

# Status report of the DIRAC experiment (PS 212)

*L. Nemenov*

SPS Committee, April 9, 2013

# DIRAC collaboration



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**Tokyo Metropolitan University**

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**IHEP**

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**Bern University**

*Bern, Switzerland*



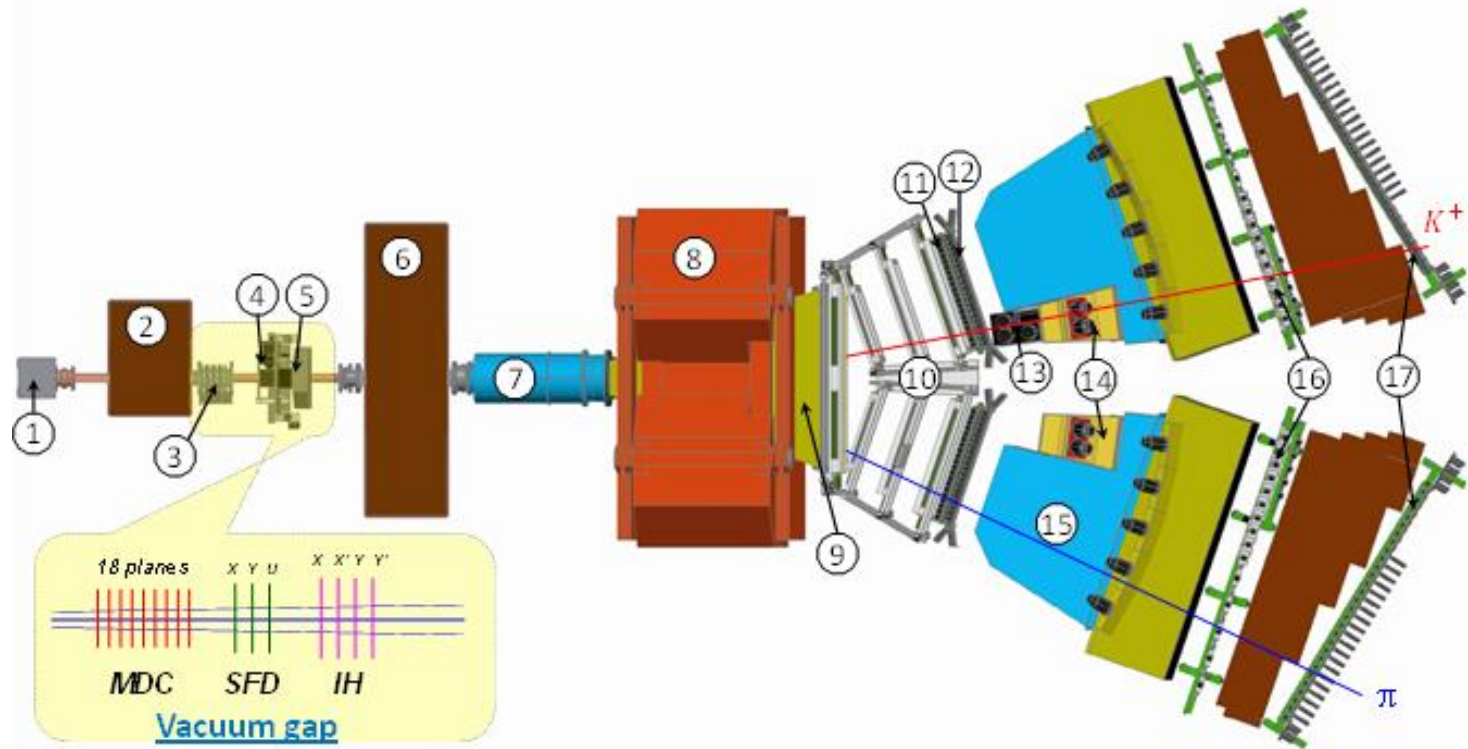
**Zurich University**

*Zurich, Switzerland*

# Contents

1. Long-lived  $\pi^+\pi^-$  atoms: status of data obtained in 2011 and 2012.
2. Multiple scattering measurements.
3. The new ionization hodoscope.
4. DIRAC dismantling.
5. Status and schedule of  $\pi^+\pi^-$  atom analysis (runs 2008-2010).
6. Status and schedule of  $K^+\pi^-$ ,  $K^-\pi^+$  atom analysis (runs 2008-2010).
7. Atoms consisting of  $K^+K^-$ .
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



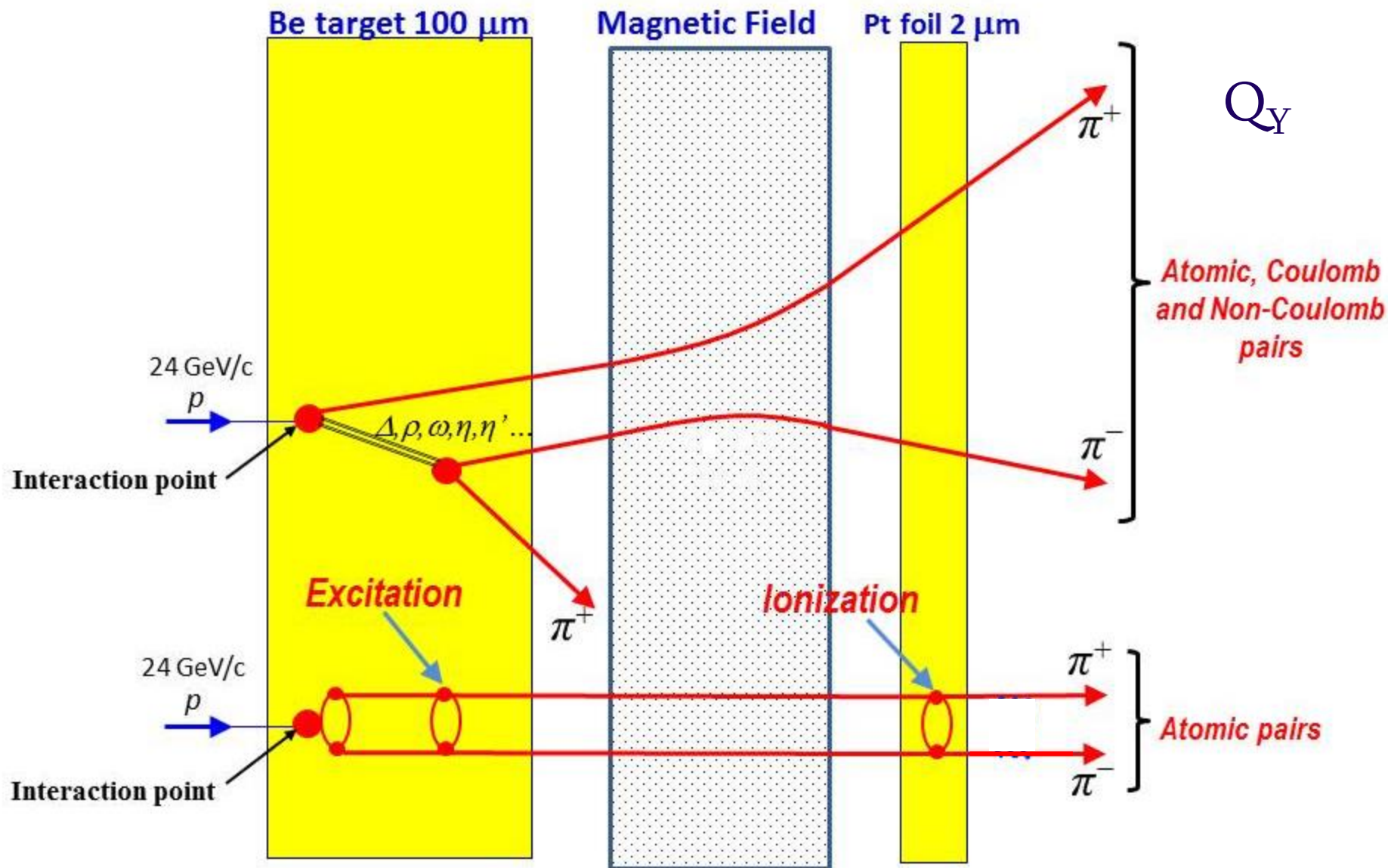
1 Target station with Ni foil; 2 First shielding; 3 Micro Drift Chambers; 4 Scintillating Fiber Detector; 5 Ionization Hodoscope; 6 Second Shielding; 7 Vacuum Tube; 8 Spectrometer Magnet; 9 Vacuum Chamber; 10 Drift Chambers; 11 Vertical Hodoscope; 12 Horizontal Hodoscope; 13 Aerogel Čerenkov; 14 Heavy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

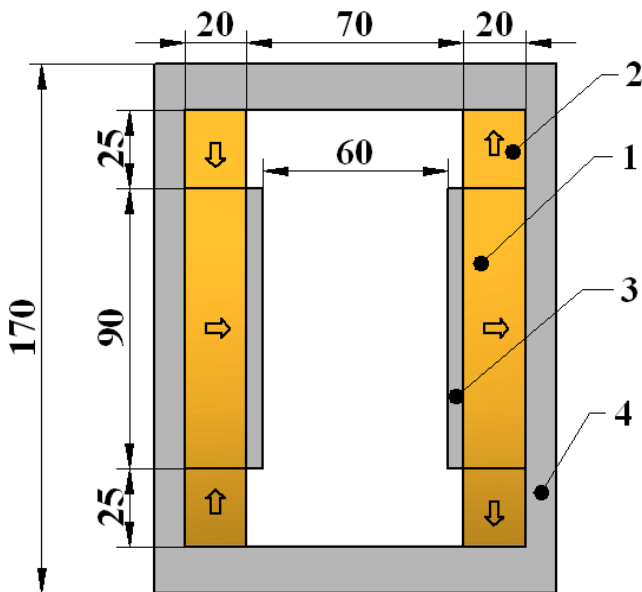
# Method for observing long-lived $A_{2\pi}$ with breakup Pt foil



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

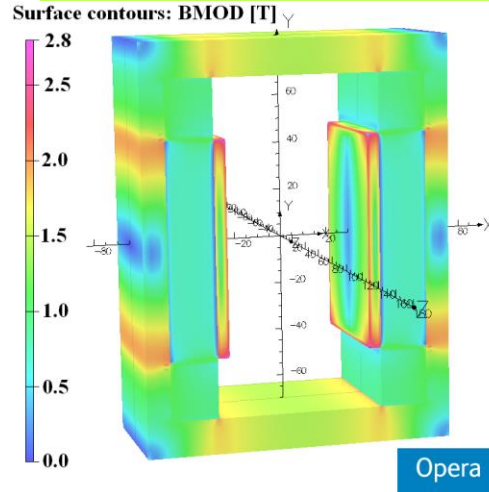
# Magnet was designed and constructed in CERN (TE/MCS/MNC)

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

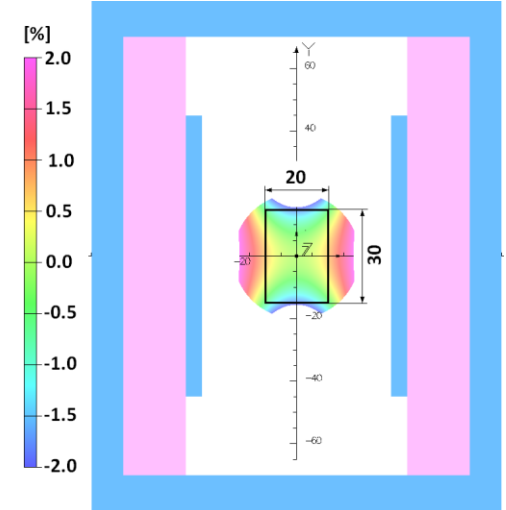


- 1- PM block Sm<sub>2</sub>Co<sub>17</sub>
- 2- PM block Sm<sub>2</sub>Co<sub>17</sub>
- 3- Pole AISI 1010
- 4- Return yoke AISI 1010

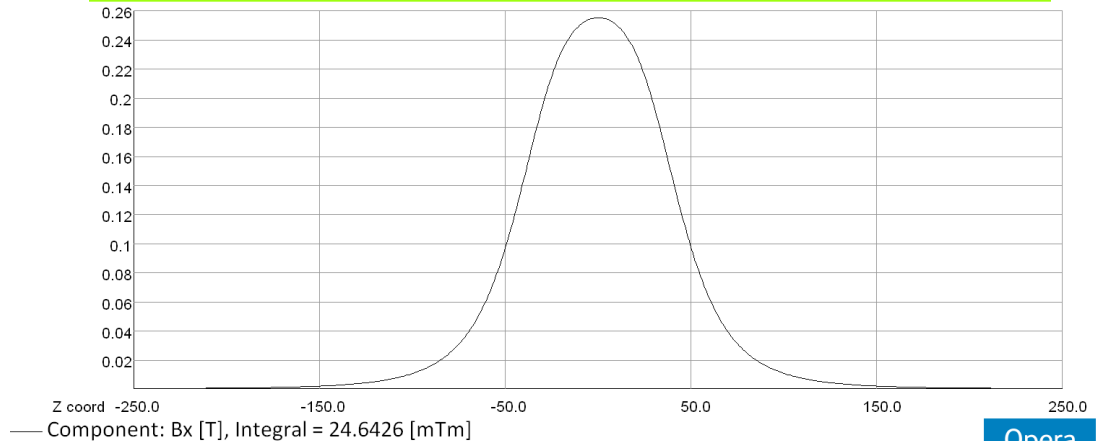
Opera 3D model with surface field distribution



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

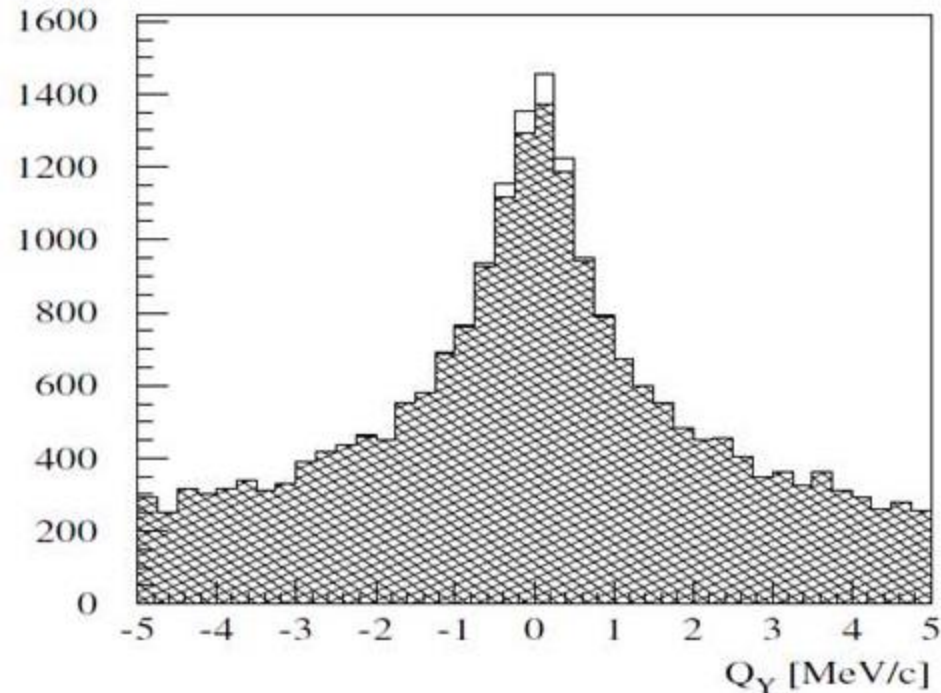


Horizontal field distribution along z-axis at  $X=Y=0 \text{ mm}$   
 $\int B_x(0,0,z) dz = 24.6 \times 10^{-3} \text{ [Tm]}$

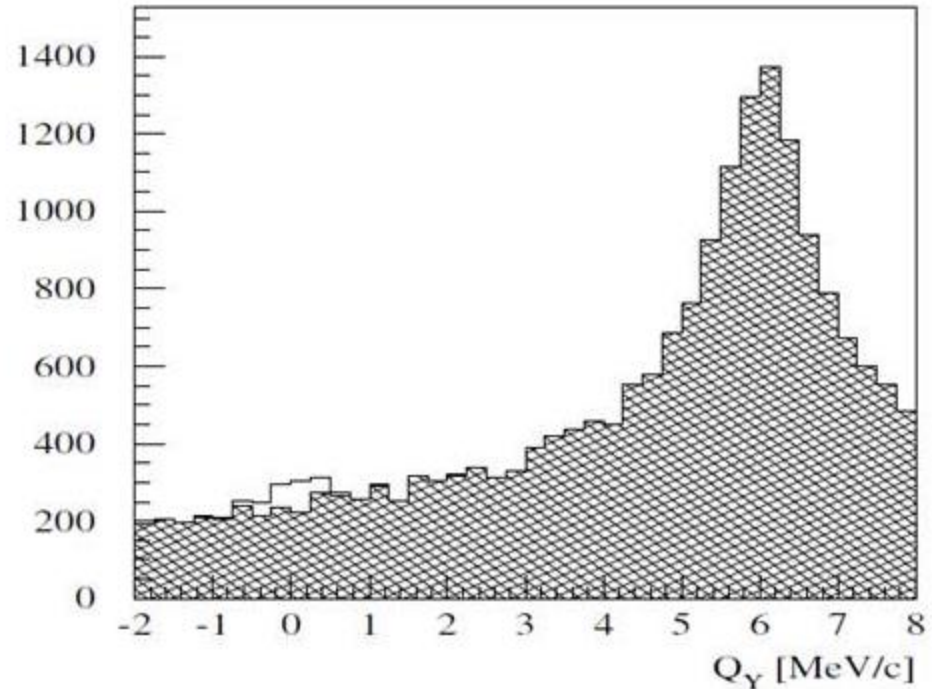


# Simulation of long-lived $A_{2\pi}$ observation

V. Yazkov



Without magnet

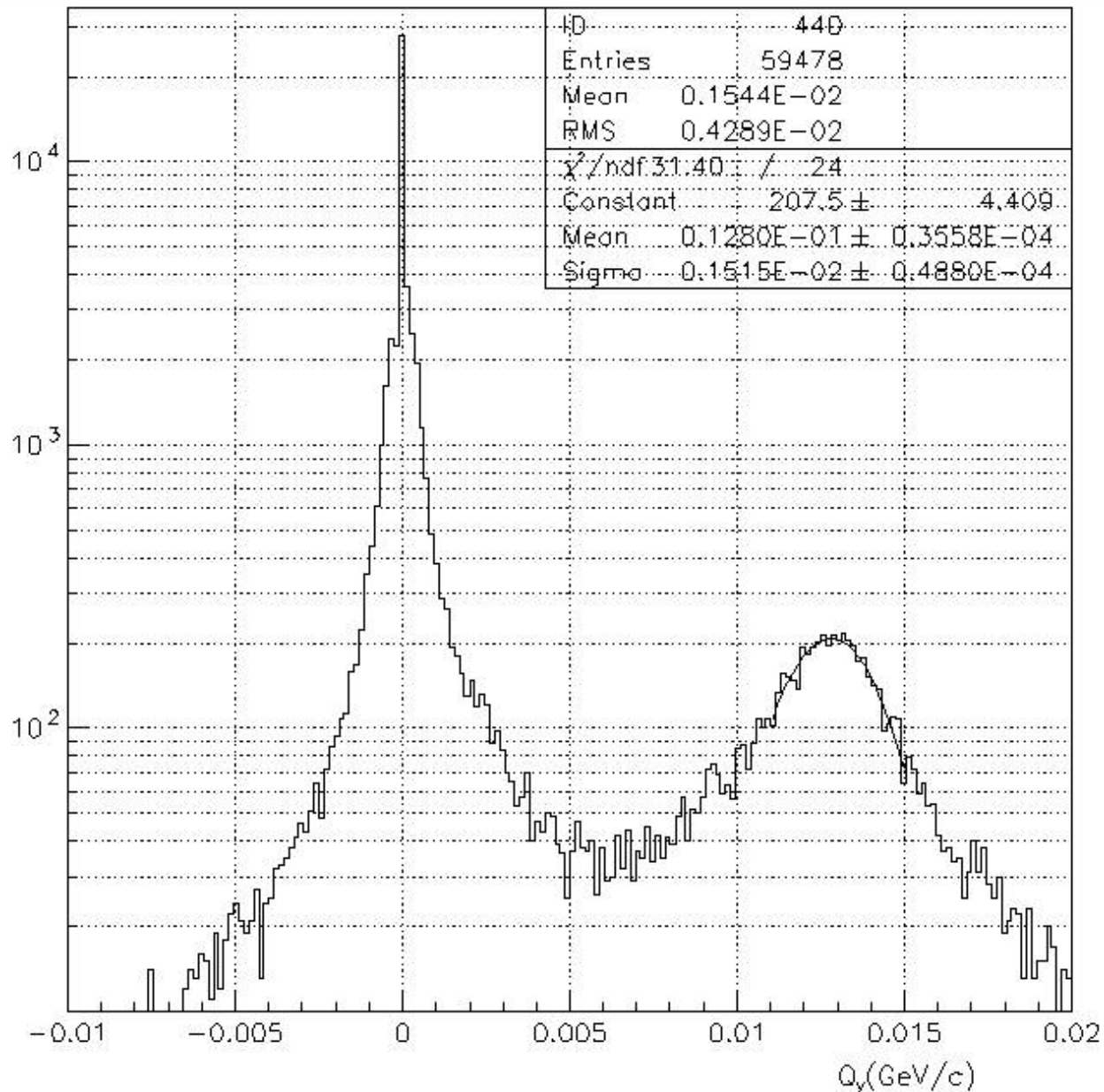


With magnet after Be target

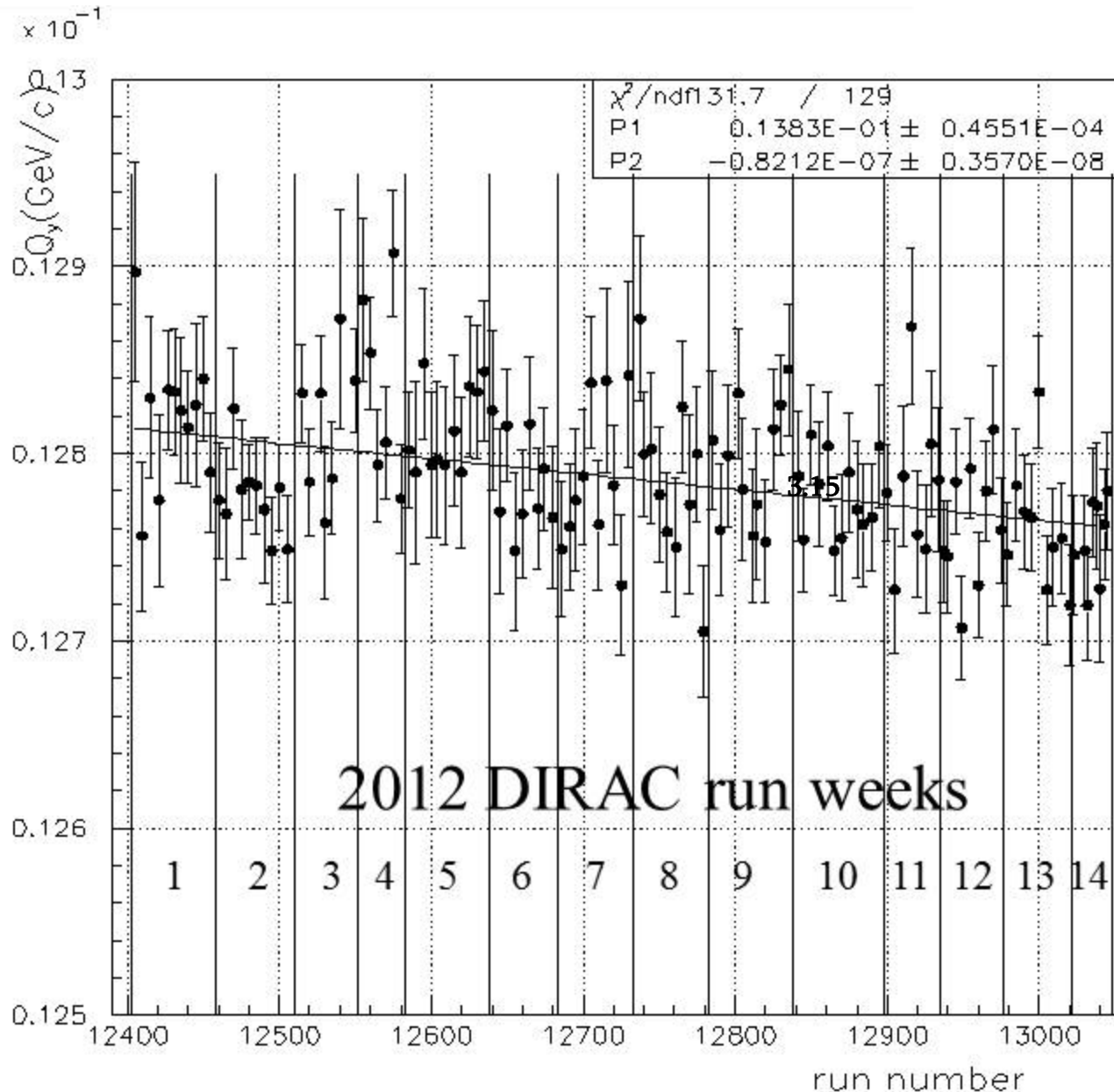
Simulated distribution of  $\pi^+\pi^-$  pairs over  $Q_Y$  with criteria:  $|Q_X| < 1$  MeV/c,  $|Q_L| < 1$  MeV/c. Atomic pairs from long-lived atoms (light area) above background (hatched area) produced in Beryllium target.



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



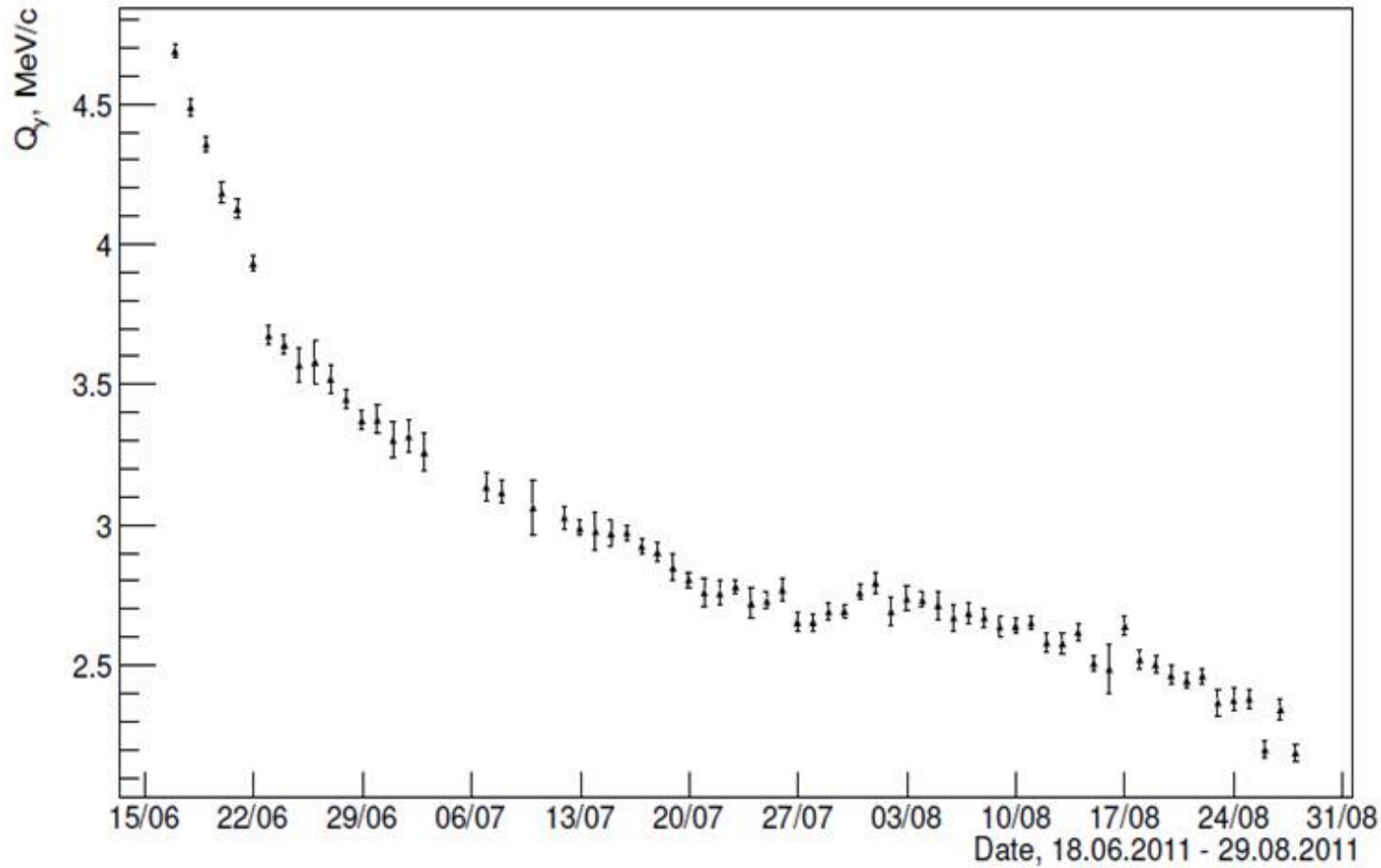
# Magnetic field stability measured by $Q_Y$ of the $e^+e^-$ pair



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

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

# 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 planning on January 2014.

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

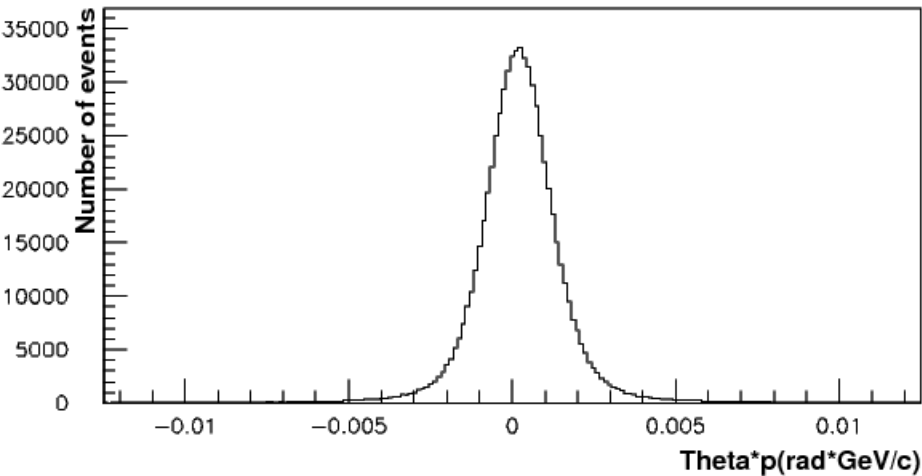
# $\pi^+\pi^-$ data

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

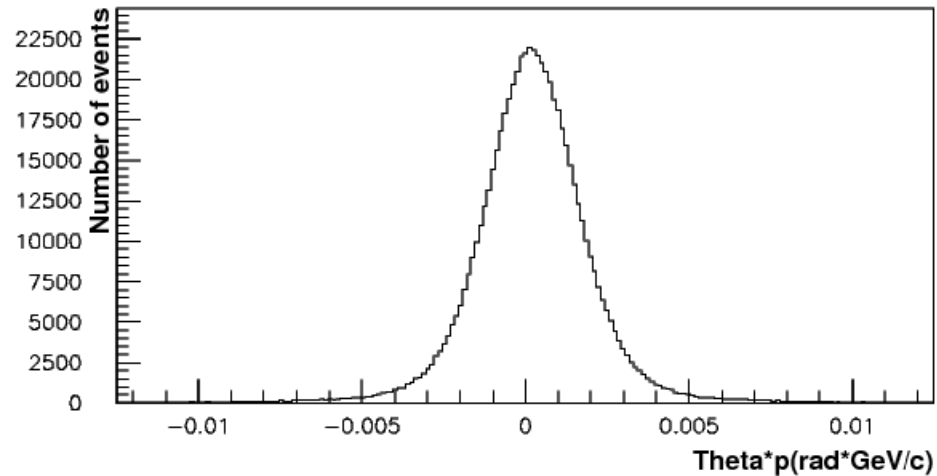
| Year       | $n_A$ | $\delta_{\text{stat}}(\%)$ | $\Delta_{\text{syst}}(\%)$ | $\delta_{\text{syst}}(\%)_{\text{MS}}$ | $\delta_{\text{tot}}(\%)$ |
|------------|-------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 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.

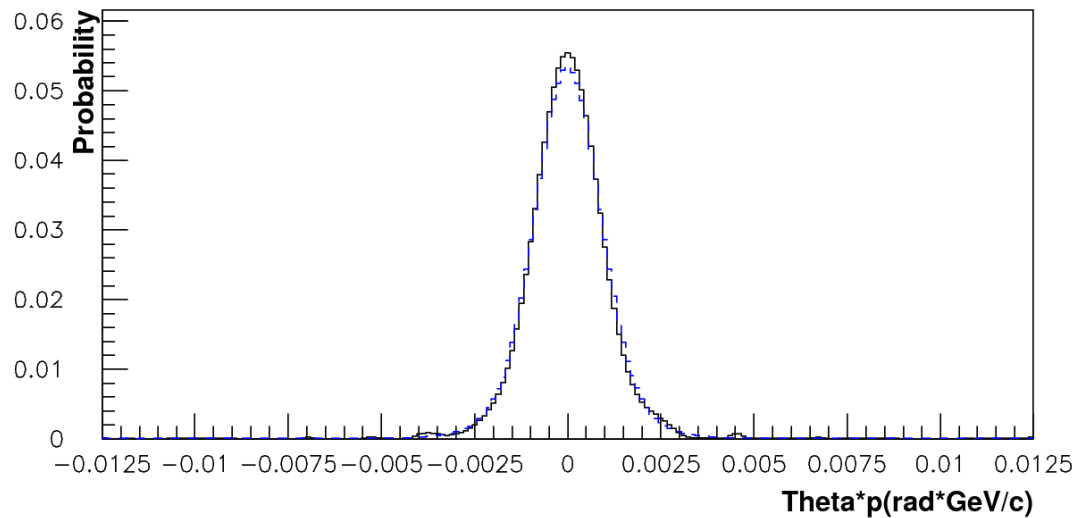
# Analysis of multiple scattering in Ni (100 $\mu\text{m}$ )



DC system resolution without scatter



DC system resolution with scatter



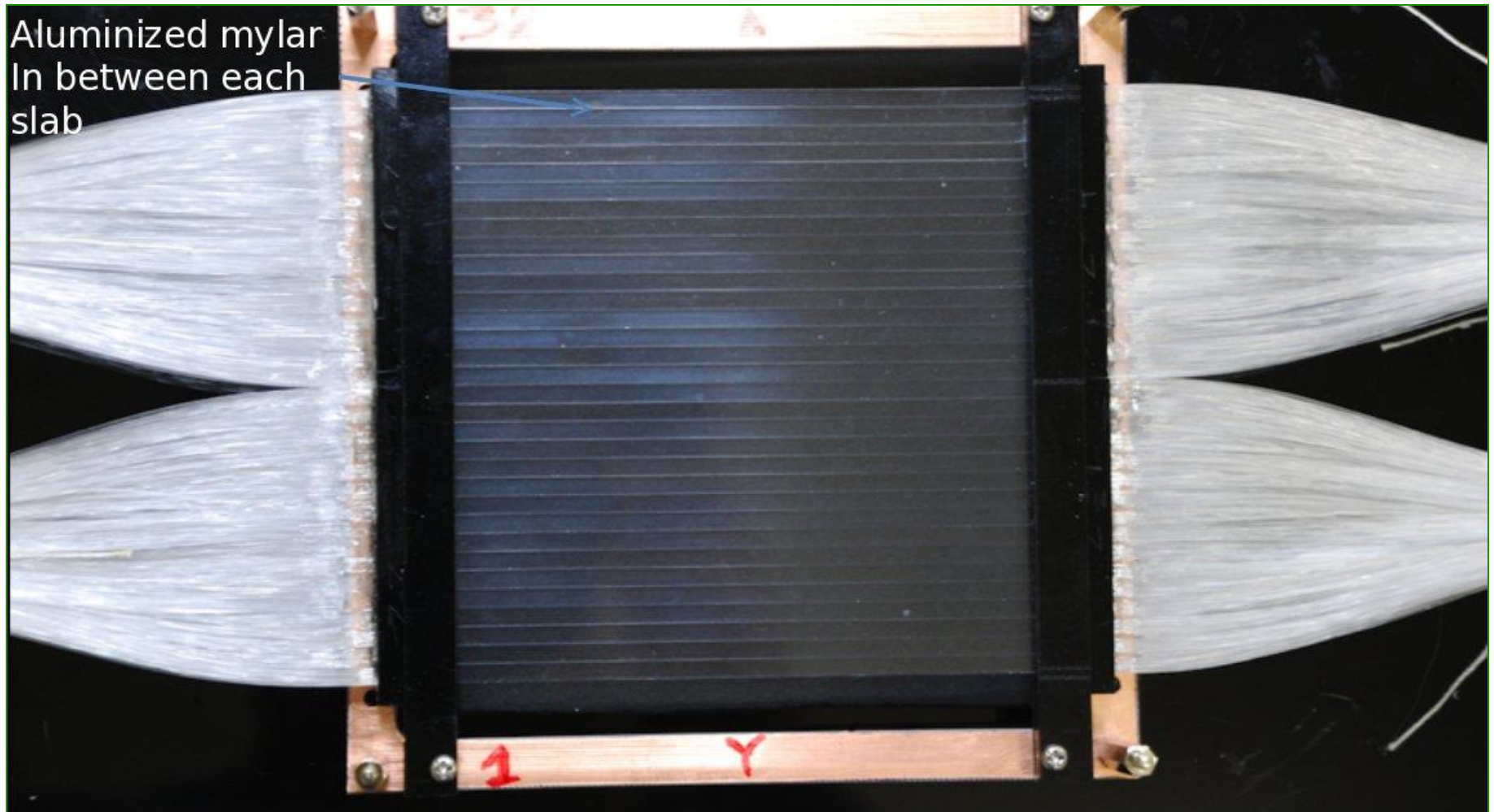
Reconstructed and simulated (blue) MS distributions

$\frac{\delta\theta}{\theta} \approx 0.7\%$   
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

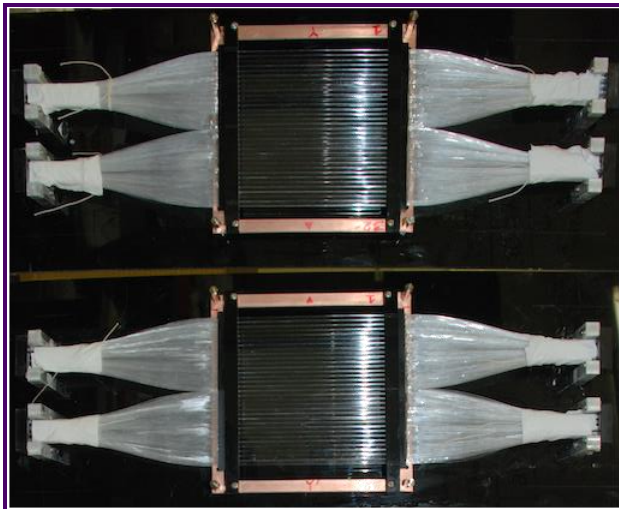
Counter needed to separate the single minimum-ionizing particles (MIPs) and DIRAC pairs (2 MIPs with very small distances).

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

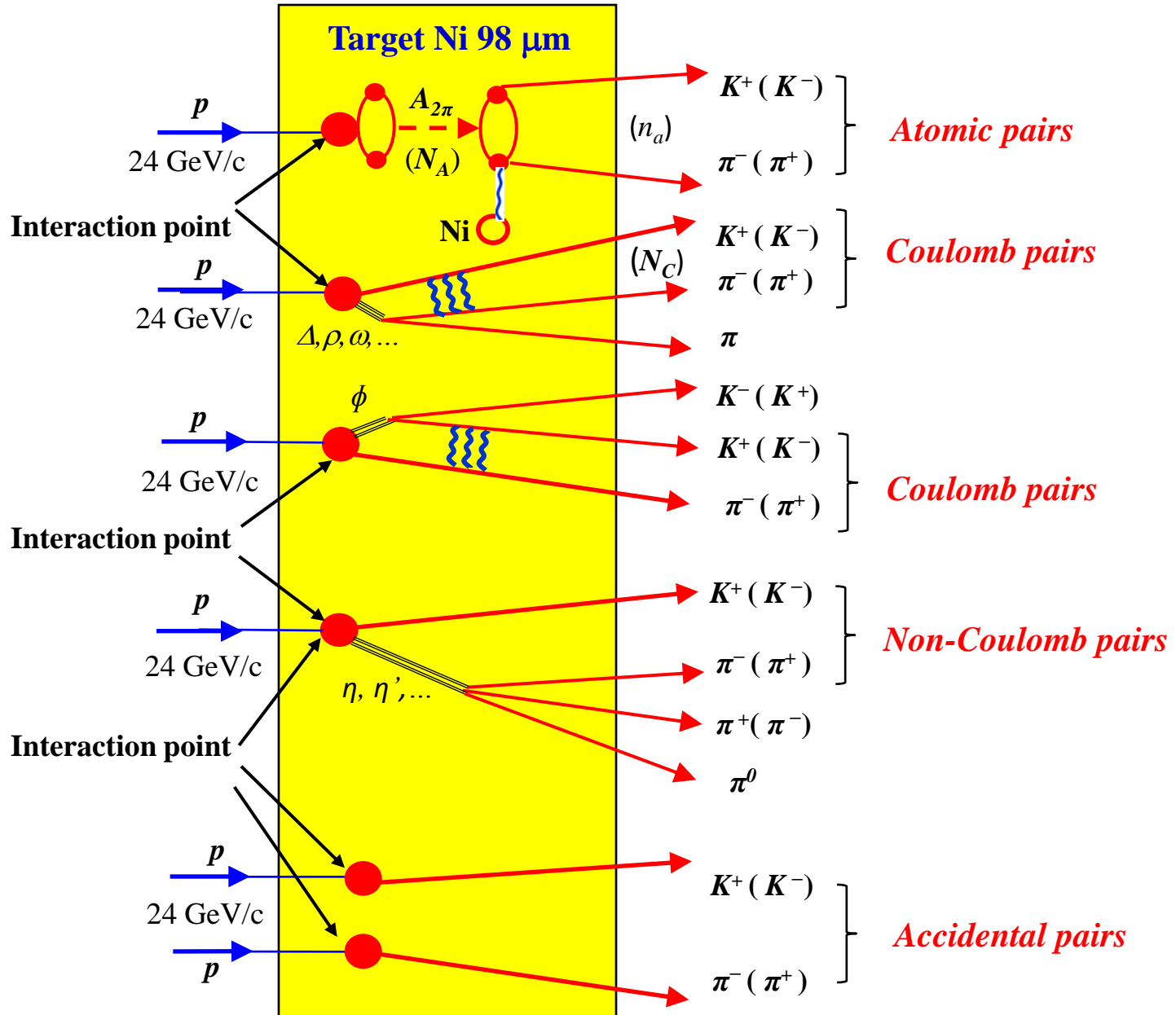


February 2013

April 2013

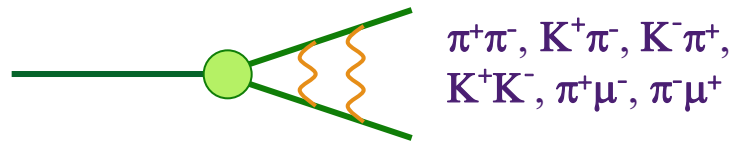


# Method of $\pi\pi$ and $K\pi$ atoms observation and investigation



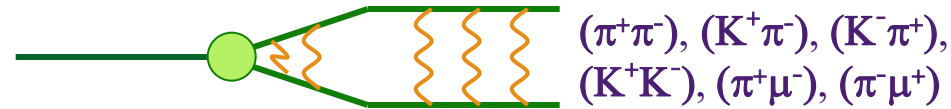
# Coulomb pairs and atoms

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



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

Coulomb pairs



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

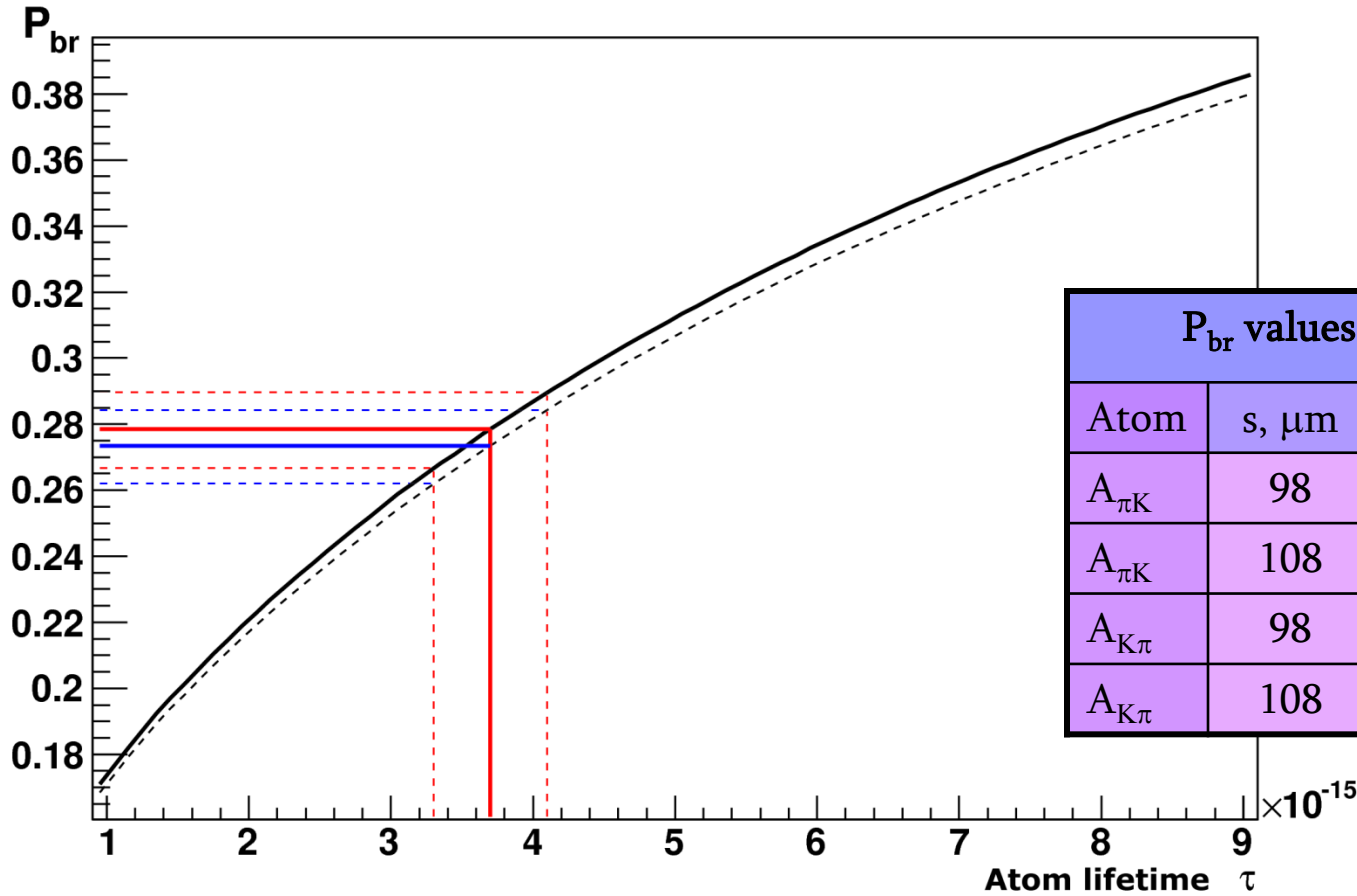
Atoms

There is 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:

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

$$n_A - \text{atomic pairs number}, P_{br} = \frac{n_A}{N_A}$$

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

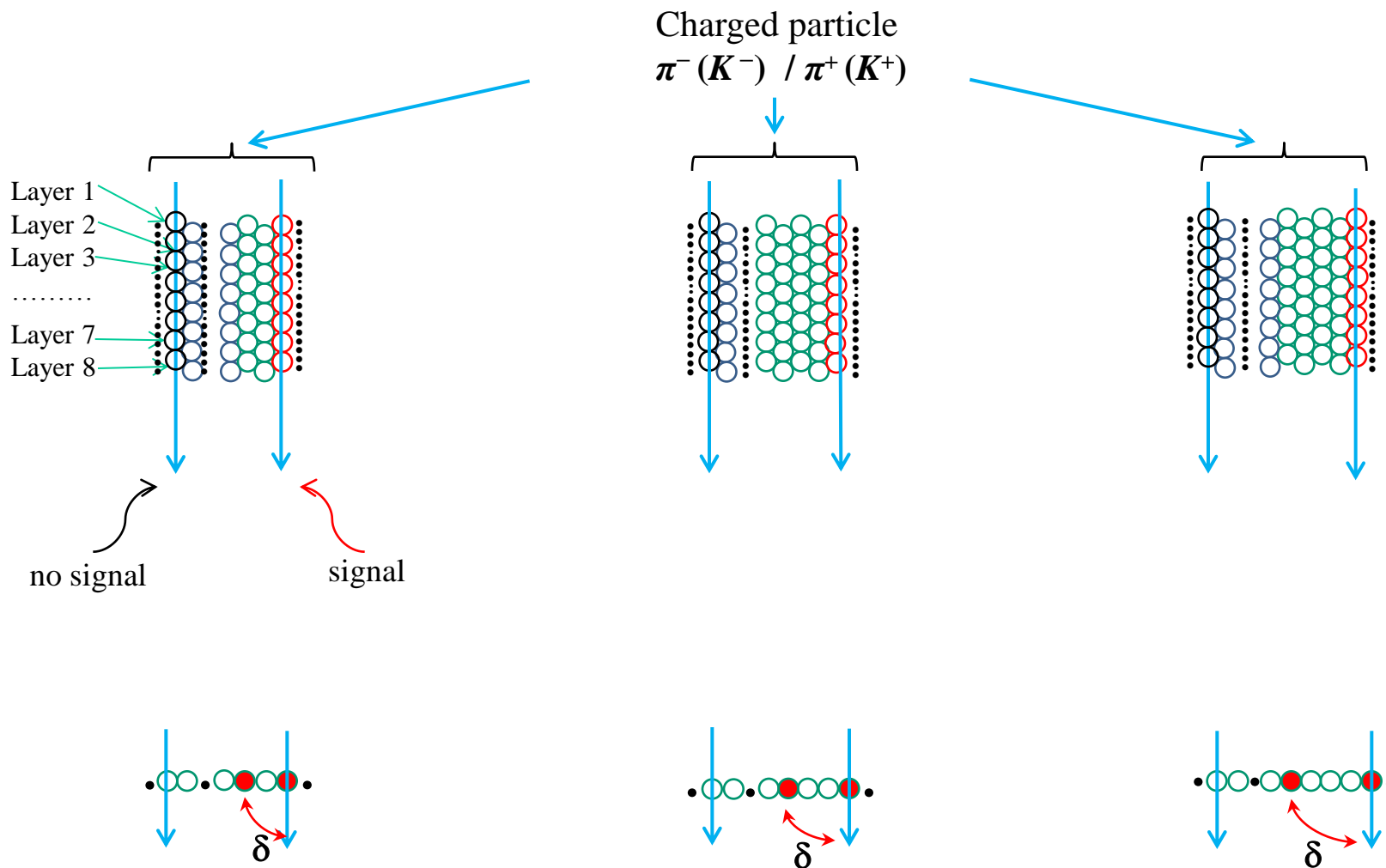


| $P_{br}$ values corresponding to $\tau_{1S}^{th}$ |                  |          |                 |                 |
|---------------------------------------------------|------------------|----------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Atom                                              | s, $\mu\text{m}$ | $P_{br}$ | $P_{br}-\sigma$ | $P_{br}+\sigma$ |
| $A_{\pi K}$                                       | 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           |

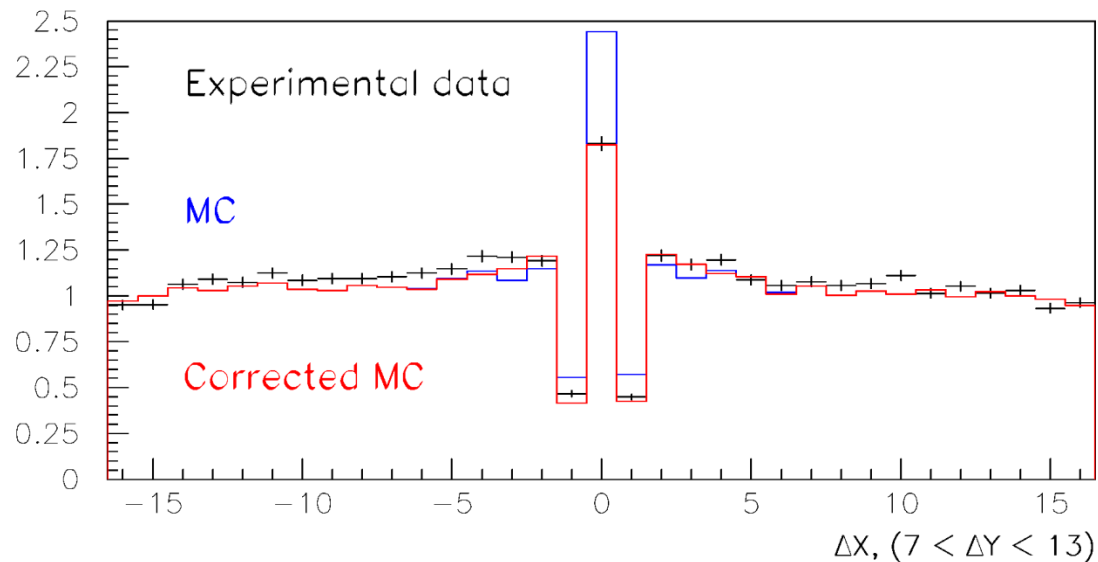
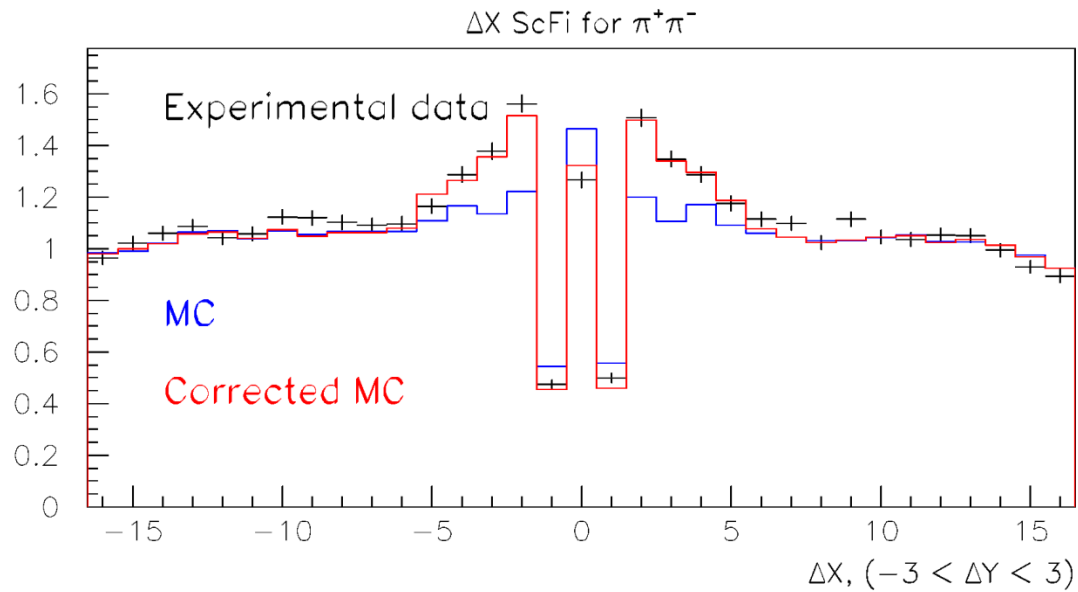
Probability of break-up as a function of lifetime in the ground state for  $A_{\pi K}$  (solid line) and  $A_{K\pi}$  atoms (dashed line) in Ni target of thickness 108  $\mu\text{m}$ .

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 $Q_T$

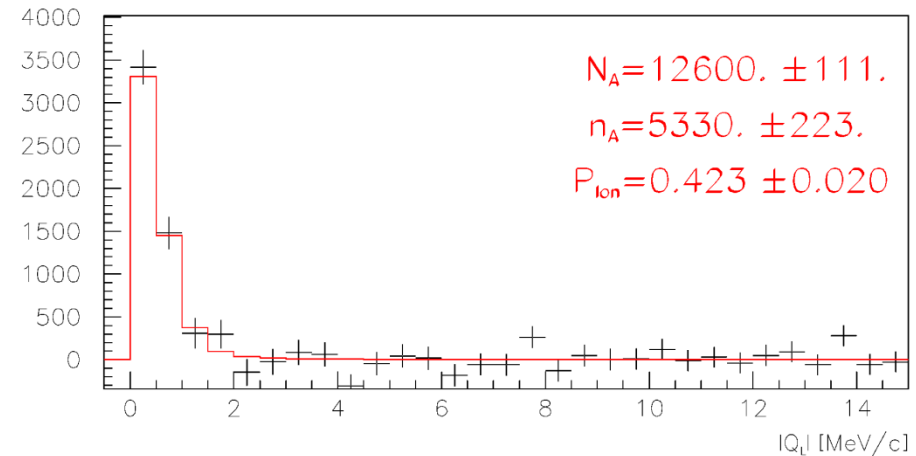
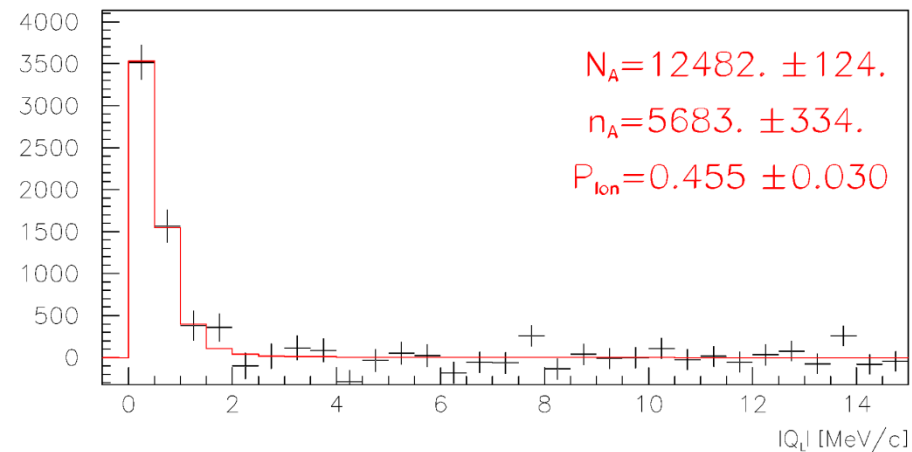
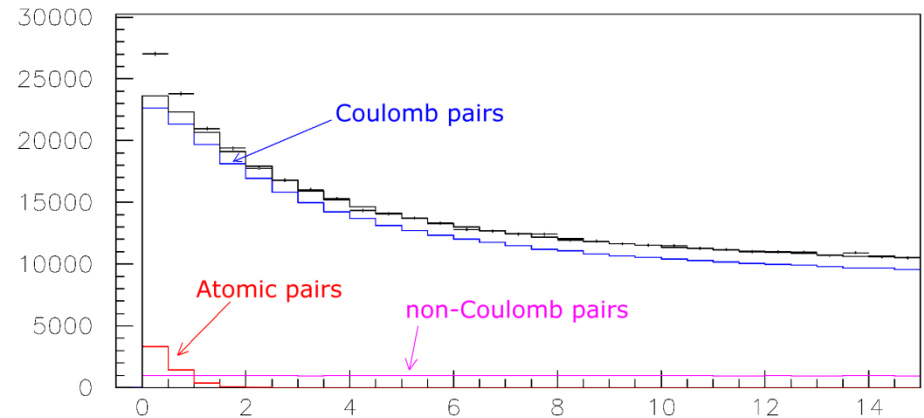
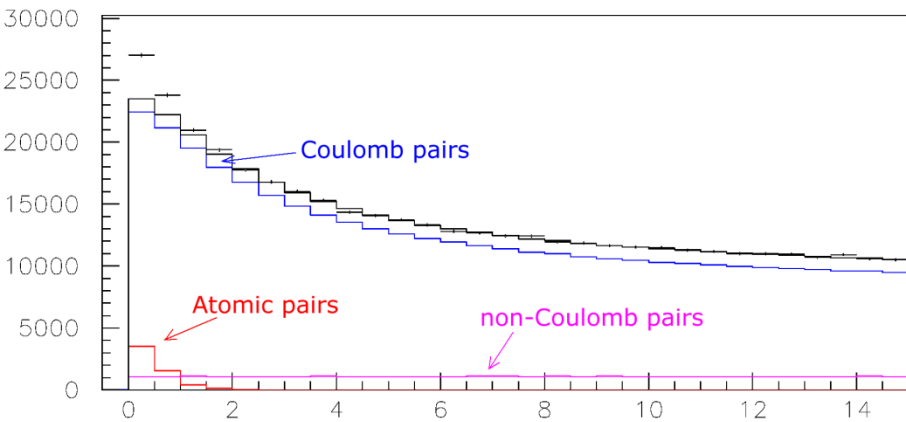


# Distribution of $\pi^+\pi^-$ pairs without Coulomb peak ( $Q_{\perp} > 10$ MeV/c) over distance between tracks in X-plane of SFD



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

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

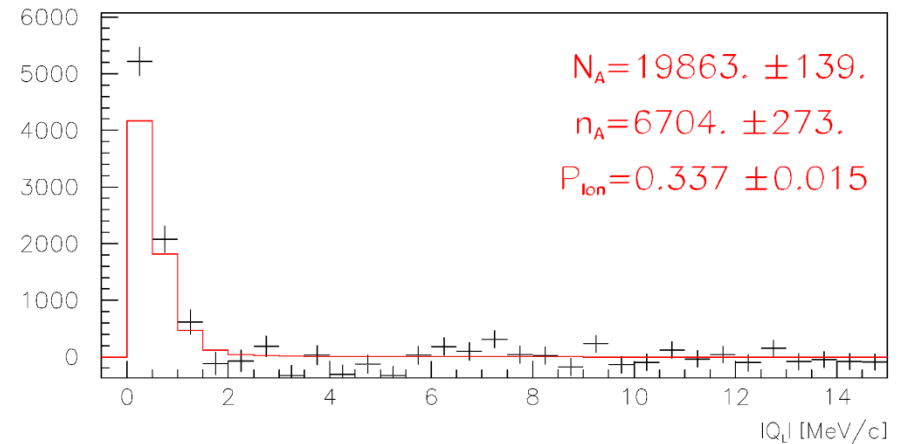
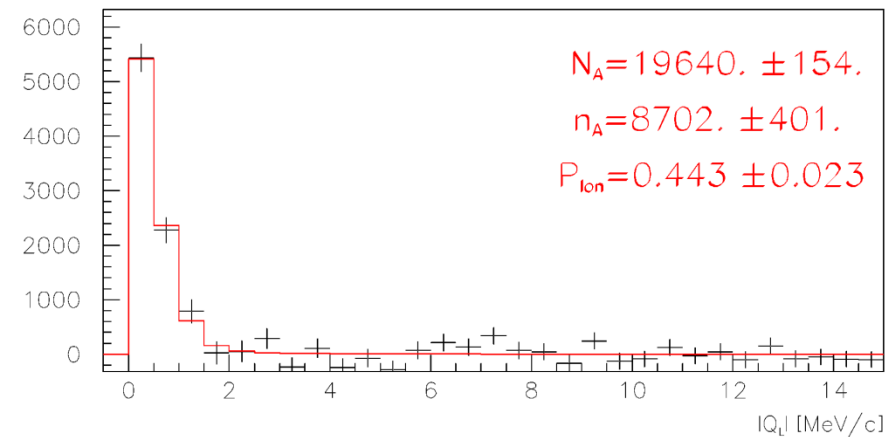
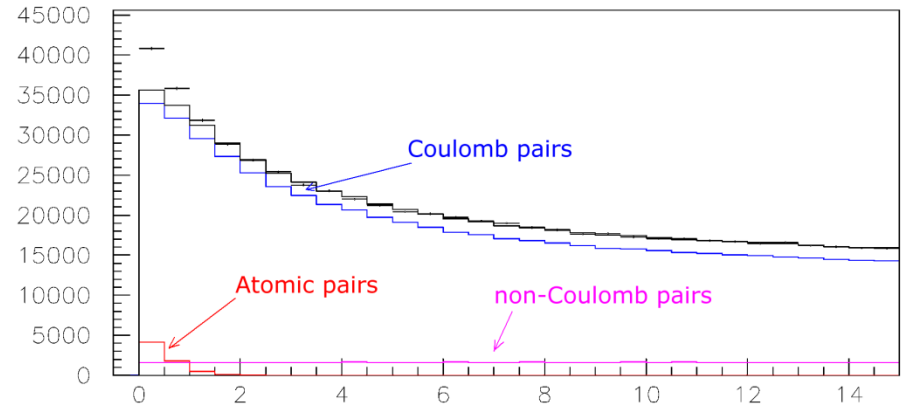
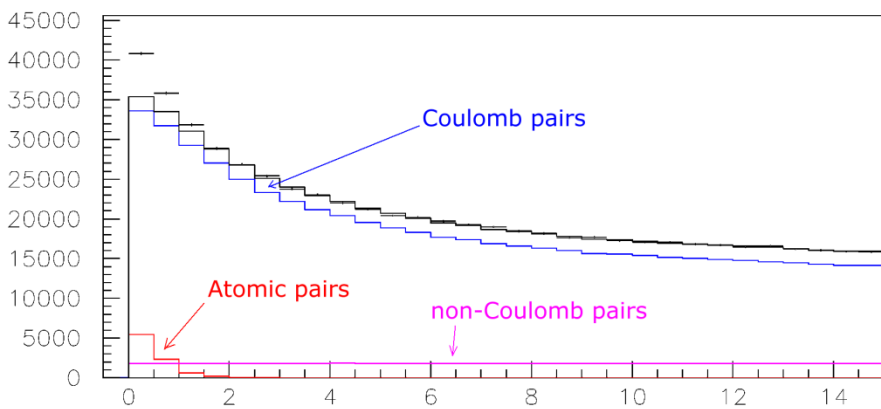


Analysis on  $Q_L, Q_T < 4 \text{ MeV/c}$

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

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

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



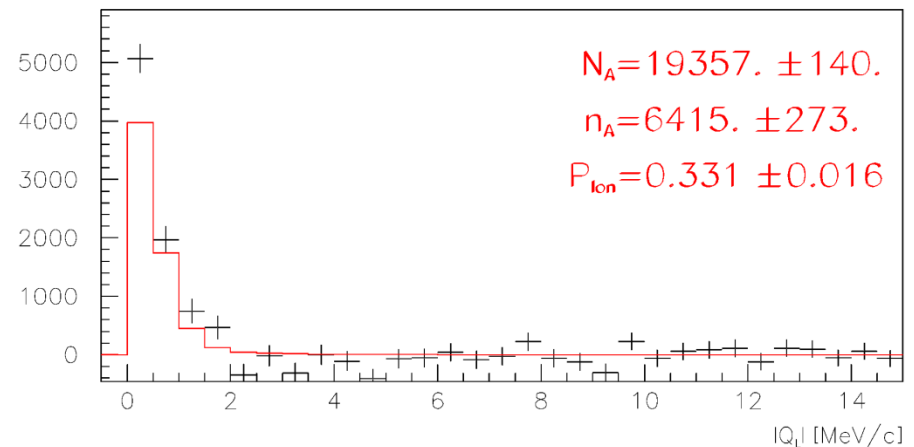
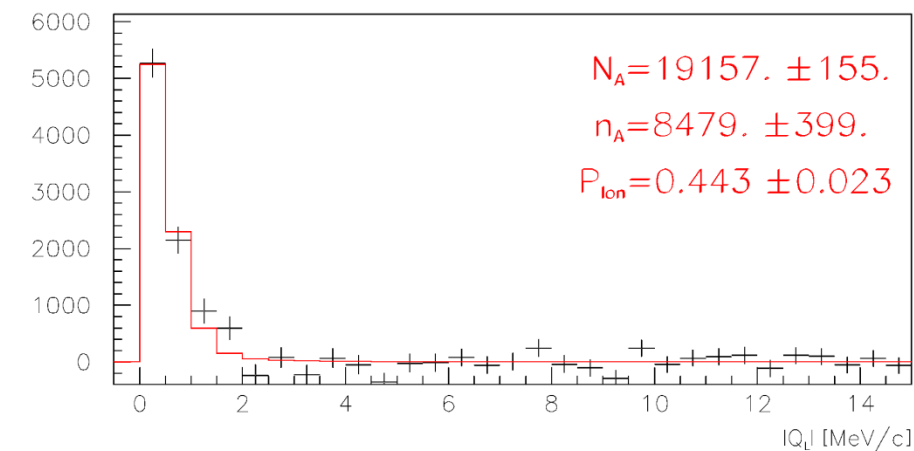
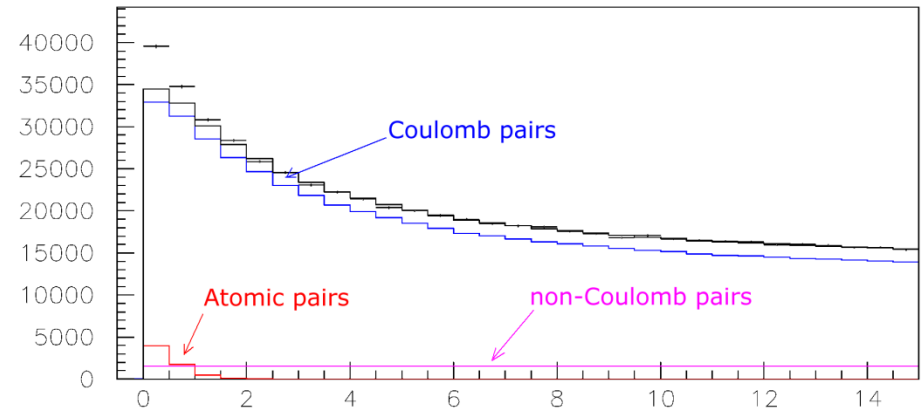
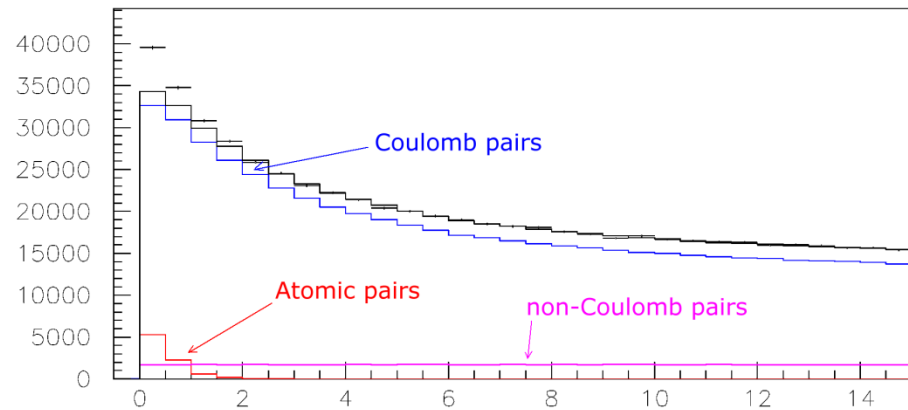
Analysis on  $Q_L, Q_T < 4 \text{ MeV/c}$

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



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

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

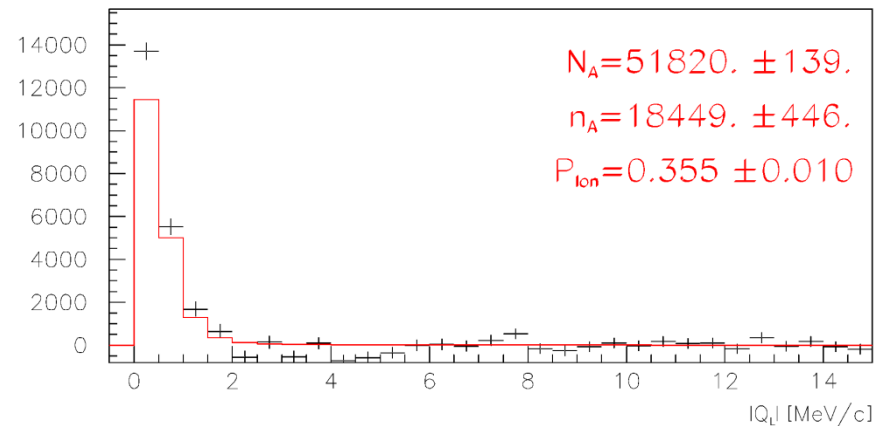
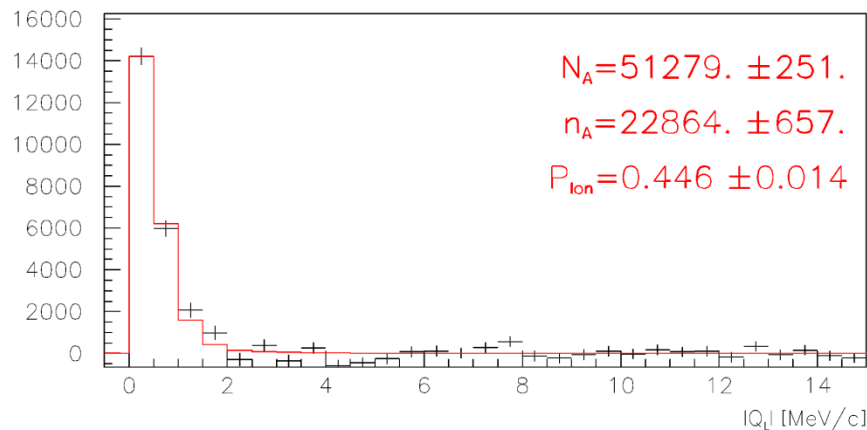
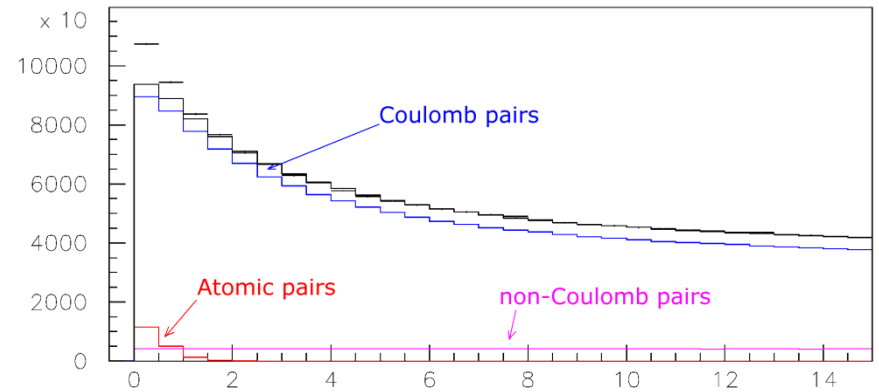
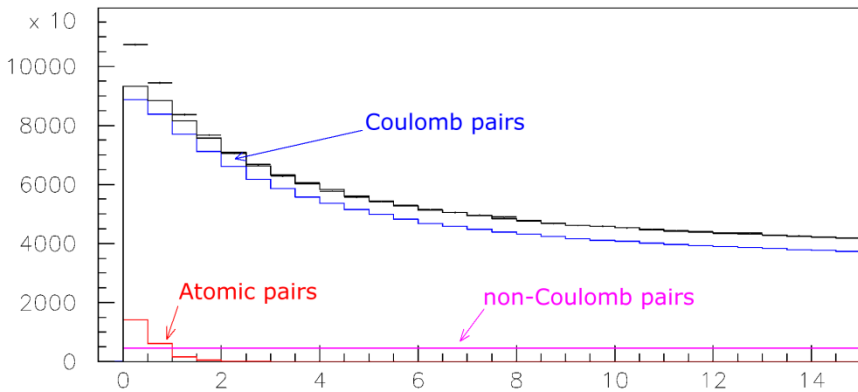


Analysis on  $Q_L, Q_T < 4$  MeV/c

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

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

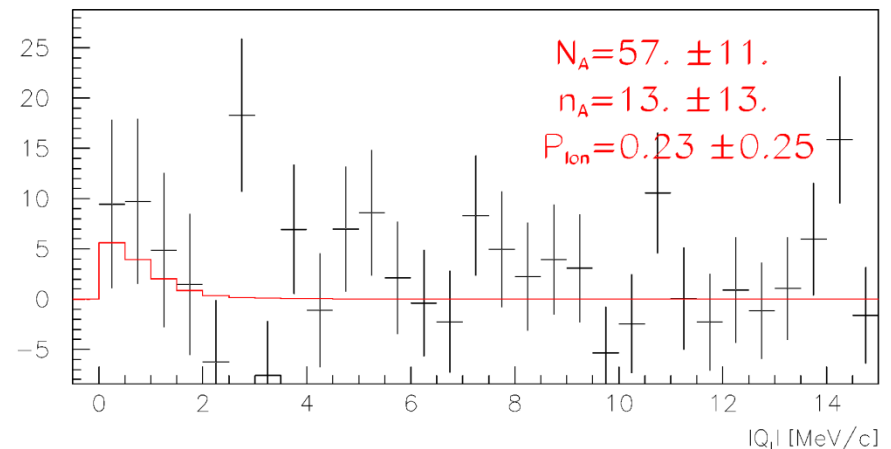
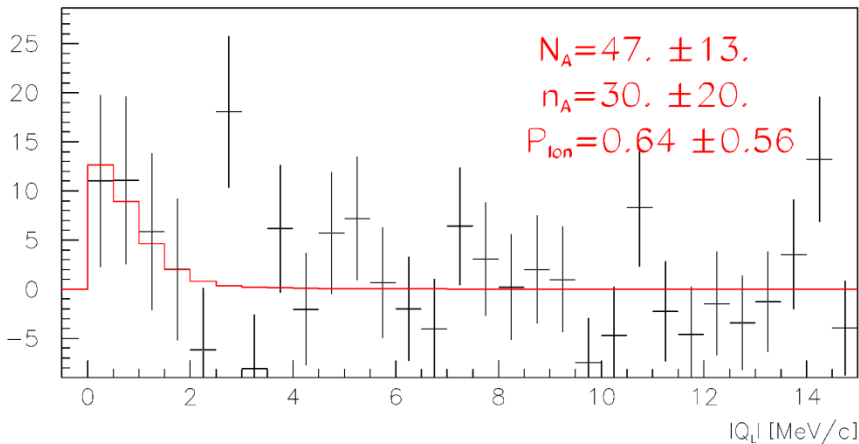
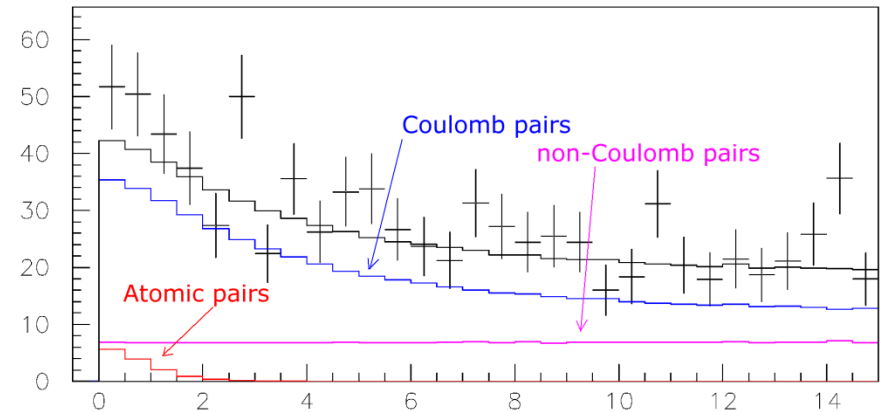
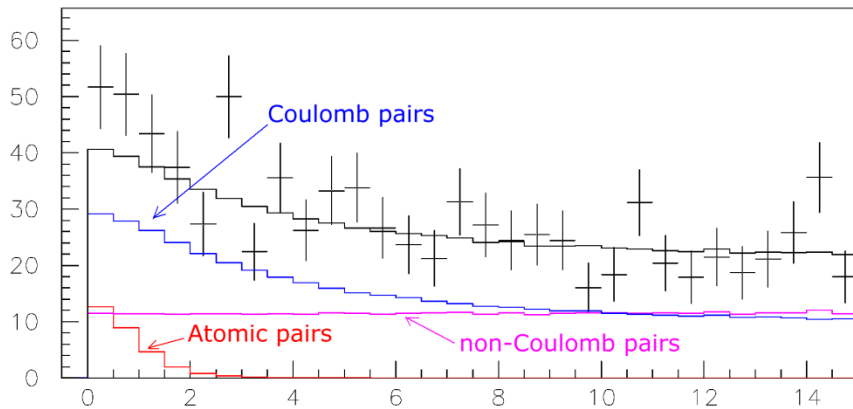
$$P_{\text{br}} (2001-2003) = 0.446 \pm 0.0093$$

# $\pi^+\pi^-$ pairs 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.

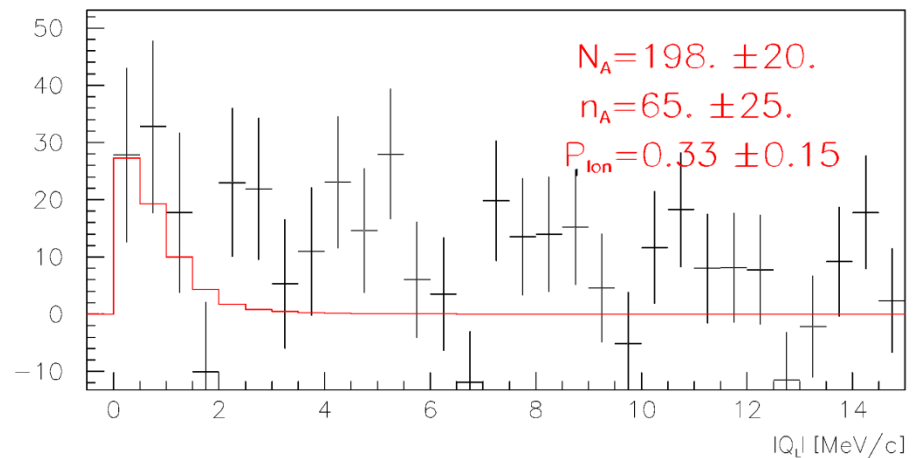
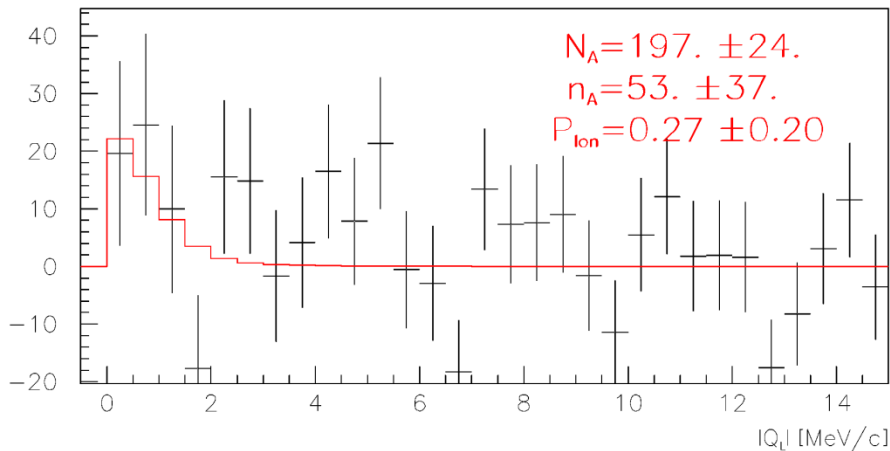
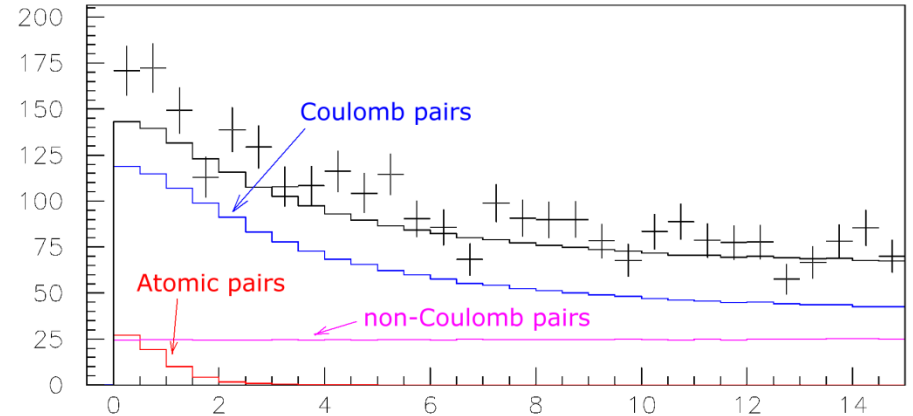
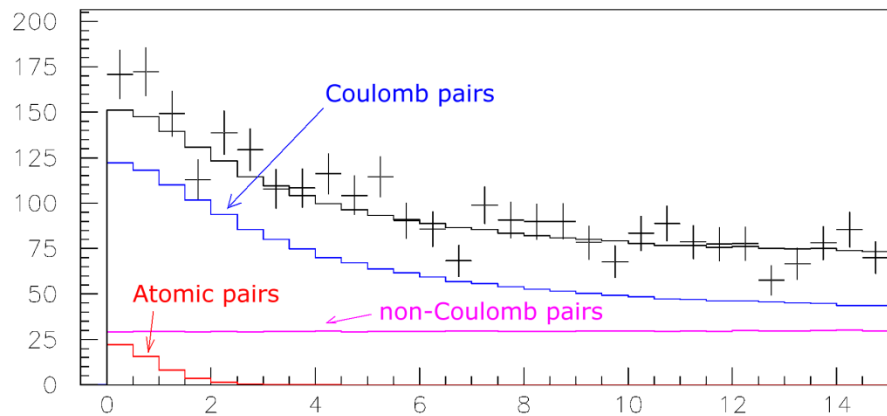


Analysis on  $Q_L, Q_T < 4 \text{ MeV}/c$

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

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

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

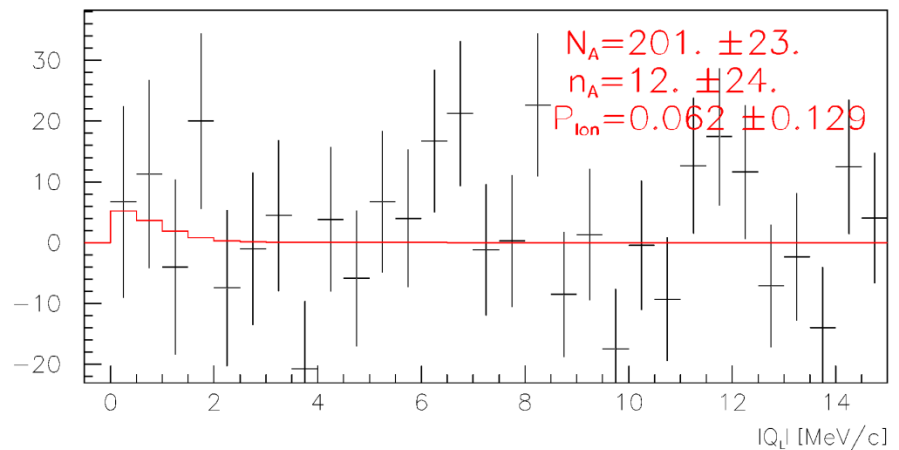
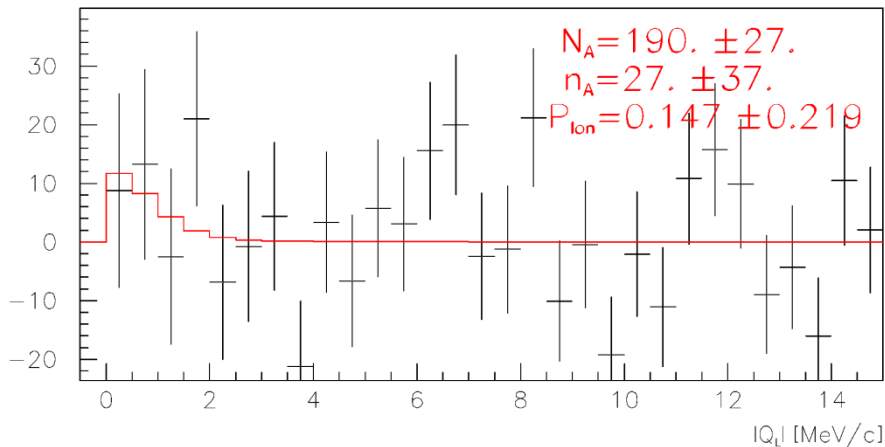
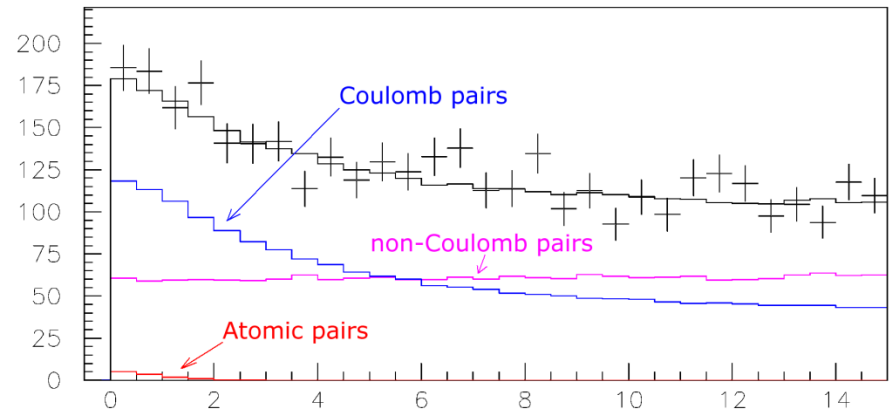
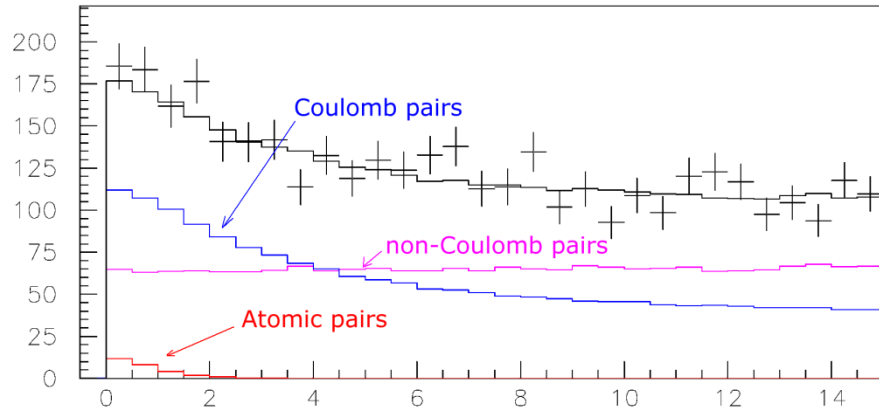


Analysis on  $Q_L, Q_T < 4 \text{ MeV/c}$

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.

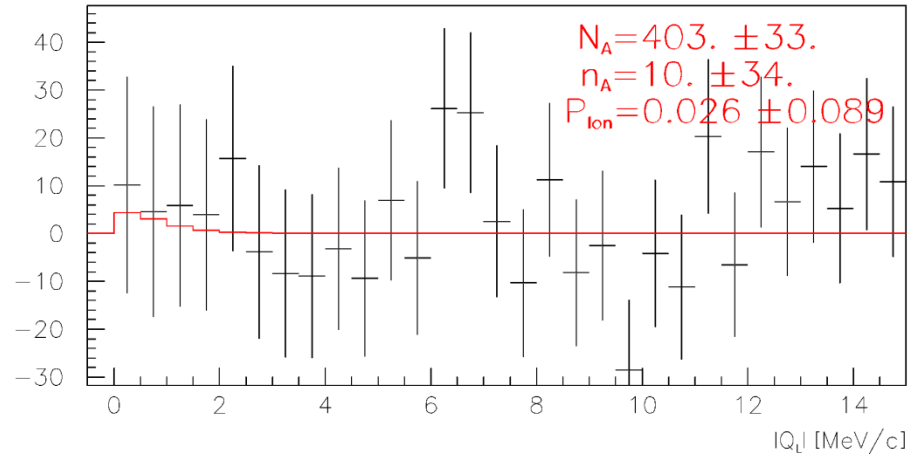
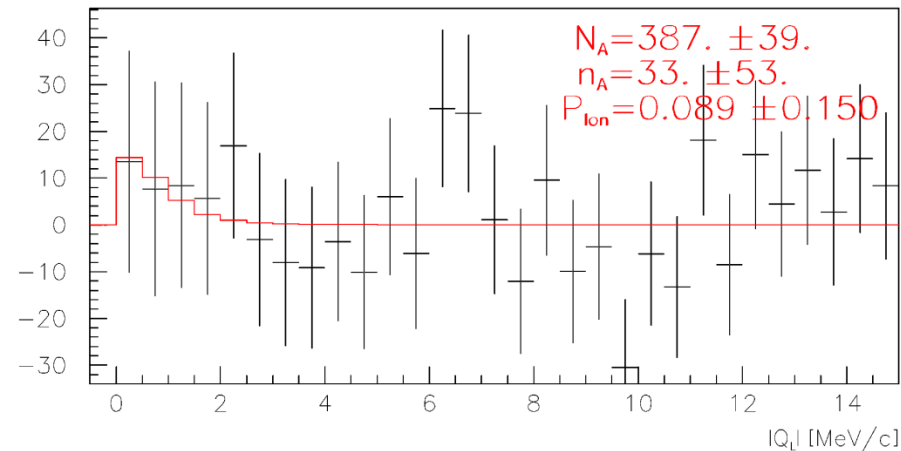
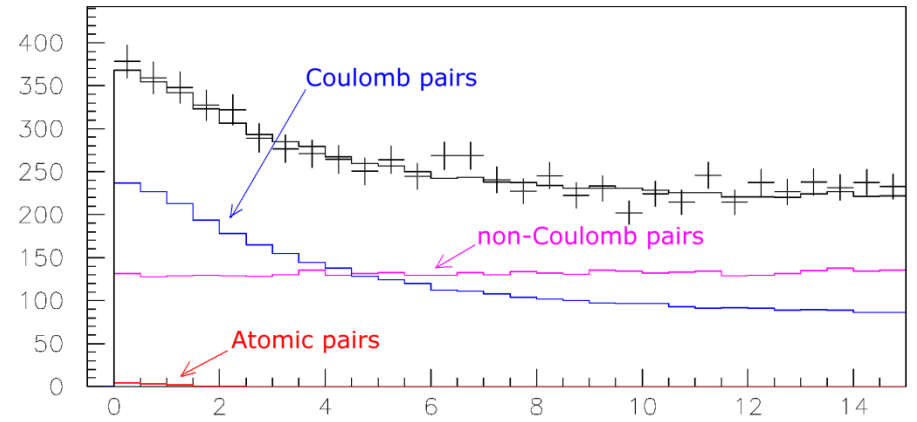
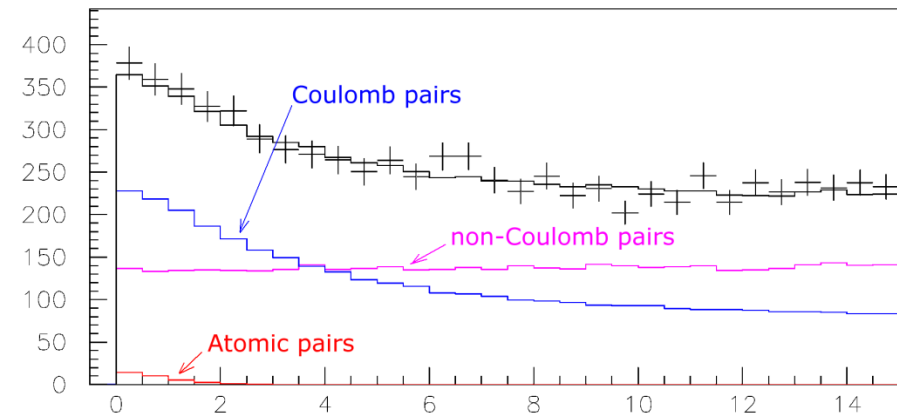


Analysis on  $Q_L, Q_T < 4 \text{ MeV/c}$

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

# $K^+ \pi^-$ 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  $Q_L, Q_T < 4 \text{ MeV/c}$

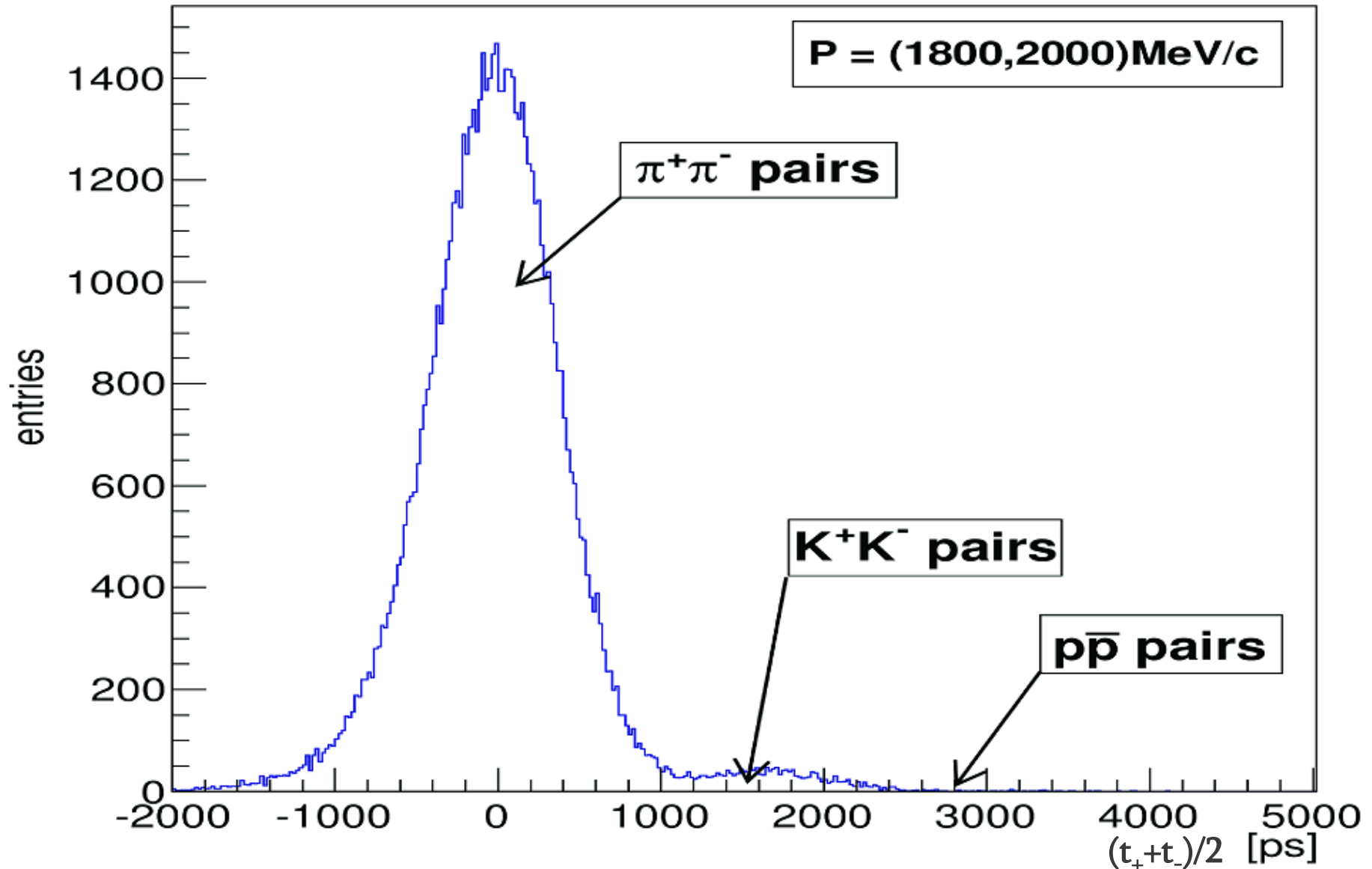
Analysis on  $Q_L - Q_T, Q_T < 4 \text{ MeV/c}$

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

|                                                                                       | $\pi^+\text{K}^-$ pairs<br>2008-2010 | $\text{K}^+\pi^-$ pairs<br>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.<br>[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<br>[MeV/c] | $p\bar{p}$ | $\text{error}_{p\bar{p}}$ | ratio<br>[%] | $\text{error}_{\text{ratio}}$ | $K^+K^-$ 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

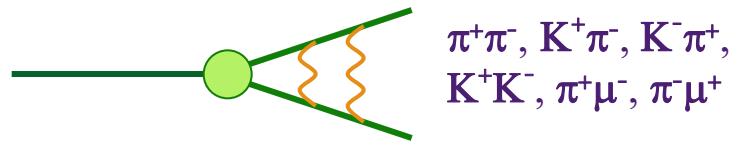
$\text{error}_{\text{ratio}}$ ...error for the  $p\bar{p}$  and  $\pi^+\pi^-$  pair ratio

$\text{error}_{K^+K^-}$ ...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.

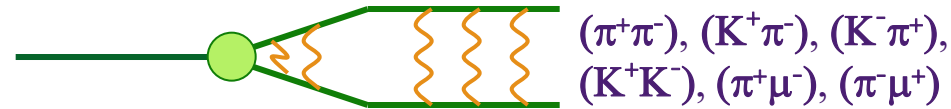
# Coulomb pairs and atoms

For the charge pairs from the short-lived sources and small relative momentum  $Q$  there is strong Coulomb interaction in the final state. This interaction increases the production yield of the free pairs with  $Q$  decreasing and 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 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:

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

$$n_A - \text{atomic pairs number}, P_{br} = \frac{n_A}{N_A}$$

# $K^+K^-$ 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<br>complexity<br>↓ | $1.2 \times 10^{-16} \text{ s}$             | 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, Nuclear Physics A562 (1993), 446-460;  
 S. Krewald, R. Lemmer, F.P. Sasson, Phys. Rev. D69 (2004), 016003.

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

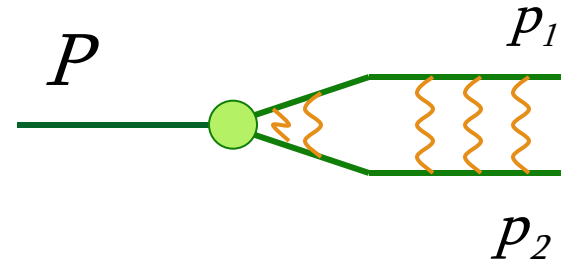
$$\frac{d\sigma_{nlm}^A}{d\vec{P}_A} = (2\pi)^3 \frac{E}{M} \left| \psi_{nlm}^{(C)}(0) \right|^2 \frac{d\sigma_s^0}{d\vec{p}_1 d\vec{p}_2} \Big|_{\vec{v}_1 = \vec{v}_2} \propto \frac{d\sigma}{d\vec{p}_1} \cdot \frac{d\sigma}{d\vec{p}_2} \cdot R(\vec{p}_1, \vec{p}_2; s)$$

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

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

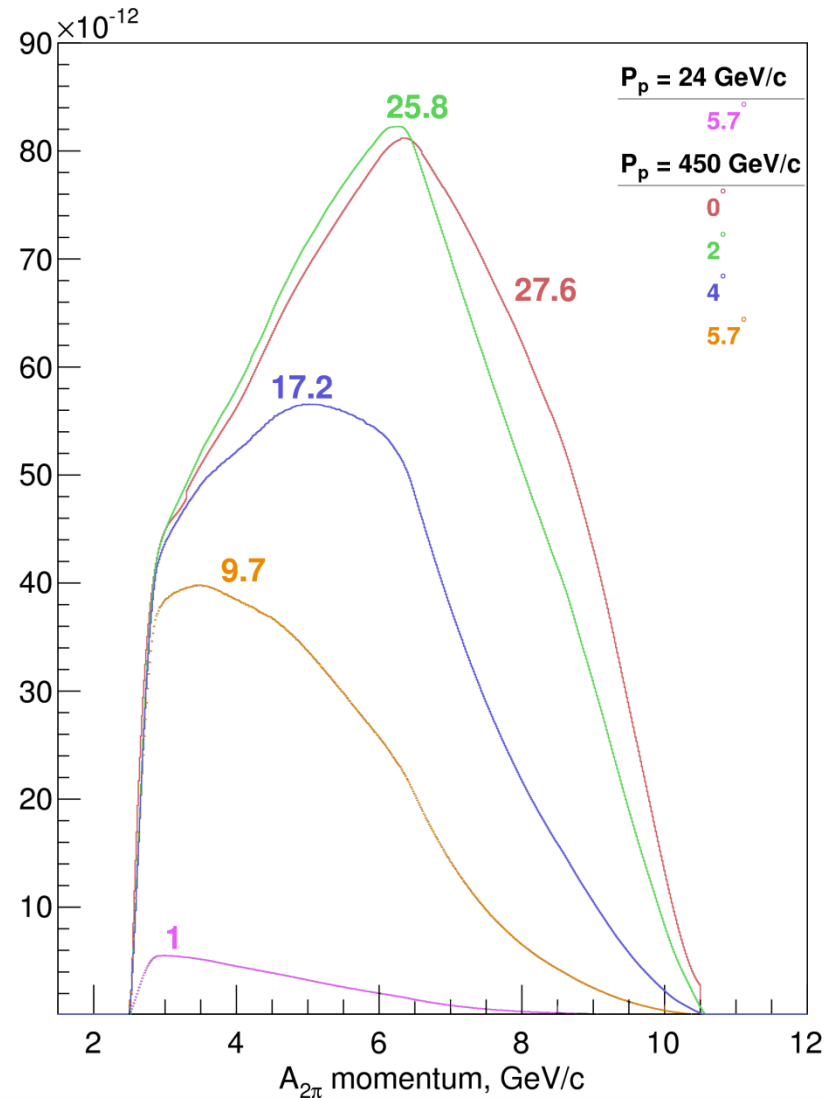
for  $A_{2\pi}$  production  $\vec{p}_1 = \vec{p}_2$

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



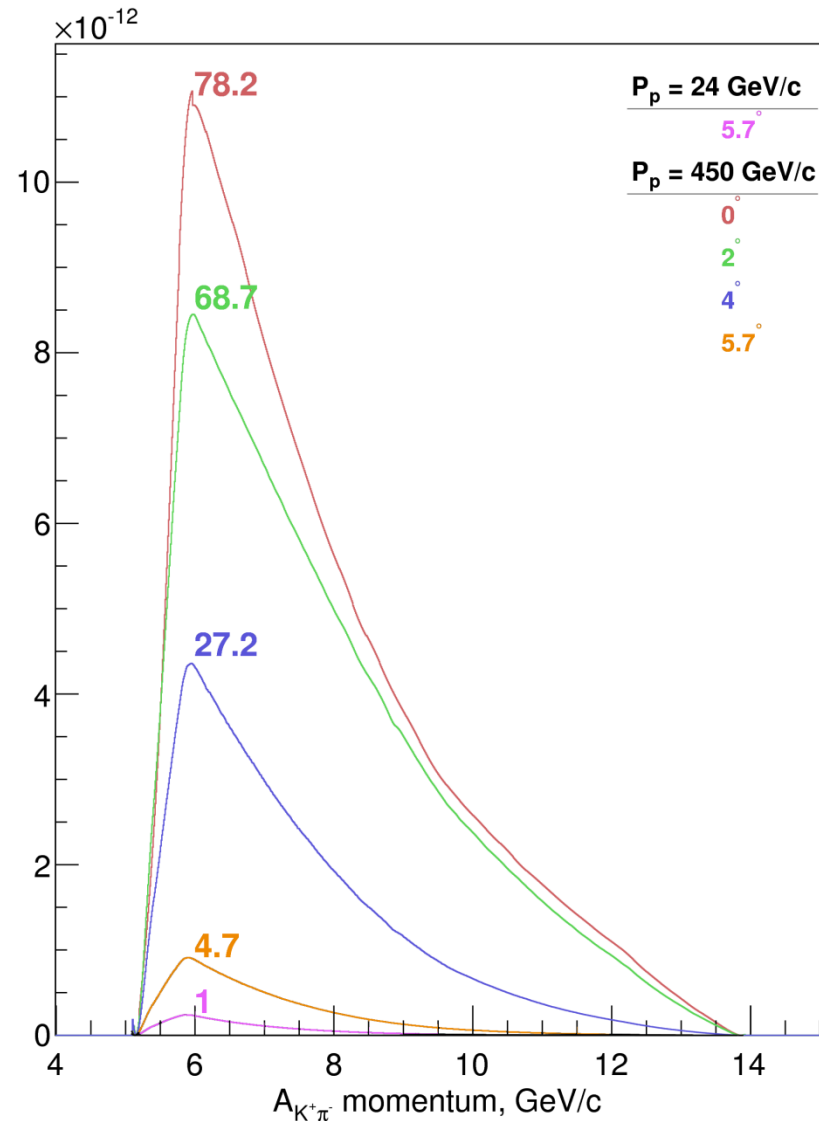
$R(\vec{p}_1, \vec{p}_2; s)$  - correlation function

# 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.

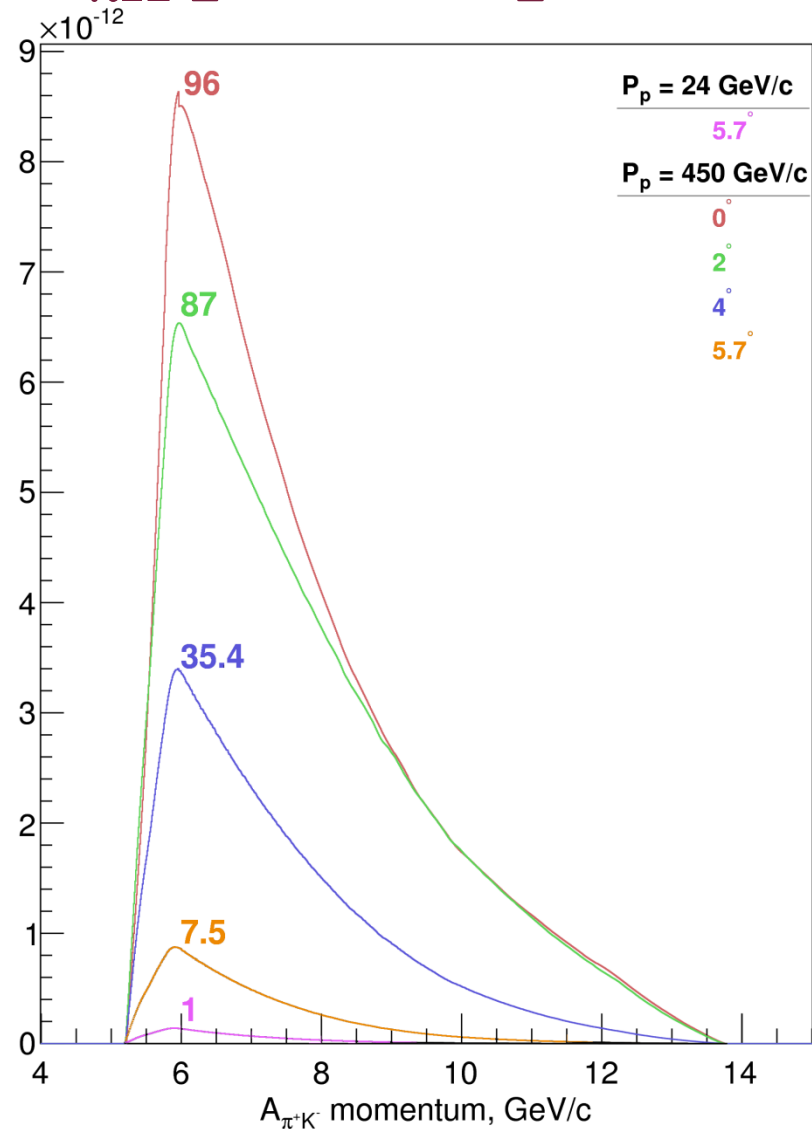
# Yield of $A_{K\pi}$ per one p-Ni interaction



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)

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

## Ni target

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

# Experimental conditions

|                                                           |                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Secondary particles channel (relative to the proton beam) | 5.7°                              |
| Angular divergence in vertical and horizontal planes      | ±1°                               |
| Solid angle                                               | $1.2 \cdot 10^{-3}$ 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

|                      |                               |                               |                               |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Coordinate precision | $\sigma_X = 60 \mu\text{m}$   | $\sigma_Y = 60 \mu\text{m}$   | $\sigma_W = 120 \mu\text{m}$  |
| Time precision       | $\sigma_X^t = 380 \text{ ps}$ | $\sigma_Y^t = 512 \text{ ps}$ | $\sigma_W^t = 522 \text{ ps}$ |

## DC

|                      |                           |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Coordinate precision | $\sigma = 85 \mu\text{m}$ |
|----------------------|---------------------------|

## VH

|                |                           |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| Time precision | $\sigma = 100 \text{ ps}$ |
|----------------|---------------------------|

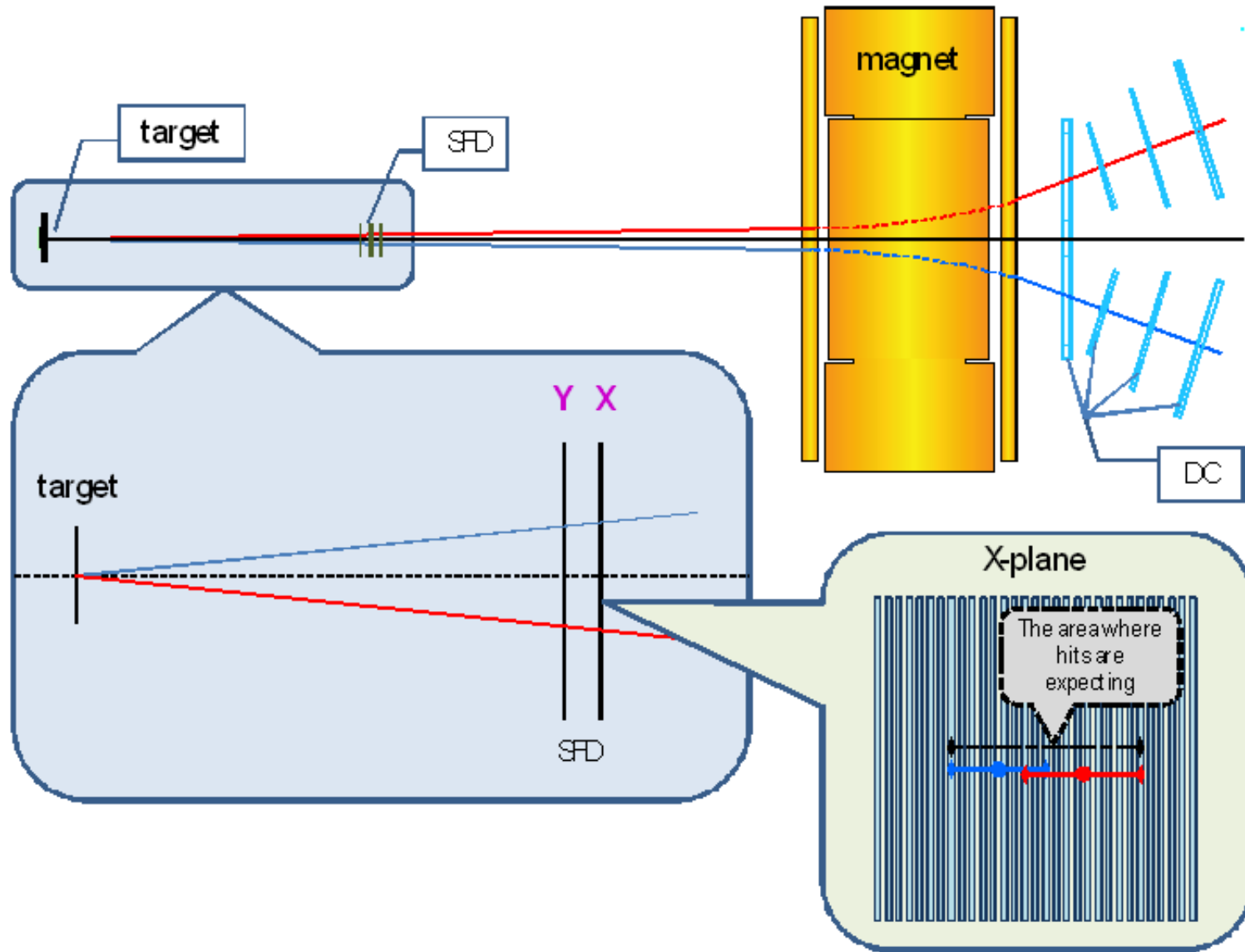
## Spectrometer

|                                                      |                   |
|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Relative resolution on the particle momentum in L.S. | $3 \cdot 10^{-3}$ |
|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|

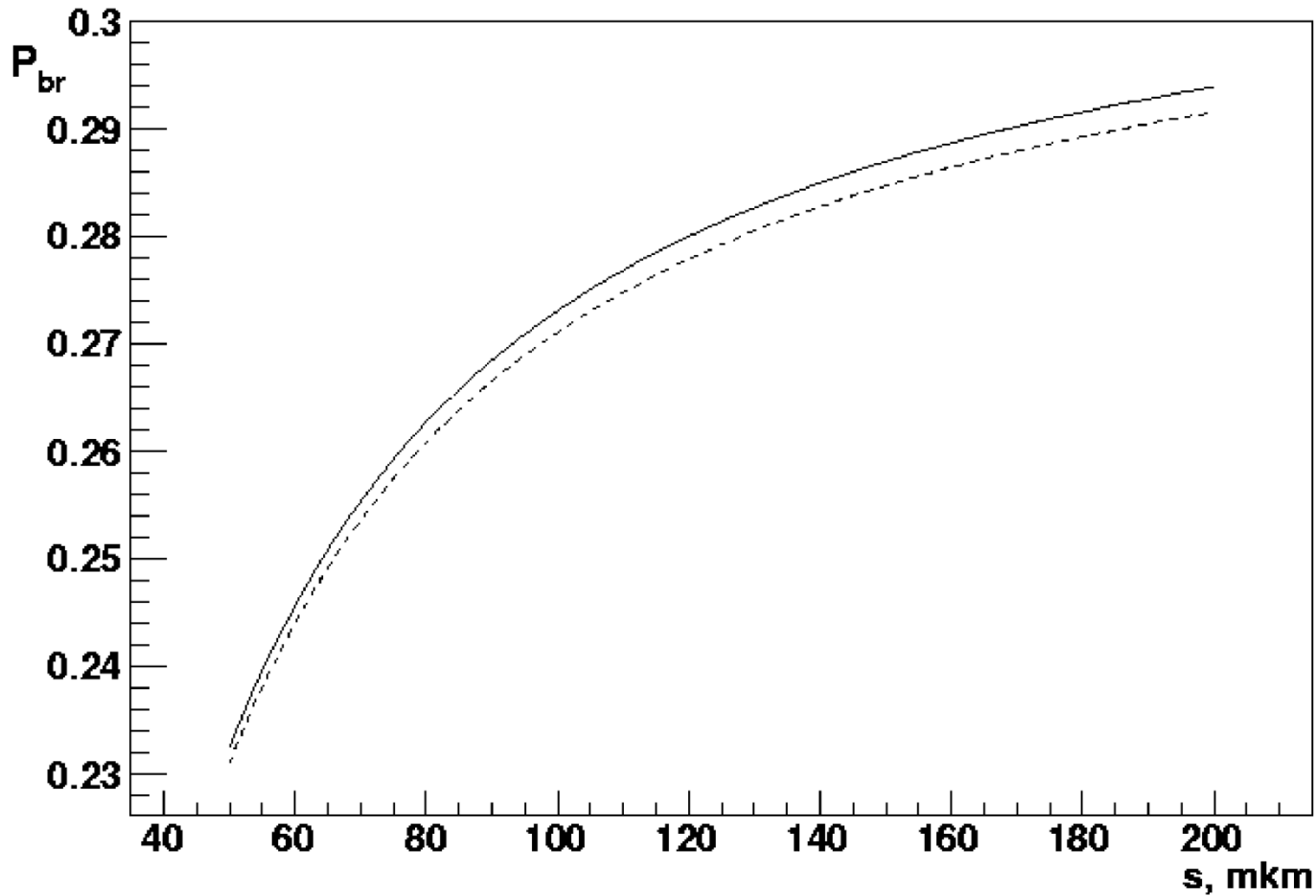
|                            |                                                 |                                                                                         |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Precision on Q-projections | $\sigma_{QX} = \sigma_{QY} = 0.5 \text{ MeV}/c$ | $\sigma_{QL} = 0.5 \text{ MeV}/c (\pi\pi)$<br>$\sigma_{QL} = 0.9 \text{ MeV}/c (\pi K)$ |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                         |                |                                                                                |
|-------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Trigger efficiency 98 % | for pairs with | $Q_L < 28 \text{ MeV}/c$<br>$Q_X < 6 \text{ MeV}/c$<br>$Q_Y < 4 \text{ MeV}/c$ |
|-------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

# Extrapolation to the target

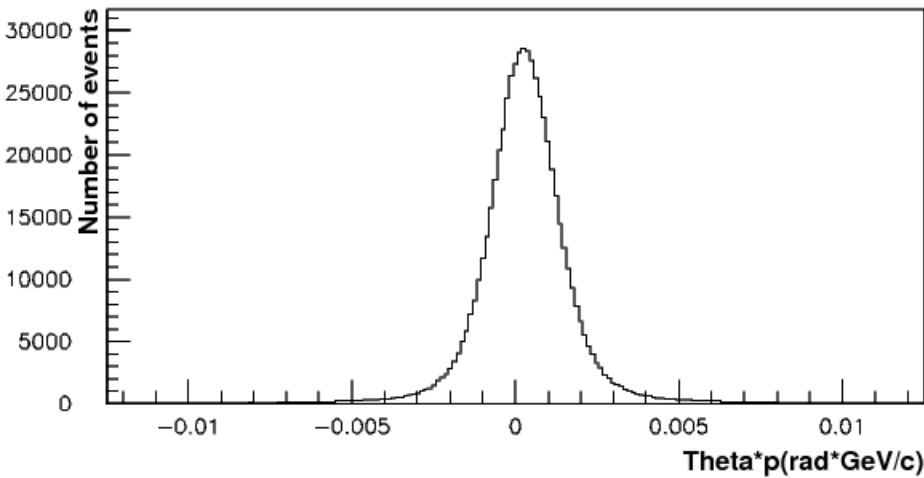


# Break-up dependencies $P_{br}$ from the target thickness for $K^+\pi^-$ atom ( $A_{K\pi}$ ) and $K^-\pi^+$ atom ( $A_{\pi K}$ )

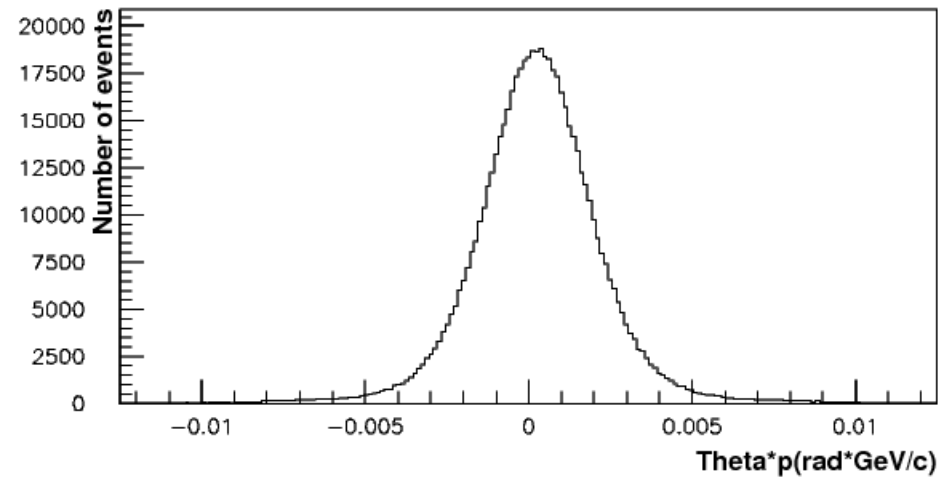


Probability of break-up as a function of Ni target thickness for  $A_{\pi K}$  (solid line) and  $A_{K\pi}$  atoms (dashed line),  $\tau_{1S} = 3.7 \cdot 10^{-15}$  s.  
Average momentum of  $A_{K\pi}$  and  $A_{\pi K}$  are 6.4 GeV/c and 6.5 GeV/c accordingly.

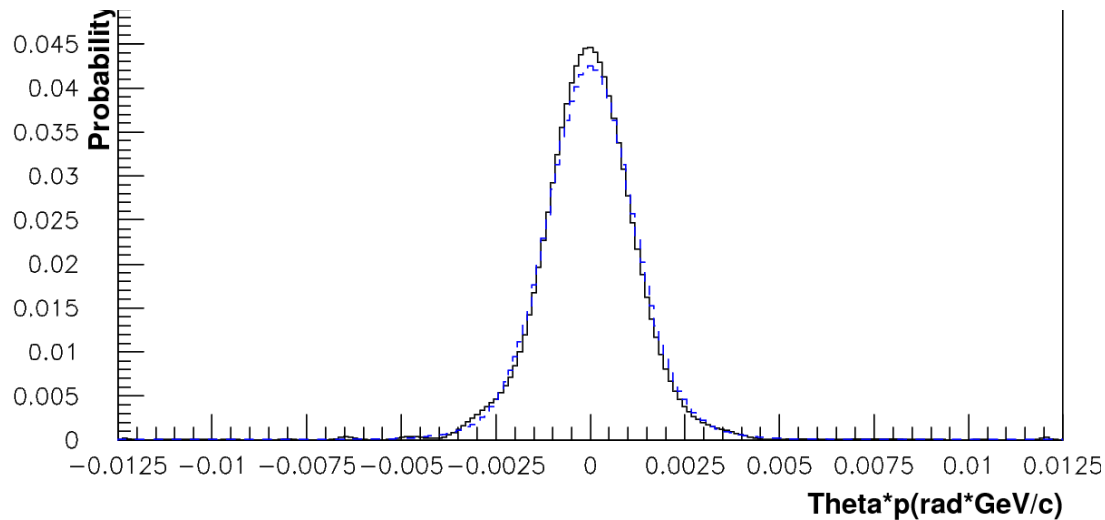
# Analysis of multiple scattering in Ni ( $150\ \mu\text{m}$ )



**DC system resolution without scatter**



**DC system resolution with scatter**



**Reconstructed and simulated (blue) MS distributions**

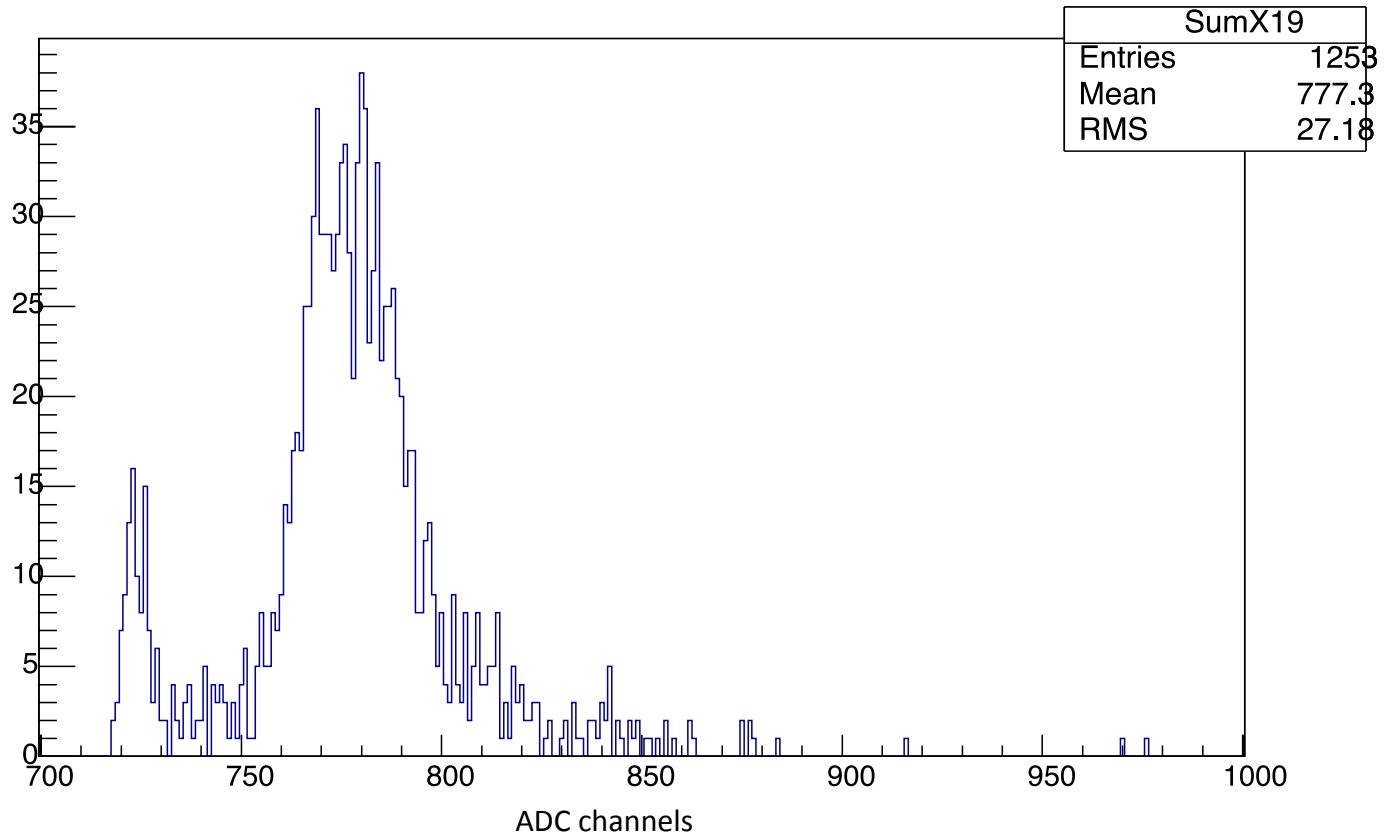
Run 2011. Analysis of multiple scattering in Ni ( $150\ \mu\text{m}$ ). Only events with one track in each projection were analyzed.  $\delta\theta/\theta \sim 0.7\%$ . After including in the analysis of all available events the statistics will be doubled and the expected value will be less than  $0.5\%$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



# Light-yield – pulse-height spectrum

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

SumTwoEndsX1



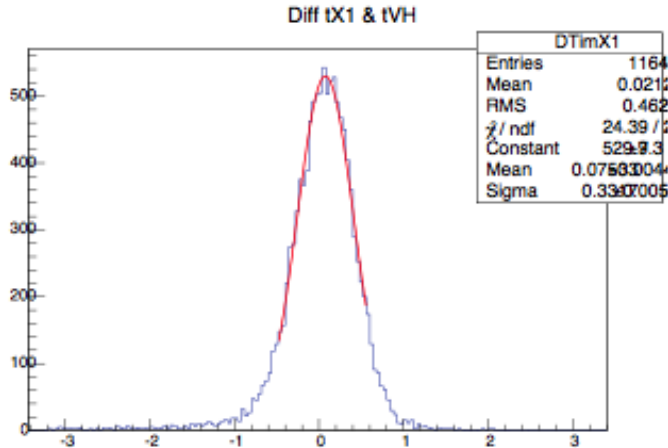
Average number of photoelectrons is larger than 20.

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

# Time resolution and efficiency

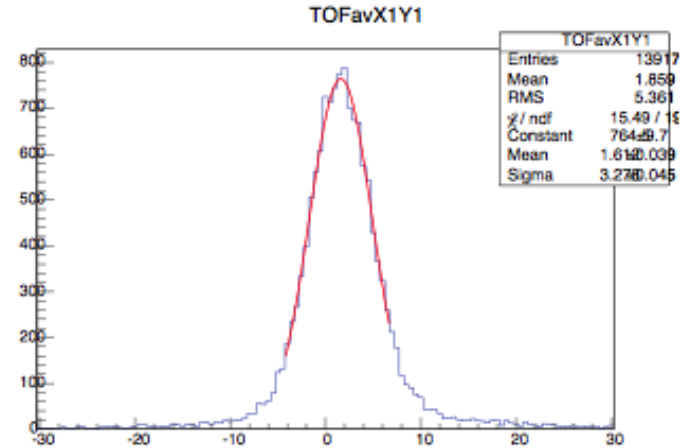
## Time resolution

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)

between mutual planes

0.988

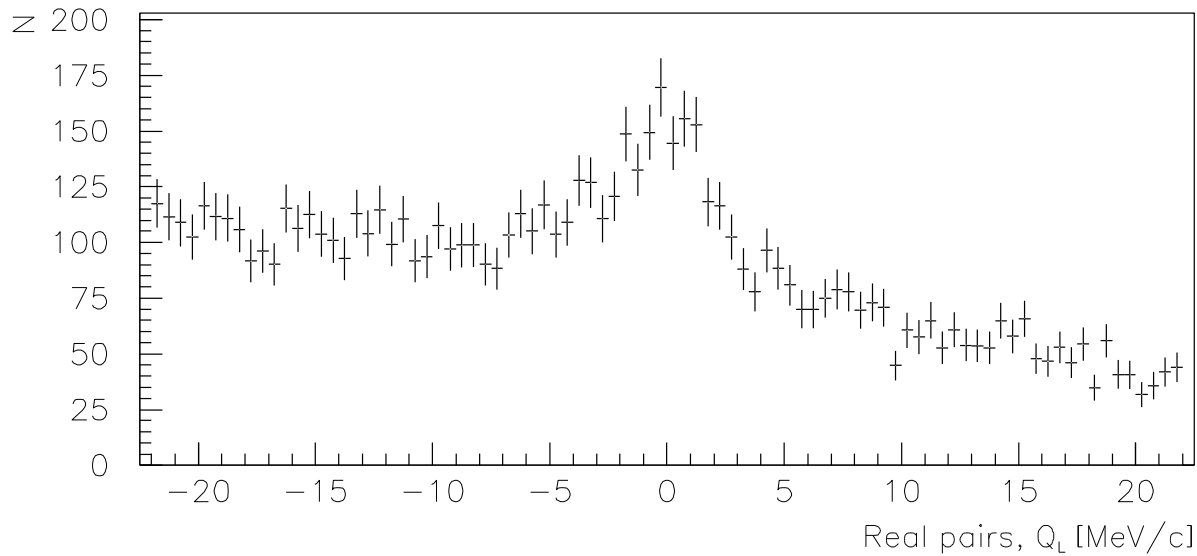
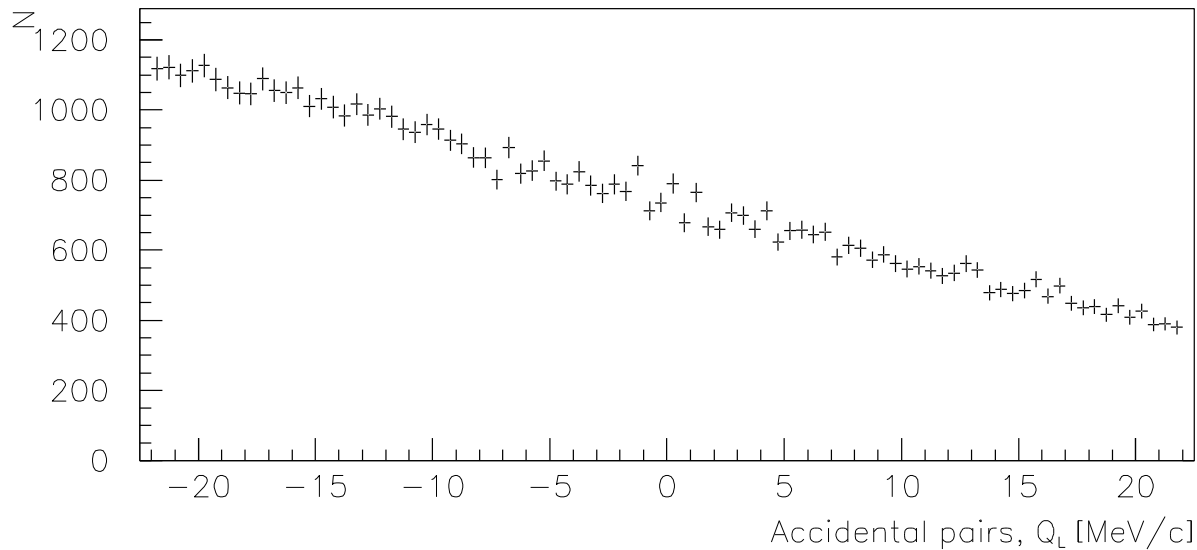
using only  $e^+e^-$  trigger events

0.994 (better prediction)

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

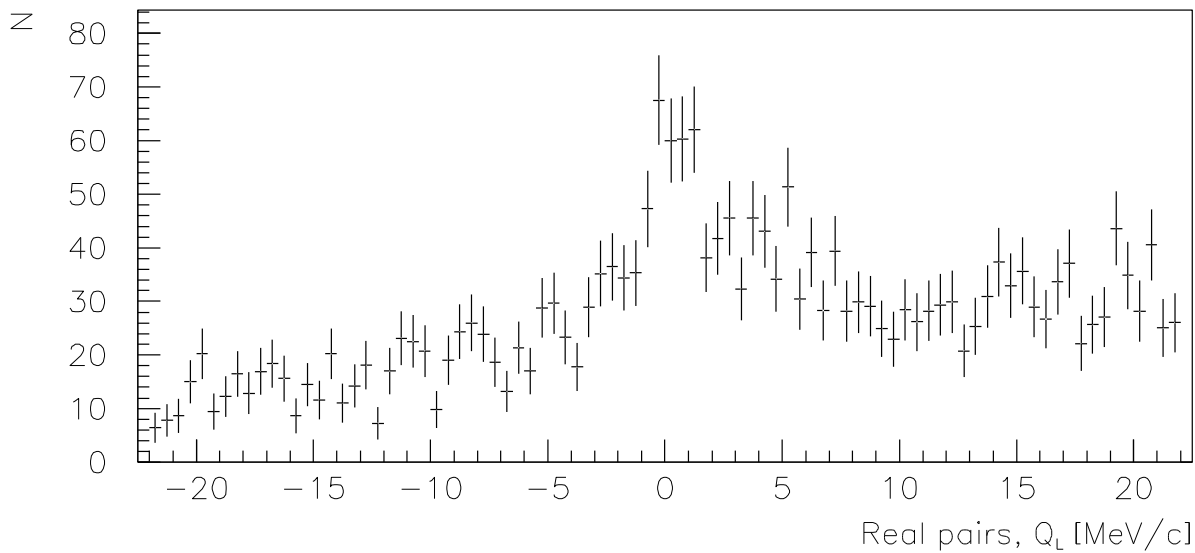
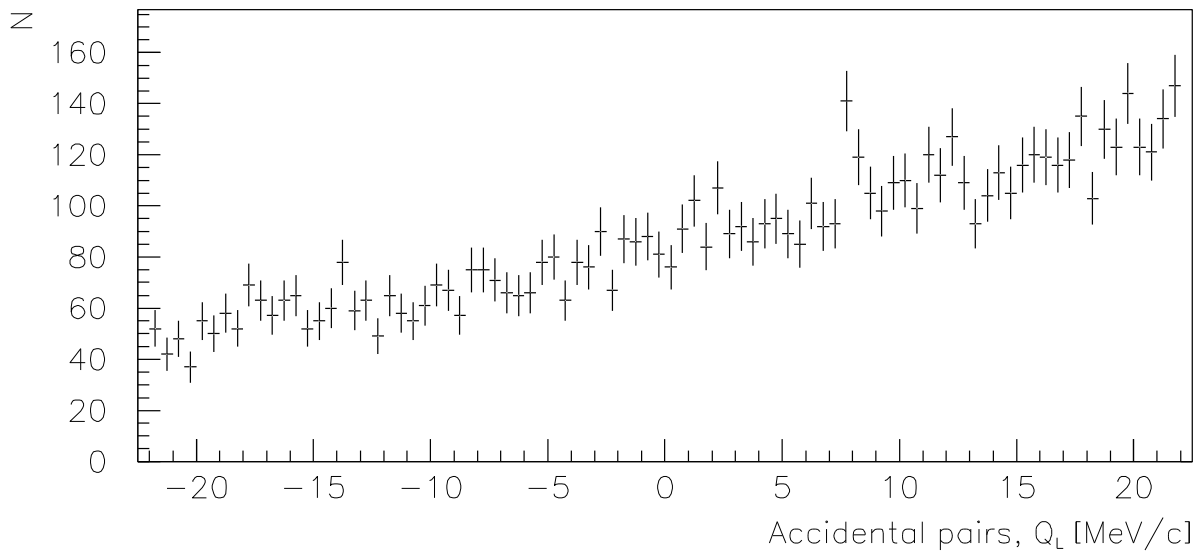
# $Q_L$ distribution $K^+\pi^-$ pairs

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

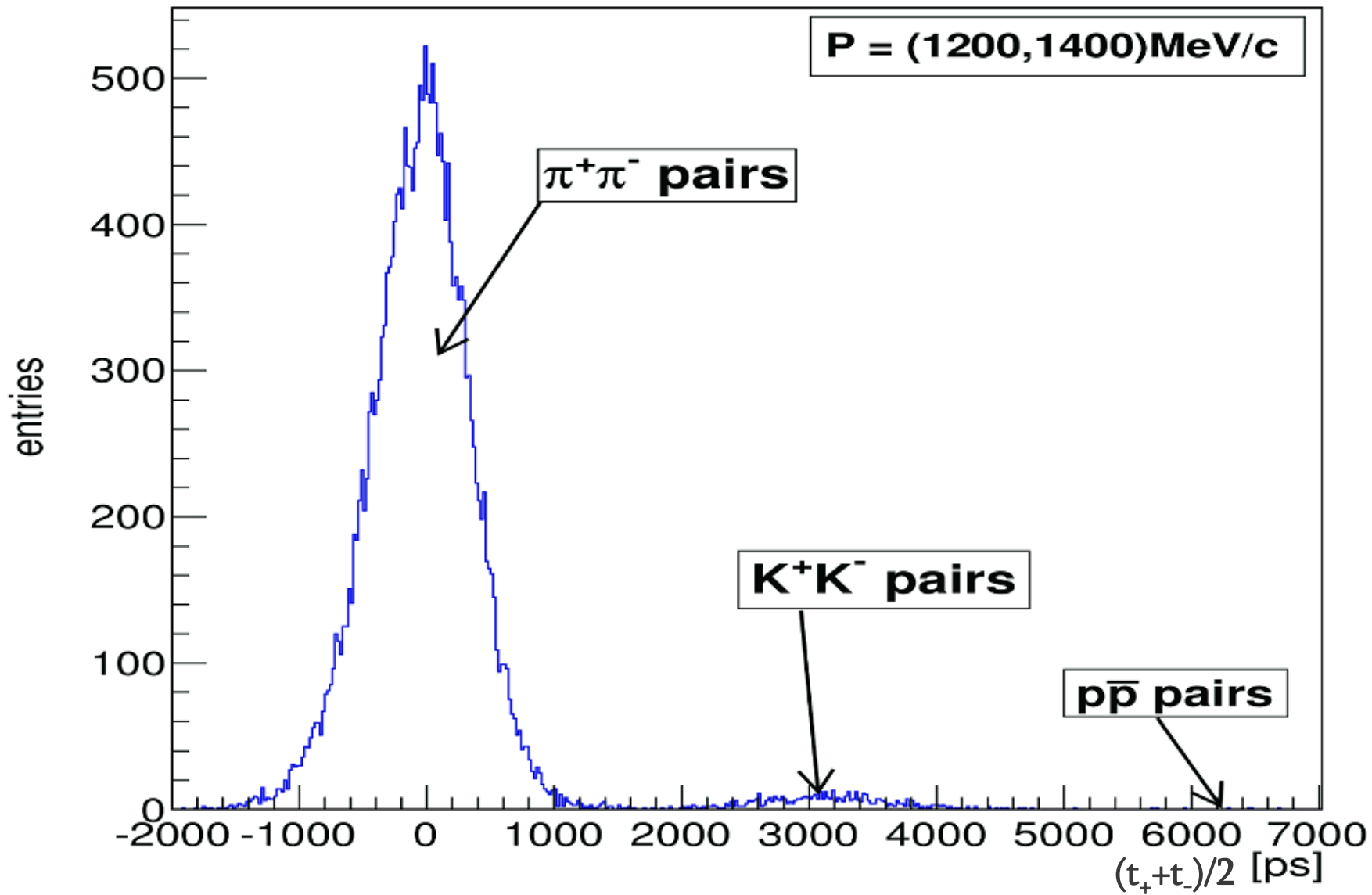


# $Q_L$ distribution $\pi^+ K^-$ pairs

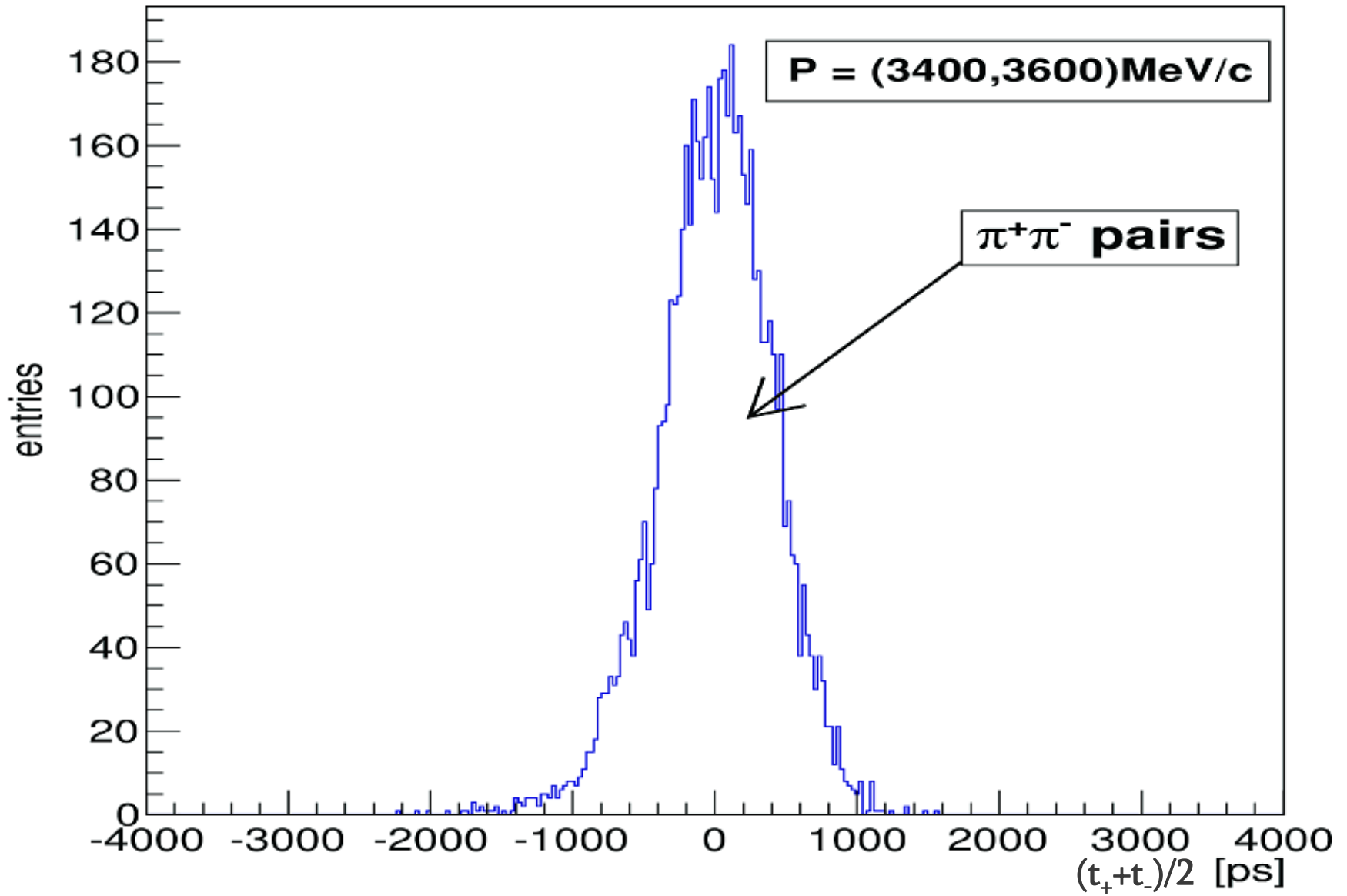
$\pi^+ K^-$ ,  $Q_T < 3$  MeV/c, data 2008, 2009, 2010



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

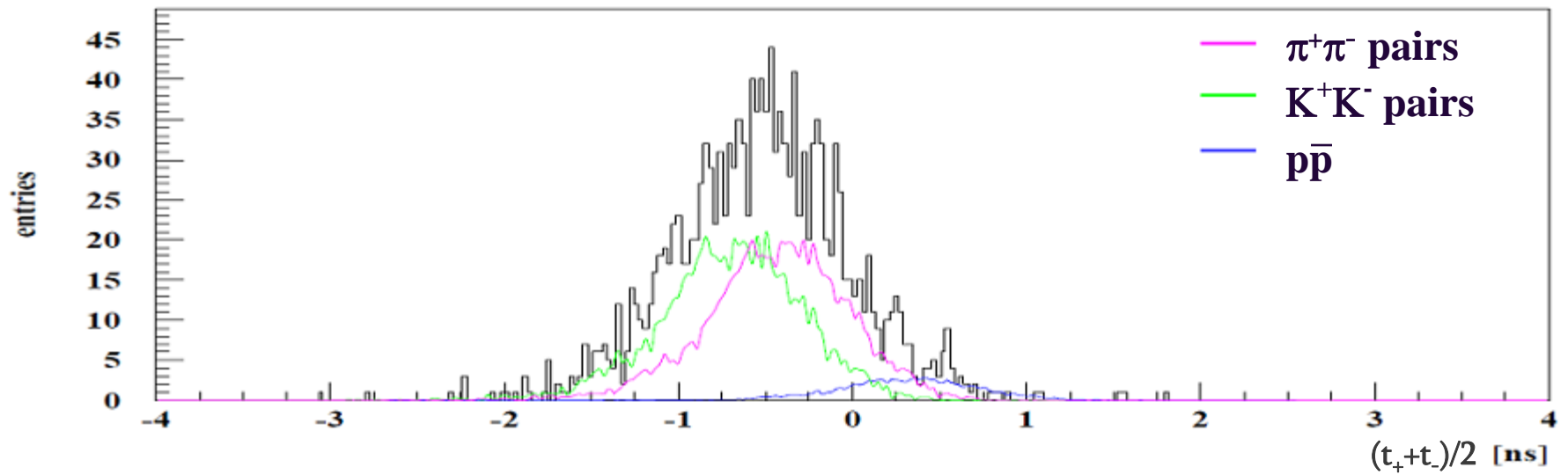
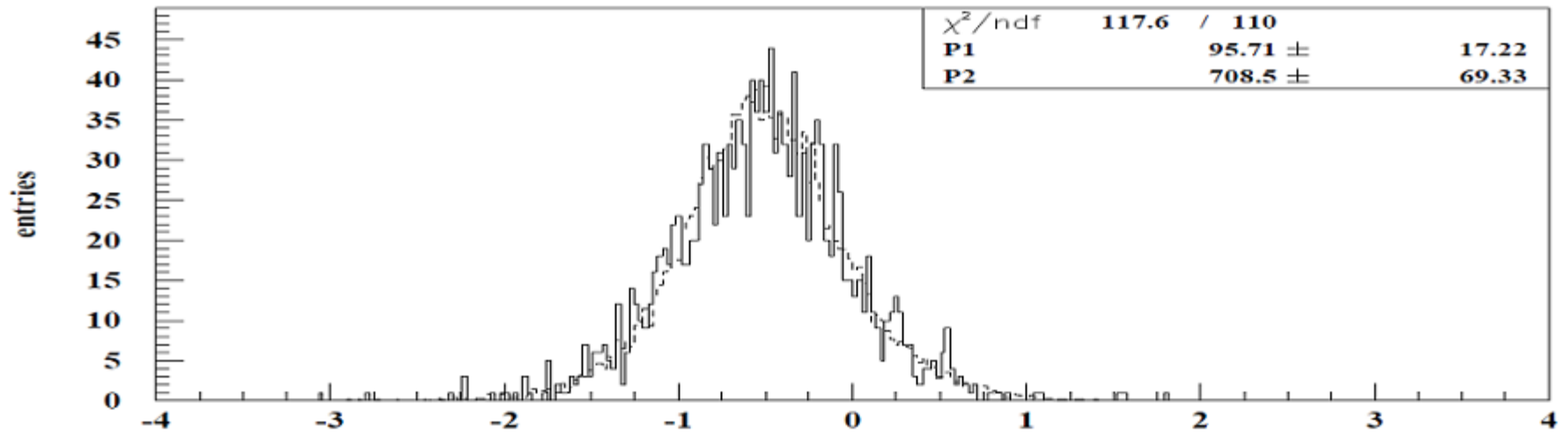


# 2010 data: distribution of $\pi^+\pi^-$ pairs detected by CHF on $(t_+ + t_-)/2$ for $P = (3400, 3600)$ MeV/c



# 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 by modifying the scattering length  $a_{KK}$ .

### •DIRAC experiment:

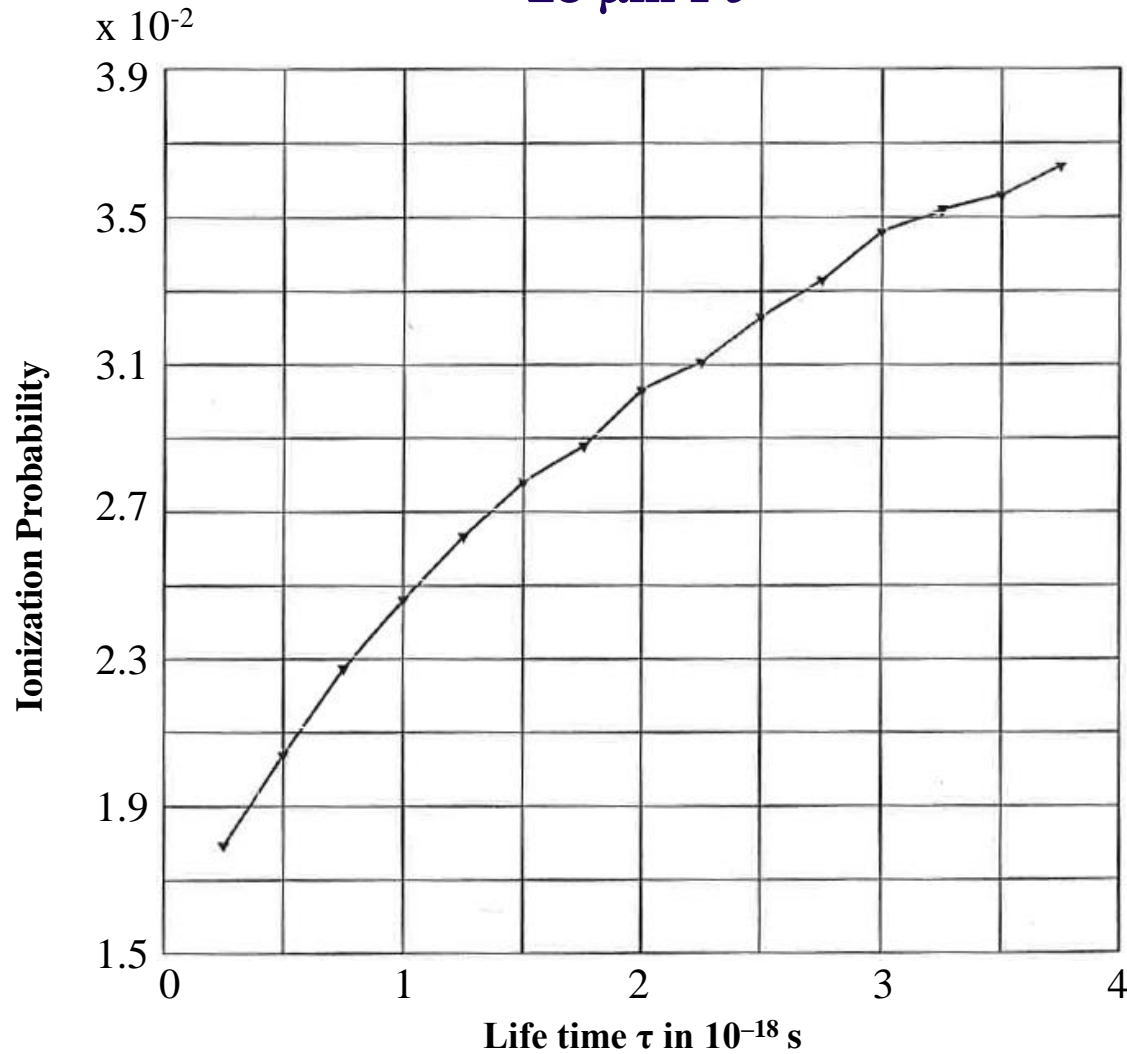
search for “atomic pairs”  $K^+K^-$  from  $A_{2K}$  ionization

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



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

28  $\mu\text{m}$  Pt

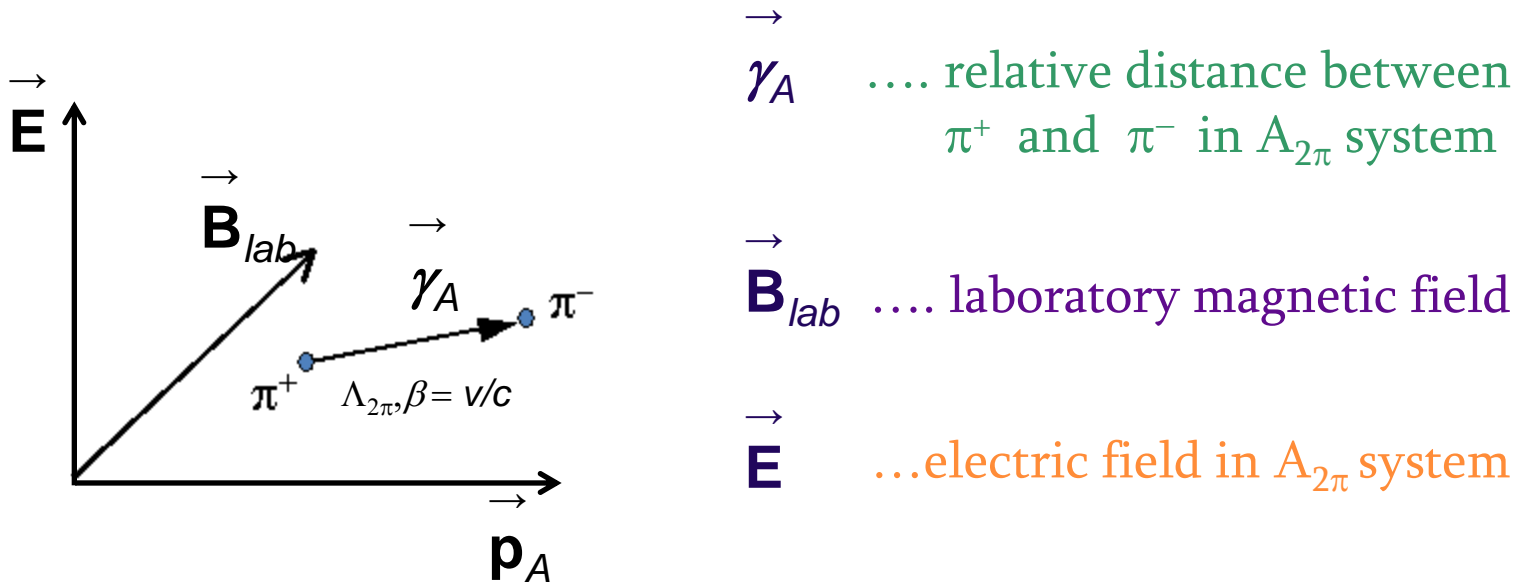


$K^+K^-$  atoms Lorentz factor is  $\gamma = 18$

# Lamb shift measurement with external magnetic field

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

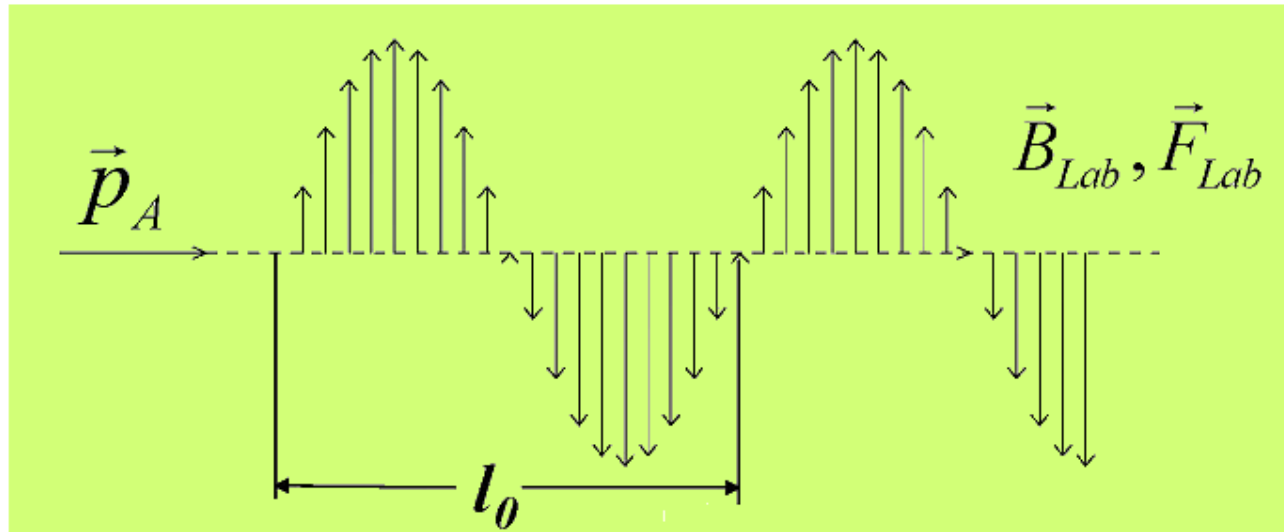
Impact on atomic beam by external magnetic field  $\mathbf{B}_{lab}$  and Lorentz factor  $\gamma$



$$|\vec{\mathbf{E}}| = \beta\gamma \mathbf{B}_{lab} \approx \gamma \mathbf{B}_{lab}$$

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

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

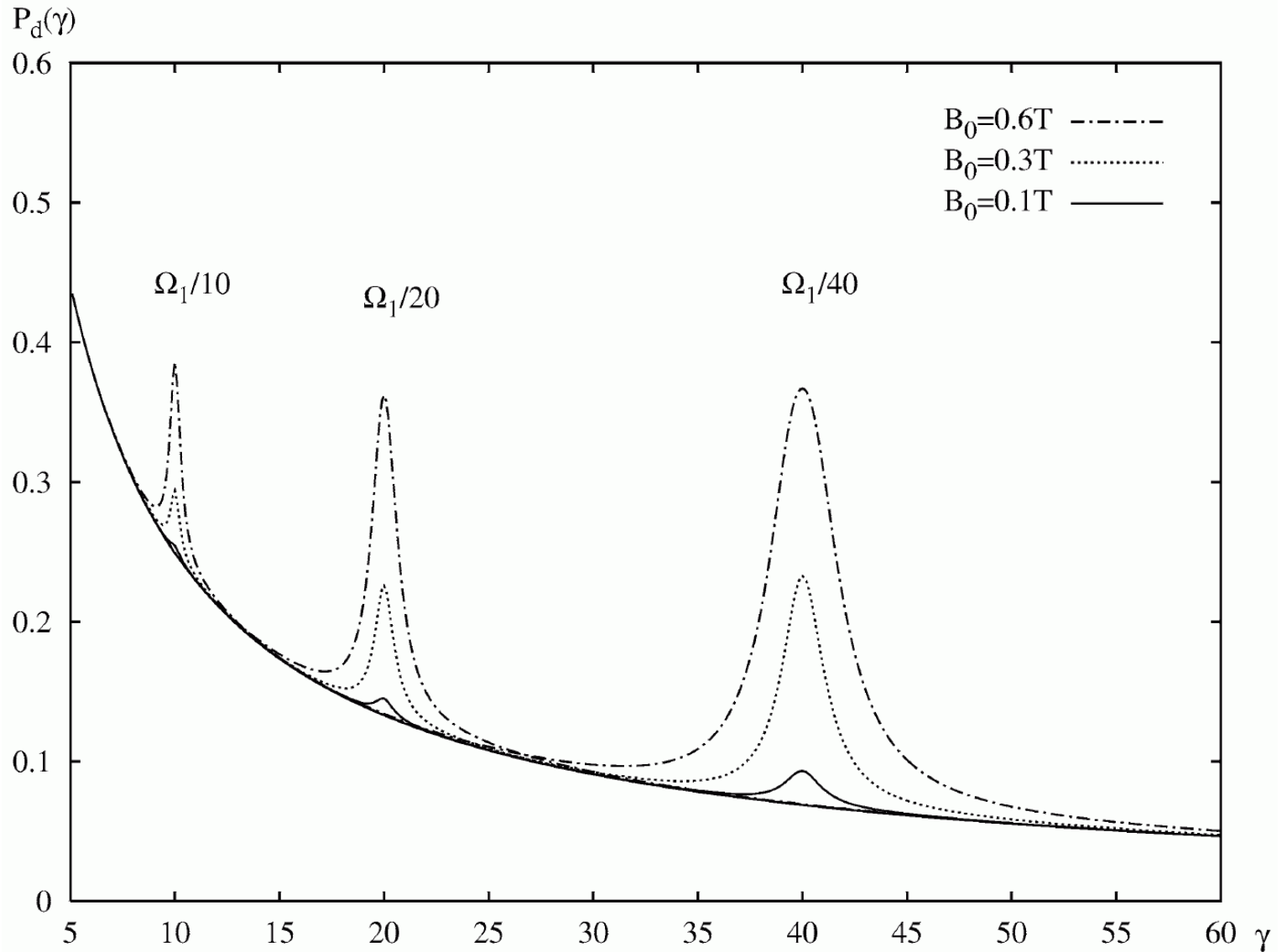


In Lab. System:  $T_{Lab} = \frac{l_0}{\beta c}, \quad \omega_{Lab} = \frac{2\pi}{T_{Lab}}$

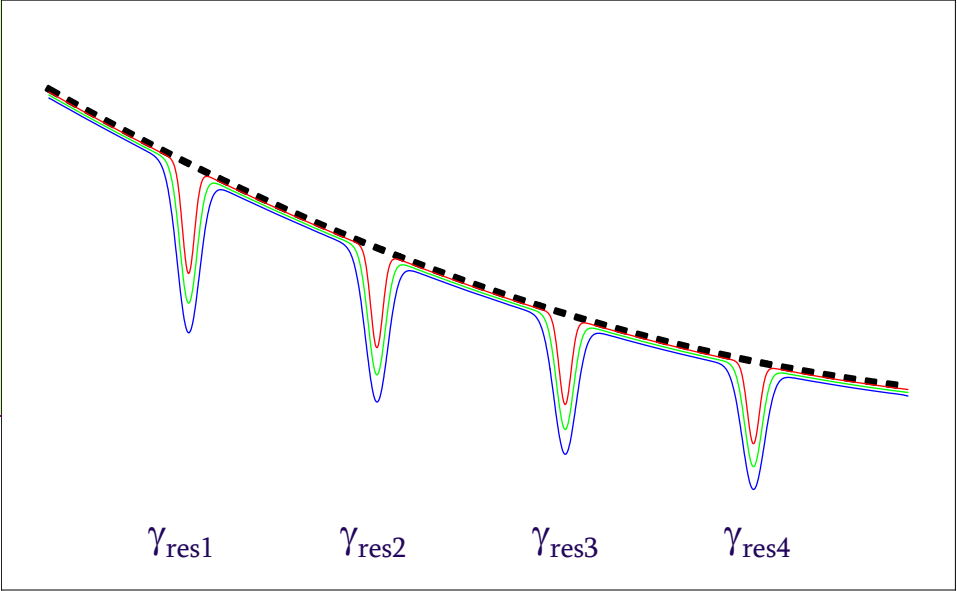
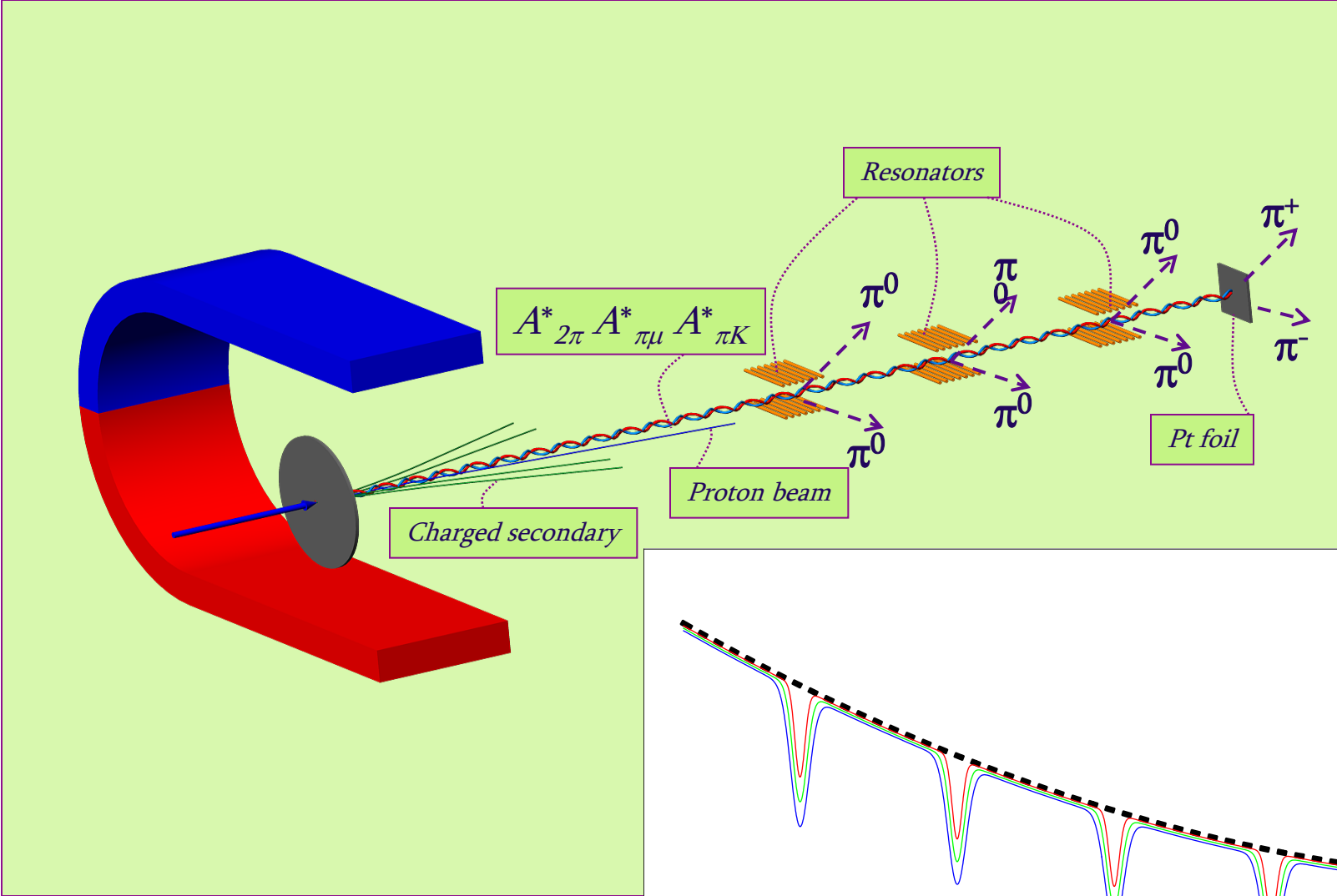
In CM System:  $\tilde{\omega} = \gamma \omega_{Lab}, \quad \tilde{\vec{F}} = \gamma \vec{F}_{Lab} \cdot \cos \tilde{\omega} t, \quad \tilde{\Omega} = \frac{E_{2p} - E_{2s}}{\hbar}$

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



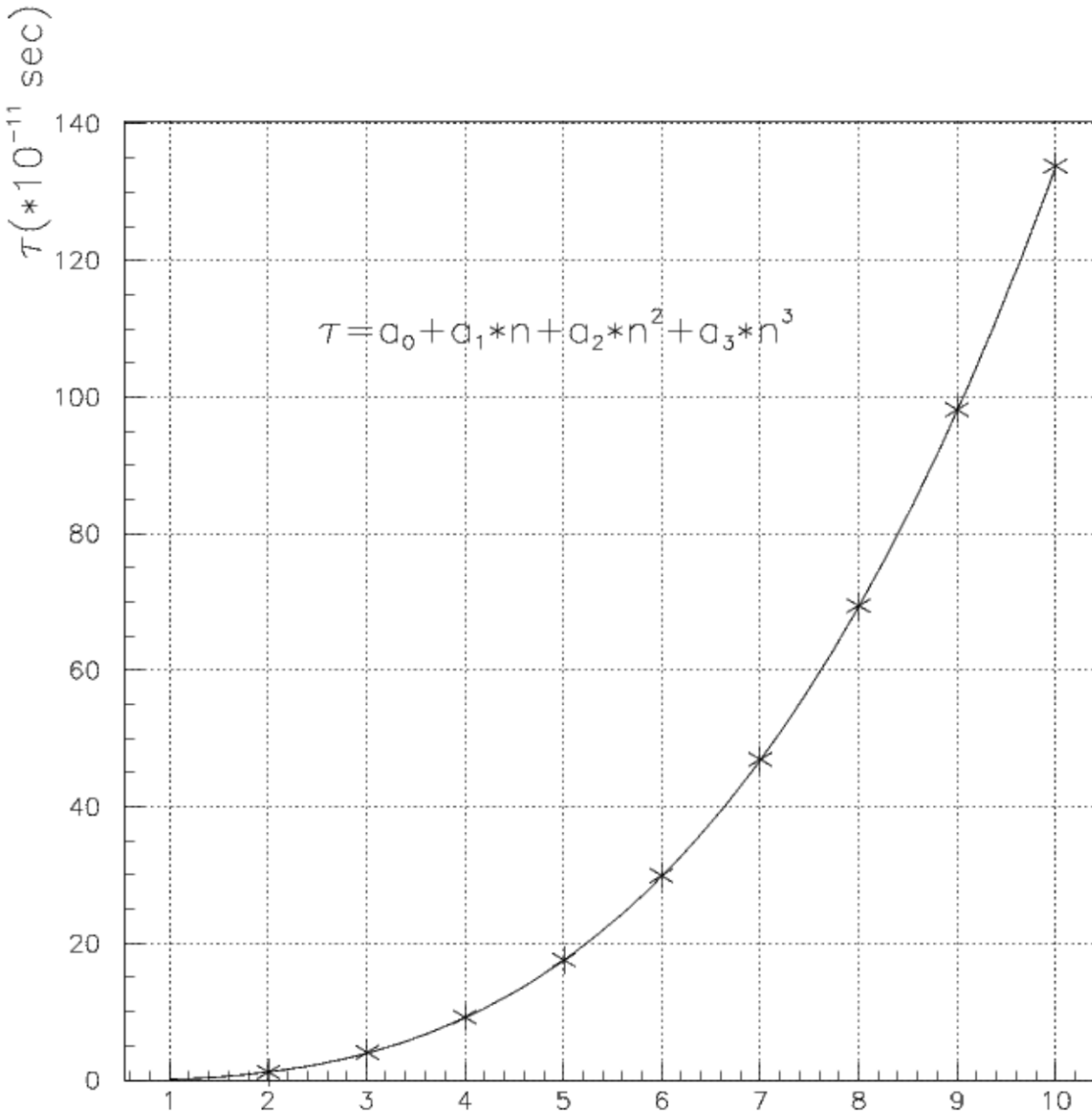
# Published results on $\pi\pi$ atom: lifetime and scattering length

| 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<br>-0.38 | +0.19<br>-0.49 | $\left[ \begin{array}{c} +0.49 \\ -0.62 \end{array} \right]$ |               | <b>0.264</b>  | +0.017<br>-0.020   | +0.022<br>-0.009   | $\left[ \begin{array}{c} +0.033 \\ -0.020 \end{array} \right]$   |               | PL B 619 (2005) 50 |
| 2001-03    | <b>3.15</b>                 | +0.20<br>-0.19 | +0.20<br>-0.18 | $\left[ \begin{array}{c} +0.28 \\ -0.26 \end{array} \right]$ |               | <b>0.2533</b> | +0.0078<br>-0.0080 | +0.0072<br>-0.0077 | $\left[ \begin{array}{c} +0.0106 \\ -0.0111 \end{array} \right]$ |               | PL B 704 (2011) 24 |

\* theoretical uncertainty included in systematic error

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