

# New CdZnTe Detectors for Exotic Atoms Research

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# X-ray Detectors at LNF

# X-Ray Detectors for Physics Researches at LNF

**The development of different X-ray (and gamma ray) detection systems is essential to explore a wide gap of energy regions and observables.**

For applications in many fields of physics research, it is useful to develop detectors with:

- Different features (efficiency/resolution/radiation damage in different energy range)
- Different usage in X-ray measurements. (high rate vs low rate)
- Different operation conditions (cooling vs no cooling)

# X-Ray Detectors for Physics Researches at LNF

**Crystal Spectrometer**

**Silicon Drift Detectors**

**Cadmium Zinc Telluride  
Detectors**

**High Purity Germanium  
Detectors**

# X-Ray Detectors Properties

## Crystal Spectrometer

- High Resolution
- Low Efficiency
- 0-20 keV Range

## Silicon Drift Detectors

- 130 eV FWHM at 6 keV Resolution
- High Efficiency
- 0-40 keV Range

## Cadmium Zinc Telluride Detectors

- Resolution ~ 5% at 100 keV
- High Efficiency at **room temperature**
- 20-400 keV Range

## High Purity Germanium Detectors

- High Efficiency
- $\approx 1\%$  at 383 keV Resolution
- 10 keV to MeV Range

# X-Ray Detectors Applications

**Crystal Spectrometer**

**Metal oxidation in liquid (wine)**

**Silicon Drift Detectors**

**Test of Fundamental Physics (VIP)**

**Cadmium Zinc Telluride  
Detectors**

**Nuclear Physics (Exotic atoms)**

**High Purity Germanium  
Detectors**

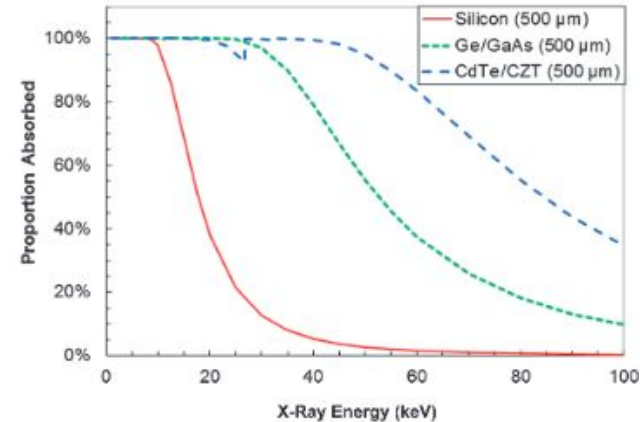
**Test of Quantum Gravity (Collapse  
Models)**

# Cadmium Zinc Telluride Detectors



# Why Cadmium Zinc Telluride

- **Silicon** represents nowadays the best semiconductors in terms of availability, efficiency and resolution, to build a compact X-ray detectors, but **his efficiency falls down fast to tens of keV energies**. To go to higher energies one needs high-Z semiconductors
- **Germanium** is a natural semiconductor, which is a great advantage for producing high-quality crystals for detectors. However, **HPGe detectors cannot be operated at room temperature**.



Pennicard, D. *et al.* Semiconductor materials for x-ray detectors. *MRS Bulletin* **42**, 445–450 (2017). <https://doi.org/10.1557/mrs.2017.95>

# CdZnTe Detectors Properties

- Compound semiconductor (interesting because of the possibility to grow materials with many physical properties making them **suitable to almost any application**)
- Good **spectroscopy performances at room temperature**. Ideal to build compact systems without the need of cooling.
  - Impurities during the growth alter the performances.
- Intense studies to upgrade the quality of the crystals in last decades, that **can lead to a further improvement in terms of resolution, efficiency, especially at high rate**. In recent years successful applications in the field of medical imaging and astrophysics.

Del Sordo, S. et al., *Sensors* **9**, Number: 5,

Iniewski, K. *Journal of Instrumentation* **9**, C11001,

Tang, J., Kislat, F. & Krawczynski, H. *Astroparticle Physics* **128**, 102563,

Schlesinger, T. E. et al. *Materials Science and Engineering: R: Reports* **32**, 103–189,

Abbene, L. et al. *Journal of Synchrotron Radiation* **27**.

# The Development of New CdZnTe Detectors at LNF

- Use of different CZT crystals produced by REDLEN (Canada) and IMEM-CNR (Parma)
  - Expertise of the UniPa DiFC Emilio Segré group (now part of the SIDDHARTA-2 Collaboration) for the electronics.
  - First tests and Data Analysis done in Frascati National Laboratories (LNF)
- ★ **GOAL: Measure Intermediate Mass Kaonic Atoms.**

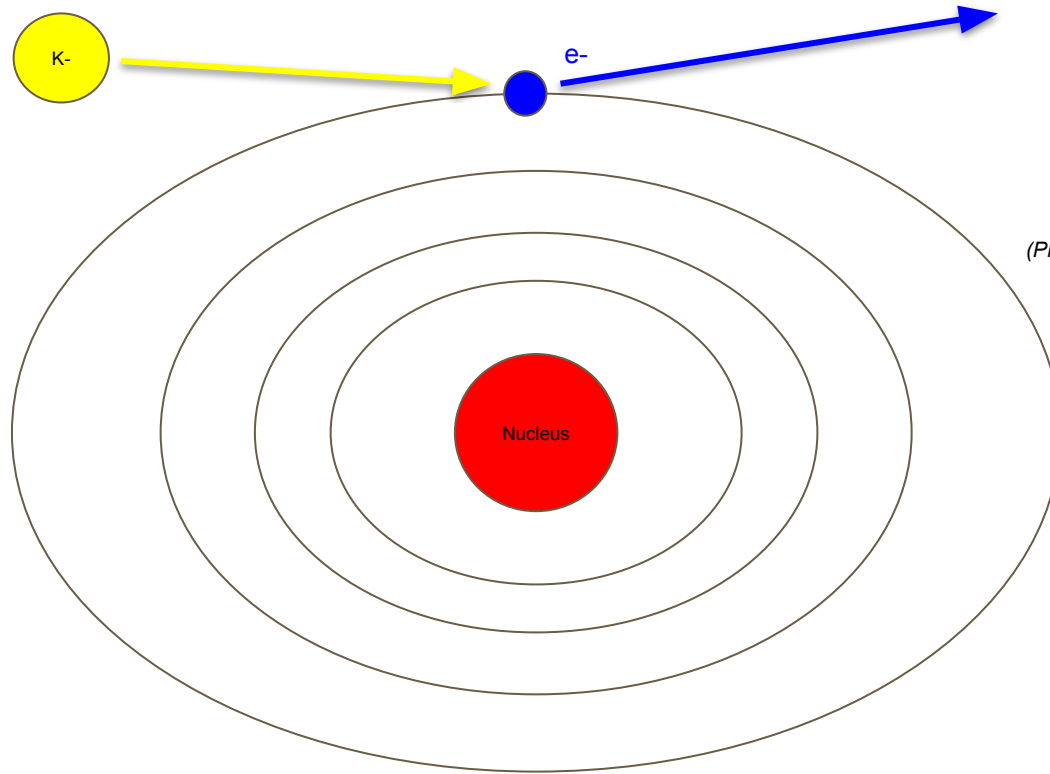
# Kaonic Atoms

# Physics Case: Kaonic Atoms

- Exotic atoms are atoms in which a negatively charged particle replaces the outermost electron in an atom and bounds to a nucleus.
- Exotic atoms with muons, pions, kaons, antiprotons and hyperons were observed.
- Predicted by Tomonaga and Araki (*phys. Rev.* **58** 90-91, 1940), Conversi Pancini and Piccioni (*phys. Rev.* **68** 232-232, 1945, *phys. Rev.* **71** 209-210, 1947), Fermi and Teller(*phys. Rev.* **72** 399-408, 1947).
- Finally produced and studied exploiting accelerators. Important for low-energy QCD Studies.

(*Rev. Mod. Phys.*, **91**, June 2019)

# Kaonic Atoms: Formation



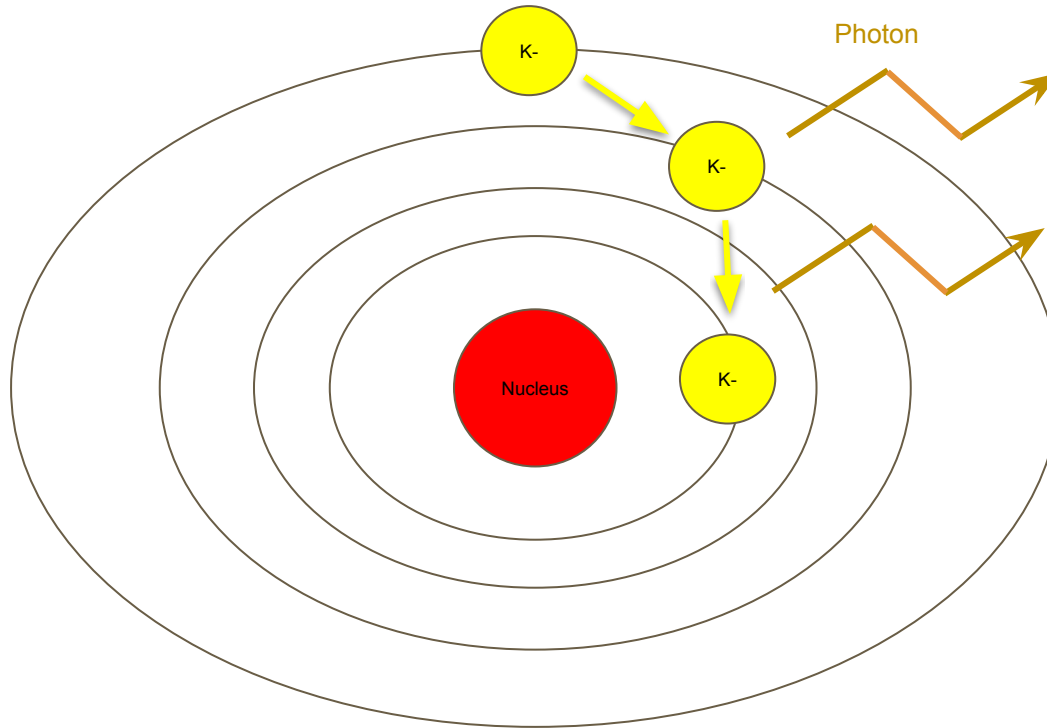
$$r_{b^e} \sim r_{b^k}$$

(Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. **61**, 512–550, 2008)

$$n \approx \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{m_e}} n_e$$

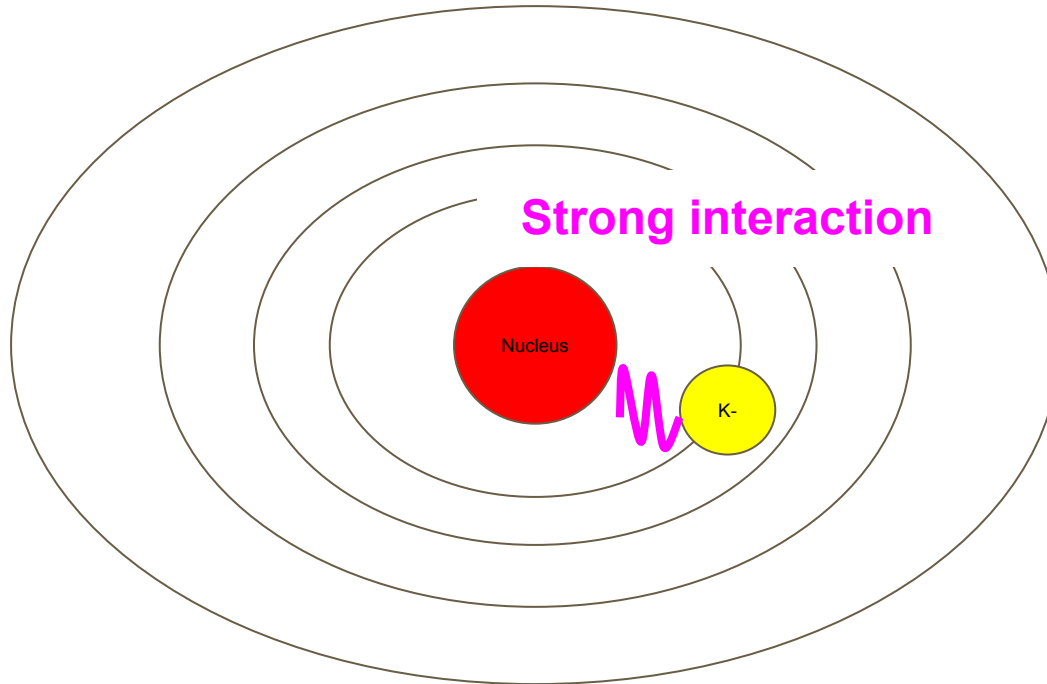
H n=1 level ~ KH n=25 level

# Kaonic Atoms: Cascade



The KH de-excitation cascade in its last part is radiative and in the X-ray region.

# Kaonic Atoms: K-N Interaction

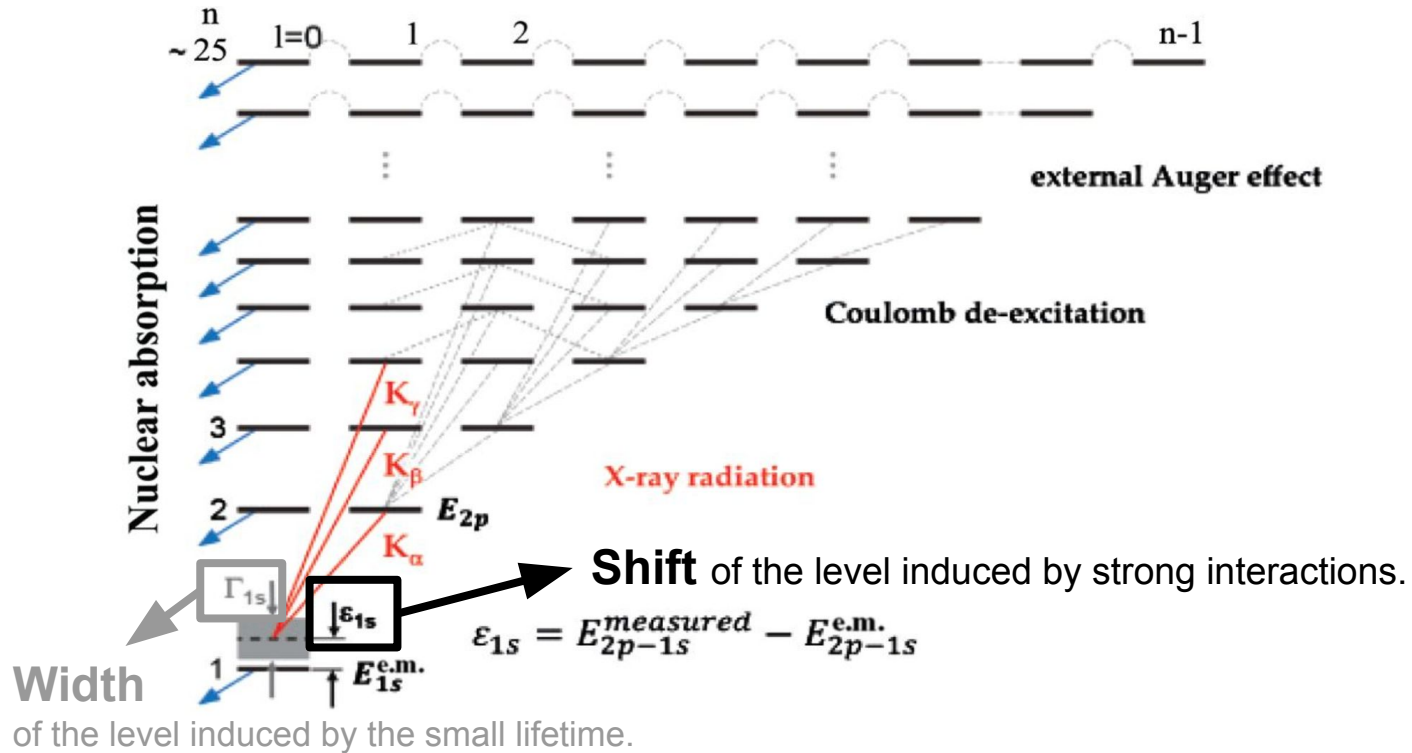


In the last level of the atom kaon interact with nucleus also by strong interaction, and then **interact at threshold with nucleons and is absorbed.**

**The time to reach the last level is  $1e-9s - 1e-12s$ , while  $\tau_K=1e-8s$**



# Importance of kaonic Atoms in QCD



# Importance of kaonic Atoms in QCD

Compute  $\sigma$  using a potential for strong interactions coming from different models based on  $\chi$ PT theory.

The cross-section at threshold is proportional to

Measurement of **shift** and **widths** of kaonic atoms

Deser-Trueman Formula

**Scattering Length**

(Rev. Mod. Phys, **91**, June 2019)

**THEORY**

**EXPERIMENT**

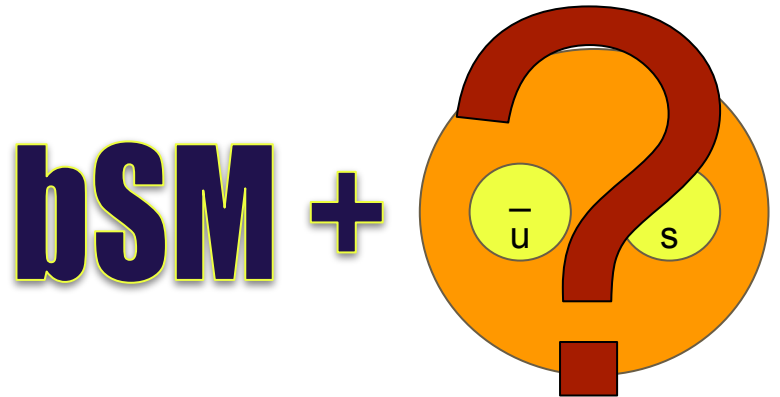
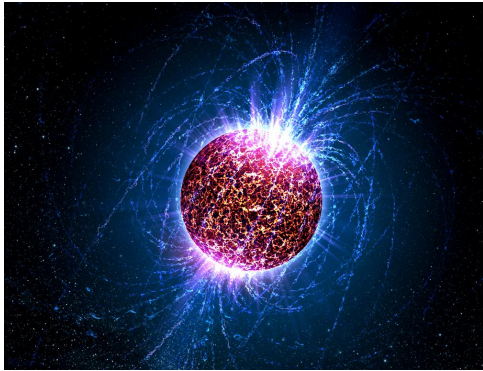
# Importance of kaonic Atoms in QCD

- From **K-H** and **K-D** one can get info on **K-p** and **K-n** scattering lengths.
- Combining K-H and K-D measurement one can disentangle the two **K-N isospin dependent scattering lengths**.

# Importance of kaonic Atoms in QCD (and more)

It is also important to study the kaonic atoms transitions with different:

- **Z**, because it is important to have a clear picture on the K-N and K-multiN interactions in function of the nuclear density.
- **n**, because it is a test of QED and it is important for possible measurement of kaon mass and atomic cascades.



# Intermediate Mass Kaonic Atoms

- Measurement performed recently casted doubts about the whole kaonic Atoms dataset, from experiment done more than 40 years ago.
- Some kaonic atoms are problematic in models, and present incompatible measurements.
- With new detection techniques, more precise results are achievable.

Target	Transition	Energy (keV)	Shift* (keV)	Width* (keV)	Yield* (%)
C	3 → 2	62.9	$-0.590 \pm 0.080$	$1.730 \pm .150$	$7.0 \pm 1.3$
Al	3 → 2	302.3	//	//	//
Al	4 → 3	105.8	$-0.130 \pm 0.050$	$0.490 \pm 0.160$	//
			$-0.076 \pm 0.014$	$0.4 \pm 0.022$	$55 \pm 3$
S	4 → 3	160.8	$-0.550 \pm 0.060$	$2.330 \pm 0.200$	$22 \pm 2$
			$-0.43 \pm 0.12$	$2.310 \pm 0.170$	//
			$-0.462 \pm 0.12$	$1.96 \pm 0.17$	$23 \pm 3$

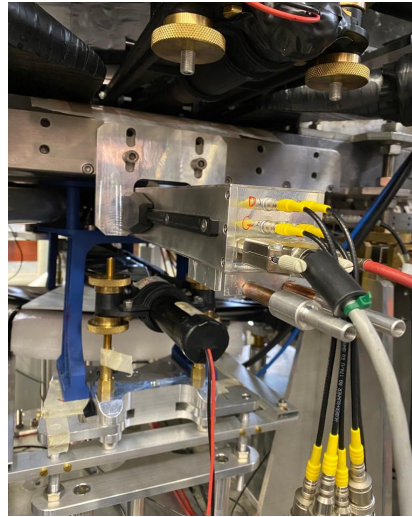
# **New Tests and Measurements with CZT Detector**

# Firsts Tests in DAFNE

Test with 1cm<sup>2</sup>  
commercial CdZnTe  
(RITEC).



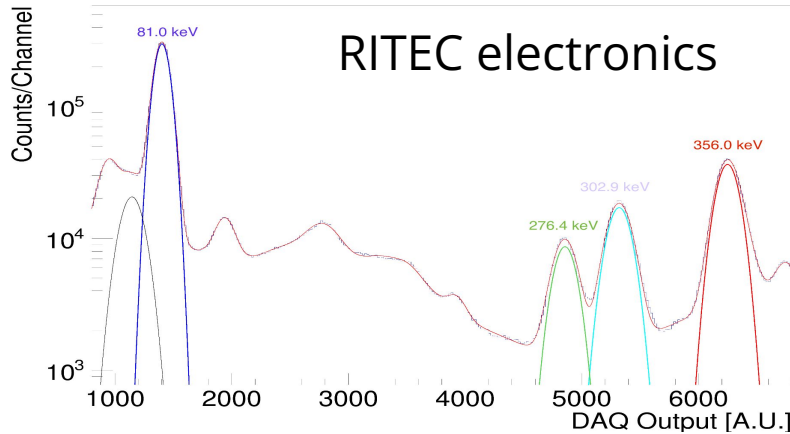
Test with 8cm<sup>2</sup>  
REDLEN CdZnTe in  
DAFNE and  
customized  
electronics.



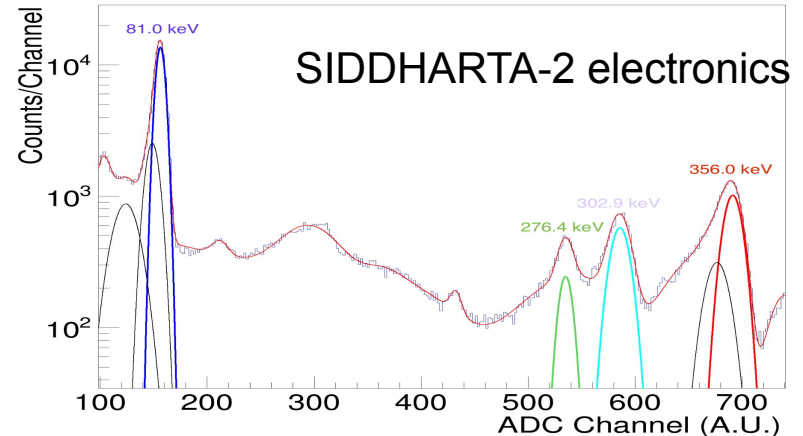
Test on timing and  
resolution to notice  
improvements with the  
new electronics.

# Test on Resolution

Calibration with Ba133



Calibration with Ba133



A. Scordo *et al.* *Nuclear Inst. and Methods in Physics Research, A* **1060** (2024) 169060

	RITEC CZT/500		REDLEN M1535	
$^{133}\text{Ba}$ Peak (keV)	R ( $10^{-3}$ )	FWHM/E	R ( $10^{-3}$ )	FWHM/E
81.0	1.3	0.110	-2.4	0.064
276.4	-0.7	0.048	1.4	0.028
302.9	-0.4	0.046	-0.2	0.036
356.0	0.5	0.037	-0.1	0.030

Significant improvements in terms of resolution, maintaining a good linearity.

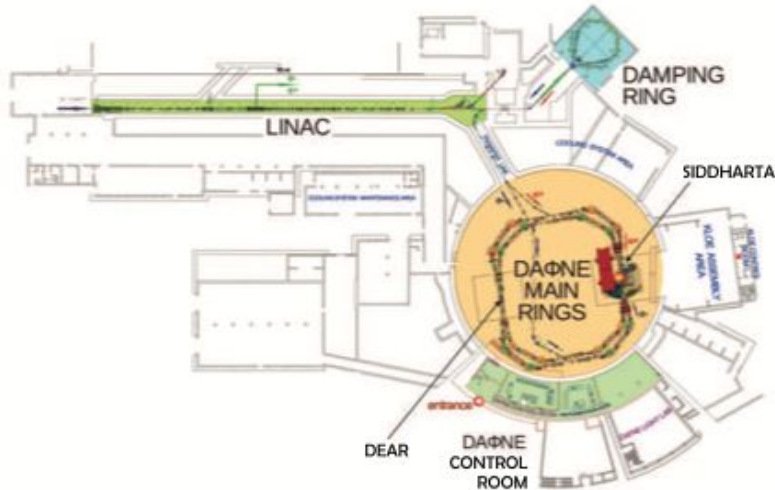


# Kaonic Atoms Measurements in DAFNE



- Two array of four  $13 \times 15 \times 5 \text{ mm}^3$  crystals from REDLEN, installed in DAFNE.
- Goal: Study the feasibility of an experiment to measure kaonic atoms transitions from K-Al, K-Cu, K-S with CZT detectors.
- Now taking data.

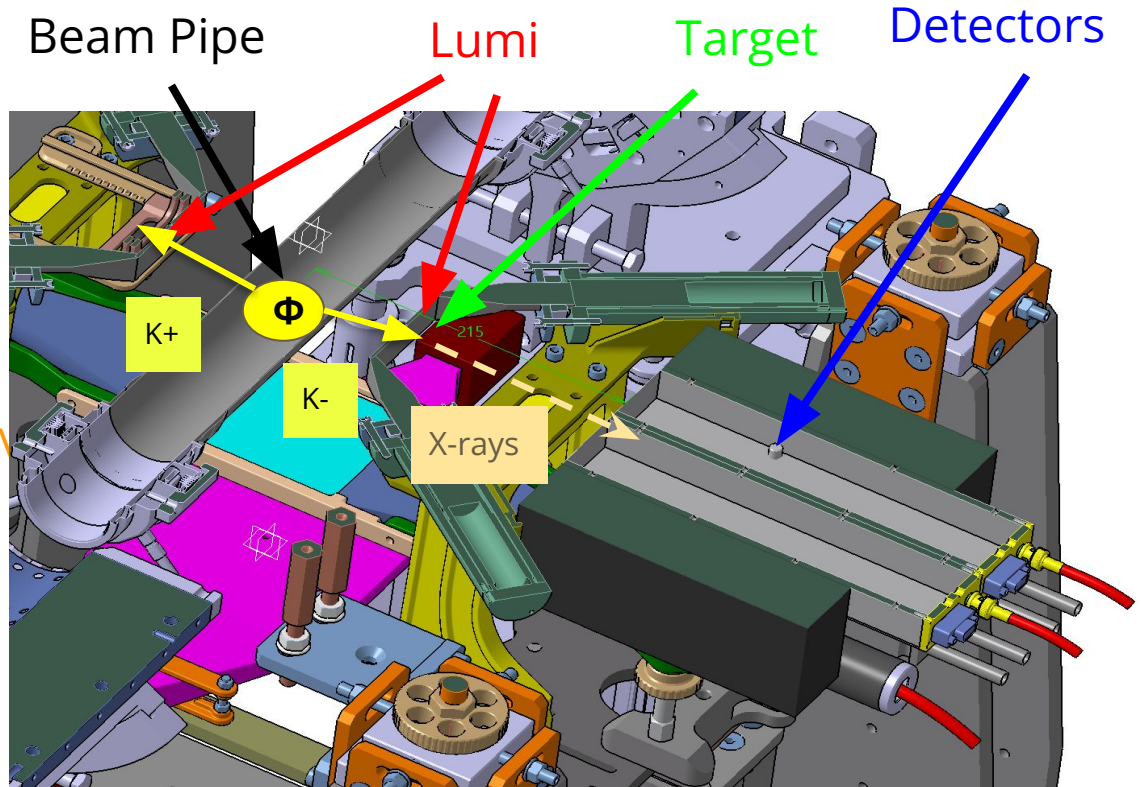
# The DAΦNE Collider



- double ring lepton collider working at the **c.m. energy of  $\Phi$  resonance** ( $\Phi$ -factory) ( $m_\Phi = 1.02$  GeV)
- $\Phi$  decays in a couple of charged kaons with a  **$\text{BR}(\Phi \rightarrow \text{K}^+\text{K}^-) = 48\%$**
- The kaons are produced almost at rest ( $m_K = 493$  MeV  $\Rightarrow$   **$p_K = 127$  MeV**,  $\beta \sim 0.26$ ) with a small boost through the center of the rings.
- The Ks' momentum spread is almost null ( $\Delta p/p < 0.1\%$ )

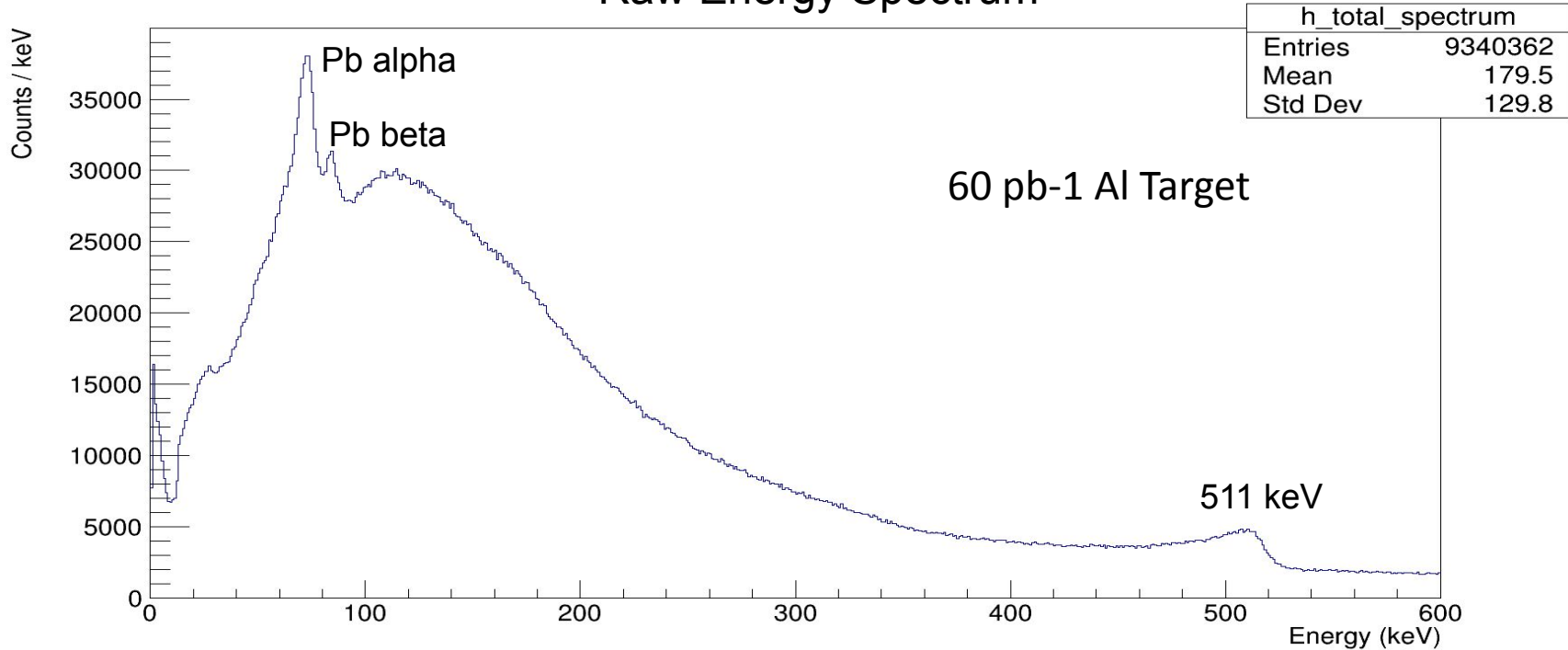
# The Experimental Setup

- Plastic Scintillators (Luminometers + TOF reconstruction)
- Target (optimized through Monte Carlo simulations)
- New CZT Detector

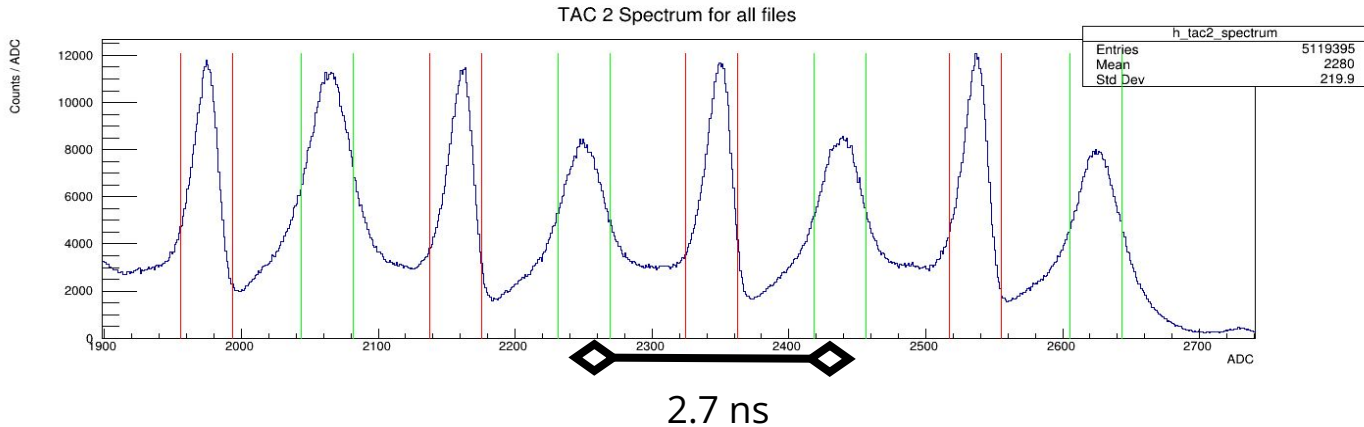
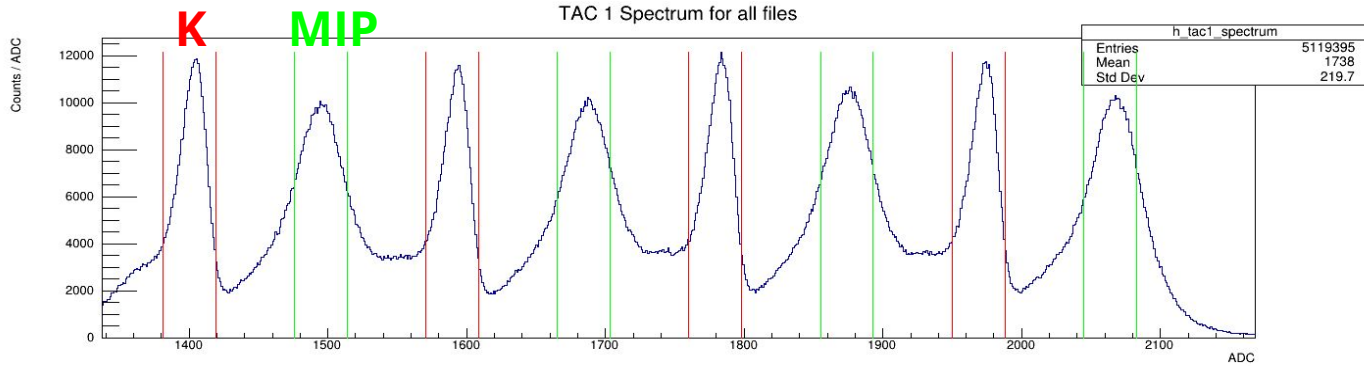


# Measurements in DAFNE

## Raw Energy Spectrum

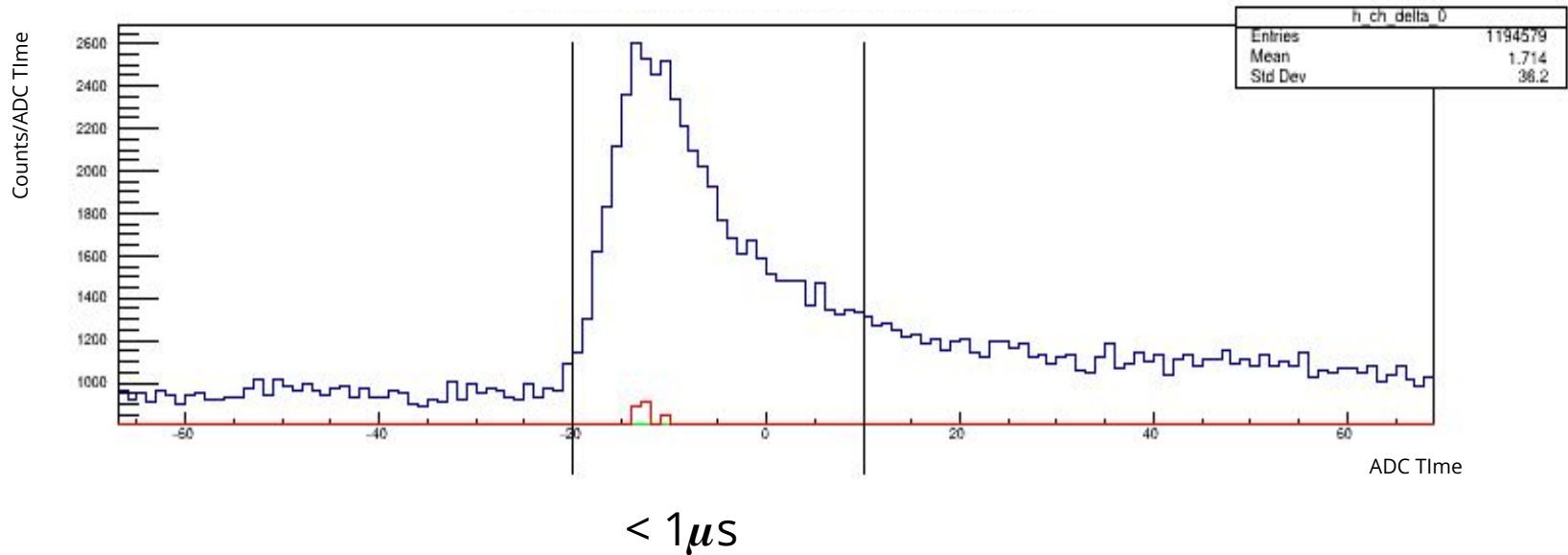


# Cut on Time Of Flight



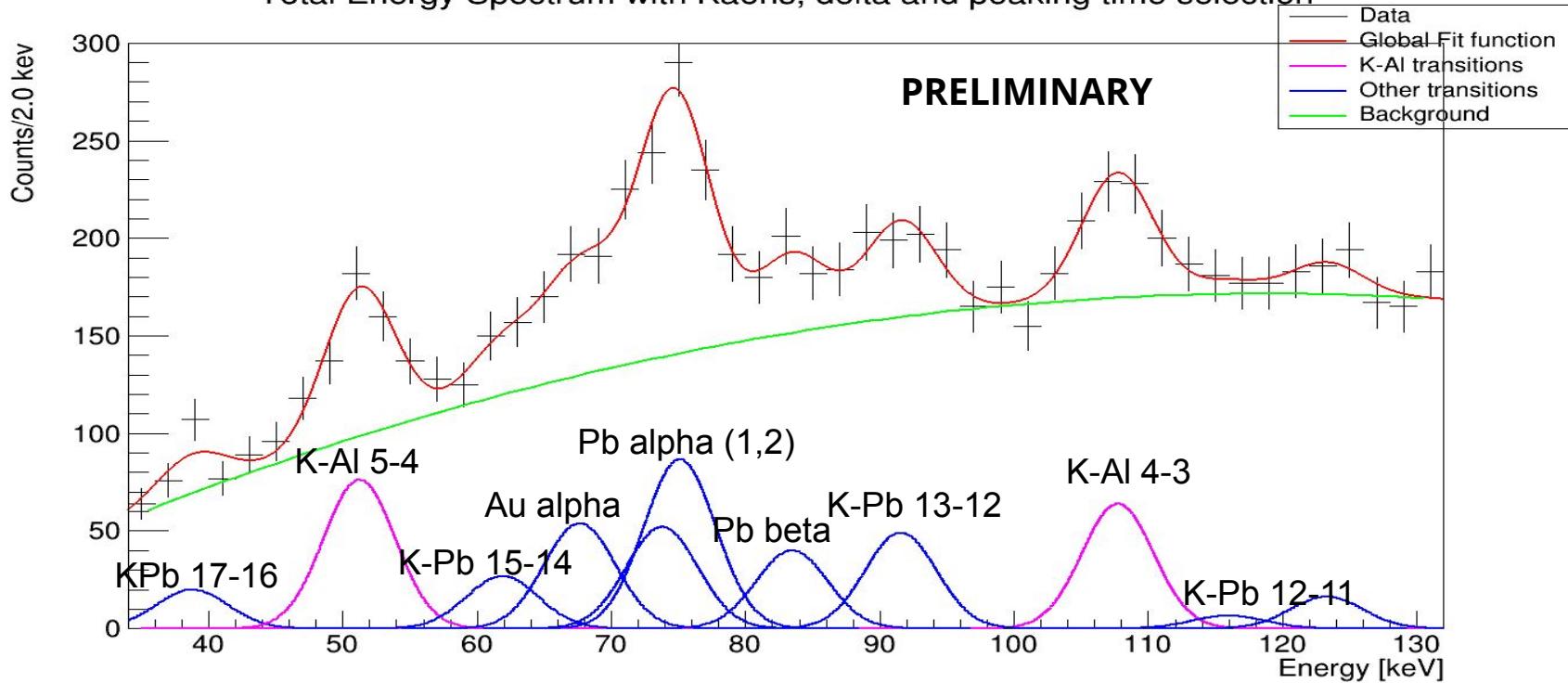
# Cut on Time Difference

Time difference between CZT and trigger for ch1



# First Measurement in DAFNE

Total Energy Spectrum with Kaons, delta and peaking time selection



Resolution  $\sim 5\%$  at 100 keV also in high rate measurements

# Conclusions

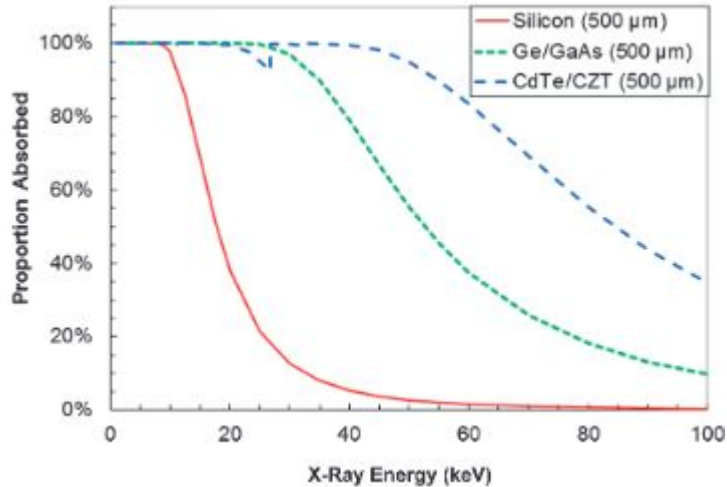
- CDZnTe is a promising semiconductor to build X-ray detection systems at room temperature in the range 20-400 keV.
- In recent times, the improvements on growth and electronics increased interest on these detector in the field particle and fundamental physics.
- The SIDDHARTA-2 collaboration managed to build new CZT detector with a resolution  $< 5\%$  at 100 keV, beyond the current state of the art
- The current data taking at DAFNE collider is promising and already led to first observations of intermediate mass kaonic atoms transitions





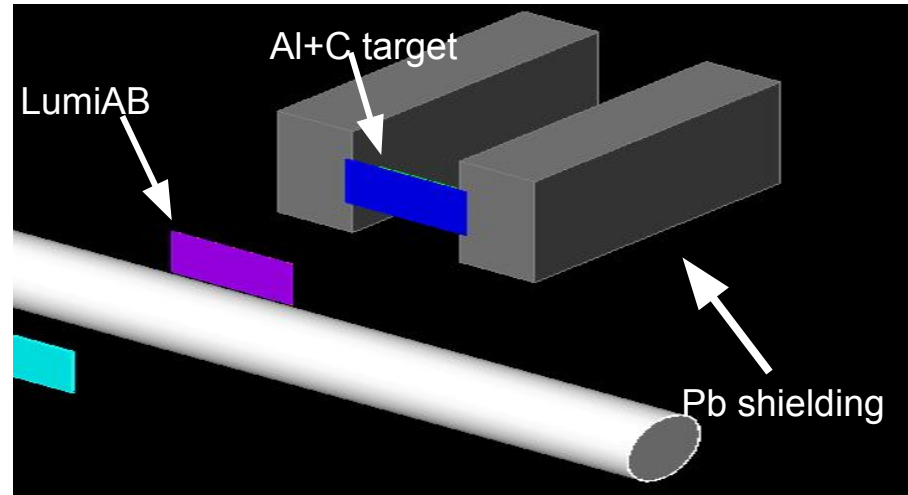
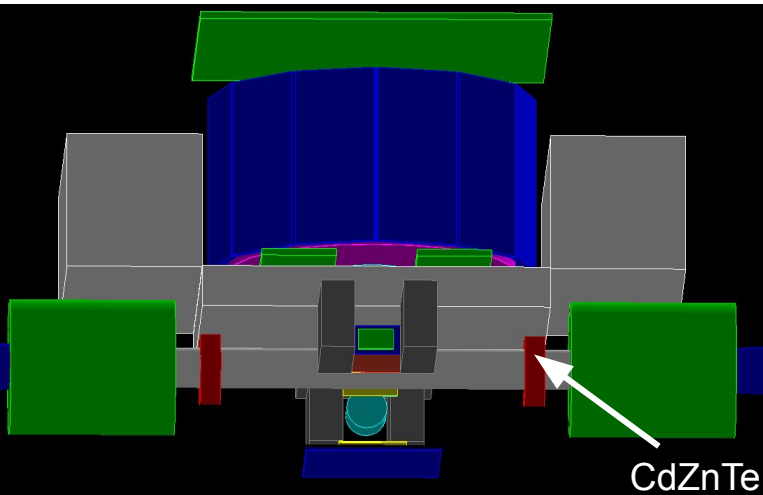
**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION**

**BACKUP**



The notch in the curve at 30 keV occurs because, while x-ray absorption tends to fall with increasing photon energy, sudden increases in absorption occur at the point where the photon energy gets high enough to excite the inner-shell (k-shell) electrons of an atom

# Long run with 16 cm<sup>2</sup> CdZnTe detector (from 11/2023): Simulations and expected results



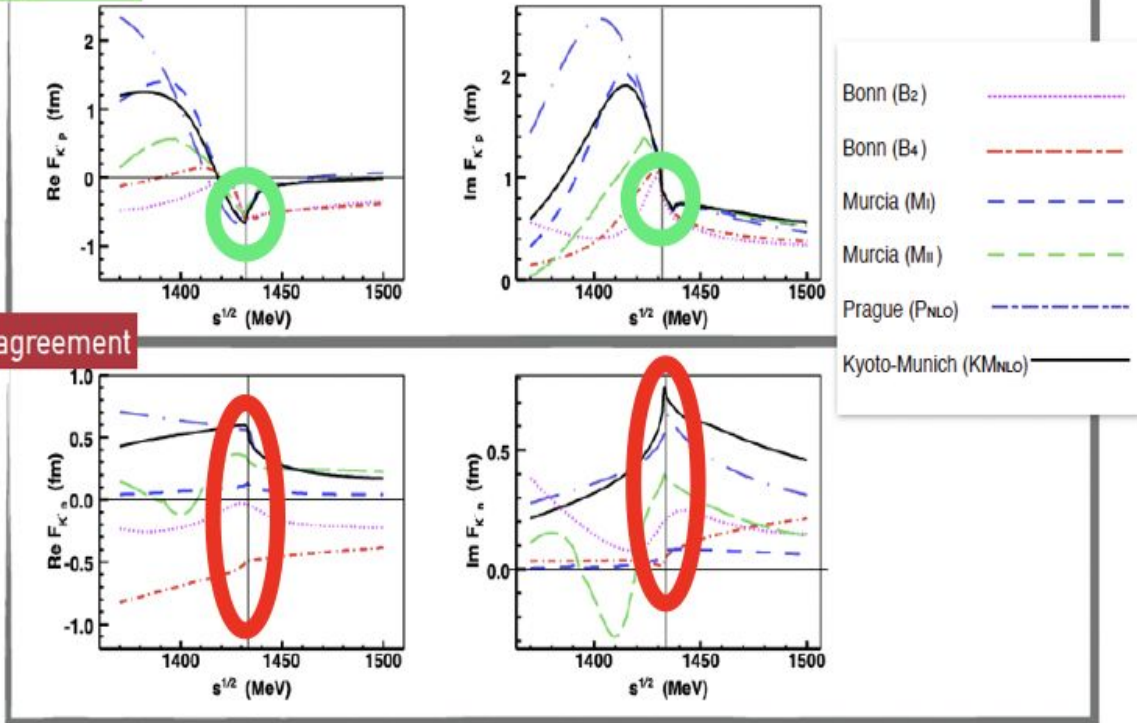
Main goals (for now):

- Optimize the set-up and targets' thickness.
- Estimate the results.

Page #

# The SIDDHARTA-2 Experiment: Physics Goal

K-p: agreement



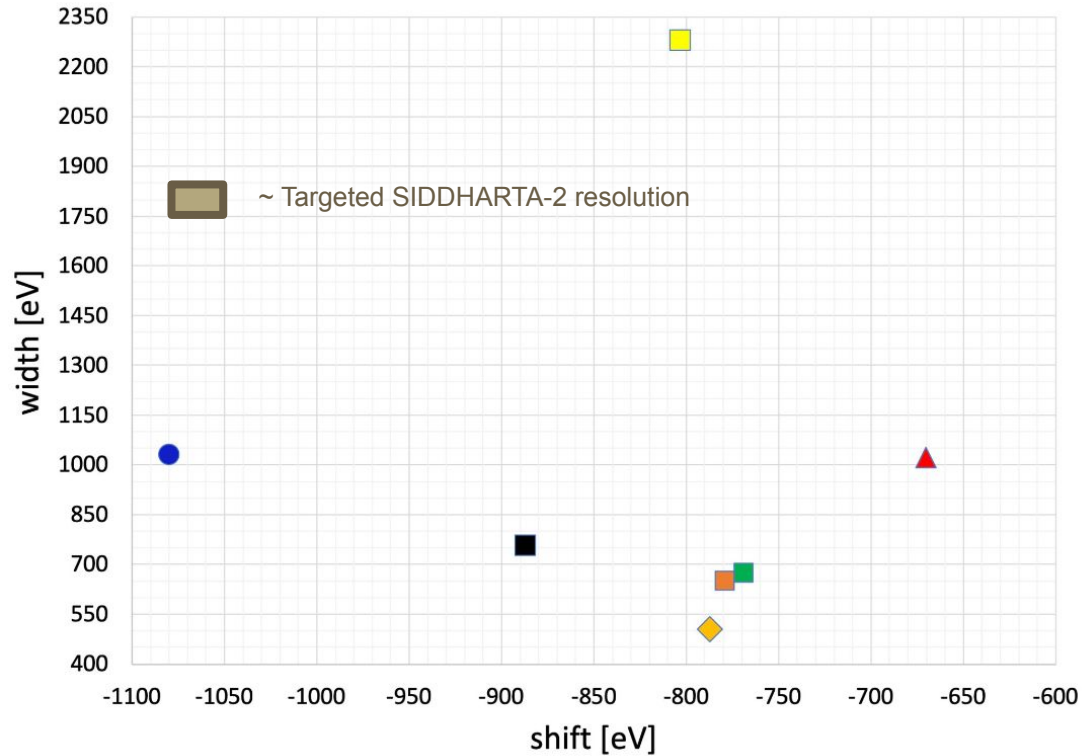
Measured by SIDDHARTA

To be measured...

A. Cieplý, M. Mai, Ulf-G. Meißner, J. Smejkal, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1603.02531v2>



# The SIDDHARTA-2 Experiment: Physics Goal



# Old Era Experiments

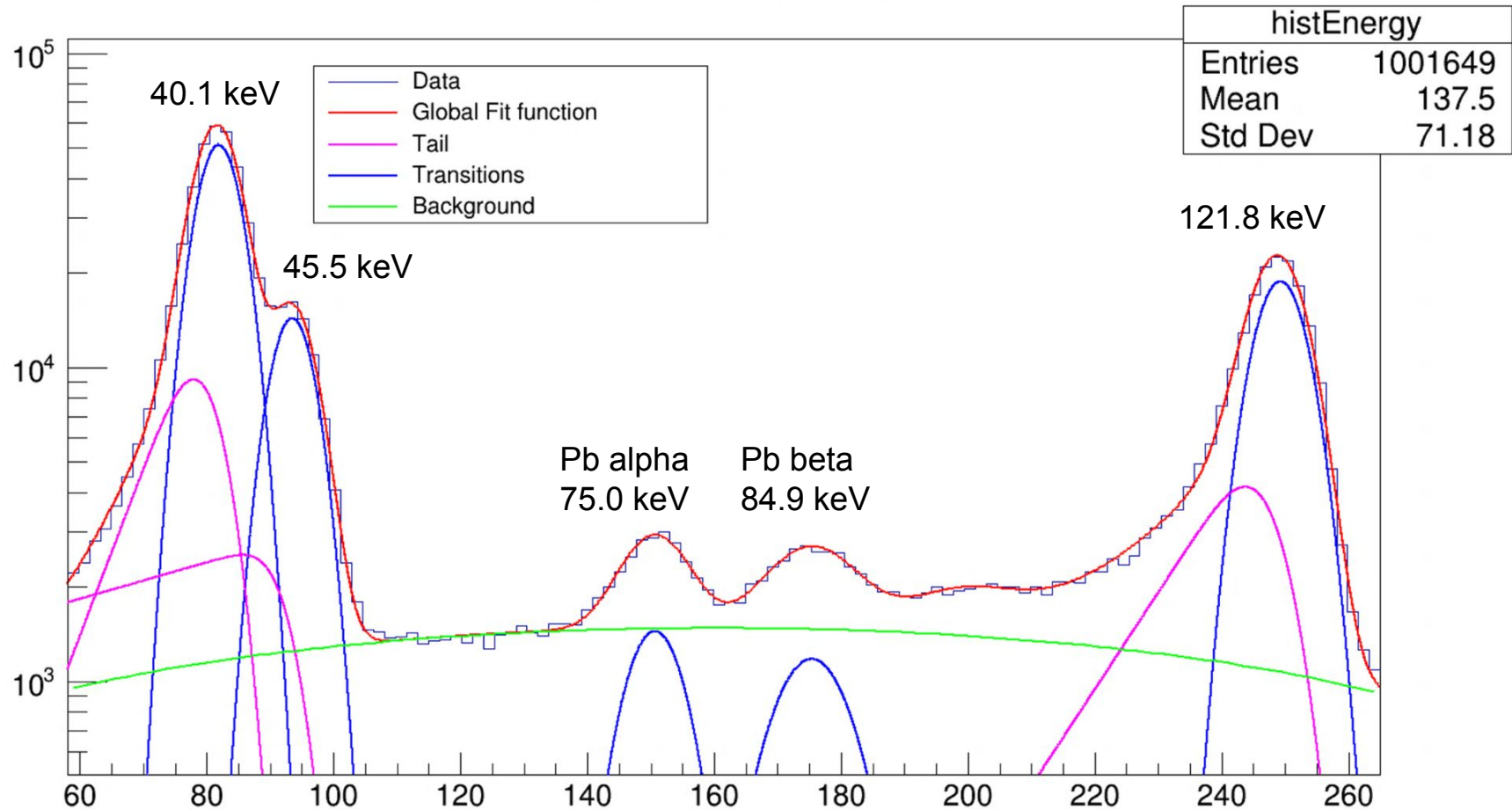
Table 1  
Compilation of  $K^-$  atomic data

Nucleus	Transition	$\epsilon$ (keV)	$\Gamma$ (keV)	$Y$	$\Gamma_u$ (eV)	Ref.
He	3 $\rightarrow$ 2	$-0.04 \pm 0.03$	–	–	–	[15]
		$-0.035 \pm 0.012$	$0.03 \pm 0.03$	–	–	[16]
Li	3 $\rightarrow$ 2	$0.002 \pm 0.026$	$0.055 \pm 0.029$	$0.95 \pm 0.30$	–	[17]
Be	3 $\rightarrow$ 2	$-0.079 \pm 0.021$	$0.172 \pm 0.58$	$0.25 \pm 0.09$	$0.04 \pm 0.02$	[17]
<sup>10</sup> B	3 $\rightarrow$ 2	$-0.208 \pm 0.035$	$0.810 \pm 0.100$	–	–	[18]
<sup>11</sup> B	3 $\rightarrow$ 2	$-0.167 \pm 0.035$	$0.700 \pm 0.080$	–	–	[18]
C	3 $\rightarrow$ 2	$-0.590 \pm 0.080$	$1.730 \pm 0.150$	$0.07 \pm 0.013$	$0.99 \pm 0.20$	[18]
O	4 $\rightarrow$ 3	$-0.025 \pm 0.018$	$0.017 \pm 0.014$	–	–	[19]
Mg	4 $\rightarrow$ 3	$-0.027 \pm 0.015$	$0.214 \pm 0.015$	$0.78 \pm 0.06$	$0.08 \pm 0.03$	[19]
Al	4 $\rightarrow$ 3	$-0.130 \pm 0.050$	$0.490 \pm 0.160$	–	–	[20]
		$-0.076 \pm 0.014$	$0.442 \pm 0.022$	$0.55 \pm 0.03$	$0.30 \pm 0.04$	[19]
Si	4 $\rightarrow$ 3	$-0.240 \pm 0.050$	$0.810 \pm 0.120$	–	–	[20]
		$-0.130 \pm 0.015$	$0.800 \pm 0.033$	$0.49 \pm 0.03$	$0.53 \pm 0.06$	[19]
P	4 $\rightarrow$ 3	$-0.330 \pm 0.08$	$1.440 \pm 0.120$	$0.26 \pm 0.03$	$1.89 \pm 0.30$	[18]
S	4 $\rightarrow$ 3	$-0.550 \pm 0.06$	$2.330 \pm 0.200$	$0.22 \pm 0.02$	$3.10 \pm 0.36$	[18]
		$-0.43 \pm 0.12$	$2.310 \pm 0.170$	–	–	[21]
		$-0.462 \pm 0.054$	$1.96 \pm 0.17$	$0.23 \pm 0.03$	$2.9 \pm 0.5$	[19]
Cl	4 $\rightarrow$ 3	$-0.770 \pm 0.40$	$3.80 \pm 1.0$	$0.16 \pm 0.04$	$5.8 \pm 1.7$	[18]
		$-0.94 \pm 0.40$	$3.92 \pm 0.99$	–	–	[22]
		$-1.08 \pm 0.22$	$2.79 \pm 0.25$	–	–	[21]
Co	5 $\rightarrow$ 4	$-0.099 \pm 0.106$	$0.64 \pm 0.25$	–	–	[19]
Ni	5 $\rightarrow$ 4	$-0.180 \pm 0.070$	$0.59 \pm 0.21$	$0.30 \pm 0.08$	$5.9 \pm 2.3$	[20]
		$-0.246 \pm 0.052$	$1.23 \pm 0.14$	–	–	[19]
Cu	5 $\rightarrow$ 4	$-0.240 \pm 0.220$	$1.650 \pm 0.72$	$0.29 \pm 0.11$	$7.0 \pm 3.8$	[20]
		$-0.377 \pm 0.048$	$1.35 \pm 0.17$	$0.36 \pm 0.05$	$5.1 \pm 1.1$	[19]
Ag	6 $\rightarrow$ 5	$-0.18 \pm 0.12$	$1.54 \pm 0.58$	$0.51 \pm 0.16$	$7.3 \pm 4.7$	[19]
Cd	6 $\rightarrow$ 5	$-0.40 \pm 0.10$	$2.01 \pm 0.44$	$0.57 \pm 0.11$	$6.2 \pm 2.8$	[19]
In	6 $\rightarrow$ 5	$-0.53 \pm 0.15$	$2.38 \pm 0.57$	$0.44 \pm 0.08$	$11.4 \pm 3.7$	[19]
Sn	6 $\rightarrow$ 5	$-0.41 \pm 0.18$	$3.18 \pm 0.64$	$0.39 \pm 0.07$	$15.1 \pm 4.4$	[19]
Ho	7 $\rightarrow$ 6	$-0.30 \pm 0.13$	$2.14 \pm 0.31$	–	–	[23]
Yb	7 $\rightarrow$ 6	$-0.12 \pm 0.10$	$2.39 \pm 0.30$	–	–	[23]
Ta	7 $\rightarrow$ 6	$-0.27 \pm 0.50$	$3.76 \pm 1.15$	–	–	[23]
Pb	8 $\rightarrow$ 7	–	$0.37 \pm 0.15$	$0.79 \pm 0.08$	$4.1 \pm 2.0$	[24]
		$-0.020 \pm 0.012$	–	–	–	[25]
U	8 $\rightarrow$ 7	$-0.26 \pm 0.4$	$1.50 \pm 0.75$	$0.35 \pm 0.12$	$45 \pm 24$	[24]

Table in (*Nucl. Phys. A*, **579**, 518-538, October 1994) reporting the measured shifts and widths from 10 experiments for 25 kaonic atoms.

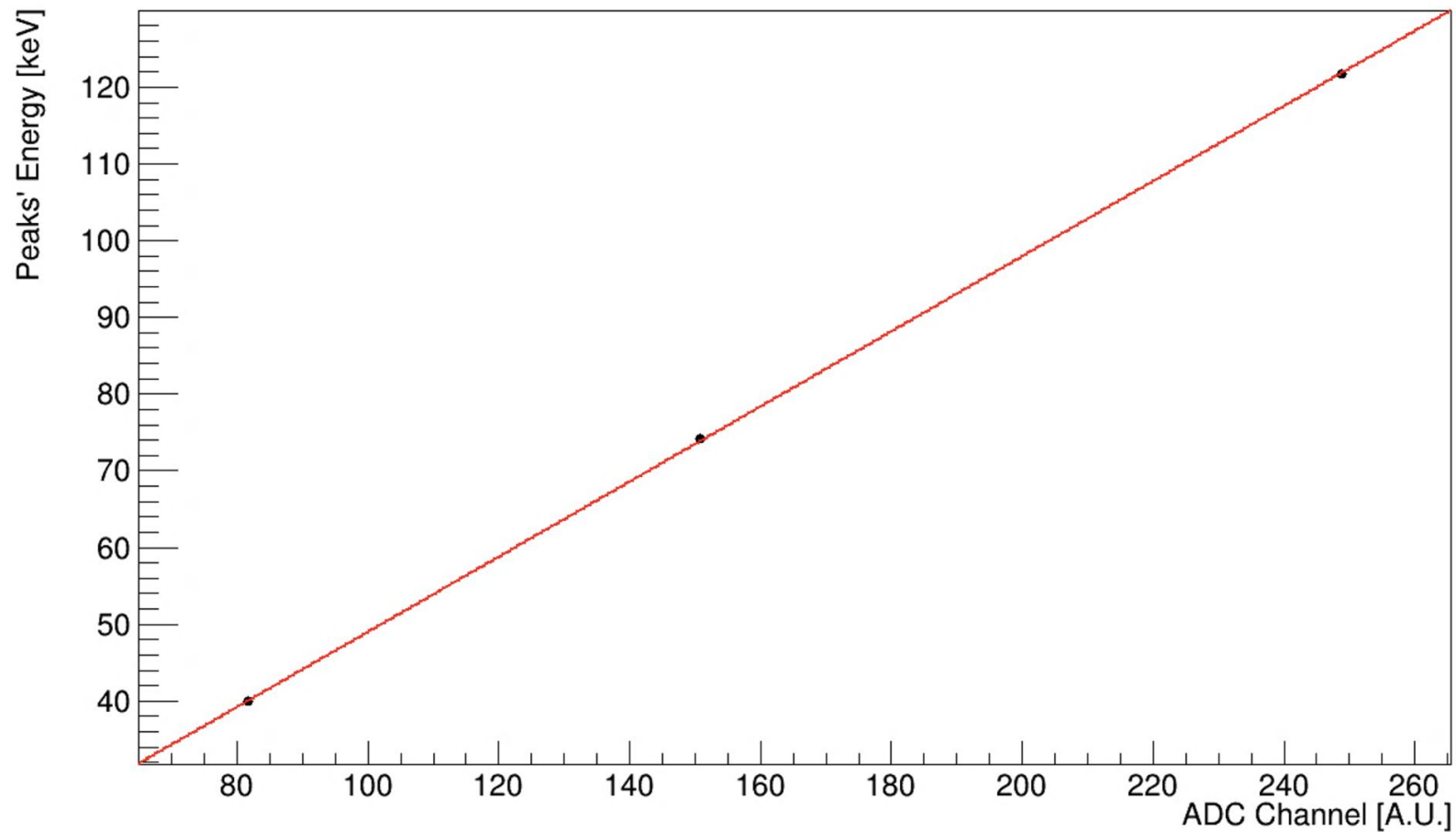
**Nowadays, models are also based on these measurements**

# Calibration with 152Eu

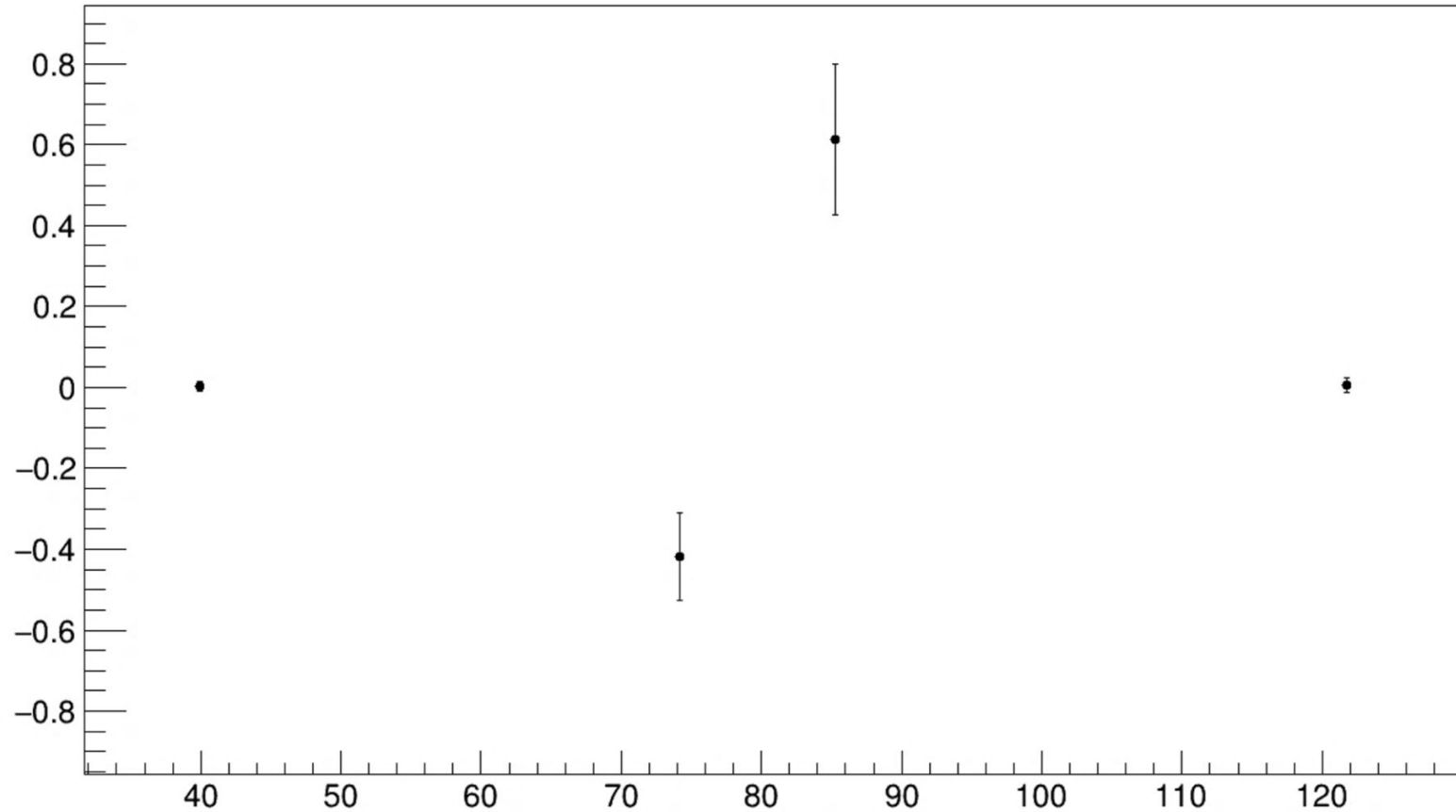




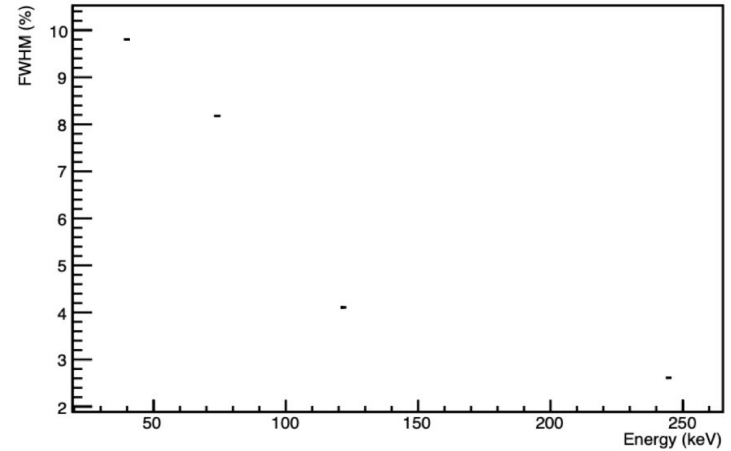
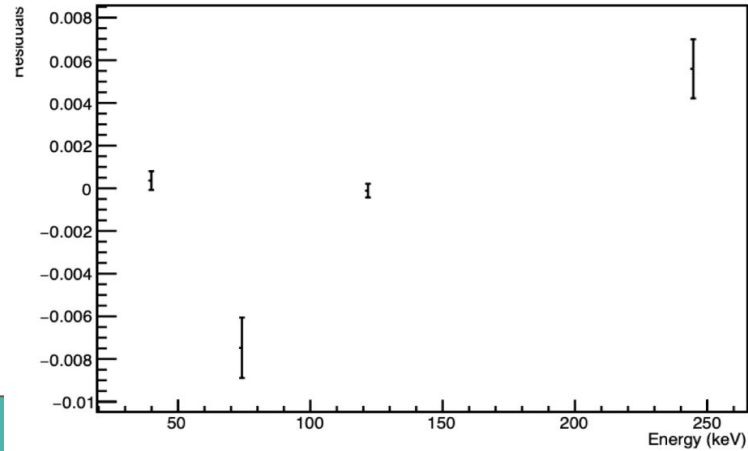
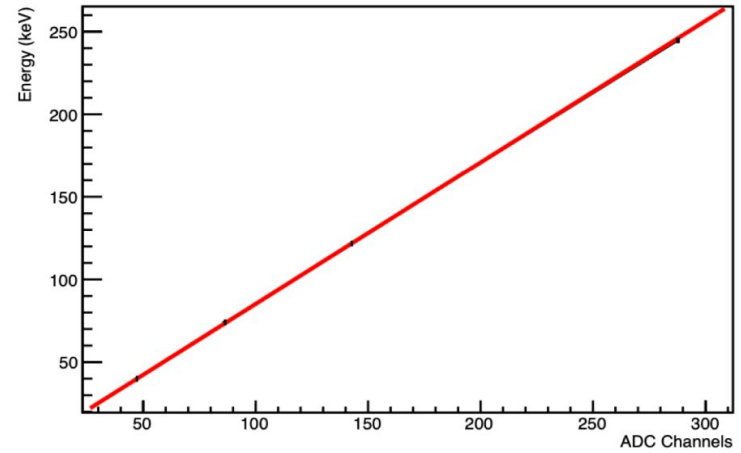
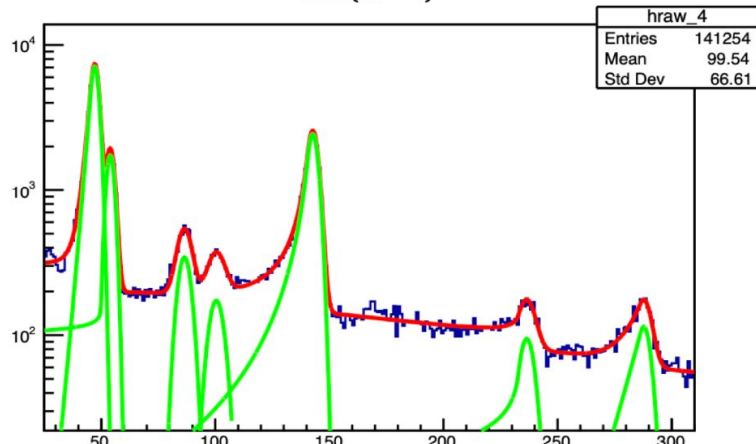
## Calibration line



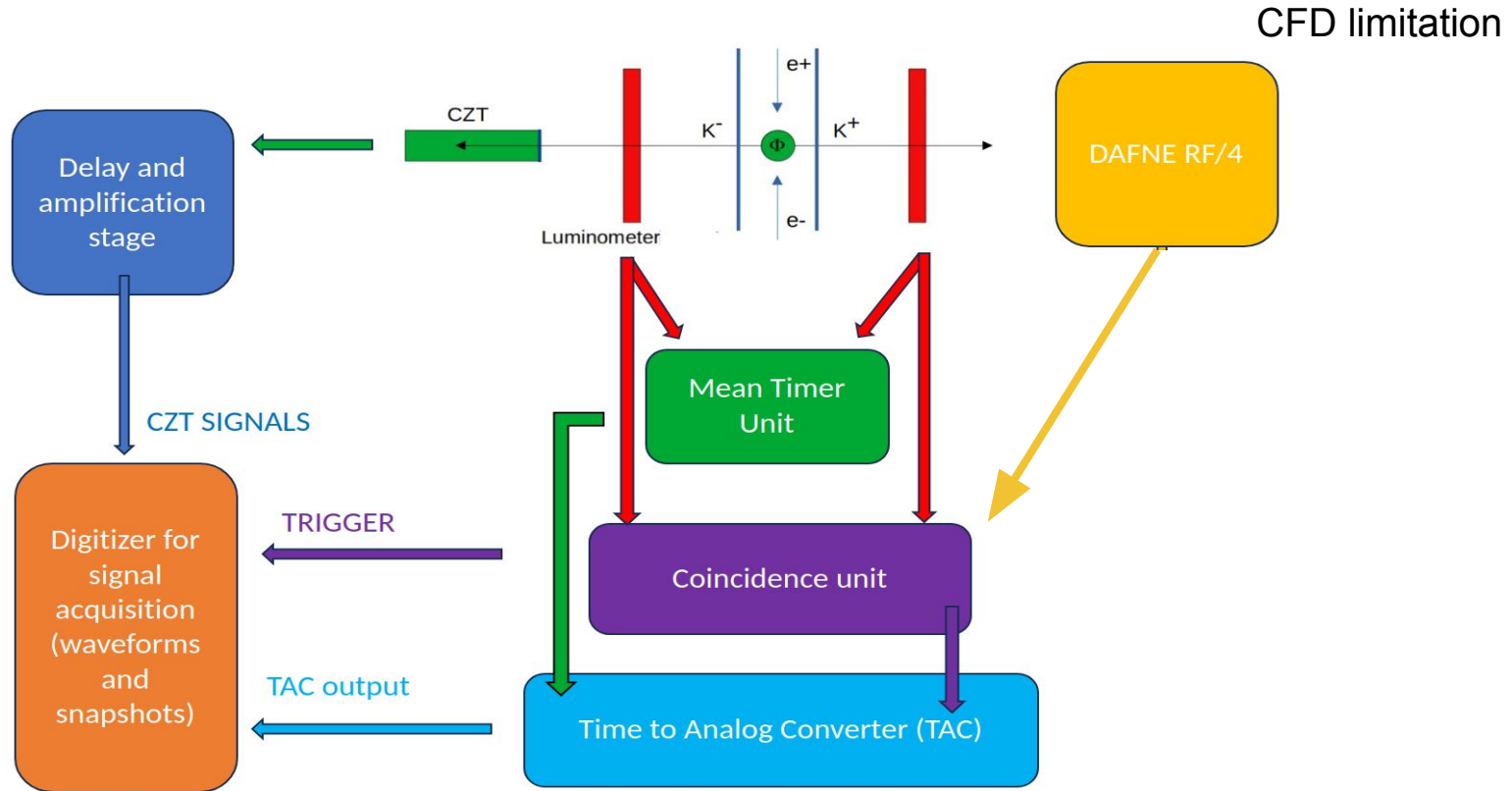
# RESIDUALS (Calibration Eu152)



adc {ch==4}



# DAQ general logic



# Importance of kaonic Atoms in QCD

Why are these measurements so important?

$$\epsilon_{1s}^H + \frac{i}{2}\Gamma_{1s}^H = 2\alpha^3\mu^2 a_{\bar{K}p} [1 - 2\alpha\mu(\ln\alpha - 1)a_{\bar{K}p} + \dots] \quad \epsilon_{1s}^D + \frac{i}{2}\Gamma_{1s}^D = 2\alpha^3\mu^2 a_{\bar{K}d} [1 - 2\alpha\mu(\ln\alpha - 1)a_{\bar{K}d} + \dots]$$

Antikaon-nucleon scattering lengths

$$a_{K^-p} = \frac{1}{2} [a_1 + a_0] \quad a_{\bar{K}n} = a_1$$

$$a_{\bar{K}d} = \frac{4[m_N + m_K]}{2m_N + m_K} Q + C$$

$$Q = \frac{1}{2} [a_{\bar{K}p} + a_{\bar{K}n}] = \frac{1}{4} [a_0 + 3a_1]$$

Isospin-dependent scattering lengths:  
either **input or output of phenomenological models**  
on low-energy QCD

**⇒ To fully disentangle the Isospin-dependent scattering lengths one needs the kaonic deuterium measurement**

(*Rev. Mod. Phys.*, **91**, June 2019)