## Simulation and physics modelling of Active Target TPCs (and solenoidal spectrometers)

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Cofinanciado por la Unión Europea



- Why active target time projection chambers (AT-TPC)?
- Low-energy nuclear physics with AT-TPC's.
- Key aspects for simulation and analysis.
- Some examples with different setups.
- Outlook.

#### Why active target time projection chambers?



#### **Direct reactions in inverse kinematics**

- An essential probe of nuclear structure.
- Small momentum transfer.
- Large impact parameter (surface).
- Cross section focused on forward direction.
- Very short time scale (~10<sup>-22</sup> s).
- Energies, angular momentum, overlaps.
- Particle identification, ΔE-E techniques more challenging at low energies.
- Strong energy dependence with respect to laboratory angle.
- Typically leading to poor resolution (100s of keV).
- …and beams a few to 10<sup>6</sup> orders of magnitude weaker.



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- Next-generation Solenoidal Spectrometer
- Study of direct reactions with radioactive ion beams.
- Two modes of operation: Si array for highresolution studies of direct reactions and AT-TPC for reactions with weak (most exotic) beams.





#### Active Target Time Projection Chamber (AT-TPC)

- High luminosity and large dynamic range.
- High resolution (in principle better than solid state detectors).
- Pure elemental gases.
- Cylindrical configuration: large thickness
   with moderate cost for electronics.
- Versatile setup for different type of reactions.
- Magnetic field enables rigidity measurement.
- Kinematics reconstruction not trivial...







Gaseous Detector with Germanium Tagging II (GADGET II) Spokesperson: C. Wrede (Michigan State University and FRIB)

- Used to measure β-delayed charged particles and γ-rays with in-flight radioactive beams at FRIB for nuclear astrophysics
- Compact TPC thermalizes beam and measures charged particles (protons, α particles, ...)
- Surrounded by various high-purity germanium arrays for high-resolution γ-ray detection
- First experiment FRIB E21072 ran November, 2022





#### Key aspects for simulation and analysis

#### ATTPCROOTv2 data analysis and simulation framework



Servicing many detectors in the low-energy physics community!

Analysis techniques for Active Target Time Projection Chambers

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#### <sup>10</sup>Be + d scattering at 10A MeV

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pecial Article - New Tools and Technique

Kinematics reconstruction in solenoidal spectrometers operated in active target mode

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Experiment

#### Simulation (no cross sections!)



- <sup>10</sup>Be 10A MeV provided by ReA6 in stand-alone mode. Around 2000 pps!.
- <sup>10</sup>Be material provided by ٠ the PSI (Switzerland)
- Pure target of  $D_2 600$  torr. ٠
- Study of negative parity states of <sup>11</sup>Be

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### **Simulation details**

- Large dE/dx dynamic range: beam (1-100 GeV) and reaction products (few MeV).
- Slow drift velocities for gases such as hydrogen or deuterium.
- Two Monte Carlo Engines: Geant4 and a proprietary energy loss manager (multiple scattering).
- Modular detector geometry.
- Generators: two body, decay, fission, fusion...
- Digitalization: Single-electron drift taking diffusion into account (under magnetic field)
- Realistic management of charge spreading in the pad plane.
- Amplification stage NOT simulated in real time (usually Multilayer THGEM and Micromegas, including resistive mode)
- Response of the pad plane: Micromegas coupled with GET electronics.



0.815 # cm/us

# Average gain of micromegas

720 # Electronic peaking time in ns

# Gain of the GET electronics in fC

3.125 # Real value is 6.25 MHz

1000

1000

DriftVelocity:Double t

Gain:Double t

SamplingRate:Int\_t

GETGain:Double t

PeakingTime:Int\_t

#### **Reconstruction of simulated data**





- Non-linear trajectories.
- Reconstruction using Kalman filter adapted to a large energy loss scenario.
- Improving resolution requieres a precise implementation of multiple scattering and straggling effects of heavy ions.
- What about charge exchange?

#### Deducing physics using the simulation



Efficiency correction function for the <sup>10</sup>Be+d elastic scattering Angular distribution of the <sup>10</sup>Be + d elastic scattering corrected by efficiency. The solid circles and the solid line are the experimental data and the DWBA theoretical distribution. Nuclear Inst. and Methods in Physics Research, A 1051 (2023) 168213



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#### AT-TPC + S800 spectrometer (FRIB)

# Beam P Heavy residue. D<sub>3</sub>gas P Heavy residue. 1<sup>5</sup>N beam 10<sup>5</sup> pps



#### $\beta^+$ Gamow-Teller Strengths from Unstable <sup>14</sup>O via the $(d, {}^{2}\text{He})$ Reaction in Inverse Kinematics

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Recombination loss and electron-ion production rate in a deuterium gas at 500 Torr and 500 V/cm. Three different beams were assumed at 100 MeV/u and  $10^5$  pps.

Ion beam	$\dot{N}$ [ions/(cm <sup>3</sup> s)]	f [%]
<sup>12</sup> C	$5.5 \times 10^{7}$	0.5
<sup>24</sup> Mg	$2.1 \times 10^{8}$	1.7
<sup>56</sup> Ni	$1.1 \times 10^{9}$	<sup>9.1</sup> 1



#### <sup>46</sup>K beam at an energy of 4.6 MeV/u











#### Simulation with Maxwell + Garfield



Electron re-attachment maximum in this region

# Full geometry and physics integrated in ATTPCROOTv2, including TPC and Ge arrays (eg. SeGA and DeGAi below)



R. Mahajan, T. Wheeler *et al.*, submitted, arXiv:2401.01904 Figure credit and g-ray simulations: A. Andalib

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### **Development of 3D Optical Active Target**

β-delayed two neutron emission



Two proton radioactivity



- First measurement done at FRIB using a MTHGEM and a Timepix3 camera with 30 torr pure CF<sub>4</sub> (USC-ANL-FRIB collaboration).
- Development of a simulation framework for Optical TPCs (USC-WIS collaboration). Include optical photons.
- Experiment approved at TRIUMF: Implantdecay of <sup>16</sup>C and <sup>9</sup>C.
- Future: OTPC for neutron scattering studies.









# Thank you!









## Collaboration

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Argonne National Lab: Ben Kay.

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WIS : Maryna Borysova, Ryan Felkai.

High Point University: Adam Anthony.













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