

# Status report of the DIRAC experiment (PS 212)

*L. Nemenov*

SPS Committee, April 9, 2013

# DIRAC collaboration



**CERN**

*Geneva, Switzerland*



**Czech Technical University**

*Prague, Czech Republic*



**Institute of Physics ASCR**

*Prague, Czech Republic*



**Nuclear Physics Institute ASCR**

*Rez, Czech Republic*



**INFN-Laboratori Nazionali di Frascati**

*Frascati, Italy*



**University of Messina**

*Messina, Italy*



**KEK**

*Tsukuba, Japan*



**Kyoto University**

*Kyoto, Japan*



**Kyoto Sangyou University**

*Kyoto, Japan*



**Tokyo Metropolitan University**

*Tokyo, Japan*



**IFIN-HH**

*Bucharest, Romania*



**JINR**

*Dubna, Russia*



**SINP of Moscow State University**

*Moscow, Russia*



**IHEP**

*Protvino, Russia*



**Santiago de Compostela University**

*Santiago de Compostela, Spain*



**Bern University**

*Bern, Switzerland*



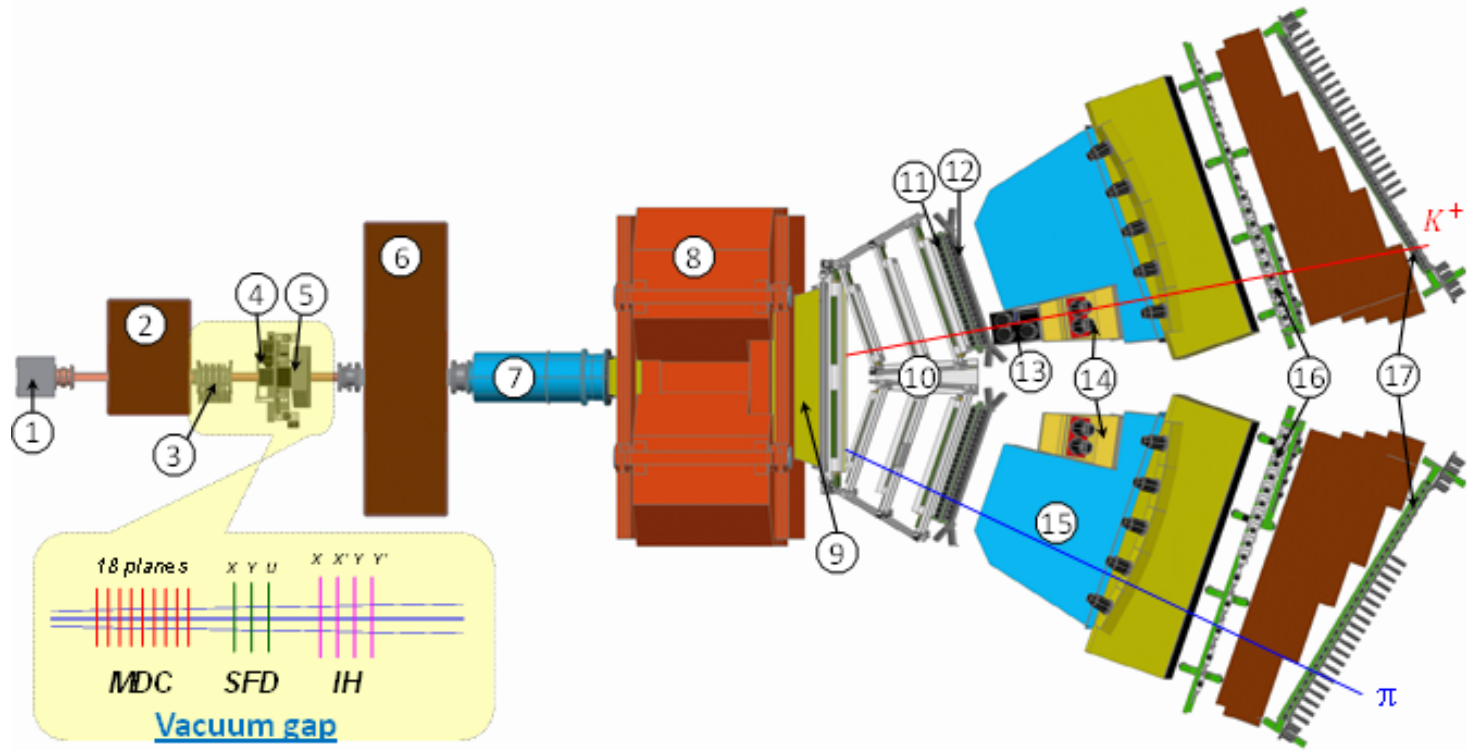
**Zurich University**

*Zurich, Switzerland*

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- 8. Generation of  $K^+\pi^-$ ,  $K^-\pi^+$  and  $\pi^+\pi^-$  atoms in p-nuclear interaction at proton beam momentum 24 GeV/c and 450 GeV/c.**

# Experimental setup



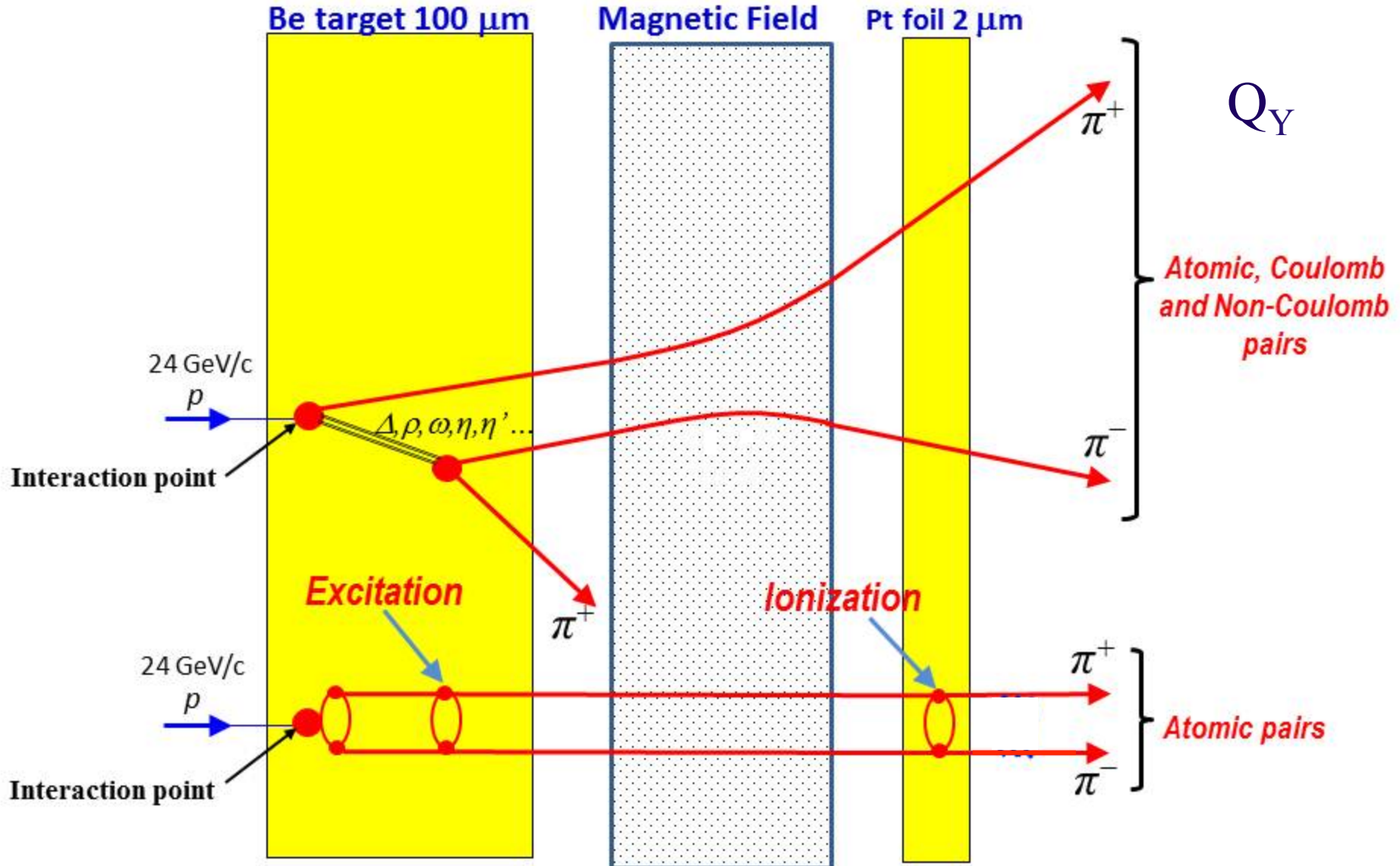
1 Target station with Ni foil; 2 First shielding; 3 Micro Drift Chambers; 4 Scintillating Fiber Detector; 5 Ionization Hodoscope; 6 Second Shielding; 7 Vacuum Tube; 8 Spectrometer Magnet; 9 Vacuum Chamber; 10 Drift Chambers; 11 Vertical Hodoscope; 12 Horizontal Hodoscope; 13 Aerogel Čerenkov; 14 Heavy Gas Čerenkov; 15 Nitrogen Čerenkov; 16 Preshower; 17 Muon Detector

# Long-lived $\pi^+\pi$ atoms

The observation of  $\pi\pi$  atom long-lived states opens the future possibility to measure the energy difference between  $ns$  and  $np$  states  $\Delta E(ns-np)$  and the value of  $\pi\pi$  scattering lengths  $|2a_0+a_2|$ .

If a resonance method can be applied for the  $\Delta E(ns-np)$  measurement, then the precision of  $\pi\pi$  scattering length measurement can be improved by one order of magnitude relative to the precision of other methods.

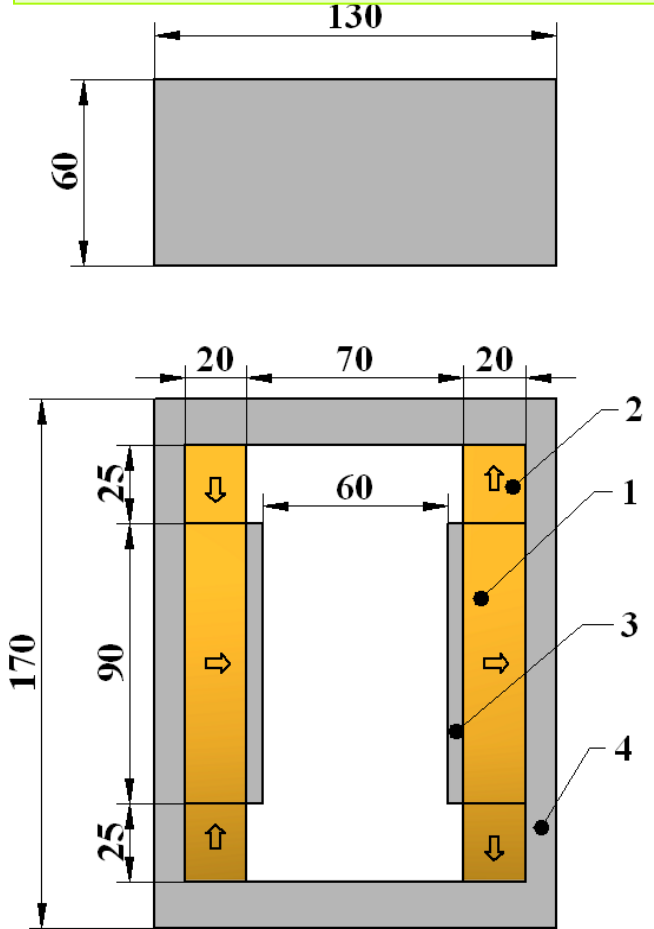
# Method for observing long-lived $A_{2\pi}$ with breakup Pt foil



$$l(2p) = 5.7 \text{ cm}, l(3p) = 19 \text{ cm}, l(4p) = 44 \text{ cm}, l(5p) = 87 \text{ cm}$$

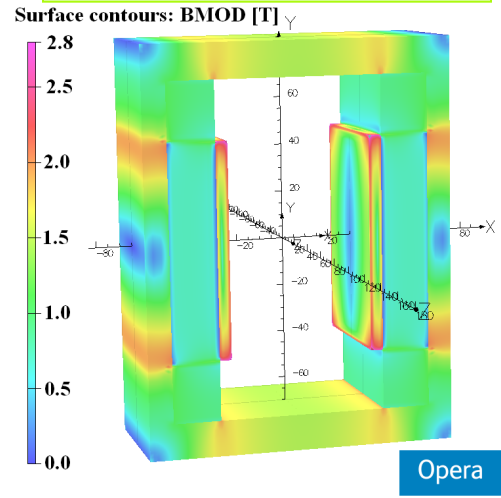
# Magnet was designed & constructed in CERN (TE/MCS/MNC)

Layout of the dipole magnet (arrows indicate the direction of magnetization)

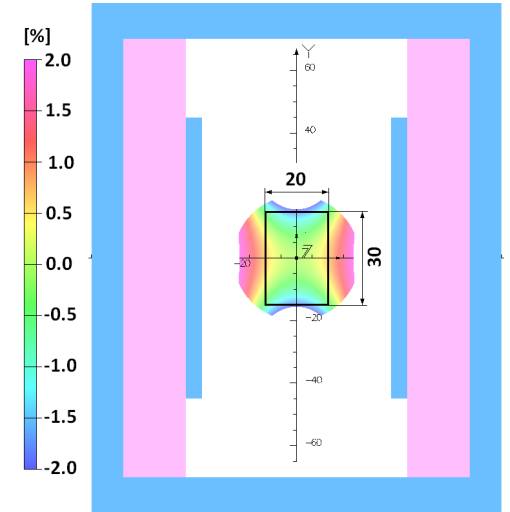


- 1- PM block Sm<sub>2</sub>Co<sub>17</sub>
- 2- PM block Sm<sub>2</sub>Co<sub>17</sub>
- 3- Pole AISI 1010
- 4- Return yoke AISI 1010

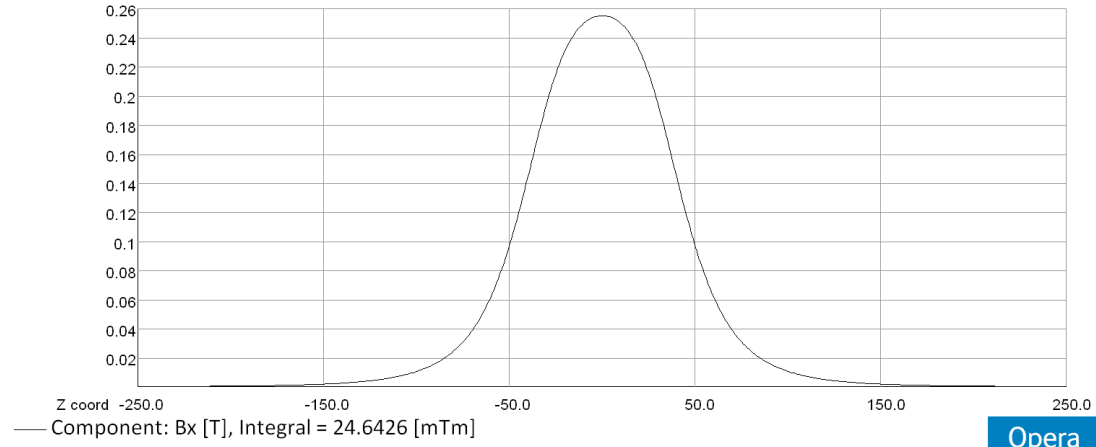
Opera 3D model with surface field distribution



Integrated horizontal field homogeneity inside the GFR X x Y = 20 mm x 30 mm:  
 $\Delta \int B_x dz / \int B_x(0,0,z) dz$  [%]

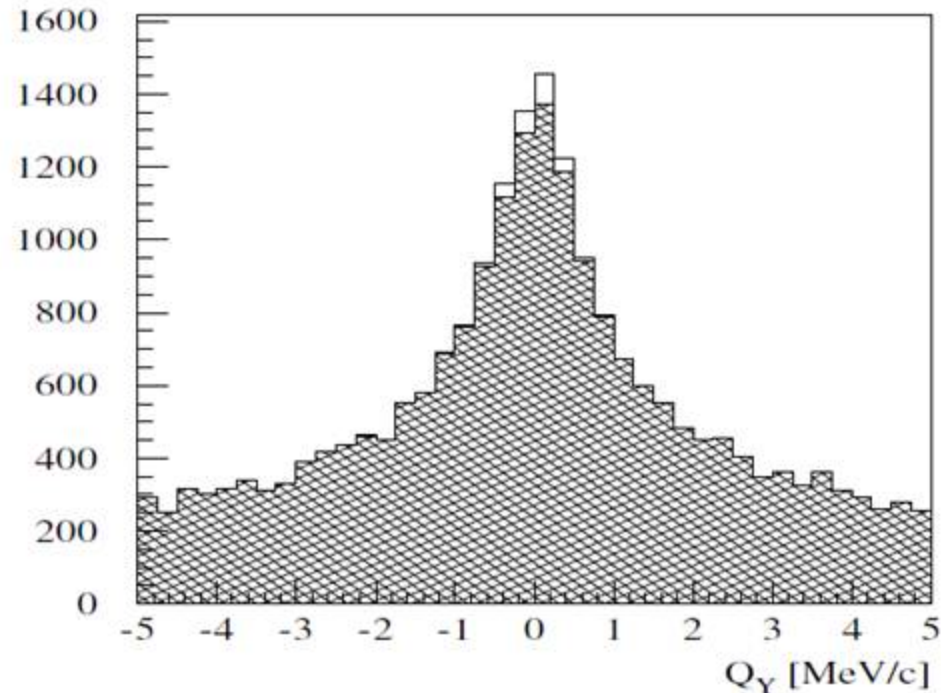


Horizontal field distribution along z-axis at X=Y=0 mm  
 $\int B_x(0,0,z) dz = 24.6 \times 10^{-3}$  [T·m]

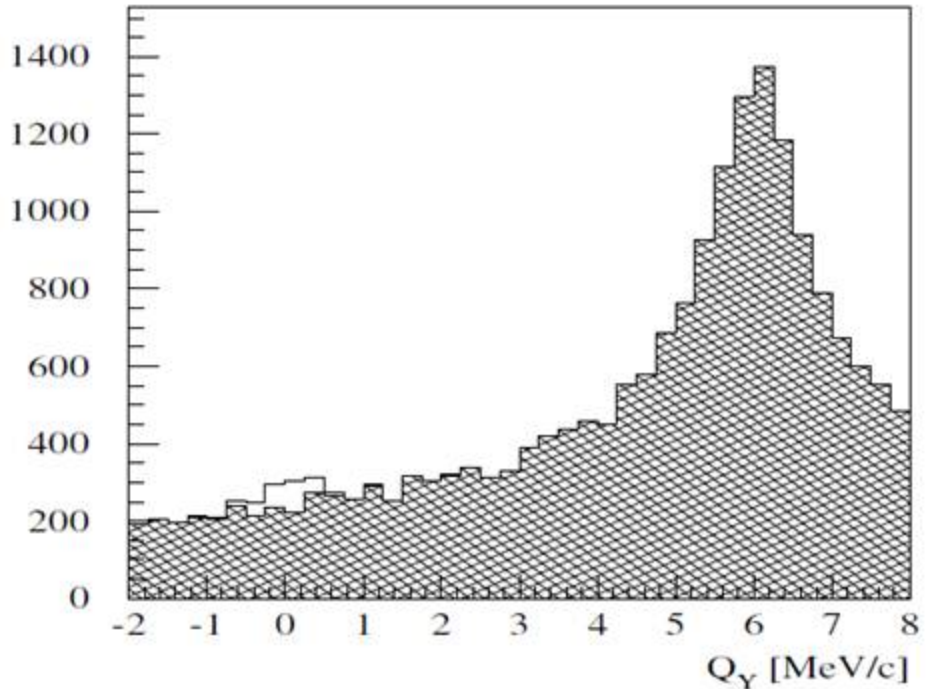


# Simulation of long-lived $A_{2\pi}$ observation

V. Yazkov



Without magnet

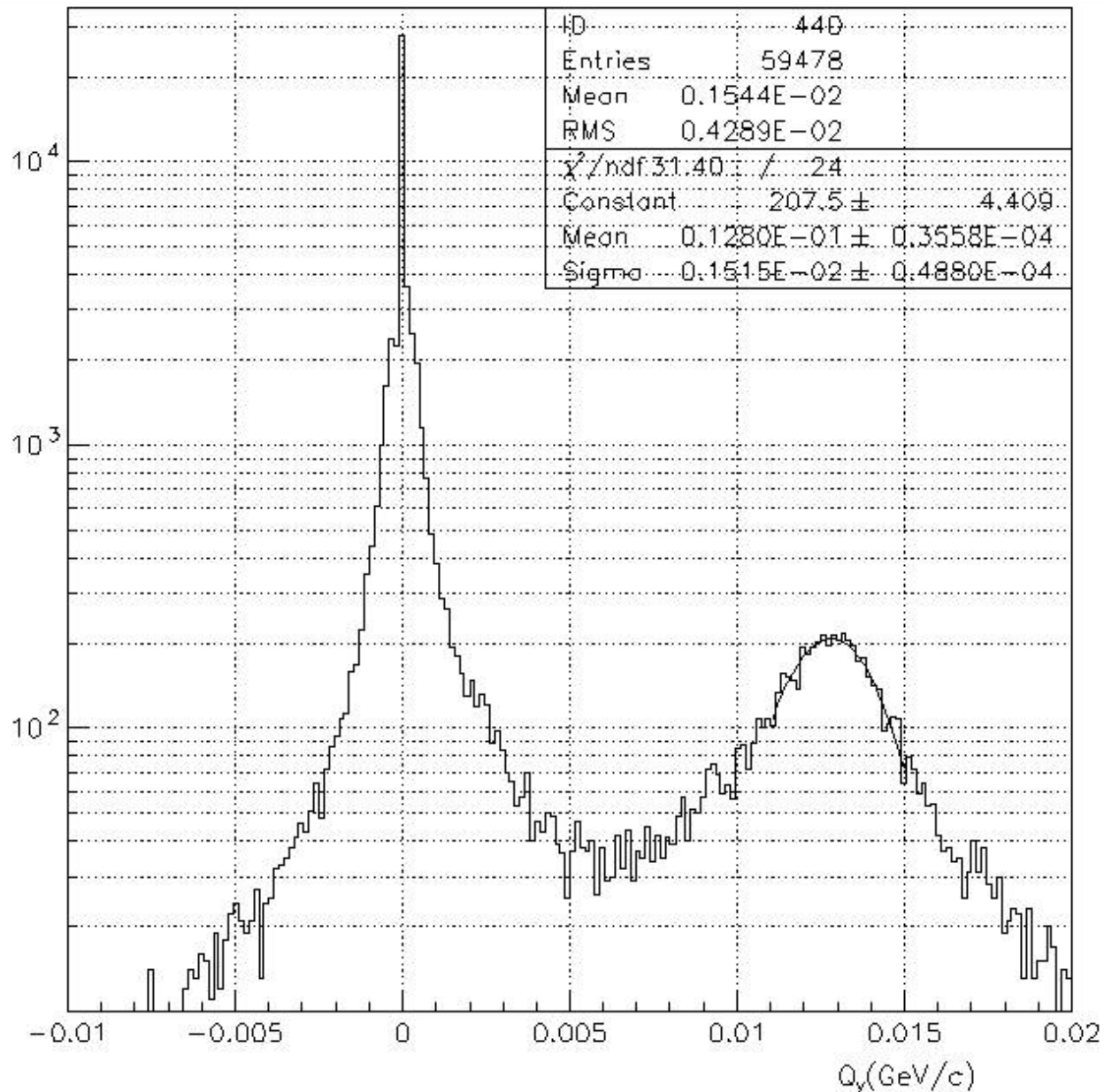


With magnet after Be target

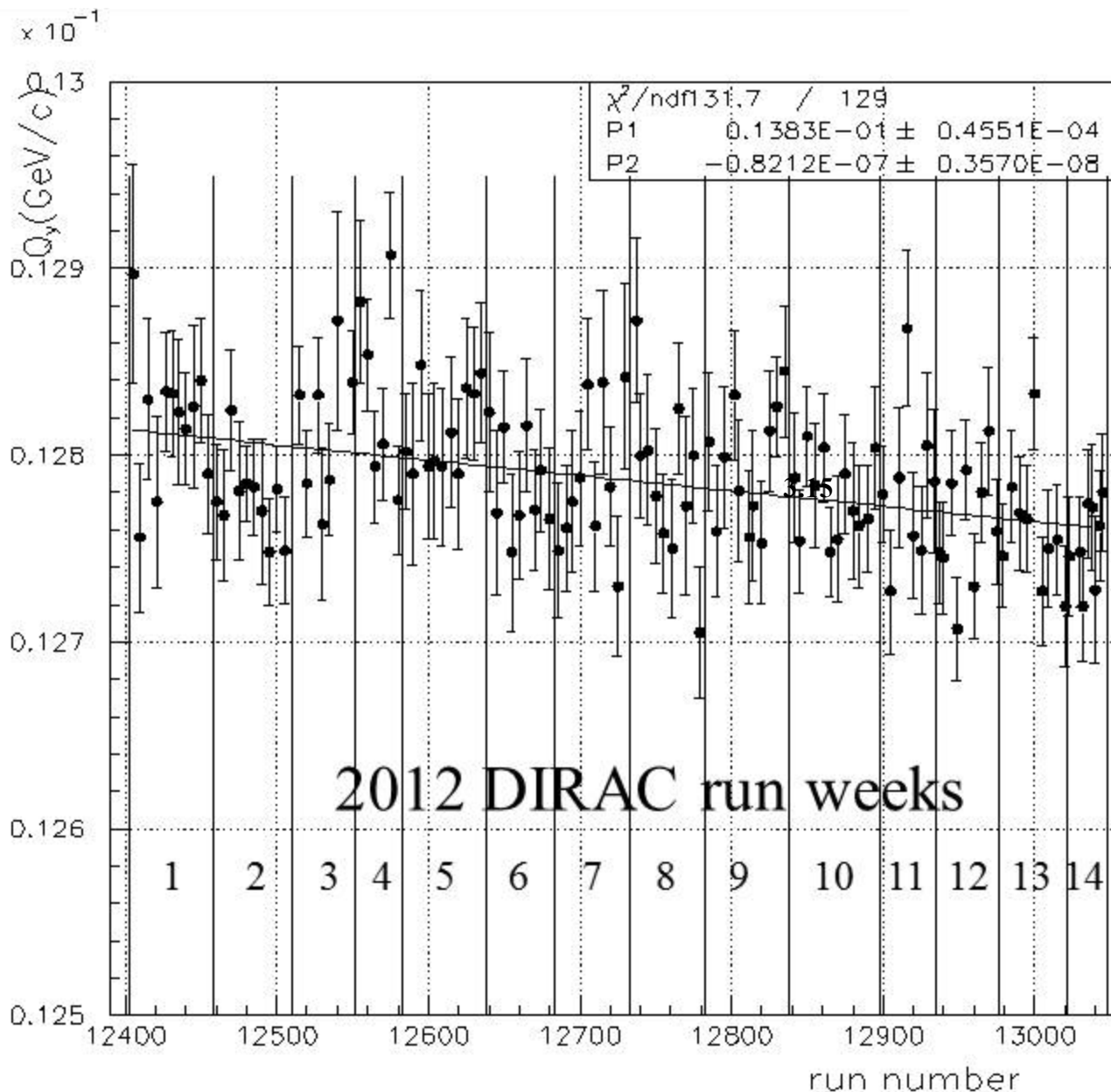
Simulated distribution of  $\pi^+\pi^-$  pairs over  $Q_Y$  with criteria:  
 $|Q_X| < 1$  MeV/c,  $|Q_L| < 1$  MeV/c. Atomic pairs from long-lived atoms (light area) above background (hatched area) produced in Beryllium target.



# $Q_Y$ distribution for $e^+e^-$ pair



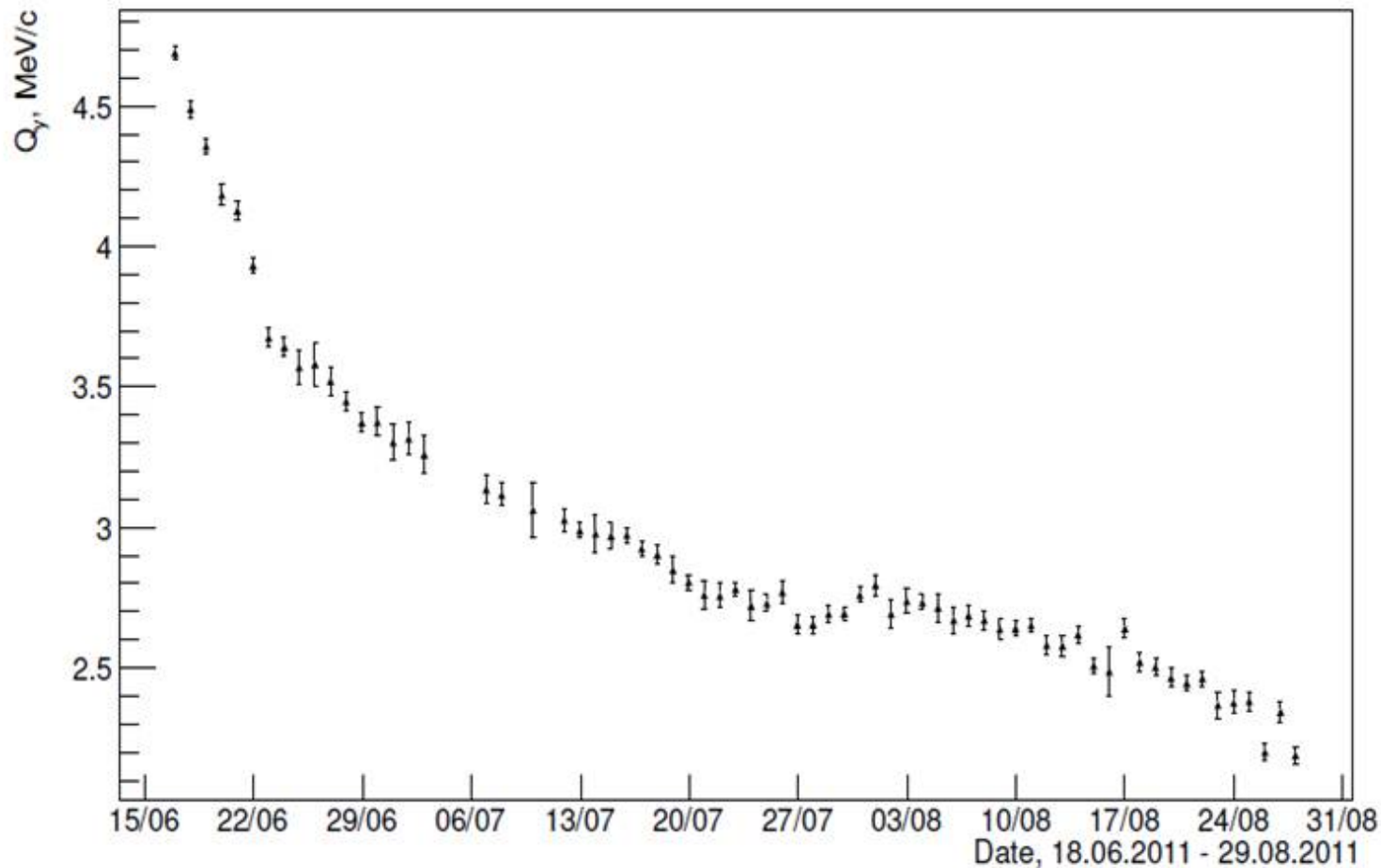
# Magnetic field stability measured by $Q_Y$ of the $e^+e^-$ pair



$\text{Sm}_2\text{Co}_{17}$

$$\frac{\Delta Q_Y}{Q_Y} = 0.26\%$$

# Degradation of the old magnet in June-August 2011



**Nd-Fe-B**

$$\frac{\Delta Q_Y}{Q_Y} > 50\%$$

The position of the second peak in  $Q_Y$  distributions of  $e^+e^-$  pairs versus dates.

# Schedule of 2011 and 2012 runs data process and analysis

**Run 2011 ntuples are ready.**

**Run 2012 ntuples will be ready in June 2013.**

**Preliminary results on the search for long-lived  $\pi\pi$  atoms are planned for January 2014.**

**The expected atomic pair signal should be better than  $6\sigma$ .**

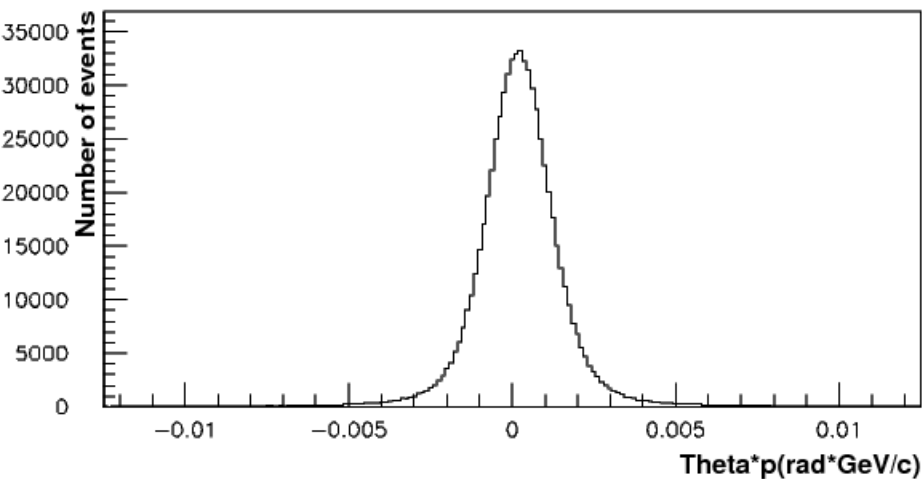
# $\pi^+\pi^-$ data

Statistics for the measurement of  $|a_0 - a_2|$  scattering length difference and expected precision

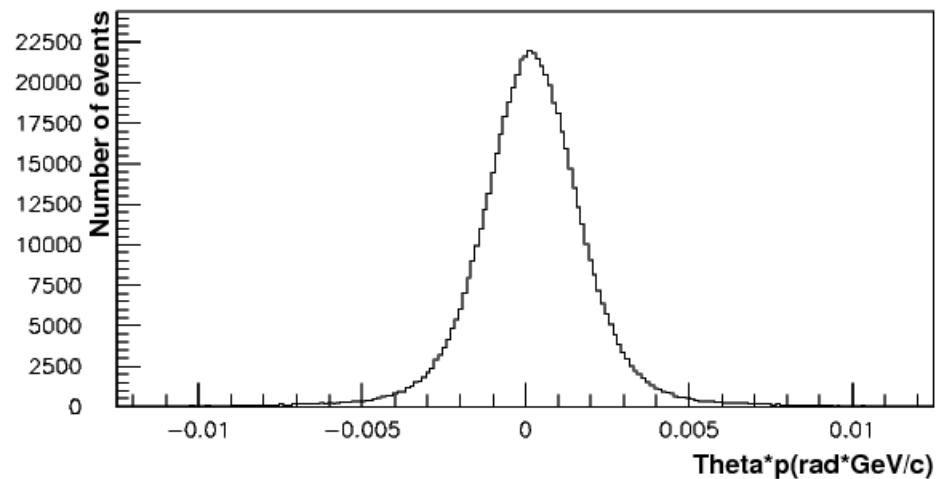
Year	$n_A$	$\delta_{\text{stat}}(\%)$	$\Delta_{\text{syst}}(\%)$	$\delta_{\text{syst}}(\%)_{\text{M/S}}$	$\delta_{\text{tot}}(\%)$
2001-2003	21000	3.1	3.0	2.5	4.3
2008-2010*	23000	3.1	3.0	2.5	4.3
2001-2003	44000	2.2	3.0	2.5	3.7
2008-2010			2.1	1.25	3.0

\* There is 30% of the data with a higher background whose implication will be investigated.

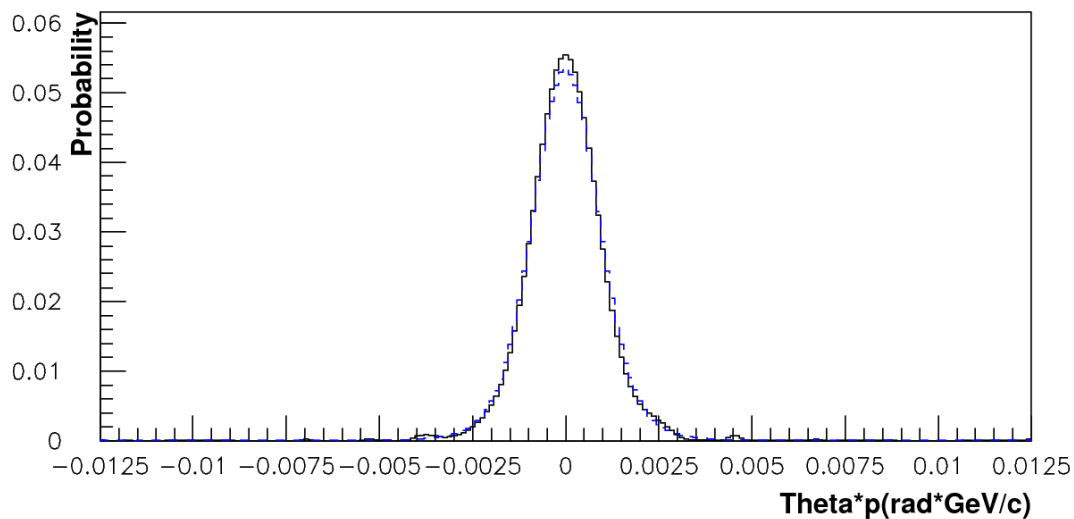
# Analysis of multiple scattering in Ni (100 $\mu\text{m}$ )



DC system resolution without scatter



DC system resolution with scatter



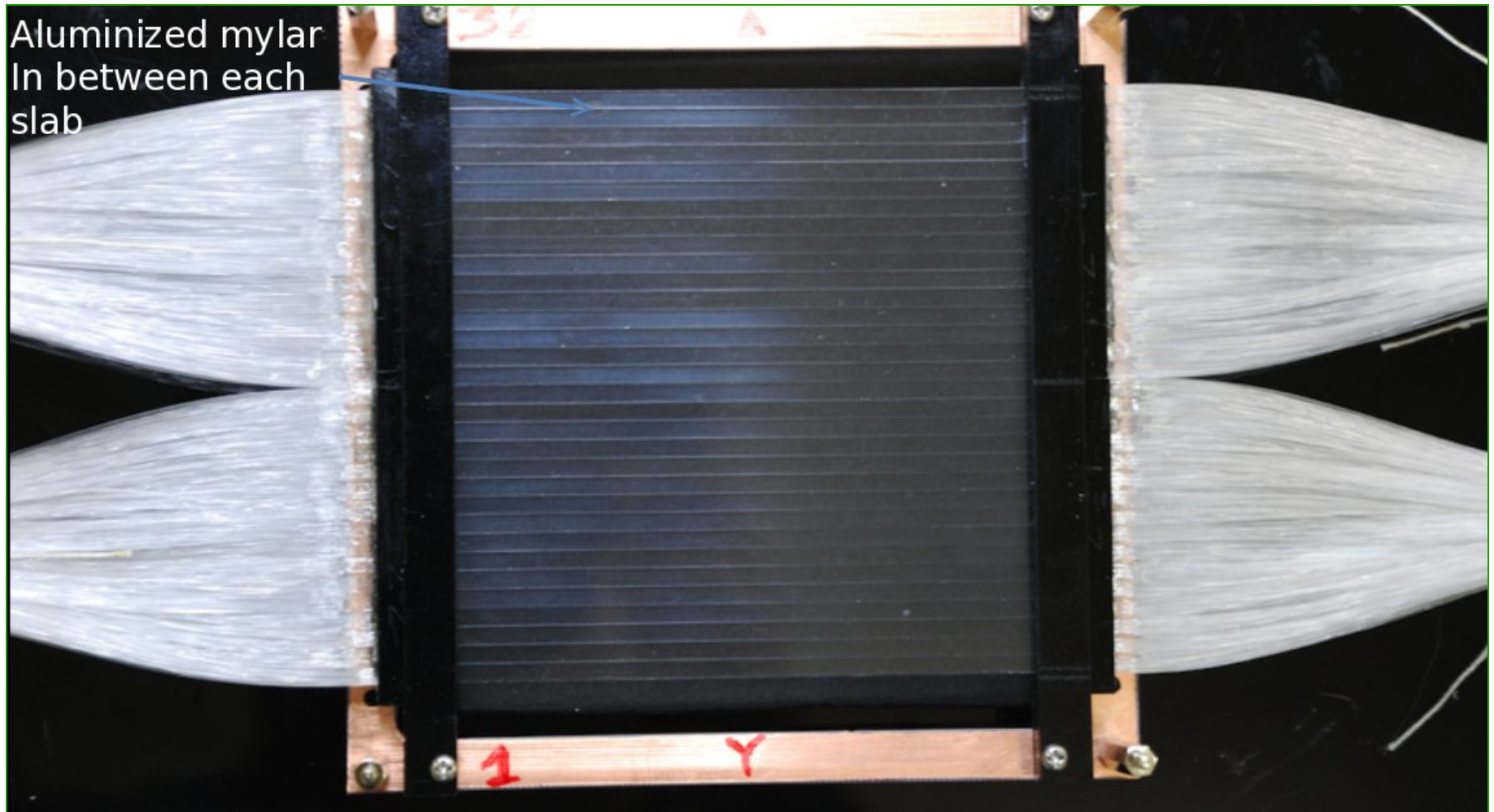
Reconstructed and simulated (blue) MS distributions

$\frac{\delta\theta}{\theta} \approx 0.7\%$   
will be less  
than 0.5%

Run 2011. Analysis of multiple scattering in Ni (100  $\mu\text{m}$ ). Only events with one track in each projection were analyzed.  $\delta\theta/\theta \sim 0.7\%$ . After including in the analysis of all available events the statistics will be doubled and the expected value will be less than 0.5 %.

# New $dE/dx$ counter

Scintillator plane for new IH



# New dE/dx counter

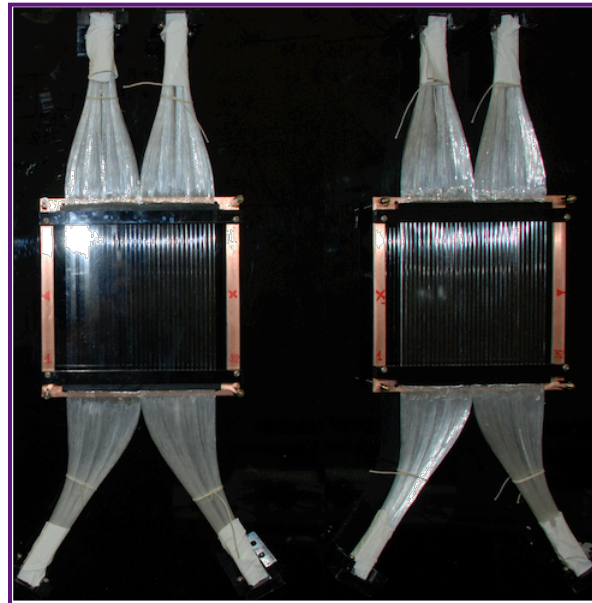
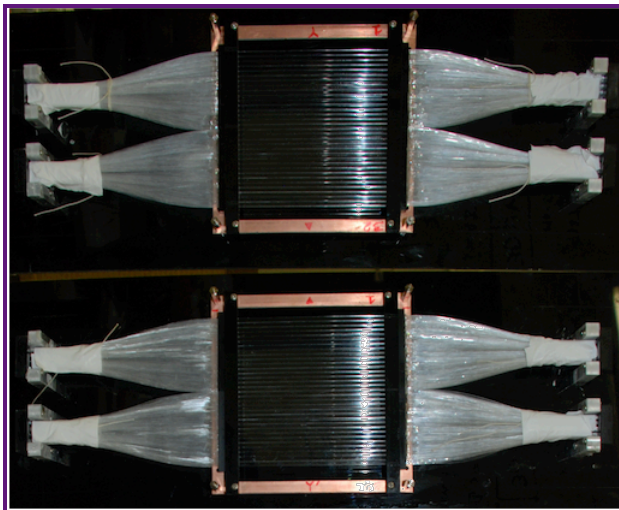
Counter needed to separate the single minimum-ionizing particles (MIPs) and DIRAC pairs (2 MIPs with very small distances).

Required to

- Give constant pulse-height independently of the hit position (Landau tail effect can be removed using multiple layers) with a good resolution,
- Works as a front-end detector accepting about  $3 \times 10^7$  particles/s on a  $10 \times 10 \text{ cm}^2$  plane,
- Have a good timing resolution.

Solution: Use of

- 32 scintillator slabs with width: 3.5 mm and thickness: 2 mm, read-out from 2 ends,
- Read-out with flexible 28 clear fibres attached to each end of a slab,
- PMT with a ultra bialkali photocathode (Hamamatsu H6568Mod III),
- F1-TDC-ADC to record timing and pulse-height of each hit.



Number of  
photoelectrons  $>20$   
 $\sigma_t \approx 200 \text{ ps}$



# DIRAC dismantling

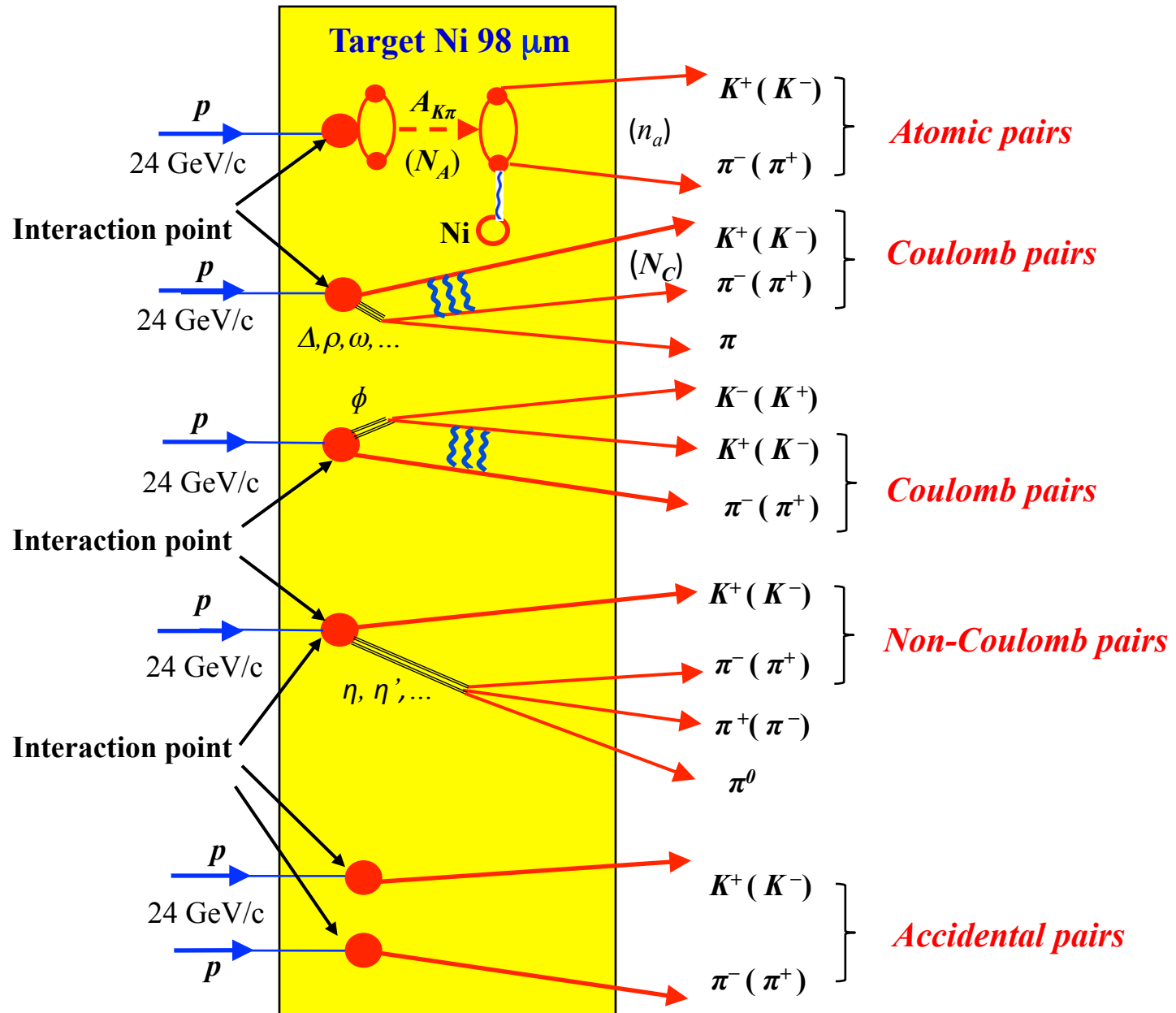


February 2013

April 2013

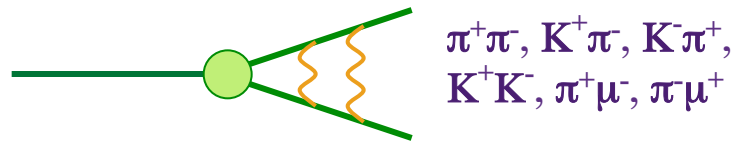


# Method of $\pi\pi$ and $K\pi$ atom observation and investigation



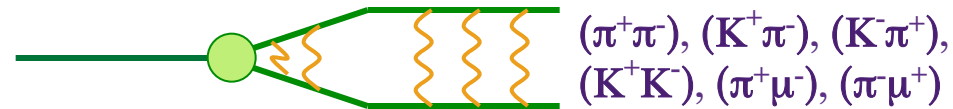
# Coulomb pairs and atoms

For charged pairs from short-lived sources and with small relative momentum  $Q$  there is a strong Coulomb attraction in the final state. This interaction increases the production yield of the free pairs with  $Q$  decreasing and also creates atoms.



$\pi^+\pi^-, K^+\pi^-, K^-\pi^+,$   
 $K^+K^-, \pi^+\mu^-, \pi^-\mu^+$

Coulomb pairs



$(\pi^+\pi^-), (K^+\pi^-), (K^-\pi^+),$   
 $(K^+K^-), (\pi^+\mu^-), (\pi^-\mu^+)$

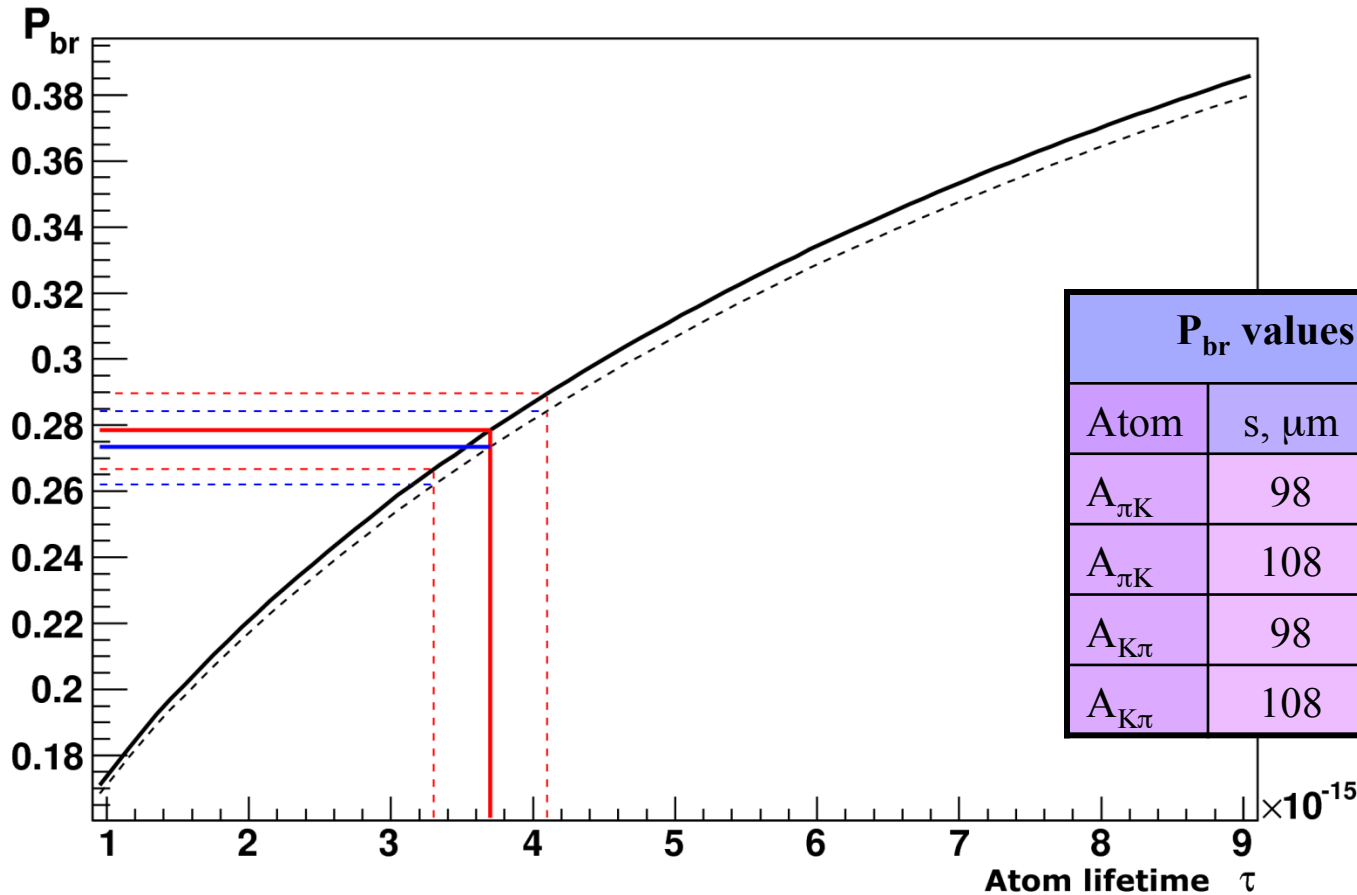
Atoms

There is a precise ratio between the number of produced Coulomb pairs ( $N_C$ ) with small  $Q$  and the number of atoms ( $N_A$ ) produced simultaneously with these Coulomb pairs:

$$N_A = K(Q_0)N_C (Q \leq Q_0), \frac{\delta K(Q_0)}{K(Q_0)} \leq 10^{-2}$$

$$n_A \dots \text{atomic pairs number: } P_{\text{br}} = \frac{n_A}{N_A}$$

# Break-up dependencies $P_{br}$ from atoms lifetime for $K^+ \pi^-$ atom ( $A_{K\pi}$ ) and $K^- \pi^+$ atom ( $A_{\pi K}$ )

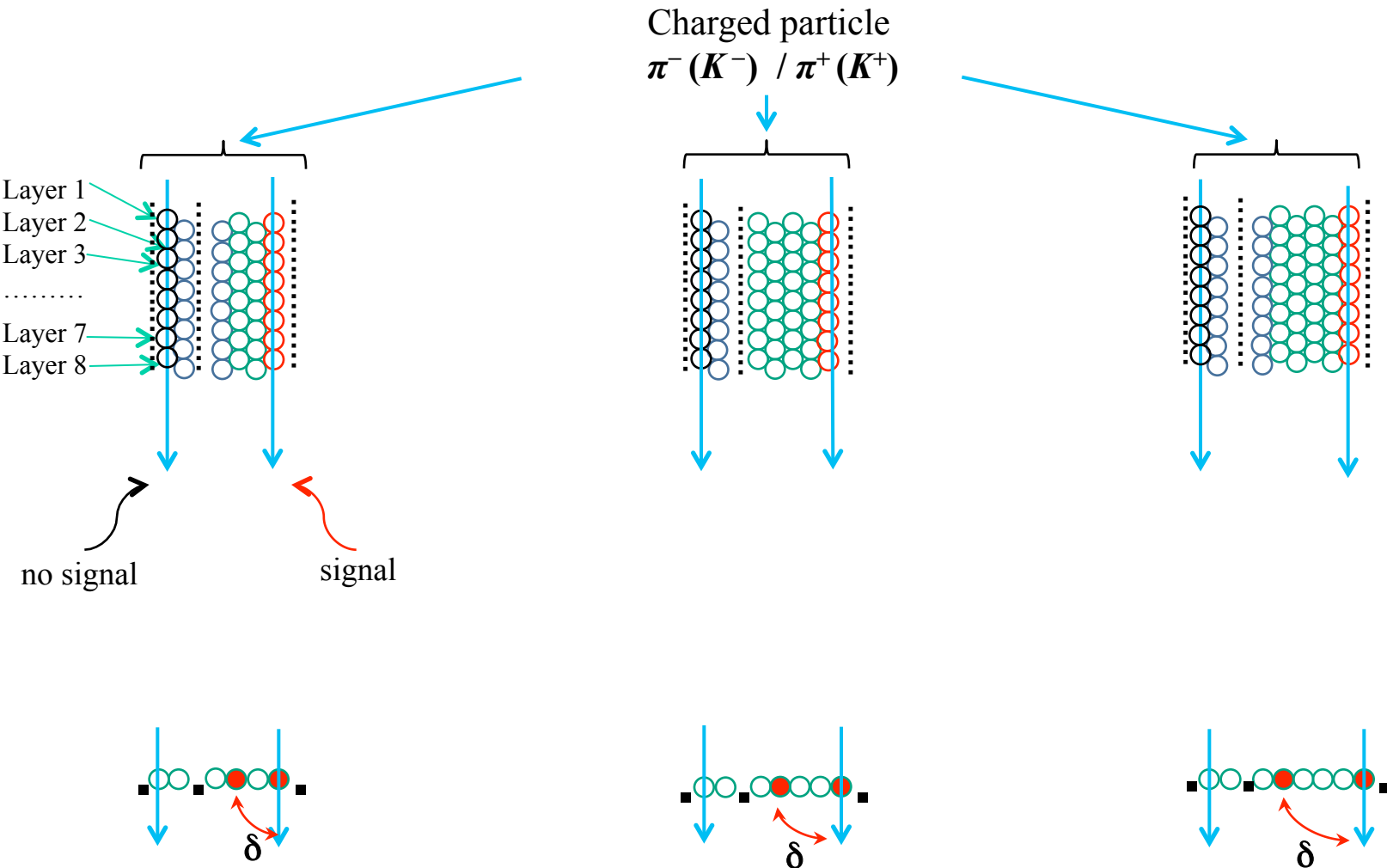


$P_{br}$ values corresponding to $\tau_{1S}^{th}$				
Atom	s, $\mu\text{m}$	$P_{br}$	$P_{br}-\sigma$	$P_{br}+\sigma$
$A_{\pi K}$	98	0.274	0.263	0.285
$A_{\pi K}$	108	0.278	0.267	0.290
$A_{K\pi}$	98	0.269	0.258	0.280
$A_{K\pi}$	108	0.273	0.262	0.284

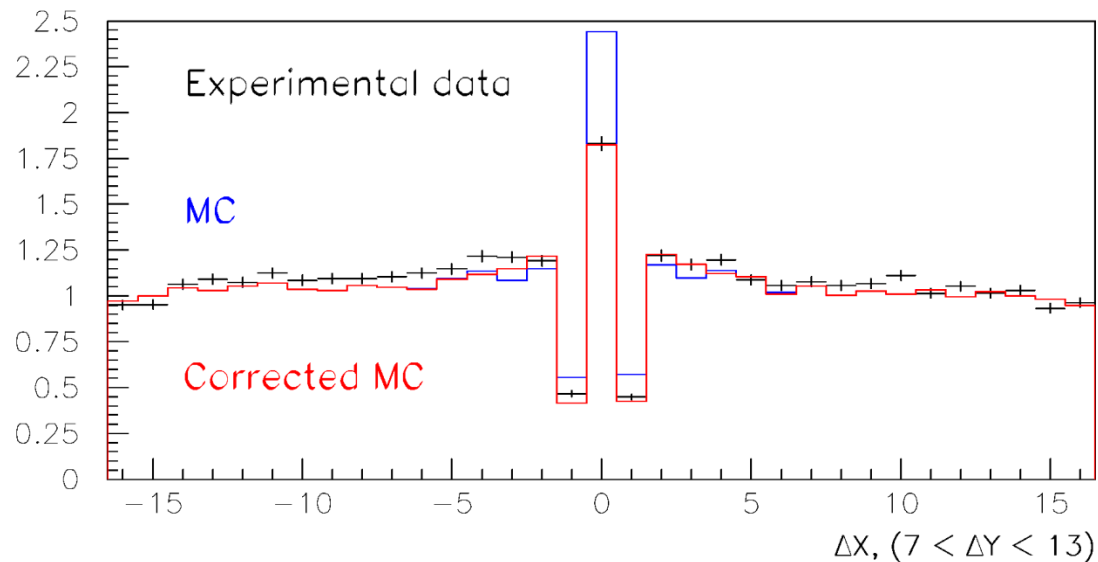
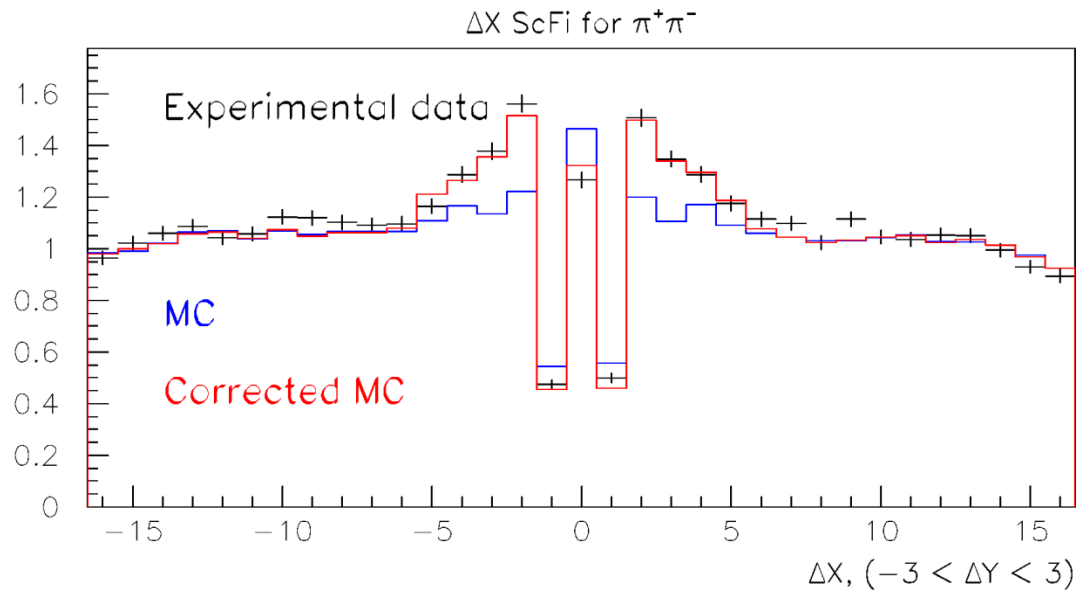
Probability of breakup as a function of lifetime in the ground state for  $A_{\pi K}$  (solid line) and  $A_{K\pi}$  atoms (dashed line) in the Ni target of thickness 108  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Average momentum of  $A_{K\pi}$  and  $A_{\pi K}$  are 6.4 GeV/c and 6.5 GeV/c, accordingly.

# Mechanism of production of false pairs with small $Q_T$

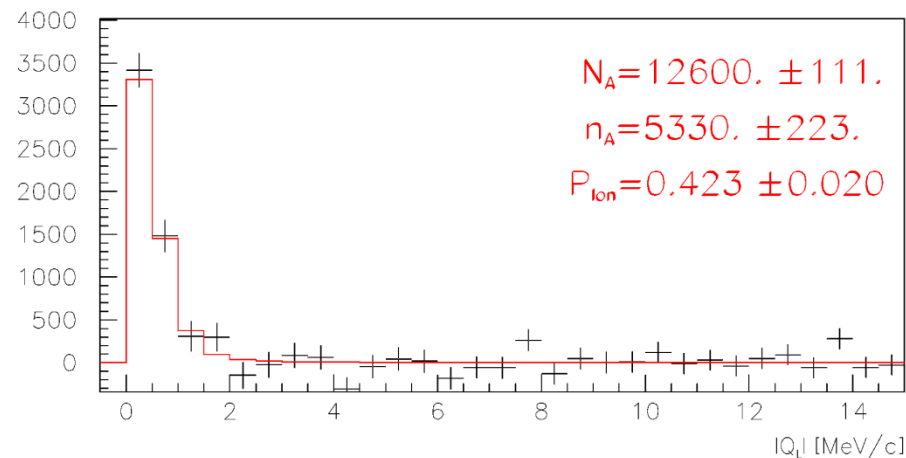
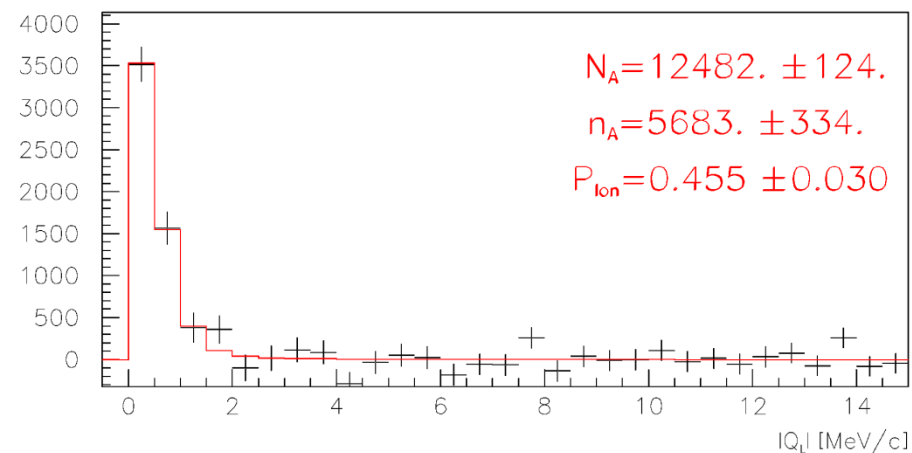
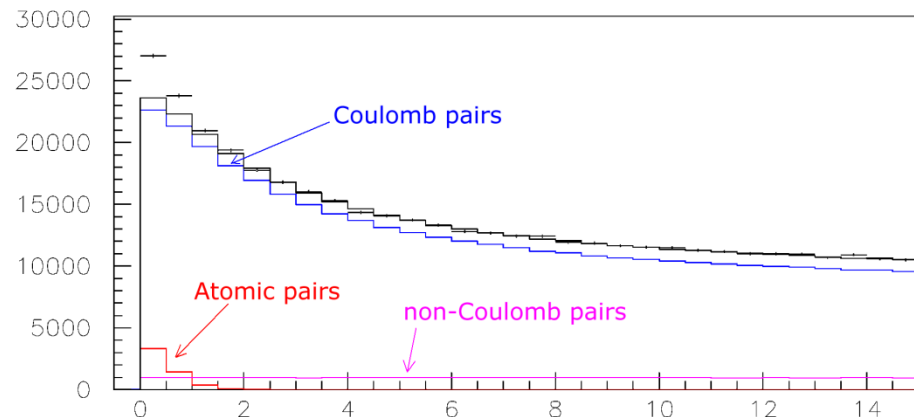
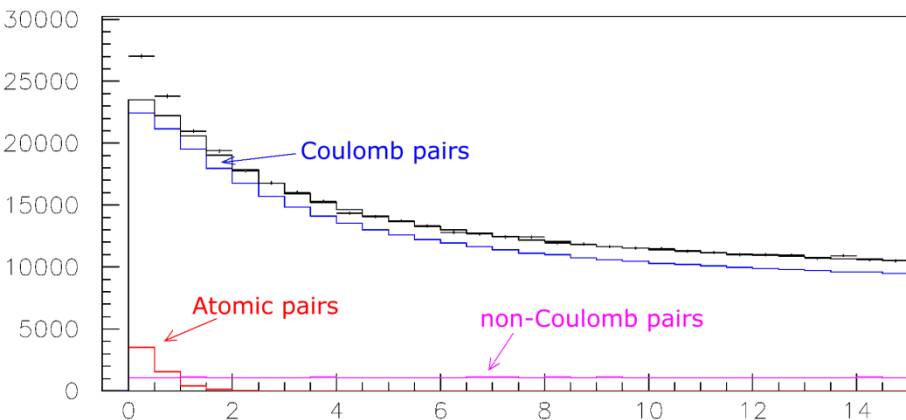


# Distribution of $\pi^+\pi^-$ pairs without Coulomb peak ( $Q_L > 10$ MeV/c) over distance between tracks in X-plane of SFD



# $\pi^+\pi^-$ atoms, run 2008

Run 2008, statistics with low and medium background (2/3 of all statistics).  
Point-like production of all particles.

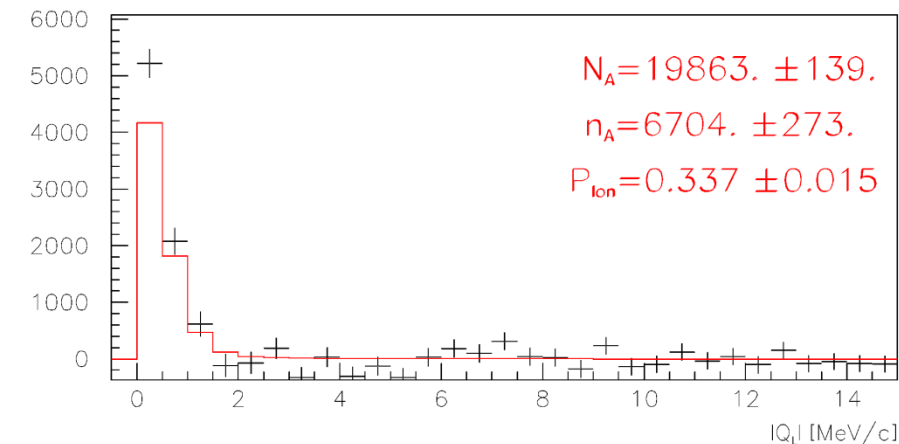
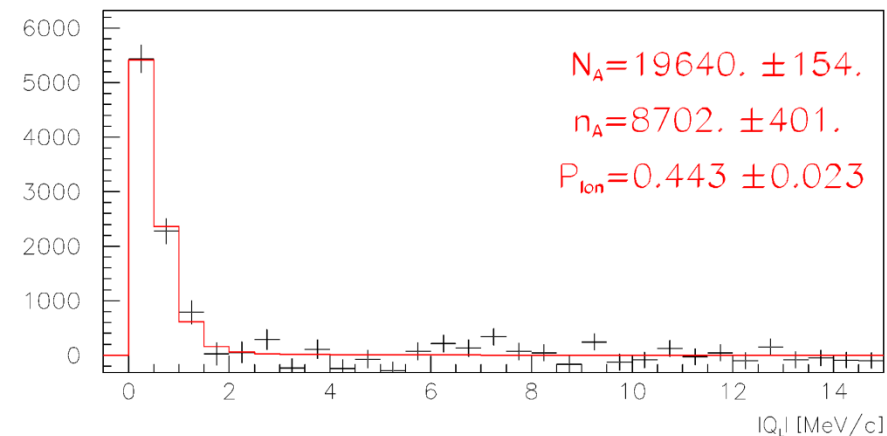
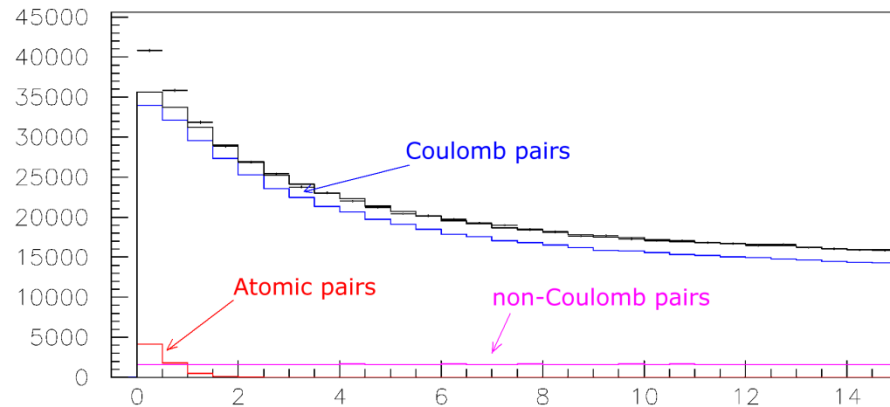
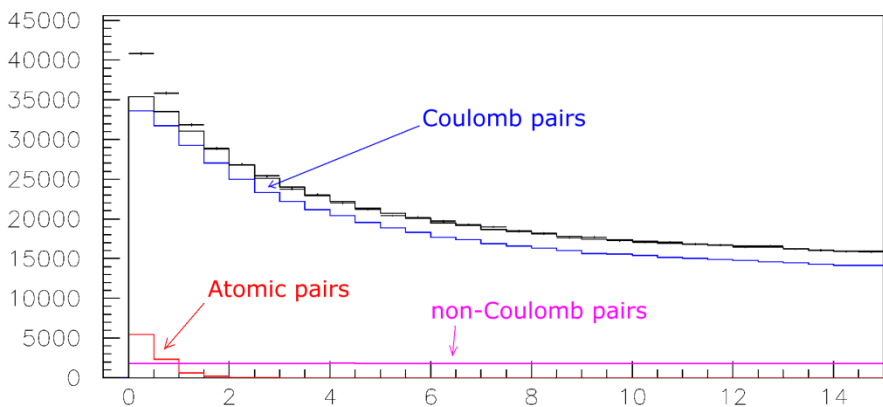


Analysis on  $Q_L, Q_T < 4$  MeV/c

Analysis on  $Q_L - Q_T, Q_T < 4$  MeV/c

# $\pi^+\pi^-$ atoms, run 2009

Run 2009, statistics with low and medium background (2/3 of all statistics).  
Point-like production of all particles.



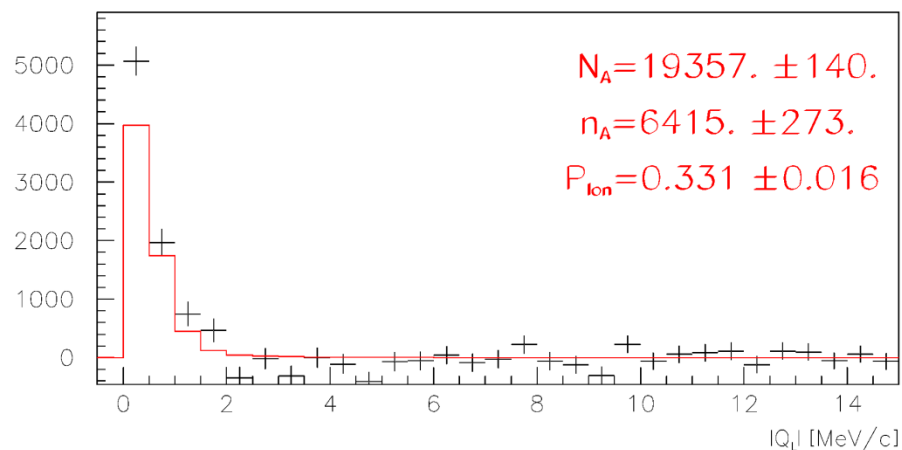
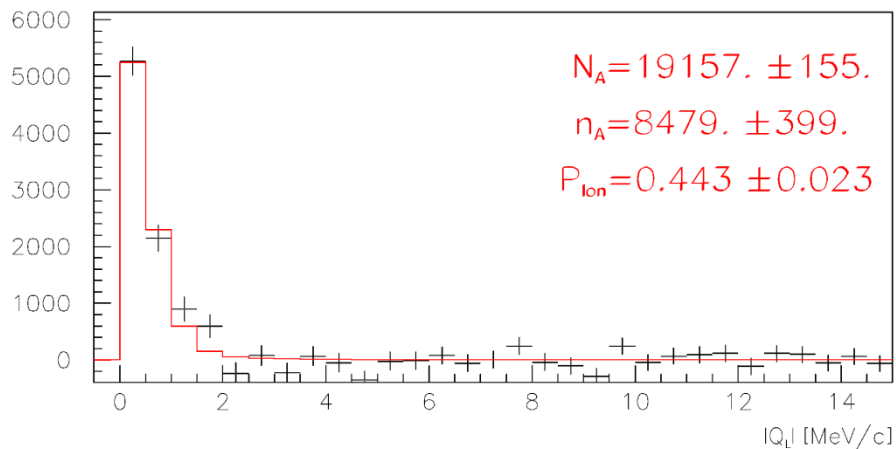
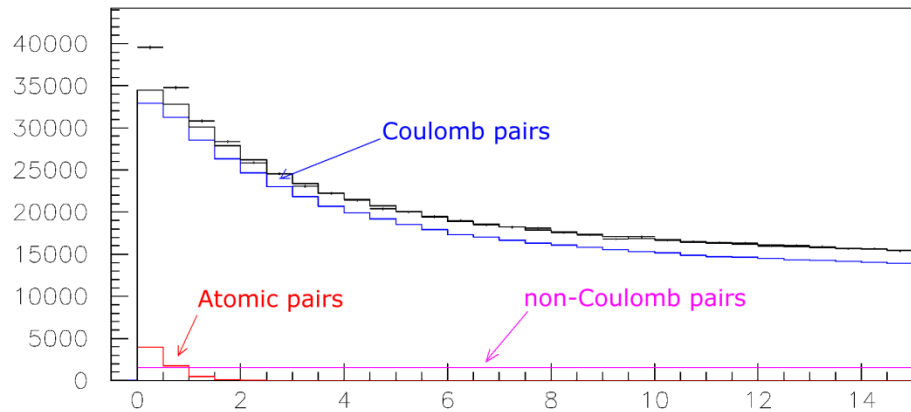
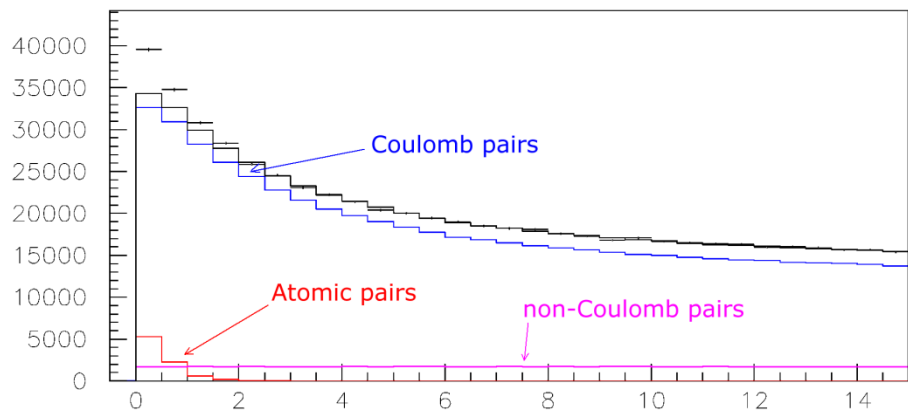
Analysis on  $Q_L, Q_T < 4$  MeV/c

Analysis on  $Q_L - Q_T, Q_T < 4$  MeV/c



# $\pi^+\pi^-$ atoms, run 2010

Run 2010, statistics with low and medium background (2/3 of all statistics).  
Point-like production of all particles.

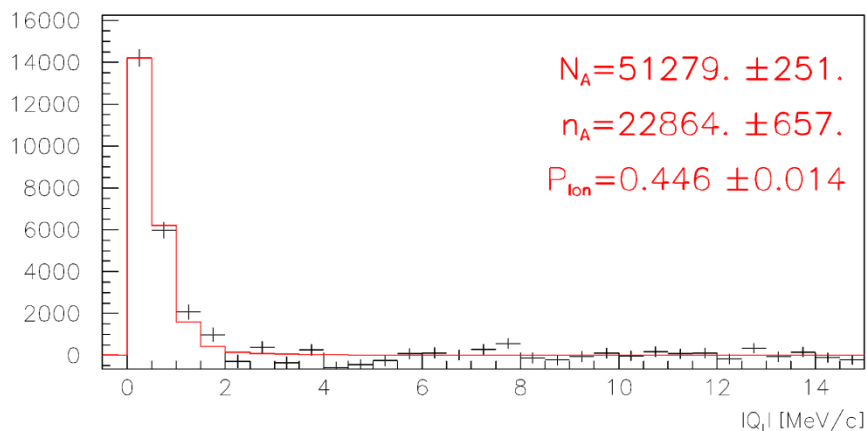
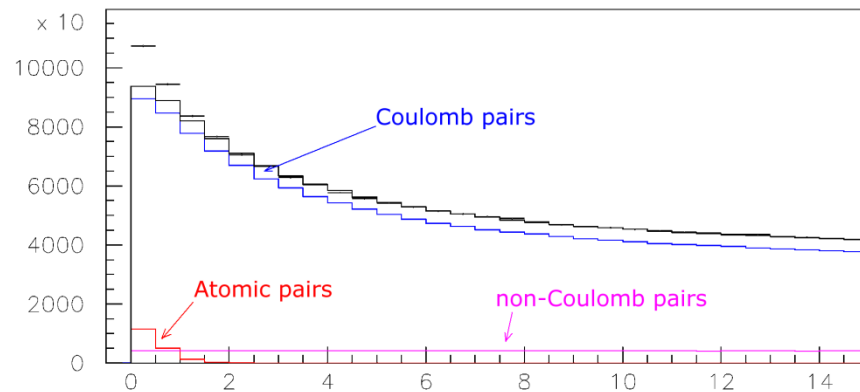
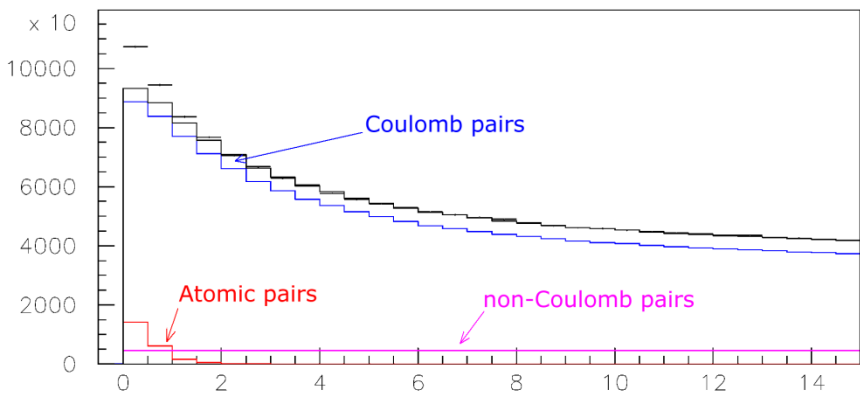


Analysis on  $Q_L, Q_T < 4$  MeV/c

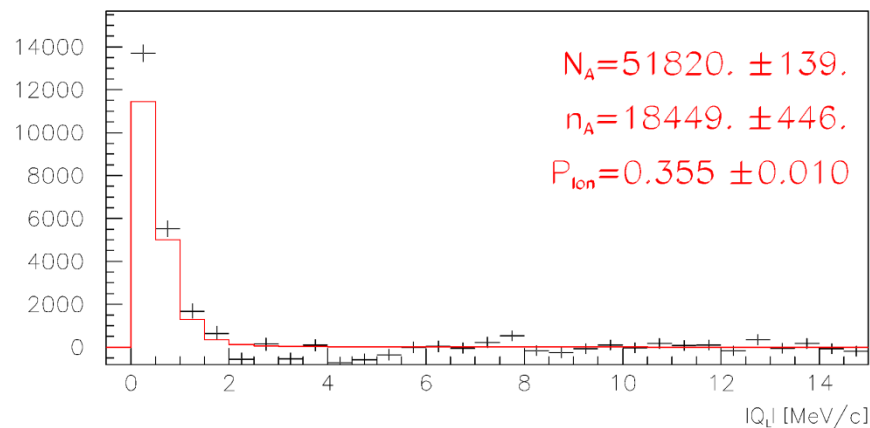
Analysis on  $Q_L - Q_T, Q_T < 4$  MeV/c

# $\pi^+\pi^-$ atoms, run 2008-2010

Run 2008-2010, statistics with low and medium background (2/3 of all statistics).  
Point-like production of all particles.



Analysis on  $Q_L, Q_T < 4$  MeV/c



Analysis on  $Q_L - Q_T, Q_T < 4$  MeV/c

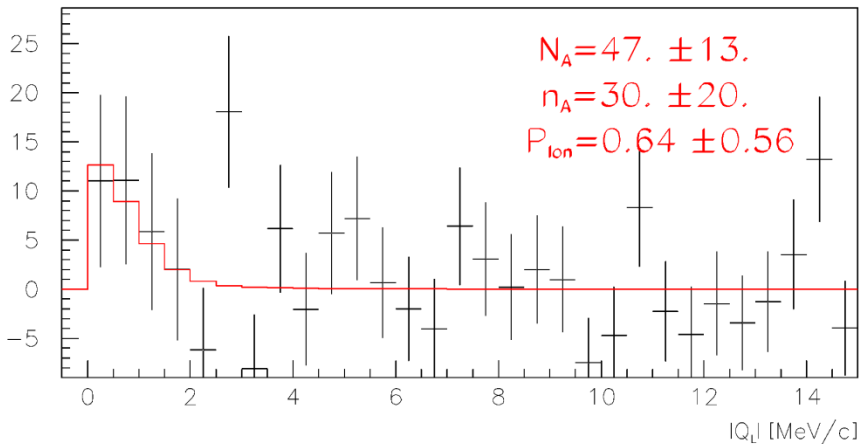
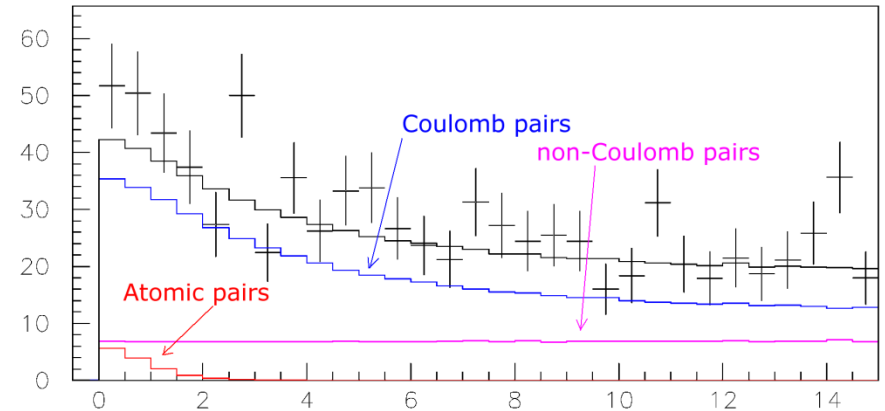
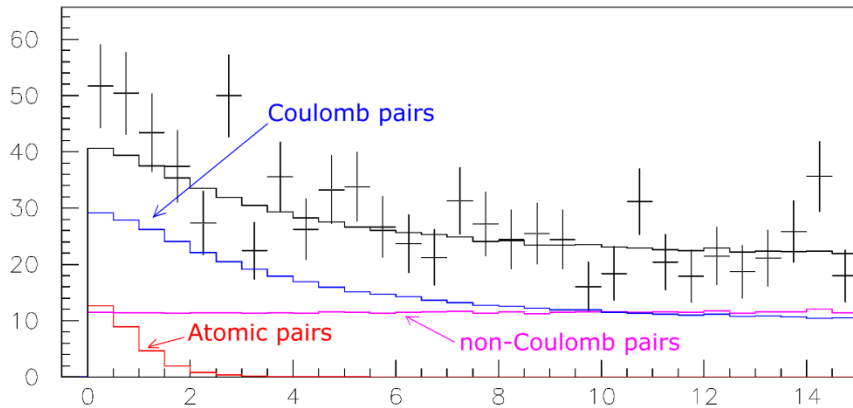
$P_{\text{br}} (2001-2003) = 0.446 \pm 0.0093$

# $\pi^+\pi^-$ pair analysis

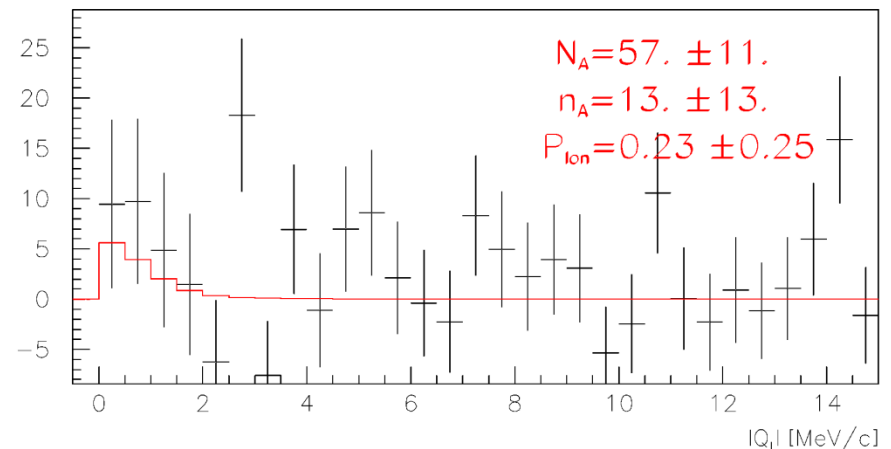
	2008	2009	2010
$N_A(Q_L)$	$12480\pm 120$	$19640\pm 150$	$19160\pm 160$
$N_A(Q_L-Q_T)$	$12600\pm 110$	$19860\pm 140$	$19360\pm 140$
$n_A(Q_L)$	$5680\pm 330$	$8700\pm 400$	$8480\pm 400$
$n_A(Q_L-Q_T)$	$5330\pm 220$	$6700\pm 270$	$6420\pm 270$
$P_{br}(Q_L)$	$0.455\pm 0.030$	$0.443\pm 0.023$	$0.443\pm 0.023$
$P_{br}(Q_L-Q_T)$	$0.423\pm 0.020$	$0.337\pm 0.015$	$0.331\pm 0.016$
$P_{br}(2001-2003)=0.446\pm 0.0093$			

# $\pi^+\text{K}^-$ atoms, run 2008

Run 2008, statistics with low and medium background (2/3 of all statistics).  
Point-like production of all particles.



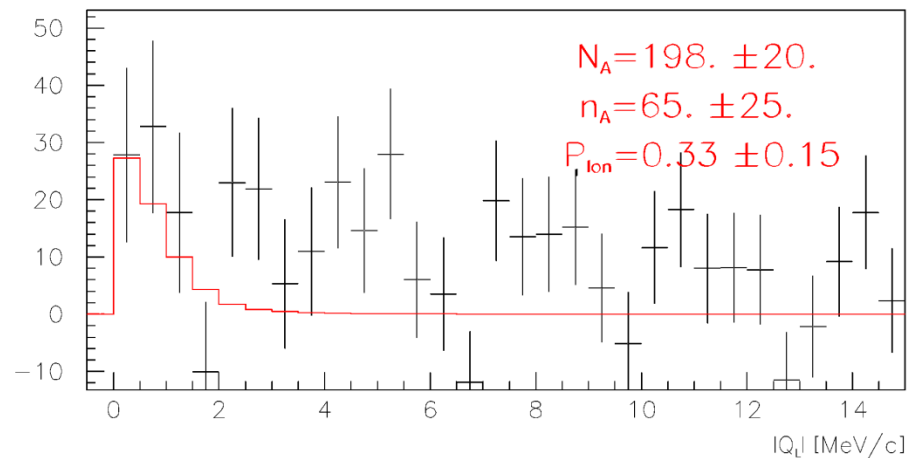
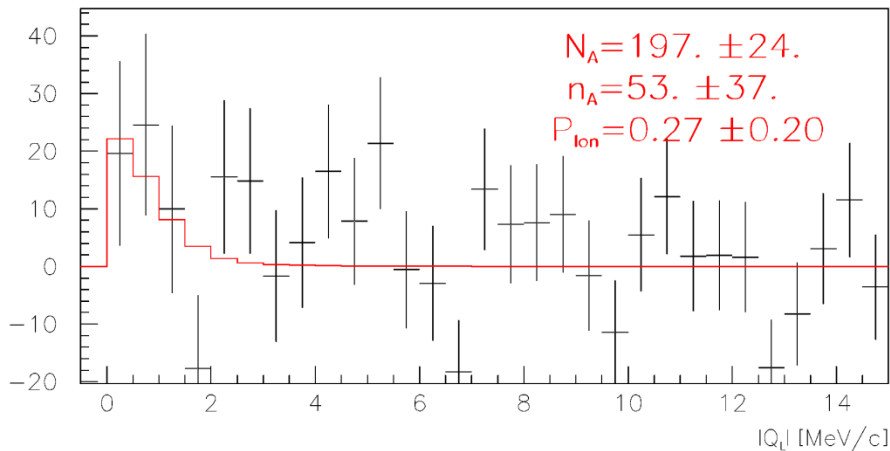
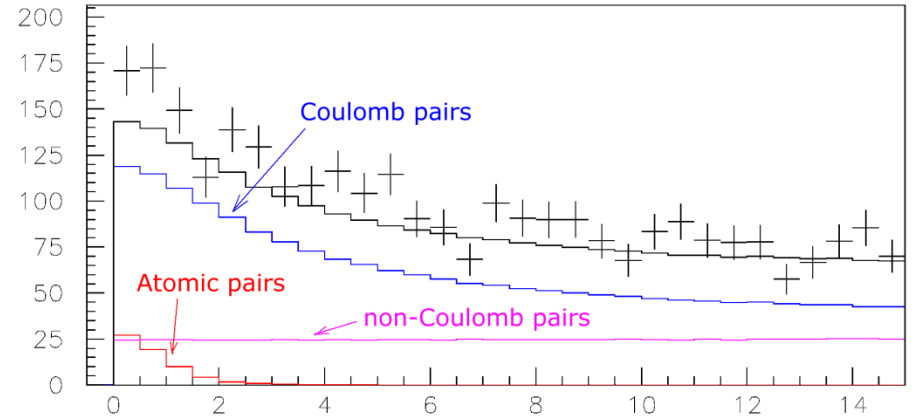
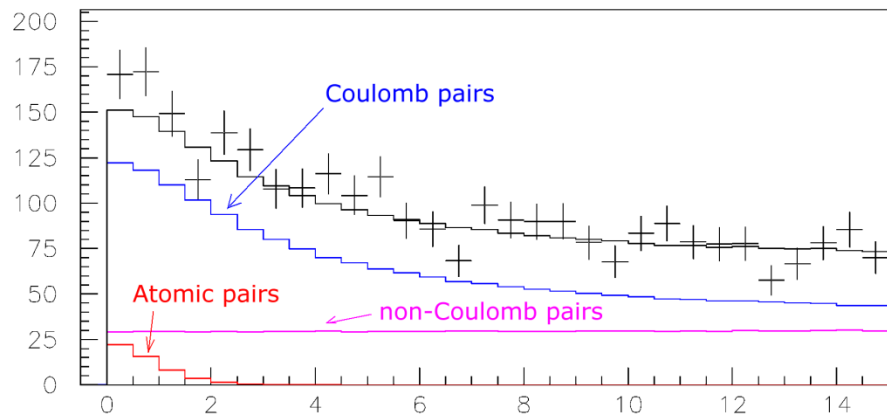
Analysis on  $Q_L, Q_T < 4$  MeV/c



Analysis on  $Q_L - Q_T, Q_T < 4$  MeV/c

# $\pi^+\text{K}^-$ atoms, run 2008-2010

Run 2008-2010, statistics with low and medium background (2/3 of all statistics).  
Point-like production of all particles.

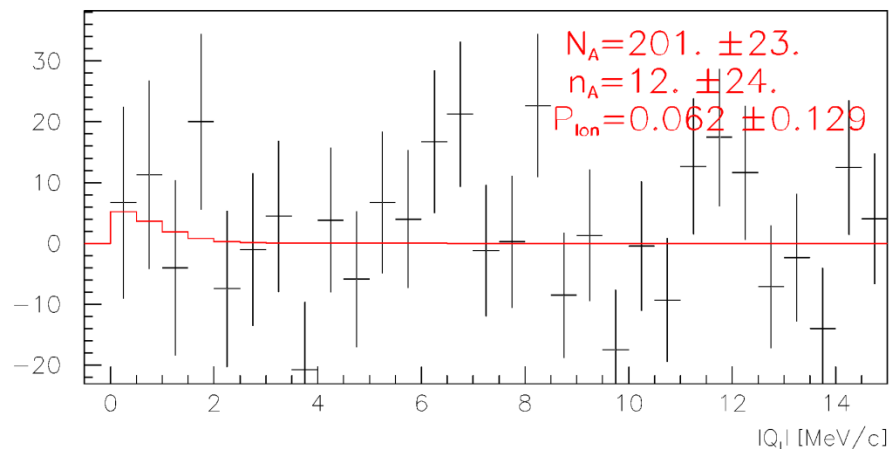
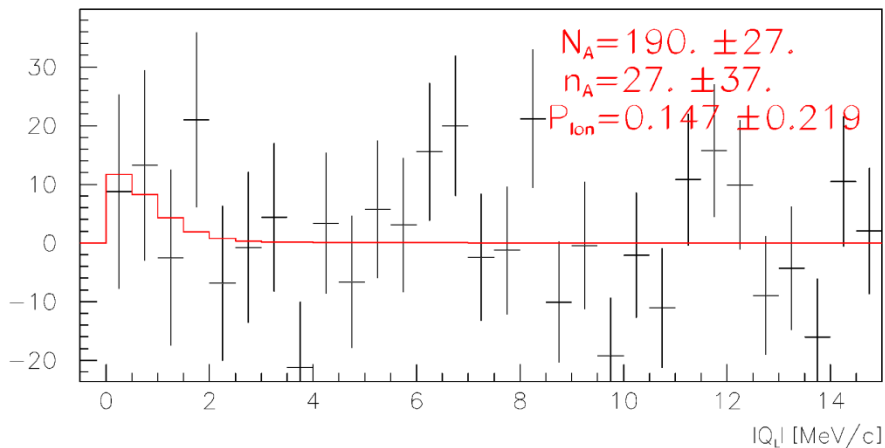
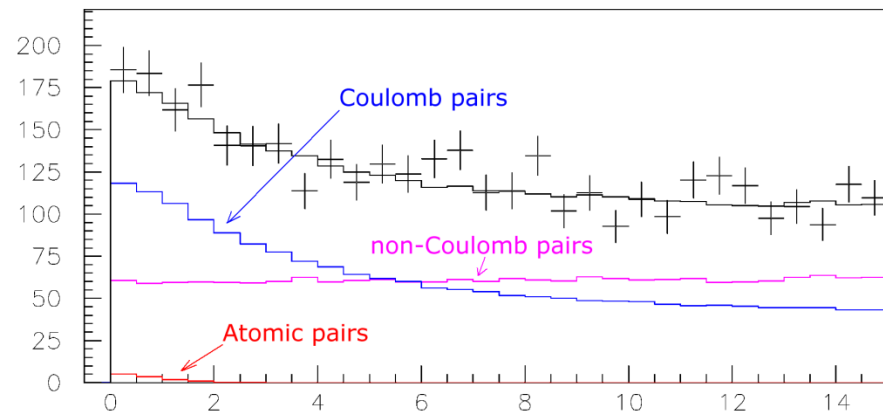
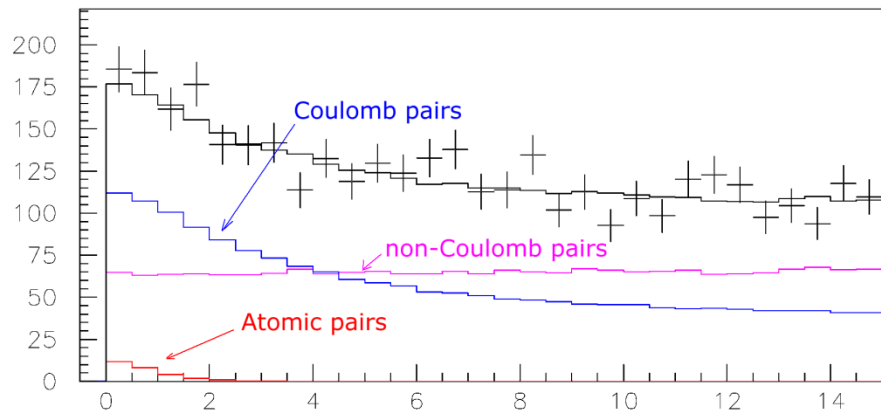


Analysis on  $Q_L, Q_T < 4 \text{ MeV/c}$

Analysis on  $Q_L - Q_T, Q_T < 4 \text{ MeV/c}$

# $K^+\pi^-$ atoms, run 2010

Run 2010, statistics with low and medium background (2/3 of all statistics).  
Point-like production of all particles.

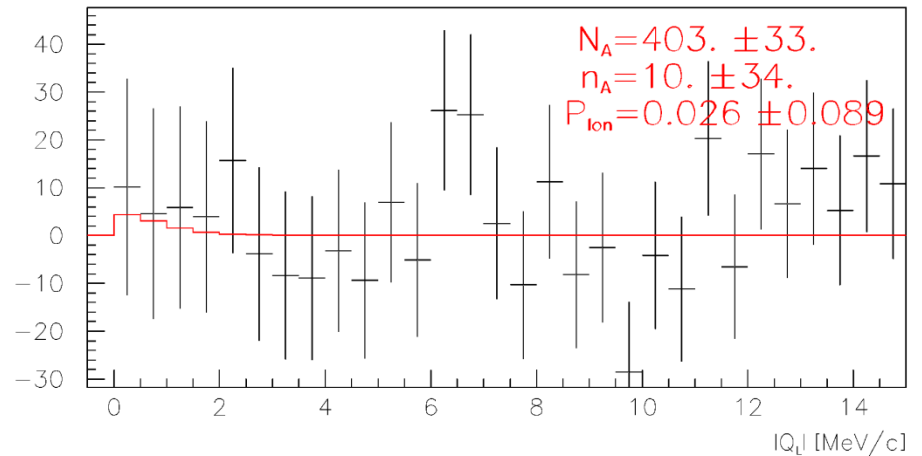
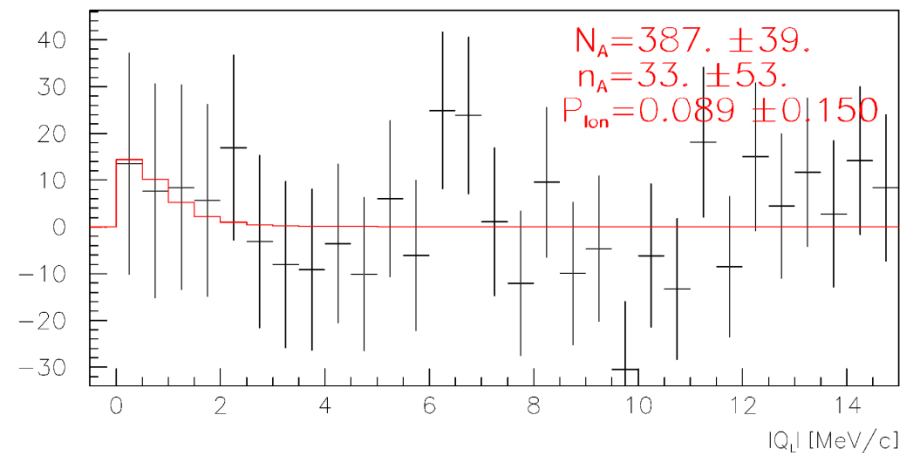
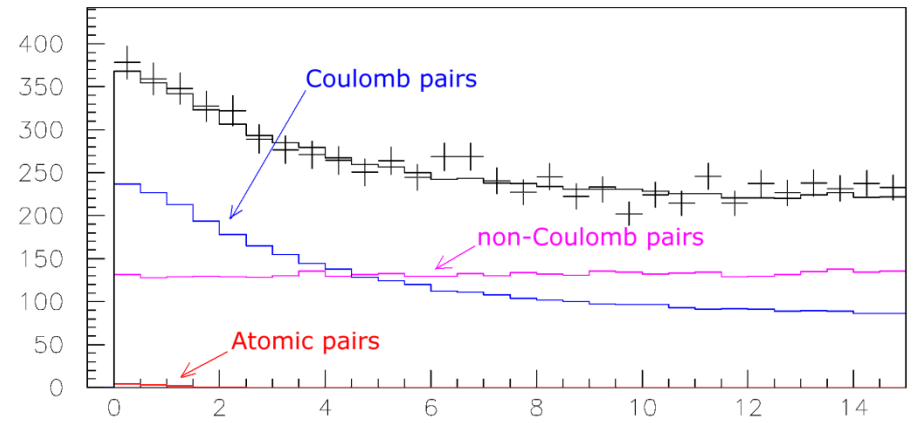
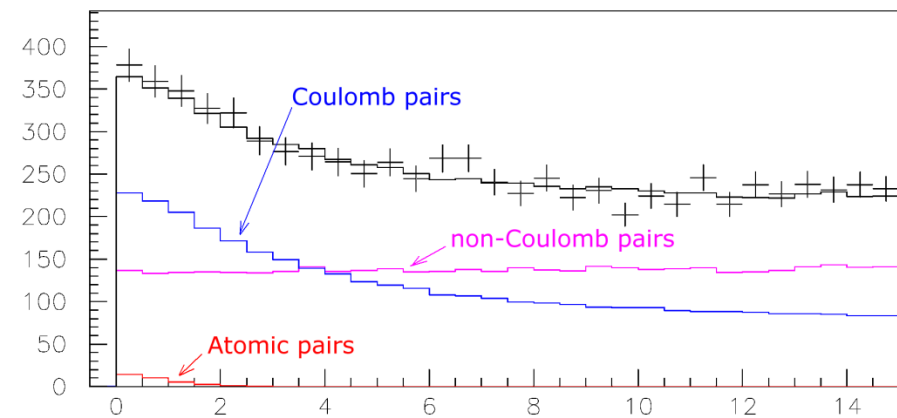


Analysis on  $Q_L, Q_T < 4$  MeV/c

Analysis on  $Q_L - Q_T, Q_T < 4$  MeV/c

# $K^+ \pi^-$ atoms, run 2009-2010

Run 2009-2010, statistics with low and medium background (2/3 of all statistics).  
Point-like production of all particles.



Analysis on  $Q_L, Q_T < 4 \text{ MeV/c}$

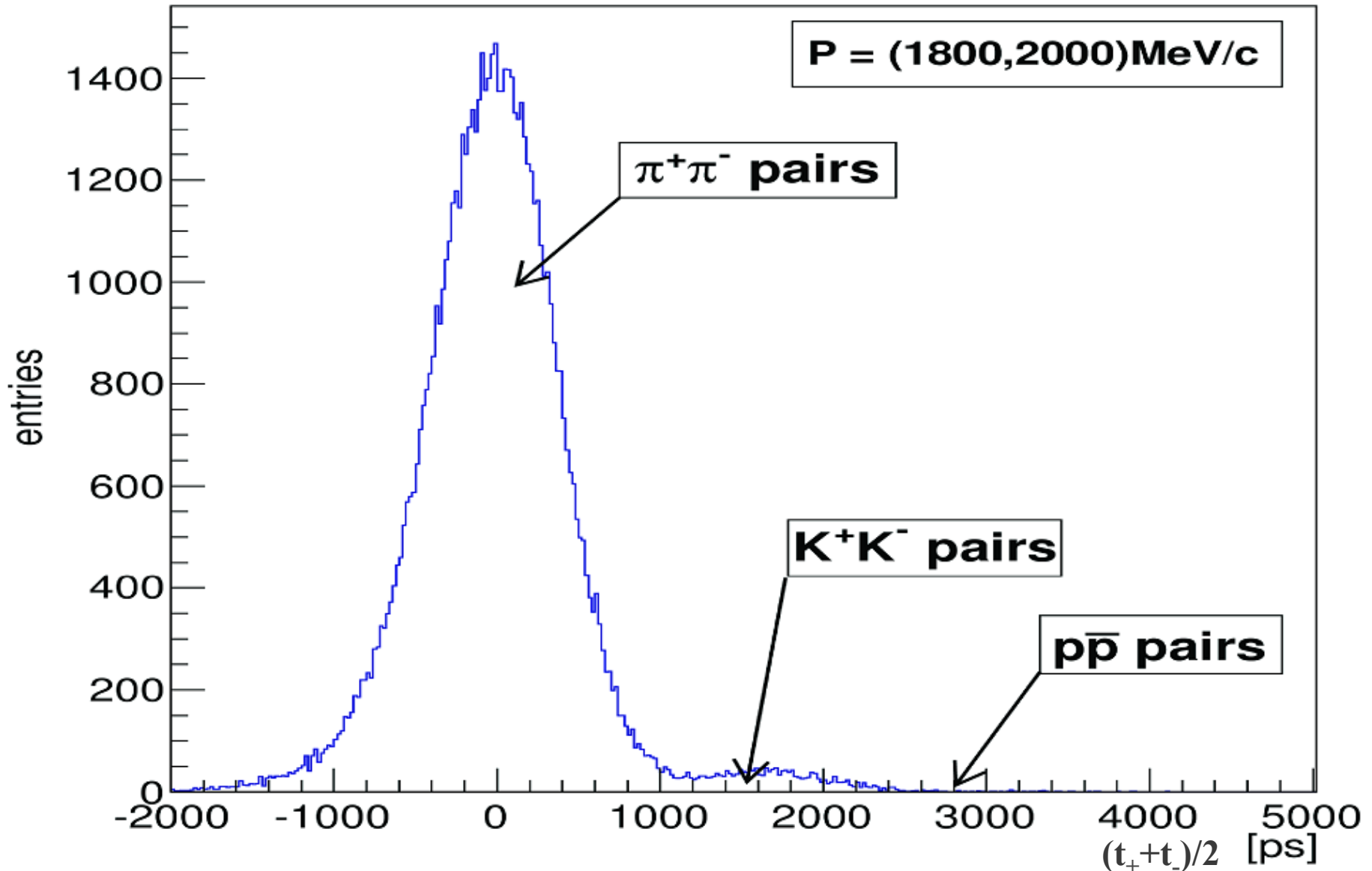
Analysis on  $Q_L - Q_T, Q_T < 4 \text{ MeV/c}$

# $\pi^+\text{K}^-$ and $\text{K}^+\pi^-$ pair analysis

	$\pi^+\text{K}^-$ pairs 2008-2010	$\text{K}^+\pi^-$ pairs 2009-2010
$N_A(Q_L)$	$200\pm 24$	$390\pm 40$
$N_A(Q_L-Q_T)$	$200\pm 20$	$400\pm 33$
$n_A(Q_L)$	$53\pm 37$	$33\pm 53$
$n_A(Q_L-Q_T)$	$65\pm 25$	$10\pm 34$
$P_{\text{br}}(Q_L)$	$0.27\pm 0.20$	$0.089\pm 0.150$
$P_{\text{br}}(Q_L-Q_T)$	$0.33\pm 0.15$	$0.026\pm 0.089$
$n_A(Q_L)$ (sum) = $86\pm 65$		
$P_{\text{br}}^{\text{theor}} = 0.278 \pm \begin{matrix} 0.012 \\ 0.011 \end{matrix}$		



# 2010 data: distribution of pairs on $(t_+ + t_-)/2$ for $P = (1800, 2000) \text{ MeV}/c$



## 2010 data: results for kaons and $K^+K^-$ pairs in low momenta

Mom. inter. [MeV/c]	$K^+$	sse( $K^+$ )	$K^-$	sse( $K^-$ )	$K^+K^-$	sse( $K^+K^-$ )
1000-1200	75	$\pm 9$	40	$\pm 6$	-	-
1200-1400	2032	$\pm 64$	1308	$\pm 51$	522	$\pm 23$
1400-1600	4546	$\pm 95$	3628	$\pm 85$	1884	$\pm 61$
1600-1800	6314	$\pm 112$	5450	$\pm 104$	2101	$\pm 65$
1800-2000	-	-	-	-	2068	$\pm 64$

sse( $K^+$ )...standard statistic error for  $K^+$

sse( $K^-$ )...standard statistic error for  $K^-$

sse( $K^+K^-$ )...standard statistic error for  $K^+K^-$  pairs

Total number of  $K^+K^-$  pairs in low momenta is 6575.

## 2010 data: results for $K^+K^-$ and $p\bar{p}$ pairs in high momenta

Mom. intervals [MeV/c]	$p\bar{p}$	$\text{error}_{p\bar{p}}$	ratio [%]	$\text{error}_{\text{ratio}}$	$K^+K^-$ pairs	$\text{error}_{K^+K^-}$
3000-3200	85	$\pm 14$	<b>0.33</b>	$\pm 0.18$	1366	$\pm 105$
3200-3400	116	$\pm 17$	<b>0.56</b>	$\pm 0.16$	830	$\pm 86$
3400-3600	96	$\pm 17$	<b>0.73</b>	$\pm 0.19$	709	$\pm 69$
3600-3800	88	$\pm 15$	<b>0.99</b>	$\pm 0.18$	326	$\pm 52$

ratio...ratio between  $p\bar{p}$  and  $\pi^+\pi^-$  pairs

$\text{error}_{p\bar{p}}$ ...error of fit for  $p\bar{p}$  pairs

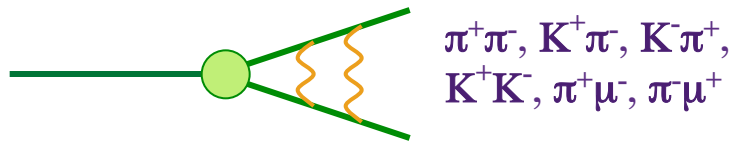
$\text{error}_{\text{ratio}}$ ...error for the  $p\bar{p}$  and  $\pi^+\pi^-$  pair ratio

$\text{error}_{K^+K^-}$ ...error of fit for  $K^+K^-$  pairs

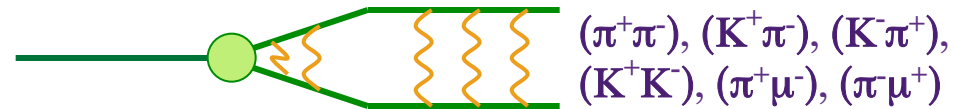
Total number of  $K^+K^-$  pairs in high momenta is 3231.  
The sum of low and high energy kaon pairs is 9806.

# Coulomb pairs and atoms

For charged pairs from short-lived sources and with small relative momentum  $Q$  there is a strong Coulomb attraction in the final state. This interaction increases the production yield of the free pairs with  $Q$  decreasing and also creates atoms.



Coulomb pairs



Atoms

There is a precise ratio between the number of produced Coulomb pairs ( $N_C$ ) with small  $Q$  and the number of atoms ( $N_A$ ) produced simultaneously with these Coulomb pairs:

$$N_A = K(Q_0)N_C (Q \leq Q_0), \frac{\delta K(Q_0)}{K(Q_0)} \leq 10^{-2}$$

$$n_A \dots \text{atomic pairs number: } P_{\text{br}} = \frac{n_A}{N_A}$$

# $K^+K^-$ atom and its lifetime

Properties of the  $K^+K^-$  atom (kaonium or  $A_{2K}$ ):

$$\begin{aligned} a_B &= [\alpha m_K/2]^{-1} = 109.6 \text{ fm} \quad \dots \text{ Bohr radius} \\ |E_{1s}| &= \alpha^2 m_K/4 = 6.57 \text{ keV} \quad \dots \text{ binding energy} \\ \tau(A_{2K}) &\approx [\Gamma(A_{2K})]^{-1} = \quad \dots \text{ lifetime} \end{aligned}$$

The lifetime for the kaonium decay into 2 pions is strongly reduced by the presence of strong interaction (OBE, scalar meson  $f_0$  and  $a_0$ ).

	$\tau (A_{2K} \rightarrow \pi\pi, \pi\eta)$	$K^+K^-$ interaction
$K^+K^-$ interaction complexity ↓	$1.2 \times 10^{-16} \text{ s}$	Coulomb-bound
	$3.2 \times 10^{-18} \text{ s}$	+ one-boson exchange (OBE)
	$1.1 \times 10^{-18} \text{ s}$	+ $f_0'$ (I=0) + $\pi\eta$ -channel (I=1)

Ref.: S. Wycech, A.M. Green, Nucl. Phys. A562 (1993), 446;  
S. Krewald, R. Lemmer, F.P. Sasson, Phys. Rev. D69 (2004), 016003.

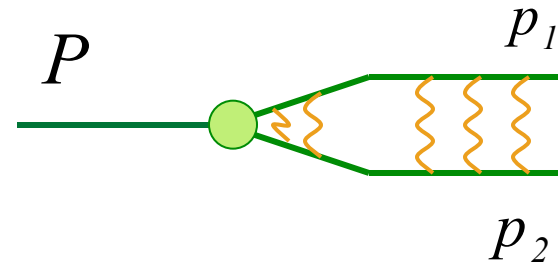
# $A_{2\pi}$ and $A_{\pi K}$ production

$$\frac{d\sigma_{nlm}^A}{d\vec{P}_A} = (2\pi)^3 \frac{E}{M} \left| \psi_{nlm}^{(C)}(0) \right|^2 \frac{d\sigma_s^0}{d\vec{p}_1 d\vec{p}_2} \Big|_{\vec{v}_1 = \vec{v}_2} \propto \frac{d\sigma}{d\vec{p}_1} \cdot \frac{d\sigma}{d\vec{p}_2} \cdot R(\vec{p}_1, \vec{p}_2; s)$$

$$\vec{P}_A = \vec{p}_1 + \vec{p}_2$$

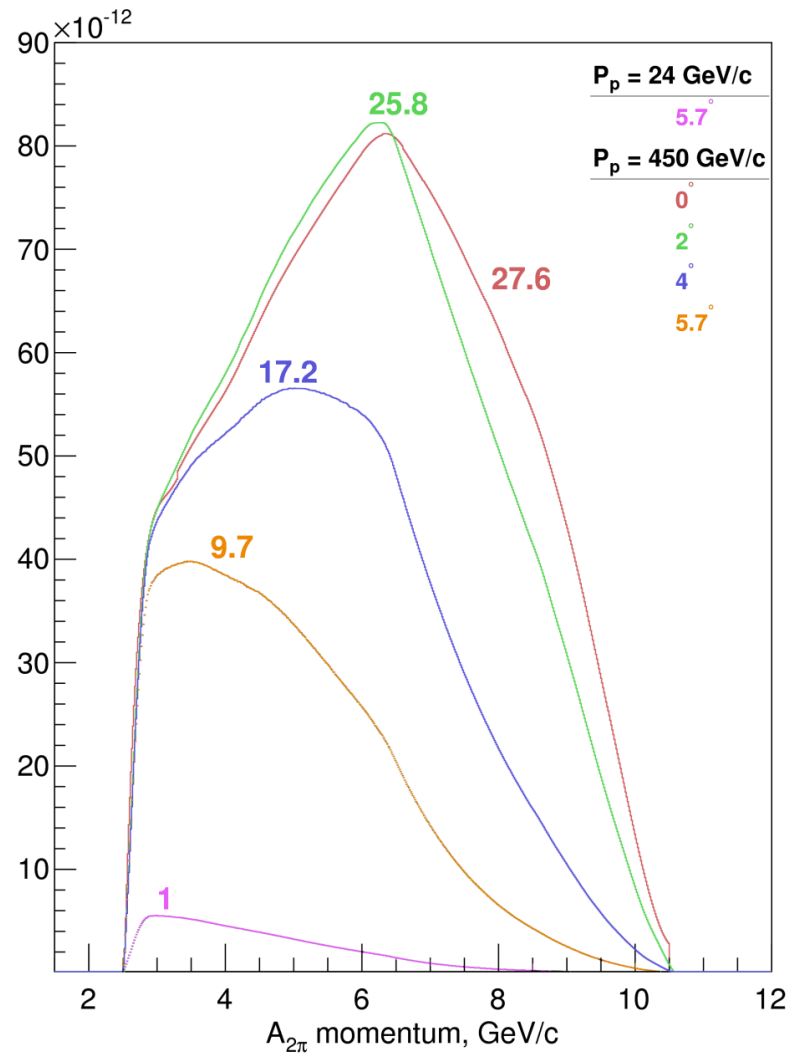
for atoms  $\vec{v}_1 = \vec{v}_2$  where  $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2$  - velocities of particles in the L. S.  
for all types of atoms

for  $A_{2\pi}$  production  $\vec{p}_1 = \vec{p}_2$   
for  $A_{\pi K}$  production  $\vec{p}_\pi = \frac{m_\pi}{m_K} \vec{p}_K$



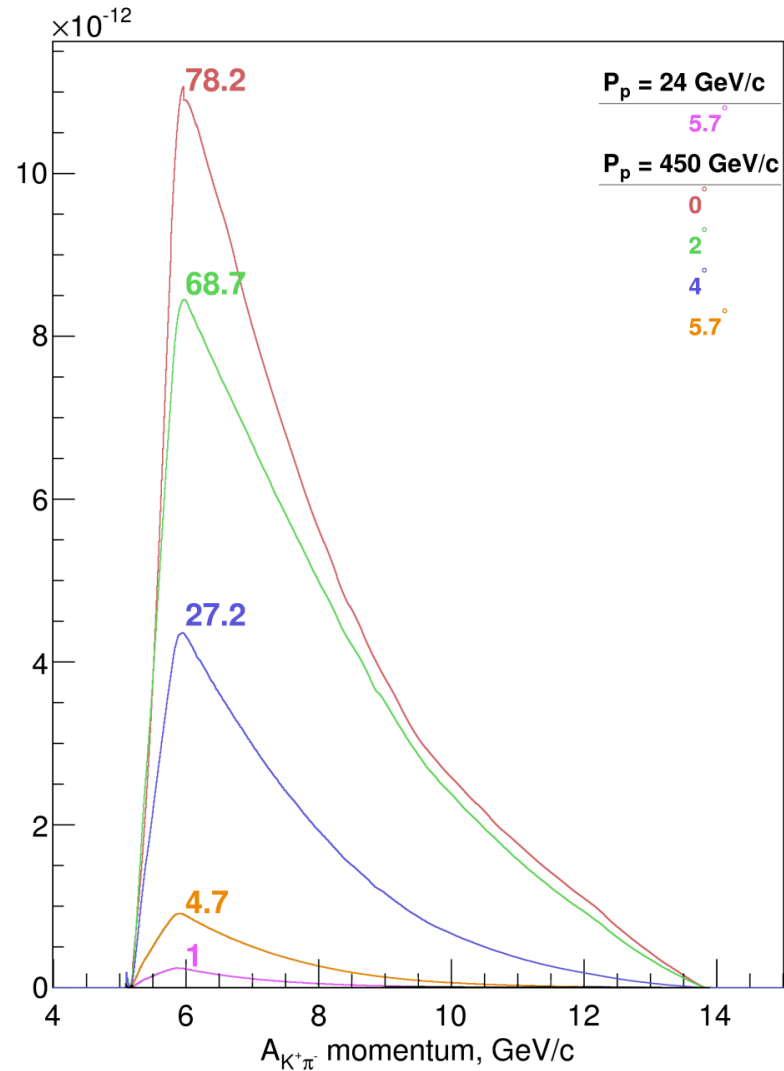
$R(\vec{p}_1, \vec{p}_2; s)$  - correlation function

# Yield of $A_{2\pi}$ per one p-Ni interaction



Yield of  $A_{2\pi}$  dependence as a function of the atoms angle production and momentum in L. S. Bin = 15 MeV/c.

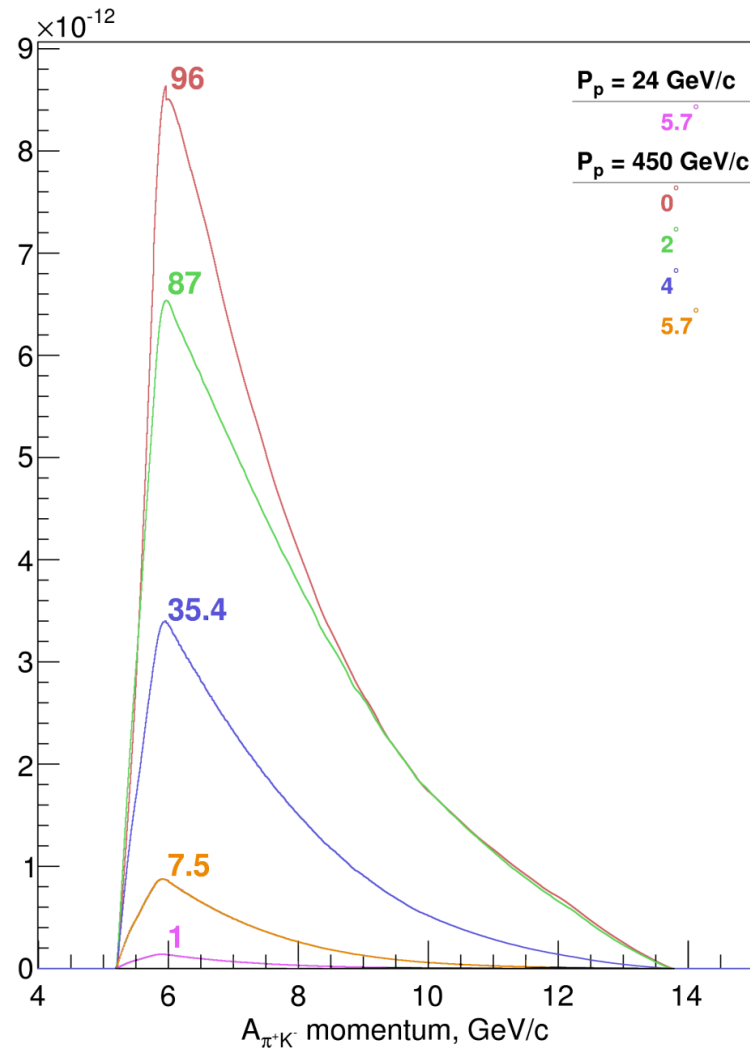
# Yield of $A_{K\pi}$ per one p-Ni interaction



Yield of  $A_{K\pi}$  dependence as a function of the atoms angle production and momentum in L. S. Bin = 9.6 MeV/c.



# Yield of $A_{\pi K}$ per one p-Ni interaction



Yield of  $A_{\pi K}$  dependence as a function of the atoms angle production and momentum in L. S. Bin = 9.6 MeV/c.

**Thank you  
for your attention!**

# Experimental conditions (run 2008-2010)

<b>Primary proton beam</b>	<b>24 GeV/c</b>
<b>Beam intensity</b>	<b><math>(10.5 \div 12) \cdot 10^{10}</math> proton/spill</b>
<b>Single count of one IH plane</b>	<b><math>(5 \div 6) \cdot 10^6</math> particle/spill</b>
<b>Spill duration</b>	<b>450 ms</b>

## Ni target

<b>Purity</b>	<b>99.98%</b>	
<b>Target thickness (year)</b>	<b><math>98 \pm 1 \mu\text{m}</math> (2008)</b>	<b><math>108 \pm 1 \mu\text{m}</math> (2009-2010)</b>
<b>Radiation thickness</b>	<b><math>6.7 \cdot 10^{-3} X_0</math></b>	<b><math>7.4 \cdot 10^{-3} X_0</math></b>
<b>Probability of inelastic proton interaction</b>	<b><math>6.4 \cdot 10^{-4}</math></b>	<b><math>7.1 \cdot 10^{-4}</math></b>

# Experimental conditions

Secondary particles channel (relative to the proton beam)	5.7°
Angular divergence in vertical and horizontal planes	±1°
Solid angle	1.2·10 <sup>-3</sup> sr
Dipole magnet	$B_{max} = 1.65$ T, BL = 2.2 Tm

Time resolution [ps]								
	VH	IH				SFD		
plane	1	1	2	3	4	X	Y	W
2008	112	713	728	718	798	379	508	518
2010	113	907	987	997	1037	382	517	527

# Experimental conditions

## SFD

<b>Coordinate precision</b>	$\sigma_X = 60 \mu\text{m}$	$\sigma_Y = 60 \mu\text{m}$	$\sigma_W = 120 \mu\text{m}$
<b>Time precision</b>	$\sigma_X^t = 380 \text{ ps}$	$\sigma_Y^t = 512 \text{ ps}$	$\sigma_W^t = 522 \text{ ps}$

## DC

**Coordinate precision**

$$\sigma = 85 \mu\text{m}$$

## VH

**Time precision**

$$\sigma = 100 \text{ ps}$$

## Spectrometer

**Relative resolution on the particle momentum in L.S.**

$$3 \cdot 10^{-3}$$

**Precision on Q-projections**

$$\sigma_{QX} = \sigma_{QY} = 0.5 \text{ MeV}/c$$

$$\sigma_{QL} = 0.5 \text{ MeV}/c (\pi\pi)$$

$$\sigma_{QL} = 0.9 \text{ MeV}/c (\pi K)$$

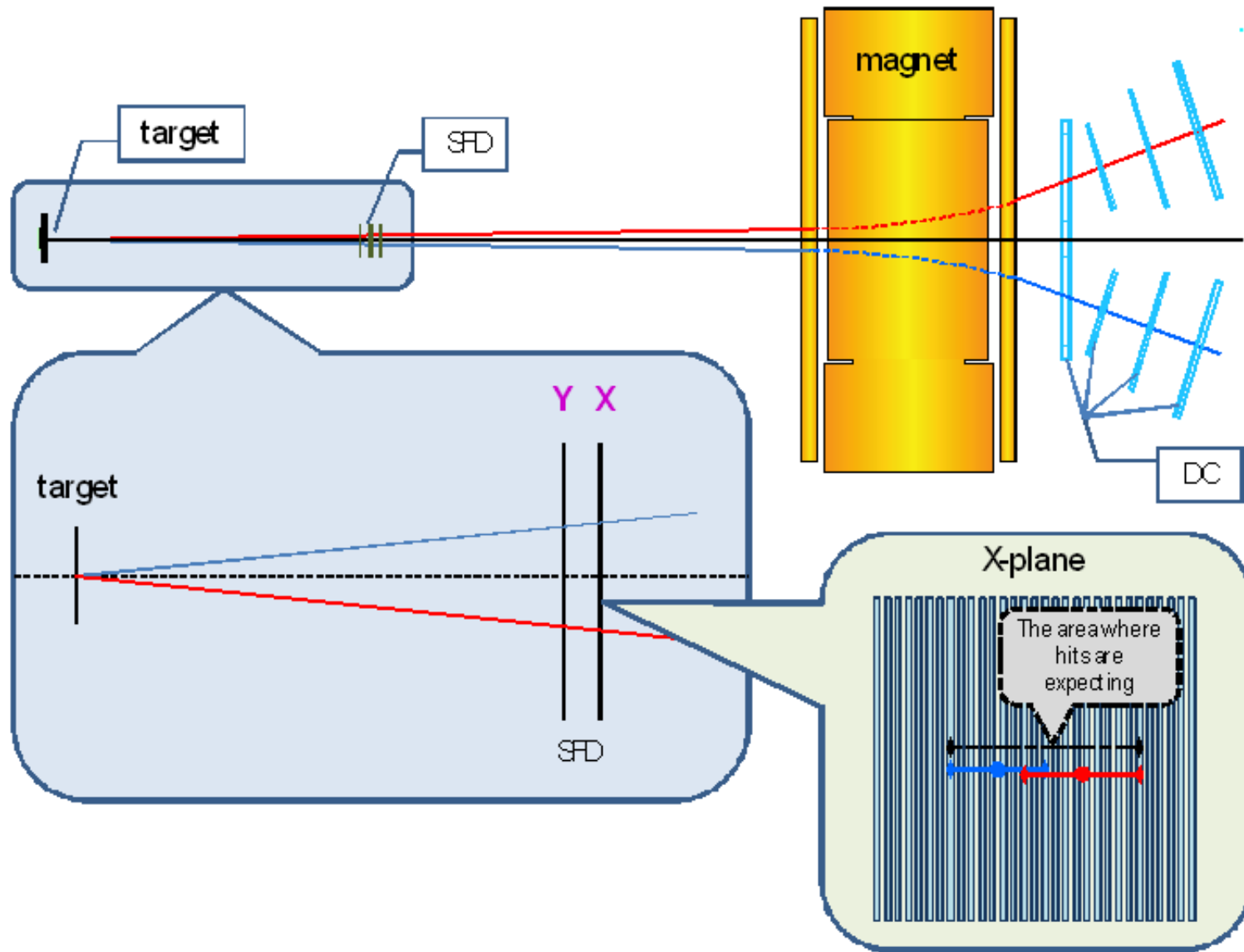
**Trigger efficiency 98 %**

for pairs with  $Q_L < 28 \text{ MeV}/c$

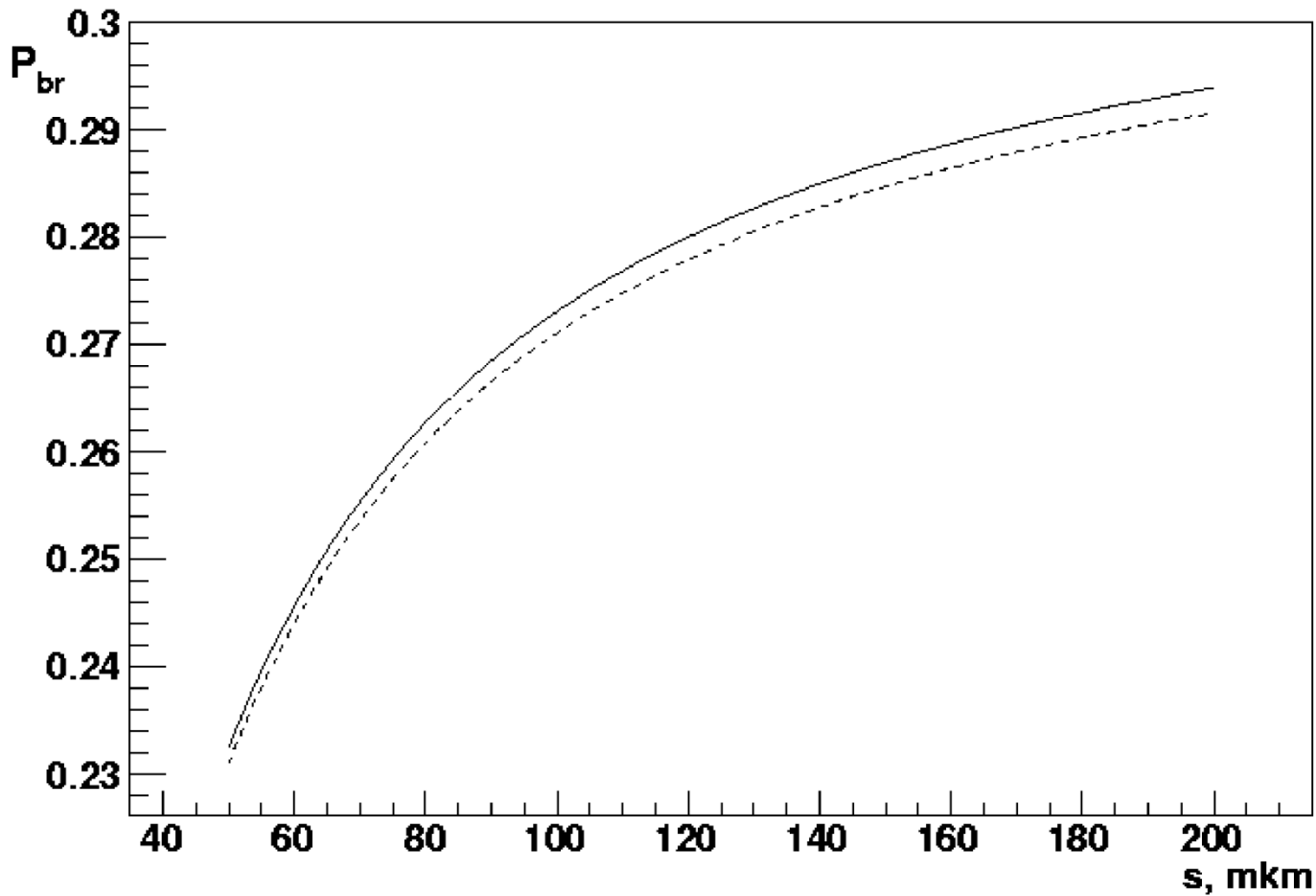
$$Q_X < 6 \text{ MeV}/c$$

$$Q_Y < 4 \text{ MeV}/c$$

# Extrapolation to the target



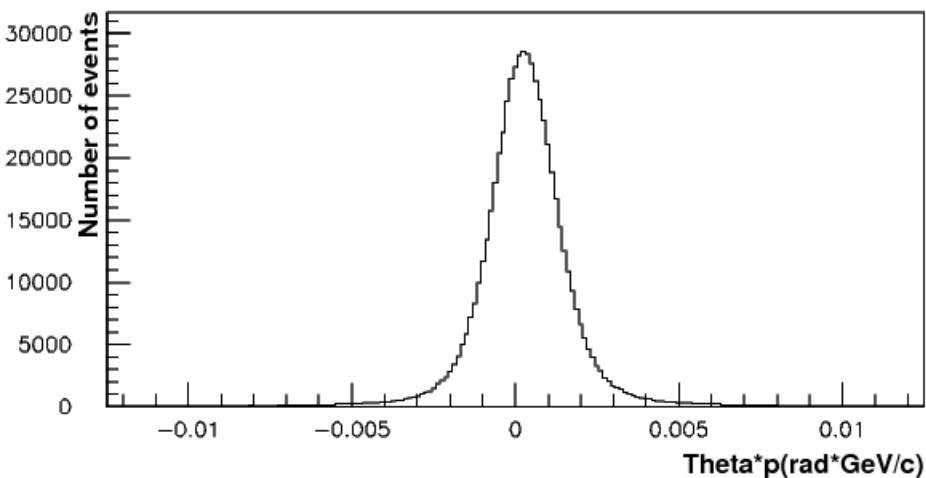
# Break-up dependencies $P_{br}$ from the target thickness for $K^+\pi^-$ atom ( $A_{K\pi}$ ) and $K^-\pi^+$ atom ( $A_{\pi K}$ )



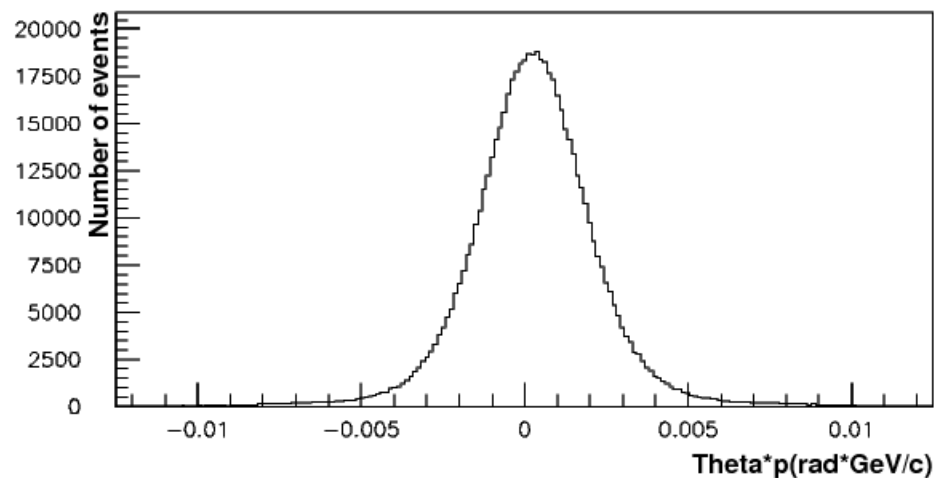
Probability of break-up as a function of Ni target thickness for  $A_{\pi K}$  (solid line) and  $A_{K\pi}$  atoms (dashed line),  $\tau_{1S} = 3.7 \cdot 10^{-15}$  s.

Average momentum of  $A_{K\pi}$  and  $A_{\pi K}$  are 6.4 GeV/c and 6.5 GeV/c, accordingly.

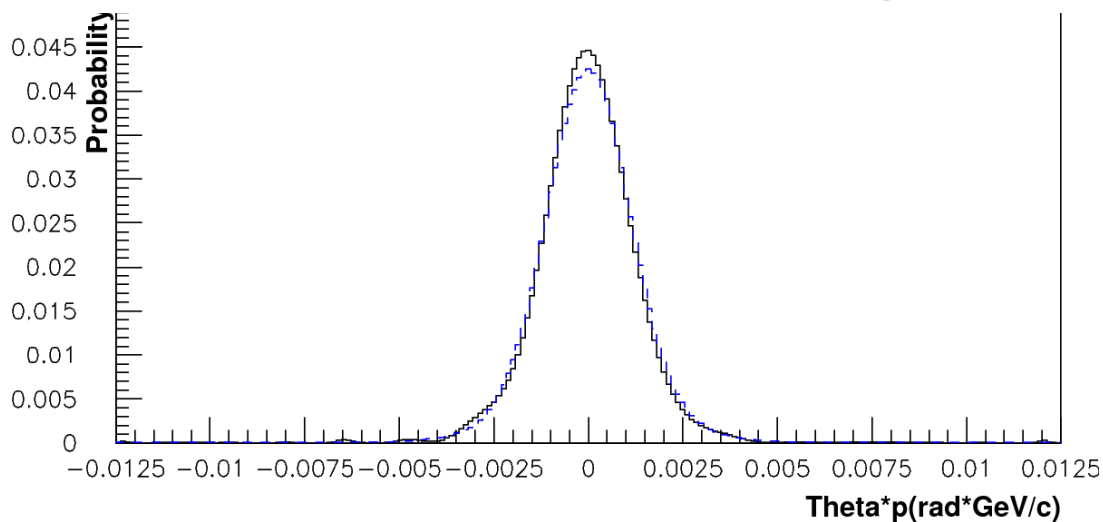
# Analysis of multiple scattering in Ni ( $150\ \mu\text{m}$ )



DC system resolution without scatter



DC system resolution with scatter



Reconstructed and simulated (blue) MS distributions

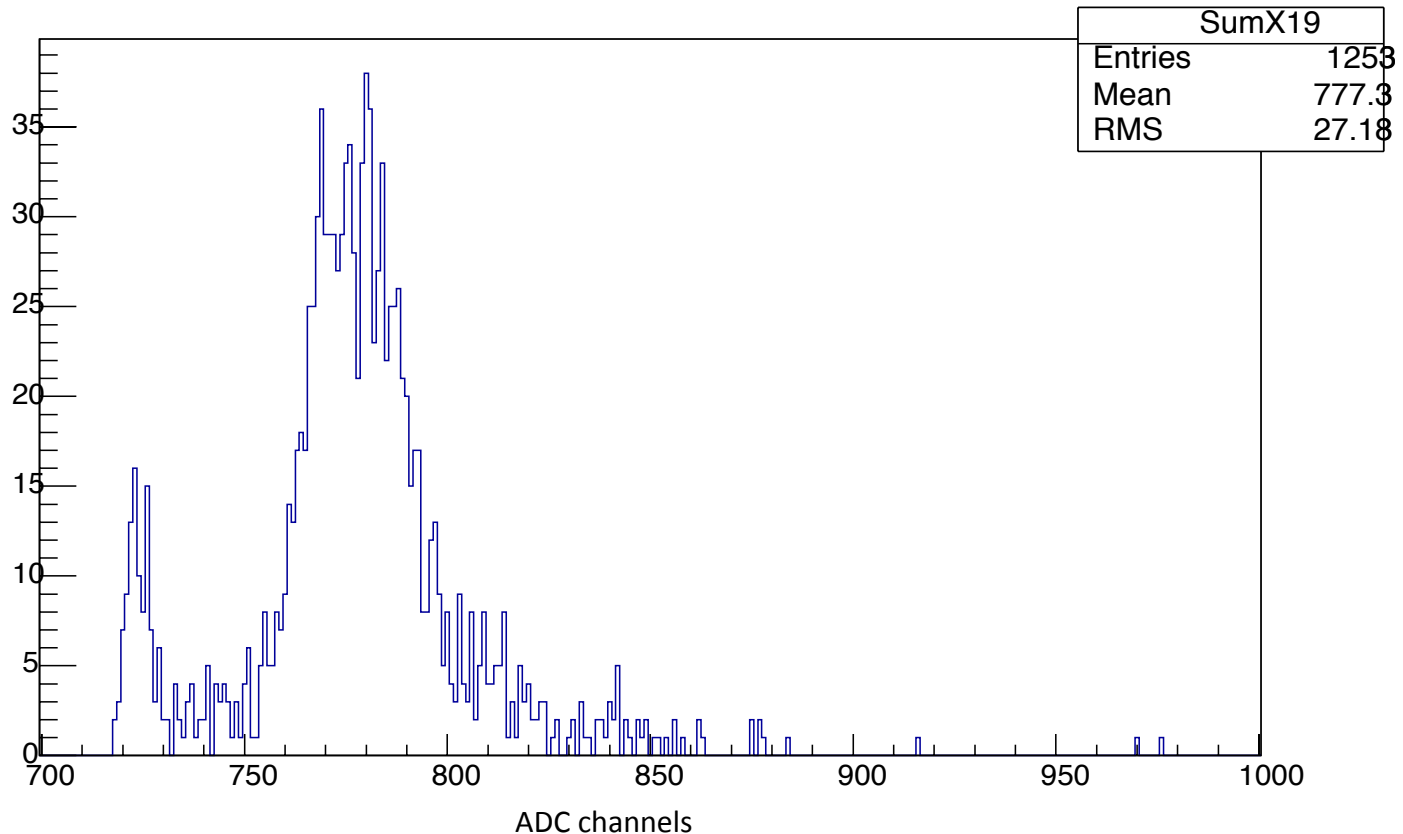
Run 2011. Analysis of multiple scattering in Ni ( $150\ \mu\text{m}$ ). Only events with one track in each projection were analyzed.  $\delta\theta/\theta \sim 0.7\%$ . After including in the analysis of all available events the statistics will be doubled and the expected value will be less than  $0.5\%$ .



# Light-yield – pulse-height spectrum

Test in the DIRAC spectrometer (with F1-TDC-ADC; pedestal is not visible)

SumTwoEndsX1



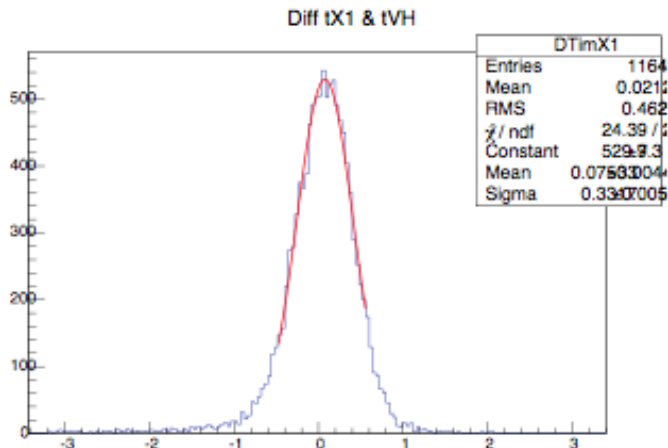
Average number of photoelectrons is larger than 20.

Left-side peak is due to the crosstalk at PMT photocathode (almost 1 PE) and between slabs (a few PE).

# Time resolution and efficiency

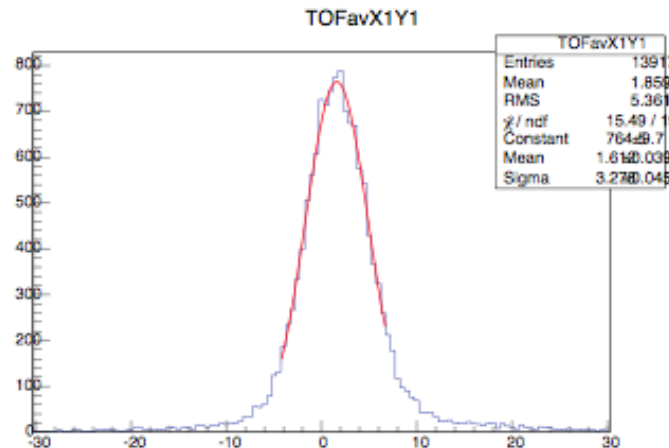
## Time resolution

with respect to VH



average  
300 ps  
RMS

between couples of planes



average  
272 ps  
RMS

## Efficiency

using spectrometer prediction

0.970

using only  $e^+e^-$  trigger events

0.993 (better prediction precision)

between mutual planes

0.988

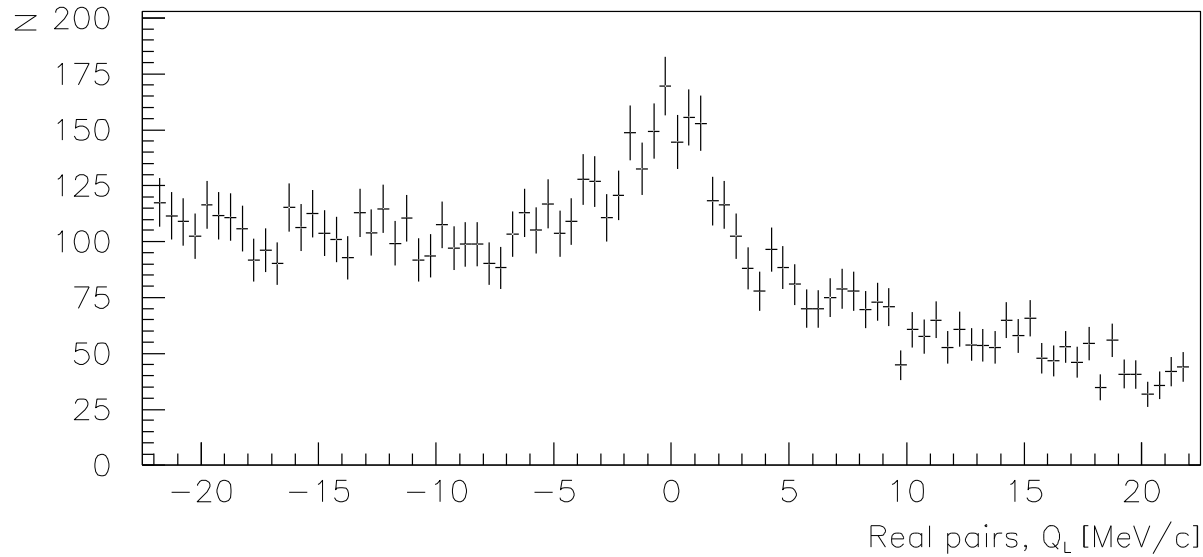
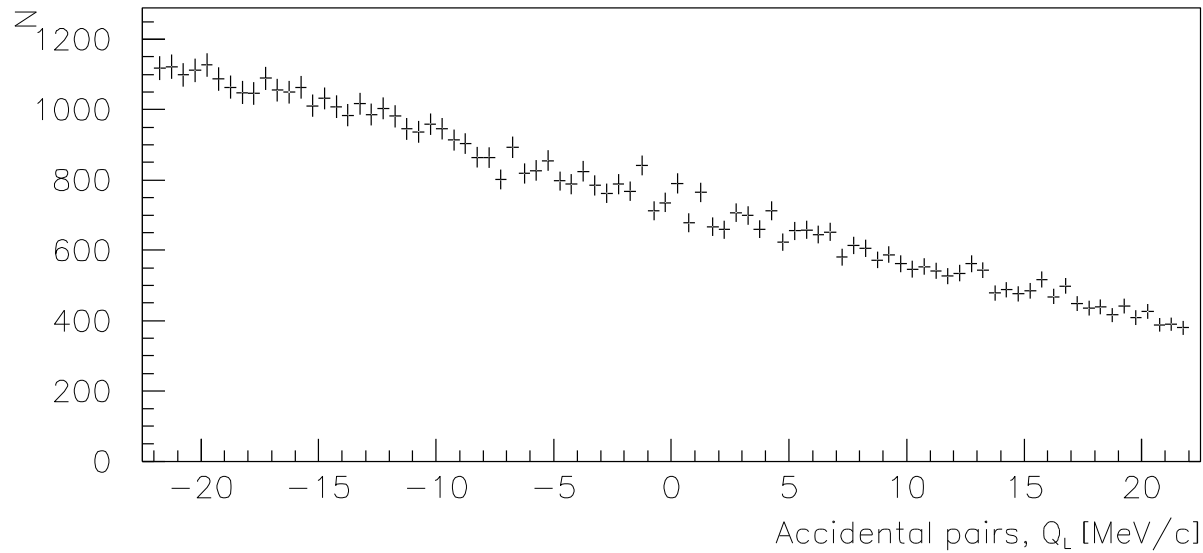
using only  $e^+e^-$  trigger events

0.994 (better prediction precision)

Efficiency in a high-intensity flux is yet to know.

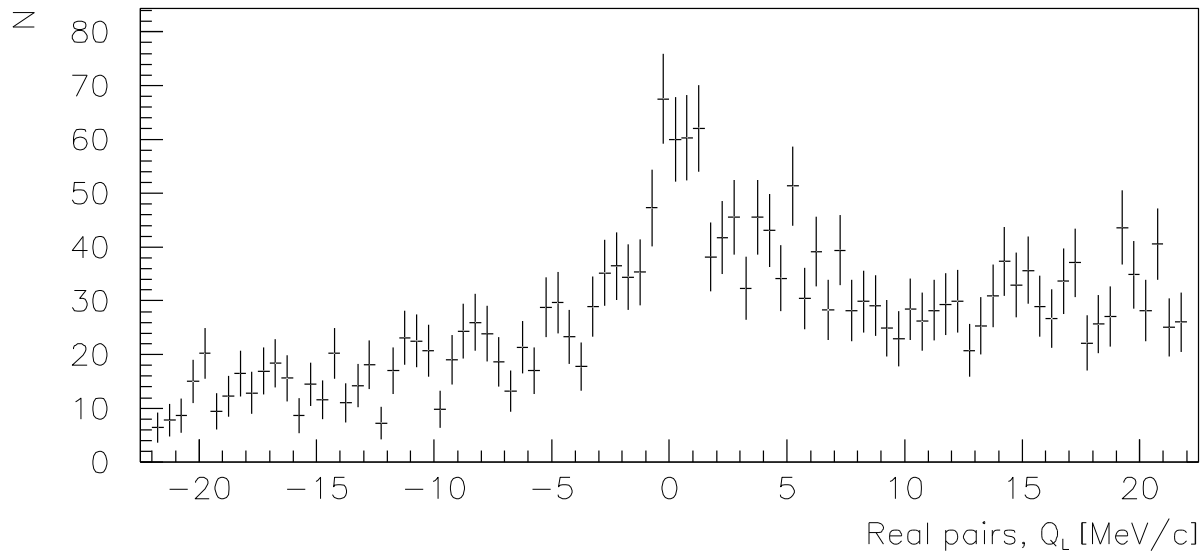
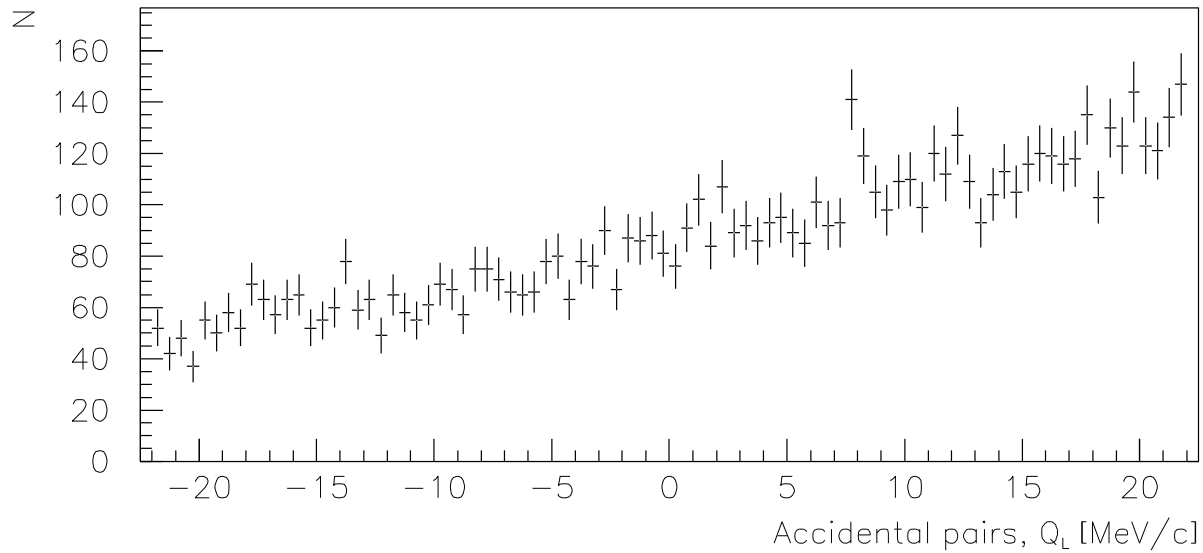
# $Q_L$ distribution $K^+\pi^-$ pairs

$K^+\pi^-$ ,  $Q_T < 3$  MeV/c, data 2008, 2009, 2010

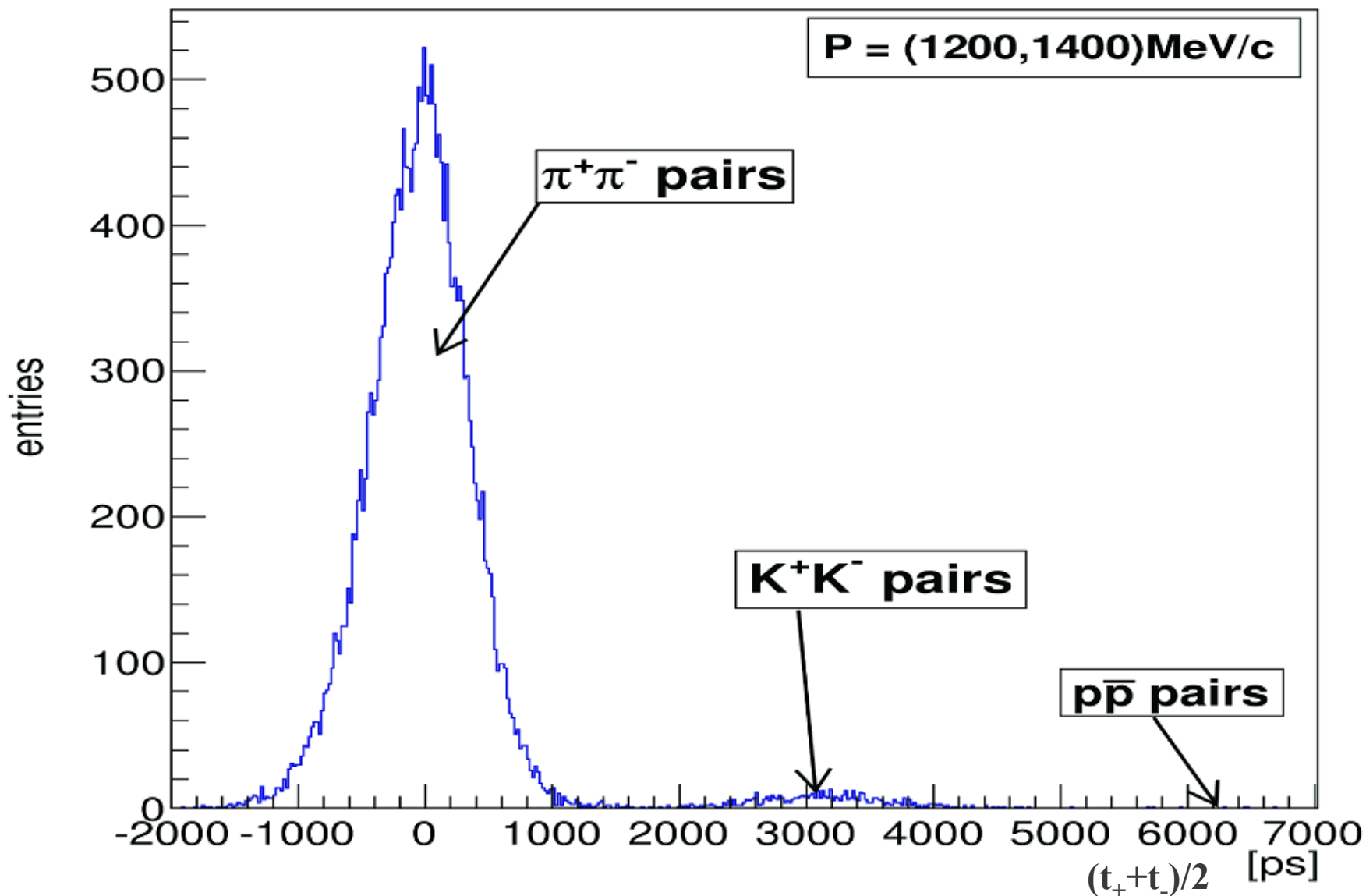


# $Q_L$ distribution $\pi^+ K^-$ pairs

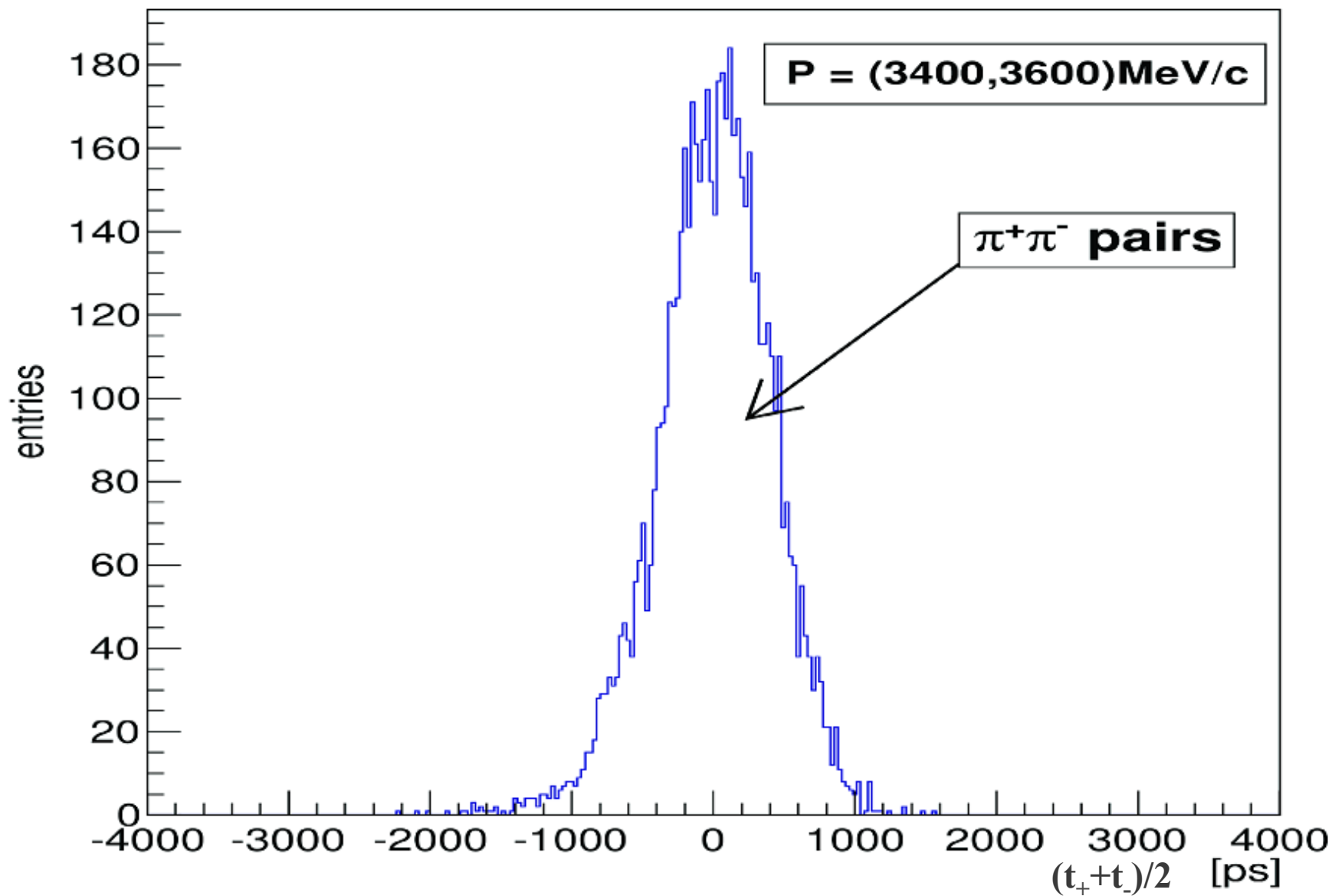
$\pi^+ K^-$ ,  $Q_T < 3$  MeV/c, data 2008, 2009, 2010



# 2010 data: distribution of pairs on $(t_+ + t_-)/2$ for $P = (1200, 1400) \text{ MeV}/c$

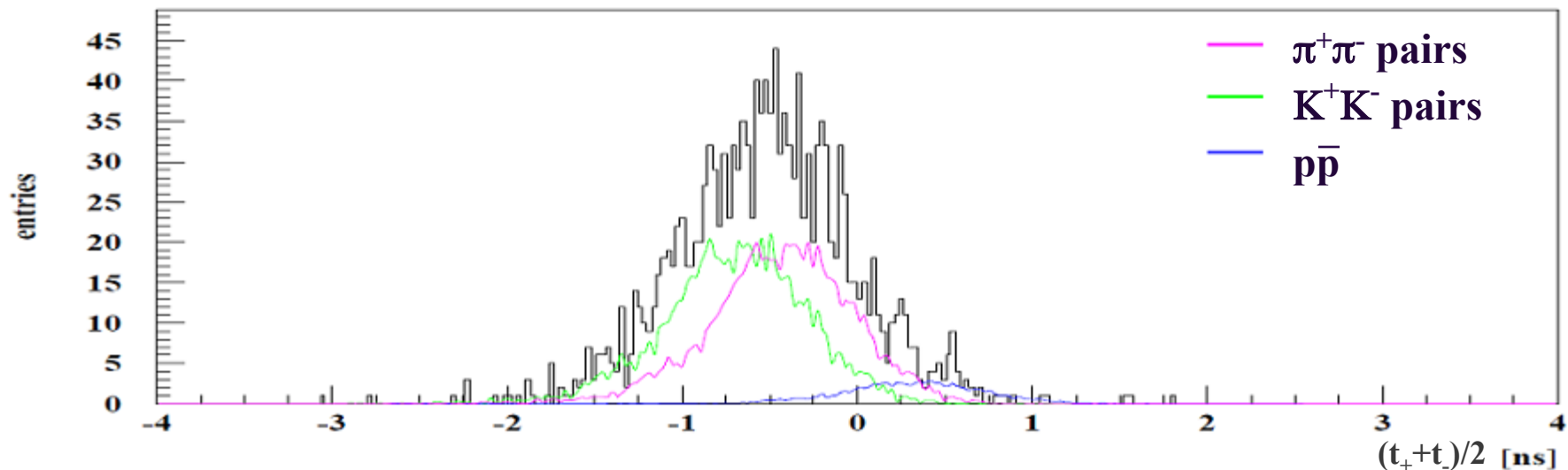
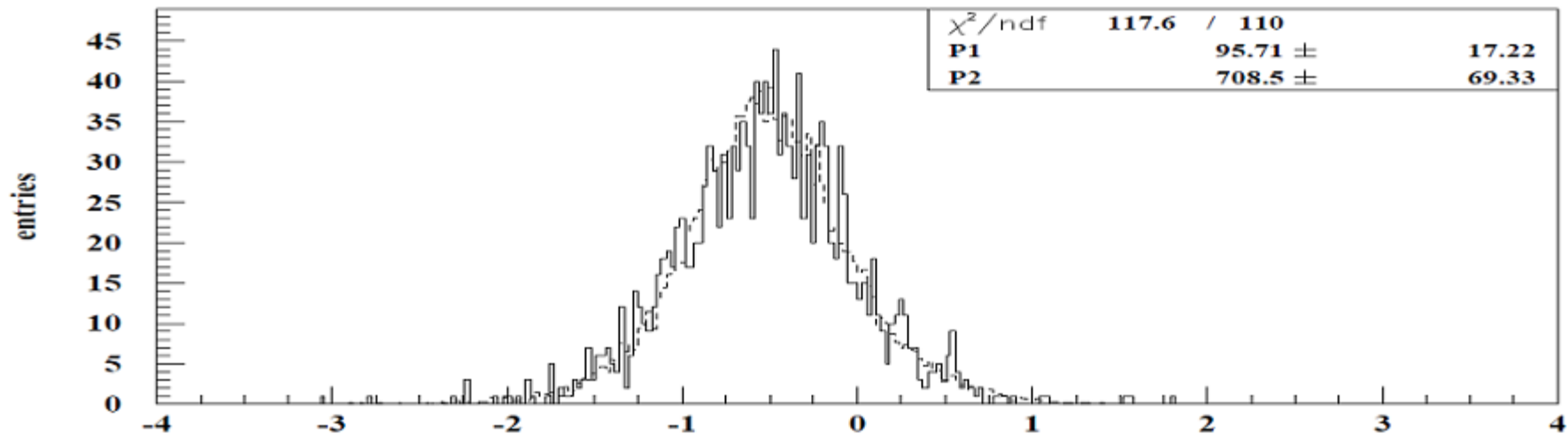


# 2010 data: distribution of $\pi^+\pi^-$ pairs detected by CHF on $(t_++t_-)/2$ for $P=(3400, 3600)$ MeV/c



# 2010 data: distribution of $\pi^+\pi^-$ , $p\bar{p}$ and $K^+K^-$ pairs on $(t_+ + t_-)/2$ for $P=(3400, 3600)$ MeV/c

No signal in CHF.



# $K^+K^-$ atom and its lifetime

## Interests in KK physics?

### •General:

non-understood KK interplay with the scalar mesons [ $I^G(J^{PC})$ ]  
 $f_0[0^+(0^{++})]$  and  $a_0[1^-(0^{++})]$

### •DIRAC experiment:

study of low-energy  $K^+K^-$  scattering  $\rightarrow$  estimate **number of produced atoms**  $A_{2K}$

## Kaonium decay width or lifetime “expected”:

•Decay width  $\Gamma(A_{2K}) = [\tau(A_{2K})]^{-1} = \alpha^3 m_K^2 \text{Im}(a_{KK}) \dots A_{2K}$  structure dependent:  
Strong effects enter through the complex scattering length  $a_{KK}$  .

### •DIRAC experiment:

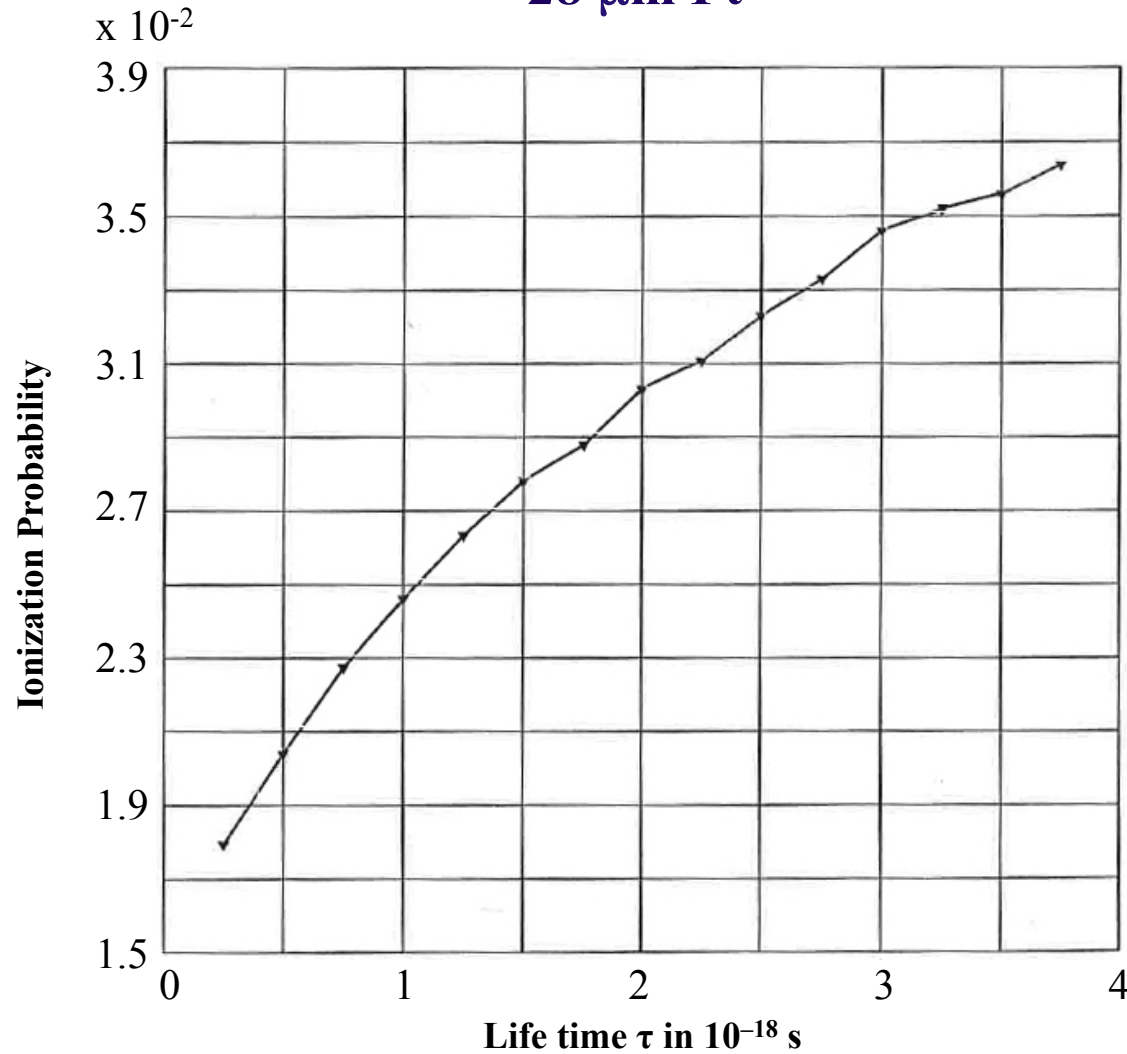
search for “atomic pairs”  $K^+K^-$  from  $A_{2K}$  ionization

$\rightarrow$  **upper limit on  $\tau(A_{2K})$**   $\rightarrow$  info about scattering length  **$a_{KK}$**  !



# $K^+K^-$ atoms ionization probability

28  $\mu\text{m}$  Pt

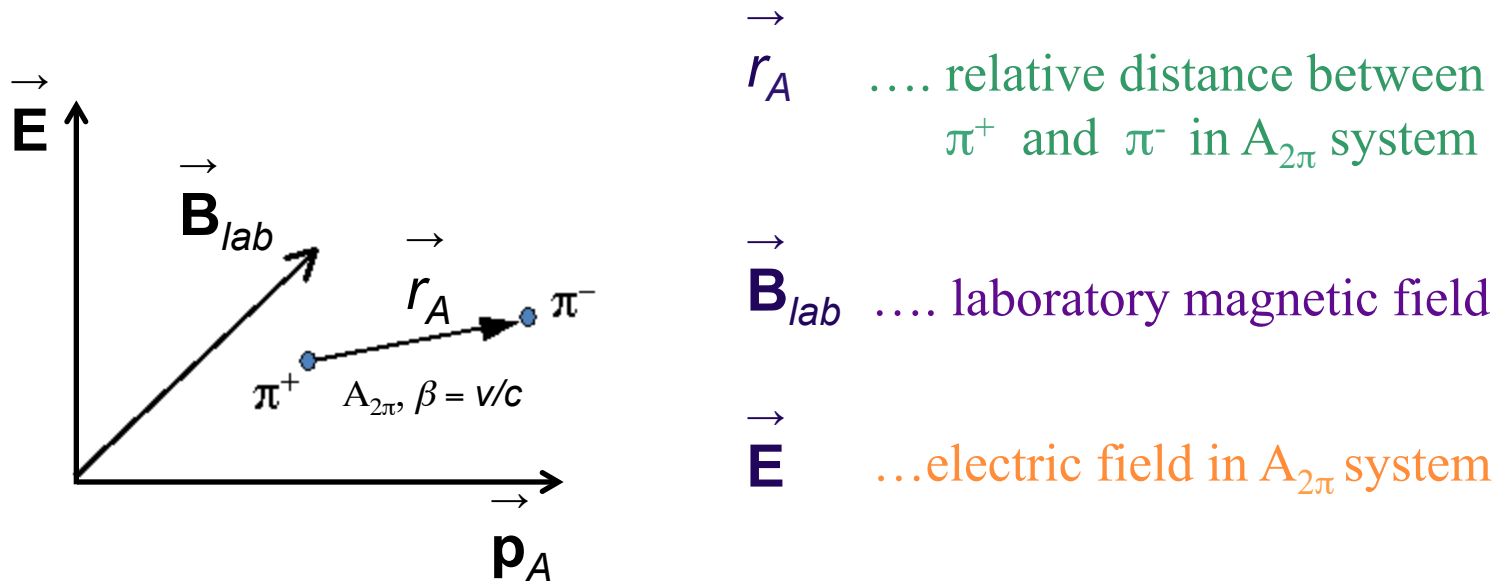


$K^+K^-$  atoms Lorentz factor is  $\gamma = 18$

# Lamb shift measurement with external magnetic field

*L. Nemenov, V. Ovsianikov, Physics Letters B 514 (2001) 247*

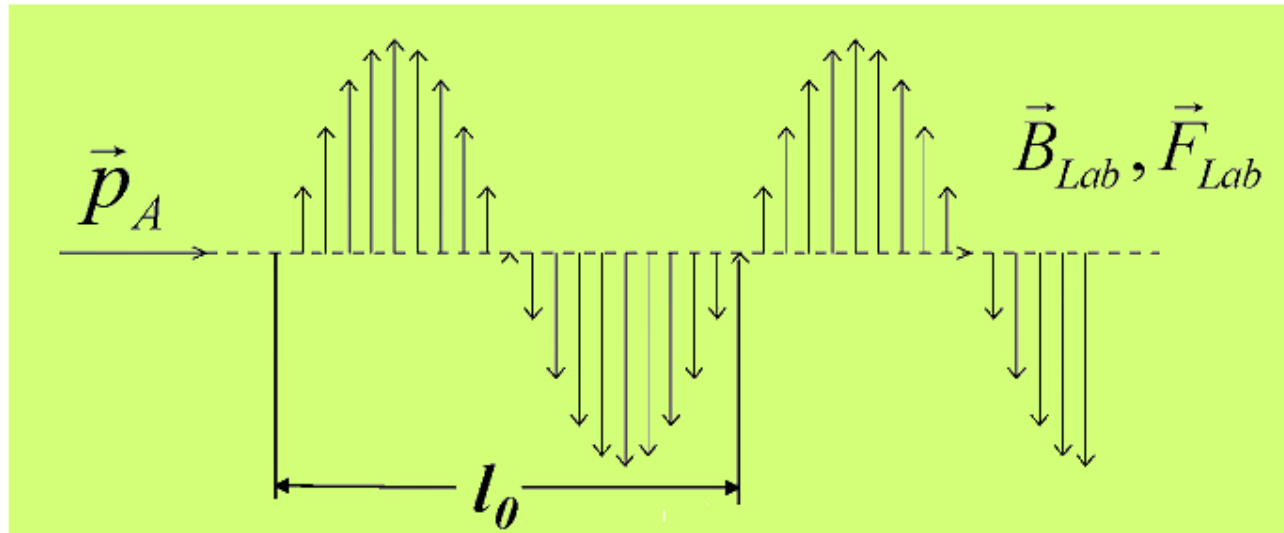
Impact on atomic beam by external magnetic field  $B_{lab}$  & Lorentz factor  $\gamma$



$$|\vec{E}| = \beta\gamma B_{lab} \approx \gamma B_{lab}$$

# Resonant enhancement of the annihilation rate of $A_{2\pi}$

*L. Nemenov, V. Ovsianikov, E. Tchapyguine, Nucl. Phys. (2002)*

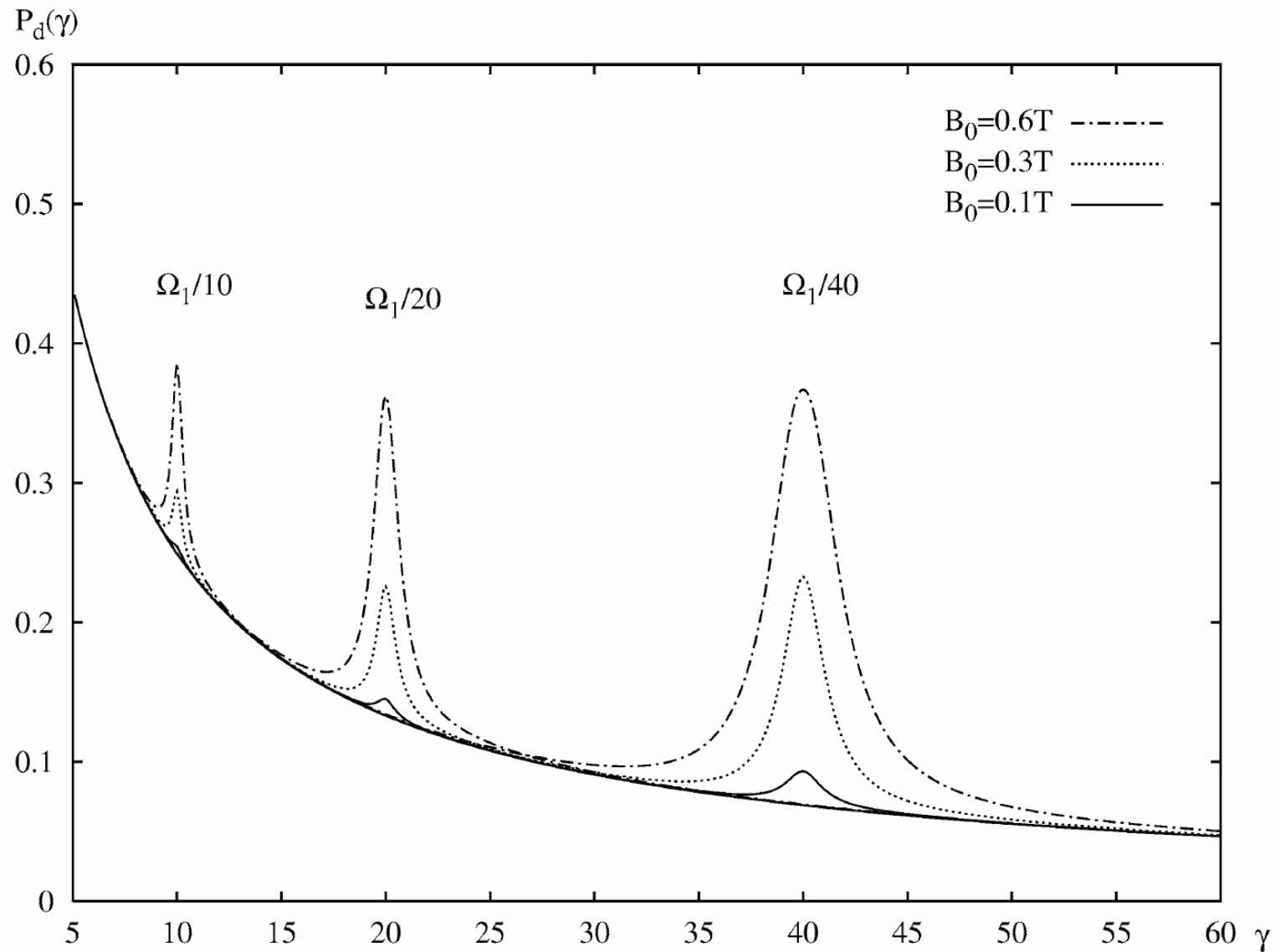


In Lab. System:  $T_{Lab} = \frac{l_0}{\beta c}, \quad \omega_{Lab} = \frac{2\pi}{T_{Lab}}$

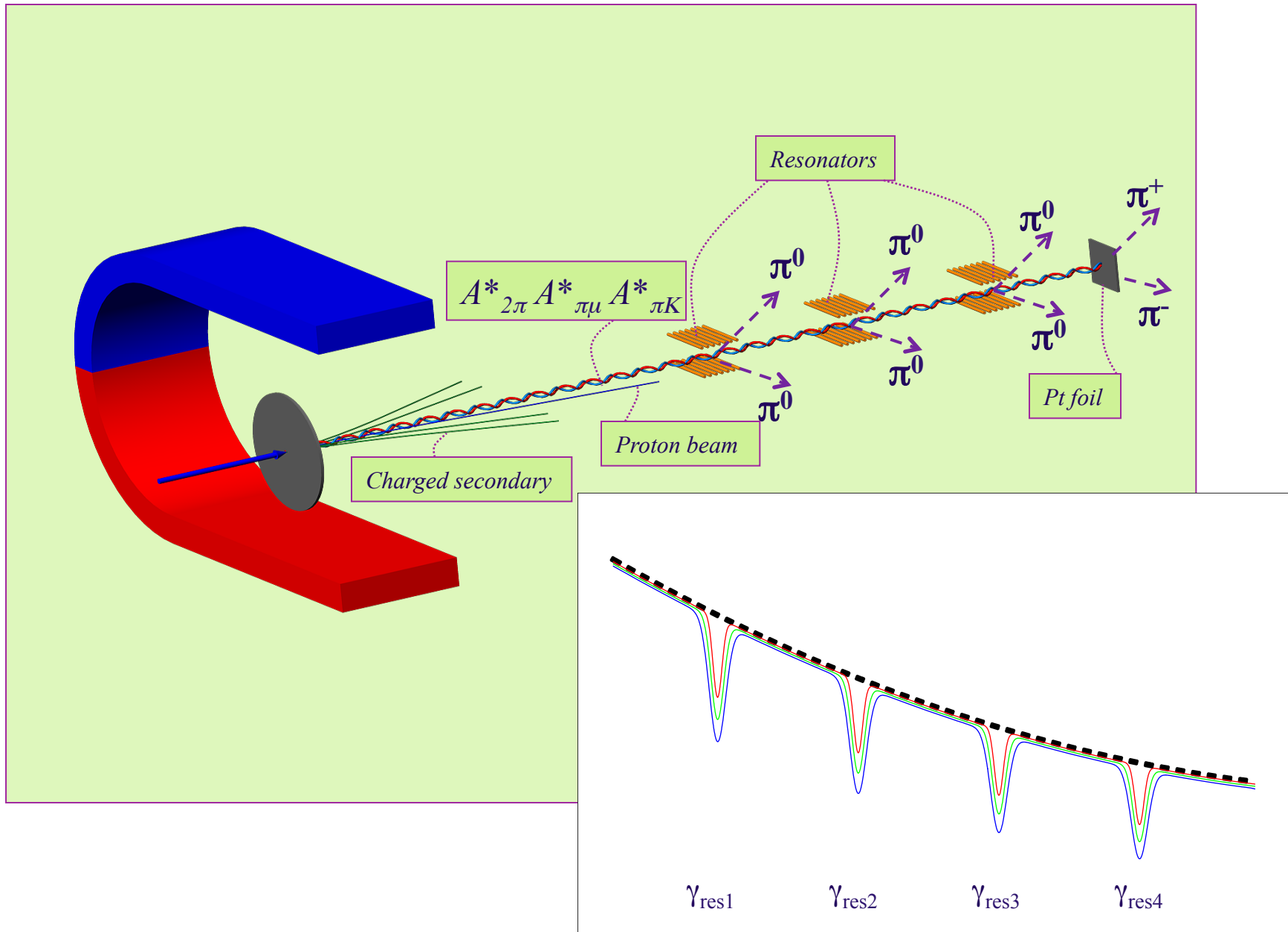
In CM System:  $\tilde{\omega} = \gamma \omega_{Lab}, \quad \tilde{F} = \gamma \vec{F}_{Lab} \cdot \cos \tilde{\omega} t, \quad \tilde{\Omega} = \frac{E_{2p} - E_{2s}}{\hbar}$

at resonance:  $\tilde{\Omega} = \tilde{\omega} = \gamma_{res} \cdot \omega_{Lab} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \gamma_{res} = \frac{\tilde{\Omega}}{\omega_{Lab}}$

# Resonant enhancement



# Resonant method



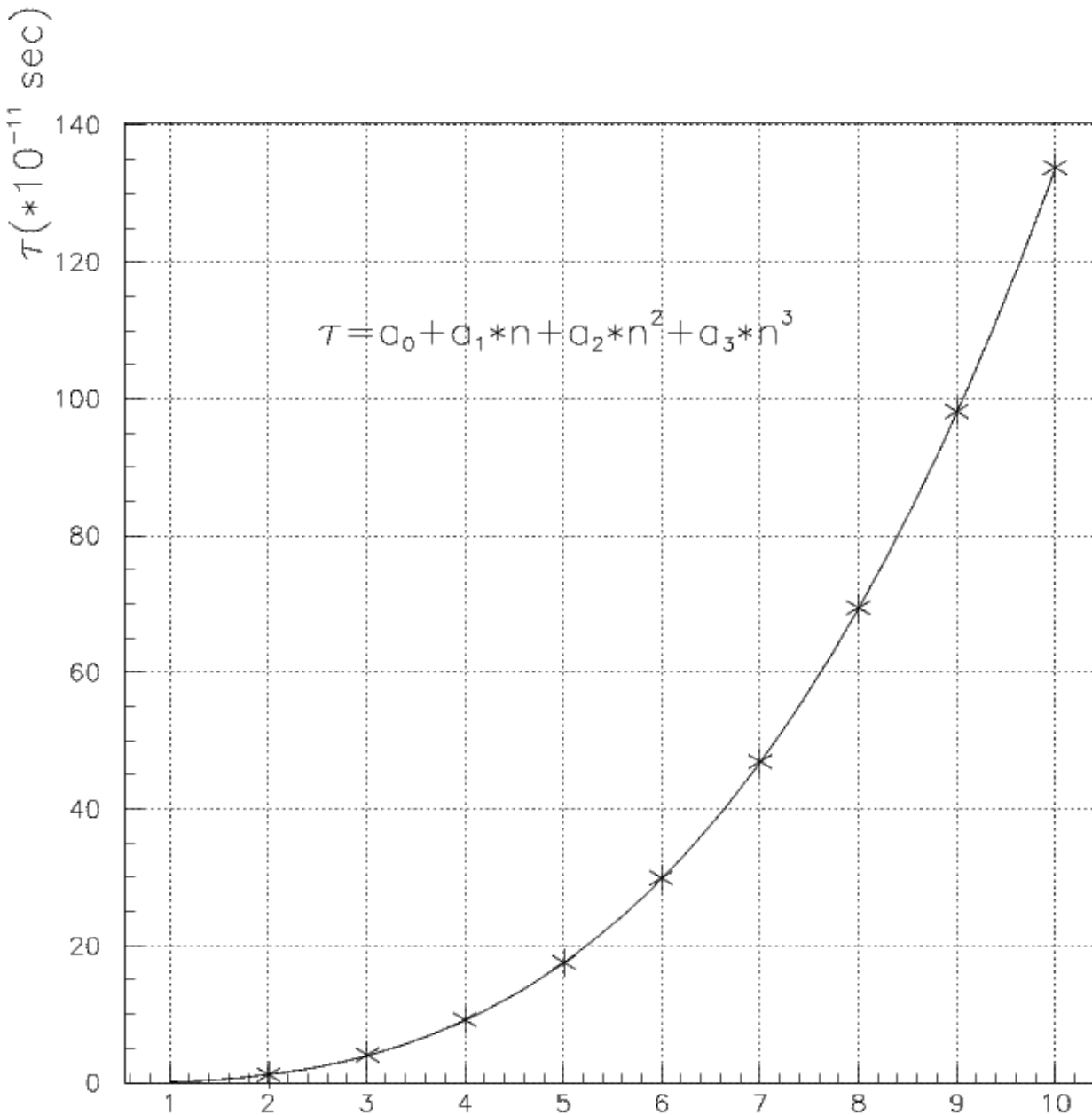
# Published results on $\pi\pi$ atom: lifetime & scattering length

DIRAC data	$\tau_{1s}$ ( $10^{-15}$ s)				$ a_0 - a_2 $				Reference
	value	stat	syst	<i>theo</i> * tot	value	stat	syst	<i>theo</i> * tot	
2001	<b>2.91</b>	+ 0.45 - 0.38	+ 0.19 - 0.49	$\begin{bmatrix} + 0.49 \\ - 0.62 \end{bmatrix}$	<b>0.264</b>	+ 0.017 - 0.020	+ 0.022 - 0.009	$\begin{bmatrix} + 0.033 \\ - 0.020 \end{bmatrix}$	PL B 619 (2005) 50
2001-03	<b>3.15</b>	+ 0.20 - 0.19	+ 0.20 - 0.18	$\begin{bmatrix} + 0.28 \\ - 0.26 \end{bmatrix}$	<b>0.2533</b>	+ 0.0078 - 0.0080	+ 0.0072 - 0.0077	$\begin{bmatrix} + 0.0106 \\ - 0.0111 \end{bmatrix}$	PL B 704 (2011) 24

\* theoretical uncertainty included in systematic error

NA48	K-decay	$a_0 - a_2$				Reference
		value	stat	syst	<i>theo</i> tot	
2009	$K_{3\pi}$	<b>0.2571</b>	$\pm 0.0048$	$\pm 0.0029$	$\pm 0.0088$	EPJ C64 (2009) 589
2010	$K_{e4}$ & $K_{3\pi}$	<b>0.2639</b>	$\pm 0.0020$	$\pm 0.0015$		EPJ C70 (2010) 635

# $A_{2\pi}$ lifetime, $\tau$ , in np states



$n_H$	$\tau_H \cdot 10^8$ s	$\tau_{2\pi} \cdot 10^{11}$ s	Decay length $A_{2\pi}$ in L.S. cm for $\gamma=16.1$
2p	0.16	1.17	5.7
3p	0.54	3.94	19
4p	1.24	9.05	44
5p	2.40	17.5	84.5
6p	4.1	29.9	144
7p		46.8*	226
8p		69.3*	335

\* extrapolated values