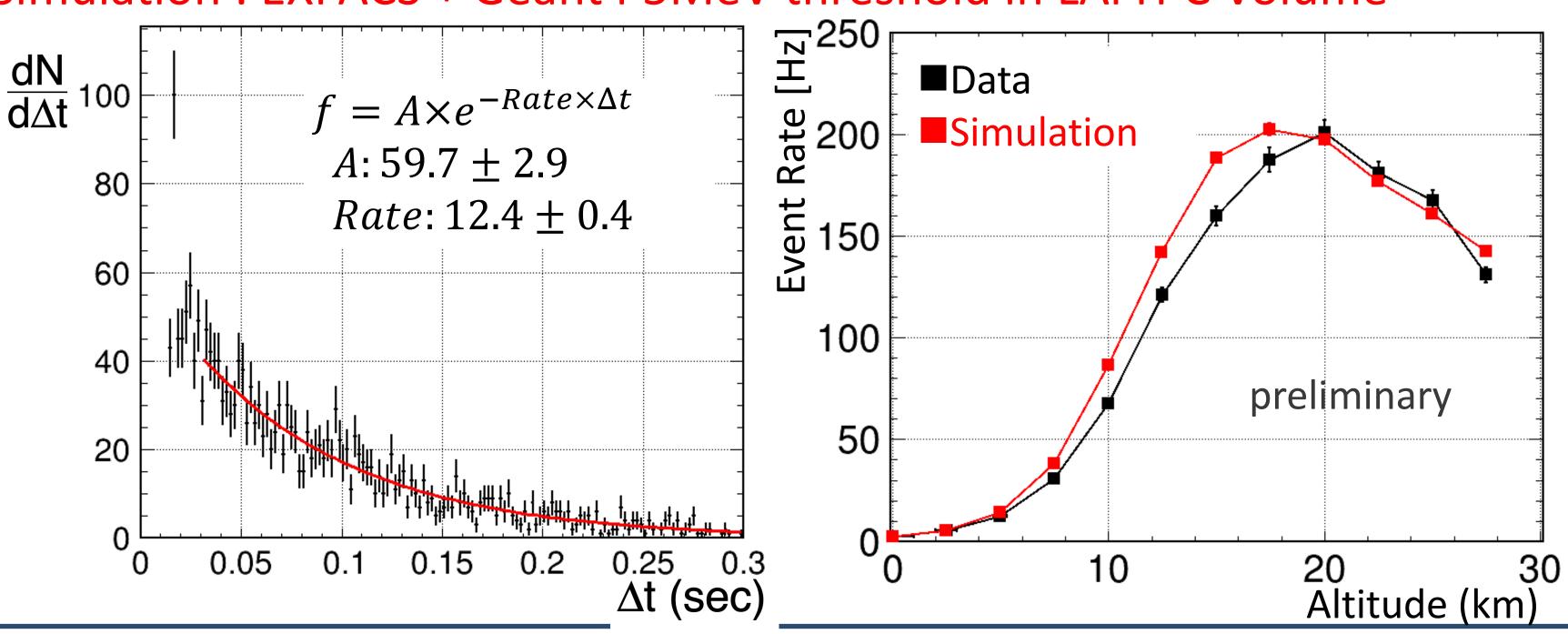
### State of LAr during flight:



- LAr vessel pressure & temperature maintained during flight
- LAr Evacuation completed @ 7am

### **Altitude vs Rate:**

- : ADC trigger rate saturated  $\rightarrow$  poisson fit of  $\Delta t$  distribution Data
- ■Simulation: EXPACS + Geant4 5MeV threshold in LArTPC Volume



# 6. Summary & Prospects

### Summary:

- GRAMS Engineering Balloon Flight B23-06 was successfully completed 7/27
- LAr was stable throughout the flight & LArTPC data was obtained

### **Prospects:**

- Further data analysis of LArTPC + PMT data is ongoing
- Approved for NASA APRA Program 2022 -> larger scale LArTPC flight 2025/26