

**Proposal for Future measurements
at DAΦNE
Fundamental Physics at the
strangeness frontier**

**Kaonic atoms and kaon-nuclei
interaction studies**

**Catalina Curceanu, on behalf of strangeness community
Sci. Com. 6th May 2021**

WHY DAΦNE?

The DAΦNE Φ -factory at LNF is **the world leading facility** for **low-energy kaons**, producing charge kaons in the momentum range 115 – 140 MeV/c and

is therefore **ideally suited for studying particle and nuclear physics in the sector of low-energy QCD with strangeness**

DAFNE

$e^- e^+$ collider

- $\phi \rightarrow K^- K^+$ (49.1%)
- Monochromatic low-energy K^- ($\sim 127\text{MeV}/c$)
- Less hadronic background due to the beam
(compare to hadron beam line : e.g. KEK /JPARC)

Best in the world for low-energy kaon physics:
kaonic atoms

Kaon-nucleons/nuclei interaction studies

[A New Measurement of Kaonic Hydrogen X-rays](#)

Phys.Lett.B 704 (2011) 113-117

312 citations

[Measurement of the kaonic hydrogen X-ray spectrum](#)

Phys.Rev.Lett. 94 (2005) 212302

225 citations

[Kaonic helium-4 X-ray measurement in SIDDHARTA](#)

Phys.Lett.B 681 (2009) 310-314

104 citations

<https://agenda.infn.it/event/25725/overview>



*“Fundamental Physics at the strangeness
frontier at DAΦNE” Workshop*

INFN-LNF - ONLINE, 25-26/02/2021



Dark Matter studies
KN1, KN2

Fundamental physics
New Physics KA1, KA3

Kaonic atoms: KA1, KA2, KA3
**Kaon-nuclei interactions (scattering
and nuclear interactions) KN1, KN2**

Part. and Nuclear physics
QCD @ low-energy
KA1, KA2, KN1

Astrophysics
EOS Neutron Stars
KA2, KN1, KN2

Priorities and readiness:

Experiment	1 st year	2 nd year	3 rd year	4 th year	5 th year
KA1	Blue, Red, Red, Red				
KA2	Yellow, Yellow, Yellow, Yellow, Yellow	Blue, Red, Red, Red, Red			
KA3		Yellow, Yellow, Yellow, Yellow, Yellow	Yellow, Yellow, Yellow, Yellow, Yellow	Blue, Red, Red, Red, Red	
KN1		Yellow, Yellow, Yellow, Yellow, Yellow	Yellow, Yellow, Yellow, Yellow, Yellow	Blue, Red, Red	
KN2		Yellow, Yellow, Yellow, Yellow, Yellow	Yellow, Yellow, Yellow, Yellow, Yellow	Yellow, Yellow, Yellow, Yellow, Yellow	Blue, Red, Red, Red

Fig. 1. Schematic Gantt Chart for Fundamental physics at the Strangeness Frontier at the DAΦNE Proposal: KA1 (see Sec. 2.1), KA2 (see Sec. 2.2), KA3 (see Sec. 2.3), KN1 (see Sec. 3.2), KN2 (see Sec. 3.3). Yellow: preparation phase. Blue: installation phase. Red: data taking.

Support:
STRONG-2020, EU
THEIA Network



Theoreticians who provided input:

- **Ignazio Bombaci**
- **Alessandro Drago**
- **Isaac Vidana**
- **Wolfram Weise, TU Munich**
- **Avraham Gal, Jerusalem**
- **Eli Friedman, Jerusalem**
- **Jiri Mares, Prague**
- **Oset & Ramos, Spain**
- **Laura Tolos, Spain**
- **Ulf Meissner, Bonn & China**
- **Tony Thomas, Adelaide**
- **Tetsuo Hyodo, Japan**
- **Shota Ohnishi, Japan**
- **Maxim Pospelov, Randolph Pohl**
 -> new physics

Fundamental physics
New Physics

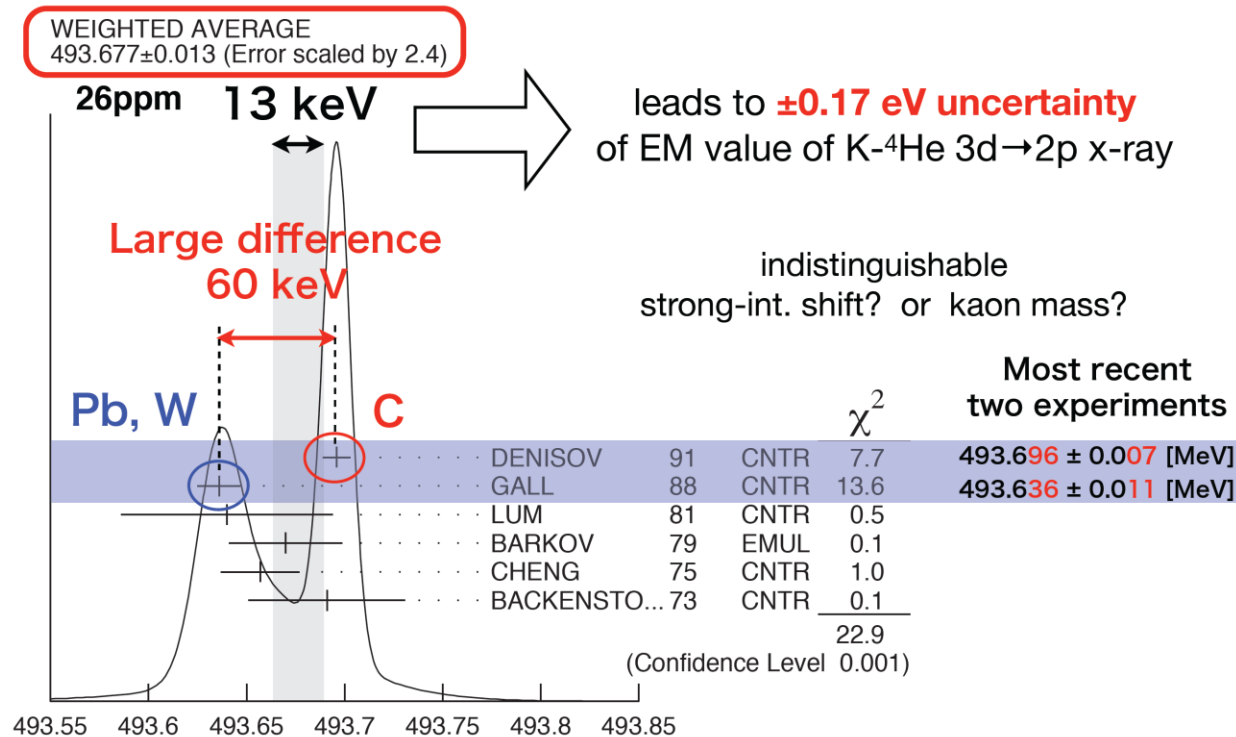
The modern era of light kaonic atom experiments

Kaonic atoms

Kaon mass discrepancy – impact on kaonic atoms; CPT, all physics where kaon mass is important such for charmed meson studies and searches beyond standard model

➤ a new measurement is **strongly** required – PDG...

The best D0 mass relies, and is limited by the K- mass (Claude Amsler; Simon Eydelman)



Uncertainty in electron screening. Gamma-ray contamination(Pb,W).

→ new measurement with low-Z gas targets

Impact of the kaon mass uncertainty on the charm meson spectrum

Claude Amsler¹ and Simon Eidelman^{2,3,4}

Contact Novosibirsk
Possible competitor:
J-PARC

The last measurements of the charged kaon mass are **very old** (at least 30 years).

There is a **discrepancy of 60 keV** between the two most accurate measurements, each measured with about **10 keV** r.m.s resolution.

This leads to an error of **16 keV** (σ) on the charged kaon mass and propagates to an error of **50 keV** on the D^0 mass.

This uncertainty is propagated to the charmonium spectrum, in particular to precise values of charm-anticharm meson thresholds.

A particular case is that of $D^0 \bar{D}^{*0}$ which lies within the measured width of the best known candidate for a di-hadron molecule, the **X(3872)**.

An improved K-mass measurement would lead to a better interpretation of the X(3872) and a determination of its radius.

Reducing the error on the K-mass by a factor of **2** could lead to an improvement of **4-5** on the D^0 mass in the two-kaon decay mode (in an **ideal** experiment).

New physics?

In principle one could use precision measurements of K - atoms to set constraints on some sort of new physics.

The best sensitivity will be for masses of mediating particles in the ~ few MeV mass range.

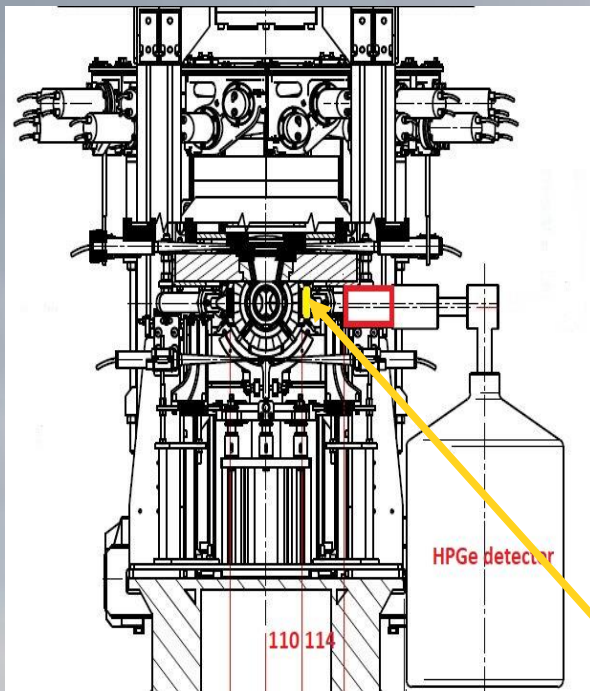
(Maxim Pospelov)

Randolf Pohl: similar to muonic atoms -> proton radius

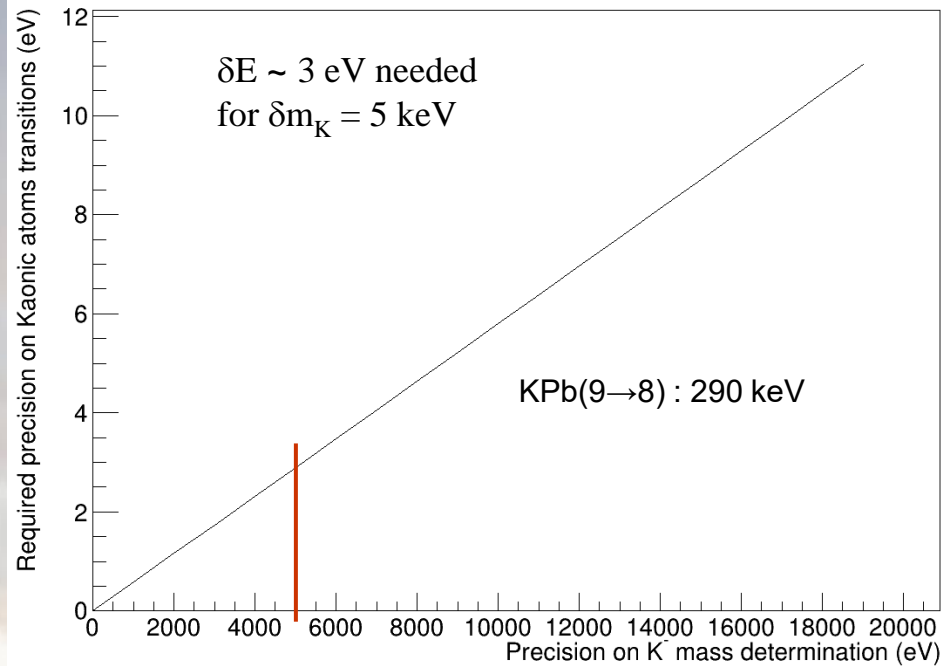
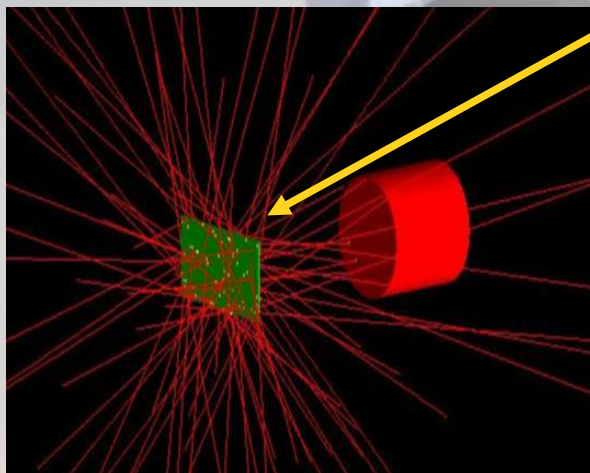
We study feasibility!

KA1: Kaon Mass and High Z kaonic atoms: **HPGE**

Feasibility test run during SIDDHARTA-2: KPb



Target just behind the luminometer, which is used as trigger



$$\sigma m_K = \frac{m_K^2}{\mu_{KN}^2} \frac{1}{Z^2} \frac{10^6}{26,6} \frac{\sigma E_{X \rightarrow Y}^K}{\left(\frac{1}{Y^2} - \frac{1}{X^2}\right)}$$

Dedicated measurements:

- **Targets : Se, Zr, Ta, Pb**
- New mechanics to reduce the distance from IP
- Optimised shielding according to MC and feasibility test

~ 360 pb⁻¹ (~ 30 days) of beamtime requested

!!! Similar estimations for each target !!!

Lambda(1405) QCD

He3,4; Be; Li

KNN

Chiral QCD

Potential models

Lattice QCD

C; Be; B...

Kaonic atoms

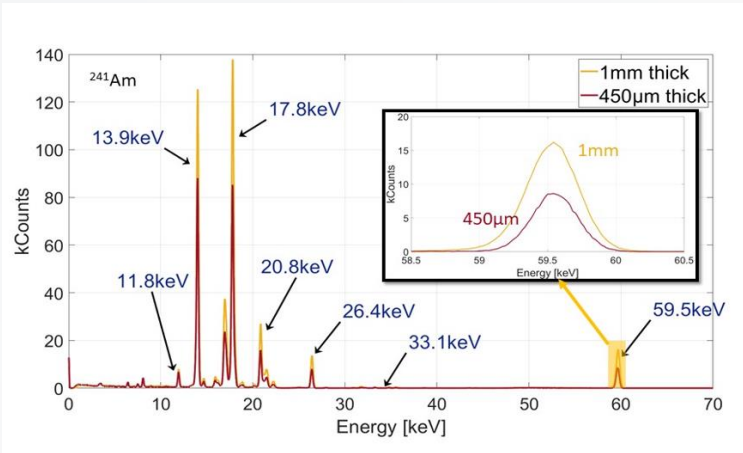
**Kaonic Atoms to Investigate
Global Symmetry Breaking
Symmetry 12 (2020) 4, 547**

**Part. and Nuclear physics
QCD @ low-energy limit
Chiral symmetry, Lattice**

**Complementarity:
ALICE – femtoscopy
J-PARC**

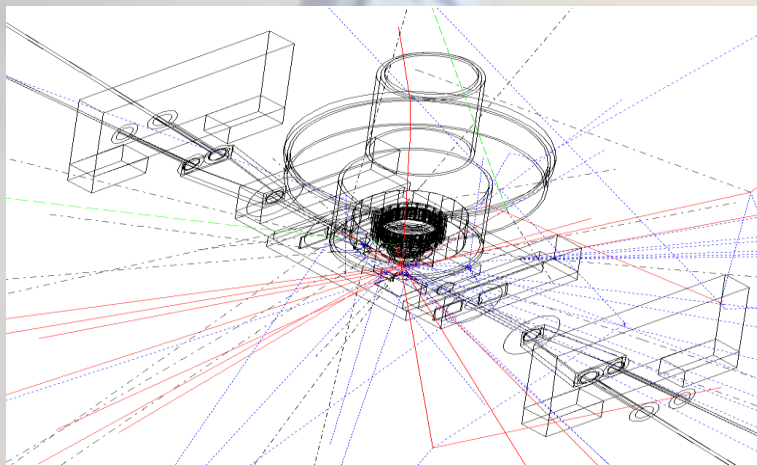
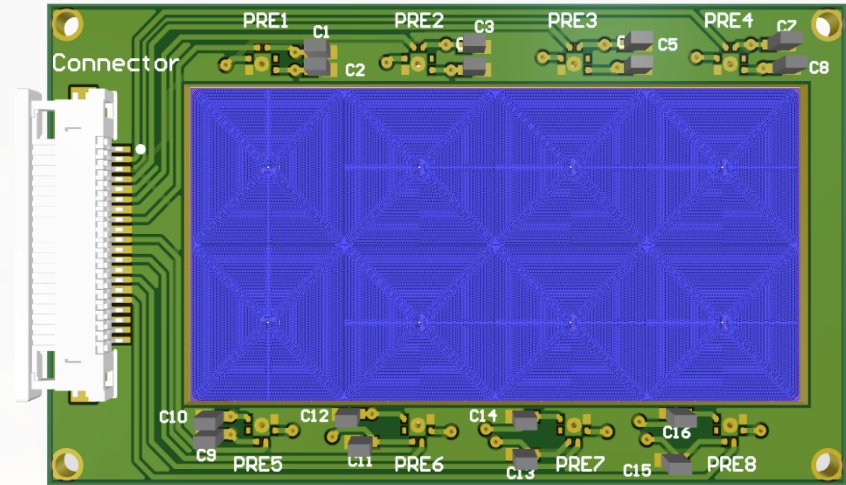
KA2: Light Kaonic Atoms Measurements: **SDD 1mm**

1mm SDDs – FBK – **FINANCED AND ORDERED**



First XRF tests with known targets show very promising results

Prototypes of electronics boards are already available



Proposed measurements:

- **Targets : $^3,^4\text{He}$, $^6,^7\text{Li}$, $^8,^9\text{Be}$, $^{10,11}\text{B}$**
- Second SIDDHARTA-2 like setup
- Optimised shielding according to feasibility test
- MC implementation (already started) with real DAΦNE conditions

KA2: Light Kaonic Atoms Measurements: Cd(Zn)Te

Possible kaonic transitions to be measured with

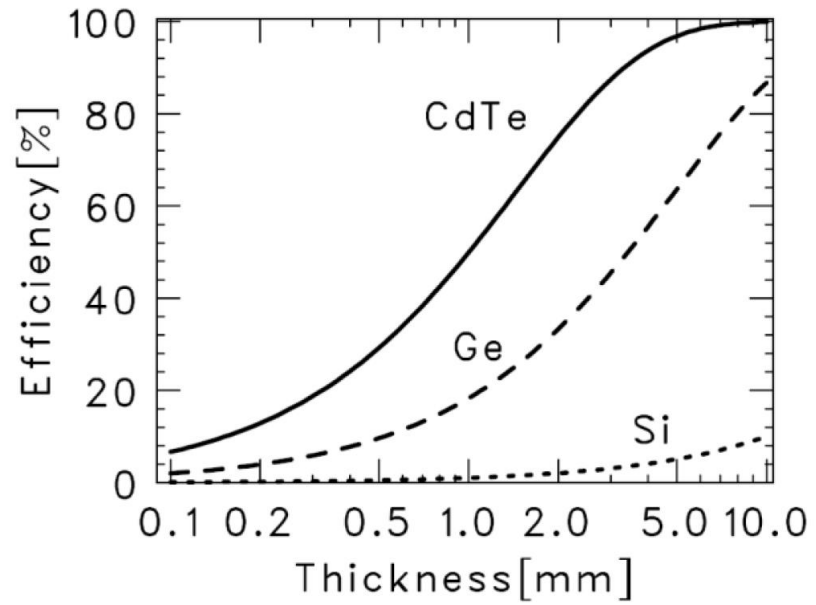
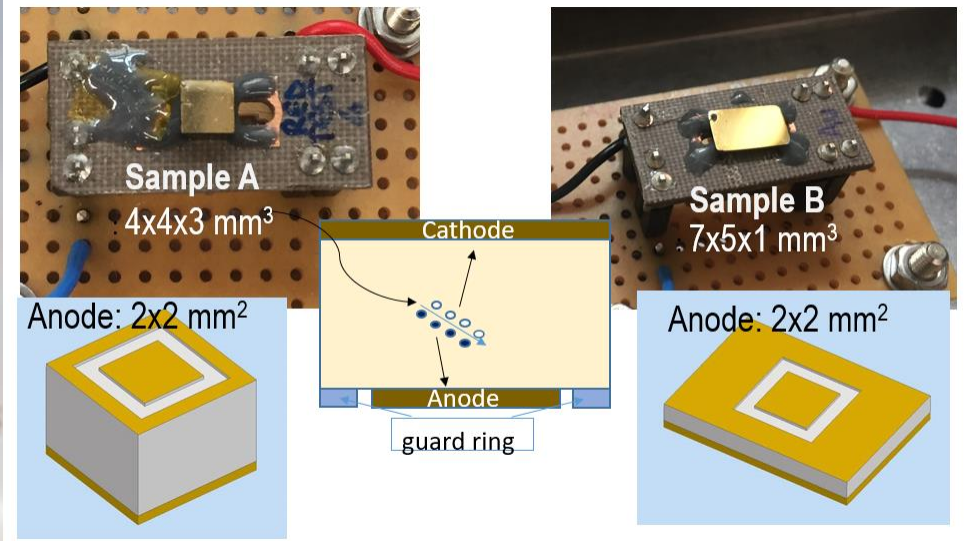
CdTe detectors:

- $K^6\text{Li}(2 \rightarrow 1)$: 81 keV
- $K^6\text{Li}(3 \rightarrow 1)$: 97 keV
- $K^7\text{Li}(2 \rightarrow 1)$: 82 keV
- $K^7\text{Li}(3 \rightarrow 1)$: 98 keV
- $K^{9,10}\text{B}(4 \rightarrow 2)$: 58 keV
- $K^{9,10}\text{B}(5 \rightarrow 2)$: 65 keV
- $K^{9,10}\text{B}(6 \rightarrow 2)$: 69 keV
- $K^{9,10}\text{B}(7 \rightarrow 2)$: 71 keV
- $K^{11}\text{B}(4 \rightarrow 2)$: 59 keV
- $K^{11}\text{B}(5 \rightarrow 2)$: 66 keV
- $K^{11}\text{B}(6 \rightarrow 2)$: 70 keV
- $K^{11}\text{B}(7 \rightarrow 2)$: 72 keV

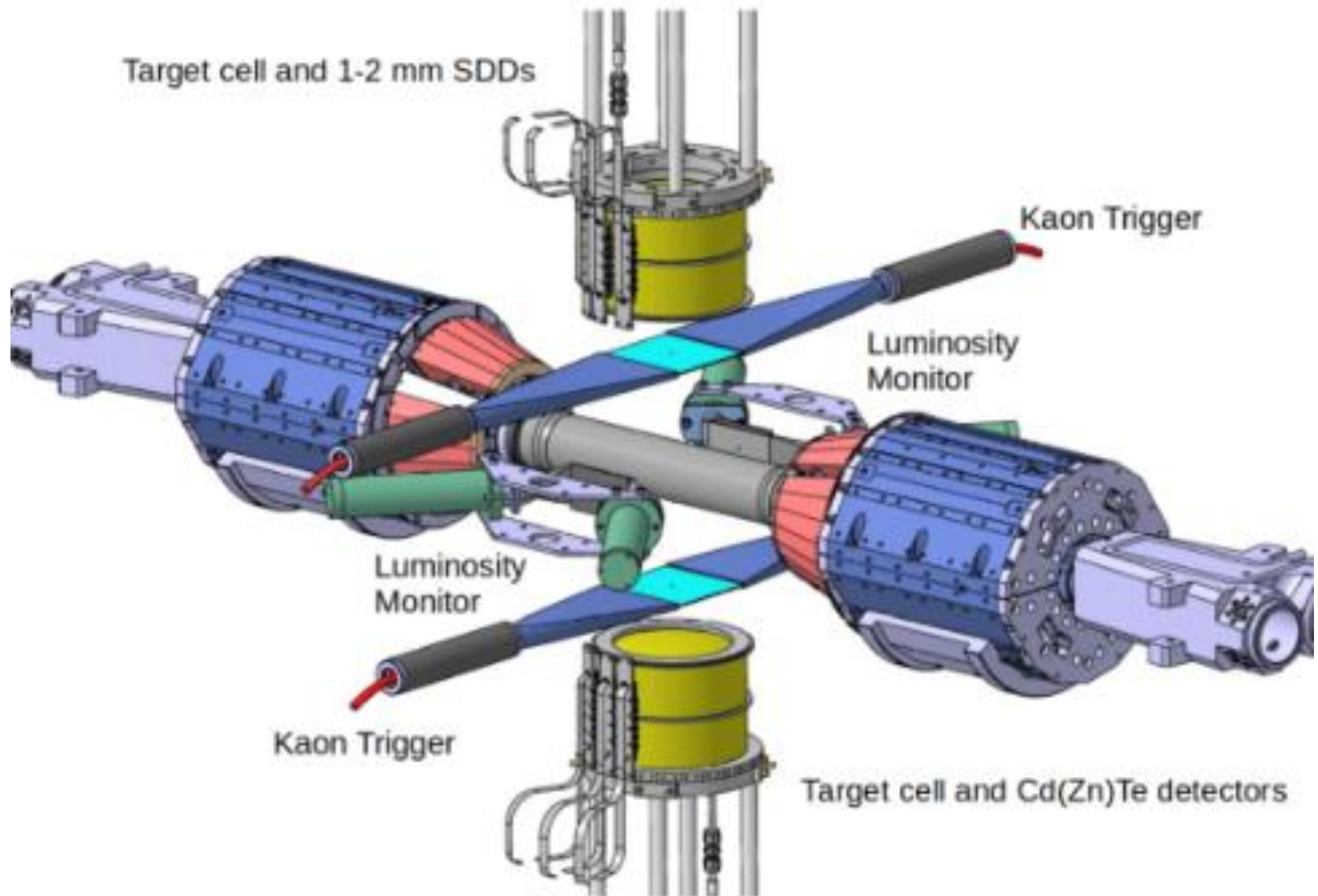
required 300 pb⁻¹ for each target

CdTe (and also CdZnTe) detectors will be developed in the **STRONG2020-ASTRA** project

First prototypes will be available by mid '22



Setup: SDD1mm & CdTe



KA3: sub-eV precision Kaonic Atoms measurements: **VOXES**

There is only ONE possible solving measurement:
The $K^{3,4}\text{He}$ **isotopic shift measurement**

Calculated quantity [1]	Phenomenologica [2]	Chiral [3]
$\varepsilon(K^4\text{He})$	-0,41 eV	-0,09 eV
$\varepsilon(K^3\text{He})$	0,23 eV	-0,1 eV
$\varepsilon(K^4\text{He}) - \varepsilon(K^3\text{He})$	-0,64 eV	0,01 eV

Kaon-Nucleon interaction:
Chiral vs Phenomenological models



Solve the kaonic helium isotopic shift problem

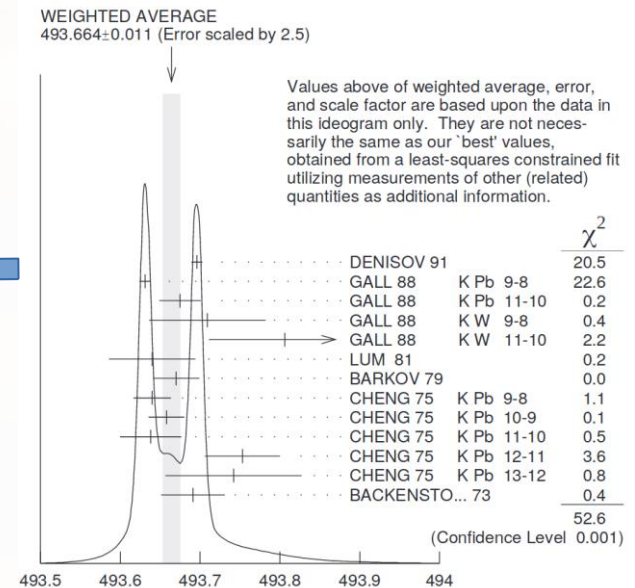
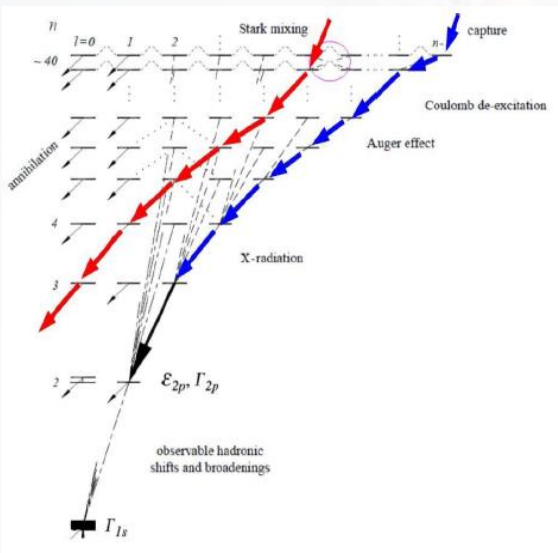
Precise determination of the K^- mass (2)

Stronger constraints for the EM cascade models for kaonic atoms

New Physics?

... ALL IN PARALLEL
But...EM calculated levels depend on the cascade processes...

But...levels and calculated shifts depend on the K^- mass value...



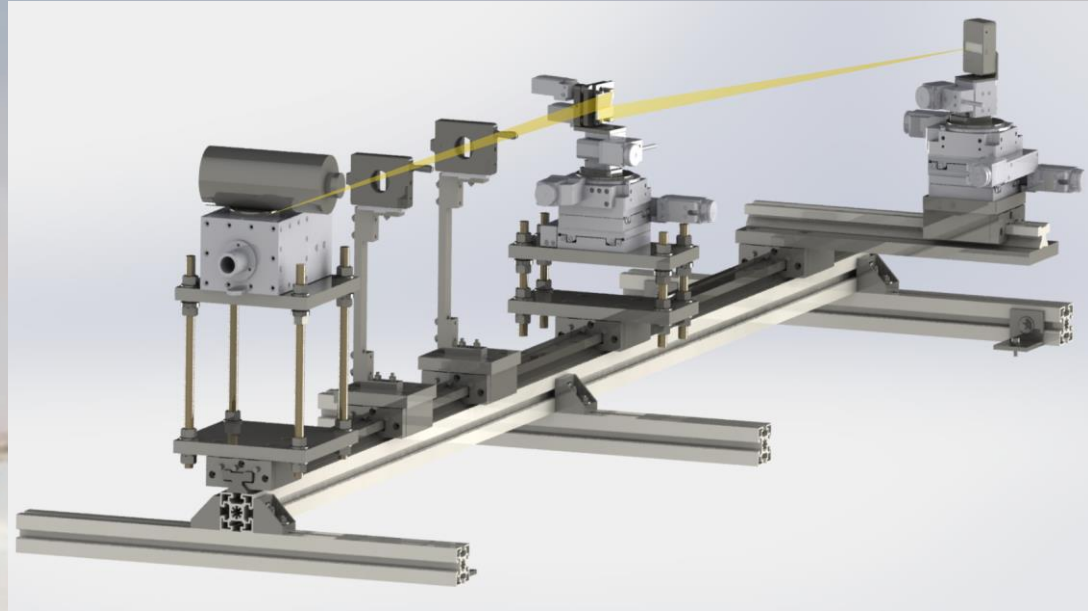
KA3: sub-eV precision Kaonic Atoms measurements

Possible kaonic transitions to be measured with HAPG crystal spectrometer:

$K^3He(3 \rightarrow 2)$: 6.2 keV
 $K^3He(4 \rightarrow 2)$: 8.4 keV
 $K^3He(5 \rightarrow 2)$: 9.4 keV
 $K^3He(6 \rightarrow 2)$: 9.9 keV
 $K^3He(7 \rightarrow 2)$: 10.2 keV

$K^4He(3 \rightarrow 2)$: 6.4 keV
 $K^4He(4 \rightarrow 2)$: 8.7 keV
 $K^4He(5 \rightarrow 2)$: 9.7 keV
 $K^4He(6 \rightarrow 2)$: 10.3 keV
 $K^4He(7 \rightarrow 2)$: 10.7 keV

$KN(6 \rightarrow 5)$: 7.6 keV
 $KN(7 \rightarrow 5)$: 12.1 keV
 $KN(8 \rightarrow 5)$: 15.1 keV
 $KN(7 \rightarrow 6)$: 4.6 keV
 $KN(8 \rightarrow 6)$: 7.5 keV
 $KN(9 \rightarrow 6)$: 9.6 keV
 $KN(10 \rightarrow 6)$: 11 keV
 $KN(11 \rightarrow 6)$: 12.1 keV
 $KN(10 \rightarrow 7)$: 6.5 keV
 $KN(11 \rightarrow 7)$: 7.5 keV
 $KN(12 \rightarrow 7)$: 8.3 keV



- Tunable energy range from 2-20 keV
- Extremely high resolutions of few eV
- Very low background after shielding

Feasibility:

- Working principle tested in laboratory
- Dependence from HAPG parameters well investigated and published (thickness, mosaicity, ...)
- Consistent Ray Tracing simulations available
- Few eV resolutions confirmed for solid sources with millimetric dimensions

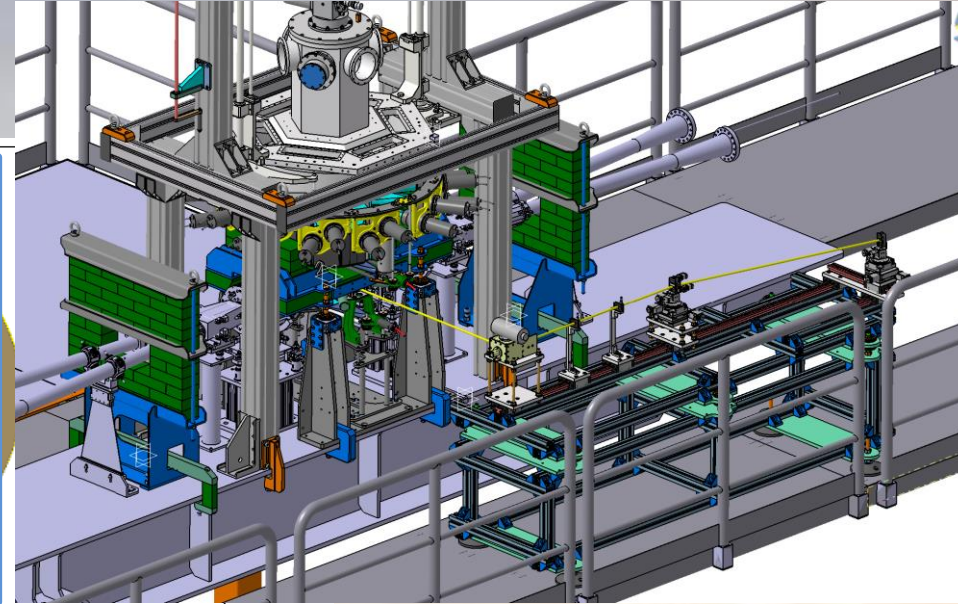
Spectrometer developed under CSN5 Young Researcher Grant (2016-2018)

KA3: KC run with existing setup & future

First run with KC for a K- mass measurement

Side From MC simulations, assuming $L = 1,4 \times 10^{32}$ ($\sim 12 \text{ pb}^{-1} / \text{day}$):

- $\sim 1,4$ recorded signals / day
- Background ~ 0 (using shielding and kaon trigger)
 - ~ 250 total events goal ($\delta E \sim 0,2 - 0,3 \text{ eV}$)
- $\sigma = 3,6 \text{ eV}$ @ 8 keV (from Cu lab measurements)
- $\sim 2000 \text{ pb}^{-1}$ (~ 180 days) of beamtime (under study)



3D view

Gaseous target cell

ΔE_1

ΔE_2

ΔE_3

ΔE_4

Trigger layer
(Scint + SiPMs)

ΔE_8

ΔE_7

ΔE_6

ΔE_5

HAPG crystals
Position detectors
X-rays

Phase 2: 8 arms spectrometer

Phys.Rev.D 102 (2020) 8, 083015
On self-gravitating strange dark matter
halos around galaxies

Dark Matter studies

**Kaon-nuclei interactions (scattering
and nuclear interactions)**

Merger of compact stars in
the two-families scenario

Astrophys.J. 881 (2019) 2, 122

The equation of state of dense matter:
Stiff, soft, or both?

Astron.Nachr. 340 (2019) 1-3, 189

Complementary:

J-PARC

ALICE – femtoscopy

(O. Vazquez Doce – Fellini - Antikaon-
deuteron femtoscopic correlations with ALICE:
A new era of hadron-hadron interaction
measurements – LNF)

.....

Astrophysics

EOS Neutron Stars

MULTIMESSANGER

Obj: In support of the research activity on kaonic atoms and on kaon-nucleus interaction

The research on strangeness in general and on kaon-nucleus interaction (and on kaonic atoms) in particular, plays quite a crucial role in the understanding of the structure of compact stars. During the last years it has become more and more clear that the possible production of hyperons or the formation of a kaonic condensate at the center of compact stars have a deep impact on the structure of those stellar objects. The so-called hyperon-puzzle, namely the difficulty in reaching large masses if hyperons are produced and the similar problem in the case of kaon condensation have been solved by indicating that the crucial role is played by repulsive hyperonic three-body forces and by the anti-kaon optical potential. By tuning those interactions it is possible to reach and exceed $2 M_{\odot}$ while allowing the formation of strangeness in the star. A price has though to be paid: the radii of compact stars having a mass of about $1.4 M_{\odot}$ cannot be smaller than about 11.5 km. On the other hand there are indications, although based on model-dependent analysis, that objects with smaller radii can indeed exist. A solution has been proposed, based on the idea that strange quark matter can be produced once strangeness is already present in the star, either in the form of hyperons or of a kaon condensate. In that way the stiff quark matter phase can support large masses while the production of strangeness softens the equation of state at densities of the order of 2-3 times nuclear matter saturation, allowing to produce compact objects with small radii.

Which of these possibilities is realized in nature will be most likely discovered in the next years by an analysis of GW signals and of X-ray and radio-emissions. On the other hand, in order to claim that strangeness can really form in the core of a compact star one needs to have the support of experimental data on hyperons and on kaon-nucleus interactions. From this viewpoint the experiments performed in Frascati are crucial since they provide the basic information needed to develop a realistic model for nuclear dynamics at the core of compact stars.

In Italy the theoretical research on the structure of compact stars is very active and is present inside INFN in particular through an Iniziativa Specifica called Neumatt. Members of that research group have regularly participated to the meetings organized in Frascati and the interaction between theory and experiments is particularly strong and fruitful in this field.

For all the reasons mentioned above I strongly support the continuation of the experimental research on kaons in Frascati: it is important both for the hadronic physics community and for the nuclear physics/astrophysics groups.

Prof. Alessandro Drago – Univ. Ferrara

National coordinator of the I.S. Neumatt of INFN

**Similar letters from:
Ignazio Bombaci, Univ. and INFN Pisa
Isaac Vidaña, INFN Sezione di
Catania
Member THEIA Network,
STRONG2020**

NASA's NICER Probes the Squeezability of Neutron Stars

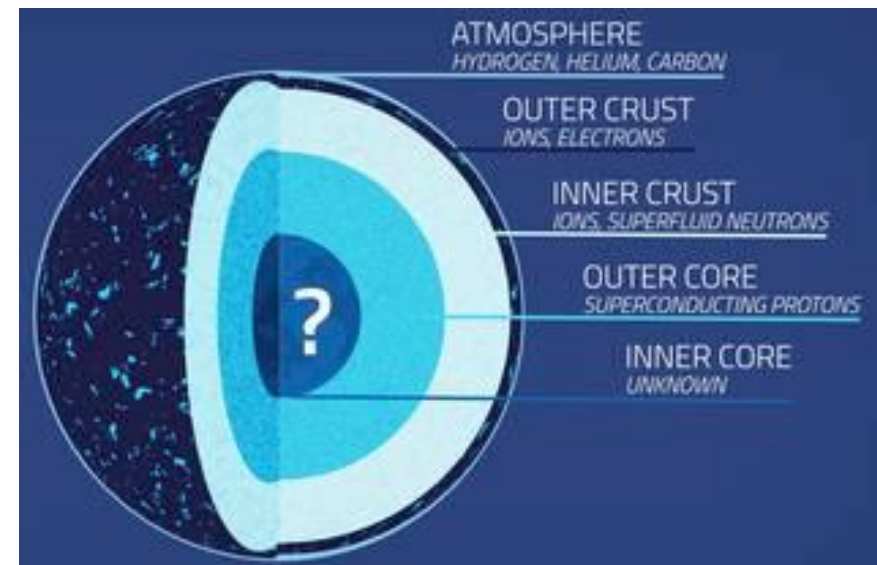


Matter in the hearts of neutron stars – dense remnants of exploded massive stars – takes the most extreme form we can measure. Now, thanks to data from [NASA's Neutron star Interior Composition Explorer \(NICER\)](#), an X-ray telescope on the [International Space Station](#), scientists have discovered that this mysterious matter is less squeezable than some physicists predicted.

The finding is based on NICER's observations of PSR J0740+6620 (J0740 for short), the most massive known neutron star, which lies over 3,600 light-years away in the [northern constellation Camelopardalis](#). J0740 is in a binary star system with a white dwarf, the cooling remnant of a Sun-like star, and rotates 346 times per second. Previous observations place the neutron star's mass at about 2.1 times the Sun's.

"We're surrounded by normal matter, the stuff of our everyday experience, but there's much we don't know about how matter behaves, and how it is transformed, under extreme conditions," said Zaven Arzoumanian, the NICER science lead at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland. "By measuring the sizes and masses of neutron stars with NICER, we are exploring matter on the verge of imploding into a black hole. Once that happens, we can no longer study matter because it's hidden by the black hole's event horizon."

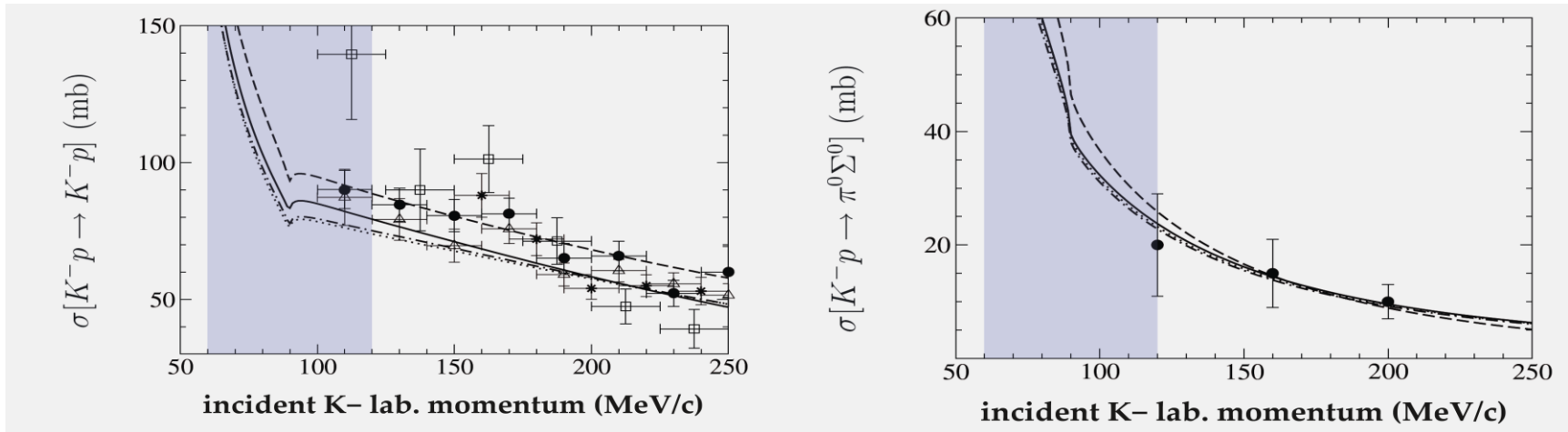
**News NASA: NICER (ISS)
Pulsar – white dwarf
Neutron 2.1 Solar mass
with radius: 12-15 km
the interior is just a sea of
quarks...?**



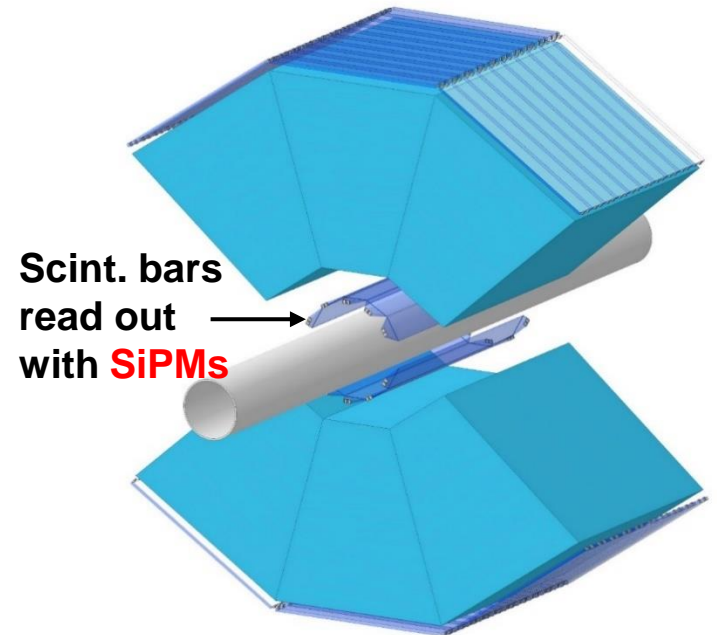
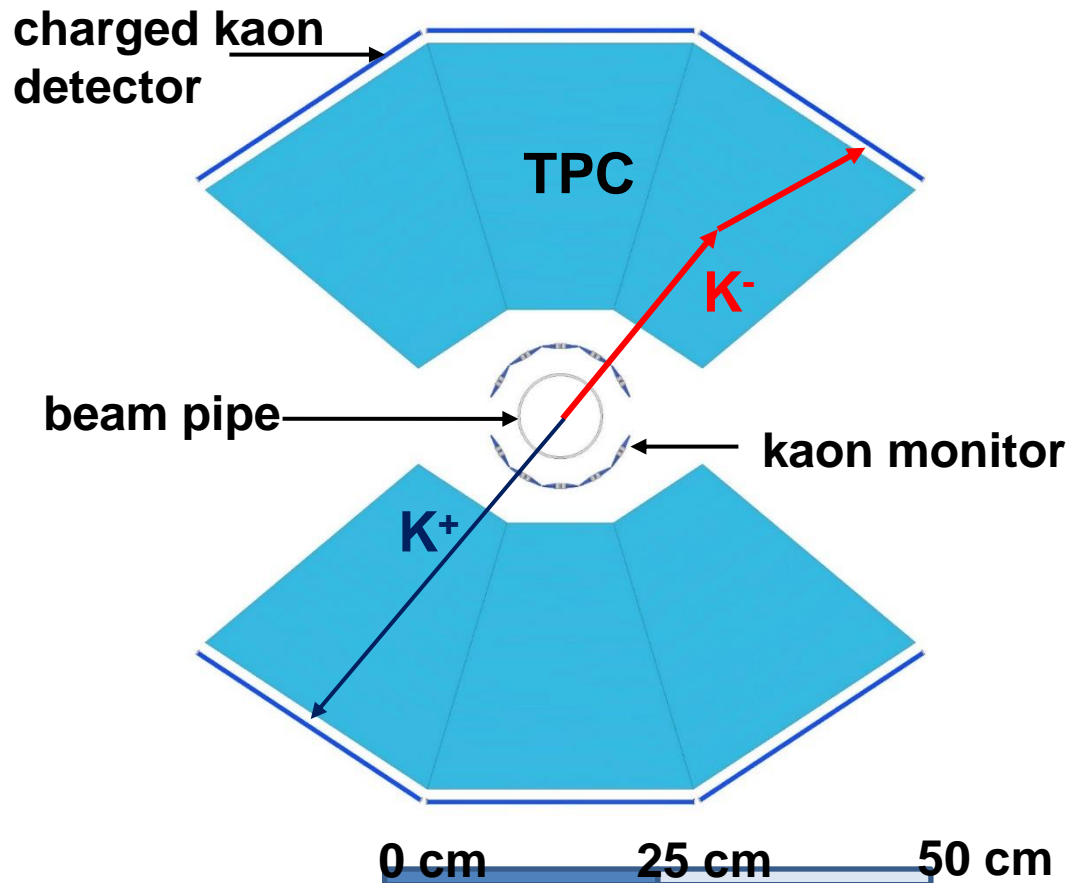
Knscat and int: KAON-NUCLEI SCATTERING and INTERACTION



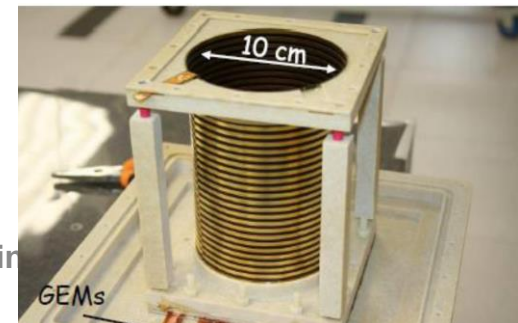
- The present knowledge of total and differential cross sections of low energy kaon-nucleon reactions is **very limited**.
- **Below 150 MeV/c there is a “desert”** - the experimental data are very scarce and with large errors and practically no data exist below 100 MeV/c.
- **Studies of Hyperon-nucleon, Hyperon-multinucleon (AMADEUS experience)**
- **Kaon-nucleon scattering/interaction data are fundamental to validate theories: chiral symmetries; lattice calculations; potential models etc.**



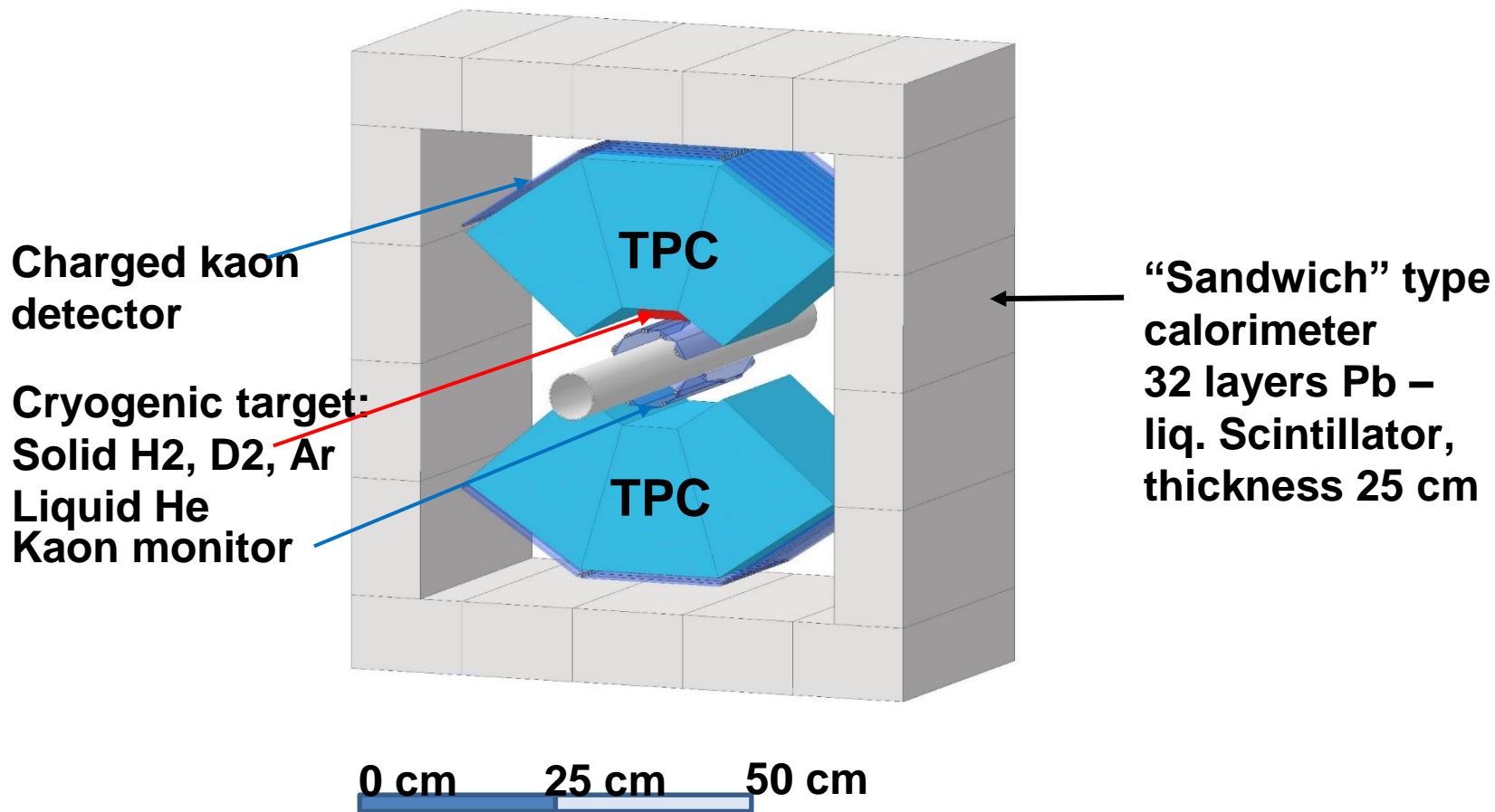
KN1: elastic scattering, layout



**TPC prototyping ongoing at:
Sendai Univ., Japan
SMI, Austria (EU-STRONG2020)**



KN2 – inelastic scattering, nuclear interaction...layout



Towards a LOI (authors: Editorial Board only)

Fundamental physics at the strangeness frontier at DAΦNE.
Outline of a proposal for future measurements.

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H. OHNISHI, Y. SADA

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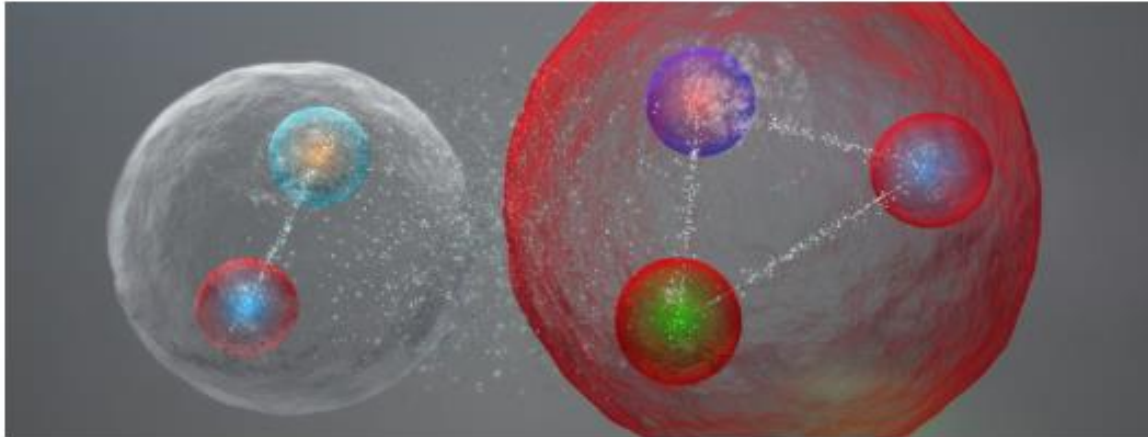
The DAΦNE collider at INFN-LNF is a unique source of low-energy kaons, which was used by the DEAR, SIDDHARTA and AMADEUS collaborations for unique measurements of kaonic atoms and kaon-nuclei interactions. Presently, the SIDDHARTA-2 collaboration is underway to measure the kaonic deuterium exotic atom. With this document we outline a proposal for fundamental physics at the strangeness frontier for future measurements of kaonic atoms and kaon-nuclei interactions at DAΦNE, which is intended to stimulate discussions within the broad scientific community performing research directly or indirectly related to this field.

Contacted and consider signing LOI (groups of):

Very preliminary (sent one week ago) – 11 countries

- *Theoreticians from list shown + others*
- Laura Fabbietti, TUM, Germany
- Paul Indelicato, CNRS, France
- Hiroyuki Noumi, Osaka Univ. Japan
- Shinji Okada, Chubu Univ., Japan
- Fuminori Sakuma, RIKEN, Japan
- Kiyoshi Tanida, JPARC, Japan
- Hiroaki Ohnishi, Sendai and Tohoku, Japan
- Simon Eidelman, Novosibirsk, Russia
- Moskov Amaryan, Old Dominion University, USA
- Pawel Moskal, Jagiellonian Univ, Poland
- Josef Pochodzalla, Mainz Univ, Germany
- Mario Bragadireanu, IFIN-HH, Romania
- Damir Bosnar, Univ. Zagreb, Croatia
- Igor Strakovsky, SAID INS The George Washington University, USA
- INFN (LNF + more), Italy
- SMI, Vienna, Austria

STRANU: HOT TOPICS IN STRANGENESS NUCLEAR AND ATOMIC PHYSICS



24 May 2021 — 28 May 2021 **Virtual/Online**

Organizers

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LOI in preparation

We strongly believe that this is an opportunity which cannot be missed, since we propose to measure fundamental interaction processes which could not be measured till now, and which will have a huge and concrete impact, “now and here”, in particle and nuclear physics, astrophysics, cosmology and foundational Issues, supported by a strong international collaboration.

Our proposed measurements have a huge potential of producing a consistent number of high-impact publications in high-impact factor journals, which will guide the developments of physics at strangeness frontier in the next 10-20 years, setting DAΦNE and LNF on the forefront of fundamental physics studies.

A photograph of a magnolia tree with numerous purple buds and some open flowers. The tree's branches are dark and intricate. In the background, a large, modern building with a curved, metallic roof is visible under a clear sky. The scene is set in an outdoor area with a grassy lawn and wooden benches. The text "Thank you" is overlaid in a yellow, cursive font in the center of the image.

Thank you