

# Latest advances in the measurements of $\beta$ - $\nu$ correlation coefficients in nuclear $\beta$ decays using LPCTrap

Rodolphe Combe

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# Overview

- Motivations
- Theory
- State of the art
- LPCTrap
- LPCTrap @ GANIL
- Data analysis
- Latest results
- Conclusion and prospective



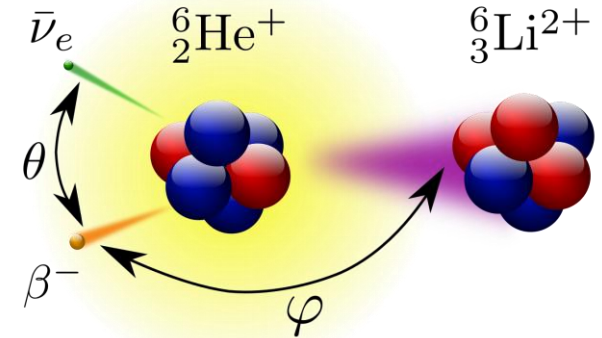
# Motivations

- Standard Model of particle physics → huge success!
- Not the end of the story: need Beyond Standard Model physics to explain some measurements ( baryogenesis, neutrino masses, etc.)
- Precise measurement of  $\beta$ -decay sensitive to new physics
- Current limits on exotic current existence of the order of 1%
- Complementary to High-Energy physics (looking for the effects vs creating the particle): limits of the order of the ‰  
= limits on the existence of a new boson up to 2.5 TeV



# Theory

- Current theory = V-A theory
  - Only Vector and Axial-Vector interactions
  - Neither Scalar nor Tensor interaction
  - Maximum parity violation (no right-handed neutrino)
  - No CP-violation
- To what extent holds the theory?
- At low energy, new physics measurable via correlations



→ Angular distribution of decay products:

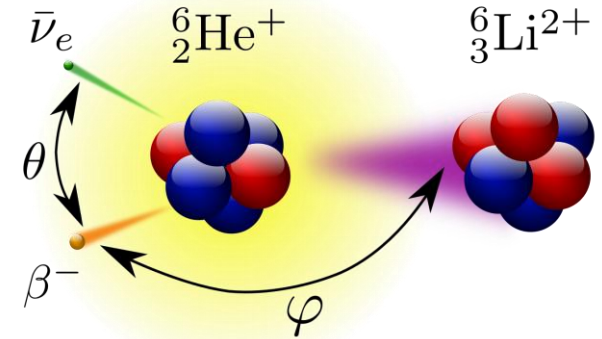
$$w(\vec{\sigma}|E_e, \Omega_e, \Omega_\nu) dE_e d\Omega_e d\Omega_\nu$$

$$= \frac{F(\pm Z, E_e)}{(2\pi)^5} p_e E_e (E_0 - E_e)^2 dE_e d\Omega_e d\Omega_\nu$$

$$\times \frac{1}{2} \xi \left( 1 + \mathbf{a} \frac{\vec{p}_e \cdot \vec{p}_\nu}{E_e E_\nu} + \mathbf{b} \frac{m}{E_e} + \mathbf{A} \frac{\vec{J} \cdot \vec{p}_e}{J E_e} + \mathbf{D} \frac{\vec{J} \cdot (\vec{p}_e \times \vec{p}_\nu)}{J (E_e E_\nu)} + \dots \right)$$

- Measurement of  $a$  = measurement of recoil ions spectrum

- Give access to  $\tilde{a} = \frac{a}{1 + b \langle m_e / E_e \rangle}$



→ Angular distribution of decay products:

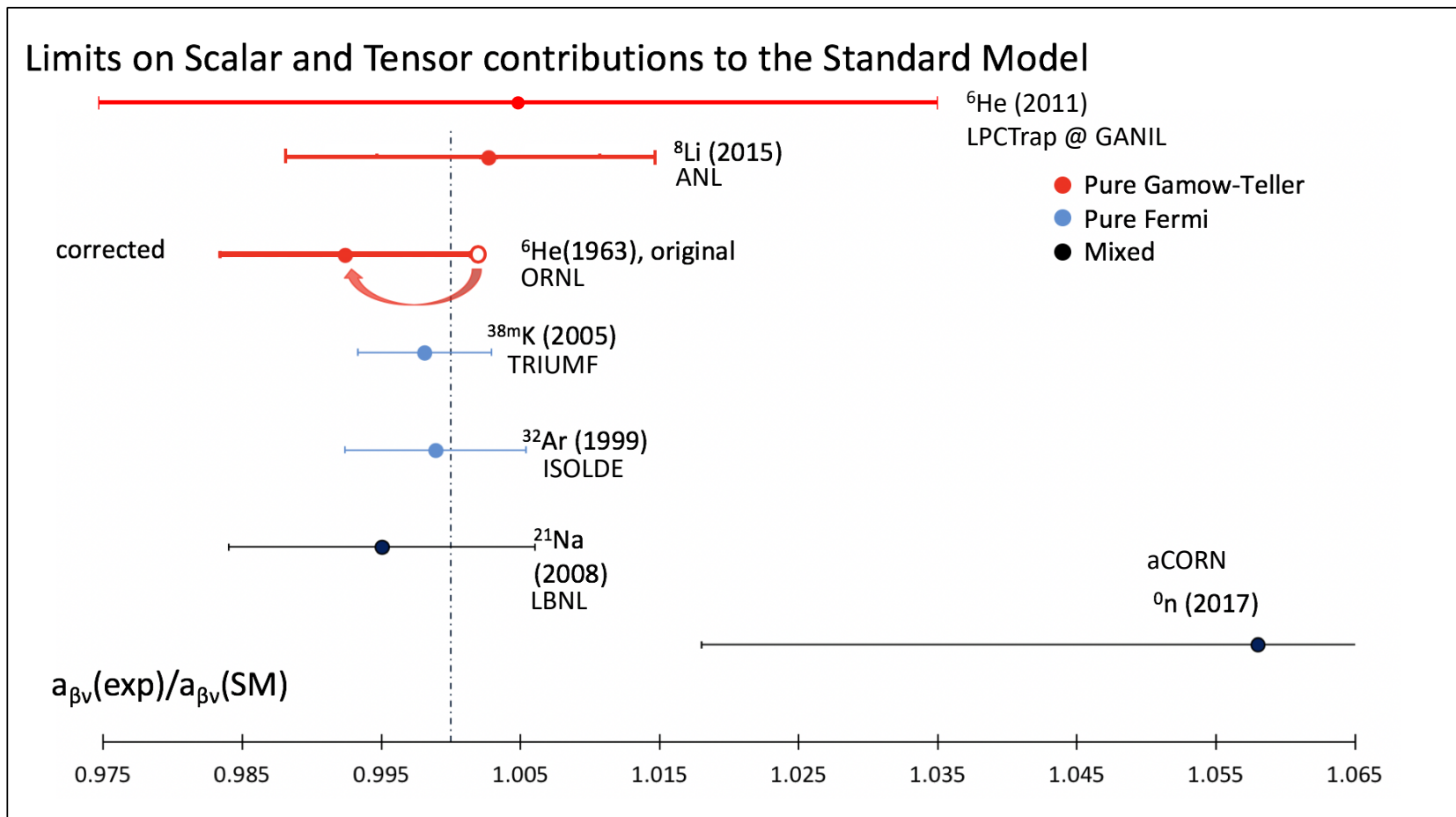
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$$\times \frac{1}{2} \xi \left( 1 + \mathbf{a} \frac{\vec{p}_e \cdot \vec{p}_\nu}{E_e E_\nu} + \mathbf{b} \frac{m}{E_e} + \mathbf{A} \frac{\vec{J} \cdot \vec{p}_e}{J E_e} + \mathbf{D} \frac{\vec{J} \cdot (\vec{p}_e \times \vec{p}_\nu)}{J (E_e E_\nu)} + \dots \right)$$

- Measurement of  $\mathbf{a}$  = measurement of recoil ions spectrum

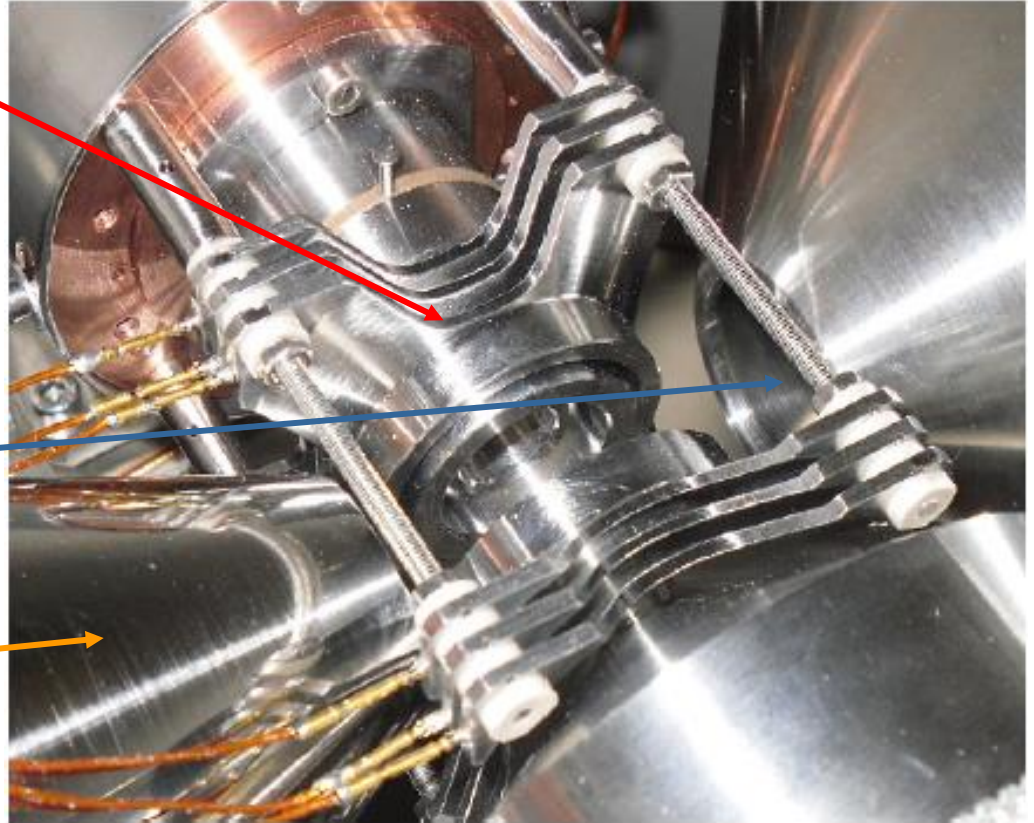
- Give access to  $\tilde{\mathbf{a}} = \frac{\mathbf{a}}{1 + \mathbf{b} \langle m_e / E_e \rangle}$



Adapted from M. Burkey: *Searching For Tensor Currents In The Weak Interaction Using Lithium-8 Decay*, PhD University of Chicago

# LPCTrap

- Transparent Paul trap:
  - Three pairs of electrodes:
    - RF electrodes
    - Injection/extraction electrodes (200-ms cycles)
    - Field-correction electrodes
- $\beta$ -telescope:
  - DSSD + plastic scintillator
- Recoil ion detector:
  - 2-kV acceleration grid +
  - 250-V focusing lens +
  - 4-kV polarized MCP

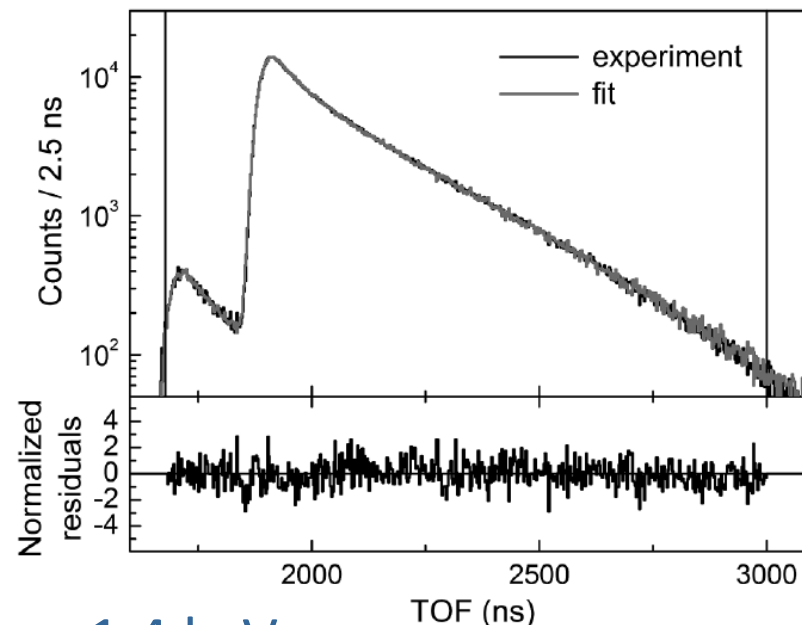


P. Delahaye Eur. Phys. J. A 55 (2019) 101



Three ions studied:

- ${}^6\text{He}^+ \rightarrow {}^6\text{Li}^{2+/3+}$  (2005-2010):
  - Pure GT
  - 100% GS  $\rightarrow$  GS
  - Reasonable  $T_{1/2} = 806.7$  ms
  - High  $Q_\beta = 3.51$  MeV  $\rightarrow T_{Rlmax} \approx 1.4$  keV
  - High production rate:  $2 \cdot 10^8$  ions/s @SPIRAL
  - Few nucleons = few radiative corrections

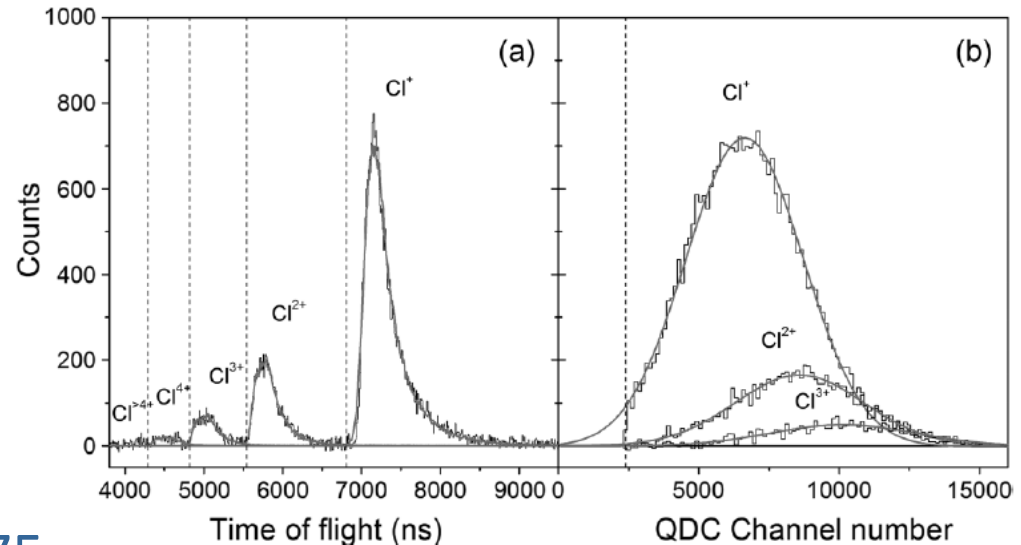


$\rightarrow$  C. Couratin, et al.: Phys. Rev. Lett. 108, 243201 (2012) :  
 measurement of the shake-off probability (electron emission  
 during decay) :  $p = 0.02339(35)_{\text{stat}}(07)_{\text{syst}}$

Three ions studied:

- $^{35}\text{Ar}^+ \rightarrow ^{35}\text{Cl}$  (2011-2012):
  - Mirror transition
  - 98% GS  $\rightarrow$  GS
  - Reasonable  $T_{1/2} = 1.775$  s
  - High  $Q_\beta = 2.28$  MeV **but high daughter mass**  
 **$\rightarrow$  Low  $T_{R\text{max}} = 450$  eV**
  - **Neutral daughter nucleus + multiple charge states**
  - Good production rate:  $3.5 \cdot 10^7$  ions/s @ SPIRAL

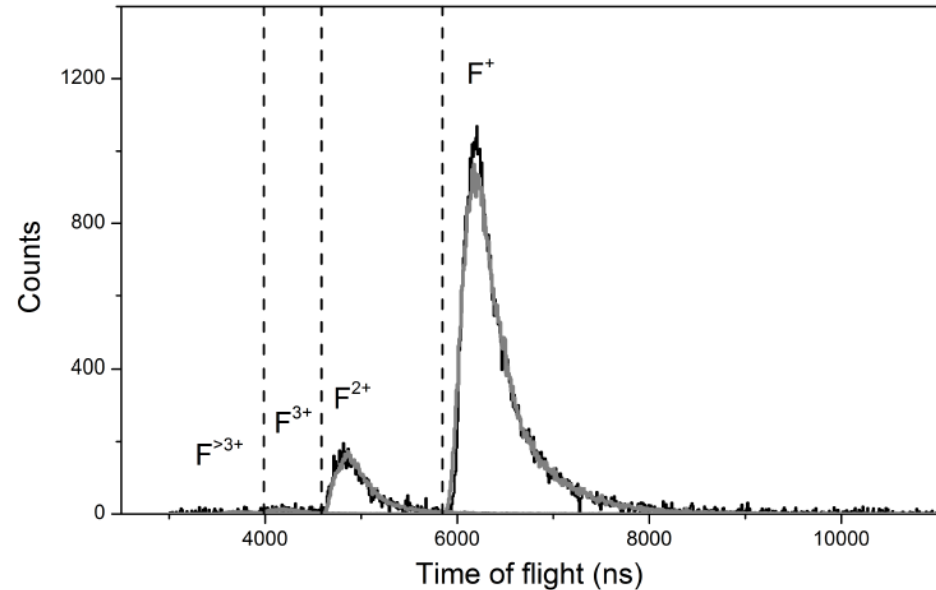
$\rightarrow$  C. Couratin et al., Phys. Rev. A 88, 041403(R) (2013) :  
good match of shake-off probability with theory



Three ions studied:

- $^{19}\text{Ne}^+ \rightarrow ^{19}\text{F}$  (2013):
  - Mirror transition
  - 99.988% GS  $\rightarrow$  GS
  - Long  $T_{1/2} = 17.26$  s
  - Low  $Q_\beta = 961$  keV  $\rightarrow$  Low  $T_{\text{Rlmax}} = 200$  eV
  - Neutral daughter nucleus but only a few charge states ( $\text{F}^{+}/2^{+}/3^{+}/\dots$ )
  - High production rate  $\approx 3 \cdot 10^8$  ions/s @ SPIRAL

$\rightarrow$  X. Fabian et al, Phys. Rev. A 97, 023402 (2018) :  
shake-off : current theory insufficient



- Previous results dominated by two systematics:
  - Cloud temperature
  - $\beta$ -scattering
- New software developed to improve both:
  - Cloudda (cloud temperature)
  - + new data analysis scripts

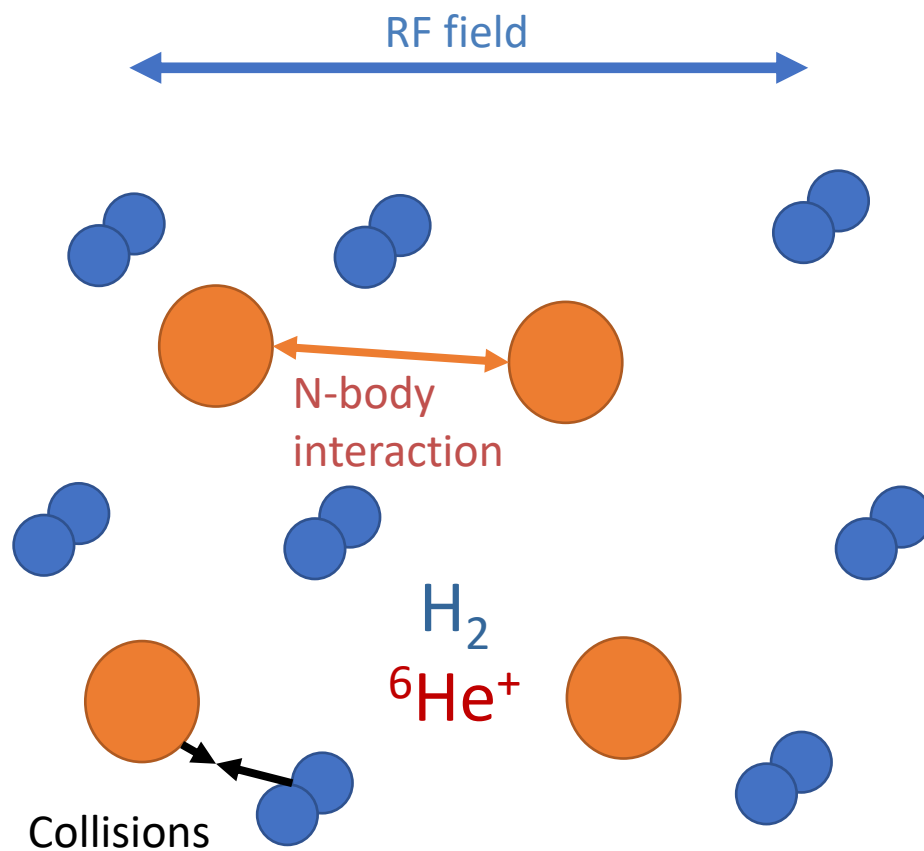
**Table 1.** Dominant sources of systematic error, systematic uncertainties and impact on the error of  $a_{\beta\nu}$ . The last column indicates the method used to estimate the parameters.

Source	Uncertainty	$\Delta a_{\beta\nu} (\times 10^{-3})$	Method
Cloud temperature	6.5%	6.8	Off-line measurement
$\theta_{x\text{MCPSPD}}$	0.003 rad	0.1	Present data
$\theta_{y\text{MCPSPD}}$	0.003 rad	0.1	Present data
MCPSPD offset (x, y)	0.145 mm	0.3	Present data
MCPSPD calibration	0.5%	1.3	Present data
$d_{\text{DSSD}}$	0.2 mm	0.3	Present data
$E_{\text{scint}}$	see text	0.8	Present data
$E_{\text{si}}$	10%	0.8	GEANT4
'Accidentals' and 'out trap'	See the text	0.9	Present data
$\beta$ scattering	10%	1.9	GEANT4
Shake-off	0–0.05	0.6	Theoretical calculation
$V_{\text{RF}}$	2.5%	1.7	Off-line measurement
Total		7.5	

X. Flécharde *et al* 2011 *J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys.* **38** 055101

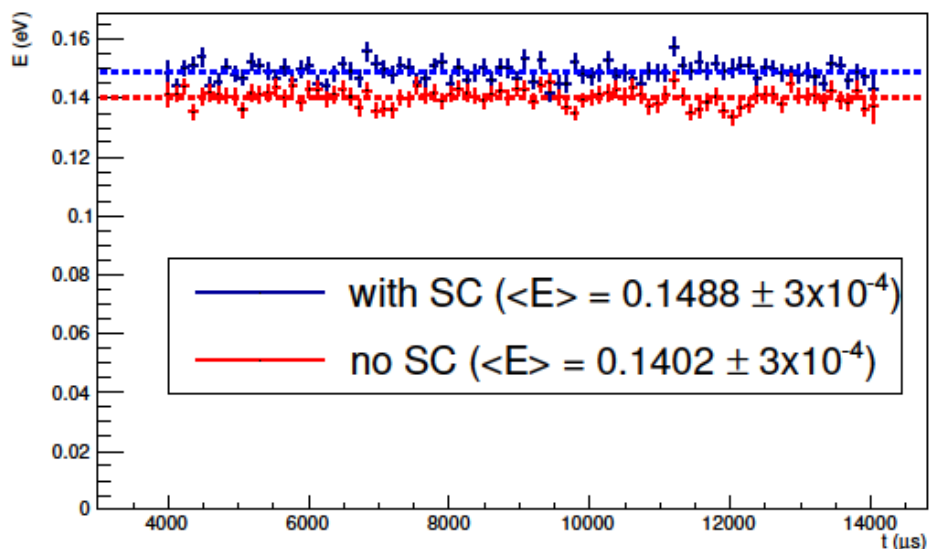
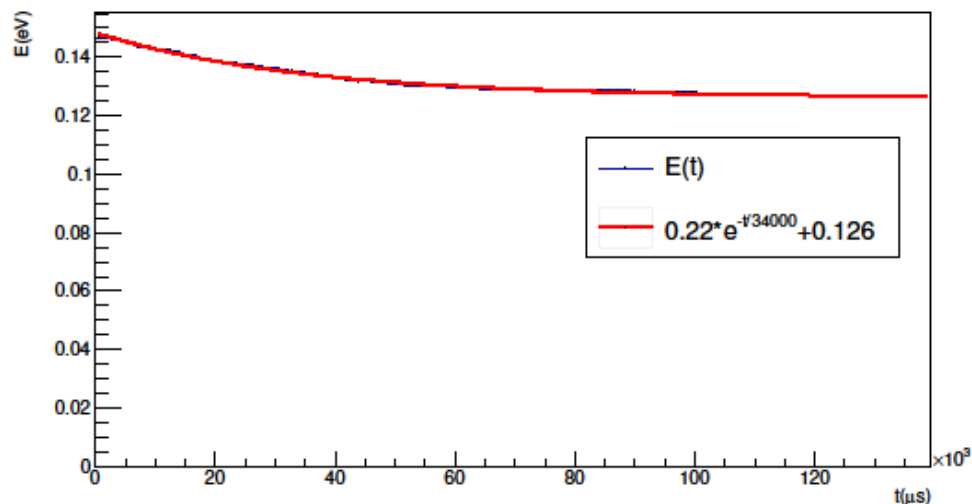
# Simulations : Clouda

- Clouda software:
  - Simulation of the ion cloud dynamics
  - Massively parallel simulation of individual ions on GPU
  - Trapping field + space charge taken into account



X. Fabian: *Precision measurement in the weak interaction framework: development of realistic simulations for the LPCTrap device installed at GANIL*, PhD University of Caen

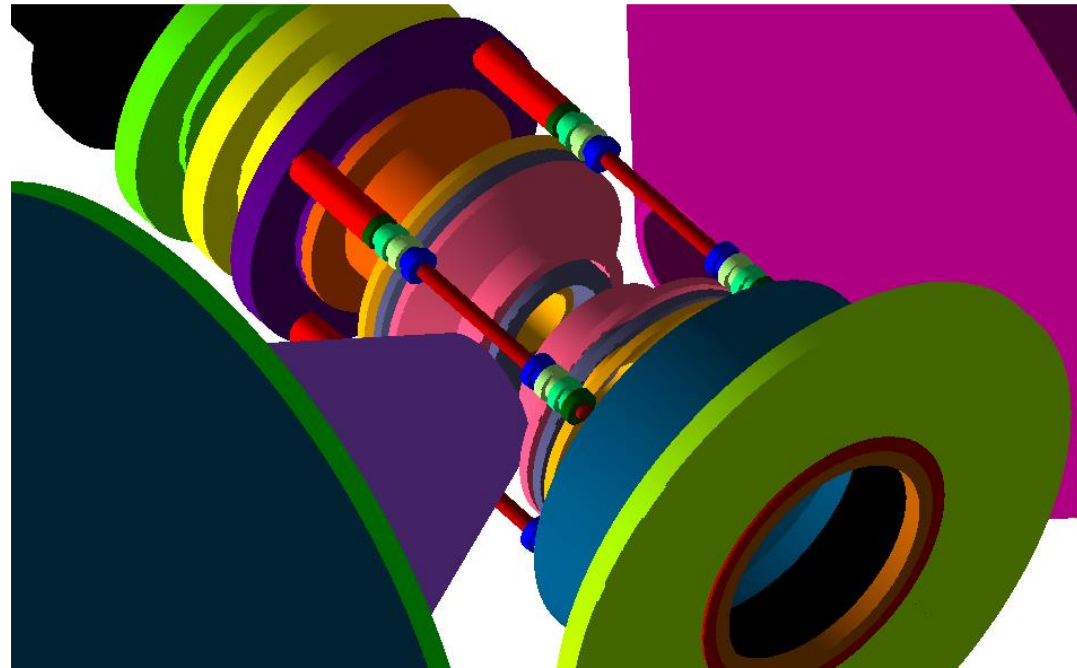
- Good match of cooling time (need to be cross-checked with other simulations)
- Good match of the effect of space charge



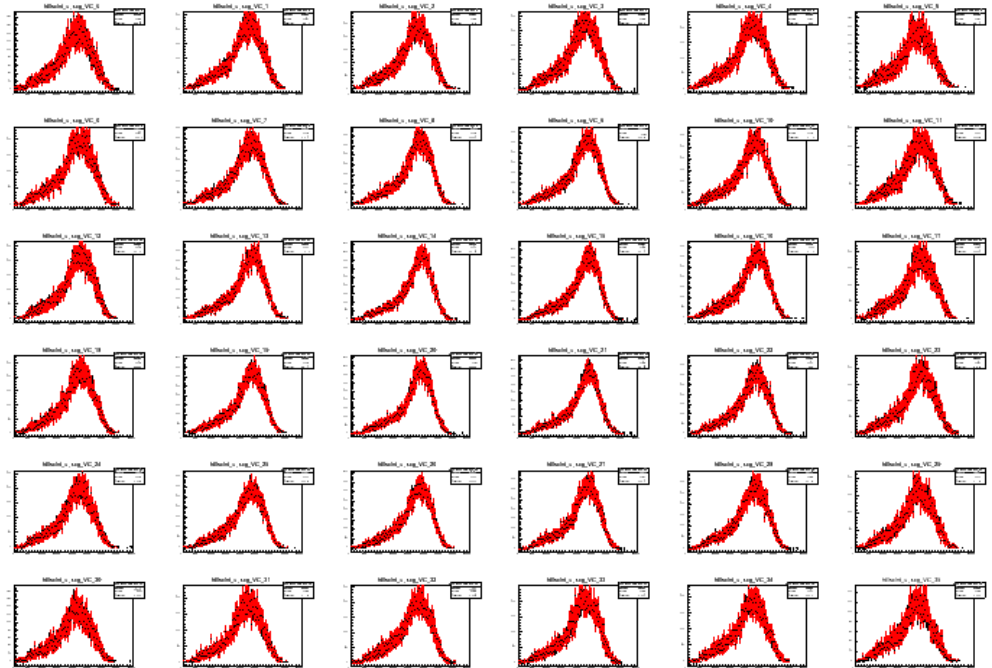


# Simulation : Geant4 + SIMION

- External  $\beta$ -decay + shake-off generator
- Geant4:
  - Simulation of the electron propagation in LPCTrap
  - No field considered
- SIMION:
  - Simulation of the ion propagation in LPCTrap
  - Axisymmetric field considered



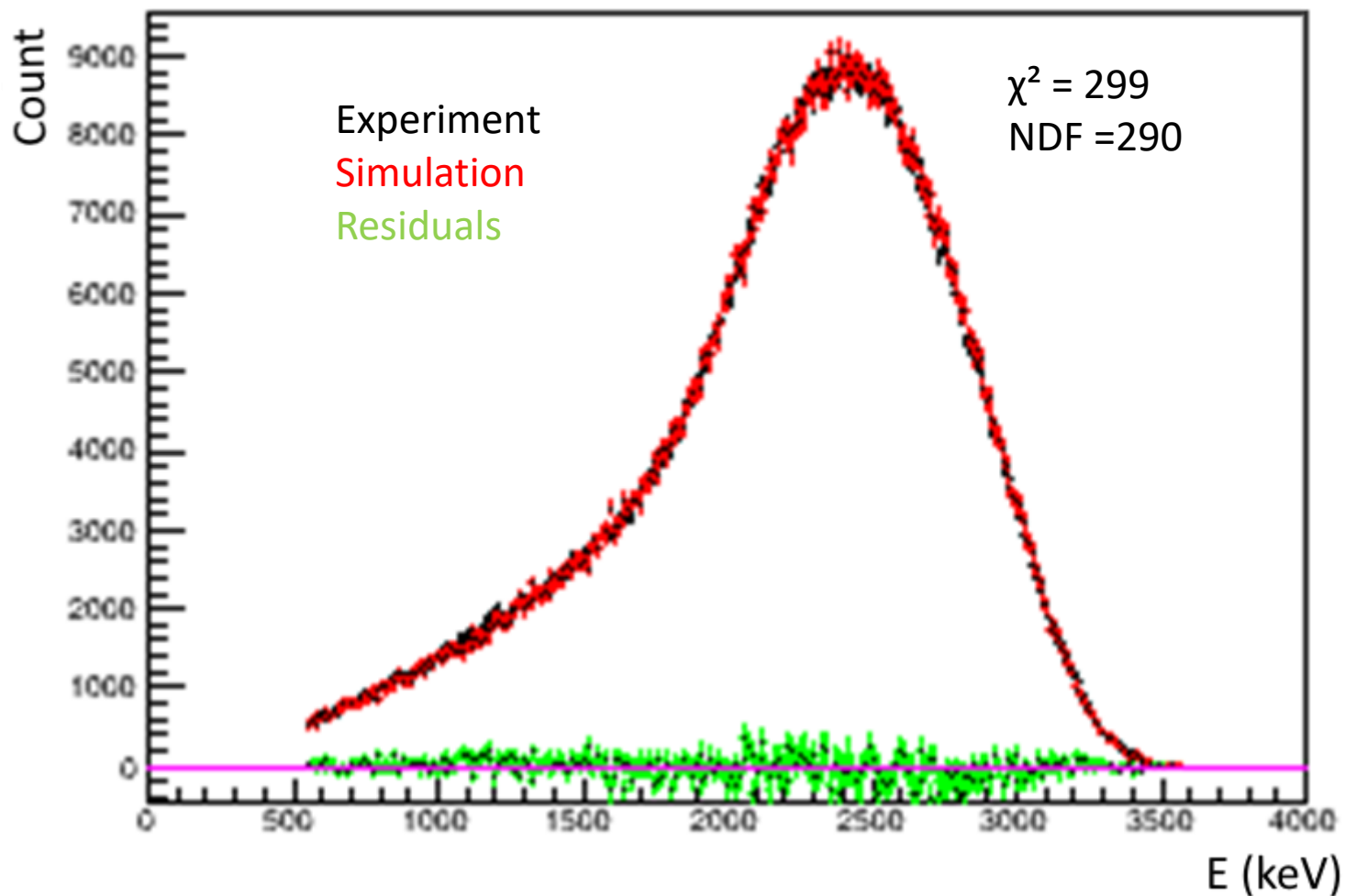
- 2-step analysis:
  - Python script for experimental data reading and calibration
  - ROOT macros for fit
- Analyzed systematics:
  - Buffer gas temperature
  - DSSD, MCP et collimators shifts
  - Scintillator response function (energetic + spatial)
  - Electrode voltage



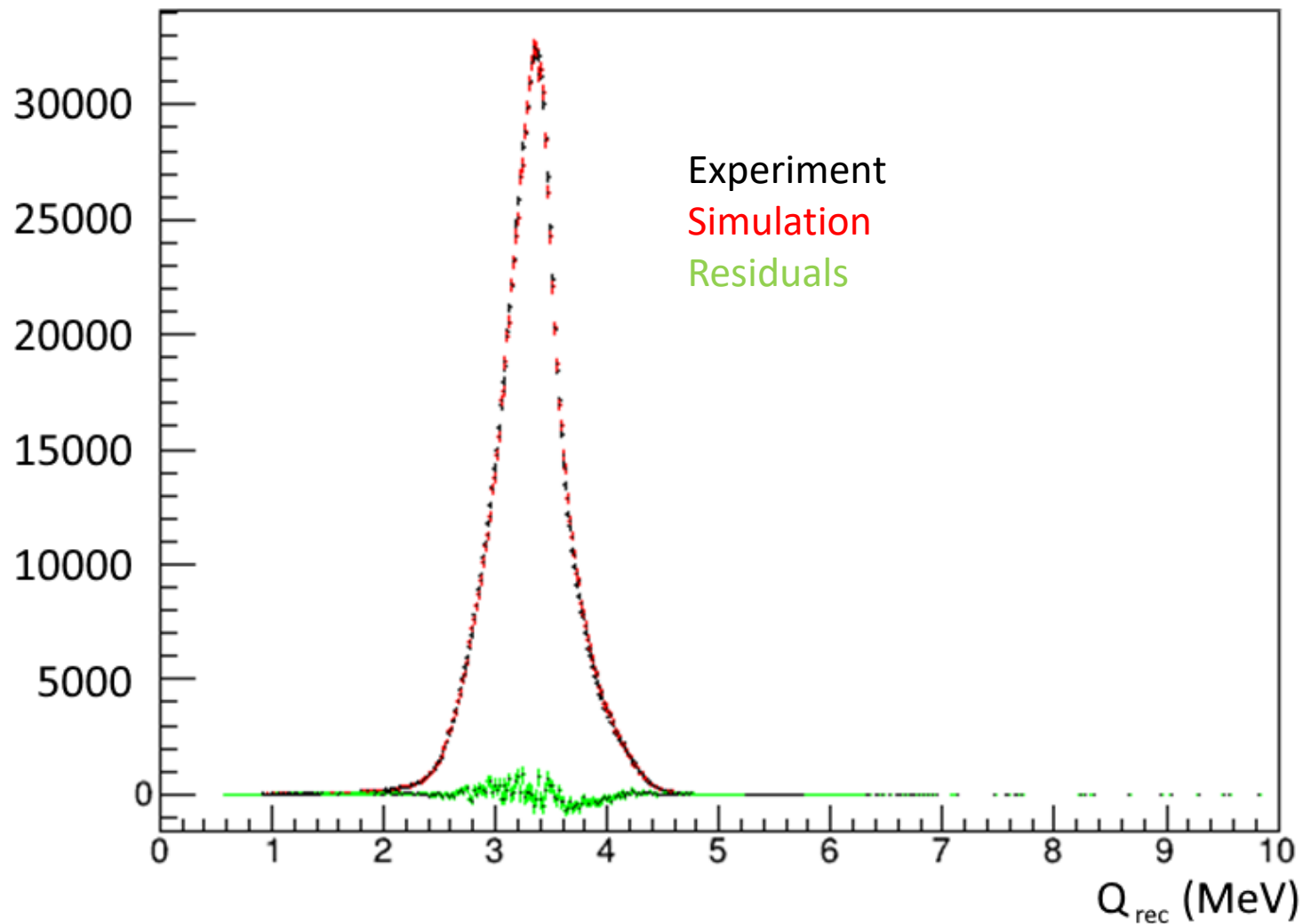


# Latest results

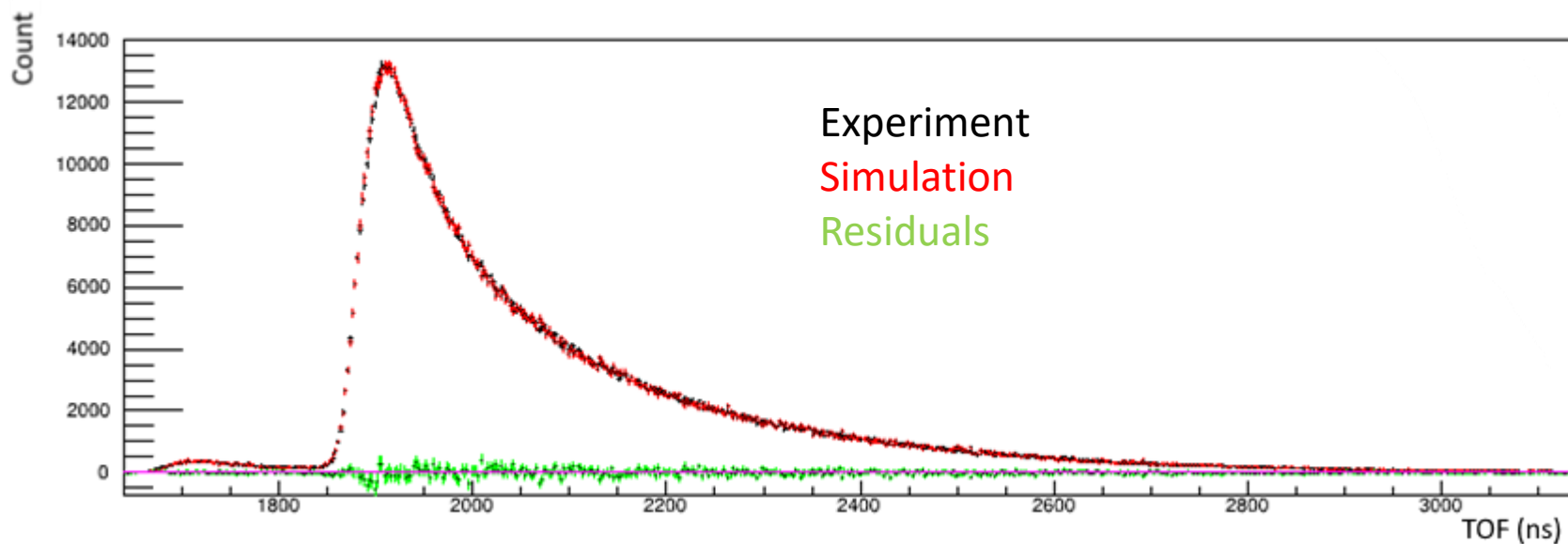
## Scintillator calibration



# Latest results



# Latest results



- More simulation running to improve statistics
- Precise fit of  $a$  coming soon
- Expected uncertainty : 0.4% stat. + 1% syst.



# Conclusion and prospective

- Data analysis in progress
  - Needs more ions simulated
  - Priority given to  $^6\text{He}$  data
  - $^{35}\text{Ar}$  and  $^{19}\text{Ne}$  should be analyzed before the end of the year
  - New simulation software being developed :  
Ouroboros-BEM
- $\text{He}+\text{H}_2$  differential cross-section measurement around 1 eV would be useful
- New beams @ SPIRAL: new mirror nuclei:  $^{21}\text{Na}$ ,  $^{23}\text{Mg}$ ,  $^{33}\text{Cl}$ ,  $^{37}\text{K}$



Thank you for your attention

<b>Allowed transitions: <math>\Delta L = 0</math></b>	<b><math>\Delta \pi = 1</math></b>
Pure Fermi (F) transitions: $\Delta S = 0$	$\Delta J = 0$
Pure Gamow-Teller (GT) transitions: $\Delta S = 1$	$\Delta J = 0, \pm 1$
<b>Forbidden transitions: <math>\Delta L \neq 0</math></b>	<b><math>\Delta \pi = (-1)^L</math></b>

Mixed transition: transition possible via F or GT

- Example:  $^{21}\text{Na} (3/2^+) \rightarrow ^{21}\text{Ne} (3/2^+)$

# Theory

- Pure Fermi:  $a_F = -\frac{1}{3} \frac{|C_A|^2 + |C'_A|^2 - |C_T|^2 - |C'_T|^2}{|C_A|^2 + |C'_A|^2 + |C_T|^2 + |C'_T|^2}$
- Pure Gamow-Teller:  $a_{GT} = \frac{|C_V|^2 + |C'_V|^2 - |C_S|^2 - |C'_S|^2}{|C_V|^2 + |C'_V|^2 + |C_S|^2 + |C'_S|^2}$
- Mirror transition (mixed) :  $a_m = \frac{(1-\rho^2/3)}{(1+\rho^2)}$  with  $\rho$  the mixing coefficient GT/F  $\rightarrow$  determination of  $V_{ud}$  (alternative to  $0^+ \rightarrow 0^+$ )
- Standard model = V-A theory :
  - $C_{S,T} = 0$  ,  $C_i = C'_i$  real
  - $\rightarrow a_{GT} = -1/3$  ,  $a_F = +1$



# State of the art: $V_{ud}$

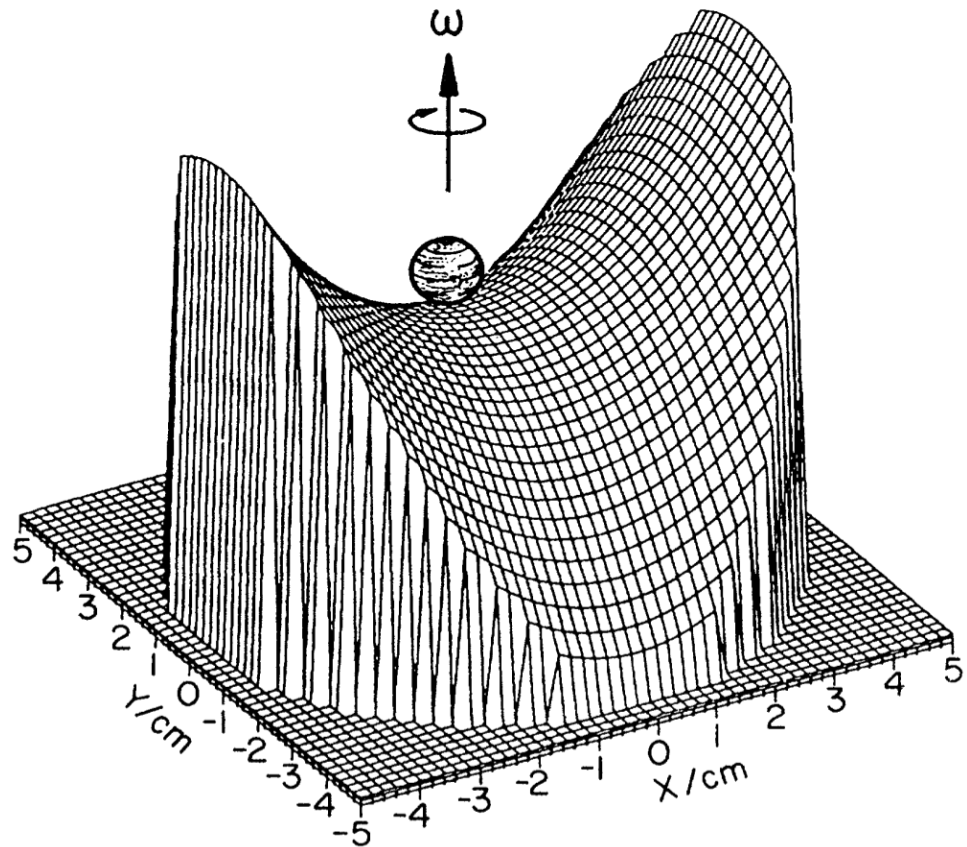
Transition	$ V_{ud} $
Super-allowed pure Fermi	$0.97420(10)_{\text{exp}}(18)_{\text{RC}}$
Neutron	$0.9763(5)_{\tau_n}(15)_{g_A}(2)_{\text{RC}}$
Pion	$0.9749(26)$
Super-allowed mirror	$0.9719(17)$

PDG 2018 et Naviliat *et al* PR102 (2009)



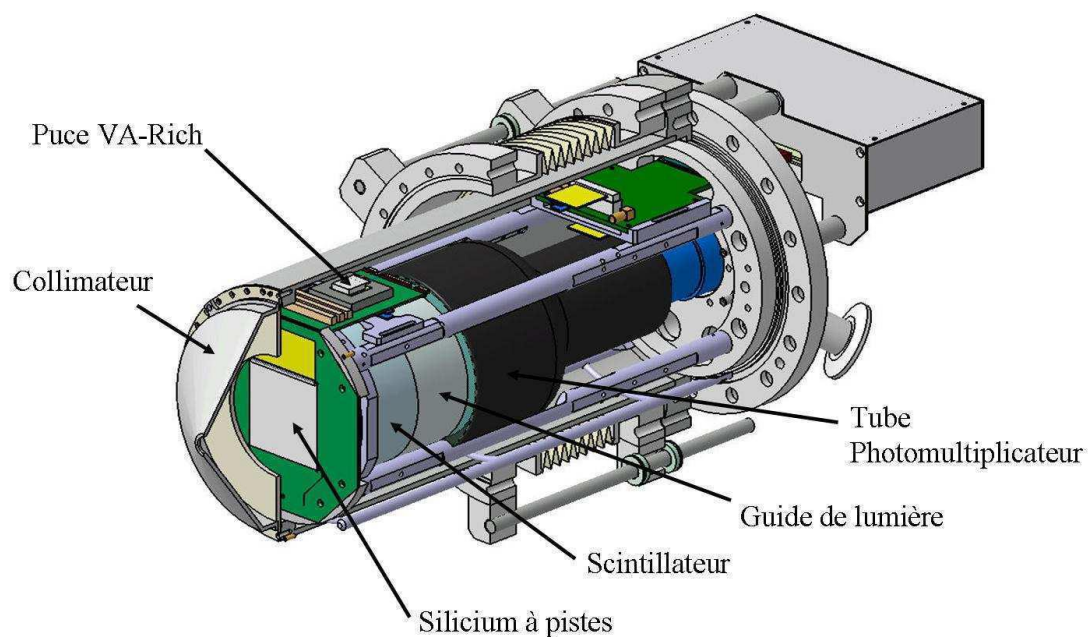
# LPCTrap : Paul trap

- Static 3D potential well = impossible  
 → Quadrupolar potential whose trapping and escape directions switch with time = Paul trap
- RF frequency depends on mass
  - LPCTrap :  
 $0.48 < f_{\text{RF}} < 1.15 \text{ MHz}$
- Geometrical efficiency: 33% of  $4\pi$
- Capacity  $\approx 10^5$  ions



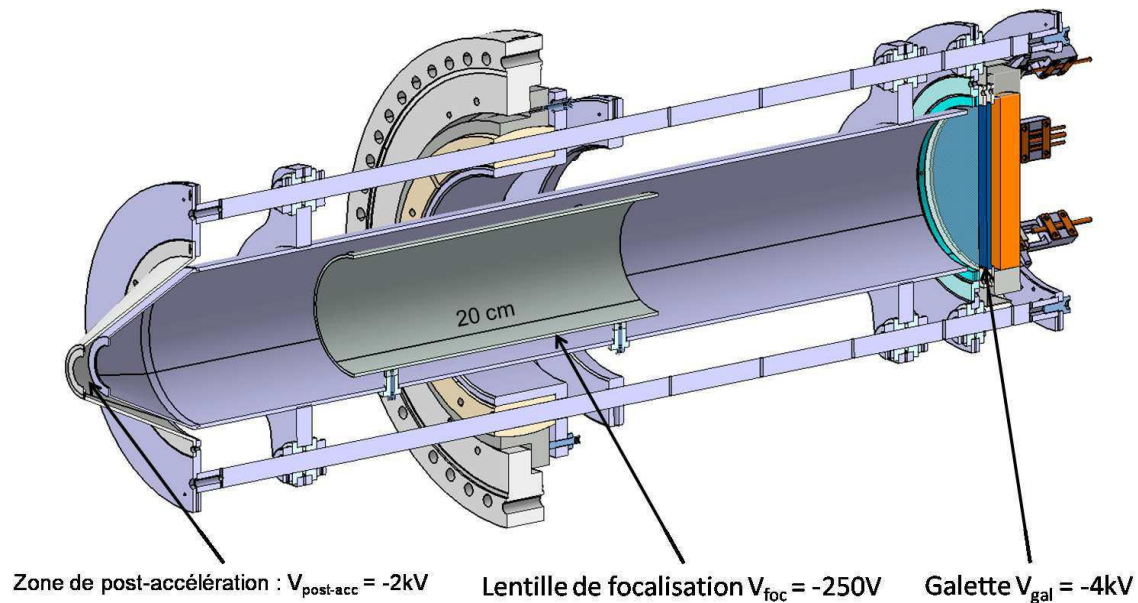
# LPCTrap : $\beta$ -telescope

- Detection in coincidence :
  - Electron position = DSSSD
  - Electron energy = plastic scintillator
- DSSSD :
  - 2 x 60 1-mm strips (horizontal + vertical)
  - 300- $\mu\text{m}$  thickness
  - Dead time  $\approx 240 \mu\text{s}$
- BC400 plastic scintillator
  - Time resolution: 200 ps
  - Energy resolution:  $\approx 0.08/\sqrt{E}$
  - Threshold after cuts: 400 keV



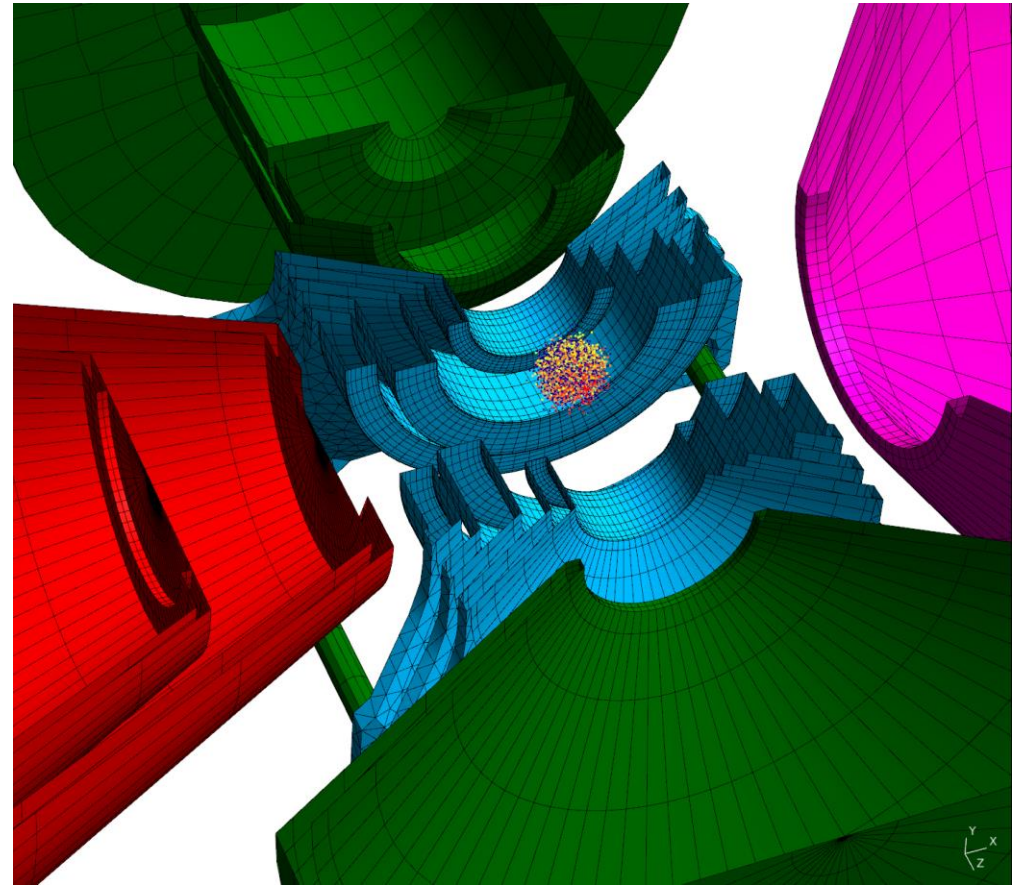
# LPCTrap : recoil ions spectrometer

- Ion acceleration with a -2-kV potential  
→ charge separation
- Time of flight  $\leftrightarrow$  initial ion energy + initial ion position
- Sensor = MCP plate (STOP signal) + delay line (ion position)
  - Time resolution  $< 200$  ps
  - Spatial resolution  $\approx 110$   $\mu\text{m}$



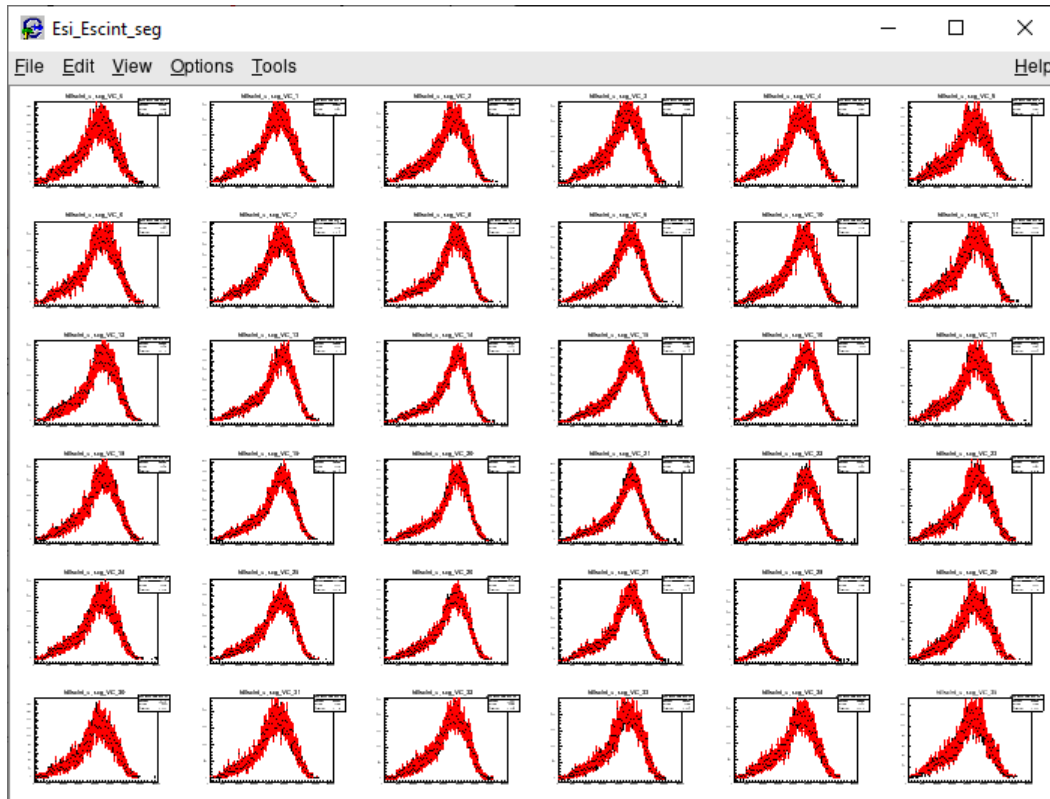
# Simulation : Ouroboros-BEM

- Ouroboros-BEM:
  - Simulation of the ion propagation in the LPCTrap electric field on GPU
  - External  $\beta$ -decay + shake-off generator
  - RF and static electric field considered
  - Still under development



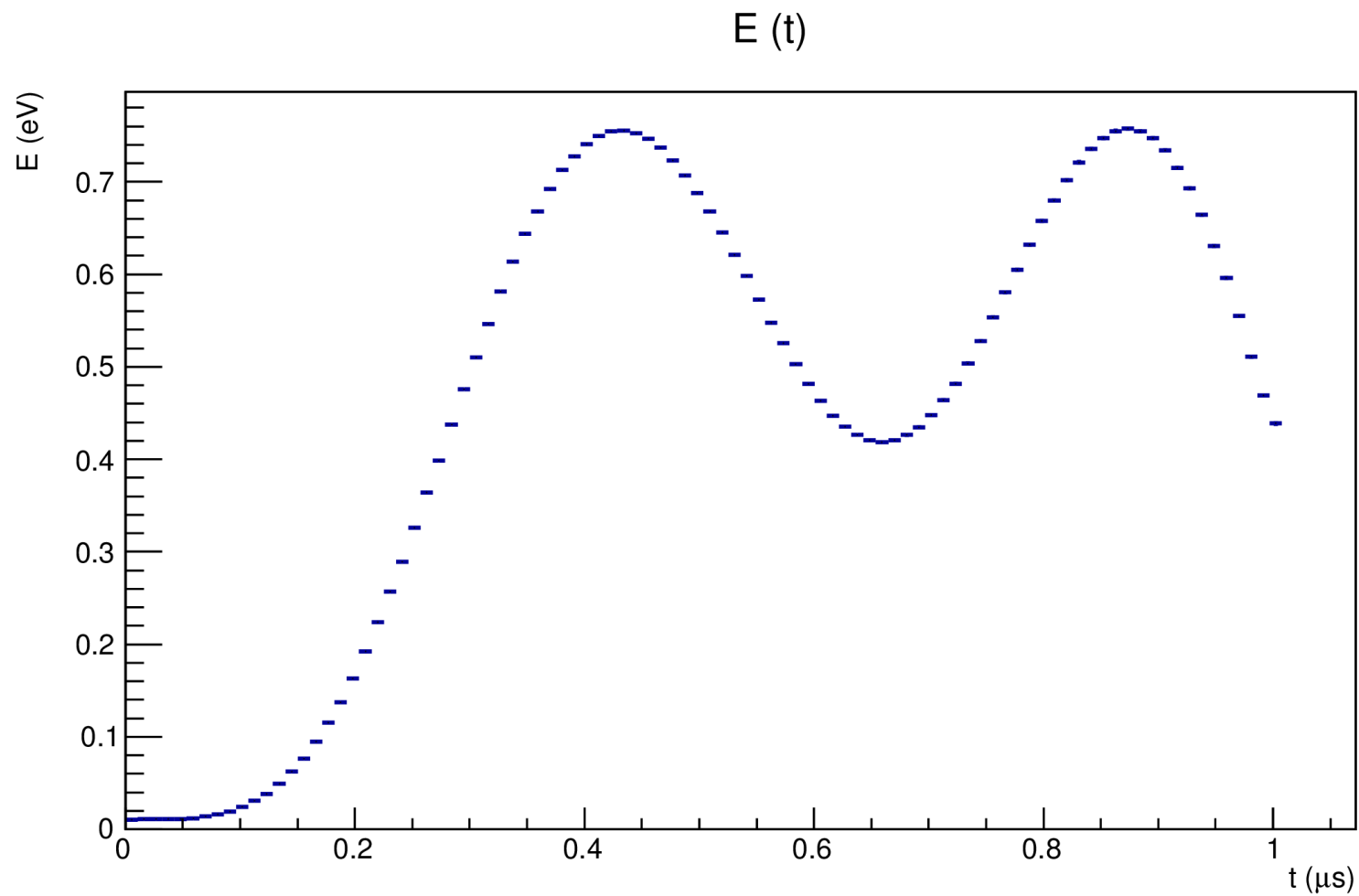
# Quick study of scintillator response function

Work with 500K low stat (best match for temperature)



- Correction of light yield vs position (up to 10% difference)
- Adjustment on  $E_{tot}$  to account for differences in Esi
- Use of free birks parameter instead of offset
- use of a quadratic term

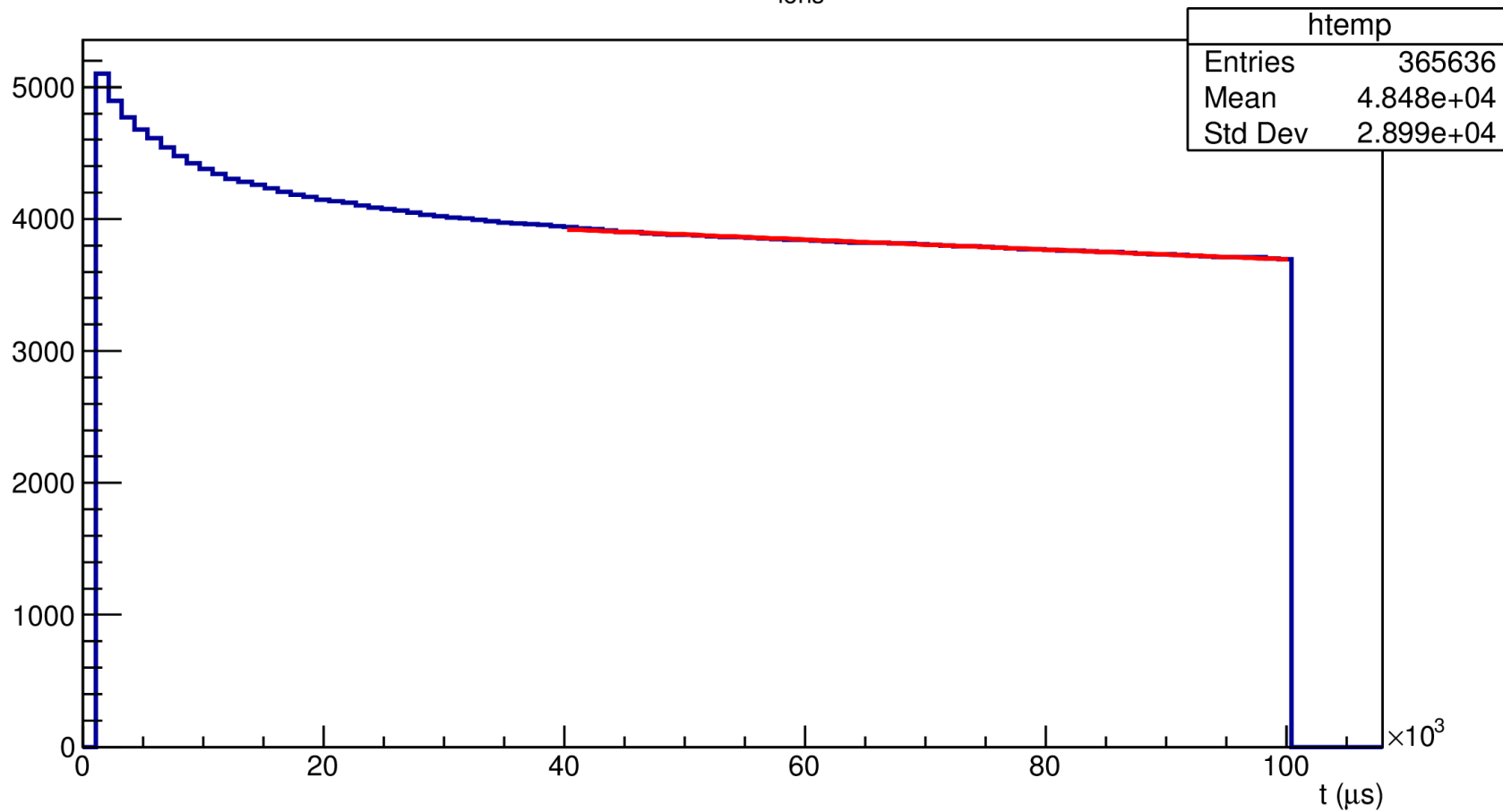
# RF warm-up



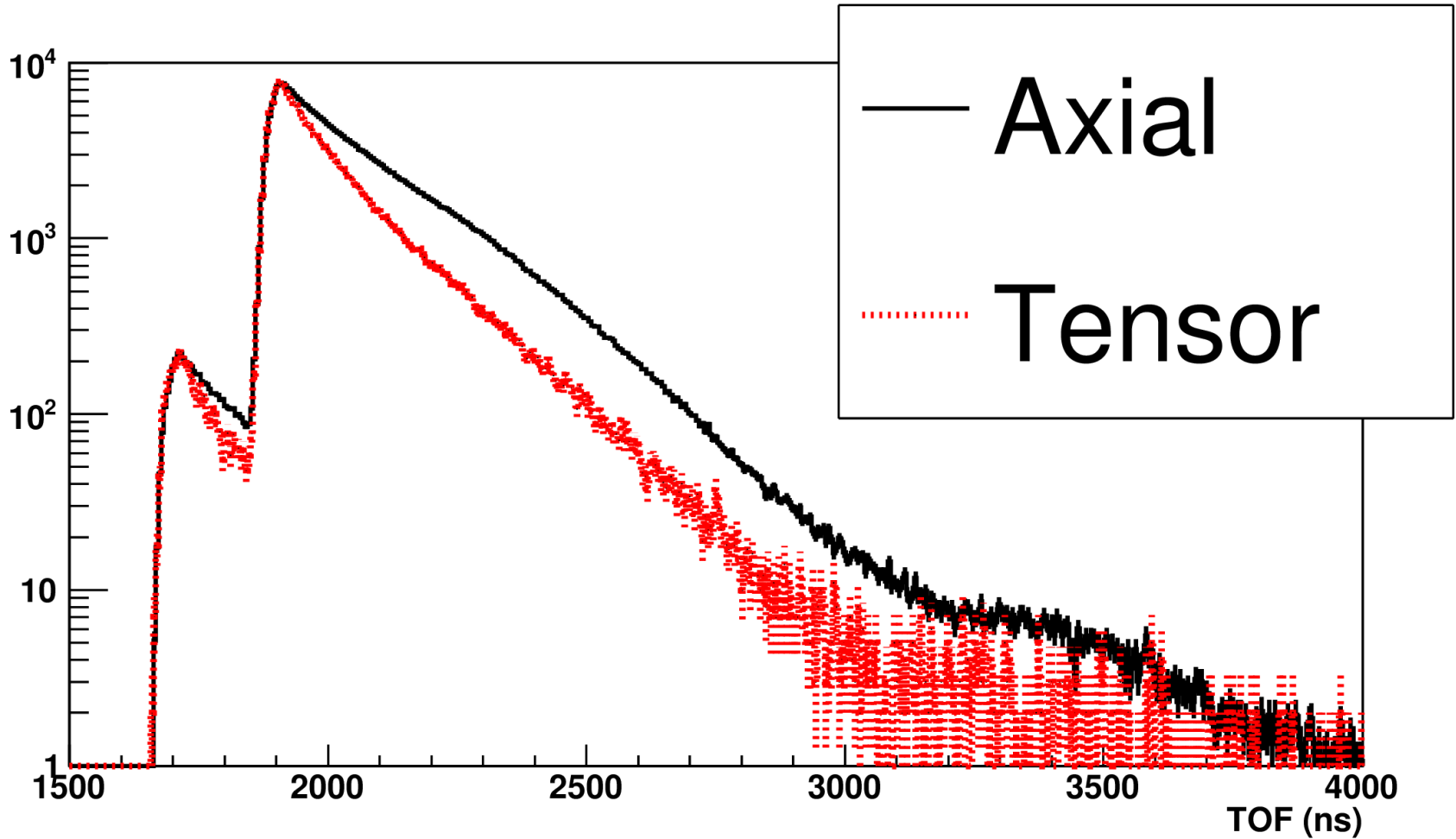


# Ion loss

$$N_{\text{ions}} = 4080 * e^{-t/1e6}$$



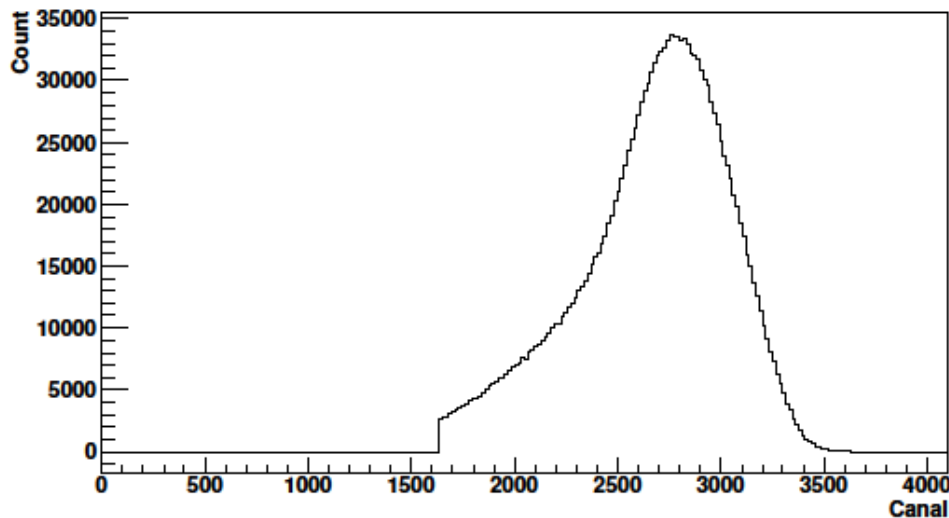
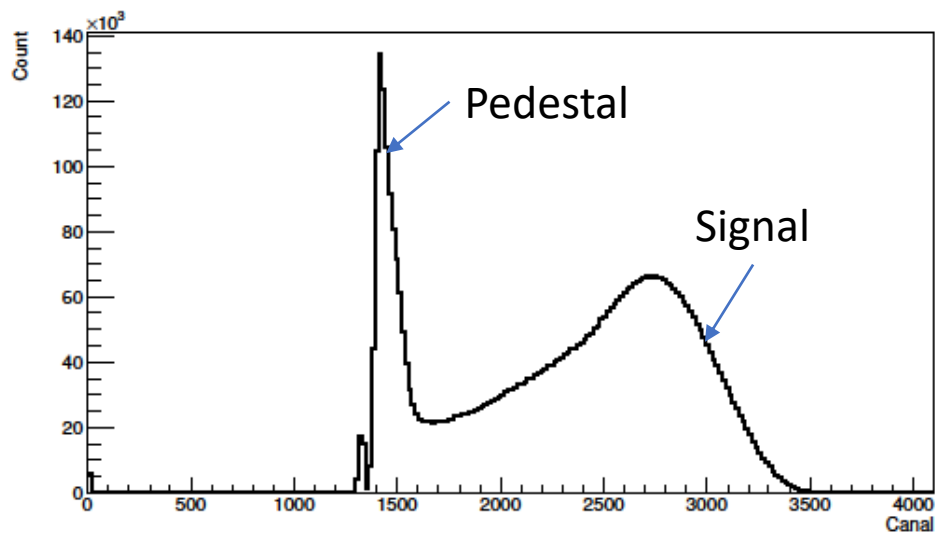
# Axial vs Tensor







# QDC cut



$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon a_{\beta\nu} &= |M_F|^2 (|C_V|^2 + |C'_V|^2 - |C_S|^2 - |C'_S|^2) \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{3} |M_{GT}|^2 (|C_A|^2 + |C'_A|^2 - |C_T|^2 - |C'_T|^2) \\ \text{with } \epsilon &= |M_F|^2 (|C_V|^2 + |C'_V|^2 + |C_S|^2 + |C'_S|^2) \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{3} |M_{GT}|^2 (|C_A|^2 + |C'_A|^2 + |C_T|^2 + |C'_T|^2) \end{aligned}$$

For  $b$  close to 0, the effectively measured parameter is:

$$\tilde{a} = \frac{a}{1 + \langle b' \rangle} \text{ avec } b' = \frac{m_e}{E_e} b$$

Hamiltonian of  $\beta$ -decay:

$$\hat{H} = \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \sum_{i=V,A,S,T,P} (\overline{\psi}_p O_i \psi_n) (\overline{\psi}_e O^i (C_i + C'_i \gamma^5) \psi_\nu) + h.c.$$

Mirror transition:

$$Ft = f_V t_{1/2} (1 + \delta_R) (1 + \delta_{NS} - \delta_C) = \frac{2K}{V_{ud}^2 (1 + \Delta_R) \left(1 + \frac{f_A}{f_V} \rho^2\right)}$$