The POKER Calorimeter



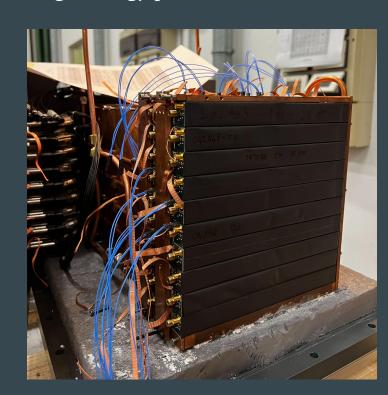
The POKER project search for Light Dark Matter production with a fixed, active target experiment, performing missing-energy measurements with high-energy positron beams.

The POKER active target (PKR-CAL):

- A new electromagnetic calorimeter
- ~100 PbWO₄ crystals
- **SiPM**-based redout system

PKR-CAL features:

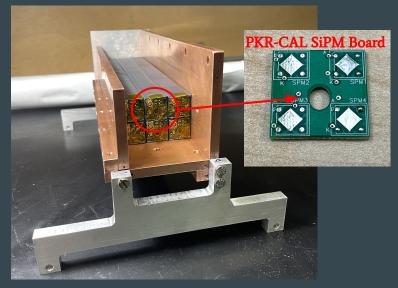
- Full hermeticity: thickness = $32 X_0$
- Light yield ~ 4 phe⁻/MeV
- Linear response in the 100 MeV 100 GeV range
- Energy resolution: $\sigma/E < 1\%$, $E \in (10,100)$ GeV
- Response time within 40 ns

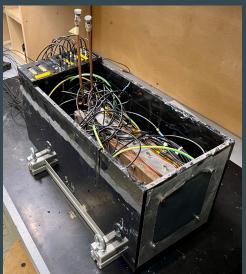


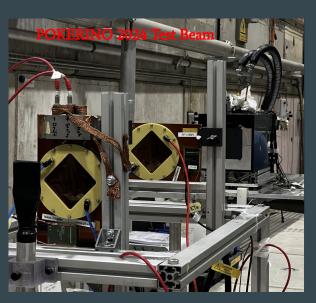
The POKERINO Prototype

POKERINO prototype is a small-scale prototype of the PKR-CAL detector

- 3x3 matrix of **PbWO₄ crystals** (CRYTUR Type-II), 2x2x20 cm³, intrinsic Light Yield ~ 100 γ/MeV
- Each crystal is coupled with a PCB hosting 4 Hamamatsu S14160-6010 SiPMs (6×6 mm², 10 μm pixel size)
- Wrapped in reflective VM2000 and black Tedlar for light containment
- The matrix is held by a mechanical copper structure, connected to an external cooling system
- The detector is enclosed in a light-tight black box





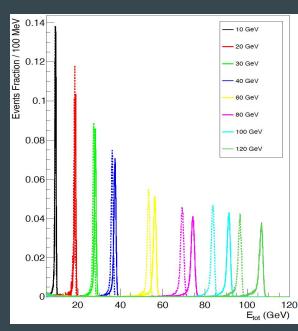


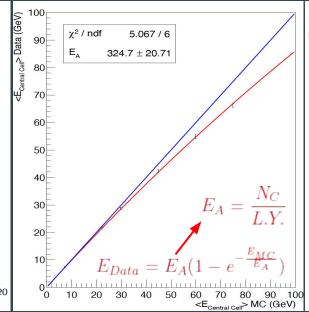
2024 Test Beam @CERN-SPS-H6

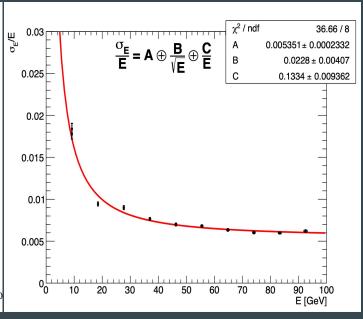
- Measurements:
 - Pre-calibration performed with 180 GeV muons
 - Energy scan with e⁺ beams from 10 to 120 GeV

Results:

- SiPM saturation effects measured in experimental conditions: non-linearity is limited and correctable
- Estimated Light Yield: ~ 4.5 phe/MeV, compatible with in-lab tests
- Energy resolution $\sigma/E < 1\%$, $E \in (10,100)$ GeV, compatible with the expected performance







PKR-CAL Commissioning & First Tests

Detector assembly was completed in December 2024

- Cosmic rays and laser test were performed in Genova: all channels (except one) are working properly
- Final hardware fixing will be completed in the next month
- The detector will perform the first on-beam measurements this summer



