

# Testing CPT symmetry in ortho-positronium decays with the J-PET facility

Szymon Niedźwiecki  
on behalf of the **J-PET**  
collaboration





Szymon Niedźwiecki

**Total-body J-PET and Theranostic Center group photo, 2021-04-26  
In front of Faculty of Physics, Astronomy and Computer Science of Jagiellonian University**



# Motivation: discrete symmetry tests with o-Ps decays

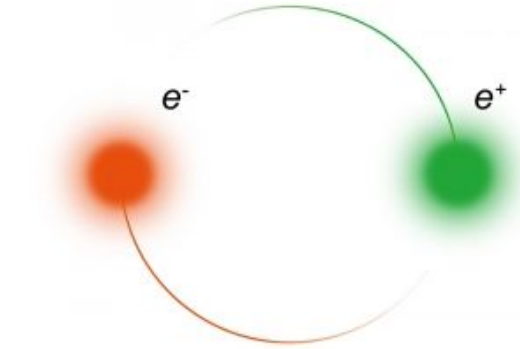
## ➤ POSITRONIUM - the lightest purely leptonic object

bound by a central potential



is eigenstate of the parity operator P

$$P|P_s\rangle = (-1)^L|P_s\rangle$$



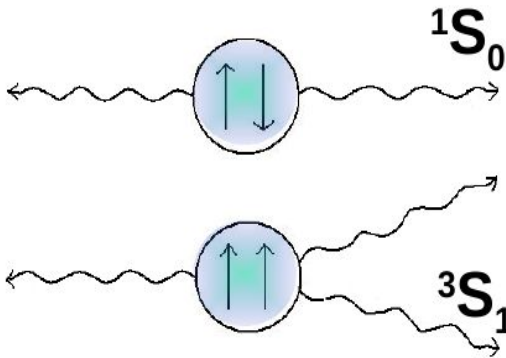
eigenstate of the CP operator

symmetric under the exchange of particles - anti-particles



is eigenstate of the charge conjugation operator C

$$C|P_s\rangle = (-1)^{L+S}|P_s\rangle$$



Para-positronium (p - Ps),  $\tau = 125\text{ps}$ ,  $^1S_0$



-Singlet state

even number of photons

symm. of charge conjugation C

Ortho - positronium (o - Ps),  $\tau = 142\text{ns}$ ,  $^3S_1$



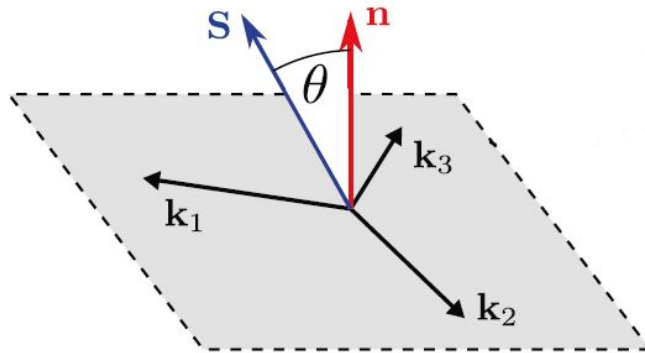
--Triplet state

odd number of photons

# Testing discrete symmetries with angular correlations in o-Ps $\rightarrow 3\gamma$ decays

Measurement the expectation value of the symmetry odd-operators

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \text{o-Ps} \rightarrow 3\gamma$$



$$\langle \hat{O} \rangle \stackrel{?}{=} 0 \quad \text{for an odd operator}$$

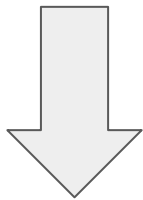
$$\Leftrightarrow CPT(\hat{O}) = -1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{T}(\hat{O}) = -1$$

$$|\vec{k}_1| > |\vec{k}_2| > |\vec{k}_3|$$

Required:

- the o-Ps spin determination
- of o-Ps  $\rightarrow 3\gamma$  decays selection (determination of photons momenta)



$$O_{CPT} = \hat{S} \cdot (\vec{k}_1 \times \vec{k}_2) / |\vec{k}_1 \times \vec{k}_2| = \cos \phi$$

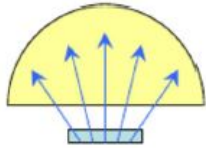
Operator	C	P	T	CP	CPT
$\vec{S} \cdot \vec{k}_1$	+	-	+	-	-
$\vec{S} \cdot (\vec{k}_1 \times \vec{k}_2)$	+	+	-	+	-
$(\vec{S} \cdot \vec{k}_1) (\vec{S} \cdot (\vec{k}_1 \times \vec{k}_2))$	+	-	-	-	+
$\vec{k}_1 \cdot \vec{\epsilon}_2$	+	-	-	-	+
$\vec{S} \cdot \vec{\epsilon}_1$	+	+	-	+	-
$\vec{S} \cdot (\vec{k}_2 \times \vec{\epsilon}_1)$	+	-	+	-	-

# Previous measurements

## Gammasphere

PRL 91 (2003) 263401

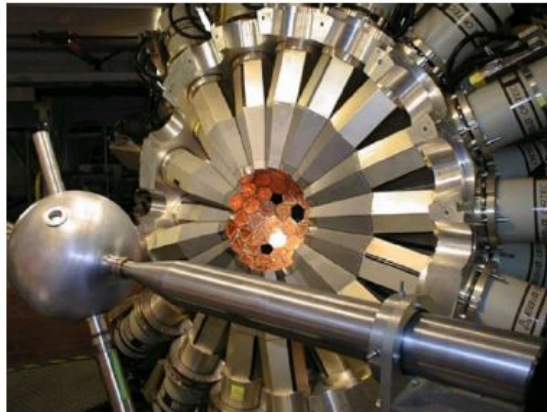
$$\vec{S} \cdot (\vec{k}_1 \times \vec{k}_2)$$



$$P_{e^+} = \frac{v}{c} \cdot 0.686$$

Limiting positron emission direction  
 1 Mbq  $\beta^+$  emitter activity  
 $4\pi$  detector but low angular resolution

$$C_{\text{CPT}} = (2.6 \pm 3.1) \times 10^{-3}$$

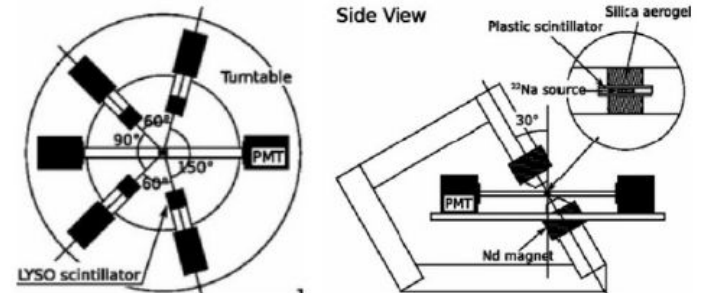


## Yamazaki et al.

PRL 104 (2010) 083401

$$(\vec{S} \cdot \vec{k}_1)(\vec{S} \cdot (\vec{k}_1 \times \vec{k}_2))$$

$$C_{\text{CP}} = (1.3 \pm 2.1 \pm 0.6) \times 10^{-3}$$



Polarized o-Ps using external B field  
 Inclusive measurement  
 Only certain angular configurations

# Motivation: discrete symmetry tests with o-Ps decays

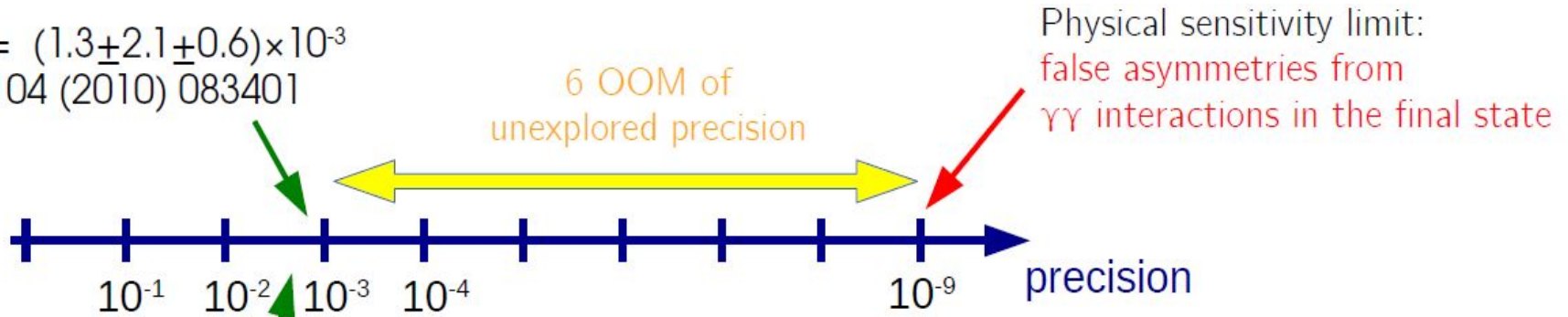
- ❖ Discrete symmetries are scarcely tested with leptonic systems:
  - Neutrino oscillations: Dirac phase,  $\delta\text{CP} \sim 3\sigma$  level [T2K, *Nature* 580 (2020) 339]
  - Electron EDM  $< 1.1 \times 10^{-29}$  [ACME, *Nature* 562 (2018) 355]

$$C_{\text{CP}} = (1.3 \pm 2.1 \pm 0.6) \times 10^{-3}$$

PRL 104 (2010) 083401

$$C_{\text{CPT}} = (2.6 \pm 3.1) \times 10^{-3}$$

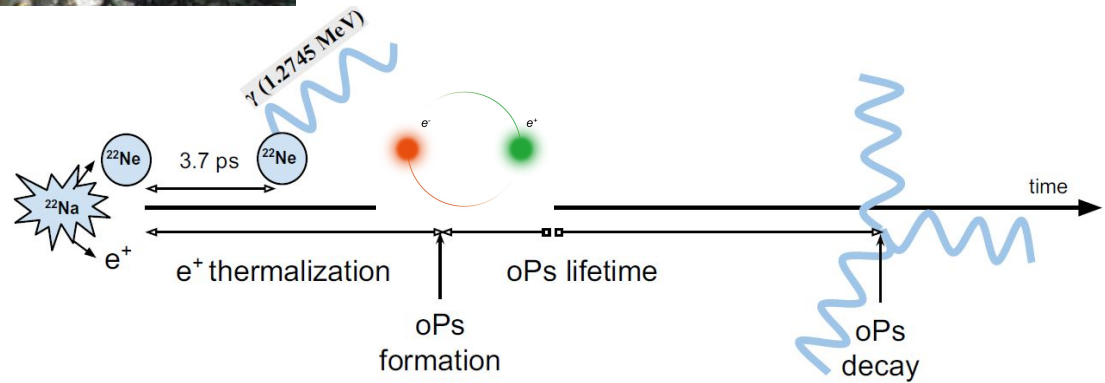
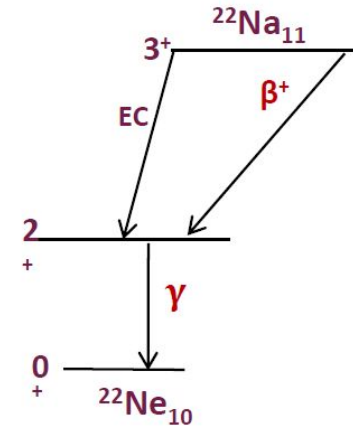
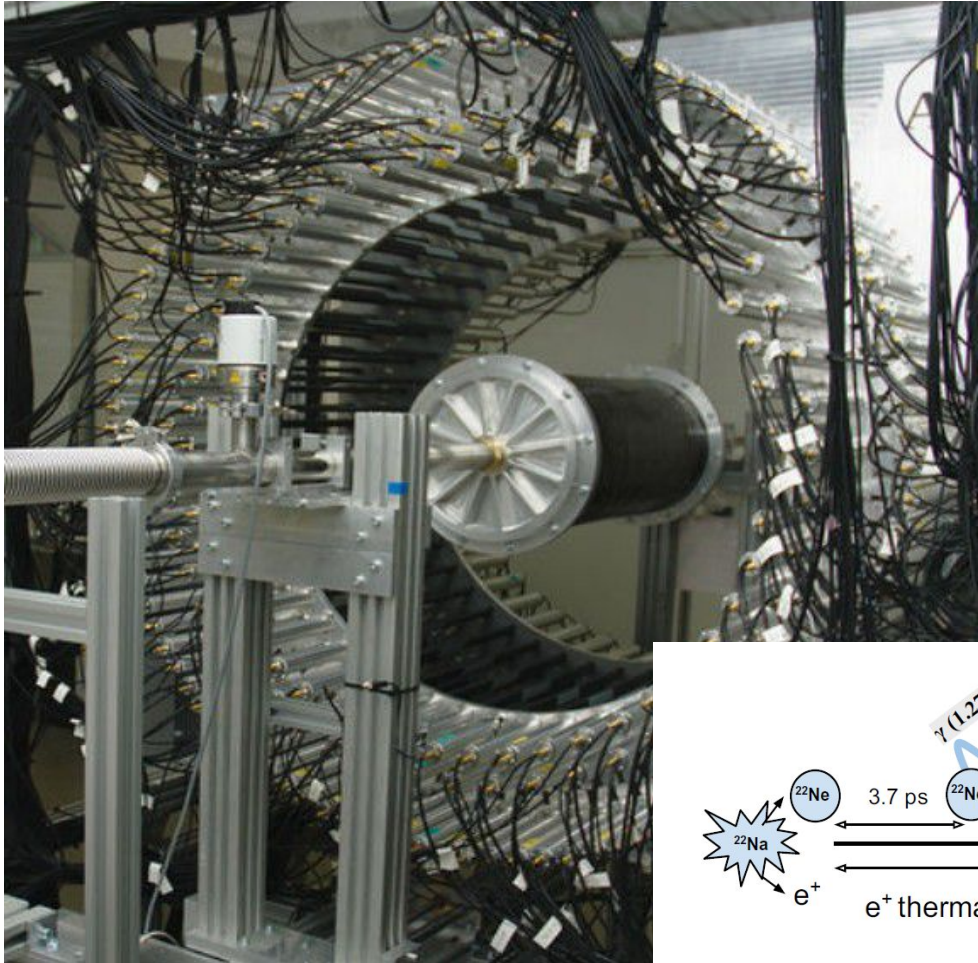
PRL 91 (2003) 263401



- symmetries tests can be made with a very high precision limited, only by the effects due to the weak interaction:  $10^{-14}$  and photon-photon interaction:  $10^{-9}$ . (Standard Model Calculations)  
[\[Phys. Rev. A 37, 3189 \(1988\), Z. Phys. C 41, 143 \(1988\), M. S Sozzi "Discreet Symmetries and CP violation"\]](#)

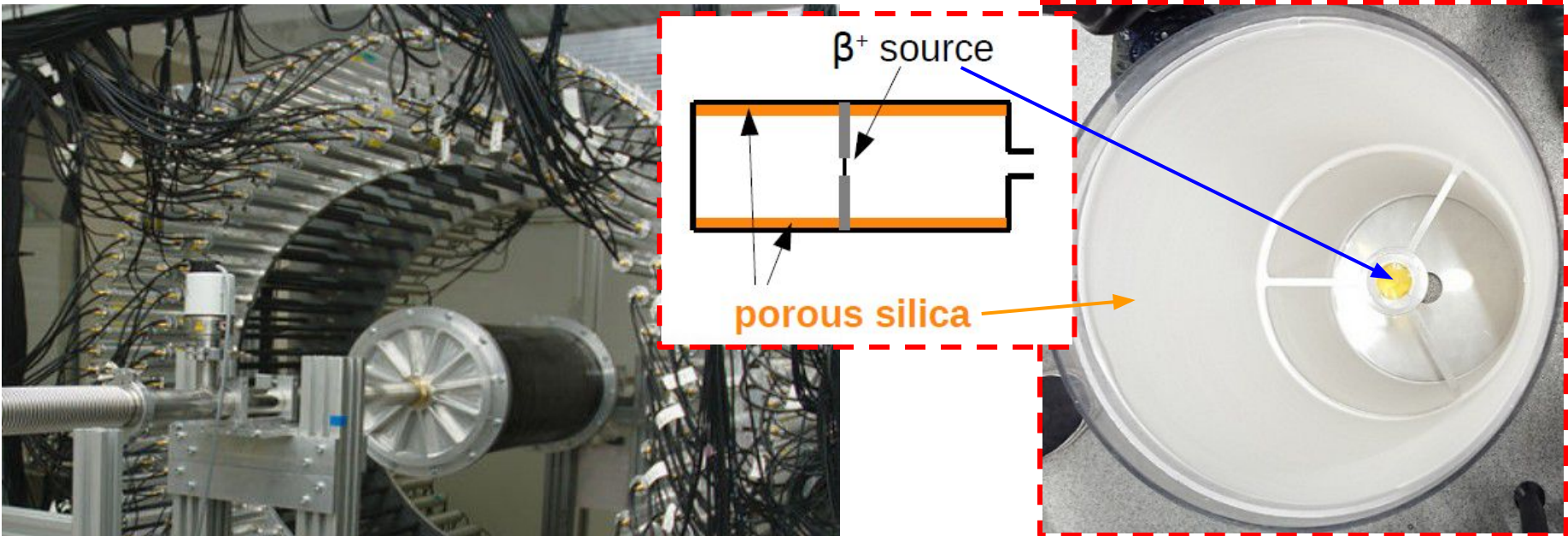


# o-Ps production in J-PET with an annihilation chamber

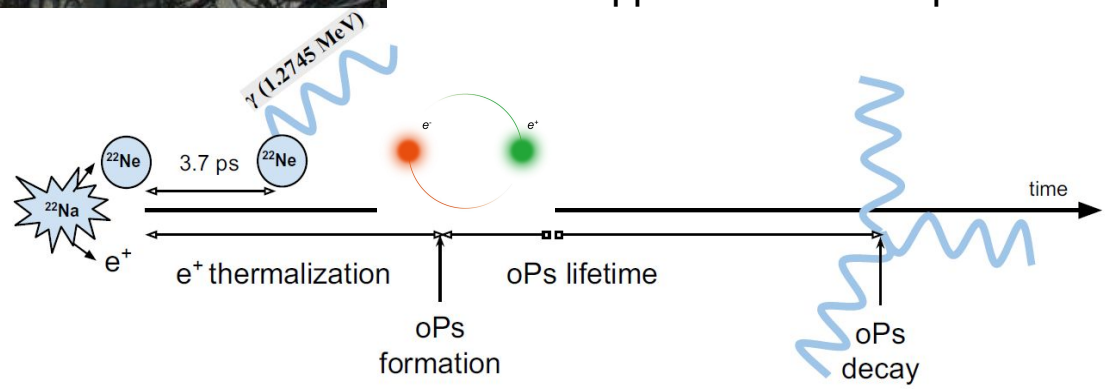
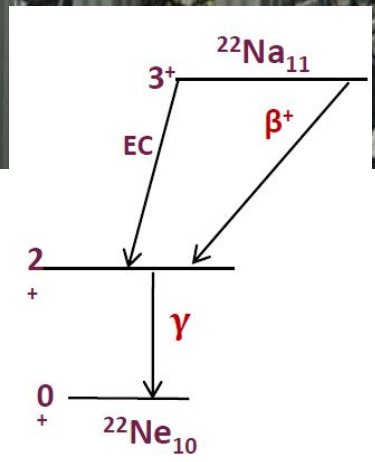


[D. Kaminska, et al., Eur. Phys. J. C (2016) 76:445]

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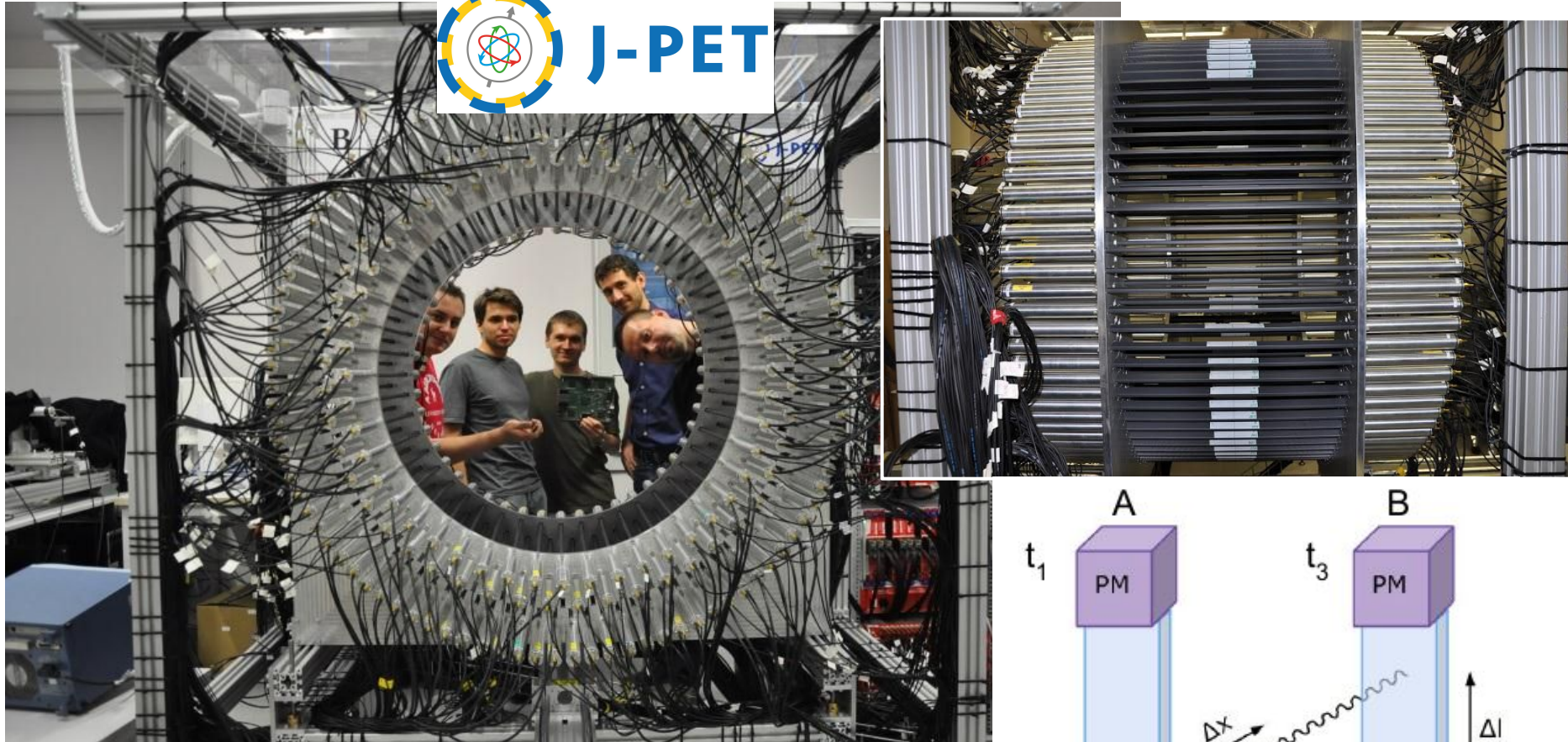
- Extensive-size chamber,  $R=12$  cm
- Walls coated with porous silica material (o-P target)
- 10 MBq  $\beta^+$   $^{22}\text{Na}$  source placed in the center



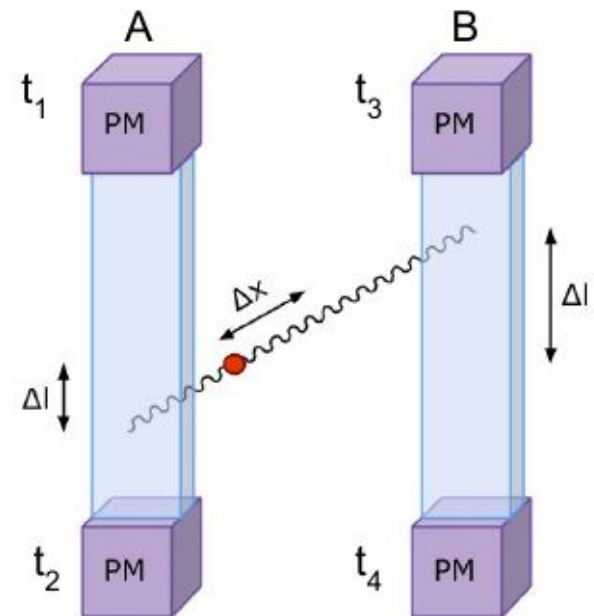
[D. Kaminska, et a.l., Eur. Phys. J. C (2016) 76:445]



# J-PET detector at Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland



- 192 EJ-230 scintillators:  $7 \times 19 \times 500 \text{ mm}^3$ ;
- 384 R9800 photomultipliers;
- 85 cm radius;
- 1536 channels;
- multithreshold digital electronics;
- the novel trigger-less DAQ;

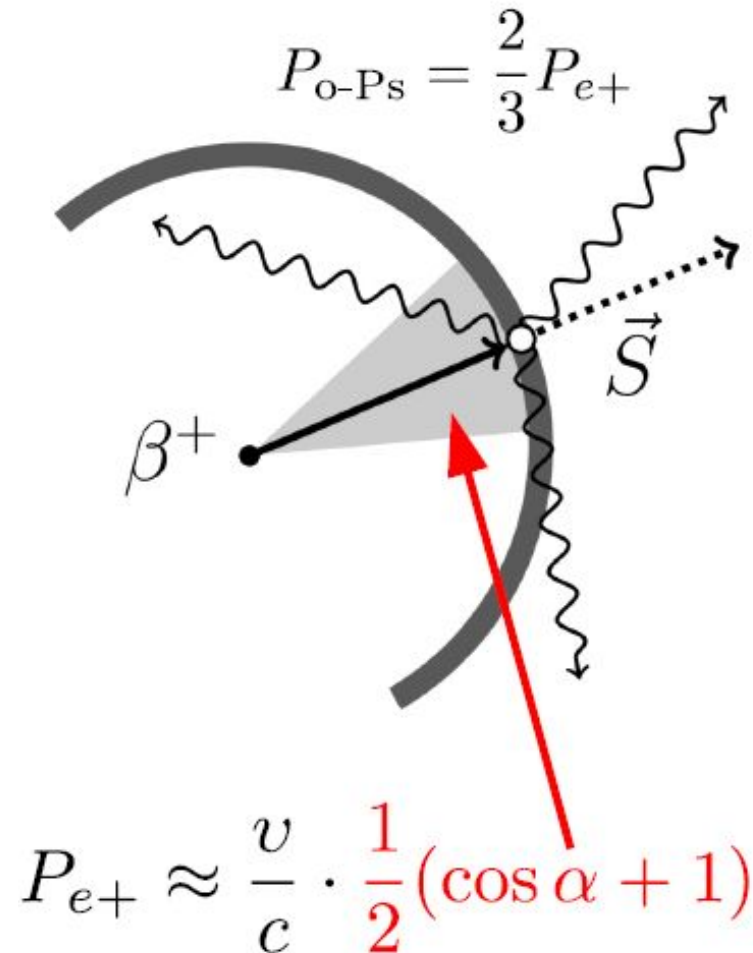


[P. Moskal et al., *Acta Phys. Polon. B47 (2016) 509*; G. Korcyl, et al., *IEEE Trans. Med. Imag. 37, 2526 (2018)*]

# o-Ps spin determination and o-Ps→3γ decays reconstruction in J-PET

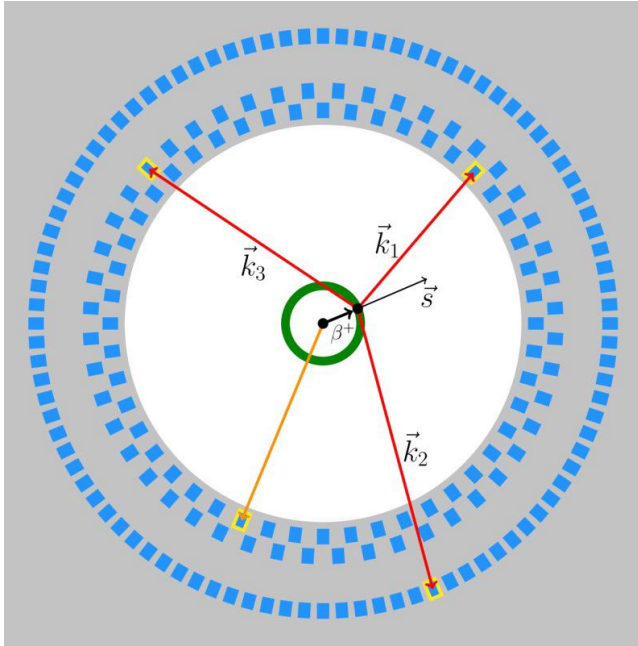
## o-Ps spin estimation:

- \* e<sup>+</sup> spin estimated event-by-event recording multiple geometrical configurations
- \* effective polarization depends on o-Ps→3γ vertex resolution
- \* vacuum in the chamber assures that e<sup>+</sup> is not going to decay before reaching inner wall



$$P_{e+} = (N_{+1/2}^{e+} - N_{-1/2}^{e+}) / (N_{+1/2}^{e+} + N_{-1/2}^{e+})$$

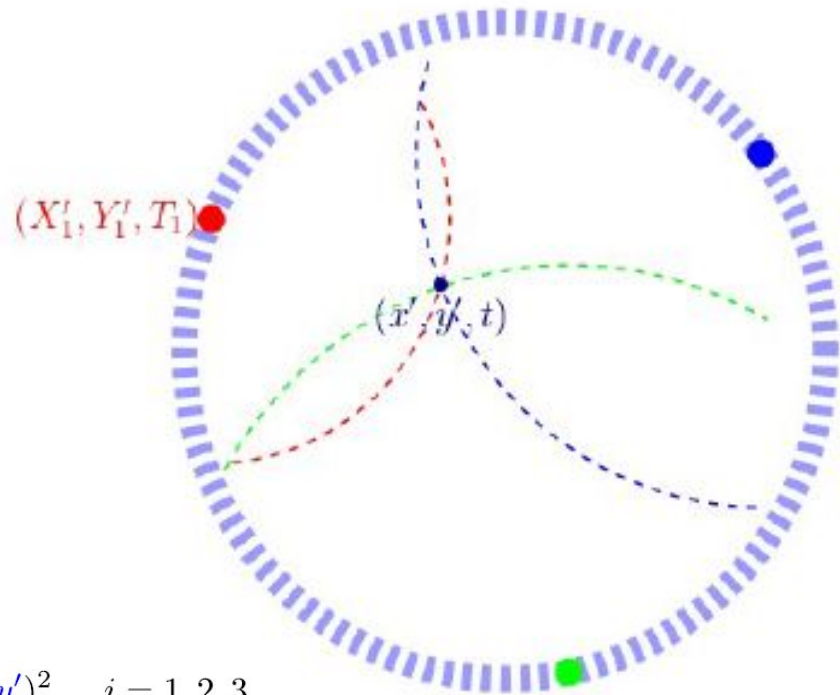
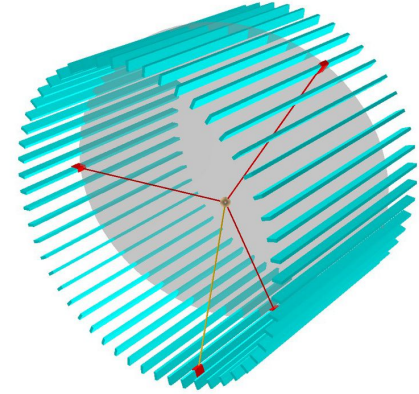
# o-Ps spin determination and o-Ps→3γ decays reconstruction in J-PET



The decay point  $(\mathbf{x}', \mathbf{y}')$  in the decay plane and time  $\mathbf{t}$  is an intersection of 3 circles, each corresponding to a possible origin points of the incident  $\gamma$

## o-Ps→3γ decays reconstruction:

★ Trilateration-based reconstruction to determine the o-Ps annihilation point



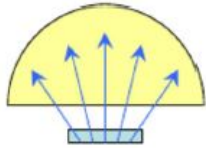
$$(T_i - t)^2 c^2 = (X'_i - x')^2 + (Y'_i - y')^2, \quad i = 1, 2, 3$$



# J-PET vs previous measurements

**Gammasphere**  
PRL 91 (2003) 263401

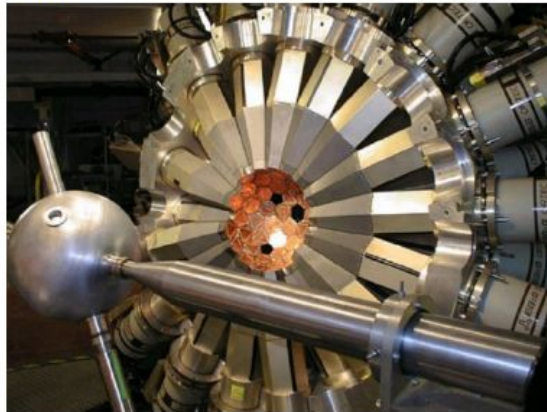
$$\vec{S} \cdot (\vec{k}_1 \times \vec{k}_2)$$



$$P_{e^+} = \frac{v}{c} \cdot 0.686$$

Limiting positron emission direction  
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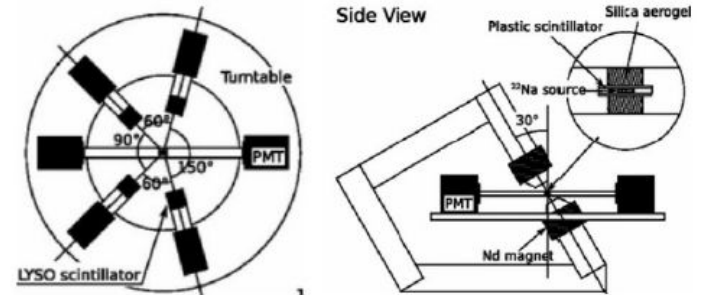
$$C_{\text{CPT}} = (2.6 \pm 3.1) \times 10^{-3}$$



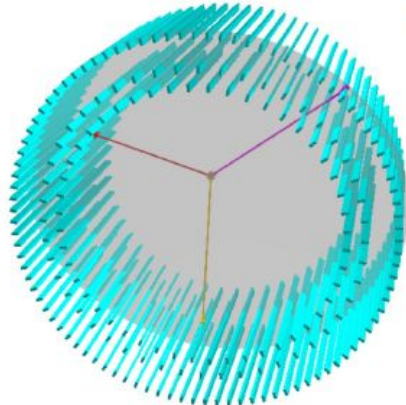
**Yamazaki et al.**  
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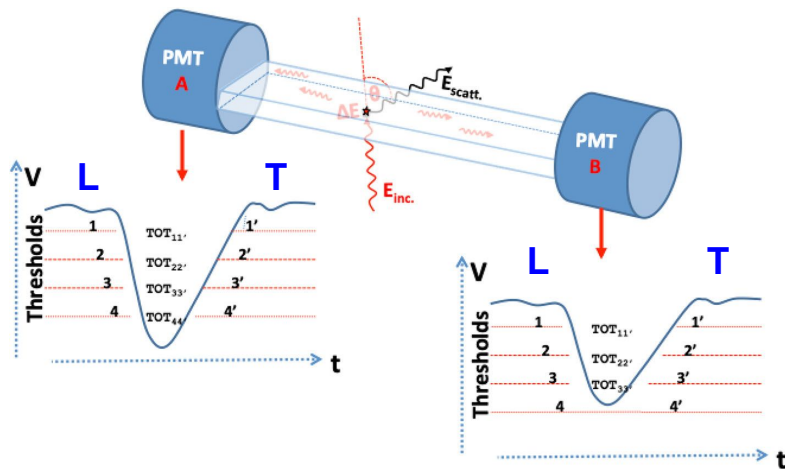
Recording multiple  
geometrical configurations  
 $e^+$  spin estimated  
event-by-event

$$P_{e^+} \approx \frac{v}{c} \cdot 0.91$$

- Plastic scintillators = fast timing  
→ using high  $\beta^+$  emitter activity  
(tested up to 10 Mbq)
- Recording all 3 annihilation photons
- Angular resolution at  $1^\circ$  level

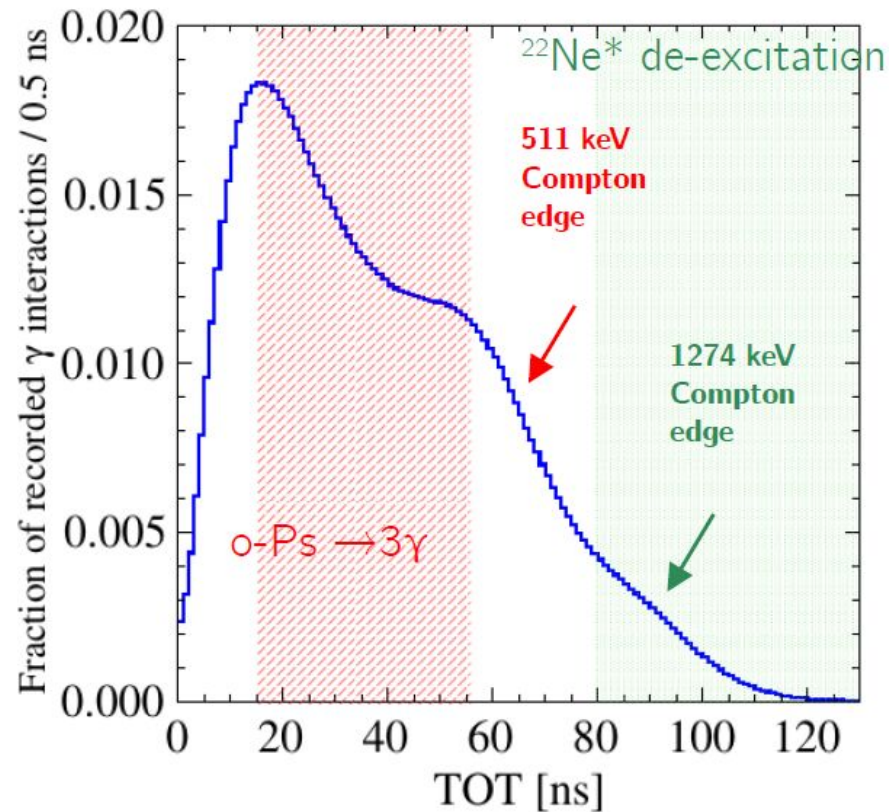
Courtesy of A. Gajos

# Identification of o-Ps → 3γ annihilation events in J-PET

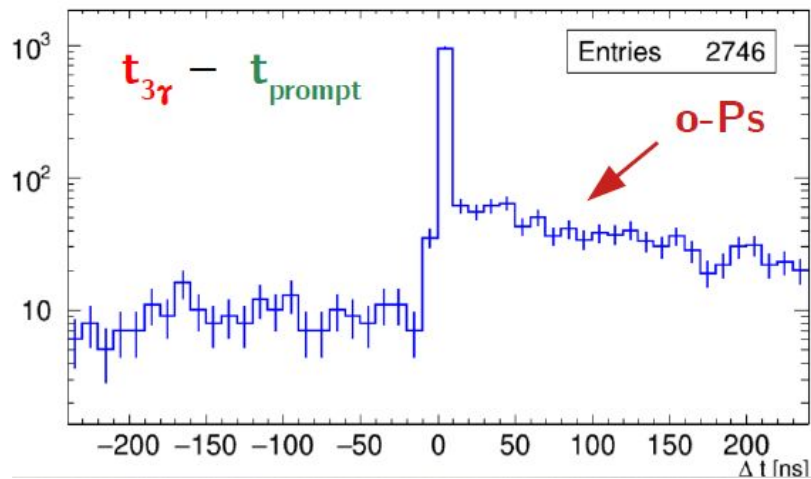


[S. Sharma, et al., EJNMMI Phys. 7, 39 (2020)]

Using total Time Over Threshold (TOT) of PMT signals from a scintillator strip which corresponds to  $\gamma$  deposited energy



⇐ o-Ps presence in positron lifetime distribution

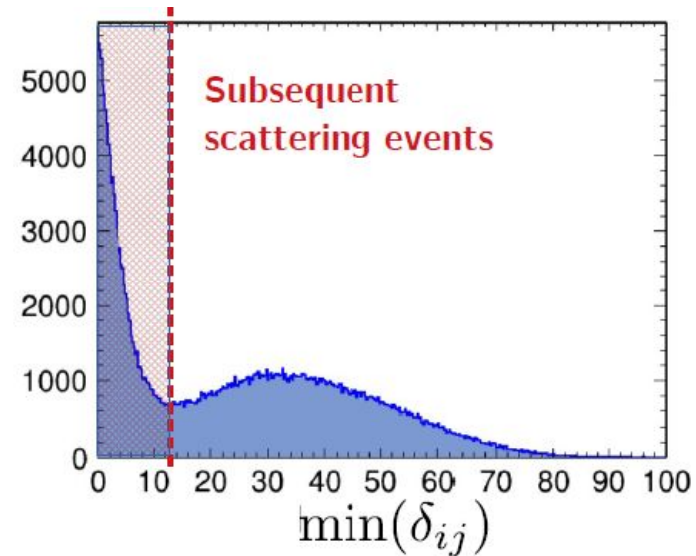
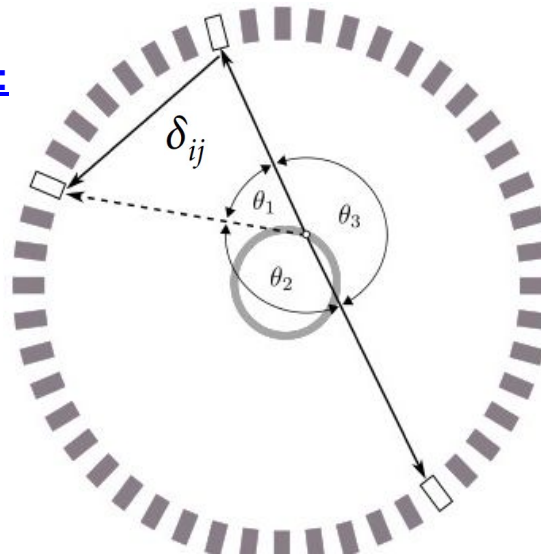


# Background subtraction

## Secondary Compton scatterings:

$$* \delta_{ij} = |d_{ij} - c\Delta t_{ij}|$$

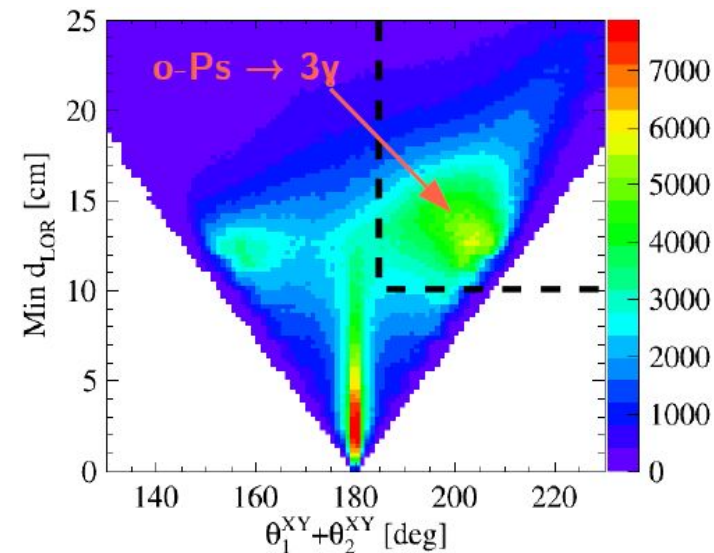
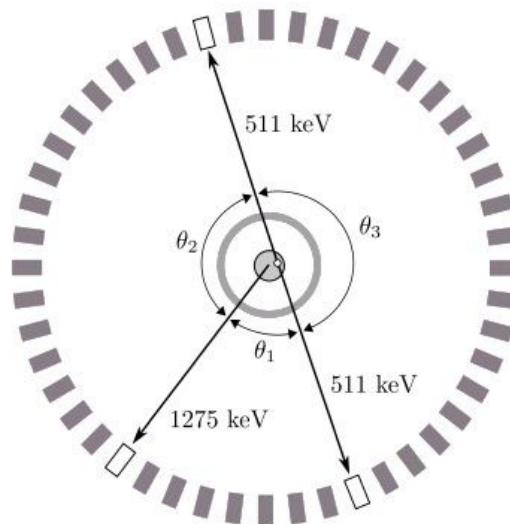
computed for each pair of annihilation photon candidates  $i$  and  $j$  ( $i,j=1,2,3$ )



## 2γ from the β+ source setup coincident with de-excitation photon:

\* distance between the  $\beta^+$  source location and the closest hypothetical  $2\gamma$  annihilation point on a LOR between two recorded photon interactions

\* the sum of the two smallest angles between azimuthal coordinates of the recorded  $\gamma$  interaction points

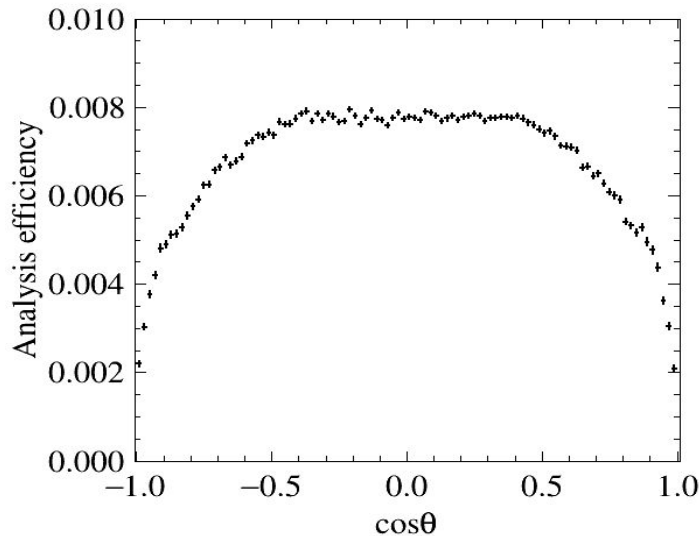
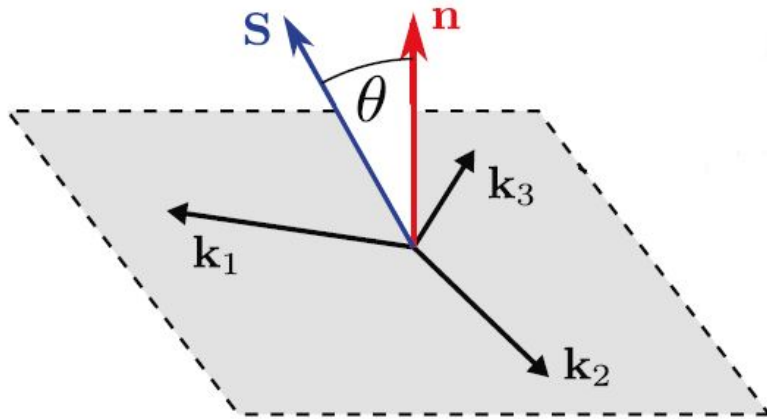




# Determination of the CPT - asymmetric observable

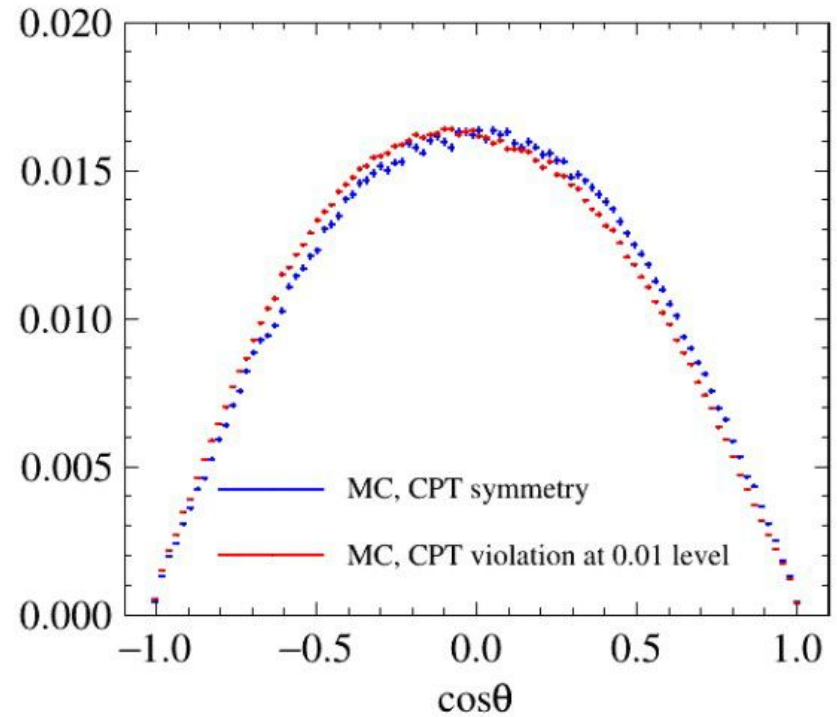
$$O_{CPT} = \hat{S} \cdot (\vec{k}_1 \times \vec{k}_2) / |\vec{k}_1 \times \vec{k}_2| = \cos \phi$$

J-PET is sensitive to the full range of this operator



the angle between the direction of initial spin of the o-Ps atom and the normal to the decay plane

## MC simulations



expected asymmetry in case of CPT violation

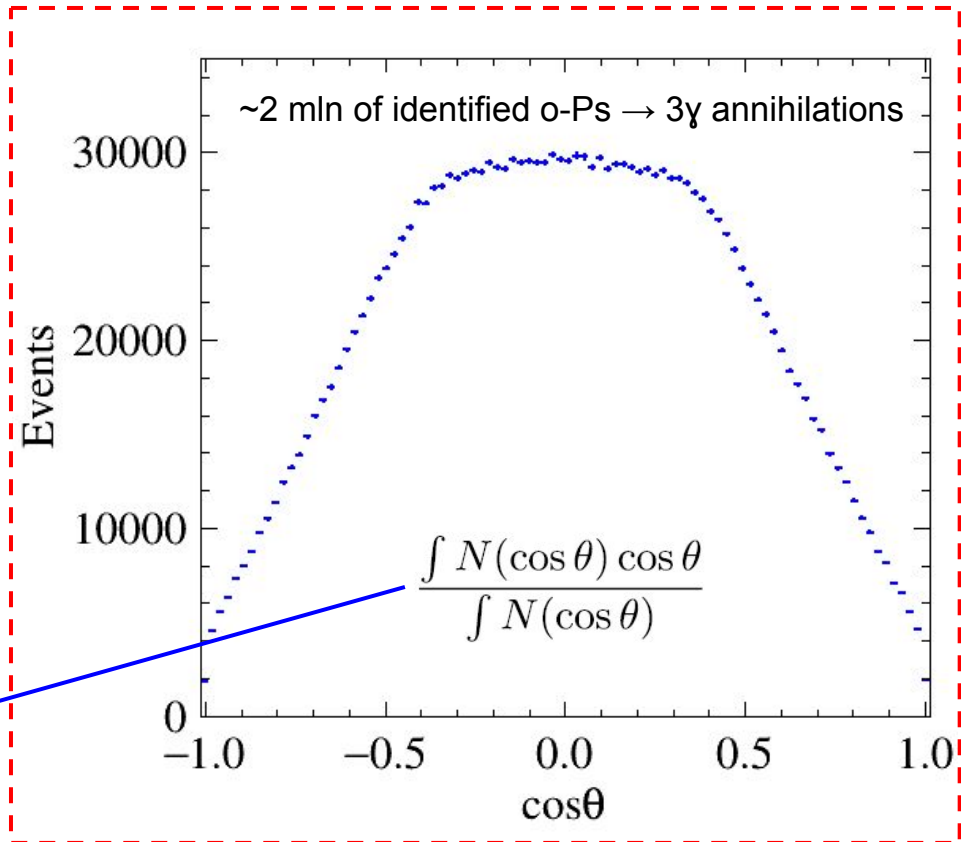
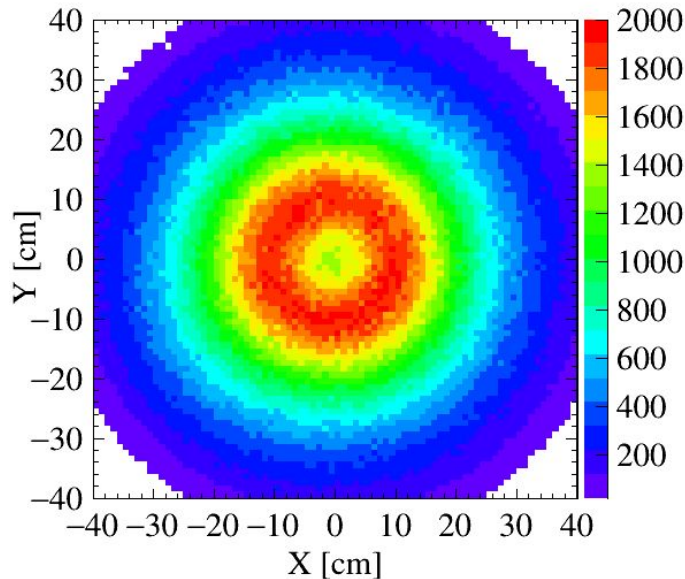
← efficiencies evaluated with MC are symmetric in  $\cos\theta$

# Determination of the CPT - asymmetric observable

$$O_{CPT} = \hat{S} \cdot (\vec{k}_1 \times \vec{k}_2) / |\vec{k}_1 \times \vec{k}_2| = \cos \phi$$

the angle between the direction of initial spin of the o-Ps atom and the normal to the decay plane

3γ image of the o-Ps production chamber in the transverse view of the detector (the first!)



$$\langle O_{CPT} \rangle = 0.00025 \pm 0.00036$$

P. Moskal, et al., Nature Commun. 12, 5658 (2021)

$$C_{CPT} = \langle O_{CPT} \rangle / P = 0.00067 \pm 0.00095$$

the level of observed CPT violation (after correction of analyzing power)

stat error :  $3.3 \times 10^{-4}$   
syst error:  $1.4 \times 10^{-4}$













ARTICLE



<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-021-25905-9>

OPEN

# Testing CPT symmetry in ortho-positronium decays with positronium annihilation tomography

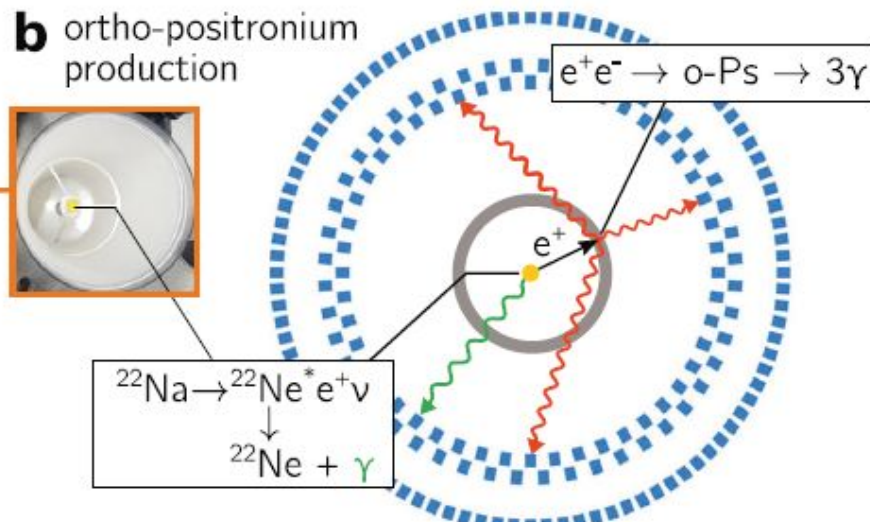
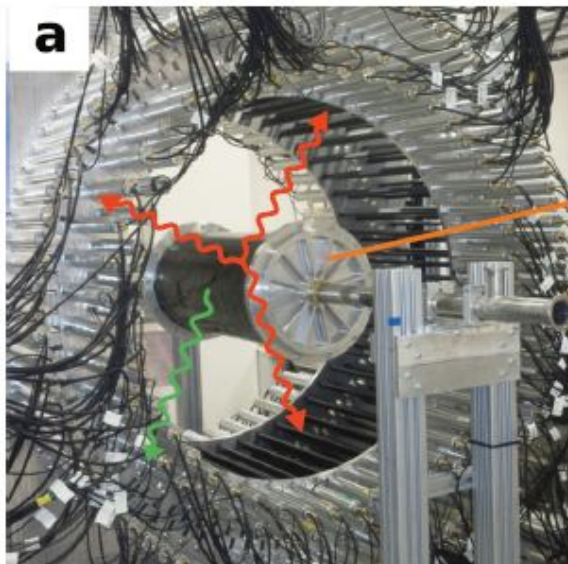
P. Moskal <sup>1,2✉</sup>, A. Gajos <sup>1,2✉</sup>, M. Mohammed<sup>1</sup>, J. Chhokar<sup>1,2</sup>, N. Chug<sup>1,2</sup>, C. Curceanu <sup>3</sup>, E. Czerwiński <sup>1,2</sup>, M. Dadgar<sup>1,2</sup>, K. Dulski <sup>1,2</sup>, M. Gorgol <sup>4</sup>, J. Goworek <sup>5</sup>, B. C. Hiesmayr <sup>6</sup>, B. Jasińska<sup>4</sup>, K. Kacprzak<sup>1</sup>, Ł. Kapłon <sup>1,2</sup>, H. Karimi<sup>1,2</sup>, D. Kisielewska<sup>1</sup>, K. Klimaszewski<sup>7</sup>, G. Korcyl<sup>1,2</sup>, P. Kowalski<sup>7</sup>, N. Krawczyk<sup>1,2</sup>, W. Krzemień<sup>8</sup>, T. Kozik<sup>1</sup>, E. Kubicz<sup>1,2</sup>, S. Niedźwiecki<sup>1,2</sup>, S. Parzych<sup>1,2</sup>, M. Pawlik-Niedźwiecka<sup>1,2</sup>, L. Raczyński<sup>7</sup>, J. Raj<sup>1,2</sup>, S. Sharma <sup>1,2</sup>, S. Choudhary<sup>1,2</sup>, R. Y. Shopa<sup>7</sup>, A. Sienkiewicz <sup>5</sup>, M. Silarski<sup>1,2</sup>, M. Skurzok<sup>1,3</sup>, E. Ł. Stępień <sup>1,2</sup>, F. Tayefi<sup>1,2</sup> & W. Wiślicki<sup>7</sup>

**P. Moskal, et al., Nature Commun. 12, 5658 (2021)**

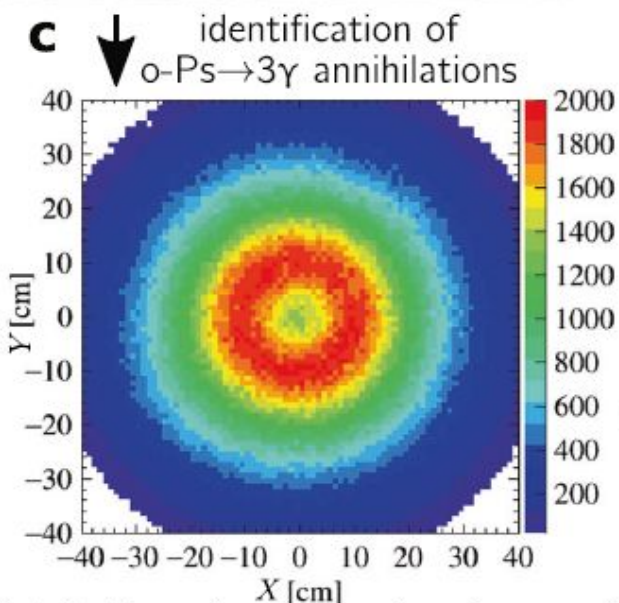




# Summary

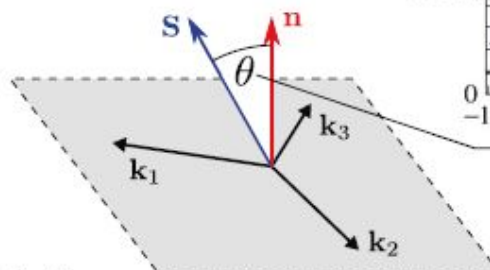


Schematic cross section of the J-PET detector

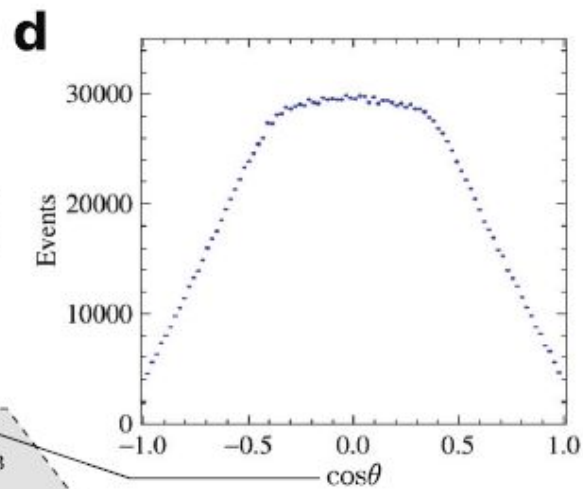


distribution of ortho-positronium annihilations

extraction of CPT-asymmetric angular correlation

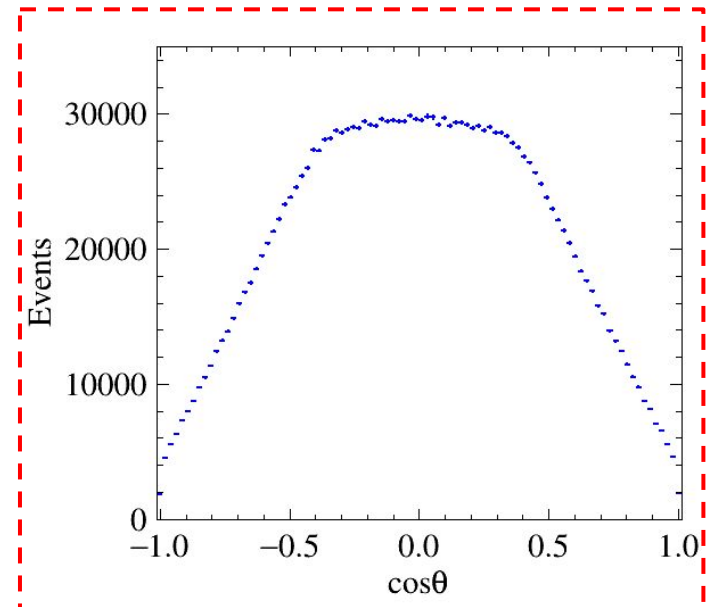
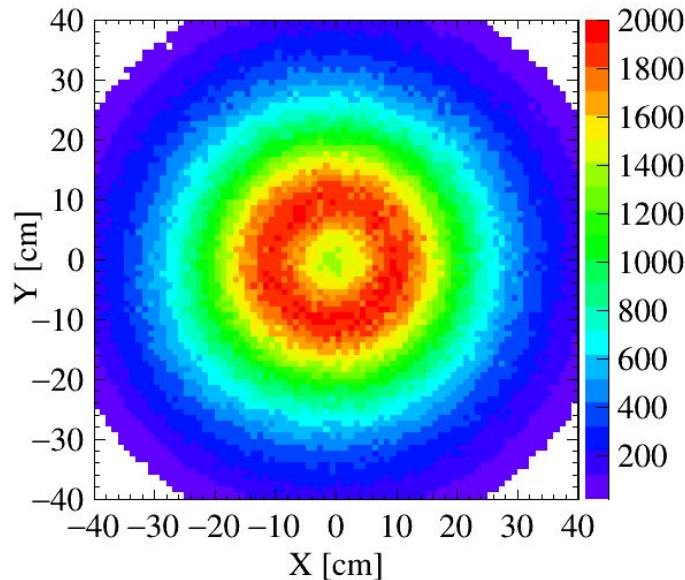


$o\text{-Ps}$  spin - decay plane correlation



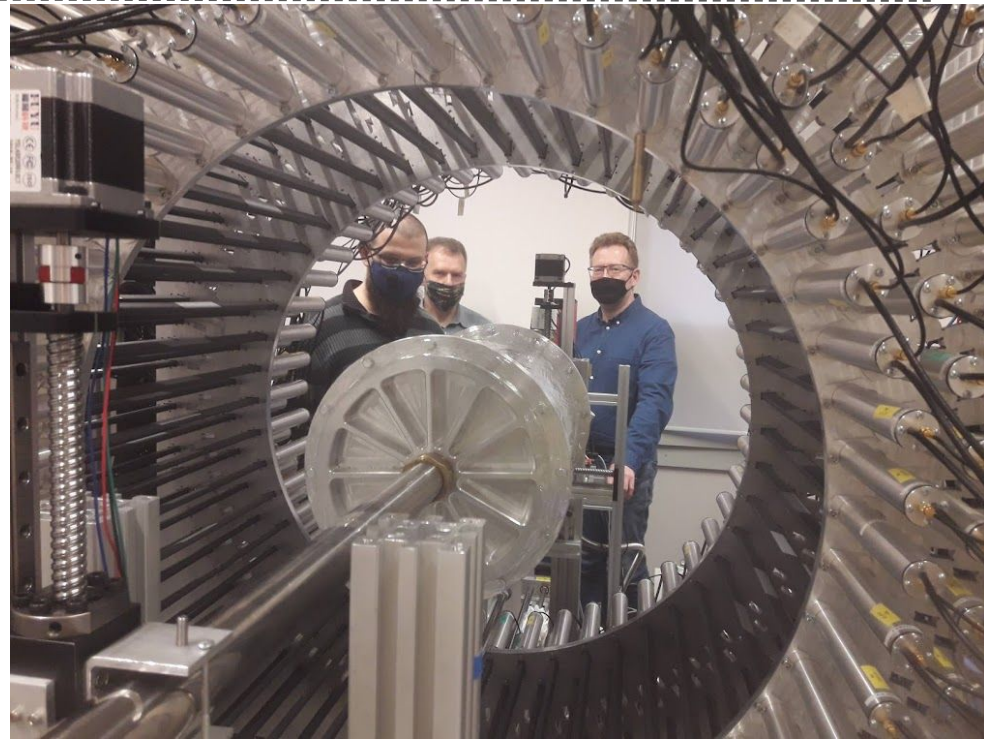
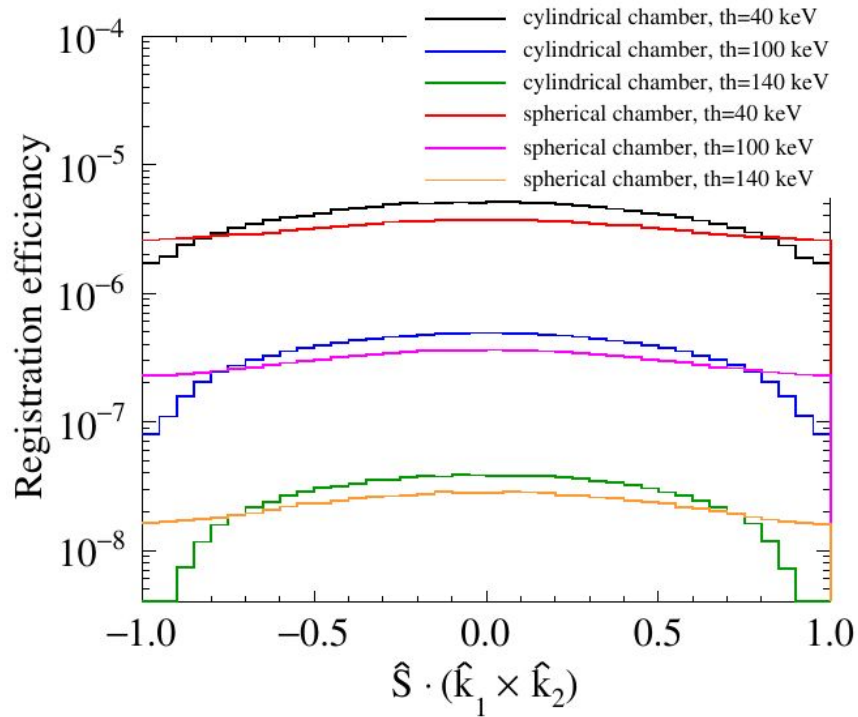
# Summary and Perspectives

- With J-PET scanner, we are able to perform exclusive measurement of ortho-positronium (o-Ps) annihilation into 3 photons
  - o-Ps spin event-by-event estimation
  - o-Ps $\rightarrow$ 3 $\gamma$  decays reconstruction including determination of the annihilation point in an extensive-size medium
- **Sub-permil precision of the CPT test reached with the first J-PET measurement (26 days): over factor of 3 better** than the previous results
- J-PET aims at the sensitivity of the CP and CPT symmetry tests at the level of  $10^{-5}$  with the pending improvements to the setup

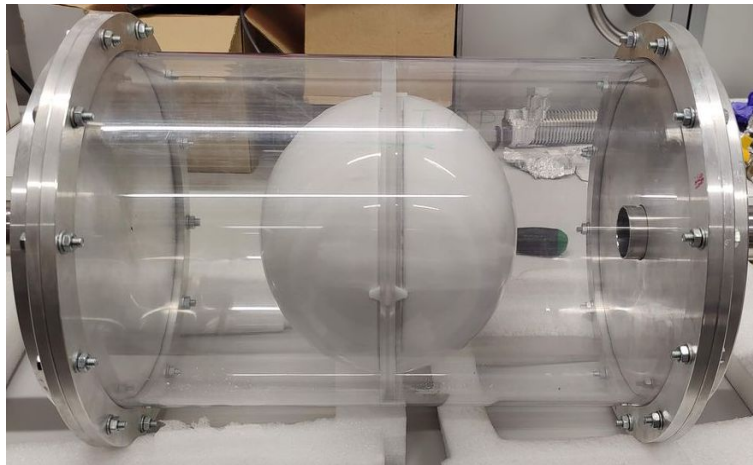


$$C_{\text{CPT}} = \langle O_{\text{CPT}} \rangle / P = 0.00067 \pm 0.00095$$

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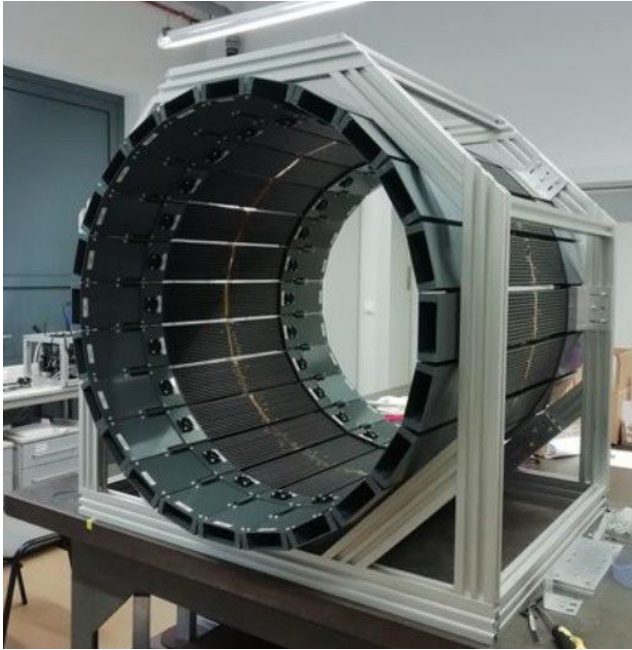
[Symmetry 12 (2020) 8, 1268]



new design of the annihilation chamber with spherical geometry, increasing the o-Ps formation probability by a factor of  $\sim 1.5$



# Summary and Perspectives

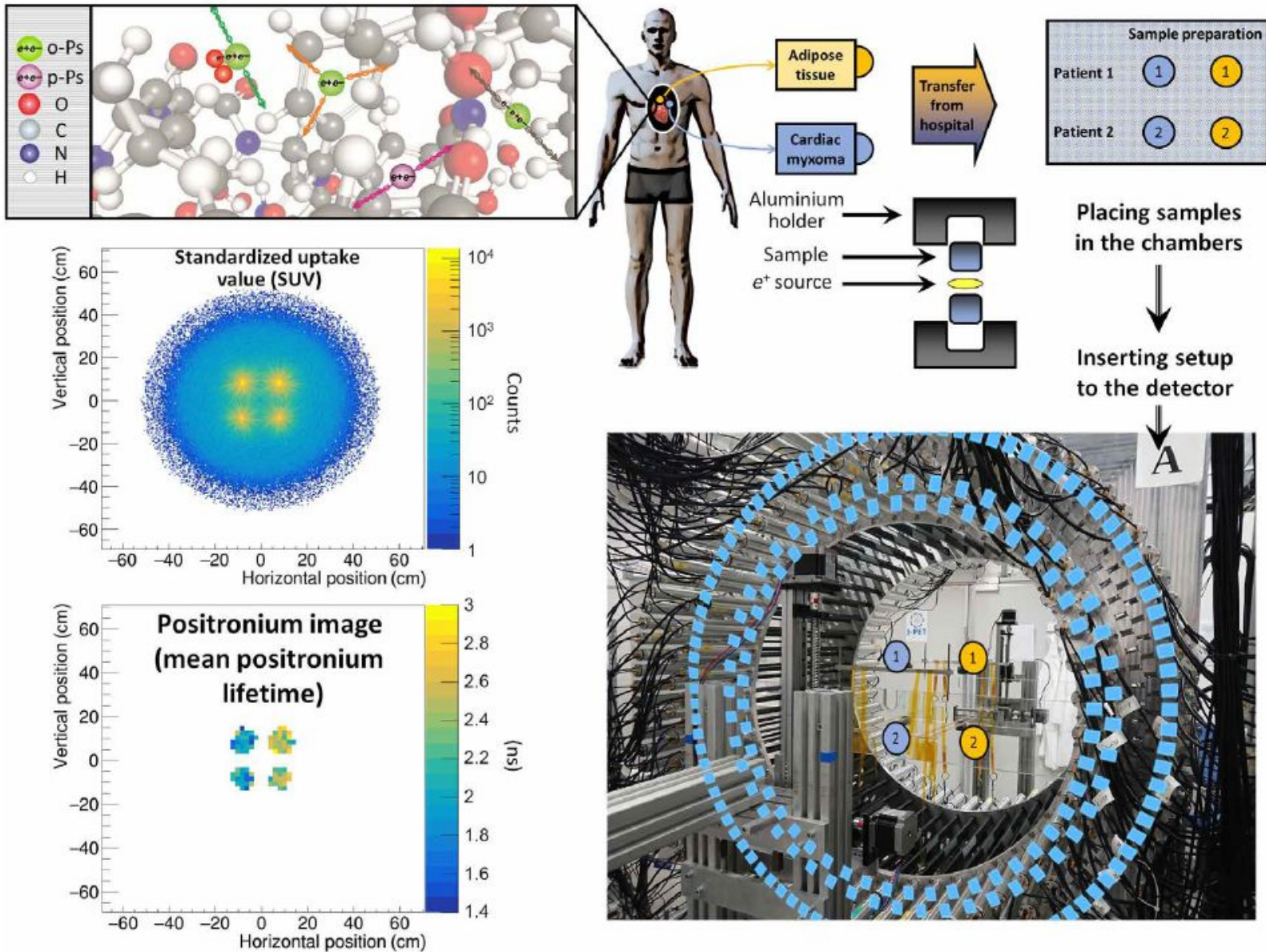


additional densely packed layer of plastic scintillators with a fully digital readout -> increase of detection efficiency by factor of 64



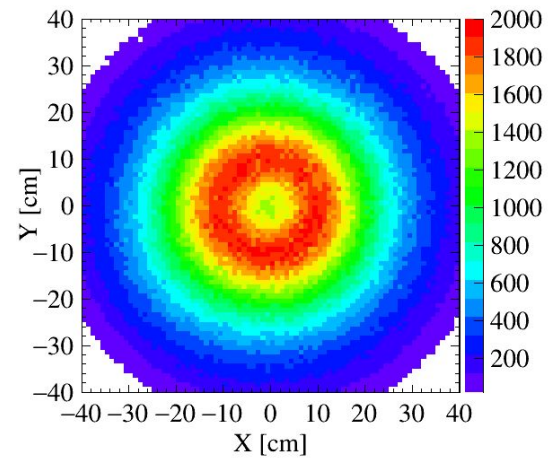
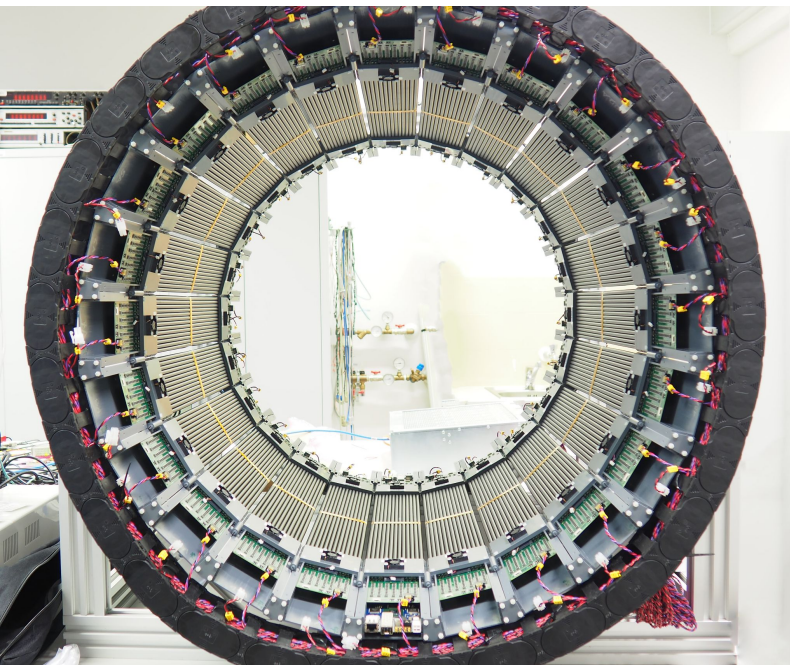
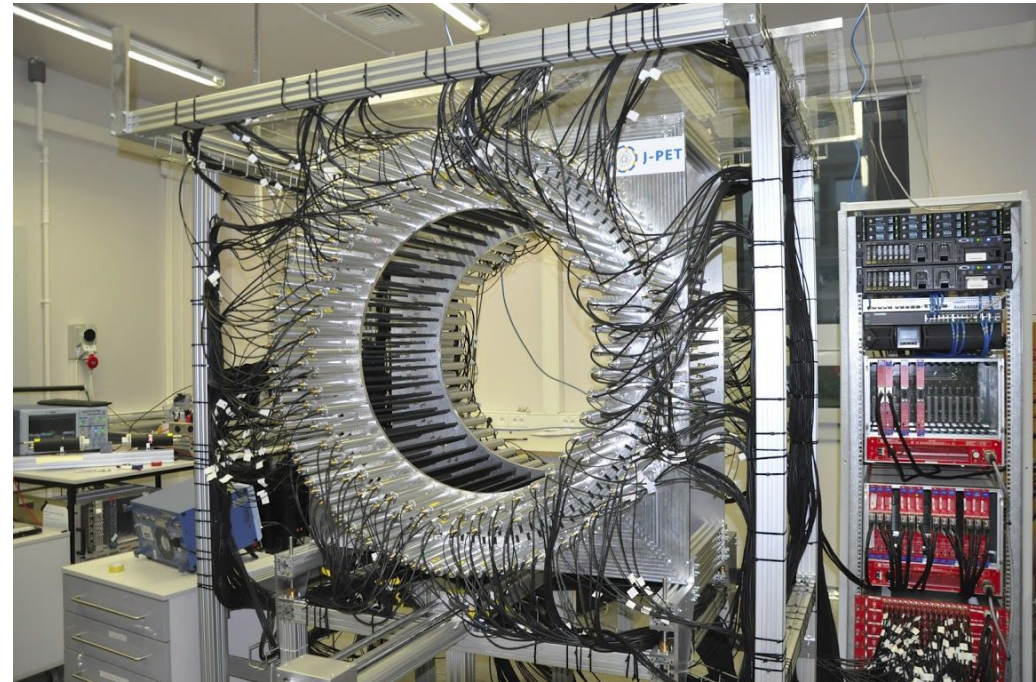
# The first positronium imaging of a phantom built from cardiac myxoma and adipose tissue

P. Moskal, et al., *Science Advances* 2021; 7 : eabh4394



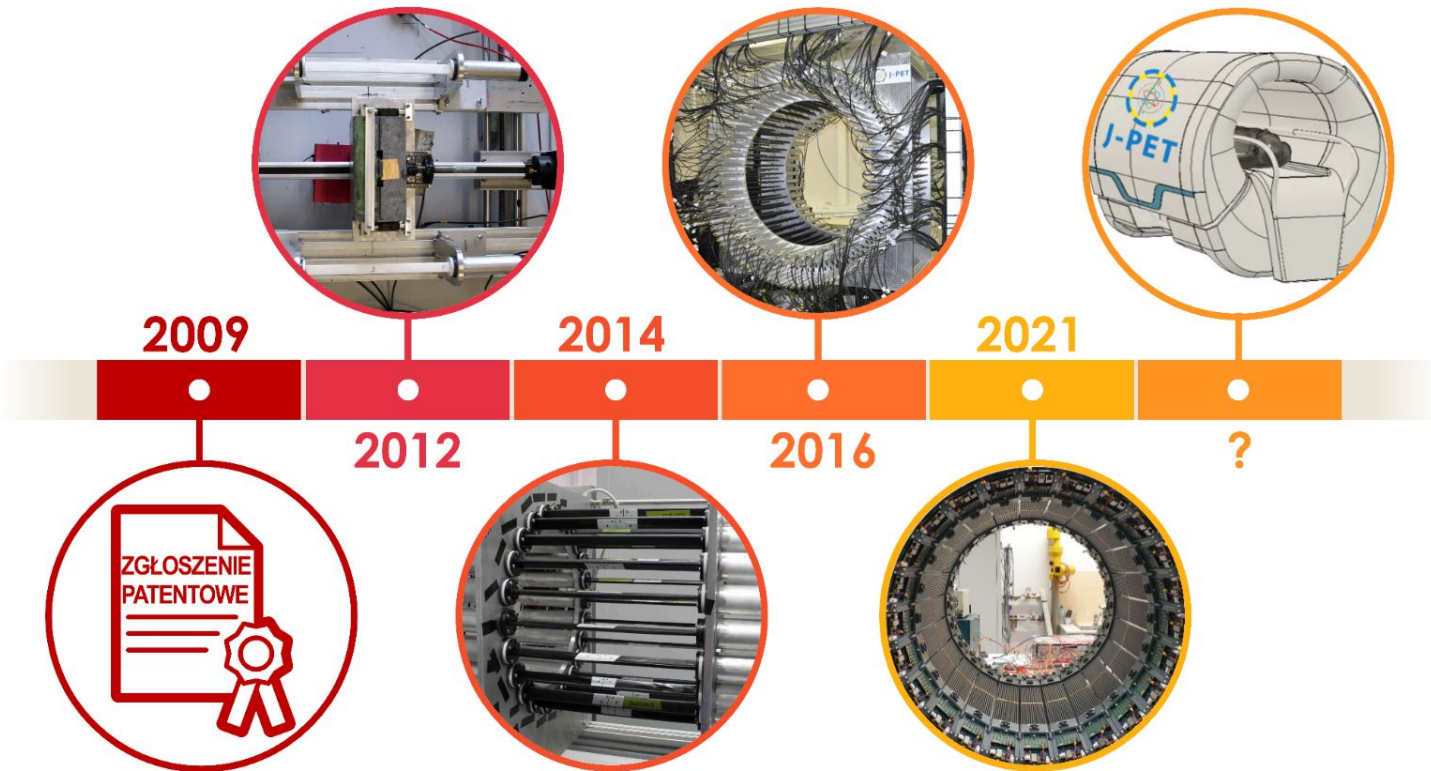


# Thank you for your attention

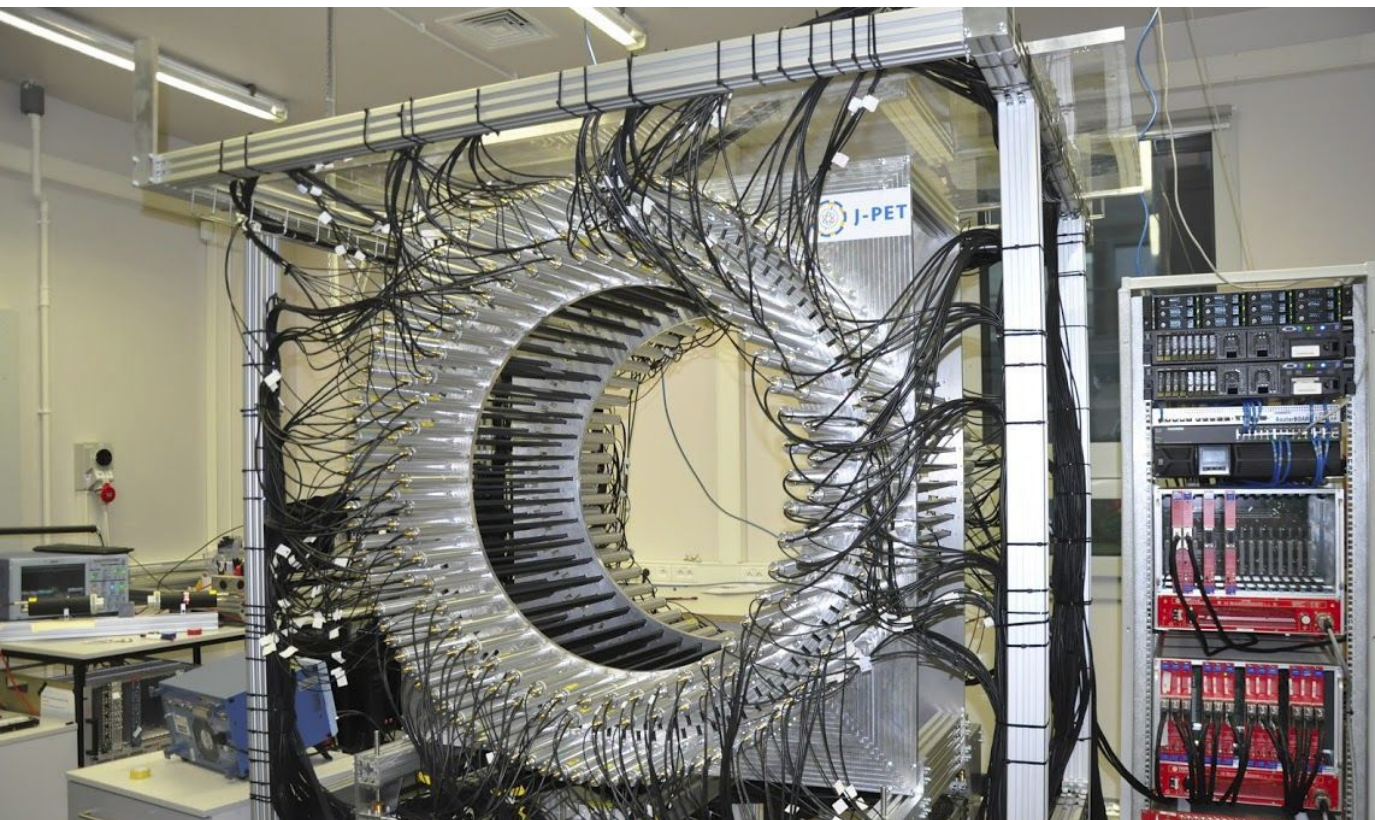




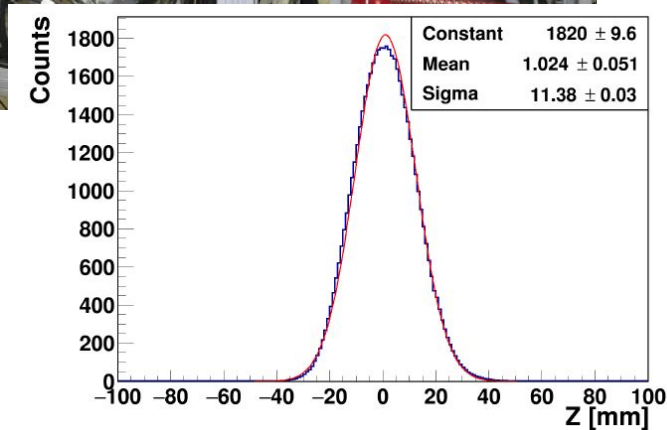
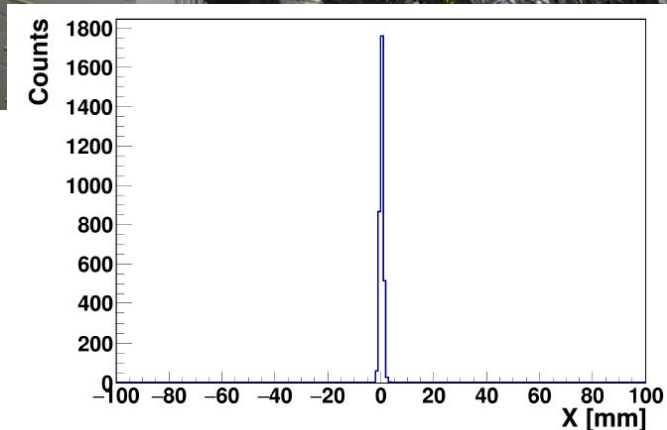
# BACKUP SLIDES



# 192 module prototype

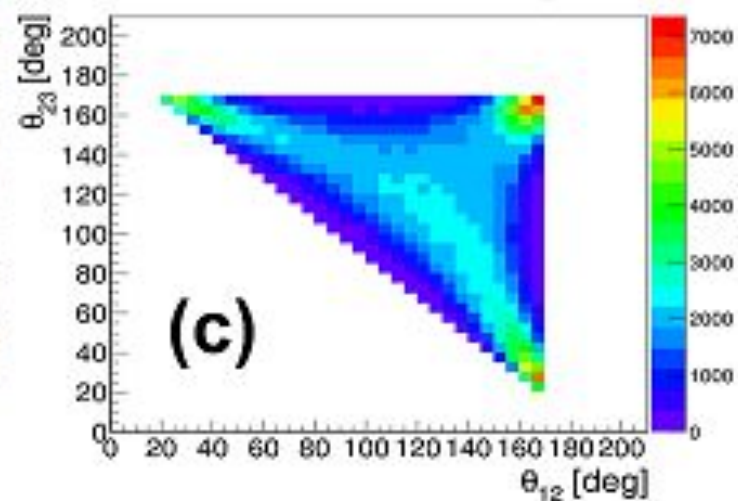
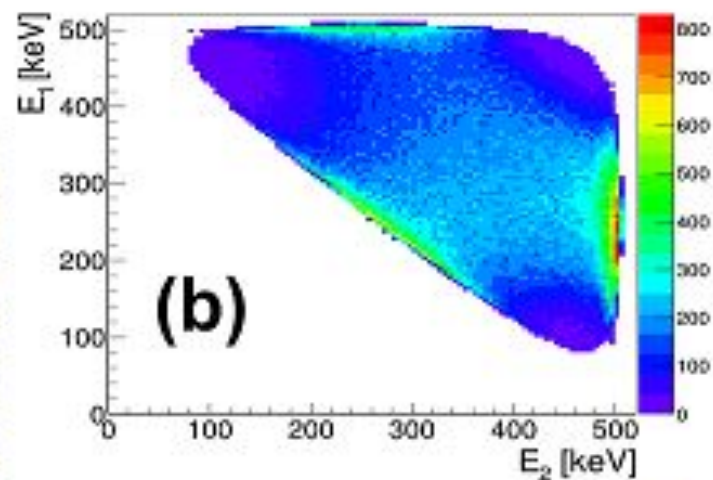
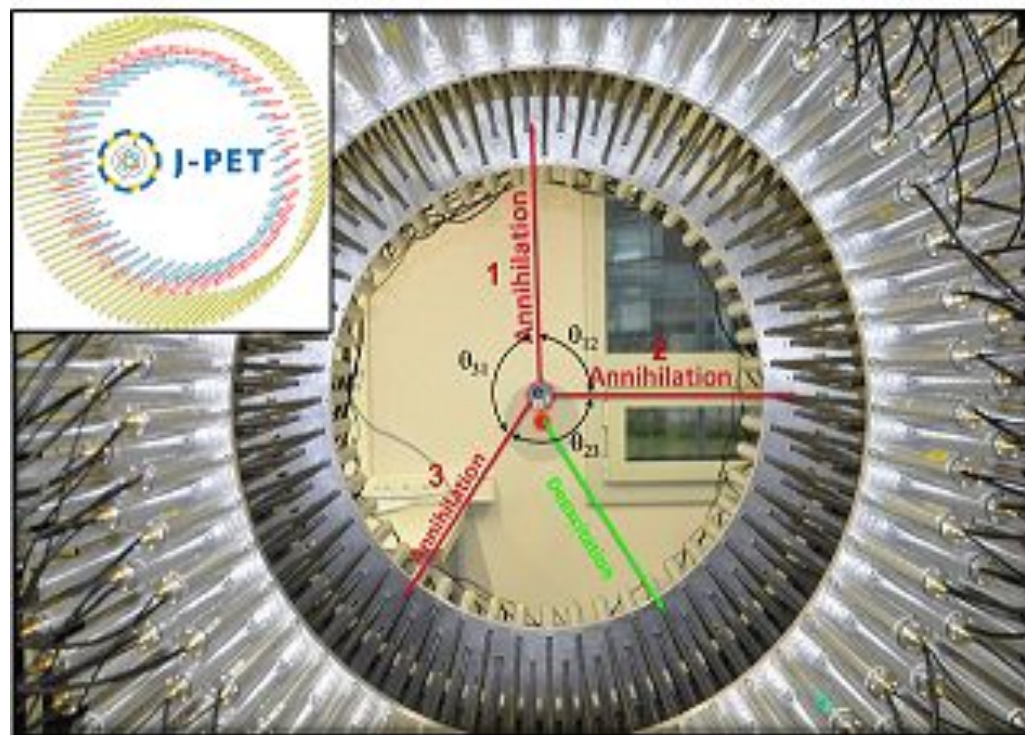


85 cm diameter,  
50 cm FOV  
4 constant threshold  
discrimination to  
determine time and  
energy of interaction

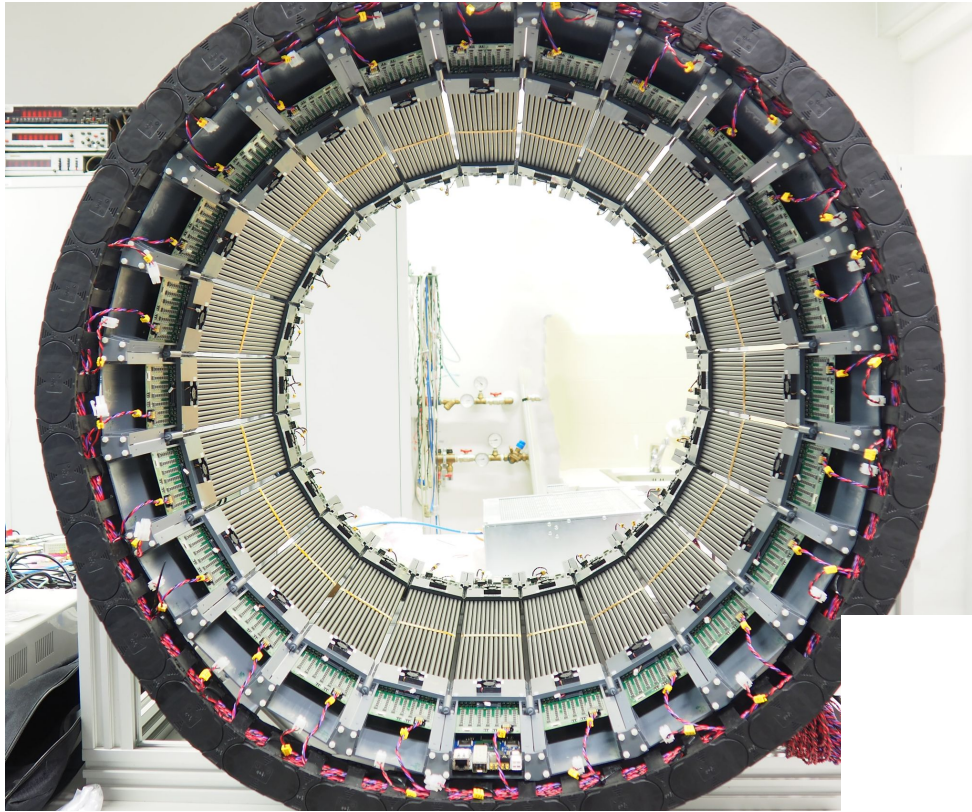




(a)

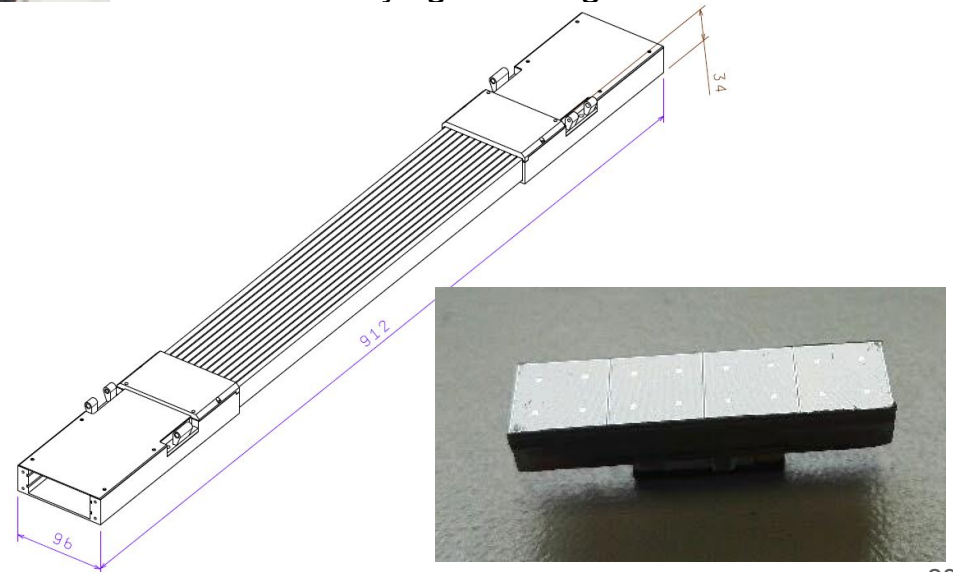


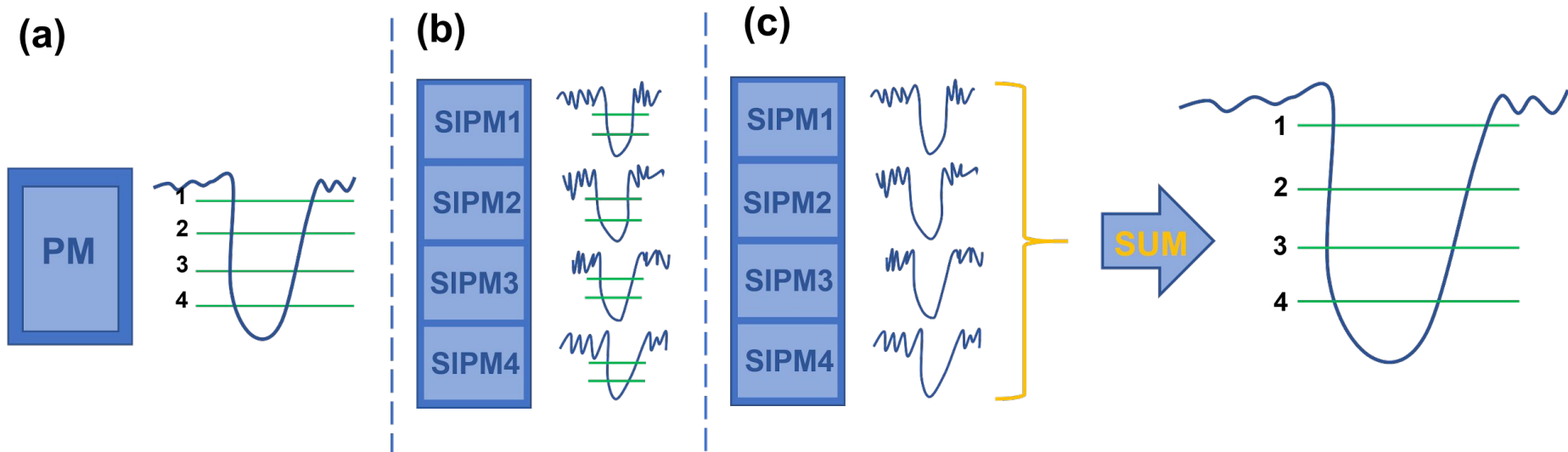
# 24 module prototype



- 74 cm diameter
- 50 cm FOV
- 4 SiPM per scintillator side
- 2 constant threshold per SiPM
- modular design 312 strips, 24 modules
- digital data at the module output
- very light ~60 kg

time and angular resolutions of 100 ps and 0.4





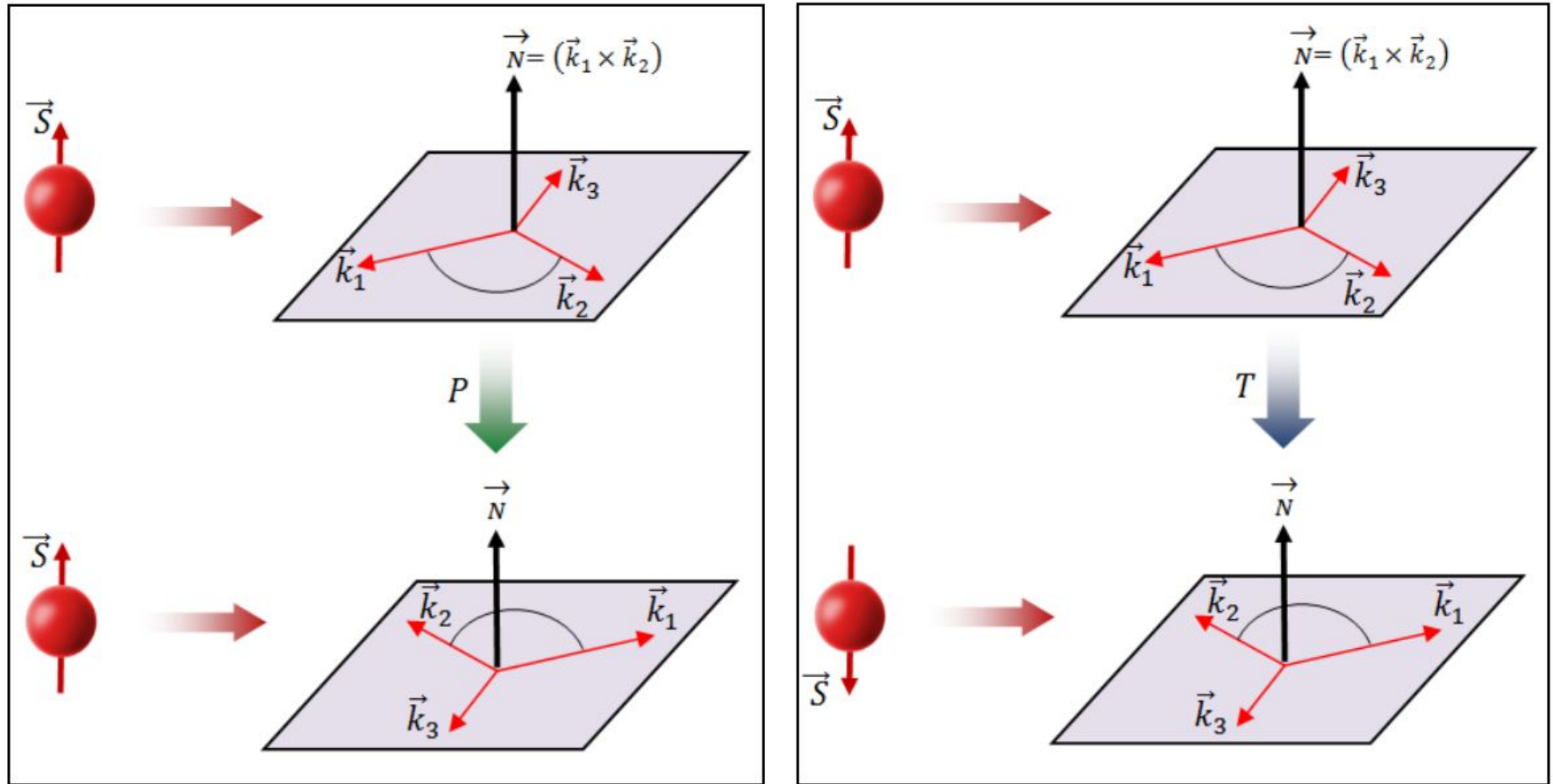


# Discrete symmetry tests in positronium decays

Measurement the expectation value of the symmetry odd-operators

$$\vec{S} \cdot (\vec{k}_1 \times \vec{k}_2)$$

example



## Charge conjugation (C)

The best limit in systems of quarks

$$\pi^0 \rightarrow 3\gamma \text{ is forbidden} \quad \frac{\pi^0 \rightarrow 3\gamma}{\pi^0 \rightarrow 2\gamma} < \boxed{3.1 \times 10^{-8} \quad 90\% \text{ cl}}$$

CPT symmetry implies the equality of the masses, widths, etc.  
of a particle and its antiparticle

$$2 \frac{|m_{K^0} - m_{\bar{K}^0}|}{(m_{K^0} + m_{\bar{K}^0})} < 6 \times 10^{-19},$$

$$2 \frac{|\Gamma_{K^0} - \Gamma_{\bar{K}^0}|}{(\Gamma_{K^0} + \Gamma_{\bar{K}^0})} = (8 \pm 8) \times 10^{-18}$$

- CP violation is equivalent to T violation
- CP violation - asymmetry between matter and antimatter in our universe
- CP violation mechanism is introduced by the quark mixing described by the complex Cabibbo - Kobayashi - Maskawa matrix with none nonzero phase
- CP violation observed first for neutral kaons

CP violation  
 J. H. Christenson et al., Phys.  
 Rev. Lett. 13, 138 (1964).

$$|K_S\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [ |K^0\rangle + |\bar{K}^0\rangle ] \text{ with } \mathcal{CP} = 1$$

$$|K_L\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [ |K^0\rangle - |\bar{K}^0\rangle ] \text{ with } \mathcal{CP} = -1$$

$$\text{BR} (K_L \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^- / K_L \rightarrow \text{all}) \approx 2 \cdot 10^{-3}$$

$$|K_L\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + |\epsilon|^2}} ( |K_2\rangle + \epsilon |K_1\rangle )$$

$$|K_S\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + |\epsilon|^2}} ( |K_1\rangle - \epsilon |K_2\rangle )$$



