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Exp 24.01

Development of a self-calibration technique for gamma-ray tracking arrays

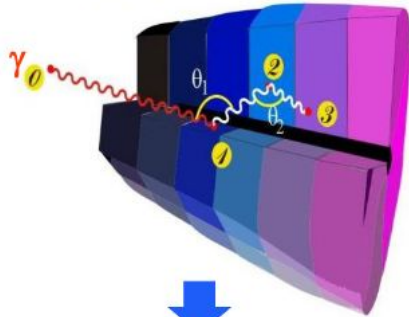
Sidong Chen and Stefanos Paschalis

University of York

the 26th AGATA week
11th September 2026

Gamma-ray tracking array

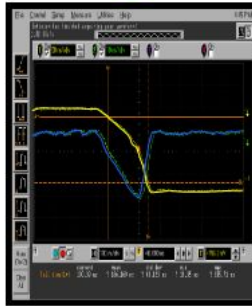
Highly segmented
HPGe detectors



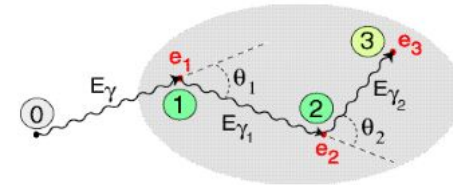
Digital electronics,
record signals

Identify (x, y, z, E, T)

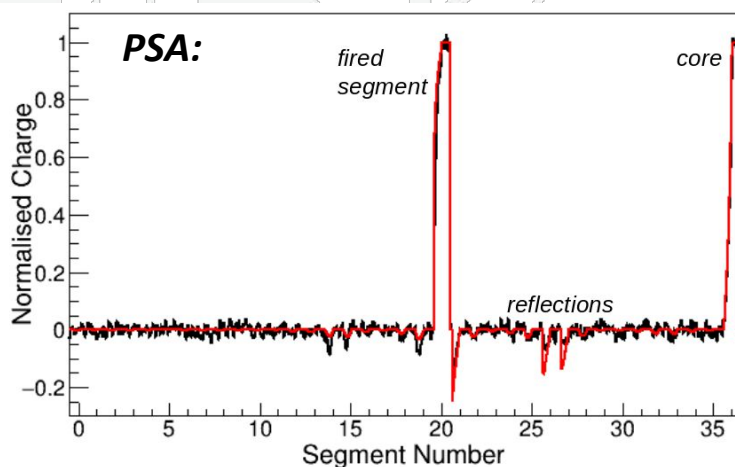
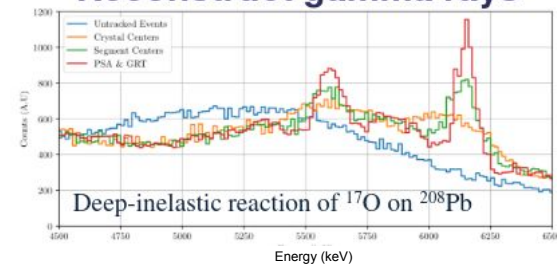
Pulse Shape Analysis



Track interactions



Reconstruct gamma rays

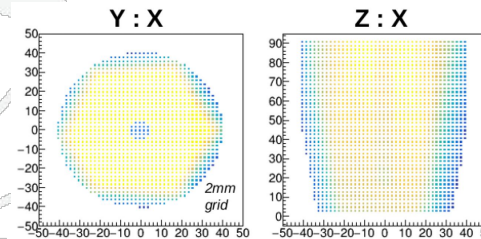


- Gamma-ray tracking array: highly segmented HPGe (36 segments)
- Pulse Shape Analysis (PSA)
=> interaction position
- PSA performed by comparing with **signal basis** for every detector

Current challenges



signal basis generation

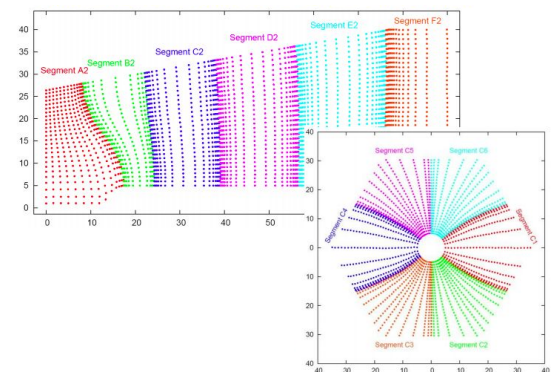


Experimental (scanning)

- long acquisition times
- different conditions between scanning and experiment, e.g. noise, radiation damage
- mechanical alignment

Analytical (calculated)

- intrinsic space-charge density
- the electron/hole mobility
- crystal temperature and
- crystal orientation
- passivated and contact thickness
- shape of charge cloud



Self-calibration concept

Generate signal basis experimentally & in situ

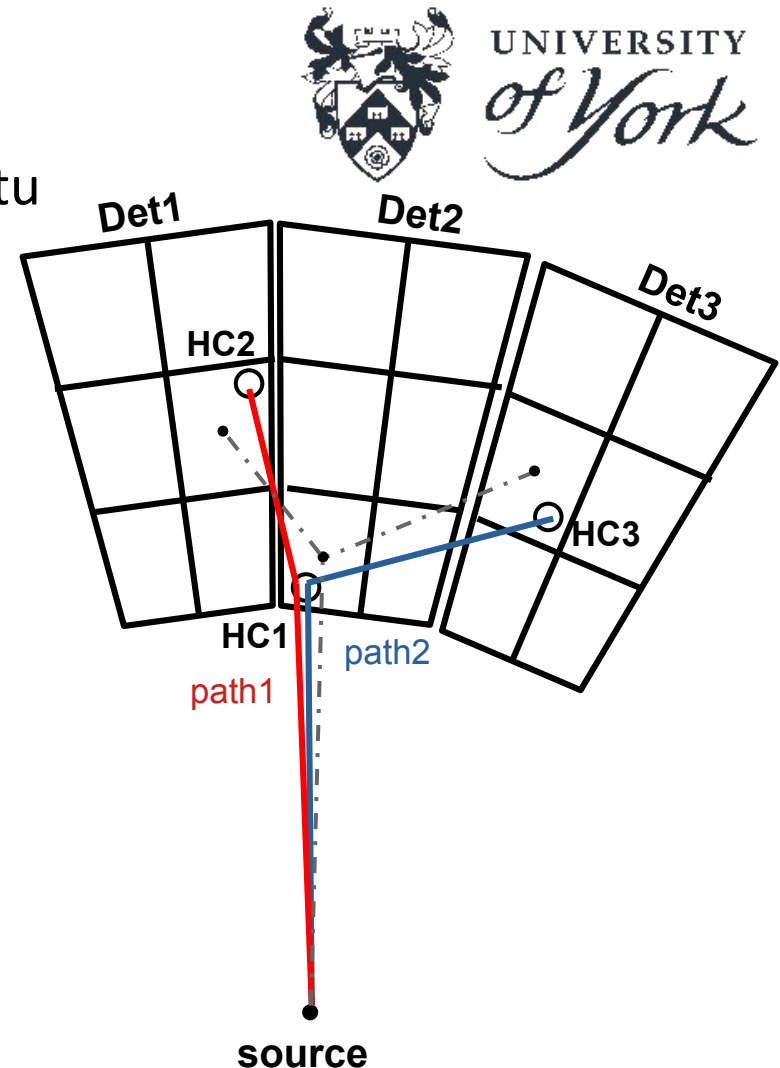
S. Heil, S. Paschalis, and M. Petri,
Eur. Phys. J. A (2018) **54**: 172

Group interaction points
from different
gamma-rays into hit
collections

Optimise coordinates of
hit collection using the
tracks that link their
constituent points and
Compton formula

Use Compton formula to
order interaction points

Define tracks between
interaction points that also
link the hit collections with
each other



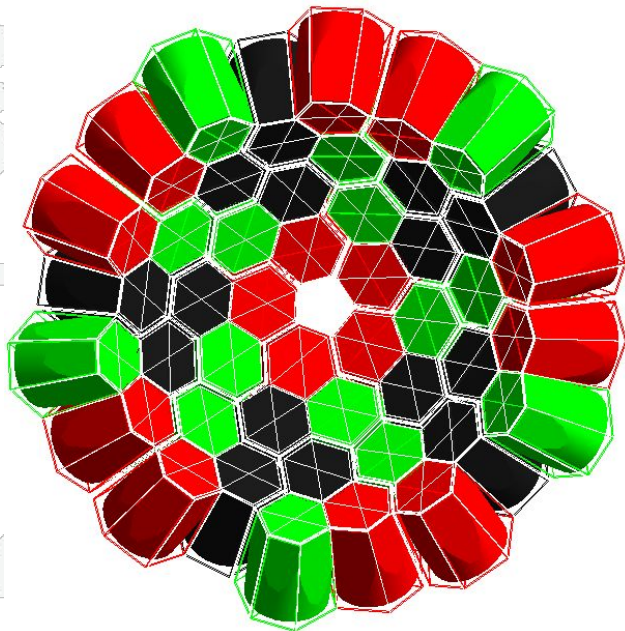
- Produce pulse shape basis for all detectors
- Strong gamma source illuminate the whole array
- Compton formula optimize scattering events

Simulation with Pulse Shape

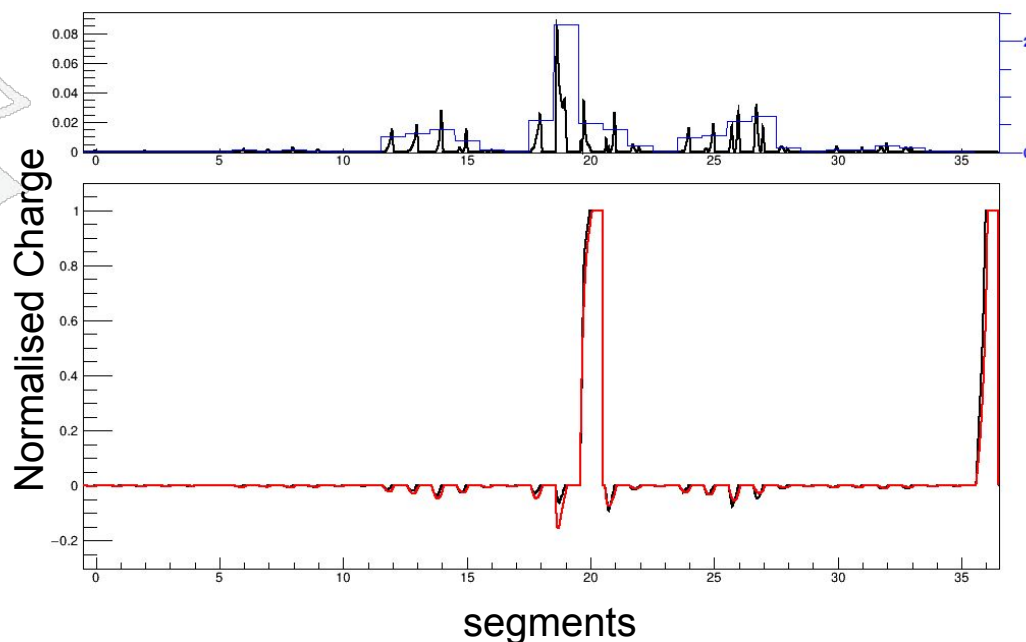


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Geant4 simulation:

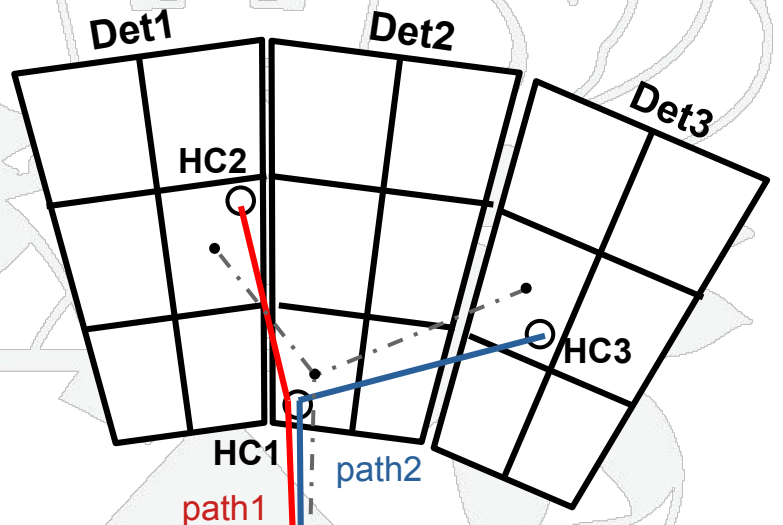


Group pulse shape:

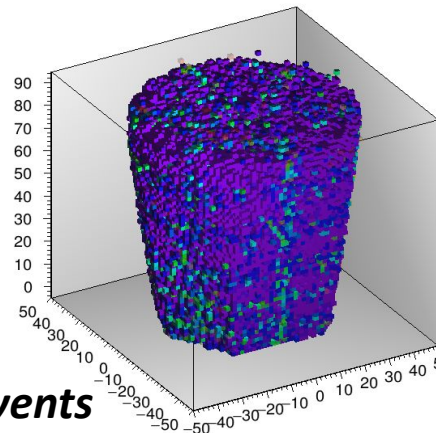


- Geant4 simulate AGATA-1Pi array, save Compton scattering events
- Pulse shape basis linear interpolation → simulation pulse data
- Group pulse shape according to similarity

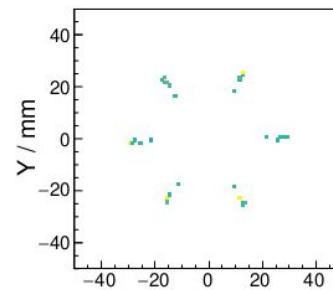
Simulation: Position optimization



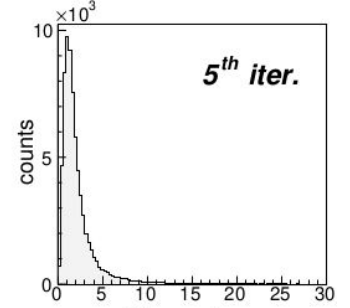
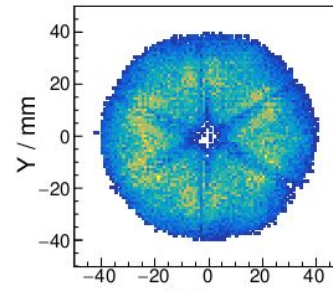
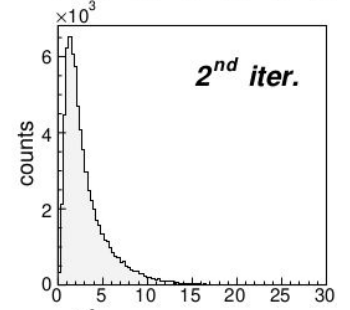
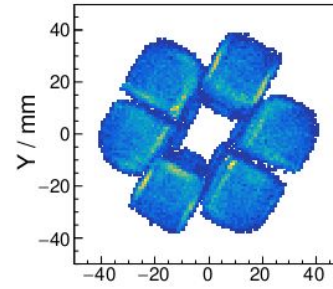
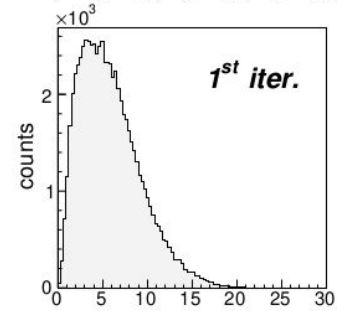
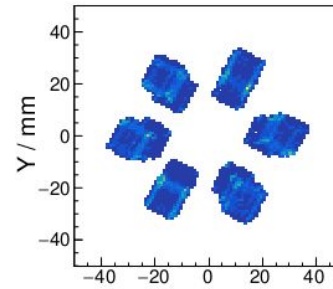
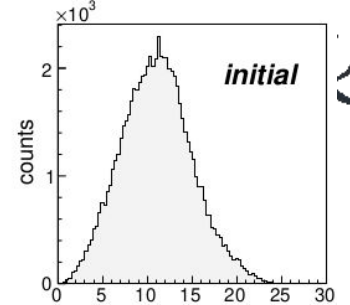
$$\cos \Theta = 1 + \frac{m_e c^2}{E_{\text{inc}}} - \frac{m_e c^2}{E_{\text{inc}} - E_{\text{dep}}}$$



HC position Y:X

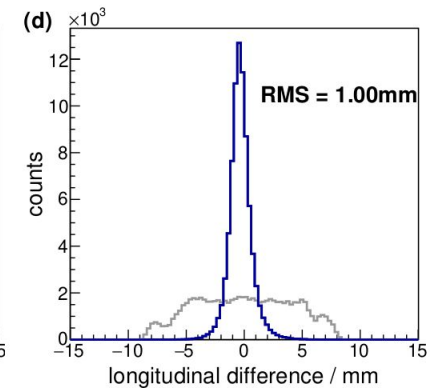
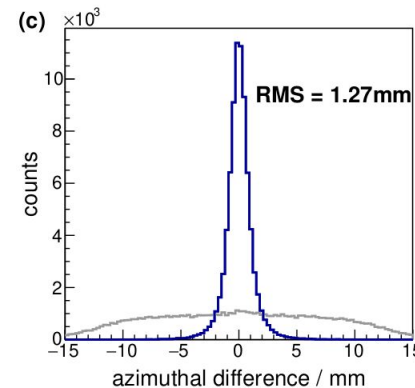
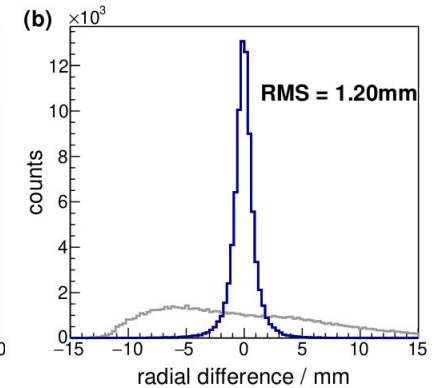
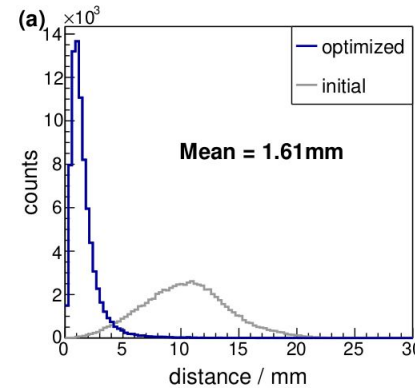
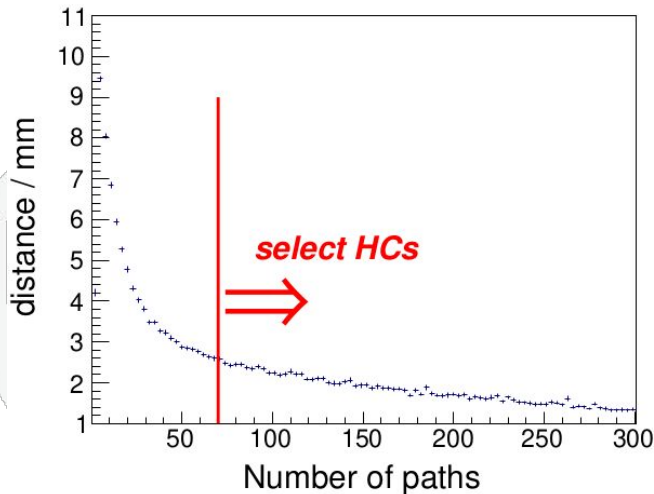
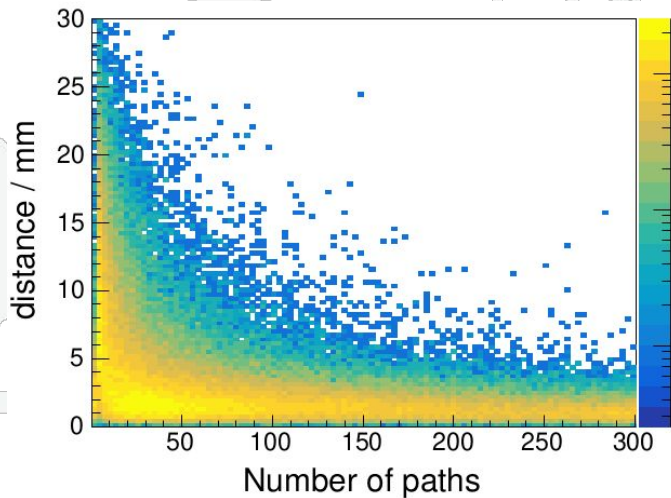


dist: calib pos – real pos



Simulate 2MeV gamma 2e10 events

Simulation: Position fidelity



- Select HC linked with large number of paths
- Converged HC position reach ~ 1 mm (RMS) fidelity

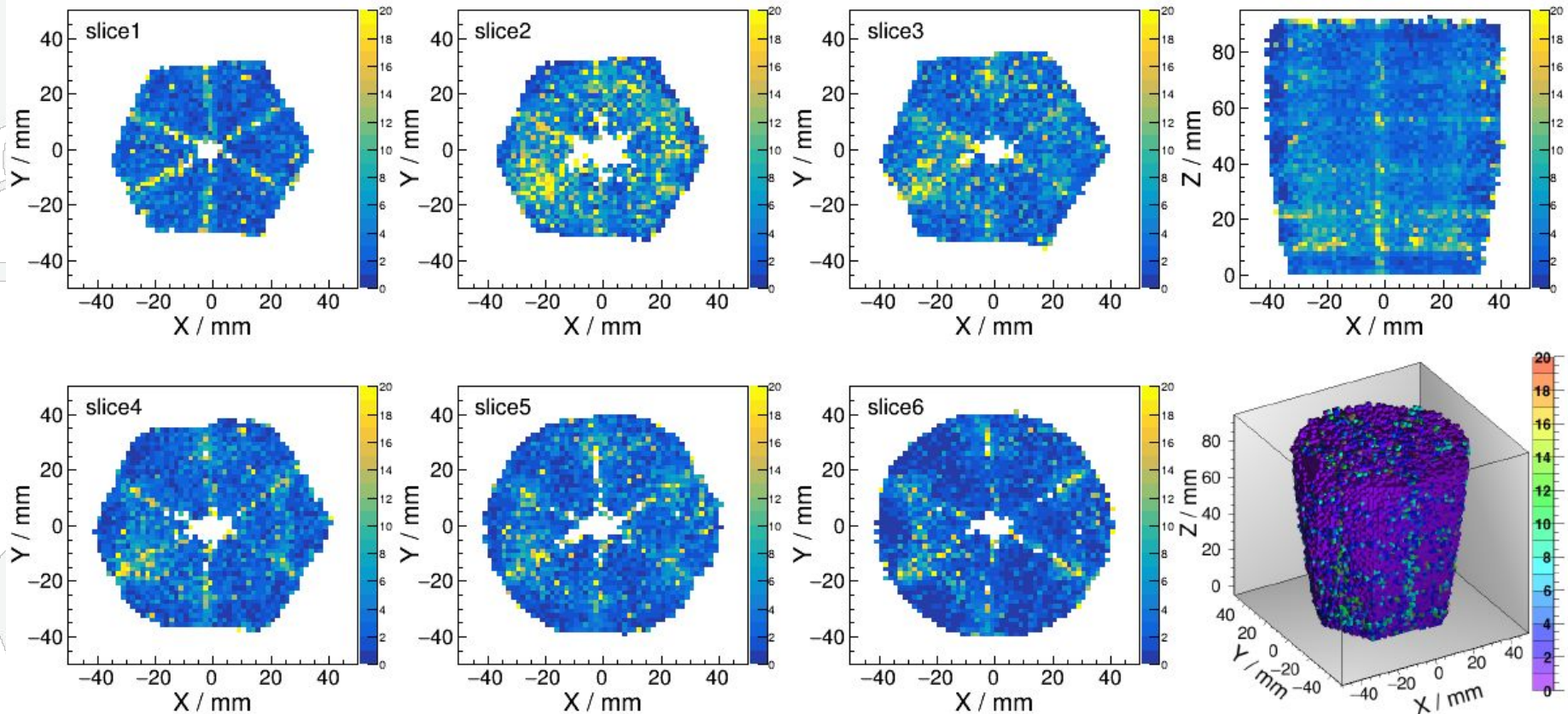
Simulate 2MeV gamma $2e10$ events

Self-calibration basis



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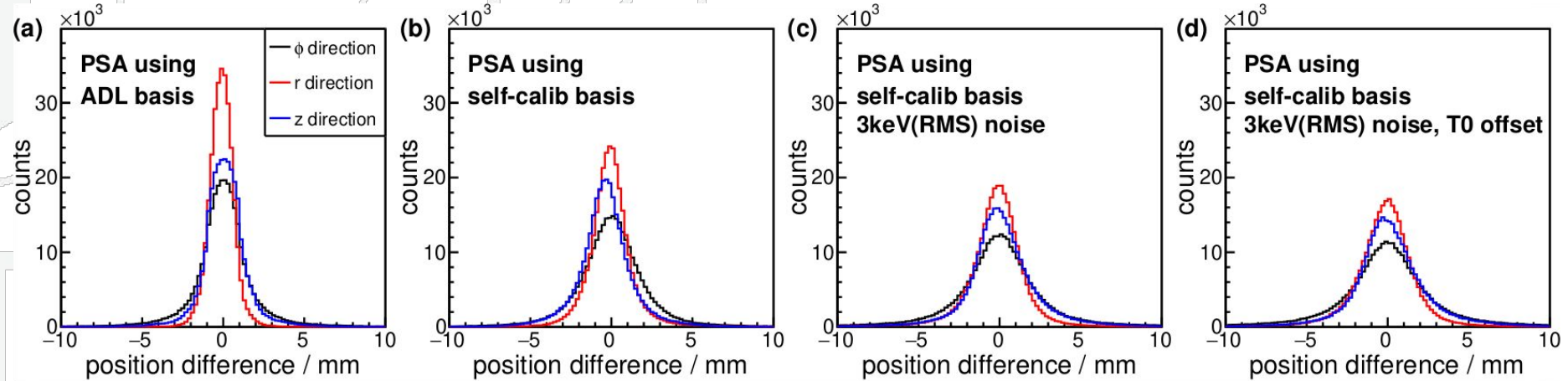
Chi2 difference: self-calib pulse vs. ADL pulse



- Large Chi2 observed around segment boundary

Simulate 2MeV gamma 2e10 events

PSA position resolution



- Compare PSA position resolution using different basis
- Electronic noise in pulse shapes and T0 offset are included in simulation, and their influences to self-calibration basis are studied

S. Chen, S. Paschalis, et al. Eur. Phys. J. A (2025) **61**: 195

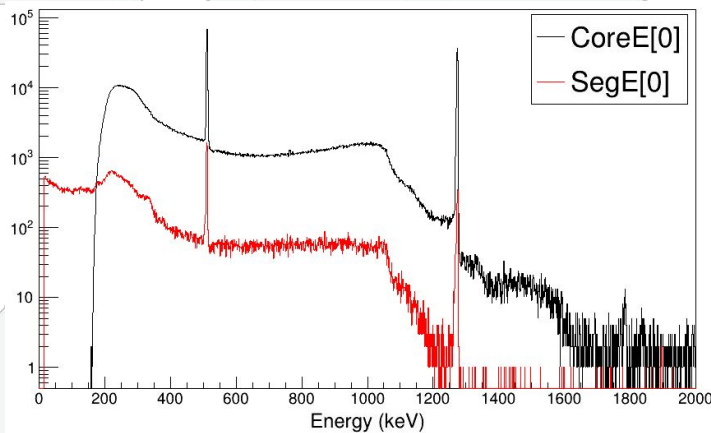
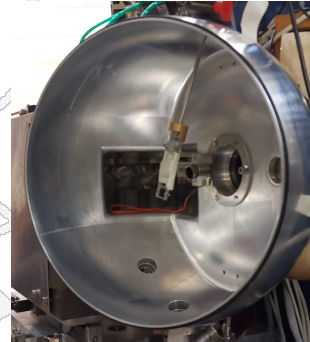
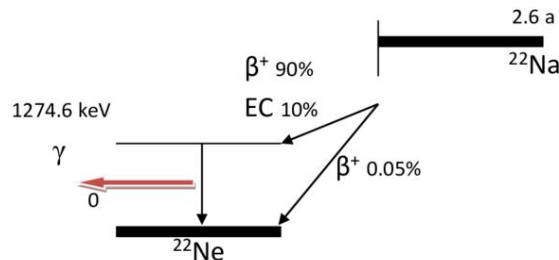
Experiment: source data



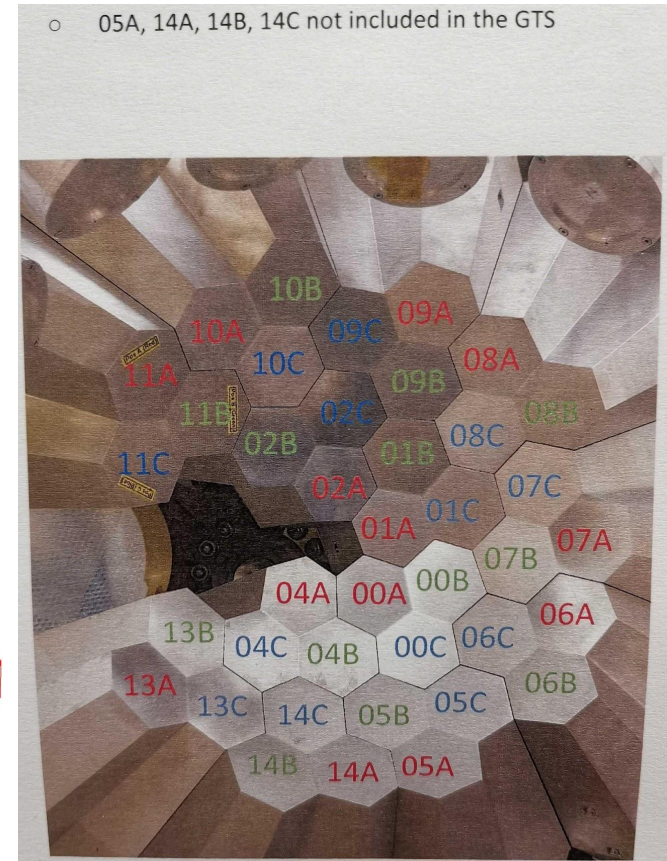
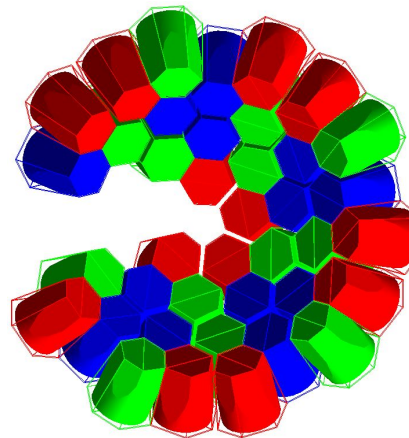
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^{22}Na source, 130kBq

source at target position



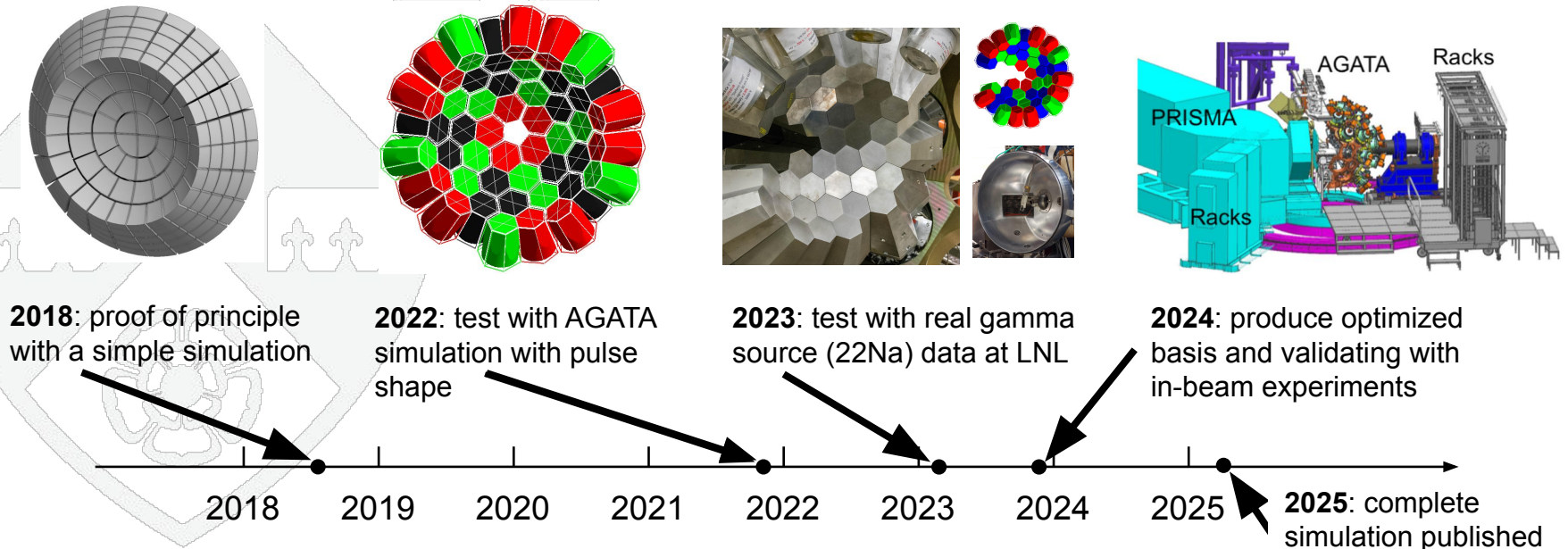
13 ATC at LNL



- ^{22}Na source at center of array
- Large signals, CoreE>200keV (CoreE>300keV data is used for self-calibration)
- Compton scattering events (fold 2 trigger)

Method validation timeline

- ✓ simulation of realistic geometry of AGATA (even with 1Pi)
- ✓ end-to-end simulation including pulse shape analysis
- ✓ validation using experimental data (source and in-beam)
- ✓ **Exp 24.01** - dedicated in-beam LNL experiment Dec 2024

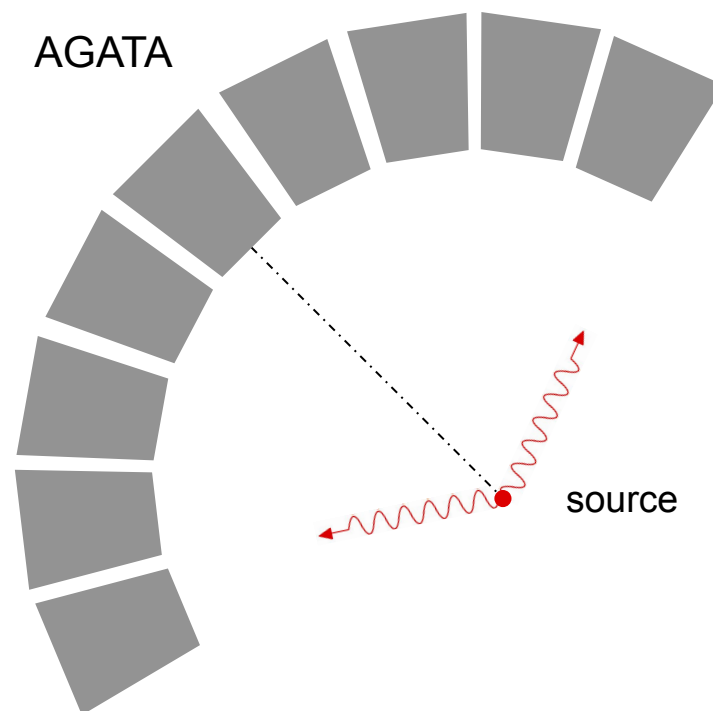


Experiment: source data



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- Strong ^{88}Y source, $\sim 540\text{kBq}$
- source at target position, AGATA at nominal position
- Flod 2 trigger with core energy threshold $\sim 300\text{keV}$
- Saving trace data, validation rates $\sim 900\text{Hz}$ per crystal
- Data taking for ~ 5 days (Dec. 2024)
- Data size $\sim 26\text{TB}$

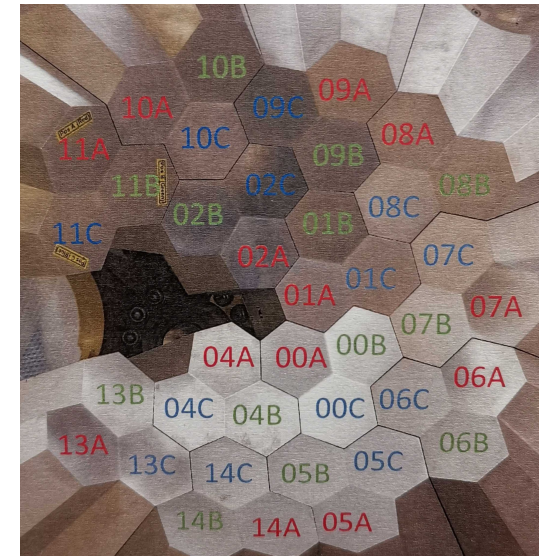
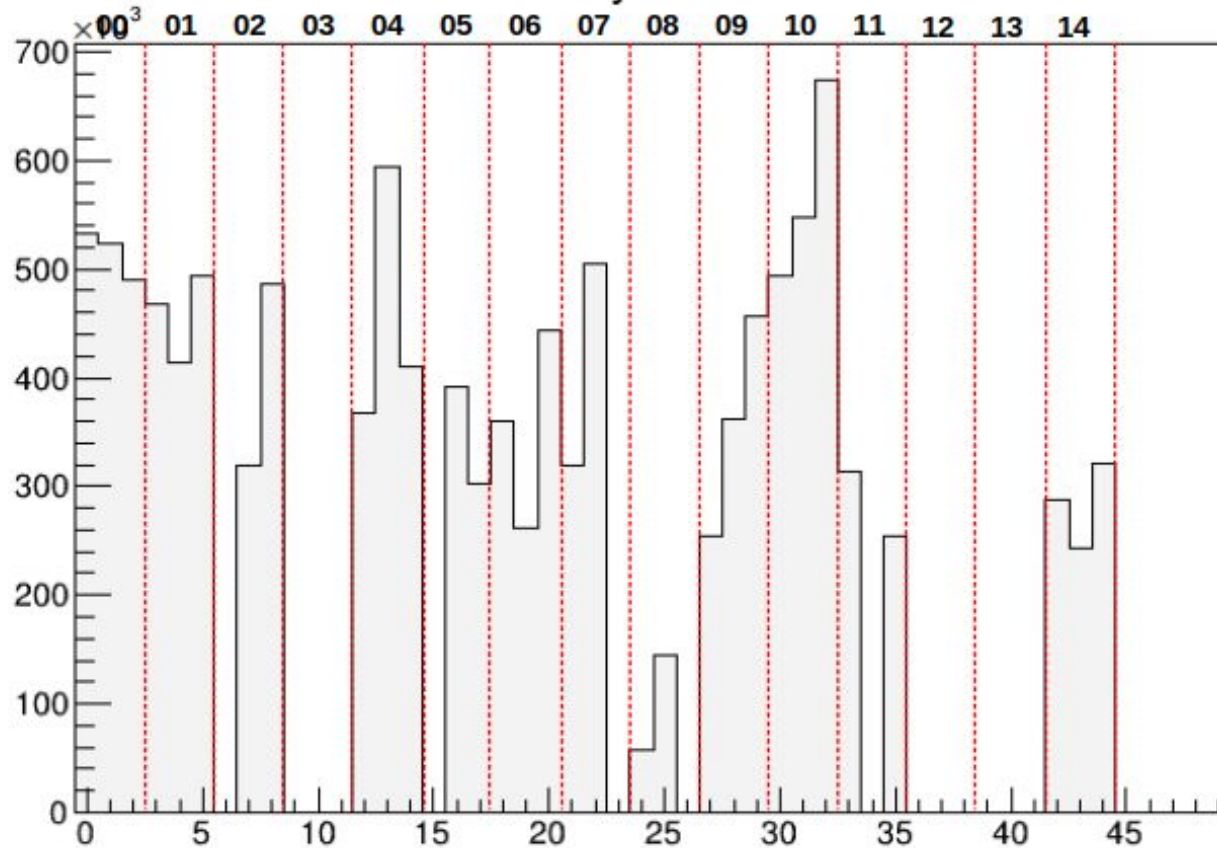


Experiment: source data



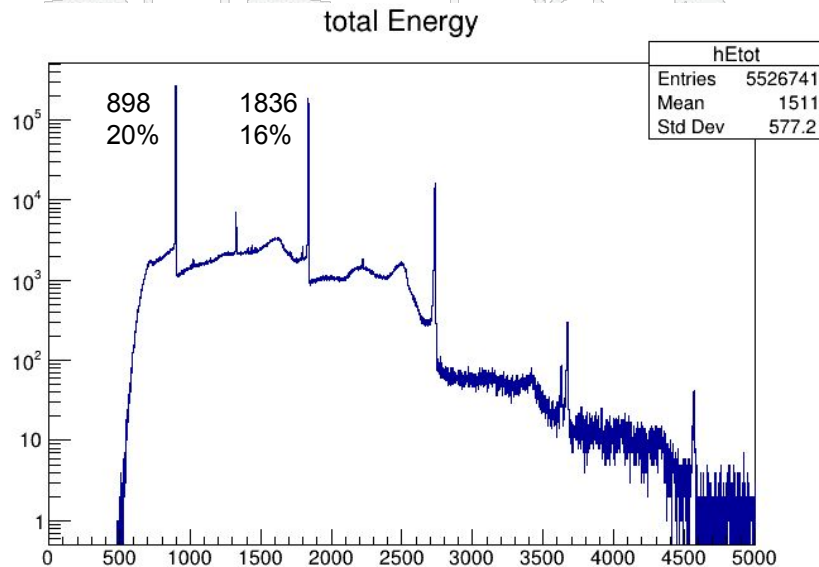
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CrystalId



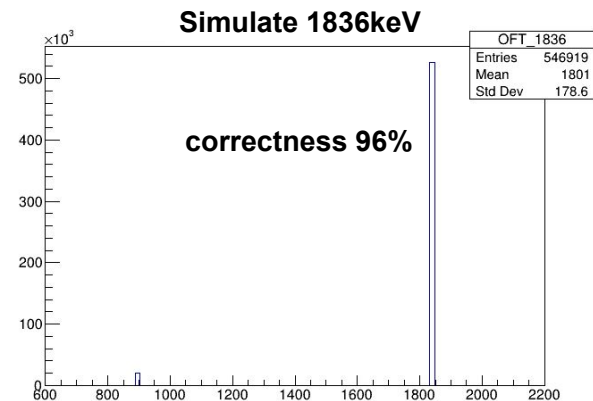
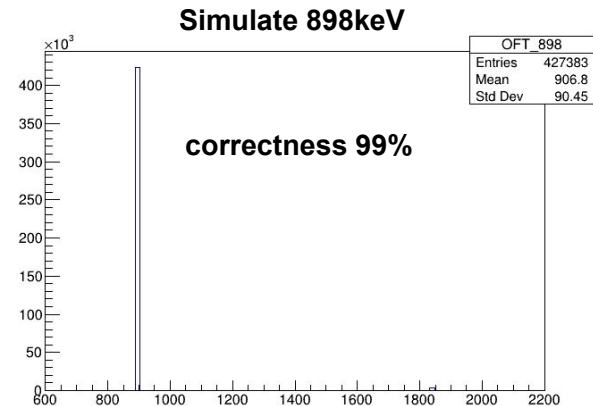
31 active crystals

Incidence gamma energy



- Events with total energy around 898 and 1836 keV: directly assign incidence energy
- Other events: OFT tracking using segment centra position; Identify incidence energy according to figure of merit from OFT

Identify incidence energy according to FOM from OFT

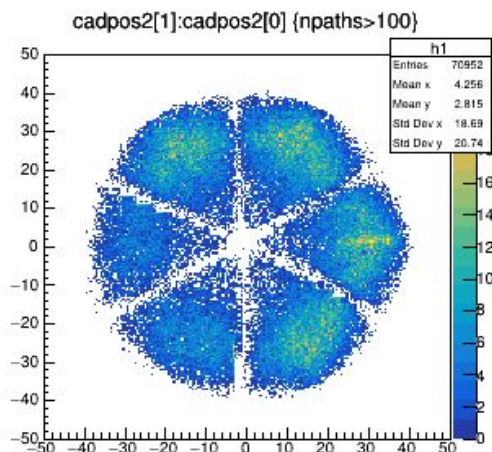


SelfCalib basis

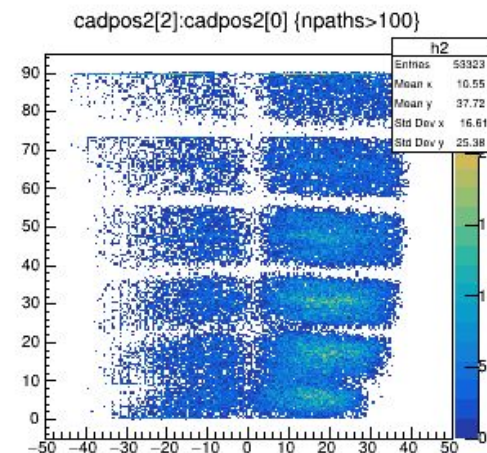
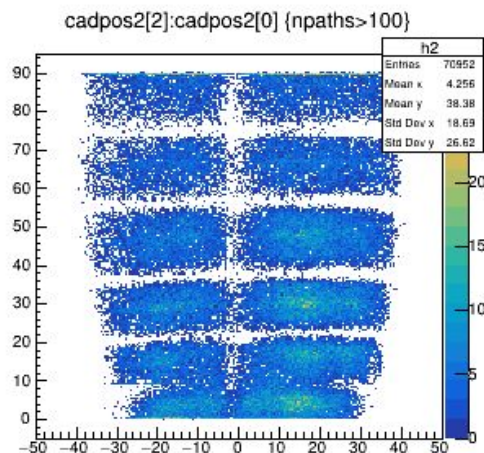
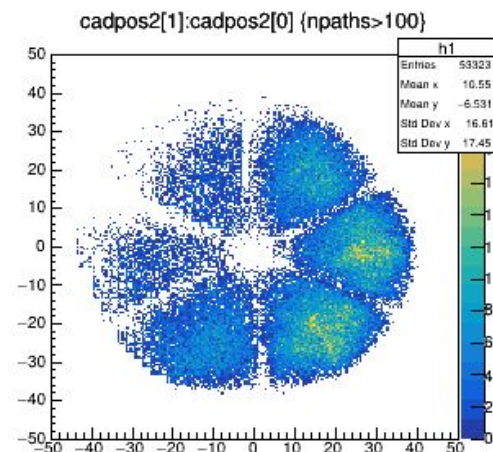


	A	B	C
00	0	1	2
01	3	4	5
02		7	8
04	12	13	14
05		16	17
06	18	19	20
07	21	22	
08	24	25	
09	27	28	29
10	30	31	32
11	33		35
14	42	43	44

Det0 (00A)

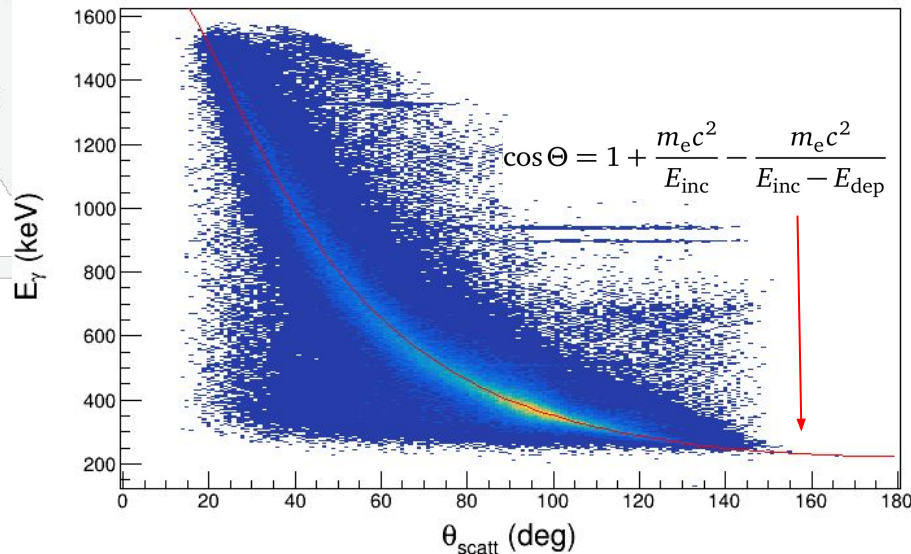


Det31 (10B)

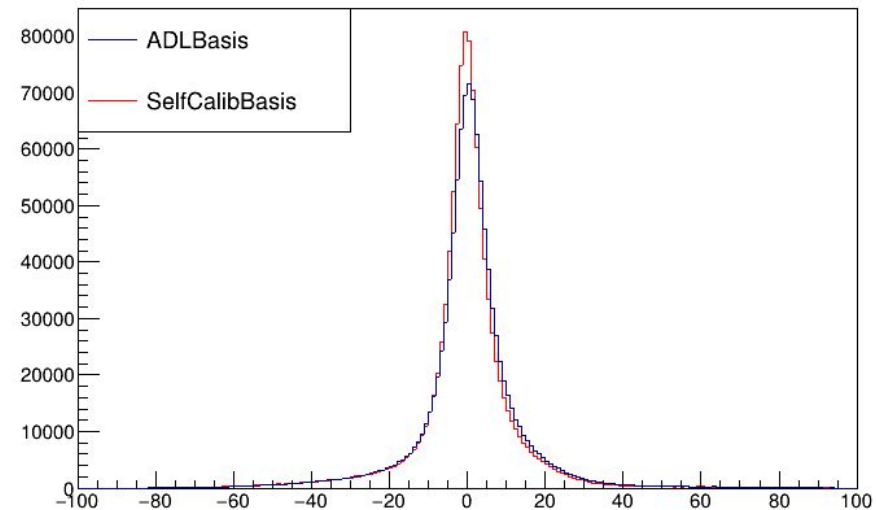


Compton Scattering Angle

Scattering angle vs. Scattering Energy

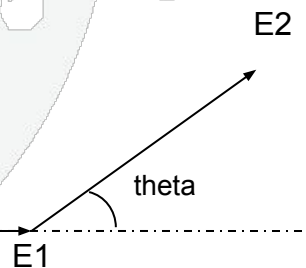


Angle PSA - Angle Compton



$E1 + E2 = 1836 \text{ keV}$

1836 keV

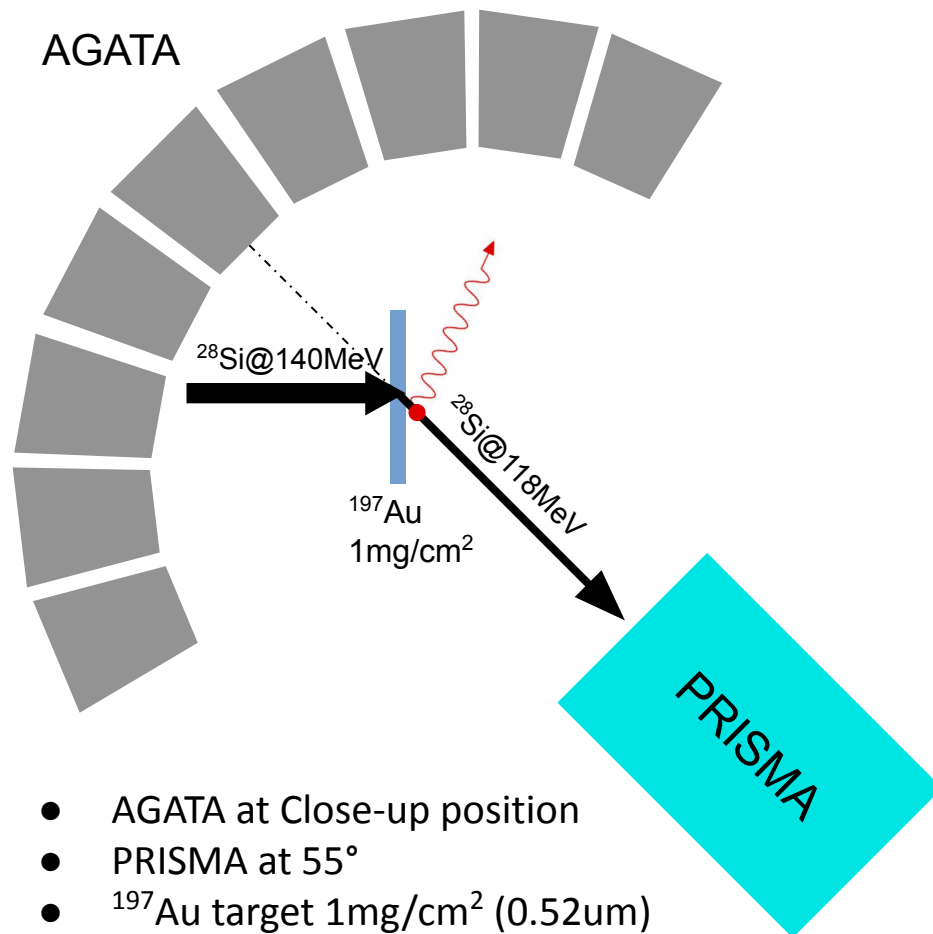
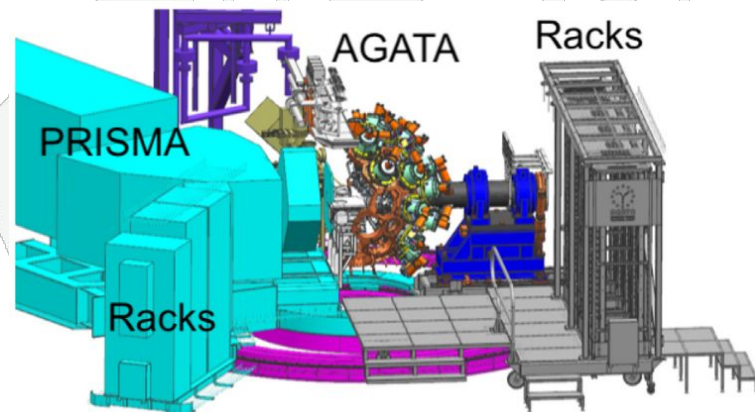
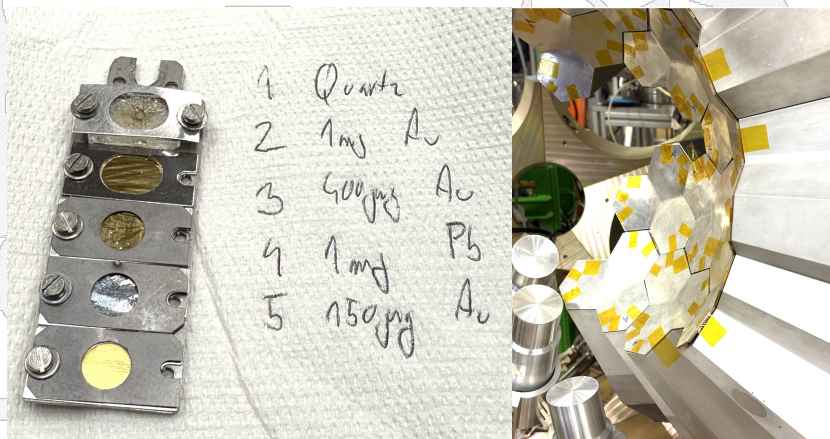


- Compton scattering of 1836 keV gamma
- Interaction position from PSA with ADL basis and SelfCalib basis
- Comparing scattering angle from PSA and the Compton angle from energy deposit

Experiment: in-beam data



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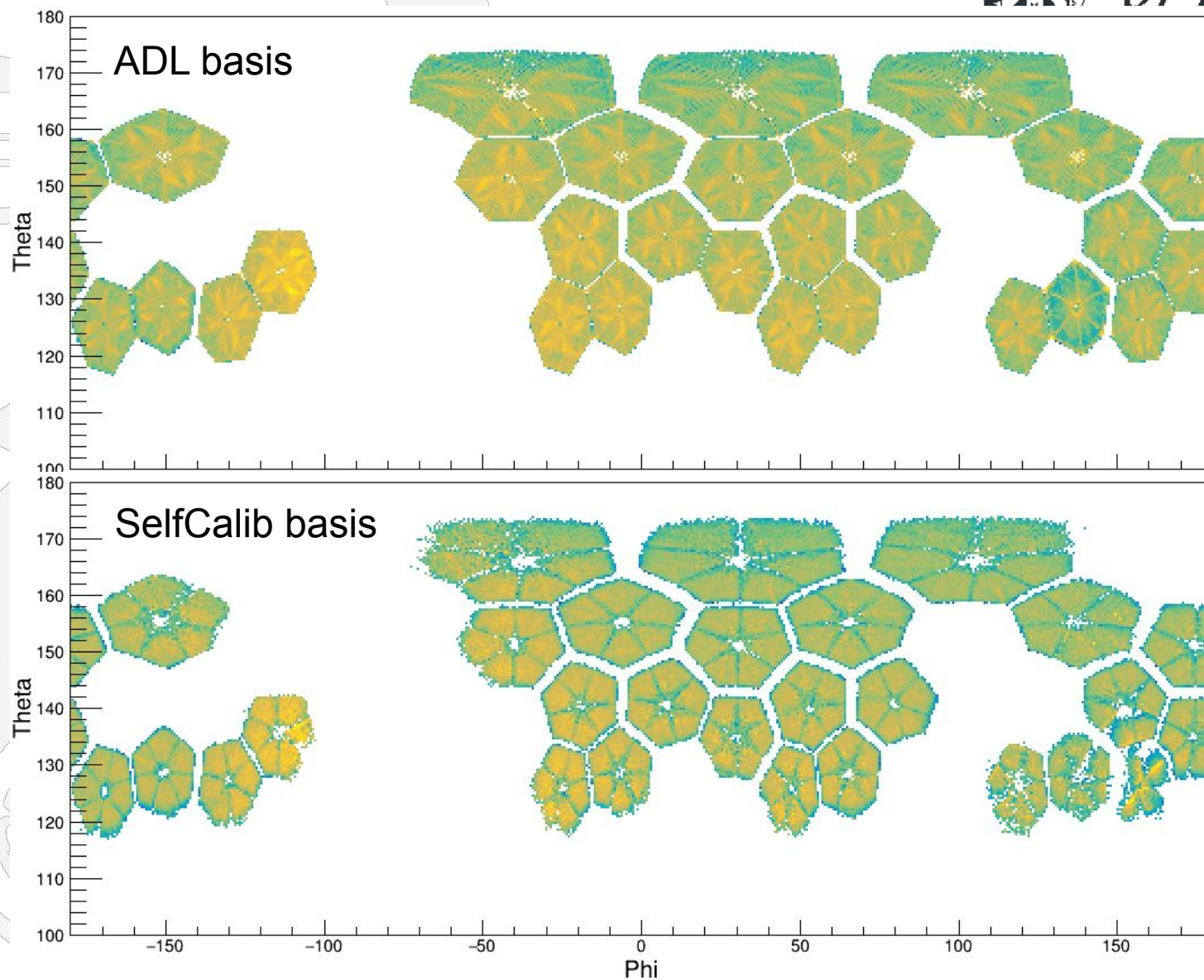


- AGATA at Close-up position
- PRISMA at 55°
- ^{197}Au target $1\text{mg}/\text{cm}^2$ ($0.52\mu\text{m}$)
- ^{28}Si scattered to 55°, 118MeV ($\beta=0.09$)
- $^{28}\text{Si } 2^+ t_{1/2} = 0.475\text{ps}$
- 10 – 12 December 2024 (~41h beam on target)

Experiment: in-beam data



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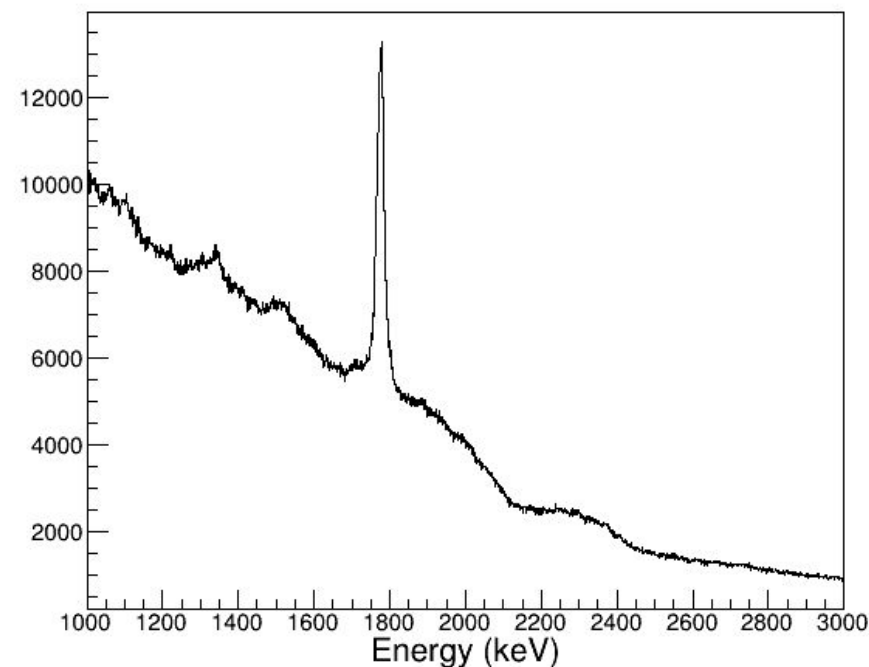
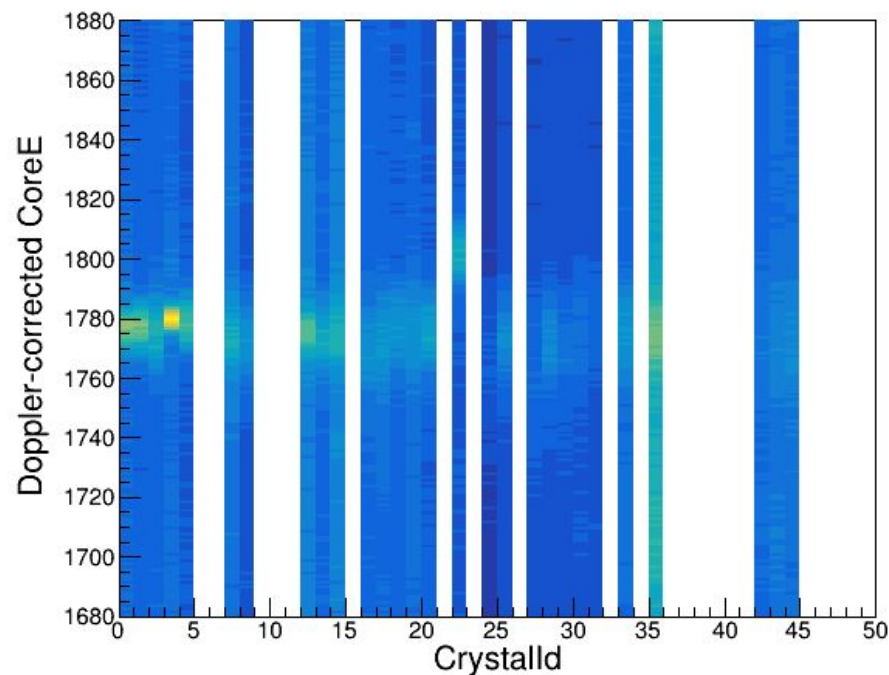
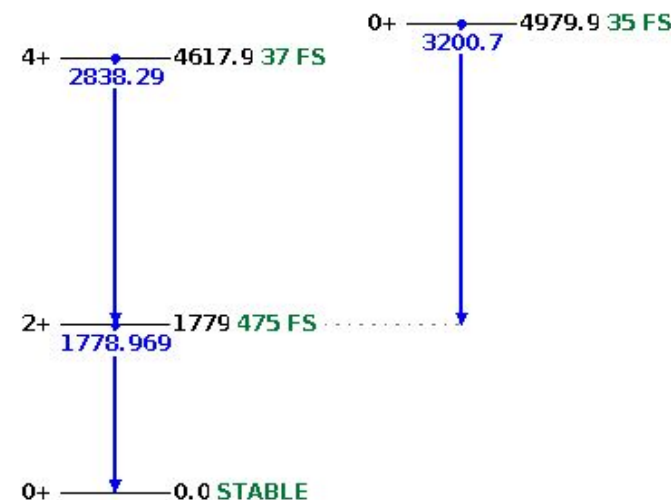


Experiment: in-beam data

- Assume highest-energy-deposit point as first interaction
- Core energy Doppler-corrected with
 - fixed velocity ($\beta=0.095$)
 - ZeroDegree Beam direction



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Summary

- Self-calibration technique is developed with AGATA simulation data with pulse shape
- Self-calibration data taken with $\sim 540\text{kBq}$ ^{88}Y source
- In-beam data obtained using ^{28}Si on Au target, clear 2^+ peak observed
- self-calibration basis generated from source calibration data looks promising
- Analyse in-beam data using ADL basis and self-calibration basis

Next steps

- perform PRISMA analysis
- Doppler-correction with OFT tracking

Collaboration



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Thank you for your attention