

from this we know where the decays are happening.

Assuming the following quantities (TODO add pdg data link oder wikipedia link): [TODO find values] [TODO show gamma, beta claculation...]

$$m_{K^+} =$$

$$m_{\pi^+} =$$

$$m_{\pi^0} =$$

$$\beta =$$

$$\gamma =$$

In the  $K^+$  rest frame we now have a momentum of 0 and a rest energy  $m_{K^+}$ . The  $K^+$  now decays into a  $\pi^+$  and a  $\pi^0$  with momenta  $p_{\pi^+}$ ,  $p_{\pi^0}$  in oposing directions. The momenta must have the same magnitude and  $p_{\pi^+} = -p_{\pi^0}$ .

The magnitude of the momentum is calculated with the energy of lost mass in the decay. In the following equations  $p$  is used as absolute scalar.

$$E_{\pi^+} = \frac{m_{K^+}^2 + m_{\pi^+}^2 - m_{\pi^0}^2}{2m_{K^+}} \quad (1)$$

$$p_{\pi^+} = \sqrt{E_{\pi^+}^2 - m_{\pi^+}^2} \quad (2)$$

$$p_{\pi^+} = p_{\pi^0} \quad (3)$$

$$(4)$$

We use isotropically distributed unit vetors in the simulation (see AW). We multiply them with  $p_{\pi^0}$  to get the momenta for  $\pi^0$  in the  $K^+$  rest frame. Tho get the momenta of  $\pi^+$  we take the same distribution and flip signs. We then build the four vectors  $P_{\pi}^*$ .

$$P_{\pi}^* = \begin{bmatrix} E_{\pi}^* \\ p_{\pi,x}^* \\ p_{\pi,y}^* \\ p_{\pi,z}^* \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{m_{\pi}^2 + ||p_{\pi}||^2} \\ p_{\pi,x}^* \\ p_{\pi,y}^* \\ p_{\pi,z}^* \end{bmatrix} \quad (5)$$

Back to the lab rest frame, we boost them with the boost matrix. This boost matrix performs a boost along the z-axis.

$$P_{\pi} = \begin{bmatrix} \gamma & 0 & 0 & \beta\gamma \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \beta\gamma & 0 & 0 & \gamma \end{bmatrix} \cdot P_{\pi}^* \quad (6)$$

$P_{\pi}$  is the four-vector in the lab frame.  $P_{\pi}^*$  is the four-vector in the kaon rest frame.

## 0.1 With scattering

When we use a beam that is not parallel to the z-axis, we need to perform a rotation to the momentum of the four-vector before and after the boost. The rotation after the boost is the same that would rotate  $e_z$  to align with the position vector. the one before is the inverse rotation.

Since the momentum of the four-vectors  $P_\pi$  of the pions are isotropically distributed in the  $K^+$  rest frame, we can omit the first rotation and still end up with a an isotropical distribution.

The operation performed with the angle  $\alpha$  around y-axis and  $\beta$  around x-axis:

$$R(\alpha, \beta) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \alpha & 0 & \sin \alpha \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin \alpha & 0 & \cos \alpha \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \beta & -\sin \beta \\ 0 & \sin \beta & \cos \beta \end{bmatrix} \quad (7)$$

We apply  $R(\alpha, \beta)$  to the momentum after we have extracted the momentum of the four-vector  $P_\pi$ .

## 1 Hits

To determine the number of decays for which both pions hit the detector, we first define a distance  $z_d$  from source to detector. And a radius  $r$  of the detector. The impulses in the lab frame are  $\vec{p}_{\pi^+}$  and  $\vec{p}_{\pi^0}$ . And decay position  $\vec{x} = (x, y, z)$ . We want to find the number of double hits.

1. Drop all the decay entries where  $z > z_d$ .
2. Do the following for  $\vec{p} = \vec{p}_{\pi^+}$  or  $\vec{p}_{\pi^0}$ .
  - (a) Calculate  $s$  such that  $\vec{q} = \vec{x} + s \cdot \vec{p}$  lands in the plane of  $z_d$ .
  - (b) Drop the pion if it's outside the detector.  $(x + q_x)^2 + (y + q_y)^2 > r^2$ .
3. Drop the decay if at least one of the two pions was dropped.
4. Count the number of decays left.

## 2 Determine The optimal detector distance $z_d$

We will now determine the optimal distance such that the acceptance of is maximized. Acceptance is defined as follows:

$$P(z_d) = \frac{\text{n decays for which both pions hit}}{\text{n decays simulated}} \quad (8)$$

To maximize the acceptance we run the experiment about 500 times with  $N = 10^6$  kaons generated. First we simulate a beam aligned to the z axis. Second we generate a beam that scatters at the source in a gaussian distribution with  $\sigma_\theta = 0.001$  rad.

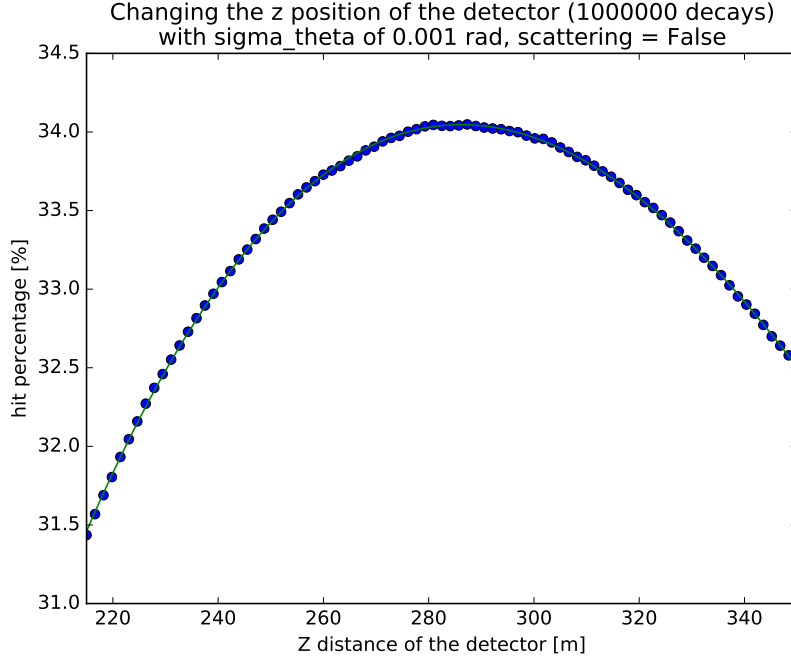


Figure 1: Sample output of decay\_simulation\_6.py

To determine the optimal z distance, we implemented the algorithm described in 1. We let it run for z values in a range from 215 to 350 meters in 85 evenly sized steps. The algorithm generates 85 double hit counts in an array. We divide by N to get the probabilities. Then we fit it with a polynomial of degree 3 and determine the maximum of that polynomial. To show it graphically, we will show a plot. The simulation was run once with  $N = 10^6$  decays.

We run the simulation about 500 times. Fitting the maximum and saving it. The maxima are then put into a histogram. the average and standard deviation of the maximas are listed below. The standard deviation gives a measure of the statistical uncertainty of the simulation.

[TODO add units]

#### **Aligned Beam**

$$\langle z \rangle = 285.5$$

$$\sigma_z : 0.7$$

#### **Scattered Beam**

$$\langle z \rangle = 280.7$$

$$\sigma_z : 0.7$$

To calculate the final uncertainty we used the relative error on the average decay length from chapter [TODO add reference]. The relative errors get quadratically added.

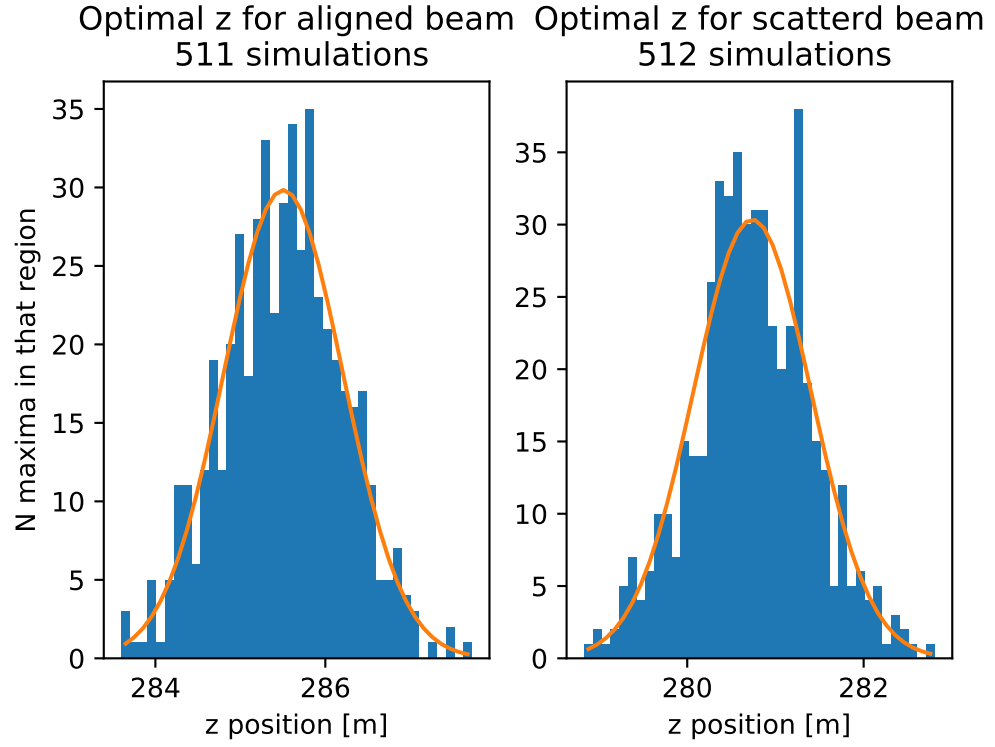


Figure 2: [TODO find good title]

$$m_z = \sigma_z \cdot \sqrt{\left(\frac{\text{uncertainty on adl}}{\text{adl}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\sigma_z}{z}\right)^2} \quad (9)$$

The final optimal values for z are:

$$\begin{aligned} z_{\text{aligned}} &= (286 \pm 5)m \\ z_{\text{scattered}} &= (281 \pm 5)m \end{aligned}$$

The error does not matter that much, since a change of 5 meters around the maximum does maximally change the acceptance by 0.5 percent as seen in figure 1.