

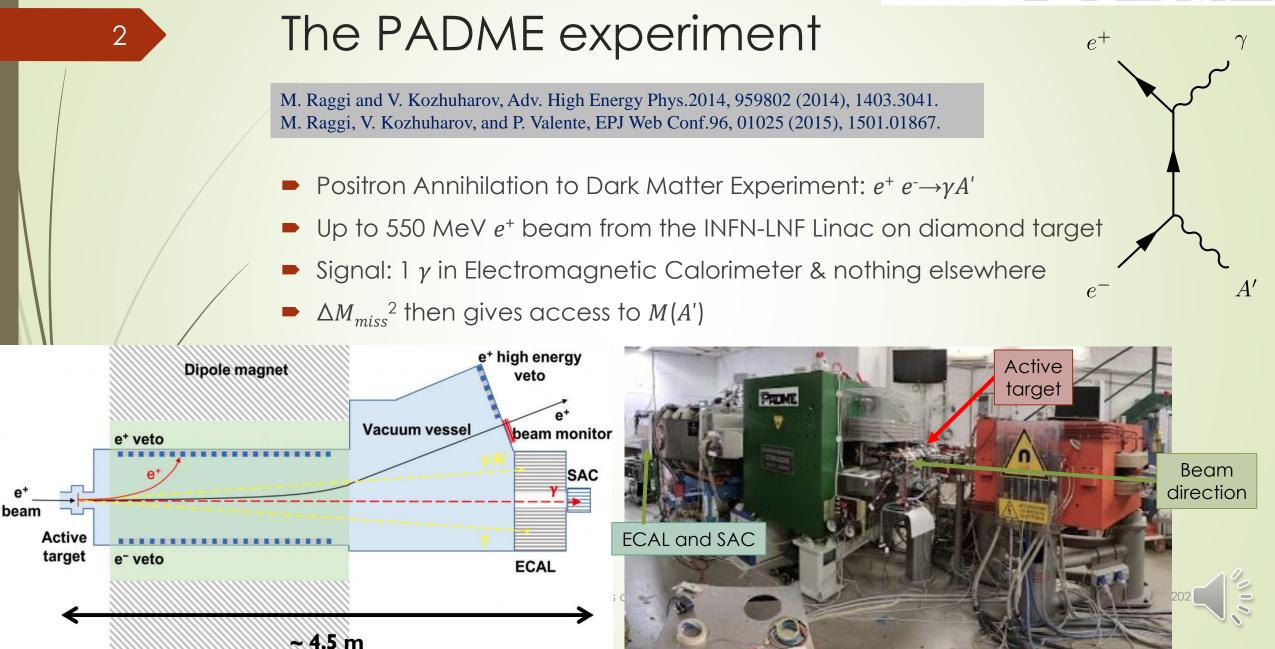
28-30 June 2021 CERN

The remote monitor and control systems of the PADME experiment at the DAΦNE BTF

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The PADME collaboration



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Plan for 2020 and COVID effects

- PADME Run 1 between Oct 2018 and Feb 2019
- Plan for Run 2 in Sep 2019 postponed to 2020 due to a vacuum accident
- Mar 2020: national lockdown due to COVID-19 pandemics
- Access to INFN-LNF site severely restricted

- After some adjustments, LNF local activities resumed with local personnel
- LNF Linac and BTF back in operation by May 2020
- Travel from abroad and within Italy still almost impossible
- Was it possible to run the PADME experiment exclusively from remote sites?





PADME shift organization

- Local INFN personnel guaranteed 24/7 Linac and BTF activities
- Most PADME shifters worked from remote locations
- Direct contact (telephone) with Linac control room
- For simple interventions, Linac technicians could intervene under remote shifter supervision
- Expert physicists from INFN LNF and Roma1 PADME groups could get access to the lab for more complex interventions
- INFN-LNF network protected: all shifters were required to register as INFN-LNF users to access the local VPN to connect to the PADME on-line servers and control nodes
- All DAQ and monitor applications were reviewed and modified to allow full functionality from remote





The Run Control

- Run Control is the main interface to the PADME data acquisition system and was developed in Python
- It takes care of initializing the detectors and starting/stopping the DAQ
- DAQ set-up is controlled by human readable configuration files
- The main Run Control server runs continuously on one of the on-line servers
- A text-based client allows the shifter to issue commands to the server
- N.B. A single client can be active at any time to avoid concurrency issues
- The client-server architecture avoided problems due to network glitches, while the absence of a GUI reduced the bandwidth usage





[dag@l0padme1 DAQ]\$./RunControl --server Starting RunControlServer in background [daq@l0padme1 DAQ]\$./RunControl Connecting to RunControl server on host localhost port 10000 SEND (q or Q to Quit): help Sending help Available commands: help Show this help Show current state of RunControl get state get setup Show current setup name get_setup list Show list of available setups get board list Show list of boards in use with current setup get board config daq Show current configuration of board DAQ process Show current configuration of board ZSUP process get board config zsup get trig config Show current configuration of trigger process get run number Return last run number in DB change setup <setup> Change run setup to <setup> Initialize system for a new run new run shutdown Tell RunControl server to exit (use with extreme care!) SEND (q or Q to Quit): get setup list Sending get setup list ['2018', '2019', '2020', 'board25', 'board8', 'ecal cosmics', 'ecal random'] SEND (q or Q to Quit): get setup Sending get setup ecal random SEND (q or Q to Quit): new run Sending new run Current setup is ecal random Available run types: CALIBRATION, COSMICS, DAQ, FAKE, OTHER, RANDOM, TEST, TESTBEAM Run type: DAQ



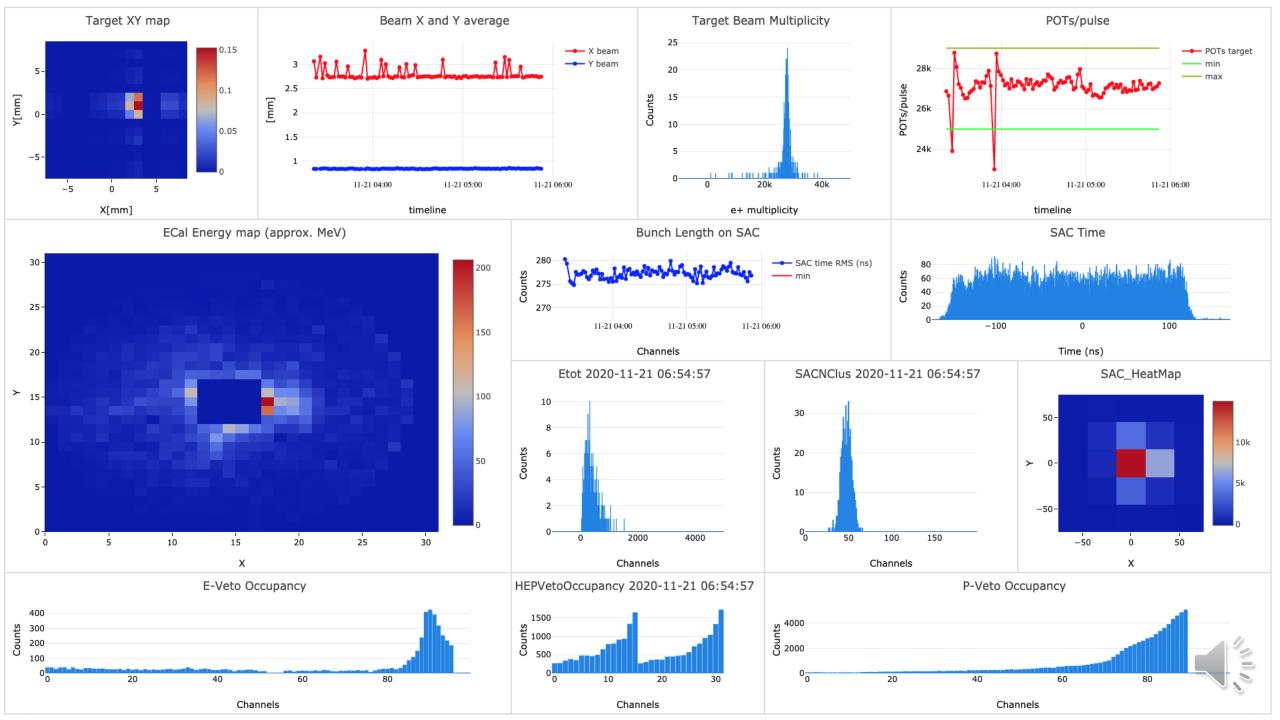


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- To monitor the DAQ data quality in real-time, part of the collected raw data are immediately reconstructed to produce several control histograms
- The PadmeMonitor web-based system is a customized node.js server that reads the histograms with the relative formatting information into memory and exports them in HTML format
- Histograms and formatting information are encapsulated in human readable JSON files: it is straightforward to add new histograms, new pages and changes to the pages layout
- The remote browser connects to the server to collect the histogram data and format and uses local libraries (e.g. PlotlyJS) to produce the graphics on the browser window
- This architecture greatly reduces server-side load and network bandwidth usage by using client-side resources to actually produce the graphics

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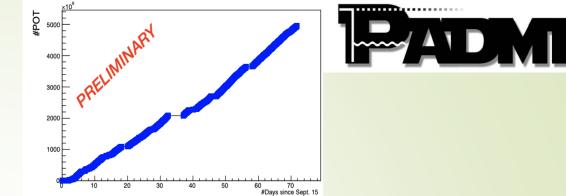


The Detector Control System

- The PADME Detector Control System was designed from the beginning with remote management in mind
- The DCS is based on the BottlePy Python3 web framework interfaced to a MySQL database and uses Vue.js and Netdata for graphical display of slow control parameters
- The system is very versatile and implements a simple inventory and full configuration management to handle detector settings and control
- A web-based access control system allows authorized users to easily control all detector activities and monitor status changes and alarms
- All detectors and instruments were remotely controlled or were connected to a remotely controlled power supply







- By the end of Jun 2020 PADME resumed data taking for the commissioning of the experiment
- The physics Run 2 started in Sep 2020 and lasted till the beginning of Dec 2020 collecting a total of 5.6×10¹² Positrons on Target (PoTs)
- Thanks to the remote management of the experiment, we were able to successfully perform 24/7 shifts and run smoothly even during the lockdown period
- The PADME experience showed that a careful use of the currently available digital and telecommunication technologies allows an (almost) fully remote management of a HEP experiment

The 2020 run



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