

# Greetings (Здравствуйте)

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NORTH-WEST UNIVERSITY  
YUNIBESITI YA BOKONE-BOPHIRIMA  
NOORDWES-UNIVERSITEIT

Vusumzi Gosani  
University of Fort Hare



University of Fort Hare  
*Together in Excellence*

**DEVELOPMENT OF A  
PRACTICUM “TIME OF  
FLIGHT-ENERGY  
SPECTROMETER” FOR  
THE VIRTUAL  
LABORATORY**

# Project supervisors

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Supervisor – Prof. Yuri. Panebrattsev

Co-supervisor - Pavel Semchukov and Kseniya Klygina

Lead experimentalist - Alexander Strelalovsky

# OUTLINE

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- Aim of experiment
- Alpha particles and alpha decay
- Radium-226
- Time of flight-Energy (TOF-E) spectrometer
- Time of flight-energy spectrometer Detectors and experimental setup
- Time of flight-energy spectrometer experimental setup
- Results
- Data processing
- calculation of time and energy resolution
- Virtual lab
- conclusion

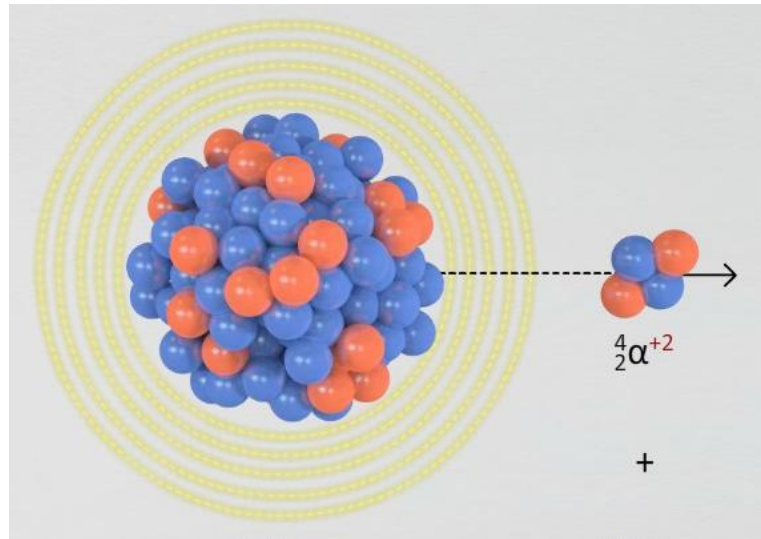
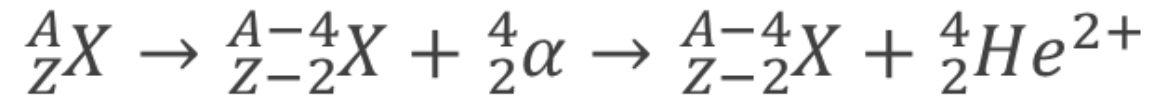
# AIM OF PRACTICUM

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The aim of this practicum is to show how the time of flight and energy spectrometer works.

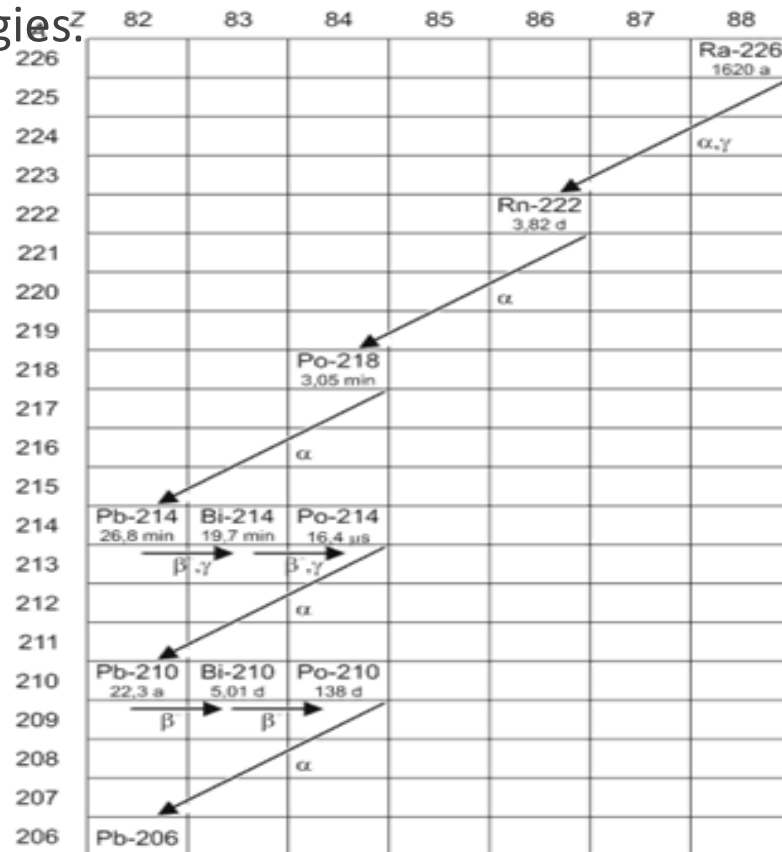
# ALPHA PARTICLES AND ALPHA DECAY

- **Alpha decay** – a radioactive process whereby a particle with two neutrons and two protons is ejected from the nucleus of a radioactive atom. The particle is identical to the nucleus of a helium atom, that particle is known as an alpha particle.



# RADIUM-226

Radium-226 decays mainly via alpha decay and emits 4 alpha particles of different observable energies.



Isotop	Energy, MeV	relative intensity, %
Ra 226	4.160	0.0002
Ra 226	4.191	0.0008
Ra 226	4.340	0.0066
Ra 226	4.601	5.9544
Ra 226	4.78434	94.038
Rn222	4.827	0.00055
Rn222	4.987	0.078
Rn222	5.48948	99.921
Po218	5.181	0.0011
Po218	6.00236	99.977
Pb214->β-,γ	Bi214-> β-,γ	Po214
Po214	6.6101	0.00006
Po214	6.9026	0.01057
Po214	7.68682	99.98937
Pb210->β-	Bi210-> β-	Po210
Po210	4.5167	0.0012
Po210	5.30433	99.9988

# Time of flight-energy spectrometer

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The time of flight-energy spectrometer uses two detectors, one as Start and one as Stop.

Start detector needs to be transparent to the particles and produce the trigger signal then particles flies through it.

Stop detector measure the kinetic energy of the particles.

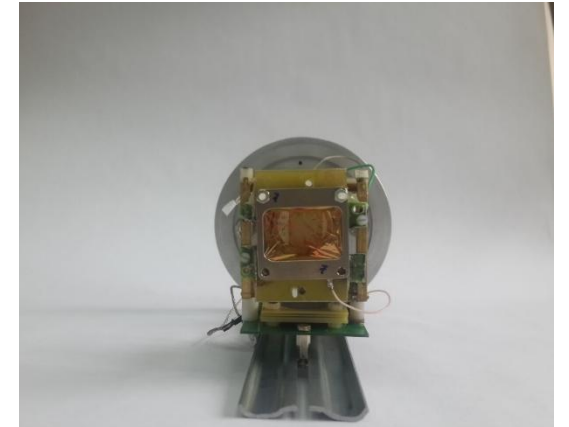
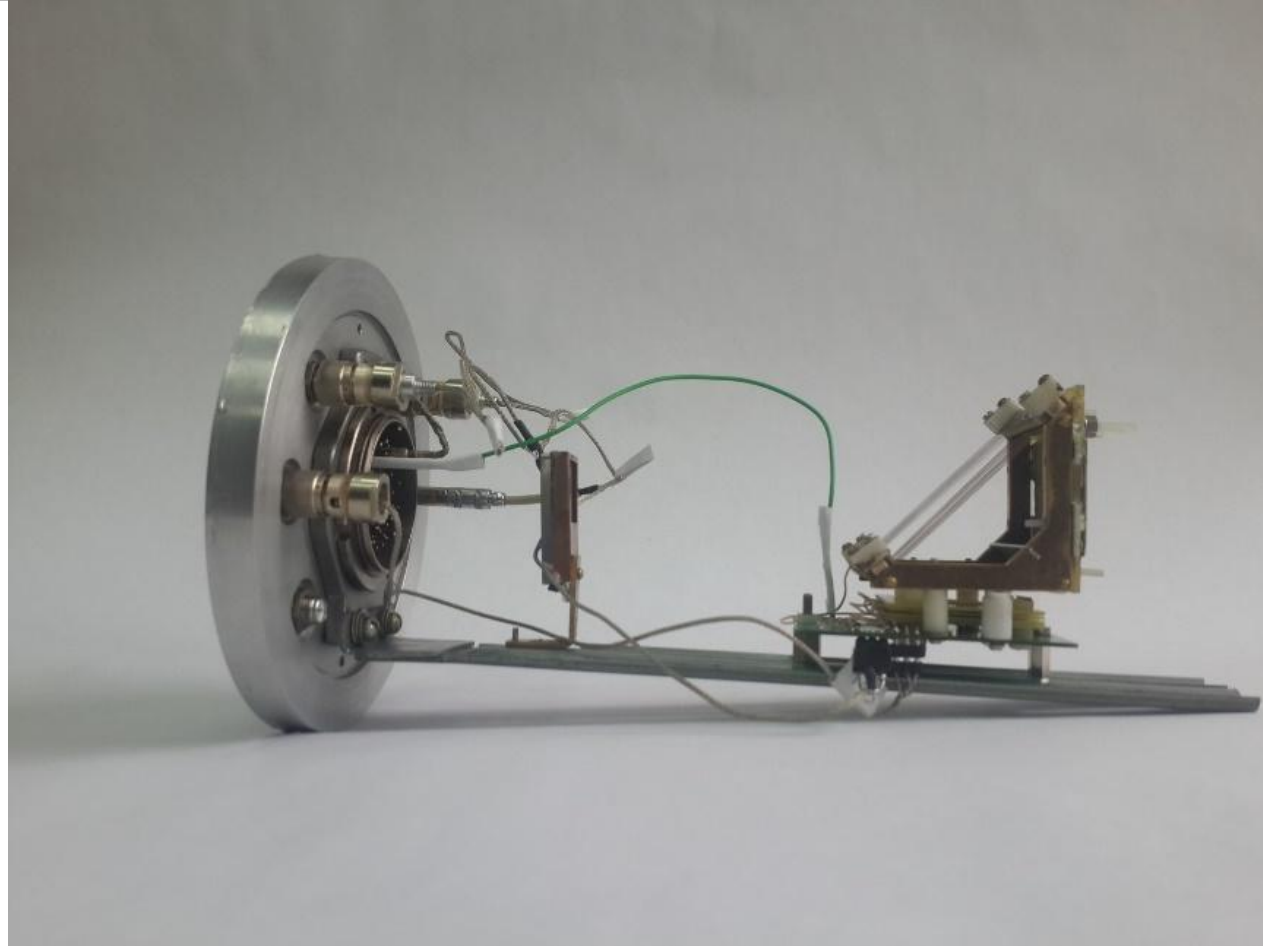
Knowing the distance between this two detectors it is possible to measure Time of Flight and calculate Velocity of the particle, so it is possible to calculate the mass of the particle using:

$$E = \frac{1}{k}mv^2, \text{ where } k=2$$

The specifics of this spectrometer is that it can work in a wide range of energy and mass (4 MeV-120MeV and 4 amu-150 amu respectively).



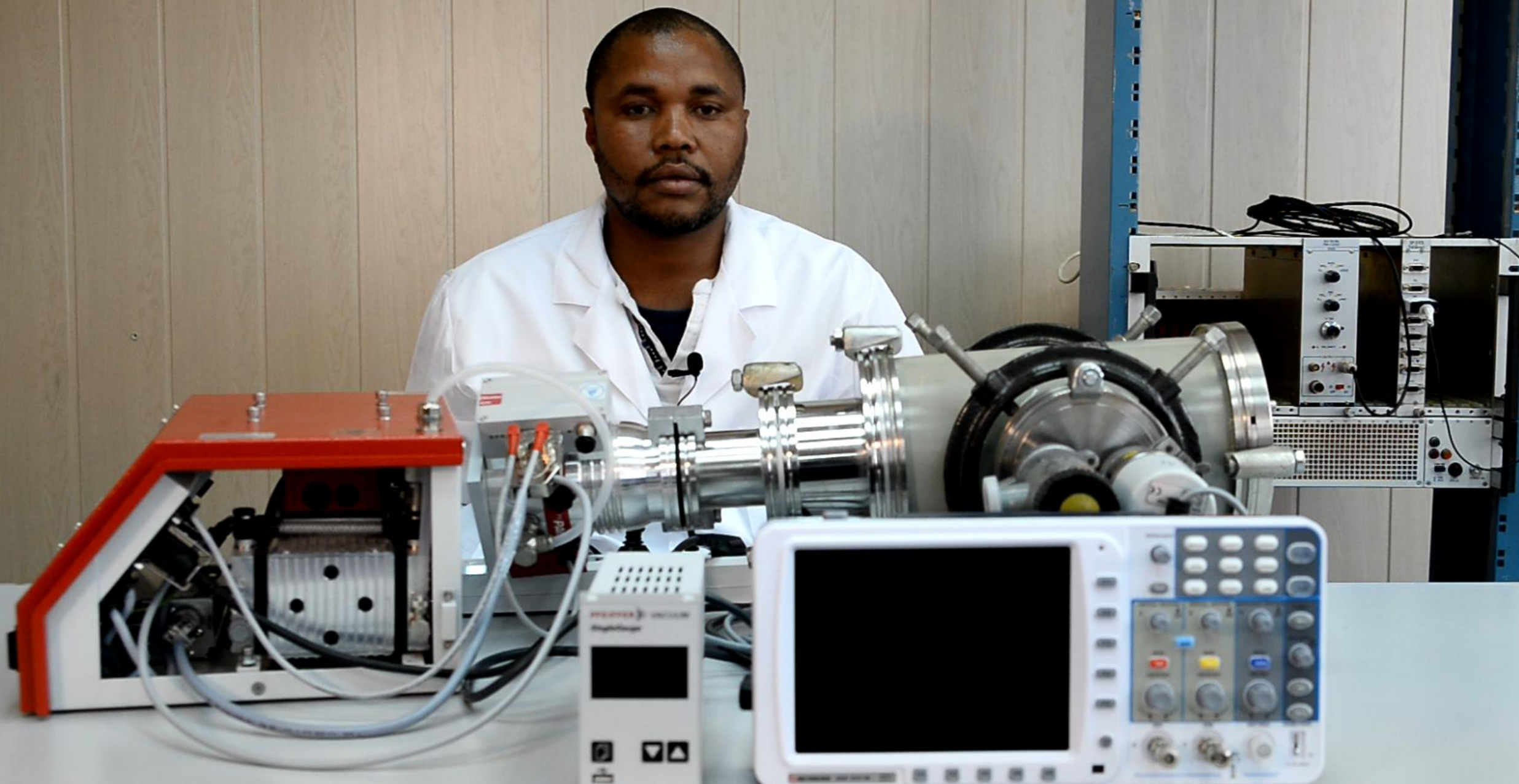
# TOF-E spectrometer detectors



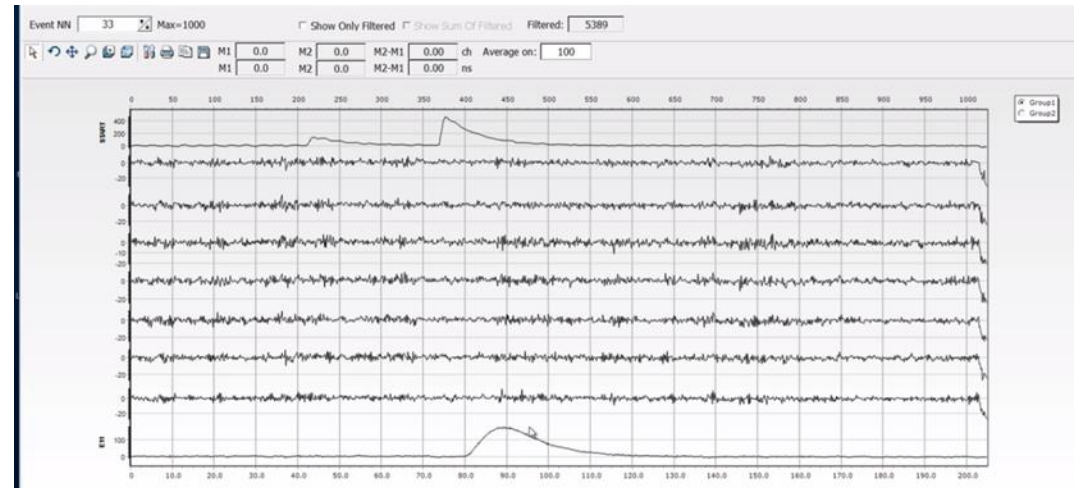
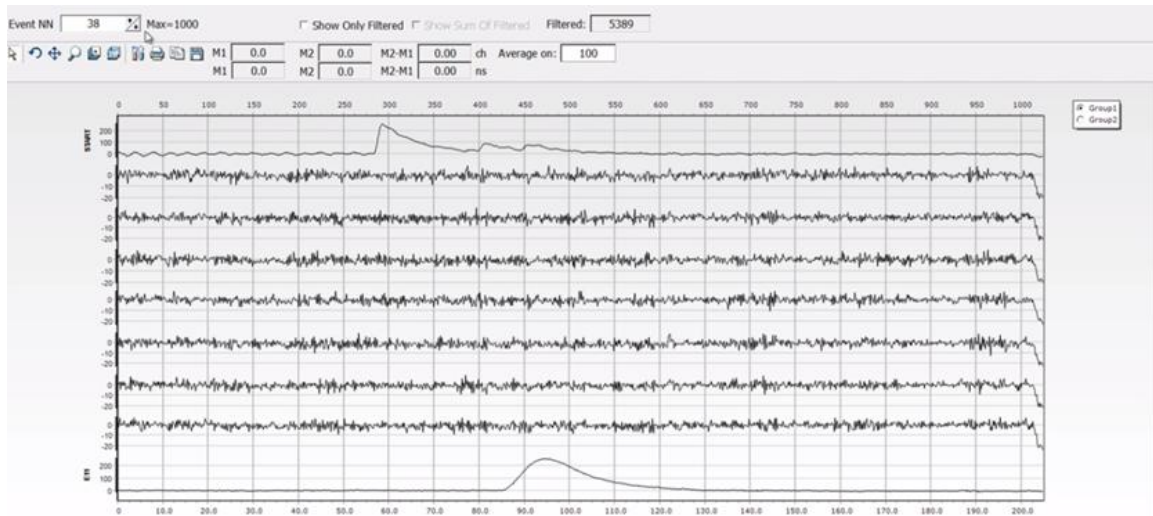
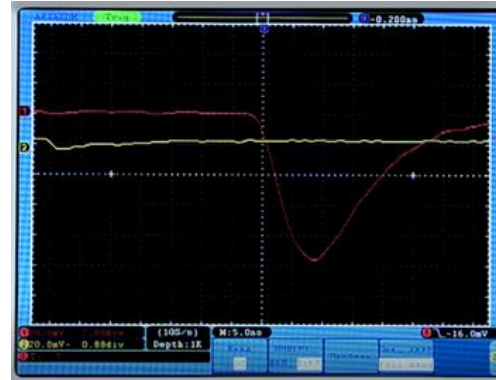
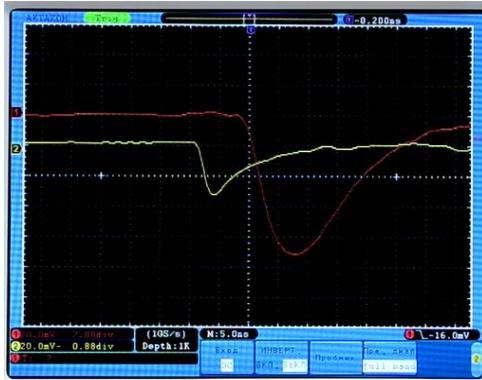


# EXPERIMENTAL SETUP

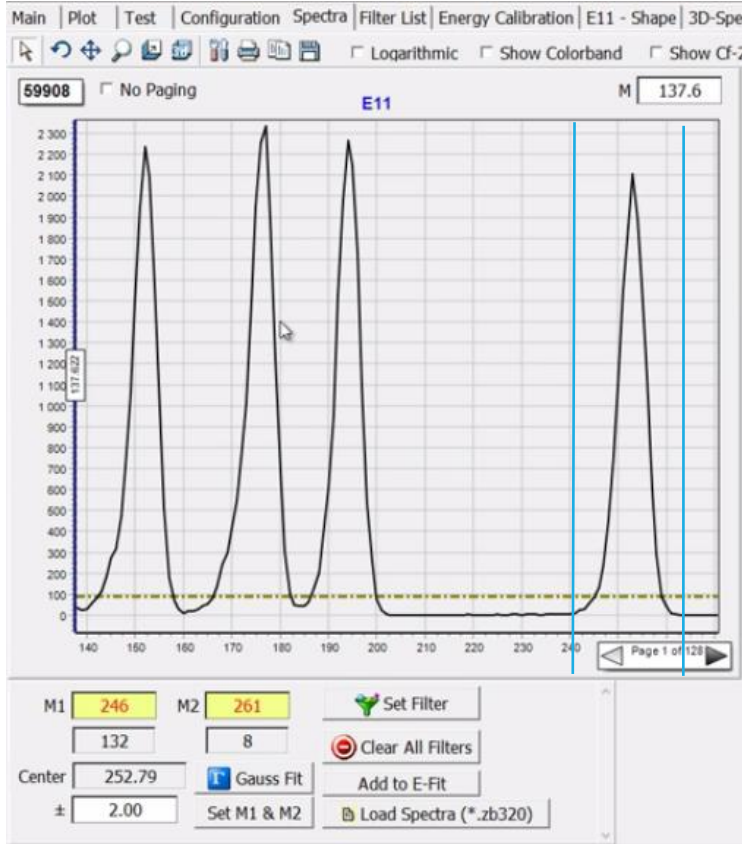




# Results

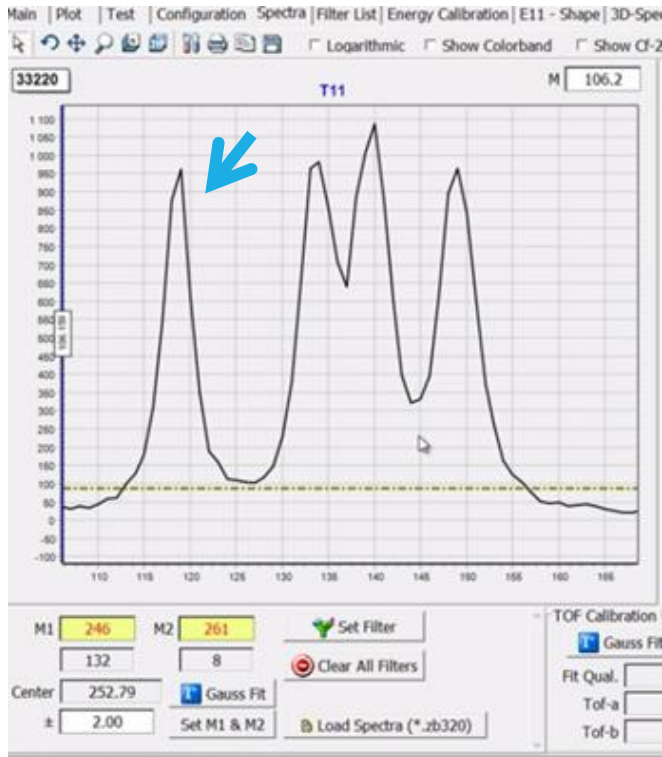


# DATA PROCESSING

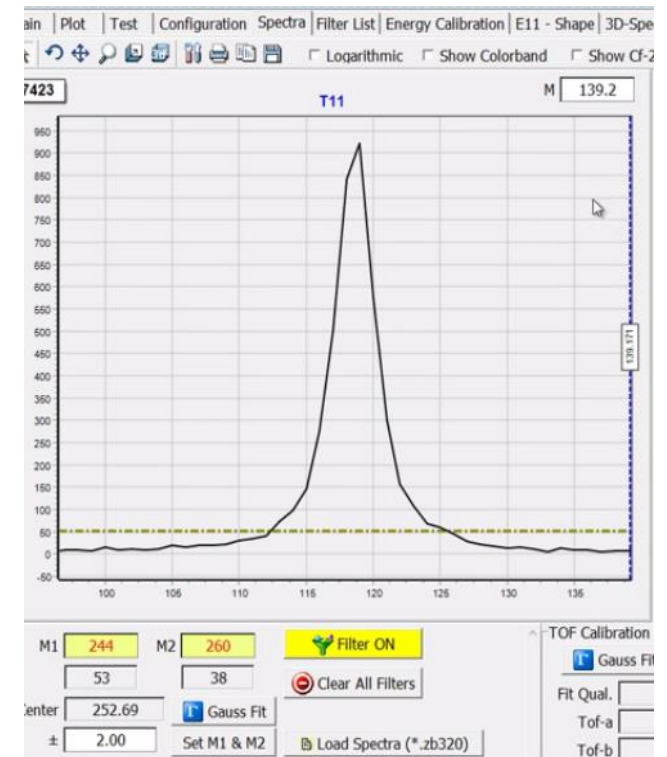


This is the energy spectrum. These are four peaks which represent alpha particles with four different **observable** energies.

# DATA PROCESSING



- This is the time-of flight spectra.
- Each of the four peaks on the left represents the time of flight of one particle in the previous slide.
- The peak to your right is a filtered



# RESOLUTION CALCULATION

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## TIME RESOLUTION

Total counts = 929 counts

∴ FWHM is at 460 counts and FWHM = 3 channels.

Maximum peak position = 118.7

$$\text{Relative energy resolution} = \frac{3}{118.7} \times 100 = 2.5\%$$

If  $T_{\text{filtered}} = 8 \text{ ns}$

Time resolution = 0,44 ns = 440 ps

## ENERGY RESOLUTION

Total counts = 2100

∴ FWHM is at 460 counts and FWHM = 6 channels.

Maximum peak position = 253

$$\text{Relative energy resolution} = \frac{6}{253} \times 100 = 2.4\%$$

If  $E_{\text{max}} = 7.687 \text{ MeV}$

Energy resolution = 0.18 MeV or 180 KeV



# VIRTUAL LABORATORY

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**The main goal** of the virtual laboratory is to conduct experiments (eg. Time of Flight-energy (TOF-E) spectrometry) and include the scientific data, obtained in the experiments, in a virtual laboratory for students to conduct virtual and online laboratory research using modern scientific equipment and data obtained from the existing physical facilities.

# CONCLUSION

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In conclusion we were able to learn how to assemble the spectrometer and use it for the our practicum and collected the data.

we also recorded videos and voice recordings for the development of the virtual laboratory.

Laboratory work 2.1  
Study of signals from a pulse generator

Change one of the cables for a longer one.

WELL DONE!

[+] [ previous ] [ ? ] [-] [ next ]

About Part 1 Part 2 Part 3 Part 4 Part 5 Part 6 Part 7 [ copy ] [ print ]

LIS Setup

Desktop Digitizer

CAMAC

Radioactive Source and Detectors

Vacuum System

Laboratory work 4.5  
Time coincidence counting from cosmic rays

Start the pulse counter and calculate the number of particles that pass through each scintillation detector... >>>

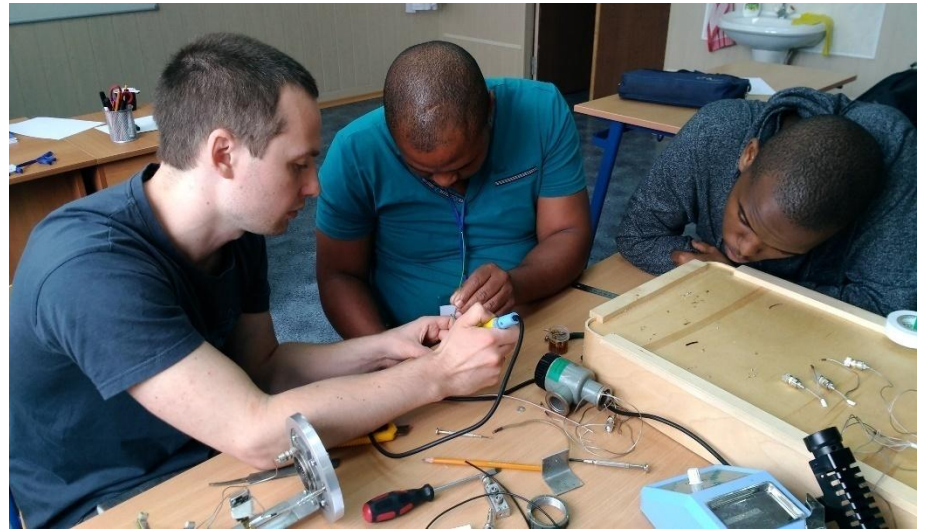
Number of particles that enter the detector No. 1 per minute: 10054

Number of particles that enter the detector No. 2 per minute: 12337

WELL DONE!

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About Part 1 Part 2 Part 3 Part 4 Part 5 Part 6 Part 7 [ copy ] [ print ]



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



science  
& technology

Department:  
Science and Technology  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Thank you! (Спасибо!)

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THANK YOU  
FOR  
YOUR  
ATTENTION  
ANY QUESTIONS?