Detection of neutrons at 0 degrees from the dissociation of Xe @3.8 AGeV nuclei

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on behalf of the HGND group

Analysis and Detector Meeting of the BM@N Experiment

2024

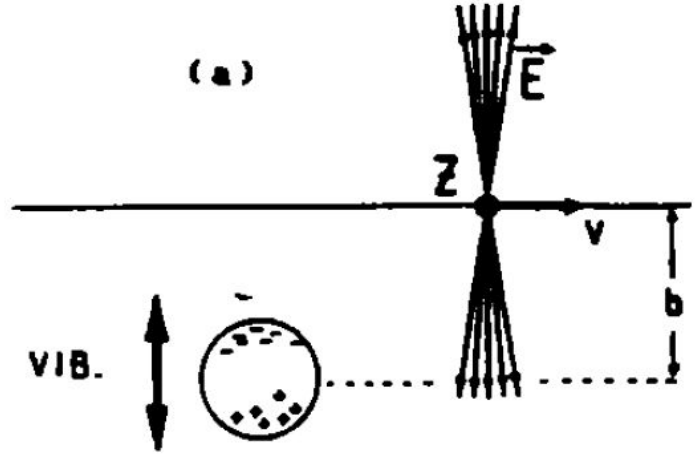
The aim of this work is the interaction of $^{124}Xe^{+54}$ ions with a CsI target with neutron emission at zero degrees in laboratory system.
In the nuclear electromagnetic interaction, the parity and spin of the system are preserved.

Expected reactions:

$$^{124}\mathrm{Xe}\ (0^+) \rightarrow {}^{123}\mathrm{Xe}\ (1/2^+) + \mathbf{n}(1/2^+)$$

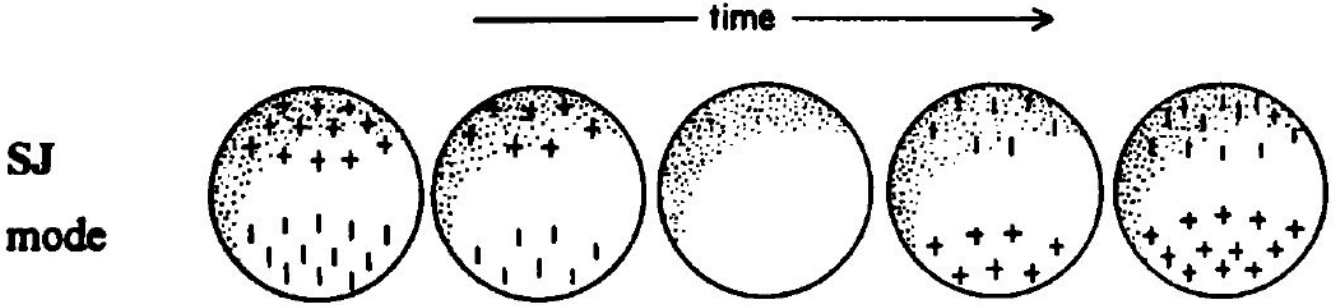
$$^{124}\mathrm{Xe}\ (0^+) \rightarrow {}^{122}\mathrm{Xe}\ (0^+) + \mathbf{2n}(0^+,1^+)$$

There are **no experimental data** for the presented reactions in the energy range 1-4 AGeV



Schematic illustration of the electric field created by a relativistic heavy ion traveling on a straight line. There is an interaction with the charge of the target nucleus and the deflection of protons relative to the center of mass.
This electric field may excite the giant dipole mode.

(G.P. Baur and C .A. Bertulani, Phys . Rep . 163 (1988) 299)

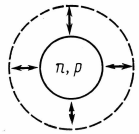


Shematic picture of the GDR in the Steinwedel and Jensen model.
(H.Steinwedel and J.H.D. Jensen, Z . Nat. 5a (1950) 413)

Nuclei exitation

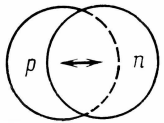
Pi/Pf=$(-1)^{-L}$

E0



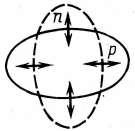
W=80$A^{-1/3}$MeV

E1



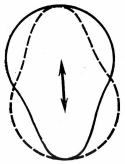
W=78$A^{-1/3}$MeV
Γ=3 -10MeV
9<A<203

E2



W=63$A^{-1/3}$MeV
Γ=6 - 3MeV
14<A<208

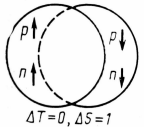
E3



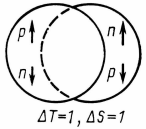
W=32$A^{-1/3}$MeV
Γ=2.2MeV
60<A<208

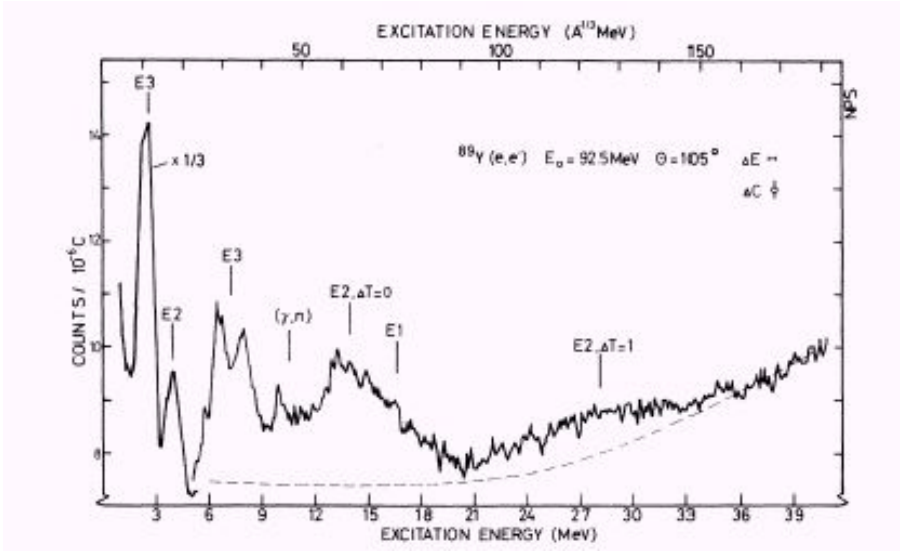
Pi/Pf=$(-1)^{-L+1}$

M1



M2





Spectrum of 92.5-MeV electrons scattered at 105º

I.A. Pshenichnov, U.A. Dmitrieva

“Emission of forward nucleons by 129Xe in UPC at √SNN = 5.44 TeV: Preliminary data vs RELDIS”

Production of $^{126,127,128}_{54}Xe$

RELDIS:
Total single EMD: 50.6 b

Mutual EMD: 0.69 b

^{129}Xe (1/2+)

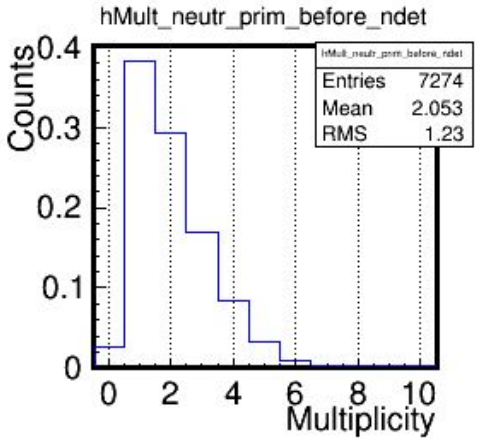
Residual nucleus from beam C	ZNC	ZNA	$\sigma \pm \sigma_{fit\_err} \pm \sigma_{stat\_err}$ (barns) normalized to RELDIS	σ_{RELDIS} (barns)	
^{128}Xe	1n	Xn	22.51 ± 0.06 ± 0.06 = 22.51 ± 0.08	21.44 ± 0.05	(0+)
^{127}Xe	2n	Xn	6.04 ± 0.03 ± 0.03 = 6.04 ± 0.05	4.65 ± 0.02	(1/2+)
^{126}Xe	3n	Xn	2.64 ± 0.03 ± 0.02 = 2.64 ± 0.04	1.2 ± 0.01	(0+)

Errors are only from fitting procedure (e.g. due to parameter correlations) and purely statistical ($1/\sqrt{n_{events}}$ for each neutron peak), same for RELDIS.

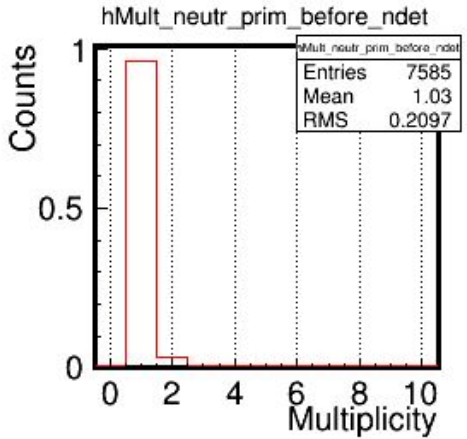
No corrections for acceptance or detection efficiency yet ...

Primary neutrons multiplicity distributions at vacuum wall before **nDet PROTOTYPE**

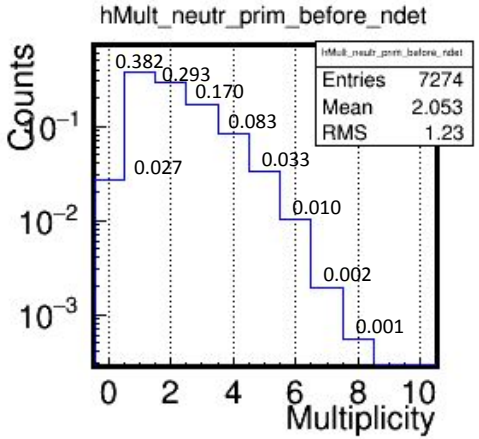
DCM-QGSM-SMM (9999ev)

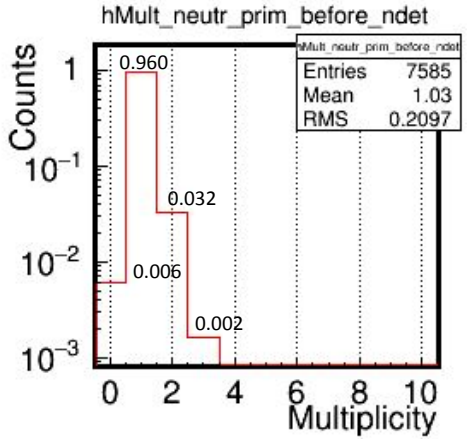


RELDIS (10000 ev)



Linear scale





Log scale

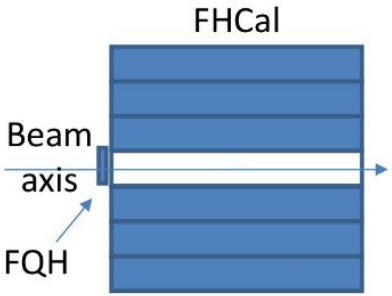
Geometry:
Vacuum in cave
Target, Hodo, vacuum
Wall
With field

nDet position:
X = 10 cm
Y = 0.52 cm
Z = 838 cm
rotY = 0.7 deg

DCM-QGSM-SMM
RELDIS

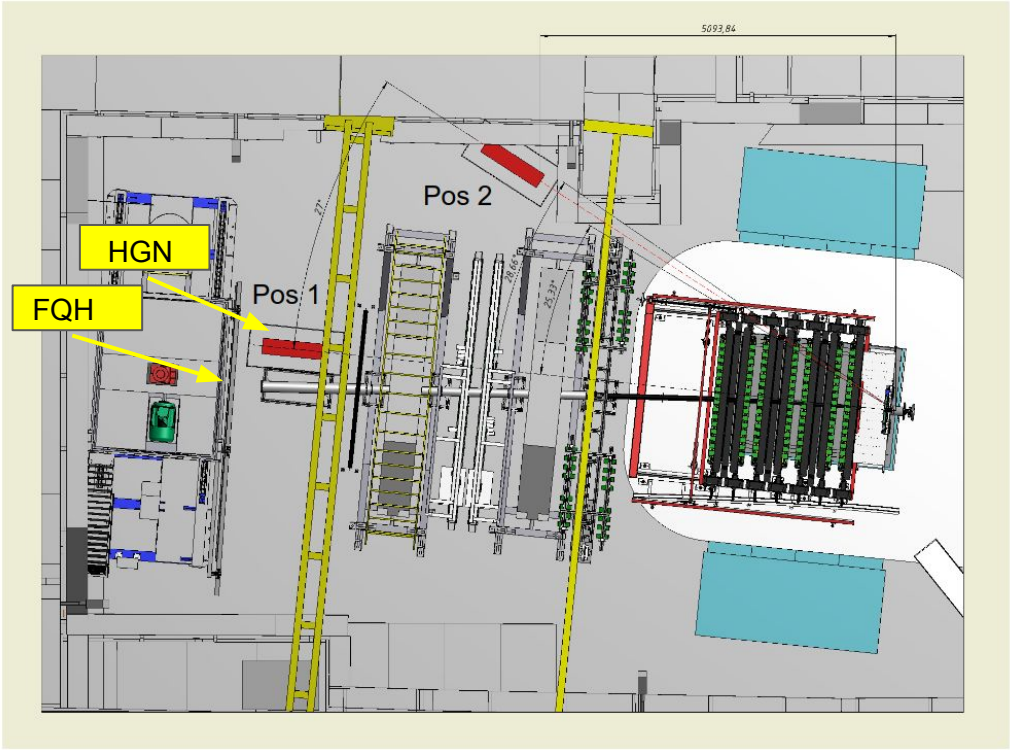
Schematic view

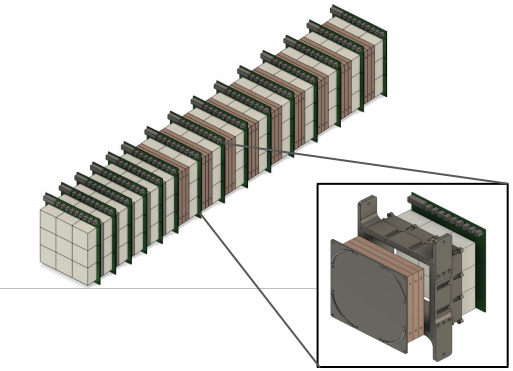
Position 0 degree



Forward
Quarz
Hodoscope

16 quartz strips
10x4x160mm^3





High
Granularity
Neutron
detector

15 layers
Veto + 5 Pb + 9 Cu
Scintillator cell
40 x 40 x 25 mm^3
135 readout channels

Data set conditions

The HGN detector at the 0° position has been adjusted (now the angle corresponds to ~0.7°):
back part of the HGNd has been moved by 11 cm, the front by 10 cm towards the beam axis.

HGNd completely overlaps FHCal module No. 49 in this position

№ Run	Events	Target	Type	Comment
8281	999K	CsI (2%)	Physics	BT trigger beam position x=-7mm y=-14mm
8282	121K	Empty	Calibration	BT trigger beam position x=-7mm y=-14mm
8283	106K	Empty	Calibration	BT trigger beam position x=-12.4mm y=-12.2mm
8284	400K	CsI (2%)	Physics	BT trigger beam position x=-12.4mm y=-12.2mm

Trigger statistics

Special runs

Beam time 30 min was allocated

Beam position x=-7mm y=-14mm

Target **CsI(2%)**

All triggers: 893752

BT trigger: 662453

Target **Empty**

All triggers: 121177

BT trigger: 113959

Only
BEAM TRIGGER
for analysis

2 data sets due to the deflection of the beam in target

Beam position x=-12.4mm y=-12.2mm

Target **CsI(2%)**

All triggers: 373967

BT trigger: 275616

Target **Empty**

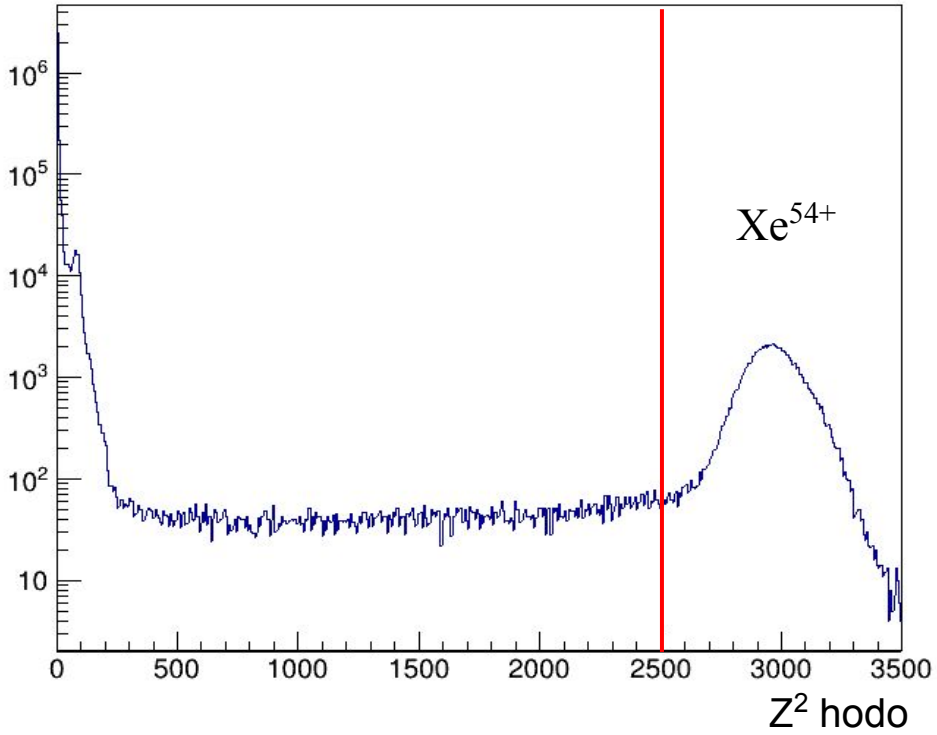
All triggers: 105959

BT trigger: 99861

Additionally removed events with the remaining triggers from the analysis

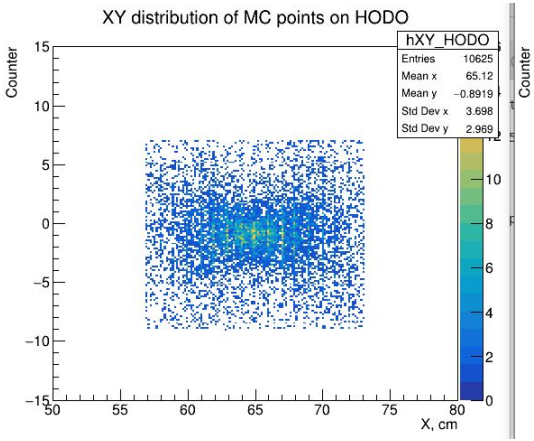
Fragments charge distribution in FQH

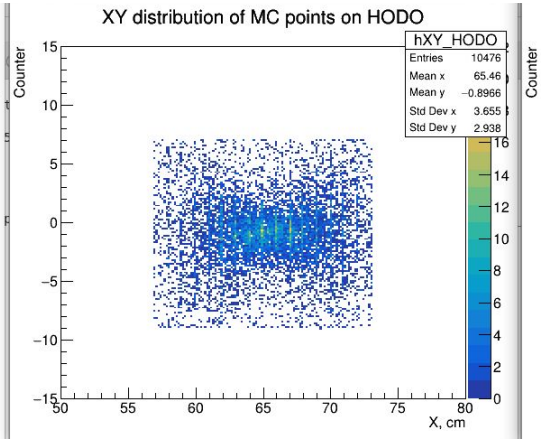
Charge cut 2500

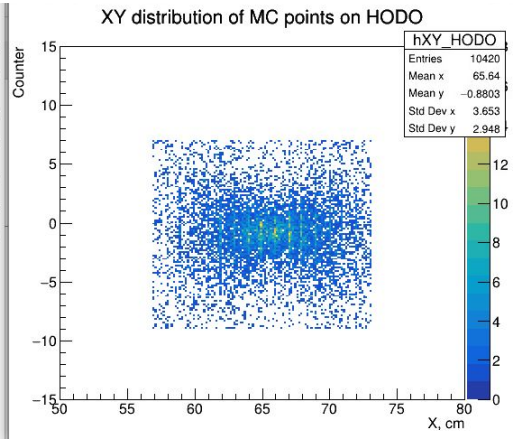


Simulation Xe beam in HODO with neutron emission

		-1n	-2n
MEAN X	65.12 cm	65.46 (+0.34cm)	65.64 (+0.52cm)







Primary beam
^{124}Xe

^{123}Xe

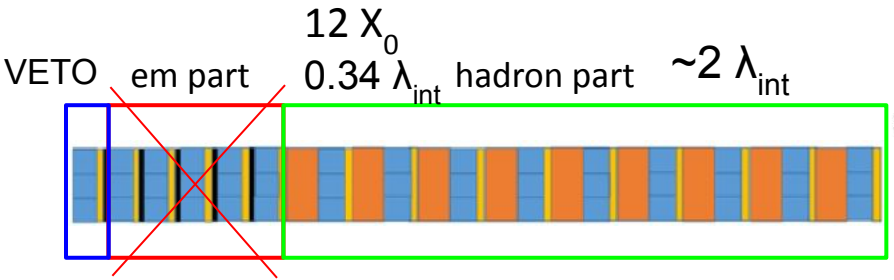
^{122}Xe

Beam position in hodoscope

Beam position in target	Beam position in hodoscope				Diff target - non target	
	CsI(2%) Target		**EMPTY** Target		Δ(mean)	Δ(fit)
	MEAN	FIT	MEAN	FIT		
x= -7 mm **y=** -14 mm	**8.714**	**9.208**	**8.424**	**8.923**	**0.290 cm**	**0.285 cm**
x= -12.4 mm **y=** -12.2 mm	**8.285**	**8.777**	**7.977**	**8.472**	**0.308 cm**	**0.305 cm**

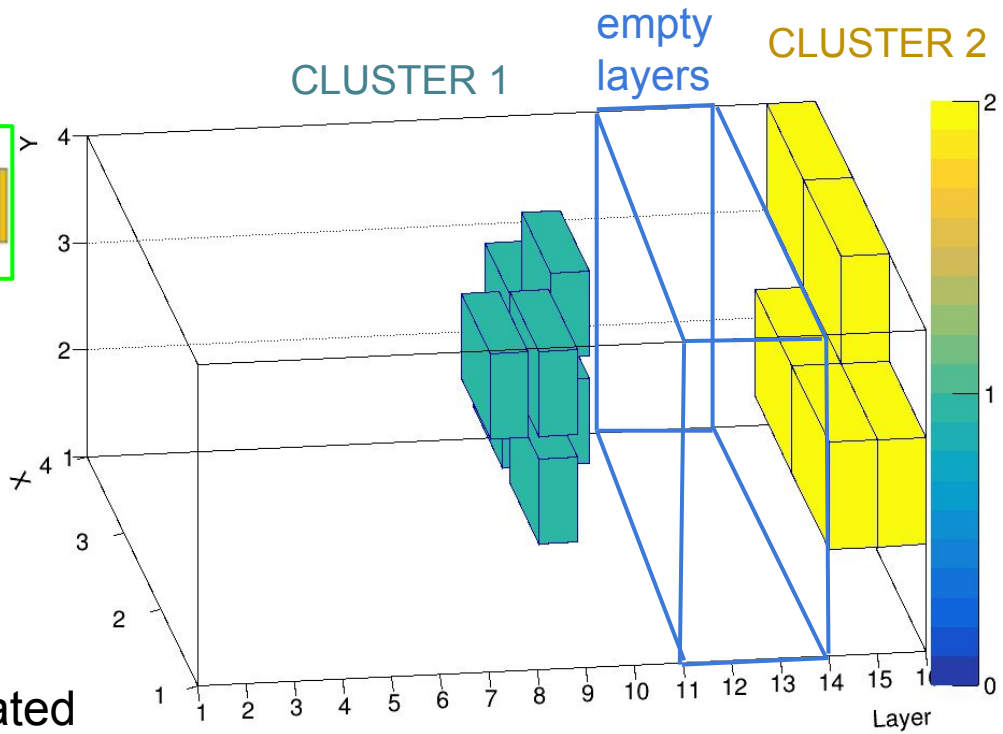
The presence of target leads to relative beam deflection of 0.3 cm associated with ionization energy losses in the target at 1.15 GeV

Clusterization in HGNd



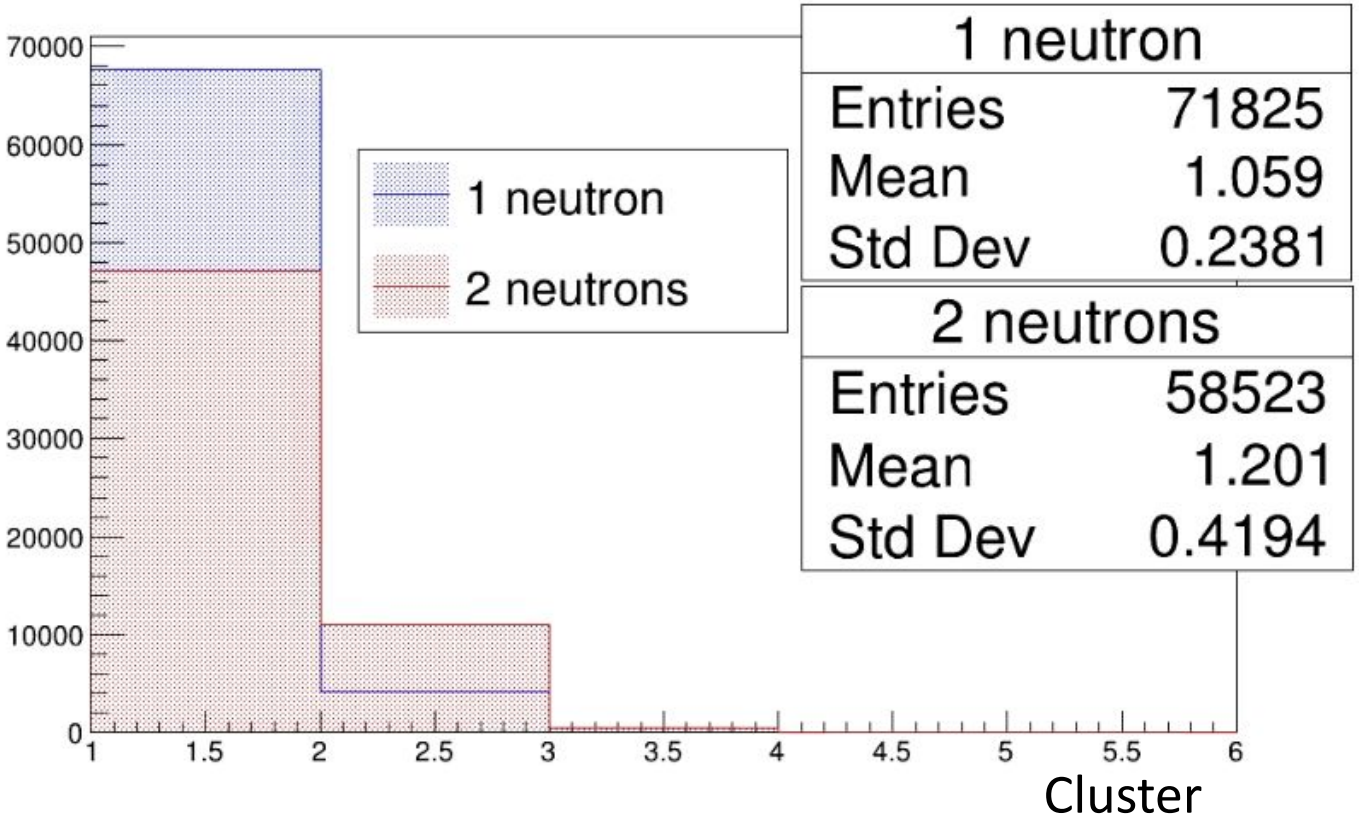
- Only hadron part
- Without EM part to suppress gamma
- VETO to suppress charged particles

Cluster - area of the detector separated by empty layer and number of cells > 1



Simulation

Box generator
Only neutrons
100k events



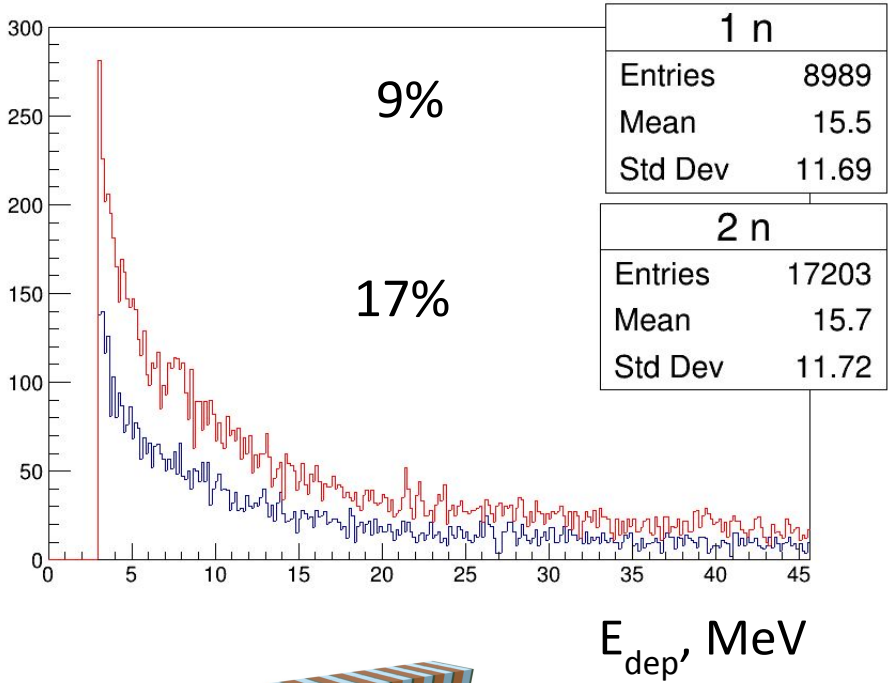
The efficiency of neutron detector for two neutron events is lower than for single neutron events due to the specific of the selection algorithm

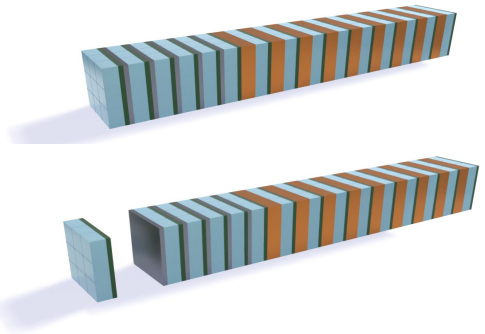
Energy deposition in veto layer

Primary neutrons

Ekin 3.86 GeV
100k events
Edep > 3 MeV

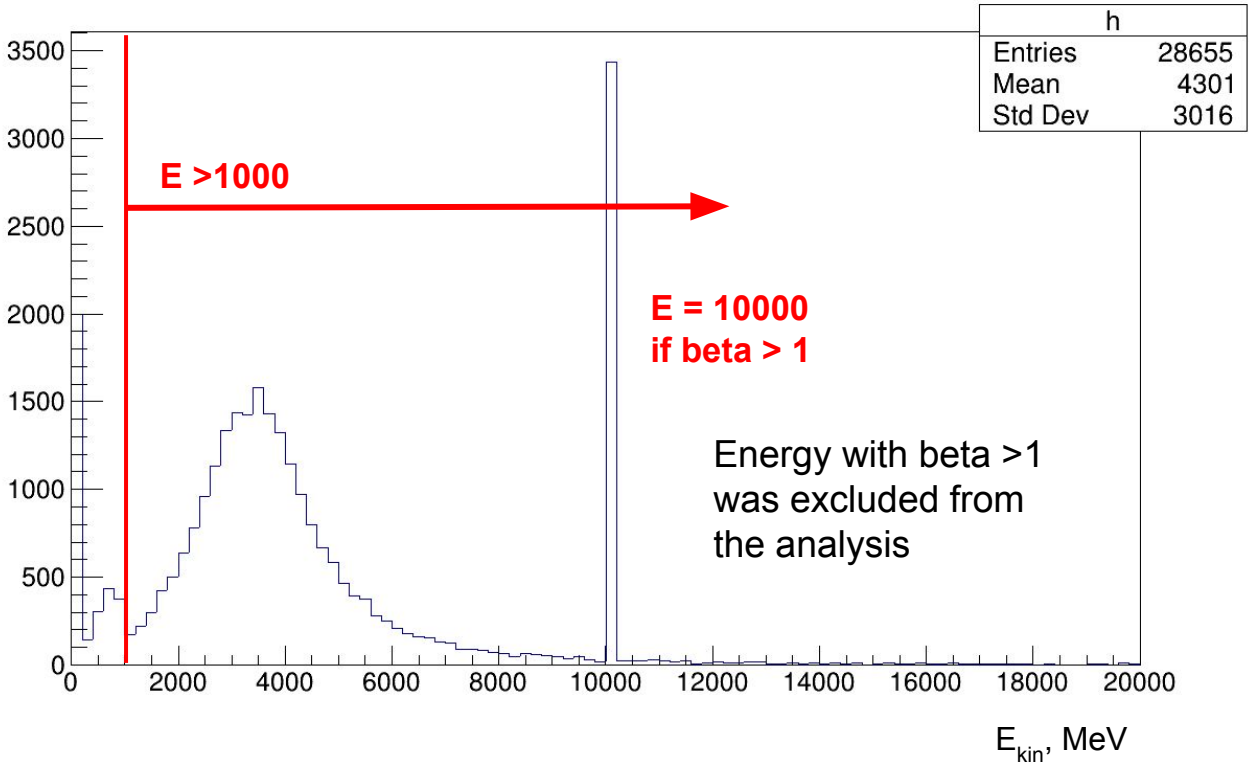
From backscattering





Experimental data

Neutron kinetic energy by the fastest cell in the cluster



Experimental data

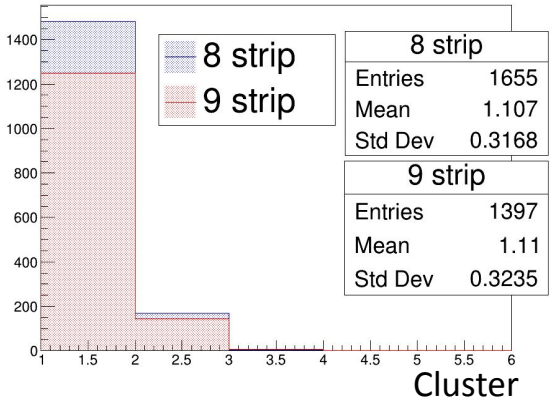
No correlation between the number of clusters and the beam deflection.

Deflection in each selection is 1cm

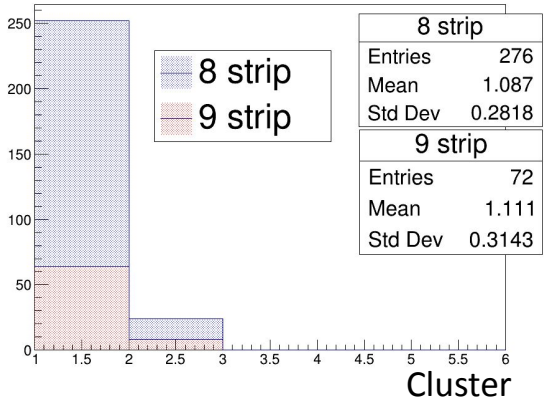
The number of clusters is close to the simulation predictions, and one neutron is emitted

Beam position x=-7mm y=-14mm

Target **CsI(2%)**

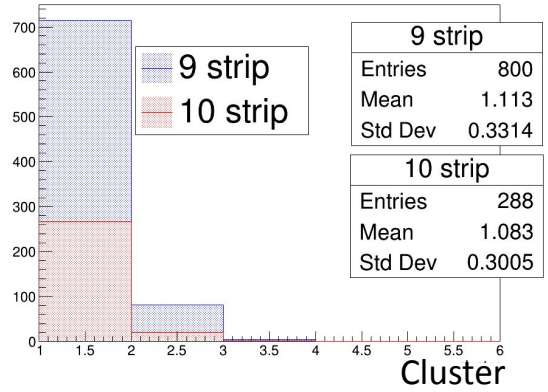


Target **Empty**

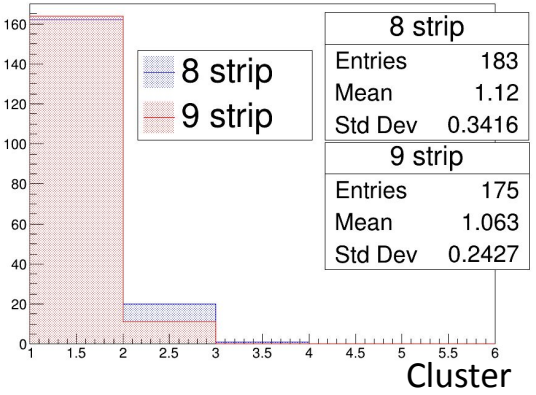


Beam position x=-12.4mm y=-12.2mm

Target **CsI(2%)**



Target **Empty**



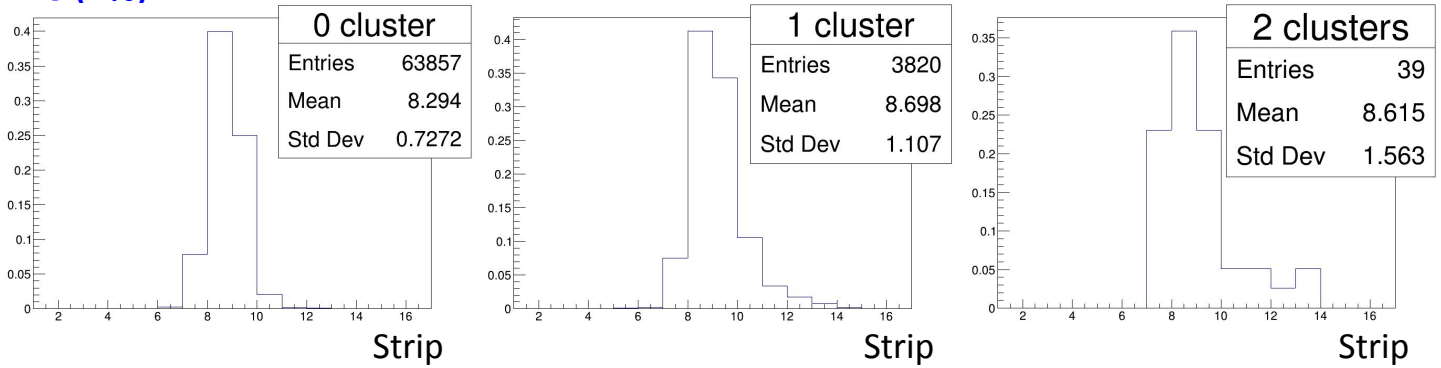
Beam position in hodoscope

Target **CsI(2%)**

Beam position x=-7mm y=-14mm

Strip position (cm)

0 cluster 8.294 ±0.003 cm
1 cluster 8.698 ±0.018 cm
2 clusters 8.615 ±0.25 cm

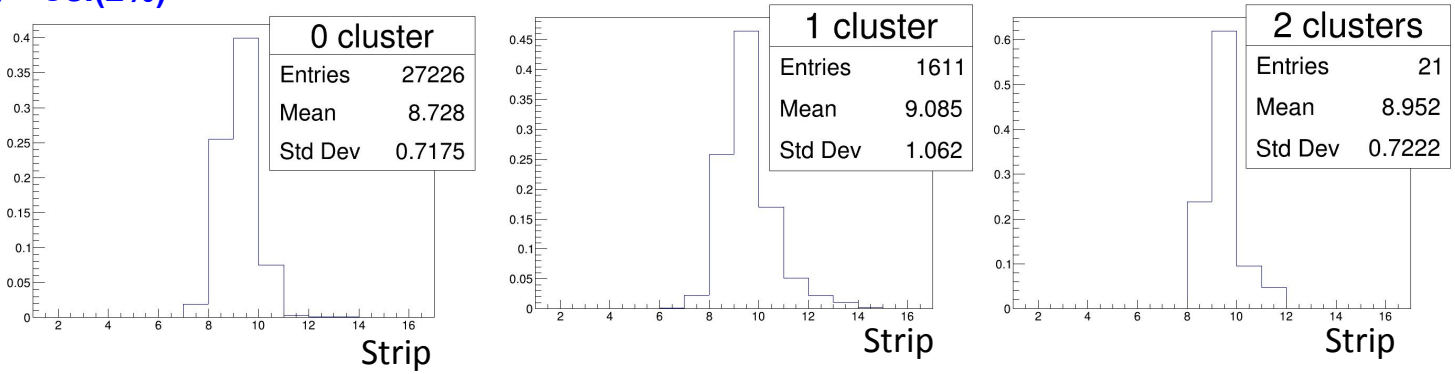


Target **CsI(2%)**

Beam position x=-12.4mm y=-12.2mm

Strip position (cm)

0 cluster 8.728 ±0.004 cm
1 cluster 9.085 ±0.027 cm
2 clusters 8.952 ±0.158 cm



The values for the two cluster events are underestimated due to the selection criteria
Two clusters events have large errors, so more detailed study is required.

Beam position in hodoscope

Beam position in target		Beam position in hodoscope				Δ(mean)
		CsI(2%) Target		**EMPTY** Target		
		MEAN (cm)	EVENTS	MEAN (cm)	EVENTS	
x= -7 mm y= -14 mm	**0 cluster**	**8.296 ±0.003**	63800	**7.963**	10960	
	1 clusters	**8.741 ±0.018**	3820	**8.202**	410	**0.45 ±0.02 cm**
	2 clusters	**8.618 ±0.250**	39	**-**	-	**0.32 ±0.25 cm**
x= -12.4 mm y= -12.2 mm	**0 cluster**	**8.727 ±0.004**	27230	**8.411**	9530	
	1 clusters	**9.128 ±0.027**	1610	**8.711**	380	**0.4 ±0.03 cm**
	2 clusters	**8.92 ±0.158**	21	**-**	-	**0.19 ±0.16 cm**

The difference in the beam position between events without cluster allocation and single cluster events is **0.44 ±0.02 cm**

double clusters events is **0.28 ±0.22 cm**

The beam deflection is the same in both cases within the error limits

Evaluation of the cross section

Calculations based on

В.С.Барашенков «Сечения взаимодействия частиц и ядер с ядрами», Дубна 1993.

$$\sigma_{tot}(T,A_b,A_t)=\sigma_0(T)(A_b^{1/3}+A_t^{1/3})$$

$$\sigma_0(T)=34.5T^{0.06}\ (mb)$$

$$T=3.896*124=483,1GeV$$

Evaluation of the total cross section $^{124}Xe+CzI(2\%)$ **(3.9GeV/nuc)**

$$\sigma_{tot}(T,A_b,A_t)=34.5*483.1^{0.06}*(124^{1/3}+130^{1/3})=497.9mb$$

Beam trigger
with target 938069 N_{tot} = 18651
c >=1 cluster 5490 σ_{tot}(dA>1)~147mb

w/o target 213820 N_{tot} = 4251
c >=1 cluster 790 σ_{tot}(dA>1)~92mb

The cross sections in relation to the total nuclear cross section

$$\sigma\ (dA>1)\sim147\pm92mb$$

No corrections for acceptance or detection efficiency yet …

Conclusions

Analysis based on the beam deflection in FQH shows that the $^{124}Xe^{+54}$ disintegration reaction proceeds with the emission of single neutron. The average number of experimental measured clusters is 1.1 and from simulation is 1.06

Analysis based on the number of clusters shows that the $^{124}Xe^{+54}$ disintegration reaction proceeds with the emission of single neutron. The deflection for one cluster is **0.44 ±0.02 cm**, and for two clusters is **0.28 ±0.22 cm.** The beam deflection is the same in both cases within the error limits.

$$^{124}\mathrm{Xe}\ (0^+) \rightarrow {}^{123}\mathrm{Xe}\ (1/2^+) + \mathbf{n}(1/2^+)\ \text{registered}$$

$$^{124}\mathrm{Xe}\ (0^+) \rightarrow {}^{122}\mathrm{Xe}\ (0^+) + \mathbf{2n}(0^+,1^+)\quad \text{not detected}$$

The nuclear cross-section estimate with **no correction** for acceptance and efficiency of the neutron detector is σ(dA>1)~147±92mb, where 92mb is systematic error estimate from empty target. This result very preliminary.

Information about the cross-section can be used for the BM@N trigger system and for the luminosity determination in the NICA collider.

Thanks for your attention