# **ACHINOS** a new amplification structure for the spherical detector

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University of Saragoza detector



University of Thessaloniki detector

Low background detector d=60 cm p=10 bar



Queens University test sphere



Grenoble Sphere



## Bibliography

I Giomataris et al., JINST 3:P09007,2008.,

I Giomataris and J.D. Vergados, NIMA530:330-358,2004,

I. Giomataris and J.D. Vergados, Phys.Lett.B634:23-29,2006.

I. Giomataris et al. Nucl.Phys.Proc.Suppl.150:208-213,2006.,

S. Aune et al., AIP Conf.Proc.785:110-118,2005.

J. D. Vergados et al., Phys.Rev.D79:113001,2009.,

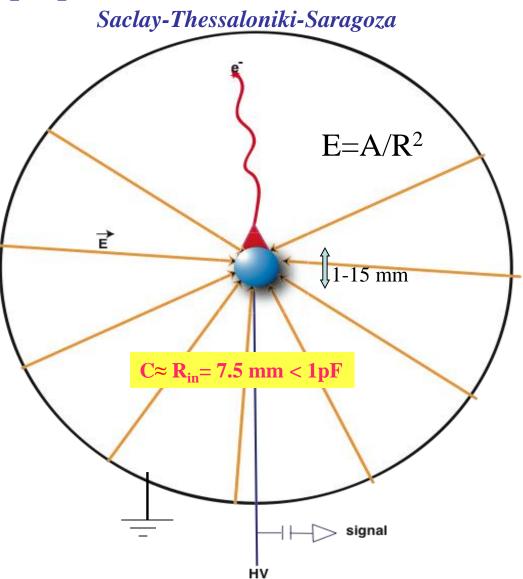
E Bougamont et al. arXiv:1010.4132 [physics.ins-det], 2010

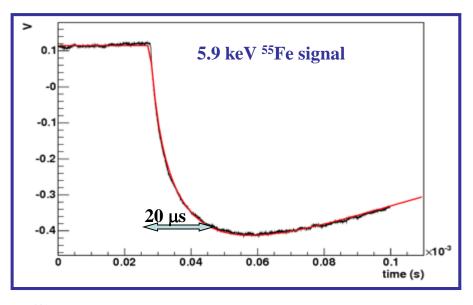
R2D2 Sphere CNBG Bordeaux



# Radial TPC with spherical proportional counter read-out

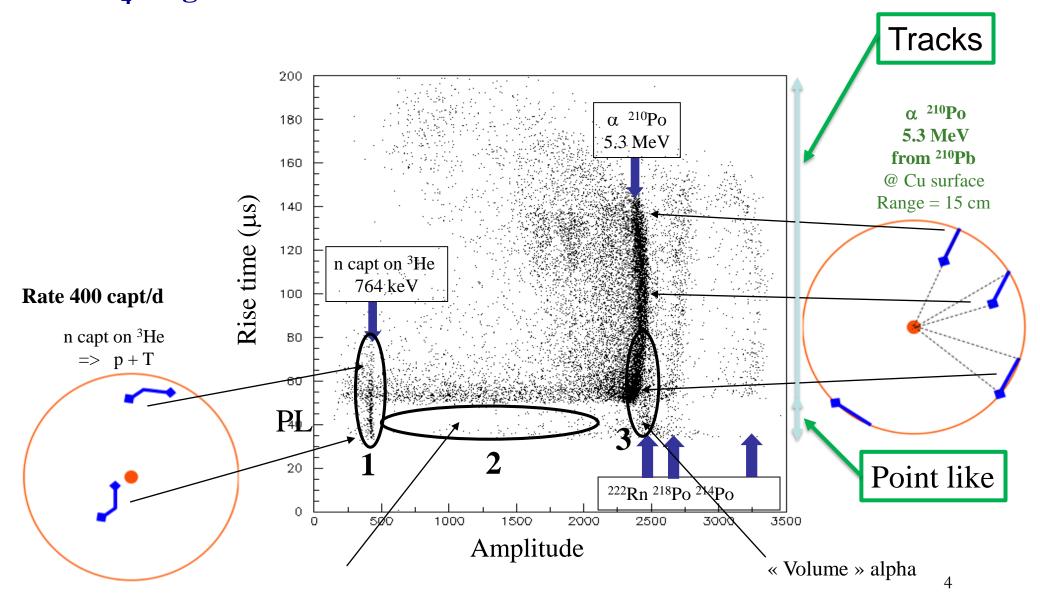
A Novel large-volume Spherical Detector with Proportional Amplification read-out, I. Giomataris *et al.*, JINST 3:P09007,2008





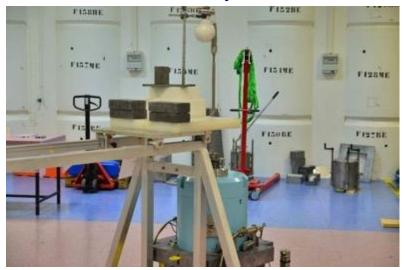
- Simple and cheap
- Large volume
- single read-out
- Robustness
- Good energy resolution
- Low energy threshold
- Efficient fiducial cut
- Low background capability

# Particle identification capability at MeV energy $Ar/CH_4 + 3g$ <sup>3</sup>He @ 200 mb SPC 130cm Ø @ LSM



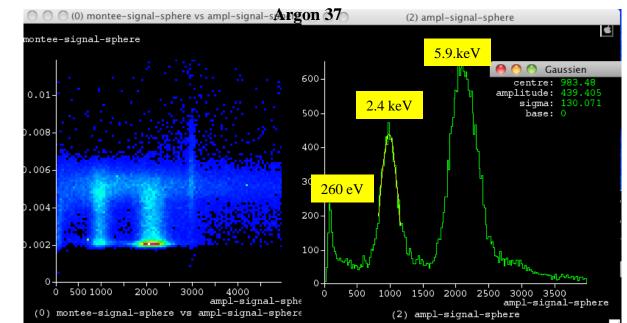
### Low-energy calibration source *Argon-37*

Home made Ar-37 source: irradiating Ca-40 powder with fast neutrons 7x10<sup>6</sup>neutrons/s Irradiation time 14 days. Ar-37 emits K(2.6 keV) and L(260 eV) X-rays (35 d decay time)





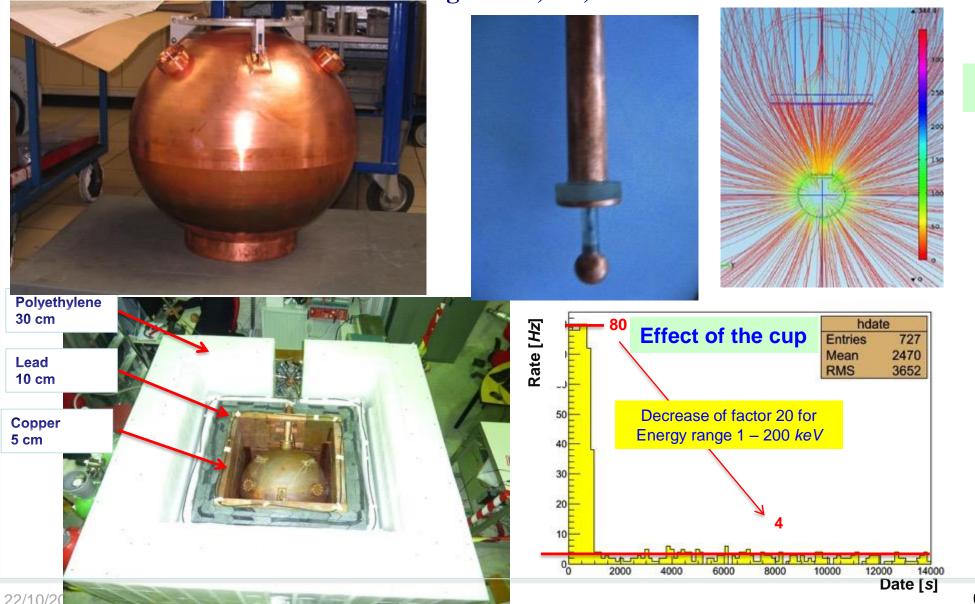
First measurement
with Ar-37 source
Total rate 40 hz
in 250 mbar gas, 8 mm ball
240 eV peak clearly seen
A key result for light dark matter
search



## NEWS-LSM: Exploration of light dark matter search at LSM

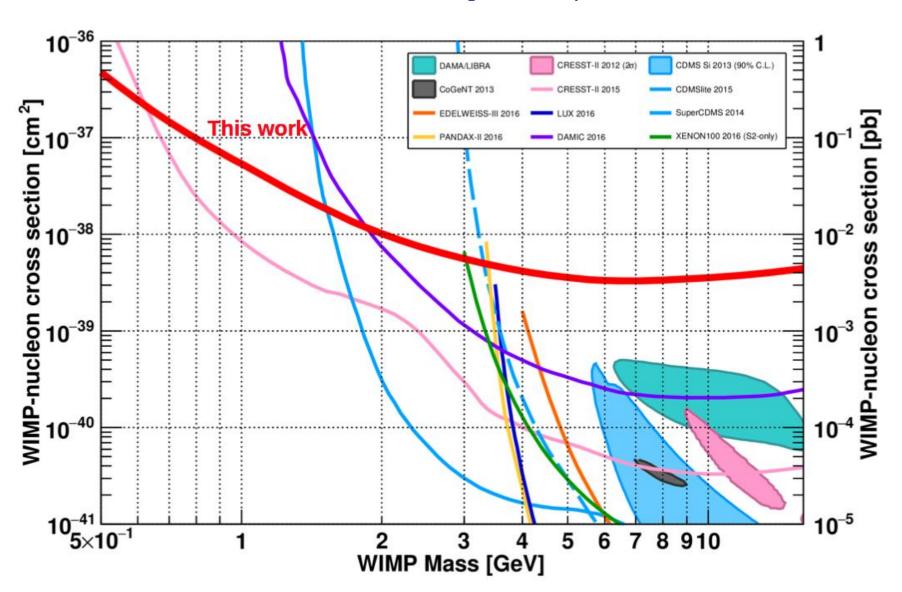
Detector installed at LSM end 2012: 60 cm, Pressure = up to 10 bar





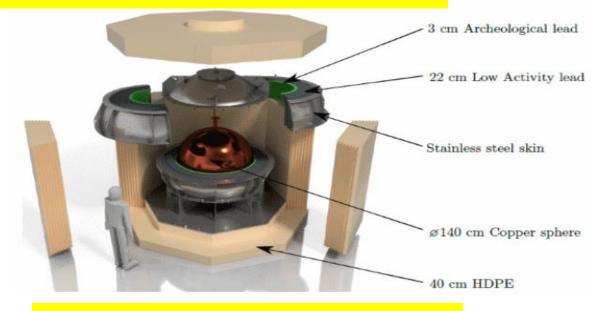
# Current sensitivity with Neon at 3 bar Data 40.5 days, threshold 30 eV

Arnaud and al, Astropart. Phys. 97 (2018) 54–62



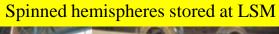
### **NEWS-SNO** with compact shield: implementation at SNOLAB by fall 2017 Funded mainly by Canadian grant of excellence and ANR-France

Copper vessel (140 cm Ø, 12 mm thick Low activity copper (C10100)



Electropolishing-Electroplating

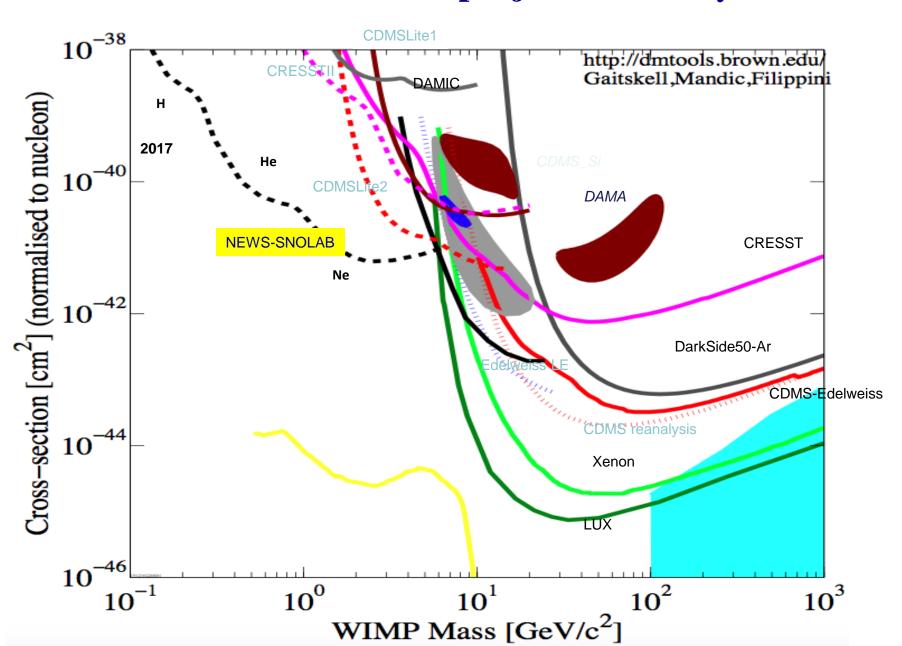






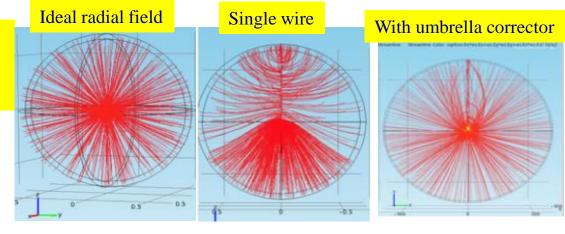


### **NEWS-SNOLAB** project sensitivity



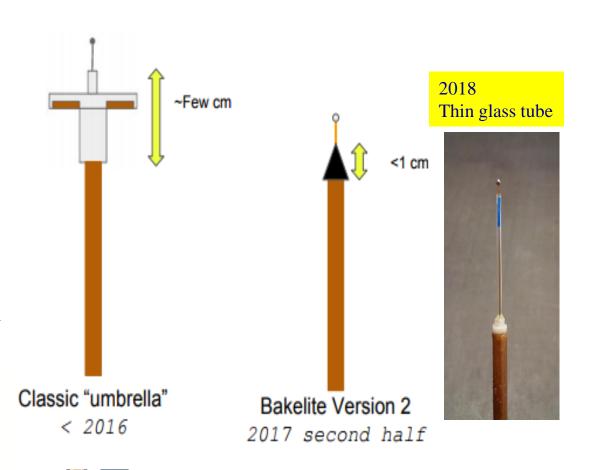
## Sensor Development

To maximize the usable volume in the detector: Add a field corrector close to ball (umbrella)

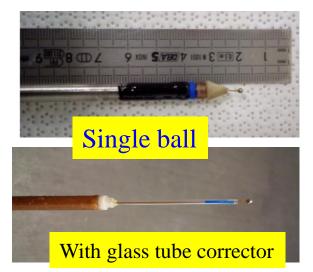


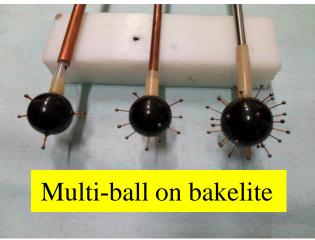
#### **Umbrella materials**

- Pure conductor:Sparks from the anode ball
- Pure insulator:Charging up and unstable operation
- Resistive materials Resistivity range  $10^9$  - $10^{12}$   $\Omega$ ·cm Allow application of a voltage Spark suppression



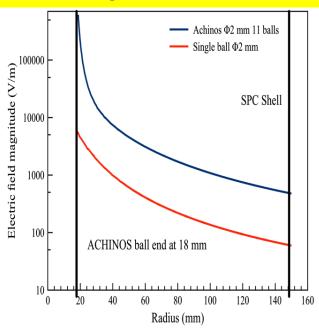
### From single to multi-ball 'ACHINOS' structure



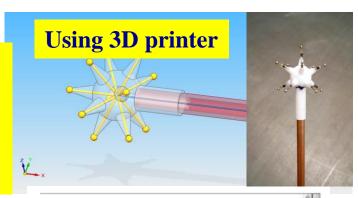


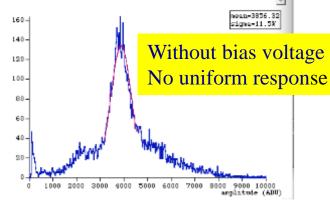
#### **Advantages**

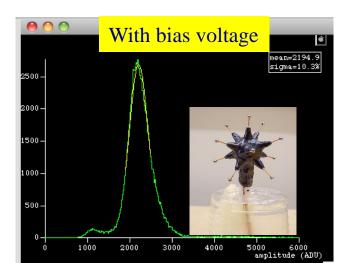
- Amplification tuned by the ball size: 1mm diameter for high pressure
- -Volume electric field tuned by the size of the ACHINOS structure
- Detector segmentation: 3D TPC like



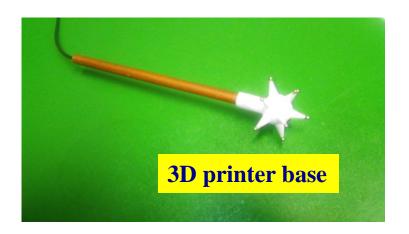
This year we should be able to use ACHINOS structure at LSM With small balls 1-2mm to reach high-pressure (10 bar) operation







# Multi-ball 'ACHINOS' structure Developed in Saclay in collaboration with University of Thessaloniki







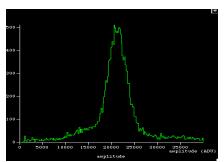
### Problem of robustness of charged glue:

At high voltages because of discharges in the bulk it becomes conductor!!!

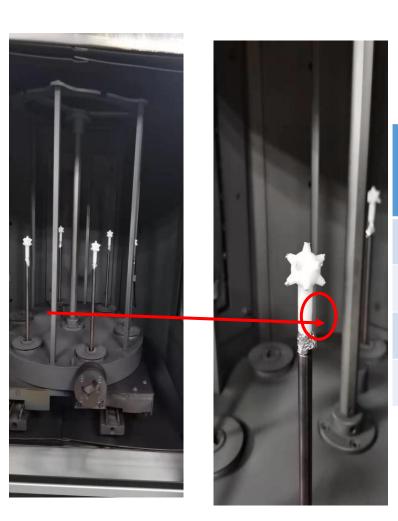








# DLC coating on balls and tubes done at USTC by Zhou Yi et al.



Number of samples: 6\*4=24

Batch Number	Number of balls and tubes	Resistance of Ball (Mohm)	Resistance of Tube (Mohm)
8-31-2	6	300M	30M
8-31-3	6	4.5G	120M
8-31-4	6	1G	170M
8-31-5	6	4G	270

### In summary

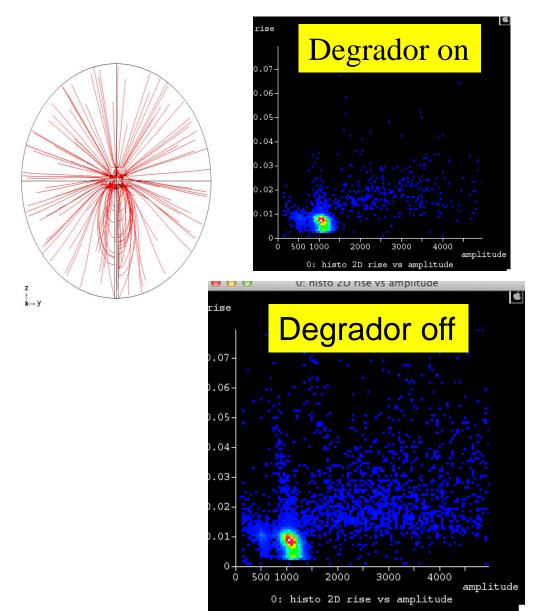
ACHINOS multi-ball sensor is major breakthrough for the read-out of the spherical detector:

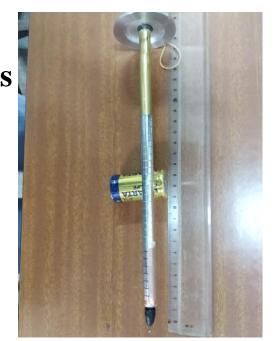
It tunes the volume electric field at will by tuning distance and number of balls.

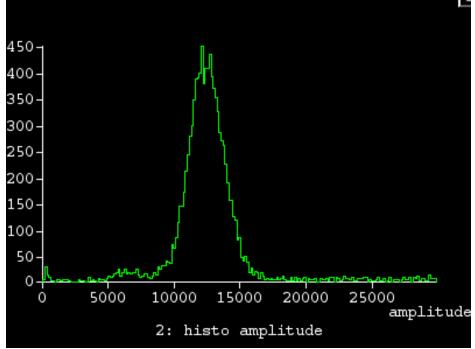
It could be used for any sphere size and any gas pressure The DLC resistive layer is a robust and efficient protection electrode well adapted to the sensor

### Towards a complete radial field degrador

Very recent development in collaboration with I. Savvidis

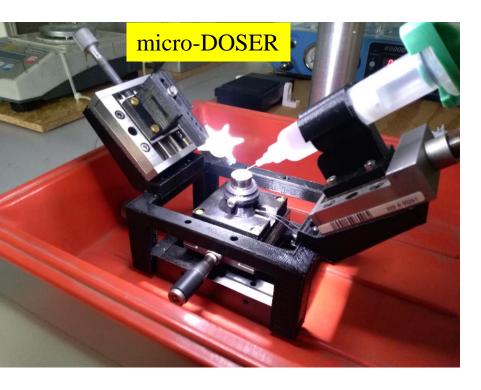


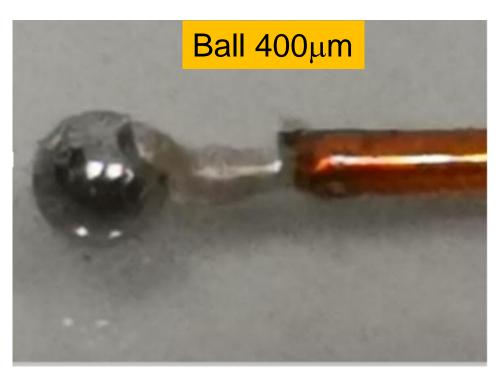




### **Future developments**

- Optimize ACHINOS structure (higher precision)
- New set-up using micro-doser is now ready
- (with J.Ph. Mols)
- Small size balls << 1mm (with X. Coppolani)
- Read-out individually each ball
- Improve energy resolution (<< 1%)





### **Additional physics**

### Neutrinoless double beta decay experiment with Xe-136 at 50bar

In collaboration with CNBG (F. Piquemal et al.,), CPPM (J. Busto et al.,)

The goal is to reach a record low background level << 10<sup>-4</sup>/keV/Kg/y and an energy resolution of .3%

Simulation results are encouraging:

Expected background rate in the region of  $Q_{bb}$  (2.46 MeV)

8.x10<sup>-5</sup>/keV/Kg/ year Arubis copper

1.54x10<sup>-5</sup>/keV/Kg/ year PNNL copper

(compared to 2x10<sup>-3</sup>/keV/Kg/ year of running experiments)

### A dedicated Supernova detector

Simple and cost effective - Life time >> 1 century Through neutrino-nucleus coherent elastic scattering

Y. Giomataris, J. D. Vergados, Phys.Lett.B634:23-29,2006

Sensitivity for galactic explosion

For p=10 Atm, R=2m, D=10 kpc, U<sub>v</sub>=0.5x10<sup>53</sup> ergs

# Number of events (after quenching, E<sub>th</sub>=0.25 keV)

He Ne Ar Kr Xe Xe (with Nuc. F.F)

0.08 1.5 6.7 23.8 68.1 51.8

Idea: A world wide network of several of such dedicated Supernova detectors

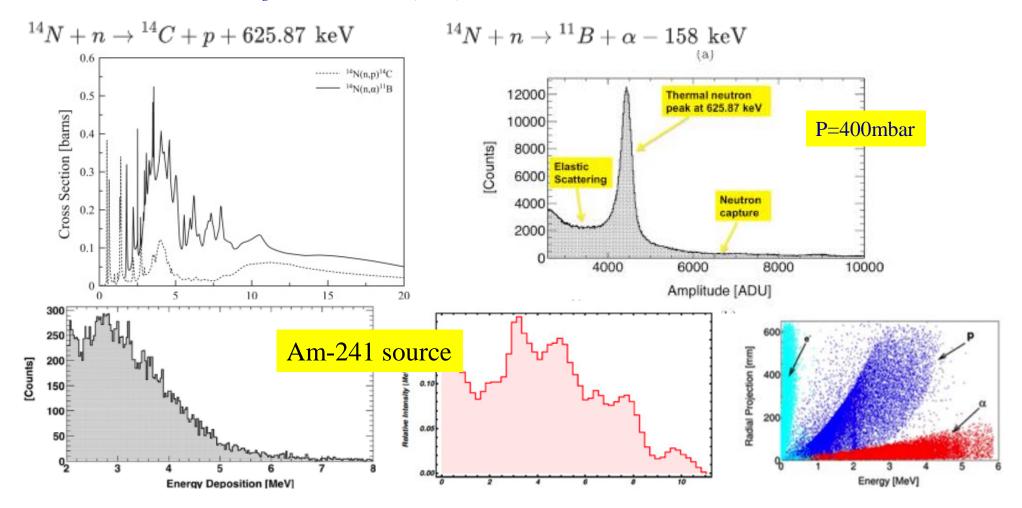
To be managed by an international scientific consortium and operated by students

## **THANK YOU**

## Back up slides

### Neutron spectroscopy with N<sub>2</sub> target

E. Bougamont al, NIM847 (2017) 10-14.



**Future great improvement: Use the ACHINOS sensor (1mm ball)** 

- Gas pressure > 2bar will reduce the wall loss effect
- Multi-ball tread-out will highly improve dE/dX: particle ID