

Scientific activity in scintillation research at NCBJ Świerk, Poland

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Program



New scintillation detectors

CeBr₃, GAGG, LSO:Ce:Ca, LuAG:Pr,
LuAG:Ce, undoped NaI,
codoped CsI(Tl)



New photodetectors

PMTs for fast timing and gamma
spectrometry
Silicon Drift Detector
SiPM

A new look at the energy resolution
and the nonproportional response of scintillators

Applications



Nuclear medicine

EU BIO CARE project
EU COST Action



NEWS

Common PET/CT detector

Super timing for TOF PET, PMTs and SiPMs

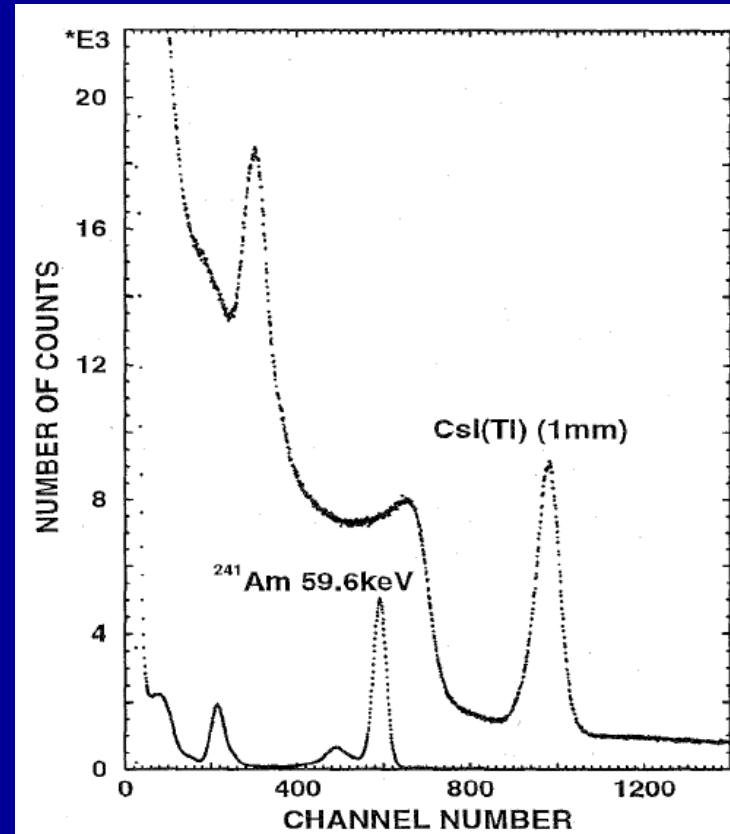
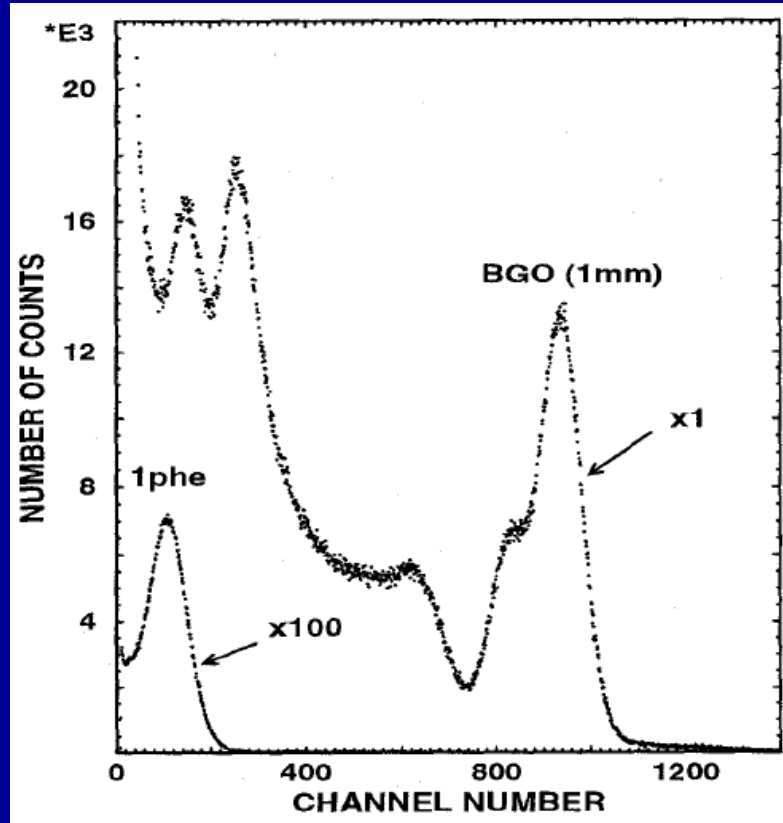
Homeland security and border monitoring



Collaboration and expertise for:

- IAEA
- FLIR (ICx - Target)
- UE EURITRACK and MODES projects

Principle of the light output measurements



The light output of scintillators is determined correcting the measured number of photoelectrons (phe) or electron – hole (e-h) pairs produced by a scintillation light for the integral quantum efficiency of a photodetector.

The present work....

The study was triggered by a comparative test of the light output of LSO and BGO crystals done in **2006** by Chuck Melcher at the Tennessee University and by us at Świerk, in Poland. Three calibrated PMTs were used **R2059 (TU)**, **XP2020Q** and **R6231 (Świerk)**.

Light output [ph/MeV]

Crystal	Size [mm]	Świerk		Knoxville
		XP2020Q	R6231MOD	R2059
BGO	10x10x1	7700±400	9300±600	9600±500
LSO	10x10x2	33600±1700	38800±1900	39500±2000

BGO – light output measured with different photodetectors

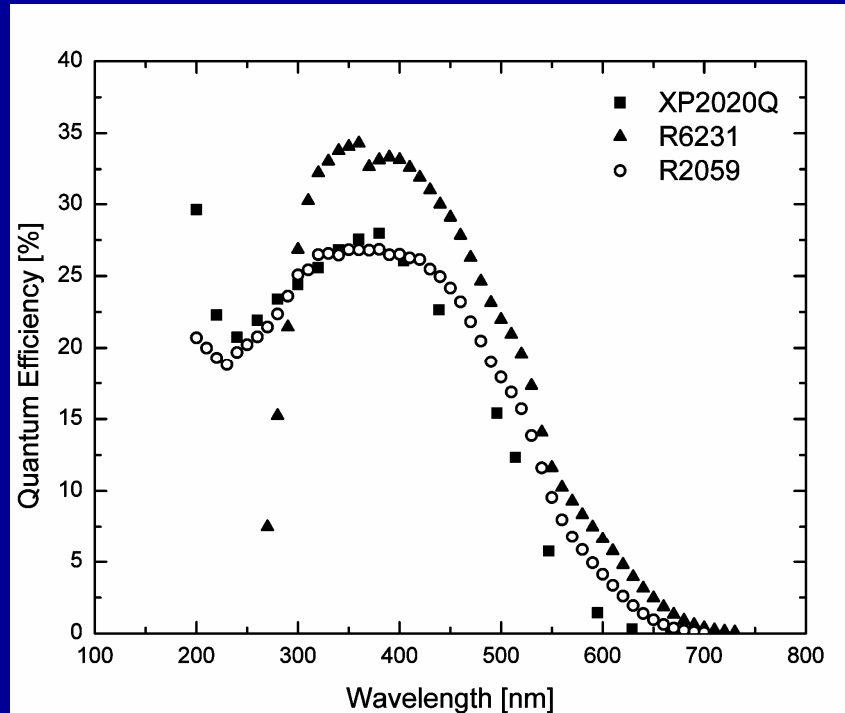
Crystal	Holl, et al. 1988	M.M., et al. 1997		Świerk 2009			Knoxville 2009	
Type	Si PD	XP2020	Si PD	XP2020	Si PD S3590- 18	R6231	XP2020	R2059
BGO	8200±350 ±400	8300 ±160	8020 ±160	7900 ±300	8000 ±300	9350 ±400	8600 ±400	9900 ±500

A good agreement of the measured light output with the XP2020Q and S3590-18 photodiode to those of the earlier measurements.

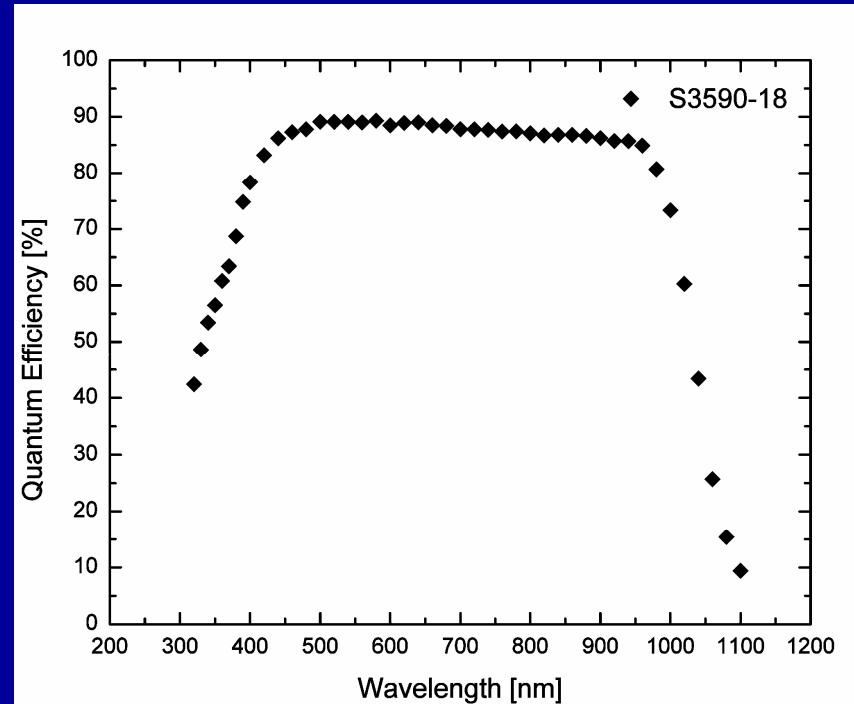
Evident excess of the light output measured with the new Hamamatsu PMTs.

What is the origin of the observed effect?

Photodetectors



Photomultipliers



Si photodiode

S3590-18

BGO: QE=86%

LSO: QE=82.7

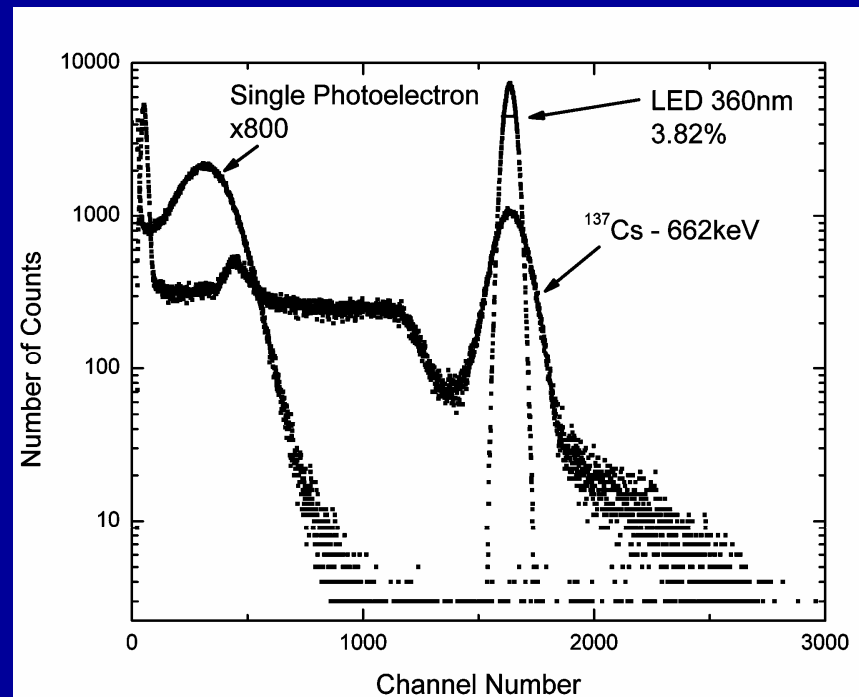
Study of the PMT response

- The number by pulse height resolution method:

$$\delta_{st} = 2.355 \times 1/N^{1/2} \times (ENF)^{1/2}$$

ENF calculated from the pulse height resolution of the single phe peak:

$$\delta_{spe} = 2.355 \times \sqrt{(ENF - 1)}$$



LSO at XP2020Q,

$$N_{spe} = 6150 \pm 150 \text{ phe/MeV}$$

$$PHR = 3.82\%, \text{ ENF} = 1.09$$

$$N_{phr} = 6300 \pm 200 \text{ phe/MeV}$$

First experiments in 2006

Crystal Size [mm]		Świerk		Knoxville
		XP2020Q	R6231MOD	R2059
BGO	10x10x1	7700±400	9300±600	9600±500
LSO	10x10x2	33600±1700	38800±1900	39500±2000

Final experiments in 2009

Light output of LSO (10x10x5 mm³):

XP2020Q: 28800 ±1500 ph/MeV

R6231: **29200±1500 ph/MeV**

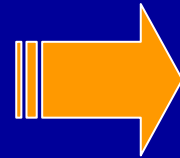
36900±1800 ph/MeV

by PHR method!!

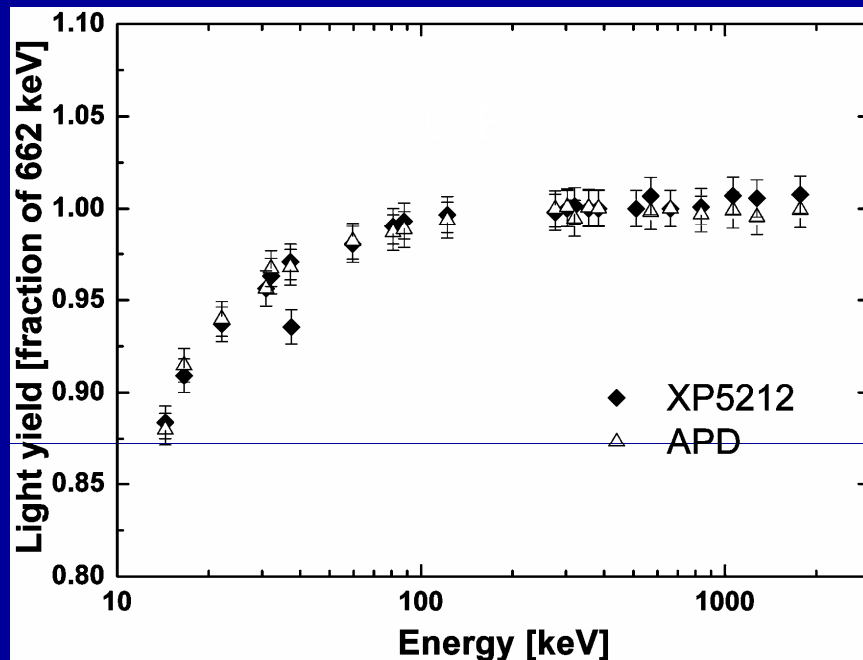
by single PHE method

Energy resolution, Non-proportionality

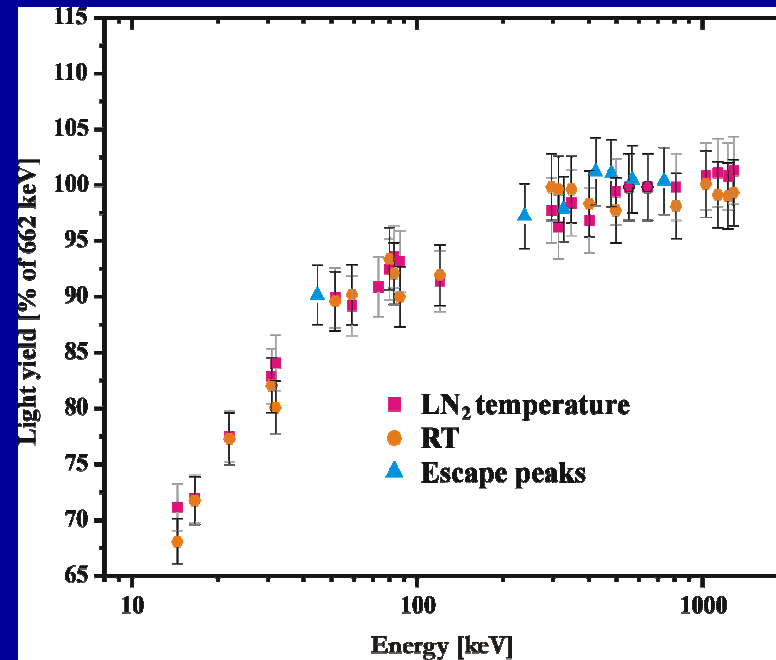
Intrinsic resolution of scintillators



Non-proportionality is a fundamental limitation of energy resolution!



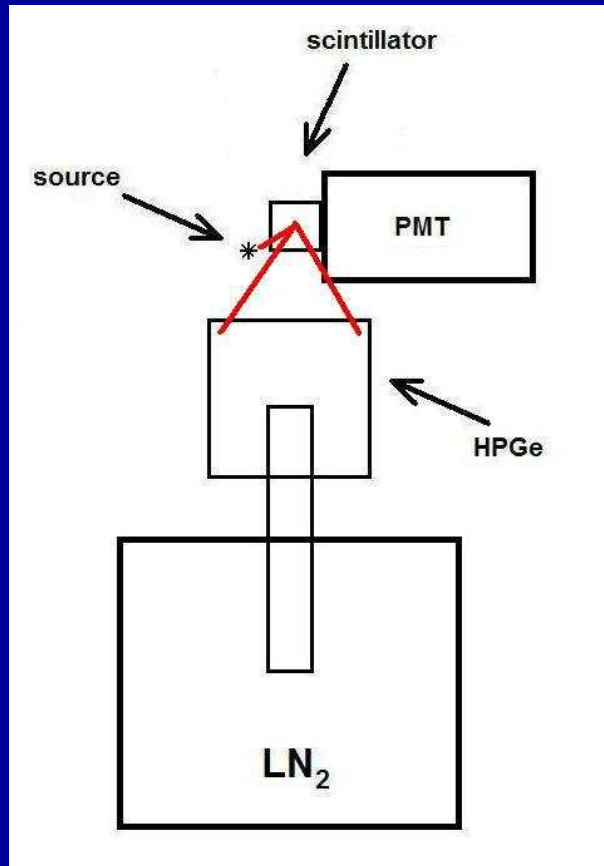
LaBr₃



BGO

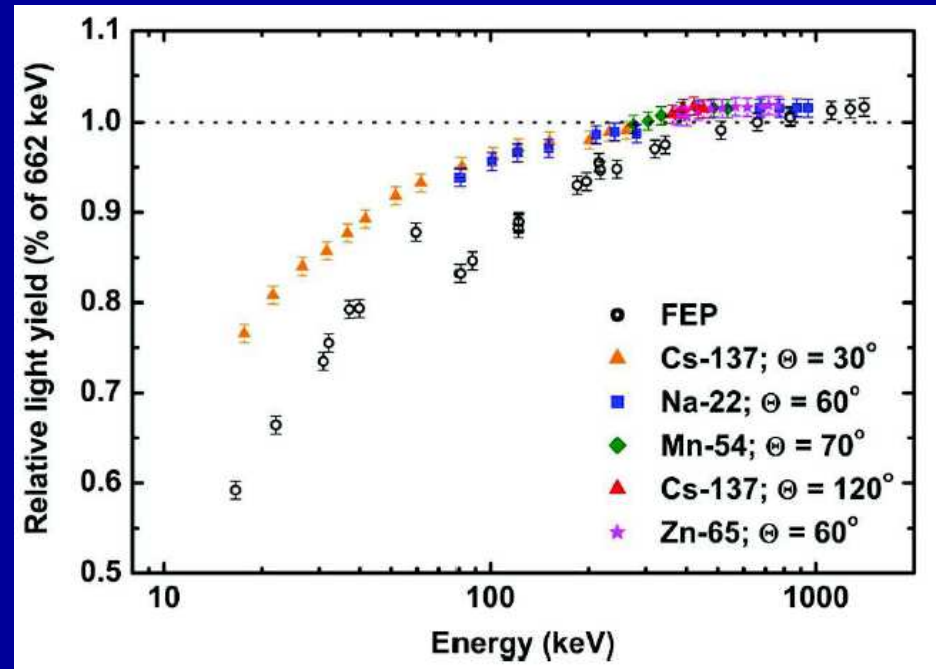
Non-proportionality measured with γ -rays

Nonproportionality of Compton electrons



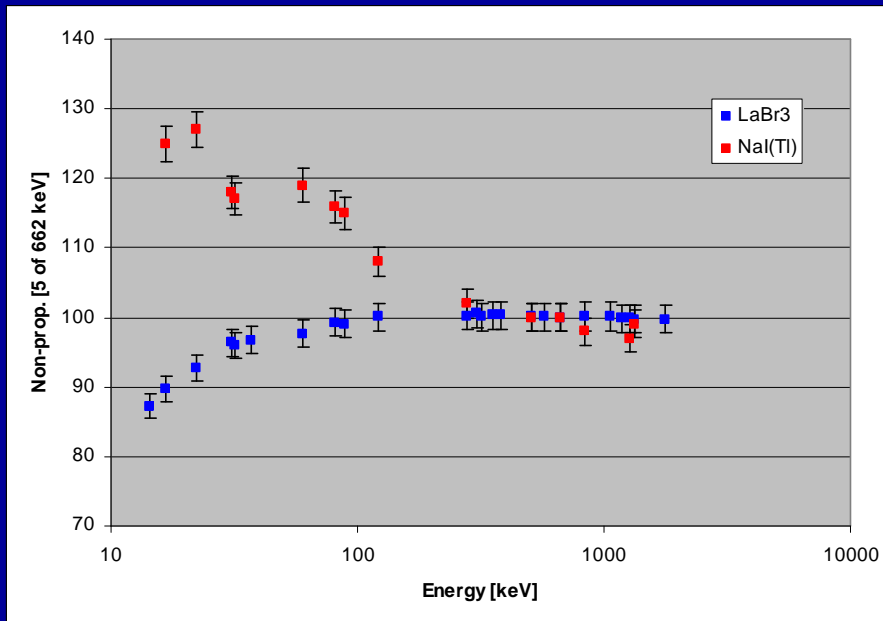
close geometry: ~ 1- 6 cm
large solid angle: $\leq 90^\circ$
weak sources: ~ 10 - 30 μCi

LYSO – 2 x 2 x 2 cm³

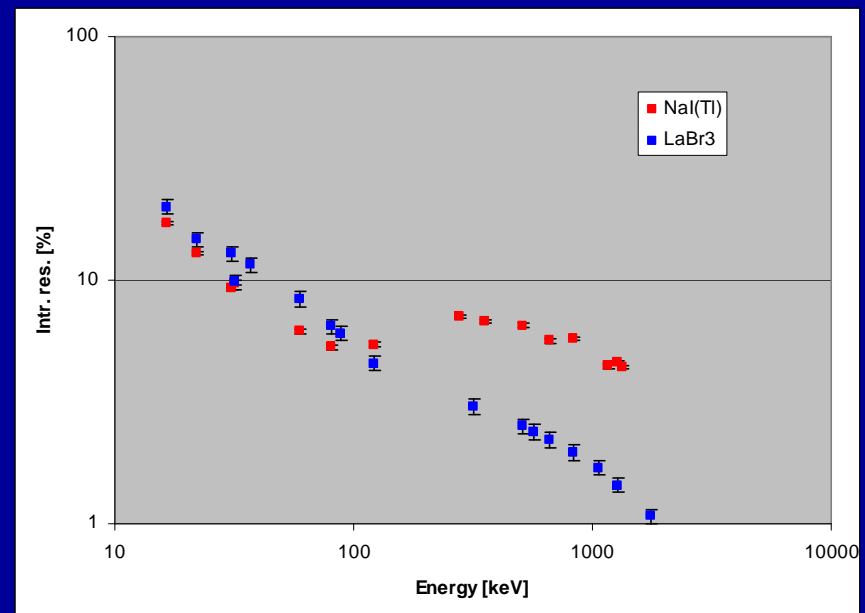


Nonproportionality of Compton electrons and full energy peaks. Curves are normalized to 662 keV full energy peak of Cs-137.

LaBr₃ in comparison to NaI(Tl) crystals

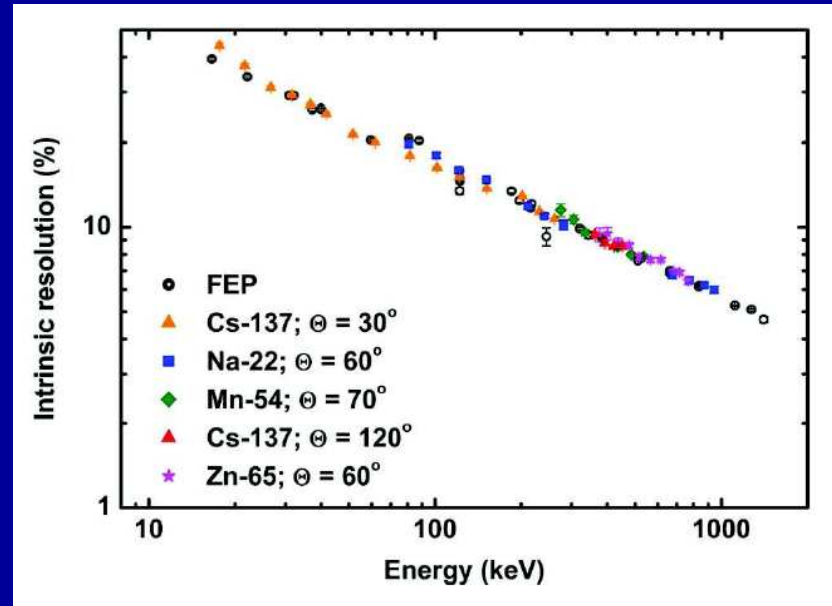


Non-proportionality of LaBr₃ and NaI(Tl)

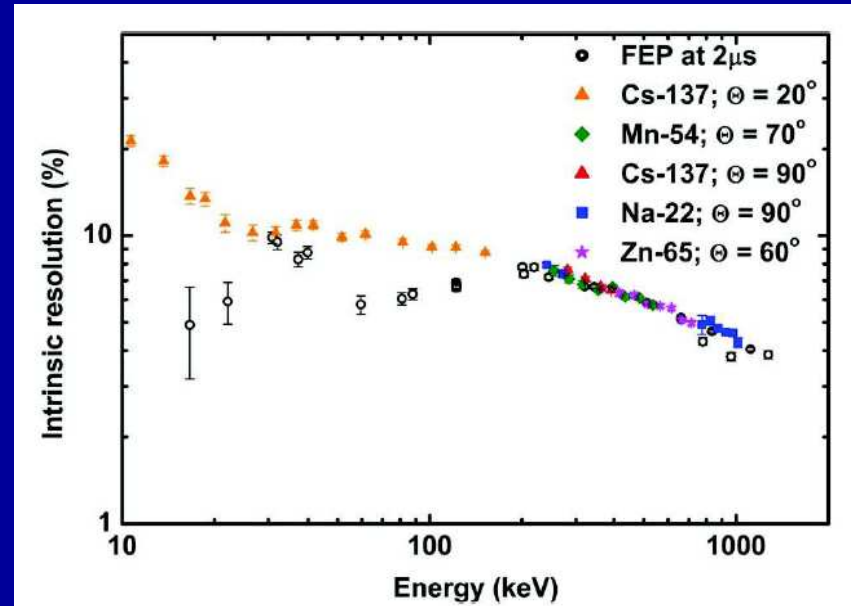


Intrinsic resolution of LaBr₃ and NaI(Tl)

Intrinsic resolution of scintillators



LYSO – $2 \times 2 \times 2 \text{ cm}^3$

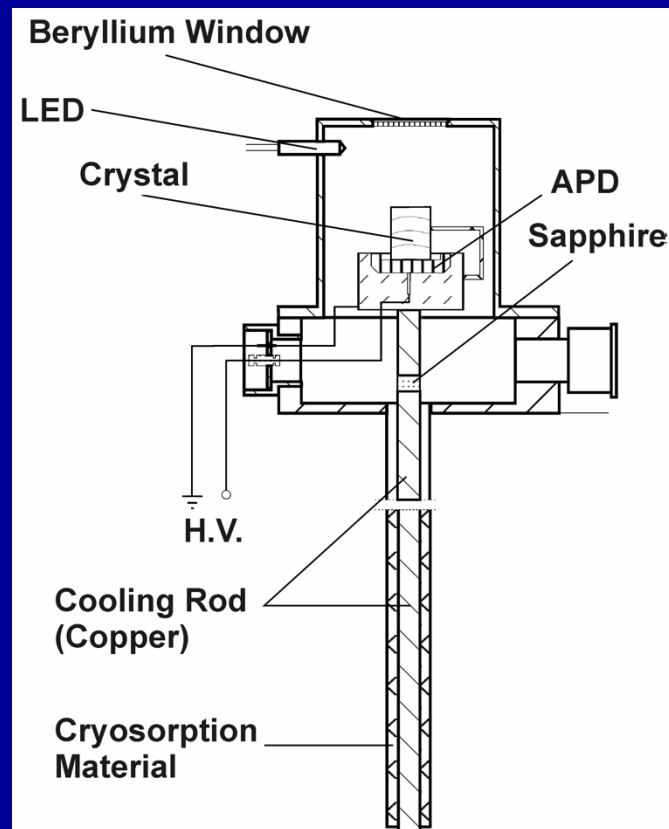


CsI(Tl) – $\varnothing 1'' \times 1''$

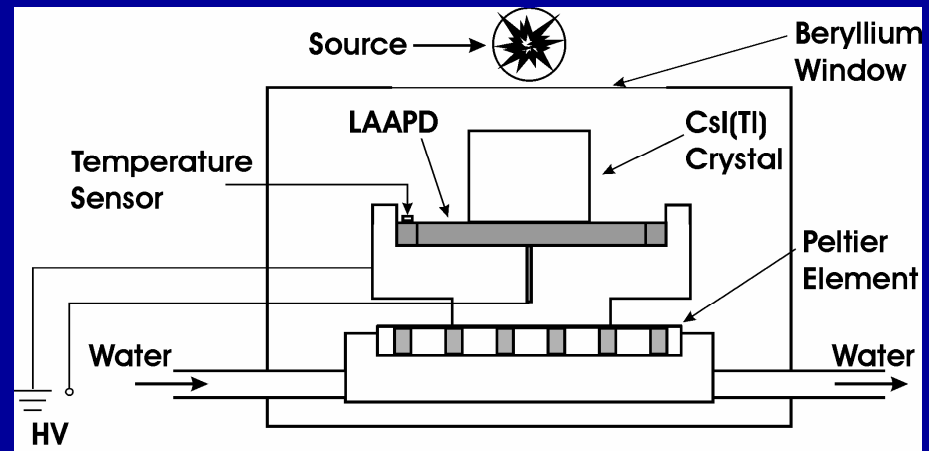
Mesured energy resolution corrected for the photoelectron statistic.

Gamma spectrometry at low temperatures

LN₂ temperature

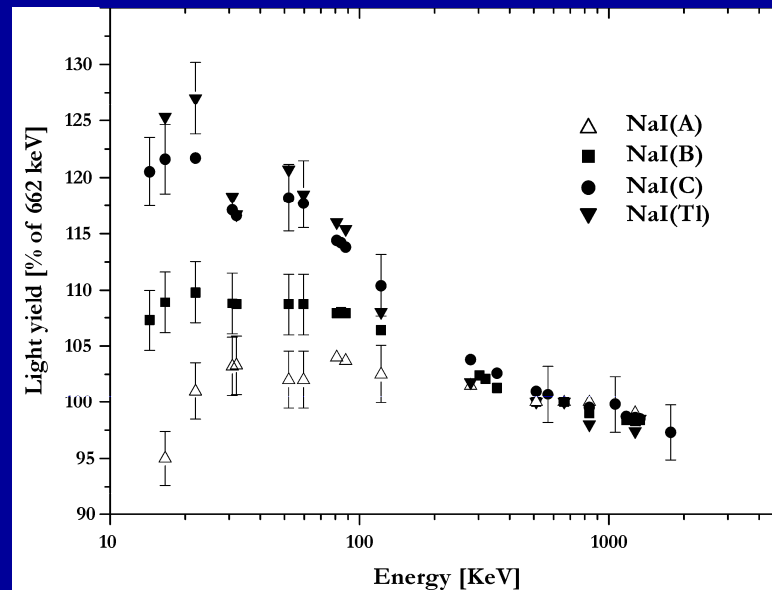


Cryostat with NaI coupled to LAAPD

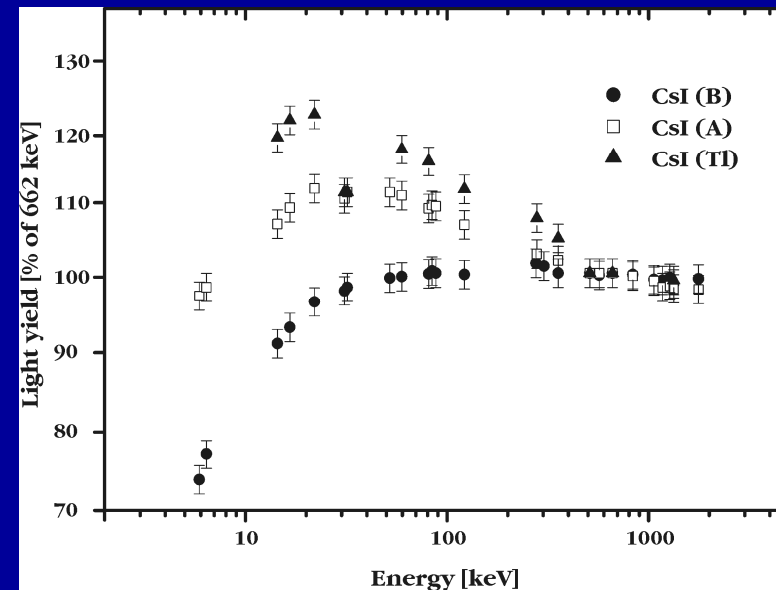


Temperatures down to $-40\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$

Non-proportionality of undoped NaI and CsI at liquid nitrogen temperature

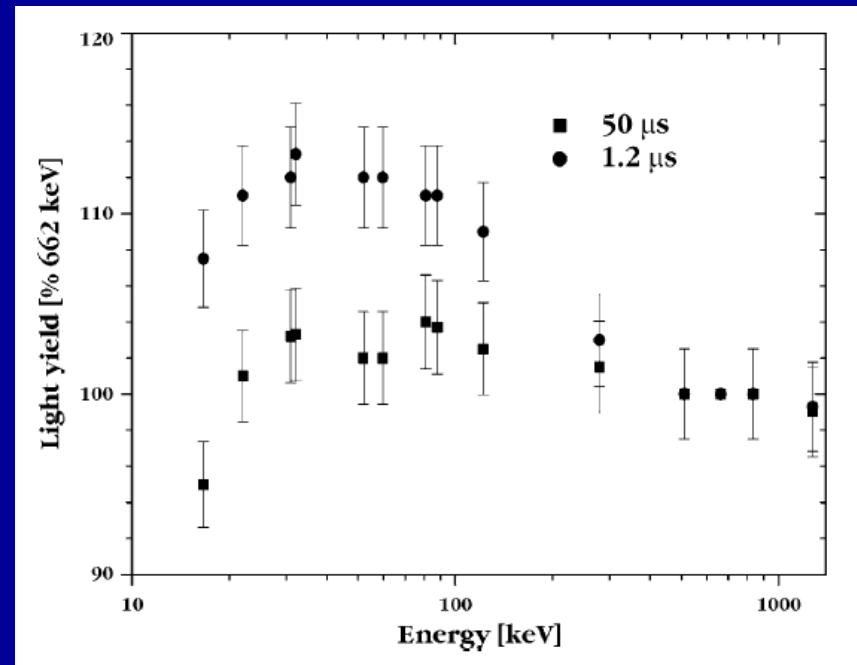
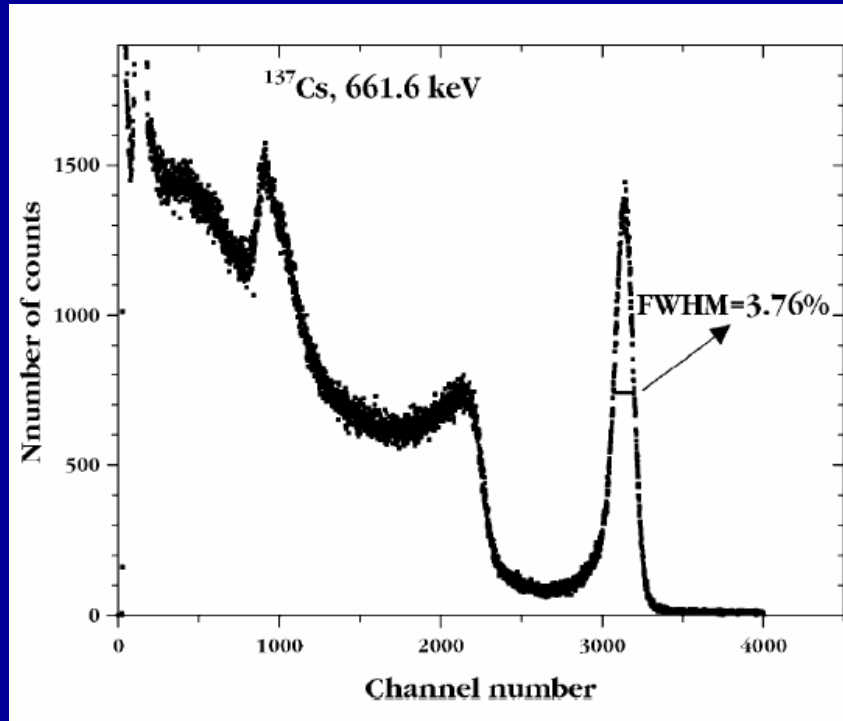


Undoped NaI and standard NaI(Tl)



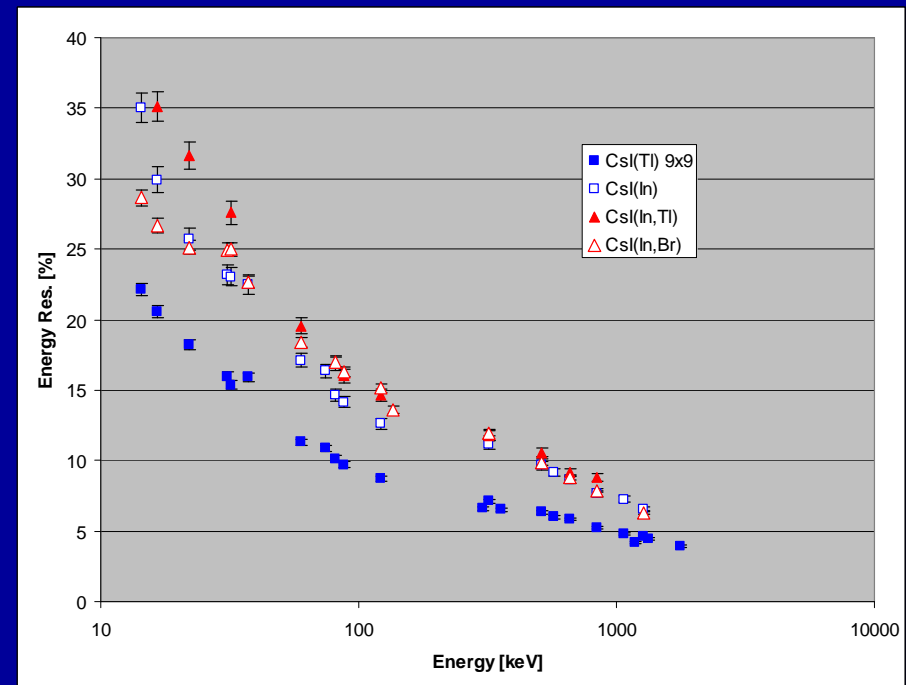
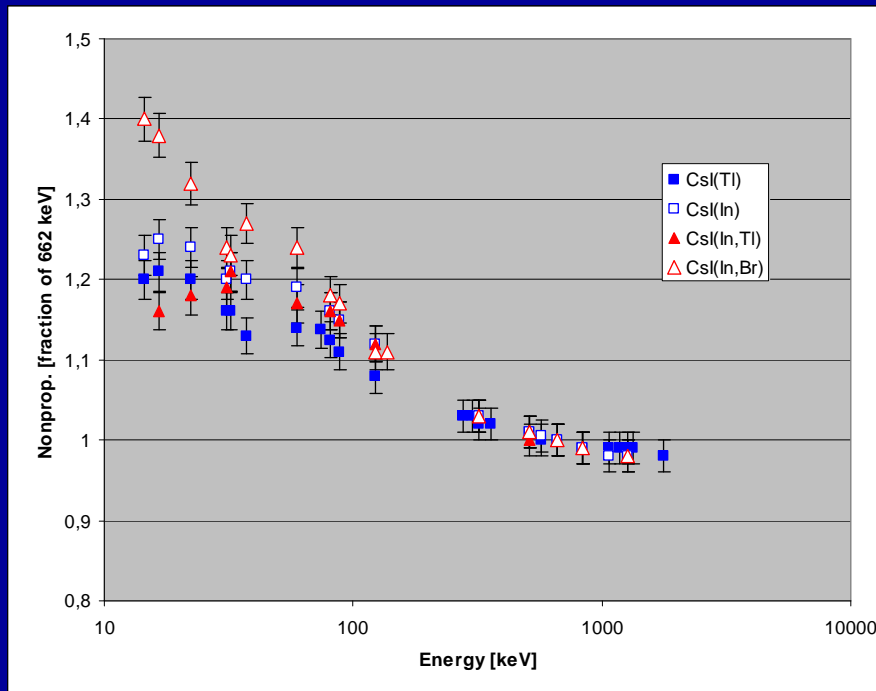
Undoped CsI and standard CsI(Tl)

Udoped NaI at LN₂ temperature



Exceptional sample of undoped NaI. Integration of the slow component up to 50 μs improves dramatically energy resolution, see non-proportionality characteristics.

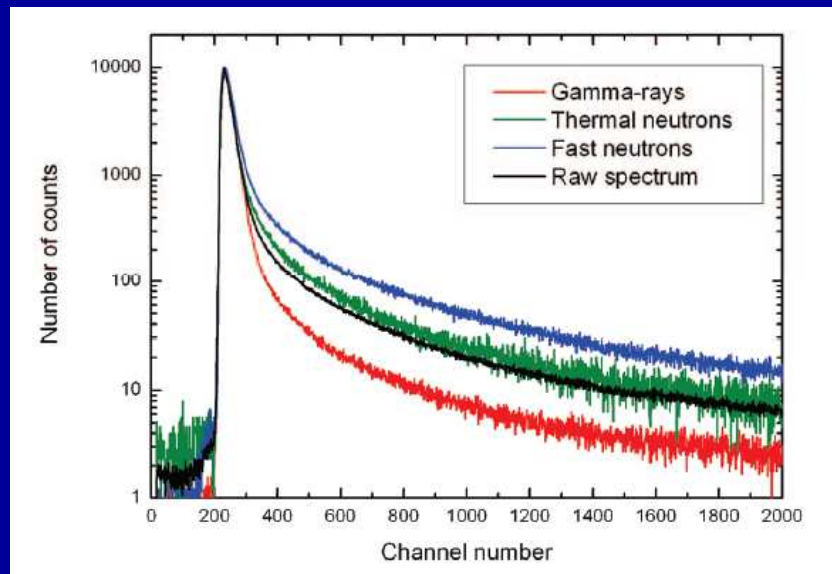
Modified CsI crystals from Alex Gektin



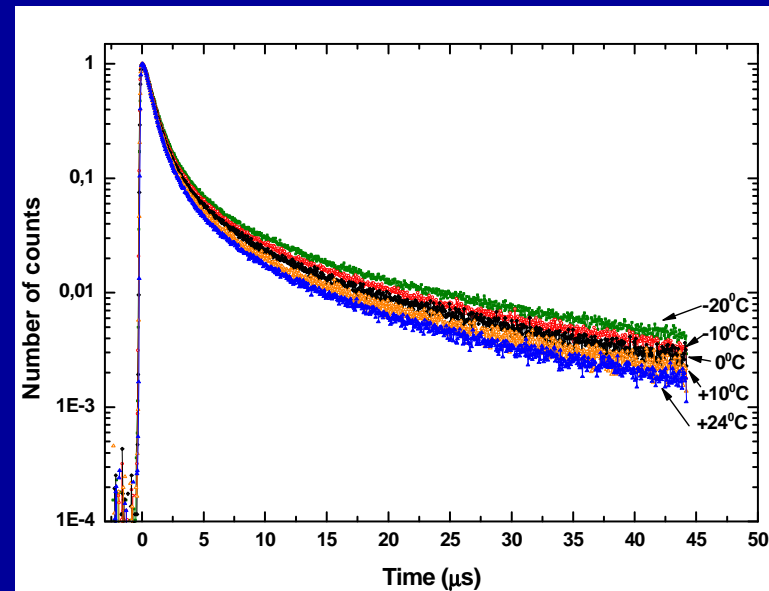
Note an influence of doping agents or codoping on the non-proportionality characteristics

Light pulse shape of scintillators

Single photon method



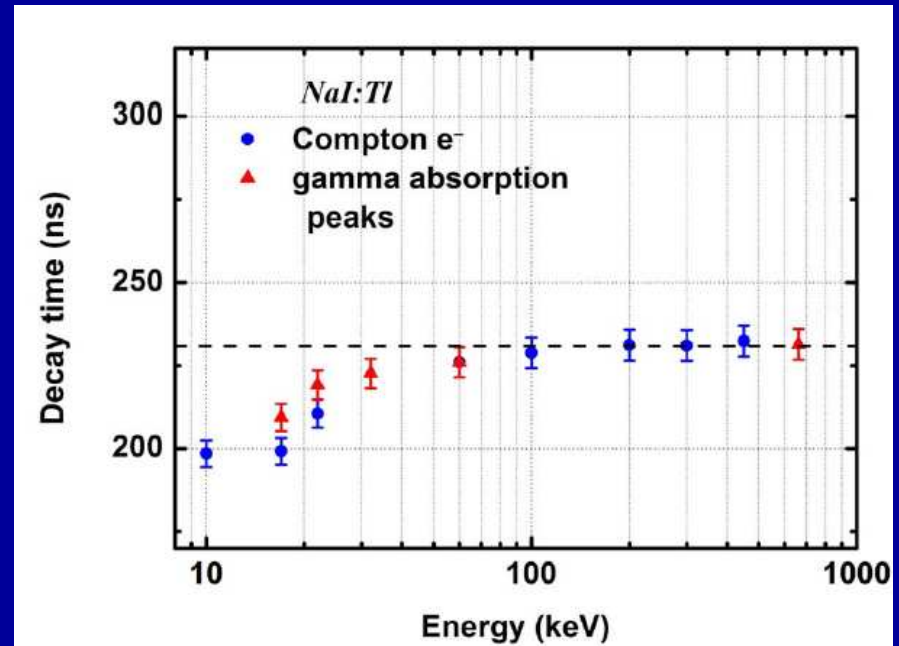
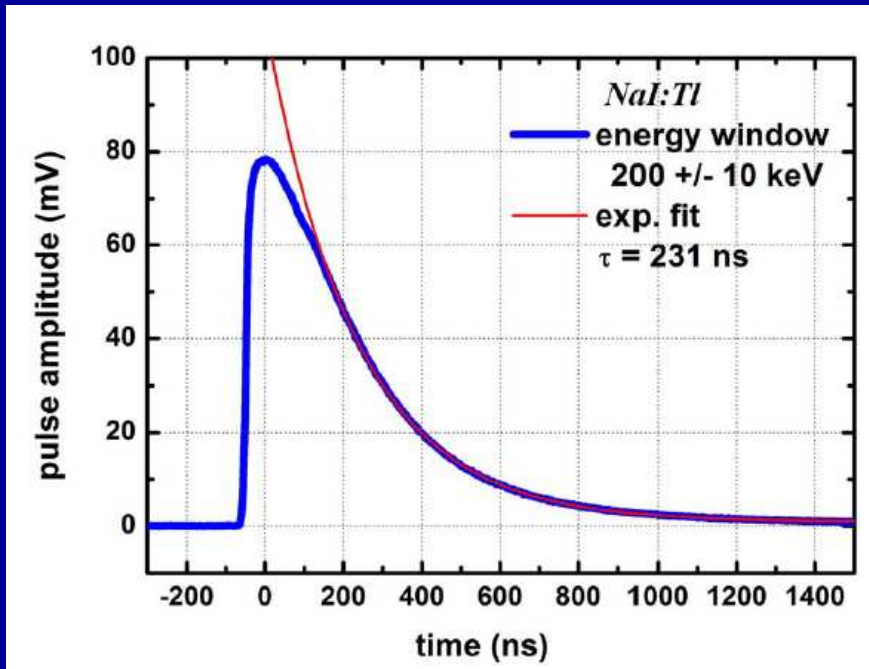
Light pulse shape of BC523A liquid scintillators due to γ -rays, thermal and fast neutrons.



Light pulse shape of CsI(Tl) at different temperatures down to $-20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$.

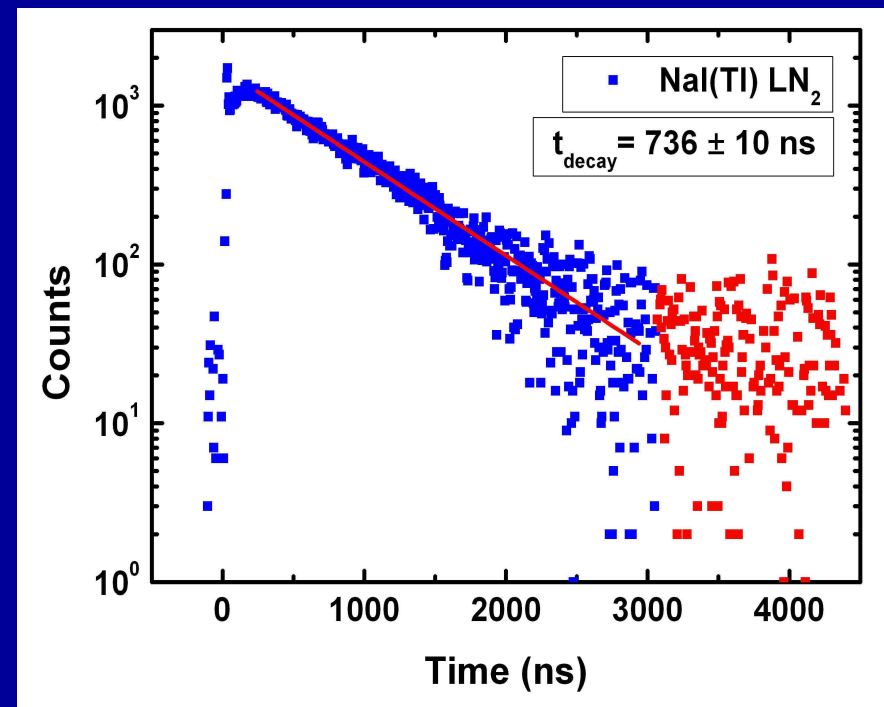
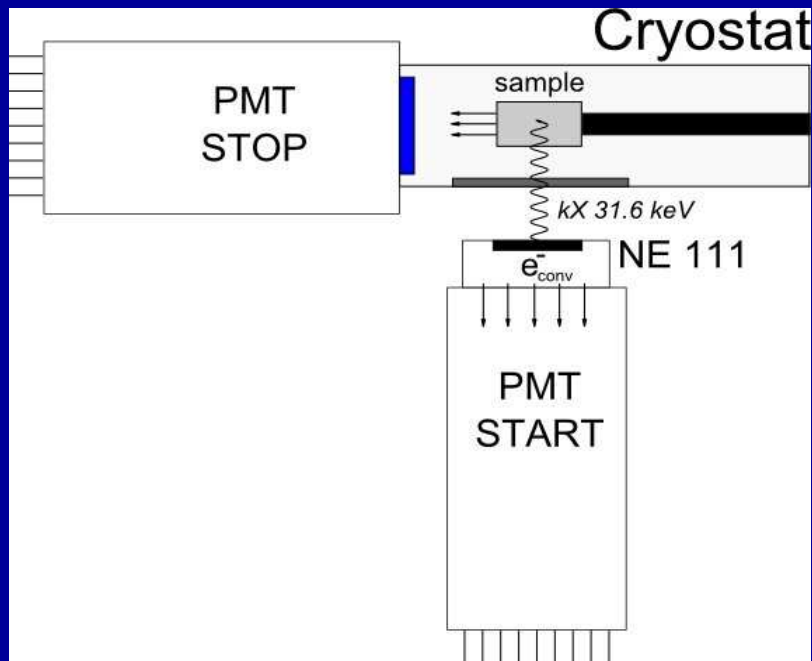
Light pulse shape of scintillators

Digital scope method

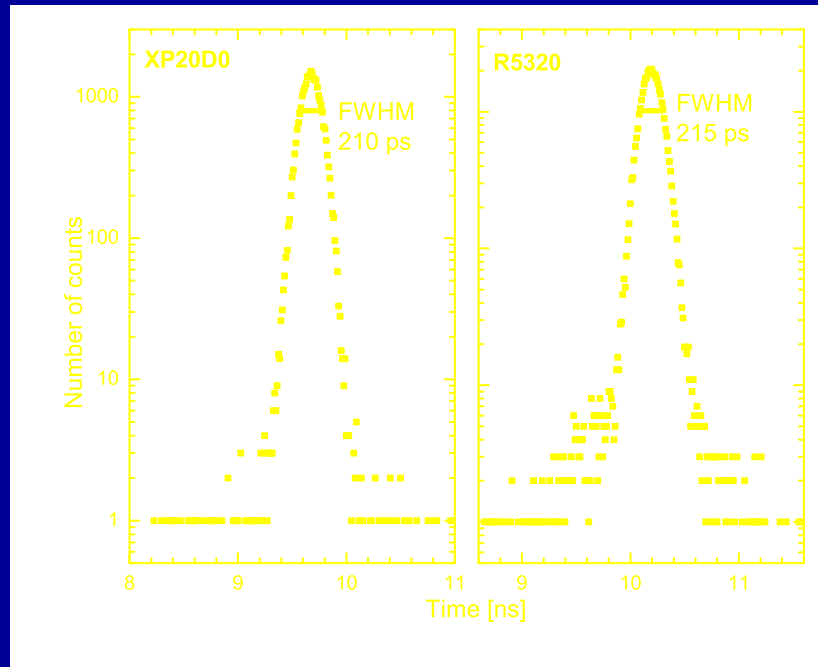


Decay times measured by digital scope gated by full energy peaks and Compton electrons of different energies.

Light pulse shape at LN₂ temperature



Fast timing



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