

Background meeting, Mar. 12<sup>th</sup> 2012

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# **Tungsten shield and the FDIRC Boron-loaded-polyethylene**

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**INFN – Sezione di Pisa**

# Outline

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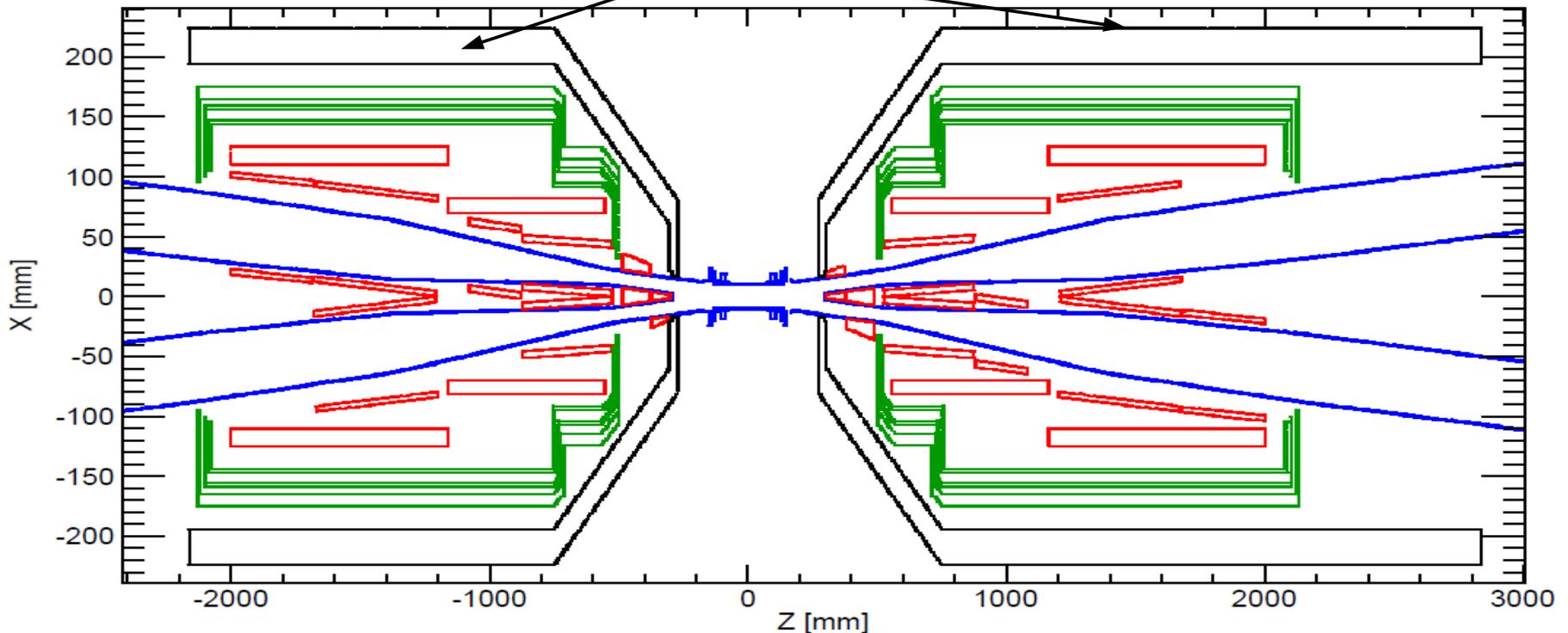
- **Tungsten shield studies**
- **FDIRC neutron shield**
  - Neutron moderation and absorption in Boron-loaded polyethylene shield

# Tungsten shield studies (I)

## Current configuration

Cone+cylinder 3cm thick going from 27 to 284 cm (-27 to -216 cm) in the Fwd (Bwd)

## 3cm thick tungsten shield



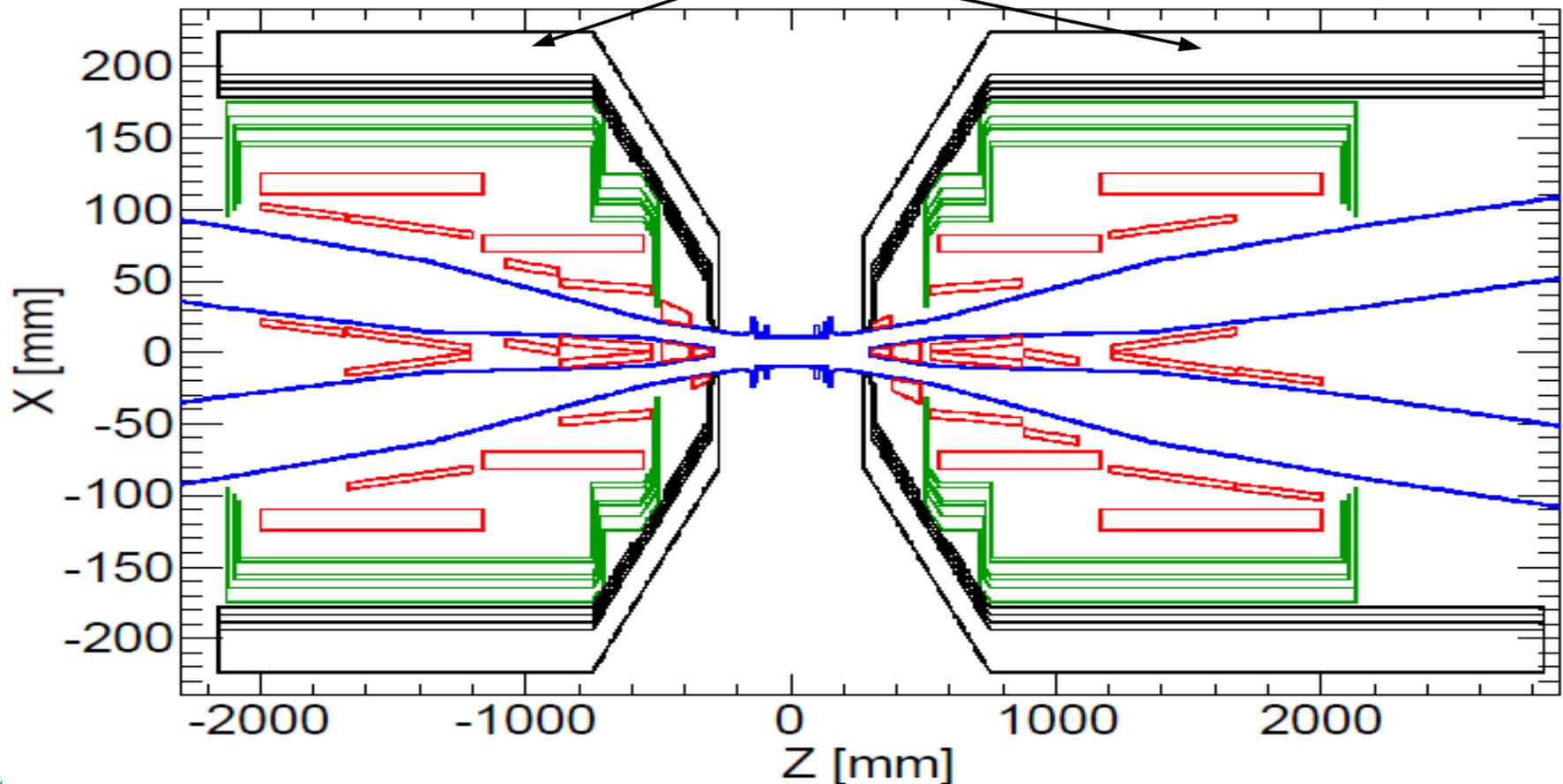
Background rates on the detector are too high  $\Rightarrow$  Main contribution is Rad-bhabha

# Tungsten shield studies (II)

## Strategy:

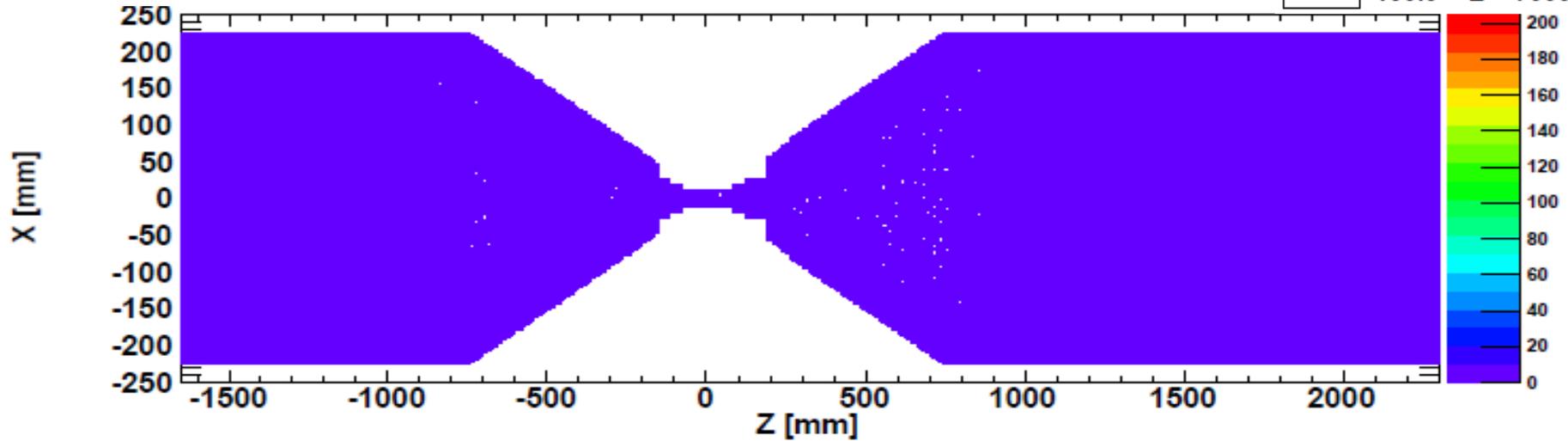
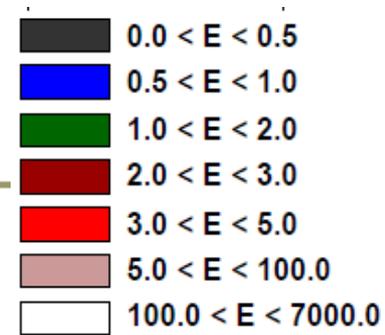
- Reduction of the particle flux out of the final focus from Rad-bhabha for the different tungsten shield thickness: 3 to 4.5 cm (step 0.5cm)

## Different tungsten shield thickness

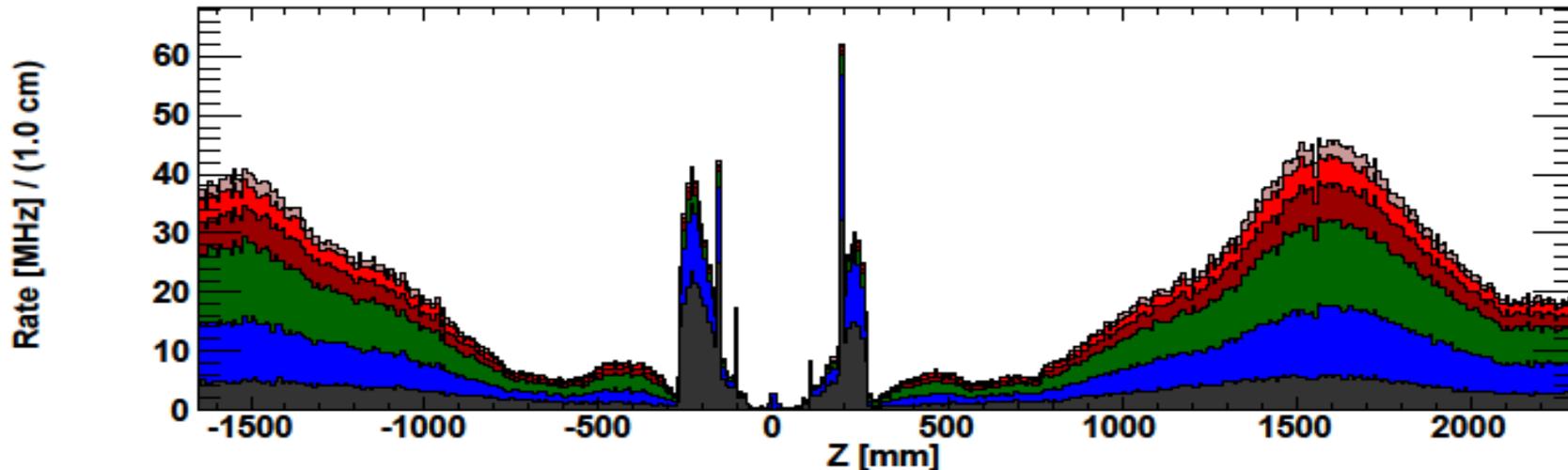


# Tungsten shield studies: results

Photon flux: Tungsten shield thickness 3.0cm

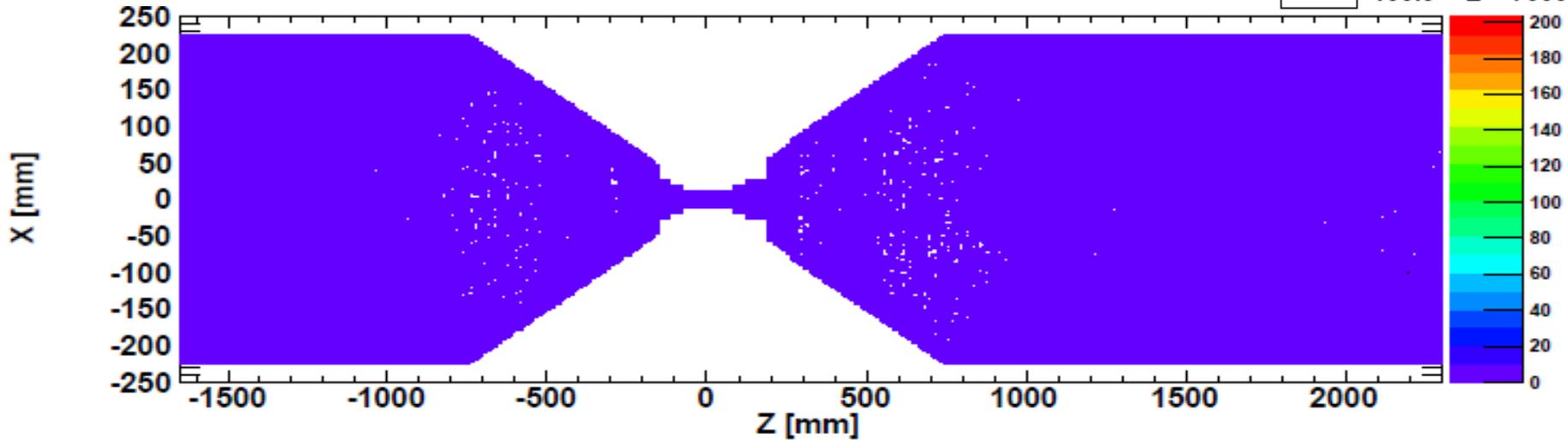


0.1000 < E < 7.0000

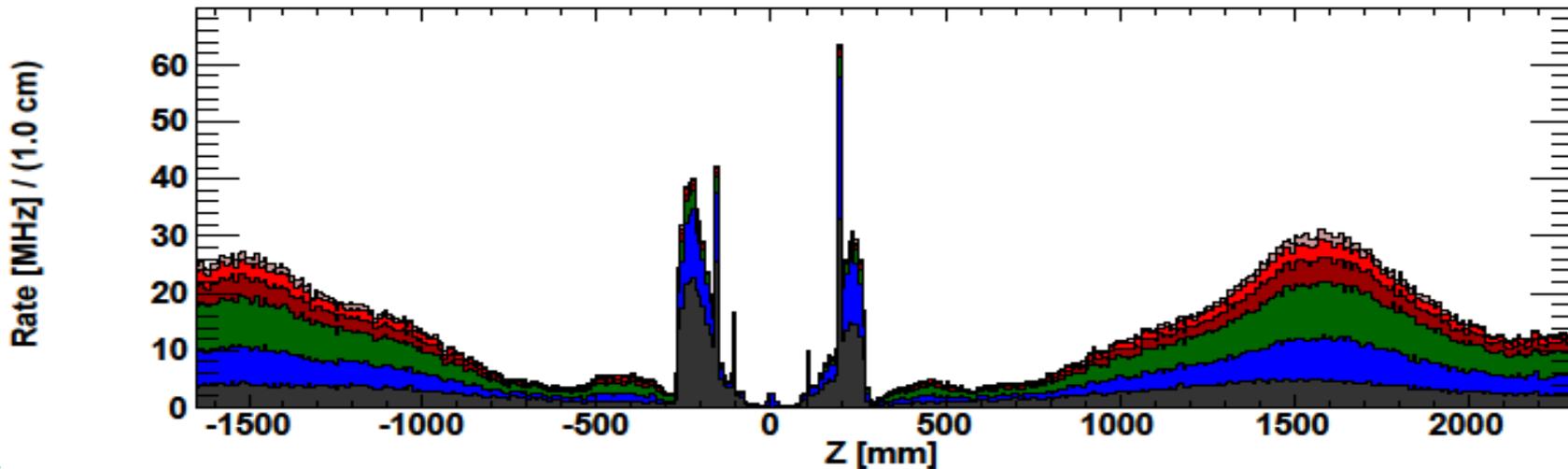


# Tungsten shield studies: results

Photon flux: Tungsten shield thickness 3.5cm

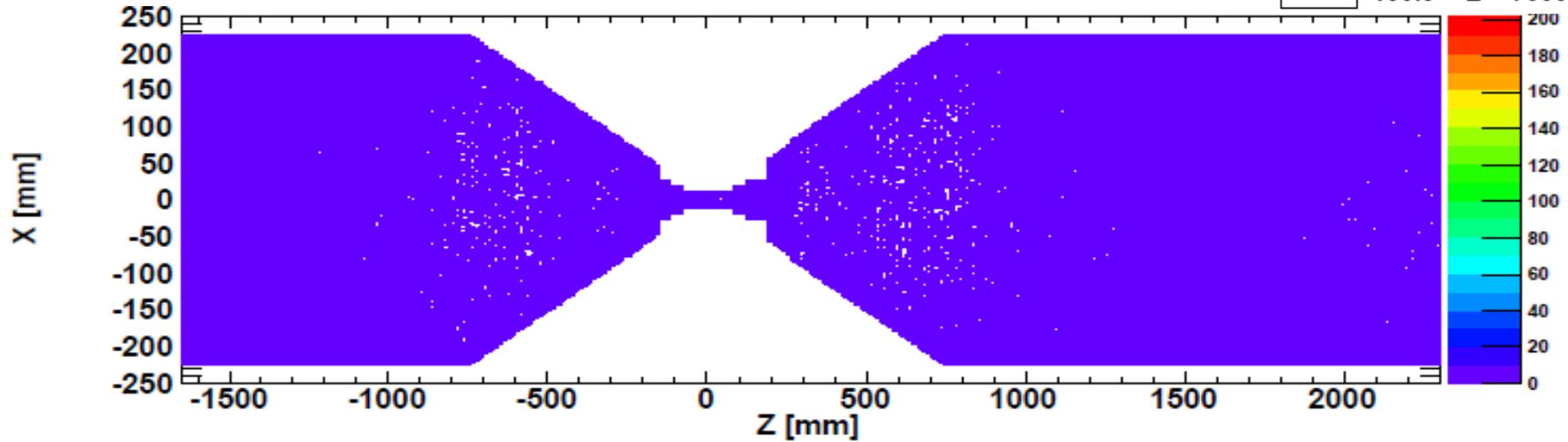


0.1000 < E < 7.0000

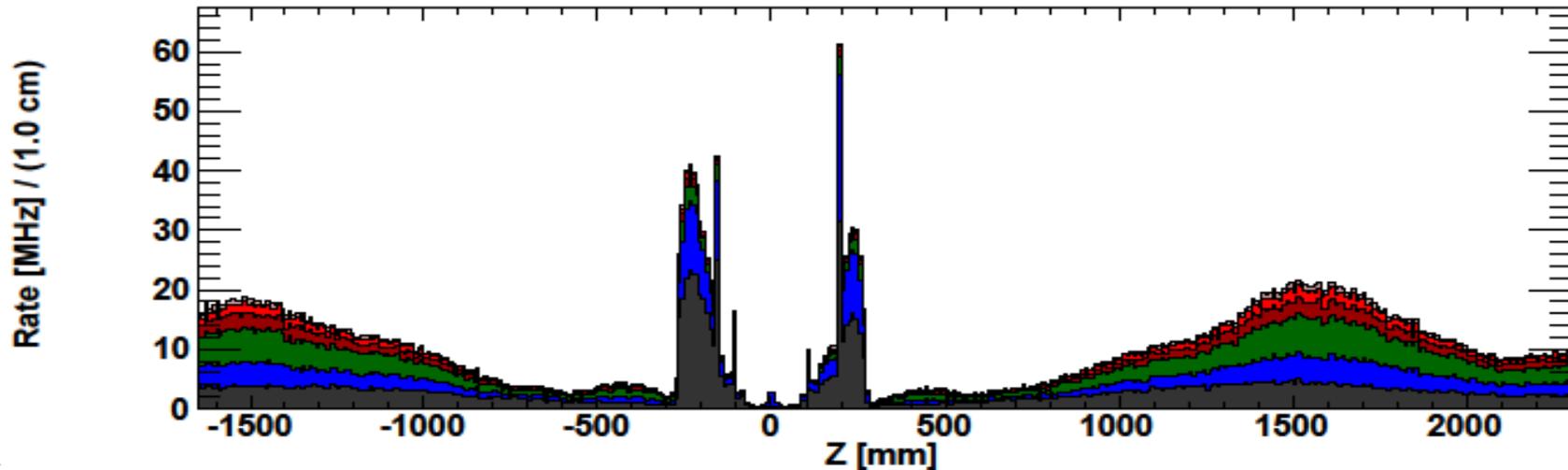


# Tungsten shield studies: results

Photon flux: Tungsten shield thickness 4.0cm

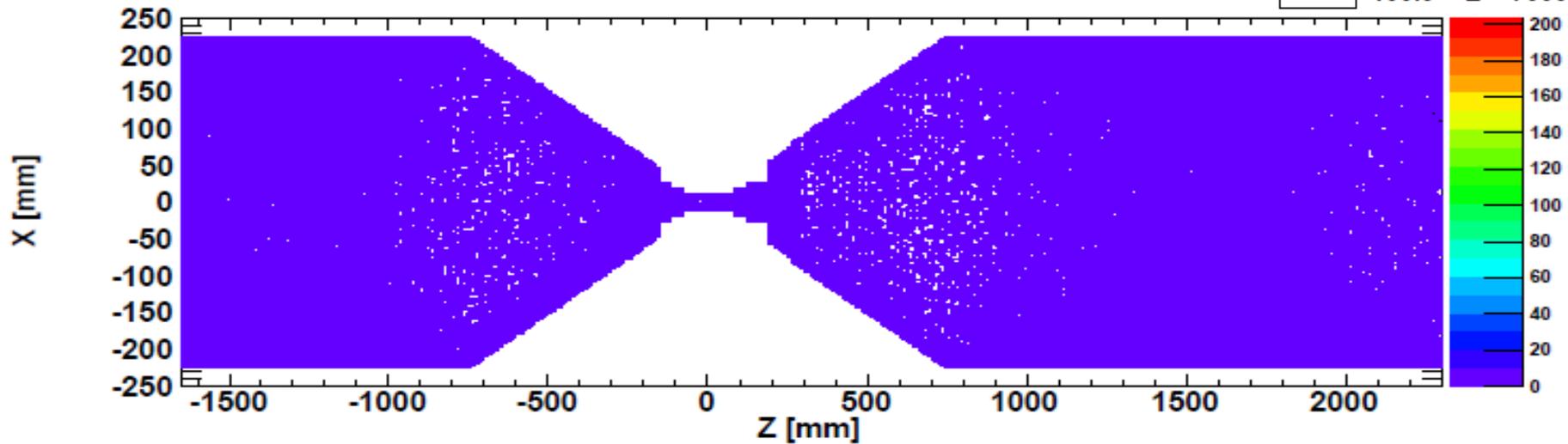
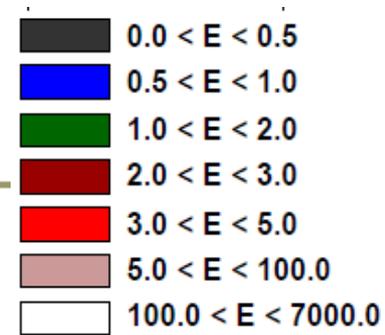


0.1000 < E < 7.0000

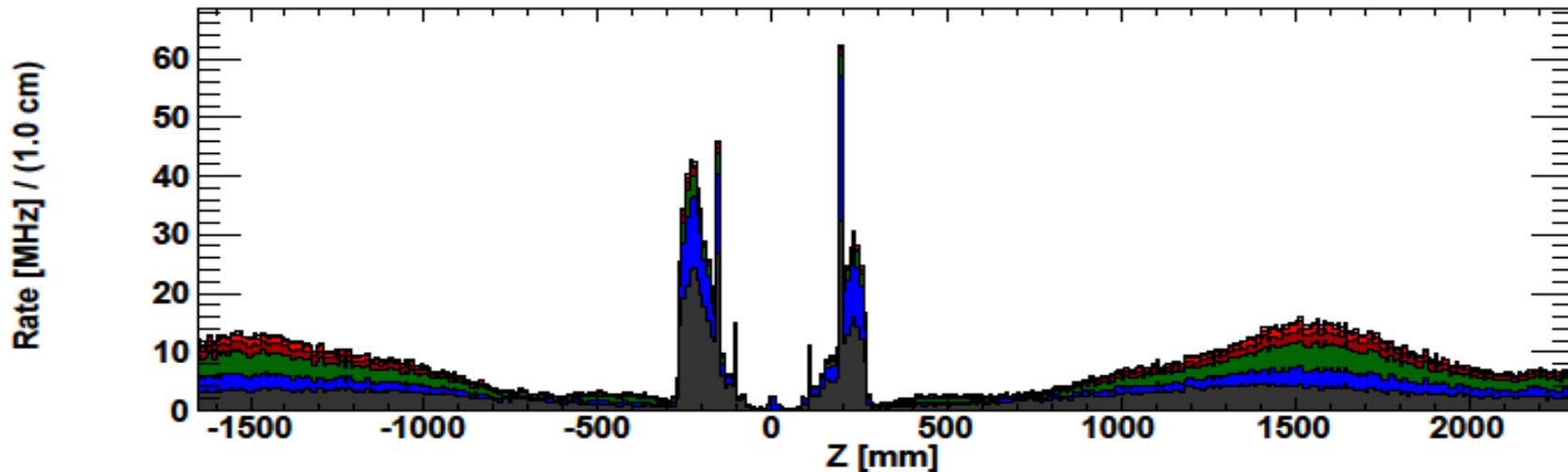


# Tungsten shield studies: results

Photon flux: Tungsten shield thickness 4.5cm



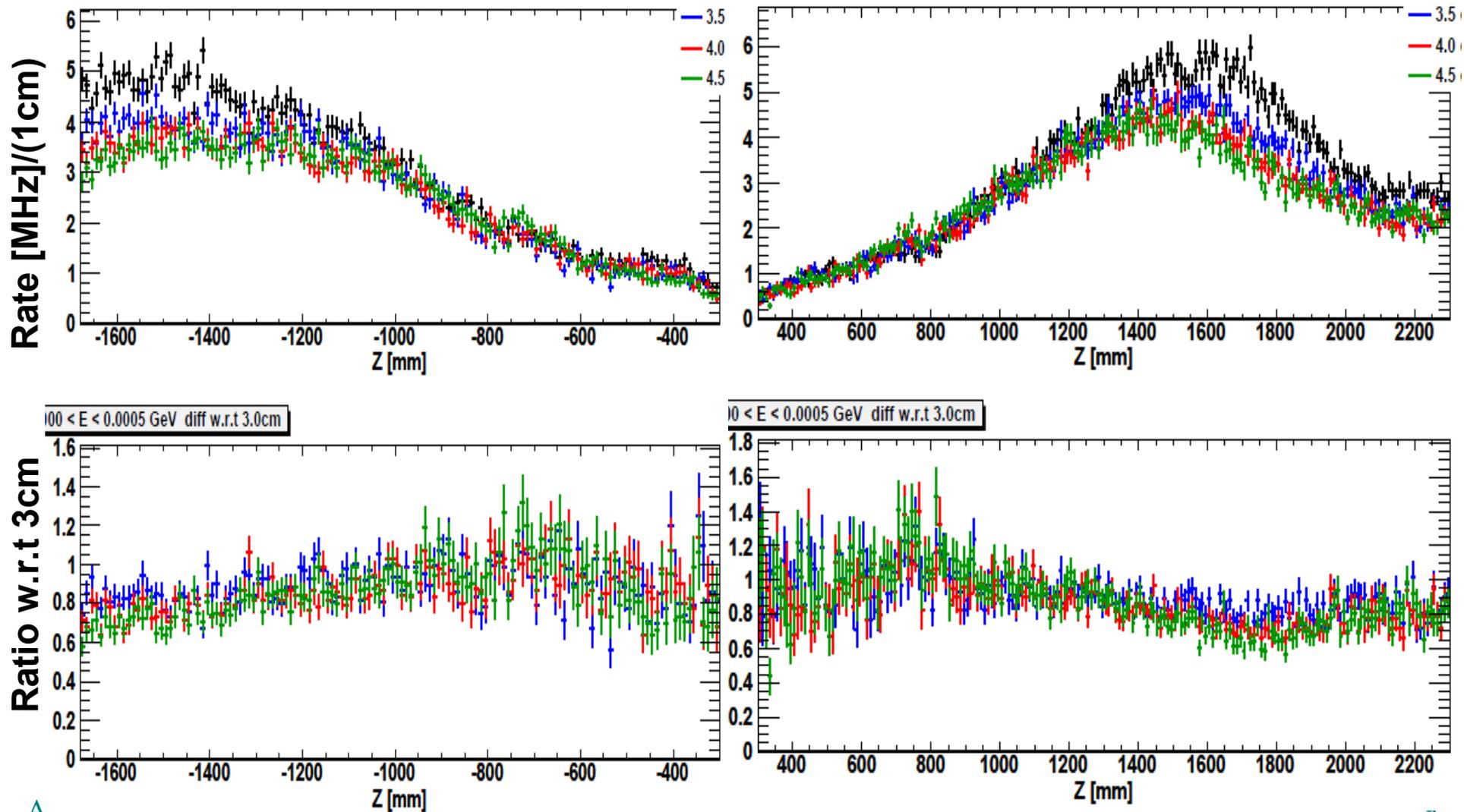
0.1000 < E < 7.0000



# Tungsten shield studies: results

- 3.0 cm
- 3.5 cm
- 4.0 cm
- 4.5 cm

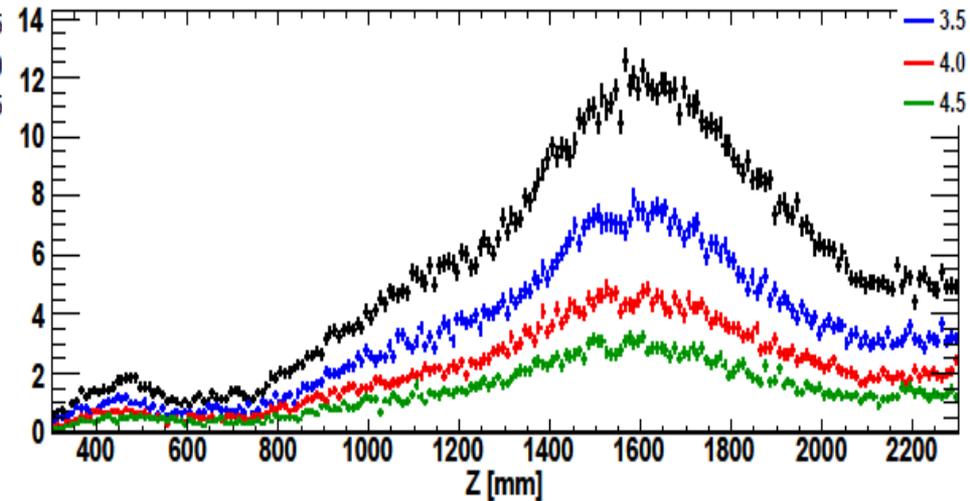
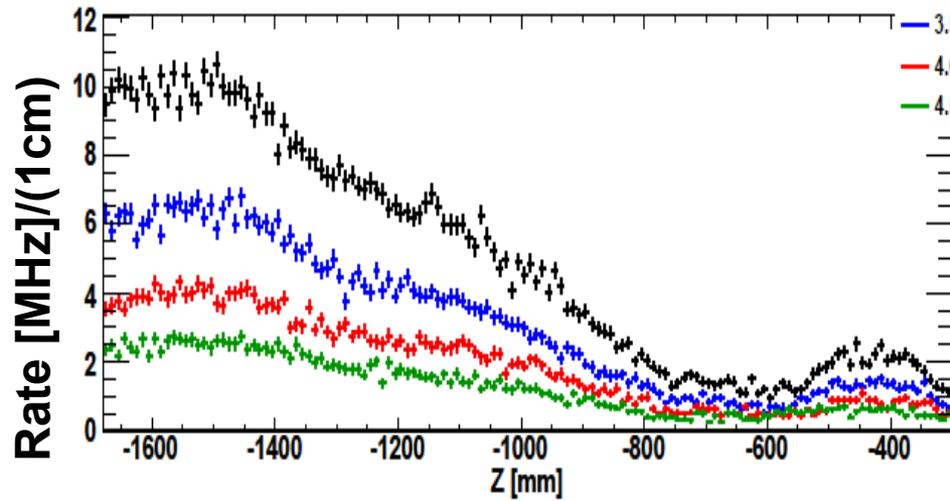
Photon flux comparisons:  $\gamma$  E (0,0.5)MeV



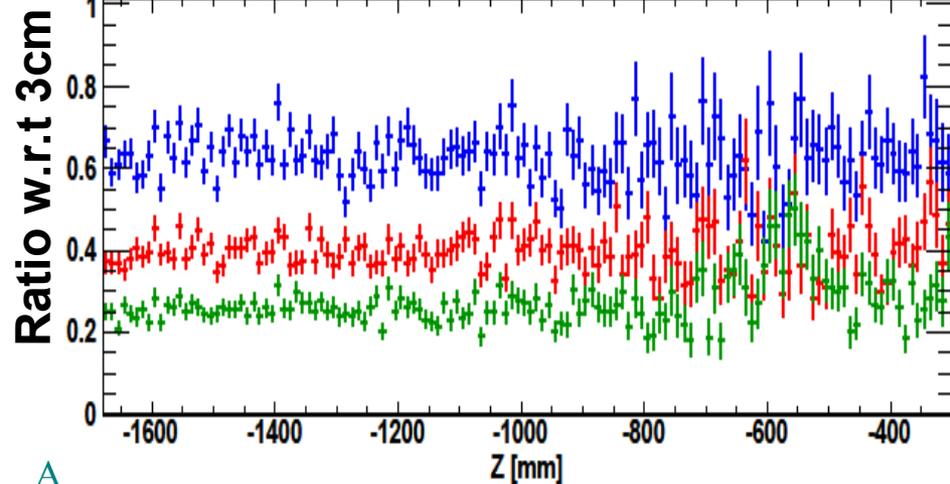
# Tungsten shield studies: results

- 3.0 cm
- 3.5 cm
- 4.0 cm
- 4.5 cm

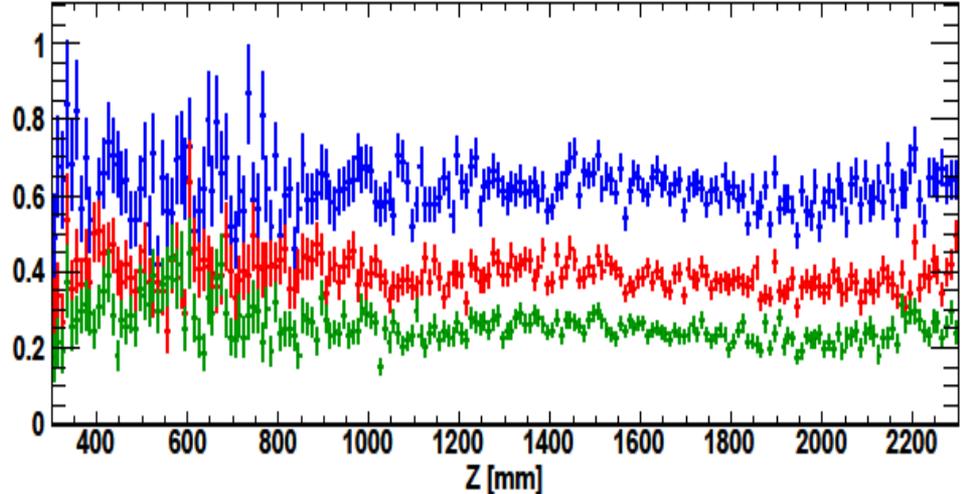
Photon flux comparisons:  $\gamma$  E (0.5,1.0)MeV



05 < E < 0.0010 GeV diff w.r.t 3.0cm



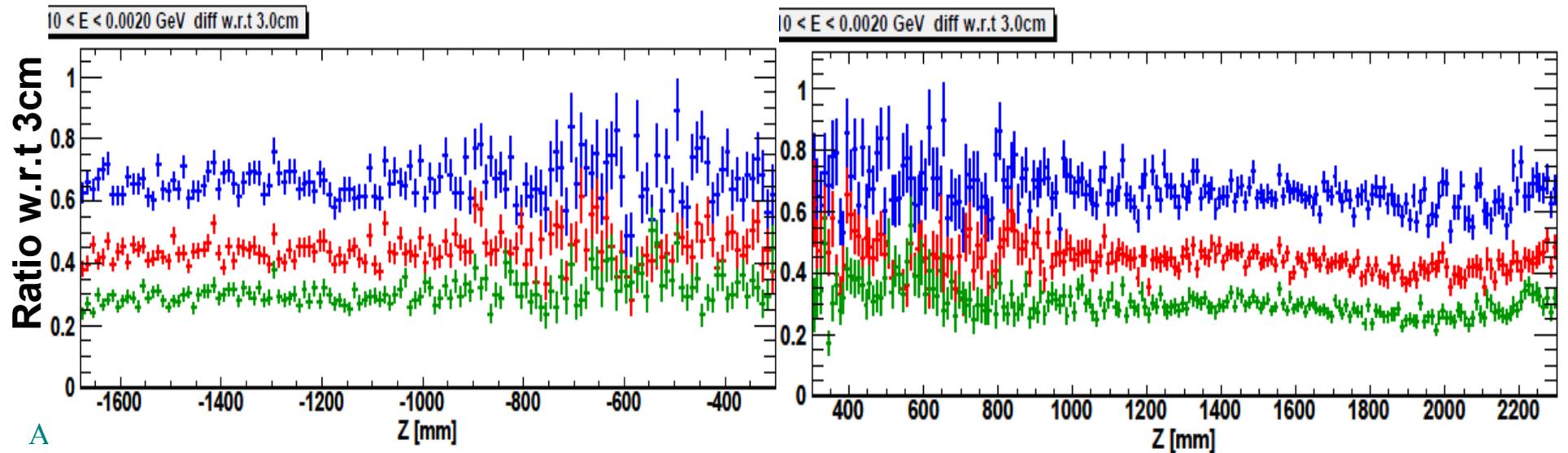
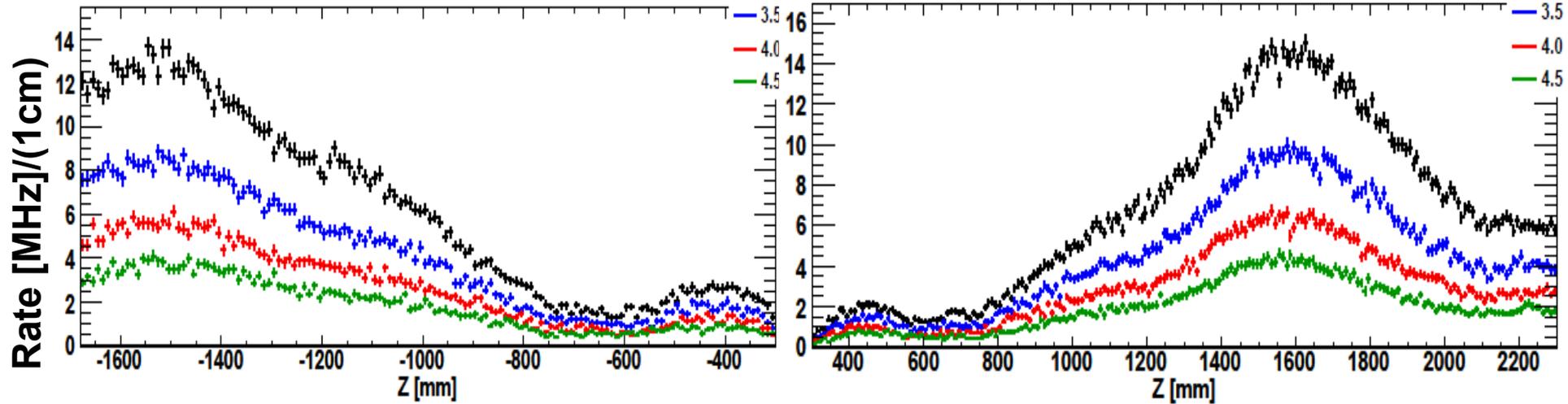
05 < E < 0.0010 GeV diff w.r.t 3.0cm



# Tungsten shield studies: results

Photon flux comparisons:  $\gamma$  E (1.0,2.0)MeV

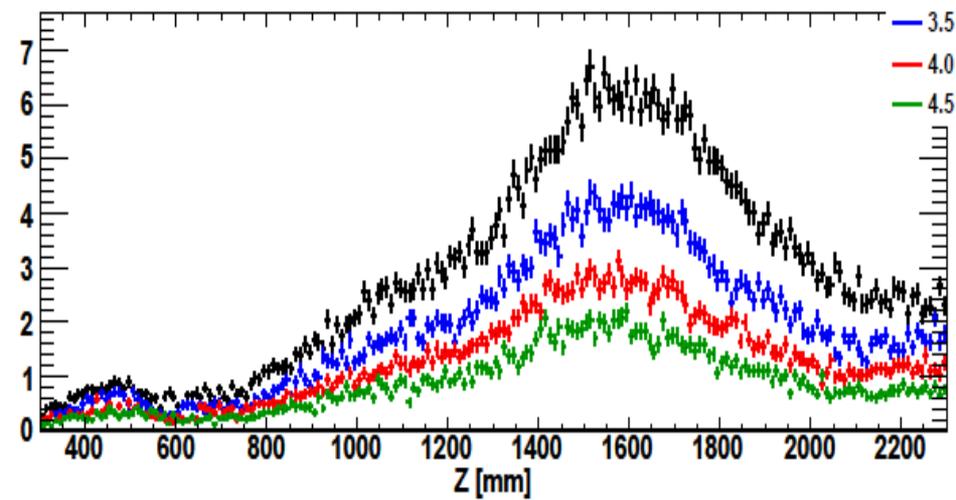
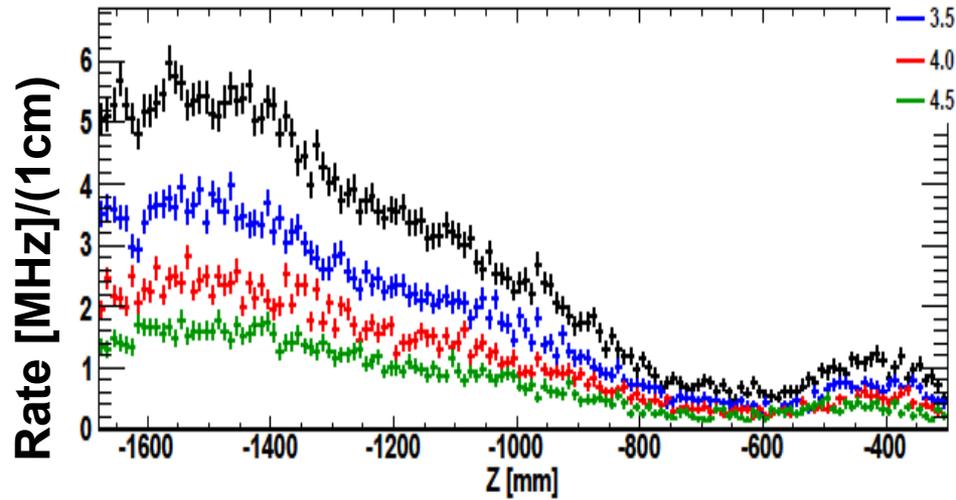
- 3.0 cm
- 3.5 cm
- 4.0 cm
- 4.5 cm



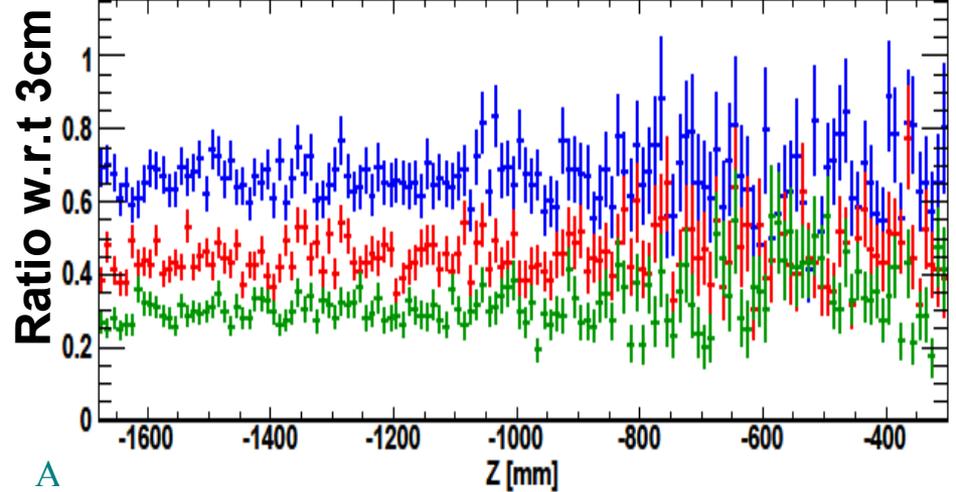
# Tungsten shield studies: results

- 3.0 cm
- 3.5 cm
- 4.0 cm
- 4.5 cm

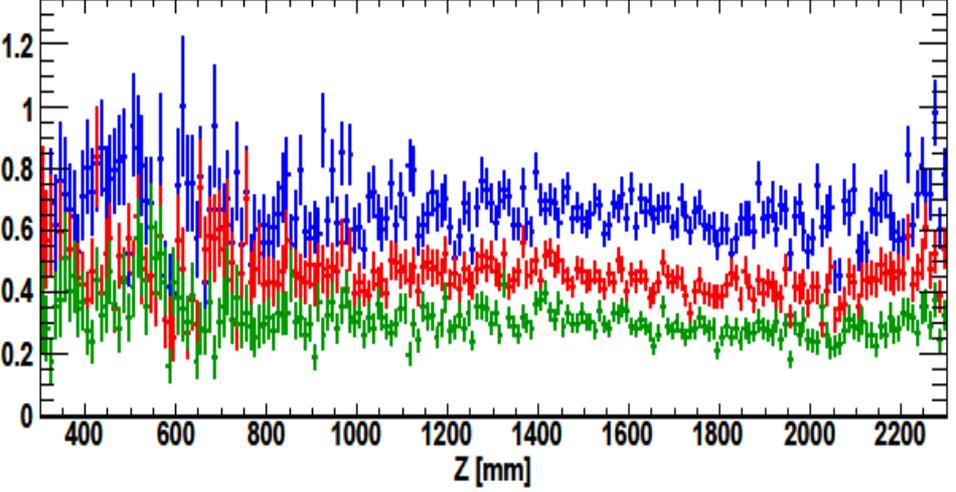
Photon flux comparisons:  $\gamma$  E (2.0,3.0)MeV



$20 < E < 0.0030$  GeV diff w.r.t 3.0cm



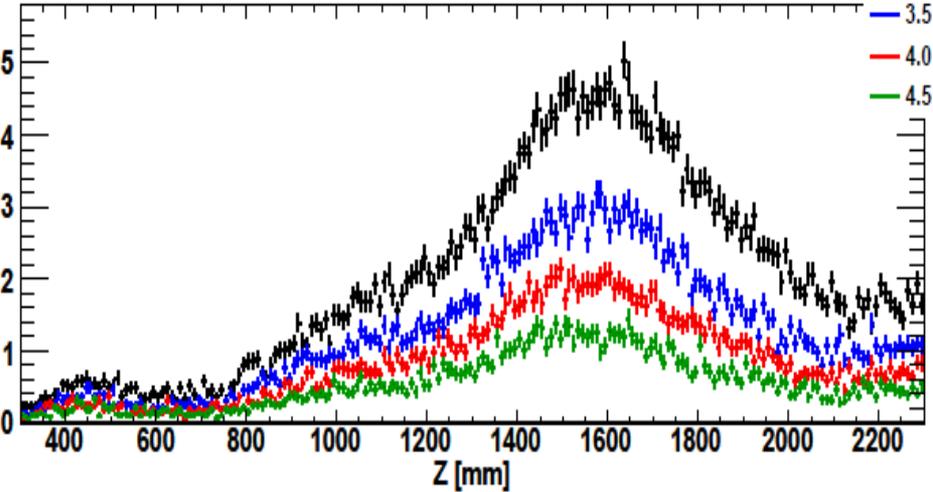
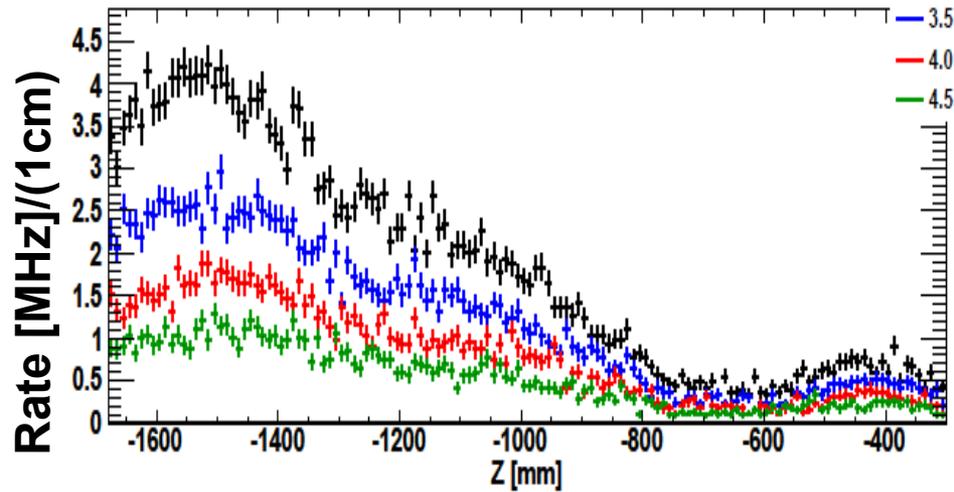
$20 < E < 0.0030$  GeV diff w.r.t 3.0cm



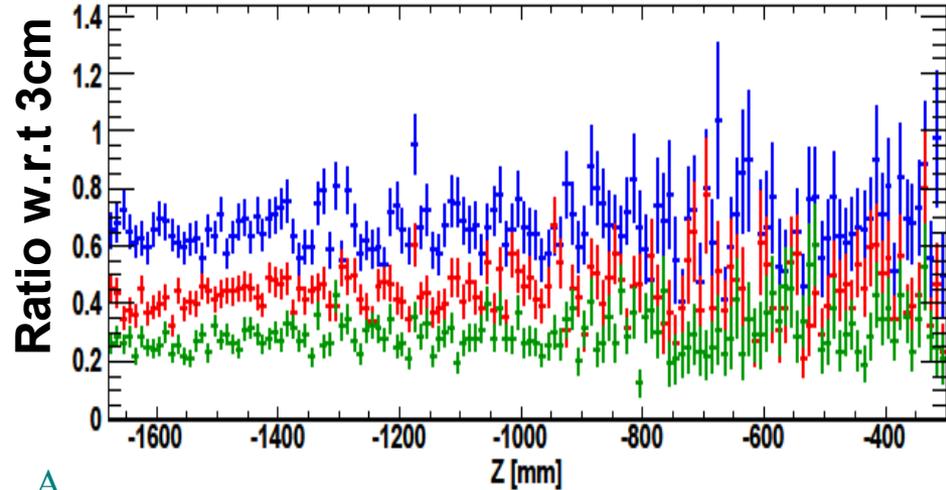
# Tungsten shield studies: results

- 3.0 cm
- 3.5 cm
- 4.0 cm
- 4.5 cm

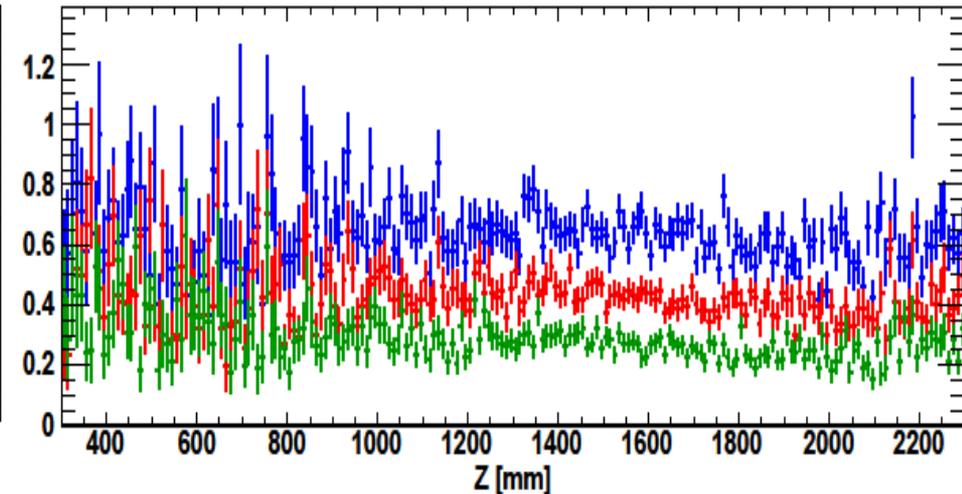
Photon flux comparisons:  $\gamma$  E (3.0,5.0)MeV



$0.30 < E < 0.0050$  GeV diff w.r.t 3.0cm



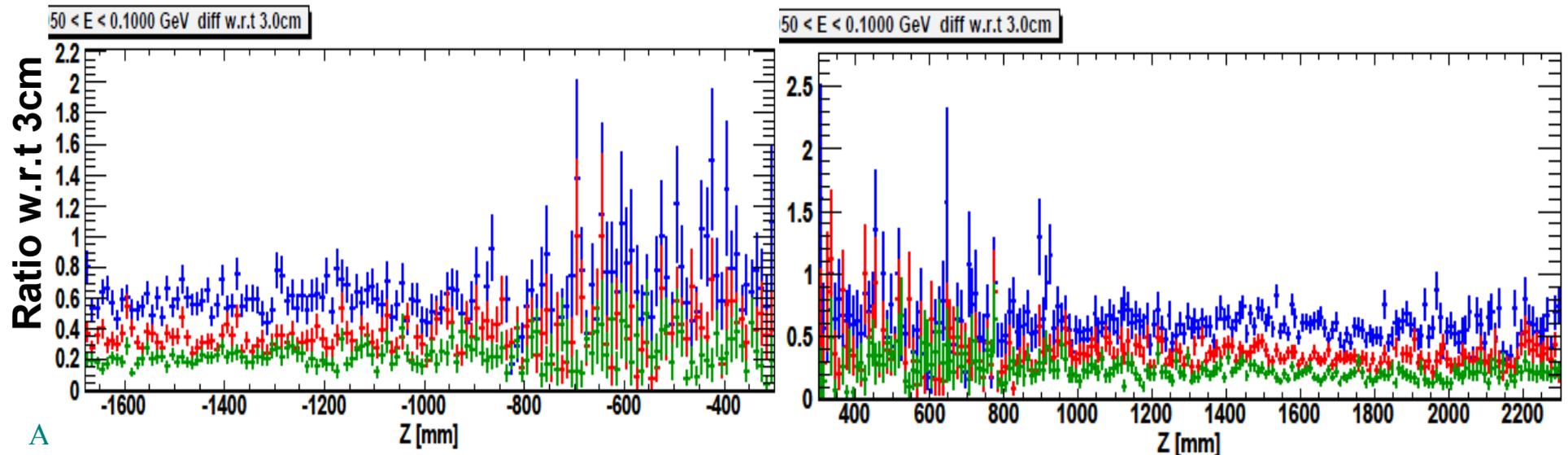
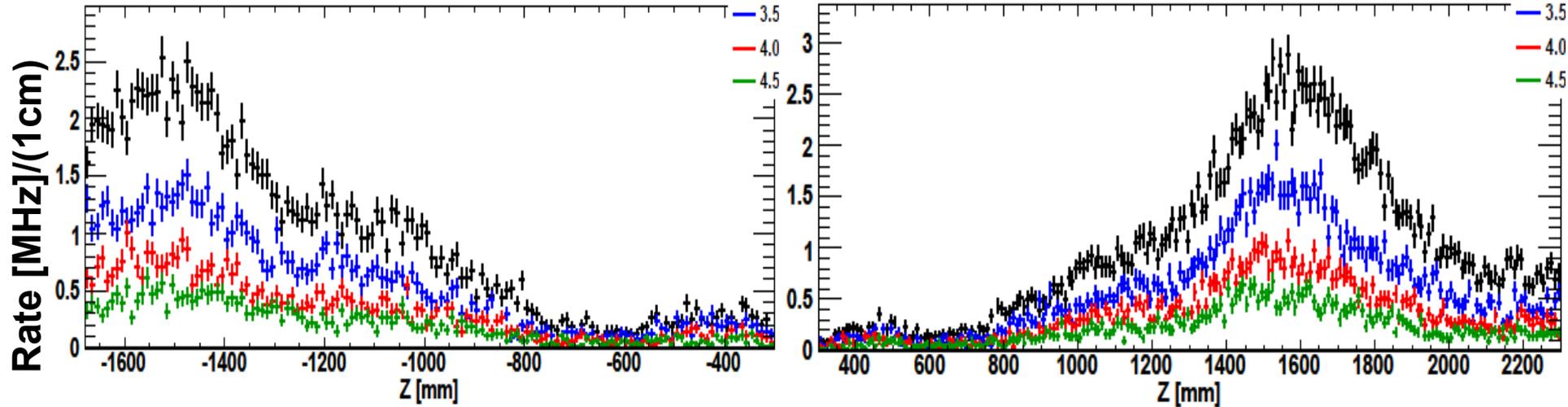
$0.30 < E < 0.0050$  GeV diff w.r.t 3.0cm



# Tungsten shield studies: results

Photon flux comparisons:  $\gamma$  E (5.0,100.0)MeV

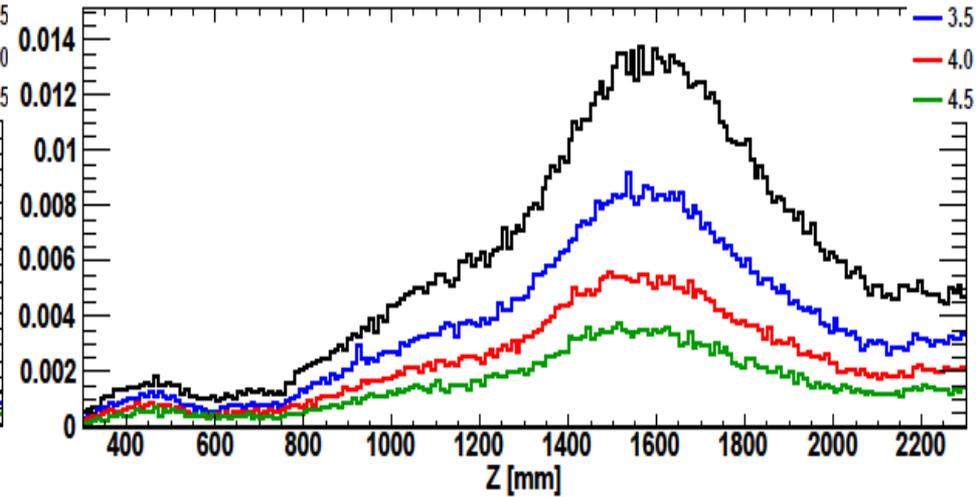
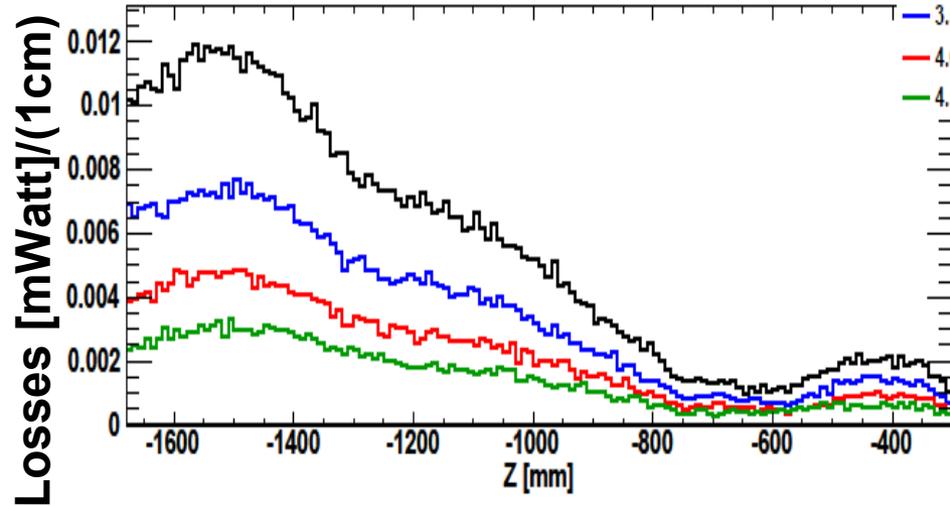
- 3.0 cm
- 3.5 cm
- 4.0 cm
- 4.5 cm



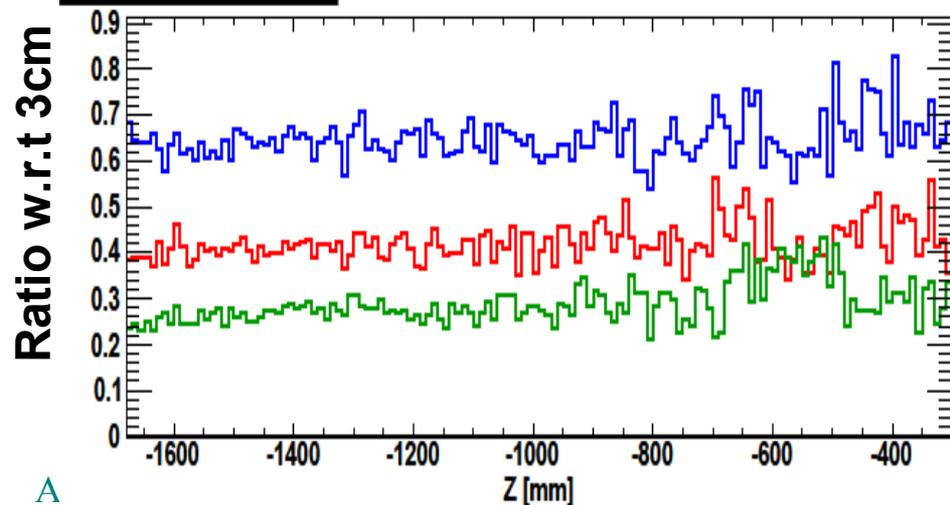
# Tungsten shield studies: results

## Photon energy flux comparisons

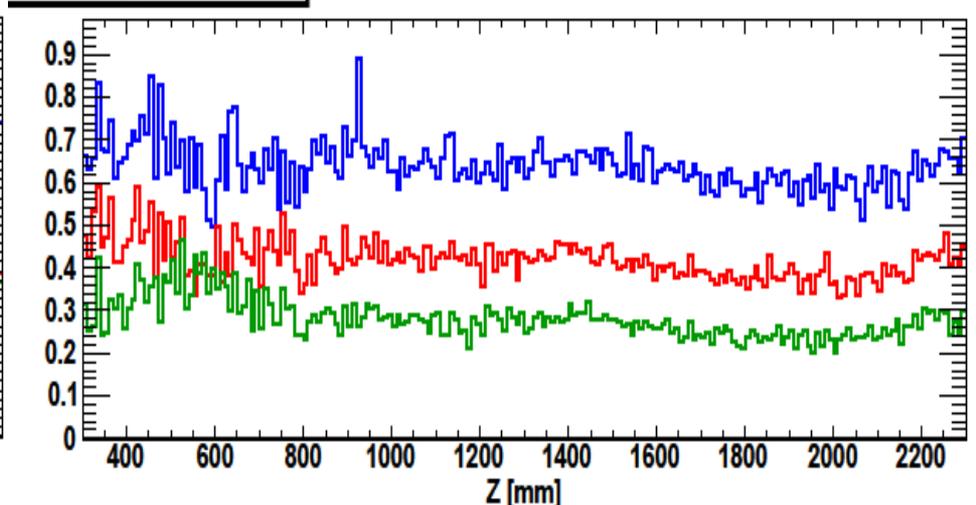
- 3.0 cm
- 3.5 cm
- 4.0 cm
- 4.5 cm



radiated energy diff w.r.t 3.0cm



radiated energy diff w.r.t 3.0cm



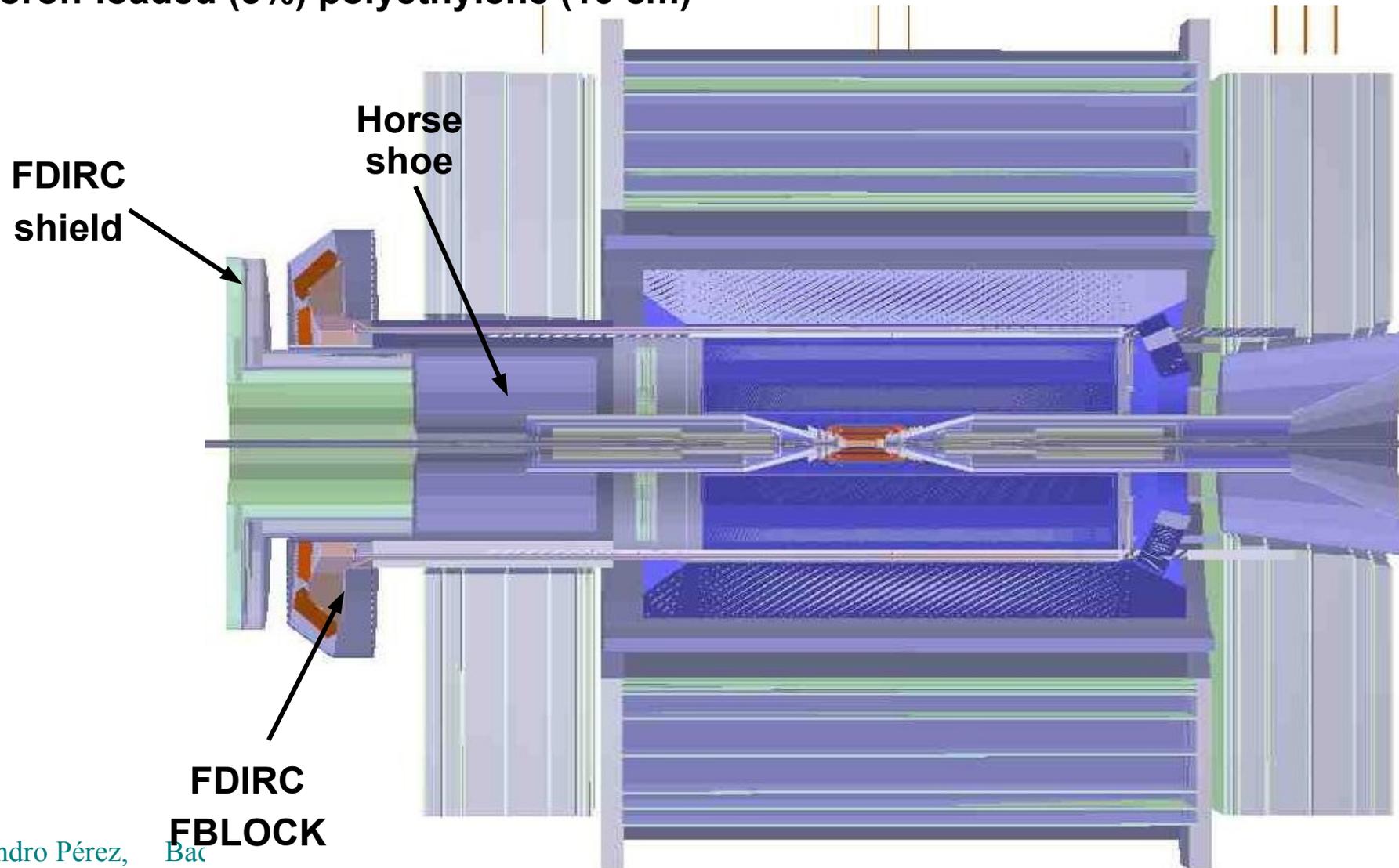
# Tungsten shield studies: conclusions

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- **Current bkg levels + safety factor gives too high rates on the detector**
- **Wants to reduce bkg levels by a factor of 4-5**
- **Tungsten shield thickness of 4.5cm reduces photon flux (dominant) out of final focus by a factor of ~4-5 ⇒ **4.5cm thickness is the interesting one****
- **The plan for next production is:**
  - Produce Rad-bhabha samples for the tungsten shield thickness of 3.0 (nominal) and 4.5 cm
  - Evaluate the reduction on the bkg rates
- **Issues:**
  - In order to increase tungsten shield thickness reduced the shield internal radius
  - In real life there is no space for doing this ⇒ will need to increase tungsten shield external radius
  - How this affects the DCH? For sure will need to increase DCH internal radius

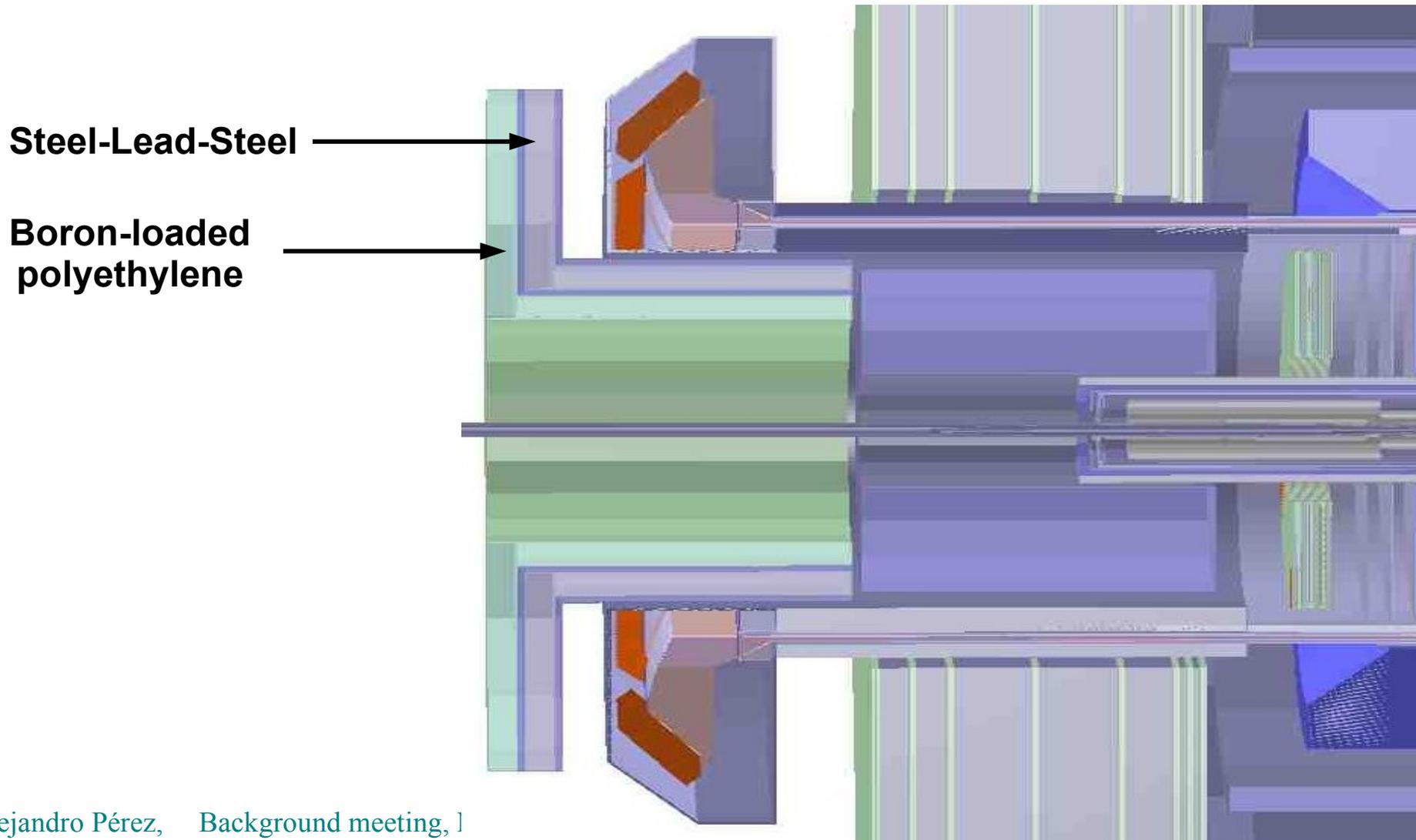
# FDIRC shield: BRN implementation

- Steel-lead-steel sandwich (2.5-10-2.5 cm)
- Boron-loaded (5%) polyethylene (10 cm)



# FDIRC shield: BRN implementation

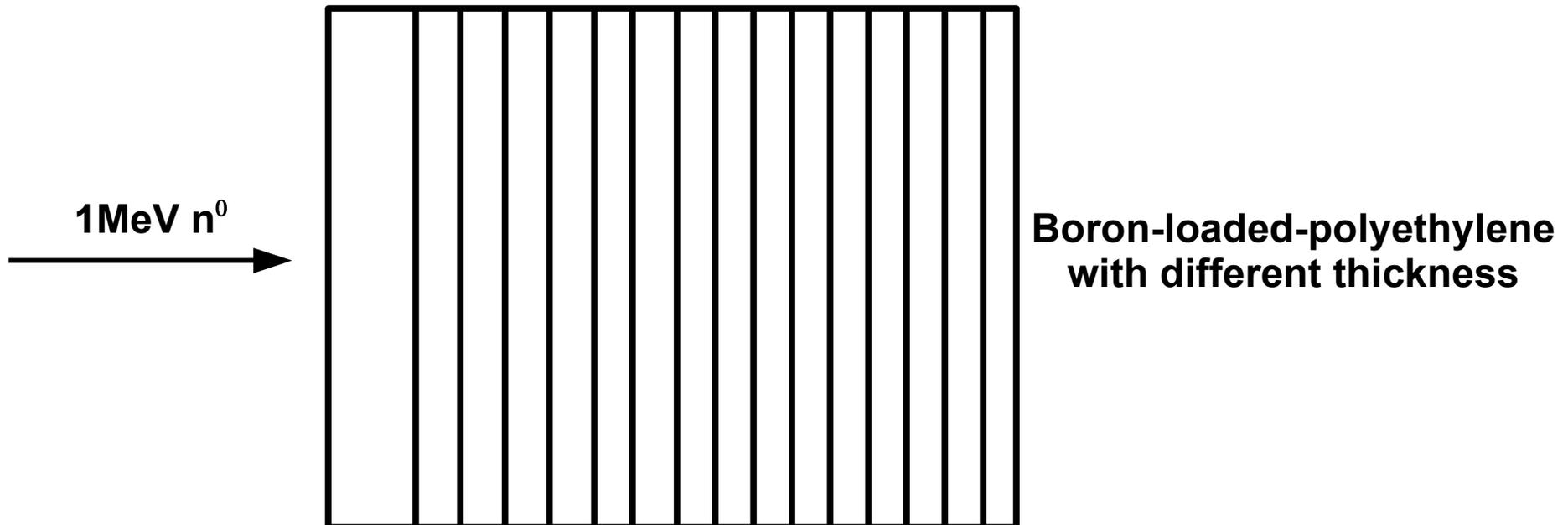
- Steel-lead-steel sandwich (2.5-10-2.5 cm)
- Boron-loaded (5%) polyethylene (10 cm)



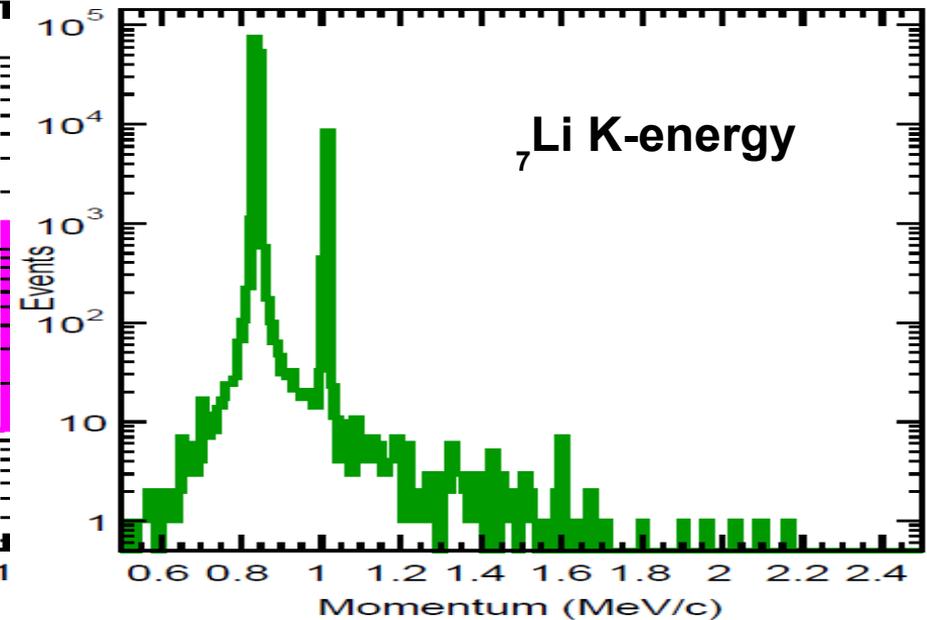
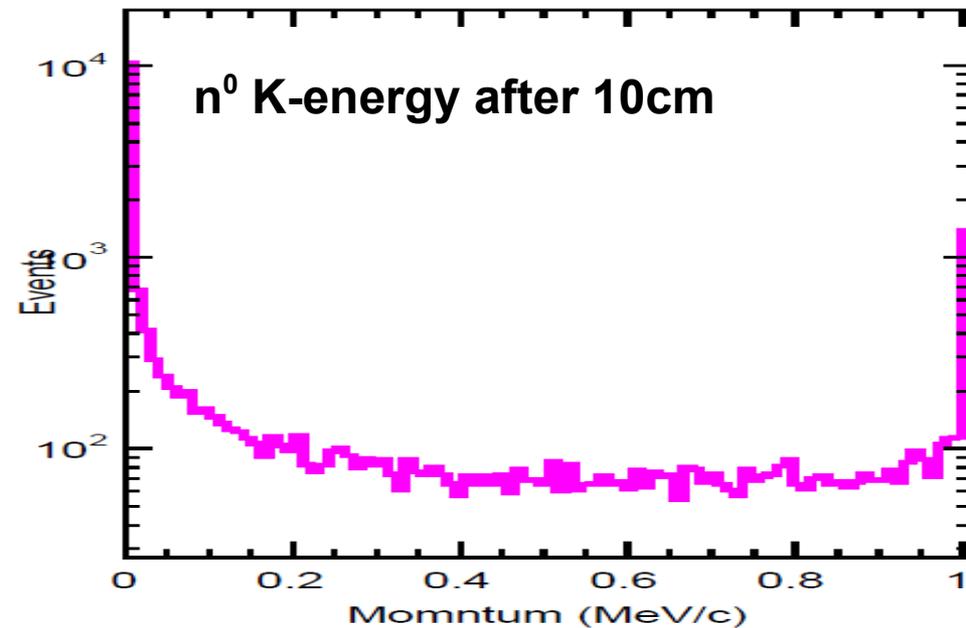
# Boron-loaded-polyethylene neutron shield

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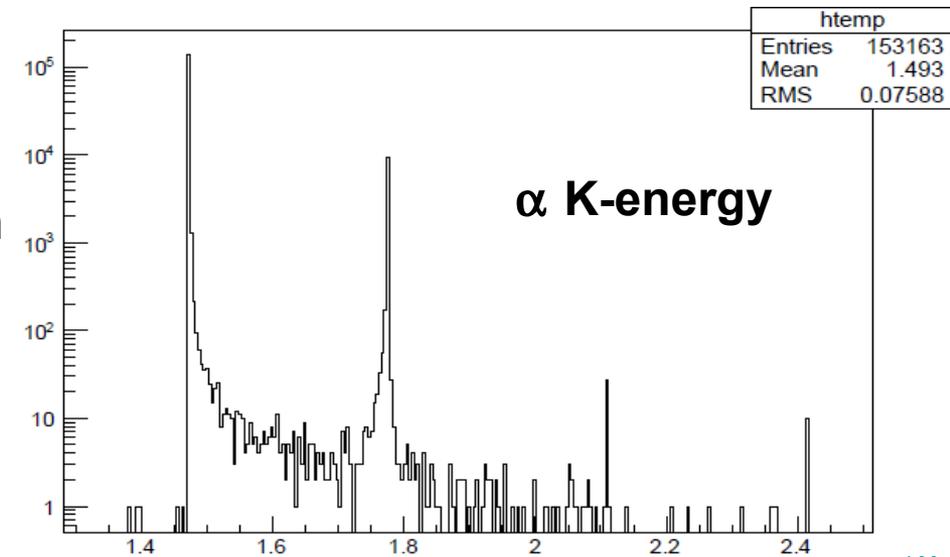
- **Wants to test if Geant4 is able to correctly simulate the neutron moderation by polyethylene (thermalization of  $1\mu\text{s}$ ) and absorption by Boron-10**
- **Strategy:**
  - Shot 1MeV neutrons at normal incidence on boron-loaded-polyethylene
  - Different thickness: 1 – 40 cm (1cm steps)
- **Study the particle multiplicity and spectrum at the other end of the shield**



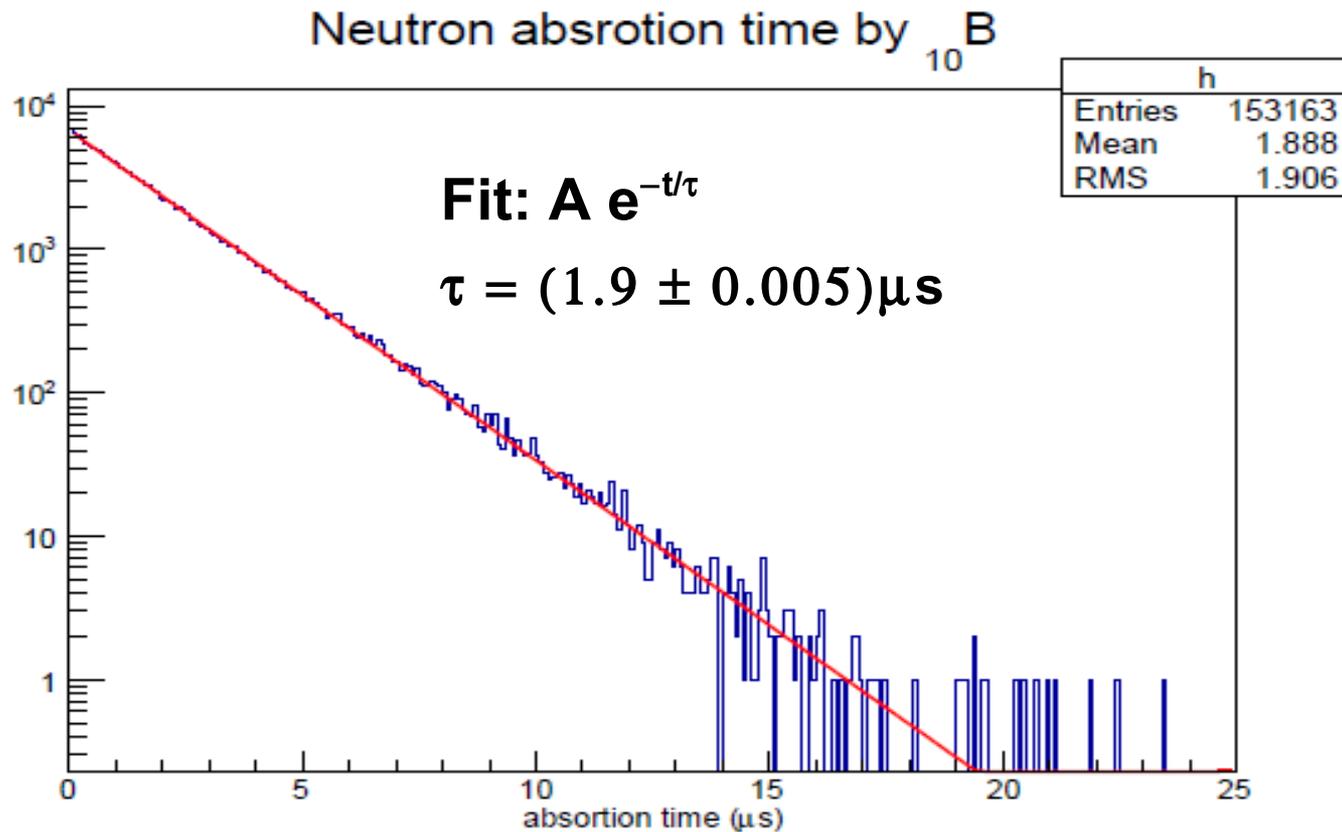
# Boron-loaded-polyethylene neutron shield



- After 10cm of Boron-loaded-polyethylene around 92.5% of the neutrons are absorbed
- Main absorption mechanism is Boron capture
  - $_{10}\text{B}(n,\alpha)_7\text{Li}$
  - $_{10}\text{B}(n,\alpha)_7\text{Li}^*(\rightarrow_7\text{Li}+\gamma)$

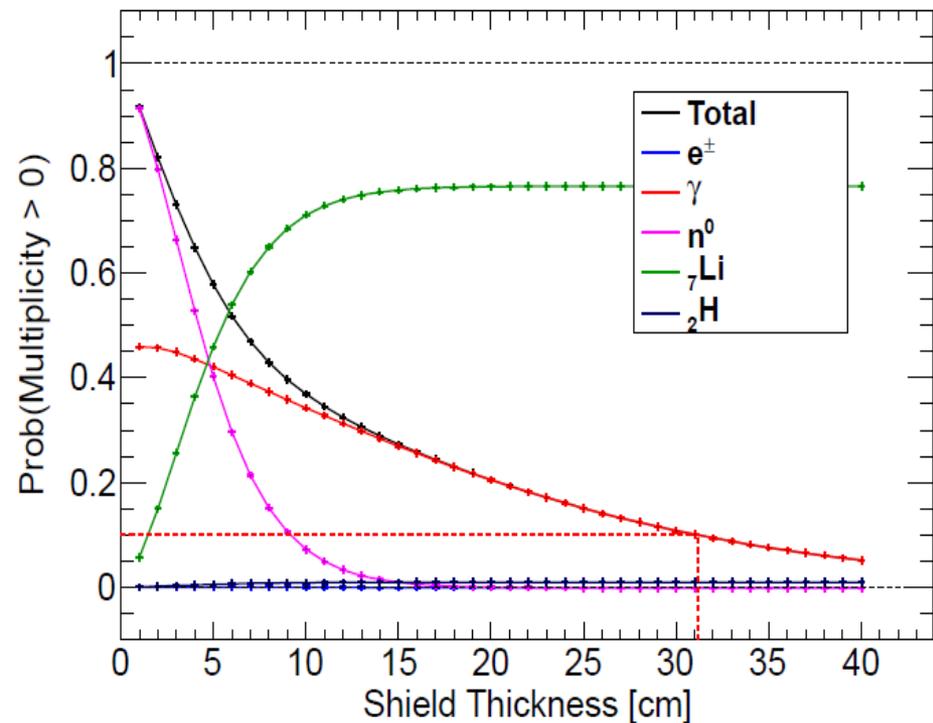
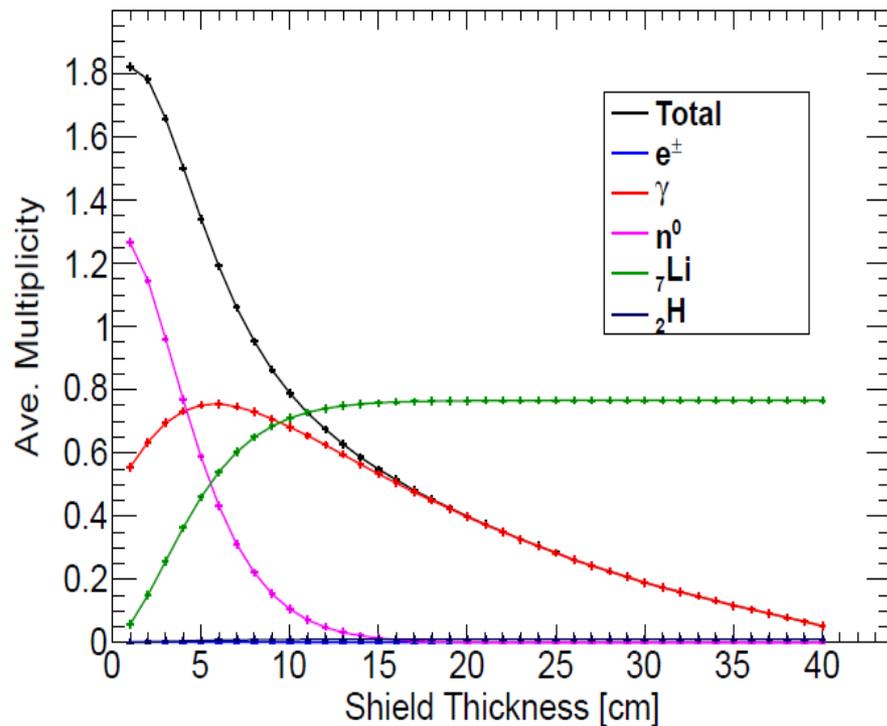


# Boron-loaded-polyethylene neutron shield



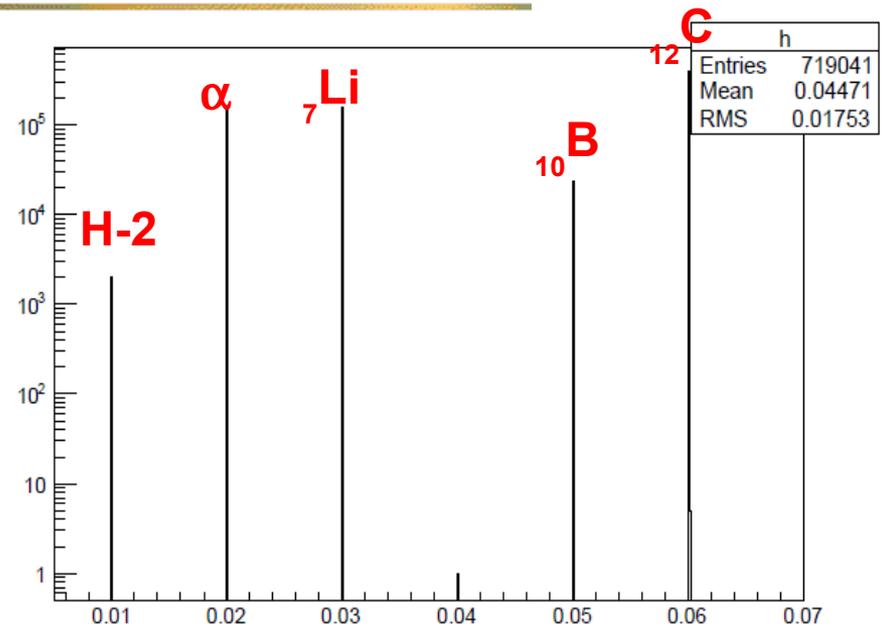
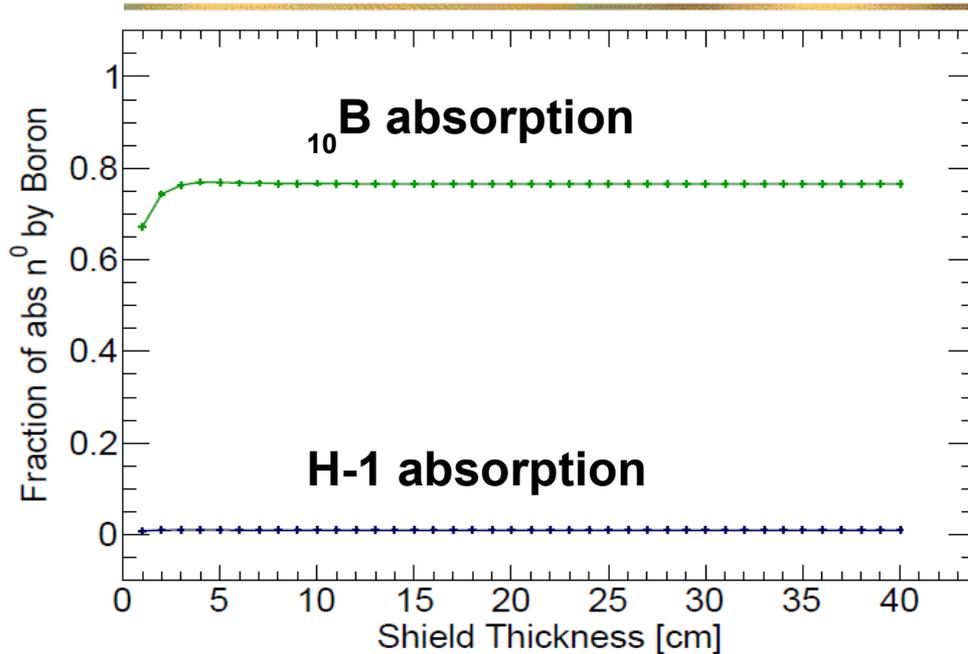
- The time of neutron absorption by  $_{10}\text{B}$  is an exponential with mean time  $1.9 \mu\text{s}$
- Neutron thermalization time in polyethylene is  $1 \mu\text{s}$
- Is the absorption time of  $1.9 \mu\text{s}$  reasonable?

# Boron-loaded-polyethylene neutron shield

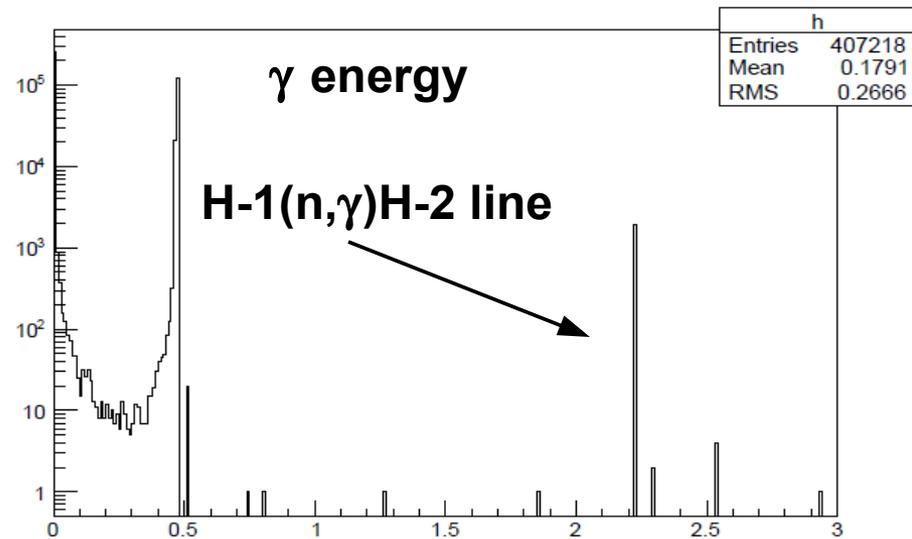


- Neutron (magenta curve) multiplicity (left plot) get reduced when increasing shield thickness. At 10cm neutron flux is reduced up to 7.5% (right plot)
- ${}^7\text{Li}$  ion (green curve) multiplicity increases with shield thickness
- Not all the absorbed neutrons are due to Boron

# Boron-loaded-polyethylene neutron shield



- Around 80% of the absorbed neutrons are due to  $^{10}\text{B}$
- A small fraction is due to H-1(n, $\gamma$ )H-2
- Are there any other absorption processes with Carbon, Hydrogen and Boron?



# Boron-loaded-polyethylene neutron shield: conclusions

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- **Geant4 seems to simulate correctly the neutron thermalization and capture on Boron-loaded-polyethylene**
- **Not all the capture neutrons are due to  $_{10}\text{B}$  capture (~80%)**
- **Want to understand the capture process. Any hits?**
- **Jerry Va'vra Suggested an additional exercise to test for Geant4 neutron production**
  - Shot 5GeV electrons on a Copper slab
  - Compare the outgoing neutron flux with FLUKA results

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The word "Backup" is rendered in a 3D, blocky font with a green, pixelated texture. The letters are arranged in a slightly receding perspective from left to right. The 'B' is the largest, followed by 'a', 'c', 'k', 'u', and 'p'.