

Optimization of light collection from crystal scintillators

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Light output and energy resolution in the light channel of cryogenic scintillating bolometers are requested:

- 1) to achieve low energy threshold (most important for dark matter experiments)
- 2) to improve particle discrimination (both for DM and 2β experiments)
- 3) to improve energy resolution in the heat channel (2β experiments)
- 4) to discriminate random coinciding $2\beta 2\nu$ events [1], [2]

[1] D.M. Chernyak et al., Eur. Phys. J. C 72 (2012) 1989

[2] D.M. Chernyak et al., Eur. Phys. J. C 74 (2014) 2913.

Aims of investigation

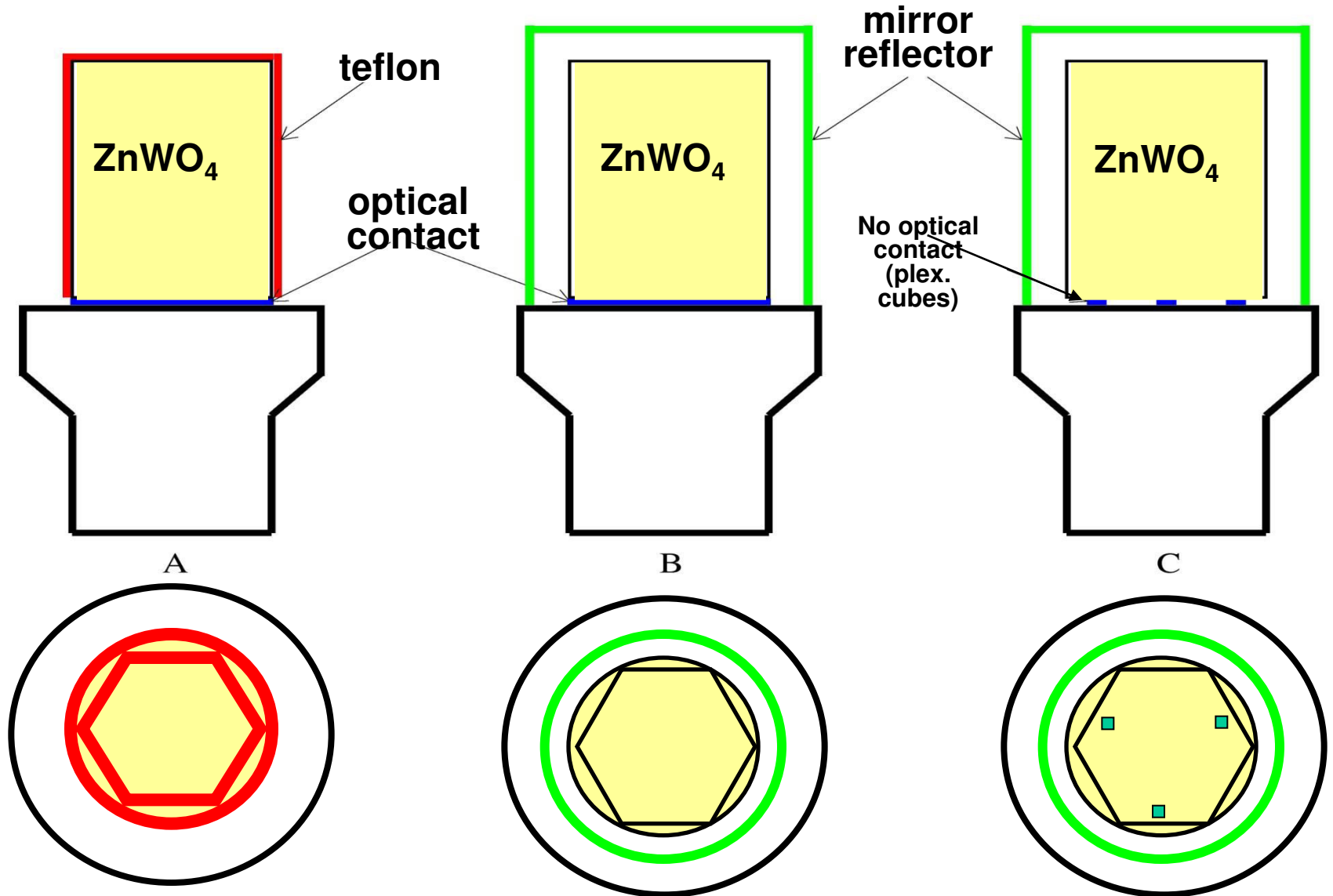
- **Optimisation of light collection conditions from crystal scintillators (first of all, for cryogenic experiments)**

Influence on energy resolution and light collection:

- **shape of crystal (hexagonal, cylindrical)**
- **surface (polished, diffused)**
- **type and shape of reflector**
- **presence of optical contact with photo-detector**

- **Experimental data for development of Monte Carlo simulation of light collection in scintillation detectors**

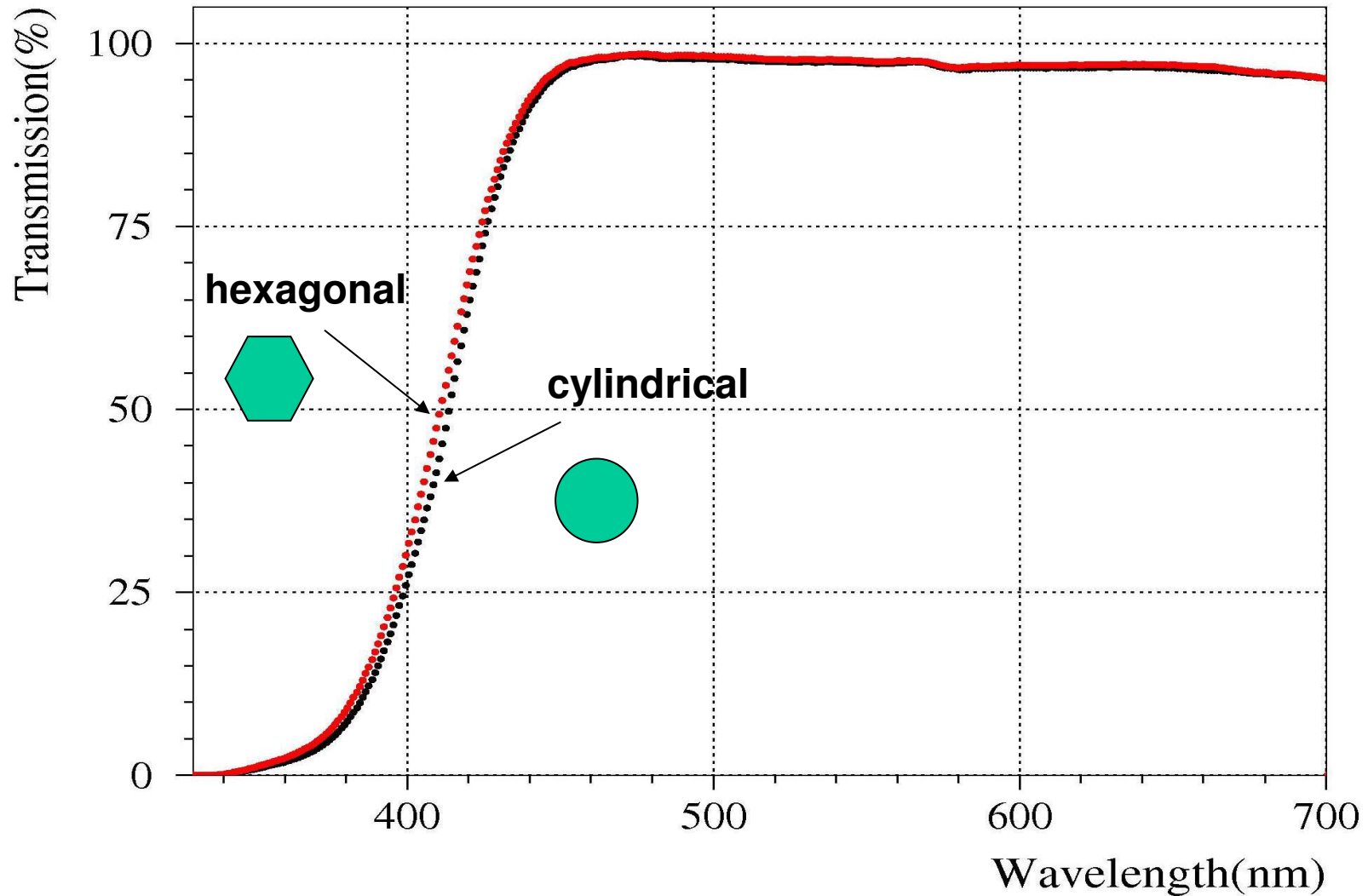
Conditions of measurements



Crystal scintillation surface :

1. all surface polished;
2. side surface diffused;
3. side and top surfaces diffused;
4. all surface diffused.

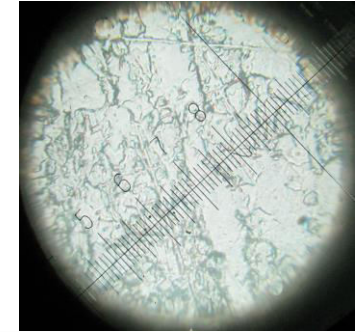
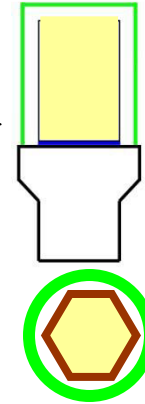
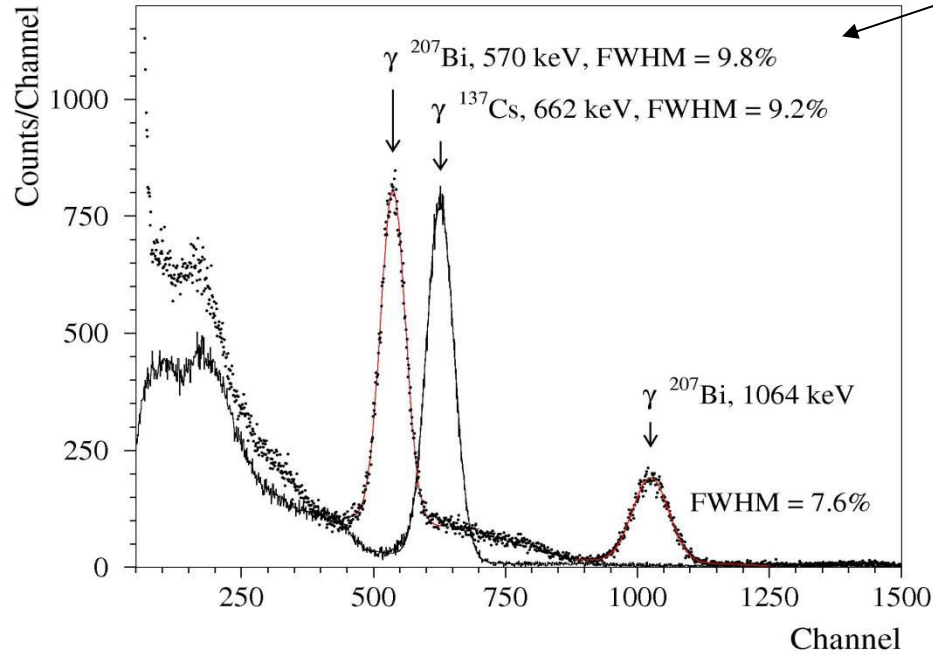
Identity of the ZnWO_4 crystal optical properties



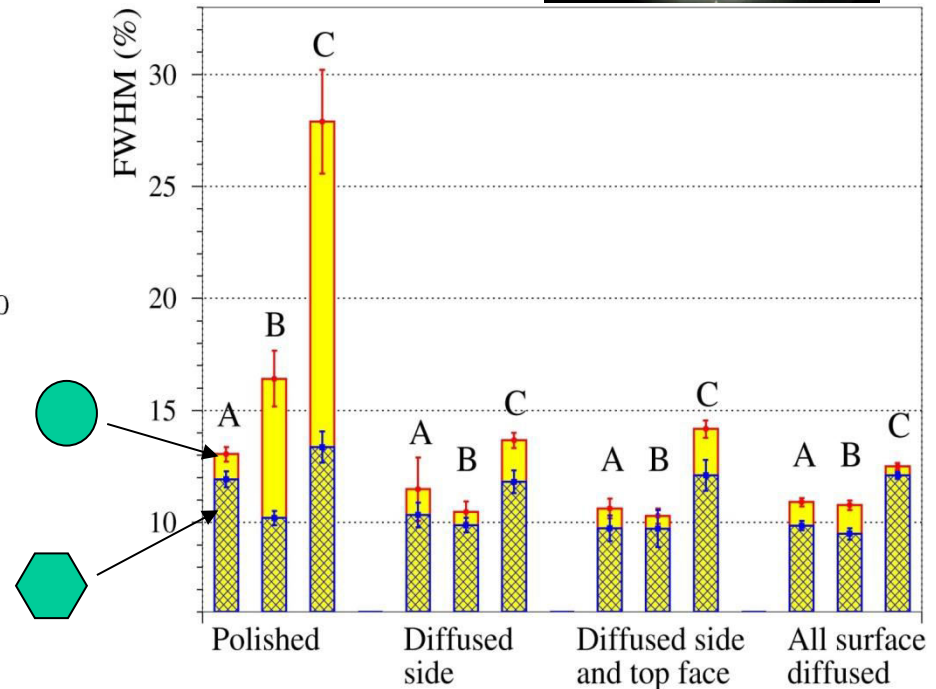
The measurement were performed with a thin (2 mm) ZnWO_4 plate in the spectrophotometer reference beam

Energy resolution

Micro-photograph of ZnWO₄ diffused surface

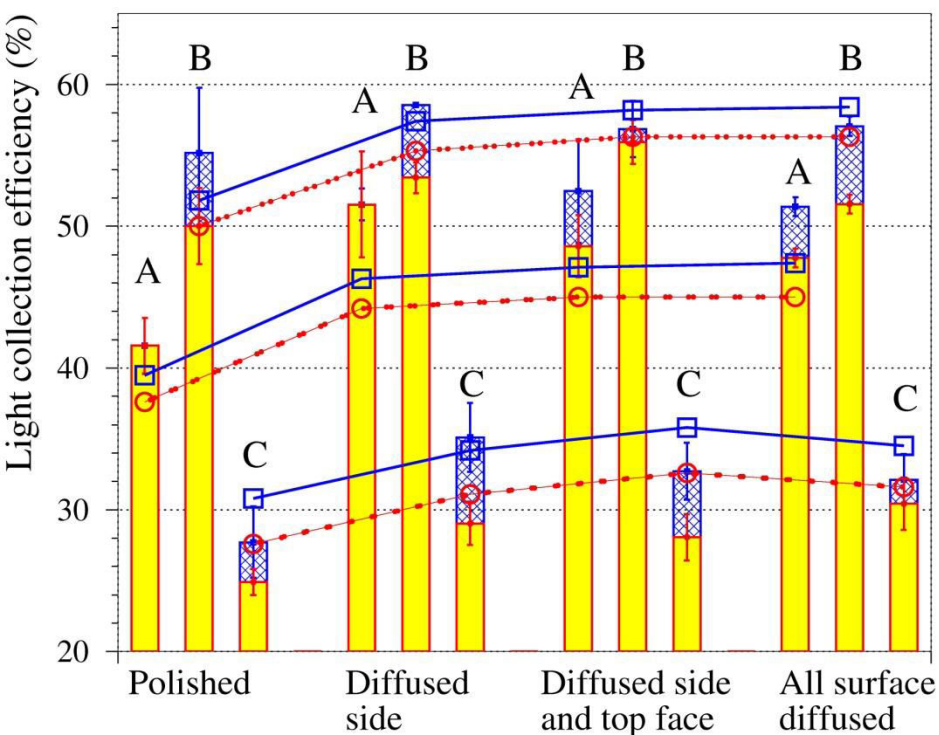


Hexagonal form and diffused surface of crystal increase of light collection efficiency and the energy resolution

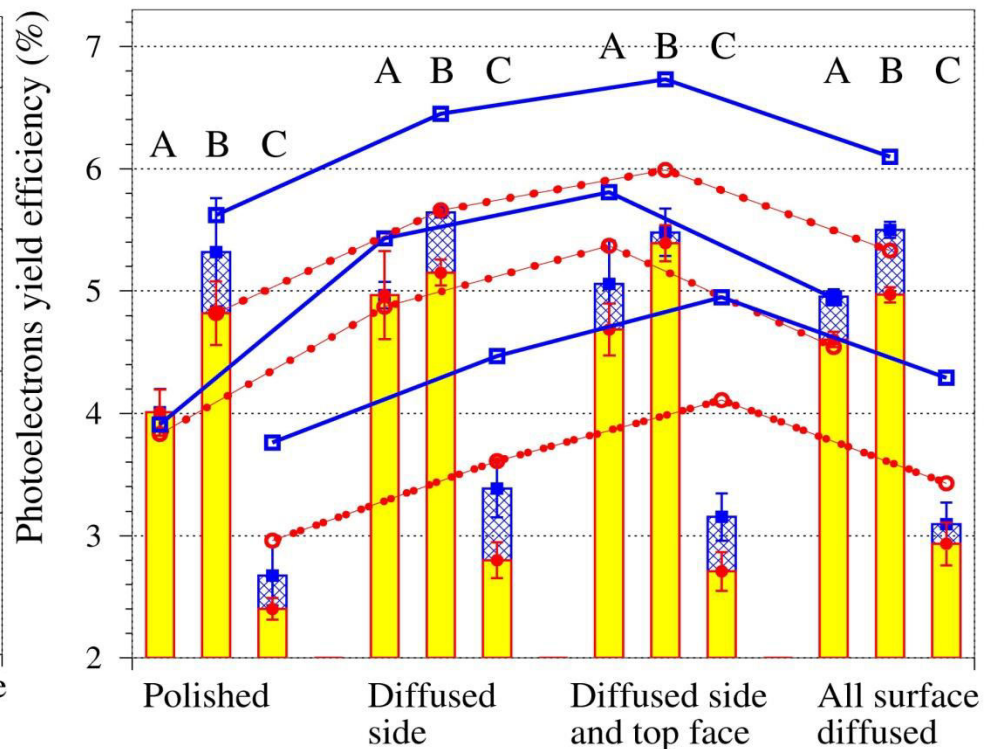


Simulation using ZEMAX and Geant4

ZEMAX

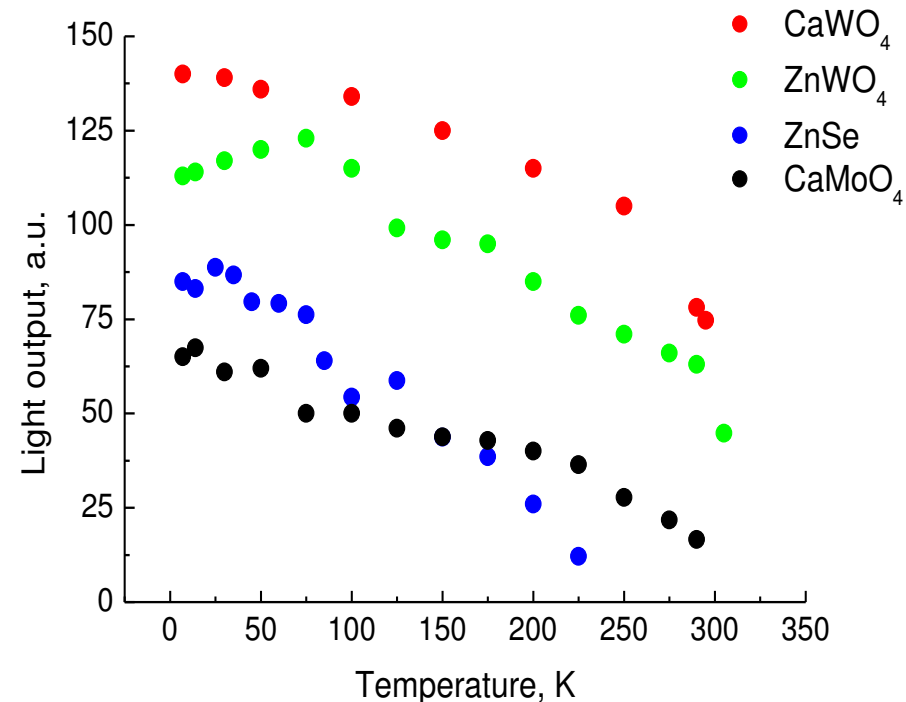


Geant4



Measurements with CaWO_4 crystal scintillators

- High light output at low temperature
- Much lower optical anisotropy
- Presence of ^{40}Ca , ^{48}Ca , ^{180}W and ^{186}W 2β candidates (^{180}W is of especial interest thanks to a possibility of resonant neutrinoless double electron capture [1])
- Used now in the CRESST dark matter experiment [2], to be used in the EURECA project [3]
- similar properties to CaMoO_4 , CdWO_4 , ZnWO_4 , ZnMoO_4 , LiMoO_4 , ZnSe promising scintillators for double β experiments



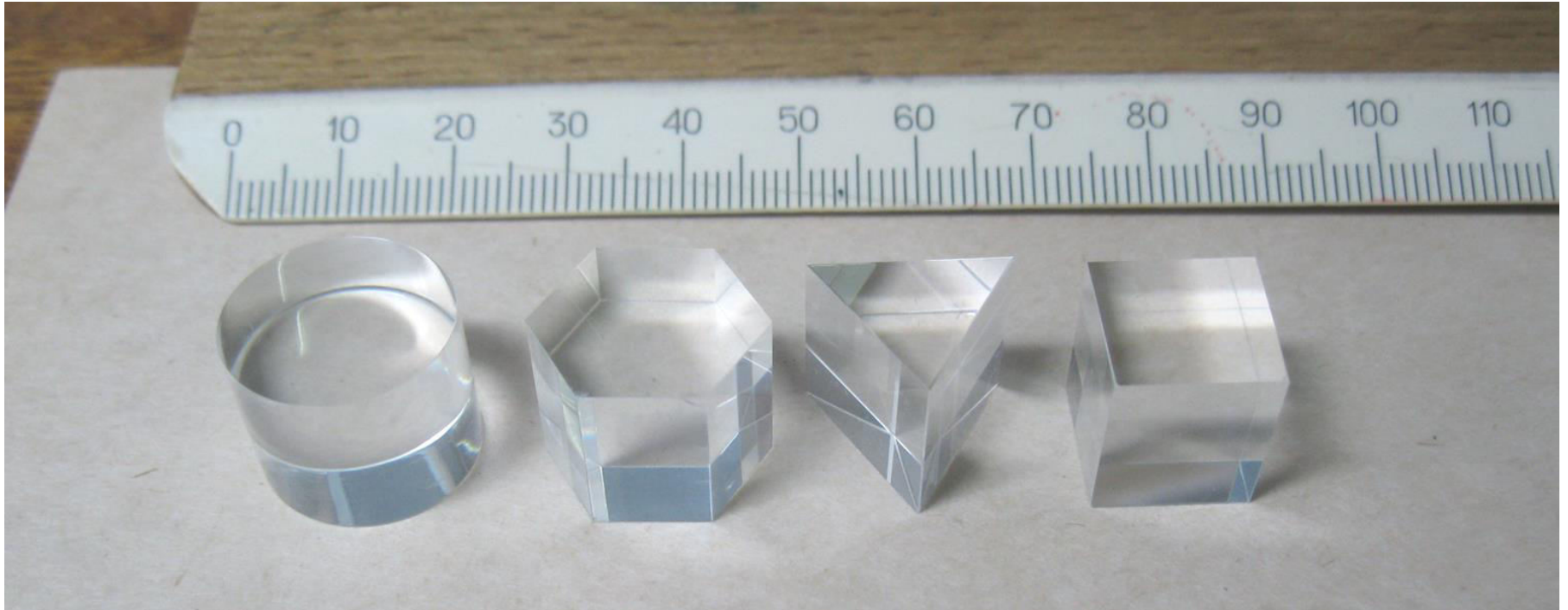
[1] see, e.g., M.I. Krivoruchenko et al., NPA 859 (2011) 140.

[2] G. Angloher et al., Eur. Phys. J. C 72 (2012). 1971-22.

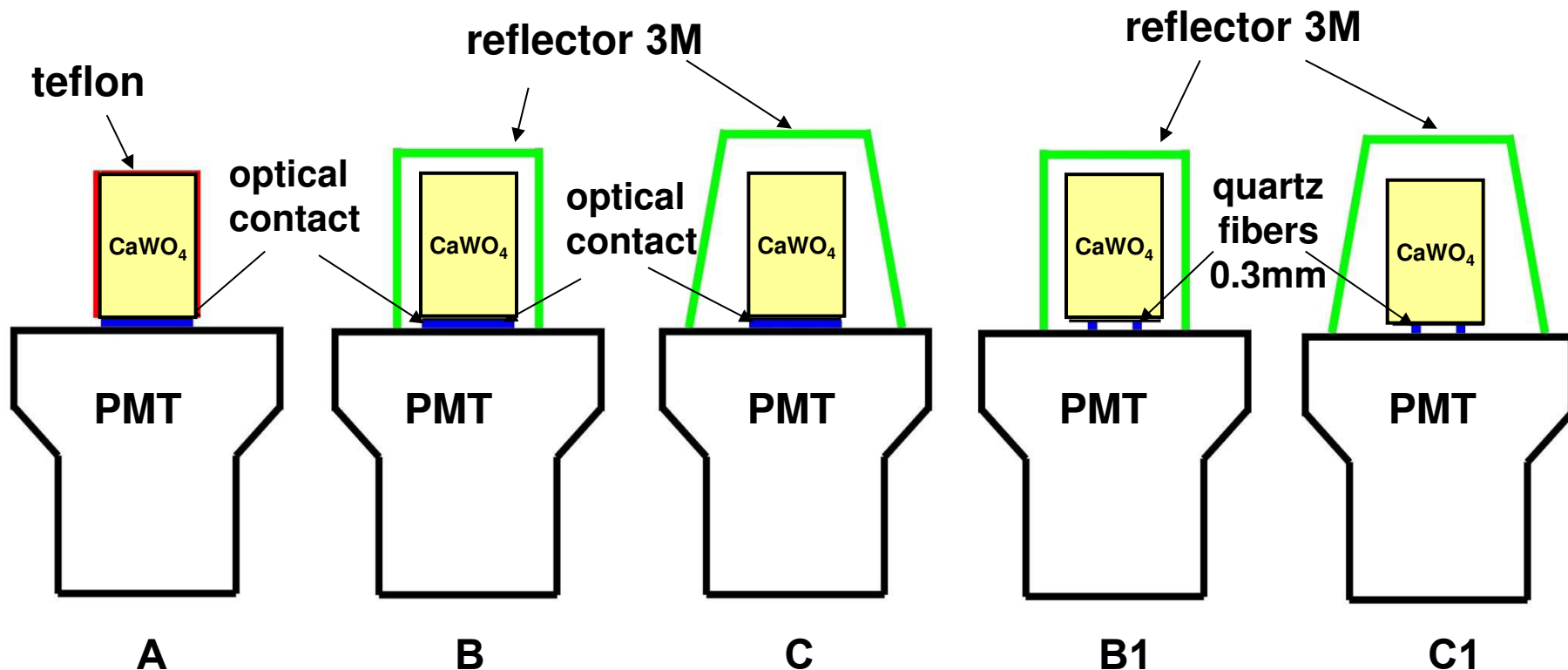
[3] G. Angloher et al., Phys. of the Dark Universe 3 (2014) 41-74.

CaWO₄ crystal samples

Four CaWO₄ samples (cylinder \varnothing 17.5×15 mm and prisms with diagonal 17.5×15 mm) were produced from one crystal



Conditions of measurements



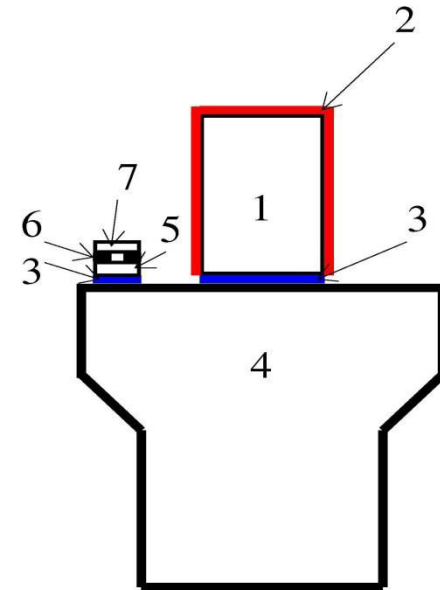
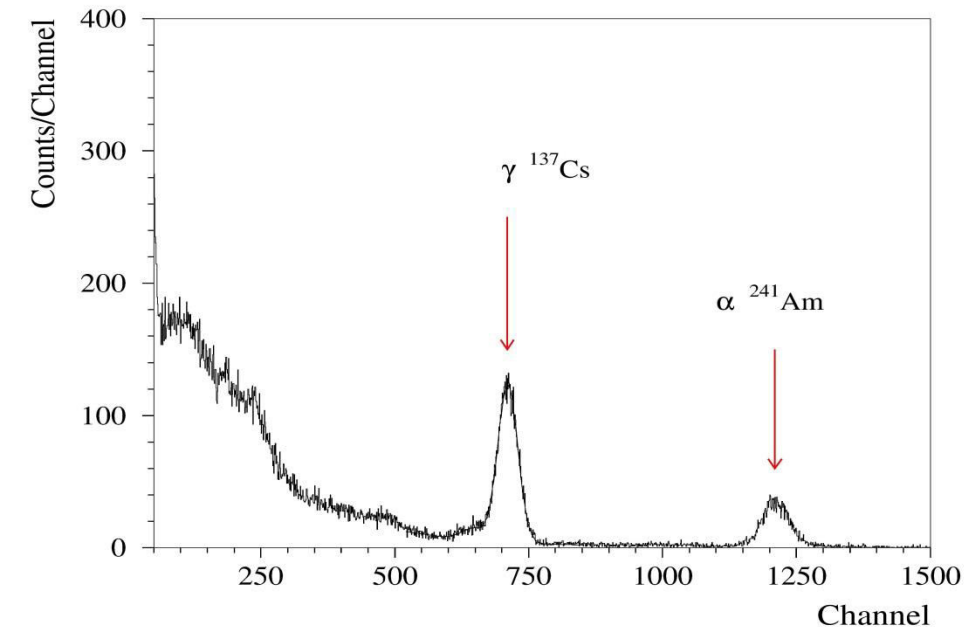
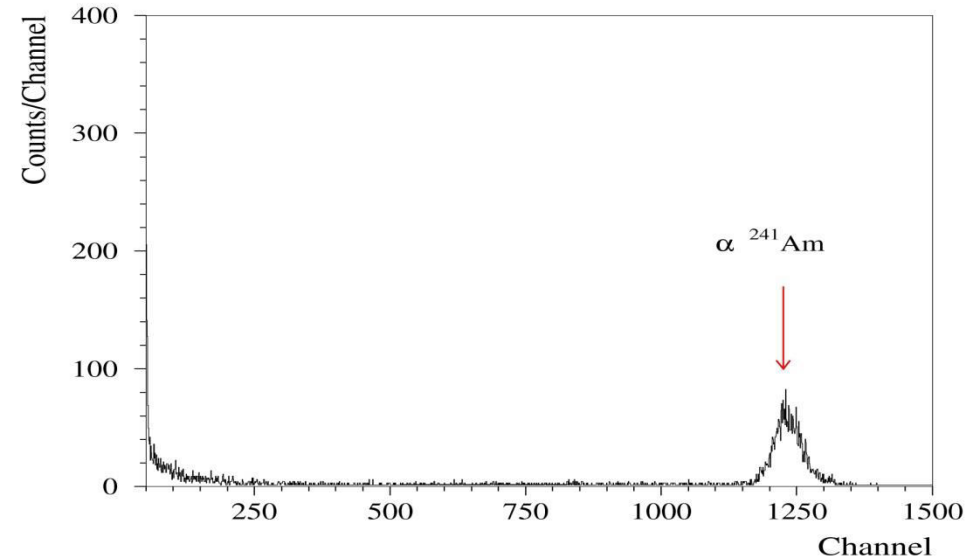
Crystal scintillation surface :

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Experimental set-up

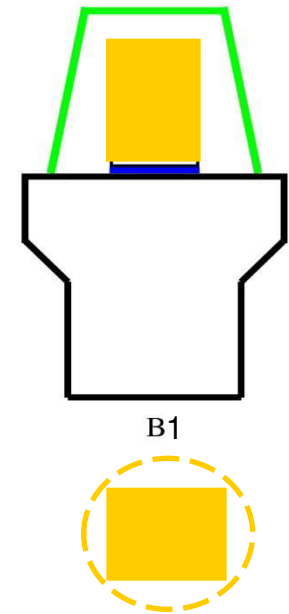
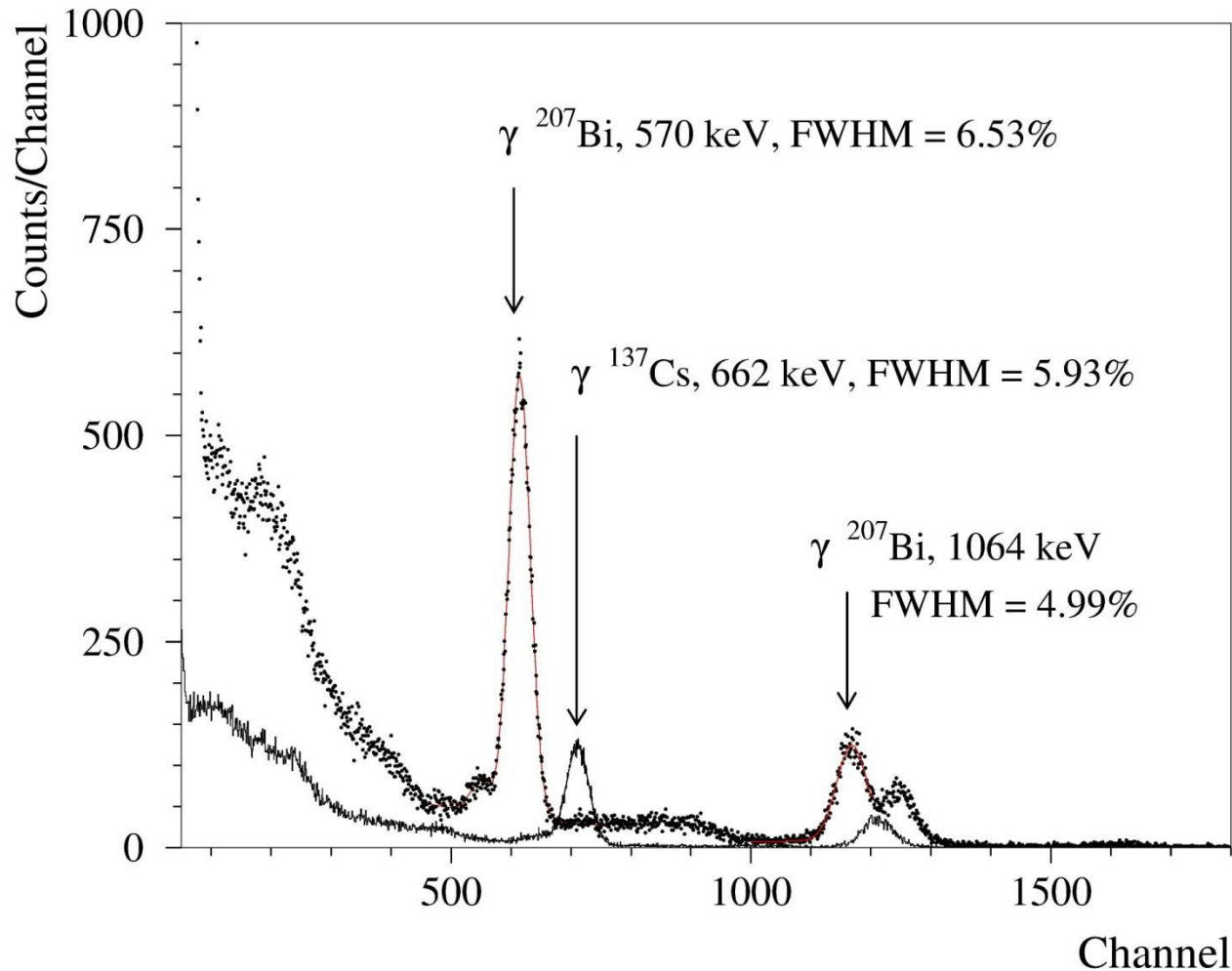
Control of the set-up stability

1. CaWO_4 crystal to be tested
2. Teflon reflector
3. optical contact
4. Photomultiplier
5. CaWO_4 crystal 5*5*1 mm (used for the spectrometer stabilization)
6. collimator
7. ^{241}Am α source

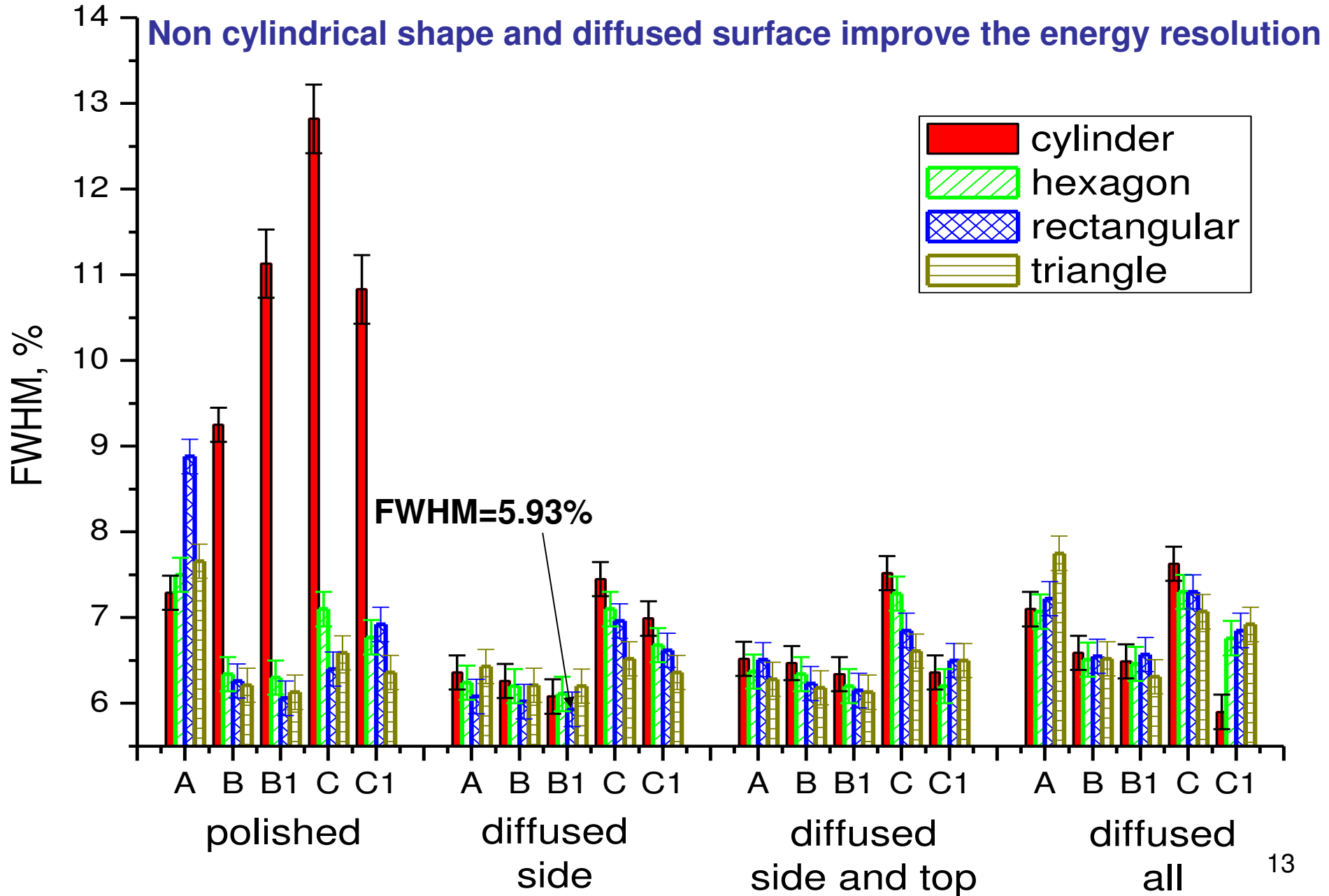


The gamma peaks position was controlled with an accuracy $\sim 2\%$

The best energy resolution (achieved with CaWO_4 for the first time)

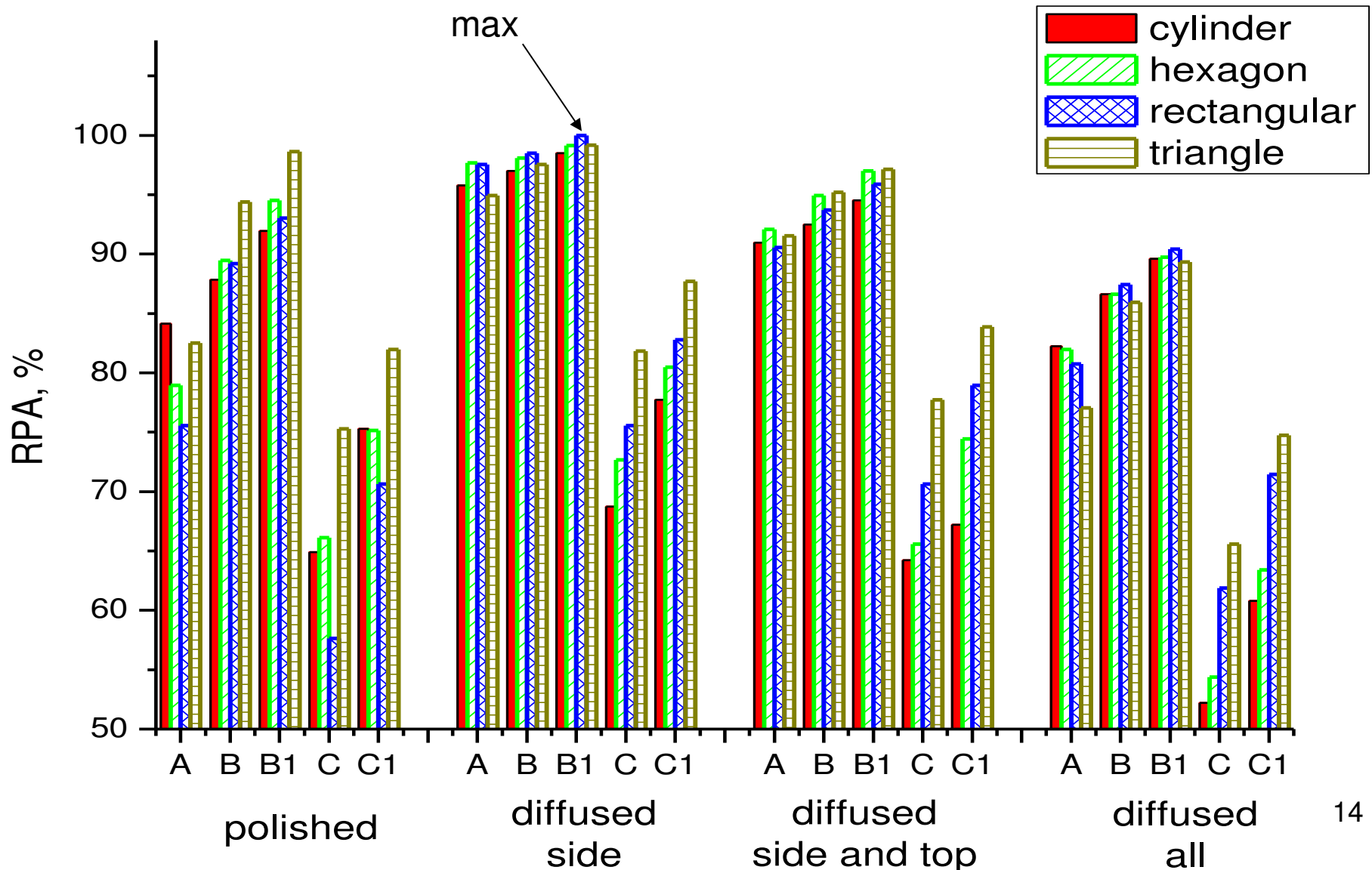


Energy resolution

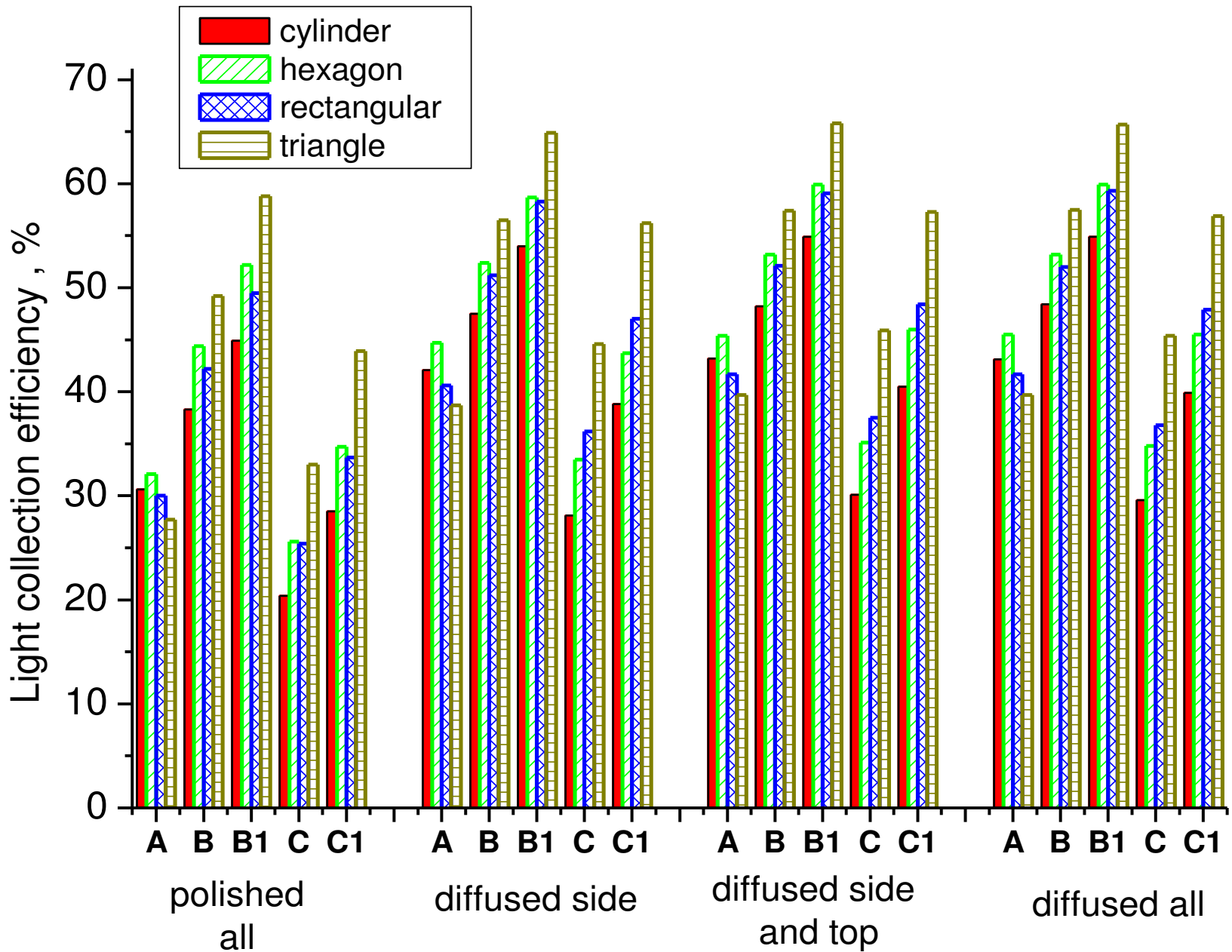


Relative pulse amplitude

Diffused surface and non cylindrical shape improve the light collection



Simulation using ZEMAX



Simulation using ZEMAX, Geant4 and Litrani

The criterion of minimal standard deviation was calculated from experimental data to determine the best software package for simulation of light collection in scintillation detectors.

Standard deviation was calculated by the formula:

$$\psi = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(a_i - b_i)^2}{n \cdot (n - 1)'}}$$

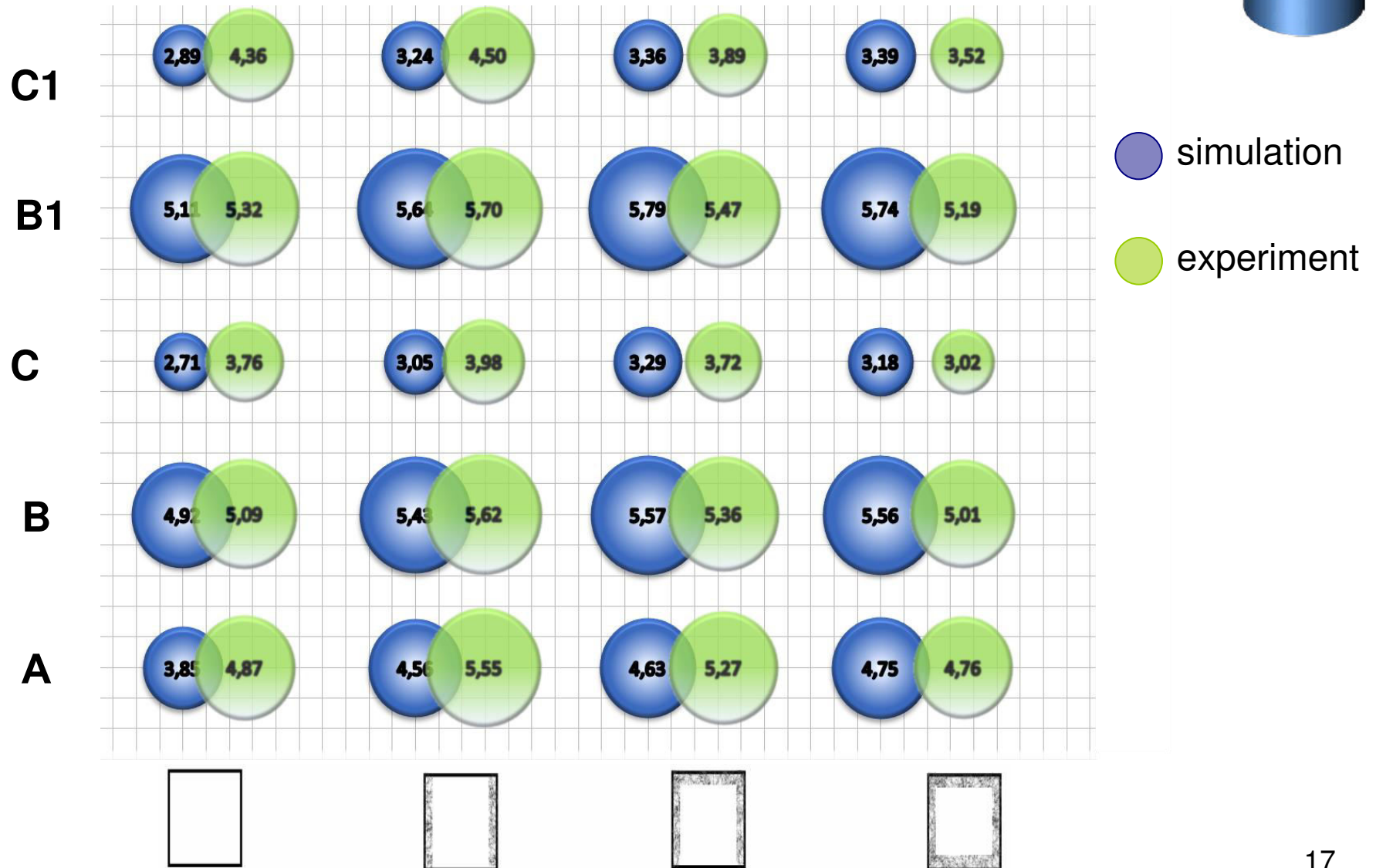
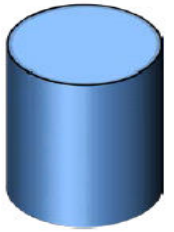
where a_i – experimental data, b_i – simulation data, n number of degrees of freedom.

For software packages were received following values :

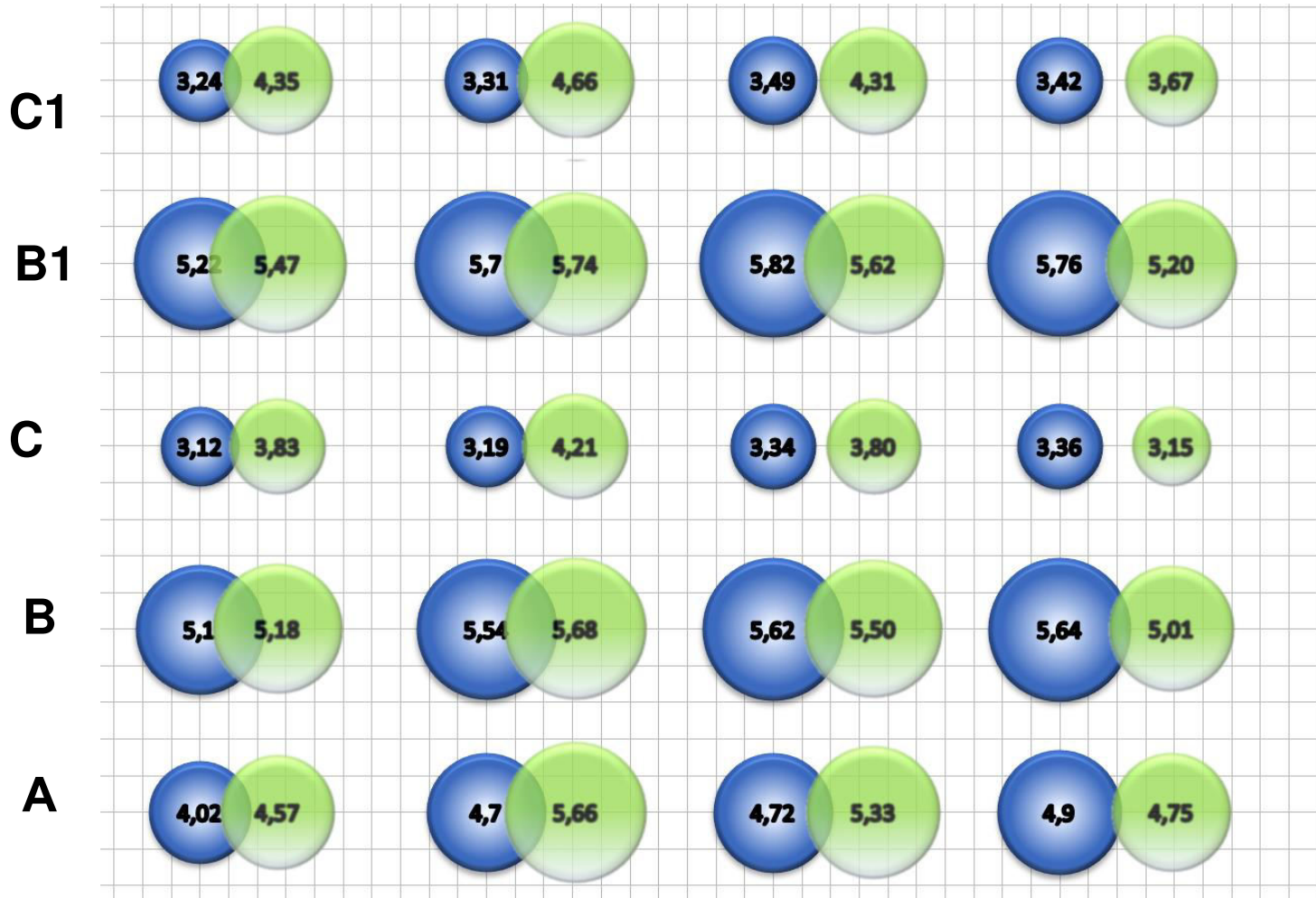
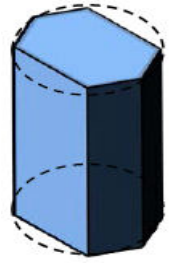
Geant4: $\psi = 0,039$; Zemax: $\psi = 0,038$; Litrani: $\psi = 0,028$.

Litrani provides the best agreement with the experimental data.

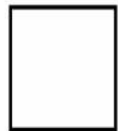
Simulation using LITRANI



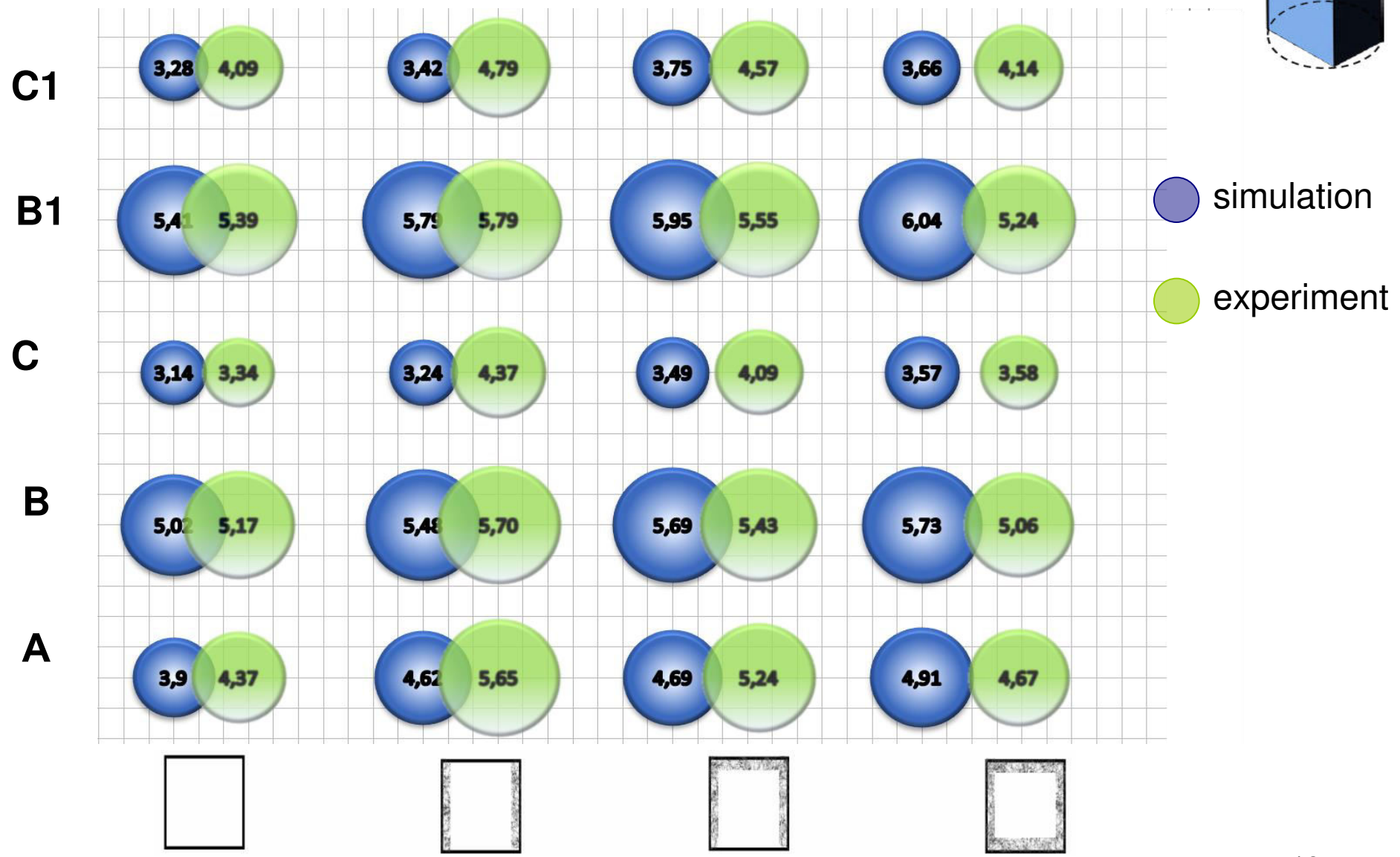
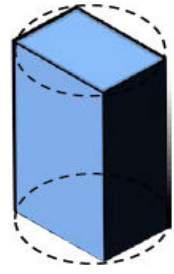
Simulation using LITRANI



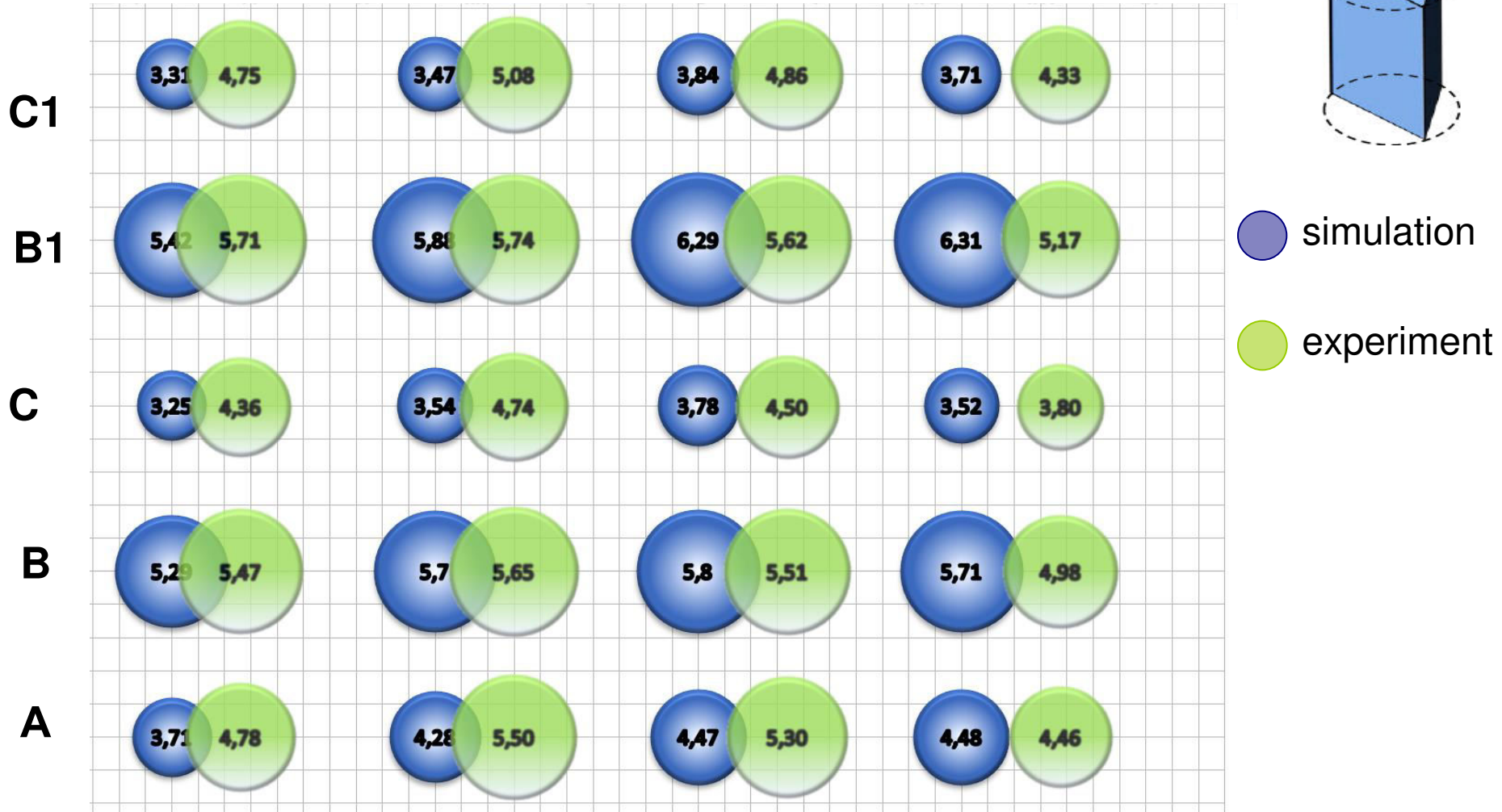
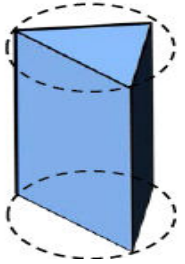
● simulation
● experiment



Simulation using LITRANI



Simulation using LITRANI



Conclusions

- The highest energy resolution and relative pulse amplitude were obtained for cube crystal with diffused side and polished top surfaces, with truncated cone 3M reflector, in optical contact with photomultiplier;
- In measurement without optical contact (condition of **cryogenic scintillating bolometer**), the best relative pulse amplitude and energy resolution were obtained for triangle crystal with diffused side and polished top surfaces, surrounded by truncated cone 3M reflector;
- Results of simulations using Litrani, GEANT4 and ZEMAX packages are in a qualitative agreement with the results of measurements;
- Litrani provides the best agreement with the experimental data.