



First measurements at the DAΦNE ϕ -factory with the DEAR experimental setup

M. Augsburg^a, A.M. Bragadireanu^{b,1}, J.-P. Egger^c, B. Gartner^d, C. Guaraldo^b,
M.A. Iliescu^{b,1}, R. King^d, B. Lauss^{b,2,*}, C. Petrascu^{b,1}, J. Zmeskal^d

^aUniversité de Fribourg, Institute de Physique, Bd. de Perolles, CH-1700 Fribourg, Switzerland

^bINFN - Laboratori Nazionali di Frascati, C.P.13, Via E.Fermi 40, I-00044 Frascati, Italy

^cUniversité de Neuchâtel, Institute de Physique, 1 rue A.-L. Breguet, CH-2000 Neuchâtel, Switzerland

^dInstitute for Medium Energy Physics, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Boltzmanngasse 3, A-1090 Vienna, Austria

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Abstract

The relevant background for the DEAR experiment – low-energy X rays and ionizing particles – present in the DEAR interaction region of the DAΦNE e^+e^- collider was investigated using the first-stage DEAR setup and CCD detectors. An extensive Monte Carlo simulation was performed for the present setup and beam conditions. Good quantitative agreement between measurements and simulation was achieved. This is a confirmation that, with respect to the expected background, which gives an important contribution to the statistical precision of the experiment, the configuration chosen to measure the strong interaction shift and width in kaonic hydrogen and kaonic deuterium can indeed reach the planned level of accuracy. © 2000 Elsevier Science B.V. All rights reserved.

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1. Introduction

A new era in the field of low-energy kaon physics will begin with the start of the DAΦNE accelerator

*Corresponding author. Tel.: + 39-06-9403-2407; fax: + 39-06-9403-2559.

E-mail address: lauss@lnf.infn.it (B. Lauss).

¹On leave from Institute of Physics and Nuclear Engineering “Horia Hulubei”, Dept. of High Energy Physics, P.O. Box MG-6, R-76900 Magurele, Bucharest, Romania.

²On leave from Institute for Medium Energy Physics, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Boltzmanngasse 3, A-1090 Vienna, Austria

at the Frascati National Laboratories (LNF). DAΦNE is a low-energy e^+e^- collider (0.51 GeV per beam), with a designed luminosity of $5 \times 10^{32}/\text{cm}^2 \text{ s}$ in the 120-bunch mode at a current of 5 A [1], which will deliver kaons with low momentum spread ($\Delta p/p \cong 0.1\%$) and high purity ($\pi:K$ ratio $\cong 1:1$).

The objective of the DEAR³ experiment is the determination of the isospin dependent $\bar{K}N$ scattering lengths via the measurement of the strong interaction shifts (with a precision of about

³DEAR = DAΦNE Exotic Atom Research.

1%) and widths (with a precision of a few percent) of the kaonic hydrogen and for the first time of the kaonic deuterium K-series lines [2,3]. In practice, in the case of kaonic hydrogen, the K_{α} line is the most important one for the determination of the shift and width of the 1s level. The detection of the corresponding transition X-rays at an energy of approximately 6.15 keV is an inalienable prerequisite.

The main challenge of DEAR is to detect a very weak X-ray signal out of the background of an e^+e^- collider with high statistics and high precision. Previous experiments [4–6] were unable to detect unambiguously the kaonic hydrogen K_{α} line, while the experiment which only recently observed these X-rays for the first time (KpX at KEK [7]) has only 114 counts in the K_{α} peak.

In order to overcome the background problem, Charge-Coupled Devices (CCDs) are used as X-ray detectors. CCDs are characterized by a good-energy resolution and an unprecedented background rejection capability.

As the huge background was the main limiting factor for all previous experiments, strong efforts have been dedicated to the theoretical study of the expected background at the DAΦNE collider (see in Refs. [2,3]). The work described in this paper had a twofold aim: to understand, on one side, the behaviour of a setup based on CCD detectors used for the first time in the environment of a low-energy and high-current collider such as DAΦNE, and to check the Monte Carlo routines written ad hoc to describe the processes involved in a kaonic atom measurement.

The first goal, working in the experimental conditions of a machine in its first stages of commissioning (characterized, in particular, by low injection efficiency and far from optimum vacuum conditions) was reached. The CCD detectors could then be studied at extreme background levels.

The fact that the simulation could reproduce, also quantitatively, the observed features of the interaction region with circulating beams, makes an accurate assessment of the expected background, which principally determines the statistical precision of the experiment. With respect to the latter, the measurements therefore demonstrate that the configuration chosen to measure the strong

interaction shifts and widths in kaonic hydrogen and kaonic deuterium on DAΦNE can indeed reach the planned level of accuracy [2,3].

The measurements were performed with the DEAR setup constructed for the detection of kaonic nitrogen lines, which represents the first stage of the experimental program.

2. Experimental setup

The scientific program of DEAR will be developed in two stages: with an NTP⁴ target and with a cryogenic target (hydrogen and deuterium).

The NTP target consists of a pure nitrogen volume at room temperature. The purpose is to measure background, compare it to the Monte Carlo calculation, and tune the degrader thickness by optimizing the signal from the kaonic nitrogen transitions $7 \rightarrow 6$ at ~ 4.5 keV and $6 \rightarrow 5$ at ~ 7.5 keV. The yields of these lines are higher (about ten times) than that of the kaonic hydrogen K_{α} line, so faster feedback is possible. It will be the first measurement of X-rays emitted during the cascade of kaons in nitrogen.

For the measurement of kaonic hydrogen and kaonic deuterium, a pressurized cryogenic gaseous target was developed, to achieve a balance between high kaon stopping in the target cell and decreasing X-ray yield due to Stark mixing. The initial target conditions will be a hydrogen pressure of 3 bar and temperature of 25 K. This will result in a target density of 3.6×10^{-3} g/cm³ ($\approx 32 \rho_{\text{NTP}}$). According to cascade calculations [8] and the recent KEK result [7], the expected yield of K_{α} X-rays per stopped kaon in these conditions is (1–3%), depending on the selected values of the cascade parameters.

A photo and a schematical view of the NTP setup used for the measurements discussed in this work is shown in Fig. 1. The gas volume is a cubic box made of pure aluminum (30 cm \times 30 cm \times 35 cm), 1.5 cm thick, placed above the specially designed DEAR beam pipe [9] in the DEAR interaction region. The chamber walls are positioned at

⁴NTP = normal temperature pressure.

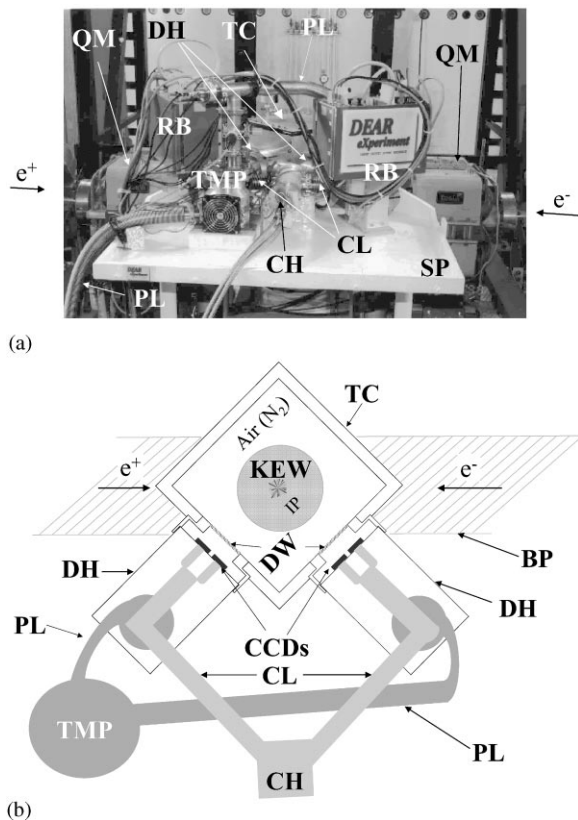


Fig. 1. (a) The installed NTP setup in the DAΦNE hall as seen from inside the rings. (b) Schematic drawing (view from above) of the NTP setup located in the DEAR interaction region above the interaction point in the DAΦNE experimental hall. The setup platform and the magnets of the accelerator are omitted in the drawing for clarity. The displayed components of the experiment are: RB — readout box (CCD electronics), TMP — turbo-molecular pump, CH — cooling head, CL — cooling line, PL — pumping line, TC — target chamber, DH — detector housing, QM — quadrupole magnet, BP — beam pipe, KEW — kaon entrance window, DW — detector window, IP — interaction point, SP — setup platform.

an angle of 45° with respect to the beam axis. Two CCD detectors with box-shaped housings made of aluminum, each one containing two CCD chips are plugged into two circular openings of the two chamber walls which are on the inner side of the DAΦNE main rings. The CCDs operate in a vacuum of 10^{-5} mbar at a temperature of ~ 170 K. An APD Cryotiger compressor is used to cool the CCDs to the working temperature [10]. Two

$50 \mu\text{m}$ thick Kapton windows separate the CCDs' vacuum from the target chamber, which is filled with nitrogen at NTP or simply air, as in the background measurements. The vacuum of the detector housings is maintained with a turbomolecular pump, placed on the experimental platform and connected, via two ~ 50 cm long tubes, with the detector housings. The vacuum pump is placed on the floor of the experimental area ~ 4 m away.

The target chamber and the CCD detectors were shielded with lead and copper for most of the performed measurements in the following way:

- a layer of lead, 2 cm thick, covered by a layer of copper, 1 cm thick, the latter to shield possible background due to lead fluorescence, were placed beneath the target, having an aperture corresponding to the entrance window of the target cell, which consists of a $190 \mu\text{m}$ thick Hostaphan and a $100 \mu\text{m}$ thick aluminum foil. Copper fluorescence was shielded effectively by the thick aluminum target walls and detector housings;
- a layer of lead bricks, 5 cm thick, and a layer of copper, 1 cm thick, were placed on the DEAR platform, all around the target and the detector housings;
- small bags filled with lead shot of ~ 1 mm diameter and with lead powder were placed in all free spaces around the NTP setup;
- a 2 mm thick layer of pure aluminum foil covered the inside of the shielding aperture beneath the kaon entrance window.

The active areas of the detectors were located ~ 142 mm above the beam pipe, at ~ 187 mm vertical distance from the interaction point.

To provide an on-line energy calibration, pure zirconium (and, for the measurements with the unshielded setup, also pure titanium) foils were put inside the target on the sides, the bottom and the top of the target chamber. For the unshielded setup $\sim 600 \text{ cm}^2$ Zr foils and $\sim 1000 \text{ cm}^2$ Ti foils were attached; for the shielded setup the Ti foils were removed and further $\sim 300 \text{ cm}^2$ Zr foils were added. The remaining inner aluminum surface totaled $\sim 3800 \text{ cm}^2$ for the shielded and $\sim 3100 \text{ cm}^2$ for the unshielded setup.

3. CCD detectors

The DEAR experiment employs Charge-Coupled Devices (CCDs) as X-ray detectors, which have already been used successfully to investigate X-rays originating from exotic atoms [11–14].

The NTP target is equipped with two CCD detectors, each one containing two CCD-05-20-207 chips manufactured by English Electric Valve.⁵ Each of these chips has $770 \times 1152 \approx 887\,000$ square-shaped pixels, each one of $22.5\ \mu\text{m}$ in sidelength and with a $30\ \mu\text{m}$ depletion layer. The chip surface is $17 \times 26\ \text{mm}^2 \approx 4.5\ \text{cm}^2$. The intrinsic X-ray detection efficiency for the CCD-05 chips peaks (85%) at about 4 keV.

To speed up readout, each chip is electronically split into two halves. The readout of the CCD chip lasts about $64\ \mu\text{s}$ per pixel to guarantee an excellent charge transfer efficiency and therefore a very good-energy resolution for X-rays. This adds up in total to $\sim 28\ \text{s}$ for the two chips of a detector, which are read in parallel. Up to four chips can be read out simultaneously with the employed electronics. A typical exposure period for the CCDs in the discussed measurements was 10 min, after which a CCD “image” was read out. A description of the main features of this special silicon MOS structure detector and readout system can be found in Refs. [15–17].

The great advantage of this device for the detection of a weak signal of low-energy X-rays in the presence of a huge background consists in its great background rejection capability. This is based on its pixel structure which allows one to apply a selection based on topological and statistical criteria [18].

A selected “single-pixel”, that is a pixel with charge content above a selected noise threshold, surrounded by eight neighbor pixels displaying charge contents below that threshold, is considered to be an X-ray hit. This is explained by the fact that a large fraction of the charge created by the interaction of X-rays with energies between 1 and 20 keV is restricted to the $30\ \mu\text{m}$ thick depletion layer, from where it can be collected by the three

electrodes which create one independent potential well which defines a pixel. By far the most important mechanism at these energies is the photoelectric effect.

Hits of more than one pixel are called “clusters” and they are considered to be mainly caused by charged particles traversing the silicon chip and producing by ionization charges also in the bulk material of the chip where these charges can diffuse to neighboring electrodes and thus create multi-pixel events. Also neutral particles and high-energy γ -rays, which are numerous present in the interaction region, can contribute to the amount of clusters due to their production of secondary particles and subsequent electromagnetic cascades.

The employed analysis routines allow us to scan CCD “images”, and sort out hits of various cluster sizes. For the present work, only the differentiation between single-pixel events (X-rays) and multi-pixel events (clusters) is important.

4. Monte Carlo simulation of the background

The reliability of any simulations depends critically on its performance at very low energies. In particular, the behavior of photons, electrons and positrons must be accurate below the 10 keV low-energy cut-off of the standard CERN GEANT3 simulation package [19]. Therefore, a modification of the 3.21 code of GEANT3 [20] was performed. The physical processes in the DAΦNE interaction region and in the DEAR setup which are of interest for the DEAR experiment were simulated, with the aim to optimize the geometry (dimensions, shielding, etc.) and to check the performance (counting rate, background level, etc.).

As far as the signal is concerned, the program generates the primary ϕ mesons produced in e^+e^- collisions, taking into account the electron and positron energy spread and beam dimensions in the crossing point. The ϕ mesons are then allowed to decay to all relevant final states according to the known branching ratios.

Decay particles are followed through the experimental setup allowing for energy loss and multiple scattering. They are then allowed to interact both

⁵ English Electric Valve (EEV), Waterhouse Lane, Chelmsford, Essex CM12QU, UK.

electromagnetically (generating e.m. showers) and hadronically or simply to decay.

An X-ray of approximately 6.15 keV is generated for each K^- stopping inside the hydrogen target according to the yield of the $2p \rightarrow 1s$ transition [7,8]. X-rays are then followed through the setup and registered when arriving on the CCD detectors.

The X-ray background in the region of the signal has two main sources: background generated by ϕ -decay products, among which an important role is played by the hadronic interaction of the stopped K^- . This has been defined as the “hadronic background”. The second source is the “machine background”, consisting of the products of the electromagnetic cascades generated by the electrons and positrons lost from the primary beams circulating in the rings. One result of the simulation is that the “machine background” is the dominant (98%) contributor to the total background.

In a low-energy machine like DAΦNE, the dominant cause of particle losses is Touschek scattering (elastic Coulomb scattering between two particles within the same bunch). The cross section for this effect is proportional to $1/\gamma^3$, with $\gamma = E/mc^2$. Touschek scattering results in a change of the longitudinal momentum of the two particles: one loses and the other gains the same fraction δ of momentum. If the change exceeds the acceptance of the ring, the particle is lost. All particles which undergo Touschek scattering follow similar trajectories, i.e., with the same betatron oscillation phase and an amplitude proportional to the momentum deviation δ . Since they are in the horizontal plane, in a narrow cone of about 20 mrad, it is possible to reduce this type of background by inserting beam scrapers made by 3.5 mm tungsten – about 10 radiation lengths – upstream of the splitter magnet of each interaction region, to remove the large-amplitude particles. After tracking Touschek scattered particles from the upstream arcs of the ring to the end of the interaction region [21–23], momentum and coordinate distributions were used as input for the DEAR Monte Carlo simulation.

The second source of particle losses is the beam–gas interaction. The two main processes which characterize the interaction of the circulating beams of electrons and positrons with the residual gas inside the machine pipe are Coulomb scattering

and Bremsstrahlung on gas. A sophisticated simulation of the beam–gas interaction was performed [24] and also used as input for the DEAR Monte Carlo simulation.

During the present work, ϕ -particle production did not occur in the DEAR interaction point and, therefore, the “hadronic background” and eventual background from beam–beam dynamics could not affect the measurements. Accordingly, it was not considered in the simulation. Beam intensity and vacuum conditions were taken from the DAΦNE beam monitor [25].

As the beam scrapers were not closed during the considered measurements, the main part of the background particles was expected to originate from Touschek scattering. This was confirmed by the simulation, which ascribed the main beam losses ($\sim 80\%$) to the Touschek effect. The accuracy of the Monte Carlo simulation was estimated to be about 10%.

5. Background measurements and comparison with simulation

As seen in the section dedicated to the detector, the two different types of background which affect the CCDs – ionizing particles and soft X-rays – appear as cluster events and single-pixel hits, respectively.

Cluster events can be rejected by the employed analysis method but, with an increasing number of hits, the X-ray detection efficiency decreases. In other words: the CCDs become “blind”. As the CCDs are time-integrating detectors, one should select the exposure time to guarantee only small occupancies.⁶ A typical run which still guarantees a good detection efficiency has less than 5% of all pixels hit. As the readout time cannot be shorter than ~ 28 s, an evaluation of the overall background is also necessary to determine the level of “blindness” of the CCDs and therefore the exposure time. Consequently, the amount of shielding to allow acceptable working conditions can be deduced as well.

⁶ The occupancy of a CCD detector is defined as the number of pixels which show a hit divided by the total number of pixels.

Background X-rays cannot be rejected and therefore must be reduced by shielding the setup. They originate in the particles lost from the beams which give rise to e.m. showers whose final products reach the CCDs' surface, or excite the materials of the setup creating electronic X-rays. To eliminate the latter, it should be carefully checked that no peak is present in the region of interest of the energy spectrum. The material used for the DEAR target and detector housings was selected to be highly pure (99.99%) aluminum. Contents of manganese, iron or copper would create very disrupting background lines and severely affect the measurement of the kaonic hydrogen X-rays. Background X-rays come as well from the non-machine (in the absence of any beam) background, i.e. cosmic rays, natural radioactivity present in the volcanic rocks of the Castellino Romani region, where Frascati is located, etc.

Finally, one should mention that depending on the energy of the X-ray and on the thickness of the CCDs' depletion layer, soft X-rays may also create multi-pixel, mostly double-pixel, hits [26].

The following types of beams were monitored in the period from March to July 1999:

- (i) only electron beam,
- (ii) only positron beam, and
- (iii) electron and positron beams at the same time, but separated in the DEAR interaction region.

Most of the measurements were performed with full shielding.

5.1. No beam background cluster observation

A quantitative measurement of the beam-induced background obtained by observing the number of clusters created in the CCD chips.

The given numbers of clusters have been corrected for the non-machine background. In a period without beams in DAΦNE, measurements of the non-machine background rate with the installed NTP setup were performed [27,28]. The corresponding rates were found to be

~3.8 clusters/half-CCD/min for the setup without shielding,

~2.7 clusters/half-CCD/min for the setup with shielding.

Preliminary background studies – with only one CCD detector, without target cell, and the configuration of the interaction region adopted for machine commissioning (“Day-One”) – were done during the first beams circulating in DAΦNE [27,29].

During all the measurements, simulations have been used to improve the detector performance [30–32].

5.1.1. Background from circulating beams

In the following, some examples of the performed measurements and their comparison with the DEAR Monte Carlo simulation are given. The simulation took into account beam intensity, beam lifetime and vacuum conditions. The average vacuum of the DAΦNE main rings in the considered beam periods was between 10^{-8} and 10^{-9} mbar, mainly depending on beam intensities.

Figs. 2b and 3b show the number of clusters per half-CCD per minute observed with electron beams circulating in DAΦNE. The time dependence is given in correlation with the injection time of the beam into the accelerator ring. The time between two adjacent data points represents the exposure time (readout time) of the CCDs, which was 10 min.

The time behavior of the number of clusters follows the time behavior of the injected electrons, as given by the DAΦNE beam monitor [25] (reported in Figs. 2a and 3a). However, the observed time constant of the clusters' behavior τ_c is actually different from the beam lifetime τ . Indeed, as a general rule deduced from the experimental data, it turns out that, for the various analyzed beam periods, τ_c is smaller than τ by a factor 1.2–2.0.

An investigation similar to that done for electron beams was undertaken in the case of only positrons circulating in the DAΦNE main rings. The corresponding results of the number of clusters per half-CCD per minute are reported together with the respective beam intensities in Figs. 4 and 5 and compared with the simulations. The simulations agree with the measurements, although the agreement is not as good as for electron beams. In particular, the simulation slightly underestimates systematically the measured values of background and, therefore, the effective beam losses. This can probably be ascribed to the fact that the present

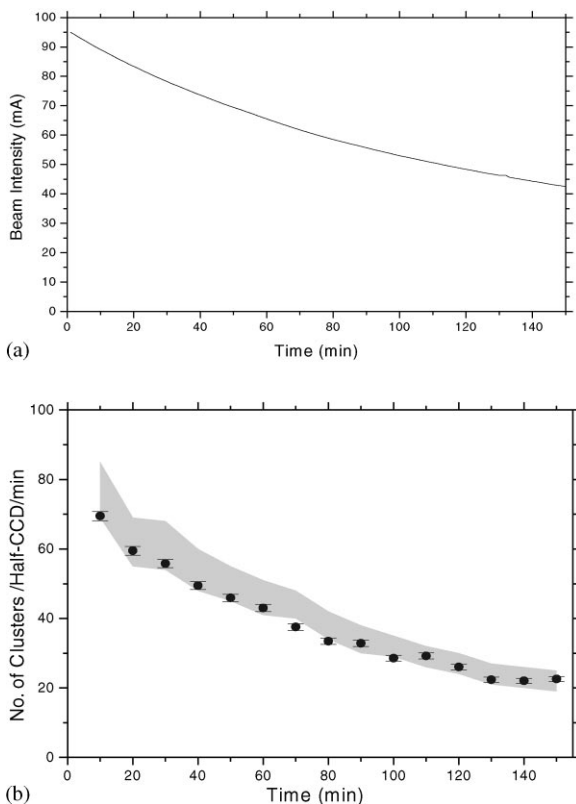


Fig. 2. (a) Electron beam intensity for the period 0:47–3:17 a.m. on 6 June 1999, with only electrons circulating in the DAΦNE main rings, as reported by the DAΦNE beam monitor [25]. (b) Observed number of clusters per half-CCD per minute (filled dots) during the corresponding beam period. The shaded area shows the results of the DEAR Monte Carlo simulation.

situation of optimizing the machine towards higher luminosity is not fully described by the Monte Carlo. In fact, the two beams are maintained separated in the interaction region where collisions do not occur, i.e. on the DEAR side, and shifted in opposite directions with respect to the magnetic axis, also when they circulate alone. Now it happens that the positron orbit is slightly more shifted than the electron one, a fact that is not taken into account by the Monte Carlo simulation. Due to the above-mentioned characteristics of the Touschek effect this increases positron losses. Indeed, in the observed beam periods the positron beam lifetime was shorter than that for electron beams.

The deviation from the simulation in the first data point of Figs. 4b is caused by a general effect of

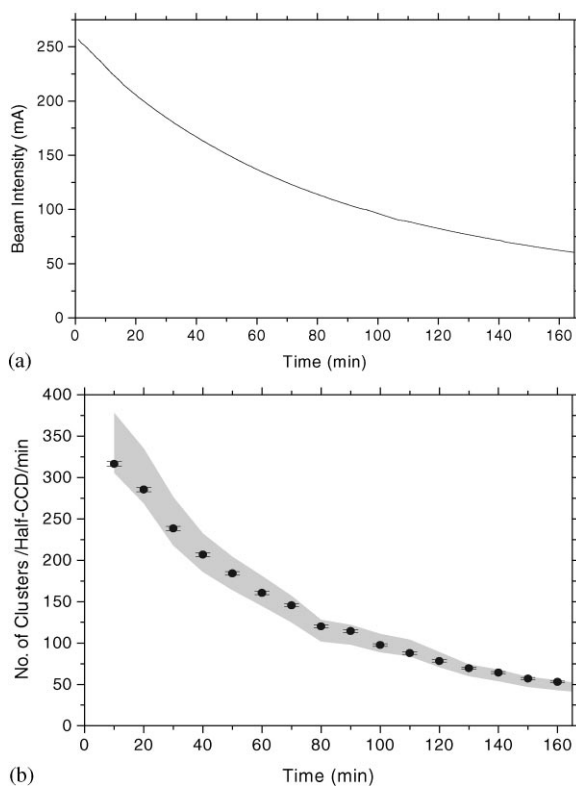


Fig. 3. (a) Electron beam intensity (mA) for the period 6:21–9:01 a.m. on 27 June 1999, with only electrons circulating in the DAΦNE main rings, as reported by the DAΦNE beam monitor [25]. (b) Observed number of clusters per half-CCD per minute (filled circles) during the corresponding beam period. The shaded area shows the results of the DEAR Monte Carlo simulation.

CCD saturation due to high beam losses shortly after beam injection for the cases of poor injection efficiency. This high beam losses are reflected in a high CCD occupancy. A higher absolute number of clusters per CCD “image” enhances the probability that actually different clusters are located as neighboring clusters. They are therefore indistinguishable for our analysis routines and counted as one cluster only [28]. This saturation effect decreases therefore the measured background rate (number of clusters), and, consequently, the simulation overestimates in this case the rate. The unpredictable behavior of the machine concerning the injection efficiency could obviously not be taken into account by the simulation.

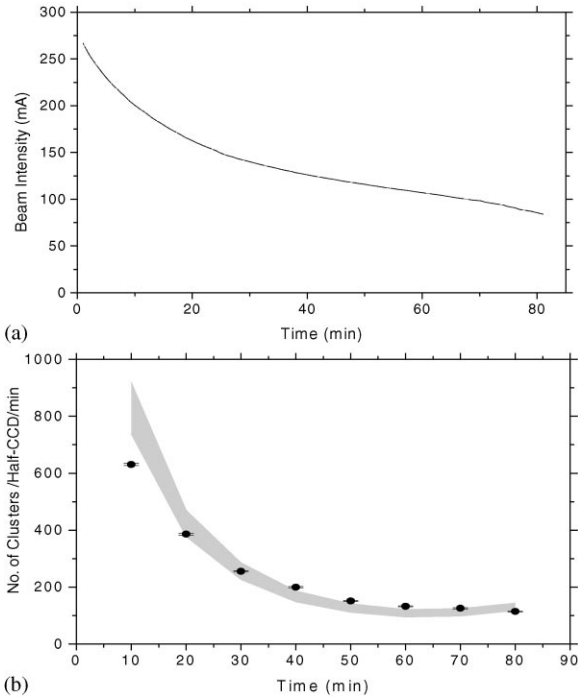


Fig. 4. (a) Positron beam intensity for the period 1:01–2:21 a.m. on 28 June 1999, with only positrons circulating in the DAΦNE main rings, as reported by the DAΦNE beam monitor [25]. (b) Observed number of clusters per half-CCD per minute (filled circles) during the corresponding beam period. The shaded area shows the results of the DEAR Monte Carlo simulation. The deviation of the first point is attributed to a high CCD occupancy [28].

In Fig. 5b, which reports a beam period just following that one reported in Fig. 4b, no deviation of the first data point from the simulation is apparent. This might be ascribed to an improvement of the injection efficiency which caused reduced beam losses compared to the previous beam period.

Finally, the background induced by two beams, electrons and positrons, circulating at the same time in the DAΦNE rings, but both being geometrically separated in the DEAR interaction region, is reported in Figs. 6b and 7b and compared with the corresponding simulations. The corresponding beam intensities are displayed in Figs. 6a and 7a for electrons and positrons. These measurements are also well reproduced by the Monte Carlo simulations. The deviation of the first data point in Fig. 7b must again be ascribed to CCD saturation due

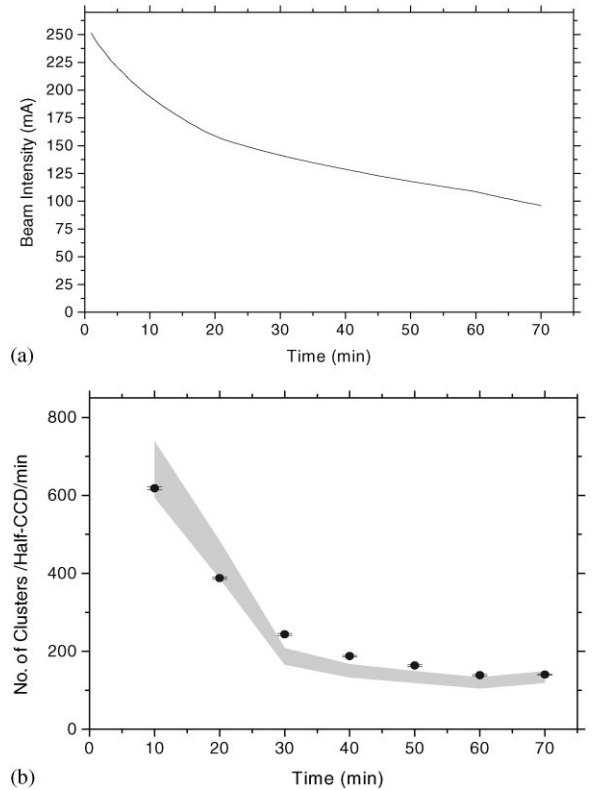


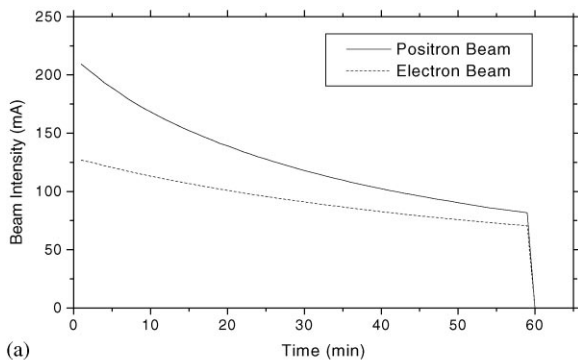
Fig. 5. (a) Positron beam intensity for the period 3:21–4:31 a.m. on 28 June 1999, with only positrons circulating in the DAΦNE main rings, as reported by the DAΦNE beam monitor [25]. (b) Observed number of clusters per half-CCD per minute (filled circles) during the corresponding beam period. The shaded area shows the results of the DEAR Monte Carlo simulation.

to high beam losses caused by a poor injection efficiency.

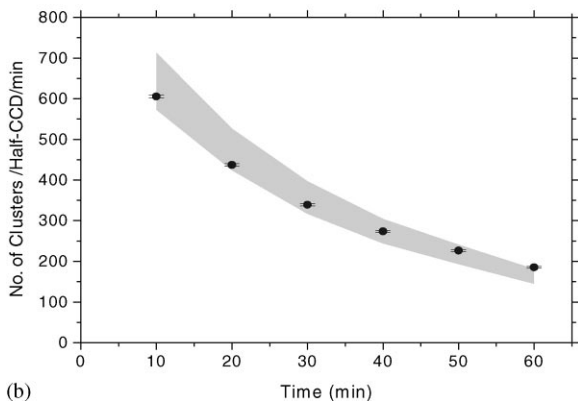
5.1.2. Shielding factor

All measurements described in this paper took advantage of heavy shielding of the setup and were well reproduced by the simulation. In order to fully test the Monte Carlo routines, measurements without shielding were also performed.

Experimental and simulated results for a measurement without shielding are presented in Fig. 8. Again, the agreement is good. A shielding factor of 3.8 ± 0.4 can be extracted from the simulation for the adopted shielding configuration. Moreover, as result of the simulation, it turns out that $\sim 60\%$ of the shielding effect is obtained by



(a)



(b)

Fig. 6. (a) Beam intensities for simultaneously circulating electron and positron beams, separated in the DEAR interaction region, as reported by the DAΦNE beam monitor [25] for the period 7:31–8:31 p.m. on 27 June 1999. (b) Observed number of clusters per half-CCD per minute (filled circles) during the corresponding beam period. The shaded area shows the results of the DEAR Monte Carlo simulation. The deviation of the first data point is attributed to a high CCD occupancy [28].

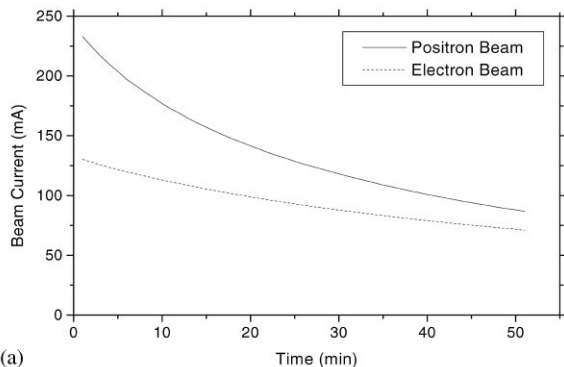
shielding the bottom of the target cell, i.e. by the material placed between the target and the beam pipe.

The shielding factor can be directly measured. To do this, it is useful to introduce the quantity ABCD (added beam current difference) (mA), defined as

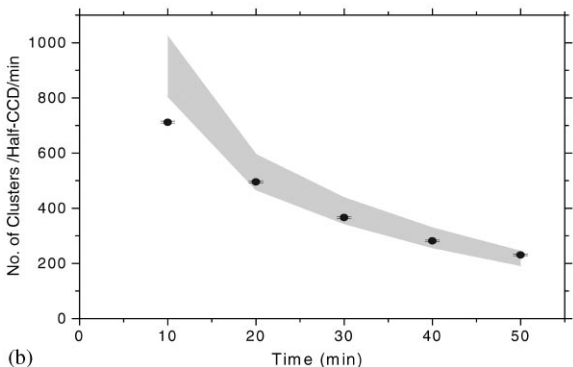
$$ABCD \text{ (mA)} = \sum_{e^-, e^+} I(t_0) - I(t_0 + t_M) \quad (1)$$

where $I(t_0)$ is the beam intensity [25] at the time of the start of a CCD measurement, $I(t_0 + t_M)$ the beam intensity [25] at the time of the stop of a CCD measurement and t_M the measurement time.

ABCD allows us to normalize, and therefore compare, beams with different initial intensities and



(a)



(b)

Fig. 7. (a) Beam intensities for simultaneously circulating electron and positron beams, separated in the DEAR interaction region, as reported by the DAΦNE beam monitor [25] for the period 10:01–10:51 p.m. on 27 June 1999. (b) Observed number of clusters per half-CCD per minute (filled circles) during the corresponding beam period. The shaded area shows the results of the DEAR Monte Carlo simulation. The deviation of the first data point is attributed to a high CCD occupancy [28].

different lifetimes. This quantity reflects the beam losses: since the number of clusters registered by CCD detectors (Clu) measures actually the particles lost from the beams, the added beam current difference and the clusters' number must have an identical time behavior, i.e. must have the same time constant, equal to τ_c . This is nicely shown in Fig. 9a, which shows as well the steeper time behavior of the numbers of clusters with respect to the beam intensity ($\tau_c < \tau$).

The fact that ABCD and Clu have the same time constant is demonstrated by a linear dependence between these two quantities, as it is shown in Fig. 9b. Consequently, for each measurement in a given beam period – and therefore for any beam

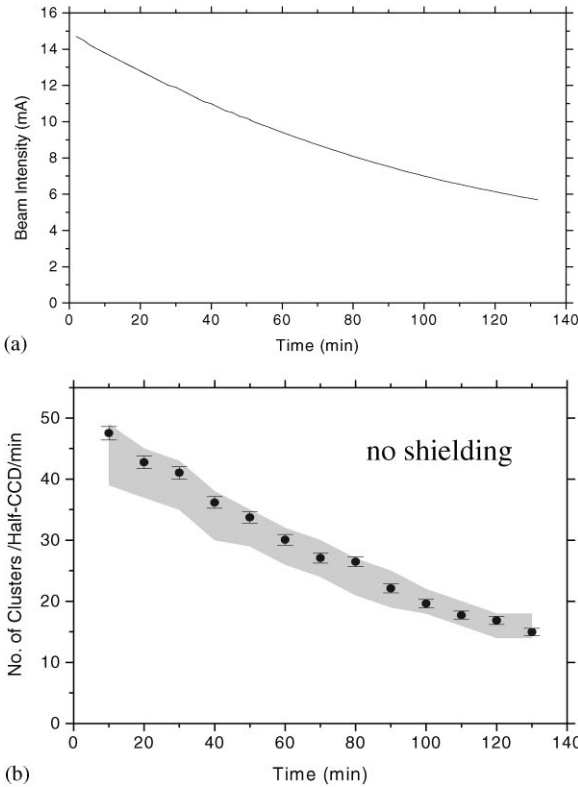


Fig. 8. (a) Electron beam intensity for the period 3:19–5:29 a.m. on 22 April 1999, with only electrons circulating in the DAΦNE main rings, as reported by the DAΦNE beam monitor [25]. (b) Observed number of clusters per half-CCD per minute (filled dots) during the corresponding beam period measured with the unshielded setup. The shaded area shows the results of the DEAR Monte Carlo simulation.

period – the number of registered clusters per beam losses (Clu/ABCD) during the corresponding time interval, is a constant. It can then be used as the parameter which characterizes a given beam period, independently of the initial intensity and of the lifetime. This is clearly shown in Fig. 10 which displays two examples of normalized numbers of clusters in different beam periods. The normalized numbers of clusters – one refers to electrons, the other to positrons – remain constant during the considered beam periods, a circumstance still valid for various investigated beam periods regarding both electrons and positrons. In these examples, positrons exhibit higher losses with respect to electrons, for the reasons discussed in relation to Figs. 4 and 5.

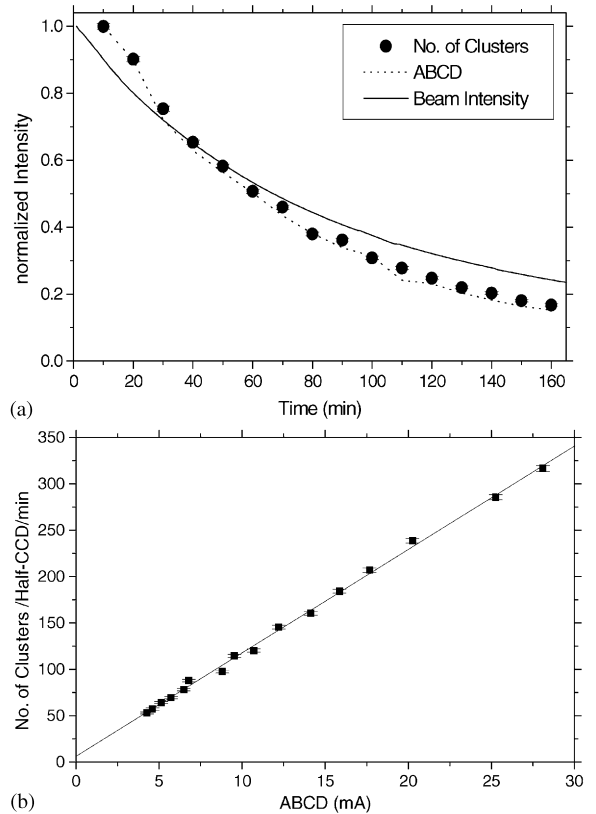


Fig. 9. (a) The time dependence of the number of clusters (filled circles) is given for the electron beam period 6:21–9:01 a.m. on 27 June 1999, in comparison with the quantity ABCD (dotted line) parametrizing the beam losses, and the beam intensity (full line), as reported by the DAΦNE beam monitor [25]. The maximum bin of all given quantities is normalized to 1 to facilitate the comparison. (b) ABCD dependence of observed number of clusters per half-CCD per minute for the same beam period (filled squares), together with a linear fit (line). See text for the definition of ABCD.

In Table 1, the measured values of the ratio – number of clusters per CCD per 10 min divided by ABCD – are given for several observed beam periods. The weighted mean values (wMean) for the observed beams of electrons only, positrons only, and electrons and positrons at the same time are given for the shielded and the unshielded setup in Table 2. An explanation for the higher background with positrons was already given above. The value of the ratio Clu/ABCD measured with electrons and positrons in the interaction region at the same

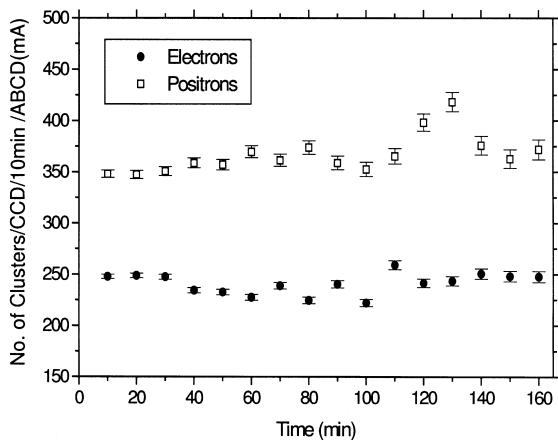


Fig. 10. Time dependence of the ratio of the number of clusters per CCD per 10 min divided by the added beam current difference (ABCD) for two beams: electron beam on 27 June (filled circles) and positron beam on 1 June (open squares). The time behaviors are approximately constant. The rate of positron beam losses is higher than the electron one, as a consequence of the Touschek effect on particles circulating on an orbit slightly more shifted than the electron one with respect to the central ring axis (see text).

time, but geometrically separated ($w\text{Mean}(e^+e^-) = 253 \pm 7$), turns out to be equal to the weighted mean of the values measured with e^+ and e^- beams only, namely $w\text{Mean}((e^+) + (e^-)) = 257 \pm 7$. This shows that the contributions to the background simply add up for the two types of beam.

Finally, taking advantage of the possibility to normalize the number of clusters observed in different beam periods through the quantity ABCD, one can compare the background measured in the shielded setup with that registered in the unshielded configuration and deduce the effective shielding factor. This comparison is made in Table 2, and Fig. 11 shows a specific example. The higher background registered when the setup is not shielded is evident. The corresponding values for the shielding factor are given in Table 2 for the two types of measurement, with electron beams only, and with electrons and positrons circulating at the same time. No beams of positrons only were available for a sufficiently long period, so the ‘positrons only’ measurements could not be performed with the unshielded setup.

From the two values for the effective shielding factor measured with the two types of beam, which agree within the errors, the weighted mean value for the measured effective shielding factor was derived to be 3.6 ± 0.2 , in agreement with the result of the simulation, i.e. 3.8 ± 0.4 .

5.1.3. Distribution of cluster sizes

The distribution of cluster sizes was also investigated. In the above-mentioned preliminary background studies with only a single CCD detector set in a position asymmetric with respect to the interaction point a different cluster size distribution for electron and positron beams was found [27]. This was explained as a geometric effect associated with the type of beam (electrons or positrons). Since for the present measurements the CCD detectors were placed in a symmetric position, no difference was expected.

Normalization of the observed events for a specific cluster size to the total observed number of clusters allows to assign the probability to observe an event of this specific cluster size. Fig. 12 shows these probabilities for various cluster sizes for the examples of e^- , e^+ , and $e^- + e^+$ beams.

The distribution can be fitted with a Lorentzian function with mean = 4.2 and width = 3.4. All clusters with sizes larger than 9 were summed up in bin 10.

Within a 10% error, cluster sizes induced by electron and positron beams are equally distributed. The maximum of all distributions have a peak at a cluster size equal to 4. This is related to the average charge deposited by a minimum ionizing particle in the substrate of the CCD chip.

5.2. X-ray observation

The goal of the DEAR experiment is to detect kaonic hydrogen X-rays, therefore the study of the X-ray background is very important, particularly as the final statistical accuracy attainable with DEAR will critically depend on the level of X-ray background.

5.2.1. Background X-rays

The energy of the kaonic hydrogen K_x peak is expected to be around 6 keV. Following the recent

Table 1

Ratio of the number of X-rays/keV in the region of interest (BGX_{ROI}) divided by the number of clusters (Clu) in the case of unshielded and shielded setup for different types of beams. Integrated beam current (IBC) ($\text{mA} \times \text{h}$) calculated from the values reported by the DAΦNE beam monitor [25]. Measured values for the number of clusters per CCD per 10 min (Clu) divided by ABCD (defined in text)

Date	Beam type	IBC ($\text{mA} \times \text{h}$)	$BGX_{ROI}/\text{Clu} \times 10^{-4}$	Clu/ABCD (mA)
<i>No shielding</i>				
16.4.	$e^+ + e^-$	21.1	7.4 ± 0.7	—
19.4.	$e^+ + e^-$	13.6	7.1 ± 0.9	1010 ± 92
20.4.	e^-	19.5	8.0 ± 0.9	762 ± 120
22.4.	e^-	20.2	8.5 ± 1.0	828 ± 37
23.4.	$e^+ + e^-$	8.7	8.7 ± 0.8	1124 ± 235
<i>Shielding</i>				
10.5.	$e^+ + e^-$	80.8	7.7 ± 0.7	—
11.5.	$e^+ + e^-$	61.4	6.0 ± 0.9	407 ± 100
17.5. P1	$e^+ + e^-$	161.7	8.5 ± 0.7	253 ± 17
17.5. P2	$e^+ + e^-$	187.0	7.5 ± 0.7	267 ± 12
18.5.	$e^+ + e^-$	293.3	6.3 ± 0.8	282 ± 19
1.6.	e^+	286.3	7.2 ± 0.7	361 ± 56
6.6.	e^-	154.5	9.0 ± 1.0	224 ± 13
27.6. P1	$e^+ + e^-$	213.7	6.3 ± 0.9	316 ± 50
27.6. P2	$e^+ + e^-$	192.3	7.3 ± 0.9	227 ± 11
27.6.	e^-	358.1	7.4 ± 0.8	241 ± 10
28.6. P1	e^+	183.8	7.9 ± 0.8	297 ± 15
28.6. P2	e^+	165.7	7.1 ± 0.8	294 ± 15
17.7.	$e^+ + e^-$	175.6	7.4 ± 0.8	—
Mean value			7.5 ± 0.5	See Table 2

KEK result [7] the region of interest (ROI) for the DEAR experiment was selected to be 6.15 ± 0.6 keV. The full detection range of the CCD detector was selected to be 0.82 (1.0) keV up to 16.5 keV for the reported background measurements.

Two observed X-ray energy spectra are given in Fig. 13. Fig. 13a shows the result of ~ 2 weeks of measurements with circulating electron and positron beams with the unshielded setup and Ti and Zr foils inside the chamber. From both materials the electronic K_α lines can be clearly seen, and for Ti also the electronic K_β transition. This allows an on-line energy scale calibration. Additionally, the fluorescence lines of aluminum, of which both target and detector housings are made, and silicon,

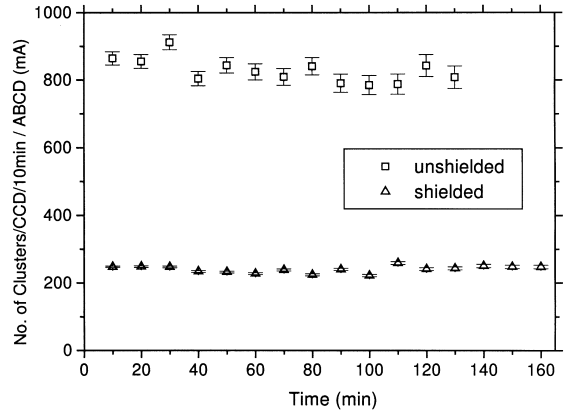


Fig. 11. Time dependence of the normalized (by ABCD) numbers of clusters per CCD per 10 min from the electron beam on 27 June 1999 in the shielded setup (open triangles), and from 22 April 1999 in the unshielded setup (open squares). A shielding factor equal to 3.4 ± 0.3 can be derived from this specific data set.

the material of the CCD chips, are visible. No line structure can be seen in the region of interest. In particular, it should be mentioned that no structures at the energies of the electronic X-ray transitions originating from manganese and iron – materials present in normally available aluminum alloys – are present. This demonstrates the high purity of the aluminum selected for each component of the setup. Fig. 13b shows an energy spectrum taken for an equivalent period of time with the shielded setup and after removal of the Ti foils. The K lines from titanium ($K_\alpha = 4.5$ keV, $K_\beta = 4.9$ keV) would disruptingly interfere with the kaonic nitrogen $7 \rightarrow 6$ transition (~ 4.5 keV). The effect of shielding can be seen mainly by looking at the fluorescence lines of aluminum and silicon, which show a better separation against the smooth background. The spectrum of Fig. 13b was obtained after decreasing the low-energy threshold. At this lower energy threshold one can already see the background increasing exponentially, because one starts to see the highest energy region of the “noise peak” of the CCDs, which is mainly caused by electronic noise [17].

The behavior of soft X-rays (≤ 20 keV) was also investigated as a function of time. The contribution of non-machine background to the given number of X-rays per keV was measured to be negligible [27].

Table 2

Calculated weighted means (wMean) for the ratios of the number of clusters per CCD per 10 min (Clu) divided by ABCD (last column of Table 1) for electron beams, positron beams, and electron and positron beams at the same time, for the shielded and the unshielded setup. Average shielding factors extracted from the weighted means and mean effective shielding factor

wMean	Clu/ABCD (e^-)	Clu/ABCD (e^+e^-)	Clu/ABCD (e^+)
No shielding	822 ± 36	1025 ± 86	—
Shielding	235 ± 8	253 ± 7	298 ± 11
Average shielding factor	3.50 ± 0.20	4.05 ± 0.40	—
Mean effective shielding factor	3.63 ± 0.20		—

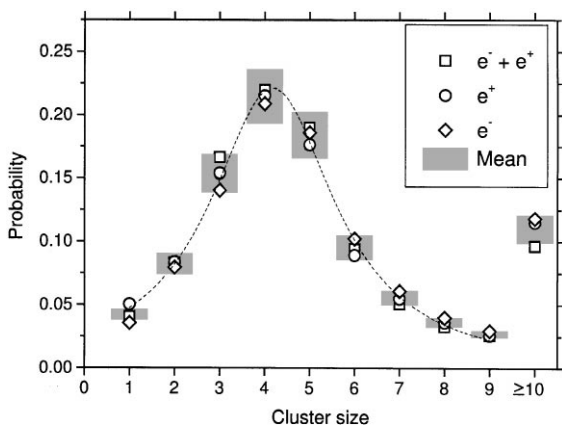


Fig. 12. The measured probabilities for observing a hit with specific cluster size are given for three observed beams: electron beam (17 July, open diamonds), positron beam (28 June open circles), electron and positron beam (18 May, open squares). The shaded area displays the mean value of the three measurements with a 10% error. The dashed line displays a fit with a Lorentzian function.

A behavior identical to that observed for clusters should be, in principle, expected, since both clusters and X-rays are produced by the e.m. cascades originated by the particles lost by the circulating beams and hitting the beam pipe and the setup materials. This expectation can be tested by determining the time behavior of the ratio, number of X-rays divided by number of clusters, which should then be constant.

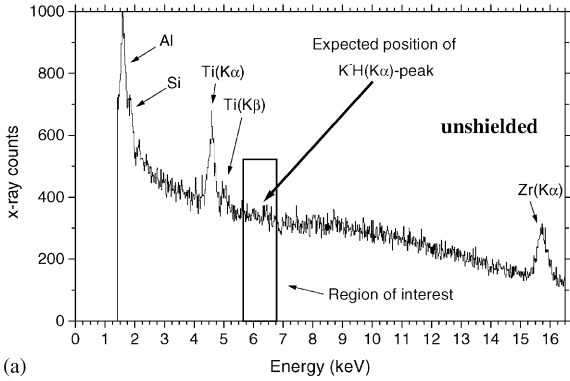
Two regions characterize the energy spectrum: the region consisting of the energy intervals displaying the fluorescence lines of Si, Al and Zr (0.82–2.5 keV, 15.0–16.2 keV), and the region of the energy spectrum free of fluorescence lines, from 2.5

up to 15 keV, which contains the X-ray background created only by the particles lost by the beams. Additionally, we have selected the region which is of special interest for the DEAR experiment (ROI), from 5.55 up to 6.75 keV, where the kaonic hydrogen K_{α} peak is expected.

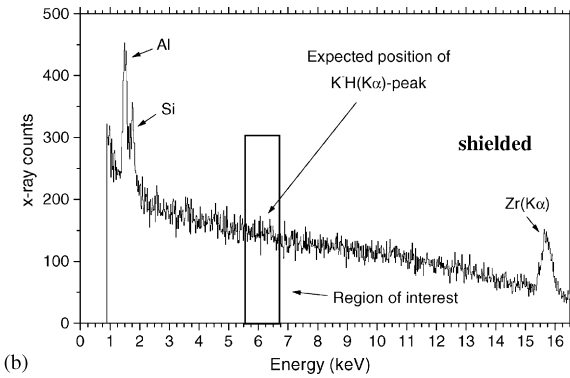
Fig. 14 displays the ratio of the number of X-rays per keV divided by the number of clusters for the two investigated energy regions as function of time. In this example, the $e^+ + e^-$ beams of 18 May 1999 were used. No deviation from a constant ratio can be observed over the full energy interval from 2.5 up to 15 keV (Fig. 14a), which includes the region of interest (see inset). The same is true for the intervals where the fluorescence lines are present. In this case, the value of the ratio X-rays per keV/clusters, is, as expected, larger (Fig. 14b).

On the basis of the good agreement found between the number of measured clusters and the DEAR Monte Carlo simulation for different types of beams and periods of measurement, the measured constant value of the ratio X-rays/clusters allows to make a quantitative determination of the expected X-ray background for the DEAR experiment. In Table 1, the results for the ratio of the number of X-rays per keV in the region of interest (BGX_{ROI}) divided by the number of clusters (Clu), obtained in different beam periods, both for the unshielded and for the shielded configuration, are listed. The ratio seems to be constant for both, shielded and unshielded configuration. The mean value of this ratio over all the measurements turns out to be $(7.5 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{-4}$.

The same value within errors was measured with the 2-CCD setup without any target cell and with the detector located in a quite different location of



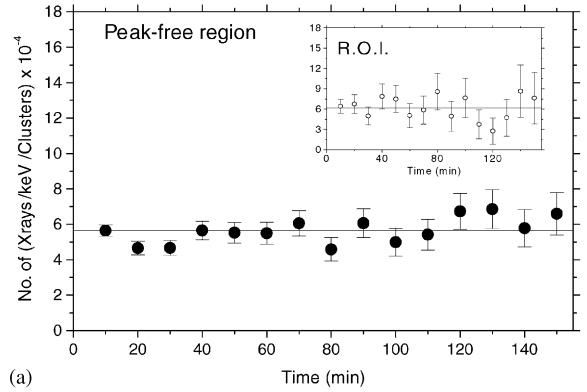
(a)



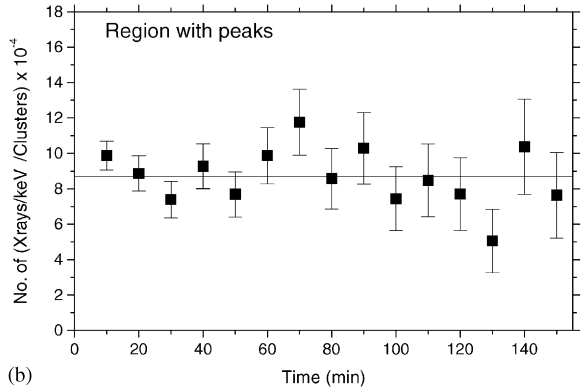
(b)

Fig. 13. (a) X-ray energy spectrum observed in ~ 2 weeks with circulating electron and positron beams with the unshielded setup and Ti and Zr calibration foils. (b) X-ray energy spectrum observed in ~ 2 weeks with the shielded setup. In this measurement the Ti foils were removed and additional Zr foils attached. Both spectra show the expected fluorescence lines, while no significant structure can be observed in the region of interest, demonstrating the high purity of the aluminum employed for the setup. In measurement (b) the low-energy threshold of the detector was reduced so the high-energy tail of the noise peak can already be seen. Shielding yields a better separation of Al and Si lines against the background. However, a direct quantitative comparison of the two figures cannot be made because they were obtained with different total integrated beam currents.

the DEAR interaction region still in the “Day-One” magnet configuration [26,28]. It can be concluded that this ratio reflects the beam background in the DEAR interaction region in the investigated period and does not depend on the specific setup used. A different type of background with a different energy and particle spectrum, e.g. non-machine background, results in a different value, i.e. $(0.1 \pm 0.05) \times 10^{-4}$, for the ratio X-rays per keV in



(a)



(b)

Fig. 14. (a) Measurement of the time behavior of the ratios of the number of X-rays per keV divided by the number of clusters, in the fluorescence-free energy region (2.5–15 keV), together with a linear fit (line); in the inset, the same is shown for X-rays within the region of interest for the experiment, 5.55–6.75 keV. (b) the same as in (a) for the energy region consisting of the intervals where additional X-rays from fluorescence peaks (Al, Si, Zr) are present, together with a linear fit (line).

the region of interest divided by the number of clusters.

5.2.2. Fluorescence X-rays

Using the energy spectra shown in Fig. 13 the following quantities can be determined:

- the number of X-rays (X_i^{Peak}) observed in the fluorescence peaks of the materials ($i =$ aluminum, titanium or zirconium) normalized to a surface of 1 cm^2 of the respective material;
- the number of X-rays in the background below the respective peak (BG_i);
- the number of X-rays in the region of interest for the experiment (BGX_{ROI});

Table 3

Ratios of the number of fluorescence X-rays/cm² (X_i^{Peak}) to the number of background X-rays below the respective peak BG_i and ratios of the number of fluorescence X-rays/cm² (X_i^{Peak}) to the number of background X-rays/keV in the region of interest (BGX_{ROI}), as obtained from the energy spectra shown in Fig. 13

Peak <i>i</i>	Energy (keV)	X_i^{Peak}/BG_i $\times 10^{-6}$	X_i^{Peak}/BG_i $\times 10^{-6}$	$X_i^{\text{Peak}}/BGX_{\text{ROI}}$ $\times 10^{-6}$	$X_i^{\text{Peak}}/BGX_{\text{ROI}}$ $\times 10^{-6}$
		Shielding	No shielding	Shielding	No shielding
Al	1.5	117 ± 5	79 ± 4	58 ± 4	53 ± 4
Ti	4.5	—	333 ± 30	—	196 ± 8
Zr	15.7	969 ± 55	984 ± 80	288 ± 14	301 ± 12

- the ratio of the two quantities X_i^{Peak}/BG_i ;
- the ratio of the two quantities $X_i^{\text{Peak}}/BGX_{\text{ROI}}$.

The obtained values for the two above-defined peak-to-background ratios are given in Table 3 for the shielded and for the unshielded setup.

The normalized number of X-rays above background in the fluorescence peaks, found in the NTP target, can be used to obtain a first evaluation of the necessary surface of the calibration foils in the final cryogenic setup, in the sense of obtaining calibration peaks of comparable height with respect to that of the K_x signal. In the final configuration of the cryogenic setup, which will measure initially kaonic hydrogen, the signal/background ratio in the region of interest is about 2:1 [2,3]. From Table 3 it turns out that, for instance for the zirconium line, a peak/background ratio of ~ 2 , i.e. comparable with the signal/background ratio, could be reached with an overall surface of about 2000 cm².

The probability (per observed cluster and per cm² of material surface) to observe an electronic X-ray excited in an attached calibration foil with a given surface area or in the target cell material is defined as

$$P(X_i^{\text{Exc}})/\text{cluster} = \frac{X_i^{\text{Peak}}}{\text{Clu}} \quad (2)$$

where X_i^{Peak} is the number of X-rays/cm² observed in the fluorescence lines of the respective material ($i = \text{Al, Ti, Zr}$) and Clu is the observed number of clusters.

$P(X_i^{\text{Exc}})/\text{cluster}$ can be calculated by the following equation:

$$P(X_i^{\text{Exc}})/\text{cluster} = \frac{BGX_{\text{ROI}}}{\text{Clu}} \times \frac{X_i^{\text{Peak}}}{BGX_{\text{ROI}}}. \quad (3)$$

The value of the first factor is reported as mean value in Table 1. The values of the second factor have been determined from the energy spectra of Fig. 13 and are reported in Table 3. The resulting values for the probability per cm² per cluster to excite fluorescence X-rays in the given materials are reported in Table 4. These values are used as input parameters in the DEAR Monte Carlo simulation to obtain the final optimization of the experimental setup with respect to the surface of the calibration foils, in order to obtain the requested statistics in the corresponding peaks.

One can additionally compare, as a check, the measured relative fluorescence-peak ratios (Zr/Al, Zr/Ti, Ti/Al) with the corresponding ratios from literature [33]. In order to do this, it is necessary to introduce a correction factor, which takes into account the energy dependence both of the X-ray detection efficiency and of the machine background particles.

The correction factors arising from these effects, to be applied to the experimental relative fluorescence-excitation probabilities, are simply the ratios of the number of counts in the X-ray background under each fluorescence peak, already determined

Table 4

$P(X_i^{\text{Exc}})/\text{cluster}$, the excitation probability for a fluorescence X-ray per cm² per cluster for a specific material

K_x peaks <i>i</i>	$P(X_i^{\text{Exc}})/\text{cluster}$ $\times 10^{-9}$	$P(X_i^{\text{Exc}})/\text{cluster}$ $\times 10^{-9}$
	Shielding	No shielding
Al	43 ± 4	40 ± 4
Ti	—	147 ± 13
Zr	216 ± 18	226 ± 19

Table 5

Ratios of relative excitation probabilities for various observed fluorescence peaks $P(X_i^{\text{Exc}})/P(X_k^{\text{Exc}})$ compared to the ones derived from the tabulated values $P_i^{\text{Tab}}/P_k^{\text{Tab}}$ [33]. The correction factors CF correspond to the evaluated background X-ray ratios BG_i/BG_k

Ratio of K_α peaks	CF	$P(X_i^{\text{Exc}})/P(X_k^{\text{Exc}})$ \times CF	CF	$P(X_i^{\text{Exc}})/P(X_k^{\text{Exc}})$ \times CF	$P_i^{\text{Tab}}/P_k^{\text{Tab}}$
i/k	Shielding		No shielding		Tabulation
Zr/Al	4.2 ± 0.2	20.9 ± 2.8	4.7 ± 0.2	26.7 ± 4.5	20.4 ± 1.8
Zr/Ti	—	—	2.6 ± 0.2	4.0 ± 0.6	3.3 ± 0.3
Ti/Al	—	—	1.8 ± 0.2	6.7 ± 1.2	6.1 ± 0.7

to obtain the peak/background ratios reported in Table 3. The values of these correction factors (CF) are reported in Table 5.

Using the probabilities $P(X_i^{\text{Exc}})/\text{cluster}$ reported in Table 4 and these correction factors, the experimental relative fluorescence-excitation probabilities for the observed materials are obtained (Table 5). They are compared with the ratios derived from the tabulated values in literature (Table 5, last column). Significant quantitative agreement can be seen.

6. Summary

Measurements in the DEAR interaction region of the DAΦNE accelerator using the DEAR NTP setup were reported. These are the first measurements to be performed in this experimental area of the new electron–positron collider of Frascati National Laboratories. The background relevant for the DEAR experiment – low-energy (≤ 20 keV) X-rays and ionizing particles – in the presence of electron beams, positron beams, and both beams at the same time, but separated in the DEAR interaction region, was investigated.

The observed X-ray energy spectra do not show any evidence of unwanted structures. This demonstrates the purity of the construction materials used.

The number of X-ray events (single-pixel hits) and clusters (multi-pixel events), the latter corresponding to particles hitting the active area of the CCD detector, were observed. All measurements can be well reproduced by the DEAR Monte Carlo simulation using the actual beam parameters for

the DEAR interaction region. With the present accelerator configuration, the most important source of background comes from Touschek scattering, with a small contribution from beam–gas interaction. The quantitative agreement between simulation and measurements is sufficiently convincing to conclude that, with respect to the expected background, and, therefore, to the statistical error, the configuration which will be used for the measurement of the strong interaction shifts and widths in kaonic hydrogen and deuterium can obtain the planned challenging level of precision.

The improvement of the beam conditions up to their design values, additional lead wall shieldings on both sides of the target, and the use of beam scrapers to cut Touschek scattered particles before they are lost, promise that a larger reduction of the background for the DEAR experiment is yet possible.

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