



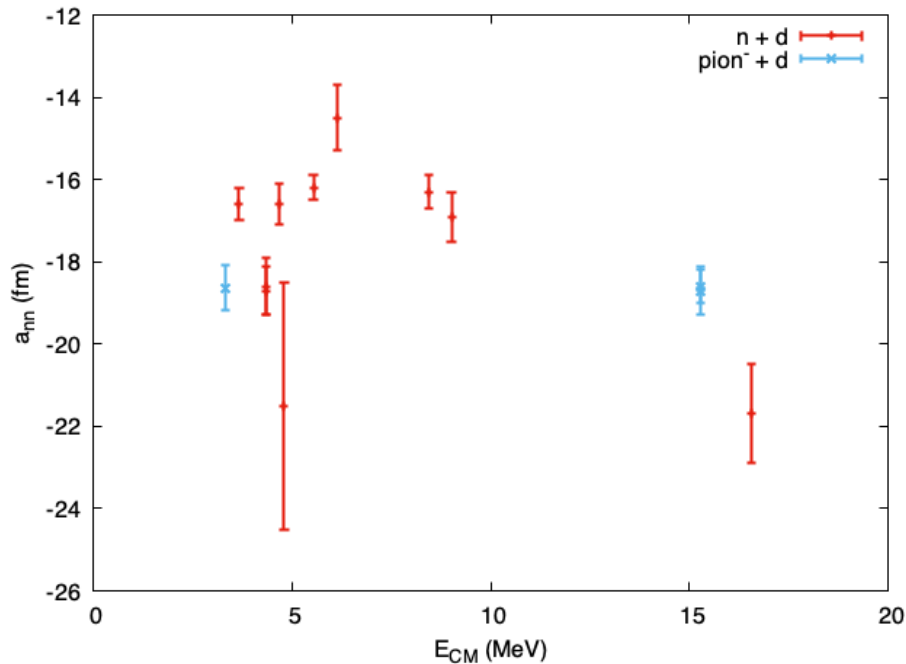
ALMA MATER STUDIORUM  
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA

# Status of NN scattering length experiment

**Cristian Massimi for the working group**

Department of Physics and Astronomy

# Recap



EUROPEAN ORGANIZATION FOR NUCLEAR RESEARCH

Letter of Intent to the ISOLDE and Neutron Time-of-Flight Committee

## Measurement of the neutron-neutron scattering length at the CERN n\_TOF facility

September 21, 2020

D.M. Castelluccio<sup>1,2</sup>, P. Console Camprini<sup>1,2</sup>, M. Diakaki<sup>3</sup>, Z. Eleme<sup>4</sup>, P. Finelli<sup>1,5</sup>, A. Junghans<sup>6</sup>, M. Kokkoris<sup>3</sup>, A. Manna<sup>1,5</sup>, C. Massimi<sup>1,5</sup>, P. Mastinu<sup>1</sup>, M. Mastromarco<sup>1</sup>, P.M. Milazzo<sup>1</sup>, A. Musumarra<sup>1,7</sup>, N. Patronis<sup>4</sup>, M.G. Pellegriti<sup>1</sup>, E. Stamatii<sup>4</sup>, N. Terranova<sup>1,2</sup>, G. Vannini<sup>1</sup>, R. Vlastou<sup>3</sup>, R. Zannoni<sup>5</sup>, and the n\_TOF Collaboration<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> Dipartimento di Fisica ed Astronomia, Università di Catania, Catania, Italy

<sup>8</sup> [www.cern.ch/n\\_TOF](http://www.cern.ch/n_TOF)

**Spokespersons:** C. Massimi (massimi@bo.infn.it), A. Musumarra (musumarra@lns.infn.it), N. Patronis (npatronis@uoi.gr)

**Technical coordinator:** O. Aberle (oliver.aberle@cern.ch)

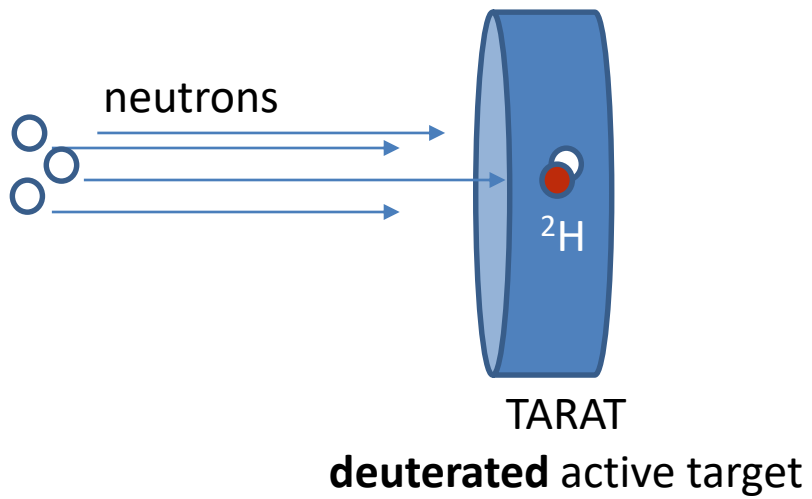
**Abstract:** We propose to exploit the interaction of the two neutrons in the final state of the neutron-induced deuteron breakup reaction  ${}^2\text{H}(n,p)nn$  for determining the neutron-neutron scattering length in a wide energy range (namely between 10 and 100 MeV) in a single experiment. By taking advantage of the unique features of the updated n\_TOF facility, the measurement can be carried out at EAR2. The experiment is based on the detection of the three outgoing particles in kinematic coincidence, leading to a full three-body kinematic reconstruction. The feasibility of this challenging experiment requires a preliminary experimental activity in order to investigate the possibility of using an active target, based on liquid scintillation detector, highly enriched in deuterium.

**Requested protons for the test:**  $5 \times 10^{17}$  protons on target

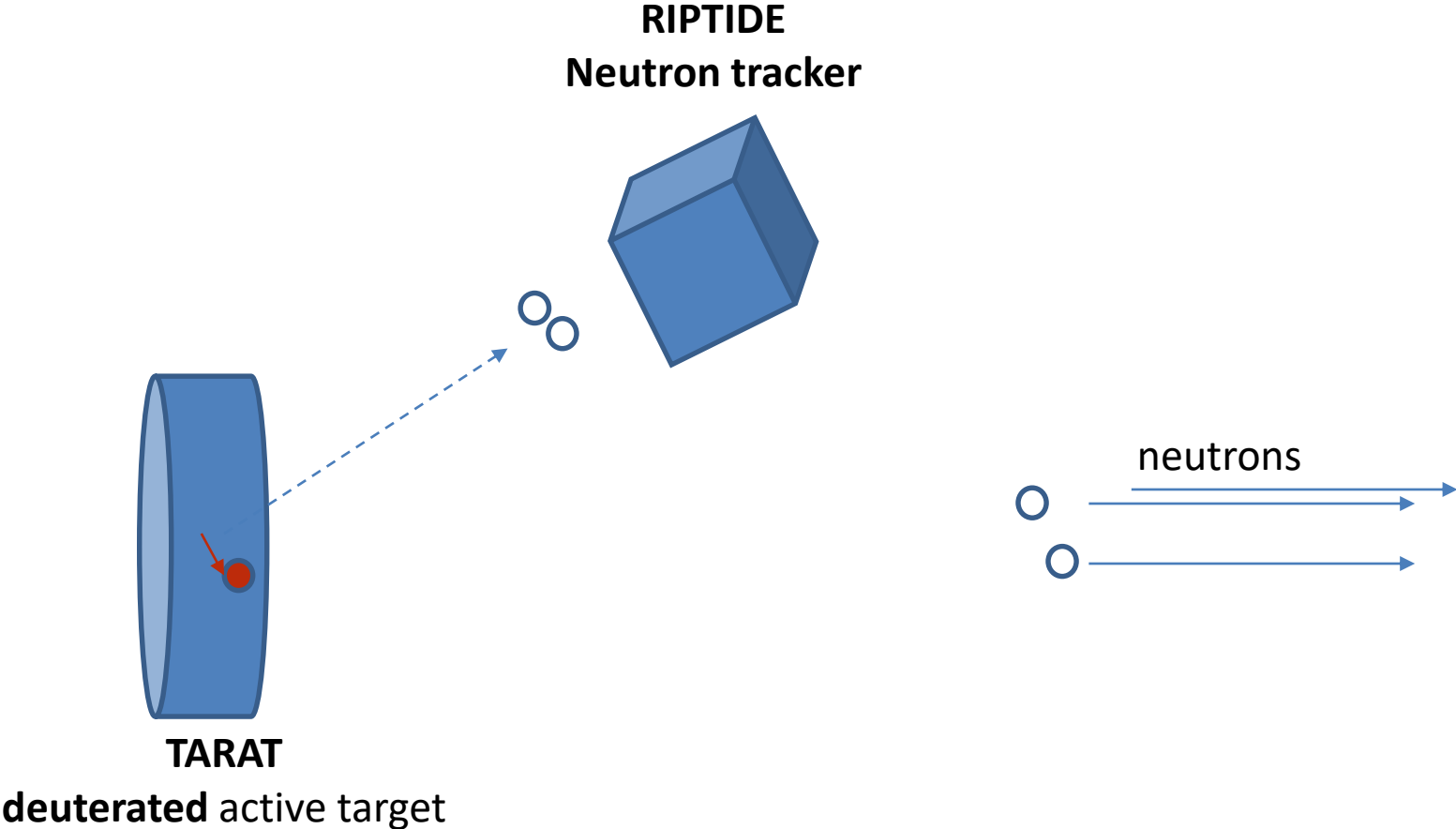
**Experimental Area:** EAR2



# Recap



# Recap

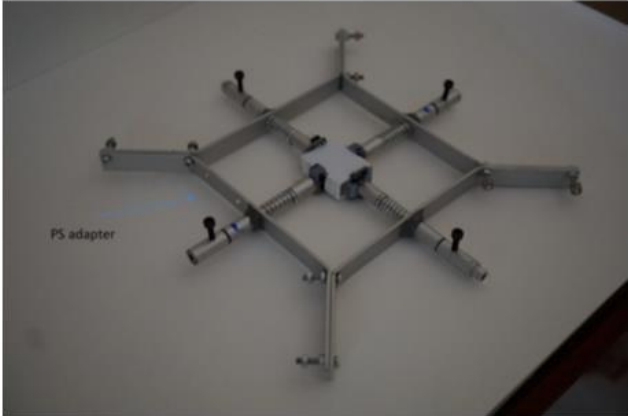
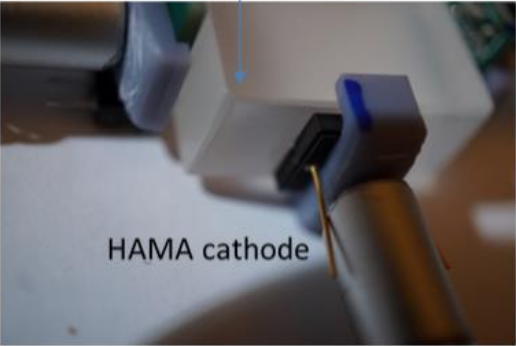
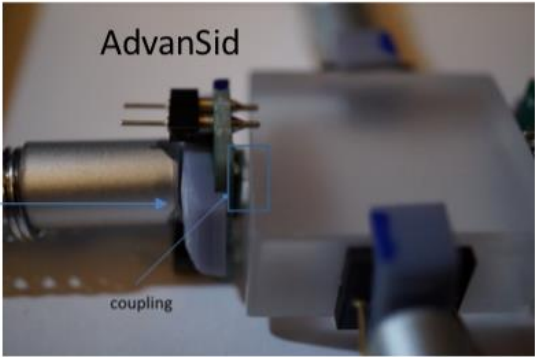
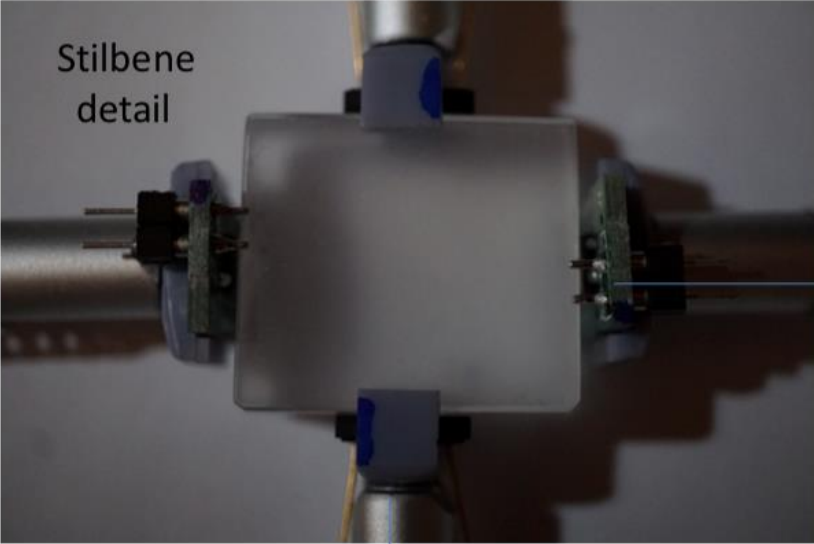


# Recap: deuterated active target TARAT

2021

*Stilbene-d12 crystal kindly provided by LLNL*

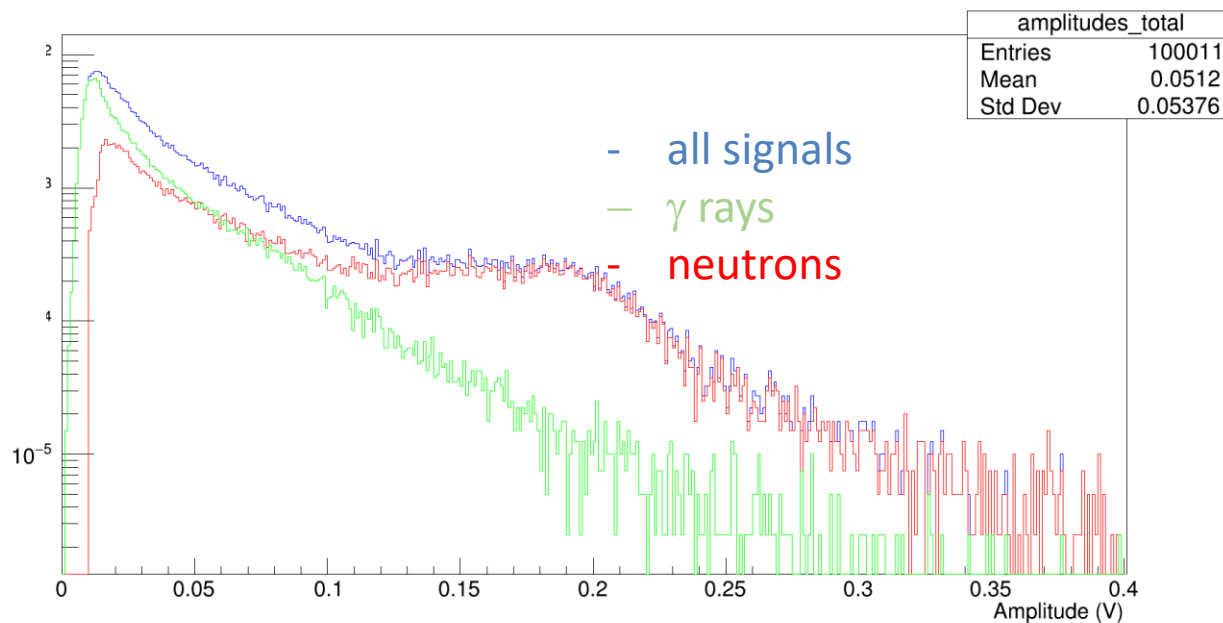
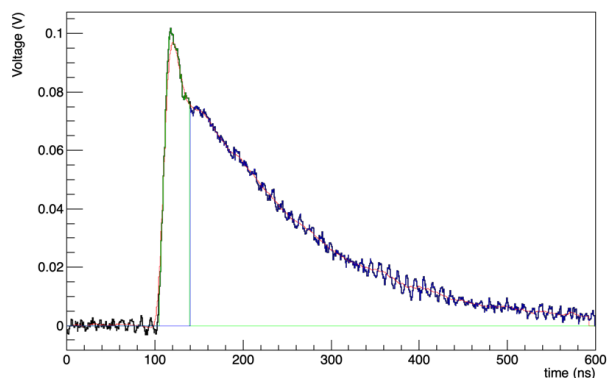
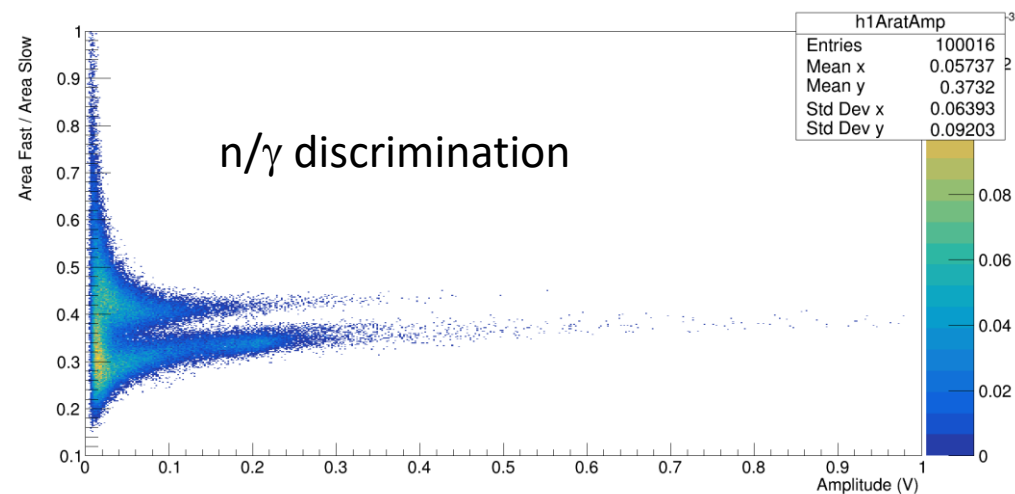
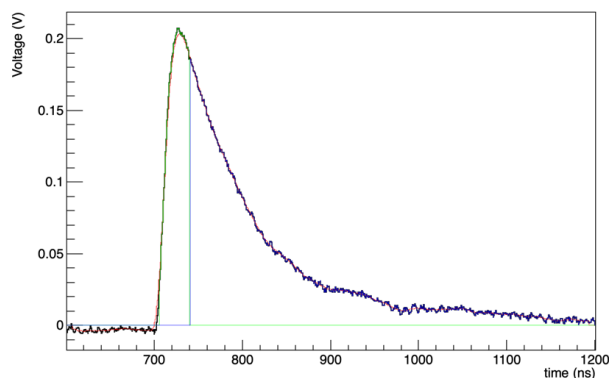
*F.D. Becchetti et al., NIM A 908(2018)376*



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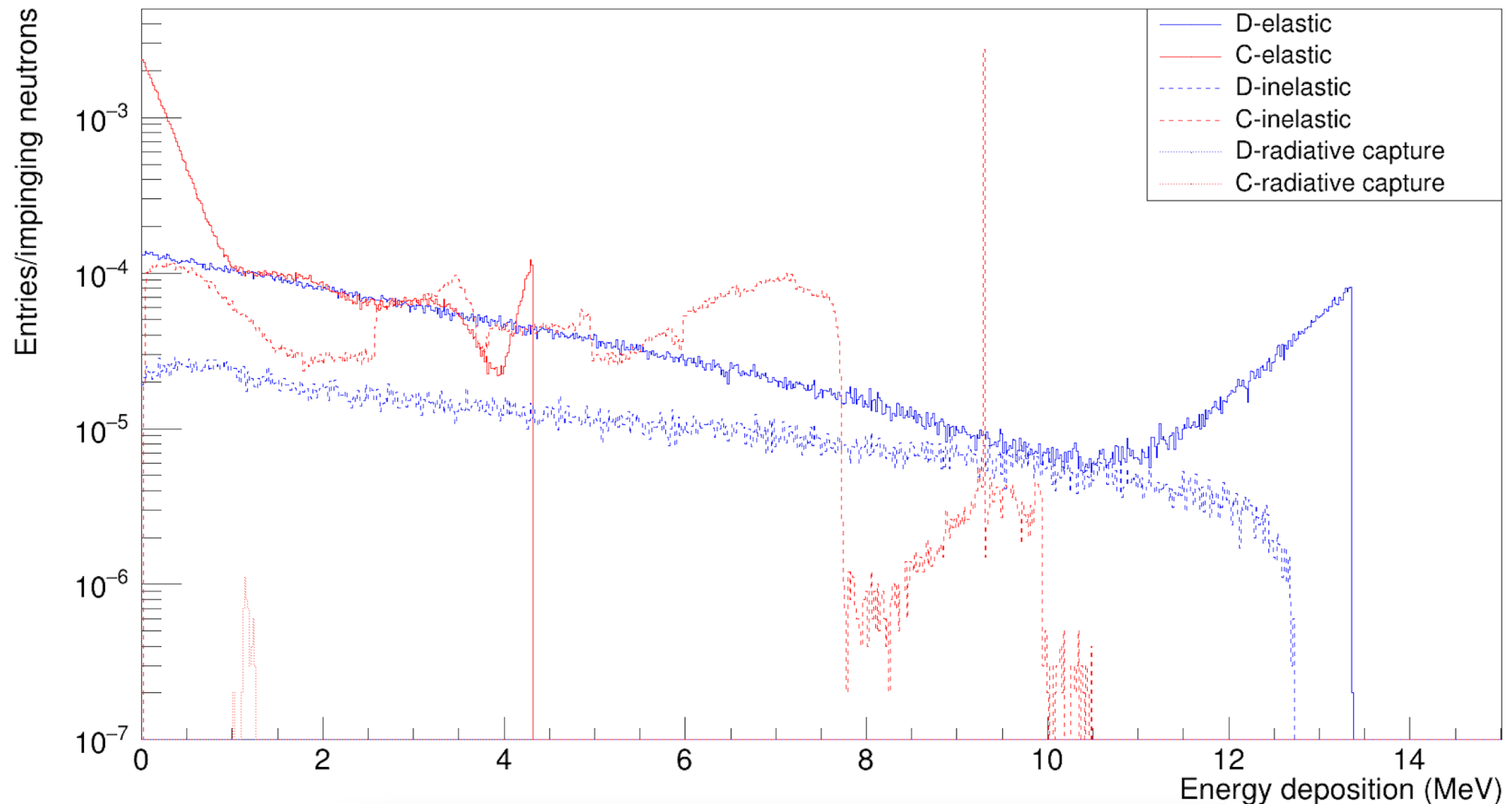
## Recap: deuterated active target TARAT

2021



# Recap: deuterated active target TARAT

2021



## Geant4 Simulations:

- 3-body calculation for  $^2\text{H}$  breakup (here developed)
- NRESP for  $n + ^{12}\text{C}$  reactions



2021

# Recap: deuterated active target TARAT

*EAR1@n\_TOF setup*

14 November  
 $2 \times 10^{16}$  protons

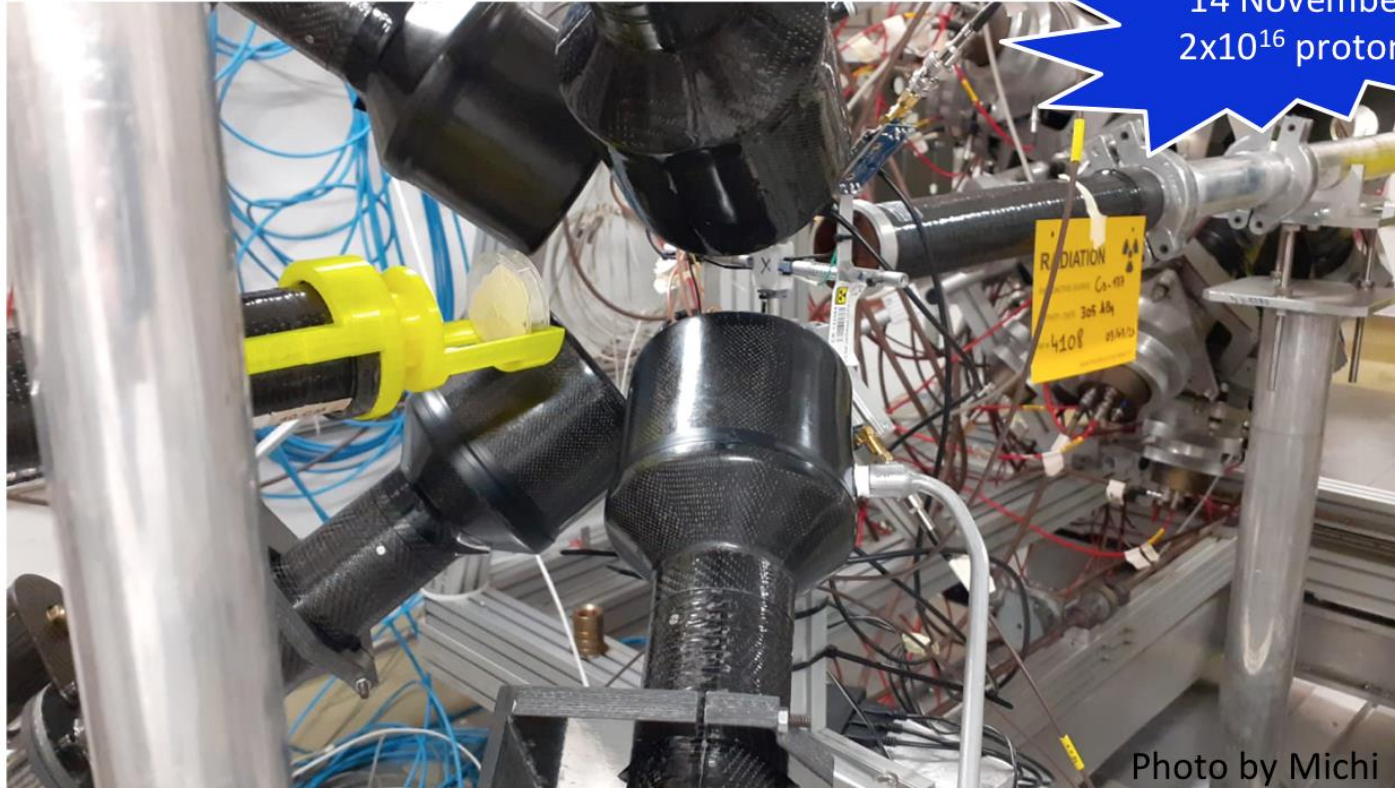


Photo by Michi

- SiPM survived to all the test measurements, small degradation (increased noise) was just observed in the HAMAMATSU devices
- No significant noise trouble (good HF noise rejection)

CERN data (on-beam and off-beam) are under analysis

reduced dynamics due to  $\gamma$ -flash to be quantified as function of beam intensity





# Recap: deuterated active target TARAT

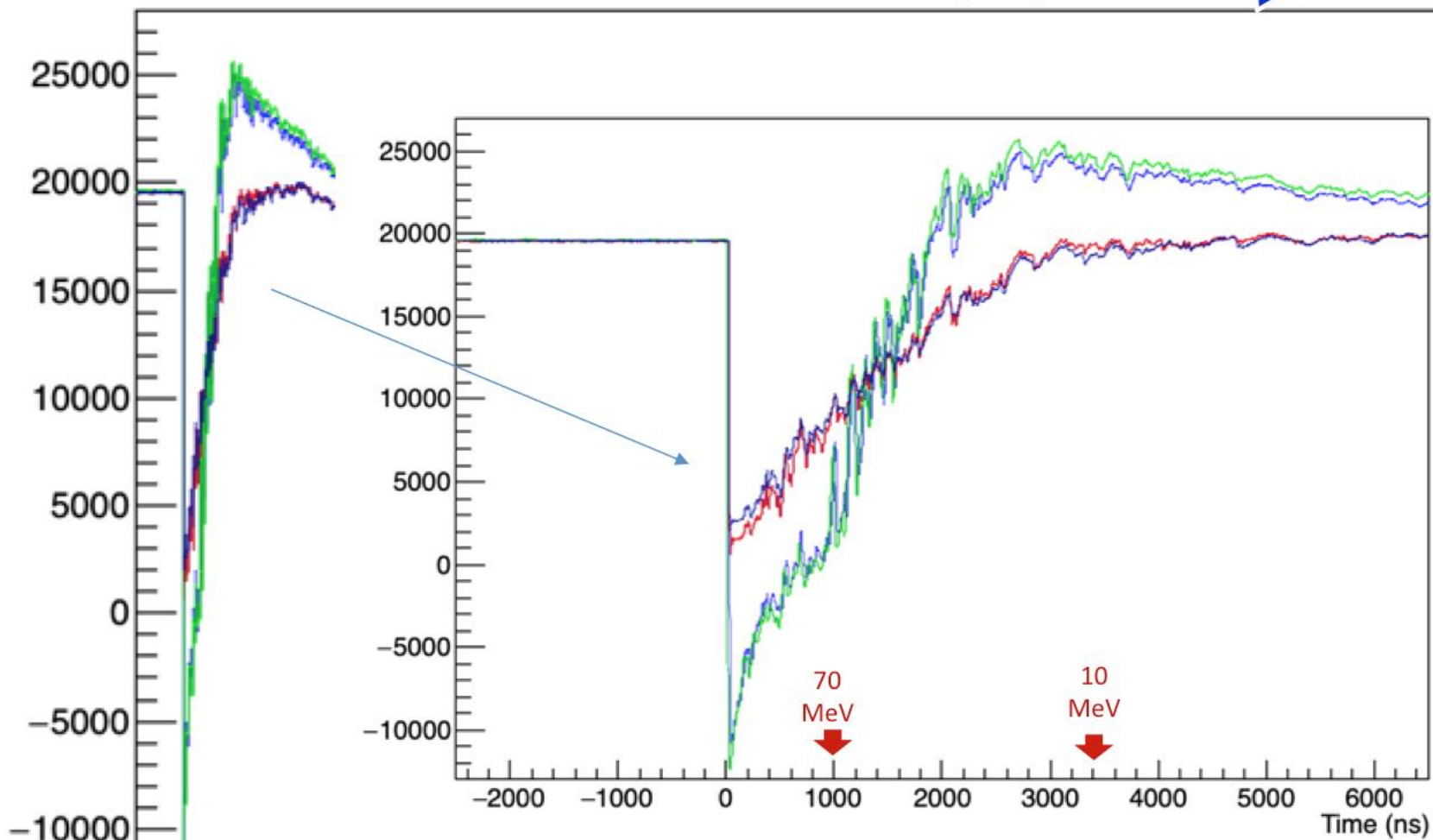
2021



*Some data: response to  $\gamma$ -flash*

EAR 1

*112146 nominal beam intensity, Pb filter*

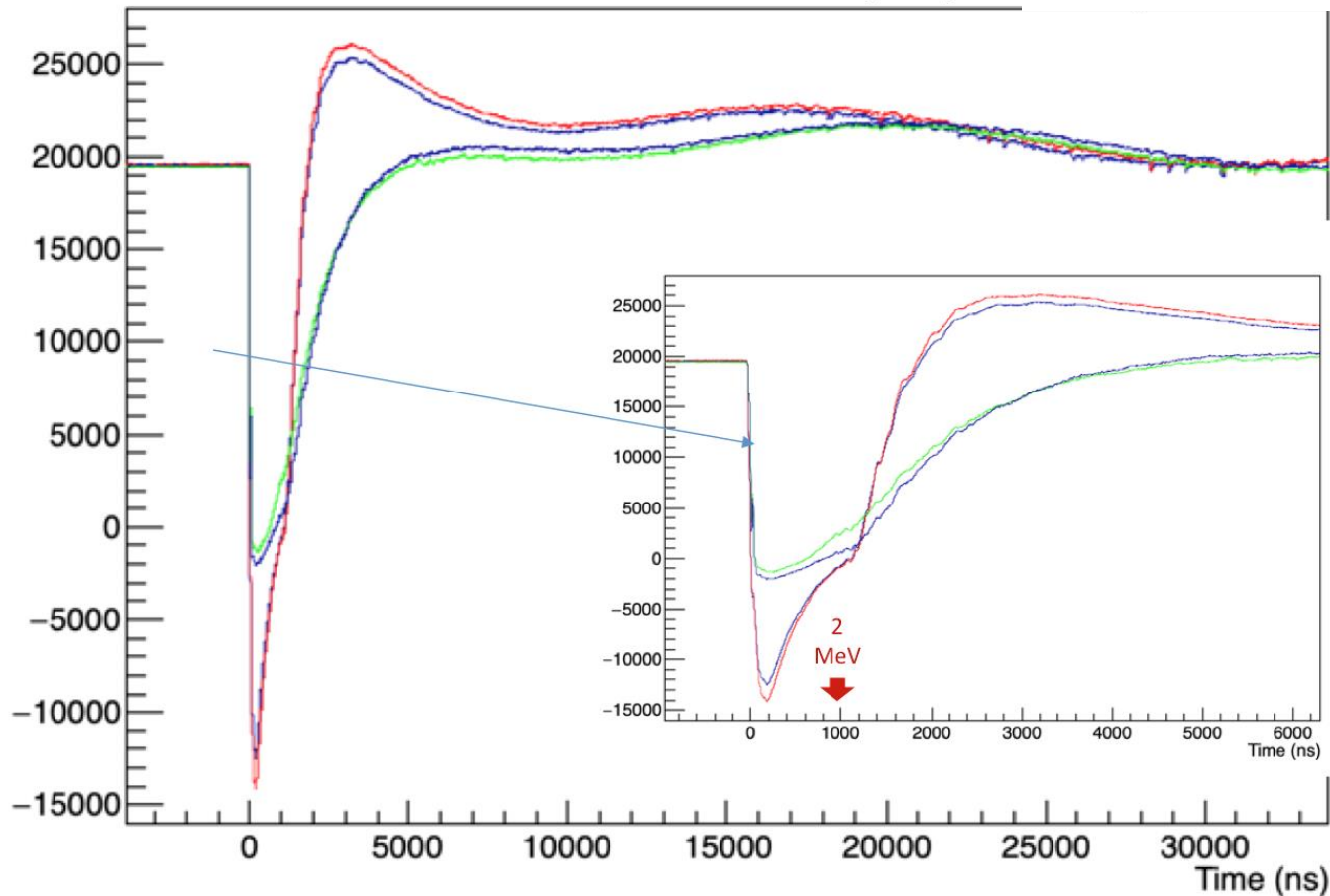


# Recap: deuterated active target TARAT



Some data: response to  $\gamma$ -flash

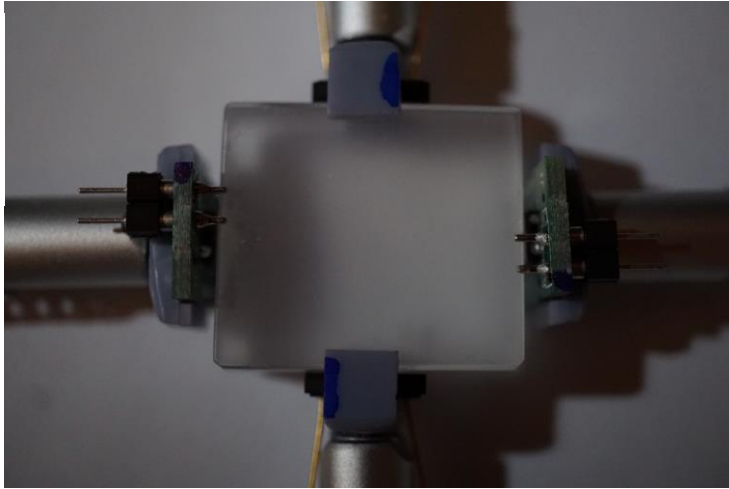
212147 nominal beam intensity, ALL filters



E  
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2

# What's new

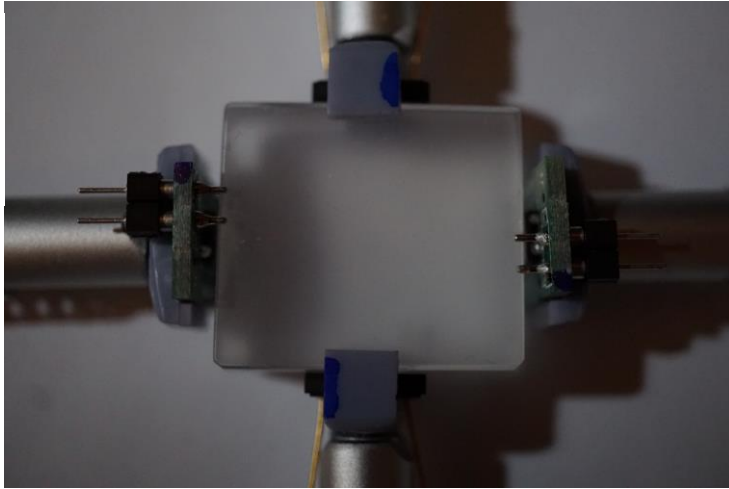
2022



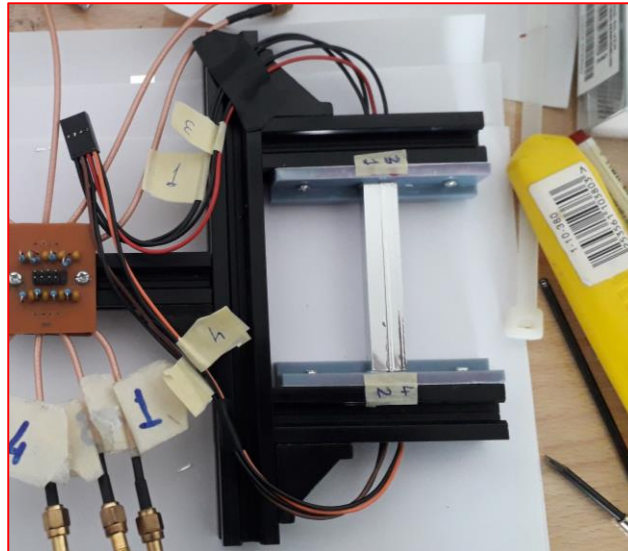
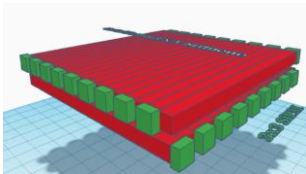
1<sup>ST</sup> test in 2021 prototype of TARAT

# What's new

2022



1<sup>ST</sup> test in 2021 prototype of TARAT

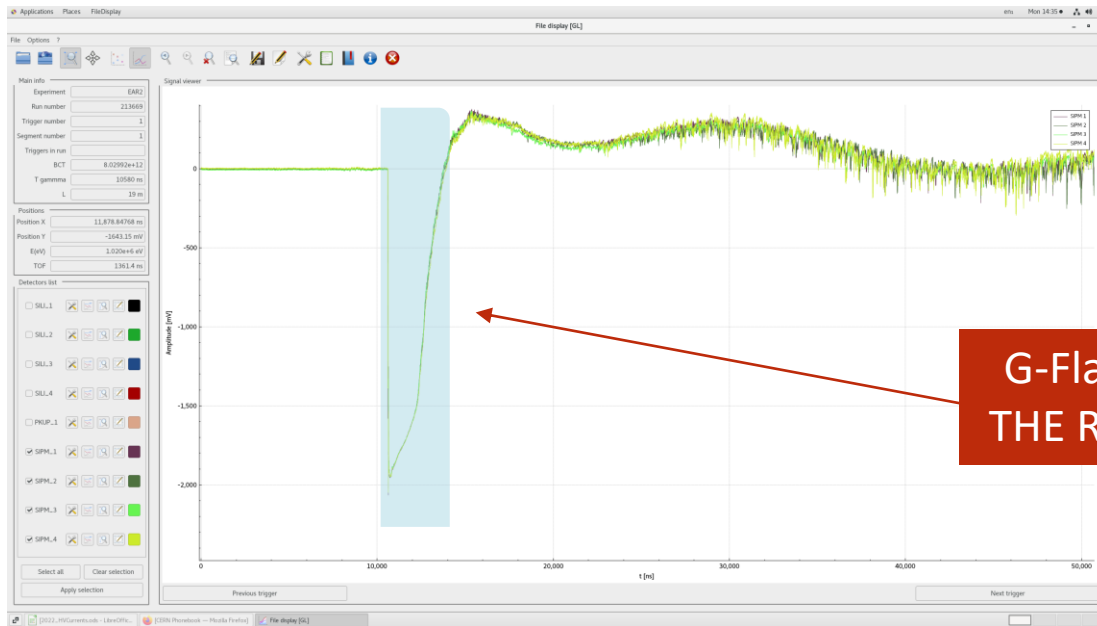


2<sup>ND</sup> test in 2022

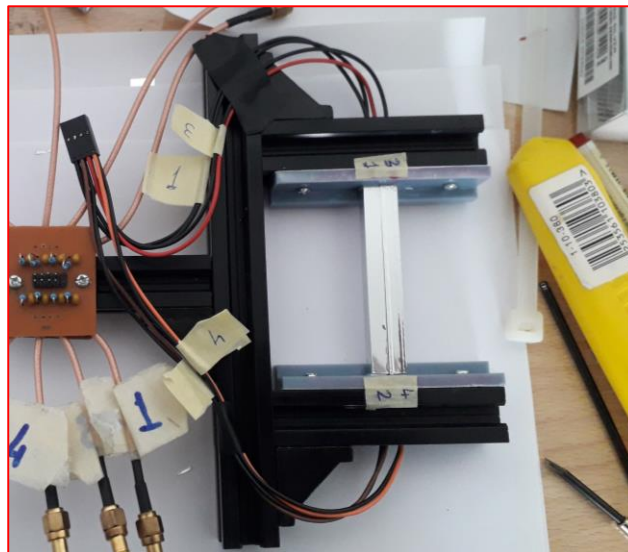
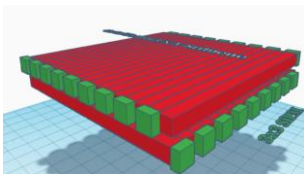
SEGMENTED  
TARAT

# What's new

2022



G-Flash STILL COVERING THE REGION OF INTEREST



2<sup>ND</sup> TEST IN 2022

SEGMENTED TARAT



## Conclusions

1. The active target concept is valid, however, in EAR2 TARAT does not work in the energy region of interest. In other words: **NN experiment is not possible with the present setup (segmented target) in EAR2.**
2. With a reduced counting rate (hundreds of  $^2\text{H}$  breakups per day), **in EAR1 the NN experiment is possible in principle.**
3. The feasibility depends on the development of the neutron tracker RIPTIDE. Now ongoing.



## Working Group

R. Mucciola, A. Musumarra, M.G. Pellegriti, N. Patronis,  
M. Bacak, and many others





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# backup

P.A. Assimakopoulos 2006

