

# **SHELDON:**

## **Timing and optical properties of the JUNO liquid scintillator**

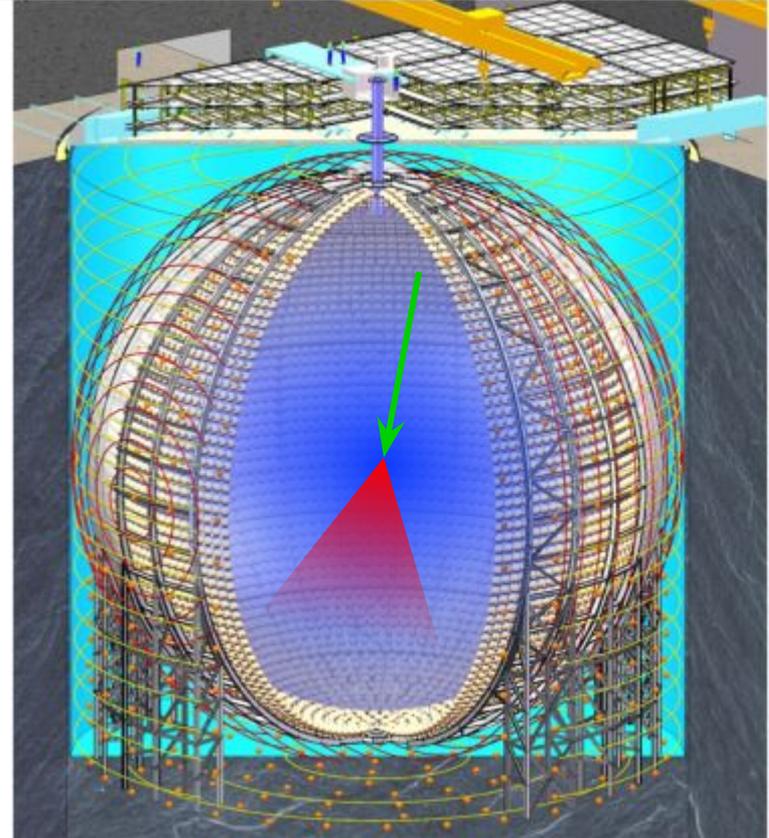
Davide Basilico, Marco Beretta, Augusto Brigatti, Barbara Caccianiga,  
Federico Ferraro, Cecilia Landini, Paolo Lombardi, Alessandra Re

# Introduction

Since **scintillation light** is isotropic, any directional information is lost.

However, a few **Cherenkov light** is emitted and could potentially provide information on the **neutrino direction**.

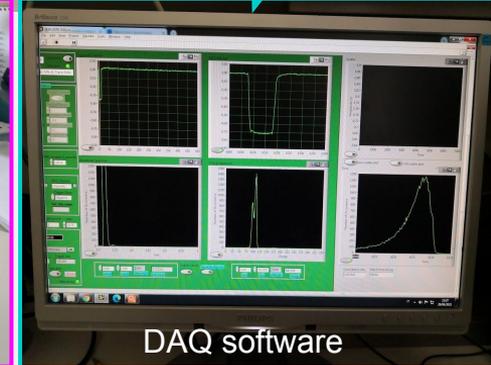
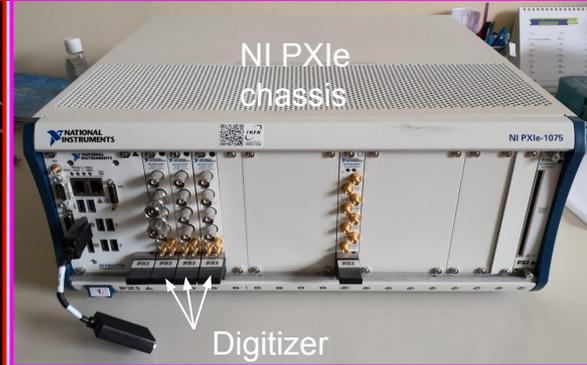
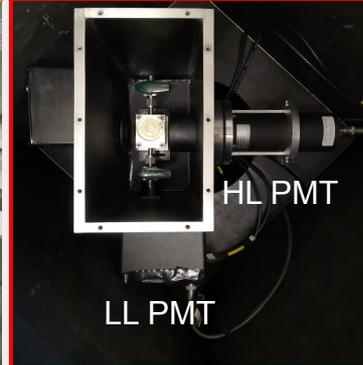
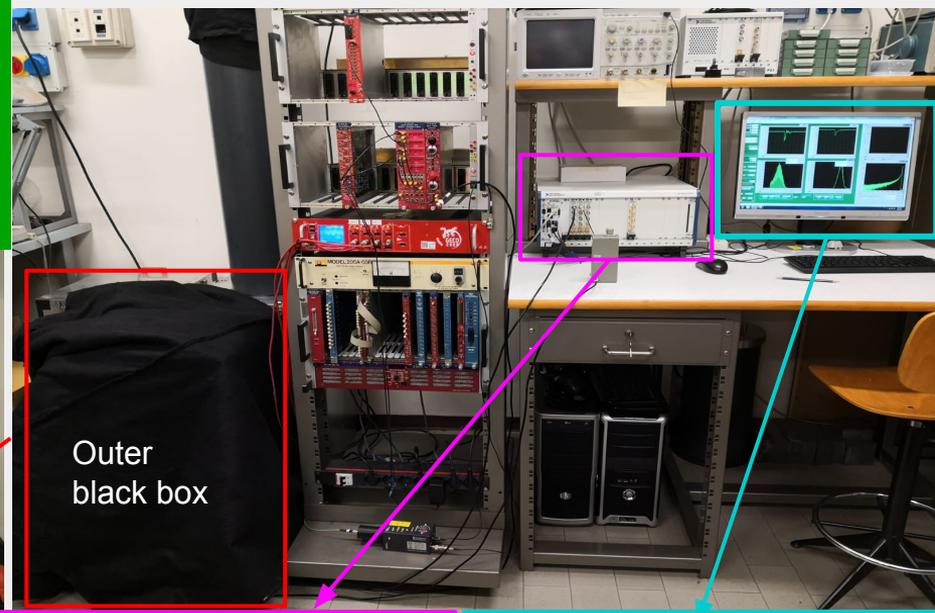
**SHELDON** studies and characterizes the fluorescence and the Cherenkov emission in the scintillator mixture which is going to be used in JUNO.



# Index

- **The SHELDON project**
- Measurement of fluorescence parameters
- Measurement of Cherenkov contribution
- Conclusions & future perspectives

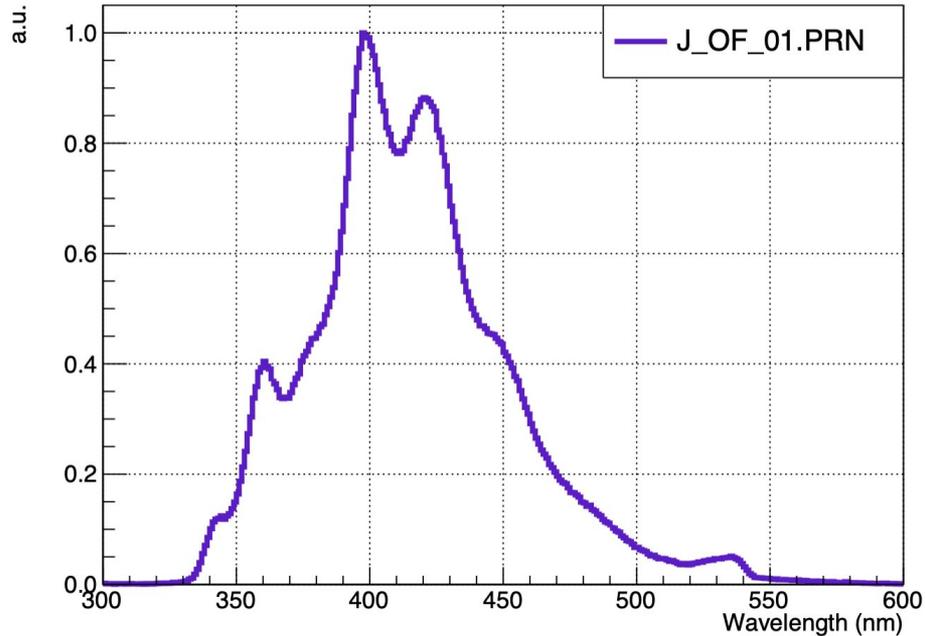
# SHELDON's laboratory



JUNO LS recipe: LAB + 2.5 g/L PPO + 3.0 mg/L bis-MSB

# JUNO organic liquid scintillator

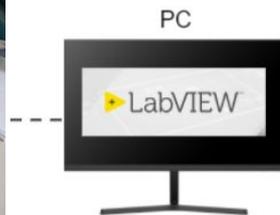
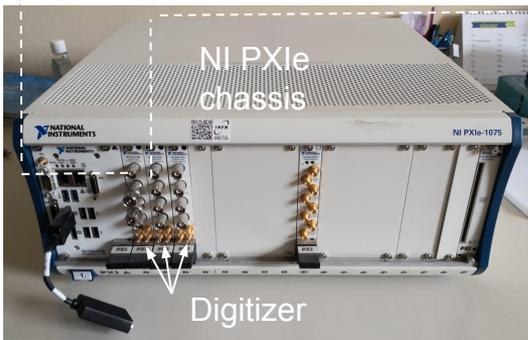
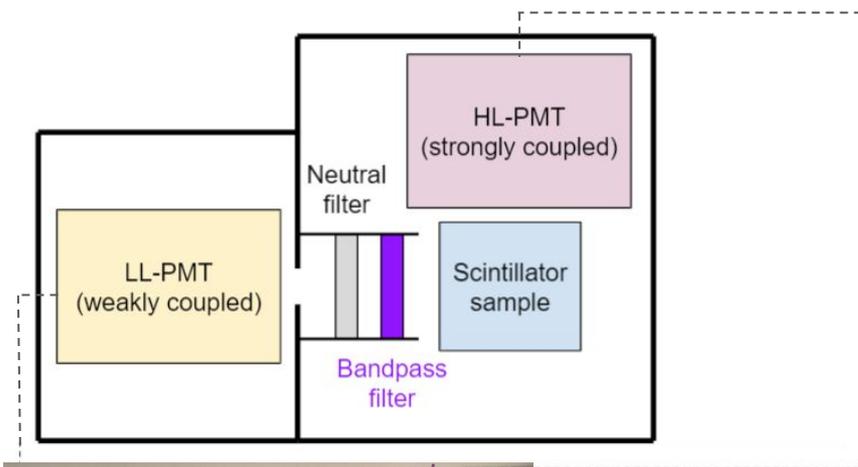
Emission spectrum



Measured @ Università degli Studi di Perugia  
thanks to: Fausto, Aldo e Catia



# The SHELDON project: experimental setup



## Components of the setup:

JUNO LS sample

2 PMTs, one weakly coupled

Neutral filter

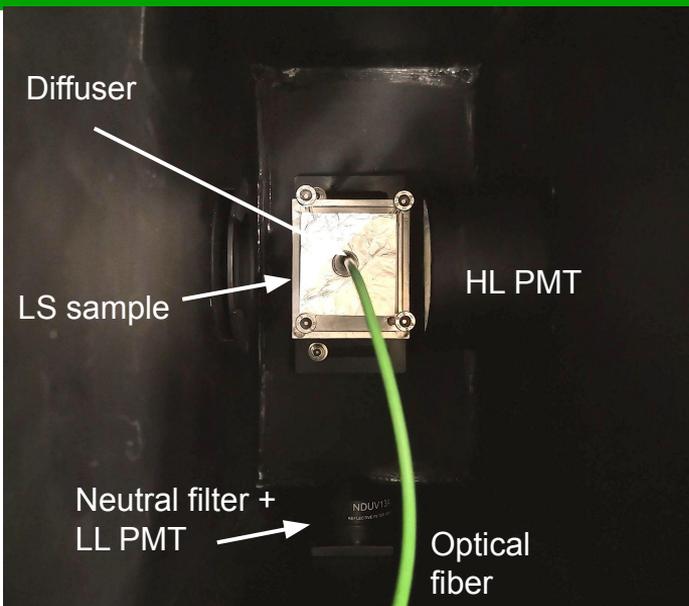
2 Digitizer (5 GS/s each)

LabVIEW DAQ software

## Technique:

Time-Correlated Single Photon Counting

# The SHELDON project: Impulse Response Function

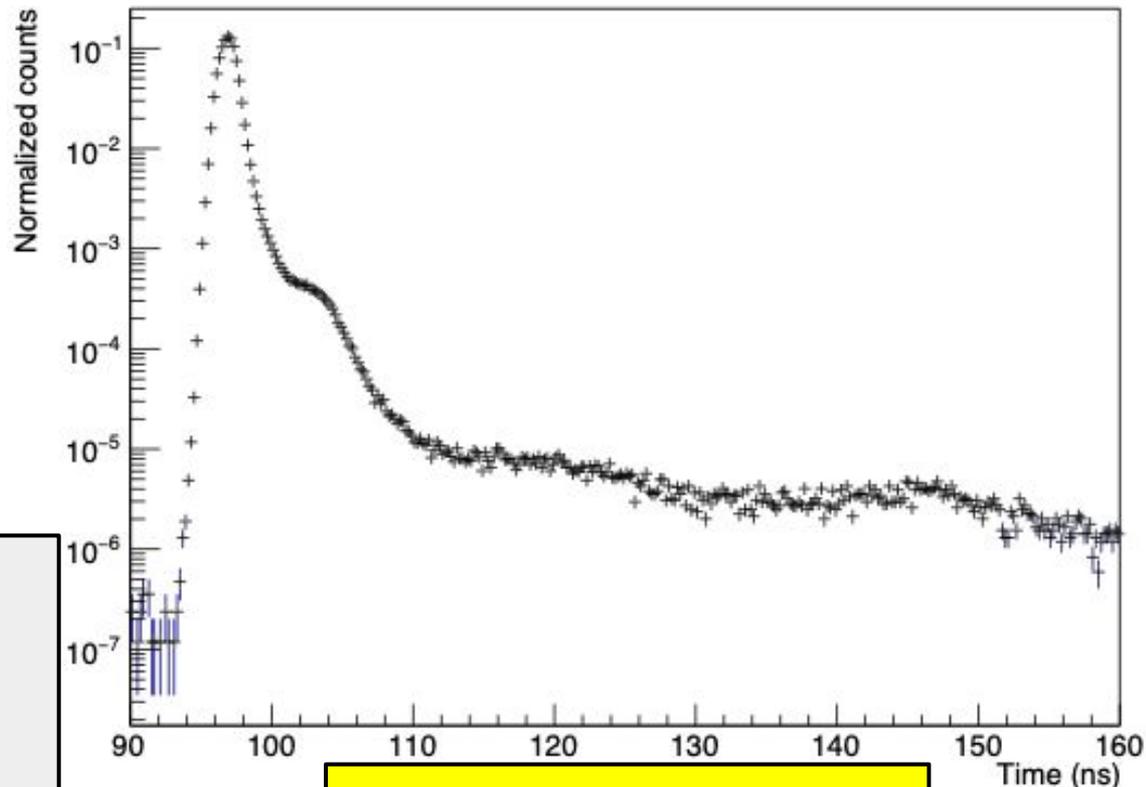


The measurement of the Impulse Response Function is performed using a laser.

The laser has a pulse duration 75 ps.

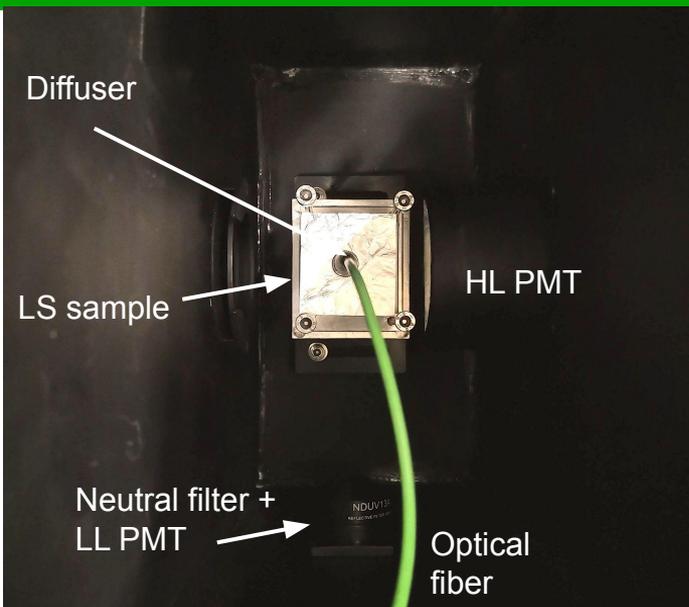
A diffuser is placed at the end of the optic fibre to mimic a point like emission

## Impulse Response Function



IRF of the full experimental setup:  
LS + PMT + ADC + CFD

# The SHELDON project: Impulse Response Function

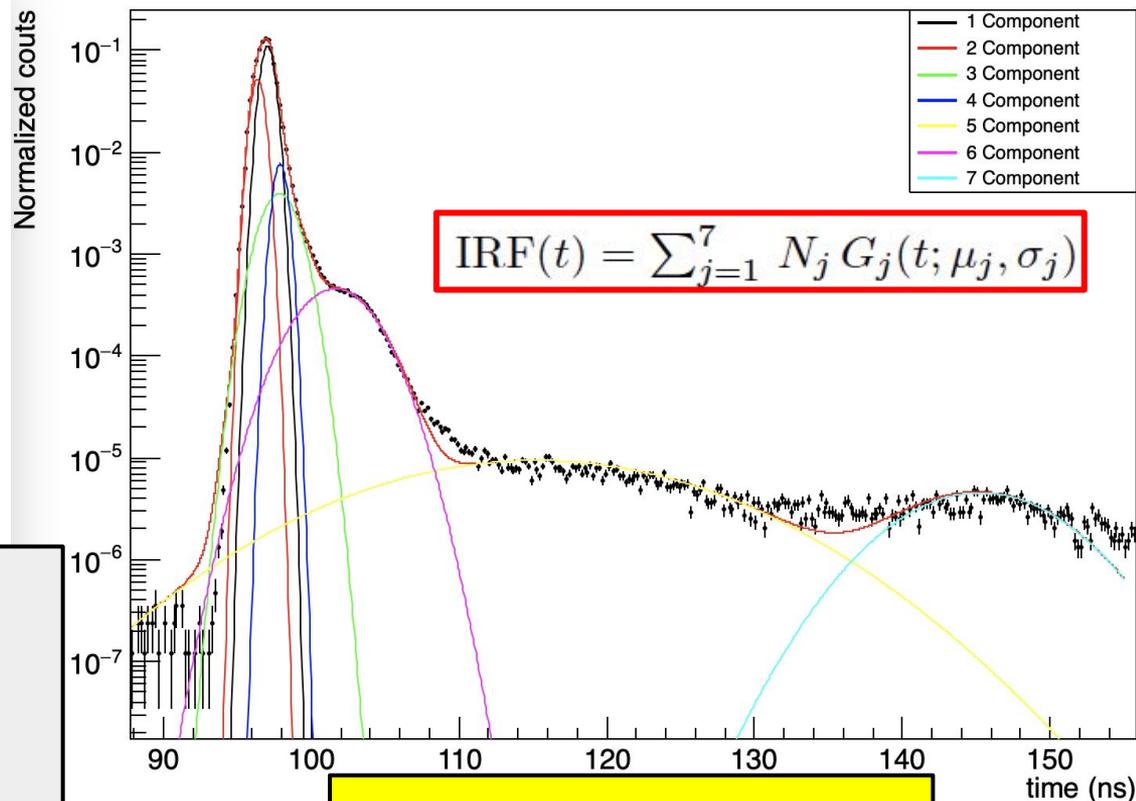


The measurement of the Impulse Response Function is performed using a laser.

The laser has a pulse duration 75 ps.

A diffuser is placed at the end of the optic fibre to mimic a point like emission

Impulse response function



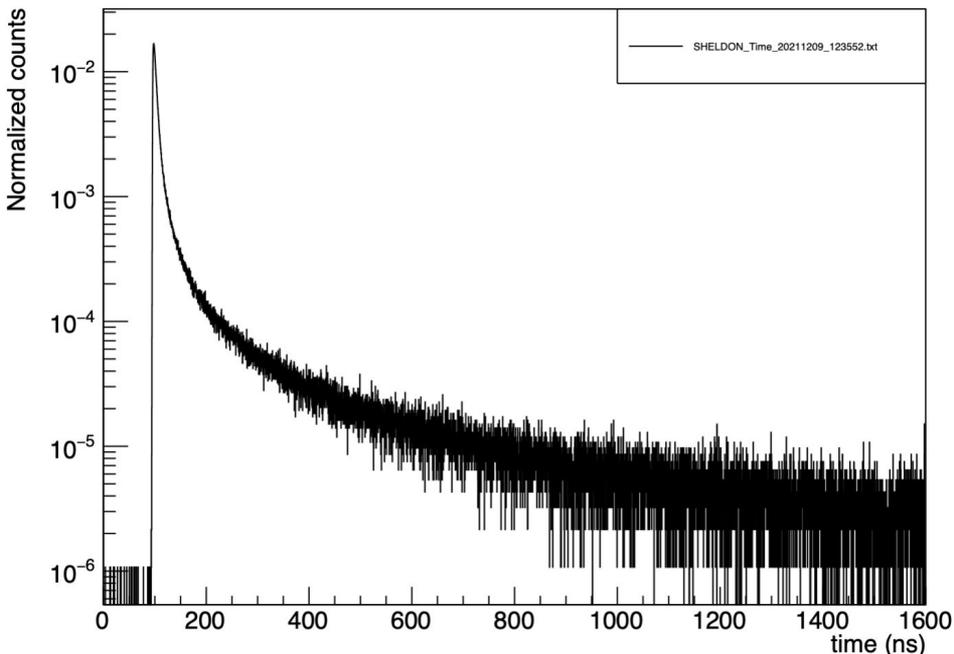
IRF of the full experimental setup:  
LS + PMT + ADC + CFD

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- Measurement of Cherenkov contribution
- Conclusions & future perspectives

# Measurement of fluorescence

Alpha source fluorescence time distribution



**Fluorescence** time distribution

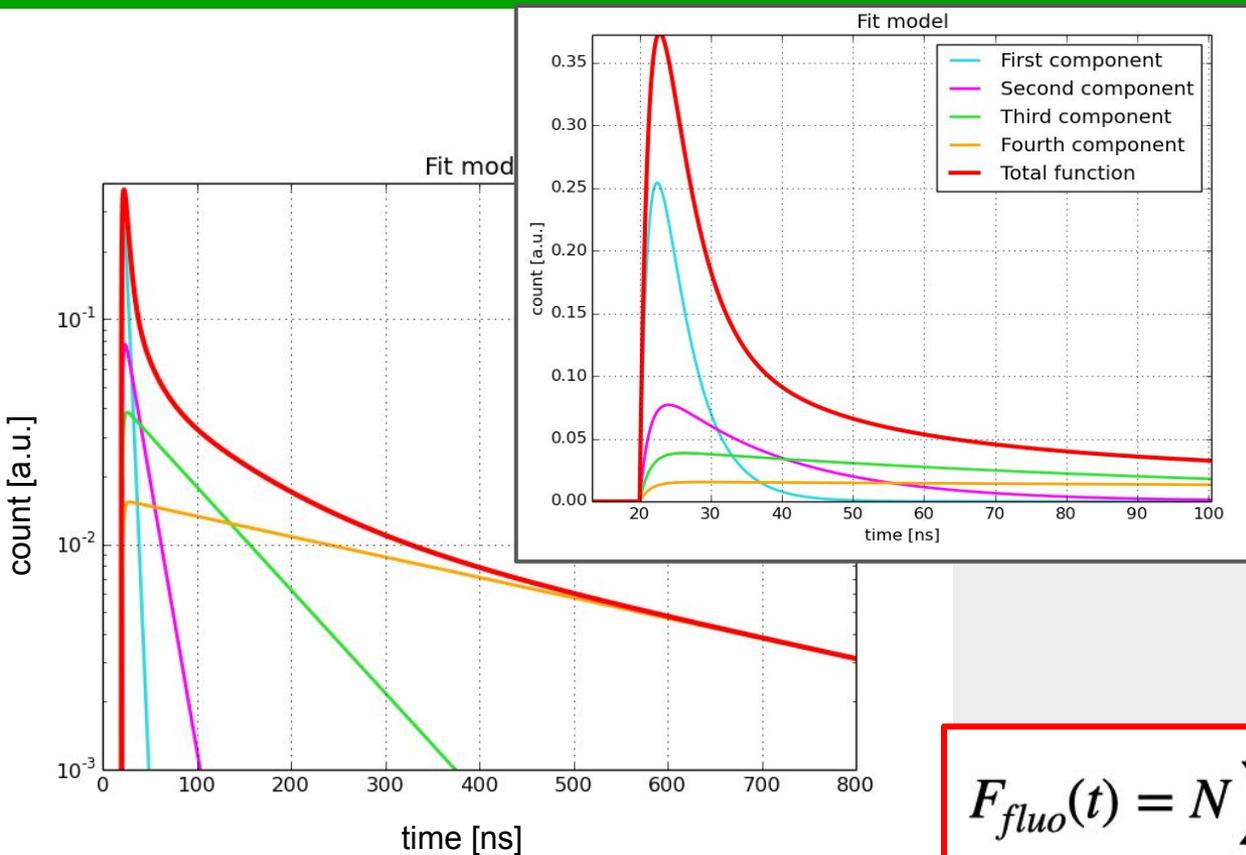
obtain using an alpha source

Same experimental setup of the IRF one

The duration of the data acquisition is 10 days to obtain  $10^6$  events

The light emission is **not** a prompt emission

# Fit model: four exponential decay



To describe the fluorescence time profile **4 components** are needed

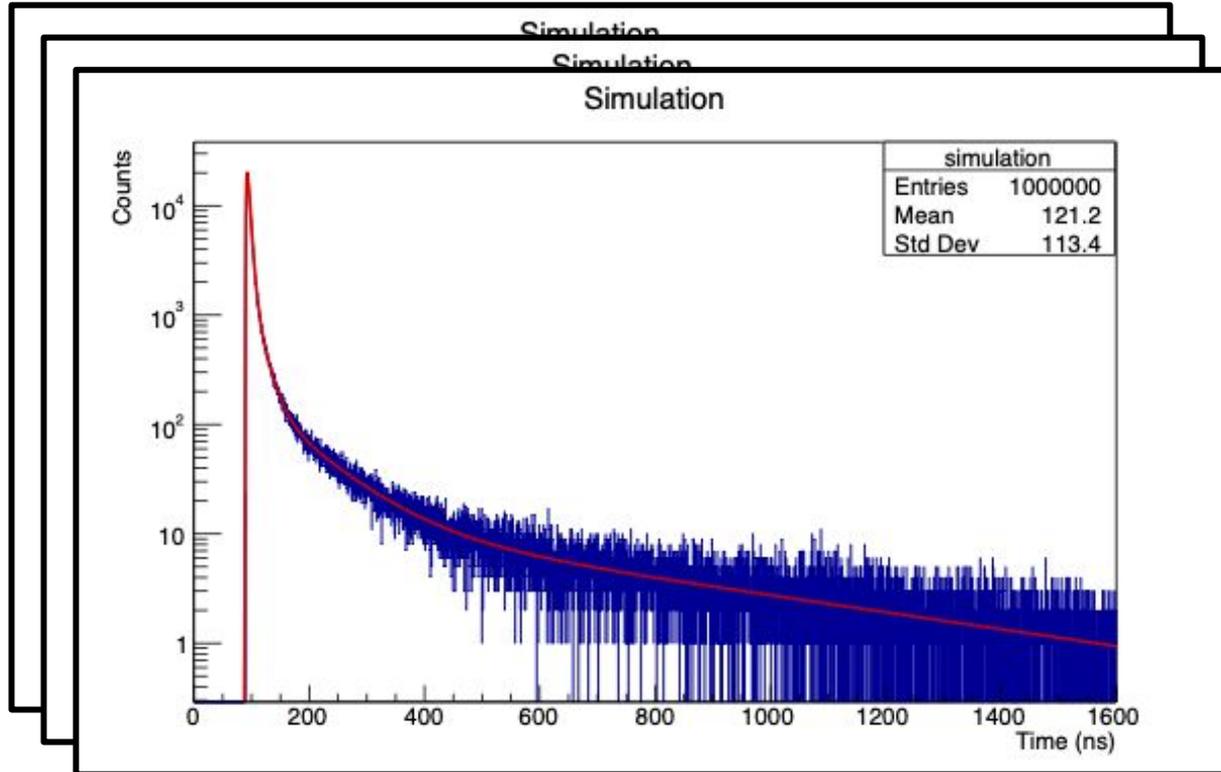
The fourth becomes dominant starting from **~300 ns**

Our DAQ time window is **1600 ns**

$$F_{fluo}(t) = N \sum_{d=1}^4 \frac{q_d}{\tau_d - \tau_r} (e^{-t/\tau_d} - e^{-t/\tau_r})$$

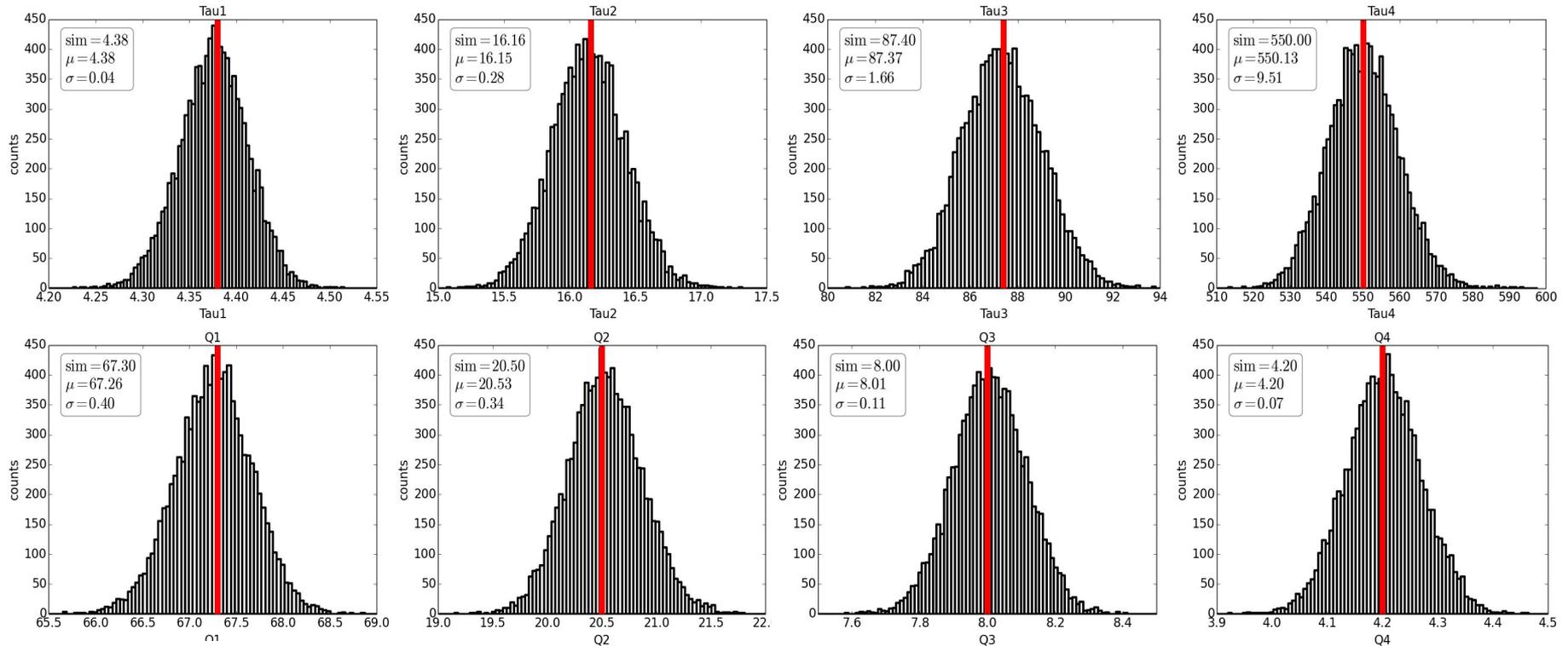
# Method validation

**Monte Carlo simulation** to produce  $10^4$  fake dataset  
used to evaluate the **possible fit sistematics** on fluorescence parameters

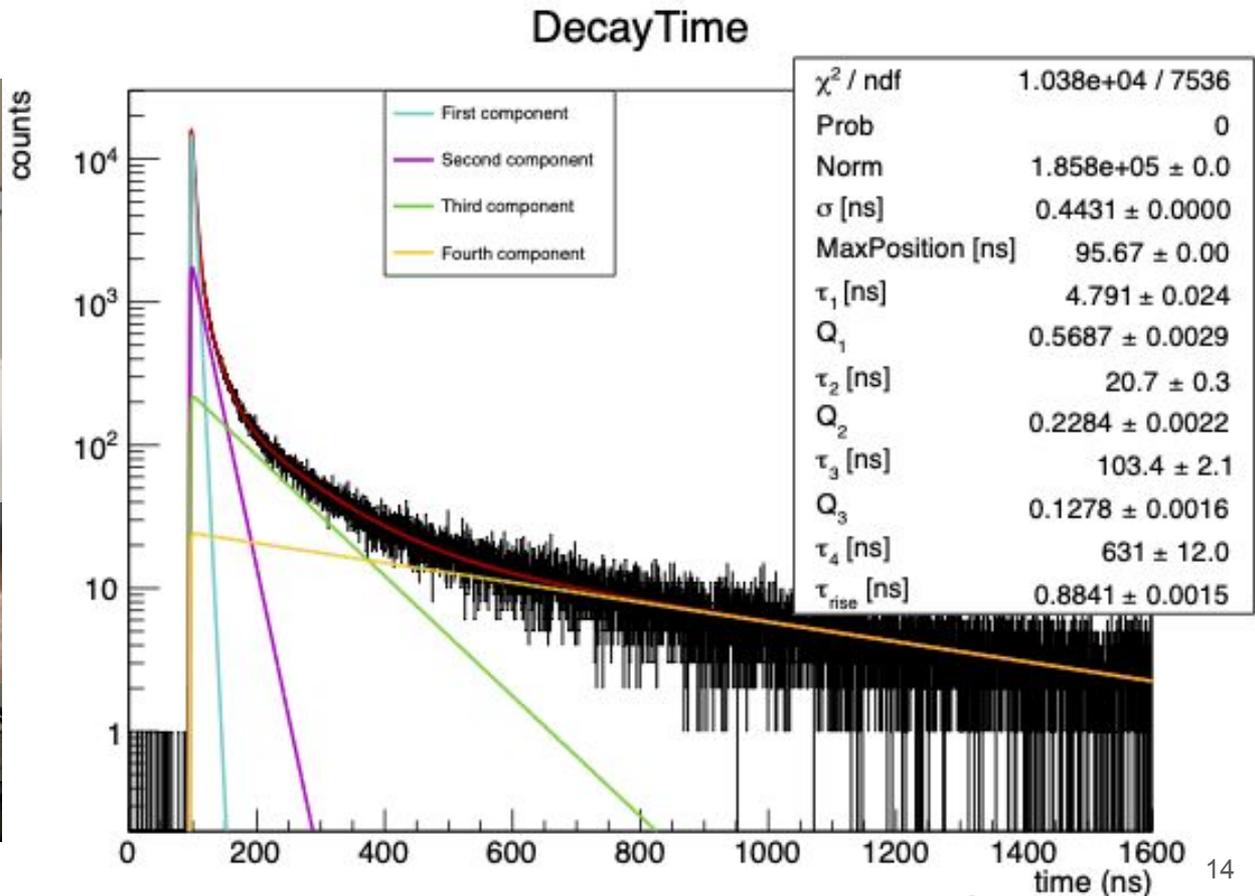
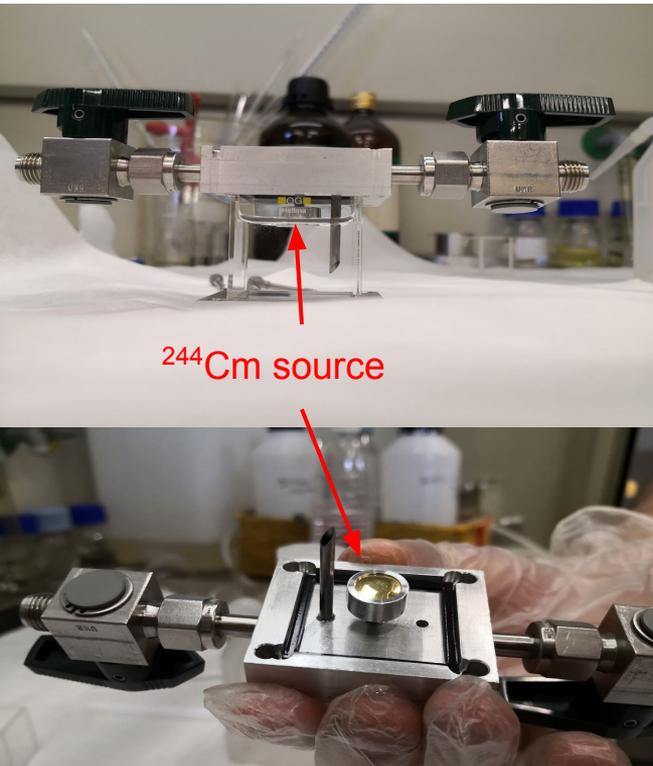


# Method validation

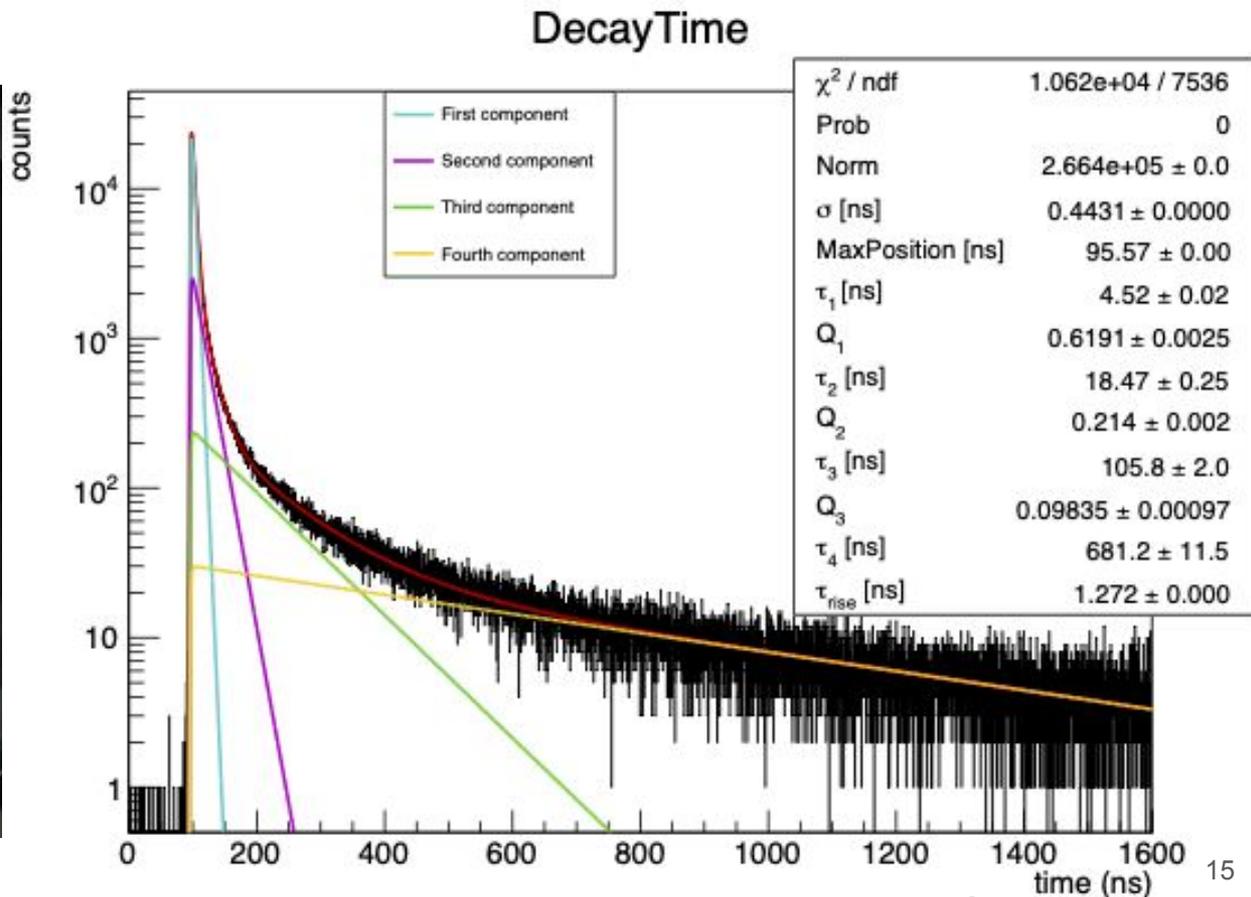
The uncertainties on the fluorescence parameters are at the percentage level



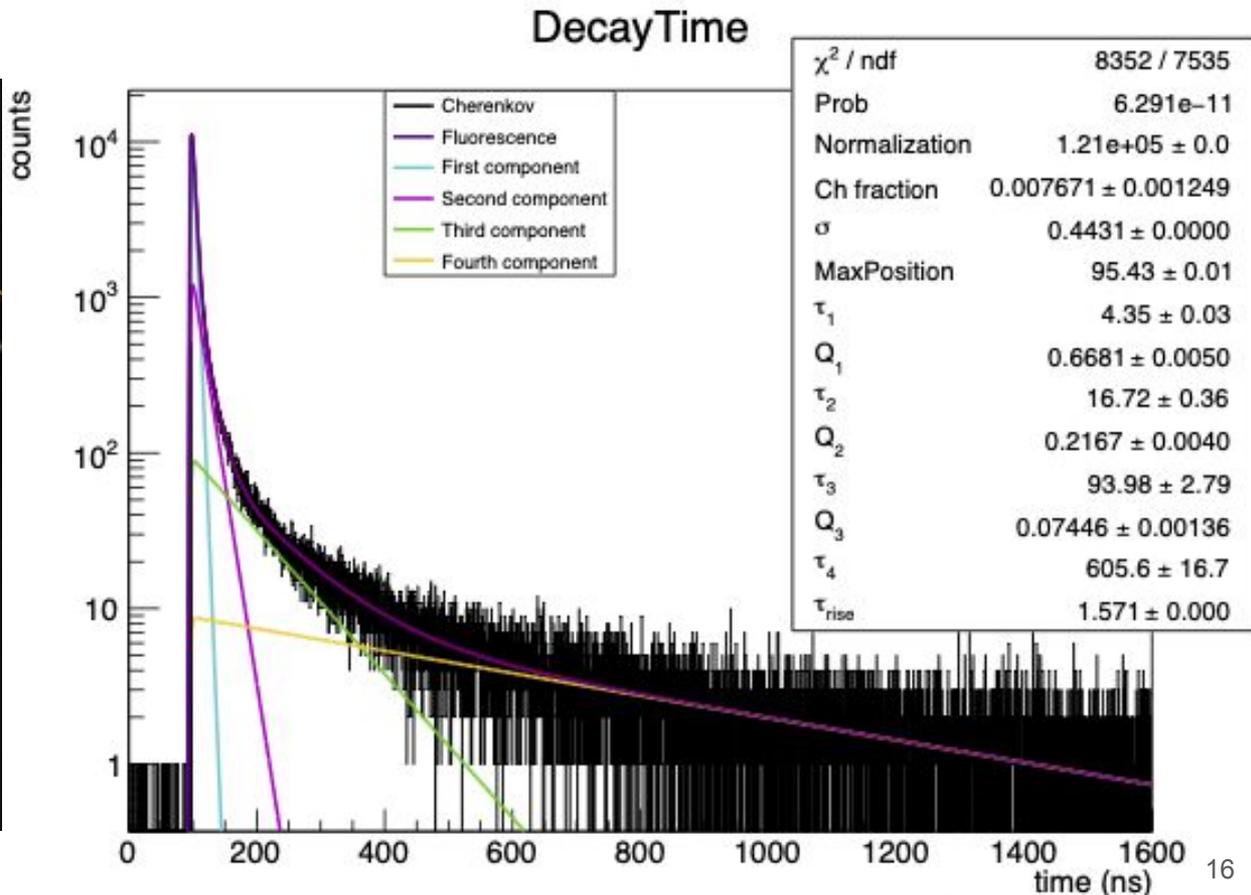
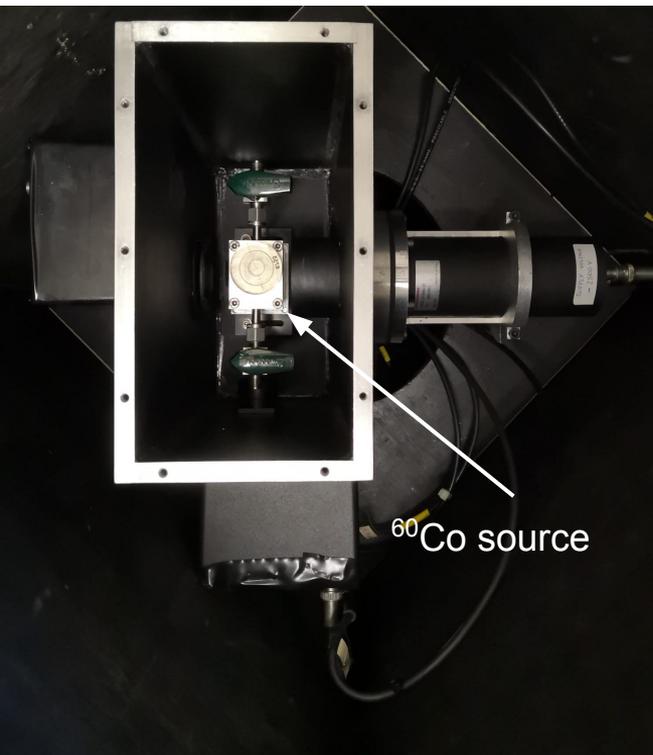
# Measurement of fluorescence parameters: $\alpha$ -source



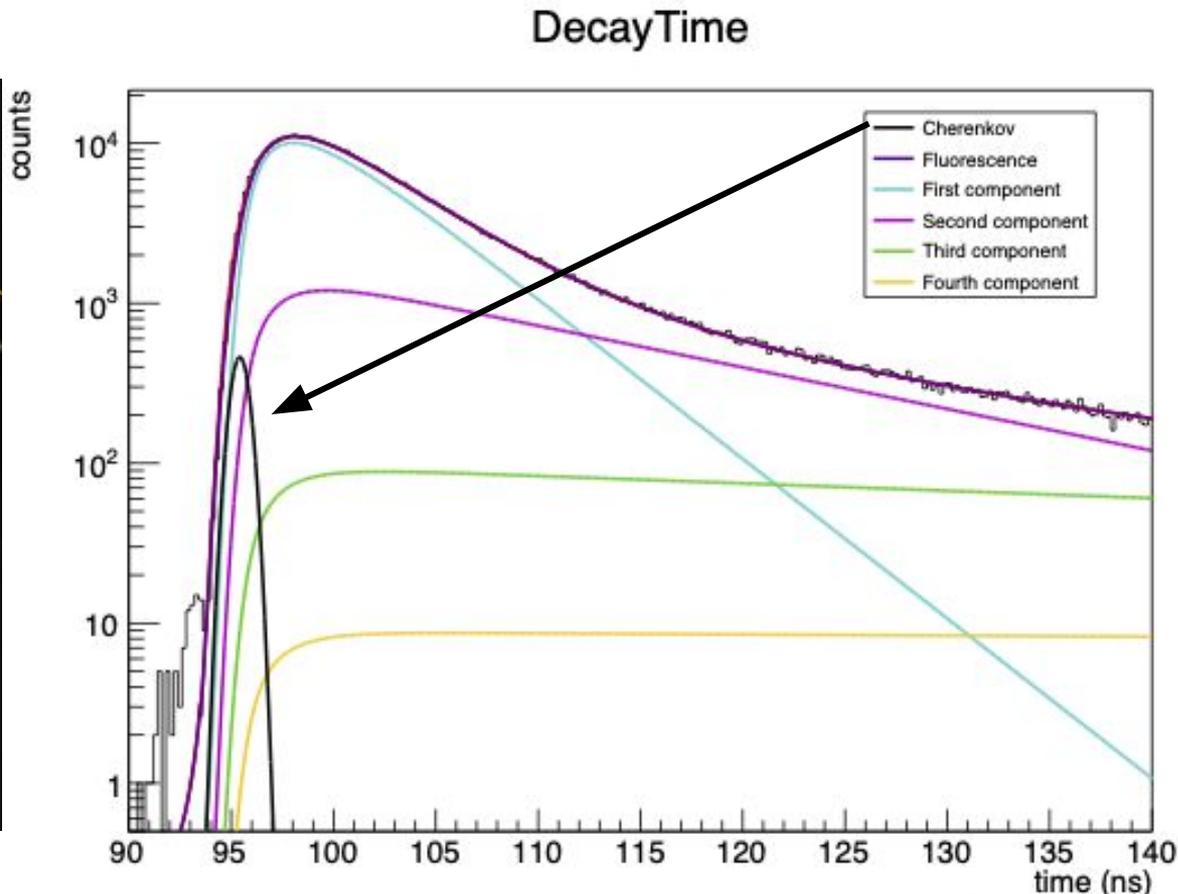
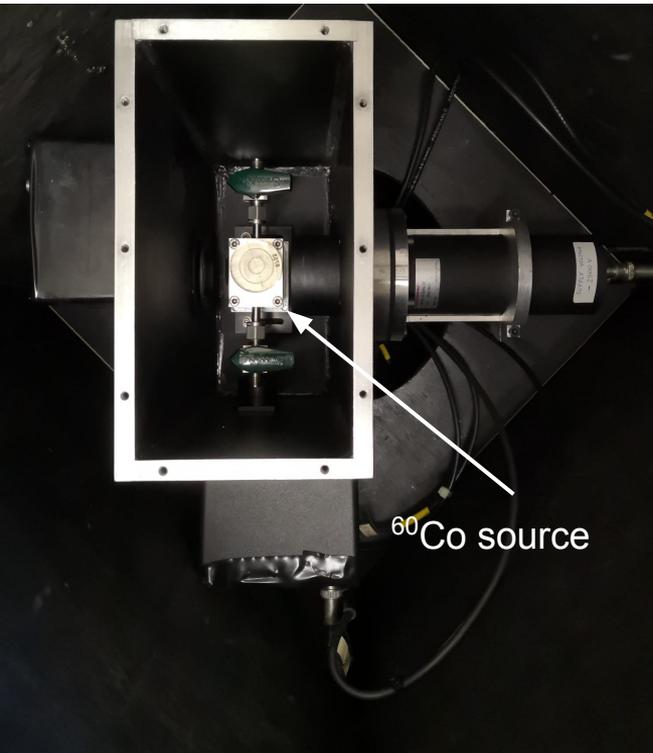
# Measurement of fluorescence parameters: *protons*



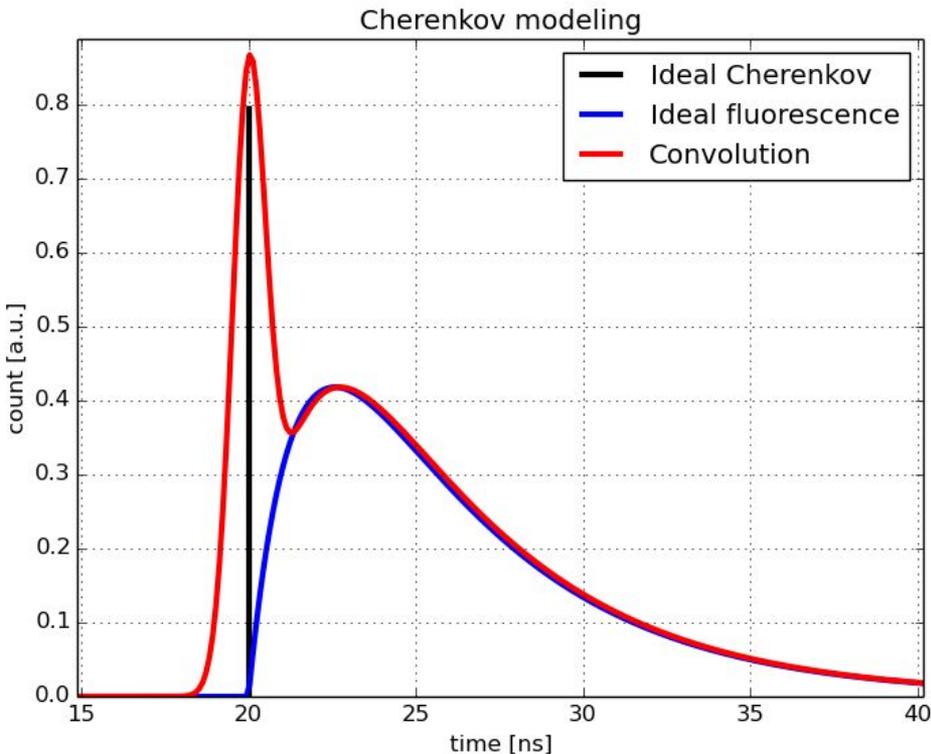
# Measurement of fluorescence: $\beta$ -source



# Measurement of fluorescence: $\beta$ -source



# Fit model: Cherenkov contribution



The Cherenkov contribution is modeled as a **delta function**

It is summed to the **fluorescence** model

The **sum** is convolved with the detector response

$$\text{IRF}(t) = \sum_{j=1}^7 N_j G_j(t; \mu_j, \sigma_j)$$

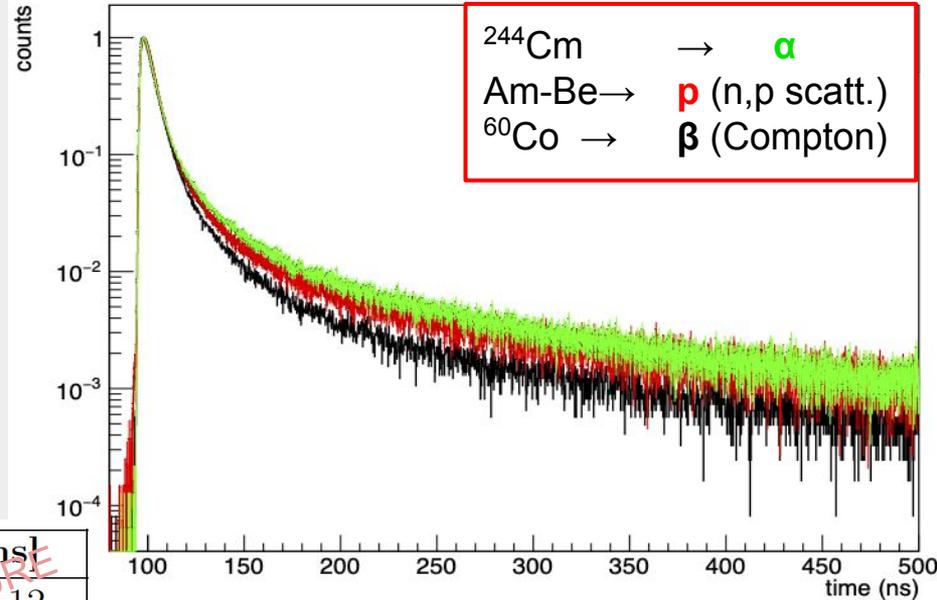
$$F_{Total}(t) = [N_{Ch} \delta(t, t_0) + (1 - N_{Ch}) F_{Fluo}(t)] * \text{IRF}(t)$$

# Measurement of fluorescence: preliminary results

Measurement of **fluorescence time distribution** using three different radioactive sources

The three curves have different tails

The distribution on the incident radiation and gives the possibility to do **Pulse Shape Discrimination**



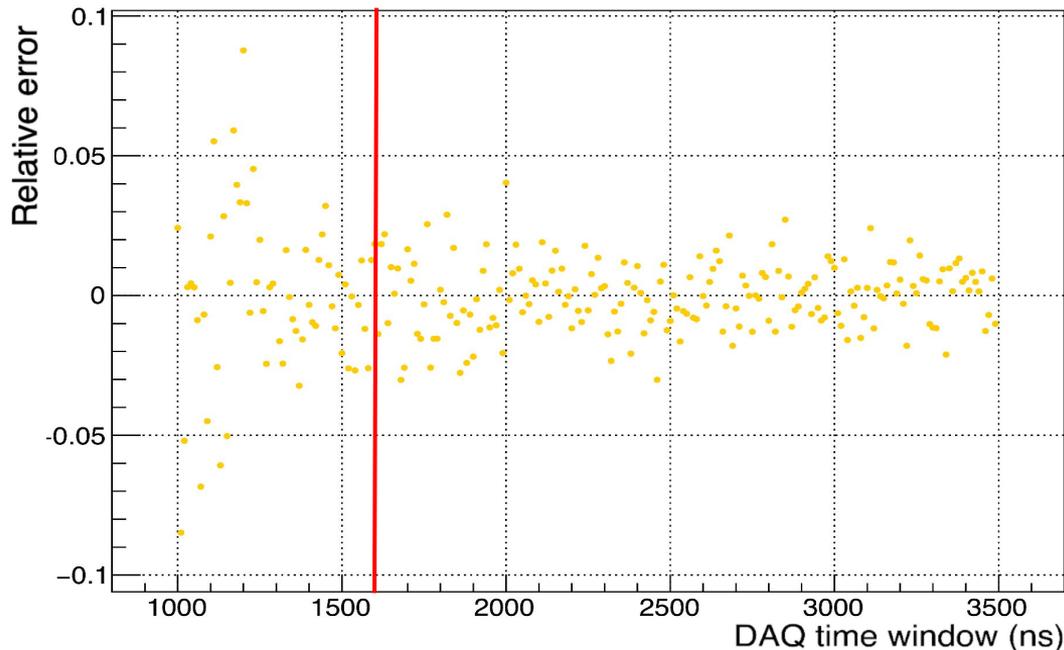
	$\tau_1$ [ns]	$\tau_2$ [ns]	$\tau_3$ [ns]	$\tau_4$ [ns]
$\alpha$	$4.79 \pm 0.04$	$20.69 \pm 0.34$	$103.4 \pm 2.1$	$631 \pm 12$
$p$	$4.52 \pm 0.02$	$18.47 \pm 0.25$	$105.8 \pm 2.0$	$681 \pm 11$
$e^-$	$4.35 \pm 0.03$	$16.72 \pm 0.36$	$94.0 \pm 2.8$	$607 \pm 17$
	$q_1$ [%]	$q_2$ [%]	$q_3$ [%]	$q_4$ [%]
$\alpha$	$56.87 \pm 0.29$	$22.84 \pm 0.22$	$12.78 \pm 0.16$	$8.27 \pm 0.62$
$p$	$61.91 \pm 0.25$	$21.40 \pm 0.20$	$9.83 \pm 0.10$	$7.70 \pm 0.55$
$e^-$	$66.81 \pm 0.50$	$21.67 \pm 0.40$	$7.45 \pm 0.14$	$4.44 \pm 0.65$

**PRELIMINARY RESULTS**

# Systematic error introduced by the choice the DAQ time window

The relative uncertainty on **slow component** decreases as the upper end of the DAQ time window increases.

Tau4 relative error on DAQ time window



The **red line** represent our DAQ time window

The number of events is fixed (similar to a measurement lasting **one week**)

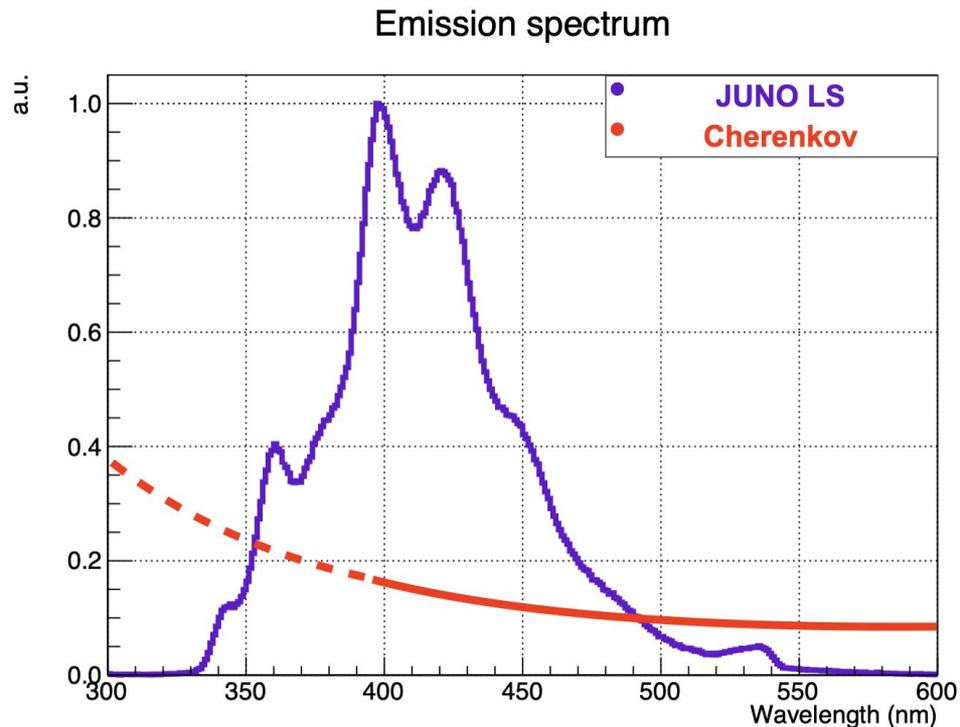
As the statistic increases the uncertainty decreases

The trend does not change with increasing statistics

# Index

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- **Measurement of Cherenkov contribution**
- Conclusions & future perspectives

# Cherenkov contribution at different wavelength



Cherenkov light can be separated from scintillation light thanks to its spectral features.

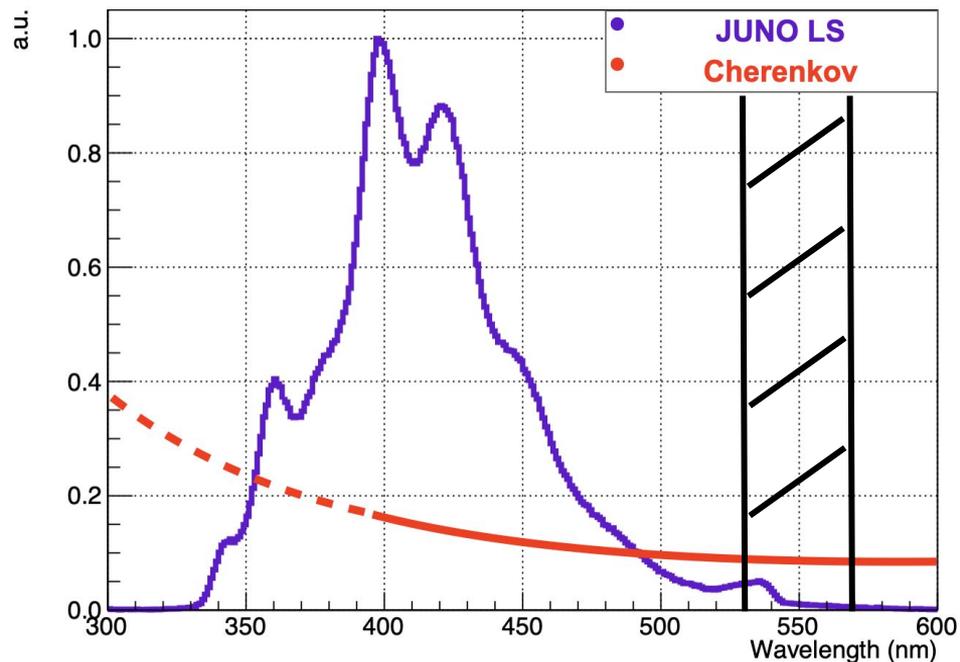
The JUNO LS emission spectrum has a maximum at 400 nm

The **Cherenkov spectrum** (not to scale) decreases as  $1/\lambda^2$  and extends above the scintillation spectrum.

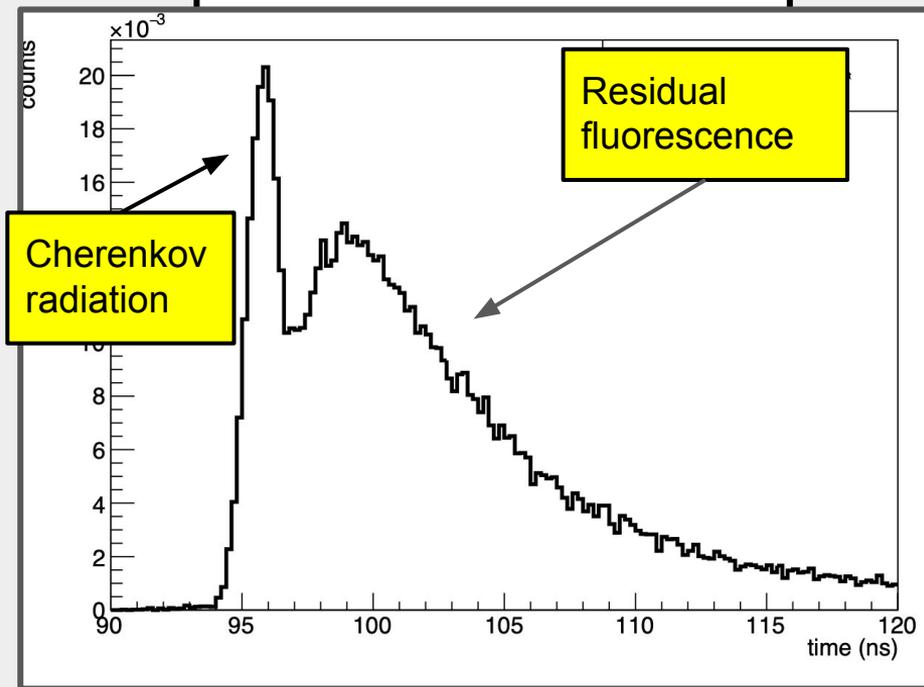
Using appropriate optical filters it is possible to select the light in a **desired wavelength interval**, separating scintillation and Cherenkov light.

# Cherenkov contribution at different wavelength

Emission spectrum

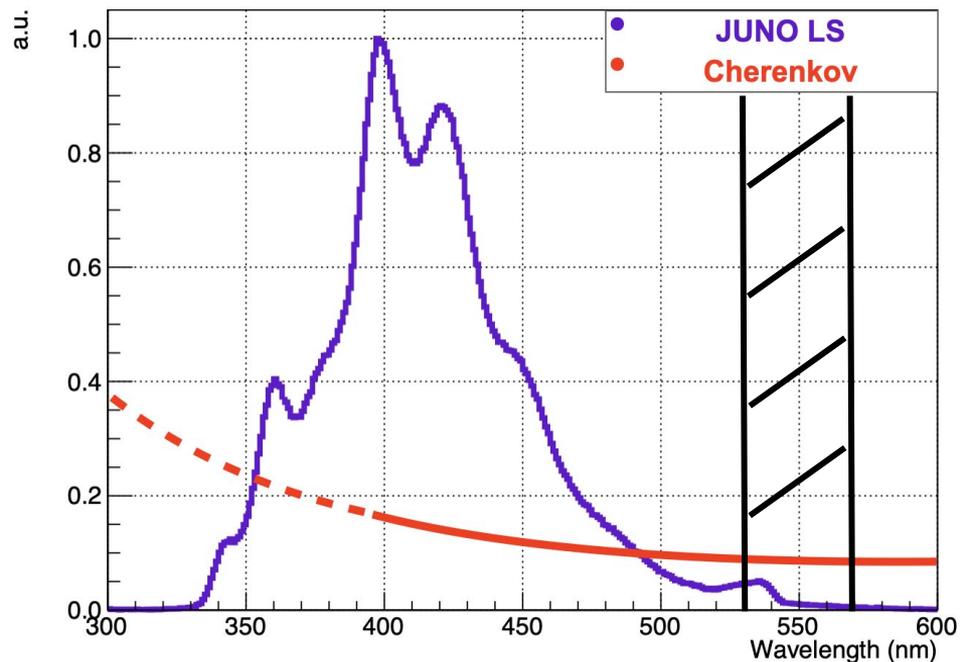


550 - 40 nm

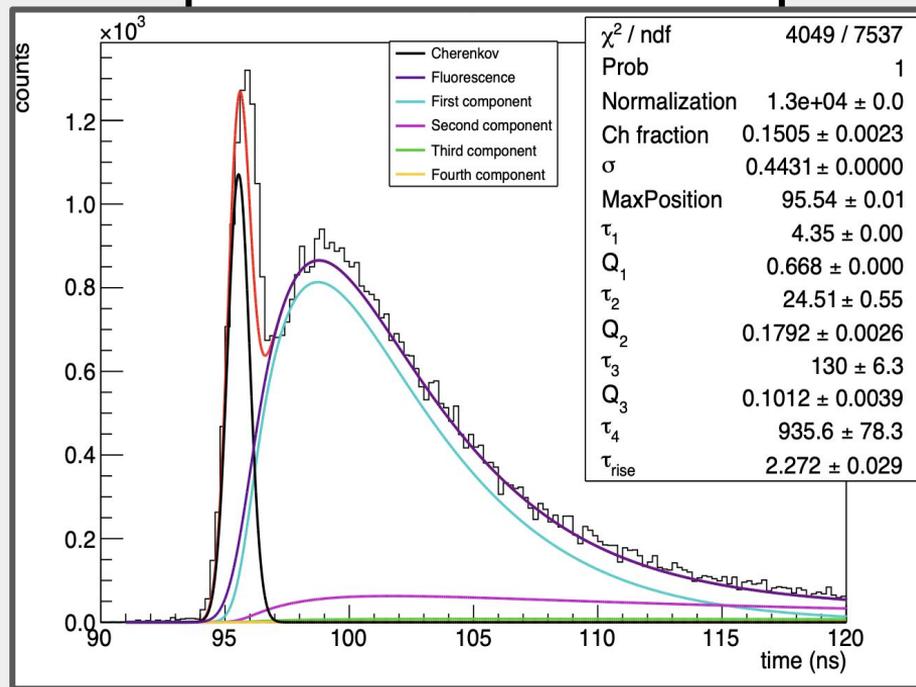


# Cherenkov contribution at different wavelength

Emission spectrum



550 - 40 nm



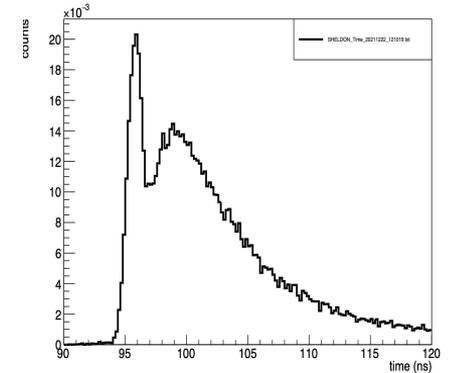
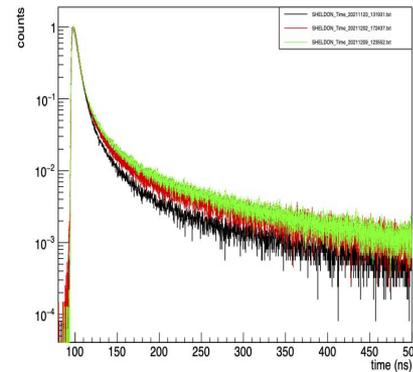
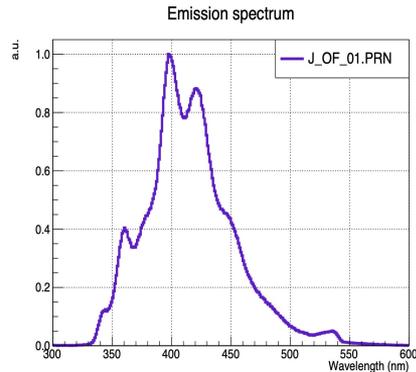
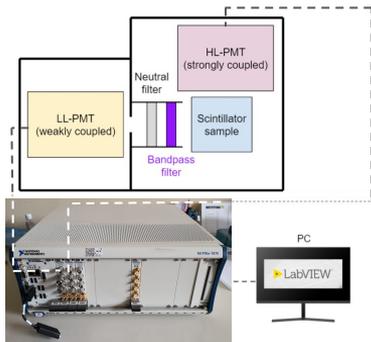
**Cherenkov =  $15.1 \pm 0.2$  %**

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- **Conclusions & future perspectives**

# Conclusions

- We developed an experimental setup for the fluorescence time measurement
- We produced the JUNO liquid scintillator and measured the emission spectrum
- We measured the fluorescence distribution from three different source
- We are going to conclude the analysis
- We measure the Cherenkov contribution at different wavelength



# Conclusions: future prospective

- Consider the muon flux in SHELDON measurements

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- Consider the muon flux in SHELDON measurements  $\longrightarrow$  Muon veto

# Conclusions: future prospective

- Consider the muon flux in SHELDON measurements —————> **Muon veto**
- Measurement of the refractive index of the liquid scintillator
- Measurement of the group velocity in the liquid scintillator

# Conclusions: future prospective

- Consider the muon flux in SHELDON measurements  Muon veto
  - Measurement of the refractive index of the liquid scintillator
  - Measurement of the group velocity in the liquid scintillator
-  **SHELDON-REWIND**

# Conclusions: future prospective

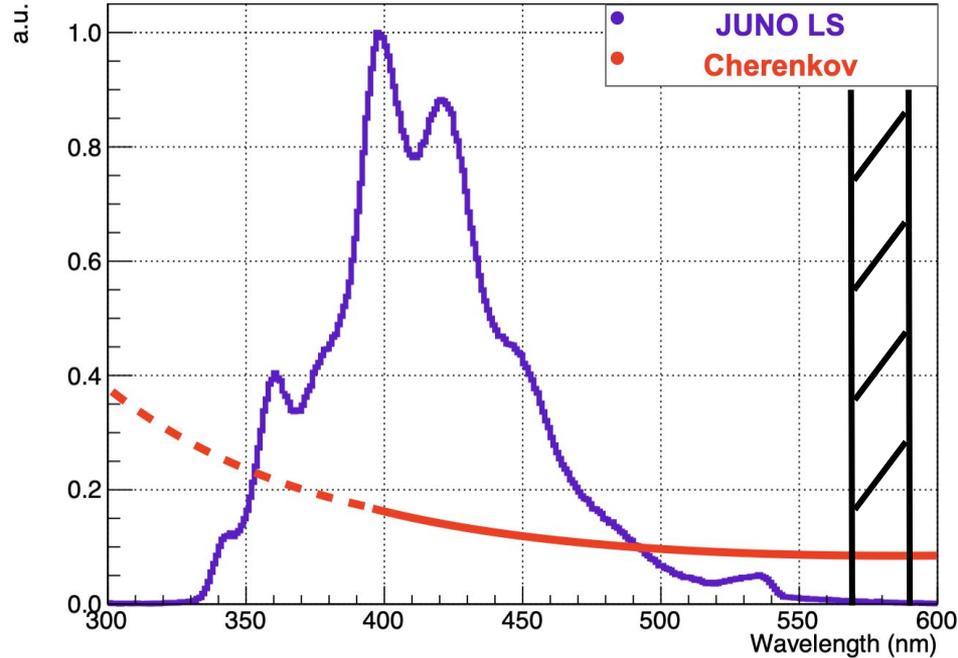
- Consider the muon flux in SHELDON measurements  $\longrightarrow$  **Muon veto**
  - Measurement of the refractive index of the liquid scintillator
  - Measurement of the group velocity in the liquid scintillator
- SHELDON-REWIND**
- Development of a Monte Carlo using Geant4 to evaluate the Cherenkov emission in our setup to be compared to the Cherenkov separation measurement

**Grazie per l'attenzione**

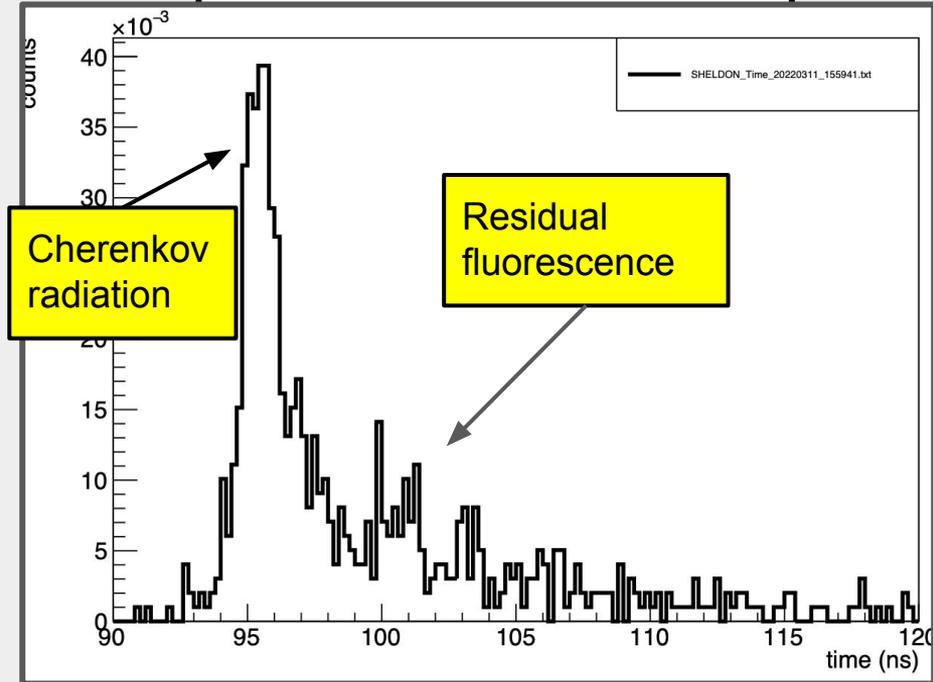
**Backup**

# Cherenkov contribution at different wavelength

Emission spectrum



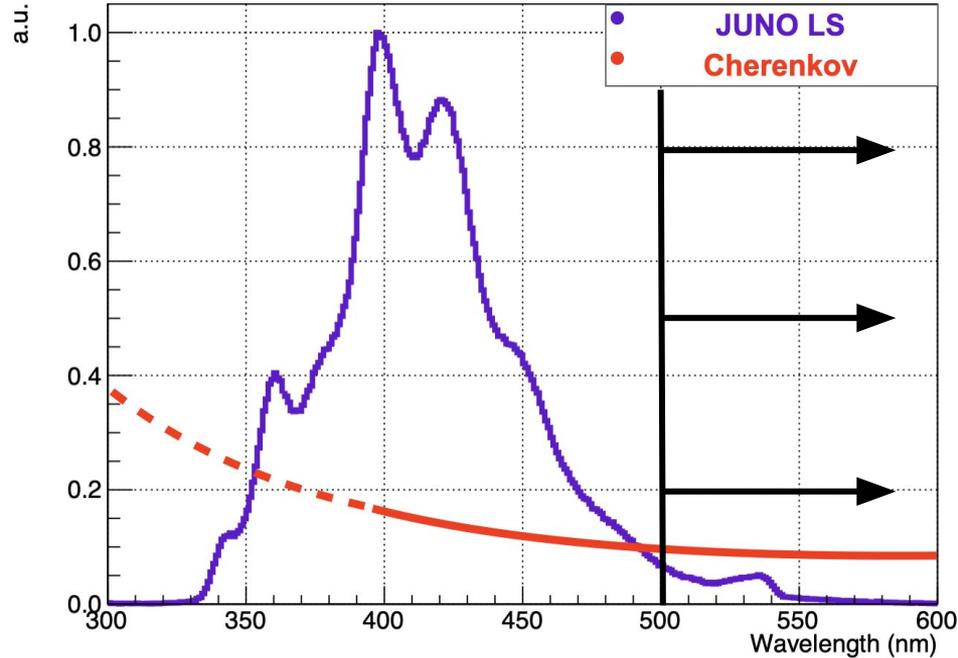
580 - 10 nm



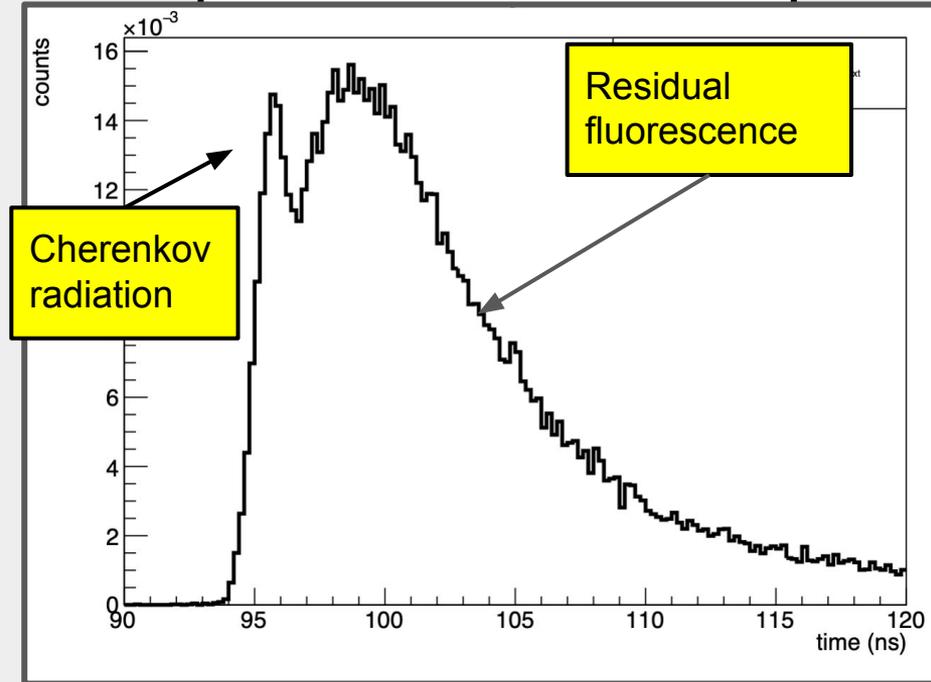
Cherenkov  $\geq 25\%$

# Cherenkov contribution at different wavelength

Emission spectrum



500 nm pass long filter

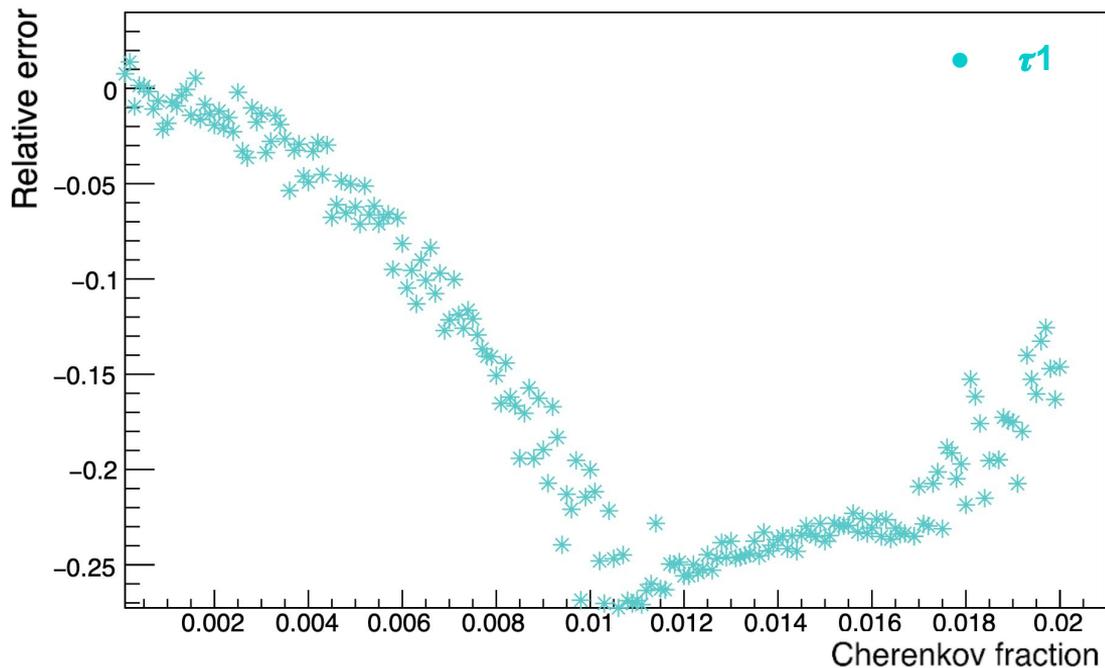


**Cherenkov =  $8.56 \pm 0.16$  %**

# Systematic error due to the exclusion of the Cherenkov contribution in the fit $\longrightarrow$ Cherenkov not included

The exclusion of Cherenkov light on the fit mostly affects on the **fast component**

Tau1 relative error in function Cherenkov fraction



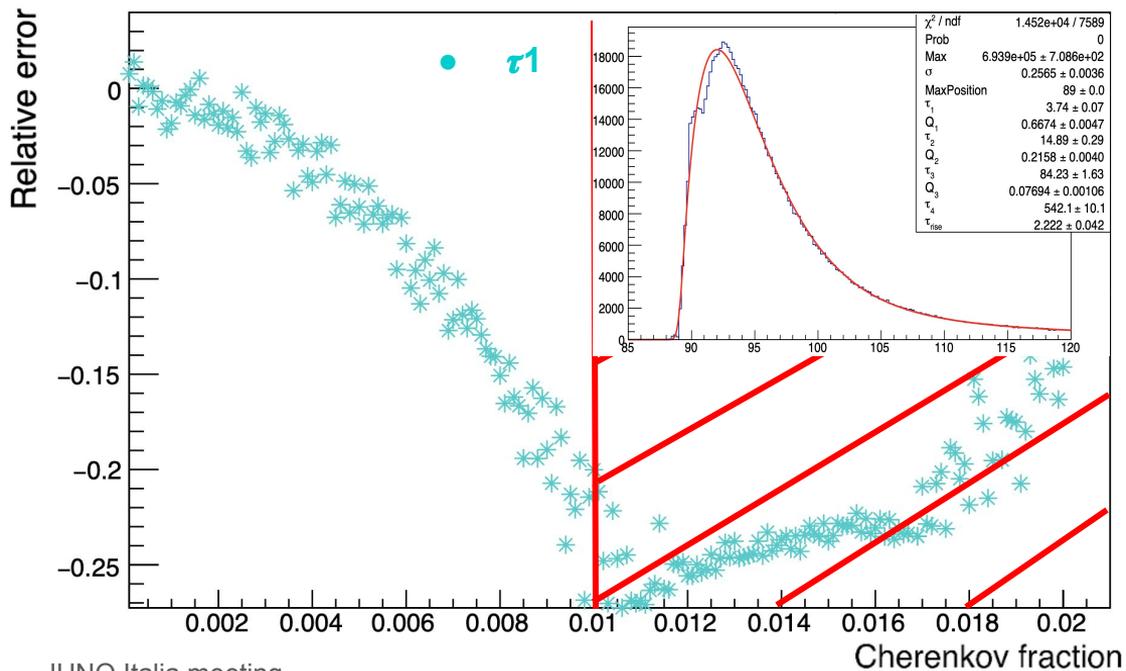
Monte-Carlo simulates  
different contribution of  
Cherenkov light

The fit does not consider  
the Cherenkov light

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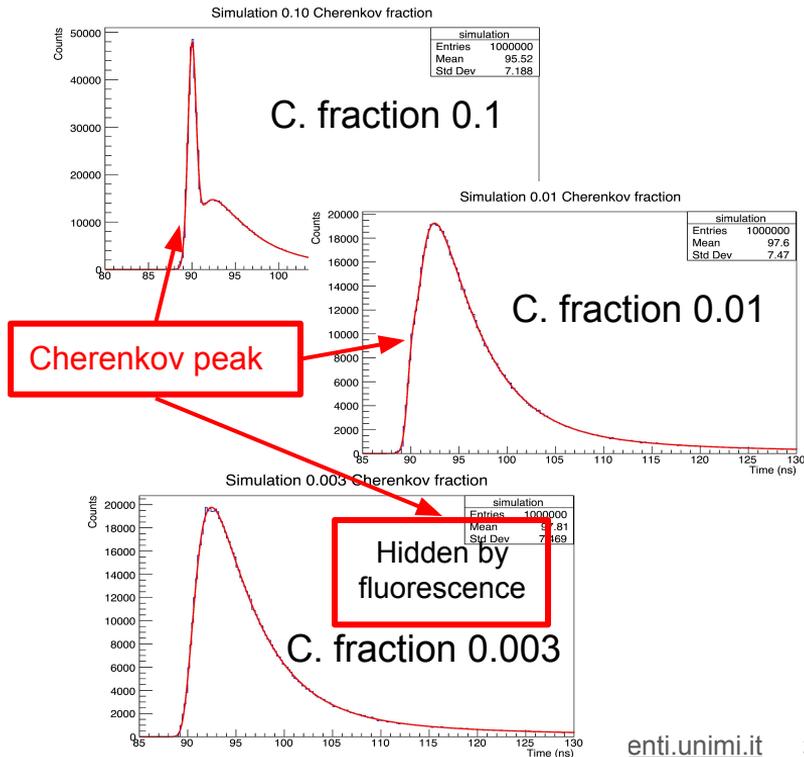
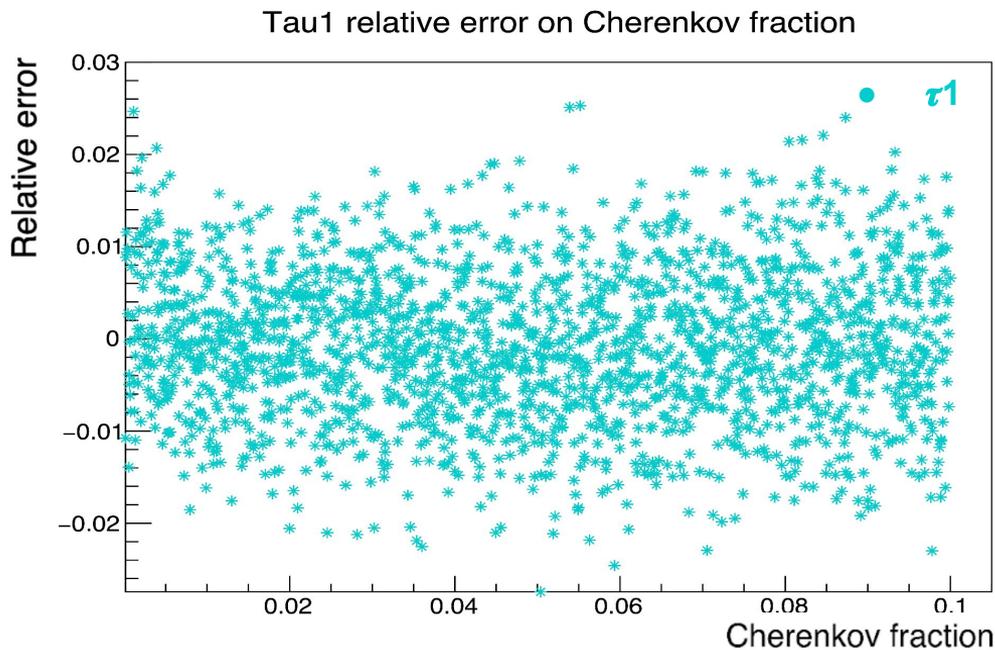


The part of the graph above 0.01 fraction makes no sense. In that case Cherenkov light becomes important and the fit doesn't work.

The relative error gets worse as the Cherenkov fraction increases

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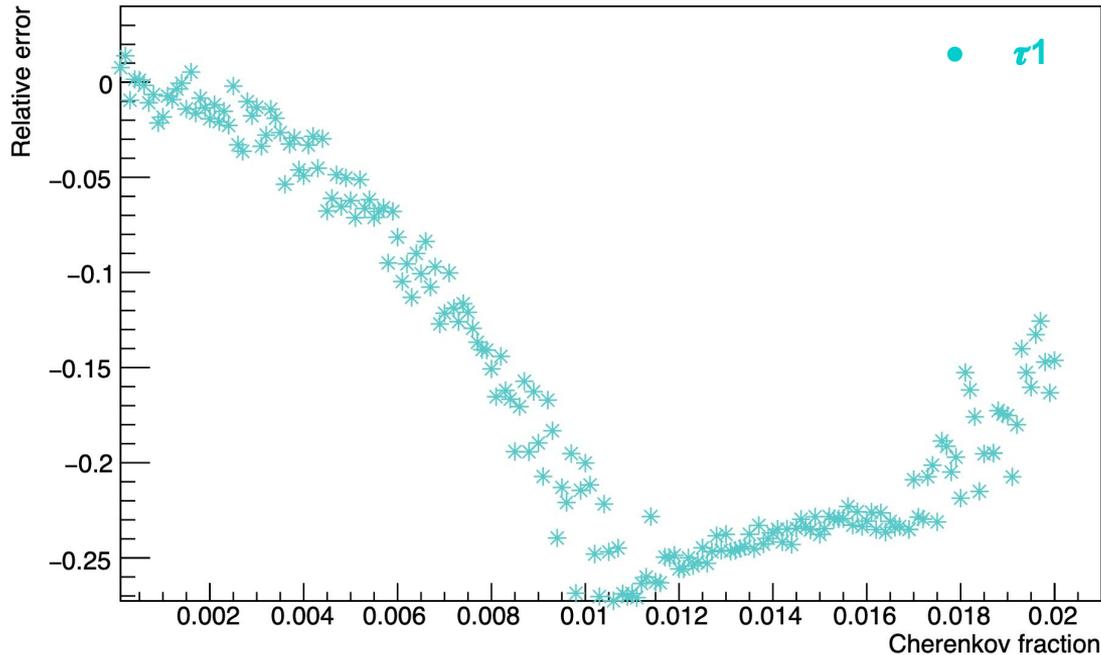


# Systematics studies: Cherenkov neglect

Same **Monte Carlo simulation** of the sensitivity studies

Cherenkov **simulated** in the time distribution, but **neglected in the fit**

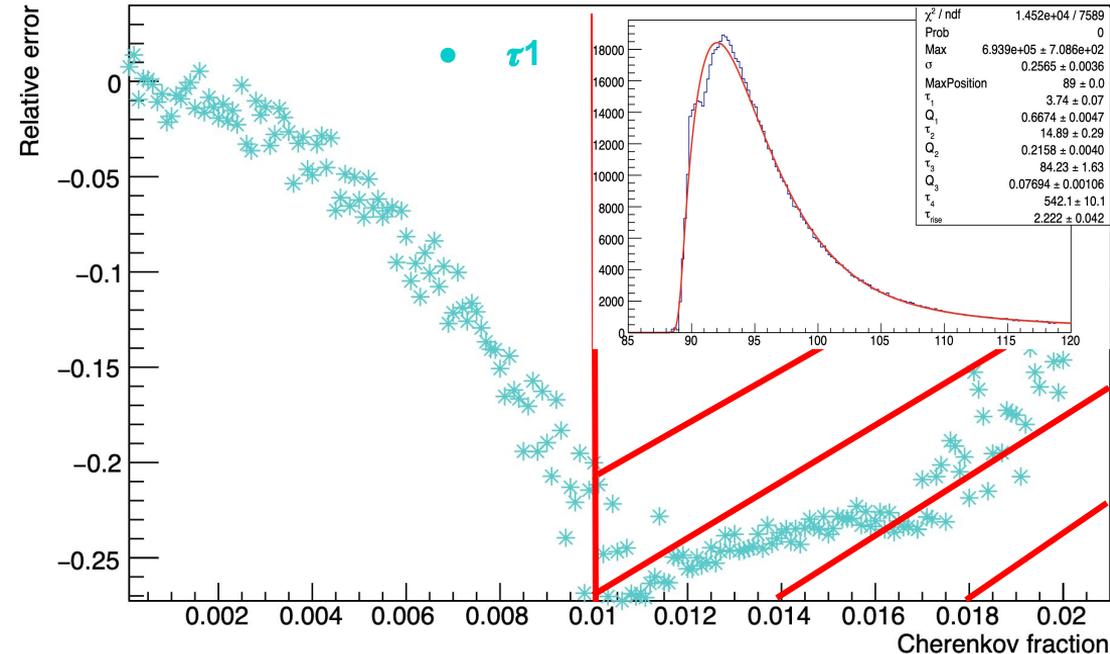
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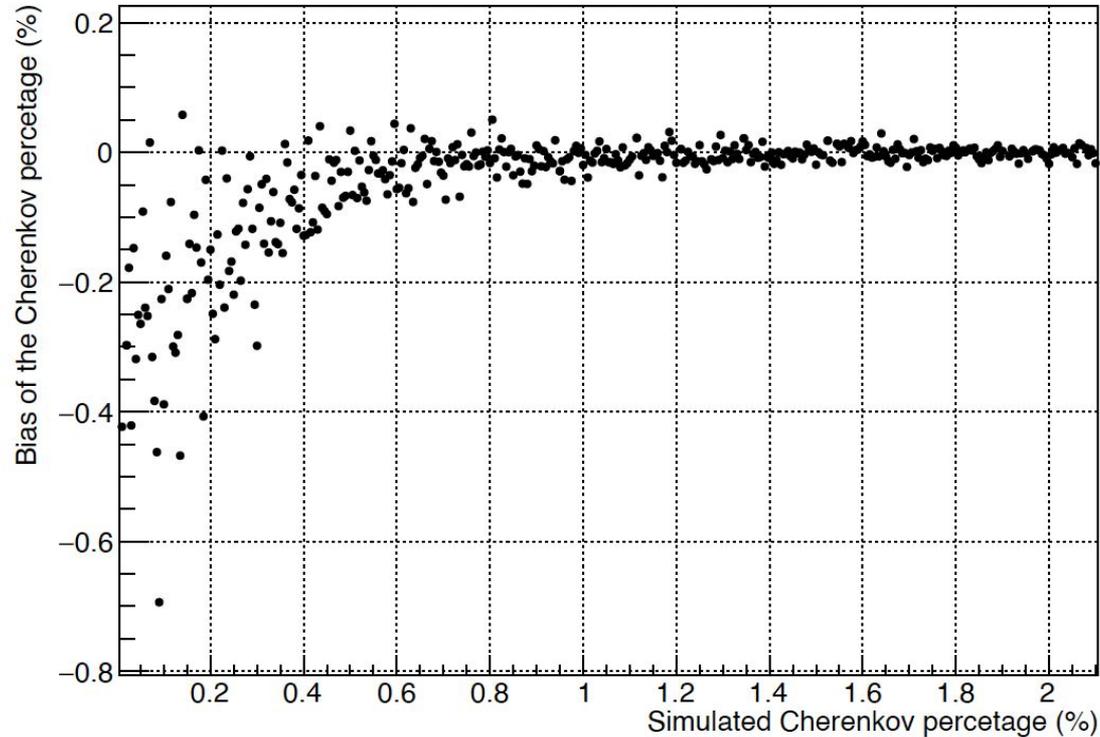


The part of the graph above 0.01 fraction makes no sense. In that case Cherenkov light becomes important and the fit doesn't work.

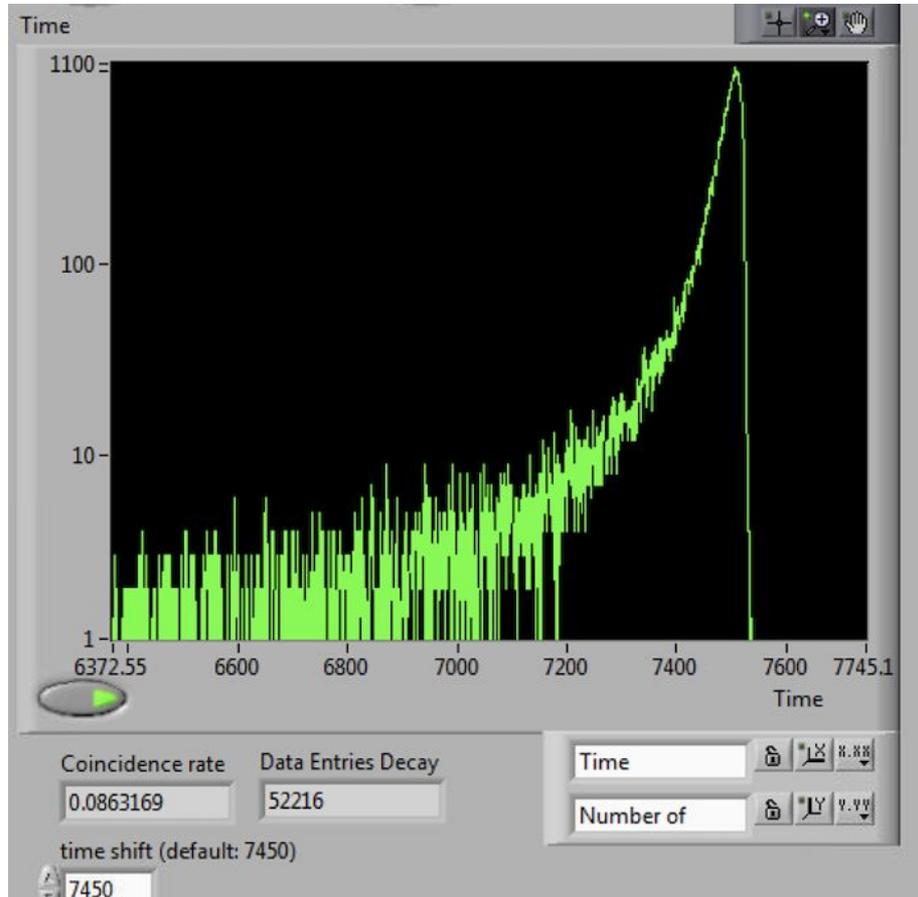
The relative error gets worse as the Cherenkov fraction increases

# Cherenkov sensitivity study

Bias of the Cherenkov percetange vs the simulated one



# Measurement of cosmic background



# Measurement of fluorescence: Results

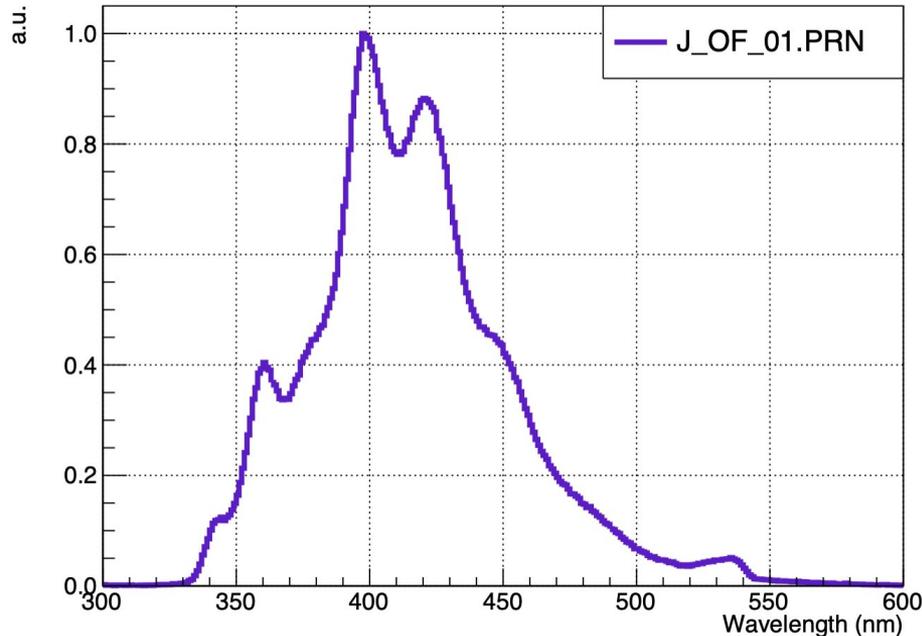
	$\tau_1$ [ns]	$\tau_2$ [ns]	$\tau_3$ [ns]	$\tau_4$ [ns]
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$e^-$	$66.81 \pm 0.50$	$21.67 \pm 0.40$	$7.45 \pm 0.14$	$4.44 \pm 0.65$
	$\tau_r$ [ns]	Cherenkov [%]	$\chi_r^2$	
$\alpha$	$0.88 \pm 0.00$	/	1.4	
$p$	$1.27 \pm 0.00$	/	1.4	
$e^-$	$1.57 \pm 0.00$	$0.76 \pm 0.12$	1.1	

# JUNO organic liquid scintillator

## JUNO LS recipe:

LAB + 2.5 g/L PPO + 3 mg/L bis-MSB

Emission spectrum



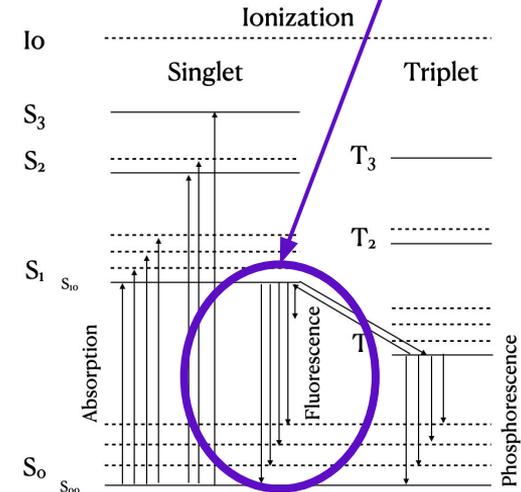
Measured @ Università degli Studi di Perugia

## Isotropic emission:

~99% of the total light emission

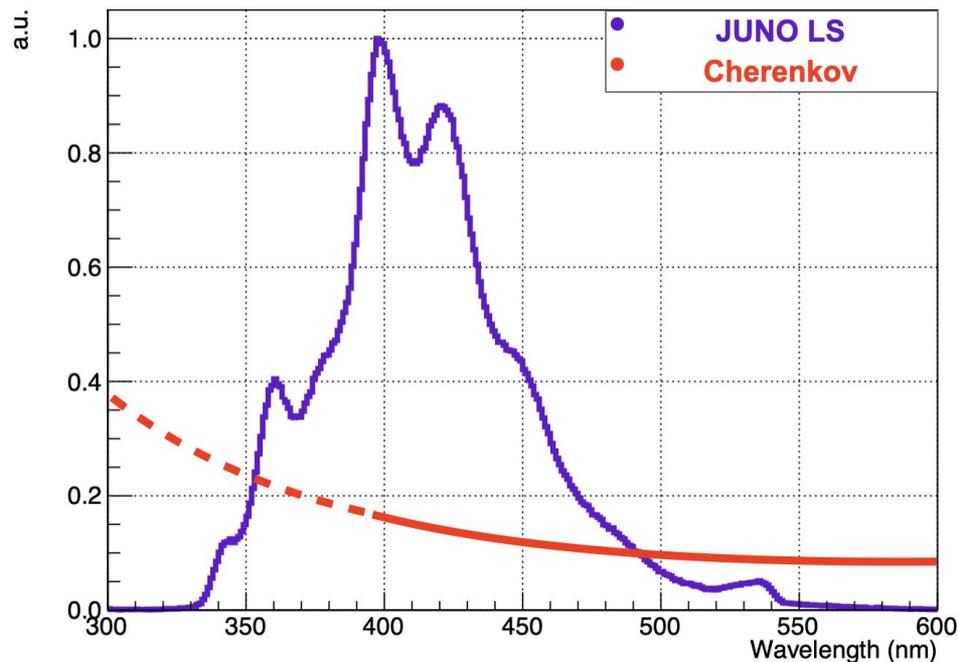
## Light emission:

LS emits light through **fluorescence** with a characteristic time profile (ns)



# JUNO organic liquid scintillator: light emission

Emission spectrum



## Cherenkov radiation:

it depends on the particle speed and the refractive index of the medium

## Directional emission:

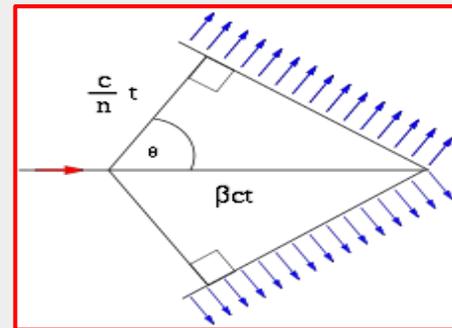
~1% of the total light emission

## Light emission:

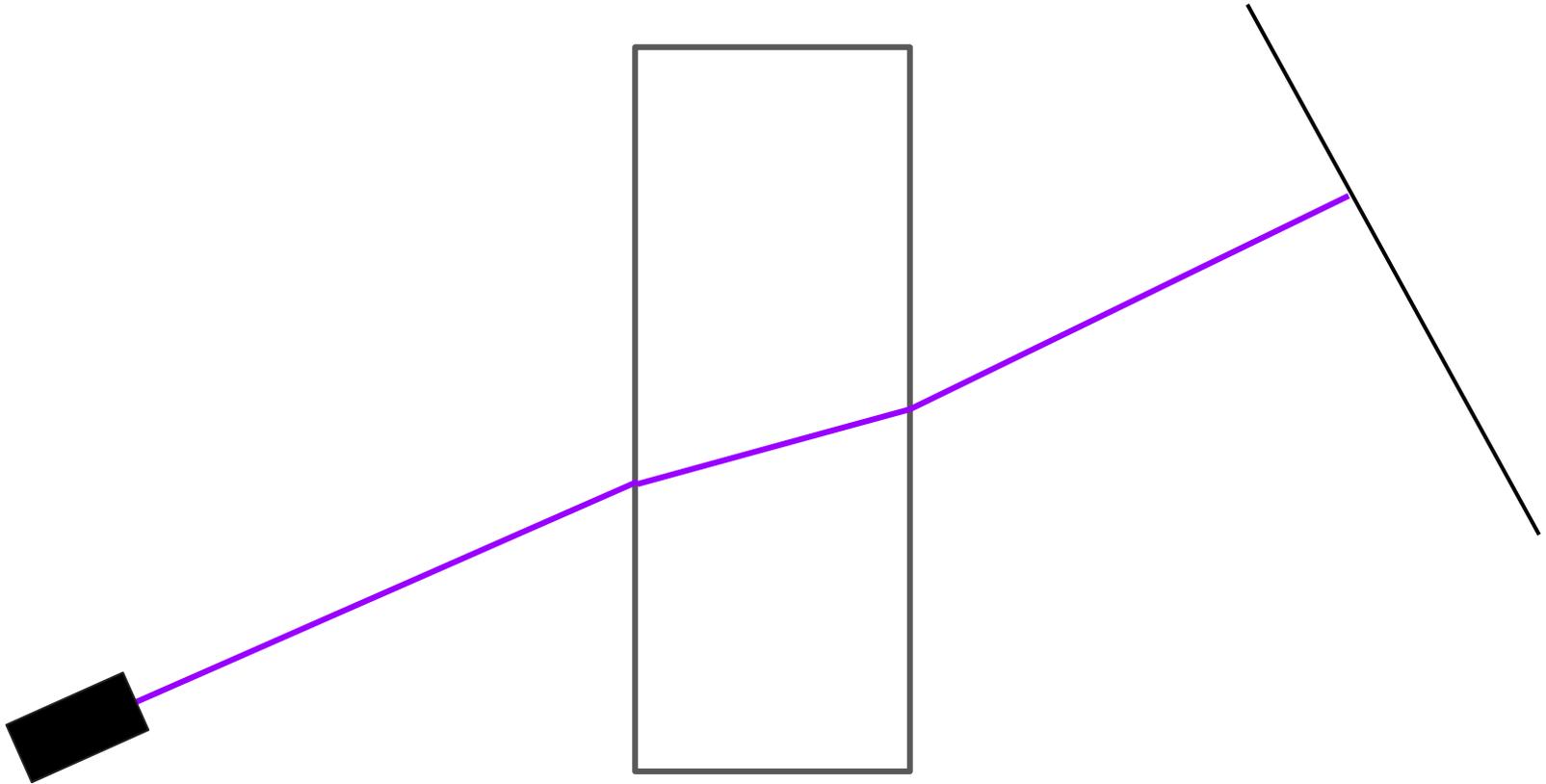
instantaneous (for our purposes)

## Spectrum:

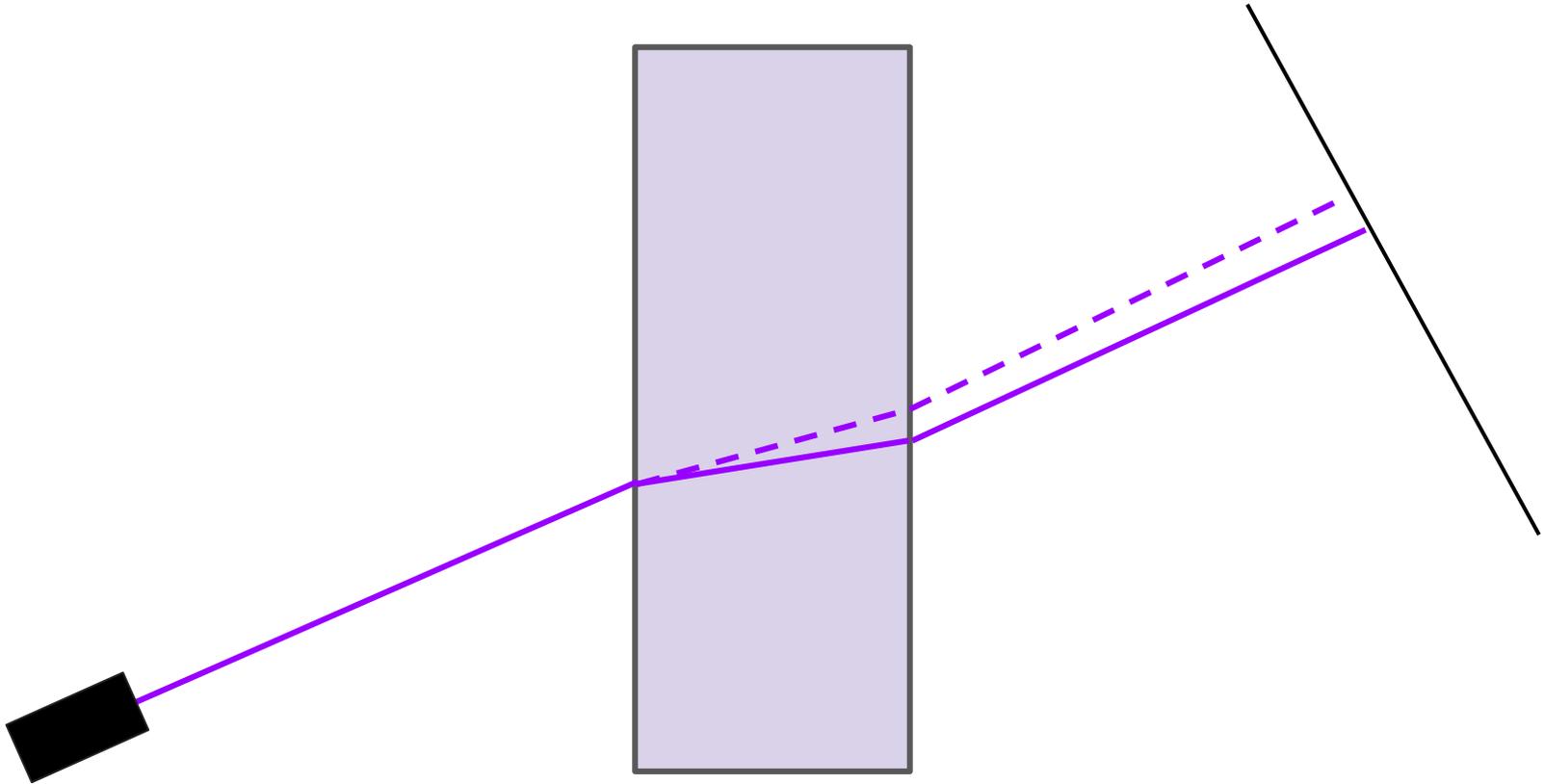
$$\sim \lambda^{-2}$$



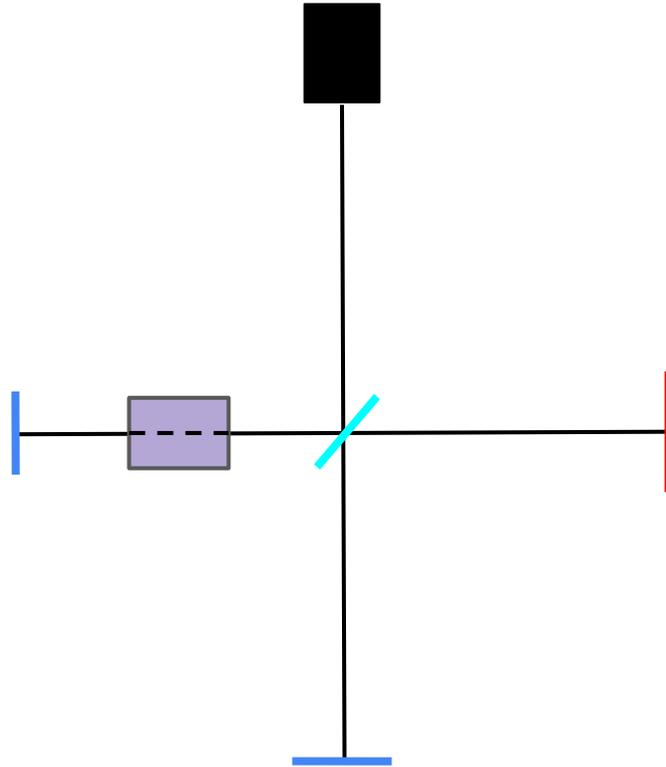
# Measurement of the refraction index



# Measurement of the refraction index



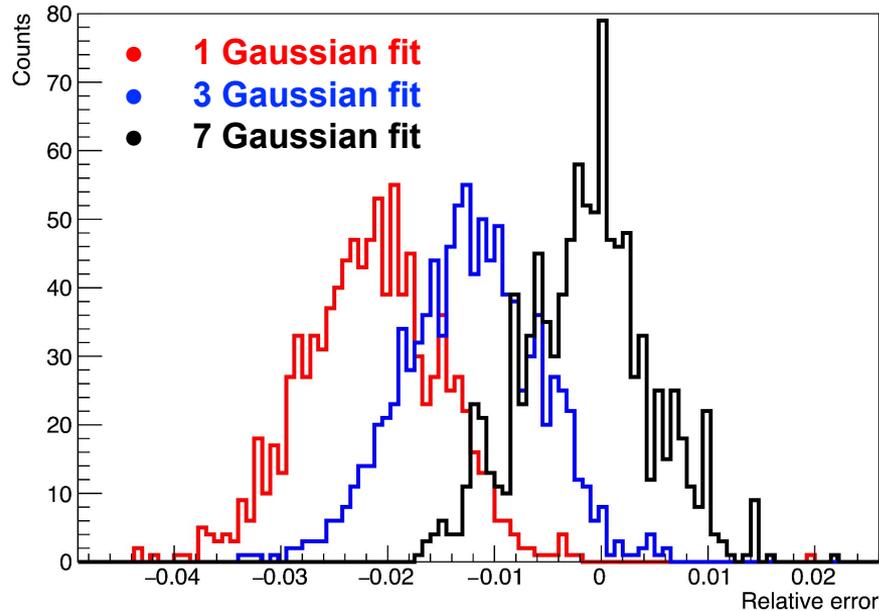
# Measurement of the group velocity



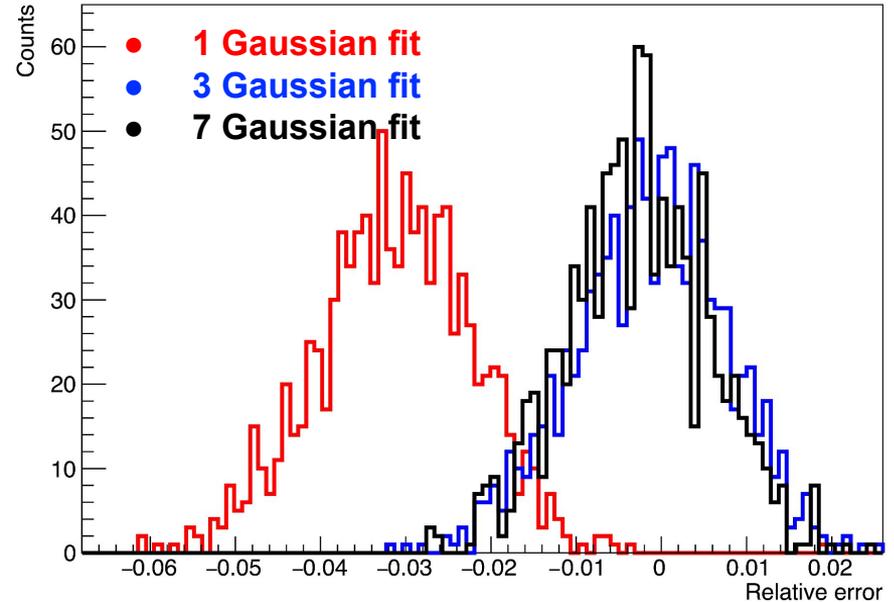
# Systematic error introduced by fit $\longrightarrow$ 7 Gaussians

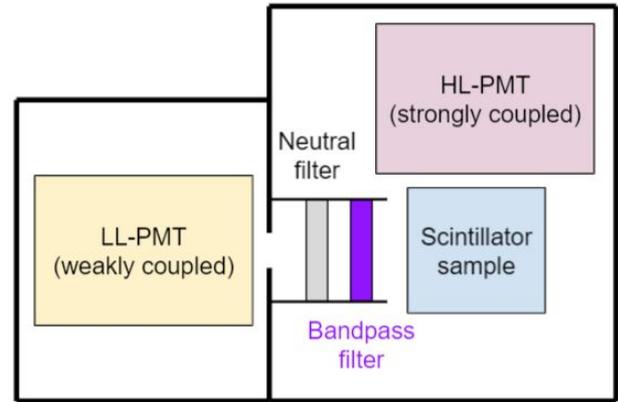
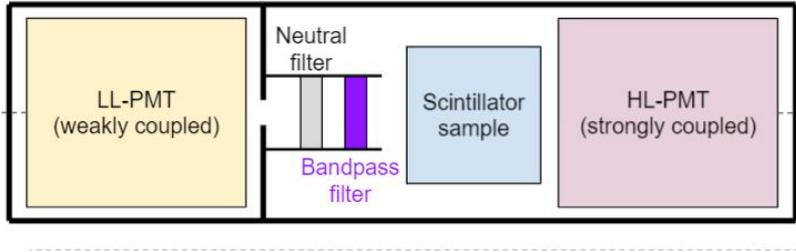
The modeling of the time response affects more on the 1<sup>nd</sup> and the 2<sup>nd</sup> component

Relative error on Q1 simulation 7 Gauss



Relative error on Tau1 simulation 7 Gauss



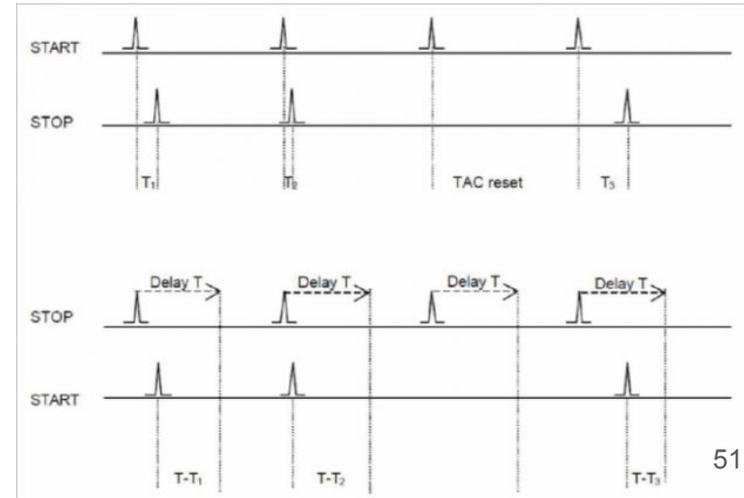
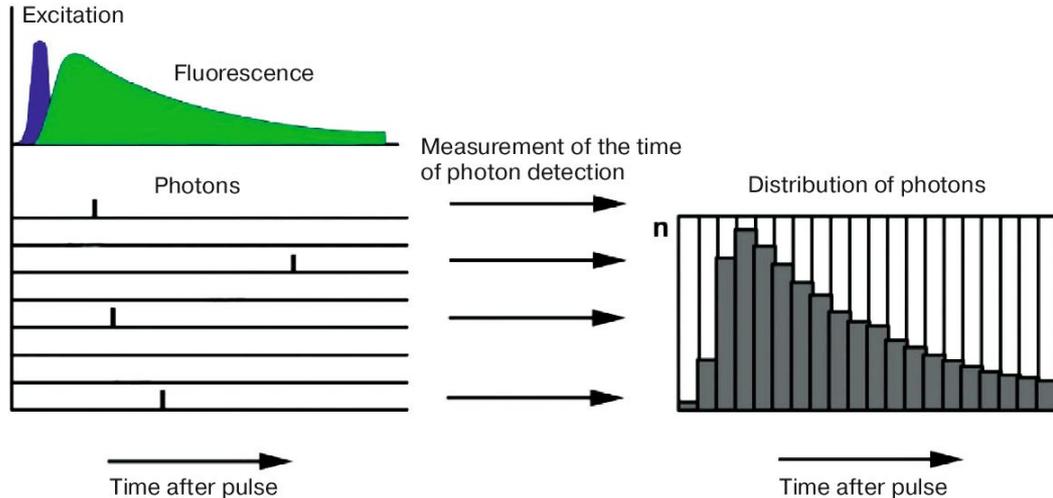


# Measurement of fluorescence time profile with the single photon counting technique

Time-correlated single photon counting (TCSPC) is a technique to measure the fluorescence decay time.

Under certain hypothesis ( $R_{sp} \ll R_{tr}$ ), the time of arrival of the photons w.r.t. to the trigger reproduces the fluorescence time distribution.

In our application, one PMT provides the START signal (trigger) and the other PMT gives the STOP signal.



# The SHELDON project: scientific goals

Separation of cHErenkov Light for Directionality Of Neutrino

## Two main goals:

Accurate measurement of  
**fluorescence** time distribution  
(fluorescence parameters)

Study of the **Cherenkov**  
radiation in the JUNO LS

### Impact on the JUNO experiment:

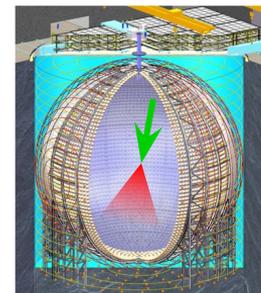
- event reconstruction
- particle identification via PSD
- improved description of fluorescence parameters in the JUNO MC

### Impact on the JUNO experiment:

- Improved understanding of energy response
- Possible reconstruction of the direction of incident neutrino



JUNO Italia meeting



# SHELDON

## Separation of cHERenkov Light for Directionality Of Neutrinos

Davide Basilico, Marco Beretta, Augusto Brigatti, Barbara Caccianiga,  
Federico Ferraro, Cecilia Landini, Paolo Lombardi, Alessandra Re

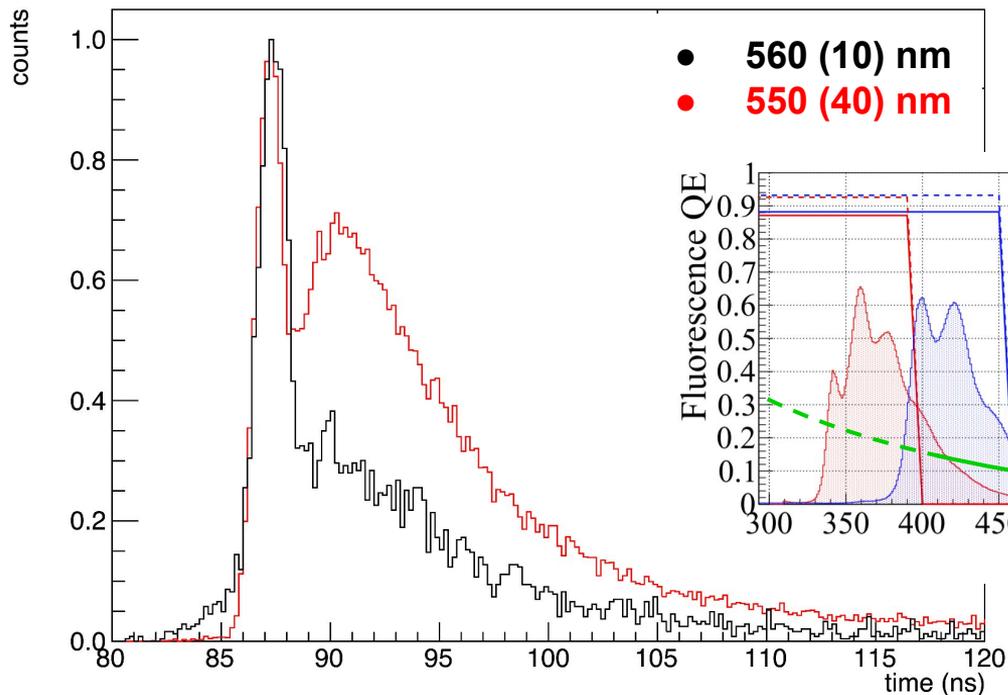


Università degli Studi di Milano  
INFN-Sezione di Milano

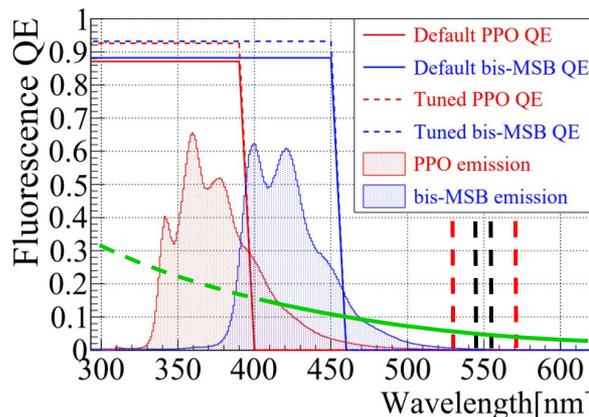


# Separation of Cherenkov light - first results with JUNO mixture

## Cherenkov separation



Separation of **Cherenkov light** using optical filters



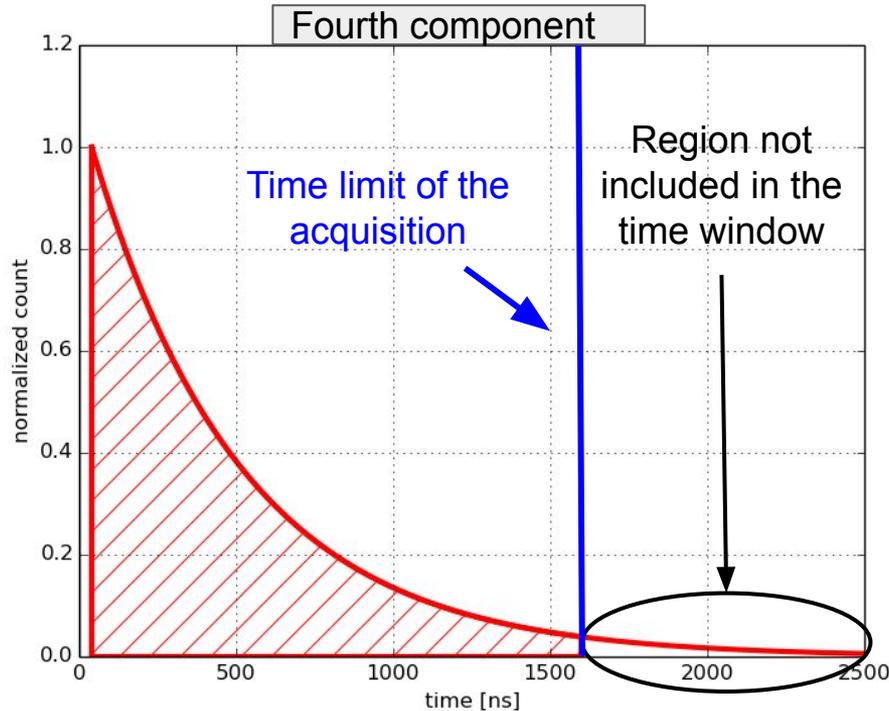
Actually we use only two bandpass filters:

- $560 \pm 5$  nm
- $550 \pm 20$  nm

The first measurements has low statistics due to the small rate

Starting from next week we will improve statistic and use other filters to better sampling the spectrum

# Normalization of the fourth component



The fit model uses four components to describe the de-excitation time of the L.S.

These components are normalized to the integral of the exponential

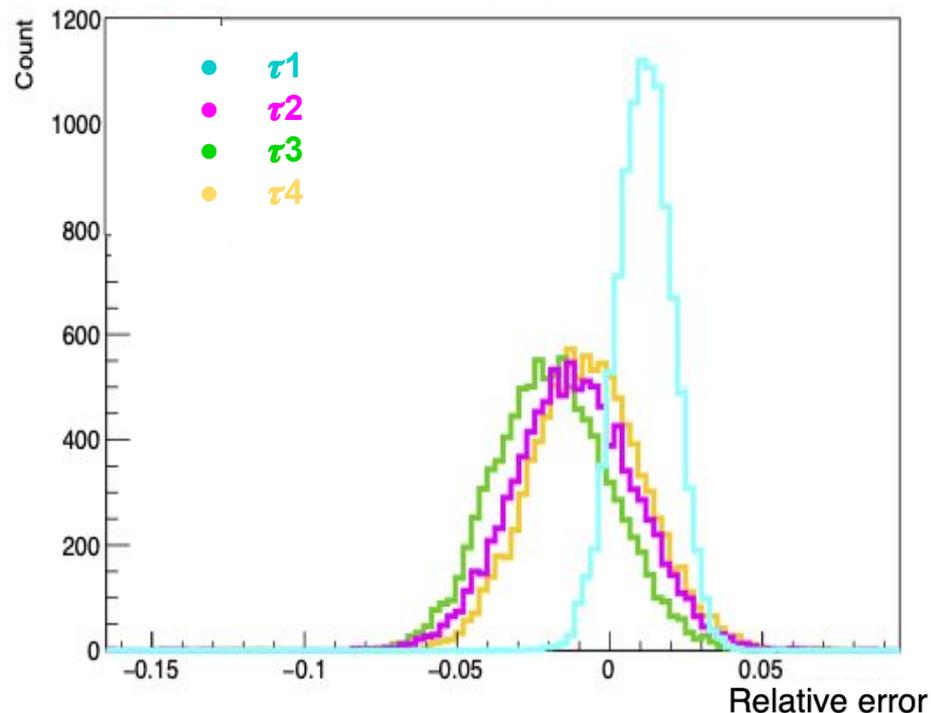
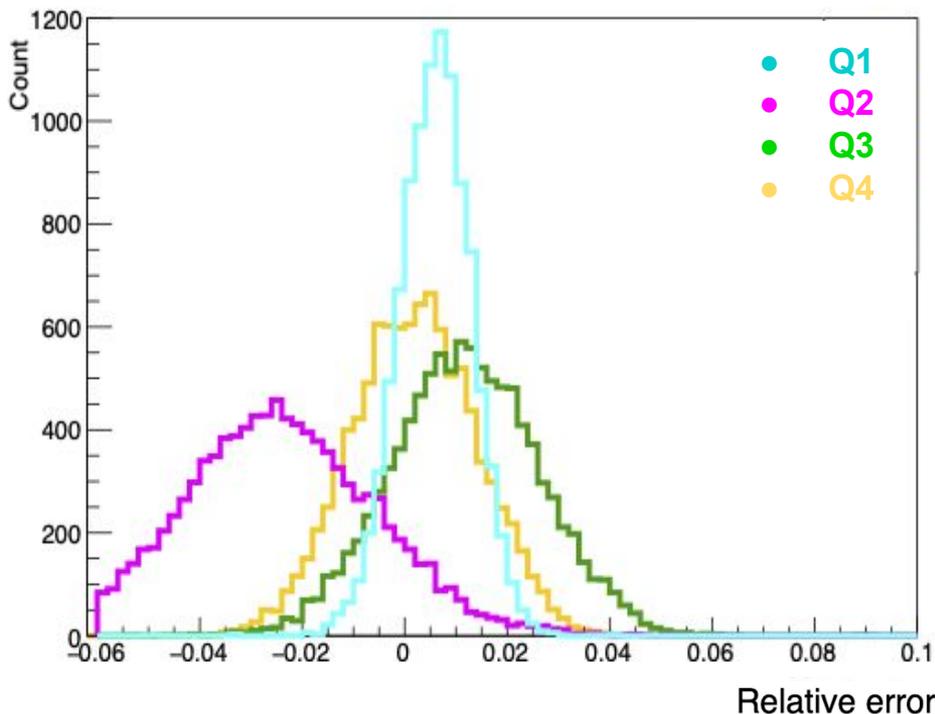
For the fourth component this introduces an error

We improve the implementation of this normalization to consider this error

Systematic error introduced by fit  $\longrightarrow$  On  $10^5$  simulations

A simple Monte Carlo was realized to study the fit systematics.

The percentage uncertainty introduced by the fit is less than 5% on  $\tau_i$  and  $q_i$ .

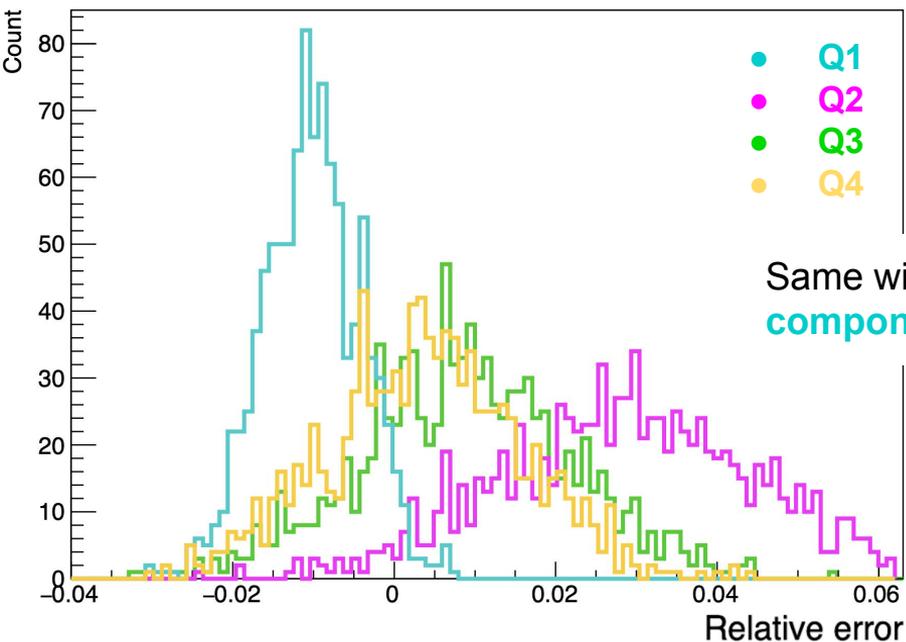


# Systematic error introduced by a different description of the detector response

Only 1 Gaussian was used instead of 3 to describe the system response

In this case the percentage uncertainty gets worse for the **fast component**

Relative error on Qs fit with 1 Gauss



Relative error on Taus fit with 1 Gaussian only

