



# Production of $\pi^+$ and $K^+$ mesons in 3.2 AGeV argon-nucleus interactions at the Nuclotron

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the BM@N Collaboration

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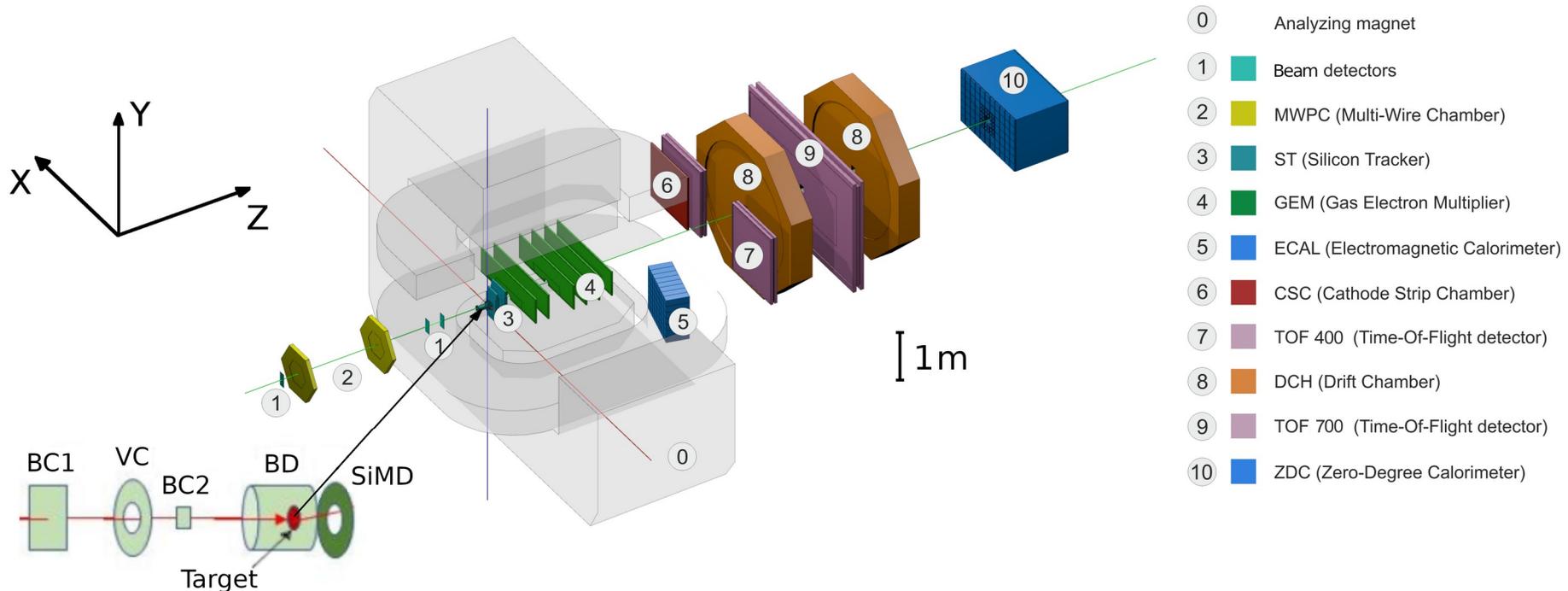
**Joint Institute for Nuclear  
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Workshop on physics performance studies at NICA  
(NICA-2022)  
15.12.2022

1. Run with argon beam (March 2018)
  - ✓ BM@N detector set-up
2. Data analysis (*Ar+C, Ar+Al, Ar+Cu, Ar+Sn, Ar+Pb* at 3.2A GeV)
  - ✓ Selection criteria
  - ✓ Reconstructed signal of  $\pi^+$  and  $K^+$
  - ✓ Data - MC agreement
  - ✓  $\pi^+$  and  $K^+$  reconstruction efficiency
  - ✓ Trigger efficiency
  - ✓ Yields of  $\pi^+$  and  $K^+$
  - ✓ Systematic errors
  - ✓  $p_T$  and  $y$  spectra of  $\pi^+$  and  $K^+$  and extracted inverse slope parameter
  - ✓ Extrapolation factors and number of participants
3. Summary

# BM@N set-up in Ar run



Detectors used in the analysis: Beam detectors (1), Multiplicity Detectors, ST (3), GEM (4), CSC (6), TOF 400 (7), DCH (8), TOF 700 (9).

# Event selection criteria



- ✓ Beam halo, pile-up suppression within the readout time window, number of signals in the start detector:  $BC1=1$ , number of signals in the beam counter:  $BC2=1$ , number of signals in the veto counter around the beam:  $Veto=0$ ;

Trigger condition in the multiplicity detectors: number of signals  $BD \geq m$ ,  $m \in [2;4]$ ,  $SiMD \geq n$ ,  $n \in [2;4]$  and combinations of SiMD and BD triggers (run dependent).

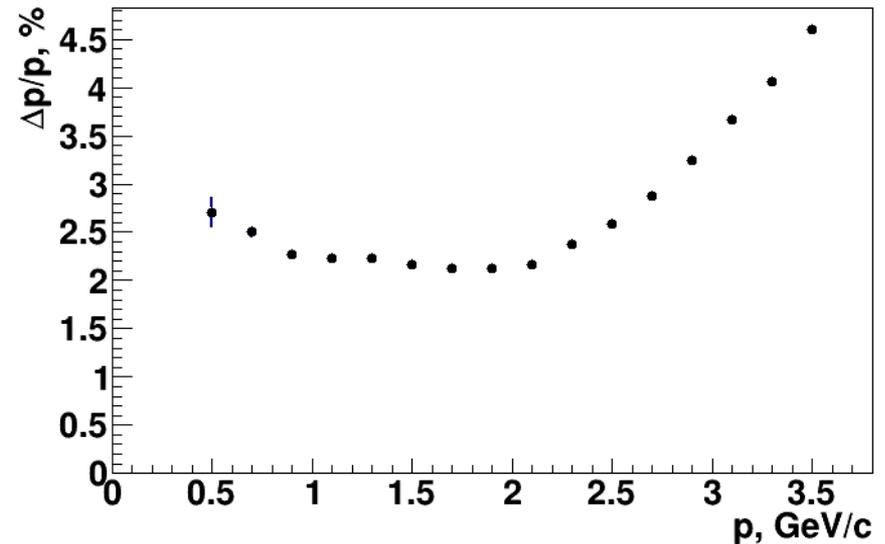
Number of triggered events, beam fluxes and integrated luminosities collected for the argon beam of 3.2A GeV (*ToF-400* (*ToF-700*)).

Interactions (target thickness)	Number of triggers / $10^6$	Integrated beam flux / $10^7$	Integrated luminosity / $10^{30} \text{ cm}^{-2}$
<i>Ar+C</i> (2mm)	11.7 (11.3)	10.9 (8.7)	2.06 (1.97)
<i>Ar+Al</i> (3.33mm)	30.6 (29.2)	15.4 (10.2)	2.30 (2.05)
<i>Ar+Cu</i> (1.67mm)	30.9 (28.7)	15.9 (11.3)	1.79 (1.60)
<i>Ar+Sn</i> (2.57mm)	30.0 (25.9)	15.1 (9.5)	1.11 (0.91)
<i>Ar+Pb</i> (2.5mm)	13.7 (13.7)	7.0 (4.9)	0.50 (0.40)

# Technical characteristics of the Ar run

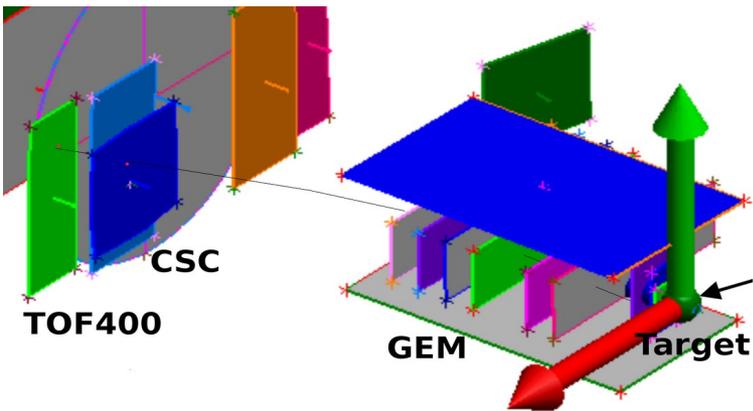


- ✓ Beam intensity: few  $10^5$  ions per spill
  - ✓ Spill duration: 2–2.5 s
  - ✓ Nuclear length of solid targets:  $\sim 3\%$
  - ✓ collision events:  $\sim 83\text{M}$
- 
- ✓ Pseudorapidity range:  $1.6 \leq \eta \leq 4.4$
- Analysing magnet bending power:  
 $\sim 2.1\text{T}\cdot\text{m}$
- ✓ Resolution of the distance from a track to PV in the X-Y plane: 2.4 mm
  - ✓ Time resolutions of the ToF-400 and ToF-700 systems: 84 ps and 115 ps



Relative momentum resolution as a function of the momentum

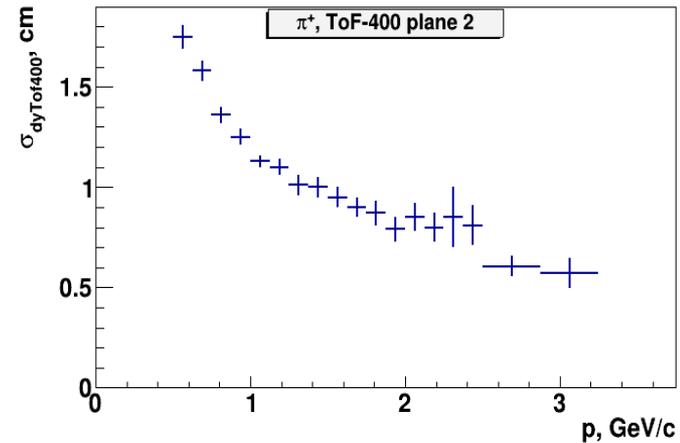
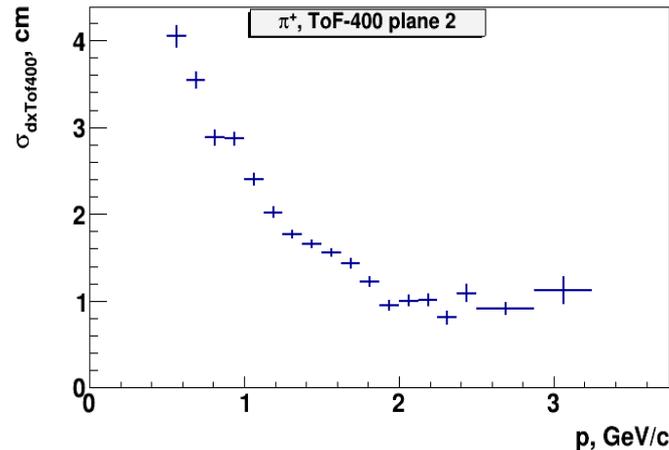
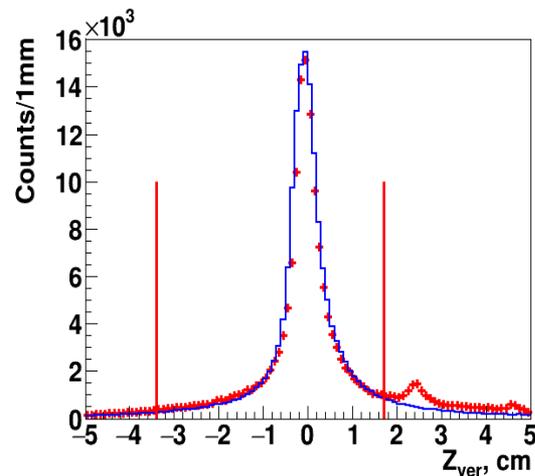
# $\pi^+$ and $K^+$ selection criteria



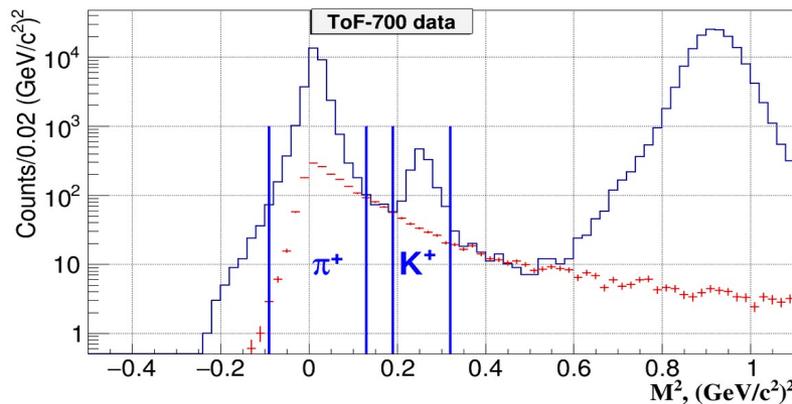
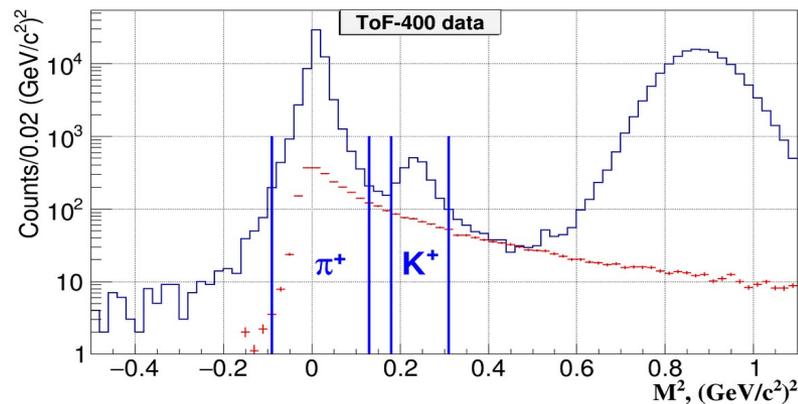
## Abbreviation:

- ✓ **PV** – primary vertex

- ✓ Number of hits in 6 GEM per track  $> 3$
- ✓ Number of tracks in the PV  $> 1$
- ✓ Tracks from PV:  $-3.4 < Z_{PV} - Z_0 < 1.7$  cm
- ✓ Momentum range of tracks for ToF-400 (ToF-700):  $p > 0.5$  (0.7) GeV/c
- ✓ Distance from a track to PV in the X-Y plane:  $dca < 1$  cm
- ✓  $\chi^2/NDF$  for tracks from the PV  $< 3.5^2$
- ✓ Distance of extrapolated tracks to CSC (DCH) and ToF-400 (ToF-700):  $|\text{resid}_{X,Y}| < 2.5 \sigma$  of hit-track residual distribution



# Signal of $\pi^+$ and $K^+$ in $Ar+A$ interaction

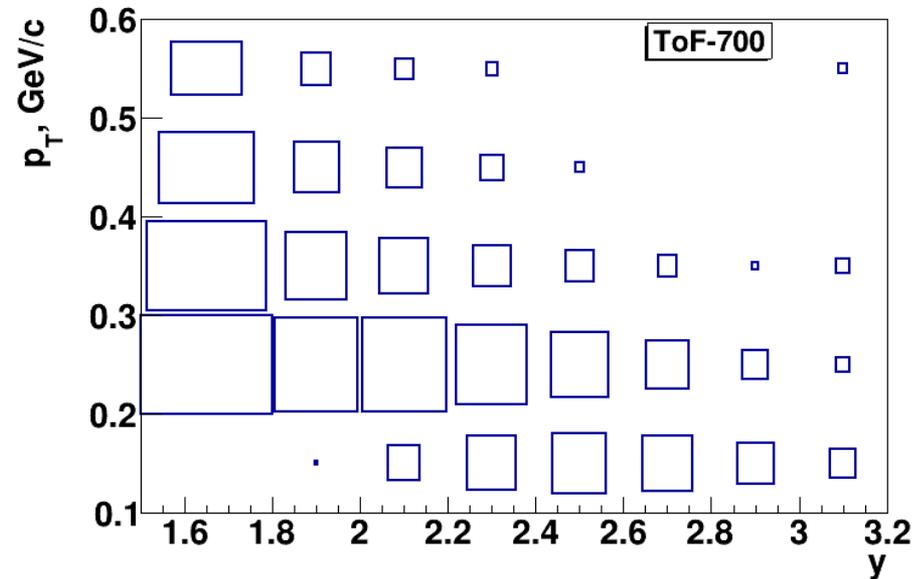
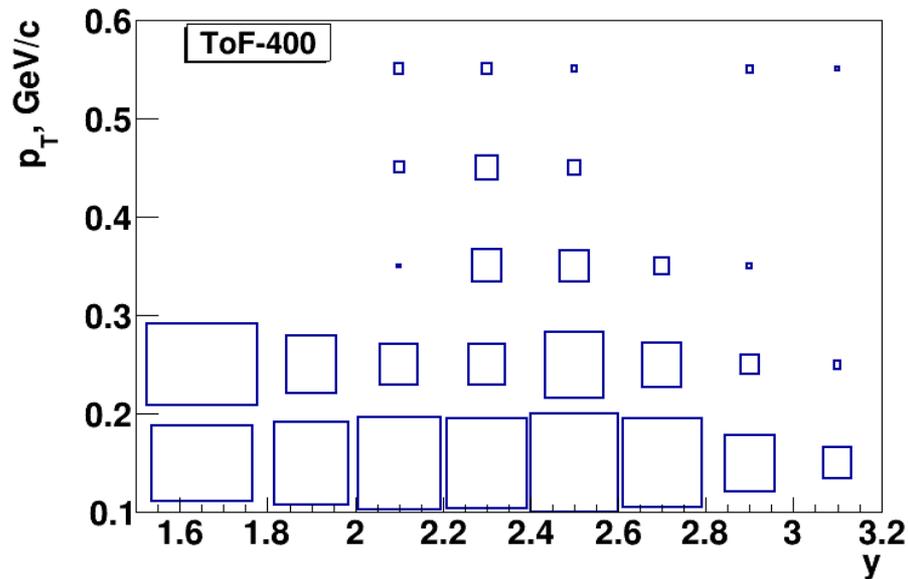


$M^2$  spectra of positive particles produced in argon-nucleus interactions and measured in the ToF-400 (left) and ToF-700 (right) detectors. Vertical lines show the signal ranges of identified  $\pi^+$  and  $K^+$  mesons. Red points with the error bars show the the background estimated from “mixed” events.

Reconstructed signals of  $\pi^+$  and  $K^+$  for *ToF-400* and *ToF-700*.

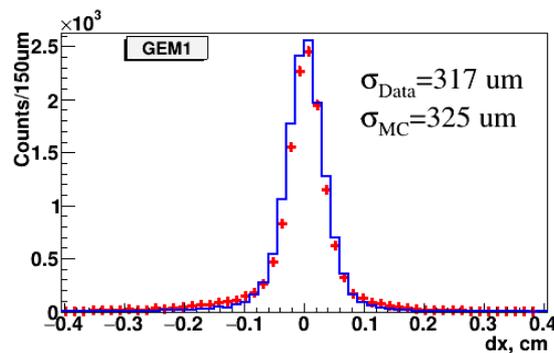
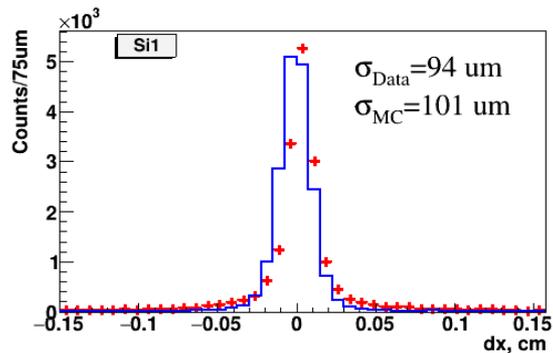
Particle, Detector	Target				
	<i>C</i>	<i>Al</i>	<i>Cu</i>	<i>Sn</i>	<i>Pb</i>
$\pi^+$ , <i>ToF-400</i>	4020±66	21130±152	28010±175	32060±186	22420±156
$\pi^+$ , <i>ToF-700</i>	1070±34	5640±80	8090±95	9450±104	6830±86
$K^+$ , <i>ToF-400</i>	45±10	278±25	538±31	729±36	570±32
$K^+$ , <i>ToF-700</i>	31±6	117±16	193±21	346±23	221±20

# Phase-space coverage

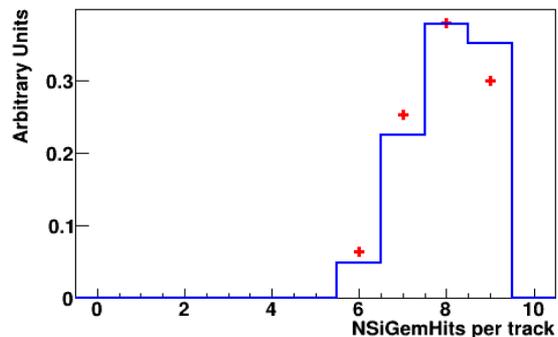
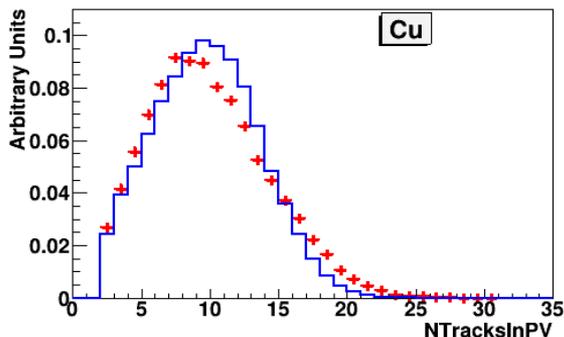
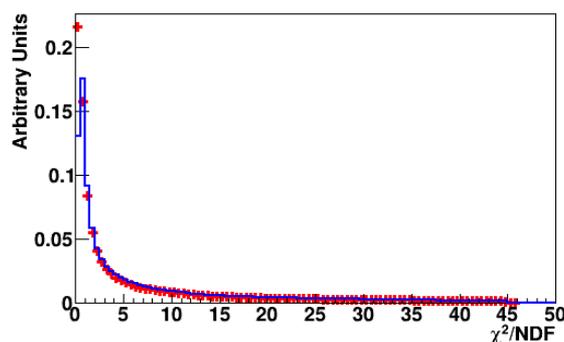
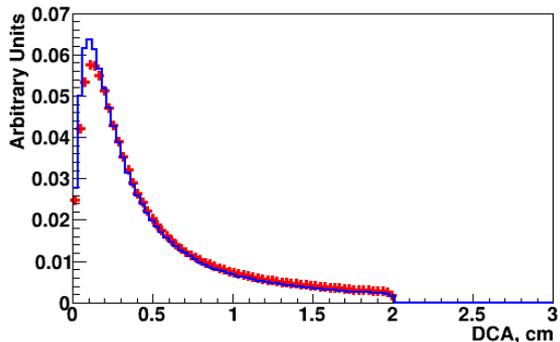


Distribution of the  $\pi^+$  signals measured in ToF-400 (left) and ToF-700 (right) in the rapidity and transverse momentum bins in Ar+Sn interactions.

# Comparison of experimental data and MC

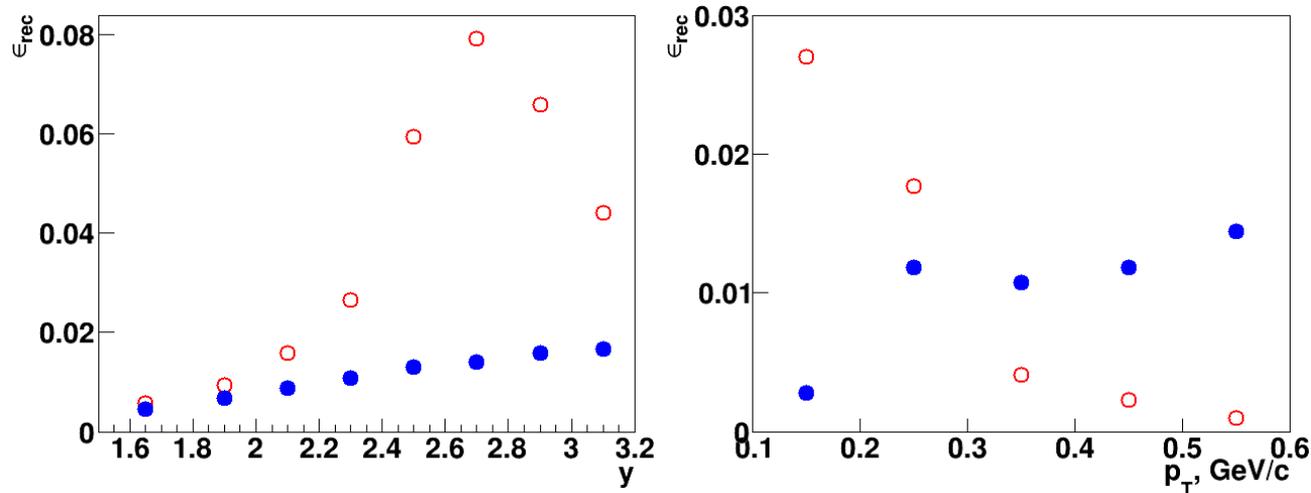


Residual distributions of hits in the X projection (magnet deflection plane) with respect to reconstructed tracks: (left) - in the first forward silicon plane, (right) - in the first GEM plane. Experimental data are shown as red crosses, and simulated data are shown as blue histograms.



Comparison of the experimental distributions (red crosses) and reconstructed Monte Carlo GEANT distributions of events generated with the DCM-SMM model (blue lines): DCA;  $\chi^2/\text{NDF}$  of reconstructed tracks; number of tracks reconstructed in the primary vertex; number of hits per track reconstructed in 3 forward silicon and 6 GEM detectors.

# Reconstruction efficiency of $\pi^+$



Reconstruction efficiency of  $\pi^+$  detected in ToF-400 (open red circles) and ToF-700 (full blue circles), calculated as a product of the geometrical acceptance, detector efficiency and efficiency of kinematic and spatial cuts in bins of the rapidity  $y$  in the laboratory frame (left) and in bins of  $p_T$  (right). The results are shown for  $\pi^+$  mesons produced in Ar+Sn interactions.

The  $\pi^+$  and  $K^+$  reconstruction efficiency is evaluated in intervals of the rapidity  $y$  and transverse momentum  $p_T$ . It takes into account the geometrical acceptance, the detector efficiency, the efficiency of kinematic, spatial cuts and the losses of  $\pi^+$  and  $K^+$  due to decays on flight.

The efficiency to get a trigger signal based on multiplicities of fired channels in the BD (SiMD) detectors  $\epsilon_{trig}$  was calculated for events with reconstructed  $\pi^+$  and  $K^+$  mesons using experimental event samples recorded with an independent trigger based on the SiMD (BD) detectors:

$$\epsilon_{trig}(BD \geq m) = N(BD \geq m, SiMD \geq n)/N(SiMD \geq n),$$

where  $m$  and  $n$  are the minimum number of fired channels in BD and SiMD varied in the range from 2 to 4. The dependences of the trigger efficiency on the track multiplicity in the primary event vertex and the X/Y vertex position were taken into account. The efficiency for the combined BD and SiMD triggers was calculated as a product of the BD and SiMD trigger efficiencies. The systematic errors evaluated in the analysis cover the differences in the  $\pi^+$ ,  $K^+$  signals obtained by using the mean values of the trigger efficiency values instead of the efficiency dependences on the number of vertex tracks and primary vertex position.

The differential cross sections  $d^2\sigma_{\pi,K}(y, p_T)/dydp_T$  and yields  $d^2N_{\pi,K}(y, p_T)/dydp_T$  of  $\pi^+$  and  $K^+$  meson production in Ar+C, Al, Cu, Sn, Pb interactions are calculated in bins of  $(y, p_T)$  according to the formulae:

$$d^2\sigma_{\pi,K}(y, p_T) / dydp_T = n_{\pi,K}(y, p_T) / dydp_T / (\varepsilon_{rec}(y, p_T) \cdot \varepsilon_{trig} \cdot L)$$

$$d^2N_{\pi,K}(y, p_T) / dydp_T = d^2\sigma_{\pi,K}(y, p_T) / dydp_T / \sigma_{inel}$$

where  $L$  is the luminosity,

$n_{\pi,K}$  – the number of reconstructed  $\pi^+$  and  $K^+$  mesons in intervals  $dy$  and  $dp_T$ ,

$\varepsilon_{rec}$  – the efficiency of the  $\pi^+$  and  $K^+$  meson reconstruction,

$\varepsilon_{trig}$  – the trigger efficiency,

$\sigma_{inel}$  – the cross section for minimum bias inelastic Ar+A interactions.

The cross sections for inelastic Ar+C, Al, Cu, Sn, Pb interactions are taken from the predictions of the DCM-SMM model which are consistent with the results calculated by the formula:

$\sigma_{inel} = \pi R_0^2 (A_P^{1/3} + A_T^{1/3})^2$ , where  $R_0 = 1.2$  fm is an effective nucleon radius,  $A_P$  and  $A_T$  are atomic numbers of the beam and target nucleus.

Interaction	Ar+C	Ar+Al	Ar+Cu	Ar+Sn	Ar+Pb
$\sigma_{inel}$ , mb	1470±50	1860±50	2480±50	3140±50	3970±50

# Systematic errors



The systematic error of the  $\pi^+$  and  $K^+$  meson yields in every  $p_T$  and  $y$  bin is calculated as a root square of quadratic sum of uncertainties coming from the following sources:

Sys1: systematic errors of the reconstruction efficiency due to the remaining difference in the X/Y primary vertex distribution in the simulation relative to the experimental data.

Sys2: systematic errors of the background subtraction under the  $\pi^+$  and  $K^+$  signals in the mass squared spectra of identified particles.

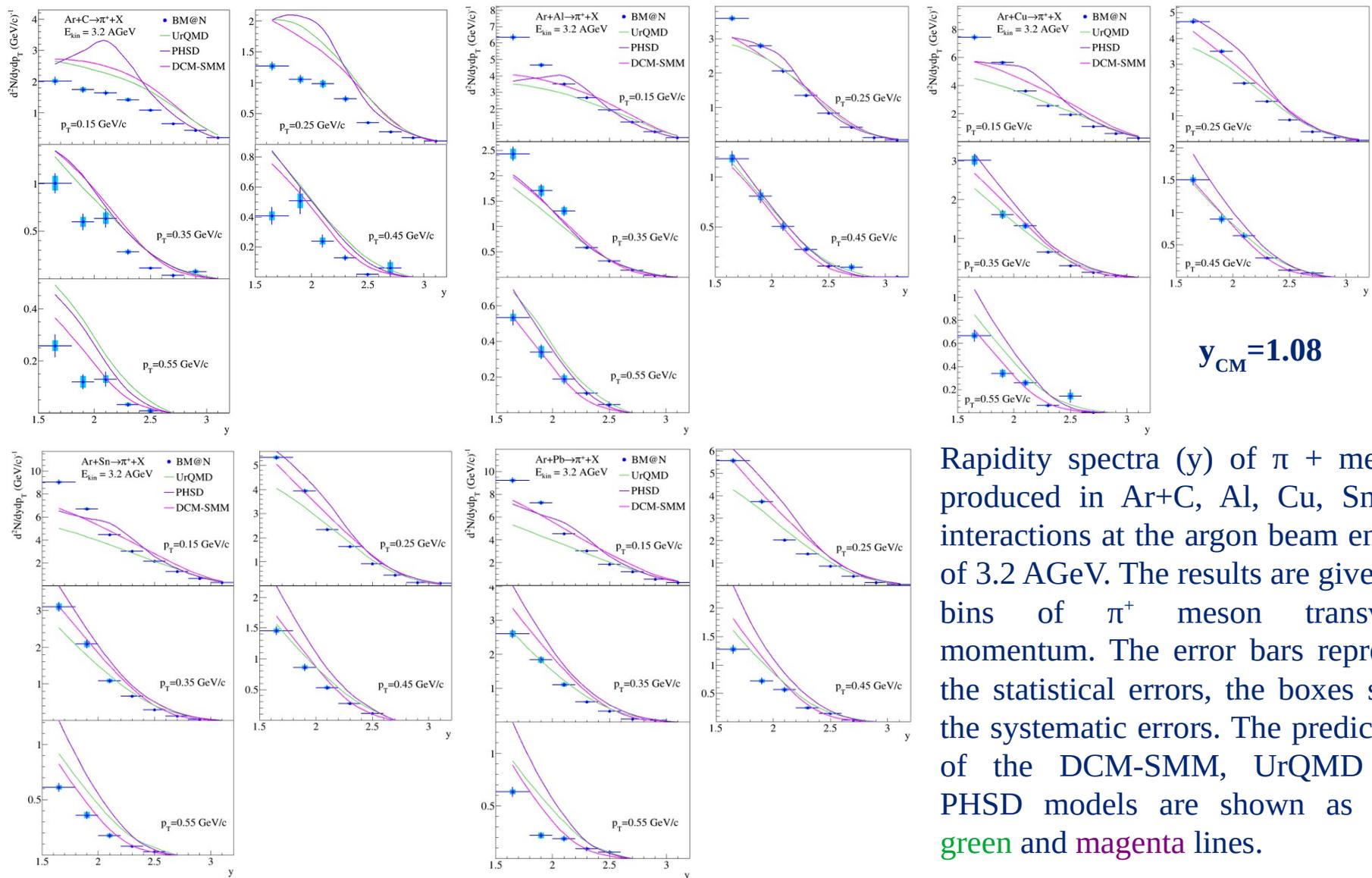
Sys3: systematic error of the trigger efficiency evaluated as a function of the number of tracks from the primary vertex and the X/Y primary vertex position.

Systematic uncertainties of the  $\pi^+$  and  $K^+$  yields measured in argon-nucleus interactions.

Target Systematics	$\pi^+$					Target Systematics	$K^+$				
	C, sys%	Al, sys%	Cu, sys%	Sn, sys%	Pb, sys%		C, sys%	Al, sys%	Cu, sys%	Sn, sys%	Pb, sys%
Sys1-Sys3	14	11	12	9	9	Sys1-Sys3	28	26	14	12	16
Norm	7.8	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.2	Norm	29	10	8.4	7.6	7.4

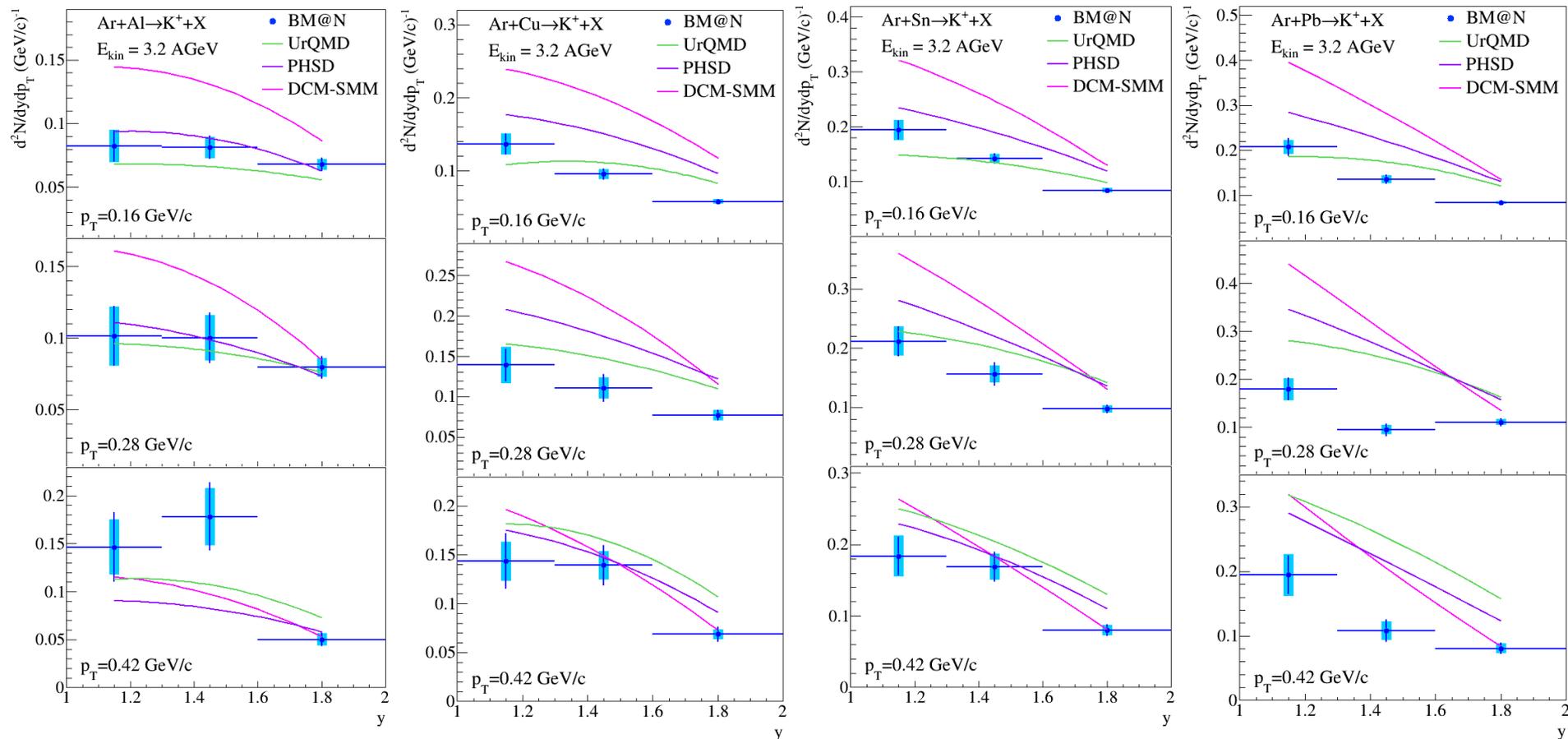
The  $\pi^+$  and  $K^+$  meson yield normalization uncertainties are calculated for the whole measured ( $y, p_T$ ) range as a quadratic sum of the statistical uncertainty of the trigger efficiency, uncertainties of the tracking detector efficiency, efficiency of the track matching to the CSC (DCH) outer detectors and to ToF-400 (ToF-700), uncertainties of the luminosity and inelastic nucleus-nucleus cross section.

# $y$ spectra of $\pi^+$ mesons



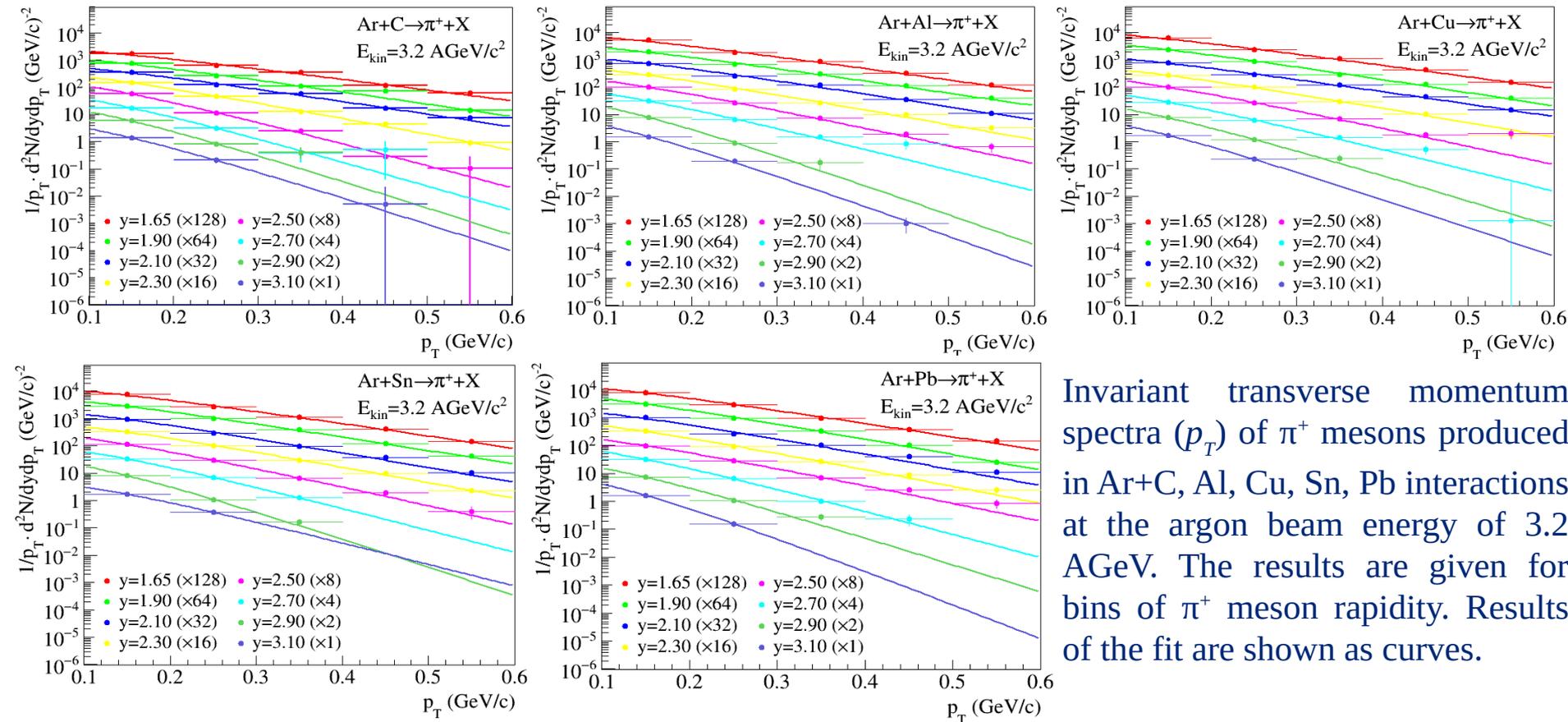
Rapidity spectra ( $y$ ) of  $\pi^+$  mesons produced in Ar+C, Al, Cu, Sn, Pb interactions at the argon beam energy of 3.2 AGeV. The results are given for bins of  $\pi^+$  meson transverse momentum. The error bars represent the statistical errors, the boxes show the systematic errors. The predictions of the DCM-SMM, UrQMD and PHSD models are shown as **rose**, **green** and **magenta** lines.

# $y$ spectra of $K^+$ mesons



Rapidity spectra ( $y$ ) of  $K^+$  mesons produced in Ar+Al, Cu, Sn, Pb interactions at the argon beam energy of 3.2 AGeV. The results are given for bins of  $K^+$  meson transverse momentum. The error bars represent the statistical errors, the boxes show the systematic errors. The predictions of the DCM-SMM, UrQMD and PHSD models are shown as magenta, green and purple lines.

# Invariant $p_T$ spectra of $\pi^+$ mesons

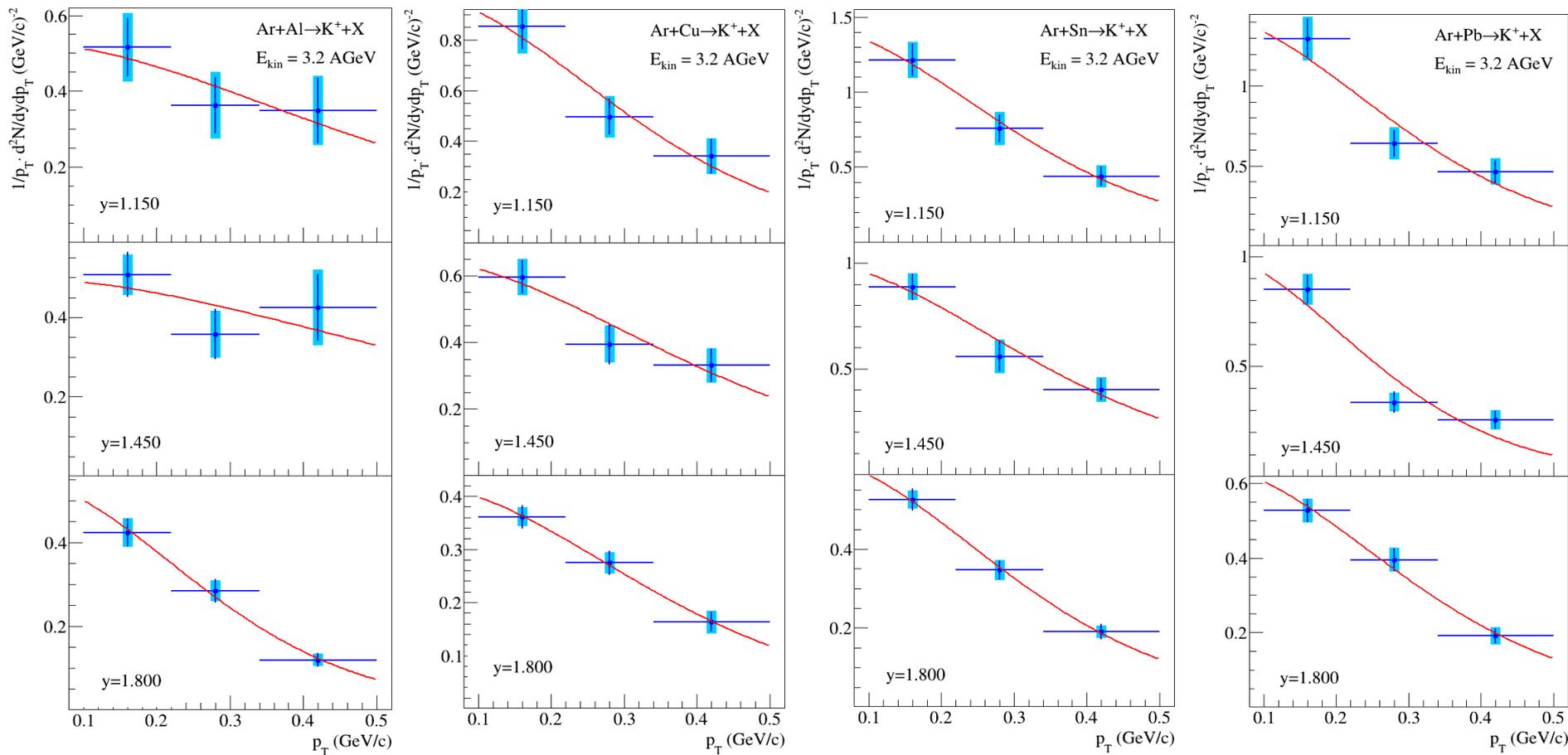


Invariant transverse momentum spectra ( $p_T$ ) of  $\pi^+$  mesons produced in Ar+C, Al, Cu, Sn, Pb interactions at the argon beam energy of 3.2 AGeV. The results are given for bins of  $\pi^+$  meson rapidity. Results of the fit are shown as curves.

$$1/p_T \cdot d^2N/dp_T dy = C \cdot \exp(-(m_T - m_{\pi,K})/T_0)$$

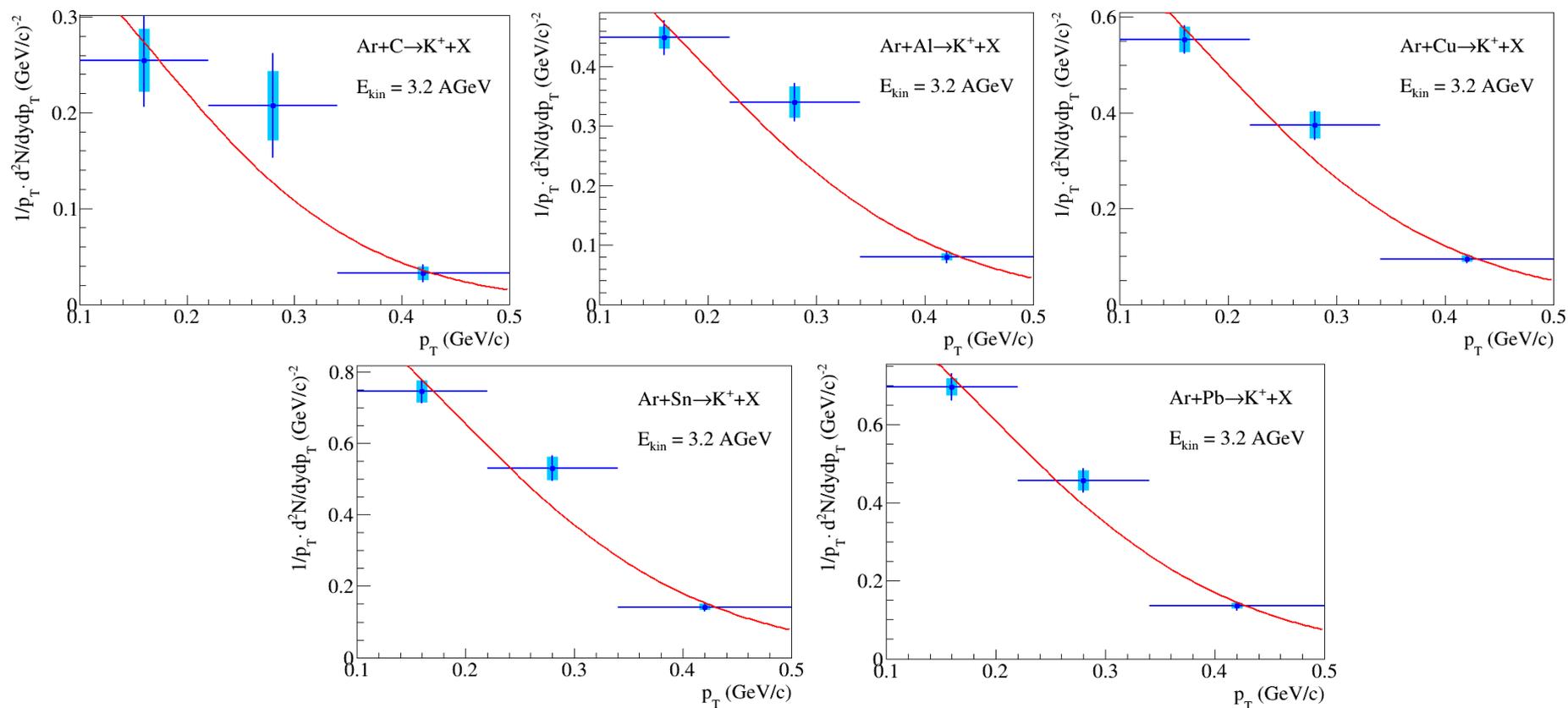
where  $m_T = \sqrt{(m_{\pi,K})^2 + p_T^2}$  is the transverse mass,  $C$  – normalization (free parameter),  $T_0$  – inverse slope (free parameter),  $dy$  is the width of the measured  $y$  bin,  $dp_T$  is the width of the measured  $p_T$  bin.

# Invariant $p_T$ spectra of $K^+$ mesons



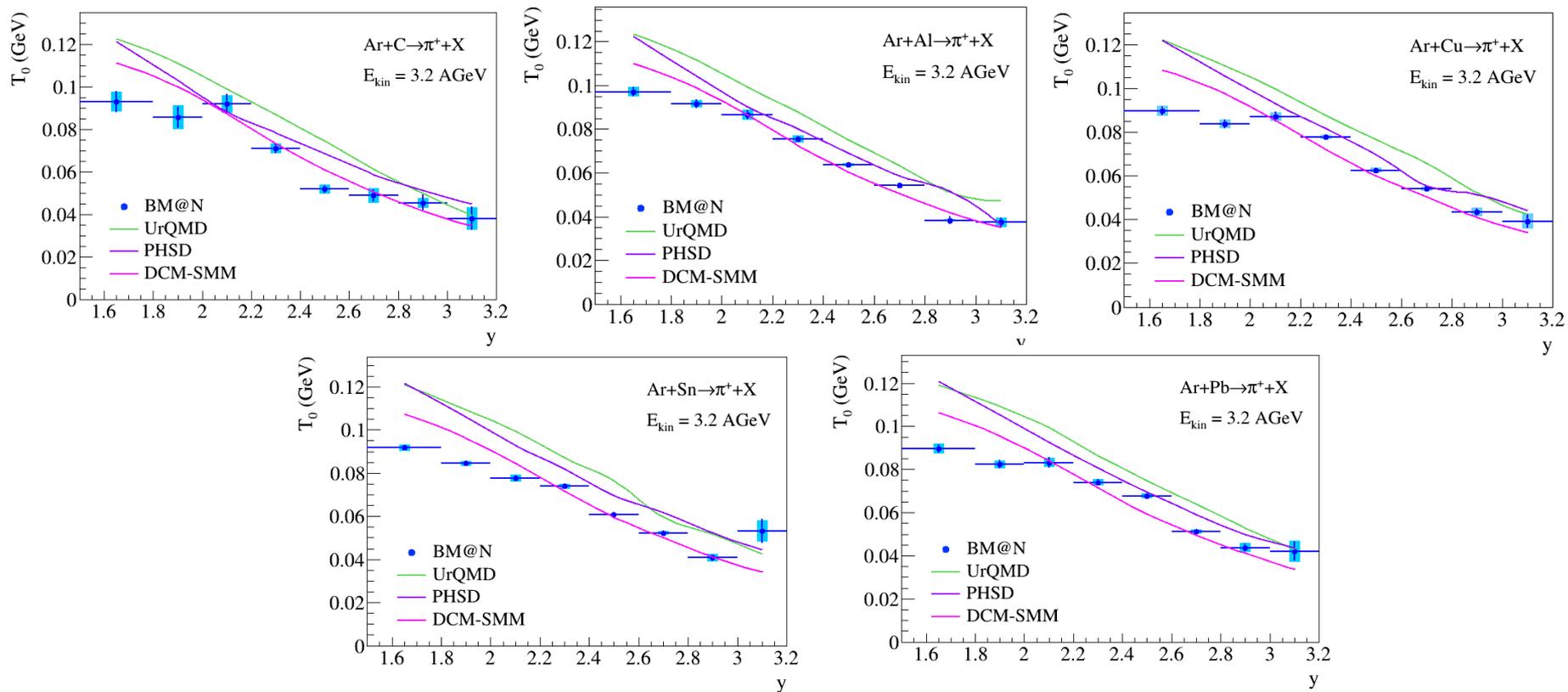
Invariant transverse momentum spectra ( $p_T$ ) of  $K^+$  mesons produced in Ar+Al, Cu, Sn, Pb interactions at the argon beam energy of 3.2 AGeV. The results are given for three bins of  $K^+$  meson rapidity. The error bars represent the statistical errors, the boxes show the systematic errors. Results of the fit are shown as red curves.

# Invariant $p_T$ spectra of $K^+$ mesons



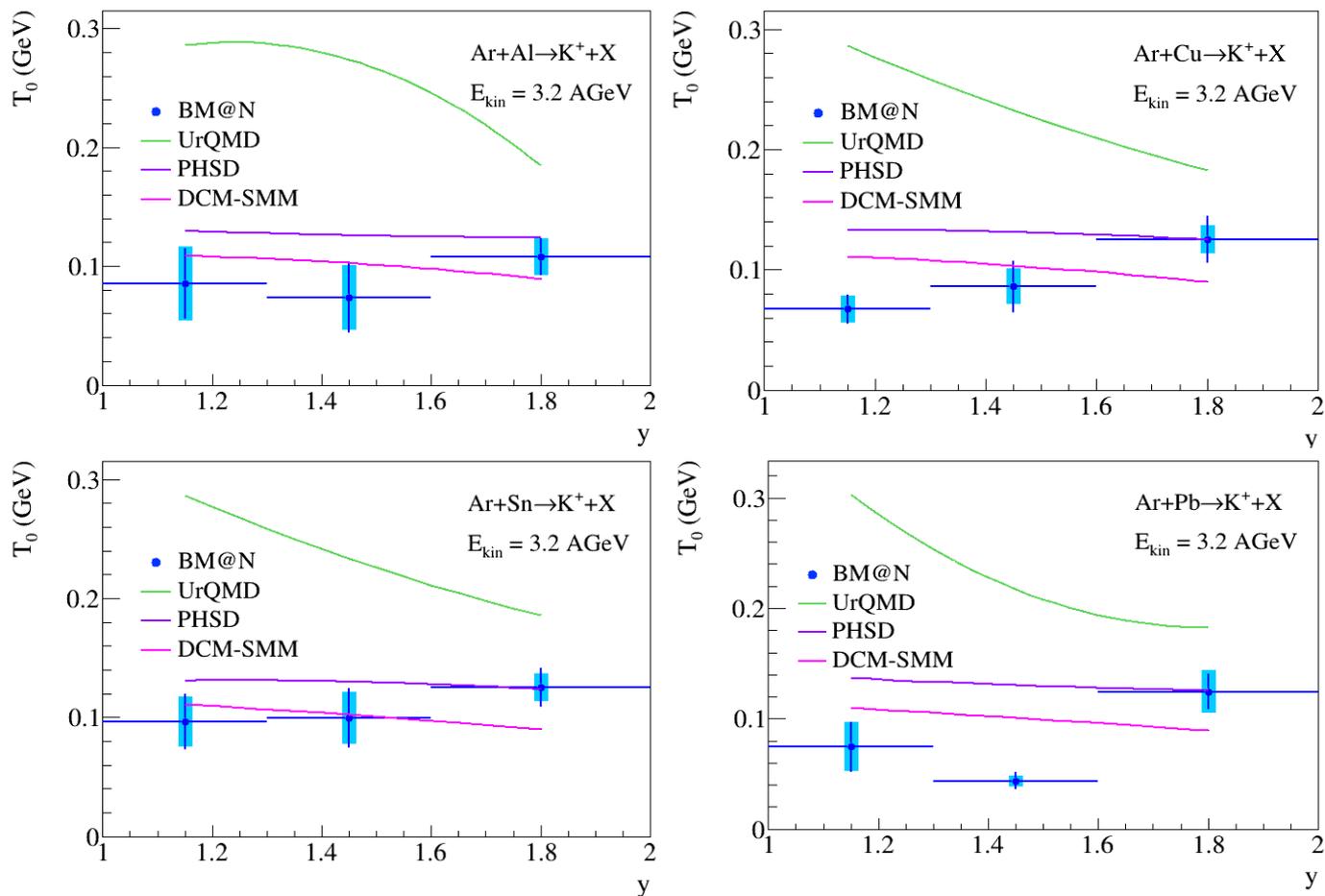
**Fig. 16c.** Reconstructed invariant transverse momentum  $p_T$  spectra of  $K^+$  in the measured rapidity range in minimum bias  $Ar+C$ ,  $Ar+Al$ ,  $Ar+Cu$ ,  $Ar+Sn$ ,  $Ar+Pb$  interactions at 3.2 AGeV argon beam energy (symbols). Results of the fit are shown as red curves.

# Inverse slope parameter $T_0$ of $\pi^+$ mesons



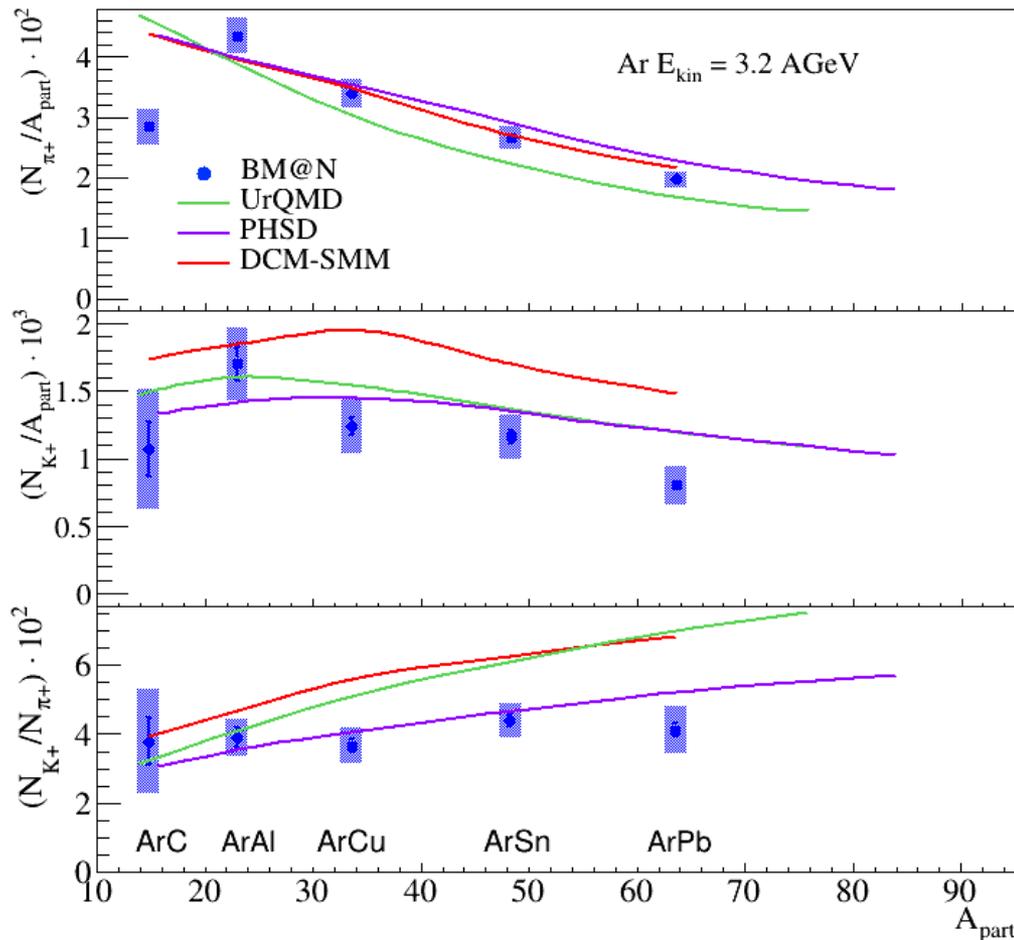
Rapidity  $y$  dependence of the inverse slope  $T_0$  extracted from the fits of the  $\pi^+$   $p_T$  spectra in Ar+C, Al, Cu, Sn, Pb interactions. The error bars represent the statistical errors, the boxes show the systematic errors. The predictions of the DCM-SMM, UrQMD and PHSD models are shown as rose, green and magenta lines.

# Inverse slope parameter $T_0$ of $K^+$ mesons



Rapidity  $y$  dependence of the inverse slope  $T_0$  extracted from the fits of the  $K^+$   $p_T$  spectra in Ar+Al, Cu, Sn, Pb interactions. The error bars represent the statistical errors, the boxes show the systematic errors. The predictions of the DCM-SMM, UrQMD and PHSD models are shown as rose, green and magenta lines.

$$N_{\pi^+}/A_{\text{part}}, N_{K^+}/A_{\text{part}}, N_{K^+}/N_{\pi^+}$$



Ratios of the  $\pi^+$  (top) and  $K^+$  (middle) multiplicities to the number of nucleons-participants and ratios of the  $K^+$  to  $\pi^+$  multiplicities (bottom) in the measured kinematical range in Ar+C, Al, Cu, Sn, Pb interactions. The error bars represent the statistical errors, the blue boxes show the systematic errors. The BM@N results are compared with predictions of the DCM-QGSM, UrQMD and PHSD models for argon-nucleus interactions shown as red, green and magenta lines.

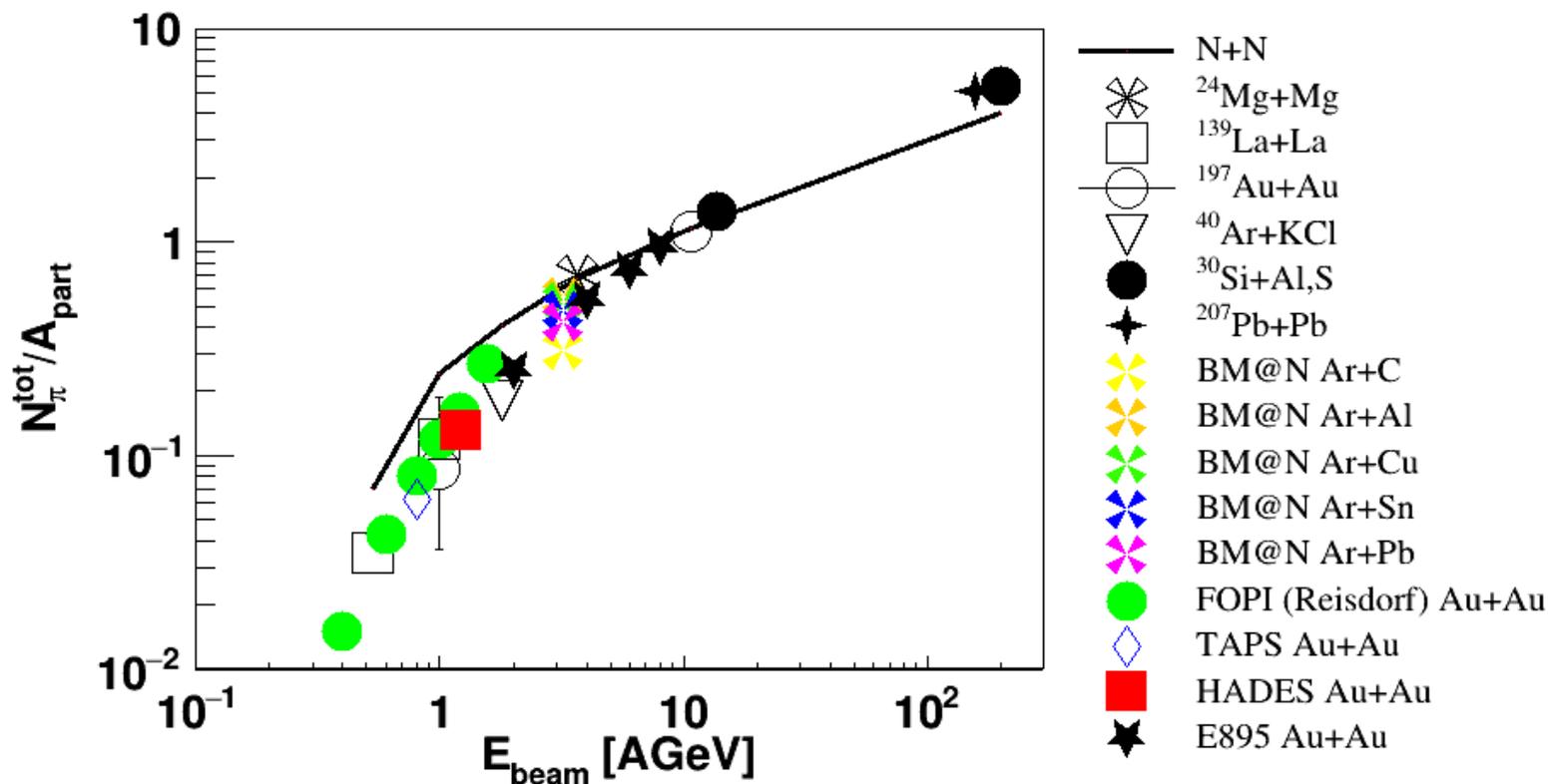
# Extrapolation factors and $A_{part}$



1) Extrapolation factors for  $\pi^+$  and  $K^+$  meson multiplicities from the measured range to the full kinematical range. The factors are averaged over predictions of the DCM-SMM, PHSD, UrQMD models. The errors are RMS of differences in the model predictions.

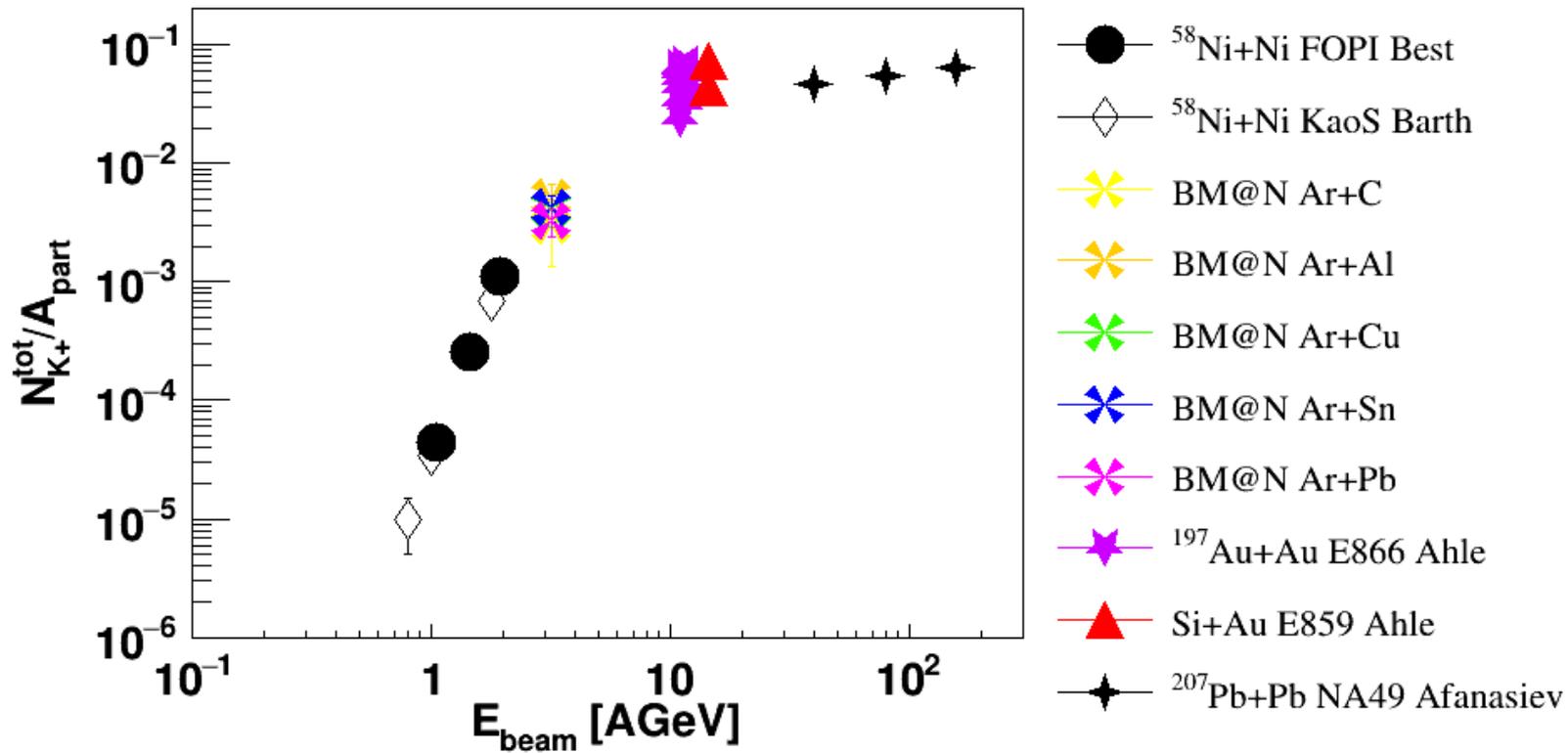
2) Number of nucleons-participants from predictions of the DCM-SMM model.

<b>3.2 AGeV</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Al</b>	<b>Cu</b>	<b>Sn</b>	<b>Pb</b>
Extrap. factor for $\pi^+$	$3.25 \pm 0.14$	$3.73 \pm 0.1$	$4.45 \pm 0.06$	$5.12 \pm 0.18$	$5.91 \pm 0.4$
Extrap. factor for $K^+$	$2.81 \pm 0.49$	$3.02 \pm 0.48$	$3.34 \pm 0.48$	$3.7 \pm 0.43$	$4.1 \pm 0.35$
$A_{part}$ , DCM-SMM	14.8	23.0	33.6	48.3	63.6



Pion multiplicity  $N_{\pi}^{\text{tot}}$  per the mean number of nucleons-participants  $A_{\text{part}}$  shown as a function of the beam kinetic energy  $E_{\text{beam}}$ . The BM@N results are compared with the world measurements.

$$N_{K^+}^{\text{tot}}/A_{\text{part}}$$



$K^+$  multiplicity per the mean number of nucleons-participants  $A_{\text{part}}$  shown as a function of the beam kinetic energy  $E_{\text{beam}}$ . The BM@N results are compared with the world measurements.

# The $\pi^+$ and $K^+$ yields and inverse slopes



Yields of  $K^+$ ,  $\pi^+$  production and effective inverse slopes of invariant  $m_T$  spectra measured in interactions of light and medium nucleus. For  $T_{\text{eff}}$ , the transverse momentum for [BM@N](#) in measured range.

Interacting nucleus / Beam kinetic energy / Experiment	$\pi^+$ , $K^+$ yields	$K^+ / \pi^+$ yield ratio, $\cdot 10^{-2}$	$T_{\text{eff}}$ at $y^* = 0$ (World), $y^* \approx 0.5$ ( $\pi^+$ , <a href="#">BM@N</a> ), $y^*$ in meas. range ( $K^+$ , <a href="#">BM@N</a> )
<i>Ar+KCl</i> , 1.76 AGeV, HADES	$3.9 \pm 0.1 \pm 0.1$ ( $\pi$ ) $(2.8 \pm 0.2) \cdot 10^{-2}$ ( $K^+$ )		$82.4 \pm 0.1^{+9.1}_{-4.6}$ ( $\pi$ ) $89 \pm 1 \pm 2$ ( $K^+$ )
<i>Ni+Ni</i> , 1.93 AGeV, FOPI	$3.6 \cdot 10^{-2}$ ( $K^+$ , $A_{\text{part}} = 46.5$ ) $8.25 \cdot 10^{-2}$ ( $K^+$ , $A_{\text{part}} = 75$ )	$(7.59 \pm 0.49) \cdot 10^{-3}$ ( $A_{\text{part}} = 46.5$ )	$110.9 \pm 1.0$ ( $A_{\text{part}} = 75$ ) ( $K^+$ )
<i>Ni+Ni</i> , 1.93 AGeV, KaoS	$3 \cdot 10^{-2}$ ( $K^+$ )		$97 \pm 7$ (semi-central)( $K^+$ ) $107 \pm 10$ (central)( $K^+$ )
<i>Ar+Cu</i> , 3.2 AGeV, <a href="#">BM@N</a>	$5.1 \pm 0.4$ ( $\pi^+$ , $A_{\text{part}} = 33.6$ ) $(13.9 \pm 2.2) \cdot 10^{-2}$ ( $K^+$ )	$(27.5 \pm 4.8) \cdot 10^{-3}$	$90 \pm 2$ ( $\pi^+$ ) $81 \pm 5$ ( $K^+$ )
<i>Ar+Sn</i> , 3.2 AGeV, <a href="#">BM@N</a>	$6.6 \pm 0.5$ ( $\pi^+$ , $A_{\text{part}} = 48.3$ ) $(20.7 \pm 2.8) \cdot 10^{-2}$ ( $K^+$ )	$(31.6 \pm 4.8) \cdot 10^{-3}$	$92 \pm 2$ ( $\pi^+$ ) $81 \pm 5$ ( $K^+$ )

1. First physics results of the BM@N experiment are presented on the  $\pi^+$  and  $K^+$  meson yields and their ratios in argon-nucleus interactions at the beam kinetic energy of 3.2 AGeV.
2. The results are compared with the models of nucleus-nucleus interactions and with the results of other experiments.

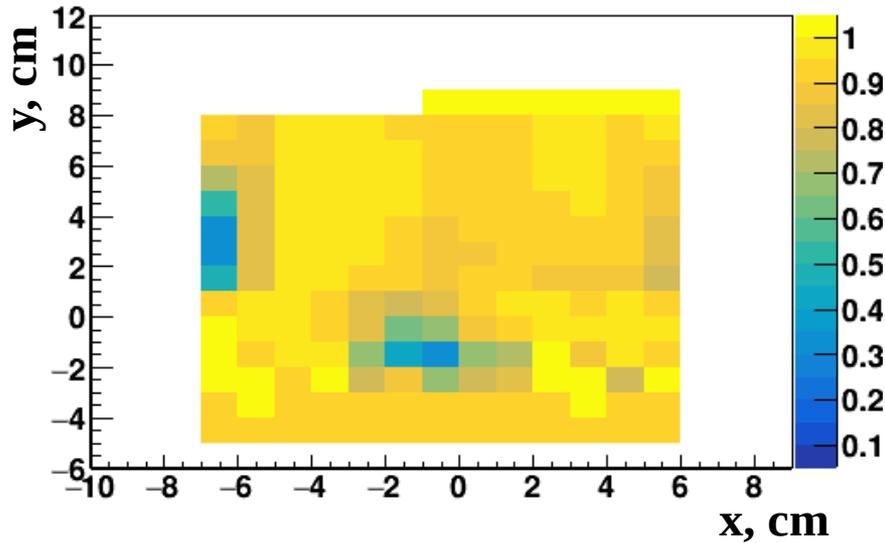
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# Backup

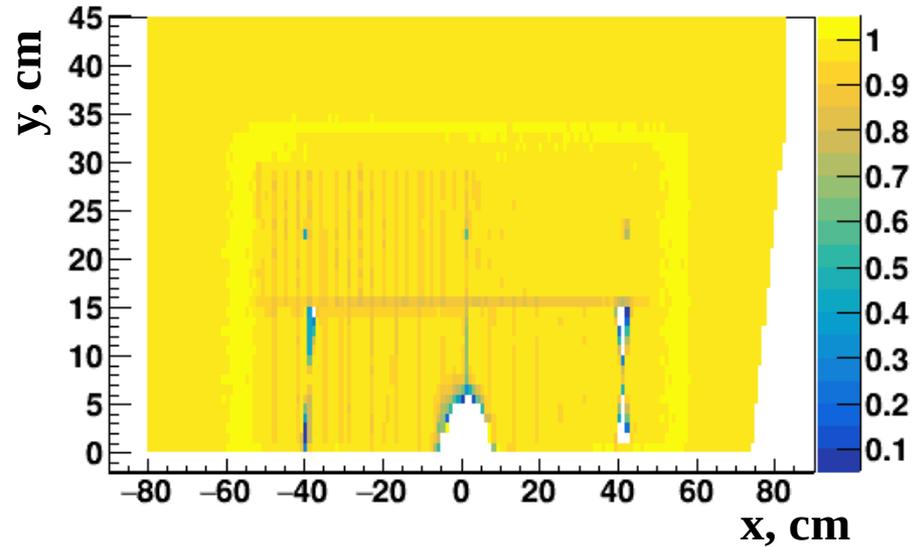


# Efficiency distributions in Si/GEMs

Si-2



GEM-3



Two-dimensional efficiency distributions in Si and GEM stations measured with experimental tracks and implemented into Monte Carlo simulation

# Trigger efficiency for BD



Mean BD trigger efficiency evaluated for events with reconstructed  $\pi^+/K^+$  in interactions of the argon beam with the whole set of *C*, *Al*, *Cu*, *Sn*, *Pb* targets.

Trigger / Target $\pi^+$ mesons	<i>C</i>	<i>Al</i>	<i>Cu</i>	<i>Sn</i>	<i>Pb</i>
$\epsilon_{\text{trig}} (\text{BD} \geq 2)$	$0.80 \pm 0.03$	$0.96 \pm 0.01$	$0.98 \pm 0.01$	$0.99 \pm 0.01$	$0.99 \pm 0.01$
$\epsilon_{\text{trig}} (\text{BD} \geq 3)$	$0.66 \pm 0.02$	$0.92 \pm 0.01$	$0.97 \pm 0.01$	$0.98 \pm 0.01$	$0.99 \pm 0.01$
$\epsilon_{\text{trig}} (\text{BD} \geq 4)$	$0.48 \pm 0.02$	$0.88 \pm 0.01$	$0.95 \pm 0.01$	$0.97 \pm 0.01$	$0.98 \pm 0.01$

Trigger / Target $K^+$ mesons	<i>C</i>	<i>Al</i>	<i>Cu</i>	<i>Sn</i>	<i>Pb</i>
$\epsilon_{\text{trig}} (\text{BD} \geq 2)$	$0.67 \pm 0.15$	$0.97 \pm 0.02$	$0.98 \pm 0.01$	$0.99 \pm 0.01$	$0.99 \pm 0.01$
$\epsilon_{\text{trig}} (\text{BD} \geq 3)$	$0.67 \pm 0.15$	$0.96 \pm 0.02$	$0.97 \pm 0.01$	$0.99 \pm 0.01$	$0.99 \pm 0.01$
$\epsilon_{\text{trig}} (\text{BD} \geq 4)$	$0.67 \pm 0.15$	$0.94 \pm 0.02$	$0.95 \pm 0.02$	$0.99 \pm 0.01$	$0.98 \pm 0.01$

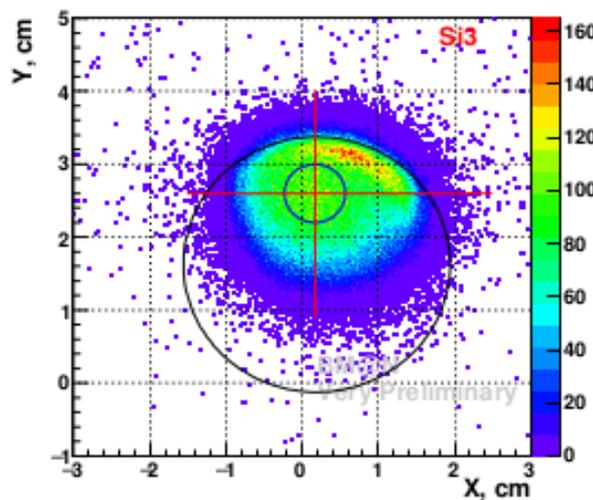
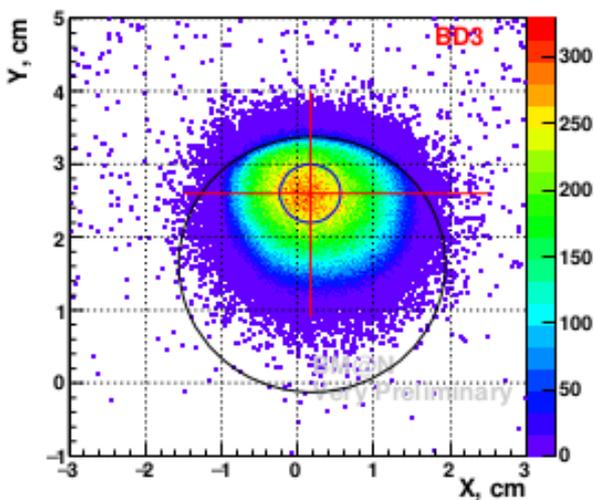
# Trigger efficiency for SiMD



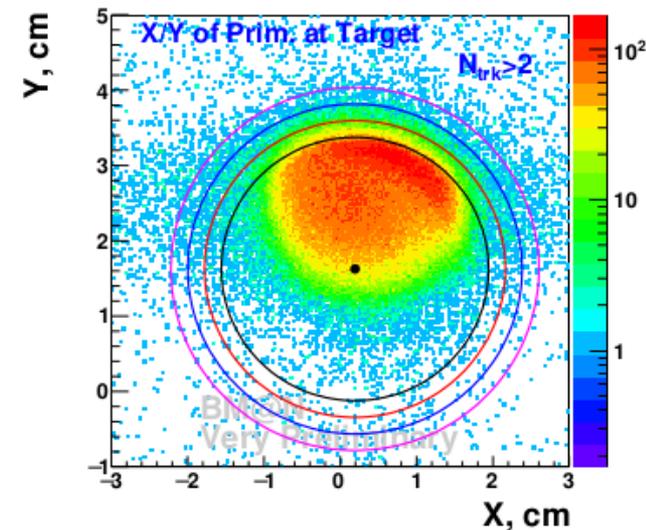
Mean SiMD trigger efficiency evaluated for events with reconstructed  $\pi^+$  and  $K^+$  in interactions of the argon beam with the whole set of *C*, *Al*, *Cu*, *Sn*, *Pb* targets.

Trigger / Target $\pi^+$ mesons	<i>C</i>	<i>Al</i>	<i>Cu</i>	<i>Sn</i>	<i>Pb</i>
$\epsilon_{\text{trig}} (\text{SiMD} \geq 2)$	$0.28 \pm 0.01$	$0.40 \pm 0.01$	$0.56 \pm 0.01$	$0.65 \pm 0.01$	$0.72 \pm 0.01$
$\epsilon_{\text{trig}} (\text{SiMD} \geq 3)$	$0.14 \pm 0.01$	$0.22 \pm 0.01$	$0.37 \pm 0.01$	$0.49 \pm 0.01$	$0.58 \pm 0.01$
$\epsilon_{\text{trig}} (\text{SiMD} \geq 4)$	$0.08 \pm 0.01$	$0.11 \pm 0.01$	$0.23 \pm 0.01$	$0.34 \pm 0.01$	$0.46 \pm 0.01$

Trigger / Target $K^+$ mesons	<i>C</i>	<i>Al</i>	<i>Cu</i>	<i>Sn</i>	<i>Pb</i>
$\epsilon_{\text{trig}} (\text{SiMD} \geq 2)$	$0.30 \pm 0.06$	$0.40 \pm 0.03$	$0.64 \pm 0.03$	$0.74 \pm 0.03$	$0.82 \pm 0.03$
$\epsilon_{\text{trig}} (\text{SiMD} \geq 3)$	$0.17 \pm 0.04$	$0.23 \pm 0.02$	$0.45 \pm 0.03$	$0.61 \pm 0.03$	$0.73 \pm 0.03$
$\epsilon_{\text{trig}} (\text{SiMD} \geq 4)$	$0.08 \pm 0.03$	$0.12 \pm 0.02$	$0.35 \pm 0.03$	$0.44 \pm 0.03$	$0.58 \pm 0.03$



**Fig.5 (lumi.pdf).** Run-7, X-Y of the primary vertices for different trigger conditions. Left:  $BD \geq 3$ , Right,  $SiMD \geq 3$ .



**Fig.6 (lumi.pdf).** Run-7, X-Y of the primary vertices within  $3\text{-}\sigma$  limits around the target.

- ✓ 13.5% of the beam is missed the target by the edge of the target due to shifted beam position.
- ✓ The systematic uncertainty for this measurement do not exceed 2%.
- ✓ The events collected with the Si-trigger near the upper edge of the target were recorded with higher efficiency relative the rest of the beam spot.

# Impact parameters



Mean impact parameters of min. bias  $Ar+C$ ,  $Ar+Al$ ,  $Ar+Cu$ ,  $Ar+Sn$ ,  $Ar+Pb$  interactions with  $\pi^+$ .

MC	$b$ , fm ( $Ar+C$ )	$b$ , fm ( $Ar+Al$ )	$b$ , fm ( $Ar+Cu$ )	$b$ , fm ( $Ar+Sn$ )	$b$ , fm ( $Ar+Pb$ )
Events with gen. $\pi^+$	4.18	4.79	5.59	6.29	7.04
Events with gen. $\pi^+$ in the measured range of BM@N	3.75	4.29	5.03	5.70	6.43
Events with rec. $\pi^+$	3.51	3.91	4.61	5.29	6.13

Mean impact parameters of min. bias  $Ar+C$ ,  $Ar+Al$ ,  $Ar+Cu$ ,  $Ar+Sn$ ,  $Ar+Pb$  interactions with  $K^+$ .

MC	$b$ , fm ( $Ar+C$ )	$b$ , fm ( $Ar+Al$ )	$b$ , fm ( $Ar+Cu$ )	$b$ , fm ( $Ar+Sn$ )	$b$ , fm ( $Ar+Pb$ )
Events with gen. $K^+$	3.24	3.50	3.98	4.50	5.12
Events with gen. $K^+$ in the measured range of BM@N	3.17	3.42	3.90	4.44	5.13
Events with rec. $K^+$	3.25	3.55	4.13	4.72	5.46

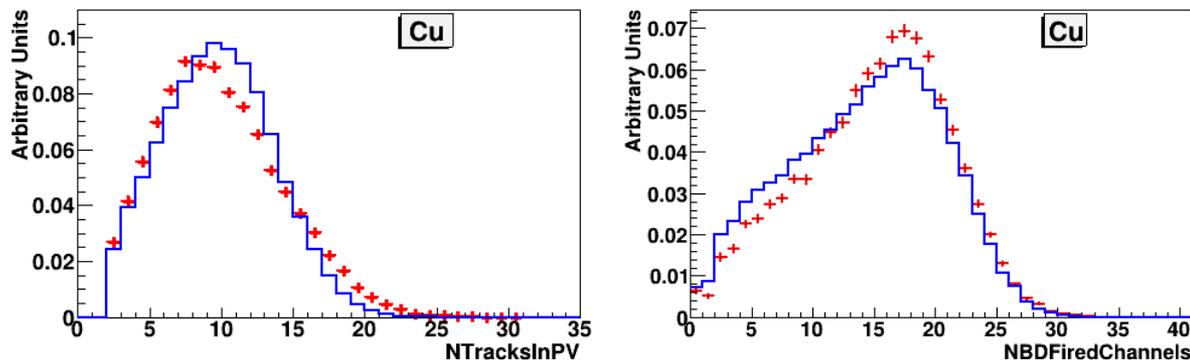
# $\pi^+$ and $K^+$ meson multiplicities



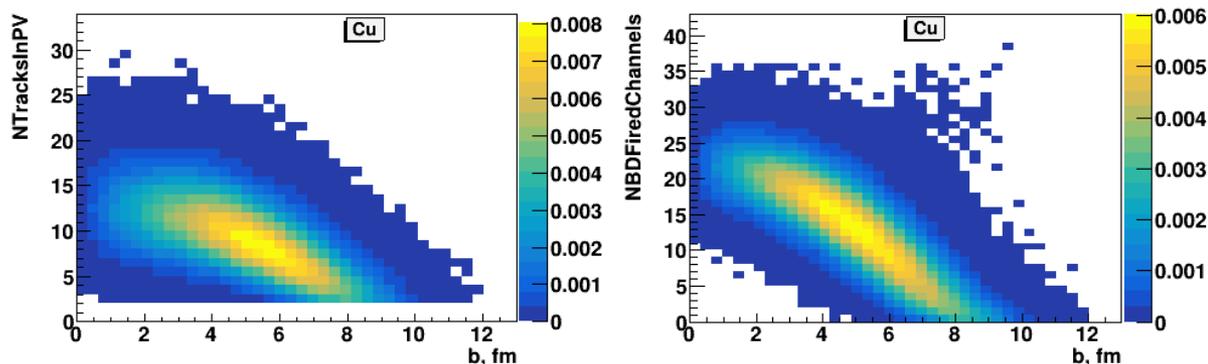
$\pi^+$  and  $K^+$  meson multiplicities measured in Ar+C, Al, Cu, Sn, Pb interactions at the argon beam energy of 3.2 AGeV. The first error given is statistical, the second error is systematic. The third error given for the full  $\pi^+$  and  $K^+$  multiplicities is the model uncertainty.

3.2 AGeV Ar beam	C	Al	Cu	Sn	Pb
Measured $\pi^+$ multiplicity $N_{\pi^+}$	$0.42 \pm 0.008 \pm 0.045$	$1.00 \pm 0.01 \pm 0.07$	$1.14 \pm 0.01 \pm 0.08$	$1.28 \pm 0.01 \pm 0.09$	$1.25 \pm 0.01 \pm 0.08$
Measured $K^+$ multiplicity $N_{K^+}/10^{-2}$	$1.59 \pm 0.29 \pm 0.65$	$3.90 \pm 0.28 \pm 0.61$	$4.17 \pm 0.21 \pm 0.66$	$5.60 \pm 0.22 \pm 0.75$	$5.10 \pm 0.22 \pm 0.92$
Full $\pi^+$ multiplicity $N_{\pi^+}^{\text{tot}}$	$1.365 \pm 0.026 \pm 0.146 \pm 0.06$	$3.73 \pm 0.04 \pm 0.26 \pm 0.1$	$5.07 \pm 0.04 \pm 0.36 \pm 0.07$	$6.55 \pm 0.05 \pm 0.46 \pm 0.23$	$7.39 \pm 0.06 \pm 0.47 \pm 0.5$
Full $K^+$ multiplicity $N_{K^+}^{\text{tot}}/10^{-2}$	$4.47 \pm 0.81 \pm 1.83 \pm 0.77$	$11.8 \pm 0.9 \pm 1.8 \pm 1.9$	$13.9 \pm 0.7 \pm 2.2 \pm 2$	$20.7 \pm 0.8 \pm 2.8 \pm 2.4$	$20.9 \pm 0.9 \pm 3.8 \pm 1.8$
$N_{K^+}/N_{\pi^+}/10^{-2}$ Measured range	$3.79 \pm 0.69 \pm 1.52$	$3.90 \pm 0.28 \pm 0.55$	$3.66 \pm 0.19 \pm 0.53$	$4.39 \pm 0.18 \pm 0.51$	$4.11 \pm 0.18 \pm 0.68$
$N_{K^+}^{\text{tot}}/N_{\pi^+}^{\text{tot}}/10^{-2}$ , Full kin. range	$3.27 \pm 0.6 \pm 1.38 \pm 0.58$	$3.16 \pm 0.23 \pm 0.54 \pm 0.51$	$2.75 \pm 0.14 \pm 0.48 \pm 0.39$	$3.16 \pm 0.13 \pm 0.48 \pm 0.39$	$2.83 \pm 0.12 \pm 0.54 \pm 0.31$
$K^+$ inverse slope $T_0$ , MeV measured range	$67 \pm 12 \pm 12$	$80 \pm 7 \pm 5$	$81 \pm 5 \pm 5$	$81 \pm 5 \pm 4$	$78 \pm 5 \pm 4$

# Comparison of experimental data and MC

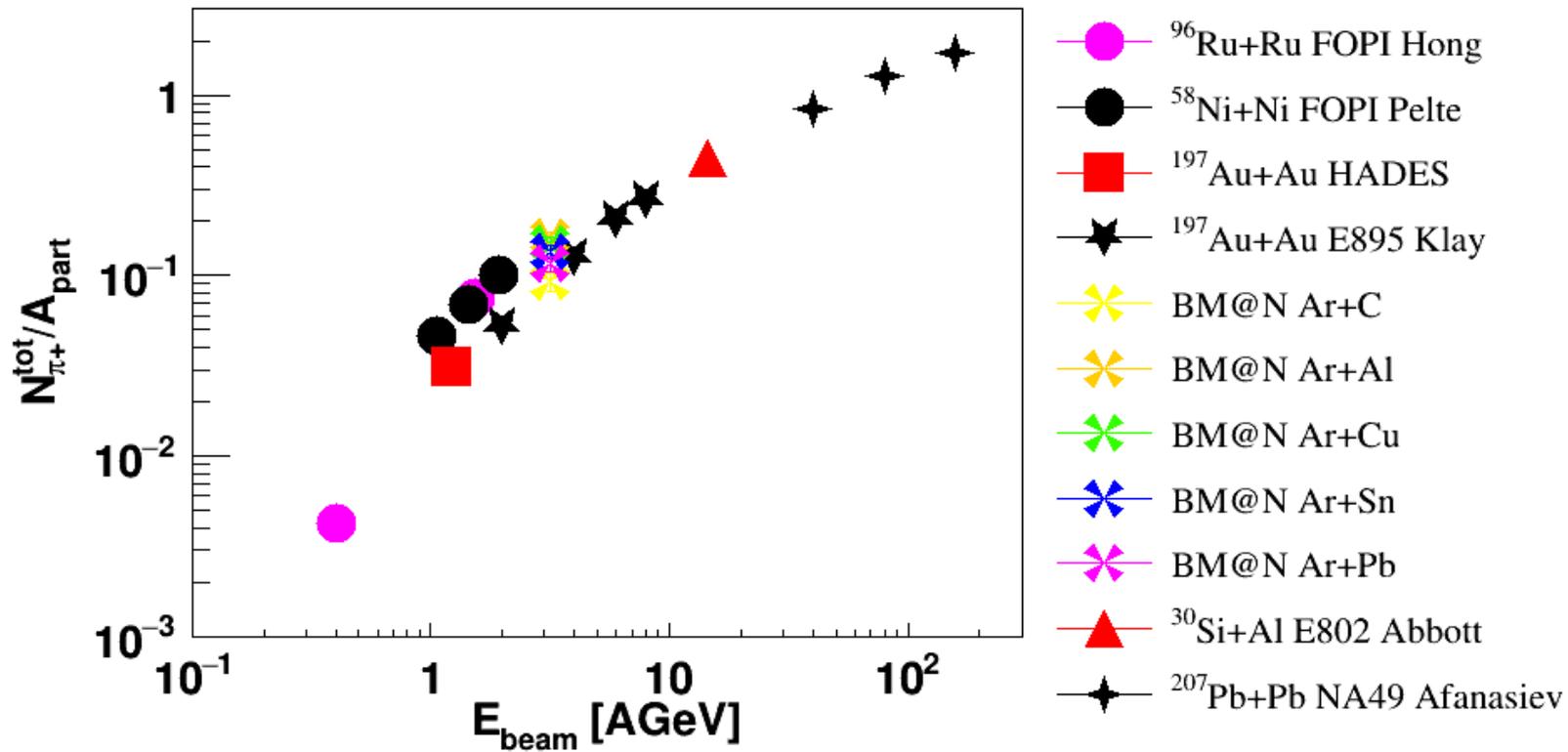


Comparison of the experimental distributions (red crosses) and reconstructed Monte Carlo GEANT distributions of events generated with the DCM-SMM model (blue lines): number of tracks reconstructed in the primary vertex; number of fired BD channels.



Correlation obtained from the DCM-SMM model of the number of tracks in the primary vertex (left) and the number of fired channels in the BD with impact parameter.

$$N_{\pi^+}^{\text{tot}}/A_{\text{part}}$$



$\pi^+$  multiplicity per the mean number of nucleons-participants  $A_{\text{part}}$  shown as a function of the beam kinetic energy  $E_{\text{beam}}$ . The BM@N results are compared with the world measurements.

