UPDATE ON THE ANALYSIS OF GSI2 ¹⁶O (200 MEV) ON C₂H₄

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Detector Structure



Detector Structure



• Nuclear emulsions integrate cosmic rays since their production up to their development

• Before and after brick assembling nuclear emulsions are are piled up without passive material in a different order with respect to the brick one. The segments due to the cosmic rays integrated during this period, therefore, should not form any track, apart from combinatorial associations (tracks 2 or 3 segments long).

• When the brick is assembled it integrates cosmic rays that are then reconstructed as long tracks. These could mimic a vertex or be associated to a true vertex if they're reconstructed as more than one track



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- These two sources of background were not present in Monte Carlo simulation
- Segments integrated when the brick was not assembled have been added



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Combinatorial Background added to MC - Example



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Combinatorial Background added to MC - Example

• and added to MC simulation, after being shifted



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Tracking

Track reconstruction performed separately for each section, with appropriate parameters
Algorithm developed to merge tracks reconstructed in two sections



Tracking

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S1 (~70.5 mm)



Tracking

•2-prongs back-to-back vertices, formed due to more stringent tracking parameters, are reattached in a unique track



Vertices Selection: MC and DATA Samples

	MC	Data
Entries	11350	12412
n≥3	4660	3748
n=2	6690	8664
vtx good n≥3	3912	
vtx good n=2	1472	
tot good	5384	
(MC and DATA normalised to beam particles)		
	Expected ~	6300

• Many vertices reconstructed: not all of them are true ones

• A MC vertex is considered good if it has at least 2 tracks belonging the same MC event

• Need to improve vertices reconstruction: good results already obtained and reported in the next slides

Data and MC Comparison

• MC now describes Data much better than before





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Vertexing - improvements I

• Improvements to restore some vertices topologies: Oxygen passing through a vertex, because reconstructed as unique track with one of the daughters



Vertexing - improvements II

• Improvements to restore some vertices topologies: $O \rightarrow N+p$



Vertexing: 2 mm² test MC

• Test with a small volume Monte Carlo only: comparison between Truth vs standard vertices reconstruction (no improvements)



Vertexing: 2 mm² test MC

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O→N+p

Vertexing: 2 mm² test MC

• Test with a small volume Monte Carlo only: comparison between Truth vs vertices reconstruction after new algorithms improvements

	True	Reco
Tot vtx	34	45
Tot vtx n>2	31	34
Multiplicity	True	Reco
2	3	11
3	11	19
4	5	4
5	6	7
6	3	1
7	3	1
8	3	1



Vertexing: 2 mm² test MC + Bkg

• Test with a small volume Monte Carlo + bkg: comparison between Truth vs vertices reconstruction after new algorithms improvements

	True	Reco
Tot vtx	34	179
Tot vtx n>2	31	27
Multiplicity	True	Reco
2	3	152
3	11	8
4	5	7
5	6	9
6	3	0
7	3	1
8	3	2



O→N+p

Vertices Selection (MC): new results

	Before	Now	
Entries	11350	9918	
n≥3	4660	5848	
n=2	6690	4070	
vtx good n≥3	3912	4926	+21%
vtx good n=2	1472	644	-56%
tot good	5384	5570	

- We are about to reach the number of expected vertices (~6300)
- Nest step: Boosted Decision Tree (BDT) method to classify good and fake vertices Ref: https://root.cern/doc/v614/classTMVA_1_1MethodBDT.html

Conclusions

- Combinatorial background added to MC simulation
- Several improvements in tracking and vertexing algorithms:
 - Merge of different sections
 - Reconstruction of topologies where the Oxygen is attached to one of its daughters:
 - tracks passing through a vertex
 - O→N+p
- Next step: BDT Analysis to classify good and bad vertices
- Still room for improvements!





FOOT: Emulsion spectrometer data taking



GSI (run March 2019)

- Scanning completed (520 emulsion films)
- Charge identification on GSI2 ($^{16}O@200 \text{ MeV/n}$, C₂H₄ target) completed
- On going analysis



GSI (run February 2020)

- ${}^{12}C (700@MeV/n)$
- 2 ECC exposed (C and C₂H₄ target)
- 72 emulsion films thermally treated
- 328 emulsion films chemically developed
- 80% Scanning completed

Charge identification: analysis completed!

• Article submitted on December 3 on Open Physics

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Physics 2020

Research Article

Open Access

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Charge identification of fragments with the emulsion spectrometer of the FOOT experiment

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Abstract: The FOOT (Fragmentation of Target) exper- of the particles path, in the Bragg peak region, and to iment is an international project designed to carry out the enhanced biological effectiveness of hadron beams. the fragmentation cross section measurements relevant for measured in terms of the Relative Biological Effectiveness Charged Particle Therapy (CPT), a technique based on (RBE). The RBE value, defined as the ratio of photons the use of charged particle beams for the treatment of to charged particles dose producing the same biological deep-seated tumours. The FOOT detector consists of an effect, is assessed to an average value of 1.1 for proton electronic setup for the identification of Z > 3 fragments beams [20]. This value is affected by both physical (i.e. and of an emulsion spectrometer for $Z \leq 3$ fragments. particle type, dose, Linear Energy Transfer) and biologi-The first data taking was performed in 2019 at the GSI cal parameters (i.e. tissue type, cell cycle phase, Oxygenafacility (Darmstadt, Germany). In this paper, the charge tion level) [21], and many recent studies highly support identification of fragments induced by exposing an emul- a comprehensive analysis to reduce uncertainties on the sion detector, embedding a C₂H₄ target, to an Oxygen RBE value for the clinical practice [11, 19, 21]. Regarding ion beam of 200 MeV/n is discussed. The charge identifi- physical parameters, target fragmentation plays a key role cation is based on controlled fading of nuclear emulsions as low energy secondary fragments contribute to increin order to extend their dynamic range in the ionization ment the dose deposition in normal tissues along the enresponse

 ${\bf Keywords:}$ Particle therapy, nuclear emulsion, fragmentation

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1 Introduction

Charged Particles Therapy (CPT) is an established therapy for cancer treatment. The advantages of CPT are due to the energy release occurring mainly at the end

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A. Alexandrov, A. Di Crescenzo, V. Gentile, A. Iuliano, A. Lauria, M. C. Montesi, V. Tioukov, G. De Lellis: INFN Section of Napoli, Napoli, Italy as low energy secondary fragments contribute to increment the dose deposition in normal tissues along the entrance channel and in the region surrounding the tumor. Hence, the re-assessment of the proton RBE value due to secondary fragmentation is an important topic [21]. The complexity of dedicated experiments makes this milestone challenging, and in fact very few and limited experimental data are available in literature regarding target fragmentation, and none of them fully describes secondary fragments induced by a proton beam. The fragmentation

of carbon ions (400 MeV/n) in a polycarbonate target was studied in 2011 to determine the charge-changing cross-sections by exploiting the nuclear emulsion technology 100.

In this framework, the FOOT (FragmentatiOn Of Target) experiment [7, 15] has been proposed to measure the target fragmentation induced by a proton beam in the human tissues in the energy range relevant for therapeutic applications (150 - 250 MeV for protons and 200-400 MeV/n for carbonions). As fragments generated by a proton beam have few micrometers range, an inverse kinematic approach has been adopted in which a primary beam (carbon or Oxygen) impinge on targets made of carbon and hydrogen-enriched carbon materials (C_2H_4). Therefore, the cross-section on hydrogen is derived from their linear combination.

FOOT is based by two complementary setups: a magnetic spectrometer, covering a polar angle acceptance up to about 10° with respect to the beam axis, for fragments $Z \ge 3$, and an emulsion spectrometer, to measure light fragments ($Z \le 3$) up to 70° with respect to the beam axis.

In this paper, the charge identification performance of the secondary fragments generated by the interaction of $^{16}{\rm O}$ (200 MeV/n) primary beam on a C₂H₄ target by the emulsion spectrometer is reported.

The method for the charge identification is based on an established technique already performed in previous



Charge identification: analysis completed!

• Thermal treatments inducing controlled fading of nuclear emulsion films were applied to Section II of the emulsion spectrometer in order to distinguish the charge of fragment



• Fragments charge was measured using two complementary methods:

- Cut-based analysis: Cosmic Rays, Z=1, Z= 2 (high energy)
- ▶ Principal Component Analysis: Z=2 (low energy), Z=3, Z≥4



Charge identification: analysis completed!

7	Fragments classification					
Z	СВ	ΡϹΑ	Total	%	Syst. Err.	Stat. Err.
1	21199	/	21199	70%	5%	0.7%
2	1438	3506	4943	16%	2%	1.4%
3	/	2915	2915	10%	2%	1.9%
≥4	1	1108	1108	4%	1%	3.0%
Total	22637	7529	30166			



 The mean of tanθ distributions decreases with increasing Z, as expected

