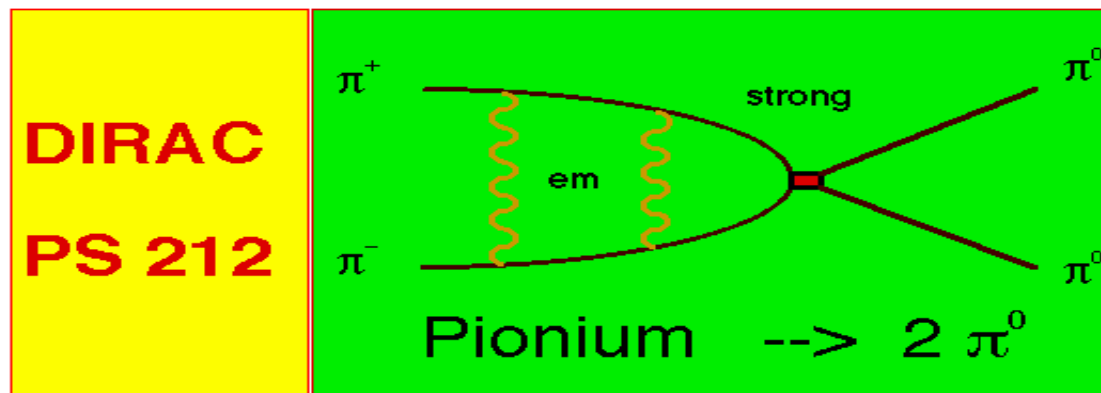


# Double-exotic dimeson atoms and low-energy QCD

## LIFETIME MEASUREMENT OF MESONIUM

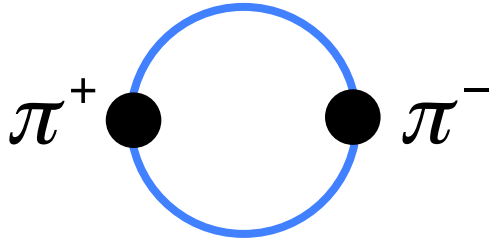


Collaboration DIRAC (Dimeson Relativistic Atom Complex) → [cern.ch/DIRAC](http://cern.ch/DIRAC)  
(~70 people from Czechia, Italy, Japan, Romania, Russia, Spain, Switzerland)

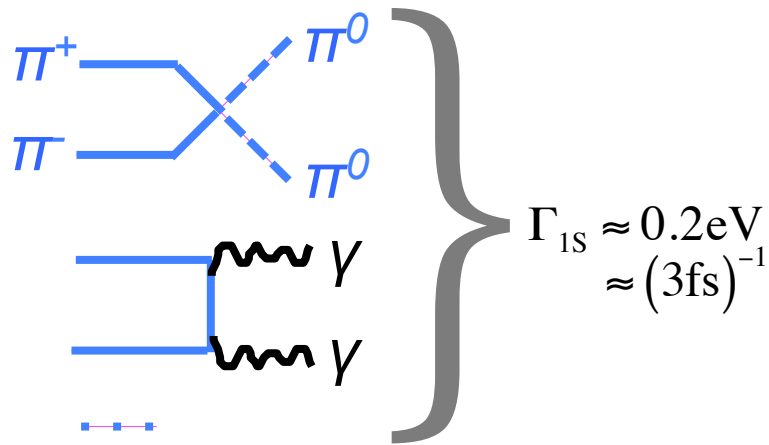
- Mesonium & lifetime of O(femtosecond)
- Mesonium detection / lifetime measurement
- Magnetic double-arm spectrometer @ CERN PS
- $\pi\pi$  &  $\pi K$  atom lifetime / scattering length measurement
- Long-lived  $\pi\pi$  atom

# Mesonium / pionium

$A_{2\pi}$

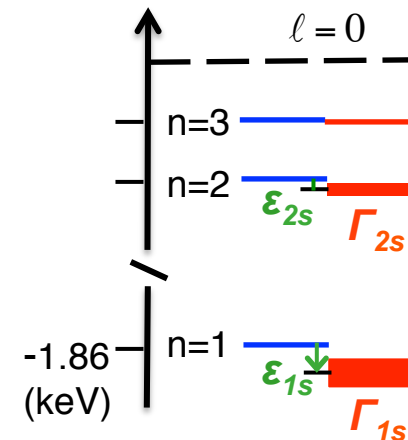


Decay modes:

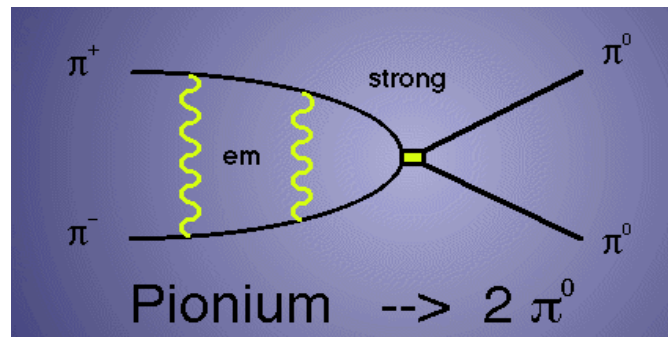


- Reduced mass:  $\mu = \frac{1}{2} M_\pi \approx 70 \text{ MeV}$
- Bohr radius:  $r_B = (\alpha\mu)^{-1} = 387 \text{ fm}$
- Bohr momentum:  $p_B = (\alpha\mu) \approx 0.5 \text{ MeV}$
- Binding energy:  $E_B^C = -\frac{1}{2} \alpha^2 \mu = -1.86 \text{ keV}$

**STRONG** => level shift  $\epsilon$  and width  $\Gamma$



# Mesonium lifetime



$$\downarrow$$
$$A_{2\pi}(J^{PC} = 0^{++})$$

$$\tau^{-1} \propto \underbrace{[a_0 - a_2]}_{\Delta}^2$$

$$\frac{\delta\tau}{\tau} = 10\% \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\delta\Delta}{\Delta} = 5\%$$

# Motivation for DIRAC

---

## Experimental aspects

- ◆ atomic physics  
@ high energy
- ◆ measure lifetime  
@ order of  $10^{-15}$  s

## Theoretical aspects

- ◆ study of QCD  
@ low energy
- ◆  $\pi\pi$  scattering:  
theory ahead experiment

# QCD @ low energy

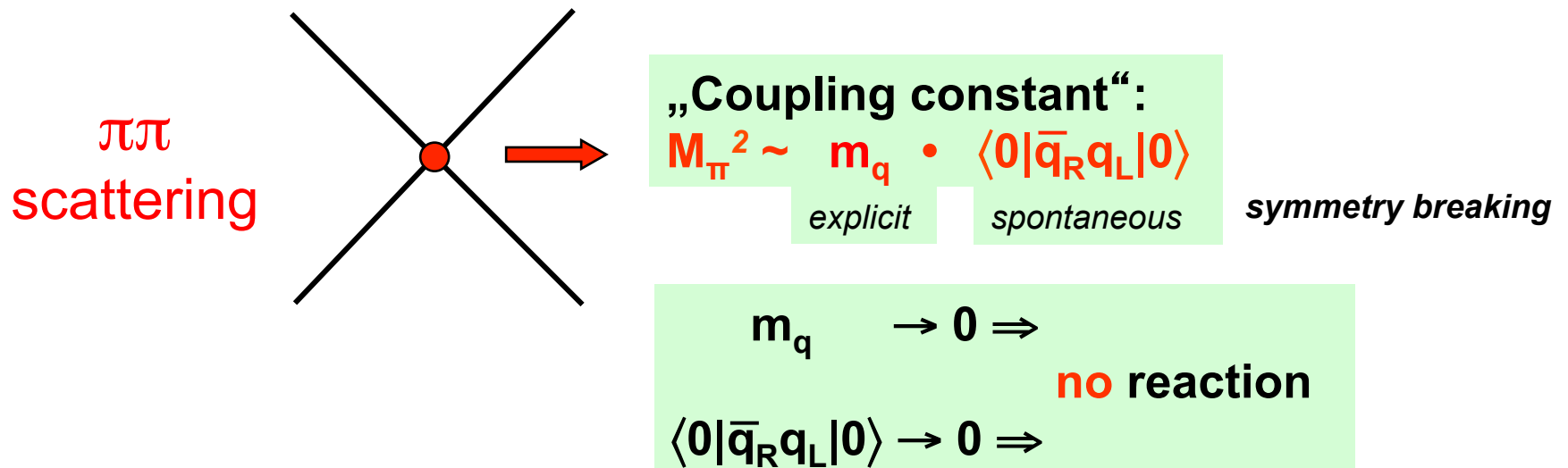
QCD @ low energy (non-perturbative/confinement):

→ other DOF:  $(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{g}) \Rightarrow$  (meson, baryon)



**Goldstone Boson physics**

EFT / ChPT with precise predictions !



# QCD @ low energy

---

Physics behind DIRAC:  
 $\pi^+\pi^-$  atom (pionium)  $\Leftrightarrow$  QCD & EM  $\oplus$  interplay

- ◆ non-perturbative QCD
- ◆ QCD ground state / QCD vacuum?
- ◆  $\Gamma(\text{pionium}) = f(a_i)$ ,  $a_i = \llcorner\text{scattering}\llcorner$  lengths

# Pionium lifetime

...in the framework „**QCD including photons**“:

- Workshops „HadAtom01“, hep-ph/0112293 and „HadAtom02“, hep-ph/0301266
- J.Gasser, V.Lyubovitskij, A.Rusetsky, A.Gall, „Decays of the  $\pi^+\pi^-$  atom“, PR D64 (2001) 016008:

$$\Gamma_{2\pi^0} = \frac{2}{9} \alpha^3 p^* A^2 (1 + K) = \Gamma_{2\pi^0}^{\text{Deser}} (1 + \delta_\Gamma)$$

DIRAC



$$A = \underbrace{(a_0 - a_2)}_{\text{DIRAC}} + \varepsilon$$

$p^*$  ...  $\pi^0$  momentum

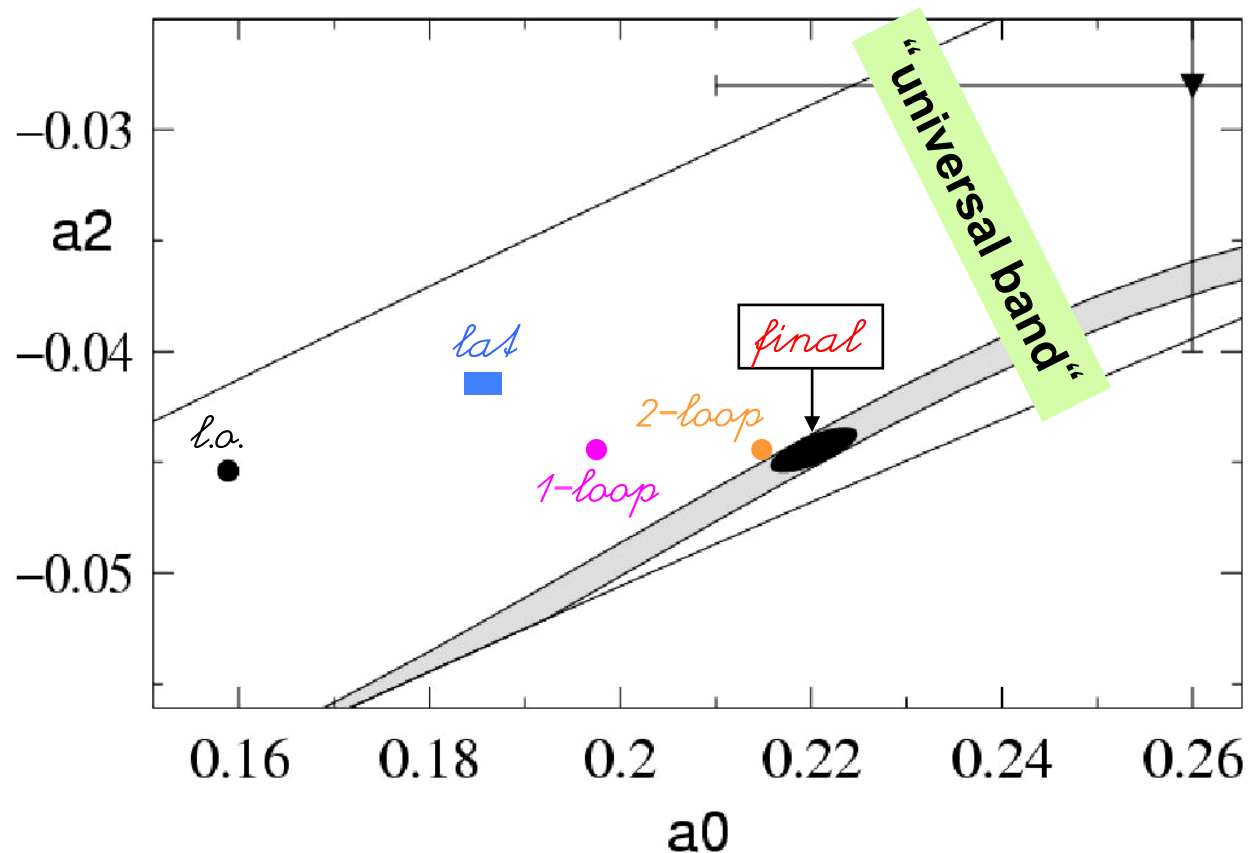
$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{For } a_0 - a_2 = 0.265 \pm 0.004 \\ \text{and } \varepsilon = (6.1 \pm 1.6) \cdot 10^{-3} \\ \text{and } K = (1.15 \pm 0.03) \cdot 10^{-2} \end{array} \right\} \rightarrow \delta_\Gamma = 0.058 \pm 0.012$$

$$\Rightarrow \tau = (2.9 \pm 0.1) \text{ fs}$$

$$\rightarrow c\tau \approx 1 \mu\text{m}$$

# S-wave scattering lengths: ( $a_0, a_2$ ) plane

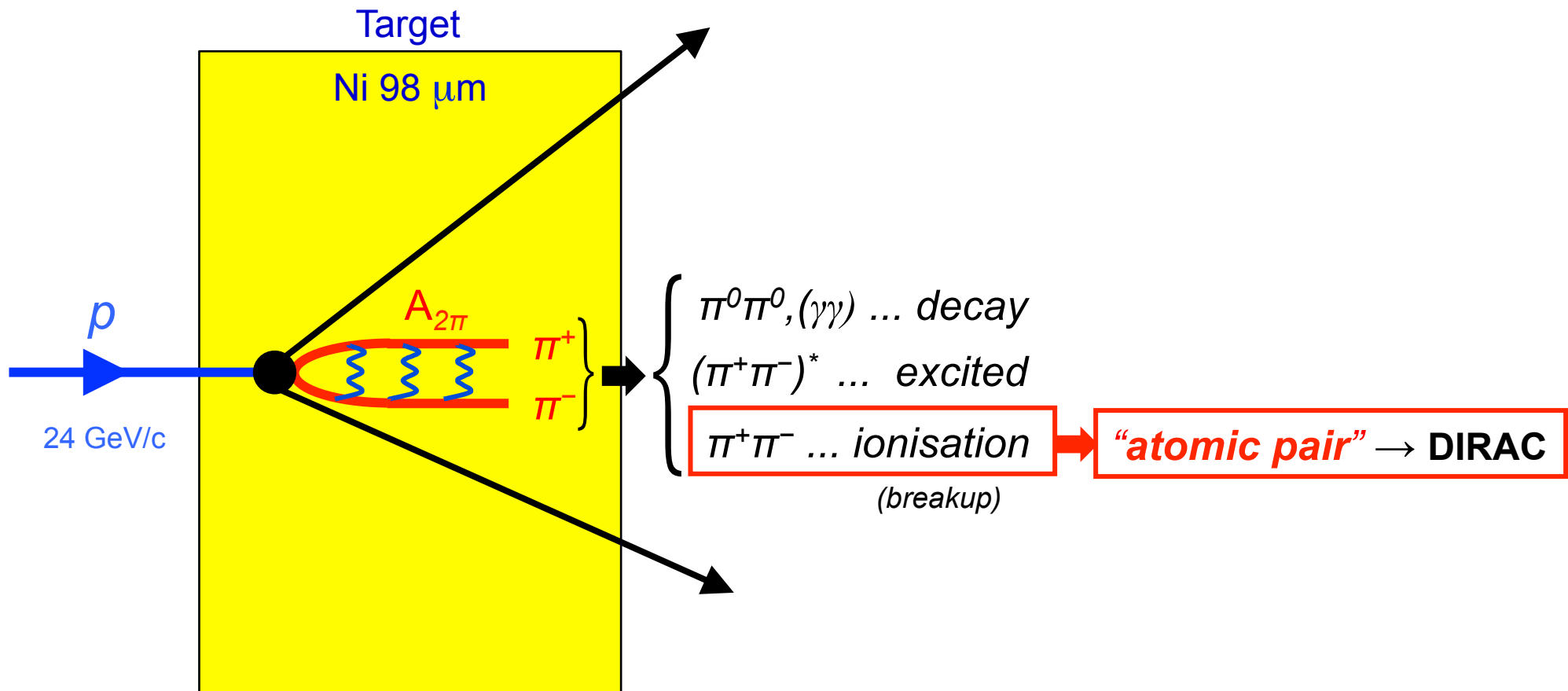
- Roy equations only admit solutions in the „universal band“.
- ● ... *tree* result (Weinberg)
- □ ... low energy theorem for scalar radius
- black ellipse represents *final* result: Roy+ChPT.
- ■ ... *lattice* QCD result



**Reference:** G.Colangelo, J.Gasser and H.Leutwyler, Nucl.Phys. B603 (2001) 125



# Production of ponium ( $A_{2\pi}$ )



$A_{2\pi}$  generated in nS-states:  $|\Psi_{nS}(0)|^2 \propto \frac{1}{n^3}$  [1S: 83%; 2S: 10%, ...]

# Detection of pionium

## Fate of produced relativistic $A_{2\pi}$

$[\gamma \approx 17]$

Use thin & dense target  $\Rightarrow \sim 100\mu\text{m Ni}$ :

1) **Annihilation**  $A_{2\pi} \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0$  ( $\tau \approx 3\text{fs}$ ):

$\rightarrow$  decay length  $\lambda_{1s} \approx 17\mu\text{m} \sim \lambda_{\text{int}}(1\text{s})$ :

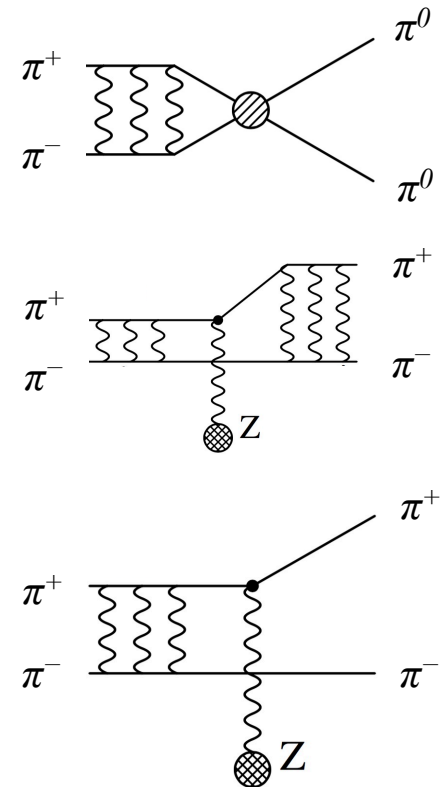
$P_{\text{ann}} \approx 0.38$

2) **Excitation** . . . . . discrete states

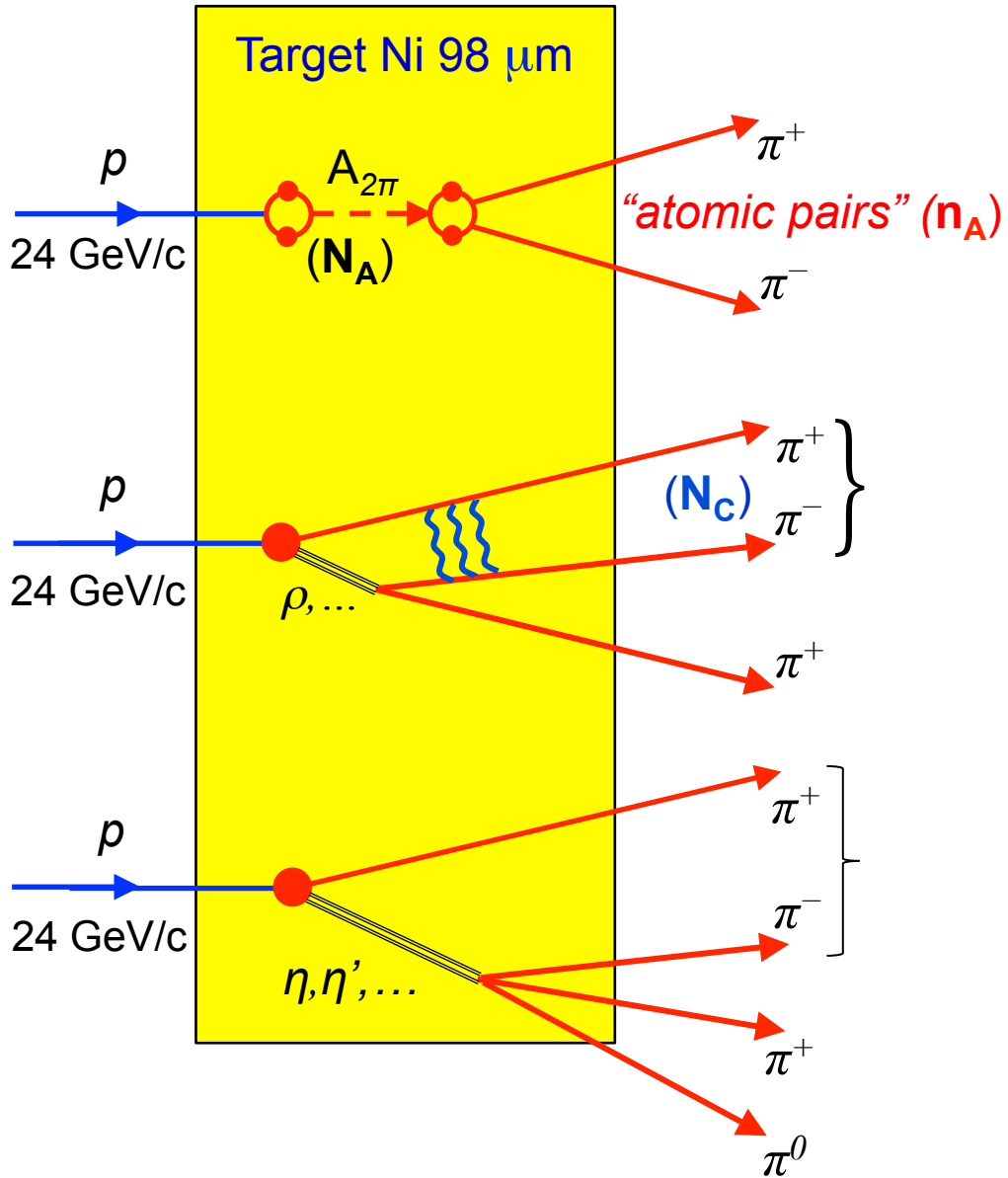
3) **Ionisation**  $\rightarrow$  „**atomic pairs**“:  $P_{\text{br}} \approx 0.47$

- $Q(\text{CM}) < 3 \text{ MeV}/c$

- $E_+ = E_-$  (3‰) &  $\Theta_{+-}(\text{mrad}) \sim 6/\gamma \approx 0.35$



# Scheme: Atom observation / lifetime measurement



( $\tau_{A_{2\pi}}$  ... too small to be measured directly)

*E. m. interaction of  $A_{2\pi}$  in target:*

$A_{2\pi} \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-$   
 $Q < 3 \text{ MeV}/c, \Theta_{lab} < 3 \text{ mrad}$

*Coulomb from short-lived sources:*

$N_C(Q < Q_0) \Rightarrow N_A \Rightarrow$  Breakup probability:  
 $P_{br}(\tau) = n_A / N_A$

*non-Coulomb from long-lived sources*

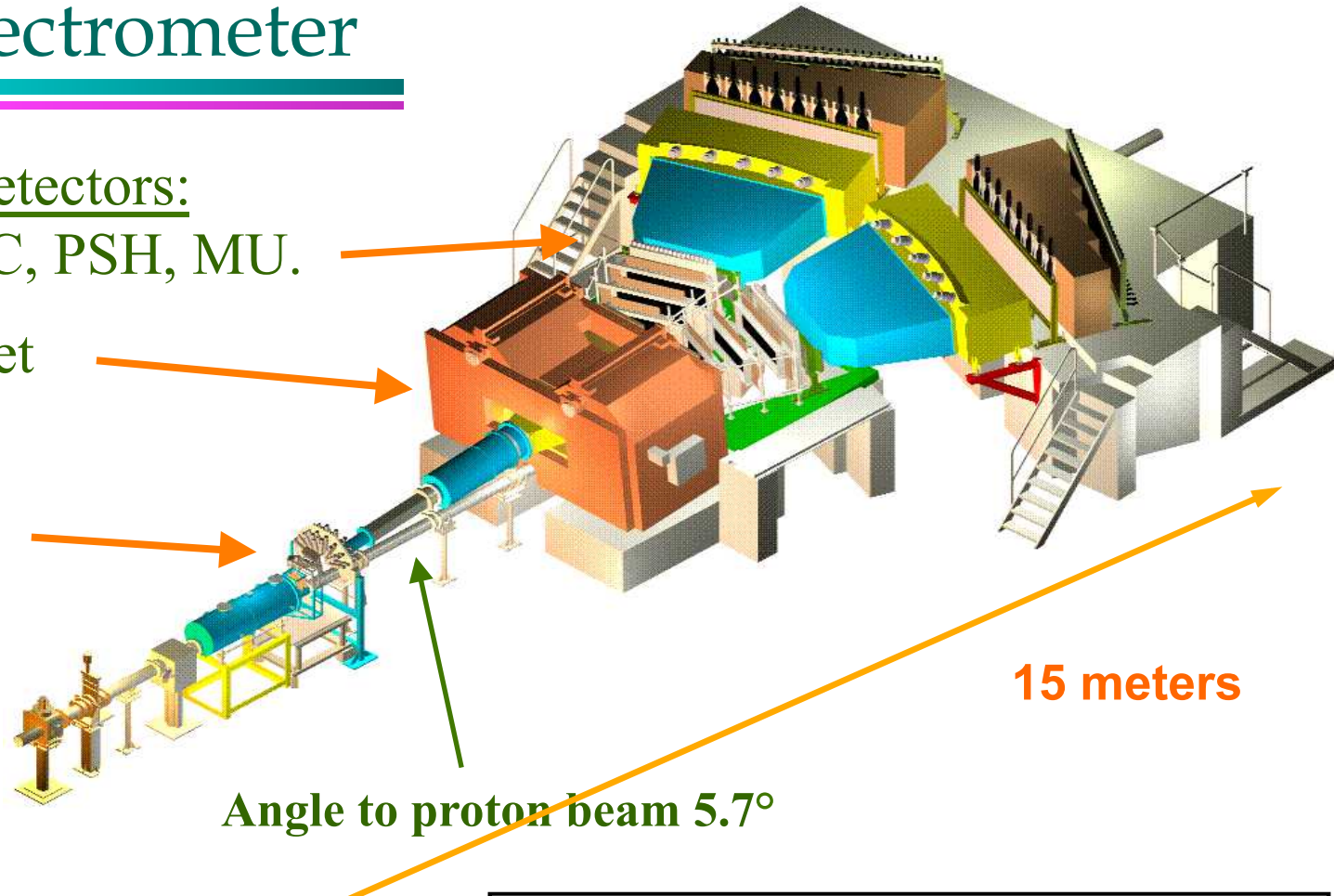
# Double-arm spectrometer

[CERN-PH-EP-2015-147]

Downstream detectors:  
DC, VH, HH, C, PSH, MU.

Bending magnet

Upstream detectors:  
MSGC, SFD, IH.



Proton beam

15 meters

Angle to proton beam  $5.7^\circ$

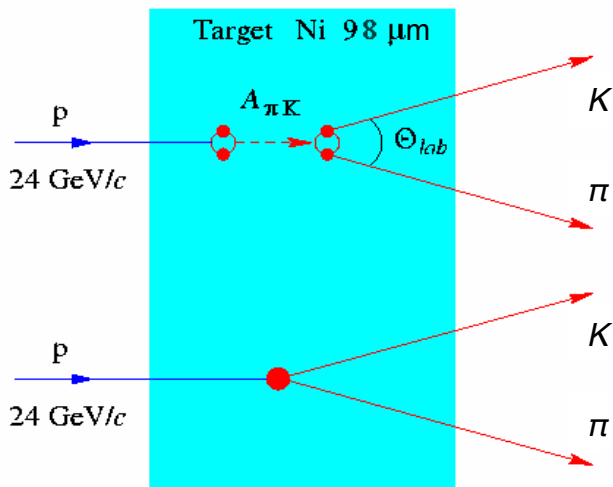
## Setup features:

angle to proton beam:	$\Theta = 5.7^\circ$
channel aperture:	$\Omega = 1.2 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ sr}$
dipole magnet:	1.65T & 2.2 Tm
momentum range:	$1.2 \leq p \leq 7 \text{ GeV}/c$
rel. mom. resolution:	$\sigma_{QT} = 0.10 \text{ MeV}/c$
	$\sigma_{QL} = 0.55 \text{ MeV}/c$

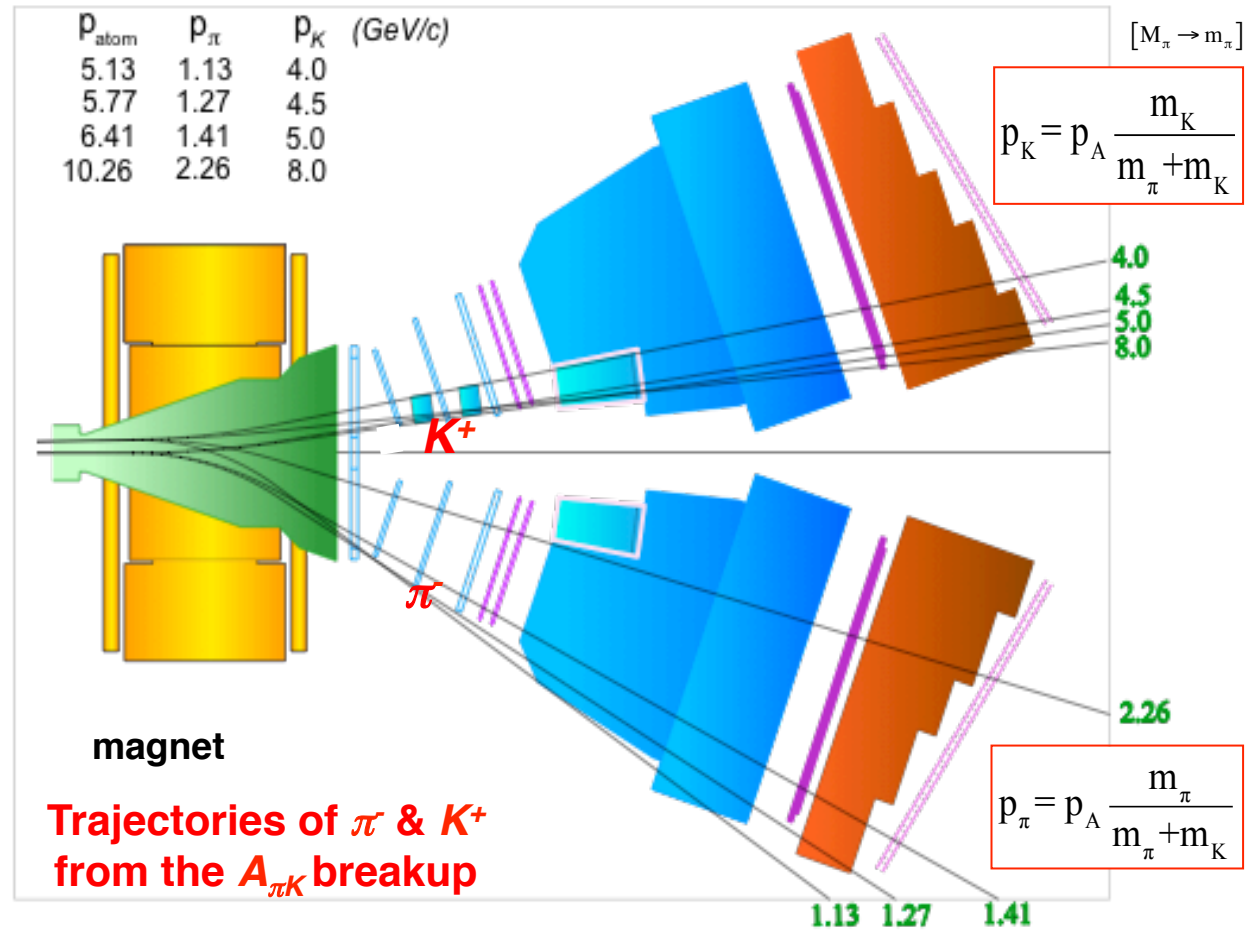
# DIRAC setup

## $\pi K$ atom

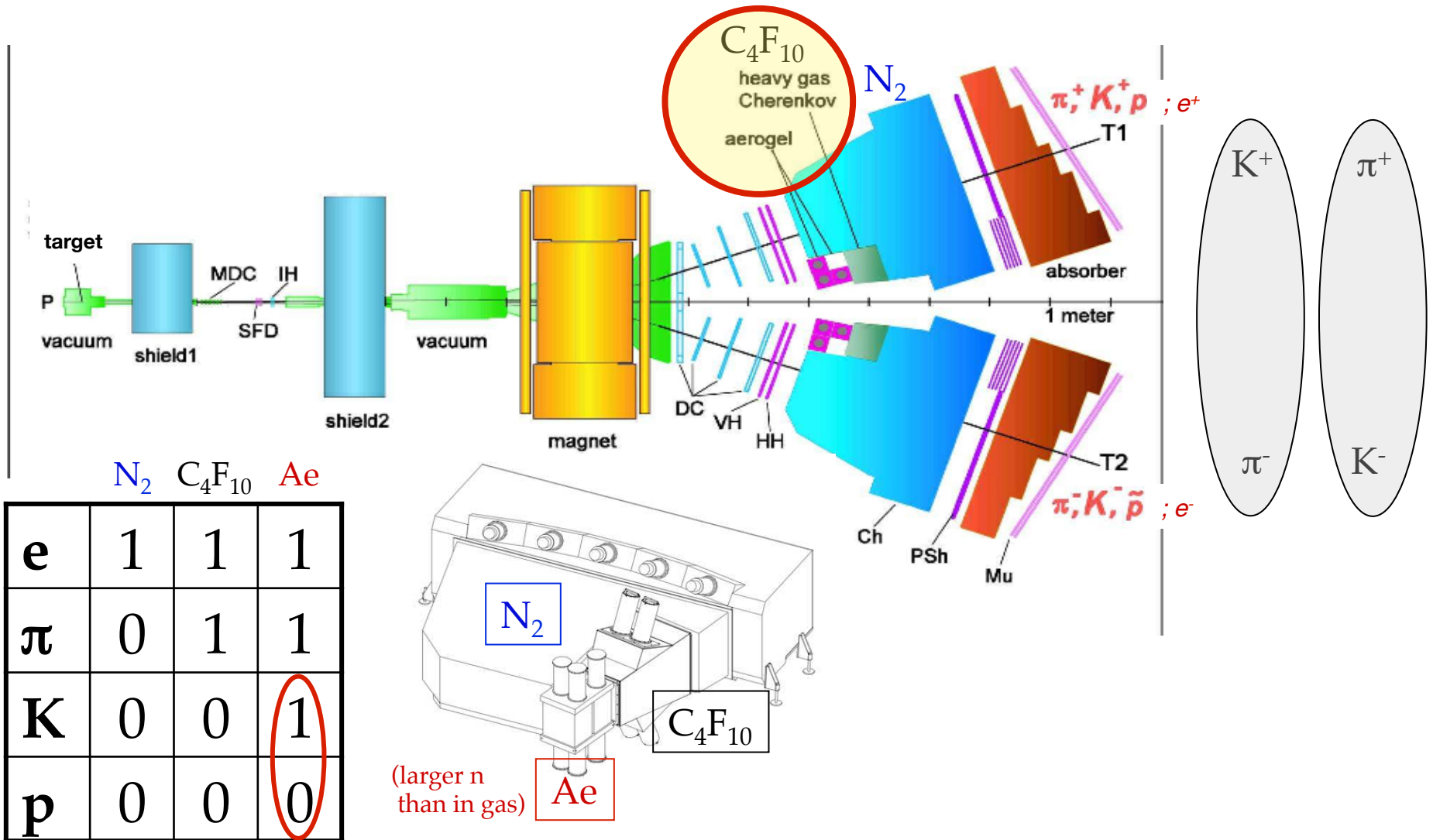
(asymmetric system)



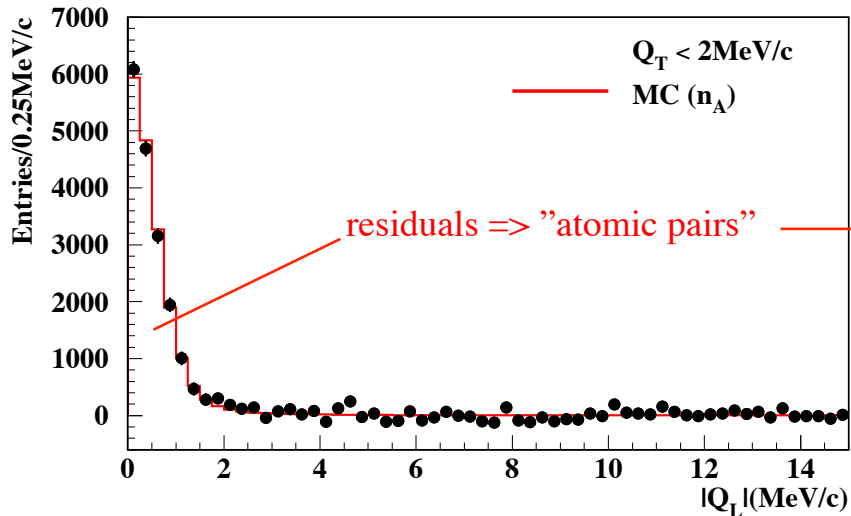
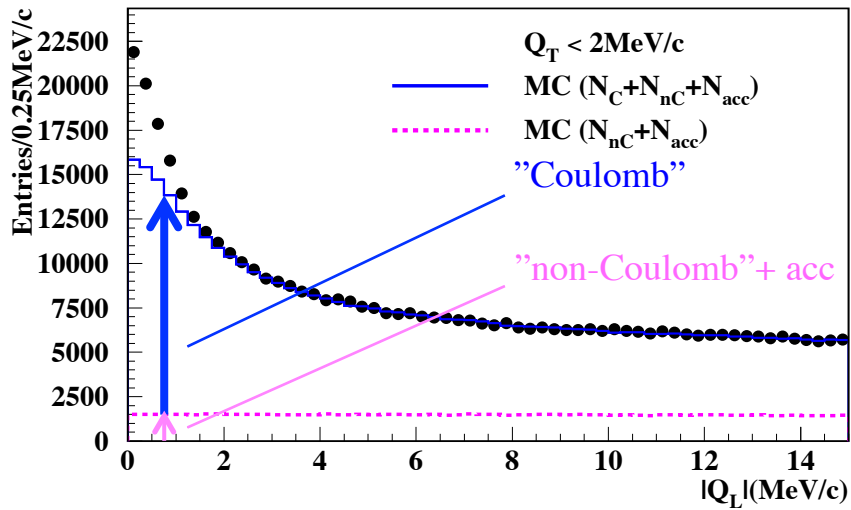
- kaon detection
- phase space modification
- $e - \pi$  separation
- $\pi - K$  separation
- $K - p$  separation



# DIRAC setup



# Data analysis $\Rightarrow$ "atomic pairs"



## Selection and analysis:

- prompt  $\pi^+\pi^-$  pairs:  $|\Delta t_{\text{left-right}}| < 0.5 \text{ ns}$
- simulation:
  - parametrization of nC (phase space) and C (Gamow-Sommerfeld-Sakharov factor  $A_C$ )
  - MC of detector response
- $\chi^2$ -analysis in  $(Q_T, Q_L)$  plane

$$A_C(Q) = \frac{2\pi\alpha m_\pi}{1 - e^{-\frac{Q}{2\pi\alpha m_\pi}}}$$

## Result (Nickel 2001-2003):

$$n_A = 21227 \pm 407$$

$$N_C |_{Q_T < 5 \text{ MeV}/c} = 1'871'377 \pm 8613$$

$$\Rightarrow P_{\text{br}} \approx 0.46 (\pm < 3\%) \dots \text{breakup}$$

(see next slide)

# Pionium lifetime measurement

$$P_{\text{br}}^{\text{exp}}(\tau_{A_{2\pi}}) = \frac{n_A}{N_A}$$

$\leftarrow \# A_{2\pi} \text{ ionized} |_{\text{measured}}$   
 $\leftarrow \# A_{2\pi} \text{ produced} |_{\text{calculated}}$



There exists a precise relation between  $N_A$  (bound state) and the total number  $N_C$  of Coulomb pairs (free state) with small  $Q$ :

$$N_A = K(Q_0) N_C(Q < Q_0) \quad \{K^{\text{th}} \approx 0.6 \dots Q < 2\text{MeV}/c\}$$

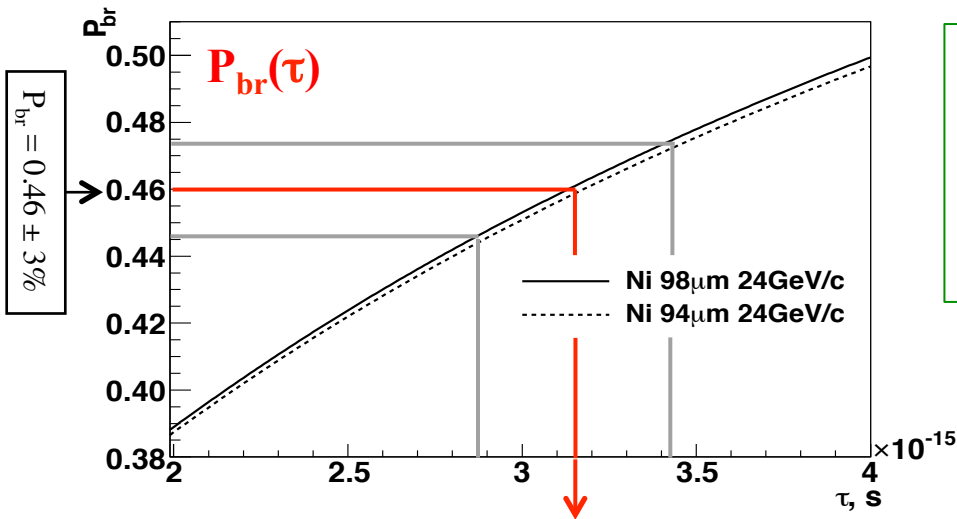
[L.Nemenov, SJNP 41 (1985) 629]

$\rightarrow P_{\text{br}}^{\text{exp}}(\tau_{A_{2\pi}})$  is compared to  $P_{\text{br}}^{\text{th}}(\ell, Z, \rho; p_{A_{2\pi}}, \tau_{A_{2\pi}}) :$



# Pionium lifetime measurement

**Breakup probability  $\rightarrow$  lifetime  $\tau$  ( $\rightarrow$  scattering length):**



The solution of the transport equations provides a 1-to-1 dependence of the measured breakup probability  $P_{br}$  on the pionium lifetime  $\tau$ .



**DIRAC, PLB704 (2011) 24:**  $\tau = (3.15 \pm 0.28) fs$

$\rightarrow |a_0 - a_2| = (0.253 \pm 0.011) m_\pi^{-1}$



**NA48/2, EPJC70 (2010) 635** [ $K_{e4}$  and  $K_{3\pi}$  decay]:

$\rightarrow a_0 - a_2 = (0.264 \pm 0.003) m_\pi^{-1}$   
 $[0.2639 \pm 0.0020]_{stat} \pm 0.0015]_{syst}$



**ChPT** (J. Gasser et al., PRD64 (2001) 016008):  
 $\Gamma = \tau^{-1} \propto |a_0 - a_2|^2 \rightarrow \tau = (2.9 \pm 0.1) fs$

$\leftarrow a_0 - a_2 = (0.265 \pm 0.004) m_\pi^{-1}$



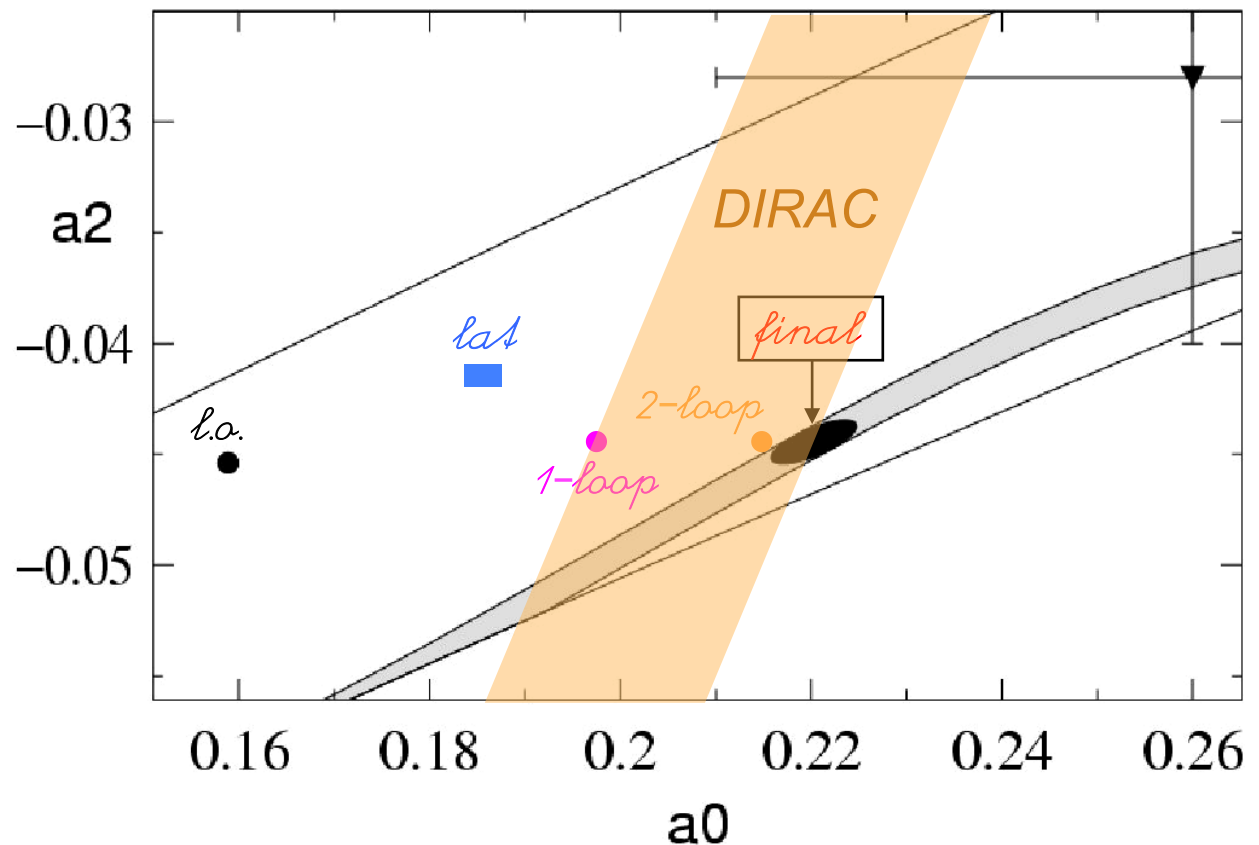
**Lattice** (Z. Fu, Com. Theor. Phys. 57 (2012) 78):

$\rightarrow a_0 - a_2 = (0.228 \pm 0.002) m_\pi^{-1}$



# S-wave scattering lengths: ( $a_0, a_2$ ) plane

- Roy equations only admit solutions in the „universal band“.
- ● ... *tree* result (Weinberg)
- □ ... low energy theorem for scalar radius
- black ellipse represents *final* result: Roy+ChPT.
- ■ ... *lattice* QCD result



**Reference:** G.Colangelo, J.Gasser and H.Leutwyler, Nucl.Phys. B603 (2001) 125

# $\pi K$ atom

Electromagnetic force:

$$E_B = E(1S) = -\alpha^2 \mu / 2 = -2.9 \text{ keV}$$

$$r_B = r(1S) = 1 / \alpha \mu = 248 \text{ fm}$$

↓  
 $\mu = \text{reduced mass} = 109 \text{ MeV}$

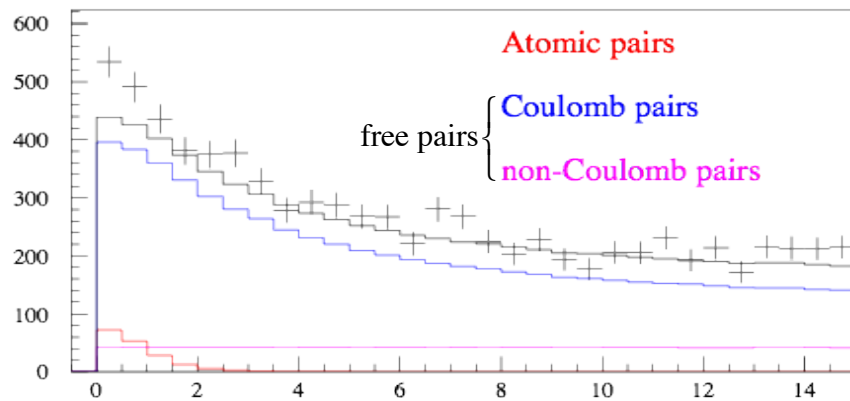
Strong force:

- $\Delta E \approx -10 \text{ eV}$  ... stronger binding
- $\pi K^+$  *decays*  $\Rightarrow \pi^0 K^0$ :  $\tau = (3.5 \pm 0.4) \text{ fs}$   
( $\pi^+ K^-$  *decays*  $\Rightarrow \pi^0 \bar{K}^0$ )

[For details: J. Schweizer, PLB587 (2004) 33]

First evidence for  $\pi K$ -atom *observation* in DIRAC: PLB674 (2009) 11

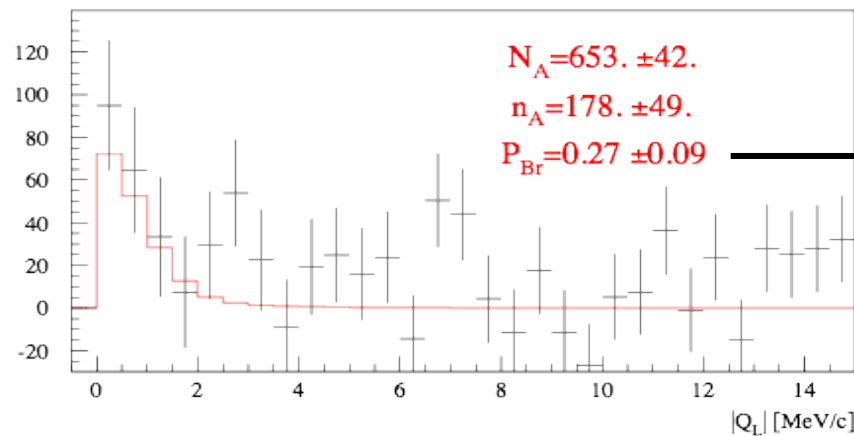
# $\pi^+\text{-K}^-$ atom lifetime



## $|Q_L|$ distribution

[Ni target ( $\approx 100 \mu\text{m}$ ), run 2008-2010]

2-dimensional ( $Q_T, Q_L$ ) fit of data ( $Q_T < 4 \text{ MeV}/c$ )



Difference: experimental / free pair distribution

$$\tau = \left( 2.5^{+3.0}_{-1.8} \Big|_{tot} \right) fs \quad \longrightarrow \quad |a_0^-| m_\pi = \frac{1}{3} |a_{1/2} - a_{3/2}| m_\pi = 0.11^{+0.09}_{-0.04}$$

DIRAC, PLB735 (2014) 288

Roy-Steiner dispersion:  
P. Buettiker et al.,  
EPJ C33 (2004) 409

$$\longrightarrow \quad a_0^- m_\pi = 0.090 \pm 0.005$$

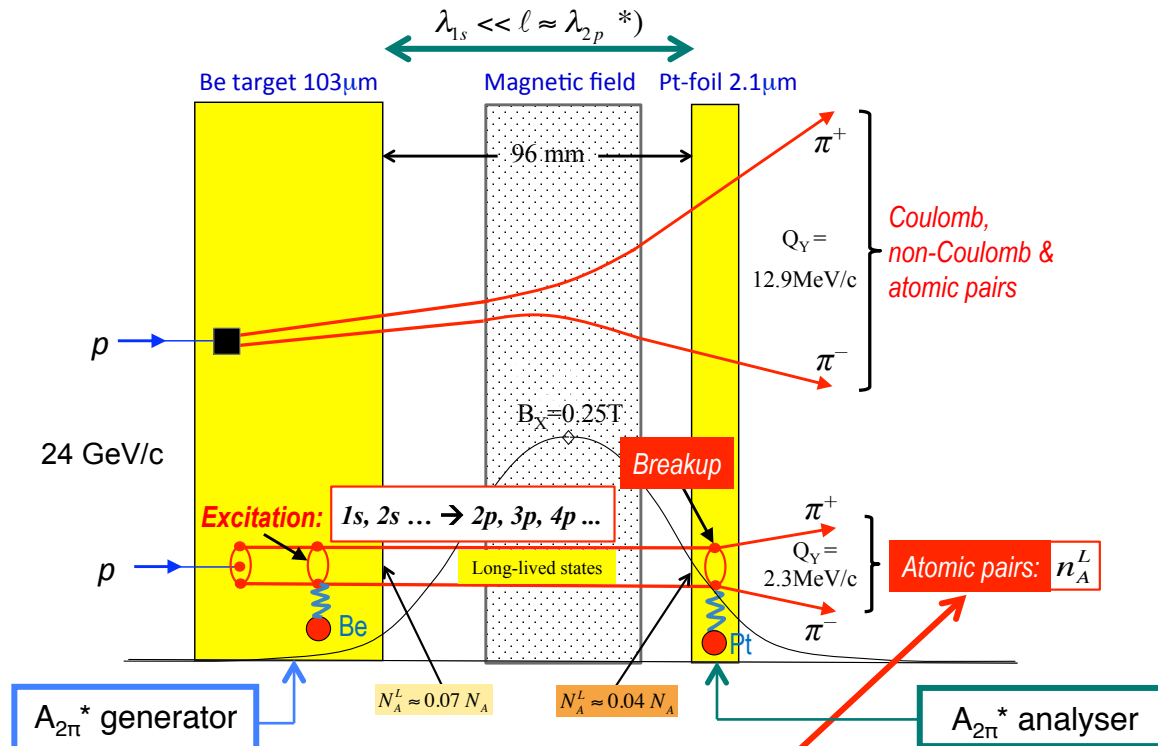
# Long-lived $\pi^+\pi^-$ atom ( $A_{2\pi}^*$ or $A_{2\pi}^L$ )

DIRAC also aims to investigate  $A_{2\pi}$  level splitting (“Lamb shift”) and therewith to determine – besides  $|a_0 - a_2|$  already measured – another combination of  $\pi\pi$  scattering lengths  $2a_0 + a_2$ .

According to Nemenov (PLB 2001, NPA 2002), there exists a method to extract an experimental value for  $E_{2s} - E_{2p} = f(2a_0 + a_2)$  (in general terms:  $E_{ns} - E_{np}$ ) by tracking the dependence of the long-lived  $A_{2\pi}^*$  ( $l \geq 1$ ) decay probability on an applied electromagnetic field.

# $A_{2\pi}^*$ observation

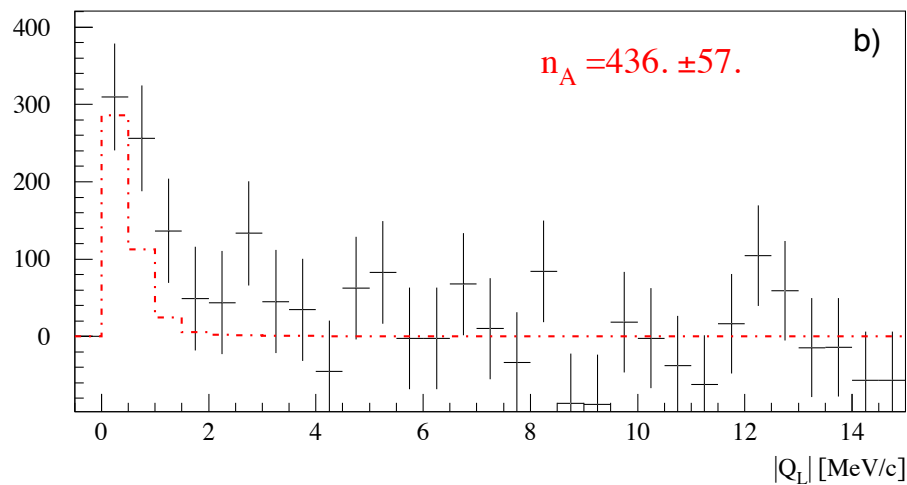
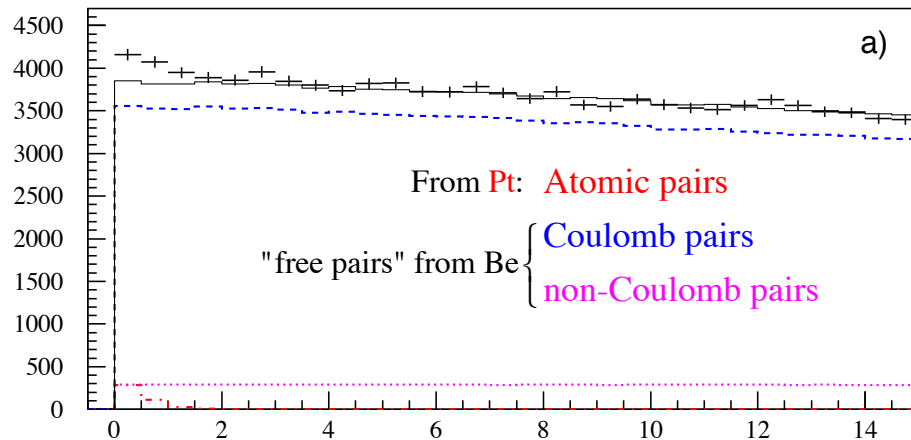
The decay  $A_{2\pi}^*(np) \rightarrow 2\pi^0$  is forbidden by angular momentum conservation. The lifetime of  $A_{2\pi}^*$  in the 2p-state is given by the 2p-1s radiative transition ( $\tau_{2p} \approx 12\text{ps}$ ) with the subsequent annihilation from the 1s-state into  $2\pi^0$  ( $\tau_{1s} \approx 3\text{fs}$ ).



Long-lived  $A_{2\pi}^*$  mostly break up in Pt, yielding additional "atomic pairs"  $\pi^+ \pi^-$ .

\*) For  $\gamma(A_{2\pi}) \approx 17$ : decay lengths  $\lambda_{1s} \approx 17\mu\text{m}$  and  $\lambda_{2p} \approx 59\text{mm}$

# Long-lived $A_{2\pi}^*$



## $|Q_L|$ distribution

[Be target ( $\approx 100 \mu\text{m}$ ), run 2012]

2-dimensional ( $Q_T, Q_L$ ) fit of data ( $Q_T < 2 \text{ MeV}/c$ )

Difference: experimental / free pair distribution:

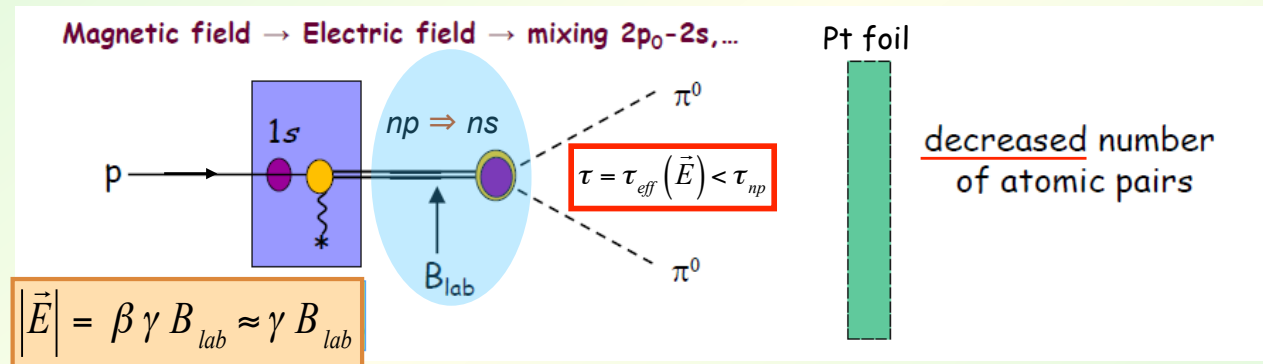
# atomic pairs from  $A_{2\pi}^*$  breakup:  $n_A^L = 436 \pm 61|_{\text{tot}}$

DIRAC, PLB751 (2015) 12

( $7\sigma$ )

# Long-lived $A_{2\pi}^*$

The exertion of a **magnetic field** (  $\Rightarrow$  **electric field**  $\Rightarrow$  **Stark effect** ) on the  $A_{2\pi}^*$  atom opens the possibility to measure the  **$2s - 2p$  energy splitting** by tracking the field dependence of the annihilation or decay probability.



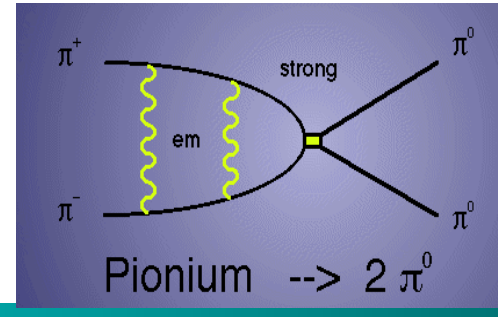
Electric field controlled  $A_{2\pi}^*$  lifetime  $\tau_{eff} \Rightarrow$  “Lamb shift”  $\Delta E_{2s-2p}$  :  
 $\Rightarrow$  S-wave pion-pion scattering length combination  $2a_0 + a_2$



DIRAC  
PS212

# Results from DIRAC

- summary -

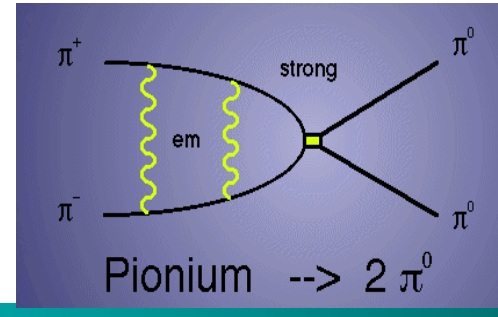


- The DIRAC 2-arm spectrometer provides a pair relative momentum ( $Q$ ) resolution of  $< 1$  MeV/c for  $Q < 30$  MeV/c.
- The extracted **signal** sample consists of **>40000 dissociated  $\pi^+\pi^-$  (atomic pairs)** from  $\pi^+\pi^-$  atoms  $A_{2\pi}$ .
- The  $\pi\pi$  analysis of Ni (2001–2003) data leads to
  - pionium ( $A_{2\pi}$ ) lifetime:  $\tau = (3.15^{+0.20}_{-0.19} [stat] \pm^{+0.20}_{-0.18} [syst]) fs$  th:  $(2.9 \pm 0.1)$
  - $\pi\pi$  scattering length:  $|a_0 - a_2| = (0.253 \pm 0.011) m_\pi^{-1}$   $0.265 \pm 0.004$
- The  $\pi K$  analysis of Ni data ( $178 \pm 49$  atomic pairs) leads to
  - $\pi K$  atom ( $A_{\pi K}$ ) lifetime:  $\tau = (2.5^{+3.0}_{-1.8}) fs$  th:  $(3.5 \pm 0.4)$
  - $\pi K$  scattering length:  $|a_0^-| = (0.11^{+0.09}_{-0.04}) m_\pi^{-1}$   $0.090 \pm 0.005$

DIRAC  
PS212

# Results from DIRAC

- summary -



- First observation of long-lived  $\pi^+\pi^-$  atoms ( $A_{2\pi}^*$ ):
  - number of atomic pairs from  $A_{2\pi}^*$  breakup:  $436 \pm 61$  ( $7\sigma$ )  
[ → study of „Lamb shift“ in  $A_{2\pi}^*$  → scattering length  $2a_0 + a_2$  ]
- Our future goals:
  1. improve on statistics → analyse full  $\pi^+\pi^-$  sample ( $n_A \sim 45000$ )
  2. improve on systematics:
    - different analysis procedures
    - detailed study of multiple scattering
  3.  $A_{2\pi}$  &  $A_{\pi K}$  investigation at CERN SPS (letter of intent?):
    - yield ↑ at p momentum **450 GeV/c** ( $4^0$ ) cf. to 24 GeV/c ( $5.7^0$ ):

$A_{2\pi}$	17
$A_{\pi K}$	~30