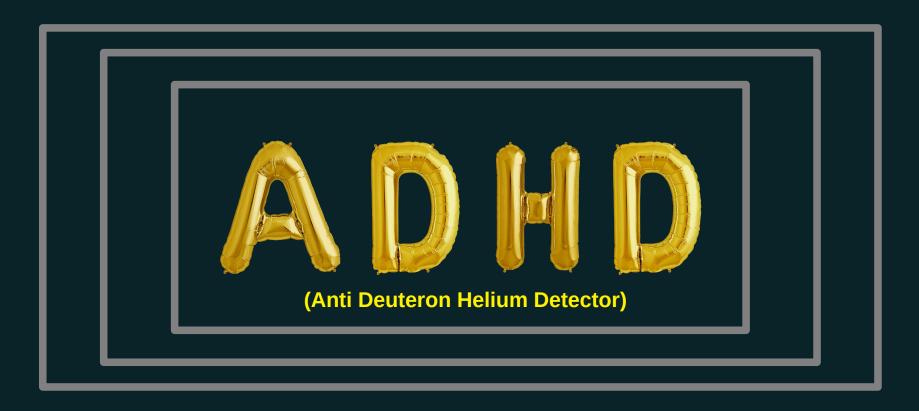


# Anti-Deuteron identification in Space with Helium calorimeter





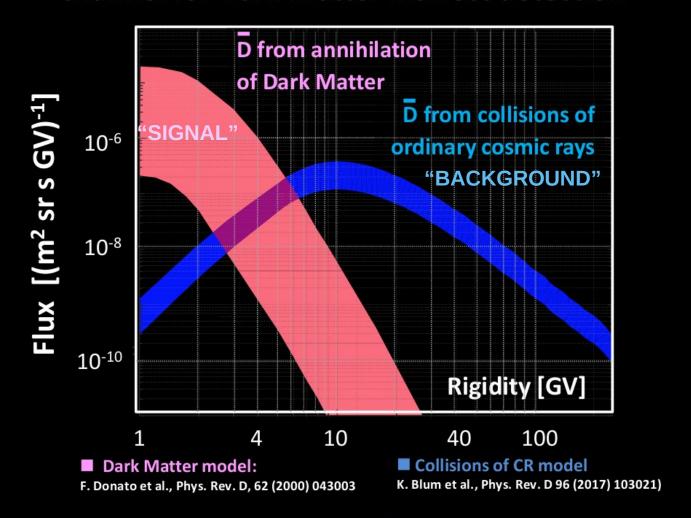


Advances in Space AstroParticle Physics 2023
Frontier technologies for particle measurements in space

Francesco Nozzoli INFN/TIFPA

# **Anti Deuterons in Cosmic rays**

Anti Deuterons have been proposed as an almost background free channel for Dark Matter indirect detection



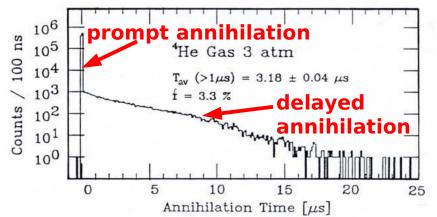
The Anti Deuterons Flux is  $< 10^{-4}$  of the Antiproton Flux.

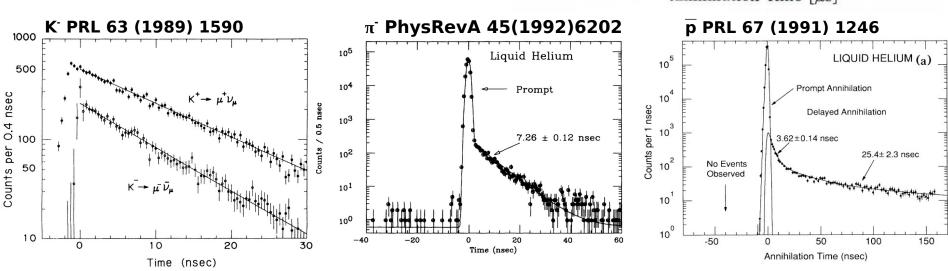
#### **Helium metastable states**

-In matter lifetime of stopped  $\bar{p}$  is ~ps -In liquid/gas He delayed annihilation: few  $\mu$ s (~3.3% of the  $\bar{p}$ )(discovered @ KEK in 1991)

Observed also for  $K^{-}$ ,  $\pi^{-}$  and expected for  $\overline{D}$ 

ASACUSA experiment at CERN use these metastable states to measure  $\overline{p}$  mass





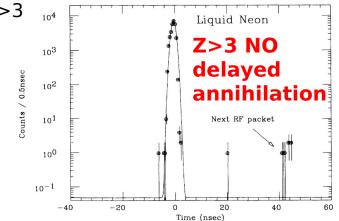
a signature for Z=-1 antimatter captures in He is a ~µs delayed energy release



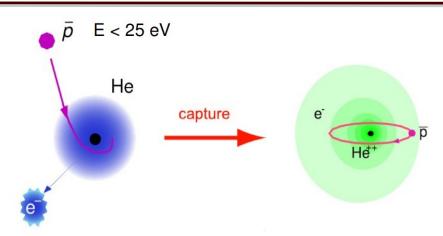
#### Why He is a special target?

#### THEORY: Phys. Lett. 9 (1964) 65 PRL 23 (1969) 63

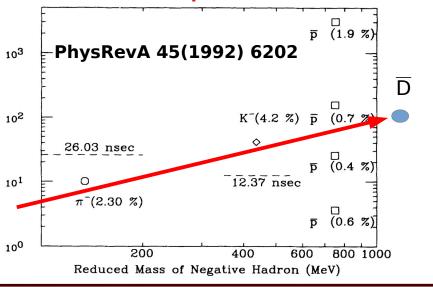
- 1) The electron is on 1s ground state, while the  $\overline{p}$  (or also  $\pi^{-}, K^{-}, \overline{d}$ ) occupies a **large n** level (~38 for  $\overline{p}$ ) (~same bounding energy of the ejected e- )
- 2) the Auger decay is suppressed as well, due to large level spacing of the remaining electron (~25 eV) compared to the small (~2 eV) n $\rightarrow$ n-1 level spacing of  $\overline{p}$
- 3) the remaining electron in  $\overline{p}$ He suppresses the collisional Stark effect  $(p\,\overline{p})_{nl}+H\Rightarrow (p\,\overline{p})_{nl'}+H$  (the main de-excitation channel for  $p\overline{p}$  system)
- 4) Metastability is not expected and not observed for Z>3



Metastability for Li<sup>+</sup> target? → still not found (it could be a very interesting SOLID target)



5) expected lifetime increases as squared of the reduced mass => **expected for antideuterium** 

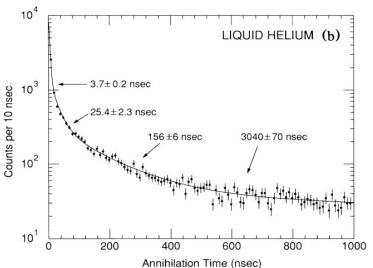




Trapping Time (nsec)

#### **Lifetime & fraction vs pressure**



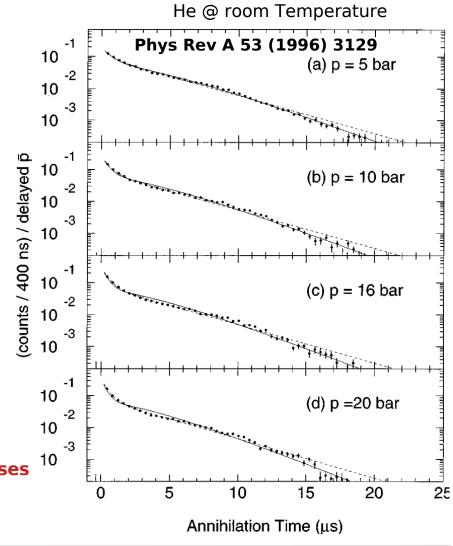


Roughly approximated by 2 components: (slow and fast)

$$n(t) = A[f\lambda_f \exp(-\lambda_f t) + (1 - f)\lambda_s \exp(-\lambda_s t)]$$

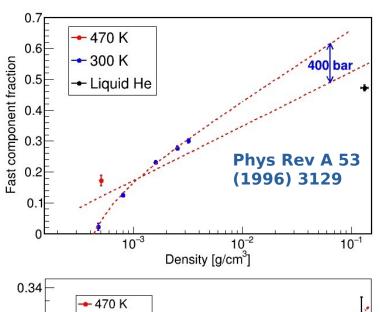
Gas impurities reduces the slow component

**Increasing Pressure** → **Fast component increases** 





#### Lifetime & fraction @ 400 bar



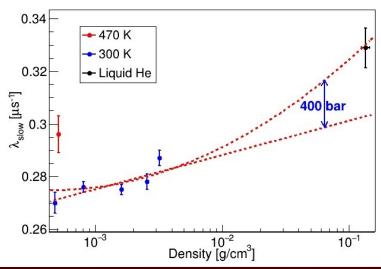
Existing measurements for He gas are scarce. using the 2 components approximation:

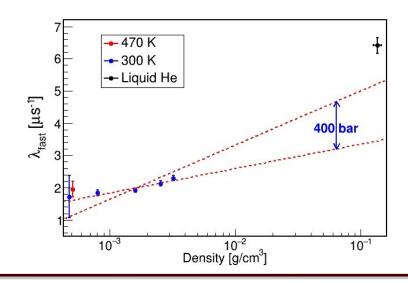
$$n(t) = A[f\lambda_f \exp(-\lambda_f t) + (1-f)\lambda_s \exp(-\lambda_s t)]$$

we can roughly extrapolate @ 400 bar & 300K:  $A \sim 3.3\%$  (no data found for P dependence of this)  $f = 55\pm6\%$ 

 $\lambda_{slow} = 0.307 \pm 0.008~\mu s^{-1} => 3.26 \pm 0.08~\mu s$ 

 $\lambda_{fast} = 4.0\pm0.8 \ \mu s^{-1} => 250\pm50 ns$ 

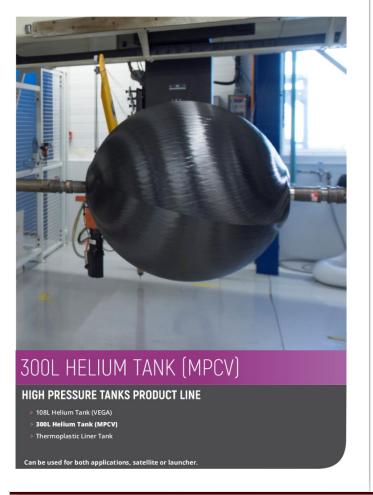


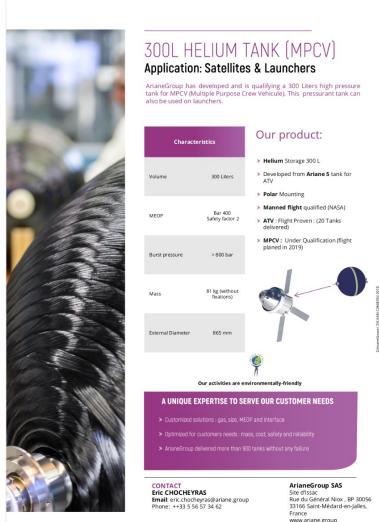




#### **400** bar ∅ = **90**cm Helium tank: space qualified







P = 400 bar

Ø = 87cm

M<sub>vessel</sub> = 81kg

3.5g/cm²

M<sub>He</sub>/M<sub>tot</sub>=20% @400bar

Stored energy in the gas is ~14kg of TNT

a standard gas bottle would require
>1cm of steel for such a size/pressure





#### 310 bar ⊘ = 50cm Helium tank: ESA HeHPV project

https://artes.esa.int/projects/hehpv-helium-highpressure-vessel

F

Home / Projects / HeHPV (Helium High-Pressure Vessel)

#### HeHPV (Helium High-Pressure Vessel) - Qualification of a Helium High Pressure Tank



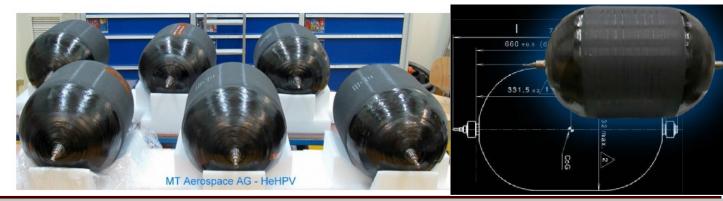
P = 310 bar  

$$\oslash$$
 = 50cm  $\rightarrow$  50L  
 $M_{vessel}$  = 10.8kg  
Grammage 1.4g/cm<sup>2</sup>  
 $M_{He}/M_{tot}$ =16% @310bar

#### Objectives

The driving goal of the HeHPV programme is the development and qualification of a lightweight, high-performance, reliable yet cost-competitive helium tank for application in future spacecraft programmes. The applied approach enabled qualification via similarity of a volume range of 50-75 I, where the tank diameter is common for the entire range. Leak-before-burst (LBB) and burst testing with dedicated qualification models confirmed predicted failure modes and high margins of safety.

Existing and future market needs show high potential for such tanks, in particular for satellite systems, where helium tanks are required for the pressurisation of chemical propulsion systems.





#### Composite overwrapped pressure vessel (COPV)

## Current typical application: H<sub>2</sub> storage tanks for automotive



Faber relies on a unique +40 year track record which include a very comprehensive range of all Types of Cylinders (Type 1,2,3,4 eachone standing out for superior lightness, reliability and safety. The entire production process is controlled by Faber and performed in-house in one of our own dedicated plants. This ensures that Faber is capable of offering the right cylinder at a price that best fits the needs of our customers.

# Faber company (150km from Trento)



## MC exercise with a SIMPLE geometry ∅ = 90cm: Anti Deuteron He Detector (ADHD)

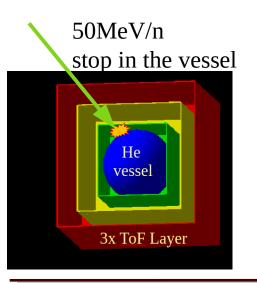
#### **Preliminary Geant4 simulation:**

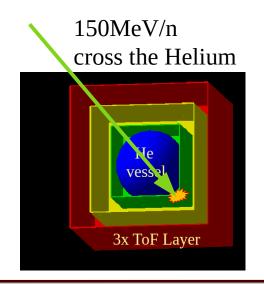
Detector size: External ToF L = 1.5m;

ToF = 110 kg (4mm scintillator thickness)

Vessel: ArianeGroup 300L@400bar = 100kg  $M_{He}/M_{detector}$  = 10% (very naive, no structure here)

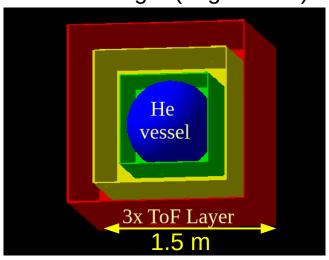
Kinetic energy range: 50-150 MeV/n (threshold due to energy loss in vessel/ToF)





#### Simple Concept:

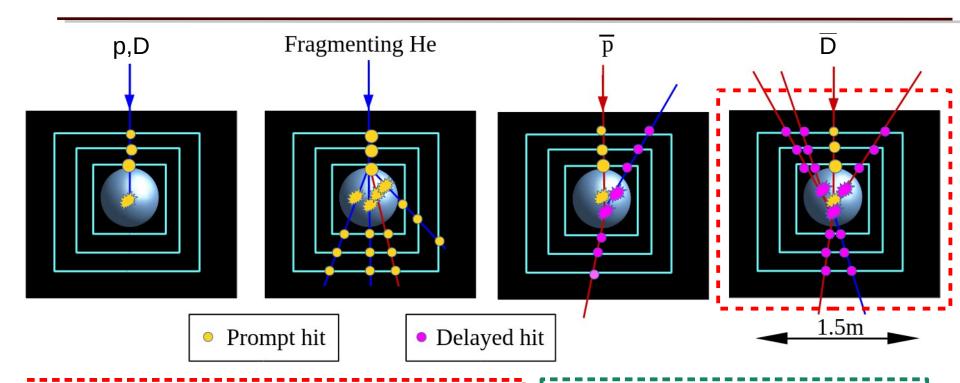
HeCalorimeter (scintillator)
3xTime of Flight (segmented) layers



We need a light/thin vessel but we also want high Helium pressure and large vessel volume.
This imply a large force on the vessel walls and this is the main weakness of the ADHD concept.



# MC exercise with a SIMPLE geometry: Particle Identification



#### **SIMPLE TRIGGER implementation:**

A MIP release 10 MeV crossing HeCal diameter

- 1) Prompt HeCal Energy > 10MeV (reject MIPs)
- 2) only 3 prompt ToF hits (reject not stopping)
- 3) Delayed HeCal Energy >10MeV & <10µs (reject protons or nuclei stopping in HeCal)

#### **AntiProton background rejection:**

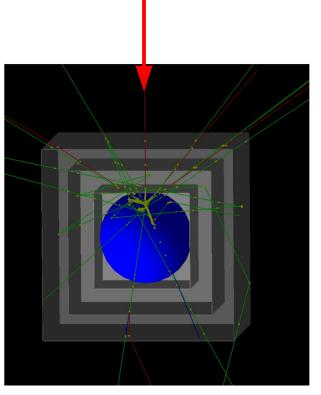
- 4)  $\beta_{ToF}$  vs HeCal  $E_{prompt}$
- 5) dE/dx ToF vs HeCal E<sub>prompt</sub>
- 6) event topology (>3 delayed tracks)
- 7) HeCal  $E_{delay} > 350 \text{ MeV}$



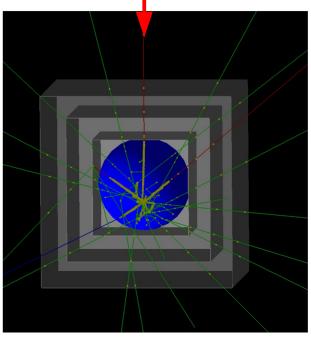
## **GEANT4** event display

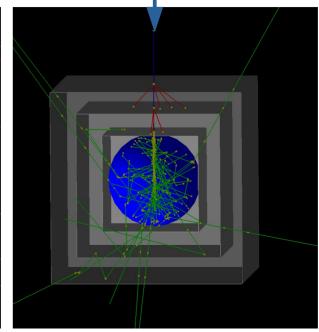
p (230MeV)

Carbon (600MeV/n)



**D** (65MeV/n)





4 charged outgoing (+ pair production)

3 charged outgoing

0 charged outgoing

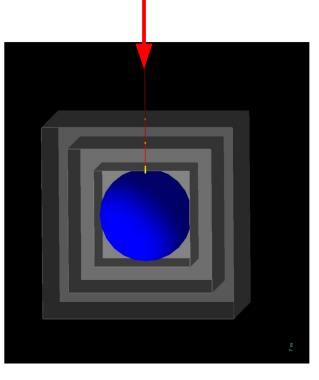
**Negative Positive Neutral** charges

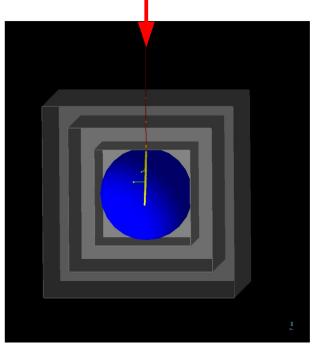


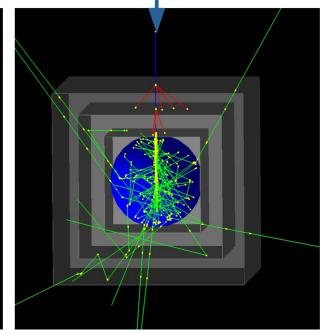
# [0-10] ns D (65MeV/n)

p (230MeV)

Carbon (600MeV/n)







... ok it is slow ... prompt HeCal signal 3 hits in ToF

prompt HeCal signal 3 hits in ToF

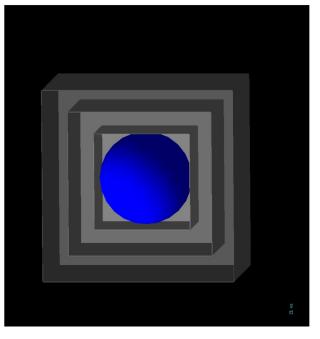
prompt HeCal signal 10 hits in ToF



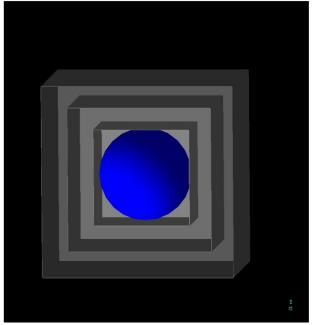
[10-XX0] ns

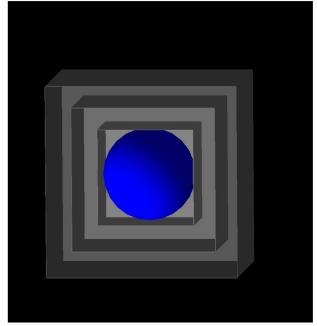
<del>p</del> (230MeV)

Carbon (600MeV/n)



D (65MeV/n)



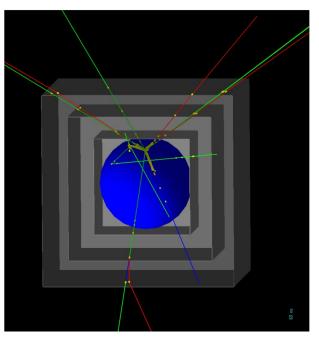


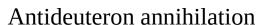
Antideuteron orbiting He

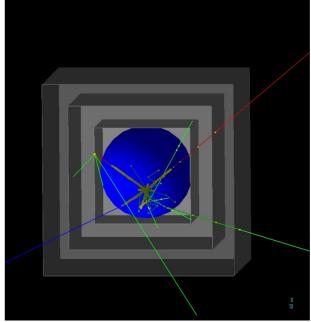
Antiproton orbiting He

...nothing

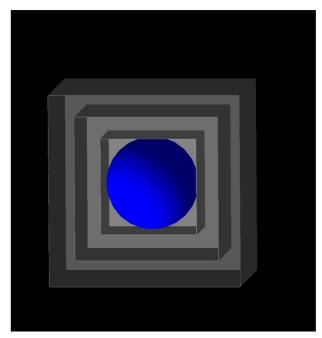






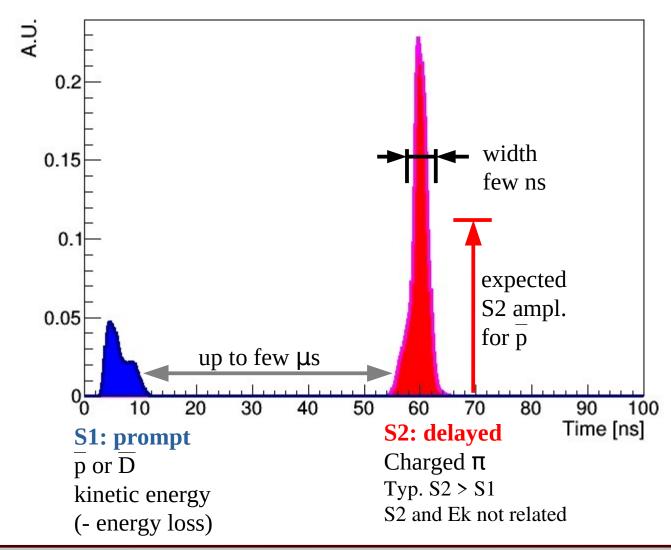


Antiproton annihilation



...nothing

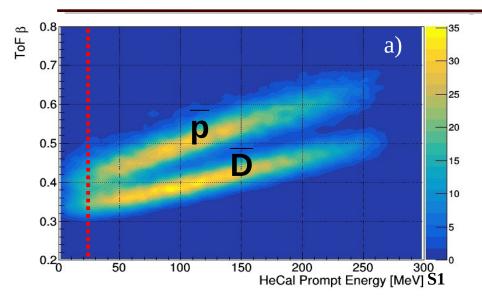
# Typical HeCal signature for p and $\overline{D}$

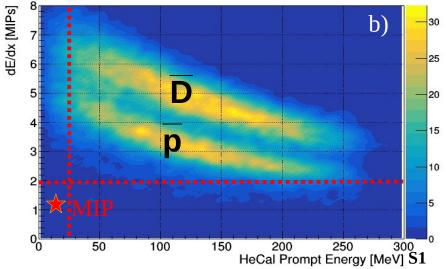




# $\overline{p}/\overline{D}$ separation: prompt signal







ToF (30cm baseline & 4mm thickness):  $\beta$  resolution 5% =>  $\sigma_{x/y}$  ~few cm &  $\sigma_{T}$ <0.1ns

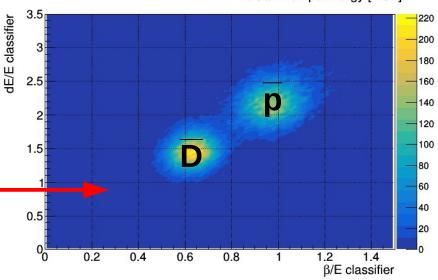
- ToF Energy resolution: 10%
- He Calorimeter Energy resolution: 10%

Parametrization of ( $\beta$  vs E) & (dE/dx vs E)

2 "independent" classifiers —

that can be combined to obtain an overall

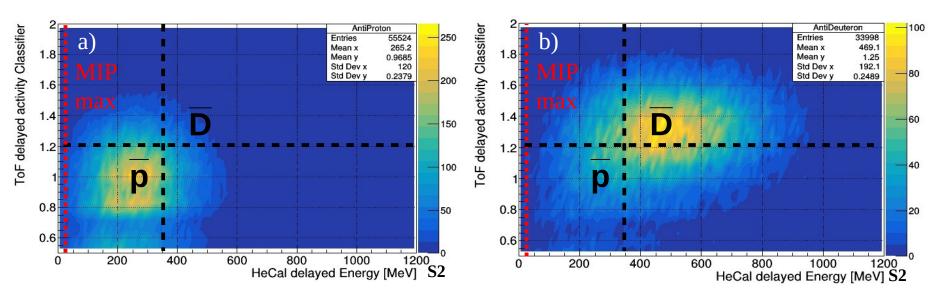
"Prompt signal classifier"





# $\overline{p}/\overline{D}$ separation: delayed signal

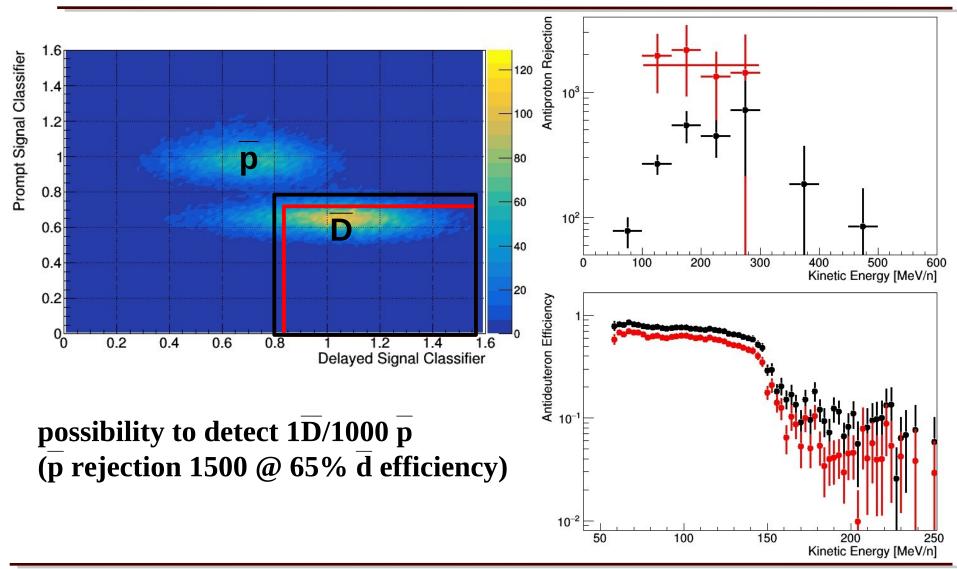
delayed signal amplitude is independent from Ekin: ~3 charged pion/antinucleon -ToF delayed activity classifier = #ToF delayed hits ⊕ ToF delayed energy (might improve with full track topology)



2 "independent" classifiers that can be combined to obtain an overall "**Delayed signal classifier**"

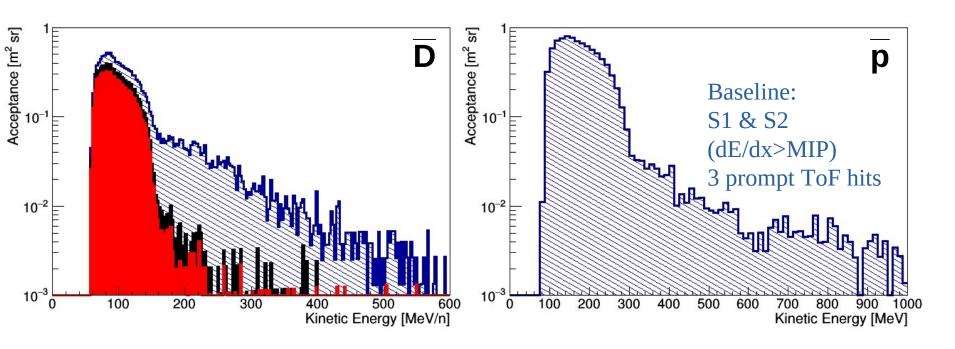


## $\overline{p}/\overline{D}$ separation





# p/d acceptances



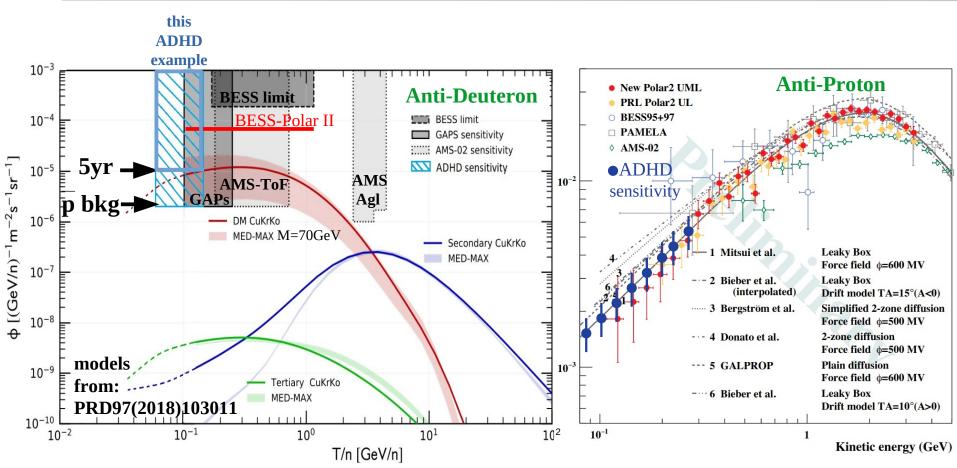
These have to be multiplied with the probability to form metastable states ~3.3%

Example of sensitivity/new measurements with 5yr data @ 0.2x0.033 m<sup>2</sup> sr:

- -Antideuteron [50-150]MeV/n:  $\sim 10^{-5}$  (m<sup>2</sup>s sr GeV/n)<sup>-1</sup> (<0.3 p background is expected)
- -Antiproton: measurement in few bins in the range [100-300] MeV with < 10% error



#### planned sensitivity for this example (1 single $\emptyset$ = 90cm COPV)



AMS02-GAPS-ADHD: different techniques, similar sensitivity, complementary Ek regions **Join many signatures in a future/ultimate Antideuteron detector?** 



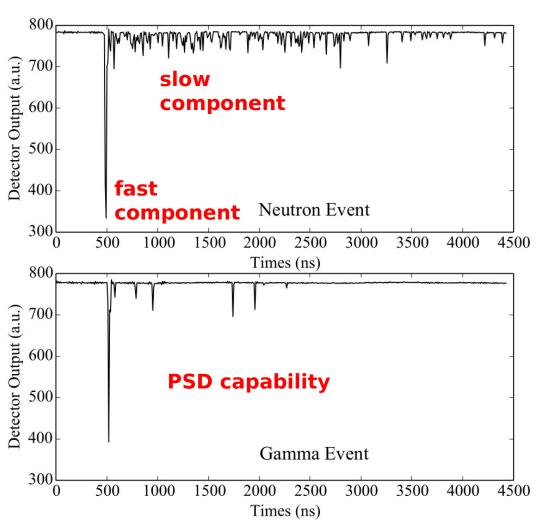
# test of the performances of He calorimeter prototype with lab measurement @ INFN-TIFPA (no efforts to test the ToF)

we trust that a large ToF with  $\sigma_{T}$ <100ps is feasible

Large surface ToF detectors with few mm thickness are considered in many future projects (example AMS-100)



#### **Scintillation in Helium**



He as scintillator has a strong "fast" component (tens ns, 15000 ph/MeV)

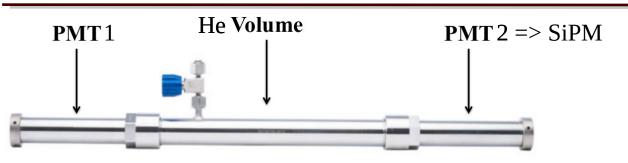
He is scintillating in VUV: Vessel have to be PTFE coated with an organic phosphor that converted the wavelength of the scintillation light from 80 nm to 430 nm.

High pressure issue:
PMT cannot be used inside the high
pressure vessel => use SiPM

TYPICAL USE: Fast neutron monitor



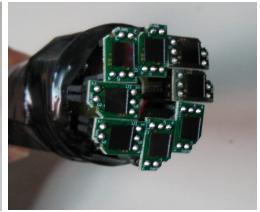
# HeCal prototype based on ARKTIS B470 neutron detector 200 bar "cylinder" geometry

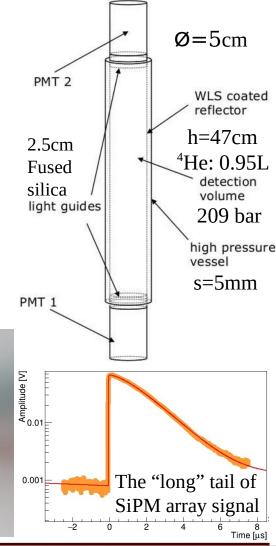


PMT1: Hamamatsu R580 Ø=38mm 27% Q.E.

To reduce material in front of the optical window, PMT2 was replaced with a SiPM circular array 8xSensL MicroFJ-60035 6x6mm<sup>2</sup> Fill Factor 65%

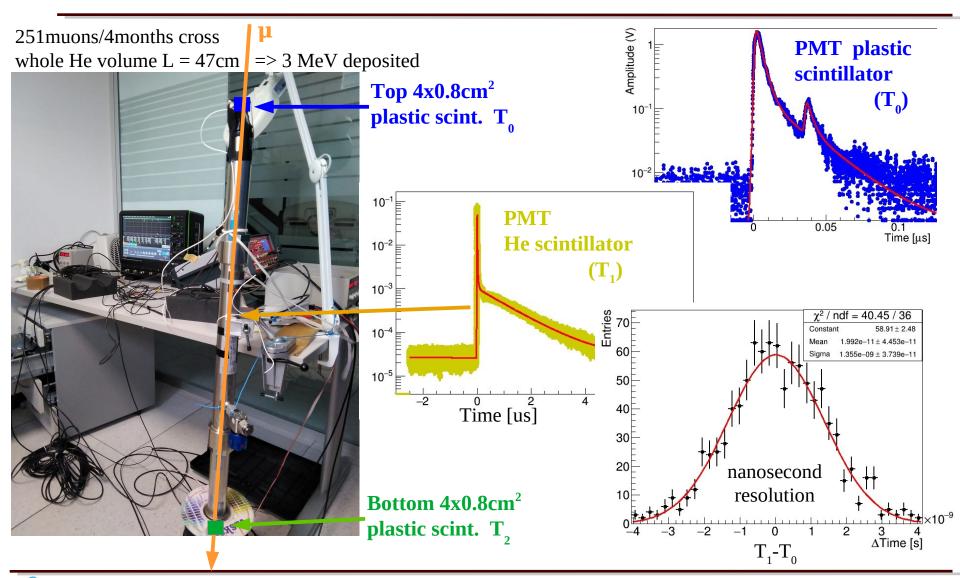






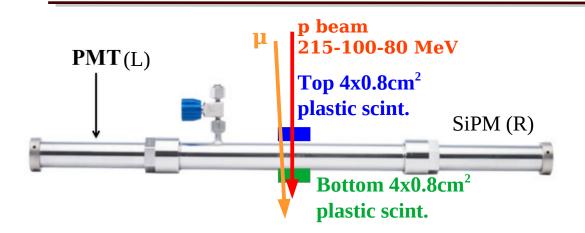


#### **Vertical muon calibration @ TIFPA**





#### Muon/proton transversal calibrations



Test of 10 positions along the detector:

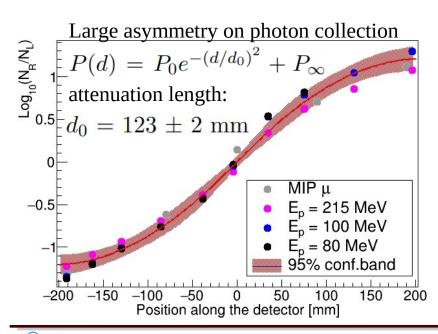
E\_beam E\_deposited in He

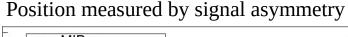
Muon MIP 0.26 MeV

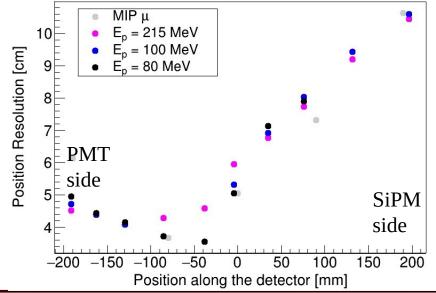
p 215 MeV 0.54 MeV

p 100 MeV 0.93 MeV

p 80 MeV 1.1 MeV



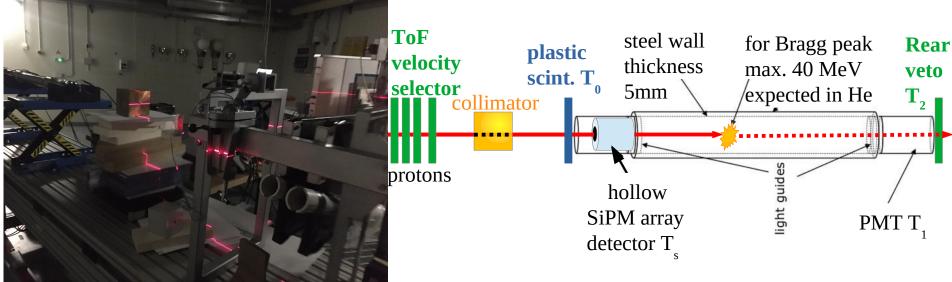






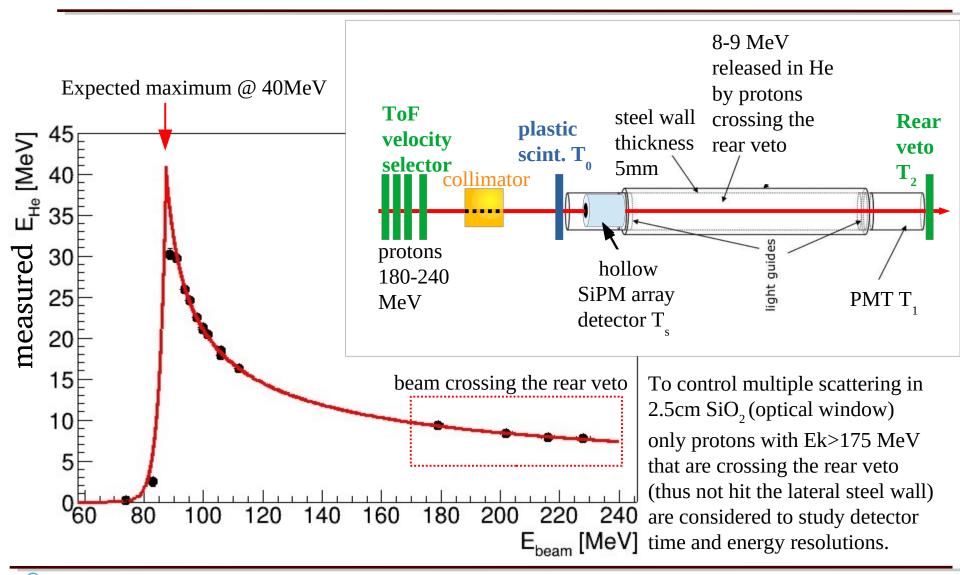
#### PROTONS (70-228MeV) @ TRENTO Proton-Therapy center





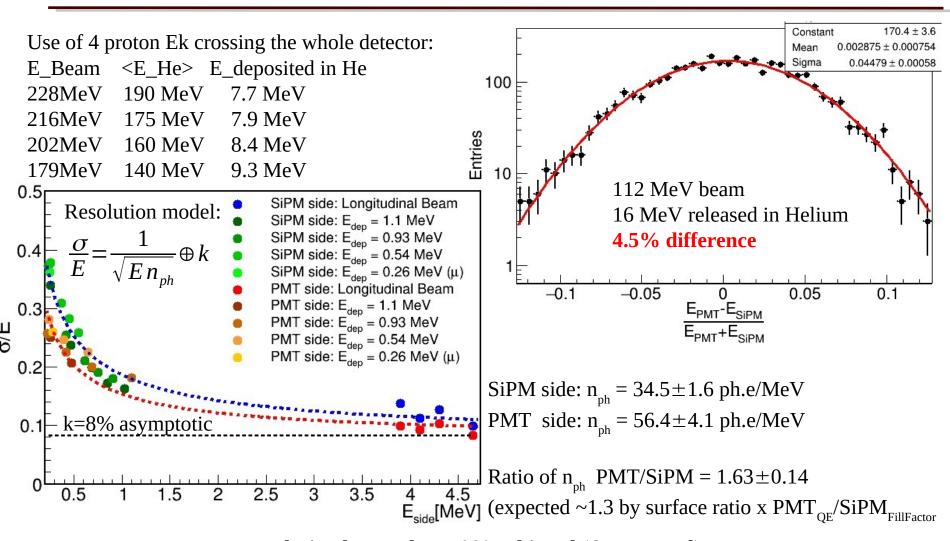


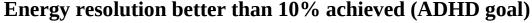
#### **Proton Bragg peak in Helium**





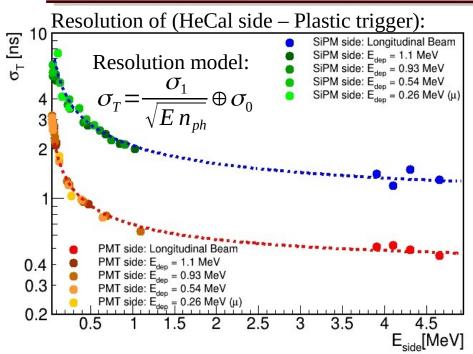
#### **Measured energy resolution**



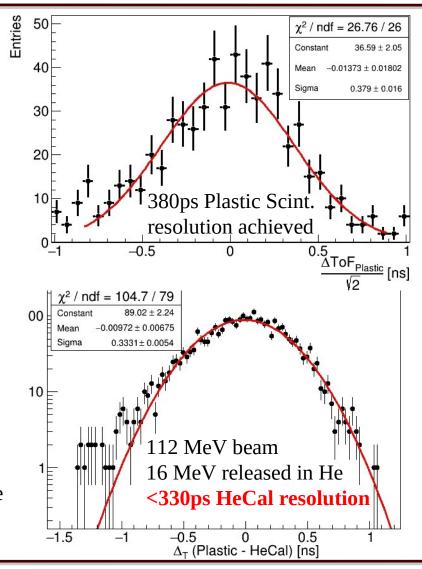




#### **Measured time resolutions**



SiPM side:  $\sigma_1 = 11.0 \pm 0.5$  ns and  $\sigma_0 = 0.9 \pm 0.2$  ns PMT side:  $\sigma_1 = 4.4 \pm 0.2$  ns and  $\sigma_0 = 0.39 \pm 0.03$  ns  $\sigma_1$  can be interpreted as time uncertainty of single ph.e  $\sigma_0$  is the "asymptotic" time difference resolution. In the case of HeCal PMT side this is dominated by the time resolution of the Plastic scintillator (380 ps) (it is possible that ~300ps is a limit our 5Gs/s DAQ)

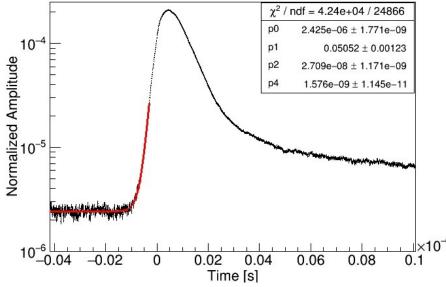




#### **Measurement of Helium Scintillation Components**

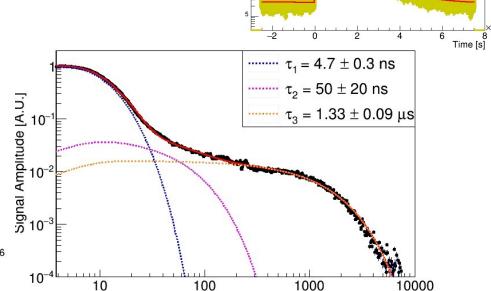
Waveform sampling @ 5Gs/s: Measurement of time structure of He scintillation

- -Precise measurement of rise time and fast component decay time @ 200 bar
- -First indication for a subdominant ~50ns decay component.



Fast exponential rise:  $\tau_{grow} = 1.60 \pm 0.05 ns$ 

by comparison with the same DAQ we test a FNAL-NICADD plastic scintillator:  $\tau_{\text{grow}} = 0.37 \pm 0.07 \text{ns}$  and  $\tau_1 = 3.8 \pm 0.5 \text{ns}$  (and no evidence for  $\tau_2$  in this case)



3 scintillation component: 
$$\frac{N_1}{\tau_1}e^{-\frac{t}{\tau_1}} + \frac{N_2}{\tau_2}e^{-\frac{t}{\tau_2}} + \frac{N_3}{\tau_3}e^{-\frac{t}{\tau_3}}$$

Time [ns]

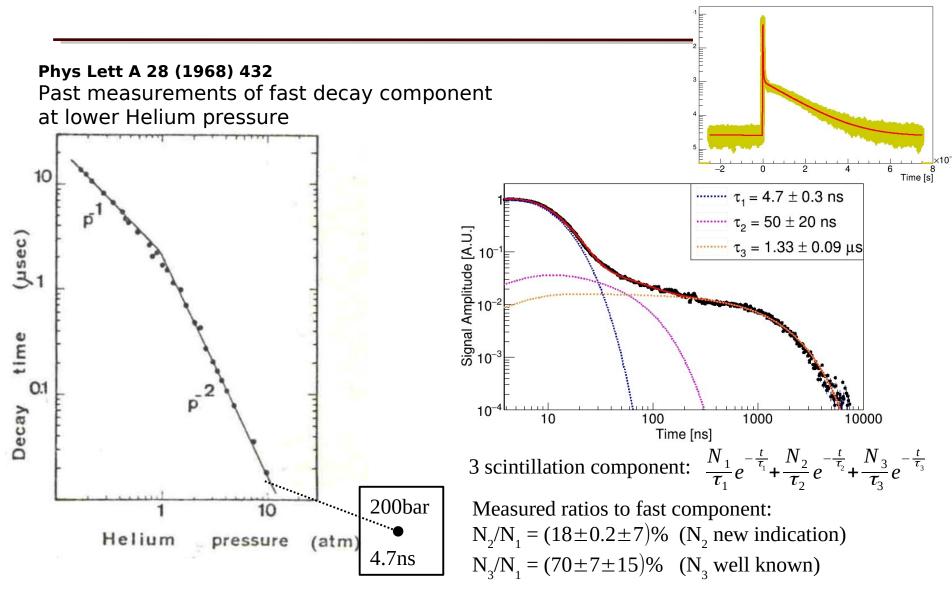
Measured ratios to fast component:

$$N_2/N_1 = (18\pm0.2\pm7)\%$$
 (N<sub>2</sub> new indication)

$$N_3/N_1 = (70 \pm 7 \pm 15)\%$$
 (N<sub>3</sub> well known)



#### **Measurement of Helium Scintillation Components**





#### Plans for next 3 years:





Segretariato Generale

Direzione Generale della Ricerca

PRIN: PROGETTI DI RICERCA DI RILEVANTE INTERESSE NAZIONALE – Bando 2022 Prot. 2022LLCPMH

**Pressurized Helium Scintillating Calorimeter for AntiMatter Identification** 

Project accepted: a specific PhD scholarship will be granted starting from Nov. 2023 (contact me if interested)

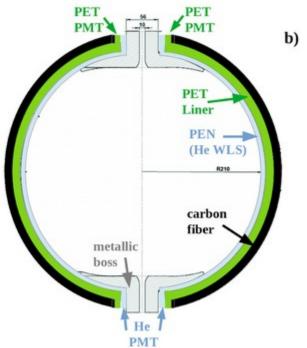


#### **2024-2025 (PRIN project)**

**Development and test of HeCal prototype Based on commercial (automotive) COPV** 



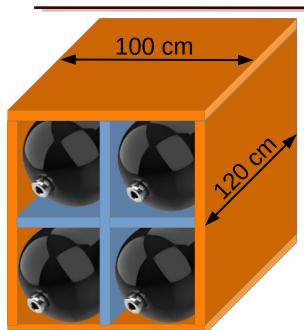
Development and test of a COPV including a "fast" scintillating layer in the vessel



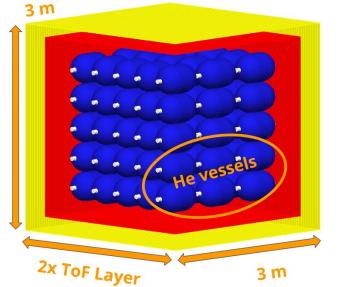
PET and PEN are stronger than Copper and fast scintillating (6.8ns and 35 ns) (https://doi.org/10.3906/fiz-1912-9)



# 2026: ADHD demonstrator for a balloon launch $2x2x2 \oslash = 50cm$ He modules



## Thanks for your attention



and

**Stay Tuned!** 

https://www.tifpa.infn.it/projects/adhd/

